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# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, April 12, 2011**
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

## Releases

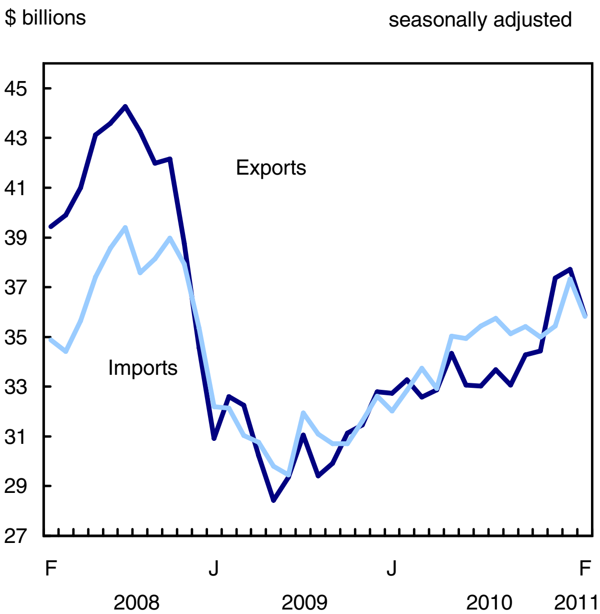
# Releases

## Canadian international merchandise trade

February 2011

Canada's merchandise exports and imports fell in February, led by lower volumes of automotive products and energy products. Exports fell 4.9% to $35.9 billion while imports decreased 4.0% to $35.8 billion. Consequently, Canada's trade surplus went from $382 million in January to $33 million in February.

**Exports and imports**




After four consecutive months of growth, exports fell as a result of volumes declining 5.2%. Although volumes declined in all sectors, those of energy products (-8.1%) and automotive products (-12.4%) were the main contributors to the decline in overall exports. Prices increased 0.3% in February.

Import volumes fell 4.3% while prices edged up 0.2%. As was the case with exports, falling volumes of automotive products (-12.4%) and energy products (-12.7%) accounted for most of the decline in the value of imports.

Imports from the United States fell 6.1%, reflecting lower imports of automotive products. Exports declined 3.5%, after four consecutive months of growth. Canada's trade surplus with the United States increased from $4.1 billion in January to $4.6 billion in February.

Exports to countries other than the United States fell 8.5%, mostly a result of lower exports of precious metals to the European Union. At the same time, imports declined 0.7%. Thus, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States widened from $3.8 billion in January to $4.5 billion in February.

***Note to readers***

*Merchandise trade is one component of Canada's international balance of payments, which also includes trade in services, investment income, current transfers as well as capital and financial flows.*

*International merchandise trade data by country are available on both a balance of payments and a customs basis for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only. Balance of payments data are derived from customs data by making adjustments for characteristics such as valuation, coverage, timing and residency. These adjustments are made to conform to the concepts and definitions of the Canadian System of National Accounts.*

*Data in this release are on a balance of payments basis, seasonally adjusted in current dollars. Constant dollars are calculated using the Laspeyres volume formula.*

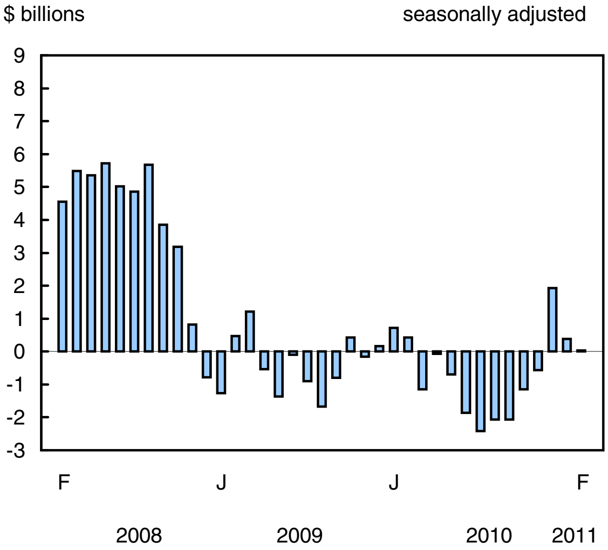
***Revisions***

*In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Current year revisions are reflected in both the customs and balance of payments based data. Revisions to customs based data for the previous year are released on a quarterly basis. Revisions to balance of payments based data for the three previous years are released annually in June.*

*Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates produced for the energy sector 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.*

**Trade balance**




## Exports fall in six of the seven sectors

Exports of energy products fell 8.0% to $8.8 billion in February, as a result of lower volumes. The decline in value and volume followed four consecutive months of growth. Exports of crude petroleum decreased 6.9%, reflecting higher inventories in the United States. This decline followed a 71.3% advance from September 2010 to January 2011. Exports of petroleum and coal products, namely diesel fuel and light oil preparation, also decreased, as some refineries experienced problems during the month.

