



## **Monthly Economic and Financial Developments July 2024**

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

### **Future Release Dates:**

**2024: 30<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 27<sup>th</sup> December**



## JULY 2024 SUMMARY

### MONTHLY ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

#### ***Overall Economic Activity***

Preliminary indications are that during the month of July, the domestic economy continued to expand, although at a more tempered pace than the previous year, with economic indicators reverting closer to their medium-term expectations. Sustained by persistent demand for travel in key source markets, tourism sector output recorded further growth, though with greater moderation in the gains in the high value-added air segment compared to the expansion in sea traffic.

#### ***Inflation***

In price developments, average consumer price inflation—as measured by changes in the average Retail Price Index (RPI) for The Bahamas—decreased to 2.0% during the 12 months to May 2024, from 5.4% in the comparative 2023 period, reflective of reduced inflation costs on imported goods and services, including global oil prices.

#### ***Monetary Sector***

Monetary trends for July revealed a reduction in banking sector liquidity, despite the increase in domestic credit trailing the rise in the deposit base. However, external reserves grew, owing primarily to net foreign currency inflows through the private and public sectors.

#### ***International Economies***

Indications are that the major economies maintained their positive growth momentum during the review month, although still heavily influenced by ongoing geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. In this environment, major central banks maintained their monetary policy tightening stance, though with expectations of further interest rate reduction in the near-term, as inflation eases.



# Monthly Economic and Financial Developments (MEFD) July 2024

## 1. Domestic Economic Developments

### Overview

Preliminary indications are that during the month of July, the domestic economy continued to expand, although at a more tempered pace than in 2023, with gains reverting closer to their expected medium-term potential. The outcome reflected healthy, but moderated tourism growth, as the demand for travel from key source markets persisted. In price developments, average consumer price inflation—as measured by changes in the average Retail Price Index (RPI) for The Bahamas—decreased during the 12 months to May 2024, relative to the comparative 2023 period, owing to reduced price pressures for imported fuel and other goods and services. Monetary trends for July revealed a reduction in banking sector liquidity, despite the increase in domestic credit trailing the rise in the deposit base. However, external reserves grew, owing to net foreign currency inflows through the private and public sectors.

### Real Sector

#### Tourism

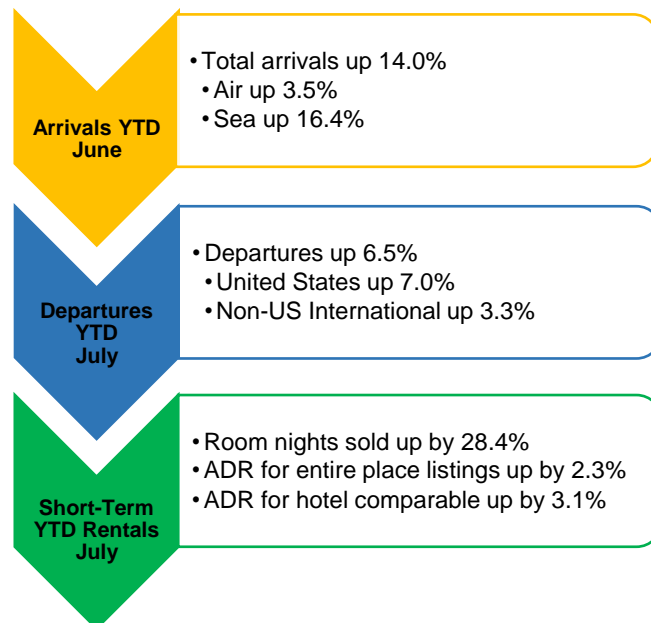
Indications are that the tourism sector recorded healthy growth during the review month, but with moderation that continued to reflect unwinding from the rapid recovery from the pandemic. Gains in the high value-added air category were more tempered however, than for sea passengers.

According to Ministry of Tourism data, total arrivals expanded to 0.93 million visitors in June, vis-à-vis 0.79 million in the same 2023 period. Underlying to this outturn, sea passengers rose by 20.7% to 0.76 million visitors, while air arrivals increased by 1.7% to 0.17 million visitors vis-à-vis the previous year.

Disaggregated by major port of entry, total arrivals to New Providence grew by 15.8% to 0.43 million visitors, from a year earlier.

Contributing, sea passengers expanded by 22.9% to 0.30 million and air traffic, by 2.0% to 0.13 million. Likewise, foreign arrivals to the Family Islands advanced by 19.3% to 0.45 million, relative to the comparative period last year, as sea traffic increased by 21.4% to 0.42 million and the air component, by 0.8% to 38,120. In addition, total arrivals to Grand Bahama rose by 0.8% to 43,899, marginally higher than the 43,572 recorded a year earlier, as sea and air passengers grew by 0.6% to 39,271 and by 1.8% to 4,628 respectively.

Chart 1: Tourism Indicators at a Glance



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

On a year-to-date basis, total arrivals strengthened by 14.0% to 5.7 million visitors, vis-à-vis the corresponding 2023 period. Underpinning this outcome, sea traffic increased by 16.4% to 4.7 million and air arrivals by 3.5% to 1.0 million.

The most recent data provided by the Nassau Airport Development Company Limited (NAD) indicated that total departures—net of domestic passengers—rose by 3.7% to 173,232 in July, relative to same period in 2023. Notably, U.S. departures grew by 4.6% to 156,844, while, international departures fell by 4.1% to 16,388, compared to the corresponding period last year.

On a year-to-date basis, total outbound traffic increased by 6.5% to 1.1 million. Specifically, U.S. departures moved higher by 7.0% to 0.9 million, while international departures grew by 3.3% to 0.1 million, relative to the same period a year earlier.

The short-term vacation rental market mirrored these trends. The latest data provided by AirDNA showed that total room nights sold grew by 2.8% to 63,511 in July, as compared to the prior year. Nevertheless, owing to expanded

inventory, occupancy rates for entire place listings decreased to 57.7% from 63.3% in 2023, and for hotel comparable listings to 49.2% from 52.7% recorded last year. Meanwhile, as depicted in Graph 1, price indicators showed that the average daily room rate for entire place listings edged up by 0.3% to \$701.17, while hotel comparable listings fell by 0.9% to \$184.16.

