May 6, 2005

Monthly Mutual Fund Report

Statistics for March 2005 - April 2005

Sales and Redemptions

Total assets for all funds decreased in March by $81.1 billion, or 1.0 percent, to $8.0 trillion. Money market funds had a net cash outflow of $2.3 billion compared to an outflow in February of $18.9 billion. Other funds (equity, hybrid, and bond) had a net cash inflow of $18.0 billion, compared to an inflow of $29.2 billion in February. New sales of non-money market funds, the purchase of new shares excluding reinvested dividends, were $143.7 billion in March, up from $128.4 billion in February. The value of non-money market assets depreciated by $108.4 billion in March, following an appreciation of $110.4 billion in February.

Total assets of **equity funds** decreased by $67.9 billion, or 1.5 percent, to $4.3 trillion. There was a $14.9 billion net cash inflow to equity funds in March, compared with an inflow of $22.2 billion in February. The market value of assets depreciated by $86.9 billion in March. Equity funds had an inflow of $47.2 billion year-to-date, compared to an inflow of $84.7 billion in the first three months of 2004.

Total assets for **hybrid funds**, which invest in a mix of stocks and bonds, decreased 0.7 percent, or $3.5 billion, to $526.4 billion. In March, there was a $3.7 billion net cash inflow for these funds, compared to an inflow in February of $4.4 billion. Hybrid funds have experienced an inflow of $13.3 billion year-to-date, compared to an inflow of $15.2 billion during the same period in the previous year.

Bond funds experienced a cash outflow of $0.8 billion, while their total assets decreased by $9.9 billion, to $1.3 trillion. The market value of bond funds assets decreased by $12.7 billion, after adjusting for net sales and reinvested dividends. The assets of taxable bond funds decreased by 0.74 percent, while the assets of tax-exempt bond funds decreased by 0.83 percent. The 2005 inflow is $6.4 billion, compared to an inflow of $8.7 billion through March of 2004.

Assets of taxable and tax-exempt **money market funds** increased $0.3 billion, to $1.9 trillion, an increase of 0.14 percent for taxable money market funds and a decrease of 0.6 percent for tax-exempt funds. The 2005 outflow of $48.7 billion is less than the outflow for the first three months of 2004, $49.3 billion.

Liquidity Ratio

The liquidity ratio for bond and hybrid funds decreased from 9.1 in February to 8.0 percent in March, while the ratio for equity funds decreased from 4.3 to 4.2 percent (figure 4).

Weekly Flows

In April, there were outflows from equity funds of 0.5 percent of total assets, with losses of 1.8 percent (figure 6a). Bond funds had outflows of 0.4 percent and losses of 0.4 percent.

Index funds had monthly outflows of 0.3 percent and losses of 1.8 percent. Aggressive growth funds had outflows of 0.4 percent and losses of 2.1 percent. Small-cap funds had an outflow of 1.3 percent and losses of 6.1 percent.

Technology funds had an outflow of 1.4 percent and losses of 5.1 percent (figure 6b). There was an outflow from real estate funds of 1.1 percent and gains of 4.2 percent.

There were outflows to international funds in April of 0.1 percent of assets and losses of 1.2 percent. Latin American funds had outflows of 1.1 percent and losses of 4.8 percent. Japan funds had outflows of 3.9 percent and losses of 29.8 percent of assets. Pacific funds that do not invest in Japan had outflows of 0.7 percent and losses of 1.8 percent of assets. Emerging Markets funds had outflows of 1.8 percent and losses of 5.2 percent.

Capital Market Returns and Volatility

The S&P 500 ended April 29 at 1156.9, a decrease of 2.0 percent from the beginning of the month. The 12-month gain was 3.2 percent at month-end. The annualized volatility for the daily return on the S&P 500 was 11.0 percent.

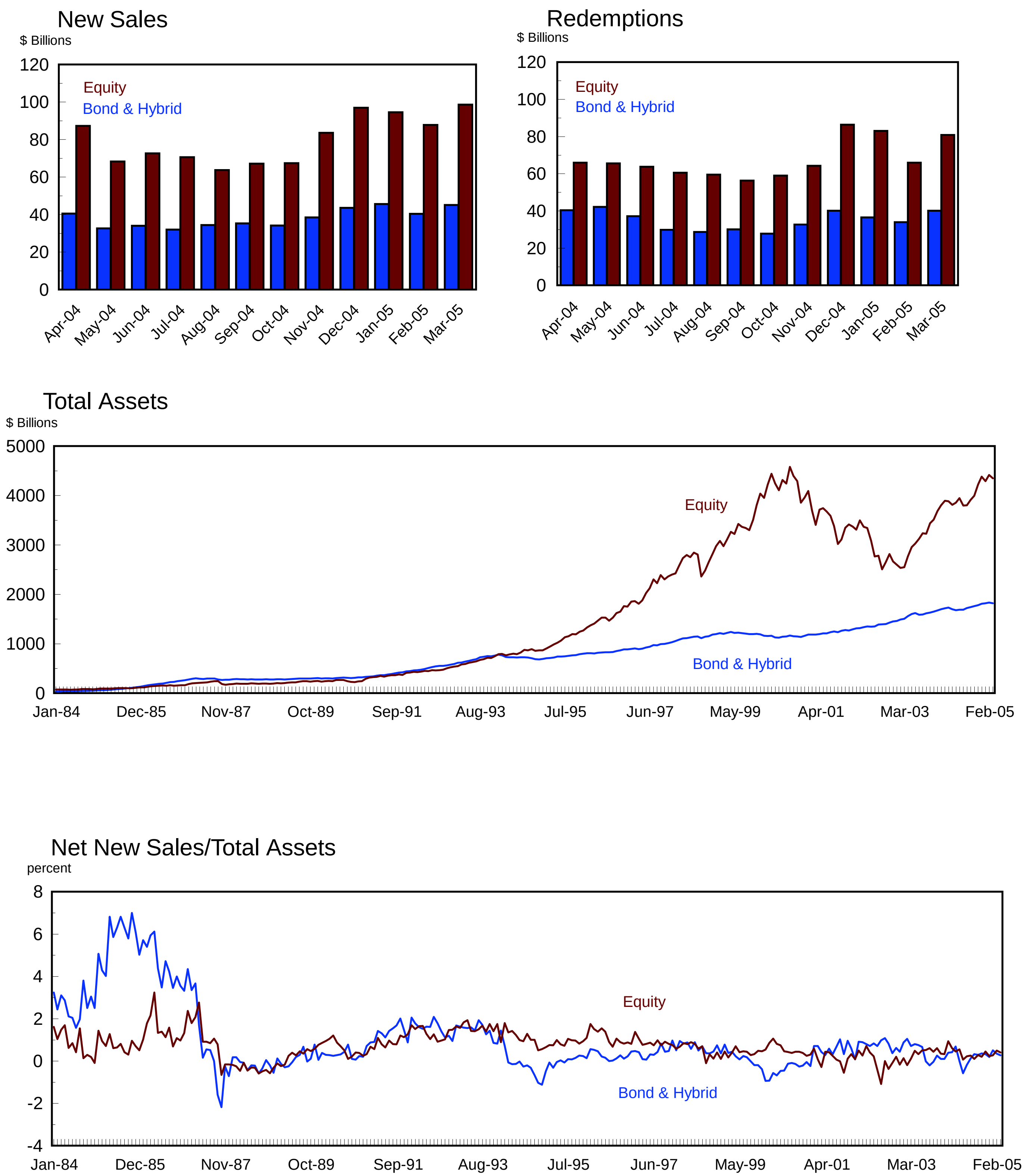
The 12-month average return on the Citigroup Bond Index was 5.4 percent for April. Volatility declined to 3.1 percent (figure 8).

