

Malaysia – Alberta Relations

Government of Alberta ■



This map is a generalized illustration only and is not intended to be used for reference purposes. The representation of political boundaries does not necessarily reflect the position of the Government of Alberta on international issues of recognition, sovereignty or jurisdiction.

PROFILE

Capital: Kuala Lumpur

Population: 28.3 million (2010)

Language: Malay (Bahasa Malaysia), English, Hokkien, Cantonese, Tamil.

Government: Federated Constitutional Monarchy

Head of State: Paramount Ruler Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin (since December 13, 2006)

Head of Government: Prime Minister Mohamed Najib bin Abdul Razak, United Malays National Organization (UMNO) (since April 3, 2009)

Currency: \$1 CDN = 3.1123 Malaysian Ringgits (MYR) (May 2011)

GDP: US \$237.8 billion (2010)

GDP (PPP): US \$414.4 billion (2010 est.)

GDP Per Capita (PPP): US \$14,670 (2010 est.)

GDP growth rate: 7.2% (2010)

Inflation: 1.7% (2010)

Unemployment: 3.4% (2010 est.)

Key Industry Sectors:

Peninsular Malaysia: rubber and oil palm processing and manufacturing, light manufacturing, electronics, tin mining and smelting, logging and processing timber.

Sarawak: agriculture processing, petroleum production and refining, and logging.

Sabah: logging and petroleum production.

DID YOU KNOW?

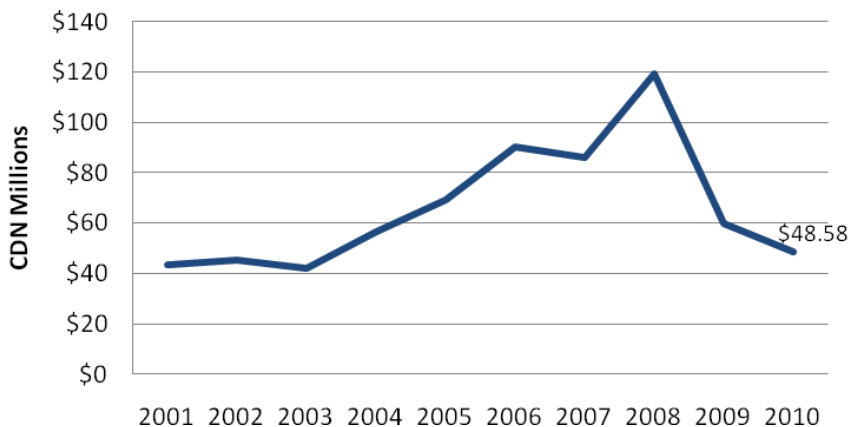
- In recent years, through regional forums such as the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Malaysia has worked to increase its leadership and influence in Southeast Asia.
- Consisting of two regions (Malaysian Peninsula and Sarawak/Sabah) separated by 640 miles of the South China Sea, Malaysia is a multi-ethnic federation of 13 states and three federal territories.
- The Malaysian population is comprised of Malay and other indigenous peoples Malay (50.4%), Chinese (23.7%), indigenous (11%), Indian (7.1%) and others (7.8%).

- Mahatir bin Mohamad, one of the world's longest-serving leaders, stepped down as Prime Minister in late 2003. Over the course of 21 years in office, Mahathir transformed Malaysia into a modern Asian nation.

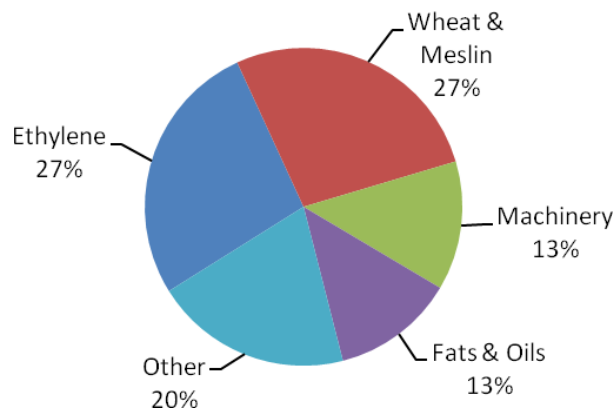
RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Malaysia, like Canada, is a member of the Commonwealth, World Trade Organization, United Nations Security Council, Cairns Group and APEC.
- Between 2006 and 2010, 572 immigrants from Malaysia chose Alberta as their destination. Approximately 78% were economic immigrants in occupations including: Petroleum, Chemical, Electrical and Electronics Engineers; and Financial Managers, Financial Auditors and Accountants.
- During the same time period, 229 Foreign Workers from Malaysia were issued a permit to work in Alberta.

