

Investor-friendly Environment

Business competitiveness studies have consistently ranked Canada as one of the best countries on the planet for investment. It takes, on average, only one procedure to start a company in Canada.



Canada's fair judicial system, its world-class intellectual property protection, transparency in its government procurement and strong corporate governance—all help ensure that foreign investors have clarity in their commercial relationships.

Canada's Strengths

- Canada ranks #1 among G7 and member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for the lowest number of procedures required to establish a new business, according to the World Bank Group's *Doing Business in 2010*.
- The Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) *Business Environment Ranking* places Canada #1 in the G7 and #5 in the world as the country in which to conduct business over the next five years (2010 – 2014).
- The International Institute for Management Development (IMD) ranks Canada #2 in the G7 and #8 in the world for its ability to maintain and create an environment that sustains the global competitiveness of its enterprises.
- The global governance rating agency GovernanceMetrics International ranks Canada #3 in the world for its corporate governance environment.
- According to KPMG's *Competitive Alternatives 2010*, Canada leads the G7 in low business costs, with an overall cost advantage of 5.0% over the U.S.
- In terms of sectors, Canada has some significant advantages over other G7 economies. In 14 of the 17 sectors analysed by KPMG, cost structures in Canada are lowest in the G7. In the remaining three sectors (clinical trials, metal components and plastics), cost structures in Canada are the second- or third-lowest in the G7.
- The total accumulated FDI inflows into Canada (for the 2000 – 2008 period) as a share of Canada's GDP in 2008 was 24.2%—the fourth-highest in the world, after only Belgium, the Netherlands and the U.K.