

Director's Message

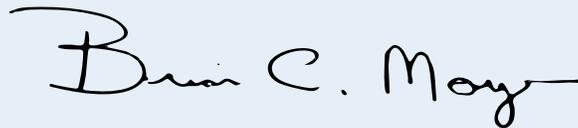
In this issue, we are pleased to provide an overview of our 2016 [strategic plan](#), which details our goals and operating plan for the next several years. As you will see from the plan, we fully intend to maintain our track record of excellence as a provider of critical economic statistics.

We are also pleased to discuss details of the 2016 annual update of the industry economic accounts, which provide data for the second quarter of 2016 and revised quarterly and annual estimates beginning with 2013. With this update, estimates of real gross output and real intermediate inputs are available for the first time, for both annual and quarterly statistics.

A separate article details the preliminary results of our 2014 Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad. These new statistics on the worldwide operations of U.S. multinational enterprises comprise statistics on domestic operations, represented by U.S. parent companies, and statistics on foreign operations, represented by foreign affiliates. Also, our annual article on U.S. international services provides annual statistics on trade in services and services delivered via affiliates of multinational enterprises. These data provide a useful, broad perspective on services provided by and supplied to the United States.

Also in this issue, BEA offers its annual report on profitability for domestic nonfinancial corporations, for nonfinancial industries, and for 14 major nonfinancial industry sectors.

In addition, we discuss our most recent statistics on local area personal income. We also discuss the second estimates of gross domestic product for the third quarter and estimates of government receipts and expenditures for the third quarter. Finally, we provide a subject guide to material that appeared in the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS in 2016.



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