

NEWS RELEASE



FOR WIRE TRANSMISSION: 8:30 A.M. EST, MONDAY, December 17, 2007

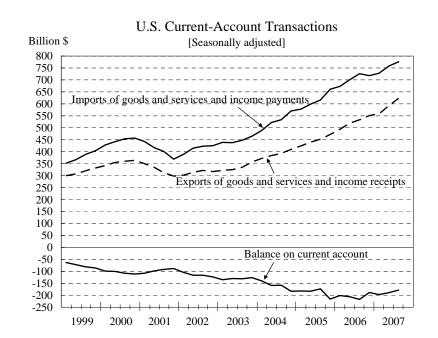
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BEA 07-57

U.S. International Transactions: Third Quarter 2007

Current Account

The U.S. current-account deficit--the combined balances on trade in goods and services, income, and net unilateral current transfers--decreased to \$178.5 billion (preliminary) in the third quarter of 2007 from \$188.9 billion (revised) in the second quarter. Increases in the surpluses on income and on services and a decrease in the deficit on goods more than accounted for the decrease. An increase in net unilateral current transfers to foreigners was partly offsetting.



Goods and services

The deficit on goods and services decreased to \$173.2 billion in the third quarter from \$178.4 billion in the second.

<u>Goods</u> The deficit on goods decreased to \$199.7 billion in the third quarter from \$204.2 billion in the second.

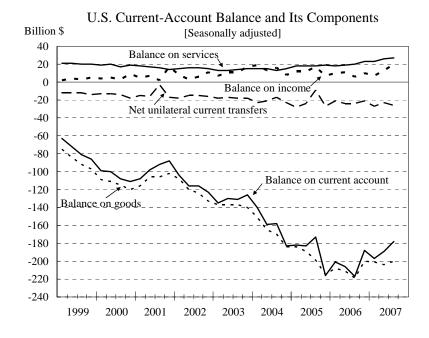
Goods exports increased to \$297.9 billion from \$279.3 billion. The largest increases were in capital goods; in foods, feeds, and beverages; in nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials; and in automotive vehicles, parts, and engines.

NOTE: This news release is available on BEA's Web site at <u>www.bea.gov/newsreleases/rels.htm</u>.

Goods imports increased to \$497.6 billion from \$483.6 billion. The largest increases were in automotive vehicles, parts, and engines; in petroleum and products; and in capital goods.

<u>Services</u> The surplus on services increased to \$26.5 billion in the third quarter from \$25.8 billion in the second.

Services receipts increased to \$119.8 billion from \$117.2 billion. The increase was largely accounted for by an increase in travel. Royalties and license fees, "other" transportation (such as



freight and port services), and passenger fares also increased.

Services payments increased to \$93.2 billion from \$91.4 billion. The largest increases were in travel, in "other" private services (such as business, professional, and technical services, insurance services, and financial services), in "other" transportation, and in passenger fares.

Income

The surplus on income increased to \$20.5 billion in the third quarter from \$12.7 billion in the second.

<u>Investment income</u> Income receipts on U.S.-owned assets abroad increased to \$204.9 billion from \$194.7 billion. The increase was accounted for by increases in "other" private receipts (which consists of interest and dividends) and in direct investment receipts.

Income payments on foreign-owned assets in the United States increased to \$182.7 billion from \$180.4 billion. Increases in "other" private payments (which consists of interest and dividends) and in U.S. Government payments (which consists of interest) were partly offset by a decrease in direct investment payments.

<u>Compensation of employees</u> Receipts for compensation of U.S. workers abroad were virtually unchanged at \$0.7 billion, and payments for compensation of foreign workers in the United States were virtually unchanged at \$2.4 billion.

Unilateral current transfers

Net unilateral current transfers to foreigners were \$25.8 billion in the third quarter, up from \$23.2 billion in the second. The increase mainly resulted from increases in U.S. Government grants and in private remittances and other transfers.

Capital Account

Net capital account payments (outflows) were virtually unchanged at \$0.6 billion in the third quarter.

Financial Account

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 \$93.4 billion in the third quarter, down from \$152.8 billion in the second. Net foreign acquisitions of assets in the United States slowed more than net U.S. acquisitions of assets abroad.

U.S.-owned assets abroad

U.S.-owned assets abroad increased \$155.7 billion in the third quarter, following an increase of \$465.5 billion in the second.

U.S. claims on foreigners reported by U.S. banks increased \$111.3 billion in the third quarter, following an increase of \$211.0 billion in the second.

Net U.S. purchases of foreign securities were \$78.8 billion in the third quarter, down from \$82.2 billion in the second. Net U.S. purchases of foreign stocks were \$35.7 billion, down from \$40.4 billion. Net U.S. purchases of foreign bonds were \$43.2 billion, up from \$41.8 billion.

