

## Data and Profiles - Market Profiles

# Canada: Market Profile

🕒 24 March 2021

📝 Fitch Solutions



Source: CIA World Factbook, Encyclopædia Britannica, IATA, IMF, Pew Research Center, United Nations, World Bank

[www.hktdc.com/Research](http://www.hktdc.com/Research)

### 1. Overview

Canada has a stable government, the OECD's most highly educated workforce, a well-developed transport system and is rich in natural resources. Until recently, Canada's healthy banking and financial system and continued growth in non-commodity export-related industries aided by competitive currency dynamics and low statutory tax rates have lent support to domestic business and consumers amid structurally-lower crude oil prices and weak investment in the oil and gas sector. The global rout in oil prices will weigh on Canada's fiscal revenues and investment going forward. Canada is a major trading nation, with preferential market access to over 50 countries. Overall, the country's growth in the years ahead is likely to be tempered by the volatility in commodity prices, high household debt levels and uncertainty stemming from global trade tensions, particularly those involving the United States, Canada's primary trading partner.

Sources: [Invest in Canada](#), Fitch Solutions

### 2. Major Economic/Political Events and Upcoming Elections

October 2018

The United States, Canada and Mexico reached a new trade deal to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The US-Mexico-Canada Agreement broadly maintains the key tenets of the original NAFTA and increases Canada's exports of autos while allowing the United

States greater access to Canada's dairy market.

October 2018

After nearly a century of prohibition, Canada became the second country in the world (after Uruguay) to legalise recreational cannabis. Subject to provincial or territorial restrictions, adults who were 18 years of age or older were legally able to possess up to 30 grams of dried cannabis and to buy it from a licensed retailer. Edible products and concentrates would become legal in October 2019.

May 2019

On May 17, 2019, the United States agreed to drop 25% tariffs on steel and 10% on aluminium, with Canada and Mexico removing their respective retaliatory tariffs on other products, to end the trade dispute between the North American nations. This marked a big step for United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) ratification as metal tariffs were at the forefront of the trade dispute between the three nations, preventing all parties from ratifying the already signed USMCA deal and bringing uncertainty to the automotive industry.

June 2019

In June 2019, the country passed into law bill C-69. The law was aimed at revamping the country's environmental assessment rules with the president of the Mining Association of Canada showing his initial support for the bill. While a few additional layers of red tape were included in the bill, including a pre-planning design phase for new projects and a requirement for the new Impact Assessment Agency to factor in the project's impact on climate change, the bill would speed up the process in other areas through setting timelines on government decisions and including explanations on the decision.

July 2019

Federal scientists had concluded that between 1948 and 2016 the annual mean temperature in Canada's north increased by 2.3 degrees, or three times the global rate, the effects of which were now being felt in permafrost thaw, causing the ground to shift and destabilise parts of the Canadian Arctic, with consequences for roads and other essential infrastructure.

October 2019

The 2019 Canadian federal election was held on October 21, 2019, to elect members of the House of Commons to the 43rd Canadian Parliament. The Liberal Party, led by incumbent Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, won 157 seats to form a minority government. The Conservative Party, led by Andrew Scheer, won 121 seats and remained the Official Opposition.

2019

Investment in Canada's airport infrastructure over the coming years would be driven by a CAD9.1 billion (USD6.9 billion) expansion plan for Vancouver International Airport in Richmond, British Columbia. The project, which involves major improvements to be undertaken over the next 20 years, including 75 individual projects, broke ground in 2019 and would continue over the coming years. The project stood out as one of the largest airport infrastructure projects currently underway anywhere in North America, putting Vancouver as a leading market for airport development over the next decade. In addition to the Vancouver project, there were plans by Aeroports de Montreal to invest CAD2.5 billion (USD1.9 billion) in Montreal's Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport by 2030. The project, currently in the planning phase, would add 10-15 gates to the airport among other upgrades.

2020

The South Dakota Water Management Board in the United States approved five applications seeking water permits for the construction of Keystone XL pipeline. Canada-based TC Energy, the developer of the pipeline, applied for permits for tapping water from the Cheyenne, White and Bad rivers in South Dakota. The water would be used during the construction process for drilling to install the pipes, build pump stations and control dust. The 1,905km Keystone XL pipeline was expected to carry up to 830,000 barrels of crude oil each day from Alberta, Canada to Nebraska in the United States, which was further connected with oil lines towards Gulf Coast Refineries. Construction on the pipeline was planned to begin later in 2020, and would take two years to complete.

March 2020

Saudi Arabia and Russia, the world's two largest oil exporters, failed to agree on production cuts to increase global oil prices. As a result, Saudi Arabia drastically decreased the price of its oil, causing the global oil price to drop by about 30%. Covid-19 lockdowns across various countries resulted in the demand for oil decreasing by about a third. Mineral fuels accounted for about 22% of Canada's goods exports in 2019.

April 2020

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Canadian policymakers implemented around CAD317 billion in stimulus measures, with the largest chunk of funding aimed at the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and the Canada Emergency Response Benefit to aid workers during the pandemic.

April 2020

Canada completed the domestic ratification process of the USMCA/NAFTA on April 3, followed by the United States on April 24, 2020. The agreement was expected to come into effect on July 1, 2020.

May 2020

Canadian Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced that Tiff Macklem would take over as Governor of the Bank of Canada on June 3, replacing Stephen Poloz.

July 2020

The government announced CAD230 million in funding to support the operating costs of 14 national research facilities, to strengthen their ongoing research activities and support their efforts to combat Covid-19.

August 2020

The United States announced a new 10% tariff on Canadian aluminium. The tariff went into effect in mid-August.

August 2020

Construction started on a CAD2.5 billion Alpine Park Community Project in Calgary. The mixed-use development would include residential, retail, civic and office spaces. The project was expected to take 15 years to complete.

October 2020

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's minority government survived an October 21 confidence vote, avoiding a new election and keeping the government in power. The motion underlying the confidence vote was put forward by the opposition Conservative Party.

November 2020

On November 18, it was announced that United States land borders with Canada and Mexico would remain closed to non-essential travel until December 21.

Q1 2021

Construction on the first stage of the T-MEC rail corridor, which will connect Sinaloa in Mexico with Winnipeg in Canada through the United States, is due to start in 2021. The project, which will require an initial investment of USD3.3 billion, will see the laying of 3,000km of railroad. The scheme also includes the construction of a new terminal in the city of Mazatlán, a logistics centre in Winnipeg, and a shipyard. Caxxor Group will reveal the project's master plan in January 2021.

February 2021

President Biden issued an Executive Order to revoke the permit for the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline. This project was designed for crude oil exports from Canada to the United States.

February 2021

The Canadian government approved Air Canada's purchase of rival Transat At Inc, subject to a number of conditions. The deal still needs approval from European regulators

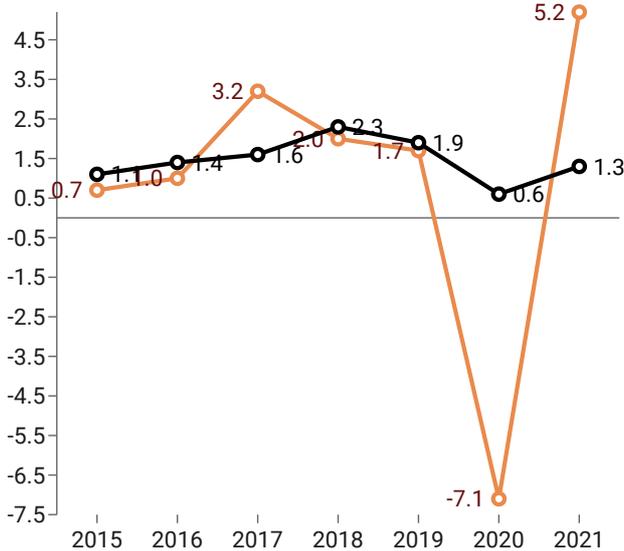
2023

The 44th Canadian federal election will take place on or before October 16, 2023, to elect members of the House of Commons to the 44th Canadian Parliament.

Sources: BBC Country Profile – Timeline, [Bloomberg](#), Fitch Solutions, Associated Press, [Government of Canada](#)

### 3. Major Economic Indicators

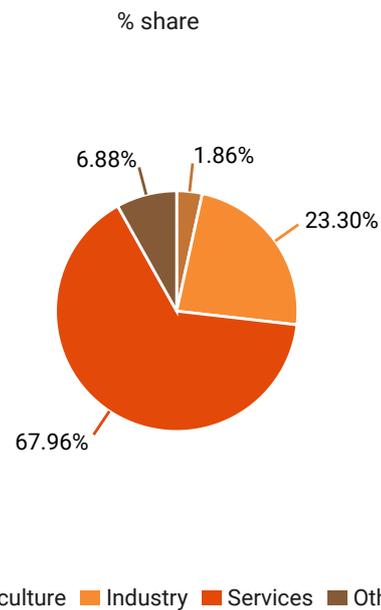
#### Real GDP and Inflation



○ Real GDP ● Inflation

2020(estimate); 2021 (forecast)  
Source: IMF  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

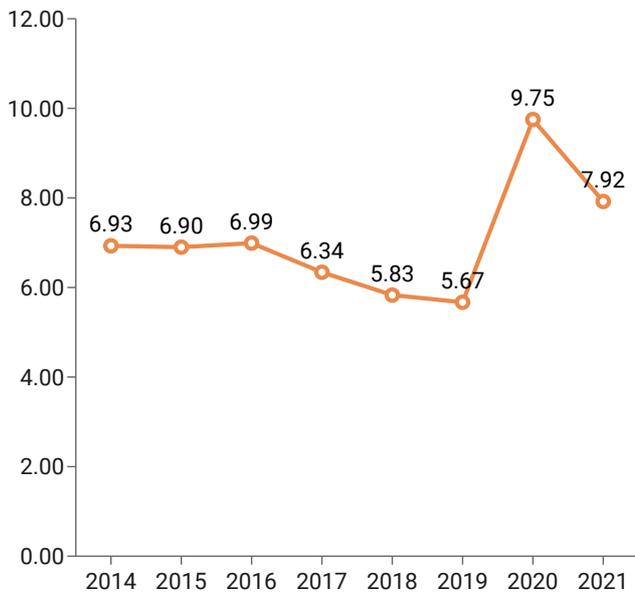
#### GDP by Sector (2016)



