



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Canadian international merchandise trade, July 2002** 2
Merchandise exports recorded their largest gain in more than a year in July, all a result of a surge in exports to the United States. Exports jumped 3.4% and imports rose a marginal 0.2%, resulting in a rebound in Canada's merchandise trade surplus with the world to just under \$4.9 billion.

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NEW PRODUCTS



MAJOR RELEASES

Canadian international merchandise trade

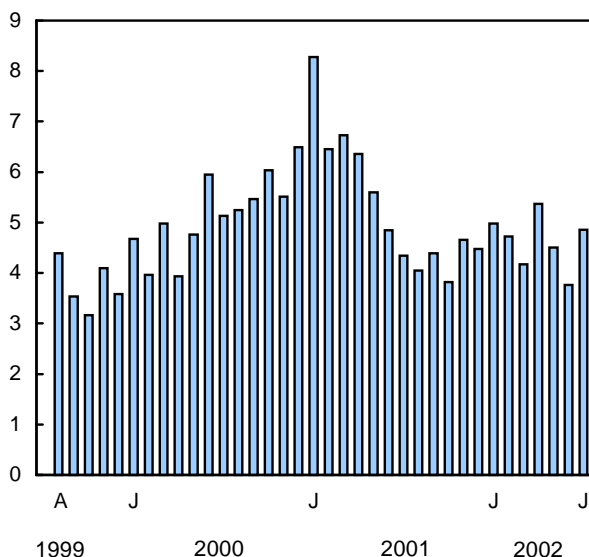
July 2002

Merchandise exports recorded their largest gain in more than a year in July, as a result of a surge in exports to the United States.

Exports jumped 3.4% to \$34.9 billion, the highest level since May 2001, in the wake of growth in all principal commodity groups. The entire gain in exports came as a result of a 4.2% increase to the United States. The forestry products sector alone regained more than a quarter of the value it lost in June in exports south of the border.

Trade balance

\$ billions



Imports rose a marginal 0.2% to \$30.0 billion, the fourth straight monthly gain.

As a result, Canada's merchandise trade surplus with the world rebounded in July to just under \$4.9 billion. This was up from a revised \$3.8 billion in June, the lowest level in 30 months.

Canadian companies sent \$29.7 billion in goods to the United States in July, accounting for 85% of total exports. Imports from south of the border rose 1.6% to \$21.5 billion. Consequently, the trade surplus with the United States reached \$8.2 billion, up \$854 million.

Note to readers

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

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Customs basis data are revised for the previous data year each quarter. 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 changes to seasonal adjustment factors. Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States narrowed from just over \$3.5 billion in June to just over \$3.3 billion in July, as a result of lower imports from Japan, European Union countries and other countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Exports: Price decline helps rebound in forestry products

The forestry products sector regained more than a quarter of the value lost in June, following the first full month of anti-dumping and countervailing duties on softwood lumber exports to the United States. Exports of forestry products rose 4.1% to \$2.9 billion in July after declining 12.9% in June. Exports of lumber — mainly spruce, pine and fir — rose 16.0% to \$753.3 million. Although volumes rose by one-third, the impact was tempered by a price drop. US housing softened over the past few months, but continued to be relatively strong compared with previous years. This resulted in steady demand for Canadian softwood lumber.

Newsprint and other paper and paperboard products exports held steady through May, June and July. Exports fell only slightly to \$1.1 billion in July. This follows a period of building inventory of newsprint after producers announced a price increase to take effect in August. A rise in the price of wood pulp in July, along with stronger US demand, pushed exports up 2.3% to \$557.3 million.

Shorter-than-usual auto plant shutdowns in July boosted exports of automotive products 7.6% to \$8.7 billion, as car sales in the United States jumped to their highest level so far in 2002. Exports to top non-US destinations also rose, with the launch of a

new product line produced in Canada. Car exports increased a seasonally adjusted 21.2% to \$5.1 billion. Exports of motor vehicle parts to supply auto assembly plants rose 2.8% to \$2.5 billion. Truck and other motor vehicle exports slid 23.9% to \$1.1 billion.

