

British Columbia Trade in Services 2012 to 2023

PREPARED FOR THE MINISTRY OF JOBS,
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INNOVATION
BY BC STATS – MARCH 2025



BCStats

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1. Introduction

British Columbians provide services for customers all over the world in fields such as business management, international film production and post-production, research and development and information technology. Tourists, international students and diplomats visit and settle temporarily in the province. B.C. also acts as a transportation gateway. All of these are part of B.C.'s international trade in services.¹

This report focuses on B.C.'s international trade in services with international trading partners, not including the considerable trade between Canadian provinces. The estimates cover the period from 2012 to 2023.²

1.1. Estimating the value of trade in services

Services cover transactions that are generally intangible in nature. While trade in services is a major part of the economy, it is also difficult to measure. Unlike physical goods, services aren't reported to customs officials when they cross borders. Despite the difficulties, Statistics Canada gathers information from many sources and produces detailed estimates for Canada in its annual *international trade in services* data release.

B.C.'s trade in services estimates have been developed by BC Stats using available trade information from Statistics Canada and a variety of other sources.³ These estimates are preliminary and may be subject to revision as the methodology evolves and/or more information becomes available.⁴

¹ A detailed breakdown and definition of the types of services included in this report can be found in the accompanying *Trade in Services Report Methodology* documentation.

² Additional information regarding the selected countries and regions can be found in the accompanying *Trade in Services Report Methodology* documentation.

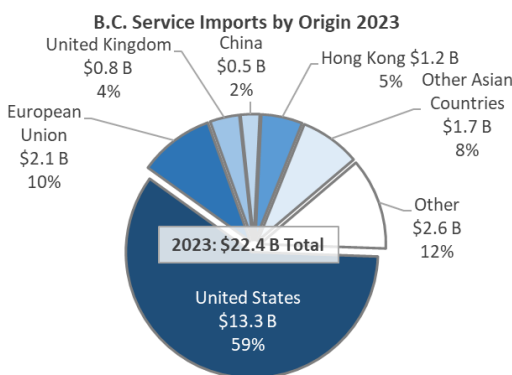
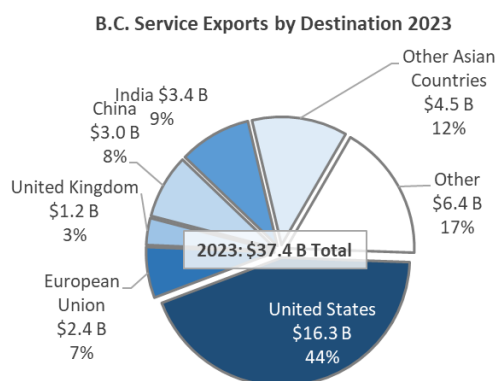
³ Services are classified using Statistics Canada's categories: travel-related exports and imports, transportation, commercial services (e.g., engineering and financial services), and government services (primarily related to the activities of embassies or other agencies).

⁴ For more details on the methodology used, see the accompanying *Trade in Services Report Methodology* documentation.

2. Data Highlights 2023

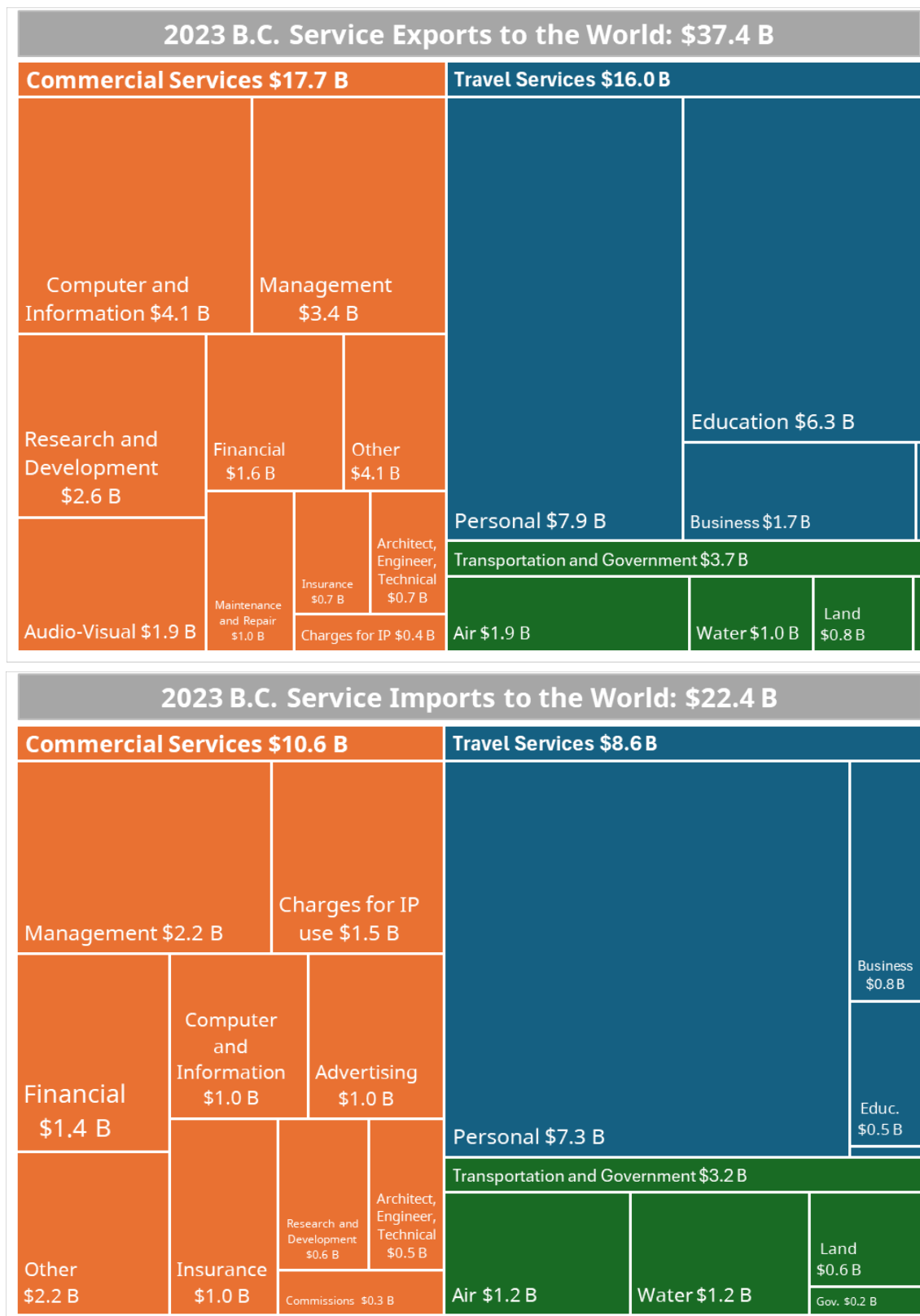
- In 2023, British Columbia exported approximately \$37.4 billion worth of services and imported around \$22.4 billion, resulting in a trade in services surplus of \$15.0 billion.
- British Columbia's surplus was the second largest among provinces in 2023, behind Ontario (\$20.8 billion).
- Commercial services comprised the largest category of B.C.'s trade in services in 2023, with \$17.7 billion in exports and \$10.6 billion in imports, respectively. The top category of commercial service exports was computer and information services (\$4.1 billion).
- B.C.'s travel services was the second largest service category in 2023, with almost \$16.0 billion in exports and \$8.6 billion in imports.
- In 2019, one out of every six jobs in B.C. (17 per cent or 448 thousand jobs) were supported by foreign demand for goods and services both directly and indirectly.
- The United States is the top market for B.C. service exports (\$16.3 billion, or 44 per cent of all service exports) and is also, by far, the top source of imports (\$13.3 billion, or 59 per cent of all service imports). In 2023, the trade surplus with the US amounted to \$3.1 billion.
- In 2023, B.C. exported around \$21.1 billion worth of services outside the United States and imported about \$9.1 billion, resulting in a trade in services surplus with countries other than the U.S. of almost \$12.0 billion.
- B.C. exported nearly \$11.0 billion worth of services to selected Asian countries in 2023, while importing \$3.5 billion, resulting in a large trade in services surplus of around \$7.5 billion. Most of B.C.'s export revenue from Asian countries was related to travel services (81 per cent).

- The largest import market in Asia in 2023 was Hong Kong, which accounted for over a third of imports from the area (\$1.2 billion).
- Mainland China was another important source of imports of services into B.C., with over half a billion in imports in 2023, over two thirds of which were transportation services.
- India became the largest export of services market in Asia in 2023 with B.C. exporting \$3.4 billion. India overtook Mainland China's top spot, due to a large increase in travel services exports, which comprised 96 per cent of service exports to India.⁵ India was also the fastest growing key market for BC exports, increasing 416 per cent between 2018 and 2023.
- Another large regional trading partner is the European Union. In 2023, B.C. exported almost \$2.4 billion in services, while importing \$2.1 billion from the area. Unlike Asian countries, commercial services made up a large part of B.C.'s exports there.



⁵ Note that data reflects preliminary estimates and is subject to revisions. As such, this reversal may change as new information is released and estimates are refined.

2.1. B.C. International Trade, 2023 At a Glance



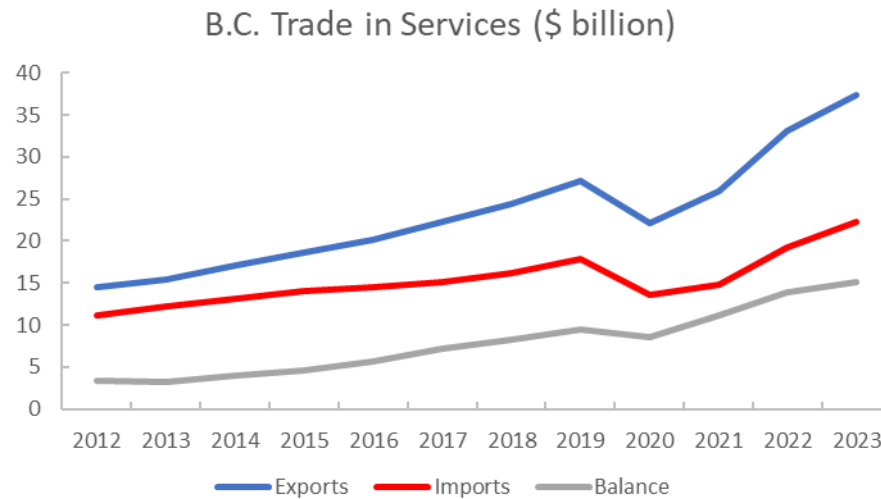
3. British Columbia Exports and Imports of Services

The services sector is a vital driver of British Columbia's economy, driving growth, attracting investment, and creating high-value jobs.

In 2023, trade in services was 38 per cent of the province's international exports, highlighting the growing importance of services in diversifying BC's trade.

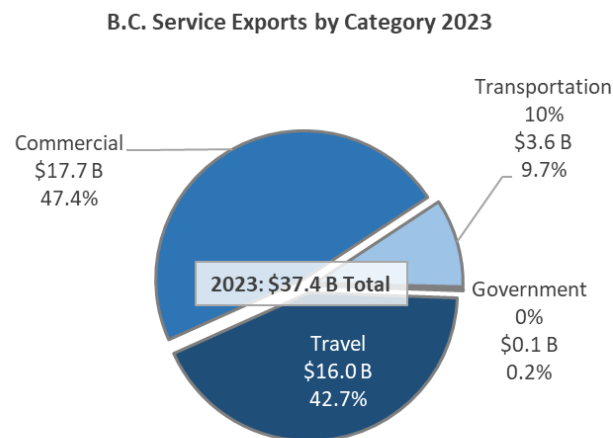


In 2023, British Columbia exported approximately \$37.4 billion worth of services and imported around \$22.4 billion, resulting in a surplus of \$15.0 billion.

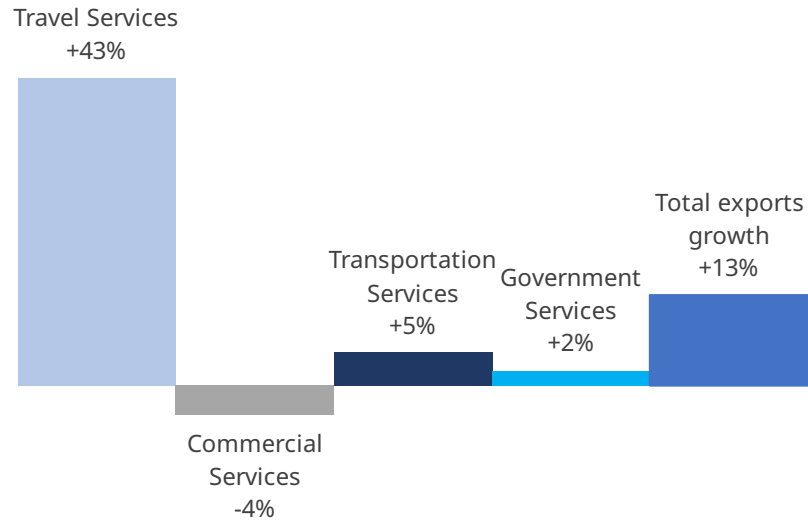


Commercial services comprised the largest category of services exported from B.C. in 2023, amounting to \$17.7 billion, despite falling by 4 per cent between 2022 and 2023.

There was an additional \$16.0 billion of travel services, \$3.6 billion of transportation services and a much smaller amount (around \$70 million) of government services exported from the province in 2023.

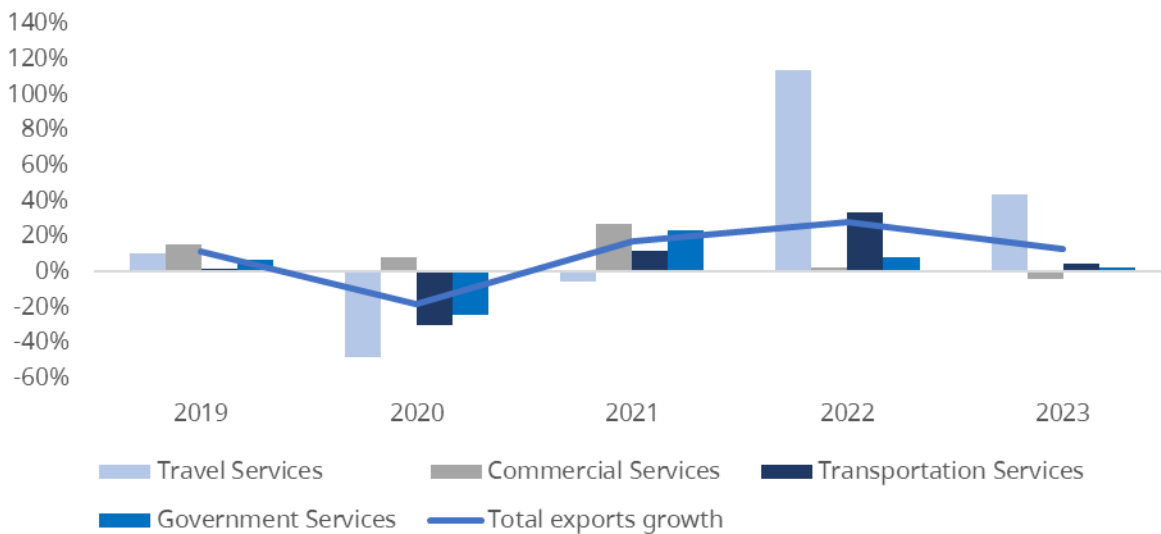


Year-Over-Year Growth in B.C. Service Exports, 2023



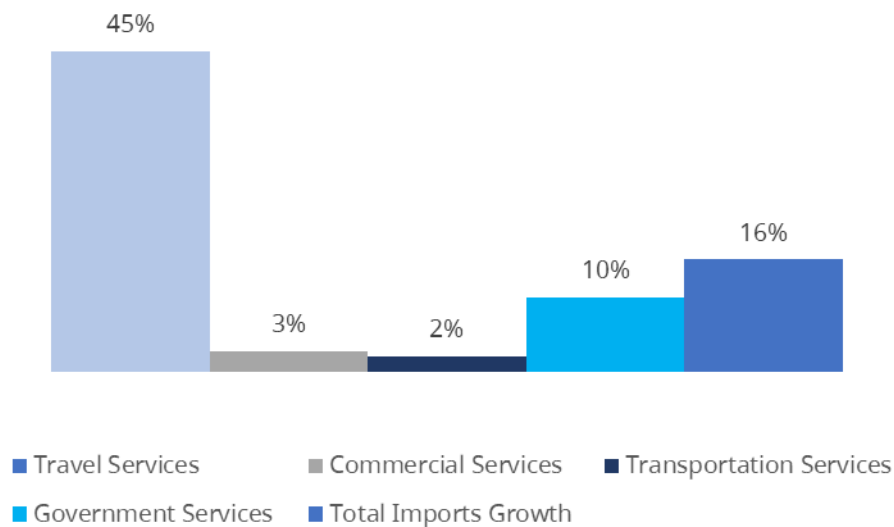
All major types of service exports rose in 2023 compared to 2022, except for commercial services. Travel services was by far the fastest growing category, rising 43 per cent compared to 2022.

Year-Over-Year Growth in B.C. Service Exports

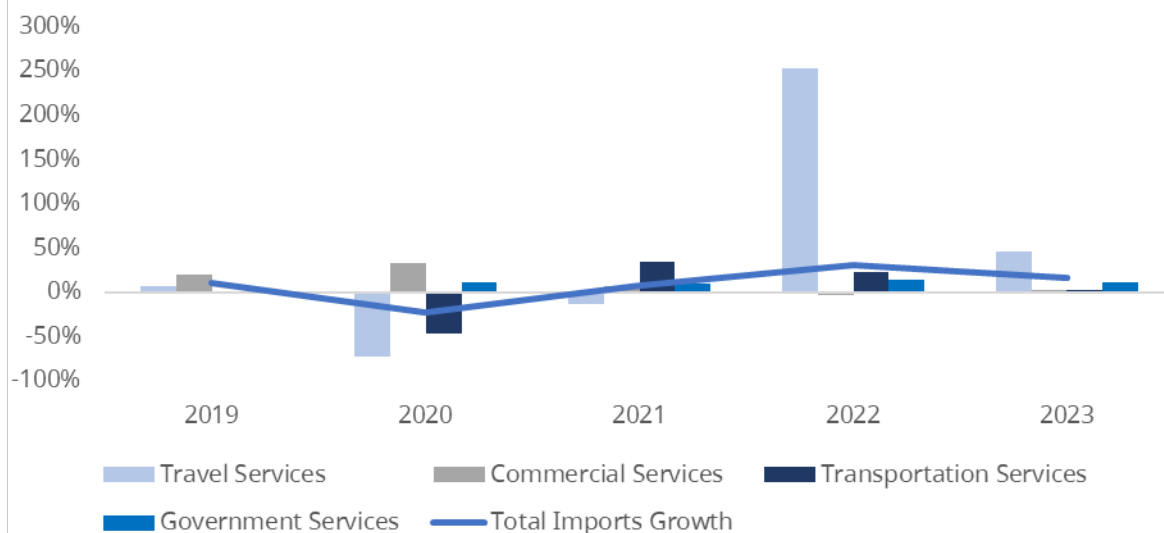


The ranking was the same for service imports, with \$10.6 billion of commercial services imported to B.C. in 2023, \$8.6 billion in travel services, \$3.0 billion in transportation services and \$174 million in government services. Travel services was also the fastest growing category of imports, with a 45 per cent increase in 2023 compared to 2022. All major categories of service imports grew in 2023 compared to 2022.

Year-Over-Year Growth in B.C. Service Imports, 2023



Year-Over-Year Growth in B.C. Service Imports



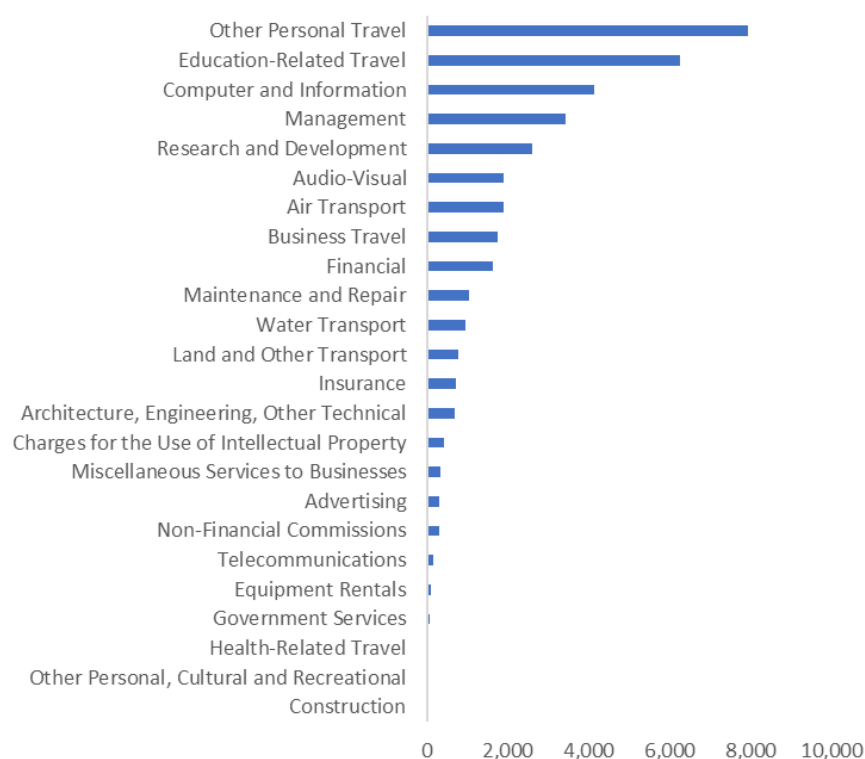
3.1. B.C. service exports by category

In 2023, other personal travel (excluding education- and health-related travel) was B.C.'s top service export, at around \$7.9 billion.⁶

Education-related travel ranked second with \$6.3 billion worth exported, 31 per cent higher than education-related travel exports in 2022. This increase was slightly slower than the 44 per cent increase for Canada as a whole in the same period.

