

Monday, June 12, 1995
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES
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- National economic and financial accounts, first quarter 1995

Economic growth slowed to $0.2 \%$ in the first quarter of 1995, and financial market borrowing activity decreased substantially.

- Canada's balance of international payments, first quarter 1995

In the first quarter of 1995, Canada's current account deficit was almost unchanged at $\$ 4.0$ billion, still well below the levels experienced over the past seven years.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

## National economic and financial accounts

First quarter 1995
Economic expansion slowed in early 1995, as real GDP growth slowed to $0.2 \%$ in the first quarter after surging in 1994. Rising interest rates, strikes in the transportation sector, and a weakening U.S. economy were important factors contributing to the economic deceleration.

## Real GDP growth ${ }^{1}$

|  | $\%$ <br> change | Annualized <br> $\%$ change | Year- <br> over- <br> year $\%$ <br> change |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| First quarter 1991 | -1.2 | -4.8 | -3.5 |
| Second quarter 1991 | 0.8 | 3.3 | -2.2 |
| Third quarter 1991 | 0.3 | 1.2 | -1.5 |
| Fourth quarter 1991 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| First quarter 1992 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 1.3 |
| Second quarter 1992 | 0.2 | 1.0 | 0.7 |
| Third quarter 1992 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Fourth quarter 1992 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| First quarter 1993 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 1.4 |
| Second quarter 1993 | 0.8 | 3.2 | 2.0 |
| Third quarter 1993 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 2.3 |
| Fourth quarter 1993 | 0.9 | 3.8 | 3.1 |
| First quarter 1994 | 1.3 | 5.4 | 3.5 |
| Second quarter 1994 | 1.4 | 5.9 | 4.2 |
| Third quarter 1994 | 1.4 | 5.7 | 5.2 |
| Fourth quarter 1994 | 1.1 | 4.6 | 5.4 |
| First quarter 1995 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 4.2 |

1 The "\% change" is the growth rate from one period to the next. The "annualized \% change" is the percentage change after compounding to an annual rate. The "year-over-year \% change" is the growth of a particular quarter compared with the same quarter in the previous year.
Real exports rose $1.3 \%$, much slower than in recent quarters. Final domestic demand was essentially unchanged as business investment in plant and equipment grew moderately, consumer spending languished, government outlays remained unchanged, and housing investment declined. Manufacturing, wholesale and retail establishments piled up inventories, suggesting that the first-quarter growth slowdown was largely unanticipated.

Financial markets were volatile in the first quarter as the value of the Canadian dollar fell $2.9 \%$ against the U.S. dollar and short-term interest rates rose more than 200 basis points. Stung by the higher rates, borrowers

## Note to readers

With this release, the national accounts and financial flow accounts for previous years have been revised. The largest changes affect the year 1992, for which real GDP growth has been revised upward, from $0.6 \%$ to $0.8 \%$.
reduced their demand for credit to its lowest level in two-and-a-half years.


## Consumers curb spending

Personal spending hardly grew at all in the first quarter, after rising moderately throughout 1994. Much of last year's increase was made possible by higher consumer credit borrowing and a lower saving rate, rather than by rising personal disposable income. In the first quarter, as interest rates rose, consumer credit borrowing fell sharply and the saving rate moved up to $8.3 \%$. Real disposable income rose $1.1 \%$.


Consumer credit borrowing


Slower consumer spending was especially evident for discretionary commodities. There was a sharp drop in consumer demand for new passenger cars, trucks
and vans. Spending on restaurant meals and foreign travel was also down significantly.

## Demand for exports keeps rising

Exports rose $1.3 \%$ in volume during the first quarter. It was the thirteenth consecutive quarterly increase, but the advance was much smaller than the $6.2 \%$ average of the previous three quarters. Slower growth in the U.S. economy and the transportation strikes were important factors. Imports grew 2.7\% in the quarter, also somewhat slower than the $4.1 \%$ average rise during the previous three quarters.

