



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, April 12, 2006

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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| Following large increases in recent months, exports of passenger vehicles, lumber and aircraft pulled down exports in February. A slightly larger drop in imports from record high values resulted in Canada's merchandise trade surplus edging up to \$6.3 billion in February. | |
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Education Indicators in Canada

2005

The fourth edition of *Education Indicators in Canada: Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program*, available today, provides a wealth of statistical information on education.

This report covers basic trends in enrolment and graduation at all levels, as well as trends for educators and expenditures in education. It also presents a broad statistical portrait of the school-age population and indicators on such topics as the school readiness of children aged four and five and labour market outcomes. Trends, which generally cover the last decade, are presented for each province and territory.

The report contains a highlights section and tables and charts analyzed in it are available in spreadsheet format. Tables and charts are updated twice annually as new data become available.

Education Indicators in Canada was prepared jointly by Statistics Canada and the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada in collaboration with the provincial and territorial departments and ministries with responsibility for education and training. It is aimed at policy makers, practitioners and the general public.

Education Indicators in Canada: Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program, 2005, no. 4 (81-582-XIE, free) is now available on our Web site. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Education*, then *Education Indicators in Canada*. A paper copy (81-582-XPE, \$70) will be available shortly.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca), Centre for Education Statistics.



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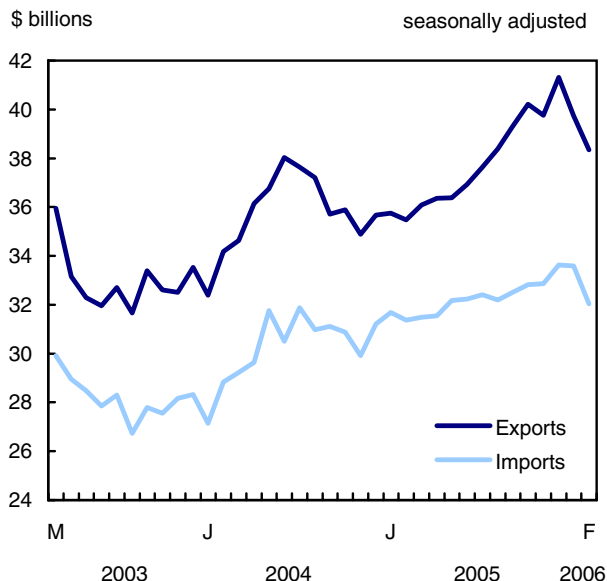
Releases

Canadian international merchandise trade

February 2006

Following large increases in recent months, exports of passenger vehicles, lumber and aircraft pulled down exports in February. A slightly larger drop in imports from record high values resulted in Canada's merchandise trade surplus edging up to \$6.3 billion in February.

Exports and imports



Exports: Autos, lumber and aircraft pull down February's values

Exports fell 3.5% to \$38.3 billion in February. Exports of passenger vehicles recorded the largest decline for the month, down 12.7% to \$4.0 billion. Production slowdowns in January and weakening auto sales in the United States pushed values down for the month, reversing an upward trend that began in mid-2005.

Exports of aircraft, engines and parts decreased by 34.1% to \$889.3 million. This follows a spike in exports in December 2005 and January 2006 as contracts for planes constructed at the end-of-fourth quarter 2005 were fulfilled.

Note to readers

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

Balance of payments data are available for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only.

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, 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.

Lumber exports declined after six months of incredible growth, dropping 12.0% to \$862.9 million. Lumber export values peaked in mid-2004 as a result of large price increases; however, record volumes were registered in January 2006. Strong construction spending in the United States contributed to the record-high volumes in January.

Energy exports declined for the second consecutive month after hitting a record high in December 2005. Exports of natural gas, crude petroleum and other energy products, which includes coal, refined petroleum and electricity, all declined.

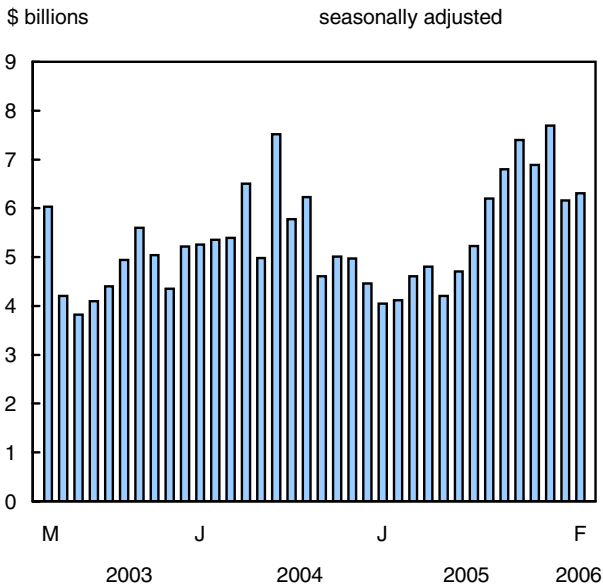
The declines in prices of natural gas and crude petroleum dragged export values down, as export volumes, or exports adjusted for price, were up for both commodities in February.

