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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS — DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
CANADA



LEATHER PRODUCTS 1950

GENERAL REVIEW

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe
Minister of Trade and Commerce

Prepared in the Animal Products Section
Industry and Merchandising Division
Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Ottawa

NOTICE

The Industry and Merchandising Division of the Bureau of Statistics collects and compiles figures on (a) the primary industries in Canada—mining, forestry and fishing; (b) manufacturing; (c) construction, and (d) merchandising and services.

For the purpose of annual compilation and publication, the manufacturing industries have been classified into major groups, prefaced by two reports of a general nature, as follows:

- I Summary Report on Manufacturing Industries
- II Manufacturing Industries by Geographical Distribution
- III Foods and Beverages
- IV Tobacco and Tobacco Products
- V Rubber Products
- VI Leather Products
- VII Miscellaneous Manufactures
- VIII Textiles
- IX Wood and Paper Products
- X Printing Trades
- XI Operations in the Woods
- XII Iron and Steel Products
- XIII Transportation Equipment
- XIV Non-ferrous Metal Products
- XV Electrical Apparatus and Supplies
- XVI Non-metallic Mineral Products
- XVII Products of Petroleum and Coal
- XVIII Chemicals and Allied Products

The present report belongs in Group VI, Leather Products. It is punched to permit of filing in a ring binder along with others of the group. The reports in this group are:

- A General Review, 25¢.
- B The Leather Footwear and Leather Boot and Shoe Findings Industries, 25¢.
- C The Leather Glove and Mitten Industry, 25¢.
- D The Leather Tanning Industry, 25¢.
- E The Miscellaneous Leather Products and Leather Belting Industries, 25¢.

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Taken as a whole, the leather products group of industries, which includes the industries shown in Table 1, registered a decrease of 0.1 p.c. in the value of gross output in 1950 as compared with 1949. The cost of materials rose by 2.8 p.c. while salaries and wages decreased by 3.2 p.c. and the volume of employment by 5.5 p.c. The cost of materials accounted for 57.6 p.c. of the gross value of production in 1950 as against 55.9 p.c. in 1949 but the proportion of salaries and wages to gross value of output fell from 28.3 p.c. in 1949 to 27.5 p.c. in 1950.

The group falls naturally into two sections, a "primary" one consisting of the tanning of leather and a "secondary" one, comprising those industries that produce consumer goods from tanned leather. This section includes the leather belting, leather boot and shoe findings, leather footwear, leather gloves and mittens and miscellaneous leather products industries.

The tanning industry recorded an increase of 8.7 p.c. in gross value of production and one of 9.4 p.c. in cost of materials. Employment fell by 3.8 p.c. but salaries and wages rose by 0.5 p.c. The increase in the value of production was caused by higher prices rather than by increased volume of production, the number of hides and skins tanned having fallen off by 2.7 p.c.

In the "secondary" section, the figures are heavily weighted by the leather footwear industry, which formed 73.2 p.c. of the total in 1950 and 74.5 p.c. in 1949. A decrease of 4.7 p.c. in the gross value of footwear production brought the figure for the section to 3.2 p.c. below that of 1949, thus counteracting the slight increase in the remaining industries. Employment was lower by 5.7 p.c., salaries and wages by 3.9 p.c. and the cost of materials by 0.2 p.c.

The volume of production in the leather glove and mitten industry was higher by 4.3 p.c. but that of the footwear industry was lower by 6.3 p.c. In the leather belting industry, production of belting increased by 2.8 p.c. and that of straps by 14.6 p.c. The nature of the miscellaneous leather products industry makes it difficult to determine the volume of output, but examination of the main items would indicate that the slight rise in value was caused by higher prices rather than by increased production.



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TABLE 1. Principal Statistics of the Leather Products Group of Industries, 1949 and 1950

Industry	Establish- ments	Employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of materials used	Gross value of production
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$
1949					
<i>Primary:</i>					
Leather Tanning	70	4,573	10,295,023	37,409,211	54,348,438
<i>Secondary:</i>					
Leather belting	16	208	388,127	1,049,869	1,661,882
Leather boot and shoe findings.....	26	417	785,288	1,638,472	2,940,713
Leather footwear	284	22,290	36,733,243	61,023,445	116,514,520
Leather gloves and mittens	79	2,051	2,766,459	4,840,484	9,383,529
Miscellaneous leather products.....	272	5,361	8,731,746	11,907,981	25,955,092
<i>Totals, Secondary Industries</i>	677	30,327	49,404,863	80,460,251	156,455,736
Totals, All Leather Products	747	34,900	59,699,886	117,869,462	210,804,174
1950					
<i>Primary:</i>					
Leather Tanning	68	4,399	10,345,085	40,923,465	59,093,493
<i>Secondary:</i>					
Leather belting	16	179	384,775	1,159,278	1,894,298
Leather boot and shoe findings.....	25	408	792,938	1,782,762	3,082,922
Leather footwear	292	20,785	34,710,042	59,684,259	110,968,680
Leather gloves and mittens	76	2,075	2,792,326	5,381,660	9,421,662
Miscellaneous leather products.....	266	5,144	8,784,511	12,285,771	26,101,958
<i>Totals, Secondary Industries</i>	675	28,591	47,464,592	80,293,730	151,469,520
Totals, All Leather Products	743	32,990	57,809,677	121,217,195	210,563,013

EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1952