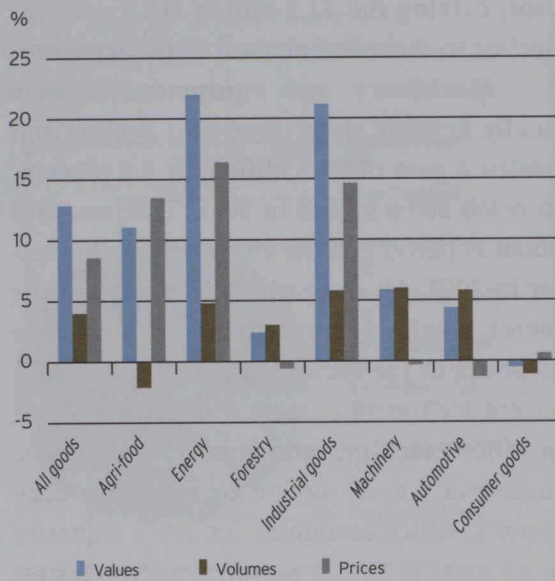


and industrial goods and materials. These sectors accounted for nearly one half of Canada's overall goods exports in 2011.

Industrial goods and materials were the largest export sector for the second year running, growing 21.2 percent in 2011, almost as fast as in the previous year. This added \$20.4 billion to the value of exports and propelled exports in this sector to \$117.0 billion, above their record pre-recession level. The importance of this sector continued to grow, as it now accounts for 25.5 percent of total Canada's goods exports. Rising prices for the products in this sector were responsible for over two thirds of the growth. Metals and alloys led the advance, gaining \$8.2 billion, or 22.7 percent, to hit \$44.3 billion. This category in turn was driven by the sub-category of precious stones and metals, which accounted for \$6.4 billion—over three quarters—of the growth in metals and alloys. The general rise in the price of gold and of silver was behind the 28.6-percent price increase in this category, and, combined with the 13.0-percent increase in volumes, yielded a substantial 45.3-percent increase in the value of exports. Among metals and alloys, this growth was only exceeded by the growth in nickel exports at 50.2 percent. Notably, that increase was driven by higher volumes (up 42.8 percent) rather than prices (up 5.1 percent). Metal ores was the fastest-growing sub-category, at 34.4 percent, and accounted for \$4.5 billion of the overall increase in exports in 2011. Exports of copper ores and iron ores led the way, with growth of 51.4 percent (\$1.3 billion) and 33.1 percent (\$1.5 billion), respectively, with the former driven by increased volumes and the latter by higher prices. The 18.8-percent growth in chemicals (up \$5.7 billion) was caused by rising prices for organic and inorganic chemicals, higher

FIGURE 4-3

Growth in Canada's Goods Exports by Major Groups, 2011



volumes for exported plastic and synthetic rubber, and a mix of both for fertilizers. The only significant items that experienced declines were asbestos (down 45.3 percent) and primary iron and steel (down 23.4 percent), both due to lower volumes.

Export gains in **energy products**, the second-biggest sector, were the largest of all sectors at \$21.1 billion, up 23.2 percent, to reach \$112.1 billion in total exports in 2011. Price increases were the major factor behind this gain. Fully 85.6 percent of the increase was due to the growth in exports of crude oil, which went up 36.3 percent as price increases of 18.5 percent combined with the 13.1-percent growth in volumes. Coal prices grew over 40 percent, electricity prices fell 10 percent, while prices for petroleum and coal products grew more or less in line with the rising price of crude oil (up about 20 percent). Consequently, electricity exports remained practically unchanged for the year as higher volumes mitigated the 10-percent fall in prices. Coal exports increased \$2.0 billion