



# Transportation & International Logistics

## Industry at a Glance

Transportation plays a vital role in maintaining Alberta's global competitiveness. Through its road, rail, air cargo and pipeline networks, the province's transportation system facilitates the movement of more than \$75 billion of Alberta products to international markets each year.

The province is home to two international airports and it is well served by both CN and CP railways, which are among the most efficient in North America. Alberta trucking firms have world renowned expertise in the movement of over-dimensional and overweight materials and the province's main export pipelines support Alberta's oil and gas industry with secure and reliable transportation to major markets in the US and West Coast.

## Areas of Expertise

### Trucking

Alberta's highly developed road transportation network provides the trucking industry with excellent access to international trade corridors. In addition to moving over 60% of all freight within the province, trucks are responsible for about \$7 billion or 29% of Alberta's non-pipeline international exports with 95% of all Alberta truck exports destined for the United States. The trucking industry is well represented in Alberta and accounts for 21% of the total heavy truck population in Canada. Registrations of heavy trucks have increased by 46% in the last 10 years, reflecting the rapid economic growth in the province, specifically in the energy resource sector which has contributed to Alberta's world renowned expertise in the movement of over-dimensional and overweight materials.

### Air Cargo

Air Cargo plays a vital role in moving Alberta's high value and time sensitive exports to and from global markets. Alberta's scheduled airports currently handle over 15 million passengers a year and move more than 150,000 metric tonnes of cargo. The two major airports at Edmonton and Calgary, where most of the province's airport activity occurs, together account for an annual total economic impact of \$4.75 billion. The Alberta aviation network is made up of two major international airports, 12 regional airports and 72 community airports. The Calgary International Airport is Canada's third busiest in terms of passenger traffic while the Edmonton International Airport is Canada's fifth busiest.

### Pipelines

Alberta's oil and natural gas industries require a secure and reliable pipeline infrastructure to ensure the effective movement of the province's bitumen, crude oil and natural gas to both domestic and North American markets. Alberta's pipeline network is well integrated into the North American crude oil and natural gas markets with connections to the west coast, the eastern and western United States, and important refining areas near Chicago and the Gulf coast. There are opportunities to further expand the established pipeline infrastructure particularly to the U.S. Gulf Coast and the west coast, to eventually reach more of the overseas markets.

### Fast Facts

- The Transportation and Warehousing sector contributes \$10.2 billion annually to the Alberta economy and employs more than 98,000 people.
- About 84% of all Alberta exports are shipped to the US.
- Pipelines are the major transportation mode for Alberta products, with commodity prices producing export values up to \$52 billion and representing approximately 65% of all shipments.
- More than \$3.6 billion worth of goods was shipped out of Alberta's airports to destinations around the world.
- Together, CN Rail and CP Rail operate approximately 9,600 route kilometres in Alberta and transport in excess of 60 million tonnes into and out of the province each year.

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## Rail

Alberta is served by both national railways, Canadian Pacific Railway and CN Rail. Collectively these two transcontinental railways and their subsidiaries provide Alberta industry with direct rail access to Canada's East and West coasts and major US markets in the Gulf coast, the Mid West and the Northeast. Rail volumes for all commodities in Alberta approximate 60 million tonnes annually. Alberta is well positioned to access growing container markets in Asia with two intermodal facilities in both Calgary and Edmonton.

## Regulatory Environment

Alberta's transportation sector is governed by both federal and provincial legislation. Some of the more important federal transportation acts include:

- Canada Transportation Act
- Canadian Transportation Accident and Safety Board Act
- Railway Safety Act
- Dangerous Goods Transportation and Handling Act
- Navigable Waters Protection Act
- Railway Relocation and Crossing Act

A complete listing of federal acts and regulations can be accessed at: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/acts-regulations/acts/menu.htm>  
Provincial transportation acts and regulations, including the Traffic Safety Act and the Railway Safety Act can be found at: <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/525.htm>

## Industry Resources

Visit the Transportation and International Logistics homepage at [www.albertacanada.com/transportation](http://www.albertacanada.com/transportation) to learn about:

- Industry facts and opportunities
- Policies and regulations
- Key stakeholders and industry associations
- News and events

## Contact Information

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