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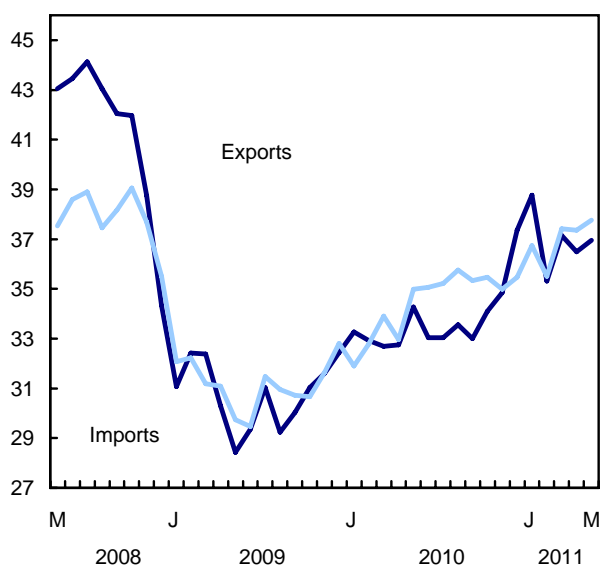
Canadian international merchandise trade

May 2011

Canada's merchandise exports increased 1.2% in May while imports rose 1.1%. As a result, Canada's trade deficit with the world narrowed from \$857 million in April to \$814 million in May.

Exports and imports

\$ billions, seasonally adjusted



Exports increased to \$36.9 billion as volumes rose 1.5% while prices decreased by 0.3%. The higher volumes were mainly led by the machinery and equipment as well as the automotive products sectors. The energy products sector was the main contributor to the decline in prices.

Imports increased to \$37.8 billion, as all sectors except energy products recorded gains. Prices rose 2.1%, with the increase led by energy products and industrial goods and materials. Volumes decreased by 1.0%.

Canada's trade surplus with the United States narrowed from \$4.0 billion in April to \$3.7 billion in May. Exports to the United States edged up 0.1%

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 (BOP) 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 BOP based data. The previous year's customs data are revised with the release of the January and February reference months as well as on a quarterly basis. The previous two years of customs based data are revised annually and are released in February with the December reference month. The previous year's BOP based data are revised with the release of the January, February and March reference months. Revisions to BOP based data for the previous three years are released annually in June with the April reference month.

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.

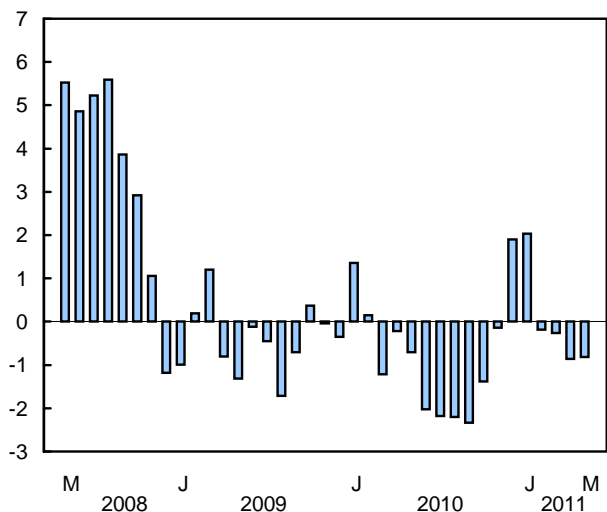
Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

to \$27.1 billion. Imports increased 1.1% to \$23.4 billion in May, a third straight monthly increase.

Exports to countries other than the United States rose 4.4% to \$9.8 billion in May, on the strength of higher exports to the European Union. Imports increased 1.1% to \$14.4 billion, as most of Canada's principal trading areas registered gains. As a result, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States narrowed from \$4.8 billion in April to \$4.6 billion in May.

Trade balance

\$ billions, seasonally adjusted

**Industrial goods and materials lead the increase in exports**

Exports of industrial goods and materials rose 4.0% to \$9.5 billion in May, on the strength of metals and alloys as well as chemicals, plastics and fertilizers. The main contributors to the gains in these respective sub-sectors were higher exports of gold to the United Kingdom, and potash to China.

