



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Friday, January 19, 2001**

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Canadian international merchandise trade, November 2000** 2  
Imports increased at almost three times the pace of exports in November, resulting in a decline in Canada's merchandise trade balance with the world. Canadians imported \$31.1 billion worth of goods, up 2.2% from October. Meanwhile, exports rose 0.8% to \$35.5 billion.
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## OTHER RELEASES

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- Travel between Canada and other countries, November 2000 5
  - Farm business cash flows, 1997 to 1999 6
  - Stocks of frozen poultry meat, January 1, 2001 6
  - Export and import price indexes, November 2000 6
  - Canadian potato production, 2000 6
- 

## NEW PRODUCTS 7

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**RELEASE DATES:** January 22 to 26 8

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## MAJOR RELEASES

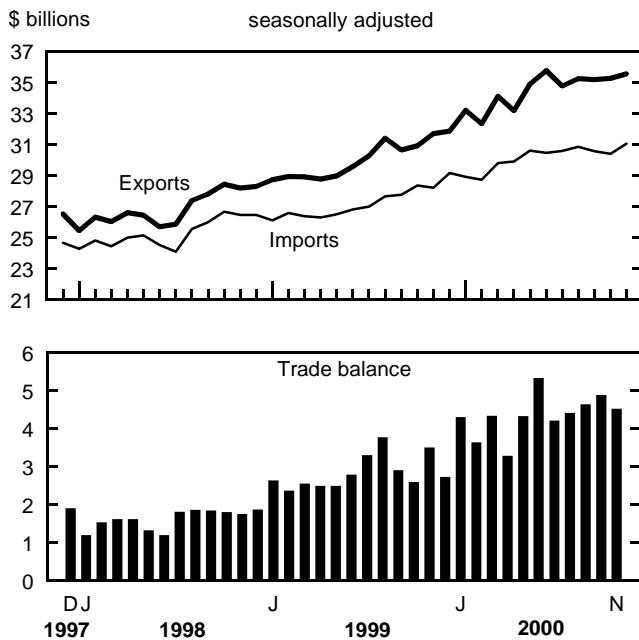
### Canadian international merchandise trade

November 2000

Imports increased at almost three times the pace of exports in November, resulting in a decline in Canada's merchandise trade balance with the world.

Canadians imported \$31.1 billion worth of goods in November, up 2.2% from October, as they purchased a record level of industrial goods and materials. Crude petroleum imports were also strong. However, a 4.2% decline in imports of automobile products dampened the overall increase.

Exports, imports and trade balance



Exports rose 0.8% to \$35.5 billion in November. Strong sales of electricity to California and high exports of natural gas almost offset a decline in exports of machinery and equipment, particularly telecommunications equipment.

With imports rising more than exports, Canada's merchandise trade surplus was \$4.5 billion, down from \$4.9 billion in October.

#### Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.

#### Strong exports of electricity and natural gas

Exports of energy products rose 11.0% in November. The chaos in the California electricity market propelled exports to a record \$500 million, more than double October's level. Natural gas exports rose 7.9% to \$1.7 billion and crude petroleum exports rose 2.8% to \$1.7 billion.

Exports of motor vehicle products remained stable at \$8.2 billion; the 3.3% increase in passenger cars and chassis was offset by the combined effect of a 3.7% drop in parts exports and a 4.6% drop in truck exports. In November, Canada exported \$4.7 billion worth of passenger cars and chassis, \$2.1 billion worth of parts and \$1.4 billion worth of trucks.

The largest offset came from the machinery and equipment sector, which was down 2.4% to \$8.9 billion. Exports of telecommunications equipment declined 4.9% to \$2.1 billion. After setting a record in October, exports of other equipment and tools, such as measuring instruments and optical instruments, were down 3.8% to \$1.9 billion.

#### Strong recovery of petroleum purchases drove large increase in imports

Imports of energy products increased 22.7% to \$1.7 billion in November. After two months of decline, imports of crude petroleum rose 45.3% to \$1.3 billion. Imports of refined petroleum products were down 19.8% to \$324.6 million, as the drop in gasoline imports was greater than the rise in imports of aviation fuels.

