

# BULLETIN

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Inflation, monetary policy and economic performance

The present situation of Finnish banks and possible impacts of EMU

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# Inflation, monetary policy and economic performance

he Finnish economy appears to be performing well except with respect to unemployment. Growth of total output is forecast to accelerate to between 4 and 5 per cent. The economies of continental Europe are forecast to expand at only about half that rate. Finnish economic growth is broadly based. Besides exports, private consumption and private investment are increasing apace. Construction investment has also picked up. The current account is likely to continue to record surpluses. Inflation prospects are subdued, at least for the short run, although the risk that inflation could accelerate at some point has increased. Employment has been increasing at a rate of more than 2 per cent, but owing to an expanding workforce the unemployment rate is not declining as fast.

Rapid growth cannot alone eliminate unemployment. On the other hand, any disturbance to monetary conditions tends to slow the decline in unemployment even when the economy is growing rapidly. Therefore it is crucial that the present balanced performance of the economy should continue.

Rapid growth entails certain risks to a balanced economic performance: price stability may be disturbed so that growth becomes an engine of inflation, even before the economy reaches full utilization of capacity. Production and labour bottlenecks in certain sectors may boost inflation expectations and thus influence pricing behaviour also in sectors not subject to bottlenecks.

According to estimates of several international organizations, the output level in Finland is still somewhat below potential. This accords with estimates made at the Bank of Finland. The output gap is however narrowing rapidly. This means that more and more sectors of the economy will be bumping against capacity constraints, which will increase the likelihood of demand inflation. However, the risk of this scenario is smaller, the more friendly the environment toward capacity enhancing investment and the more flexible the labour market.

In the April issue of the Bulletin, it was estimated that cost and price developments would remain subdued and that inflation would stay within range of the 2 per cent target. Although the estimate is still in effect, the above-mentioned factors have increased the likelihood of an acceleration of inflation.

The Bank of Finland estimates that underlying inflation will accelerate to slightly over two per cent next year. The rise in the consumer price index (CPI) will be substantially greater, because the rise in housing prices will affect the index while the restraining effect of declining lending rates will disappear. A key element underlying the forecast that inflation will remain on target is the assumption that next year's pay settlements will be moderate and consistent with low inflation. While the current outlook does not portend a change in the stance of monetary policy, an increase in the probability that inflation will exceed the forecasted rate would force the central bank to consider monetary tightening.

## Finnish money and foreign exchange markets stable

During the first half of the year, the Finnish markka has remained relatively stable, and it continues to be one of the strongest currencies in the exchange rate mechanism (ERM) of the European Union in terms of its central rates, despite the fact that after strengthening in winter, the markka has weakened slightly against the Deutschemark and so has moved somewhat closer to its DEM central rate during the spring.

Like many other currencies, the Finnish markka has continued to weaken against the US dollar. At the end of May, a dollar was worth FIM 5.15, ie about 50 penniä more than at the start of the year. Mainly because of dollar strengthening, the value of the markka in terms of the trade-weighted currency index has depreciated by about 3 per cent from the start of the year.

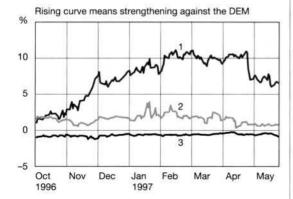
Finnish long-term rates have followed corresponding foreign rates. In April–May, the longest quoted rate declined slightly to 6.2 per cent, while the differential against the corresponding German rate narrowed again to 0.3–0.4 percentage point. Three-month forward rates have also fallen, which suggests that the market's earlier faint expectations of a tender rate hike have faded.

#### Stable conditions in the ERM

The likelihood that economic and monetary union (EMU) will be realized on schedule was reinforced at the start of April by a further expression of confidence coming out of an unofficial Ecofin Council

#### Chart 1.

## Deviations of selected ERM currencies from their DEM central rates



- 1. Irish punt
- 2. Finnish markka
- 3. French franc

meeting. However, an announcement at the end of April of early parliamentary elections in France raised some doubt about EMU progress. Results from the first round of the French elections had little impact on the money and foreign exchange markets. The franc weakened slightly and market interest rates rose to some extent.

The Irish punt has been the strongest currency in the ERM since the latter half of 1996. Around the end of April, the punt depreciated by almost 4 per cent against the Deutschemark after the Irish Minister for Finance stated that the punt's exchange rate should move closer to its DEM central rate (Chart 1). Even after the weakening, the Irish punt remains the strongest currency in the ERM. At the start of May the Central Bank of Ireland raised its monetary policy steering rate by 0.50 percentage point to 6.75 per cent. The rationale given for the monetary tightening was rapid economic growth and an increased threat of inflation.

In Spain and Portugal historically low inflation and a favourable inflation outlook led to an easing of monetary policy in April–May. The decisions on easing were also influenced by strengthening of the respective currencies within the ERM. In Italy too, a slowing of inflation has raised expectations of an interest rate cut.

#### Hike in UK base rate

Turning to non-ERM countries, an anticipated hike in the base lending rate was effected in the United Kingdom soon after the elections of 1 May. The rate was raised by 0.25 percentage point to 6.25 per cent. The move was justified by an increase in inflationary pressure stemming mainly from accelerating consumer demand and rising housing prices.

The base rate had previously been raised, by the same amount, in October 1996. The rate hike strengthened the pound sterling against the major currencies and lowered long-term interest rates by about 0.5 percentage point. The decline in UK interest rates was also influenced by the decline in corresponding US rates.

The new UK Government also increased the central bank's authority to influence interest rates. Previously, the Bank of England had served as monetary policy adviser to the Treasury, and decisions on interest rates had been the prerogative of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Now the Bank was granted operational independence to set the base lending rate in accord with the Treasury-defined inflation target.

In the United States, the Federal Reserve's 0.25 percentage point interest rate hike at the end of March had been anticipated. The markets expected further monetary tightening to come out of the May meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, but fresh data on the country's economic performance led the Committee to hold off for the time being.

In Japan the governor of the central bank stated in April that the objective of the country's monetary policy was economic recovery and hence that there was no immediate need to tighten monetary policy. On the other hand, there have been signs of upward pressure on Japanese interest rates since the Ministry of Finance assured the public that economic recovery had begun.

## Exchange rate fluctuations outside the ERM

A G-7 meeting in late April warned in its communique that excessive exchange rate fluctuations could lead to trade imbalances. After the meeting, the US dollar appreciated to its strongest level in almost five years against the yen and to its strongest level in almost three years against the Deutschemark. Dollar strengthening was reinforced by expectations of further monetary policy tightening and a quick resolution of the US dispute on balancing the budget. Differences over interpretation of EMU criteria also contributed to dollar strengthening against the Deutschemark.

At the beginning of May, exchange rates of major currencies reversed course as expectations of rising interest rates abated in the United States and increased in Japan. The yen appreciated in the first half of May by about 9 per cent against the dollar and about 8 per cent against the Deutschemark.

DEM exchange rates for the Swedish krona and Norwegian krone recorded substantially larger changes than for the Finnish markka in April–May. The Norwegian krone depreciated by about 5 per cent while the Swedish krona gyrated against the Deutschemark. In April the krona was weakened by uncertainty about the Swedish position on EMU and by concern over lax fiscal policy.

#### Long-term rates falling in Europe and the United States

As a result of a decline in long-term rates in the United States, EU member states' interest rate differentials vis-à-vis Germany have narrowed (Chart 2). In May there was a marked fall especially in Spanish long-term rates, which are now on a par with corresponding Irish rates. The interest rate differential vis-à-vis Germany is about 0.7 percentage point

In the United States expectations of further interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve raised long-term rates at the start of April. However, around the end of April, US long-term rates started to decline as expectations of further monetary tightening abated. In Japan firmer expectations of a hike in interest rates have been reflected in market rates. In April–May the Japanese long-term rate rose by about 0.4 percentage point to 2.8 per cent.

#### Price rises accelerating in Finland

In April the Finnish consumer price index was 1 per cent above its year-earlier level (Chart 3). A slight acceleration in inflation has been anticipated for a long time. Between March and April, the index rose by an exceptionally large amount (0.5 per cent) because the rise in housing prices in the first quarter of 1997 was included in its entirety in the April index. The impact of housing prices on the twelvemonth change in the CPI has until recently been partly offset by a declining trend in lending rates. However, this offsetting effect is now rapidly abating. In addition to housing-related costs, prices of beverages and tobacco and costs of health and medical care have also risen by more than 1 per cent. In other commodity groups, the twelve-month rise in prices has been slower than the overall rise in prices.

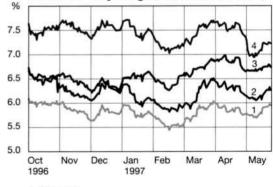
In March the indicator of underlying inflation (IUI) was only 0.1 per cent above its year-earlier level. The notable differences in changes in the IUI and the CPI are due to increases in the tax rate index and in capital costs of housing, both of which are excluded from the IUI. The trend in housing prices means that CPI inflation will stay above IUI inflation for the next several months.

According to the harmonized consumer price index, Finland's twelve-month inflation was 0.9 per cent in April. The importance of the index is increasing because it is used to measure compliance with EMU inflation criteria.

The subdued trend in prices during the early months of the year has been based on continued stability of foreign trade prices and producer prices in the manufacturing sector. Wage drift has also remained moderate. As regards foreign trade, the prices of certain raw materials imports have risen, whereas the price of crude oil has come down. On the export side, the downtrend in prices of pulp and paper industry products has come to a halt. Despite the strengthening of the US dollar, foreign

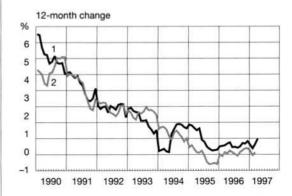
#### Chart 2.

#### Yields on 10-year government bonds



- 1. Germany
- 2. Finland
- 3. US
- 4. UK

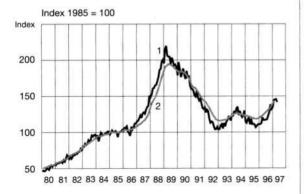
Chart 3.
Consumer prices



- 1. Consumer price index, 1990 = 100
- 2. Indicator of underlying inflation, 1990 = 100

#### Chart 4.

#### **Housing prices**



- 1. Greater Helsinki
- 2. Finland

trade prices are not expected to be subjected to notable upward pressure even later this year. Productivity growth in manufacturing will remain good, and thus we can anticipate continued stability in producer prices.

During the recession, production capacity in the construction industry declined. Individual bottlenecks will begin to appear as construction activity accelerates. This will be reflected in longer delivery times and upward pressure on prices. The overall price rise in the construction industry has nonetheless been moderate; in March the construction cost index was 2.1 per cent above its year-earlier level. Price developments in building materials have not however followed a consistent pattern. The prices of some products, such as sawn goods, have risen very rapidly, whereas prices of electrical equipment and plastic tubes have fallen. So far, the rise in the tender-price index for new structures has been quite moderate.

The sharp rise in housing prices was anticipated, which can be largely explained by the fall in the level of real interest rates (Chart 4). Real housing prices have risen to their level of the early 1980s, from which they started to soar in 1987. Along with the recovery of demand and prices, new housing construction has also picked up. Local price developments have varied, with prices rising mainly in rapidly growing areas.

Although the rise in housing prices as such cannot be considered a sign of a general pickup in inflation, it may influence inflation in the long run,

via inflation expectations as well as demand effects. However, no indications of this have yet been detected.

Wage developments have remained moderate under the currently valid agreements. With wage drift remaining moderate, wage developments have evened out across the different sectors. Owing to the very low inflation, real wages have risen apace.

In addition to demand pressures, next year's inflation will depend largely on future wage developments. Measures reducing structural unemployment are required in order to continue to avert labour market bottlenecks.

## Production continues to expand at a rapid pace

Consumer confidence again reached a record high in April. Consumers estimated that the economic situation in Finland had improved further and that growth would continue, albeit at a slightly slower pace, during the next twelve months. Almost every second household considered the time propitious for making larger purchases.

According to Statistics Finland's monthly indicator, total output increased by 4.6 per cent in February 1997 compared with February 1996. Output expanded in agriculture and forestry at the same rate as total output; in construction the growth was slightly faster than for total output and in the retail sector slower.

Statistics Finland's workday-adjusted index showed a twelve-month growth rate for industrial output of 8.8 per cent in March. Manufacturing output grew even faster. The March figure for the growth rate was surprisingly high, especially considering that the comparative figure for March 1996 was already high. After a temporary deceleration in the early months of the year, output has returned to a path of robust growth. Growth had been especially brisk in the metal industry and in the wood and paper industries.

A survey of business confidence (incl. the construction sector) conducted by the Confederation of Finnish Industry and Employers indicated that business prospects have continued to improve in the first quarter of this year, although the previous peak of 1994 has not yet been reached. There was a slight increase also in an index of manufacturers' production expectations based on volumes of orders and stocks. Nor does there seem to be any threat to output growth on the horizon for the coming months: the quarter/quarter increase in the volume of manufacturing orders was the best so far in the 1990s.

According to Statistics Finland's workforce survey, the unemployment rate has fluctuated slightly above 15 per cent during the three first months of the year. The construction industry again recorded the highest unemployment rate, still almost one-third. The most important aspect in labour market

developments has however been the continuing steady growth in the number of employed persons, most notably in the service sector. The number of employed has grown by almost 2 per cent compared to last year

The Ministry of Labour reported that the number of unemployed job-seekers continued to decline in April. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 16.8 per cent. The acceleration of manufacturing output has also been reflected in a contraction in layoffs.

## Current account surplus still large – central government deficit still a serious problem

The current account surplus for 1996 was 3.5 per cent of GDP. The surplus on the balance of trade, which was even bigger, offset in particular a substantial deficit on the investment income account. Breaking with historical precedent, Finland has embarked on an economic boom in the face of a current account surplus.

The current account will record a surplus again in 1997. The cumulated surplus for January–March amounted to FIM 3 billion. Despite the decrease in export prices and a slight increase in import prices, the surplus on the balance of trade amounted to almost three times the current account surplus. It is noteworthy that export prices rose in April on the previous month, partly owing to the strengthening of the dollar, whereas import prices decreased because of a fall in the price of crude oil. The services account was again almost in balance, but the deficit on the investment income account remained large owing to interest expenses on the external debt.

In early May, the finance ministers of the EU member states agreed unanimously that Finland is no longer plagued by an excessive public sector deficit. Despite this, the central government deficit continues to be a serious problem. According to the finance ministry's final accounting figures, the central government's revenue deficit decreased by

FIM 16 billion compared to the previous year, amounting to FIM 33 billion. At the end of 1996 the central government debt stood at almost FIM 400 billion or 69.5 per cent of GDP.

The central government's cash revenue grew by 13.5 per cent in 1996 compared to 1995. Receipts from income and wealth taxes grew by a fifth. Receipts from direct taxes were boosted by an increase in aggregate wages and large corporate tax revenue. Receipts from direct taxes were also influenced by the low comparison basis in 1995 (due to the payment of two tax refunds). Automobile tax revenue increased by a third. The central government's other income also increased considerably as a result of share sales by the government and early repayment of government housing loans.

The central government's cash expenditure (excl. financial transactions) grew sluggishly, by slightly over 1 per cent, in 1996 compared to 1995. It is estimated that spending cuts have reduced expenditure by about FIM 10 billion. Consumption expenditure grew by about 2 per cent in real terms. Expenditure on acquisitions of equipment by the defence forces grew by a fifth and pension expenditure also continued to grow in real terms. The number of staff decreased, but nominal staff expenditure remained unchanged. Transfer payments to households decreased as unemployment expenditure contracted. Transfer payments to municipalities also declined as a result of spending cuts. Interest expenditure continued to grow rapidly with the increase in central government debt.

30 May 1997

 Key words: inflation, monetary policy, economic performance.

# The present situation of Finnish banks and possible impacts of EMU

by **Heikki Koskenkylä**, Head of Department and **Jukka Vesala**, Project Supervisor Financial Markets Department Bank of Finland

fter weathering years of banking crisis, Finnish banks returned to profitability in 1996 (Table). The combined operating profits of banks in 1996 were nearly FIM 5 billion more than in 1995, and profits of all large banks increased. The 1995 results included a large loss (FIM 2.4 billion) booked early in the year by Kansallis-Osake-Pankki, prior to its merger with Union Bank of Finland to form Merita Bank. Combined operating profits in the banking sector have been positive since mid-1995. However, return on equity (ROE) was 7.5 per cent in 1996, a barely passing grade by international standards.

## Table. Profitability of Finnish deposit banks\* in billion FIM

	1992**	1993**	1994**	1995**	1996**
Net income from	TOOL	1000	100 1	1000	1000
financial operations	10.7	13.0	13.7	12.4	11.1
Other income	9.5	9.7	8.6	8.2	10.4
Total income	20.2	22.7	22.3	20.6	21.5
Operating expenses	14.9	15.3	16.4	15.5	14.3
Depreciation	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.7	2.1
PROFIT BEFORE					
LOAN AND					
GUARANTEE LOSSES	3.4	5.5	4.4	3.4	5.1
Loan and guarantee					
losses	14.0	14.7	11.2	6.2	3.2
OPERATING					
PROFIT/LOSS	-10.6	-9.2	-6.8	-2.8	1.9
Balance sheet total	688.9	726.8	667.8	616.6	601.5
Nonperforming					
assets, net	38.1	35.9	25.4	19.6	12.3
(BIS) risk-weighted					
assets and liabilities	404.7	488.5	419.5	371.7	
Solvency, % (BIS)	10.7	10.7	11.7	12.0	12.3

<sup>\*</sup> Commercial banks as groups, Okobank and each of the cooperative banks as separate entities (compensation by the mutual insurance company of cooperative banks is entered as a decrease in loan losses and reimbursements by the security fund of cooperative banks as extraordinary income, which does not show up in the operating profit/loss).

Source: Financial Supervision Authority.

Last year's profits helped raise the combined solvency ratio of banks to 12.3 per cent. Indeed, the actual improvement in solvency was even greater, because the 1996 figure also includes for the first time market risks in the capital requirement in accord with an EU directive. Finnish deposit banks still owe FIM 6.6 billion granted by the government as capital support in 1992 to avoid a credit crunch. Without government capital support, the combined solvency of banks would be 10.6 per cent

A reduction in loan losses improves results

Loan and guarantee losses in 1996 fell to about half the 1995 level – or about a fifth of their level at the peak of the banking crisis. The decline is mainly due to significant improvement in the quality of the lending stock of banks. Even though banks still booked massive loan losses in 1996, their exposure to credit risks has been reduced as firms have continued to enjoy healthy profitability and improved equity-to-debt ratios.

After a brief slowdown in the first half of 1996, Finnish economic growth surged ahead. This growth has shown up in the recovery in lending stock. Indeed, growth in total output accelerated to a more than five per cent annualized rate. The recovery of the lending stock was further helped by an approximately three-percentage-point fall in short-term market rates since mid-1995. The bulk of bank loans (about 70 per cent) is tied to short-term market rates, either directly or indirectly through prime rates quoted by individual banks.

While earlier reduction in nonperforming assets roughly matched the amount of booked loan losses, nonperforming assets were reduced in 1996 at a rate more than double the rate loan losses were booked. The banks also made substantial recoveries on claims previously booked as loan losses.

Nonperforming household loans have declined more slowly than corresponding corporate loans, in part due to Finland's persistent high unemployment. With an increasing share of payment defaults in the household sector, booked loan losses can be expected to decline. This is because the rescheduling of household loans is more common than rescheduling of corporate loans. Household loans

<sup>\*\*</sup> Excl. Siltapankki, Savings Bank of Finland (SBF) and Asset Management Company Arsenal Ltd.

are often better collateralized and the collateral value of properties increases when, as currently,

the housing market revives.

The ratio of nonperforming assets to the lending stock of banks still slightly exceeds the three per cent level considered as a normal ceiling. If economic conditions continue favourable, the three per cent level should be achieved before the end of this year.

Major downsizing cuts operating costs

All major banks have implemented major restructuring programmes. Compared to peak levels, staffing has been cut on average by about 40 per cent and the number of branches by more than 30 per cent (Chart 1). Indeed, no other industrialized nation has seen such radical downsizing of its banking sector. Merita Bank implemented the most extensive staff reductions and consolidation of its branch network as redundant functions of Kansallis-Osake-Pankki and Union Bank of Finland were eliminated after the merger.

It naturally takes time before restructuring lowers operating costs. Substantial nonrecurrent expenses were also incurred with the Merita Bank merger. Even so, bank operating costs were about FIM 2 billion less in 1996 than in 1994.

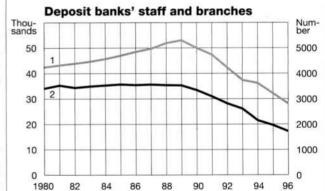
## Income from financial operations down, total income boosted by securities trading

The annual net income of banks from financial operations decreased further in 1996 due to a shrinking lending stock and narrowing of the interest rate margin (Chart 2). In addition, banks paid FIM 300 million in interest on capital support from the state for the first time.

Narrowing of the interest rate margin has resulted from tightening competition over the supply of debt finance, particularly corporate loans (Chart 3), and from a fall in short-term market rates. The average interest rate on lending follows changes in market rates more closely than the average interest rate on deposits. This is due to interest rate linkages: almost a half of deposits in Finland are kept in tax-exempt transaction accounts where the interest rate does not immediately react to changes in market rates (Chart 4).

The net income of banks from financial operations was not longer falling at the end of 1996. The interest expenses of banks have fallen, because the share of low-yielding transaction accounts in bank funding has increased considerably, due to the lowering of interest rates and structural changes in deposit income taxation. All fixed-term deposits that still enjoy tax-exempt status will mature by the end of 1997. Banks have also lowered the rates of interest on transaction accounts. In addition, outstanding markka lending has started to increase as a result of a pickup in credit demand (Chart 5), and

Chart 1.

