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on  
**AUTOMOBILE STATISTICS**  
for Canada

DECEMBER 1928

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS, CANADA  
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**AUTOMOBILE STATISTICS FOR CANADA**

**DECEMBER 1928**

Production of automobiles in Canada during the calendar year 1928 reached a new record of 242,382 cars having a sales value, f.o.b. plant, of \$151,826,338. This output was 18 per cent greater in number and 24 per cent higher in value than in 1926, the next best year, when 204,727 cars valued at \$122,629,537 were made. In 1927 production totalled 179,034 cars valued at \$115,904,228.

Compared with data for the previous year, figures for 1928 show that the number of cars made available for use in Canada was the highest on record, and that the number of cars imported and the number exported also reached new high levels. Imports for the year totalled 47,408 cars, an increase of 29 per cent over the corresponding figure of 36,630 cars in 1927, and exports numbered 79,855 cars or 38 per cent more than the total of 57,852 cars shipped in the previous year. The apparent consumption of motor cars in Canada was 210,035 as determined by adding the Canadian production of 242,382 cars to the 47,408 cars imported and deducting the 79,855 cars exported. Corresponding figures for other years were 157,832 cars in 1927 and 158,577 cars for 1926.

Except for the first quarter monthly figures for 1928 show that outputs were at higher levels than in previous years, although production followed the same general trend as in other years by starting low in January, rising to a peak in May and then declining towards the end of the year. The monthly average output during the first three months of 1928 was lower than the first-quarter average of the two preceding years; April was about even; May, June and August were outstanding months in the industry; and the last-quarter average was slightly above the monthly levels for previous years. In May a new monthly production record was established at 33,942 cars while in June at 28,399 and in August at 31,245 the output exceeded the previous record established in May, 1927 at 25,708 cars.

Imports of motor cars numbered 1,586 in January, climbed to a peak of 8,126 in May and closed at 1,200 in December. Exports totalled 3,526 in January, worked irregularly upwards to a peak of 11,048 in August and closed at 6,688 in December.

For the twelve months ending December the cumulative production of automobiles in Canada was 242,382 cars, as against 179,054 in 1927 and 204,727 in 1926. Compared with the previous year, production in 1928 showed a higher output for all types of cars with the exception of trucks which declined to 6,468 from 29,603. Open passenger cars rose to 40,673 from 37,585, closed model passenger cars advanced to 134,402 from 99,694 and chassis to 60,795 from 12,161, while 44 taxicabs or buses were made as compared with 11 in the previous year.

Estimating the population of Canada at 9,658,000 in 1928 and taking the number of cars made at 242,382, it follows that in 1928 Canadian automobile manufacturers made one new car for every 40 persons in the Dominion. In 1927, production averaged one car to 53 persons; in 1926, one car to 46, and in 1925, the ratio was one car to 57 persons.

Enlarging the calculation to take account of imports and exports, the number of new cars made available for consumption in Canada during the year under review was one car to every 46 persons; in 1927, one to 60; in 1926, one to 59, and in 1925, one to 90. Registration statistics are not yet available for this year but in 1927 they show that there was one car in use for every 10 persons in Canada. In 1926, the ratio was one car to 11 persons, and in 1925, one car to every 13 persons.

Table 1.- Number of Automobiles Produced in Canada during December and the twelve months ending December, 1927 and 1928.

