

Amount of rest or reserve fund held by the banks according to monthly bank statements since 1890. The amendment to the Bank Act requiring the publication of these returns was passed in 1883:—

Months.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893	1894.	1895.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January.....	20,436,332	22,005,904	23,728,254	25,131,057	26,580,282	27,545,341
February..	20,559,333	22,036,322	23,947,508	25,263,960	26,655,054	27,545,341
March.....	20,565,333	22,193,026	23,964,849	25,274,165	26,655,036	27,350,674
April.....	20,570,333	22,137,459	24,025,291	25,359,982	26,712,002	27,328,174
May.....	21,034,034	22,853,789	24,599,046	25,981,362	27,127,008	27,043,799
June.....	21,094,034	23,007,678	24,662,336	26,007,668	27,157,706	27,083,799
July.....	21,134,034	23,068,184	24,756,731	26,031,245	27,160,750	27,083,799
August.....	21,499,034	23,155,988	24,772,564	26,062,576	27,166,850	27,083,799
September.....	21,524,034	23,182,546	24,826,594	26,131,999	27,260,835	27,158,799
October.....	21,573,534	23,194,784	24,832,474	26,135,348	27,261,749	27,158,799
November.....	21,603,654	23,355,509	24,938,252	26,213,861	27,287,526	27,665,799
December.....	21,940,369	23,666,827	25,086,615	26,459,815	27,470,026	27,233,799
Total.....	253,534,058	273,858,016	294,140,514	310,053,038	324,494,824	327,281,922
Average.....	21,127,838	22,821,501	24,511,709	25,837,753	27,041,235	27,273,500

Months.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January.....	27,715,799	26,728,799	27,580,999	28,017,043	30,055,896	34,910,349
February.....	26,458,799	26,728,799	27,580,999	28,051,254	30,261,307	35,092,654
March.....	26,458,799	26,728,799	27,634,666	28,147,797	30,416,762	35,187,087
April.....	26,463,799	26,785,799	27,635,666	28,249,103	30,581,347	35,405,456
May.....	26,318,799	27,020,799	27,555,666	28,907,231	31,699,989	36,402,943
June.....	26,348,799	27,070,799	27,555,666	28,956,908	32,792,608	36,437,736
July.....	26,348,799	27,670,799	27,555,666	29,114,793	33,093,412	36,461,608
August.....	26,348,799	27,070,799	27,555,666	29,341,697	33,245,018	36,787,828
September.....	26,373,799	27,223,999	27,555,666	29,591,769	33,769,356	36,903,355
October.....	26,373,799	27,223,999	27,619,464	29,630,785	33,897,647	36,961,244
November.....	26,438,799	27,283,999	27,694,310	29,531,762	34,154,043	37,074,774
December.....	26,670,799	27,515,999	27,955,807	29,967,724	34,501,349	37,364,708
Total.....	318,319,538	325,053,388	331,530,241	347,507,866	388,468,734	434,989,742
Average.....	26,526,632	27,087,782	27,627,520	28,958,989	32,372,394	36,249,145

These reserve funds which may be considered so much additional capital to be employed by the banks, have increased greatly. Between 1884 and 1901 the fund increased \$18,099,952, or nearly 100 per cent.