

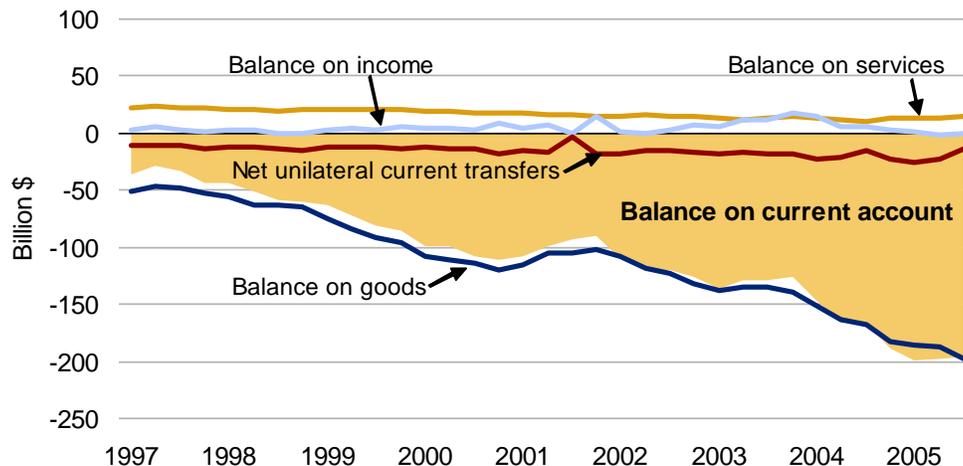
## U.S. CURRENT-ACCOUNT DEFICIT DECREASES IN THIRD QUARTER 2005

*Preliminary estimates of U.S. international transactions*

The U.S. current-account deficit, the broadest measure of U.S. international trade in goods and services, receipts and payments of income, and net unilateral current transfers (such as gifts), decreased to \$195.8 billion (preliminary) in the third quarter of 2005 from \$197.8 billion (revised) in the second quarter. As a share of U.S. GDP, the deficit decreased to 6.2 percent in the third quarter from 6.4 percent in the second.

### Current-Account Balance and Its Components

[Seasonally adjusted]



- The deficit on goods increased to \$197.9 billion from \$186.9 billion, as goods imports increased more than goods exports.
- The surplus on services increased to \$15.1 billion from \$13.3 billion, as services receipts increased and services payments were virtually unchanged.
- The balance on income shifted to a surplus of \$0.5 billion from a deficit of \$1.5 billion, as income receipts increased more than income payments.
- Net unilateral current transfers were net outflows of \$13.5 billion, down from \$22.6 billion.

Net recorded financial inflows—net acquisitions by foreign residents of assets in the United States less net acquisitions by U.S. residents of assets abroad—were \$272.9 billion in the third quarter, up from \$150.6 billion in the second.

- U.S.-owned assets abroad increased \$124.0 billion in the third quarter after they had increased \$225.2 billion in the second.
- Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$396.9 billion in the third quarter after they had increased \$375.8 billion in the second.

BEA data—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic data for states, local areas, and industries—are available on the BEA Web site: [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov). [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: The next release of U.S. international transactions will be on March 14, 2006.