Net financial flows for U.S. direct investment abroad were \$56.3 billion in the third quarter, down from \$78.0 billion in the second. A substantial slowdown in net equity capital investment abroad and a slightly larger decrease in net intercompany debt investment abroad were partly offset by a pickup in reinvested earnings.

U.S. official reserve assets increased \$0.1 billion in the third quarter, following a decrease of less than \$0.1 billion in the second.

Foreign-owned assets in the United States

Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$249.1 billion in the third quarter, following an increase of \$619.3 billion in the second.

U.S. liabilities to foreigners reported by U.S. banks increased \$69.8 billion in the third quarter, following an increase of \$144.0 billion in the second.

Net foreign purchases of U.S. Treasury securities were \$46.7 billion in the third quarter, up from \$1.8 billion in the second.

Transactions in U.S. securities other than U.S. Treasury securities shifted to net foreign sales of \$44.2 billion in the third quarter from net foreign purchases of \$243.0 billion in the second. Transactions in U.S. stocks shifted to net foreign sales of \$19.7 billion from net foreign purchases of \$104.1 billion. Transactions in U.S. corporate bonds shifted to net foreign sales of \$8.2 billion from net foreign purchases of \$109.7 billion. Transactions in federally sponsored agency bonds shifted to net foreign sales of \$16.2 billion from net foreign purchases of \$29.1 billion.

Net financial flows for foreign direct investment in the United States were \$81.2 billion in the third quarter, up from \$46.6 billion in the second. The increase was accounted for by increases in net equity capital investment in the United States and in reinvested earnings and by a shift from a decrease to an increase in net intercompany debt investment in the United States.

Foreign official assets in the United States increased \$39.0 billion in the third quarter, following an increase of \$70.5 billion in the second.

Net U.S. currency shipments to foreigners were \$4.7 billion in the third quarter, up from \$3.3 billion in the second.

The statistical discrepancy--errors and omissions in recorded transactions--was a positive \$85.6 billion in the third quarter, compared with a positive \$36.7 billion in the second.

In the third quarter, the U.S. dollar depreciated 3 percent on a trade-weighted quarterly average basis against a group of 7 major currencies.

Revisions

The second-quarter international transactions are revised from previously published estimates. The current-account deficit was revised to \$188.9 billion from \$190.8 billion. The goods deficit was unrevised at \$204.2 billion; the services surplus was revised to \$25.8 billion from \$26.5 billion; the income surplus was revised to \$12.7 billion from \$9.4 billion; and unilateral current transfers were revised to net outflows of \$23.2 billion from \$22.5 billion. Net recorded financial inflows were revised to \$152.8 billion from \$150.9 billion.

* * *

Release dates in 2008:

Fourth quarter and year 2007			March 17, 2008 (Monday)
First quarter 2008			June 17, 2008 (Tuesday
Second quarter 2008			September 17, 2008 (Wednesday
Third quarter 2008			December 17, 2008 (Wednesday)
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Summary BEA estimates are available on recorded messages at the time of public release at the following telephone numbers:

(202) 606-5306 Gross domestic product -5303 Personal income and outlays

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Table 1. U.S. International Transactions

[Millions of dollars, quarters seasonally adjusted]

