

.South America remained the second-ranking region in 1998, accounting for some \$7,603.0M, double (a 105.8% increase) the \$3,694.5M recorded in 1989. South America's share of Canada/LAC trade thereby slipped from one-half to two-fifths. Within the region, trade became more diversified among countries as initially smaller trade partners generally showed faster growth than continuing leaders Brazil and Venezuela.

.Canadian trade with Brazil in 1998 amounted to \$2,757.1M (up 65.7% from \$1,663.9M in 1989), just over one-third of total Canadian trade with South America. This represented a slippage from Brazil's initial share of almost one-half. Second-ranking Venezuela showed considerably faster growth (102.8%), from \$761.2M in 1989 to \$1,543.9M in 1998, thereby retaining its one-fifth share of the regional total.

.Most of the other South American countries, except Uruguay, experienced larger increases, albeit from much smaller bases. Uruguay registered a decrease, from \$105.4M in 1989 to \$84.9M in 1998.

.Canada's trade with the Caribbean rose 79.2%, from \$952.4M in 1989 to \$1,706.8M in 1998. The region's share of Canada/LAC trade shrank from 12.9% to 8.8%. Within the region, initially second-ranking Cuba and leader Jamaica exchanged places over the survey period. Trade with Cuba more than tripled (rising 216.3%, from \$254.2M to \$804.1M). This raised Cuba's share of Canadian trade with the region to almost one-half (from one-quarter). Jamaica experienced only a marginal increase, from \$320.8M in 1989 to \$354.4M in 1998 (bringing a decline from one-third to one-fifth in Jamaica's share). The Dominican Republic, finishing in third place, saw its trade double, rising 104.5% from \$103.4M in 1989 to \$211.5M in 1998. Fourth-place Trinidad & Tobago experienced a similar increase (102.6%), from \$80.9M to \$163.9M.

.Trade during the survey period decreased with smaller partners the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Haiti, and St. Vincent & Grenadines.

.Canada's trade with Central America more than doubled, rising 126.0% from \$382.4M to \$864.4M over the survey period. Within the region, Guatemala finished in first place. Its trade with Canada almost quintupled, rising 372.8% from \$62.6M in 1989 to \$296.0M in 1998. Second-place finisher Costa Rica also saw a strong (204.9%) increase, from \$81.8M to \$249.4M. Nicaragua, the initial leader, experienced a steep fall, from \$100.4M to \$34.7M. Belize was the only other Central American country to show a decline (from \$19.3M in 1989 to \$12.0M in 1998).

Canada/LAC Trade by Trade Group

.Trade with all LAC trade groups increased over the 1989-1998 period, but in widely varying proportions.