Price-Earnings Ratio

The macro projections for the growth of earnings of the Standard and Poor’s 500 index over the next two years have increased in the fourth quarter to 6.0 percent from current levels. During the first quarter of 2005 the price-earnings ratio for the Standard and Poor's Small-Cap 600 Index fell to 21.8 from 23.1 (figure 9).

Please contact Maria Giduskova for questions and comments at Maria.Giduskova@bos.frb.org, or by phone at (617) 973-3198

Figure 1
Sales of Mutual Funds

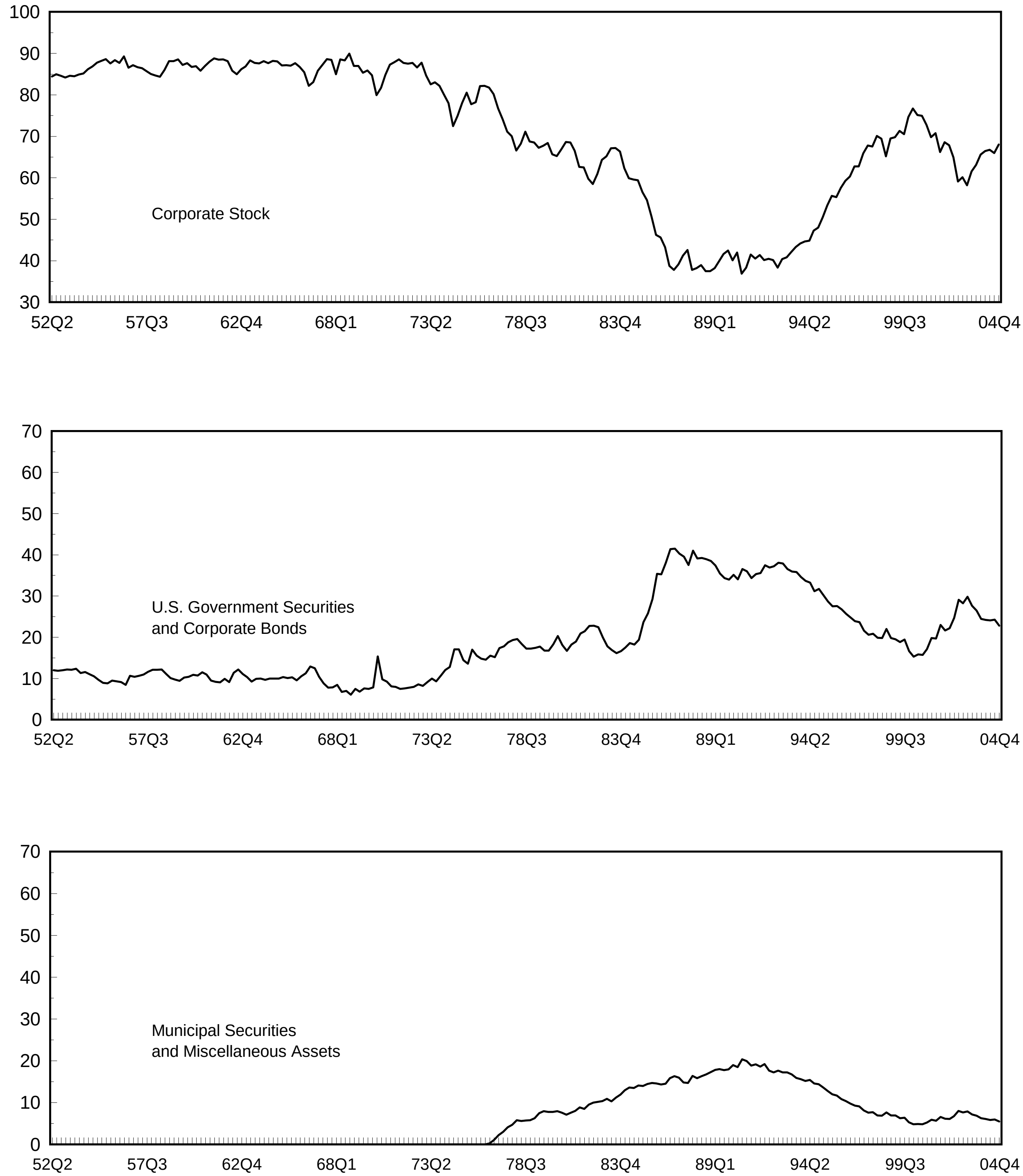


Source: Investment Company Institute

Figure 2

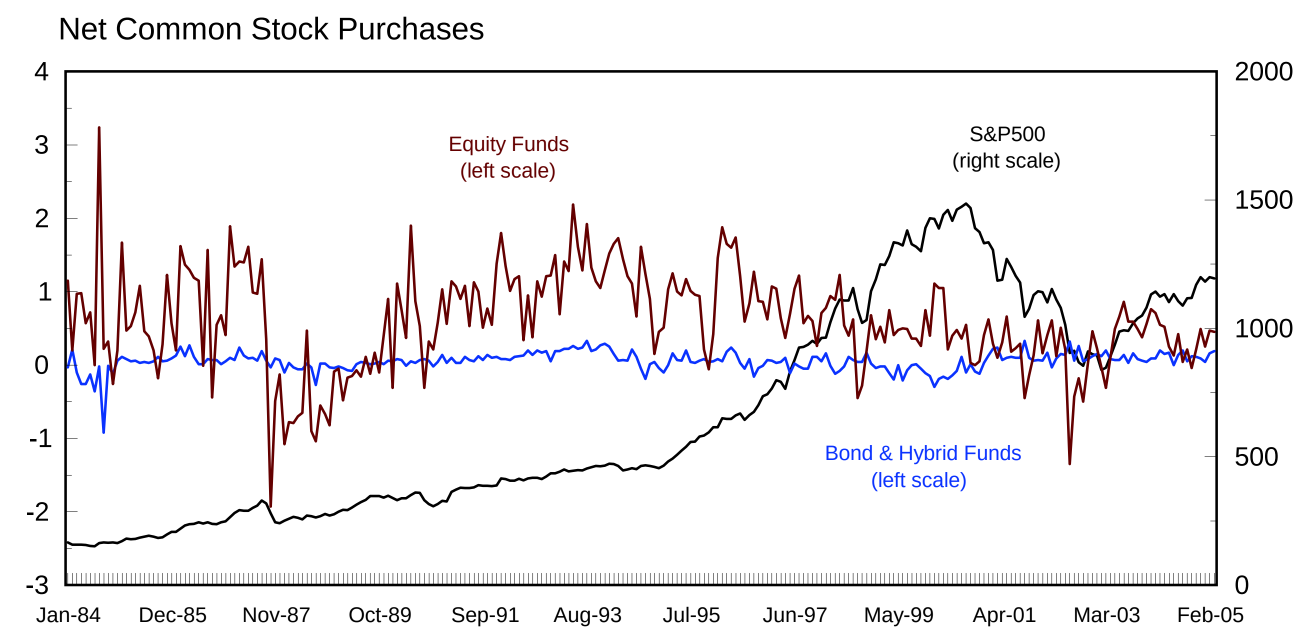
Composition of Mutual Funds' Financial Assets

