

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS CHAPTER

- What are the various roles money plays and what forms does it take?
- Why is the level of the money supply so important to the state of the economy?
- How do the actions of private banks and the Federal Reserve determine the money supply?
- How does the Federal Reserve use open-market operations to change the monetary base?

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MONEY: THE ESSENTIAL CHANNEL BETWEEN **MARKETS** Money plays unique and very important roles in

modern economies.



IMPORTANT MONEY DEFINITIONS

- Money: any asset that can easily be used to purchase goods and services
- Currency in circulation: cash held by the public
- Checkable bank deposits: bank accounts on which people can write checks
- The **money supply** is the total value of financial assets in the economy that are considered money

THE ROLES OR FUNCTIONS OF MONEY Money must function as: a medium of exchange. a store of value. a unit of account standard of deferred payment. Medium of exchange Unit of account Store of value Standard of deferred payment Standard of deferred payment Standard of deferred payment

MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE

- Medium of exchange: something people accept as payment for goods and services
 - (an asset that individuals acquire for the purpose of trading rather than for their own consumption)

STORE OF VALUE

- Store of value: Money is a means of holding purchasing power over time.
- It enables people to save the money they earn today and use it to buy the goods and services they want tomorrow.

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UNIT OF ACCOUNT

 Unit of account: Money provides a yardstick for measuring and comparing the values of a wide variety of goods and services.

STANDARD OF DEFERRED PAYMENT

 Standard of deferred payment: Money is being widely accepted way to value a debt; thereby allowing goods and services to be acquired now and paid for in the future

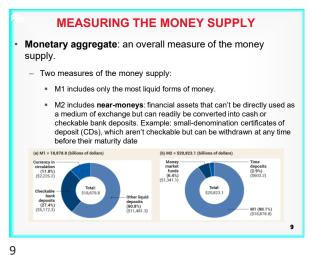
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TYPES OF MONEY

- For thousands of years, societies have used commodity money.
- Commodity money: a good used as a medium of exchange that has intrinsic value in other uses
- Commodity-backed money: a medium of exchange with no intrinsic value; the ultimate value is guaranteed by a promise that it can be converted into valuable goods
- Fiat money: money whose value derives entirely from its official status as a means of payment

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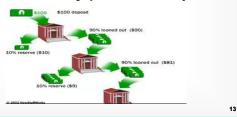
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LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 1 Which of these assets would you classify as being the most liquid? a) demand deposits b) small-time deposits c) a house d) gold bullion

LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 1 (Answer) Which of these assets would you classify as being the most liquid? a) demand deposits (correct answer) b) small-time deposits c) a house d) gold bullion 12

THE MONETARY ROLE OF BANKS

- Q: Only half of M1 is currency; where does the rest of the money supply come from?
- A: Bank deposits make up half of M1 and most of M2
- How does the banking system create money?



WHAT BANKS DO

- Banks are financial intermediaries that use liquid assets (in the form of bank deposits) to finance the illiquid investments of borrowers
- Banks create liquidity because they don't have to keep all of the funds in highly liquid assets.
- To meet depositors' demands, a bank must keep currency in the its vault or deposits at the Federal Reserve.
- Bank reserves: the currency that banks hold in their vaults plus their deposits at the Federal Reserve.

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REQUIRED AND EXCESS RESERVES

- The bank must keep some cash available for its depositors; it does this through a combination of vault cash and deposits with the Federal Reserve.
- Banks in the U.S. are required to hold <u>required reserves</u>: reserves that a bank is legally required to hold, based on its checking account deposits.
- The <u>required reserve ratio (RR)</u> is the minimum fraction of deposits banks are required by law to keep as reserves.
- Banks might choose to hold <u>excess reserves</u>: reserves over the legal requirement.

WHAT BANKS DO

 Assets
 Liabilities

 Loans
 \$1,200,000
 Deposits
 \$1,000,000

 Reserves
 \$100,000
 The control of the c

- T-account: a tool for analyzing a business's financial position by showing the business's assets and liabilities.
- The reserve ratio: the fraction of bank deposits that a bank holds as reserves (\$100,000/\$1,000,000 = 10%).
- The Federal Reserve sets a minimum required reserve ratio for banks, which since March 2020 has been zero. To understand why banks are regulated, let's consider a problem banks can face: bank runs.

