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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

FINANCE STATISTICS BRANCH

REPORT

on the

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

of

URBAN AND RURAL MUNICIPALITIES

in

CANADA

1924-5-6

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BONDED INDEBTEDNESS OF URBAN AND RURAL MUNICIPALITIES

1924, 1925 and 1926.

A previous bulletin issued by the Bureau on the subject of the bonded indebtedness of the municipalities in Canada covered the five year period, 1919 to 1923. The present compilation covering the years 1924, 1925 and 1926 gives the latest available statistics for all the provinces.

There are over 4,000 municipalities in Canada divided into urban and rural classes, the first represented by cities, towns and villages and the second by rural municipalities, districts and counties. Under the control of the municipal departments of provinces wherein they are situated, each of these municipalities has borrowing powers of a greater or less degree.

The bulletin is made up of five tables, the first showing the numbers of municipalities in each province by classes for 1926; the second dealing with the debt of all municipalities reported in each province; the third showing the debt of all urban and all rural municipalities in Canada; the fourth showing the debt of the various classes of municipalities by provinces, and the fifth, a summary of the total and per capita urban as well as rural municipal debt for each province.

The municipal systems of the several provinces vary considerably with regard to the erection and incorporation of the different classes of municipalities, as for instance, in British Columbia where seven out of the thirty-three cities have a population of 1,000 or less while town municipalities do not exist. The province of Prince Edward Island has no rural municipal system and the provincial government administers all public loans and borrowings apart from those contracted by the seven incorporated urban municipalities. The returns made to the provincial government of New Brunswick are incomplete from year to year, particularly for the year 1925, consequently no attempt has been made to show the per capita bonded indebtedness of that province.

A brief analysis of the total bonded debt for all classes of municipalities reporting throughout Canada showed that there was an increase of \$32,934,650 for 1926 over 1925. Of this total increase urban municipalities comprising cities, towns and villages showed an increase for 1926 over 1925 of \$29,520,758, while rural municipalities which comprised counties, townships and municipal districts showed an increase of \$3,413,892 for 1926 over 1925.

Table 1.

Number of Municipalities in Canada and in each Province, by Classes,
1926.

Provinces	Cities	Towns	Villages	Counties	Rural Municipalities	Local Improve- ment districts	Total Number of Municipal- ities
Prince Edward Island	1	6	-	-	-	-	7
Nova Scotia	2	43	-	-	24	-	69
New Brunswick 1/	3	23	4	15	-	-	45
Quebec	24	93	286	74	2/ 989	-	1,466
Ontario	26	146	156	37	3/ 563	-	928
Manitoba	4	30	21	-	121	-	176
Saskatchewan	7	80	4/367	-	301	18	773
Alberta	6	54	125	-	169	229	583
British Columbia	33	-	6	-	30.	-	69
CANADA	106	475	965	126	2,197	247	4,116

1/ From Census returns.

2/ Including 9 independent rural municipalities.

3/ Officially known as townships.

4/ Including 6 summer resort villages.

Table 2.

Populations and Total and Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness of all Classes
of Municipalities by Provinces, years 1924 - 1925 - 1926.

