Canada–France

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Merchandise Trade

In 2011, Canada–France merchandise trade totalled more than $8.6 billion, comprised of $3.1 billion in Canadian exports to, and $5.6 billion in imports from, France.

The value of Canada’s exports to France increased by 31.1% between 2010 and 2011, while the value of Canada’s imports from the country grew by 2.1%.

France was Canada’s 9th-largest export destination worldwide in 2011. In that year, it was Canada’s 8th-largest source of imports globally.

Over the 2006 to 2011 period, the value of Canada’s exports to France grew at an average annual rate of 1.3%, compared to 0.3% worldwide. The value of Canada’s exports to the country as a share of the value of Canada’s total exports in 2011, as in 2006, was 0.7%.

The value of Canada’s imports from France increased at an average annual rate of 1.4% over the 2006 to 2011 period, compared to 2.4% worldwide. The value of Canada’s imports from the country as a share of the value of Canada’s total imports decreased from 1.3% in 2006 to 1.2% in 2011.

At the provincial/territorial level, Quebec and Ontario together accounted for 73.7% of the value of Canada’s exports to France in 2011, with exports valued at $1.4 billion and $839.2 million respectively.

Over the 2006 to 2011 period, the fastest-growing provincial/territorial exporters to France were Yukon, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador, with average annual growth rates of 90.6%, 67.5% and 38.5% respectively.
In 2011, manufactured goods accounted for 84.2% of the value of Canada’s exports to France, with resource-based goods representing the remaining 15.8%. This composition had changed somewhat since 2006, when manufactured goods and resource-based goods accounted for 94.0% and 6.0% respectively of the value of Canada’s exports to the country.

Canada’s highest-valued exports to France in 2011 were turbojets, iron ores and aircraft, which together accounted for 32.0% of the value of Canada’s exports to the country. The value of Canadian turbojet, iron ore and aircraft exports to France increased from $262.2 million, $56.2 million and $100.8 million respectively in 2006 to $403.2 million, $326.0 million and $257.6 million respectively in 2011.

In 2011, manufactured goods represented 99.1% of the value of Canada’s imports from France, a proportion that was consistent with 2006, when manufactured goods accounted for 99.7% of the value of Canada’s imports from the country. Resource-based goods represented 0.3% and 0.9% of the value of Canada’s imports from the country in 2006 and 2011 respectively.

Canada’s highest-valued imports from France in 2011 were medication, aircraft and wine, which together accounted for 27.8% of the value of Canada’s imports from the country. The value of Canadian medication, aircraft and wine imports from France increased from $584.4 million, $197.3 million and $375.2 million respectively in 2006 to $673.0 million, $434.0 million and $434.0 million respectively in 2011.

In 2011, Canada had a trade surplus with France in the metals, mines and energy category; it had trade deficits with the country in all other product categories.

All figures were prepared using 2011 data, based on Statistics Canada annual figures released in spring 2012. The merchandise trade data are customs-based; the services trade and foreign direct investment data are balance of payments-based.
In 2009, the most recent year for which data are available, Canada–France services trade totalled $4.1 billion, comprised of $1.9 billion in Canadian exports to, and $2.2 billion in imports from, France.

The value of Canada’s services exports to France increased by 0.8% from 2008 to 2009, while the value of Canada’s services imports from the country decreased by 12.4% over the period.

In 2009, Canada’s services trade deficit with France was the result of trade in travel services as well as in transportation and government services. In that year, Canada imported $955.0 million in travel services from France, and exported $725.0 million in such services to the country; it imported $589.0 million in transportation and government services from France, and exported $405.0 million in such services to France. Canada had a trade surplus with France in commercial services in 2009.

The stock of Canadian direct investment in France totalled $5.0 billion in 2011, making it Canada’s 19th-largest destination for foreign investment abroad. Canadian direct investment in the country increased by 8.1% between 2010 and 2011.

In 2011, the stock of French direct investment in Canada totalled $15.3 billion, making it the 7th-largest source of foreign investment in Canada. French direct investment in Canada decreased by 11.5% between 2010 and 2011.

All figures were prepared using 2011 data, based on Statistics Canada annual figures released in spring 2012. The merchandise trade data are customs-based; the services trade and foreign direct investment data are balance of payments-based.