

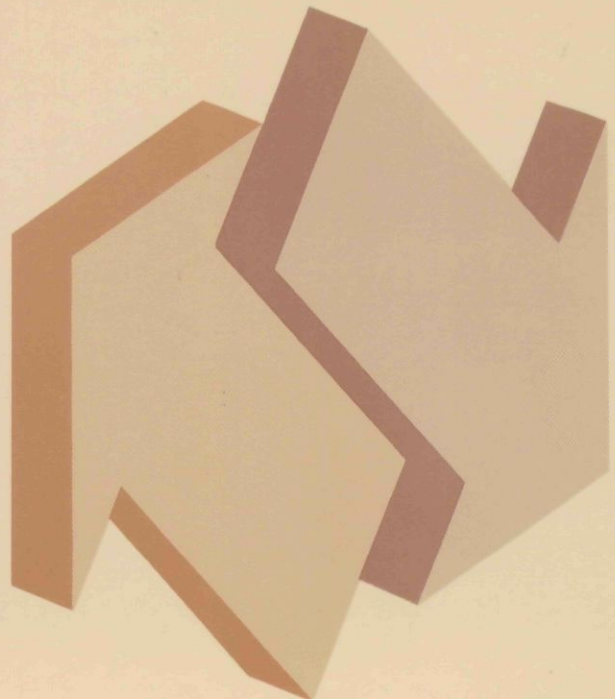
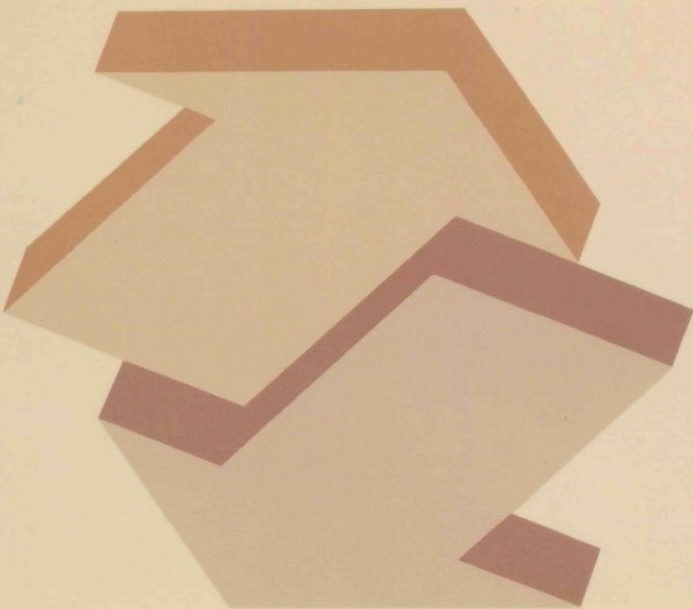
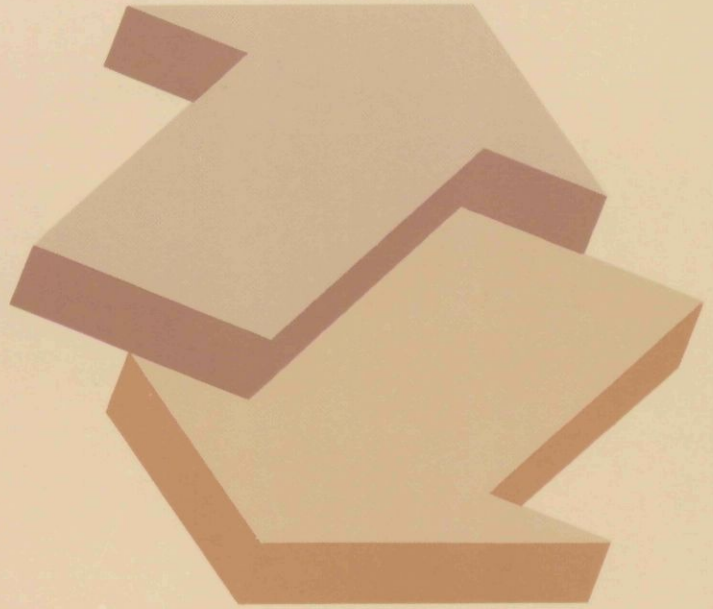
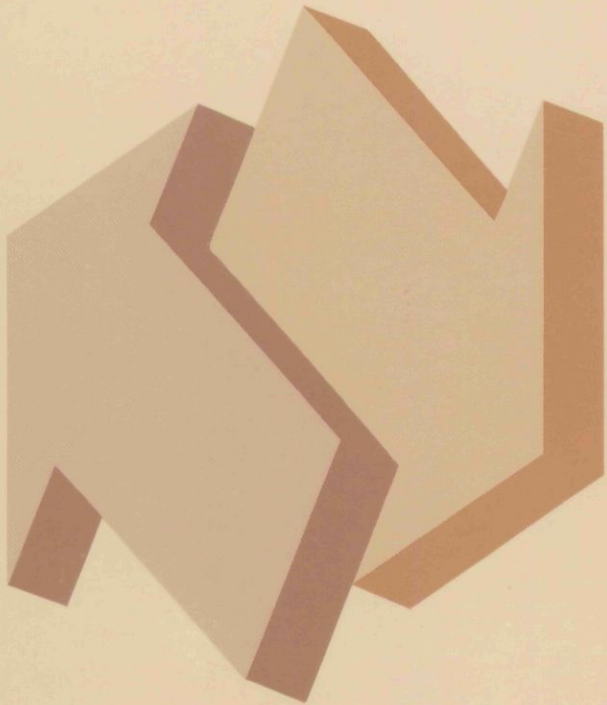


Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

(H.S. Based)

January 1988

Not for release before 7 a.m. E.S.T.
Wednesday, March 16, 1988



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Statistics Canada
International Trade Division

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

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Note to users

Because of the introduction of the HS and of revised concepts and definitions, the international trade data for January 1988 may be subject to larger revisions than usual:

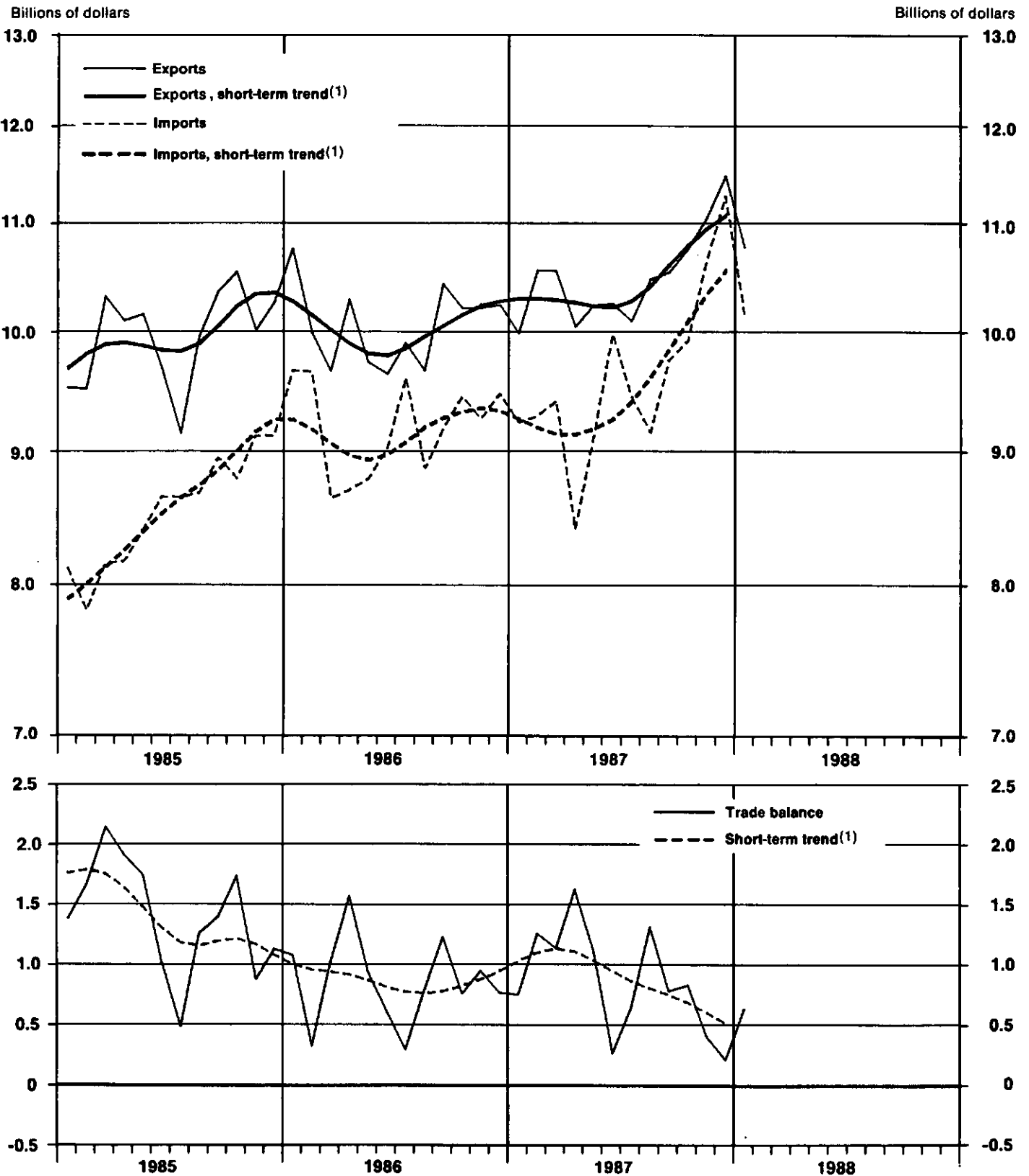
- Collection and compilation of import and export data are henceforth based on the **Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System**. Users should therefore interpret the commodity data cautiously.
- The customs-basis import data used to derive the Balance of Payments data are presented on a consignment basis, as before.
- The import and export totals in Table 1 of this publication are presented on both a customs and a balance-of-payments basis.
- Recording of imports is henceforth based on the date the merchandise is released by customs, instead of the customs-stamp date.
- For the short-term trend, the 13-month Henderson moving average method is now used, a shorter term trend was calculated before.
- Raw and seasonally adjusted data for the previous periods reflect the above changes where applicable.

