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## The



Wednesday, December 20, 1995
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- Canadian international merchandise trade, October 1995

Exports in October fell $2.5 \%$ to $\$ 21.0$ billion, while imports slipped $1.9 \%$ to $\$ 18.3$ billion. The merchandise trade surplus stood at $\$ 2.7$ billion, down from $\$ 2.9$ billion in September.

- Retail trade, October 1995

Consumers closed their wallets to retailers in October. The retail sales decline was led by Ontario, where sales fell sharply for a second consecutive month.

- Unpaid work of households

The value of households' unpaid work rose substantially between 1961 and 1992, but not as fast as gross domestic product.
(continued on following page)


## Unpaid work of households

Delegates at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995 and at the World Summit on Social Development in March 1995 called on governments to measure unpaid work in accounts similar to those for gross domestic product. This new study is the fourth Statistics Canada has done on the value of household work since the early 1970s. The agency also hosted a conference on the subject in April 1993.

In Households' unpaid work: Measurement and valuation, the data have been revised back to 1961, and coverage has been extended to include voluntary work and all persons aged 15 and over. The report outlines Statistics Canada's work on this front, reasons for measurement, and explores the broader context by looking at changes in social and economic factors since 1961. It also looks at contentious issues, highlighting them in summary results and a comparison with other OECD countries.

Statistics Canada is continuing to develop data sources on unpaid work. For example, the next census will ask Canadians about unpaid housework, looking after chitdren and caring for the elderly.

Households' unpaid work: Measurement and valuation (13-603E, no. 3, \$38) is now available. See "How to order publications". For further information, contact Chris Jackson (613-951-1799), National Accounts and Environment Division.

## OTHER RELEASES

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## Season's greetings

Publishing of The Daily will be suspended for the following dates: December 25, 1995 to January 2, 1996. Publication will resume on Wednesday, January 3, 1996.

## MAJOR RELEASES

## Canadian international merchandise trade

October 1995
Exports in October fell $2.5 \%$ to $\$ 21.0$ billion, as weakness in forestry, energy products and machinery outweighed gains for agricultural and industrial goods. Among Canada's OECD trading partners, exports to Japan and the United States lost ground, while shipments to the European Union advanced. In the case of non-OECD countries, exports were down.

Imports slipped for a second month in a row, dropping a further $1.9 \%$ in October to $\$ 18.3$ billion. Declines were registered in most commodity sectors, but the greatest weakness was in machinery and industrial goods. Fewer goods were purchased from all principal trading partners except the European Union.

The merchandise trade surplus fell to $\$ 2.7$ billion in October, from $\$ 2.9$ billion a month earlier. The surplus with the United States increased, but that with Japan declined. Although there were trade deficits with all other partners, the trend since the spring has been toward smaller and smaller deficits.

Exports, imports and trade balance



#### Abstract

Note to readers Merchandise trade is only one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services. In the third quarter of 1995, a merchandise trade surplus of $\$ 7.2$ billion contrasted with a current account deficit of $\$ 3.4$ billion.


## Natural resources and machinery pulled exports down

Forestry exports lost steam in October, as markedly lower pulp shipments ( $-17.7 \%$ ) contributed to sectorwide declines. Pulp's weakness reflected shutdowns for mill maintenance and a strike at one mill in. British Columbia. Shipments to Japan and Europe were most affected by the production slowdowns. Paper sales fell $4.2 \%$ and lumber exports dropped $5.1 \%$ in October, reflecting stalled housing starts south of the border.

## Exports of forestry products



Sharply lower coal shipments to Japan helped pull energy product exports down by $11.7 \%$ in October. Natural gas and refined petroleum exports were down as well, but crude oil advanced $10.5 \%$, reflecting greater output in Alberta.

Exports were further dampened by a drop in demand for machinery and equipment in October $(-5.3 \%)$. Declines were widespread, but the largest drops came from office machines ( $-12.3 \%$ ) and industrial machinery ( $-5.4 \%$ ). Since May, however, exports of most types of machinery have been on an
upward trend, the major exception being aircraft and special transportation equipment.

Exports of automotive products were off 2.5\% in October due to weaker shipments of light trucks; fewer pickup trucks were shipped, reflecting lower production for the month. Exports of cars and parts gained modestly ( $+1.7 \%$ and $+1.1 \%$ respectively), even though output at one transplant was reduced to facilitate model changeover.

