

## **Introduction**

The Foreign Credit Reporting System (FCRS) is a web-based computer system designed to collect, edit, and report the financial condition and operation of U.S. Government Agencies that engage in foreign lending or other transactions that create foreign indebtedness to (or contingent liabilities of ) the U.S. Government.

## **What is the content of the FCRS?**

The main purpose of the data system is to track the foreign credit exposure of the United States government on a quarterly basis. Exposure is important because it is a measure of the risk that arises when U.S. Government agencies make long-term foreign loans or agree to guarantee loans made by private lenders, or insure US private lending and investment abroad.

Credit Exposure is a complicated concept. At a single point in time, risk exposure is measured as the sum of principal outstanding, interest and fees in arrears one day or more on direct loans, claims outstanding one day or more arising from payments under guarantee and insurance contracts, contingent liability on guarantee contracts and maximum contingent liability on insurance contracts. The scope of data encompasses seven agencies, with a number of programs, and a number of contracts at any given time. Within FCRS, these points in time are called "Reporting Dates".

FCRS is designed to track exposure over time. Complete information on USG risk exposure is available from 2002. A limited amount of legacy data is available going back to 1997. Altogether, the system now includes three years of annual data and ten years of quarterly data.

Policy needs governed the geographic extent of the FCRS system. The data covers nearly 200 countries. The system is integrated with the integrated risk assessment process so that policy is informed by experience.

Since FCRS is based on Agency accounting systems, it has some of the characteristics of an accounting system. It has information that would appear on an income statement, a balance sheet and descriptive notes. We call the descriptive information baseline data. The income information is split between history data which records actual transactions during a reporting period, status data which records the current outstanding amounts and schedule data which records projected transactions as defined by the relevant contract.

## How can you select content from FCRS?

Data is selected by clicking on the Foreign Credit Data link of the FCRS home page. You will see links to six different reports. The reports are:

1. World overview
2. Country at a glance
3. Positions and Stocks Time Series
4. Scheduled Payments Time Series,
5. Transactions Time Series, and
6. Comparison Time Series.

### *Report Viewer*

After selecting a report, you are presented with the FCRS report viewer. The report viewer consists of several areas. There is the "button" panel in the upper left corner of the screen. These contain various buttons performing different functions on the report. There are different "field" panels, such as the "FIELD" panel, "CRITERIA" panel, "ROW" panel, "COLUMN" panel and "FACT" panel. Finally, there is the report viewing area, which contains the data of the report itself.

### *Setting Criteria*

With the report viewer, you may manipulate the report in several ways to select the data you wish to see. For example, you can select a different reporting date or reporting dates if the latest available data is not what you are looking for. This can be done by clicking the "Reporting Date" link that appears in the "CRITERIA" panel of the report viewer. After a moment, a dialog will appear allowing you to select the reporting date(s) that you wish to see on the report.

Additional criteria may be set for any such field in the criteria panel by clicking on it. For example, you may limit the report to a specific country or countries by clicking on that field, and using the dialog that appears to select one or more countries.

After choosing criteria, click on the refresh button  in the button panel in the upper left corner of the screen.

Additional criteria may be added by dragging fields from the "Baseline" section of the "FIELDS" panel to the criteria panel. Fields may be viewed by expanding the nodes of the tree: Baseline, Status and History. Additionally, fields may be added by left clicking the field and selecting the panel to which to add the field. You may also click a field in the field panel and use the presented dialog to set criteria.

Dialogs for "Country", "Agency and Program" and "Purpose" fields allow you to limit the report to data on contracts with chosen values. These values are organized into "hierarchies" (e.g., countries are organized into regions). When selecting these values, you may select all values within a hierarchy by clicking the checkbox next to its node in the tree. For example, you may choose all the countries in a region, (say, "Western Hemisphere"), by clicking checkbox next to the "Western Hemisphere" node in the tree. When you do so, all of the individual countries (shown in the list box to the right of the selection tree) become highlighted. To select individual values, first choose a hierarchy and select them in the list box to the right. To select multiple values, hold the CTRL key. You may also find a value by typing the value in the "search" text box. As you type, matching values will be shown. Click on a value to be shown the value and the hierarchy it belongs to. You must still select the value if that is what you wish to do. Note that the "All" hierarchy is selected by default, selecting all values. Deselect this hierarchy first to limit data to only those values selected in other hierarchies.

Note that not all baseline fields may be added to the criteria section. If a field cannot be used as criteria, you will not be allowed to drag it to the criteria section.

### ***Choosing Facts***

Each report has a set number of "facts" that appear. For example, on the Positions and Stocks Report, the Scheduled Payments Report and the Transactions Time Series Report, the "facts" are series of data such as "Principal Repayments" which are shown by year starting with the earliest data and ending with the latest available date. Facts can be changed for a report by selecting fields from the "status", "history" or "scheduled payments" sections of the "FIELDS" panel. To select a fact, drag the field from the "FIELD" panel to the fact panel (alternatively, right click on the fact field and select "Add to Fact" from the popup menu that appears). Any field that appears in the "Status", "History" or "Schedule" sections of the "FIELD" panel can be included in the report but there will be problems with readability if too many fields are selected.

Fields may be removed by dragging them from the "FACT" panel back to the "FIELD" panel, where an "X" icon will appear (alternatively, right click on the field in the "FACT" panel and select "Remove" from the popup menu that appears).

Click on any fact field to get a description of the fact.

As when setting criteria, you must click the refresh button to update the report with your chosen facts.

