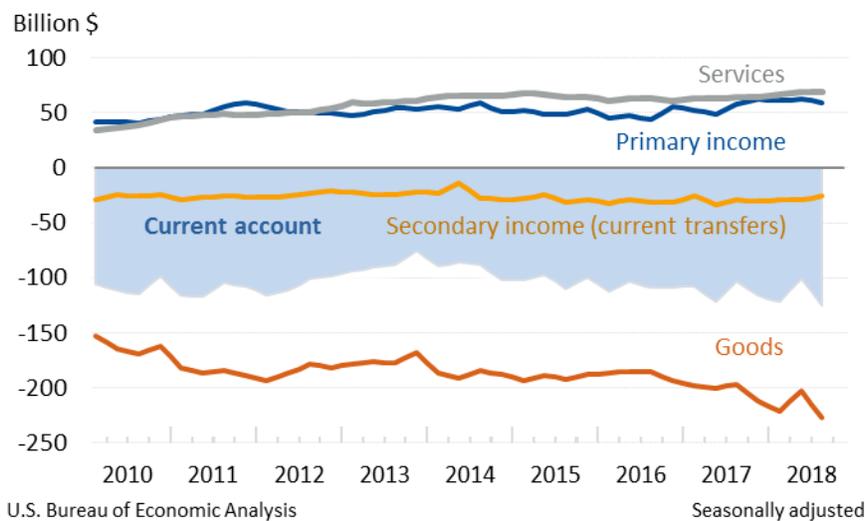


## U.S. Current-Account Deficit Increases in Third Quarter 2018

*Preliminary Estimates of U.S. International Transactions*

The U.S. current-account deficit increased to \$124.8 billion (preliminary) in the third quarter of 2018 from \$101.2 billion (revised) in the second quarter of 2018. As a percentage of U.S. GDP, the deficit increased to 2.4 percent from 2.0 percent. The previously published current-account deficit for the second quarter was \$101.5 billion.

### Quarterly U.S. Current-Account and Component Balances



- The deficit on international trade in goods increased to \$227.0 billion from \$203.1 billion as goods imports increased and goods exports decreased.
- The surplus on international trade in services decreased to \$68.4 billion from \$68.5 billion as services imports increased more than services exports.
- The surplus on primary income decreased to \$59.4 billion from \$62.3 billion as primary income receipts decreased and primary income payments increased.
- The deficit on secondary income (current transfers) decreased to \$25.6 billion from \$29.0 billion as secondary income payments decreased and secondary income receipts increased.

Net U.S. borrowing measured by financial-account transactions was \$31.3 billion in the third quarter, a decrease from net borrowing of \$153.7 billion in the second.

- Net U.S. acquisition of financial assets excluding financial derivatives was \$132.7 billion in the third quarter following net U.S. liquidation of \$199.9 billion in the second.
- Net U.S. incurrence of liabilities excluding financial derivatives was \$151.7 billion in the third quarter following net U.S. repayment of \$63.3 billion in the second.
- Net borrowing in financial derivatives other than reserves was \$12.3 billion in the third quarter, down from \$17.0 billion in the second.

BEA statistics—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic statistics for states, local areas, and industries—are available at [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 21, 2019.  
Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce