



Technical Note
Gross Domestic Product
Third Quarter of 2015 (Third Estimate)
December 22, 2015

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 third quarter is available on BEA's Web site at www.bea.gov; a brief summary of "highlights" is also posted on the Web site. In a few weeks, the *Survey of Current Business*, BEA's online monthly journal, will publish a more detailed analysis of the estimates ("GDP and the Economy").

Sources of Revision to Real GDP

Real GDP increased 2.0 percent (annual rate) in the third quarter, a downward revision of 0.1 percentage point from the second estimate. The revision to real GDP primarily reflected a downward revision to inventory investment.

- The downward revision to inventory investment reflected downward revisions to wholesale trade and to manufacturing industries, based on revised Census inventory data for August and September.

Within personal consumption expenditures, a small downward revision to services was mostly offset by a small upward revision to goods. The revision to services primarily reflected newly available Census quarterly services survey data for the third quarter. The revision to goods primarily reflected newly available data on gasoline from the Energy Information Administration.

The price index for personal consumption expenditures increased 1.3 percent in the third quarter, unrevised from the second estimate.

Gross Domestic Income and Corporate Profits

Real gross domestic income (GDI), which measures the value of the production of goods and services in the United States as the costs incurred and the incomes earned in production, increased 2.7 percent in the third quarter, a downward revision of 0.4 percentage point. Real GDI increased 2.2 percent in the second quarter.

Profits from current production decreased \$33.0 billion, or 1.6 percent (quarterly rate), in the third quarter, in contrast to an increase of \$70.4 billion, or 3.5 percent, in the second. Profits of domestic financial corporations increased \$1.8 billion, profits of domestic nonfinancial corporations decreased \$11.8 billion, and rest-of-the-world profits decreased \$23.1 billion.

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