Exports of motor vehicles, aircraft and parts, office machines and equipment, and ores and concentrates each rose substantially. Exports of aluminum, crude oil, newsprint, wheat and canola declined. On the import side, motor vehicles, communications equipment, crude petroleum, and office machines and equipment accounted for the increase. The increase in imports was reflected both in the buildup of inventories and in the growth of business and government spending on machinery and equipment.

Exports of services rose $2.0 \%$ in volume, whereas imports of services fell $0.7 \%$. International travel receipts and payments were the key factor. The number of Canadians travelling outside the country dropped a further $4.3 \%$; the number of foreign visitors rose $2.7 \%$.

## Business capital spending slows and inventories pile up

Business investment in plant and equipment rose moderately after marked growth in the fourth quarter. In the first quarter, businesses spent more on industrial machinery, office machines and equipment, trucks and aircraft. However, construction, which is sensitive to high interest rates, fell sharply. Housing, non-residential building and engineering construction were all affected.

The abrupt slowing of final demand brought about a very large accumulation of inventories. Manufacturers experienced the largest inventory buildup in 20 years. The electrical products, wood, primary metals, chemicals and petroleum industries each had particularly big increases. Stock levels also rose in the wholesale and retail trade industries, especially among motor vehicle dealers. By contrast, farm inventories remained stable after substantial drawdowns in the fourth quarter.

## Investment in non-farm inventories

\$ billions in 1986 dollars


## Inflation takes a jump

The GDP chain price index increased $1.2 \%$ in the first quarter, the largest quarterly jump since the first quarter of 1991, when the GST was introduced. Import and export prices both rose significantly, reflecting the sharp depreciation of the Canadian dollar and the fact that prices of Canadian exports are often set in U.S. dollars. Prices rose for consumer goods and services ( $+0.5 \%$ ), residential construction investment ( $+0.7 \%$ ) and business plant and equipment ( $+1.9 \%$ ).


Unit labour costs rose $0.4 \%$ in the first quarter after declining steadily over the previous two years. Raw material prices and rising profit margins also contributed to the higher economy-wide inflation rate. The industrial product price index increased $2.9 \%$ in the quarter, led by pulp and paper prices. The raw materials price index vaulted $6.2 \%$, driven by prices of mineral fuels, non-ferrous metals and wood. Corporate profits rose $3.0 \%$, the tenth consecutive healthy increase, as corporations' share of GDP edged up to $8.4 \%$ after having bottomed out at $4.8 \%$ in the fourth quarter of 1991. Inflationary profits on inventories were an important element, accounting for the first-quarter profit growth.

## Demand for funds weakens

Funds raised on financial markets dropped sharply in the first quarter, as interest rates surged and signs of a slowing economy emerged. In particular, consumer credit borrowing fell quite severely. Corporations also raised less funds, as bank and other loan rates became less attractive. There was a general shift from long- to short-term instruments, suggesting that borrowers were expecting the rise in interest rates to be short-lived.

## Corporate borrowing



While the private sector cut borrowing moderately, the provincial and local governments reduced their borrowing quite sharply, after heavy borrowing the previous quarter. Federal government borrowing held steady, remaining near its fourth-quarter level.


Available on CANSIM: matrices 701-741, 743, 748, 750, 6701-6702, 6704-6707, 6709-6716, 6718, 6720-6722, 6724-6727, 6729-6736, 6738, 6740, 6828-6839, 7404-7408 and 7433-7434.

The first quarter 1995 issue of National economic and financial accounts, quarterly estimates ( $13-001, \$ 35 / \$ 140$ ) will be released in July. It combines the information formerly released in National income and expenditure accounts (13-001) and Financial flow accounts (13-014), which have been discontinued. Detailed printed tables of unadjusted and seasonally adjusted quarterly national account and financial flow statistics, plus supplementary analytical tables and charts, are available immediately.

On release day at 8:30 a.m., the complete quarterly national account and financial flow data sets are available on microcomputer diskette. The diskettes are also available at lower cost seven days after the official release date.

