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NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES AND MOTOR VEHICLE FINANCING

MARCH 1956

New Motor Vehicle Sales

There were 36,551 new passenger cars sold in March, compared with 23,267 in February, 1956 and 30,937 in March, 1955. The value of sales was \$102,896,000 in the current month, compared with \$66,968,000 in February, 1956 and \$78,690,000 for the month of March a year ago. The dollar value of sales sets a record for the month of March but the number of cars sold was exceeded in March, 1951 and 1953. In the latter month 39,607 cars were sold for a total value of \$99,475,000.

Sales of new commercial vehicles numbered 6,783 units, compared with 5,243 in February, 1956 and 4,687 in March, 1955. The value of these sales was \$25,356,000 for March, compared with \$18,914,000 for February, 1956 and \$13,745,000 for March, 1955. Sales of buses amounted to 45 units with a value of \$1,288,000 in March and comparable figures for one year ago were 47 units, value \$819,000.

For all of Canada during March combined sales of new passenger cars and commercial vehicles showed an increase over the same period last year of 21.6% in number of units and 38.7% in value of vehicles. For the year to date these figures stand at 11.8% and 26.3% respectively.

Note:

Retail values quoted in this report are based on the retail price to individual purchasers at the Canadian point of manufacture. In the case of imported vehicles, the values are the retail price delivered at the nearest Canadian distributing cantre. Retail values include sales and excise taxes, charges for standard accessories, dealers' commissions, etc. Transportation charges from Canadian point of manufacture to point of delivery are not included.

> Prepared in Merchandising and Services Section, Industry and Merchandising Division.

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Sales of European-Made Vehicles, March 1955 and 1956

	Numb 1955(1)	oer of Un <u>1956</u>	nits <u>% Change</u>	Re <u>1955(1)</u> \$1000	etail Valu 1956 \$'000	e <u>% Change</u>
New Vehicles: Passenger Cars Commercial Vehicles Total		3,111 315 3,426	+ 95°7 + 80°0 + 94°1	2,928 351 3,279	5,663 679 6,342	+ 93•4 + 93•4 + 93•4

(1) Revised.

New Motor	Vehicle S	Sales, J	anuary to Ma	rch 1955	and 1956	
	Nur 1955(1)	nber of <u>1956</u>	Units <u>% Change</u>	1955(: \$1000	Retail Va: 1) <u>1956</u> \$'000	
New Vehicles: Passenger Cars Commercial Vehicles Total	70,831 12,475 83,306	76,677 16,473 93,150	+ 8.3 + 32.0 + 11.8	183,973 36,017 219,990	217,672 60,093 277,765	+ 18.3 + 66.8 + 26.3
(1) Revised.						

Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales

New Vehicles

Financing of new passenger cars covered 12,146 units in the current month, compared with 8,524 in February, 1956 and 11,763 in March 1955. The amount of financing in March was \$26,309,000 which sets a record for the spring month. In March, 1953, 14,112 cars were financed for an amount of \$23,717,000 which is the next highest figure on record for a month of March.

Commercial vehicle financing covered 1,906 units, compared with 1,546 units in February, 1956 and 1,668 units in March, 1955. The amount of financing was \$5,986,000 in the current month, compared with \$4,636,000 in February, 1956 and \$3,655,000 in March a year ago.

For Canada during March, financing of total passenger cars and commercial vehicles showed an increase of 4.6% in number of units and 22.9% in the amount of financing when a comparison is made with March, 1955. For the year to date these figures stand at 15.9% and 36.5% respectively.

Used Vehicles

The number of used passenger cars financed was 28,190 in March, compared with 22,547 in February, 1956 and 29,305 in March, 1955. The amount of financing was \$24,667,000, compared with \$20,083,000 in February, 1956 and \$23,763,000 in March, 1955.

2.

With respect to commercial vehicles 3,957 units were financed, compared with 3,328 in February, 1956 and 4,315 in March, 1955. The amount of financing was \$3,448,000 compared with \$2,970,000 in February, 1956 and \$3,474,000 in March, 1955.

Together used passenger cars and commercial vehicles financed were down 4.4% in the number of units but up 3.2% in the amount of financing. For the year to date these figures stand at increases of 6.1% and 12.6% respectively.

