

BANCO CENTRAL DE RESERVA DEL PERU
WEEKLY REPORT N° 31
August 3, 2001

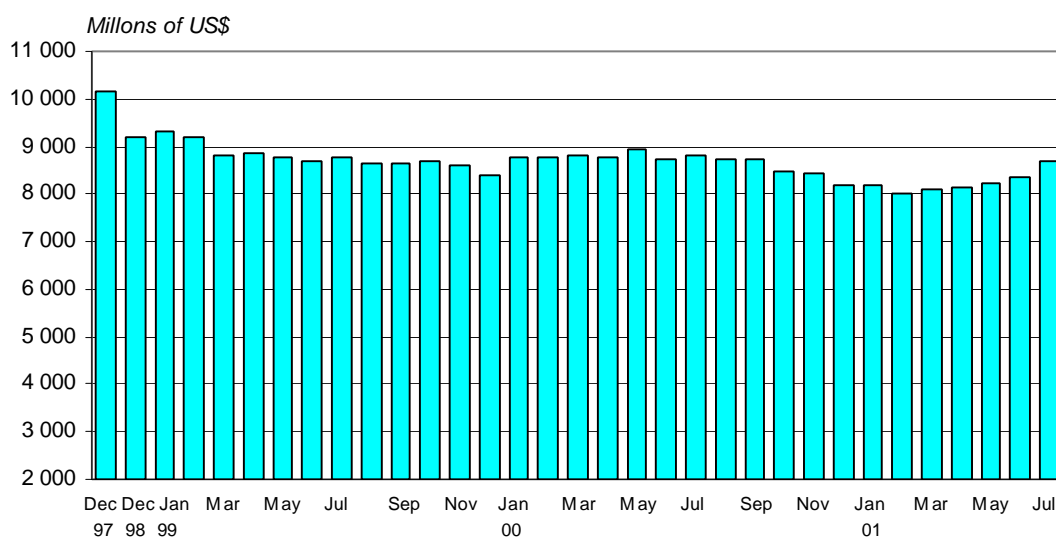
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Net International Reserves increased US\$ 358 million

In July, the net international reserves (NIR) of the Central Reserve Bank of Peru amounted to US\$ 8 700 million, up US\$ 358 million from end-June. The increase is due to higher deposits of the financial system (US\$ 286 million) and the public sector (US\$ 46 million) at the Central Bank, as well as investment yields (US\$ 29 million), which were partially offset by temporary purchases of foreign currency (US\$ 1 million) and the withdrawal of the Insurance Deposit Fund deposits (US\$ 1 million). The foreign exchange position amounted to US\$ 2 602 million, up US\$ 13 million from end-June.

**BCRP Net International Reserves
(December 1997 - July 2001)**



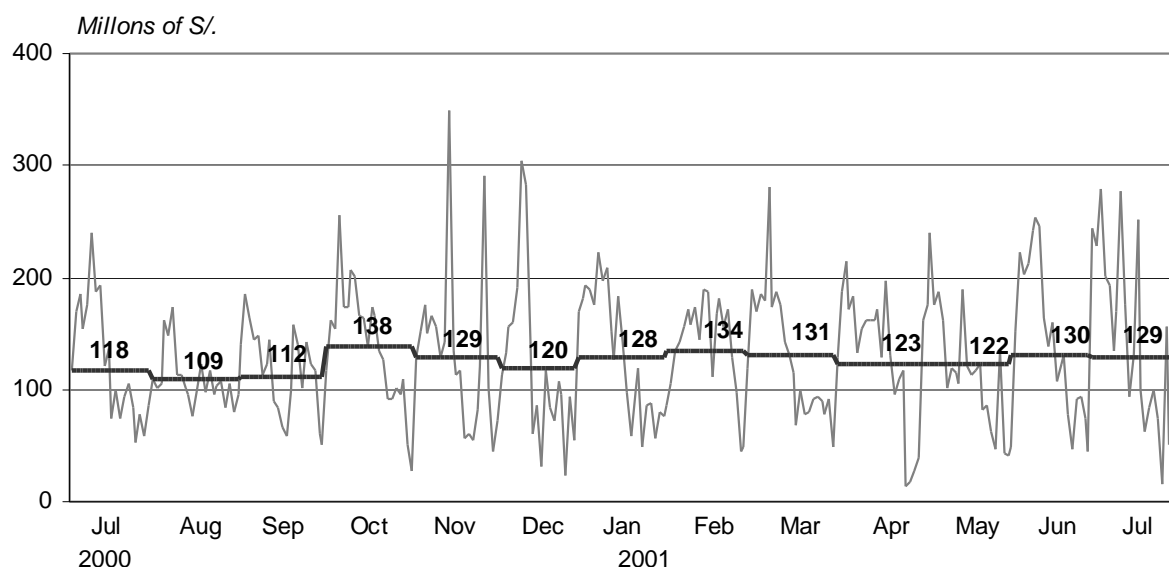
Banks' current account balance at S/. 129 million

