



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Hon. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce

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

JUL 3 1959

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

April, 1959

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Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 410,435 M ft. in April, 1959 as compared with 354,993 M ft. in April, 1958 an increase of 15.6 p.c. over the previous year but a decrease of 11.5 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which accounts for 61.3 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 9.8 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 38.7 p.c. showed an increase of 26.3 p.c. Shipments in April, 1959 totalled 464,131 M ft., as compared with 355,166 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 30.7 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 24.3 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 41.6 p.c. Total shipments for April increased by 3.1 p.c. over the March figure of 450,306 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of April, 1959 amounted to 578,119 M ft., as compared with 593,199 M ft. at the end of April the previous year and 633,759 M ft. at the end of March of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 309,069 M ft., while Interior mills showed 269,050 M ft.

Summary Figures

Table 1 gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for March and April, 1958 and 1959. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 410,713 M ft. in March, 1958 to 354,993 M ft. in April, 1958 and from 463,604 M ft. in March to 410,435 M ft. in April, 1959. Shipments totalled 450,306 M ft. in March, 1959 and 464,131 M ft. in April, 1959 as compared with 409,171 M ft. in March and 355,166 M ft. in April of 1958. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 614,391 M ft. in March, 1958 to 593,199 M ft. in April and decreased from 633,759 M ft. in March, 1959 to 578,119 M ft. in April 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 249,305 M ft. in April, 1959 as compared with 158,085 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 2,432 M ft. in April as compared with 613 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 61.3 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in April, 1959 as compared with 64.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during March, 1959 and 1958 respectively, were 50.2 and 54.9 p.c.

Prepared in the Industry and Merchandising Division.

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 278,454 M ft. in April of 1959 and 243,249 M ft. in March, 1959 as compared with 224,028 M ft. in April, 1958 and 232,317 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 185,677 M ft. and 131,138 M ft. in April, 1959 and 1958 and 207,057 M ft. and 176,854 M ft. in March, 1959 and 1958. Of all shipments actually reported for April, 33.6 p.c. went to points in Canada, 51.8 p.c. to points in United States, 5.8 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 8.8 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 37.4 p.c. of the total, while 40.2 p.c. went by rail, and 22.4 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 March and April, 1959 amounted to 329,450 M ft. and 309,069 M ft. as compared with 293,083 M ft. and 292,252 M ft. in March and April of 1958. Interior mills stocks decreased from 321,308 M ft. in March to 300,947 M ft. in April, 1958 and decreased from 304,309 M ft. in March to 269,050 M ft. in April, 1959. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 20.1 p.c. of the total in April, 1959 as compared with 33.8 p.c. in April, 1958 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 92.7 and 91.8.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of March and April, 1958 and 1959 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 April, 1959 amounted to 379,736 M ft. as compared with 249,812 M ft. in April, 1958. Orders on hand at the end of March, 1959 and 1958 amounted to 409,067 M ft. and 252,313 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 9,481 M ft. in April, 1959 and 7,901 M ft. in April, 1958 as compared with 10,176 M ft. in March, 1959 and 7,396 M ft. in March, 1958.

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 April accounted for 80.3 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1957 compared with 80.6 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for March, 1958 and 1959 were 79.2 and 81.2 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.

Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber and Ties of British Columbia Sawmills, April, 1959.

	April		March		4 Months	
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959
PRODUCTION	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
Douglas Fir	163,078	177,271	177,896	188,334	680,688	695,828
Hemlock	76,439	91,641	74,710	83,848	292,689	345,251
Balsam Fir	1,373	3,373	4,805	7,167	13,667	17,566
Red Cedar	46,814	49,471	46,229	47,738	171,335	176,179
Spruce	45,638	66,063	81,554	111,222	287,056	357,220
White Pine	6,335	6,623	6,150	5,269	20,056	19,697
Ponderosa Pine	3,198	3,955	3,027	2,212	9,810	10,402
Lodgepole Pine	5,557	4,792	9,072	9,651	32,578	31,079
Tamarack or Larch	-	4,936	-	6,358	-	20,046
All other softwoods ...	6,221	1,986	6,985	1,508	28,343	5,067
Total softwoods	354,653	410,111	410,428	463,307	1,536,222	1,678,335
Red Alder	118	99	44	43	230	420
Maple	149	149	191	188	644	500
Birch	32	29	29	18	112	90
Cottonwood	41	39	21	48	133	154
All other hardwoods ...	-	8	-	-	-	8
Total hardwoods	340	324	285	297	1,119	1,172
Total production	354,993	410,435	410,713	463,604	1,537,341	1,679,507
SHIPMENTS						
TO: Points in Canada ...	113,731	131,830	129,424	155,009	465,554	543,526
Points in U.S.A. ...	135,908	203,081	132,646	176,175	498,632	674,871
United Kingdom	35,923	22,685	33,997	24,340	142,194	90,162
Other Countries	27,794	34,746	40,071	32,586	130,329	126,722
Shipments reported	313,356	392,342	336,138	388,110	1,236,709	1,435,281
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	41,810	71,789	73,033	62,196	217,860	232,984
Total shipments	355,166	464,131	409,171	450,306	1,454,569	1,668,265
	April		March			
	1958	1959	1958	1959		
STOCKS ON HAND	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	217,131	186,042	213,138	212,414		
Hemlock	102,659	120,964	109,682	129,784		
Balsam Fir	574	720	1,037	7,382		
Red Cedar	68,852	65,681	68,237	64,928		
Spruce	166,511	169,784	182,043	181,341		
White Pine	15,408	16,319	13,744	15,453		
Ponderosa Pine	10,540	9,436	9,707	8,906		
Lodgepole Pine	7,799	3,293	8,593	4,000		
Tamarack or Larch	-	3,000	-	6,978		
All other softwoods ...	3,558	2,841	7,897	2,471		
Total softwoods	593,032	578,080	614,078	633,657		
Red Alder	-	-	-	-		
Maple	3	-	3	3		
Birch	4	-	4	3		
Cottonwood	159	39	305	96		
All other hardwoods ...	1	-	1	-		
Total hardwoods	167	39	313	102		
Total stocks	593,199	578,119	614,391	633,759		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, April, 1959

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	99,496	4,211	103,707	44,443	26,339	70,782
Hemlock	85,435	795	86,230	3,710	1,701	5,411
Balsam Fir	1,913	191	2,104	640	629	1,269
Red Cedar	44,995	1,017	46,012	2,856	603	3,459
Spruce	7,361	323	7,684	37,554	20,820	58,374
White Pine	1,811	-	1,811	3,736	1,076	4,812
Ponderosa Pine	103	-	103	2,721	1,104	3,825
Lodgepole Pine	40	22	62	535	3,980	4,515
Tamarack or Larch	-	-	-	1,685	3,235	4,920
All other softwoods ...	1,306	8	1,314	672	-	672
Total, softwoods ...	242,460	6,567	249,027	98,552	59,487	158,039
Red Alder	68	31	99	-	-	-
Maple	124	25	149	-	-	-
Birch	20	6	26	-	3	3
Cottonwood	-	4	4	13	22	35
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	8	-	8
Total, hardwoods ...	212	66	278	21	25	46
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	242,672	6,633	249,305	98,573	59,512	158,085
TIES						
Douglas Fir	2,192	240	2,432	148	202	350
Hemlock	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	-	5	5
White Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	20	7	27
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	28	187	215
Tamarack or Larch	-	-	-	4	12	16
All other softwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods ...	2,192	240	2,432	200	413	613
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	2,192	240	2,432	200	413	613
LUMBER AND TIES	244,864	6,873	251,737	98,773	59,925	158,698

