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## TRADE AND INVESTMENT



### ***Canada–Democratic Republic of the Congo***

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The Library of Parliament ***Trade and Investment*** series provides information on Canada's trade and investment relationship with selected countries. Particular attention is paid to bilateral merchandise trade, trade in services, and foreign investment. These publications are prepared by the Parliamentary Information and Research Service, which carries out research for and provides information and analysis to parliamentarians and Senate and House of Commons committees and parliamentary associations.

\* Émilie Gravelle, formerly of the Library of Parliament, contributed to the preparation of this document.

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## Merchandise Trade

In 2010, Canada's bilateral merchandise trade with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) totalled \$14.8 million, consisting of \$14.0 million in exports to, and approximately \$0.8 million in imports from, the DRC. Canadian imports from the DRC have been negligible every year since 1998, when they were valued at \$0.

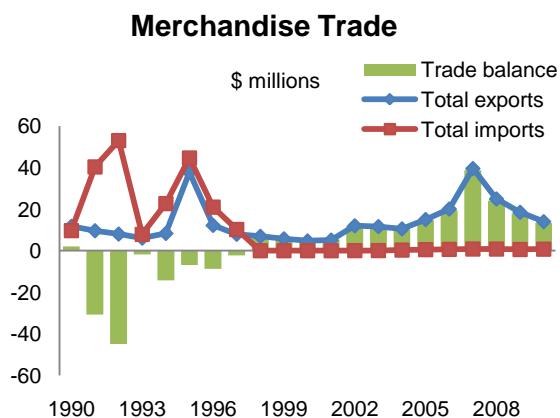
The DRC was Canada's 133<sup>rd</sup> largest export destination in the world in 2010, and the 21<sup>st</sup> largest in Africa (excluding the Middle East). The same year, the DRC was Canada's 157<sup>th</sup> most important source of imports in the world, and the 33<sup>rd</sup> most important in Africa (excluding the Middle East).

Prior to the beginning of the civil war in 1996, the DRC, which was known as Zaire at the time, was a more important trading partner to Canada than it is today. Canada's bilateral trade with Zaire peaked in 1995, when it totalled almost \$82.4 million, consisting of \$37.7 million in exports to, and \$44.6 million in imports from, the country. That same year, Zaire was Canada's fifth most important export destination in Africa (excluding the Middle East), and its sixth most important source of imports in the region (excluding the Middle East).

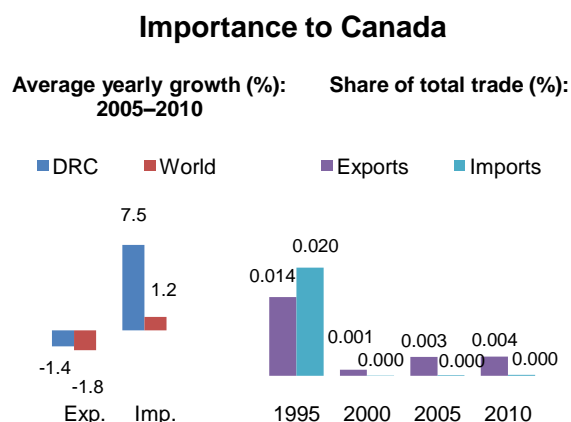
Ontario is by far the largest provincial exporter to the DRC, with the province's exports accounting for 73% of Canadian exports, for a value of \$10.1 million in 2010. Quebec was the second largest provincial exporter in that year, with exports valued at \$2.4 million, which represented 18% of Canada's total exports to the DRC.

Alberta has been Canada's fastest-growing provincial exporter to the DRC in recent years. Exports from Alberta had an average annual growth rate of 25% between 2005 and 2010. By comparison, exports from Ontario grew at an average annual rate of 3% over the same period.

