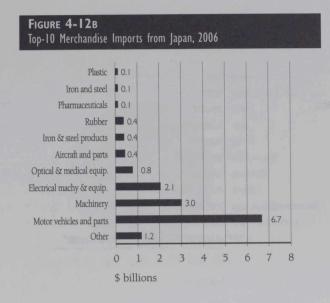


products (20.6 per cent) experienced the fastest increases in 2006.

China

Canadian merchandise exports to China expanded by 7.9 per cent to \$7.7 billion in 2006, from \$7.1 billion the year before. The top-10 products accounted for more than 70 per cent of exports in 2006. For the first time, one category - wood pulp – broke the mark of one billion dollars of exports, followed by organic chemicals at \$881.0 million. While exports of nickel products, plastic, motor vehicles, and wood pulp were growing at a brisk pace of 160.6 per cent, 51.6 per cent, 33.0 per cent and 27.2 per cent respectively, fertilizers, and fish



and seafood saw their exports drop by 44.0 per cent and 13.1 per cent, respectively.

China is the second-largest single country source for Canadian imports. Increases in Canadian merchandise imports from China outpaced those in exports to that country by a wide margin, rising 16.8 per cent to \$34.5 billion in 2006. All the top ten imports witnessed double-digit growth rates, with the exception of optical and medical instruments. The major imports from China were comprised of mechanical machinery, electrical machinery and equipment, and toys and sports equipment. With respect to growth, iron and steel (22.1 per cent), electrical machinery (21.4 per cent) and knit apparel (20.6 per cent) were the leaders.

