

Alberta Produces

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- Alberta produces energy – the energy of people that harnesses the energy from oil, gas, bio-mass and the wind itself to fuel the world's economy.
- Alberta produces goods and services – the supports for life and quality of life like food and food products, construction, consumer services, health care, finance and real estate.
- Alberta produces innovation – the innovation that drives research and advanced technology, develops knowledge, pioneers new medical protocols and industry solutions that spell leadership.
- Alberta produces economic growth – averaging 3.3 per cent growth a year for 10 years, Alberta continually outperforms the rest of Canada at 3.0 per cent. In 2008, GDP declined by 0.2 per cent, as a result of the global economic crisis, for a GDP of \$292 billion. Productivity was \$47.53 GDP per hour worked, the highest in Canada.
- Alberta produces investment – per capita investment was \$24,262 in 2008, more than double the \$10,387 per capita for Canada. One attraction is Alberta's tax advantage: lowest personal income tax, low corporate income taxes, no capital tax, no provincial sales tax, no payroll tax and the lowest gasoline taxes in the country.

ENERGY

- Oil and gas produce one-quarter of Alberta's GDP, about 65 per cent of our exports and 30 per cent of Alberta government revenues. The energy industry accounts for 275,000 direct and indirect jobs.
- The Alberta government invests about \$30 million per year in energy research and technology, including clean coal technologies, carbon dioxide management, improved oil and gas recovery, bitumen upgrading, alternate and renewable energy technologies, and water management.

OIL SANDS

- Oil sands are mixtures of water, sand, clay and bitumen, a heavy crude oil that can be separated to yield lighter crude. Conventional oil is found throughout Alberta; oil sands are primarily in the north, underlying 140,799 square kilometers, an area about the size of Nepal. Oil sands produced almost 1.1 million barrels of synthetic crude a day in 2004, one third of Canada's total output.
- Canada has the world's second largest proven crude oil reserves after Saudi Arabia. Most reserves are in Alberta's oil sands – over 172 billion barrels.
- Even with \$87 billion committed to oil sands development to 2016, close to 70 per cent of the oil sands remain open for exploration and lease. The minable surface area represents only five per cent of the total oil sands regions; Athabasca, Cold Lake and Peace River.

NATURAL GAS

- One billion cubic feet of natural gas can meet the energy needs of 8,000 northern climate homes for a year. In 2007, Alberta produced about 13.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day, almost five trillion cubic feet per year. That is almost 80 per cent of Canada's natural gas production.
- Canada is the world's third-largest natural gas producer and second-largest exporter. About 48 per cent of Canada's 6.4 trillion cubic feet produced in 2007 went to the United States. Natural gas and natural gas liquids were 25 per cent of Alberta's exports in 2008.

ELECTRICITY

- About half of Alberta's electricity is generated from coal. An increasing amount of Alberta's electricity is co-generated by industrial operations fuelled by natural gas. Generation from renewable resources – hydro, biomass (wood) and wind power – is up almost 50 per cent since 1998, to over 1,350 megawatts a year.

FACT sheet

COAL

- Alberta holds 70 per cent of Canada's coal reserves. Nine major coal mines produce more than 36 million metric tonnes of marketable coal a year.
- Alberta's low sulphur coal burns cleaner, and new coal-burning technologies generate electricity cleanly and efficiently. The Genesee 3 coal-fired plant near Edmonton is the most technologically advanced in Canada.

PETROCHEMICALS

- Alberta is Canada's leading petrochemicals manufacturer, producing over \$15 billion in products in 2007 and \$7.1 billion in exports each year. Some products made from petrochemicals include hard hats, skateboard wheels, camera film, computer keys, detergents, molding and chewing gum.
- Alberta is home to four petrochemical plants with a combined annual production capacity of 8.6 billion pounds. The plants at Joffre and Fort Saskatchewan are among the world's largest.

For more information on energy in Alberta, visit www.energy.alberta.ca