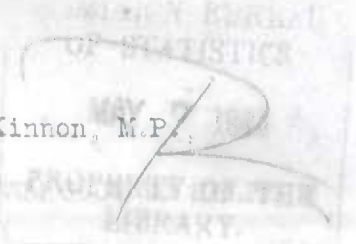


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Dominion Statistician - - - - - S. A. Cudmore, M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C.
Acting Chief, Agricultural Branch - - - - - Ian McArthur, M.Sc.

FOOD CONSUMPTION IN CANADA

Ottawa, May 5, 1945.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today a report summarizing the estimates of average supplies of food moving into civilian consumption in Canada in pounds per head per annum for the five pre-war years, 1935-39, and by years from 1942 to 1944. More complete information on food consumption in Canada, together with that of the United States and the United Kingdom will be found in the Second Report "Food Consumption Levels in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom", Agricultural Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

SUMMARY

Estimates of food supplies moving into civilian consumption in Canada in 1944 do not show any material changes from 1943 except in the case of fruits and vegetables where better than average crops together with greater imports resulted in the substantial improvement in per capita supplies. The 1944 levels of consumption are, for most items, appreciably higher than before the war although there was some decline in the rationed commodities, particularly sugar and, to a lesser extent, butter. These figures indicate, therefore, that despite the substantial contribution that Canada has been making to the food supplies of Britain and other United Nations, agricultural production in Canada has been sufficient to meet these demands and at the same time provide additional supplies for our own civilian population.

Consumption of dairy production, other than butter, has increased continuously throughout the war period and supplies of fluid milk were, in 1944, 120 per cent of the average of 1935-39. Cheese consumption, although still relatively small in Canada, shows an increase of 18 per cent over pre-war. The average for all dairy products converted to a milk solid basis was 120 per cent of the pre-war level.

Meat consumption in 1944 was slightly lower than in the preceding year but 126 per cent of the pre-war average. The reduction from 1943 occurred almost entirely in beef which dropped from 69.3 pounds per capita to 61.7 pounds. Slight increases are recorded for other categories of meat excepting the canned product which dropped from 2.3 pounds to 2.1 pounds per capita. The consumption of all meats on a carcass basis totalled 149.1 pounds in 1944 as compared with 155.5 pounds in 1943 and the pre-war average of 118.4 pounds.

Some reduction in supplies of both fresh and canned fish in 1944 resulted in a reduction in the total supplies of poultry and fish available to consumers from 31.4 pounds in 1943 to 29.0 pounds in 1944. The comparable figure for 1935-39 was 26.0 pounds. Consumption of eggs has increased steadily throughout the war period and in 1944 averaged 36.4 pounds or 24.3 dozens per person as compared with 35.3 pounds in 1943 and 30.7 pounds before the war.

Although lard, shortening and other oils and fats were in reduced supply in 1944, final figures on butter consumption indicate an increase of 2 pounds per capita in this commodity with the result that the 1944 estimate of the fat content of total oils and fats was 41.0 pounds as compared with 43.3 pounds in 1943 and 41.4 pounds in the pre-war period. Supplies of refined sugar entering civilian consumption in all forms were somewhat higher in 1944 than in 1943 and, when included with the sugar content of maple and other syrups, honey and molasses, resulted in a total consumption of sugars of 95.6 pounds for 1944 compared with 87.6 pounds in the previous year and 104.0 pounds in 1935-39.

Better than average crops of increased acreage of fresh fruits and vegetables resulted in sharp increases over the preceding year and over the pre-war figures. Total consumption in pounds of tomatoes and citrus fruits amounted to 109.3 in 1944 as compared with 58.8 before the war. Similarly the supplies of other fruits increased from 80.2 pounds before the war to 90.8 pounds for 1944. Similar increases are recorded for all classes of vegetables. The estimates of flour consumption indicate a decline from 1943 to 1944 although in making these estimates it has not been possible to adjust for changes in stocks of flour in the hands of wholesalers or retailers. Supplies of both tea and coffee improved in 1944 as compared with the previous year. Coffee supplies were substantially higher than before the war although those of tea are still 17 per cent below the pre-war average.