Following a 16.0% increase in January, exports of automotive products fell 12.3% to $4.5 billion in February. The decline was a result of falling volumes. Passenger autos, down 15.8%, accounted for over three-quarters of the decrease in the sector.

Exports of industrial goods and materials decreased 3.0% to $9.3 billion, as volumes declined. Exports of precious metals fell 12.1%, after reaching a record high in January, and were the main factor behind the decline in the sector. Lower exports of nickel ores also contributed to the decrease.

Exports of agricultural and fishing products increased 1.3% to $3.2 billion, as prices rose. The gain was led by higher exports of other cereals, unmilled; other food, feed, beverage and tobacco products; as well as exports of canola, which reached unprecedented levels in February.

## Widespread declines in imports

Imports of automotive products fell 12.5% to $5.6 billion in February, as a result of lower volumes. This decline partially offset the increase in January. Imports of motor vehicle parts, down 14.5%, accounted for over half of the decline. Imports of trucks also fell during the month.

Imports of energy products declined 9.4% to $3.9 billion, as volumes fell. Imports of crude petroleum decreased 8.4%, following three months of growth. Imports of petroleum and coal products fell, mostly as a result of lower imports of aviation fuel and motor gasoline.

Imports of machinery and equipment decreased 2.3% to $9.8 billion, nearly offsetting the gain recorded in January. After leading the growth in January, aircraft were the main contributors to the decline in the sector.

Imports of industrial goods and materials declined 1.6% to $7.5 billion, as imports of precious metals fell for a third consecutive month. Imports of chemicals and plastics, especially organic chemicals, also decreased in February.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0057.**

The merchandise imports and exports data in the following tables are presented in dollar values.

Tables 228-0001 to 228-0003: Customs and balance of payments basis, by major groups and principal trading areas for all countries; monthly, quarterly, and annual.

Table 228-0033: Imports, customs-based, by province of clearance, monthly.

Table 228-0034: Domestic exports, customs-based, by province of origin, monthly.

Tables 228-0041 to 228-0043: Customs and balance of payments basis, by sector and sub-sector, for all countries; monthly, quarterly, and annual.

The merchandise imports and exports data in the following tables are indexes (2002=100).

Tables 228-0047 to 228-0049: Balance of payments and customs-based price and volume indexes for all countries; monthly, quarterly, and annual.

Tables 228-0050 to 228-0052: Customs-based price indexes, Canada and United States trade, and Standard International Trade Classification (SITC revision 3) price indexes for all countries and United States; monthly, quarterly, and annual.

Tables 228-0053 to 228-0055: Price and volume indexes customs and balance of payments basis, by sector and sub-sector, for all countries; monthly, quarterly, and annual.

Tables 228-0056 and 228-0057: Balance of payments basis, by sector, seasonally adjusted, Fisher formula, chained 2002 dollars, for all countries; monthly and quarterly.

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

These data are available in the Canadian international merchandise trade database.

The February 2011 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 65, no. 2 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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-X, free).

Data on Canadian international merchandise trade for March will be released on May 11.

For further information regarding Canada's international merchandise trade data, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mychèle Gagnon (613-951-0994), International Trade Division.

**Merchandise trade: Principal trading areas**

| | February 2010r | January 2011r | February 2011 | January to February 2011 | February 2010 to February 2011 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Seasonally adjusted, $ current | | | | |
| | $ millions | | | % change | |
| **Principal trading areas** | | | | | |
| **Exports** | | | | | |
| United States | 24,861 | 27,266 | 26,303 | -3.5 | 5.8 |
| Japan | 781 | 1,016 | 1,021 | 0.5 | 30.7 |
| European Union[1] | 2,658 | 3,637 | 2,801 | -23.0 | 5.4 |
| Other OECD countries[2] | 1,535 | 1,480 | 1,483 | 0.2 | -3.4 |
| All other countries | 3,444 | 4,310 | 4,248 | -1.4 | 23.3 |
| **Total** | **33,279** | **37,710** | **35,856** | **-4.9** | **7.7** |
| **Imports** | | | | | |
| United States | 20,889 | 23,134 | 21,727 | -6.1 | 4.0 |
| Japan | 868 | 843 | 842 | -0.1 | -3.0 |
| European Union[1] | 3,194 | 3,741 | 3,428 | -8.4 | 7.3 |
| Other OECD countries[2] | 2,371 | 2,705 | 2,637 | -2.5 | 11.2 |
| All other countries | 5,526 | 6,905 | 7,187 | 4.1 | 30.1 |
| **Total** | **32,849** | **37,328** | **35,823** | **-4.0** | **9.1** |
| **Balance** | | | | | |
| United States | 3,972 | 4,132 | 4,576 | ... | ... |
| Japan | -87 | 173 | 179 | ... | ... |
| European Union[1] | -536 | -104 | -627 | ... | ... |
| Other OECD countries[2] | -836 | -1,225 | -1,154 | ... | ... |
| All other countries | -2,082 | -2,595 | -2,939 | ... | ... |
| **Total** | **430** | **382** | **33** | **...** | **...** |

