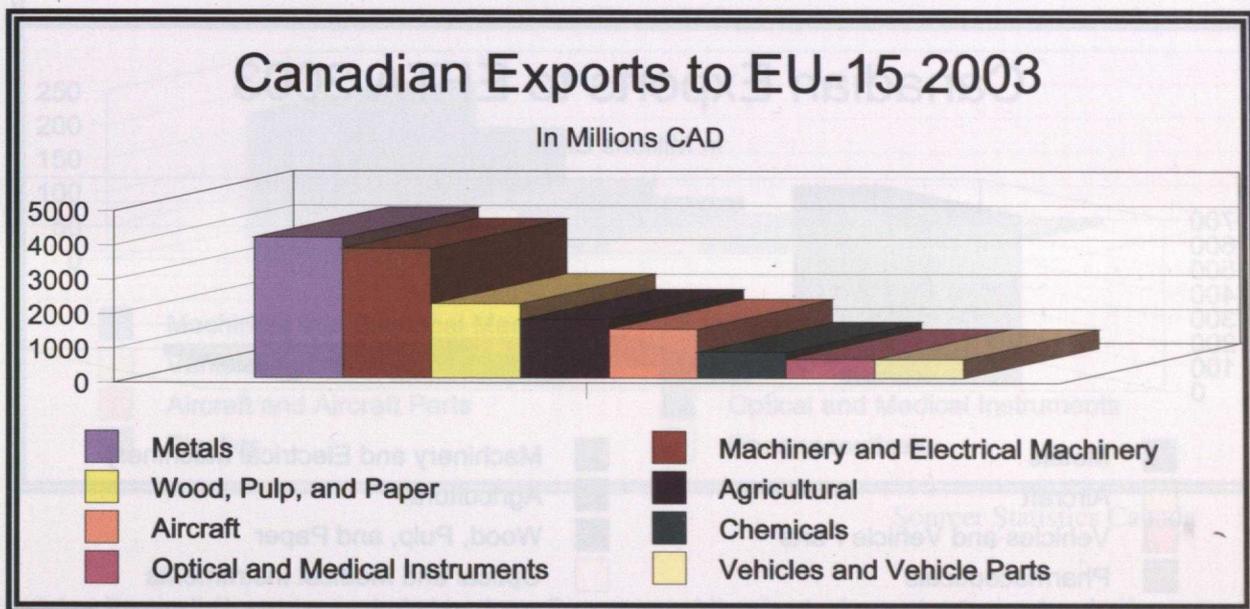


TRADE WITH THE EU-15 COUNTRIES

Two-way trade with the EU-15 reached \$57.5 billion in 2003, representing an increase of 18.8% over 1999's total of \$48.4 billion.

Canada's exports to the EU-15 countries were \$16.6 billion in 1999, rose to \$19.2 billion in 2000, fell to \$18.4 billion in 2001, continued to decline to \$17.5 billion in 2002, and returned to \$18.8 billion in 2003. The decrease from 2000 to 2002 can be attributed to a fall off in several areas such as copper, fabrics, beverages, woodpulp and rail stock, although sectors such as precious stones, aluminum and grain experienced significant increases during this time.

The leading exports in 2003 were **nickel, copper, ores, other base metals, and precious metals**, at \$4.09 billion, approximately a 50% increase from 1999; **machinery and electrical machinery** at \$3.77 billion, an increase of 20%; **wood, pulp, and paper** at \$2.16 billion, a decrease of 9% since 1999; **agricultural** exports, totalling \$1.70 billion, an increase of 37% since 1999's total of \$1.24 billion; **aircraft and aircraft parts** exports rose by 18% to \$1.42 billion; **chemicals and fertilizers**, at \$749.2 million, a 50% increase; **optical and medical instruments** increased by 2% from 1999 to reach \$545 million in 2003; and **vehicles and vehicle parts** remained virtually unchanged at \$541 million.



Source: Statistics Canada

Canada had a 1.59% share of the EU-15 import market in 2002, down from 1.73% in 2001, ranking it 15th, just behind Turkey, Brazil and Taiwan, but ahead of South Africa, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Thailand, and Hong Kong. The US and China are the EU's largest trading partners, with 17.57% and 8.23% of the import market share respectively.