For more details, please refer to the text and tables.

Highlights

- Canada introduces the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System in the international trade statistics.
- The international merchandise trade surplus was \$633 million in January 1988, an increase of \$425 million.
- Exports fell by \$703 million, dropping to \$10.7 billion.
- Imports declined by \$1.1 billion, falling to \$10.1 billion.
- The short-term trends for exports and imports continued up in December 1987, though at slower rates than in previous months.
- The drop in exports was mainly due to the decrease in exports of trucks, motor-vehicle parts and lumber.
- Canada's merchandise trade surplus with the United States more than doubled from December 1987 to January 1988 to reach \$1.2 billion.
- Canada had a trade surplus with the United Kingdom for the first time since March 1985.

Imports, 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
January 1988

Month-to-Month Overview

The preliminary statistics on international merchandise trade, corrected for seasonal fluctuations, indicate that Canada's surplus with all its trading partners increased by \$425 million from the December 1987 level, rising to \$633 million in January 1988. The trade surplus with the United States alone grew by \$603 million, rising to \$1.2 billion, while the balance with the "other countries" grouping fell from a surplus of \$96 million in December 1987 to a deficit of \$174 million, a decrease of \$269 million.

Exports dropped by \$703 million in January from the December level and totalled \$10.7 billion. However, this decrease was smaller than that for imports, and was mainly due to the decline in exports of industrial goods, forest products and trucks. This was the first drop in exports in six months.

Imports, for their part, decreased by \$1.1 billion, shrinking to \$10.1 billion. This was the first decrease in five months. The main cause of this decline was the decrease in imports of passenger autos and motor-vehicle parts.

Short-Term Trend (excludes latest month)

Exports

The short-term trend for exports continued to rise for a sixth straight month, posting a gain of 0.8% from the figure the month before. This rate of growth is, however, lower than those of 2.2%, 2.5% and 1.9% recorded in September, October and November 1987. The largest advances in the trend were those reported for exports of passenger autos (+10.4%), precious metals and "other equipment and tools." The largest decreases were those for exports of motor-vehicle parts, lumber and "other inedible end products."

Imports

The short-term trend for imports rose in December 1987 for the eighth month straight. However, the rate of increase in December (+1.9%) was distinctly lower than those recorded in October (+4.4%) and November (+4.5%). The largest increases noted were those for imports of "other equipment and tools," motor-vehicle parts and agricultural machinery, including tractors. The upward trend for imports of motor-vehicle parts slowed

considerably between November and December 1987, falling from 8.7% to 2.6%. Imports of passenger autos posted the only noteworthy decrease (-11.0%).

Commodity Highlights

Exports

The 6.1% drop in total exports was mainly the result of the decline in exports of trucks (-\$232 million), motor-vehicle parts (-\$180 million) and lumber (-\$126 million). Overall, exports of end products decreased by \$342 million, accounting for nearly half the total decline in January. Exports of passenger autos (+\$168 million), coal (+\$89 million) and "other equipment and tools" (+\$56 million) posted the most notable increases. Canadian wheat exports rose slightly (+\$23 million), climbing to \$314 million, while exports of newsprint paper totalled \$501 million, putting them over the \$500 million mark for a second straight month.

Imports

Imports shrank 10.0% in January 1988 as a result of decreases of \$313 million for imports of motor-vehicle parts, \$280 million for imports of passenger autos and \$187 million for imports of office machines and equipment. Imports of passenger autos totalled \$778 million, one of the lowest levels in three years. As far as increases were concerned, the largest were those recorded for imports of agricultural machinery (+\$156 million), aircraft (+\$77 million) and hardware (+\$45 million).

