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Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

December 1990

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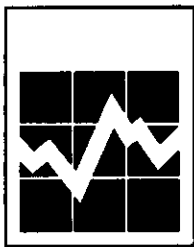
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International Trade Division

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

December 1990

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For more detailed information on statistics, concepts and definitions, order the December 1990 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (cat. no. 65-001, \$18.20/\$182), available the first week of March 1991, or contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Marlene Sterpan (613-951-1711) (for analysis information), or Denis Pilon (613-951-4808) (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

- Exports fell \$51 million to \$12 billion and imports rose by \$27 million to \$10.9 billion in December, resulting in a trade surplus of \$1.1 billion, down \$78 million from November.
- Large declines in exports of automotive products, industrial goods and materials and forestry products were almost entirely offset by increased exports of wheat.
- Substantially reduced imports of automobile parts moderated increases posted by imports of machinery and equipment and some consumer goods.
- Both exports and imports of crude petroleum fell, reflecting lower world prices.

Monthly Summary

In the aggregate, there was not much movement in either exports or imports in December. Large offsetting changes from November took place for selected commodities, but the net effect was a \$51 million decrease in exports and a \$27 million increase in imports. December exports amounted to \$12.0 billion, the same as for November, while imports were at a level of \$10.9 billion. December's \$1.1 billion trade surplus was \$78 million lower than the November surplus. The annual surplus was \$10.8 billion, up from \$6.9 billion in 1989.

The automotive products sector continued to exhibit signs of slowdown, with declines for exports of trucks and parts. The fall in the latter was attributable to lower production in the United States.

Exports of industrial goods and materials fell considerably in December, as metal ores, chemicals and metals and alloys all experienced drops in export sales. A notable decrease was also posted for forestry products, driven by declines of all its major components with the exception of newsprint, which actually increased.

Even energy products, which contributed heavily to export totals since August, fell slightly in December, largely as a result of lower crude petroleum prices.

These declines were almost totally offset by a large increase in wheat exports. The level attained in December was close to normal in contrast with the low levels recorded in the summer and fall.

As with exports, compensating changes in imports of major commodities generated only a modest increase in the total. A jump in car imports of \$205 million was more than offset by a substantial decrease in imports of parts. In fact, the decline in parts was the largest since July 1988.

Commodities which showed an increase in December included machinery and equipment, forestry products and other consumer goods, but the increases were not large, as a result of offsetting movements.

The economic slowdown in the United States became more evident in December, as exports dropped \$368 million, with exports to the United States attaining their lowest level since February 1990. The only increase posted in December was for exports to non-O.E.C.D. countries, which rose by \$445 million, matching their level in May 1990.

Imports from all trading partners except the United States and "Other E.E.C. countries" declined in December.

The drop in exports to and rise in imports from the United States reduced the December surplus considerably. The only other trading partner with which Canada enjoyed a surplus was with the group of non-O.E.C.D. countries, where a very large increase in exports and a marginal decrease in imports gave rise to a positive trade balance of \$267 million compared to a deficit of \$202 million in November.

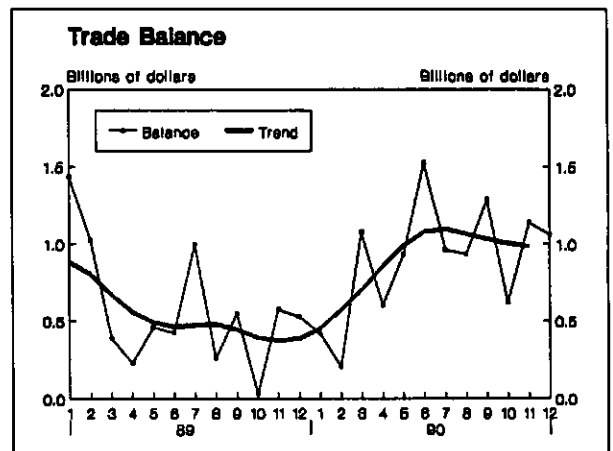
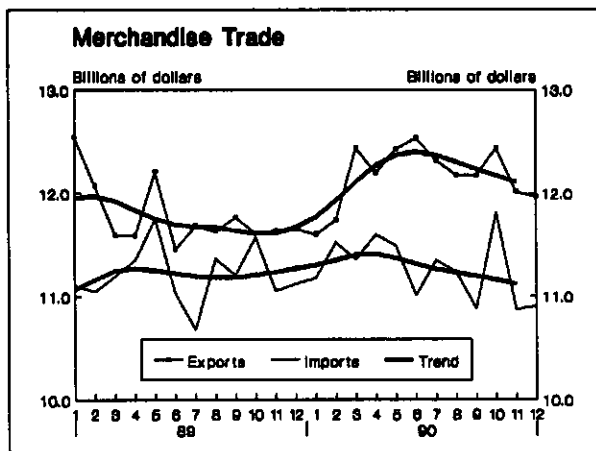