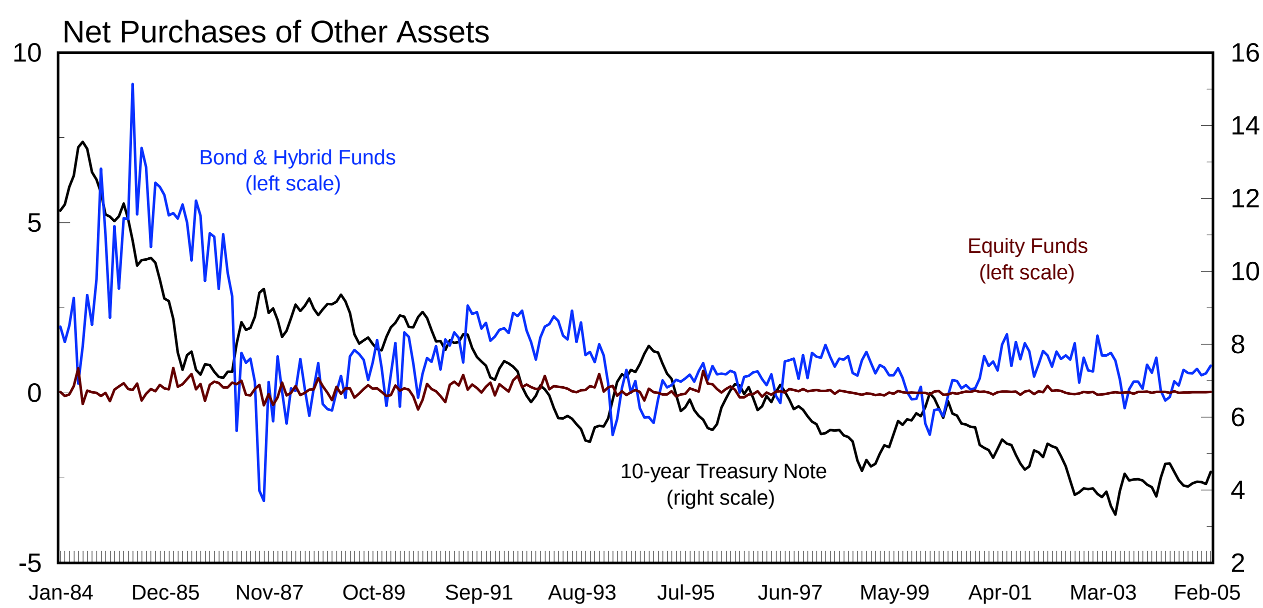
(percent of Total Financial Assets)



Source: Flow of Funds, Haver Analytics0

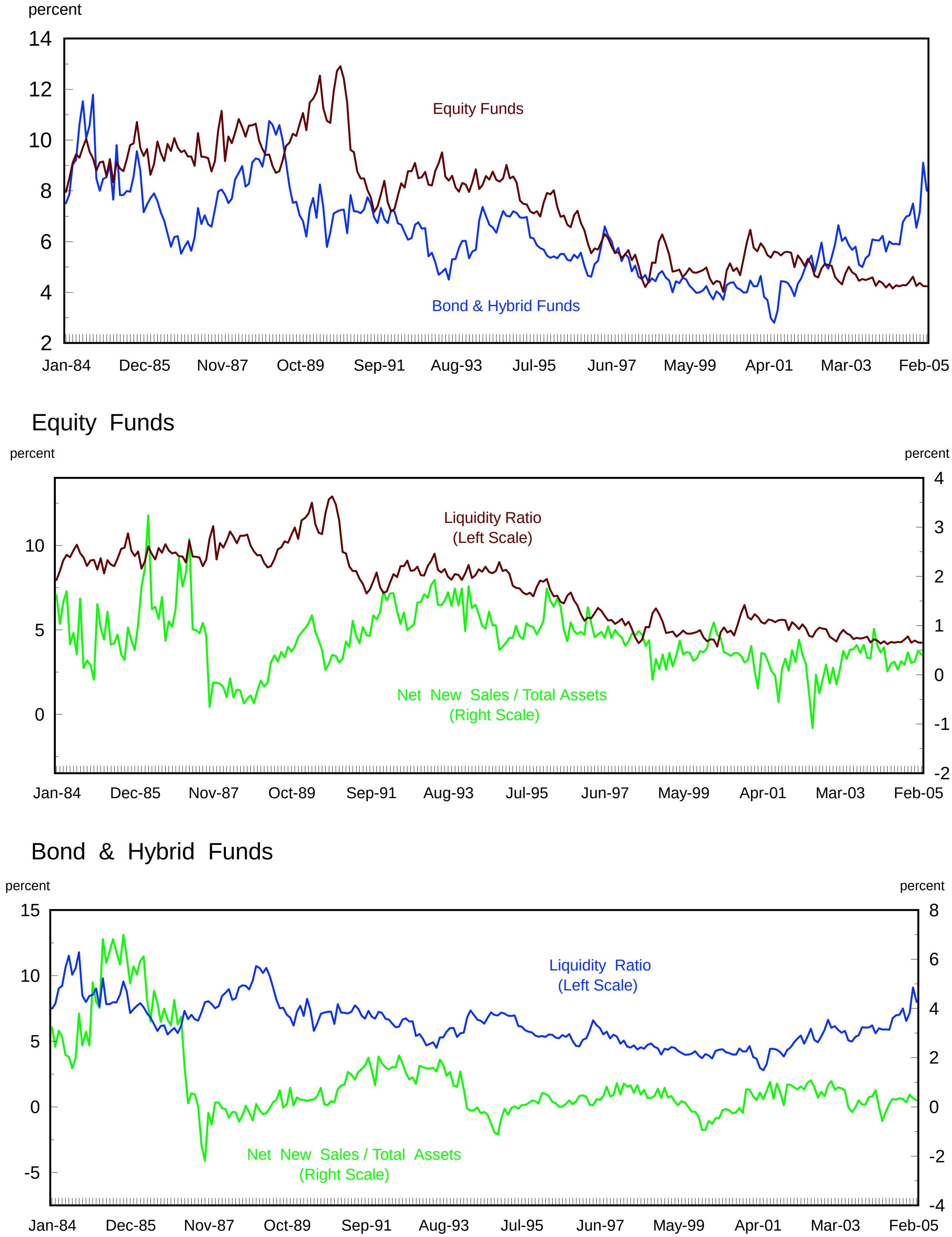
Figure 3
Net Portfolio Purchases
(percent of Total Assets)





