

## DECEMBER 2015 TRADE GAP IS \$43.4 BILLION

*U.S. international trade in goods and services*

The U.S. monthly international trade deficit increased in December 2015 according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. The deficit increased from \$42.2 billion in November (revised) to \$43.4 billion in December, as exports decreased and imports increased. The previously published November deficit was \$42.4 billion. The goods deficit increased \$1.3 billion from November to \$62.5 billion in December. The services surplus increased \$0.1 billion from November to \$19.2 billion in December.



### Exports

Exports of goods and services decreased \$0.5 billion, or 0.3 percent, in December to \$181.5 billion. Exports of goods decreased \$0.8 billion and exports of services increased \$0.3 billion.

- The decrease in exports of goods mainly reflected decreases in *automotive vehicles, parts, and engines* (\$0.6 billion), in *industrial supplies and materials* (\$0.4 billion), and in *foods, feeds, and beverages* (\$0.4 billion).
- The increase in exports of services mainly reflected increases in *financial services* (\$0.2 billion) and in *other business services* (\$0.1 billion), which includes research and development services; professional and management services; and technical, trade-related, and other services.

### Imports

Imports of goods and services increased \$0.6 billion, or 0.3 percent, in December to \$224.9 billion. Imports of goods increased \$0.5 billion and imports of services increased \$0.1 billion.

- The increase in imports of goods mainly reflected increases in *automotive vehicles, parts, and engines* (\$1.0 billion) and in *industrial supplies and materials* (\$0.5 billion).
- The increase in imports of services mainly reflected increases in *travel (for all purposes including education)* (\$0.1 billion) and in *other business services* (\$0.1 billion).

### Goods by geographic area (seasonally adjusted, Census basis)

- The balance with members of OPEC shifted from a surplus of \$1.1 billion in November to a deficit of \$0.2 billion in December. Exports decreased \$1.2 billion to \$5.2 billion and imports increased \$0.1 billion to \$5.4 billion.
- The deficit with Germany increased from \$5.5 billion in November to \$6.4 billion in December. Exports decreased less than \$0.1 billion to \$4.1 billion and imports increased \$0.8 billion to \$10.5 billion.
- The deficit with France decreased from \$2.1 billion in November to \$1.4 billion in December. Exports increased \$0.1 billion to \$2.5 billion and imports decreased \$0.6 billion to \$3.9 billion.

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: [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov). [E-mail alerts](#) are also available.

NOTE: This and more information is provided in the February 5 news release, U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services: December 2015, issued by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. The next release is March 4, 2016.