Table 1
Merchandise Trade of Canada
December 1990

	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	
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	36,173	35,163	35,543	34,921	35,779	34,069	1,711	2.5	0.9	571
Second quarter	39,179	35,837	38,681	35,561	37,172	34,107	3,065	3.9	0.1	1,355
Third quarter	35,209	31,331	34,727	31,543	36,678	33,485	3,193	-1.3	-1.8	128
Fourth quarter	37,610	33,591	37,106	33,234	36,427	33,599	2,828	-0.7	0.3	-365
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	11,397	10,820	11,160	10,676	11,603	11,181	422	-0.5	0.5	-107
February	11,445	11,384	11,335	11,425	11,737	11,525	211	1.2	3.1	-211
March	13,331	12,959	13,048	12,821	12,440	11,362	1,077	6.0	-1.4	866
April	12,267	11,597	12,067	11,555	12,203	11,600	604	-1.9	2.1	-474
May	13,784	12,378	13,586	12,399	12,430	11,495	936	1.9	-0.9	332
June	13,128	11,861	13,028	11,606	12,538	11,012	1,526	0.9	-4.2	591
July	11,194	10,076	11,101	10,081	12,323	11,357	967	-1.7	3.1	-559
August	11,783	10,938	11,551	11,072	12,181	11,243	938	-1.2	-1.0	-29
September	12,232	10,317	12,075	10,390	12,175	10,886	1,289	-0.0	-3.2	351
October	13,758	12,269	13,493	12,149	12,438	11,816	622	2.2	8.5	-666
November	12,529	11,444	12,451	11,361	12,020	10,878	1,142	-3.4	-7.9	519
December	11,323	9,878	11,161	9,724	11,969	10,905	1,064	-0.4	0.3	-78
Year-to-date										
1989	138,340	135,033	141,462	134,528	141,461	134,528	6,934	2.2	4.8	-3,180
1990	148,170	135,922	146,057	135,259	146,057	135,259	10,798	3.2	0.5	3,864

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

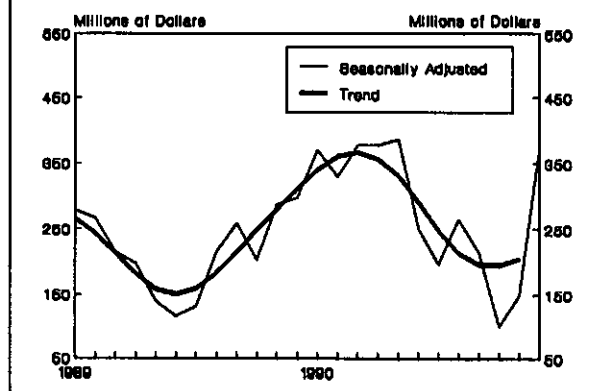
Short-Term Trend

Exports

The export trend fell by 0.5% in November, its fifth consecutive monthly decline. The rate of decrease has remained the same since August.

- Contributing to the decline was a 4.0% decrease in automotive product exports. The trend for cars (-2.0%) has been negative since July; trucks began declining in August, with the rate of decrease accelerating to reach -5.1% in November. Likewise, the rate of decline for parts, -6.4% in November, has been accelerating since July.
- The trend for machinery and equipment began to fall in June, but decelerated in September. The trends for aircraft and other transportation equipment as well as other machinery and equipment dropped in November. These declines were partly offset by an increase of 1.7% in the trend for industrial and agricultural machinery.
- Industrial goods and materials began to decline in October; the rate of -0.8% observed for November was double the decline posted for October. Within the sector, the only components to show a positive trend in November were chemicals, plastics and fertilizers as a group.
- There were some notable increases; forestry products rose for the second month in a row, following ten consecutive monthly declines. The trends for all components were positive; November was the first month after eleven declines where lumber exports showed an increase.
- The trend for exports of energy products also rose, but at a slower pace than in previous months (4.1% in November compared to a high of 8.9% in August). Increases in crude petroleum of 9.1% and other energy products of 1.1% were partly offset by a 2.0% decrease in natural gas.
- The trend for exports of wheat was up (4.9%) in November following seven months of decline.
- There was a decline in the trend for exports to all trading partners except non-O.E.C.D. countries, which increased by a strong 2.7%. A decrease of

Wheat Exports

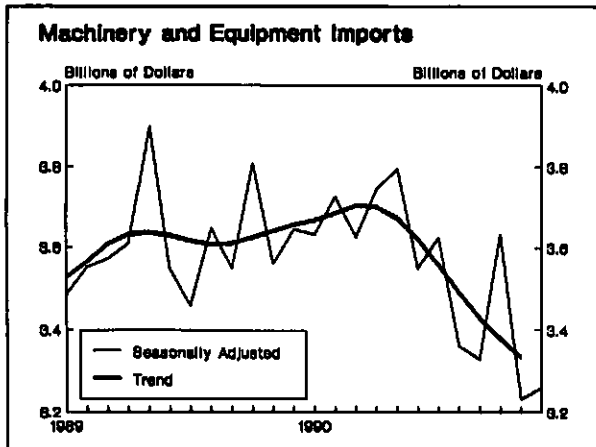


0.7% for exports to the United States continued a steadily declining movement which began in August. Exports to Japan have been falling since April, but the decline noted for November was less than decreases seen earlier in the year.

Imports

The import trend declined for the seventh consecutive time, down by 0.4% in November, slightly more than the decline of 0.3% posted between August and October.