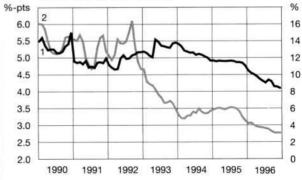


Staff (left scale)
 Branches (right scale)

Source: Finnish Bankers' Association

Chart 2.

## Bank lending – borrowing\* margin and the 3-month HELIBOR

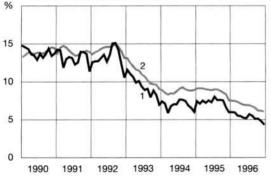


Lending-borrowing margin (left scale)
 3-month HELIBOR (right scale)

\*Markka lending and borrowing stocks.

#### Chart 3.

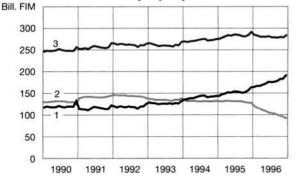
## Banks' average rate on new corporate and household lending



1. Corporate lending, avg rate 2. Household lending, avg rate

#### Chart 4.

## Deposit banks' markka transaction (M1) and fixed-term (M2) deposits



Transaction deposits
 Fixed-term deposits
 Total markka deposits

low-yielding assets and related financing costs have decreased. The rise in credit demand has been the most visible in housing loans, reflecting a recovery in the housing market.

Historically, net income from securities transactions has constituted a relatively small source of additional income for banks, but actual amounts have fluctuated considerably from one year to the next. In 1996, net income from securities transactions was exceptionally good, up from FIM 0.5 billion in 1995 to about FIM 2.2 billion. The rise was especially helped by increased valuations of bond portfolios as long-term rates fell, and substantial gains from securities trading. Combined income from securities transactions in 1995 was considerably reduced by large trading losses posted by the New York branches of Kansallis-Osake-Pankki and Postipankki.

Commission and fee income also increased in 1996 by about 10 per cent to around FIM 5.1 billion, reflecting a pickup in economic activity and credit demand. Overall, the increase in other income was so substantial in 1996 that it more than offset the fall in net income from financial operations.

#### Strong economy keeps short-term outlook positive

The current outlook for the Finnish economy is bright with rapid growth expected to continue. Such conditions support recovery of the Finnish banking sector, and thereby provide an important opportunity to strengthen bank solvency.

Economic forecasts indicate credit demand should grow. Households now have more disposable income, building starts are up and housing prices are rising. While no distinct upward trend in credit demand has yet appeared, it can be assumed that continued recovery of the real estate market will give banks a chance to sell off some of the huge mass of housing acquired through foreclosure earlier in this decade.

A strong economy should also help cut loan losses, and bank operating expenses will continue to decrease as restructuring measures take full effect.

With credit risk now considerably lower than before the banking crisis, even economic performance, which was weaker than forecast, would not, under the present circumstances, affect the volume of loan losses as it did at the beginning of the 1990s. Should the economy falter, it would mostly hurt bank income and create pressures for banks to cut costs further. Increased competition also has the potential to harm bank profitability, especially in the retail banking sector, as it forces continued narrowing of the interest rate margin. Nevertheless, competition is probably here to stay, given the progress towards EU integration and greater foreign competition. Finnish banks may simply have to learn to live with narrower margins than they do today. The rapid growth of mutual funds and other nondeposit funding may also increase bank funding costs to some extent.

#### Continuous adaptation as a way of life

Financial markets are experiencing a vast global transformation. In Europe, the further integration of the financial markets in Stage Three of EMU and the changeover to a single currency are notable. There are many other forces, of course, changing the face of banking – some more powerful than EMU. In any case, it is clear that banking sector will have to assess its operations, organizational structures and deployment of resources in yet a new light.

Technological development has had a major impact on banking. Further advances in information technology will continue to promote automation of financial services, and thus will obviate much of traditional banking. The traditional branch network has lost, and will continue to lose, competitive significance.

International financial services now provide large customers access to most of the world's wholesale money markets, stock markets, and derivative exchanges. Large banks act globally. By contrast, retail banking is still largely controlled by national financial institutions.

The deregulation of interest rates and capital flows in Finland during the latter half of the 1980s permanently altered the competitive environment, bringing with it many new market and operating risks as the business became more complex.

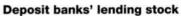
The banking sector will also face increasing competition from other business sectors intrudes. For example, insurance companies already offer services quite similar to bank services including savings schemes, private pension insurance and investment services. In many countries, retailers also compete with the banking sector, going so far as to establish banks of their own. Many large corporations have established their own finance companies, and telecoms in large nations now offer payment transfer services. Clearly, the comfortable dominance of domestic banks in the supply of financial services is under attack from all sides.

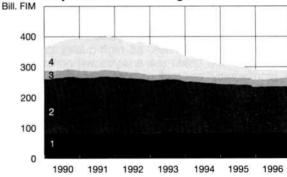
## Single currency increases international competition

EMU will further integrate financial markets of the participating countries and consequently tighten competition. The effects of Stage Three of EMU will be felt first and most intensely in the wholesale banking sector and in corporate banking services.

With the changeover to the euro, national currencies (the main obstacle to easy universal access among EU Member States to each others' domestic money and bond markets) will disappear. In time, we can expect supranational integration of national payment and settlement systems and trading rules. At that point, we could speak of pan-European securities markets.

#### Chart 5.





- 1. Corporate lending
- 2. Household lending
- 3. Other lending
- 4. Foreign currency-denominated lending

The integration of the markets will boost the supply of alternative financial services and investment alternatives, because cross-border sales are facilitated by the elimination of foreign exchange and interest rate risks. Further, banks operating in integrated markets must seek to exploit scale advantages. Local banks will also face greater competition as large international banks enter the market. Customers can expect prices of financial services to fall, even while the quality and availability of such services increase.

Along with monetary union, the liquidity of the money and capital markets will grow substantially due to the increase in the number of financial instruments denominated in the same currency and the number of market participants trading in the same currency. Finnish investment in foreign securities will increase, as will foreign investment in Finland. Cross-border diversification of investment portfolios within the euro area will increase as currency risks diminish.

Issuers of securities and investors in smaller countries, in particular, will benefit from this development. A large, liquid and integrated capital market is likely to induce Finnish firms to finance their investments directly from the market through debt securities and equity issues. This will further decrease the demand for bank loans and increase the demand for investment bank services. In addition, the demand for credit ratings of firms will grow. In this area, the operations of domestic banks are like-

ly to increase, even in the face of ever-tightening competition from foreign institutions.

In the euro area, the pricing of credit risks becomes more important as other risks such as national currency risks and interest rate risks disappear. Banks will probably expand their own corporate analysis activities, as high-quality corporate analysis and credit risk analysis will constitute an increasingly important competitive capability. Competition among banks for financing of small and medium-sized firms will thus intensify, as large, well-known companies increasingly finance themselves directly from capital markets.

In retail banking, the domestic market (insurance companies, mutual funds and retail trade) will continue to generate the highest competition pressure in the short term. The changeover to euro will obviously facilitate operations of foreign banks in the retail banking market, although it is not necessarily a critical factor for their expansion. There are still many service-intense products that require physical proximity to the customer. Rather than attempting to provide a broad slate of services, foreign players may go after the best-quality customers of local banks or offer only a standardized product slate. In the long term, the growth in foreign supply and new distribution and payment transfer technology may also have a substantial impact on retail banking. Young people readily adopt new approaches to banking, further facilitating change.

Efficiency in banking operations gains importance as competition stiffens, as only efficient banks will have the potential for profitable business. The efficiency of the Finnish banking sector has improved clearly over the last two years and has already reached the European average. However, other Nordic banks are clearly more efficient than Finnish banks. To stave off increased market penetration by these close-by competitors, Finnish banks must continue to work hard at improving their operational efficiency. This may involve further downsizing of staff and branch net-

works. On the other hand, efficiency gains require a continuous development of the skills of bank staff, which means that the share of expert staff in banks will grow.

The Finnish banking sector has undergone major restructuring, brought about not only by the banking crisis, but also through the push for greater operational efficiency and preparation for the competitive environment of the single European market. The contraction of the savings bank sector, the Merita merger and the regrouping of the cooperative banks all constitute major structural changes. Foreign banks have increased their operations in Finland, so far mainly in the wholesale and corporate banking sector.

From the point of view of regulation (including taxation) and supervision. EMU will increase the pressure for harmonization in Europe as well as globally. Differences in Member State legislation can easily lead to regulatory arbitrage, ie the shifting of the supply of services to less regulated and supervised environments. At the same time, the need for international cooperation among supervisory entities will increase. The increasing supply of financial services online and via dedicated networks presents a new important challenge for supervision. It is becoming increasingly important to strengthen corporate governance, ie the control mechanisms of the owners and market participants as business activities become more complicated and the opportunities for taking on risk increase.

5 May 1997

· Key words: banking, profitability, EMU

#### Item

## Commemorative coin for the centenary of the birth of Paavo Nurmi

In celebration of Paavo Nurmi 100 years, the Mint of Finland Ltd has struck a silver coin designed by the sculptor Erkki Salmela. The denomination of the (legal tender) coin is FIM 100, and it was issued on 22 May 1997.

Paavo Nurmi – known as the flying Finn – was the king of the long-distance runners. He won nine gold medals and three silver medals in Olympic competition and set over 20 world records.

After his running career ended, Nurmi coached the outstanding Finnish long-distance running team at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. Throughout the remainder of his life, Paavo Nurmi was a great fitness enthusiast and a successful businessman. He died in 1973

A limited lot of up to 50 000 commemorative coins has been minted, as well as a special proof quality lot of up to 10 000 coins. The coin has a silver content of 925 o/oo, diameter of 35 mm and weight of 22 grams.

The reverse of the coin shows Paavo Nurmi running, with his legendary, expressionless face. The background is the face of a stopwatch, its hands showing the time for his mile run at the Stockholm stadium – 4 min. 10.4 sec. – as well as nine laurel leaves symbolizing his nine Olympic gold medals. The two woman gymnasts on the obverse symbolize Nurmi's ideal – complete control over one's body.

Foreign sales are handled by the Mint of Finland Ltd.





### Measures concerning monetary and foreign exchange policy and the financial markets

#### 1996

#### **FEBRUARY**

**Base rate.** The Parliamentary Supervisory Council lowers the Bank of Finland's base rate from 4.75 per cent to 4.50 per cent with effect from 1 February.

#### MARCH

**Tender rate.** On 13 March, the Bank of Finland lowers its tender rate from 4.25 per cent to 3.75 per cent. In addition, the interest rate on banks' excess reserves is cut from 2.25 per cent to 1.75 per cent.

#### MAY

The Government Guarantee Fund moves to the Ministry of Finance. On 1 May, the Government Guarantee Fund ceases to operate as a separate unit and its employment contracts are allowed to expire. The Fund, which was previously subordinate to Parliament, is made subordinate to the Council of State, operating in connection with the Ministry of Finance. Fund personnel are also transferred to the Ministry.

The Government takes over Sponda. On 23 May, the Finnish Government purchases the entire share capital of Sponda Oy at a purchase price of FIM 1 232 million. The Bank of Finland originally set up Sponda Oy in 1991 to manage the real estate and equity assets transferred from Skopbank after the bank ran into severe liquidity and solvency problems.

#### JUNE

Currency Act amended. On 10 June, the amendments to the Currency Act enter into force. The amendments enable the joining of the markka to the EU Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM).

Tender rate. On 14 June, the Bank of Finland lowers its tender rate from 3.75 per cent to 3.60 per cent. In addition, the interest rate on banks' excess reserves is cut from 1.75 per cent to 1.60 per cent.

#### JULY

**Tender rate.** On 5 July, the Bank of Finland lowers its tender rate from 3.60 per cent to 3.50 per cent. In addition, the interest rate on banks' excess reserves is cut from 1.60 per cent to 1.50 per cent.

#### AUGUST

Bank of Finland's guidelines for credit institutions. On 1 August, the Bank of Finland issues its monetary policy-related guidelines for credit institutions as a complete set. The contents remain essentially unchanged.

**Tender rate.** On 23 August, the Bank of Finland lowers its tender rate from 3.50 per cent to 3.25 per cent. In addition, the interest rate on banks' excess reserves is cut from 1.50 per cent to 1.25 per cent.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

**Base rate.** The Parliamentary Supervisory Council lowers the Bank of Finland's base rate from 4.50 per cent to 4.00 per cent with effect from 16 September.

**Tender rate.** On 18 September, the Bank of Finland lowers its tender rate from 3.25 per cent to 3.10 per cent. In addition, the interest rate on banks' excess reserves is cut from 1.25 per cent to 1.10 per cent.

#### **OCTOBER**

**Tender rate.** On 9 October, the Bank of Finland lowers its tender rate from 3.10 per cent to 3.00 per cent. In addition, the interest rate on banks' excess reserves is cut from 1.10 per cent to 1.00 per cent.

Finland joins the ERM. Finland joins the EU Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) as of 14 October 1996.

## Monetary policy instruments -May 1997

The Bank of Finland's monetary policy objective is to stabilize the inflation rate at about 2 per cent. This corresponds to the price stability objectives of the major ERM countries. Finland joined the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) of the European Monetary System (EMS) on 14 October 1996. In this regard, Finland's monetary policy remains unchanged, although membership underlines the importance of exchange rate stability. The central rate for the markka is FIM 5.85424 per ECU and the corresponding central rate against the Deutschemark is FIM 3.04. The Bank of Finland is responsible for ensuring that the markka remains within the ±15 per cent fluctuation margin vis-à-vis the other ERM currencies.

The Bank of Finland's instruments of monetary policy comprise market operations, minimum reserve requirements imposed on the banks and the Bank of Finland's

liquidity credit facility.

Through its market operations, the Bank of Finland can on its own injative have an immediate impact on banks' liquidity, short-term market rates and the exchange rate. Money market operations are usually conducted via tenders. Changes in the tender rate have immediate effects on money market rates and through them on banks' lending and deposit rates. The Bank of Finland can also affect the exchange rate when this is deemed appropriate.

The minimum reserve requirement is used to affect both the demand for central bank financing and banks' lending possibilities. Because required reserves held at the central bank do not bear interest, the system also supports the central bank's profitability. Fulfilment of the reserve requirements on the basis of averaging facilitates

banks' management of payment transactions.

The liquidity credit facility consists of liquidity credit granted by the Bank of Finland when needed and deposits of excess reserves at the Bank. The main function of this facility in respect of an individual bank is to safeguard its liquidity in the event of an unexpected change in liquidity conditions. The rates of interest on liquidity credit and excess reserves, which are decided by the central bank, usually form the upper and lower limits for the shortest market rates.

Banks wishing to participate in the Bank of Finland's money market operations and to gain access to the liquidity credit facility are required to have a current account at the Bank of Finland. By means of a current account, a bank is able to effect payment transactions with the Bank of Finland and other current account holders in a safe, efficient manner.

The base rate, which is set by the Bank of Finland and was formerly an important reference rate. It is however gradually being superseded by market rates and has hardly any practical importance in the determination of new lending and borrowing rates.

#### Minimum reserve system

By virtue of the Act on the Bank of Finland, a deposit bank or branch of a foreign credit institution which carries on deposit banking activities in Finland must hold non-interest-bearing reserves at the Bank of Finland. The maximum reserve requirement is 5 per cent of the mandatory

reserve holder's debt. The reserve requirement is calculated against the reserve base as at the last day of each calendar month. The reserve requirement based on the reserve base effective at the end of a given month must be met during the second calendar month following such effective date. Thus the lag between the effective date of the reserve base and the end of the corresponding reserve maintenance period is about 60 days.

The reserve requirement is graded according to the composition of a bank's funding so that the more liquid an item, the larger the reserve requirement. The reserve requirement on deposits payable on demand (ie liquid deposits) is 2 per cent, on other deposits 1.5 per cent and on other balance sheet items 1 per cent. At the end of April 1997, the sum total of required reserves was FIM 6.6 billion and the weighted average reserve requirement 1.7

per cent.

A bank with a current account at the Bank of Finland can meet its reserve requirements by maintaining the monthly average of its daily balances at least as high as the minimum reserve requirement. Thus banks may use funds in their current accounts for effecting payments so long as the average monthly balances meet their respective reserve requirements on the last banking day of each month. Banks that do not have a current account at the Bank of Finland or use another bank as their central bank deposit their reserves in special minimum reserve accounts at the Bank of Finland.

The minimum reserve requirement applies to the following

Aktia Savings Bank Ltd Bank of Aland Ltd Banque Indosuez Helsinki Branch Citibank International plc Finland Branch Den Danske Bank Helsinki Branch Gyllenberg Private Bank Ov Interbank Ltd Merita Bank Ltd OP-Homebank Ltd Okobank Okopankki Oy, an Okobank subsidiary

Postipankki Ltd Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Helsinki Branch

Skopbank

Svenska Handelsbanken AB. Branch Operation in Finland

Other cooperative banks and savings banks

#### Market operations

The Bank of Finland affects interest rates and exchange rates by means of market operations, ie by dealing in securities or foreign exchange assets with its selected counterparties.

Money market operations can be carried out in the form of either bilateral money market transactions or tenders. Tenders, in which the Bank of Finland lends money to the banks, are carried out via repurchase (repo) transactions. In order to drain liquidity from the banking system, ie collect deposits from banks, the Bank of Finland generally sells its own CDs via tenders.

In a volume tender, the Bank of Finland announces the tender rate in advance, and the banks submit bids for the volumes they wish to transact. In an interest rate tender, banks bid by both rate and volume, and the Bank of Finland's tender rate becomes the weighted average of accepted bids. The tender rate applies to one-month maturity and is expressed as an annual rate. Short-term market rates move in line with the tender rate. On 30 April the tender rate was 3.00 per cent.

The Bank of Finland may accept as money market counterparties credit institutions that are subject to minimum reserve requirements and which the Bank of Finland considers to be otherwise qualified to operate as counterparties. A counterparty is required to have a current account at the Bank of Finland and adequate technical facilities and to be an active and important money market participant. Counterparties in outright bilateral trades are also required to act as market makers' for money market instruments and to observe the money market rules and code of conduct. At its discretion, the Bank of Finland may also accept as counterparties market participants that are not subject to minimum reserve requirements.

The following banks have been accepted as counterparties for money market operations:

Aktia Savings Bank Ltd Bank of Åland Ltd Merita Bank Ltd Okobank Postipankki Ltd Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Helsinki Branch

Svenska Handelsbanken AB,

Branch Operation in Finland

Normally, the instruments accepted for the Bank of Finland's outright money market transactions are Treasury bills and Bank of Finland certificates of deposit. In special cases, other money market instruments can be approved for use in outright transactions.

Acceptable underlying assets for repo transactions comprise Bank of Finland CDs, benchmark government bonds, Treasury bills, notes issued by Asset Management Company Arsenal, and CDs issued by banks that operate as money market counterparties.

In repo transactions, haircuts are set according to issuer and maturity as follows:

	Short-term 12 months or less	Long-term over 12 months
CDs	0 %	
Treasury bills	0 %	
Benchmark government bonds	0 %	5 %
Notes	5 %	
CDs	5 %	
	Treasury bills Benchmark government bonds	12 months or less  CDs 0 %  Treasury bills 0 %  Benchmark government bonds  Notes 5 %

The Bank of Finland conducts foreign exchange operations with the banks primarily when it wants to influence the exchange rate. The Bank attempts to even out wide fluctuations in the exchange rate and, in the context of the ERM, it is responsible for keeping the markka's exchange

value against other ERM currencies within the allowed ±15 per cent fluctuation margins. In addition, the Bank of Finland may convert currencies that the central government has borrowed from abroad into markkaa and sell foreign exchange to the central government as needed to service loans.

The Bank of Finland requires that its counterparties in foreign exchange operations act as market makers for the Finnish markka. The following banks have been accepted as counterparties for outright foreign exchange operations:

Merita Bank Ltd Okobank Postipankki Ltd Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Helsinki Branch Svenska Handelsbanken AB, Branch Operation in Finland

#### Liquidity credit facility

Upon application, the Bank of Finland may grant access to the liquidity credit facility to any credit institution which is subject to the minimum reserve requirement and has a current account at the Bank of Finland. The facility enables the credit institution to obtain liquidity credit or accrue interest on its excess reserve deposits at the Bank of Finland.

Liquidity credit must be fully collateralized and the applicable interest rate is tied to the Bank of Finland's tender rate. On 28 February the rate on liquidity credit was 5.00 per cent, ie the margin versus the tender rate was 2 percentage points. The maturity for liquidity credit may be 1, 7, 14, 21 or 28 days. The maturity and other terms and conditions are decided by the Bank of Finland. Since October 1992 the maturity has been 7 days.

If the monthly average of a bank's daily current account balances exceeds the bank's reserve requirement, the bank is considered to have excess reserves. The Bank of Finland may separately decide to pay interest on excess reserves; on 28 February the rate was 1.0 per cent

The following banks have been granted access to the Bank of Finland's liquidity credit facility:

Aktia Savings Bank Ltd Bank of Åland Ltd

Banque Indosuez Helsinki Branch

Citibank International plc Finland Branch

Den Danske Bank Helsinki Branch

Interbank Ltd

Merita Bank Ltd

Okobank

Postipankki Ltd

Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Helsinki Branch

Svenska Handelsbanken AB,

Branch Operation in Finland

Skopbank

#### Current account system

The Bank of Finland's current account system is an essential part of the payment and clearing system in Finland. Payments effected in the system can be divided into three main types: (1) business transactions between the Bank of Finland and the banks, ie payments related to monetary policy and maintenance of the money supply, (2) interbank payments and (3) payments related to clearing and settlement systems, including cover for interbank settlement of trades effected via the Finnish Central Securities Depository.

Upon application, the Bank of Finland may open a current account for any Finnish or foreign credit institution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Functioning as a market maker means that the counterparty is able to give binding buy/sell quotes on the securities or foreign currencies in question.

operating in Finland which is subject to minimum reserve requirements and which fulfils certain other requirements. The credit institution must be subject to supervision by the Financial Supervision Authority or to other comparable public supervision. It must meet the capital adequacy requirements laid down in the Credit Institutions Act and its own funds must amount to at least FIM 30 million. For special reasons, the Bank of Finland may at its discretion open current accounts for other institutions participating in the financial markets.

