## Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

May 1987

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- The value of imports posted its largest increase in five years ( $+\$ 760$ million), rising to $\$ 9.2$ billion.
- Exports increased by $\$ 190$ million, rising to $\$ 10.1$ billion.
- The international merchandise trade surplus, which has fluctuated widely since the beginning of the year, decreased by $\$ 570$ million in May, falling to $\$ 947$ million.
- Increases in imports of passenger autos, aircraft and trucks were the main components of this strong growth in total imports in May 1987.
- Imports from the United States alone increased by $\$ 697$ million, rising to $\$ 6.4$ billion.

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 1987

## Month-to-Month Overview

The seasonally adjusted value of imports in May 1987 was $\$ 9.2$ billion, a jump of $\$ 760$ million from April. This increase was the largest in five years and a sharp turnaround from the situation in April, when there was a drop of $\$ 1.0$ billion. Exports, for their part, grew by $\$ 190$ million, rising to $\$ 10.1$ billion, following a drop of $\$ 484$ million in April from the March figure. These import and export movements have contributed to the instability of the international trade surplus since the beginning of the year. This surplus rose from $\$ 684$ million in January to $\$ 1.2$ billion in February, and from $\$ 981$ million in March to $\$ 1.5$ billion in April, falling to $\$ 947$ million in May.

## Short-Term Trend (excludes latest month)

## Exports

The short-term trend for exports declined for the first time in 1987, following decreases in exports of passenger autos, motor vehicle parts and aircraft. The most marked increases were those for exports of crude petroleum, other crude non-metallic minerals and televisions and telecommunication equipment.

## Imports

The short-term trend for imports was down for a fourth straight month. The main components of this decline were decreases for imports of motor vehicle parts, other industrial machinery and crude petroleum. The largest increases were those for imports of passenger autos, petroleum and coal products and precious metals.

## Commodity Highlights

## Exports

At the commodity level, the components which contributed most to the total increase in May were exports of crude petroleum ( $+\$ 72$ million), other crude non-metallic minerals ( $+\$ 63$ million) and office machines and equipment ( $+\$ 48$ million). Exports of both passenger autos and motor vehicle parts stayed at the level recorded the previous month - that is, at $\$ 1.0$ billion in both cases. The most notable decreases were those for exports of wheat ( $-\$ 134$ million), wood pulp ( $-\$ 52$ million) and trucks (-\$40 million).

## Imports

Increases in imports of passenger autos $(+\$ 250$ million), aircraft ( $+\$ 156$ million) and trucks ( $+\$ 101$ million) were the main sources of growth in May 1987. Overall, imports of automotive products increased by $\$ 440$ million in May, rising to $\$ 2.8$ billion. The most marked decreases were those for imports of ores (- $\$ 48$ million), precious metals ( $\mathbf{\$ 1 6}$ million) and coffee and cocoa ( $-\$ 13$ million).

## Trading Partner Highlights

## Exports

Exports to the United States jumped by $\$ 358$ million in May, rising to $\$ 7.8$ billion. The month before, exports to the United States had fallen by $\$ 394$ million. The value of exports to Japan also increased, advancing by $\$ 89$ million from the figure the month before. Decreases were recorded in exports to "other countries" ( $-\$ 161$ million), the United Kingdom ( $-\$ 36$ million), "other EEC countries" ( $\$ 50$ million), and "other OECD countries" ( $-\$ 9$ million).

## Imports

Imports from the United States increased by $\$ 697$ million, rising to $\$ 6.4$ billion. An increase was also recorded for imports from Japan ( $+\$ 169$ million). There were decreases in imports from all other principal trading areas.

Note to Users: Because of recent balance-ofpayments adjustments to the export data, the international trade statistics have been revised. The revisions affect the statistics for exports of newsprint paper and wood pulp from January 1982 on. The revised figures are now available on CANSIM.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633-3642, $\mathbf{3 6 5 1 - 3 6 7 8 , 3 6 8 5 - 3 7 1 3 , 3 7 1 8}$ and 3719.

For further information on the statistics, concepts and definitions, order the May 1987 issue of Summary of Canadian International Trade (No. 65-001, $\$ 15 / \$ 150$ ), available the fourth week of July 1987, or contact G Blaney (613-990-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-990-9787) (for analysis information), or John Butterill (613-991- 4804) (for price index information), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

