

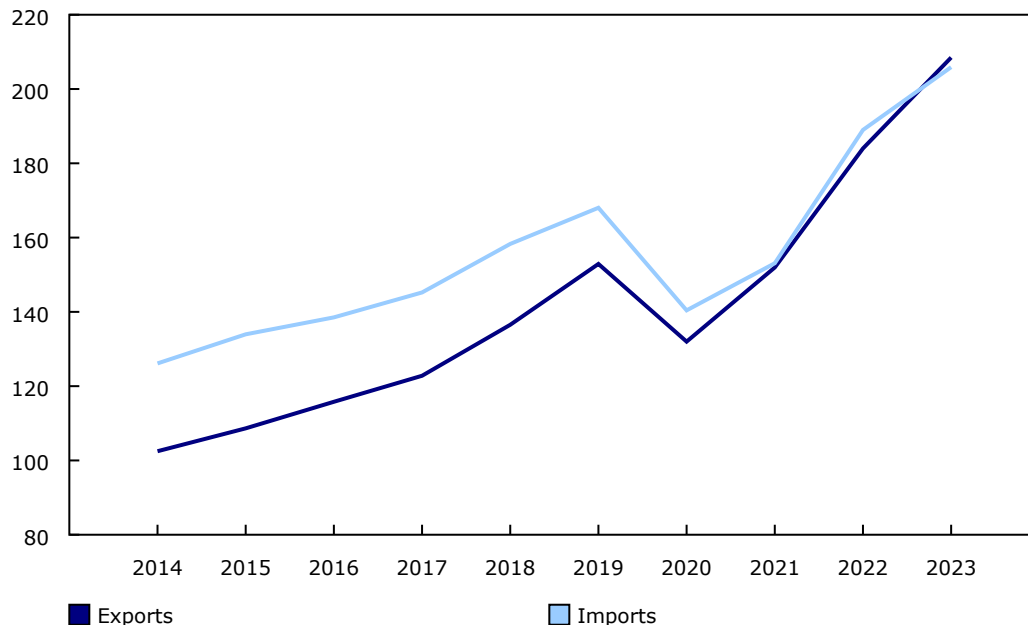
# Annual international trade in services, 2023

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Canada's exports and imports of services both increased in 2023, led by the growth in international travel. Exports of services totalled \$208.5 billion in 2023, a 13.3% gain from 2022, while imports of services into Canada reached \$205.9 billion (+8.9%).

**Chart 1**  
**International trade in services**

billions of dollars



Source(s): Table [36-10-0007-01](#).

Consequently, Canada's balance on international transactions in services posted a surplus of \$2.6 billion in 2023 as exports of services exceeded imports for the first time.