■ Agriculture ■ Industry ■ Services ■ Other

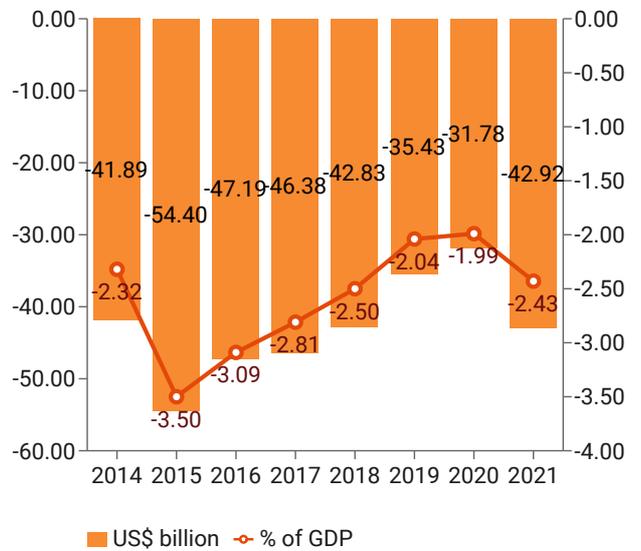
Note: The most recent World Bank data for Canada is 2016  
Sources: World Bank, Fitch Solutions  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## Unemployment Rate



2020 (estimate); 2021 (forecast)  
Source: IMF  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## Current Account Balance

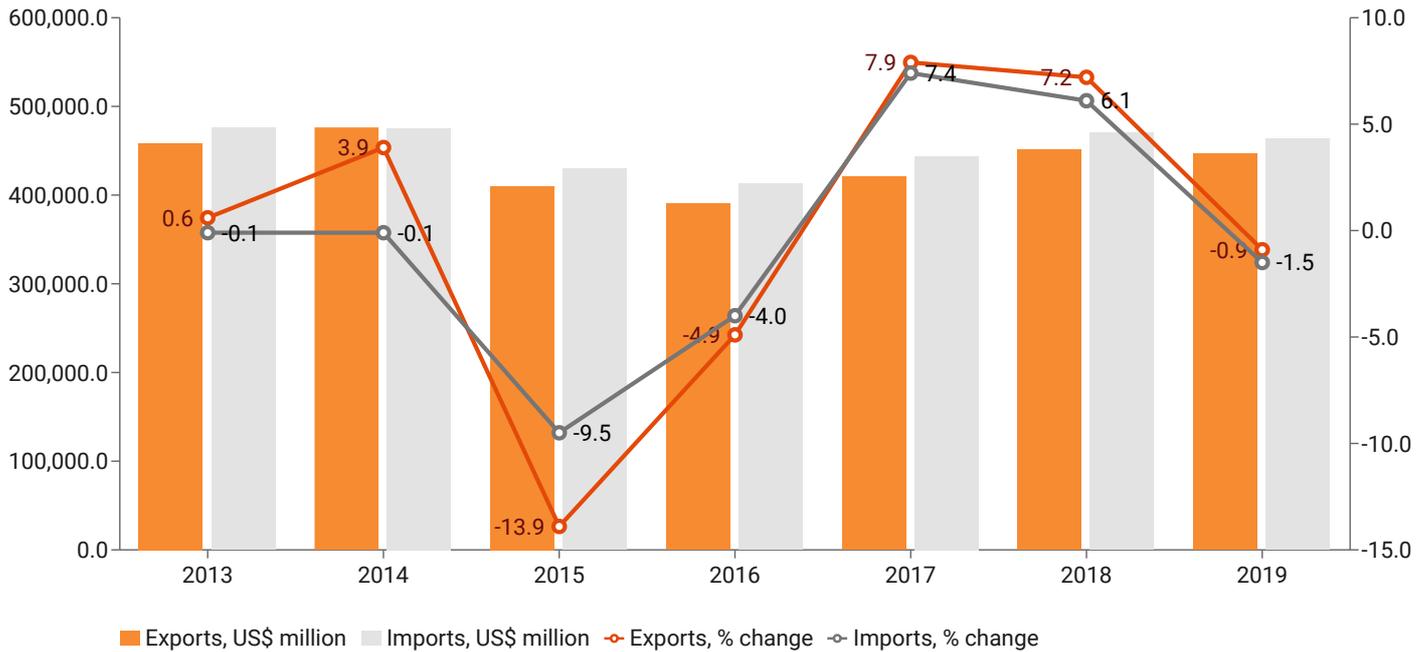


2020 (estimate); 2021 (forecast)  
Source: IMF  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 4. External Trade

### 4.1 Merchandise Trade

## Merchandise Trade



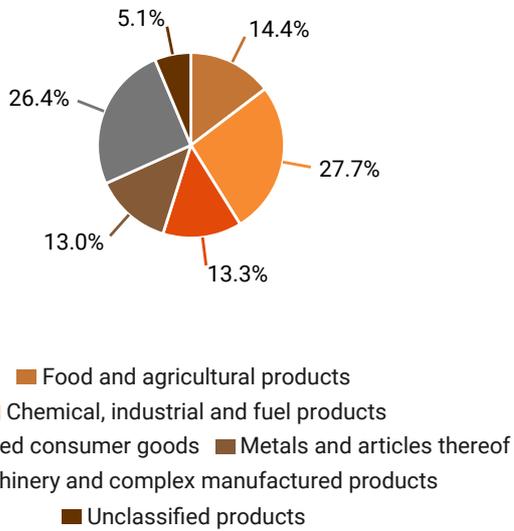
Source: WTO  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## Major Export Commodities (2020)

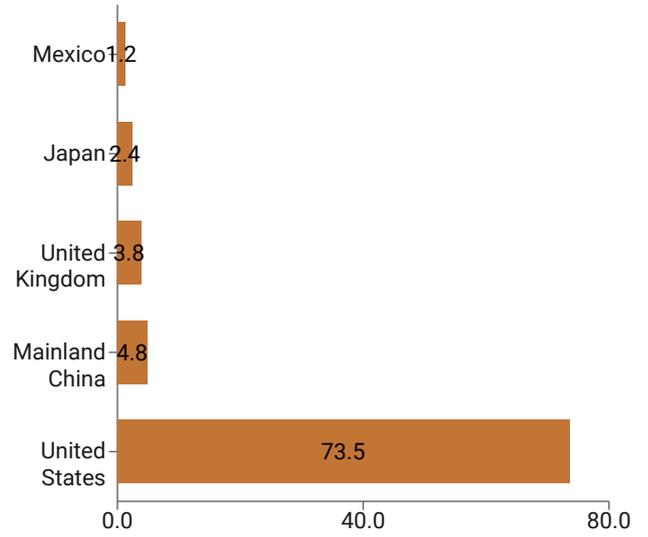
% share

## Major Export Markets (2020)

% share



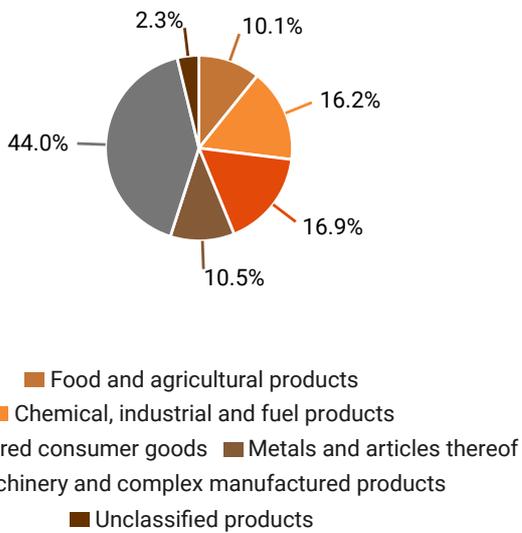
Sources: ITC-Trade Map, Fitch Solutions  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021



Sources: ITC-Trade Map, Fitch Solutions  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

### Major Import Commodities (2020)

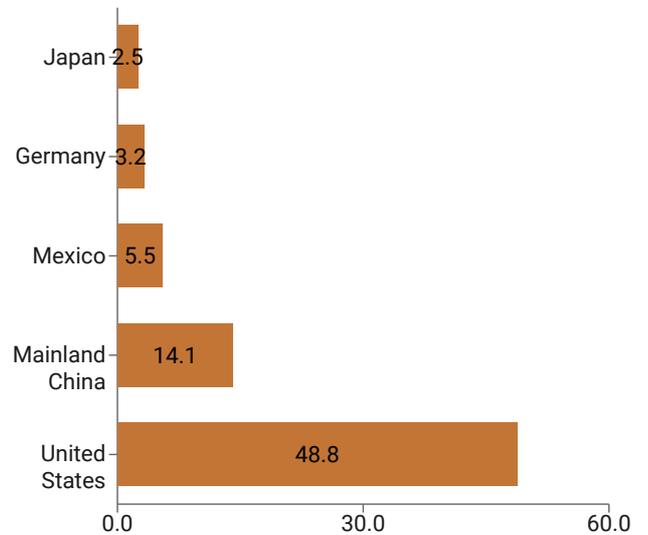
% share



Sources: ITC-Trade Map, Fitch Solutions  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

