

TABLE 6
Earning Assets by Leading Canadian Banks to Latin America,
the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East, 1986

(C\$ millions)

	Royal Bank of Canada	Bank of Montreal	Canadian Imperial Bank of Com- merce	Bank of Nova Scotia	Toronto- Dominion Bank	National Bank	TOTAL
Brazil	1,629	1,983	1,203	955	809	525	7,104
Mexico	1,557	1,810	1,036	1,213	937	588	7,141
Venezuela	720	n.a.	n.a.	539	n.a.	187	-
Argentina	479	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	174	-
Bahamas	669	n.a.	n.a.	479	n.a.	n.a.	-
Jamaica	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	620	n.a.	n.a.	-
Other Latin American & Caribbean	1,753	1,609	1,851	2,855	910	374	-
Total Latin American & Caribbean	6,802	5,402	4,090	6,661	2,670	1,848	27,473
Africa & Middle East	n.a.	174	163	309	57	118	821
Total earning assets in these two regions	6,802*	5,576	4,253	6,970	2,727	1,966	28,294
Total bank assets as of October 1986	99,607	87,180	80,841	64,013	51,447	27,872	410,960
These assets as a % of total assets	6.83	6.4	5.26	10.9	5.3	7.05	688 (avg.)

* excludes Africa and Middle East.

n.a. not available

Source: The annual reports of the six largest Canadian banks for 1986.

about C\$22 billion, since only a portion, less than 20 per cent, is problem debt. The principal borrowers — Japan, Australia, South Korea and Hong Kong — are quite able to service their debts. (There remains nevertheless debt probably in excess of C\$1 billion with some countries in this region that is at risk, a significant addition to the total problem debt owed to Canadian banks.) Nor is any breakdown published as is the case with debt owed by African countries — where most countries are in the “problem” category — or the Middle East — where Egypt is the main problem country. The important point to note, however, is that the levels of Canadian loans to Latin American and Caribbean countries are substantial.