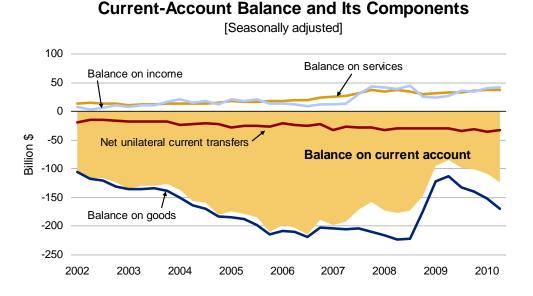
THURSDAY December 16, 2010

U.S. CURRENT-ACCOUNT DEFICIT INCREASES IN THIRD 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) increased to \$127.2 billion (preliminary) in the third quarter of 2010 from \$123.2 billion (revised) in the second quarter of 2010. As a share of U.S. GDP, the deficit increased to 3.5 percent from 3.4 percent. The previously published current-account deficit for the second quarter was \$123.3 billion.



- The deficit on international trade in goods increased to \$171.2 billion from \$169.6 billion, as goods imports increased more than goods exports.
- The surplus on international trade in services increased to \$36.8 billion from \$36.5 billion, as services receipts increased more than services payments.
- The surplus on income decreased to \$41.1 billion from \$43.0 billion, as income payments increased more than income receipts.
- Net unilateral current transfers to foreign residents were \$33.9 billion, up from \$33.2 billion.

Net financial inflows were \$181.6 billion in the third quarter, up from \$31.0 billion in the second.

- U.S.-owned assets abroad increased \$324.5 billion in the third quarter after increasing \$141.2 billion in the second.
- Foreign-owned assets in the United States increased \$506.1 billion in the third quarter after increasing \$162.1 billion in the second.

NOTE: The next release of U.S. international transactions will be on March 16, 2011.

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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: <u>www.bea.gov</u>. <u>E-mail alerts</u> are also available.