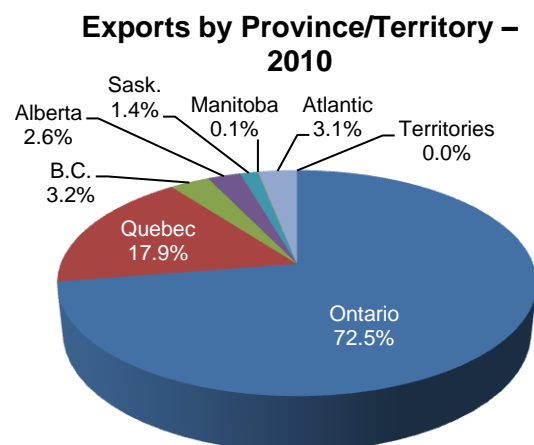
### Figure 1



### Figure 2



### Figure 3



All figures were prepared by the author using Statistics Canada annual figures as of spring 2011.

The merchandise trade data are customs-based; the services trade and foreign direct investment data are balance of payments-based.

## Products

In 2010, Canadian exports to the DRC were comprised mostly of worn clothing and other worn textile articles, which were valued at \$10.1 million and represented 72% of exports. Exports of motor vehicles and parts were valued at \$1.6 million dollars, while exports of machinery and equipment were valued at \$0.8 million.

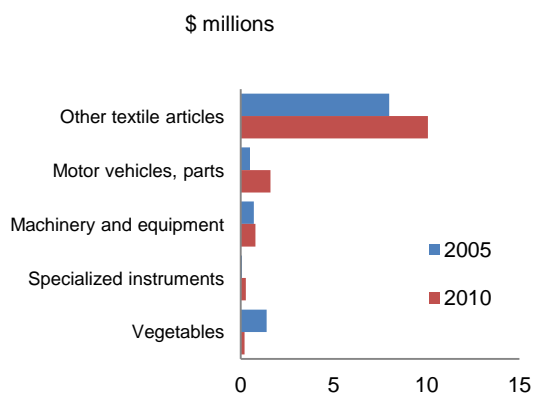
The main products imported from the DRC in 2010 were wood and wood articles, valued at \$0.6 million, and toys and games, valued at \$0.1 million.

In 2010, Canada was a net exporter in almost all major product categories.

*Data on trade in services and on foreign direct investment between Canada and the DRC are not available.*

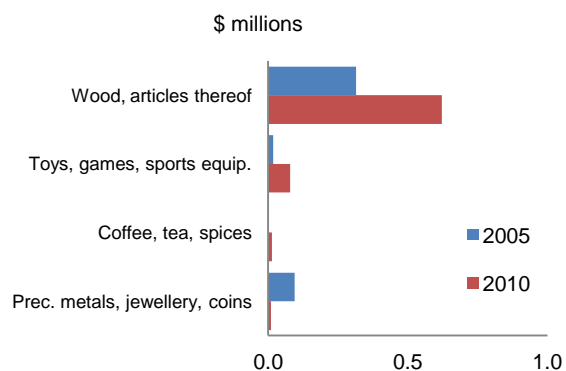
### Figure 4

#### Major Export Products



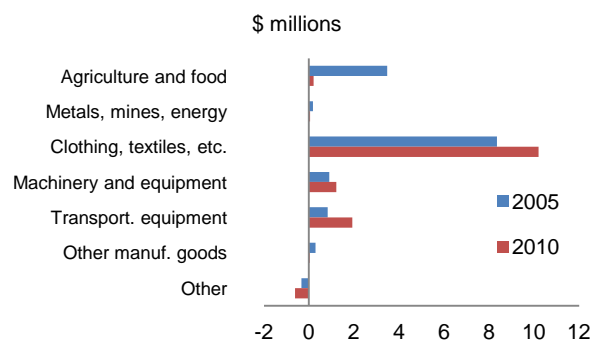
### Figure 5

#### Major Import Products



### Figure 6

#### Balance by Category



All figures were prepared by the author using Statistics Canada annual figures as of spring 2011.

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