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Historical Financial Statistics Marks First Year: More Than 70 countries, 1 Million Data Points, 50 Researchers

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Historical Financial Statistics, a free online data set at the Center for Financial Stability, is completing its first year. During that time it has expanded coverage to more than 70 countries and more than 1 million data points. Historical Financial Statistics focuses on the period 1492 to 1950, before most other economic databases start, although it includes data as far back as the 10th century (for China) and as recent as this year. Historical Financial Statistics contains data series that are hard or impossible to find elsewhere in spreadsheet form, including:

- Bond yields for more than 50 countries from 1880 to 1944.
- Exchange controls for more than 100 countries from 1950 to 2004.
- Market exchange rates of certain currencies twice a week from 1698 to 1873.
- Gold and silver prices twice a week from 1698 to 1873.

Many exciting new offerings are planned for the coming year.

Historical Financial Statistics documents the sources and other important characteristics of its data. It also offers tools that will be useful to many researchers, such as a list of key dates in financial history and a conversion spreadsheet for ten major calendars.

Historical Financial Statistics includes data gathered by official sources and by more than 50 researchers from around the world, listed below. We welcome data and suggestions from researchers and other readers.

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