



Research Working Papers

Faster Payments in the United States: How Can Private Sector Systems Achieve Public Policy Goals

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To help private-sector faster payments systems achieve public policy goals of ubiquity, safety, and efficiency, the Federal Reserve could influence governance of the private-sector systems through its leadership role.

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Consumers and businesses are increasingly expecting faster payments. While many countries have already developed or are in process of developing faster payments, the availability of these payments is fragmented in the United States. The recently released paper by the Federal Reserve encourages private sector participants to provide faster payment services. However, private-sector faster payments systems will face significant challenges in achieving public policy goals of ubiquity, safety, and efficiency unless system governance represents broad public interests. One way to better align private-sector interests with those of the public is for the Federal Reserve to influence governance of the private-sector systems through its leadership role.

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Related Research

- Federal Reserve System. 2015. [Strategies for Improving the U.S. Payment System](#), January.
- Summers, Bruce J., and Kirstin E. Wells. 2015. "Governance of Payment Systems: A Theoretical Framework and Cross-Country Comparison," *Journal of Financial Market Infrastructures*, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 1-38.

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Fumiko Hayashi is a Senior Policy Advisor specializing in payments in the Economic Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Since joining the Federal Reserve in 2001, Ms. Hayashi published studies on the ATM and debit card industry, regulatory developments around interchange fees and card network rules, consumer payment choice, various types of payment methods (including credit, debit, and prepaid cards, mobile and QR code-based payments, instant payments, and central bank digital currency), payment fraud and security, nonbanks and fintechs in the payment system. She is currently conducting research on undeserved consumers in payments, fraud and scams involving instant payments, role of intermediaries in the payment system modernization, among others. Prior to joining the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Ms. Hayashi conducted research examining consumer savings and long-term care insurance, social security reform in Japan, and nursing home markets in the United States. She holds a B.A. and a M.A. in economics from Hitotsubashi University, and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota.
