# DOMANION BUREAU OF STATISTICS <br> OTIAWA - CANADA 

## PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS

IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled $388,400 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1955 as compared with $227,981 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1954, an increase of 70.4 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 10.9 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 59.9 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of $30.4 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 40.1 p.c. showed an increase of 214.0 p.c. Shipments in January, 1955 totalled $355,798 \mathrm{M}$ ft., as compared with $191,059 \mathrm{Mft}$. the previous year, an increase of 86.2 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 74.7 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 128.7 p.c. Total shipments for January decreased by 2.4 p.c. from the December figure of $364,689 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. Stocks on hand at the end of January, 1955 amounted to $512,652 \mathrm{Mft}$., as compared with $539,130 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. at the end of January the previous year and $458,460 \mathrm{Mft}$. at the end of December of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling $294,641 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$., while Interior mills showed $218,011 \mathrm{Mft}$.

## 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, 1953 and 1954 and January 1954 and 1955. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 278,448 M ft . in December, 1953 to $227,981 \mathrm{Mft}$. in January, 1954 but increased from 350,225 Mft. in December, 1954 to $388,400 \mathrm{M}$ ft. in January, 1955. Shipments totalled 364,689 Mft . in December 1954 and $355,798 \mathrm{Mft}$. in January, 1955 as compared with 243,823 Mft . in December, 1953 and 191,059 M ft. in January of 1954. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from $501,617 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in December, 1953 to $539,130 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January 1954 and increased from $458,460 \mathrm{Mft}$. in December, 1954 to $512,652 \mathrm{Mft}$. 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 231,810 M ft . in January, 1955 as compared with $154,553 \mathrm{M}$ ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 737 M ft . in January as compared with $1,300 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for $59.9 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in January, 1955 as compared with 78.5 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during December, 1954 and 1953 respectively, were 69.2 and 78.6 p.c.

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## 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 $236,784 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January of 1955 and $224,801 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in December, 1954 as compared with $139,010 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1954 and $192,964 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 119,014 M ft . and $52,049 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1955 and 1954 and $139,888 \mathrm{Mft}$. and $50,859 \mathrm{M}$ ft. in December, 1954 and 1953. Of all shipments actually reported for January, $30.8 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. went to points in Canada, $37.6 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. to points in United States, $21.3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. to the United Kingdom and 10.3 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for $42.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. of the total, while $37.0 \mathrm{p.c}$. went by rail, and $20.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. 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, 1954 and January, 1955 amounted to $293,617 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. and $294,641 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. as compared with $295,347 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. and $319,986 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in December, 1953 and January, 1954. Interior mills stocks increased from $206,270 \mathrm{Mft}$. in December, 1953 to $219,144 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1954 and increased from $164,843 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in December, 1954 to $218,011 \mathrm{Mft}$. in January, 1955. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 27.8 p.c. of the total in January, 1955 as compared with 27.3 p.c. in January, 1954 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 86,3 and 88.6.

## Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of December, 1953 and 1954 and January, 1954 and 1955 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, 1955 amounted to $396,276 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. as compared with $344,908 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1954 . Orders on hand at the end of December, 1954 and 1953 amounted to $393,622 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. and $325,508 \mathrm{M}$ ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to $4,403 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1955 and $3,524 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in January, 1954 as compared with $8,236 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ft}$. in December, 1954 and 3,101 M ft. in December, 1953.

## 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 78.6 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1952 compared with 86.9 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for December, 1953 and 1954 were 86.7 and 76.3 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.

Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber and Ties of British Columbia Sawmills, January, 1955.

