

B. Suggested Reading

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) has published a wealth of information about the methodologies that are used to prepare its national, industry, international, and regional accounts. All of this information is available on BEA's Web site at www.bea.gov.

National accounts

The national accounts encompass the detailed estimates in the national income and product accounts (including gross domestic product) and the estimates of fixed assets and consumer durable goods.

National income and product accounts (NIPAs). The chapters in *Concepts and Methods of the U.S. National Income and Product Accounts* document the conceptual framework of the NIPAs and the methodologies that are used to prepare the estimates. The chapters have been updated to reflect the 2013 comprehensive NIPA revision.

“Introductory Chapters 1–4: Concepts, Source Data, and Estimating Methods”

“Chapter 5: Personal Consumption Expenditures”

“Chapter 6: Private Fixed Investment”

“Chapter 7: Change in Private Inventories”

“Chapter 8: Net Exports of Goods and Services”

“Chapter 9: Government Consumption Expenditures and Gross Investment”

“Chapter 10: Compensation of Employees”

“Chapter 13: Corporate Profits”

In addition, see *Measuring the Economy: A Primer on GDP and the National Income and Product Accounts* (2007).

The following SURVEY articles describes the most recent comprehensive NIPA revision.

“Initial Results of the 2013 Comprehensive Revision of the National Income and Product Accounts” (August 2013)

“Improved Estimates of the National Income and Product Accounts: Results of the 2013 Comprehensive Revision” (September 2013)

“Preview of the 2013 Comprehensive NIPA Revision”

“Changes in Definitions and Presentations” (March 2013)

“Statistical Changes” (May 2013)

In addition, see the following articles.

“Updated Summary of NIPA Methodologies” (November 2013) describes the source data and methods that are used to prepare the estimates.

“Chained-Dollar Indexes: Issues, Tips on Their Use, and Upcoming Changes” (November 2003) discusses the advantages of using chain-weighted indexes and the challenges of using chained dollars.

“Revisions to GDP, GDI, and Their Major Components” (July 2011) evaluates the principal NIPA estimates by examining the record of revisions to them.

Fixed assets and consumer durable goods. *Fixed Assets and Consumer Durable Goods in the United States, 1925–97* (2003) discusses the concepts and statistical considerations that underlie the estimates and their derivation.

“Fixed Assets and Consumer Durable Goods for 2003–2012: Results of the 2013 Comprehensive NIPA Revision” (October 2013) reflects the changes that were incorporated as part this revision.

Satellite account. This account extends the analytical capacity of the NIPAs by focusing on the effects of a particular aspect of economic activity on GDP.

“Research and Development Satellite Account”

For 1959–2002 (December 2006)

For 1959–2004 (October 2007)

For 1959–2007 (December 2010)

Industry accounts

The industry accounts consist of the annual industry accounts (the input-output accounts and the gross domestic product by industry accounts), the benchmark input-output accounts, and two satellite accounts.

“Industry Economic Accounts: Results of the Comprehensive Revision” (February 2014) features the integration of the benchmark input-output account with the national income and product accounts.

“Preview of the 2013 Comprehensive Revision of the Industry Economic Accounts” (June 2013) describes the changes in definitions and in classifications and statistical changes as part of this comprehensive revision.

Mission Statement and Strategic Plan

The mission statement of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and its most recently updated strategic plan for improving the accuracy, reliability, and relevance of the national, industry, regional, and international accounts are available on BEA's Web site at www.bea.gov under “About BEA.”

Annual industry accounts. *Measuring the Nation's Economy: An Industry Perspective* (2011) provides an overview of these accounts and how they can be used to examine industry activity in the U.S. economy and to track the flow of goods and services throughout the economy.

Quarterly GDP by industry statistics. “New Quarterly Gross Domestic Product by Industry Statistics” (May 2014) describes the usefulness of the new statistics that will provide more timely information on economic turning points, on pickups and slowdowns in economic growth at the industry level, and on changes in industrial infrastructure.

Benchmark input-output accounts. *Concepts and Methods of the U.S. Input-Output Accounts* (September 2006) describes the concepts and methods that underlie the preparation of these accounts.

Satellite accounts. These accounts extend the analytical capacity of the input-output accounts by focusing on a particular aspect of economic activity.

“U.S. Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts”

For 2004–2009 (November 2010)

For 2007–2010 (June 2011)

For 2003–2011 (June 2012)

For 2009–2012 (June 2013)

For 2007–2013 (June 2014)

International accounts

The international accounts encompass the international transactions accounts and the international investment position accounts, direct investment, and international transactions in services.

International transactions accounts and international investment position accounts. “A Guide to the U.S. International Transactions Accounts and the U.S. International Investment Position Accounts” (February 2010) introduces these accounts.

U.S. International Transactions Accounts: Concepts and Methods (2014) describes the methodologies used to prepare the estimates. The methodology is usually updated and improved as part of the annual revisions of the international transactions accounts. The updated and improved methodology is described in a series of articles, the latest of which was published in the July 2014 SURVEY.

“The Comprehensive Restructuring of the International Economic Accounts: Changes in Definitions, Classifications, and Presentations” (March 2014) describes the restructuring of the tables that reflect the changes due to the introduction of new international standards.

“An Analysis of the Revisions to BEA’s International Economic Accounts” (November 2012) examines the accuracy of the estimates by analyzing the size and pattern of revisions to the quarterly estimates.

Direct investment. Updated methodologies are available in *U.S. Direct Investment Abroad: Final Results From the 2009 Benchmark Survey* (2013) and in *Foreign Direct Investment in the United States: Final Results From the 2007 Benchmark Survey* (2011).

Additional improvements are described in the following annual articles: “Direct Investment: Detailed Historical-Cost Positions and Related Financial and Income Flows” (September 2013), “Direct Investment Positions: Country and Industry Detail” (July 2014), “Operations of U.S. Multinational Companies” (November 2013), and “Operations of U.S. Affiliates of Foreign Companies” (August 2013).

International services. The methodology used to prepare the estimates is usually updated and improved in a series of articles, the latest of which was published in the October 2013 SURVEY.

“Selected Issues in the Measurement of U.S. International Services” (June 2002) describes key issues in defining and measuring insurance, wholesale and retail trade, finance, construction, and utilities services.

Regional accounts

The regional accounts include estimates of personal income and gross domestic product.

Personal income. Estimates of personal income are prepared for states and for local areas.

State Personal Income and Employment (2013) describes the detailed methodology that is used to prepare the quarterly and annual estimates for the states, the District of Columbia, and the United States.

“An Examination of Revisions to the Quarterly Estimates of State Personal Income” (August 2012) analyzes the pattern of revisions in the various stages of the estimation cycle.

Local Area Personal Income and Employment (2014) describes the detailed methodology that is used to prepare the estimates for counties, metropolitan areas, metropolitan divisions, micropolitan areas, combined statistical areas, and BEA regions.

Gross domestic product. Estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) are prepared for states and metropolitan areas.

Gross Domestic Product by State (2006) describes the sources and the methods that are used to prepare the estimates.

“Comprehensive Revision of Gross Domestic Product by State” (July 2014) presents the results of the most recent comprehensive revision.

“Introducing New Measures of the Metropolitan Economy: Prototype Estimates of GDP by Metropolitan Area” (November 2007) describes the potential uses of the estimates.