### Major Import Markets (2020)

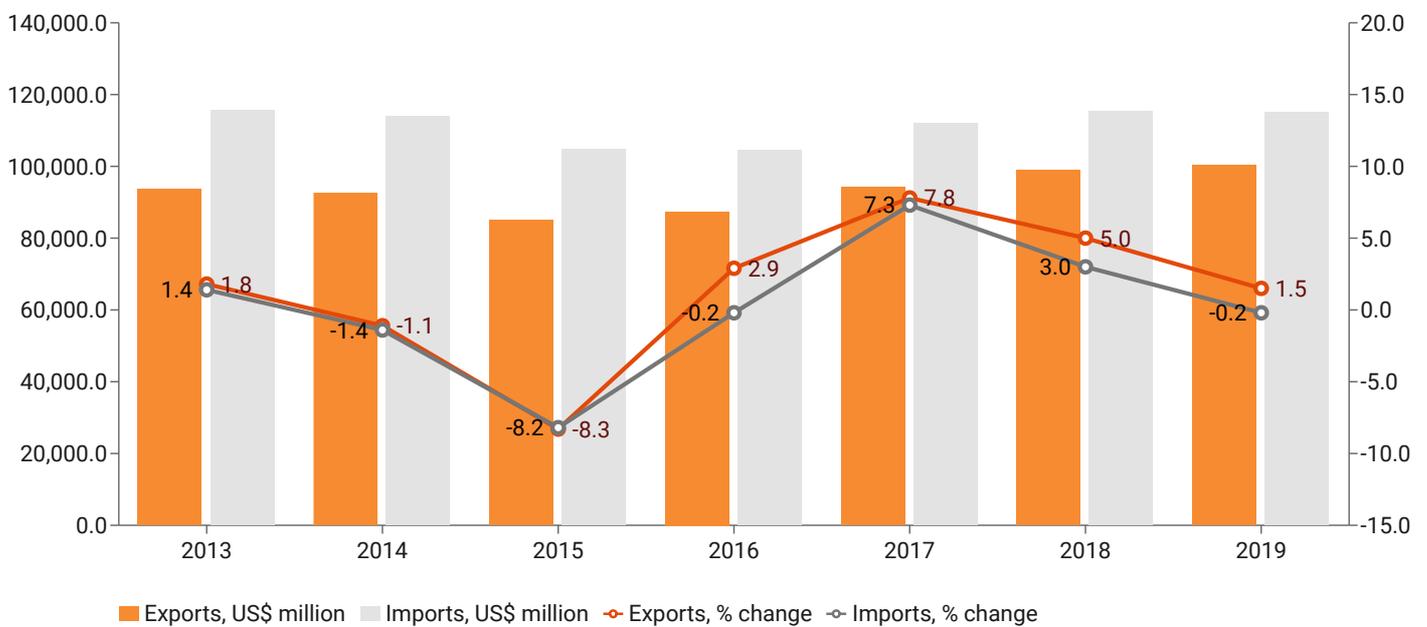
% share



Sources: ITC-Trade Map, Fitch Solutions  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 4.2 Trade in Services

### Trade in Services



2019 (estimate)  
 Source: WTO  
 Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 5. Trade Policies

- Canada has been a World Trade Organization (WTO) member since January 1, 1995 and a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) since January 1, 1948. Canada maintains a relatively liberal trade regime. There are no foreign exchange restrictions and import licences are only required for a limited number of goods. Imports are generally subject to import duties. To enhance productivity and boost the overall competitiveness of local businesses, Canada has become the first G20 economy to eliminate all remaining tariffs on manufacturing inputs, of which about 76% are textiles items with the remainder including chemicals, plastics, certain articles of wood, glass, aluminium and graphite and machinery and equipment. Duties on 1,541 tariff lines were eliminated on March 5, 2010 and duties on an additional 381 tariff lines were phased out over a five-year period and removed altogether by 2015.
- On November 27, 2013, Canada launched an updated foreign policy and trade plan, entitled the Global Markets Action Plan (GMAP), as a means to encourage market diversification while concentrating its efforts on the markets that hold the greatest promise for Canadian business. Under the Plan, 20 emerging markets and 22 priority sectors have been highlighted with strong competitive advantages or dynamic growth opportunities for Canadians, including aerospace, agriculture and processed foods, education, information and communications technology, life sciences, sustainable technology and transport regarding to Hong Kong.
- Customs tariffs (also known as duties) are tariffs or taxes levied on goods imported into Canada. The customs duty that applies to imported goods depends on a number of factors, including the nature of the duty (for example, ad valorem or specific), tariff classification, country of origin and value for duty declared. The Tariff Schedule to the Customs Tariff, which is based on the World Customs Organization's Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, sets out the customs duty rates for goods imported into Canada. Goods that originate from most countries with which Canada does not have a FTA or other preferential tariff arrangement will generally attract the most favoured nation duty rate or tariff treatment.
- Canada also extends preferential tariff rates to many (but not all) products imported from certain countries via the General Preferential Tariff (GPT), the Least Developed Countries Tariff, the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries Tariff, the Australia Tariff and the New Zealand Tariff. To qualify for preferential tariff rates, goods must meet various requirements with respect to the rules of origin and transshipment, among other things.
- The importation of certain commodities is, however, tightly controlled. Examples of regulated goods include food products, drugs and medical devices, hazardous products, some weapons and firearms, endangered species and motor vehicles. Import licences are required for items regulated under the Export and Import Permits Act. The act lists various agricultural products (poultry, eggs and dairy), a number of textile and clothing items and certain steel products. In June 2019, the act was amended to ensure that Canada could join the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) to ensure that the international trade of arms can be more effectively regulated.
- Duties are assessed on the transaction value (the price actually paid or payable for the goods), including commission, brokerage, packing, royalties and transport. Goods originating in Hong Kong and Mainland China origin goods are eligible for the preferential tariffs under the Canadian GPT Scheme.

- There are several consumption taxes in Canada: a federal goods and Services Tax (GST) is levied in every province at a rate of 5% on the supply of many goods and services, albeit with many exemptions. Five provinces have imposed a single harmonised sales tax (HST), incorporating the GST, which results in an HST rate of 15% in four provinces (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) and 13% in one province (Ontario). An additional provincial sales tax is levied in British Columbia (at a rate of 7%), Manitoba (7%) and Saskatchewan (6%). Quebec has added the Quebec sales tax (QST) at 9.975%, creating a combined rate of 14.975%. No additional retail sales tax is applied in Alberta or the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and the Yukon, where only the GST is levied. In addition, excise duties and taxes are charged on goods, such as spirits, wine, beer, tobacco products, fuel-inefficient vehicles, automobile air conditioners and certain petroleum products.
- In October 2018, the United States, Mexico and Canada reached an agreement on a new and modern trade agreement called the USMCA. This modernised agreement maintains the tariff-free market access from the original NAFTA and includes updates and new chapters to address modern-day trade challenges and opportunities. The original NAFTA eliminated virtually all tariffs between the US, Mexico and Canada with very few exceptions. The USMCA maintains these benefits and ensures that the vast majority of US-Mexico-Canada trade will continue to be duty free. Additionally, a new Customs Administration and Trade Facilitation Chapter standardises and modernises customs procedures throughout North America to facilitate the free-flow of goods. There are also important improvements to disciplines on technical barriers to trade that will make it easier for businesses to export goods within the USMCA region. The USMCA comprises 34 chapters, three schedules, 18 annexes and 12 side letters. One of the chapters (on rules of origin) is 234 pages in length.
- The USMCA has made a key change to the autos rules of origin. The revised automotive rules of origin require higher levels of North American content in order to incentivise production and sourcing in North America. The agreement specifies that 40% of vehicles sold in the region must come from a market with wages of USD16/hour or more. This wage provision was brought into place in order to attempt to level the playing field between United States, Mexican and Canadian workers and reduce the incentives for companies to outsource manufacturing jobs to cheaper locations.
- In August 2020, the United States imposed a 10% tariff on aluminium imports from Canada. Canada has stated that it will retaliate on a dollar-for-dollar basis, imposing duties on approximately USD2.7 billion of United States products, including washing machines, bicycles and golf clubs, but exact details have not yet been released.
- Canada may impose anti-dumping (AD) duties on imports considered to be priced less than the normal price charged in the exporter's domestic market and negatively affect the concerned industry in Canada. Furthermore, if a country is found to be unfairly subsidising its exporters, Canada is authorised to impose a countervailing (CV) duty equal to the amount of the subsidy expressed as a percentage of the export price of the goods. These duties remain in place for five years and can be renewed for additional terms of five years.
- Currently, Canada imposes AD and/or CV duties on several imports from Mainland China, including aluminium extrusions and as well as various carbon, copper and alloy steel product lines, photovoltaic modules and laminates, piling pipe, polyethylene terephthalate resin, pup joints, seamless casing, silicon metal, thermoelectric coolers and warmers and unitised wall modules. Canada has also imposed a definitive AD duty of 108.5% on imports of certain concrete reinforcing bar from Hong Kong (except for one company which has an individual rate of 54%) for a period of five years from May 4, 2017.
- Canada requires bilingual labelling (English and French) for most products. Bilingual designation of the generic name on most pre-packaged consumer products is required under the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act. Under this act, the product identity declaration, net quantity declaration and dealer's name and principal place of business must appear on the package or label of consumer goods sold in Canada. In addition, textile labelling and advertising regulations have been amended to allow the use of lastol and polylactic acid as generic fibre names in textile and apparel labels in April 2010.
- The agency responsible for inspection of imports, the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, also requires an indication of the country of origin on several classes of imported goods. Goods not properly marked will not be released from Canada Customs until suitably marked. In general, environmental claims that are ambiguous, misleading or irrelevant, or that cannot be substantiated, should not be used.
- Canada's position had slipped several places in the most recent IMD World Competitiveness Rankings, which rated the country consistently highly but highlighted insufficient levels of digitisation among small businesses and the minimal capacity of educational systems to react to the rapidly changing needs of high-growth sectors like technology.

Sources: WTO – Trade Policy Review, [Government of Canada, Global Markets Action Plan](#), [Department of Finance Canada, Canada Border Services Agency](#), [IMD World Competitiveness](#), Fitch Solutions

## 6. Trade Agreement

### 6.1 Trade Updates

- In December 2020, Canada and the United Kingdom signed a trade agreement. The Canada-UK Trade Continuity Agreement (Canada-UK TCA) replicates the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) on a bilateral basis. The TCA, therefore, is meant to maintain the status quo in the Canada-UK trade relationship.

- The United States' trade policies under President Trump and the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) have introduced uncertainty for Canadian businesses who export into the United States market. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (known in Canada as the CUSMA) entered into force on July 1, 2020.
- On November 19, the office of the British prime minister announced that talks between the UK and Canada on a continuity trade deal were at an advanced stage. The UK expressed its commitment to securing a continuity trade deal with Canada before the end of the transition period.

