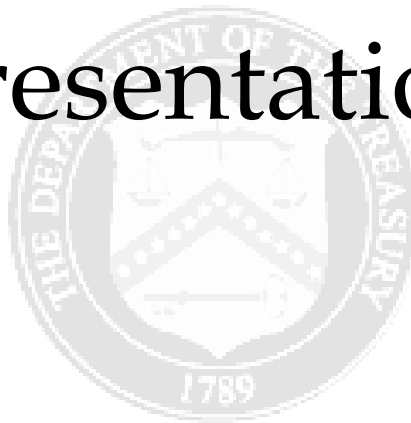


# Treasury Presentation to TBAC



# Office of Debt Management



Fiscal Year 2023 Q1 Report

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\*All sources are from Treasury unless otherwise specified

# Section I: Executive Summary



# Highlights of Treasury's February 2023 Quarterly Refunding Presentation to the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee (TBAC)

## Receipts and Outlays through Q1 FY2023 (without calendar adjustment)

	\$ billions	Change from same period last year (\$ bn)	Change from same period last year (%)	As % of GDP	Change from same period last year (GDP %)
Total Receipts thru Q1 FY2023	\$1,026	-\$26	-3%	15.6%	-1.2%
Total Outlays thru Q1 FY2023	\$1,447	+\$17	+1.2%	22.0%	-0.9%

## Treasury's Projected Net Privately-held Marketable Borrowing for the Next Two Fiscal Quarters\*

Treasury OFP Near Term Fiscal Projections	Net Privately Held Marketable Borrowing (\$ billion)	Assumed End-of-Quarter Cash Balance (\$ billion)
Q2 FY2023	932	500 (Mar)
Q3 FY2023	278	550 (Jun)

\*These borrowing estimates are based upon current law. The cash balances for the next two quarter-ends assume enactment of a debt limit suspension or increase. Treasury's cash balance may be lower than assumed depending on several factors, including constraints related to the debt limit. If Treasury's cash balance for the end of either quarter is lower than assumed, and assuming no changes in the forecast of fiscal activity, Treasury would expect that borrowing would be lower by the corresponding amount(s).

## Projected Net Privately-held Marketable Borrowing for the Next Three Fiscal Years from Various Sources\*\*

Fiscal Year	Primary Dealers Median January 2023 (\$ billion)	OMB 'Mid-Session Review' August 2022 (\$ billion)	CBO 'An Analysis of the President's 2023 Budget' September 2022 (\$ billion)
2023	1,865	2,087	1,749
2024	1,645	1,722	1,250
2025	1,400	1,460	1,172

\*\*All privately-held net marketable borrowing estimates are "normalized" with details from page 18.

Uncertainty regarding funding needs in FY2023 and FY2024 remains relatively high, reflecting a variety of views on the path of monetary policy, the duration of SOMA redemptions, and the outlook for the economy.

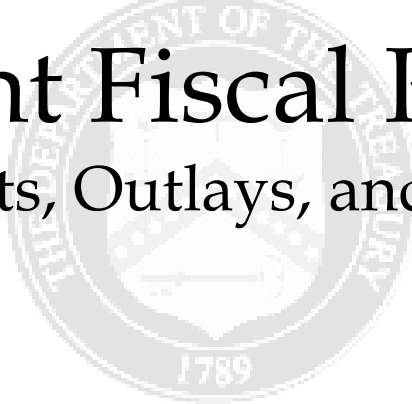
## Latest Market Expectations For Treasury Financing In January:

- Primary dealers expected no changes to coupon auction sizes at the February refunding despite the fact dealers increased their aggregate median estimates for privately-held net marketable borrowing by \$300 billion for the FY23-FY25 period in February, relative to their November estimates.
- Given the forecasted funding gap over FY2023 and beyond, all dealers noted that bills could be used to address near term funding gaps because bills as a percentage of debt outstanding was close to the lower bound of the TBAC recommended range of 15 to 20 percent. Most dealers expect that auction sizes may need to eventually rise, but will depend how the borrowing outlook evolves, including with regard to the possibility of a recession and the timing when SOMA redemptions may end.
- Nearly all dealers recommended Treasury keep TIPS issuance stable in the upcoming quarter.

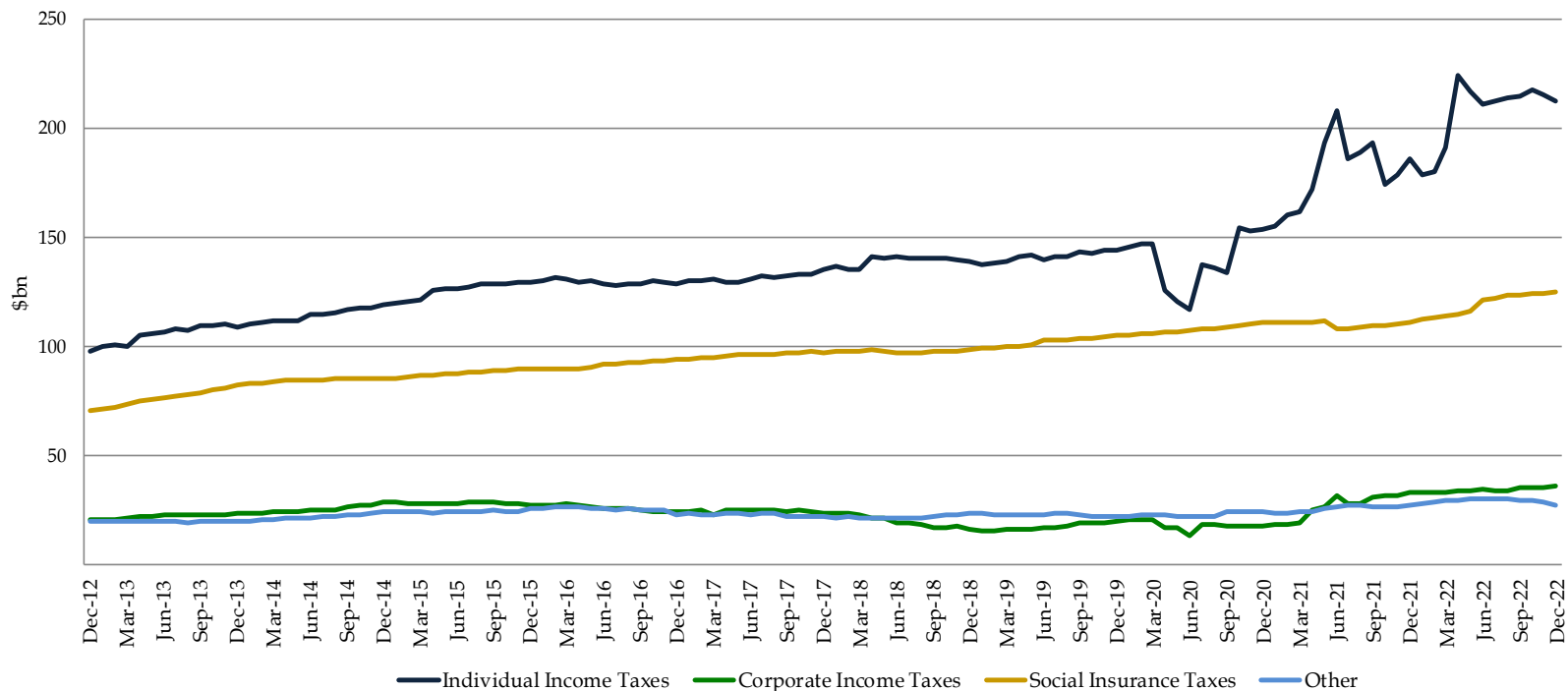
# Section II:

# Recent Fiscal Results

Receipts, Outlays, and Deficits

The seal of the U.S. Department of the Treasury is visible in the background, centered behind the text. It features an eagle with wings spread, perched on a shield, with the words "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY" and the year "1789" around the border.

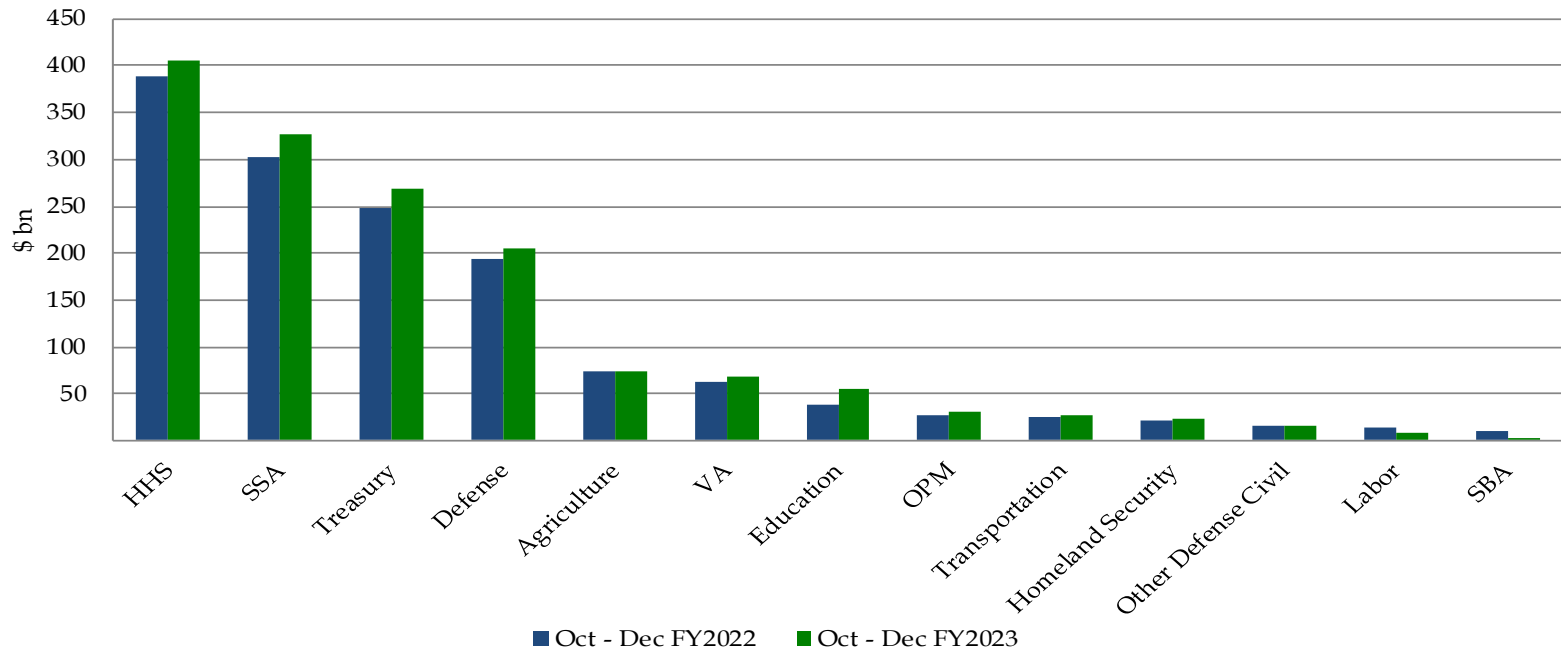
## Monthly Receipt Levels (12-Month Moving Average)



Notable Receipt Category	Change from Q1 FY22 to Q1 FY23 (\$ billion)	Change from Q1 FY22 to Q1 FY23 (%)	Comments
Withheld & FICA taxes (calendar adjusted)	+\$7	+1%	Due to higher wages and employment, partially offset by December's lower bonuses.
Non-withheld and SECA taxes	+\$14	+19%	Buoyed by large estimated payments of 2022 tax liability in October.
Individual refunds	-\$21	-68%	A decrease in cash due to elevated IRS processing of refund backlogs.
Gross corporate taxes	+\$4	+3%	Driven by higher corporate profits.
Federal Reserve earnings	-\$26	-98%	Remittances have decreased year-over-year as administered rates moved higher.

Tax receipts for Q4 FY2020 reflect the adjustment of April and June 2020 tax deadlines to July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Individual Income Taxes include withheld and non-withheld. Social Insurance Taxes include FICA, SECA, RRTA, UTF deposits, FUTA and RUIA. Other includes excise taxes, estate and gift taxes, customs duties and miscellaneous receipts.

## Largest Outlays

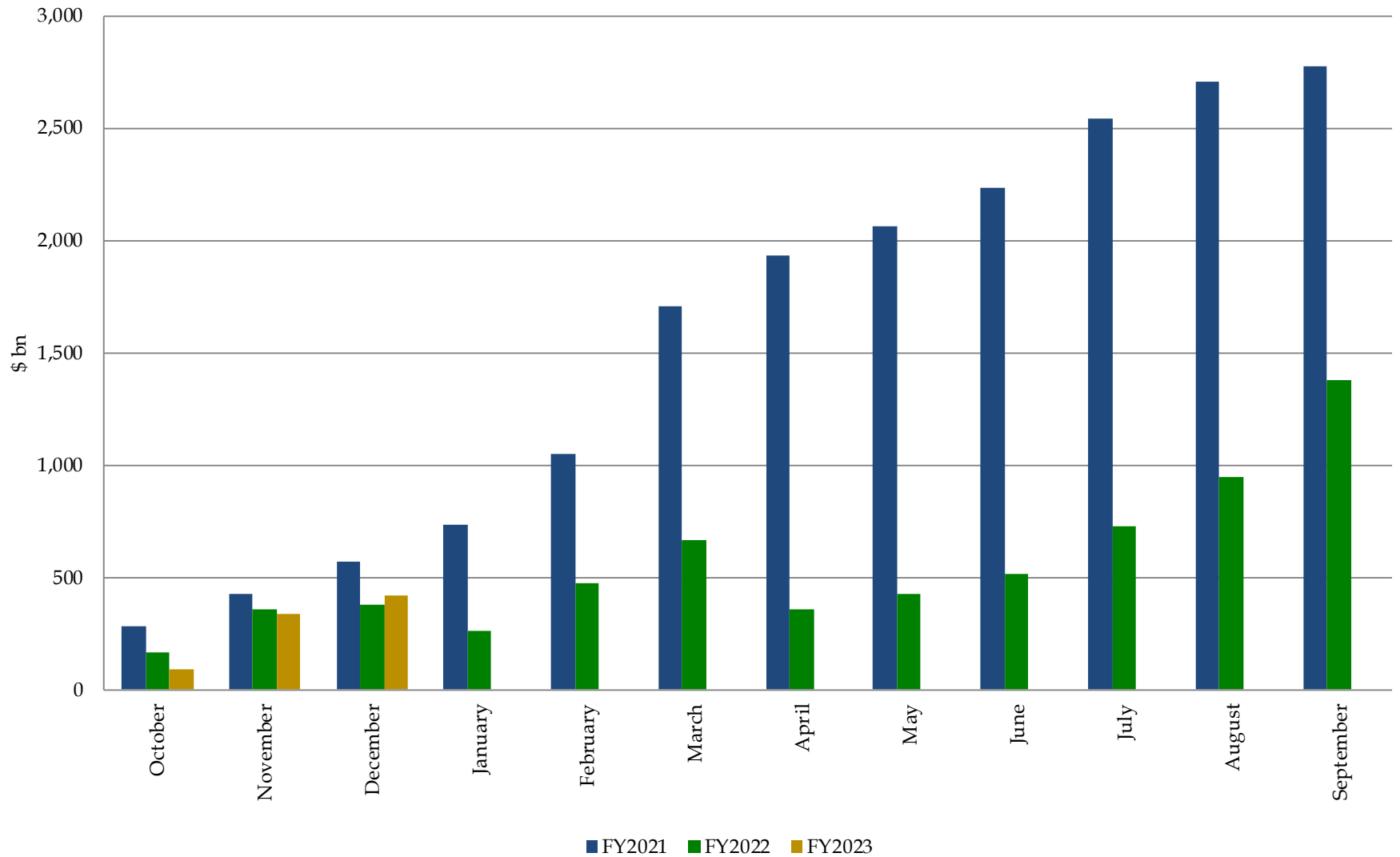


Notable Outlays Category	Change from Q1 FY22 to Q1 FY23 (\$ billion)	Change from Q1 FY22 to Q1 FY23 (%)	Comments
Department of Treasury	+\$20	+8%	Driven by higher interest on the public debt of \$57 billion, partially offset by lower tax credits of \$33 billion.
Social Security Administration (calendar adjusted)	+\$25	+8%	Primarily due to the calendar year 2022 cost-of-living adjustment (5.7%) and increased number of beneficiaries.
Department of Education	+\$16	+41%	Due to upward modifications in Federal Direct Student Loans in November of \$11 billion and December of \$7 billion, offset by reduced outlays in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (\$3 billion).
Health and Human Services (calendar adjusted)	+\$16	+4%	Due to higher Medicare and Medicaid outlays.
Small Business Administration	-\$10	-95%	Due to Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Impact Disaster Loan (EIDL) expenditures that were recognized last year.

All outlays are on calendar-adjusted basis



## Cumulative Budget Deficits by Fiscal Year



# Section III:

## Various Fiscal Forecasts

Primary Dealers, OMB, CBO



## Recent Economic Forecasts

- Primary Dealer Median Estimates as of January 2023:

Primary Dealer Median Estimates January 2023			
	<u>CY2023</u>	<u>CY2024</u>	<u>CY2025</u>
	<u>% Change from Q4 to Q4</u>		
<b>GDP</b>			
Real	-0.3	1.5	na
Nominal	3.1	4.0	na
<b>Inflation</b>			
CPI Headline	2.9	2.4	na
CPI Core	3.2	2.6	na
	<u>Fourth Quarter Levels</u>		
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.7	4.9	na
	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
<b>Deficits (\$bil)</b>	\$1,130	\$1,200	\$1,309

- Most Recent CBO and OMB Estimates:

### OMB Estimates August 2022

	<u>CY2023</u>	<u>CY2024</u>	<u>CY2025</u>
	<u>% Change from Q4 to Q4</u>		
<b>GDP</b>			
Real	1.8	2.0	2.0
Nominal	4.4	4.1	4.1
<b>Inflation</b>			
CPI Headline	2.8	2.3	2.3
	<u>Fourth Quarter Levels</u>		
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.8	3.8	3.8
	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
<b>Deficits (\$bil)</b>	\$1,300	\$1,311	\$1,414

### CBO Estimates September 2022

	<u>CY2023</u>	<u>CY2024</u>	<u>CY2025</u>
	<u>% Change from Q4 to Q4</u>		
<b>GDP</b>			
Real	2.2	1.5	1.6
Nominal	4.5	3.6	3.6
<b>Inflation</b>			
CPI Headline	2.7	2.3	2.3
	<u>Fourth Quarter Levels</u>		
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.6	3.8	3.9
	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>
<b>Deficits (\$bil)</b>	\$908	\$921	\$1,145

Note: Economic assumptions for OMB and CBO forecasts were established in June 2022 and March 2022 respectively.

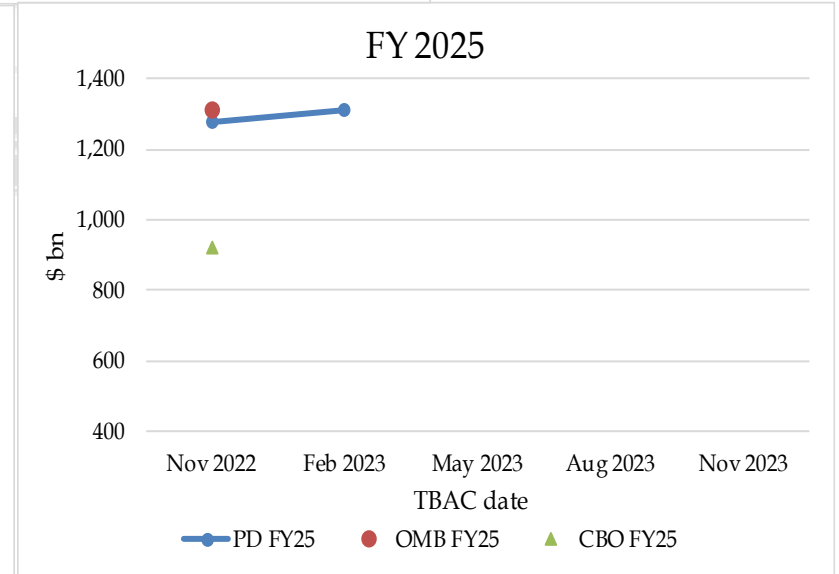
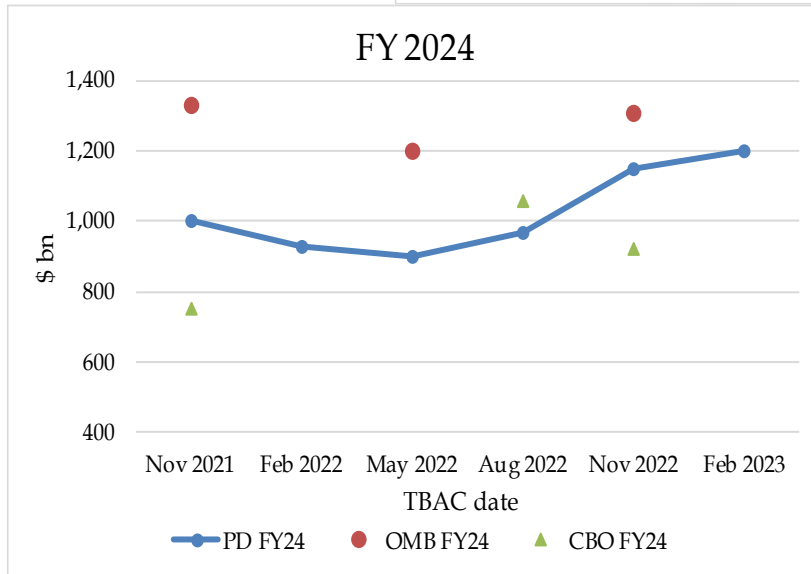
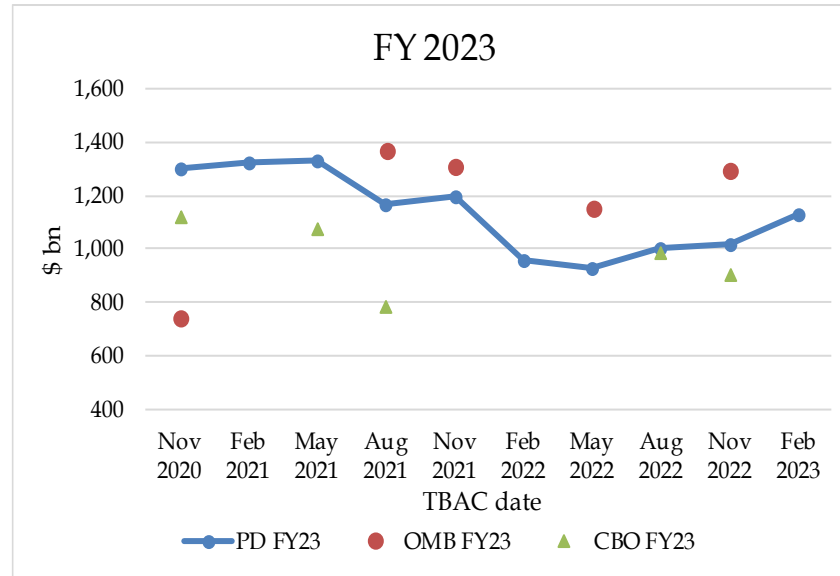
## Recent Deficit Forecasts

- Primary dealers increased their deficit estimates in January relative to estimates they provided in October. Their changes reflected forecast adjustments for higher interest costs and a slower economy.
- Dealers generally suggested that risks were asymmetrical to the upside, i.e. risks for higher deficits, and noted a high degree of uncertainty around their estimates.
- The latest OMB and CBO estimates in the table below are provided for reference.

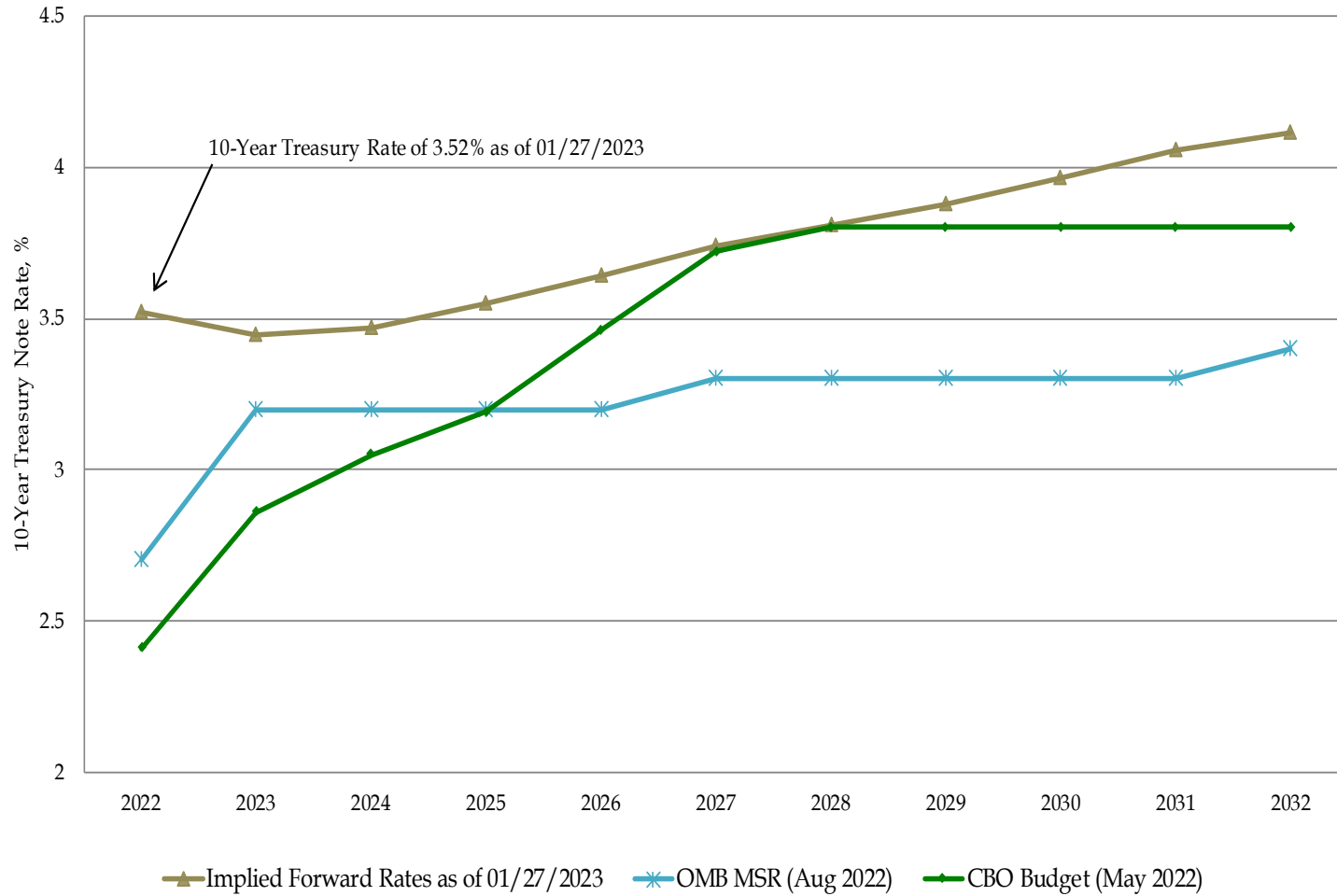
Deficit Estimates (\$ billion)	PD 25th Percentile	Primary Dealers (Median)	PD 75th Percentile	Change from Prior Quarter (Median)	OMB	CBO
FY2023	1,000	1,130	1,250	110	1,300	908
FY2024	1,100	1,200	1,250	50	1,311	921
FY2025	1,200	1,309	1,403	34	1,414	1,145
As of date	Jan-23	Jan-23	Jan-23		Aug-22	Sep-22

- OMB projections are using estimates are from Table S-1 of “Mid-Session Review Budget of The U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2023,” August 2022.
- CBO projections are using estimates are from Table 2 of “An Analysis of the President’s 2023 Budget,” September 2022.


# Evolution of Median Primary Dealer, OMB, and CBO Deficit Estimates



## Interest Rate Assumptions: 10-Year Treasury Note



# Section IV: Estimated Borrowing Needs and Financing Implications

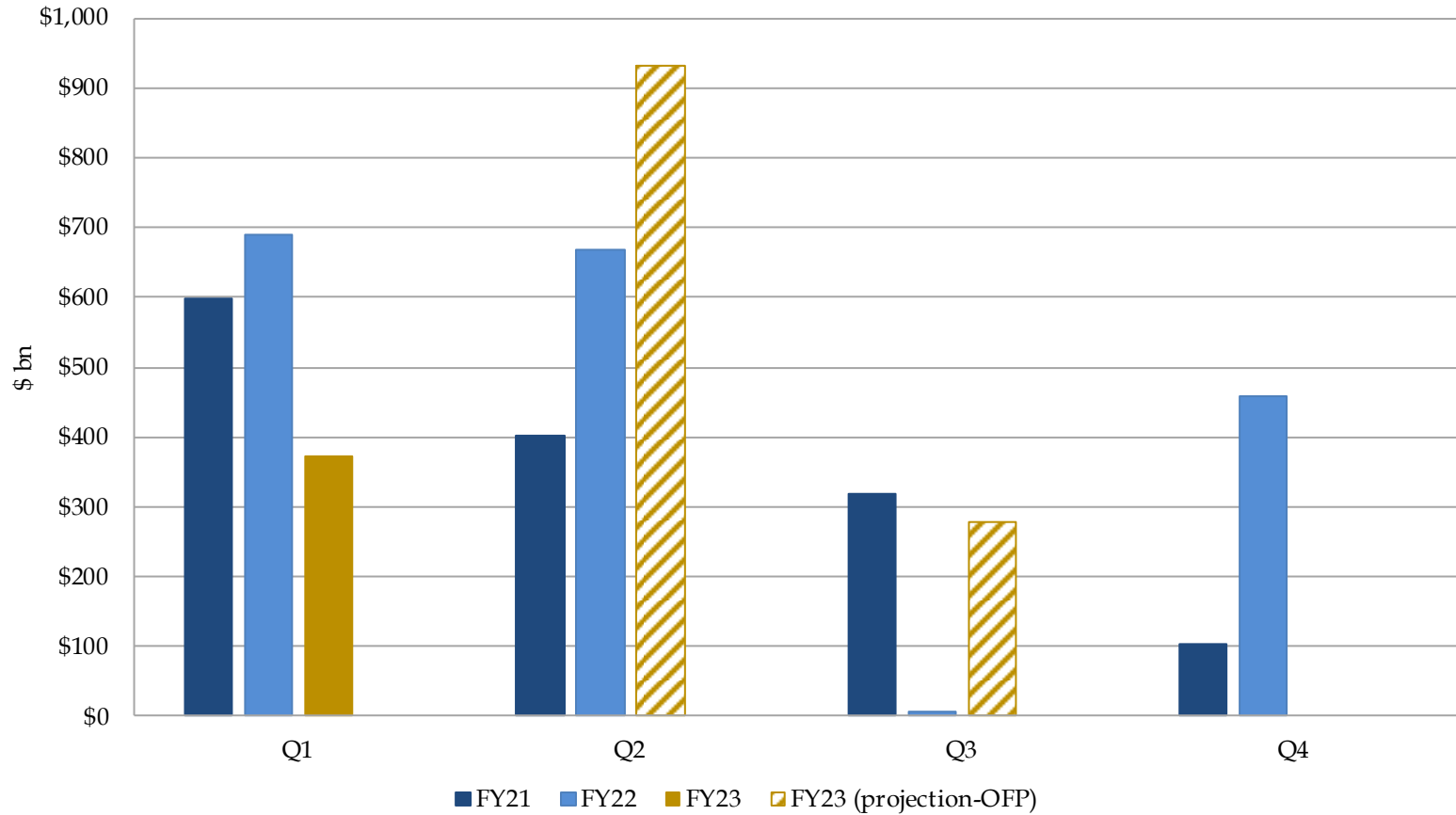


## Assumptions for Financing Section (pages 16 to 20)

- Portfolio and SOMA holdings as of 12/31/2022.
- Estimates assume privately announced issuance sizes and patterns remain constant for nominal coupons, TIPS, and FRNs given the issuance sizes in effect in January 2023, while using total bills outstanding of ~\$3.7 trillion.
- The principal on the TIPS securities was accreted to each projection date based on market ZCIS levels as of 12/31/2022.
- No attempt was made to account for future financing needs.
- **Privately-held marketable borrowing** excludes rollovers (auction “add-ons”) of Treasury securities held in the Federal Reserve System Open Market Account (SOMA) but includes financing required due to SOMA redemptions. Secondary market purchases of Treasury securities by SOMA do not directly change net privately-held marketable borrowing but, all else equal, when the securities mature and assuming the Fed does not redeem any maturing securities, this would increase the amount of cash raised for a given privately-held auction size by increasing the SOMA “add-on” amount. These borrowing estimates are based upon current law and do not include any assumptions for the impact of additional legislation that may be passed.
- All estimates assume enactment of a debt limit suspension or increase.



## Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing Outlook



# Implied Bill Funding for Next Two Quarters Based on Recent Borrowing Estimates

## Sources of Privately-Held Financing in FY23 Q2

January - March 2023	
Assuming Constant Coupon Issuance Sizes*	
Treasury Announced Net Marketable Borrowing**	932
Net Coupon Issuance	277
Implied Change in Bills	655

## Sources of Privately-Held Financing in FY23 Q3

April - June 2023	
Assuming Constant Coupon Issuance Sizes*	
Treasury Announced Net Marketable Borrowing**	278
Net Coupon Issuance	248
Implied Change in Bills	30

Security	January - March 2023 Coupon Issuance			Fiscal Year-to-Date Coupon Issuance		
	Gross	Maturing	Net	Gross	Maturing	Net
2-Year FRN	68	80	(12)	136	154	(18)
2-Year	168	204	(36)	252	298	(46)
3-Year	120	79	41	240	128	112
5-Year	172	73	99	258	98	160
7-Year	140	111	29	210	179	31
10-Year	99	38	61	198	91	107
20-Year	51	0	51	78	0	78
30-Year	57	5	52	114	7	107
5-Year TIPS	0	0	0	40	0	40
10-Year TIPS	32	50	(18)	47	50	(3)
30-Year TIPS	9	0	9	9	0	9
Coupon Subtotal	916	639	277	1,582	1,005	577

Security	April - June 2023 Coupon Issuance			Fiscal Year-to-Date Coupon Issuance		
	Gross	Maturing	Net	Gross	Maturing	Net
2-Year FRN	68	80	(12)	204	234	(30)
2-Year	126	154	(28)	378	451	(73)
3-Year	120	97	23	360	226	134
5-Year	129	67	62	387	165	222
7-Year	105	68	37	315	246	69
10-Year	99	42	57	297	133	164
20-Year	39	0	39	117	0	117
30-Year	57	0	57	171	7	164
5-Year TIPS	40	42	(2)	80	42	37
10-Year TIPS	15	0	15	62	50	12
30-Year TIPS	0	0	0	9	0	9
Coupon Subtotal	798	550	248	2,380	1,555	825

\* Keeping announced issuance sizes and patterns constant for nominal coupons, TIPS, and FRNs based on changes made before the February 2023 refunding.

\*\* Assumes an end-of-March 2023 and end-of-June 2023 cash balances of \$500 billion and \$550 billion respectively versus a beginning-of-January 2023 cash balance of \$447 billion. Financing Estimates released by the Treasury can be found here: <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/quarterly-refunding/Pages/Latest.aspx>

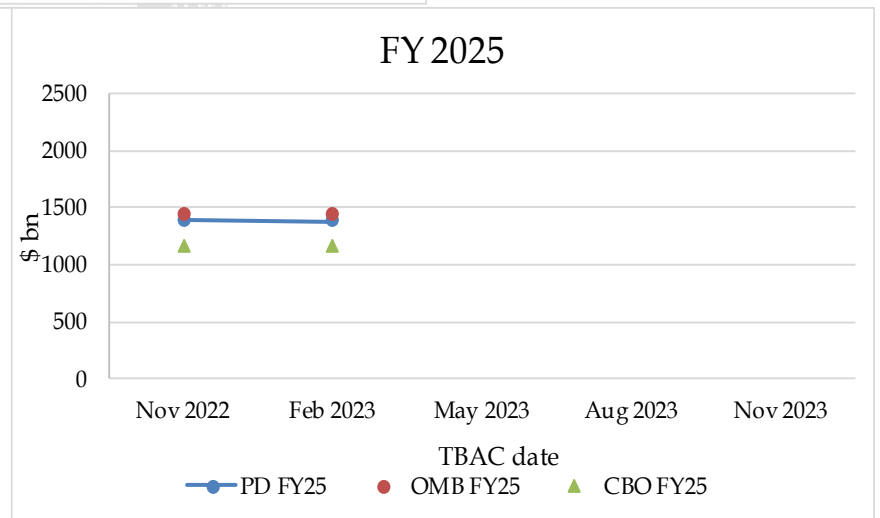
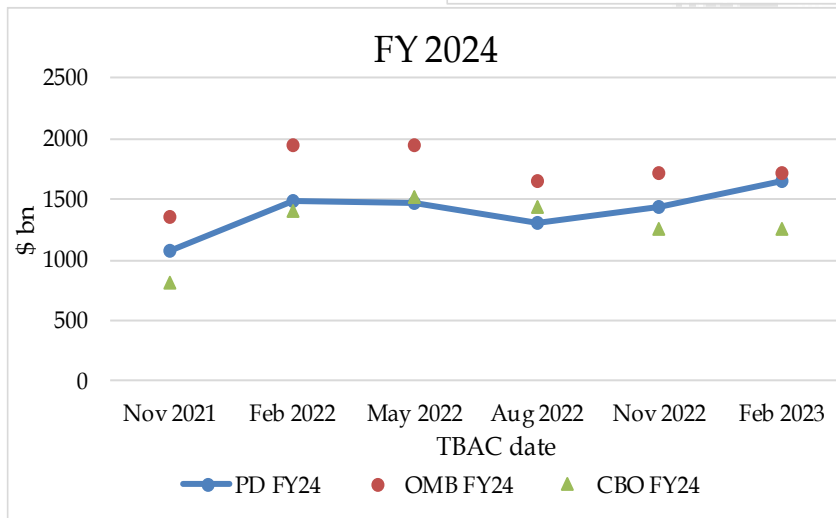
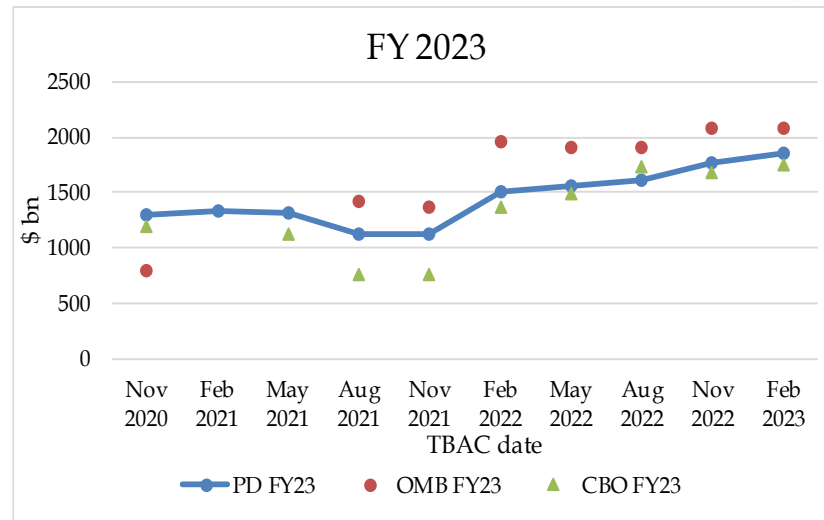
# Longer-Term Privately Held Net Marketable Borrowing Estimates and SOMA Redemption Assumptions

## FY 2023-2025 Deficits and Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing Estimates, in \$ billions

	Primary Dealer			OMB MSR	CBO <sup>1</sup>	CBO <sup>2</sup>
	25th	Median	75th			
FY 2023 Deficit	1,000	1,130	1,250	1,300	908	984
FY 2024 Deficit	1,100	1,200	1,250	1,311	921	1,056
FY 2025 Deficit	1,200	1,309	1,403	1,414	1,145	1,318
FY 2023 SOMA Redemption	720	720	720			
FY 2024 SOMA Redemption	90	360	685			
FY 2025 SOMA Redemption	0	0	45			
FY 2023 Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing*	1,837	1,865	1,917	2,087	1,749	1,825
FY 2024 Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing*	1,394	1,645	1,702	1,722	1,250	1,384
FY 2025 Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing*	1,150	1,400	1,448	1,460	1,172	1,344
Estimates as of:	Jan-23			Aug-22	Sep-22	May-22

- \*All privately-held net marketable borrowing estimates of are “normalized” using:
  - 1) the median Primary Dealer’s estimates for SOMA redemptions, and
  - 2) assuming OMB’s end of fiscal year 2023 cash balance of \$650 billion, held constant in out years.
- OMB projections are using estimates are from Table S-1 of “Mid-Session Review Budget of The U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2023,” August 2022.
- CBO<sup>1</sup> projections are using estimates are from Table 2 of “An Analysis of the President’s 2023 Budget,” September 2022.
- CBO<sup>2</sup> projections are using estimates are from Table 1-1 of “The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2022 to 2032,” May 2022.

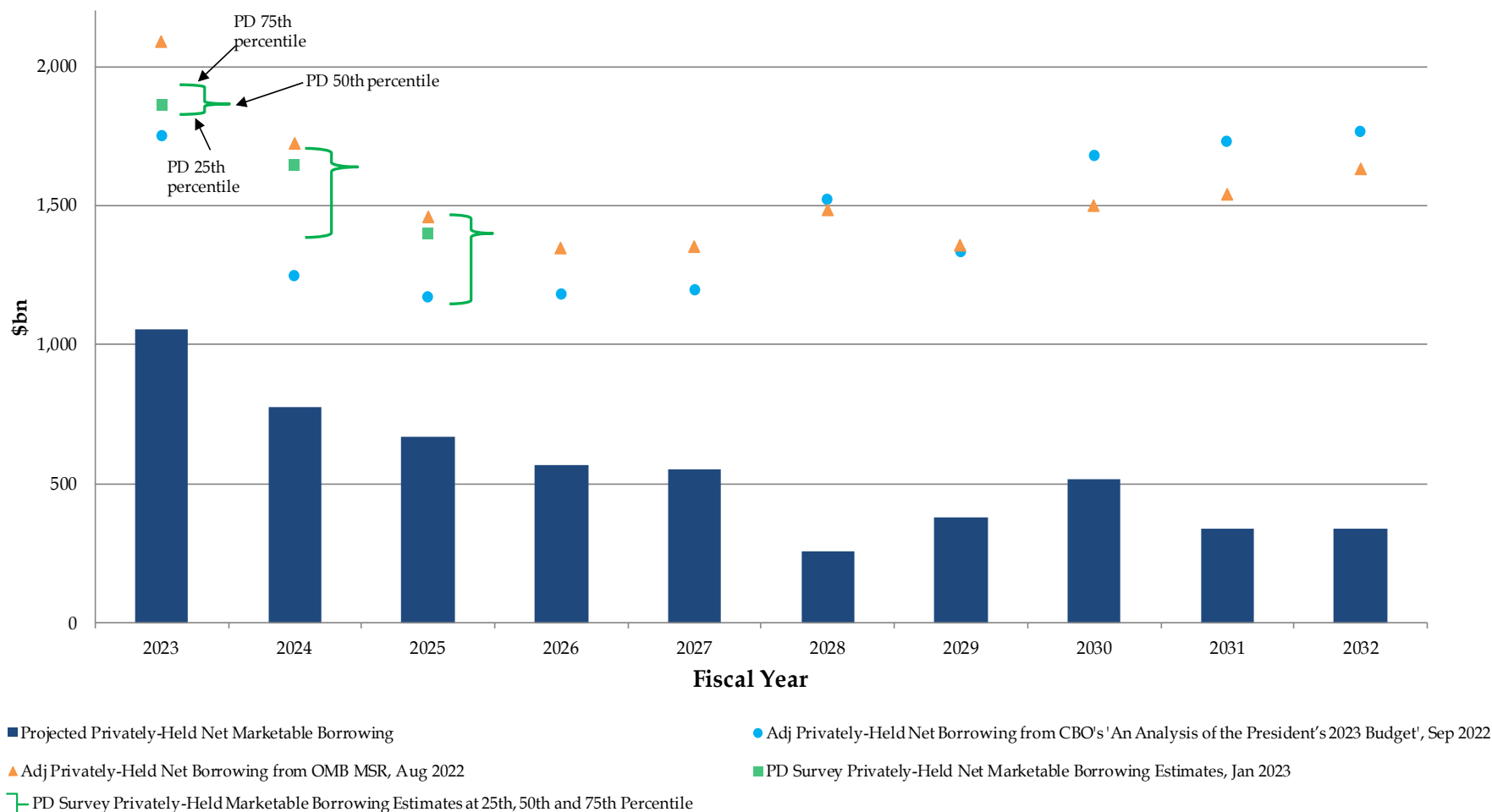
# Evolution of Median Primary Dealer, OMB, and CBO Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing Estimates\*



\* Note that both the OMB and CBO privately-held net marketable borrowing estimates are calculated by adjusting their respective deficit estimates using dealer's median SOMA redemption estimates. In addition, all the PD, OMB and CBO privately-held borrowings are normalized with the same cash balance changes.

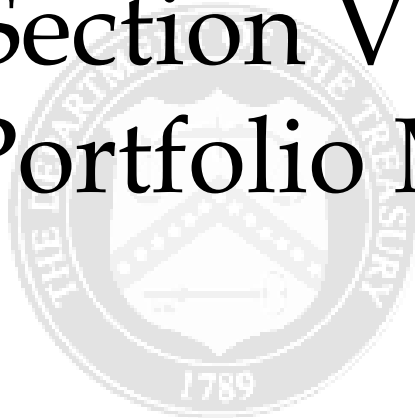
# Projected Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing

Assuming Private Coupon Issuance & Total Bills Outstanding Remain Constant as of 12/31/2022\*



\*Treasury's latest primary dealer survey median/interquartile range estimates can be found on page 18. OMB's borrowing projections are from Table S-1 of "Mid-Session Review Budget of the U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2023," Aug 2022. CBO's borrowing projections are using estimates from Table 2 of CBO's "An Analysis of the President's 2023 Budget," Sept 2022. Both OMB and CBO borrowing estimates are normalized to privately-held net borrowing after adding PD survey median SOMA redemption assumptions for FY23/24/25. In addition, all the PD and CBO privately-held net borrowing estimates are normalized with OMB MSR FY23/FY24/FY25 ending cash balance of \$650 billion.

# Section V: Select Portfolio Metrics



Note: Several of the portfolio metric charts that follow include three years of projected metrics.

**These projections are hypothetical and are meant for illustrative purposes only. The projections contained in these charts should not be interpreted as representing any future policy decisions regarding Treasury financing.**

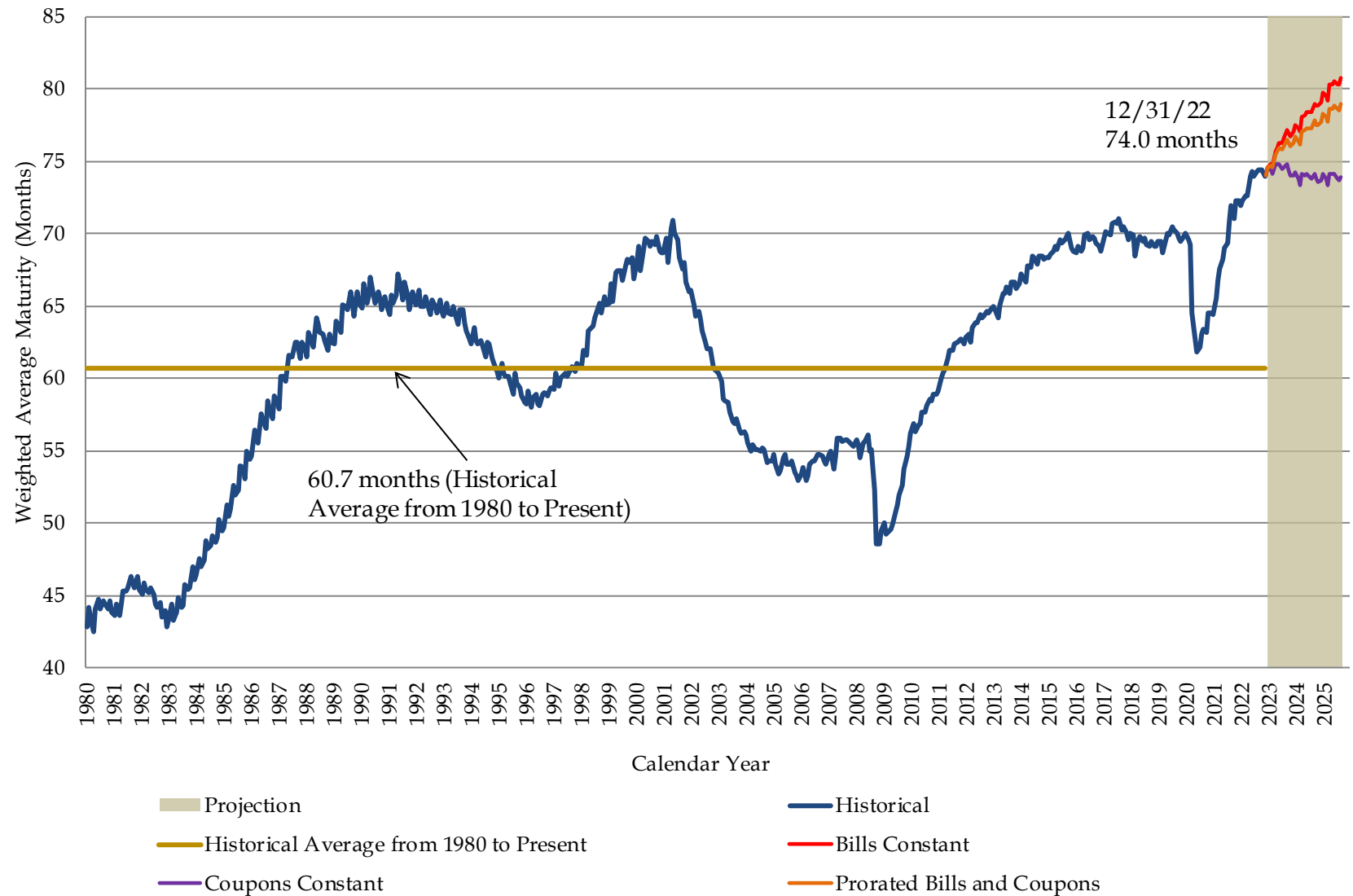
Projections illustrate how various portfolio metrics could evolve under three hypothetical financing scenarios. The scenarios were chosen to illustrate a potential range of portfolio metric outcomes based on hypothetical issuance choices.

The scenarios are:

- 1) ***“Coupons Constant”***: Treasury maintains **coupon, FRN, and TIPS auction sizes constant** starting in January 2023 and addresses any changes in financing needs by only increasing or decreasing T-bill auction sizes;
- 2) ***“Bills Constant”***: Treasury maintains **T-bills aggregate supply constant** at \$3.7 trillion as of 12/31/2022 and increases or decreases coupon, FRN, and TIPS auction sizes in response to financing needs in a manner that maintains current issuance proportions going forward;
- 3) ***“Prorated Bills and Coupons”***: Treasury maintains **T-bills share constant** at 15.4% as of 12/31/2022 and addresses any changes in financing needs by pro rata increasing or decreasing coupon, FRN, and TIPS auction sizes.

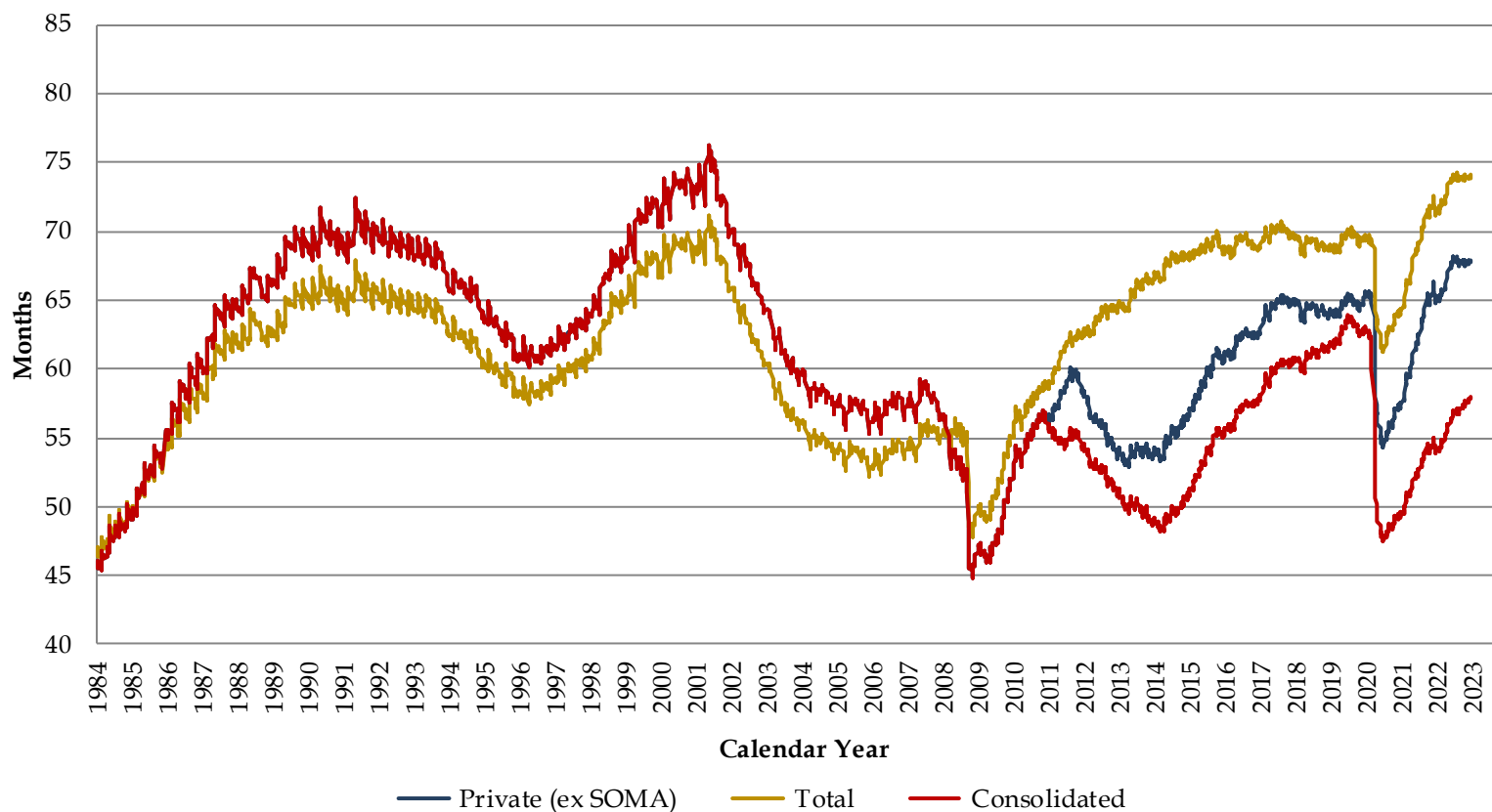
Net marketable borrowing needs used in the projections section of these charts are proxied using median primary dealer estimates for FY23, FY24, & FY25 (see page 18).

# Weighted Average Maturity of Marketable Debt Outstanding





# Consolidated WANRR Calculation\*

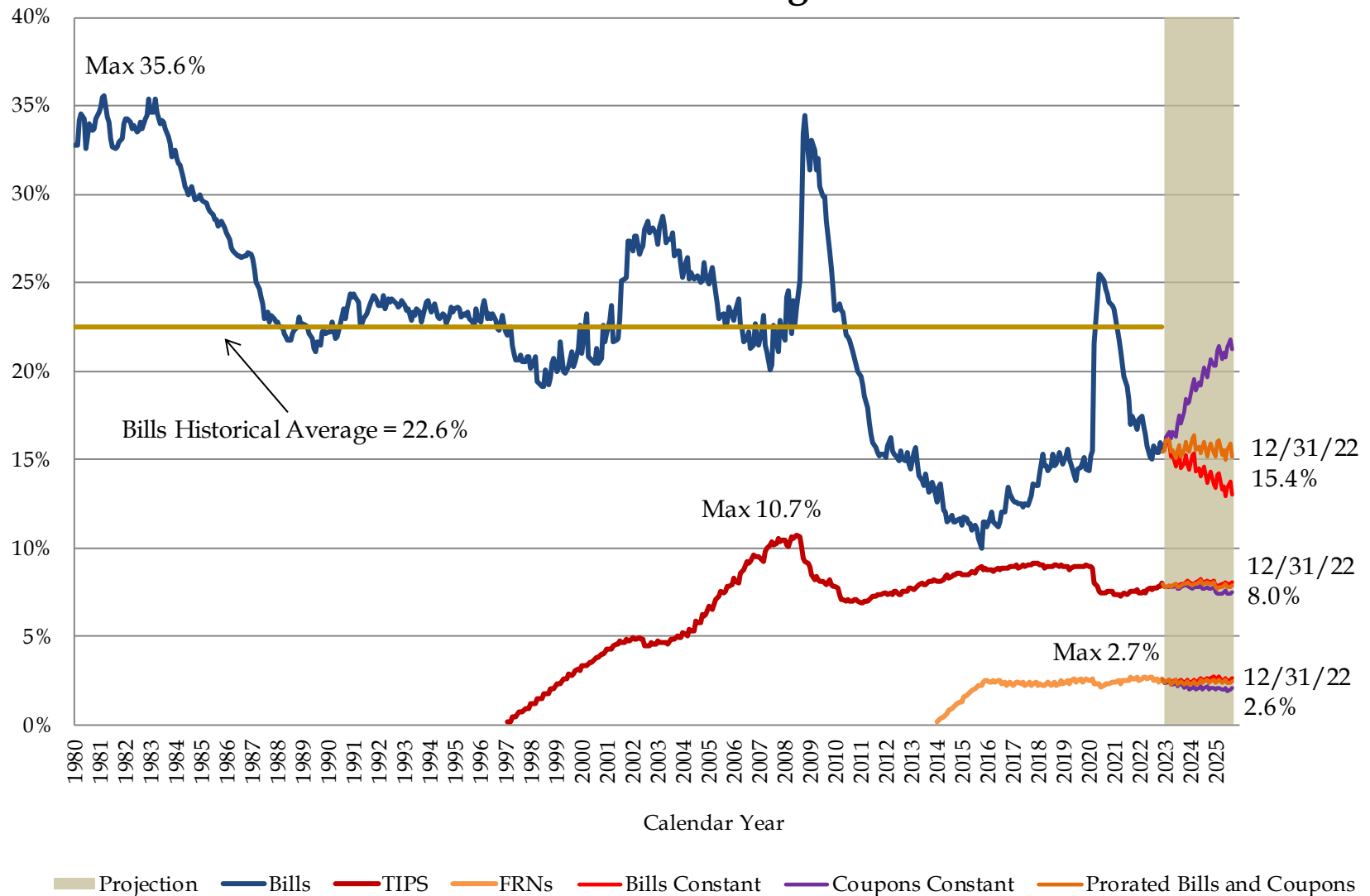


\* Weighted Average Next Rate Reset (WANRR) is a “Weighted Average Maturity” metric that attempts to adjust for the floating rate aspect of some Treasury debt. The WANRR is the average time until the outstanding debt’s interest rate is set to a new interest rate. For bills and fixed rate notes and bonds, the next rate reset is equal to the maturity date.

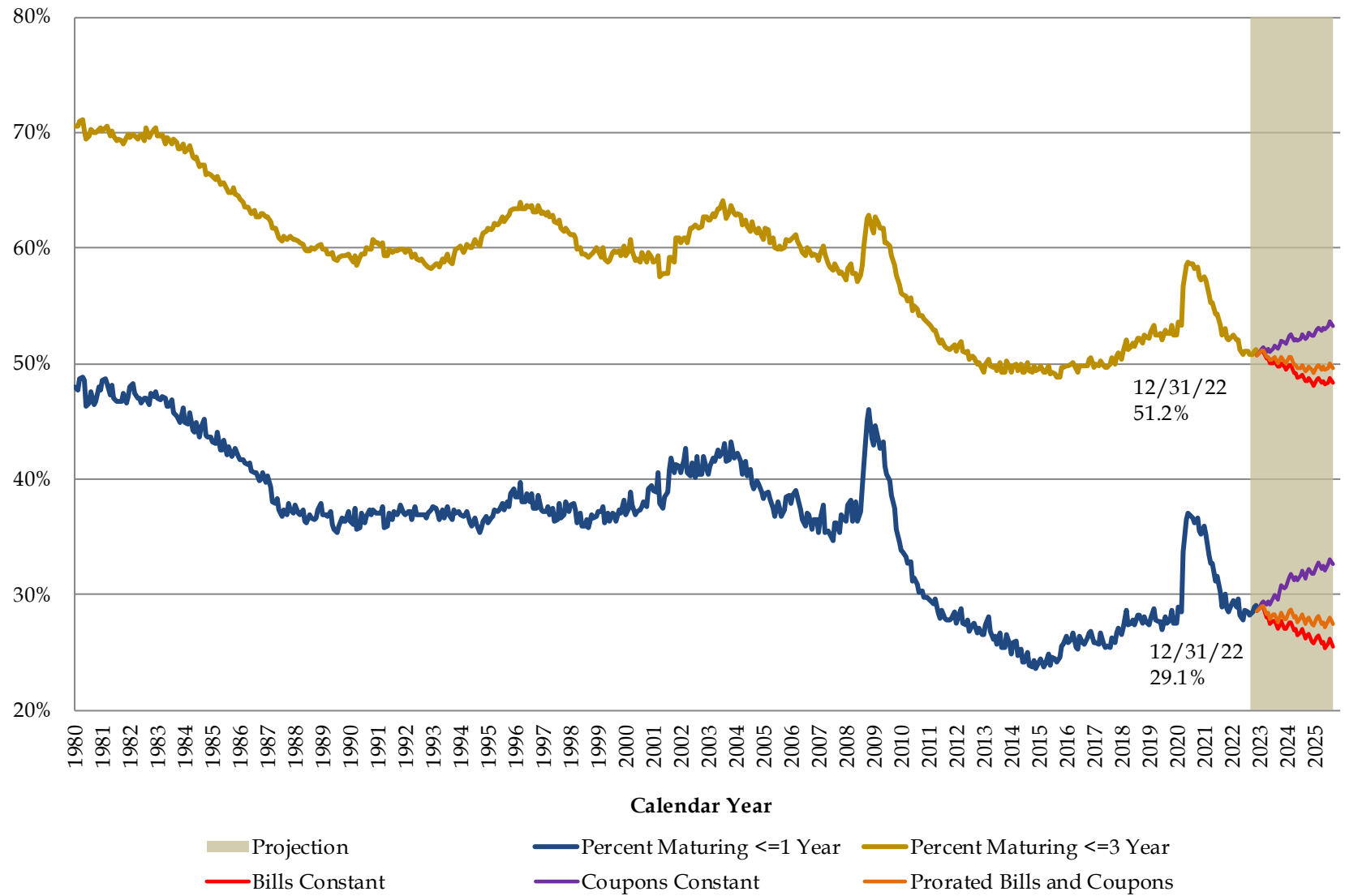
In contrast, for floating rate obligations, the time between the next rate reset date or maturity date is examined and the shorter period is used in the calculation.

The consolidated outstanding debt is defined as the private amount plus SOMA Treasury securities holdings less currency amount. In this calculation, SOMA Treasury holdings greater than the level of currency outstanding is treated as if it is a daily rate reset.

# Bills, TIPS & FRNs Outstanding as a Percent of Marketable Debt Outstanding



# Treasury Maturity Profile

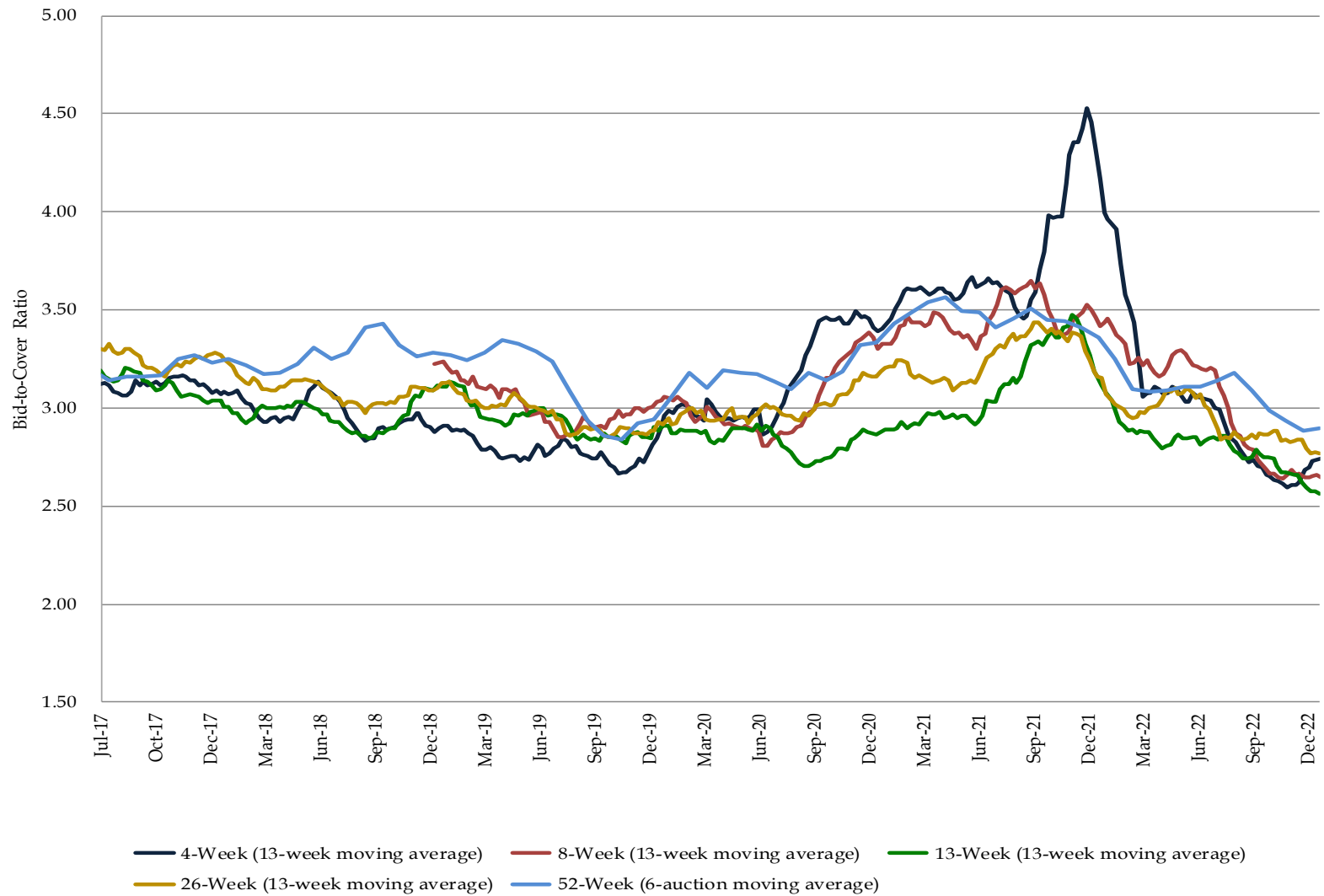


# Section VI:

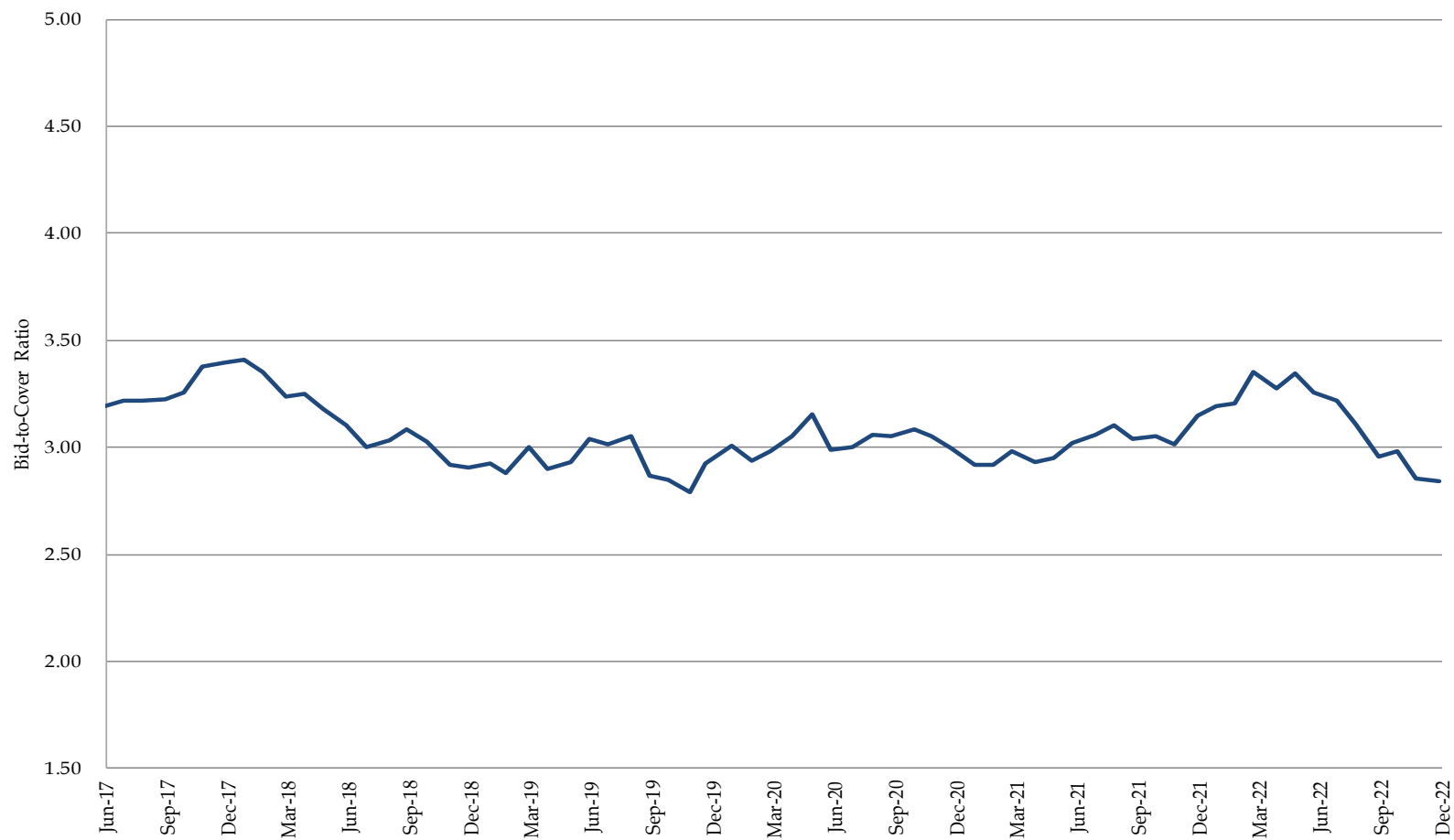
# Select Demand Metrics

Bid-to-Cover Data, Investor Class Data,  
Direct & Primary Dealer Awards, and Foreign Demand

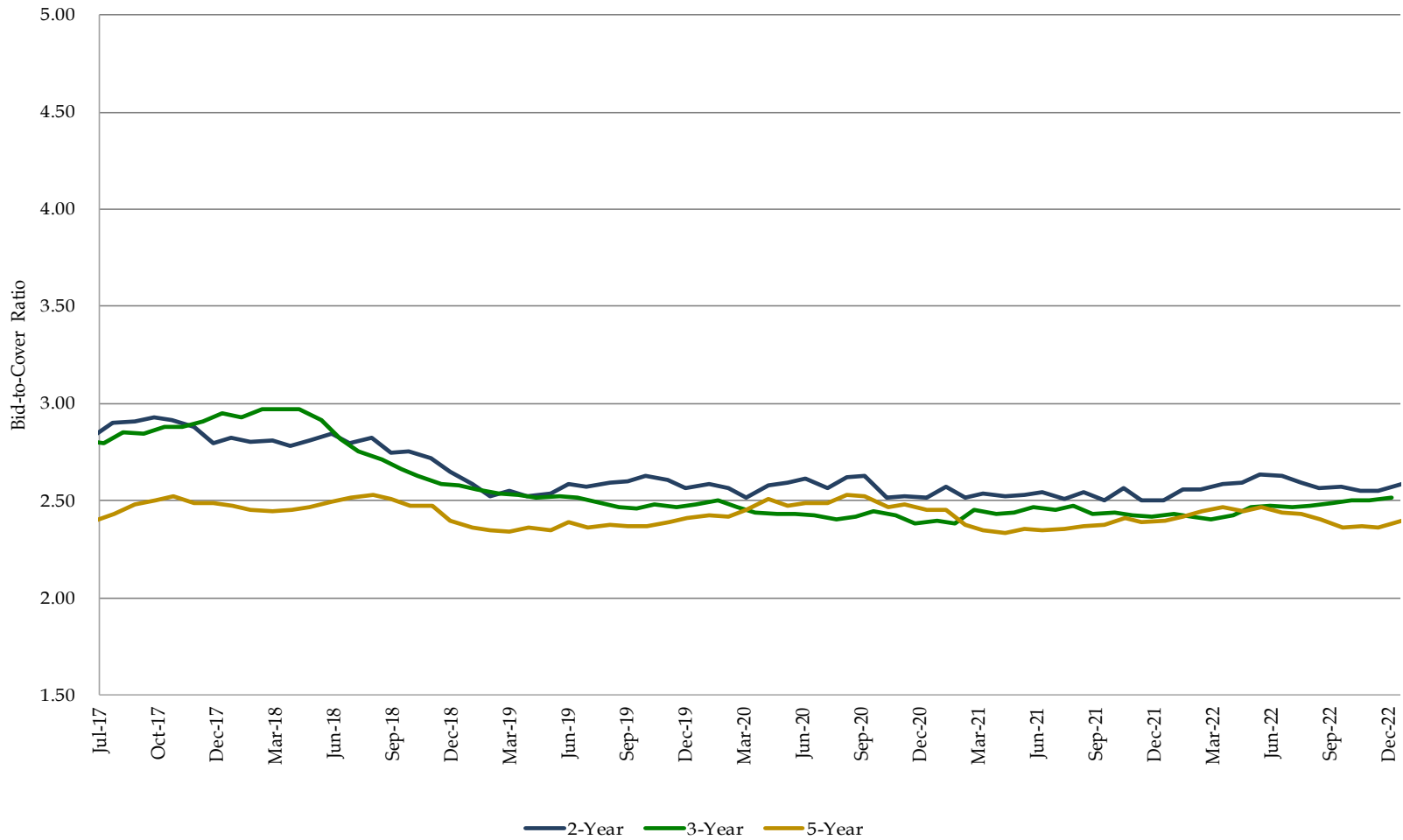
## Bid-to-Cover Ratios for Treasury Bills



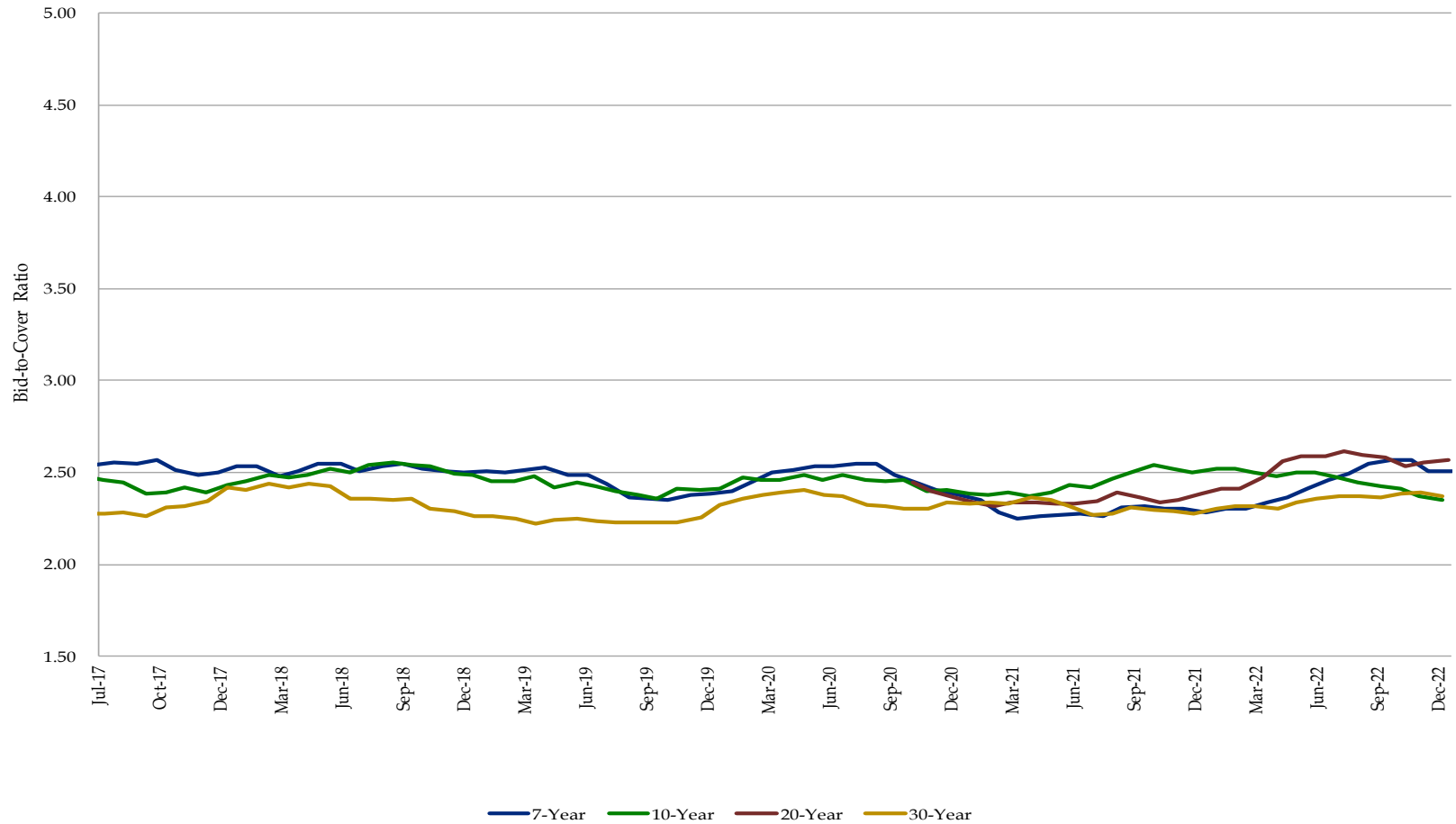
## Bid-to-Cover Ratios for FRNs (6-Month Moving Average)



## Bid-to-Cover Ratios for 2-, 3-, and 5-Year Nominal Securities (6-Month Moving Average)

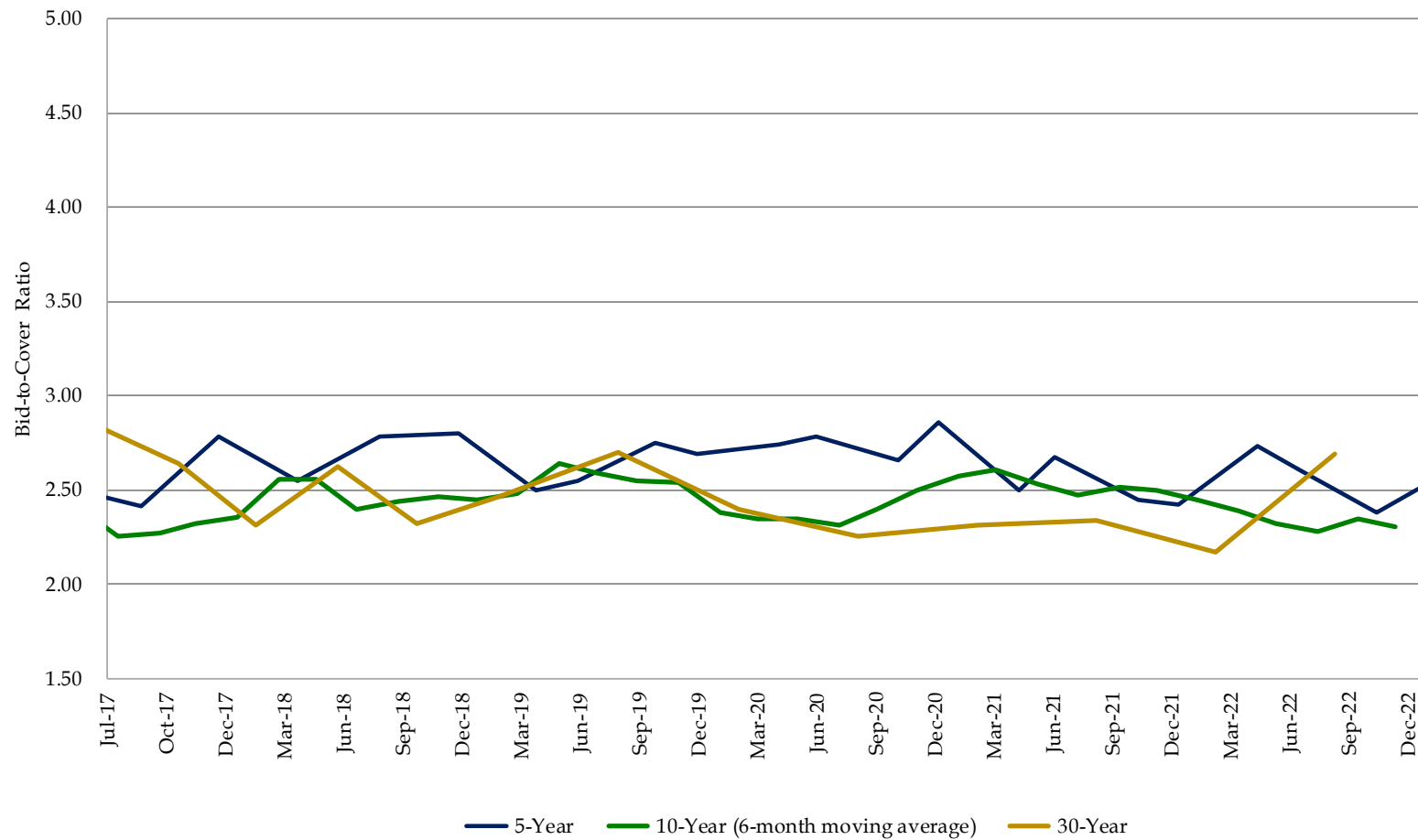


## Bid-to-Cover Ratios for 7-, 10-, 20-, and 30-Year Nominal Securities (6-Month Moving Average)

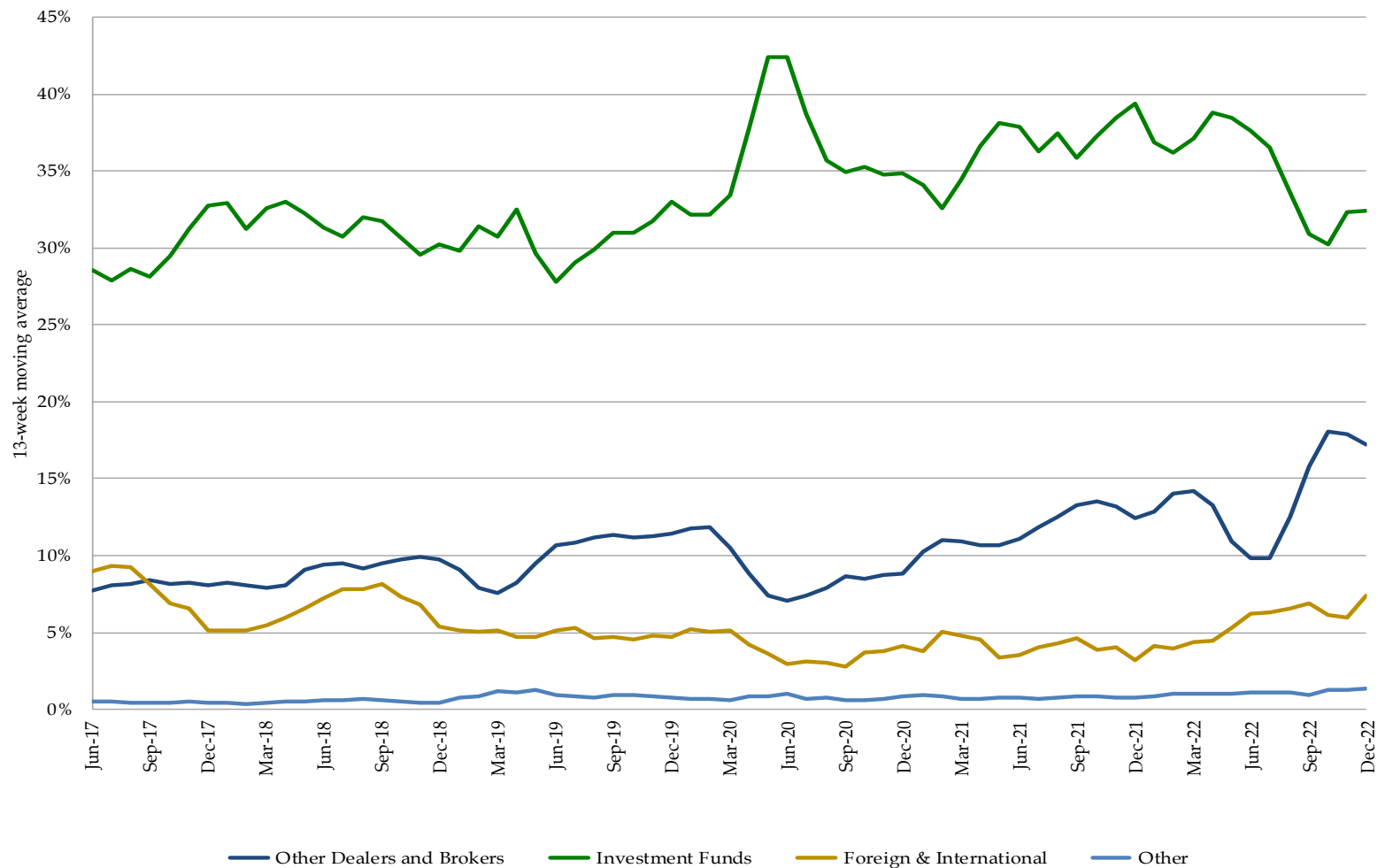




## Bid-to-Cover Ratios for TIPS

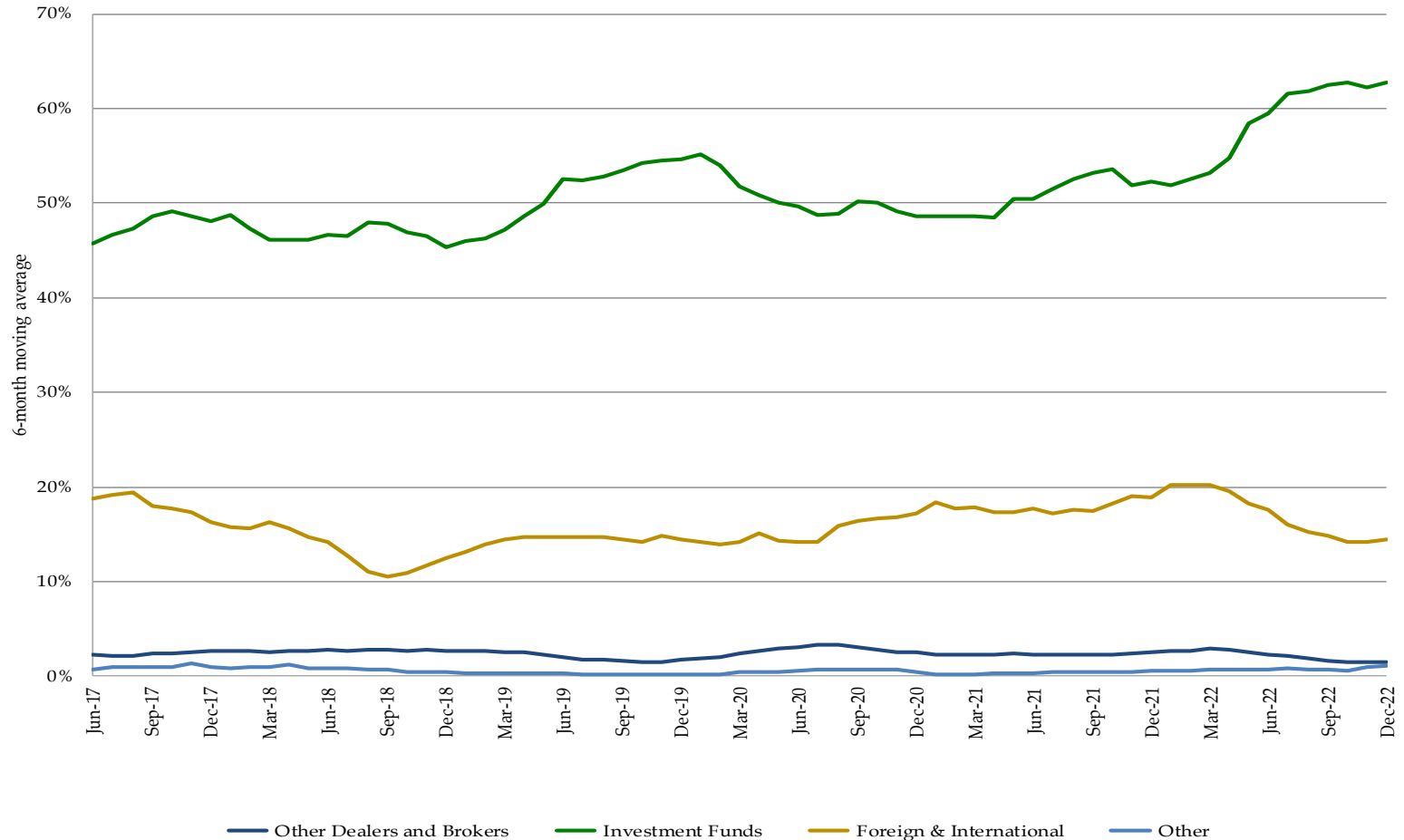


## Percent Awarded in Bill Auctions by Investor Class (13-Week Moving Average)



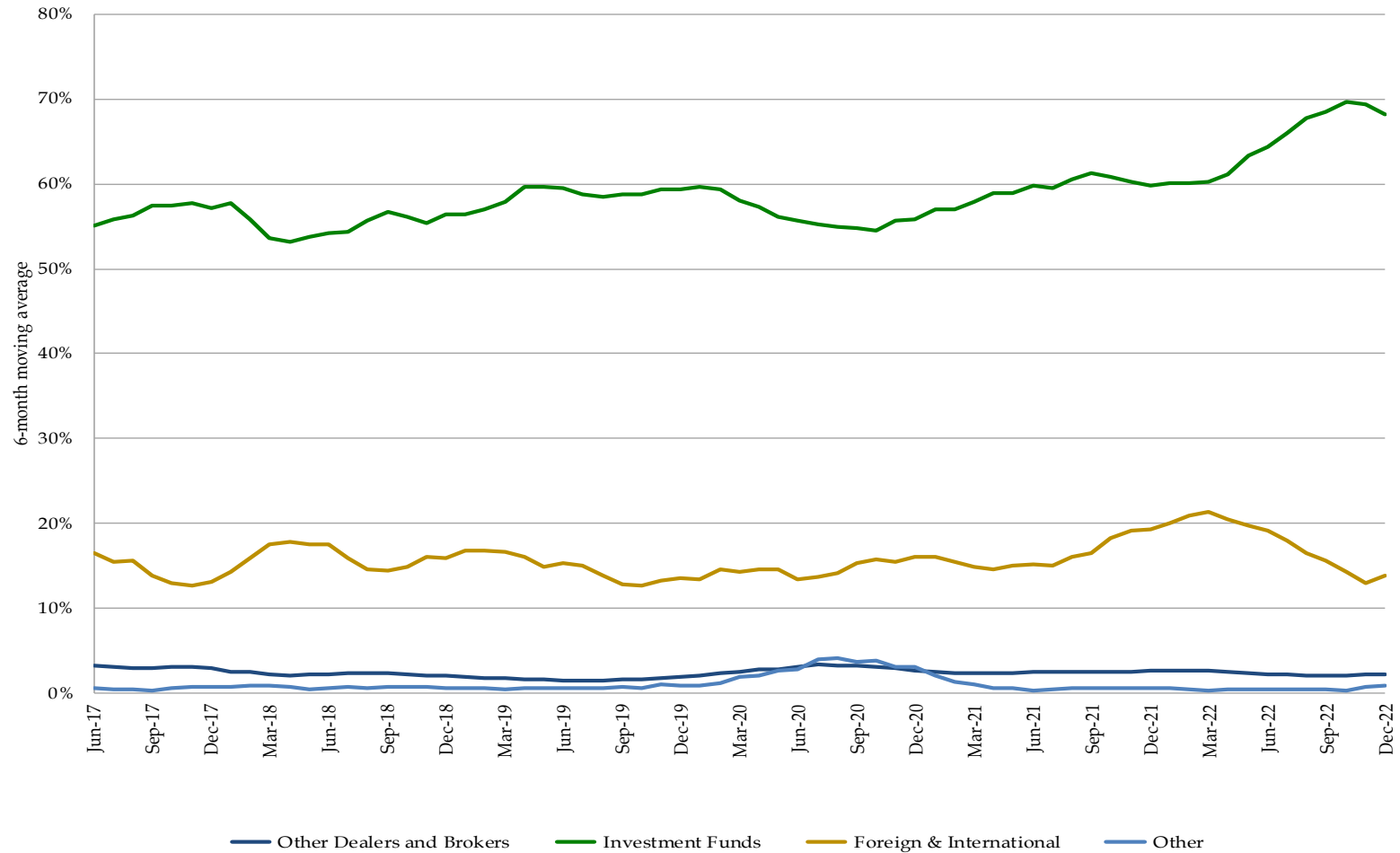
Excludes SOMA add-ons. The “Other” category includes categories that are each less than 5%, which include Depository Institutions, Individuals, Pension and Insurance.

## Percent Awarded in 2-, 3-, and 5-Year Nominal Security Auctions by Investor Class (6-Month Moving Average)



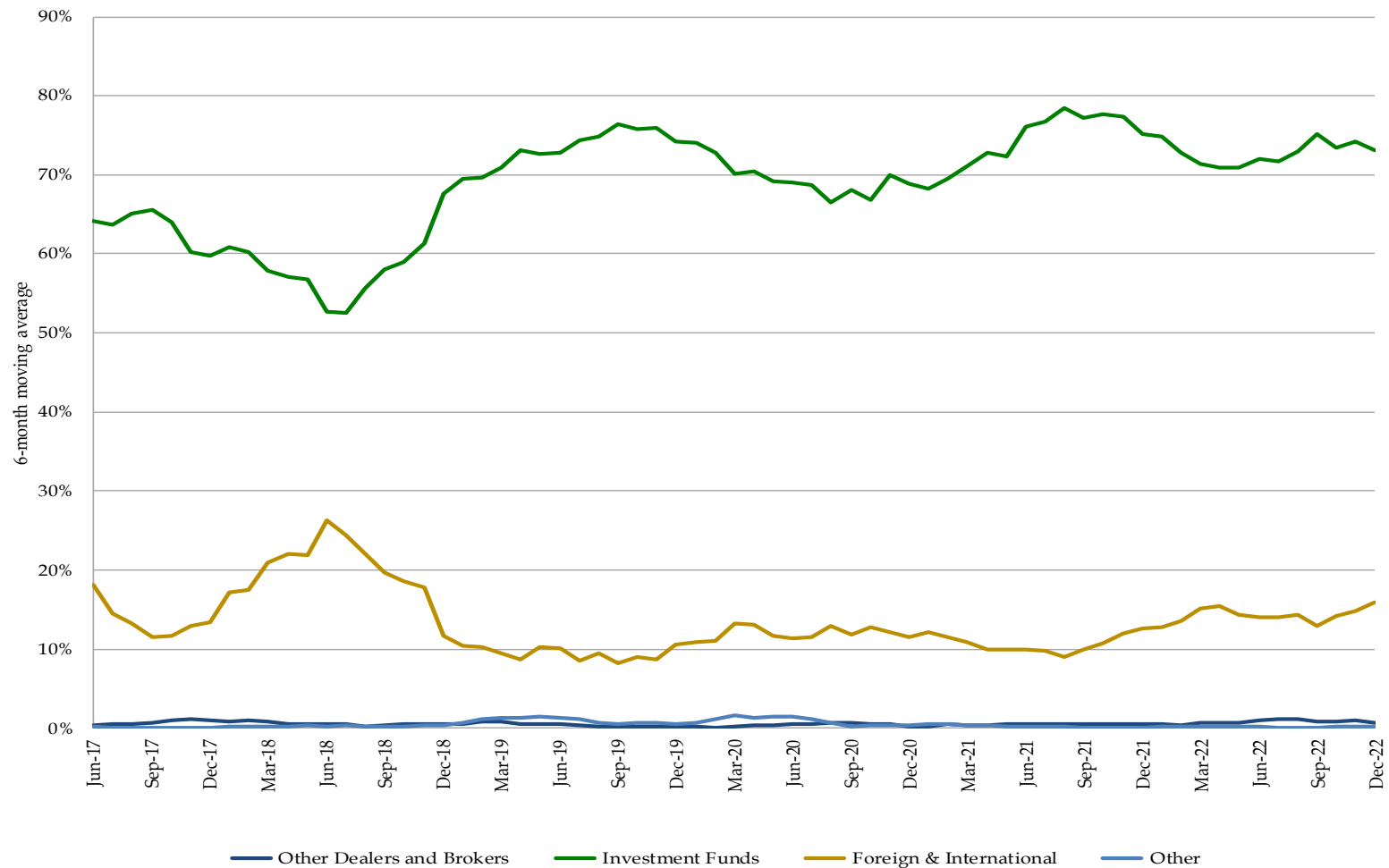
Excludes SOMA add-ons. The “Other” category includes categories that are each less than 5%, which include Depository Institutions, Individuals, Pension and Insurance.

## Percent Awarded in 7-, 10-, 20-, 30-Year Nominal Security Auctions by Investor Class (6-Month Moving Average)



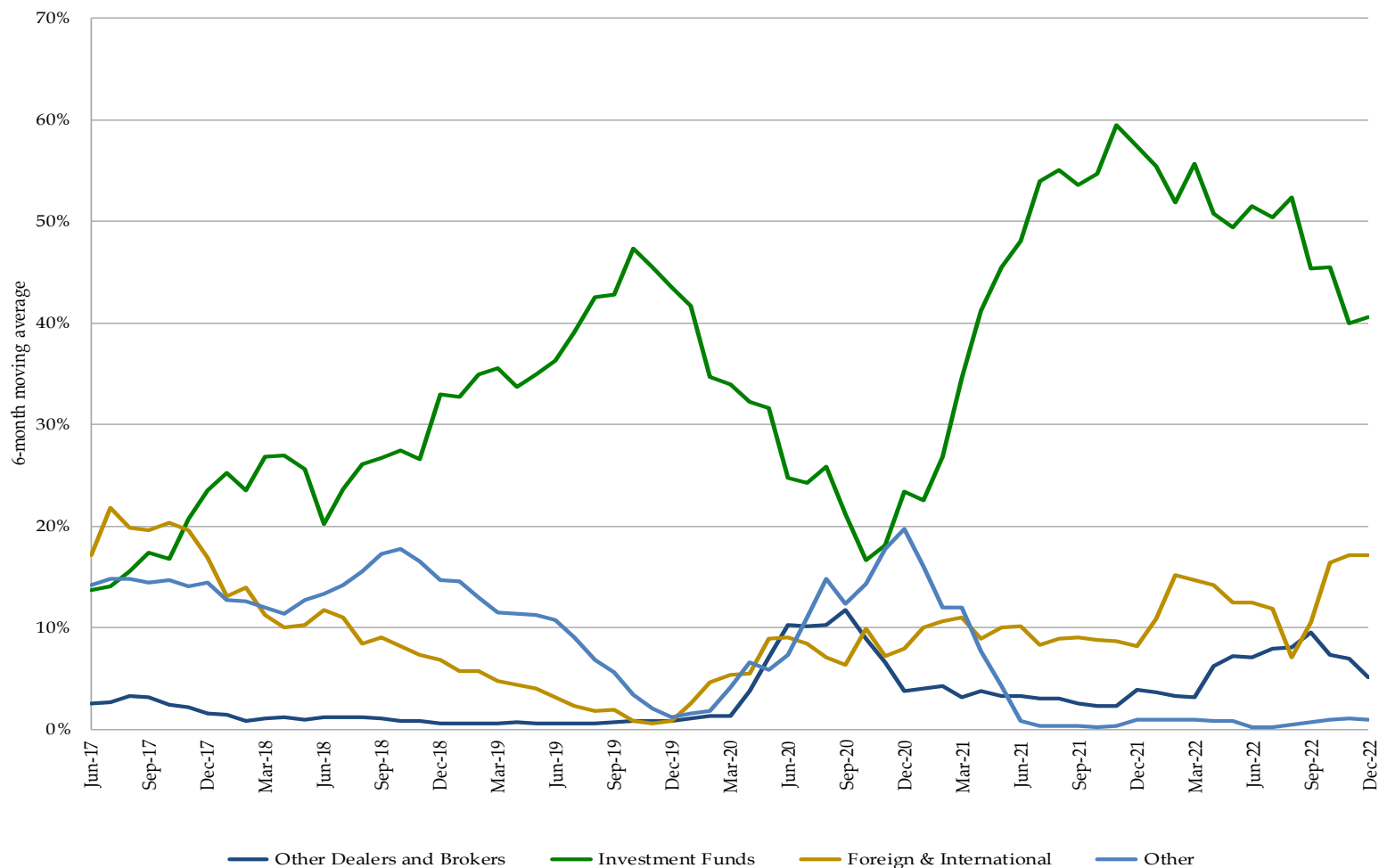
Excludes SOMA add-ons. The “Other” category includes categories that are each less than 5%, which include Depository Institutions, Individuals, Pension and Insurance.

## Percent Awarded in TIPS Auctions by Investor Class (6-Month Moving Average)



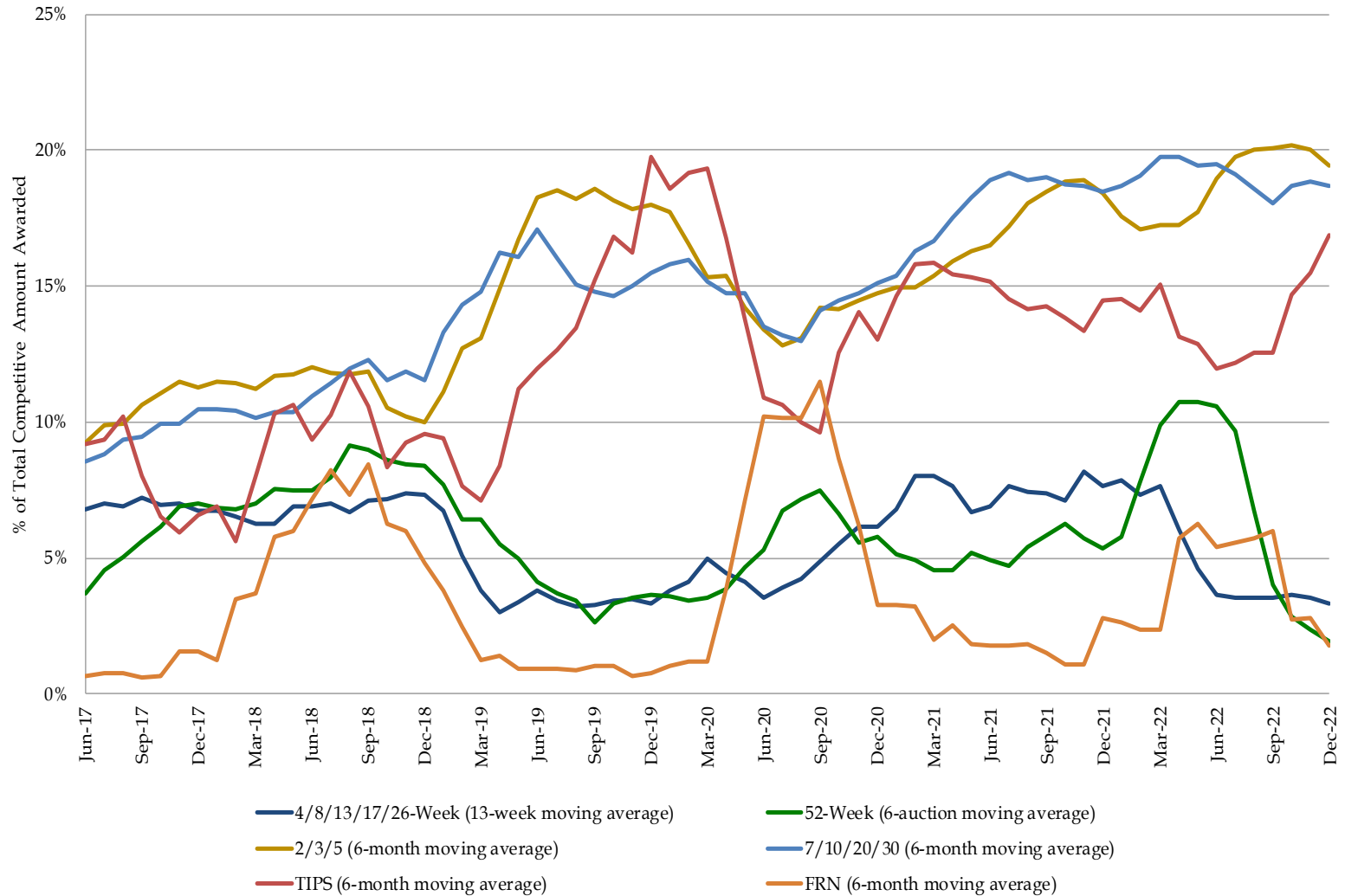
Excludes SOMA add-ons. The "Other" category includes categories that are each less than 5%, which include Depository Institutions, Individuals, Pension and Insurance.

## Percent Awarded in FRN Auctions by Investor Class (6-Month Moving Average)



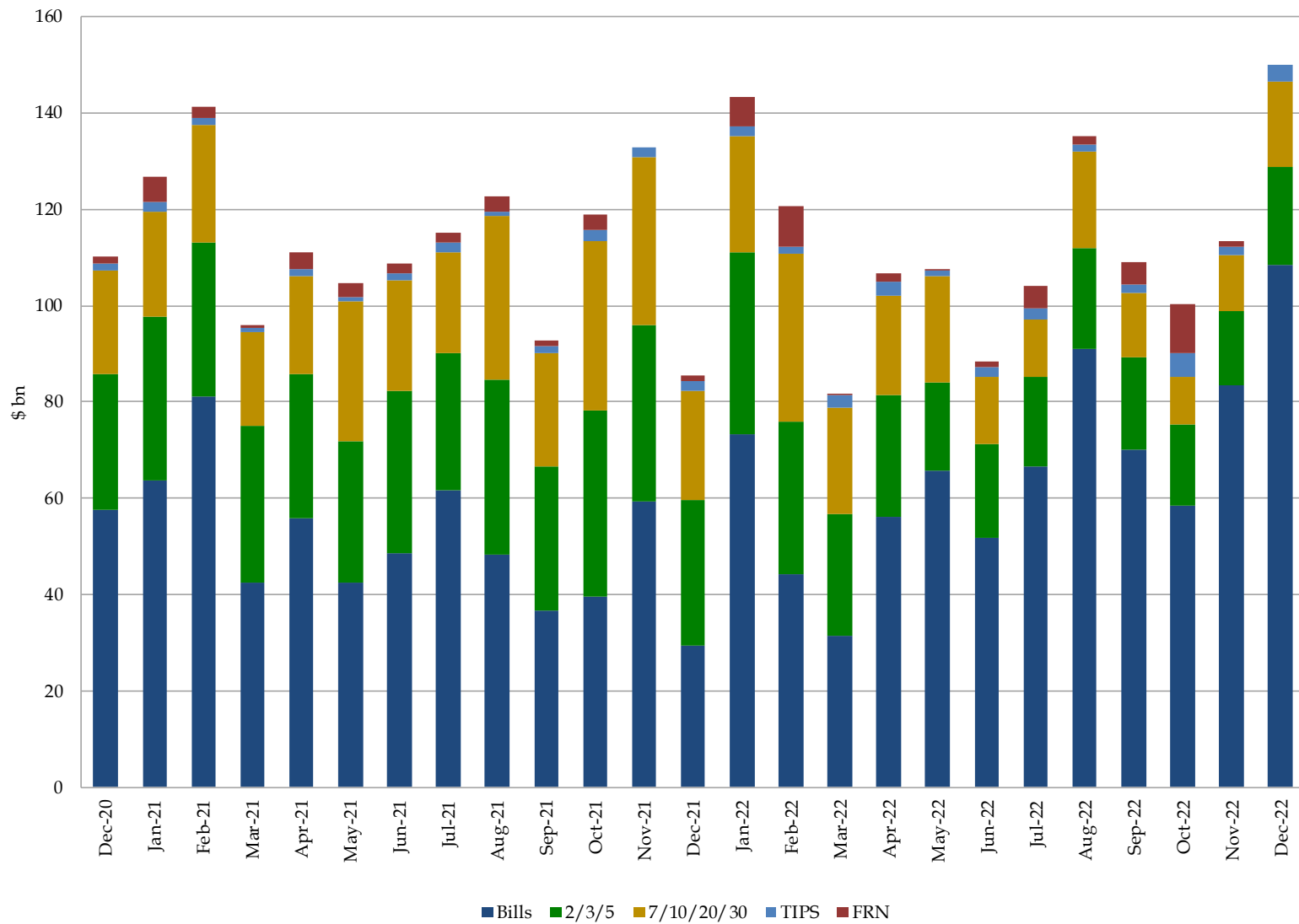
Excludes SOMA add-ons. The "Other" category includes categories that are each less than 5%, which include Depository Institutions, Individuals, Pension and Insurance.

## Direct Bidder Awards at Auction



Competitive Amount Awarded excludes SOMA add-ons.

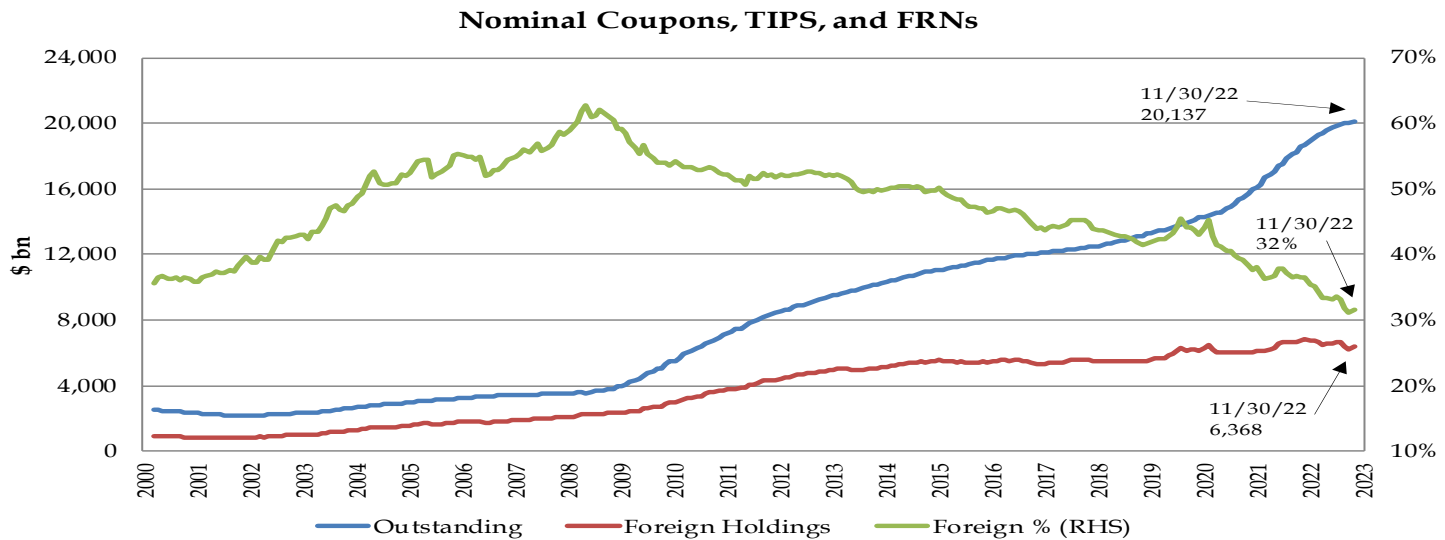
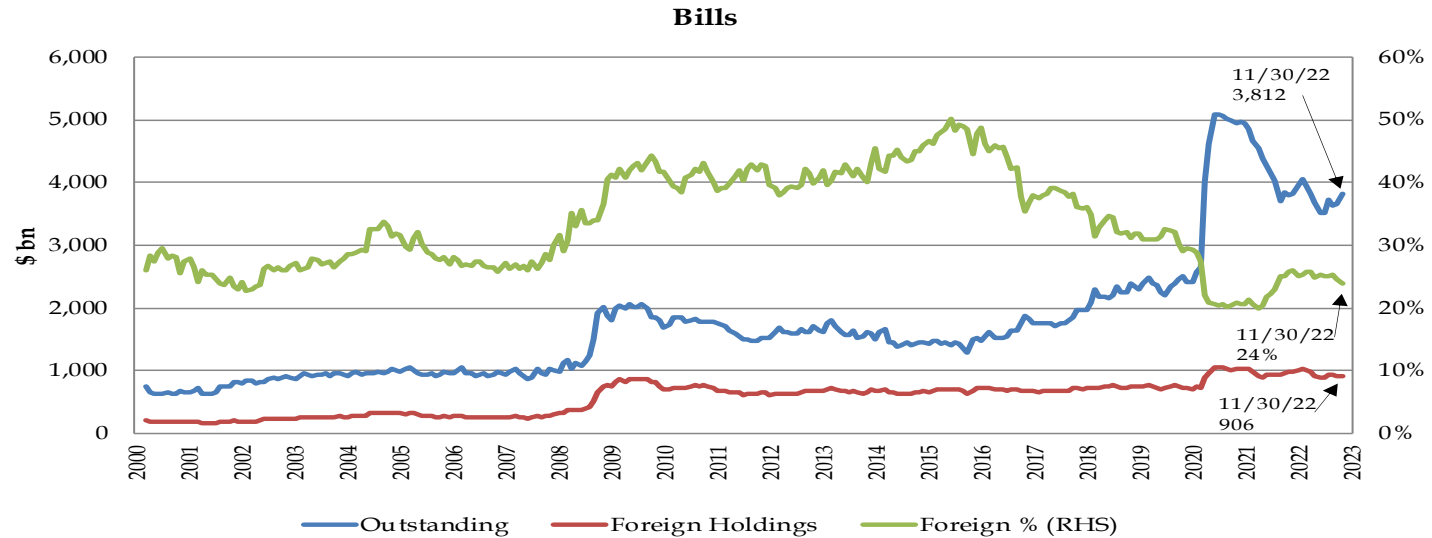
## Total Foreign Awards of Treasuries at Auction, \$ billions



Foreign includes both private sector and official institutions.



# Total Foreign Holdings



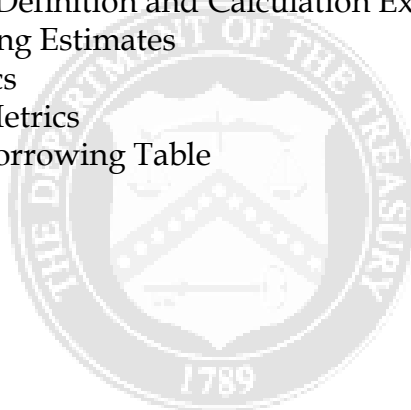
Source: Treasury International Capital (TIC) System as of November 2022.

For more information on foreign participation data, including more details about the TIC data shown here, please refer to Treasury Presentation to TBAC “Brief Overview of Key Data Sources on Foreign Participation in the U.S. Treasury Securities Market” at the Treasury February 2019 Refunding.

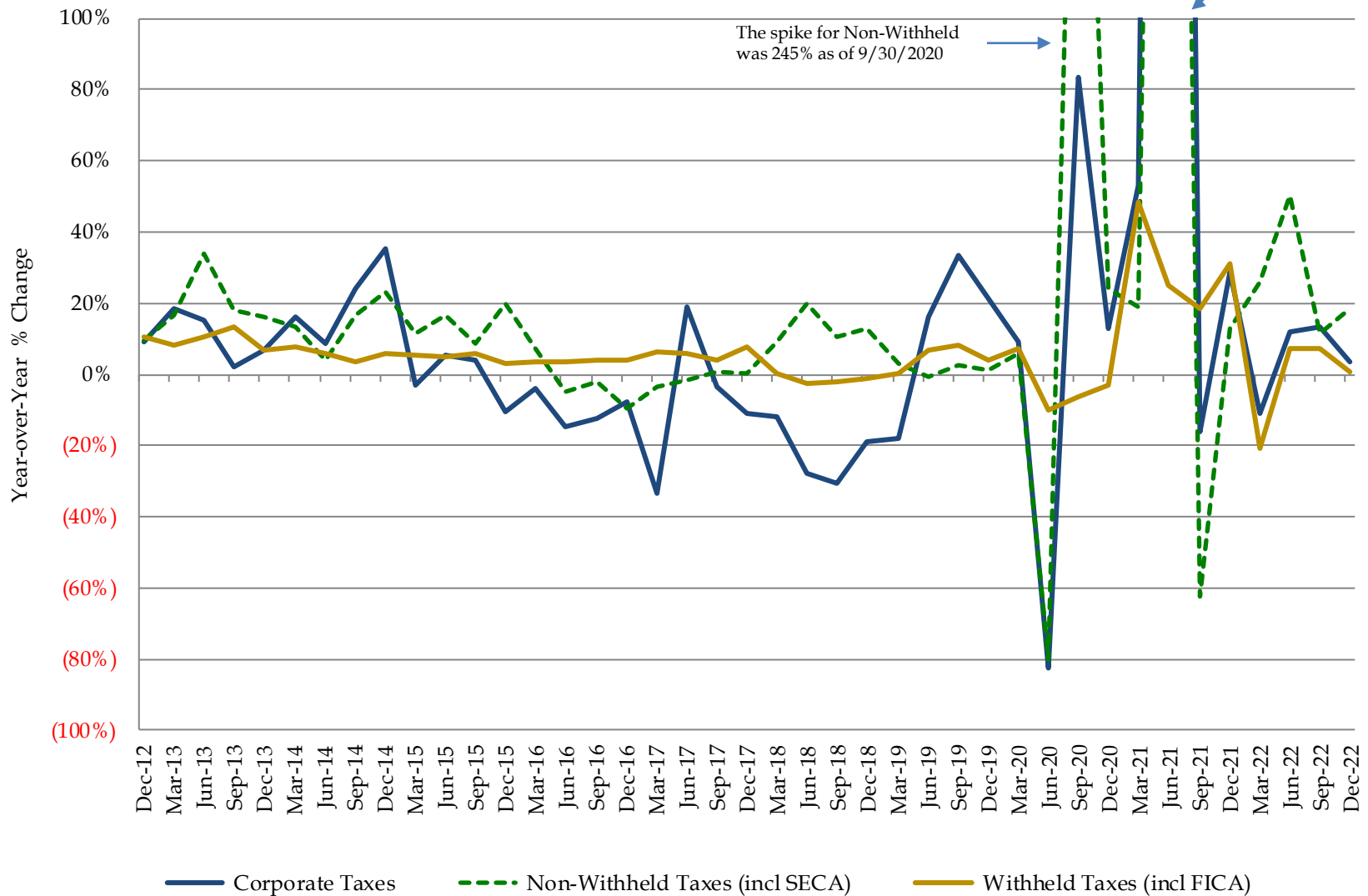
# VII. Appendix

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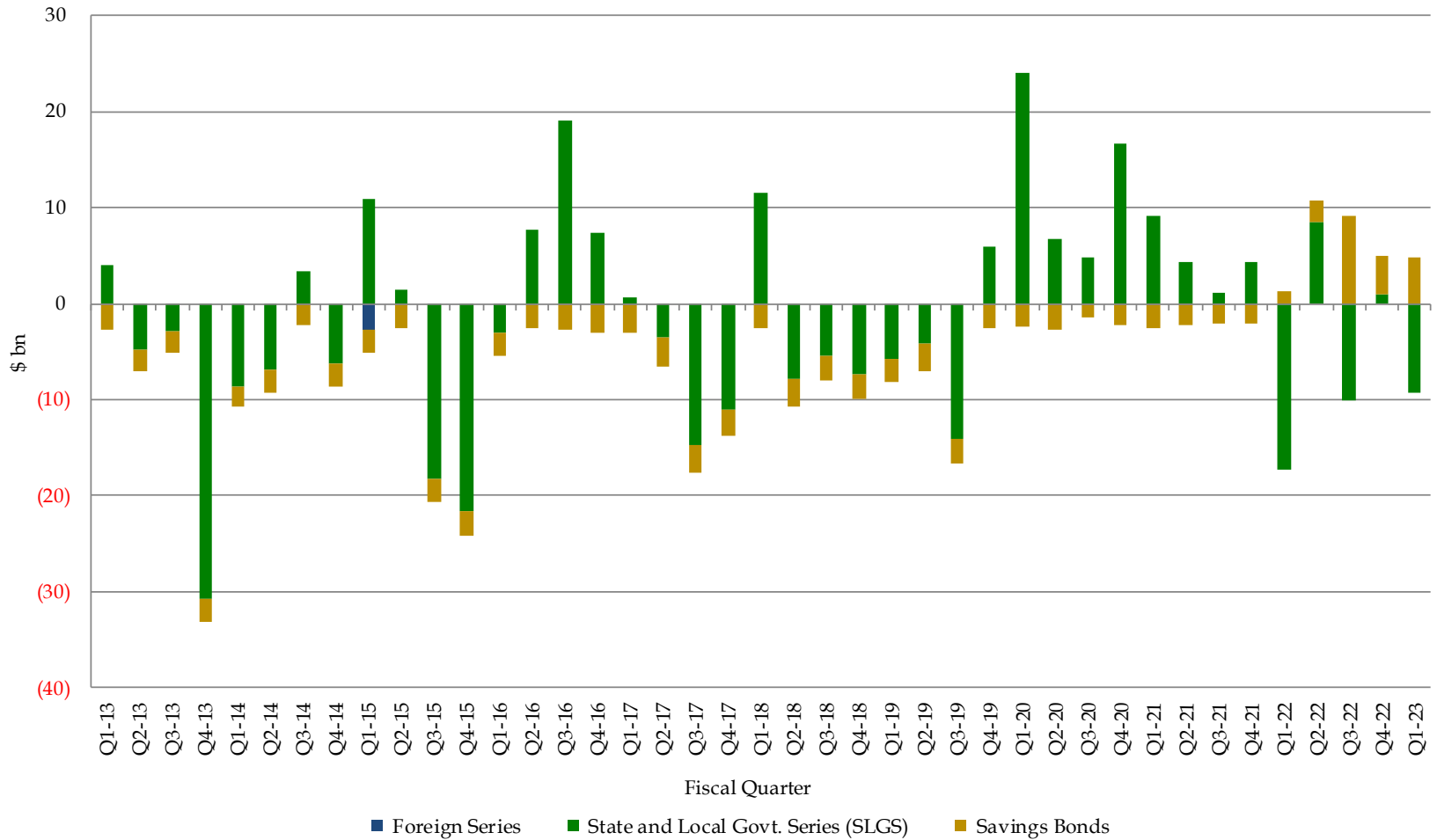


# Quarterly Tax Receipts



Quarterly tax receipts for Q4 FY2020 reflect the adjustment of April and June 2020 tax deadlines to July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

# Treasury Net Nonmarketable Borrowing



## Budget Surplus/Deficit\*



\*OMB's projections are from OMB's Table S-1 of "Mid-Session Review Budget of The U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2023," Aug 2022. CBO's deficit projections are using estimates from CBO's Table 2 of "An Analysis of the President's 2023 Budget," Sept 2022.

## Sources of Privately-Held Financing in FY23 Q1

October - December 2022	
Net Bill Issuance	73
Net Coupon Issuance	300
Subtotal: Net Marketable Borrowing	373
Ending Cash Balance	447
Beginning Cash Balance	636
Subtotal: Change in Cash Balance	(189)
Net Implied Funding for FY23 Q1*	562

Security	October - December 2022 Bill Issuance			Fiscal Year-to-Date Bill Issuance		
	Gross	Maturing	Net	Gross	Maturing	Net
4-Week	720	740	(20)	720	740	(20)
8-Week	645	630	15	645	630	15
13-Week	720	690	30	720	690	30
17-Week	330	0	330	330	0	330
26-Week	582	567	15	582	567	15
52-Week	136	136	(0)	136	136	(0)
CMBs						
17-Week	93	390	(297)	93	390	(297)
CMBs	40	40	0	40	40	0
Bill Subtotal	3,689	3,329	73	3,402	3,329	73

Security	October - December 2022 Coupon Issuance			Fiscal Year-to-Date Coupon Issuance		
	Gross	Maturing	Net	Gross	Maturing	Net
2-Year FRN	68	74	(6)	68	74	(6)
2-Year	84	94	(10)	84	94	(10)
3-Year	120	49	71	120	49	71
5-Year	86	26	60	86	26	60
7-Year	70	67	3	70	67	3
10-Year	99	53	46	99	53	46
20-Year	27	0	27	27	0	27
30-Year	57	2	55	57	2	55
5-Year TIPS	40	0	40	40	0	40
10-Year TIPS	15	0	15	15	0	15
30-Year TIPS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coupon Subtotal	666	366	300	666	366	300

Total	4,355	3,695	373	4,068	3,695	373
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\*By adjusting the change in cash balance, Treasury arrives at the net implied funding number.

## Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing Definition and Calculation Example

### **FY 2022 Actual Deficits and Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing, in \$ billions**

	FY 2022 Actual
FY 2022 Deficit	1,375
FY 2022 + Change in Cash Balance	421
FY 2022 + Other Means of Financing (e.g. Direct Loans)	-125
<b>FY 2022 = Total Net Marketable Borrowing</b>	<b>1,671</b>
FY 2022 + SOMA Redemption	150
<b>FY 2022 = Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing</b>	<b>1,821</b>

- Actual deficits are sourced from the Monthly Treasury Statement.
- Actual change in cash balance is sourced from the Daily Treasury Statement. Change in cash balance = cash balance of Sept 30, 2022 - cash balance of Sept 30, 2021
- Other Means of Financing include cash flows associated with federal credit programs, such as those related to student loans and loans to small businesses.
- Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing = Total Net Marketable Borrowing + SOMA Redemption
- SOMA redemption is the amount that the Federal Reserve redeems securities that Treasury has to replace with privately-held marketable borrowing. Actual SOMA redemptions amounts is from the Sources and Uses Reconciliation Table.
- Actual Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing is from the Sources and Uses Reconciliation Table.

## FY 2023-2025 Deficits and Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing Estimates\*, in \$ billions

	Primary Dealer			OMB MSR	CBO <sup>1</sup>	CBO <sup>2</sup>
	25th	Median	75th			
FY 2023 Deficit	1,000	1,130	1,250	1,300	908	984
FY 2024 Deficit	1,100	1,200	1,250	1,311	921	1,056
FY 2025 Deficit	1,200	1,309	1,403	1,414	1,145	1,318
FY 2023 Change in Cash Balance	-223	-136	14	14	-71	-71
FY 2024 Change in Cash Balance	0	30	198	0	0	0
FY 2025 Change in Cash Balance	0	0	21	0	0	0
FY 2023 Total Net Marketable Borrowing				1,367	944	1,020
FY 2024 Total Net Marketable Borrowing				1,362	890	1,024
FY 2025 Total Net Marketable Borrowing				1,460	1,172	1,344
FY 2023 SOMA Redemption	720	720	720			
FY 2024 SOMA Redemption	90	360	685			
FY 2025 SOMA Redemption	0	0	45			
FY 2023 Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing**	1,837	1,865	1,917	2,087	1,749	1,825
FY 2024 Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing**	1,394	1,645	1,702	1,722	1,250	1,384
FY 2025 Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing**	1,150	1,400	1,448	1,460	1,172	1,344

Estimates as of:	Jan-23	Aug-22	Sep-22	May-22
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<sup>1</sup> Estimates represent the medians/interquartile ranges from the primary dealer survey in January 2023.

<sup>2</sup> OMB projections are using estimates are from Table S-1 of "Mid-Session Review Budget of The U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2023," August 2022.

<sup>3</sup> CBO projections are using estimates are from Table 2 of "An Analysis of the President's 2023 Budget," September 2022.

