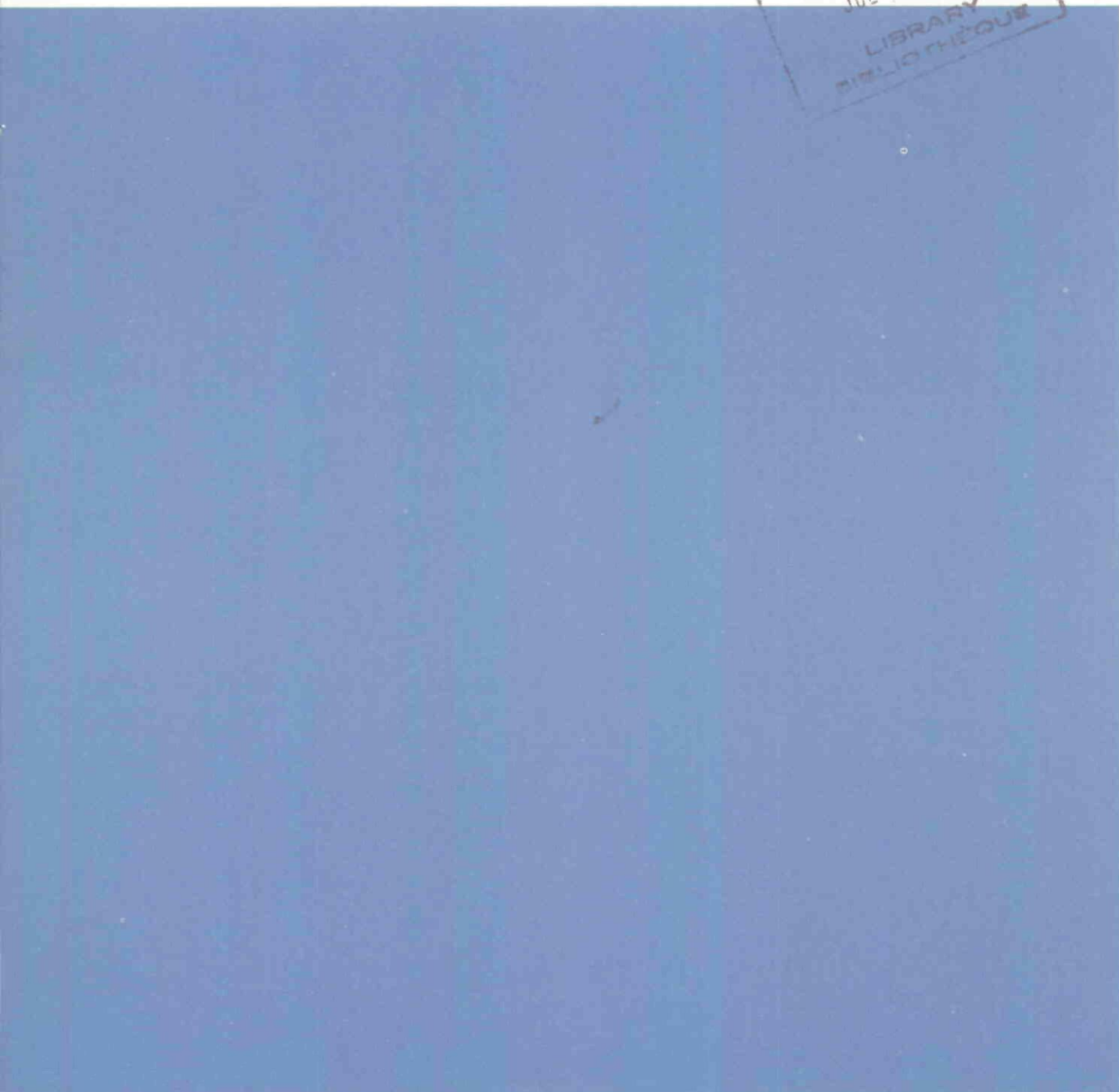


Preliminary statement of Canadian international trade

May 1986

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Statistics Canada
International Trade Division

