

California-Alberta Relations



PROFILE

Capital: Sacramento

Population: 39,144,818 (2015)

Language: English

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government:

Governor Jerry Brown (D)
Second Term (term expires January 2019)
Two consecutive term limit
(Previously served as Governor of California for two consecutive terms from 1975-1983)

Currency: U.S. Dollar (USD)
\$1 CAD = \$0.77 USD (July 2016)

Gross State Product (GSP):
U.S. \$2.3 trillion (2014)

GSP Per Capita: U.S. \$52,651 (2015)

Unemployment Rate: 5.2%
(May 2016)

Key Industry Sectors: electronic components and equipment, transportation equipment, aerospace, film, food processing, computers and computer software, tourism

Main Cities: (2015 estimates)

- Los Angeles: 3,971,883
- Los Angeles Metro Area: 13,340,068
- San Diego: 1,394,928
- San Jose: 1,026,908
- San Francisco: 864,816
- San Francisco Metro Area: 4,656,132

DID YOU KNOW?

- California has the world's seventh largest economy, and is a major global center of learning, technology, and entertainment.
- The technology sector accounts for a large percentage of California's merchandise exports. Computers and electronic products accounted for 26.1% of the state's exports in 2015.
- California's agricultural industry grows over 400 different commodities, and is the fifth largest global food supplier.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Alberta's imports from California include: wine, fruits and vegetables, electrical parts, laboratory equipment, high tech apparatus, and airplane parts.
- Since 2002, the Government of Alberta has supported the Alberta-California Venture Channel. This initiative is aimed at partnering expertise and capital from California with entrepreneurs from Alberta.

- The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers has identified 106 California companies that supply equipment, parts, and services being used in the development of Alberta's oil sands.

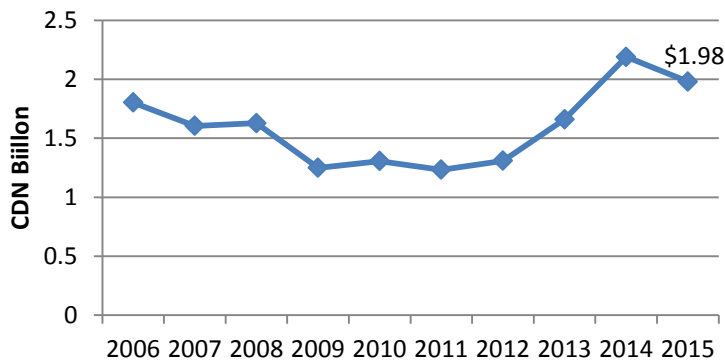
SHARED ORGANIZATIONS

- Council of State Governments (CSG) National
- CSG West
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
- Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (WASDA)
- Western Governors' Association (WGA)

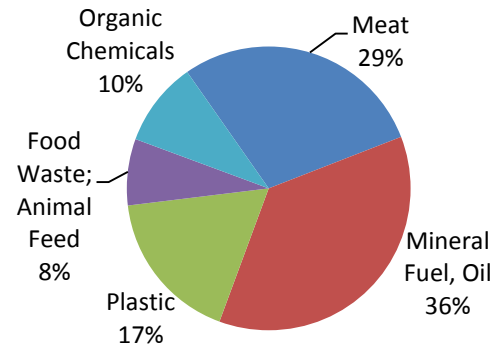
ENERGY/NATURAL GAS

- In 2014, California was the third largest crude oil-producing state in the U.S., excluding federal offshore areas, with 560,000 barrels per day in output.
- As of January 2015, California had the third largest refinery capacity in the U.S., with almost two million barrels per day in crude distillation from 18 refineries, and more than 10% of total U.S. refining capacity.
- California's electricity generation capacity is primarily weighted towards natural gas with 46.2 GW (59%), hydroelectric with 14 GW (18%), solar and wind each with 5.9 GW (together equalling 15%) of capacity. The remainder is generated from nuclear, geothermal, and other sources.

Alberta's Exports to California, 2006-2015



Alberta's Exports to California, 2011-2015



Note: Natural gas from Alberta is piped to California but recorded in Washington export statistics. It would be Alberta's largest export to California.

AGRICULTURE

- Alberta's 2015 agri-food exports to California totalled \$900 million. Top exports included beef (\$402 million), oilseed cake and meal (\$102 million), pork (\$79 million), processed potatoes (\$73 million), and peat moss (\$42 million).
- Agriculture exports from the state amounted to \$21.59 billion in 2014 making up 14.3% of the U.S. total. Canada is California's second largest agriculture export market behind the European Union.
- On July 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law the Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) labeling bill creating a national mandatory system where food makers must disclose GMO data. Laws and regulations under this bill will apply to both domestic and foreign-produced goods.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- From 2011-2015, Alberta's exports to California have averaged \$1.67 billion annually.
- In 2015, Alberta's exports to California were valued at approximately \$1.98 billion, primarily composed of oil and natural gas, meat, plastics, machinery, and organic chemicals.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- High technology
- Multimedia & film
- Electronics & telecommunications
- Transportation equipment
- Value-added forest products
- Tourism
- Agri-food
- Life sciences
- Software and information technologies
- Renewable technologies and energy storage
- Nanotechnology and advanced materials

EDUCATION

- Advanced Education provides funding to Alberta post-secondary institutions that allows them to build short-term international learning experiences for Alberta students in the U.S. as part of the Campus Alberta Grant for International Learning.
- Alberta's advanced learning institutions support a number of ongoing institutional partnerships, and specifically research-focused collaboration with U.S. institutions, including California higher education institutions and research organizations.
- Alberta is committed to facilitating development of new partnerships between film producers in Alberta and California.

CULTURE/TOURISM

- The U.S. Pacific Region provided the largest number of overnight person visits to Alberta in 2014, at 209,864. This region includes the states of California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii.
- California is a popular tourist destination for Albertans, with Disneyland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Palm Springs among the most visited areas.

RECENT VISITS/MISSIONS

- June 2016: The Honourable Deron Bilous, Minister of Economic Development and Trade, led a delegation of Alberta biotech and health organizations on a mission to the BIO International Convention in San Francisco.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- His Excellency Bruce Heyman is the U.S. Ambassador to Canada.
- The Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. in Washington D.C. is David MacNaughton.
- Tom Palaia is the U.S. Consul General in Calgary, Alberta.
- The Canadian Consulate General responsible for Southern California is located in Los Angeles. James Villeneuve is the Consul General.
- The Canadian Consulate responsible for Northern California is located in San Francisco. Brandon Lee is the Consul General.
- Gitane De Silva is Alberta's Senior Representative to the U.S. in Washington D.C.