Source: Investment Company Institute

Figure 4
Liquidity Ratio*

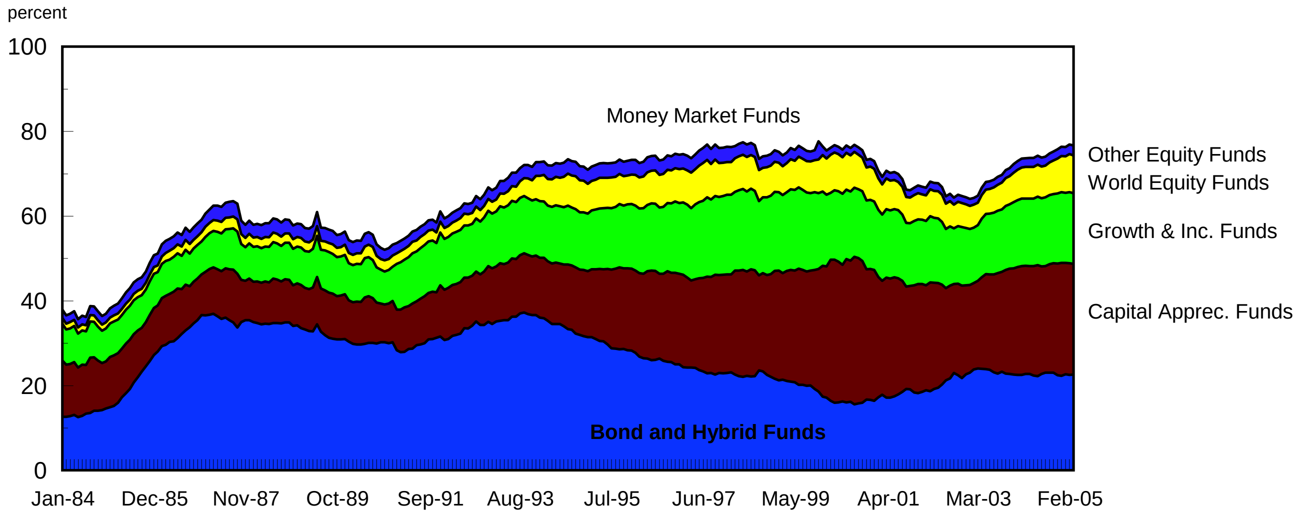


*The Liquidity Ratio is the Percent of Total Assets held in Cash and Short-Term Securities.
Source: Investment Company Institute

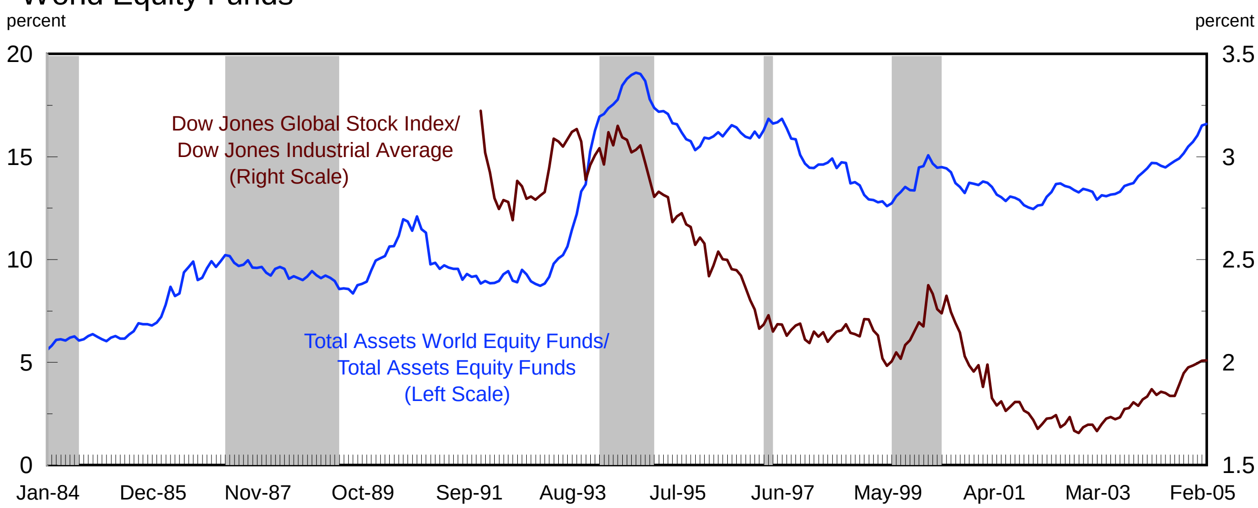
Figure 5

Industry Composition

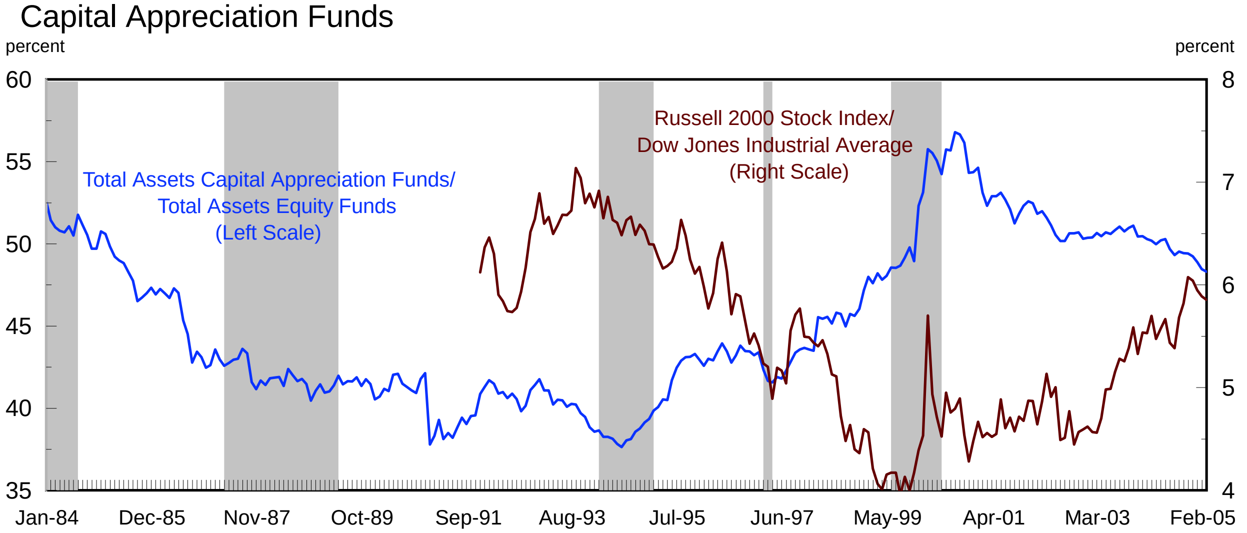
(Shaded Regions Indicate Periods of Rising Fed Funds Rate)



