



# **Families of Canada**

## **Teacher's Guide**

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## **Rural Script**

### **Canada Nova Scotia script**

It's early morning in eastern Canada where I live in a province called Nova Scotia. Dad's been working since 6 this morning. He and his partner, Evan, fish for lobsters. Today they're checking their traps, which are called pots. They're only allowed to catch lobsters during the cold months of the year, so during fishing season they work long hours.

Mom's finishing the laundry before she wakes me up for school. She's a dental assistant in a town about an hour away.

My name is Hanna and I'm 7 years old. I have a 13 year old sister named Emma.

This is carnival week at school and we do lots of silly things each day. Monday was "bad hair day", Tuesday was funny hat day, where even the teachers wore silly hats, and today is "backward-inside out" day. So if you think I look goofy, that's good, because that's the whole idea. I'm really looking forward to lunch hour today because Emma's going to be in the "bug on the wall" contest.

Emma makes our breakfast while Mom takes a shower and gets ready for work. Mom gives us each 2 dollars for lunch, and we also take some snacks with us. Today we have granola bars and apples.

We take two buses and a ferry to get to our school, which is on an island.

Missy would like to come, too, but our two other dogs will keep her company while everybody's gone.

Even though it's May, temperatures often go down to freezing at night, so we stay in the warm bus while we wait for the ferry that will take us to the island. The ferry goes back and forth between the mainland and the island every hour all day long.

We often have fog here, but the ferry has radar so the captain can pilot the ferry no matter how foggy it is.

We stay warm in the ferry's waiting room while cars and trucks are loading. The ferry ride takes about 2 minutes. When the boat lands, we take another bus to school.

The first thing we all want to see when we get to school is whether the eggs for our science project have hatched. Wow, it worked! Some baby chickens have hatched, and some eggs have cracks where the chicks inside are pecking their way out.

Look, the fog's gone and it's a beautiful day! We often get to school an hour before class starts and have time to play outside if the weather's nice. Our teacher just had a baby, so we have a substitute teacher until our regular teacher is back.

This chart shows what our class will be doing today. Our first project is to make a nature scene and then present it to the class.

Our school is one of the smallest in the Province...there are 150 students in grades 1 through 12. I'm in second grade, but our room also has 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders because there are only a few kids in each grade. Sometimes I listen to what the older kids are learning.

Then we learn about surveys and graphs. We asked students what kind of ice cream they like best. Then we made a bar graph that shows what we found. The higher the bar, the more people like that flavor. Our favorite flavor was moonmist. Hardly anybody chose vanilla.

If we need help, our teacher sometimes asks an older student to work with us.

Oh, oh! That's the fire alarm! We have to leave the school and meet in the playground. We all wait to see if this is a practice or if there's really a fire.

The principal says it's a practice drill, so we head back to class.

During lunch hour we have the bug on the wall competition. The older students form teams that pick someone to tape to the wall with duct tape. Emma's the bug for her team. Each team has 3 minutes to tape their bug to the wall. There are some rules.....we can't put tape near the neck and we

can't put the tape on anyone's skin. The bug stands on a pile of books that they'll pull out when the competition starts. The student that stays stuck to the wall longest wins. Almost as soon as the books are pulled out, Emma slides down to the floor. Look! The winner is still hanging there!!

We have fun in school, but we learn a lot, too. In fact Emma says our school was named the top high school in Nova Scotia!

It's early afternoon, and Dad's still fishing. Dad and Evan check their lobster pots every couple of days, all 425 of them. Each pot weighs about as much as I do, so moving them around is hard work. Several pots are hooked together with a long rope, and a machine pulls each pot up out of the water. Evan takes out each lobster and measures it to be sure it's big enough to keep. If it's too small, they have to throw it back, because they want to be sure plenty of lobsters get big enough to reproduce, or have babies.

Dad says that in some places in the world, people have caught so many fish that they're almost gone. We don't want that to happen here, so the Canadian government and lobstermen make rules about lobstering.