Crude petroleum export volumes have been on the rise since October; however, the drop in crude prices in February offset the 4.5% rise in volumes for the month. Crude petroleum export values fell 1.5% to \$3.1 billion from a record-high \$3.2 billion in January.

Natural gas export volumes dove in January, were up slightly in February but this was offset by the second drop in 2006 of natural gas export prices. Reports indicated that inventories of natural gas in the United States were high as colder regions experienced unusually warm temperatures during the winter months.

Despite an 11.7% increase in coal exports, exports of other energy products fell 7.6%, primarily the result of reduced US demand.

Trade balance



Overall, agricultural exports were stable (\$2.6 billion), as were exports of industrial goods and materials (\$7.3 billion). Exports of other consumer goods rose 2.1% to \$1.4 billion.

Imports: Strong upward import trend pauses in early 2006

Imports fell 4.6% to \$32.0 billion in February as importers paused during a steep upward trend that began in early 2004. Imports of metals and metal ores, chemicals, trucks, and industrial and agricultural machinery, which surged in December and January, returned to more moderate import levels, resulting in a drop in imports from record-high values.

Within industrial goods and materials, imports of metals, such as gold and copper, and chemicals utilized in the manufacture of pharmaceutical products increased substantially in recent months. In February, these high import values subsided, with metals and metal ores falling 9.8% to \$2.0 billion and chemicals and plastics declining 5.8% to \$2.4 billion.

The demands of the oil and gas sector drove imports of industrial and agricultural machinery, as well as trucks, to record-high values in January. Imports of industrial and agricultural machinery, which contains equipment such as excavating machinery, metalworking machinery, drilling machinery and mining machinery fell 9.2% to \$2.5 billion. Industrial and agricultural

machinery posted substantial increases in the last two months of 2005 before peaking at \$2.8 billion in January.

Imports of trucks and other motor vehicles fell 20.2% to \$1.2 billion in February. Large shipments of mining trucks from the United States pushed truck imports to a record-high \$1.5 billion in January.

Pharmaceutical products, which pushed up imports to a record in January, accounted for the 5.1% drop in other consumer goods in February.

Imports of energy products dropped for the third straight month in February, falling 8.1% to \$2.5 billion. Imports of petroleum and coal products and crude petroleum contributed to the decline, each falling for the third consecutive month. As import prices for crude petroleum continue to grow, the fall in import values indicate a drop in demand from refineries in Eastern Canada for foreign sweet, light crude petroleum.

Canada's two smallest import sectors (agricultural and fishing products and forestry products) lost ground in February, falling 2.7% and 2.0% respectively.

Agricultural and fishing products increased for five consecutive months to hit a record high in January, a month in which nearly all commodities registered an increase. In February, alcoholic beverages registered the largest gain, up 3.2% to \$229.6 million, however, this was offset by drops in commodities such as dairy, coffee, and fish products.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The February 2006 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 60, no. 2 (65-001-XIB, \$15/\$151) is now available. See *How to order products*. The publication includes 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-XIE, \$32/\$100).

Merchandise trade data are available in PDF format on the morning of release.

For more information on products and services, contact Anne Couillard (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-6867). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Diana Wyman (613-951-3116), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