In July, the banks' current account held at the Central Bank was S/. 129 million on a daily average basis, lower than the range announced by the Bank (S/. 135-145 million), because of the banks' lower liquidity demand.

**Monetary operations: daily average
(Million of S/.)**

	Banks' current account balance at the end of previous day's operations	Banks' operations with Banco de la Nación	Redemption of CDBCRP	Other banking operations redemption with the Central Bank	Cash transfers that affect the bank's current account balance	Current account of banking system before Central Bank operations	Central bank operations	Current account after Central Bank operations	Interbank interest rate
		2	3	4	5		7		
June 2000	149	-18	16	-21	35	162	-16	146	13,6
July	117	-48	26	-152	20	-31	155	118	11,3
December	120	-38	41	-107	20	38	83	120	11,4
January 2001	128	-41	10	-84	58	77	58	128	10,8
February	135	-27	27	-30	38	157	-9	134	11,0
March	131	-34	16	-13	37	137	-7	131	10,3
April	124	-73	16	-353	40	-243	368	123	12,5
May	122	-28	14	-157	48	-2	125	122	12,7
June		-34	18	-50	37		29		16,0
July		-30	31	-20	25		-6		8,4

**Banks' Current Account at the BCRP
(July 2000 - July 2001)**



In July, the Central Bank made 11 CDBCRP repo auctions amounting to S/. 51 million per auction on average, at an average interest rate of 7,1 percent. On July 2 and 25, the Bank carried out swap operations by US\$ 10 million and US\$ 1 million, respectively.

Over this period, the Bank redeemed CDBCRP by S/. 645 million and made CDBCRP auctions by S/. 420 million. The balance of these certificates in July was S/. 1 515 million.

Average monetary base at S/. 5 321 million

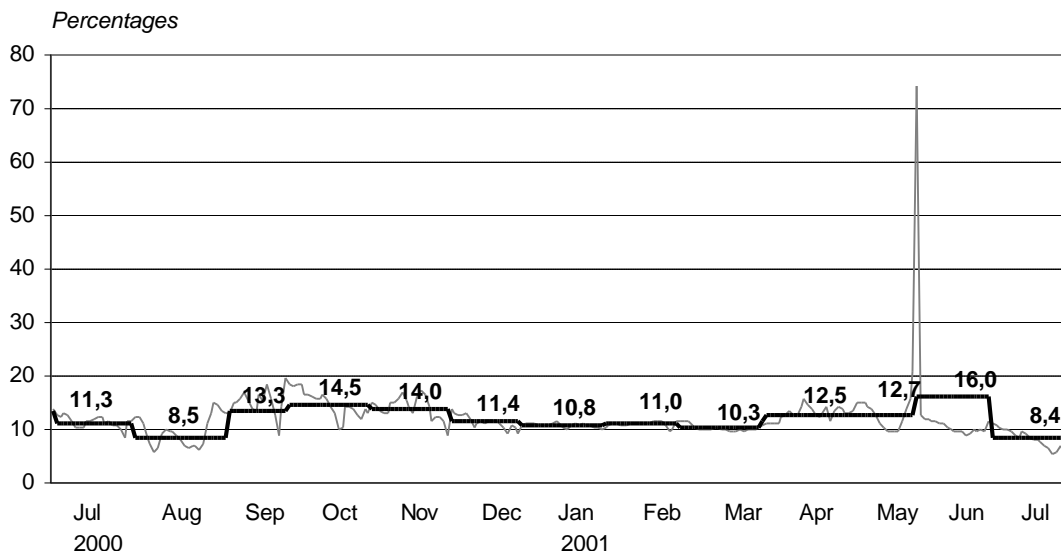
In July, the daily average balance of the monetary base was S/. 5 321 million, 6,0 percent higher than in June. On July 31, the monetary base amounted to S/. 5 510 million, up 9,7 percent (S/. 488 million) from end-June, reflecting lower public sector deposits at the Central Bank (S/. 354 million), net redemption of CDBCRP (S/. 225 million), net interest payments and other outlays (S/. 42 million), which were partially