Upon application, the Bank of Finland may also grant an intraday credit limit on the current account of a credit institution subject to minimum reserve requirements if such account holder provides the Bank of Finland full collateral for the credit limit in accordance with the Bank's

auidelines.

At the beginning of May 1997, the Bank of Finland abolished the application procedure for changes in intraday overdraft limits on current accounts. Credit institutions entitled to intraday credit can now change their limits by notifying the Bank of Finland of the requested limit and posting the necessary Bank-approved collateral. As a result, banks are able to manage their liquidity more flexibly in accord with their own needs.

Current account holders have workstations linked to the Bank of Finland's current account data base via a data communications network. Current account holders themselves effect payments to other current account

holders via their workstations.

The following entities have a current account at the Bank of Finland:

Aktia Savings Bank Ltd Asset Management Company Arsenal Ltd Bank of Åland I td. Banque Indosuez Helsinki Branch Citibank International plc Finland Branch Den Danske Bank Helsinki Branch Finnish Central Securities Depository Ltd. Finnish Export Credit Ltd Gyllenberg Private Bank Ov Interbank Ltd Merita Bank I td Okobank Postipankki Ltd Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Helsinki Branch Skopbank SOM Ltd. Securities and Derivatives Exchange. Clearing House State Treasury Svenska Handelsbanken AB. Branch Operation in Finland

#### Base rate

The Parliamentary Supervisory Council decides on the Bank of Finland's base rate upon a proposal of the Board of the Bank of Finland. The base rate is used as a market reference rate. About 17 per cent of outstanding deposits and 17 per cent of lending is tied to the base rate, but only 2.0 per cent of new lending is tied to it (December 1996). As from 16 September 1996, the base rate has been 4.0 per cent.

#### Finland in brief

#### Land, climate and population

Finland covers an area of more than 338 000 square kilometres. The total area is slowly increasing because of the steady uplift of the land since the last glacial era. The country shares frontiers with Sweden in the west, Norway in the north and Russia in the east and has a coastline bordered by the Baltic Sea in the south and west. Agricultural land accounts for 8 % of the total area, forest and other wooded land for 68 % and inland waters for 10 %. Located between latitudes  $60^{\circ}$  and  $70^{\circ}$  north, Finland has warm summers and cold winters. Helsinki on the south coast has an average maximum temperature of  $21^{\circ}$  C ( $70^{\circ}$  F) in July and  $-3^{\circ}$  C ( $25^{\circ}$  F) in February.

Finland has a population of 5 132 320 (31 December 1996) and an average population density of 17 per square kilometre. The largest towns are Helsinki (Helsingfors), the capital, with 532 053 inhabitants, Espoo (Esbo) 196 260, Tampere (Tammerfors) 186 026, Vantaa (Vanda) 168 778 and Turku (Åbo) 166 929.

There are two official languages: 93 % of the population speaks Finnish as its mother tongue and 5.7 % Swedish. There is a small Lapp population in the north. Finnish is a member of the small Finno-Ugrian group of languages, which also includes Estonian and Hungarian.

#### Form of government

Finland is a parliamentary democracy with a republican constitution. From the twelfth century to 1809 Finland was part of the Kingdom of Sweden. In 1809, Finland was annexed to Russia as an autonomous Grand Duchy with the Tsar as Grand Duke. On 6 December 1917 Finland declared her independence. The republican constitution adopted in 1919 remains essentially unchanged today.

The legislative power of the country is exercised by Parliament and the President of the Republic. The supreme executive power is vested in the President, who is elected for a period of six years. The President for the current term, 1 March 1994 to 1 March 2000, is Mr Martti Ahtisaari.

Parliament, comprising 200 members, is elected by universal suffrage for a period of four years. Following the parliamentary elections of 1995, the seats of the various parties in Parliament are distributed as follows:

Social Democratic Party 63; Centre Party 44; National Coalition Party 39; Left Wing Alliance 22; Swedish People's Party 12; Green League 9; Christian League 7; Progressive Finnish Party 2; Rural Party 1; and Ecological Party 1.

Of the 18 ministerial posts in the present Government appointed in April 1995, 7 are held by the Social Democratic Party, 5 by the National Coalition Party, 2 by the Left Wing Alliance, 2 by the Swedish People's Party, 1 by the Green League and 1 by an expert with no party affiliation. The Prime Minister is Mr Paavo Lipponen of the Social Democratic Party.

Finland is divided into 452 self-governing municipalities. Members of the municipal council are elected by universal suffrage for a period of four years.

#### International relations

Finland became a member of the BIS in 1930, the IMF in 1948, the IBRD in 1948, GATT in 1950, the UN in 1955, the Nordic Council in 1955, the IFC in 1956, IDA in 1960, EFTA in 1961, the ADB in 1966, the OECD in 1969, the IDB in 1977, the AfDB in 1982, the MIGA in 1988, the Council of Europe in 1989, the EBRD in 1991 and the EU in 1995.

Having abolished most quantitative restrictions on foreign trade in 1957, Finland first took part in European free trade arrangements under the auspices of EFTA in 1961. Imports from the USSR were also progressively freed from customs duties. Finland's free trade agreement with the EEC entered into force in 1974 and agreements for the removal of trade barriers were concluded with several eastern European countries as well. The agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA) between the member countries of EFTA and the European Union came into effect at the beginning of 1994. Finland's negotiations to join the European Union were concluded in spring 1994. The accession treaty was signed in Corfu in June. In autumn 1994, a consultative referendum was held in which the majority of the voters (56.9 %) were in favour of membership. The Finnish Parliament ratified the accession treaty in November. The accession treaty having been ratified by each Member State, Finland became a member of the European Union on 1 January 1995. Citizens of the five Nordic countries. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, have enjoyed a common labour market, a passport union and reciprocal social security benefits since the mid-1950s.

Finland's development cooperation programmes channel assistance via international organizations and, bilaterally, to a number of African, Asian and Latin American countries.

#### The economy

**Output and employment.** Of the gross domestic product of FIM 478 billion in basic values in 1995, 2 % was generated in agriculture and fishing, 3 % in forestry, 29 % in industry, 5 % in construction, 11 % in trade, restaurants and hotels, 8 % in transport and communications, 3 % in finance and insurance, 20 % in other private services and 19 % by producers of government services. Of total employment of 2.1 million persons in 1996, 7.1 % were engaged in primary production, 27.6 % in industry and construction and 65.3 % in services.

In 1995, expenditure on the gross domestic product in purchasers' values amounted to FIM 546 billion and was distributed as follows: net exports 9 % (exports 38 %, imports –29 %), gross fixed capital formation 15 %, private consumption 54 % and government consumption 22 %. Finland's tax ratio (gross taxes including compulsory employment pension contributions relative to GDP) was 46.5 per cent, which is somewhat below the average for the Nordic countries.

Average annual (compounded) growth of real GDP was 4.7 % in the period 1950-59, 5.0 % in 1960-69,

3.7 % in 1970-79, 3.7 % in 1980-89 and 3.6 % in 1950-95. Finland's GDP per capita in 1995 was USD 24 500.

Foreign trade. EU countries absorb the bulk of Finnish merchandise exports. In 1992–1996 their average share was 51.7 %. Over the same period, Finland's exports to other European countries (including Russia) accounted for 23.4 % and to the rest of the world for 24.9 %. The regional distribution of Finland's merchandise imports in the same period has been quite similar to that of exports: EU countries accounted for 51.4 %, other European countries for 24.7 % and the rest of the world for 23 9 %

In 1996, the share of forest industry products in total merchandise exports was 30 %, the share of metal and engineering products 40 % and the share of other goods 30 %. Raw materials and intermediate goods (incl. crude oil) accounted for 59 % of merchandise imports, fuels for 5 %, investment goods for 15 % and consumption goods for 21 %

Forest resources. Finland has fairly abundant forest resources, but only limited amounts of other raw materials. The growing stock comprises 1 887 million cubic metres, of which 46 % is pine, 36 % spruce and 15 % broad-leaved species, chiefly birch.

The annual growth increment totals 77 million cubic metres and the total drain was about 62 million cubic metres in 1995

#### Finance and banking

Currency. Finland has had its own monetary system since 1865. The currency unit is the markka (plural: markkaa), abbreviation FIM, which is divided into 100 penniä (singular: penni). From 1 November 1977 to 7 June 1991 the external value of the markka was officially expressed in terms of a trade-weighted currency index, which was permitted to fluctuate within a prescribed range (from 30 November 1988 the range was 6 percentage points). From 7 June 1991 to 7 September 1992, the markka was pegged to the European Currency Unit, the ECU. The fluctuation margins and the midpoint were set so as to correspond to the fluctuation margins and midpoint of the old currency index. The midpoint was first 4.87580 (FIM/ECU). Owing to the devaluation of the markka on 15 November 1991, the midpoint was increased to 5.55841 and the fluctuation limits to 5.39166 and 5.72516. On 8 September 1992, the fluctuation limits of the markka were abandoned and the markka was allowed to float. On 14 October 1996, the markka was joined to the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) of the European Monetary System (EMS) at the central rate of 5.80661 per ECU. As from 25 November 1996 the ECU central rate is FIM 5.85424.

The Central Bank. The Bank of Finland (Suomen Pankki – Finlands Bank), founded in 1811, operates under the supervision of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council, the nine members of which are entrusted with overall supervision of the Bank and certain specific decisions such as fixing the Bank's base rate and the limits for other rates. The Governor and a maximum of five other Members of the Board are appointed by the President of the Republic. The Board manages all affairs not expressly entrusted to the Parliamentary Supervisory Council, including the terms of banks' central bank finance and open market operations in the money and foreign exchange market. The powers vested in the Bank and its independence of the Government make the Bank of Finland one of the world's stronger central banks. In practice, the Bank liaises closely with the Government, so as to coordinate economic policy. The Bank of Finland has a head office in Helsinki and 4 branch offices in other towns.

Other banks (31 December 1996). Finland has three major groups of deposit banks with a total of 1 447 offices. There are two big commercial banks with national branch networks and five smaller ones. The commercial banks have a total of 14 foreign branches, subsidiaries and associate banks and 18 representative offices abroad. There are 40 savings banks and 298 cooperative banks with their own extensive branch networks. In addition, four foreign banks have branches in Finland and nine foreign

banks have representative offices

Financial market. Of the total stock of FIM 685 billion in outstanding domestic credit at the end of September 1996, 49 % was provided by deposit banks, 5 % by insurance companies, 23 % by pension insurance institutions, 12 % by other credit institutions and 11 % by state and local authorities and social security funds. There are no quantitative restrictions or interest rate limitations on lending. Regulation of bank lending rates was progressively relaxed earlier in the 1980s and finally abolished in 1986.

In the money market, 67 % of the instruments, which totalled approximately FIM 135 billion at end-1996, were bank certificates of deposit (including central bank paper). Other negotiable money market instruments consist of Treasury bills, commercial paper and local authority paper.

There are 71 listed companies on the Helsinki Stock Exchange, with a market capitalization value of FIM 285 billion (at end-1996). Domestic bonds and debentures in circulation at end-1996 totalled FIM 254 billion; government bonds made up 71 % of the total. Turnover on the Stock Exchange in 1996 amounted to FIM 102 billion; the share of shares and subscription rights in the total was approximately 99 %.

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#### 1. The balance sheet of the Bank of Finland

1.1 The balance sheet of the Bank of Finland, mill. FIM

	1996	1	199	97	
	31 Dec.	7 May	15 May	23 May	30 May
ASSETS		LOCATION SALLS	//arthrastores		Total Reserve
Reserve assets	36 397	58 628	58 945	58 469	58 468
Gold	1 742	1 742	1 742	1 742	1 742
Special drawing rights	1 344	1 096	1 111	1 119	1 121
IMF reserve tranche	1 953	1 990	1 989	1 995	1 998
ECU-claim on the European Monetary Insitute	2 541	4 004	4 006	4 007	4 000
Foreign exchange assets	28 817	49 796	50 098	49 606	49 607
Other foreign claims  Markka subscription to Finland s quota in the IMF	3 853 3 794	3 946 3 886	3 946 3 886	3 946 3 886	3 946 3 886
Share in the European Monetary Institute	59	60	60	60	60
Claims on financial institutions	13 497	18 089	16 567	14 351	14 351
Liquidity credits	10 497	10 005	10 307	14 33 1	14 00 1
Securities with repurchase commitments	11 626	16 295	14 785	12 568	12 568
Term credits	-	-	-	-	-
Bonds	196	169	169	169	169
Other claims on financial institutions	1 676	1 625	1 614	1 614	1 614
Claims on the public sector	1 906	1 904	1 908	1 908	1 908
Treasury bills		20	-		2
Bonds	· ·	-	-	-	-
Total coinage	1.906	1 904	1 908	1 908	1 908
Other claims on the public sector	-	-	-	-	-
Claims on corporations	2 266	1 917	1 912	1 909	1 909
Financing of domestic deliveries (KTR)	70	50	46	42	42
Other claims on corporations	2 197	1 866	1 866	1 866	1 866
Other assets	598	1 051	894	881	915
Accrued items	490	947	790	779	806
Other assets	108	104	104	102	110
Valuation account	-	-	-	-	04 407
Tota	J 58 518	85 535	84 172	81 464	81 497
LIABILITIES					
Foreign liabilities	5 680	5 127	5 159	5 214	5 213
Allocations of special drawing rights	951	1 016	1 016	1 019	1 020
IMF markka accounts	3 794	3 886	3 886	3 886	3 886
Other foreign liabilities	934	225	257	309	306
Notes and coin in circulation	16 891	16 077	15 975	15 996	16 068
Notes	15 076	14 296	14 191	14 213	14 281
Coin	1 815	1 781	1 784	1 784	1 787
Certificates of deposit	15 530	41 700	38 100	34 290	34 760
Liabilities to financial institutions	8 329	7 115	9 2 1 0	10 236	9 591
Reserve deposits	6 829	5 615	7 710	8 736	8 091
Term deposits	4 500	-		4 500	4 500
Other liabilities to financial insitutions	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500
Liabilities to the public sector	-	_	_	_	_
Current accounts Other liabilities to the public sector				5.50 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	
Liabilities to corporations	574	211	205	201	197
Deposits for investment and ship purchase	574	211	205	201	197
Other liabilities to corporations	3/4	211	203	201	157
Other liabilities	220	149	95	95	91
Accrued items	193	115	67	67	62
Other liabilities	27	34	28	28	28
Valuation account	260	4 122	4 394	4 398	4 543
Provisions	5 270	5 270	5 270	5 270	5 270
Pension provision	1 516	1 516	1 516	1 516	1 516
Other provisions	3 754	3 754	3 754	3 754	3 754
Capital accounts	5 764	5 764	5 764	5 764	5 764
Primary capital	5 000	5 000	5 000	5 000	5 000
Reserve fund	764	764	764	764	764
Net earnings	200 - 120		200000		2000
	1 58 518	85 535	84 172	81 464	81 497
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### 1.2 Time series for the balance sheet items of the Bank of Finland, mill. FIM

	Public sector									
Gold	Special drawing rights	IMF reserve tranche	ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute	Foreign exchange assets	Reserve assets (1+2+3 +4+5)	Other claims, net	Net claims (6+7)	Claims	Liabil- ities	Net claims (9-10)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2 180	564	1 732	2	25 041	29 517	-2 998	26 519	2 446	90	2 356
2 180	664	1 747		28 882	33 473	-1324	32 148	1 788	784	1 004
2 180	1 537	1 354		47 672	52 743	-1 114	51 629	1 806	93	1 713
1 742	1 569	1 685	3 363	40 506	48 865	-2 082	46 783	1 882	75	1 807
1 742	1 344	1 953	2 541	28 817	36 397	-1 826	34 571	1 906	-	1 906
1 742	1 474	1 953	3 002	27 814	35 985	-1725	34 260	6 670	0	6 670
1 742	1 243	1 908	2 964	26 851	34 707	-2 015	32 692	6 460	0	6 460
1 742	1 187	1 880	2 642	26 402	33 854	-2 066	31 788	6 460	-	6 460
1 742	1 186	1 909	2613	27 139	34 590	-2588	32 002	6 297	-	6 297
1 742	1 412	1 928	2614	27 619	35 315	-1774	33 541	5 998	-	5 998
1 742	1 017	1 9 1 5	2 5 1 9	29 510	36 703	-1863	34 840	5 982	-	5 982
1 742	1 044	1 945	2 541	29 713	36 985	-2088	34 897	5 987	-	5 987
1 742	1 344	1 953	2 541	28 817	36 397	-1 826	34 571	1 906	-	1 906
1 742	1 370	1 937	2 528	54 432	62 009	-1292	60 717	1 907	_	1 907
1 742	1 544	1 983	2 544	54 189	62 002	-1370	60 632	1 907	-	1 907
1 742	1 514	1 930	2 532	51 982	59 700	-1268	58 432	1 907	-	1 907
				49 851	58 775	-1227	57 548	1 904	_	1 904
		1 998	4 000	49 607	58 468	-1267	57 201	1 908	-	1 908
	1 2 180 2 180 2 180 1 742 1 742	1 2 2 180 564 2 180 664 2 180 1537 1 742 1 569 1 742 1 344  1 742 1 474 1 742 1 186 1 742 1 186 1 742 1 412 1 742 1 017 1 742 1 044 1 742 1 344  1 742 1 370 1 742 1 544 1 742 1 514 1 742 1 186	drawing rights         reserve tranche           1         2         3           2 180         564         1 732           2 180         664         1 747           2 180         1 537         1 354           1 742         1 569         1 685           1 742         1 344         1 953           1 742         1 474         1 953           1 742         1 187         1 880           1 742         1 186         1 909           1 742         1 412         1 928           1 742         1 017         1 915           1 742         1 044         1 945           1 742         1 344         1 953           1 742         1 344         1 953           1 742         1 344         1 953           1 742         1 344         1 953           1 742         1 344         1 953           1 742         1 344         1 953	Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute           1         2         3         4           2 180         564         1 732         .           2 180         664         1 747         .           2 180         1 537         1 354         .           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541           1 742         1 243         1 908         2 964           1 742         1 187         1 880         2 642           1 742         1 186         1 909         2 613           1 742         1 412         1 928         2 614           1 742         1 017         1 915         2 519           1 742         1 044         1 945         2 541           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541           1 742         1 544         1 983         2 544           1 742         1 544         1 983         2 544           1 742         1 544         1 983         2 544           1 742         1 514         1 930         2 532	drawing rights         reserve tranche         on the European Monetary Institute         exchange assets           1         2         3         4         5           2 180         564         1 732          25 041           2 180         664         1 747          28 882           2 180         1 537         1 354          47 672           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541         28 817           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814           1 742         1 243         1 908         2 964         26 851           1 742         1 187         1 880         2 642         26 402           1 742         1 186         1 909         2 613         27 139           1 742         1 412         1 928         2 614         27 619           1 742         1 017         1 915         2 519         29 510           1 742         1 044         1 945         2 541         29 713           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541         28 817	Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute         Foreign exchange exchange assets         Reserve assets (1+2+3) + (1+2+3) + (1+2+3)           1         2         3         4         5         6           2 180         564         1 732          25 041         29 517           2 180         664         1 747          28 882         33 473           2 180         1 537         1 354          47 672         52 743           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506         48 865           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541         28 817         36 397           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814         35 985           1 742         1 187         1 880         2 964         26 851         34 707           1 742         1 186         1 909         2 613         27 139         34 590           1 742         1 412         1 928         2 614         27 619         35 315           1 742         1 017         1 915         2 519         29 510         36 703           1 742         <	Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute         Foreign exchange assets         Reserve assets (1+2+3) and (1+2+3	Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European European Sesets         Foreign exchange assets         Reserve dassets (1+2+3) ent         Other claims, net         Net claims, net           1         2         3         4         5         6         7         8           2 180         564         1 732         2         25 041         29 517         -2 998         26 519           2 180         664         1 747         28 882         33 473         -1 324         32 148           2 180         1 537         1 354         47 672         52 743         -1 114         51 629           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506         48 865         -2 082         46 783           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541         28 817         36 397         -1 826         34 571           1 742         1 474         1 953         2 964         26 851         34 707         -2 015         32 692           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814         35 985         -1 725         34 260           1 742         1 187         1 880         2 642         26 402         33 854 <td>Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute         Foreign easets (1+2+3) +4+5         Reserve claims, net         Other claims, (6+7)         Net claims (6+7)           1         2         3         4         5         6         7         8         9           2 180         564         1 732         .         25 041         29 517         -2 998         26 519         2 446           2 180         664         1 747         .         28 882         33 473         -1 324         32 148         1 788           2 180         1 537         1 354         .         47 672         52 743         -1 114         51 629         1 806           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506         48 865         -2 082         46 783         1 882           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541         28 817         36 397         -1 826         34 571         1 906           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814         35 985         -1 725         34 260         6 670           1 742         1 187         1 880         2 642         26 402         33 854</td> <td>Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute         Foreign exchange assets (1+2+3)         Reserve claims, net         Other claims, net         Claims (6+7)         Liabilities           1         2         3         4         5         6         7         8         9         10           2 180         564         1 732         .         25 041         29 517         -2 998         26 519         2 446         90           2 180         664         1 747         .         28 882         33 473         -1 324         32 148         1 788         784           2 180         1537         1 354         .         24 7672         52 743         -1 114         51 629         1 806         93           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506         48 865         -2 082         46 783         1 882         75           1 742         1 474         1 953         2 541         28 817         36 397         -1 826         34 571         1 906         -           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814         35 985         -1 725         34 260         6 670         0</td>	Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute         Foreign easets (1+2+3) +4+5         Reserve claims, net         Other claims, (6+7)         Net claims (6+7)           1         2         3         4         5         6         7         8         9           2 180         564         1 732         .         25 041         29 517         -2 998         26 519         2 446           2 180         664         1 747         .         28 882         33 473         -1 324         32 148         1 788           2 180         1 537         1 354         .         47 672         52 743         -1 114         51 629         1 806           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506         48 865         -2 082         46 783         1 882           1 742         1 344         1 953         2 541         28 817         36 397         -1 826         34 571         1 906           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814         35 985         -1 725         34 260         6 670           1 742         1 187         1 880         2 642         26 402         33 854	Gold         Special drawing rights         IMF reserve tranche         ECU-claim on the European Monetary Institute         Foreign exchange assets (1+2+3)         Reserve claims, net         Other claims, net         Claims (6+7)         Liabilities           1         2         3         4         5         6         7         8         9         10           2 180         564         1 732         .         25 041         29 517         -2 998         26 519         2 446         90           2 180         664         1 747         .         28 882         33 473         -1 324         32 148         1 788         784           2 180         1537         1 354         .         24 7672         52 743         -1 114         51 629         1 806         93           1 742         1 569         1 685         3 363         40 506         48 865         -2 082         46 783         1 882         75           1 742         1 474         1 953         2 541         28 817         36 397         -1 826         34 571         1 906         -           1 742         1 474         1 953         3 002         27 814         35 985         -1 725         34 260         6 670         0