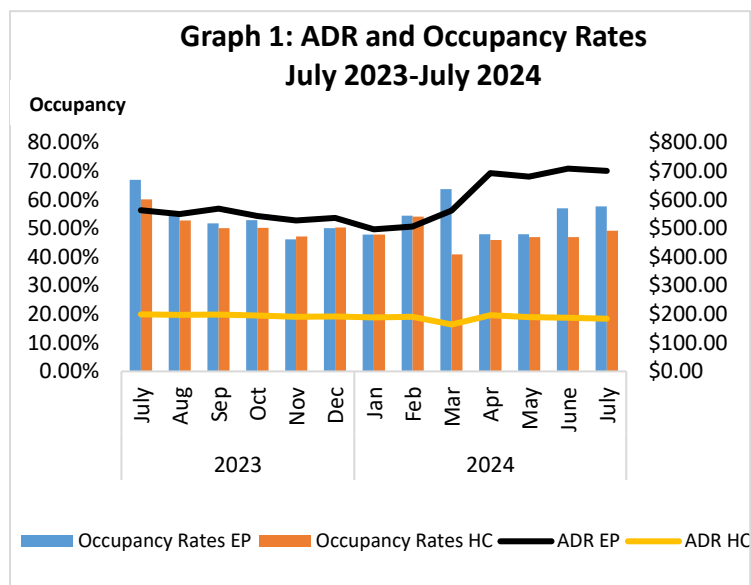
### Prices

Average consumer price inflation—as measured by the All Bahamas Retail Price Index—moderated to 2.0% during the 12 months to May, from 5.4% in the comparative 2023 period. Specifically, the average costs for communications decreased by 6.0%; for transport, by 5.8%; and for clothing & footwear, by 0.9%, after registering gains a year earlier. Further, average inflation declined for housing, water, gas, electricity and other fuels (4.2%); food and non-alcoholic beverages (3.0%); restaurants and hotels (2.5%); and recreation & culture (0.1%). Providing some offset, average inflation quickened for health (7.0%); alcohol beverages, tobacco, & narcotics (4.7%); furnishing, household equipment, & routine household maintenance (4.2%); miscellaneous goods & services (3.9%); and education (3.5%).

Table 1: Total Visitor Arrivals January – June 2024

Arrivals	New Providence (% Change)		Grand Bahama (% Change)		Family Islands (% Change)	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Air	26.6	3.5	60.2	7.2	27.2	3.2
Sea	80.2	23.1	101.6	6.3	76.8	12.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>12.0</b>

Sources: Ministry of Tourism



Sources: AirDNA

## 2. Monetary Trends

### July 2024 vs. 2023

#### Liquidity

During the month of July, monetary developments featured a decline in banking sector liquidity, despite the growth in domestic credit trailing the rise in the deposit base. In particular, excess reserves—a narrow measure of liquidity—reduced by \$9.4 million to \$2,199.9 million, a reversal from the \$43.4 million accumulation in the preceding year. Similarly, excess liquid assets—a broad measure of liquidity—decreased by \$18.9 million to \$3,135.8 million, a turnaround from the \$114.5 million expansion in the previous year.

#### External Reserves

During the review period, external reserves expanded by \$71.4 million to \$3,003.4 million, extending the prior year's \$39.8 million buildup. Supporting this development, the Central Bank's foreign currency transactions with the public sector shifted to a net inflow of \$26.4 million from a net outflow of \$45.4 million in 2023. However, the Central Bank's net purchases from commercial banks moderated to \$27.1 million from \$84.7 million in the preceding year. Further, commercial banks net purchases from their customers reduced notably to \$11.9 million from \$102.9 million in 2023.

#### Exchange Control Sales

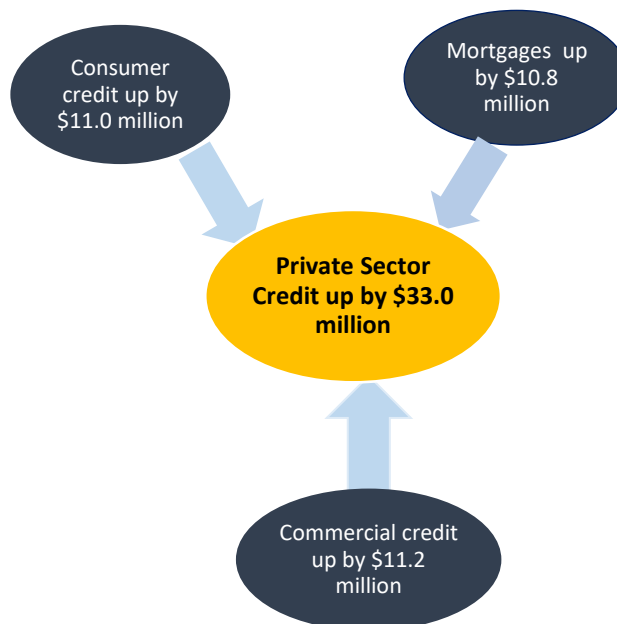
Provisional data on foreign currency sales for current account transactions indicated that monthly outflows increased by \$211.4 million (30.2%) to \$911.7 million in July, vis-à-vis the same period in 2023. Payments for factor income remittances rose by \$168.3 million, and non-oil imports, by \$50.6 million. In addition, modest outflows were registered for transfer payments (\$9.8 million) and travel (\$6.3 million). Conversely, payments for "other" current items—primarily credit and debit card transactions—fell by \$11.9 million, and oil imports, by \$11.6 million.

#### Domestic Credit

##### Bahamian Dollar Credit

During July, the growth in total Bahamian dollar credit extended to \$73.6 million from \$11.5 million in the preceding year. Net claims on the Government rose by \$40.6 million, exceeding the \$20.3 million accumulation a year earlier. Also, private sector credit grew by \$33.0 million, in a turnaround from a \$9.7 million decrease in the preceding year. Specifically, consumer credit increased by \$11.0 million, as opposed to an \$8.0 million decline last year, and mortgages rose by \$10.8 million, reversing the previous year's \$8.2 million contraction. Likewise, the gain in commercial and other loans almost doubled to \$11.2 million.