World Equity Funds



Capital Appreciation Funds

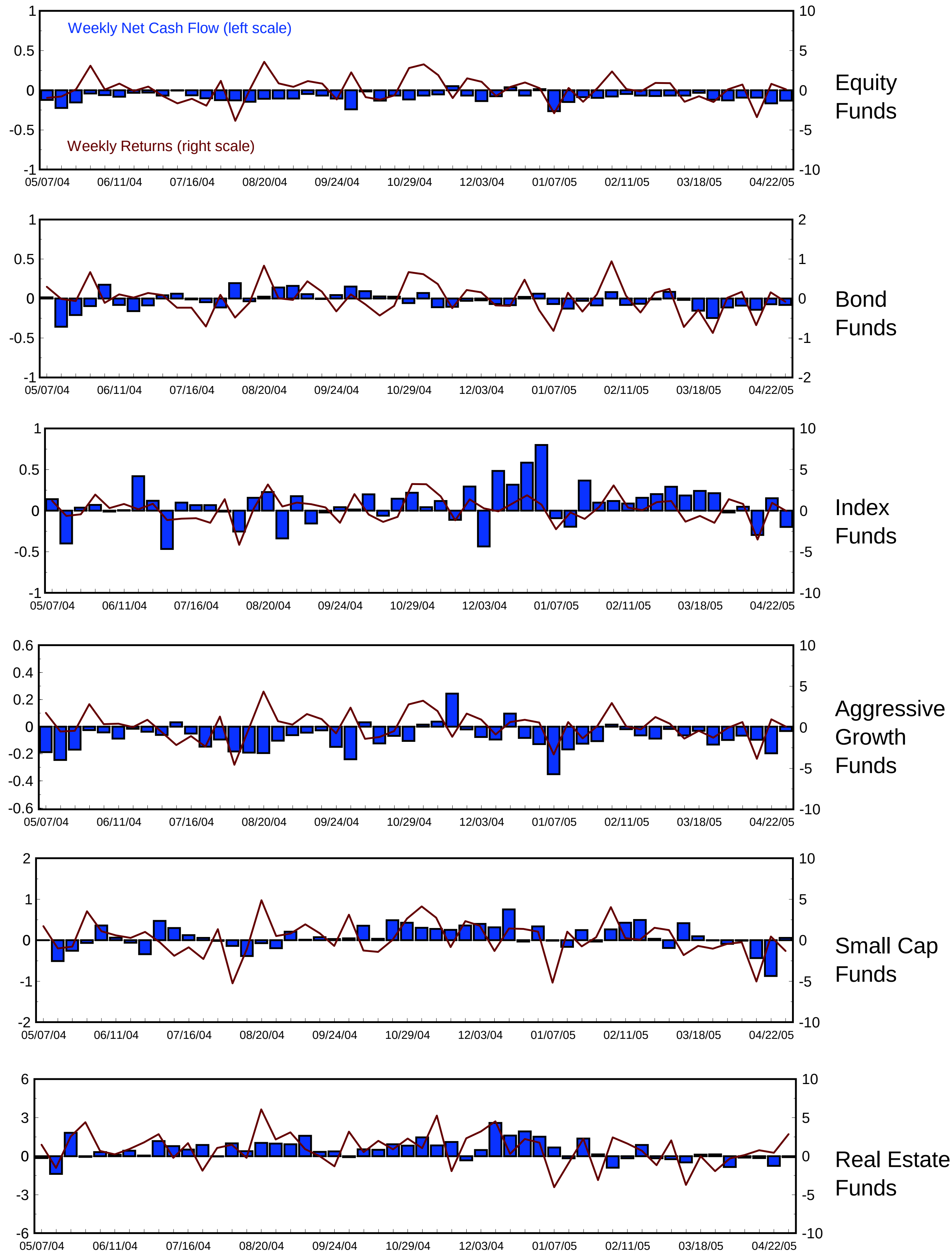


Source: Investment Company Institute

Figure 6a

Weekly Flows into Mutual Funds

(percent of Total Assets)

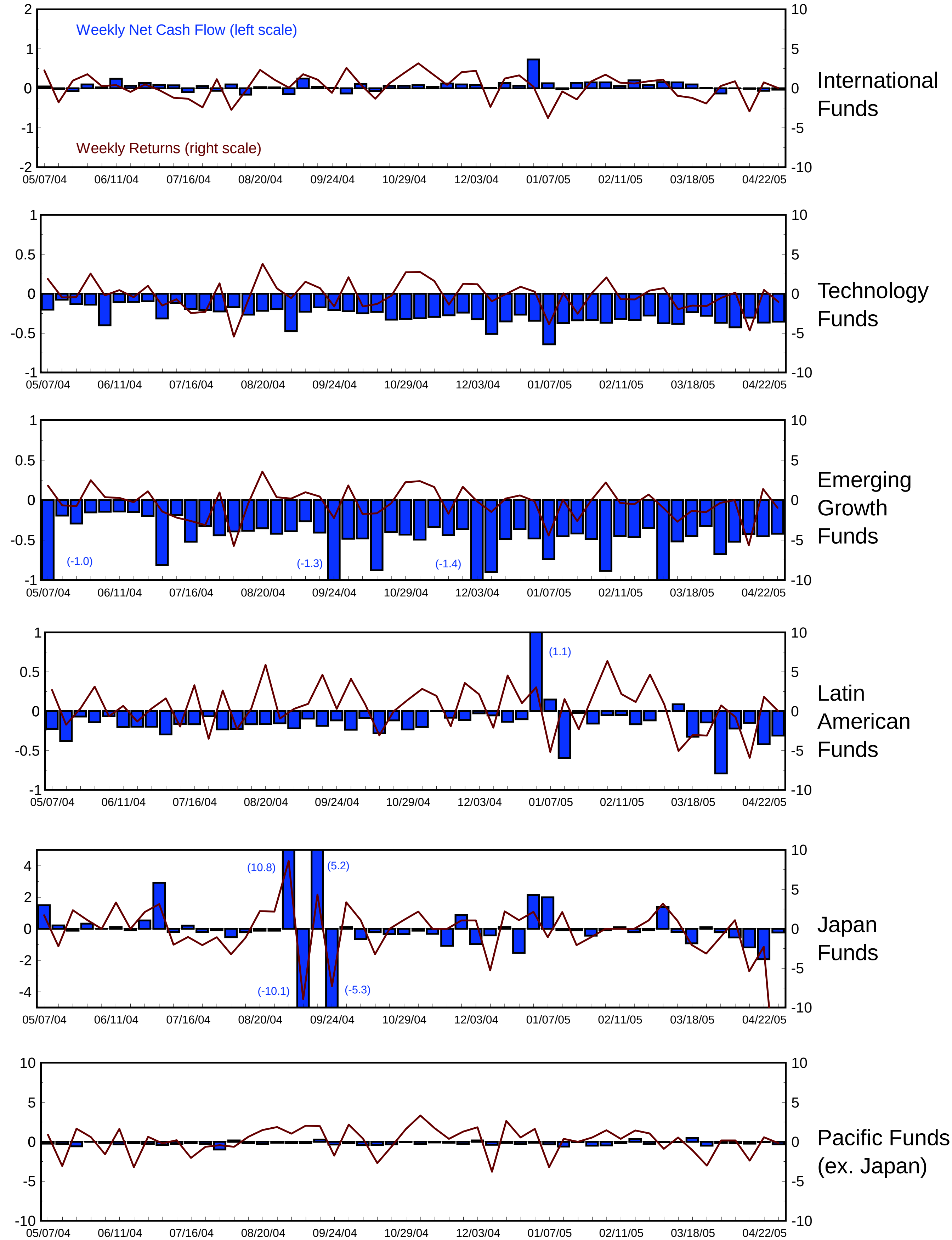


Source: Mutual Fund Trim Tabs

Figure 6b

Weekly Flows into Mutual Funds

(percent of Total Assets)

