



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE WITH THE WORLD



NOTES

The Library of Parliament Trade and Investment series provides information on Canada's trade and investment relationship with the world and with selected countries. It also describes the trade relationship of each of Canada's 10 provinces and three territories with the world.

All figures were prepared using Statistics Canada data available in summer 2016, with three exceptions: "Share of Global Merchandise Exports and Imports," "Exports as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product" and "Imports as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product." Those three figures use merchandise trade data from the World Trade Organization and gross domestic product (GDP) data from the International Monetary Fund.

To see the data tables used to generate the figures, view the HTML version of this paper at [Trade and Investment Series 2015](#).

The merchandise trade data are customs-based. Numbers in this paper have been rounded.

Definitions appear at the end of this paper.

All dollar amounts are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

The five most highly valued merchandise exports and imports categories have been identified based on 2015 values.

Dylan Gowans

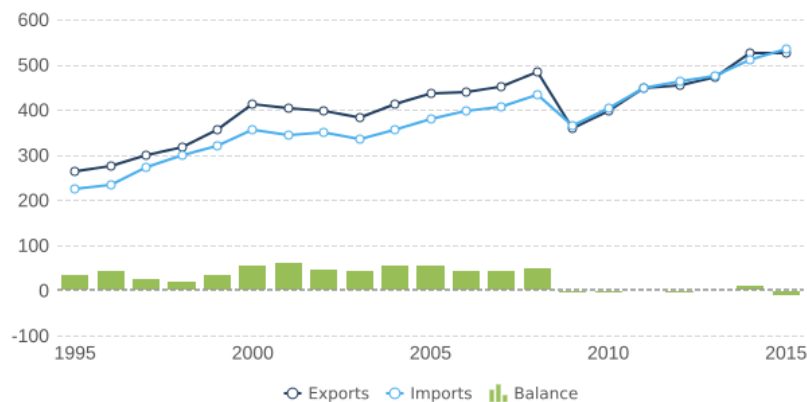
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CANADA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE WITH THE WORLD

Merchandise Trade

(\$ billions)

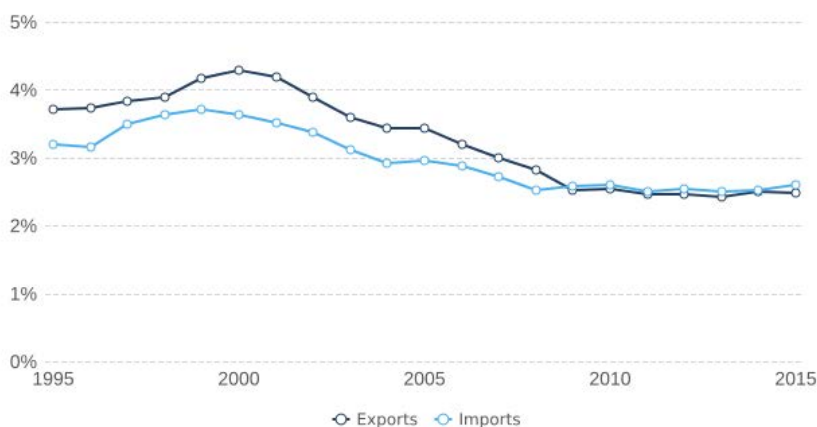


Canada's merchandise trade with the world in 2015: \$1.1 trillion

- Exports: \$524.1 billion, a 0.2% decrease from 2014
- Imports: \$535.7 billion, a 4.6% increase from 2014

Trade deficit in 2015: \$11.7 billion, a decrease from a trade surplus of \$12.9 billion in 2014

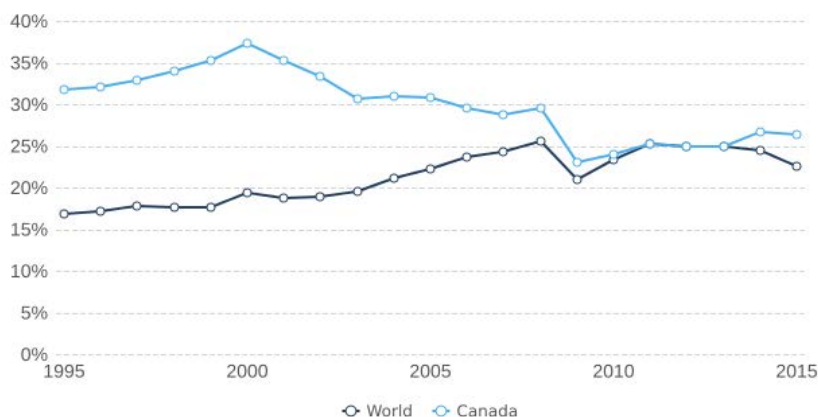
Share of the Total Value of Global Merchandise Trade



