U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

We've Got Your Number

bea

Bureau of Economic Analysis

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

What is BEA?

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis is your source for accurate, objective data about the nation's economy.

What we do

BEA produces some of the world's most closely watched statistics, including U.S. gross domestic product, or GDP. We provide state and local numbers, too, plus statistics on industries, foreign trade and investment, and topics of special interest.

We are nonpartisan, nonpolitical, and neutral on policy issues.

Why we do it

Governments of all levels, businesses big and small, and Americans everywhere rely on our numbers. BEA's work underpins decisions about interest rates and trade policy, taxes and spending, hiring and investing, and more.

Our numbers are publicly released on a set schedule and free to all at **bea.gov**.

Looking for an economic statistic?
Find your number at **bea.gov**.

Questions?
Email **CustomerService@bea.gov** or call **301-278-9004**.

2026

We've got **GDP**

Gross domestic product is the total value of the final goods and services produced in the **United States**. GDP's growth rate each quarter tells Americans how the nation's economy is doing. It's an economic barometer watched around the world. BEA also estimates the size and growth of GDP for **states, counties, and industries**.

GDP can answer questions like:

- How fast is the U.S. economy growing?
- How does my state's economy stack up against others?
- Which industries are taking off? Which are slowing?

Who uses GDP?

- The White House and Congress when planning taxes, spending, and other policy
- The Federal Reserve in setting monetary policy
- The U.S. government when allocating funding to states
- Businesses making decisions about jobs, expansion, and investments
- State and local officials seeking to understand their economies and compare them to others or the nation overall

We've got **GDP** for **3,000+ counties**

BEA measures the GDP of every county in all 50 states, including the parishes of Louisiana and the boroughs of Alaska.

Whether your county is rural, urban, or suburban, these data offer insight into the local economy and how it fits into the national picture. They expand on BEA's other regional data, which include GDP for states and personal income statistics for states and counties.

*Find data by state or county fast. Use **BEARFacts**, or BEA Regional Facts, at **bea.gov/tools**.*

BEA estimates GDP for...

The United States	Quarterly and annually
Industries	Quarterly and annually
States and the District of Columbia	Quarterly and annually
3,000+ counties	Annually

We've got **industry** numbers

You can look under the hood of the U.S. economy by delving into BEA's industry data. **GDP by industry** shows how much industries such as farming, oil and gas extraction, or insurance contribute to the nation's economic growth.

We have data on industries' **gross output** (principally a measure of sales), as well as their number of employees and compensation.

Our **supply and use tables** capture the flow of goods and services from one industry to another, as well as sales to consumers.

*Find industry data fast. Use **Industry Facts** at **bea.gov/tools**.*

And **corporate profits**, too

The financial health of corporate America is measured by corporate profits, a closely watched economic indicator. These quarterly statistics show the combined earnings from current production of U.S. corporations, with breakdowns for industries like durable-goods manufacturing and retail trade.

Corporate profits can answer questions like:

- How fast are U.S. corporate profits rising (or falling)?
- How does growth in corporate profits compare with wage growth?
- What's the profit trend for an industry?

Who uses corporate profits?

- Government officials projecting how much tax corporations will owe and the effects of policy changes
- Businesses forecasting spending on factories and equipment
- Analysts measuring the health of the corporate sector

We've got **consumer spending numbers**

The goods and services bought by people living in the United States make up the nation's **consumer spending**, also called personal consumption expenditures. Consumer spending is a big force in economic growth, so many people watch these statistics for early signals of the economy's strength and outlook.

These monthly U.S. numbers show spending trends in categories such as health care, transportation, and groceries. We also produce consumer spending numbers for each state annually.

Consumer spending can answer questions like:

- How much are people spending, and what are they buying?
- How strong is consumer spending compared to the past?
- Did a change in food or energy prices affect spending?

Who uses consumer spending numbers?

- Businesses hoping to predict consumer behavior
- Policymakers gauging the health of consumers, industries, and the economy
- Researchers and analysts trying to forecast economic growth

BEA estimates consumer spending for...

The United States	Monthly, quarterly, and annually
States and the District of Columbia	Annually

And **price indexes**, too

Prices for goods and services change over time; some prices drop, even as others are going up. Price indexes look beyond the ups and downs of individual price tags to see the big picture of inflation or its opposite, deflation. We measure price changes in different ways:

- **Personal consumption expenditures price index (PCE price index).** Measures *prices paid by U.S. consumers* and reflects changes in what they're buying.
- **PCE price index excluding food and energy (core PCE prices).** A companion index that *excludes items that tend to have bigger fluctuations than other prices.* We also have PCE price data **excluding food, energy, and housing** and PCE limited to **services, excluding energy and housing**.
- **Gross domestic purchases price index.** BEA's featured measure of prices. It shows changes in prices paid *throughout the U.S. economy, including for imports.*
- **Gross domestic product price index.** Shows changes in the prices of goods and services *produced in the United States, including those exported abroad.*

Find out **how far a dollar goes** where you live

You might guess that a dollar stretches further in Arkansas than in California. But do you know how much further? Or the difference between spending a dollar in Dallas and a dollar in Dubuque?

Using BEA's regional price parities, or RPPs, you can compare buying power across the 50 states and the District of Columbia, or across the nation's metro areas. This index measures state and metropolitan area price levels relative to the national average, which is set at 100.

Comparing price levels can help a worker evaluate the salary offered for a job in another city or aid a couple choosing where to retire. Companies consider price differences when locating a new office or setting pay levels. Local officials use these numbers to promote their areas.

Using RPPS to compare prices in two places

Here's how, using a higher cost state (H) and a lower cost state (L) as examples:

- State H's RPP is **109**
- State L's RPP is **93**
- Divide State H's RPP by State L's. Multiply the answer by 100: **(109/93) x 100= 117**
- Price levels in State H are 117 percent of the level in State L. In other words, State H's prices are **17 percent** more expensive.

We've got **personal income** and **saving** numbers

If you're interested in Americans' financial health, keep an eye on the trends in our personal income statistics.

U.S. personal income is the total that people get from paychecks, business ownership, rental property, interest and dividends, and Social Security and other government benefits.

What's left after taxes is **disposable personal income**—income available for American consumers to spend or save.

Personal saving is what's left after people pay taxes and spend money. The nation's **personal saving rate** is the percentage of disposable income that was unspent in a given time period.

We also measure personal income in states and counties.

Distribution of personal income

These statistics show how households at different income levels share in the U.S. economy's growth. New statistics break down the distribution of income for each state and the District of Columbia. Explore the data with our **Income Distribution Analysis Tool** (IDAT) at **bea.gov/tools**.

Personal income and saving can answer questions like:

- Are workers bringing home more pay recently?
- How much are Americans saving versus spending?
- How does my county's income per person compare with the rest of the state?

Who uses personal incoming and saving numbers?

- The U.S. government when allocating hundreds of billions of dollars to states and local areas
- Policymakers projecting federal budgets and Social Security trust fund balances
- Businesspeople and analysts creating a picture of labor costs, including health care
- Researchers studying the interplay between incomes, spending, taxes, and saving

BEA produces statistics on...

U.S. personal income	Monthly, quarterly, and annually
States and D.C. personal income	Quarterly and annually
County personal income	Annually
U.S. personal saving	Monthly, quarterly, and annually

We've got **trade** and more

Our **international trade** statistics are best known for capturing the trade gap—the difference between U.S. exports and imports. We also estimate the United States' trade with individual nations and what's being traded.

The monthly statistics include **trade in goods** data from the U.S. Census Bureau and BEA's data on **trade in services**, such as insurance, travel, and financial services. The services statistics are based largely on data collected by BEA's confidential surveys of businesses and on data from other U.S. government agencies.

We produce more-detailed statistics on international services annually—expanded to include data on 237 countries—and statistics on services provided through the local affiliates of multinational companies.

We also publish **services trade by enterprise characteristics**, which provides details on the industry, ownership, and employment size of service firms.

International transactions statistics (also called balance of payments accounts) give a broader view of the economic activity between the United States and other nations, including trade, financial investments, and foreign aid. Among these quarterly statistics, the **current-account balance** is an especially popular economic indicator.

The **U.S. international investment position** is a statistical balance sheet showing the difference between U.S. residents' foreign financial assets and liabilities at the end of each quarter.