Every family has its own fishing area that's marked by floats that are painted differently for each family.

Dad puts new bait in the pot, if it's needed. The bait is a smelly bag of rotten fish called herring. Lobsters go after the bait through a small hole in the trap. But once they're inside, they can't find their way out again through the nets.

When all the pots from an area have been pulled up, Evan speeds up the boat and the pots are pulled off the back. Dad has to be careful not to get tangled in the rope so he doesn't get pulled off of the boat, too.

It can be a little tricky for Evan to run the boat here in the harbor, because we have the biggest tides in the world. Twice a day the moon's gravity pulls water from the bay into the deeper ocean. When the tide's out, which is when the water is lowest, you can see the bottom of the sea in places where the water will be as high as a house a few hours later.

But low tide is good for some people. This man is collecting snails that he'll sell to restaurants in Toronto and New York. People there pay a good price to have them for dinner.

The dentist Mom works for makes copies of people's teeth that he uses to make braces and false teeth. Mom helps make the copies, or molds. She also takes x-rays of people's teeth to see if they have any problems that the dentist can't see. People aren't supposed to have a lot of X-rays, so she goes behind a heavy screen to be sure the x-rays don't reach her.

They have a TV right in the ceiling. Mom says that's so people will have something else to think about when they're having their teeth fixed.

Mom and dad are still at work when we get home from school. Emma's friend Michelle is visiting us today. Our tramp has a safety net around the edge. The only thing we have to be careful about is not jumping on top of each other!

When we're done playing on the tramp, we say hello to our pets. We have 3 rabbits, three dogs, and a gold fish. Emma's also raising chickens in our basement for a 4H club project.

I got my face painted like a dog in art class today. When Mom gets home she wants me to wash it off because I have a piano lesson this afternoon. Maybe she thinks I'll scare my teacher! I go over my homework before I go to my music lesson. I'm learning to read and write music. My teacher lives about five minutes away. I also take Jazz dancing lessons from another teacher.

When we get home, we find that Dad has started making supper. We all pitch in. I break the stems off the green beans in the living room, where I can watch TV at the same time. Emma and Sarah set the table. Mom cooks the fish, and Dad makes a salad. We're going to have a fish called halibut he caught yesterday. Mom likes Dad to help with work around the house, especially because she works outside the home.

After supper I fold and put away my clothes. Then it's time to take a bath. I can tell mom is tired and so am I, but we watch TV for a little while.

Before I go to bed I feed my fish. Sometimes I wonder how the fish feels living in the house of a fisherman.

Good night!!

## **Urban Script**

### **Canada Toronto script**

It's early morning on Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. I'm getting up a little later than usual because we don't have school today. That's because it's Thanksgiving Day!

My name is John, and I live with my parents and two older brothers on the outskirts of Toronto, which is the largest city in Canada.

This morning Adrian, Paul and I are raking leaves at our grandparent's home, which is just a few blocks from our house. This afternoon we'll all go to my Aunt's house for Thanksgiving dinner.

When we finish raking, we go to church for a special Thanksgiving Mass. Sometimes my brothers and I help the priest as altar servers, and Mom and Dad often give out communion and help with baptisms. Most people in Canada are Catholics or Protestants.

After church we have some time to play video games.

We all have jobs to do around the house. My chores are to clean the bathroom once a week, set the table, unload the dishwasher, and brush Charlie our dog twice a week. This week it's also Adrian and my turn to walk Charlie twice a day. We take a plastic bag with us to clean up after him. We've had Charlie since I was 7 years old, and I'm 11 now.

My brothers and I all play musical instruments, and sometimes we play together. Adrian and I play guitar and Paul plays the drums. Yesterday Adrian left his guitar at a friend's house so he can't jam with us today.

It's 3 o'clock...time to go to Thanksgiving dinner. Dad's sister, Kathleen, and her two daughters live about a half hour away. Aunt Barbara and Uncle Peter and their sons Daniel and Robert have also come for Thanksgiving. Before dinner we play catch in front of Aunt Kathleen's house.