			2006					Change:		
	(Credits +, debits -)	2006	Ι	П	111	IV	I	11 ^r	III ^p	2007 11-111
	Current account									
1	Exports of goods and services and income receipts	2,096,165	494,027	518,595	532,894	550,649	558,369	591,985	623,360	31,375
2	Exports of goods and services	1,445,703	345,636	356,575	365,868	377,623	382,156	396,525	417,736	21,211
3	Goods, balance of payments basis	1,023,109	243,880	252,458	260,285	266,486	270,116	279,339	297,946	18,607
4	Services	422,594	101,756	104,117	105,583	111,137	112,040	117,186	119,790	2,604
5	Transfers under U.S. military agency sales contracts	17,112	4,531	4,188	4,102	4,291	4,259	3,950	3,861	-89
6 7	Travel Passenger fares	85,694 22,187	20,845 5,397	21,212 5,328	21,527 5,696	22,110 5,765	22,297 5,706	23,584 6,066	25,331 6,316	1,747 250
8	Other transportation	46,297	11,038	11,754	11,716	11,789	12,157	12,691	12,993	302
9	Royalties and license fees	62,378	14,923	15,196	15,815	16,444	16,645	17,569	17,922	353
10 11	Other private services U.S. Government miscellaneous services	187,771 1,155	44,745 277	46,153 286	46,433 294	50,441 297	50,680 296	53,039 288	53,082 284	43 -4
12	Income receipts	650,462	148,391	162,020	167,026	173,025	176,213	195,460	205,624	10,164
13	Income receipts on U.Sowned assets abroad	647,582	147,670	161,293	166,314	172,305	175,484	194,725	204,880	10,155
14	Direct investment receipts	310,224	73,304	77,702	78,372	80,846	79,478	87,135	91,156	4,021
15	Other private receipts	334,958	73,776	83,004	87,348	90,830	95,467	106,981	113,110	6,129
16	U.S. Government receipts	2,400	590	587	594	629	539	609	614	5,120
17	Compensation of employees	2,880	721	727	712	720	729	735	744	9
18	Imports of goods and services and income payments	-2,818,047	-673,277	-700,504	-726,352	-717,914	-728,472	-757,747	-776,056	-18,309
19	Imports of goods and services	-2,204,225	-535,348	-549,153	-565,175	-554,549	-559,737	-574,956	-590,888	-15,932
20	Goods, balance of payments basis	-1,861,380	-451,637	-463,734	-479,184	-466,825	-470,983	-483,552	-497,646	-14,094
21	Services	-342,845	-83,711	-85,419	-85,991	-87,724	-88,754	-91,404	-93,242	-1,838
22	Direct defense expenditures	-31,054	-7,726	-7,737	-7,990	-7,601	-7,924	-8,091	-8,139	-48
23	Travel	-72,029	-17,582	-18,077	-18,015	-18,355	-18,582	-18,768	-19,406	-638
24	Passenger fares	-27,503	-6,748	-6,927	-6,889	-6,939	-6,799	-6,951	-7,221	-270
25	Other transportation	-65,282	-16,025	-16,401	-16,491	-16,365	-16,490	-16,681	-16,971	-290
26	Royalties and license fees	-26,432	-6,767	-6,532	-6,497	-6,636	-6,810	-6,898	-7,054	-156
27 28	Other private services U.S. Government miscellaneous services	-116,524 -4,021	-27,867 -996	-28,728 -1,016	-29,087 -1,022	-30,841 -987	-31,133 -1,016	-32,997 -1,018	-33,440 -1,011	-443 7
29	Income payments	-613,823	-137,929	-151,352	-161,177	-163,365	-168,735	-182,791	-185,168	-2,377
29 30	Income payments on foreign-owned assets in the United States	-604,410	-135,607	-149,004	-158,823	-160,977	-166,422	-180,375	-182,726	-2,377
30 31		-004,410	-135,607 -31,299	-149,004 -33,055	-156,825	-160,977 -33,772	-100,422 -31,718	-180,375	-162,726	-2,351 855
	Direct investment payments			-33,055 -83,037	-37,885 -86,607				,	
32	Other private payments	-334,645	-73,830			-91,171	-97,066	-104,146	-107,124	-2,978
33 34	U.S. Government payments Compensation of employees	-133,755 -9,412	-30,478 -2,322	-32,912 -2,348	-34,331 -2,354	-36,034 -2,388	-37,638 -2,313	-39,478 -2,416	-39,706 -2,442	-228 -26
35	Unilateral current transfers, net	-89,595	-21,360	-23,686	-23,877	-20,673	-26,994	-23,157	-25,760	-2,603
36	U.S. Government grants	-27,142	-5,671	-7,226	-7,741	-6,504	-10,372	-5,439	-7,373	-1,934
37	U.S. Government pensions and other transfers	-6,508	-1,614	-1,627	-1,620	-1,647	-1,700	-1,731	-1,743	-12
38	Private remittances and other transfers	-55,945	-14,075	-14,833	-14,516	-12,522	-14,922	-15,987	-16,644	-657
30		-00,940	-14,073	-14,033	-14,010	-12,022	-14,922	-10,907	-10,044	-007

Table 1. U.S. International Transactions (Continued)

[Millions of dollars, quarters seasonally adjusted]

