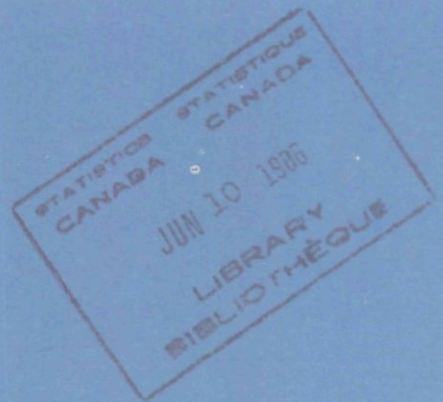


Preliminary statement of Canadian international trade

April 1986

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Statistics Canada
International Trade Division

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April 1986

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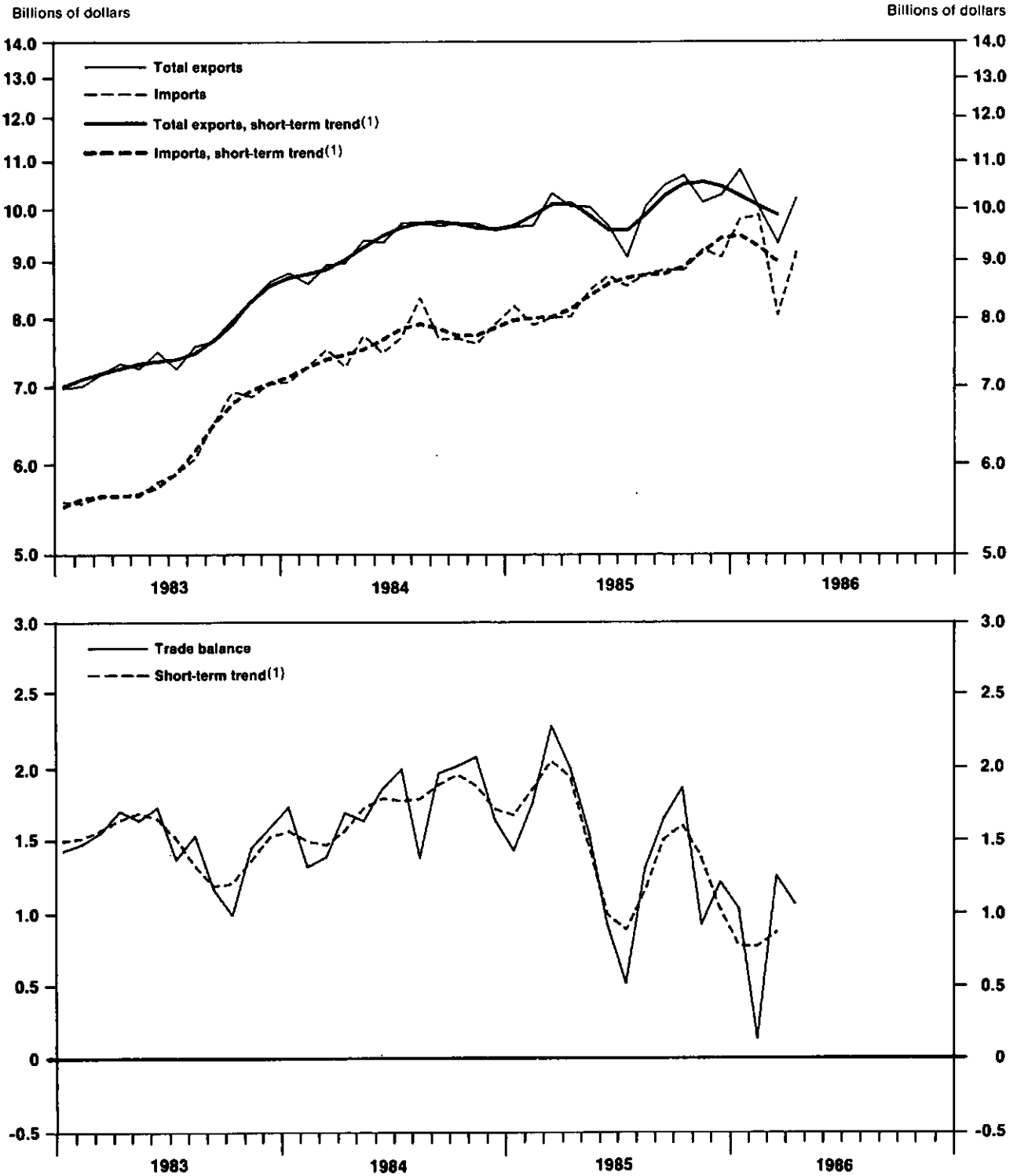
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**Imports, Total Exports, and Trade Balance, All Countries, Seasonally Adjusted
Balance of Payments Basis**



