

## U.S.-Canada-Mexico Fact Sheet on Trade and Migration

### National Trade

- The trading relationship between United States and Canada represents the largest bilateral flow of income, goods, and services in the world. In 2002, two-way trade between the United States and Canada reached \$431.5 billion, averaging \$1.2 billion per day. Since the implementation of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement in 1989, trade has nearly tripled. In 2002, 82 percent of Canadian exports went to the United States, and 19 percent of U.S. exports went to Canada. (Source: NAFTA @ 10, A Preliminary Report)
- Mexico is the United States' second largest trading partner after Canada, and Mexico-U.S. trade reached \$232 billion in 2002. Mexico-U.S. trade has increased by over 225 percent since the North American Free Trade Agreement of 1994. U.S. exports to Mexico total \$62.5 billion (year to date, while imports were \$90.2 billion. (Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, International Trade Administration)
- Since NAFTA, the two-way trade between Canada and Mexico more than doubled from \$6.5 billion to \$15.1 billion. Canada is Mexico's second most important export market, and Mexico has become Canada's fourth most important export market. Between 1994 and 2002, Canadian merchandise exports to Mexico rose 10.5 percent per year while imports from Mexico increased at a rate of 13.8 percent per year. Mexico accounted for 0.7 percent of Canadian total exports and 3.1 percent of Canadian imports in 2002, up from 2.4 percent in 1995. (Sources: NAFTA @ 10, Mexican Embassy in Canada, Statistics Canada)
- In terms of trilateral relations, both Canada and Mexico send more than 80 percent of their exports to NAFTA partners, whereas the United States relies on its NAFTA partners for only about 30 percent of its trade. (Source: NAFTA @ 10)
- The United States is Canada's leading agricultural market, importing nearly one-third of all Canadian food exports. Conversely, Canada is the second-largest U.S. agricultural market (after Japan), primarily importing fresh fruits, vegetables and livestock products. About one-fifth of Canadian exports to Mexico consist of agricultural goods, and agricultural goods accounted for four

percent of Canada's total imports from Mexico in 2002. (Sources: Travel Document Systems, Statistics Canada)

### **Regional Trade**

- Canada and Mexico's importance to the United States is more than simply a border-state phenomenon. In 2002, Canada was the leading export market for 39 of the 50 U.S. states. (Source: Embassy of Canada in Washington D.C.)
- In 2002, Texas was the top state exporter to Mexico at close to \$20 billion, followed by Michigan at \$15 billion and California at almost \$14 billion. (Source: U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce)
- In 2002, Michigan had the largest trade relationship with Canada at \$65.7 billion in 2002, followed by New York at \$23.5 billion, California at \$23.3 billion, and Texas at \$14.6 billion. (Source: Embassy of Canada in Washington, D.C.)
- The Canadian province of Ontario is the fourth largest trading partner of the United States (after Canada, Mexico, and China) with total trade nearing \$245 billion in 2002. Half of all Canadian exports originate in Ontario. In 2001, U.S. exports to Ontario alone were worth almost two times as much as U.S. exports to Japan. (Source: Ontario Investment Service, Embassy of Canada in D.C.)
- Total Ontario exports to Mexico were approximately C\$1 billion in 2002. (Source: Ontario Investment Service)

### **Border Crossings**

- There are 79 ports along the U.S.-Canadian border, and 25 ports along the U.S.-Mexican border. There are a total of 317 official land, air, and sea ports of entry in the United States and 14 pre-clearance stations in Canada and the Caribbean. (Sources: U.S. Department Of Transportation, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection)
- In 2002, a total of 50 million pedestrians crossed from Mexico to the United States at all 25 ports-of-entry. At the 79 Canadian ports, one million pedestrians crossed from Canada to the United States. (Source: U.S. Department Of Transportation)
- Six million trucks crossed from Canada into the United States in 2002. At the Mexican-U.S. border, 4 million trucks entered the United States. (Source: U.S. Department of Transportation)
- In 2002, 89 million personal vehicles from Mexico and 32 million personal vehicles from Canada entered the United States. (Source: U.S. Department of Transportation)

