



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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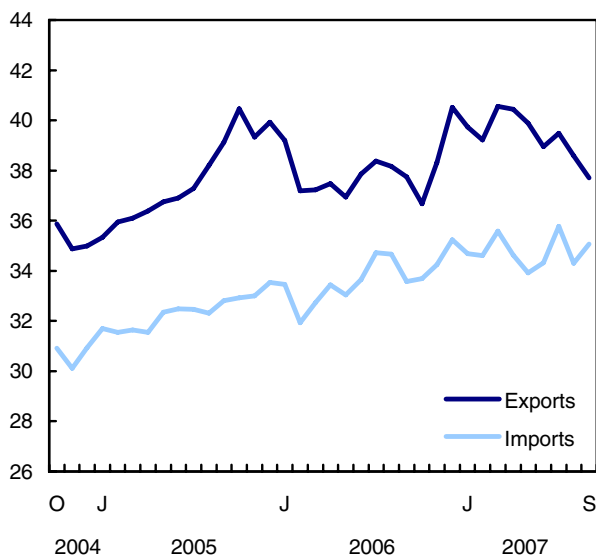
Canadian international merchandise trade

September 2007

Canada's trade balance with the world contracted to its lowest level since December 1998, as exports declined and imports increased.

Exports and imports

\$ billions Seasonally adjusted



Exports decreased 2.3% to \$37.7 billion in September, the lowest level since October 2006. Only three sectors—automotive products, energy products, and other consumer goods—recorded gains.

Imports rose 2.2% to \$35.1 billion, recapturing some of the loss registered in August. Energy products were by far the prime force behind the rise, followed by industrial goods and materials, automotive products, and other consumer goods.

With imports rising and exports falling, the nation's trade balance with the world narrowed to \$2.6 billion, falling to its lowest level since December 1998. The trade surplus with the United States shrank to \$6.2 billion.

Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States expanded to \$3.5 billion. All principal trading areas contributed to the increase, with the exception of Japan, as Canada's trade deficit with Japan decreased.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.

International merchandise trade data by country are available on both a balance of payments and a customs basis for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only. Balance of payments data are derived from customs data by making adjustments for items such as valuation, coverage, timing and residency. These adjustments are made to conform to the concepts and definitions of the Canadian System of National Accounts.

At the end of each quarter, The Daily includes a section describing trends and topics of interest relating to Canadian international merchandise trade. This section typically discusses data that is presented on a customs basis and not seasonally adjusted.

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Each quarter, customs basis data are revised for the previous data year.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures, changes in the classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

Between January and September 2007, based on the Bank of Canada's monthly noon spot rate average, the Canadian dollar appreciated 13% against its American counterpart, reaching parity at the end of September.

Exports decrease despite growth in automotive products, energy products, and other consumer goods

Sharp declines in exports of machinery and equipment, and industrial goods and materials, the two most important sectors in terms of value, overshadowed gains in automotive products, energy products, and other consumer goods.

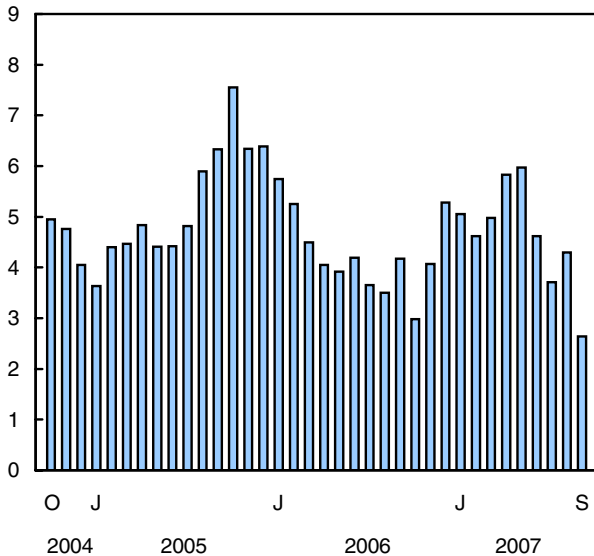
Exports of machinery and equipment tumbled 7.2% to \$7.6 billion, their lowest level since May 2006, completely reversing the gains achieved in August. Aircraft and other transportation equipment were solely responsible for the declines, plummeting 31.5% to \$1.4 billion, reaching their lowest level since January 2000.