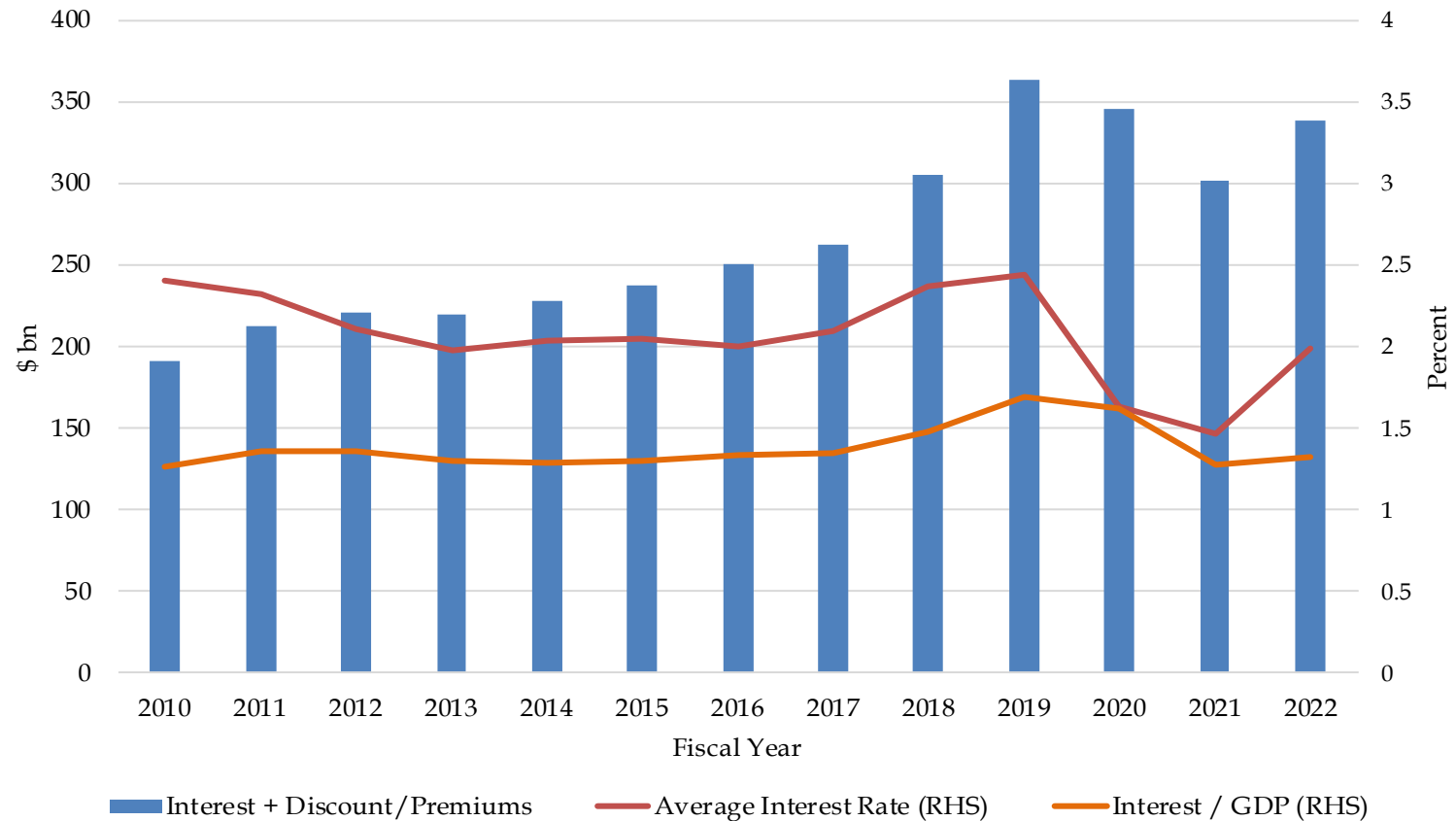
<sup>4</sup> CBO projections are using estimates are from Table 1-1 of "The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2022 to 2032," May 2022.

\*Privately-held marketable borrowing excludes rollovers (auction "add-ons") of Treasury securities held in the Federal Reserve System Open Market Account (SOMA) but includes financing required due to SOMA redemptions. Secondary market purchases of Treasury securities by SOMA do not directly change net privately-held marketable borrowing but, all else equal, when the securities mature and assuming the Fed does not redeem any maturing securities, would increase the amount of cash raised for a given privately-held auction size by increasing the SOMA "add-on" amount.

\*\*Both OMB and CBO borrowing estimates are normalized to privately-held net borrowing after adding PD survey median SOMA redemption assumptions for FY23/24/25. In addition, all the PD and CBO privately-held net borrowing estimates are normalized with OMB MSR FY23/FY24/FY25 ending cash balance of \$650 billion.



## Historical Marketable Treasury Debt Service Cost



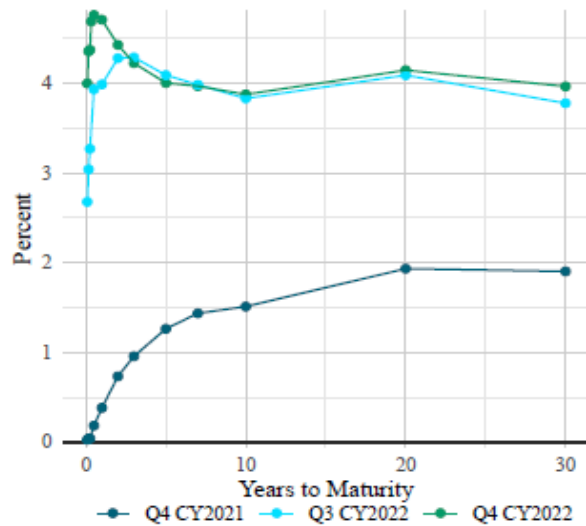
Source: <https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/datasets>

The average interest rates for total marketable debt do not include the Treasury Inflation-Indexed Securities and the Treasury Floating Rate Notes. However, they include securities from Federal Financing Bank. The average interest rates in the chart are as of corresponding fiscal year-end-dates.

# Various Historical Treasury Interest Rate Metrics

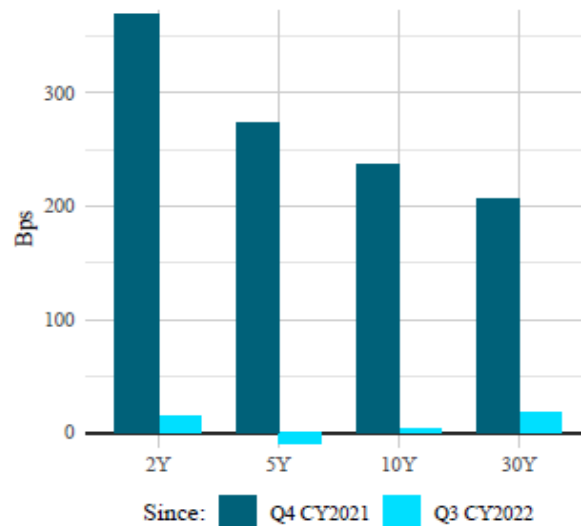
**Treasury Nominal Yield Curve**

As of the end of specified quarters



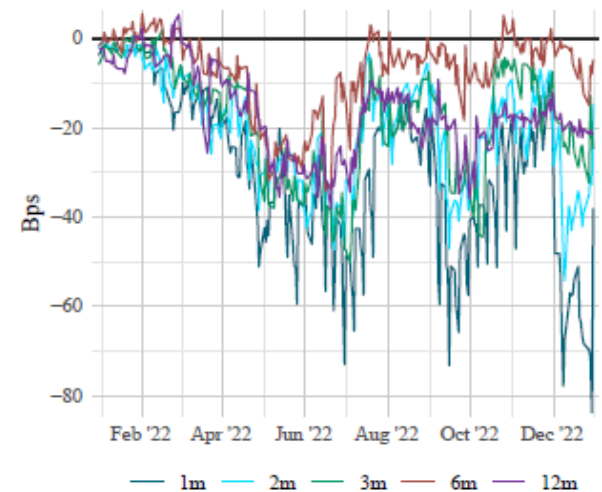
**Change in Select Tenors**

Through the end of Q4 CY2022



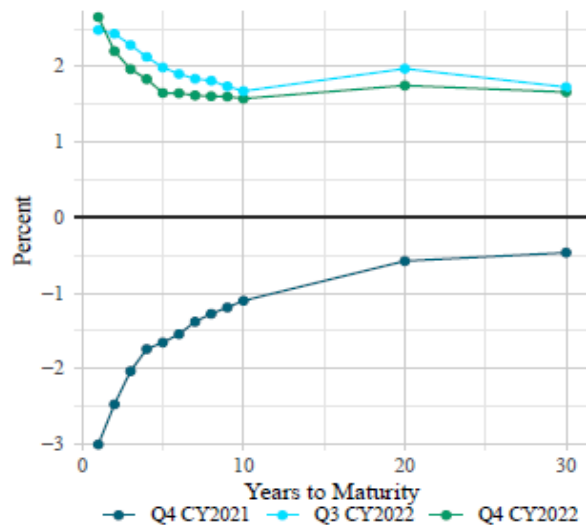
**Bills-SOFR OIS spreads**

Through the end of Q4 CY2022



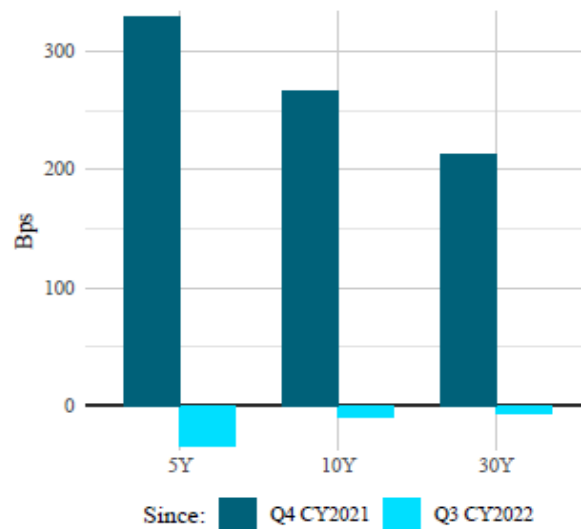
**Treasury Real Yield Curve**

As of the end of specified quarters



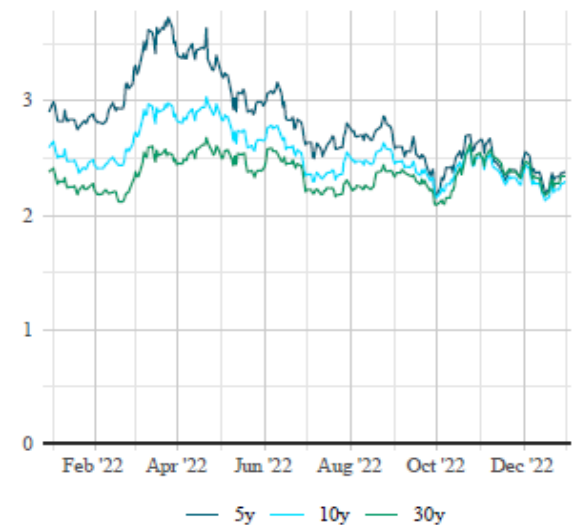
**Change in Select Tenors**

Through the end of Q4 CY2022



**Breakevens**

Through the end of Q4 CY2022



**Projected Privately-Held Net Marketable Borrowing**  
**Assuming Private Coupon Issuance & Total Bills Outstanding**  
**Remain Constant as of 12/31/2022\***

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Bills</b>	<b>2/3/5</b>	<b>7/10/20/30</b>	<b>TIPS</b>	<b>FRN</b>	<b>Historical/Projected Net Borrowing Capacity</b>
2018	438	197	493	45	23	1,196
2019	137	498	534	51	59	1,280
2020	2,652	538	724	46	55	4,015
2021	(1,315)	1,260	1,328	55	92	1,420
2022	(53)	744	1,027	61	42	1,821
2023	73	307	668	50	(42)	1,056
2024	0	28	682	75	(10)	776
2025	0	(47)	704	10	0	667
2026	0	(160)	700	28	0	568
2027	0	(40)	583	10	0	553
2028	0	0	271	(12)	0	259
2029	0	0	386	(6)	0	381
2030	0	0	507	9	0	516
2031	0	0	339	(3)	0	337
2032	0	0	363	(27)	0	336

\*Projections reflect only SOMA rollovers at auction of principal payments of Treasury securities. No adjustments are made for open-market outright purchases and subsequent rollovers.

Bills										
Issue	Settle Date	Stop Out Rate (%)	Bid-to-Cover Ratio	Competitive Awards (\$bn)	% Primary Dealer	% Direct	% Indirect	Non-Competitive Awards (\$bn)	SOMA "Add Ons" (\$bn)	10-Year Equivalent (\$bn)*
4-Week	10/11/2022	2.920	2.75	48.2	44.1	1.5	54.5	1.8	2.2	0.5
4-Week	10/18/2022	3.250	2.50	58.2	42.1	1.5	56.4	1.8	2.7	0.6
4-Week	10/25/2022	3.430	2.35	63.0	52.0	1.2	46.8	2.0	2.0	0.6
4-Week	11/1/2022	3.600	2.48	62.1	42.1	1.6	56.3	2.9	2.2	0.6
4-Week	11/8/2022	3.620	2.53	62.4	44.5	0.8	54.7	2.6	1.8	0.6
4-Week	11/15/2022	3.580	2.65	62.5	33.3	9.8	56.8	2.5	2.2	0.6
4-Week	11/22/2022	3.795	2.54	62.9	37.5	1.4	61.1	2.1	1.9	0.6
4-Week	11/29/2022	3.970	2.55	53.1	39.9	4.7	55.4	1.9	1.8	0.5
4-Week	12/6/2022	3.950	3.43	41.8	41.8	2.4	55.8	3.2	1.2	0.4
4-Week	12/13/2022	3.650	3.19	42.4	29.6	0.0	70.4	2.6	1.5	0.4
4-Week	12/20/2022	3.780	3.16	42.6	24.7	1.9	73.4	2.4	1.2	0.4
4-Week	12/27/2022	3.610	2.88	42.9	29.5	0.8	69.7	2.1	1.2	0.4
4-Week	1/3/2023	3.830	2.64	43.0	46.2	1.6	52.2	2.0	0.9	0.4
8-Week	10/11/2022	3.230	2.53	44.0	58.7	2.2	39.2	1.0	1.9	0.8
8-Week	10/18/2022	3.480	2.48	48.9	41.3	1.3	57.4	1.1	2.2	0.9
8-Week	10/25/2022	3.690	2.49	53.9	43.8	1.3	54.9	1.1	1.7	1.0
8-Week	11/1/2022	3.820	2.67	53.3	45.2	2.1	52.7	1.7	1.8	1.0
8-Week	11/8/2022	3.880	2.75	54.0	36.7	1.0	62.3	1.0	1.5	1.0
8-Week	11/15/2022	3.850	2.68	53.8	38.6	1.3	60.2	1.2	1.9	1.0
8-Week	11/22/2022	4.020	2.46	54.0	44.8	1.2	53.9	1.0	1.6	1.0
8-Week	11/29/2022	4.120	2.81	48.9	32.1	1.8	66.1	1.1	1.6	1.0
8-Week	12/6/2022	4.080	2.76	43.7	36.2	1.7	62.1	1.3	1.2	0.9
8-Week	12/13/2022	3.940	2.94	44.0	27.0	0.0	73.0	1.0	1.5	0.9
8-Week	12/20/2022	4.060	2.72	43.7	38.5	2.6	58.9	1.3	1.2	0.9
8-Week	12/27/2022	3.985	2.68	44.2	34.4	1.4	64.2	0.8	1.2	0.9
8-Week	1/3/2023	4.250	2.41	44.2	52.5	1.9	45.5	0.8	0.9	0.9

\*Approximated using prices at settlement and includes both competitive and non-competitive awards.

Bills (cont.)										
Issue	Settle Date	Stop Out Rate (%)	Bid-to-Cover Ratio	Competitive Awards (\$bn)	% Primary Dealer	% Direct	% Indirect	Non-Competitive Awards (\$bn)	SOMA "Add Ons" (\$bn)	10-Year Equivalent (\$bn)*
13-Week	10/6/2022	3.340	2.56	51.6	42.3	4.2	53.5	2.4	6.8	1.7
13-Week	10/13/2022	3.510	2.39	54.5	55.6	3.3	41.1	2.5	6.0	1.8
13-Week	10/20/2022	3.820	2.49	55.4	47.4	3.3	49.3	1.6	6.5	1.8
13-Week	10/27/2022	4.000	2.56	54.3	39.4	12.0	48.6	2.7	6.4	1.8
13-Week	11/3/2022	4.070	2.60	55.2	34.8	7.2	57.9	1.8	8.8	1.9
13-Week	11/10/2022	4.120	2.72	54.2	45.3	5.2	49.5	2.8	6.9	1.9
13-Week	11/17/2022	4.155	2.63	54.8	39.0	6.1	54.9	2.2	7.8	1.9
13-Week	11/25/2022	4.220	2.64	51.6	42.6	4.7	52.7	2.4	6.3	1.8
13-Week	12/1/2022	4.285	2.56	52.3	50.7	2.2	47.1	1.7	6.9	1.8
13-Week	12/8/2022	4.270	2.67	52.2	38.5	5.0	56.5	1.8	4.6	1.8
13-Week	12/15/2022	4.270	2.51	52.0	49.9	4.2	45.9	2.0	4.7	1.8
13-Week	12/22/2022	4.290	2.57	52.0	38.6	2.7	58.7	2.0	1.8	1.7
13-Week	12/29/2022	4.350	2.38	52.2	59.4	3.0	37.6	1.8	7.1	1.8
17-Week	10/25/2022	4.140	2.93	32.8	34.7	9.5	55.7	0.2	1.0	1.3
17-Week	11/1/2022	4.180	2.92	32.2	37.8	1.7	60.5	0.8	1.1	1.3
17-Week	11/8/2022	4.280	3.14	32.8	32.0	2.2	65.7	0.2	0.9	1.3
17-Week	11/15/2022	4.300	3.21	32.6	36.5	1.5	62.0	0.4	1.1	1.3
17-Week	11/22/2022	4.320	3.15	32.7	47.5	3.0	49.5	0.3	1.0	1.3
17-Week	11/29/2022	4.400	3.24	32.6	34.1	2.3	63.6	0.4	1.1	1.3
17-Week	12/6/2022	4.430	3.10	32.7	40.5	1.8	57.6	0.3	0.9	1.3
17-Week	12/13/2022	4.400	2.66	32.7	48.6	1.5	49.8	0.3	1.1	1.3
17-Week	12/20/2022	4.440	2.96	32.7	33.1	1.8	65.1	0.3	0.9	1.3
17-Week	12/27/2022	4.425	3.00	32.2	29.5	1.9	68.6	0.8	0.9	1.3
17-Week	1/3/2023	4.550	2.88	31.7	43.0	1.9	55.1	1.3	0.7	1.3

\*Approximated using prices at settlement and includes both competitive and non-competitive awards.

Bills (cont.)										
Issue	Settle Date	Stop Out Rate (%)	Bid-to-Cover Ratio	Competitive Awards (\$bn)	% Primary Dealer	% Direct	% Indirect	Non-Competitive Awards (\$bn)	SOMA "Add Ons" (\$bn)	10-Year Equivalent (\$bn)*
26-Week	10/6/2022	3.850	2.62	39.5	50.3	3.2	46.5	2.5	5.3	2.7
26-Week	10/13/2022	4.030	2.86	42.2	45.6	2.2	52.2	2.8	4.7	2.9
26-Week	10/20/2022	4.245	2.66	42.9	46.5	3.4	50.2	2.1	5.1	2.9
26-Week	10/27/2022	4.390	2.56	42.1	48.3	18.6	33.1	2.9	5.0	2.9
26-Week	11/3/2022	4.440	2.95	43.1	43.6	5.7	50.8	1.9	7.0	3.0
26-Week	11/10/2022	4.490	2.89	42.4	38.2	2.6	59.3	2.6	5.4	2.9
26-Week	11/17/2022	4.440	2.86	42.8	33.1	2.9	64.0	2.2	6.1	3.0
26-Week	11/25/2022	4.520	3.03	42.6	30.6	2.6	66.8	2.4	5.2	3.0
26-Week	12/1/2022	4.550	2.90	43.2	38.7	9.5	51.7	1.8	5.7	3.0
26-Week	12/8/2022	4.570	2.57	43.1	51.2	3.9	44.9	1.9	3.8	2.9
26-Week	12/15/2022	4.630	2.66	43.0	46.2	7.9	45.9	2.0	3.9	2.9
26-Week	12/22/2022	4.550	2.86	42.2	34.9	3.2	61.9	2.8	1.5	2.8
26-Week	12/29/2022	4.600	2.56	42.0	56.0	3.4	40.6	3.0	6.0	3.1
52-Week	10/6/2022	3.955	2.68	32.3	37.8	3.5	58.7	1.7	4.3	4.4
52-Week	11/3/2022	4.505	2.83	32.3	32.7	0.7	66.6	1.7	5.3	4.6
52-Week	12/1/2022	4.555	2.83	32.3	34.3	0.3	65.3	1.7	4.3	4.6
52-Week	12/29/2022	4.515	3.24	32.0	35.8	0.1	64.2	2.0	4.5	4.7
17-Week CMB	10/11/2022	3.700	3.19	29.9	36.7	2.5	60.7	0.1	0.0	1.1
17-Week CMB	10/18/2022	3.890	3.23	32.9	33.8	1.9	64.3	0.1	0.0	1.2
CMB	11/22/2022	3.800	2.38	40.0	79.9	4.5	15.6	0.0	0.0	0.2

\*Approximated using prices at settlement and includes both competitive and non-competitive awards.

Nominal Coupons & FRNs										
Issue	Settle Date	Stop Out Rate (%)*	Bid-to-Cover Ratio	Competitive Awards (\$bn)	% Primary Dealer	% Direct	% Indirect	Non-Competitive Awards (\$bn)	SOMA "Add Ons" (\$bn)	10-Year Equivalent (\$bn)**
2-Year	10/31/2022	4.460	2.59	40.5	24.2	25.3	50.5	1.5	0.0	9.5
2-Year	11/30/2022	4.505	2.64	40.9	20.6	22.4	57.0	1.1	4.6	10.8
2-Year	1/3/2023	4.373	2.71	41.1	19.1	18.7	62.2	0.9	0.0	9.8
3-Year	10/17/2022	4.318	2.57	39.5	27.0	19.6	53.4	0.5	0.0	13.2
3-Year	11/15/2022	4.605	2.57	39.4	20.8	17.0	62.2	0.6	14.0	17.9
3-Year	12/15/2022	4.093	2.55	39.5	17.9	20.4	61.7	0.5	0.0	13.8
5-Year	10/31/2022	4.192	2.48	42.8	16.5	15.6	68.0	0.2	0.0	22.9
5-Year	11/30/2022	3.974	2.39	42.9	15.1	18.7	66.2	0.1	4.7	26.3
5-Year	1/3/2023	3.973	2.46	42.9	16.9	18.6	64.5	0.1	0.0	23.9
7-Year	10/31/2022	4.027	2.43	35.0	14.1	22.7	63.2	0.0	0.0	25.1
7-Year	11/30/2022	3.890	2.33	35.0	21.4	16.8	61.9	0.0	3.8	28.9
7-Year	1/3/2023	3.921	2.45	34.9	15.8	16.2	68.1	0.1	0.0	26.3
10-Year	10/17/2022	3.930	2.34	32.0	19.7	23.5	56.8	0.0	0.0	31.9
10-Year	11/15/2022	4.140	2.23	34.9	24.4	18.1	57.5	0.1	12.3	46.1
10-Year	12/15/2022	3.625	2.31	32.0	21.9	18.7	59.4	0.0	0.0	32.0
20-Year	10/31/2022	4.395	2.50	12.0	16.4	19.9	63.7	0.0	0.0	19.6
20-Year	11/30/2022	4.072	2.64	14.9	9.2	15.4	75.3	0.1	1.6	27.7
20-Year	1/3/2023	3.935	2.68	11.9	8.7	19.0	72.3	0.1	0.0	20.0
30-Year	10/17/2022	3.930	2.39	18.0	12.2	18.7	69.1	0.0	0.0	39.5
30-Year	11/15/2022	4.080	2.42	21.0	9.7	20.4	69.9	0.0	7.4	58.9
30-Year	12/15/2022	3.513	2.25	18.0	15.3	23.1	61.6	0.0	0.0	39.8
2-Year FRN	10/31/2022	0.140	2.65	24.0	25.9	1.5	72.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
2-Year FRN	11/25/2022	0.220	2.45	21.9	51.7	4.7	43.6	0.1	0.0	0.0
2-Year FRN	12/30/2022	0.239	3.40	22.0	38.4	0.9	60.7	0.0	0.0	0.0

TIPS										
Issue	Settle Date	Stop Out Rate (%)	Bid-to-Cover Ratio	Competitive Awards (\$bn)	% Primary Dealer	% Direct	% Indirect	Non-Competitive Awards (\$bn)	SOMA "Add Ons" (\$bn)	10-Year Equivalent (\$bn)**
5-Year TIPS	12/30/2022	1.504	2.51	18.8	8.1	17.8	74.1	0.2	0.0	10.6
5-Year TIPS	10/31/2022	1.732	2.38	20.7	7.7	17.0	75.3	0.3	0.0	11.7
10-Year TIPS	11/30/2022	1.485	2.25	15.0	9.5	16.1	74.4	0.0	1.6	18.6

\*FRNs are reported on discount margin basis.

\*\*Approximated using prices at settlement and includes both competitive and non-competitive awards.

For TIPS 10-Year equivalent, a constant auction BEI is used as the inflation assumption.

