



# Quarterly Economic Review

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The Manager  
Research Department  
The Central Bank of The Bahamas  
P.O. Box N-4868  
Nassau, Bahamas

[www.centralbankbahams.com](http://www.centralbankbahams.com)

Email address: [research@centralbankbahamas.com](mailto:research@centralbankbahamas.com)

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# REVIEW OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

## DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

### OVERVIEW

The domestic economy's performance remained mild during the second quarter of 2016, when compared to the same period in 2015. The high value-added stopover segment of the tourism market recorded mixed trends, as visitor arrival gains contrasted with less robust expenditure indicators. Construction activity was comparatively subdued, as foreign investment-led support was scaled-back, while domestic mortgage financing was still constrained by banks' conservative lending posture. In this environment, employment conditions experienced some seasonal improvement, while the pass-through effects of lower international oil costs in prior periods, led to domestic prices decreasing during the review quarter.

Provisional data showed that the Government's overall deficit narrowed during the eleven months of FY2015/16, as the VAT-led increase in total revenue outstripped the growth in aggregate expenditure. Budgetary financing was obtained from a combination of domestic and external sources, including a US\$100 million equivalent loan and drawings on project-based borrowings.

In monetary developments, both bank liquidity and external reserves increased modestly during the review quarter, benefitting from foreign currency inflows related primarily to real sector activities. Further, reflecting mainly the sell-off of non-performing mortgages and sustained debt restructuring activities, banks' credit quality indicators improved, while the weighted average interest rate spread widened.

External developments were dominated by the reduction in the current account deficit, as a sharp import-related narrowing in the merchandise trade deficit, eclipsed the fall in the services account surplus. In contrast, the surplus on the capital and financial account contracted, associated mainly with lower net foreign investment receipts and a net repayment in banks' net short-term external liabilities.

### REAL SECTOR

#### TOURISM

Tourism output was stable to mildly lower during the second quarter. Stopover pricing indicators and foreign currency inflows recorded via the banking system pointed to lower per-visitor yields despite growth in stopover visitor volumes, which benefited from sustained improvements in a number of key source market.

During the review period, total visitor arrivals increased by 4.3% to approximately 1.6 million, in contrast to the previous year's 3.2% contraction. The growth in the high value-added air segment firmed to 3.2% from 1.4%, for a 0.4 million visitor count. Further, the



dominant sea component—at 74.7% of the total—expanded by 4.7% to 1.2 million, a turnaround from a similar reduction in the prior year.

Disaggregated by major port of entry, total visitors to New Providence recovered by 13.8% to 0.9 million, vis-à-vis a 10.7% contraction a year earlier, as air traffic improved by 4.6%, in the context of some increase in hotel capacity following renovations to a few properties. In the sea segment, traffic to New Providence firmed by 18.6%. In contrast, arrivals to Grand Bahama fell by 8.6% to 0.2 million, vis-à-vis a significant 26.7% expansion in 2015, as both air and sea passengers contracted by 12.9% and 7.8%, respectively. Similarly, visitors to the Family Islands declined by 4.2% to 0.4 million, extending the 2.9% reduction in the comparative period of 2015. Notably, a 6.5% falloff in the sea component, offset the 7.5% growth in the air segment.

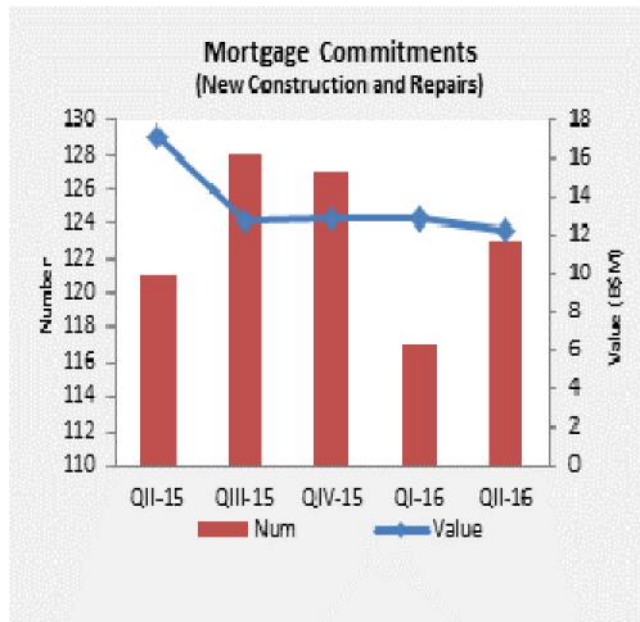
With regard to earnings indications, a partial survey covering large hotel properties on New Providence revealed lower room revenues during the first four months of the year. Similarly commercial banks recorded a reduced level of foreign currency purchases from the private sector, a trend normally dominated by tourism inflows, but in this instance also by eased construction-related activity. The sector however, is poised for some increased hotel capacity over the second half of 2016, which should raise the earnings potential.

**CONSTRUCTION**

Construction output during the second quarter was underpinned by subdued foreign investment support and mixed domestic indicators; with the latter reflecting banks’ conservative lending stance. The overall softening in posture was also evident in the external sector statistics, which revealed lower imports of building materials and contracted net payments for foreign construction services.

On the domestic financing side, mortgage disbursements for new construction and repairs—as reported by commercial banks, insurance companies and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation—grew by 14.5% to \$33.8 million, extending a 25.7% expansion recorded a year earlier. In terms of the components, the dominant residential segment—at 90.6% of the total—firmed by 24.8% to \$30.6 million, compared to a 14.8% increase in the prior period. However, commercial loan disbursements contracted by a third to \$3.2 million, after an incremental increase in 2015.

Meanwhile, forward looking indicators pegged to mortgage financing trended lower. Commitments for new construction and repairs, although almost stable in number at 123, contracted in value by 27.7% to \$12.3 million. Similarly, the number of residential approvals rose by 2.5% to 122, but the corresponding value fell by 14.0% to \$11.8 million. In addition, lenders reported just one commercial commitment of \$0.5 million.



In terms of mortgage costs, the average interest rates for both commercial and residential mortgages narrowed by 80 and 20 basis points, year-on-year, to 7.3% and 7.6%, respectively.

## EMPLOYMENT

Seasonal hiring related to domestic cultural events helped push the unemployment rate lower over the six months to May 2016, with concentrated gains among younger workers. According to the Department of Statistics, the jobless rate contracted by 2.1 percentage points to 12.7%, vis-à-vis the November 2015 level, as an additional 7,540 persons were classified as employed. However, the rate was slightly above the 12.0% recorded a year earlier. Further, as a sign of expected near-term improvements in job prospects, the number of individuals categorized as discouraged workers fell by 10.2%.

A disaggregation by major labour markets showed that the unemployment rate in New Providence moved lower by 2.7 percentage points to 13.2%, with job gains of 6,935 persons over the six months period. However Grand Bahama's jobless rate rose slightly to 14.7% from 14.2%, owing in part to a falloff in the number of persons employed. Similarly, unemployment in Abaco—the country's third largest job market—firmed by 40 basis points to 10.1%, reflecting some increase in the number of unemployed persons.

Although unemployment remained more elevated among young persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years, they experienced notable gains, as the corresponding jobless rate declined by 4.2 percentage points to 25.8% over the six month period.

## PRICES

Domestic inflation—as measured by changes in the All Bahamas Retail Price Index (RPI)—continued to be influenced by low global oil prices, and also reflected more normalized trends following the 2015 pass-through effects from the imposition of the 7.5% Value Added Tax (VAT). Average domestic prices declined by 0.33% during the second quarter, a reversal from a 2.1% increase in the comparative 2015 period. Average costs for housing, water, gas electricity and “other” fuels—which account for one-third of the index—declined by 1.5%, after a similar reduction in the previous year. Also linked to fuel costs, the reduction in average transportation costs was sustained at 3.7%. Meanwhile, average prices declined for restaurant & hotels and food & non-alcoholic beverages costs by 0.5% and 0.6%, a reversal from notable upticks of 7.4% and 4.4% a year ago.

Many other components of the index rose at a more tempered pace, including health (1.3%), recreation & culture (1.1%) alcohol beverages, tobacco & narcotics (1.0%), furnishing, household equipment & routine household maintenance (1.4%), communication (1.4%) and clothing & footwear (0.3%). Conversely the average inflation in education expenses firmed modestly to 7.3%.

Reflecting mainly the short-term increase in international oil prices, domestic energy costs rose during the review quarter, but remained lower on a year-over-year basis. The average price for both gasoline and diesel firmed by 6.8% and 2.7%, to \$3.94 and \$3.41 per gallon over the second quarter; while lower by

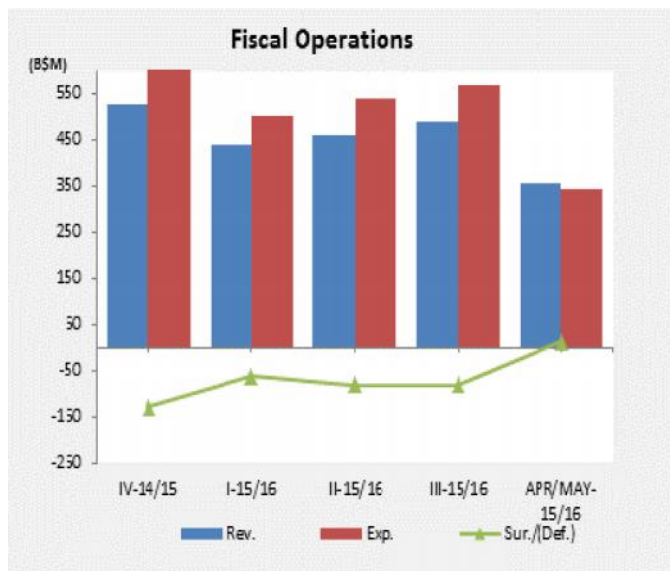
Retail Price Index (Annual % Changes; June)						
Items	Weight	2015			2016	
		Index	%	Index	%	
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	120.4	103.1	3.0	106.4	3.2	
Alcohol, Tobacco & Narcotics	6.4	104.5	5.8	109.9	5.2	
Clothing & Footwear	37.76	102.3	3.2	105.2	2.8	
Housing, Water, Gas, Electricity	334.83	99.2	0.2	96.5	-2.7	
Furn. & Household, Maintenance	64.26	102.8	4.6	106.2	3.3	
Health	44.5	105.6	7.0	118.3	12.0	
Transportation	119.13	100.0	-1.9	94.7	-5.4	
Communication	41.19	102.6	2.5	105.7	3.1	
Rec., & Culture	22.73	104.0	6.9	111.0	6.8	
Education	30.05	101.4	4.2	106.4	5.0	
Restaurant & Hotels	38.24	101.8	2.8	106.2	4.4	
Misc. Goods & Svcs.	140.52	101.0	0.2	103.1	2.1	
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	

12.8% and 14.5%, respectively, since 2015. Similarly, the Bahamas Power and Light's (BPL) fuel charge increased by 3.8% over the previous three-month period, to 9.23 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh), but declined by 48.3% on an annual basis.

## FISCAL OPERATIONS

### OVERVIEW

Government's overall deficit narrowed by \$39.9 million (15.7%) to \$214.0 million during the eleven months of FY2015/16. The VAT-led 13.5% expansion in total revenue to \$1,740.7 million, outpaced the \$167.2 million (9.4%) gain in aggregate expenditure to \$1,954.8 million.



### REVENUE

Tax collections—which constituted 90.1% of total revenue—rose by \$207.9 million (15.3%), to \$1,567.8 million. This outturn was influenced by VAT receipt of \$600.3 million, a three-fold increase from FY2014/15, when approximately \$182.0 million in revenues were collected over a 6-month period following its introduction at the mid-point of the fiscal year. The boosted VAT yield also captured the broadening of the base to insurance and real estate transactions during the start of the 2015/16 period. In addition, property and motor vehicle taxes increased by 9.2% and

1.0%, to \$101.1 million and \$25.1 million, respectively. Meanwhile, selective taxes on services decreased by almost one-half (46.2%) to \$26.8 million, owing mainly to the transition of hotel occupancy taxes to VAT, while “miscellaneous” stamp taxes were reduced by 43.4% to \$91.3 million, associated primarily with the shift in taxes on realty transactions to the VAT category. The introduction of the new regime was also accompanied by the policy-deliberate lowering in effective base tariffs on international trade, with collections reduced by 7.1% to \$481.5 million, after excise and import levies contracted by 8.5% and 7.8%, respectively. In addition, departure taxes fell by 2.6% to \$124.0 million, in line with the mild performance in the tourism sector; and business and

#### Government Revenue By Source (Apr. - May)

	FY14/15		FY15/16	
	B\$M	%	B\$M	%
Property Tax	9.3	2.6	11.6	3.3
Selective Services Tax	0.9	0.2	16.5	4.6
Business. & Prof Lic. Fees	60.3	16.8	39.7	11.1
Motor Vehicle Tax	5.2	1.4	5.4	1.5
Departure Tax	24.2	6.7	29.7	8.3
Import Duties	46.1	12.8	55.6	15.6
Stamp Tax from Imports	–	–	–	–
Excise Tax	45.9	12.8	46.8	13.2
Export Tax	0.3	0.1	2.5	0.7
Stamp Tax from Exports	–	–	–	–
Other Stamp Tax	22.7	6.3	16.1	4.5
Value Added Tax	107.1	29.8	125.6	35.3
Other Tax Revenue	13.0	3.6	-19.6	-5.5
Fines, Forfeits, etc.	21.9	6.1	25.8	7.3
Sales of Govt. Property	–	–	0.9	0.3
Income	3.2	0.9	3.2	0.9
Other Non-Tax Rev.	–	–	–	–
Capital Revenue	–	–	–	–
Grants	–	–	–	–
Less: Refunds	0.7	0.2	3.7	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>359.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>356.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>



professional license fees decreased by 16.3% to \$141.8 million, after the prior year's receipts were boosted by extraordinary back taxes from the newly licensed gaming ("web shop") operations.