(1) The short-term trend gives a clearer picture of the direction and rate of change of trade by averaging the substantial monthly fluctuations which frequently occur in trade. The trend for the last month is not shown in the charts above since it frequently changes significantly with the addition of succeeding months of data.

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis
April 1986

Overview Month-to-Month

Preliminary April estimates reveal that total exports climbed 9.5% or \$891 million to \$10.2 billion. The increase followed two consecutive monthly declines averaging more than 7.0% from the record January level of \$10.8 billion. Imports rebounded 13.4% or \$1.1 billion to \$9.2 billion after dropping 18.3% in March. The net effect on the merchandise trade surplus was a slight decline of \$194 million to a level of \$1.1 billion.

Data users should note that the unusual drop posted in March imports was partly recouped in April. This sharp change may be associated with the fact that Easter occurred in March for the first time in eight years.

Short-Term Trend

Total Exports

The short-term trend for exports continued the descent begun in December 1985. Exports of energy products remained the primary contributor, reflecting sharply lower prices for crude oil and petroleum products. Excluding energy products, the overall trend declined marginally over the same period. Declining trends in exports of trucks and motor vehicle parts, and to a lesser extent exports of wheat, were mitigated by positive short-term trends for exports of forestry products and machinery and equipment.

Imports

After fifteen consecutive months of growth, the short-term trend for imports posted a second consecutive monthly decline. The trend for imports of energy products registered the strongest decrease, reinforced by lower imports of automotive products, machinery and equip-

ment and industrial goods and materials. In contrast, the short-term trend for other consumer goods and agricultural and fishing products has registered monthly growth rates of about 2.0% since the beginning of the year.

Commodity Highlights

Contrary to the patterns indicated by the short-term trend, current month-to-month changes showed a different pattern.

Total Exports

The increase in exports was evident in all major commodity groupings with the exception of energy products. Industrial goods and materials registered a 21% gain following a drop of 12% in March, mainly attributable to metal ores and concentrates. Machinery and equipment posted a 15% gain, primarily due to aircraft and other transportation equipment. Automotive products increased 7% as car exports rose 12%. Forestry products, with an 11% increase, were also a major contributor to the overall April increase. Energy products declined 13% as a result of sharp drops in coal and natural gas exports.

Imports

As in exports, gains were posted in all major commodity groupings with the exception of energy products. Following a 47% drop in March, energy products posted a further 19% decline this month primarily due to coal.

In all other sectors, except for automotive and energy products, the steep declines posted in March were matched by similar increases in April. Machinery and equipment rose 24% after a 19% decline in March. Industrial goods and materials increased 16% in April, following a similar drop the month before. Other consumer goods recovered 23% after falling 14%. Agriculture and fishing products posted the strongest gains, rising 31% after a 20% drop in March. Imports of automotive products increased only marginally in April.

(continued on page 7)

Trading Partner Highlights

Exports

Except for the 'Other O.E.C.D.' country grouping, exports to all of Canada's trading partners registered increases. Exports to the United States rose 9.1% following a drop of 6.5% in March and a similar decline in February. Exports to Japan increased 25.4% after two consecutive monthly declines averaging 8.2%.