To purchase any of these products or to obtain further information about them, call 613-951-3640 and ask for the client services officer, National Accounts and Environment Division.

For further information about this release, call 613-951-3640 and ask for the information officer, National Accounts and Environment Division.

Gross domestic product, income-based


[^0]The Daily, June 12, 1995

Gross domestic product, expenditure-based

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^1]Financial market summary table


- Nil or zero.


## Canada's balance of international payments <br> First quarter 1995

In the first quarter of 1995, Canada's current account deficit was almost unchanged at $\$ 4.0$ billion, still well below the levels experienced over the past seven years. A deficit in the current account reflects the fact that Canada has spent more than it earned from abroad on goods, services, investment income and transfers. The first quarter of 1995 saw Canadians exporting more goods and foreign visitors spending more in Canada. But these earnings were offset by higher payments of interest abroad.


The capital account shows that non-residents resumed their investment in Canadian bonds. This followed a record withdrawal in the previous quarter. In January, the Canadian dollar kept falling against the U.S. dollar, touching a nine-year low of US70.09. cents; it then fluctuated and closed the quarter almost unchanged from the end of 1994.

## Record surplus in merchandise trade

Canada's surplus on merchandise trade climbed to a record $\$ 5.8$ billion. (The previous high of $\$ 5.6$ billion was set in the fourth quarter of 1984.) Both exports and imports continued to advance strongly. The increase in Canada's merchandise surplus again resulted from transactions with the United States. A small surplus with Japan has continued for a year. Deficits persisted with all other foreign countries as a whole.

## Note to readers

Revised merchandise trade will be available from the Intemational Trade Division with its release of the April 1995 data.

## Interest payments increase the deficit on non-merchandise transactions

The non-merchandise deficit climbed to $\$ 9.8$ billion, pulled by the interest paid to non-residents. Canadian banks paid more interest abroad as a result of increased deposits in foreign currencies; the Government of Canada also paid more interest abroad because of higher treasury bill borrowing from abroad. Interest payments on Canadian bonds, by far the largest component of interest paid abroad, were down for the second consecutive quarter, in sharp contrast with the upward trend of the past.


Profits of foreign direct investors remained high for a second consecutive quarter.

## Foreigners resume their investment in Canadian bonds

Non-residents bought $\$ 2.4$ billion more Canadian bonds than they sold in the first quarter of 1995. This followed a record withdrawal of $\$ 7.4$ billion in the previous quarter. The foreign capital was channelled entirely into new foreign currency bonds issued by the provinces and Canadian corporations. Foreigners sold more outstanding bonds than they bought for a sixth consecutive quarter.


## Canadian investors move more into foreign bonds

Canadian residents added $\$ 1.9$ billion of foreign bonds to their portfolios, their second largest quarterly investment on record. The increase, largely in U.S. bonds, was led by pension funds and mutual funds.

Canadian investment in foreign bonds


## Revisions to the 1991-94 estimates

Revised estimates of the balance of payments accounts for the 1991-94 period are now available with the results for the first quarter of 1995. The revisions reflect more current sources of information, such as the latest annual surveys and administrative data.

The current account deficit was reduced for the entire period from 1991 to 1994. This resulted largely from higher receipts of business services, freight and shipping, and dividends. These higher earnings were partially offset, especially in 1994, by a reduction in merchandise exports.


The overall net inflow in the capital account was reduced in 1991, 1992 and 1994 due to lower borrowing abroad. For 1993, the higher net inflow mainly reflected lower Canadian direct investment abroad. In 1994, the largest revision resulted from the banks' foreign currency transactions.

Capital account balance / revisions


Available on CANSIM: matrix 1364, 1370, 2323-2329, 2331-2339, 2343-2349, 2353-2355 and 2357.

The first quarter 1995 issue of Canada's balance of international payments ( $67-001, \$ 30 / \$ 120$ ) will be available later this month. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Lucie Laliberté (613-951-9055), Balance of Payments Division.