Provinces	1924	1925	1926
Prince Edward Island -			
Population	-	-	-
Total Bonded Indebtedness ^{2/}	\$ 1,143,550	\$ 1,163,050	\$ 1,247,545
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Nova Scotia -			
Population ^{1/}	523,837	523,837	523,837
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 25,348,664	\$ 25,722,635	\$ 26,281,152
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 48.39	\$ 49.10	\$ 50.17
New Brunswick -			
Population ^{3/}	-	-	-
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 17,350,225	\$ 10,660,863	\$ 17,091,550
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness ^{3/}	-	-	-
Quebec -			
Population	2,673,993	2,788,190	2,823,824
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 230,424,908	\$ 231,358,779	\$ 246,541,730
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 86.17	\$ 82.98	\$ 87.31
Ontario -			
Population	2,857,620	2,905,650	2,941,437
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 430,010,501	\$ 405,178,853	\$ 413,474,813
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 150.48	\$ 139.44	\$ 140.57
Manitoba -			
Population	557,625	557,892	565,480
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 73,944,105	\$ 79,211,867	\$ 80,716,272
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 132.61	\$ 141.98	\$ 142.74
Saskatchewan -			
Population	782,042	796,390	795,306
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 49,448,911	\$ 46,732,040	\$ 44,769,529
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 63.23	\$ 58.68	\$ 56.30
Alberta -			
Population	557,608	573,389	573,557
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 65,414,317	\$ 57,908,593	\$ 56,950,712
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 117.31	\$ 100.99	\$ 99.29
British Columbia -			
Population	401,292	448,260	448,445
Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 96,106,151	\$ 99,055,201	\$ 102,853,228
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$ 239.49	\$ 220.98	\$ 229.36

1/ Census of 1921.

2/ Urban bonded indebtedness only, there being no rural municipal system.

3/ Returns for New Brunswick are so incomplete that it would be misleading to show per capita figures.

Table 3.

Bonded Indebtedness of Each Class of Urban and Rural Municipalities
for all Provinces combined, years 1924 - 1925 - 1926.

	1924	1925	1926
	\$	\$	\$
Cities	776,003,559	739,513,173	761,306,739
Towns	112,389,979	112,275,429	120,019,760
Villages 1/	585,469	499,829	482,690
Total Urban Municipalities	888,977,007	852,288,431	881,809,189
Rural Municipalities	49,994,400	2/ 54,840,306	2/ 55,044,264
Districts	24,995,317	25,294,167	27,579,060
Municipal Districts	51,391	55,317	45,434
County Councils	186,681	206,537	209,590
Counties	24,986,536	24,307,123	25,238,994
Total Rural Municipalities	100,214,325	104,703,450	108,117,342
Total All Municipalities, Urban and Rural	989,191,332	956,991,881	989,926,531

1/ In Quebec the villages are included in counties and in Ontario they are included in towns.

2/ Including \$25,000 Bonded Debt of Independent Rural Municipalities of Quebec.

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Table 4.

Bonded Debt by Provincial Municipalities, for the years, 1924 - 1925 - 1926.

Provinces	Classes of Municipalities	1924	1925	1926
		\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island -				
	Cities	1,139,800	1,148,300	1,006,948
	Towns 1/	3,750	14,750	240,597
	Rural	-	-	-
	Total	1,143,550	1,163,050	1,247,545
Nova Scotia -				
	Cities	13,197,496	13,388,794	14,017,200
	Towns 2/	10,509,381	10,702,973	10,725,835
	Counties	1,641,787	1,630,862	1,538,117
	Total	25,348,664	25,722,635	26,281,152
New Brunswick -3/				
	Cities	11,773,768	8,465,863	11,206,614
	Towns	4,214,900	2,021,900	4,286,288
	Villages	76,500	48,000	16,000
	Counties	1,285,057	125,100	1,582,643
	Total	17,350,225	10,660,863	17,091,550
Quebec -				
	Cities	198,249,582	199,442,143	211,595,305
	Towns	26,150,010	25,528,357	28,468,359
	County Councils	186,681	206,537	209,590
	Counties 4/	5,838,635	6,056,742	6,243,476
	Ind. Rural Mun.	-	25,000	25,000
	Total	230,424,908	231,558,779	246,541,730
Ontario -				
	Cities	328,604,372	295,678,548	300,694,404
	Towns 4/	57,755,898	61,186,435	64,142,582
	Rural	27,429,173	31,819,451	32,763,074
	Counties	16,221,058	16,494,419	15,874,753
	Total	430,010,501	405,178,853	413,474,813
Manitoba -				
	Cities	59,882,825	63,729,937	65,157,525
	Towns	3,273,028	3,291,007	3,227,813
	Villages	94,396	85,639	98,538
	Rural	10,693,856	12,105,284	12,232,366
	Total	73,944,105	79,211,867	80,716,272
Saskatchewan -5/				
	Cities	30,119,170	29,191,771	28,486,648
	Towns	7,132,466	6,363,304	5,167,586
	Villages	325,904	286,394	291,471
	Rural	6/ 11,871,371	6/ 10,390,571	6/ 10,023,824
	Total	49,448,911	46,732,040	44,769,529
Alberta -				
	Cities	5/ 61,925,712	5/ 54,706,783	5/ 53,867,926
	Towns	3,350,545	5/ 3,066,697	5/ 2,960,670
	Villages	5/ 86,669	5/ 79,796	5/ 76,682
	Munic. Districts	51,391	55,317	45,434
	Total	65,414,317	57,908,593	56,950,712
British Columbia -				
	Cities	71,110,834	73,761,034	75,274,168
	Districts	24,995,317	25,294,167	27,579,060
	Total	96,106,151	99,055,201	102,853,228