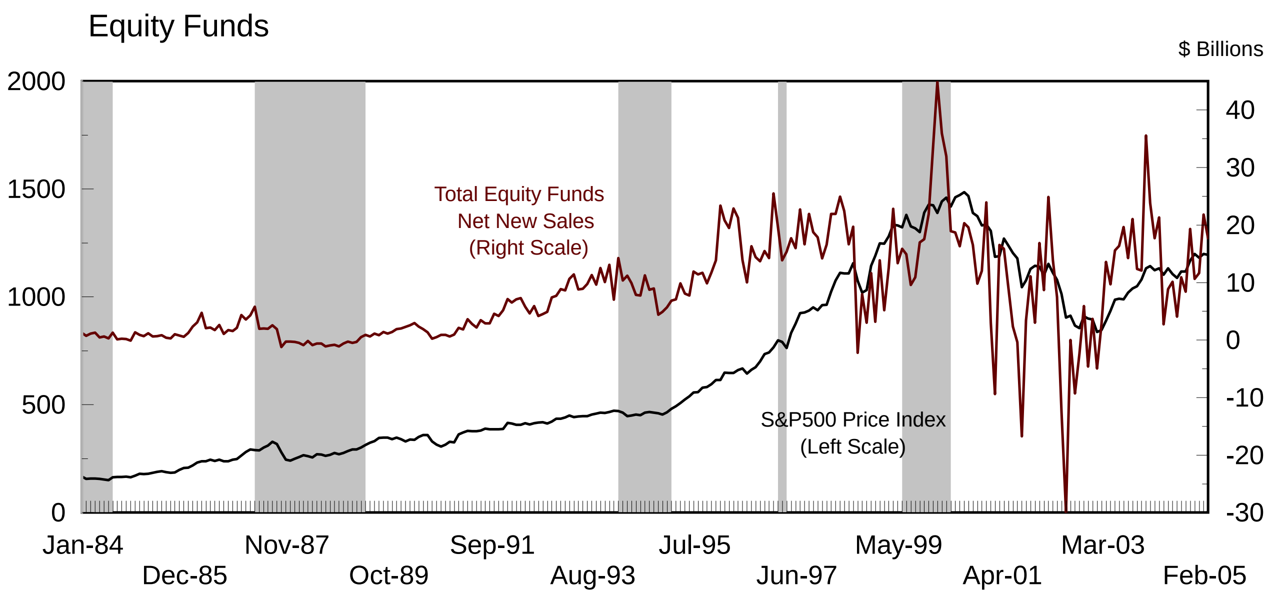


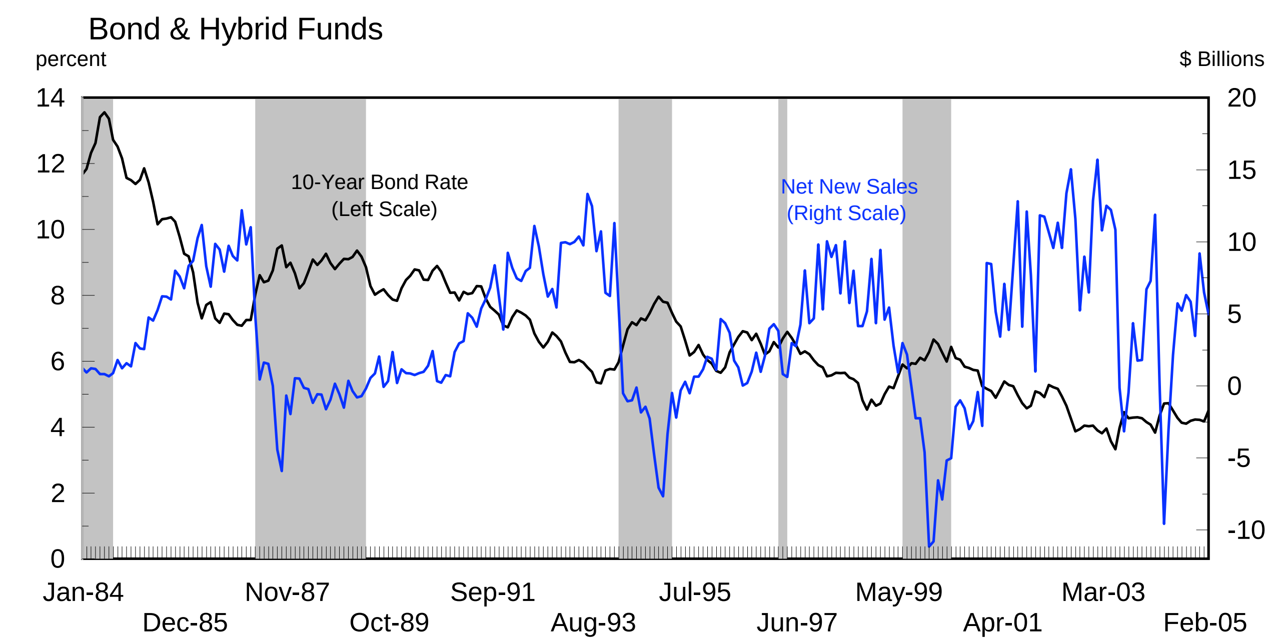
Source: Mutual Fund Trim Tabs

Figure 7

Net New Sales By Investment Objective

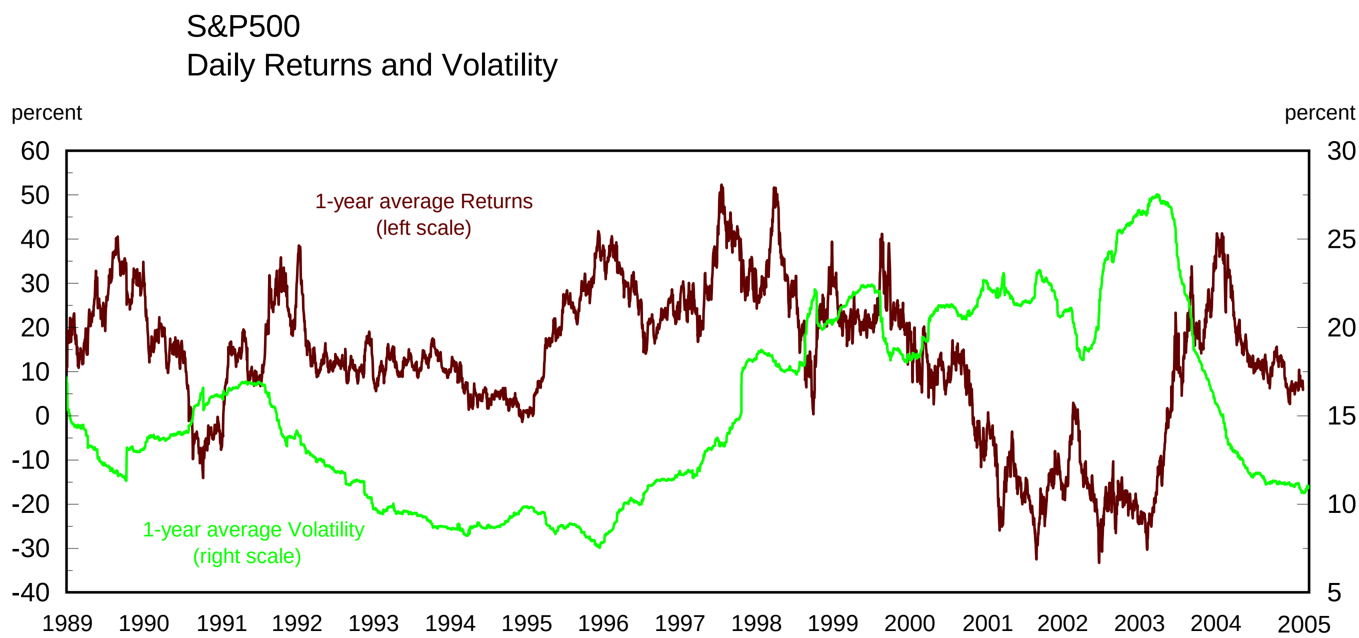
(Shaded Regions Indicate Periods of Rising Fed Funds Rate)