Aunt Kathleen and Dad are finishing dinner. Aunt Kathleen is making a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. She mashes cooked potatoes and then mixes butter, cream, salt and pepper into them....I love mashed potatoes!

Dad takes the bread stuffing out of the turkey. Aunt Kathleen adds a little flour to the juice from the turkey to make gravy for the potatoes. Dad cuts the meat off the turkey. My cousin Mary-Anne fills our glasses with milk.

Dinner is buffet style, which means we get our food before we sit down at the table. The grown ups are at one table with us kids at the other. Before we eat I say a prayer to give thanks for the meal. We're having turkey and stuffing, turnips, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes and gravy, brussel sprouts, cranberry sauce, milk and wine. My Aunt says that everything we're having is made or grown in Canada except the coffee and tea!

Aunt Kathleen made apple and pumpkin pies for dessert. If we can't decide which one we want, we get to have a piece of both! I like Thanksgiving!

After dinner we kids watch the Simpsons.

It's dark by the time we leave for home. Tomorrow's a school day, so I'm off to bed.

Fade to black

It's 7:30, and it's time to get up for school. Adrian and I share a bedroom. He gets to sleep a little later while I take a shower and get dressed. Today I'm wearing my favorite color.

The fence across our stairs keeps Charlie downstairs. I have him practice some of the tricks we've taught him.

Dad and I go over the words I have to know for a spelling test I have today. If I spell a word wrong, I write it 5 times so I'll remember it.

Charlie's always interested in what we're eating, but we're not supposed to give him things from the table because it teaches him to beg for food every time we eat. Charlie gets his own dog food, and it's Paul's job to feed him this week.

We still have a few minutes before we leave, to watch the sports news to see if our favorite teams won their games yesterday.

It's 8:30 and time to leave for school. Paul goes to a high school and Adrian and I go to the senior public school, where we're in grades 6 and 8. Paul's school is close enough for him to walk. When it's nice, Adrian and I can ride our bikes, but it won't be too long before we'll have snow and we'll have to take the school bus.

Mom's been up since 5. She says she needs to get up early so she has time to do laundry or clean.

Mom and Dad both work in downtown Toronto and they take turns staying here until we leave for school. But one day a week Mom works from home. She likes that because often it takes her an hour and a half to drive to work. She works for a computer company. Her job is to check financial reports from each area of the company to make sure that they're doing what they say they're doing. She reports what she finds out to the people in charge so they know how well the company is doing.

Dad's also getting ready to leave for work, and Charlie likes to help. Charlie has a thing about shoes; he loves to carry them around. Dad says it's because Charlie's a yellow Labrador retriever. They're hunting dogs that have been bred to find birds that have been shot and bring them to the hunter. Charlie isn't supposed to chew on a bird, so he doesn't chew on the shoes, he just carries them around. So if we're missing a shoe, we always check with Charlie first.

Dad can either drive his car or take a train to work in downtown Toronto. Today he's taking the train, so he leaves his car at the train station, which is about 10 minutes from our house. In the half hour ride to work, he reads or goes over paperwork. Winters here can get pretty cold, so lots of downtown Toronto is connected by underground walkways. When he gets downtown, Dad can walk all the way from the train to his building without going outside. He says there are more than 25 kilometers of underground walkways that have stores, banks, and even restaurants.

Dad works for a company that loans money to businesses so they can buy things they're going to sell. They also loan money to people who want to

buy houses. Dad's job is similar to Mom's, because he also checks other people's work to be sure it's right.

Toronto is built on the shore of Lake Ontario. We learned that Canada is one of the most urban countries in the world... which means that most people in Canada live in cities and work in factories, stores and offices. Not far from Dad's office is the CN Tower, which is the tallest tower in the world. That little spot you see moving on the side of the tower is the elevator carrying people to the top, where they can get a great view of Toronto. Visitors to the top of the tower can walk on a glass floor. It's safe, but it's still scary!