End of period -		Domestic fina	ancial sector			Corporate se	ctor		
period	Term claims on deposit banks, net	Reserve deposits of deposit banks'	Other claims on financial institu- tions, net	Net claims (12+13+ 14)	Claims in the form of special financing	Special deposits and other items, net	Net claims (16+17)	Notes and coin in circu- lation	Out- standing CDs issued by the Bank of Finland
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1992	3 738	-13 165	4 022	-5 405	747	-2 651	-1 904	14 508	4 880
1993	7 337	-6 398	-463	476	496	720	1 216	14 994	14 837
1994	1 480	-6 526	-347	-5 392	316	1 285	1 601	14 315	35 236
1995	7 076	-15 676	655	-7 945	185	1 706	1 891	15 611	27 090
1996	11 626	-6 829	372	5 169	70	1 623	1 692	16 891	15 530
1996									
May	10 237	-8 790	527	1 974	129	1 541	1 670	14 967	20 700
June	7 887	-4 191	498	4 194	124	1 560	1 685	15 275	21 420
July	6 540	-7 203	487	-176	117	1 581	1 698	15 251	16 445
Aug.	9 988	-5 400	472	5 060	108	1 592	1 700	15 201	21 920
Sept.	10 147	-3 676	443	6 9 1 4	102	1 630	1 732	15 331	24 650
Oct.	10 683	-5 131	394	5 946	92	1 662	1 754	15 296	24 920
Nov.	7 041	-4 145	1 100	3 996	74	1 591	1 665	15 449	22 160
Dec.	11 626	-6 829	372	5 169	70	1 623	1 692	16 891	15 530
1997									
Jan.	14 277	-5 082	336	9 531	68	1 797	1 865	15 659	47 370
Feb.	12 104	-1 404	324	11 024	63	1 856	1 918	15 590	47 520
March	18 158	-10 649	319	7 828	59	1 919	1 978	16 131	41 950
April	17 070	-6 717	294	10 647	50	1 784	1 834	16 064	41 700
May	12 568	-8 091	283	4 760	42	1 669	1 712	16 068	34 760

## 2. The Bank of Finland's operations in the money and foreign exchange markets and the banks' forward exchange position

2.1 The Bank of Finland's minimum reserve system and standing facilities

		R	eserve requiremen	t	Required	Excess	Total reserves, mill. FIM	Liquidity
		On deposits payable on demand, %	On other deposits, %	On other items, %	reserves 1, mill. FIM	reserves, mill. FIM	(4+5)	credits, mill. FIM
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1993		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 398			440
1994		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 526			14
1995	I–IX	2.0	1.5	1.0	6 557			123
	X-XII	2.0	1.5	1.0	6 530	616	7 146	37
1996	3631 (1992)	2.0	1.5	1.0	6 652	440	7 092	121
1996								
May		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 624	105	6 730	-
June		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 689	481	7 171	-
July		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 728	139	6 868	-
Aug.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 672	308	6 981	544
Sept.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 636	1 634	8 270	-
Oct.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 703	631	7 334	-
Nov.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 596	136	6 732	233
Dec.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 578	992	7 570	186
1997								
Jan.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 560	423	6 983	-
Feb.		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 590	992	7 582	
March		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 582	1 478	8 060	-
April		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 589	566	7 156	18
May		2.0	1.5	1.0	6 623	598	7 221	_

<sup>1</sup> As of 2 October 1995, the minimum reserve requirement is fulfilled on an averaging basis; until 2 October 1995, end of month figures.

#### 2.2 The Bank of Finland's money market transactions, mill. FIM

During period	Purchases of money market instruments	Sales of money market instruments	Matured money market instruments, net	Money market transactions, net (1-2-3)
	1	2	3	4
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	76 230 86 521 35 540 50 435 94 080	137 940 146 899 351 820 434 810 250 980	-60 417 -50 486 -295 165 -393 930 -190 562	-1 293 -9 892 -21 115 9 555 33 662
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	10 500 7 900 6 700 14 800 11 900 10 600 7 900 12 650	20 060 14 020 16 450 21 920 24 650 24 920 19 340 15 530	-12 880 -2 390 -13 510 -9 892 -15 530 -12 030 -23 630 -6 430	3 320 -3 730 3 760 2 772 2 780 -2 290 12 190 3 550
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	17 100 15 500 1 450 24 200 5 700	47 370 47 520 41 950 41 700 34 760	-2 780 -28 660 -47 030 -13 630 -34 700	-27 490 -3 360 6 530 -3 870 5 640

#### 2.3 The Bank of Finland's transactions in convertible currencies, mill. FIM

During	Intervention in	the foreign exch	ange market	Spot transactions	Central government's		
period	Spot Spot purchases sales		Forward exchange intervention = change in forward exchange position	related to forward contracts, net	foreign exchange transactions, net		
	1	2	3	4	5		
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	20 050 25 120 20 930 4 910 7 360	-70 640 -45 080 -12 900 -5 470 -7 320	-1 650 7 460 9 060 -6 170	390 -6 910 -8 930 9 170	45 060 33 240 24 660 -10 135 -13 868		
1996 April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	1 200 240 60 1 350 2 310 2 200	-1 100 - - - - - - -480			-1 710 -6 230 -720 -50 -658 -2 210 -690 30 -950		
1997 Jan. Feb. March April	38 340 1 460	-720 -690	12 620 430 -2 610 -4 240	-12 260 - 2 540 3 070	-250 -1 660 -3 490 -8 160		

#### 2.4 Forward exchange contracts between Finnish markka and other currencies, mill. FIM

Stock			Finnis	h banks' forwa	ard contracts			Non-residents' forward contracts with Finnish			The Bank of Finland's	
at end of period	With Finnish customers (excl. Finnish banks)			With foreign customers Total			Total	customers (excl. Finnish banks)			forward contracts	
	Currency purchases from Finnish customers	Currency sales to Finnish customers	Net (1-2)	Currency purchases from foreign customers	Currency sales to foreign customers	Net (4–5)	Net (3+6)	Currency purchases from Finnish customers	Currency sales to Finnish customers	Net (8-9)	Net currency sales	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	39 195 38 373 51 096 60 280 53 520	32 939 23 721 22 093 19 095 21 793	6 256 14 652 29 003 41 185 31 726	21 142 14 346 19 236 31 837 44 068	32 339 21 895 32 791 48 906 72 021	-11 197 -7 548 -13 555 -17 069 -27 953	-4 941 7 104 15 448 24 116 3 773	1 614 11 632 18 372 12 829 15 871	1 929 2 173 4 780 6 871 6 908	-315 9 459 13 592 5 957 8 963	1 939 -6 080	
1996 April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	65 120 63 924 60 709 57 388 56 042 54 160 54 587 53 072 53 520	29 781 29 718 27 714 27 873 26 638 23 422 24 466 22 459 21 793	35 340 34 206 32 995 29 514 29 404 30 738 30 120 30 614 31 726	42 328 43 553 43 406 42 949 43 992 46 476 50 823 51 554 44 068	63 860 66 290 61 302 62 681 68 884 69 507 73 163 76 001 72 021	-21 532 -22 737 -17 896 -19 733 -24 891 -23 031 -22 341 -24 446 -27 953	13 808 11 469 15 099 9 781 4 513 7 707 7 779 6 168 3 773	15 326 17 851 16 731 16 977 17 407 18 761 18 988 18 476 15 871	8 836 8 327 8 494 8 127 7 513 7 536 6 902 7 649 6 908	6 490 9 525 8 237 8 849 9 894 11 225 12 085 10 827 8 963	-	
1997 Jan. Feb. March April	61 066 60 646 62 218 65 819	21 103 20 139 23 415 25 160	39 964 40 507 38 803 40 659	61 130 58 008 57 783 59 142	72 501 66 207 85 313 84 411	-11 371 -8 199 -27 530 -25 268	28 593 32 308 11 273 15 391	18 219 18 779 18 160 20 854	5 597 5 040 5 138 10 927			

#### Rates of interest

### 3.1 Money market rates and rates applied by the Bank of Finland, per cent

Average of	Interbank		HELIB	OR	Bank of Finland rates			
daily observations	overnight rate	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months	Liquidity credit rate <sup>1</sup>	Excess-reserve rate <sup>2</sup>	Base rate
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	13.32 7.71 4.38 5.26 3.66	13.49 7.85 5.11 5.63 3.58	13.27 7.73 5.35 5.76 3.63	13.08 7.59 5.78 5.97 3.74	12.96 7.47 6.33 6.34 3.99	14.90 8.95 7.11 7.63 5.57	7.41 4.95 3.11 3.63 1.57	9.17 6.85 5.27 5.20 4.38
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	4.01 3.38 3.48 3.94 3.16 3.11 3.29 3.11	3.75 3.67 3.54 3.45 3.19 3.04 3.02 3.02	3.76 3.72 3.63 3.54 3.28 3.10 3.08 3.08	3.86 3.84 3.78 3.70 3.43 3.20 3.21 3.20	4.16 4.11 4.07 4.00 3.67 3.40 3.46 3.40	5.75 5.67 5.52 5.43 5.19 5.03 5.00 5.00	1.75 1.67 1.52 1.43 1.19 1.03 1.00	4.50 4.50 4.50 4.50 4.25 4.00 4.00
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	2.68 2.85 2.51 3.24 2.51	3.02 3.01 3.01 3.02 3.01	3.07 3.07 3.07 3.08 3.08	3.16 3.17 3.18 3.21 3.19	3.34 3.34 3.42 3.48 3.40	5.00 5.00 5.00 5.00 5.00	1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00

#### 3.2 The Bank of Finland's liquidity facility

## 3.3 Weighted Eurorates and commercial ECU interest rate, per cent

	The Bank of Finland's tender		Liquidity credit: interest	credit: maturity,		Excess- reserve rate	Average of daily obser-	ECU	3 currencies	Commercial ECU
	rate, %		rate margin, %-points	days	margin, %-points		vations		3 months	
	1		2	3	4	5		1	2	3
1992 <sup>1</sup> 1993 1994 1995 1996	13.85 7.87 5.11 5.63 3.57	1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	+1.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00	7 7 7 7	-3.00 -2.00 -2.00	2.25 1.00	1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	10.4 8.0 5.9 5.9 4.4	7.8 5.9 5.2 5.2 4.3	10.6 8.1 6.1 6.0 4.4
1996 May Jun. July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	3.75 3.67 3.52 3.43 3.19 3.03 3.00 3.00	1996 May Jun. July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	+2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00	7 7 7 7 7 7		1.75 1.60 1.50 1.25 1.10 1.00 1.00	1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	4.3 4.4 4.3 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.1	4.3 4.3 4.2 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3	4.4 4.5 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.2
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	3.00 3.00 3.00 3.00 3.00	1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	+2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00 +2.00	7 7 7 7 7	10 M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M	1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00	1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	4.1 4.1 4.2 4.1 4.1	4.2 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.3	4.1 4.1 4.3 4.2 4.2
13.3.1996 14.6.1996 5.7.1996 23.8.1996 18.9.1996 9.10.1996	3.75 3.60 3.50 3.25 3.10 3.00	13.3.1996 14.6.1996 5.7.1996 23.8.1996 18.9.1996 9.10.1996				1.75 1.60 1.50 1.25 1.10				

<sup>1</sup> July-December.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Call money credit rate until 2 July 1992. <sup>2</sup> Call money deposit rate until 2 October 1995.

### 3.4 Rates of interest applied by banks, per cent

Average			Lending					Markka dep	osits and ot	her markka	funding	
for period		New cr	edits		Average	Of which:	24- month	36- month	Other tax-	Average rate of	Average rate of	Average rate of
	Cheque account and postal giro credits	Bills of ex- change	Loans	New lending, total	rate	Com- mercial banks	tax- exempt deposits <sup>1</sup>	tax- exempt deposits <sup>1</sup>	exempt deposits, max. rate of interest	interest on deposits	interest on other	interest on markka funding
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	14.04 9.69 7.32 7.85 5.61	15.86 13.55 11.55 11.33 9.61	13.32 9.40 7.13 7.30 5.31	13.75 9.75 7.35 7.46 5.43	12.46 10.20 8.18 8.04 6.49	12.13 9.92 7.91 7.75 6.15	7.50 3.50 3.25 2.75 2.00	8.50 4.50 4.25 3.75 3.00	4.50 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00	7.41 4.78 2.99 3.13 2.15	12.84 8.86 5.96 6.29 4.31	6.15 4.01
1996 April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	4.83 5.96 5.31 6.26 6.19 6.24 5.63 5.12 5.21	8.19 9.19 10.66 9.78 9.74 9.95 9.73 9.58 9.04	5.71 5.59 5.35 5.48 5.51 4.92 4.90 4.87 4.38	5.75 5.73 5.44 5.63 5.66 5.06 5.04 4.98 4.48	6.77 6.64 6.55 6.48 6.42 6.23 5.99 5.94 5.83	6.43 6.30 6.20 6.12 6.04 5.87 5.67 5.62 5.48	2.50 2.50 2.50 2.50 2.50 2.00 2.00 2.00	3.50 3.50 3.50 3.50 3.00 3.00 3.00 3.00	2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00	2.32 2.27 2.23 2.21 2.07 1.93 1.84 1.80 1.73	4.71 4.59 4.10 4.29 4.09 3.92 3.72 3.77	2.79 2.81 2.71 2.52 2.39 2.38
1997* Jan. Feb. March April	4.03 5.59 	9.99 10.01 	4.63 4.67	4.65 4.79 4.88 4.62	5.75 5.70 5.67 5.63	5.40 5.36 5.32 5.27	2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00	1: 2: 2:	2.00 2.00 2.00 2.00	1.69 1.61 1.48 1.45	31 33 33	

<sup>1</sup> End of period.

#### 3.5 Yields on bonds and shares, per cent

Period		Во	nds		Shares
	Reference rate by the Bank o		Taxable govern	nent bonds	Share yield
	3 years	5 years	5 years	10 years	
	1	2	3	4	5
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	13.1 8.5 8.5 8.2 5.8	13.0 8.9 9.3 8.9 6.8	12.0 8.2 8.4 7.9 6.0	11.5 <sup>1</sup> 8.8 9.1 8.8 7.1	2.5 1.2 1.0 2.4 2.1
1996 April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.4 5.0 5.0	7.2 7.4 7.2 6.9 6.5 5.9 5.9	6.5 6.5 6.2 6.1 5.6 5.1 5.1	7.5 7.4 7.2 7.1 7.2 6.9 6.5 6.5 6.3	2.7 1.9 1.9 1.8 2.4 2.4 2.3 2.2
1997 Jan, Feb. March April	4.8 4.7 4.8 5.0	5.7 5.5 5.6 5.8	4.8 4.6 4.8 5.0	6.1 5.9 6.1 6.4	2.2 1.8 2.1 2.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> November and December only.

#### 4. Rates of exchange

#### 4.1 Middle rates, FIM

Average of daily	New York	Montreal	London	Dublin	Stock- holm	Oslo	Copen- hagen	Reykja- vik	Frankfurt am Main	Amster- dam	Brussels	Zurich
quo- tations	1 USD	1 CAD	1 GBP	1 IEP	1 SEK	1 NOK	1 DKK	1 ISK	1 DEM	1 NLG	1 BEF	1 CHF
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	4.4835 5.7189 5.2184 4.3658 4.5905	3.706 4.434 3.824 3.181 3.367	7.875 8.582 7.982 6.891 7.164	7.636 8.371 7.799 6.999 7.345	0.7714 0.7350 0.6758 0.6123 0.6847	0.7222 0.8059 0.7393 0.6889 0.7111	0.7444 0.8822 0.8207 0.7790 0.7921	0.0778 0.0846 0.0745 0.0674 0.0689	2.8769 3.4584 3.2169 3.0471 3.0530	2.5552 3.0787 2.8684 2.7202 2.7247	0.1397 0.1655 0.1561 0.1481 0.1484	3.8706 3.8179
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	4.7568 4.6713 4.5888 4.4777 4.5383 4.5714 4.5500 4.6398	3.475 3.420 3.352 3.263 3.313 3.383 3.400 3.409	7.207 7.204 7.128 6.941 7.075 7.245 7.571 7.726	7.437 7.398 7.354 7.215 7.309 7.352 7.576 7.709	0.6996 0.6991 0.6909 0.6765 0.6834 0.6925 0.6869 0.6799	0.7233 0.7153 0.7113 0.6986 0.7029 0.7049 0.7162 0.7173	0.8038 0.7933 0.7910 0.7816 0.7826 0.7803 0.7839 0.7809	0.0706 0.0695 0.0687 0.0676 0.0680 0.0681 0.0687 0.0692	3.1028 3.0590 3.0495 3.0210 3.0145 2.9918 3.0106 2.9883	2.7755 2.7310 2.7171 2.6932 2.6889 2.6669 2.6843 2.6635	0.1509 0.1487 0.1480 0.1464 0.1452 0.1461 0.1450	3.7172 3.7178 3.7227 3.6860 3.6337
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	4.7765 4.9757 5.0716 5.1307 5.1337	3.541 3.672 3.702 3.681 3.722	7.924 8.089 8.141 8.360 8.382	7.791 7.898 7.932 7.965 7.780	0.6764 0.6720 0.6622 0.6678 0.6694	0.7408 0.7508 0.7448 0.7360 0.7271	0.7803 0.7794 0.7834 0.7876 0.7922	0.0700 0.0707 0.0713 0.0721 0.0729	2.9754 2.9729 2.9886 3.0003 3.0169	2.6498 2.6468 2.6558 2.6680 2.6825	0.1443 0.1441 0.1448 0.1454 0.1462	3.4264 3.4601
Average of daily	Paris	Ron	ne V	enna	Lisbon	Madrid	Athens	Tallinn	Tokyo	Mel- bourne	ECU Commer-	SDR
quo- tations	1 FRF	1 ITI	L 1	ATS	1 PTE	1 ESP	1 GRD	1 EEK	1 JPY	1 AUD	cial 1 XEU	1 XDR
	13	14	60	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	0.848 1.009 0.940 0.874 0.897	6 0.003 6 0.003 8 0.002	364 0. 324 0. 268 0.	4088 4916 4573 4331 4340	0.0332 0.0356 0.0314 0.0291 0.0298	0.0438 0.0451 0.0390 0.0350 0.0363	0.024 0.025 0.0215 0.0189 0.0191	0.4060 0.4323 0.4021 0.3809 0.3816	0.03546 0.05168 0.05106 0.04663 0.04225	3.289 3.885 3.814 3.238 3.593	5.798 6.685 6.175 5.644 5.751	6.31546 7.98671 7.46629 6.61879 6.66357
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	0.917 0.902 0.900 0.884 0.885 0.884 0.889	6 0.003 6 0.003 8 0.002 4 0.003 6 0.003 8 0.003	303 0. 301 0. 295 0. 299 0. 300 0.	4412 4348 4334 4293 4284 4253 4279 4247	0.0302 0.0297 0.0297 0.0294 0.0295 0.0296 0.0298 0.0296	0.0372 0.0363 0.0361 0.0356 0.0358 0.0355 0.0358 0.0355	0.0196 0.0193 0.0193 0.0189 0.0190 0.0191 0.0191 0.0189	0.3878 0.3824 0.3812 0.3776 0.3768 0.3740 0.3763 0.3735	0.04474 0.04292 0.04200 0.04153 0.04132 0.04071 0.04052 0.04075	3.790 3.698 3.622 3.506 3.598 3.620 3.625 3.702	5.844 5.787 5.762 5.683 5.714 5.731 5.782 5.767	6.87179 6.74035 6.65070 6.52988 6.57191 6.58126 6.60942 6.67218

0.0298 0.0296 0.0297 0.0299

0.0299

0.0355 0.0351

0.0352

0.0356

0.0357

0.4229 0.4225

0.4246

0.4263

0.4286

0.0190 0.3719 0.0190 0.3716 0.0190 0.3736 0.0190 0.3750

0.3771

0.0189

0.04051 0.04048

0.04138

0.04086

0.04335

3.712 3.818

3.998

3.997

3.975

5.777 6.75569 5.771 6.88718

5.801 6.98562

5.853 7.03636

5.880 7.12016

1997

Jan. Feb.

