

RESPONSES TO SURVEY OF MARKET PARTICIPANTS

Markets Group, Federal Reserve Bank of New York



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The **Survey of Market Participants** is formulated by the Trading Desk at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to enhance policymakers' understanding of market expectations on a variety of topics related to the economy, monetary policy and financial markets. The questions involve only topics that are widely discussed in the public domain and never presume any particular policy action. FOMC participants are not involved in the survey's design.

For most questions, median responses across participants, along with the 25th and 75th percentiles, are reported. For questions that ask respondents to give a probability distribution, the average response across participants for each potential outcome is reported.¹ Brief summaries of the comments received in free response form are also provided.

Responses were received from 29 market participants. Except where noted, all 29 participants responded to each question. In some cases, participants may not have provided complete responses (e.g. may not have provided forecasts extending to the same time horizon as requested in the survey). In these instances, the number of respondents who answered all parts of the question is indicated.

¹ Answers may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

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- 1a)** Provide below your expectations for **changes**, if any, to the language referencing each of the following topics in the November FOMC statement. **Please write N/A if you do not expect any changes.**

Current economic conditions:

Most respondents indicated that they expected no material changes to this section of the statement. In addition, several respondents indicated that they expected the statement to note ongoing improvement in economic conditions.

Economic outlook and communication on the expected path of the target federal funds rate:

Most respondents indicated that they expected no material changes to this section of the statement.

Communication on tools other than the target federal funds rate:

Most respondents indicated that they expected no material changes to this section of the statement.

Other:

(18 responses)

Respondents did not provide significant commentary in this section.

- 1b)** What are your expectations for the Chair's press conference?

Many respondents indicated that they expected the Chair to reiterate the importance of further fiscal stimulus, and some indicated that they expected him to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Several respondents indicated that they expected the Chair to note that the economic outlook depends on the evolution of the pandemic, and several indicated that they expected him to reiterate that the Fed will use its full range of tools to support the economy or that policy will remain accommodative. In addition, several respondents indicated that they expected the Chair to note uncertainty around or risks to the economic outlook, and several indicated that they expected him to note recent resilience in economic conditions.

- 2)** How would you grade the Federal Reserve System's communication with the markets and with the public since the last policy survey? Please provide a rating between 1 and 5, with 1 indicating ineffectiveness and 5 indicating effectiveness.

Number of Respondents	
1 - Ineffective	0
2	1
3	10
4	16
5 - Effective	2
# of Responses	29

Please explain.

In explaining their rating, some respondents noted that remarks by Committee members had been clear. Several respondents suggested that communications had been clear concerning recent changes to the Federal Reserve's policy framework, changes to forward guidance for the federal funds rate, and/or the need for additional fiscal support. Some respondents suggested that Fed communications were unclear or could have provided more information, with several noting uncertainty around the details of the flexible form of average inflation targeting. Separately, several respondents characterized remarks from Federal Reserve officials as consistent.

3a) Provide your estimate of the most likely outcome (i.e., the mode) for the target federal funds rate or range, as applicable, immediately following the FOMC meetings and at the end of each of the following quarters and half-years below. For the time periods at which you expect a target range, please indicate the midpoint of that range in providing your response.

	Nov. 4-5	Dec. 15-16	Jan. 26-27	Mar. 16-17	Apr. 27-28	Jun. 15-16	Jul. 27-28
25th Pctl	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
Median	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
75th Pctl	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
# of Responses	29	29	29	29	29	29	29

	2021 Q3	2021 Q4	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 H1	2023 H2
25th Pctl	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
Median	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
75th Pctl	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
# of Responses	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29

If your responses above do not reflect an increase from the current target range at any point, please provide the earliest half-year period in which your modal expectation for the level of the target range is higher than the current level.

Earliest half-year period*	
25th Pctl	H1 2024
Median	H2 2024
75th Pctl	H1 2025
# of Responses	22

* Dropdown selections: H1 2024, H2 2024, H1 2025, H2 2025, H1 2026, H2 2026, H1 2027 or later.

