



## U.S. EXPORT FACT SHEET

April 2012 Export Statistics Released June 8, 2012

### **EXPORT OVERVIEW:**

- With the release of the April 2012 U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services report by the Department of Commerce's U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. exports of goods and services decreased by 0.8 percent in April 2012 to \$182.9 billion since March 2012, while imports decreased 1.7 percent to \$233.0 billion over the same period. Despite the slight declines from last month, U.S. exports and imports in April 2012 represented the second highest levels on record.
- In April 2012, the monthly U.S. goods and services trade deficit improved by 4.9 percent to \$50.1 billion when compared to March 2012. This reflected a \$2.7 billion decrease in the goods trade deficit.
- U.S. goods and services exports year-to-date through the first four months of 2012 were up 6.0 percent or \$41.4 billion from the same period of 2011 to reach \$725.8 billion.
- In April 2012, the average import price per barrel of crude oil was \$109.94 per barrel, slightly up from the \$107.95 per barrel recorded in March 2012. The increase in the value of crude oil imports in April 2012 was due entirely to the increase in price, as the quantity of crude oil imports in April (270.0 million barrels) was down slightly from the quantity imported in March (270.9 million barrels).

### **TRADE SPOTLIGHT: Travel and Tourism**

- In 2011 international visitors spent a record-breaking \$152.7 billion on U.S. travel and tourism-related goods and services, an increase of 13.6 percent when compared to 2010. The previous record of \$141.4 billion was set back in 2008 before the onset of the global economic slowdown.
- Of the \$152.7 billion in spending, \$116.1 billion was from spending within the United States and \$36.6 billion was passenger fares received by U.S. carriers. This spending supported 1.1 million jobs within the country.
- International visitors have spent an estimated \$54.6 billion on U.S. travel and tourism-related goods and services year to date (January through April), an increase of 13.2 percent when compared to the same period last year.
- Travel exports are 25.2 percent of all services exports and 7.3 percent of all goods and services exports. In 2011, the U.S. had larger exports in travel and tourism than automotive vehicles, parts and engines and food, feeds, and beverages exports. The United States has enjoyed a travel and tourism trade surplus since 1989. In 2011 the surplus totaled \$43.0 billion.
- The United States currently has 11.3 percent of the global market share of world traveler spending, well ahead of Spain and France. The U.S. also attracts 6.3 percent of global travelers, second only to France.
- A record 62 million international travelers visited the United States in 2011, up four percent from 2010. The increase in 2011 builds on the record-setting performance in 2010.
- The top 5 markets for 2011 international visitation are Canada (21 million), Mexico (13.41 million), United Kingdom (3.84 million), Japan (3.25 million), and Germany (1.82 million). Six of the top 10 arrival markets all set records in 2011.
- The fastest growth rates for international arrivals in 2011 among the top markets were: China (+36%), Brazil (+26%), Australia (+15%), and France (+12%).
- The top 5 markets for 2011 international spending are Canada (\$24 billion), Japan (\$16.7 billion), United Kingdom (\$13.2 billion), Mexico (\$9.4 billion), and Brazil (\$6.8 billion). Five of the top 10 travel export markets all set records in 2011.