

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
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CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTSPRELIMINARY SUMMARY STATISTICS - 1951

Production of chemicals and allied products in Canada soared about 17 per cent in value in 1951 to a record total of \$759 millions, according to preliminary figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This total was double the corresponding figure for 1946 and about five times the pre-war high of \$159 millions in 1939. Higher prices for chemicals and chemical products, of course, accounted for a substantial share of the gains in output values in recent years, but in terms of physical volume it appears that the gain in 1951 compared with 1950 was about 6 per cent and with 1939 about 140 per cent.

Tremendous expansion is presently underway or projected for the near future in the chemical and allied industries. The Bureau's forecast of expenditures on capital equipment in Canada in 1952 indicates that \$100 millions will be spent for new buildings and equipment for these industries. However, the total proposed new investment is much greater than this amount, probably nearly twice as much, as more than a year will be required to complete most of the major projects.

All but one of the industries in the chemicals and allied group showed substantial gains in output value in 1951 compared with the previous year. The percentage increases were as follows:- coal tar distillation, 13.6; heavy chemicals, 38.8; compressed gases, 15.7; fertilizers, 9.0; medicinals and pharmaceuticals, 13.3; paints and varnishes, 10.4; soaps and cleaning preparations, 8.0; toilet preparations, 1.6; inks, 0.7; vegetable oils, 21.7; adhesives, 14.9; primary plastics, 27.5; miscellaneous chemical products, 23.3. Output from the polishes and dressings industry was slightly less than in 1950.

In the entire group there were 1,036 plants in 1951 with approximately 44,000 employees and an aggregate pay roll of \$126 millions. The 518 works in Ontario accounted for 58 per cent of the production and 51 per cent of the employees, and the 333 establishments in Quebec accounted for 30 per cent of the total output and 38 per cent of the workers. British Columbia with 79 plants accounted for less than 8 per cent of the total Canadian production.

Exports of chemicals and allied products again showed a substantial increase, the value in 1951 amounting to \$131 millions compared with \$100 millions in 1950 and with \$71 millions in 1949. Gains were quite general throughout the list of items except for nitrogen fertilizers for which there was a decline of about 9 per cent. However, fertilizers at \$35.7 millions accounted for 27 per cent of the total export shipments. Sodium compounds totalled \$9.7 millions; polystyrene, \$6.8 millions; synthetic resins, \$3.5 millions; acids, \$5.8 millions; medicinals including penicillin and streptomycin, \$5.5 millions; and calcium compounds, \$2.7 millions. Exports to the United States amounted to \$67 millions or nearly 52 per cent of the total shipped to all foreign countries.

Imports rose about 28 per cent to \$191.8 millions with substantial gains again in all of the principal classes. Drugs and pharmaceuticals increased 20 per cent to \$22 millions; pigments and paints jumped 14 per cent to \$21 millions; dyeing and tanning materials 7 per cent to \$14 millions; inorganic chemicals 16 per cent to \$27 millions and miscellaneous chemicals 28 per cent to \$78 millions. About 86 per cent of the imports in 1951 came from the United States, and 8.4 per cent from the United Kingdom; Germany, Switzerland and France were the other principal suppliers.

Table 1 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS, BY INDUSTRIES,
1950 and 1951

Industry	Number of plants	Average number of em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of materials at works	Gross sell- ing value of products at works
<u>1950</u>						
Coal tar distillation	11	457	1,274	633	6,057	10,033
Heavy chemicals	28	6,020	18,039	8,639	30,328	87,494
Compressed gases	50	1,240	3,240	493	1,874	12,737
Fertilizers	36	3,253	9,423	1,996	33,350	68,997
Medicinals and pharmaceuticals.	210	7,524	16,638	653	24,621	76,373
Paints and varnishes	109	5,929	14,569	682	49,870	92,999
Soaps and washing compounds ...	142	3,735	10,340	1,093	34,750	66,048
Toilet preparations	98	1,862	3,424	90	7,679	20,951
Inks	30	796	2,230	80	4,570	10,218
Vegetable oils	15	792	2,155	524	40,213	47,026
Adhesives	28	669	1,723	365	5,086	9,679
Polishes and dressings	54	782	1,715	76	6,325	13,377
Plastics (primary only)	14	1,392	3,965	603	14,000	30,728
Miscellaneous (*)	208	7,024	18,060	6,070	48,981	100,209
TOTAL	1,033	41,475	106,794	21,998	307,706	646,871
<u>1951</u>						
Coal tar distillation	11	493	1,441	684	6,588	11,402
Heavy chemicals	28	7,592	25,483	11,212	38,815	121,465
Compressed gases	49	1,210	3,510	552	2,365	14,740
Fertilizers	37	3,102	9,971	1,462	35,826	75,235
Medicinals and pharmaceuticals.	209	7,502	18,639	698	26,979	86,551
Paints and varnishes	112	6,113	16,147	712	55,038	102,704
Soaps and washing compounds ...	136	3,917	11,658	1,002	41,398	71,309
Toilet preparations	99	1,467	3,544	92	7,811	21,287
Inks	32	808	2,394	83	5,107	10,292
Vegetable oils	13	743	2,289	615	48,007	57,218
Adhesives	29	711	1,960	367	6,077	11,118
Polishes and dressings	53	807	1,856	76	6,400	13,323
Plastics (primary only)	17	1,651	5,396	707	20,684	39,171
Miscellaneous (*)	211	7,723	22,199	6,424	58,740	123,535
TOTAL	1,036	43,839	126,487	24,687	359,835	759,350

(*) Includes explosives, hardwood distillation, insecticides, matches, dry colours, etc.

Table 2 - PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS, BY PROVINCES,
1950 and 1951

Province	Number of plants	Average number of employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of materials at works	Gross selling value of products at works
				(000's of dollars)		
<u>1950</u>						
Newfoundland	6	75	151	14	558	988
Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia	17	344	785	144	4,217	6,036
New Brunswick	7	136	346	57	3,238	4,293
Quebec	336	15,159	38,229	5,249	86,464	187,266
Ontario	515	21,755	56,721	15,182	180,932	375,896
Manitoba	44	761	1,567	133	6,872	12,070
Saskatchewan	11	233	579	36	1,300	1,984
Alberta	21	575	1,613	840	2,322	8,331
British Columbia	76	2,437	6,802	343	21,802	49,607
CANADA	1,033	41,475	106,794	21,998	307,706	646,871
<u>1951</u>						
Newfoundland	6	74	160	13	660	1,095
Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia	17	333	830	159	4,459	7,139
New Brunswick	7	132	330	55	2,783	3,693
Quebec	333	16,787	46,440	6,411	99,894	225,046
Ontario	518	22,543	67,016	16,797	215,213	439,267
Manitoba	43	766	1,685	142	7,351	12,734
Saskatchewan	9	166	501	28	741	1,448
Alberta	24	573	1,807	719	2,730	10,758
British Columbia	79	2,465	7,718	363	26,004	58,170
CANADA	1,036	43,839	126,487	24,687	359,835	759,350

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