Chart 2: B\$ Private Sector Credit



Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

Further, credit to public corporations registered a flat outturn, compared to the preceding year's uptick of \$0.9 million.

### Foreign Currency Credit

The reduction in domestic foreign currency credit was approximately halved to \$5.2 million. Net claims on the Government fell further by \$3.2 million, vis-à-vis \$1.8 million in the previous year. Further, the decrease in private sector credit moderated to \$2.0 million, from \$8.9 million. Underpinning this outcome, the reduction in mortgages narrowed to \$0.5 million from \$7.5 million and commercial and other loans decline continued at \$1.4 million. Meanwhile, credit to public corporations remained unchanged when compared to the corresponding 2023 period.

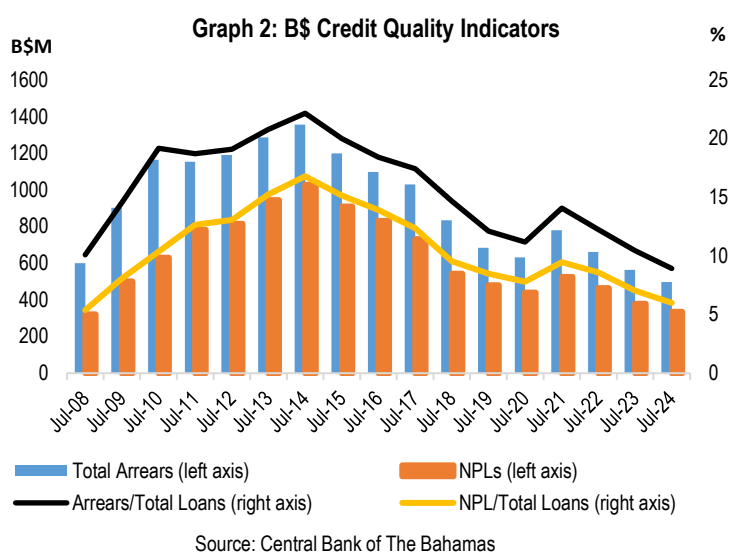
### Credit Quality

Commercial banks credit quality indicators featured a rise in short-term arrears in July, which overshadowed the muted decrease in non-performing loans (NPLs). In particular, total private sector arrears grew by \$6.0 million (1.2%) to \$497.9 million, elevating the attendant ratio by 5 basis points to 8.9%.

A disaggregation by the average age of delinquency revealed that short-term arrears (31-90 days) increased by \$6.5 million (4.2%) to \$162.6 million, with the corresponding ratio firming by 10 basis points to 2.9%. Conversely, non-performing loans edged down by \$0.5 million (0.1%) to \$335.3 million, reducing the associated ratio by 5 basis points to 6.0%. The NPL rates for mortgages and commercial loans declined by 9 basis points to 8.4%, and by 1 basis point to 3.7%, respectively. However, the NPL rate for consumer loans firmed by 1 basis point to 4.3%.

An analysis by loan type showed that consumer arrears rose by \$4.6 million (3.5%) to \$134.1 million, amid a rise in both short and long-term arrears, by \$3.8 million (8.5%) and \$0.8 million (0.9%), respectively. Further, mortgage delinquencies moved higher by \$1.2 million (0.4%) at \$319.8 million, as the \$3.1 million (2.9%) growth in the short-term segment, outstripped the \$1.9 million (0.9%) falloff in the non-accrual component. Similarly, commercial arrears increased by \$0.3 million (0.6%) to \$43.9 million, as the \$0.7 million (1.7%) rise in long-term arrears eclipsed the \$0.4 million (7.9%) decrease in the short-term category.

In terms of allowances for credit losses, banks reduced their total provisions by \$3.4 million (1.1%) to \$311.7 million in July. Correspondingly, the ratio of total provisions to total arrears declined by 1.5 percentage points to 62.6%, while the ratio of total provisions to non-performing loans narrowed by 88 basis points to 93.0%. During the review period, banks wrote-off an estimated \$4.3 million in overdue loans, and recovered approximately \$4.2 million.



In comparison to July 2023, the total private sector arrears rate moved lower by 1.5 percentage points. Specifically, the NPL rate fell by 1.0 percentage point and the short-term component by a 0.5 percentage point. By loan category, delinquency rates decreased for commercial loans, by 2.5 percentage points; consumer loans, by 1.3 percentage points; and mortgages, by 1.1 percentage points.

## **Deposits**

The growth in total Bahamian dollar deposits expanded to \$183.8 million in July, from \$62.8 million in the year prior. Underlying this development, demand deposits rose by \$176.4 million, extending the \$65.3 million gain in the preceding year. In addition, savings deposits grew by \$11.1 million, a reversal from the \$6.3 million decline in the previous year. Conversely, fixed deposits reduced by \$3.7 million, a shift from last year's accumulation of the same magnitude. Similarly, foreign currency deposits of residents increased by \$26.4 million, contrasting with the \$8.4 million reduction in 2023.

## **Interest Rates**

In interest rate developments for July, the weighted average loan rate firmed by 96 basis points to 11.91%, while the mean deposit rate moved higher by 24 basis points to 0.75%. The highest rate offered on fixed balances over 12 months was 5.0%.

## **3. Domestic Outlook**

Expectations are that, as the domestic economy converges to its expected medium-term growth potential, the pace of economic expansion will moderate in the remainder of 2024. However, the performance remains supported by strengthening in the tourism industry and other areas of the real sector. Further, new and ongoing foreign investment-led projects are anticipated to provide stimulus to the construction sector, and by extension economic growth. Nonetheless, risks to tourism remain, associated mainly with exogenous factors, such as geopolitical tensions and elevated international oil prices, which could impede travel sector activity. Meanwhile, any stalling of the unwinding of major central banks' counter-inflation policies could erode demand prospects in key source markets contribution to tourism.