Motor Vehicle Financing, January to March 1955 and 1956

	Nu 1955(1)	aber of U <u>1956</u>	bits <u>% Change</u>	Amoun 1 1955(1) \$1000	of Finan 1956 \$ \$'000	cing Change
New Vehicles: Passenger Cars Commercial Vehicles Total	24,637 4,156 28,793	28,248 5,137 33,385	+ 14.7 + 23.6 + 15.9	46,951 9,490 56,441	15,607	+ 30.8 + 64.5 + 36.5
Used Vehicles: Passenger Cars Commercial Vehicles Total	64 ,158 10,805 74 ,96 3	69,121 10,408 79,5 29	+ 7.7 - 3.7 + 6.1	53,027 9,260 62,287	9,268	+ 14.8 + 0.1 + 12.6

(1) Revised.

Note:

The financing shown herein represents only that business done by sales finance and acceptance companies engaged in the purchase or discounting of notes receivable arising from retail instalment sales of new and used motor vehicles.

TABLE 1 New Motor Vehicle Sales, by Provinces March 1955 and 1956

	1.1.1.1.1	Number		F	tetail Value	
Province			% Change,	1 States in (1		% Change,
A second second	1955 (1)	1956	1956/1955	1955 (1)	1956	1956/195
			96	\$ 1000	\$1000	%
		1-1				
Newfoundland	418	676	+ 61.7	1,009	1,761 325	+ 74-5
Prince Edward Island	123	126	+ 2.4	296	3,565	+ 15.1
Nova Scotia	1,265	1,364	+ 7.8	3,098	2,891	+ 19.5
few Brunswick	970	1,079	+ 11.2	2,420		+ 40.1
Quebec	8,309	10,198	+ 22.7	21,083	29,546	
Intario	12,258	15,520	+ 26.6	31,606	43,649	
anitoba	1,315	1,211	- 7.9	3,352	3,319	- 1.0
Saskatchewan	1,135	918	- 19.1	2,902	2,521	- 13.1
Alberta	2,170	2,458	+ 13.3	5,579	6,873	+ 23.2
British Columbia	2,974	3,001	+ 0.9	7,345	8,446	+ 15.0
Canada	30,937	36,551	+ 18.1	78,690	102,896	+ 30.8
			Commerc	ial Vehicles		
		- 41			107	
Newfoundland	110	186	+ 69.1	251	497	+ 98.0
Prince Edward Island	30	38	+ 26.7	67	97	+ 44.8
lova Scotia	226	266	+ 17.7	509	773	+ 51.9
New Brunswick	179	277	+ 54-7	428	767	+ 79.2
Quebec	1,172	1,672	• 42.7	3,446	6,289	
Ontario	1,375	2,576	+ 87.3	4,619	10,270	+122.3
Manitoba	250	225	- 10.0	960	794	- 17.3
Saskatchewan	347	237	- 31.7	835	702	- 15.9
Alberta	581	693	+ 19.3	1,483	2,819	+ 90.1
British Columbia	417	613	+ 47.0	1,147	2,348	+104+7
Canada	4,687	6,783	• 44.7	13,745	25,356	+ 84.5
		Total —	Passenger Ca	rs and Commerc	ial Vehicles	
Newfoundland	528	862	+ 63.3	1,260	2,258	+ 79.2
Prince Edward Island	153	164	+ 7.2	363	122	+ 16.3
Nova Scotia	1,491	1,630	+ 9.3	3,607	4,338	+ 20.3
New Brunswick		1,356	+ 18.0	2,848	3,658	+ 28.4
Quebec	9,481	11,870	+ 25.2	24,529	35,835	+ 46.1
Ontario	13,633	18,096	+ 32.7	36,225	53,919	+ 48.8
Manitoba		1,436	- 8.2	4,312	4,113	- 4.6
Saskatchewan		1,155	- 22.1	3,737	3,223	- 13.8
Alberta		3,151	+ 14.5	7,062	9,692	+ 37.2
British Columbia		3,614	+ 6.6	8,492	10,794	+ 27.1
Caunda	35,624	43,334	+ 21.6	92,435	128,252	+ 38.7