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Table 1
Merchandise Trade of Canada
May 1987
Balance of Payments Basis

|  |  |  |  |  |  | Period-to-period change ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Total } \\ \begin{array}{r} \text { exports } \\ \text { raw } \end{array} \end{array}$ | Imports raw | Total exports ${ }^{1}$ S.A. ${ }^{3}$ | Imports S.A. ${ }^{3}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Balance } \\ \text { S.A. }{ }^{3} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Total exports ${ }^{1}$ S.A. ${ }^{3}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Imports } \\ \text { S.A. }{ }^{3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Balance } \\ \text { S.A. }{ }^{3} \end{gathered}$ |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  | \% | \% | \$ millions |
| 1981 | 84,432 | 77,140 | 84,432 | 77,140 | 7,292 | 10.1 | 13.6 | -1,486 |
| 1982 | 84,393 | 66,739 | 84,393 | 66,739 | 17,654 | 0.0 | -13.5 | 10,362 |
| 1983 | 90,556 | 73,098 | 90,556 | 73,098 | 17,457 | 7.3 | 9.5 | -197 |
| 1984 | 111,730 | 91,493 | 111,730 | 91,493 | 20,237 | 23.4 | 25.2 | 2,780 |
| 1985 | 119,566 | 102,641 | 119,566 | 102,641 | 16,926 | 7.0 | 12.2 | -3,312 |
| 1986 | 120,593 | 110,205 | 120,593 | 110,205 | 10,388 | 0.9 | 7.4 | -6,538 |
| 1985 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| First quarter | 28,728 | 23,676 | 29,355 | 24,106 | 5,249 | 1.6 | 3.1 | -275 |
| Second quarter | 31,409 | 27,180 | 29,948 | 25,226 | 4,721 | 2.0 | 4.6 | -528 |
| Third quarter | 27,982 | 25,352 | 29,459 | 26,274 | 3,185 | -1.6 | 4.2 | -1,537 |
| Fourth quarter | 31,447 | 26,433 | 30,805 | 27,034 | 3,770 | 4.6 | 2.9 | 586 |
| 1986 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| First quarter | 29,554 | 27,031 | 30,386 | 27,943 | 2,443 | -1.4 | 3.4 | -1,328 |
| Second quarter | 31,182 | 28,936 | 29,629 | 26,495 | 3,134 | -2.5 | -5.2 | 692 |
| Third quarter | 28,558 | 26,769 | 29,956 | 27,630 | 2,326 | 1.1 | 4.3 | -809 |
| Fourth quarter | 31,299 | 27,469 | 30,622 | 28,137 | 2,486 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 160 |
| 1987 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| First Quarter | 29,951 | 27,449 | 30,711 | 27,877 | 2,834 | 0.3 | -0.9 | 348 |
| 1986 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 10,192 | 9,079 | 10,752 | 9,665 | 1,087 | 4.8 | 5.9 | -49 |
| February | 9,504 | 9,385 | 9,980 | 9,647 | 333 | -7.2 | -0.2 | . 754 |
| March | 9,858 | 8,566 | 9,654 | 8,632 | 1,022 | -3.3 | -10.5 | 689 |
| April | 10,678 | 10,098 | 10,276 | 8,698 | 1,578 | 6.4 | 0.8 | 556 |
| May | 10,246 | 9,374 | 9,728 | 8,783 | 945 | -5.3 | 1.0 | -634 |
| June | 10,257 | 9,463 | 9,626 | 9,014 | 612 | -1.1 | 2.6 | -333 |
| July | 9,311 | 9,672 | 9,889 | 9,594 | 295 | 2.7 | 6.4 | -316 |
| August | 8,610 | 8,221 | 9,653 | 8,859 | 794 | -2.4 | -7.7 | 498 |
| September | 10,637 | 8,877 | 10,414 | 9,177 | 1,237 | 7.9 | 3.6 | 442 |
| October | 10,790 | 9,763 | 10,195 | 9,430 | 765 | -2.1 | 2.8 | . 471 |
| November | 10,498 | 9,136 | 10,204 | 9,249 | 955 | 0.1 | -1.9 | 190 |
| December | 10,011 | 8,569 | 10,224 | 9,458 | 766 | 0.2 | 2.3 | -188 |
| 1987 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 9,243 | 8,501 | 9,869 | 9,185 | 684 | -3.5 | -2.9 | -83 |
| February | 9,980 | 9,027 | 10,433 | 9,263 | 1,170 | 5.7 | 0.9 | 486 |
| March | 10,728 | 9,921 | 10,410 | 9,428 | 982 | -0.2 | 1.8 | -188 |
| April | 10,221 | 9,348 | 9,925 | 8,408 | 1,517 | -4.7 | -10.8 | 536 |
| May | 10,501 | 9,512 | 10,115 | 9,168 | 947 | 1.9 | 9.0 | -570 |
| Year-to-date |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1986 | 50,479 | 46,504 | 50,390 | 45,424 | 4,966 | 1.6 | 11.7 | -3,967 |
| 1987 | 50,672 | 46,309 | 50,751 | 45,454 | 5,298 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 332 |

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 1987
Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis


* Series has no seasonality. Figures are unadjusted.

