

Trade

Canada and Mexico have only just begun to develop their trading partnership to its full potential. In 1991, Mexico ranked sixth as a source of imports to Canada and seventeenth as a destination for Canadian exports. Less than 1.4 percent of Canada's 1991 imports came from Mexico while less than 1 percent of Canada's exports went there. Even so, Canada enjoys trade relations with Mexico which are broader and more substantial than with any other country in Latin America. Two-way trade totalled more than \$3 billion* in 1991 (see Figure 3.1), and recent trends suggest that it could exceed \$5 billion annually by the year 2000.

Figure 3.1
Canada-Mexico Merchandise Trade
(\$'000s)

	Exports to Mexico	Imports from Mexico	Total Two-Way Trade
1985	398,740	1,325,999	1,724,739
1986	403,583	1,163,433	1,567,016
1987	530,168	1,165,406	1,695,574
1988	500,800	1,327,729	1,828,529
1989	603,100	1,698,400	2,301,500
1990	593,700	1,729,800	2,323,500
1991	524,544	2,574,000	3,098,544
1992 (first six months)	387,100	1,347,300	1,734,400

Source: Statistics Canada.

Figure 3.2
Canadian Exports to Mexico
(\$'000s)

	1990	1991	1991 Jan-June	1992 Jan-June
Motor vehicle parts	82,032	153,461	44,800	84,400
Iron and steel products	67,727	46,281	19,400	55,900
Aircraft and parts	39,091	18,583	1,400	20,800
Bituminous coal	0	2,178	0	15,200
Telecom equipment & parts	51,527	23,048	900	16,700
Newsprint	15,923	34,489	4,200	15,400
Asbestos	13,448	15,989	6,500	7,300
Milk powder	72,529	13,429	5,900	18,000
Sulphur	28,830	18,868	4,400	7,500
Rape or colza seeds	0	0	0	3,700
Meat & livestock	21,600	18,900	10,000	13,500
Wood pulp	27,543	15,299	8,300	4,100
Rubber articles	5,863	3,768	900	3,600
Paper products	10,995	18,888	n.a.	n.a.
Office/data process equipment	2,570	10,283	n.a.	n.a.
Pulses	5,715	0	n.a.	n.a.
Petroleum oils	5,106	16,109	16,100	0
Wheat	8,421	25,038	0	53,400
Others	134,450	89,936	84,900	67,600
Total	593,682	524,544	207,700	387,100

Source: Statistics Canada.

*Please note that all currencies in this publication are stated in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.