



U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FOREIGN HOLDINGS OF U.S. SECURITIES AT END-JUNE 2008

Washington, DC – The U.S. Department of Treasury today released preliminary data from a survey of foreign portfolio holdings of U.S. securities at end-June 2008 on the U.S. Treasury web site at <http://www.treas.gov/tic/fpis.html>. A revised table on Major Foreign Holders of Treasury Securities, where estimates through end-December 2008 are based in part on survey data, is also released at <http://www.treas.gov/tic/ticsec2.html> (on line 1 of Part A). Final survey results, which will include additional detail as well as possible revisions to the preliminary data, will be reported on April 30, 2009. The survey was undertaken jointly by the U.S. Treasury, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The next survey will be for end-June 2009, and preliminary data are expected to be released by February 26, 2010.

Complementary surveys measuring U.S. holdings of foreign securities are also carried out annually. Data from the most recent survey, reporting on securities held on year-end 2008, are currently being processed. Preliminary results are expected to be reported by August 31, 2009.

Overall Preliminary Results

The survey measured foreign holdings of U.S. securities as of June 30, 2008, to be \$10,324 billion, with \$2,969 billion held in U.S. equities, \$6,494 billion in U.S. long-term debt securities¹ (of which \$1,532 billion are holdings of asset-backed securities (ABS)² and \$4,962 billion are holdings of non-ABS securities), and \$861 billion held in U.S. short-term debt securities. The previous survey, conducted as of June 30, 2007, measured total foreign holdings of U.S. securities at \$9,772 billion, with holdings of \$3,130 billion in U.S. equities, \$6,007 billion in U.S. long-term debt securities, and \$635 billion in short-term U.S. debt securities (see Table 1).

1. Long-term debt securities have an *original* term-to-maturity of more than one year.

2. Asset-backed securities are backed by pools of assets, such as pools of residential home mortgages or credit card receivables, which give the security owners claims against the cash flows generated by the underlying assets. Unlike most other debt securities, these securities generally repay both principal and interest on a regular basis, reducing the principal outstanding with each payment cycle.

Table 1. Foreign holdings of U.S. securities, by type of security, as of recent survey dates

<u>Type of Security</u>	<u>(Billions of dollars)</u>	
	<u>June 30, 2007</u>	<u>June 30, 2008</u>
Long-term Securities	9,136	9,463
Equity	3,130	2,969
Long-term debt	6,007	6,494
Asset-backed	1,472	1,532
Other	4,535	4,962
Short-term debt securities	635	861
Total	9,772	10,324
Of which: Official	2,823	3,493

Table 2. Foreign holdings of U.S. securities, by country and type of security, for the major investing countries into the U.S., as of June 30, 2008

	<u>Country or category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Equities</u>	<u>Long-term debt</u>		<u>Short-term debt</u>
				<u>ABS</u>	<u>Other</u>	
1	Japan	1,250	199	163	823	66
2	China (Mainland) ¹	1,205	100	376	700	30
3	United Kingdom	864	376	90	375	24
4	Cayman Islands	832	317	230	227	58
5	Luxembourg	657	191	81	315	71
6	Canada	456	20	74	357	5
7	Belgium	441	321	17	86	17
8	Ireland	401	75	76	113	136
9	Switzerland	391	141	30	143	77
10	Netherlands	314	162	25	107	21
11	Middle East Oil Exporters ²	312	188	45	70	9
12	Germany	247	71	49	117	10
13	Bermuda	223	*	*	139	84
14	France	222	133	28	47	14
15	Singapore	210	52	59	77	21
16	Australia	162	2	*	159	1
17	Russia	160	94	13	49	5
18	Korea, South	150	11	37	100	2
19	Hong Kong	147	29	19	83	17
20	Taiwan	137	81	9	41	7
21	Norway	133	18	2	96	17
22	British Virgin Islands	131	8	24	89	10
23	Mexico	127	76	25	24	1
24	Brazil	107	53	3	34	17
25	Sweden	88	53	1	32	3
	Country Unknown	185	1	*	183	1
	Rest of the World	772	200	59	378	135
	Total	10,324	2,969	1,532	4,962	861
	of which: Official	3,493	363	475	2,281	373

1. Excludes Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan, which are reported separately.

2. Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates.