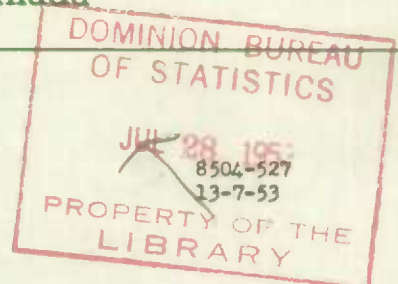


D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

VOL. 1
NO. 3MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTSQuarterly Report ⁽¹⁾ For Period Ended December 31, 1952.

The darker days and longer nights of October, November and December coupled with stormier weather and poorer driving conditions caused sharp increases in the numbers of accidents, persons killed and persons injured over those occurring in the previous quarter. Pedestrian casualties were much more numerous pointing up the fact that persons on foot seldom realize how difficult it is for a driver to see a person wearing dark clothes on a poorly lighted or glary street at night or on a very dull or rainy day. Fatalities among persons riding in motor cars declined slightly but were undoubtedly higher in relation to vehicle miles travelled, as many drivers tend to restrict mileage with the advent of shorter days and poorer weather. Drivers injured were 4,458 in number in the fourth quarter compared with 3,875 in the third quarter while passenger injuries fell from 6,590 in the July - September period to 6,323 in the last three months of 1952. Traffic deaths and injuries to bicyclists and motor cyclists were much fewer in number during the final three months of the year and probably reflected restricted use of these vehicles during that period.

Accidents causing property damage only (for seven provinces and St. John's, Newfoundland) rose from 24,075 in the third quarter of 1952 to 30,057 in the fourth quarter. The 27,331 property damage accidents for which estimates were made caused total damage in excess of \$ 12,563,000. This information was not reported by the provinces of Quebec, Manitoba or Newfoundland (outside the City of St. John's).

The table on page 4 gives a summary of the accident totals of those provinces reporting for the year 1952, together with comparative statistics for 1951. It should be noted that the data does not include reports for Quebec nor for Newfoundland outside the City of St. John's. (For 1951 the province of Quebec had reported 82,211 accidents, 645 deaths and 13,490 persons injured while there were 1488 accidents, 27 fatalities and 485 injuries from motor vehicle traffic in the whole of Newfoundland during that year).

COMPARATIVE SUMMARY ⁽¹⁾

| Total Number of | First Quarter 1952 | Second Quarter 1952 | Third Quarter 1952 | Fourth Quarter 1952 |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Accidents Reported | 28,890 | 25,806 | 33,779 | 40,097 |
| Persons Killed | 279 | 376 | 570 | 614 |
| Persons Injured | 7,184 | 10,350 | 13,592 | 13,811 |

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

Prepared in the Transportation Section,
Public Finance and Transportation Division.

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MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

Fourth Quarter, 1952

(For three months ended December 31, 1952)

| | Canada | Newfoundland (2) | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| <u>NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS</u> | | | | | | |
| Fatal (Resulting in the death of one or more persons) | 529 | - | 12 | 33 | 30 | |
| Non-Fatal - | | | | | | |
| (a) Resulting in the <u>injury</u> of one or more persons | 9,511 | 70 | 37 | 501 | 270 | |
| (b) Resulting in <u>property</u> <u>damage</u> only (1) | 30,057 | 172 | 225 | 2,162 | 959 | |
| Total Number of Accidents | 40,097 | 242 | 274 | 2,696 | 1,259 | |
| <u>PERSONS KILLED</u> | | | | | | |
| Drivers | 169 | - | 3 | 10 | 6 | |
| Passengers | 218 | - | 5 | 6 | 13 | |
| Pedestrians | 199 | - | 6 | 18 | 12 | |
| Bicyclists | 12 | - | - | - | - | |
| Motor Cyclists (drivers and passengers) | 12 | - | - | - | - | |
| Others | 4 | - | - | - | - | |
| Total Number Killed | 614 | - | 14 | 34 | 31 | |
| <u>PERSONS INJURED</u> | | | | | | |
| Drivers | 4,458 | 2 | 15 | 207 | 110 | |
| Passengers | 6,323 | 23 | 29 | 292 | 164 | |
| Pedestrians | 2,336 | 60 | 13 | 195 | 88 | |
| Bicyclists | 443 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 12 | |
| Motor Cyclists (drivers and passengers) | 218 | 2 | - | 1 | - | |
| Others | 33 | - | - | - | - | |
| Total Number Injured | 13,811 | 88 | 59 | 714 | 374 | |
| <u>TOTAL PROPERTY DAMAGE</u> \$ | (5) 12,563,427 | 52,534 | 87,496 | 533,558 | 443,594 | |
| (Totals 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

