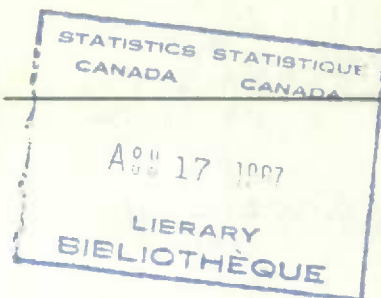


DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce



Vol. 10 No. 1 January, 1956

Price: 25 cents per copy, \$2.00 per year.

PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 380,651 M ft. in January, 1956 as compared with 406,113 M ft. in January, 1955 a decrease of 6.3 p.c. from the previous year but an increase of 10.7 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 55.2 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 9.1 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 44.8 p.c. showed a decrease of 2.6 p.c. Shipments in January, 1956 totalled 374,207 M ft., as compared with 432,722 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 13.5 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 10.9 p.c. but Interior mills an increase of 37.2 p.c. Total shipments for January increased by 13.8 p.c. over the December figure of 328,815 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of January, 1956 amounted to 514,123 M ft., as compared with 512,652 M ft. at the end of January the previous year and 515,069 M ft. at the end of December, 1955. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 278,655 M ft., while Interior mills showed 235,468 M ft.

Page 3 gives the final estimates of the production of sawn lumber (excluding sawn ties) for British Columbia and provinces East of the Rockies for 1954 and revised estimates for 1955. Similar revised monthly estimates of sawn lumber production for all provinces (except Newfoundland), are contained in the January issue of the Monthly report entitled "Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies".

Summary Figures

Table 1 gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for December, 1954 and 1955 and January, 1955 and 1956. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 362,612 M ft. in December, 1954 to 406,113 M ft. in January, 1955 and from 343,919 M ft. in December, 1955 to 380,651 M ft. in January, 1956. Shipments totalled 328,815 M ft. in December, 1955 and 374,207 M ft. in January, 1956 as compared with 364,689 M ft. in December, 1954 and 432,722 M ft. in January of 1955. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 458,460 M ft. in December, 1954 to 512,652 M ft. in January, 1955 but decreased from 515,069 M ft. in December, 1955 to 514,123 M ft. in January of this year.

Production

Table 2 gives particulars of lumber and tie production for Coast mills and Interior mills separately, and also shows separately the production of lumber and ties, by species. Production of sawn lumber in Coast mills amounted to 207,841 M ft. in January, 1956 as compared with 163,934 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 2,138 M ft. in January as compared with 6,738 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 55.2 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in January, 1956 as compared with 59.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during December, 1955 and 1954 respectively, were 58.0 and 69.2 p.c.

Prepared in the Forestry Section, Industry and Merchandising Division.
6504-509-16

Shipments

Table 3 gives details of lumber and tie shipments, by months, for Coast mills and Interior mills separately. Shipments by truck, by rail and waterborne are shown for each Canadian province, to points in the United States, to the United Kingdom and to other countries, for all mills reporting. Total estimated shipments of non-reporting mills are also given. It is to be noted, however, that some lumber originally reported as having been shipped to points in British Columbia may have been re-shipped to other provinces or exported by the purchasers and reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 210,897 M ft. in January of 1956 and 203,658 M ft. in December, 1955 as compared with 236,784 M ft. in January, 1955 and 224,801 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 163,310 M ft. and 119,014 M ft. in January, 1956 and 1955 and 125,157 M ft. and 139,888 M ft. in December, 1955 and 1954. Of all shipments actually reported for January, 38.2 p.c. went to points in Canada, 40.5 p.c. to points in United States, 14.0 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 7.3 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 30.6 p.c. of the total, while 43.0 p.c. went by rail, and 26.4 p.c. by truck.