Non-tax revenues—at 9.9% of the total—increased by \$2.5 million (1.5%) to \$172.8 million. This was supported by a rise in collections from the sale of Government property by \$0.9 million to \$1.6 million, and a \$1.6 million (1.2%) gain in fines, forfeits and administrative fees to \$132.2 million. In addition, capital revenue declined to negligible levels, from the \$3.0 million recorded in the prior period.

#### **EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure gains were largely explained by a \$267.1 million (17.5%) expansion in recurrent spending, to \$1,790.1 million. Conversely, capital-related outlays decreased by \$20.8 million (11.2%) to \$164.7 million, while the reclassification of several transactions to current transfers resulted in virtually no lending to public corporations being recorded over the review period, vis-à-vis \$79.2 million in the prior year.

By economic classification, the growth in current expenditure was led by a rise in transfer payments by 29.9% to \$202.9 million, mainly reflecting a reclassification shift. Specifically, subsidies & other transfers rose by 41.4% (\$188.3 million) to \$643.3 million, with transfers to public corporations placed at \$82.9 million, compared to \$5.8 million last year. In addition, subsidies—including those to public corporations—firmed by \$65.1 million (23.6%), transfers to non-profit institutions by \$20.4 million (50.8%), transfers abroad by \$13.6 million (136.4%), and transfers to households, by \$11.7 million (10.8%), while those to non-financial public enterprises edged up by \$0.5 million (3.4%). Similarly, interest costs increased by 6.5%, underpinned by gains in both internal and external expenses by 8.7% and 2.3%, respectively. Further, consumption related spending—at 50.8% of current expenses—increased by 7.6% to \$908.8 million, as outlays for goods & services advanced by 20.2% and personal emoluments firmed by 2.2%.

On a functional basis, current expenditure for economic services rose by \$94.2 million (48.5%) to \$288.3 million. This included a rise in spending on public works & water supply by \$38.6 million; tourism-related services, by \$27.5 million; agriculture & fisheries, by \$14.5 million and transportation services, by \$11.9 million. Similarly, recurrent outlays for general public services increased by \$71.2 million (16.0%) to \$517.7 million, occasioned by higher payments for general administration (\$74.8 million). Further, disbursements under health services advanced by \$37.6 million (16.4%) to \$267.3 million, inclusive of health sector strengthening and other initiatives to prepare for the launch of the National Health Insurance (NHI) programme. Meanwhile, cultural festivals and increased support for the Broadcasting Corporation raised community & social services outlays more than three-fold to \$43.4 million from \$14.5 million in the previous year. In addition, expenditure under education advanced by \$13.2 million (5.6%) to \$247.7 million and social benefits & services, by \$6.8 million (5.2%) to \$137.1 million; however outlays for defense stabilized at \$47.0 million.

The contraction in capital expenditure was led by a \$12.0 million (8.5%) reduction in infrastructure-related works to \$128.2 million. Similarly, asset acquisitions declined by \$8.2 million (18.3%) to \$36.4 million. Both trends reflected in part a winding down in the investments on new vessels and facilities for the Royal Bahamas Defense Force.

#### **FINANCING AND THE DEBT**

Budgetary financing for the eleven months of FY2015/16 was dominated by internal borrowings of \$449.2 million, which consisted of Treasury notes & bills (\$289.3 million), Government bonds (\$87.3 million), Bahamian dollar advances (\$22.6 million) and short-term foreign currency loans (\$50.0 million). In addition,



\$204.4 million in financing was obtained from external sources in the form of a US\$100.0 million equivalent loan, a \$54.0 million capital project loan and drawdowns on existing loan facilities. In the mix of refinancing and amortization schedules, Government’s debt repayments totaled \$310.3 million, the bulk of which (75.5%), was utilized to retire Bahamian dollar obligations.

As a consequent of these developments, and the yet unrecorded data for the final month of the fiscal year, the Direct Charge on the Government contracted by \$75.5 million (1.3%) over the previous three-month period, but firmed by \$315.1 million (5.6%), year-on-year, to \$5,952.9 million. A breakdown by component showed that Bahamian dollar debt represented 70.7% of the total, with foreign currency liabilities accounting for the remaining 29.3%. The largest portion of the local debt was held by commercial banks (39.0%), followed by non-bank private and institutional investors (32.4%), public corporations (15.0%), the Central Bank (13.4%) and other local financial institutions (0.2%).

By instrument, Government bonds comprised most of the domestic currency debt, at 72.4% and featured an average maturity of 9.0 years. Treasury notes & bills and loans & advances accounted for smaller shares, of 20.3% and 7.3%, respectively.

The contingent liabilities or guaranteed debt issued by the public corporations contracted by \$8.8 million (1.2%) over the previous quarter to \$742.5 million, but were \$15.6 million (2.1%) above the comparable period of 2015. As a result of these developments, the National Debt—which includes contingent liabilities—decreased by \$84.3 million (1.2%) over the three-month period to \$6,695.4 million; however, it firmed by \$330.7 million (5.2%) year-on-year.

Finally, total public sector debt, which includes both the guaranteed and non-guaranteed obligations of public enterprises, alongside the Direct Charge, rose by \$29.3 million (0.4%) during the quarter to \$7,604.2 million. For the fiscal year, the combined debt increased by \$426.9 million (5.9%); as compared to growth of \$651.8 million (10.0%) during fiscal year 2014/15. Public debt at end-June 2016 was estimated at 85.0% of GDP, while the ratio for the Direct Charge and the National Debt stood at 66.6% and 74.9%, respectively.

<b>Estimates of the Debt-to-GDP Ratios at Fiscal Year-end*</b>			
	<b>June (%)</b>		
	<b>2014<sub>p</sub></b>	<b>2015<sub>p</sub></b>	<b>2016<sub>p</sub></b>
<b>Direct Charge</b>	60.2	64.5	66.6
<b>National Debt</b>	67.7	72.9	74.9
<b>Total Public Debt</b>	76.1	82.2	85.0
<b>Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas and the Department of Statistics</b>			
<i>*Fiscal-year GDP estimates are an average of the two periods which overlap the fiscal period. GDP estimate for 2016 is derived from the IMF projections.</i>			

### **PUBLIC SECTOR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEBT**

During the second quarter, public sector foreign currency debt grew by \$33.5 million (1.3%) to \$2,710.5 million, and by \$218.6 million (8.8%) year-on-year. In particular, new drawings of \$110.7 million, eclipsed amortization payments of \$77.2 million. The public corporations’ segment increased by \$81.6 million (9.2%) to \$969.1 million, while the Government’s component—at 64.2% of the total—contracted by \$48.1 million (2.7%) to \$1,741.5 million.

In comparison to the same period last year, total foreign currency debt service payments more than doubled to \$120.4 million from \$50.7 million, attributed predominately to a refinancing-based increase in the Government’s component to \$85.5 million from \$27.7 million. In particular, debt amortization climbed by \$50.9 million to \$57.2 million, reflecting the repayment of a short-term bridging facility, and interest payments rose by \$6.9 million (31.9%) to \$28.4 million. In addition, the public corporations’ segment

increased by \$11.8 million (51.3%) to \$34.9 million, with amortization payments more than doubling to \$20.1 million from \$8.7 million, while interest charges edged up by \$0.4 million (3.1%) to \$14.8 million. At end-June, net of refinancing activities, the Government's debt service ratio stood at 8.2%, a rise of 2.9 percentage points, year-on-year.

In terms of the creditor profile, the largest holders of foreign currency debt were international capital market investors (74.0%), followed by commercial banks (13.2%), multilateral institutions (10.3%) and bilateral firms (2.5%). During the quarter, the average age of the debt stock narrowed slightly to 12.3 years from 12.6 years in 2015. The bulk of the liabilities were denominated in US Dollars (85.5%), with smaller shares for the euro (8.3%), Swiss Franc (3.7%) and the Chinese Yuan (2.5%).

### **2016/2017 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

Government's FY2016/17 Budget featured a series of measures geared towards enhancing revenue administration and increasing tax inflows via the modernization of tax administration, including property tax compliance and the further enhancement of the VAT regime. After a curtailment in spending growth, the budget forecast a narrowing of the deficit to GDP ratio to 1.1% from the projected outturn of 1.5% in FY2015/16. Further reductions are expected to lead to a small surplus by FY2018/19. As a result of these developments, the debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to narrow by 50 basis points to 64.1% in FY2015/16 and to fall steadily over the next two years to approximately 59.0% of GDP.

In conjunction with the plans to enhance revenue collections, the Government introduced a series of tax reductions on a number of key items in order to stimulate economic activity. This included a 10.0% annual rebate for early payment of real property tax. In addition, concessions and customs exemptions were approved for property owners to encourage demolition or rehabilitation of derelict structures for commercial, educational or social purposes, and provided an amnesty for outstanding property taxes valued under \$250,000 on owner occupied residences which had remained in default on past assessment. The Government reduced some import tariffs rates by 2 percentage points to 5.0% and exemptions and ancillary education fees from VAT.

In light of the revenue enhancing measures, overall receipts are projected to expand by 6.3% (\$129.1 million) to \$2,168.8 million, in comparison to the previous period's budget. Tax collections are forecasted to be higher by \$111.1 million (6.0%), to \$1,968.5 million. Similarly, growth in income from fines, forfeits & administration fees and other "miscellaneous" sources by \$15.7 million (12.2%) and \$2.3 million (5.2%), respectively, is expected to undergird gains in non-tax receipts, of 10.7% (\$19.2 million) to \$198.1 million.

A disaggregation of projected tax revenue shows an estimated 19.8% increase in receipts from the VAT, to \$651.9 million, foreshadowing continued administrative enhancements. In addition, "other" non-trade related stamp taxes are slated to rise by \$7.1 million (7.3%) to \$104.6 million, while motor vehicle taxes are targeted to be higher by \$5.1 million (17.5%) to \$34.3 million. Other tax groupings are expected to be relatively stable, in the absence of new policy initiatives or significant changes in the respective taxpayer bases. In addition, net collections from the gaming industry are expected to normalize at levels below 2015/16, due to the reallocation of a portion of the gaming revenue streams to the regulator.

Non-tax receipts are forecasted to grow by 10.7% to \$198.1 million, as collections from fines, forfeits & administration fees are anticipated to strengthen by 12.2% to \$145.0 million, while the combined income from public enterprises and other sources is projected to expand by 7.0% to \$51.9 million.

Relative to the 2015/16 appropriations, planned expenditure rose by 4.0% to \$2,266.5 million, attributed to an increase in the recurrent allocation of 4.6% to \$2,024.4 million. Capital outlays are expected to decline by 0.5% to \$242.1 million; however, no net lending to public corporations is anticipated, following the recognition of such subvention as current expenditures in the prior periods.

By economic classification, the budgeted growth in current expenditure was led by a \$75.3 million (7.4%) increase in consumption allocations, to \$1,092.2 million. This reflected a projected 9.9% rise in personal emoluments, partly to sustain increased obligations taken on during FY2015/16, and a 2.7% increase in provisions for purchases of goods and services. Further, transfer payments are expected to expand by 1.5% to \$932.2 million, due to advances in subsidies & other transfers of 1.2% to \$660.5 million, and interest payments, by 2.0% to \$271.7 million, with the former reflecting in large measure increased provisions for contingencies and assistance to the Public Parks & Beaches Authority.

On a functional basis, the approved budget corresponded to increased allocations for general public services (\$69.4 million), education (\$15.7 million), social benefits & services (\$13.7 million), housing (\$5.6 million) and other community & social services (\$1.6 million). In contrast, declines in payments are forecasted for economic services (\$8.9 million), health (\$7.7 million) and defense (\$6.2 million).

The projected reduction in capital expenditure reflects primarily a 9.5% decline in planned asset acquisitions to \$80.2 million, on account of decreased outlays for other “miscellaneous” assets (\$8.6 million) and stable equity investments, which should outpace the slight uptick in land payments. No capital transfers to public corporations are slated for FY2016/17. Conversely, spending on infrastructural works is projected to increase by 5.5% to \$161.9 million.

Driven both by the deficit projection and expanded debt repayment needs, budgetary financing requirements for FY2016/17 are projected to rise by \$98.6 million (34.5%) to \$384.6 million. More reliance on Bahamian dollar borrowing is projected at 77.9% of the proposed funding, while new foreign borrowing would provide the remainder. Meanwhile, debt repayments should increase by \$141.4 million to \$287.1 million, the bulk of which (90.2%) would represent domestic currency obligations.

As a result of these developments, the Direct Charge on Government is forecasted to grow by a reduced \$97.6 million (1.6%) to \$6,050.5 million during FY2016/17, compared with the prior year’s budgeted increase of \$140.3 million (2.5%).

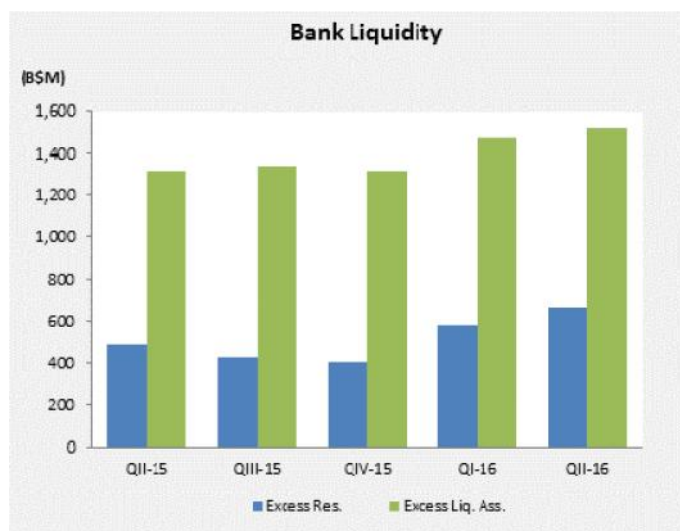
## **MONEY, CREDIT AND INTEREST RATES**

### **OVERVIEW**

Monetary developments during the second quarter featured gains in both liquidity and external reserves, supported mainly by net foreign currency inflows from real sector activities. Banks’ credit quality indicators improved over the review period, benefitting in part from the sale of delinquent mortgages, sustained loan write-offs and debt restructuring activities. Meanwhile, the weighted average interest rate spread widened during the quarter, due to an increase in the average loan rate and a fall in the corresponding deposit rate. A significant decline in the level of loan loss provisions and growth in interest revenue contributed to a rise in overall bank profitability during the first three months of the year—the latest data available.

