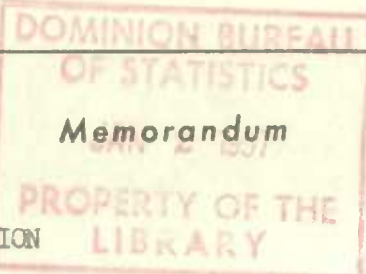


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF CANADA'S MINERAL PRODUCTION 1956

Release date - January 2, 1957

Two billion dollars was the valuation of the mineral production of Canada in 1956 according to a preliminary estimate prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. The increase over the preceding year amounted to \$272.4 million or 15 per cent. In 1955 the value was \$1,795,310,796. Ontario contributed \$641 million, Quebec's portion was \$427 million and Alberta followed closely with \$409 million. Crude petroleum was the leading commodity with a valuation of \$401.8 million, copper was second with \$291.5 million, nickel was worth \$223.3 and iron ore moved up into fourth place with \$156.3 million.

Metals were valued at \$1,134 millions, an increase of \$127 million over the 1955 valuation of \$1,007,839,501. Higher prices for copper made the 353,293 tons worth \$291.5 million. The volume of nickel was up about 2 percent. Iron ore increased 6.3 million short tons to an all time high of 22.5 million tons. There were fewer ounces of gold in 1956. The average price of gold was about the same as in 1955 despite the monetary exchange fluctuations during the latter part of the year. Lead output continued to decline, also there was a downward trend in the tonnage of zinc. The products of the uranium refinery were valued at \$39.6 million. This was prorated with respect to the amount of material which the refinery processed from each province. Ontario's portion was \$5.9 million, Saskatchewan \$24.3 million and Northwest Territories \$9.4 million.

Non-metallic minerals were worth \$171 million in 1956 compared with \$144.9 million in 1955. The tonnage of asbestos decreased but the price increase raised the total value to \$109 million. Most of the 300 thousand tons of barite were mined in Nova Scotia. Fluorspar from Newfoundland exceeded 150 thousand tons. About 85 per cent of Canada's 5 million tons of gypsum came from Nova Scotian deposits. All of the lithia, 2,400 tons, was produced in Quebec. Nepheline syenite from Ontario was worth nearly \$2.5 million. Salt shipments reached a new high of 1.6 million tons and \$13.9 million in value. Slag containing titanium dioxide was valued at \$6.7 million.

Mineral fuels were \$100 million higher in total value in 1956 than in the preceding year. Crude petroleum output of 170 million barrels was valued at nearly \$402 million. Alberta production increased 31 million barrels to reach 144 million barrels. Saskatchewan had 70 percent increase to 19 million barrels and Manitoba's volume of oil increased 43 percent to 5.9 million barrels. The volume of natural gas utilized, output less waste, was 173,260 million cubic feet. The decline in coal output over several years was reversed, and in 1956 there was a slight increase in the quantity produced which was 14.9 million tons.

The value of structural materials recorded a new high of \$247.2 millions. Clay products which includes brick, tile, sewer pipe, etc., made from Canadian clays were worth \$38 millions. New cement plants and expanded old plants shipped 29.7 million barrels of cement valued at \$77.9 million. Lime producers shipped a large portion of their output to industrial and chemical plants. Sand and gravel used for highways, railroad ballast, and concrete aggregate amounted to 129 million tons. There were about 31.5 million tons of stone of various sizes, pulverized, crushed, and block, shipped in 1956.

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Price: 10 cents

Table 1 - VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY CLASSES, 1947-1956

Year	Metallics	Non-metallics	Mineral fuels (dollars)	Structural materials	TOTAL
1947	395,140,994	54,670,989	110,481,207	84,576,785	644,869,975
1948	488,287,835	67,097,524	159,736,260	105,127,246	820,248,865
1949	538,967,258	64,585,216	183,654,473	113,903,079	901,110,026
1950	617,238,340	94,721,564	201,193,957	132,296,212	1,045,450,073
1951	745,877,561	115,418,150	232,854,093	151,333,791	1,245,483,595
1952	728,458,160	124,493,256	263,582,319	168,808,618	1,285,342,353
1953	709,920,510	124,999,607	314,181,168	187,202,218	1,336,303,503
1954	802,401,423	128,038,507	352,959,465	204,982,696	1,488,382,091
1955	1,007,839,501	144,920,841	414,318,015	228,232,439	1,795,310,796
1956	1,134,354,370	171,241,069	514,850,071	247,253,586	2,067,699,096

Table 2 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY PROVINCES, 1954-1956

Province	1954		1955		1956	
	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent	\$	Per cent
Newfoundland	42,898,033	2.9	68,462,956	3.8	87,752,025	4.2
Nova Scotia	73,450,898	4.9	67,133,539	3.7	66,625,229	3.2
New Brunswick	12,468,322	0.8	15,759,744	0.9	18,171,654	0.9
Quebec	278,818,070	18.7	357,010,045	19.9	426,608,242	20.6
Ontario	496,747,571	33.4	583,954,682	32.5	640,915,058	31.0
Manitoba	35,106,922	2.4	62,018,231	3.5	66,711,747	3.2
Saskatchewan	68,216,009	4.6	85,150,128	4.7	114,103,316	5.5
Alberta	279,042,735	18.7	325,974,326	18.2	408,865,422	19.8
British Columbia ..	158,630,867	10.7	189,524,574	10.6	199,318,374	9.7
Northwest Territories	26,414,000	1.8	25,597,821	1.4	22,949,122	1.1
Yukon	16,588,684	1.1	14,724,750	0.8	15,678,907	0.8
TOTAL	1,488,382,091	100.0	1,795,310,796	100.0	2,067,699,096	100.0

Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1955 and 1956

Unit of measure	1955		1956	
	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
<u>Metallics</u>				
Antimony	lb. 2,021,726	563,345	1,820,000	576,300
Bismuth	lb. 265,896	572,362	273,007	494,157
Cadmium	lb. 1,919,081	3,262,439	2,258,184	3,838,913
Cerium, Rare earths	lb. ...	988	-	-
Cobalt	lb. 3,318,637	8,563,700	3,685,956	9,372,760
Columbium (Cb ₂ O ₅)	lb. 42	1,032	-	-
Copper	lb. 651,987,423	239,756,455	706,585,547	291,469,615
Gold	troy oz. 4,541,962	156,788,528	4,378,862	150,808,010
Indium	troy oz. 104,774	232,598	358,000	805,500
Iron ore	ton 16,283,177	110,435,850	22,526,311	156,327,885
Iron ingots	ton 115,955	4,831,845	157,000	6,339,000
Lead	lb. 405,525,038	58,314,500	373,349,541	57,906,514
Magnesium and calcium ..	... ..	6,585,409	...	5,617,826
Manganese ore	ton -	-	...	1,900
Mercury	lb. 75	250	-	-
Molybdenite (MoS ₂)	lb. 1,389,177	823,954	1,452,028	967,461
Nickel	lb. 349,856,997	215,866,007	355,986,460	223,343,992
Palladium, iridium, etc.	troy oz. 214,252	8,321,633	161,600	6,495,065
Platinum	troy oz. 170,494	14,747,732	150,000	15,585,000
Selenium	lb. 427,109	3,203,319	508,000	6,858,000
Silver	troy oz. 27,984,204	24,676,472	28,794,573	25,831,612
Tantalum (Ta ₂ O ₅)	lb. 390	9,760	-	-
Tellurium	lb. 9,014	15,774	24,000	42,000
Thallium	lb. 275	378	-	-
Tin	lb. 492,781	408,030	611,000	521,550
Titanium ore	ton 1,464	10,634	4,443	37,100
Tungsten (WO ₃)	lb. 1,942,770	5,508,437	2,206,662	6,060,992
Uranium .....	... ..	26,031,604	...	39,577,000
Zinc	lb. 866,714,038	118,306,466	847,239,825	125,476,218
Total metallics .....	... ..	1,007,839,501	... ..	1,134,354,370
<u>Non-metallics</u>				
Arsenious oxide	lb. 1,571,787	69,159	2,624,757	86,617
Asbestos	ton 1,063,802	96,191,317	1,038,975	109,665,924
Barite	ton 253,736	2,277,166	307,808	2,509,199
Diatomite	ton 16	352	-	-
Feldspar	ton 18,152	355,879	17,763	365,370
Fluorspar	ton 128,114	2,708,437	151,738	3,835,565
Graphite	ton -	-	-	-
Grindstones	ton 10	1,500	-	-
Gypsum	ton 4,667,901	8,037,153	5,192,805	8,300,585
Iron oxides	ton 7,702	162,512	7,757	170,135
Lithia	lb. 114,376	61,752	4,800,000	2,640,000
Magnesitic-dolomite and brucite *	... ..	2,151,820	...	2,412,000
Mica	lb. 1,640,708	77,541	1,184,542	73,622
Mineral waters	gal. 306,683	160,510	303,500	157,000
Nepheline syenite	ton 146,068	2,099,512	179,381	2,489,633
Peat, moss	ton 117,579	3,485,287	125,074	3,708,191



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Table 3 - MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA, BY KINDS, 1955 and 1956 (Concluded)

	Unit of measure	1 9 5 5		1 9 5 6	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
<u>Non-metallics</u> (Concluded)					
Quartz	ton	1,869,913	2,039,575	2,114,415	2,781,236
Salt	ton	1,244,761	10,122,299	1,593,131	13,916,532
Silica brick	M	4,763	602,625	5,576	705,077
Soapstone and talc	ton	27,160	338,967	129,030	358,750
Sodium sulphate	ton	178,888	2,799,715	179,438	2,854,223
Sulphur (pyrite and smelter)	ton	628,443	5,984,953	763,736	7,440,410
Titanium dioxide	ton	117,042	5,192,810	152,500	6,771,000
Total non-metallics .. ...	...	...	144,920,841	...	171,241,069
★ Includes some magnesium metal.					
<u>Mineral - Fuels</u>					
Coal	ton	14,818,880	93,579,471	14,915,033	95,466,866
Natural gas	M cu.ft.	150,772,312	15,098,508	173,260,500	17,542,555
Peat	ton	-	-	-	-
Petroleum, crude	bbl.	129,440,247	305,640,036	170,569,200	401,840,650
Total fuels .....	...	...	414,318,015	...	514,850,071
<u>Structural Materials</u>					
Clay products (brick, tile, etc.) .....	...	...	35,259,770	...	38,062,112
Cement	bbl.	25,168,464	65,650,025	29,719,377	77,876,046
Lime	ton	1,331,118	15,810,904	1,303,889	15,328,917
Sand and gravel	ton	127,524,474	67,775,053	128,995,782	72,637,049
Stone	ton	30,512,920	43,736,687	31,549,706	43,349,462
Total structural materials .....	...	...	228,232,439	...	247,253,586
GRAND TOTAL .....	...	...	1,795,310,796	...	2,067,699,096