## Balance of international payments

|  | First quarter 1994 | Second quarter 1994 | Third quarter 1994 | Fourth quarter 1994 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { First } \\ \text { quarter } \\ 1995 \end{array}$ | 1993 | 1994 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | unadjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Current account |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Receipts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Merchandise exports | 47,509 | 55,384 | 53,854 | 61,106 | 62,850 | 181,251 | 217,854 |
| Non-merchandise |  |  |  |  |  |  | 217,854 |
| Services | 6,223 | 8,094 | 9,947 | 7,254 | 6,909 | 28,118 | 31,519 |
| Investment income ${ }^{1}$ | 2,338 | 2,903 | 3,052 | 3,531 | 3,520 | 9,980 | 11,824 |
| Of which: reinvested eamings | 26 | -19 | 106 | 188 | 84 | -643 | 302 |
| Transiers | 1,192 | 1,332 | 1,326 | 1,018 | 1,066 | 4,616 | 4,869 |
| Total non-merchandise receipts | 9,754 | 12,330 | 14,325 | 11,804 | 11,495 | 42,715 | 48,213 |
| Total receipts | 57,263 | 67,714 | 68,179 | 72,910 | 74,345 | 223,966 | 266,066 |
| Payments |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Merchandise imports | 45,991 | 52,291 | 50,214 | 54,311 | 57,632 | 171,928 | 202,807 |
| Non-merchandise |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Services | 10,463 | 10,616 | 10,134 | 9,736 | 10,512 | 40,606 | 40,949 |
| Investment income ${ }^{1}$ | 8,627 | 10,886 | 10,644 | 10,562 | 11,576 | 36,049 | 40,719 |
| Of which: reinvested eamings | -149 | 778 | 1,471 | 826 | 1,536 | 1,432 | 2,926 |
| Transfers | 1,054 | 922 | 941 | 972 | 1,073 | 4,177 | 3,890 |
| Total non-merchandise payments | 20,144 | 22,425 | 21,719 | 21,270 | 23,160 | 80,832 | 85,558 |
| Total payments | 66,135 | 74,716 | 71,933 | 75,581 | 80,792 | 252,760 | 288,365 |
| Balances |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Merchandise | +1,518 | +3,093 | +3,640 | +6,795 | +5,218 | +9,323 | +15,046 |
| Non-merchandise | -10,390 | -10,095 | -7,394 | -9,466 | -11,665 | -38,118 | -37,345 |
| Total current account | -8,872 | -7,002 | -3,754 | -2,671 | -6,447 | -28,794 | -22,299 |
| Capital account ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Canadian claims on non-residents, net flows |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Canadian direct investment abroad ${ }^{1}$ | -1,597 | -1,098 | -2,073 | -1,758 | -1,031 | -7,490 | -6,526 |
| Of which: reinvested eamings | -26 | +19 | -106 | -188 | -84 | +643 | -302 |
| Portfolio securities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign bonds | -383 | +115 | +299 | +494 | -1,938 | -4,070 | +525 |
| Foreign stocks | -4,760 | -1,727 | -1,249 | -1,479 | -865 | -9,818 | -9,216 |
| Govemment of Canada assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Official intemational reserves | +2,430 | -494 | -4,919 | +4,613 | -2,921 | +598 | +1,630 |
| Loans and subscriptions | -362 | -556 | -304 | -670 | -323 | -286 | -1,893 |
| Non-bank deposits abroad | +938 | -478 | -998 | -2,101 | +1,846 | -755 | -2,639 |
| Other claims | +758 | +995 | +1,803 | +1,777 | +856 | +2,685 | +5,332 |
| Total Canadian claims, net flow | -2,976 | -3,244 | -7,442 | +876 | -4,375 | -19,137 | -12,787 |
| Canadian liabilities to non-residents, net flows |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign direct investment in Canada' | +2,339 | +1,346 | +2,188 | +2,365 | +2,463 | +6,425 | +8,239 |
| Of which: reinvested eamings Porfolio securities | -149 | $+778$ | +1,471 | +826 | +1,536 | +1,432 | +2,926 |
| Portfolio securities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Canadian bonds Canadian stocks | +9,140 | +3,204 | +10,221 | -7,415 | +2,417 | +28,929 | +15,150 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +6,056 |
| non-residents ${ }^{3}$ Money market instruments | -4,488 | -1,559 | -654 | +6,486 | +5,055 | -251 | -214 |
| Govemment of Canada paper | +1,007 | +6,366 | -7,068 | +2,426 | +3,068 | +10,939 | +2,731 |
| Other paper | -105 | +888 | -3,167 | +558 | +492 | -1,643 | -1,826 |
| Allocation of special drawing rights | - | +888 | -167 | +558 | +492 | -1,643 | -1,026 |
| Other liabilities | +826 | -885 | +359 | +692 | +2,413 | +635 | +992 |
| Total Canadian liabilities, net flow | +11,762 | +10,654 | +3,677 | +5,034 | +14,383 | +57,090 | +31,128 |
| Total capital account, net flow | +8,787 | +7,410 | -3,765 | +5,910 | +10,008 | +37,953 | +18,341 |
| Statistical discrepancy | +85 | -407 | +7,519 | -3,239 | -3,560 | -9,159 | +3,958 |

