

APR 8 1953

PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARY

D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

VOL. 1
NO. 2MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS8504-527
26-3-53Quarterly Report (1) For Period Ended September 30, 1952

The second release in a new series designed to provide motor vehicle accident data on a more current basis, this report gives the available accident summary for the quarter July 1st to September 30th, 1952. The period covered represents the months of greatest volume of highway traffic in Canada. During this quarter the majority of Canadians do their vacation travelling and highway freight traffic is normally at its peak. Many hundreds of thousands of tourists choose this period to visit Canada and the majority of these visitors come by automobile. As a result of greatly increased vehicle mileage logged on the roads, the third quarter is the nation's blackest period for traffic fatalities and injuries. It is the time of bright, warm days when many poor drivers cannot resist the urge to travel on the busy highway, when "Sunday drivers" are out in full force and when "speed demons" and "road hogs" display their worst irrational manners. The comparative summary at the bottom of this page shows how sharply the numbers of persons killed and injured rise as weather and road conditions improve.

Available data for four provinces, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, shows the following comparison between their accident records during the third quarters of 1951 and 1952; also during the first nine months of each of the two years. No similar comparisons are available for the other provinces as quarterly records of their accidents were not maintained prior to 1952.

<u>Number of Accidents</u>	<u>Nova Scotia</u>	<u>Ontario</u>	<u>Saskatchewan</u>	<u>British Columbia</u>	<u>Total (four provinces)</u>
Jan. - Sept. 1952	5,823	41,021	5,866	14,153	66,863
Jan. - Sept. 1951	4,929	37,839	4,269	13,468	60,505
Third Quarter 1952	2,215	15,614	2,678	5,048	25,555
Third Quarter 1951	1,888	14,754	2,057	4,870	23,569

Persons Killed

Jan. - Sept. 1952	86	681	59	139	965
Jan. - Sept. 1951	68	676	51	141	936
Third Quarter 1952	41	304	23	77	445
Third Quarter 1951	38	292	35	68	433

Persons Injured

Jan. - Sept. 1952	1,601	16,799	2,182	4,791	25,373
Jan. - Sept. 1951	1,516	16,699	1,664	4,584	24,463
Third Quarter 1952	725	7,148	1,084	2,004	10,961
Third Quarter 1951	685	7,287	957	1,894	10,823

Cont'd on page 4

COMPARATIVE SUMMARY (1)

<u>Total Number of</u>	<u>First Quarter 1952</u>	<u>Second Quarter 1952</u>	<u>Third Quarter 1952</u>	<u>January - September 1952</u>
Accidents Reported	28,890	25,806	33,779	88,475
Persons Killed	279	376	570	1,225
Persons Injured	7,184	10,350	13,592	31,126

(1) Excluding Quebec and Newfoundland (outside city of St. John's)

Price per year \$1.00

Prepared in the Transportation Section, Public Finance and Transportation Division

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

Third Quarter, 1952

(For three months ended September 30, 1952)

	Canada	New- foundland (2)	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	
<u>NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS</u>						
Fatal (Resulting in the death of one or more persons)	491	1	11	37	33	
Non-Fatal -						
(a) Resulting in the <u>injury</u> of one or more persons	9,213	62	56	489	273	
(b) Resulting in <u>property</u> <u>damage only</u> (1)	24,075	57	232	1,689	757	
Total Number of Accidents	33,779	120	299	2,215	1,063	
<u>PERSONS KILLED</u>						
Drivers	179	-	3	9	14	
Passengers	213	-	4	14	16	
Pedestrians	138	1	3	17	11	
Bicyclists	25	-	1	1	2	
Motor Cyclists (drivers and passengers)	11	-	-	-	-	
Persons in horse-drawn vehicles	(3)	-	-	-	-	
Others	4	-	-	-	-	
Total Number Killed	570	1	11	41	43	
<u>PERSONS INJURED</u>						
Drivers	3,875	3	21	191	112	
Passengers	6,590	7	41	317	180	
Pedestrians	2,010	50	8	187	77	
Bicyclists	665	5	6	29	23	
Motor Cyclists (drivers and passengers)	416	1	-	-	-	
Persons in horse-drawn vehicles	(3)	-	1	1	-	
Others	36	-	-	-	-	
Total Number Injured	13,592	66	77	725	392	
<u>TOTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE</u> \$	10,237,548*	12,259	83,091	515,613	372,199	
(Total of estimates of damage caused in reportable accidents) (1)						

(1) All reports are for accidents causing property damage estimated at \$50 or over except for the following:

Saskatchewan - \$100 and over.
Alberta and N.W.T. - \$ 75 and over.
Quebec and Yukon - \$ 25 and over.
Charlottetown, P.E.I. - all accidents.