Exports of machinery and equipment gained 4.8% to \$6.3 billion, as volumes rose 5.3%. Exports of aircraft, engines and parts increased 34.7% to \$1.0 billion. Exports of television, telecommunication and related equipment also contributed to the gain in the sector.

Exports of automotive products increased 3.9% to \$4.9 billion in May. The majority of this increase was in exports of passenger autos and chassis. Gains in exports of motor vehicle parts also contributed to the increase in the sector.

Strong gains in most sectors were partially offset by a decrease in exports of energy products, which fell 3.6% to \$9.1 billion. Crude petroleum made up the bulk of the decline, falling 5.8% to \$5.2 billion.

Imports increase in most sectors

Imports of automotive products rose 3.6% to \$5.8 billion in May. Imports of passenger autos and chassis increased 12.4%, following a 22.2% decline in April.

Imports of industrial goods and materials increased for the third consecutive month, rising 2.2% to a record high of \$8.3 billion in May, as a result of higher prices. Imports of precious metals and alloys, mainly gold and silver, accounted for over half of this growth and reached a record high.

Imports of machinery and equipment edged up 0.7% to \$10.3 billion in May, as gains were observed in aircraft and other transportation equipment, and industrial and agricultural machinery. Higher imports of aircraft, engines and parts led the increase. Imports of industrial and agricultural machinery posted a fourth straight monthly increase, mainly on the strength of imports of engines, turbines and motors.

Plant shutdowns due to maintenance were the main factor behind lower imports of energy products, which fell 5.2% to \$4.3 billion. Imports of crude petroleum and other energy products decreased 7.2% and 2.8%, respectively.

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 May 2011 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 65, no. 5 (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 June will be released on August 11.

For further information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (613-951-8116; toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marc Nadeau (613-951-3692), International Trade Division.

Merchandise trade: Principal trading areas – Seasonally adjusted, current dollars

	May 2010	April 2011 ^r	May 2011	April to May 2011	May 2010 to May 2011
	\$ millions		% change		
Principal trading areas					
Exports					
United States	25,519	27,103	27,140	0.1	6.4
Japan	786	899	922	2.6	17.3
European Union ¹	3,052	2,876	3,325	15.6	8.9
Other OECD countries ²	1,568	1,742	1,584	-9.1	1.0
All other countries	3,357	3,875	3,975	2.6	18.4
Total	34,282	36,495	36,945	1.2	7.8
Imports					
United States	22,335	23,149	23,399	1.1	4.8
Japan	827	524	612	16.8	-26.0
European Union ¹	3,328	3,866	3,631	-6.1	9.1
Other OECD countries ²	2,540	2,625	2,682	2.2	5.6
All other countries	5,955	7,188	7,435	3.4	24.9
Total	34,984	37,352	37,759	1.1	7.9
Balance					
United States	3,184	3,954	3,741	...	...
Japan	-41	375	310	...	...
European Union ¹	-276	-990	-306	...	...
Other OECD countries ²	-972	-883	-1,098	...	...
All other countries	-2,598	-3,313	-3,460	...	...
Total	-702	-857	-814	...	...

^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 – Seasonally adjusted, current dollars

	May 2010	April 2011 ^r	May 2011	April to May 2011	May 2010 to May 2011
	\$ millions			% change	
Exports					
Agricultural and fishing products	3,029	3,392	3,294	-2.9	8.7
Energy products	7,571	9,404	9,061	-3.6	19.7
Forestry products	1,868	1,912	1,889	-1.2	1.1
Industrial goods and materials	8,011	9,089	9,450	4.0	18.0
Machinery and equipment	6,281	6,016	6,307	4.8	0.4
Automotive products	5,438	4,686	4,868	3.9	-10.5
Other consumer goods	1,324	1,217	1,329	9.2	0.4
Special transactions trade ¹	329	320	305	-4.7	-7.3
Other balance of payments adjustments	431	458	442	-3.5	2.6
Total	34,282	36,495	36,945	1.2	7.8
Imports					
Agricultural and fishing products	2,436	2,664	2,667	0.1	9.5
Energy products	3,441	4,568	4,332	-5.2	25.9
Forestry products	225	205	206	0.5	-8.4
Industrial goods and materials	7,327	8,086	8,261	2.2	12.7
Machinery and equipment	9,546	10,222	10,292	0.7	7.8
Automotive products	6,004	5,572	5,770	3.6	-3.9
Other consumer goods	4,818	4,825	4,865	0.8	1.0
Special transactions trade ¹	420	417	568	36.2	35.2
Other balance of payments adjustments	768	793	798	0.6	3.9
Total	34,984	37,352	37,759	1.1	7.9

^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.