offset by overnight deposits (S/. 86 million), temporary purchases of CDBCRP (S/. 30 million), Insurance Deposit Funds deposits (S/. 12 million) and the redemption of swap operations (S/. 5 million).

Interbank interest rate in domestic currency decreased

During July, the interbank interest rate in domestic currency was 8,4 percent, lower than the May and June averages (12,7 and 16,0 percent, respectively).

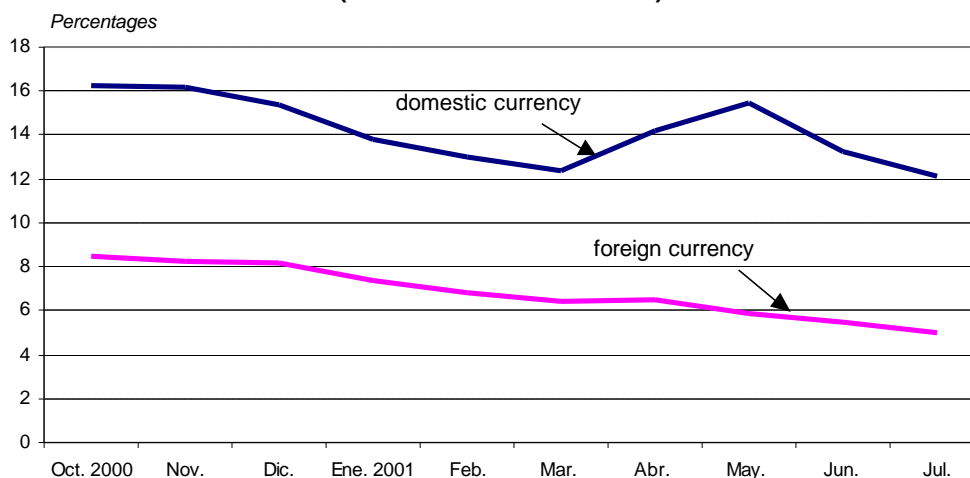
**Interbank Interest rate in domestic currency
(July 2000 - July 2001)**



Average lending rates in domestic and foreign currency decreased

The corporative prime interest rate in domestic currency (on 90-day loans to low-risk clients) declined from 13,2 percent in June to 12,1 percent in July. The rate in foreign currency also decreased from 5,5 percent last month to 5,0 percent.