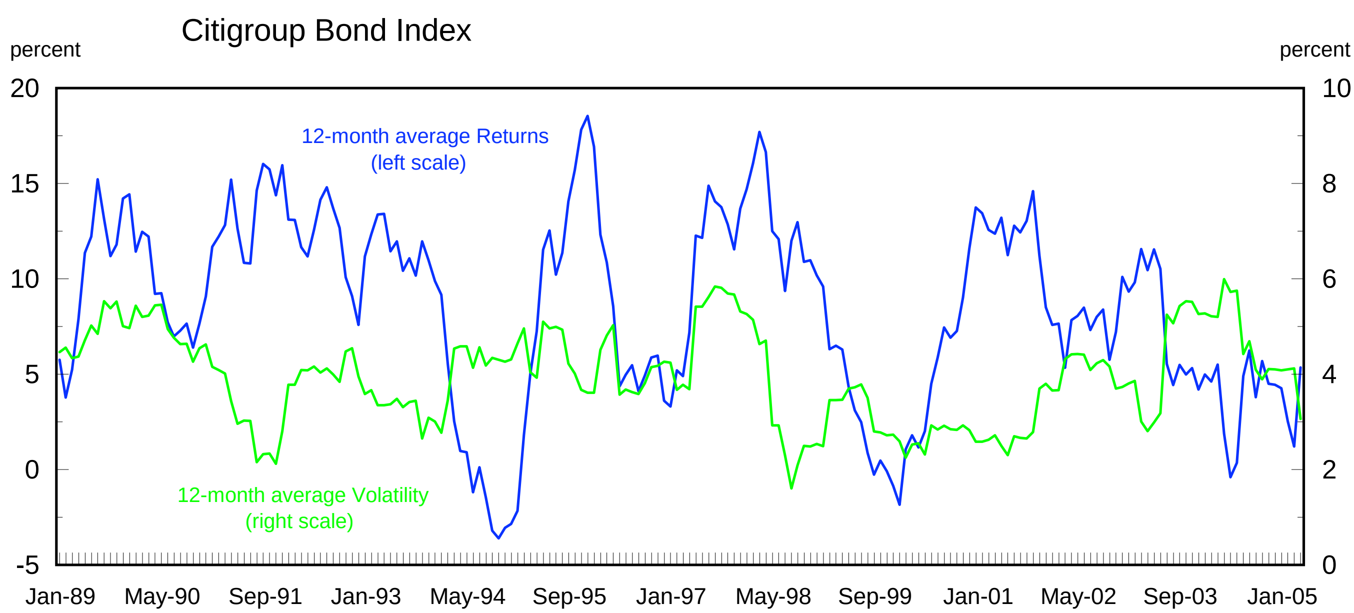




Source: Investment Company Institute

Figure 8
Capital Market Returns and Volatility

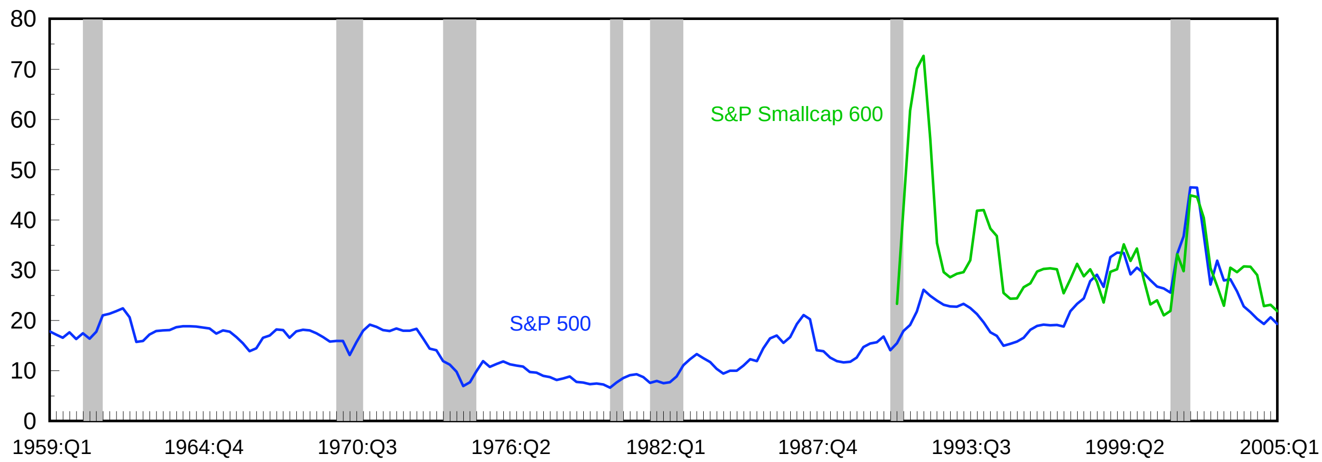




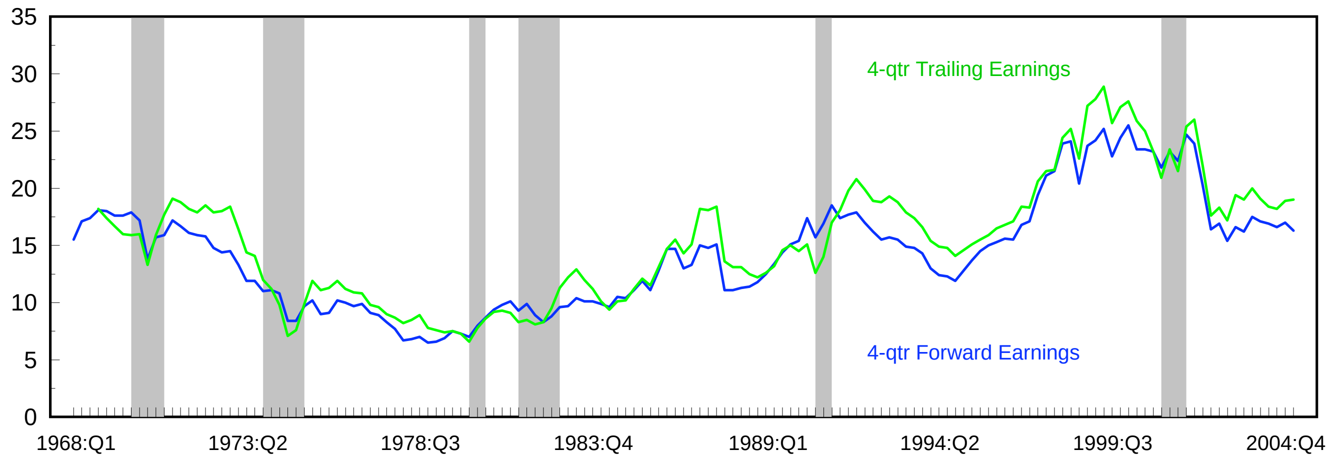
Source: FAME Database, Citigroup

Figure 9

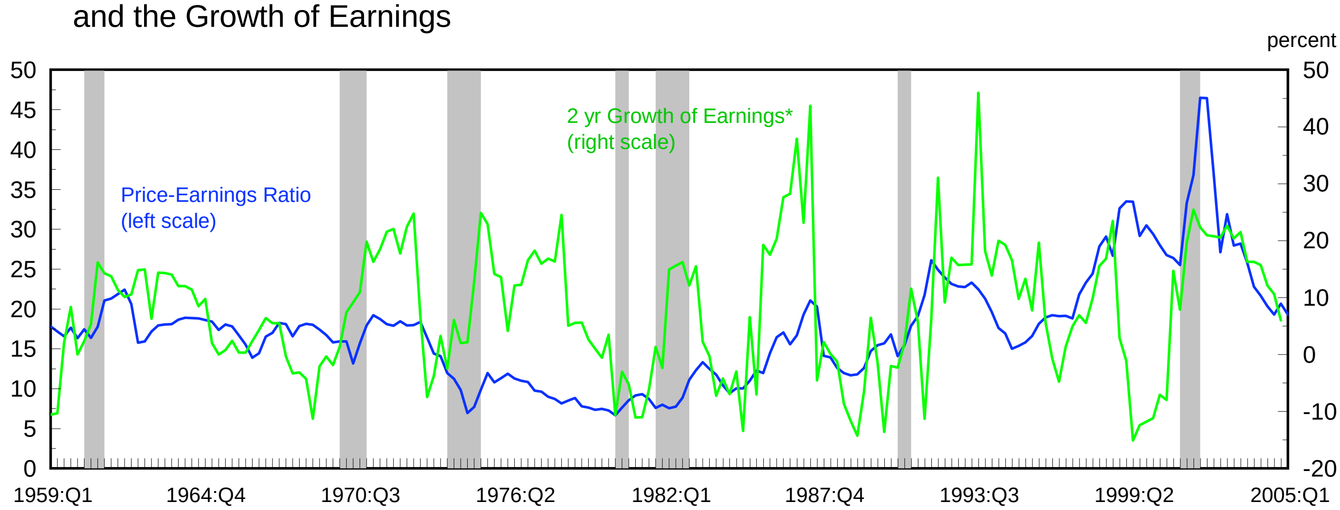
S&P Price-Earnings Ratios



S&P500 Price-Operating Earnings Ratio



S&P500 Price Earnings Ratio
and the Growth of Earnings

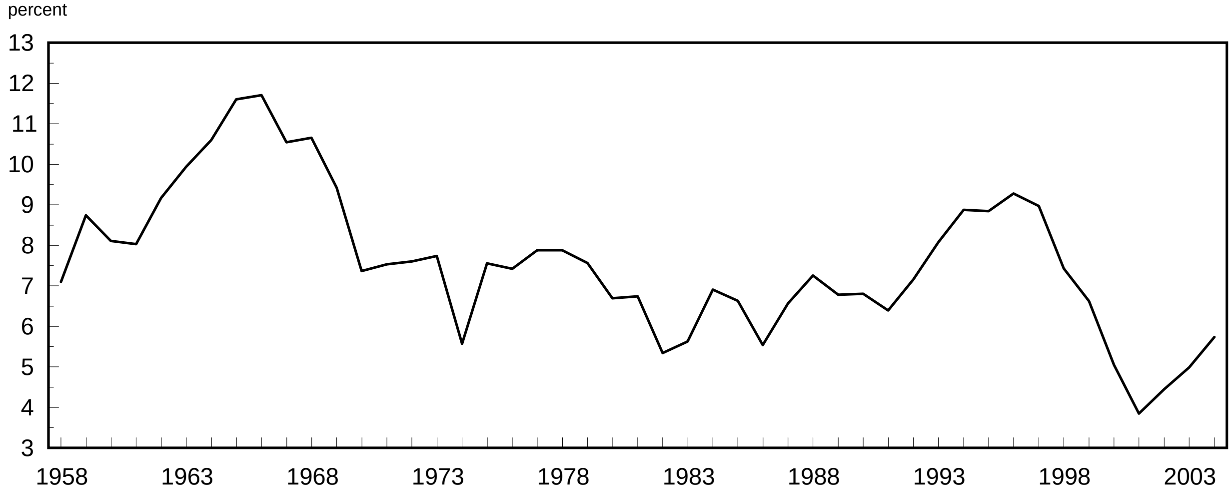


* Growth of earnings over subsequent 8 quarters. Current observations use forecast of earnings from macro projections.