Alberta's Exports to Malaysia 2001-2010



Alberta's Merchandise Exports to Malaysia 2006-2010 (Total Average CDN\$80.78 Million)



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- From 2006 to 2010, Alberta's exports to Malaysia averaged \$80.78 million annually. Primary exports include ethylene, wheat and meslin, machinery, and fats and oils.
- During the same time period, Alberta's imports from Malaysia averaged \$138.03 million annually and included mainly electronic components and telecommunications equipment. This figure does not include goods sold in Alberta that arrived via distribution hubs in other provinces.
- In January 2007, KNM Group Berhad from Malaysia set up its first subsidiary in Tofield, Alberta called KNM Process Equipment Inc. KNM Process Systems designs, manufactures, assembles and commissions process equipment for the oil, gas and petrochemical industries such as pressure vessels, heat exchangers and storage tanks. The company saw huge potential in Alberta's oil sands development and in the opportunity to build a metal fabrication yard to manufacture pressure vessels. Estimated initial investment is about \$20 million CDN.
- From a long-term trade perspective, Malaysia has generally ranked higher than its Southeast Asian counterparts, and offers significant potential for Alberta exporters. Alberta export figures to Malaysia do not reflect trade in services. Malaysia is an important market for education, training, and oil and gas consulting.
- Malaysia's "Vision 2020", a national development plan, calls for Malaysia to be a fully developed nation by the year 2020. The goal can be met only by continuing to attract foreign trade.

ENERGY

- Malaysia is a significant oil and natural gas producer and is located at a strategic juncture between the Indian and Pacific Oceans.
- Malaysia's oil reserves are 4 billion barrels (bbl) (2009), compared to Alberta's 171.3 billion bbl (2009).
- Oil production has decreased in recent years due to maturing offshore reservoirs, while domestic consumption has risen.
- Malaysia's oil reserves are the third highest in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2010, Malaysia was the world's tenth largest holder of natural gas reserves.
- Malaysia's national oil company, Petroleam Nasional Berhad (Petronas), dominates upstream and downstream activities in the country's oil sector. Petronas is the only remaining wholly state-owned enterprise in Malaysia, and is the single-largest contributor of government revenues.
- A number of Alberta firms operate in Malaysia's energy sector, supplying equipment and representing the exploration and production, pipeline, drilling and service sectors. These firms include Talisman Energy and Enbridge.

AGRICULTURE

- In 2010, Alberta agri-food exports to Malaysia totalled \$14.8 million, consisting mostly of wheat (\$11 million) and pork (\$2.45 million).
- Revenues from pork exports to Malaysia have increased by 67% over the past five years.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- Investment in Malaysia's oil and gas sector remains strong and opportunities include chemical and petrochemical plants, and oil and gas production/processing facilities.

- Industrial diversification and efficient, modern infrastructure make Malaysia an attractive destination for trade and long-term investment.
- Malaysia's growing population is increasing the demand for medical and educational services. Increased government emphasis on healthcare should bolster this trend.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- The University of Calgary (U of C) has three active Memorandums of Understanding with institutions in Malaysia:
 - Nilai College - students exchange agreement in Engineering, Computer Science and Management is U of C's largest-ever international agreement;
 - Institute of Technology Petronas - the Faculty of Engineering signed a twinning agreement that allows Malaysian students to complete their engineering degrees in Calgary; and
 - Sesama Medical College - agreement relating to the development of a joint program in medical studies.
- An agreement between Athabasca University and Stamford College allows students in Malaysia to access third year courses of Athabasca University's Bachelor of Management degree program. The teaching is done locally (at Petaling Jaya and Kuala Lumpur campuses).

RECENT VISITS

- December 2007: Malaysia's Consul General to Canada visited Alberta.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- Malaysia's High Commissioner in Ottawa is Mr. Dato' Hayati Binti Ismail.
- Canada's High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur is Mr. Randolph Mank.

