

Analyzing the US Financial Services Industry

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Abstracts

The U.S. financial markets consist of many separate markets for diverse products offered on a range of trading platforms and exchanges. Among the many products traded are fixed-income securities, equities, foreign exchange and derivatives.

Historical data from the United States shows surprisingly large variations in the economic importance of finance in this country. It was high in the 1920s, but, after a continuous collapse in the 1930s and 40s, it was down to only 2.5% of GDP in 1947. It recovered slowly until the late 1970s, and then grew more quickly to reach almost 8% of GDP in 2006.

The growth of the U.S. financial sector is the story of three waves and two crashes. The IMF has said that despite this being the greatest shock to the financial system since 1929, the chances of a 1930s style depression are "nearly nil" They predict that global growth will slow to 3.9% this year, down from 5% last year, and drop to 3% next year.

The US economy fell into recession in December 2007, with growth contracting 6.3 percent in the last quarter of 2008 and unemployment soaring to 8.1 percent. To get the US banks to cope with this, U.S. banking regulators have launched a "stress test" program to assess the largest banks' ability cope with the possibility of a deeper recession in which the unemployment rate climbs above 10 percent by 2010. The US Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has already closed four more banks and one credit union, taking the number of failures this year to 29. That is up from 25 banks in all of 2008 and three in 2007.

This research report from Aruvian's R'search – Analyzing the US Financial Services Industry – takes a look at the US financial services industry and the upheavals it is going through at this period of time. The report analyzes the various sectors of the US financial services industry such as banking, mutual funds, foreign exchange, the



insurance industry, bonds, and much more. The report takes a look at the banking industry across 51 states in tabular form.

During this financial crisis that is going on in the world, Aruvian's report takes a look at how the US financial services industry is coping and steps the Obama government is taking to bring the situation under control.

The report also undertakes a Michael Porter's Five Forces Strategy Analysis on the global financial services industry and analyzes the major players/banks in the US financial services industry with a SWOT analysis of each player.



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