## 6.2 Multinational Trade Agreements

### Active

1. CPTPP: Following the withdrawal of the United States from the original Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) a broad agreement on the TPP's core elements was reached between the remaining 11 countries – Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. The countries represent 13.4% of global GDP, or approximately USD13.5 trillion. The CPTPP is the third largest free trade area in the world, after the USMCA and the EU. By October 2018 Canada and five other countries (Australia, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand and Singapore) had ratified the CPTPP agreement, which meant it automatically came into force on December 30, 2018. The agreement aims to cut tariffs, improve access to markets and set common ground on labour and environmental standards and intellectual property protections. Vietnam came on board in January 2019 and the remaining countries are expected to follow in accordance with the terms of the treaty.
2. USMCA/NAFTA: In October 2018, the United States, Mexico and Canada reached an agreement on a new and modern trade agreement called the USMCA to replace NAFTA. Additionally, a new Customs Administration and Trade Facilitation Chapter standardises and modernises customs procedures throughout North America to facilitate the free-flow of goods. There are also important improvements to disciplines on technical barriers to trade that will make it easier for businesses to export goods within the USMCA region. This outcome will reinforce the strong economic ties between the three countries and support job creation. The USMCA maintains many of the benefits of the previous NAFTA and ensures that the vast majority of USMCA trade will continue to be duty free. More robust rules of origin for the automotive sector will help keep the benefits of the agreement in North America and diminish incentives to make investment and sourcing decisions based on the availability of low-cost labour. The agreement has been ratified by all three countries and entered into force on July 1, 2020. Canada's trade with the United States and Mexico accounts for over 65% of its total trade.

### Provisionally Active

CETA: The CETA is an agreement between the EU and Canada. CETA was signed in October 2016 and ratified by the Canadian House of Commons and the EU Parliament in February 2017. However, the agreement has not been ratified by every European state and has only provisionally entered into force. CETA is expected to strengthen trade ties between the two regions, having come into effect on September 21, 2017. Some 98% of trade between Canada and the EU will be duty free under CETA. The agreement is expected to boost trade between partners by more than 20%. CETA also opens up government procurement. Canadian companies will be able to bid on opportunities at all levels of the EU government procurement market and vice versa. CETA means that Canadian provinces, territories and municipalities are opening their procurement to foreign entities for the first time, albeit with some limitations regarding energy utilities and public transport. CETA will take approximately seven years to be fully implemented, after which 99% of the EU's tariff lines will be duty free.

### Under Negotiation

1. Canada is also undertaking discussions of bilateral or multilateral free trade or economic partnership agreements, Japan, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Mercosur, among others, in order to expand market access.
2. Canada-UK TCA was signed in December 2020 and replicates the CETA on a bilateral basis. The TCA, therefore, is meant to maintain the status quo in the Canada-UK trade relationship. The deal comes after both countries announced an 'agreement in principle' in November 2020 to roll over current trading arrangements and begin negotiations on a new, bespoke UK-Canada trade deal in 2021. The TCA provides Canadian exporters, services providers, and farmers with continued preferential access to the UK market carried over from CETA. CETA removed 98% of tariffs on Canadian goods and over time will remove approximately 99% of tariffs, in addition to the other CETA benefits including improved access for services, greater certainty and transparency, protection for investments and intellectual property. The agreement gives certainty for UK businesses exporting goods and services to Canada worth GBP11.4 billion. The trade deal supports British industries including automotive manufacturing and food and drink, amongst others.

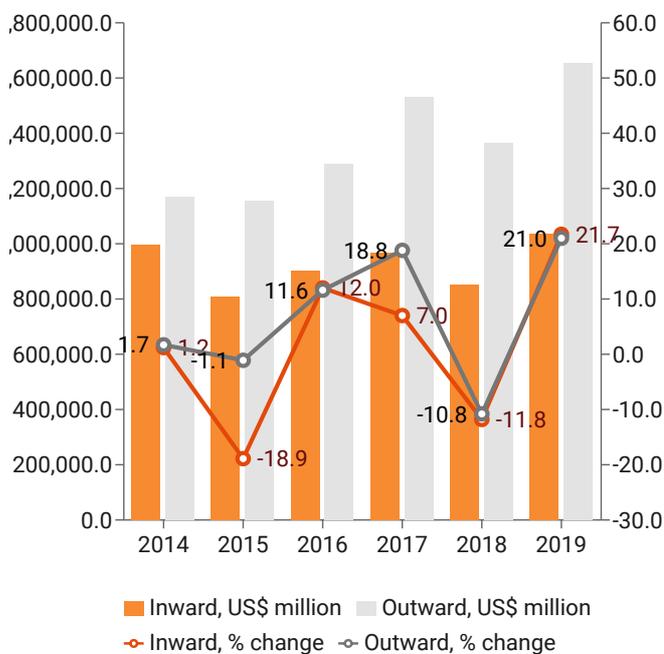
Sources: WTO Regional Trade Agreements database, [Government of Canada](#), [Invest in Canada](#), Fitch Solutions

## 7. Investment Policy

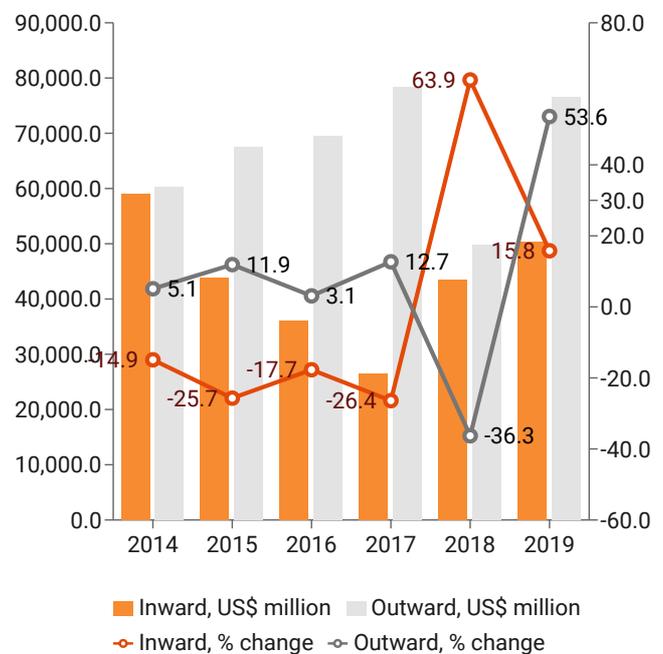
### 7.1 Foreign Direct Investment

## Foreign Direct Investment Stock

## Foreign Direct Investment Flow



Source: UNCTAD  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021



Source: UNCTAD  
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 7.2 Foreign Direct Investment Policy

1. Invest in Canada, established in March 2018 as a federal agency, aims to attract, increase and facilitate foreign direct investment (FDI) in Canada by expanding trade, encouraging innovation and further integrating firms into global supply chains. The organisation directs FDI into sectors aligned with the government's economic growth strategy, particularly aerospace, agri-food, biopharmaceuticals, digital media, machinery and equipment, mining, renewable energy and software.
2. Canada offers a number of sector-specific incentives to eligible companies, including more than CAD3 billion for scientific research and experimental development, incentives to support the growth of clean technology, more than CAD1.3 billion for large industrial and technology projects and the possibility to fast-track visas and work permits for specialised foreign workers.
3. With a few exceptions, Canada offers full national treatment to foreign investors within the context of a developed open market economy operating with democratic principles and institutions. Under the Investment Canada Act (ICA), Canada reviews investments by non-Canadians 'that could be injurious to national security'. Foreign investment is prohibited or restricted in several sectors of the economy, including banking, air and rail transport, media and communications and cultural businesses. Investment in specific sectors is covered by special legislation.
4. Under the terms of the ICA, large acquisitions by non-Canadians are reviewed and a requirement is imposed that these investments be of net benefit to Canada. For the vast majority of small acquisitions and the establishment of new businesses, foreign investors need only notify the Canadian government of their investment. Fewer than 10% of foreign acquisitions are subject to ICA review. The threshold for investments subject to ICA review for 2019 is CAD1.04 billion in enterprise value for World Trade Organization (WTO) members that are not state-owned enterprises (SOEs) – indirect control acquisitions by WTO members do not have to be reviewed. The threshold is CAD1.56 billion in enterprise value for trade agreement investors that are not SOEs. The threshold is CAD416 million in asset value for WTO investors that are SOEs. Thereafter, the review amount will be subject to indexation annually on January 1. Additionally, the time periods for the security review process will be increased from 130 days to 200 days. For non-WTO members investing or for investments in cultural business, the threshold remains CAD5 million in asset value for direct control and CAD50 million in asset value for indirect control acquisitions.
5. Investment relations with other states are governed by Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements (FIPAs). These are bilateral treaties that promote and protect foreign investment through a system of legally binding rights and obligations. Canada has 38 FIPAs in force with countries in Central Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia (Argentina, Armenia, Barbados, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mainland China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Guinea, Hong Kong, Hungary, Jordan, Kosovo, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Mali, Mongolia, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, the Russia, Senegal, Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela). Two others, with Moldova and Nigeria, are signed but not in force. Negotiations have been concluded on five others: Albania, Bahrain, Madagascar, the United Arab Emirates and Zambia. Canada is actively pursuing FIPAs with 14 other countries, including India and Pakistan. Canada views Mainland China as an increasingly important trade and investment partner and ratified its agreement with Mainland China in September 2014.
6. The CanExport-Community Investments (CECI) programme, formerly called Invest Canada-Community Initiatives, provides financial support ranging from CAD3,000 to CAD50,000 to communities for their FDI initiatives and activities to increase Canadian employment.

