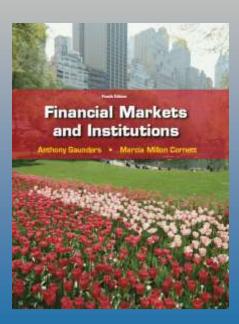
## Chapter One

Introduction



## Why study Financial Markets and Institutions?

- Prudent investment and financing requires a thorough understanding of
  - the structure of domestic and international markets
  - the flow of funds through domestic and international markets
  - the strategies used to manage risks faced by investors and savers

#### **Financial Markets**

- Financial markets are structures through which funds flow
- Financial markets can be distinguished along two dimensions
  - primary versus secondary markets
  - money versus capital markets

## Primary versus Secondary Markets

#### Primary markets

 markets in which users of funds (e.g., corporations and governments) raise funds by issuing financial instruments (e.g., stocks and bonds)

#### Secondary markets

 markets where financial instruments are traded among investors (e.g., NYSE and Nasdaq)

## Money versus Capital Markets

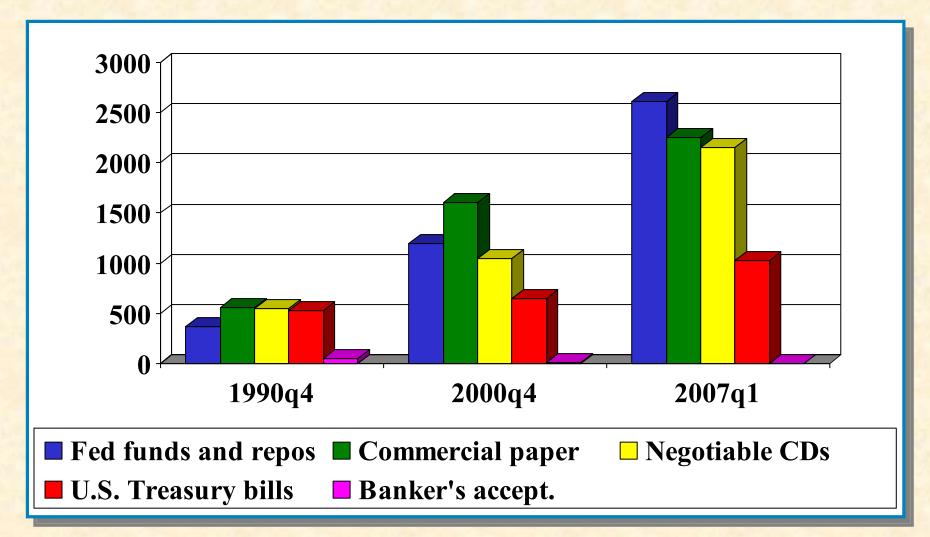
#### Money markets

 markets that trade debt securities with maturities of one year or less (e.g., CDs and U.S. Treasury bills)

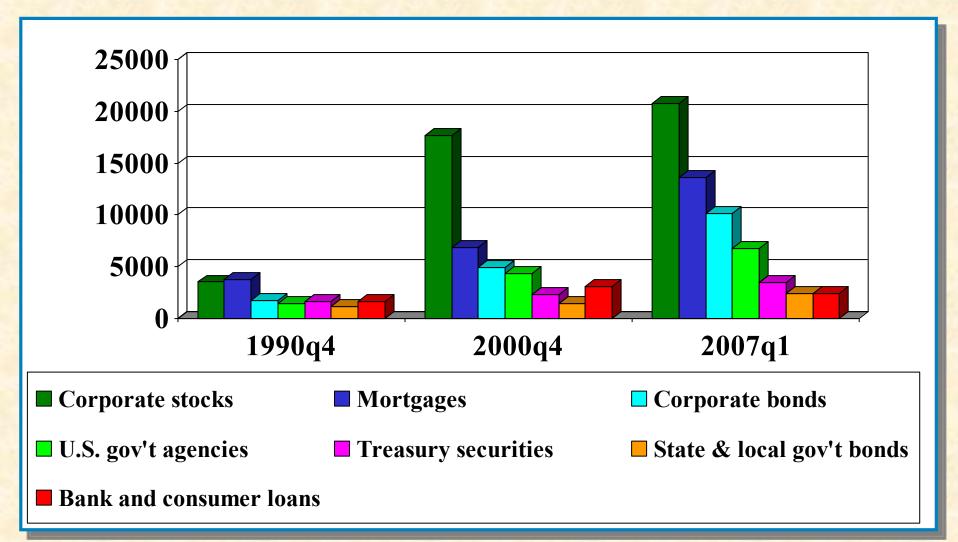
#### Capital markets

 markets that trade debt (bonds) and equity (stock) instruments with maturities of more than one year