| Class                                 | December |       | Twelve months ending December |         |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------|-------------------------------|---------|
|                                       | 1927     | 1928  | 1927                          | 1928    |
| Passenger:                            |          |       |                               |         |
| Open -                                |          |       |                               |         |
| 2 to 3 passenger                      | 95       | 256   | 4,560                         | 7,669   |
| 4 to 5 passenger                      | 456      | 1,558 | 31,510                        | 31,713  |
| 7 passenger                           | 154      | 4     | 1,515                         | 1,291   |
| Total open                            | 705      | 1,818 | 37,585                        | 40,673  |
| Closed -                              |          |       |                               |         |
| 2 to 3 passenger                      | 116      | 396   | 12,305                        | 15,284  |
| 4 to 5 passenger                      | 1,003    | 2,802 | 86,141                        | 118,043 |
| 7 passenger                           | 47       | 9     | 1,248                         | 1,075   |
| Total closed                          | 1,166    | 3,207 | 99,694                        | 134,402 |
| Trucks:                               |          |       |                               |         |
| Under 1 ton capacity                  | 14       | 166   | 3,083                         | 3,395   |
| 1 ton                                 | 5        | 4     | 24,858                        | 1,290   |
| Over 1 ton and under 5 tons           | 82       | 55    | 1,662                         | 1,783   |
| 5 tons and over                       | -        | -     | -                             | -       |
| Total trucks                          | 101      | 225   | 29,603                        | 6,468   |
| Chassis:                              |          |       |                               |         |
| Passenger                             | 406      | 1,709 | 9,131                         | 21,622  |
| Freight                               | 712      | 2,422 | 2,618                         | 38,799  |
| Either passenger or freight           | 16       | 44    | 412                           | 374     |
| Total chassis                         | 1,134    | 4,175 | 12,161                        | 60,795  |
| Taxicabs and buses not included above | -        | -     | 11                            | 44      |
| TOTAL                                 | 3,106    | 9,425 | 179,054                       | 242,382 |

Table 2.- Production in Canada, Imports and Exports of Automobiles, by months, 1928.

| Month     |     | Production            |            |             | Customs Records |            |
|-----------|-----|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
|           |     | For Sale<br>in Canada | For Export | TOTAL       | Imports         | Exports    |
| January   | No. | 4,561                 | 3,902      | 8,463       | 1,586           | 3,526      |
|           | \$  | 3,471,187             | 1,991,703  | 5,462,890   | 1,562,724       | 1,955,207  |
| February  | No. | 9,082                 | 3,422      | 12,504      | 2,644           | 4,128      |
|           | \$  | 6,795,570             | 1,646,636  | 8,442,206   | 2,428,070       | 2,076,430  |
| March     | No. | 14,223                | 3,246      | 17,469      | 6,114           | 3,592      |
|           | \$  | 11,061,900            | 1,640,823  | 12,702,723  | 5,293,074       | 2,017,492  |
| April     | No. | 17,533                | 6,678      | 24,211      | 5,150           | 3,656      |
|           | \$  | 13,690,539            | 2,871,515  | 16,562,054  | 4,485,845       | 1,766,965  |
| May       | No. | 27,308                | 6,634      | 33,942      | 8,126           | 6,196      |
|           | \$  | 20,535,421            | 2,283,071  | 22,818,492  | 6,711,901       | 2,663,138  |
| June      | No. | 21,113                | 7,286      | 28,399      | 6,315           | 5,653      |
|           | \$  | 14,282,728            | 2,833,165  | 17,115,893  | 5,046,723       | 2,388,686  |
| July      | No. | 15,897                | 9,329      | 25,226      | 4,210           | 8,057      |
|           | \$  | 10,585,170            | 3,814,262  | 14,399,432  | 3,457,768       | 3,021,658  |
| August    | No. | 19,941                | 11,304     | 31,245      | 4,753           | 11,048     |
|           | \$  | 13,934,534            | 4,771,117  | 18,705,651  | 4,056,210       | 4,247,789  |
| September | No. | 13,360                | 7,833      | 21,193      | 3,647           | 8,706      |
|           | \$  | 9,751,147             | 3,368,391  | 13,119,538  | 3,392,891       | 3,615,273  |
| October   | No. | 7,190                 | 11,346     | 18,536      | 2,460           | 9,765      |
|           | \$  | 5,594,391             | 4,986,606  | 10,580,997  | 2,153,082       | 3,982,475  |
| November  | No. | 2,914                 | 8,855      | 11,769      | 1,203           | 8,840      |
|           | \$  | 2,301,952             | 4,290,733  | 6,592,685   | 1,120,251       | 3,675,719  |
| December  | No. | 1,947                 | 7,478      | 9,425       | 1,200           | 6,688      |
|           | \$  | 1,563,018             | 3,760,759  | 5,323,777   | 1,124,337       | 2,990,135  |
| TOTAL     | No. | 155,069               | 87,313     | 242,382     | 47,408          | 79,855     |
|           | \$  | 113,567,557           | 38,258,781 | 151,826,338 | 40,832,876      | 34,400,967 |

