

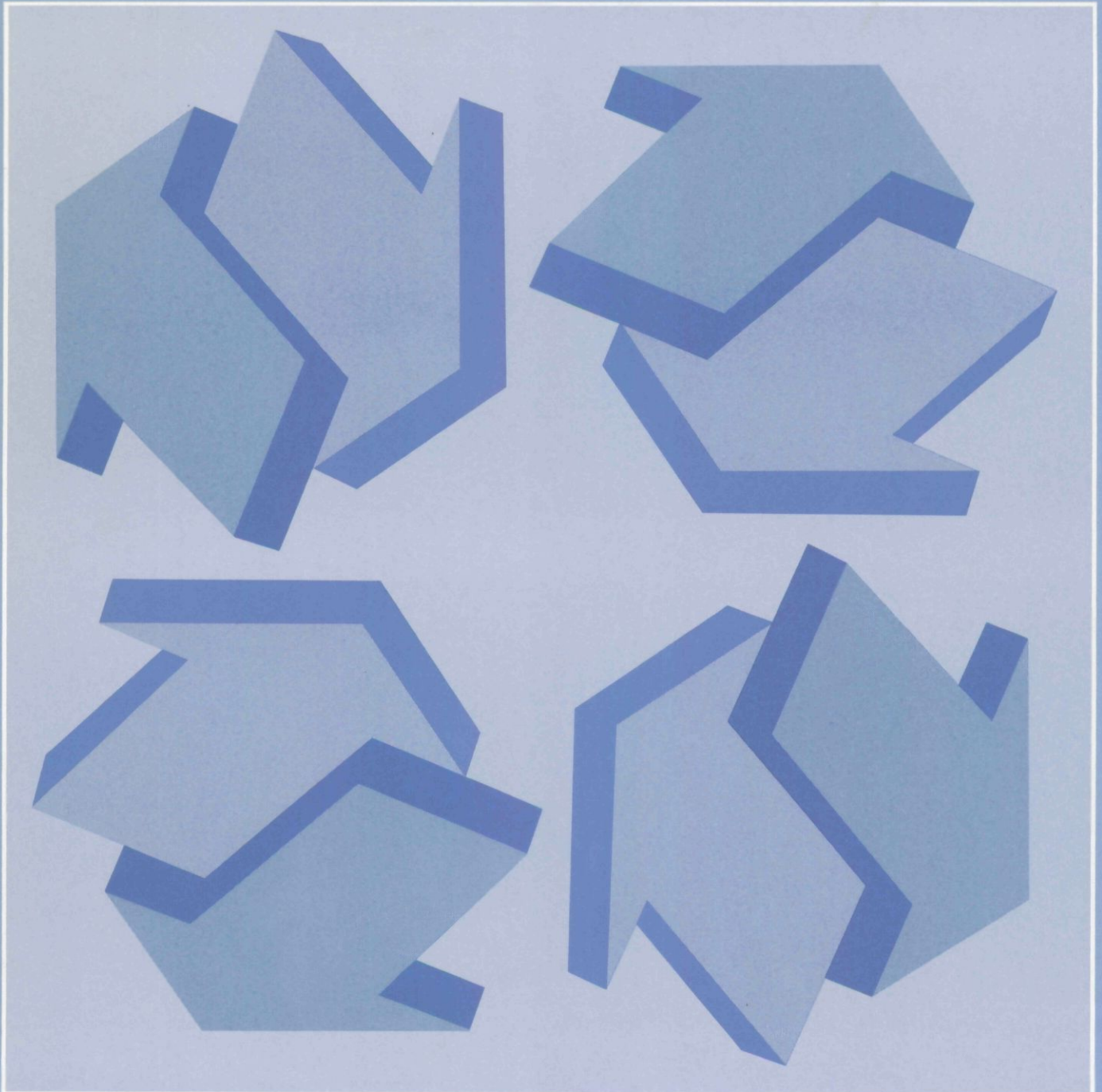


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Catalogue 65-001P Monthly

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

October 1990

Not for release before 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, December 18, 1990



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Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

October 1990

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Notice to Readers

Unification of Germany

Commencing with the October 1990 publications, trade with the *Democratic Republic of Germany (East Germany)* and the *Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany)* will be published together under the description *Germany*. Such trade will be attributed to the geographical region of *Western Europe* and the Principal Trading Area of *EEC' 86 (European Economic Community)*.

The country description *East Germany* will continue to appear in the publication tables under *Eastern Europe* until the end of 1990. Data published for *East Germany* will include all trade attributed to that country prior to the unification, as well as any late arrivals/entries received at Statistics Canada after the unification date.

Starting with the January 1991 data, only the country description of *Germany* will be shown in International Trade publications for the current year. Statistics for previous years will still show separate data for *West Germany* and *East Germany*.

Users should note that the country classification employed by the International Trade Division of Statistics Canada is designed for purposes of economic geography and therefore does not reflect the views or intentions of the Government of Canada on international issues of recognition, sovereignty or jurisdiction.

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Statistics Published by Canada and Japan
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*Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive Products
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*Methodology Notes on Balance of Payments Adjustments
(R. Piché)*

February 1989

*Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive Products
(January-December 1988)*

January 1989

*Price Indexes Adjusted for Exchange Rate
(D. Pilon)*

January 1989

Methodology Notes

For more detailed information on statistics, concepts and definitions, order the October 1990 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (cat. no. 65-001, \$18.20/\$182), available the first week of January 1991, or contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Marlene Sterpurn (613-951-1711) (for analysis information), or Denis Pilon (613-951-4888) (for price index information), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

Current Account data which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, as well as data concerning trade in services and capital account movements, are available on a quarterly basis in *Canada's balance of international payments* (cat. no. 67-001).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3620 to 3629, 3651, 3685 to 3713, 3718, 3719, 3887 to 3913.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Total exports increased by \$569.4 million, to reach \$12.7 billion, the highest level registered within the last ten years.
- A \$984.7 million rise in imports brought the October level to \$11.9 billion, which was higher than any previous monthly total.
- Increased world market prices for crude petroleum as a result of the Persian Gulf crisis contributed substantially to the increase in imports, but increases were observed in other sectors as well, notably machinery and equipment, industrial goods and materials and automotive products.
- Canada continued to experience a trade surplus in October, although deficits were registered with all major trading partners but the United States.
- Prolonged strike activity in the steel industry began to affect the behaviour of both exports and imports of iron and steel products.

Monthly Summary

Exports increased in October by \$569.4 million over September levels, to reach \$12.7 billion, the highest level registered within the last ten years. Imports rose by even more (+\$984.7 million), following two consecutive months of decline. The October increase brought import levels to \$11.9 billion, higher than any previous monthly import total. The very large increase in imports compared to exports generated a decline in the trade surplus in October to \$802.6 million, down by \$415.3 million from the revised September level. This follows surpluses of \$1.2 billion observed in both August and September.

Exports of automotive products advanced considerably in October, following declines in August and September. The greatest increase was observed in the passenger car series, which grew by \$267.4 million. Small declines in truck and part exports attenuated the overall increase in exports of this sector.

Increased exports were also observed in the machinery and equipment sector, chiefly as a result of a \$100.8 million increase in exports of aircraft. Most components of the industrial goods and materials group also showed higher exports in October, led by chemicals and plastics (\$75.8 million higher than the September level).

Forestry products also showed increased exports in October, following several months of decline, but in spite of the improved performance of the sector in October, the level of exports is still not as high as observed earlier in the year and for all of last year.

Exports of agricultural and fishing products fell, chiefly because of a \$100 million drop in the export of wheat, bringing the value of October wheat exports to only half the level reported in September.