Canada is a democracy where the people decide how the country should be run. We have 10 provinces and three territories. I can remember when Nunavut, the newest Territory, was formed from part of the Northwest Territories. Most people in Nunavut are Inuit, who are one of the fishing and hunting peoples who were here before the Europeans came. The Northwest Territories are so far north that in summer the sun never goes down, and in winter the sun only comes up for a few hours each day.

When I get to school I go to my homeroom. The first thing we do is sing the national anthem.

My first class is biology. Today we're studying how plants and animals are named.

We bring lunch from home and eat in the gym. After lunch we have time to go outside for a half hour. Canada's national sports are lacrosse and ice hockey, but my favorite is basketball, and I play on a city team.

After lunch we have art class. There are about 28 students in each class. The population in our area is growing so fast that our school doesn't have enough room for all the students, so some classes are held in temporary classrooms like this. Education is free in Canada, and so is health care. Mom says that's because Canadians want everyone to have an education and to get health care no matter how much money they have.

French class is next. Today we're rehearsing a French play. French and English are the official languages of Canada, so we study both languages until at least the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Most people in the Province of Quebec speak French. That's because when the British took over Canada 200 years ago,

most French people settled in Quebec. Dad says people from all over the world come to live in Canada because they have opportunities to make a better life here.

We get out of school at 3 o'clock. Today I have a guitar lesson, so Mom drops me off and goes grocery shopping nearby while I have my lesson. She pays with Canadian dollars.

When we get home I help Mom put away the groceries. All the information on packaged food here must be written in both English and French, and government information and traffic signs are in both languages, too.

Tonight I'm doing research for a paper on penguins that's due in 2 weeks. I really like penguins, so I'm enjoying finding information about them. I save the articles I find in my computer so I can use information from them when I write my paper.

At 9 o'clock I brush my teeth and get ready for bed. I like to read for a half hour before I go to sleep.

Good night!

## **Glossary**

**altar servers:** helpers in a church

**baptism:** an act of worship in the Christian religion showing a new beginning

**communion:** an act of worship in the Christian religion

**brussel sprouts:** A kind of vegetable that looks like a small cabbage

**financial:** having to do with money

**gravity:** The force pulling objects together.

**health care:** The care of sick people.

**laundry:** The washing of clothes.

**lobster:** A large shell fish with large claws.

**partner:** A person with whom one shares a job, a house or a life.

**population:** The number of the type of living things being counted

**province:** A unit of government smaller than a country.

**radar:** A machine that can see things even though it might be dark or foggy.

**opportunity:** A chance.

**penguin:** A bird that does not fly and usually residing in Antarctica .

**tides:** The movement of ocean water up or down due to the pull of the moon.

**x-rays:** a kind of machine that can take pictures of bones and teeth

## **Discussion and Activities After Viewing**

- Ask each child to list some of the similarities and differences between their family and school and those in the video.
- Invite someone from Canada to talk with the class about growing up in Canada and to play a Canadian music or tell a Canadian story.
- Ask the class what things in the video tell us about that the climate in Canada.
- Discuss why English and French are the national languages of Canada.
- Discuss the similarities between the US and Canada in having been “discovered” by European countries, having a population of native peoples, having been colonies, become independent, being settled by immigrants, and being highly advanced in technology.

## Questions

1. What languages do Canadians speak?
2. Why do most Canadians live in the south of Canada?
3. How many miles of borders exist between the United States and Canada?
4. Why do you think Canadians live, look and speak so like much like American?
5. Does Canada trade much with the United States?
6. Do you think Canadians want to be Americans?

## Answers to Questions

1. What languages do Canadians speak?

The languages spoken in Canada include many of the languages of the world. There are many immigrants from all over the world who have come to Canada. The official languages are French and English.