Exports in 2015: 2.5% of the total value of global merchandise exports, unchanged from 2014

Imports in 2015: 2.6% of the total value of global merchandise imports, an increase from 2.5% in 2014

Exports as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product

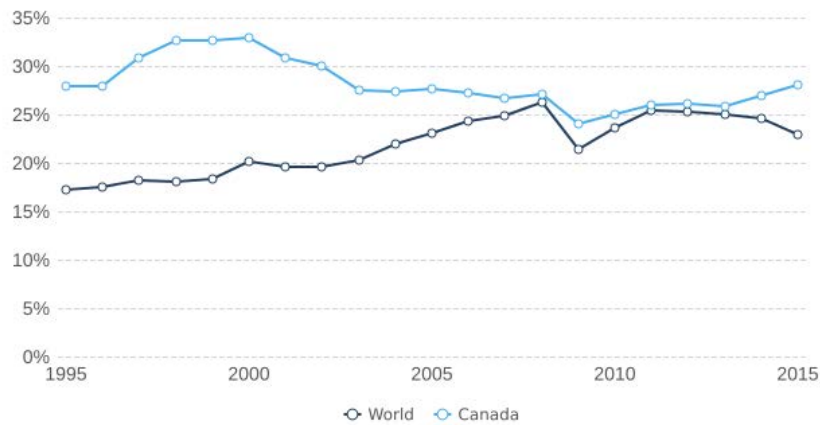


Canada's exports as a percentage of Canadian GDP in 2015: 26.3%, a decrease from 26.6% in 2014

Global exports as a percentage of global GDP in 2015: 22.5%, a decrease from 24.4% in 2014

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE WITH THE WORLD

Imports as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product

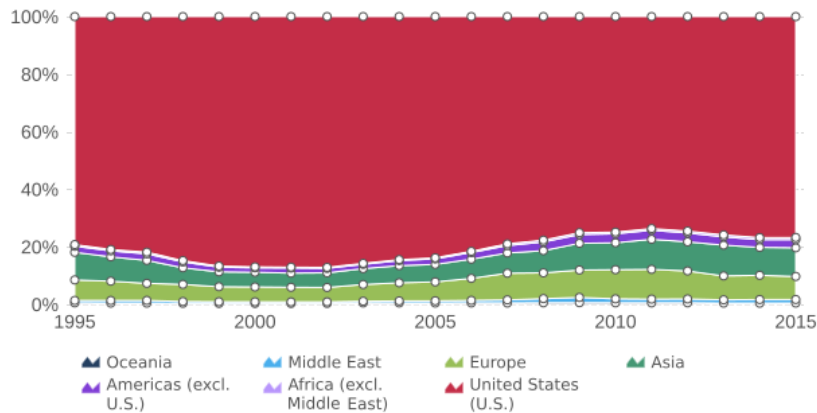


Canada's imports as a percentage of Canadian GDP in 2015: 28.1%, an increase from 26.9% in 2014

Global imports as a percentage of global GDP in 2015: 22.9%, a decrease from 24.5% in 2014

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE DESTINATIONS AND SOURCES

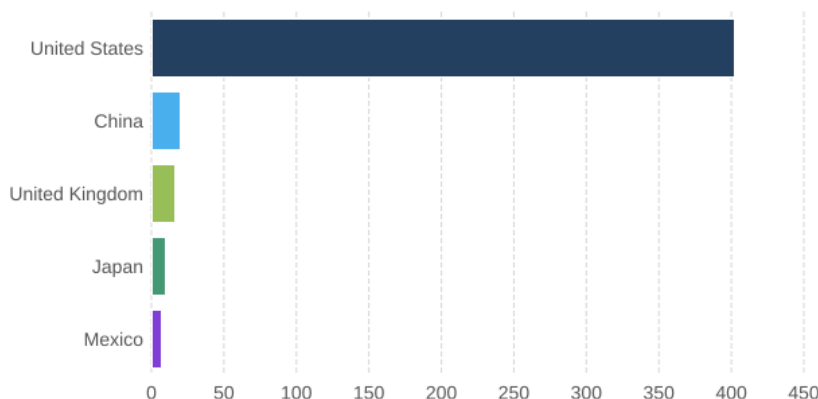
Destinations for Exports by Region



Major destinations for merchandise exports, by region, in 2015:

