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**CANADA**  
**DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS**  
**FINANCE STATISTICS BRANCH**

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**REPORT**  
**ON THE**  
**MUNICIPAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS**  
**IN**  
**CANADA**  
**1933**

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GROSS BONDED INDEBTEDNESS OF URBAN AND RURAL MUNICIPALITIES - 1933.

Introduction

The Bureau has for some years published a bulletin dealing with the gross bonded indebtedness of urban and rural municipalities by provinces, the information being compiled from the reports made to the provincial governments by the various municipalities throughout Canada. The tables herewith presented cover the year 1933 and represent the latest available information.

There were 4,296 municipalities in Canada in 1933 divided into urban and rural classes. The first class consists of cities, towns, villages and five sub-urban municipalities, while the second class consists of counties, rural municipalities and districts.

The provincial governments continue to exercise certain restrictions and control of borrowings by the municipalities situated within their respective provincial areas, but the yearly increase of bonded indebtedness since 1925 indicates the more or less free use of borrowing powers by municipalities to meet their expenditures and debt requirements. While there are decreases in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and New Brunswick in 1933 as compared with the previous year, the increases in the other provinces more than offset the reduction.

Municipal governments, in general, have endeavoured to curtail expenditures during the depression period, but the unemployment situation and relief problems fall heavily upon them and no doubt explain to a large extent the increase in this branch of governmental indebtedness in the later years.

A special table is included in the report showing the sinking funds held to offset the gross bonded debt.

Table 1.  
Number of Municipalities in Canada and in each Province,  
by classes, 1933.

Provinces	Cities	Towns	Villages	Counties	Rural Munici- palities	Local Improve- ment Districts	Subur- ban Munici- palities	Total Number of Munici- palities
Prince Edward Island	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	8
Nova Scotia	2	43	-	-	24	-	-	69
New Brunswick	3	20	2	15	-	-	-	40
Quebec	25	101	302	75	1,023	-	-	1,526
Ontario	28	146	155	1/38	2/571	-	-	938
Manitoba	4	3/31	22	-	112	-	5	174
Saskatchewan	8	80	4/386	-	302	84	-	860
Alberta	7	54	4/145	-	163	234	-	603
British Columbia	33	-	17	-	28	-	-	78
CANADA	111	482	1,029	128	2,223	318	5	4,296

- 1/ There are forty-four counties in all, geographically, but a number of them are united for municipal purposes.
- 2/ Officially known as townships.
- 3/ Includes Flin Flon Municipal District.
- 4/ Includes six summer resort villages.

Table 2.

Estimated Populations and Gross Total and Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness of all Classes of Municipalities, by Provinces, Year 1933.

Provinces		1933
Prince Edward Island 1/ -		
Population		-
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	2,147,650
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	-
Nova Scotia -		
Population		512,846
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	34,165,812
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	66.62
New Brunswick -		
Population		408,219
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	24,667,909
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	60.43
Quebec -		
Population		2,902,960
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	479,608,472
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	165.21
Ontario -		
Population		3,257,666
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	494,433,956
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	151.78
Manitoba -		
Population		700,139
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	96,076,856
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	137.23
Saskatchewan -		
Population		902,424
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	57,288,400
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	63.48
Alberta -		
Population		649,129
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	69,455,181
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	107.00
British Columbia -		
Population		519,823
Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness	\$	128,094,159
Per Capita Bonded Indebtedness	\$	246.42

1/ Urban Bonded Indebtedness, only, there being no rural municipal system.

Table 3.

Gross Bonded Indebtedness of Each Class of Urban and Rural Municipalities  
for all Provinces combined, Year 1933.

	1 9 3 3
Cities	1,047,501,230
Towns	146,933,859
Villages 1/	435,844
Suburban Municipalities	8,140,743
Total Urban Municipalities	1,203,011,676
School Debt, Urban Municipalities, Quebec (not separable by classes)	68,555,335
Rural Municipalities	2/ 63,641,263
Districts	13,563,959
Municipal Districts	13,109
Counties	34,261,541
Total Rural Municipalities	111,479,872
School Debt, Rural Municipalities, Quebec (not separable by classes)	2,891,512
Total All Municipalities, Urban and Rural	1,385,938,395

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

2/ Includes \$17,000 Bonded Debt of Independent Rural Municipalities of Quebec.



Table 4.

Gross Bonded Indebtedness of Municipalities, by Provinces and Classes, 1933.

Provinces		1933
		\$
Prince Edward Island -	Cities	1,711,100
	Towns	436,550
	Rural	-
	Total	2,147,650
Nova Scotia -	Cities	18,425,447
	Towns	13,061,475
	Municipalities	2,678,890
	Total	34,165,812
New Brunswick -	Cities	13,715,954
	Towns 1/ Counties	6,920,300
		4,031,655
	Total	24,667,909
Quebec 2/ -	Cities	353,092,141
	Towns	42,724,764
	Counties	12,327,720
	Independent Rural Municipalities	17,000
	Total	408,161,625
	School Debt, All Municipalities	71,446,847
Ontario -	Total including School Debt	479,608,472
	Cities	353,181,193
	Towns 3/ Rural	73,641,067
		49,709,530
	Counties	17,902,166
	Total	494,433,956
Manitoba -	Cities	79,120,294
	Towns	3,177,420
	Villages	103,606
	Suburban Municipalities	8,140,743
	Rural	5,534,793
	Total	96,076,856
Saskatchewan -	Cities	46,565,312
	Towns	4,733,635
	Villages	288,403
	Rural 4/	5,701,050
	Total	57,288,400
Alberta -	Cities	67,159,589
	Towns	2,238,648
	Villages	43,835
	Municipal Districts	13,109
	Total	69,455,181
British Columbia -	Cities	114,530,200
	Districts	13,563,959
	Total	128,094,159

1/ Includes \$53,000 for two villages.