2. Why do most Canadians live in the south of Canada?

The southern part of Canada is the warmest part of the country. Even so it is colder than Detroit or Boston. The further north one goes the colder it gets.

3. How many miles of borders exist between the United States and Canada?

Canada and the United States share a land border is over 3000 miles.

4. Why do you think Canadians live, look and speak so like much like American?

Canada and the United States share much of the same English culture. There is a lot trade between the two countries and their economies are open to each other. One will find much the same products on the shelves of supermarkets and many of the same companies do business on both side of the border.

5. Does Canada trade much with the United States?

Canada and the United States are each their largest trading partner.

6. Do you think Canadians want to be Americans?

Canadians are very proud of their heritage. They see themselves as different than Americans. Their social services are stronger, with a national health insurance and low cost college education. They never had much of slavery and they are proud of their long tradition of intermarriage with the native peoples.

## **Some Things We've Learned About Canada**

(Please circle the correct answer).

1. T F English is the only national language of Canada
2. T F Most people in Canada live on farms or in the countryside.
3. T F Canada is on the continent of North America.
4. T F Weather in most parts of Canada is hot.
5. T F Ice hockey and lacrosse are the national sports of Canada.
6. T F Canada's population is made up of a mixture of people from all over the world.
7. T F Very few Canadians use technology.
8. T F Toronto is the largest city in Canada.
9. T F Canada used to be a colony of France.
10. T F Canada is a country with 10 provinces and 3 territories.
11. T F In Canada they use to dollar as their money.
  
12. Draw a series of pictures telling Hanna or John's story. Try to include as much detail as you can remember from each part of the story.

## **Introduction**

Canada is the largest country in North America. It is famous for the Canadian Mounted Police and polar bears. It is home to the CN tower, the tallest man made structure in the world.

## **The Land**

Canada is about the size of the United States. Canada can be divided into seven regions: the Arctic, the southwestern Pacific Coast, Canadian Shield, an area of bare rocks, forests and lakes, the Mountain West, the Great Plains, Great Lakes Low Lands and the Canadian Appalachians.

## **The Climate**

Canada has a continental climate. The southwestern part is warmed by the Pacific, the Appalachians by the Gulf Stream and the Great Lakes by the lakes. Most other parts of Canada have near zero degree Fahrenheit average January temperatures or colder.

## **Plant and Animal Life**

More than two-thirds of Canada is undeveloped. The northern forests, fully 10% of the world's forests, are home to eagles, wolves, and grizzly bears. Walrus and killer whales swim in the Hudson Bay. Deer, beavers and elk can be found on the prairies. Polar bears and seals roam the Arctic tundra.

## **People**

Today more than 600,000 Native Americans live in Canada. About a quarter of the people have French roots, while 30% have a British Isle background. Millions of immigrants from Europe, Asia and the rest of world have also come to Canada.

Canada is a developed country, where the annual income of the people is similar to that of the United States. More than 90% of the population is urban. Canada is one of the ten largest economies of the world. There are advanced manufacturing and service industries as well as a strong agricultural, mining and energy sector.

## **History**

The Amerindian population in Canada were either nomads or the more numerous skilled farmers and hunters. These settled populations included the following: In the southwest by the Pacific Coast, numerous tribes such as the Tlingits, and the Haidas lived off the resources of the sea and the forests. In the Great Lakes and St Lawrence Seaway area lived the Hurons, the Iroquois and the Algonquians. They farmed corn, beans and squash and supplemented that with fishing, hunting and gathering in the forests.

In 1497, the English led by John Cabot discovered Newfoundland off the coast of Canada. A large fishing industry soon ensued. Some Amerindians were part of the whaling fleets that spanned the world.

The French led by Jacques Cartier landed on Prince Edward Island and the Quebec in 1534. The first permanent European settlement in North America was established by the French in Port Royal, Nova Scotia in 1605.

Fighting broke out between the French and the English. Each side enlisted various Amerindian tribes to their cause. In the 1763 the French were defeated in battle and gave up most of Canada to the British.