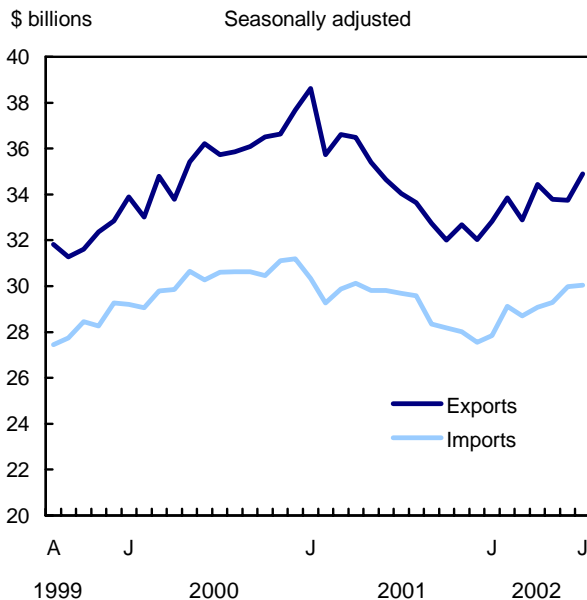
In the machinery and equipment sector, exports rose 2.1% to \$7.9 billion in July. Aircraft and other transportation equipment exports increased for the second consecutive month, up 4.3% to \$1.9 billion. Aircraft, engine and parts exports increased 3.8% to \$1.4 billion.

Industrial and agricultural machinery equipment exports rose 2.3% to \$1.6 billion. Exports of gas turbines and parts for electricity generation to the United States contributed to a 1.8% increase of industrial machinery to \$1.5 billion.

Exports of televisions, telecommunications and related equipment advanced 1.5% to just under \$1.1 billion.

Exports of energy products rose 2.7% to \$4.2 billion. With inventory and price levels stabilized by increased US imports from countries other than Canada, crude petroleum fell 4.3% to \$1.4 billion. Petroleum and coal product exports were up 18.4% to \$850.9 million, mainly a result of a jump in demand and price for motor fuel, diesel fuel and liquefied propane. Demand for natural gas in the United States rose in July, but was partially offset by a 1.6% price drop; as a result, exports were up 2.4% to an estimated \$1.8 billion.

Exports and imports



Industrial goods and materials, the third largest export sector, rose 0.4% to just under \$6.0 billion.

Increases in metals and alloys (+5.4% to \$2.1 billion) and other industrial goods and materials (+3.0% to \$1.5 billion) offset declines in chemicals, plastics and fertilizers (-1.8% to \$2.0 billion) and metal ores (-17.0% to \$461.6 million).

Agriculture and fishing products increased 2.1% to \$2.6 billion mainly because of the strength of exports of fish, barley and meat products. Drought conditions and the prohibitive cost of feed in the Prairies have forced the premature slaughter of livestock, especially cows over 320 kilograms. Cattle slaughter through May, June and July was at historic levels. Consequently, meat and meat preparations exports rose 3.3% to \$405.6 million. A lack of available wheat and canola drove down the export of these grains. Barley, used primarily in the production of beverages, jumped in response to demand from the United States, Asia, South America and Africa.

Steady rise in imports for four consecutive months

Merchandise imports continued a four-month rise to just over \$30 billion in July, the highest level of 2002. Automotive and agricultural products accounted for most of the increase.

Canadian auto plants had shorter-than-usual shutdowns and even boosted output to satisfy customer demand, resulting in a jump in motor vehicle parts imports of 9.6% to \$4.0 billion. Imports of trucks and other motor vehicles jumped 5.9% to \$925.7 million. Imports of automotive products rose 2.8% on a seasonally adjusted basis to \$6.9 billion, but imports of passenger autos decreased 9.8% to just under \$2 billion.

Imports of agricultural and fishing products climbed 6.2% to \$1.9 billion, as a result of increases in fresh fruit and vegetables (+6.6% to \$531.8 million) and other agricultural and fishing products (+6.0% to \$1.4 billion). The largest increase (+62.9% to \$80.0 million) was for corn used as cattle feed on drought-stricken farms in western Canada.

Consumer goods imports rose 1.1% to \$3.9 billion in July, a new high. Imports of apparel and footwear drove the increase, rising 7.2% to \$718.1 million. The majority of consumer goods imports are classified under the miscellaneous consumer goods group. This group lost a little steam, levelling off at \$3.2 billion. Gains in photographic goods and printed matter were offset by declines in watches, sporting goods, toys and house furnishings.

Imports of energy products rose 3.4% to \$1.5 billion, a five-month streak extending back to February. Uncertainty in the Middle East pushed prices for petroleum and coal products up 4.6% in July.

Imports of machinery and equipment, Canada's largest import sector, fell 3.7% to \$8.7 billion in July, almost wiping out gains from the previous three months. Imports of communications equipment, which includes

telecommunications equipment and semiconductors, fell 10.2% to \$1.3 billion along with imports of office machines and equipment, which decreased 7.8% to \$1.2 billion. Aircraft and other transportation equipment rose 1.5% to \$1.3 billion. Aircraft, engines and parts imports dropped 2.1% to \$834.5 million in July.