Imports

Imports from all of Canada's trading partners registered significant increases in April in contrast to the sharp declines the month before. Imports from the United States rose 7.8% following a decline of 13.5%. Japan posted a sharp recovery, rising 25.4% after a 16.9% drop in March.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 30, 3633, 3635, 3636, 3638, 3651-3678, 3685-3713, 3718, 3719.

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Table 1
Merchandise Trade of Canada
 April 1986
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Total exports ¹ raw	Imports raw	Total exports ¹ S.A. ³	Imports S.A. ³	Balance S.A. ³	Period-to-period change ²		
						Total exports ¹ S.A. ³	Imports S.A. ³	Balance S.A. ³
	\$ millions			%	%	\$ millions		
1980	76,680	67,903	76,680	67,903	8,778	16.9	11.0	4,354
1981	84,157	77,140	84,157	77,140	7,017	10.1	13.6	-1,761
1982	84,560	66,739	84,560	66,739	17,822	0.2	-13.5	10,804
1983	90,702	73,054	90,702	73,054	17,648	7.3	9.5	-174
1984	112,218	91,492	112,218	91,492	20,726	23.7	25.2	3,078
1985	120,258	102,783	120,258	102,783	17,475	7.2	12.3	-3,251
1984								
First Quarter	25,764	21,813	26,344	21,900	4,444	5.9	5.0	408
Second Quarter	29,442	24,162	27,714	22,527	5,187	5.2	2.9	743
Third Quarter	27,657	22,723	29,139	23,791	5,348	5.1	5.6	161
Fourth Quarter	29,356	22,794	29,021	23,274	5,747	-0.4	-2.2	399
1985								
First Quarter	28,926	23,668	29,662	24,175	5,487	2.2	3.9	-260
Second Quarter	31,652	27,169	29,759	25,280	4,479	0.3	4.6	-1,008
Third Quarter	28,133	25,392	29,678	26,184	3,494	-0.3	3.6	-985
Fourth Quarter	31,547	26,554	31,158	27,143	4,014	5.0	3.7	520
1986								
First Quarter	29,128	27,113	30,223	27,778	2,445	-3.0	2.3	-1,569
1985								
January	9,145	7,695	9,654	8,218	1,436	0.7	3.5	-209
February	9,177	7,569	9,685	7,921	1,764	0.3	-3.6	329
March	10,604	8,403	10,323	8,036	2,287	6.6	1.5	523
April	10,453	9,029	10,050	8,050	2,000	-2.6	0.2	-287
May	10,863	9,155	10,040	8,487	1,553	-0.1	5.4	-447
June	10,335	8,986	9,669	8,742	927	-3.7	3.0	-626
July	8,561	8,622	9,086	8,564	522	-6.0	-2.0	-405
August	8,983	8,203	10,083	8,770	1,313	11.0	2.4	791
September	10,589	8,567	10,510	8,850	1,660	4.2	0.9	347
October	11,206	9,245	10,710	8,841	1,869	1.9	-0.1	209
November	10,373	9,118	10,146	9,221	925	-5.3	4.3	-944
December	9,969	8,191	10,302	9,081	1,221	1.5	-1.5	296
1986								
January	10,060	9,054	10,843	9,808	1,035	5.3	8.0	-185
February	9,413	9,425	10,034	9,890	144	-7.5	0.8	-891
March	9,655	8,633	9,345	8,080	1,265	-6.9	-18.3	1,121
April	10,673	10,185	10,236	9,166	1,070	9.5	13.4	-194
Year-to-date								
1985	39,379	32,696	39,713	32,225	7,487	12.4	10.4	1,350
1986	39,801	37,298	40,459	36,943	3,516	1.9	14.6	-3,971

¹ Total Exports = Domestic Exports + Re-exports.

² Year-to-year, quarter-to-quarter, month-to-month.