Total imports also increased in October, by \$984.7 million. The increase in imports was accounted for by several sectors. Energy products registered the highest increase (\$323.5 million), due mostly to an increase in crude petroleum imports of \$219 million. This increase was a direct result of higher prices emanating from the Gulf crisis and of larger volumes. This effect was also seen in higher imports of petroleum and coal products because of higher prices and quantities.

A large increase was observed in the machinery and equipment sector (\$283.5 million), but year-to-date imports were less than those achieved in 1989. Imports of industrial goods and materials also rose substantially, attributable in part to the lower domestic supply, due to strike activity, of steel bars and other iron and steel products. October imports of steel bars, at \$179.4 million, were at their highest level ever.

The only area with which Canada had a surplus in October was the United States (\$1.7 billion), though the balance was lower by \$180.2 million than the September level. Canada's trade deficit with its other major trading partners excluding Japan increased in October. For Japan, the deficit declined by \$89.9 million.

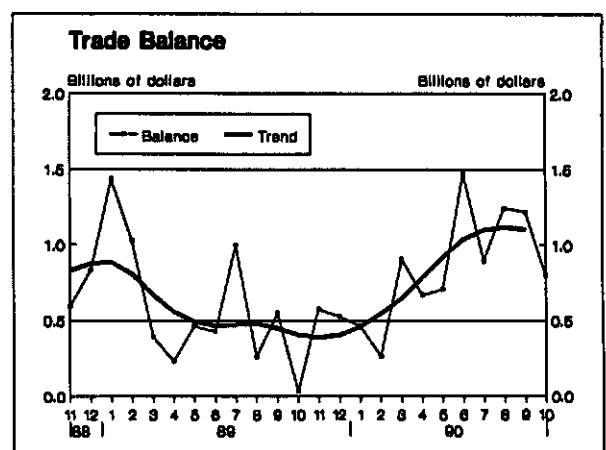
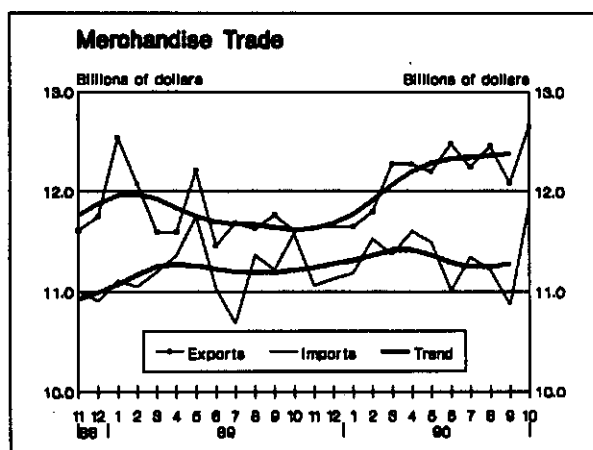


Table 1
Merchandise Trade of Canada
October 1990

	Customs Basis		Balance of Payments Basis								
	Exports	Imports	Raw Values		Seasonally Adjusted						
			Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Balance	Period-to-period change			
								Exports	Imports	Balance	
							%	%	\$ millions		
			\$ millions						%	%	\$ millions
1984	112,384	95,460	111,330	91,493	111,330	91,492	19,838	22.9	25.2	2,381	
1985	119,474	104,355	119,061	102,669	119,061	102,669	16,392	6.9	12.2	-3,446	
1986	120,670	112,511	120,318	110,374	120,317	110,374	9,943	1.1	7.5	-6,449	
1987	125,087	116,239	126,226	115,119	126,225	115,119	11,106	4.9	4.3	1,163	
1988	137,550	131,172	138,435	128,321	138,434	128,321	10,113	9.7	11.5	-993	
1989	138,340	135,033	141,462	134,528	141,461	134,528	6,934	2.2	4.8	-3,180	
1988											
First quarter	33,966	35,191	33,731	32,903	33,647	32,001	1,646	2.1	2.7	-172	
Second quarter	36,217	33,574	36,444	33,165	35,250	31,799	3,452	4.8	-0.6	1,806	
Third quarter	32,137	30,432	32,679	30,215	34,593	31,932	2,661	-1.9	0.4	-791	
Fourth quarter	35,231	31,975	35,580	32,037	34,944	32,589	2,355	1.0	2.1	-305	
1989											
First quarter	34,656	33,747	35,798	33,540	36,214	33,357	2,857	3.6	2.4	502	
Second quarter	36,281	36,426	36,978	36,079	35,262	34,138	1,124	-2.6	2.3	-1,733	
Third quarter	32,228	31,425	32,791	31,605	35,080	33,268	1,813	-0.5	-2.5	688	
Fourth quarter	35,174	33,435	35,895	33,304	34,905	33,765	1,139	-0.5	1.5	-673	
1990											
First quarter	36,121	35,156	35,492	34,921	35,720	34,083	1,637	2.3	0.9	498	
Second quarter	39,258	35,820	38,731	35,544	36,964	34,111	2,854	3.5	0.1	1,217	
Third quarter	34,647	31,265	34,398	31,484	36,794	33,436	3,358	-0.5	-2.0	504	
1989											
January	11,362	10,584	11,873	10,578	12,543	11,107	1,436	6.8	1.8	600	
February	11,248	11,009	11,655	10,904	12,077	11,049	1,028	-3.7	-0.5	-408	
March	12,045	12,153	12,270	12,058	11,594	11,201	393	-4.0	1.4	-635	
April	11,700	11,900	11,774	11,804	11,590	11,357	233	0.0	1.4	-160	
May	12,539	12,618	13,142	12,476	12,213	11,749	464	5.4	3.4	231	
June	12,042	11,909	12,061	11,800	11,459	11,032	427	-6.2	-6.1	-37	
July	9,850	9,503	10,014	9,640	11,685	10,685	1,000	2.0	-3.1	573	
August	10,811	11,071	11,146	11,033	11,630	11,368	263	-0.5	6.4	-738	
September	11,568	10,851	11,630	10,931	11,765	11,215	550	1.2	-1.3	287	
October	11,919	12,215	12,223	11,970	11,611	11,578	33	-1.3	3.2	-516	
November	12,345	11,414	12,501	11,393	11,638	11,061	577	0.2	-4.5	543	
December	10,910	9,805	11,171	9,941	11,656	11,126	529	0.2	0.6	-48	
1990											
January	11,431	10,819	11,181	10,675	11,648	11,183	465	-0.1	0.5	-64	
February	11,476	11,382	11,335	11,422	11,794	11,529	265	1.3	3.1	-200	
March	13,213	12,955	12,976	12,824	12,277	11,371	906	4.1	-1.4	641	
April	12,636	11,593	12,408	11,552	12,278	11,605	673	0.0	2.1	-233	
May	13,430	12,372	13,246	12,393	12,204	11,495	709	-0.6	-0.9	36	
June	13,192	11,855	13,077	11,600	12,483	11,011	1,472	2.3	-4.2	763	
July	11,068	10,065	10,984	10,070	12,246	11,349	897	-1.9	3.1	-574	
August	11,722	10,911	11,505	11,045	12,461	11,218	1,243	1.8	-1.2	346	
September	11,857	10,289	11,909	10,369	12,087	10,869	1,218	-3.0	-3.1	-25	
October	13,848	12,220	13,448	12,164	12,656	11,854	803	4.7	9.1	-415	
Year-to-date											
1989	115,084	113,814	117,790	113,194	118,168	112,340	5,828	2.7	5.6	-2,854	
1990	123,874	114,460	122,070	114,113	122,134	113,483	8,651	3.4	1.0	2,824	

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

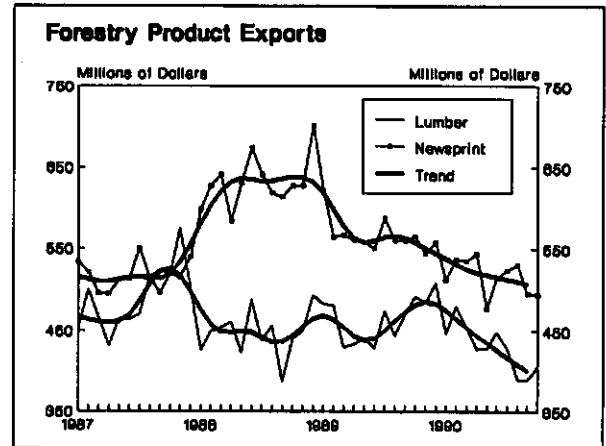
Short-Term Trend

Exports

The export trend for September increased marginally (0.2%). Based on revised data, this represents the eleventh consecutive time there is a month-to-month increase, and this time it was slightly higher than the revised rate of increase in the trends for July and August of 0.1%.