Stocks

Table 4 gives particulars of stocks of lumber and ties at sawmills by months. It distinguishes between stocks sold but not shipped and stocks unsold, and between stocks at Coast and Interior mills, by species. Total stocks at Coast mills in December, 1955 and January, 1956 amounted to 278,369 M ft. and 278,655 M ft. as compared with 293,617 M ft. and 294,641 M ft. in December, 1954 and January, 1955. Interior mills stocks increased from 164,843 M ft. in December, 1954 to 218,011 M ft. in January, 1955 but decreased from 236,700 M ft. in December, 1955 to 235,468 M ft. in January, 1956. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 28.5 p.c. of the total in January, 1956 as compared with 27.8 p.c. in January, 1955 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 85.2 and 86.3.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of December, 1954 and 1955 and January, 1955 and 1956 for Coast mills only. Similar information is not collected from Interior mills and no attempt has been made to estimate orders on hand of non-reporting mills on the Coast. Destination and mode of shipments are shown in this table, which also gives total lumber purchases reported by some mills. Total orders on hand at the end of January, 1956 amounted to 348,648 M ft. as compared with 396,276 M ft. in January, 1955. Orders on hand at the end of December, 1955 and 1954 amounted to 329,907 M ft. and 393,622 M ft. respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 5,423 M ft. in January, 1956 and 4,403 M ft. in January, 1955 as compared with 6,219 M ft. in December, 1955 and 8,236 M ft. in December, 1954.

Active Mills Reporting

Table 6 gives the number of active mills reporting each month for the Coast and Interior of British Columbia. The mills reporting for January accounted for 79.9 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1953 compared with 86.9 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for December, 1954 and 1955 were 76.3 and 80.3 respectively. It is hoped that the compilation will eventually include all mills in the 500,000 feet and over classification.

The co-operation of the British Columbia Lumber Manufacturers' Association, Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association and Northern Interior Lumbermen's Association in the collection of these statistics is gratefully acknowledged.

Final Estimates of Canadian Production of Sawn Lumber for 1954,
and Revised Estimates for 1955.

Month	Year	British Columbia			East of Rockies	Total Canada ^x
		Coast	Interior	Total		
January	1954	174,477	54,256	228,733	194,402	423,135
	1955	230,223	173,853	404,076	221,277	625,353
February	1954	211,741	96,360	308,101	233,557	541,658
	1955	225,704	148,866	374,570	251,742	626,312
March	1954	233,452	130,030	363,482	256,836	620,318
	1955	251,231	155,349	406,580	317,130	723,710
April	1954	212,949	94,692	307,641	147,411	455,052
	1955	230,159	94,967	325,126	146,547	471,673
May	1954	217,076	111,843	328,919	279,462	608,381
	1955	237,473	134,031	371,504	302,622	674,126
June	1954	238,737	164,180	402,917	379,324	782,241
	1955	246,613	178,871	425,484	406,439	831,923
July	1954	215,613	194,751	410,364	370,679	781,043
	1955	196,544	199,089	395,633	370,901	766,534
August	1954	224,102	208,130	432,232	326,522	758,754
	1955	223,823	218,336	442,159	330,102	772,261
September	1954	253,306	185,410	438,716	244,325	683,041
	1955	236,773	217,724	454,497	286,958	741,455
October	1954	233,587	171,596	405,183	159,656	564,839
	1955	216,544	197,545	414,089	174,721	588,810
November	1954	235,775	155,723	391,498	96,653	488,151
	1955	197,654	117,616	315,270	118,537	433,807
December	1954	232,834	128,075	360,909	138,379	499,288
	1955	200,155	139,050	339,205	171,515	510,720
12 months	1954 ^x	2,683,649	1,695,046	4,378,695	2,827,206	7,205,901 ^x
	1955 ^x	2,692,896	1,975,297	4,668,193	3,098,491	7,766,684 ^x

x Production in the Yukon and N.W.T. (7,238 M ft. b.m.) and Newfoundland (30,716 M ft. b.m.) not included in the 1954 quantities; 1955 quantities not yet available.

Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber and Ties of British Columbia, January, 1956.