# Primary Dealer Feedback on the Transparency Proposal

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- ▶ Most primary dealers supported a gradual approach for additional transparency for on-the-runs.
- ▶ Primary dealers provided a wide range of cap sizes (see next slide).
  - ▶ Those favoring higher caps suggested that the price impact for disclosing large trades at the end of the day is minimal. Moreover, a small subset indicated caps are not necessary at all.
  - ▶ Conversely, others indicated any effect on liquidity will not be known until data is released, and therefore argued for more conservative caps and then assess later whether larger caps are appropriate.
- ▶ To determine cap sizes, primary dealers indicated the following considerations:
  - ▶ General uniformity across tenors in terms of interest rate risk (*e.g.*, DV01), while maintaining a simple design and the ability to re-calibrate cap sizes on a periodic basis.
  - ▶ The liquidity profile of individual tenors (assessed through various liquidity metrics).
  - ▶ Change in the liquidity environment, both the typical fluctuations over a 24-hour trading day and longer-term trends.
- ▶ When considering release of data after 60 minutes rather than end of day, a majority of primary dealers advised for lower caps sizes, with the most common response being to reduce caps by half.
- ▶ When considering packaged transactions (*e.g.*, on- vs. off-the-run spread trades), most primary dealers were supportive of flagging those transactions with an identifier so that market participants are aware of potential price implications.



# Primary Dealer Responses on Cap Sizes

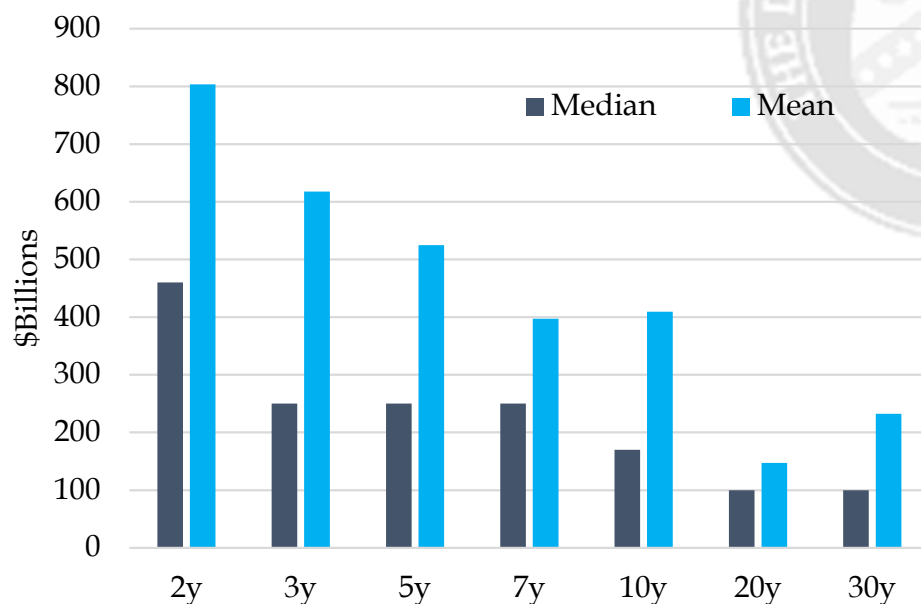
Primary Dealer Responses in \$M							
	2y	3y	5y	7y	10y	20y	30y

10th Percentile	60	50	38	22	22	7	7
Median	460	250	250	250	170	100	100
Mean	804	618	525	397	409	147	232
90th Percentile	2,880	2,520	1,640	1,520	1,480	460	720

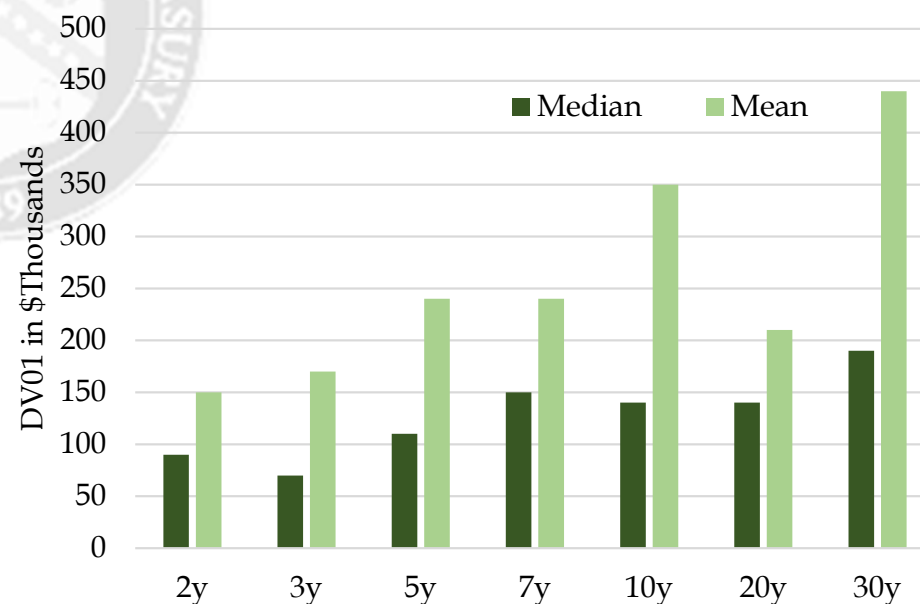
Approximate DV01 in \$k							
	2y	3y	5y	7y	10y	20y	30y

10th Percentile	10	10	20	10	20	10	10
Median	90	70	110	150	140	140	190
Mean	150	170	240	240	350	210	440
90th Percentile	530	700	740	940	1,260	670	1,370

Primary dealer responses on notional cap sizes



...Approximate translation to DV01 sizes



# Considerations for Designing a Regular and Predictable Treasury Buyback Program

Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee

January 31, 2023

# TBAC Charge

Treasury continues to gather information regarding possible use cases and considerations for designing a potential buyback program. Most feedback to date has suggested that if Treasury were to consider a buyback program that it should be conducted in a regular and predictable manner, be used for liquidity support and cash management, and be neutral to the maturity structure of marketable debt outstanding.

Please discuss in more detail how Treasury could design a regular and predictable buyback program that could provide liquidity support as well as improve cash management. In your discussion, please outline the factors or indicators Treasury should consider when determining which Treasury securities to buy back. In addition, are there certain liquidity metrics that Treasury could monitor to consider whether buybacks are helping support liquidity? From a cash management perspective, what metrics could be used to measure the benefits? How should Treasury monitor whether buybacks are reducing costs for the taxpayer over time?

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# Executive Summary

- Treasury buybacks could create significant value for Treasury and the taxpayer, but designing and executing a buyback program is highly complex and requires careful consideration.
- In keeping with overall debt management objectives, a buyback program should be regular and predictable and preserve the maturity structure of the debt.
- A Treasury buyback program could support overall Treasury market liquidity and provide cash management benefits.
- Buybacks could provide direct liquidity support to specific securities and sectors, but the ultimate liquidity goal should be to foster liquidity across the Treasury market.
- Buybacks could smooth large receipts / outlays throughout the year, reduce bill issuance volatility and support a liquid benchmark curve.
- Many sovereign issuers regularly conduct buybacks, largely concentrated in the front end of the curve.
- Buybacks in the <1y maturity and >1y maturity segments of the curve should be considered separately given the replacement funding impact on bills and on-the-run coupons, respectively.
- Effectiveness of buybacks should be monitored closely to assess support for both broad market liquidity and off-the-runs liquidity.
- Appropriate scale of buybacks should consider size and valuation of off-the-run securities, size of on-the-run securities, and specific cash management needs.

# Recent TBAC Analysis on Buybacks and Guiding Principles

# Recent TBAC Analysis on Buybacks

The August 2022 TBAC presentation, which encapsulates the 2015 study, concluded that:

- Potential benefits of buybacks include bolstering market function and thereby indirectly lowering the cost of Treasury financing, and directly saving taxpayers money by purchasing higher-yielding off-the-run securities and issuing lower-yielding on-the-run securities.
- The case for buybacks may have increased recently as debt outstanding has increased and market liquidity has deteriorated coincident with regulatory changes that have impacted dealers' intermediation capacity.
- Buybacks may help achieve other debt management goals including managing the debt maturity profile, managing the TGA, and reducing debt maturity peaks.
- Further study is warranted, in particular on the cost of larger auction sizes to the on-the-run liquidity premium. More analysis is also needed on how a program could be designed to provide Treasury flexibility while still operating within the well-established regular and predictable framework.

# Guiding Principles

1. Operate within the “regular and predictable” framework to minimize negative externalities.
2. Main purposes are liquidity support and cash management.
3. Maintain neutrality to the maturity structure of marketable debt outstanding.
4. Be accretive to the taxpayer, through direct or indirect benefits.
5. Do no harm: mitigate uncertainties by approaching gradually and analyzing carefully.
6. Treasury buybacks are intended to support healthy market functioning but not mitigate episodes of acute stress in markets.



# Guiding Principles: Buybacks for Liquidity Support

Two distinct aspects of liquidity support, both are valuable to Treasury market function:

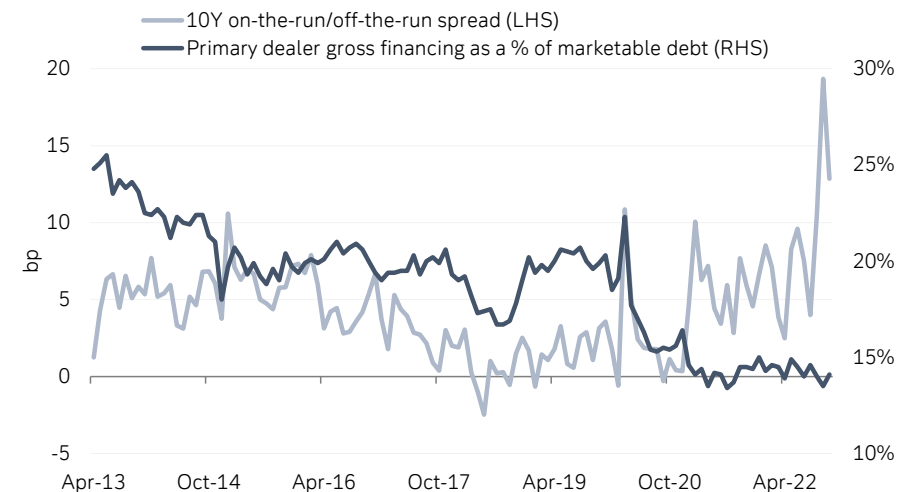
## Indirect

- A successful buyback program should support Treasury market liquidity. Improving Treasury market liquidity reinforces a key feature of Treasuries, that they can be readily converted into cash with minimal market impact.
- An improvement in investor perception of Treasury market liquidity should make all Treasuries (including on-the-runs) more desirable, and in turn incrementally reduce Treasury's cost of financing.

## Direct

- Buybacks can dampen the risk of any given off-the-run issue trading at idiosyncratically cheap levels.
- Historically, dealers played a larger role in achieving this outcome, but in recent years they are constrained by the size of their balance sheets relative to the size of the Treasury market.
- Treasury may generate small gains for the taxpayer by purchasing higher-yielding off-the-runs and replacing them by issuing lower-yielding on-the-runs, but the more important result is the expected improvement in Treasury market liquidity.

**Dealers have lower capacity to finance USTs during acute market mispricing given the growth of Treasury market**



Source: Treasury, Federal Reserve

# Guiding Principles: Buybacks for Cash Management

Both short-term calendar-related and long-term cyclical reasons why buybacks can be an effective tool for cash management:

## **Calendar**

- Treasury revenues and outlays may be lumpy, for reasons such as the timing of tax receipts or debt maturities.
- Buybacks of near-maturity securities can help to smooth the timing of these outlays, reducing volatility of the TGA and volatility of bills outstanding.
- This has come up from time to time in TBAC discussions with Treasury (e.g. Q1-2008 TBAC minutes: “A few members stated that Treasury should consider the repurchase of Treasury securities during particularly large debt maturity periods using seasonal large cash balances”).

## **Cyclical**

- When the Treasury runs a surplus (for example 1998-2001), it may need to make decisions about how to best maintain its role as a regular and predictable issuer without overfunding.

# Guiding Principles: Neutral to the Maturity Structure of Debt

- A buyback program should not meaningfully impact the maturity structure of the marketable debt outstanding.
  - Longer-term adjustments to the Treasury debt WAM profile are best carried out by adjusting the size and distribution of issuance.
- Treasury could replace buybacks of off-the-run securities in a given sector of the curve with additional on-the-run issuance in the same sector.
- Buybacks in the <1y sector could be funded by issuing more bills with maturities that can best match the seasonal swings of funding needs.
- Buybacks of off-the-runs could be financed primarily with increased issuance of on-the-runs.
- Treasury should balance this guiding principle with practical considerations involved in the debt issuance process. The potential for *de minimis* changes in the maturity structure of marketable debt should not be an impediment to enacting a buyback program.

# Observations from Global Sovereign Buyback Programs

# Overview of Buyback Programs Across OECD Countries

A 2012 OECD working paper provides helpful historical guidance on the role of buybacks across OECD sovereign bond markets. Our recent conversations with DMOs suggest that the broad conclusions remain accurate.

- Most sovereign issuers have a buyback program in place, and many conduct buybacks on a regular basis.
- Primary reasons for buybacks are to smooth redemption profile, followed by liquidity enhancement and cash management.
- Buybacks tend to be focused on shorter dated (<2y) maturities. 25 of 27 DMOs (93%) reported targeting bonds that are nearing redemption. 12 DMOs (44%) indicated using some measure of illiquidity as a criterion.

Table 2: Regularity of the use of buybacks in OECD countries

Do you conduct debt buybacks?

**YES,  
85%**

1. Australia
2. Austria
3. Belgium
4. Canada
5. Czech Rep.
6. Denmark
7. France
8. Germany
9. Greece
10. Hungary
11. Iceland
12. Ireland
13. Israel
14. Italy
15. Japan
16. Mexico
17. Netherlands
18. New Zealand
19. Norway
20. Poland
21. Portugal
22. Slovak Rep.
23. Slovenia
24. Spain
25. Switzerland
26. Turkey
27. United Kingdom
28. United States

**NO,  
15%**

1. Chile
2. Estonia
3. Finland
4. Luxembourg
5. Sweden

Do you conduct debt buybacks on a regular basis?

**YES,  
32%**

1. Belgium
2. Canada
3. Denmark
4. France
5. Hungary
6. Israel
7. Japan
8. Norway
9. UK

**NO,  
68%**

1. Australia
2. Austria
3. Czech Rep.
4. Germany
5. Greece
6. Iceland
7. Ireland
8. Italy
9. Mexico
10. Netherlands
11. New Zealand
12. Poland
13. Portugal
14. Slovak Rep.
15. Slovenia
16. Spain
17. Switzerland
18. Turkey
19. United State

Source: 2012 Survey on Buyback and Switches by OECD WPDM

Table 6: Reasons for buybacks in OECD countries

	To increase liquidity	To smooth the redemption profile, mitigate the refinancing risk	To offset large cash income and remove small stocks	To correct distortions in the secondary market due to Central Bank purchases of government securities
Austria		X	X	
Belgium	X	X	X	
Canada		X		
Czech Rep.		X		
Denmark	X	X		
France		X		
Germany		X		
Greece	X	X	X	
Hungary		X		
Iceland	X			
Israel	X	X	X	
Italy		X		X
Japan	X			
Mexico		X		
Netherlands			X	
New Zealand	X		X	
Poland		X		
Portugal		X		
Slovak Rep.		X		
Slovenia	X	X	X	
Spain		X		
Turkey		X		
United Kingdom		X	X	
United States	X		X	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

Source: 2012 Survey on Buyback and Switches by OECD WPDM

This refers to previous surplus era program.

# Size, Scale from Four Representative Sovereign Issuers:

- Canada, France, Belgium and Australia have regularly bought back 20-30% of gross issuance or more.
- WAM of buybacks is short, predominantly < 1.5 years.
- On the subsequent slides are further details on two of the programs as representative case studies.

**Annual Buybacks, Bn Local Ccy**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Canada	24.1	33.9	35.7	30.2	32.7	24.0	29.7	42.8	47.1	31.1	14.1	-	1.5
France	2.4	5.7	6.6	5.2	16.1	18.6	14.1	26.7	30.6	45.5	29.3	25.1	26.1
Belgium	9.2	11.1	9.6	10.1	6.7	7.1	7.1	8.2	6.9	5.9	1.6	2.7	1.7
Australia	-	-	-	-	2.1	9.0	17.9	20.2	26.3	15.9	2.4	-	-

**Annual Buybacks, % of Gross Issuance**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Canada	26%	34%	41%	33%	35%	27%	24%	31%	45%	28%	4%	-	1%
France	2%	5%	7%	3%	9%	9%	7%	14%	15%	20%	11%	10%	10%
Belgium	23%	29%	22%	25%	21%	20%	19%	23%	20%	20%	4%	7%	4%
Australia	-	-	-	-	3%	11%	18%	21%	41%	31%	1%	-	-

**Buyback WAM**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Canada	1.41	2.00	1.50	1.37	1.34	1.08	1.08	1.22	1.23	1.47	2.77	-	0.38
France	0.59	1.07	1.65	1.08	1.19	1.06	1.20	1.21	1.35	1.29	0.84	0.85	0.61
Belgium	0.60	0.71	0.58	0.56	0.57	0.55	0.54	0.55	1.25	1.85	0.83	1.13	1.16
Australia	-	-	-	-	1.31	0.30	0.77	1.05	1.18	1.39	1.67	-	-

# Canada: Three Forms of Buybacks

Buyback Type	Goals	Eligibility	Implementation
<b>Cash management bond buybacks (CMBB)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Manage cash balances</li> <li>2. Smooth variation in bill issuance</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CGBs &lt; 18m maturity</li> <li>2. Amount outstanding &gt; \$12B</li> <li>3. Free float (ex-BOC) &gt; \$8B</li> </ol>	Weekly process
<b>Outright</b> (bond buybacks on a cash basis)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhance liquidity</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Illiquid high coupon bonds</li> <li>2. Large off-the-run bonds</li> <li>3. Maturities 1y to 25y, excluding OTR benchmarks</li> </ol>	Typically, on Wednesday following nominal bond auction
<b>Switches</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhance liquidity</li> <li>2. Maintain issuance of on-the-run benchmarks</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Illiquid high coupon bonds</li> <li>2. Large off-the-run bonds</li> <li>3. Maturities 1y to 25y, excluding OTR benchmarks</li> </ol>	Duration neutral exchange of illiquid bonds into benchmark bonds

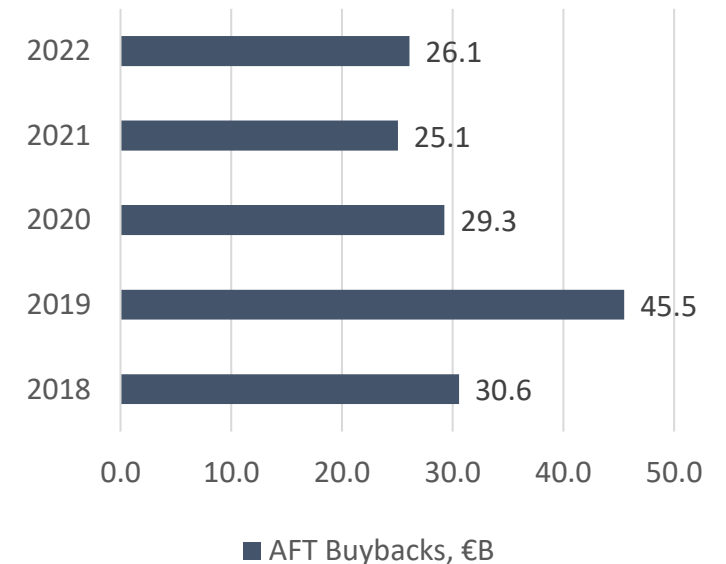
# France: OTC Buybacks for Smoothing Redemptions

France's AFT has been conducting buybacks since 2000:

- The initial goal was to increase issuance and ensure sufficient liquidity for benchmark maturities. Over time, the objective has shifted to smoothing redemption profiles and spreading future issuance more evenly.
- Limited to 2 years or shorter maturities.
- Buybacks conducted via secondary market OTC operations or as reverse auctions, although only OTC buybacks in recent years.
- Buyback decisions factor in market conditions, including liquidity and price.

Other France debt-management programs:

- Securities swaps (inactive since 2008): Replace old, illiquid securities with those in higher demand via auctions or syndicated deals.
- Interest-rate swaps (suspended since 2002): Reduce average maturity of residual debt, achieving a balance between lower interest expense and greater variability of expense.



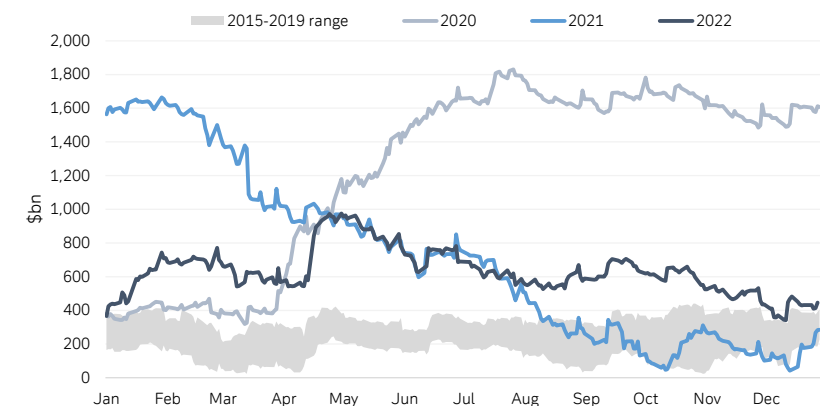


# Buybacks From a Cash Management Perspective

# An Additional Tool for Treasury's Cash Management Strategy

- Treasury's cash balance policy is to hold sufficient funds to cover its one-week ahead cash needs (including the gross volume of maturing marketable debt), subject to a minimum balance of roughly \$150bn.
- Bills are used as an issuance "shock absorber"; Treasury's cash above its policy minimum is effectively funded by bill supply.
- Viewed narrowly from a debt management perspective, the cost of carrying a TGA balance materially in excess of the policy minimum could be viewed as being the full cost of bill issuance to fund the excess balance, as the TGA does not earn interest.
  - That said, additional TGA balances displace Fed liabilities that otherwise would earn IORB. Since the Fed remits its net income to the Treasury, on a consolidated basis the cost of excess TGA balances is limited to the difference between the rate Treasury pays on marginal bill issuance and IORB.
  - However, the interaction of changes in the size of the TGA with bank reserve balances could contribute to short-term funding market strains, particularly if the level of reserves is low. This is an additional factor making a more stable level of the TGA desirable.
- In recent years, economic and policy uncertainty has increased the frequency of Treasury holding elevated cash balances, while structural changes have increased overall demand for bills.
- Circumstances when debt limit suspensions were not granted on a timely basis have created the need for Treasury to shed cash balances quickly.
- Buybacks could be an effective tool to reduce excess cash balances without relying solely on shrinking bill supply, which could help Treasury achieve a smoother pattern of bill issuance. This could be especially important when bill-share is approaching the bottom of TBAC's 15-20% recommended range.

**TGA balances have been elevated and more volatile in recent years**

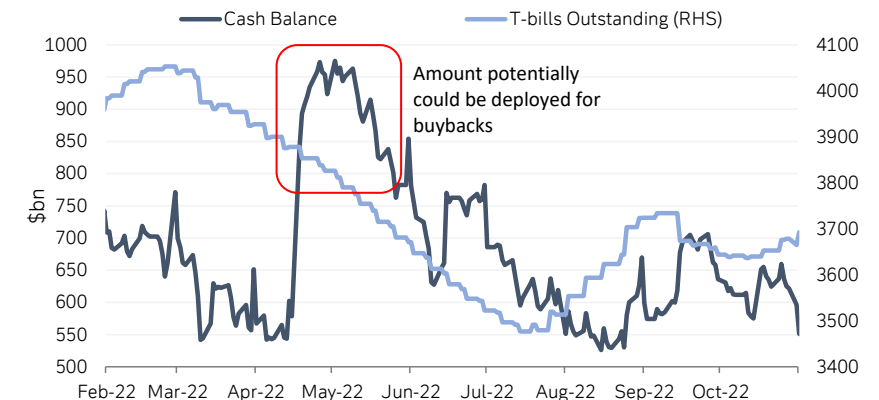


Source: Treasury

# Case Study: Buybacks After a Record Tax Season in 2022

- April 2022's tax receipts were the largest on record, driven by strong wage gains and pandemic-related legislation. This helped push the TGA balance to \$975bn at its peak.
- Between March and July, Treasury paid down more than \$500bn of bills to reduce its cash balance closer to target. This caused a decline in bill share of total marketable debt from 17.5% to 15.1%, near the bottom of the TBAC's recommended range.
- Treasury could have bought back short coups to shed its excess cash more quickly while minimizing the impact to bill supply.
- We estimate that completing \$300bn in hypothetical buybacks during this period could have lowered Treasury's interest expense by ~\$225mm\*.
- Alternatively Treasury could have combined short coup buybacks with a similarly fast reduction in bill supply, which would have allowed for a faster reduction in TGA balances.