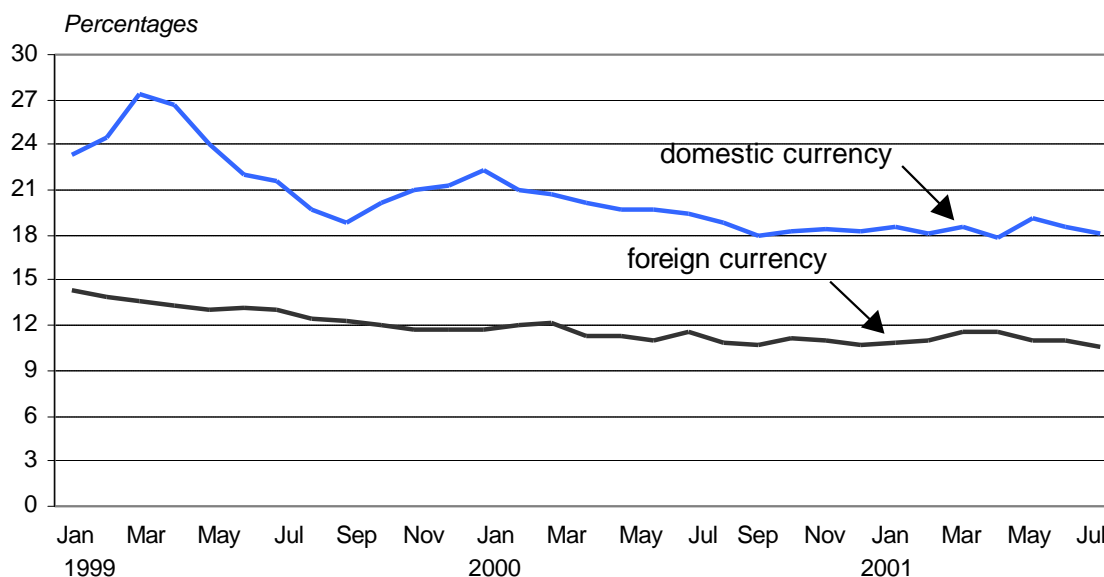
**Corporative prime interest rate in domestic and foreign currency
(Octubre 2000 - Julio 2001)**



The 90-day prime interest rate on soles-denominated loans averaged 18,1 percent, lower

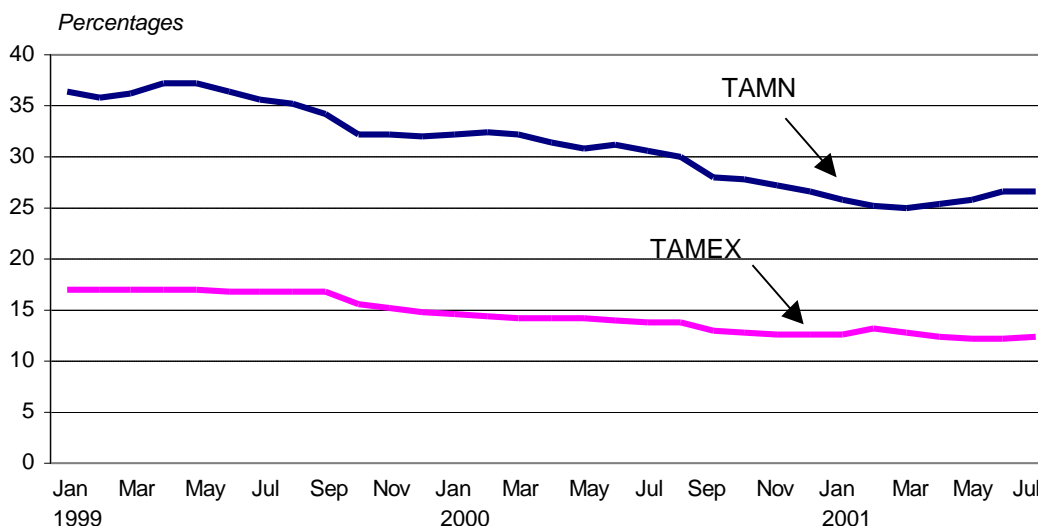
than the June average (18,6 percent). On the other hand, the rate on dollar-denominated loans decreased from 11,1 to 10,6 percent.

Prime interest rates (January 1999 - July 2001)



The average lending interest rate in domestic currency (TAMN) was 26,6 percent, higher than last month's average (26,1 percent), while the rate in foreign currency (TAMEX) was 12,4 percent, also higher than the June average (12,2 percent).

