

DESTINATION OF CANADIAN MERCHANDISE EXPORTS 1960 - 1970 - 1980 - 1986

ORIGIN OF CANADIAN MERCHANDISE IMPORTS 1960 - 1970 - 1980 - 1986

footwear and some electronic items in the developed countries. There are also escalating tariffs on further processing of natural resource products.

Canada has always put great stock in GATT. All our main trading partners are economically larger and more powerful. Like other medium-size and small countries, we need this multilateral forum to make our point of view known, to exercise influence and to ensure that the rule of law, rather than power politics, governs international trade.

(Note: GATT is not the only element in the multilateral trade system. Canada also participates in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which groups 24 industrialized countries for research and consultation, and at its annual seven-nation Western Economic Summit; in a number of international commodity agreements; in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and regional commissions and other agencies of the United Nations with trade responsibilities. Canada's trade with most non-GATT countries, such as the Soviet Union, China, the German Democratic Republic, Venezuela and many Middle Eastern oil-producing countries, is carried out under bilateral agreements.)

GATT remains, however, Canada's keystone trade agreement and trade organization. Just as a new Canada-United States trade pact would contribute to GATT, so our participation in GATT reassures other countries that we continue to support GATT goals, rules and principles. That means Canada and the U.S. would look to their new agreement not just to increase trade with one another, but to increase world trade and prosperity as well.