Preliminary statement of Canadian international trade

May 1986

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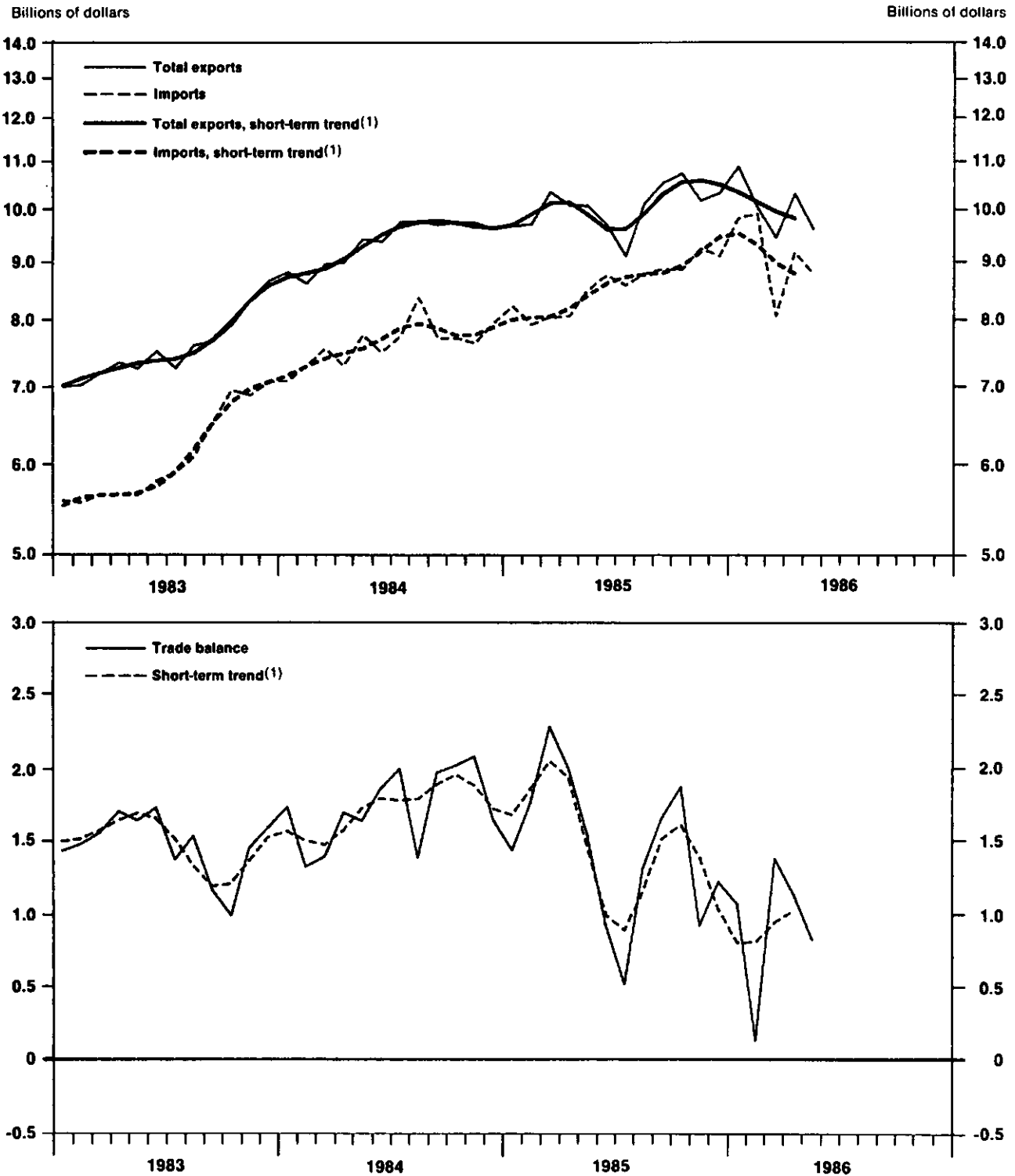
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**Imports, Total Exports, and Trade Balance, All Countries, Seasonally Adjusted
Balance of Payments Basis**



(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
May 1986

Month-to-month Overview

Month-to-month movements in both exports and imports continued to be unstable. Preliminary May estimates showed total exports declining by 6.8% or \$700 million to \$9.6 billion, following an increase of \$862 million in April and a decline of \$593 million in March. Imports declined less; 4.3% or \$395 million, down to \$8.8 billion. This came after an increase of \$1.1 billion in April and a decrease of \$1.8 billion in March.