³ Seasonally Adjusted.

Note: Due to rounding monthly data may not add up to quarterly data and quarterly data may not add up to annual data.

Table 2
Merchandise Trade by Principal Trading Areas
 April 1986
 Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

			Period-to-period change				Year-to-date	Change over previous year	
	Mar.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.		%	\$ millions
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions		\$ millions	%	\$ millions
Total exports to:									
United States	7,289.4	7,955.3	-6.5	9.1	-510.6	666.0	31,373.9	2.0	620.2
Japan	420.5	527.5	-7.4	25.4	-33.8	107.0	1,901.5	-5.2	-103.4
United Kingdom	199.0	252.7	-14.8	27.0	-34.6	53.7	906.2	15.2	119.6
Other EEC Countries	379.0	432.1	-17.0	14.0	-77.9	53.0	1,712.7	10.6	163.5
Other OECD Countries	179.3	119.4	19.5	-33.4	29.2	-59.9	702.6	-13.2	-106.4
Other Countries	878.1	949.5	-6.5	8.1	-61.1	71.4	3,862.2	1.4	52.9
Total	9,345.2	10,236.4	-6.9	9.5	-688.8	891.2	40,459.1	1.9	746.5
Imports from:									
United States	5,835.6	6,289.2	-13.5	7.8	-914.3	453.6	25,887.1	9.3	2,208.4
Japan	540.2	677.2	-16.9	25.4	-109.9	137.0	2,359.7	29.3	535.4
United Kingdom	225.4	255.7	-47.1	13.4	-200.9	30.3	1,309.9	105.1	671.2
Other EEC Countries	594.3	777.1	-26.9	30.8	-218.7	182.8	2,936.3	42.5	876.2
Other OECD Countries	175.9	221.4	-30.0	25.9	-75.2	45.6	862.0	6.4	51.6
Other Countries	708.9	944.9	-29.1	33.3	-290.3	236.0	3,588.2	11.7	375.1
Total	8,080.3	9,165.5	-18.3	13.4	-1809.3	1085.2	36,943.2	14.6	4,717.8
Balance with:									
United States	1,453.8	1,666.2			403.6	212.4	5,486.8		-1,588.2
Japan	-119.7	-149.7			76.1	-30.0	-458.1		-638.8
United Kingdom	-26.5	-3.0			166.3	23.5	-403.8		-551.5
Other EEC Countries	-215.3	-345.1			140.8	-129.7	-1,223.6		-712.6
Other OECD Countries	3.4	-102.1			104.5	-105.5	-159.4		-158.0
Other Countries	169.2	4.6			229.2	-164.6	274.0		-322.2
Total	1,264.9	1,070.9			1120.6	-194.0	3,515.9		-3,971.4

Note: Prior to 1986 Portugal and Spain were not included in the EEC.

