



Wednesday, November 24, 2021

## Brown Launches Stablecoin Inquiry

Building on the PWG's recent stablecoin report ([see Client Report CRYPTO21](#)), Senate Banking Chair Brown (D-OH) late [yesterday](#) sent letters to stablecoin issuers and exchanges seeking information trading-platform stability and conflicts. The letters question the nature, extent, and liquidity of reserve assets as well as the existence of any privileged trading venues. Details are also sought on the mechanics of obtaining and exchanging stablecoins for U.S. Dollars, with Sen. Brown requesting data on the number of stablecoins issued and redeemed. Responses are requested no later than December 3, with this short deadline suggesting Sen. Brown plans a hearing in the near term perhaps intended to strengthen SEC Chairman Gensler's hand regulating stablecoin trading venues. As noted [yesterday](#), the banking agencies announced a cautious path towards new stablecoin standards.

## Recent Files Available for Downloading

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The following reports and analyses have been sent to retainer clients recently. Copies are also available to retainer clients on the Archives section of Federal Financial Analytics' website: [www.fedfin.com](http://www.fedfin.com) or clients may obtain the reports/analyses by e-mailing [info@fedfin.com](mailto:info@fedfin.com) giving the requested item name, firm, and e-mail address. To learn more about *GSE Activity Reports*, click [here](#).

- [GSE-112421](#): Because FHFA tends to take its cue from both the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and its U.S. cousins, we here drill down to look at the housing-finance implications of the proposed global framework we assessed in a [recent in-depth report](#).
- [CLIMATE12](#): Following the UN's COP26 climate-risk summit, the Basel Committee has proposed high-level principles guiding risk management and supervision related to both physical and transition climate risk.
- [REFORM210](#): [As expected](#), today's hearing with Comptroller-nominee Saule Omarova included an unprecedented amount of fireworks for what is normally a low profile appointment.
- [FAIRLEND10](#): The CFPB has followed a study earlier this year finding significant mortgage product and price discrepancies based on race or ethnicity with a request for input (RFI) on the HMDA data on which the study was based.
- [GSE-111721a](#): FHFA's [new scoring system](#) for the GSEs and CSS is a startling, if unsurprising, mission rewrite.
- [GSE-111721](#): As [noted](#) yesterday, the CFPB has opened its HMDA rules to a raft of changes
- [GSE-111521](#): As we [noted on Wednesday](#), the CFPB highlighted Director Chopra's competition focus when it joined other agencies [renewing](#) their mortgage-servicing supervisory and enforcement standards.
- [GSE-111221](#): As [Mark Calabria made clear earlier this year](#), reform of the Treasury market has direct, major impact on that for agency debt and MBS.
- [TMARKET2](#): In this report, we build on [our initial analysis](#) of Monday's [report](#) from the Inter-Agency Working Group on Treasury Market Surveillance (IAWG).

- **SYSTEMIC92**: Late yesterday, the Federal Reserve [released](#) its most recent financial-stability report. As in its predecessor earlier this year ([see Client Report SYSTEMIC91](#)), this report takes a cautious view, counting on continuing bank resilience to counteract old worries, such as asset-price bubbles, along with containing at least some new fears.
- **CRYPTO21**: As [noted yesterday](#), the President's Working Group on Financial Markets (PWG) was joined by the OCC and FDIC yesterday issuing a report calling for prompt Congressional action to regulate stablecoins and, even in its absence, also for fast action by federal regulators and the FSOC.
- **GSE-102821**: FHFA is [proposing](#) a new disclosure regime designed to bring Fannie and Freddie into the public marketplace in a fashion analogous to large U.S. banks.
- **CONSUMER37**: As anticipated, HFSC's hearing today with CFPB Director Chopra skidded over a wide range of policy issues.
- **GSE-102721**: After years of enforcement inactivity, the OCC has [issued a tough set of restrictions](#) against one of the increasingly few large mortgage servicers still willing to be a banks.
- **GREEN11**: As we [noted yesterday](#), the Financial Stability Oversight Council has now complied with President Biden's executive order ([see FSM Report GREEN8](#)), compiling an exhaustive [assessment](#) of the financial-stability implications of climate risk and what might best be done about it.
- **CBDC9**: Shortly after the BIS and a group of central banks endorsed a construct for retail-facing central-bank digital currency (CBDC), the Group of Seven (G7) finance ministerial issued these public-policy principles to establish a still broader framework for future action
- **SANCTION15**: Today's Senate Banking hearing with Treasury Deputy Secretary Wally Adeyemo showed bipartisan concern that the Administration is failing to implement sanctions required by law, especially when it comes to China, North Korea, and Russia.
- **MMF18**: Global regulators have now finalized a framework on which national regulators may base the reforms they deemed necessary after the pandemic sparked profound disruptions in this sector.
- **CRYPTO20**: Responding to requests from the G7, G20, and FSB, this report addresses market-infrastructure considerations related to systemically-important stablecoins that do not involve multi-currency baskets (e.g., Facebook's Diem).
- **GSE-101221**: Although the majority of FHA ARMs are now LIBOR-linked, HUD has been waiting for Congress, the Fed, or forces on high to help it set a new benchmark.
- **MERGER8**: Progressive Democrats in the House and Senate have introduced legislation demanding an array of new decision factors governing bank M&A transactions and new or even revised BHC activities.