Imports of industrial goods and materials reached a record level of \$6.1 billion in November, up 5.6% over October. The pharmaceutical industry imported a record quantity of drug manufacturing products, propelling imports of organic chemical products to \$560.7 million, up 28.9%. Plastics imports also reached a peak in November, with an increase of 2.5% to \$793.8 million. Imports of metals in ores for refining in Canada, such as copper and zinc, increased 20.6% to \$314.3 million. Precious metals increased 24.5% to \$142.4 million.

Machinery and equipment imports were up 2.7% in November to \$10.7 billion. Imports of aircraft and other

transportation equipment increased 11.2% in November to \$1.3 billion. Telecommunications equipment imports rose to a record \$2.6 billion, up 2.9% from October. This was mainly parts and modules to be assembled and later exported. Canadian manufacturers imported \$1.4 billion worth of various industrial machinery and \$306.9 million worth of gas turbines and parts, representing increases of 4.0% and 20.8%, respectively, from October.

Imports of motor vehicle products declined 4.2% to \$6.2 billion. Imports of passenger cars and chassis were the major contributors to the drop in the sector, falling 7.0% to \$1.7 billion. Truck imports dropped 10.6% to \$812.1 million, while imports of engines and parts were down 1.3% to \$3.7 billion.

### Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are regularly revised for each month of the current year. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures (once available), changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information and seasonal adjustments. Consult the appropriate CANSIM matrices for revised data.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685-3713, 3720, 3887-3913, 8430-8435 and 8438-8447.**

This release summarizes the merchandise trade data to be published soon in *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; 65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188). The publication will include tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's balance of international payments* (67-001-XIB, \$29/\$93; 67-001-XPB, \$38/\$124). See *How to order products*.

Merchandise trade data are available by fax on the morning of release.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani, (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division. □

**Merchandise trade**

	Oct. 2000 <sup>r</sup>	Nov. 2000	Oct. to Nov. 2000	Nov. 1999 to Nov. 2000	Jan. to Nov. 1999	Jan. to Nov. 2000	Jan.–Nov. 1999 to Jan.–Nov. 2000
seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
<b>Principal trading partners</b>							
<b>Exports</b>							
United States	30,556	31,064	1.7	14.7	282,152	326,721	15.8
Japan	858	884	3.0	15.7	8,455	9,126	7.9
European Union	1,653	1,531	-7.4	-4.8	16,614	18,856	13.5
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	659	592	-10.2	-10.7	6,432	7,387	14.8
All other countries	1,522	1,475	-3.1	-6.8	15,092	17,270	14.4
Total	35,247	35,546	0.8	12.2	328,748	379,358	15.4
<b>Imports</b>							
United States	22,408	22,525	0.5	6.4	227,422	244,428	7.5
Japan	1,008	953	-5.5	-1.1	9,594	10,669	11.2
European Union	2,899	3,030	4.5	16.4	25,819	30,640	18.7
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	1,513	1,765	16.7	43.7	11,964	17,402	45.5
All other countries	2,569	2,782	8.3	23.8	22,855	28,670	25.4
Total	30,397	31,056	2.2	10.1	297,655	331,809	11.5
<b>Balance</b>							
United States	8,148	8,539	...	...	54,730	82,293	...
Japan	-150	-69	...	...	-1,139	-1,543	...
European Union	-1,246	-1,499	...	...	-9,205	-11,784	...
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	-854	-1,173	...	...	-5,532	-10,015	...
All other countries	-1,047	-1,307	...	...	-7,763	-11,400	...
Total	4,850	4,490	...	...	31,093	47,549	...
<b>Principal commodity groupings</b>							
<b>Exports</b>							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,263	2,290	1.2	6.2	23,336	25,171	7.9
Energy products	4,168	4,628	11.0	57.8	26,857	45,352	68.9
Forestry products	3,430	3,455	0.7	3.4	35,654	38,196	7.1
Industrial goods and materials	5,503	5,493	-0.2	8.5	52,314	59,140	13.0
Machinery and equipment	9,149	8,932	-2.4	14.4	78,416	95,495	21.8
Automotive products	8,217	8,215	0.0	1.5	87,196	88,952	2.0
Other consumer goods	1,265	1,292	2.1	15.8	12,323	13,365	8.5
Special transactions trade <sup>2</sup>	667	664	-0.4	6.6	6,717	7,285	8.5
Other balance of payments adjustments	585	577	-1.4	4.7	5,931	6,401	7.9
<b>Imports</b>							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,607	1,606	-0.1	10.2	16,149	16,925	4.8
Energy products	1,393	1,709	22.7	43.3	9,468	16,148	70.6
Forestry products	253	263	4.0	10.5	2,498	2,799	12.0
Industrial goods and materials	5,777	6,100	5.6	12.2	56,418	64,485	14.3
Machinery and equipment	10,388	10,664	2.7	14.6	98,775	112,012	13.4
Automotive products	6,427	6,156	-4.2	-3.7	69,323	70,987	2.4
Other consumer goods	3,486	3,511	0.7	11.5	33,668	36,572	8.6
Special transactions trade <sup>2</sup>	533	526	-1.3	0.0	5,665	5,877	3.7
Other balance of payments adjustments	533	523	-1.9	1.0	5,697	6,007	5.4

