

In the context of the phenomenal rise in the demand for high-tech products worldwide, Canada's presence in the global market remained modest as global trade in high-tech products rose even more strongly than Canada's trade in these areas. On the basis of global market share and the ratio of high-tech exports to total exports, Canada is still positioned as a relatively small global player. Data in current dollars sourced from the UN Comtrade database for 1999 showed that Canada supplied 2.2 percent of the global demand for high-tech products in 1999, compared with 36.9 percent for the EU, 17.9 percent for the United States, 10.9 percent for Japan, 4.4 percent for South Korea and 3.8 percent for Mexico (Figure B7). With respect to high-tech exports as a percent of total exports during 1980 and 1999, Canada's performance was consistently behind the U.S., EU Japan, Hong Kong, Korea and Mexico.

Table B1: Distribution of U.S. High-tech by Country (percent)

	CANADA	MEXICO	JAPAN	U.K.	FRANCE	GERMANY
Aircraft and associated equipment and parts						
1980	26.2	0.0	7.5	15.4	20.5	0.0
1999	25.3	0.5	9.1	9.1	24.2	11.4
Compound annual growth (percent)	-0.2	13.3	1.1	-2.7	0.9	—
Telecommunications and sound-recording apparatus						
1980	4.7	10.9	46.4	0.1	0.3	0.0
1999	10.0	23.3	19.4	1.3	0.6	0.8
Compound annual growth (percent)	4.0	4.1	-4.5	12.0	3.7	—
Medicinal and pharmaceutical products						
1980	3.3	1.6	12.2	14.6	4.4	1.5
1999	5.2	0.6	9.6	15.7	5.0	23.9
Compound annual growth (percent)	2.4	-5.5	-1.2	0.4	0.7	—
Office machines and automatic data-processing equipment						
1980	15.1	3.1	40.2	0.0	3.9	0.0
1999	3.8	8.4	18.6	2.3	0.4	1.1
Compound annual growth (percent)	-7.0	5.4	-4.0	—	-10.9	—
Electric apparatus for medical purposes						
1980	6.7	1.1	14.9	0.0	5.9	0.0
1999	3.6	5.1	28.1	4.5	5.8	28.7
Compound annual growth (percent)	-3.3	8.2	3.4	—	-0.1	—
Thermionic, cold and photo-cathode valves, tubes, parts						
1980	3.8	3.9	14.4	0.0	1.6	0.0
1999	5.1	3.5	18.2	1.3	1.6	1.8
Compound annual growth (percent)	1.5	0.6	1.2	—	-0.2	—
Equipment for distributing electricity						
1980	17.1	33.7	10.3	1.4	1.6	0.3
1999	7.4	62.9	3.3	0.8	0.8	1.7
Compound annual growth (percent)	-4.4	3.3	-5.8	-3.2	-3.4	9.1
Electrical appliances (switches, relays, etc.)						
1980	10.9	16.1	24.9	0.0	4.4	0.0
1999	8.5	23.8	18.4	3.1	2.3	7.1
Compound annual growth (percent)	-1.3	2.1	-1.6	—	-3.3	—
Electric power machinery and parts thereof						
1980	17.7	22.3	15.3	2.4	2.1	0.0
1999	7.2	25.0	7.4	1.9	1.1	3.6
Compound annual growth (percent)	-4.7	0.6	-3.7	-3.4	-3.4	—
All high-tech						
1980	9.7	7.6	29.8	2.6	4.2	0.1
1999	7.3	13.1	16.8	3.1	2.7	3.8
Compound annual growth (percent)	-1.5	2.9	-3.0	1.0	-2.3	23.35