

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Canadian international merchandise trade, November 2009	2
Canada's merchandise exports increased 1.1% in November on the strength of energy products, while imports rose 3.9% due to widespread gains. As a result, Canada's trade balance with the world went from a surplus of \$503 million in October to a deficit of \$344 million in November.	
New Housing Price Index, November 2009	5
Export and import price indexes, November 2009	6
Chain Fisher real export and import values, November 2009	7
Domestic travel, second quarter 2009	7

New products and studies	8
---------------------------------	---



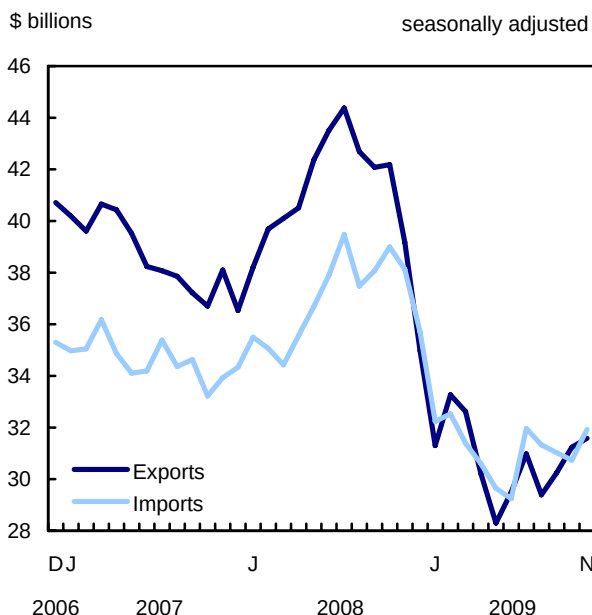
Releases

Canadian international merchandise trade

November 2009

Canada's merchandise exports increased 1.1% in November on the strength of energy products, while imports rose 3.9% due to widespread gains. As a result, Canada's trade balance with the world went from a surplus of \$503 million in October to a deficit of \$344 million in November.

Exports and imports



Exports increased to \$31.6 billion in November, marking the fifth increase in six months, as prices rose 1.1% and volumes remained unchanged. Energy products were the main factor behind the gain in November. Excluding energy products, exports fell 0.3%.

Export prices and volumes have each fallen by 16% since the value of exports peaked in July 2008.

Imports increased by \$1.2 billion to \$31.9 billion in November, almost offsetting the declines of the previous three months. The rise in imports represented the third monthly gain in 2009, as volumes increased 2.7% while prices rose 1.1%.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of Canada's international balance of payments, which also includes trade in services, investment income, current transfers as well as capital and financial flows.

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 characteristics 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.

Constant dollars are calculated using the Laspeyres volume formula.

As of January 21, 2010, a new version of the Canadian International Merchandise Trade database will offer Harmonized System import and export data at the 6 digit level (HS6), at no cost. The data on the new version will be the same as released today. More detailed data for imports at the HS10 level and for exports at the HS8 level will be available as custom tabulations exclusively from International Trade Division.

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Current year revisions are reflected in both the customs and balance of payments based data. Revisions to customs based data for the previous year are released on a quarterly basis. Revisions to balance of payments based data for the three previous years are released annually in June.

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

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

After peaking in July 2008, the value of imports fell by almost 20%, mostly the result of a 17% decline in volumes.

Most import sectors posted gains, with automotive products, machinery and equipment, and energy products accounting for the bulk of November's increase. The exception was industrial goods and materials.

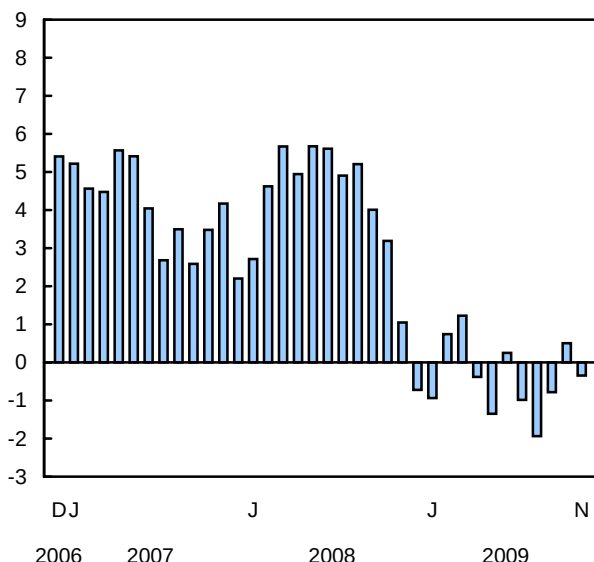
Exports to the United States rose 2.0% while imports, which increased 3.8%, accounted for almost two-thirds of the gain in overall imports. As a result, Canada's trade surplus with the United States narrowed to \$3.2 billion in November from \$3.5 billion in October.