3b) Provide your estimate for the most likely value for the following indicators at the time of the next increase in the target range for the federal funds rate.
(24 responses)

Most Likely Value of Economic Indicator at Time of First Increase in Target Range				
	Unemployment rate (%)	Labor force participation rate (%)	Total change in the level of real GDP since 2019 Q4 (%)	Headline 12-month PCE inflation (%)
25th Pctl	3.5%	62.5%	5.0%	2.2%
Median	4.0%	63.0%	8.0%	2.3%
75th Pctl	4.2%	64.0%	10.0%	2.5%

3c) In addition, provide your estimate of the longer run target federal funds rate and your expectation for the average federal funds rate over the next 10 years.

	Longer Run	10-yr Average FF Rate
25th Pctl	1.63%	0.80%
Median	2.00%	1.00%
75th Pctl	2.25%	1.30%

3d) Please indicate the percent chance that you attach to the target federal funds rate or range falling in each of the following ranges at the end of 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. If you expect a target range, please use the midpoint of that range in providing your response.

Federal Funds Rate or Range at the End of 2020										
	< 0.00%	0.00 - 0.25%	0.26 - 0.50%	0.51 - 0.75%	0.76 - 1.00%	1.01 - 1.25%	1.26 - 1.50%	1.51 - 1.75%	1.76 - 2.00%	≥ 2.01%
Average	1%	97%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Federal Funds Rate or Range at the End of 2021										
	< 0.00%	0.00 - 0.25%	0.26 - 0.50%	0.51 - 0.75%	0.76 - 1.00%	1.01 - 1.25%	1.26 - 1.50%	1.51 - 1.75%	1.76 - 2.00%	≥ 2.01%
Average	4%	82%	9%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Federal Funds Rate or Range at the End of 2022										
	< 0.00%	0.00 - 0.25%	0.26 - 0.50%	0.51 - 0.75%	0.76 - 1.00%	1.01 - 1.25%	1.26 - 1.50%	1.51 - 1.75%	1.76 - 2.00%	≥ 2.01%
Average	5%	63%	17%	7%	5%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%

Federal Funds Rate or Range at the End of 2023										
	< 0.00%	0.00 - 0.25%	0.26 - 0.50%	0.51 - 0.75%	0.76 - 1.00%	1.01 - 1.25%	1.26 - 1.50%	1.51 - 1.75%	1.76 - 2.00%	≥ 2.01%
Average	6%	50%	18%	9%	7%	5%	2%	1%	1%	0%

3e) What is your estimate of the target federal funds rate or range at the effective lower bound? (28 responses)

Level of Target Federal Funds Rate or Range at ELB	
25th Pctl	-0.50%
Median	0.00%
75th Pctl	0.13%

3f) For parts a-e, please explain the factors behind any change to your expectations, where applicable, since the last policy survey. (26 responses)

Many respondents indicated that there were no material changes to their expectations for the target range for the federal funds rate.

4) Please indicate the percent chance that you attach to the 10-year Treasury yield falling in each of the following ranges at the end of 2020 and 2021.

Year-end 2020							
	< 0.00%	0.00 - 0.50%	0.51 - 1.00%	1.01 - 1.50%	1.51 - 2.00%	2.01 - 2.50%	≥ 2.51%
Average	2%	16%	62%	18%	2%	0%	0%

Year-end 2021							
	< 0.00%	0.00 - 0.50%	0.51 - 1.00%	1.01 - 1.50%	1.51 - 2.00%	2.01 - 2.50%	≥ 2.51%
Average	3%	12%	37%	33%	11%	3%	1%

5a) Please provide your modal expectation for the amount of purchases, net of reinvestments, of U.S. Treasury securities, agency mortgage-backed securities (MBS), and agency commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) the Desk will conduct for each month listed below through the end of the year and the total over each of the half-years below. If you expect any of these amounts to be zero in a given period, please enter 0.