[^2]
## Current account

|  | First quarter 1994 | Second quarter 1994 | Third quarter 1994 | Fourth quarter 1994 | First quater 1995 | 1993 | 1994 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Receipts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Merchandise exports | 47,967 | 52,634 | 56,644 | 60,609 | 63,824 | 181,251 | 217,854 |
| Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel | 2,364 | 2,448 | 2,606 | 2,776 | 2,822 | 8,804 | 10,194 |
| Freight and shipping | 1,730 | 1,846 | 1,985 | 2,074 | 2,171 | 6,343 | 7,635 |
| Business services | 2,972 | 3,003 | 2,804 | 2,910 | 2,974 | 11,046 | 11,689 |
| Govemment transactions | 199 | 208 | 204 | 219 | 225 | , 759 | 830 |
| Other services | 292 | 297 | 285 | 298 | 308 | 1,167 | 1,171 |
| Total services | 7,558 | 7,801 | 7,884 | 8,276 | 8,500 | 28,118 | 31,519 |
| Investment income ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest | 1,063 | 1,197 | 1,332 | 1,550 | 1,664 | 3,700 | 5,143 |
| Dividends | 1,305 | 1,758 | 1,487 | 1,829 | 1,856 | 6,923 | 6,379 |
| Reinvested eamings Total investment income | - 26 | -19 | 106 | +188 | 84 | -643 | 302 |
| Total investment income | 2,395 | 2,937 | 2,925 | 3,567 | 3,604 | 9,980 | 11,824 |
| Transfers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inheritances and immigrants' funds | 471 | 497 | 461 | 323 | 369 | 1,671 |  |
| Personal and institutional remittances | 371 | 344 | 368 | 345 | 357 | 1,303 | 1,427 |
| Canadian withholding tax Total transfers | 480 | +446 | 392 | 372 | 464 | 1,642 | 1,690 |
| Total transfers | 1,322 | 1,287 | 1,221 | 1,039 | 1,190 | 4,616 | 4,869 |
| Total non-merchandise receipts | 11,275 | 12,024 | 12,031 | 12,883 | 13,293 | 42,715 | 48,213 |
| Total receipts | 59,242 | 64,658 | 68,674 | 73,492 | 77,117 | 223,966 | 266,066 |
| Payments |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Merchandise imports | 46,100 | 49,806 | 51,791 | 55,111 | 58,012 | 171,928 | 202,807 |
| Services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel | 4,041 | 4,260 | 3,672 | 3,976 | 3,929 | 16,681 | 15,949 |
| Freight and shipping | 1,626 | 1,774 | 1,846 | 1,987 | 2,077 | 6,431 | 7,234 |