		2006				2007			Change:	
(Credits +, debits -)	2006	I	II	Ш	IV	I	11 ^r	III ^p	2007 II-III	
Capital account										
39 Capital account transactions, net	3,913	-1,724	-1,008	-545	-637	-559	-598	-554	44	
Financial account										
40 U.Sowned assets abroad, excluding financial derivatives										
(increase/financial outflow (-))	1,055,176	-344,032	-212,218	-209,898	-289,028	-449,454	-465,466	-155,739	309,727	
41 U.S. official reserve assets	2,374	513	-560	1,006	1,415	-72	26	-54	-8	
42 Gold		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
43 Special drawing rights		-67	-51	-54	-51	-43	-39	-37		
44 Reserve position in the International Monetary Fund		729	-351	1,275	1,678	212	294	230	-6	
45 Foreign currencies	-734	-149	-158	-215	-212	-241	-229	-247	-1	
46 U.S. Government assets, other than official reserve assets		1,049	1,765	1,570	962	445	-369	422	79	
47 U.S. credits and other long-term assets		-1,517	-376	-592	-507	-608	-1,348	-376	97	
48 Repayments on U.S. credits and other long-term assets		2,558	2,147	2,170	1,454	1,091	881	819	-6	
49 U.S. foreign currency holdings and U.S. short-term assets	9	8	-6	-8	15	-38	98	-21	-11	
50 U.S. private assets	1,062,896	-345,594	-213,423	-212,474	-291,405	-449,827	-465,123	-156,107	309,01	
51 Direct investment		-66,502	-53,744	-49,018	-66,094	-81,407	-77,980	-56,323	21,65	
52 Foreign securities	289,422	-57,693	-59,003	-55,496	-117,230	-87,206	-82,203	-78,825	3,37	
53 U.S. claims on unaffiliated foreigners reported by U.S. nonbanking concerns		-24,302	-45,885	-29,162	15,818	-47,830	-93,976	90,323	184,29	
54 U.S. claims reported by U.S. banks, not included elsewhere	-454,585	-197,097	-54,791	-78,798	-123,899	-233,384	-210,964	-111,282	99,68	
55 Foreign-owned assets in the United States, excluding financial derivatives										
(increase/financial inflow (+))	1,859,597	538,140	355,442	449,987	516,029	616,602	619,272	249,126	-370,140	
56 Foreign official assets in the United States	440,264	125,257	120,861	108.799	85,347	152,193	70,464	39,016	-31,44	
57 U.S. Government securities		112,338	65,626	107,972	94,798	110,772	43,275	17,818	-25,45	
58 U.S. Treasury securities	189,181	65,124	24,262	52,746	47,049	37,705	-13,125	-11,536	1,58	
59 Other	191,553	47,214	41,364	55,226	47,749	73,067	56,400	29,354	-27,04	
60 Other U.S. Government liabilities	3,133	26	824	1,154	1,129	654	-77	881	95	
61 U.S. liabilities reported by U.S. banks, not included elsewhere	22,040	2,394	42,533	-7,221	-15,666	29,797	15,981	9,846	-6,13	
62 Other foreign official assets	34,357	10,499	11,878	6,894	5,086	10,970	11,285	10,471	-81	
63 Other foreign assets in the United States	1,419,333	412,883	234,581	341,188	430,682	464,409	548,808	210,110	-338,69	
64 Direct investment		42,976	49,056	42,979	45,570	11,906	46,550	81,245	34,69	
65 U.S. Treasury securities	35,931	-25,274	-19,307	-13,440	22,090	44,638	1,813	46,658	44,84	
66 U.S. securities other than U.S. Treasury securities	591,951	173,213	145,750	140,243	132,745	112,269	242,963	-44,177	-287,14	
67 U.S. currency	12,571	1,933	1,127	1,129	8,382	-1,631	3,347	4,741	1,39	
68 U.S. liabilities to unaffiliated foreigners reported by U.S. nonbanking concerns		60,613	55,907	69,637	49,612	93,624	110,172	51,821	-58,35	
69 U.S. liabilities reported by U.S. banks, not included elsewhere	434,393	159,422	2,048	100,640	172,283	203,603	143,963	69,822	-74,14	
70 Financial derivatives, net	28,762	1,633	14,001	14,911	-1,783	14,800	-1,007	n.a.	1,00	
71 Statistical discrepancy (sum of above items with sign reversed)	17,794	6,593	49,378	-37,121	-36,643	15,708	36,718	85,622	48,904	
Memoranda:										
72 Balance on goods (lines 3 and 20)	-838,271	-207,757	-211,276	-218,899	-200,339	-200,867	-204,213	-199,700	4,51	
73 Balance on services (lines 4 and 21)	· ·	18,045	18,699	19,592	23,414	23,286	25,783	26,548	76	
74 Balance on goods and services (lines 2 and 19)		-189,712	-192,577	-199,307	-176,926	-177,581	-178,431	-173,152	5,27	
75 Balance on income (lines 12 and 29)		10,462	10,668	5,850	9,661	7,478	12,669	20,456	7,78	
76 Unilateral current transfers, net (line 35)		-21,360	-23,686	-23,877	-20,673	-26,994	-23,157	-25,760	-2,60	
77 Balance on current account (lines 1, 18, and 35 or lines 74, 75, and 76)	811,477	-200,611	-205,595	-217,334	-187,938	-197,097	-188,919	-178,456	10,46	

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n.a. Not available