Industrial and agricultural machinery imports increased slightly to \$2.2 billion with stronger activity in excavating machinery (+16.5% to \$146.0 million), engines, turbines and motors (+5.7% to \$282.3 million) and metal working machinery (+2.7% to \$200.2 million). A drop of imports in other industrial (-2.3% to \$1.3 billion) and agricultural machinery (-0.7% to \$275.8 million) neutralized the increases.

Imports in Canada's third largest import sector, industrial goods and materials, fell slightly to \$5.8 billion. A 3.8% decrease in imports of metals and metal ores to \$1.4 billion and a 1.4% drop in chemicals and plastics to \$2.1 billion were mainly responsible for the decline. Other industrial goods and materials, which include fabricated materials, rose 2.1% to \$2.2 billion.

Available on CANSIM: tables 226-0001, 226-0002, 227-0001, 227-0002, 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

Information on methods and data quality: survey numbers 2201, 2202 and 2203 in the Integrated Meta Data Base.

This release contains a summary of the merchandise trade data to be published shortly 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.

An annual review of 2001 is included in the International Trade Division's annual publications *Exports, merchandise trade* (65-202-XMB, \$103; 65-202-XPB, \$258) and *Imports, merchandise trade* (65-203-XMB, \$103; 65-203-XPB, \$258), which are now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information on the publications, contact Jocelyne Elibani (613-951-9647; 1-800-294-5583). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daryl Keen (613-951-1810), International Trade Division. □

Merchandise trade

	June 2002 ^r	July 2002	June to July 2002	July 2001 to July 2002	January to July 2001	January to July 2002	January-July 2001 to January-July 2002
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	28,488	29,676	4.2	2.9	213,189	200,573	-5.9
Japan	762	759	-0.4	-3.8	5,864	5,302	-9.6
European Union	1,894	1,893	-0.1	3.4	13,597	12,783	-6.0
Other OECD countries ¹	920	902	-2.0	16.8	6,272	6,274	0.0
All other countries	1,684	1,661	-1.4	-7.8	12,614	11,492	-8.9
Total	33,748	34,890	3.4	2.5	251,538	236,420	-6.0
Imports							
United States	21,174	21,508	1.6	-1.1	152,696	146,873	-3.8
Japan	964	899	-6.7	-4.5	6,057	6,618	9.3
European Union	3,460	3,166	-8.5	14.7	20,425	20,708	1.4
Other OECD countries ¹	1,634	1,528	-6.5	-2.7	11,015	10,901	-1.0
All other countries	2,754	2,933	6.5	10.3	18,731	18,940	1.1
Total	29,986	30,032	0.2	1.1	208,925	204,039	-2.3
Balance							
United States	7,314	8,168	...	...	60,493	53,700	...
Japan	-202	-140	...	...	-193	-1,316	...
European Union	-1,566	-1,273	...	...	-6,828	-7,925	...
Other OECD countries ¹	-714	-626	...	...	-4,743	-4,627	...
All other countries	-1,070	-1,272	...	...	-6,117	-7,448	...
Total	3,762	4,857	...	...	42,613	32,381	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,499	2,552	2.1	-2.4	17,789	17,766	-0.1
Energy products	4,119	4,230	2.7	5.4	38,452	26,701	-30.6
Forestry products	2,791	2,906	4.1	-13.4	23,654	21,473	-9.2
Industrial goods and materials	5,962	5,983	0.4	7.3	39,181	40,366	3.0
Machinery and equipment	7,781	7,943	2.1	-2.8	60,130	55,178	-8.2
Automotive products	8,053	8,663	7.6	11.3	54,376	56,602	4.1
Other consumer goods	1,356	1,477	8.9	11.7	9,329	9,989	7.1
Special transactions trade ²	673	637	-5.3	-6.5	4,887	4,622	-5.4
Other balance of payments adjustments	514	499	-2.9	-2.7	3,739	3,724	-0.4
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,773	1,883	6.2	14.1	11,637	12,579	8.1
Energy products	1,440	1,489	3.4	0.9	11,437	8,963	-21.6
Forestry products	263	268	1.9	11.7	1,709	1,807	5.7
Industrial goods and materials	5,821	5,779	-0.7	4.4	40,865	39,884	-2.4
Machinery and equipment	9,038	8,703	-3.7	-12.4	68,631	60,955	-11.2
Automotive products	6,724	6,913	2.8	12.3	41,945	46,146	10.0
Other consumer goods	3,899	3,943	1.1	9.8	24,872	26,512	6.6
Special transactions trade ²	500	543	8.6	-5.1	4,088	3,533	-13.6
Other balance of payments adjustments	527	512	-2.8	-3.8	3,740	3,660	-2.1

^r Revised data.

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

¹ Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland, South Korea, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

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

OTHER RELEASES

Energy supply and demand

Third quarter 2001

Canada consumed 1.8% less energy in the third quarter of 2001 than in the third quarter of 2000. Increases in the final demand for natural gas liquids and primary electricity were primarily offset by decreases in coal and natural gas consumption.