Industrial goods and materials contracted 3.6% to \$8.4 billion. Metal ores, in particular nickel, plunged

for the second month in a row, following record levels in July. Prices for base metals were dampened by weakness in the American housing market.

Trade balance

\$ billions



Forestry products fell 7.4% to \$2.2 billion, the sixth consecutive monthly drop. Declines were widespread, led by lumber and sawmill products, which shrank 9.2% as prices continued to fall.

Exports of agricultural and fishing products declined 3.6% to \$2.9 billion, as wheat plunged 27.4%. These declines were offset by soaring exports of barley to various destinations.

Automotive products climbed 2.3% to \$6.3 billion, slightly above levels recorded a year ago. This increase was largely attributable to passenger autos, which surged 6.8%, and trucks and other motor vehicles, which increased 1.0%. Motor vehicle parts fell for the second consecutive month, dipping below \$2 billion for the first time since February 2001.

Gains in crude petroleum and other energy products, primarily petroleum and coal, offset declines in natural gas, boosting exports of energy products 1.2% to \$7.6 billion. The jump in exports of crude petroleum stemmed from a rise in volume as prices declined slightly. The increase in petroleum and coal products reflected an increase in price and volume.

Following August's decrease, exports of other consumer goods advanced 3.0% to \$1.6 billion, reflecting increased exports of pharmaceutical products now manufactured in Canada.

Energy products fuel imports

Imports recovered somewhat in September from the declines observed in August, as the Canadian dollar continued to gain ground. Higher imports of energy products, industrial goods and materials, automotive products, and other consumer goods more than compensated for the declines registered by the three remaining sectors.

Energy products led the expansion in imports in September, accounting for more than half of the increase. Imports in this sector soared 13.5% to reach \$3.4 billion, their highest level in 2007, and just shy of the record high achieved in August 2006. Petroleum and coal products, crude petroleum, and to a lesser extent coal and other related products, drove the increase. The increase of crude petroleum, and petroleum and coal products was due almost entirely to volume. Strong gasoline demand, refinery shutdowns for maintenance and upgrades, and the preparation for the upcoming winter heating season were among the factors contributing to the growth.

Imports of industrial goods and materials rose 2.6% to \$7.2 billion, their highest level since February. Metals and metal ores were the sole source of the growth in the sector, rising 10.8% to \$2.5 billion on the strength of precious metals and alloys.

Following August's decline, automotive products rose 1.6% to \$6.7 billion, reaching levels slightly higher than those in September 2006. Motor vehicle parts increased 6.5%, while trucks and other motor vehicles grew 3.8%. Passenger autos declined for the second month in a row, falling 6.0% to \$2.1 billion.

Machinery and equipment fell 1.9% to \$9.6 billion. Aircraft and other transportation equipment were responsible for almost the entire decline, falling 13.9% to \$1.3 billion. Despite the second consecutive monthly decrease since peaking in July, aircraft and other transportation equipment remained strong in comparison to previous years.

Agricultural and fishing products dipped 0.5% to \$2.1 billion, following a record high in August. Declines in fish and marine animals, meat, and tobacco imports offset record imports of beverages, cocoa and coffee, and animal feed. Imports of corn and other ingredients for animal feed have been on the rise in recent months.

Snapshot of emerging markets: Russia

Over the past several years, Russia has been growing in importance as a trading partner. In 2006, Canada's total merchandise trade with Russia amounted to \$2.3 billion, more than twice the value of a decade earlier.

During the first nine months of 2007, exports to Russia were valued at \$875.9 million, a 37.6% increase over the same period in 2006. Imports from Russia amounted to \$1.1 billion, virtually unchanged from the same period in 2006.

The products in highest demand from Russia were crude petroleum, precious metals, and fertilizers. Imports of these three commodities were valued at \$761 million in the first three quarters of 2007, with crude petroleum accounting for 87.4% of that value.

In contrast, manufactured goods dominated Canadian exports to Russia. In the first nine months of 2007, Canada's top exports to Russia were industrial and agricultural machinery, followed by fresh, chilled and frozen meat. Together, these commodities were valued at \$241.5 million, with machinery accounting for two thirds of that value.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0055.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The September 2007 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 61, no. 9 (65-001-XIB, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. The publication includes tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income, and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's Balance of International Payments* (67-001-XWE, free).