Exports to countries other than the United States fell 1.2% while imports from these countries

increased 4.0%. Consequently, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States widened to \$3.6 billion in November from \$3.0 billion in October.

Trade balance

\$ billions seasonally adjusted



Exports grow on the strength of crude petroleum

Exports of energy products rose 6.2% to \$7.4 billion as prices increased 5.8%. Crude petroleum exports, up 7.0%, rose for a third consecutive month and reached their highest level since October 2008. This gain was due to a 4.0% rise in volumes and a 2.8% increase in prices. Prices of crude petroleum exports have generally been on an upward trend since January 2009. Exports of other energy products and natural gas also posted gains in November.

After leading the growth in exports the previous two months, exports of industrial goods and materials fell 2.5% to \$7.0 billion. The decline was mainly the result of a 2.1% reduction in volumes. Exports of precious metals declined 19.3% and were the main contributor to the decrease. Higher exports of organic chemicals moderated the decline in this sector.

Trucks lead the gain in imports

Imports of automotive products increased 9.4% to \$5.3 billion, entirely the result of increased volumes. Since falling to \$3.9 billion in January 2009, imports of automotive products have generally been trending

upward. In November, imports of trucks and other motor vehicles grew 30.1%, and accounted for two-thirds of the gain in this sector. Higher imports of pickup trucks were the main factor behind this increase. Imports of passenger autos rose 7.2% and imports of motor vehicle parts increased 1.4%.

After three consecutive months of decline, imports of machinery and equipment increased 4.3% to \$8.8 billion. This was mainly as a result of volumes rising 3.3%. Although the gains were widespread throughout the sector, imports of aircraft, up 22.2%, led the growth followed by office machines and equipment, up 8.7%.

Energy products imports rose 13.1% to \$3.1 billion on the strength of crude petroleum, and coal and other related products. Imports of crude petroleum increased 10.1% as prices grew 16.3%. Volumes fell 5.4% as inventories of crude petroleum remained high. Imports of coal and other related products, namely natural gas, grew in November as a result of rising volumes.

Imports of industrial goods and materials declined 2.9% to \$6.1 billion. Imports of precious metals, which had posted solid gains over the previous three months, fell 21.4% in November but remained 73.1% above the November 2008 value. Although the price of precious metals has risen 9.1% since November 2008, the gain was mainly due to a substantial 58.7% rise in volume. Imports of chemicals and plastics decreased 3.4%, mostly as a result of lower imports of pharmaceutical ingredients.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0057.

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

The November 2009 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 63, no. 11 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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-X, free).

For more information, 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 Mychèle Gagnon (613-951-0994), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

	November 2008	October 2009 ^r	November 2009	October to November 2009	November 2008 to November 2009
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current					
	\$ millions		% change		
Principal trading partners					
Exports					
United States	28,966	22,836	23,283	2.0	-19.6
Japan	1,129	791	743	-6.1	-34.2
European Union ¹	2,962	2,864	2,823	-1.4	-4.7
Other OECD countries ²	2,088	1,621	1,408	-13.1	-32.6
All other countries	4,031	3,125	3,324	6.4	-17.5
Total	39,177	31,237	31,582	1.1	-19.4
Imports					
United States	24,189	19,313	20,047	3.8	-17.1
Japan	1,096	757	776	2.5	-29.2
European Union ¹	4,053	3,418	3,412	-0.2	-15.8
Other OECD countries ²	2,397	1,960	2,283	16.5	-4.8
All other countries	6,394	5,287	5,408	2.3	-15.4
Total	38,129	30,734	31,926	3.9	-16.3
Balance					
United States	4,777	3,523	3,236	...	...
Japan	33	34	-33	...	...
European Union ¹	-1,091	-554	-589	...	...
Other OECD countries ²	-309	-339	-875	...	...
All other countries	-2,363	-2,162	-2,084	...	...
Total	1,048	503	-344	...	...
Principal commodity groupings					
Exports					
Agricultural and fishing products	3,623	2,848	2,947	3.5	-18.7
Energy products	8,511	6,921	7,350	6.2	-13.6
Forestry products	2,125	1,573	1,613	2.5	-24.1
Industrial goods and materials	8,980	7,168	6,988	-2.5	-22.2
Machinery and equipment	8,327	6,167	6,151	-0.3	-26.1
Automotive products	4,895	4,179	4,124	-1.3	-15.8
Other consumer goods	1,466	1,445	1,505	4.2	2.7
Special transactions trade ³	714	516	497	-3.7	-30.4
Other balance of payments adjustments	536	421	407	-3.3	-24.1
Imports					
Agricultural and fishing products	2,560	2,378	2,429	2.1	-5.1
Energy products	3,974	2,784	3,148	13.1	-20.8
Forestry products	244	192	195	1.6	-20.1
Industrial goods and materials	7,837	6,320	6,137	-2.9	-21.7
Machinery and equipment	11,259	8,451	8,816	4.3	-21.7
Automotive products	5,793	4,841	5,296	9.4	-8.6
Other consumer goods	5,243	4,694	4,696	0.0	-10.4
Special transactions trade ³	467	399	514	28.8	10.1
Other balance of payments adjustments	752	675	694	2.8	-7.7

