## EXPORT PERFORMANCE MONITOR

## Economic \& Political Intelligence Centre

Canada's exports decreased $0.6 \%$ in May on lower volumes; exports have declined for the fifth month in a row. Imports edged up $0.2 \%$, keeping imports on a positive trend this year despite the lower Canadian dollar. On a year-to-date basis, the overall $2.1 \%$ decline masks the fact that all categories except energy ( $-34.9 \%$ ) and industrial products $(0.2 \%)$ are pacing significantly higher than last year. The merchandise trade deficit widened again, from the record $\$ 3.0$ billion in April to $\$ 3.3$ billion in May; this is still below the record $\$ 3.6$ billion posted in March.
May exports increased in five of 11 broad categories led by aerospace and automotive products, lifted by the continued strengthening of demand fundamentals, followed by consumer goods and industrial products. Energy exports posted a second straight advance on price gains offsetting lower volumes, led by refined petroleum energy products. On the downside, exports were dragged in May by weakness in the metals, electronic products, machinery and equipment, forestry and agri-food product categories.
Foreign demand for Canadian exports was broadly weak in May, with exports to the US and the EU posting moderately lower while those to the UK and China dropped significantly. Ontario exports, while down for the month, were supported by gains in automotive products and consumer goods, while Alberta exports were dragged by lower crude and crude bitumen as well as weaker machinery and equipment exports.

| SECTOR PERFORMANCE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | REGIONAL PERFORMANCE |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sector | Growth Rate |  | Price Change |  | Rank |  | Provincial Contribution |  | Regions | Growth Rate |  | Rank |  |
|  | $\underline{\xi}$ | $\stackrel{\stackrel{1}{7}}{\square}$ | $\underset{\xi}{\xi}$ | $\stackrel{\circ}{7}$ |  | $\stackrel{\circ}{7}$ |  |  |  | $\underset{E}{E}$ | $\stackrel{\square}{5}$ |  | $\stackrel{\text { 낯 }}{ }$ |
| Automotive products | 2.7\% | 11.8\% | -0.3\% | 11.8\% | 1 | 1 | ON | QC | Japan | 10.9\% | -1.5\% | 1 | 4 |
| Other Consumer Goods | 1.7\% | 10.1\% | -0.5\% | 9.0\% | 2 | 3 | ON | AB | United States | -0.3\% | -3.6\% | 2 | 5 |
| Energy Products | 1.3\% | -34.9\% | 8.6\% | -39.4\% | 3 | 7 | BC | $A B$ | Germany | -0.3\% | -10.8\% | 3 | 6 |
| Industrial <br> Products and Materials | 0.7\% | 0.2\% | 0.1\% | -6.7\% | 4 | 6 | NB | ON | $\begin{gathered} \text { EU } \\ \text { (excluding } \\ \text { UK) } \end{gathered}$ | -1.0\% | 7.4\% | 4 | 2 |
| Agriculture and Fishing Products | -2.5\% | 4.3\% | -1.5\% | 4.9\% | 5 | 5 | AB | ON | China | -15.5\% | 3.0\% | 5 | 3 |
| Forestry Products | -3.2\% | 7.5\% | -0.8\% | 3.3\% | 6 | 4 | AB | BC | United Kingdom | -26.4\% | 30.4\% | 6 | 1 |
| Machinery and Equipment | -3.5\% | 11.4\% | -0.3\% | 4.5\% | 7 | 2 | BC | AB |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL EXPORTS | -0.6\% | -2.1\% | 0.8\% | -2.8\% |  |  | NB | AB | TOTAL EXPORTS | -0.6\% | -2.1\% |  |  |

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Source: Statistics Canada


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PROVINCIAL PICTURE

| Province | Growth Rate |  | Top Contributor |  | Weakest Contributor |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | m/m | YTD | Sector | Contribution | Sector | Contribution |
| NL | -4.8\% | -35.3\% | Industrial Products and Materials | 1.4\% | Energy Products | -3.0\% |
| PE | 8.3\% | 6.2\% | Industrial Products and Materials | 0.4\% | Agriculture and Fishing Products | -0.1\% |
| NS | 11.3\% | -9.8\% | Agriculture and Fishing Products | 0.7\% | Forestry Products | -0.1\% |
| NB | 18.8\% | 2.2\% | Industrial Products and Materials | 2.3\% | Forestry Products | 0.0\% |
| QC | 0.9\% | 10.4\% | Other consumer goods | 0.7\% | Forestry Products | -1.6\% |
| ON | $-1.3 \%$ | 7.2\% | Other consumer goods | 2.9\% | Agriculture and Fishing Products | -3.8\% |
| MB | 0.4\% | 1.4\% | Other consumer goods | 0.2\% | Agriculture and Fishing Products | -0.3\% |
| SK | $-2.9 \%$ | -3.3\% | Other consumer goods | 2.1\% | Energy Products | -1.6\% |
| AB | -5.7\% | -22.7\% | Agriculture and Fishing Products | 1.8\% | Energy Products | -4.8\% |
| BC | 1.9\% | -0.1\% | Energy Products | 1.9\% | Forestry Products | -2.0\% |

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