For more information on products and services, contact Sharon Nevins (toll-free 1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9798). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Anne Couillard (613-951-6867), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

	August 2007 ^r	September 2007	August to September 2007	September 2006 to September 2007	January to September 2006	January to September 2007	January–September 2006 to January–September 2007
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	29,391	28,944	-1.5	-0.8	271,746	271,195	-0.2
Japan	800	747	-6.6	-15.4	7,770	7,723	-0.6
European Union ¹	3,234	2,906	-10.1	-0.5	23,960	30,200	26.0
Other OECD countries ²	1,708	1,660	-2.8	-3.9	12,351	15,688	27.0
All other countries	3,455	3,451	-0.1	13.8	24,367	29,793	22.3
Total	38,588	37,710	-2.3	-0.1	340,191	354,599	4.2
Imports							
United States	22,453	22,764	1.4	3.3	197,218	203,873	3.4
Japan	1,000	907	-9.3	-11.3	9,026	8,853	-1.9
European Union ¹	3,472	3,652	5.2	2.7	31,471	32,203	2.3
Other OECD countries ²	2,036	2,199	8.0	23.9	17,481	18,470	5.7
All other countries	5,335	5,544	3.9	6.9	46,026	49,477	7.5
Total	34,296	35,065	2.2	4.4	301,219	312,880	3.9
Balance							
United States	6,938	6,180	...	...	74,528	67,322	...
Japan	-200	-160	...	...	-1,256	-1,130	...
European Union ¹	-238	-746	...	...	-7,511	-2,003	...
Other OECD countries ²	-328	-539	...	...	-5,130	-2,782	...
All other countries	-1,880	-2,093	...	...	-21,659	-19,684	...
Total	4,292	2,645	...	...	38,972	41,719	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,995	2,887	-3.6	3.3	23,176	26,015	12.2
Energy products	7,476	7,565	1.2	6.8	66,391	68,946	3.8
Forestry products	2,412	2,233	-7.4	-15.7	25,306	22,431	-11.4
Industrial goods and materials	8,704	8,390	-3.6	1.1	68,613	79,910	16.5
Machinery and equipment	8,211	7,618	-7.2	-4.7	70,547	72,726	3.1
Automotive products	6,160	6,304	2.3	1.3	61,657	59,270	-3.9
Other consumer goods	1,509	1,555	3.0	6.4	13,053	14,414	10.4
Special transactions trade ³	653	643	-1.5	-12.3	6,499	6,336	-2.5
Other balance of payments adjustments	468	514	9.8	0.2	4,947	4,553	-8.0
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,158	2,148	-0.5	6.2	17,391	19,072	9.7
Energy products	2,973	3,374	13.5	14.6	26,645	27,286	2.4
Forestry products	247	245	-0.8	-4.7	2,293	2,250	-1.9
Industrial goods and materials	6,979	7,158	2.6	3.1	62,525	64,330	2.9
Machinery and equipment	9,803	9,618	-1.9	0.4	84,992	87,897	3.4
Automotive products	6,562	6,664	1.6	4.6	59,489	60,566	1.8
Other consumer goods	4,502	4,591	2.0	5.4	38,479	41,261	7.2
Special transactions trade ³	407	578	42.0	35.7	3,381	4,124	22.0
Other balance of payments adjustments	666	689	3.5	1.3	6,026	6,094	1.1

^r revised

... not applicable

1. Includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

2. Other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) include Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.

3. These are mainly low-valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to the country of origin.

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

September 2007 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products increased marginally in September compared with September 2006. Sales were higher in four of the seven major product groups.

Sales totalled 8 602 200 cubic metres, an increase of 0.6% year over year. (One cubic metre is equivalent to 6.3 barrels.)

The biggest increase occurred in diesel fuel oil, where sales rose 8.7%, or 197 200 cubic metres. Motor gasoline sales increased 0.5%, or 15 400 cubic metres. Light fuel oil sales declined 19.5%, or 45 800 cubic metres.

Sales increased in two of the three categories of motor gasoline. Premium grades increased 7.0%, while regular unleaded grades rose 1.6%. Mid-grades declined 9.5%.

From January to September 2007, sales of refined petroleum products totalled 77 094 000 cubic metres, up 3.3% from the same period in 2006.

