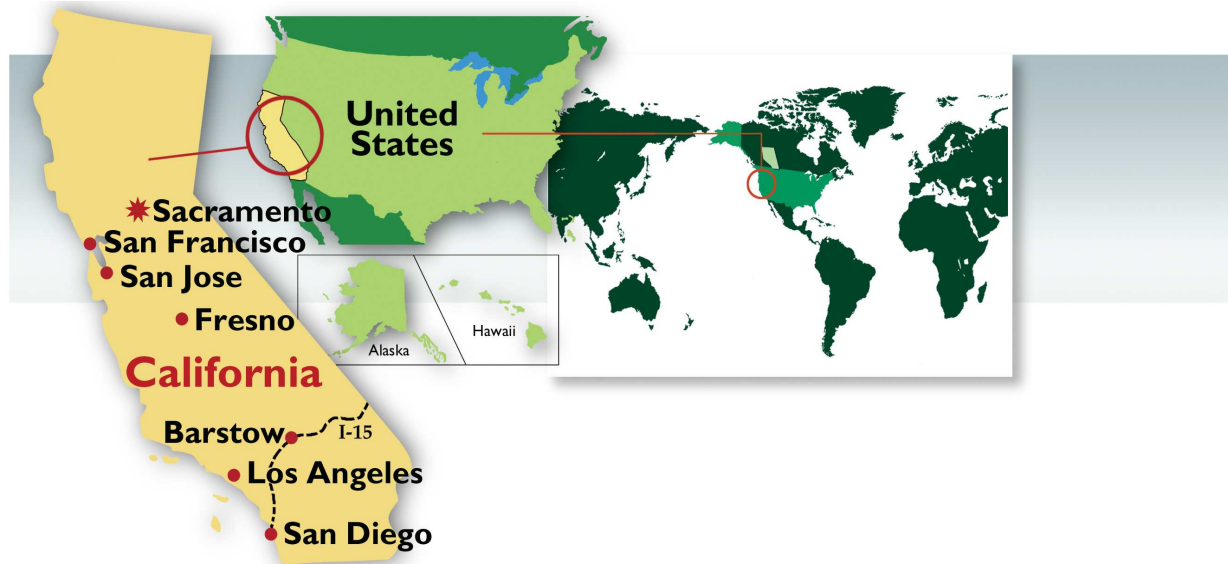


California – Alberta Relations

Government of Alberta ■
International and Intergovernmental Relations



PROFILE

Capital: Sacramento

Population: 38 million (2008)

Language: English (Spanish)

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) Term expires: 2010

Currency: CDN\$1 = 0.923US\$ (June 2009)

GSP: \$1.81 trillion US (2007)

GSP Per Capita: \$38, 956 US (2007)

Unemployment Rate: 11.0% (April 2009)

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

Major Cities (Metro Areas):
(2007 estimates)

- Los Angeles: 12.9 million
- Sacramento: 2.1 million
- San Francisco: 4.2 million
- San Diego: 3.0 million

DID YOU KNOW?

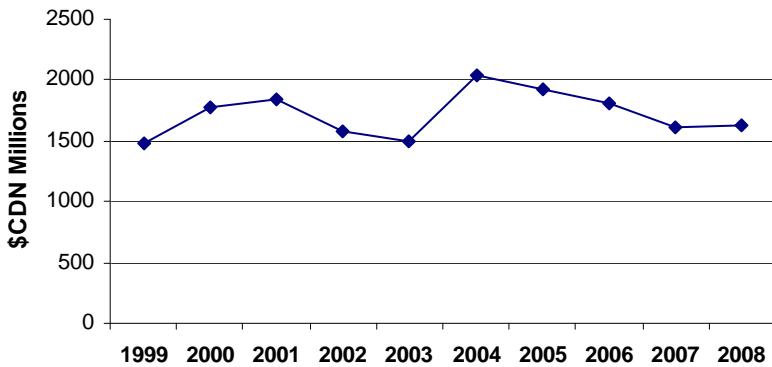
- California has the world's 6th largest economy, and is a major world center of learning, technology, and entertainment.
- The technology sector accounts for a large percentage of California's merchandise exports. High tech exports represented close to 40% of the state's total exports in 2006, the equivalent of \$52 billion.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