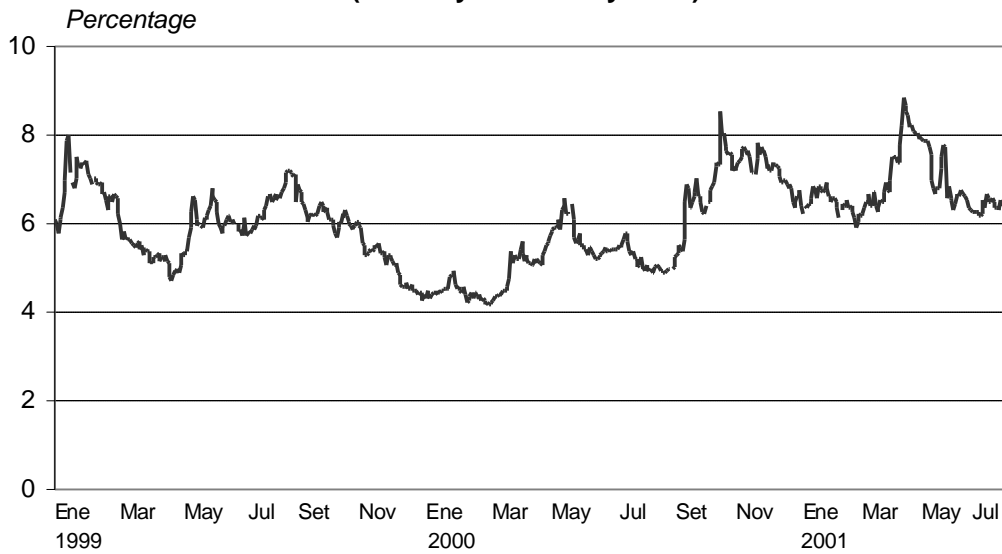
Active Lending interest rates in domestic and foreign currency (January 1999 - July 2001)



Peru's bonds spread at 6,4 percent

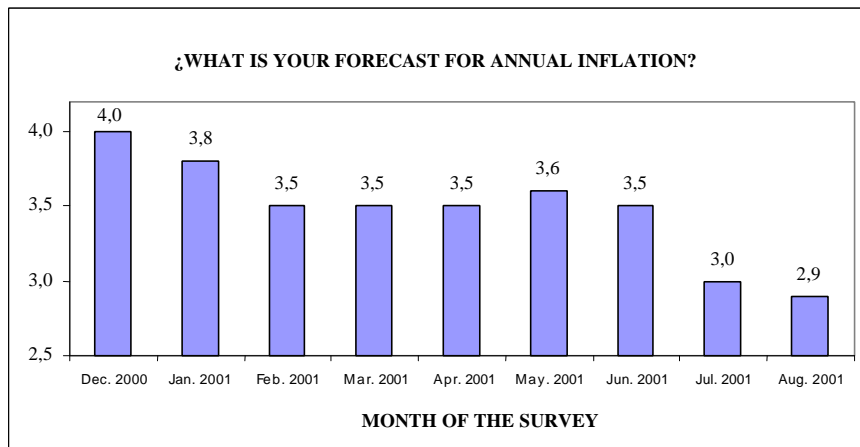
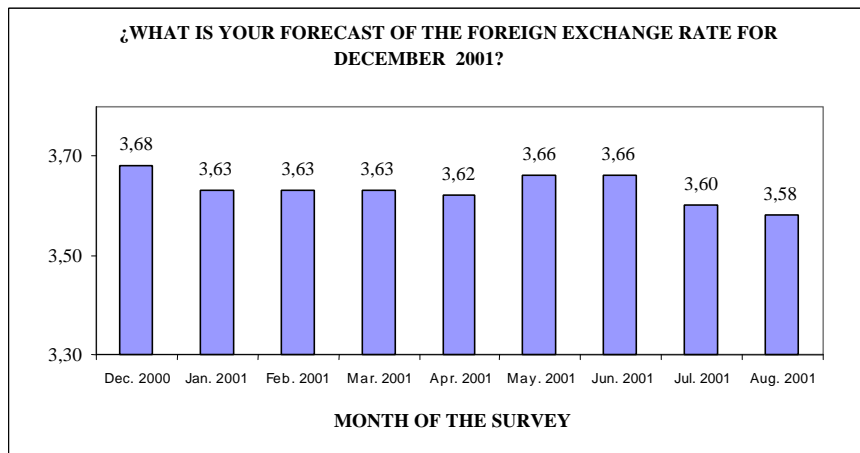
In July, the spread between the yield of Peruvian bonds and the interest rate on US Treasury bills (a proxy for the country risk perceived by investors) was 6,4 percent, lower than in June (6,5 percent). Conversely, the average for Latin American bonds rose from 7,6 percent in June to 9,5 percent in July.