7. Canada announced new SOE guidelines in December 2012, which included the statement that future SOE bids to acquire control of a Canadian oil sands business will only be approved on an exceptional basis. Canada altered the definition of an SOE in its 2013 budget implementation bill to an entity or individual that is influenced directly or indirectly by a foreign government. The bill also established a separate threshold review for SOE acquisitions of control and allows Canada's industry minister to review minority SOE investments for the first time.
8. Amendments made to the Canada Transportation Act in June 2018 and confirmed in a Quebec Superior Court ruling in May 2019 mean that foreign ownership of Canadian air carriers is no longer limited to 25%. The government's stated purpose in permitting an increase from 25% to 49% in the level of foreign ownership of Canadian air carriers is to attract more foreign investment and encourage growth in the aviation sector. Prior to the amendments, no more than 25% of the voting interests of a Canadian air carrier could be owned or controlled by non-Canadians. Air Canada put a special procedure in place for foreign share transfers, reclassifying its stock as variable voting shares. This allowed non-Canadians to own more than 25% of the equity while reducing foreign voting rights. The amendments have introduced two new limitations on voting ownership and control, by capping the voting rights of single non-Canadians and of the aggregate of non-Canadian air carriers at 25%.
9. Regulatory reform in electricity provision continues in Canada in expectation that increased competition will lower costs of electricity supply. Province-owned power firms are interested in gaining greater access to the United States' power market. Several Canadian provinces have introduced initiatives to encourage the development and implementation of renewable sources of electricity. Canada continues to encourage additional foreign investment in its energy sector to develop its vast oil and gas resources.
10. Bank ownership must be widely held with no more than 25% of a bank's shares owned by a single shareholder. Canadian influence is still exerted through certain requirements of the Bank Act: the head office of a bank must be located in Canada, shareholders' meetings are required to be held in Canada, two thirds of the directors must be resident Canadians, the CEO of the bank must ordinarily be a resident in Canada, important corporate and transactional documents must be kept in Canada and certain administrative changes require ministerial approval.
11. Foreigners cannot be majority owners of uranium mines.
12. Under the provisions of Canada's Telecommunications Act, foreign ownership of transmission facilities is limited to 20% direct ownership and 33% through a holding company for an effective limit of 46.7% total foreign ownership. Canada also requires that at least 80% of the members of the board of directors of facilities-based telecommunications service suppliers must be Canadian citizens. Since 2012 the restrictions only apply to companies with less than a 10% market share based upon total Canadian telecoms revenue as determined by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission. Incentives for investment in cultural industries, at both the federal and provincial level, are generally available only to Canadian-controlled firms. Incentives may take the form of grants, loans, loan guarantees, venture capital or tax credits. Provincial incentive programmes for film production in Canada are available to foreign filmmakers.
13. The primary responsibility for property law rests with the provinces. Government authorities can expropriate property after paying appropriate compensation. British Columbia began a 15% tax on foreign buyers of residential real estate in the Metro Vancouver area in August 2016. In early 2017 the province announced that foreign buyers with work permits would be exempt from the tax. In 2018 the rate was increased to 20% and the applicable area was expanded.
14. The mandatory QST registration rules are expanded to non-residents of Quebec. Suppliers that are not residents of and have no physical or significant presence in, Quebec and that make digital and certain other supplies to 'specified Quebec consumers', may be required to register for QST under a new specified registration system, starting on January 1, 2019, for non-residents of Canada and on September 1, 2019, for residents of Canada that reside outside Quebec.
15. The November 2018 Federal Fall Economic Statement proposed an immediate 100% capital cost allowance deduction for manufacturing and processing and specified clean energy equipment acquired after November 20, 2018 and available for use before 2024, subject to a phase-out period for equipment first becoming available for use after 2023 and before 2028.
16. According to the 2019 FDI Confidence Index compiled by AT Kearney, despite falling one place, to third out of 25, Canada's score has been steadily improving in recent years and efforts to boost investment appeared to be paying off because FDI inflows had increased nearly 60% from last year, reversing a years-long downward trend.

Sources: WTO – Trade Policy Review, the ITA, US Department of Commerce, [Investment Canada Act](#), [Government of Canada](#), [CanExport](#), [Invest in Canada](#), [Air Canada](#), [AT Kearney](#).

### 7.3 Free Trade Zones and Investment Incentives

Free Trade Zone/Incentive Programme	Main Incentives Available
Any location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lowest overall tax rate on new business investment in the G7.</li> <li>- Duty-free tariff regime on imports of manufacturing inputs and machinery.</li> <li>- The GST/HST is recoverable for most businesses and does not apply to exports.</li> <li>- Canada's duty and tax relief is geographically flexible. It can be enjoyed anywhere in the country.</li> <li>- Canada is the first country in the G20 to offer a tariff-free zone for industrial manufacturers. Canada's initiative applies across the entire country, making it one large free trade zone for firms importing manufacturing inputs.</li> <li>- Although Canada's nationwide free trade approach negates the need for the locally oriented trade zones that exist in other countries, it has marketed the concept to foreign entities by creating nine foreign trade zone (FTZ) points where regional development agencies can ease access to a task force expert in federal government policies, programmes and regulatory agencies. The nine FTZs are Windsor-Essex, Ontario; Port Alberta; Quebec City; Cape Breton Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia; Halifax Gateway, Nova Scotia; Niagara, Ontario; CentrePort Canada, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Calgary Region Inland Port; and Regina Global Transportation Hub, Saskatchewan.</li> <li>- Investors who choose Canada will have the advantage of importing advanced machinery and equipment into Canada free of import duties. This reduces the import cost of advanced machinery and equipment.</li> <li>- Invest in Canada's Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) has CAD1.26 billion to provide funding for large projects (over CAD10 million) through one of five funding streams. The SIF has announced 51 projects and has CAD41 billion total investment leveraged.</li> <li>- Invest in Canada's Scientific Research and Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program offers CAD3 billion in tax incentives for eligible companies to conduct business research and development in Canada. The tax credit varies by province or territory.</li> <li>- The Clean Growth Hub has CAD2.3 billion (in the 2017 budget) to support clean technology in Canada and the growth of Canadian firms and exports that promote the global transition to a low-carbon, low-pollution and resource-efficient economy.</li> </ul>
Other incentives (regional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Federal and provincial governments in Canada offer a wide array of investment incentives that municipalities are generally prohibited from offering. The incentives are designed to advance broader policy goals, such as boosting research and development or promoting regional economies. The funds are available to any qualified Canadian or foreign investor who agrees to use the money for the stated purpose. For example, the province of Quebec has a 20-year sustainable development investment initiative that is intended to harness the economic, mineral, energy and tourism potential of Quebec's northern territory. Quebec has also designated 16 ports where maritime industrial zones will be developed or improved. The provincial government has pledged to invest CAD300 million annually for the next five years. Other provinces and territories have similar initiatives and funding plans.</li> <li>- Many provincial incentives may be restricted to firms established in the province or that agree to establish a facility in the province.</li> </ul>

Sources: National sources, [Windsor-Essex](#), [Port Alberta](#), [Niagara](#), [CentrePort Canada](#), [Global Transportation Hub](#), [Strategic Innovation Fund](#), [SR&ED](#), [Clean Growth Hub](#), Fitch Solutions

## 8. Taxation – 2021

- Value Added Tax: 5% (plus provincial/territorial tax)
- Corporate Income Tax: 15%

Source: [Canada Revenue Agency](#)

### 8.1 Important Updates to Taxation Information

The latest federal budget continues the focus on improving the integrity of the tax system by tightening perceived loopholes and inequities, and by cracking down on tax evasion and tax avoidance. It proposes to invest an additional CAD216.6 million over five years to fund new Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) initiatives and extend existing programmes to further combat tax evasion and tax avoidance. Additionally, the budget aims to improve the CRA's information technology systems so that the infrastructure used to combat tax evasion and aggressive tax avoidance

continues to evolve. It is mandatory for corporations with annual gross revenue that exceeds CAD1 million to file a tax return electronically. The mandatory Quebec sales tax has been extended to suppliers that make digital and certain other supplies to specified Quebec consumers, requiring suppliers non-resident in Canada to register for QST from January 1, 2019, and for Canadian suppliers based outside Quebec to register from September 1, 2019.

## 8.2 Business Taxes

Type of Tax	Tax Rate and Base
Federal Corporate Income Tax (CIT) Rate (net)	15%; A basic rate of 38% applies, which is reduced by a 10% abatement to enable a provincial CIT. The federal rate is effectively 28%, but a 13% general deduction leaves a net federal rate of 15%.
PST Rate	Between 10% and 16%, varying by activity and province/territory (a 3% tax credit for qualifying liquefied natural gas investments in BC means that the effective provincial CIT rate there can be reduced from 12% to 9%).
Branch Tax Rate	25% (5%, 10%, or 15% if treaty with non-resident country is enacted – rates apply according to the treaty)
Federal GST	5% is levied as a VAT on the supply of a broad range of goods and services, but many things are zero-rated, including basic groceries and prescription drugs.
Provincial/Territorial Retail Tax (PST)	6-9.975% additional VAT applied to the same broad range of goods and services as GST in certain provinces, resulting in an overall GST/PST rate of 11-14.975%. No additional retail sales tax is applied in Alberta or the territories of Northwest Territories, Nunavut and the Yukon.
HST	13-15%; Five provinces impose a single HST that incorporates the federal GST rate of 5% and a provincial retail tax, giving an overall total rate of 15% in four provinces (effectively levying a PST of 10%) and 13% in one province (effectively levying a PST of 8%).
Withholding Tax	For both residents and non-residents the rate is generally 25% on dividend income, interest and royalties, although a double taxation agreement (DTA) may reduce this – for example, a DTA with Mainland China makes this 10% on each (15% on dividends in some circumstances) and a DTA with Hong Kong makes this 15% on dividends (but as low as 5% on dividends in some circumstances) and 10% on interest and royalties.
Branch Remittance Tax	25%
Property Tax	Property taxes are levied on the estimated market value of real property within a municipality, province or territory boundary. A general property tax is levied on the owner in most, but some levy a separate tax if the premises are used for business purposes. Taxes are based on the rental value of the property at rates set each year by the authority. School taxes, generally based on property value, are levied by local and regional school boards. In BC an annual speculation and vacancy tax is imposed on residential property in several urban centres for those not paying income tax in BC, which is levied at 2% for foreign nationals and 0.5% for nationals.
Land Tax	A land transfer tax or registration fee is payable in all provinces and territories by the purchaser of property within their boundaries. This is generally paid when title to the property is registered and is usually a percentage on a sliding scale of the sale price or the assessed value of the property. Rates generally range from 0.02% to 3%, but can be higher for non-residents. In BC, purchases of residential property by foreign entities (nationals or corporations) are subject to an additional 20% land transfer tax (in addition to the general land transfer tax).
Social Security Contributions	From January 1, 2019, the Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan have been enhanced, requiring higher employer and employee contributions of 5.10% phased in over seven years. The maximum annual employer and employee contribution becomes CAD2,748.9 and up to CAD1,204.31 employment insurance premiums. In Quebec the maximum contribution becomes CAD2,991.45, as well as CAD929.25 in employment insurance premiums and CAD563.04 for a Quebec parental insurance plan. In BC, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario and Quebec employers also pay a payroll tax rate ranging from 1.95% to 4.3%. Employers in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut must deduct from salaries a payroll tax equal to 2% of earnings.