March

April May 0.8817

0.8806

0.8859

0.8908

0.00305 0.00301

0.00299

0.00303

0.8945 0.00305

### 4.2 Markka value of the ECU and currency indices

Average	Markka value	Currency indic	es, 1982=100
of daily observa- tions	of the ECU FIM/ECU	Trade-weighted currency index	Payments currency index
	1	2	3
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	5.80140 6.69420 6.19108 5.70936 5.83028	116.4 132.4 123.2 111.6 115.3	115.7 136.0 125.5 111.6 115.8
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	5.93160 5.85380 5.82763 5.74674 5.76093 5.75237 5.81220 5.79898	117.8 116.3 115.3 113.5 114.0 114.3 115.1 115.2	118.8 117.1 115.8 113.6 114.5 114.9 115.2 115.9
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	5.80159 5.80357 5.82954 5.87626 5.90366	115.8 116.4 116.8 117.8 118.6	117.4 119.4 120.5 121.6 122.1

#### 4.3 Deviations of ERM currencies' markka rates from central rates, per cent

Average of daily observation	ECU	DEM	FRF	NLG	DKK	BEF	ESP	ATS	PTE	IEP	ITL
Central rate as o 25 Nov. 1996	f 5.85424	3.04000	0.906422	2.69806	0.796976	0.147391	0.0357345	0.432094	0.029657	7.32960	0.0030707
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1995 1996	-1.69 0.30	0.23 0.43	-3.48 -0.95	0.82 0.99	-2.25 -0.61	0.49 0.65	-2.02 1.49	0.24 0.44	-1.84 0.40	-4.52 0.21	-3.07
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	2.15 0.81 0.36 -1.03 -0.79 -0.93 -0.10 -0.94	2.07 0.62 0.31 -0.63 -0.84 -1.58 -0.97 -1.70	1.16 -0.42 -0.64 -2.38 -2.32 -2.40 -1.84 -2.42	2.87 1.22 0.71 -0.18 -0.34 -1.16 -0.51 -1.28	0.85 -0.47 -0.76 -1.93 -1.80 -2.09 -1.64 -2.02	2.41 0.90 0.42 -0.53 -0.66 -1.46 -0.87 -1.63	4.03 1.46 1.05 -0.34 0.10 -0.56 0.10 -0.70	2.10 0.62 0.31 -0.64 -0.85 -1.58 -0.98 -1.71	1.83 0.16 0.01 -0.79 -0.48 -0.18 0.43 -0.14	1.46 0.94 0.34 -1.56 -0.28 0.31 3.36 5.17	-1.31 -2.08 -3.83 -2.75 -2.35 -2.10
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	-0.90 -0.87 -0.42 0.38 0.84	-2.13 -2.21 -1.69 -1.31 -0.76	-2.73 -2.85 -2.27 -1.73 -1.31	-1.79 -1.90 -1.57 -1.12 -0.58	-2.10 -2.20 -1.70 -1.18 -0.60	-2.07 -2.26 -1.73 -1.34 -0.84	-0.78 -1.79 -1.45 -0.52 0.02	-2.12 -2.23 -1.73 -1.34 -0.80	0.39 -0.21 0.29 0.88 0.97	6.29 7.76 8.22 8.67 6.14	-2.04 -2.53 -1.31

## 5. Other domestic financing 5.1 Bank funding from the public, mill. FIM

End of period	Cheque and giro deposits	Trans- action deposits	Time deposits	Other deposits	Markka deposits, total (1+2+3+4)	Foreign currency deposits	Total deposits (5+6)	Other funding	Total funding (7+8)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	34 832 36 379 41 200 52 496 58 016	88 526 92 357 99 691 110 455 131 632	114 771 112 413 108 922 103 573 49 827	21 218 21 766 19 838 22 166 45 963	259 347 262 915 269 650 288 689 285 438	14 626 14 883 12 774 13 679 12 358	273 973 277 798 282 424 302 369 297 796	65 557 63 173 44 228 37 851 40 315	339 530 340 971 326 651 340 220 338 111
1995 Dec.	52 496	110 455	103 573	22 166	288 689	13 679	302 369	37 851	340 220
1996	- Westerne		12212707	THE PLEY E-1995	11 dade 21 das 1754 d	NORTH CO		Tara manana w	0.577.500.507845
Jan.	49 611	112 796	95 511	25 399	283 316	13 011	296 327	50 008	346 335
Feb. March	50 458 47 744	114 837 117 393	92 259 88 832	24 321 24 956	281 875 278 925	14 184 13 951	296 059 292 876	38 431 41 906	334 490 334 782
April	48 998	118 926	85 803	25 557	279 285	14 896	294 182	43 472	337 653
May	49 759	120 368	82 956	26 065	279 148	15 399	294 547	46 802	341 349
June	50 372	123 941	77 448	29 039	280 800	13 816	294 617	43 867	338 483
July	49 770	123 827	74 304	31 319	279 221	13 735	292 955	42 524	335 479
Aug.	49 632	124 983	71 631	32 613	278 859	12 857	291 717	47 258	338 975
Sept.	51 578	124 477	67 805	33 601	277 462	13 706	291 168	53 697	344 865
Oct.	53 460	127 084	63 616	34 720	278 880	12 938	291 818	48 272	340 090
Nov. Dec.	52 682 58 016	128 841 131 632	59 728 49 827	35 853 45 963	277 104 285 438	12 050 12 358	289 154 297 796	47 988 40 315	337 142 338 111

#### 5.2 Bank lending to the public, mill. FIM

End of period	Cheque account and postal giro credits	Bills of exchange	Loans	Markka lending, total (1+2+3)	Foreign currency credits	Total lending (4+5)
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	16 045 14 217 13 241 12 348 11 712	3 335 2 223 1 301 901 628	252 163 248 406 242 417 235 074 238 839	271 544 264 846 256 958 248 323 251 179	95 168 66 931 45 138 32 252 23 302	366 712 331 777 302 096 280 575 274 481
1995 Dec.	12 348	901	235 074	248 323	32 252	280 575
1996 Jan. Feb. March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	12 150 12 182 12 262 12 142 12 117 11 936 11 722 11 872 11 803 11 522 11 725 11 712	792 853 835 834 763 747 698 685 659 640 616 628	234 104 235 211 235 623 235 029 235 306 237 366 236 967 237 913 237 999 238 811 239 174 238 839	247 046 248 246 248 719 248 005 248 187 250 049 249 387 250 471 250 462 250 974 251 515 251 179	32 406 31 240 30 734 31 704 29 035 29 206 27 516 26 540 26 131 25 311 24 736 23 302	279 452 279 486 279 453 279 709 277 255 276 903 277 011 276 593 276 285 276 251 274 481

#### 5.3 Money supply, mill. FIM

End of	Foreign		Domestic credit		Other	Mon	etary aggregates	S
period	assets, net	Claims on the central government	Claims on the public	Total (2+3)	items, net	M <sub>1</sub>	M <sub>2</sub> (1+4+5)	Мз
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 *	-68 099 -25 989 12 844 25 481 40 638	81 1 848 6 092 19 837 12 821	439 937 403 742 365 712 353 340 350 230	440 018 405 589 371 804 373 177 363 052	-97 909 -100 006 -97 953 -94 870 -106 399	134 829 141 759 154 357 175 921 204 834	274 011 279 595 286 696 303 788 297 291	310 733 322 408 328 509 329 820 325 473
1996 * April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	25 644 24 810 28 625 36 492 34 402 33 218 31 312 36 768 40 638	18 817 19 008 23 209 24 318 25 936 15 243 17 873 16 834 12 821	351 511 349 775 351 923 349 162 349 733 349 521 349 742 350 532 350 230	370 329 368 783 375 131 373 481 375 669 364 764 367 615 367 366 363 052	-103 109 -100 462 -108 995 -118 138 -117 975 -106 967 -105 768 -111 862 -106 399	181 799 184 749 189 332 188 023 189 292 190 781 195 621 196 631 204 834	292 864 293 131 294 761 291 834 292 096 291 016 293 160 292 273 297 291	327 546 325 511 328 990 327 935 325 470 329 848 332 372 326 535 325 473
1997 * Jan. Feb. March April	48 892 53 133 54 490	14 383 9 786 7 783	346 071 348 551 347 242	360 453 358 337 355 025	-111 047 -118 570 -110 349	206 956 200 605 205 786 202 075	298 298 292 901 299 167 295 757	339 801 328 095 338 118 338 709

### 5.4 Liabilities and assets of the central government, mill. FIM

End of	Foreign currer	ncy-denomi	nated debt		Markka-der	nominated de	ebt		Total central	Out- standing	Cash	
period	Bonds	Other debt	Total (1+2)	Public bonds	Other long-term liabilities	Treasury notes and bills	Miscella- neous items	Total (4+5+6+7)	govern- ment debt (3+8)	lending		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	100 244 142 824 160 587 158 545 158 847	6 143 12 753 15 975 13 756 16 161	106 387 155 577 176 562 172 301 175 008	40 578 71 082 93 008 143 948 177 700	13 555 16 060 17 100 17 492 17 187	14 762 22 824 33 153 37 864 37 620	-5 945 -5 609 -5 354	68 895 109 966 137 316 193 695 227 425	175 282 265 543 313 878 365 996 402 433	61 671 66 439 67 658 66 855 64 316	43 012 41 878	
1996 April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	172 009 162 738 159 874 158 676 156 867 157 132 159 449 158 847	15 082 14 670 15 192 15 699 15 491 15 694 15 908 16 292 16 161	187 091 177 408 175 066 174 375 172 292 172 161 173 040 175 741 175 008	158 510 163 861 166 921 171 787 177 586 167 234 172 555 174 696 177 700	17 369 17 369 17 359 17 220 17 220 17 219 17 219 17 198 17 187	43 946 46 049 46 102 44 668 45 698 46 627 40 147 36 909 37 620	-5 298 -5 294 -5 324 -5 367 -5 405 -5 408 -5 454 -5 354	214 724 222 182 225 176 228 426 235 236 225 851 224 666 223 597 227 425	401 815 399 590 400 242 402 801 407 528 398 012 397 706 399 338 402 433	66 824 67 027 64 300 64 438 63 764	48 909 48 626 50 441 55 516 44 278	
1997 Jan. Feb. March April	159 222 162 085 158 001 155 575	20 920 21 502 21 195 21 828	180 142 183 587 179 196 177 403	180 261 183 752 187 972 192 178	17 187 17 187 17 149 16 865	40 506 43 932 43 821 43 658	-5 405 -5 417 -5 440 -5 107	232 821 239 652 243 739 247 781	412 963 423 239 422 935 425 184		44 839	

#### 5.5 Markka bond market

A) Issues, mill. FIM

During period	Corpo- rations	Financial institutions	Central government	Local government	Others	Total (1+2+3+4+5)
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1992	6 984	15 043	12 965	2 674	4	37 671
1993	11 691	10 481	36 512	2 235	63	60 981
1994	4 053	9 899	31 553	593	-	46 099
1995	643	4 487	66 557	26	-	71 713
1996*	2 292	9 154	62 139	20	-	73 605
1996*						
April	850	212	7 887	220	-	8 949
May	572	3 090	6 351	-	_	10 012
June	_	522	3 847	20	-	4 390
July	-	-	4 876	=	-	4 876
Aug.	-	306	9 671	-	-	9 977
Sept.	20	770	5 373	-	-	6 163
Oct.	600	600	6 976	-	-	8 176
Nov.	250	1 411	2 656	-	-	4 3 1 6
Dec.	_	1 429	3 538		-	4 968
1997*						
Jan.	_	372	4 608	-	_	4 790
Feb.	417	432	4 836	-	_	5 685
March	75	1 170	4 660	-	275	5 903
April	-	988	4 258	-	-	5 246

B) Stock, mill. FIM

End of			By sector				By type of loar	1	Total (1+2+3+4+5
period	Corpo-	Financial	Central	Local	Others	Public is	ssues	Private placings	(6+7+8)
	rations	institutions	government	government		Taxable	Taxfree	placings	(0+7+0)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996*	26 624 32 459 30 179 26 480 25 245	82 153 73 893 66 467 55 223 44 656	44 005 73 682 94 865 145 177 179 419	5 238 6 884 6 981 5 814 4 362	3 358 2 009 953 357 140	89 382 119 552 141 935 186 799 219 863	13 918 10 391 7 581 5 034 2 956	58 078 58 984 49 929 41 218 31 003	161 378 188 927 199 445 233 05 253 822
1996* April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	26 394 25 973 25 534 25 016 24 756 24 649 25 184 25 641 25 245	50 739 52 413 50 254 49 375 49 075 48 067 46 793 47 288 44 656	159 728 165 080 168 139 173 505 179 304 168 951 174 273 176 414 179 419	5 612 5 558 4 647 4 646 4 638 4 652 4 642 4 641 4 362	355 150 149 148 148 148 145 142 140	199 907 207 499 209 581 213 605 219 241 208 317 213 851 217 494 219 863	3 899 3 636 3 622 3 617 3 360 3 113 2 974 2 962 2 956	39 022 38 039 35 520 35 468 35 320 35 037 34 212 33 670 31 003	242 828 249 174 248 723 252 690 257 921 246 467 251 037 254 126 253 822
1997* Jan. Feb. March April	25 091 24 727 25 514 25 462	43 814 41 827 43 257 44 214	181 980 185 472 189 688 193 517	4 357 4 302 4 126 4 126	140 140 99 99	222 769 226 058 231 672 236 936	2 614 2 393 2 118 2 107	29 999 28 017 28 894 28 375	255 382 256 468 262 684 267 418

#### C) Turnover, mill. FIM

During period	Interbank transactions	Transactions between banks		ealers' transaction rk government bo	
		and customers	Purchases from other primary dealers	Purchases from others	Sales to others
	1	2	3	4	5
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	18 383 47 803 184 599 147 037 207 230	58 757 246 104 359 697 436 052 496 383	10 744 42 945 173 096 133 357 201 528	12 156 95 647 150 908 190 069 222 584	13 354 117 489 176 647 215 879 242 310
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	13 809 10 679 13 411 13 452 20 933 26 602 13 084 9 524	27 849 23 361 26 745 50 597 58 941 52 158 37 331 27 581	13 505 9 499 12 763 12 908 20 680 26 298 12 545 9 510	12 223 8 982 10 069 22 320 26 345 25 293 16 312 12 084	11 995 10 037 12 616 22 356 29 739 26 064 20 612 14 868
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	26 179 12 722 25 187 18 713 14 413	47 138 32 173 44 696 37 831 37 556	25 954 12 586 24 965 18 425 14 193	23 993 13 762 20 852 17 110 16 206	23 081 18 477 24 048 21 183 21 661

#### 5.6 Helsinki Stock Exchange

Average				Turnover¹, mill. FIM										
of daily observations				HEX inc	dex (28 Dec	1990=100	00)							
	All- share index	Banks and finance	Insurance	Trade	Construc- tion	Forest indus- tries	Metal and engi- neering	Telecom- munica- tions and electron- ics	Chem- icals	Con- glom- erates	Shares and subscrip- tion rights	Bonds and deben- tures	Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1992	772	425	467			1 123	1 206	-	-	890	10 277	15 377	25 654	
1993	1 240	608	644	-	-	1 695	1 749	-	-	1 751	46 337	59 977	106 314	
1994	1 847	719	802	-	-	2 284	2 675	-	-	3 068	68 671	2 147	70 818	
1995	1 918	500	638	_	-	2 0 6 2	2 255	_	-	4 251	83 019	1 075	84 094	
1996	2 032	460	820	-	-	2 040	2 564	-	-	5 681	101 265	541	101 806	
1996 May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	1 995 2 019 2 002 2 082 2 131 2 217 2 317 2 446	418 408 400 407 401 520 573 588	754 787 779 805 862 967 977 1 006			2 095 2 079 2 174 2 240 2 188 2 087 2 017 2 131	2 622 2 616 2 588 2 732 2 778 2 764 2 744 2 850			5 532 5 627 5 815 6 175 6 125 6 367 6 442 6 692	10 860 7 681 5 885 6 995 7 204 10 410 10 676 10 379	42 36 17 44 49 53 39 60	10 902 7 717 5 902 7 039 7 253 10 463 10 715 10 438	
1997 Jan. Feb. March April May	2 674 2 850 2 907 2 826 3 045	633 714 723 654 705	1 183 1 384 1 365 1 357 1 420	1 995 2 180 2 215 2 200 2 272	1 001 1 021 1 041 1 017 1 015	2 241 2 349 2 521 2 487 2 713	2 984 3 232 3 336 3 276 3 481	1 107 1 151 1 140 1 100 1 241	834 894 891 877 922	6 605 6 862 7 228 7 148 7 887	16 271 15 554 10 786 12 401 12 254	95 43 26 43 24	16 366 15 597 10 81 12 44 12 278	

During period.

## 6. Balance of payments, foreign liabilities and assets 6.1 Current account, mill. FIM

During period	Exports of goods, fob	Trans- port receipts	Travel receipts	Other services receipts	Services receipts, total (2+3+4)	Exports of goods and services (1+5)	Invest- ment income	Trans- fers and other income	Current account receipts (6+7+8)	Imports of goods, cif	Trans- port ex- pendi- ture	Travel ex- pendi- ture	Other services expendi- ture
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	105 809 132 550 152 022 172 820 181 764	8 643 10 430 11 385 11 900 12 291	6 089 7 079 7 314 7 536 7 338	7 730 9 379 11 808 14 986 15 830	22 462 26 888 30 508 34 422 35 460	128 272 159 438 182 530 207 242 217 224	6 423 6 137 9 617 13 729 14 129	5 920 6 506 4 919 8 596 7 325	140 614 172 080 197 067 229 567 238 678	93 187 101 559 118 684 125 450 137 342	4 360 5 646 5 862 6 029 6 300	9 237 8 697 10 450	13 369 17 008 16 800 19 150 17 520
1994 IV	41 832	2 728	1 700	3 360	7 788	49 620	3 025	1 260	53 905	35 716	1 563	2 291	4 721
1995*            	41 131 45 919 39 617 46 154	2 971 2 977 2 976 2 976	1 499 1 891 2 243 1 903	3 827 3 571 3 718 3 870	8 297 8 439 8 937 8 749	49 428 54 358 48 554 54 903	3 285 3 446 2 907 4 092	1 543 1 549 2 143 3 360	54 256 59 353 53 604 62 355	29 895 31 773 29 856 33 926	1 479 1 572 1 498 1 481	2 326 2 639 2 707 2 779	4 825 4 349
1996*            	42 605 47 949 41 737 49 473	3 056 3 123 3 024 3 089	1 677 1 873 2 065 1 724	3 601 3 858 4 286 4 085	8 334 8 854 9 374 8 897	50 939 56 803 51 111 58 370	4 163 4 217 2 983 2 766	1 353 1 983 1 245 2 744	56 455 63 002 55 339 63 881	33 359 34 520 31 789 37 676	1 535 1 627 1 545 1 593	2 615 2 678 2 571 2 696	4 238 4 144
1997*	44 506	3 317	1 518	3 509	8 344	52 849	3 393	1 990	58 232	34 142	1 659	2 369	4 524

During period	Services expendi- ture, total (11+12 +13)		Invest- ment ex- pendi- ture	Trans- fers and other ex- pendi- ture	Current account expendi- ture (15+16 +17)	Trade account (1-10)	Trans- port (2-11)	Travel (3-12)	Other services (4–13)	Services account (20+21 +22)	Goods and services account (19+23)	Invest- ment income, net (7-16)	Trans- fers and others, net (8-17)	Current account (24+25 +26)= (9-18)
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	28 690 31 891 31 359 35 629 34 380	121 878 133 450 150 043 161 080 171 722	34 580 31 801 32 529	8 596 12 627	162 649 178 421 190 440 206 236 218 649	12 622 30 991 33 339 47 370 44 422	4 784 5 523 5 870	-4 873 -2 159 -1 382 -2 914 -3 221	-7 629 -4 992	-851 -1 207	25 988 32 487 46 162	-24 001 -28 443 -22 184 -18 800 -18 654	-3 676 -4 032	-22 035 -6 340 6 627 23 331 20 028
1994 IV	8 575	44 291	7 399	1 984	53 673	6 117	1 166	-591	-1 361	-787	5 330	-4 375	-724	231
1995*            	8 844 9 036 8 554 9 196	38 739 40 809 38 410 43 122	9 295 10 067 6 630 6 538	3 191 3 205	50 858 54 067 48 244 53 067	11 235 14 145 9 761 12 228	1 492 1 406 1 478 1 494	-827 -748 -464 -875	-1 212 -1 254 -631 -1 066	-546 -597 383 -447	10 689 13 549 10 144 11 781	-6 009 -6 622 -3 723 -2 446	-1641	3 398 5 286 5 360 9 287
1996*                V	8 599 8 543 8 260 8 979	41 958 43 062 40 048 46 654	8 580 10 775 6 671 6 757		54 453 57 604 49 680 56 911	9 247 13 430 9 949 11 798	1 521 1 496 1 478 1 496	-938 -805 -506 -972	-848 -380 143 -605	-265 311 1 115 -81	8 981 13 741 11 063 11 716	-4 417 -6 558 -3 689 -3 991		2 002 5 398 5 659 6 970
1997* I	8 552	42 694	8 317	4 183	55 194	10 364	1 657	-851	-1 015	-208	10 155	-4 923	-2 194	3 038

### 6.2 Capital and financial account, mill. FIM

During	Capital						Financial	account					
period	account, imports	Direct		Portfo	olio investme	nt in Finla	nd		Ot	her investm	ent in Finlan	d	Total (2+8+12)
	of capital	invest- ment in Finland	Shares	Bonds	Of which: markka denominated bonds	Money market instru- ments	Finan- cial deriva- tives	Total (3+4+ 6+7)	Trade credits	Loans	Other capital	Total (9+10+ 11)	(2+0+12)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	0 0 0 487 574	1 822 4 945 8 240 4 642 5 596	397 12 748 13 400 8 734 8 937	39 309 30 353 21 977 -17 868 -4 582	-5 783 -3 634	-1 791 -4 382 -2 134 1 421 808	59 2 588 1 501	37 915 38 719 33 302 -5 126 6 664	3 639 4 467 3 107 -1 216 -3 329	5 457 647 -6 985 12 775	-15 725 -29 801 -1 392 8 376 -1 346	-19 877 2 361 176	43 903
1994 IV	0	-1 005	1 426	-4 562	-3 283	-1 614	20	-4 729	4 366	4 678	545	9 589	3 855
1995*            	0 0 0 487	2 625 -1 243 151 3 109	392 3 482 2 940 1 920	150 -9 335 -2 503 -6 181	-3 501	-1 889 -974 1 618 2 666	146 523 1 079 839	-1 200 -6 303 3 134 -756	-2 601 865 -1 089 1 609	-333 -3 206 -3 192 -254	8 549 -2 136 -744 2 707		7–12 023 5 –1 740
1996*            	0 0 0 574	1 743 709 2 652 492	1 216 6 143 374 1 204	2 635 -5 152 -4 841 2 777		502 363 –254 198	1 119 754 -180 -192	5 472 2 108 -4 902 3 987	-3 502 -702 -86 961	4 632 4 717 2 516 911	-552 -3 119 4 371 -2 047	578 896 6 800 –174	3 712 4 550
1997*	0	2 002	5 121	4 000	846	1 584	-86	10 618	-907	6 549	16 218	21 860	34 480