## Share of exports of services to the United States decreases

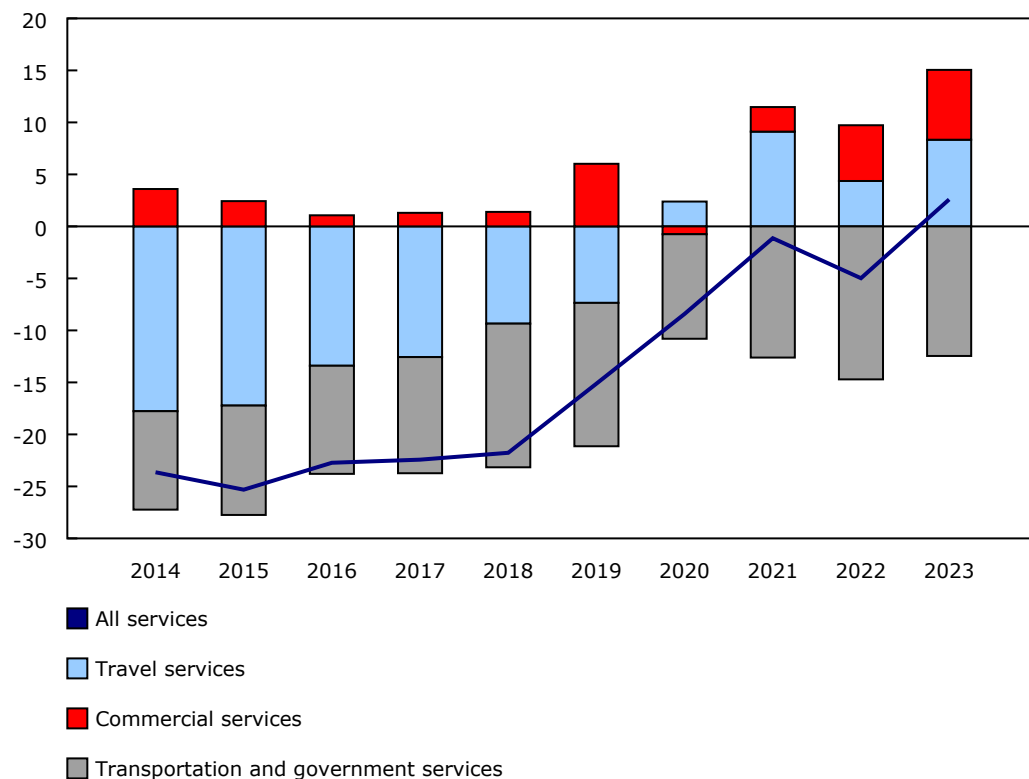
In 2023, Canada's exports of services to the United States increased 7.2% to \$107.2 billion, while imports of services from the United States advanced 8.7% to \$121.0 billion. Exports of services to all other countries rose 20.6% to \$101.3 billion, while imports from these countries increased 9.3% to \$84.9 billion in 2023.

The United States remained Canada's largest services trading partner in 2023, accounting for 51.4% of total exports of services and 58.8% of total imports of services. This compares with 54.3% of total exports and 58.9% of total imports in 2022.



## Chart 2 Services balances

billions of dollars



Source(s): Tables [36-10-0007-01](#), [36-10-0004-01](#) and [36-10-0006-01](#).

### International travel services increase significantly

Overall, Canada's travel services exports reached a record-high level of \$61.3 billion in 2023, an increase of 47.4% compared with 2022. Education-related travel services rose as international students' expenditures reached \$32.1 billion in 2023. Tourism-related travel services exports grew substantially as well, up 57.4% to \$20.6 billion. Business travel services exports increased 39.3% as the contribution coming from temporary foreign workers' expenditures rose significantly in the year.

Imports of travel services increased 42.3% in 2023, reaching a record-high level of \$53.0 billion, because of higher spending by Canadian resident travellers in both the United States and other destinations.

### Commercial services exports and imports post modest gains

Commercial services exports (+1.9%) and imports (+0.9%) posted modest gains in 2023. This followed larger increases through 2021 and 2022 led by rapid digital transformation in many industries in Canada and worldwide. Maintenance and repair, financial services and management services led export gains in 2023 while higher imports of management services, maintenance and repair, and advertising services offset a decrease in financial services (-13.2%).

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## Transportation services exports rise while imports are stable

Meanwhile, transportation services exports increased 11.4% to a record high \$22.7 billion in 2023. Air transport (+\$2.5 billion), specifically air passenger fares, was the main contributor to the increase. Transportation services imports (+0.2%) were relatively stable at \$34.5 billion, as higher payments of air passenger fares were offset by declines in marine transportation services imported from countries other than the United States, notably from China and Hong Kong.

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### Note to readers

*This is the annual release of Canada's detailed international transactions in services. This release contains details by country and service category for international transactions in services. Trade in services covers transactions in travel services, transportation services, a range of business and professional services (referred to as commercial services), and government services.*

*The results for the 2023 reference year are preliminary and were derived from a combination of the latest 2022 benchmark surveys and 2023 quarterly surveys.*

### Revisions and coverage

*Generally, revisions reflect the integration of the most recent information from surveys and administrative data sources. A new article, entitled "[Revisions to 2022 and 2023 exports of travel services](#)" and published in the Latest Developments in the Canadian Economic Accounts series, presents revisions to 2022 and 2023 exports of travel services, focusing mainly on integrating new estimates of the expenditures of temporary foreign workers in Canada.*