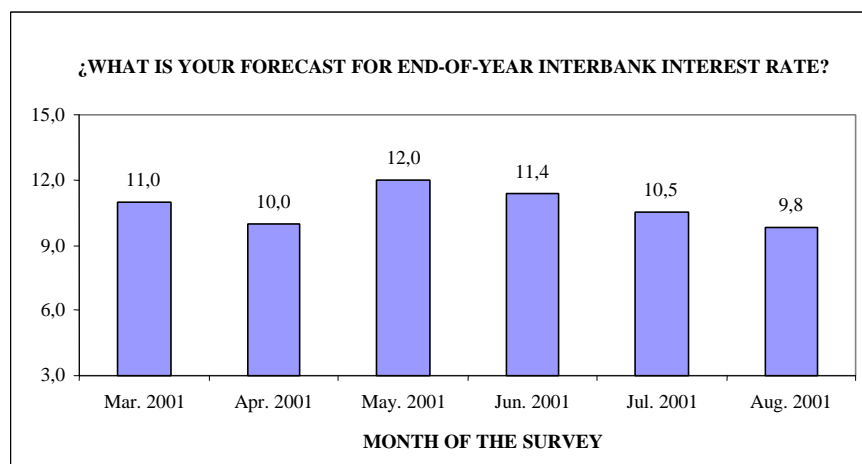
**Peru bonds spread
(January 1999 - July 2001)**



Macroeconomic expectations as of August

From July 20 to 25, the Central Bank carried out the *Macroeconomic Expectations Survey* upon a sample of 30 financial entities (among banks, insurance companies, pension administrator funds and consumption credit institutions). The survey shows that market participants expect a decrease in inflation, interest rates and the foreign exchange rate.





Inflation July 2001: 0,17 percent

In July, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 0,17 percent, as a consequence of the increase in non-tradable product prices (1,9 percent), compensated by the fall in tradable product prices (-0,6 percent) and fuel prices (-2,0 percent). Twelve-month inflation was 2,2 percent (versus 2,5 percent in June).

The underlying inflation is a measure of the Consumer Price Index trend that excludes high volatility products such as non-tradable food, fuel and transportation prices. Underlying inflation was -0,09 percent in July and 2,2 percent in the last 12 months (versus 2,6 percent in June).

	INFLATION (Percentage changes)							
	2000				2001			
	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Jan.-Jul.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Jan.-Jul.
GENERAL INDEX	<u>0,02</u>	<u>0,06</u>	<u>0,52</u>	<u>2,22</u>	<u>0,02</u>	<u>-0,06</u>	<u>0,17</u>	<u>0,66</u>
TRADABLE PRODUCTS	<u>0,7</u>	<u>0,3</u>	<u>0,4</u>	<u>2,4</u>	<u>0,4</u>	<u>0,0</u>	<u>-0,5</u>	<u>0,1</u>
Food	0,9	0,1	0,2	0,8	0,5	-0,5	-0,6	-1,0
Textile & footwear	0,4	0,2	0,2	1,6	0,2	0,2	0,2	1,5
Fuel	1,4	0,8	2,2	10,8	0,7	0,6	-2,0	-2,6
Electrical appliances	0,4	-0,2	0,0	0,3	1,3	-0,9	-0,4	1,1
Others	0,4	0,6	0,4	3,1	0,3	0,3	-0,1	1,6
NON-TRADABLE PRODUCTS	<u>-0,5</u>	<u>-0,1</u>	<u>0,6</u>	<u>2,1</u>	<u>-0,3</u>	<u>-0,1</u>	<u>0,6</u>	<u>1,1</u>
Food	-1,5	-0,7	1,4	2,0	-0,7	-0,5	1,9	1,4
Services	0,0	0,1	0,2	2,1	-0,1	0,1	0,1	1,0
Others	0,1	0,1	0,1	1,4	-0,1	0,0	0,0	0,2
Note:								
Underlying inflation	0,3	0,2	0,3	1,7	0,2	-0,0	-0,1	0,7

Exchange rate at S/. 3,50

In July, the ask exchange rate in the banking system averaged S/. 3,50, 0,8 percent lower than in June (S/. 3,53 per dollar). In real terms, the exchange rate declined 1,2 percent reflecting the nominal appreciation as well as the difference between domestic (0,2 percent) and external deflation (0,3 percent).