In the labour market, further improvement in employment conditions are forecasted, with additional job gains concentrated in the construction and tourism sectors. In price developments, inflation is anticipated to continue to trend downward, as improvements in global oil prices persist. Nonetheless, upside risks to inflation revolve around uncertainty in global oil prices and supply chain shortages, related to geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

On the fiscal front, the Government's net financing gap is projected to continue to trend downward. The expected ongoing strengthening in revenue remains significantly correlated to tourism-led improving trends in taxable economic activities. Further, net financing of the estimated budgetary gap remains sustainable from increased reliance on domestic sources.

In monetary sector developments, banking sector liquidity is expected to stay elevated, as commercial banks retain their conservative lending stance. Moreover, the environment should encourage additional strengthening in lending to the private sector. Further, external reserves are forecasted to remain at healthy levels in 2024, staying above international benchmarks, although a decline is likely, given the expected rise in domestic credit. Nonetheless, external balances should remain more than sufficient to maintain the Bahamian dollar currency peg.

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

Based on the current outlook, the Central Bank will sustain its accommodative policy stance for private sector credit and pursue policies that ensure a favourable outturn for external reserves and financial stability. Moreover, through its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), the Bank will proactively monitor developments within the foreign exchange market, and adopt measures to support a positive outcome for foreign reserves.



## APPENDIX

### ***International Developments***

Indications are that the major economies maintained their positive growth momentum during the review month, although still heavily influenced by ongoing geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. In this environment, major central banks maintained their monetary policy tightening stance, in an attempt to curb inflation and foster economic growth.

In the United States, indications are that the economy sustained its positive trajectory during the review month. Specifically, in the second quarter real GDP grew at an annual rate of 2.8%, higher than the 1.4% increase in the previous quarter, supported by gains in consumer spending, private inventory investment and nonresidential fixed investments. Further, in July, retail sales advanced by 1.0%, a turnaround from a 0.2% falloff the month prior, as sales increased for motor vehicle and parts, furniture, electronics and health care products. However, industrial production decreased by 0.6%, a reversal from a 0.3% uptick in June, mainly due to shutdowns of petrochemical and related industries owing to Hurricane Beryl. In labour market developments, total non-farm employment rose by 114,000 in July, reflective of job gains in health care, construction, transportation and warehousing; however, the unemployment rate firmed by 20 basis points to 4.3%. Meanwhile, consumer prices rose by 0.2%, following a 0.1% decline in June, owing to a rise in shelter and food costs. On the external front, the trade deficit fell to \$73.1 billion in June, from \$75.0 billion the month prior, as the 1.5% expansion in exports, overshadowed the 0.6% uptick in imports. Given these developments, the Federal Reserve retained its target range for the federal fund's rate at 5.25%-5.50%.

In Europe, real GDP growth in the United Kingdom slowed to 0.6% in the second quarter, from 0.7% in the preceding quarter, as the reduction in the production and construction sectors, offset the rise in the services sector. In July, retail sales increased by 0.5%, following a 0.9% retrenchment in June. With regard to the labour market, the jobless rate declined by 10 basis points to 4.2% in the three months to June, vis-à-vis the prior quarter. Meanwhile, consumer prices decreased by 0.2% in July, a shift from a 0.1% firming the month prior. On the external front, the trade deficit contracted by £446.0 million (7.7%) to £5.3 billion in June, as the 3.5% growth in exports outstripped the 2.6% increase in imports. Against this backdrop, the Bank of England maintained its key policy rate at 5.25%, indicating that a rate decrease was eminent. Growth was tepid in the euro area, as real GDP rose by 0.3% during the second quarter, the same magnitude as in the previous quarter. Further, the decline in industrial production slowed to 0.1% in June from 0.9% in May, attributed to a rise in the production of energy, intermediate goods and durable consumer goods. However, retail trade decreased by 0.4% in June from 0.1% in the previous month, owing to a falloff in the consumption of food, drinks and tobacco. In the labour market, the unemployment rate edged up by 10 basis points to 6.5% in June, from the month prior. Meanwhile, for the month of July, annual inflation firmed by 10 basis points to 2.6%, compared to the prior month. In this environment, the European Central Bank left its interest rates for main refinancing operations at 4.25%; the marginal lending facility at 4.50%; and the deposit facility at 3.75%.

Among the Asian economies, China's economy grew by 4.7% in the second quarter, a slowdown from the 5.3% growth in the first quarter. Further, the unemployment rate rose by 20 basis points to 5.2% in July, from the preceding month. Meanwhile, consumer price inflation firmed to 0.5% in July, following a 0.2% decline a month earlier, underpinned by a rise in the costs for food, non-food and consumer goods. In external developments, China's trade surplus fell to \$84.7 billion in July, from \$99.1 billion the month prior, as the 7.2% expansion in imports eclipsed the 7.0% growth in exports. In an effort to improve lagging growth indicators, the People's Bank of China lowered its reverse repo rate by 10 basis points to 1.7%. In Japan, the unemployment rate moderated by 10 basis points to 2.5% for the month of June. Meanwhile, retail sales fell by 40 basis points to 1.4% in June vis-à-vis the previous month. On the external front, Japan's trade balance switched to a deficit of ¥621.8 billion during the month of July, from a surplus of ¥224.0 billion in June, as the 14.0% hike in imports outpaced the 4.5% rise in exports. Given these developments, the Bank of Japan raised its policy rate to 0.25% from 0.00%.

During the month of July, the major equity markets reported mixed movements. In the United States, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) and the S&P 500 increased by 4.4% and by 1.1%, respectively. Further, the United Kingdom's FTSE 100 rose by 2.5%, the German DAX by 1.5% and French CAC 40 by 0.7%. The Asian markets trended downward, with Japan's Nikkei and China's SE Composite declining by 1.2% and by 1.0%, respectively.

In currency market developments, the US dollar depreciated against most of the major currencies during the review month. Specifically, the US dollar weakened relative to the Japanese Yen, by 6.8% to ¥149.98; the Swiss Franc, by 2.3% to CHF0.8780; and the British Pound, by 1.6% to £0.7778. Similarly, the US dollar fell vis-à-vis the euro, by 1.0% to €0.9237 and the Chinese Renminbi, by 0.6% to CNY7.2267. Conversely, the dollar appreciated against the Canadian dollar by 0.9% to CAD\$1.3808.

Commodity price trends also fluctuated during the month of July. Specifically, the price of crude oil rose by 5.9% to \$86.40 per barrel, despite OPEC's crude oil production increasing by 117,000 barrels per day, to average 40.9 million barrels per day, vis-à-vis the previous month. In the precious metal market, the cost of gold increased by 5.2% to \$2,447.60 per troy ounce, Conversely, the price of silver decreased by 0.5% to \$29.01 per troy ounce.

# Recent Monetary and Credit Statistics

## (B\$ Millions)

July					
Value		Change		Change YTD	
2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024

### 1.0 LIQUIDITY & FOREIGN ASSETS

1.1 Excess Reserves	2,043.87	2,199.88	43.44	-9.41	115.76	332.80
1.2 Excess Liquid Assets	3,020.36	3,135.82	114.47	-18.86	247.54	251.59
1.3 External Reserves	2,737.36	3,003.36	39.80	71.37	142.68	652.16
1.4 Bank's Net Foreign Assets	-43.89	-42.95	-4.45	38.36	53.89	47.39
1.5 Usable Reserves	1,260.57	1,406.58	20.15	31.68	109.56	538.64

### 2.0 DOMESTIC CREDIT

<b>2.1 Private Sector</b>	5,632.19	5,776.40	-18.55	31.07	18.10	105.23
a. B\$ Credit	5,349.39	5,480.57	-9.70	33.04	16.40	97.26
of which: Consumer Credit	1,893.41	1,952.67	-7.97	10.98	-10.20	29.92
Mortgages	2,674.01	2,681.47	-8.17	10.82	-33.38	19.34
Commercial and Other Loans B\$	781.97	846.43	6.44	11.24	59.98	48.00
b. F/C Credit	282.80	295.83	-8.86	-1.97	1.70	7.97
of which: Mortgages	149.63	164.09	-7.50	-0.53	-1.64	9.91
Commercial and Other Loans F/C	133.18	131.74	-1.35	-1.44	3.34	-1.94
<b>2.2 Central Government (net)</b>	3,246.66	3,172.13	18.52	37.38	40.96	-175.40
a. B\$ Loans & Securities	3,267.65	3,274.08	35.04	88.23	83.72	-274.24
Less Deposits	320.41	382.07	14.72	47.63	14.01	-113.20
b. F/C Loans & Securities	306.05	285.40	-2.48	-2.82	-27.31	-13.32
Less Deposits	6.63	5.28	-0.68	0.40	1.45	1.04
<b>2.3 Rest of Public Sector</b>	341.22	362.36	0.85	0.00	-7.44	22.86
a. B\$ Credit	314.22	341.36	0.85	0.00	-5.19	25.86
b. F/C Credit	27.00	21.00	0.00	0.00	-2.25	-3.00
<b>2.4 Total Domestic Credit</b>	9,220.06	9,310.89	0.81	68.45	51.61	-47.31
a. B\$ Domestic Credit	8,610.84	8,713.94	11.47	73.63	80.92	-37.91
b. F/C Domestic Credit	609.23	596.95	-10.66	-5.18	-29.30	-9.39

### 3.0 DEPOSIT BASE

<b>3.1 Demand Deposits</b>	3,952.66	4,132.85	65.33	176.36	78.33	232.87
a. Central Bank	59.70	52.71	-11.39	40.08	-33.48	24.70
b. Banks	3,892.96	4,080.14	76.71	136.29	111.80	208.17
<b>3.2 Savings Deposits</b>	2,227.36	2,384.33	-6.27	11.13	124.29	116.49
<b>3.3 Fixed Deposits</b>	2,059.02	1,954.06	3.72	-3.72	-15.14	-68.74
<b>3.4 Total B\$ Deposits</b>	8,239.04	8,471.24	62.77	183.78	187.48	280.62
<b>3.5 F/C Deposits of Residents</b>	551.48	540.24	-8.43	26.41	83.37	35.31
<b>3.6 M2</b>	8,670.16	8,925.75	68.00	191.13	178.98	262.18
<b>3.7 External Reserves/M2 (%)</b>	31.57	33.65	0.21	0.08	1.01	6.51
<b>3.8 External Reserves/Base Money (%)</b>	97.51	100.04	-0.26	2.47	1.58	11.91
<b>3.9 External Reserves/Demand Liabilities (%)</b>	92.68	94.04	0.12	-0.11	2.82	14.79
	Value		Year To Date		Change	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	Month	YTD

### 4.0 FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

<b>4.1 Central Bank Net Purchase/(Sale)</b>	39.33	53.51	97.86	621.75	14.18	523.89
a. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Banks	84.70	27.11	350.36	432.18	-57.59	81.82
i. Sales to Banks	20.70	49.10	289.42	248.54	28.40	-40.87
ii. Purchase from Banks	105.40	76.21	639.78	680.73	-29.19	40.95
b. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Others	-45.37	26.40	-252.51	189.57	71.77	442.07
i. Sales to Others	108.73	278.53	980.45	1,512.42	169.80	531.97
ii. Purchase from Others	63.36	304.93	727.95	1,701.99	241.57	974.04
<b>4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale)</b>	102.90	11.94	323.67	410.96	-90.96	87.29
a. Sales to Customers	649.12	697.06	4,216.18	4,170.16	47.95	-46.02
b. Purchase from Customers	752.02	709.01	4,539.85	4,581.11	-43.01	41.26

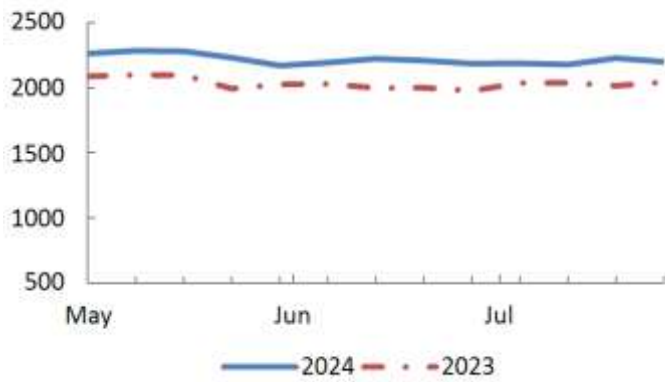
### 5.0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES

<b>5.1 Current Items</b>	700.29	911.67	4,459.58	4,899.61	211.38	440.03
of which Public Sector	87.01	248.46	643.62	996.12	161.45	352.50
<b>a. Nonoil Imports</b>	149.39	199.98	1,099.41	1,246.73	50.59	147.32
<b>b. Oil Imports</b>	89.10	77.47	503.16	448.56	-11.63	-54.60
<b>c. Travel</b>	24.95	31.24	115.56	151.51	6.29	35.95
<b>d. Factor Income</b>	29.52	197.77	295.76	702.13	168.25	406.37
<b>e. Transfers</b>	16.81	26.60	129.33	130.46	9.79	1.12
<b>f. Other Current Items</b>	390.52	378.61	2,316.37	2,220.22	-11.91	-96.14
<b>5.2 Capital Items</b>	52.69	50.12	666.46	664.48	-2.57	-1.98
of which Public Sector	32.10	25.94	459.60	520.51	-6.16	60.91

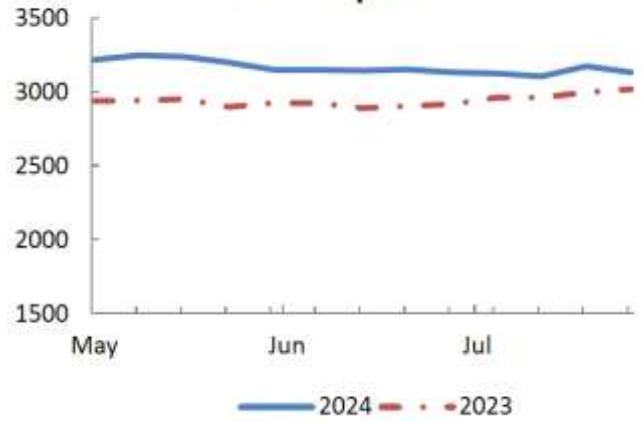
## SELECTED MONEY AND CREDIT INDICATORS

(B\$ Millions)

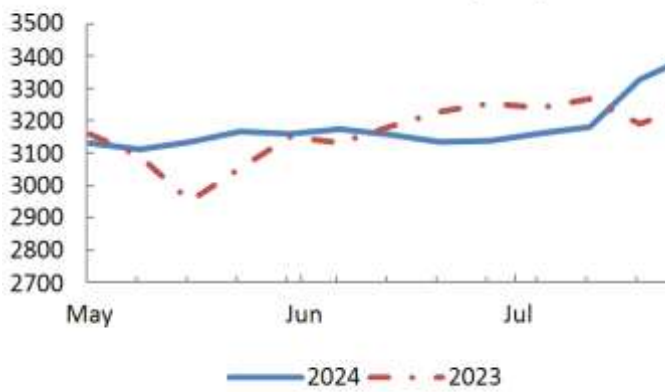
### Excess Reserves



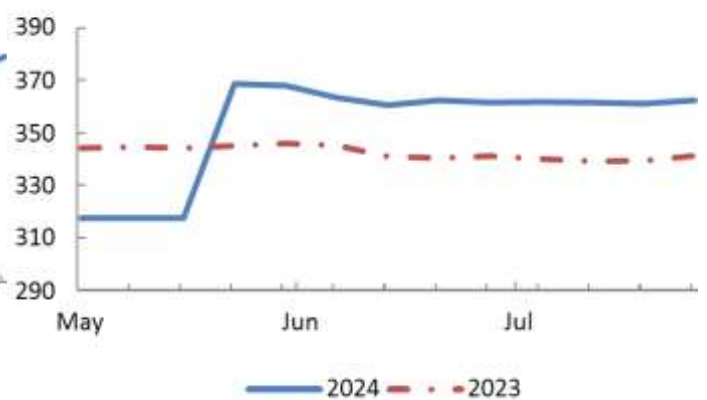
### Excess Liquid Assets



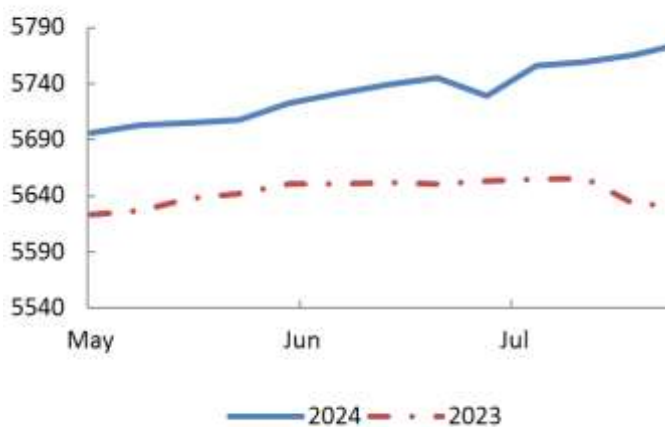
### Central Govt. Credit (Net)