Computer and information services was the third highest category of service exports in 2023, at \$4.1 billion. Services like charges for computer software and downloads, IT consulting and network management are included in this category.

B.C. Service Exports by Category, 2023 (\$ million)



⁶ Travel exports are the expenditures of people coming to British Columbia, while travel imports are the expenses of British Columbians abroad. Travel services cover more than just tourists and business travellers. It includes people coming to B.C. for medical or educational purposes even for long term stays (such as a four-year degree); seasonal and cross-border workers; and spending by crews of airplanes, ships, trucks or trains.

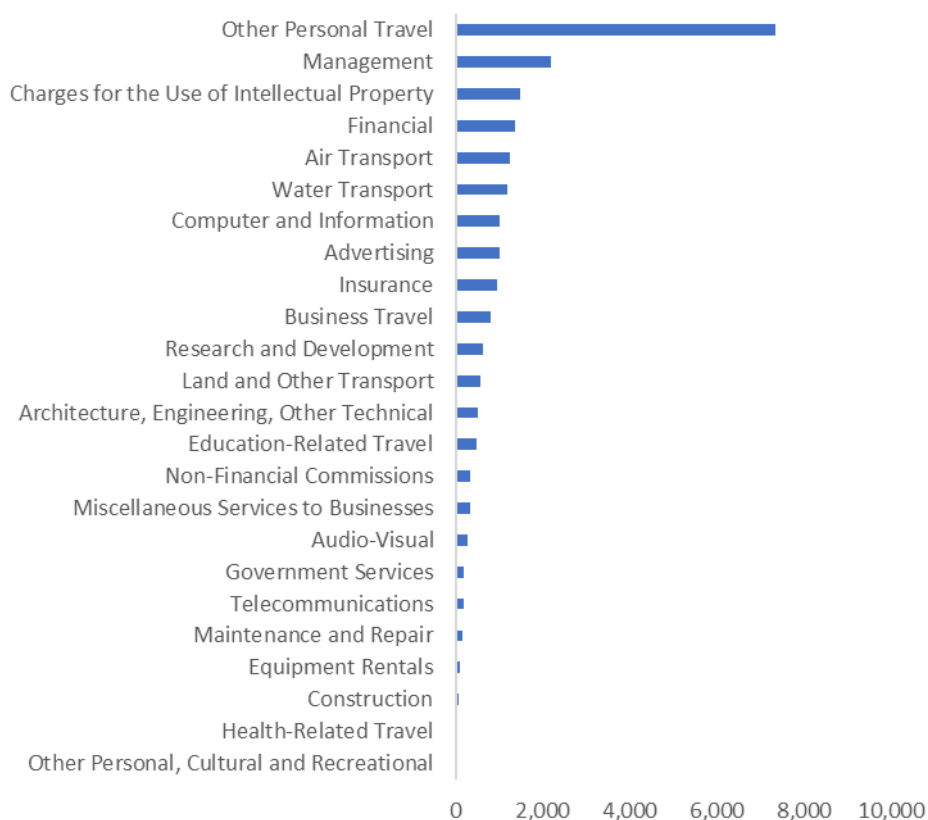
3.2. B.C. service imports by category

Personal travel (excluding education and health-related travel) was also the top import category, valued at \$7.3 billion in 2023. Personal travel alone represented almost a third of B.C.'s total service imports for the year.

Management (such as business consulting, public relations services, legal and accounting services) was the second largest service import into the province, at almost \$2.2 billion.

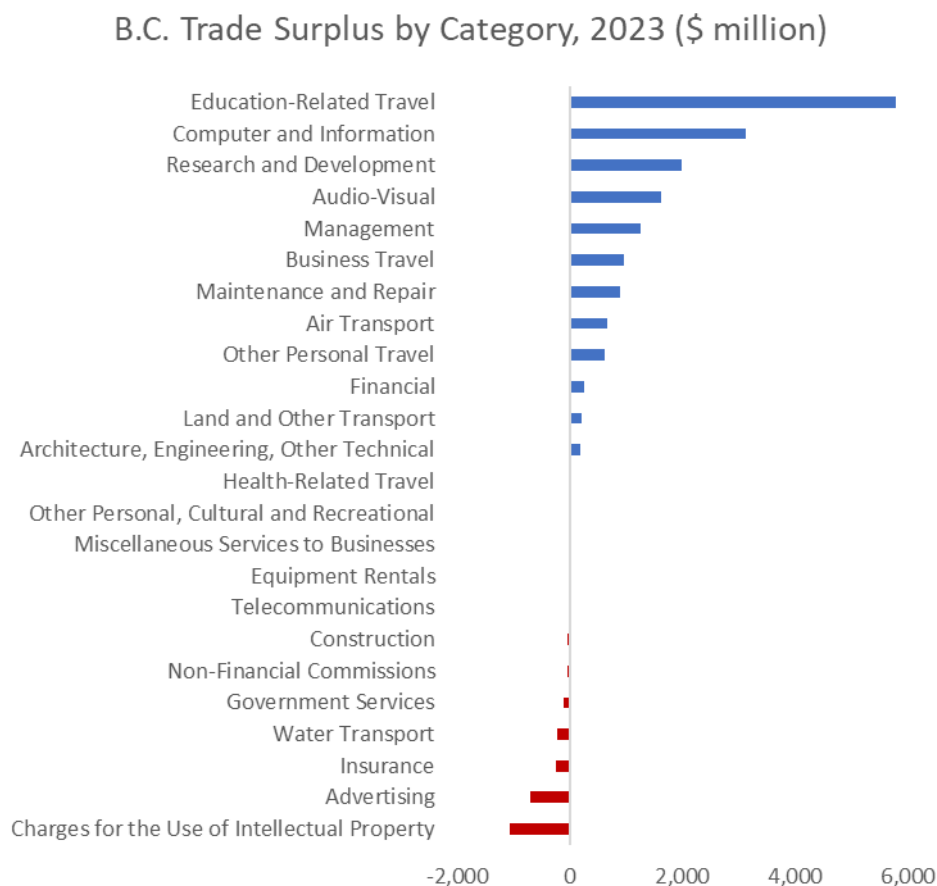
There was around \$1.5 billion worth of charges for use of intellectual property (such as royalties, patents and franchises) imported into the province in 2023, the third largest category.

B.C. Service Imports by Category, 2023 (\$ million)



3.3. B.C. service balance of trade by category

When looking at trade balances by category, B.C. had the largest trade surpluses in education-related travel, computer and information, and research and development services in 2023. On the other hand, the largest trade deficits were in charges related to the use of intellectual property and advertising services.



3.4. B.C. trade in services economic impact

B.C.'s international trade supports a lot of jobs. B.C.'s exports declined from \$71 to \$60 billion in 2020, mainly due to pandemic-related measures. The numbers in 2020 will be out of the ordinary. For this reason, 2019 is used for the analysis in this section. Data for 2020 is available in the summary table.

In 2019, one out of every six jobs in B.C. (17 per cent or 448,253 jobs) were supported by foreign demand for goods and services. These include the jobs directly engaged in exporting industries as well as industries supplying goods and services to exporters.⁷

Economic Impact of Exports by Sector, 2019 and 2020

| | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total industries | | |
| Direct Exports (\$ million) | \$71,265 | \$60,158 |
| Contribution of exports to B.C. GDP (\$ million and % of total) | \$49,308 (17%) | \$42,418 (15%) |
| Total Jobs, all industries | 2,707,700 | 2,450,905 |
| B.C. jobs supported by foreign demand for B.C. exports | 448,253 | 344,760 |
| Canadian jobs supported by foreign demand for B.C. exports | 508,933 | 392,399 |
| Goods Sector Industries⁸ | | |
| Goods sector direct exports (\$ million) | \$41,031 | \$35,737 |
| Contribution of goods sector exports to B.C. GDP (\$ million) | \$26,397 | \$23,330 |
| Total jobs, goods sector | 911,365 | 823,920 |
| B.C. jobs supported by foreign demand for B.C.'s goods sector exports | 196,193 | 163,288 |
| Canadian jobs supported by foreign demand for B.C.'s goods sector exports | 230,020 | 190,778 |
| Services Sector Industries | | |
| Service sector direct exports (\$ million) | \$30,234 | \$24,422 |
| Contribution of service sector exports to B.C. GDP (\$ million) | \$22,911 | \$19,088 |
| Total jobs, services sector | 1,796,335 | 1,626,985 |
| B.C. jobs supported by foreign demand for B.C.'s service sector exports | 252,061 | 181,474 |
| Canadian jobs supported by foreign demand for B.C.'s service sector exports | 278,913 | 201,628 |

Source: Statistics Canada, Value added in exports, table 12-10-0100. Most recent available provincial data is for 2020.

⁷ See Statistics Canada, value added in exports by industry, [table 12-10-0100](#). This data product measures the impact of each industry's international exports on value added and jobs, both directly for exporting industries and indirectly for their supporting industries.

⁸ Retail and wholesale trade have been added to the goods sectors. Typically, they are considered service sectors, but their exports are largely of physical goods. Transportation and warehousing are considered services. The construction industry remains with the goods sector.

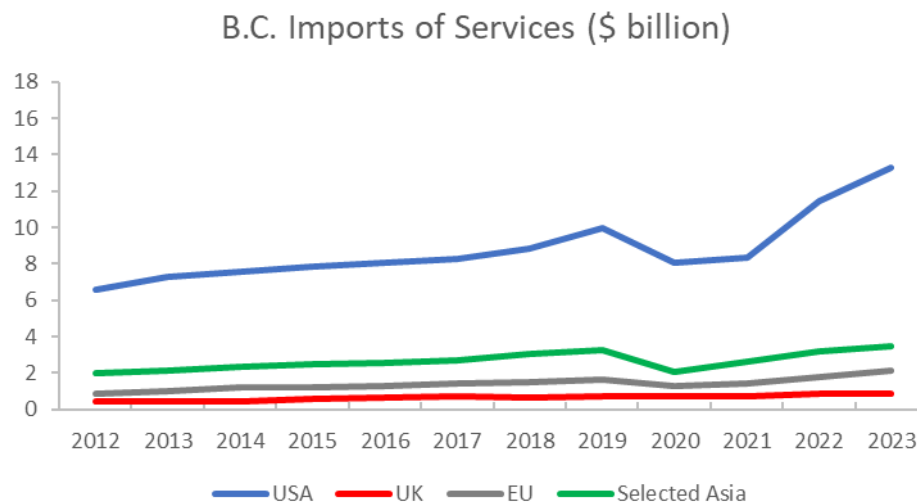
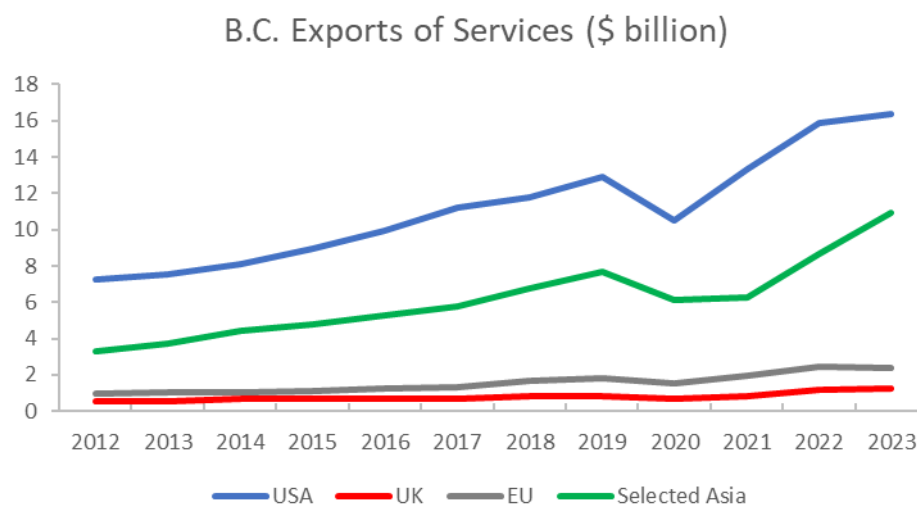
Moreover, the exports of B.C.'s service-producing sectors support more jobs than goods-producers, even though the value of their exports is smaller overall, this is likely due to service sectors being more labour intensive.

