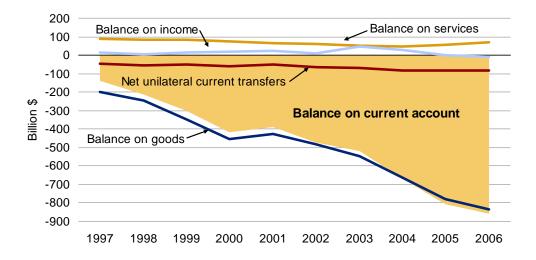


U.S. CURRENT-ACCOUNT DEFICIT INCREASES IN 2006

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), increased to a record \$856.7 billion (preliminary) in 2006 from \$791.5 billion in 2005. As a share of U.S. GDP, the deficit increased to 6.5 percent in 2006 from 6.4 percent in 2005.



Current-Account Balance and Its Components

- The deficit on international trade in goods increased to \$836.0 billion from \$782.7 billion, as goods imports increased more than goods exports.
- The surplus on international trade in services increased to \$70.7 billion from \$66.0 billion, as services receipts increased more than services payments.
- The balance on income shifted to a deficit of \$7.3 billion from a surplus of \$11.3 billion, as income payments increased more than income receipts.
- Net unilateral current transfers to foreign residents were \$84.1 billion, down from \$86.1 billion.

Net financial inflows—net acquisitions by foreign residents of assets in the United States less net acquisitions by U.S. residents of assets abroad—were \$719.1 billion in 2006, down from \$785.4 billion in 2005.

- U.S.-owned assets abroad increased \$1,045.8 billion in 2006 after they had increased \$426.8 billion in 2005.
- Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$1,764.9 billion in 2006 after they had increased \$1,212.3 billion in 2005.

NOTE: The next release of U.S. international transactions will be on June 15, 2007.

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: <u>www.bea.gov</u>. <u>E-mail alerts</u> are also available.