Sources: [Canada Revenue Agency](#), [Canada Pension Plan](#)

Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 9. Foreign Worker Requirements

### 9.1 Entry Visas

An individual who is not a citizen or permanent resident of Canada or a national from a designated country that is exempt from the visa requirement and who wishes to enter the country as a tourist, business visitor, student or foreign worker must obtain a temporary resident visa through a consulate outside Canada before entering the country. A foreign national who is exempt from the requirement to possess a travel entry visa (for example, most citizens of a EU country, Australia and Japan) must first obtain an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) before departing for Canada. An ETA is normally valid for five years or for the duration of the traveller's passport, whichever is shorter. The application and approval process is normally very fast for most travellers through the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada website, but must be completed before departure in order for the airline to allow the traveller to board the aircraft.

## 9.2 Skilled Workers

Canada has launched various initiatives in recent years, including the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP). Others include the global skills visa, announced in November 2016, to address the country's skilled labour shortage, including through immigration reform. Labour mobility provisions have been included in FTAs, including the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. The Global Talent Stream of the TFWP makes it easier for businesses in Canada to attract skilled foreign workers by processing the work permit and visa in only two weeks. The TFWP is jointly managed by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada and is divided into two categories: the International Mobility Program, which primarily includes high-skilled or high-wage professions, and the TFWP, which refers primarily to low-skilled workers. The number of temporary foreign workers a business can employ is limited.

## 9.3 Business Visitors

An individual wishing to enter Canada as a business visitor must first secure a temporary resident visa, or in the case of visa-exempt foreign nationals, an ETA. A foreign national may enter Canada as a business visitor without obtaining a work permit in certain limited instances. In general, these instances are limited to foreign nationals engaging in international business activities in Canada without directly entering the Canadian labour market or providing services to a Canadian entity. Common circumstances in which a foreign national may enter Canada as a business visitor include the following:

- Foreign nationals attending business meetings or conferences.
- Foreign nationals seeking to purchase Canadian goods or services or receiving training.
- Foreign nationals giving or receiving training with a Canadian parent or subsidiary of the corporation that employs the foreign national abroad.
- Foreign national sales representatives who come to Canada to sell goods (or services) manufactured outside Canada if they do not sell to the general public.

## 9.4 Work Permits

With few exceptions, most individuals providing services in Canada's labour market require a work permit regardless of duration of stay or source of income. Admission to Canada is generally granted for a specific purpose and is subject to a limited duration. All foreign nationals seeking entry to Canada must ensure that they have the appropriate status for their intended activities and length of stay. The federal government, through Service Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada, is responsible for ensuring that the Canadian labour market is not negatively affected by the use of foreign nationals in place of Canadian citizens or permanent residents. A foreign worker may apply to Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada for a work permit only after Service Canada has provided a Labour Market Impact Assessment to the employer that states that a job may be offered to a foreign worker. However, in certain circumstances an employer is exempt from obtaining approval from Service Canada and the qualifying employee may apply directly for a work permit. Foreign workers employed in low-skilled and low-wage occupations have greater restrictions on their ability to work in Canada.

## 9.5 Drivers Permits

Foreign nationals may drive temporarily in Canada using driver's licences from their home countries. Because each Canadian province issues driver's licences independently, rules for foreigners vary. In general, foreign nationals have 60 days from the time of their arrival in Canada to obtain a Canadian driver's licence. Depending on the province, an eye examination and a driving examination may be required. If you plan to use a foreign driver's licence in Canada it is recommended that you get an international driving permit in your home country, which will give you a translation of your licence into French and English.

Sources: [Work in Canada](#), [Invest in Canada](#), [Global Skills Strategy](#), [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#), Fitch Solutions

## 10. Risks

### 10.1 Sovereign Credit Ratings

	Rating (Outlook)	Rating Date
Moody's	Aaa (Stable)	02/11/2018
Standard & Poor's	AAA (Stable)	29/07/2002
Fitch Ratings	AA+ (Stable)	24/06/2020

Sources: Moody's, Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings

## 10.2 Competitiveness and Efficiency Indicators

	World Ranking		
	2018	2019	2020
Ease of Doing Business Index	18/190	22/190	23/190
Ease of Paying Taxes Index	16/190	19/190	19/190
Logistics Performance Index	20/160	N/A	N/A
Corruption Perception Index	9/180	12/180	11/180
IMD World Competitiveness	10/63	13/63	8/63

Sources: World Bank, IMD, Transparency International

## 10.3 Fitch Solutions Risk Indices

	World Ranking		
	2019	2020	2021
<b>Economic Risk Index Rank</b>	<b>28/201</b>	<b>36/201</b>	<b>12/201</b>
Short-Term Economic Risk Score	70.2	59.8	72.9
Long-Term Economic Risk Score	73.1	67.4	74.6
<b>Political Risk Index Rank</b>	<b>4/201</b>	<b>5/201</b>	<b>5/201</b>
Short-Term Political Risk Score	92.7	89.4	88.5
Long-Term Political Risk Score	92.3	91.4	91.4
<b>Operational Risk Index Rank</b>	<b>10/201</b>	<b>10/201</b>	<b>10/201</b>
Operational Risk Score	76.6	75.2	75.9

Source: Fitch Solutions

Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 10.4 Fitch Solutions Risk Summary

### ECONOMIC RISK

The Covid-19 pandemic has dampened external demand and investment while social distancing measures will weigh on household incomes, tempering private consumption. Although oil prices have rebounded somewhat, Canadian firms that shut-in production due to the plunging prices in 2020 will slowly ramp up output against a background of elevated economic uncertainty. A moderate rebound is expected in 2021 and household spending should benefit from gradually recovering consumer confidence. That said, recently renewed localised lockdowns and travel restrictions, pose significant risks to the outlook. Medium-term risks stem from lingering economic scarring from lost jobs and income, coupled with high household debt and a challenging regulatory environment for investing in the hydrocarbon sector will temper the pace of the recovery.

### OPERATIONAL RISK

Canada has a robust high-tech industrial economy, bolstered by a large number of skilled workers and a strong logistics profile, with businesses ranging from small owner-managed enterprises to multinational corporations. The federal structure, with individual provinces sometimes pulling in different directions, could create new and unexpected calls on the federal budget and risks eroding the fiscal deficit and policymaking.

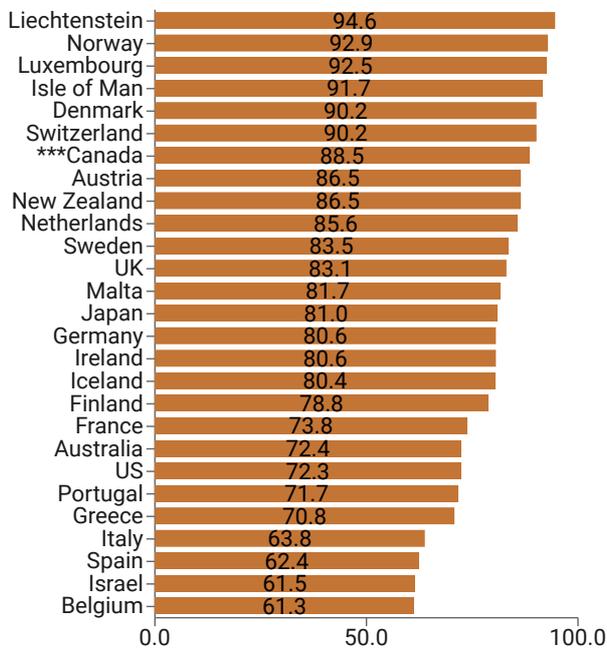
Source: Fitch Solutions

Data last reviewed: February 16, 2021

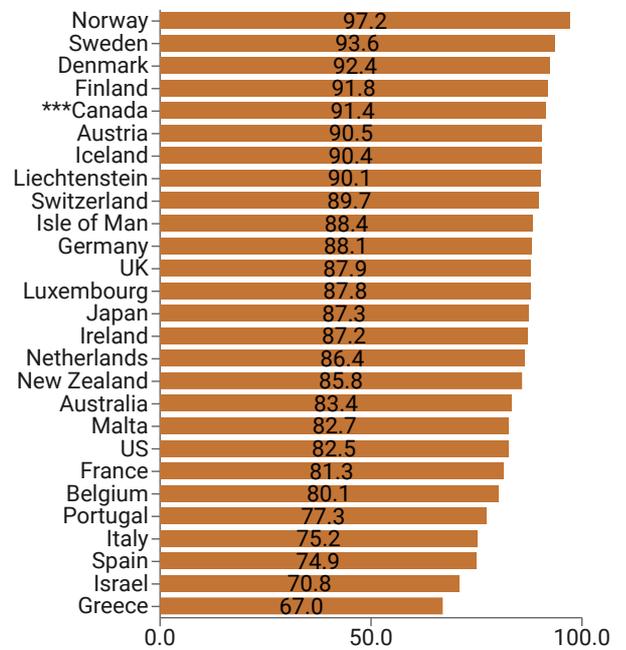
## 10.5 Fitch Solutions Political and Economic Risk Indices

### Short Term Political Risk Index

### Long Term Political Risk Index

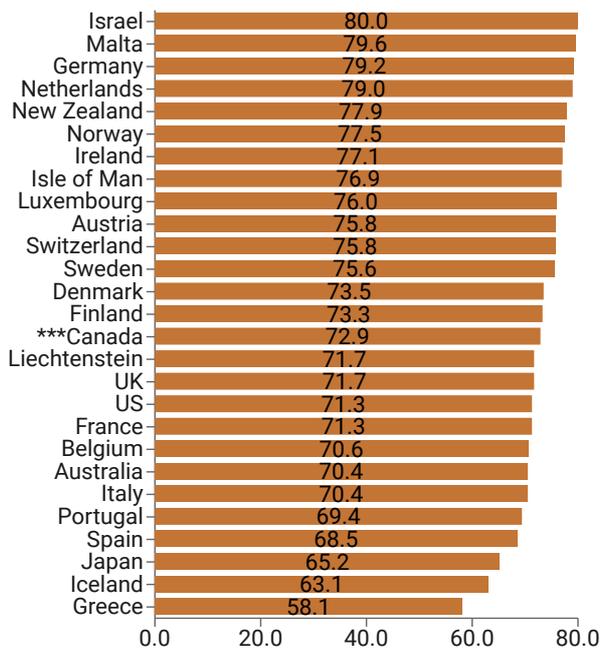


100 = Lowest risk; 0 = Highest risk  
 Source: Fitch Solutions Political and Economic Risk Indices  
 Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021



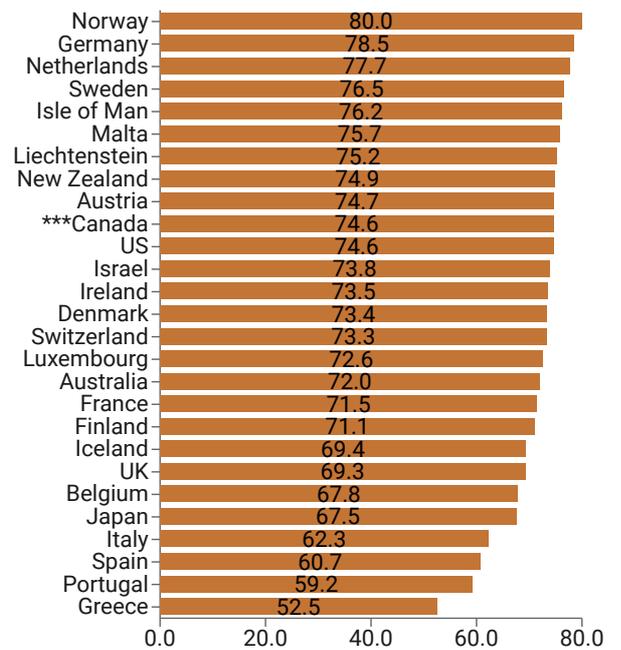
100 = Lowest risk; 0 = Highest risk  
 Source: Fitch Solutions Political and Economic Risk Indices  
 Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

### Short Term Economic Risk Index



100 = Lowest risk; 0 = Highest risk  
 Source: Fitch Solutions Political and Economic Risk Indices  
 Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

### Long Term Economic Risk Index



100 = Lowest risk; 0 = Highest risk  
 Source: Fitch Solutions Political and Economic Risk Indices  
 Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

### 10.6 Fitch Solutions Operational Risk Index

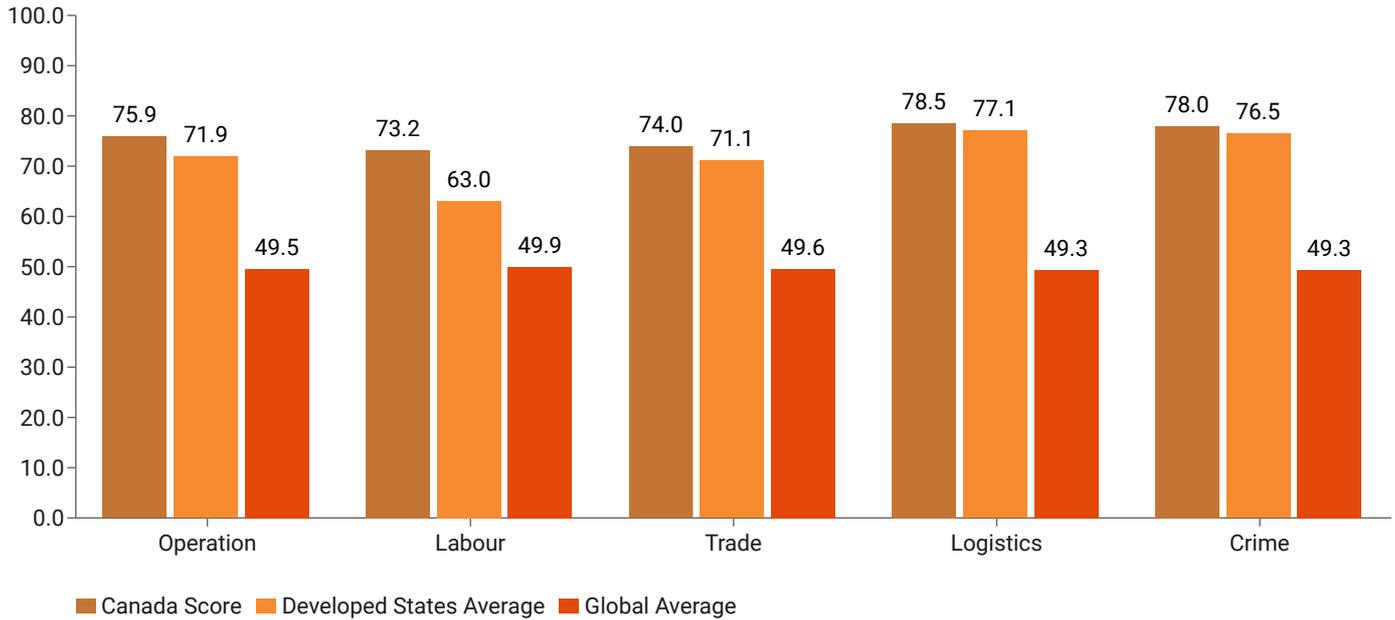
	Operational Risk	Labour Market Risk	Trade and Investment Risk	Logistics Risk	Crime and Security Risk
<b>Canada Score</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>78.0</b>
Developed States Average	71.9	63.0	71.1	77.1	76.5

Developed States Position (out of 27)	8	3	11	15	16
Global Average	49.5	49.9	49.6	49.3	49.3
Global Position (out of 201)	10	5	18	18	19

100 = Lowest risk; 0 = Highest risk

Source: Fitch Solutions Operational Risk Index

## Canada vs Global and Regional Operational Risk Averages



Note: 100 = Lowest Risk, 0 = Highest Risk

Source: Fitch Solutions Operational Risk Index

Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

Country/Region	Operational Risk	Labour Market Risk Index	Trade and Investment Risk Index	Logistics Risk	Crime and Security Risk Index
Denmark	79.0	71.8	76.9	84.6	82.5
Switzerland	78.7	75.3	77.2	78.8	83.8
Netherlands	77.8	66.4	78.2	86.7	79.9
United States	76.8	79.7	75.4	84.7	67.3
New Zealand	76.7	71.6	74.4	72.7	88.3
Sweden	76.6	67.5	77.0	83.3	78.4
Norway	75.3	63.5	71.0	78.8	88.1
<b>Canada</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>78.4</b>
United Kingdom	74.5	71.0	76.9	75.1	75.0
Austria	74.4	61.0	72.2	83.3	81.3
Luxembourg	74.2	55.9	78.0	83.1	79.9

Finland	73.7	54.0	72.5	84.7	83.6
Ireland	73.1	65.9	79.0	68.3	79.3
Spain	72.2	60.5	70.0	80.0	78.4
Australia	72.2	68.4	72.5	69.4	78.4
Belgium	71.2	56.6	75.3	80.1	72.9
Japan	71.2	69.4	65.5	77.4	72.7
Iceland	70.7	59.3	67.7	68.2	87.7
Germany	70.4	64.1	67.8	77.5	72.3
France	70.3	60.2	70.0	78.8	72.1
Portugal	69.5	52.3	66.9	79.8	78.9
Israel	68.1	72.2	67.4	69.9	62.8
Malta	64.8	55.3	68.6	63.5	71.7
Isle of Man	64.6	53.0	68.7	55.3	81.5
Liechtenstein	63.7	48.9	57.4	69.8	78.6
Italy	63.3	53.5	59.4	75.4	65.1
Greece	56.7	52.7	48.6	69.9	55.7
Developed Markets Averages	71.7	63.1	70.7	76.1	76.8
Global Markets Averages	49.5	49.9	49.5	49.4	49.3

100 = Lowest risk; 0 = Highest risk

Source: Fitch Solutions Operational Risk Index

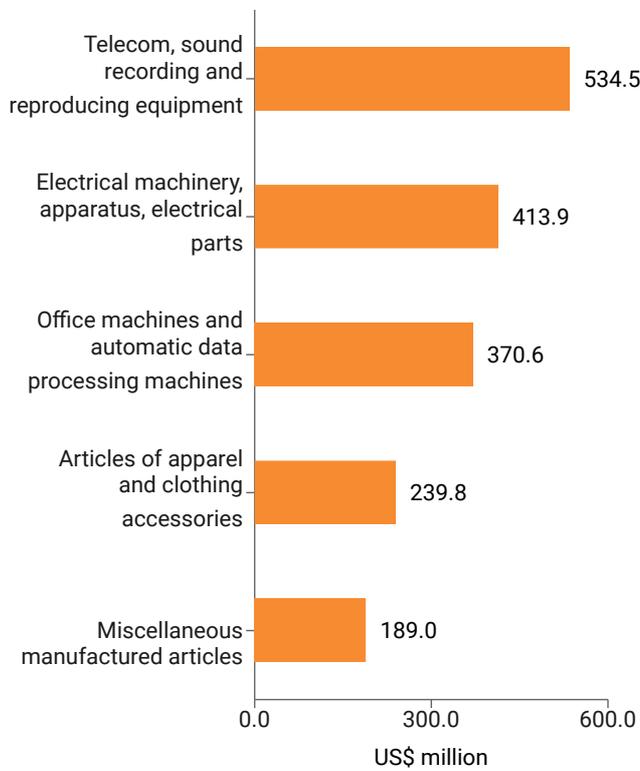
Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 11. Hong Kong Connection

