

## **SECTION II**

It can be useful to compare our trading partners' trade statistics for our bilateral trade with the Canadian statistics. Often the two sets of numbers will be quite different. This comparison provides an estimate of errors in export reporting and shows the trading partner's perception of our trade relationship.

**Note that this section is not necessary for U.S.-Canada trade statistics, as Canada and the United States already use each other's merchandise import statistics to measure bilateral exports.**

### **Where to Find the Numbers:**

The IMF *Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook* and the *Bank of Canada Review* are available in the DFAIT library.

### **Directions:**

1. This section should be used if there is confidence that our trading partner's trade statistics are fairly accurate.
2. Take the trading partner's import and export statistics for trade with Canada from the IMF *Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook*. These numbers are given in US dollars.
3. If these import and export numbers have a letter or asterisk beside them, they are estimates based on Canadian statistics and should not be used.
4. Convert the US dollar numbers from the Yearbook into Canadian dollars using the average noon spot exchange rate for that year from the *Bank of Canada Review*.
5. Calculate the trade balance using the resulting import and export numbers.
6. Calculate percentage change for the years shown.
7. Cite the sources used.