## ***Choosing Rows and Columns***

Facts are grouped into rows and columns by the different values of baseline öfieldsö that are selected. The most basic baseline field is the Reporting Date. When it is added to a report, the fact data is shown in series of columns (or rows) over the reporting periods in which the data exists (and which have been selected in the criteria panel). Other time dimensions may be chosen; for example, the facts may be shown by Calendar Year, or Fiscal Year (the fiscal year of the United States government). In fact, on the Time Series reports, both the Calendar Year and Reporting Date fields are in the column panel by default. When two or more fields are in the column or row panel, the first field that is listed determines the grouping of the facts. To see the next level of grouping, click the ö+ö symbol next to a value in the column (or row) header in the report viewing area. For example, on a time series, to see all the data for each individual reporting date that may exist under a particular year (say, 2010), click the ö+ö sign next to that year. The report will immediately be refreshed.

The organization of column/row grouping may be changed by adding or removing the fields that appear in the öROWö or öCOLUMNö panels. Fields may be added to these panels from the öBaselineö section of the öFIELDö panel as with fields in other panels: drag the field to the panel you wish to add, or right click the field and choose the desired action from the popup menu that appears (Add to Row, Add to Column, or Remove). The order the fields appear in the row or column panels is important: it determines the hierarchy of grouping that is done in the report. The order of the fields may be changed by dragging a field within a panel on top of another field. You may also move a field up or down in the order of the panel by right clicking the field, and choosing the appropriate command from the popup menu.

As always, after changing the content of the row or column panels, you must click the öRefreshö button to update the report.

## Miscellaneous

**Reset** – You may reset the report to the default criteria by clicking the  "Reset" button in the Button panel of the report viewer. It is the second button in the button panel.

**Expand All Rows/Columns** – You may expand all levels of column/row groupings in the report by clicking the  "Expand All" button. Note that depending on the report and the number of row/column fields, this may take considerable time to complete. Consider limiting the number of row/column fields and/or narrowing the selection criteria before using this feature.

**Export to Excel or PDF** – You may export a report to an Excel or PDF format by clicking on the appropriate button (  or  ). Note that only Excel 2007 format is supported at this time, due to the large number of columns that may be exported. Also, you must enable pop-ups in your browser. For Internet Explorer 7.0 or later users, if you have downloads blocked, the warning for such will appear in a popup window. To allow the download, click on the "information bar" in the popup.

**View Full Screen.** To view a report in "full screen mode", click on the "expand" icon in the Report Viewing area of the report screen (the  icon). To return to normal viewing, click the  icon.

**Scale.** By default, reports are shown in whole U.S. dollars or dollar equivalents (while some contracts in the data are denominated in foreign currency, they are only reported to FCRS in U.S. dollar equivalents). To show the report in some other scale (e.g., millions of dollars), add the "scale" field from the "Other" section of the "FIELD" panel to the "CRITERIA" panel. Click on the field, and select the scale in which you wish to view the report. As always, click the "Refresh" button.

## ***Report specific instructions***

### **World Overview Report**

The World Overview Report shows the Foreign Credit Exposure of the United States government and related facts that exist on one particular reporting date. The initial report that is displayed shows a "dashboard" of such facts. Clicking on the figures of this dashboard will bring up a sub-report that shows the facts that the initial fact on the dashboard is composed of. For example, clicking on a the "Foreign Credit Exposure" button on the dashboard will display the different components of "Foreign Credit Exposure", such as the Amount Due the U.S. Government, the Contingent Liability on Guarantees , etc. The sub-report is grouped by country and other fields.

The initial dashboard report may not be manipulated in terms of the fact, row, or column fields that may be added/removed. You may, however, change the selection criteria limiting the data on the report.

On the sub-report, you may manipulate the facts, rows and columns as well as the criteria. Note that changing the criteria of the report also changes the criteria for the main dashboard report. Also note that certain criteria of the sub-report are fixed by the button which is clicked on the dashboard of the main report. For example, clicking on the "Total Official FCE" button on the dashboard brings up the "Foreign Credit Exposure" sub-report, with the "Obligor Type" in the criteria panel set to "Official". This particular criterion on the sub-report may not be changed.

On the World Overview Report, you may only select one Reporting Date.

To export the initial dashboard of the World Overview Report to PDF or Excel, click on the

icon or  icon in the Report viewing area of the report screen (instead of in the button panel in the upper left corner of the screen).



### **Country at a Glance**

The Country at a Glance report shows line graphs of Foreign Credit Exposure, Amount Due U.S. Government, and Principal and Interest Payments (for both Official and Private obligors). As with the World Overview Report, while the selection criteria of the report may be changed, the arrangement of row/column and fact fields may not. The scale may be manipulated. The report is also exported to PDF or Excel in the same manner as the World Overview Report.

The reporting date range of the report may be changed to affect the time periods shown on the graph.

## **Schedule Payments Time Series Report**

The facts shown in this report are the projected principal and interest payments on the contract instruments in the FCRS data, shown in a time series. This time series includes both past and future reporting periods. For past reporting periods, these are payments as they were originally projected to occur before the reporting period. For example, the "Principal to be Paid" in 2004 are the payments that were projected to occur in 2004, such projection occurring before 2004 (actually the projections that occurred before each individual reporting period of 2004). For future reporting periods, the time series show payments as they are currently projected to occur. At present, past and future reporting periods can be differentiated by noting the last reporting period in which history facts are reported.

Scheduled payment data is not available before 2002.

## **Comparison Time Series Report**

The facts in this report allow history, schedule and status facts to be examined together in each time period of the series. For example, with the report, you may view the originally projected principal payments for a year (see **Schedule Payments Time Series Report** above) , the actual payments that were made during the year, and the outstanding principal at the end of the year, all next to each other on the same report.

## ***Other known data limitations***

Foreign credit data for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, is not available before 2002.

History transaction data from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is not available and therefore estimated based on the reported status data.

Scheduled payment data from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is not available.