analysis in the LAC region, but in Mexico it ranks third out of 53 commodities (considerably higher than before 2008).

2.2 Brazil

Key Over-Exports	Key Under-Exports
• Fertilizers	Power-generating machinery
• Sulfur, salt and minerals	Ores and concentrates
Paper and print	Inorganic chemicals (incl. uranium)
	 Meat, fish, animals and their products
	Wood and woodpulp

Brazil is Canada's third-largest merchandise export market among emerging countries and the largest economy in the region.

In Brazil, the agri-food sector is severely under-exporting relative to the global benchmark, posting an NRCA of practically zero. This is primarily due to the weak exports of meat, fish, animals and their products (-25 under benchmark). An unusually high comparative advantage is shown in the chemicals sector, which in combination with the negative benchmark leads to large over-exports. Over-exporting occurs primarily for fertilizers (+6), although inorganic chemicals are under-exported (-27). The advantage in fertilizers has grown tremendously over last eight years; in 2000 it was negative.

By contrast, in 2000 Canada was competitive in the machinery and electrical equipment sector in Brazil. In 2008, however, this was an area of disadvantage close to the global benchmark, partly due to the under-exports of power-generating machinery (-35). In the metals and minerals sector, sulphur, salt and minerals were over-exported to Brazil (+12), but ores and concentrates were under-exported (-32). Competitiveness in the wood and paper

sector trailed our performance in the rest of the world yet displayed a mixed picture: paper and print were over-exported (+8) while wood and wood pulp were under-exported (-16).

Some other commodities that show over-trading include: ships and boats, furniture and bedding, miscellaneous (non-medical/optical) scientific instruments, all in the **miscellaneous manufacturing** sector while the **aerospace** sector is underexporting considerably.

2.3 Venezuela

Key Over-Exports	Key Under-Exports
• Fruit and vegetable preparations	Power-generating machinery
Paper and print	• Fertilizers
• Energy	• Inorganic chemicals (incl. uranium)
	Wood and woodpulp

Venezuela is our biggest market for cereals in the Western hemisphere after the United States. It ranks 11th among emerging countries as a destination for Canadian merchandise exports.

In the agri-food sector, our cereals exports dominate, as expected, but it is the high competitiveness of fruit and vegetable preparations (+17) that is interesting. The Canadian energy sector seems to be over-exporting to Venezuela as well (+31). Overall metals and minerals performance is lower than the benchmark, partly based on nickel under-exports (-6). Paper and print is over-exported (+9), but under-exports of wood and wood pulp cause the wood and paper sector to under-export overall. Under-exports of fertilizers (-24) and inorganic chemicals (-18) are behind the weaker chemicals performance, while under-exporting powergenerating machinery (-25) does not prevent overall exports in the machinery and electrical equipment sector from being on par with the global benchmark.