

# Alberta

IN THE WORLD

## Energy

- At 173 billion barrels, Alberta has the world's second largest oil reserves.
- Total crude oil and equivalent production in 2007 was 1.8 million barrels per day (bbl/d). Of that, Alberta's oil sands produced 1.3 million bbl/d of crude oil and equivalent.
- More than 60% of Alberta's oil is exported to the U.S., accounting for 13% of U.S. crude imports and 6.5% of consumption.
- More than \$125 billion in oil sands investments have been announced through to 2015.
- Alberta's total crude oil production is expected to reach 3 million bbl/d by 2016.
- Alberta is the world's third largest exporter/producer of natural gas behind only Russia and Norway.
- Alberta supplies 59% of U.S. natural gas imports and 11% of consumption.
- Alberta's natural gas pipeline hub will be critical to transporting natural gas from Alaska and Canada's north across North America.
- Over 100 Alberta energy companies are active in over 118 countries.

## Geography

- The Canadian province of Alberta covers 661,190 square kilometres (255,285 square miles), an area larger than France or Thailand.
- The province consists of the Rocky Mountains to the west, prairies to the south, and forests to the north. Forests cover more than 50% of the province.



## Economy

- Alberta's GDP was \$258.9 billion in 2007, comparable in size to Ireland or Argentina.
- Alberta's nominal GDP per capita rose to approximately \$74,000 in 2007. The Canadian average was \$46,600.
- A free-enterprise government, low taxes and a strong diversified economy contribute to Alberta's high standard of living and strong economic growth (averaging 4% growth per year since 2004).
- In 2008, Alberta exported \$109 billion in merchandise, accounting for roughly 32% of the province's GDP. Almost 88% of Alberta's exports went to the U.S. Of the remainder, over half went to Asia.
- Merchandise imports into Alberta, estimated at \$21.9 billion in 2008, are important to the economy and benefit both consumers and industry.
- Alberta is a leading advocate in Canada for free trade and open foreign investment policies.
- Alberta's economy is resource-based – originally wheat and coal, and then oil and natural gas.
- Over the last 20 years, Alberta's economy has diversified to include such value-added activities as: telecommunications and wireless equipment, biotechnology, software development, electronics, nanotechnology, petrochemicals, processed food, and unmanned vehicle systems.
- Edmonton's geographically advantageous location with respect to the oil sands and Northern Canada make it the natural supply and service centre for the North.
- Calgary has the second highest number of corporate head offices in Canada and is a world energy capital.

### World Oil Reserves (2007)

In billions of barrels

Country	Reserves	%
Saudi Arabia	262.3	20%
<b>Alberta</b>	<b>174.8</b>	<b>13%</b>
Iran	136.3	10%
Iraq	115.0	9%
Kuwait	101.5	8%
United Arab Emirates	97.8	7%
Venezuela	80.0	6%
Russia	60.0	5%
Libya	41.5	3%
Nigeria	36.2	3%
Other	212.3	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,317.4</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Oil and Gas Journal (January 1, 2007)

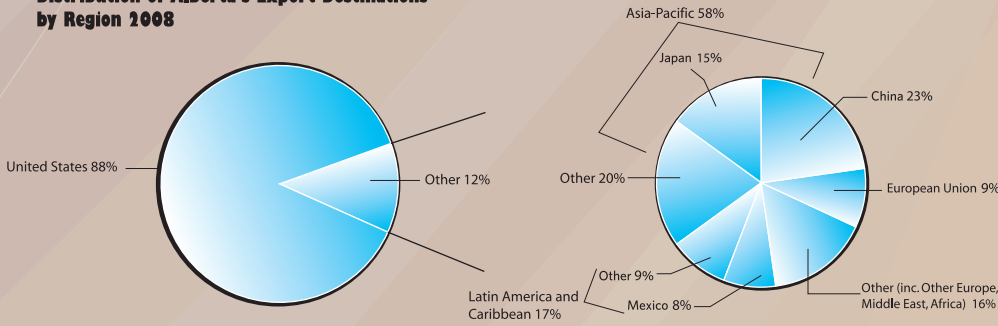
### Top Alberta Exports (2008)

Rank	Product	Billion \$CDN	% of Total
1	Gas and Gas Liquids	24.3	39%
2	Crude Petroleum	21.4	34%
3	Machinery and Metals	2.54	4%
4	Crops	2.40	4%
5	Chemicals	1.98	3%
6	Beef Products	1.15	2%
7	Coal/Coal Products	0.63	1%
8	Livestock	0.48	1%

Source: Statistics Canada and Alberta Finance and Enterprise



**Distribution of Alberta's Export Destinations by Region 2008**



**Tourism**

- Tourism is a \$5.3 billion industry in Alberta, employing more than 103,000 people and attracting millions of visitors each year.
- The Calgary Stampede, the world's largest rodeo, attracts one million visitors each July. International equestrian show jumping is featured during the summer at Spruce Meadows.
- Edmonton hosts an internationally renowned series of music, arts and multi-cultural festivals every summer, and is home to West Edmonton Mall, the world's largest shopping and entertainment centre.
- Alberta is home to five UNESCO World Heritage sites (there are eight in the rest of Canada):
  - Banff and Jasper national parks;
  - Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump (near Fort Macleod);
  - Dinosaur Provincial Park (near Drumheller's Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology);
  - Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, and;
  - Wood Buffalo National Park.
- Alberta has hosted a variety of world-class sporting events, including:
  - 2007 FIFA World Cup Under 20
  - 2005 World Masters Games
  - 1988 Winter Olympics

**Ethnic Origin of Albertans**  
(population in thousands)

British / Irish	2,217
German	680
French	388
Ukrainian	332
Aboriginal	245
Dutch	173
Polish	171
Norwegian	145
Chinese	138
Swedish	94
Russian	92
East Indian	88
Italian	82
American	64
Danish	59

**Environment**

- Alberta is the first jurisdiction in North America to have regulations in place to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Since July 1, 2007 Alberta industrial facilities emitting more than 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases a year must reduce their emissions intensity by 12% under the Climate Change and Emissions Management Act.
- The Alberta Government has announced a \$2 billion kick-start to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through new Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) projects.
- Alberta has announced a multi-year \$2 billion public transit capital investment called the GreenTRIP.

**People**

- Alberta's highly skilled, educated, and motivated workforce is the most productive in Canada. The province has Canada's fastest growing population, at 3.5 million, which has more than doubled since 1970.
- Alberta's multicultural population contributes valuable foreign language and business skills. Since 1980, most immigrants to Alberta have come from Asia.
- Alberta schools provide bilingual programs (up to 50% of the day) in French, Spanish, German, Arabic, Mandarin, Hebrew, Polish, Ukrainian, Cree, and Siksika (Blackfoot).
- About one-half of Alberta's Aboriginal population resides in urban areas. They also live in over 100 First Nation communities, and 8 Métis settlements.
- Albertans are committed to a united Canada, and to a federal system with strong provinces.