Bill supply used to reduce elevated cash balance



Source: Treasury

*Calculations: \*\$300bn buyback of short coups between 6m and 12m maturity (average 9m maturity) \* 0.10% spread between short coups and bill auction rate;  $\$300bn \times 0.001 \times 9/12 = \$225mm$*

# Additional Use and Measuring the Benefits

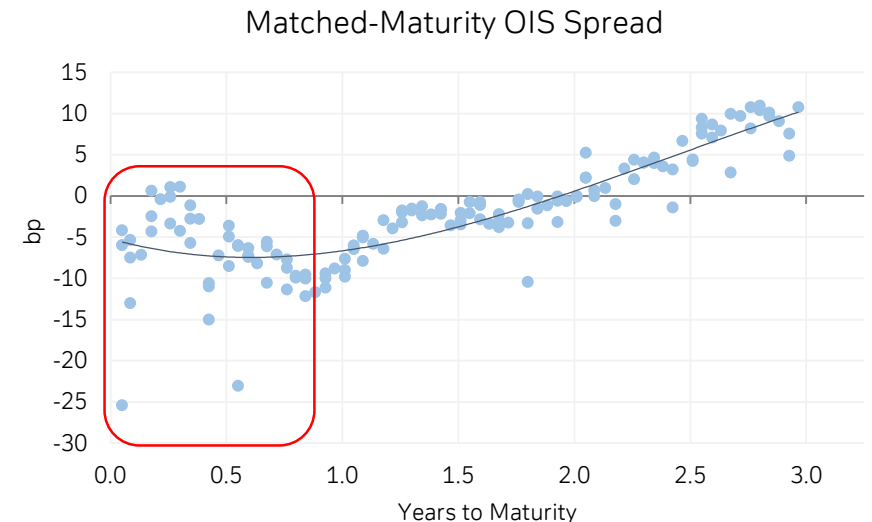
- Treasury can pursue cash-management buybacks as an independent objective. Alternatively, it can step up purchases of short coups during calendar periods of excess cash inflows, such as late April and after quarterly corporate tax payment dates.
- Treasury could also use buybacks to reduce the maturity peaks in outstanding debt, which can help smooth its redemption profile.
- Buybacks for cash management purposes (a) could be conducted proportionally across the curve; or (b) if the expectation is that the cash management would later be funded by bill issuance, then buybacks should primarily be maturities < 1yr.
- Overall capacity for buybacks of short coups is large, as there is currently ~\$2T privately-held short coups outstanding and a steady supply (\$100bn-200bn per month) rolling into the 12m maturity window over the next several years.
- Effectiveness of cash management buybacks could be measured by observing:
  - Smaller seasonal variation in bill issuance sizes.
  - Bill-share more consistently staying within TBAC's recommended 15-20% range.
  - Less feed-through of volatility in bill rates into other money market rates.
  - More efficient Treasury cash balances relative to cash balance policy.
  - More closely matched actual versus assumed end-of-quarter balances.

Buybacks for Liquidity Support,  
Maturities <1y

# A Dichotomy Between Bills and Short Coups

- Notes and bonds that have rolled down to a maturity of < 1y (often referred to as “short coups”) with maturities between 6m and 1y tend to trade at wider spreads while exhibiting significant yield dispersion compared to like-maturity bills.
- The increased dispersion of asset-swap spreads for issues below the 1y maturity point also indicates idiosyncratic trading behavior and is consistent with poor liquidity.
- Yield spreads of 10 to 20bp between short coups and bills of comparable maturities are not uncommon.
- Investors who own short coups often confront wide spreads if they try to sell large sizes, which in some cases could affect desired investment decisions.
- Buybacks in this sector could reduce yield dispersion while increasing liquidity for holders of short coups.
- If six to twelve month short coup buybacks were funded with any combination of maturities across the bills curve, the impact on WAM would be *de minimis*. We estimate the WAM impact to be less than 0.05 months for even large buyback programs.

## Wide dispersion of ASW spreads below 1y maturity

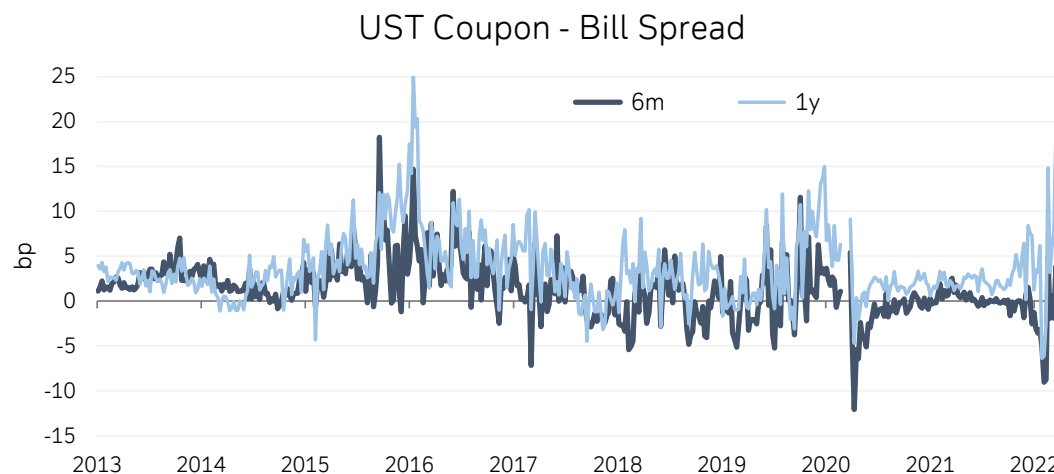


Source: Deutsche Bank (Jan 27, 2023 snapshot)

# Enhance Liquidity by Freeing Up Dealer Balance Sheet

- Indexers managing against the Bloomberg US Aggregate Index (the “Agg”) become forced sellers of short coupons when these securities shorten to maturity <1y and drop out of the index.
- Short coupons absorb valuable space on dealer balance sheets, as the velocity of dealer balance sheet in bills is higher than in short coupons.
- Front end purchases are the most common focus of other DMOs conducting buybacks in sovereign markets, both for cash management and liquidity support purposes.
- Treasury is uniquely positioned to convert less liquid short coupons into more liquid bills. This would enhance liquidity not only for the short coupons, but also for the entire Treasury market, as it would free up dealer balance sheet that could be deployed further out the yield curve.

**Short coupons tend to trade cheap to similar bill maturities, with some notable exception periods, including recently.**

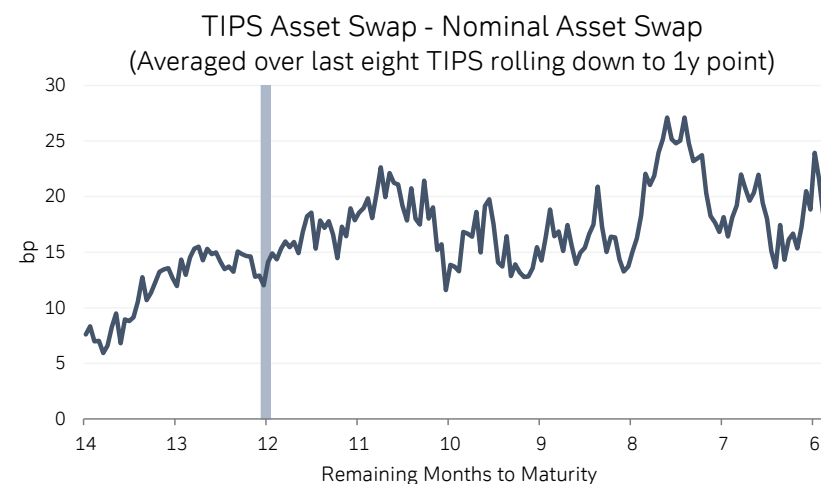


Source: Deutsche Bank par spline series for coupons; Bloomberg GB6 and GB12 series for bills.

# Buybacks of Short Maturity TIPS

- TIPS with maturity  $< 1y$  pose a similar or perhaps greater liquidity challenge than short coups.
- The returns of TIPS with maturity  $< 1y$  are highly sensitive to short term fluctuations in inflation, while providing minimal diversification for investors to changes in longer term inflation expectations. As a result, there is minimal real demand for these securities.
- Instead, the short maturity TIPS market is dominated by arbitrageurs who demand high expected returns in exchange for holding these bonds and hedging with gasoline futures and other short term inflation proxies.
- By conducting buybacks of short-maturity TIPS funded by issuing bills, Treasury could effectively enhance liquidity to the broader TIPS sector, potentially creating additional demand for longer maturity TIPS. We suggest funding with bills instead of TIPS for practical reasons, since currently the shortest newly issued TIPS is five-year maturity.
- Treasury can evaluate short dated TIPS valuation by monitoring asset-swap levels versus CPI swaps; there is no need to do additional inflation modeling.
- Given that the short maturity TIPS sector is relatively small, this could be a topic that Treasury marks for further evaluation, rather than a priority to implement in an initial buyback program.

## **TIPS cheapen to nominals (on asset swap) as they roll to less than one year to maturity**

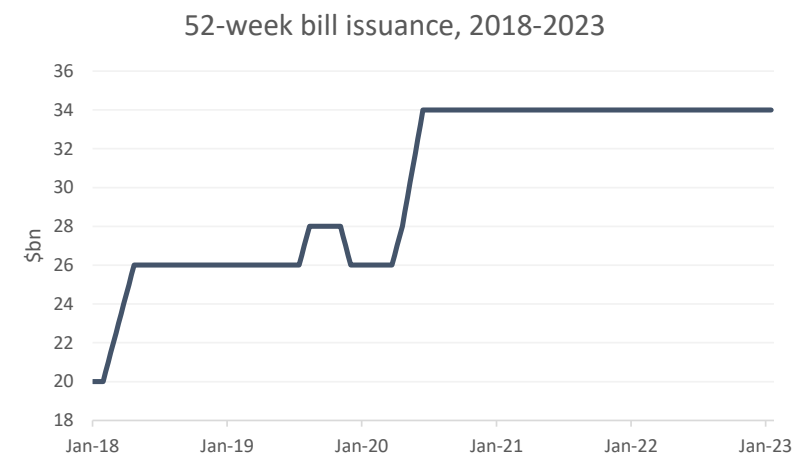
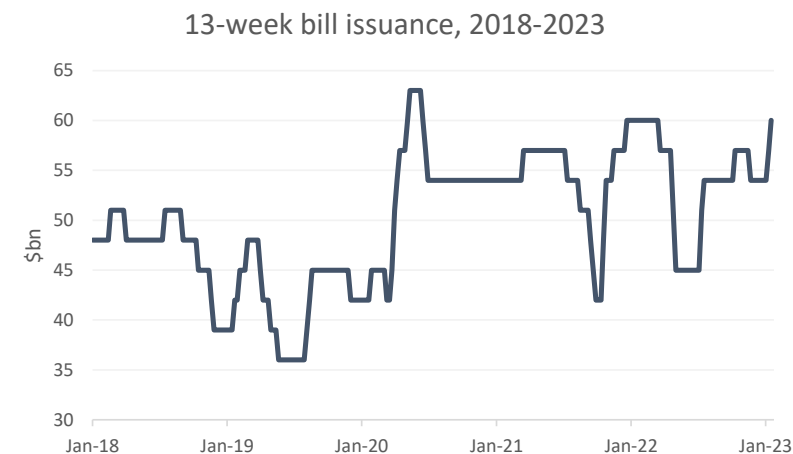


Source: Deutsche Bank



# Funding Buybacks of Short Maturity Treasuries

- Although there are ~\$2.6 trillion of short coupons outstanding (31% of which is held in SOMA), it is unclear how large the supply of available free float is after accounting for securities that may have been stashed away and are unlikely to ever be traded.
- It is possible, however, that there could be significant supply as some investors who currently feel constrained to hold these positions to maturity might instead choose to sell if there were enhanced liquidity.
- The main constraint on Treasury's ability to absorb this supply would be demand for the additional bills that Treasury would need to issue to fund these purchases.
- Treasury could choose to fund these purchases with additional issuance across the bills curve. Historically there has been more variability in sizing of shorter maturity bills than 52-week bills, but Treasury could take into account supply demand dynamics at the time, including the potential impact of the buybacks themselves on demand for various maturity bills.

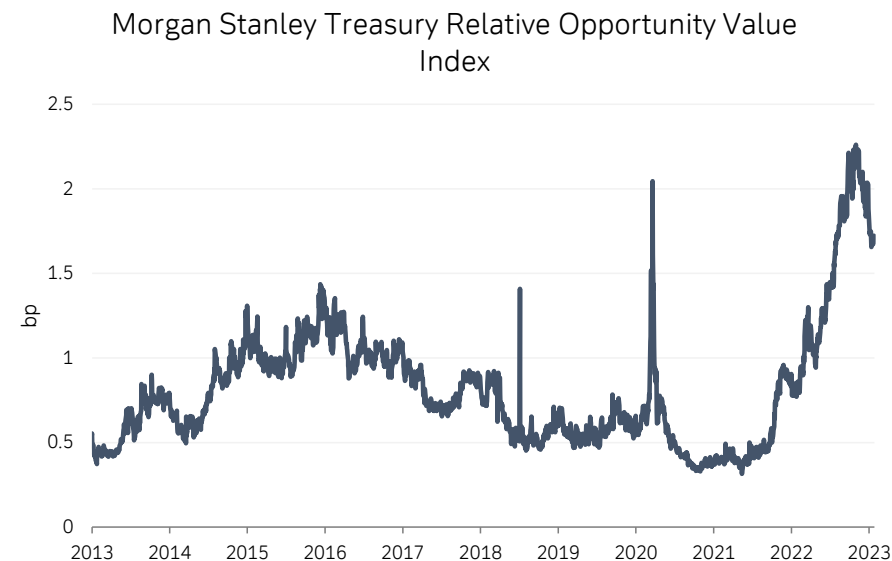


Source: Treasury

# Buybacks for Liquidity Support, Intermediate and Long Maturities

# Buybacks of Intermediate and Long Maturities

- TBAC presentations at both the May-2022 and Nov-2022 meetings highlighted increased macro uncertainty and volatility and corresponding to more challenging liquidity conditions for the Treasury market during 2022.
- Average cheapness of off-the-run securities as indicated by the Morgan Stanley Treasury Relative Opportunity Value Index (MSTVI) increased significantly during 2022, with a subsequent modest recovery after peaking in Oct-2022. This increase was likely exacerbated by heightened macro volatility.
- Historically, off-the-runs have traded at an average spread of about 0.5bps wider than the on-the-run spline as measured by this index. More recently, that spread is 3x to 4x as wide.
- Using off-the-run spreads as an indicator of liquidity, Treasury could improve overall market functioning and create value for the taxpayer by focusing purchases on affected off-the-run issues.
- Treasury could consider buybacks of off-the-run intermediate and long maturity TIPS. The TIPS sector might benefit even more than nominals from liquidity support through buybacks. But Treasury would need to be comfortable that TIPS on-the-run auction sizes could be increased sufficiently to fund those buybacks. This could be a topic for future study.



Source: Bloomberg

# Buybacks of Intermediate and Long Maturities

- Conducting buybacks of intermediate and long maturity Treasuries poses more risk and complexity for Treasury than buybacks at the front end of the curve.
- Longer maturity Treasuries have greater duration risk, increasing the exposure of Treasury to potentially large yield swings between executing buybacks and when it issues on-the-run securities to finance those purchases.
- Some foreign DMOs manage this duration risk by executing buybacks as switches, simultaneously buying off-the-run securities and exchanging new benchmark on-the-run securities.
- However, switches create tension between reducing noise in buyback execution versus keeping issuance regular and predictable. It could be operationally complex to repeatedly reopen Treasury issues to accommodate each switch transaction.
- Executing switches would likely require Treasury to build out additional infrastructure, while funding buybacks with additional on-the-run issuance relies on an already existing process.
- In our view, the more important consideration is the impact of buybacks on Treasury's WAM. The day-to-day fluctuations in yields between when Treasury conducts buybacks vs financing those buybacks should tend to cancel out over time.
- The WAM impact of conducting buybacks across the curve and correspondingly increasing issuance is likely to be quite small, not inconsistent with multiple other short-term factors affecting WAM.
- Therefore, we believe that Treasury could better adhere to the guiding principles by executing buybacks and financing those buybacks separately.

# Funding Buybacks of Intermediate and Long Maturities

- To maintain neutrality to the market structure of marketable debt outstanding while acting in a regular and predictable manner, Treasury could indicate a buyback size for each maturity sector at the time of the Refunding Announcement.
- Treasury could then incorporate additional issuance of on-the-runs to finance the anticipated purchases of off-the-runs. Additional considerations related to this topic are discussed in the later section, *Considerations for Structuring a Buyback Program*.
- Treasury could reserve the right not to purchase securities in an announced buyback operation. Alternatively, Treasury could conclude that it would be more desirable to follow through on all announced purchases except in exceptional circumstances. Ultimately Treasury will need to strike a balance between pricing sensitivity in any given buyback versus the guiding principle of a buyback program being regular and predictable.
- A potential concern is the impact on WAM and the cost of term premium incurred due to buying back off-the-runs funded by issuing longer maturity on-the-runs.
  - We believe that the term premium concern is minor, as Treasury is both paying and receiving term premium of similar maturity in the process of buying back off-the-runs and issuing on-the-runs.
  - As previously mentioned, the impact on WAM is expected to be *de minimis*, well within the scope of WAM perturbations that Treasury routinely encounters due to the timing of maturities, issuance, etc.

# Evaluating the Market Liquidity Impact of Treasury Buybacks

# Evaluating the Market Liquidity Impact of Treasury Buybacks

- If Treasury chooses to enact a buyback program, we expect there would be some observable improvement in the liquidity of off-the-runs and short coups, starting with an anticipatory announcement effect and continuing as the program moves forward.
- Dealers would likely become more willing to provide liquidity in off-the-runs and short coups, and Treasury investors would likely accept a smaller amount of yield liquidity premium to hold those securities.
- We recommend that Treasury actively monitor the observable resulting changes in market liquidity for several reasons:
  - To evaluate the success of the buyback program in improving overall Treasury market liquidity.
  - To help inform decisions about future adjustments to the size or focus of the buyback program.
  - To help guide decisions about individual buyback operations.
- Treasury could evaluate the offers it receives in each buyback operation as indicative of whether Treasury is effectively providing liquidity support. If those offers suggest that there are only reluctant sellers, it could imply that Treasury's buybacks in that instance might not be constructive for improving market liquidity.
- Treasury could consider the factors on the following page as measures of market liquidity. Treasury could use other indicators to correct for movements in liquidity measures due to non-buyback factors such as general macro stress or LSAPs.

# Evaluating the Market Liquidity Impact of Treasury Buybacks

Treasury could consider a variety of indicators to evaluate liquidity conditions.

<u>Quantitative Measures</u>		
Overall Treasury market liquidity, including on-the-runs	Off-the-run liquidity	Treasury funding liquidity
Bid/offer spreads	Off-the-run/on-the-run spreads (vs asset-swap or fitted spline curve)	Repo specialness
Top of book (TOB) order size	FINRA bid/offer width of off-the-runs vs on-the-runs	Changes in swap spreads
Market depth (e.g., transaction cost of executing a specific-sized trade)	Aggregate index of off-the-run spreads, such as MSVTI or JPM RMSE	Availability and spreads of term repo
Total trading volumes	Off-the-run trading volumes	
Size and frequency of auction tails	Sector indices of off-the-run spreads, such as MSVTI sectors	
Dealer inventory sizes and sector composition	First three off-the-run / on-the-run spreads	
	Dispersion of off-the-run spreads	
<u>Qualitative Measures</u>		
Use the quarterly refunding questionnaire to solicit qualitative feedback from primary dealers		
Feedback from market participants through regular communication or investor RFIs		
<u>Macro Liquidity Drivers (to control for in identifying buyback-related effects)</u>		
Treasury market volatility (e.g. MOVE Index)		
Dollar funding premia (e.g. cross-currency bases)		
Monetary policy/LSAPs		
Regulatory changes and effects on market intermediation		



# Framework for Sizing Treasury Buybacks

# Framework for Sizing Treasury Buybacks

- Sizing of buybacks can be measured:
  - As a proportion of gross issuance.
  - As a proportion of debt held by the public.
  - As a proportion of the size of off-the-runs in each sector broken down by maturity.
- Note that these proportions would not be static – during periods of lower financing needs, a larger buyback program could be supported and vice versa.
- Context is important:
  - If the primary goal of buybacks is liquidity support, then the available float of off-the-runs in each sector should be considered, along with the market capacity to support increases in the size of the on-the-run for each corresponding sector.
  - In periods when financing needs are lower and on-the-run issue sizes are relatively small, there is likely to be more capacity to increase auction sizes and support a larger buyback program.
  - In periods when the Treasury is running a surplus (such as 1998-2001), Treasury could consider what size of cash management buybacks is required to maintain sufficiently large-sized benchmark on-the-run issuance.
  - Sizing of a buyback program could be bifurcated between <1y maturities (funded by issuing bills) and >1y maturities (funded by issuing on-the-run coupons).
  - Treasury could evaluate how much leeway is acceptable in matching the WAM of buybacks with the WAM of issuance to finance those buybacks. In the context of Treasury's overall debt profile, modest mismatches between buybacks and issuance will not have a material impact on the maturity structure of marketable debt outstanding.

# Framework for Sizing Treasury Buybacks

- Boundary conditions for sizing:
  - Lower bound: A buyback program should be large enough to have some observable impact on liquidity support and/or cash management, or else it will only serve the purpose of testing operational procedures.
  - Upper bound: Buybacks should not be so large that they cause the market or auction process for on-the-run Treasuries or bills to be overwhelmed with excessive supply. This could result in destruction of the on-the-run liquidity premium.
    - A buyback program also should not be so large that it threatens to significantly erode the tradable float of off-the-run securities targeted for purchase, rendering the residual issue sizes disproportionately small and therefore less liquid.
- On-the-runs at different points on the curve may have differing capacities to absorb issuance increases to fund buybacks, even after adjusting for duration differences.
- We would recommend initiating a buyback program at the lower end of the range of potential sizing, so that Treasury could learn from the initial implementation and then choose to increase the sizing if that became desirable.
- An example of an initial sizing framework reflecting current auction sizes could be \$5B-\$10B <1y maturities per month, along with \$5B-\$10B > 1y maturities per month.
- These sizes would require modest increases in the size of on-the-run issuance and bill issuance.
- They are sufficiently large to have some measurable impact on Treasury market liquidity.

# Considerations for Structuring a Buyback Program

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- Buybacks could be bifurcated into maturity <1y and maturity >1y programs:
  - Maturity <1y for (a) liquidity support and/or (b) cash management.
  - Maturity >1y for (a) liquidity support and/or (b) cash management in periods of fiscal surplus.
- Maximum (“up to”) buyback amounts for each could be announced as part of the Quarterly Refunding process.
  - These maximum amounts would leave Treasury with flexibility if propositions received in buyback operations are inconsistent with achieving liquidity support or cash management goals.
  - That said, Treasury would need to balance the guiding principles of regular and predictable, providing liquidity support, and doing no harm. Treasury could conclude that while it would be desirable to conduct buybacks in a regular and predictable manner, there may be a lower threshold for departures from that than for Treasury auctions, given the other competing considerations.
- Treasury could take into account the expected size of buybacks when determining and announcing the sizes of upcoming bill and coupon auctions.
- See the earlier section, *Framework for Sizing Treasury Buybacks*, for more on sizing considerations.

# Considerations for Structuring a Buyback Program

- Buyback operations could be conducted by sector, with offers evaluated both on attractiveness versus market pricing as well as based on valuation metrics. Treasury would likely be better served by maintaining flexibility in how it makes these decisions, as market liquidity conditions and other dynamic factors could be important to consider.
  - The Fed's experience with LSAPs could inform the design of purchase sectors.
  - Valuation metrics could include discount to spline, yield-based ASW, zero-coupon ASW, and on- vs off-the-run spreads (if considering only the first three off-the-runs).
- Treasury should establish securities exclusions and concentration limits.
  - Exclude on-the-run securities. It may also be appropriate to exclude the futures cheapest-to-deliver (CTD), given the CTD is typically a liquid point on the curve not requiring additional liquidity support. Treasury could also consider excluding Treasuries trading very special in repo, but such issues tend to trade at richer spreads in any case.
  - Set limits on the % of a purchase operation allocated to a given CUSIP and on cumulative % of a CUSIP outstanding (less SOMA holdings and stripped securities) that can be bought back.
- Schedule operations to balance effectiveness, risk, and operational complexity.
  - It would be preferable if Treasury could schedule buybacks on days (and at times) that are least likely to conflict with Treasury market auctions, or with important data releases or policy decisions.
  - If <1y buyback operations have a cash management purpose (i.e., purchases are not being financed through bill issuance or otherwise), the timing of cash receipts or outlays should also inform scheduling.

# Considerations for Structuring a Buyback Program

- Reverse auction methodology:
  - Since Treasury would be evaluating offers of multiple securities simultaneously in each sector, a single-price auction (like the Treasury auction process) is not feasible. Treasury could consider using a single-price for each CUSIP but would need to evaluate whether this creates value versus using a multi-price model within as well across CUSIPs.
  - Treasury would need to define minimum offer size and increment, and the number of offers that can be submitted per security, considering trade-offs between flexibility and operational cumbersomeness.
  - Turning around results quickly is important, as participants will view making fixed-price offerings as being short an option and will build more cushion into their offerings if it takes longer to know if their offerings are accepted.
- Eligible counterparties:
  - An important issue to consider is which counterparties can sell to Treasury in the buyback operations.
  - Conceptually the same set of market participants that can participate in Treasury auctions could also participate in buybacks. However, operational constraints may limit participation to primary dealers.

# Conclusion



# Conclusion

- Treasury should consider buybacks to provide liquidity support to the overall Treasury market and to achieve cash management goals.
- Designing a buyback program is complex, as it requires myriad operational, analytical, and market judgements. Treasury should carefully consider whether to move forward.
- If Treasury does decide to move forward, the suggestions below should all be subject to substantial additional analysis to enable Treasury to design an implementation plan that best meets its goals.
- Buybacks of <1y maturity are good candidates for most cash management purposes and can be funded by additional issuance across the bill curve. Buybacks of <1y maturity TIPS could be considered along with nominals.
- Buybacks of >1y maturity could be broken down by sector and funded by corresponding issuance of on-the-runs. TIPS could possibly be included, subject to capacity to increase on-the-run TIPS auctions sizes to fund purchases.
- Treasury can use a variety of valuation measures to assess which securities and sectors would most benefit from liquidity support and to select offers to accept during buyback operations. These, along with other broad measures of market liquidity, can be used to assess the liquidity support impact of buybacks.
- A key consideration in sizing buybacks is the capacity to issue additional benchmark on-the-runs to fund purchases. This capacity is time-varying and context-specific.
- While buybacks should be consistent with the regular and predictable framework, Treasury should reserve flexibility on whether to execute any specific buyback operation.
- Treasury would need to consider a number of operational aspects to facilitate a buyback program, including determining eligible participants, timing of buybacks, size limitations, and other operational constraints.
- A successful buyback program should result in benefits for the taxpayer, either through providing liquidity support to the market that results in lower financing costs, by giving Treasury an additional tool for efficient cash management, or both.