- To provide heightened security against terrorist threats while facilitating legal traffic, the U.S., Canadian, and Mexican governments signed two bilateral agreements (the U.S.-Canada Smart Border Declaration in December of 2001 and the U.S.-Mexico Partnership Agreement in March 2002). (Source: *Does Smarter Lead to Safer?*)
- Improved technology facilitated the implementation of new laser border crossing cards on the U.S.-Mexico border. Over five million pre-April 1, 1998 border crossing-cards were to be replaced with “laser visas” by September 30, 2001. Over 4 million had been issued as of Fall 2001. (Source: U.S. Department of State)

### **Permanent Migration**

- In 2002, Mexico was the country of origin of the largest number of legal immigrant admissions to the U.S. with 219,380 admissions, representing about 20.6 percent of the total number of admissions. Canadian immigrant admissions numbered 19,519 in 2002, only 1.8 percent of total legal admissions. In 2002, about 9,659,000 Mexicans were living in the U.S., compared with 714,000 Canadians. (Sources: CIS Statistical Yearbook 2002, Migration Information Source)
- Mexicans represented about 29.8 percent of the total foreign-born population in 2002. Relative to the 281.4 million people in the United States, foreign-born Mexicans accounted for 3.3 percent of the total population. The five states with the largest foreign-born populations from Mexico are California, Texas, Illinois, Arizona, and Georgia. (Source: The Migration Information Source)
- In 2002, Canadians accounted for 2.2 percent of the total foreign-born population living in the United States. According to the 2000 Census, the five states with the largest foreign-born population from Canada are California, Florida, New York, Michigan, and Washington. (Source: The Migration Information Source)
- Approximately 35 percent of Canada’s 14,700 refugee claimants in 2001 arrived via the United States, down from more than 40 percent of Canada’s 37,000 refugee claimants in 2000. The safe third country agreement between the United States and Canada was signed on December 5, 2002. The agreement limits the access of asylum seekers to the asylum/refugee system of the country to which they first arrive. (Source: Embassy of Canada in Washington, D.C.)

### **Temporary Migration**

- A temporary visa category, often referred to as the TN (Trade NAFTA) visa, currently allows North American professionals of approximately sixty-three occupational categories to work within the NAFTA space for one year at a time with an unlimited number of extensions. In fiscal year 2001, 92,951 Canadians and 2,571 Mexicans entered the United States under the NAFTA visa. That same year, 8,326 Americans and 101 Mexicans entered Canada as part of the temporary visa program, and 46,335

Americans and 3,890 Canadians entered Mexico under the visa. (Source: NAFTA's Promise and Reality)

- In fiscal year 2002, non-immigrant admissions to the United States totaled 27.9 million, including 4.2 million from Mexico and 226,000 from Canada. (Source: 2002 Statistical Yearbook)
- Each year, over 900,000 Canadians visit Mexico, and over 165,000 Mexicans visit Canada as tourists. Over 6,000 Mexicans will study in Canada in the year 2003, and 12,000 farm workers will travel to Canada under the bilateral migratory workers program. (Source: Canadian Embassy in Mexico)

### **Demographics**

- The United States has the largest population size among countries in the NAFTA region with 288 million people in 2003. Mexico has approximately one-third the number of people with 101 million, and Canada has a population nine times smaller than the United States with approximately 31 million people. (Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank)
- Ninety percent of Canadians live within 100 miles of the U.S.-Canada border. (Source: *Caught in the Middle: Border Communities in An Era of Globalization*)
- Over 9 million people live along the 2,000 mile U.S.-Mexico border, mostly in the fifteen "sister city" pairs. Around 300,000 people on the U.S. Southern border lack safe drinking water, wastewater collection and treatment systems, or adequate solid waste disposal facilities. Over 1,200 of these unincorporated areas called "colonias" are located in Texas and New Mexico. (Source: Environmental Protection Agency)
- As of 2003, the Canadian government operates ten Consulates General (with an additional consulate in Miami and a trade office in San Francisco) in the United States, with the intention to open more consulates in the upcoming year. There are fifty Mexican consulates in the U.S. (Sources: Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Mexico, Press Office)

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U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.usmcc.org/eco2.html>

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