

One way to assess the importance of resource-based products in Canada's export composition is to compile exports in broad product categories. Statistics Canada data can be aggregated into, for instance, four product groups: (1) agriculture and food products,⁵ (2) crude materials, (3) semi-manufactured and (4) end-product exports. The percentage of each category of total Canadian exports from 1963 to 1995 is presented in Table 2 below. The last column in Table 2 reports the percentage share of end-products made up of auto and auto-parts.

Table 2: Percentage Share of Products in Canada's Merchandise Exports

Year	Domestic exports (billions)	Agriculture & food	Crude materials	Semi-manufactures	End-Products	Auto-& parts in end-products
1963	\$6.8	21.5	21.0	45.7	11.5	-
1968	\$13.3	12.1	18.5	36.4	32.7	63.1
1973	\$24.9	12.7	20.2	33.1	33.8	64.6
1978	\$52.3	10.1	16.9	36.7	36.1	66.5
1983	\$88.2	11.8	16.2	34.0	37.8	63.8
1988	\$134.9	8.7	12.9	35.9	42.0	60.9
1993	\$177.6	7.8	12.3	32.1	46.8	57.2
1995	\$247.8	6.8	11.0	34.2	46.9	52.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Cansim Data-Base, matrix 3888 and 3686.

⁵ Agriculture and food includes exports of live animals, feed, food, beverages and tobacco. The end-products commodity grouping by Statistics Canada includes products such as: aircraft, engines; parts, office machines and equipment; motor vehicles, trucks, parts; transportation equipment; drilling mining machinery; footwear; apparel; and industrial machinery. See Statistics Canada catalogues 65-001 and 65-003.