International trade and investment statistics can answer questions like:

- Which countries are the United States' largest trading partners?
- How are trends in exports, imports, and investments changing over time?
- Is the U.S. current-account deficit narrowing or widening?

Who uses our trade numbers?

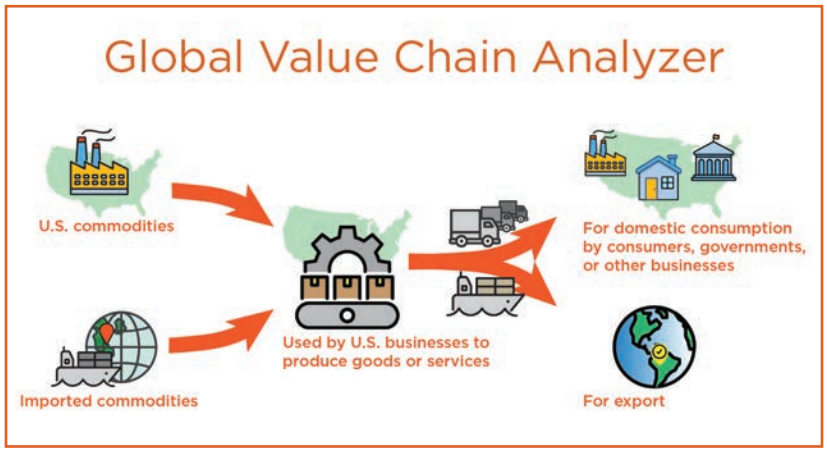
- Policymakers looking to understand how exports and imports affect businesses, jobs, and growth
- Negotiators making trade agreements
- Businesses learning about export markets
- Researchers studying interactions in the global economy

And data on the **global value chains** that connect countries

Often, products aren't solely made in one factory or even one country. A final product may include materials and parts that come from manufacturers in many countries. For example, a plane built by a U.S. company might include wings from Japan, doors from France, landing gear from England, and more.

To account for these increasingly complicated supply chains, BEA developed **global value chain** statistics (also called trade in value added). These data track the value of the domestic and imported components of goods and services produced in the United States. They also show the combined domestic and international sources of value within purchases by U.S. consumers, businesses, and governments.

Our **Global Value Chain Analyzer** tool makes it easier for users to access the data and create custom tables, helping to bring new insights to international trade. Try it at **bea.gov/tools**.



We've got **direct investment** numbers

Foreign ownership of 10 percent or more of a U.S. business is counted as **foreign direct investment in the United States**. A U.S. company or other investor controlling at least 10 percent of a foreign business is considered **U.S. direct investment abroad**.

We have statistics on direct investment and the income returned to U.S. or foreign investors. The numbers are broken down by country and by industry.

To learn more about the operations of such companies, look at BEA's statistics on the **activities of multinational enterprises**. These statistics cover U.S. companies and their foreign affiliates and companies in the United States that are foreign owned. The numbers include sales, jobs, research and development spending, and contributions to GDP. Numbers are available by country and by industry.

We report annually on **new foreign direct investment** used to open businesses in the United States or to buy or expand existing ones. We have these statistics by state, industry, and the investor's country.

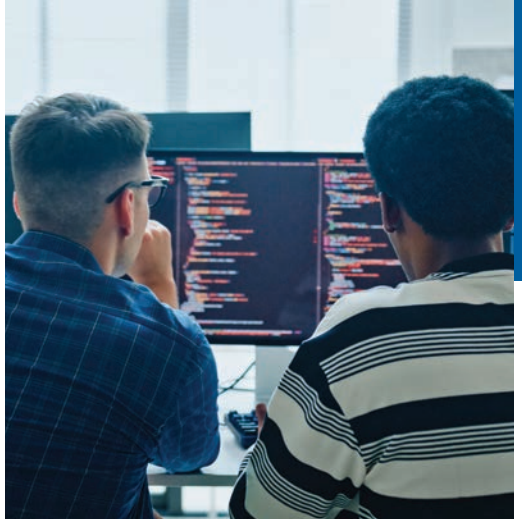
Foreign direct investment can answer questions like:

- How many U.S. workers are employed by foreign-owned businesses?
- Which industries attract the most new foreign investment? Which states?
- Which countries are receiving the most U.S. direct investment?