As a result, the merchandise trade surplus decreased \$304 million in May to \$830 million. This came after the \$244 million decrease registered in April and the \$1.2 billion jump in March.

Short-term Trend (excludes the latest month)

Total Exports

Weakness in exports of wheat, trucks, motor vehicle parts and a recent turn-around in industrial goods and materials exports were the main contributors to a declining short-term trend visible since December 1985. Strength in exports of forestry products, machinery and equipment, and to a lesser extent the easing in the declines of energy products, were not a sufficient offset.

Imports

After 15 consecutive months of growth, the short-term trend for imports declined for the third time in a row. It resulted from weaker imports of passenger automobiles, motor vehicle parts, industrial goods and materials and of imports of energy products. In contrast imports of agricultural and fishing products

and other consumer goods continued to show signs of growth.

Commodity Highlights

Total Exports

About half of the \$700 million decline in May exports, was the result of sharp decreases in industrial goods and materials. Growth in forestry products registered in the first four months of 1986, was nearly cancelled by a \$231 million drop in May. Exports of aircraft and other transportation equipment, which are still up on an underlying upward trend, rebounded 48% in April and declined 25% or \$114 million in May. Following a \$182 million pick up in April, exports of automotive products posted a 3.1% or \$89 million decrease in May and remain on a downward trend after reaching a peak in October 1985.

Exports of energy products, with a 19% (\$158 million) gain in May, showed renewed vigor after large declines in January and February. They contribute to slowing down the decline in the short-term trend from 16% in February to 5% in April.

Imports

Declines were posted in all major import commodity groupings with the exception of energy products. But, despite this current increase, imports of these products are still on a downward trend. Imports of chemicals and plastics and other industrial goods; imports of industrial and agricultural machinery and other machinery and equipment which had shown signs of recovery in April, accounted for most of the overall \$395 million drop in imports.

Imports of crude petroleum, after two consecutive declines of \$319 million in March and of \$33 million in April, increased 93% or \$117 million to \$244 million in May. Imports of metals and metal ores and imports of trucks showed more modest increases.

(continued on page 7)

Trading Partner Highlights

Exports

Exports to all Canada's trading partners decreased in May. Exports to the United States and to Other countries which had declined in February and March and had showed some sign of recovery in April, took once again sharp declines, \$374 million and \$229 million respectively. Exports to both these markets have been on a downward short-term trend for the last four months. Exports to the United Kingdom, Japan, Other EEC and Other OECD countries posted much smaller declines.

Imports

Except for an increase in imports from Other countries, Canada's imports from the United States, EEC countries, Japan and Other OECD countries all declined in May. After the March to April turnaround, imports from the United States declined, 4% or \$258 million to \$6.0 billion, while imports from EEC countries and from Japan declined \$115 million and \$81 million respectively. Partly counterbalancing these declines, imports from other countries which had advanced \$231 million in April continued to grow in May by posting an 8% or \$78 million increase to \$1.0 billion.

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

Order the May 1986 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (65-001, \$15/\$150), available the fourth week of July 1986 or contact G. Blaney (613-990-9647), Trade Information Unit, or François Bordé (613-990-9784), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

Table 1
Merchandise Trade of Canada
 May 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	84,432	77,140	84,432	77,140	7,292	10.1	13.6	-1,486
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	29,229	27,075	30,325	27,744	2,581	-2.7	2.2	-1,434
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	10,083	9,049	10,869	9,801	1,068	5.5	7.9	-152
February	9,403	9,425	10,024	9,891	133	-7.8	0.9	-935
March	9,743	8,601	9,431	8,052	1,379	-5.9	-18.6	1,245
April	10,732	10,184	10,293	9,158	1,135	9.1	13.7	-244
May	10,247	9,322	9,593	8,763	830	-6.8	-4.3	-304
Year-to-date								
1985	50,242	41,851	49,753	40,713	9,040	11.3	10.2	1,266
1986	50,209	46,580	50,210	45,664	4,546	0.9	12.2	-4,494

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
May 1986
Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

			Period-to-period change				Year-to-date \$ millions	Change over previous year	
	Apr.	May	Apr.	May	Apr.	May		%	\$ millions
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions				
Total exports to:									
United States	7,971.0	7,597.1	9.3	-4.7	679.3	-373.9	38,965.8	0.8	295.4
Japan	495.9	488.9	14.9	-1.4	64.2	-7.0	2,382.3	-2.6	-63.4
United Kingdom	241.2	202.6	28.0	-16.0	52.8	-38.5	1,080.0	10.2	99.5
Other EEC Countries	447.2	409.3	11.3	-8.5	45.4	-37.9	2,177.4	14.3	271.7
Other OECD Countries	157.9	144.4	-14.6	-8.5	-27.0	-13.5	897.2	-9.7	-96.9
Other Countries	979.5	750.8	5.0	-23.3	46.9	-228.6	4,707.8	-1.0	-48.5
Total	10,292.6	9,593.2	9.1	-6.8	861.5	-699.4	50,210.4	0.9	457.8
Imports from:									
United States	6,283.3	6,025.1	7.9	-4.1	462.1	-258.2	31,882.0	7.8	2,298.2
Japan	679.0	597.7	25.2	-12.0	136.8	-81.3	2,961.9	27.9	645.7
United Kingdom	249.7	232.7	20.7	-6.8	42.8	-17.0	1,527.9	54.5	539.2
Other EEC Countries	780.4	682.5	31.3	-12.5	186.1	-97.8	3,621.9	36.5	968.0
Other OECD Countries	225.2	206.0	26.3	-8.5	46.9	-19.1	1,075.1	4.7	48.3
Other Countries	940.5	1,018.5	32.6	8.3	231.4	77.9	4,595.7	10.9	452.3
Total	9,158.1	8,762.6	13.7	-4.3	1105.9	-395.5	45,664.5	12.2	4,951.7
Balance with:									
United States	1,687.7	1,572.0			217.2	-115.7	7,083.8		-2,002.8
Japan	-183.1	-108.8			-72.5	74.3	-579.6		-709.2
United Kingdom	-8.6	-30.1			10.0	-21.5	-448.0		-439.7
Other EEC Countries	-333.1	-273.2			-140.7	59.9	-1,444.5		-696.2
Other OECD Countries	-67.3	-61.7			-73.9	5.6	-177.8		-145.2
Other Countries	38.9	-267.6			-184.5	-306.5	112.1		-500.8
Total	1,134.5	830.6			-244.4	-303.9	4,545.9		-4,493.9