October's overall export decline was moderated by higher sales of agricultural products ( $+4.0 \%$ ) and industrial goods ( $+2.6 \%$ ). Agricultural products were bolstered by increasing exports of wheat, canola and barley ( $+31.5 \%$ collectively). Tight supplies of wheat worldwide have meant a near doubling of wheat prices since July 1994. October's increased exports reflected not only higher demand for the crop, but also the arrival of more wheat harvested in the fall.


Industrial goods were up for a third consecutive month in October, gaining on the strength of iron ore $(+17.1 \%)$ and refined metals ( $+10.6 \%$ ). In the wake of a decline in the second quarter, exports of most industrial goods have tended to increase, reflecting a return to healthier production in the United States throughout the third quarter.

## Industrial goods and machinery pulled imports down

Industrial goods imports lost ground in October, despite increased demand for chemicals and plastics ( $+4.0 \%$ ). Although declines were pervasive, weakness was concentrated in imports of metals and ores (-12.4\%). Industrial goods imports have been generally
declining since March, but demand for these products remained $5.3 \%$ above the level in October 1994.

Machinery imports edged down $2.1 \%$ in October, after two consecutive monthly increases. Declines in purchases of special transportation equipment, as well as communications and related equipment, were partly to blame for the drop. But greater imports of aircraft $(+34.0 \%)$ and office machines ( $+8.1 \%$ ) helped soften the impact.

October's import picture improved for automobiles and energy products. Imports of cars, which declined sharply in September, regained all lost ground in October ( $+25.4 \%$ ); parts imports were down 6.6\%. Energy imports received a boost, as crude oil shipments grew $27.6 \%$.

## Revisions

Merchandise trade data are revised continually for every month of the current year. Factors that make revisions necessary include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect customs documents, replacement of estimated figures with actual values, changes to classification of merchandise based on more current information, and updated seasonal adjustments.

Revised data for January 1991 to September 1995 are available on CANSIM.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3611-3616, 3618-3629, 3651, 3685-3713, 3718-3720 and 3887-3913.

This release contains a summary of the merchandise trade data that will be available shortly in Canadian international merchandise trade ( $65-001, \$ 19 / \$ 182$ ). It will include detailed tables by commodity and country on a customs basis.

For more timely receipt of the merchandise trade data, a fax service is available on the morning of release.

Current account data, which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, services transactions, investment income and transfers, are available on a quarterly basis in Canada's balance of international payments ( $67-001, \$ 30 / \$ 120$ ). See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Suzie Carpentier (613-951-9647), Marketing and Client Services Section, International Trade Division (1-800-294-5583).