- Downward pressure was largely exerted by the 3.4% decline in the trend for automotive product imports. The trend for cars fell 3.0%, marking the seventh monthly decrease in this series, but the November drop was not as large as the declines recorded during the period from August through October. Trucks dropped by 2.4%, while parts, which began falling in August, and have been declining at an accelerating rate since then, fell by 3.8%.
- Machinery and equipment continued to fall in November, but at a slower rate than in previous months. The trend has been declining since April, the fastest rate of decline occurring in August (-1.3% in November compared to -1.9% in August). All components were down. Aircraft and other transportation equipment fell for the ninth consecutive time (-2.5%), and decreases were also noted for industrial and agricultural machinery (-0.7%) which has been declining since July 1989, office machinery and equipment (-0.6%) and other machinery and equipment (-1.7%).



- Other declines in the import trend were observed for industrial goods and materials, down 1.0% in November, and forestry products which fell by 1.9%.
- The trend for imports of energy products continued to rise, climbing 10.5% in November. The trend has been positive since July, but the rate of increase has slowed since its peak of 15.6% in September. Crude petroleum was up by 12.5%, but this trend has started to slow as a result of lower world prices.
- Strong increases in the trend were observed for imports from the United Kingdom (9.0%) and "Other O.E.C.D. countries" (7.3%). Imports from all other trading partners declined in November, with the largest decrease occurring in imports from non-O.E.C.D. countries (-4.1%). Imports from the United States have been declining since June, while the trend for Japan has been negative since March.

Detailed Analysis by Commodities and Trading Partners

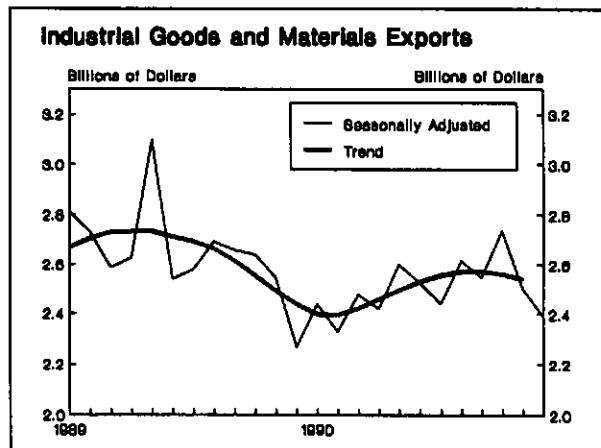
Commodities

Following a drop of \$419 million (revised) in November, exports fell by \$51 million in December, maintaining a level of \$12 billion, the lowest level of exports since February 1990. The decline in exports was very small compared to the much larger movements (both positive and negative) observed throughout the year. The exceptions were January and September, when exports fell \$53 million and \$6 million respectively.

The decrease in exports was the result of compensating movements. Large decreases were posted for automotive products (-\$115 million), industrial goods and materials (-\$112 million) and forestry products (-\$101 million). The largest offsetting increase occurred in the agriculture and fish products sector (\$235 million) with a smaller gain registered for machinery and equipment (\$11 million).

While car exports increased by \$19 million in December, exports of both trucks and parts fell. Truck exports decreased by \$65 million; this represented the fifth consecutive monthly decline. The \$69 million decrease in parts exports was not unexpected, given reduced production in the United States over the last few months.

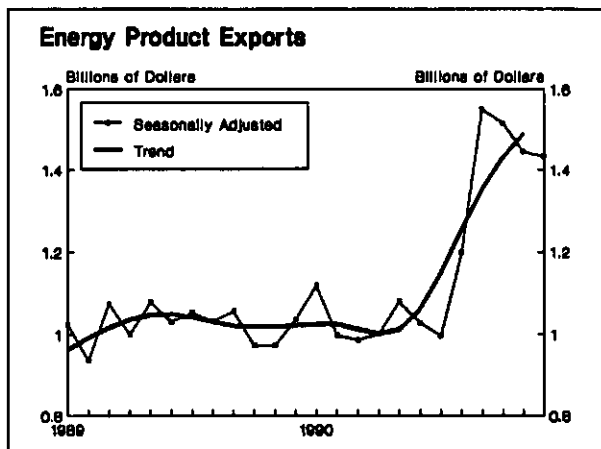
Exports of all major components within the industrial goods and materials sector declined, with the exception of other industrial goods, which increased by \$41 million as a result of advances for everything but other crude animal products and other crude materials. Metal ore exports fell by \$59 million, led by a drop of \$61 million for nickel ores. Within the chemicals, plastics



and fertilizers group, which declined by \$67 million, only organic chemicals showed an increase in exports. A large increase in exports of precious metals and alloys (\$54 million) was more than offset by lower exports of copper and alloys (-\$25 million) and nickel and alloys (-\$37 million), bringing the net drop in the metals and alloys group to \$27 million.

Forestry product exports decreased considerably in December (-\$101 million), with all components except newsprint showing a decline. Lumber exports dropped by \$55 million, after three months of rising exports. Woodpulp declined for the second month in a row, falling by \$23 million in December, while exports of other paper fell by \$38 million.

Energy products, so important a part of the increases in exports for the last several months, actually recorded a net decrease in December. Although other energy products rose by \$64 million, decreases in crude petroleum exports of \$60 million and natural gas of \$16 million caused a net decrease of \$11 million in the energy sector.

