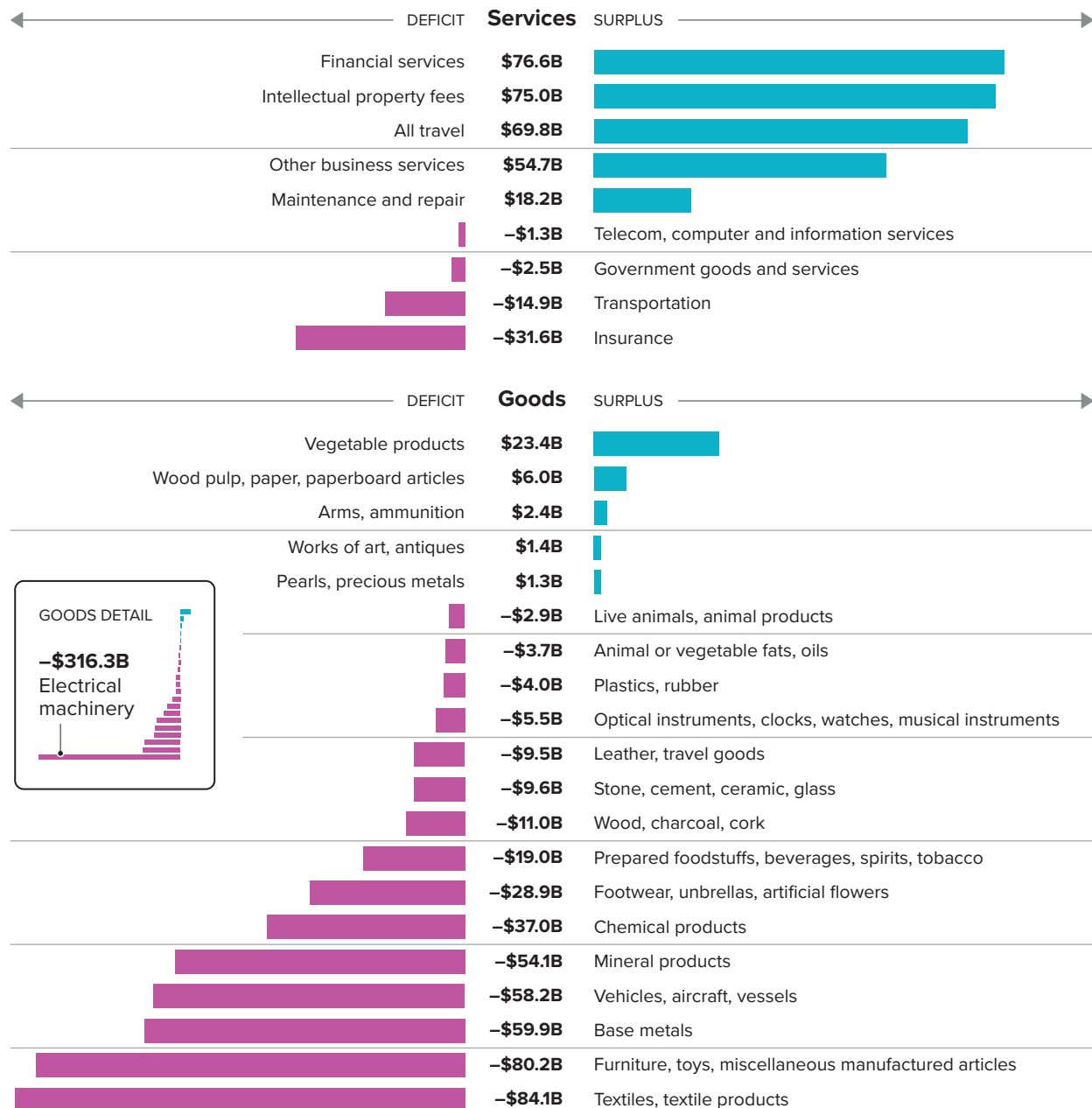


Feb. 7, 2018

Electric Machinery, Textiles, Furniture Push Trade Deficit Higher

Data released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis on Feb. 6 show the U.S. trade deficit was \$566 billion in 2017, a \$61.2 billion increase from the previous year and the highest trade gap since 2008. Trade in services had a surplus of \$244 billion, led by financial services, while trade in goods had a \$810 billion deficit, led by electrical machinery.

Since the 2016 presidential campaign, President Donald Trump has promised to return the United States to a trade surplus. In a statement released Feb. 6, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said “strenuous effort is underway” to reduce the deficit, but added it was “not practical to set an exact deadline.”



Sources: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Commerce Department

By Taylor Thomas, POLITICO Pro DataPoint

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