U.S. Current Account Deficit Narrows in Third Quarter 2019

Preliminary Estimates of U.S. International Transactions

The U.S. current account deficit, which reflects the combined balances on trade in goods and services and income flows between U.S. residents and residents of other countries, narrowed by $1.1 billion, or 0.9 percent, to $124.1 billion in the third quarter of 2019. The narrowing mainly reflected a reduced deficit on goods and an expanded surplus on primary income. The third quarter deficit was 2.3 percent of current dollar gross domestic product, down less than 0.1 percent from the second quarter.

- Exports of goods decreased $0.9 billion, to $413.8 billion, while imports of goods decreased $4.5 billion, to $633.4 billion.
- Exports of services decreased $0.3 billion, to $212.0 billion, while imports of services increased $1.6 billion, to $149.8 billion.
- Receipts of primary income decreased $4.1 billion, to $282.0 billion, while payments of primary income decreased $6.2 billion, to $213.3 billion.
- Receipts of secondary income increased $1.0 billion, to $36.6 billion, while payments of secondary income increased $3.7 billion, to $72.0 billion.
- Net financial account transactions were −$47.9 billion, reflecting net U.S. borrowing from foreign residents.