## LIQUIDITY

During the second quarter, banks' net free cash reserves expanded by \$88.9 million (15.4%) to \$668.1 million, extending the year earlier gain of \$2.8 million (0.6%), to represent a higher 10.4% of deposit liabilities, compared to 7.8% in 2015. Similarly, due to increased holdings of long-term Government securities, the broader surplus liquid assets firmed by \$48.7 million (3.3%) to \$1,518.0 million, although a moderation from the prior year's \$103.6 million (8.5%) build-up. As a result, the aggregate surplus stood 139.8% above the statutory minimum requirement, vis-à-vis 125.1% in the comparative period last year.



## DEPOSITS AND MONEY

Growth in the overall money supply (M3) accelerated to \$78.3 million (1.2%) from \$17.7 million (0.3%) in the prior period, for an outstanding stock of \$6,577.2 million at end-June. In a breakdown of the components, the expansion in narrow money (M1) was in line with that of the previous year, at \$54.9 million (2.6%), buttressed by gains in demand deposits of 2.9% and in currency in active circulation of 0.2%. In contrast, the increase in broad money (M2) moderated to \$54.0 million (0.9%), from \$63.2 million (1.0%) in the prior period, as fixed deposits contracted further by 1.3%. In a modest offset, gains in private sector balances extended the accretions to savings deposits to 3.3% from 2.6% in 2015. Further, residents' foreign currency deposits recovered by 11.8%, following the year earlier decline of 16.8%.

The largest share of the money stock comprised fixed deposits (44.6%), followed by demand (29.7%) and savings balances (18.5%), currency in circulation (3.7%), and residents' foreign currency deposits (3.5%).

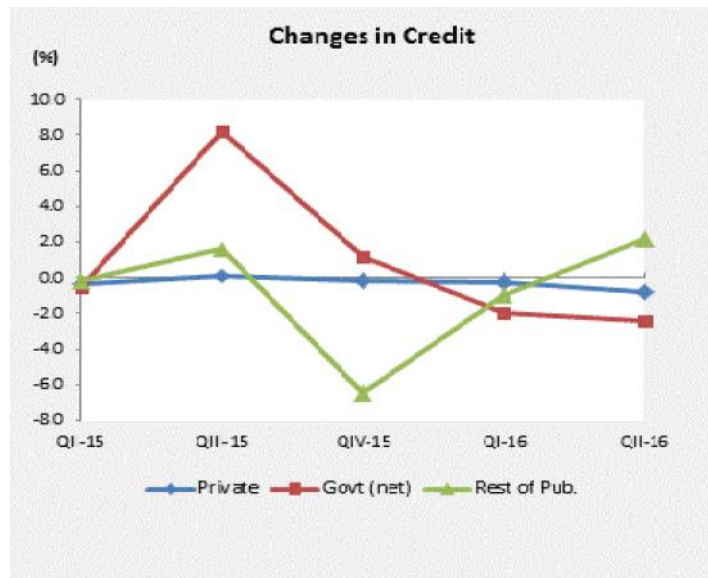
## DOMESTIC CREDIT

Reflecting mainly higher net repayments by the Government, total domestic credit decreased by \$92.2 million (1.0%), after 2015's \$32.0 million

	2016		2015	
	B\$M	%	B\$M	%
Agriculture	8.7	0.1	10.6	0.2
Fisheries	5.1	0.1	5.0	0.1
Mining & Quarrying	2.0	0.0	2.3	0.0
Manufacturing	21.0	0.3	33.1	0.5
Distribution	175.3	2.6	186.5	2.7
Tourism	15.3	0.2	25.7	0.4
Enter. & Catering	74.0	1.1	73.3	1.1
Transport	40.0	0.6	40.0	0.6
Construction	351.7	5.1	359.1	5.2
Government	404.9	5.9	362.2	5.2
Public Corps.	245.8	3.6	264.9	3.8
Private Financial	19.2	0.3	18.9	0.3
Prof. & Other Ser.	57.2	0.8	70.7	1.0
Personal	5,219.2	76.1	5,228.7	75.6
Miscellaneous	221.0	3.2	237.3	3.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,860.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,918.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(0.4%) contraction. The dominant Bahamian dollar component—at 94.3% of the total—fell by \$10.1 million (0.1%), following the year earlier \$15.8 million (0.2%) reduction. Similarly, foreign currency credit decreased sharply by \$82.1 million (14.0%), exceeding the \$11.9 million (2.0%) falloff a year earlier.

A breakdown of the Bahamian dollar component showed that the decline in private sector credit widened to \$31.2 million (0.5%) from \$16.4 million (0.3%) in 2015, associated in part with the a sale of non-performing loans to a non-bank entity. Further, the contraction in net credit to the Government continued at \$2.9 million (0.1%) from \$2.5 million (0.1%) a year earlier. In contrast, claims on the rest of the public sector rose by \$23.9 million (12.8%), after the prior year’s \$3.1 million (1.5%) gain.



In terms of private sector credit, the contraction in personal loans—which comprised the largest share of the total (81.0%)—was extended to \$15.8 million (0.3%) from \$4.6 million (0.1%) last year. Notably, residential mortgages and overdrafts fell by \$33.6 million (1.2%) and \$2.7 million (4.4%), although consumer loans grew by \$20.6 million (0.9%).

A disaggregation of the components showed that most of the consumer credit expansion was for “miscellaneous” purposes (\$36.0 million). Other expanded financing included travel (\$2.8 million) and private cars (\$2.4 million); however, net repayments were recorded for debt consolidation (\$9.6 million), land purchases (\$6.2 million) and home improvement (\$2.9 million). Other categories recorded more marginal movements, mostly declines of less than \$1.0 million.

Among the remaining private sector loan categories, net repayments were noted for “miscellaneous” (\$28.3 million), professional & other services (\$5.0 million), manufacturing (\$3.1 million), entertainment & catering (\$1.8 million) and private financial institutions (\$1.1 million), with more muted decreases of under \$1.0 million occurring for transport, fisheries, agriculture, and mining & quarrying. In contrast, credit expanded for construction, distribution and tourism, by \$18.7 million, \$4.4 million and \$0.5 million, respectively.

## MORTGAGES

Data provided by banks, insurance companies and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation, indicated that the total value of mortgages outstanding fell by \$27.8 million (0.9%) to \$3,224.6 million, following the previous year’s \$1.2 million (0.04%) contraction. Largely reflecting a sale of non-performing loans, the dominant residential component fell by \$33.3 million (1.1%) to \$3,005.9 million, after a \$12.5 million (0.4%) decrease in the previous year. In contrast, the commercial component grew further by \$5.5 million (2.6%) to \$218.7 million, after the prior year’s gain of \$11.3 million (6.0%). Domestic banks remained the dominant lenders with 88.7% of outstanding mortgages, followed by insurance companies (6.1%) and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation (5.2%).



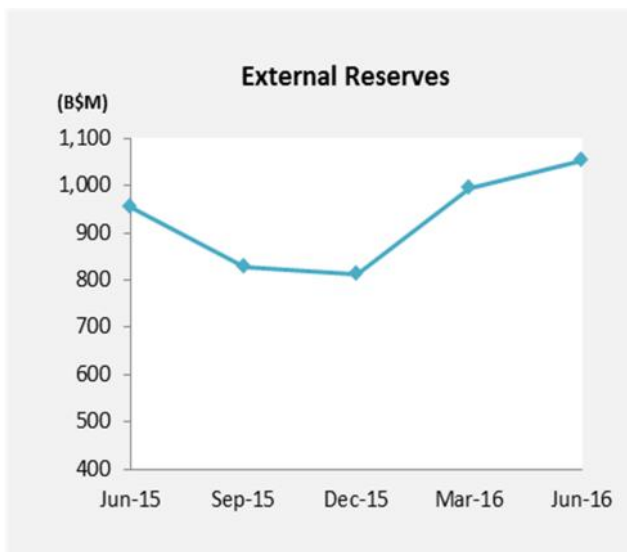
## THE CENTRAL BANK

Reflecting increased holdings of Treasury bills, the Central Bank's net claims on the Government expanded by \$56.3 million (11.5%) to \$546.4 million in the second quarter, a turnaround from a 12.2% reduction a year ago. Conversely, with an expansion in deposits, the net liabilities to the rest of the public sector rose further by \$4.3 million (89.7%) to \$9.0 million. In addition, net deposit liabilities to commercial banks rose by \$112.0 million (12.4%) to \$1,014.2 million, extending 2015's gain of 8.5%,

During the review period, external reserves grew by \$57.2 million (5.7%) to \$1,052.1 million, lower than the preceding year's \$124.0 million (15.0%) tourism-led gain. In the underlying transactions,

the Central Bank's total net foreign currency purchase narrowed by \$64.8 million to \$53.9 million. The net intake from commercial banks decreased to \$94.0 million from \$183.4 million, while the net purchase from the Government steadied at \$9.6 million. In a modest offset, the net sale to public corporations—primarily for fuel payments—contracted by one third to \$49.7 million, due in part to a decrease in international oil prices.

At end-June, the stock of external reserves was equivalent to 19.4 weeks of total merchandise imports (which include oil purchases), higher than the 13.8 weeks recorded in the comparative 2015 period. In contrast, after adjusting for the 50% statutory requirement on the Central Bank's Bahamian dollar liabilities, "useable" reserves decreased by \$19.9 million to \$399.1 million.



## DOMESTIC BANKS

Reflecting mainly short-term Government debt repayments, the net foreign liabilities of banks decreased by \$116.5 million (22.7%), in contrast to the prior year's \$6.5 million (1.4%) gain.

Domestic banks' net credit contracted by \$148.5 million (1.8%), reversing a \$24.1 million (0.3%) rise in the prior period, led by a \$109.0 million (6.6%) reduction in net claims on the Government, vis-à-vis a \$45.9 million (3.0%) expansion in the previous year. In addition, credit to the private sector declined further by \$49.5 million (0.8%), following a \$20.8 million (0.3%) reduction a year ago. Conversely, claims on the public corporations grew by \$10.0 million (2.2%), after a marginal decrease of \$1.0 million (0.2%) in the same quarter of 2015.

Banks' deposit liabilities firmed by \$113.3 million (1.7%) to \$6,679.7 million, outpacing last year's \$46.3 million (0.7%) improvement. In the underlying components, private sector deposit growth accelerated to \$54.3 million (0.9%) from \$33.4 million (0.6%) a year earlier, while public corporations' balances recovered by \$19.3 million (5.6%) from an \$18.7 million (5.0%) reduction in 2015. Similarly, Government's deposit gains were moderately higher at \$39.8 million (12.1%), vis-à-vis \$30.1 million (13.5%) in the prior year.

At end-June, the majority of banks' deposit liabilities were denominated in domestic currency (96.5%), followed by US dollars (3.4%) and other "miscellaneous" currencies (0.1%). A breakdown by depositor type showed that private individuals held the majority (48.6%) of total balances, followed by business firms (28.9%), private financial institutions (7.2%), the Government (5.5%), public corporations (4.5%), non-profit organisations (4.4%) and public financial institutions (0.9%).

Fixed balances continued to constitute the bulk of deposits, at 46.9%, followed by demand and savings with shares of 34.6% and 18.5%, respectively. Disaggregated by range of value and number, the majority of accounts (87.4%), held balances of less than \$10,000, but represented only 6.0% of the total value. Accounts with balances of between \$10,000 and \$50,000 in value comprised 8.5% of the total number and 10.7% of the overall value, while the smallest segment of accounts (4.1%), held balances in excess of \$50,000, but accounted for a dominant 83.3% of the aggregate value.

### CREDIT QUALITY

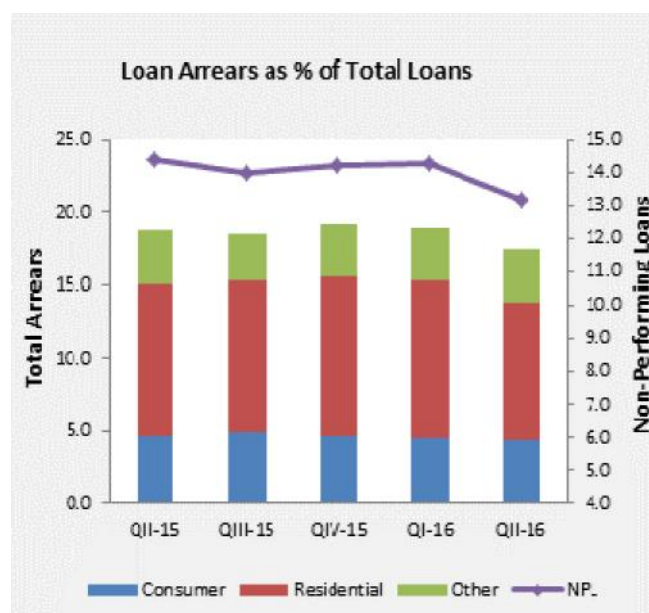
Following the sale of delinquent mortgages, banks credit quality indicators improved during the review period. Total private sector loan arrears declined by \$89.9 million (7.5%) over the three-month period and by \$83.3 million (7.0%) year-on-year, to \$1,108.1 million. As a result, the corresponding ratio of private sector arrears to total loans narrowed by 1.4 and 1.3 percentage points, respectively, over the quarter and year, to 18.6%.

The quarterly reduction in total delinquencies was led by the dominant mortgage component—at 54.9% of the total—which fell by \$76.2 million (11.1%) to \$608.4 million, constituting a 2.4 percentage point decrease to 21.7% of total loans. Further, the consumer segment also contracted by \$14.5 million (5.1%), to \$271.7 million, and by 72 basis points to 11.7% of the aggregate.

In contrast, commercial delinquencies grew marginally, by \$0.8 million (0.3%) to \$228.0 million, resulting in a 78 basis point firming in the relevant ratio to 28.0%.

An assessment of the average age of delinquencies showed that non-performing loans—those exceeding 90 days and on which banks have ceased accruing interest—contracted by \$62.3 million (6.9%) to \$843.4 million, resulting in a 96 basis point reduction in the attendant loan ratio to 14.2%. Similarly, the short-term (31-90 days) segment, fell by \$27.6 million (9.4%) to \$264.7 million, for a 43 basis point narrowing in the associated loan ratio to 4.5%.

Despite the reduction in loan delinquencies, commercial banks remained conservative in the management of their portfolios, augmenting their total loan loss provisions by \$5.6 million (1.0%) to \$548.7 million. Consequently, the ratio of provisions to both non-performing loans and arrears firmed by 5.1 and 4.2 percentage points, to 65.1% and 49.5%, respectively.





## BANK PROFITABILITY

The latest data available for the first quarter of 2016, showed that banks' overall profitability increased by more than two-fold (\$39.6 million) to \$64.9 million, supported by higher interest income and a considerable reduction in bad debt provisions.

In terms of the components, the net interest margin expanded by 8.0% to \$137.4 million, reflecting a 6.5% rise in interest revenue and a 2.3% decline in interest expense. In addition, a 1.8% increase in income from foreign exchange transactions to \$5.8 million, firmed the gross earnings margin by 7.8% to \$143.2 million.

Total operating costs decreased by 1.2% (\$1.0 million) to \$87.0 million, explained by a 4.5% reduction in staff related expenses and a 2.3% decline in occupancy costs, which outstripped the 2.8% gain in other "miscellaneous" operating outlays. In line with the recent downward trajectory in bad debt provisions, this category fell by more than half to \$20.3 million, and depreciation costs decreased by 9.3% to \$3.6 million, while other "miscellaneous" income advanced by 20.1% to \$32.8 million. As a consequence, domestic banks recorded a net profit of \$8.8 million from their net non-core operations, a turnaround from a \$19.5 million net loss in the previous year.

Commensurate with the improvement in earnings, banks' overall profitability ratios, as a percentage of average assets, moved higher over the review period. The gross earnings margin ratio rose by 23 basis points to 5.67%, reflecting a similar increase in the interest margin to 5.44%, while the commission & foreign exchange income ratio steadied at 0.23%. Further, the operating costs ratio fell by 16 basis points to 3.45%, resulting in a 38 basis point uptick in the net earnings ratio to 2.22%. As a consequence, the net income ratio firmed by 1.53 percentage points to 2.57%.

## INTEREST RATES

During the second quarter, the commercial banks weighted average interest rate spread widened by 82 basis points to 11.29%. Underlying this outturn, the weighted average lending rate moved higher by 71 basis points to 12.54%, while the high levels of liquidity contributed to an 11 basis point reduction in the deposit rate to 1.25%.

With regard to deposits, the average rate on savings rose by 7 basis points to 0.87%, while the rate on demand balances softened by 4 basis points to 0.26%. Meanwhile, the average ranges on the fixed deposit placements narrowed to 0.98% - 1.66% from 1.05% - 1.87% in the preceding three-month period.

In terms of lending, the increase in borrowing costs was attributed to moderate gains in average rates on consumer loans and overdrafts, of 49 and 26 basis points to 14.14% and 11.04%, respectively. In contrast, the average rates on

Banking Sector Interest Rates			
Period Average (%)			
	Qtr. II	Qtr. I	Qtr. II
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>
<b>Deposit Rates</b>			
Demand Deposits	0.27	0.30	0.26
Savings Deposits	0.82	0.80	0.87
Fixed Deposits			
Up to 3 months	1.20	1.05	0.98
Up to 6 months	1.03	1.05	1.03
Up to 12 months	1.71	1.87	1.44
Over 12 months	1.42	1.64	1.66
<b>Weighted Avg Deposit</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>1.25</b>
<b>Lending Rates</b>			
Residential mortgages	6.45	6.32	6.21
Commercial mortgages	7.68	7.42	7.00
Consumer loans	14.08	13.65	14.14
Other Local Loans	7.97	7.40	8.13
Overdrafts	10.20	10.78	11.04
<b>Weighted Avg Loan Rate</b>	<b>12.35</b>	<b>11.83</b>	<b>12.54</b>

commercial and residential mortgages were reduced by 42 and 11 basis points, to 7.00% and 6.21%, respectively.

Among the other key interest rates, the average 90-day Treasury bill rate firmed by 45 basis points to 1.48%, while the Central Bank's Discount Rate and commercial banks' Prime rate were unchanged at 4.50% and 4.75%, respectively.

## CAPITAL MARKETS DEVELOPMENTS

Capital market activity was relatively robust during the second quarter, mainly reflecting a few significant transactions. In particular, the volume of shares traded on the Bahamas International Securities Exchange (BISX) rose by almost three-fold to 2.1 million, following a marginal 0.3% increase in the comparative 2015 period, owing in large measure to a surge in the trading of one entity. However, given the relatively low share price, the corresponding trading value firmed by a mere 3.3% to \$7.0 million, vis-à-vis a 12.6% reduction in the prior year.

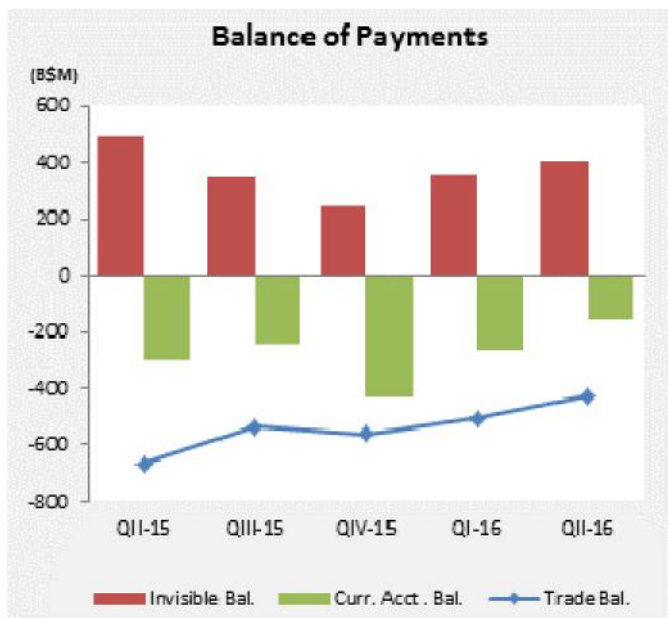
Reflecting a broad-based rise in share prices, the BISX All Share Index grew by 13.5% to 1,963.9 points, outpacing the prior year's gain of 3.4%. In addition, market capitalization expanded by 5.9% to \$4.1 billion, up from the 3.4% growth a year earlier.

The number of securities listed on the Exchange increased by 12 to 49 over the quarter, owing to the addition of Government debt issues. At end-June, the securities listed were comprised of 20 common shares, 16 debt tranches and 13 preference shares.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS

Provisional estimates for the second quarter of 2016 showed a narrowing in the current account deficit, by \$141.4 million (47.3%) to \$157.7 million, vis-à-vis the comparative 2015 period. A sharp reduction in the merchandise trade deficit outweighed the decline in the services account surplus. Meanwhile, net capital and financial inflows narrowed by \$5.4 million (9.5%) to \$51.2 million, owing in large measure to a decrease in net foreign investments.

The merchandise trade deficit contracted by an estimated \$240.2 million (35.9%) to \$428.3 million, as an almost one-third decline in imports to \$572.5 million, outstripped the \$11.9 million (5.7%) falloff in exports to \$144.2 million. With strongly tapered purchases of construction inputs, net non-oil merchandise imports decreased by more than a third to \$360.9 million. With global oil prices remaining low, net fuel imports decreased by one-quarter (\$31.4 million) to \$94.1 million. Specifically, the average cost per barrel for aviation gas contracted by 61.9% to \$109.79, while gas oil, motor gas and jet fuel declined by 25.3%, 21.7% and 19.4%, to \$56.85, \$72.01 and \$61.65 per barrel, respectively. In a slight offset, the average cost of propane rose by 7.3% to \$34.98 per barrel.



The estimated surplus on the services account contracted by \$88.2 million (17.8%) to \$406.5 million. Net tourism receipts, the largest component, fell by \$9.4 million (1.4%) to \$639.7 million. Also, Government services net transactions reversed from a \$5.9 million net inflow, to a \$42.6 million net payment, partly associated with higher resident Government disbursements. Further, the net outflow for insurance services also increased, by \$7.1 million (18.9%) to \$44.7 million, while royalty & license fees net payments almost doubled to \$6.3 million from \$3.2 million. Other “miscellaneous” services rose by \$51.1 million (72.6%) to \$121.5 million, owing to the re-categorization of public sector account. Providing some offset, net outflows for construction-related services fell by \$32.2 million to \$3.3 million, as work on a large-scale foreign investment project stalled. In addition, net transportation payments decreased by \$1.3 million (1.8%) to \$69.0 million, explained by a reduction in net outflows for air & sea freight services, which negated the rise in disbursements for passenger services and a falloff in receipts from local port charges, while offshore companies’ local expenses declined by \$2.7 million (4.7%) to \$54.3 million.

Net income outflows edged up by \$2.3 million (2.0%) to \$117.7 million, led by a \$6.0 million (5.8%) rise in net investment payments to \$109.5 million. Specifically, net outflows for official transactions expanded by \$6.6 million (37.3%), reflecting a \$6.7 million (31.0%) increase in Government’s net interest payments. Providing some offset, private companies’ interest and dividend net payments fell slightly by \$0.5 million (0.6%), as the \$11.8 million decline in non-banks’ net profit repatriations, outpaced the \$11.3 million growth in commercial banks’ net profit payments. In contrast, net employee compensation contracted by \$3.7 million (31.0%) to \$8.2 million.

The current transfers’ deficit rose by \$8.2 million (83.3%) to \$18.1 million, on account of higher worker remittances and other transfers, of \$5.9 million (19.7%) and \$5.1 million (39.5%), respectively. Comparatively, inflows to Government firmed by \$2.8 million (8.5%) to \$36.0 million.

The reduced surplus on the capital and financial account mainly reflected a \$16.1 million (37.0%) decline in direct investment inflows to \$27.4 million, as net equity funded investments fell by \$12.7 million and real estate divestments increased by \$3.4 million. Additionally, resident’s net foreign portfolio purchases moved higher by \$1.9 million to \$5.2 million. In contrast, “other” liabilities financed net inflows grew by \$13.9 million (77.7%) to \$31.9 million. This corresponded to private sector debt financing of \$50.8 million, versus a \$2.4 million net repayment last year and increased public sector net external borrowing of \$97.6 million from \$18.0 million a year earlier—largely linked to the aircraft purchased for the national airline; however, following a \$2.4 million increase in 2015, commercial banks repaid \$116.5 million in net short-term obligations—mainly attributed to a resident bank’s transfer of assets to its external affiliates. In addition, migrant persons’ net asset remittances firmed modestly to \$2.9 million.

As a result of these developments and after making the necessary adjustments for net errors and omissions, the surplus on the overall balance, which corresponds to the change in the Central Bank’s external reserves, was more than halved to \$57.2 million.

## **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS**

Global economic developments during the second quarter were dominated by the sustained, although uneven, growth in the developed economies, led by the United States and Europe, while Asian markets continued to face headwinds. Global stock markets fell sharply over the period, dragged down by the uncertainty caused by the United Kingdom’s vote to exit the European Union in June. Given these developments, most of the major central banks either maintained or enhanced their highly accommodative monetary policy stances.

Real GDP growth in the United States accelerated to an annualized 1.2% in the second quarter, from 0.8% in the prior three-month period, attributed mainly to gains in personal consumption expenditure and exports, which overshadowed reductions in private inventories, residential fixed investments and Government spending. Similarly, the United Kingdom's real output expansion quickened by 20 basis points to 0.6% over the first quarter, amid increases in the services and production sectors. In the euro area, real GDP growth moderated by one-half to 0.3%, as the increase in output slowed in France and Germany—the region's two largest economies. Further, the pace of expansion in China steadied at 6.7% during the review period, supported by spending on infrastructure and real estate investments; however, declines in consumer spending and exports led to Japan's real output growth tapering by 30 basis points to an annualized 0.2%, quarter-on-quarter.

With regard to the labour market, the jobless rate continued to decline in most of the major economies during the second quarter, reflecting the improving economic conditions. Employment continued to grow in the United States, as an estimated 485,000 persons were added to non-farm payrolls, primarily in professional & business services, health care and financial activities; although corresponding gains in the labour force resulted in the unemployment rate remaining at 4.9%. Similar developments occurred in the United Kingdom, as the jobless rate stayed at 4.9% in the three months ended June, despite an increase in the number of persons employed, by 172,000. The euro area's unemployment rate fell by 10 basis points to 10.1% over the quarter—its lowest level since July 2011—led by improving job opportunities in agriculture, forestry & fishing and arts, entertainment & other services industries. In Asia, the unemployment rate steadied at 3.1% in Japan and at 4.1% in China.

Reflecting the modest uptick in international oil and commodity costs, consumer price inflation trended upwards for most of the major economies. In the United States, annual inflation firmed by 10 basis points to 1.0% at end-June, attributed to a rise in energy prices. Similarly, associated with growth in food and beverage service costs, the annualized inflation rate for the euro area edged up to 0.1%, a reversal from a 0.1% decrease in prices in March. Further, annual inflation in the United Kingdom stabilized at 0.5% in the twelve months to June, as increases in air fares and recreational and cultural goods & services were offset by declines in furniture, furnishings and accommodation services costs. In the Asian economies, China's inflation rate softened by 0.4 of a percentage point to 1.9% in the second quarter, occasioned by reduced food prices, while Japan experienced continued deflation, but at a more moderate year-on-year pace of 0.5% at end-June, due to lower consumer electronics and accommodation costs.

