Pakistan–Canada Trade Brief

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Canada's merchandise trade with Pakistan reached C$1,065.7 million in January–July 2026, up 78% from C$598.9 million a year earlier. Seven months of 2026 already come close to the full-year totals for 2021, 2022 and 2025. Canada swung from a deficit of C$179.3M to a surplus of C$295.7M, almost entirely because Pakistan resumed buying Canadian canola. Figures are Statistics Canada data in Canadian dollars, pulled from Trade Data Online on 3 October 2026, unless marked US$.

Major trends

- **Canola reopening drives the jump.** Canola seed was C$444.0M, or 65.2% of Canada's exports to Pakistan, in January–July 2026, after none in 2023 and 2024. Pakistan closed its market to genetically modified canola in late 2022, and the two countries agreed to restart the trade on 3 November 2025.
- **Canadian exports tripled.** Exports rose from C$209.8M in January–July 2025 to C$680.7M in January–July 2026 (up 224.5%), already more than every full year from 2018 to 2025.
- **Pakistan's exports to Canada are steady and large.** Canada imported C$696.2M from Pakistan in 2025, almost twice the C$364.0M of 2016. Imports were flat in January–July 2026 (C$385.0M, down 1.0%). They are mainly home textiles, clothing, leather goods and rice.
- **The balance flips with canola.** Pakistan had a surplus with Canada every year from 2022 to 2025, peaking at C$395.0M in 2023. With canola back, Canada is in surplus again (C$295.7M in January–July 2026).
- **Trade is regionally split.** The Prairie provinces supply 82% of Canada's exports to Pakistan, while Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia take 92% of Canada's imports from Pakistan.

Merchandise trade balance, 2016 to 2026 year to date

Canada ran a surplus with Pakistan from 2016 to 2021, then a deficit from 2022 to 2025 as canola stopped and imports grew. Two-way trade was C$1.0–1.4 billion a year before the canola halt, fell to C$845.3M in 2023, and recovered to C$1,195.4M in 2025.

Period	Exports to Pakistan (C$ M)	Imports from Pakistan (C$ M)	Balance (C$ M)	Total trade (C$ M)
2016	1,078.5	364.0	+714.5	1,442.5
2017	747.0	410.8	+336.1	1,157.8
2018	609.6	436.2	+173.4	1,045.8
2019	672.6	449.5	+223.1	1,122.0
2020	668.9	438.2	+230.7	1,107.1
2021	660.5	543.9	+116.6	1,204.3
2022	598.1	730.4	-132.3	1,328.5
2023	225.1	620.2	-395.0	845.3
2024	302.8	635.3	-332.4	938.1
2025	499.1	696.2	-197.1	1,195.4
Jan–Jul 2025	209.8	389.1	-179.3	598.9
Jan–Jul 2026	**680.7**	**385.0**	**+295.7**	**1,065.7**

Source: Statistics Canada, via ISED Trade Data Online. *In US dollars, January–July trade was US$427.1M in 2025 and US$770.3M in 2026 (exports US$491.9M, imports US$278.4M).*

Top Canadian exports to Pakistan

Canola and pulses (lentils, chickpeas and peas) make up most of Canada's exports to Pakistan. Ferrous scrap is the third pillar, worth C$45–73M a year except in 2023. Sawn lumber, worn clothing, newsprint and computers are steady smaller lines. New in 2025–26 are potash (C$12.9M in 2025, from Saskatchewan), polyethylene (C$7.3M in January–July 2026) and gas turbines (C$14.4M in January–July 2026, up from C$1.4M).