Trading-Partner Highlights

Exports

Except for exports to the United Kingdom, which rose by \$32 million in January 1988, exports to all of Canada's major trading partners fell from the previous month's levels. Exports to the United States decreased by \$454 million, dropping to \$8.2 billion. This was the largest decline. Exports to Japan, "other countries," and "other OECD countries" fell by \$110 million, \$88 million and \$74 million respectively, while those to "other EEC countries" fell by \$8 million. Exports to the United Kingdom totalled \$295 million in January, the highest level since March 1987.

Imports

Imports from the United States decreased by \$1.1 billion in January, falling to \$7.0 billion. This large drop contrasted with the increase of more than \$770 million noted in December. Imports from the United Kingdom, "other EEC countries" and Japan

decreased by \$165 million, \$126 million and \$26 million. However, increases were recorded for "other countries" (+\$181 million) and "other OECD countries" (+\$65 million).

Canada, which had had a trade deficit with the United Kingdom since March 1985, showed a slight surplus of \$11 million for the first time in January, as a result of the decrease in imports and the increase in exports.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633-3642, 3651-3678, 3685-3713, 3718, 3719, 3887 to 3913.

For more information on the statistics, concepts and definitions, please order the January 1988 issue of **Summary of Canadian International Trade** (No. 65-001, \$16.50/\$165), available the first week of April 1988, or contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-951-1711) (for analysis information) or John Butterill (613-951-4808) (for price-index information), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

Table 1. Merchandise Trade of Canada

	Customs Basis		Balance of Payments Basis					Period-to-period change (2)		
	Exports (1)	Imports	Exports (1)	Imports	Exports (1)	Imports	Balance	Exports (1)	Imports	Balance
	Raw	Raw	Raw	Raw	S.A. (3)	S.A. (3)	S.A. (3)	S.A. (3)	S.A. (3)	S.A. (3)
	\$ millions						%	%	\$ millions	
1982	84,528	67,853	84,392	66,738	84,392	66,738	17,654	0.0	-13.4	10,352
1983	90,610	75,517	90,555	73,098	90,555	73,098	17,457	7.3	9.5	-196
1984	112,381	95,457	111,729	81,492	111,729	81,492	20,237	23.3	25.1	2,780
1985	119,472	104,353	119,566	102,640	119,566	102,640	16,925	7.0	12.1	-3,311
1986	120,518	112,675	120,593	110,205	120,593	110,205	10,388	0.8	7.3	-6,537
1987	125,031	116,422	125,764	115,423	125,764	115,423	10,340	4.2	4.7	-47
1985										
First quarter	28,784	24,167	28,727	23,675	29,354	24,105	5,249	1.5	3.1	-275
Second quarter	31,375	27,291	31,409	27,179	29,947	25,226	4,721	2.0	4.6	-527
Third quarter	27,803	25,801	27,982	25,351	29,458	26,274	3,184	-1.6	4.1	-1,536
Fourth quarter	31,508	26,992	31,446	26,433	30,804	27,034	3,770	4.5	2.8	585
1986										
First quarter	29,170	27,676	28,554	27,030	30,385	27,943	2,442	-1.3	3.3	-1,327
Second quarter	31,265	28,657	31,181	28,936	29,629	26,495	3,134	-2.4	-5.1	691
Third quarter	28,415	27,351	28,558	26,769	29,955	27,630	2,325	1.1	4.2	-808
Fourth quarter	31,667	27,990	31,299	27,468	30,622	28,136	2,485	2.2	1.8	160
1987										
First quarter	28,748	27,857	30,273	27,472	31,036	27,886	3,150	1.3	-0.8	664
Second quarter	31,703	28,656	31,818	29,409	30,475	27,467	3,008	-1.8	-1.5	-141
Third quarter	29,617	27,809	29,846	27,483	31,040	28,297	2,743	1.8	3.0	-264
Fourth quarter	33,862	31,098	33,825	31,058	33,211	31,773	1,438	6.8	12.2	-1,304
1987										
January	8,165	8,791	9,346	8,540	9,969	9,218	750	-2.4	-2.5	-15
February	9,900	9,016	10,077	9,040	10,534	9,271	1,262	5.6	0.5	512
March	10,682	10,050	10,849	9,891	10,532	9,395	1,136	0.0	1.3	-126
April	10,234	9,428	10,327	9,343	10,024	8,385	1,628	-4.8	-10.6	492
May	10,668	9,519	10,604	9,455	10,221	9,106	1,114	1.8	8.4	-513
June	10,801	10,708	10,886	10,610	10,229	9,965	264	0.0	9.4	-850
July	9,524	9,502	9,553	9,485	10,073	9,427	646	-1.5	-5.3	381
August	9,361	8,560	9,465	8,493	10,451	9,136	1,314	3.7	-3.0	668
September	10,732	9,746	10,827	9,504	10,515	9,733	782	0.6	6.5	-532
October	11,325	10,138	11,245	10,081	10,737	9,906	830	2.1	1.7	47
November	11,472	10,618	11,317	10,675	11,027	10,626	401	2.7	7.2	-428
December	11,164	10,341	11,262	10,301	11,446	11,239	207	3.7	5.7	-193
1988										
January	10,005	11,899	9,955	9,390	10,744	10,110	633	-6.1	-10.0	425
Year-to-date										
1987	9,165	8,791	9,346	8,540	9,969	9,218	750	-7.2	-4.6	-336
1988	10,005	11,899	9,955	9,390	10,744	10,110	633	7.7	9.6	-117