|  | January |  | December |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1954 | 1955 | 1953 | 1954 |
|  | M ft. | M ft. | M ft . | M ft. |
| PRODUCTION |  |  |  |  |
| Douglas Fir | 105,959 | 165,845 | 146,215 | 172,812 |
| Hemlock ... | 57,654 | 75,945 | 62,460 | 70,436 |
| Balsam Fir .......... | 521 | 1,367 | 479 | 2,119 |
| Red Cedar | 26,498 | 45,373 | 31,127 | 40,916 |
| Spruce | 29,358 | 79,473 | 26,489 | 46,492 |
| White Pine............ | 2,780 | 5,521 | 4,096 | 4,619 |
| Ponderosa Pine ...... | 924 | 2,603 | 1,575 | 2,944 |
| Lodgepole Pine ....... | 1,558 | 3,734 | 1,318 | 2,726 |
| All other softwoods .. | 2,601 | 8,110 | 4,478 | 6,865 |
| Total Softwoods. | 227,853 | 387,971 | 278,237 | 349,929 |
| Red Alder | 43 | 169 | 106 | 135 |
| Maple. | 58 | 105 | 73 | 81 |
| Birch .................. | 12 | 70 | 16 | 39 |
| Cottonwood ............ | 15 | 85 | 16 | 41 |
| All other hardwoods.. | - | - | - | - |
| Total hardwoods | 128 | 429 | 211 | 296 |
| Total Production | 227,981 | 388,400 | 278,448 | 350,225* |
| SHIPMENTS |  |  |  |  |
| To: Points in Canada. | 52,671 | 97,099 | 63,969 | 74,982 |
| Points in U.S.A. .. | 68,067 | 118,285 | 78,706 | 112,186 |
| United Kingdom . | 31,812 | 67,118 | 52,111 | 56,111 |
| Other countries | 15,929 | 32,502 | 24,330 | 26,511 |
| Shipments reported.. Estimated shipments | 168,479 | 315,004 | 219,116 | 269,790 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| of non-reporting mills | 22,580 | 40,794 | 24,707 | 94,899 |
| Total Shipments ....... | 191,059 | 355,798 | 243,823 | 364,689 |
|  | January |  | December |  |
|  | 1954 | 1955 | 1953 | 1954 |
| STOCKS ON HAND | Mft . | M ft. | M ft. | Mft . |
| Douglas Fir........... | 233,306 | 187,682 | 229,573 | 179,493 |
| Hemlock | 100,134 | 103,894 | 87,355 | 102,307 |
| Balsam Fir | 2,001 | 1,188 | 1,518 | 417 |
| Red Cedar | 45,863 | 63,825 | 45,526 | 53,833 |
| Spruce ................. | 115,794 | 108,921 | 95,031 | 83,110 |
| White Pine | 13,473 | 14,228 | 14,306 | 11,115 |
| Ponderosa Pine ...... | 10,848 | 18,529 | 10,864 | 15,648 |
| Lodgepole Pine ....... | 4,852 | 5,123 | 4,185 | 4,866 |
| All other softwoods.. | 12,625 | 9,227 | 13,056 | 7,281 |
| Total softwoods. | 538,896 | 512,617 | 501,414 | 458,070 |
| Red Alder | 77 | 7 | 70 | 7 |
| Maple .................. | 67 | - | 61 | 1 |
| Birch .................. | 46 | 23 | 37 | 25 |
| Cottonwood | 40 | - | 35 | 352 |
| All other hardwoods. | 4 | 5 | - | 5 |
| Total hardwoods | 234 | 35 | 203 | 390 |
| Total Stocks .... | 539,130 | 512,652 | 501,617 | 458,460 |

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, January, 1955.

| Species | COAST MILLS |  |  | INTERIOR MILLS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Reported | Estimated | Total | Reported | Estimated | Total |
| LUMBER | 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 .......... | 105,741 | 5,381 | 111,122 | 28,466 | 24,611 | 53,077 |
| Hemlock | 69,937 | 1,432 | 71,369 | 2,847 | 1,583 | 4,430 |
| Balsam Fir | 100 | . 66 | 166 | 417 | 783 | 1,200 |
| Red Cedar | 41,630 | 1,009 | 42,639 | 1,560 | 1,174 | 2,734 |
| Spruce | 2,322 | 354 | 2,676 | 41,729 | 35,056 | 76,785 |
| White Pine | 2,358 | 5 | 2,363 | 902 | 2,224 | 3,126 |
| Ponderosa Pine ...... | - | 40 | 40 | 1,007 | 1,535 | 2,542 |
| Lodgepole Pine ...... | - | - | - | 1,465 | 2,162 | 3,627 |
| All other softwoods | 1,031 | 10 | 1,041 | 2,801 | 4,196 | 6,997 |
| Total, softwoods | 223,119 | 8,297 | 231,416 | 81,194 | 73,324 | 154,518 |
| Red Alder | 67 | 102 | 169 | - | - | - |
| Maple ................. | 44 | 61 | 105 | - | - | - |
| Birch .................. | 33 | 21 | 54 | - | 16 | 16 |
| Cottonwood ........... | - | 66 | 66 | - | 19 | 19 |
| All other hardwoods. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods. | 144 | 250 | 394 | - | 35 | 35 |
| Total, softwoods. and hardwoods | 223,263 | 8,547 | 231,810 | 81,194 | 73,359 | 154,553 |
| TIES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Douglas Fir ......... | 558 | 42 | 600 | 512 | 534 | 1,046 |
| Hemlock ............. | 127 | 10 | 137 | - | 9 | 9 |
| Balsam Fir .......... | - | - | - | - | , | 1 |
| Red Cedar ............ | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Spruce ............... | - | - | - | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| White Pine ........... | - | - | - | 31 | 1 | 32 |
| Ponderosa Pine ...... | - | - | - | 2 | 19 | 21 |
| Lodgepole Pine ...... | - | - | - | 45 | 62 | 107 |
| All other softwoods . | - | - | - | - | 72 | 72 |
| Total, softwoods | 685 | 52 | 737 | 593 | 707 | 1,300 |
| Red Alder ............. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Maple ................ | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Birch ................ | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cottonwood ........... | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| All other hardwoods. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods | 685 | 52 | 737 | 593 | 707 | 1,300 |
| LUMBER AND TIES | 223,948 | 8,599 | 232,547 | 81,787 | 74,066 | 155,853 |

