



Quick Facts



Quick Facts and Numbers – British Columbia

Demographics

- Population: 4,405,534 (Oct 1, 2008)
Canadian Population: 33.4 million
- Population Growth: 1.6% (July 2007-July 2008)
Canadian Population Growth: 1.2%
- Median Age: 40.5 years (July 2008)
Canadian Median Age: 39.4 years
- Visible Minority Population: 24.8% (2006)
Canadian Minority Population: 16.2%
- Urbanized: 85.4% (2006)
Canadian Average: 80.2%

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 and 2008

Key Economic Indicators

Year	2007	2008	% Change
GDP in Chained 2002 value (\$ Millions)	164,583		
GDP in Chained 2002 value - Canada (\$ Millions)	1,319,681		
Consumer Prices (2002=100)	110	112.3	2.1%
Consumer Prices – Canada (2002=100)	111.5	114.5	2.3%
Retail Sales (\$ Millions)	56,365	56,470	0.2%
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.2%	4.6%	0.4%
Unemployment Rate – Canada (%)	6.0%	6.1%	0.1%
Employment (000s)	2,266	2,314	2.1%
Average Weekly Wages (\$)	761.01		
Average Weekly Wages – Canada (\$)	770.82		
Building Permits (\$ Millions)	12,545	10,577	-15.7%
Value of Shipments (\$ millions)	42,929	39,950	-6.9%

Source: Statistics Canada (2007)

Top Five Exports by Industry (\$ millions)

	2008	2007-2008 % Change	Percent Share (2008)
Mining (except Oil and Gas)	7,263	71.0%	21.6%
Wood Product Manufacturing	4,991	-24.3%	14.8%
Paper Manufacturing	4,631	-8.2%	13.7%
Oil and Gas Extraction	3,492	23.0%	10.4%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	1,942	-3.9%	5.8%
Machinery Manufacturing	1,471	-7.4%	4.4%
Food Manufacturing	1,368	8.3%	4.1%
Chemical Manufacturing	1,120	52.8%	3.3%
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	1,019	-6.5%	3.0%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	577	-23.1%	1.7%
Total – All Industries	33,681	4.0%	100.0%

Source: Industry Canada Trade Data Online