

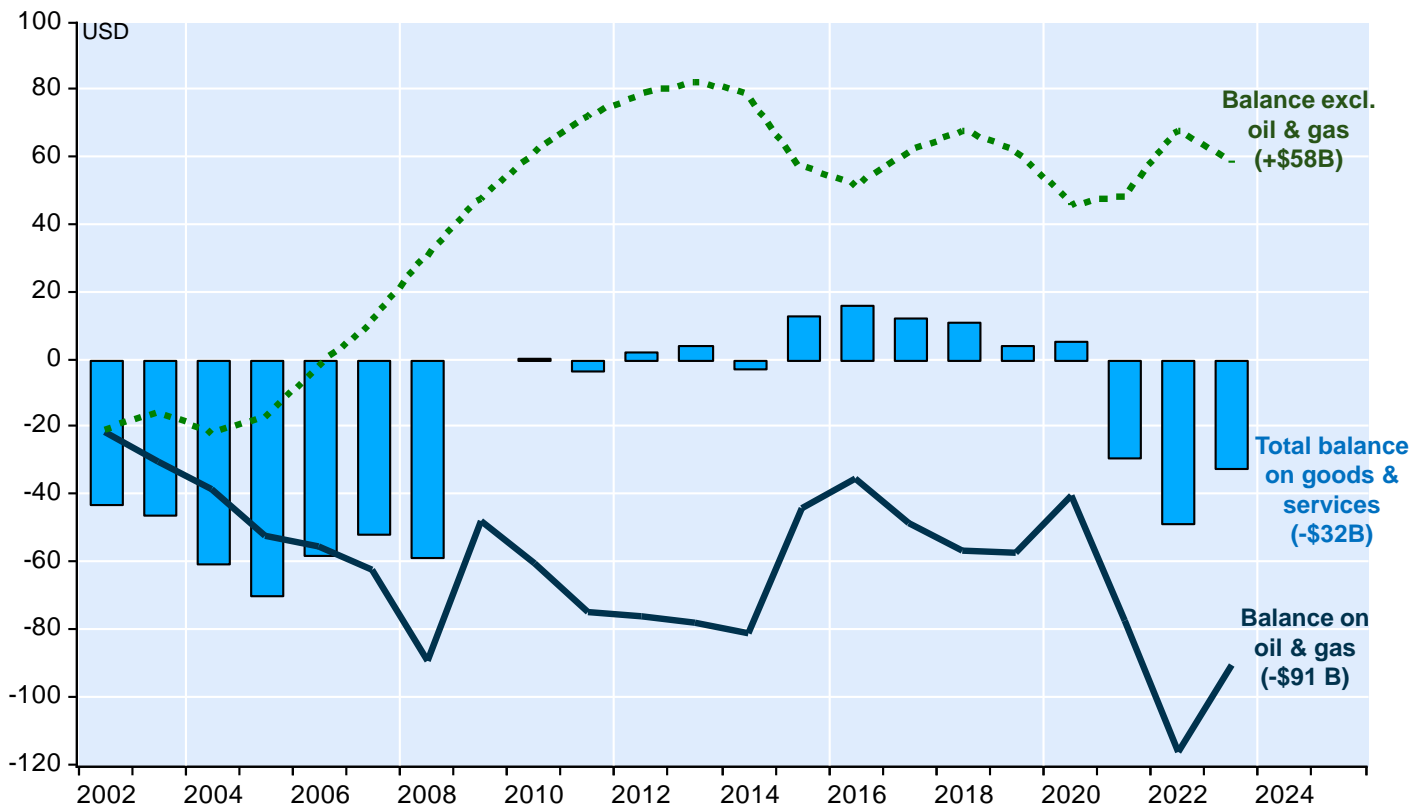
U.S. Watch

By Stéfane Marion

Newly released [data](#) reveal that the U.S. is on pace to post the largest trade deficit in history in 2024, with the figure already reaching \$1.08 trillion as of November. This record-breaking imbalance would be even larger if not for the U.S.'s status as a net energy exporter for the second consecutive year, achieving a \$3 billion energy trade surplus through November 2024. In Canada's case, the situation is actually reversed: as today's Hot Chart illustrates, the entire trade deficit stems from oil and gas imports from the Great North. Excluding energy, our southern neighbor enjoys a trade surplus of \$58 billion, \$30 billion of which comes from services. Today, President Trump [claimed](#) that the U.S. is heavily subsidizing the Canadian economy under current trade agreements—a statement hardly supported by the nature of a relatively small \$32 billion trade deficit—and further asserted that he 'does not need anything we have.' If that's the case, why not turn this challenge into an opportunity?" We recently published a study (see [here](#)) arguing that Canada must capitalize on its significant competitive advantage in affordable energy—particularly as many other economies grapple with energy insecurity to re-industrialize our country. Without bold and decisive action, Canada risks becoming irrelevant in North American and global manufacturing supply chains. This erosion would undermine the country's capacity to foster innovation, drive sustained economic growth, and produce goods that our neighbors—and the world—actually want.

U.S.: Outside oil & gas, Uncle Sam enjoys a significant trade surplus with Canada

U.S. trade balance on goods & services with Canada: Total vs. oil & gas



NBC Economics and Strategy (data via U.S. Census Bureau)



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