

CANADA

Capital: Ottawa

GEODATA

Area

9,970,000 km²

Population

30.3 million (1997)

Population growth rate

1.4% (1996 est.)

Official languages

English, French

Major religious groups

Roman Catholic (46%), United Church (16%),
Anglican (10%)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Constitutional monarchy

Democratic institutions

Federal state, bicameral parliament

Leader

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Lloyd Axworthy

Minister of Finance

Paul Martin

UN Human Development Index (1997)

Canada ranks 1st among 175 countries

ECONOMIC DATA

Nominal GDP

\$626.9 billion US (1997)

Real GDP growth rate

3.8% (1997)

Inflation rate

1.4% (1997)

Unemployment rate

8.5% (March 1998)

Main exports

\$301.6 billion (balance of payments basis, 1997),
including transportation equipment, capital equipment,
pulp and paper, fuels, wood, minerals and aluminum

Main imports

\$278 billion (balance of payments basis, 1997),
including transportation equipment, capital equipment,
electronics and plastics