

# **US** Rates Watch

# MMF portfolio update: MMFs absorb bank deposit outflows

#### MMF portfolio update: MMFs absorb deposit outflows

**AUM**: Money market funds have seen \$200bn in inflows MTD, according to Crane Data (Exhibit 1). Government MMFs drew large inflows of \$224bn following contagion fears around uninsured bank deposits. At the same time, prime funds saw \$24bn in outflows as investors likely wanted to park cash in safer funds and limit exposure to banks.

Most of these MMF inflows were into institutional MMF. Institutional MMF AUM grew roughly \$140bn MTD vs \$60bn into retail funds. The recent institutional MMF inflows are likely to be from uninsured bank depositors (Exhibit 2). The flow into government institutional funds is a reversal of the theme we saw in '22 and earlier this year. Prime retail had drawn the majority of inflows with Fed hikes & low bank deposit betas.

Overall, we expect MMF AUM to continue to increase as yields stay high and remain attractive relative to bank deposit rates.

**Simple yield**: The average 7-day simple yield on government MMFs has risen 5.5bps MTD vs 0.8bps for prime MMFs over the same period (Exhibit 3). Since the start of '23, yields have risen 42 and 27bps for gov't and prime funds, respectively. We expect yields to keep rising along with Fed hikes.

WAM & WAL: MMFs reversed some of the extension we saw in WAM and WALs YTD as uncertainty around the Fed's path grew following recent bank stress. Prime MMFs have reduced WAM 2.7 days MTD but are still 4.5 days longer YTD (Exhibit 4). Gov't funds have only declined 0.9 days MTD but are still 1.9 days shorter on the year. Prime WALs have shortened 6.1 days MTD & 3.4 days YTD. Gov't fund WAL is shorter by 4.4 days MTD, 4.9 days YTD (Exhibit 5).

Uncertainty around the Fed's hiking path continues to keep MMFs short. Fed reaction to the recent bank stress will likely determine whether MMFs want to extend out with the expectations of rate cuts or remain short if future hikes are still expected.

We still expect front-end paper to cheapen in late 2023 after the debt limit resolution due to significant net issuance in T-bills, which should encourage MMF WAM extension.

ON RRP take-up: MMF take-up at the Fed's ON RRP rose in February (Exhibit 7). Takeup likely rose due to cuts in FHLB debt and UST bills + large MMF inflows (Exhibit 6).

The recent bank stress initially led to lower ON RRP take-up. Lower ON RRP use occurred despite MMF inflows as MMFs likely shifted their holdings into FHLB debt. As FHLB issuance slows and MMFs continue to see inflows, ON RRP use will likely increase, in our view.

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AUM: Assets under management

MMF: Money market fund

YTD: Year to date

WAMs: Weighted average maturity

WAL: Weighted average life

ON RRP: Overnight reverse repo

facility

QT: Quantitative tightening

FHLB: Federal home loan banks

CD: Certificate of deposit

CP: Commercial paper

TD: Time deposit

**UST: US Treasuries** 

Inst'l: institutional

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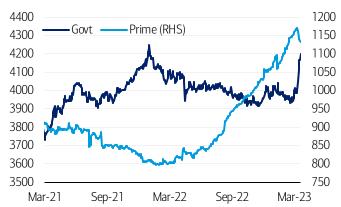
**Holdings:** According to data from iMoneyNet, prime fund inflows shifted holdings back into UST repo and non-negotiable TD (Exhibit 8, Exhibit 10). Gov't funds, which were flat AUM over February, shifted holdings from Treasury and agency debt back into Treasury repo (Exhibit 9, Exhibit 11).

The decline in UST debt was predominantly out of Treasury bills and notes vs FRNs (Exhibit 12, Exhibit 13). The decline in agency debt was likely driven by a reduction of FHLB issuance in Feb (Exhibit 6). March MMF holdings have likely shifted back into agency debt given the recent uptick in issuance (Exhibit 14).

Prime funds increased Japanese exposure in CD and non-negotiable TDs but reduced exposure to Japanese banks via lower financial CP (Exhibit 15).

#### Exhibit 1: MMF AUM (\$bn)

Govt funds saw large inflows, prime funds saw outflows

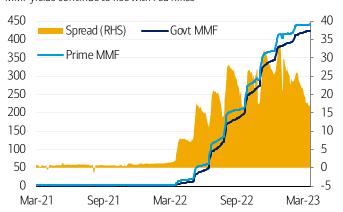


Source: BofA Global Research, Crane Data

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# Exhibit 3: Domestic MMF 7 day simple yield (bps)

MMF yields continue to rise with Fed hikes



Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet

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# Exhibit 2: Institutional MMF AUM vs Retail MMF AUM (\$tn)

Bank deposit outflows are flooding into institutional MMFs

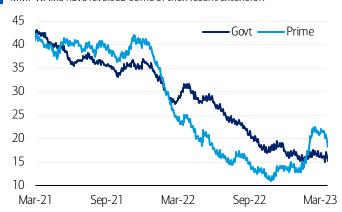


Source: Bloomberg, ICI

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#### Exhibit 4: MMF WAM (Days)