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland, South Korea, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

<sup>2</sup> These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

## OTHER RELEASES

### Travel between Canada and other countries

November 2000

Foreigners took just over 4.0 million trips to Canada in November, up 0.1% from October. Meanwhile, the number of trips Canadians took to foreign countries decreased 2.6% to almost 3.9 million. (The data are seasonally adjusted and cover both same-day and overnight trips).

From October to November, overnight travel between Canada and the United States increased on both sides of the border. Americans travelled for at least one night to Canada on 1.3 million occasions in November, up 1.4% from October. Canadians, for their part, also increased their number of overnight trips south of the border by 1.1% to 1.2 million.

Canadians took 448,000 trips by plane in November, up 2.6% from the previous month. During the same period, the number of trips by Americans to this side of the border increased 2.2% to 323,000. Americans made 0.7% more overnight trips by car to Canada in November, and Canadians took 0.1% fewer to the United States.

Same-day cross-border car traffic by Canadians fell 3.9% to 2.2 million in November, while the number of car excursions by Americans dipped 1.3% from October to 2.2 million.

Canadians made 386,000 trips to overseas destinations in November, 2.0% fewer than the record high of 393,000 trips set in October. Overseas residents increased their number of overnight trips to Canada by 3.2% from the previous month to 380,000. Travellers from the majority of Canada's top 12 overseas markets took more trips to Canada in November. Taiwan lead the increases with a 27.4% rise, followed by Australia (+10.4%) and Germany (+10.1%).

### Travel between Canada and other countries

	Oct. 2000 <sup>r</sup>	Nov. 2000 <sup>p</sup>	Oct. to Nov. 2000	Nov. 2000 <sup>p</sup>	Nov. 1999 to Nov. 2000
	seasonally adjusted			unadjusted	
	'000	% change		'000	% change
<b>Canadian trips abroad<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3,978</b>	<b>3,873</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>3,334</b>	<b>-3.7</b>
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,277	2,187	-3.9	1,999	-6.3
Total trips, one or more nights	1,608	1,613	0.3	1,252	1.4
United States <sup>2</sup>	1,214	1,227	1.1	962	0.0
Car	667	666	-0.1	433	-3.5
Plane	437	448	2.6	462	3.6
Other modes of transport	110	113	2.6	67	-0.8
Other countries <sup>3</sup>	393	386	-2.0	290	6.1
<b>Travel to Canada<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>4,019</b>	<b>4,025</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>-4.3</b>
Same-day car trips from the United States	2,231	2,202	-1.3	1,900	-7.1
Total trips, one or more nights	1,608	1,637	1.8	950	1.3
United States <sup>2</sup>	1,240	1,257	1.4	755	1.3
Car	783	788	0.7	448	0.1
Plane	316	323	2.2	246	3.6
Other modes of transport	142	146	3.0	60	1.8
Other countries <sup>3</sup>	368	380	3.2	195	1.3
<b>Most important overseas markets</b>					
United Kingdom	75	77	3.2	39	16.2
Japan	52	52	-0.9	26	15.7
France	35	37	5.5	13	-11.6
Germany	33	36	10.1	12	0.1
Australia	14	16	10.4	9	13.6
Taiwan	12	15	27.4	11	-31.5
Hong Kong	12	12	0.0	6	-14.1
South Korea	11	12	3.6	7	16.0
Mexico	11	12	2.9	6	5.9
Italy	11	11	-4.1	6	-5.7
Netherlands	10	10	0.6	4	-8.3
Switzerland	9	9	-1.2	4	-5.3

