

News Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL RELEASE AT 3:30 P.M. EDT, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2019

BEA 19-40

Technical:	Christina Hovland (BEA)	(301) 278-9076	territories@bea.gov
Media:	Jeannine Aversa (BEA)	(301) 278-9003	Jeannine.Aversa@bea.gov
	Tanya Harris Joshua (OIA)	(202) 208-6008	Tanya_Joshua@ios.doi.gov

AMERICAN SAMOA GDP INCREASES IN 2018

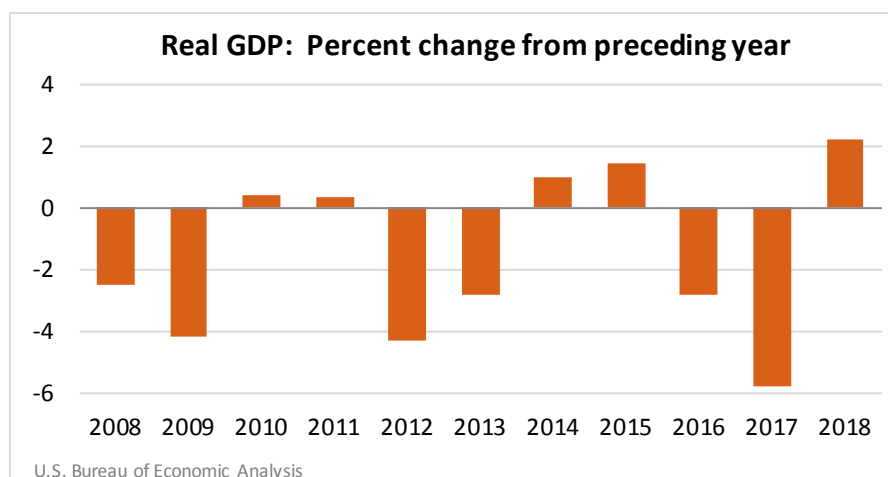
Growth driven by tuna canning exports and post-disaster construction activity

UTULEI, AMERICAN SAMOA (August 23, 2019) -- Today, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is releasing estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) for American Samoa for 2018, in addition to estimates of GDP by industry and compensation by industry for 2017.¹ These estimates were developed under the Statistical Improvement Program funded by the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Revised estimates of GDP for 2015 to 2017, as well as revised estimates of GDP by industry and compensation by industry for 2015 and 2016, are also presented in this release.

Gross Domestic Product for 2018

The estimates of GDP for American Samoa show that real GDP—GDP adjusted to remove price changes—increased 2.2 percent in 2018 after decreasing 5.8 percent in 2017 (see Table 1.3). For comparison, real GDP for the United States (excluding the territories) increased 2.9 percent in 2018 after increasing 2.4 percent in 2017.



¹ These estimates are based on limited source data and are subject to revision.

The growth in the American Samoa economy reflected increases in private fixed investment and in exports of goods that were partly offset by a decrease in inventory investment (see Table 1.4).

Private fixed investment increased 7.7 percent, largely due to reconstruction and major repairs of homes and businesses that were destroyed or heavily damaged from Tropical Cyclone Gita.

Exports of goods increased 15 percent, primarily reflecting an increase in exports of canned tuna and related products. This growth was partly offset by a decrease in inventory investment, as the canning industry drew down inventories to support expanded production.

Gross Domestic Product by Industry and Compensation by Industry for 2017

The estimates of GDP by industry for American Samoa show that the private sector and government sector contracted in 2017 (see Table 2.4). The decline in the private sector reflected a decrease in output of the cannery industry, following the closure of one of two canneries. Output of nonmanufacturing industries, including construction, also decreased. The decline in the government sector primarily reflected a decrease in territorial government employment and compensation.

The compensation by industry estimates, which are measured in current dollars, show trends in compensation for major industries (see Table 2.6). Total compensation decreased in 2017, reflecting decreases across all industries shown.