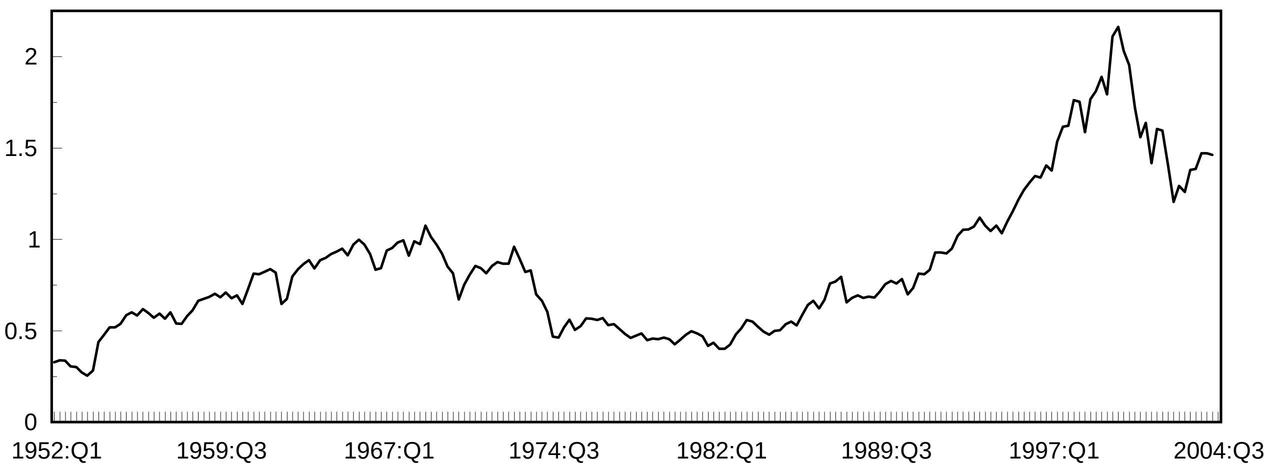
source: Thomson Financial/First Call, Global Exchange (formerly DRI), Bloomberg

Figure 10

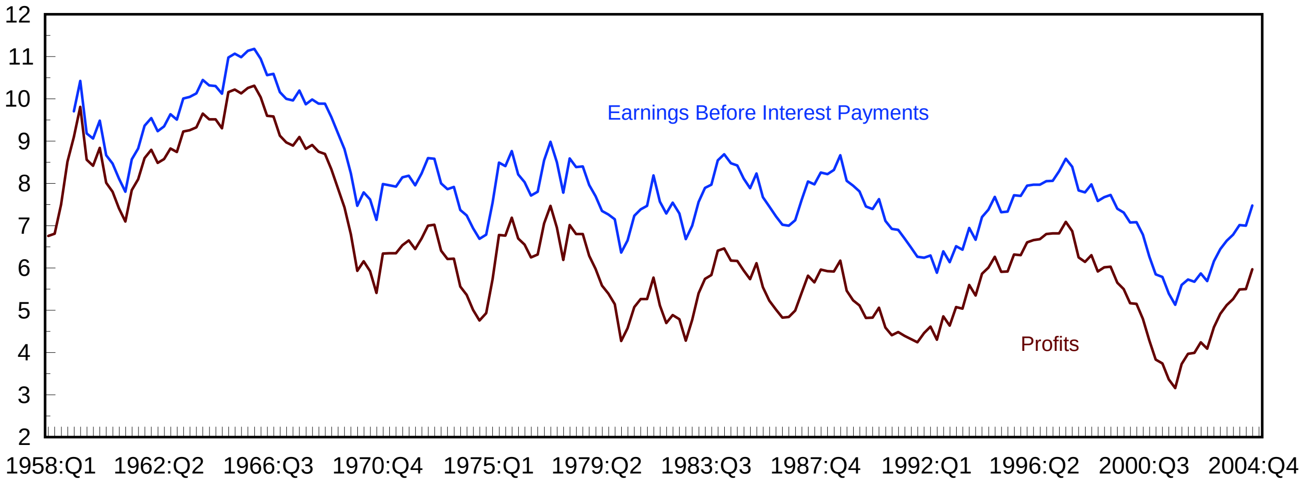
Real Rate of Return on Nonfinancial Corporate Equity
(from National Income and Flow of Funds Accounts)



Tobin's Q*



Profits of Nonfinancial Corporations
(percent of GDP)



* Market Value of Equity plus Net Interest Bearing Debt / Current value of Land, Inventories, Equipment, and Structures

Source: Flow of Funds, Haver Analytics