### 11.1 Hong Kong's Trade with Canada

#### Major Export Commodities to Canada (2020)

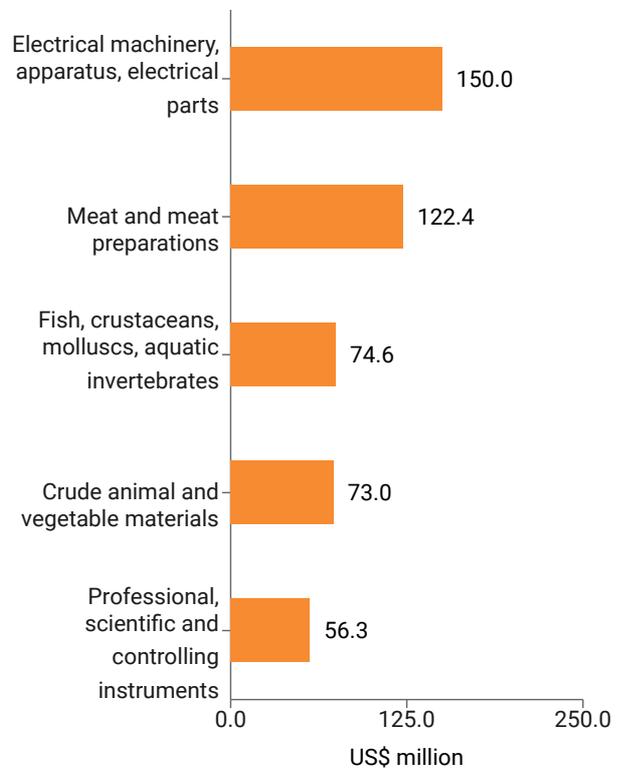
#### Major Import Commodities from Canada (2020)



Note: Graph shows the main Hong Kong exports to Canada (by consignment)

Sources: Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department, Fitch Solutions

Date last reviewed: March 10, 2021

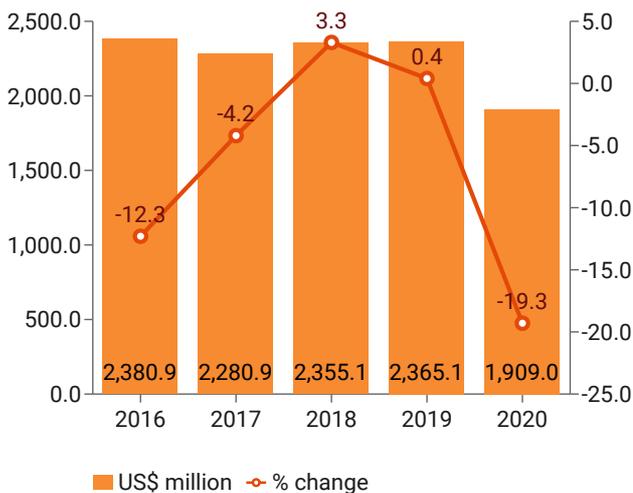


Note: Graph shows the main Hong Kong imports from Canada (by consignment)

Sources: Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department, Fitch Solutions

Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

### Merchandise Exports to Canada

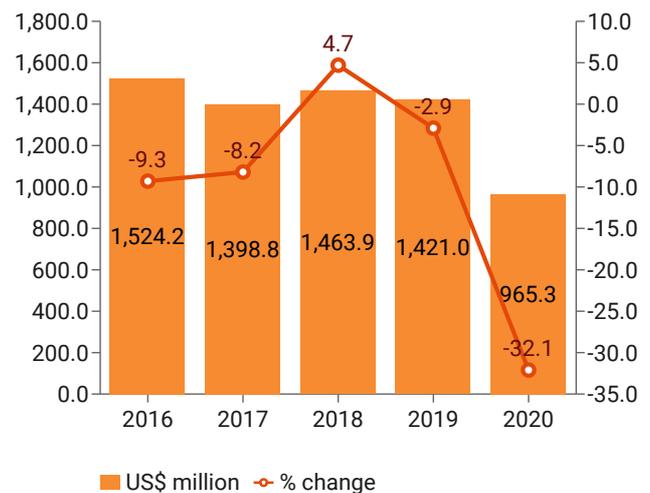


Note: Graph shows Hong Kong exports to Canada (by consignment)

Sources: Hong Kong Trade Statistics, Census & Statistics Department

Date last reviewed: March 10, 2021

### Merchandise Imports from Canada



Note: Graph shows Hong Kong imports from Canada (by consignment)

Sources: Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department, Fitch Solutions

Date last reviewed: March 10, 2021

Exchange Rate HK\$/US\$, average

7.76 (2016)

7.79 (2017)

7.84 (2018)

7.84 (2019)

7.76 (2020)

2019

Growth rate (%)

Number of Canadian residents visiting Hong Kong	318,479	-15.7
Number of North American residents visiting Hong Kong	1,425,644	-15.3

Source: Hong Kong Tourism Board

	2019	Growth rate (%)
Number of Canadians residing in Hong Kong	18,993	29.6
Number of developed state citizens residing in Hong Kong	83,786	29.6

Note: Growth rate is from 2015 to 2019. No UN data available for intermediate years.

Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs – Population Division

Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

## 11.2 Commercial Presence in Hong Kong

	2019	Growth rate (%)
Number of Canadian companies in Hong Kong	119	6.6
- Regional headquarters	22	4.8
- Regional offices	31	-6.1
- Local offices	66	11.9

Sources: Business Expectation Statistics Section of the Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department, Fitch Solutions

## 11.3 Treaties and Agreements between Hong Kong and Canada

- Hong Kong and Canada have a comprehensive DTA that has been effective from October 29, 2013. Under the agreement, tax paid in Hong Kong will be allowed as a credit against tax payable in Canada and double taxation will be avoided in that any Canada tax paid by Hong Kong companies will be allowed as a credit against the tax payable in Hong Kong in respect of the income. The withholding tax on interests and royalties received from Canada will be reduced from 25% to 10% and the withholding tax on Canadian dividends will be reduced from the current rate of 25% to 15% (and will be further lowered to 5% on fulfilling certain conditions).
- Hong Kong and Canada have an investment promotion and protection agreement that entered into force on September 6, 2016.
- Canada has a bilateral investment treaty (BIT) with Hong Kong that entered into force on September 6, 2016 and a BIT with Mainland China that entered into force on October 1, 2014.
- Canada has a tax treaty with Mainland China that has been applicable since January 1, 1987.

Sources: [Inland Revenue Department](#), [Trade and Industry Department](#), [Government of Hong Kong](#), [UNCTAD](#)

## 11.4 Chamber of Commerce or Related Organisations

### The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong represents some 1,100 members with business interests in Canada, Mainland China and Hong Kong and is the largest Canadian business organisation outside Canada. It is also one of the largest and most active international chambers in Hong Kong and one of the most influential business groups in the Asia Pacific region.

Address: Unit B & C, 10/F, China Overseas Building, 139 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Email: Via the website contact form

Tel: (852) 2110 8700

Source: [The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong](#)

### The Hong Kong-Canada Business Association

Section	Tel	Email	Website
National ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 778 775 4544	<a href="mailto:nationaled@hkcca.com">nationaled@hkcca.com</a>	<a href="http://www.hkcca.com">www.hkcca.com</a>
Atlantic Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 902 448 8892	<a href="mailto:billbu65@gmail.com">billbu65@gmail.com</a>	<a href="https://atlantic.hkcca.com">https://atlantic.hkcca.com</a>

Calgary Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 403 608 7447	<a href="mailto:calgaryadmin@hkcbacba.com">calgaryadmin@hkcbacba.com</a>	<a href="http://www.calgaryhkcbacba.com">www.calgaryhkcbacba.com</a>
Edmonton Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 780 904 4 136	<a href="mailto:hkcbacba.edmonton@gmail.com">hkcbacba.edmonton@gmail.com</a>	<a href="https://edmonton.hkcbacba.com">https://edmonton.hkcbacba.com</a>
Montreal Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 514 931 6333	<a href="mailto:montreal@hkcbacba.com">montreal@hkcbacba.com</a>	<a href="https://montreal.hkcbacba.com">https://montreal.hkcbacba.com</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/hkcbamontreal">www.facebook.com/hkcbamontreal</a>
Ottawa Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 613 915 6852	<a href="mailto:hkcbacbaottawa@hkcbacba.com">hkcbacbaottawa@hkcbacba.com</a>	<a href="http://www.hkcbacba-ottawa.silkstart.com">www.hkcbacba-ottawa.silkstart.com</a>
Toronto GTA Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 416 366 2642	<a href="mailto:bob@hkcbacba.com">bob@hkcbacba.com</a>	<a href="https://toronto.hkcbacba.com">https://toronto.hkcbacba.com</a>
Vancouver Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 778 775 4544	<a href="mailto:vancouver@hkcbacba.com">vancouver@hkcbacba.com</a>	<a href="https://vancouver.hkcbacba.com">https://vancouver.hkcbacba.com</a>
Winnipeg Section ( <a href="#">more information</a> )	(1) 204 890 3294	<a href="mailto:hkcbawinnipeg@gmail.com">hkcbawinnipeg@gmail.com</a>	<a href="https://winnipeg.hkcbacba.com">https://winnipeg.hkcbacba.com</a>

Source: [Federation of Hong Kong Business Associations Worldwide](#)

#### Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong

The Immigration Section: 9/F, Berkshire House, 25 Westlands Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong

The Office of the Consul General: 5/F, Tower 3, Exchange Square, 8 Connaught Place, Central, Hong Kong

Email: [hkong@international.gc.ca](mailto:hkong@international.gc.ca)

Tel: General inquiries: (852) 3719 4700 / Consular services: (852) 2867 7348

Fax: (852) 2847 7561

Source: [Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong](#)

#### 11.5 Visa Requirements for Hong Kong Residents

Starting March 2016, the Canada Electronic System for Travel Authorisation allows nationals from certain eligible countries to travel to Canada for stays of up to six months with an electronically delivered ETA e-Visa. HKSAR passport holders are eligible for this entry method for tourist and business visits. Once approved, the ETA is valid for five years or until the passport expires, whichever comes first.

Sources: [Government of Canada](#), [Hong Kong Immigration Department](#)

Date last reviewed: February 14, 2021

#### Related Topics

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[CANADA ECONOMIC STRUCTURE](#)

[CANADA EXTERNAL TRADE](#)

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