The accompanying tables present estimates for GDP and its major components, GDP by industry, and compensation by industry. Also included in this release are estimates for the major components of gross domestic income.

Revisions to GDP

Estimates for 2015 to 2017 that were released on August 24, 2018 have been revised in order to incorporate improvements to source data, including:

- newly available trade data from the American Samoa Department of Commerce and
- newly available data for territorial government spending from government financial statements.

The revised estimates show a similar pattern of inflation-adjusted growth as the previously published estimates (see Table 1.7).

Future directions

Moving forward, an agreement between OIA and BEA will extend and improve the estimates of GDP for American Samoa. The information provided by the American Samoa Government will continue to be critical to the successful production of these estimates.

BEA will conduct a comprehensive update of GDP for American Samoa next year. Estimates of GDP will be revised to reflect methodological improvements and the availability of more complete data over time, in some cases back to 2002. Information from the Census Bureau's 2017 Economic Census of Island Areas, the most comprehensive industry data available for American Samoa and the other island areas, will be incorporated at this time. BEA currently plans to release these estimates, in addition to new GDP estimates for 2019, in the summer of 2020. GDP by industry and compensation by industry estimates for 2018 will also be released.

Additional Information

Resources

- Stay informed about BEA developments by reading the BEA [blog](#), signing up for BEA's [email subscription service](#), or following BEA on Twitter [@BEA_News](#).
- Historical time series for these estimates can be accessed at BEA's [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\) for the U.S. Territories](#).
- Access BEA data by registering for BEA's Data [Application Programming Interface](#) (API).
- For more on BEA's statistics, see our monthly online journal, the [Survey of Current Business](#).
- BEA's [news release schedule](#)

Definitions

Gross domestic product (GDP) is the value of the goods and services produced by the American Samoa economy less the value of the goods and services used up in production. GDP is also equal to the sum of personal consumption expenditures, private fixed investment, change in private inventories, net exports of goods and services, and government consumption expenditures and gross investment.

Personal consumption expenditures (PCE), also referred to as “consumer spending,” measures the goods and services purchased by “persons”—that is, by households and by nonprofit institutions serving households (NPISHs)—who are resident in American Samoa.

Private fixed investment (PFI) measures spending by private businesses, nonprofit institutions, and households on fixed assets in the American Samoa economy. Fixed assets consist of structures, equipment, and software that are used in the production of goods and services.

Change in private inventories (CPII), or “inventory investment,” is a measure of the value of the change in the physical volume of the inventories—additions less withdrawals—that businesses maintain to support their production and distribution activities.

Net exports of goods and services is the difference between exports of goods and services and imports of

goods and services. Exports measures the portion of total American Samoa production of goods and services that is provided to the rest of the world. Imports measures the portion of total American Samoa expenditures that is accounted for by goods and services provided by the rest of the world.

Government consumption expenditures and gross investment, or “government spending,” measures the portion of GDP that is accounted for by the government sector. Government consumption expenditures consists of spending by government to produce and provide services to the public. Gross investment consists of spending by government for fixed assets that directly benefit the public or that assist government agencies in their production activities.

Gross domestic income (GDI) is the sum of incomes earned and costs incurred in the production of GDP. In national economic accounting, GDP and GDI are conceptually equal.

Current-dollar estimates are valued in the prices of the period when the transactions occurred—that is, at “market value.” Also referred to as “nominal estimates” or as “current-price estimates.”

Real values are inflation-adjusted estimates—that is, estimates that exclude the effects of price changes.

Statistical Conventions

Quantities and prices. Quantities, or “real” volume measures, and prices are expressed as index numbers with a specified reference year equal to 100 (currently 2009). Quantity and price indexes are calculated using a Fisher chain-weighted formula that incorporates weights from two adjacent years. “Real” dollar series are calculated by multiplying the quantity index by the current-dollar value in the reference year (2009) and then dividing by 100.

Chained-dollar values are not additive because the relative weights for a given period differ from those of the reference year.