- United States – 76.7%, with a value of \$402.2 billion
- Asia – 10.0%, with a value of \$52.2 billion
- Europe – 8.0%, with a value of \$42.0 billion
- Americas (excluding the United States) – 2.8%, with a value of \$14.8 billion
- Middle East – 1.2%, with a value of \$6.4 billion

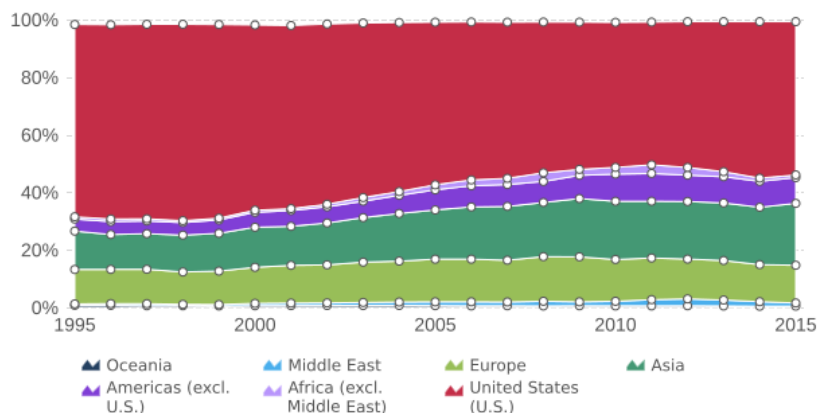
Major Destinations for Exports by Country (\$ billions)



Major destinations for merchandise exports, by country, in 2015:

- United States – 76.7%
- China – 3.9%
- United Kingdom – 3.0%
- Japan – 1.9%
- Mexico – 1.3%

Sources of Imports by Region

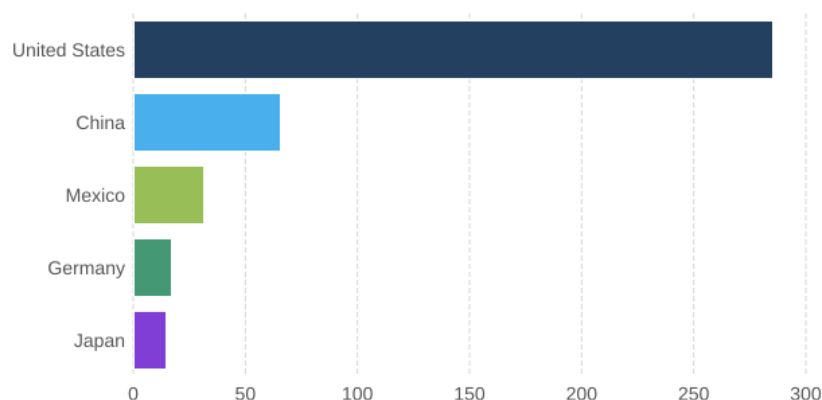


Major sources of merchandise imports, by region, in 2015:

- United States – 53.2%, with a value of \$285.2 billion
- Asia – 21.5%, with a value of \$115.2 billion
- Europe – 13.1%, with a value of \$70.2 billion
- Americas (excluding the United States) – 9.0%, with a value of \$48.0 billion
- Middle East – 1.1%, with a value of \$5.8 billion

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE WITH THE WORLD

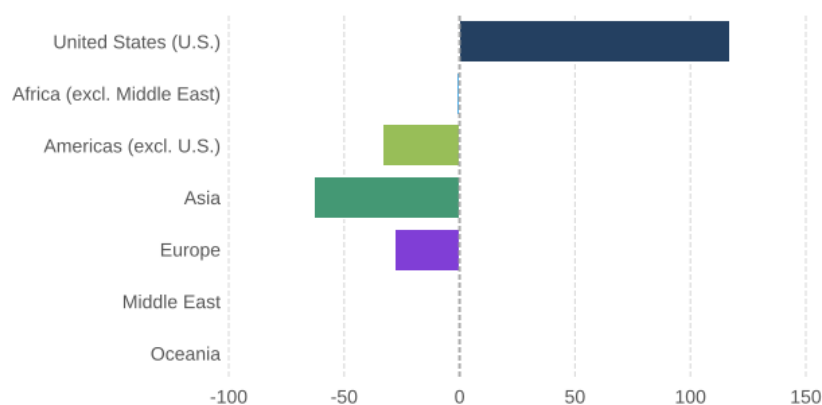
Major Sources of Imports by Country
(\$ billions)