Table 3
Total Exports by Commodity
 April 1986
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values			
			Year-to-date			Percentage changes			
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Value	% change	Apr. '86/ Apr. '85	Apr. '85/ Apr. '84	Apr. '84/ Apr. '83	
	\$ millions								
Agricultural and fishing products	964.8	820.8	865.6	3,739.9	4.8	-5.9	-4.3	0.3	
Wheat	356.1	207.1	204.8	1,210.1	1.2	-34.9	-1.9	-25.1	
Other agricultural and fishing products	608.7	613.8	660.8	2,529.8	6.6	9.5	-5.6	21.2	
Energy products	919.5	927.5	810.8	3,973.8	-28.5	-45.9	16.2	-28.5	
Crude petroleum*	234.4	249.5	256.7	1,176.8	-39.2	-57.5	36.7	83.8	
Natural gas	243.0	202.1	162.3	892.1	-33.9	-52.6	2.5	1.0	
Other energy products	442.2	475.9	391.8	1,904.9	-16.1	-30.5	7.7	14.6	
Forestry products	1,408.6	1,443.1	1,604.6	5,858.6	8.8	17.4	17.4	14.4	
Lumber and sawmill products	522.8	526.9	618.3	2,213.6	17.9	27.2	7.8	19.6	
Wood pulp and other wood products	304.5	340.5	377.1	1,307.2	5.1	23.2	7.3	16.6	
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	581.4	575.6	609.2	2,337.8	3.4	6.3	33.6	8.3	
Industrial goods and materials	1,934.8	1,701.8	2,052.4	7,840.1	-1.7	3.8	11.7	24.2	
Metal ores	334.7	285.6	444.9	1,463.1	-4.9	16.0	-7.0	41.7	
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	415.3	427.2	458.3	1,766.7	-2.4	0.9	8.6	18.3	
Metals and alloys	728.1	588.4	656.3	2,778.1	-2.4	-8.2	22.0	16.7	
Other industrial goods and materials	456.8	400.5	492.8	1,832.2	3.1	16.8	17.5	29.3	
Machinery and equipment	1,546.6	1,418.8	1,633.4	5,993.7	8.9	13.7	26.6	14.5	
Industrial and agricultural machinery	401.3	321.0	373.4	1,428.2	4.4	13.6	5.8	19.2	
Aircraft and other transportation equip.	347.6	303.4	449.4	1,404.6	33.9	45.8	37.7	-11.9	
Other machinery and equipment	797.7	794.4	810.5	3,161.0	2.4	1.7	34.2	25.4	
Automotive products	2,879.6	2,691.9	2,889.6	11,572.5	11.8	15.3	11.2	45.1	
Passenger autos and chassis	1,311.1	1,282.7	1,437.0	5,408.4	21.4	27.9	8.4	47.1	
Trucks and other motor vehicles	570.6	513.1	510.8	2,245.7	2.2	4.2	8.8	39.1	
Motor vehicle parts	997.9	896.1	941.9	3,918.4	6.0	5.1	16.9	46.1	
Other consumer goods	183.5	163.1	197.8	731.9	15.7	18.3	9.7	32.6	
Special transactions trade*	31.4	29.3	30.0	113.0	-16.9	-6.0	13.8	53.2	
Unallocated BOP adjustments	165.2	148.9	152.3	635.5	4.4	-3.5	25.9	169.1	
Total exports	10,034.0	9,345.2	10,236.4	40,459.1	1.9	2.1	13.5	25.3	

* Series has no seasonality. Figures are unadjusted.