Merchandise trade of Canada

|  | Aug. 1995 | Sept. 1995 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ | Aug. <br> 1995 <br> to <br> Sept. <br> 1995 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Sept. } \\ 1995 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Jan. Oct. } \\ 1994 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Jan. Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Jan.- } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1994 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Jan.- } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct. } \\ 1994 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted, \$ current |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  | \% change |  | \$ millions |  | \% change |  |
| Principal trading partners |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States | 17,090 | 17,135 | 16,838 | 0.3 | -1.7 | 144,285 | 167,438 | 16.0 | 6.8 |
| Japan | 1,077. | 1,039 | 775 | -3.5 | -25.4 | 7,815 | 9,717 | 24.3 | -3.6 |
| European Union | 1,241 | 1,266 | 1,336 | 2.0 | 5.5 | 9,012 | 12,499 | 38.7 | 25.4 |
| Other OECD countries ${ }^{1}$ | 361 | 317 | 501 | -12.2 | 58.0 | 3,224 | 3,318 | 2.9 | 24.6 |
| All other countries | 1,780 | 1,763 | 1,525 | -1.0 | .-13.5 | 12,457 | 16,310 | 30.9 | 0.7 |
| Total | 21,549 | 21,521 | 20,975 | -0.1 | -2.5 | 176,793 | 209,283 | 18.4 | 7.3 |
| Imports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States | 14,122 | 14,271 | 13,848 | 1.1 | -3.0 | 123,107 | 140,225 | 13.9 | 4.0 |
| Japan | 631 | 648 | 569 | 2.7 | -12.2 | 6,807 | 7,119 | 4.6 | $-20.4$ |
| European Union | 1,647 | 1,495 | 1,569 | -9.2 | 4.9 | 13,322 | 16,934 | 27.1 | 15.5 |
| Other OECD countries ${ }^{1}$ | 685 | 556 | 650 | -18.8 | 16.9 | 5,694 | 6,648 | 16.8 | -12.0 |
| All other countries | 1,725 | 1,676 | 1,664 | -2.8 | -0.7 | 16,475 | 17,036 | 3.4 | 5.4 |
| Total | 18,810 | 18,647 | 18,300 | -0.9 | -1.9 | 165,406 | 187,962 | 13.6 | 3.3 |
| Balance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States | 2,968 | 2,864 | 2,990 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 21,178 | 27,213 |  | ... |
| Japan | 446 | 391 | 206 | ... | ... | 1,008 | 2,598 |  | ... |
| European Union | -406 | -229 | -233 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | -4,310 | -4,435 |  | $\ldots$ |
| Other OECD countries ${ }^{1}$ | -324 | -239 | -149 | ... | ... | -2,470 | -3,330 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ |
| All other countries | 55 | 87 | -139 | ... | ... | -4,018 | -726 |  | $\ldots$ |
| Total | 2,739 | 2,874 | 2,675 | ... | ... | 11,387 | 21,321 | ... | ... |
| Principal commodity groupings ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 1,632 | 1,462 | 1,521 | -10.4 | 4.0 | 14,505 | 15,842 | 9.2 | -6.9 |
| Energy products | 1,953 | 2,027 | 1,789 | 3.8 | -11.7 | 17,485 | 19,478 | 11.4 | 5.2 |
| Forestry products | 3,448 | 3,552 | 3,263 | 3.0 | -8.1 | 25,409 | 32,502 | 27.9 | 18.2 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 3,937 | 4,109 | 4,214 | 4.4 | 2.6 | 31,950 | 40,244 | 26.0 | 13.6 |
| Machinery and equipment | 4,477 | 4,538 | 4,299 | 1.4 | -5.3 | 34,859 | 42,897 | 23.1 | 13.0 |
| Automotive products | 5,491 | 5,208 | 5,079 | -5.2 | -2.5 | 46,664 | 52,335 | 12.2 | -4.4 |
| Other consumer goods ${ }^{\text {Special }}$ transactions trade ${ }^{3}$ | 623 | 621 | 623 934 | -0.3 | 0.3 4.7 | 4,790 7 | 5,815 | 21.4 | 11.8 |
| Special transactions trade ${ }^{3}$ | 908 | 892 | 934 | -1.8 | 4.7 | 7,555 | 8,686 | 15.0 | 9.2 |
| Imports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 1,140 | 1,130 | 1,077 | -0.9 | -4.7 | 10,190 | 11,194 | 9.9 | -0.8 |
| Energy products | 798 | 593 | 661 | -25.7 | 11.5 | 6,070 | 6,938 | 14.3 | 6.6 |
| Forestry products | 167 | 175 | 164 | 4.8 | -6.3 | 1,471 | 1,747 | 18.8 | 0.0 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 3,745 | 3,762 | 3,614 | 0.5 | -3.9 | 31,442 | 37,755 | 20.1 | 5.3 |
| Machinery and equipment | 6,189 | 6,407 3,921 | 6,273 | 3.5 | -2.1 | 53,315 | 62,487 | 17.2 | 6.6 |
| Automotive products | 4,292 | 3,921 | 3,986 | -8.6 | 1.7 | 39,349 | 42,204 | 7.3 | -4.2 |
| Other consumer goods ${ }^{\text {Special }}$ transactions trade ${ }^{3}$ | 2,144 | 2,155 | 2,101 | 0.5 | -2.5 | 19,332 | 21,467 | 11.0 | 3.2 |
| Special transactions trade ${ }^{3}$ | 462 | 443 | 417 | -4.1 | -5.9 | 4,039 | 4,468 | 10.6 | 2.0 |

1 Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.
2 Figures not adjusted to balance of payments basis.
3 Mainly, these are low-valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment and goods retumed to country of onigin
... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

## Retail trade

October 1995 (preliminary)
Consumers decreased their purchases in October, following no change in September. Retail sales declined $0.7 \%$ to $\$ 17.7$ billion, almost the same level as in July 1995. A weak employment market, spending cuts affecting several provinces, a high level of consumer debt relative to disposable income, and restricted pay increases led consumers to be cautious about spending. Ontario consumers were particularly affected, causing sales there to fall more sharply than in other provinces.