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

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Table 3
Total Exports by Commodity Groupings
May 1987
Balance of Payments Basis

|  | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  | Raw values <br> Percentage changes |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Year-to-date |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mar. | Apr. | May | Value | \% change | May '87/ <br> May '86 | $\begin{gathered} \text { May '86/ } \\ \text { May '85 } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May '85/ } \\ & \text { May ' } 84 \end{aligned}$ |
| \$ millions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 1,055.0 | 1,057.3 | 934.0 | 4,983.2 | 10.4 | 8.3 | -7.0 | -12.8 |
| Wheat | 358.5 | 396.8 | 262.9 | 1,580.6 | 19.6 | 36.3 | -40.5 | -12.1 |
| Other agricultural and fishing products | 696.5 | 660.5 | 671.1 | 3,402.6 | 6.5 | -1.8 | 16.8 | -13.3 |
| Energy products | 949.0 | 966.0 | 1,044.2 | 4,820.4 | -8.6 | 5.3 | -33.7 | 12.0 |
| Crude petroleum* | 322.2 | 370.1 | 442.6 | 1,760.1 | 0.7 | 37.2 | -40.3 | 16.4 |
| Natural gas | 217.8 | 203.0 | 216.8 | 1,013.3 | -10.9 | 7.2 | -44.7 | 3.2 |
| Other energy products | 408.9 | 392.9 | 384.8 | 2,046.9 | -14.3 | -17.8 | -21.6 | 13.3 |
| Forestry products | 1,608.5 | 1,598.0 | 1,603.9 | 8,062.9 | 13.8 | 12.6 | 7.2 | -1.1 |
| Lumber and sawmill products | 562.8 | 503.9 | 549.5 | 2,744.6 | 0.1 | -1.2 | 7.6 | 11.5 |
| Wood pulp and other wood products | 430.4 | 483.3 | 431.0 | 2,223.2 | 44.4 | 41.6 | 10.6 | -21.0 |
| Newsprint and other paper and paperboard | 615.4 | 610.9 | 623.4 | 3,095.1 | 10.3 | 11.6 | 5.1 | -0.1 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 2,002.6 | 1,915.0 | 2,054.2 | 9,780.4 | 0.4 | 7.7 | -4.7 | . 4.8 |
| Metal ores | 379.6 | 378.0 | 340.5 | 1,850.6 | 10.0 | -7.7 | 15.3 | -12.6 |
| Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers | 457.7 | 446.5 | 475.6 | 2,199.6 | 1.6 | 17.9 | -5.8 | -0.8 |
| Metals and alloys | 749.3 | 691.8 | 765.8 | 3,602.8 | -2.9 | 4.3 | -1.6 | 1.8 |
| Other industrial goods and materials | 415.9 | 398.7 | 472.3 | 2,127.5 | -2.3 | 18.1 | -21.2 | 33.7 |
| Machinery and equipment | 1,656.3 | 1,493.9 | 1,560.6 | 7,714.2 | 1.7 | 1.8 | -0.9 | 17.2 |
| Industrial and agricultural machinery | 367.6 | 336.3 | 331.6 | 1,717.0 | -4.7 | -11.2 | 0.6 | 9.2 |
| Aircraft and other transportation equip. | 425.5 | 377.0 | 356.7 | 1,883.5 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 20.9 |
| Other machinery and equipment | 863.2 | 780.6 | 872.3 | 4,113.8 | 4.7 | 8.3 | -2.5 | 19.8 |
| Automotive products | 2,758.8 | 2,529.3 | 2,538.1 | 13,558.1 | -6.9 | -11.3 | 3.0 | 11.7 |
| Passenger autos and chassis | 1,250.5 | 1,030.1 | 1,039.7 | 6,053.5 | -14.4 | -26.2 | 8.7 | 14.8 |
| Trucks and other motor vehicles | 475.3 | 546.6 | 506.2 | 2,450.8 | -10.1 | 4.2 | -4.7 | 6.6 |
| Motor vehicle parts | 1,033.0 | 952.5 | 992.2 | 5,053.8 | 6.1 | 3.2 | -0.5 | 10.5 |
| Other consumer goods | 210.0 | 203.4 | 224.4 | 1,062.7 | 12.8 | 13.2 | 19.8 | -7.5 |
| Special transactions trade* | 34.1 | 32.5 | 33.4 | 150.3 | 7.8 | 40.6 | -30.5 | -38.6 |
| Unallocated BOP adjustments* | 135.3 | 129.8 | 122.4 | 619.3 | 13.1 | 109.8 | -64.9 | . 36.1 |
| Total exports | 10,409.7 | 9,925.2 | 10,115.2 | 50,751.5 | 0.7 | 2.5 | -5.3 | 6.1 |

* Series has no seasonality. Figures are unadjusted.