r *revised*
... *not applicable*
1. *The European Union includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.*
2. *Other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) include Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.*

***Note:*** *Totals may not equal the sum of their components.*

## Merchandise trade: Principal commodity groupings

| | February 2010[r] | January 2011[r] | February 2011 | January to February 2011 | February 2010 to February 2011 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Seasonally adjusted, $ current | | | | |
| | $ millions | | | % change | |
| **Exports** | | | | | |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 2,985 | 3,203 | 3,245 | 1.3 | 8.7 |
| Energy products | 8,088 | 9,520 | 8,759 | -8.0 | 8.3 |
| Forestry products | 1,734 | 1,855 | 1,797 | -3.1 | 3.6 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 7,754 | 9,550 | 9,264 | -3.0 | 19.5 |
| Machinery and equipment | 5,964 | 6,277 | 6,225 | -0.8 | 4.4 |
| Automotive products | 4,552 | 5,179 | 4,541 | -12.3 | -0.2 |
| Other consumer goods | 1,433 | 1,368 | 1,272 | -7.0 | -11.2 |
| Special transactions trade[1] | 327 | 267 | 293 | 9.7 | -10.4 |
| Other balance of payments adjustments | 442 | 490 | 461 | -5.9 | 4.3 |
| **Total** | **33,279** | **37,710** | **35,856** | **-4.9** | **7.7** |
| **Imports** | | | | | |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 2,369 | 2,584 | 2,584 | 0.0 | 9.1 |
| Energy products | 2,993 | 4,301 | 3,897 | -9.4 | 30.2 |
| Forestry products | 221 | 208 | 212 | 1.9 | -4.1 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 6,624 | 7,648 | 7,527 | -1.6 | 13.6 |
| Machinery and equipment | 8,777 | 10,038 | 9,810 | -2.3 | 11.8 |
| Automotive products | 6,002 | 6,440 | 5,633 | -12.5 | -6.1 |
| Other consumer goods | 4,736 | 4,850 | 4,787 | -1.3 | 1.1 |
| Special transactions trade[1] | 401 | 489 | 597 | 22.1 | 48.9 |
| Other balance of payments adjustments | 726 | 771 | 776 | 0.6 | 6.9 |
| **Total** | **32,849** | **37,328** | **35,823** | **-4.0** | **9.1** |

r *revised*

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

***Note:*** *Totals may not equal the sum of their components.*

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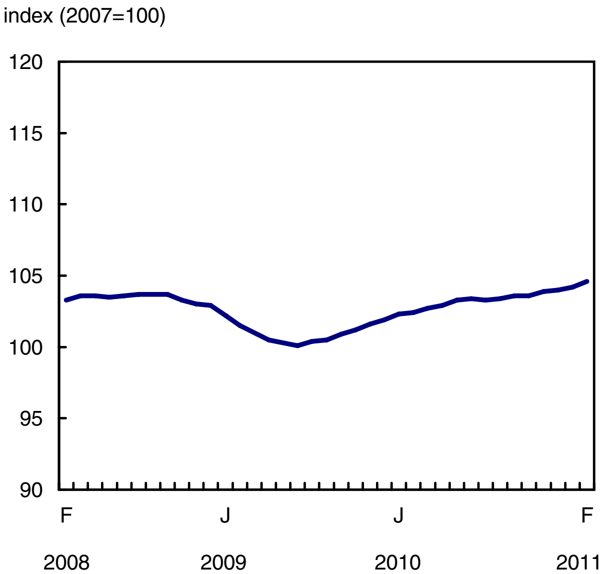
## New Housing Price Index

February 2011

The New Housing Price Index (NHPI) rose 0.4% in February, following a 0.2% advance in January.