During	Capital						Financial	account						Errors
period	account, exports	Direct	F	ortfolio ir	nvestment a	abroad			Other inves	stment abr	oad	Total (15+	Change in central	omis- sions
	of capital	invest- ment abroad	Shares	Bonds	Money market in- struments		Total (16+17+ 18+19)	Trade credits	Loans	Other capital	Total (21+ 22+23)	20+24)	bank's re- serve assets (increase -)	ts
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	0 0 0 206 340	-3 372 8 050 22 447 7 339 16 309	873 434 892	321 767 -4 294 3 685 15 424	7 1 932 4 -855 5 -5 492	-279 -168 -172	3 115 3 571 -4 994 -1 084 18 895	3 634 1 923 1 213 3 839 389	3 409 -839 -7 460 -2 712 4 281	7 720 9 576 9 762 11 750 15 704	14 763 10 660 3 516 12 877 20 375	22 282 20 968 19 132	-1 219 -25 504 - 1 480 -	-293 6 055 -4 058 -5 652 884
1994 IV	0	7 341	19	768	3 2 956	2	3 745	1 724	-2 734	-3 522	-4 532	6 555	-1 132	3 600
1995*                V	0 104 0 102	2 212 1 490 1 027 2 610	375 461		4 -2 798 521	-48 31 -37 -115	-668 -2 288 973 899	660 2 379 -132 933	-1 234 -150 1 044 -2 373	9 695 -7 809 3 431 6 433	9 121 -5 580 4 343 4 993	6 343	1 288 1 592	1 918 -824 1 131 -7 878
1996*             V	61 0 0 279	5 391 6 670 3 751 497	577 1 041 729 932	4 019 3 041 4 169 4 195	1 162 9 –2 457	-26 71 -51 -165	6 993 4 315 2 389 5 197	-605 716 -818 1 097	2 416 -2 064 1 565 2 364	6 458 4 830 1 924 2 491	8 269 3 483 2 671 5 952	14 468 8 811	8 457 - -1 132	3 666 -3 100 -264 582
1997*	0	2 507	847	4 504	4 4 250	-30	9 571	877	3 248	-3 905	220	12 298	8 –22 134 -	-3 086

### 6.3 Finland's international investment position, mill. FIM

Position						- 1	Liabilities						
at end of	Direct			Portfolio inv	vestment				0	ther invest	ment		Total liabilities
period	invest- ment in Finland	Shares	Bonds	Of which: markka denominat- ed bonds	Money market instru- ments	Finan- cial deriva- tives	Total (2+3+ 5+6)	Trade credits	Loans	Curren- cy and deposits	Other	Total (8+9+ 10+11)	(1+7+12)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	19 348 24 391 31 846 36 894 42 536	5 138 30 375 60 558 63 746 108 932	211 361 266 269 258 823 228 676 230 147	22 285 19 638	19 391 14 995 10 309 10 099 10 689	-6 103 -5 179 1 545 3 634	235 889 305 536 324 511 304 066 353 401	13 305 18 206 19 852 18 540 15 100	78 330 90 825 82 649 69 249 83 373	4 025 3 430 2 568	78 804 54 188 46 566 53 557 53 745	182 320 167 243 152 498 143 914 153 952	437 557 497 170 508 855 484 874 549 889
1994 IV	31 846	60 558	258 823	22 285	10 309	-5 179	324 511	19 852	82 649	3 430	46 566	152 498	508 855
1995*            	34 509 33 386 33 665 36 894	53 488 79 430 93 020 63 746	254 534 243 399 233 054 228 676	18 054 20 230	7 065 5 577 7 262 10 099	-5 996 -6 768 -520 1 545	309 092 321 638 332 815 304 066	18 049 16 930	79 143 75 411 68 882 69 249	2 580	53 433 51 169 50 032 53 557	153 163 147 208 138 208 143 914	496 764 502 233 504 688 484 874
1996*                V	38 701 39 414 42 030 42 536	68 674 80 962 91 198 108 932	241 179 234 442 225 433 230 147	23 965	11 192 11 126 11 286 10 689	2 424 3 099 2 948 3 634	323 468 329 629 330 865 353 401	14 975 14 344 14 024 15 100	77 934 81 836 82 365 83 373	1 518 1 939 1 742 1 733	55 412 51 588 55 621 53 745	149 838 149 707 153 752 153 952	512 007 518 750 526 647 549 889
1997*	44 533	129 824	240 786	27 707	11 972	2 816	385 398	13 687	90 798	2 677	70 762	177 924	607 855

Position						Asse	ets					
at end of	Direct		Po	rtfolio investn	nent			C	ther investn	nent		Total
period	invest- ment abroad	Shares	Bonds	Money market instruments	Financial deri- vatives	Total (15+16+ 17+18)	Trade credits	Loans	Curren- cy and deposits	Other	Total (20+21+ 22+23)	assets (14+ 19+24)
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	44 921 53 090 59 451 66 150 82 802	469 1 783 1 984 3 216 7 147	8 697 10 709 5 109 9 619 25 041	11 030 9 115	447 488 177 –21	17 083 23 968 16 696 15 748 35 645	21 389 26 256 25 500 28 358 29 482	35 251 35 981 24 847 20 381 25 826	12 665 5 799 8 257 7 290 5 908	78 257 91 127 109 847 115 543 124 017	147 562 159 162 168 451 171 571 185 233	209 565 236 221 244 598 253 469 303 680
1994 IV	59 451	1 984	5 109	9 115	488	16 696	25 500	24 847	8 257	109 847	168 451	244 598
1995*                V	60 274 61 007 61 479 66 150	1 751 2 158 2 661 3 216	6 557 6 930 6 870 9 619	2 977 3 503	157 115 200 177	14 300 12 180 13 233 15 748	25 254 27 440 27 092 28 358	22 668 22 142 22 978 20 381	6 352 5 915 6 397 7 290	118 897 108 686 108 057 115 543	173 172 164 183 164 524 171 571	247 746 237 370 239 236 253 469
1996*            	74 293 79 836 82 040 82 802	3 994 5 009 5 845 7 147	14 063 16 834 20 610 25 041	5 842	169 93 48 –21	23 896 27 778 29 679 35 645	28 205 29 053 28 034 29 482	23 594 21 499 22 902 25 826	5 435 5 523 6 488 5 908	121 308 118 075 119 331 124 017	178 542 174 150 176 754 185 233	276 731 281 765 288 474 303 680
1997*	86 246	8 577	30 418	7 556	130	46 681	26 330	29 438	5 979	146 220	207 966	340 894

### 6.4 Finland's net international investment position (liabilities less assets), by sector, mill. FIM

Position at end of period	Corporate sector	House- holds and nonprofit institutions	Banks	Bank of Finland	Other financial institutions	Central govern- ment	Local govern- ment	Net (1+2+3+ 4+5+6+7)	Net interest and dividend expenditure	Net interest and dividend expenditure in relation to current account receipts, %
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	33 761 54 315 82 428 71 574 109 492	-3 260 -3 436 -3 503 -2 293 -1 142	82 343 45 658 33 800 18 970 -13 719	-27 546 -33 279 -52 606 -47 708 -35 521	28 283 29 737 21 931 13 297 912	112 064 164 892 179 113 174 481 183 737	2 347 3 062 3 093 3 085 2 451	227 992 260 949 264 257 231 405 246 209	21 897 20 296 17 490	7.6
1994 IV	82 428	-3 503	33 800	-52 606	21 931	179 113	3 093	264 257	3 903	7.2
1995*             V	73 872 94 745 103 212 71 574	-3 359 -3 495 -3 599 -2 293	23 396 27 092 20 558 18 970	-53 298 -50 742 -47 488 -47 708	19 524 18 024 17 173 13 297	185 724 175 932 172 368 174 481	3 159 3 305 3 227 3 085	249 018 264 861 265 451 231 405	6 295 3 396	6.3
1996*             V	74 977 83 898 93 174 109 492	-2 512 -2 605 -1 114 -1 142	4 719 -4 356 -5 707 -13 719	-42 679 -33 647 -34 482 -35 521	9 483 5 394 1 421 912	188 118 185 184 182 336 183 737	3 169 3 118 2 545 2 451	235 276 236 986 238 173 246 209	6 063 3 194	9.6 5.8
1997*	131 761	-1 251	5 398	-59 420	-1 065	189 139	2 399	266 961	4 818	8.3

## 7. Foreign trade7.1 Exports, imports and the trade balance, mill. FIM

7.2 Foreign trade: indices of volume, prices and terms of trade, 1990=100

** **	o ci aao baic								
During period	Exports, fob	Imports, cif	Balance (1-2)	Period	Volu (seasonall	me y adjusted)	Prie	ces	Terms of trade
					Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	
	1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996*	107 463 134 114 154 164 176 021 185 798	94 947 103 165 120 612 128 556 140 996	12 516 30 949 33 552 47 465 44 802	1992 1993 1994 1995 1996*	102.7 120.6 136.5 145.7 152.7	84.7 83.6 98.0 104.6 112.9	103.1 109.7 111.4 119.2 120.2	108.6 119.6 119.3 119.2 121.1	95.0 91.7 93.3 100.0 99.3
1996* March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	15 075 15 710 16 175 17 060 13 292 14 338 15 103 16 990 18 910 14 619	12 105 11 913 11 931 11 589 10 058 10 685 11 959 13 289 12 536 12 764	2 970 3 797 4 244 5 471 3 234 3 653 3 144 3 701 6 374 1 855	1996* March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	141.8 148.9 153.4 165.3 140.0 155.0 151.8 162.5 177.7 148.7	112.0 110.2 110.8 113.2 105.7 107.3 115.7 119.6 114.9 118.2	123.2 122.5 121.8 121.3 119.6 118.2 117.6 118.0 117.8 116.7	120.4 122.2 121.8 121.6 121.8 120.9 121.6 122.3 120.8 120.8	102.3 100.2 100.0 99.8 98.2 97.8 96.7 96.5 97.5 96.6
1997* Jan. Feb. March	15 102 14 437 16 000	11 169 11 430 12 500	3 933 3 007 3 500	1997* Jan. Feb. March	159.3 153.7 160.9	114.3 113.8 115.1	116.6 115.9 115.5	121.6 121.3 121.1	95.9 95.5 95.4

7.3 Foreign trade by main groups, mill FIM

During		Expo	rts by industri	es, fob			Impor	ts by use of g	oods, cif	
period	Wood	Paper industry	Chemical	Metal and engineering	Other	Raw materials	Crude oil, fuels and	Finishe	d goods	Other
	products	products	products	industry products	goods	(excl. crude oil)	lubricants	Investment goods	Consumer goods	goods
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996*	7 892 10 910 14 198 13 451 12 256	32 587 37 430 41 249 48 754 43 385	12 172 14 205 15 725 15 877 18 005	35 741 48 158 55 895 69 336 74 884	19 071 23 411 27 097 28 603 37 268	49 514 54 792 66 156 71 397 70 783	9 745 10 904 11 687 9 685 12 570	13 348 15 396 17 227 19 660 21 058	20 826 21 066 24 684 25 514 29 886	1 514 1 007 858 2 300 6 699
1996* Feb. March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	940 1 012 1 127 1 192 1 073 820 870 1 032 1 119 1 139 972	3 619 4 137 3 777 3 765 3 538 3 524 3 599 3 440 3 253 3 743 3 426	1 238 1 469 1 515 1 866 1 473 1 418 1 598 1 449 1 658 1 642 1 396	6 636 5 432 6 104 5 761 8 060 4 877 5 132 6 108 6 443 9 034 6 530	2 768 3 025 3 187 3 591 2 916 2 653 3 139 3 074 4 517 3 352 2 295	5 734 6 270 5 955 6 315 6 136 4 805 5 474 5 923 6 383 6 184 5 932	876 700 1 059 1 058 816 1 199 900 1 219 1 303 1 340 1 406	2 032 1 863 1 780 1 675 1 910 1 126 1 397 1 636 1 966 1 924 2 311	2 653 2 782 2 603 2 415 2 224 2 260 2 296 2 554 2 800 2 583 2 527	346 490 516 468 503 668 618 627 837 505 588
1997* Jan. Feb.	1 096 1 115	3 600 3 571	1 497 1 657	5 886 5 590	3 023 2 504	5 512 5 956	1 295 992	1 618 1 592	2 468 2 687	276 203

## 7.4 Foreign trade by regions and countries

Region and country		Expor	ts, fob		Imports, cif				
country	199	6*	March 19	96 – Feb. 1997		996*	March 19	996 – Feb. 1997	
	Mill. FIM	Percentage share	Mill. FIM	12-month change calculated from 12-month moving total	Mill. FIM	Percentage share	Mill. FIM	12-month change calculated from 12-month moving total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
European Union <sup>1</sup> Austria Belgium and	101 339 1 610	54.5 0.9	102 413 1 664	0.9 10.3	84 999 1 556	60.3 1.1	85 030 1 506	9.0 -9.0	
Luxembourg Denmark France Germany Greece Ireland Italy Netherlands Portugal Spain	4 692 5 679 7 856 22 451 959 1 096 4 768 7 372 913 3 978	2.5 3.1 4.2 12.1 0.5 0.6 2.6 4.0 0.5 2.1	4 799 5 640 7 811 22 586 1 025 1 140 4 949 7 573 944 4 163	-4.8 -0.8 -4.3 -3.1 14.9 19.4 -1.9 4.5 10.8 -2.4	4 136 4 950 6 349 21 269 366 1 154 5 732 4 999 1 026 1 958	2.9 3.5 4.5 15.1 0.3 0.8 4.1 3.5 0.7 1.4	4 147 4 977 6 383 21 269 364 1 133 5 658 5 139 1 023 1 916	12.6 17.9 19.2 6.5 4.9 1.1 6.7 4.8 -3.9 8.9	
Sweden United Kingdom	19 799 18 980	10.7 10.2	19 893 19 025	7.5 3.3	16 749 12 437	11.9 8.8	16 745 12 396	9.1 13.1	
Rest of Europe Of which:	33 567	18.1	34 237	19.6	24 383	17.3	25 102	14.3	
Estonia Norway Poland Russia Switzerland	5 097 5 283 2 713 11 373 2 089	2.7 2.8 1.5 6.1 1.1	5 224 5 315 2 911 11 639 2 056	22.5 -0.4 30.0 31.4 -10.0	1 672 5 889 1 305 10 280 2 428	1.2 4.2 0.9 7.3 1.7	1 694 6 277 1 364 10 573 2 413	3.6 20.7 -1.9 13.4 9.6	
Non-European industrialized countries Of which:	s <sup>2</sup> 23 030	12.4	22 029	4.2	19 833	14.1	19 172	-5.6	
Australia Japan U.S.A.	2 045 4 844 14 761	1.1 2.6 7.9	2 057 4 679 13 847	-10.7 -1.4 9.9	1 239 7 311 10 387	0.9 5.2 7.4	1 174 7 244 9 840	13.7 -12.5 -2.5	
Dynamic Asian economies <sup>3</sup> Of which:	13 833	7.4	13 949	13.2	6 514	4.6	6 468	-1.4	
China Hong Kong South Korea	2 707 3 037 2 723	1.5 1.6 1.5	2 855 2 992 2 685	15.9 18.3 15.4	2 088 693 792	1.5 0.5 0.6	2 134 699 751	20.1 2.2 –26.1	
Other countries	14 030	7.6	14 183	-1.7	5 267	3.7	5 656	25.1	
TOTAL Of which:	185 798	100.0	186 811	4.9	140 996	100.0	141 428	7.7	
Africa Asia	2 554 27 484	1.4 14.8	2 598 27 583	-1.9 13.2	937 16 196	0.7 11.5	931 16 292	44.0 -0.3	
Central and South America North America Europe Oceania	3 075 15 825 134 906 2 491	1.7 8.5 72.6 1.3	3 063 14 974 136 650 2 513	-63.9 8.4 5.0 -2.7	2 750 11 229 109 383 1 457	2.0 8.0 77.6 1.0	2 851 10 694 110 132 1 404	34.0 -2.3 10.2 22.7	

Including exports / imports to EU unspecified by country.
 Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, United States.
 China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand.

## 8. Domestic economic developments

8.1 Supply and use of resources, mill. FIM, 1990 prices (seasonally adjusted figures)

Period		umption nditure	Fixed inves	i tment	Change in stocks, incl. statistical	Domestic demand (1+2+3+4+5)	Exports	8 112 989 113 842 128 411 137 327 143 445 32 983 35 896	GDP (6+7-8)	
	Private	Public	Private	Public	discrepancy	(112101110)				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	247 363 240 177 244 761 253 935 262 377	108 799 103 028 102 728 104 456 107 478	75 338 60 638 60 543 67 261 71 741	16 899 13 890 14 107 13 717 13 726	4 534 10 221 22 236 22 051 22 058	452 933 427 954 444 375 461 420 477 380	122 059 142 459 161 376 174 580 181 221	113 842 128 411 137 327	462 003 456 571 477 340 498 673 515 156	
1994* III IV	61 315 62 125	25 614 25 945	15 395 15 970	3 492 3 554	6 463 8 110	112 279 115 704	41 642 41 954	32 983 35 896	120 938 121 762	
1995* I II III IV	62 707 63 761 63 552 63 915	25 546 26 140 26 243 26 527	16 875 16 677 17 463 16 246	3 510 3 448 3 351 3 408	5 299 4 492 6 461 5 799	113 937 114 518 117 070 115 895	44 000 44 585 42 553 43 442	33 725 34 168 34 723 34 711	124 212 124 935 124 900 124 626	
1996*            	65 048 65 015 65 704 66 610	26 478 26 827 26 979 27 194	17 081 17 343 18 628 18 689	3 376 3 481 3 488 3 381	7 190 4 532 5 341 4 995	119 173 117 198 120 140 120 869	42 841 45 058 45 254 48 068	35 918 35 214 35 263 37 050	126 096 127 042 130 13 131 887	

### 8.2 Volume of industrial production, 1990=100 (seasonally adjusted figures)

Period	Total Industry	Mining and quarrying	Manu- facturing	Wood and paper industries	Metal and engineering industries	Other manu- facturing	Energy and water supply
	(100.0)	(1.3)	(89.6)	(16.8)	(31.3)	(41.5)	(9.1)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1992	92.4	88.4	91.4	94.6	91.1	90.2	103.0
1993	97.4	86.1	96.4	104.5	99.7	90.8	107.9
1994	108.5	96.2	108.1	117.0	119.5	95.8	114.3
1995*	116.6	95.7	117.5	118.0	143.8	97.4	111.1
1996*	120.9	88.1	121.3	115.3	153.1	99.8	121.8
1330	120.0	00.1	121.0	1,1212			
1996*						100000000000000000000000000000000000000	94.50.9297446
March	118.0	83.5	118.2	110.0	148.4	98.2	119.7
April	117.9	92.6	118.2	111.9	148.7	98.8	118.6
May	119.8	81.2	120.2	111.4	151.2	99.2	124.7
June	121.5	83.6	122.1	112.2	153.3	100.7	120.4
July	120.2	56.7	121.0	116.0	151.0	100.9	121.7
Aug.	120.1	158.7	120.2	117.4	151.8	100.0	121.2
Sept.	123.6	82.8	123.8	120.1	155.4	100.9	125.4
Oct.	124.1	84.7	124.2	120.8	157.2	100.9	127.1
Nov.	125.6	83.5	126.4	124.0	159.6	101.1	119.5
Dec.	127.1	78.2	127.8	121.0	161.2	102.4	124.1
1997*					450.7	100.0	100 5
Jan.	125.7	85.3	126.0	126.4	159.7	102.3	129.5
Feb.	125.4	90.0	126.2	125.5	159.9	103.1	124.5
March	128.4	95.4	129.2	127.6	162.7	103.5	123.1

## 8.3 Indicators of domestic supply and demand, 1990=100 (seasonally adjusted figures)

Period	Volume of wholesale	Volume of retail	Volume of construction	Of wh	ich:	Imports of investment	Monthly GDP indicator  7 91.1 89.9 93.7 97.7 100.6  97.6 98.7 99.9 99.7 100.9 100.8 102.3 103.5
	trade	trade	of buildings	Residential buildings	Industrial buildings	goods	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1992 1993 1994 1995* 1996*	72.7 68.5 73.0 76.2 77.8	83.0 78.1 79.7 82.6 86.0	59.9 46.9 42.2 42.0 43.9	57.3 47.2 45.1 41.1 38.5	44.8 35.6 35.2 49.9 55.6	78.1 72.9 84.4 88.5 102.8	89.9 93.7 97.7
1996* March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	82.7 85.1 85.9 82.7 87.3 86.8 85.1 89.3 88.3 88.2	73.8 79.9 77.5 72.9 79.4 75.3 76.9 81.3 77.7 79.7	42.5 42.7 42.6 42.9 43.9 43.7 45.3 45.7 46.3 47.7	41.7 41.0 39.0 36.9 35.3 32.9 34.8 37.4 41.1 45.6	52.1 52.5 52.6 50.3 51.9 52.2 52.2 51.7 51.8 53.5	105.0 100.1 100.8 100.0 98.6 95.2 103.9 110.6 105.6 109.9	98.7 99.9 99.7 100.9 100.8 102.3
1997* Jan. Feb. March	89.6 86.3 84.0	81.8 78.4 73.7	46.7 47.5 48.2	46.9 49.7 51.7	58.9 58.5 59.8	105.6 108.4	104.0 103.3 103.6

## 8.4 Wages and prices, 1990=100

Period	Index		By sectors		Con-	Indica-	Basic	Ву	origin	Produc- er price	By mark	eting area	Building
	of wage and salary earnings	Private	Of which: Manufac- turing (SIC 3	Public	sumer price index	tor of under- lying infla- tion	price index for domestic supply	Domes- tic goods	Import- ed goods	er price index for manu- facturing	Export- ed goods	Home market goods	index
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 <sup>1</sup>	108.4 109.2 111.4 116.6 121.1	108.1 108.8 111.6 117.4 121.8	108.3 110.0 115.0 123.1 127.5	109.0 110.1 111.1 114.7 119.2	107.4 109.7 110.9 112.0 112.6	107.1 109.9 111.4 111.3 111.4	101.4 104.8 106.2 106.9 105.9	99.5 100.8 102.8 103.8 102.0	108.5 119.3 118.7 118.5 120.1	101.6 105.5 107.1 110.8 110.9	102.7 109.2 110.2 118.0 118.5	101.1 103.9 105.8 107.7 107.6	
1996 April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.			***		112.7 112.9 112.9 112.8 112.6 112.8 113.0 112.7 112.7	111.6 111.7 111.7 111.5 111.1 111.5 111.7 111.5	106.1 105.9 105.5 105.5 105.4 105.9 106.4 105.9 106.3	102.0 101.7 101.4 101.2 101.3 101.9 102.5 102.3 102.7	121.5 121.0 120.9 121.0 120.2 120.8 120.8 119.3 119.3	111.7 111.4 110.8 110.2 109.7 109.8 110.2 110.0 110.1	120.6 120.0 119.5 117.8 116.4 115.8 116.2 116.0 115.5	107.9 107.7 107.1 106.9 106.8 107.2 107.6 107.4	102.4 102.7 102.8 103.1 103.1 103.3
1996¹            	120.3 120.6 120.7 123.1	121.1 121.4 121.4 123.9		118.3 118.6 118.9 121.4	112.3 112.8 112.7 112.8	111.3 111.6 111.3 111.6	106.1 105.8 105.6 106.2	102.3 101.7 101.5 102.5	118.9 121.1 120.7 119.8	112.2 111.3 109.9 110.1	121.2 120.0 116.7 115.9	108.4 107.6 107.0 107.6	102.4
1997 Jan. Feb. March April	**	194 194 194	0 (1990) 0 (1991)	***	112.6 112.8 113.2 113.8	111.1 111.3 111.7	106.5 106.7 106.7 106.6	102.6 103.2 103.2 103.2	120.1 119.8 119.6 119.3	110.1 110.2 110.2 110.4	115.3 115.0 114.5 115.2	107.7 108.1 108.3 108.4	103.7 104.1
19971	123.5	124.3	130.8	121.7	112.9	111.4	106.6	103.0	119.8	110.2	114.9	108.0	103.8

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary figures for columns 1-4.