Major sources of merchandise imports, by country, in 2015:

- United States – 53.2%
- China – 12.3%
- Mexico – 5.8%
- Germany – 3.2%
- Japan – 2.8%

Trade Balance by Region
(\$ billions)

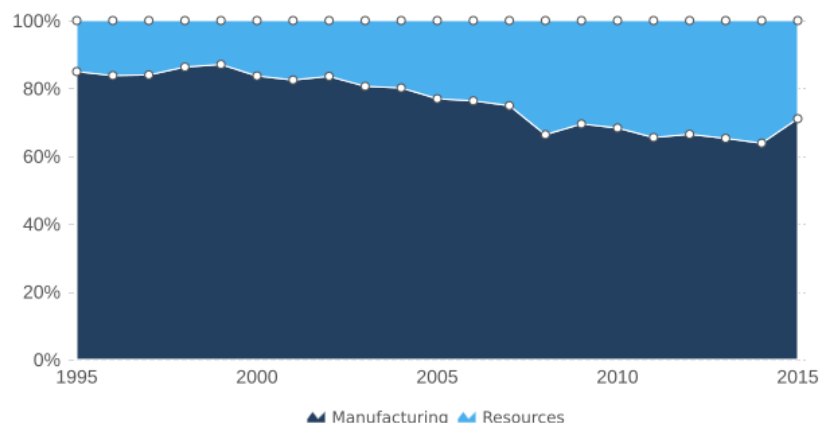


Largest merchandise trade deficit in 2015: Asia, at \$63.0 billion

Largest merchandise trade surplus in 2015: United States, at \$116.9 billion

CANADA'S TRADE IN PRODUCTS WITH THE WORLD

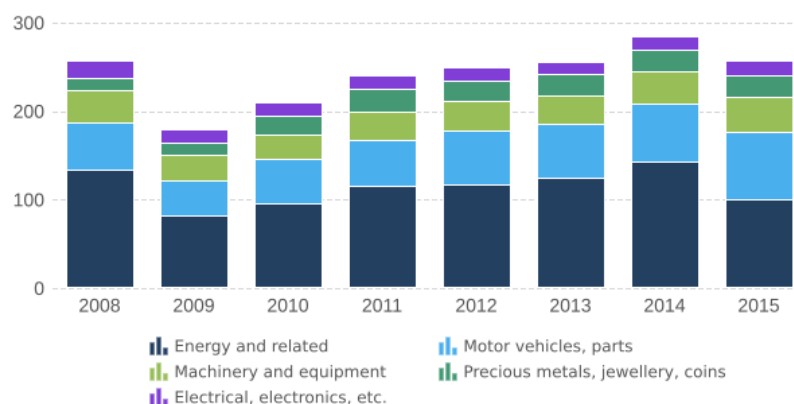
Share of Exports by Sector



Exports in 2015:

- Resource-based goods – 28.9%, a decrease from 36.2% in 2014
- Manufactured goods – 71.1%, an increase from 63.8% in 2014

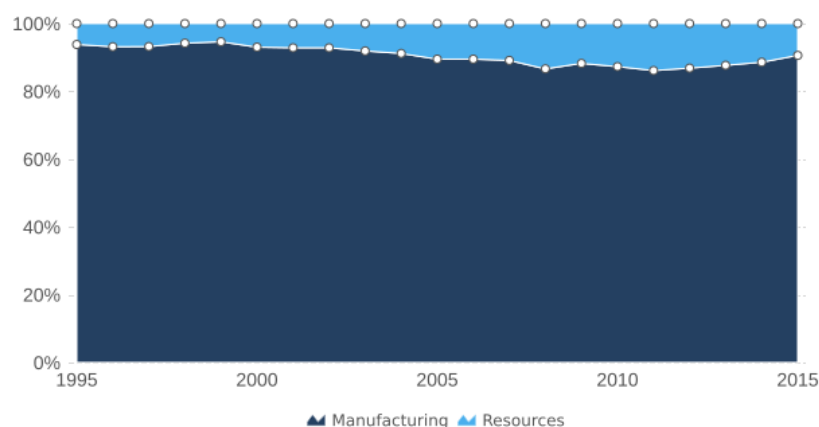
Most Highly Valued Exports by Product Category
(\$ billions)