Energy supply and demand

	Third quarter 2000 ^r	Third quarter 2001	Third quarter 2000 to third quarter 2001
	Petajoules ¹		% change
Production²	3 835	3 867	0.8
Exports ²	2 050	2 024	-1.3
Imports ²	751	775	3.2
Availability ²	2 474	2 493	0.8
Electricity generation	411	418	1.7
Producer consumption	304	303	-0.3
Non-energy use	216	226	4.6
Final demand³	1 596	1 568	-1.8
Industrial	532	508	-4.5
Transportation	608	594	-2.3
Residential and agriculture	215	219	1.9
Commercial and government	241	247	2.5
Year-to-date			
	2000 ^r	2001	2000 to 2001
	Petajoules ¹		% change
Production²	11 682	11 830	1.3
Exports ²	6 171	6 329	2.6
Imports ²	2 114	2 274	7.6
Availability ²	7 944	7 995	0.6
Electricity generation	1 198	1 251	4.4
Producer consumption	915	952	4.0
Non-energy use	584	642	9.9
Final demand³	5 405	5 321	-1.6
Industrial	1 709	1 601	-6.3
Transportation	1 711	1 692	-1.1
Residential and agriculture	1 071	1 072	0.1
Commercial and government	914	954	4.4

^r Revised data.

¹ A 30-litre gasoline fill-up contains about one gigajoule of energy. A petajoule is one million gigajoules.

² Primary energy sources are coal, crude oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids, and hydro and nuclear electricity.

³ Final demand represents the sum of energy use by mining, manufacturing, forestry, construction, transportation, agriculture, residential, public administration and commercial and other institutional.

Total primary energy production rose 0.8% from the third quarter of 2000. Increases in the production of natural gas (+3.0%) and petroleum products (+2.9%) resulted primarily from higher exports for these products in the third quarter of 2001 than in the third quarter of 2000.

Energy use by the mining sector rose 12.5% from the third quarter of 2000 but final demand from the manufacturing sector recorded a broad-based decrease of 7.9%.

Exports of primary energy products fell 1.3% in the third quarter of 2001 from the third quarter of 2000. This was primarily the result of lower exports of crude oil and primary electricity.

In the first nine months of 2001, production of primary energy products was 1.3% higher than in the same period of 2000. Total exports of primary energy products rose 2.6%, and imports (mainly coal and natural gas) increased 7.6%. Total final demand for energy fell 1.6%.

Note: In addition to the current quarter estimates, data for the previous quarters of the reference year are regularly revised. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of company data and revisions to previously estimated or reported data. Consult the appropriate CANSIM tables for revised data. Final demand is the sum of energy use by mining, manufacturing, forestry, construction, transportation, agriculture, residential, public administration and commercial and other institutional sectors.

Available on CANSIM: tables 128-0001 to 128-0003.

The third quarter 2001 issue of *Quarterly report on energy supply/demand in Canada* (57-003-XPB, \$43/\$141), will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact John Svab (613-951-7382; john.svab@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Export and import price indexes July 2002

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1997=100) on a balance of payments basis are

now available. Price indexes are listed from July 1997 to July 2002 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (1997=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from July 1997 to July 2002. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

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

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001, 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

The July 2002 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. ■

Population of businesses with employees

Second quarter 2002

There were 996,499 businesses with employees in the second quarter, up 0.28% from the first, when there were 993,708.

This small increase in the number of employer businesses is explained by low variations seen in most regions. Quebec posted the strongest gain (+0.38%) followed by Ontario (+0.36%) and the Prairies (+0.31%). British Columbia recorded a gain of 0.11%; the Atlantic region fell 0.20%.

Among the provinces, Quebec led, followed by Ontario, Alberta (+0.35%), British Columbia (+0.11%),

Prince Edward Island (+0.09%) and Manitoba (+0.09%). The other provinces posted decreases ranging from -0.34% to -0.09%.

Information on Nunavut and the Northwest Territories will be available when sufficient quarterly observations are collected.

Available on CANSIM: table 178-0001.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philippe Gagné (613-951-9735; fax: 613-0104; philippe.gagne@statcan.ca), Business Register Division. ■

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

August 2002

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada remained unchanged in August from the July level of 121.8 (1992=100). The composite index rose 2.8% from August 2001.

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes (1992=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0004.

The third quarter 2002 issue of *Capital expenditure price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in December. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Louise Chaîné (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Livestock statistics, second quarter 2002
Catalogue number 23-603-XIE (\$34/\$112).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB are electronic versions on compact disc.

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
MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian rode an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

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