Total Exports by Major Country Groupings, 1983 to 1986

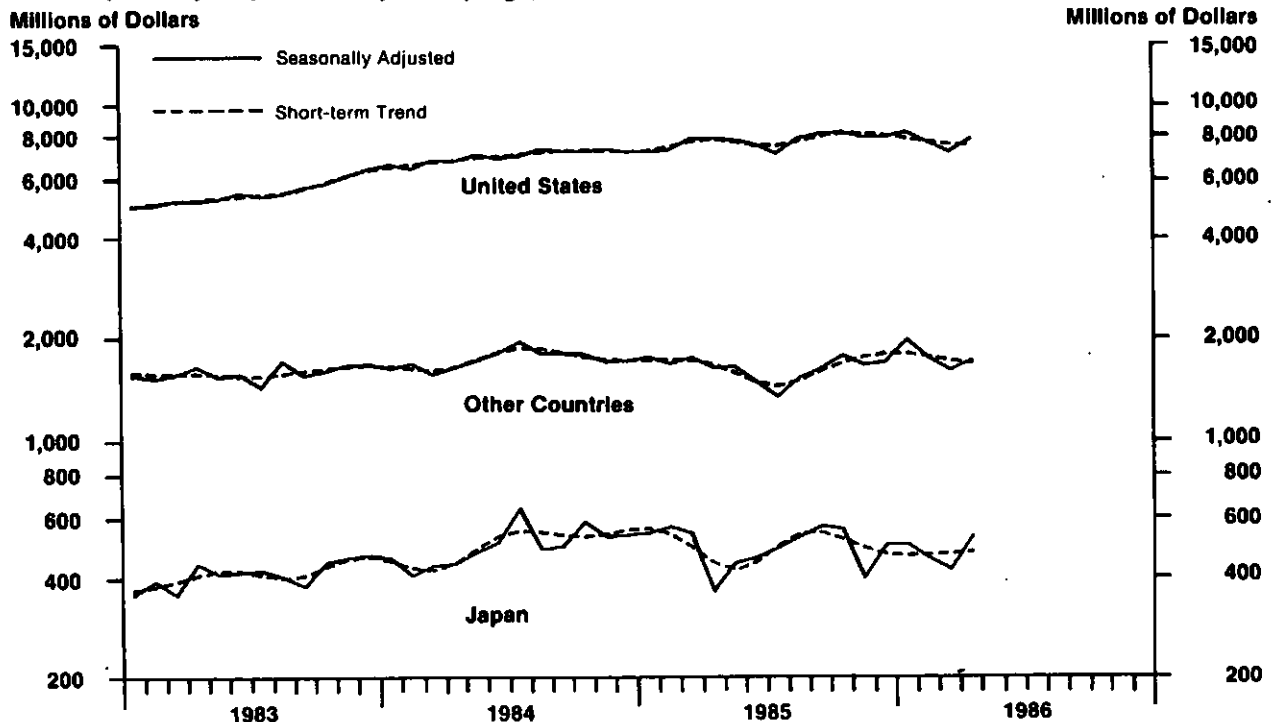


Table 4
Imports by Commodity
 April 1986
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Year-to-date		Percentage changes		
				Value	% change	Apr. '86/ Apr. '85	Apr. '85/ Apr. '84	Apr. '84/ Apr. '83
	\$ millions							
Agricultural and fishing products	620.0	499.1	653.3	2,341.8	6.6	17.4	14.7	7.3
Fruits and vegetables	201.4	154.8	222.3	778.4	3.6	15.4	21.2	2.5
Other agricultural and fishing products	418.6	344.2	431.0	1,563.4	8.2	18.5	11.3	9.9
Energy products	715.0	379.5	307.9	2,031.0	23.5	-34.5	-7.5	42.3
Crude petroleum	474.3	177.8	151.4	1,165.8	41.6	-47.4	-19.4	52.4
Other energy products	240.7	201.7	156.5	865.3	5.4	-17.8	14.4	27.0
Forestry products	88.5	69.0	84.3	318.5	15.2	32.9	7.3	8.6
Industrial goods and materials	1,689.0	1,415.7	1,643.0	6,568.9	10.1	7.4	23.1	15.0
Metals and metal ores	495.9	454.0	401.0	2,029.3	5.2	-19.6	38.9	13.0
Chemicals and plastics	507.0	406.8	558.5	1,957.8	11.1	19.8	19.8	11.1
Other industrial goods and materials	686.0	554.9	683.5	2,581.8	13.4	18.4	15.5	19.9
Machinery and equipment	2,697.4	2,185.1	2,707.6	10,230.4	12.1	16.2	13.1	32.6
Industrial and agricultural machinery	971.9	782.7	1,007.7	3,672.7	21.5	27.8	24.5	23.7
Aircraft and other transportation equip.	392.5	260.5	313.6	1,397.0	10.6	-4.5	12.8	34.5
Office machines and equipment	386.4	323.7	394.3	1,475.2	2.6	15.9	-1.4	52.2
Other machinery and equipment	946.6	818.1	992.0	3,685.4	8.4	16.9	10.1	32.0
Automotive products	2,973.6	2,582.5	2,589.7	11,181.4	14.5	9.7	16.4	51.2
Passenger autos and chassis	1,157.4	914.8	919.3	4,276.6	21.4	9.7	37.2	38.1
Trucks and other motor vehicles	292.0	229.3	272.2	1,064.0	17.7	18.9	15.8	66.7
Motor vehicle parts	1,524.3	1,438.4	1,398.1	5,840.7	9.3	8.0	4.8	57.2
Other consumer goods	1,016.1	875.8	1,072.4	3,924.8	17.8	28.8	5.9	18.6
Apparel and footwear	250.2	222.3	255.4	948.0	28.2	44.2	-4.6	46.7
Miscellaneous consumer goods	765.9	653.5	817.0	2,976.8	14.8	25.5	8.5	13.3
Special transactions trade	164.2	131.4	159.4	595.5	15.6	17.3	6.8	76.0
Unallocated BOP adjustments	-74.2	-57.6	-51.9	-249.1	-58.4	-65.5	-37.4	66.9
Total imports	9,889.7	8,080.3	9,165.5	36,943.2	14.6	12.8	15.4	31.0