Table 3.- Production in Canada, Imports and Exports of Automobiles  
by months, 1926 and 1927

| Month and Year |      | Production |                | Customs' Records |               |         |               |
|----------------|------|------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------|---------------|
|                |      |            |                | Imports          |               | Exports |               |
|                |      | No.        | Value          | No.              | Value         | No.     | Value         |
| January        | 1926 | 15,479     | \$ 8,771,034   | 691              | \$ 675,438    | 5,190   | \$ 2,315,941  |
|                | 1927 | 15,376     | \$ 8,137,180   | 1,019            | \$ 969,896    | 7,480   | \$ 3,150,352  |
| February       | 1926 | 18,838     | \$ 10,497,436  | 916              | \$ 914,790    | 8,438   | \$ 3,792,576  |
|                | 1927 | 18,655     | \$ 10,797,199  | 1,567            | \$ 1,418,505  | 5,321   | \$ 2,555,274  |
| March          | 1926 | 22,374     | \$ 14,133,229  | 2,170            | \$ 2,112,175  | 10,911  | \$ 4,439,731  |
|                | 1927 | 23,250     | \$ 15,348,063  | 4,397            | \$ 4,015,391  | 9,106   | \$ 3,837,478  |
| April          | 1926 | 21,502     | \$ 13,521,838  | 2,539            | \$ 2,198,931  | 4,118   | \$ 1,928,908  |
|                | 1927 | 24,611     | \$ 16,517,880  | 4,917            | \$ 4,217,202  | 4,087   | \$ 2,157,191  |
| May            | 1926 | 24,934     | \$ 15,761,615  | 5,384            | \$ 4,522,704  | 5,623   | \$ 2,397,248  |
|                | 1927 | 25,708     | \$ 17,411,660  | 5,916            | \$ 4,996,001  | 5,616   | \$ 2,699,891  |
| June           | 1926 | 21,751     | \$ 13,084,298  | 4,904            | \$ 4,203,858  | 4,584   | \$ 1,823,366  |
|                | 1927 | 19,208     | \$ 12,731,925  | 4,621            | \$ 3,889,311  | 4,614   | \$ 2,332,731  |
| July           | 1926 | 15,208     | \$ 8,759,280   | 3,031            | \$ 2,400,618  | 4,195   | \$ 1,596,953  |
|                | 1927 | 10,987     | \$ 7,031,869   | 3,946            | \$ 3,232,337  | 3,289   | \$ 1,476,211  |
| August         | 1926 | 15,285     | \$ 10,137,389  | 3,083            | \$ 2,412,122  | 3,080   | \$ 1,696,762  |
|                | 1927 | 12,526     | \$ 8,781,279   | 3,490            | \$ 2,840,386  | 4,684   | \$ 2,270,806  |
| September      | 1926 | 17,495     | \$ 11,111,419  | 2,258            | \$ 1,821,476  | 6,501   | \$ 3,110,369  |
|                | 1927 | 11,262     | \$ 8,422,899   | 2,433            | \$ 2,046,355  | 3,935   | \$ 2,397,792  |
| October        | 1926 | 14,670     | \$ 8,672,578   | 1,488            | \$ 1,319,718  | 7,582   | \$ 3,405,566  |
|                | 1927 | 7,748      | \$ 5,556,172   | 2,156            | \$ 1,811,153  | 3,562   | \$ 2,148,321  |
| November       | 1926 | 9,828      | \$ 5,558,468   | 1,316            | \$ 1,059,164  | 8,830   | \$ 3,844,501  |
|                | 1927 | 6,617      | \$ 4,537,638   | 1,221            | \$ 1,141,224  | 3,929   | \$ 2,308,578  |
| * December     | 1926 | 7,363      | \$ 2,620,953   | 764              | \$ 740,698    | 5,642   | \$ 2,797,736  |
|                | 1927 | 3,106      | \$ 630,464     | 947              | \$ 964,655    | 2,229   | \$ 1,605,248  |
| TOTAL          | 1926 | 204,727    | \$ 122,629,537 | 28,544           | \$ 24,381,692 | 74,694  | \$ 33,149,657 |
|                | 1927 | 179,054    | \$ 115,904,228 | 36,630           | \$ 31,542,416 | 57,852  | \$ 28,939,873 |

\* Errors in monthly production figures are compensated in December entries.

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