

TRADE GAP WIDENS IN DECEMBER 2006

U.S. international trade in goods and services

The U.S. monthly goods and services deficit widened in December 2006, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. The deficit increased from \$58.1 billion (revised) in November to \$61.2 billion in December, as imports increased more than exports. The November deficit was slightly lower than its previously published value of \$58.2 billion.



Exports

Exports of goods and services increased \$0.7 billion in December to \$125.5 billion, as both goods exports and services exports increased.

- The increase in goods exports reflected increases in *automotive vehicles, parts, and engines* and *foods, feeds, and beverages*, which were mostly offset by decreases in *other goods* and *industrial supplies and materials*.
- The increase in services exports was mostly accounted for by increases in *other private services* and *transfers under U.S. military sales contracts*.

Imports

Imports of goods and services increased \$3.8 billion in December to \$186.7 billion, reflecting an increase in goods imports. Services imports were virtually unchanged.

- The increase in goods imports mostly reflected increases in *industrial supplies and materials*; *automotive vehicles, parts, and engines*; and *consumer goods*. *Capital goods* decreased.
- Services imports were virtually unchanged as a decrease in *other transportation* was mostly offset by an increase in *other private services*.

Goods by geographic area (not seasonally adjusted)

- The goods deficit with China decreased from \$22.9 billion in November to \$19.0 billion in December. Exports increased \$0.3 billion to \$5.2 billion, while imports decreased \$3.6 billion to \$24.2 billion.
- The goods deficit with Mexico decreased from \$5.4 billion in November to \$5.0 billion in December. Exports decreased \$1.7 billion to \$10.1 billion, while imports decreased \$2.1 billion to \$15.1 billion.
- The goods deficit with Canada increased from \$5.2 billion in November to \$5.6 billion in December. Exports decreased \$1.6 billion to \$18.1 billion, while imports decreased \$1.2 billion to \$23.7 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 February 13 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: December 2006. The next release is March 9, 2007.