



QUEBEC PROFILE



Demographics

Population

- 7.5 million (2004)
- French is the official language
- Highly bilingual and multilingual workforce

Active population (thousands) 4,028

Population of metropolitan areas

Montreal	3.6 million
Quebec City (Capital)	710,800
Gatineau	277,700
Saguenay	154,200
Sherbrooke	162,300
Trois-Rivières	141,200

Employment by industry (000s), 2004

Manufacturing	629.3
Retail trade	471.6
Health and social services	442.6

Languages (% distribution), Census 2001

French, mother tongue	80.2
English, mother tongue	8.2
Speaking both official languages	40.2

Total area: 1,667,441 km²

Economy

Current GDP (\$): 267,032 million

CPI¹ inflation: 1.9% (2004)

Unemployment rate: 8.5% (2004)

Total international trade (\$CDN billions)

Exports: \$89.1 billion (2004)

Imports: \$87.9 billion (2004)

Trade and Investment (2004)

International export markets (%)

United States	81.8
United Kingdom	2.2
Japan	1.6

International import suppliers (%)

United States	36.4
China	7.3
United Kingdom	7.0

Top three international exports (%)

Aerial vehicles and parts	11.2
Paper and cardboard	9.1
Machinery	8.6

Top three international imports (%)

Oil and natural gas	16.3
automobiles	14.1
Machinery	12.1

Business and Investment Environment

- An exceptional, available qualified and stable labour force at a competitive price.
- A market of 110 million consumers within a 1000 km radius.
- Tax incentives and labour force assistance and training programs adapted to the needs of companies.
- Research and development and innovation capacity geared to the needs of companies.
- Availability of private and public capital to fund investment projects.

¹ CPI: Consumer Price Index



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Sectoral Strengths

Aerospace

- Quebec ranks sixth worldwide.
- Montreal is one of the world's largest aeronautical centres, along with Seattle (US) and Toulouse (France).
- The industry's 260 companies include four leading international players: Bombardier for regional business aircraft, Pratt & Whitney Canada for airplane and helicopter engines, CAE for flight simulators and Bell Helicopter for civilian helicopters.
- One out of every 200 people work directly in the aeronautics manufacturing industry in Quebec.
- Over 80% of production is exported.

Biopharmaceutical industry

- About 40% of deliveries and 42% of investment in Canada's biopharmaceutical industry are in Quebec.
- Six of the seven research centres for multinational pharmaceutical companies in Canada are located in Quebec: Merck Frosst, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals and ID Biomedical.
- Quebec boasts internationally recognized research firms and a biotechnology research institute.

Information technology

- 70% of production is exported.
- Software and multimedia companies are internationally recognized for their creativity and knowledge.
- Montreal is the site for a critical mass of companies, including several world leaders in manufacturing and research in the wireless telecommunications niche.
- A leading international producer of interactive games, animation and 2D and 3D special effects.

Other sectors of excellence

- Agri-food
- Automotive and surface transportation equipment
- Light metals
- Microelectronics
- Telecommunications

Online Resources

Investissement Québec

<http://www.investquebec.com/en/index.aspx?>

Montréal International

www.montrealinternational.com

Québec

http://pole-qca.ca/index_en.php

Société générale de financement du Québec

<http://www.sgfqc.com/en/>

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