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THE PROBLEM OF BANK RUNS

- Banks hold only a fraction of deposits on reserve and use the rest to make loans.
 - From time to time, people get worried about banks losing their
- Bank run: a phenomenon in which many of a bank's depositors try to withdraw their funds because they fear a bank
- Historically, bank runs have proved contagious, with a run on one bank leading to a loss of faith in other banks, causing additional bank runs.
- In response to bank runs, the United States established a system of bank regulations that protect depositors.

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BANK REGULATION

- Four main features:
- Deposit insurance: a guarantee that a bank's depositors will be paid even if the bank can't come up with the funds (the FDIC currently guarantees the first \$250,000 of each account).
- Capital requirements: requirement that the owners of banks hold substantially more assets than the value of bank deposits.
 - Deposit insurance creates a well-known incentive problem: banks can take more risks since they are insured.
 - To help motivate safe behavior, banks' capital is required to equal 7% or more
- Reserve requirements: rules set by the Federal Reserve that determine the minimum reserve ratio for a bank
- Discount window: an arrangement in which the Federal Reserve stands ready to lend money to banks in trouble.

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LIMITS TO REGULATION'S REACH: SHADOW **BANKING**

- As the financial crisis showed us, there are many large financial firms that don't accept deposits, so they aren't covered by deposit insurance or regulation that make conventional banks safer.
- These "shadow banks" include:
 - investment banks
 - insurance companies
 - hedge fund companies
 - money market fund companies

HOW BANKS CREATE MONEY (1/2)

- Silas keeps a shoebox full of cash under his bed. Deciding to enter the twenty-first century, he deposits this cash at the bank. What's the effect of his \$1,000?
 - Assume that the reserve ratio is 10%.
 - The bank will reserve 10% and lend out 90% of the deposit.

(a) Initial Effect Before Bank Makes a New Loan (b) Effect When Bank Makes a New Loan Assets Liabilities Assets Liabilities +\$900 Loans No change No change Checkable deposits +\$1.000 Reserves -\$900 Reserves +\$1,000

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HOW BANKS CREATE MONEY (2/2)

The first bank lends \$900 to Maya, who pays the money to Anne, who deposits it at her bank—and the cycle starts all over. Sounds familiar?

TABLE 1 How Banks Create Money

	Currency in circulation	Checkable bank deposits	Money supply
First stage Silas keeps his cash under his bed.	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Second stage Silas deposits cash in First Street Bank, which lends out \$900 to Maya, who then pays it to Anne Acme.	900	1,000	1,900
Third stage Anne Acme deposits \$900 in Second Street Bank, which lends out \$810 to another borrower.	810	1,900	2,710

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RESERVES, BANK DEPOSITS, AND THE MONEY **MULTIPLIER**

- Before, we described the multiplier process when an initial increase in real GDP leads to a rise in consumer spending, which leads to a further rise in real GDP, which leads to a further rise in consumer spending, and so on. Here we have another kind of multiplier—the money multiplier.
- Excess reserves: bank's reserves over and above the reserves required by law or regulation.
- Assume that banks don't want to hold excess reserves.
- Increase in bank deposits from \$1,000 in excess reserves = \$1,000 + $[\$1,000 \times (1-rr)]$ + $[\$1,000 \times (1-rr)^2]$ + $[\$1,000 \times (1-rr)^3]$ + . . .
- This can be simplified to \$1,000/rr.

LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 2

Liabilities \$100 Deposits \$1,000 Required Loans \$400 Treasury bills \$800

- Given this T-account and assuming the bank holds no excess
 - a) 10%

 - c) 80%
 - d) 1%

reserves, what is the required reserve ratio?

b) 40%

LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 2 (Answer)

Assets		Liabilities			
Required reserves	\$100	Deposits	\$1,000		
Loans	\$400 \$800				
Treasury bills	\$800				

- Given this T-account and assuming the bank holds no excess reserves, what is the required reserve ratio?
 - a) 10% (correct answer)
 - b) 40%
 - c) 80%
 - d) 1%

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LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 3

- Suppose the required reserve ratio initially is 10% of bank deposits and is increased by the Fed to 20% of bank deposits. Holding everything else constant, this will:
 - a) reduce the size of the money multiplier.
 - b) cause the banking system to contract the level of bank deposits in the banking system.
 - c) change the value of the money multiplier from 10 to 5.
 - d) Answers (a), (b), and (c) are all correct.