## 8.5 Labour, employment and unemployment (seasonally adjusted figures)

Period	Labour	Labour	Total	By industr	ial status		By industry		Unem-	Unem- ploy-
	force partici- pation rate among 15-74 year olds	force	employ- ment (4+5) = (6+7+8)	Self- employed	Wage and salary earners	Agri- culture, forestry and fishing	Mining, manufac- turing and energy supply	Other industries	ployed	ment rate
	%				1000 pers	ons				%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996*	66.1 65.3 64.8 65.1 65.0	2 502 2 484 2 480 2 497 2 503	2 174 2 041 2 024 2 068 2 096	325 312 312 304 302	1 849 1 729 1 712 1 764 1 794	187 173 167 158 148	453 424 426 456 459	1 534 1 444 1 430 1 454 1 489	328 444 456 430 408	13.1 17.9 18.4 17.2 16.3
1996* April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	65.1 65.1 64.7 64.8 65.5 64.5 64.9 65.6 64.9	2 563 2 541 2 517 2 536 2 557 2 527 2 541 2 560 2 542	2 167 2 138 2 123 2 142 2 154 2 137 2 151 2 164 2 154	367 352 344 354 357 343 342 349 346	1 799 1 786 1 779 1 788 1 797 1 794 1 809 1 815 1 808	174 174 172 167 165 168 167 166 163	472 452 454 467 456 441 469 469 453	1 520 1 512 1 497 1 508 1 533 1 528 1 516 1 529 1 538	397 403 394 394 404 390 390 396 388	15.5 16.2 16.2 15.5 15.9 14.7 15.2 15.5
1997* Jan. Feb. March April	65.3 65.8 65.9 66.4	2 538 2 557 2 559 2 537	2 146 2 165 2 163 2 133	328 340 329 302	1 818 1 825 1 833 1 830	160 160 158 156	460 469 456 458	1 526 1 536 1 549 1 518	392 392 397 404	15.5 15.2 15.5 16.1

## 8.6 Central government finances: revenue, expenditure and financial balance,

mill FIM cash flow ha	nin

During				Revenue					Expen	res and ubsidies				
period	Direct	Indirect	Other taxes and	Other	Revenue before	Redemp- tions of	Revenue before	Consump-	Trans-	Of w	hich:			
	taxes	taxes	similar revenue	revenue	financial transactions (1+2+3+4)	loans	borrowing (5+6)	uon	subsidies	govern-	domestic			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	34 312 31 667 34 588 40 092 48 357	69 541 67 291 68 124 66 902 73 943	1 512 1 443 1 792 1 720 1 947	21 251 28 823 24 095 35 837 39 778	126 616 129 224 128 599 144 550 164 024	5 054 7 366 7 308 7 923 9 893	131 669 136 593 135 900 152 473 173 918	49 291 46 880 48 750 51 446 53 696	105 184 108 608 108 155 113 644 110 039	42 720 40 388	59 180 63 535 65 519 67 514 69 533			
1996 March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	5 458 3 590 3 016 3 435 3 817 3 766 3 481 3 590 4 260 6 515	5 992 5 237 5 805 5 863 6 187 6 125 6 391 6 542 6 049 5 228	150 58 75 72 59 59 57 58 91 69	1 841 4 006 2 979 5 222 2 003 2 483 2 526 3 602 3 216 4 324	13 441 12 891 11 876 14 592 12 067 12 433 12 455 13 792 13 616 16 136	137 3 469 843 850 323 219 3 261 329 1 113 -1 050	13 578 16 360 12 719 15 443 12 390 12 652 15 716 14 121 14 729 15 087	4 154 4 095 5 032 5 036 3 913 4 579 4 205 4 068	9 261 9 517 8 753 8 952 8 707 6 090 8 030 10 912 7 922 11 691	3 475 2 945 2 996 2 863 2 891 1 476 2 747 2 995 2 301 2 698	5 194 5 752 5 189 5 459 5 151 4 505 4 913 7 040 5 158 8 599			
1997 Jan. Feb. March	3 070 3 984 6 173	6 448 5 292 8 768	121 63 353	3 151 3 363 2 692	12 790 12 702 17 986	48 37 213	12 839 12 739 18 199	3 649	11 713 8 393 8 779	3 518 3 467 3 719	6 429 4 437 4 702			

During			Expenditu	ıre			Financia	l balance	
period	Fixed invest- ment	Other expendi- ture	Expenditure before financial transactions (8+9+12+13)	Lending and other financial investment	Expenditure before redemptions of state debt (14+15)	Revenue surplus (5–14)	Net borrowing requirement (7–16)	Net borrowing	Cash surplus (18+19)
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	5 042 4 306 3 737 3 208 3 325	8 499 18 076 22 281 26 336 29 911	168 016 177 870 182 923 194 635 196 972	35 501 19 753 17 886 16 765 13 756	203 516 197 623 200 760 211 399 210 747	-41 400 -48 646 -54 324 -50 085 -32 947	-71 847 -61 030 -64 860 -58 926 -36 828	70 691 84 036 73 193 54 071 33 845	-1 155 23 009 8 336 -4 854 -2 983
1996 March April May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	185 175 207 219 316 334 290 369 260 560	4 560 2 759 1 291 3 060 1 154 1 090 4 787 1 832 963 1 637	18 491 16 605 14 346 17 262 15 214 11 427 17 686 17 318 13 213 20 021	393 3 605 770 2 075 437 457 586 489 479 3 388	18 884 20 210 15 117 19 338 15 651 11 884 18 272 17 807 13 693 23 426	-5 050 -3 714 -2 470 -2 670 -3 147 1 006 -5 231 -3 526 403 -3 885	-5 306 -3 850 -2 398 -3 895 -3 261 768 -2 556 -3 686 1 036 -8 339	760 6 544 2 496 3 503 3 900 6 829 -10 228 -258 -191 3 375	-4 546 2 694 98 -392 639 7 597 -12 784 -3 943 846 -4 965
1997 Jan. Feb. March	131 221 164	5 180 663 4 660	20 899 12 926 18 356	538 421 425	21 437 13 347 18 780	-8 109 -224 -370	-8 598 -608 -581	9 507 7 344 1 203	909 6 736 622

## Notes and explanations to the statistical section

#### General

#### Source

Unless otherwise stated, the source or compiler of figures is the Bank of Finland.

Symbols used

\* Preliminary

r Revised

0 Less than half the final digit shown

Logically impossible

.. Data not available

Nil

S Affected by strike Break in series

Owing to rounding of figures, the sum of the individual items in the tables may differ from the total shown.

#### Notes and explanations to tables

#### 1 The balance sheet of the Bank of Finland

Table 1.2 Domestic financial sector. Term claims on deposit banks, net (Column 12) = bank certificates of deposit held by the Bank of Finland + securities with repurchase commitments + term credits - term deposits. Other claims on financial institutions, net (Column 14) = till-money credits to deposit banks (until May 1993) + bonds + other claims on financial institutions + liquidity credits - call money deposits (until September 1995) - other liabilities to financial institutions.

#### 2 The Bank of Finland's operations in the money and foreign exchange markets and the banks' forward exchange position

Table 2.1 From 2 October 1995, banks fulfil their minimum reserve requirement as a monthly average of deposits. From October 1995, the requirement and deposits are shown for the month during which the requirement is to be fulfilled. Before deposits were shown for the previous month, because deposits were matched with the requirement on the last banking day of that month. The requirement is determined on the basis of the reserve base two months earlier (up to September 1995 one month earlier). The reserve base was changed on 31 March 1995 to comply with the new balance sheet format. Liquidity credits (Column 7): see explanations, Table 3.2.

Table 2.2 Money market instruments are the instruments used by the Bank of Finland in its money market operations. Matured money market instruments, net, comprise both instruments purchased and sold. Money market transactions are recorded according to trade dates.

Table 2.3 Foreign exchange transactions are recorded according to trade dates. In addition to spot transactions (Columns 1, 2, 4 and 5) the Bank of Finland's foreign exchange reserves are affected by interest payment and by changes in both the prices of securities and exchange rates. Spot transactions related to forward contracts (Column 4) refer to the combined effects on the foreign

exchange reserves of forward transactions in the form of swaps and maturing forward transactions. The central government's foreign exchange transactions (Column 5) comprise transactions related to drawings and redemptions of government loans and associated interest payments.

Table 2.4 The markka value of forward contracts is given.

#### 3 Rates of interest

Table 3.1 The interbank overnight rate (Column 1) is weighted using amounts of interbank deposits as weights. Since 1 June 1995, HELIBOR rates (Helsinki Interbank Offered Bate) (Columns 2–5) have been calculated on the basis of the bid rates (offered rates for funds) quoted for their own certificates of deposit by all the banks that have been accepted by the Bank of Finland as counterparties in money market operations. An additional condition is that a bank gives regular quotations. The highest and lowest rates quoted for each maturity are omitted and an arithmetic average calculated for the remaining rates. The quotations are taken daily at 1 p.m.

Table 3.2 The Bank of Finland's tender rate (Column 1) is determined in tenders held by the Bank of Finland, in which the banks are asked to make bids or offers for money market instruments with a maturity of one month. The tender rate is the weighted average of accepted bids or offers, expressed as a simple annual interest rate. If, when requesting bids or offers, the Bank of Finland announces an acceptable interest rate (fixed-rate tender), the tender rate is the same as the rate announced by the Bank. The monthly and annual values for the tender rate are the arithmetic means of calendar day figures.

Credit institutions which are subject to the minimum reserve requirement and maintain a current account with the Bank of Finland may obtain liquidity credit to cover overdrafts and to fulfil their minimum reserve requirement. They can obtain liquidity credit with a maturity of 1 day, 7 days, 14 days, 21 days or 28 days. The maturity of liquidity credit is determined by the Bank of Finland. The rate of interest on liquidity credit is obtained by adding together the Bank of Finland's tender rate and the interest rate margin for liquidity credit. The call money deposit rate in use prior to October 1995 was obtained by subtracting the interest rate margin for call money deposits from the Bank of Finland's tender rate. Since 2 October 1995, the monthly average of a bank's call money deposits exceeding the minimum reserve requirement has been treated as excess reserve. The interest rate paid on excess reserves is determined separately by the Bank of Finland. The values for maturity and interest rate margins are the last values recorded in each period.

Table 3.3 The rates shown are based on the lending rates quoted for the respective currencies in the Euromarket. ECU (Column 1): the weights of the ECU basket. 3 currencies (Column 2): DEM 60, USD 30 and GBP 10 per cent.

Table 3.4 Lending. New credits (Columns 1–4): rates of interest on new credits drawn during the month are average monthly rates weighted by loan amounts. Annual rates are arithmetic average of monthly observations until 1987 after which they are weighted by loan amounts. Average lending rates (Columns 5 and 6) are all weighted by

loan amounts. As from January 1989, the loans of Postipankki Ltd have been included in the commercial banks' outstanding stock of loans, Deposits, 24-month and 36month tax-exempt deposits (Columns 7 and 8): from May (September) 1992, 24-month (36-month) deposits are taxexempt if they carry a rate of interest which is at most the Bank of Finland's base rate less two percentage points (one percentage point). In the period from January 1989 to April 1992, 24-month deposits (Column 7) were taxexempt if they carried a rate of interest which was at most the Bank of Finland's base rate less one percentage point. Other tax-exempt deposits (Column 9): in the peri-od from January 1989 to April 1992, deposits other than 24-month deposits were tax-exempt if they carried a rate of interest which was at most the Bank of Finland's base rate less 4 percentage points. From May 1992, deposits other than 24-month or 36-month deposits are tax-exempt if they carry a maximum rate of interest as prescribed by law. The maximum rate was first set at 4.5 per cent. From 6 May 1993 it has been 2.5 per cent. All markka deposits (Column 10): the stock of deposits comprises all markka deposits by the public. The monthly and annual average rates of interest are weighted by deposit amounts. Other funding (Column 11): CDs outstanding + promissory notes + bonds. The average rate of interest is weighted by amounts. Total markka funding (Column 12); markka deposits by the public + banks' other markka funding. The rate of interest is weighted by amounts.

Table 3.5 Reference rates (Columns 1 and 2) are calculated by the Bank of Finland as the monthly averages of the offered rates for taxable, fixed-rate bonds quoted daily by the five largest banks. The yields on five-year and ten-year government bonds (Columns 3 and 4) are calculated by the Bank of Finland as averages of the bid rates quoted daily by the primary dealers. The five-year yield is based on quotations for a fixed-rate bullet serial bond (1/94, 15 September 1994 – 15 September 2001). As from 9 August 1996 the ten-year yield is based on quotations for a fixed-rate bullet serial bond (1/96, 18 Apr 1996–2006). The share yield (Column 5) is the weighted effective yield on shares quoted on the Helsinki Stock Exchange. Source: Statistics Finland.

#### 4 Rates of exchange

Table 4.2 FIM/ECU (Column 1): The markka value of the ECU is calculated as the sum of the dollar amounts of the currencies in the ECU valued at current market rates quoted daily at noon Finnish time. The markka was floated on 8 September 1992, continuing until 14 October 1996, when it was joined to the EU's Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) at the central rate of 5.80661 per ECU. As from 25 November 1996 the ECU central rate is FlM weights are moving averages of the shares of (currently) 14 countries in Finland's foreign merchandise trade (only convertible currencies are included). The payments currency index (Column 3): The weights are moving averages of shares of payments currencies (14 convertible currencies) in Finland's foreign trade.

Table 4.3 The table shows the deviations of the markka's market exchange rate (markka value of the foreign currency) as a percentage of the ERM central rate for each currency. A plus (+) indicates that the markka is weaker than its central rate value against the other currency; the intervention limit is (central rate) +16.121 per cent. A minus (-) indicates that the markka is stronger than its central rate value against the other currency; the intervention limit is (central rate) –13.881 per cent.

#### 5 Other domestic financing

Table 5.1 Source: Statistics Finland. The public comprises households and non-profit institutions, enterprises

(excl. financial institutions) and the local government sector. The table is based on new classifications of Statistics Finland applied since March 1991. Series before March 1991 have been reclassified by the Bank of Finland to conform with the present table, except for columns 3 and 4 where disaggregation was not possible and combined figures are shown. Time deposits (Column 3) consist of all fixed-term deposits. Other deposits (Column 4) include mainly investment accounts with no specific time-period. Other funding (Column 8) comprises CDs, promissory notes and bonds. The figures for banks' holdings of CDs issued by other banks, as well as the CD holdings of the Bank of Finland and the central government have been netted out; netting out is done by the Bank of Finland. Hence, this column includes some liabilities held by entities not covered by the above definition of the public.

Table 5.2 Source: Statistics Finland. The public comprises households and non-profit institutions, enterprises (excl. financial institutions) and local government. Foreign currency credits (Column 5) are mainly granted by com-

mercial banks and Postipankki.

Table 5.3 Foreign assets, net (Column 1) = the Bank of Finland's foreign claims + banks' foreign claims (incl. foreign claims of banks' foreign branches) - the Bank of Finland's foreign liabilities - banks' foreign liabilities (incl. foreign liabilities of banks' foreign branches). Domestic credit. Claims on the central government, net (Column 2) = the Bank of Finland's claims on the central government + banks' claims on the central government - the central government's deposits with the Bank of Finland and Postipankki - loans granted from state funds through banks. Claims on the public (incl. local government), (Column 3) = the Bank of Finland's claims on the private sector + banks' claims on the private sector (loans to the public. bonds and debentures (excl. government bonds and bank debentures), claims on other financial institutions, shares held by banks). Other items, net (Column 5) = capital accounts and other items of the Bank of Finland (incl. private sector time deposits with the Bank of Finland) + capital accounts of deposit banks + unclassified assets and liabilities of deposit banks, net (bank debentures, bank CDs held by the public, other market funding and foreign currency deposits by the public). M, (Column 6) = currency in circulation - banks' till money + markka cheque and postal giro account deposits and transactions account deposits held by the public. M, (Column 7) = M, + quasi-money (markka time deposits held by the public, excl. deposits with the Bank of Finland). M. (Column 8) = M<sub>2</sub> + bank CDs held by the public

Table 5.4 Source: State Treasury Office. Other foreign currency-denominated debt (Column 2) consists of other bonds and debentures and long-term promissory notes. Other bonds and debentures are so-called private placings; long-term promissory notes are bank loans. Miscellaneous items (Column 7) include, inter alia, the liability for coinage (total coinage), promissory notes given to international financial organizations and, as a minus item, the liability to the State Pension Fund. Outstanding lending (Column 10) comprises the stock of loans granted from the central government budget and from extra-budgetary funds. Cash funds (Column 11) comprise the cash funds held in central government accounting offices, funds held in cheque and postal giro accounts, as well as placements of central government cash funds. The main part of the latter is reserved for covering transferable allocations

budgeted in previous years.

Table 5.5 Source: Table A: Financial Supervision from the beginning of 1994. Table B: Statistics Finland from the beginning of 1991. Tables A and B include markka-denominated bonds issued by Finnish issuers in Finland and abroad as well as those issued by foreign issuers in Finland. Table C includes transactions in markka-denominat-

ed bonds outside the Helsinki Stock Exchange. Interbank transactions (Column 1) and transactions (purchases and sales) between banks and customers (Column 2) are transactions by primary dealers and banks entitled to central bank financing. As from 14 July 1995 the following act as primary dealers: Alfred Berg Pankkiiriliike Oy, Evli Fixed Income Securities, Goldman Sachs International Merita Bank, Okobank, Postipankki, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ), Branch Operation in Finland and Unibank A/S. Purchases from and sales to others (Colums 4 and 5) consist of transactions in benchmark government bonds between primary dealers and other parties. Other parties refer to all parties that are not primary dealers. Bank of Finland releases data daily (page SPFI on Reuters and page 20981 on Telerate) on the trading in benchmark government bonds among primary dealers and between primary dealers and their customers.

Table 5.6 Source: The Helsinki Stock Exchange. The table has been expanded to take into account the change in the Helsinki Stock Exchange classification of listed companies as from the start of 1997. Column 3 now includes only insurance.

6 Balance of payments, foreign liabilities and assets

Table 6.1 The figures for the trade and goods and services accounts are compiled in accordance with the System of National Accounts. The trade figures for 1995 have been estimated on the basis of a survey of firms carried out by the Bank of Finland. The official foreign trade statistics published by the Board of Customs are delayed owing to changes in statistical systems caused by Finland's entry into the EU. The figures for investment income and expenditure (Columns 7 and 16) include reinvested earnings in the previous year have been included in the current account figures. (The annual figure is divided evenly between quarterly figures.)