| Business services | 4,008 | 3,947 | 3,809 | 3,645 | 3,771 | 15,087 | 15,409 |
| Government transactions | 364 | 337 | , 347 | +346 | -370 | 1,489 | 1,393 |
| Other services | 244 | 239 | 239 | 242 | 244 | ,918 | +964 |
| Total services | 10,283 | 10,557 | 9,913 | 10,196 | 10,391 | 40,606 | 40,949 |
| Investment income ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest | 7,714 | 8,582 | 8,178 | 8,185 | 8,679 | 30,039 | 32,658 |
| Dividends Reinvested eamings | 1,206 | 1,536 | 1,265 | 1,128 | 1,581 | 4,578 | 5,135 |
| Reinvested eamings Total investment income | -263 | $\begin{array}{r}314 \\ \hline 10.432\end{array}$ | 1,045 | 1,829 | 1,423 | . 1,432 | 2,926 |
| Total investment income | 8,657 | 10,432 | 10,488 | 11,141 | 11,683 | 36,049 | 40,719 |
| Transfers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inheritances and emigrants' funds | 88 | 89 | 92 | 93 | 92 | 340 | 362 |
| Personal and institutional remittances | 339 | 340 | 341 | 341 | 354 | 1,308 | 1,361 |
| Official contributions Foreign withholding tax | 492 | 455 | 437 | 487 | 469 | 2,245 | 1,871 |
| Foreign withholding tax Total transfers | 70 989 | 78 961 | 75 | 73 | 72 | 283 |  |
| Total transfers | 989 | 961 | 945 | 994 | 987 | 4,177 | 3,890 |
| Total non-merchandise payments | 19,930 | 21,950 | 21,346 | 22,332 | 23,061 | 80,832 | 85,558 |
| Total payments | 66,030 | 71,756 | 73,137 | 77,443 | 81,073 | 252,760 | 288,365 |
| Balances |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Merchandise <br> Non-merchandise | +1,867 | +2,828 | +4,853 | +5,499 | +5,811 | +9,323 | +15,046 |
| Services | -2,725 | -2,756 | -2,029 | -1,920 | -1,891 | -12,487 | -9,430 |
| Investment income ${ }^{1}$ | -6,262 | -7,495 | -7,563 | -7,574 | -8,079 | -26,069 | -28,895 |
| Transfers Total non-merchandise | +333 $-8,655$ | +325 $-9,926$ | +276 $+9,316$ | +45 $-9,449$ | +202 $+0,768$ | +439 +489 | 28,8979 +97945 |
| Total non-merchandise | -8,655 | -9,926 | -9,316 | -9,449 | -9,768 | -38,118 | -37,345 |
| Total current account | -6,788 | -7,098 | -4,463 | -3,950 | -3,956 | -28,794 | -22,299 |