Fourth Quarter, 1952

(For three months ended December 31, 1952)

| | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon and Northwest Territories |
|---|-----------|---------|-----------|--------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| D | 283 | 25 | 36 | 48 | 61 | 1 | |
| A | | | | | | | |
| T | 4,658 | 590 | 795 | 939 | 1,636 | 15 | |
| A | 12,553 | 2,726 | 2,521 | 3,330 | 5,339 | 70 | |
| | 17,494 | 3,341 | 3,352 | 4,317 | 7,036 | 86 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| N | 87 | 4 | 20 | 19 | 20 | - | |
| O | 114 | 22 | 16 | 18 | 24 | - | |
| T | 112 | 10 | 7 | 15 | 18 | 1 | |
| | 8 | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | |
| | 8 | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | |
| | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | |
| | 329 | 38 | 44 | 53 | 70 | 1 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| A | 2,144 | 321 | 457 | 499 | 694 | 9 | |
| V | 3,072 | 304 | 595 | 633 | 1,199 | 12 | |
| A | 1,233 | 111 | 87 | 158 | 391 | - | |
| I | 241 | 41 | 15 | 23 | 89 | - | |
| L | 127 | 34 | 14 | 11 | 29 | - | |
| A | 18 | 4 | 6 | (4) 1 | 4 | - | |
| B | 6,835 | 815 | 1,174 | 1,325 | 2,406 | 21 | |
| L | | | | | | | |
| E | 6,328,481 | (3) | 1,250,685 | 1,574,600 | 2,246,828 | 45,651 | |

(3) Not available

(4) Man on railway track motor car

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

| Province | Accidents Reported | | Persons Killed | | Persons Injured | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------|----------------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| | 1951 | 1952 | 1951 | 1952 | 1951 | 1952 |
| Newfoundland (1) | 909 | 565 | 11 | 2 | 305 | 222 |
| Prince Edward Island | 951 | 1,041 | 22 | 28 | 162 | 189 |
| Nova Scotia | 7,149 | 8,519 | 105 | 120 | 2,131 | 2,315 |
| New Brunswick | 3,422 | 4,329 | 107 | 117 | 1,134 | 1,228 |
| Ontario | 54,920 | 58,515 | 949 | 1,010 | 22,557 | 23,634 |
| Manitoba | 9,743 | 10,254 | 92 | 107 | 2,226 | 2,867 |
| Saskatchewan | 7,324 | 9,463 | 73 | 106 | 2,479 | 3,451 |
| Alberta | 11,865 | 14,697 | 182 | 139 | 3,377 | 3,839 |
| British Columbia | 20,381 | 21,189 | 208 | 209 | 6,624 | 7,197 |
| Yukon and Northwest Territories | 215 | 245 | 2 | 4 | 90 | 90 |

(1) City of St. John's only.

Accidents in all reporting areas were up over 1951 totals with the exception of St. John's, Newfoundland, where the 1951 total of 909 accidents was cut to 565 in 1952. St. John's also had reduced fatalities at 2 against 11 in 1951 and injured persons were down from 305 in 1951 to 222 in 1952. Deaths from motor vehicle accidents dropped from 182 in 1951 to 139 in 1952 in Alberta, but all other provinces showed higher death totals while injuries were up in all jurisdictions except St. John's as mentioned above.

In the areas reporting monthly, traffic fatalities increased 5.2 p.c. over 1951, the partial national total of 1,842 comparing with 1,751 one year earlier while injured rose 9.6 p.c. from 41,085 to 45,032 in the similar comparison. The number of accidents advanced over 10 p.c.

From the available data it would appear that there were in the neighbourhood of 215,000 reported automobile accidents, over 2,500 persons killed and 60,000 persons injured in Canada during 1952. Further detail on accidents occurring in 1952 will be given in later reports.