



Location. Location. Location.

Canada obviously offers unparalleled proximity to the vast U.S. market. Not as obvious however, is the fact that shipping times from Asia and Europe to the heartland of North America are the fastest when goods travel through Canada. With its recent multi-billion dollar investments in transportation infrastructure, Canada offers global companies world-class transportation infrastructure that allows them to get their goods to markets faster and at a lower cost than other North American jurisdictions.



(Photo courtesy of Port Metro Vancouver)

The quality of Canada's port infrastructure is one of the best in the G-7, and its deep water ports can handle the world's largest vessels.

International trade is the foundation of the Canadian economy. With the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Canadian economy is deeply integrated with those of the United States and Mexico. The three countries together form an enormous market of 453 million consumers and a GDP of US\$17.1 trillion (PPP basis).¹⁹ In addition to NAFTA, Canada concluded free trade agreements with eight countries in the past five years: Colombia, Peru, Jordan, Panama and the European Free Trade Association states of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. These provide unmatched opportunities for global companies locating to Canada.

Canada and the United States share a deep and mutually beneficial commercial relationship. More than two-thirds of Canadian goods trade was with the U.S. in 2010.²⁰ More than US\$1.7 billion in goods and services cross the Canada-U.S. border every day. Canada's population is concentrated near the border with the U.S., with

¹⁹ CIA World Factbook. 2010. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) equalizes the purchasing power of consumers in their home countries for a basket of goods.

<<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/us.html>>.

²⁰ Statistics Canada. <<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/gblec02a-eng.htm>>.