Sales rose in six of the seven major product groups. The largest increase occurred in diesel fuel oil, where sales were up 4.6%, the equivalent of 909 200 cubic metres.

Note: Preliminary data on domestic sales of refined petroleum products are no longer available in CANSIM.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	September 2006 ^r	September 2007 ^p	September 2006 to September 2007
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	8 552.4	8 602.2	0.6
Motor gasoline	3 380.5	3 395.9	0.5
Diesel fuel oil	2 265.9	2 463.1	8.7
Light fuel oil	234.1	188.3	-19.5
Heavy fuel oil	537.8	523.9	-2.6
Aviation turbo fuels	567.9	593.9	4.6
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	489.6	347.4	-29.0
All other refined products	1 076.5	1 089.7	1.2

	January to September 2006 ^r	January to September 2007 ^p	January–September 2006 to Jan- uary–September 2007
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	74 632.7	77 094.0	3.3
Motor gasoline	30 570.8	31 468.8	2.9
Diesel fuel oil	19 630.4	20 539.6	4.6
Light fuel oil	2 895.7	3 179.3	9.8
Heavy fuel oil	4 635.9	4 732.6	2.1
Aviation turbo fuels	5 105.8	5 022.5	-1.6
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	3 432.2	3 624.2	5.6
All other refined products	8 361.9	8 527.0	2.0

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber, and a variety of plastics.

Export and import price indexes

September 2007

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to September 2007 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (2002=100) on a customs basis are also available. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to September 2007. The price indexes for the 10 sections of the Standard International Trade Classification are available for all-countries and for the US.

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

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0047 to 228-0055.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

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For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Marketing and Client Services Section (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

Chain Fisher real export and import values

September 2007

The monthly chain Fisher real dollar values (reference year 2002) for Canadian international merchandise trade for September are now available.

This series is not offered in CANSIM.

To order data, contact the Marketing and Client Services Section (toll-free 1-800-294-5583). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Lupien (613-951-6872), International Trade Division. ■

Production of eggs and poultry

September 2007 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 46.6 million dozen in September, down 1.6% from September 2006.

Poultry meat production reached 94.8 million kilograms in September, down 0.3% from September 2006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3425 and 5039.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca), or Barbara Bowen (613-951-3716; barbara.bowen@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Annual Survey of Water Carriers

2005

The 111 for-hire marine carriers earned \$231 million in income, as revenues rose 9.6% to \$2.9 billion in 2005. The for-hire sector recorded \$2.4 billion in liabilities against \$3.1 billion in assets.

Government marine carriers had \$828 million in revenues and \$841 million in expenses in 2005.

Note: The government sector differs significantly from the for-hire sector in terms of the availability of financial data. Many government carriers only report partial financial data and apply accounting rules that differ from the for-hire sector. Therefore, the information in this section should be used with caution, particularly in comparisons with the for-hire section.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2753.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. □

Revenue and expenses of for-hire carriers

	2004	2005 ^P	2004 to 2005
	\$ thousands		% change
Revenues			
Transportation	2,467,095	2,678,161	8.6
Non-transportation	167,594	209,447	25.0
Total revenue	2,634,689	2,887,607	9.6
Expenses			
Transportation	2,373,683	2,519,346	6.1
Wages and salaries	551,734	614,544	11.4
Non-transportation	131,525	137,064	4.2
Total expenses	2,505,208	2,656,410	6.0

^P preliminary

Note: Components may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Revenue and expenses of government carriers

	2004 ^r	2005 ^P
	\$ thousands	
Revenues		
Transportation	713,210	729,746
Non-transportation	95,550	98,654
Total revenue	808,760	828,400
Expenses		
Transportation	756,892	781,368
Wages and salaries	356,525	371,350
Non-transportation	59,173	59,289
Total expenses	816,064	840,657

^r revised

^P preliminary

Note: Components may not add up to totals due to rounding.



New products

Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
September 2007, Vol. 61, no. 9
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB
(free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 251 km on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses and relatively weak gains in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
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- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

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Release dates: November 13 to 16, 2007

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
13	Health Reports	2007
13	Global Links: Multinationals in Canada: An Overview of Research at Statistics Canada	
14	New motor vehicle sales	September 2007
14	Leading indicators	October 2007
15	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	September 2007
15	Registered apprenticeship training	2005
16	Police resources in Canada	2007