■

General Social Survey: Time use 2010

Canadians who performed unpaid work, such as housework, childcare, and civic and voluntary activities, reported spending 4 hours 4 minutes on these activities on any given day in 2010, up 8 minutes from 1998.

Men increased the time they spent on unpaid work activities by 15 minutes from 1998 to 2010, while the time women spent on these activities remained stable.

On average, women spent 4 hours 38 minutes on a given day on unpaid work activities in 2010, 1 hour 13 minutes more than men.

Canadians who worked at a paid job on any given day in 2010 spent an average of 8 hours 12 minutes on paid work and related activities such as commuting to and from work.

The amount of time men spent on paid work and related activities decreased by 14 minutes on any given day between 1998 and 2010, to an average of 8 hours 36 minutes. In contrast, the time spent by women remained stable at just over 7 hours 40 minutes per day.

Both in 1998 and in 2010, men spent about an hour longer than did women on these activities.

Canadians spend more time on childcare

Canadians who took care of children reported spending 2 hours 31 minutes a day on childcare as their primary activity in 2010, up 21 minutes from 1998.

The younger the children, the more time parents spend taking care of them. In 2010, parents with children up to the age of 4 spent 2 hours 49 minutes of their day taking care of them as their primary activity. When adding on time spent caring for children while performing another activity, such as cooking or cleaning, parents spent 4 hours 52 minutes a day caring for this age group.

In comparison, the average time for parents whose youngest child was aged 5 to 12 was 1 hour 16 minutes as a primary activity and 1 hour 59 minutes when added to other activities done at the same time.

Regardless of the child's age, women spent more time on their care than did men. For example, women with children up to the age of 4 spent 6 hours 33 minutes per day caring for them. Among men, the corresponding duration was 3 hours 7 minutes.

Fewer Canadians watch television, more use computers

The proportion of Canadians who reported watching television on any given day declined over the 12-year

Note to readers

This release provides initial results from the 2010 General Social Survey on time use.

In this survey, nearly 15,400 Canadians aged 15 and over were asked to report in a daily journal details on the time they spent on various activities on a given day. The survey also asked questions on such topics as time stress, well-being, and participation in sports, cultural activities and transportation. The survey covered the 10 provinces.

This release presents results on the number of hours Canadians spent on paid and unpaid work, periods of free time and leisure, and how these have changed since the 1998 time use survey. In addition, it examines Canadians' perceptions of time stress.

period from 77% to 73%. In 2010, those who watched television spent 2 hours 52 minutes doing so, similar to 1998.

Far more Canadians used a computer during their leisure time in 2010 compared with 1998. The proportion of those who reported using computers for such things as email, on-line social networking, and searching for information increased nearly five-fold from 5% to 24%.

Canadians who used computers spent an average of 1 hour 23 minutes on the computer on any given day. Computer use increased significantly across all age groups. In 2010, the age group with the highest proportion of computer use continued to be those aged 15 to 24.

Video game use also increased. The proportion of people reporting playing video games on any given day doubled from 3% in 1998 to 6% in 2010. Canadians who played video games increased the amount of daily time they spent on this activity from 1 hour 48 minutes in 1998 to 2 hours 20 minutes in 2010.

Canadians socialize less face-to-face, sleep more

In 2010, people spent less time socializing with friends and relatives face-to-face, talking on the telephone and having meals in restaurants. The proportion of people who took part in such social activities declined from 66% in 1998 to 59% in 2010. This decline might be explained in part by the fact that people are spending more time interacting with others through on-line social networks and text messaging rather than the more traditional means of socializing.

Canadians aged 15 and over reported getting 13 minutes of additional sleep from 1998 to 2010. This brought the average time spent on daily sleep to 8 hours 18 minutes.