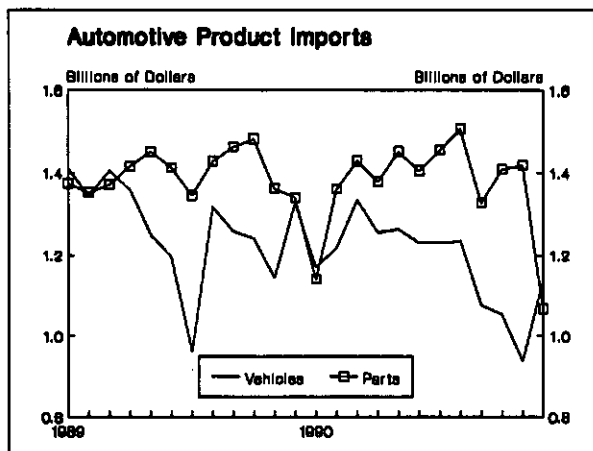


Boosted by a \$221 million increase in wheat exports, exports of agricultural and fishing products rose by \$235 million. The increase in wheat exports in December brought the monthly total to \$369 million, the highest level since May.

In the machinery and equipment sector, increased exports of industrial and agricultural machinery (\$27 million) and other machinery and equipment (\$32 million) were moderated by a decline in aircraft and other transportation equipment exports (-\$48 million).

As with exports, the change in the level of imports noted in December (\$27 million) was not large compared to the shifts seen for every month during 1990 with the exception of January, which saw imports increase by \$54 million from December 1989. The increase in imports following a drop of \$938 million in November, brought imports to a level of \$10.9 billion.

Contributing to the upward movement of imports were increases for other consumer goods (\$51 million), machinery and equipment (\$26 million) and forestry products (\$8 million). Imports of cars rose dramatically, by \$205 million, but this increase was more than offset by decreased imports of parts, down \$352 million in December. The decline in parts imports was the largest observed since July 1988. Truck imports fell slightly (-\$4 million).



The increase posted for machinery and equipment imports followed a decline of \$399 million in November. Higher imports of industrial and agricultural machinery (\$52 million) and office machines and equipment (\$37 million) were partially offset by reductions posted for aircraft and other transportation equipment (-\$32 million) and other machinery and equipment (-\$31 million).

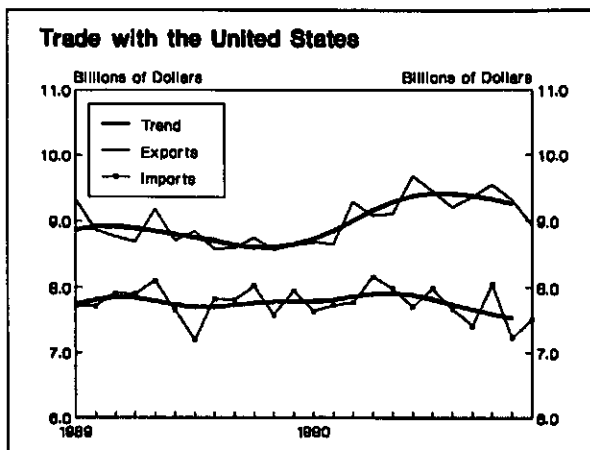
Imports of energy products declined in December by \$9 million. Crude petroleum imports fell by \$27 million, following four consecutive monthly gains. This decrease was tempered by an increase of \$18 million for imports of other energy products.

Trading Partners

Exports to the United States dropped by \$368 million in December to \$8.9 billion, the lowest level since February 1990. The decrease represents the largest monthly drop since June 1989. Exports to the United Kingdom fell by \$70 million, which was the highest monthly decrease since October 1989. The December level of \$264 million was the same as that posted in May. Declines were also registered for exports to "Other E.E.C. countries" (-\$19 million), Japan (-\$0.6 million), and "Other O.E.C.D. countries" (-\$38 million). The only positive movement noted in December was in exports to non-O.E.C.D. countries, which rose by \$445 million, the largest monthly increase ever. December's gain brought the level of exports for the month to \$1.3 billion, the highest level since May 1990.

Imports from all trading partners but the United States and "Other E.E.C. countries" declined in December. The \$110 million drop in imports from the United Kingdom marked the first decrease since August 1990.

Imports from Japan fell \$48 million, from "Other O.E.C.D. countries" the decrease was \$131 million, and imports from non-O.E.C.D. countries declined by \$25 million. Conversely, imports from the United States grew substantially, rising \$281 million following a large drop of \$812 million in November. An increase of \$59 million was posted for imports from "Other E.E.C. countries".



Quarterly Summary

Exports declined in the fourth quarter by \$251 million, to reach \$36.4 billion. This was the second consecutive quarterly decline, following strong first and second quarter increases.

The largest quarterly drop occurred in the automotive products sector, which fell by \$1.1 billion. All three major components contributed to the decline, as cars decreased \$267 million, trucks fell \$354 million, and parts were lower by \$500 million. These decreases followed positive second and third quarters for cars and trucks, but the fourth quarter decrease in parts exports represented the second quarterly drop in a row.