- The largest contributor to the increase in the export trend was crude petroleum, which rose by 12.4%, but this was less than the increases registered in July and August of 13.1% and 13.7% respectively. Within the energy products sector, other energy products rose by 7.9%, primarily because of an 11.4% increase in the export trend for electricity. The trend for natural gas slipped by 0.4%, the first decrease since January 1990.
- Increases in the export trend were also noted for industrial goods and materials (+1.3%), fuelled by a 3.8% increase in the trend for metal ores, which has been increasing since February 1990, following eight months of declining trends.
- The export trend for precious metals was up 7.3% in September, but drops in other trends resulted in only a 1.3% increase in the metals and alloys series. The trend for steel bars declined by 9.6%, following decreases in July and August of 3.2% and 6.9% respectively.
- Other commodity groups registered decreases in the export trend. Particularly noteworthy was the export trend for wheat, which had been falling since April and decreased by a further 16.9% in September. Machinery and equipment exports continued their decline begun in June. While aircraft and other transportation equipment remained stable for August and September, the export trend for industrial and agricultural machinery decreased by 1.2% (the same monthly rate of decline since June), and that for other machinery and equipment dropped by 2.2%, accelerating the rate of decline begun in June.
- The trend for forestry products has been falling since December 1989 but at a lower rate of de-

crease since May. Trends for both lumber products and newsprint continued to fall in September. Woodpulp exports, on the other hand, registered a 0.8% increase, which followed a 0.1% increase in August, after declines in the trend beginning in November 1989.

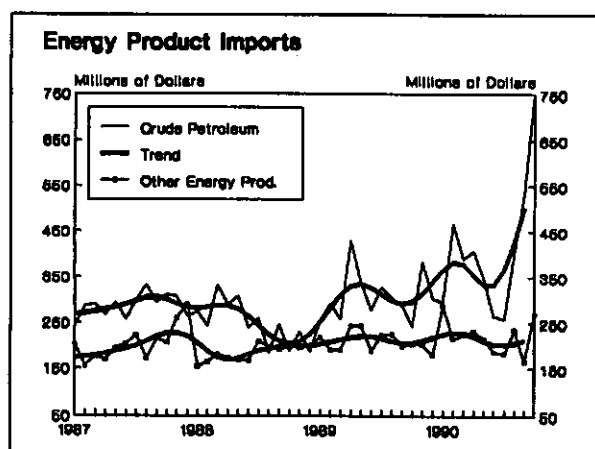


- The trend for exports of automotive products declined marginally (-0.3%), due to decreases in car and parts exports which were not offset by the small increase in the trend for trucks.
- The trend was up in September for exports to "Other O.E.C.D. countries" (3.9%), "Other E.E.C. countries" (2.0%), the United States (0.6%) and the United Kingdom (0.9%). The decrease in the trend for exports to Japan (-1.4%) was the sixth consecutive monthly decrease, though it was not as large a drop as observed from May through August. Exports to non-O.E.C.D. countries were down 6.0%, almost identical to the August decrease of 6.2%. This trend has been declining since May.

Imports

The import trend increased by 0.3% in September, following decreases in June and July and no change in August.

- The trend for imports of energy products rose by 12.9%, primarily accounted for by a 17.7% increase in the trend for crude petroleum. Most of this increase was price-induced, as import volumes did not change significantly in September.



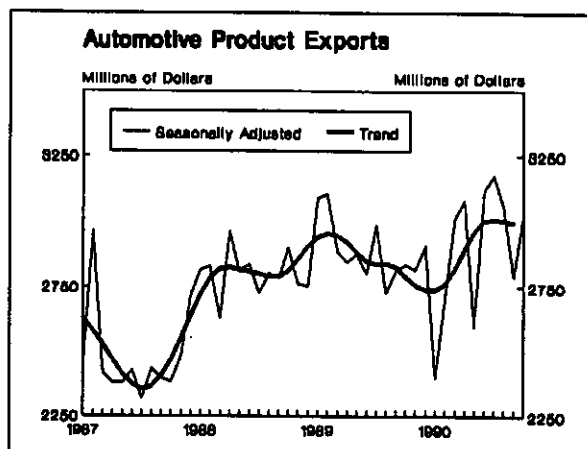
- The trend also rose for industrial goods and materials (+1.4%), Other consumer goods (+0.4%) and agricultural and fishing products (+0.2%).
- Declines in the import trend for September were observed in the forestry products sector (-3.8%), machinery and equipment (-1.1%) and automotive products (-2.1%).
- The trend for car imports fell 3.5%, continuing the decline begun in May, and accelerating from the -0.5% registered in that month. In addition, truck imports have been declining since May, while parts decreased 0.9%, the same drop noted in August.
- In the machinery and equipment sector, the import trend for aircraft and other transportation equipment fell by 2.6%. While this was a decline, the decrease was smaller than that registered in previous months. Industrial and agricultural machinery imports have been dropping since July 1989, but the decline seen in September (-1.6%) was much less than the 2.4% decreases posted in both June and July.
- The trend for imports from the United States, "Other E.E.C. countries" and Japan continued to decline in September, but at lower rates than those observed in previous months. Increases in the trend were noted for the United Kingdom (+8.1%), "Other O.E.C.D. countries" (+4.3%) and non-O.E.C.D. countries (+1.5%).

Detailed Analysis by Commodities and Trading Partners

Commodities

Total exports rose by \$569.4 million in October to reach \$12.7 billion, the highest monthly level of exports ever observed. Year-to-date exports were 3.4% higher than for the same period in 1989.

The greatest increase in exports occurred in the automotive products sector. Exports of passenger cars rose by \$267.4 million to reach \$1.5 billion. At \$3.0 billion, exports of this sector represented 24% of total exports in October.



Exports of machinery and equipment rose in October, with gains being registered by aircraft and other transportation equipment (+\$135.7 million) and industrial and agricultural machinery (+\$48.9 million).

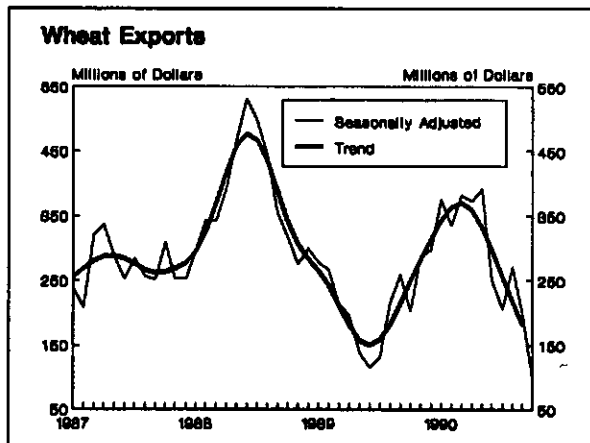
Industrial goods and materials also showed a substantial increase in exports in October (\$173.8 million), with all major series reporting increases.