Industries in service-producing sectors were responsible for 42 per cent of B.C.'s exports in 2019⁹, however those exports supported over half (56 per cent) of the jobs which depend on foreign demand. In other words, exporting services contributes more to employment in B.C. than exporting goods. Every million dollars of exports from service sectors supported 8.3 jobs in 2019 while the same value of exports from goods sectors supported 4.8 jobs.

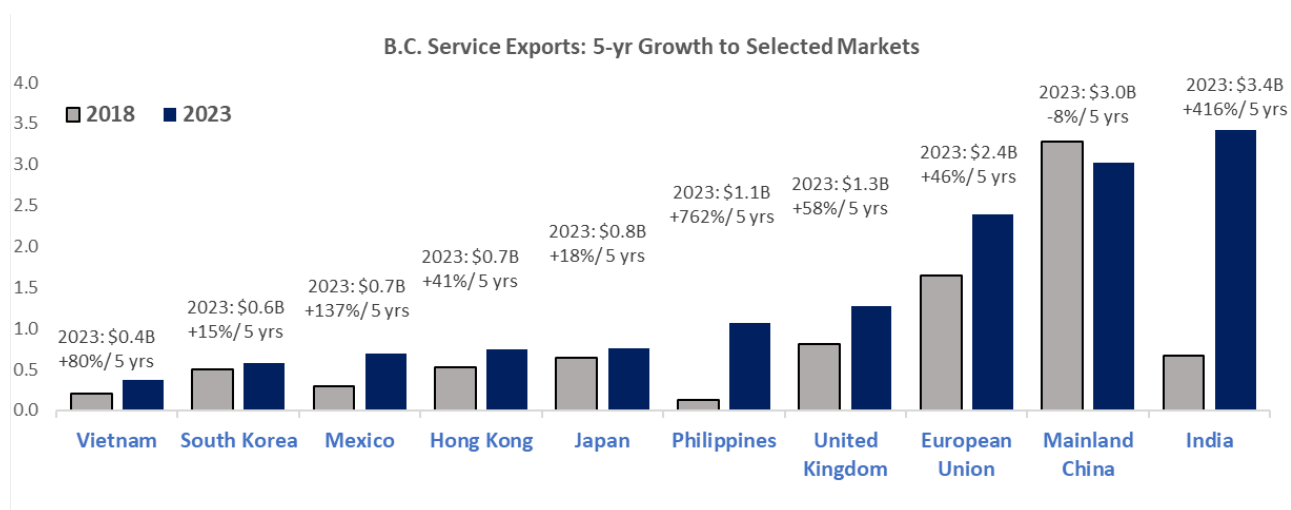
⁹ *Ibid.* Note that this table measures exports by *industry* and its figures will not align with estimates elsewhere in this report which focus on *products*. That is, industries classified in the services sector primarily produce services but may export some physical merchandise as well, and vice versa.

4. Trade in Services Regional Highlights

The U.S. is the top market for B.C. exports of services and the top source of imports of services into the province. Given B.C.'s proximity to Asia, trade flows are large with that region as well. By comparison, the EU and UK value of service exports and imports is noticeably lower.



India and the Philippines were the fastest growing markets for BC service exports in the last five years. Exports to the Philippines increased more than eightfold between 2018 and 2023 (+762 per cent), while exports to India more than quintupled (+416 per cent) in the period. The increases were led by travel exports (foreign nationals traveling to British Columbia for study or other reasons).¹⁰

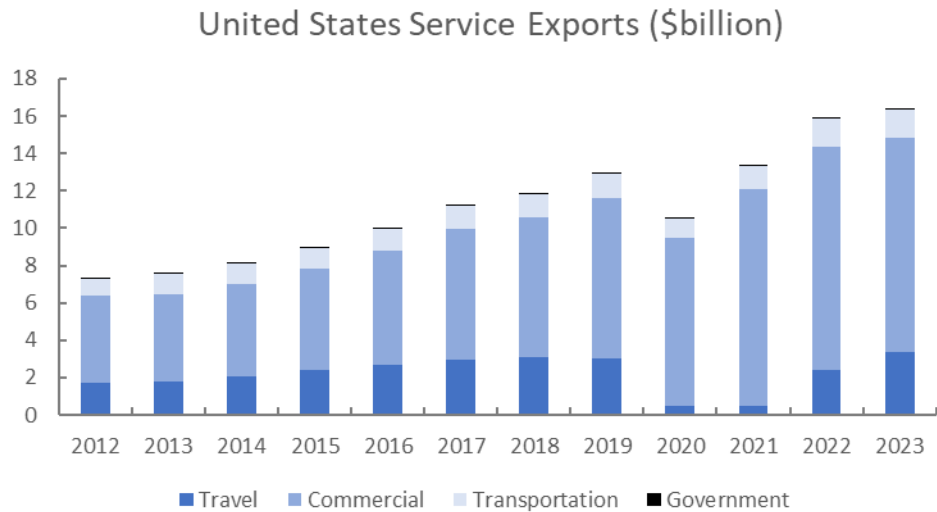


4.1. United States

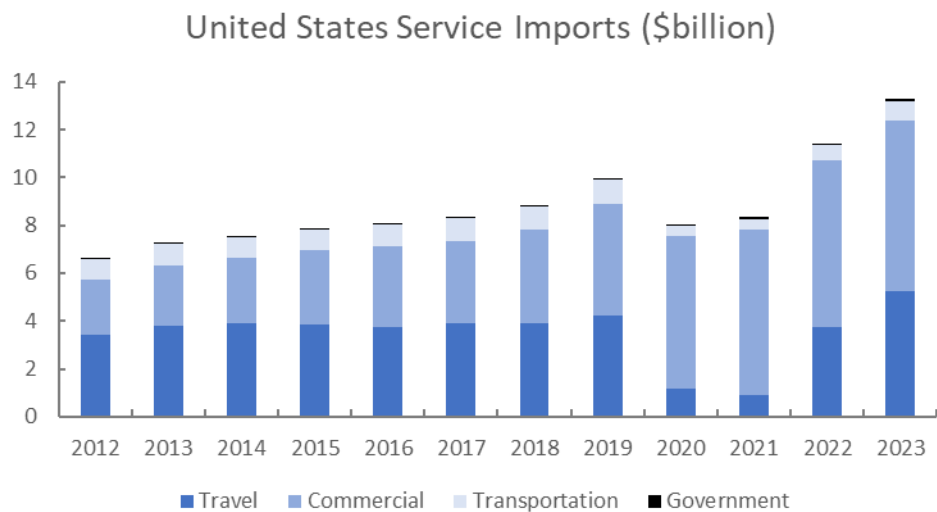
In 2023, B.C. exported around \$16.3 billion worth of services to the United States and imported about \$13.3 billion, resulting in a surplus of \$3.1 billion.

Around 70 per cent of B.C.'s exports of services to the U.S. in 2023 were comprised of commercial services, at \$11.4 billion. Computer and information services, such as IT consulting or network management services, was the largest exported commercial service, worth \$2.7 billion in 2023. B.C. also exported \$3.4 billion worth of travel services, \$1.5 billion of transportation services, and a smaller amount (\$17 million) of government services to the United States.

¹⁰ For more details see the country profiles section of this report.



With respect to imports of services from the U.S., commercial services topped the list, at just under \$7.2 billion. Management services, such as legal and accounting services was the largest import category of commercial services worth \$1.6 billion in 2023. British Columbia imported another \$5.2 billion in travel services from the U.S. (that is, expenditures of British Columbians travelling to the U.S.), as well as \$0.8 billion of transportation services and \$103 million of government services.



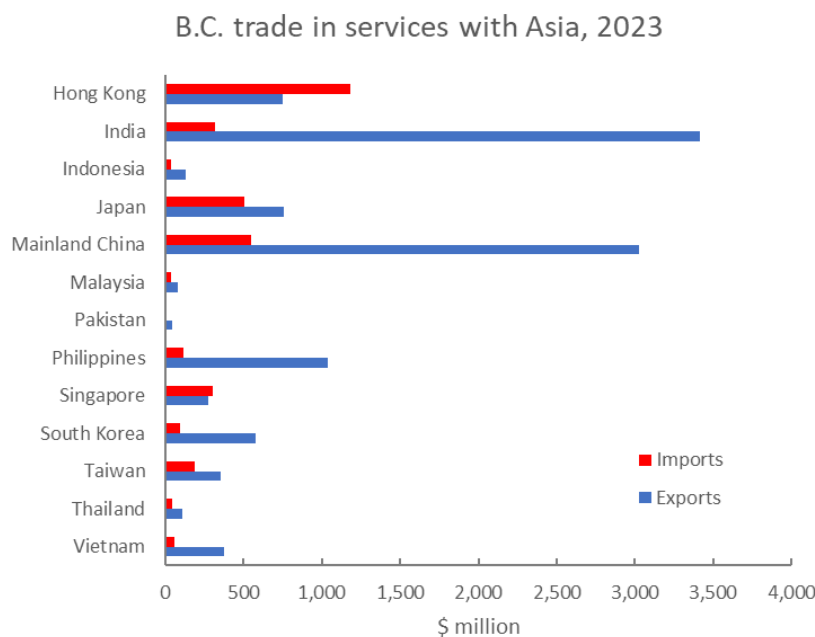
4.2. Selected countries in Asia

B.C. exported over \$10.9 billion worth of services to its major partners in Asia¹¹ in 2023, while importing only \$3.5 billion, resulting in a trade in services surplus of \$7.5 billion.

India was the primary Asian services export market in 2023, surpassing China for the year. This reversal was entirely due to a large increase (81 per cent) in travel services to India in 2023. Services exports to India were almost entirely comprised of travel services, which made up 96 per cent of the total in 2023.