^r revised

... not applicable

1. The European Union 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 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 country of origin.

Note: Totals may not equal the sum of their components.



New Housing Price Index

November 2009

The New Housing Price Index rose 0.4% in November following a 0.3% increase in October. The monthly index has been steadily increasing since July 2009.

Between October and November, prices increased the most in St. Catharines–Niagara (+1.4%), Québec (+0.9%) and St. John's (+0.7%) and Windsor (+0.7%).

In Québec, St John's and St. Catharines–Niagara, prices rose as builders reported higher material and labour costs. In the latter metropolitan area, the increase in prices was also attributed to improving market conditions.

In Windsor, a number of builders reported improving market conditions, which led to higher prices.

Of the 21 metropolitan areas surveyed, 3 recorded monthly declines in new housing prices: Hamilton (-0.2%), Saskatoon (-0.2%) and Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay (-0.1%).

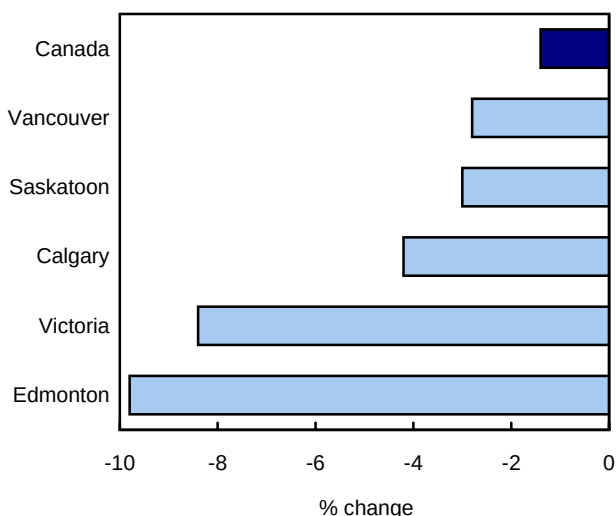
In Hamilton, some builders offered discounts and negotiated lower selling prices in order to generate sales.

Lower material and labour costs contributed to the decrease of new housing prices in Saskatoon.

Year over year, the New Housing Price Index was down 1.4% in November following a 2.1% decline in October 2009. New housing prices continued to fall in Western Canada, albeit at a slower pace than in previous months.

On the Prairies, 12-month declines were recorded in Edmonton (-9.8%), Calgary (-4.2%) and Saskatoon (-3.0%).

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year (cities with the smallest or negative change)

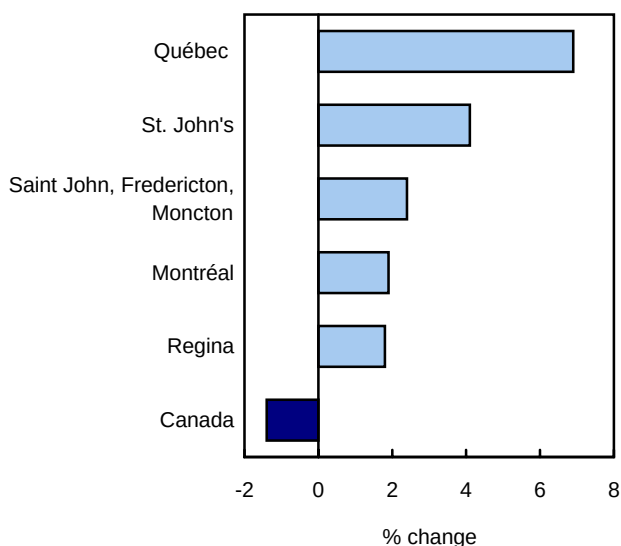


Year-over-year declines were also reported in the West Coast cities of Victoria (-8.4%) and Vancouver (-2.8%).

