New guidance on citing BEA information available

Economists, researchers, students, and others have long used a wide range of statistics and other information from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) in their written work. As BEA’s mission is to produce timely statistics that provide a more complete picture of the U.S. economy, the Bureau certainly encourages broad use of all of its statistics and other material.

To help people who wish to cite BEA information as part of their work, the agency has developed a concise online citation guide that offers specific guidance in citing the following:

- News releases
- The BEA blog
- Statistics from BEA’s interactive data application
- The Survey of Current Business
- The regional input-out modeling system (RIMS II)
- BEA’s Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) feature
- BEA papers, working papers, and other BEA publications

The online guide offers a generic template for footnotes and endnotes in most cases as well as numerous examples. The guide also offers some hints and tips for people who wish to reference BEA material in online publications. In addition, the guide provides BEA logos in various sizes for online use.

The information published by BEA on its Web site and in its printed publications is in the public domain; it is not copyrighted material. Unless otherwise indicated, all information produced and distributed by BEA may be reproduced without specific permission.

The Bureau would like to remind all of its customers that as a federal entity, it does not endorse commercial products or services and asks that its information not be used in a way to create such an appearance.

The guide is available on the BEA Web site at www.bea.gov/about/BEAciting.htm.

Integrated macroeconomic statistics expanded

To help economists gain a better understanding of the economy, BEA publishes an integrated set of macroeconomic accounts that harmonizes the national income and product accounts (NIPAs) from BEA and the flow of funds accounts (FFAs) from the Federal Reserve Board.

These tables present a sequence of accounts that relate production, income and spending, capital formation, financial transactions, and asset revaluations to changes in net worth between balance sheets for the major sectors of the U.S. economy. These integrated accounts also bring the NIPAs and FFAs into closer accordance with the national accounting guidelines offered by the international community in the System of National Accounts.

The integrated accounts were expanded this year to include quarterly estimates back to 1960. The accounts are available on the BEA Web site in the national economic accounts section.

Nominations for the 2013 Julius Shiskin Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 2013 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics. It is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy.

Contributions are accepted in the following areas: development of new statistical measures, statistical research, use of economic statistics to analyze and interpret economic activity, development of statistical tools, management of statistical programs, or application of data production techniques.

The Julius Shiskin Award is cosponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association.

It carries an honorarium of $1,000, plus additional recognition from sponsors.

Awards nomination forms are available at www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html and are due on March 15, 2013. For more information, please contact Steven Paben at paben.steven@bls.gov.