Retail sales fell in October after a flat September


Data prior to 1991 have been adjusted to remove the Federal Sales Tax to be comparable to January 1991 and subsequent data. ' Trend represents smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

The retail sales trend has been flattening in 1995 after generally growing from early 1992 to the end of 1994. Cumulative sales from January to October 1995 were $3.1 \%$ higher than in the same period of 1994; however, removing the effect of price increases, the change was closer to $+0.8 \%$.

## Sales in Ontario plunged

Sales in Ontario, which had been an important contributor to the general growth in Canada, plunged by $\$ 153$ million or $2.3 \%$ in October. This followed a slight $0.2 \%$ decline in September. October's drop in Ontario was larger than the decline at the national level.

Retail sales in October plunged in Ontario


The decrease in Ontario was dominated by the automotive, clothing and food sectors. In fact, nearly half the total decline came from lower sales by automotive retailers. Higher sales were only reported by general merchandise and drug stores.

Sales were also lower in seven other provinces and territories. Gains in Quebec ( +0.5 ), Saskatchewan ( $+2.2 \%$ ) and Alberta ( $+1.1 \%$ ) partly offset the overall decline.

## Nationally, retailers in most sectors recorded lower sales

Retailers recorded lower sales in five sectors, accounting for $85 \%$ of total sales. Declining the most in dollar terms were the automotive ( $-0.7 \%$ ), clothing $(-3.1 \%)$ and food ( $-0.7 \%$ ) sectors. Increases in the drug ( $+0.1 \%$ ) and general merchandise ( $+0.8 \%$ ) sectors limited the decline in total sales.

Sales in the automotive sector dropped $0.7 \%$, after a $0.5 \%$ decline in September. Sales have been volatile in the sector since the beginning of the year. All three of the sector's components reported lower sales. New and used motor vehicle dealers saw sales decline $0.8 \%$, their second consecutive monthly decline. Retailers of automotive parts, accessories and services reported lower sales $(-0.8 \%)$, their third decline in four months. And sales by gasoline service stations declined $0.2 \%$, mainly due to gasoline price wars that took place in most provinces in October.

The clothing sector was also an important contributor to the overall sales decline. Clothing store sales have levelled off after growing from January 1994 to April 1995. All of the sector's components recorded
lower sales in October. The largest decreases were in shoe ( $-8.7 \%$ ) and women's clothing ( $-3.9 \%$ ) stores. For women's clothing stores, it was the fourth consecutive monthly decline.

Sales by food stores have been generally decreasing since February 1995, following increases since early 1992. The trend in the furniture sector has been downward since February 1995, after strong and steady growth since February 1994. Drug store sales have been growing steadily since June 1995, following a decrease in growth since October 1994.

Sales remained strong in the general merchandise sector, where a $0.8 \%$ advance in October mostly offset the $0.9 \%$ decline in September. Compared with October 1994, sales in general merchandise stores were up $4.4 \%$. This gain resulted from generally steady growth in the sector since mid-1993.

## Early indications of November sales

Early indications for November sales point to another decline. Estimates indicate a drop in the
number of new motor vehicles sold. In addition, employment in trade dropped $0.3 \%$ from October to November. In the United States, retail sales increased $0.8 \%$ in November after a $0.4 \%$ decrease in October.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

The October 1995 issue of Retail trade ( $63-005, \$ 20 / \$ 200$ ) will be available the second week of January 1996. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Louise Généreux (613-951-3549); for analytical information, contact Pierre Desjardins (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Retail sales