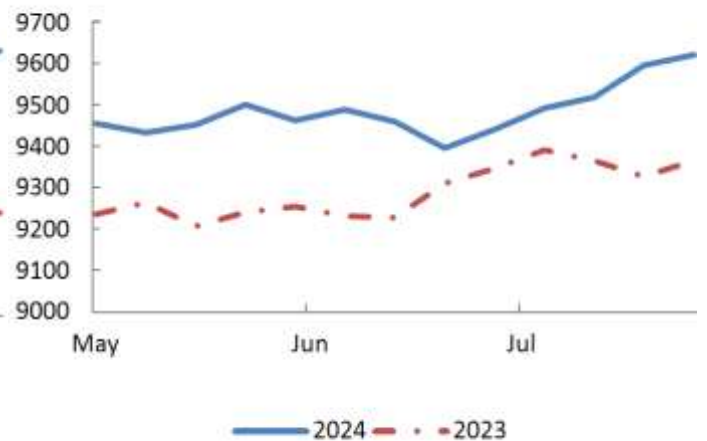
### Rest of Public Sector Credit



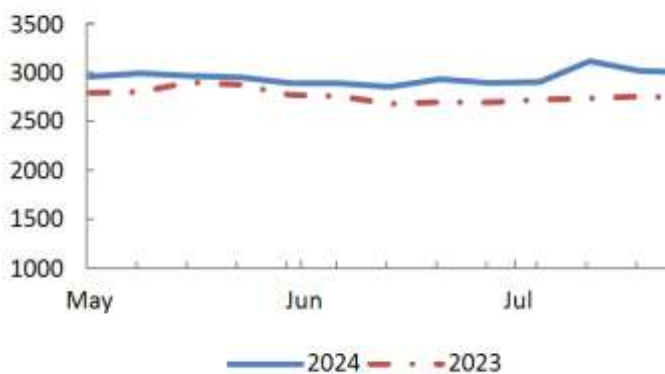
### Private Sector Credit



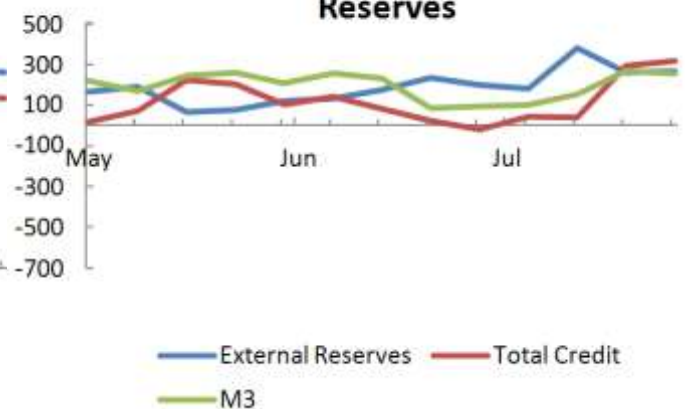
### M3



### External Reserves



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



## Selected International Statistics

<b>A: Selected Macroeconomic Projections</b> (Annual % Change and % of labor force)						
	<b>Real GDP</b>		<b>Inflation Rate</b>		<b>Unemployment</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Bahamas	4.3	2.3	1.9	2.4	12.3	8.8
United States	2.5	2.7	3.2	2.4	3.6	4.0
Euro-Area	0.4	0.8	1.9	2.9	6.5	6.6
Germany	-0.3	0.2	3.0	2.2	3.0	3.3
Japan	1.9	0.9	2.9	2.0	2.6	2.5
China	5.2	4.6	0.2	1.0	5.2	5.1
United Kingdom	0.1	0.5	4.0	2.2	4.0	4.2
Canada	1.1	1.2	3.2	2.1	5.4	6.3

*Source: IMF World Economic Outlook April 2024*

<b>B: Official Interest Rates – Selected Countries (%)</b>					
<i>With effect from</i>	<b>CBOB</b>	<b>ECB (EU)</b>	<b>Federal Reserve (US)</b>		<b>Bank of England</b>
	<b>Bank Rate</b>	<b>Refinancing Rate</b>	<b>Primary Credit</b>	<b>Target Funds</b>	<b>Repo Rate</b>
July 2022	4.00	0.50	2.50	2.25-2.50	1.25
August 2022	4.00	1.25	2.50	2.25-2.50	1.75
September 2022	4.00	1.50	3.25	3.00-3.25	2.25
October 2022	4.00	2.00	4.00	3.75-4.00	2.25
November 2022	4.00	2.00	4.00	3.75-4.00	3.00
December 2022	4.00	2.50	4.50	4.25-4.50	3.50
January 2023	4.00	2.50	4.50	4.25-4.50	4.00
February 2023	4.00	3.00	4.75	4.50-4.75	4.00
March 2023	4.00	3.50	5.00	4.75-5.00	4.25
April 2023	4.00	3.50	5.00	4.75-5.00	4.25
May 2023	4.00	3.75	5.25	5.00-5.25	4.50
June 2023	4.00	4.00	5.25	5.00-5.25	5.00
July 2023	4.00	4.25	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.00
August 2023	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
September 2023	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
October 2023	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
November 2023	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
December 2023	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
January 2024	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
February 2024	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
March 2024	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
April 2024	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
May 2024	4.00	4.50	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
June 2024	4.00	4.25	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25
July 2024	4.00	4.25	5.50	5.25-5.50	5.25

## Selected International Statistics

<b>C. Selected Currencies (Per United States Dollars)</b>						
Currency	July-23	June-24	July-24	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change	12-Mth% Change
Euro	0.9093	0.9334	0.9237	-1.04	1.97	1.58
Yen	142.29	160.88	149.98	-6.78	6.34	5.40
Pound	0.7791	0.7908	0.7778	-1.64	-0.97	-0.16
Canadian \$	1.3190	1.3679	1.3808	0.94	4.27	4.69
Swiss Franc	0.8719	0.8988	0.8780	-2.31	4.35	0.70
Renminbi	7.1428	7.2673	7.2267	-0.56	1.78	1.17

*Source: Bloomberg as of 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024*

<b>D. Selected Commodity Prices (\$)</b>					
Commodity	July-23	June-24	July-24	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change
Gold / Ounce	1965.09	2326.75	2447.60	5.19	18.64
Silver / Ounce	24.7464	29.1429	29.1429	-0.45	21.91
Oil / Barrel	74.93	81.61	86.40	5.86	10.17

*Source: Bloomberg as of 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024*

<b>E: Short Term Deposit Rates in Selected Currencies (%)</b>			
	USD	GBP	EUR
o/n	5.3650	5.3000	3.6750
1 Month	5.4150	5.1450	3.7050
3 Month	5.4625	5.1660	3.6450
6 Month	5.5200	5.1500	3.5650
9 Month	5.4675	5.0700	3.4350
1 year	5.4150	5.0350	3.3250

*Source: Bloomberg as of 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024*

<b>F. Equity Market Valuations – July 31, 2024 (% change)</b>								
	BISX	DJIA	S&P 500	FTSE 100	CAC 40	DAX	Nikkei 225	SE
1 month	-0.14	4.41	1.13	2.50	0.70	1.50	-1.22	-0.97
3 month	0.14	11.33	4.64	1.12	-5.77	0.06	1.60	-4.80
YTD	3.08	8.37	15.78	8.21	14.56	10.49	16.85	-1.22
12-month	11.52	14.86	20.34	8.68	0.45	12.54	17.88	-10.70