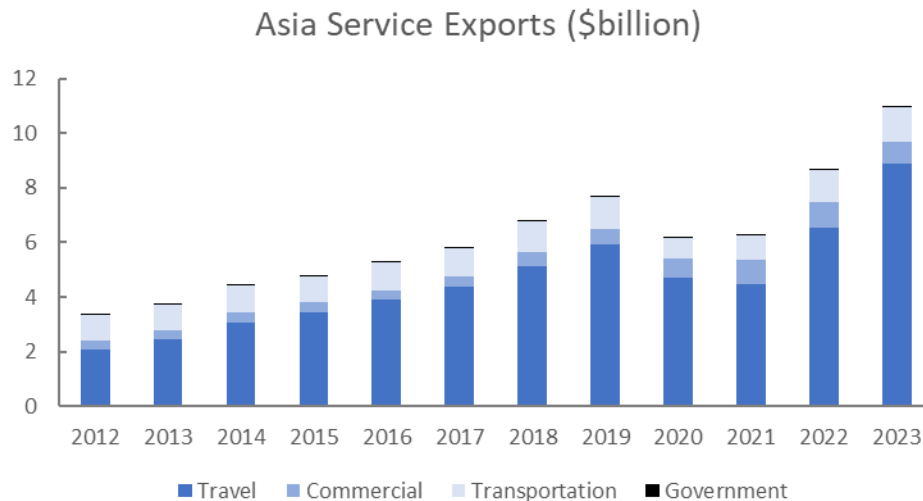
Mainland China was the second largest Asian market for exports of services from B.C., at \$3.0 billion in 2023. Around 80 per cent of that was comprised of travel services.

Mainland China was also the second largest source of service imports at \$546 million, behind Hong Kong (\$1.2 billion). Japan ranked third in the region, with service imports into B.C. worth \$509 million.

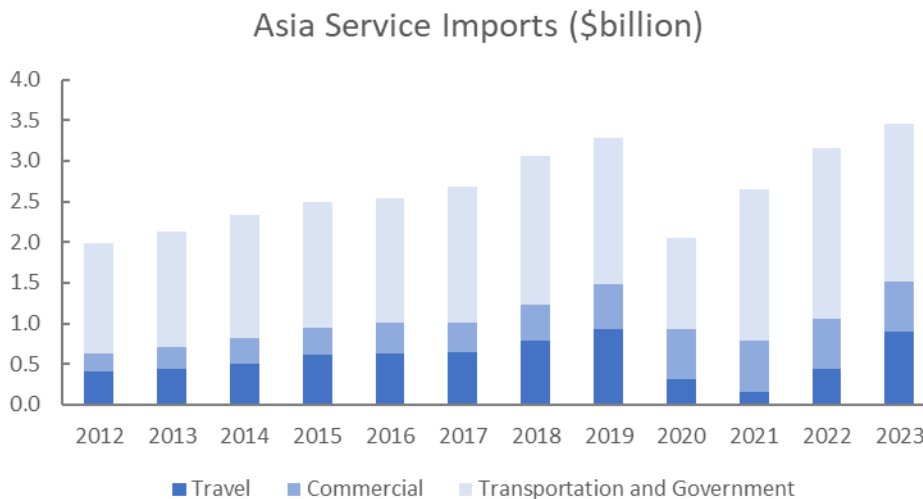


¹¹ This report focuses on trade to 13 Asian countries: Mainland China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. These are B.C.'s major trading partners in the area, making up over 95 per cent of exports to Asia in 2023.

Travel services made up over 80 per cent of B.C.'s service exports to Asia in 2023, at just under \$8.9 billion. British Columbia also exported around \$1.2 billion worth of transportation services, \$0.8 billion of commercial services and a small amount (\$12 million) of government services to its largest Asian partners.



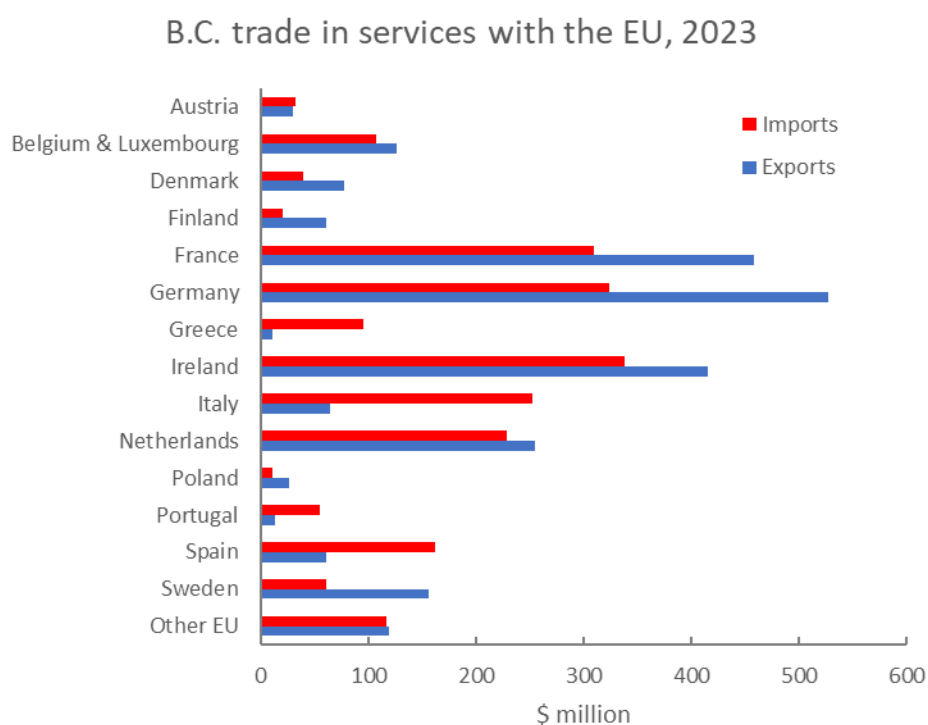
The top service import from Asia to B.C. was transportation and government services (where government services represent just a few million), which were valued at \$1.9 billion in 2023. There were another \$0.9 billion in travel imports and \$619 million in commercial service imports.



4.3. European Union

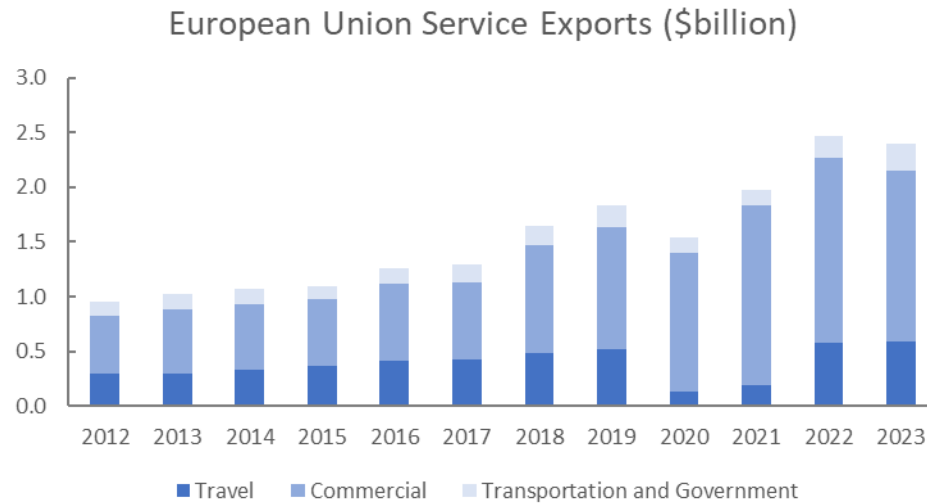
In 2023, B.C. exported almost \$2.4 billion in services to the EU, while importing \$2.1 billion, for a surplus of around \$0.2 billion.¹²

Germany, France, and Ireland are B.C.'s top 3 trading partners within the EU. In 2023, B.C. exported around \$527 million worth of services to Germany and imported \$324 million from that country. France was the next largest partner with \$458 million in exports. France was also a top source of service imports from the EU, at \$309 million. Ireland ranked third in service exports (\$416 million) and first in imports (\$338 million).

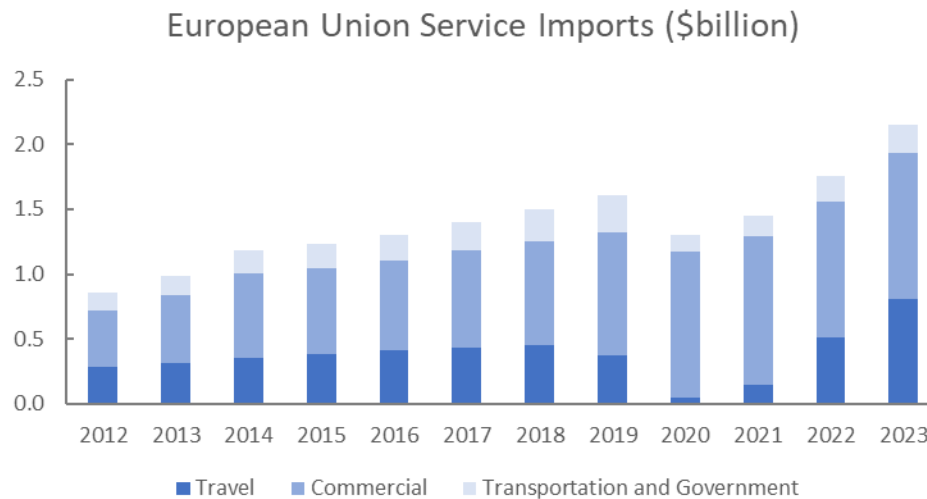


Commercial services made up about 65 per cent of all service exports to the EU in 2023. British Columbia exported around \$1.6 billion in commercial services, \$593 million in travel services, and \$251 million in transportation and government services.

¹² The United Kingdom is no longer part of the EU but is still B.C.'s largest trading partner in Europe, with over \$1.2 billion in service exports compared to \$2.4 billion to the EU. See the U.K.'s country trade profile for more information.



At \$1.1 billion, commercial services comprised over half of B.C.'s total service imports from the EU in 2023. In addition, B.C. imported \$810 million worth of travel services and \$220 million of transportation and government services from the EU.

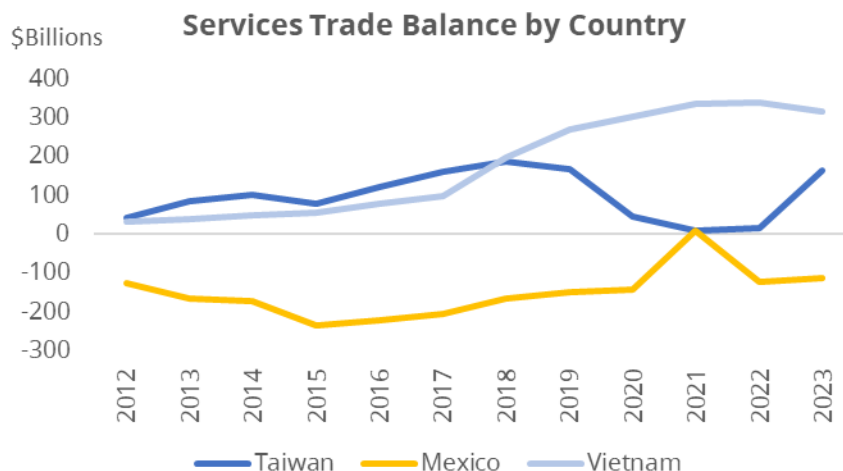


4.4. Key High-Performance Markets

The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery, and Innovation developed an evaluation model to help identify new markets for targeted trade and investment activities supporting the development of the BC Trade Diversification Strategy. In this section we look at three key markets identified: Mexico, Taiwan and Vietnam.

