



CANADA

Capital: Ottawa

Population: (2011 est.)
Canada: 34.03 million
Virginia: 8 million

Government Type: Confederation with Parliamentary Democracy

Chief of State:
Queen Elizabeth II
Represented by Governor General
Michaëlle Jean

Head of Government:
Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Languages (Official): English, French

Land Size:
3,855,102 Square Miles
(Slightly larger than the U.S.)



(Map of Canada. CIA)

Currency: (www.oanda.com)
Canadian Dollar (CAD)
1US\$ = 0.97 CAD (June 2011)
1US\$ = 1.06 CAD (June 2010)

DID YOU KNOW?

- U.S. exports to Canada in 2010 were valued at \$248.2 billion, an increase of 21% over 2009.
- Roughly 75% of Canada's exports are purchased by the United States. (Industry Canada)
- Canada is the United States' largest foreign supplier of energy, including oil, gas, uranium, and electric power.
- The United States and Canada share the world's longest common border at 5,525 miles in length.
- Approximately 75% of Canada's population live within 90 miles of the U.S. border.
- Since January 2007, all U.S. citizens traveling by air to and from Canada must have a valid passport to enter or re-enter the United States. U.S. citizens traveling between the United States and Canada by land or sea (including ferries) have been required to present a valid passport or other documents since January 2008. (CIA)
- The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that trade with Canada sustains nearly 8 million U.S. jobs. (U.S. Department of Commerce)
- Canada is the number one export market for 36 U.S. states.
- Vancouver, British Columbia is the third largest film and television production center in North America after Los Angeles and New York, and has been coined "Hollywood North". (CanadianEncyclopedia.com)



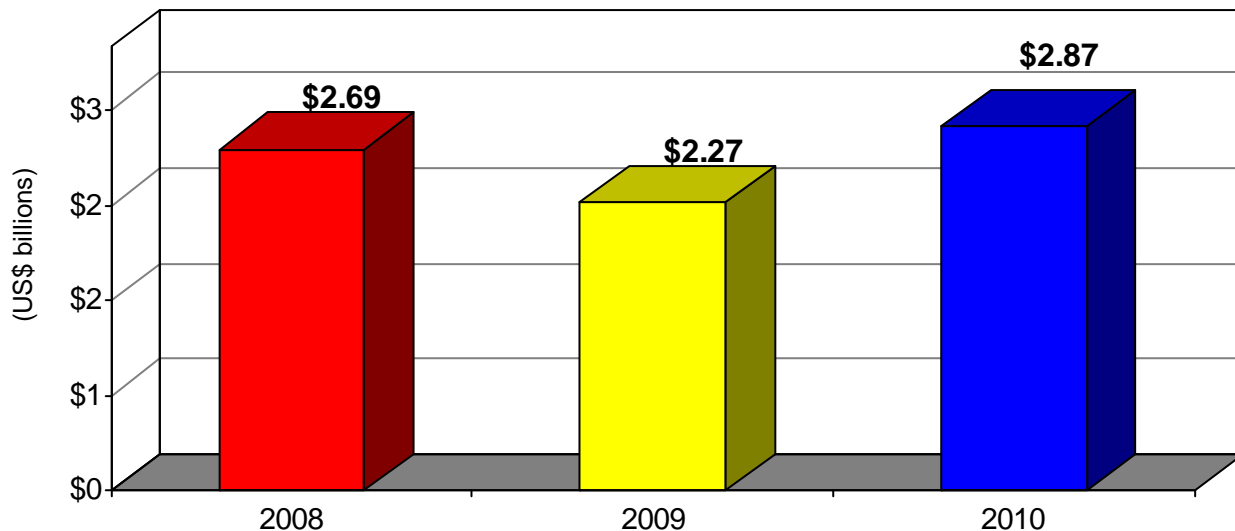
CANADA

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Canada's economic output (GDP) grew 3% in 2010, with a similar performance expected in 2011. As the United States' top trading partner, Canada's economic growth is largely dependent on exports to the U.S., and closely follows the U.S. business cycle. Canada weathered the recent financial crisis better than many countries due to several key factors. Perhaps most important, Canada has a track record of sound fiscal policy and balanced budgets. In fact, last fiscal year was Canada's first budget deficit in over twelve years. In that same time period, successive governments have cut the federal debt load in half, and Canada now boasts the lowest debt-to-GDP ratio of the G7 nations. Canada's fiscal stimulus plan is praised for being implemented quickly following the global economic downturn, and has helped prop up domestic demand. Unlike the situation in the United States, the Canadian banking system was relatively well capitalized at the outset of the current crisis, and faced much less exposure to "toxic" real estate assets. Only 5% of Canadian mortgages are nonprime and only 30% are securitized (in the United States this figure is 25% and 60%, respectively). As of April 2011, no Canadian banking institution has required publicly funded capital injections or experienced financial failure. Consequently, credit markets in Canada have not frozen up to the extent seen in the U.S. and Europe, and Canada's economy should be in a strong position to grow as demand rebounds in its major export markets.