*Sources: Bloomberg and BISX*

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

	VALUE									CHANGE								
	Jun. 05	Jun. 12	Jun. 19	Jun. 26	Jul. 03	Jul. 10	Jul. 17	Jul. 24	Jul. 31	Jun. 05	Jun. 12	Jun. 19	Jun. 26	Jul. 03	Jul. 10	Jul. 17	Jul. 24	Jul. 31
<b>I. External Reserves</b>	<b>2,892.01</b>	<b>2,888.92</b>	<b>2,854.73</b>	<b>2,931.99</b>	<b>2,893.76</b>	<b>2,903.89</b>	<b>3,116.09</b>	<b>3,016.80</b>	<b>3,003.36</b>	<b>(59.37)</b>	<b>(3.09)</b>	<b>(34.19)</b>	<b>77.26</b>	<b>(38.23)</b>	<b>10.13</b>	<b>212.21</b>	<b>(99.30)</b>	<b>(13.43)</b>
<b>II. Net Domestic Assets (A + B + C + D)</b>	<b>74.21</b>	<b>89.34</b>	<b>155.41</b>	<b>73.10</b>	<b>82.90</b>	<b>71.48</b>	<b>(151.82)</b>	<b>(9.37)</b>	<b>(1.19)</b>	<b>(3.12)</b>	<b>15.13</b>	<b>66.07</b>	<b>(82.31)</b>	<b>9.79</b>	<b>(11.42)</b>	<b>(223.30)</b>	<b>142.45</b>	<b>8.18</b>
<b>A. Net Credit to Gov't (I + ii + iii -iv)</b>	<b>766.92</b>	<b>798.77</b>	<b>828.22</b>	<b>767.41</b>	<b>764.08</b>	<b>769.05</b>	<b>525.39</b>	<b>708.32</b>	<b>726.34</b>	<b>(5.47)</b>	<b>31.85</b>	<b>29.45</b>	<b>(60.81)</b>	<b>(3.33)</b>	<b>4.97</b>	<b>(243.66)</b>	<b>182.93</b>	<b>18.02</b>
i) Advances	426.81	446.81	446.81	396.81	396.81	396.81	396.81	396.81	446.81	-	20.00	-	(50.00)	-	-	-	-	50.00
ii) Registered Stock	461.33	480.50	471.09	471.14	464.95	465.02	426.43	426.76	422.72	(0.09)	19.17	(9.41)	0.05	(6.20)	0.07	(38.59)	0.32	(4.03)
iii) Treasury Bills	0.24	0.24	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.24	0.24	0.00	(0.00)	0.42	-	-	0.00	(0.00)	(0.42)	(0.00)
iv) Deposits	121.45	128.77	90.34	101.20	98.34	93.44	298.52	115.49	143.43	5.38	7.32	(38.43)	10.86	(2.87)	(4.89)	205.08	(183.04)	27.94
<b>B. Rest of Public sector (Net) (i+ii-iii)</b>	<b>(18.08)</b>	<b>(32.45)</b>	<b>(4.81)</b>	<b>(6.39)</b>	<b>(16.18)</b>	<b>(25.16)</b>	<b>(2.79)</b>	<b>(33.69)</b>	<b>(46.47)</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>(14.37)</b>	<b>27.64</b>	<b>(1.58)</b>	<b>(9.79)</b>	<b>(8.98)</b>	<b>22.36</b>	<b>(30.90)</b>	<b>(12.78)</b>
i) Loans	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii) Bonds/Securities	4.74	4.74	4.74	4.74	4.74	4.74	4.74	4.74	4.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
iii) Deposits	24.32	38.69	11.05	12.63	22.42	31.40	9.03	39.93	52.71	(1.43)	14.37	(27.64)	1.58	9.79	8.98	(22.36)	30.90	12.78
<b>C. Loans to/Deposits with Banks</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>D. Other Items (Net)*</b>	<b>(674.63)</b>	<b>(676.99)</b>	<b>(668.00)</b>	<b>(687.92)</b>	<b>(665.01)</b>	<b>(672.41)</b>	<b>(674.41)</b>	<b>(684.00)</b>	<b>(681.06)</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>(2.36)</b>	<b>8.99</b>	<b>(19.92)</b>	<b>22.91</b>	<b>(7.41)</b>	<b>(2.00)</b>	<b>(9.58)</b>	<b>2.94</b>
<b>III. Monetary Base</b>	<b>2,966.22</b>	<b>2,978.26</b>	<b>3,010.14</b>	<b>3,005.10</b>	<b>2,976.66</b>	<b>2,975.37</b>	<b>2,964.27</b>	<b>3,007.43</b>	<b>3,002.18</b>	<b>(62.49)</b>	<b>12.04</b>	<b>31.88</b>	<b>(5.05)</b>	<b>(28.44)</b>	<b>(1.29)</b>	<b>(11.09)</b>	<b>43.16</b>	<b>(5.25)</b>
A. Currency in Circulation	602.41	592.70	588.40	589.20	589.78	590.49	585.54	591.08	603.10	0.96	(9.71)	(4.30)	0.81	0.58	0.71	(4.95)	5.54	12.02
B. Bank Balances with CBOB	2,363.82	2,385.56	2,421.75	2,415.89	2,386.88	2,384.88	2,378.73	2,416.35	2,399.08	(63.44)	21.75	36.18	(5.85)	(29.02)	(2.00)	(6.15)	37.62	(17.27)

FISCAL/REAL SECTOR INDICATORS

(B\$ MILLIONS)

(% change represents current period from previous period)

Table with columns for Fiscal Operations, Debt, and Real Sector Indicators, including sub-periods (JUL-SEP, OCT-DEC, JAN-MAR) and monthly data (JAN-DEC) for 2023 and 2024, plus Year to Date (2023, 2024).

\* Includes Net Lending to Public Corporations

\*\* Debt figures include Central Government only, unless otherwise indicated

p - provisional