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oct. } \\ & 1994 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1995^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | Aug. 1995 | Sept. <br> 1995 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct. } \\ 1995^{p} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Sept. } \\ 1995 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct. } \\ 1994 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  | \% change |  |
| Food | 4,477 | 4,504 | 4,486 | 4,522 | 4,491 | -0.7 | 0.3 |
| Supermarkets and grocery stores | 4,142 | 4,160 | 4,139 | 4,170 | 4,144 | -0.6 | 0.1 |
| All other food stores | 335 | 344 | 347 | 352 | 347 | -1.3 | 3.4 |
| Drug and patent medicine stores | 1,005 | 975 | 975 | 994 | 995 | 0.1 | -1.0 |
| Clothing | 1,037 | 1,080 | 1,071 | 1,064 | 1,031 | -3.1 | -0.5 |
| Shoe stores | 145 | 153 | 151 | 146 | 133 | -8.7 | -8.3 |
| Men's clothing stores | 134 | 135 | 135 | 132 | 130 | -1.0 | -2.8 |
| Women's clothing stores | 350 | 354 | 348 | 343 | 330 | -3.9 | -5.8 |
| Other clothing stores | 408 | 438 | 437 | 443 | 438 | -1.2 | 7.5 |
| Fumiture | 946 | 902 | 912 | 910 | 903 | -0.8 | -4.6 |
| Household furniture and appliance stores | 753 | 717 | 728 | 722 | 715 | -1.0 | -5.1 |
| Household furnishings stores | 193 | 185 | 184 | 188 | 188 | 0.1 | -2.6 |
| Automotive | 6,269 | 6,285 | 6,440 | 6,407 | 6,363 | -0.7 | 1.5 |
| Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 4,102 | 4,112 | 4,243 | 4,222 | 4,188 | -0.8 | 2.1 |
| Gasoline service stations | 1,172 | 1,220 | 1,230 | 1,230 | 1,228 | -0.2 | 4.8 |
| Automotive parts, accessories and services | 995 | 953 | 967 | 956 | 948 | -0.8 | -4.8 |
| General merchandise stores | 1,814 | 1,894 | 1,897 | 1,879 | 1,894 | 0.8 | 4.4 |
| Retail stores not elsewhere classified | 1.,997 | 2,035 | 2,033 | 2,033 | 2,001 | -1.6 | 0.2 |
| Other semi-durable goods stores | 611 | 605 | 609 | 614 | 579 | -5.7 | -5.3 |
| Other durable goods stores | 466 | 469 | 463 | 454 | 452 | -0.5 | -3.0 |
| All other retail stores not elsewhere classified | 920 | 961 | 961 | 965 | 970 | 0.6 | 5.5 |
| Total, retail sales | 17,544 | 17,676 | 17,814 | 17,809 | 17,678 | -0.7 | 0.8 |
| Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 13,443 | 13,564 | 13,571 | 13,588 | 13,491 | -0.7 | 0.4 |
| Department store type merchandise | 5,879 | 5,927 | 5,926 | 5,915 | 5,854 | -1.0 | -0.4 |
| Newfoundland | 287 | 294 | 291 | 291 | 290 | -0.5 | 0.9 |
| Prince Edward Island | 75 | 76 | 78 | 78 | 78 | -0.2 | 4.5 |
| Nova Scotia | 542 | 527 | 531 | 525 | 520 | -1.0 | -4.0 |
| New Brunswick | 410 | 428 | 428 | 434 | 427 | -1.4 | 4.3 |
| Quebec | 4,174 | 4,132 | 4,156 | 4,202 | 4,222 | 0.5 | 1.2 |
| Ontario | 6,517 | 6,570 | 6,657 | 6,642 | 6,490 | -2.3 | -0.4 |
| Manitoba | 591 | 624 | 615 | 623 | 617 | -1.0 | 4.5 |
| Saskatchewan | 547 | 560 | 562 | 562 | 574 | 2.2 | 5.0 |
| Alberta | 1,837 | 1,842 | 1,862 | 1,844 | 1,865 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| British Columbia | 2,508 | 2,562 | 2,572 | 2,548 | 2,535 | -0.5 | 1.1 |
| Yukon | 18 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 19 | 1.5 | 6.5 |
| Northwest Territories | 40 | 42 | 42 | 42 | 42 | -0.2 | 5.0 |

