

Amount of rest or reserve fund held by the banks according to monthly bank statements since 1886. The amendment to the Bank Act requiring them was passed in 1883 :

MONTHS.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January.....	17,795,766	17,895,141	17,798,814	19,080,565	20,436,332	22,005,904
February .....	17,820,141	18,047,296	17,951,215	19,154,898	20,569,333	22,036,322
March.....	17,830,141	18,070,296	17,966,215	19,211,999	20,565,333	22,193,026
April.....	17,870,141	18,120,296	18,041,215	19,211,999	20,570,333	22,137,459
May.....	18,125,141	18,610,296	18,036,215	19,866,999	21,034,034	22,858,789
June.....	17,690,141	17,600,296	18,736,215	19,966,999	21,094,034	23,007,678
July.....	17,690,141	17,600,296	18,741,215	19,991,999	21,134,034	23,068,184
August.....	17,690,141	17,633,814	18,765,565	20,016,332	21,499,034	23,155,988
September.....	17,690,141	17,728,814	18,790,565	20,091,332	21,524,034	23,182,546
October.....	17,815,141	17,678,814	18,890,565	20,091,332	21,573,534	23,194,784
November.....	17,865,141	17,683,814	18,940,565	20,141,332	21,603,654	23,255,509
December..	17,930,141	17,793,814	19,050,565	20,371,332	21,940,369	23,666,827
Total.....	213,812,317	214,482,967	222,358,929	237,197,118	253,534,058	273,858,016
Average.....	17,817,693	17,873,582	18,529,911	19,766,426	21,127,838	22,821,501

  

MONTHS.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January.....	23,728,254	25,131,057	26,580,282	27,545,341	27,715,799	26,728,799
February.....	23,947,508	25,263,960	26,655,054	27,545,341	26,458,799	26,728,799
March.....	23,964,849	25,274,165	26,655,036	27,350,674	26,458,799	26,728,799
April.....	24,025,291	25,359,982	26,712,002	27,328,174	26,463,799	26,785,799
May.....	24,599,046	25,931,362	27,127,008	27,043,799	26,318,799	27,020,799
June.....	24,662,336	26,007,668	27,157,706	27,083,799	26,348,799	27,070,799
July.....	24,756,731	26,031,245	27,160,750	27,083,799	26,348,799	27,670,799
August.....	24,772,564	26,062,576	27,166,850	27,083,799	26,348,799	27,070,799
September.....	24,826,594	26,131,999	27,260,835	27,158,799	26,373,799	27,223,999
October.....	24,832,474	26,135,348	27,261,749	27,158,799	26,373,799	27,223,999
November.....	24,938,252	26,213,861	27,287,526	27,065,799	26,438,799	27,263,999
December.....	25,086,615	26,459,815	27,470,026	27,233,799	26,670,799	27,515,999
Total.....	294,140,514	310,053,038	324,494,824	327,281,922	318,319,538	323,053,388
Average.....	24,511,709	25,887,753	27,041,235	27,273,500	26,526,632	27,087,782

These reserve funds, which may be considered so much additional capital to be employed by the banks, have increased greatly. Between 1886 and 1897 the fund increased \$9,270,089, or nearly 52 per cent.