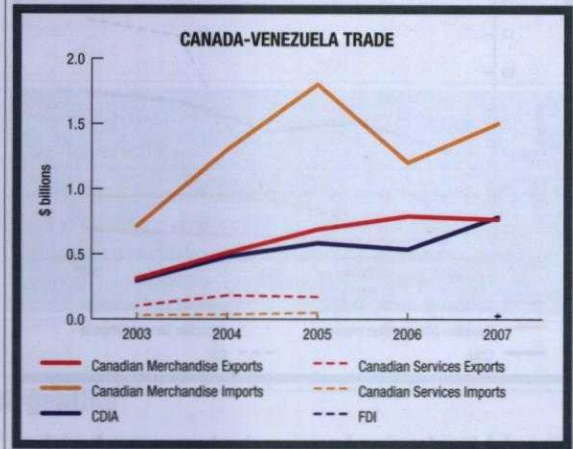


Chapter 9 Opening Doors to Latin America and the Caribbean

Venezuela

VENEZUELA		
	2007	Percentage change since 2006 (%)
Population	27.5 million	2.0
GDP	\$254.1 billion	2.8
Canadian Merchandise exports	\$764.4 million	-3.1
Canadian Services exports	\$170 million (2005)	-
Canadian Merchandise imports	\$1.5 billion	22.4
Canadian Services imports	\$48 million (2005)	-
CDIA	\$783 million	46.4
FDI	\$5 million	-



On December 9, 2005, Mercosur initiated the process that would allow Venezuela to become a member of the bloc. As part of this process, Venezuela served notice of its intention to withdraw from the Andean Community on April 22, 2006. Venezuela will continue to benefit from some advantages under the Andean Community's liberalization program for five years following withdrawal.

One of Canada's priorities for Venezuela will be to continue representations aimed at eliminating discretionary import licensing. Venezuela's lack of transparency in the issuance of import permits for certain food products such as potatoes and pork remains a major barrier to trade. Canada has signed a FIPA and a double taxation agreement with Venezuela, which have been in effect since 1998 and 2005, respectively.

Chile

CHILE		
	2007	Percentage change since 2006 (%)
Population	16.6 million	1.2
GDP est.	\$176.0 billion	5.0
Canadian Merchandise exports	\$768.7 million	62.5
Canadian Services exports	\$96 million (2005)	-
Canadian Merchandise imports	\$1.7 billion	9.6
Canadian Services imports	\$68 million (2005)	-
CDIA	\$7.0 billion	19.0
FDI	\$27 million	-

