

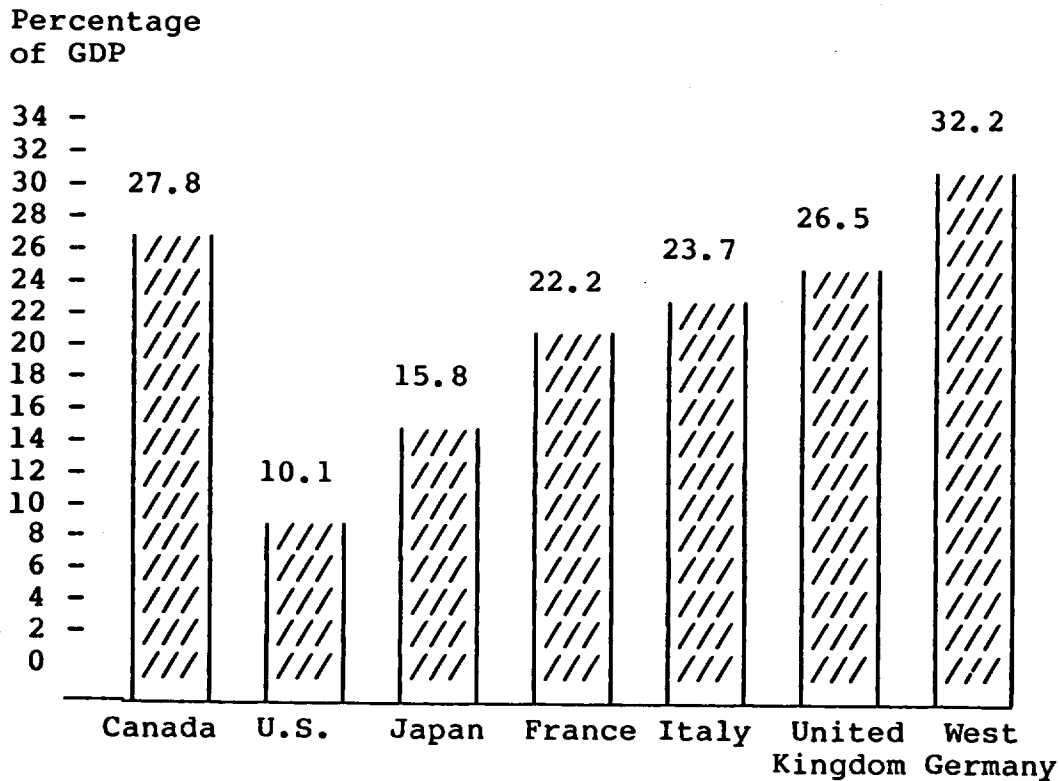
PART I

CANADA'S EXPORT MARKETS AND  
THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING ENVIRONMENT

A. Exports and Economic Growth

12. Exports are much more important to Canada, at 27.8 per cent of GDP in 1983, than for many other countries. Comparable figures for the same year for the U.S. are 10.1 per cent; for Japan, 15.8 per cent; for France, 22.2 per cent; for Italy, 23.7 per cent; for the UK, 26.5 per cent; and for the FRG, 32.2 per cent. In effect among the seven most industrialized countries of the world, only West Germany's dependence on exports is higher than Canada's. Our two principal trading partners, the U.S. and Japan, are considerably less dependent than Canada on exports, and both benefit from large domestic markets. Four European Summit countries, France, Italy, the UK and West Germany, are heavily dependent on exports but simultaneously benefit from free access to a market of 330 million people, almost 14 times the size of the Canadian market. The following bar chart serves as an illustration.

Exports as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product - 1983



Source: OECD: Department of Economics and Statistics, Quarterly National Accounts, Number: 1, 1984.