

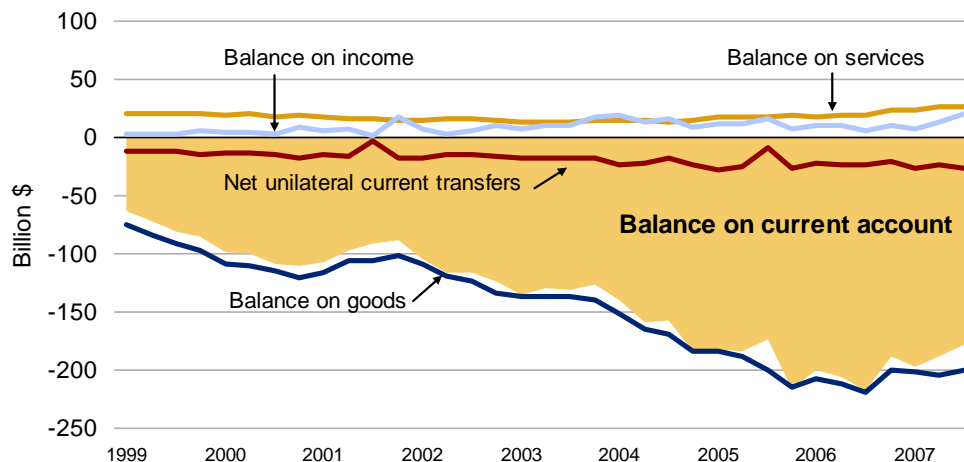
## U.S. CURRENT-ACCOUNT DEFICIT DECREASES IN THIRD QUARTER 2007

*Preliminary estimates of U.S. international transactions*

The U.S. current-account deficit, the broadest measure of U.S. international trade in goods and services, receipts and payments of income, and net unilateral current transfers (such as gifts) decreased to \$178.5 billion (preliminary) in the third quarter of 2007 from \$188.9 billion (revised) in the second quarter. As a share of U.S. GDP, the deficit decreased to 5.1 percent from 5.5 percent. The previously published estimate of the current account for the second quarter was \$190.8 billion.

### Current-Account Balance and Its Components

[Seasonally adjusted]



- The deficit on international trade in goods decreased to \$199.7 billion from \$204.2 billion, as goods exports increased more than goods imports.
- The surplus on international trade in services increased to \$26.5 billion from \$25.8 billion, as receipts for services increased more than payments for services.
- The surplus on income increased to \$20.5 billion from \$12.7 billion, as income receipts increased more than income payments.
- Net unilateral current transfers to foreign residents were \$25.8 billion, up from \$23.2 billion.

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.

- U.S.-owned assets abroad increased \$155.7 billion in the third quarter after they had increased \$465.5 billion in the second.
- Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$249.1 billion in the third quarter after they had increased \$619.3 billion in the second.

BEA data—including GDP, personal income, the balance of payments, foreign direct investment, the input-output accounts, and economic data for states, local areas, and industries—are available on the BEA Web site: [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 17, 2008.