

Oregon – Alberta Relations

Government
of Alberta ■



PROFILE

Capital: Salem

Population: 3,831,074 (2010)

Language: English

Government: Bicameral state government

Head of Government: John Kitzhaber (D)

Currency: \$1 CDN = \$0.9830 U.S.
(November 2011)

GSP: \$168.9 billion U.S. (2010)

GDP Per Capita: \$44,447 U.S. (2010)

Unemployment: 9.6% (September 2011)

Key Industry Sectors: Food and beverages, tobacco, chemicals, petroleum, and tourism.

Main Cities (Metro Areas):
(2010)

- Portland-Salem-Vancouver (WA): 2,175,113
- Eugene-Springfield: 343,591
- Medford: 199,295
- Bend: 154,028
- Corvallis: 81,428

DID YOU KNOW?

- Portland is a major U.S. port; its maritime operation exports more wheat than any other U.S. port and it is the second largest grain exporter in the world.
- Oregon is considered a trendsetter for American states in many areas, ranging from health cost reform, governance and climate change.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Oregon is an important market for Alberta petrochemical, forestry, and agri-food products and is itself a large producer of forestry, agriculture and steel products.
- Alberta firefighters provided assistance in fighting wildfires in Oregon in the summer of 2002. Oregon's Governor acknowledged their contribution in a letter of thanks to Premier Klein.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

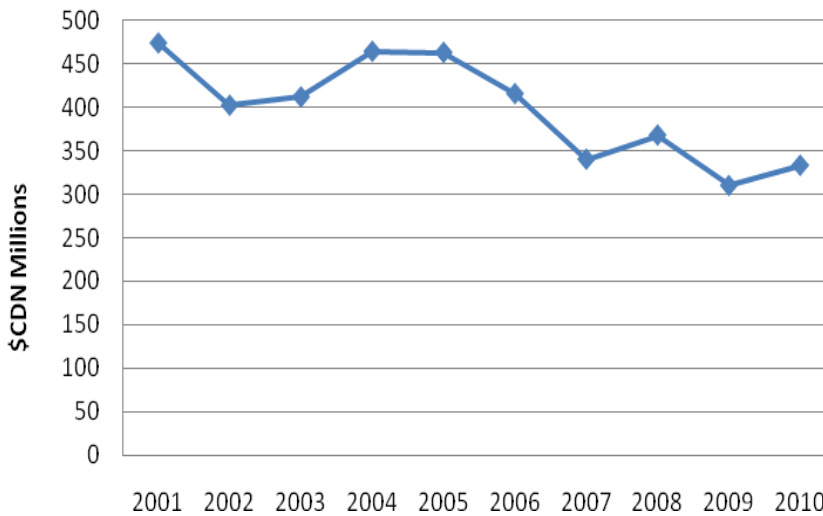
- Agri-food products involving livestock, meats, and value-added products.
- Pulp and paper products
- Transportation requirements ranging from construction and engineering services to automated traffic systems.

- High Technology.
- Energy sectors such as electricity, petrochemical products and natural gas.
- Tourism.

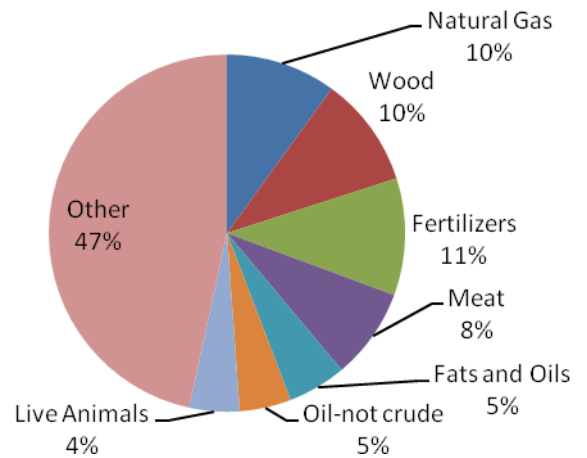
SHARED ORGANIZATIONS

- Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER)
- Both are members of sectoral organizations in the areas of agriculture (WASDA), forestry and electrical energy (WIEB).
- Council of State Governments-WEST (CSG-WEST)
- Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture

Alberta's Domestic Exports to Oregon (2001-2010)



Alberta's Domestic Exports to Oregon (2006-2010 Average)



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Alberta exports to Oregon averaged \$352.95 million over the past five years.
- Exports to Oregon in 2010 were worth \$334 million and included natural gas, particleboard, fertilizers, fats and oils, wood, and meat.
- Due to the dependence of Oregon on Asian countries as export destinations, the Asian flu and the bursting of the high tech bubble, combined to stifle the growth of Oregon's manufacturing sector for several years.
- In order to continue to diversify, Oregon has redirected much of its manpower from traditional industries to expanding industries like high tech.

ENERGY

- Oregon uses many renewable energy sources including hydroelectric power (the State is a leading generator in the U.S.), wind energy, biofuels and has the potential for geothermal electricity generation.
- Oregon approved a new renewable energy standard in June 2007, requiring the State's largest utilities to use renewable energy sources to meet 25% of their electricity demand by 2025.
- There are opportunities for Alberta's clean-technology and alternative-energy companies in Oregon. Of particular interest are the new technologies, processes and equipment that use plant waste rather than grain or corn to produce ethanol.

- In July 2009, a law was signed to allow the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission to implement rules for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation fuels. The commission may adopt a low carbon fuel standard (similar to California's) requiring an emissions reduction of 10% from 2010 levels by 2020.
- In 2009, Alberta exported 28.3 billion cubic feet to Oregon.

AGRICULTURE

- Alberta's 2009 agri-food exports to Oregon totalled \$212 million. Top exports included beef (\$45.5 million), refined canola oil (\$27.9 million), wheat (\$22.7 million), oilseed cake and meal (\$17.4 million) and seeds for sowing (\$17 million)
- Alberta participates in a number of regional forums providing opportunities to engage with Oregon on common agricultural issues.

RECENT VISITS

- July 2011: IIR Minister Iris Evans, SRD Minister Mel Knight, Energy Minister Ron Liepert, Environment Minister Rob Renner, AET Minister Greg Weadick and 9 MLA's attended the 2011 PNWER Summit in Portland.
- February 2011: MLA Groeneveld represented Alberta on a PNWER state capital mission to Salem.
- January 2009: MLA Fawcett represented Alberta on a PNWER state capital mission to Salem.
- December 2007: MLA Rodney attended information sessions of Portland's 10-year plan to end homelessness.
- September 2007: Education Minister Liepert toured the Career and Technology Studies facility in Portland.
- December 2005: MLA Strang attended the Western Legislative Forestry Task Force Annual Winter Planning Meeting in Portland.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- The U.S. Consul General responsible for Alberta is Laura Lochman.
- The Canadian Consulate responsible for Oregon is located in Seattle, Washington. Mr. Denis Stevens is the Consul General.
- The Canadian Honorary Consul in Oregon is Mr. Jim Baumgartner.