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1. Domestic Product and Income

Table 1.1. Gross Domestic Product

	Line	[Millions of dollars]											
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Gross domestic product	1	520	563	678	576	574	644	641	642	661	652	602	636
Personal consumption expenditures	2	383	407	398	402	414	424	447	455	443	446	459	472
Goods	3	195	208	196	197	188	189	214	217	207	203	207	215
Durable goods	4	23	27	24	25	23	23	29	35	31	30	26	28
Nondurable goods	5	171	181	172	172	166	167	185	183	177	174	181	187
Services	6	189	202	207	211	229	242	242	248	246	252	260	265
Net foreign travel	7	-1	-3	-5	-5	-4	-6	-10	-11	-10	-9	-8	-8
Private fixed investment	8	41	46	38	49	51	53	60	66	53	50	51	57
Change in private inventories	9	-8	-17	-6	-5	-3	0	5	31	24	44	37	-12
Net exports of goods and services	10	-116	-113	-26	-174	-225	-161	-184	-252	-231	-208	-254	-194
Exports	11	505	641	530	364	335	482	457	426	427	427	362	438
Goods	12	487	621	510	341	313	456	433	400	401	401	336	410
Services	13	17	20	20	22	22	26	25	26	26	26	26	28
Imports	14	621	754	556	537	559	643	641	679	658	635	616	632
Goods	15	571	698	508	489	509	588	587	616	594	573	554	573
Services	16	50	56	49	48	50	55	54	63	64	62	62	59
Government consumption expenditures and gross investment	17	220	241	275	304	337	329	313	343	371	321	308	314
Federal	18	17	20	30	22	23	22	21	24	26	26	26	24
Territorial	19	203	220	244	281	314	306	291	319	345	294	282	289

NOTE. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

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Table 1.2. Real Gross Domestic Product, Chained Dollars

	Line	[Millions of chained (2009) dollars]											
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Gross domestic product	1	727	708	678	681	683	653	635	641	650	632	595	608
Personal consumption expenditures	2	420	410	398	381	364	357	369	372	371	375	375	376
Goods	3	216	212	196	187	170	165	183	185	178	175	172	174
Durable goods	4	27	27	24	24	21	19	25	29	25	25	22	23
Nondurable goods	5	190	185	172	163	149	146	158	156	152	151	150	151
Services	6	207	202	207	200	198	197	195	196	201	206	208	207
Net foreign travel	7	-3	-4	-5	-6	-4	-6	-8	-9	-8	-7	-5	-5
Private fixed investment	8	40	45	38	50	52	51	55	59	47	43	43	47
Change in private inventories	9	-7	-11	-6	-4	-2	0	4	25	23	43	34	-10
Net exports of goods and services	10	52	36	-26	-48	-67	-67	-84	-121	-114	-104	-131	-72
Exports	11	678	675	530	446	394	412	410	428	460	454	356	407
Goods	12	658	654	510	424	372	388	387	404	437	432	334	384
Services	13	20	20	20	22	20	23	22	23	22	22	21	22
Imports	14	626	639	556	494	460	479	494	549	575	558	488	479
Goods	15	575	586	508	450	417	433	448	498	523	508	437	431
Services	16	51	52	49	45	44	47	46	51	52	50	51	48
Government consumption expenditures and gross investment	17	227	239	275	290	309	297	278	298	322	276	261	257
Federal	18	18	20	30	22	22	21	20	22	24	24	23	21
Territorial	19	209	219	244	268	287	276	258	277	298	252	238	236
Addenda:													
Population (thousands) ¹	20	64.8	65.1	62.4	55.5	56.0	56.5	57.0	57.5	58.1	58.6	58.7	58.0
Per capita real GDP (chained dollars)	21	11,219	10,876	10,865	12,270	12,196	11,558	11,140	11,148	11,188	10,785	10,136	10,483

1. BEA estimates based on data from the American Samoa Department of Commerce and the U.S. Census Bureau.

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Table 1.3. Percent Change From Preceding Year in Real Gross Domestic Product