This decrease was offset by increases in other sectors, notably energy products which grew by \$652 million in the quarter, as crude petroleum exports rose by \$658 million. Other energy products also rose (\$9 million), while exports of natural gas fell by \$14 million during the quarter.

Forestry products showed renewed vigour during the quarter. Increased exports of \$102 million followed three quarterly declines. Lumber products were up by \$39 million, woodpulp by \$44 million, and newsprint by \$20 million.

Machinery and equipment exports rose during the quarter, propped up by increases of \$123 million for industrial and agricultural machinery and \$79 million for aircraft and other transportation equipment. Declines in exports of other machinery and equipment moderated the overall increase for the sector.

A large increase (\$157 million) in exports of chemicals, plastics and fertilizers contributed to a rise in exports of industrial goods and materials. However, within this grouping other components fell, led by a reduction of \$124 million for the metals and alloys group. The increase was \$23 million.

Total imports increased in the fourth quarter by \$114 million, following a large third quarter drop of \$622 million.

Not unexpectedly, the largest increase was observed in the energy products sector which grew by \$1.1 billion during the quarter, primarily due to a rise of \$887 million in crude petroleum imports. This latest increase for crude petroleum brought imports of this commodity to \$2.1 billion, the highest quarterly level since the second quarter of 1981. Other energy products rose by a more modest amount (\$164 million) following two quarters of contraction.

Agricultural and fishing products also posted higher imports during the quarter. All other sectors declined.

As with exports, the largest decline occurred within automotive products. The total decrease was \$805 million, caused by drops of \$392 million for parts, \$353 million for cars and \$60 million for trucks. These declines represent the second quarterly drop for trucks, and the fourth consecutive quarterly drop for cars. Imports of parts fell only in the first and fourth quarters. Automotive product imports as a whole declined in every quarter but the second, bringing the annual total to \$30.5 billion, 4.8% lower than the 1989 total of \$32.0 billion.

Consistent with Canada's current recession, machinery and equipment imports fell \$188 million in the fourth quarter, continuing the trend shown in the third quarter when imports dropped by \$773 million. All four components registered decreases; with the exception of office machines and equipment, the decreases were significantly less than those posted in the third quarter.

Imports of industrial goods and materials declined by \$122 million, although metals and metal ores increased by \$73 million. Responsible for the downward movement were decreases for chemicals and plastics (-\$51 million) and other industrial goods (-\$143 million).

Forestry products, falling for the third consecutive quarter, decreased \$24 million.

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

	Nov.	Dec.	Period-to-period change				Year-to-date Total	Change over previous year	
			Nov.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.		%	\$ millions
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions		\$ millions	%	\$ millions
Exports to:									
United States	9,304	8,936	-2.4	-4.0	-232	-368	110,282	4.6	4,811
United Kingdom	334	264	17.4	-21.0	50	-70	3,461	-2.8	-99
E.E.C. 86 excl. U.K.	675	656	-14.0	-2.8	-109	-19	8,304	1.8	147
Japan	577	577	-8.3	-0.1	-52	-1	7,638	-10.1	-860
Other O.E.C.D. 86 *	282	244	-9.2	-13.5	-28	-38	3,489	1.7	58
Other countries	847	1,291	-5.2	52.5	-46	445	12,883	4.4	538
Total	12,020	11,969	-3.4	-0.4	-419	-51	146,057	3.2	4,595
Imports from:									
United States	7,234	7,515	-10.1	3.9	-812	281	92,892	-0.6	-583
United Kingdom *	592	483	2.4	-18.5	14	-109	4,935	7.1	327
E.E.C. 86 excl. U.K.	744	803	-13.5	8.0	-116	59	9,931	0.4	44
Japan	649	601	0.2	-7.3	1	-48	8,223	-0.7	-56
Other O.E.C.D. 86 *	609	478	51.0	-21.5	206	-131	4,950	23.9	955
Other countries *	1,049	1,025	-18.1	-2.3	-231	-24	14,328	0.3	44
Total	10,878	10,905	-7.9	0.3	-938	27	135,259	0.5	731
Balance with:									
United States	2,070	1,421			580	-649	17,390		5,395
United Kingdom	-258	-219			36	39	-1,473		-426
E.E.C. 86 excl. U.K.	-69	-146			6	-78	-1,627		103
Japan	-72	-25			-54	47	-585		-804
Other O.E.C.D. 86 *	-327	-234			-234	93	-1,462		-898
Other countries	-202	267			185	469	-1,445		494
Total	1,142	1,064			519	-78	10,798		3,864

* Raw series

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

	\$ millions
Total Canadian exports to United States	8,353.1
Freight and other related charges incurred in bringing the merchandise to the Canadian border	-218.9
Canadian re-exports of goods of foreign origin to United States	-504.6
United States imports of goods of Canadian origin from other countries	6.2
Re-exports of U.S. goods returned through Canada and designated as Canadian origin by the U.S.	330.8
Monthly average exchange rate (\$US/\$Cdn)	1.1600
Total United States imports from Canada (Country of Origin and F.O.B. place of lading Basis)	US \$6,867.8

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.

