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Alberta's Merchandise Trade with the World

Publication No. 2013-32-E
10 July 2013

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Parliamentary Information and Research Service

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Alberta's Merchandise Trade with the World
(Trade and Investment Series)

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Ce document est également publié en français.

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Merchandise Trade

In 2012, Alberta's trade with the world was valued at \$122.7 billion, comprised of \$95.4 billion in exports from Alberta to, and \$27.3 billion in imports to the province from, the world.

The value of Alberta's exports increased by 1.8% between 2011 and 2012, while the value of the province's imports grew by 9.6%.

Alberta was Canada's second largest provincial/territorial exporter in 2012. In that year, it was Canada's fourth largest provincial/territorial importer.

Over the 2007 to 2012 period, the value of Alberta's exports increased at an average annual rate of 3.0%, compared to 0.2% for Canada's global exports. The value of the province's exports as a share of the value of Canada's global exports increased from 18.3% in 2007 to 21.0% in 2012.

The value of Alberta's imports increased at an average annual rate of 8.0% over the 2007 to 2012 period, compared to 2.6% for Canada's global imports. The value of the province's imports as a share of the value of Canada's global imports grew from 4.5% in 2007 to 5.9% in 2012.

In 2011, the most recent year for which data are available, the value of Alberta's merchandise exports as a proportion of the province's gross domestic product (GDP) was 31.7%. In that year, the value of Canada's global merchandise exports as a proportion of the country's GDP was 25.4%.

The value of Alberta's merchandise imports as a proportion of the province's GDP was 8.4% in 2011. In that year, the value of Canada's global merchandise imports as a proportion of the country's GDP was 25.3%.

Figure 1

Merchandise Trade

(\$ billions)

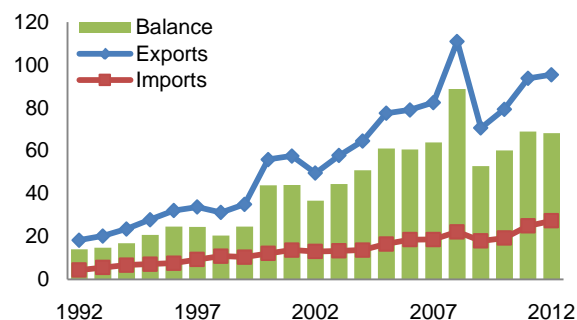


Figure 2

Importance to Canada

Average yearly growth (%): Share of Canada's trade (%):
2007–2012

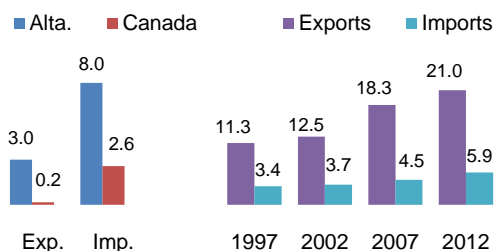
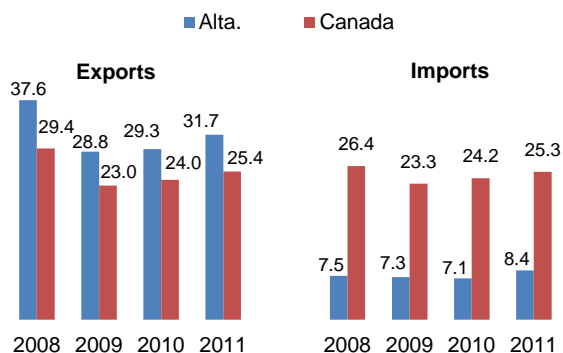


Figure 3

Merchandise Trade as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product



All figures were prepared using Statistics Canada data available in spring 2013. The merchandise trade data are customs-based.

Products

In 2012, resource-based goods accounted for 74.5% of the value of Alberta's exports, with manufactured goods representing the remaining 25.5%. This composition had changed slightly since 2007, when resource-based goods and manufactured goods accounted for 70.2% and 29.8% respectively of the value of the province's exports.

Alberta's highest-valued export in 2012 was crude petroleum oil, which accounted for 59.7% of the value of the province's exports. The value of Alberta's crude petroleum oil exports increased from \$28.2 billion in 2007 to \$56.9 billion in 2012.

In 2012, manufactured goods represented 90.7% of the value of Alberta's imports, with resource-based goods accounting for the remaining 9.3%. This composition was similar to that of 2007, when manufactured goods and resource-based goods represented 88.6% and 11.4% respectively of the value of the province's imports.

Alberta's highest-valued imports in 2012 were refined oil, natural gases and taps, valves and similar devices, which together accounted for 21.1% of the value of the province's imports. The value of Alberta's imports of refined oil and taps, valves and similar devices increased from \$142.2 million and \$362.4 million respectively in 2007 to \$3.7 billion and \$726.8 million respectively in 2012. In both years, the value of the province's imports of natural gases was \$1.3 billion.

In 2012, Alberta had a trade surplus with the world in the product categories of metals, mines and energy, agriculture and food, forest products and other manufactured goods. It had a trade deficit with the world in the product categories of machinery and equipment, transportation equipment and other products in that year.