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, January, 1955.

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { By Truck } \\ & \text { (Local Sales) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { By } \\ \text { Rail } \end{gathered}$ | Water ${ }^{-}$ borne | Total <br> Shipments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| COAST MILLS M $\mathrm{ft.b.m}$. | M ft.b.m. | M ft.b.m. | M ft.b.m. |
| TO: Points in Canada: |  |  |  |
| British Columbia ............. 37,613 | 1,434 | 1,839 | 40,886 |
| Yukon and Northwest Territories | - | - | - |
| Alberta | 1,891 | xxxxxx | 1,891 |
| Saskatchewan | 601 | xxxxxx | 601 |
| Manitoba | 717 | xxxxxx | 717 |
| Ontario | 5,793 | - | 5,793 |
| Quebec | 2,200 | - | 2,200 |
| New Brunswick | 49 | 12 | 61 |
| Nova Scotia | 98 | - | 98 |
| Prince Edward Island | 94 | = | 94 |
| Newfoundland ................................... | 29 | - | 29 |
| Total for Canada .......... 37,613 | 12,906 | 1,851 | 52,370 |
| Points in U.S.A.: |  |  |  |
| Pacific Ports .. | 796 | 1,417 | 2,213 |
| Atlantic Ports | 993 | 31,494 | 32,487 |
| Other points, by rail | 45,749 | $\underline{x x x x x x}$ | 45,749 |
| Total for U.S.A. ... | 47,538 | 32,911 | 80,449 |
| United Kingdom ................................. $x$ | 50 | 66,078 | 66,128 |
| Other countries................................. $\mathrm{x}^{\text {x }}$ | - | 32,502 | 32,502 |
| Destination or carrier not specified .............................................. |  |  |  |
| Total shipments reported 37,613 | 60,494 | 133,342 | 231,449 |
| Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills |  |  | 5,335 |
| Total shipments, reported and estimated INTERIOR MILLS |  |  | 236,784 |
| TO: Points in Canada: |  |  |  |
| Yukon and Northwest Territories ........ | - | - | ,714 |
| Alberta .......................... 564 | 2,337 | mxxxxx | 2,901 |
| Saskatchewan | 2,346 | xxxxyx | 2,346 |
| Manitoba | 4,796 | xxxxxx | 4,796 |
| Ontario | 4,144 | - | 4,144 |
| Quebec | 828 | - | 828 |
| New Brunswick | - | - | - |
| Nova Scotia | - | - | - |
| Prince Edward Island | - | - | - |
| Newfoundland | - | - | - |
| Total for Canada ............. 26,875 | 17,854 | - | 44,729 |
| Points in U.S.A: |  |  |  |
| Pacific Ports | 818 | - | 818 |
| Atlantic Ports | 4,319 | - | 4,319 |
| Other points, by rail .......................... | 32,699 | xxxxxx | 32,699 |
| Total for U.S.A. ............................ | 37,836 |  | 37,836 |
| United Kingdom | 478 | 512 | 990 |
| Other countries ................................ | - | - | - |
| Destination or carrier not specified |  |  |  |
| Total shipments reported ...... 26,875 | 56,168 | 512 | 83,555 |
| Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills Total shipments, reported and estimated |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 35,459 \\ 119,014 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills
January 31, 1955.

