THURSDAY, March 17, 2016

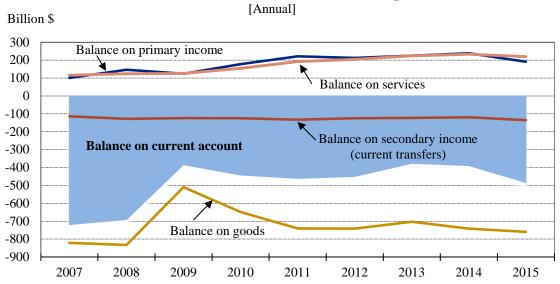


U.S. CURRENT-ACCOUNT DEFICIT INCREASES IN 2015

Preliminary estimates of U.S. international transactions

The U.S. current-account deficit—a net measure of transactions between the United States and the rest of the world in goods, services, primary income (investment income and compensation), and secondary income (current transfers)—increased to \$484.1 billion (preliminary) in 2015 from \$389.5 billion in 2014. As a percentage of U.S. GDP, the deficit increased to 2.7 percent from 2.2 percent.

U.S. Current-Account Balance and Its Components



- The deficit on international trade in goods increased to \$759.3 billion from \$741.5 billion as goods exports decreased more than goods imports.
- The surplus on international trade in services decreased to \$219.6 billion from \$233.1 billion as services imports increased and services exports decreased.
- The surplus on primary income decreased to \$191.3 billion from \$238.0 billion as primary income receipts decreased and primary income payments increased.
- The deficit on secondary income (current transfers) increased to \$135.6 billion from \$119.2 billion as secondary income payments increased and secondary income receipts decreased.

Net U.S. borrowing from financial-account transactions was \$209.2 billion in 2015, down from \$239.6 billion in 2014.

- Net U.S. acquisition of financial assets excluding financial derivatives was \$242.2 billion in 2015, down from \$792.1 billion in 2014.
- Net U.S. incurrence of liabilities excluding financial derivatives was \$426.0 billion in 2015, down from \$977.4 billion in 2014.
- Net borrowing in financial derivatives other than reserves was \$25.4 billion in 2015, down from \$54.4 billion in 2014.

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 on the BEA Web site: www.bea.gov. E-mail alerts are also available.

NOTE: The next release of U.S. international transactions will be on June 16, 2016.

Contact: Jeannine Aversa 202-606-2649