Product (HS code)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Jan–Jul 2026
Canola seed (1205)	271,557	239,676	–	–	107,178	444,032
Dried pulses (0713)	109,566	182,154	67,091	77,599	169,399	103,111
Ferrous scrap (7204)	64,258	45,113	20,684	72,647	61,881	41,140
Sawn lumber (4407)	23,814	16,513	14,115	15,600	25,553	13,613
Worn clothing (6309)	20,544	24,102	21,552	26,220	23,299	12,615
Newsprint (4801)	10,734	9,436	13,995	20,318	12,222	2,821
Computers and parts (8471)	13,574	13,229	11,015	11,781	8,904	6,304
Total, all products	**660,481**	**598,102**	**225,119**	**302,839**	**499,123**	**680,707**

Values in C$ thousands. In 2021, C$118.4M of exports fell outside the top 25 product groups.

Top Canadian imports from Pakistan

Canada mainly buys home textiles, clothing and leather goods from Pakistan. The seven textile and clothing lines in the table were worth C$384.6M in 2025, 55% of all imports. Food is growing: rice reached C$28.5M in 2024, and sauces and condiments quadrupled from C$4.0M in 2021 to C$16.0M in 2025. Plastic resins (HS 3907) fell from C$63.5M in 2022 to C$19.0M in 2025. In January–July 2026 imports were flat, with men's trousers (+6.8%) and T-shirts (+14.2%) up and leather apparel (−19.8%) and rice (−25.5%) down.

Product (HS code)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Jan–Jul 2026
Bed, table and kitchen linen (6302)	57,100	71,285	67,486	73,561	79,690	42,075
Leather apparel and gloves (4203)	49,701	70,669	64,151	52,932	64,545	30,801
Knit pullovers and cardigans (6110)	38,496	59,744	56,034	53,066	62,953	27,898
Men's suits, trousers, shorts (6203)	33,184	55,801	52,418	48,653	61,424	34,602
Women's suits, dresses, trousers (6204)	30,597	46,267	44,710	44,965	59,283	33,348
Hosiery and socks (6115)	17,750	20,201	17,595	22,773	35,759	17,079
Rice (1006)	17,651	22,293	24,825	28,457	27,206	13,289
T-shirts (6109)	8,601	17,294	17,841	17,695	20,966	13,382

Plastic resins (3907)	44,773	63,541	27,922	37,807	19,049	15,898
Sauces and condiments (2103)	3,977	6,795	9,616	11,382	16,019	10,064
Total, all products	**543,850**	**730,437**	**620,155**	**635,278**	**696,236**	**385,024**

Values in C$ thousands, ranked by 2025 value.

Trade by province

Saskatchewan alone supplied half of Canada's exports to Pakistan in January–July 2026, and the three Prairie provinces 82%. Ontario is the main entry point for Pakistani goods, with 60% of imports, followed by Quebec and British Columbia. Imports are recorded by province of clearance, so they show where goods enter Canada, not where they are used.

Province	Exports to Pakistan (C$ M)	Share of Canada's exports	Imports from Pakistan (C$ M)	Share of Canada's imports
Saskatchewan	336.9	49.5%	1.5	0.4%
Alberta	153.5	22.5%	15.1	3.9%
Manitoba	70.2	10.3%	7.1	1.8%
Ontario	42.5	6.2%	229.8	59.7%
Quebec	34.0	5.0%	63.1	16.4%
Nova Scotia	27.9	4.1%	1.4	0.4%
British Columbia	12.7	1.9%	59.6	15.5%
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.8	0.3%	0.03	0.0%
New Brunswick	1.3	0.2%	7.4	1.9%
Prince Edward Island	0.05	0.0%	–	–
Canada	**680.7**	**100%**	**385.0**	**100%**

January–July 2026. Detailed briefs: Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba.

Services, remittances and investment

Beyond goods, money flows from Canada to Pakistan are large and rising. Remittances from Canada are worth more than Canada's merchandise imports from Pakistan, and investment from Canada jumped in mid-2026. These figures are from the State Bank of Pakistan, in US dollars, as of August 2026.

