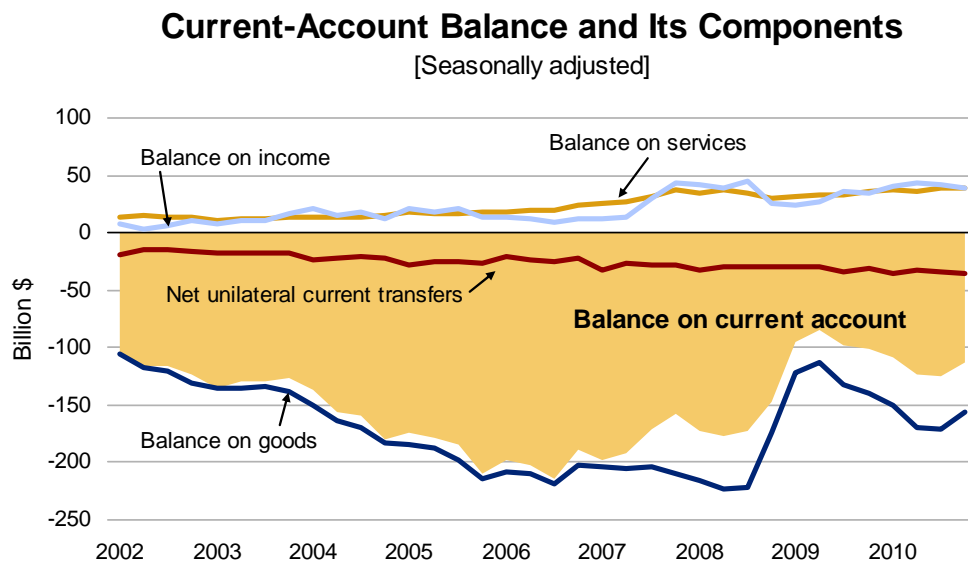


U.S. CURRENT-ACCOUNT DEFICIT DECREASES IN FOURTH QUARTER 2010

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 \$113.3 billion (preliminary) in the fourth quarter of 2010 from \$125.5 billion (revised) in the third quarter of 2010. As a share of U.S. GDP, the deficit decreased to 3.1 percent from 3.4 percent. The previously published current-account deficit for the third quarter was \$127.2 billion.



- The deficit on international trade in goods decreased to \$156.2 billion from \$170.8 billion, as goods exports increased more than goods imports.
- The surplus on international trade in services increased to \$39.5 billion from \$38.2 billion, as services receipts increased more than services payments.
- The surplus on income decreased to \$38.6 billion from \$41.4 billion, as income payments increased more than income receipts.
- Net unilateral current transfers to foreign residents were \$35.2 billion, up from \$34.2 billion.

Net financial inflows were \$32.4 billion in the fourth quarter, down from \$137.0 billion in the third.

- U.S.-owned assets abroad increased \$241.2 billion in the fourth quarter after increasing \$341.0 billion in the third.
- Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$273.6 billion in the fourth quarter after increasing \$488.8 billion in the third.

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, 2011.