**Table 1**  
**Trade in services by category**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	millions of dollars						
<b>Total services, exports</b>	<b>122,800</b>	<b>136,526</b>	<b>152,902</b>	<b>131,993</b>	<b>151,959</b>	<b>184,000</b>	<b>208,482</b>
Travel services	32,446	35,391	39,547	18,593	19,314	41,625	61,341
Commercial services	71,292	81,370	92,991	98,391	116,189	120,280	122,573
Transportation services	17,403	18,082	18,581	13,684	14,871	20,341	22,663
Government services	1,658	1,683	1,783	1,325	1,584	1,753	1,905
<b>Total services, imports</b>	<b>145,229</b>	<b>158,295</b>	<b>168,023</b>	<b>140,408</b>	<b>153,095</b>	<b>188,982</b>	<b>205,891</b>
Travel services	45,010	44,740	46,901	16,203	10,202	37,259	53,006
Commercial services	69,988	79,976	86,972	99,144	113,826	114,920	115,858
Transportation services	28,960	32,033	32,616	23,547	27,373	34,801	34,861
Government services	1,271	1,546	1,535	1,514	1,694	2,001	2,166
<b>Total services, balances</b>	<b>-22,429</b>	<b>-21,769</b>	<b>-15,121</b>	<b>-8,414</b>	<b>-1,137</b>	<b>-4,982</b>	<b>2,591</b>
Travel services	-12,565	-9,349	-7,354	2,389	9,112	4,366	8,334
Commercial services	1,304	1,394	6,019	-752	2,363	5,360	6,715
Transportation services	-11,556	-13,951	-14,034	-9,863	-12,502	-14,460	-12,198
Government services	388	137	248	-188	-110	-248	-260

Source(s): Tables [36-10-0004-01](#), [36-10-0005-01](#), [36-10-0006-01](#) and [36-10-0007-01](#).

**Table 2**  
**Trade in services by region**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	millions of dollars						
<b>All regions, services exports</b>	<b>122,800</b>	<b>136,526</b>	<b>152,902</b>	<b>131,993</b>	<b>151,959</b>	<b>184,000</b>	<b>208,482</b>
United States	67,753	74,164	81,679	72,124	86,606	99,995	107,150
Europe	22,426	26,527	28,975	24,556	28,086	35,585	38,607
Central and East Asia	17,114	20,179	23,779	19,505	20,404	27,247	36,356
All other regions	15,507	15,656	18,469	15,808	16,863	21,173	26,369
<b>All regions, services imports</b>	<b>145,229</b>	<b>158,295</b>	<b>168,023</b>	<b>140,408</b>	<b>153,095</b>	<b>188,982</b>	<b>205,891</b>
United States	79,251	85,963	92,179	81,133	89,008	111,308	120,987
Europe	31,024	33,413	35,213	28,933	32,039	37,105	41,314
Central and East Asia	16,738	19,722	21,312	16,859	19,844	23,169	22,913
All other regions	18,216	19,197	19,319	13,483	12,204	17,400	20,677
<b>All regions, services balances</b>	<b>-22,429</b>	<b>-21,769</b>	<b>-15,121</b>	<b>-8,414</b>	<b>-1,137</b>	<b>-4,982</b>	<b>2,591</b>
United States	-11,498	-11,799	-10,499	-9,009	-2,402	-11,313	-13,837
Europe	-8,598	-6,887	-6,238	-4,376	-3,953	-1,520	-2,707
Central and East Asia	376	456	2,467	2,645	559	4,078	13,443
All other regions	-2,709	-3,539	-851	2,326	4,659	3,773	5,692

Source(s): Table [36-10-0007-01](#).

**Available tables:** [12-10-0141-01](#), [12-10-0145-01](#) and [36-10-0004-01](#) to [36-10-0007-01](#) .

**Definitions, data sources and methods:** survey number [1536](#).

The *Methodological Guide: Canadian System of Macroeconomic Accounts* ([13-607-X](#)) is available.

The *User Guide: Canadian System of Macroeconomic Accounts* ([13-606-G](#)) is also available. This publication will be updated to maintain its relevance.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations ([statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)).