**Evolution of the New Housing Price Index**




Toronto and Oshawa as well as Edmonton were the top contributors to the NHPI increase in February.

Between January and February, prices increased the most in Regina (+1.8%) followed by Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo (+1.7%), Charlottetown (+1.5%), and Edmonton (+1.1%).

In Regina, Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo and Edmonton, the increases were primarily a result of higher land development fees.

In Charlottetown, builders reported increased prices as a result of improving market conditions.

Price decreases were recorded in Calgary (-0.4%), Windsor (-0.3%), Ottawa–Gatineau (-0.2%) and Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton (-0.1%).

In Calgary, builders offered promotional prices and bonus upgrade packages in order to stimulate sales.

In Ottawa–Gatineau, builders recorded lower negotiated selling prices in February.

Slower market conditions caused builders in Windsor as well as in Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton to reduce their prices.

Year over year, the NHPI was up 2.1% in February following a 1.9% increase in January.

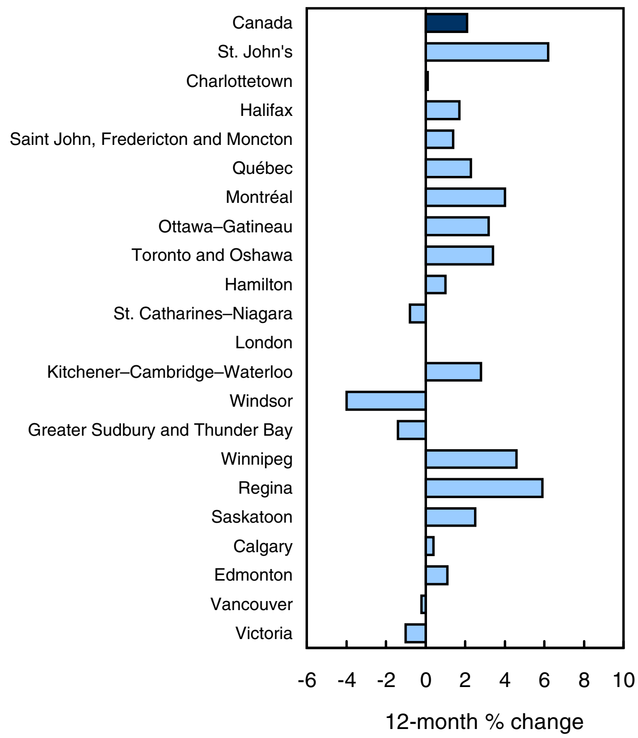
The main contributors to the year-over-year increase of the NHPI in February were the metropolitan regions of Toronto and Oshawa as well as Montréal.

The largest year-over-year increase continued to be in St. John's (+6.2%).

Compared with February 2010, contractors' selling prices were also higher in Regina (+5.9%) and Winnipeg (+4.6%).

Among the 21 metropolitan regions surveyed, 5 registered 12-month declines in February: Windsor (-4.0%), Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay (-1.4%), Victoria (-1.0%), St. Catharine's–Niagara (-0.8%) and Vancouver (-0.2%).

**St. John's posts the highest year-over-year price increase**




**Note:** The New Housing Price Index measures changes over time in the selling prices of new residential houses agreed upon between the contractor and the buyer at the time of the signing of the contract. It is designed to measure the changes in the selling prices of new houses where detailed specifications pertaining to each house remain the same between two consecutive periods. The prices collected from builders and included in the index are market selling prices less value added taxes, such as the Federal Goods and Services Tax or the Harmonized Sales Tax.

This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted and the indexes published are final.

**Available on CANSIM: table 327-0046.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.**

The fourth quarter 2010 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will be available soon.

The new housing price indexes for March will be released on May 12.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-4550; toll-free 1-888-951-4550; fax: 613-951-3117; *ppd-info-dpp@statcan.gc.ca*), Producer Prices Division.