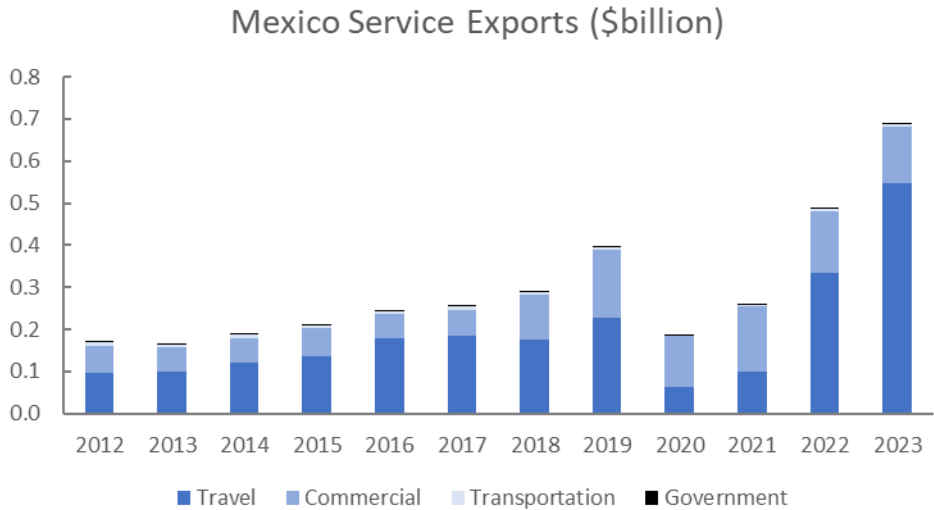
B.C. typically exports more services to Taiwan and Vietnam than services it imports from those countries, leading to a trade in services surplus. B.C. on the other hand, tends to have a negative balance of trade with Mexico.

B.C. exported approximately \$690 million worth of services to Mexico in 2023 and imported around \$802 million, resulting in a service trade deficit of \$113 million. In the same year, B.C. exported approximately \$354 million worth of services to Taiwan and imported around \$190 million, resulting in a services trade surplus of \$165 million. Finally, B.C. exported approximately \$373 million in services to Vietnam, and imported about \$58 million, resulting in a service trade surplus of \$315 million in 2023.

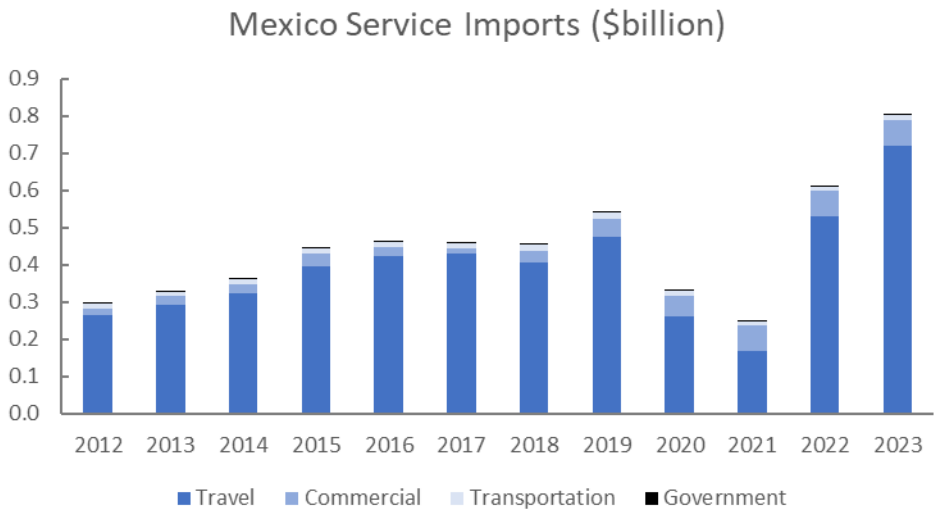


Travel services were the top service export to Mexico in 2023 at \$548 million. B.C. also exported \$134 million in commercial services, \$7 million in transportation services, and \$1 million in government services that year.

In comparison to 2022, British Columbia’s export of services to Mexico increased by around 41 per cent (\$690 million to \$488 million) in 2023. The increase was entirely due to growth in travel services exports (+64 per cent or \$213 million). Commercial service exports decreased by 8 per cent (-\$12 million) year-over-year, while there was no observable change for transportation and government service exports.

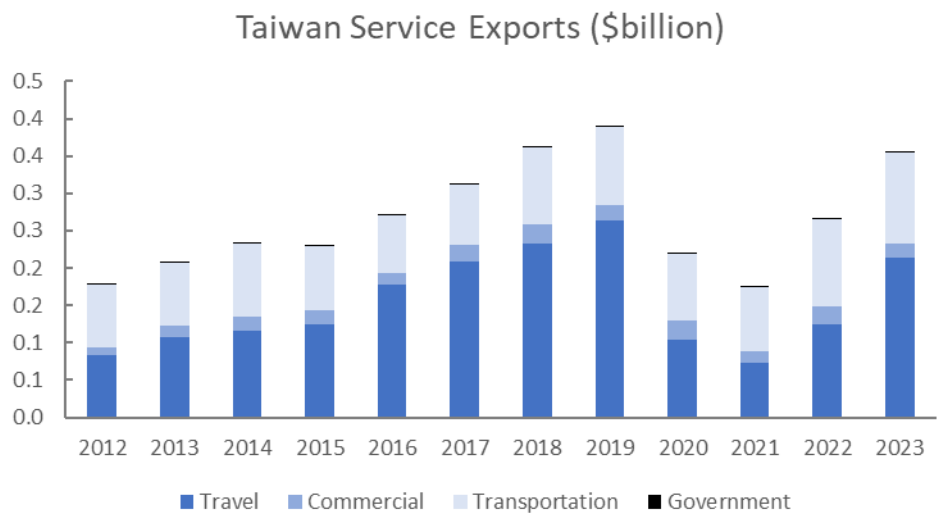


Mexico’s largest service imports to British Columbia in 2023 were travel-related services (\$721 million). This was followed by commercial service imports of \$69 million, transportation service imports of \$11 million and government service imports of around \$1 million.



Service imports from Mexico to B.C. increased by 31 per cent (\$191 million) in 2023. This was in large part due to increases in travel-related service imports (+36 per cent).

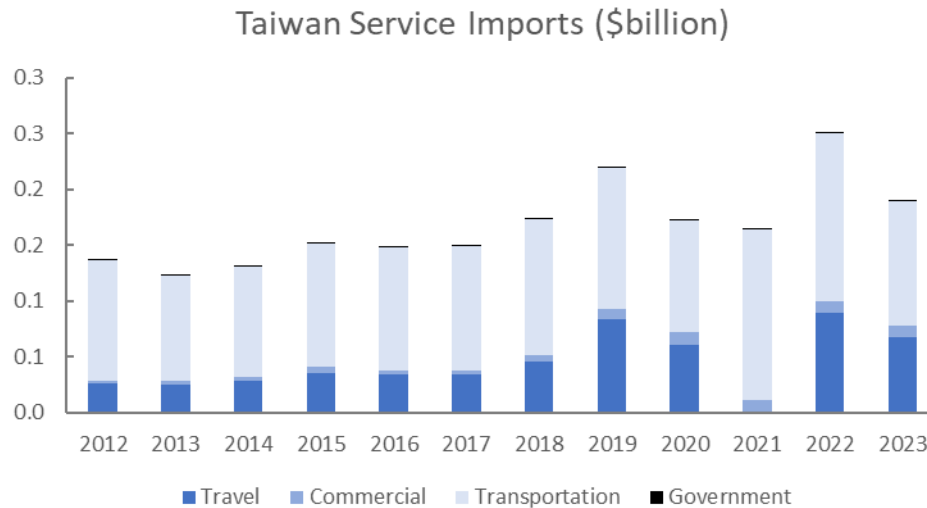
At \$213 million, travel services accounted for the majority of B.C.'s service exports to Taiwan in 2023. Transportation services were second a \$122 million, followed by commercial services at \$19 million. B.C.'s government service exports to Taiwan were estimated to be less than \$200,000 in 2023.



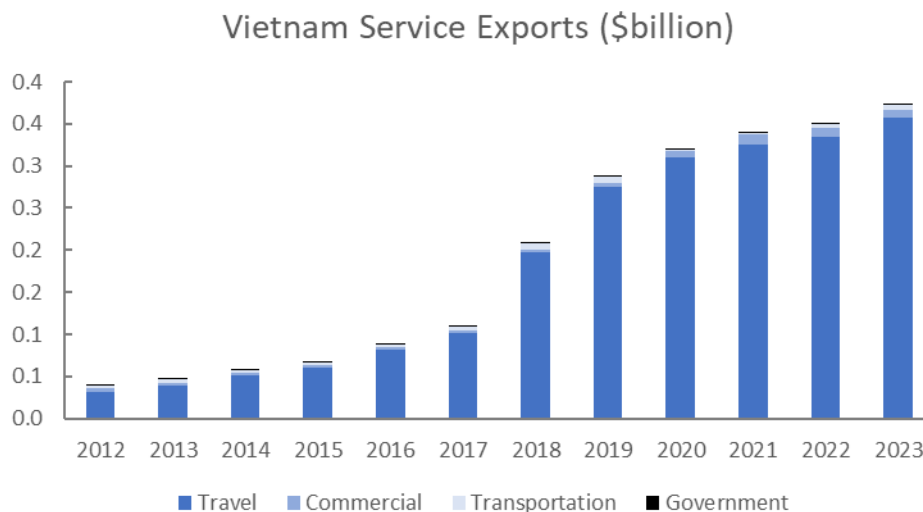
In comparison to the previous year, B.C.'s service exports to Taiwan increased by \$89 million in 2023. Travel service exports (+70 per cent or \$88 million) had the largest year-over-year increase, followed by transportation (+4 per cent or \$5 million). Commercial service exports fell by 17 per cent in 2023, while government service exports from B.C. to Taiwan remained virtually the same.

The top service imports to B.C. in 2023 from Taiwan were transportation (\$112 million) services. Followed by travel (\$68 million) and commercial services (\$10 million). Government import services were around a quarter million dollars.

Service imports from Taiwan to B.C. decreased by \$61 million year-over-year in 2023. The decrease was due to both largest service import categories falling between 2022 and 2023. Commercial (+2 per cent or \$0.2 million) and government (+36 percent or \$0.1 million) service imports increased year-over-year.