| Species | COAST MILLS |  |  | INTERIOR MILLS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Reported | Estimated | Total | Reported | Estimated | Total |
| M ft.b.mSOLD (but not shipped) |  | M ft.b.m. | M ft.b.m. | M ft.b.m. | Mft.b.m. | M ft.b.m. |
| Douglas Fir ....... | 93,469 | 3,589 | 97,058 | 6,886 | 6,282 | 13,168 |
| Hemlock .......... | 69,972 | 2,687 | 72,659 | 96 | 88 | 184 |
| Balsam Fir | 98 | 3 | 101 | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| Red Cedar.......... | 34,873 | 1,339 | 36,212 | 68 | 62 | 130 |
| Spruce .............. | 1,880 | 72 | 1,952 | 5,443 | 4,965 | 10,408 |
| White Pine ......... | 3,955 | 152 | 4,107 | 1,757 | 1,603 | 3,360 |
| Ponderosa Pine ... |  | - |  | 622 | 567 | 1,189 |
| Lodgepole Pine .... | - | - | - | 100 | 91 | 191 |
| All other softwoods | 493 | 19 | 512 | 607 | 554 | 1,161 |
| Total, softwoods | 204,740 | 7,861 | 212,601 | 15,586 | 14,218 | 29,804 |
| Red Alder | - | - - | - | - | - - | - |
| Maple. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Birch ................ | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cottonwood ......... | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| All other hardwoods | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods | $204,740$ | 7,861 | 212,601 | 15,586 | 14,218 | 29,804 |
| UNSOLD |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Douglas Fir ....... | 31,346 | 1,204 | 32,550 | 23,484 | 21,422 | 44,906 |
| Hemlock | 20,950 | 806 | 21,756 | 4,861 | 4,434 | 9,295 |
| Balsam Fir ........ | 844 | 33 | 877 | 103 | 94 | 197 |
| Red Cedar .......... | 22,581 | 862 | 23,443 | 2,113 | 1,927 | 4,040 |
| Spruce | 1,233 | 48 | 1,281 | 49,827 | 45,453 | 95,280 |
| White Pine ......... | 1,943 | 76 | 2,019 | 2,480 | 2,262 | 4,742 |
| Ponderosa Pine... |  | - |  | 9,068 | 8,272 | 17,340 |
| Lodgepole Pine.... | - | - | - | 2,579 | 2,353 | 4,932 |
| All other softwoods | 98 | 4 | 102 | 3,897 | 3,555 | 7,452 |
| Total, softwoods | 78,995 | 3,033 | 82,028 | 98,412 | 89,772 | 188,184 |
| Red Alder ........... | 6 | 1 | 7 | - | - | - |
| Maple .. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Birch | - | - | - | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| Cottonwood | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| All other hardwoods | 5 | - | 5 | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods | 11 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods | 79,006 | 3, 034 | 82,040 | 98,424 | 89,783 | 188,207 |
| SOLD AND UNSOLD | 283,746 | 10,895 | 294,641 | 114,010 | 104,001 | 218,011 |

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of January, 1955 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

|  | January |  | December |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1954 | 1955 | 1953 | 1954 |
| ORDERS ON HAND | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | Mft . |
| For shipment to points in British Columbia |  |  |  |  |
| Local .............................. | 11,691 | 14,626 | 12,387 | 12,807 |
| Coastwise and Interior | 3,014 | 2,591 | 2,688 | 2,358 |
| Total | 14,705 | 17,217 | 15,075 | 15,165 |

For shipment by rail to:

| Prairie Provinces | 8,778 | 5,442 | 5,798 | 4,675 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Eastern Provinces | 20,497 | 13,096 | 14,104 | 9,912 |
| United States of America | 36,681 | 58,561 | 31,382 | 55,805 |
| Total | 65,956 | 77,099 | 51,284 | 70,392 |


| California ...................... | 370 | 310 | 100 | 316 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| U.S. Atlantic Ports | 57,265 | 22,872 | 53,742 | 29,416 |
| Eastern Markets | 5,697 | 1,988 | 1,460 | - |
| Exports Markets | 200,915 | 276,790 | 203,847 | 278,333 |
| Total | 264,247 | 301,960 | 259,149 | 308,065 |
| TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND | 344,908 | 396,276 | 325,508 | 393,622 |
| LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS | 3,524 | 4,403 | 3,101 | 8,236 |

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting
January, 1955.

|  | January |  | December |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1954 | 1955 | 1953 | 1954 |
| Coast ............................... | 80 | 101 | 93 | 107 |
| Interior ......................No. | 146 | 258 | 142 | 236 |
| Total British Columbia No. | 226 | 359 | 235 | 343 |

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



[^0]:    Prepared in the Forestry Section, Industry and Merchandising Division. 6504-509
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