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

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values			
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year-to-date		Percentage change			
				Value	% change	Dec.'90/ Dec.'89	Dec.'89/ Dec.'88	Dec.'88/ Dec.'87	
	\$ millions								
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	903	934	1,169	12,846	9.0	9.3	-2.9	9.5	
Wheat	100	149	369	3,383	29.7	22.0	-1.2	14.8	
Other agricultural and fishing products	804	785	799	9,463	3.2	4.0	-3.5	7.5	
ENERGY PRODUCTS	1,516	1,446	1,435	14,358	16.9	32.2	15.3	-7.8	
Crude petroleum *	681	740	680	5,689	27.1	67.0	35.6	-24.8	
Natural gas	301	260	244	3,189	5.5	-11.3	12.2	14.6	
Other energy products	534	447	511	5,480	14.6	33.0	0.8	-5.3	
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	1,667	1,760	1,658	20,838	-7.2	-16.2	-7.3	3.2	
Lumber and sawmill products	516	577	504	6,567	-7.0	-22.8	-1.2	-10.5	
Woodpulp and other wood products	501	471	448	5,924	-13.8	-22.4	-7.9	19.0	
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	649	711	707	8,348	-2.1	-5.8	-11.0	3.1	
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,736	2,503	2,391	30,031	-5.5	4.5	-12.4	1.9	
Metal ores	559	448	389	5,441	-2.4	-5.9	1.5	-21.1	
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	639	642	574	7,105	2.9	18.1	-22.3	11.6	
Metals and alloys	1,062	966	939	11,863	-14.0	1.3	-12.3	7.9	
Other industrial goods and materials	476	447	488	5,621	1.8	5.7	-11.0	3.0	
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	2,362	2,384	2,395	28,818	15.4	5.5	10.8	2.7	
Industrial and agricultural machinery	486	513	540	6,042	10.4	8.7	5.3	0.1	
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	594	574	527	6,528	19.7	7.9	7.9	19.6	
Other machinery and equipment	1,281	1,296	1,329	16,249	15.7	3.4	14.4	-2.2	
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	2,806	2,594	2,479	33,876	-2.4	-20.0	5.4	-6.7	
Passenger autos and chassis	1,387	1,300	1,320	16,191	4.3	-8.6	17.7	-19.1	
Trucks and other motor vehicles	661	619	554	8,175	-2.4	-27.7	2.5	0.9	
Motor vehicle parts	757	675	606	9,509	-12.0	-32.9	-9.4	9.2	
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	235	250	234	2,810	7.7	7.7	-18.8	0.3	
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	255	186	242	2,966	92.1	75.8	34.9	107.9	
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-41	-36	-33	-486	-27.8	-41.5	-151.4	85.3	
TOTAL	12,438	12,020	11,969	146,057	3.2	-0.1	-1.3	0.7	

* Raw series

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

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values			
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year-to-date		Percentage change			
				Value	% change	Dec.'90/Dec.'89	Dec.'89/Dec.'88	Dec.'88/Dec.'87	
	\$ millions								
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	745	743	735	8,738	7.0	8.6	-2.1	-3.8	
Fruits and vegetables	248	254	243	2,911	6.6	7.6	-2.1	-6.7	
Other agricultural and fishing products	496	489	492	5,827	7.1	9.1	-2.1	-2.2	
ENERGY PRODUCTS	940	938	929	8,068	29.7	89.7	25.4	-37.0	
Crude petroleum	683	702	675	5,381	45.2	117.4	61.7	-38.9	
Other energy products	257	235	253	2,686	6.8	39.4	-10.8	-34.9	
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	101	90	98	1,323	-2.6	-14.7	1.0	2.3	
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,337	2,045	2,043	26,083	-1.6	-8.4	-3.4	10.0	
Metals and metal ores	658	580	586	7,046	-6.9	-6.3	-15.3	18.3	
Chemicals and plastics	737	657	661	8,280	1.8	-1.3	-3.7	7.0	
Other industrial goods and materials	941	807	796	10,757	-0.5	-14.8	7.1	5.9	
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	3,632	3,233	3,259	42,502	-1.9	-11.3	2.5	4.4	
Industrial and agricultural machinery	1,038	944	995	12,579	-6.9	-5.6	-5.0	1.9	
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	369	345	313	4,719	-14.7	-28.6	-22.6	29.1	
Office machines and equipment	543	476	513	6,283	-0.1	-7.8	6.8	-5.2	
Other machinery and equipment	1,681	1,469	1,438	18,921	5.3	-11.3	18.2	2.3	
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	2,463	2,356	2,204	30,491	-4.8	-17.4	-1.4	-15.8	
Passenger autos and chassis	783	682	887	10,704	-9.0	-15.3	-3.0	5.4	
Trucks and other motor vehicles	271	255	251	3,440	-0.5	-8.5	-0.7	-30.3	
Motor vehicle parts	1,409	1,419	1,066	16,347	-2.7	-20.9	-0.2	-24.4	
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	1,393	1,252	1,304	15,844	5.4	6.0	-1.3	0.5	
Apparel and footwear	323	287	296	3,746	7.8	0.3	3.2	2.1	
Miscellaneous consumer goods	1,071	965	1,008	12,098	4.6	7.5	-2.4	0.1	
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	287	296	394	3,116	9.3	77.8	-1.0	21.1	
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-81	-76	-62	-905	-4.3	-8.1	-3.0	4.5	
TOTAL	11,816	10,878	10,905	135,259	0.5	-2.2	0.6	-3.4	