2/ School Debt by classes of municipalities not available.

3/ Includes villages.

4/ Includes rural telephone debt.

Table 5.

Sinking Funds, Offsetting Gross Bonded Debt, which were held by Classes of Municipalities in each Province at the close of the year 1933.

Provinces		1 9 3 3
		\$
Prince Edward Island -	Cities	281,963
	Towns	167,823
	Rural	-
	Total	449,786
Nova Scotia -	Cities	6,604,709
	Towns	4,197,967
	Municipalities	725,322
	Total	11,527,998
New Brunswick -	Cities	4,082,626
	Towns 1/	1,680,209
	Counties	591,498
	Total	6,354,333
Quebec 2/ -	Cities	43,516,248
	Towns	4,516,937
	Counties	354,951
	Independent Rural Municipalities	-
	Total	48,388,136
	Sinking Fund for Schools, All Municipalities	7,238,337
	Total including School Sinking Fund	55,626,473
Ontario -	Cities	53,754,344
	Towns 3/	1,790,576
	Rural	464,063
	Counties	1,018,581
	Total	57,027,564
Manitoba -	Cities	33,523,284
	Towns	392,816
	Villages	5,744
	Suburban Municipalities	396,367
	Rural	46,023
	Total	34,364,234
Saskatchewan -	Cities	14,772,755
	Towns	154,659
	Villages	-
	Rural	-
	Total	14,927,414
Alberta -	Cities	22,375,884
	Towns	-
	Villages	-
	Municipal Districts	-
	Total	22,375,884
British Columbia -	Cities	26,272,579
	Districts	3,464,476
	Total	29,737,055

1/ Includes \$15,358 for two villages.

2/ Sinking Funds by classes of Municipalities not available.

3/ Includes villages.



Table 6.

Gross Total Bonded Indebtedness of all Classes of Municipalities,  
by Provinces, 1919-1933.

Year	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1919	970,100	17,863,881	11,188,467	199,705,568	243,226,877
1920	1,086,500	19,192,462	10,841,466	224,269,714	269,727,271
1921	1,202,200	22,451,743	7,578,567	230,955,538	317,613,283
1922	1,254,900	23,541,759	10,025,633	246,920,376	349,276,606
1923	1,290,800	24,248,782	7,974,362	260,907,356	376,512,002
1924	1,143,550	25,348,664	17,350,225	276,834,787	430,010,501
1925	1,163,050	25,722,635	10,660,863	281,213,213	405,178,853
1926	1,247,545	26,281,152	17,091,550	296,746,090	413,474,813
1927	1,452,425	28,381,616	15,707,699	313,416,960	434,464,056
1928	1,515,125	29,049,412	19,584,335	335,784,811	435,912,807
1929	1,598,624	29,029,119	21,343,890	352,291,456	451,936,592
1930	1,863,211	30,182,264	20,942,988	384,763,515	485,280,182
1931	1,959,672	31,386,025	22,165,501	427,815,926	499,002,074
1932	2,129,350	31,606,140	24,752,873	463,613,696	504,755,977
1933	2,147,650	34,165,812	24,667,909	479,608,472	494,433,956

  

	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta <sup>1/</sup>	British Columbia	Totals
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1919	55,562,788	39,585,388 <sup>2/</sup>	66,870,464	94,741,615	729,715,148
1920	57,820,588	40,611,271	57,205,275	96,107,911	776,862,458
1921	65,463,239	41,180,255	53,429,558	97,495,984	837,370,367
1922	68,811,040	59,719,165	60,832,650	98,761,630	919,143,759
1923	73,908,963	59,011,174	70,999,611	96,273,987	971,127,037
1924	73,944,105	57,763,699	65,414,317	96,106,151	1,043,915,999
1925	79,211,867	55,835,505	57,908,593	99,055,201	1,015,949,780
1926	80,716,272	54,844,759	56,950,712	102,853,228	1,050,206,121
1927	83,017,302	54,361,158	62,414,660	107,376,118	1,100,591,994
1928	85,651,906	53,092,330	63,428,853	110,124,819	1,134,144,398
1929	85,901,404	54,913,100	78,473,392	118,483,618	1,193,971,195
1930	84,879,707	59,000,183	78,645,803	125,832,088	1,271,389,941
1931	91,615,195	59,146,592	78,679,571	129,913,890	1,341,684,446
1932	92,471,256	59,238,281	76,892,413	129,332,791	1,384,792,777
1933	96,076,856	57,288,400	69,455,181	128,094,159	1,385,938,395

1/ Figures represent principally net debit 1919-1928

2/ Net debt.







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