(20 responses)

Net purchases of U.S. Treasury securities (\$ billions)								
	Nov. 2020	Dec. 2020	2021 H1	2021 H2	2022 H1	2022 H2	2023 H1	2023 H2
25th Pctl	80	80	480	480	240	170	95	0
Median	80	80	480	480	360	280	140	110
75th Pctl	80	80	480	480	480	480	480	380

Net purchases of agency MBS (\$ billions)								
	Nov. 2020	Dec. 2020	2021 H1	2021 H2	2022 H1	2022 H2	2023 H1	2023 H2
25th Pctl	40	40	180	143	83	55	13	0
Median	40	40	240	240	180	120	60	35
75th Pctl	40	40	240	240	240	180	120	110

Net purchases of agency CMBS (\$ millions)								
	Nov. 2020	Dec. 2020	2021 H1	2021 H2	2022 H1	2022 H2	2023 H1	2023 H2
25th Pctl	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Median	100	100	275	150	25	0	0	0
75th Pctl	450	450	900	850	375	250	0	0

If applicable, please describe your expectations for any changes to the communications regarding and/or key elements of asset purchases going forward.

(22 responses)

Going forward, several respondents indicated that they expected changes to forward guidance for asset purchases, including several who indicated that they expected it to take the form of outcome-based forward guidance, and several indicated that they expected the Committee to extend the average maturity of Treasury purchases. In addition, several respondents indicated that they did not expect any changes.

5b) Please comment on what you view as the most likely conditions or developments that would lead you to revise higher and/or lower your modal estimates in part a.

(23 responses)

Among the most likely conditions or developments that would lead to upward revisions, some respondents noted an acceleration of the pandemic or the adoption of lockdown measures. Several respondents noted the implementation of significant fiscal stimulus or higher issuance of Treasury securities, while several others noted an insufficient amount of fiscal stimulus. In addition, several respondents noted an increase in interest rates. Among the most likely conditions or developments that would lead to downward revisions, several respondents noted a robust or faster-than-expected economic recovery, several noted an acceleration in

inflation, and several noted a slowing in the pandemic or the smooth rollout of a COVID-19 vaccine.

- 5c)** Please provide your 10th and 90th percentiles of your subjective distribution over the range of possible values for the following total net purchases from November 2020 until year-end 2023.
(18 responses)

		10th Percentile	90th Percentile
U.S. Treasury securities (\$ billions)	25th Pctl	675	2647
	Median	1000	3500
	75th Pctl	1670	4750
Agency MBS (\$ billions)	25th Pctl	300	1250
	Median	500	1600
	75th Pctl	800	2000
Agency CMBS (\$ millions)	25th Pctl	0	1000
	Median	300	5125
	75th Pctl	1000	40000

- 5d)** If you have formed expectations for the most likely level (\$ billions) of Federal Reserve assets associated with any of the following, please provide your expectations for their levels on December 30, 2020 below. If you expect any of these amounts to be zero on this date, please enter 0.

Level on December 30, 2020 (\$ billions)								
	Discount Window	PDCF	MMLF	CPFF	MSNLF	MSELF	MSPLF	MLF
25th Pctl	0	0	0	0	15	1	1	10
Median	0	0	5	1	15	10	15	15
75th Pctl	2	0	7	8	30	25	23	25
# of Responses	13	12	14	13	13	13	12	15

	TALF	PMCCF	SMCCF	PPPLF	Central bank liquidity swaps	FIMA repo	Repo agreements with primary dealers	Any additional programs
25th Pctl	5	0	16	50	10	0	0	0
Median	10	0	40	60	31	0	0	0
75th Pctl	15	10	50	70	88	0	0	0
# of Responses	13	12	13	14	12	13	13	9

- 6)** Beyond your responses provided in the questions above, please describe your expectations for any additional actions or monetary policy measures, or modifications to those previously announced, by the Federal Reserve through year-end 2020 and over 2021.
(25 responses)

Several respondents indicated that they did not expect substantial further actions or measures to be implemented this year or over 2021 beyond what was reported in responses to previous questions, while several others indicated that they expected various credit and liquidity programs to be adjusted.

- 7) What percent chance do you attach to any additional U.S. federal fiscal policy measures being enacted over the next six months to support the economy?
(28 responses)

	Probability
25th Pctl	75%
Median	90%
75th Pctl	95%

If you assigned a non-zero probability above, please provide your estimate of the most likely total amount of additional U.S. federal fiscal policy measures to be enacted over the next six months to support the economy, conditional on there being such additional measures.