Following declines in July, August and September, exports of forestry products increased by \$46.5 million, but growth remained sluggish as levels were still not as high as experienced earlier this year and for all of 1989.

There were offsetting decreases in the export of certain commodities. Exports of energy products fell by \$126.6 million. Contributing to the decline in this sector was a large drop in the export of other energy products (-\$95.9 million), primarily because of reduced exports of petroleum and coal products.

Also observed in October was a decrease in exports of agricultural and fishing products. Wheat alone plummeted \$100.0 million, bringing exports to half the Sep-

tember value. This drop followed a \$70.3 million decline in September, but because of stronger sales earlier in the year, exports for the first ten months of 1990 were higher than for the same period in 1989. Increases in other agricultural products somewhat offset the decline in wheat exports. Barley exports, for instance, rose by \$25.4 million, the largest increase since March 1989. The level of barley exports in October was the highest since April 1990, but the year-to-date total (\$433.5 million) was considerably lower than that observed in 1989 (\$537.5 million).



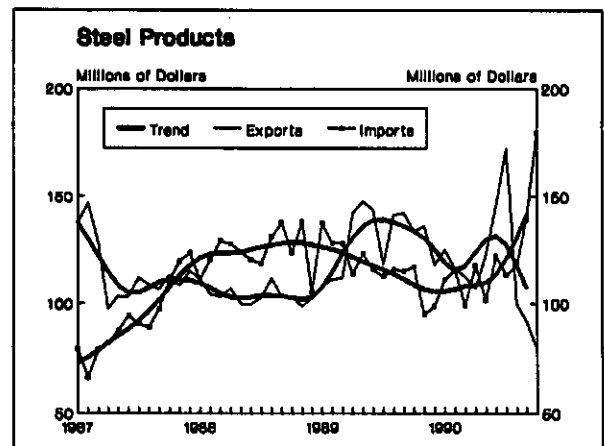
Exports of steel bars have been reduced as a result of strikes in September and October at major Canadian steel companies. The October decline of \$13.2 million brought the level of exports to \$79.0 million, their lowest level since June 1984. January to October 1990 exports were lower than for the same period in 1989, but strong exports in June and July prevented an even larger short-fall.

Total imports also increased in October, following two months of decline. The \$984.7 million rise brought the level of imports to \$11.9 billion, and the year-to-date total to \$113.5 billion (compared to \$112.3 billion in 1989). October imports were at their highest level ever, and the increase over September of 9.1% was the largest monthly rise observed since August 1988.

The increases in imports were spread over most sectors. The largest contributor was the energy products sector, which registered a gain of \$323.5 million, with \$219.0 million of the increase accounted for by crude petroleum alone. Imports of petroleum and coal products rose by \$112.3 million, reflecting the increasing price of crude petroleum.

Machinery and equipment imports increased by \$283.5 million in October, to reach \$3.6 billion. The largest increase was observed in the other machinery and equipment component (\$146.5 million), followed by industrial and agricultural machinery (\$77.4 million). In spite of high October gains, year-to-date totals for the sector were lower than those achieved in 1989.

The increase in imports of industrial goods and materials (\$124.7 million) was the largest since April of this year. At \$2.3 billion, imports of these commodities were their highest level in 1990. Upward movements were seen in all major series, led by other industrial goods which rose by \$75.4 million. Higher imports of steel bars (up \$40.1 million from September) and other iron and steel products (\$9.4 million higher than September) were reflective of strike activity which reduced domestic supply. October imports of steel bars totalled \$179.4 million, which is the highest monthly level ever registered. On the other hand, year-to-date imports were not much higher than the levels observed in 1989.



Car imports declined by \$24.5 million, but both truck and automotive parts imports increased by \$1.9 million and \$87.1 million respectively. The decline in car imports was substantially less than that observed in September, and the increased imports of trucks and parts followed declines in both series in September.

Other consumer goods posted a rise of \$84.7 million in October, led by miscellaneous consumer goods which increased by \$56.4 million.

Marginal increases were noted in imports of agricultural and fishing products (\$22.6 million) and forestry products (\$7.8 million). The rise in forestry products imports followed two months of decline.

Trading Partners

Most of the increase in exports during October resulted from a \$464.3 million rise in exports to the United States, to total \$9.8 billion. The October value of merchandise destined for U.S. markets represented a record high.

Exports to the United Kingdom remained stable, while those to "Other E.E.C. countries" increased marginally (\$12.1 million). Exports to Japan and non-O.E.C.D. countries increased as well (\$51.4 million and \$43.6 million respectively). Exports to "Other O.E.C.D. countries" slipped by \$2.3 million.

Imports from the United States soared to \$8.1 billion in October, the highest level since April 1990. The

\$644.5 million increase contributed to higher year-to-date totals as well. Imports from the United Kingdom also increased significantly (\$137.1 million), bringing the October value to \$524.7 million, substantially higher than previous levels. The year-to-date figures, however, are not considerably higher than for the same period in 1989.

Increases were also observed in imports from non-O.E.C.D. countries (\$97.6 million), "Other O.E.C.D. countries" (\$81.3 million) and "Other E.E.C. countries" (\$62.8 million). The only country from which imports were down in October was Japan (\$-38.6 million). Year-to-date imports from Japan were marginally higher than last year's levels.

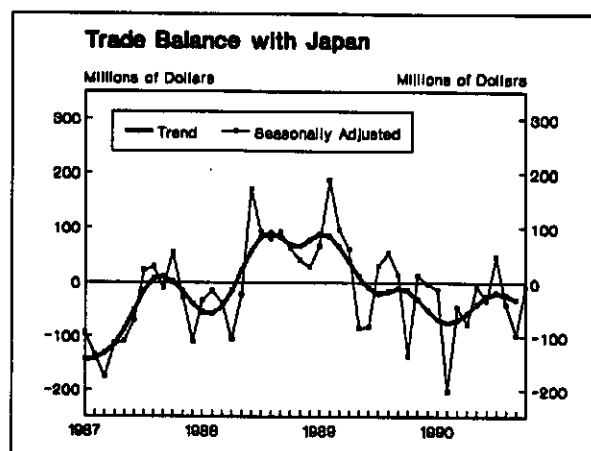
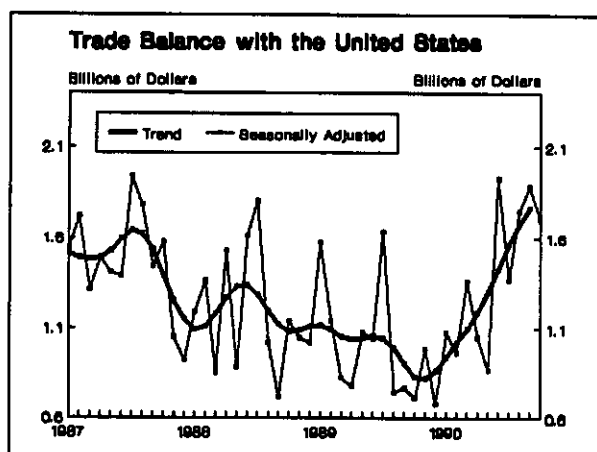


Table 2
Merchandise Trade by Principal Trading Areas
 October 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis
 Seasonally Adjusted