(IMF)

VIRGINIA EXPORTS TO CANADA



(Source for Graph: World Trade Atlas)



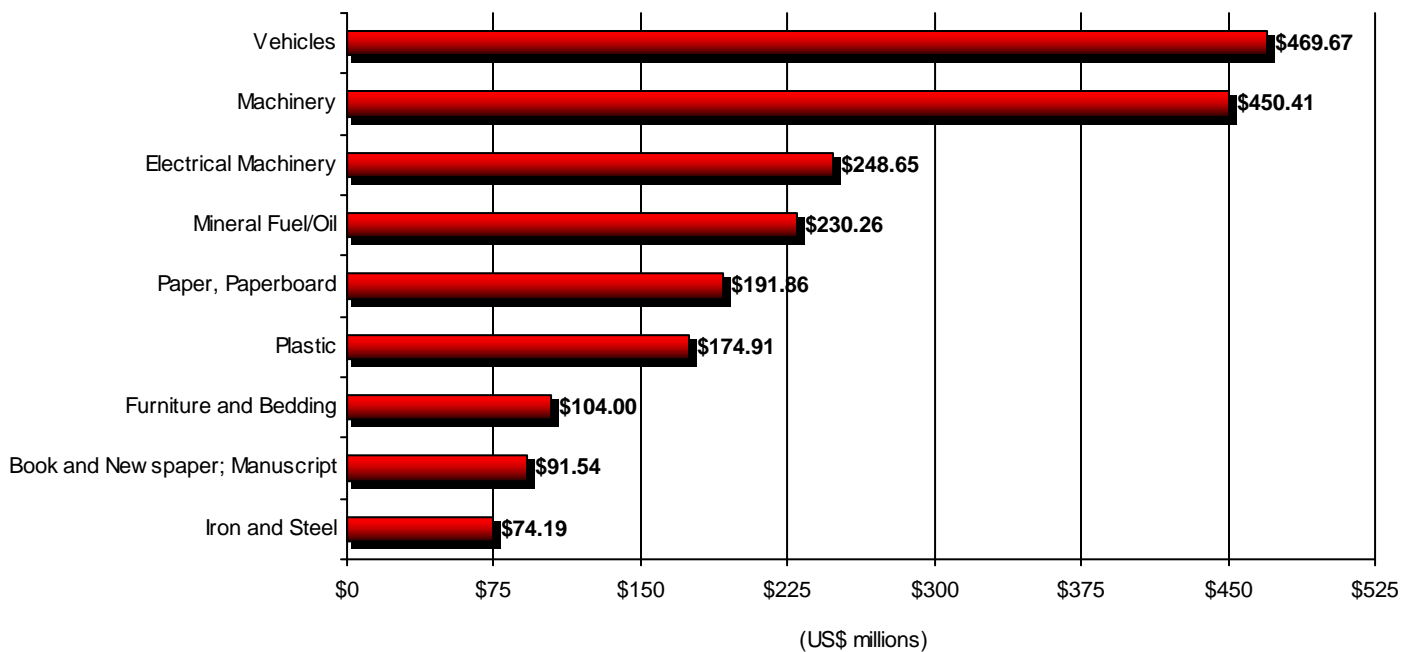
VIRGINIA EXPORTS TO CANADA

The automotive sector dominates trade between the United States and Canada and between Virginia and Canada. Not surprisingly, Michigan is consistently the top exporting state of vehicles and vehicle parts to Canada. In 2009, industrial machinery eclipsed vehicles as the top export commodity group to Canada from both the United States and Virginia. However, in 2010 vehicles resumed the top export commodity position for both the United States as well as Virginia. Automotive products exported to Canada from Virginia surged nearly 65% in 2010.

Sales of industrial machinery to Canada via Virginia increased almost 26% in 2010 and were led by printing machinery, compressors, heat exchange units, hand/pneumatic tools, centrifuges, and transmission parts. Virginia's exports of electrical machinery to Canada increased by 12.6% in 2010, and consisted primarily of telephony apparatus, power supplies, insulated wires and cables, recordable memory components, media transmission equipment, and switches/relays/fuses.

Virginia export commodity groups that experienced the strongest percentage growth in sales to Canada during 2010 included mineral fuel/oil (+106%), furniture and bedding (+74%), and meat (+61%). Although comprising less than 1% of Virginia's total exports to Canada, several commodities should be noted for more than doubling volume from 2009 to 2010: cocoa, precious stones/metals, art and antiques, headgear, ore/slag/ash, lead, and articles of nickel.

VIRGINIA'S TOP EXPORTS TO CANADA - 2010



(Source for Text and Graph: World Trade Atlas)



VEDP TRADE EVENTS

Group Market Visit to Canada (Montreal and Toronto): October 17-21, 2011.

For more information please contact:

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Other Services: The VEDP offers a number of export-related services to Virginia businesses, including independent market visits and market research by our Global Network of in-country consultants. These services are available to all Virginia exporters. For more information, please visit our website: www.exportvirginia.org.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Canadian Importers Database: http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/cgi-bin/sc_mrkti/cid/cid_e.cgi

Doing Business in Canada: <http://www.buyusa.gov/canada/en/ccg.html>

Industry Canada: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ic1.nsf/eng/home>

Statistics Canada: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>

U.S. Commercial Service: [Canada Country Guide \(CCG\) 2011](#)

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