(28 responses)

	Estimate of most likely total amount (\$ billions)
25th Pctl	1650
Median	2000
75th Pctl	2500

Please describe any assumptions underlying your estimates above.

(28 responses)

In discussing their expectations for any additional U.S. federal fiscal policy measures to support the economy over the next six months, some respondents suggested that they expected Democratic control of both houses of Congress and the Presidency following the upcoming election, and several said this would result in a larger amount of stimulus than would be the case with divided control of Congress and the Presidency. In addition, several respondents indicated that they expected a fiscal stimulus package to be enacted regardless of the outcome of the November election.

- 8a) Please indicate your modal projections for U.S. real GDP growth for each of the following quarters (seasonally adjusted annual rate).
(28 responses)

Modal Projection for U.S. Real GDP Growth (percent)						
	Q3 2020 (saar)	Q4 2020 (saar)	Q1 2021 (saar)	Q2 2021 (saar)	Q3 2021 (saar)	Q4 2021 (saar)
25th Pctl	27.5%	2.8%	2.9%	3.3%	3.0%	2.5%
Median	31.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%	3.0%
75th Pctl	32.9%	5.0%	4.3%	5.6%	4.8%	3.8%

8b) Please provide the percent chance you attach to the following outcomes for U.S. real GDP growth in 2020 and 2021 (Q4/Q4).
(28 responses)

Probability Distribution of U.S. Real GDP Growth in 2020 (Q4/Q4)						
	≤ -8.01%	-8.00 - -6.01%	-6.00 - -4.01%	-4.00 - -2.01%	-2.00 - -0.01%	≥ 0 %
Average	3%	10%	29%	41%	14%	5%

Probability Distribution of U.S. Real GDP Growth in 2021 (Q4/Q4)						
	< 0%	0.00 - 2.00%	2.01 - 4.00%	4.01 - 6.00%	6.01 - 8.00%	≥ 8.01%
Average	6%	16%	35%	30%	11%	2%

9a) For the outcomes below, provide the percent chance you attach to the annual average CPI inflation rate from November 1, 2020 - October 31, 2025 falling in each of the following ranges. Please also provide your point estimate for the most likely outcome.

	≤ 1.00%	1.01 - 1.50%	1.51 - 2.00%	2.01 - 2.50%	2.51 - 3.00%	≥ 3.01%
Average	7%	20%	34%	23%	11%	5%

	Most Likely Outcome
25th Pctl	1.75%
Median	1.85%
75th Pctl	2.05%

9b) For the outcomes below, provide the percent chance you attach to the annual average CPI inflation rate from November 1, 2025 – October 31, 2030 falling in each of the following ranges. Please also provide your point estimate for the most likely outcome.

	≤ 1.00%	1.01 - 1.50%	1.51 - 2.00%	2.01 - 2.50%	2.51 - 3.00%	≥ 3.01%
Average	5%	13%	29%	31%	14%	8%

	Most Likely Outcome
25th Pctl	2.00%
Median	2.10%
75th Pctl	2.25%

- 10a)** What percent chance do you attach to:
the U.S. economy currently being in a recession*?
the U.S. economy being in a recession* **in 6 months**?
the global economy being in a recession** **in 6 months**?

	Currently in U.S. Recession		U.S. Recession in 6 Months		Global Recession in 6 Months
25th Pctl	0%	25th Pctl	10%	25th Pctl	10%
Median	8%	Median	20%	Median	20%
75th Pctl	20%	75th Pctl	25%	75th Pctl	40%

**NBER-defined recession*

***Previous IMF staff work has suggested that a "global recession" can be characterized as a period during which there is a decline in annual per-capita real global GDP, backed up by a decline or worsening in one or more of the following global macroeconomic indicators: industrial production, trade, capital flows, oil consumption and unemployment.*

- 10b)** Please explain the factors behind any change to your expectations in part a since the last policy survey.
(28 responses)

In explaining changes to their recession probabilities, some respondents cited resilient economic conditions and/or economic data, several cited changing expectations for increased fiscal stimulus, and several indicated that they had determined that lockdowns in response to recent increases in COVID-19 cases were unlikely. In addition, several respondents indicated that there were no significant changes to their probabilities.