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, April, 1959

	By Truck and 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	61,255	2,703	1,704	65,662
Yukon and Northwest Territories ...	-	-	-	-
Alberta	-	3,019	xxxxxxx	3,019
Saskatchewan	-	1,216	xxxxxxx	1,216
Manitoba	-	1,411	xxxxxxx	1,411
Ontario	-	5,646	-	5,646
Quebec	-	2,347	1,545	3,892
New Brunswick	-	307	551	858
Nova Scotia	-	262	342	604
Prince Edward Island	-	33	-	33
Newfoundland	-	272	-	272
Total for Canada	61,255	17,216	4,142	82,613
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports	513	1,275	-	1,788
Atlantic Ports	xxxxxxx	3,078	87,219	90,297
Other points	109	40,201	xxxxxxx	40,310
Total for U.S.A.	622	44,554	87,219	132,395
United Kingdom	xxxxxxx	* 1,250	21,435	22,685
Other countries	xxxxxxx	* 709	34,037	34,746
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	61,877	63,729	146,833	272,439
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				6,015
Total shipments, reported and estimated				278,454
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	22,738	1,728	-	24,466
Yukon and Northwest Territories ...	-	-	-	-
Alberta	2,910	3,966	xxxxxxx	6,876
Saskatchewan	92	5,107	xxxxxxx	5,199
Manitoba	-	5,140	xxxxxxx	5,140
Ontario	-	7,152	-	7,152
Quebec	-	384	-	384
New Brunswick	-	-	-	-
Nova Scotia ...	-	-	-	-
Prince Edward Island	-	-	-	-
Newfoundland	-	-	-	-
Total for Canada	25,740	23,477	-	49,217
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports	114	100	-	214
Atlantic Ports	xxxxxxx	1,041	-	1,041
Other points	210	69,221	xxxxxxx	69,431
Total for U.S.A.	324	70,362	-	70,686
United Kingdom	xxxxxxx	* -	-	-
Other countries	xxxxxxx	* -	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	26,064	93,839	-	119,903
Estimated shipments of Non-reporting mills				65,774
Total shipments, reported and estimated				185,677

* Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills, April, 1959

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.
<u>SOLD (but not shipped)</u>						
Douglas Fir	97,635	2,741	100,376	4,091	2,482	6,573
Hemlock	91,624	2,572	94,196	320	194	514
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	43,181	1,212	44,393	2	1	3
Spruce	4,612	129	4,741	7,018	4,258	11,276
White Pine	1,717	48	1,765	209	127	336
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	431	261	692
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	67	41	108
Tamarack or Larch	-	-	-	100	61	161
All other softwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods ...	238,769	6,702	245,471	12,238	7,425	19,663
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	238,769	6,702	245,471	12,238	7,425	19,663
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	25,244	708	25,952	33,075	20,066	53,141
Hemlock	19,177	538	19,715	4,070	2,469	6,539
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	448	272	720
Red Cedar	12,569	353	12,922	5,205	3,158	8,363
Spruce	2,456	69	2,525	94,133	57,109	151,242
White Pine	1,851	52	1,903	7,665	4,650	12,315
Ponderosa Pine	509	14	523	5,117	3,104	8,221
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	1,982	1,203	3,185
Tamarack or Larch	-	-	-	1,767	1,072	2,839
All other softwoods ...	56	2	58	1,732	1,051	2,783
Total, softwoods ...	61,862	1,736	63,598	155,194	94,154	249,348
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	24	15	39
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	24	15	39
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	61,862	1,736	63,598	155,218	94,169	249,387
<u>SOLD AND UNSOLD</u>	300,631	8,438	309,069	167,456	101,594	269,050

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of April, 1959 and

Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	April		March	
	1958	1959	1958	1959
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	18,866	26,224	18,283	26,372
Coastwise and Interior	4,133	4,884	4,134	6,950
Total	22,999	31,108	22,417	33,322
For shipments by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	5,611	7,235	5,983	6,807
Eastern Provinces	11,425	16,147	11,378	14,650
United States of America	42,743	54,775	34,739	51,741
Total	59,779	78,157	52,100	73,198
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	-	500	-	335
U.S. Atlantic Ports	58,432	123,658	49,534	148,054
Eastern Markets	262	4,678	2,400	6,487
Exports Markets	108,340	141,635	125,862	147,671
Total	167,034	270,471	177,796	302,547
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	249,812	379,736	252,313	409,067
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS.	7,901	9,481	7,396	10,176

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

April, 1959

	April		March	
	1958	1959	1958	1959
Coast No.	89	80	82	78
Interior No.	189	195	272	272
Total, British Columbia ... No.	278	275	354	350

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

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