



BRITISH COLUMBIA'S ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Information current to November 12th, 2008

Leading Indicator	Latest Figure in B.C.	Comparisons
1. Population and Income		
Population	4,381,603 ¹	13.2% of Canada's population
International immigration	38,927 ²	16.4% of the country
Interprovincial migration	13,385 ²	First in the country (Alberta – 10,625)
GDP	\$190.2 billion ²	12.4% of the country
GDP % annual change	3.0% ²	2.7% for Canada
GDP per capita	\$37,258 ²	5 th in Canada (below national average)
Disposable income/capita	\$24,728 ²	3 rd in Canada (below national average)
2. Employment		
Unemployment rate	5.1% ³	6.2% ³
Employment rate (% of working age population)	63.1% ³	63.7% ³
# of jobs created (seasonally adjusted)	18,200 jobs - January to October	9.0% of the country
3. Business Climate		
CPI - % annual change	2.1% ²	2.2% ²
Taxpayer-supported - debt to GDP ratio	13.4% - (2008/09 First Quarterly Report)	Second lowest in Canada
Total debt to GDP ratio	18.4%	30.5% for Canada
Total provincial debt load	\$34.1 billion	7.5% of Canada's debt
Total \$ value of building permits ³ (residential and non-residential)	\$919 million	14.2% of the nation
Value of the Major Projects Inventory ¹	\$174.7 billion projects planned or underway	29.9% increase in value over last year
R & D Expenditures	\$2.462 billion (2005)	8.9% of country total
4. Commodity Exports		
Value of international exports ²	\$31.5 billion	7.0% of the nation
Year to date (Jan - July 2008)	\$21.9 billion	6.8% of the nation
% change from last year	-0.3% (August 2008)	+5.0% for Canada
Top exporting partners (% of exports) ²	1. U.S. (60.5%) - \$19.1 billion 2. Japan (13.0%) - \$4.1 billion 3. China (5.5%) - \$1.7 billion 4. South Korea (4.1%) - \$1.3 billion	Canada: 1. U. S. (79.0%) - \$355.9 billion 2. U. K. (2.8%) - \$12.8 billion 3. China (2.1%) - \$9.3 billion 4. Japan (2.0%) - \$9.2 billion
Top exported products ²	1. Lumber (14.7%) - \$4.8 billion 2. Chemical wood pulp (8.4%) - \$2.7 billion 3. Natural gas (8.3%) - \$2.7 billion 4. Bituminous coal (7.6%) - \$2.5 billion	Canada: 1. Crude petroleum (9.3%) - \$41.8 billion 2. Motor vehicles (7.3%) - \$32.7 billion 3. Natural gas (6.3%) - \$28.3 billion 4. Small trucks (1.8%) - \$8.1 billion
5. Commodity Imports		
Value of international imports ²	\$38.7 billion	9.5% of country total
% change ²	-0.5%	2.5% for the country
Top importing partners (% of imports) ²	1. U.S. (41.0%) - \$15.9 billion 2. China (22.4%) - \$8.7 billion 3. Japan (10.7%) - \$4.2 billion 4. South Korea (4.2%) - \$1.6 billion	Canada: 1. U.S. (54.2%) - \$220.4 billion 2. China (9.4%) - \$38.3 billion 3. Mexico (4.2%) - \$17.2 billion 4. Japan (3.8%) - \$15.4 billion
Top imported products ²	1. Motor vehicles (6.9%) - \$2.7 billion 2. Petroleum oils (3.4%) - \$1.3 billion 3. TV/radio/sound (1.8%) - \$0.7 billion 4. Zinc ores (1.7%) - \$0.7 billion	1. Petroleum oils (5.9%) - \$24.1 billion 2. Motor vehicles 1501 – 3000 CC (3.6%) - \$14.4 billion 3. Motor vehicles > 3000 CC (2.5%) - \$10.2 billion 4. Medicaments (1.8%) - \$7.1 billion

¹Quarterly update

²Yearly update - 2007

³Monthly update