An Exhibit on the Federal Reserve, Money and the Regional Economy
The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas is part of the Federal Reserve System, the central bank of the United States. The Federal Reserve is made up of 12 regional reserve banks, along with the Board of Governors in Washington, D.C. The Dallas Fed serves the Eleventh Federal Reserve District, which encompasses approximately 350,000 square miles and is composed of the state of Texas, northern Louisiana and southern New Mexico. The Dallas Fed has branch offices in El Paso, Houston and San Antonio.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas is a “banker’s bank,” providing services for financial institutions. It also serves as the bank for the U.S. government by maintaining accounts for the Treasury. In addition, the Dallas Fed supervises a variety of financial institutions across the district. And the Dallas Fed’s president participates in deliberations of the Federal Open Market Committee, bringing the voices of the more than 26 million residents of the Eleventh District to the discussion of the nation’s monetary policy.

In all these roles, the Federal Reserve aims to support job creation, keep inflation low and foster a stable financial system.
In 1914, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas opened for business in rented space in the Guaranty State Bank and Trust Co. building in the 1300 block of Main Street. Less than a year later, the Dallas Fed moved into its first permanent home at 1101 Commerce St. The space, which had been designed for a jewelry wholesaler, had to be extensively remodeled to meet the unique needs of the Federal Reserve.

In 1921, employees of the Bank moved into a new building at 400 S. Akard St. that would serve as the headquarters for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas for 71 years. Figures named “Integrity” and “Protection” were designed by New York sculptor Henry Herring and carved in place above the entrance. Steer heads wreathed with garlands crowned the building.

In 1992, the Dallas Fed moved to its current location at 2200 N. Pearl St. The building was completed in just 21 months and sits on eight acres adjacent to the Dallas Arts District. The exterior is Indiana limestone—the same as the neighboring Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. A central architectural feature is the bold form of a ship’s prow that marks the high-rise section of the building.

The currency vault has walls made of concrete reinforced with steel. At a height of 50 feet, the vault is as tall as a five-story building and has two doors that weigh more than 22 tons each. The vault was built first, and the rest of the building was constructed around it. The vault is topped with a roof garden that features native plants.
Exhibit Map

- **Entrance/Exit**
- **Visitor Check-in**
- **Historical Currency**
- **Security Screening Area**
- **The 11th District**
- **Debating a National Bank**
- **Founding the Fed**
- **Supervising Banks**
- **Monetary Policy**
- **The Regional Economy**
- **Exhibit Map**

**Woodall Rodgers Freeway Security Screening Area**

- **Exit George B. Dealey Theater**
- **Exit Madeline Vaughan Classroom**

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Examine notes from the Dallas Fed’s collection of historical American currency that ranges from the Colonial period through the 20th century.

Learn about the tools that the Fed uses to influence money and credit as it works toward stable prices, maximum employment and moderate long-term interest rates. Take the FOMC quiz to see if you are Fed-ucated.

As the central bank of the United States, the Federal Reserve has a unique structure that represents a blend of regional and national institutions. Learn about the parts of the Fed that work together to support the American economy.

The Federal Reserve Act was only the beginning. Compare various maps of Federal Reserve districts that were considered by the organizing committee and eavesdrop on a conversation on the train that sealed the deal for a Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas.

Cast your vote on the need for a national bank and listen in as the founding fathers state their case in support and opposition. Learn about the panics of the late 19th and early 20th century that led to calls for a new central bank.

Watch a welcome video from President Richard Fisher and see images of the dynamic areas that make up the 11th District.
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Visit the George B. Dealey Theater to see The Dallas Fed: In Our Own Words, an 11-minute video featuring Dallas Fed employees explaining the Federal Reserve’s purposes and functions in their own words.

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The Fed looks at banks and other financial institutions through many lenses to make sure they are operating safely, soundly and fairly. Take on the role of a banker and make lending decisions. Try your hand as you navigate around the pitfalls that stand in the way of a stable financial system.

From paper checks to electronic transfers to cold, hard cash, find out how the Fed moves money around the country in a constantly evolving payments system.

From local businesses to the global economy, the impact of the four economic drivers of the 11th District is felt far and wide. See profiles of businesses and learn about the role of energy, exports, services and manufacturing.
Visiting the Economy in Action

Maps and directions are available at www.economy-in-action.org

Self-Guided Visits

Our free, walk-in experience allows you to explore interactive exhibits, examine historical currency and learn about the Federal Reserve. No reservations are required.

Hours of Operation

Exhibit hours are 10 a.m.–4 p.m. weekdays, excluding Bank holidays. A guided tour is offered to walk-in visitors at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Group Tours

- Guided tours for groups of 15–40 are offered Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- School groups are limited to 6th through 12th grades and must have one adult chaperone for every 15 students.
- All group tours are free but must be scheduled in advance at www.economy-in-action.org.

Photography

Photography is permitted in the exhibit area but is restricted in other areas of the Bank.
What to Expect When You Arrive

All guests are required to present a valid government-issued photo ID. For international guests, a valid passport must be presented. Children are not required to present identification but must be part of a tour group or be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Guests will undergo security screening upon arrival. Weapons of any kind (including pocket knives) are prohibited on Bank premises. Scheduled tour groups should arrive 10–15 minutes prior to your tour start time.

The Bank reserves the right to refuse entry or remove any individual who is disruptive or does not follow the Bank’s policies.

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For more information about the Dallas Fed, visit www.dallasfed.org.