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

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

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
						Percentage changes		
	Mar.	Apr.	May	Year-to-date		May '86/ May '85	May '85/ May '84	May '84/ May '83
Value				% change				
	\$ millions							
Agricultural and fishing products	828.7	866.0	853.6	4,609.6	3.6	-7.3	-12.9	5.7
Wheat	213.0	204.8	189.0	1,405.0	-7.5	-41.7	-12.1	-6.3
Other agricultural and fishing products	615.7	661.3	664.6	3,204.5	9.3	17.1	-13.4	16.2
Energy products	927.6	831.3	989.3	4,967.8	-29.1	-31.5	8.6	31.2
Crude petroleum*	247.4	275.9	322.4	1,516.3	-38.8	-40.3	16.4	67.9
Natural gas	216.3	165.7	206.5	1,119.4	-34.5	-42.6	3.2	18.9
Other energy products	463.9	389.7	460.4	2,332.1	-17.2	-16.1	4.9	15.7
Forestry products	1,470.4	1,822.7	1,392.1	7,297.6	8.8	5.1	-0.6	25.3
Lumber and sawmill products	540.2	619.0	549.7	2,778.0	16.1	7.1	11.7	12.1
Wood pulp and other wood products	343.2	382.7	295.6	1,611.2	6.0	8.2	-20.6	45.9
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	587.0	620.9	546.8	2,908.4	4.0	1.6	1.1	27.3
Industrial goods and materials	1,710.6	2,064.8	1,731.1	9,601.6	-3.0	-10.3	5.3	30.5
Metal ores	295.8	413.4	320.5	1,774.9	-5.0	5.1	-13.0	39.6
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	429.5	479.2	400.6	2,184.8	-1.2	-4.4	-1.5	22.0
Metals and alloys	576.9	677.5	625.9	3,415.7	-3.8	-10.7	3.5	32.9
Other industrial goods and materials	408.4	494.7	384.1	2,226.2	-1.6	-23.9	33.7	28.0
Machinery and equipment	1,448.6	1,639.0	1,467.9	7,509.0	8.1	-0.5	16.3	34.8
Industrial and agricultural machinery	331.6	374.0	376.2	1,818.1	5.9	0.4	9.2	32.9
Aircraft and other transportation equip.	307.8	456.7	342.6	1,767.6	27.4	4.1	20.9	34.5
Other machinery and equipment	809.2	808.3	749.2	3,923.3	2.1	-3.2	17.9	36.1
Automotive products	2,704.8	2,887.1	2,798.3	14,390.1	10.8	3.0	11.7	35.9
Passenger autos and chassis	1,282.7	1,437.0	1,367.0	6,775.4	19.8	8.7	14.8	27.9
Trucks and other motor vehicles	513.1	510.8	512.7	2,764.4	1.7	-4.7	6.6	42.7
Motor vehicle parts	909.0	939.3	918.7	4,850.2	5.2	-0.7	10.6	44.1
Other consumer goods	164.6	199.0	194.7	930.4	18.1	19.5	-7.5	40.2
Special transactions trade*	29.4	30.1	23.8	137.0	-19.5	-30.5	-38.6	148.6
Unallocated BOP adjustments	146.3	152.6	142.5	767.4	-5.2	-25.7	44.9	203.9
Total exports	9,431.1	10,292.6	9,593.2	50,210.4	0.9	-5.7	5.9	29.7

* Series has no seasonality. Figures are unadjusted.

