INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Statistical Handbook is to provide ready access to published international trade and trade-related data which are of most relevance and use in the on-going debate and discussion of the bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations currently underway. The Statistical Handbook is intended to provide statistics for a person with an interest in these negotiations, and is not intended for the specialist wishing to obtain detailed analytical data. Consequently the statistics consist largely of the most recent annual data and are selective — to have provided all of the available published trade statistics would simply swamp the typical user of this handbook in reams of detailed tables. Nevertheless, the selected data do provide provincial, industrial and commodity details.

The Statistical Handbook is divided into five major parts, each in turn focusing on basic economic data, basic trade data, trade-related data, data on specific major issues being covered in the negotiations, and data for a number of industries. Sources are clearly cited throughout, and necessary explanatory notes to the statistics are provided.

A. Basic Economic Data

In the first table, comparable data on population, labour force, output and trade are provided for Canada and nine of its major trading partners. The remaining tables provide information on Canada's population, employment and output by major industry and by province, as well as nationally.

B. Basic Trade Data

Canada's current account data and exchange rates are provided, along with a summary table showing the main components of the U.S. current account. The other tables present the main categories of Canadian merchandise exports and imports by province, as well as the main commodities exported.

C. Trade-Related Data

The initial two tables summarize the main elements of Canada's investment abroad, and of foreign investment in Canada. The remaining table provides examples of some of the high and low rates of tariffs of Canada and the United States.