MMF WAMs have reversed some of their recent extension

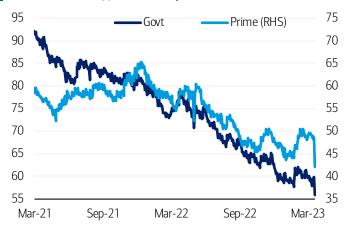


Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet



#### **Exhibit 5: MMF WAL (Days)**

Prime fund WALs dropped dramatically after bank stress

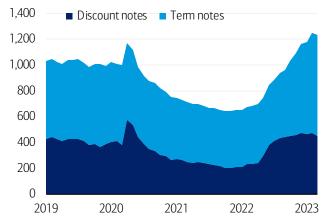


Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet

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#### Exhibit 6: FHLB debt issuance (\$bn)

FHLB debt issuance declined for the first time in months in Feb



Source: BofA Global Research, FHLB Office of Finance

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**Exhibit 7: Top 10 MMFs' ON RRP use (\$bn)**MMF ON RRP increased likely due to bill cuts at the end of Feb

Fund	Feb Assets	Feb ON RRP	Jan ON RRP	Dec ON RRP	Nov ON RRP
Goldman Sachs FS Govt	233	138	136	142	147
Fidelity Govt Money Market	247	136	139	136	111
Fidelity Govt Cash Reserves	212	119	125	126	101
Vanguard Federal Money Mkt Fund	229	118	119	128	121
Fidelity Series Govt Money Market	145	93	2	1	1
Dreyfus Govt Cash Mgmt	134	84	87	82	50
JPMorgan US Govt MM	191	84	88	118	112
BlackRock Lq T-Fund	88	60	41	50	49
BlackRock Lq FedFund	117	58	42	59	53
Vanguard Cash Reserves Federal MM	98	54	49	51	45

Source: BofA Global Research, Crane Data

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### Exhibit 8: Domestic MMF holdings, prime funds (\$bn)

Prime funds placed inflows into UST repo and non-negotiable TD

	F	Prime		Prime I	nstitutio	nal	Prin		
	Feb-23	MoM	YoY	Feb-23	MoM	YoY	Feb-23	MoM	YoY
Cash	11.5	1	10	4.4	(0)	3	7.1	1	7
Treasury Debt	6.2	(2)	2	3.0	(0)	1	3.2	(1)	2
Treasury Repo	184.9	31	176	38.5	2	37	146.4	29	139
Govt Agency Debt	1.4	0	1	0.6	0	1	0.8	0	1
Govt Agency Repo	55.6	8	46	8.5	0	6	47.1	7	40
Other Repo	49.8	0	3	28.4	(1)	(2)	21.4	1	5
CD	157.0	(2)	63	64.0	(1)	10	93.0	(1)	53
Financial Co CP	137.2	(8)	36	53.8	(4)	6	83.4	(4)	30
ABCP	46.7	1	17	16.7	(0)	1	30.0	1	16
Other CP	18.5	2	3	5.9	1	(O)	12.6	1	4
Non-Negotiable TD	103.8	10	8	45.0	1	(15)	58.8	9	23
VRDN	5.8	0	(3)	1.9	0	(2)	4.0	0	(1)
Other	7.9	0	(1)	0.0	0	0	0.0	(47)	0
Total	791	41	362	277	(2)	44	514	43	317

Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet



#### Exhibit 9: Domestic MMF holdings, government funds (\$bn)

Gov't MMF holdings shifted out of UST and Agency debt and into UST repo

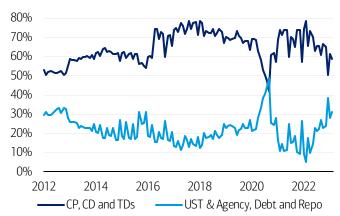
	Government			ernmer itution		Government Retail			
	Feb-23	MoM	YoY	Feb-23	MoM	YoY	Feb-23	MoM	YoY
Cash	55.0	1	15	43.5	2	14	11.5	(1)	1
Treasury Debt	945.0	(39)	(736)	729.5	(28)	(364)	215.5	(11)	(372)
Treasury Repo	2091.2	58	349	949.7	25	12	1141.5	33	338
Govt Agency Debt	510.0	(20)	151	245.9	(6)	30	264.2	(14)	121
Govt Agency Repo	349.3	(1)	25	257.8	(4)	23	91.5	3	1
Other Repo	3.8	1	4	3.8	1	4	0.0	0	0
Investment Co Funding Agrmnt	8.2	0	4	3.3	0	(0)	4.9	(0)	5
VRDN	0.5	(0)	(5)	0.0	0	(4)	0.5	(0)	(1)
Other Instrument	0.3	(1)	(1)	0.2	(0)	(0)	0.1	(0)	(0)
Total	3963	(0)	(194)	2234	(9)	(286)	1730	8	92

Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet

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#### Exhibit 10: Prime MMF holdings as % of total