In 1783, many Loyalists in the American Revolutionary war came to Canada after the war. Canada and the United States were involved in the brief War of 1812 by virtue of Canada being part of Great Britain. Since then there has not been a conflict between the two countries sharing the longest border.

Canada participated as British subjects in both World Wars. Canadians were to remain British subjects until 1947. Today, Canada is a multicultural nation that encourages its many people to hold on to their heritage. The nation welcomes more immigrants as a percentage of its population than any other country.



Map and Flag of Canada



### Basic Facts About Canada

## Introduction Canada

### Background:

A land of vast distances and rich natural resources, Canada became a self-governing dominion in 1867 while retaining ties to the British crown. Economically and technologically the nation has developed in parallel with the US, its neighbor to the south across an unfortified border. Canada's paramount political problem is meeting public demands for quality improvements in health care and education services after a decade of budget cuts. The issue of reconciling Quebec's francophone heritage with the majority anglophone Canadian population has moved to the back burner in recent years; support for separatism abated after the Quebec government's referendum on independence failed to pass in October of 1995.

## Government Canada

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### Country name:

*conventional long form:* none

*conventional short form:* Canada

### Government

type: a constitutional monarchy that is also a parliamentary democracy and a federation

### Capital:

Ottawa

### Administrative

divisions: 10 provinces and 3 territories\*; Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories\*, Nova Scotia, Nunavut\*, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory\*

### Independence:

1 July 1867 (union of British North American colonies); 11

December 1931 (independence recognized)

National

holiday: Canada Day, 1 July (1867)

Constitution:

made up of unwritten and written acts, customs, judicial decisions, and traditions; the written part of the constitution consists of the Constitution Act of 29 March 1867, which created a federation of four provinces, and the Constitution Act of 17 April 1982, which transferred formal control over the constitution from Britain to Canada, and added a Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as well as procedures for constitutional amendments

Legal system:

based on English common law, except in Quebec, where civil law system based on French law prevails; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

Executive  

branch: *chief of state*: Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952), represented by Governor General

*head of government*: Prime Minister

*cabinet*: Federal Ministry chosen by the prime minister usually from among the members of his own party sitting in Parliament

*elections*: none; the monarchy is hereditary; governor general appointed by the monarch on the advice of the prime minister for a five-year term; following legislative elections, the leader of the majority party or the leader of the majority coalition in the House of Commons is automatically designated prime minister by the governor general

Legislative

branch: bicameral Parliament or Parlement consists of the Senate or Senat (members appointed by the governor general with the advice of the prime minister and serve until reaching 75 years of age; its normal limit is 105 senators) and the House of Commons or Chambre des Communes (308 seats; members elected by direct, popular vote to serve for up to

five-year terms)

#### Judicial

branch: Supreme Court of Canada (judges are appointed by the prime minister through the governor general); Federal Court of Canada; Federal Court of Appeal; Provincial Courts (these are named variously Court of Appeal, Court of Queens Bench, Superior Court, Supreme Court, and Court of Justice)

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*consulate(s) general*: Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Diego, and Seattle

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*FAX*: [1] (613) 688-3082

*consulate(s) general*: Calgary, Halifax, Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg

## Economy      Canada

### Economy -

overview: As an affluent, high-tech industrial society, newly entered in the trillion dollar class, Canada closely resembles the US in its market-oriented economic system, pattern of production, and affluent living standards. Since World War II, the impressive growth of the manufacturing, mining, and service sectors has transformed the nation from a largely rural economy into one primarily industrial and urban. The 1989 US-Canada Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

(which includes Mexico) touched off a dramatic increase in trade and economic integration with the US. Given its great natural resources, skilled labor force, and modern capital plant, Canada enjoyed solid economic growth from 1993 through 2007. Buffeted by the global economic crisis, the economy dropped into a sharp recession in the final months of 2008, and Ottawa posted its first fiscal deficit in 2009 after 12 years of surplus. Canada's major banks, however, emerged from the financial crisis of 2008-09 among the strongest in the world, owing to the country's tradition of conservative lending practices and strong capitalization..