Who uses the foreign investment numbers?

- Analysts wanting to understand the scale of foreign ownership in the United States
- Governments examining trends in U.S. companies' global production
- Policymakers watching how multinationals respond to tax changes and other laws
- Researchers studying foreign investment decisions and their effects on jobs, wages, and tax revenues

*Find data by country fast: Use **Country Facts** at **bea.gov/tools**.*



We're studying **research and development** ...

Which states get the largest contribution to GDP from research and development (R&D)? How is industry and government research money spread across state economies? A BEA project is answering these and other questions about the role of R&D in the U.S. economy, plus all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

These statistics measure R&D production by its contributions to GDP, employment, and compensation.

And other special topics

Artificial intelligence (AI). Explores AI's contributions to overall U.S. economic activity, measures the size of the AI economy, and researches the impact of AI on production costs, output prices, and productivity.

Crypto assets. Researches how crypto assets, such as crypto-currencies and centralized exchanges, are treated in GDP and other BEA macroeconomic statistics.

Health care. Examines health care spending by the disease being treated—cancer, diabetes, or heart disease, for example—rather than the health care good or service used, such as a medicine or doctor's visit.

Household production. Tracks unpaid work that isn't reflected in GDP including cooking, cleaning, shopping, gardening, caring for children and older people, and doing odd jobs around the house.

Outdoor recreation. Measures how outdoor leisure affects the economies of every state and the nation by activity—such as canoeing, hunting, or horseback riding—and by industry sectors, like manufacturing, retail trade, or transportation.

Ultimate host economy. Measures the value of U.S. companies' direct investments abroad based on where the investments are ultimately located.

We've got **shortcuts** for finding your numbers fast

U.S. Economy at a Glance. A news roundup of GDP, personal income, the current-account balance, and other key numbers.

Country Facts. A country-by-country view of trade and investment with the United States.

BEARFacts. Key economic statistics about each state and county (BEARFacts = **BEA R**egional Facts).

Industry Facts. Fast access to each industry sector's quarterly data.

And **data tools** for digging deeper

Interactive Data Tables. Nearly all BEA's data, organized by topic, some reaching back to 1929.

API. Our Data Application Programming Interface for quickly retrieving and analyzing large subsets of data.

bea.R. An open source library that helps programmers search, analyze, and visualize the data in our API.

Python. A Python library in GitHub that makes it easier to retrieve and work with BEA data.

Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS). A modeling tool used to assess the potential economic impact of a project on a region.

Global Value Chain Analyzer. A tool that helps access and analyze data about complex supply chains that cross global borders.

Income Distribution Analysis Tool (IDAT). A tool for exploring how income is distributed across households nationwide and in each state.

Need definitions, methodologies, or articles to help you use our numbers? We've got those at **bea.gov**, too.

Here's a **quick guide**

The U.S. Economy

- Gross domestic product (GDP)
- Gross domestic income
- Consumer spending (personal consumption expenditures, or PCE)
- Personal income
- Disposable personal income
- Personal saving rate
- Corporate profits
- Private fixed investment
- Fixed assets
- Consumer durable goods
- Government receipts and expenditures
- Government fixed assets
- PCE price index
- Gross domestic purchases price index
- GDP price index

State and local economies

- GDP by state and county
- Personal income by state and county
- Real personal income by state
- PCE by state
- Real PCE by state
- Regional price parities (state and metro area price levels)

Industries

- National and state GDP by industry
- Gross output
- Employment
- Wages and salaries
- Input-output data
- Fixed assets
- Integrated Industry-Level Production Account (KLEMS)

Foreign trade and investment

- Trade in goods and services
- International services (expanded detail)
- International transactions (balance of payments)
- International investment position
- U.S. direct investment abroad
- Foreign direct investment in the United States
- New foreign direct investment
- Activities of multinational enterprises
- Services trade by enterprise characteristics

Special topics

- Artificial intelligence (AI)
- Crypto assets
- Distribution of personal income (with state data)
- Global value chains
- Health care
- Household production
- Intellectual property
- Outdoor recreation (with state data)
- Research and development (with state data)

Questions? Contact us:

(301) 278-9004

CustomerService@bea.gov