	Sept.	Oct.	Period-to-period change				Year-to-date Total	Change over previous year	
			Sept.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.		%	\$ millions
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions		\$ millions	%	\$ millions
Exports to:									
United States	9,298	9,762	-1.2	5.0	-110	464	92,138	4.4	3,875
United Kingdom	283	283	-18.5	0.1	-64	0	2,875	-4.8	-144
E.E.C. 86 excl. U.K.	772	784	12.3	1.6	85	12	6,947	2.9	193
Japan	586	638	-4.9	8.8	-30	51	6,479	-9.0	-642
Other O.E.C.D. 86 *	311	309	-10.0	-0.7	-34	-2	2,961	7.7	212
Other countries	837	881	-20.8	5.2	-220	44	10,734	4.6	473
Total	12,087	12,656	-3.0	4.7	-374	569	122,134	3.4	3,966
Imports from:									
United States	7,410	8,054	-3.3	8.7	-251	645	78,166	0.3	230
United Kingdom *	388	525	19.0	35.4	62	137	3,806	0.3	13
E.E.C. 86 excl. U.K.	787	850	-0.4	8.0	-3	63	8,349	0.9	76
Japan	684	645	4.1	-5.6	27	-39	6,956	0.6	44
Other O.E.C.D. 86 *	413	494	9.3	19.7	35	81	3,953	19.5	644
Other countries *	1,187	1,285	-15.6	8.2	-219	98	12,254	1.1	135
Total	10,869	11,854	-3.1	9.1	-349	985	113,483	1.0	1,143
Balance with:									
United States	1,888	1,707			140	-180	13,972		3,645
United Kingdom	-105	-242			-126	-137	-931		-157
E.E.C. 86 excl. U.K.	-15	-66			88	-51	-1,402		116
Japan	-97	-8			-57	90	-477		-686
Other O.E.C.D. 86 *	-102	-186			-70	-84	-991		-432
Other countries	-350	-404			-1	-54	-1,519		338
Total	1,218	803			-25	-415	8,651		2,823

* Raw values

Table 2A
Statistical Alignment of Canadian Exports to the United States with United States Imports from Canada
 Customs Basis
 October 1990

	\$ millions
Total Canadian exports to United States	10,658.7
Freight and other related charges incurred in bringing the merchandise to the Canadian border	-260.1
Canadian re-exports of goods of foreign origin to United States	-526.2
United States imports of goods of Canadian origin from other countries	26.7
Re-exports of U.S. goods returned through Canada and designated as Canadian origin by the U.S.	318.6
Monthly average exchange rate (\$US/\$Cdn)	1.1598
Total United States imports from Canada (Country of Origin and F.O.B. place of lading Basis)	US \$8,809.9

Notes:

1. United States trade data includes Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands.
2. Totals may not add due to rounding.
3. Readers interested in aligning Canadian imports from United States to United States exports to Canada should refer to the *United States Department of Commerce News Release (FT900)* or contact International Trade Division Data Dissemination Section at 613-951-9647.

REVISIONS TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE DATA

This publication contains monthly preliminary figures on Canada's merchandise trade with the rest of the world. Readers of this publication are aware that trade figures for previous months are subject to revision and are usually different from what was originally published. As well, at the time of release of April figures each year, data for the previous four years are revised to ensure consistency with the revision policy of related series published by Statistics Canada, for example those on imports and exports of goods and services in the Canadian System of National Accounts.

In order to understand the process of revising the trade data, it is necessary to know how the monthly trade figures are compiled. The first step is on a customs basis. Import figures are obtained from Canadian Customs documents. Exports to all trading partners except the United States are also obtained from Canadian Customs documents. Beginning with January 1990 data, exports to the United States are based on U.S. import documentation. After the customs data are compiled, they are modified to estimate the timing at which ownership changes, a concept that is adopted in the framework of the balance of payments.¹ Other adjustments also may be entered as BOP adjustments. These adjusted figures are further transformed by applying a set of forecasted seasonal adjustment factors established at the time of publication of April data, in order to remove seasonal fluctuations which exist in some of the commodity series.

A number of factors may create the need for revisions, among them late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs documents, replacement of estimated figures with actual values once they become available, amendments to export data to align them more closely with aggregates produced by other Statistics Canada surveys where there is evidence that the latter are correct and misclassification of merchandise.

Both the raw customs data and the balance of payments adjustments may be revised. Revisions to

either one will be seen as a revision to the data on a BOP basis and consequently to the seasonally adjusted figures. However, the effect of counteracting revisions to the customs files and to the BOP adjustment files means that users are only aware of the net revisions, which may be substantially smaller than their gross counterpart.

Customs data are reported very soon after the close of the reference month, and, as a result of customs procedures, are subject to revision as more complete and accurate information becomes available. This is because in a number of important instances, merchandise is admitted into Canada or exported from Canada on the basis of incomplete information.

Where errors are detected too late in the production process to be reflected in the current month's customs figures, interim corrections may be made through balance of payments adjustments. When the customs figures are subsequently revised, it is of course necessary to reverse the BOP adjustments.

The largest revisions to exports in 1990 (first seven months only) have been made to March and April data in the automotive products group, primarily because of inconsistent application of customs procedures with respect to the date of export. In one case, a \$250 million shipment of cars was registered in May, but subsequent information showed it had taken place in April. Correction resulted in the following revisions to the data: (1) at the time of the *May Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade*, a BOP adjustment of +\$250 million was made to the April data; (2) in June, customs figures were revised to show the shipment as April exports; (3) the April BOP adjustment was removed.

Revisions may also be required in cases where export values are estimated by multiplying volume times price (as in the case of energy products, for example, where initial figures are supplied by the NEB). When the final export price or actual volumes are different from initial estimates, data for previous months are revised.

1. For a detailed explanation of the balance of payments adjustments, the reader may refer to *Methodology Notes on Balance of Payments Adjustments* which is contained in the June 1989 issue of this publication.

A further source of revision to exports of energy products occurred at the time of the March 1990 *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade*, after completion of a study comparing 1989 exports of energy products based on NEB values with U.S. import figures. The results indicated that energy imports as compiled by the United States were less reliable than the data on Canadian exports. It was therefore decided to use NEB estimates of exports of energy products to the United States to replace the U.S. import figures on a balance of payments basis. To implement this procedural change, the differences between the U.S. import figures and the NEB export figures are shown as BOP adjustments. Because the decision was retroactive to January 1990, there were significant revisions to the January and February BOP adjustments for exports of these commodities.

Some revisions to both the customs and BOP adjustments figures relate to transactions in monetary gold, which is not counted as trade. In order to ensure that only non-monetary gold is included in the trade data, Statistics Canada conducts a monthly verification of gold transactions by comparing customs information with data gathered by the Bank of Canada, the Canadian Mint and companies involved in gold refining. However, the full circumstances of some transactions are only known with a lag, which results in revisions to published data.

After review of individual transactions, revisions may also occur as a result of misclassification of com-

modities. For example, at the time of the March publication, it was discovered that some January and February imports of Other communication and related equipment (part of Other machinery and equipment) should in fact have been shown as imports of Electronic computers (part of the Office machines and equipment series) and a further portion should have been allocated to the Television, radios and phonographs group (included under Miscellaneous consumer goods). Revisions to the customs data for January and February were made to correct for these errors. This type of revision has no impact on the total raw customs data, but the seasonally adjusted total might change because of different seasonal adjustment factors applied to each commodity series.

The following table and graphs illustrate the effect of revisions to the trade figures. The table presents revised monthly seasonally adjusted figures for the first seven months of 1989 and 1990, which are well within monthly fluctuations. The graphs depict the smallest and largest monthly levels for exports and imports; therefore, the black interval represents the range of monthly values. A comparison between 1989 and 1990 indicates that revisions applied in 1990 caused no greater fluctuation in the monthly totals than revisions made to the 1989 data. It is expected that the data exchange with the United States will reduce the extent to which monthly preliminary figures have to be revised.