Highest-valued exports in 2015:
Crude oil and motor vehicles,
together accounting for 23.2% of
the total value of Canadian exports

- Crude oil exports: \$64.1 billion, a decrease from \$97.4 billion in 2014
- Motor vehicle exports: \$57.4 billion, an increase from \$49.6 billion in 2014

Share of Imports by Sector



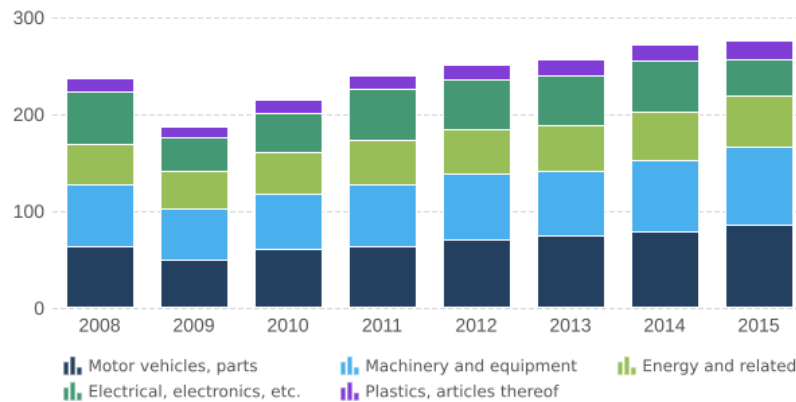
Imports in 2015:

- Resource-based goods – 9.4%, a decrease from 11.4% in 2014
- Manufactured goods – 90.6%, an increase from 88.6% in 2014

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE TRADE WITH THE WORLD

Most Highly Valued Imports by Product Category

(\$ billions)

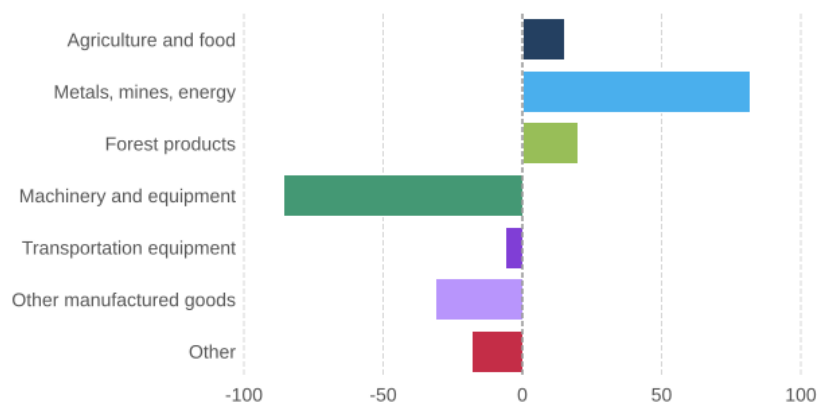


Highest-valued imports in 2015: Motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts, together accounting for 11.0% of the total value of Canadian imports

- Motor vehicle imports: \$33.6 billion, an increase from \$29.9 billion in 2014
- Motor vehicle part imports: \$25.4 billion, an increase from \$22.7 billion in 2014

Trade Balance by Product Category

(\$ billions)



Largest merchandise trade deficit in 2015: Machinery and equipment, at \$85.7 billion

Largest merchandise trade surplus in 2015: Metals, mines and energy, at \$82.1 billion

DEFINITIONS

Balance of trade: The trade balance is the difference between the value of exports and the value of imports. There is a trade surplus if the value of exports exceeds the value of imports. There is a trade deficit if the value of imports exceeds the value of exports.

Customs-based data: Customs-based data are compiled from declarations filed with the Canada Border Services Agency and are used to track the flow of goods into and out of Canada, with one exception: exports to the United States. Since 1990, customs-based data on Canadian exports to the United States have been based on declarations filed with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Gross domestic product (GDP): GDP measures an economy's total production in a given year. As one entity's income is another entity's spending, GDP is equal to the total value of final sales or to the total value of incomes.

Manufactured goods: Manufactured goods are finished or semi-finished products resulting from the transformation of materials and substances into new products (North American Industry Classification System, or NAICS, codes 31 to 33) and the output of establishments primarily engaged in operating electric, gas and water utilities (NAICS code 22).

Merchandise trade: Merchandise trade refers to trade in physical goods, such as cars, wheat and iron ore.

Resource-based goods: Resource-based goods are products of the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting sector (NAICS code 11), as well as the mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction sector (NAICS code 21).