1. From 1983, includes reinvested eamings accruing to direct investors.

Note: Figures may not add due to rounding.

## OTHER RELEASES

## Government revenue and expenditure <br> First quarter 1995

Detailed revenue and expenditure estimates on a system of national accounts (SNA) basis for the quarter ended March 31, 1995 are now available. Data are available for the federal, provincial and local governments. Revised detailed estimates for the quarters ended March 31, 1991 through December 31, 1994 are also available.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 2711-2713.

For further information on this release, contact James Temple (613-951-1832) or Robert Loggie (613-951-1809), Public Administration Section, Public Institutions Division.

Data are also available through custom tabulations. For more information or general inquiries on the products or services of Public Institutions Division, contact Jo-Anne Thibault, Data Dissemination and External Relations Co-ordinator (613-951-0767).

## Department store sales, advance release May 1995

Consumers spent $\$ 1,108.0$ million in department stores in May, an $8.3 \%$ increase over May 1994 (unadjusted). The increase was attributable to the discount stores, where sales rose $18.3 \%$ to $\$ 585.3$ million. Spending in the major stores declined $1.0 \%$ to $\$ 522.7$ million.

The May 1995 issue of Department store sales and stocks ( $63-002, \$ 16 / \$ 160$ ) will be available in July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Leslie Kiss (613-951-3556), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Raw materials price indexes, early estimate

May 1995
The raw materials price index decreased an estimated 1.1\% from April to May 1995. Decreases occurred in the mineral fuels ( $-2.0 \%$ ), metals ( $-3.6 \%$ ) and vegetable and animal products $(-0.8 \%)$ indexes. These declines were moderated by a $1.6 \%$ increase in the wood index. The RMPI excluding mineral fuels decreased an estimated $0.7 \%$ in May 1995.

This early estimate of the May 1995 index is based on partial returns and other indicators. The regular index will be published at the end of this month.

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Client Services Unit, Prices Division.

## Sugar sales

May 1995
Refiners' sales totalled 85059 tonnes for all types of sugar in May, comprising 79482 tonnes in domestic sales and 5577 tonnes in export sales. For January to May 1995, year-to-date sales of all types of sugar totalled 390614 tonnes: 352931 tonnes in domestic sales and 37683 tonnes in export sales.

This compares with total sales of 94882 tonnes in May 1994, of which 85185 tonnes were domestic sales and 9697 tonnes were export sales. The 1994 year-todate sales of all types of sugar totalled 430724 tonnes: 378967 tonnes in domestic sales and 51757 tonnes in export sales.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 141.
The May 1995 issue of The sugar situation ( $32-013, \$ 6 / \$ 60$ ) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

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

## Particleboard, waferboard and fibreboard April 1995

Waferboard production in April totalled 279652 cubic metres, a $1.6 \%$ increase from 275276 cubic metres in April 1994. Particleboard production reached 143004 cubic metres, up $19.7 \%$ from 119449 (revised) cubic metres in April 1994. Fibreboard production in April totalled 8668 thousand square metres (basis 3.175 millimetres), down $5.7 \%$ from 9193 thousand square metres in April 1994.

For January to April 1995, year-to-date waferboard production totalled 1098373 (revised) cubic metres, up $11.1 \%$ from 988709 cubic metres a year earlier. Year-to-date particleboard production totalled 566695 (revised) cubic metres, up $21.4 \%$ from 466612 (revised) cubic metres a year earlier. Year-todate fibreboard production reached 35905 thousand
square metres, (basis 3.175 millimetres), up $3.3 \%$ from 34753 thousand square metres for the same period in 1994.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2-4) and 122 (series 8 and 34).

The April 1995 issue of Particleboard, waferboard and fibreboard ( $36-003, \$ 6 / \$ 60$ ) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Bruno Pépin (613-951-3516), Industry Division.

## Oils and fats <br> April 1995

Production of all types of deodorized oils in April totalled 69637 tonnes, an $8.0 \%$ decrease from 75682 revised tonnes in March 1995. At the end of April 1995, year-
to-date production totalled 291320 tonnes, a 2.5\% increase from 284234 tonnes a year earlier.

Manufacturers' packaged sales of shortening totalled 9589 tonnes in April 1995, down from 10967 revised tonnes the previous month. At the end of April 1995, year-to-date sales totalled 39615 tonnes, compared with 40635 tonnes a year earlier.

Sales of packaged salad oil totalled 4540 tonnes in April 1995, down from 6266 tonnes the previous month. Year-to-date sales at the end of April 1995 totalled 21764 tonnes, compared with 24665 tonnes a year earlier.

## Available on CANSIM: matrix 184.

The April 1995 issue of Oils and fats ( $32-006, \$ 6 / \$ 60$ ) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

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


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Railway carloadings, March 1995

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Canada's international transactions in securities, March 1995
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[^0]:    1 Includes military pay and allowances.
    2 The change column reflects actual change in millions of dollars for these items.

[^1]:    1 The change column reflects actual change in millions of dollars for these items.

    - Nil or zero.

[^2]:    1 From 1983, includes reinvested eamings accruing to direct investors.
    2 A minus sign denotes an outflow of capital resulting from an increase in claims on non-residents or from a decrease in liabilities to non-residents.
    3 When the banks' foreign currency position (booked in Canada) with non-residents is a net asset, the series is classified as pant of Canadian claims on nonresidents.

    - Nil or zero.

