

Within Canada, high-tech trade expansion is shared among the provinces, with Ontario as the largest exporter of high-tech products through 1999.¹⁰ Ontario's major high-tech exports are office and business machines, and pharmaceutical and medicinal products. Quebec, which used to track Ontario's performance, appears to have become Canada's largest provincial exporter of high-tech products in 2000.¹¹ In 2000, Quebec accounted for 43.4 percent of Canada's total exports of high-tech products, just more than 41.2 percent for Ontario (Figure B5). Next to Ontario, Alberta ranked third, as its share of Canada's total high-tech exports tripled from 3.1 percent in 1989 to 9.8 percent for January to November 2000, while British Columbia's export share also gained during the same period. Apparently, Quebec also has the biggest high-tech component, representing about 30 percent of its current dollar export bundle, with aircraft, aircraft engines and parts, communications and related equipment as key items (Figure B6). On the import

¹⁰ High-tech trade data by Canadian provinces were sourced from Statistics Canada's International Trade Division. The data measured on customs basis includes medicinal and pharmaceutical products; office machines and equipment; aircraft and associated parts; communications and related equipment; electrical lighting and distribution; navigation equipment; other measuring/controlling laboratory medical and optical equipment; and medical, ophthalmic and orthopaedic supplies. These data are available only in current dollars.

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¹¹ For practical purposes, data for 2000 are based on monthly information up to November.