* Raw series

Table 5
Merchandise Trade of Canada
 Constant Dollars, Laspeyres Price Indexes and Terms of Trade
 December 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
1990	143,524	138,861	4.4	-0.6	104.3	99.4	104.9	-0.5	1.5	-2.0
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	35,185	34,913	2.5	-1.3	104.3	99.5	104.8	0.5	2.0	-1.4
Second quarter	37,098	35,558	5.4	1.8	102.9	98.5	104.5	-1.3	-1.0	-0.3
Third quarter	36,311	34,668	-2.1	-2.5	103.3	98.8	104.6	0.4	0.3	0.1
Fourth quarter	34,930	33,722	-3.8	-2.7	106.4	101.4	104.9	2.9	2.6	0.4
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	11,402	11,562	-1.0	-1.1	103.6	98.7	105.0	0.1	1.5	-1.5
February	11,412	11,693	0.1	1.1	105.7	100.6	105.1	2.0	1.9	0.1
March	12,371	11,658	8.4	-0.3	103.7	99.4	104.3	-2.0	-1.1	-0.7
April	12,193	12,113	-1.4	3.9	102.9	98.5	104.5	-0.7	-0.9	0.1
May	12,346	11,945	1.3	-1.4	103.4	98.8	104.7	0.4	0.3	0.2
June	12,559	11,500	1.7	-3.7	102.6	98.4	104.3	-0.8	-0.4	-0.4
July	12,444	11,866	-0.9	3.2	101.4	97.8	103.7	-1.2	-0.6	-0.6
August	12,096	11,695	-2.8	-1.4	102.6	98.2	104.5	1.2	0.3	0.8
September	11,771	11,107	-2.7	-5.0	105.9	100.5	105.4	3.2	2.4	0.9
October	11,912	11,891	1.2	7.1	106.8	101.5	105.2	0.9	0.9	-0.1
November	11,421	10,893	-4.1	-8.4	106.6	102.0	104.5	-0.2	0.5	-0.7
December	11,597	10,938	1.5	0.4	105.6	100.8	104.8	-1.0	-1.1	0.2
Year-to-date										
1989	137,498	139,647	0.8	4.8						
1990	143,524	138,861	4.4	-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
 December 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year-to-date		Percentage change		
				Value	% change	Dec.'90/Dec.'89	Dec.'89/Dec.'88	Dec.'88/Dec.'87
	\$ millions							
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	884	955	1,236	12,559	15.2	22.8	3.1	-1.3
Wheat	112	176	418	3,321	59.5	58.6	17.3	-17.6
Other agricultural and fishing products	772	779	818	9,239	4.8	9.7	-1.2	5.0
ENERGY PRODUCTS	1,275	1,146	1,197	14,548	2.2	-3.1	3.6	12.5
Crude petroleum *	347	374	380	4,256	0.6	2.1	-2.6	20.9
Natural gas	430	369	349	4,731	4.4	-16.7	22.0	16.3
Other energy products	498	403	469	5,561	1.6	9.3	-8.6	3.2
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	1,535	1,622	1,576	18,959	-2.1	-9.0	-8.0	0.6
Lumber and sawmill products	539	594	539	6,718	-5.7	-17.5	-4.7	-1.9
Woodpulp and other wood products	362	348	342	4,037	-4.7	-5.5	-14.1	3.7
Newsprint and other paper and paperboard	633	680	694	8,205	2.6	-3.8	-7.0	0.8
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,634	2,400	2,310	29,300	1.0	4.2	-4.3	-2.0
Metal ores	494	418	339	4,749	-0.1	-10.6	11.0	-27.6
Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers	660	632	542	7,171	7.6	12.0	-17.4	10.8
Metals and alloys	966	860	895	11,185	-5.2	5.0	2.4	-0.3
Other industrial goods and materials	514	490	535	6,195	7.1	6.9	-10.1	6.6
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	2,263	2,265	2,304	27,683	13.9	4.1	10.2	1.9
Industrial and agricultural machinery	424	445	467	5,271	7.0	6.1	0.7	-1.4
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	527	513	470	5,812	17.7	7.1	3.5	14.6
Other machinery and equipment	1,313	1,307	1,367	16,600	14.9	2.5	16.4	-1.3
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	2,909	2,671	2,566	35,584	-2.6	-21.8	6.2	-2.3
Passenger autos and chassis	1,448	1,343	1,372	17,284	4.4	-11.4	18.8	-13.8
Trucks and other motor vehicles	690	642	579	8,651	-3.5	-29.5	3.5	5.3
Motor vehicle parts	771	686	616	9,649	-12.5	-33.3	-9.6	11.9
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	207	221	205	2,451	6.2	9.2	-23.5	-3.9
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	244	177	235	2,917	94.3	71.7	31.8	109.7
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-40	-35	-32	-478	-27.0	-42.8	-150.3	87.0
TOTAL	11,912	11,421	11,597	143,524	4.4	-2.4	0.3	1.5

