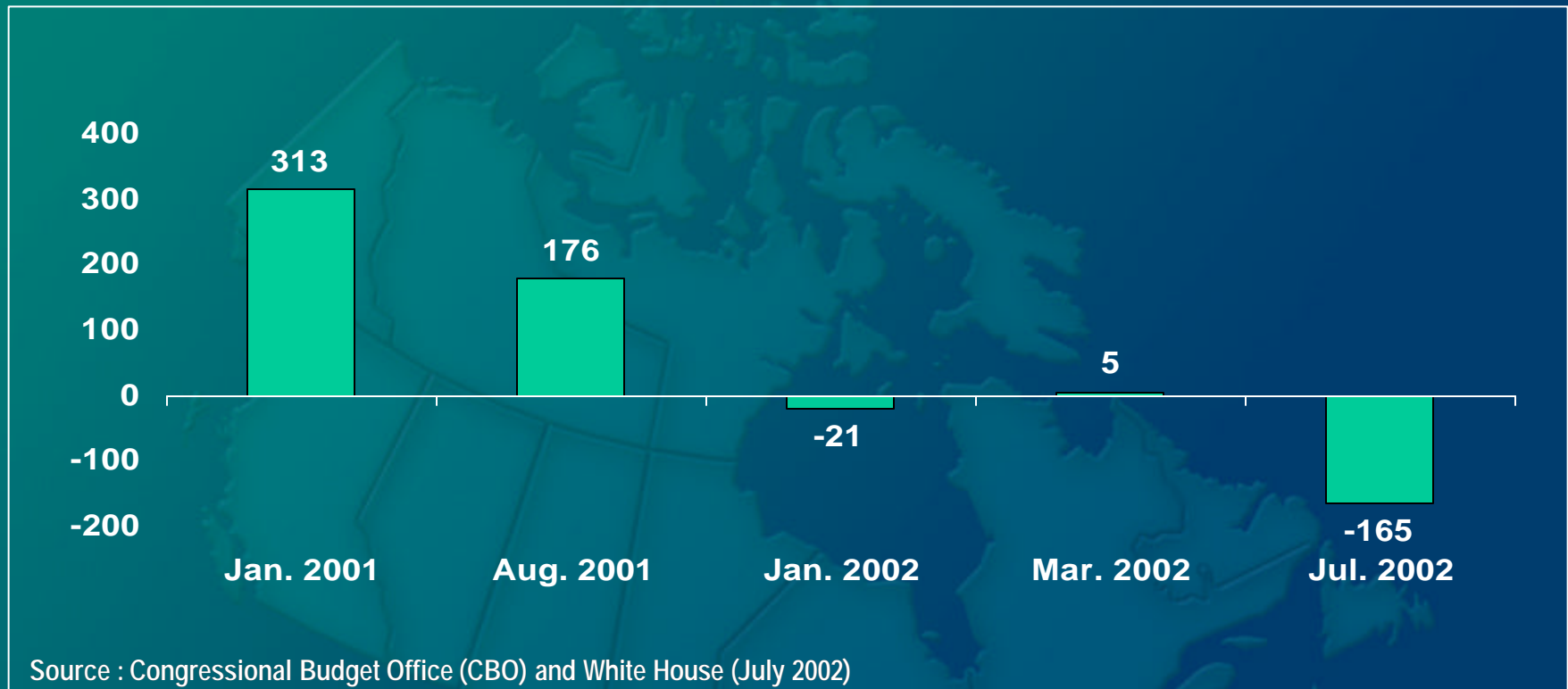


Evolution of the projections of budgetary balances of the U.S. government for the year 2002

(according to the Congressional Budget Office, \$US billions)



The American projections have been revised downward sharply due to the economic situation and policy decisions.
This should prompt us to be cautious...