(1) Revised

	Nu	Number of Vehicles Amount of Financing						
Province			% Change,			% Change,		
	1955 (1)	1956	1956/1955	1955 (1)	1956	1956/195		
			%	\$*000	\$1000	%		
			Passe	nger Cars	8			
Atlastic Provinces Quebec Onterio Manitoba Seskatchewan Alberta Britiah Columbia	914 2,781 5,690 353 306 883 836 11,763	853 3,127 5,781 307 271 900 907 12,146	- 6.7 • 12.4 • 1.6 - 13.0 - 11.4 • 1.9 • 8.5 • 3.3	1,686 5,562 10,769 646 580 1,658 1,715 22,616	1,694 6,931 12,411 661 583 1,947 2,082 26,309	+ 0.5 + 24.6 + 15.2 + 2.3 + 0.5 + 17.4 + 21.4 + 16.3		
			Commercia	al Vehicles				
Liantic Provinces Juebec	180 421 600 51 54 165 197	164 545 736 39 45 185 192	- 8.9 + 29.5 + 22.7 - 23.5 - 16.7 + 12.1 - 2.5	324 922 1,245 102 101 406 555	371 1,671 2,248 163 102 614 817	 14.5 81.2 80.6 59.8 1.0 51.2 47.2 		
Chanda	1,668	1,906	+ 14.3	3,655	5,986	+ 63.8		

TABLE 2 Financing of Sales of New Motor Vehicles, by Provinces March 1955 and 1956

Total - Passenger Cars and Commercial Vehicles

			1			1
Atlantic Provinces	1,094	1,017	- 7.0	2,010	2,065	+ 2.7
Quebec	3,202	3,672	+ 14.7	6,484	8,602	+ 32.7
Ontario	6,290	6,517	+ 3.6	12,014	14,659	+ 22.0
Manitoba	404	346	- 14+4	748	824	+ 10.2
Saskatchewan	360	316	- 12.2	681	685	+ 0.6
Alberta	1,048	1,085	+ 3.5	2,064	2,561	+ 24.1
British Columbia	1,033	1,099	+ 6.4	2,270	2,899	+ 27.7
Caasda	13,431	14,052	+ 4.6	26,271	32,295	+ 22.9

TABLE 3 Financing of Sales of Used Motor Vehicles, by Provinces March 1955 and 1956

Province						of Financing % Change,					
			% Change,			% Change,					
	1955 (1)	1956	1956/1955	1955 (1)	1956	1956/195					
			%	\$ \$000	\$1000	%					
	3.0	Passenger Cars									
Atlantic Provinces	2,875	2,605	- 9.4	2,241	2,095	- 6.5					
Quebec	5,533	6,341	+ 14.6	4,986	5,816	+ 16.6					
Ontario	13,822	12,579	- 9.0	10,485	10,898	+ 3.9					
Manitoba	807	872	+ 8.1	663	762	+ 14.9					
Saskatchewan	1,057	952	- 8.9	803	733	- 8.7					
Alberta	2,663	2,472	- 7.2	2,180	2,017 2,346	- 2.5					
British Columbia	2,548	2,369	- 7.0	2,405							
Canada	29,305	28,190	- 3.8	23,763	24,667	+ 3.8					
Atlantic Provinces Quebec Ontario	641 768 1,465	527 888 1,248	- 17.8 + 15.6 - 14.8	417 678 1,067	385 928 1,004	- 7.7 • 36.9 - 5.9					
Manitoba	142	153	+ 7.7	129	113	= 12.4					
Saskatchewan	247	166	- 32.8	172	106	- 38.4					
Alberta	613	534	- 12.9	536 475	437 475	(a)					
British Columbia	439	447	+ 0.5	415							
Canada	4,315	3,957	- 8.3	3,474	3,448	- 0.7					
		Total —	Passenger Ca	rs and Commerc	ial Vehicles						
Atlantic Provinces		3,132	- 10.9	2,658	2,480	- 6.7 + 19.1					
Quebec	6,301	7,229	+ 14.7	5,664	6,744	+ 3.0					
Ontario	0.0	13,827 1,025		792	875	+ 10.5					
Manitoba	1 7 201	1,118	- 14.3	975	839	- 13.9					
Saskatchewan	2 00/	3,006	= 8.2	2,716	2,454	- 9.6					
Alberta British Columbia	a admi	2,810		2,880	2,821	= 2.0					
	33,620	32,147	- 4.4	27,237	28,115	+ 3.2					

(1) Revised (a) Unchangod