Total Exports by Major Country Groupings, 1983 to 1986

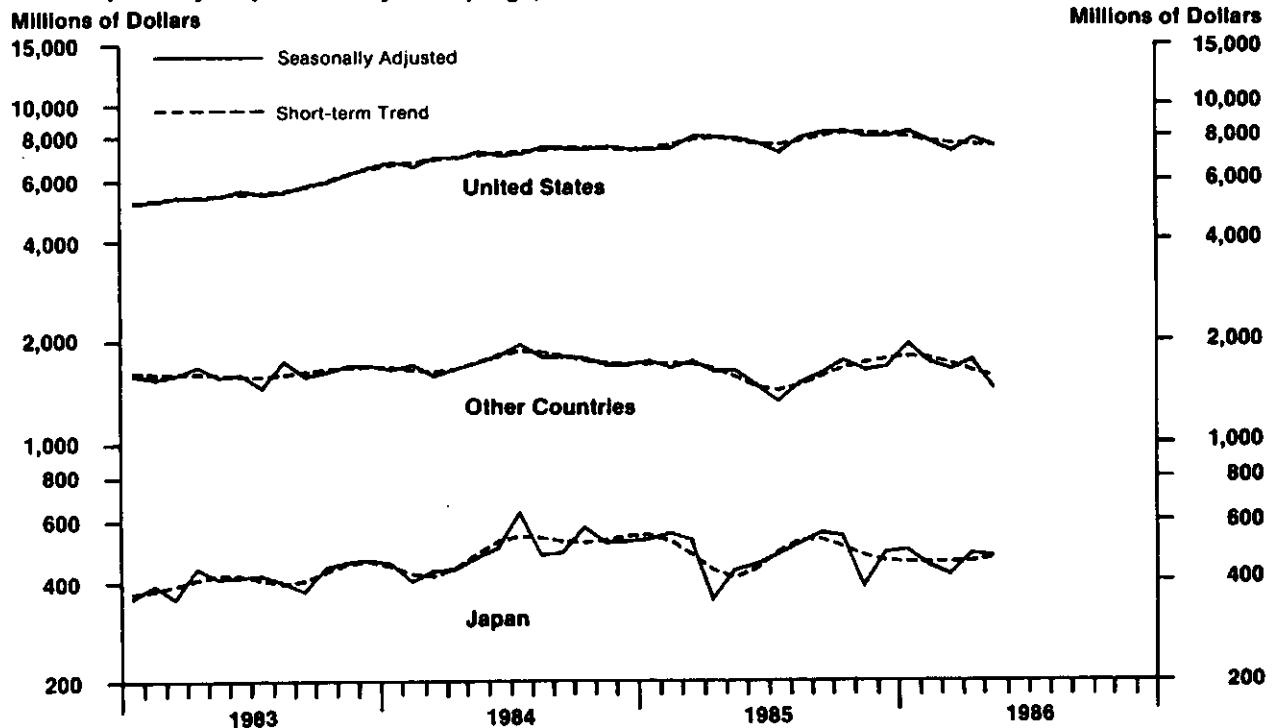


Table 4
Imports by Commodity
 May 1986
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Mar.	Apr.	May	Year-to-date		Percentage changes		
				Value	% change	May '86/ May '85	May '85/ May '84	May '84/ May '83
	\$ millions							
Agricultural and fishing products	501.1	653.5	611.7	2,955.7	8.1	10.2	-5.2	27.7
Fruits and vegetables	154.8	222.1	195.5	973.6	4.6	6.5	-0.2	22.6
Other agricultural and fishing products	346.3	431.4	416.2	1,982.1	9.9	12.4	-7.9	30.7
Energy products	361.0	283.3	409.0	2,400.7	-1.7	-44.0	49.1	102.3
Crude petroleum	159.3	126.6	244.1	1,370.4	-0.4	-52.5	117.4	153.4
Other energy products	201.7	156.7	164.9	1,030.4	-3.4	-32.9	5.5	79.2
Forestry products	69.3	84.3	69.6	388.4	14.8	9.2	-14.9	23.7
Industrial goods and materials	1,413.7	1,669.4	1,553.3	8,145.5	8.8	0.8	2.9	27.6
Metals and metal ores	453.0	424.5	454.9	2,507.0	4.6	-2.0	11.2	25.4
Chemicals and plastics	407.3	561.2	483.6	2,444.5	10.2	4.0	1.6	28.3
Other industrial goods and materials	553.4	683.6	614.8	3,194.0	11.2	0.3	-1.8	28.5
Machinery and equipment	2,180.4	2,704.4	2,507.6	12,719.6	11.0	4.1	0.1	51.2
Industrial and agricultural machinery	781.3	1,005.3	915.5	4,578.1	20.2	12.8	11.9	34.6
Aircraft and other transportation equip.	259.3	314.0	332.6	1,723.2	8.1	-0.6	-10.9	90.5
Office machines and equipment	323.3	393.9	395.0	1,869.1	3.4	-0.6	-13.1	84.5
Other machinery and equipment	816.6	991.1	864.5	4,549.2	7.2	-1.1	-0.1	43.6
Automotive products	2,584.1	2,594.4	2,563.2	13,750.5	12.9	2.7	16.8	33.7
Passenger autos and chassis	915.2	921.7	880.9	5,159.8	18.4	4.3	33.2	25.2
Trucks and other motor vehicles	228.9	271.7	284.7	1,347.8	15.4	3.0	18.3	98.1
Motor vehicle parts	1,440.0	1,401.0	1,397.6	7,242.9	8.9	1.4	7.0	31.2
Other consumer goods	878.2	1,074.6	958.8	4,888.9	17.4	10.0	-7.2	40.7
Apparel and footwear	222.3	255.7	210.6	1,159.0	27.7	19.6	-16.1	47.4
Miscellaneous consumer goods	655.9	818.9	748.2	3,729.9	14.5	8.1	-5.3	39.3
Special transactions trade	122.0	146.2	153.5	728.3	13.5	15.7	-2.8	72.7
Unallocated BOP adjustments	-57.6	-51.8	-64.2	-313.1	-57.1	-53.2	-42.1	90.2
Total imports	8,052.1	9,158.1	8,762.6	45,664.5	12.2	1.8	7.7	39.0