	Line	[Percent]										
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Gross domestic product	1	-2.5	-4.2	0.4	0.3	-4.3	-2.8	1.0	1.4	-2.8	-5.8	2.2
Personal consumption expenditures	2	-2.4	-2.9	-4.3	-4.6	-2.0	3.5	0.8	-0.3	1.2	-0.1	0.3
Goods	3	-1.9	-7.8	-4.6	-9.3	-2.6	10.8	1.2	-4.0	-1.3	-1.9	1.1
Durable goods	4	3.0	-12.7	0.9	-14.6	-5.7	26.8	17.4	-12.1	-2.9	-10.7	6.3
Nondurable goods	5	-2.5	-7.1	-5.4	-8.5	-2.2	8.6	-1.4	-2.4	-1.0	-0.4	0.3
Services	6	-2.3	2.5	-3.4	-0.9	-0.5	-1.2	0.7	2.4	2.7	0.7	-0.5
Net foreign travel	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Private fixed investment	8	13.5	-15.9	30.9	5.2	-2.3	8.0	6.9	-20.7	-7.5	0.2	7.7
Change in private inventories	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Net exports of goods and services	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Exports	11	-0.4	-21.4	-15.8	-11.8	4.7	-0.5	4.4	7.6	-1.3	-21.6	14.2
Goods	12	-0.6	-22.1	-16.8	-12.2	4.1	-0.2	4.4	8.2	-1.3	-22.8	15.0
Services	13	4.9	-0.2	5.4	-5.8	13.0	-6.2	4.9	-1.7	-2.6	-2.6	4.3
Imports	14	2.1	-12.9	-11.1	-6.9	4.1	3.1	11.1	4.7	-2.9	-12.7	-1.8
Goods	15	1.9	-13.4	-11.4	-7.4	3.8	3.6	11.0	5.1	-2.9	-14.0	-1.3
Services	16	3.5	-7.3	-8.0	-2.1	7.3	-2.3	12.1	1.2	-2.8	0.4	-6.2
Government consumption expenditures and gross investment	17	5.4	15.0	5.6	6.6	-4.1	-6.4	7.5	7.8	-14.2	-5.3	-1.6
Federal	18	12.3	49.5	-28.1	1.4	-5.6	-4.6	9.9	9.2	-0.5	-3.1	-8.2
Territorial	19	4.8	11.8	9.8	7.0	-4.0	-6.5	7.3	7.7	-15.3	-5.5	-1.0

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Table 1.4. Contributions to Percent Change in Real Gross Domestic Product