Imports by Major Country Groupings, 1983 to 1986

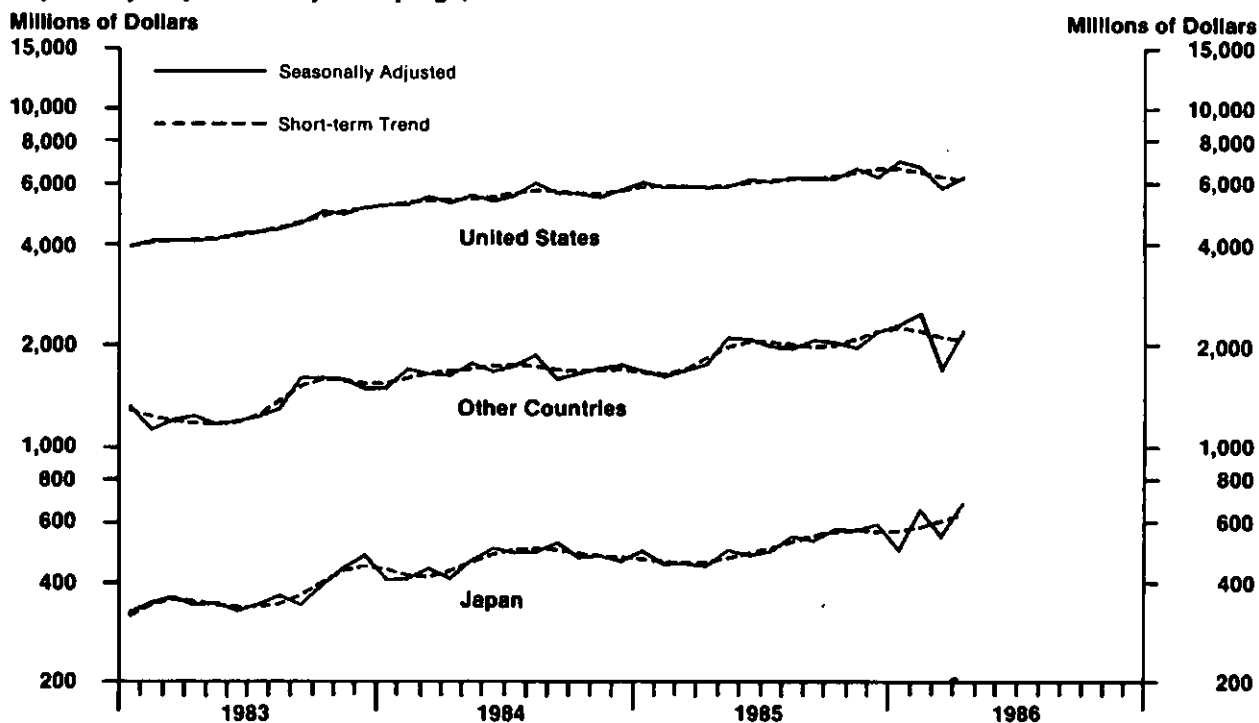


Table 5
Merchandise Trade of Canada
Constant Dollars and Laspeyres Price Indexes

April 1986

Seasonally adjusted, Balance of Payment basis

	Constant (1981) dollars ¹				Unit value (Laspeyres) price indexes ²			
			Period-to-period change ⁴		1981 = 100.0		Period-to-period change ⁴	
	Total exports ³	Imports	Total exports ³	Imports	Total exports ³	Imports	Total exports ³	Imports
	\$ millions		%				%	
1981	83,321	74,559			100.0	100.0	7.8	13.1
1982	82,658	61,428	-0.8	-17.6	101.2	104.6	1.2	4.6
1983	88,475	66,750	7.0	8.7	101.3	105.0	0.1	0.4
1984	104,404	78,099	18.0	17.0	105.7	111.3	4.3	6.1
1985	110,402	86,052	5.7	10.2	107.0	115.4	1.2	3.7
1984								
First quarter	24,840	19,276	3.3	2.2	104.4	108.4	2.4	1.9
Second quarter	25,653	19,219	3.3	-0.3	106.6	111.3	2.1	2.7
Third quarter	26,857	20,071	4.7	4.4	106.9	113.5	0.3	1.9
Fourth quarter	27,054	19,533	0.7	-2.7	106.0	114.0	-0.8	0.5
1985								
First quarter	27,698	20,326	-2.3	-3.9	106.3	114.4	-0.3	-0.3
Second quarter	27,271	21,179	-1.5	4.2	107.8	115.7	1.3	1.2
Third quarter	26,964	21,983	-1.1	3.8	107.4	115.2	-0.3	-0.4
Fourth quarter	28,469	22,565	5.6	2.6	107.2	117.5	-0.3	1.9
1986								
First Quarter	28,193	22,717	1.0	-0.7	105.5	118.8	1.6	-1.1
1985								
January	9,066	7,012	0.7	5.1	105.5	113.1	0.1	-0.9
February	9,057	6,625	-0.1	-5.5	106.6	114.1	1.0	0.9
March	9,574	6,688	5.7	1.0	107.2	116.2	0.6	1.8