[^0]Retail sales

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct. } \\ 1994 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sept. } \\ & 1995^{r} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct. } \\ 1995^{p} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct. } \\ 1994 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Oct. } \\ 1995 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | unadjusted |  |  |  |
| . |  | lions |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \\ \text { change } \end{gathered}$ |
| Food | 4,398 | 4,639 | 4,259 | -3.2 |
| Supermarkets and grocery stores | 4,072 | 4,287 | 3,929 | -3.5 |
| All other food stores | 326 | 352 | 330 | 1.1 |
| Drug and patent medicine stores | 1,013 | 985 | 1,007 | -0.6 |
| Clothing | 1,074 | 1,142 | 1,033 | -3.9 |
| Shoe stores | 160 | 163 | 141 | -12.1 |
| Men's clothing stores | 138 | 125 | 126 | -8.7 |
| Women's clothing stores | 353 | 366 | 321 | -9.2 |
| Other clothing stores | 423 | 487 | 446 | 5.2 |
| Furniture | 970 | 939 | 928 | -4.4 |
| Household furniture and appliance stores | 771 | 744 | 731 | -5.2 |
| Household furnishings stores | 199 | 195 | 197 | -1.2 |
| Automotive | 6,147 | 6,304 | 6,312 | 2.7 |
| Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 3,935 | 4,121 | 4,085 | 3.8 |
| Gasoline service stations | 1,209 | 1,247 | 1,266 | 4.7 |
| Automotive parts, accessories and services | 1,003 | 936 | 961 | -4.2 |
| General merchandise stores | 1,876 | 1,811 | 1,926 | 2.7 |
| Retail stores not elsewhere classified | 1,876 | 2,022 | 1;843 | -1.8 |
| Other semi-durable goods stores | 583 | 612 | 547 | -6.2 |
| Other durable goods stores | 413 | 434 | 388 | -6.2 |
| All other retail stores not eisewhere classified | 880 | 976 | 908 | 3.2 |
| Total, retail sales | 17,354 | 17,842 | 17,307 | -0.3 |
| Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 13,419 | 13,721 | 13,222 | -1.5 |
| Department store type merchandise | 5,930 | 5,922 | 5,829 | -1.7 |
| Newfoundland | 283 | 293 | 282 | -0.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 73 | 80 | 76 | 4.0 |
| Nova Scotia | 536 | 527 | 504 | -6.0 |
| New Brunswick | 408 | 442 | 423 | 3.7 |
| Quebec | 4,096 | 4,210 | 4,102 | 0.1 |
| Ontario | 6,455 | 6,647 | 6,348 | -1.7 |
| Manitoba | 588 | 616 | 611 | 3.9 |
| Saskatchewan | 549 | 553 | 579 | 5.3 |
| Alberta | 1,811 | 1,836 | 1,828 | 0.9 |
| British Columbia | 2,497 | 2,579 | 2,497 | 0.0 |
| Yukon | 17 | 19 | 18 | 3.4 |
| Northwest Territories | 40 | 41 | 40 | 0.1 |

[^1]
## Unpaid work of households

Over the past three decades, inflation and growth in the population have led to a substantial increase in the value of households' unpaid work. According to a new set of revised estimates, it climbed from $\$ 14$ billion in 1961 to $\$ 234$ billion in 1992, on the lowest basis of valuation, and from $\$ 26$ billion to $\$ 374$ billion, on the highest.

Yet, between 1961 and 1992, gross domestic product (GDP), the standard measure of goods and services produced on the market, rose even faster, yielding an overall decline in the value of households' unpaid work against GDP. Most notable is the steady decline until 1986 in the value of households' unpaid work versus GDP, which was then followed by a marked and puzzling reversal of the trend.

## Value of unpaid work, by method of measurement

|  | Opportunity cost |  | Replacement cost |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Before } \\ & \operatorname{tax} \end{aligned}$ | After tax | Specialist method | Generalist method |
|  | \% of GDP |  |  |  |
| 1961 | 63.6 | 52.4 | 55.6 | 34.2 |
| 1971 | 57.5 | 40.5 | 50.1 | 30.5 |
| 1981 | 47.6 | 31.3 | 39.5 | 25.6 |
| 1986 | 44.6 | 28.0 | 37.5 | 26.1 |
| 1992 | 54.2 | 32.0 | 43.0 | 34.0 |

Most of the decline in the value of households' unpaid work versus GDP occurred during the 1960s and 1970s, a period characterized by strong growth in employment, productivity and real income. In those years, women's employment-to-population ratio almost doubled from $25 \%$ in 1961, and the baby boom generation was growing up.