Flow (US$ M)	2023	2024	2025	Jan–Aug 2025	Jan–Aug 2026
Workers' remittances from Canada	484.3	570.0	743.5	488.1	556.8
Pakistan's services exports to Canada	149.8	210.3	201.1	132.2	147.3
Pakistan's services imports from Canada	110.4	108.0	98.9	64.3	112.1
Net foreign direct investment from Canada	-0.95	127.9	44.0	43.7	123.1

- Remittances from Canada were a record US$798.4M in fiscal year 2026 (July 2025–June 2026), up 21% on the year before.
- Pakistan's services exports to Canada have grown sevenfold from US$29.9M in 2016.

- Most of the 2026 investment came in June–August (US$122.6M over three months). The State Bank has not said whether these monthly figures include one-off transactions.

Source: State Bank of Pakistan, EasyData *(country-wise remittances, services trade and foreign investment series).*

Pakistanis in Canada

About 235,000 people in Canada reported Pakistani origin in 2021, 9% of Canada's South Asian population. The Pakistan-born population tripled between 2001 and 2021, and it is highly educated: 61% of those aged 25–54 hold a bachelor's degree or higher. Our current estimates put the number of Canadian Pakistanis in excess of 0.5 Million.

Indicator	Figure	Year
People of Pakistani origin (South Asian population)	235,420	2021
People of Pakistani ethnic origin	215,555	2016
Immigrants born in Pakistan	202,260	2016
Arrived from Pakistan in the previous five years	41,480	2016
People with Urdu as their mother tongue	210,815	2016
People who can speak Urdu	322,220	2016

- About 75% of Pakistan-born residents arrived in 2000 or later. Of those who came between 1980 and 2021, 56% were economic immigrants, 29% came through family sponsorship and 13% as refugees.
- 78% of Pakistan-born residents report Urdu as their mother tongue.
- Prairie communities in 2021: Alberta 39,535, Saskatchewan 7,640, Manitoba 5,030 (Pakistani ethnic or cultural origin).

Sources: Statistics Canada, Portrait of the South Asian Populations in Canada (2025) *for 2021;* 2016 Census Profile *(Canada column) for 2016. The 2021 and 2016 origin counts use different definitions, so they are not directly comparable. The 2021 national census profile was not reachable on 3 October 2026.*

Agreements and what's distinctive about the relationship

- **The canola deal reset the relationship.** Canada and Pakistan agreed on 3 November 2025 to restart canola trade (CTV News/Reuters). On 20 July 2026 in Islamabad, Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar and Foreign Minister Anita Anand signed a protocol setting Pakistan's plant-health import requirements for Canadian genetically modified canola (Radio Pakistan). Pakistan bought 506,656 tonnes of Canadian canola in the first half of 2026 (Manitoba Co-operator).
- **July 2026 joint statement.** Minister Anand's visit to Pakistan produced a joint statement on strengthening bilateral and trade relations (Global Affairs Canada).
- **An investment agreement is under negotiation.** Canada and Pakistan are negotiating a Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement. The second round is complete, and the third round is expected in Islamabad in mid-October 2026. No bilateral investment treaty is in force (UNCTAD).
- **Tax treaty in force since 1977.** The Canada–Pakistan income tax convention was signed on 24 February 1976 and entered into force on 15 December 1977. It was modified by the Multilateral Instrument from 1 April 2021 (Federal Board of Revenue).

Sources

- Statistics Canada via ISED Trade Data Online: trade by province, partner and HS code
- State Bank of Pakistan, EasyData: foreign investment, remittances and services trade by country
- Statistics Canada: Portrait of the South Asian Populations in Canada (2025)
- Statistics Canada: 2016 Census Profile
- Global Affairs Canada: Canada–Pakistan joint statement (Jul 2026)
- Global Affairs Canada: Minister Anand advances Canada's bilateral relations with Pakistan (Jul 2026)
- Radio Pakistan: Pakistan, Canada sign protocol on import of canola (20 Jul 2026)
- CTV News/Reuters: Canada and Pakistan agree to facilitate canola trade (3 Nov 2025)
- Manitoba Co-operator: Pakistan is back buying Canadian canola
- Canada–Pakistan income tax convention (1976) and FBR tax treaty list
- UNCTAD: international investment agreements, Pakistan