* Raw series

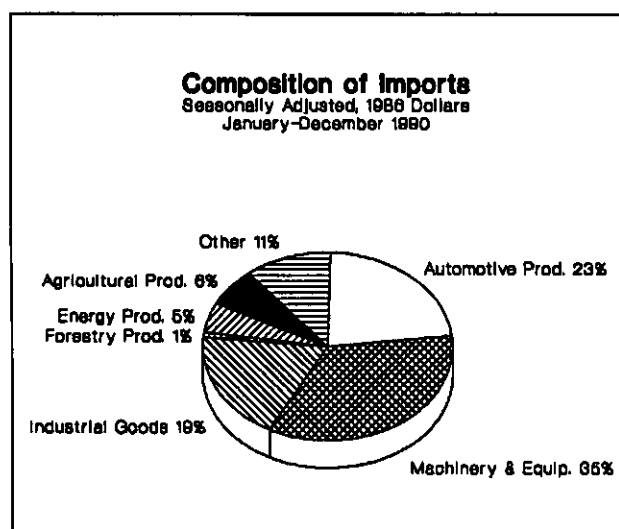
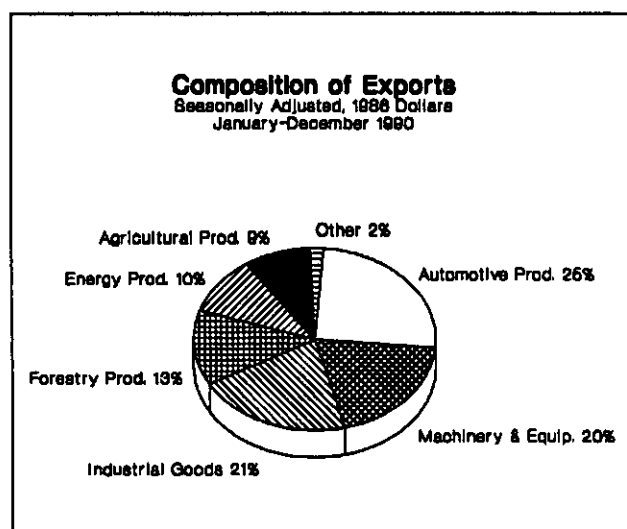


Table 7
Imports by Commodity Groupings in 1986 Dollars
 December 1990
 Balance of Payments Basis

	Seasonally adjusted					Raw values		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year-to-date		Percentage change		
				Value	% change	Dec.'90/ Dec.'89	Dec.'89/ Dec.'88	Dec.'88/ Dec.'87
	\$ millions							
AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTS	732	753	738	8,867	7.1	5.0	2.4	-7.6
Fruits and vegetables	227	240	235	2,805	6.4	4.3	2.7	-11.0
Other agricultural and fishing products	505	514	503	6,062	7.5	5.4	2.3	-5.7
ENERGY PRODUCTS	605	562	640	7,161	7.1	22.9	-1.9	-11.9
Crude petroleum	370	345	421	4,202	12.3	38.4	19.3	-9.8
Other energy products	235	217	219	2,959	0.4	-0.3	-22.5	-13.7
FORESTRY PRODUCTS	96	86	97	1,217	3.7	-7.2	11.9	-14.5
INDUSTRIAL GOODS AND MATERIALS	2,304	2,034	1,985	25,681	-0.6	-10.9	-0.6	6.4
Metals and metal ores	630	541	519	6,621	-4.5	-16.1	-8.1	12.5
Chemicals and plastics	758	691	684	8,601	6.9	-0.3	-1.8	4.8
Other industrial goods and materials	916	802	783	10,460	-3.6	-15.1	6.4	3.2
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	4,076	3,605	3,658	47,303	-0.8	-10.4	5.7	7.6
Industrial and agricultural machinery	1,090	987	1,038	13,221	-8.8	-9.1	-5.3	6.9
Aircraft and other transportation equipment	384	360	321	4,874	-15.1	-29.3	-22.1	27.6
Office machines and equipment	909	791	859	10,152	10.5	-0.7	24.3	0.7
Other machinery and equipment	1,693	1,467	1,440	19,057	4.3	-11.8	17.2	5.1
AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS	2,538	2,433	2,246	30,961	-6.2	-18.5	-1.7	-14.3
Passenger autos and chassis	732	629	818	9,569	-10.7	-13.2	-6.4	1.0
Trucks and other motor vehicles	282	269	268	3,684	-2.9	-12.2	1.5	-28.9
Motor vehicle parts	1,524	1,536	1,159	17,707	-4.3	-23.0	0.8	-18.9
OTHER CONSUMER GOODS	1,334	1,199	1,242	15,407	3.5	2.7	-3.0	2.9
Apparel and footwear	235	210	217	2,845	-1.4	-6.6	-1.1	-4.5
Miscellaneous consumer goods	1,099	989	1,024	12,562	4.6	4.7	-3.4	4.6
SPECIAL TRANSACTIONS TRADE *	288	297	395	3,193	3.4	56.0	2.8	23.9
UNALLOCATED ADJUSTMENTS *	-81	-76	-62	-930	-9.2	-19.3	0.7	6.9
TOTAL	11,891	10,893	10,938	138,861	-0.6	-6.8	1.4	-1.0

* Raw series

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