Figure 4

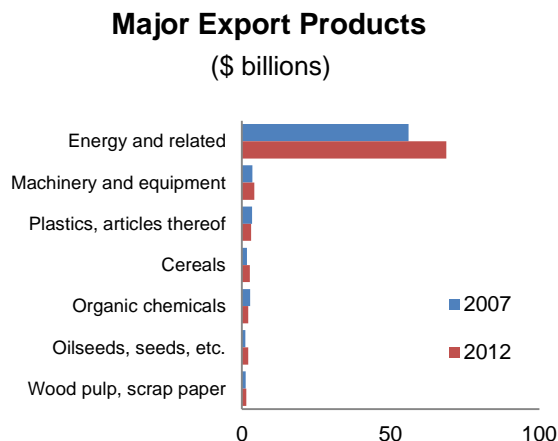


Figure 5

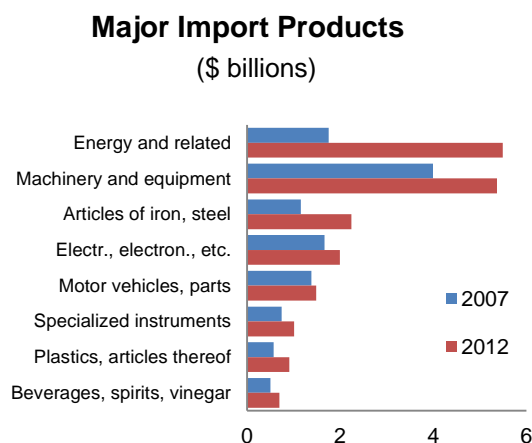
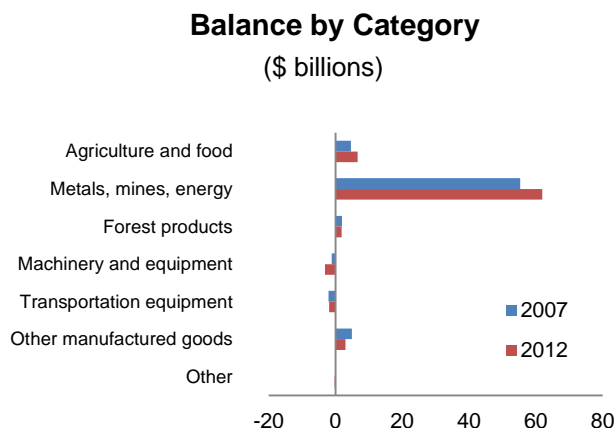


Figure 6



All figures were prepared using Statistics Canada data available in spring 2013. The merchandise trade data are customs-based.

Trading Partners

In 2012, the United States was Alberta's most significant export destination, with exports valued at \$82.0 billion. The country accounted for 86.0% of the value of Alberta's exports in that year, a proportion that was virtually the same in 2007.

China, Japan, Mexico and South Korea were also among the top five destinations for Alberta's exports in 2012. Together, these four countries accounted for 7.6% of the value of the province's exports in that year, compared to 7.3% in 2007.

In 2012, the United States was Alberta's most significant source of imports, with imports valued at \$17.9 billion. The country accounted for 65.6% of the value of Alberta's imports in that year, compared to 68.8% in 2007.

China, Mexico, Germany and the United Kingdom were also among the top five sources of Alberta's imports in 2012. Together, these four countries accounted for 19.2% of the value of the province's imports in that year, compared to 15.7% in 2007.

In 2012, Alberta had trade surpluses with all regions except Europe, with which it had a trade deficit.

Figure 7

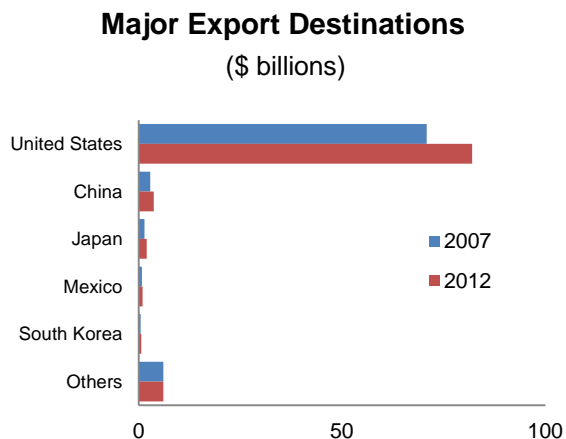


Figure 8

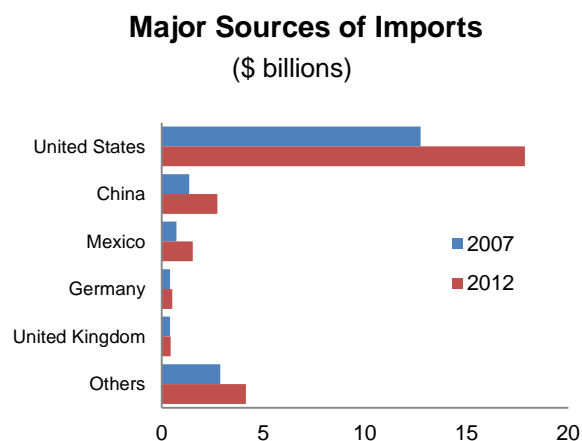
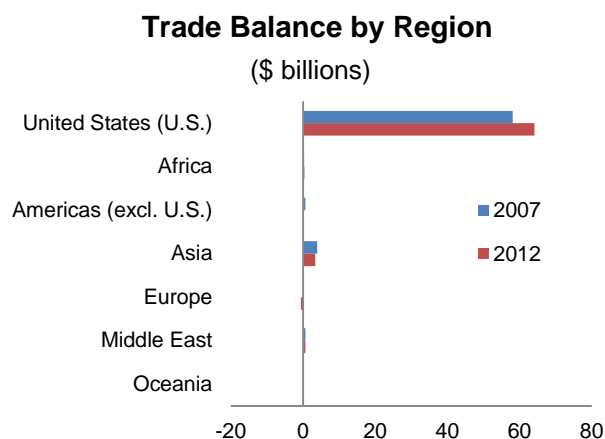


Figure 9



All figures were prepared using Statistics Canada data available in spring 2013. The merchandise trade data are customs-based.