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LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 3 (Answer)

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Liabilities Assets +\$1,000 Deposits +\$1,000 Reserves Your deposit of \$1,000 into your checking account increases Bank of America's assets and liabilities by the same amount. When you deposit \$1,000 in currency at Bank of America, its reserves increase by \$1,000 and so do its deposits.

MONEY CREATION AT BANK OF AMERICA

The currency component of the money supply decreases by the \$1,000, since that \$1,000 is no longer in circulation; but the checking deposits component increases by \$1,000. So there is

no net change in the money supply-yet.

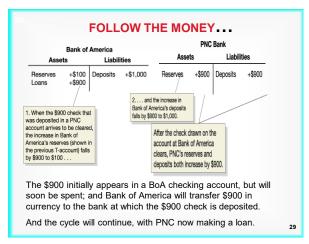
BANK OF AMERICA LENDS MONEY OUT

Assets Liabilities Reserves +\$1,000 Deposits +\$1,000 Loans +\$900 Deposits +\$900 2. . . . Bank of America 1. By loaning out \$900 has increased the in excess reserves . . money supply by \$900.

But Bank of America needs to make a profit; so it keeps 10 percent of the deposit as reserves, and lends out the rest, creating a \$900 checking account deposit.

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Bank	Increase in Checking Account Deposits
Bank of America	\$1,000
PNC	$+900 (=0.9 \times $1,000)$
Third Bank	+810 (=0.9×\$900)
Fourth Bank	+729 (=0.9×\$810)
•	+•
•	+•
	+•
Total change in checking account deposits	= \$10,000
 smaller and smaller. Every round, 10 percent of th This allows us to tell by how eventually increase: the \$1,0 	checking account deposits get be deposits are kept as reserves much the checking deposits will 00 in currency will become the for all of the checking deposits.

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DEPOSITS MULTIPLYING

An alternative way to find out how much money the original \$1,000 in currency will create is to add up all of the checking account deposits.

- $1,000 + [0.9 \times 1,000] + [(0.9 \times 0.9) \times 1,000] + \cdots$
- $= \$1,000 + [0.9 \times \$1,000] + [0.9^2 \times \$1,000] + \cdots$
- $= $1,000(1 + 0.9 + 0.9^2 + \cdots)$
- = \$1,000 $\left(\frac{1}{1-0.9}\right)$
- = \$1,000 $\left(\frac{1}{0.10}\right)$
- = \$1,000(10) = \$10,000

SIMPLE DEPOSIT MULTIPLIER

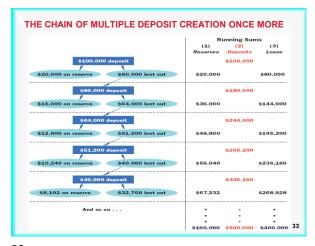
Simple Multiplier = \$1,000 $\left(\frac{1}{0.10}\right)$

= \$1,000(10) = \$10,000

- So the total increase in deposits is \$1,000(10) = \$10,000.
- The "10" here is the <u>simple deposit multiplier</u>: the ratio of the amount of deposits created by banks to the amount of new reserves.
- In general, we can write the simple deposit multiplier as:
- Simple deposit multiplier = $\frac{1}{RR}$
- So with a 10 percent required reserve ratio (RR), the simple deposit multiplier is 10.

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THE MONEY MULTIPLIER IN REALITY (1/2)

The monetary base is the sum of currency in circulation and bank reserves.

The monetary base is different from the money supply in two ways:

Bank reserves, which are part of the monetary base, aren't part of the money supply.

Checkable bank deposits, which are part of the money supply, aren't part of the monetary base.

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THE MONEY MULTIPLIER IN REALITY (2/2)

- The money multiplier is the ratio of the money supply to the monetary base.
- Before the financial crisis of 2008, it was 1.6; after the crisis, it was 0.7.
- The minimum reserve ratio is 10%. Why is the money multiplier not 1/0.1 = 10?
- People hold significant amounts of cash, which reduces bank deposits.