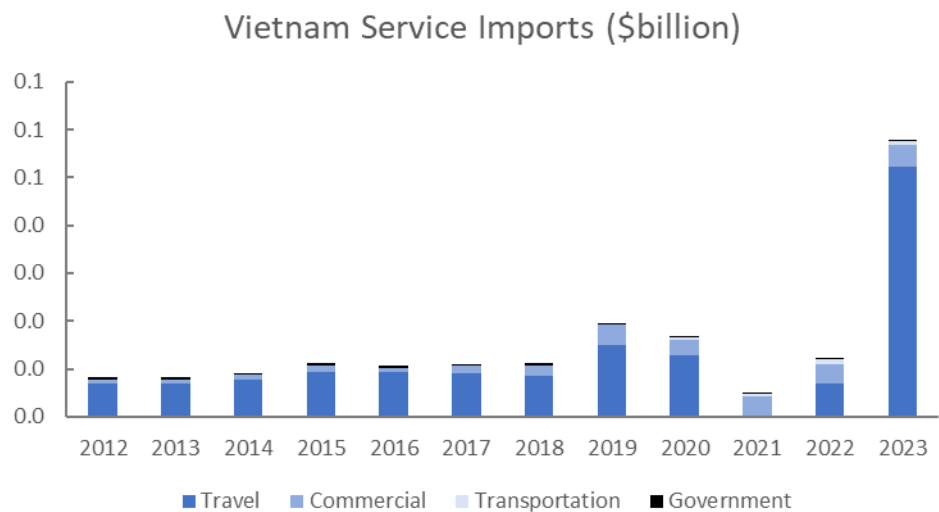


Travel services were by far B.C.'s largest service export to Vietnam in 2023 amounting to \$358 million. A much smaller amount of commercial (\$9 million) and transportation (\$6 million) services were also exported, while government service exports were estimated to be less than \$500,000.



On a year-over-year basis, British Columbia's service exports to Vietnam increased by 6 per cent (\$23 million) in 2023. Increases were observed for travel (+7 per cent or \$24 million) and transportation (+43 per cent or \$2 million) service exports. Commercial service exports fell by 23 per cent (-\$3 million). Government service exports remained virtually unchanged year-over-year.

Service imports from Vietnam to British Columbia were almost entirely comprised of commercial and travel services. Travel services imports, totalling \$52 million in 2023 accounted for 90 per cent of the service imports from Vietnam to British Columbia. Commercial service imports accounted for \$4 million, while transportation and government service imports totalled around \$1 million combined.

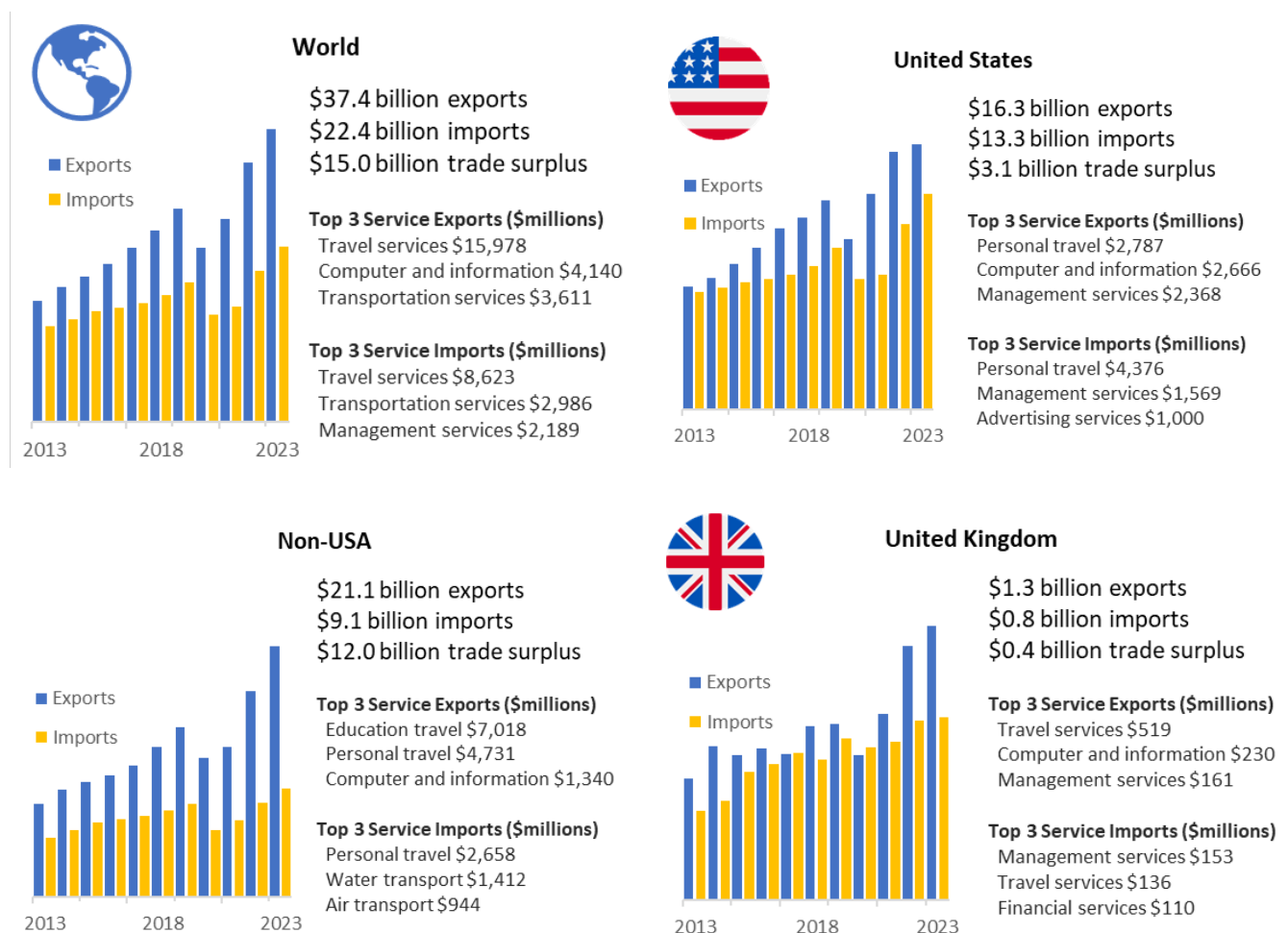


In comparison to 2022, import services from Vietnam to British Columbia increased by 370 per cent finally surpassing pre-pandemic levels (\$20 million in 2019) thanks to travel-related services. Other service categories changed by less than \$1 million for the year.

5. Country Profiles

The following charts contain details about trade in services between British Columbia and the specified region or country. Detailed exports, imports and surplus data in this section refer to 2023.

Note that not all service categories data are available at the individual country level; the most detailed data available was used. In some cases, transportation and government services are only available as an aggregate, however, government services represent a very small portion of transportation and government trade value.





European Union

\$2.4 billion exports
\$2.1 billion imports
\$0.2 billion trade surplus



Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$593
Computer and information \$471
Research and development \$379

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$810
Charges for IP use \$441
Management services \$220



France

\$0.5 billion exports
\$0.3 billion imports
\$0.1 billion trade surplus



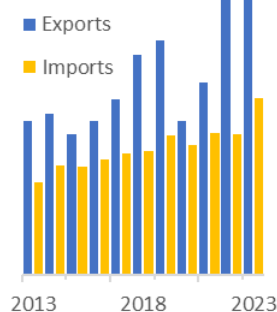
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$180
Computer and information \$144
Management services \$26

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$108
Charges for IP use \$64
Management services \$41



Germany

\$0.5 billion exports
\$0.3 billion imports
\$0.2 billion trade surplus



Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$219
Computer and information \$66
Research and development \$58

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$85
Charges for IP use \$66
Transportation services \$41



Ireland

\$0.4 billion exports
\$0.3 billion imports
\$0.1 billion trade surplus



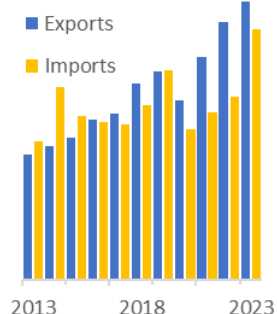
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Computer and information \$150
Research and development \$117
Management services \$53

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Charges for IP use \$182
Management services \$73
Travel services \$49



Netherlands

\$0.3 billion exports
\$0.2 billion imports
\$26 million trade surplus



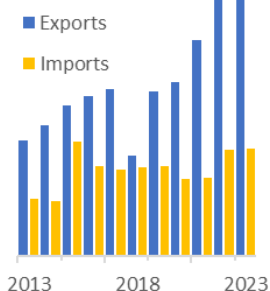
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$52
Financial services \$46
Management services \$38

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$79
Charges for IP use \$51
Transportation services \$28



Sweden

\$0.2 billion exports
\$0.1 billion imports
\$0.1 billion trade surplus



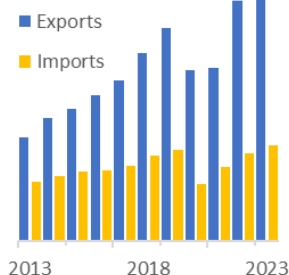
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Research and development \$91
Maintenance and repair \$12
Travel services \$11

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$15
Architecture, engineering and other technical \$15
Management services \$13



Selected Asia

\$10.9 billion exports
\$3.5 billion imports
\$7.5 billion trade surplus



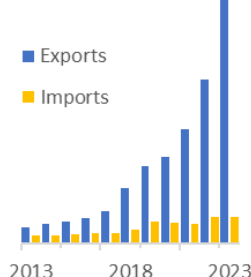
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$8,886
Transportation services \$1,233
Computer and information \$205

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Transportation and government \$1,948
Travel services \$891
Management services \$95



India

\$3.4 billion exports
\$0.3 billion imports
\$3.1 billion trade surplus



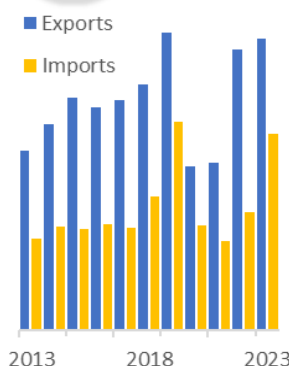
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$3,290
Transportation services \$65
Computer and information \$26

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Computer and information \$128
Travel services \$75
Architecture, engineering and other technical \$26



Japan

\$0.8 billion exports
\$0.5 billion imports
\$0.2 billion trade surplus



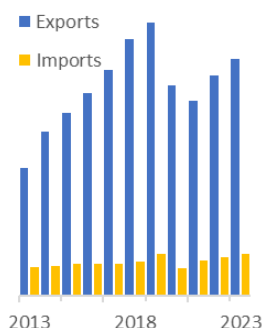
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$319
Transportation services \$270
Maintenance and repair \$49

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$257
Transportation services \$136
Charges for IP use \$89



Mainland China

\$3.0 billion exports
\$0.5 billion imports
\$2.5 billion trade surplus



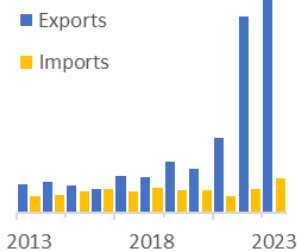
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$2,419
Transportation services \$392
Research and development \$84

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Transportation services \$383
Travel services \$108
Architecture, engineering and other technical \$15



