

# Venezuela

**Official Title** Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela



## General Information:

<b>Capital</b>	Caracas	
<b>Total Area</b>	912,050 km <sup>2</sup>	<b>Population</b> 26,430,000
<b>Currency (2005 av.)</b>	1 CAN\$ =	1,736.11 bolivar
<b>National Holiday</b>	July 5 (1811 Independence Day)	
<b>Language(s)</b>	Spanish	

## Political Information:

**Type of State** Federal republic (23 states, 1 capital distri)  
**Type of Government**  
 Unicameral 167-member National Assembly; president elected for 6 year term, deputies 5 years

**Head of State**  
 President Hugo Chávez Frías

**Head of Government**  
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**Ministers** Foreign Affairs: Nicolás Maduro  
 Defense: Commandante General Raul Baduel  
 Finance: Nelson Merentes Díaz

### Main Political Parties

President Chávez was re-elected to a six-year term during the national election held on July 30, 2000. The political opposition boycotted the 2005 parliamentary elections on the basis of alleged fraud and as a consequence, all 167 members of the National Assembly are chavistas. The previously powerful national political parties have lost all of their influence.

**Elections** 2006

## Economic Information: (2005)

	Venezuela	Canada
<b>GDP: (billion)</b>	\$160.96	\$1,372.10
<b>GDP per capita:</b>	\$6,090.16	\$42,568.87
<b>GDP Growth rate: (%)</b>	9.3	2.9
<b>Inflation: (%)</b>	15.9	2.2
<b>Unemployment: (%)</b>	n/a	6.8

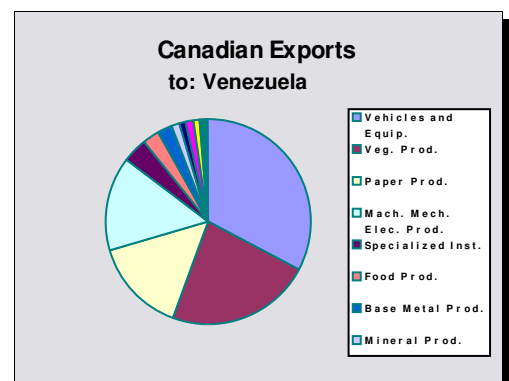
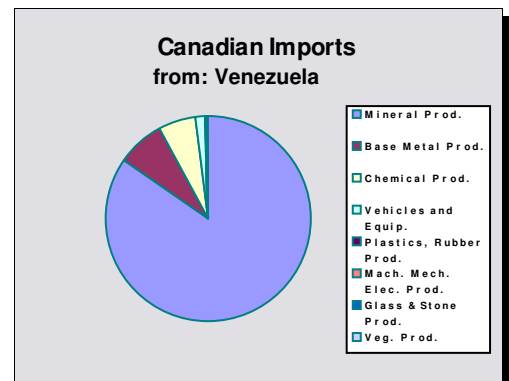
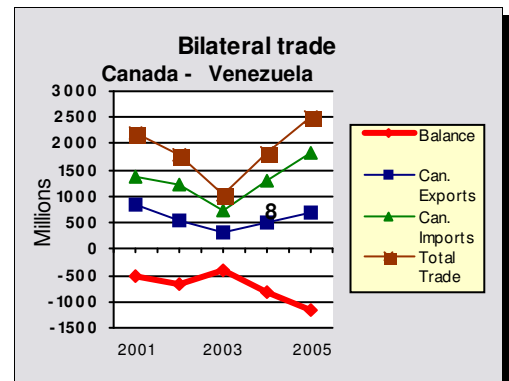
## Trade and investment: (2005)

<b>Canadian Exports to Venezuela</b>	\$687,386,752
<b>Canadian Imports from Venezuela</b>	\$1,829,280,808
<b>Foreign Direct Investment in Canada</b>	n/a (million)
<b>Canadian Direct Investment to Venezuela</b>	\$314 (million)

## Representation:

**Foreign Representation in Canada**  
 Ambassador Jesus Arnaldo Pérez

**Canadian Representation Abroad**  
 Ambassador Renata Wielgozs



Sources:  
 Statistics/Industry Canada  
<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca>  
 IMF  
<http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm>  
 InfoExport  
<http://www.infoexport.gc.ca>