May 2018 Trade Gap is $43.1 Billion

U.S. international trade in goods and services

The U.S. monthly international trade deficit decreased in May 2018 according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. The deficit decreased from $46.1 billion in April (revised) to $43.1 billion in May, as exports increased more than imports. The previously published April deficit was $46.2 billion. The goods deficit decreased $2.6 billion in May to $65.8 billion. The services surplus increased $0.5 billion in May to $22.7 billion.

Exports
Exports of goods and services increased $4.1 billion, or 1.9 percent, in May to $215.3 billion. Exports of goods increased $3.7 billion and exports of services increased $0.4 billion.

- The increase in exports of goods mostly reflected increases in capital goods ($2.0 billion), in foods, feeds, and beverages ($1.7 billion), and in other goods ($0.9 billion). A decrease in industrial supplies and materials ($1.3 billion) partly offset the increases.
- The increase in exports of services mostly reflected increases in transport ($0.1 billion), in other business services ($0.1 billion), which includes research and development services; professional and management services; and technical, trade-related, and other services, and in financial services ($0.1 billion).

Imports
Imports of goods and services increased $1.1 billion, or 0.4 percent, in May to $258.4 billion. Imports of goods increased $1.1 billion and imports of services decreased $0.1 billion.

- The increase in imports of goods mostly reflected an increase in capital goods ($2.1 billion). Decreases in consumer goods ($0.5 billion), in other goods ($0.4 billion), and in automotive vehicles, parts, and engines ($0.3 billion) partly offset the increase.
- The decrease in imports of services mostly reflected decreases in transport ($0.1 billion) and in travel (for all purposes including education) ($0.1 billion). An increase in other business services ($0.1 billion) partly offset the decreases.

For more detailed information on trade by type of good or service and with major trading partners, see U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services: May 2018.