# Money Market Instruments Outstanding, (\$Bn)



# Capital Market Instruments Outstanding, (\$Bn)



## Foreign Exchange (FX) Markets

#### FX markets

- trading one currency for another (e.g., dollar for yen)

#### Spot FX

the immediate exchange of currencies at current exchange rates

#### Forward FX

 the exchange of currencies in the future on a specific date and at a pre-specified exchange rate

## **Derivative Security Markets**

#### Derivative security

- a financial security whose payoff is linked to (i.e., "derived" from) another security or commodity
- generally an agreement to exchange a standard quantity of assets at a set price on a specific date in the future

## **Financial Market Regulation**

#### The Securities Act of 1933

full and fair disclosure and securities registration

#### The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

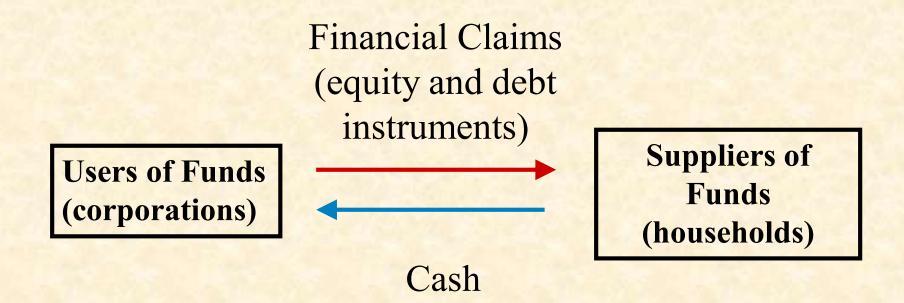
 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is the main regulator of securities markets

#### Financial Institutions (FIs)

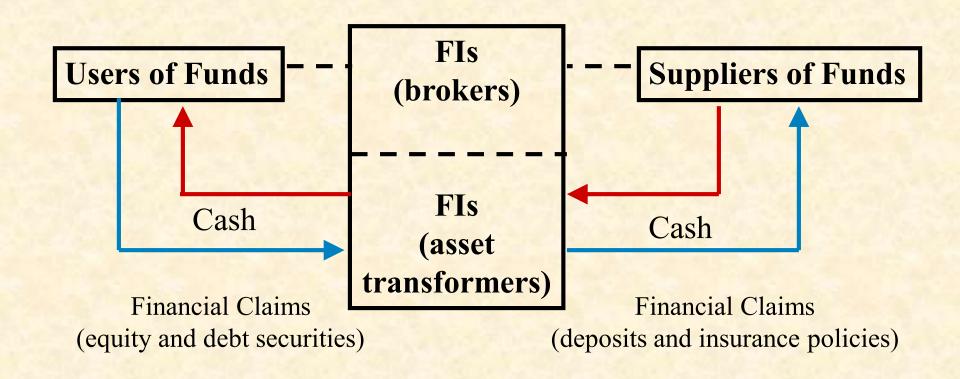
#### Financial Institutions

- institutions through which suppliers channel money to users of funds
- Financial Institutions are distinguished by whether they accept deposits
  - depository versus non-depository financial institutions

#### Flow of Funds in a World without FIs



#### Flow of Funds in a World with FIs



## Depository versus Non-Depository FIs

#### Depository institutions

 commercial banks, savings associations, savings banks, credit unions

#### Non-depository institutions

insurance companies, securities firms and investment banks, mutual funds, pension funds

### FIs Benefit Suppliers of Funds

- Reduce monitoring costs
- Increase liquidity and lower price risk
- Reduce transaction costs
- Provide maturity intermediation
- Provide denomination intermediation

#### FIs Benefit the Overall Economy

- Conduit through which Federal Reserve conducts monetary policy
- Provides efficient credit allocation
- Provide for intergenerational wealth transfers
- Provide payment services

### Risks Faced by Financial Institutions

- Credit
- Foreign exchange
- Country or sovereign
- Interest rate
- Market

- Off-balance-sheet
- Liquidity
- Technology
- Operational
- Insolvency

### Regulation of Financial Institutions

- FIs are heavily regulated to protect society at large from market failures
- Regulations impose a burden on FIs and recent U.S. regulatory changes have been deregulatory in nature
- Regulators attempt to maximize social welfare while minimizing the burden imposed by regulation

## Globalization of Financial Markets and Institutions

- The pool of savings from foreign investors is increasing and investors look to diversify globally now more than ever before
- Information on foreign markets and investments is becoming readily accessible and deregulation across the globe is allowing even greater access
- International mutual funds allow diversified foreign investment with low transactions costs