Given the political and economic concerns caused by the "BREXIT" vote in the UK, most major central banks either maintained or enhanced their monetary policy stance during the review period. In the United States, the Federal Reserve left its benchmark rate unchanged within the 0.25% - 0.50% range, while the Bank of England injected an additional £250 billion into its bank financing facilities and retained its interest rate at a historic low of 0.5%. Similarly, in an effort to provide additional liquidity and support economic growth, the European Central Bank expanded its asset purchase programme by €20.0 billion to €80.0 billion, while leaving its benchmark interest rates unchanged. Further, in a bid to provide support to the economy, the People's Bank of China injected US\$110.5 billion into its banking system and the Bank of Japan kept its interest rate at -0.1% and maintained the size of its asset purchase programme at ¥ 80 trillion.

The United States dollar appreciated against most of the major currencies during the review period, supported by the improving economy and the expectation that the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates in the near-term. Specifically, amid concerns over the impact of BREXIT on the United Kingdom's economy, the dollar strengthened vis-à-vis the British pound by 7.9% to £0.75, while more muted increases were recorded against the Chinese Yuan, the euro and the Swiss franc, by 3.0% to CNY6.64, by 2.5% to

€0.90 and by 1.5% to CHF 0.97, respectively. In contrast, the dollar depreciated by 8.3% relative to the Japanese Yen, to ¥103.2 and declined by 0.6% versus the Canadian dollar, to CAD\$1.29.

The surprise “BREXIT” vote in June cemented the broad-based losses recorded on most of the major stock exchanges during the second quarter. In Asia, Japan’s Nikkei 225 fell by 7.1% and China’s SE Composite Index decreased by 2.5%. Similar trends were recorded in the United States’ market, as the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DIJA) decreased by 1.9% and 1.4%, respectively. With regard to Europe, reductions were noted for France’s CAC 40 (3.4%) and Germany’s DAX (2.9%); however, the United Kingdom’s FTSE rose by 5.3%, buoyed by the positive effect of the Bank of England’s initial stimulus measures following the vote.

Reflecting in part an agreement between Saudi Arabia and Russia—two of the largest oil producers—to cap production at current levels, along with a reduction in inventories, the price for crude oil rose by 24.6% over the three-month period to \$49.52 per barrel at end-June. In terms of other commodities, both the prices of silver and gold firmed by 21.2% to \$18.72 and by 7.3% to \$1,322.2 per troy ounce, respectively.

External sector developments were mixed among most of the major economies over the review period, when compared to the previous quarter. In the United States, the trade deficit declined by 4.9% to \$123.0 billion over the prior period, as a falloff in imports overshadowed a decrease in exports. In contrast, the United Kingdom’s deficit on trade in goods and services widened by 3.3% to £12.5 billion, buoyed by a 4.0% rise in imports of mainly capital-based products, which outstripped a 5.8% gain in largely aircraft-related exports. The euro area’s terms of trade improved over the review period, with the surplus expanding by 51.3% to €81.3 billion, as the rise in exports (6.6%) outpaced the uptick in imports (1.5%). In Asia, China’s trade surplus rose by 5.9% to \$143.7 billion, with the decline in imports, owing to weak domestic demand, outweighing the falloff in exports. Similarly, during the second quarter Japan’s trade surplus advanced to ¥590.2 billion from ¥341.2 billion, largely due to a decline in international energy imports, while the sustained strengthening of the Yen slowed export demand.

## **STATISTICAL APPENDIX (TABLES I-16)**

**TABLE 1**  
**FINANCIAL SURVEY**

Period	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>(B\$ Millions)</b>									
<b>Net foreign assets</b>	209.2	46.7	286.4	364.5	482.1	300.9	280.2	482.6	656.2
Central Bank	810.2	741.6	787.7	829.1	953.1	826.8	811.9	994.9	1,052.1
Domestic Banks	(600.9)	(694.9)	(501.2)	(464.6)	(471.1)	(525.8)	(531.7)	(512.4)	(395.9)
<b>Net domestic assets</b>	6,094.6	6,270.6	6,103.7	6,087.1	5,988.1	6,152.4	6,093.7	6,016.4	5,921.1
Domestic credit	8,691.3	8,957.1	8,870.5	8,840.9	8,808.9	8,987.6	8,966.2	8,903.0	8,810.8
Public sector	2,062.9	2,406.0	2,503.6	2,512.1	2,500.9	2,673.6	2,666.4	2,617.1	2,574.4
Government (net)	1,594.8	1,946.6	2,024.0	2,017.7	2,007.6	2,172.6	2,198.0	2,153.5	2,100.9
Rest of public sector	468.2	459.4	479.7	494.5	493.3	500.9	468.4	463.5	473.5
Private sector	6,628.4	6,551.1	6,366.9	6,328.8	6,308.0	6,314.1	6,299.7	6,285.9	6,236.4
Other items (net)	(2,596.7)	(2,686.5)	(2,766.8)	(2,753.9)	(2,820.8)	(2,835.2)	(2,872.4)	(2,886.6)	(2,889.6)
<b>Monetary liabilities</b>	6,303.7	6,317.2	6,390.0	6,451.4	6,470.0	6,453.2	6,373.8	6,498.8	6,577.2
Money	1,574.9	1,641.2	1,995.7	2,054.5	2,109.9	2,087.3	2,071.2	2,143.1	2,198.0
Currency	216.5	214.4	232.8	232.9	232.3	225.8	246.6	246.9	247.6
Demand deposits	1,358.4	1,426.8	1,762.9	1,821.5	1,877.6	1,861.5	1,824.7	1,896.1	1,950.4
Quasi-money	4,728.8	4,676.0	4,394.3	4,397.0	4,360.2	4,365.8	4,302.6	4,355.8	4,379.2
Fixed deposits	3,444.1	3,288.0	3,101.9	3,026.5	3,006.0	3,006.7	2,966.5	2,970.9	2,931.2
Savings deposits	1,069.0	1,114.0	1,067.5	1,099.3	1,128.4	1,144.8	1,148.3	1,178.5	1,217.3
Foreign currency	215.7	274.0	224.8	271.2	225.8	214.3	187.8	206.4	230.7
<b>(percentage changes)</b>									
<b>Total domestic credit</b>	1.7	3.1	(1.0)	(0.3)	(0.4)	2.0	(0.2)	(0.7)	(1.0)
Public sector	8.8	16.6	4.1	0.3	(0.4)	6.9	(0.3)	(1.9)	(1.6)
Government (net)	10.6	22.1	4.0	(0.3)	(0.5)	8.2	1.2	(2.0)	(2.4)
Rest of public sector	2.9	(1.9)	4.4	3.1	(0.2)	1.6	(6.5)	(1.0)	2.2
Private sector	(0.3)	(1.2)	(2.8)	(0.6)	(0.3)	0.1	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.8)
<b>Monetary liabilities</b>	(0.1)	0.2	1.2	1.0	0.3	(0.3)	(1.2)	2.0	1.2
Money	9.7	4.2	21.6	2.9	2.7	(1.1)	(0.8)	3.5	2.6
Currency	9.8	(0.9)	8.6	0.0	(0.3)	(2.8)	9.2	0.1	0.3
Demand deposits	9.7	5.0	23.6	3.3	3.1	(0.9)	(2.0)	3.9	2.9
Quasi-money	(3.0)	(1.1)	(6.0)	0.1	(0.8)	0.1	(1.4)	1.2	0.5

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas



**TABLE 2**  
**MONETARY SURVEY**

Period	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>(B\$ Millions)</b>									
<b>Net foreign assets</b>	215.1	76.4	334.2	414.6	538.3	376.7	360.1	571.6	750.1
Central Bank	810.2	741.6	787.7	829.1	953.1	826.8	811.9	994.9	1,052.1
Commercial banks	(595.1)	(665.2)	(453.5)	(414.5)	(414.9)	(450.0)	(451.8)	(423.4)	(302.0)
<b>Net domestic assets</b>	6,034.1	6,189.3	6,002.0	5,973.3	5,863.7	6,014.2	5,956.8	5,874.7	5,769.9
Domestic credit	8,661.9	8,929.8	8,837.0	8,795.6	8,766.4	8,954.7	8,926.2	8,858.2	8,767.1
Public sector	2,050.1	2,396.6	2,492.5	2,500.9	2,480.5	2,662.9	2,653.2	2,607.2	2,563.5
Government (net)	1,582.4	1,937.7	2,013.2	2,006.8	1,987.6	2,162.3	2,187.2	2,146.0	2,092.4
Rest of public sector	467.7	458.9	479.3	494.1	492.9	500.6	466.0	461.2	471.2
Private sector	6,611.8	6,533.2	6,344.5	6,294.7	6,285.9	6,291.8	6,273.0	6,251.0	6,203.5
Other items (net)	(2,627.8)	(2,740.5)	(2,834.9)	(2,822.3)	(2,902.7)	(2,940.5)	(2,969.4)	(2,983.5)	(2,997.2)
<b>Monetary liabilities</b>	6,249.0	6,265.6	6,336.1	6,387.7	6,401.9	6,390.8	6,316.8	6,446.1	6,519.9
Money	1,541.9	1,610.9	1,955.0	2,014.8	2,053.7	2,037.4	2,024.9	2,101.0	2,155.6
Currency	216.5	214.4	232.8	232.9	232.3	225.8	246.6	246.9	247.6
Demand deposits	1,325.4	1,396.5	1,722.2	1,781.8	1,821.5	1,811.6	1,778.3	1,854.0	1,908.0
Quasi-money	4,707.1	4,654.7	4,381.1	4,372.9	4,348.1	4,353.5	4,291.9	4,345.1	4,364.3
Savings deposits	1,069.0	1,114.0	1,067.5	1,099.3	1,128.4	1,144.8	1,148.3	1,178.5	1,216.5
Fixed deposits	3,428.4	3,266.7	3,088.8	3,013.7	2,994.0	2,994.3	2,955.9	2,960.2	2,917.1
Foreign currency deposits	209.7	274.0	224.8	259.9	225.8	214.3	187.8	206.4	230.7
<b>(percentage change)</b>									
<b>Total domestic credit</b>	1.7	3.1	(1.0)	(0.5)	(0.3)	2.1	(0.3)	(0.8)	(1.0)
Public sector	8.6	16.9	4.0	0.3	(0.8)	7.4	(0.4)	(1.7)	(1.7)
Government (net)	10.5	22.5	3.9	(0.3)	(1.0)	8.8	1.2	(1.9)	(2.5)
Rest of public sector	2.9	(1.9)	4.4	3.1	(0.2)	1.6	(6.9)	(1.0)	2.2
Private sector	(0.3)	(1.2)	(2.9)	(0.8)	(0.1)	0.1	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.8)
<b>Monetary liabilities</b>	(0.3)	0.3	1.1	0.8	0.2	(0.2)	(1.2)	2.0	1.1
Money	9.5	4.5	21.4	3.1	1.9	(0.8)	(0.6)	3.8	2.6
Currency	9.9	(0.9)	8.6	0.0	(0.3)	(2.8)	9.2	0.1	0.3
Demand deposits	9.4	5.4	23.3	3.5	2.2	(0.5)	(1.8)	4.3	2.9
Quasi-money	(3.1)	(1.1)	(5.9)	(0.2)	(0.6)	0.1	(1.4)	1.2	0.4

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas

**TABLE 3  
CENTRAL BANK BALANCE SHEET**

Period	(BS Millions)								
	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>Net foreign assets</b>	810.2	741.6	787.7	829.1	953.1	826.8	811.9	994.9	1,052.1
Balances with banks abroad	216.5	122.4	155.2	186.1	308.1	212.3	206.6	380.1	389.6
Foreign securities	555.6	551.0	544.9	559.6	560.1	529.7	521.7	511.5	559.9
Reserve position in the Fund	9.6	9.6	9.1	8.6	8.8	8.8	8.7	27.2	27.0
SDR holdings	28.4	58.6	78.5	74.7	76.1	76.0	75.0	76.2	75.7
<b>Net domestic assets</b>	280.1	374.7	375.6	304.8	245.3	277.8	340.6	333.1	387.3
Net claims on Government	397.3	493.1	523.4	458.7	402.7	436.0	493.7	490.1	546.4
Claims	407.4	545.3	571.4	485.3	429.0	457.2	523.1	511.3	568.9
Treasury bills	129.7	186.6	119.7	76.7	22.9	54.7	126.6	114.2	171.7
Bahamas registered stock	171.3	223.5	316.5	273.1	270.5	266.7	261.1	261.5	261.5
Loans and advances	106.3	135.2	135.2	135.4	135.6	135.8	135.4	135.5	135.7
Deposits	(10.1)	(52.1)	(48.0)	(26.6)	(26.3)	(21.2)	(29.4)	(21.2)	(22.5)
In local currency	(10.1)	(52.1)	(48.0)	(26.6)	(26.3)	(21.2)	(29.4)	(21.2)	(22.5)
In foreign currency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deposits of rest of public sector	(14.8)	(11.7)	(26.0)	(14.5)	(17.6)	(20.8)	(17.3)	(13.6)	(17.8)
Credit to commercial banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Official capital and surplus	(135.7)	(140.0)	(152.3)	(156.7)	(155.0)	(155.4)	(163.7)	(162.4)	(162.9)
Net unclassified assets	23.0	23.0	21.1	7.9	5.9	8.9	19.0	10.2	12.9
Loans to rest of public sector	4.8	4.6	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.6
Public Corp Bonds/Securities	5.6	5.7	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
<b>Liabilities To Domestic Banks</b>	(682.6)	(710.3)	(750.2)	(729.3)	(791.2)	(704.1)	(733.5)	(905.8)	(1,017.8)
Notes and coins	(127.4)	(138.1)	(142.5)	(112.5)	(109.8)	(108.5)	(142.4)	(113.9)	(96.9)
Deposits	(555.2)	(572.2)	(607.7)	(616.9)	(681.4)	(595.6)	(591.1)	(791.9)	(920.9)
SDR allocation	(191.2)	(191.6)	(180.3)	(171.6)	(175.0)	(174.7)	(172.4)	(175.3)	(174.0)
Currency held by the private sector	(216.5)	(214.4)	(232.8)	(232.9)	(232.3)	(225.8)	(246.6)	(246.9)	(247.6)

**Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas**

**TABLE 4  
DOMESTIC BANKS BALANCE SHEET**

Period	(BS Millions)								
	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>Net foreign assets</b>	(600.9)	(694.9)	(501.2)	(464.6)	(471.1)	(525.8)	(531.7)	(512.4)	(395.9)
<b>Net claims on Central Bank</b>	690.7	651.7	749.2	729.9	792.1	704.8	730.0	906.5	1,018.7
Notes and Coins	127.4	138.1	142.5	112.5	109.8	108.5	142.4	113.9	96.9
Balances	563.3	513.6	606.7	617.4	682.3	596.2	587.5	792.6	921.8
Less Central Bank credit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net domestic assets</b>	5,586.1	5,803.7	5,537.6	5,564.0	5,543.1	5,670.9	5,569.8	5,499.6	5,325.1
Net claims on Government	1,197.5	1,453.5	1,500.5	1,559.0	1,604.9	1,736.6	1,704.4	1,663.5	1,554.5
Treasury bills	219.3	392.4	454.5	502.5	556.3	699.6	662.6	680.0	627.8
Other securities	961.1	962.2	907.0	923.4	940.0	922.4	895.4	892.3	889.6
Loans and advances	152.4	253.6	352.1	356.5	362.2	371.4	416.8	419.2	404.9
Less: deposits	135.3	154.7	213.1	223.5	253.6	256.7	270.5	328.1	367.8
Net claims on rest of public sector	61.2	118.6	124.6	110.3	128.0	135.1	117.6	110.1	100.9
Securities	119.4	119.4	219.0	219.0	219.0	219.0	221.0	221.2	218.9
Loans and advances	338.5	329.8	251.3	266.0	264.9	272.8	238.4	233.6	245.8
Less: deposits	396.6	330.6	345.7	374.7	356.0	356.7	341.8	344.6	363.9
Other net claims	14.7	56.4	24.8	50.7	11.0	15.8	43.9	25.7	18.6
Credit to the private sector	6,628.4	6,551.1	6,366.9	6,328.8	6,308.0	6,314.1	6,299.7	6,285.9	6,236.4
Securities	14.1	16.6	16.8	16.7	16.8	18.1	24.4	25.8	26.7
Mortgages	3,275.4	3,310.3	3,211.4	3,187.9	3,179.9	3,171.2	3,164.7	3,165.8	3,139.8
Loans and advances	3,338.9	3,224.2	3,138.7	3,124.2	3,111.3	3,124.8	3,110.7	3,094.4	3,069.9
Private capital and surplus	(2,523.4)	(2,586.4)	(2,499.2)	(2,509.0)	(2,551.6)	(2,556.6)	(2,651.2)	(2,600.8)	(2,601.5)
Net unclassified assets	207.7	210.6	20.0	24.1	42.8	25.9	55.5	15.2	16.3
<b>Liabilities to private sector</b>	5,675.8	5,760.6	5,785.5	5,829.3	5,864.2	5,849.9	5,768.1	5,893.7	5,948.0
Demand deposits	1,442.7	1,593.5	1,830.6	1,932.4	1,957.7	1,922.4	1,868.3	1,949.9	1,998.5
Savings deposits	1,074.2	1,119.9	1,074.1	1,106.2	1,136.5	1,158.5	1,162.0	1,195.6	1,234.7
Fixed deposits	3,159.0	3,047.1	2,880.8	2,790.6	2,770.0	2,768.9	2,737.8	2,748.3	2,714.8

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas

**TABLE 5**  
**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS OF BANKS IN THE BAHAMAS\***

(B\$'000s)

Period	2012	2013	2014	2014				2015				
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I
1. Interest Income	667,055	646,083	617,808	153,222	154,951	154,028	155,607	148,510	156,468	160,233	161,209	158,211
2. Interest Expense	144,897	117,811	98,321	25,101	24,729	24,845	23,646	21,307	21,850	21,273	20,984	20,807
<b>3. Interest Margin (1-2)</b>	<b>522,158</b>	<b>528,272</b>	<b>519,487</b>	<b>128,121</b>	<b>130,222</b>	<b>129,183</b>	<b>131,961</b>	<b>127,203</b>	<b>134,618</b>	<b>138,960</b>	<b>140,225</b>	<b>137,404</b>
4. Commission & Forex Income	23,005	23,278	22,484	3,445	6,267	6,291	6,481	5,657	11,373	5,590	6,910	5,756
<b>5. Gross Earnings Margin (3+4)</b>	<b>545,163</b>	<b>551,550</b>	<b>541,971</b>	<b>131,566</b>	<b>136,489</b>	<b>135,474</b>	<b>138,442</b>	<b>132,860</b>	<b>145,991</b>	<b>144,550</b>	<b>147,135</b>	<b>143,160</b>
6. Staff Costs	162,348	181,910	171,579	43,140	43,367	42,484	42,588	42,852	45,619	41,628	40,297	40,906
7. Occupancy Costs	29,744	30,120	27,797	6,341	6,836	6,714	7,906	7,043	7,235	6,944	5,796	6,883
8. Other Operating Costs	111,914	132,475	279,278	41,325	155,190	40,715	42,048	38,156	39,715	34,005	38,753	39,236
<b>9. Operating Costs (6+7+8)</b>	<b>304,006</b>	<b>344,505</b>	<b>478,654</b>	<b>90,806</b>	<b>205,393</b>	<b>89,913</b>	<b>92,542</b>	<b>88,051</b>	<b>92,569</b>	<b>82,577</b>	<b>84,846</b>	<b>87,025</b>
<b>10. Net Earnings Margin (5-9)</b>	<b>241,157</b>	<b>207,045</b>	<b>63,317</b>	<b>40,760</b>	<b>(68,904)</b>	<b>45,561</b>	<b>45,900</b>	<b>44,809</b>	<b>53,422</b>	<b>61,973</b>	<b>62,289</b>	<b>56,135</b>
11. Depreciation Costs	13,364	16,969	14,637	3,677	3,556	3,633	3,771	4,005	4,021	4,231	3,512	3,632
12. Provisions for Bad Debt	168,098	149,114	266,624	27,392	149,450	32,720	57,062	42,791	36,705	25,659	27,419	20,347
13. Other Income	88,284	98,023	103,893	23,592	25,032	27,297	27,972	27,284	24,456	27,866	31,657	32,759
<b>14. Other Income (Net) (13-11-12)</b>	<b>(93,178)</b>	<b>(68,060)</b>	<b>(177,368)</b>	<b>(7,477)</b>	<b>(127,974)</b>	<b>(9,056)</b>	<b>(32,861)</b>	<b>(19,512)</b>	<b>(16,270)</b>	<b>(2,024)</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>8,780</b>
<b>15. Net Income (10+14)</b>	<b>147,979</b>	<b>138,985</b>	<b>(114,051)</b>	<b>33,283</b>	<b>(196,878)</b>	<b>36,505</b>	<b>13,039</b>	<b>25,297</b>	<b>37,152</b>	<b>59,949</b>	<b>63,015</b>	<b>64,915</b>
<b>16. Effective Interest Rate Spread (%)</b>	<b>6.41</b>	<b>6.85</b>	<b>6.83</b>	<b>6.80</b>	<b>6.96</b>	<b>6.68</b>	<b>6.88</b>	<b>6.92</b>	<b>7.28</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>7.12</b>	<b>7.24</b>
<b>(Ratios To Average Assets)</b>												
Interest Margin	5.41	5.42	5.31	5.24	5.32	5.27	5.40	5.21	5.35	5.56	5.63	5.44
Commission & Forex Income	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.14	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.23	0.45	0.22	0.28	0.23
Gross Earnings Margin	5.65	5.64	5.54	5.39	5.58	5.53	5.67	5.44	5.81	5.78	5.91	5.67
Operating Costs	3.15	3.68	4.89	3.72	8.39	3.67	3.79	3.61	3.68	3.30	3.41	3.45
Net Earnings Margin	2.50	1.96	0.65	1.67	(2.81)	1.86	1.88	1.84	2.12	2.48	2.50	2.22
Net Income/Loss	1.53	1.43	-1.16	1.36	(8.04)	1.49	0.53	1.04	1.48	2.40	2.53	2.57

\*Commercial Banks and OLFIs with domestic operations

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas

**TABLE 6  
MONEY SUPPLY**

End of Period	(B\$ Millions)								
	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>Money Supply (M1)</b>	1,574.9	1,641.2	1,995.7	2,054.5	2,109.9	2,087.3	2,071.2	2,143.1	2,198.0
1) Currency in active circulation	216.5	214.4	232.8	232.9	232.3	225.8	246.6	246.9	247.6
2) Demand deposits	1,358.4	1,426.8	1,762.9	1,821.5	1,877.6	1,861.5	1,824.7	1,896.1	1,950.4
Central Bank	14.8	11.7	26.0	14.5	17.6	20.8	17.3	13.6	17.8
Domestic Banks	1,343.6	1,415.1	1,736.9	1,807.0	1,860.0	1,840.8	1,807.3	1,882.6	1,932.7
<b>Factors affecting money (M1)</b>									
1) Net credit to Government	1,594.8	1,946.6	2,024.0	2,017.7	2,007.6	2,172.6	2,198.0	2,153.5	2,100.9
Central Bank	397.3	493.1	523.4	458.7	402.7	436.0	493.7	490.1	546.4
Domestic banks	1,197.5	1,453.5	1,500.5	1,559.0	1,604.9	1,736.6	1,704.4	1,663.5	1,554.5
2) Other credit	7,096.6	7,010.5	6,846.5	6,823.3	6,801.3	6,815.0	6,768.1	6,749.5	6,709.9
Rest of public sector	468.2	459.4	479.7	494.5	493.3	500.9	468.4	463.5	473.5
Private sector	6,628.4	6,551.1	6,366.9	6,328.8	6,308.0	6,314.1	6,299.7	6,285.9	6,236.4
3) External reserves	810.2	741.6	787.7	829.1	953.1	826.8	811.9	994.9	1,052.1
4) Other external liabilities (net)	(600.9)	(694.9)	(501.2)	(464.6)	(471.1)	(525.8)	(531.7)	(512.4)	(395.9)
5) Quasi money	4,728.8	4,676.0	4,394.3	4,397.0	4,360.2	4,365.8	4,302.6	4,355.8	4,379.2
6) Other items (net)	(2,596.7)	(2,686.5)	(2,766.8)	(2,753.9)	(2,820.8)	(2,835.2)	(2,872.4)	(2,886.6)	(2,889.6)

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas

**TABLE 7**  
**CONSUMER INSTALMENT CREDIT\***

(B\$' 000)

End of Period	2012	2013	2014	2014				2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
				<b>CREDIT OUTSTANDING</b>									
Private cars	177,527	175,407	186,731	175,618	184,005	183,693	186,731	187,847	189,599	186,637	181,447	177,367	179,811
Taxis & rented cars	1,081	1,077	853	1,029	948	871	853	987	1,057	1,028	1,026	947	879
Commercial vehicles	2,241	2,334	1,958	2,263	2,232	2,108	1,958	1,971	1,802	1,510	1,498	1,381	1,290
Furnishings & domestic appliances	12,010	7,919	7,911	7,621	7,282	7,585	7,911	7,370	7,371	8,013	8,081	7,833	7,994
Travel	29,492	33,011	30,033	30,508	29,495	32,239	30,033	27,644	28,771	36,466	36,836	36,170	38,928
Education	34,544	33,858	36,571	34,254	33,559	37,728	36,571	36,896	36,153	42,085	41,117	40,343	39,369
Medical	11,363	12,010	11,744	11,762	11,713	11,805	11,744	12,244	12,549	12,824	12,471	13,294	13,118
Home Improvements	127,537	123,943	131,723	126,057	133,933	131,254	131,723	132,323	131,388	125,149	114,265	111,294	108,346
Land Purchases	232,752	225,065	216,760	225,769	223,398	223,304	216,760	211,941	206,235	199,086	193,163	187,987	181,767
Consolidation of debt	781,693	802,727	777,804	802,659	797,630	782,466	777,804	861,318	842,827	834,249	802,034	805,547	795,914
Miscellaneous	501,225	563,322	625,074	557,983	573,570	602,618	625,074	539,640	575,906	610,830	640,154	649,073	685,088
Credit Cards	243,745	241,241	245,254	235,484	237,222	241,343	245,254	237,493	237,607	242,465	249,164	243,919	243,214
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,155,210</b>	<b>2,221,914</b>	<b>2,272,416</b>	<b>2,211,007</b>	<b>2,234,987</b>	<b>2,257,014</b>	<b>2,272,416</b>	<b>2,257,674</b>	<b>2,271,265</b>	<b>2,300,342</b>	<b>2,281,256</b>	<b>2,275,155</b>	<b>2,295,718</b>
<b>NET CREDIT EXTENDED</b>													
Private cars	5,776	(2,120)	11,324	211	8,387	(312)	3,038	1,116	1,752	(2,962)	(5,190)	(4,080)	2,444
Taxis & rented cars	171	(4)	(224)	(48)	(81)	(77)	(18)	134	70	(29)	(2)	(79)	(68)
Commercial vehicles	(269)	93	(376)	(71)	(31)	(124)	(150)	13	(169)	(292)	(12)	(117)	(91)
Furnishings & domestic appliances	884	(4,091)	(8)	(298)	(339)	303	326	(541)	1	642	68	(248)	161
Travel	4,271	3,519	(2,978)	(2,503)	(1,013)	2,744	(2,206)	(2,389)	1,127	7,695	370	(666)	2,758
Education	(1,206)	(686)	2,713	396	(695)	4,169	(1,157)	325	(743)	5,932	(968)	(774)	(974)
Medical	(3,046)	647	(266)	(248)	(49)	92	(61)	500	305	275	(353)	823	(176)
Home Improvements	994	(3,594)	7,780	2,114	7,876	(2,679)	469	600	(935)	(6,239)	(10,884)	(2,971)	(2,948)
Land Purchases	(7,038)	(7,687)	(8,305)	704	(2,371)	(94)	(6,544)	(4,819)	(5,706)	(7,149)	(5,923)	(5,176)	(6,220)
Consolidation of debt	(38,442)	21,034	(24,923)	(68)	(5,029)	(15,164)	(4,662)	83,514	(18,491)	(8,578)	(32,215)	3,513	(9,633)
Miscellaneous	37,173	62,097	61,752	(5,339)	15,587	29,048	22,456	(85,434)	36,266	34,924	29,324	8,919	36,015
Credit Cards	(8,179)	(2,504)	4,013	(5,757)	1,738	4,121	3,911	(7,761)	114	4,858	6,699	(5,245)	(705)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(8,911)</b>	<b>66,704</b>	<b>50,502</b>	<b>(10,907)</b>	<b>23,980</b>	<b>22,027</b>	<b>15,402</b>	<b>(14,742)</b>	<b>13,591</b>	<b>29,077</b>	<b>(19,086)</b>	<b>(6,101)</b>	<b>20,563</b>