For the second consecutive month, the largest year-over-year increase was registered in Québec (+6.9%). Higher residential land values remained the primary reason for the advance.

On a year-over-year basis, prices also increased in St. John's (+4.1%) and in Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton (+2.4%). Contractors' selling prices were also higher in Montréal (+1.9%) and Regina (+1.8%).

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year (cities with the largest positive change)



Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.

The third quarter 2009 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-3902; toll-free 1-866-230-2248; fax: 613-951-3117; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca), Producer Prices Division. □

New housing price indexes

	November 2009	November 2008 to November 2009	October to November 2009
	(1997=100)	% change	
Canada total	155.4	-1.4	0.4
House only	164.0	-1.1	0.5
Land only	137.9	-2.3	0.2
St. John's	184.4	4.1	0.7
Charlottetown	120.4	0.8	0.0
Halifax	151.1	0.7	0.3
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton	121.1	2.4	0.1
Québec	170.4	6.9	0.9
Montréal	166.8	1.9	0.4
Ottawa-Gatineau	171.4	1.3	0.0
Toronto and Oshawa	147.0	0.4	0.5
Hamilton	151.0	-0.9	-0.2
St. Catharines-Niagara	157.4	1.2	1.4
London	145.1	1.3	0.5
Kitchener	143.8	0.9	0.5
Windsor	104.0	0.4	0.7
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay	112.6	-0.1	-0.1
Winnipeg	183.5	1.2	0.1
Regina	253.1	1.8	0.1
Saskatoon	213.0	-3.0	-0.2
Calgary	233.6	-4.2	0.4
Edmonton	207.0	-9.8	0.1
Vancouver	117.2	-2.8	0.3
Victoria	106.3	-8.4	0.0

Note: View the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas online.

Export and import price indexes

November 2009

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a customs or balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to November 2009 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (2002=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to November 2009. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0057.

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

The November 2009 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 63, no. 11 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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

Chain Fisher real export and import values

November 2009

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

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0056 and 228-0057.

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

The November 2009 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 63, no. 11 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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

Domestic travel

Second quarter 2009 (preliminary)

The preliminary data of domestic travel from the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada for the second quarter of 2009 are now available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

For more information, or to obtain data, contact Client Services (613-951-9169; toll-free 1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-2909; tourism@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marinka Ménard (613-951-9602; fax: 613-951-2909; marinka.menard@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division. ■

New products and studies

Study: Insights on the Canadian Economy:
"Differences in Canadian and US Income
Levels, 1961 to 2008", no. 25
Catalogue number 11-624-M2010025 (PDF, free;
HTML, free)

Building Permits, November 2009, Vol. 53, no. 11
Catalogue number 64-001-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
November 2009, Vol. 63, no. 11
Catalogue number 65-001-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Study: Crime and Justice Research Paper
Series: "Parenting, School Contexts and Violent
Delinquency", 2006, no. 19
Catalogue number 85-561-M2010019 (PDF, free;
HTML, 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.

How to order products

To order by phone, please refer to:

- The title
 - The catalogue number
 - The volume number
 - The issue number
 - Your credit card number.
- From Canada and the United States, call: **1-800-267-6677**
From other countries, call: **1-613-951-2800**
To fax your order, call: **1-877-287-4369**
For address changes or account inquiries, call: **1-877-591-6963**

To order by mail, write to: Statistics Canada, Finance, 6th floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, K1A 0T6.
Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers
add 5% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet, write to: infostats@statcan.gc.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's
website (www.statcan.gc.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to listproc@statcan.gc.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2010. All rights reserved. The content of this electronic publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part, and by any means, without further permission from Statistics Canada, subject to the following conditions: that it be done solely for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary, and/or for non-commercial purposes; and that Statistics Canada be fully acknowledged as follows: Source (or "Adapted from", if appropriate): Statistics Canada, year of publication, name of product, catalogue number, volume and issue numbers, reference period and page(s). Otherwise, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, by any means—electronic, mechanical or photocopy—or for any purposes without prior written permission of Licensing Services, Client Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.