1 Exports = Domestic Exports + Re-exports.

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

3 Seasonally Adjusted.

Note: - Due to truncation, monthly data may not add up to quarterly data and quarterly data may not add up to annual data.

- The 1986 and 1987 figures do not include the final revisions.

Table 2. Merchandise Trade by Principal Trading Areas, Seasonally Adjusted

Balance of Payments Basis

	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1988	Period-to-period change				Year-to- Date	Change over previous year	
			Dec. 1987	Jan. 1988	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1988		%	\$ millions
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions	\$ millions	%	\$ millions	
Exports to: (1)									
United States	8,644.4	8,190.1	4.3	-5.2	359.1	-454.2	8,190.1	7.9	601.3
Japan	699.5	589.5	12.4	-15.7	77.4	-109.9	589.5	12.1	63.7
EEC'86	806.6	830.4	-12.2	2.9	-112.7	23.7	830.4	6.4	50.5
Other OECD'86	307.2	233.4	32.1	-24.0	74.8	-73.8	233.4	21.4	41.2
Other countries	988.8	900.5	2.0	-8.9	20.1	-88.2	900.5	2.0	17.7
Total	11,446.7	10,744.1	3.7	-6.1	418.8	-702.5	10,744.1	7.7	774.6
Imports from: (1)									
United States	8,043.1	6,985.7	10.6	-13.1	771.6	-1,057.4	6,985.7	11.4	720.3
Japan	667.1	640.8	-6.8	-3.9	-49.1	-26.3	640.8	-1.1	-7.6
EEC'86	1,383.3	1,092.5	4.2	-21.0	56.8	-290.8	1,092.5	-3.6	-41.8
Other OECD'86	252.2	317.5	0.8	25.9	2.0	65.3	317.5	28.9	71.2
Other countries	893.2	1,074.3	-15.9	20.2	-169.0	181.0	1,074.3	16.2	150.3
Total	11,239.1	10,110.9	5.7	-10.0	612.3	-1,128.1	10,110.9	9.6	892.3
Balance with:									
United States	601.2	1,204.3			-412.4	603.1	1,204.3		-119.0
Japan	32.4	-51.2			126.5	-83.6	-51.2		71.4
EEC'86	-576.7	-262.0			-169.5	314.6	-262.0		92.4
Other OECD'86	55.0	-84.1			72.7	-138.1	-84.1		-29.9
Other countries	95.5	-173.8			189.2	-269.3	-173.8		-132.5
Total	207.5	633.1			-193.5	425.6	633.1		-117.6

(1) Exports to other OECD countries and imports from the United Kingdom, other OECD countries and other countries do not have seasonality. Consequently, they are not seasonally adjusted.

Note: - Portugal and Spain are included in the EEC.

- Imports for January 1988 by country of origin from the United States (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) amounted to \$7,036.0 million. This represents the starting figure from which the Canada/United States reconciliation takes place.

Table 3. Exports by Commodity Groupings, Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values percentage changes		
	Nov. 1987	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1988	Year-to-date		Jan. '88/ Jan. '87	Jan. '87/ Jan. '86	Jan. '86/ Jan. '85
				Value	% change			
	\$ millions							
Agricultural and fishing products	984.8	966.7	949.7	949.7	-1.8	-2.5	-5.5	16.4
Wheat	273.9	291.7	314.3	314.3	6.5	9.3	-19.7	40.1
Other agricultural and fishing products	710.9	675.0	635.4	635.4	-5.4	-6.3	0.0	9.2
Energy products	1,076.2	1,047.0	1,088.3	1,088.3	15.4	15.1	-34.7	22.8
Crude petroleum =	404.7	411.8	400.5	400.5	24.6	24.6	-38.8	51.9
Natural gas	246.1	219.4	220.2	220.2	15.9	15.2	-32.1	-10.4
Other energy products	425.3	415.8	467.5	467.5	8.3	8.1	-32.9	31.1
Forestry products	1,891.0	1,886.3	1,647.0	1,647.0	3.7	1.0	16.3	3.5
Lumber and sawmill products	756.4	670.2	535.0	535.0	-1.3	-3.6	-1.3	15.8
Wood pulp and other wood products	492.0	476.6	468.0	468.0	9.2	3.4	59.8	-16.6
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	642.5	739.4	643.8	643.8	4.4	3.1	12.6	4.9
Industrial goods and materials	2,270.5	2,487.0	2,163.4	2,163.4	12.2	11.4	-6.4	9.3
Metal ores	470.2	518.5	398.3	398.3	1.3	1.4	12.1	0.0
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	514.8	540.3	470.2	470.2	18.1	18.6	-13.7	-0.1
Metals and alloys	810.2	957.9	804.0	804.0	12.4	11.1	-9.5	19.5
Other industrial goods and materials	475.3	470.0	490.8	490.8	16.5	14.1	-7.3	10.9
Machinery and equipment	1,864.8	1,694.4	1,615.0	1,615.0	8.4	3.8	3.1	4.1
Industrial and agricultural machinery	378.0	408.2	404.5	404.5	31.5	25.6	-12.1	3.1
Aircraft and other transportation equip.	459.1	337.7	298.1	298.1	-16.1	-18.5	9.0	16.4
Other machinery and equipment	1,027.6	948.3	912.3	912.3	10.4	4.9	8.0	0.2
Automotive products	2,679.8	3,103.6	2,859.7	2,859.7	8.0	7.3	-14.2	14.4
Passenger autos and chassis	1,212.5	1,398.4	1,566.4	1,566.4	23.8	23.8	-10.6	18.1
Trucks and other motor vehicles	564.3	720.3	488.0	488.0	28.2	36.2	-43.6	16.8
Motor vehicle parts	902.9	884.9	805.2	805.2	-19.5	-20.2	-2.6	8.0
Other consumer goods	222.8	226.3	207.5	207.5	-0.6	-1.4	5.8	28.7
Special transactions trade =	31.0	31.0	210.8	210.8	758.5	758.5	8.9	-30.7
Unallocated BDP adjustments =	6.7	3.9	2.3	2.3	-98.6	-98.6	6.8	50.2
Total	11,027.9	11,446.7	10,744.1	10,744.1	7.7	6.5	-8.2	12.2

= Series with no seasonality and, therefore, not seasonally adjusted.

Short-term Trend of Export Value Index, Major Country Groupings (Monthly, 1986 to 1988)

