

Director's Message

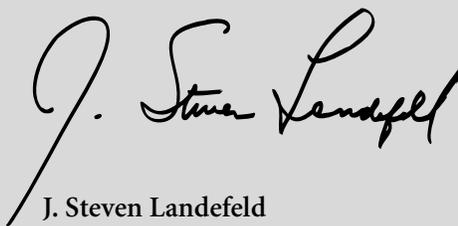
In this issue of the SURVEY, the “final” estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) for the fourth quarter of 2005 are detailed in our “GDP and the Economy” article, which is published in the updated, user-friendly format that debuted last month. A companion article, “Government Receipts and Expenditures,” debuts this month in the same format.

This month's issue also includes an article presenting estimates of state personal income for the fourth quarter of 2005 and for the entire year. The latest estimates show a notable rebound in income after the hurricane-related declines in the previous quarter. Other articles present the most recent international transactions estimates for the fourth quarter of 2005 and for the entire year.

In addition, the “Taking Account” feature on the next page discusses some recent enhancements to our Web site, including an upgraded Frequently Asked Questions service.

Finally, on an administrative note, the Bureau of Economic Analysis has completed its most recent 5-year Strategic Plan. We have posted it on our Web site for public review. We have also posted a report card for 2005 that discusses our successes in meeting the roughly 200 milestones listed in the Strategic Plan. Both items are available at <www.bea.gov/bea/about/Director.htm>.

As always, we welcome your input and suggestions.



J. Steven Landefeld
Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis