

# Afghanistan

**Official Title** Islamic Republic of Afghanistan



## General Information:

<b>Capital</b>	Kabul		
<b>Total Area</b>	652,090	km2	<b>Population (million)</b> 28.140
<b>Currency</b>	1 CAN\$=	47.32 Afghani (AFN) (2008)	
<b>National Holiday</b>	Independence Day, 19 August		
<b>Language(s)</b>	Pashtu, Dari, Turkic languages (incl. Uzbek & Turkmen), 30 other languages		

## Political Information:

**Type of State** Islamic Republic

### Type of Government

Consisting of three branches: executive, legislature and judiciary. The president is both the chief of state and head of government. The cabinet consists of 25 ministers appointed by the president and approved by the National Assembly. The National Assembly consists of the House of Elders (102 seats, one-third elected from provincial councils for 4-year terms, one-third elected from local district councils for 3-year terms, and one-third nominated by the president for 5-year terms) and the House of People (249 seats), directly elected for 5-year terms. The constitution establishes a Supreme Court and subordinate Courts.

### Head of State

President Hamid KARZAI

### Head of Government

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**Ministers** Foreign Affairs: Dr. Zalmay Rassoul  
 Defence: Gen. Abdurrahim Wardak  
 Rural Rehab. and Dev.: Jarullah Mansoori  
 Economy: Abdul Hadi Arghandiwal

### Main Political Parties

84 political parties are registered.

**Elections** President/two vice presidents: five-year term (second term eligible). Presidential and Provincial Council: last held August 2009.

## Economic Information: (2008)

	Afghanistan	Canada
<b>GDP: (billion)</b>	\$12.48	\$1,598.54
<b>GDP per capita:</b>	\$443.57	\$48,061.56
<b>GDP Growth rate: (%)</b>	3.41	0.41
<b>Inflation: (%)</b>	26.76	2.39
<b>Unemployment: (%)</b>	0	6.16

## Trade and investment: (2008)

<b>Canadian Exports to Afghanistan</b>	\$25,654,344
<b>Canadian Imports from Afghanistan</b>	\$1,222,677
<b>Foreign Direct Investment in Canada</b>	n/a (million)
<b>Canadian Direct Investment to Afghanistan</b>	n/a (million)

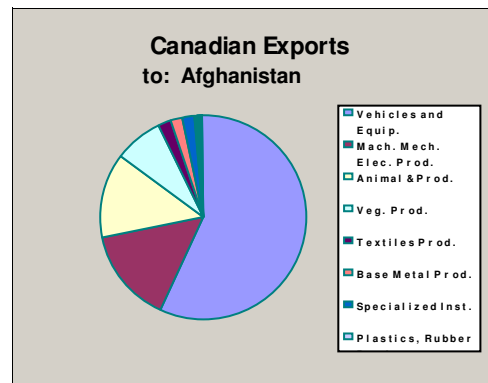
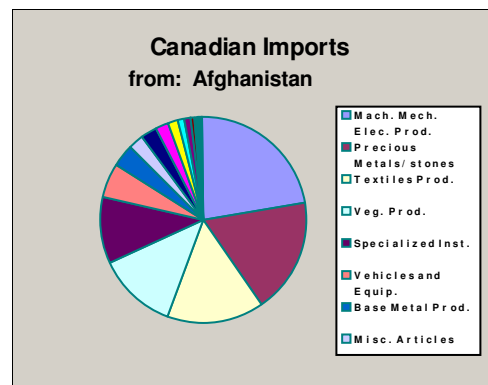
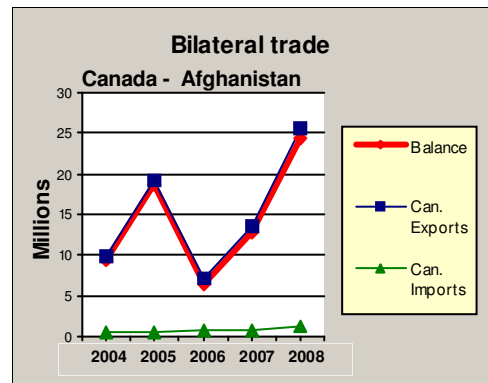
## Representation:

### Foreign Representation in Canada

Ambassador Jawed Ludin

### Canadian Representation Abroad

Ambassador William Crosbie



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



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international.gc.ca