Prime fund holding of UST repo increased while CP, CD, and TD declined

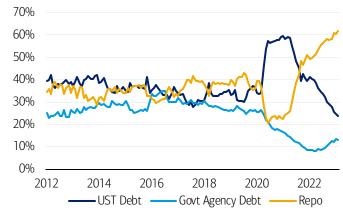


Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet

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#### Exhibit 11: Govt MMF holdings as % total

Gov't holdings of repo dominates while growth in agency debt has slowed

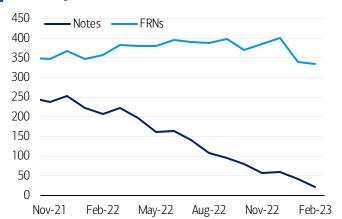


Source: BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet

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#### **Exhibit 12: MMF holdings of Treasury notes and FRNs**

MMF holdings declined for notes and FRNs



Source: BofA Global Research, Crane Data

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# Exhibit 13: Bills outstanding versus total MMF holdings (\$bn)

MMF holdings as % of outstanding declined to new lows in Dec

	Bills Outstanding	MMF Holdings	MMF as % Total
Oct-21	3851	1237	32%
Nov-21	3785	1199	32%
Dec-21	3768	1184	31%
Jan-22	3959	1274	32%
Feb-22	4053	1261	31%
Mar-22	3927	1144	29%
Apr-22	3826	1093	29%
May-22	3671	984	27%
Jun-22	3523	896	25%
Jul-22	3514	892	25%
Aug-22	3724	846	23%
Sep-22	3644	761	21%
Oct-22	3665	765	21%
Nov-22	3811	706	19%
Dec-22	3696	598	16%
Jan-23	3937	662	17%
Feb-23	4056	644	16%

Source: BofA Global Research, Crane Data



#### Exhibit 14: Money market flows and FHLB debt (\$bn)

 ${\sf MMFs\ absorbed\ most\ of\ the\ FHLB\ debt\ issuance\ via\ inflows\ and\ reduction\ of\ ON\ RRP\ take-up}$ 

<b>FHLBs</b> Total	<b>13-Mar</b> 156.48	<b>14-Mar</b> 66.28	<b>15-Mar</b> 8.03	<b>16-Mar</b> 18.88	<b>17-Mar</b> 8.44	<b>20-Mar</b> 12.1	<b>21-Mar</b> 3.36
Money Markets	13-Mar	14-Mar	15-Mar		17-Mar		
ON RRP Total ON RRP Change (d/d)	2,126.68 -62	2,042.58 -84.1	2,055.82 13.24	2,066.32	2,106.17 39.85	2,098.39 -7.78	2, 194.63 96.24
MMF Flows MMF Inflow - RRP Change	37 99	47.83 131.93	11.63 -1.61	37.28 26.78	-5.13 -44.97	26.97 34.74	47.66 -48.58
FHLB - MM Flow (Net)	57.48	-65.65	9.64	-7.9	53.41	-22.64	51.94

Source: BofA Global Research, FRBNY, Bloomberg, Crane Data

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#### Exhibit 15: Prime MMF holdings, by country of issuer (\$bn)

Prime MMF shifted out of financial CP from Japanese banks but into non negotiable TD from Japan banks

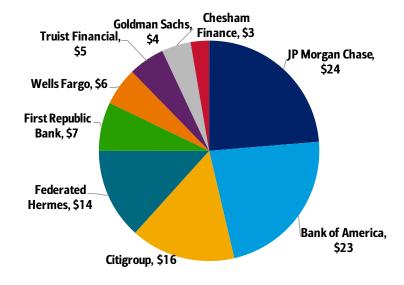
	CD			Fina	ncial Co	CP	Non-Negotiable TD		
	Feb-23	ΜοΜ Δ	ΥοΥ Δ	Feb-23	MoM $\Delta$	ΥοΥ Δ	Feb-23	ΜοΜ Δ	ΥοΥ Δ
US	17.1	(2)	12	8.5	0	5	5.5	2	5
Canada	28.2	(2)	6	35.9	(1)	9	7.7	0	0
Euro Bloc	35.1	1	18	25.5	(3)	2	38.2	(3)	(2)
Germany	9.5	(1)	3	9.7	(1)	3	7.2	2	(3)
France	19.8	1	12	6.0	(1)	(2)	5.4	(2)	(2)
Other	5.7	1	3	9.7	(2)	1	25.6	(3)	3
Europe (non-Euro Bloc)	21.4	(1)	6	31.1	0	10	24.5	0	(8)
UK	10.2	(1)	2	7.0	(2)	0	4.1	(0)	2
Sweden	10.8	1	4	16.5	2	9	20.1	1	(4)
Other	0.5	(0)	(1)	7.6	1	(0)	0.3	(0)	(6)
Australia	0.4	0	(1)	21.0	(0)	7	7.8	0	3
China	0.8	1	(1)	0.1	0	0	2.0	1	0
Japan	50.6	2	22	7.7	(4)	0	10.9	7	4
Total	157.0	(2)	94	137.2	(8)	36	103.8	10	8

**Source:** BofA Global Research, iMoneyNet

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#### Exhibit 16: Top 10 MMF bank exposure (\$bn)

MMFs had large exposure to First Republic in Feb



Source: Office of Financial Research





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