1/ All six towns reported for 1926, only two in 1925 and one in 1924.

2/ Dartmouth Ferry bonds not included.

3/ There were 3 cities, 18 towns, 2 villages and 15 counties reported in 1924; 2 cities, 13 towns, 2 villages and 15 counties reported in 1925 and 3 cities, 12 towns, 1 village and 15 counties reported in 1926.

4/ Including villages.

5/ Net debenture debt.

6/ Including rural telephone debt.

Table 5.

Populations, Total and Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness of Urban and Rural Municipalities by Provinces for the years 1924, 1925 and 1926.

Provinces	Population		Total Bonded Indebtedness		Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
			\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island						
1924	1/ 12,903	-	1,143,550	-	88.63	-
1925	1/ 13,262	-	1,163,050	-	87.70	-
1926	1/ 19,093	-	1,247,545	-	65.34	-
Nova Scotia						
1924	1/227,038	1/296,799	23,706,877	1,641,787	104.41	5.53
1925	1/227,038	1/296,799	24,091,773	1,630,862	106.11	5.49
1926	1/227,038	1/296,799	24,743,035	1,538,117	108.98	5.18
New Brunswick 2/						
1924	-	-	16,065,168	1,285,057	-	-
1925	-	-	10,535,763	125,100	-	-
1926	-	-	15,508,902	1,532,648	-	-
Quebec						
1924	1,475,634	1,198,359	224,399,592	6,025,316	152.07	5.03
1925	1,552,770	1,235,420	225,070,500	6,288,279	144.94	5.09
1926	1,620,960	1,202,864	240,063,664	6,478,066	148.09	5.39
Ontario						
1924	1,797,188	1,060,432	386,360,270	43,650,231	214.98	41.16
1925	1,832,847	1,072,803	356,864,983	48,313,870	194.70	45.03
1926	1,862,481	1,078,956	364,836,986	48,637,827	195.89	45.08
Manitoba						
1924	281,743	275,832	63,250,249	10,693,856	224.50	38.76
1925	277,916	279,976	67,106,583	12,105,284	241.46	43.24
1926	285,327	280,153	68,483,906	12,232,366	240.02	43.66
Saskatchewan						
1924	232,371	549,671	37,577,540	11,871,371	161.71	21.60
1925	238,707	557,683	35,841,469	10,890,571	150.14	19.52
1926	242,049	553,257	34,745,705	10,023,824	143.55	18.12
Alberta						
1924	247,942	309,666	65,362,926	51,391	263.62	.17
1925	249,651	323,738	57,853,276	55,317	231.73	.17
1926	247,908	325,649	56,905,278	45,434	229.54	.14
British Columbia						
1924	247,612	153,680	71,110,834	24,995,317	287.19	162.65
1925	271,532	176,728	73,761,034	25,294,167	271.65	143.12
1926	271,671	176,774	75,274,168	27,579,060	277.08	156.01

1/ Census of 1921.

2/ Returns for New Brunswick are so incomplete that it would be misleading to show per capita figures.