Total Exports by Major Country Groupings, 1984 to 1987


Table 4
Imports by Commodity Groupings
May 1987
Balance of Payments Basis

|  | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  | Raw values Percentage changes |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Year-to-date |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mar. | Apr. | May | Value | \% change | May '87/ May '86 | May '86/ May '85 | May '85/ May '84 |
| \$ millions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 620.1 | 569.0 | 578.8 | 2,987.6 | 1.6 | -4.9 | 10.4 | -5.2 |
| Fruits and vegetables <br> Other agricultural and fishing products | 206.4 413.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 190.9 \\ & 378.1 \end{aligned}$ | 188.7 390.1 | 999.4 $1,988.2$ | 4.2 0.4 | -2.4 -6.2 | 6.5 12.8 | -0.2 -7.9 |
| Energy products Crude petroleum* Other energy products | 452.8 274.1 178.7 | 365.7 208.4 157.4 | 416.3 226.5 189.8 | $\mathbf{2 , 1 5 2 . 6}$ $\mathbf{1 , 2 5 6 . 7}$ 895.9 | -8.3 0.0 .17 .9 | 30.4 42.0 19.9 | -45.7 -54.5 -34.1 | 49.1 117.4 5.5 |
| Forestry products | 88.0 | 79.3 | 89.9 | 443.6 | 12.1 | 17.5 | 9.2 | -14.9 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 1,626.4 | 1,605.9 | 1,615.4 | 8,077.6 | -0.5 | -4.6 | 5.2 | 2.9 |
| Metals and metal ores | 483.0 | 516.2 | 478.3 | 2,386.4 | -4.6 | -12.3 | 13.6 | 11.2 |
| Chemicals and plastics | 498.7 | 444.0 | 496.7 | 2,428.8 | 0.5 | -1.9 | 3.4 | 1.6 |
| Other industrial goods and materials | 644.6 | 645.7 | 640.4 | 3,262.4 | 2.0 | -0.1 | 0.2 | -1.8 |
| Machinery and equipment | 2,696.6 | 2,405.8 | 2,588.7 | 13,009.0 | 3.6 | 1.4 | 3.6 | 0.0 |
| Industrial and agricultural machinery | 927.3 | 862.9 | 866.5 | 4,531.1 | 0.3 | -5.9 | 12.2 | 11.9 |
| Aircraft and other transportation equip. | 368.9 | 225.7 | 393.2 | 1,703.5 | 2.2 | 14.5 | -2.5 | -10.9 |
| Office machines and equipment | 411.3 | 396.0 | 390.7 | 1,992.2 | 8.8 | 4.5 | -0.6 | -13.1 |
| Other machinery and equipment | 989.2 | 921.2 | 938.4 | 4,782.1 | 5.2 | 3.9 | -1.3 | -0.3 |
| Automotive products | 2,829.9 | 2,359.9 | 2,799.6 | 13,316.0 | -3.2 | 3.8 | 5.0 | 14.7 |
| Passenger autos and chassis | 962.7 | 836.3 | 1,085.9 | 4,801.6 | -4.2 | 10.1 | 9.9 | 27.6 |
| Trucks and other motor vehicles | 304.7 | 256.5 | 357.7 | 1,582.0 | 14.6 | 20.9 | 4.7 | 15.5 |
| Motor vehicle parts | 1,562.5 | 1,267.1 | 1,356.0 | 6,932.3 | -5.9 | -4.4 | 1.6 | 7.1 |
| Other consumer goods | 1,032.9 | 948.6 | 970.3 | 5,044.0 | 3.1 | -3.7 | 10.1 | -7.2 |
| Apparel and footwear | 251.2 | 241.3 | 234.4 | 1,239.5 | 6.5 | -0.8 | 19.6 | -16.1 |
| Miscellaneous consumer goods | 781.7 | 707.3 | 735.8 | 3,804.5 | 2.1 | -4.4 | 8.3 | -5.3 |
| Special transactions trade | 149.4 | 139.2 | 173.5 | 745.1 | 3.9 | 13.5 | 7.0 | -2.8 |
| Unallocated BOP adjustments* | -67.6 | -65.0 | -64.1 | -321.6 | 4.6 | .4.3 | -17.5 | -66.7 |
| Total imports | 9,428.5 | 8,408.4 | 9,168.4 | 45,453.9 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 7.8 |

*Series has no seasonality. Figures are unadjusted.
Imports by Major Country Groupings, 1984 to 1987


Table 5
Merchandise Trade of Canada
Constant Dollars and Laspeyres Price Indexes
May 1987
Seasonally adjusted, Balance of Payment basis


[^0]Note: Due to rounding monthly data may not add up to quarterly data and quarterly data may not add up to annual data.


[^0]:    1 The Paasche current weighted price index used to calculate constant dollars can be derived by dividing current ualues 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.