Merchandise Trade on a Balance of Payments Basis, Seasonally Adjusted
(Revised Monthly Data through Time)

Exports - 1989

	Month of Revision							
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
¹ Jan	11,918	12,081	12,278	12,179	12,183	12,211	12,187	12,189
Feb		11,469	11,856	11,896	11,888	11,878	11,879	11,853
Mar			11,800	11,599	11,641	11,588	11,600	11,555
Apr				11,402	11,406	11,423	11,443	11,402
May					12,117	12,450	12,599	12,636
Jun						11,120	11,181	11,227
Jul							11,064	11,091
Aug								11,473

Exports - 1990

	Month of Revision							
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
¹ Jan	11,626	11,625	11,586	11,527	11,538	11,632	11,615	11,620
Feb		11,709	11,645	11,624	11,658	11,703	11,717	11,716
Mar			11,863	12,368	12,354	12,409	12,411	12,427
Apr				11,640	11,858	12,314	12,355	12,368
May					12,433	12,133	12,142	12,192
Jun						12,772	12,765	12,885
Jul							12,536	12,577
Aug								12,049

Imports - 1989

	Month of Revision							
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
¹ Jan	11,037	11,141	11,109	11,084	11,084	11,089	11,089	11,087
Feb		11,044	11,052	11,038	11,039	11,042	11,048	11,022
Mar			11,444	11,182	11,187	11,193	11,193	11,160
Apr				11,273	11,365	11,375	11,375	11,326
May					11,723	11,907	11,907	11,716
Jun						10,993	10,959	11,024
Jul							10,035	10,563
Aug								11,270

Imports - 1990

	Month of Revision							
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
¹ Jan	10,956	10,956	11,011	11,139	11,154	11,185	11,187	11,183
Feb		11,445	11,592	11,386	11,402	11,481	11,481	11,492
Mar			11,391	11,275	11,275	11,359	11,361	11,369
Apr				11,509	11,488	11,554	11,566	11,568
May					11,475	11,504	11,548	11,565
Jun						11,047	10,957	11,008
Jul							11,339	11,338
Aug								11,089

1. Reference Month

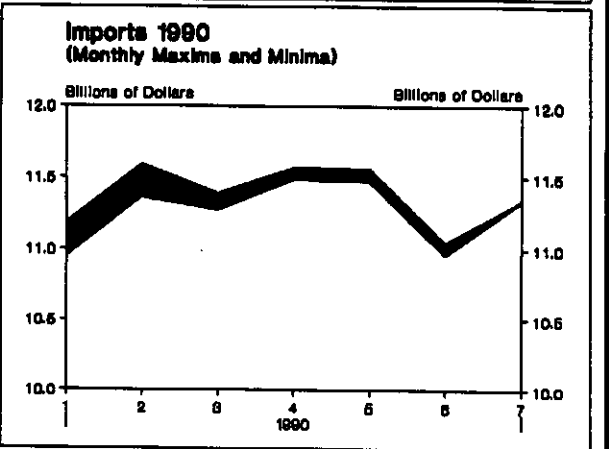
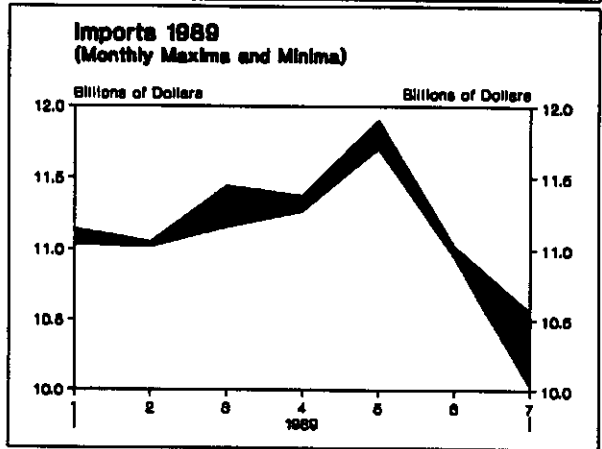
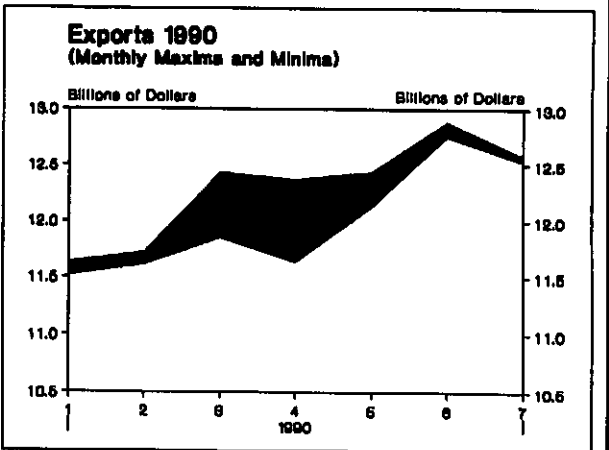
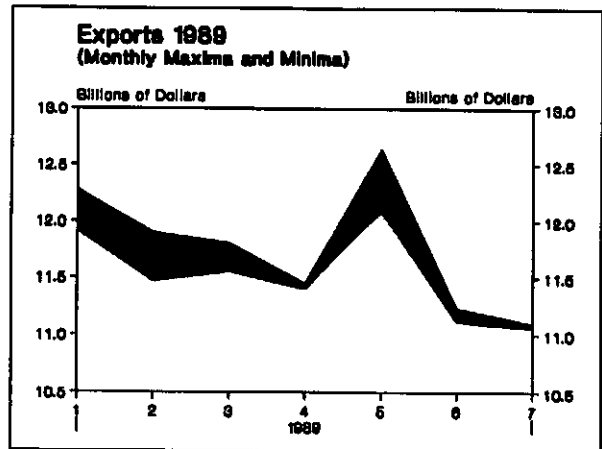


Table 3
Exports by Commodity Groupings
 October 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Year-to-date		Percentage change		
				Value	% change	Oct.'90/ Oct.'89	Oct.'89/ Oct.'88	Oct.'88/ Oct.'87
	\$ millions							
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	1,019	944	906	10,772	11.1	-6.6	-12.1	5.9
Wheat	271	200	100	2,888	42.8	-49.9	-34.1	1.1
Other agricultural and fishing products	748	744	805	7,885	2.7	7.8	-1.0	8.5
ENERGY PRODUCTS	1,234	1,565	1,438	11,407	11.1	47.8	8.6	-21.2
Crude petroleum *	489	627	602	4,174	12.4	67.1	31.8	-39.6
Natural gas	268	282	276	2,693	7.2	4.6	12.6	4.4
Other energy products	477	656	560	4,540	12.3	58.8	-9.0	-15.6
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	1,665	1,638	1,685	17,415	-6.9	-9.3	6.1	2.4
Lumber and sawmill products	498	499	514	5,470	-6.0	-16.3	16.1	-16.5
Woodpulp and other wood products	470	482	511	5,019	-12.9	-9.9	3.8	25.1
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	697	657	660	6,926	-2.8	-2.8	0.5	5.8
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,633	2,562	2,736	25,148	-6.8	4.1	5.6	2.8
Metal ores	479	519	555	4,602	-2.9	26.8	-4.9	-17.3
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	625	550	626	5,866	0.0	12.3	-7.0	18.8
Metals and alloys	1,070	1,015	1,069	9,978	-15.4	-11.7	26.0	0.3
Other industrial goods and materials	459	478	486	4,701	2.8	14.2	-8.9	15.7
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	2,377	2,223	2,432	24,090	16.6	21.1	9.2	3.6
Industrial and agricultural machinery	488	446	495	5,004	10.0	10.9	6.8	5.0
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	485	494	629	5,441	21.2	58.5	5.5	9.4
Other machinery and equipment	1,404	1,283	1,308	13,645	17.4	12.1	11.4	1.2
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	3,059	2,790	3,020	28,952	-0.1	9.7	3.7	19.4
Passenger autos and chassis	1,483	1,246	1,513	13,719	5.9	25.2	2.5	16.2
Trucks and other motor vehicles	700	716	714	6,971	1.1	-2.4	5.5	58.4
Motor vehicle parts	875	829	792	8,262	-9.4	-2.4	3.9	1.8
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	245	241	238	2,338	6.5	12.7	-9.0	-2.8
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	264	157	241	2,427	94.3	70.0	55.9	89.4
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-36	-34	-40	-414	-24.8	-31.7	-389.9	-68.1
TOTAL	12,461	12,087	12,656	122,134	3.4	10.0	3.5	4.2