	Line											
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Percent change:												
Gross domestic product	1	-2.5	-4.2	0.4	0.3	-4.3	-2.8	1.0	1.4	-2.8	-5.8	2.2
Percentage points:												
Personal consumption expenditures	2	-1.78	-1.83	-2.84	-3.32	-1.37	2.27	0.57	-0.20	0.77	-0.09	0.20
Goods	3	-0.69	-2.56	-1.50	-3.27	-0.81	3.17	0.39	-1.34	-0.39	-0.60	0.37
Durable goods	4	0.13	-0.54	0.03	-0.66	-0.21	0.94	0.80	-0.65	-0.13	-0.49	0.27
Nondurable goods	5	-0.82	-2.02	-1.54	-2.61	-0.59	2.23	-0.41	-0.69	-0.26	-0.10	0.10
Services	6	-0.83	0.81	-1.18	-0.36	-0.19	-0.44	0.27	0.92	0.98	0.26	-0.21
Net foreign travel	7	-0.25	-0.08	-0.16	0.30	-0.38	-0.46	-0.10	0.22	0.18	0.25	0.03
Private fixed investment	8	0.99	-1.14	1.89	0.44	-0.19	0.67	0.65	-2.12	-0.60	0.02	0.65
Change in private inventories	9	-0.98	0.90	0.43	0.35	0.48	0.83	3.94	-0.42	3.05	-1.43	-8.34
Net exports of goods and services	10	-2.99	-7.80	-1.70	-0.80	-0.97	-3.33	-7.91	0.05	1.94	-1.67	10.56
Exports	11	-0.46	-22.11	-12.25	-7.65	2.96	-0.36	2.99	4.82	-0.87	-14.86	8.68
Goods	12	-0.62	-22.11	-12.43	-7.42	2.49	-0.12	2.80	4.89	-0.76	-14.76	8.49
Services	13	0.16	-0.01	0.18	-0.23	0.47	-0.25	0.19	-0.07	-0.10	-0.10	0.18
Imports	14	-2.53	14.31	10.55	6.86	-3.93	-2.97	-10.89	-4.77	2.81	13.19	1.89
Goods	15	-2.19	13.69	9.88	6.67	-3.33	-3.17	-9.85	-4.66	2.54	13.22	1.26
Services	16	-0.33	0.62	0.66	0.18	-0.60	0.20	-1.05	-0.11	0.27	-0.03	0.63
Government consumption expenditures and gross investment	17	2.21	5.67	2.58	3.58	-2.27	-3.24	3.70	4.14	-7.97	-2.66	-0.84
Federal	18	0.40	1.58	-1.40	0.06	-0.21	-0.16	0.33	0.34	-0.02	-0.13	-0.35
Territorial	19	1.81	4.09	3.98	3.52	-2.06	-3.09	3.37	3.80	-7.95	-2.53	-0.49

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Table 1.5. Percent Change From Preceding Year in Prices for Gross Domestic Product and Price Indexes for Gross Domestic Product

	Line	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		[Percent]											
Gross domestic product	1	3.0	11.1	25.7	-15.4	-0.6	17.3	2.3	-0.7	1.4	1.5	-1.9	3.3
Personal consumption expenditures	2	4.0	8.9	0.8	5.4	7.8	4.7	1.8	1.0	-2.2	-0.7	3.2	2.5
		[Index numbers, 2009=100]											
Gross domestic product	3	71.6	79.6	100.0	84.6	84.1	98.7	100.9	100.2	101.6	103.2	101.2	104.5
Personal consumption expenditures	4	91.1	99.2	100.0	105.4	113.7	119.0	121.1	122.3	119.6	118.8	122.5	125.5

Table 1.6. Gross Domestic Income

	Line	[Millions of dollars]											
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Gross domestic income	1	520	563	678	576	574	644	641	642	661	652	602	636
Compensation of employees	2	265	274	271	270	262	272	279	297	311	313	299	.....
Taxes on production and imports less subsidies	3	22	24	22	18	18	25	26	28	26	27	24	.....
Gross operating surplus	4	233	265	385	288	294	347	336	317	324	312	279	.....

NOTE. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Table 1.7. Revisions to Percent Change in Real Gross Domestic Product

	Line	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
		Percent change:									
Revised	1	-2.5	-4.2	0.4	0.3	-4.3	-2.8	1.0	1.4	-2.8	-5.8
Previously published	2	-2.5	-4.2	0.4	0.3	-4.3	-2.8	1.0	1.3	-2.7	-5.3
Percentage points:											
Revision	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.5

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2. GDP by Industry

Table 2.1. Value Added by Industry

	Line	[Millions of dollars]										
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gross domestic product	1	520	563	678	576	574	644	641	642	661	652	602
Private industries	2	365	404	514	389	389	450	450	454	465	455	409
Manufacturing	3	77	112	163	41	21	89	93	77	91	89	63
Nonmanufacturing	4	288	291	351	348	368	361	357	377	374	366	346
Government	5	156	160	165	187	185	195	191	188	196	197	193
Federal	6	14	16	18	18	17	17	18	18	18	19	18
Territorial	7	142	144	146	169	168	177	172	171	177	178	175

NOTE. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Table 2.2. Value Added by Industry as a Percentage of GDP

