

### *Agriculture and fishing, energy and forestry products:*

- ❑ In 1999, exports of agriculture, fishing, energy and forestry products combined rose 12.6 percent to \$94.8 billion. This represented 26.3 percent of total goods exports, down from 31.8 percent in 1989.
- ❑ Imports in these sectors rose 9.1 percent to \$31 billion.
- ❑ The combined surplus in these sectors reached \$63.8 billion in 1999, up from \$55.8 billion in 1998.

### *Industrial goods and materials:*

- ❑ Exports of industrial goods (which includes intermediate inputs such as metals, chemicals, plastics and fertilizers) decreased 0.9 percent, despite volume gains, in part due to weak metals prices.
- ❑ Imports of these products rose 3.1 percent to reach \$62.1 billion.

### *Consumer goods:*

- ❑ Growth in exports of consumer products in 1999 amounted to 9.4 percent. This performance capped a decade of exceptional growth in exports of consumer goods, albeit from a relatively small base. Over this 10-year period, exports of consumer goods rose a cumulative 415 percent, leading all sectors. Most of this growth was accounted for by sales into the strong U.S. market.
- ❑ Buoyant consumption in Canada translated into strong demand for imports of consumer goods.
- ❑ Canada typically runs a deficit in consumer goods trade; in 1999, the deficit widened further.

### *Automotive products:*

- ❑ Automotive exports rose 24.2 percent (almost double the 1998 growth rate of 12.2 percent) to \$96.1 billion in 1999. In part, the strong performance reflected new models coming on stream in Canada for which demand was particularly strong. Partly, however, it also reflected the effect of the General Motors strike that depressed export levels in 1998. Of particular note was the 20.6 percent expansion of Canada's sales to the rest of the world (i.e. excluding the United States).
- ❑ Imports rose 13.7 percent to \$75.9 billion as domestic sales of new vehicles rose to 1.54 million units in 1999, up 7.9 percent compared with 1998. Sales for 1999 fell just short of the all-time record of 1.56 million vehicles sold in 1988. Both passenger cars and trucks contributed to the 1999 increase, with passenger car sales rising by 8.9 percent compared with 1998, while the increase for trucks was 6.9 percent.