April	9,288	6,724	-3.0	0.5	107.5	115.5	0.2	-0.6
May	9,181	7,119	-1.2	5.9	107.8	116.0	0.4	0.4
June	8,803	7,336	-4.1	3.0	107.8	115.7	-0.1	-0.2
July	8,283	7,181	-5.9	-2.1	106.9	115.0	-0.7	-0.6
August	9,149	7,359	10.5	2.5	107.3	115.1	0.4	0.1
September	9,532	7,443	4.2	1.1	107.9	115.9	0.6	0.7
October	9,813	7,415	3.0	-0.4	107.3	116.7	-0.6	0.6
November	9,220	7,675	-6.0	3.5	107.2	117.3	-0.1	0.5
December	9,436	7,475	2.3	-2.6	107.3	118.5	0.1	1.1
1986								
January	10,112	8,025	-6.7	-6.9	106.3	119.7	0.9	-0.9
February	9,299	8,079	-8.0	0.7	105.4	118.9	-0.9	-0.6
March	8,783	6,612	-5.5	-18.2	104.9	117.7	-0.5	-1.0
April	9,659	7,429	10.0	12.3	104.5	115.0	-0.4	-2.3
Year to date								
1985	36,985	27,049	11.3	5.8				
1986	37,853	30,145	2.3	11.4				

¹ The Paasche current weighted price index used to calculate constant dollars can be derived by dividing current values in Table 1 by the constant dollars above.

² The Laspeyres price index uses fixed weights based on 1981 trade and therefore reflects changes in price only.

³ Total exports = domestic exports + re-exports.

⁴ Year-to-year, quarter-to-quarter, month-to-month.

Note: Due to rounding monthly data may not add up to quarterly data and quarterly data may not add up to annual data.

Due to different deflating procedures between International Trade and Gross National Product Divisions, Table 5 statistics exclude, for the time being, office machines and equipment.