Index (average of 1986) = 100

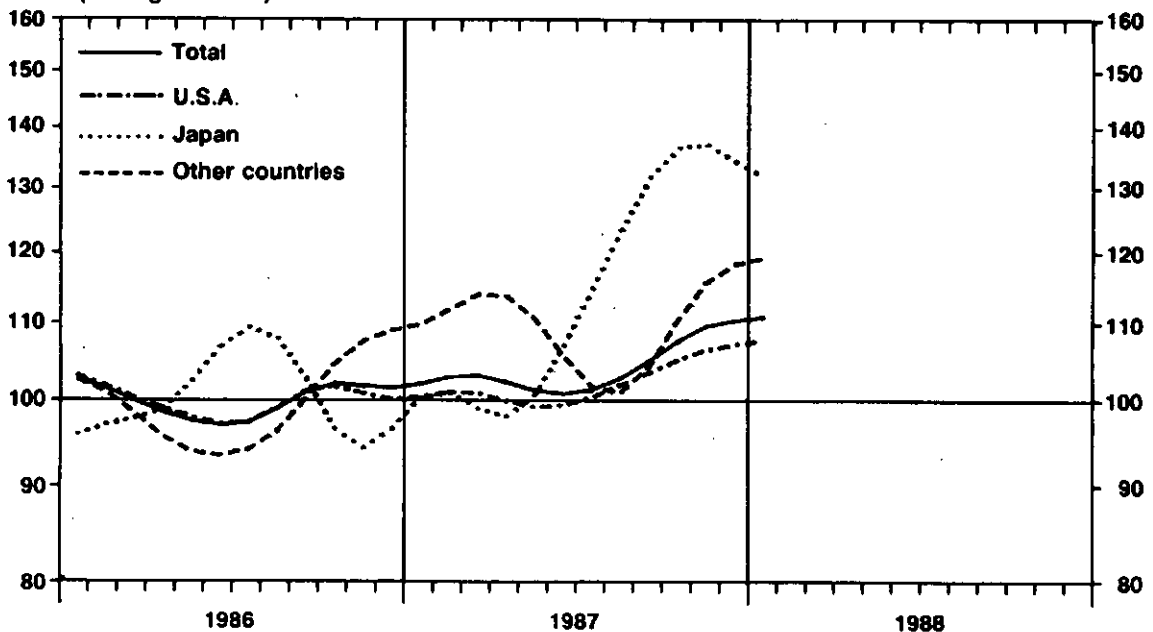


Table 4. Imports by Commodity Groupings, Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values percentage changes		
	Nov. 1987	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1988	Year-to-date		Jan. '88/ Jan. '87	Jan. '87/ Jan. '86	Jan. '86/ Jan. '85
				Value	% change			
	\$ millions							
Agricultural and fishing products	663.9	666.1	581.3	581.3	-7.6	-5.8	10.0	4.7
Fruits and vegetables	222.2	250.8	218.5	218.5	1.6	2.6	6.0	9.5
Other agricultural and fishing products	441.6	415.2	362.7	362.7	-12.4	-11.8	12.2	2.2
Energy products	537.1	611.5	484.8	484.8	-3.2	-5.5	-32.2	32.1
Crude petroleum =	269.6	314.1	317.6	317.6	8.0	8.0	-26.2	51.2
Other energy products	267.5	297.3	167.1	167.1	-19.3	-31.8	-41.4	10.7
Forestry products	101.2	101.4	102.1	102.1	-0.9	-3.8	30.5	12.7
Industrial goods and materials	1,964.9	1,976.2	1,905.0	1,905.0	14.6	12.1	-9.8	21.2
Metals and metal ores	649.8	630.4	546.8	546.8	9.1	6.3	-28.2	32.5
Chemicals and plastics	554.9	579.9	535.2	535.2	7.4	6.3	1.9	13.6
Other industrial goods and materials	760.1	765.9	822.9	822.9	24.3	20.4	-1.0	17.4
Machinery and equipment	3,105.4	3,378.0	3,288.8	3,288.8	21.9	20.0	3.2	16.0
Industrial and agricultural machinery	970.5	1,080.7	1,126.2	1,126.2	19.3	16.6	4.0	25.1
Aircraft and other transportation equip.	539.6	408.0	495.9	495.9	29.4	33.6	8.8	20.7
Office machines and equipment	465.9	583.3	396.0	396.0	-1.4	-2.5	5.6	4.1
Other machinery and equipment	1,129.2	1,305.8	1,270.5	1,270.5	31.3	27.7	-0.5	11.8
Automotive products	3,015.6	3,147.3	2,478.4	2,478.4	1.1	4.8	-16.1	15.2
Passenger autos and chassis	1,087.7	1,057.6	777.9	777.9	-4.7	1.9	-25.0	26.0
Trucks and other motor vehicles	325.0	382.0	305.3	305.3	-7.5	-3.7	21.1	16.3
Motor vehicle parts	1,602.8	1,707.6	1,395.1	1,395.1	7.1	8.2	-17.0	10.0
Other consumer goods	1,122.5	1,189.0	1,082.8	1,082.8	2.9	4.1	6.0	16.9
Apparel and footwear	273.0	270.0	265.7	265.7	3.7	4.8	11.7	17.4
Miscellaneous consumer goods	849.5	919.0	817.1	817.1	2.6	3.9	3.9	16.7
Special transactions trade	181.4	227.8	249.3	249.3	65.1	71.4	0.8	15.5
Unallocated BOP adjustments =	-65.4	-58.5	-61.8	-61.8	153.3	153.3	-62.8	-39.4
Total	10,626.8	11,239.1	10,110.9	10,110.9	9.6	9.9	-5.9	17.8

* Series with no seasonality and, therefore, not seasonally adjusted.

Short-term Trend of Import Value Index,
Major Country Groupings (Monthly, 1986 to 1988)
Index (average of 1986) = 100