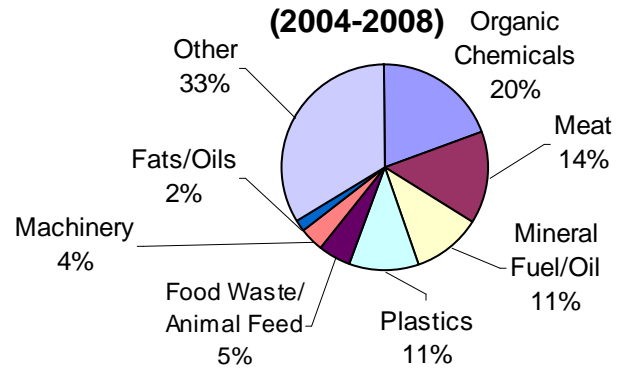
- Alberta's annual exports to California have averaged \$5.4 billion over the last five years, making it Alberta's third largest export market (after New York and Illinois).
- Alberta's imports from California include: railway coaches, wine, fruits and vegetables, electrical parts, laboratory equipment, high tech apparatus, and airplane parts.

- California is connected to Alberta by the I-15 highway, providing the southern link along the CANAMEX intermodal transportation corridor.
- In 2002, Alberta Innovation & Science developed the Alberta-California Venture Channel (ACVC). This initiative is aimed at partnering expertise and capital from California with entrepreneurs from Alberta.
- Alberta Advanced Education & Technology (formally Innovation and Science) has been holding annual expatriate events in California since 1999. Alberta alumni are provided information on the high-technology opportunities that exist in Alberta to encourage their return, investment or participation in future developments.

Alberta's Exports to California (1999-2008)



Alberta's Exports to California (2004-2008)



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

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Canada is California's second largest export market, after Mexico.
- Alberta accounts for more than 12 percent of Canada-California trade.
- Alberta's top exports to California are natural gas, petrochemicals, beef, and particle board.
- Since the implementation of NAFTA, trade between California and Canada has increased by an average of 119%
- Over the 2003-2007 period, California was Alberta's largest agri-food export market in the U.S. with annual agri-food exports to California averaging \$474 million. Top exports include beef, oilseed cake and meal, pork, processed potatoes, canola oil, peat moss, and live hogs.
- Over the 2003-2007 period, Alberta's annual agri-food imports from California averaged \$350 million. Top imports included fruits and vegetables, beverages, foods and food materials, and cereal preparations.
- In 2008, Alberta sent 268.2 BCF of Natural Gas and 28, 308 barrels per day of light and heavy crude oil to California.

ENERGY

- Alberta exports a large volume of natural gas to California, via pipeline through Washington (these volumes are often reported as exports to Washington in statistical summaries).
- The sheer demand California's electricity market places upon the Western energy grid create both challenges and opportunities for western states and provinces.

TOURISM

- California is Alberta's second largest source of U.S. visitors and tourist dollars spent, after Montana.
- California is a popular tourist destination for Albertans (Disneyland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Palm Springs).

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- High technology
- Multimedia & film
- Electronics & telecommunications
- Transportation equipment
- Value-added forest products
- Tourism
- Agri-food

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- Alberta's universities are developing close linkages with their California counterparts on NAFTA issues and areas of bilateral mutual interest.
- Alberta is committed to facilitating development of new partnerships between film producers in Alberta and California. Alberta does not provide subsidies, but does offer: no provincial sales tax; low construction and service costs; experienced crews; technical capacity and spectacular locations.

RECENT VISITS

- June 2007: Minister Horner traveled to San Francisco to promote closer international ties and advanced technology

- March 2007: Clint Dunford MLA for Lethbridge West, represented Alberta on a panel at the Alberta-California Energy Conference hosted by the University of California, Berkeley.
- Jan 2005: Minister Doerksen traveled to Los Angeles and Silicon Valley to develop closer cooperation in information and communication technology.
- Dec 2003: Richard Riordan – Governor Schwarzenegger's education advisor and the former mayor of Los Angeles – visited Edmonton.
- Oct 2003: Premier Klein traveled to Silicon Valley as part of the BC/Alberta Trade and Investment Mission.
- Nov 2001: Premier Klein traveled to Los Angeles as part of the Team Canada West trade mission.
- July 2001: Premier Klein led a Team Alberta mission to Los Angeles for Canada Day, to promote the Alberta Advantage.
- Alberta has been undertaking regular missions to California to develop closer cooperation in information and communication technology.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- Laura Lochman is the U.S. Consul General in Calgary.
- Canada's Consul General in Los Angeles is Mr. David Fransen.