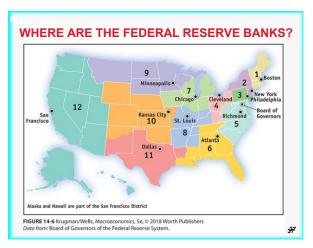
THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

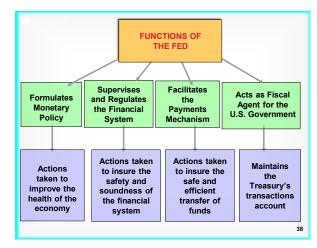
- The Federal Reserve is a central bank; it oversees and regulates the banking system and controls the monetary base
- Jerome Hayden "Jay" Powell is the 16th and current Chairman of the Federal Reserve, serving in that office since February 2018.



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RESERVE REQUIREMENTS AND THE DISCOUNT **RATE**

- The discount rate is the rate of interest the Fed charges on loans to banks.
 - Normally, the discount rate is set 1 percentage point above the federal funds rate in order to discourage banks from turning to the Fed when they are in need of reserves.



WHAT THE FED DOES: RESERVE REQUIREMENTS AND THE DISCOUNT RATE

- The three tools of the Fed:
- reserve requirements,
- the discount rate.
- open-market operations.
- The Fed sets a minimum reserve ratio requirement.
- If a bank can't meet the Fed's reserve requirement, it can borrow reserves at the federal funds market.
 - The federal funds market allows banks that fall short of the reserve requirement to borrow funds from banks with excess reserves.
- The federal funds rate is the interest rate in the federal funds market.
- Alternatively, banks can borrow from the Fed via the discount
- The discount rate is the interest rate the Fed charges on those loans.

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OPEN-MARKET OPERATIONS AND REVERSE REPO OPERATIONS (1/3)

- Like any bank, the Federal Reserve has assets and liabilities.
- The Fed's assets are mainly short-term U.S. government bonds, known as U.S. Treasury bills.
- The Fed's liabilities are currency in circulation and bank reserves.

Assets	Liabilities
Government debt (Treasury bills)	Monetary base (currency in circulation + bank reserves)

OPEN-MARKET OPERATIONS AND REVERSE REPO OPERATIONS (2/3)

- In an open-market operation the Federal Reserve buys or sells U.S. Treasury bills, normally through a transaction with commercial banks (banks that accept deposits and make loans), and investment banks (banks that create and trade assets but don't accept deposits).
- The Fed never buys U.S Treasury bills directly from the federal government.
- If it did, it would be printing money to fund the budget deficit, which would trigger inflation.

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OPEN-MARKET OPERATIONS AND REVERSE REPO OPERATIONS (3/3)

Panel (a):

Panel (b):

- The Fed buys \$100 million of T-bills from
- The Fed electronically increases the sellers' •
- With more reserves, banks increase loans,
- As banks increase loans, the money supply increases via the money multiplier.

(a) An Open-Market Purchase of \$100 Million

		Assets		Liabilities			Assets		Liabilities	
	Federal Reserve	Treasury bills	+\$100 million	Monetary base	+\$100 million	Federal Reserve	Treasury bills	-\$100 million	Monetary base	-\$100 millio
		Assets		Liabilities			Assets		Liabilities	
	Commercial banks	Treasury bills	-\$100 million	No change		Commercial banks	Treasury bills	+\$100 million	No change	
		Reserves	+\$100 million				Reserves	-\$100 million		

The Fed sells \$100 million of T-bills to banks, decreasing the banks' reserves

With fewer reserves, banks decrease loans.

As banks decrease loans, the money

supply decreases via the money multiplier.

(b) An Open-Market Sale of \$100 Million

Suppose this is the only bank and all money is held in this bank. There are no excess reserves. If the Fed makes an open-market sale of T-bills worth \$50 to this bank, what will happen to the money supply after all adjustments are made?

LEARN BY DOING PRACTICE QUESTION 4

Denosits

\$100

\$400

\$800

Liabilities

\$1,000

a) The money supply will increase by \$50.

Assets

Required

reserves Loans

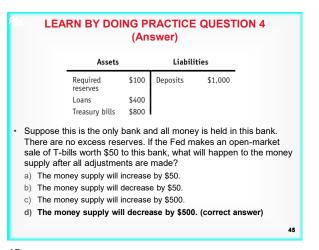
Treasury bills

b) The money supply will decrease by \$50.

c) The money supply will increase by \$500.

d) The money supply will decrease by \$500.

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THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK (1/2)

- The European Central Bank (ECB) rivals the Fed in terms of importance to the world economy.
 - Was created in January,1999, when 11 European nations abandoned their national currencies, adopted the euro, and placed their joint monetary policy in the ECB's hands.
 - Located in Frankfurt, Germany.
 - Represents a (combined) economy as large as that of the United States.

THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK (2/2)

- Analogies between ECB and the Fed:
 - Europe's national banks (the Bank of France, the Bank of Italy, etc.) are like regional Feds: they provide financial services to local banks and businesses and conduct open-market operations.
 - The counterpart of Fed's Board of Governors is the ECB's Executive Board.
 - The counterpart of the Federal Open Market Committee is the ECB's Governing Council.
 - Just as the Fed's Open Market Committee consists of the Board of Governors plus a rotating group of regional Fed presidents, the ECB's Governing Council consists of the Executive Board plus the heads of the national central banks.
 - Like the Fed, the ECB is ultimately answerable to voters, and it tries to maintain its independence from short-term political pressures.

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THE EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN BANKING SYSTEM

- The crisis in American banking in the early twentieth century
- The main problem afflicting the system was that the money supply was not sufficiently responsive: It was difficult to shift currency around the country to respond quickly to local economic changes.
- Bank panics (bank runs) were too common.
- The Panic of 1907: a foreshadowing of the financial crisis of 2008? Large losses from risky speculation destabilized the banking system.

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THE CREATION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE

- The panic of 1907 convinced many that the time for central control of bank reserves had come.
- In 1913 the Federal Reserve was created.
- Now bank reserves were centralized and standardized but not immune to bank runs.
 - A series of bank runs in 1930, 1931, and 1933 convinced the Fed that banks needed more regulation.

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THE GLASS-STEAGALL ACT

- Another new regulation, the Glass-Steagall Act (1933) separated banks into two categories:
 - Commercial banks: depository banks that accepted deposits and were covered by deposit insurance
 - Investment banks: banks that engaged in creating and trading financial assets (stocks and corporate bonds), but were not covered by deposit insurance because their activities were considered riskier

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THE SAVINGS AND LOAN CRISIS OF THE 1980S

- The savings and loan (thrift) crisis of the 1980s arose because Congress deregulated S&Ls, allowing them to engage in risky speculation.
 - The intent was to allow them to offer higher rates of return, like banks, in an era of high inflation.
 - They incurred huge losses.
- Depositors in failed S&Ls were compensated with taxpayer funds because they were covered by deposit insurance.
- The crisis caused steep losses in the financial and real estate sectors, resulting in a recession in the early 1990s.

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THE FINANCIAL CRISIS OF 2008 PRELIMS

- During the mid-1990s, the hedge fund LTCM (Long-Term Capital Management) used huge amounts of leverage to speculate in global financial markets, incurred massive losses, and collapsed.
 - Leverage: financing an investment with borrowed funds.
- LTCM was so large that it caused balance sheet effects for firms globally, leading to the prospect of a vicious circle of deleveraging.
 - Balance sheet effect: the reduction in a firm's net worth due to falling asset prices

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THE FINANCIAL CRISIS OF 2008

- Vicious circle of deleveraging: asset sales to cover losses forcing creditors to call in their loans, forcing sales of more assets and causing further declines in asset prices
- As a result, credit markets around the world froze. The New York Fed coordinated a private bailout of LTCM and revived world credit markets.
- 2008—The worldwide financial system was in crisis, and banks and other financial institutions wanted to borrow more than \$2 trillion. What could be done?

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THE FINANCIAL CRISIS OF 2008

- Subprime lending helped create the U.S. housing bubble of the 2000s and was made worse with securitization.
 - Subprime lending: lending to home buyers who don't meet the usual criteria for being able to make the payments
 - Securitization: a pool of loans assembled and shares of it sold to investors
- When the bubble burst, massive losses by banks and other financial institutions led to widespread collapse in the financial system.
- To prevent another Great Depression, the Fed and the U.S.
 Treasury expanded lending to banks and other financial institutions, provided capital through the purchase of bank shares, and purchased private debt

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REGULATION AFTER THE 2008 CRISIS

- In July 2010, President Obama signed the Dodd-Frank Act (the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act).
 - Gives a special government committee, the Financial Stability Oversight Council, the right to designate institutions as "systemically important" and thus subject to normal bank regulation (even though they are not traditional banks).
 - Established new rules on the trading of derivatives:
 They must now be traded in exchanges so their prices and volume are more transparent.

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