* Raw values

Table 4
Imports by Commodity Groupings
 October 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Year-to-date		Percentage change		
				Value	% change	Oct.'90/ Oct.'89	Oct.'89/ Oct.'88	Oct.'88/ Oct.'87
	\$ millions							
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	730	720	742	7,287	6.7	7.5	13.5	0.6
Fruits and vegetables	247	243	249	2,427	6.4	3.6	8.9	5.6
Other agricultural and fishing products	483	477	493	4,860	6.8	9.1	15.6	-1.5
ENERGY PRODUCTS	639	695	1,018	6,330	22.9	108.0	16.3	-30.7
Crude petroleum	404	530	749	4,115	36.4	202.5	29.4	-49.3
Other energy products	235	165	269	2,216	3.9	24.0	6.8	-5.1
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	99	93	101	1,140	0.7	-13.4	21.4	-10.0
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,178	2,197	2,322	21,989	-0.7	2.8	11.2	11.1
Metals and metal ores	626	632	656	5,875	-7.9	1.7	10.6	5.3
Chemicals and plastics	669	708	733	6,977	2.5	8.3	7.1	17.5
Other industrial goods and materials	883	857	933	9,138	2.1	-0.3	14.7	11.1
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	3,356	3,325	3,608	35,975	-0.4	-4.5	11.0	24.6
Industrial and agricultural machinery	962	954	1,032	10,620	-6.3	-10.3	5.2	20.8
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	397	342	368	4,064	-13.9	-25.9	4.8	43.1
Office machines and equipment	497	508	542	5,294	1.3	7.5	4.2	7.3
Other machinery and equipment	1,499	1,520	1,667	15,997	7.9	1.8	20.1	29.9
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	2,710	2,376	2,440	25,794	-3.9	-11.6	-0.3	2.7
Passenger autos and chassis	946	808	783	9,133	-7.1	-18.2	-5.1	-12.6
Trucks and other motor vehicles	288	266	268	2,918	0.2	-7.0	-11.6	-2.9
Motor vehicle parts	1,477	1,302	1,389	13,743	-2.5	-8.1	5.9	20.3
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	1,320	1,302	1,387	13,279	5.9	4.8	17.8	4.6
Apparel and footwear	291	293	321	3,158	9.7	0.7	30.3	-11.5
Miscellaneous consumer goods	1,028	1,009	1,066	10,121	4.8	5.8	15.2	8.7
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	261	230	316	2,455	2.4	15.5	24.3	23.4
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-76	-68	-81	-767	-3.9	-5.1	9.5	11.7
TOTAL	11,218	10,869	11,854	113,483	1.0	1.6	9.4	8.7

* Raw values

Table 5
Merchandise Trade of Canada
 Constant Dollars, Laspeyres Price Indexes and Terms of Trade
 October 1990
 Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

	Constant 1986 dollars (1)				Laspeyres price index (2)					
			Period-to-period change (4)		1986=100.0			Period-to-period change (4)		
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Terms of Trade(3)	Exports	Imports	Terms of Trade(3)
	\$ millions		%					%		
1986	120,317	110,374	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	124,717	117,271	3.7	6.2	101.8	98.8	103.0	1.8	-1.2	3.0
1988	136,376	133,265	9.3	13.6	103.0	97.5	105.6	1.2	-1.4	2.5
1989	137,498	139,647	0.8	4.8	104.8	97.9	107.0	1.8	0.4	1.3
1988										
First quarter	33,201	32,762	3.3	3.4	102.0	97.8	104.3	-1.4	-1.8	1.9
Second quarter	34,955	33,047	5.3	0.9	101.9	96.9	105.2	-0.2	-0.9	0.8
Third quarter	34,003	33,280	-2.7	0.7	103.4	97.0	106.6	1.5	0.1	1.4
Fourth quarter	34,217	34,176	0.6	2.7	104.3	97.6	106.9	0.9	0.7	0.3
1989										
First quarter	34,920	34,522	2.1	1.0	105.6	97.3	108.6	1.3	-0.3	1.7
Second quarter	33,848	35,155	-3.1	1.8	106.2	98.2	108.1	0.5	0.9	-0.4
Third quarter	34,390	34,582	1.6	-1.6	104.2	97.8	106.5	-1.9	-0.5	-1.5
Fourth quarter	34,341	35,387	-0.1	2.3	103.8	97.6	106.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2
1990										
First quarter	35,070	34,906	2.1	-1.4	104.3	99.5	104.8	0.5	2.0	-1.4
Second quarter	36,805	35,546	4.9	1.8	103.0	98.6	104.5	-1.2	-1.0	-0.3
Third quarter	36,331	34,601	-1.3	-2.7	103.5	98.8	104.8	0.4	0.2	0.3
1989										
January	12,107	11,526	5.7	0.4	105.5	97.3	108.4	1.0	-0.1	1.0
February	11,605	11,439	-4.2	-0.8	105.5	97.4	108.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1
March	11,208	11,557	-3.4	1.0	106.0	97.3	108.9	0.4	0.0	0.6
April	11,114	11,599	-0.8	0.4	106.3	98.2	108.2	0.3	0.9	-0.6
May	11,738	12,182	5.6	5.0	106.4	98.3	108.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
June	10,997	11,374	-6.3	-6.6	106.0	98.5	107.6	-0.4	0.3	-0.6
July	11,384	11,002	3.5	-3.3	105.0	98.1	107.0	-0.9	-0.4	-0.5
August	11,389	11,884	0.0	8.0	104.0	97.3	106.9	-0.9	-0.8	-0.1
September	11,616	11,696	2.0	-1.6	103.6	97.7	106.0	-0.4	0.4	-0.8
October	11,356	12,073	-2.2	3.2	104.4	97.9	106.6	0.7	0.2	0.6
November	11,468	11,623	1.0	-3.7	103.9	97.7	106.3	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3
December	11,517	11,691	0.4	0.6	103.6	97.2	106.6	-0.3	-0.4	0.2
1990										
January	11,417	11,551	-0.9	-1.2	103.7	98.7	105.1	0.2	1.5	-1.4
February	11,463	11,693	0.4	1.2	105.7	100.5	105.2	1.9	1.9	0.1
March	12,191	11,662	6.4	-0.3	103.6	99.4	104.2	-2.0	-1.1	-0.9
April	12,261	12,114	0.6	3.9	103.0	98.5	104.6	-0.5	-0.9	0.3
May	12,066	11,939	-1.6	-1.4	103.4	98.7	104.8	0.4	0.2	0.2
June	12,477	11,492	3.4	-3.7	102.5	98.5	104.1	-0.8	-0.2	-0.7
July	12,331	11,858	-1.2	3.2	101.5	97.7	103.9	-1.1	-0.8	-0.2
August	12,353	11,665	0.2	-1.6	102.8	98.1	104.8	1.3	0.4	0.9
September	11,648	11,078	-5.7	-5.0	106.2	100.5	105.7	3.3	2.4	0.8
October	12,209	11,940	4.8	7.8	105.9	101.0	104.9	-0.2	0.5	-0.8
Year-to-date										
1989	114,514	116,332	0.8	5.5						
1990	120,415	116,993	5.2	0.6						

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

(2) The Laspeyres price index uses fixed weights based on 1986 trade and therefore reflects changes in price only.