	January		December	
	*1955	1956	*1954	*1955
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION				
Douglas Fir	171,712	163,624	177,314	160,641
Hemlock	76,009	69,085	70,844	64,895
Balsam Fir	1,516	4,372	2,146	2,719
Red Cedar	45,423	53,046	41,222	32,538
Spruce	89,042	66,157	52,832	63,553
White Pine	5,895	4,893	4,843	4,675
Ponderosa Pine	2,921	3,950	3,135	2,743
Lodgepole Pine	4,187	5,446	2,133	5,254
All other softwoods	8,977	9,551	7,855	6,445
Total softwoods	405,682	380,124	362,324	343,463
Red Alder	169	159	134	177
Maple	104	271	80	196
Birch	72	33	34	61
Cottonwood	86	59	40	18
All other hardwoods ...	-	5	-	4
Total, hardwoods	431	527	288	456
Total, production	*406,113	380,651	*362,612	*343,919
SHIPMENTS				
TO: Points in Canada ...	129,563	113,874	74,982	99,368
Points in U.S.A. ...	140,399	120,734	112,186	100,042
United Kingdom	49,762	41,639	56,111	49,480
Other Countries ...	33,145	21,915	26,511	40,448
Shipments reported	352,869	298,162	269,790	289,338
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .	79,853	76,045	94,899	39,477
Total shipments	432,722	374,207	364,689	328,815
STOCKS ON HAND				
	1955	1956	1954	1955
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
Douglas Fir	187,682	199,570	179,493	204,860
Hemlock	103,894	98,449	102,307	101,472
Balsam Fir	1,188	938	417	1,395
Red Cedar	63,825	70,140	53,833	61,880
Spruce	108,921	107,447	83,110	102,325
White Pine	14,228	13,313	11,115	15,668
Ponderosa Pine	18,529	12,794	15,648	13,273
Lodgepole Pine	5,123	5,800	4,866	4,834
All other softwoods ...	9,227	5,588	7,281	9,323
Total softwoods	512,617	514,039	458,070	515,030
Red Alder	7	22	7	4
Maple	-	45	1	5
Birch	23	15	25	-
Cottonwood	-	-	352	28
All other hardwoods ...	5	2	5	2
Total hardwoods	35	84	390	39
Total stocks	512,652	514,123	458,460	515,069

* Revised.

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, January, 1956.

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
LUMBER						
Douglas Fir	87,802	3,495	91,297	33,382	32,682	66,064
Hemlock	64,722	974	65,696	1,779	1,440	3,219
Balsam Fir	2,766	22	2,788	358	881	1,239
Red Cedar	38,128	741	38,869	13,626	536	14,162
Spruce	4,213	210	4,423	30,130	30,884	61,014
White Pine	2,208	7	2,215	1,251	1,421	2,672
Ponderosa Pine	-	15	15	1,234	2,621	3,855
Lodgepole Pine	-	4	4	1,497	3,346	4,843
All other softwoods .	2,069	1	2,070	2,446	4,357	6,803
Total, softwoods	201,908	5,469	207,377	85,703	78,168	163,871
Red Alder	97	62	159	-	-	-
Maple	203	68	271	-	-	-
Birch	11	16	27	-	6	6
Cottonwood	-	7	7	38	14	52
All other hardwoods.	-	-	-	-	5	5
Total, hardwoods	311	153	464	38	25	63
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .	202,219	5,622	207,841	85,741	78,193	163,934
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,809	177	1,986	946	3,331	4,277
Hemlock	147	-	147	-	23	23
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	4	341	345
Red Cedar	5	-	5	10	-	10
Spruce	-	-	-	660	60	720
White Pine	-	-	-	-	6	6
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	18	62	80
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	166	433	599
All other softwoods .	-	-	-	151	527	678
Total, softwoods	1,961	177	2,138	1,955	4,783	6,738
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	1,961	177	2,138	1,955	4,783	6,738
LUMBER AND TIES	204,180	5,799	209,979	87,696	82,976	170,672

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, January, 1956.

	By Truck (Local Sales)	By Rail	Water- borne	Total Shipments
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada</u>				
British Columbia	42,200	1,399	759	44,358
Yukon and Northwest Territories		23	-	23
Alberta		2,839	xxxxxxx	2,839
Saskatchewan		720	xxxxxxx	720
Manitoba		1,412	xxxxxxx	1,412
Ontario		6,425	-	6,425
Quebec		1,592	-	1,592
New Brunswick		296	-	296
Nova Scotia		183	-	183
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		30	-	30
Total for Canada	42,200	14,919	759	57,878
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		1,925	-	1,925
Atlantic Ports		663	27,029	27,692
Other points, by rail		50,189	xxxxxxx	50,189
Total for U.S.A.		52,777	27,029	79,806
United Kingdomx		22	41,142	41,164
Other countriesx		-	21,915	21,915
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported ...	42,200	67,718	90,845	200,763
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				10,134
Total shipments, reported and estimated				210,897
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	36,298	3,568	-	39,866
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	205	3,026	xxxxxxx	3,231
Saskatchewan		1,475	xxxxxxx	1,475
Manitoba		3,399	xxxxxxx	3,399
Ontario		6,768	-	6,768
Quebec		1,078	-	1,078
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		81	-	81
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		98	-	98
Total for Canada	36,503	19,493	-	55,996
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		801	-	801
Atlantic Ports		2,179	-	2,179
Other points, by rail		37,948	xxxxxxx	37,948
Total for U.S.A.		40,928		40,928
United Kingdomx		-	475	475
Other countriesx		-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported ..	36,503	60,421	475	97,399
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				65,911
Total shipments, reported and estimated				163,310

x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills,
January, 1956.

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
<u>SOLD</u>	M ft. b. m.	M ft. b. m.	M ft. b. m.	M ft. b. m.	M ft. b. m.	M ft. b. m.
Douglas Fir	80,430	2,284	82,714	8,326	7,878	16,204
Hemlock	67,208	1,909	69,117	205	194	399
Balsam Fir	85	2	87	15	14	29
Red Cedar.....	37,735	1,072	38,807	125	118	243
Spruce.....	4,122	117	4,239	6,066	5,739	11,805
White Pine	3,229	92	3,321	1,610	1,523	3,133
Ponderosa Pine.....	-	-	-	1,196	1,132	2,328
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	214	202	416
All other softwoods ..	975	28	1,003	191	182	373
Total, softwoods ..	193,784	5,504	199,288	17,948	16,982	34,930
Red Alder	15	1	16	-	-	-
Maple.....	13	-	13	-	-	-
Birch.....	7	-	7	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	35	1	36	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	193,819	5,505	199,324	17,948	16,982	34,930
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir.....	29,764	845	30,609	35,990	34,053	70,043
Hemlock	19,207	546	19,753	4,717	4,463	9,180
Balsam Fir.....	76	2	78	382	362	744
Red Cedar	25,483	724	26,207	2,509	2,374	4,883
Spruce.....	1,439	41	1,480	46,205	43,718	89,923
White Pine	789	22	811	3,108	2,940	6,048
Ponderosa Pine.....	-	-	-	5,378	5,088	10,466
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	2,766	2,618	5,384
All other softwoods ..	335	10	345	1,987	1,880	3,867
Total, softwoods ..	77,093	2,190	79,283	103,042	97,496	200,538
Red Alder	6	-	6	-	-	-
Maple.....	31	1	32	-	-	-
Birch.....	8	-	8	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ..	2	-	2	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	47	1	48	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	77,140	2,191	79,331	103,042	97,496	200,538
SOLD AND UNSOLD ..	270,959	7,696	278,655	120,990	114,478	235,468

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of January, 1956 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	January		December	
	1955	1956	1954	1955
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	14,626	27,396	12,807	20,083
Coastwise and Interior	2,591	4,353	2,358	3,467
Total	17,217	31,749	15,165	23,550
For shipments by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	5,442	13,299	4,675	11,969
Eastern Provinces	13,096	19,229	9,912	16,338
United States of America	58,561	54,079	55,805	53,590
Total	77,099	86,607	70,392	81,897
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	310	1,565	316	1,065
U.S. Atlantic Ports	22,872	33,650	29,416	29,310
Eastern Markets	1,988	1,646	-	100
Exports Markets	276,790	193,431	278,333	193,985
Total	301,960	230,292	308,065	224,460
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	396,276	348,648	393,622	329,907
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS	4,403	5,423	8,236	6,219

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting
January, 1956.

		January		December	
		1955	1956	1954	1955
Coast	No.	101	82	107	94
Interior	No.	258	265	236	285
Total, British Columbia ...	No.	359	347	343	379

A few returns received after compilations were closed have been omitted.