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas

\* Includes both demand and add-on loans

**TABLE 8**  
**SELECTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATES**

Period	(%)								
	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II
<b>DOMESTIC BANKS</b>									
<b>Deposit rates</b>									
Savings deposits	1.53	0.97	0.89	0.96	0.82	0.83	0.72	0.80	0.87
Fixed deposits									
Up to 3 months	1.60	1.37	1.16	1.07	1.20	1.17	1.10	1.05	0.98
Up to 6 months	1.95	1.35	1.22	1.02	1.03	1.09	1.20	1.05	1.03
Up to 12 months	2.54	2.15	1.76	1.90	1.71	1.69	1.53	1.87	1.44
Over 12 months	2.65	2.20	1.64	1.55	1.42	1.72	1.57	1.64	1.66
Weighted average rate	2.02	1.68	1.42	1.46	1.40	1.49	1.27	1.36	1.25
<b>Lending rates</b>									
Residential mortgages	7.50	7.27	7.16	6.89	6.45	6.36	6.20	6.32	6.21
Commercial mortgages	8.29	8.21	8.02	7.61	7.68	7.40	9.09	7.42	7.00
Consumer loans	13.43	13.65	13.91	14.05	14.08	14.43	14.49	13.65	14.14
Overdrafts	9.81	9.32	9.76	10.48	10.20	10.17	10.60	10.78	11.04
Weighted average rate	10.88	11.10	11.81	11.94	12.35	12.55	12.32	11.83	12.54
<b>Other rates</b>									
Prime rate	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75
Treasury bill (90 days)	0.20	0.30	0.53	0.58	0.69	0.68	0.76	1.03	1.48
Treasury bill re-discount rate	0.70	0.80	1.03	1.08	1.19	1.18	1.26	1.53	1.98
Bank rate (discount rate)	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50

Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas



**TABLE 9**  
**SELECTED CREDIT QUALITY INDICATORS OF DOMESTIC BANKS**

Period	(%)								
	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II
<b>Loan Portfolio</b>									
Current Loans (as a % of total loans)	<b>80.3</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>82.6</b>
Arrears (% by loan type)									
Consumer	4.4	5.0	5.2	4.8	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.3
Mortgage	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.9	10.8	9.6
Commercial	4.3	5.5	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.2	3.5	3.6	3.6
Public	0.1	0.1	0.0	-	-	0.0	-	-	-
Total Arrears	<b>19.7</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>17.4</b>
<b>Total B\$ Loan Portfolio</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Loan Portfolio</b>									
Current Loans (as a % of total loans)	<b>80.3</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>82.6</b>
Arrears (% by days outstanding)									
30 - 60 days	3.7	3.6	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.0	2.5
61 - 90 days	2.3	2.5	2.0	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.7
90 - 179 days	2.5	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6
over 180 days	11.3	13.3	13.3	13.2	12.7	12.4	12.6	12.6	11.7
Total Arrears	<b>19.7</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>17.4</b>
<b>Total B\$ Loan Portfolio</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Non Accrual Loans (% by loan type)									
Consumer	20.5	21.5	23.6	23.6	22.8	23.3	22.2	21.7	22.8
Mortgage	57.0	50.7	53.8	54.0	55.7	56.0	57.4	56.3	54.0
Other Private	21.9	27.2	22.6	22.4	21.6	20.7	20.4	22.0	23.2
Public	0.6	0.6	-	-	-	0.0	-	-	-
Total Non Accrual Loans	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Provisions to Loan Portfolio</b>									
Consumer	5.4	6.1	6.5	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.3
Mortgage	5.5	5.6	8.9	8.9	9.2	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.1
Other Private	8.3	7.9	11.4	9.8	10.0	9.8	10.2	10.6	11.9
Public	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Provisions to Total Loans	5.9	6.0	7.9	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.6	8.6
Total Provisions to Non-performing Loans	42.7	39.0	51.2	53.2	55.9	59.3	58.5	60.0	65.1
Total Non-performing Loans to Total Loans	13.7	15.4	15.3	14.8	14.4	14.0	14.2	14.3	13.2

**Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas**

Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.

**TABLE 10  
SUMMARY OF BANK LIQUIDITY**

Period	(B\$ Millions)								
	2012	2013	2014	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>I. Statutory Reserves</b>									
Required reserves	301.9	303.3	311.2	313.6	318.5	319.7	316.9	319.0	324.3
Average Till Cash	108.9	117.4	122.7	109.9	110.0	108.7	123.0	115.3	96.9
Average balance with central bank	515.8	593.3	676.6	688.6	696.2	639.4	598.7	782.8	895.5
Free cash reserves (period ended)	322.8	407.4	488.0	484.8	487.6	428.4	404.9	579.2	668.1
<b>II. Liquid Assets (period)</b>									
A. Minimum Required Liquid Assets	971.1	988.3	1,025.5	1,038.1	1,052.2	1,054.8	1,044.6	1,078.4	1,085.5
B. Net Eligible Liquid Assets	1,938.2	2,126.1	2,182.2	2,250.3	2,367.9	2,389.8	2,361.6	2,547.7	2,603.4
i) Balance with Central Bank	563.3	513.6	606.7	617.4	682.3	596.2	587.5	792.6	921.8
ii) Notes and Coins	127.9	138.6	143.0	113.0	110.3	109.0	142.9	114.4	97.4
iii) Treasury Bills	219.3	392.4	454.5	502.5	556.3	699.6	662.6	680.0	627.8
iv) Government registered stocks	957.6	962.2	907.0	923.4	940.0	922.4	895.4	892.3	889.6
v) Specified assets	56.9	56.6	56.0	55.9	55.9	55.7	55.6	55.6	53.5
vi) Net Inter-bank dem/call deposits	13.2	62.7	15.1	38.1	23.1	6.9	17.4	12.8	13.3
vii) Less: borrowings from central bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C. Surplus/(Deficit)	967.1	1,137.7	1,156.8	1,212.2	1,315.8	1,334.9	1,316.9	1,469.3	1,518.0

**Source: The Central Bank of The Bahamas**

Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.

**TABLE 11  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FINANCING**

(B\$ Millions)

Period	2013/14p	2014/15p	Budget		2014/15p				2015/16p			
			2015/16	2016/17	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV*
Total Revenue & Grants	1,450.8	1,701.5	2,039.8	2,168.8	316.5	369.5	488.5	527.1	437.6	458.6	488.3	356.2
Current expenditure	1,596.8	1,711.3	1,935.7	2,024.4	388.0	424.0	413.0	486.3	460.9	488.3	521.1	319.8
Capital expenditure	252.4	280.3	243.2	242.1	60.3	33.5	46.6	139.8	39.7	49.7	49.0	26.3
Net lending	81.7	92.0	(0.1)	(0.1)	20.1	20.3	20.3	31.4	(0.0)	2.4	0.8	(3.1)
<b>Overall balance</b>	<b>(480.0)</b>	<b>(382.0)</b>	<b>(139.1)</b>	<b>(97.6)</b>	<b>(151.9)</b>	<b>(108.3)</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>(130.4)</b>	<b>(62.9)</b>	<b>(81.7)</b>	<b>(82.6)</b>	<b>13.3</b>
<b>FINANCING (I+II-III+IV+V)</b>	480.0	382.0	139.1	97.6	151.9	108.3	(8.6)	130.4	62.9	81.7	82.6	(13.3)
<b>I. Foreign currency borrowing</b>	<b>633.2</b>	<b>148.2</b>	<b>103.6</b>	<b>85.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>118.6</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>95.4</b>	<b>126.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>
External	442.2	148.2	103.6	85.1	0.4	118.6	10.7	18.5	14.9	72.1	112.9	4.6
Domestic	191.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.3	23.4	13.4	-
<b>II. Bahamian dollar borrowing</b>	<b>340.0</b>	<b>580.0</b>	<b>182.4</b>	<b>299.5</b>	<b>239.0</b>	<b>216.0</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>222.8</b>	<b>127.1</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>10.8</b>
i) Treasury bills	81.0	30.0	-	-	30.0	-	-	-	212.8	47.3	28.3	0.8
ii) Long-term securities	115.0	275.0	-	-	-	150.0	70.0	55.0	10.0	77.3	-	-
iii) Loans and Advances	144.0	275.0	-	-	209.0	66.0	-	-	-	2.5	10.1	10.0
<b>III. Debt repayment</b>	<b>505.7</b>	<b>221.4</b>	<b>145.7</b>	<b>287.1</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>104.2</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>94.9</b>
Domestic	491.8	206.0	125.0	258.9	50.0	66.0	80.0	10.0	97.9	70.0	26.2	90.1
Bahamian dollars	366.8	140.0	125.0	258.9	50.0	-	80.0	10.0	97.9	70.0	26.2	40.1
Internal foreign currency	125.0	66.0	-	-	-	66.0	-	-	-	-	-	50.0
External	13.9	15.4	20.7	28.2	1.5	5.5	2.2	6.2	6.3	6.8	8.2	4.8
<b>IV. Net Sale of Shares &amp; Other Equity</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>V. Cash balance change</b>	<b>(50.8)</b>	<b>(76.8)</b>	-	-	<b>18.5</b>	<b>(74.8)</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>(29.9)</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>(22.0)</b>	<b>(49.4)</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>VI. Other Financing</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>(47.9)</b>	<b>(1.3)</b>	-	<b>(54.4)</b>	<b>(80.1)</b>	<b>(16.4)</b>	<b>103.0</b>	<b>(85.9)</b>	<b>(42.0)</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>57.8</b>

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

\*Quarter IV includes April & May only

**TABLE 12  
NATIONAL DEBT**

**(BS '000s)**

Period	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>TOTAL EXTERNAL DEBT</b>	1,190,109	1,572,394	1,634,853	1,580,921	1,593,203	1,601,847	1,634,853	1,739,582	1,741,452
By Instrument									
Government Securities	600,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000
Loans	590,109	672,394	734,853	680,921	693,203	701,847	734,853	839,582	841,452
By Holder									
Commercial Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Offshore Financial Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multilateral Institutions	239,927	237,002	221,339	234,323	228,162	227,875	221,339	220,252	214,889
Bilateral Institutions	67,103	70,731	68,371	70,561	70,561	70,395	68,371	67,511	67,511
Private Capital Markets	600,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000
Other Financial Institutions	283,079	364,661	445,143	376,037	394,480	403,577	445,143	551,820	559,052
<b>TOTAL INTERNAL DEBT</b>	3,795,658	4,009,658	4,263,352	3,999,658	4,044,658	4,182,841	4,263,352	4,288,905	4,211,490
By Instrument									
Foreign Currency	125,000	-	36,615	-	-	13,250	36,615	50,000	-
Government Securities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loans	125,000	-	36,615	-	-	13,250	36,615	50,000	-
Bahamian Dollars	3,670,658	4,009,658	4,226,737	3,999,658	4,044,658	4,169,591	4,226,737	4,238,905	4,211,490
Advances	134,657	134,657	134,657	134,657	134,657	134,657	134,657	134,657	134,657
Treasury Bills	579,282	579,282	816,513	579,282	579,282	769,215	816,513	843,606	856,336
Government Securities	2,956,473	3,025,473	3,072,783	3,040,473	3,085,473	3,065,473	3,072,783	3,057,783	3,047,783
Loans	246	270,246	202,784	245,246	245,246	200,246	202,784	202,859	172,714
By Holder									
Foreign Currency	125,000	-	36,615	-	-	13,250	36,615	50,000	-
Commercial Banks	125,000	-	36,615	-	-	13,250	36,615	50,000	-
Other Local Financial Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bahamian Dollars	3,670,658	4,009,658	4,226,737	3,999,658	4,044,658	4,169,591	4,226,737	4,238,905	4,211,490
The Central Bank	542,419	567,399	519,533	481,154	424,900	452,711	519,533	507,299	565,484
Commercial Banks	1,345,740	1,585,768	1,708,532	1,619,069	1,680,410	1,770,711	1,708,532	1,727,174	1,641,247
Other Local Financial Institutions	9,357	10,217	26,395	12,174	21,084	11,402	26,395	9,857	9,857
Public Corporations	684,911	665,267	650,289	661,167	655,034	650,269	650,289	637,789	632,020
Other	1,088,231	1,181,007	1,321,988	1,226,094	1,263,230	1,284,498	1,321,988	1,356,786	1,362,882
<b>TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEBT</b>	1,315,109	1,572,394	1,671,468	1,580,921	1,593,203	1,615,097	1,671,468	1,789,582	1,741,452
<b>TOTAL DIRECT CHARGE</b>	4,985,767	5,582,052	5,898,205	5,580,579	5,637,861	5,784,688	5,898,205	6,028,487	5,952,942
<b>TOTAL CONTINGENT LIABILITIES</b>	604,385	702,454	755,183	719,962	726,890	729,334	755,183	751,287	742,497
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL DEBT</b>	5,590,152	6,284,506	6,653,388	6,300,541	6,364,751	6,514,022	6,653,388	6,779,774	6,695,439

