

The Territories

The Yukon and the Northwest Territories cover one-third of Canada's land area but have less than 1 per cent of the population. Resource exploration is now being conducted in the north. The future of the Territories is directly tied to the exploration and development of their considerable natural resources which include iron ore, tungsten, lead, coal, uranium, petroleum and natural gas.

The Economy—Profile

Canada's economy is the eighth largest in the world. With a gross national product of about US \$305 billion, it is also one of the most diversified. Canada grows, develops, mines, processes, designs, manufactures or fabricates everything from communications satellites to disease resistant wheat, from advanced aircraft to strategic ores and metals and from nuclear power stations to newsprint.

Canada is one of the world's leading industrialized countries. Of all the sectors in the economy, manufacturing is the largest contributor to the country's annual output. As in other highly advanced countries, however, there has been a shift in Canada from a predominantly goods producing economy to a predominantly services producing economy.

Service industries such as finance, real estate, insurance and personal and business services, which now account for some 60 per cent of the country's domestic output, have thus complemented the important role played by Canada's resource industries and manufacturing concerns.

By dollar value, Canada is the world's ninth most important trading nation. Some 30 per cent of GNP is derived from the sale of goods and services abroad.

Both the private and public sectors are active participants when it comes to determining economic planning and development activities within Canada. In some areas such as health, social services, communications and transport, government involvement has traditionally been extensive owing to various geographic and demographic factors. Often, government programs are established to supplement those initiatives undertaken by the private sector and are designed to expand and diversify the Canadian economy.

Manufacturing

On a value added basis, manufacturing is by far the most important sector of the Canadian economy and accounts for approximately 50 per cent of the total output. This compares with 20 per cent for construction,

Table 2

Regional Distribution of Major Classes of Industry in Canada —
1982 Percentage of Output in Value Added Terms

	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	B.C.	Total (Value added in \$ millions)
Agriculture	3.6	12.6	25.7	52.8	5.0	8,873.6
Forestry	9.6*	15.5	15.5	3.4	56.8	2,099.1
Fishing	63.3	5.8	3.1	2.7	24.4	502.8
Hunting/Trapping	9.0**	13.2	27.8	39.6	4.7	52.9
Mining/Oil	4.5	6.2	15.7	64.6	8.2	17,851.2
Electrical Power	8.1	31.3	35.2	14.2	10.5	6,952.2
Manufacturing	4.2	27.5	48.9	8.9	10.2	55,706.5
Construction	6.8	18.6	26.7	31.4	14.7	15,332.2
* 1977 figure						
** estimate						
Population (1983) %	9.1	26.2	35.5	17.5	11.4	25,000,000