Tables 6.2–6.4 Since the beginning of 1994, the former capital account of Finland's balance of payments has been compiled according to the IMF's new recommendations (IMF Balance of Payments Manual, Fifth Edition,

Table 6.2 The capital account (Columns 1 and 14) reflects unrequited capital transfers such as forgiven debts and aid from EU funds. Financial derivatives include payments arising from currency and interest rate swaps related to loans, ie outstanding loans are recorded according to the original loan contract, Medium-term notes (MTNs) are included under bonds (Columns 4 and 17). The category other investment (Columns 9-12 and 21-24) covers transactions related to trade credits, loans, currency and deposits and other assets and liabilities. Transactions in assets and liabilities related to short- and long-term supplier credits and advance payments related to imports and exports are recorded under trade credits (Columns 9 and 21). The item 'Other capital' (Columns 11 and 23) includes transactions in currency and deposits and shortand long-term assets and liabilities of different sectors not covered by any of the items above. In addition, this category includes changes in the central government's subscriptions to and quotas in international organizations as well as transactions in the Bank of Finland's short- and long-term assets and liabilities (excl. reserve items). The most important sub-item under the item 'other capital' comprises banks' other short-term assets and liabilities (in practice interbank deposits). The central bank's reserve assets (Column 26) comprise gold, special drawing rights (SDRs), the reserve position in the IMF, ECU-claim on the EMI and foreign exchange assets. A negative figure implies an increase in reserves.

Table 6.3 The data are classified as in Table 6.2. The items have been translated into markkaa using the spot rates for each date; thus the figures include the impact of changes in exchange rates.

Table 6.4 This contains data on Finland's net international investment position (liabilities less assets) classified by sector.

#### 7 Foreign trade

Source: The National Board of Customs (except for table 7.2). All tables refer to foreign trade in goods.

Table 7.2 The volume indices (Columns 1 and 2) are calculated from the export and the import values, deflated by the price indices (Columns 3 and 4). Deflation and seasonal adjustments are carried out by the Bank of Finland. The export and the import price indices are provided by Statistics Finland. The terms of trade (Column 5) is the ratio of the export price index to the import price index multiplied by 100.

Table 7.4 In addition to all EU countries, those countries are listed whose shares of Finland's exports are at least 1 per cent.

#### 8 Domestic economic developments

Tables 8.1–8.5 Source: Statistics Finland. Seasonal adjustment is done by the Bank of Finland.

Table 8.2 The indices of industrial production are adjusted for the number of working days in each month. This causes in small differences the annual averages from the corresponding unadjusted figures. For this reason the indices for 1990 also differ marginally from conventional base-year figures, ie 100.0.

Table 8.3 The indices of wholesale and retail trade (Columns 1 and 2) are seasonally adjusted by Statistics Finland. The monthly GDP indicator (Column 7) is a weighted index of 11 readily available output indicators for various industries.

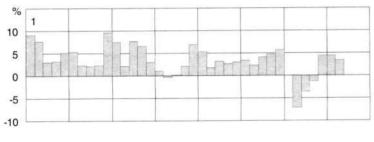
Table 8.4 The indicator of underlying inflation (Column 6) is the consumer price index from which the effect of indirect taxes, subsidies and housing-related capital costs (house prices and mortgage interest payments) has been removed (see the article by Pentti Pikkarainen and Timo Tyrväinen in the June – July 1993 issue of the Bulletin). Statistics Finland calculates the indicator and publishes it together with the consumer price index on the 15th of every month (or the next business day). It is lagged by one month in comparison with the consumer price index.

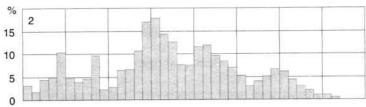
Table 8.6 Source: Ministry of Finance.

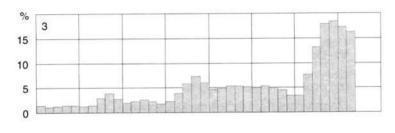
#### **CHARTS**

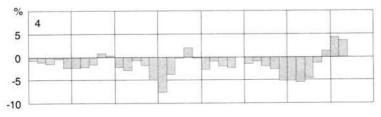
1.	Long-term indicators	S30
2.	The Bank of Finland's foreign exchange reserves and forward position	S31
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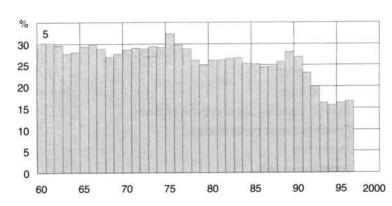
### 1. Long-term indicators





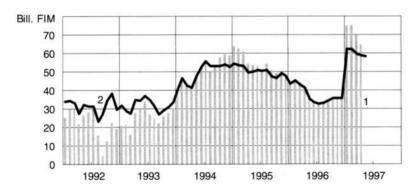






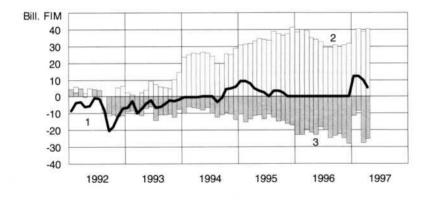
- GDP, change in volume from the previous year, per cent
- per cent
  2. Consumer prices, change from the previous year, per cent
- per cent
  3. Unemployment rate,
- per cent
  4. Current account,
  as a percentage of GDP
  5. Fixed investment,
- Fixed investment, as a percentage of GDP

### 2. The Bank of Finland's foreign exchange reserves and forward position



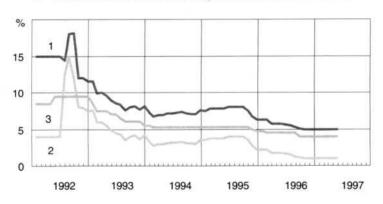
- Foreign exchange reserves plus forward position
- Foreign exchange reserves

#### 3. Forward market



- Forward exchange purchased by the Bank of Finland
- Forward exchange sold to banks by domestic customers
- Forward exchange sold to banks by foreign customers

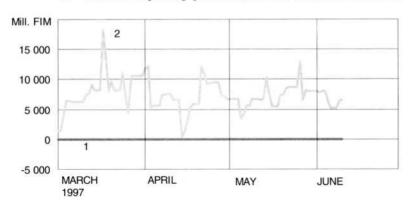
### 4. Rates of interest set by the Bank of Finland



- Liquidity credit rate (up to 2 July 1992 call money credit rate)
- Excess-reserve rate
   (call money deposit rate
   until 2 October 1995)
- 3. Base rate

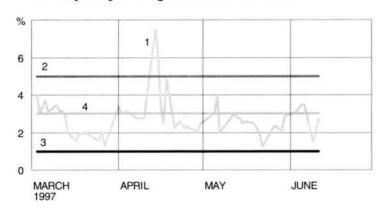
End-of-month observations

### Banks' liquidity position at the Bank of Finland



- Liquidity credits (-)
   Reserve deposits

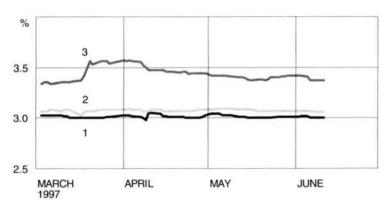
#### Liquidity management interest rates 6.



- Inter-bank overnight rate
- Liquidity credit rate
- 3. Excess-reserve rate
- Tender rate

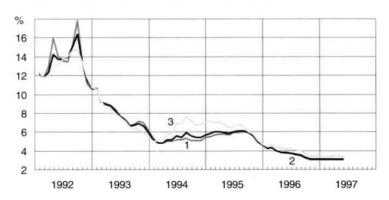
Daily observations

## **HELIBOR** rates of interest, daily



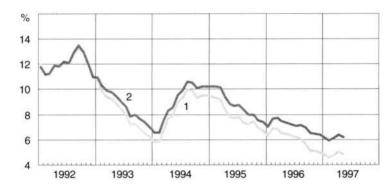
- 1-month HELIBOR
- 3-month HELIBOR
- 12-month HELIBOR

### **HELIBOR** interest rates, monthly



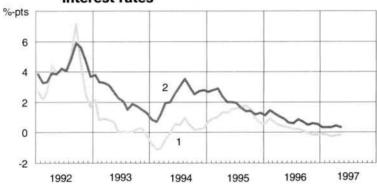
- 1-month HELIBOR
- 3-month HELIBOR
- 3 12-month HELIBOR

#### **Bond yields**



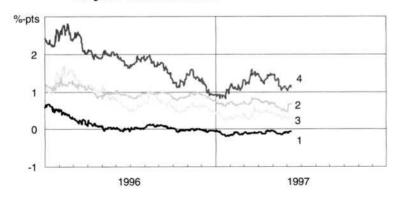
- Yield on 5-year
- government bonds Yield on 10-year government bonds

#### 10. Differential between Finnish and German interest rates



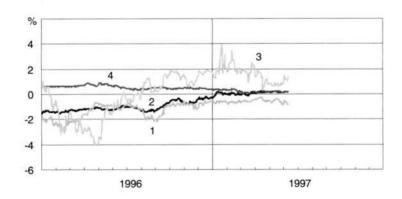
- 1. 3-month HELIBOR minus 3-month DEM eurorate
- 2. 10-year Finnish government bond yield minus 10-year German government bond yield

#### 11. Differential between German and selected EU-countries' 10-year interest rates



- 1 France
- Denmark 2.
- 3. Finland
- 4 Sweden

#### 12. ERM exchange rates: deviation from DEM central parity



- FRF
- DKK
- 2. FIM
- NLG 4

Rising curve means appreciation against the DEM

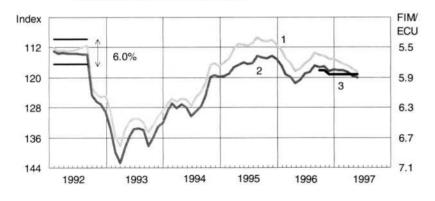
## 13. ERM exchange rates: deviation from DEM central parity



- **ESP**
- PTE IEP
- 2. 3. 4. 5. ATS BEF
- 6. ITL

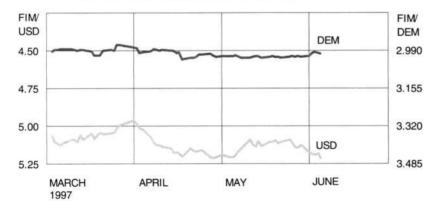
Rising curve means appreciation against the DEM

## 14. Bank of Finland currency index and markka value of the ECU



- Bank of Finland currency index, 1982 = 100 (left scale)
- Markka value of the ECU from 7 June 1991 (right scale)
- 1991 (right scale)
  3. ECU central rate from 14 October 1996 (right scale)

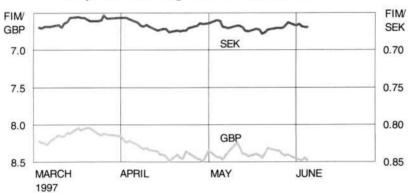
# 15. Daily spot rates for the markka against the Deutschemark and US dollar



#### Middle rates

DEM = right scale USD = left scale

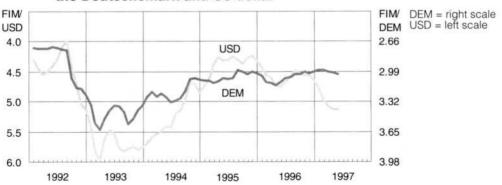
#### 16. Daily spot rates for the markka against the pound sterling and Swedish krona



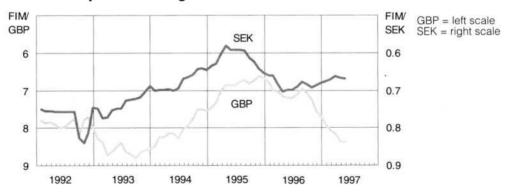
#### Middle rates

GBP = left scale SEK = right scale

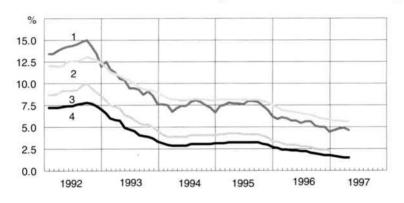
## 17. Monthly spot rates for the markka against the Deutschemark and US dollar



# 18. Monthly spot rates for the markka against the pound sterling and Swedish krona

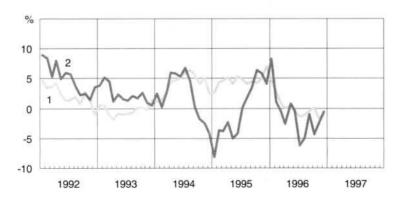


## 19. Banks' markka lending rates and markka funding rates



- Average rate on new markka lending
- Average rate on outstanding markka lending
- Average rate on total markka funding (deposits + other funding)
- Average markka deposit rate

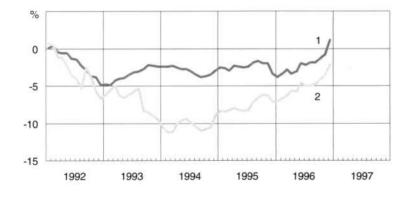
### 20. Bank funding from the public



- Markka deposits
- Total funding

Change from the corresponding month of the previous year. per cent

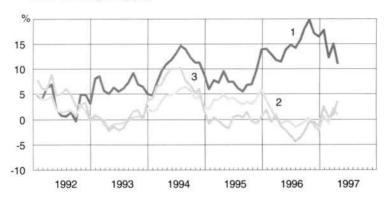
#### 21. Bank lending to the public



- Markka lending
- 2. Total lending

Change from the corresponding month of the previous year, per cent

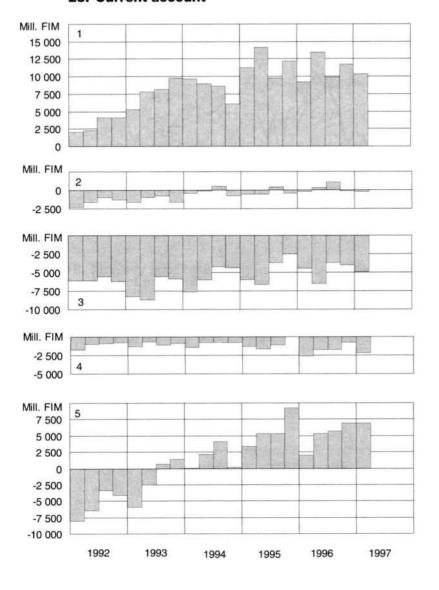
### 22. Money supply



- Narrow money (M1)
- Broad money (M2) M2 + bank CDs held by the public (M3)

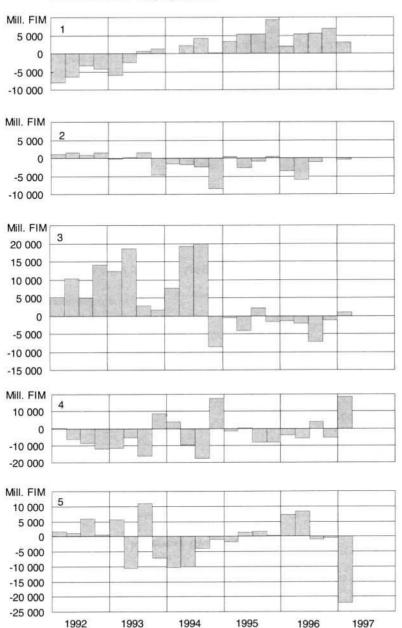
Change from the corresponding month of the previous year, per cent

#### 23. Current account



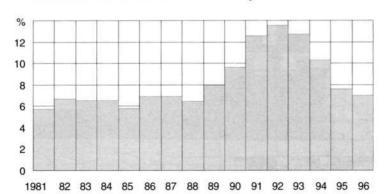
- 1. Trade account
- 2. Services account
- Investment income account
- Unrequited transfers account and other items, net
- 5. Current account

#### 24. Balance of payments



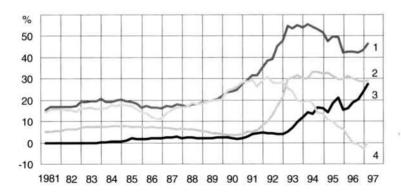
- Current account Direct investment 1.
- Portfolio investment
- 2. 3. 4. Other investment
- Change in central bank's reserve assets (increase = -)

#### 25. Net interest and dividend expenditure



As percentage of current account receipts

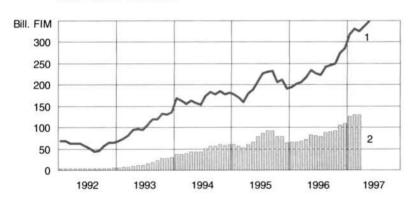
#### 26. Finland's net international investment position



As a percentage of GDP

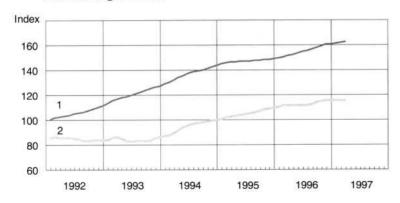
- Total net debt
- Central government (in foreign currencies)
- Markka-denominated securities
  - Other, net
     (excl. Bank of Finland's
     foreign exchange)

#### 27. Share market



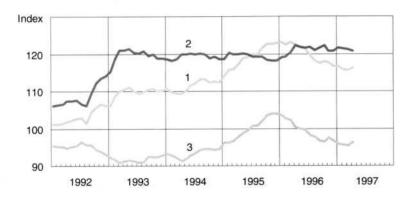
- Market capitalization of listed shares
- Non-residents' holdings of Finnish shares

#### 28. Foreign trade



- Exports of goods
   Imports of goods
- Volume index, 1990 = 100, trend

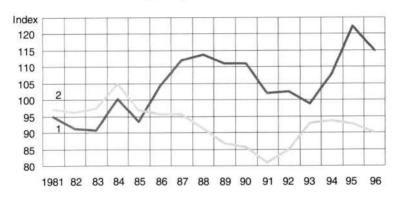
### 29. Foreign trade: prices and terms of trade



- 1. Export prices
- 2. Import prices
- Terms of trade

Index 1990 = 100

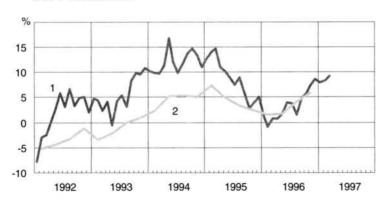
### 30. Finland's export performance



- Value of exports to OECD countries in relation to imports of OECD countries
- Volume of exports to OECD countries in relation to imports of OECD countries

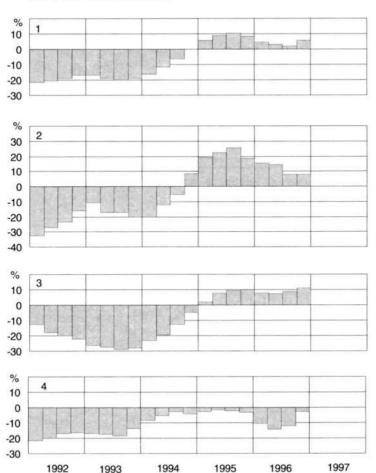
1980 = 100

#### 31. Production



- Industrial production, change in volume from the corresponding month of the previous year, per cent
  - per cent GDP, change in volume from the corresponding quarter of the previous year, per cent

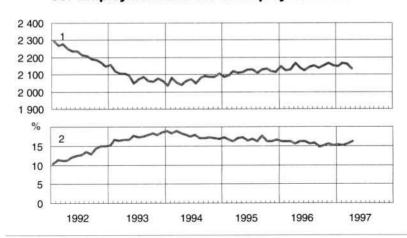
#### 32. Fixed investment



- I. Total fixed investment
- Investment in machinery and equipment
- 3. Building investment, excl. residential buildings
- Residential buildings

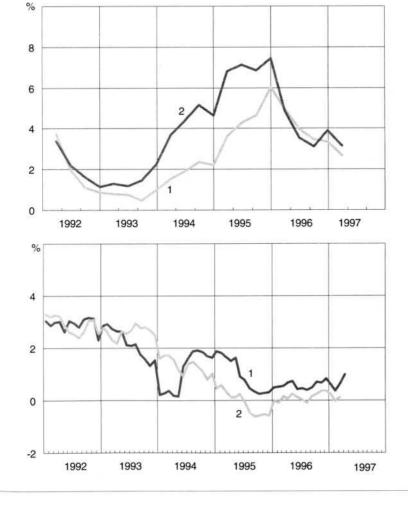
Four-quarter volume change calculated from four-quarter moving totals and plotted at the last quarter, per cent

#### 33. Employment and the unemployment rate



- Employment, 1000 persons
- Unemployment rate, per cent

#### 34. Prices and wages



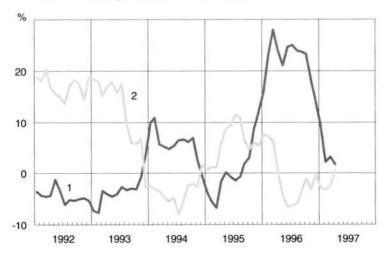
- Index of wage and salary earnings, all wage and salary earners
- 2. Index of wage and salary earnings, manufacturing workers

Change from the corresponding quarter of the previous year, per cent

- Consumer price index
   Indicator of underlying inflation

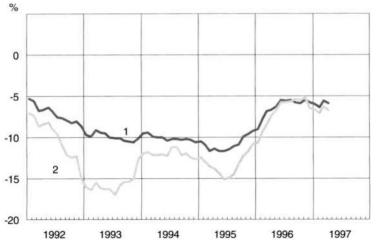
Change from the corresponding month of the previous year, per cent

#### 35. Central government finances



- Revenue excl. borrowing
- Expenditure excl.
   redemptions of central
   government debt

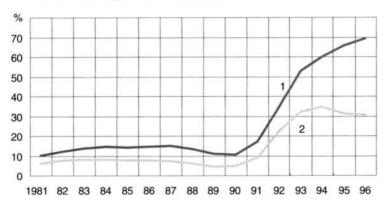
12-month changes calculated from 12-month moving totals and plotted at the last month, per cent



- Revenue surplus (revenue less expenditure excl. financial transactions) (surplus = +)
- Net borrowing requirement (net borrowing = -)

12-month moving total as a percentage of GDP, plotted at the last month

### 36. Central government debt



- 1. Total debt
- Of which: foreign currency-denominated debt

As a percentage of GDP