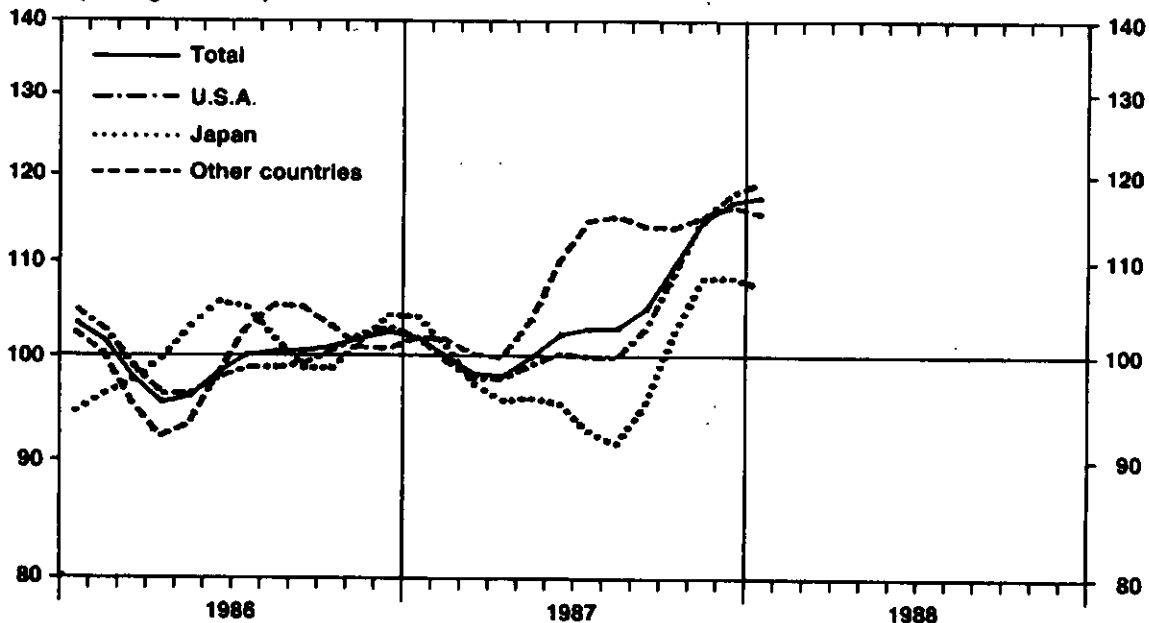


Table 5. Merchandise Trade of Canada, Constant Dollars and Laspeyres Price Indexes

Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payment Basis

	Constant (1981) dollars (1)				Laspeyres price indexes (2)			
			Period-to-period change (4)		1981=100.0		Period-to-period change (4)	
	Exports (3)	Imports	Exports (3)	Imports	Exports (3)	Imports	Exports (3)	Imports
	\$ millions		%				%	
1983	90,184	71,526	7.3	11.0	100.7	103.6	0.0	-0.6
1984	108,169	85,498	19.9	19.5	104.5	109.6	3.7	5.7
1985	115,135	93,859	6.4	8.7	105.6	113.6	0.9	3.6
1986	120,076	101,399	4.2	8.0	103.6	112.9	-1.8	-0.5
1987	127,713	110,574	6.3	8.0	104.6	112.2	1.0	-0.6
1985								
First quarter	28,743	22,232	1.8	2.8	104.9	112.3	0.1	0.3
Second quarter	28,715	22,946	0.0	3.2	105.5	114.1	1.5	1.6
Third quarter	28,034	24,087	-2.3	4.9	106.1	113.6	-0.3	-0.4
Fourth quarter	29,641	24,593	5.7	2.0	105.6	115.0	-0.5	1.2
1986								
First quarter	29,621	25,302	0.0	2.8	104.7	115.7	-0.7	0.5
Second quarter	28,525	24,321	-0.3	-3.8	103.3	112.4	-1.3	-2.8
Third quarter	30,000	25,595	1.6	5.2	103.2	112.6	0.0	0.1
Fourth quarter	30,929	26,179	3.0	2.2	103.7	112.9	0.4	0.2
1987								
First quarter	31,576	26,507	2.0	1.2	102.2	111.3	-1.3	-1.3
Second quarter	31,120	26,218	-1.4	-1.0	104.1	112.2	1.7	0.8
Third quarter	31,548	27,286	1.3	4.1	105.4	113.0	1.3	0.6
Fourth quarter	33,467	30,551	6.0	11.9	106.4	112.8	0.9	-0.1
1987								
January	10,231	8,781	-1.5	-2.0	102.6	112.1	-0.6	-0.7
February	10,521	8,755	2.8	-0.2	102.2	111.3	-0.3	-0.6
March	10,824	8,970	2.8	2.4	102.1	110.8	-0.1	-0.4
April	10,347	8,115	-4.4	-9.5	102.6	110.8	0.5	0.0
May	10,415	8,587	0.6	5.8	104.4	112.7	1.7	1.6
June	10,357	9,516	-0.5	10.8	105.1	113.4	0.7	0.6
July	10,210	9,071	-1.4	-4.6	105.3	112.8	0.1	-0.4
August	10,682	8,858	4.6	-2.3	105.5	113.5	0.1	0.5
September	10,656	9,365	-0.2	5.7	105.6	112.8	0.0	-0.6
October	11,054	9,538	3.7	1.8	105.6	112.7	0.0	-0.1
November	11,060	10,073	0.0	5.6	107.1	113.3	1.3	0.5
December	11,352	10,939	2.6	8.6	106.8	112.9	-0.2	-0.3
1988								
January	10,925	9,518	-3.7	-12.9	105.3	112.5	-1.3	-0.3
Year-to-date								
1987	10,231	8,781	-1.2	0.7				
1988	10,925	9,518	6.7	8.3				

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 Exports = Domestic Exports + Re-exports.

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

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