	Line	[Percent]										
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gross domestic product	1	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Private industries	2	70	72	76	68	68	70	70	71	70	70	68
Manufacturing	3	15	20	24	7	4	14	15	12	14	14	10
Nonmanufacturing	4	55	52	52	60	64	56	56	59	57	56	57
Government	5	30	28	24	32	32	30	30	29	30	30	32
Federal	6	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Territorial	7	27	26	22	29	29	27	27	27	27	27	29

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Table 2.3. Real Value Added by Industry

	Line	[Millions of chained (2009) dollars]										
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gross domestic product	1	727	708	678	681	683	653	635	641	650	632	595
Private industries	2	568	544	514	501	514	474	464	478	487	470	435
Manufacturing	3	204	205	163	143	132	138	135	139	160	155	122
Nonmanufacturing	4	366	345	351	353	365	331	324	334	331	319	305
Government	5	163	166	165	177	170	176	168	162	162	161	158
Federal	6	14	17	18	17	16	16	17	16	16	16	16
Territorial	7	148	149	146	160	154	160	151	145	146	144	142

Table 2.4. Percent Changes in Real Value Added by Industry

	Line	[Percent]									
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gross domestic product	1	-2.5	-4.2	0.4	0.3	-4.3	-2.8	1.0	1.4	-2.8	-5.8
Private industries	2	-4.2	-5.5	-2.4	2.5	-7.7	-2.2	3.1	1.8	-3.5	-7.5
Manufacturing	3	0.4	-20.3	-12.3	-7.9	4.9	-1.9	3.0	14.5	-2.7	-21.5
Nonmanufacturing	4	-5.7	1.7	0.7	3.4	-9.3	-2.2	3.1	-0.8	-3.7	-4.2
Government	5	1.7	-0.6	7.8	-4.2	3.4	-4.3	-4.0	0.5	-1.0	-2.1
Federal	6	14.7	10.7	-7.6	-4.4	-0.8	5.0	-4.0	-1.1	2.0	-4.3
Territorial	7	0.4	-1.8	9.7	-4.1	3.8	-5.2	-4.0	0.7	-1.3	-1.8

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Table 2.5. Contributions to Percent Change in Real Gross Domestic Product by Industry

	Line										
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Percent change:											
Gross domestic product	1	-2.5	-4.2	0.4	0.3	-4.3	-2.8	1.0	1.4	-2.8	-5.8
Percentage points:											
Private industries	2	-3.03	-4.14	-1.81	1.64	-5.34	-1.51	2.15	1.29	-2.49	-5.21
Manufacturing	3	0.07	-4.98	-2.21	-0.47	0.40	-0.27	0.39	1.76	-0.37	-2.82
Nonmanufacturing	4	-3.10	0.84	0.40	2.11	-5.74	-1.24	1.77	-0.46	-2.12	-2.40
Government	5	0.48	-0.14	2.14	-1.38	1.02	-1.30	-1.20	0.15	-0.30	-0.63
Federal	6	0.38	0.28	-0.23	-0.14	-0.02	0.13	-0.11	-0.03	0.05	-0.13
Territorial	7	0.11	-0.42	2.37	-1.24	1.04	-1.43	-1.09	0.18	-0.36	-0.50

NOTE. Percentage-point contributions do not sum to the percent change in real gross domestic product because of rounding and differences in source data used to estimate GDP by industry and the expenditures measure of real GDP.

Table 2.6. Compensation of Employees by Industry

	Line	[Millions of dollars]										
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total compensation	1	265	274	271	270	262	272	279	297	311	313	299
Private industries	2	125	131	125	97	97	103	107	119	126	130	123
Manufacturing	3	52	59	53	31	27	40	42	46	54	54	49
Nonmanufacturing	4	73	72	71	66	70	63	65	74	72	75	74
Government	5	140	143	147	173	164	169	171	178	185	183	176
Federal	6	13	16	18	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	17
Territorial	7	127	127	129	156	148	152	154	161	167	165	159

NOTE. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.