#### GDP

(purchasing power parity): \$1.287 trillion (2009 est.)

GDP - real growth rate: -2.4% (2009 est.)

GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity - \$38,400 (2009 est.)

GDP - composition by sector:  
*agriculture*: 2.0%  
*industry*: 28.4%  
*services*: 69.6% (2009 est.)

Labor force: 18.4 million (2009)

Labor force - by occupation: agriculture 2%, manufacturing 13%, construction 6%, services 76%, other 3% (2009)

Unemployment rate: 8.5% (2009)

Population below poverty line: 10.8% (2009)

Agriculture – products: wheat, barley, oilseed, tobacco, fruits, vegetables; dairy products; forest products; fish

Industries:

transportation equipment, chemicals, processed and unprocessed minerals, food products; wood and paper products; fish products, petroleum and natural gas

Exports –  

commodities: motor vehicles and parts, industrial machinery, aircraft, telecommunications equipment; chemicals, plastics, fertilizers; wood pulp, timber, crude petroleum, natural gas, electricity, aluminum

Exports \$298 billion

Exports -  

partners: US 77.0%, Japan 2.1%, UK 1.6% (2007)

Imports:   

\$305 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

Imports -  

commodities: machinery and equipment, motor vehicles and parts, crude oil, chemicals, electricity, durable consumer goods

Imports -  

partners: US 52.4%, China 9.8%, Mexico 4.1% (2009)

Currency

(code): Canadian dollar (CAD)

Exchange  

rates: Canadian dollars per US dollar – 1.154 (2009), 1.071 (2007), 1.211 (2005), 1.40 (2003), 1.5488 (2001), 1.4851 (2000)

## Geography **Canada**

Location:

Northern North America, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean on the east, North Pacific Ocean on the west, and the Arctic Ocean on the north, north of the conterminous US

Geographic

coordinates: 60 00 N, 95 00 W

Area:

*total*: 9,984,670 sq km

*land*: 9,093,507 sq km

*water*: 891,163 sq km

Area -  
comparative: somewhat larger than the US

Land  
boundaries: *total*: 8,893 km  
*border countries*: US 8,893 km (includes 2,477 km with  
Alaska)

Coastline:  
202,080 km

Climate:  
varies from temperate in south to subarctic and arctic in  
north

Terrain:  
mostly plains with mountains in west and lowlands in  
southeast

Elevation  
extremes: *lowest point*: Atlantic Ocean 0 m  
*highest point*: Mount Logan 5,959 m

Geography -    
note: second-largest country in world (after Russia); strategic  
location between Russia and US via north polar route;  
approximately 90% of the population is concentrated within  
160 km of the US border

## People      Canada

Population:  
33,487,041 (July 2009 est.)

Nationality:  
*noun*: Canadian(s)  
*adjective*: Canadian

Ethnic groups:  
British Isles origin 28%, French origin 23%, other European  
15%, Amerindian 2%, other, mostly Asian, African, Arab  
6%, mixed background 26%

Religions:  
Roman Catholic 42.6%, Protestant 23.3% (including United  
Church 9.5%, Anglican 6.8%, Baptist 2.4%, Lutheran 2%),

other Christian 4.4%, Muslim 1.9%, other and unspecified 11.8%, none 16% (2001 census)

Languages:

English (official) 59.3%, French (official) 23.2%, other 17.5%

Literacy:

*definition:* age 15 and over can read and write

*total population:* 97% (1986 est.)

*male:* NA%

*female:* NA%

## Websites

[www.canada.gc.ca](http://www.canada.gc.ca)

www.ca.yahoo.com

## Activity

### Official Lyrics of O Canada!

O Canada!

Our home and native land!

True patriot love in all thy sons command.

With glowing hearts we see thee rise,

The True North strong and free!

From far and wide,

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.