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Totals exceed the sum of same-day car trips and total trips, one or more nights because they include all of the same-day trips.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

<sup>3</sup> Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 2661-2698, 5780-6049 and 8200-8329.**

The November 2000 issue of *International travel, advance information* (66-001-PIB, \$6/\$55) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For data requests, contact Pearl Bellefeuille (613-951-1674; fax: 613-951-2909; [pearl.bellefeuille@statcan.ca](mailto:pearl.bellefeuille@statcan.ca)). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Laurie McDougall (613-951-6766; fax: 613-951-2909; [laurie.mcdougall@statcan.ca](mailto:laurie.mcdougall@statcan.ca)), Tourism Statistics Program. ■

## Farm business cash flows

1997 to 1999 (revised)

Farm operators had less cash available for investment or withdrawal in 1999. Compared with 1998, cash flows decreased 1% to \$9.9 billion but were still above the five-year average of \$9.2 billion. Cash flows have decreased for two consecutive years after reaching a record high of \$10.7 billion in 1997.

Data series on farm business cash flows is now available.

The November 2000 update of *Agriculture economic statistics* (21-603-UPE, \$26/\$52) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Paul Murray (613-951-0065; [paul.murray@statcan.ca](mailto:paul.murray@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Stocks of frozen poultry meat

January 1, 2001 (preliminary)

Data for stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on January 1, 2001 are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Giefeldt (613-951-2505), or Gilles Beaudry (613-951-6480), Agriculture Division. ■

## Export and import price indexes

November 2000

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1992=100) on a balance of payments basis

are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1992 to November 2000 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted U.S. price indexes (1992=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1992 to November 2000. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and U.S.-only standard international trade classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also now available on a customs basis.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685, 8430-8435, and 8438-8447.**

The November 2000 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; 65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division. ■

## Canadian potato production

2000 (revised)

Revised data for 2000 on the area planted, harvested, yield and production of potatoes are now available. Data are tabulated by province.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 1044.**

*Canadian potato production* (22-008-UPB, \$21) is now available. See *How to order products*. This publication (22-008-UIB, free) is also available on Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the *Products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Barb McLaughlin, (902-893-7251), Agriculture Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

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**Infomat — A weekly review, January 19, 2001**  
**Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).**

**Canadian potato production, 2000**  
**Catalogue number 22-008-UIB**  
 (Free).

**Canadian potato production, 2000**  
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**International travel, advance information,**  
 November 2000  
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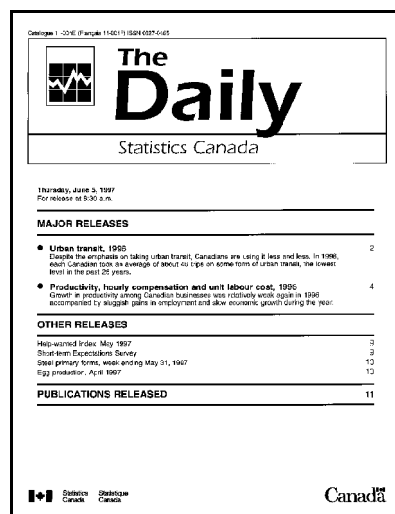
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*The Daily*, January 19, 2001

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**RELEASE DATES: JANUARY 22 TO 26**

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(Release dates are subject to change.)

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<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
22	<b>Monthly Survey of Manufacturing</b>	November 2000
22	<b>Retail trade</b>	November 2000
24	<b>Composite Index</b>	November 2000
24	<b>Employment Insurance</b>	December 2000
24	<b>Canada's international transactions in securities</b>	November 2000
25	<b>Television viewing</b>	Fall 1999
25	<b>Government expenditures on culture</b>	1998/99

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