

Is the picture that this data presents being distorted by the addition of countries to the EU over time²? To observe the evolution of merchandise trade exports from Canada to several of the key EU Member States, table 2.8 reproduces the data split down according to Member State. Table 2.9 goes on to reproduce the import data also split down by Member State.

Table 2.8
Canadian Exports to the EU by Member State
(in C\$ millions)

Year	Belgium	France	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	UK
1980	1,000	1,020	1,670	1,000	1,442	3,240
1981	856	1,010	1,320	928	1,208	3,360
1982	791	755	1,290	705	1,060	2,730
1983	714	654	1,180	569	975	2,510
1984	702	736	1,230	601	1,089	2,540
1985	722	743	1,230	542	956	2,480
1986	846	1,010	1,310	712	1,010	2,730
1987	1,170	1,090	1,610	869	1,072	3,030
1988	1,330	1,230	1,780	1,030	1,437	3,610
1989	1,430	1,320	1,890	1,130	1,599	3,570
1990	1,250	1,300	2,320	1,190	1,649	3,540
1991	1,100	1,420	2,430	1,070	1,726	3,040
1992	1,110	1,460	2,320	1,180	1,517	3,130
1993	1,040	1,320	2,570	969	1,383	2,980
1994	1,360	1,390	2,330	1,320	1,243	3,330
1995	1,860	1,950	3,310	1,840	1,664	3,880
1996	1,510	1,740	3,310	1,360	1,633	4,000

Sources: Statistics Canada CANSIM matrices 3694, 3695, 3696, 3697, 3698, 3693,

It is apparent that the trends of total exports to the EU are largely replicated on a country by country basis. In the table above, it is clear that the largest portion of Canadian exports to the EU go to the UK and Germany, but also compared with their size, a significant portion of Canada's exports go to Belgium and the Netherlands. The jump in exports in 1988 in the total figures is largely replicated in all countries, and it is particularly noteworthy that exports to Germany appear to have grown significantly between 1994 and 1995.

² Greece was added to the data from 1981 onwards, Portugal and Spain from 1986 onwards and Austria, Finland and Sweden from 1995 onwards.