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	2013	2014	2015	2015				2016	
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.
<b>Outstanding Debt at Beginning of Period</b>	1,894,039	2,139,513	2,452,857	2,452,857	2,477,876	2,491,904	2,517,600	2,567,517	2,677,031
Government	1,042,746	1,315,109	1,572,394	1,572,394	1,580,921	1,593,203	1,615,097	1,671,468	1,789,582
Public Corporations	851,293	824,404	880,463	880,463	896,955	898,701	902,503	896,049	887,449
<b>Plus: New Drawings</b>	309,225	787,151	198,339	31,788	28,892	36,489	101,170	129,232	110,721
Government	282,868	491,378	152,729	10,698	18,463	28,149	95,419	126,316	9,035
Public corporations	26,357	295,773	45,610	21,090	10,429	8,340	5,751	2,916	101,686
<b>Less: Amortization</b>	66,970	444,774	51,472	6,769	14,864	10,793	19,046	19,718	77,226
Government	13,724	205,060	21,448	2,171	6,181	6,255	6,841	8,202	57,165
Public corporations	53,246	239,714	30,024	4,598	8,683	4,538	12,205	11,516	20,061
<b>Other Changes in Debt Stock</b>	3,219	(29,033)	(32,207)	-	-	-	(32,207)	-	-
Government	3,219	(29,033)	(32,207)	-	-	-	(32,207)	-	-
Public corporations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Outstanding Debt at End of Period</b>	2,139,513	2,452,857	2,567,517	2,477,876	2,491,904	2,517,600	2,567,517	2,677,031	2,710,526
Government	1,315,109	1,572,394	1,671,468	1,580,921	1,593,203	1,615,097	1,671,468	1,789,582	1,741,452
Public corporations	824,404	880,463	896,049	896,955	898,701	902,503	896,049	887,449	969,074
<b>Interest Charges</b>	109,931	125,009	133,152	29,767	35,879	26,661	40,845	27,926	43,182
Government	57,758	75,372	79,998	17,835	21,495	14,513	26,155	15,038	28,354
Public corporations	52,173	49,637	53,154	11,932	14,384	12,148	14,690	12,888	14,828
<b>Debt Service</b>	176,901	569,783	184,624	36,536	50,743	37,454	59,891	47,644	120,408
Government	71,482	280,432	101,446	20,006	27,676	20,768	32,996	23,240	85,519
Public corporations	105,419	289,351	83,178	16,530	23,067	16,686	26,895	24,404	34,889
<b>Debt Service ratio</b>	4.9	16.0	5.6	4.2	5.3	5.0	8.5	5.6	13.7
<b>Government debt Service/ Government revenue (%)</b>	5.3	19.0	5.3	4.1	5.3	4.7	7.2	4.8	-
<b>MEMORANDUM</b>									
Holder distribution (B\$ Mil):									
Commercial banks	451.9	276.8	319.1	292.3	288.9	304.9	319.1	326.7	357.0
Offshore Financial Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multilateral Institutions	273.2	288.7	281.8	285.6	286.5	286.0	281.8	280.5	278.9
Bilateral Institutions	67.1	70.7	68.4	70.6	70.6	70.4	68.4	67.5	67.5
Other	747.3	916.6	998.2	929.4	945.9	956.3	998.2	1,102.3	1,107.1
Private Capital Markets	600.0	900.0	900.0	900.0	900.0	900.0	900.0	900.0	900.0

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)									
	2013p	2014p	2015p	2014	2015				2016	
				Qtr.IVp	Qtr.Ip	Qtr.IIp	Qtr.IIIp	Qtr.IVp	Qtr.Ip	Qtr.IIp
<b>A. Current Account Balance (I+II+III+IV)</b>	<b>(1,493.9)</b>	<b>(1,959.5)</b>	<b>(2,000.3)</b>	<b>(664.6)</b>	<b>(445.9)</b>	<b>(298.9)</b>	<b>(245.1)</b>	<b>(431.5)</b>	<b>(263.5)</b>	<b>(157.7)</b>
<b>I. Merchandise (Net)</b>	<b>(2,211.0)</b>	<b>(2,510.3)</b>	<b>(3,793.0)</b>	<b>(697.0)</b>	<b>(666.8)</b>	<b>(668.5)</b>	<b>(536.7)</b>	<b>(560.0)</b>	<b>(504.4)</b>	<b>(428.3)</b>
Exports	954.9	833.9	904.6	197.6	125.9	156.1	117.7	120.9	95.8	144.2
Imports	3,165.9	3,344.2	4,697.7	894.7	792.7	824.6	654.4	680.9	600.2	572.5
<b>II. Services (Net)</b>	<b>1,043.0</b>	<b>988.9</b>	<b>2,628.1</b>	<b>154.4</b>	<b>368.6</b>	<b>494.8</b>	<b>348.0</b>	<b>248.1</b>	<b>355.5</b>	<b>406.5</b>
Transportation	(244.8)	(288.0)	(456.3)	(73.9)	(62.1)	(70.3)	(59.7)	(65.5)	(60.7)	(69.0)
Travel	2,022.2	2,096.7	4,039.9	447.1	613.4	649.1	454.7	423.3	620.0	639.7
Insurance Services	(158.0)	(143.8)	(263.7)	(27.1)	(30.7)	(37.6)	(39.7)	(33.8)	(32.4)	(44.7)
Offshore Companies Local Expenses	180.3	200.9	309.5	45.3	22.5	57.0	46.8	39.4	35.2	54.3
Other Government	27.6	33.1	(131.0)	7.1	8.6	5.9	9.3	6.1	(75.6)	(42.6)
Other Services	(784.3)	(910.0)	(870.4)	(244.1)	(183.1)	(109.1)	(63.4)	(121.5)	(131.0)	(131.1)
<b>III. Income (Net)</b>	<b>(329.1)</b>	<b>(438.1)</b>	<b>(708.1)</b>	<b>(134.8)</b>	<b>(142.2)</b>	<b>(115.4)</b>	<b>(53.8)</b>	<b>(91.2)</b>	<b>(70.0)</b>	<b>(117.7)</b>
1. Compensation of Employees	(35.8)	(64.4)	(94.1)	(15.0)	(20.5)	(11.9)	(15.2)	(18.9)	(11.1)	(8.2)
2. Investment Income	(293.3)	(373.8)	(614.0)	(119.8)	(121.7)	(103.5)	(38.6)	(72.3)	(58.9)	(109.5)
<b>IV. Current Transfers (Net)</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>(127.2)</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>(5.4)</b>	<b>(9.9)</b>	<b>(2.7)</b>	<b>(28.5)</b>	<b>(44.6)</b>	<b>(18.1)</b>
1. General Government	122.5	118.3	231.5	29.9	41.1	33.2	29.0	26.7	29.4	36.0
2. Private Sector	(119.3)	(118.3)	(358.7)	(17.1)	(46.5)	(43.1)	(31.6)	(55.2)	(74.0)	(54.1)
<b>B. Capital and Financial Account (I+II)</b> (excl. Reserves)	<b>996.0</b>	<b>1,509.9</b>	<b>429.2</b>	<b>453.3</b>	<b>113.7</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>(21.7)</b>	<b>51.2</b>
<b>I. Capital Account (Net Transfers)</b>	<b>(9.6)</b>	<b>(8.9)</b>	<b>(29.1)</b>	<b>(0.8)</b>	<b>(7.4)</b>	<b>(1.6)</b>	<b>(3.5)</b>	<b>(6.4)</b>	<b>(4.4)</b>	<b>(2.9)</b>
<b>II. Financial Account (Net)</b>	<b>1,005.6</b>	<b>1,518.8</b>	<b>458.2</b>	<b>454.1</b>	<b>121.0</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>84.8</b>	<b>103.2</b>	<b>(17.3)</b>	<b>54.1</b>
1. Direct Investment	382.3	251.3	114.7	(0.7)	9.7	43.6	9.9	13.0	(16.3)	27.4
2. Portfolio Investment	(34.0)	(26.9)	(27.0)	(5.2)	(4.2)	(3.4)	(3.1)	(1.8)	(4.2)	(5.2)
3. Other Investments	657.4	1,294.4	370.6	460.0	115.5	18.0	78.1	92.0	3.2	31.9
Central Gov't Long Term Capital	139.7	411.3	202.0	113.1	8.5	12.3	8.6	65.2	103.6	1.9
Other Public Sector Capital	4.1	93.8	195.4	83.1	(0.2)	5.7	(0.3)	1.3	(2.6)	95.7
Banks	62.2	(161.9)	(222.8)	(124.3)	(33.4)	2.4	54.8	5.9	(19.3)	(116.5)
Other	451.4	951.2	195.9	388.1	140.6	(2.4)	15.0	19.6	(78.5)	50.8
<b>C. Net Errors and Omissions</b>	<b>429.4</b>	<b>495.7</b>	<b>1,097.3</b>	<b>196.4</b>	<b>373.6</b>	<b>366.4</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>319.9</b>	<b>468.1</b>	<b>163.6</b>
<b>D. Overall Balance (A+B+C)</b>	<b>(68.5)</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>321.6</b>	<b>(14.9)</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>124.0</b>	<b>(126.4)</b>	<b>(14.8)</b>	<b>183.0</b>	<b>57.2</b>
<b>E. Financing (Net)</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>(46.0)</b>	<b>(321.6)</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>(41.4)</b>	<b>(124.0)</b>	<b>126.4</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>(183.0)</b>	<b>(57.2)</b>
Change in SDR holdings	(30.1)	(19.9)	3.3	1.8	3.8	(1.4)	0.2	1.0	(1.2)	0.6
Change in Reserve Position with the IMF	(0.0)	0.6	(17.7)	0.2	0.4	(0.2)	0.0	0.1	(18.5)	0.2
Change in Ext. Foreign Assets ( ) = Increase	98.7	(26.7)	(307.2)	12.8	(45.6)	(122.4)	126.2	13.7	(163.3)	(57.9)

Source: The Central Bank of the Bahamas

\* Figures may not sum to total due to rounding

**TABLE 15  
EXTERNAL TRADE**

**(BS '000s)**

Period	2013	2014	2015	2014			2015			
				Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV
<b>I. OIL TRADE</b>										
i) Exports	237,808	165,337	70,350	48,123	32,626	34,070	22,530	27,073	12,511	8,236
ii) Imports	726,901	868,460	535,306	205,244	263,155	201,724	67,629	106,870	243,845	116,962
<b>II. OTHER MERCHANDISE</b>										
<b>Domestic Exports</b>										
Crawfish	19,902	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fish Conch & other Crustacea	3,079	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other cordials & Similar Materials/Sponge	157	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fruits & Veggies.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aragonite	805	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Natural Sands	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rum/Beverages/Spirits & Vinegar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crude Salt	9,084	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polystrene Products	85,288	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	33,436	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>i) Total Domestic Exports</b>	<b>364,424</b>	<b>353,216</b>	<b>230,074</b>	<b>74,368</b>	<b>90,826</b>	<b>97,863</b>	<b>57,503</b>	<b>44,702</b>	<b>58,931</b>	<b>68,938</b>
<b>ii) Re-Exports</b>	<b>209,479</b>	<b>170,627</b>	<b>148,616</b>	<b>53,070</b>	<b>48,970</b>	<b>36,224</b>	<b>27,116</b>	<b>68,078</b>	<b>24,518</b>	<b>28,904</b>
<b>iii) Total Exports (i+ii)</b>	<b>573,902</b>	<b>523,843</b>	<b>378,690</b>	<b>127,438</b>	<b>139,796</b>	<b>134,087</b>	<b>84,619</b>	<b>112,780</b>	<b>83,449</b>	<b>97,842</b>
<b>iv) Imports</b>	<b>2,639,003</b>	<b>2,921,525</b>	<b>2,626,736</b>	<b>692,436</b>	<b>756,416</b>	<b>818,691</b>	<b>674,050</b>	<b>694,289</b>	<b>575,844</b>	<b>682,553</b>
<b>v) Retained Imports (iv-ii)</b>	<b>2,429,524</b>	<b>2,750,898</b>	<b>2,478,120</b>	<b>639,366</b>	<b>707,446</b>	<b>782,467</b>	<b>646,934</b>	<b>626,211</b>	<b>551,326</b>	<b>653,649</b>
<b>vi) Trade Balance (i-v)</b>	<b>(2,065,100)</b>	<b>(2,397,682)</b>	<b>(2,248,046)</b>	<b>(564,999)</b>	<b>(616,619)</b>	<b>(684,604)</b>	<b>(589,431)</b>	<b>(581,509)</b>	<b>(492,395)</b>	<b>(584,711)</b>

Source: Department of Statistics Quarterly Statistical Summaries

**TABLE 16**  
**SELECTED TOURISM STATISTICS**

Period	2013	2014	2015	2014		2015				2016	
				Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II
<b>Visitor Arrivals</b>	6,150,784	6,320,188	6,114,337	1,385,359	1,619,786	1,772,202	1,506,445	1,334,600	1,501,090	1,764,730	1,571,231
Air	1,280,736	1,343,093	1,391,782	318,083	300,005	375,962	385,016	330,722	300,082	384,324	397,446
Sea	4,870,048	4,977,095	4,722,555	1,067,276	1,319,781	1,396,240	1,121,429	1,003,878	1,201,008	1,380,406	1,173,785
<b>Visitor Type</b>											
Stopover	1,363,496	1,305,402	1,471,808	343,485	301,826	391,033	418,156	365,014	297,605	-	-
Cruise	4,709,236	4,804,701	4,513,456	1,014,353	1,293,971	1,358,623	1,051,437	939,688	1,163,708	1,338,961	1,112,983
Day/Transit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Tourist Expenditure(BS 000's)</b>	2,285	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stopover	1,884	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cruise	398	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Day	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Number of Hotel Nights</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Average Length of Stay</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Average Hotel Occupancy Rates (%)</b>											
New Providence	58.1	60.6	-	39.3	58.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Bahama	42.1	48.1	-	39.3	40.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Family Islands	39.8	42.8	-	26.2	41.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Average Nightly Room Rates (\$)</b>											
New Providence	226.7	230.6	-	143.1	292.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Bahama	82.9	100.3	-	143.1	60.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Family Islands	161.5	202.3	-	184.1	225.3	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Source: The Ministry of Tourism:** Average Hotel Occupancy and Nightly Room Rates were amended for Quarter II, 2014