In July, the balance of foreign currency sales in the forward market on a daily average basis were higher than redemptions by US\$ 4 million, whereas new purchases were similar to their maturities. In the spot market, average net purchases to the public amounted to US\$ 3 million, lower than in June (US\$ 6 million).

**Banks' exchange market operations to the public: Daily average
(Million of US\$)**

	December 2000	April 2001	May	June	July
I. Forward sales to the public	0	7	2	-2	4
New sales	12	26	13	16	19
Redemptions	12	19	11	18	14
II. Forward purchases to the public	-2	0	2	2	0
New purchases	6	13	13	13	10
Redemptions	8	13	11	11	10
III. Net spot purchases to the public	0	13	-2	6	3
Purchases	87	110	78	84	79
Sales	87	97	80	78	76
Memo :					
Close balance as of:					
a. Forward sales to the public	653	990	1026	979	1122
b. Forward purchases to the public	213	403	440	470	523
c. Net sales to the public (a-b)	440	587	586	509	599
d. Banks' exchange position	630	573	569	600	468

Monetary accounts: July 15

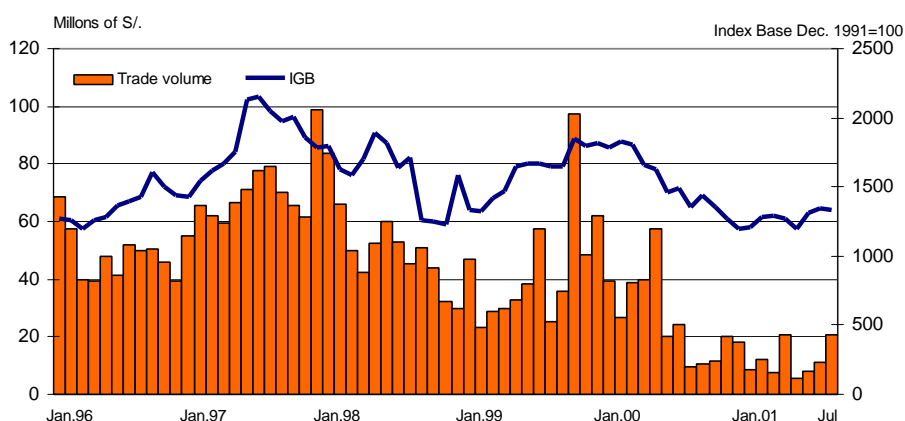
From June 15 to July 15, liquidity in domestic currency increased 2,2 percent (S/. 308 million) to S/. 14 579 million. In annual terms, this aggregate increased 5,9 percent. On the other hand, credit to the private sector in domestic currency decreased 1,6 percent (S/. 146 million) to S/. 8 857 million. Growth in the last 12 months for this variable was 4,4 percent.

Liquidity in foreign currency increased 1,0 percent (US\$ 96 million) to US\$ 9 663 million. Short-term external liabilities amounted to US\$ 1 683 million, up US\$ 165 million (10,9 percent) from end-June. Credit to the private sector (US\$ 11 422 million) decreased 0,4 percent (US\$ 45 million) in the last 4 weeks and 0,5 percent in annual terms.

General Index decreases 1,1 percent

In July, the Lima Stock Exchange decreased with respect to end-June by 1,1 percent in the General Index and 3,4 percent in the Blue Chip Index. However, in the year these indices have increased 10,2 percent and 6,4 percent, respectively.

