



**Technical Note**  
Gross Domestic Product  
Second Quarter of 2009 (Second Estimate)  
August 27, 2009

This technical note provides background information about the source data and estimating methods used to produce the estimates presented in the GDP news release. The complete set of estimates for the second quarter is available on BEA's Web site at [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov); a brief summary of "highlights" is also posted on the Web site. In a few weeks, the estimates will be published in BEA's monthly journal, the *Survey of Current Business*, along with a more detailed analysis of the estimates ("GDP and the Economy").

### **Sources of Revision to Real GDP**

Real GDP decreased 1.0 percent (annual rate) in the second quarter (that is, from the first quarter to the second), the same decrease as in the advance estimate that was released last month. Upward revisions to exports, residential investment, consumer spending, and government spending were offset by downward revisions to inventory investment and to nonresidential investment:

- The upward revision to exports reflected newly available Census goods data for June and revised data for May.
- The revisions to residential investment, to government spending, and to nonresidential investment reflected newly available Census construction spending (value put in place) data for June, revised data for April and May, and a revised one-unit deflator from the Census Bureau.
- The upward revision to consumer spending primarily reflected newly available motor vehicle registrations data for June.
- The downward revision to inventory investment reflected newly available Census inventory data for June and revised data for May.

The price index for gross domestic purchases increased 0.5 percent in the second quarter, a downward revision of 0.2 percentage point from the advance estimate. The revision reflected a downward revision to the one-unit deflator from the Census Bureau.

### **Corporate Profits**

Profits from current production increased \$67.6 billion, or 5.7 percent (quarterly rate), in the second quarter, after increasing \$59.1 billion, or 5.3 percent, in the first.

### **Revisions to Wages and Salaries and Disposable Personal Income**

In addition to presenting revised estimates for the second quarter, today's release also presents revised estimates of first-quarter wages and salaries, personal taxes, and contributions for government social insurance. Wage and salary disbursements are now estimated to have decreased \$235.7 billion in the first quarter, a downward revision of \$31.1 billion. These estimates reflect newly available wage and salary tabulations for the first quarter from the Bureau of Labor Statistics quarterly census of employment and wages. (Last month's advance estimate reflected BLS wage and salary tabulations for

13 states.) These data are more comprehensive than the monthly employment and earnings data that were used for the earlier estimates--they include the pay of supervisors and irregular pay, such as bonuses and gains from the exercise of stock options.

Real disposable personal income is now estimated to have increased 0.2 percent in the first quarter and to have increased 3.8 percent in the second. (By comparison, the estimates that were available last month showed an increase of 1.1 percent in the first quarter and an increase of 3.2 percent in the second.)

Brent R. Moulton  
Associate Director for National Economic Accounts  
Bureau of Economic Analysis  
(202) 606-9606

**Table A.--SOURCE DATA FOR THE ADVANCE AND SECOND ESTIMATES OF GDP FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2009**

This table shows the actual data used for the "second" estimate of GDP for the second quarter of 2009. For these key series, actual data for June were not available in time for inclusion in the advance GDP estimate released on July 31, 2009, and BEA made assumptions for these source data. The numbers in brackets show the June values that had been assumed for the advance estimate. For most series, the data incorporated for May and, in some cases, for April, were preliminary, and the numbers shown in brackets are the values used last month.

All series shown in the table are in billions of dollars, seasonally adjusted at annual rates, and are published by the Bureau of the Census.

|  | 2009   |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
|--|--------|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|  | Jan.   | Feb.   | Mar.   | Apr.             | May                | Jun.               |
| <b>Private fixed investment:</b>   |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| Nonresidential structures:   |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 1 Value of new nonresidential construction put in place.....   | 395.1  | 400.1  | 401.5  | 401.5<br>{406.9} | 400.0<br>{409.0}   | 397.9<br>{407.9}   |
| Equipment and software:  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 2 Manufacturers' shipments of complete aircraft.....   | 47.7   | 34.9   | 38.2   | 38.5             | 35.8<br>{36.2}     | 36.0<br>{33.9}     |
| Residential structures:  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| Value of new residential construction put in place:  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 3 Single family.....   | 124.9  | 111.0  | 101.5  | 95.1<br>{95.4}   | 91.3<br>{91.1}     | 93.5<br>{93.3}     |
| 4 Multifamily.....   | 37.8   | 36.9   | 37.7   | 35.6<br>{36.3}   | 33.0<br>{32.8}     | 30.6<br>{33.6}     |
| <b>Change in private inventories:</b>  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 5 Change in inventories for nondurable manufacturing.....  | -28.8  | -28.3  | -6.6   | -24.7            | -2.4<br>{-0.9}     | -5.8<br>{-9.0}     |
| 5a Change in inventories for merchant wholesale and retail industries other than motor vehicles and equipment... | -50.4  | -67.0  | -80.2  | -74.3            | -76.6<br>{-60.2}   | -87.4<br>{-59.3}   |
| <b>Net exports:</b>  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| Exports of goods:  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 6 U.S. exports of goods, international-transactions-accounts basis.....  | 989.3  | 1012.3 | 990.9  | 960.0            | 985.0<br>{984.6}   | 1007.5<br>{988.5}  |
| 6a Excluding gold.....   | 973.8  | 1000.3 | 976.9  | 949.3            | 970.7<br>{970.3}   | 995.6<br>{976.3}   |
| Imports of goods:  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 7 U.S. imports of goods, international-transactions-accounts basis.....  | 1560.6 | 1458.8 | 1461.6 | 1439.1           | 1431.7<br>{1432.6} | 1468.3<br>{1467.3} |
| 7a Excluding gold.....   | 1554.9 | 1451.4 | 1452.7 | 1432.1           | 1425.0<br>{1425.9} | 1456.7<br>{1460.3} |
| 8 Net exports of goods.....  | -571.2 | -446.6 | -470.7 | -479.1           | -446.8<br>{-448.0} | -460.8<br>{-478.8} |
| 8a Excluding gold.....   | -581.2 | -451.1 | -475.8 | -482.7           | -454.3<br>{-455.6} | -461.2<br>{-484.0} |
| <b>Government:</b>   |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| State and local:   |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| Structures:  |        |        |        |                  |                    |                    |
| 9 Value of new construction put in place.....  | 273.4  | 282.1  | 289.1  | 291.7<br>{291.4} | 293.0<br>{289.4}   | 295.8<br>{290.4}   |