(2) City of St. John's only. Provincial authorities unable to supply at present.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

Third Quarter, 1952

(For three months ended September 30, 1952)

	Quebec (4)	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatch- ewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon and Northwest Territories
		265	29	18	32	63	2
D							
A							
T		4,863	635	754	765	1,293	23
A							
		10,486	1,933	1,906	3,296	3,692	27
		15,614	2,597	2,678	4,093	5,048	52
		95	8	9	16	23	2
N		111	17	9	10	32	-
O		75	9	5	3	14	-
T		13	2	-	2	4	-
		7	-	-	1	3	-
		(3)	-	-	-	(3)	-
		3	-	-	-	1	-
		304	36	23	32	77	2
		1,972	230	400	385	547	14
A		3,308	485	570	598	1,058	26
V		1,162	114	59	112	241	-
A		383	63	29	23	104	-
I							
		302	15	24	22	52	-
L							
		(3)	2	1	4	(3)	-
A		21	-	1	3	2	-
B							
		7,148	909	1,084	1,147	2,004	40
L							
E		5,060,412	(4)	1,090,580	1,473,972	1,592,371	37,051

(3) Included with "others".

(4) Not available.

* Total for 7 provinces, the 2 territories and the city of St. John's, Newfoundland.



1010740348

- 4 -

	<u>Nova Scotia</u>	<u>Ontario</u>	<u>Saskatchewan</u>	<u>British Columbia</u>	<u>Total (four provinces)</u>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>Property Damage</u>					
Jan. - Sept. 1952	1,232,407	13,129,377	2,212,372	4,202,064	20,776,220
Jan. - Sept. 1951	1,107,444	12,309,828	1,465,642	3,719,604	18,602,518
Third Quarter 1952	515,613	5,060,412	1,090,580	1,592,371	8,258,976
Third Quarter 1951	462,542	5,141,226	808,077	1,434,008	7,845,853

A 10.5 p.c. rise in the number of accidents in the four provinces took place in the first nine months of 1952 compared with the like period of 1951. A 3.1 p.c. higher death total and 3.7 p.c. more injuries occurred in a similar comparison. Accidents were more numerous in all four provinces both during the third quarter and in the nine months of 1952 than they had been the previous year. British Columbia had less fatalities in the nine-month period of 1952 and Saskatchewan deaths from motor accidents were lower in the third quarter than they had been one year earlier.

Ontario and Saskatchewan and British Columbia provide monthly data on registrations of motor vehicles. Reference to these shows the following results: Ontario, which had a 6.3 p.c. increase in vehicles registered to September 30, 1952 over the same period of 1951, recorded 8.4 p.c. more accidents but only 0.7 p.c. more fatalities and 0.6 p.c. more injuries; Saskatchewan, with 12.3 p.c. more vehicles, had 37.4 p.c. more accidents, 15.7 p.c. more deaths and 31.1 p.c. more injuries, a sharp climb from the excellent accident record in that province during 1951; British Columbia showed considerable improvement with a 5.1 p.c. increase in accidents, a drop of 1.5 p.c. in deaths and a 4.5 p.c. higher injury total compared with a climb of 9.0 p.c. in vehicles registered to September 30, 1952. Safety Leagues and accident prevention associations as well as government officials are continually striving to draw the attention of the driving public to the seriousness of the accident picture. Their good work is resulting in better traffic manners and greater care being taken by many responsible drivers. Unfortunately the irresponsible types of drivers are still involved in many accidents and create circumstances leading to numerous accidents in which they themselves are not involved.

Property damage data which are reported on varying bases from province to province are considerably lower than the actual costs of accidents in terms of damage to property. The several reporting provinces have set minimum requirements concerning the amounts reportable which vary from \$25 to \$100. All accidents estimated to have caused damage of lower value than these minima are not included in the totals. The provinces of Quebec and Manitoba did not report this item.