Stock Market Indicators (January 1996 - July 2001)



Lima, August 3, 2001

The weekly report releases economic information to be published (with broader detail) in the weekly bulletin the following Monday. The weekly report published on Fridays is released via facsimile for a charge or free via email (acorrales@bcpr.gob.pe). A subscription can be requested to telephone (51-1) 4266250 ext. 3817 or email. The monthly fee for the facsimile is S/. 12 (Peru only) and US\$ 49 (overseas).

Informative Note on the Monetary Program: August 2001

The BCRP reduces its reference interest rate in domestic currency from 10,0 to 9,0 percent and from 6,5 to 6,0 in foreign currency, as well as the benchmark for monetary operations to a S/. 130 – S/. 140 million range.

1. For the month of August, the Board approved a range of S/. 130 - S/. 140 million on a daily average for its operating target, lower than the July range (S/. 135 – S/. 145 million), in line with the lower demand for current account balances observed in July as a consequence of the flexibility in the conditions of the monetary regulation credits of the Central Bank. For this reason, the current account balance in July was S/. 129 million, which fell below the announced range.
2. The Central Bank Board of Directors also established that the following interest and commission rates would be used in domestic-currency Central Bank operations since August 3:
 - a. For monetary regulation credits in domestic currency, the effective interest rate would be the weighted average of the interbank interest rate, or 9,0 percent, whichever is highest. It should be noted that the new level of the reference interest rate for monetary regulation credits implied a reduction for the third consecutive month. Since July 6, this rate was 10,0 percent.
 - b. For overnight deposits in domestic currency held by banks at the Central Bank, the effective interest rate will be 4,0 percent. This rate is effective since March 2.
 - c. For foreign exchange temporary purchase operations (swap operations), the commission will be 0,0138 percent per day, equivalent to an effective 9,0 percent annual cost. This cost is lower than that effective since July 6 (10,0 percent).
3. The following interest rates will be used in foreign-currency operations:
 - a. The effective annual rate for monetary regulation credits will be 6,0 percent. This rate implied a reduction with respect to the rate effective since July 6 (6,5 percent).
 - b. For overnight deposits held by banks at the Central Bank, the rate is equivalent to the average obtained by the Central Bank for similar deposits abroad.
4. The Central bank grants monetary regulation credits in domestic and foreign currency on a regular basis.
5. If justified by financial conditions, the values mentioned above could be modified in order to ensure the attainment of the objective to preserve monetary stability.
6. Attached to this informative note is a summary chart on the monetary policy decisions in the last 6 months.

Lima, August 2, 2001

BANCO CENTRAL DE RESERVA DEL PERÚ

Operating target for the Banks' Current Account and the reference interest rates approved by the Central Bank Board of Directors: 2001

	Actual						Program August
	February	March	April	May	June	July	
1. Operating Target: Current Account (In million of S/.)							
Range	125-135	128-138	130-140	120-130	125-135	135-145	130-140
Revision			120-130				
Actual	134	131	123	122	130	129	
(As a percentage of TOSE) ^{1/}	(1,23)	(1,18)	(1,12)	(1,10)	(1,16)	(1,14)	(1,14-1,23)
2. Reference interest rates (In percentages)							
a. Monetary regulation credits							
a.1. In Nuevos Soles	12,5	11,5	11,0	11,0	10,5	10,0	9,0
a.2. In Us dollars	8,5	8,5	8,5	7,5	7,0	6,5	6,0
b. Depósitos overnight							
b.1. In Nuevos Soles	4,5	4,0	4,0	4,0	4,0	4,0	4,0
b.2. In US dollars ^{2/}	5,5	5,3	4,8	4,2	3,9	3,8	
3. Commission for swaps operations							
Commission	0,0172	0,0165	0,0159	0,0174	0,0171	0,0158	0,0138
Effective annual rate	12,5	11,5	11,0	11,0	10,5	10,0	9,0
Memo:							
Interbank interest rate	11,0	10,3	12,5	12,7	10,6 ^{3/}	8,4	

1/ Liabilities subject to reserve requirements.

2/ Equivalent to the average obtained by the Central Bank for similar deposits abroad.

3/ The rate for June 1 (74,3 percent) is not included.