Canadians report less time stress

In general, Canadians appeared to be experiencing less time stress. In 2010, 34% of people aged 15 and over reported feeling trapped in a daily routine, down from 39% in 1998. The proportion who felt they had no time for fun declined from 38% to 29%.

Fewer people reported that they wanted to slow down in the coming year, and fewer described themselves as workaholics. Fewer also reported that they were concerned about not spending enough time with family and friends.

These declines may be due to the fact that the age group 55 and over represented a larger share of the Canadian population in 2010 compared with 1998. In general, people in this age group tend to feel less stressed by time pressures than their younger counterparts.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4503.

The publication *General Social Survey – 2010: Overview of the Time Use of Canadians* (89-647-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-5979; sasd-dssea@statcan.gc.ca), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division. ■

Study: Generational change in paid and unpaid work

2010

The timing of major events in the life of young adults in their twenties has changed from generation to generation during the past quarter century, and so has the involvement of men and women in paid work and housework.

This study compares the young adulthood years of three generations: the late baby boomers (born 1957 to 1966) when they were aged 20 to 29 in 1986, Generation X (1969 to 1978) who was in that age group in 1998, and Generation Y (1981 to 1990) who reached it in 2010.

It found that, at ages 20 to 29, members of Generation Y were more likely to be in school and at home with their parents than their counterparts in the two other generations.

At ages 20 to 29, 51% of Generation Y lived at home with their parents, compared with 31% of their counterparts in Generation X.

Generation Y also delayed living with a partner and having children. At ages 20 to 29, 19% of Generation Y had children, compared with 29% of the late baby boomers of the same ages in 1986.

The study also found an increasing similarity in the involvement in paid work and housework between men and women from the late baby boomers to those in Generation Y.

Despite the narrowing of the differences, men continue to have an overall greater involvement in paid work than women, and a lesser involvement in housework.

For example, at ages 20 to 29, late baby boom men did on average 1.4 hours more paid work per day than women. In Generation Y, this difference had narrowed to 1.1 hours.

Late baby boom women, when they were aged 20 to 29, did 1.2 hours more housework per day than men. By the time Generation Y arrived at the same age group, the difference had narrowed to 0.4 hours. This was due entirely to a decrease in the time women spent on housework.

When looking only at dual-earner couples, the dominant family form since the 1980s, the study found that young adults are increasingly sharing economic and domestic responsibilities. As women have increased their hours of paid work, men have steadily increased their share of household work.

Women aged 20 to 29 in dual-earner couples in Generation Y did an average of 6.7 hours of paid work

per day in 2010, up from 6.4 hours for their counterparts in Generation X.

On the other hand, dual-earner women in Generation Y did 53% of total housework done by couples, down from 59% for their counterparts in Generation X.

Average daily time spent on paid work and housework by men and women in young dual-earner couples is more similar for those without children and particularly so for Generation Y.

However, for both Generation X and Y, with the presence of dependent children at home the contribution of women to a couple's total paid work time declined, while their contribution to housework increased.

Note: This study used time use data from three cycles of the General Social Survey: 1986, 1998 and 2010. Each cycle was used to examine changes in the participation in, and time spent on, paid work and unpaid household work of three generations: late baby boomers, Generation X and Generation Y at the ages of 20 to 29.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4503.

The article "Generational change in paid and unpaid work" is now available in the July 2011 online issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 92 (11-008-X, free), available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-5979; sasd-dssea@statcan.gc.ca), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division. ■

Export and import price indexes

May 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 May 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 May 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 May 2011 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 65, no. 5 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Data on Canadian international merchandise trade for June will be released on August 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

May 2011

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

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.

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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. ■

Cement

May 2011

Data on cement are now available for May.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.

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 Social Trends, Winter 2011, no. 92
Catalogue number 11-008-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Inter-corporate Ownership, Second quarter 2011
Catalogue number 61-517-X (CD-ROM, \$375/\$1,065)

Industry Price Indexes, May 2011, Vol. 37, no. 5
Catalogue number 62-011-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
May 2011, Vol. 65, no. 5
Catalogue number 65-001-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**General Social Survey - 2010: Overview of
the Time Use of Canadians**
Catalogue number 89-647-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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