Philippines

\$1.1 billion exports
\$0.1 billion imports
\$0.9 billion trade surplus



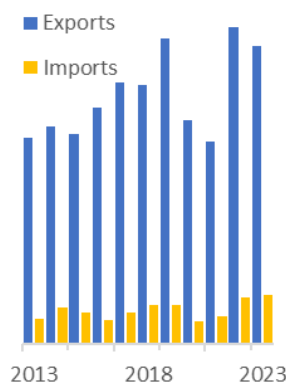
Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$1,033
Transportation services \$15
Computer and information \$4

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Travel services \$73
Transportation services \$13
Management services \$9



South Korea

\$0.6 billion exports
\$0.1 billion imports
\$0.5 billion trade surplus



Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)
Travel services \$331
Transportation services \$180
Research and development \$22

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)
Transportation services \$48
Travel services \$39
Research and development \$3



Taiwan

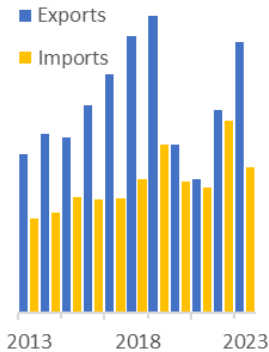
\$0.4 billion exports
\$0.2 billion imports
\$0.2 billion trade surplus

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

Travel services \$213
Transportation services \$122
Maintenance and repair \$4

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

Transportation services \$112
Travel services \$68
Commercial services \$10



Vietnam

\$0.4 billion exports
\$0.1 billion imports
\$0.3 billion trade surplus

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

Travel services \$358
Transportation services \$6
Computer and information \$4

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

Travel services \$52
Research and development \$1
Transportation services \$1



Australia

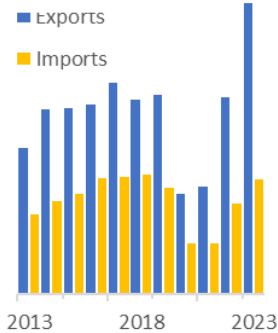
\$0.6 billion exports
\$0.2 billion imports
\$0.4 billion trade surplus

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

Travel Services \$352
Computer and information \$71
Transportation services \$69

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

Travel services \$128
Transportation services \$40
Management services \$25



Mexico

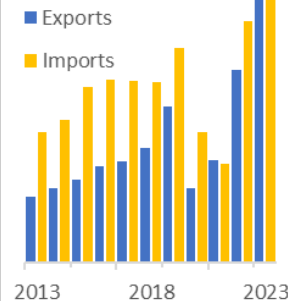
\$0.7 billion exports
\$0.8 billion imports
\$0.1 billion trade deficit

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

Travel Services \$548
Computer and information \$38
Management services \$32

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

Travel services \$721
Architecture, engineering and other technical \$46
Transportation services \$11



New Zealand

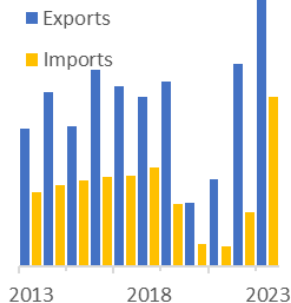
\$0.2 billion exports
\$0.1 billion imports
\$0.1 billion trade surplus

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

Travel Services \$119
Transportation services \$15
Computer and information \$15

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

Travel services \$71
Transportation services \$12
Computer and information \$2



Switzerland

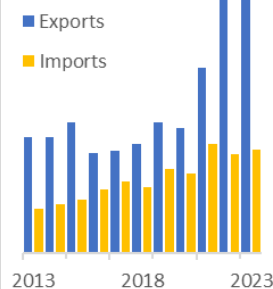
\$0.5 billion exports
\$0.2 billion imports
\$0.3 billion trade surplus

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

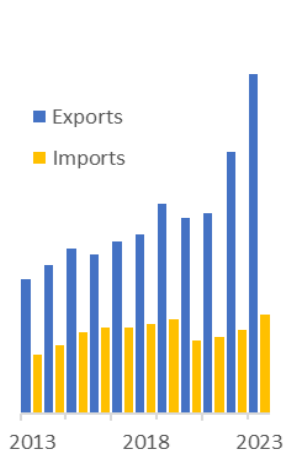
Research and development \$135
Computer and information \$78
Services to businesses (misc) \$63

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

Insurance \$62
Charge for IP use \$48
Management services \$25



Other countries



\$4.5 billion exports
 \$1.3 billion imports
 \$3.2 billion trade surplus

Top 3 Service Exports (\$millions)

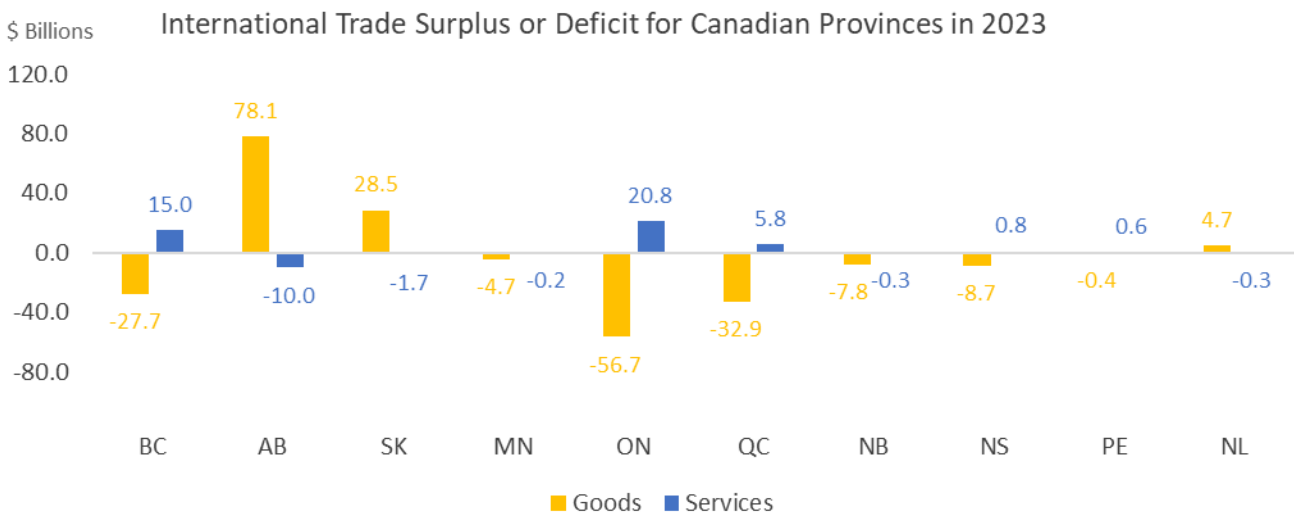
Travel services \$2,738
 Transportation and government
 \$621
 Insurance \$267

Top 3 Service Imports (\$millions)

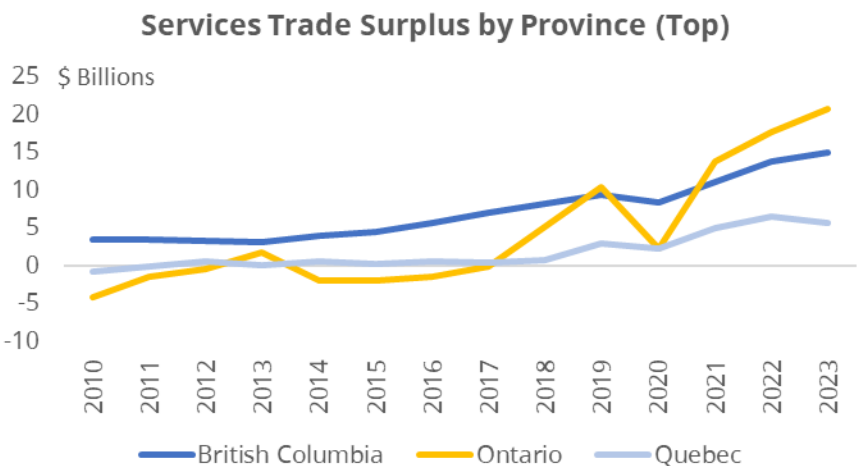
Travel services \$431
 Transportation and government
 \$229
 Financial services \$111

6. Trade in Services by Province

In comparison to other provinces, B.C. had the second largest trade in services surplus in 2023, at \$15.0 billion, only exceeded by the \$20.8 billion surplus of Ontario. Quebec ranked third with a \$5.8 billion surplus. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were the only other two provinces to post a surplus in service trade in 2023.

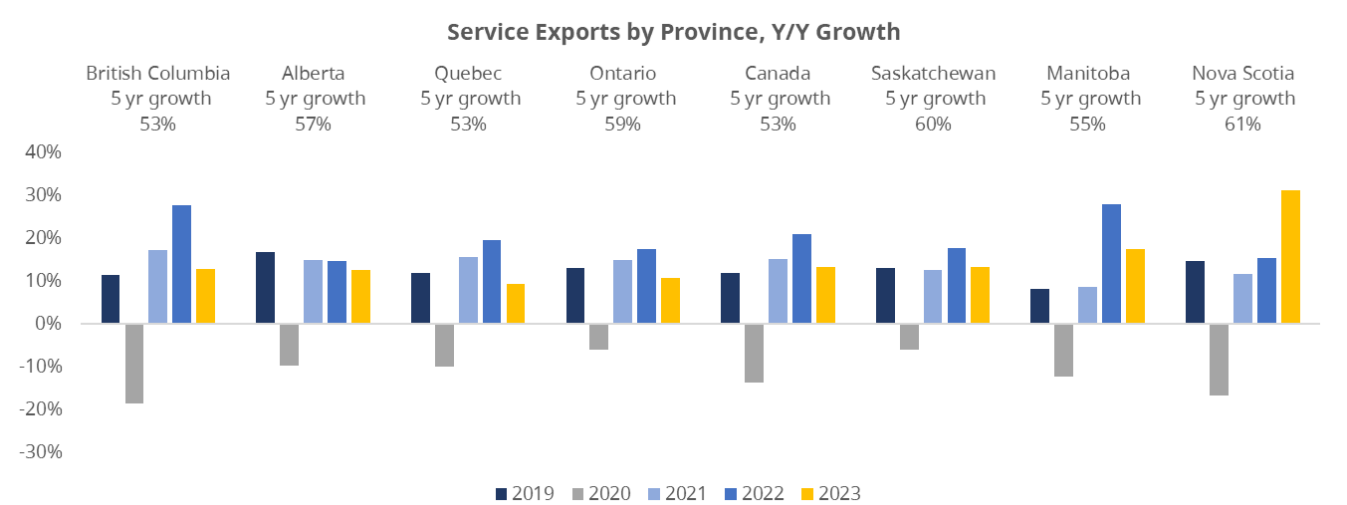


B.C. has a history of annual service trade surpluses, driven by a robust tourism, education and technology sectors. This surplus contributes to the province’s economic stability, diversification and growth.



Despite having a history of service exports surpluses, British Columbia growth in service exports has fallen behind other provinces. Between 2018 and 2023, British Columbia service exports to other countries grew by 53 per cent, in line with the Canadian average, ranking sixth among provinces.

Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan saw the largest international service exports growth in the last five years.





BC Stats is the provincial government's leader in statistical and economic research, information and analysis essential for evidence-based decision-making. The goal is to increase overall business intelligence—information decision makers can use. For more information, please contact James Prouten at james.prouten@gov.bc.ca.

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