| | January 2006 ^r | February 2006 | January to February 2006 | February 2005 to February 2006 | January to February 2005 | January to February 2006 | January–February 2005 to January–February 2006 |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| seasonally adjusted, \$ current | | | | | | | |
| | \$ millions | | % change | | \$ millions | | % change |
| Principal trading partners | | | | | | | |
| Exports | | | | | | | |
| United States | 32,529 | 30,802 | -5.3 | 6.0 | 58,205 | 63,331 | 8.8 |
| Japan | 854 | 764 | -10.5 | -9.2 | 1,628 | 1,618 | -0.6 |
| European Union | 2,618 | 2,599 | -0.7 | 15.6 | 4,528 | 5,217 | 15.2 |
| Other OECD countries ¹ | 1,203 | 1,455 | 20.9 | 44.9 | 2,109 | 2,658 | 26.0 |
| All other countries | 2,544 | 2,724 | 7.1 | 16.4 | 4,752 | 5,268 | 10.9 |
| Total | 39,748 | 38,344 | -3.5 | 8.1 | 71,221 | 78,092 | 9.6 |
| Imports | | | | | | | |
| United States | 22,038 | 21,449 | -2.7 | 1.5 | 42,501 | 43,487 | 2.3 |
| Japan | 977 | 932 | -4.6 | 6.6 | 1,943 | 1,909 | -1.7 |
| European Union | 3,399 | 3,150 | -7.3 | 6.0 | 6,179 | 6,549 | 6.0 |
| Other OECD countries ¹ | 1,981 | 1,712 | -13.6 | -14.6 | 3,893 | 3,693 | -5.1 |
| All other countries | 5,189 | 4,790 | -7.7 | 9.3 | 8,542 | 9,979 | 16.8 |
| Total | 33,584 | 32,034 | -4.6 | 2.1 | 63,057 | 65,618 | 4.1 |
| Balance | | | | | | | |
| United States | 10,491 | 9,353 | ... | ... | 15,704 | 19,844 | ... |
| Japan | -123 | -168 | ... | ... | -315 | -291 | ... |
| European Union | -781 | -551 | ... | ... | -1,651 | -1,332 | ... |
| Other OECD countries ¹ | -778 | -257 | ... | ... | -1,784 | -1,035 | ... |
| All other countries | -2,645 | -2,066 | ... | ... | -3,790 | -4,711 | ... |
| Total | 6,164 | 6,310 | ... | ... | 8,164 | 12,474 | ... |
| Principal commodity groupings | | | | | | | |
| Exports | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 2,635 | 2,618 | -0.6 | 6.1 | 4,896 | 5,253 | 7.3 |
| Energy products | 7,942 | 7,664 | -3.5 | 38.3 | 11,073 | 15,606 | 40.9 |
| Forestry products | 3,175 | 2,921 | -8.0 | -7.4 | 6,242 | 6,096 | -2.3 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 7,281 | 7,289 | 0.1 | 6.2 | 13,736 | 14,570 | 6.1 |
| Machinery and equipment | 8,077 | 7,669 | -5.1 | 2.6 | 15,375 | 15,746 | 2.4 |
| Automotive products | 7,907 | 7,390 | -6.5 | -0.2 | 14,693 | 15,297 | 4.1 |
| Other consumer goods | 1,414 | 1,443 | 2.1 | -0.9 | 2,910 | 2,857 | -1.8 |
| Special transactions trade ² | 753 | 779 | 3.5 | 17.7 | 1,340 | 1,532 | 14.3 |
| Other balance of payments adjustments | 564 | 572 | 1.4 | 25.2 | 958 | 1,136 | 18.6 |
| Imports | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 1,924 | 1,872 | -2.7 | 2.9 | 3,701 | 3,796 | 2.6 |
| Energy products | 2,725 | 2,503 | -8.1 | 0.2 | 5,066 | 5,228 | 3.2 |
| Forestry products | 255 | 250 | -2.0 | -7.4 | 534 | 505 | -5.4 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 7,060 | 6,666 | -5.6 | 4.3 | 12,966 | 13,726 | 5.9 |
| Machinery and equipment | 9,539 | 9,156 | -4.0 | 3.5 | 17,619 | 18,695 | 6.1 |
| Automotive products | 6,736 | 6,363 | -5.5 | -1.0 | 13,099 | 13,099 | 0.0 |
| Other consumer goods | 4,378 | 4,155 | -5.1 | 1.2 | 8,121 | 8,533 | 5.1 |
| Special transactions trade ² | 324 | 441 | 36.1 | -2.9 | 844 | 765 | -9.4 |
| Other balance of payments adjustments | 643 | 628 | -2.3 | 13.6 | 1,108 | 1,271 | 14.7 |

^r Revised.

1. Includes Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.

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

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

Export and import price indexes

February 2006

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 January 1997 to February 2006 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 January 1997 to February 2006. 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 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The February 2006 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 60, no. 2 (65-001-XIB, \$15/\$151) is now available. See *How to order products*.

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

Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts: Material and Energy Flow Accounts

2000 (revised), 2001 and 2002 (preliminary)

Data from the Material and Energy Flow Accounts on energy use and greenhouse gas emissions by industries, governments and households are now available. Greenhouse gas emissions data have been

revised back to 1990 due to changes in non-energy emissions estimates. The Material and Energy Flow Accounts describe the annual flows of materials and energy between the Canadian environment and economy. These data are available at the national level only.

Available on CANSIM: tables 153-0031 to 153-0034.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5115.

Tables are available upon request.

Concepts, Sources and Methods of the Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts (16-505-GIE, free) describes in detail the conceptual framework, data sources and empirical methods used to compile the Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts. This publication was originally released in 1997 (16-505-GPE, \$27) and is now available for free in pdf format.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-0297; fax: 613-951-0634; environ@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

Annual Wholesale Trade Survey 2004

Additional data for the 2004 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 081-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2445.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Pierre Desjardins (613-951-9682), Distributive Trades Division. ■

New products

Concepts, Sources and Methods of the Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts
Catalogue number 16-505-GIE
(free).

Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
February 2006, Vol. 60, no. 2
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB (\$15/\$151).

Education Indicators in Canada: Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program, 2005,
no. 4
Catalogue number 81-582-XIE
(free).

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

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin


Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-G, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (If possible, 11-001-XIE-001-001-001)



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.

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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- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
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