(3) The Terms of Trade are the ratios of export price indexes to import price indexes, multiplied by 100.

(4) Change over previous period.

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

... figures not appropriate.

Table 6
Exports by Commodity Groupings in 1986 Dollars
 October 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Year-to-date		Percentage change		
				Value	% change	Oct. '90/ Oct. '89	Oct. '89/ Oct. '88	Oct. '88/ Oct. '87
	\$ millions							
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	1,045	960	883	10,384	16.9	-1.6	-6.2	-12.5
Wheat	304	223	109	2,721	73.9	-37.3	-22.5	-39.2
Other agricultural and fishing products	742	738	774	7,664	4.7	8.9	-0.1	5.0
ENERGY PRODUCTS	1,279	1,365	1,278	12,215	2.5	14.5	-7.4	3.1
Crude petroleum *	369	337	347	3,468	-1.6	2.3	-8.2	2.0
Natural gas	422	438	405	4,056	7.8	2.4	17.6	8.1
Other energy products	488	590	527	4,690	1.2	35.5	-22.4	1.1
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	1,541	1,486	1,557	15,761	-2.0	-3.0	4.6	-0.6
Lumber and sawmill products	526	521	541	5,585	-5.0	-11.9	11.1	-7.4
Woodpulp and other wood products	326	334	371	3,360	-5.2	7.2	-5.0	5.8
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	689	631	646	6,816	2.5	-0.2	4.3	2.2
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,499	2,444	2,614	24,335	-0.2	4.7	12.1	-1.5
Metal ores	417	448	486	3,996	0.4	25.0	-0.8	-23.9
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	626	574	654	5,967	5.5	19.4	-5.1	19.6
Metals and alloys	989	928	957	9,429	-5.5	-14.0	48.7	-10.0
Other industrial goods and materials	467	494	517	4,943	3.8	15.2	-11.3	17.8
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	2,272	2,133	2,311	23,138	15.1	17.5	7.1	3.7
Industrial and agricultural machinery	431	388	430	4,371	6.4	8.1	2.2	3.1
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	430	437	553	4,834	18.9	54.7	0.9	5.1
Other machinery and equipment	1,411	1,308	1,328	13,932	16.7	9.4	10.7	3.5
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	3,277	2,930	3,163	30,562	0.1	10.1	3.3	24.6
Passenger autos and chassis	1,633	1,325	1,585	14,750	6.7	25.8	1.2	22.3
Trucks and other motor vehicles	748	763	772	7,430	0.5	-1.8	7.0	65.1
Motor vehicle parts	896	841	807	8,382	-10.0	-2.5	3.3	4.5
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	215	212	209	2,033	4.4	13.3	-13.9	-6.5
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	262	151	232	2,396	97.9	68.0	51.3	85.3
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-36	-33	-39	-409	-23.5	-32.5	-381.6	-68.8
TOTAL	12,353	11,648	12,209	120,415	5.2	8.7	3.1	4.4

* Raw values

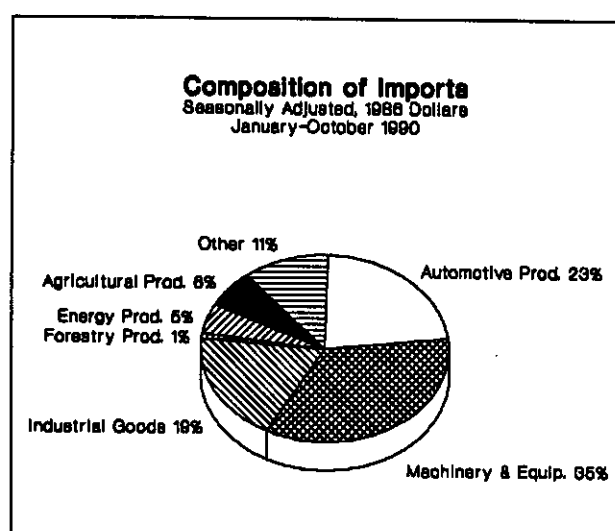
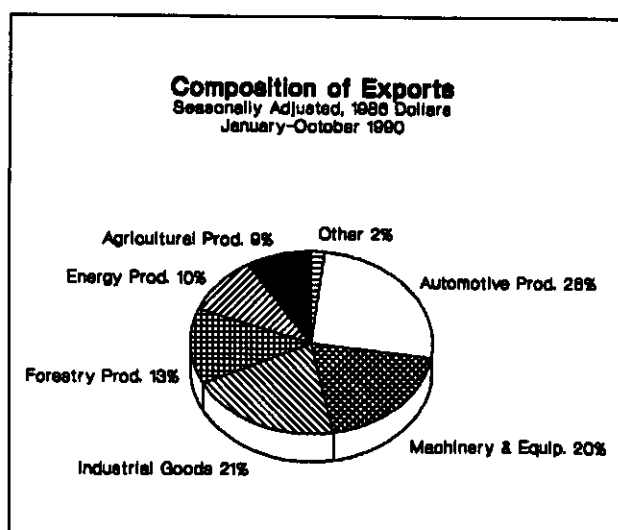


Table 7
Imports by Commodity Groupings in 1986 Dollars
 October 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Year-to-date		Percentage change		
				Value	% change	Oct. '90/ Oct. '89	Oct. '89/ Oct. '88	Oct. '88/ Oct. '87
	\$ millions							
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	734	724	730	7,405	7.4	4.0	13.2	-1.2
Fruits and vegetables	233	231	229	2,345	6.8	2.1	11.7	-13.2
Other agricultural and fishing products	501	492	501	5,060	7.7	4.7	13.9	4.8
ENERGY PRODUCTS	629	529	706	6,044	8.6	38.6	1.1	-9.6
Crude petroleum	360	332	426	3,508	14.4	65.8	0.3	-24.2
Other energy products	269	197	280	2,536	1.4	16.7	1.8	7.2
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	96	87	95	1,036	6.6	-5.6	25.2	-20.7
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,204	2,189	2,301	21,680	1.0	2.4	13.7	7.3
Metals and metal ores	624	593	636	5,559	-4.0	1.4	16.6	-1.6
Chemicals and plastics	709	749	759	7,234	8.2	11.9	9.1	12.8
Other industrial goods and materials	871	847	907	8,888	-1.2	-3.6	15.1	10.3
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	3,771	3,737	4,034	39,998	0.9	-3.4	12.9	28.0
Industrial and agricultural machinery	1,026	1,006	1,086	11,190	-7.8	-12.1	4.2	26.3
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	406	349	382	4,194	-14.1	-26.4	4.8	41.8
Office machines and equipment	818	846	902	8,496	12.8	17.7	18.2	15.4
Other machinery and equipment	1,521	1,536	1,665	16,118	6.9	-0.3	20.4	32.0
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	2,736	2,387	2,513	26,143	-5.5	-12.2	-0.4	7.5
Passenger autos and chassis	795	690	725	8,107	-9.8	-16.4	-7.7	-13.2
Trucks and other motor vehicles	312	284	279	3,129	-1.9	-12.0	-12.0	2.2
Motor vehicle parts	1,630	1,414	1,508	14,907	-3.7	-10.0	6.8	28.1
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	1,303	1,260	1,324	12,947	4.2	2.9	15.0	5.6
Apparel and footwear	220	220	234	2,406	-0.2	-3.0	14.7	-15.4
Miscellaneous consumer goods	1,083	1,040	1,090	10,542	5.3	3.9	15.1	10.1
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	272	234	318	2,530	-2.2	8.7	25.6	24.7
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-79	-69	-81	-791	-8.1	-10.6	10.7	12.9
TOTAL	11,665	11,078	11,940	116,993	0.6	-1.4	9.6	11.7

* Raw values

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