### New housing price indexes

| | Relative importance[1] | February 2010 | January 2011 | February 2011 | January to February 2011 | February 2010 to February 2011 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | % | (2007=100) | | | % change | |
| **Canada total** | **100.00** | **102.4** | **104.2** | **104.6** | **0.4** | **2.1** |
| **House only** | **...** | **102.0** | **104.0** | **104.3** | **0.3** | **2.3** |
| **Land only** | **...** | **103.0** | **104.0** | **104.4** | **0.4** | **1.4** |
| St. John's | 1.79 | 138.6 | 147.2 | 147.2 | 0.0 | 6.2 |
| Charlottetown | 0.25 | 101.4 | 100.0 | 101.5 | 1.5 | 0.1 |
| Halifax | 1.24 | 109.7 | 111.6 | 111.6 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton[2] | 0.70 | 106.3 | 107.9 | 107.8 | -0.1 | 1.4 |
| Québec | 2.91 | 115.4 | 117.3 | 118.0 | 0.6 | 2.3 |
| Montréal | 11.19 | 108.8 | 112.8 | 113.1 | 0.3 | 4.0 |
| Ottawa–Gatineau | 5.68 | 108.0 | 111.7 | 111.5 | -0.2 | 3.2 |
| Toronto and Oshawa[2] | 27.39 | 104.8 | 107.8 | 108.4 | 0.6 | 3.4 |
| Hamilton | 2.94 | 102.9 | 103.8 | 103.9 | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| St. Catharines–Niagara | 0.96 | 104.8 | 103.7 | 104.0 | 0.3 | -0.8 |
| London | 1.60 | 107.5 | 107.5 | 107.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo | 2.21 | 103.6 | 104.7 | 106.5 | 1.7 | 2.8 |
| Windsor | 0.45 | 100.8 | 97.1 | 96.8 | -0.3 | -4.0 |
| Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay[2] | 0.67 | 106.8 | 105.3 | 105.3 | 0.0 | -1.4 |
| Winnipeg | 2.14 | 116.9 | 121.5 | 122.3 | 0.7 | 4.6 |
| Regina | 0.92 | 136.7 | 142.1 | 144.7 | 1.8 | 5.9 |
| Saskatoon | 1.36 | 113.1 | 115.9 | 115.9 | 0.0 | 2.5 |
| Calgary | 11.44 | 95.1 | 95.9 | 95.5 | -0.4 | 0.4 |
| Edmonton | 11.87 | 89.0 | 89.0 | 90.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Vancouver | 10.97 | 98.7 | 98.4 | 98.5 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Victoria | 1.39 | 89.7 | 88.8 | 88.8 | 0.0 | -1.0 |

*... not applicable*

1. *The relative importance is calculated using a price adjusted three-year average of the value of building completions for each metropolitan area.*
2. *In order to ensure data confidentiality, the following census metropolitan areas and census agglomeration are grouped together as follows: Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton; Toronto and Oshawa; and Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay.*

***Note:*** *View the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas online.*

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## Export and import price indexes

February 2011

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a customs or balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to February 2011 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (2002=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to February 2011. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0047 to 228-0055.**

Merchandise imports and exports data in the following tables are indexes (2002=100).

Tables 228-0047 to 228-0049: Balance of payments and customs-based price and volume indexes for all countries, monthly, quarterly and annual.

Tables 228-0050 to 228-0052: Customs-based price indexes, Canada and the United States trade, and Standard International Trade Classification (SITC revision 3) price indexes for all countries and the United States, monthly, quarterly and annual.

Tables 228-0053 to 228-0055: Price and volume indexes, customs and balance of payments basis, by sector and sub-sector, for all countries, monthly, quarterly and annual.

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

The February 2011 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 65, no. 2 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Data on Canadian international merchandise trade for March will be released on May 11.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

## Chain Fisher real export and import values

February 2011

The monthly chain Fisher real dollar values (reference year 2002) for Canadian international merchandise trade are now available for February.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0056 and 228-0057.**

Tables 228-0056 and 228-0057: Balance of payments basis, by sector, seasonally adjusted, Fisher formula, chained 2002 dollars, for all countries, monthly and quarterly.

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

The February 2011 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 65, no. 2 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

## Steel pipe and tubing

February 2011

Data on the production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for February.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0046.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.**

The February 2011 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-X, free) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.gc.ca*), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

# New products and studies

**Canadian International Merchandise Trade**, February 2011, Vol. 65, no. 2
**Catalogue number 65-001-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

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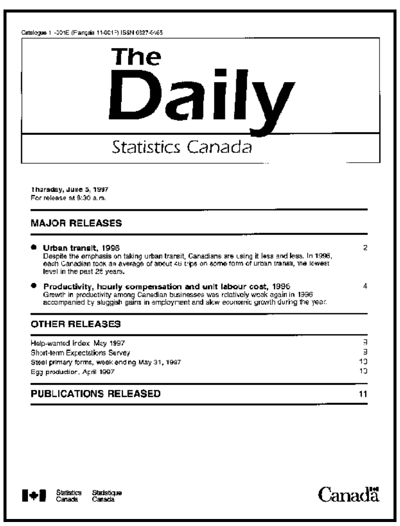
Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit**, 1996 — 2
  Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 46 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 relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED — 11

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Canada

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