In more recent times, growth of employment and GDP has slowed. There were deep recessions in the early 1980s and 1990s, with an expansionary period between. The business cycle is believed to play a major role in the relationship between the value of households' unpaid work and GDP: unpaid work increases in recessionary times and declines in periods of expansion. The slow recovery from the 1990 recession, along with depressed levels of income and hours of paid work-and possibly other factors such as higher direct and indirect tax rates-contributed to the reversal of the trend.

## Canadians spend more time on unpaid work than paid work

Canadians aged 15 and over spent at least 10\% more time on unpaid work than on paid work in

## Note to readers

The study uses data from the census, the 1981 Canadian Pilot Time Use Study and the 1986 and 1992 General Social Surveys to derive estimates of the value of unpaid work for 1961, 1971, 1981, 1986 and 1992.

Unpaid work consists of activities done by and for members of the household (household work), or for friends, neighbours, relatives or the community at large (voluntary work). Examples are preparing dinner, ironing shirts, mowing the lawn, bathing an infant, paying bills and helping at a soup kitchen.

Two methods are used to impute the cost of time spent on unpaid work. With the opportunity cost method, if someone eams or could earn $\$ 20$ an hour at a paid job, each hour of her or his unpaid work is valued at that rate; it is calculated both before and after taxes. With the replacement cost method, an hour spent on unpaid work is valued: on the basis of the earnings of domestic staff (the generalist method) or, depending upon the type of unpaid work, on the basis of earnings in a similar occupation (the specialist method).
the years studied. Growth of the population led to a substantial increase in unpaid work, from 10 billion hours in 1961 to 25 billion hours in 1992; this despite a decline in hours of unpaid work per person. The 1992 figure represents nearly 13 million full-time "job equivalents".

The composition of unpaid work has changed over the past 30 years as well. Canadians are devoting less time to meal preparation and care of household members, for instance, and more time to repairs, maintenance, management and shopping. Voluntary work takes about $5 \%$ of the time spent on unpaid work, representing just over 730,000 full-time "job equivalents" in 1992.

## Women in the work force-a major factor in unpaid work

Growing participation of women in the labour market has slowed the increase in the value of households' unpaid work over time. Still, the share of unpaid work done by women declined only 3 percentage points to $65 \%$ in 1992.

The labour force participation rate of women with children under three years old almost doubled between 1976 and 1991. The demand for child-care services has grown in tandem. Spending on child care outside the home increased from $\$ 37$ million in 1961 to $\$ 2.8$ billion in 1992, making it one of the fastest growing items of household expenditure.

The increase in women's employment contributed to the near doubling of family income between 1961 and 1992. The additional income can be spent on alternatives to home production (such as restaurant meals) or appliances that make home production more
efficient. For example, from 1961 to 1992, spending on meals outside the home increased at more than twice the rate of spending on food for meals at home. And while one in six households had an automatic washer and dryer in 1961, three out of four had them in 1992.

## Canada in the middle internationally

Estimates of unpaid work for several OECD countries vary between $25 \%$ and $75 \%$ of GDP, with Canada falling in the middle. Those for Australia, France, New Zealand and the most recent ones for West Germany fall in the upper range. For example, one set of figures shows that unpaid work
in Australia amounted to almost $70 \%$ of its GDP in 1992, compared with about $50 \%$ for Canada. Figures for Canada, Denmark, Norway, and the United States, on the other hand, tend to be among the low- to mid-range estimates. The extent to which the variation across countries is real or artificial is unclear, but some is undoubtedly due to differences in methodology and the year under study.

Households' unpaid work: Measurement and valuation ( $13-603 \mathrm{E}$, no: $3, \$ 38$ ) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Chris Jackson (613-951-1799), National Accounts and Environment Division.

## OTHER RELEASES

## Repeat offenders in youth courts 1993-94

Repeat offenders (recidivists) comprised a substantial $42 \%$ of the caseload passing through youth courts of Canada in 1993-94. Moreover, 12\% of the caseload involved persistent re-offenders with three or more prior offences. Males are more likely to be repeat offenders, and twice as likely to become persistent offenders.