Imports by Major Country Groupings, 1983 to 1986

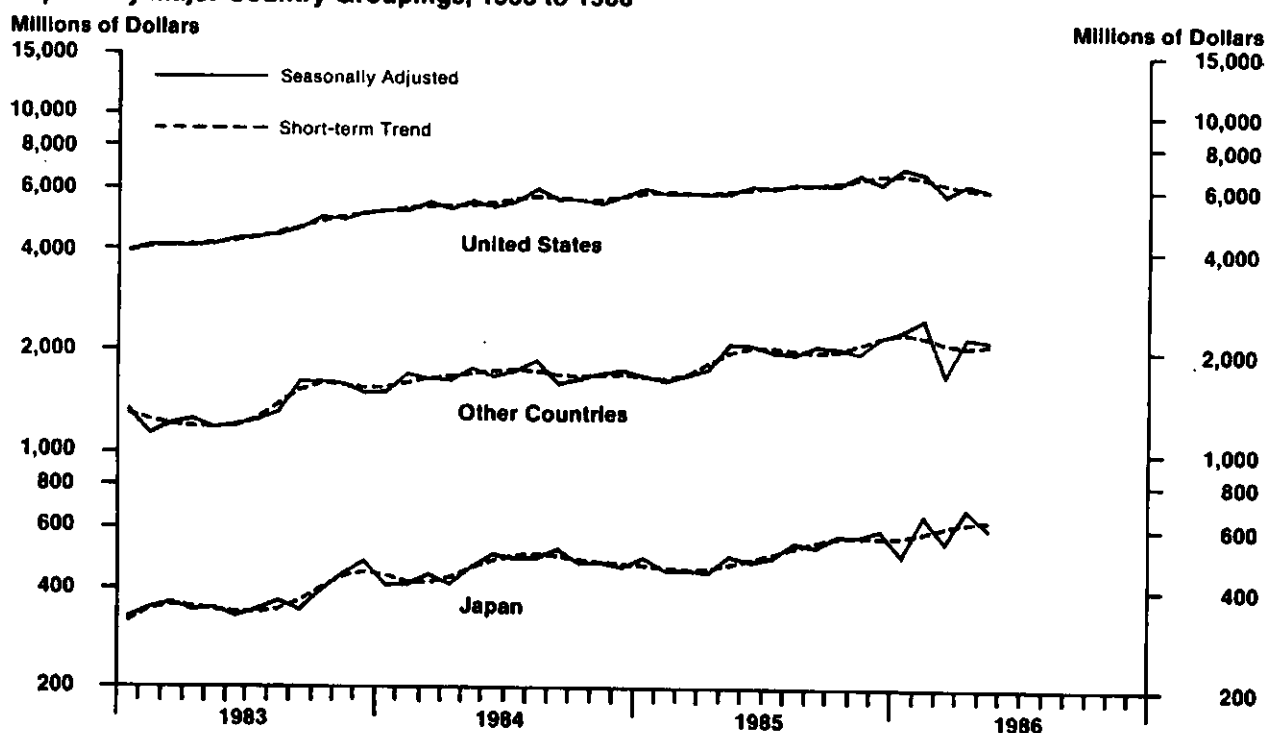


Table 5
Merchandise Trade of Canada
Constant Dollars and Laspeyres Price Indexes
 May 1986
 Seasonally adjusted, Balance of Payment basis

	Constant (1981) dollars ¹				Unit value (Laspeyres) price indexes ²			
	Total exports ³ Imports		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
	\$ 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	10,131	8,009	-6.9	-6.7	106.4	119.9	0.8	-1.1
February	9,294	8,069	-8.3	0.7	105.5	119.0	-0.9	-0.7
March	8,863	6,555	-4.6	-18.8	105.0	118.0	-0.5	-0.9
April	9,728	7,401	9.8	12.9	104.6	115.1	-0.4	-2.4
May	9,021	7,359	-7.3	-0.6	104.8	114.3	0.2	-0.7
Year-to-date								
1985	46,166	34,168	10.1	6.4				
1986	47,037	37,393	1.9	9.4				

¹ The Paasche current weighted price index used to calculate constant dollars can be derived by dividing current values (less office machines and equipment) 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 different deflating procedures between International Trade and Gross National Product Divisions, Table 5 statistics exclude, for the time being, office machines and equipment.

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