

October 2008 TRADE GAP IS \$57.2 BILLION

U.S. international trade in goods and services

The U.S. monthly goods and services deficit increased in October 2008, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. The deficit increased from \$56.6 billion (revised) in September to \$57.2 billion in October, as exports decreased more than imports. The previously published September deficit was \$56.5 billion.



Exports

Exports of goods and services decreased \$3.4 billion in October to \$151.7 billion, mostly reflecting a decrease in goods exports. Services exports also decreased.

- The decrease in goods exports was mostly accounted for by decreases in *industrial supplies and materials* and *foods, feeds, and beverages*.
- The decrease in services exports was more than accounted for by decreases in *travel, other transportation* (which includes freight and port services), and *other private services* (which includes items such as business, professional, and technical services, insurance services, and financial services). An increase in *transfers under U.S. military sales contracts* was partly offsetting.

Imports

Imports of goods and services decreased \$2.7 billion in October to \$208.9 billion, reflecting a decrease in goods imports. Services imports were virtually unchanged.

- The decrease in goods imports was mostly accounted for by decreases in *capital goods* and *automotive vehicles, parts, and engines*. An increase in *consumer goods* was partly offsetting.
- Services imports were virtually unchanged as increases in *other private services* and *passenger fares* were largely offset by a decrease in *other transportation*.

Goods by geographic area (not seasonally adjusted)

- The goods deficit with Canada decreased from \$7.6 billion in September to \$6.0 billion in October. Exports decreased \$0.3 billion to \$22.0 billion, while imports decreased \$2.0 billion to \$28.0 billion.
- The goods deficit with China increased from \$27.8 billion in September to \$28.0 billion in October. Exports increased \$0.8 billion to \$6.1 billion, while imports increased \$0.9 billion to \$34.0 billion.
- The goods deficit with the European Union increased from \$8.3 billion in September to \$9.6 billion in October. Exports increased \$2.0 billion to \$22.9 billion, while imports increased \$3.2 billion to \$32.5 billion.

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. [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: This and more information is provided in the December 11 press release issued by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services: October 2008. The next release is January 13, 2009.