Repeat young offenders show a tendency to commit more serious crimes in both the violent and property crime categories than do first-time offenders. There is no evidence of a progression from non-violent to violent crimes among recidivists. In fact, repeat offenders tend to commit a greater number of property offences and fewer violent offences than first-time offenders.

Youth recidivists appear to become increasingly active as their criminal careers progress. As the young offender moves toward persistent re-offending, the number of charges per case increases, and the elapsed time between conviction and re-offending decreases.

These young repeat offenders receive increasingly harsher sentences from the youth courts as the number of prior offences increases. Overall sentence lengths, however, were found to increase only slightly.

The vol. 15, no. 16 Juristat: Recidivism in youth courts, 1993/94 (85-002, \$10/\$90) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (613-951-9023, 1-800-387-2231).

## Export and import price indexes

October 1995
Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1986=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Indexes are listed from January 1986 to October 1995 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups ( 62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted U.S. price indexes (1986=100) are also available on a customs basis. Indexes are listed from January 1986 to October 1995. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and U.S.-only Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also now available on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3611-3616, 3618-3629, 3651 and 3685.

The October 1995 issue of Canadian international merchandise trade (65-001, \$19/\$182) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Denis Pilon (613-951-4808), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division.

## Production and disposition of tobacco products <br> November 1995

Canadian manufacturers made 4.60 billion cigarettes in November, a 13.6\% decrease from November 1994. Monthly cigarette production has been below yearearlier levels since June. Shipments in November totalled 4.15 billion cigarettes, down $8.4 \%$ from November 1994.

Domestic sales ( $90 \%$ of total shipments) declined a slight $0.5 \%$ compared with November 1994, while exports fell $50.4 \%$.

Because production ran higher than total shipments from September to November, inventories expanded to 5.69 billion cigarettes.

Cigarette production for the first 11 months of 1995 stood at 47.38 billion cigarettes, down $7.3 \%$ from the same period a year earlier; shipments fell $1.3 \%$ during this 11-month period.

Data on domestic shipments are an aggregate of shipments reported by Canadian manufacturers, and are not data on retail sales or final consumption.

## Available on CANSIM: matrix 46.

The November 1995 issue of Production and disposition of tobacco products ( $32-022, \$ 6 / \$ 60$ ) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

## Air passenger origin and destination for trips between Canada and the United States <br> Second quarter 1995 <br> Preliminary data on air passenger origin and destination are now available for the first six months of 1995. These

data cover passengers who travelled on scheduled flights between Canada and the United States.

For further information on this release, contact Carol Gudz (819-997-1386), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

## Air passenger origin and destination for Canadian domestic trips Second quarter 1995

Preliminary data on air passenger origin and destination are now available for the first six months of 1995. These data cover passengers who travelled on scheduled flights for trips within Canada.

For further information on this release, contact Carol Gudz (819-997-1386), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

## Stocks of frozen poultry meat

December 1, 1995

Preliminary data for December 1, 1995, on the stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.
For further information on this release, contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-2860), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

## Households' unpaid work: Measurement and valuation <br> Catalogue number 13-603E, no. 3 <br> (Canada: $\$ 38$; United States: US\$46; other countries: US\$54).

Construction type plywood, October 1995 Catalogue number 35-001
(Canada: $\$ 6 / \$ 60$; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Wood industries, 1993
Catalogue number 35-250
(Canada: $\$ 53$; United States: US\$64; other countries: US\$75).

Exports by country, January-September 1995, microfiche version Catalogue number 65-0030XMB
(Canada: $\$ 60 / \$ 200$; United States: US\$72/US\$240; other countries: US\$84/US\$280).

Exports by country, January-September 1995, paper version
Catalogue number 65-0030XPB
(Canada: \$120/\$400; United States: US\$145/US\$480; other countries: US\$168/US\$560).

Canada's balance of international payments, third quarter 1995
Catalogue number 67-001
(Canada: $\$ 36 / \$ 120 ;$ United States: US\$44/US\$144; other countries: US\$51/US\$168).

Juristat: Recidivism in youth courts, 1993-94. Vol. 15, no. 16
Catalogue number 85-002
(Canada: \$10/\$90; United States: US\$12/US\$108; other countries: US\$14/US\$125).

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[^0]:    r Revised figures.
    P Preliminary figures.

[^1]:    ${ }^{\prime}$ Revised figures.
    p Preliminary figures.