SUPPLIES OF FOOD MOVING INTO CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION IN CANADA,* PER CAPITA, PER ANNUM
1942 - 1944, WITH FIVE-YEAR AVERAGES, 1935-39

Item	Quantity				1944 Compared with Pre-War %
	Average 1935-39 lb.	1942 lb.	1943 lb.	1944 lb.	
<u>DAIRY PRODUCTS (Excluding Butter) -</u>					
Fluid whole milk	347.3	367.5	390.5	417.7	120
Fluid cream, n.e.s. 1/	12.8	13.6	15.0	15.4	120
Cheese, cheddar style	3.4	3.3	3.9	4.0	118
Cheese, other	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	100
Cottage cheese	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	400
Evaporated whole milk	6.1	11.2	11.5	9.2	151
Condensed whole milk	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	150
Malted milk	0.1	0.07	0.03	0.06	60
Dried whole milk	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.4	400
Dried skim milk	1.8	2.3	2.1	2.6	144
Condensed skim milk	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3 2/	75
Skim and buttermilk	35.0	35.0	35.0	27.4	78
Whole milk in ice cream 3/	13.0	21.4	24.2	24.5	188
Total Dairy Products, Excluding Butter (Milk Solids)	58.5	63.5	67.6	70.2	120
<u>MEATS -</u>					
Beef, with bone	54.7	60.1	69.3	61.7	113
Veal	10.5	10.8	10.2	11.0	105
Mutton and lamb	5.6	5.0	4.6	4.8	86
Pork (excluding lard)	39.9	53.3	61.0	61.4	154
Offal	5.8	6.4	7.3	7.4	128
Canned meat	1.4	2.3	2.3	2.1	111
Total Meats (Carcass Weight)	118.4	138.7	155.5	149.1	126
<u>POULTRY, GAME AND FISH -</u>					
Chickens	15.6	19.3	20.5	23.7	152
Other poultry	2.8	5.2	3.5	3.9	139
Game and rabbits 4/	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	100
<u>Fish, fresh, frozen and cured -</u>					
Shell fish	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	75
Other fish	8.8	4.5	8.7	7.1	81
Canned fish	2.7	4.4	5.2	2.4	89
Total Poultry, Game and Fish (Edible Portion)	26.0	26.9	31.4	29.0	112
<u>EGGS -</u>					
Fresh	30.3	31.2	35.2	36.2	119
Dried	0.1	0.2	0.02	0.04	40
Total Eggs (Fresh Equivalent)	30.7	32.1	35.3	36.4	119
<u>OILS AND FATS -</u>					
Butter	31.0	33.1	27.7	29.7	96
Lard	3.9	9.6	10.4	7.5	192
Shortening	10.6	8.8	8.4	8.3	78
Other oils and fats	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.1	61
Total Oils and Fats (Fat Content)	41.4	47.3	43.3	41.0	99

* All commodities on a retail weight basis except fresh meats which are carcass weights.

Item	Quantity				1944 Compared with Pre-War %
	Average 1935-39 lb.	1942 lb.	1943 lb.	1944 lb.	
<u>SUGARS AND SYRUPS -</u>					
Refined sugar 5/	94.7	80.3	76.6	82.2	87
Maple sugar	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.7	94
Corn and other syrups	2.2	1.7	1.4	3.2	145
Molasses	3.7	3.9	3.9	7.0	189
Honey	2.4	2.1	3.4	2.9	121
Glucose	3.6	6/	0.3	5.6	156
Total Sugars and Syrups (Sugar Content)	104.0	87.4	87.6	95.6	92
<u>POTATOES -</u>					
White potatoes	196.5	203.7	205.6	214.1	109
Sweet potatoes	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	100
Total Potatoes	197.1	204.4	206.2	214.7	109
<u>PULSES AND NUTS -</u>					
Dry beans	3.7	7.8	4.6	4.4	119
Dry peas	5.7	4.1	5.3	5.0	88
Soybeans	7/	0.1	0.2	0.3	-
Peanuts	2.2	1.0	1.3	2.8	127
Tree nuts	1.1	0.6	0.1	0.3	27
Total Pulses and Nuts	12.7	13.6	11.5	12.8	101
<u>TOMATOES AND CITRUS -</u>					
Fresh tomatoes	15.4	18.1	17.8	22.8	148
Canned tomatoes and products	10.0	16.9	8.9	19.0	190
Fresh citrus	25.4	33.3	42.6	47.4	187
Canned citrus5	1.4	.1	3.4	680
Total Tomatoes and Citrus (as Fresh) ..	58.8	82.9	75.7	109.3	186
<u>OTHER FRUIT -</u>					
Fresh fruit	40.5	37.3	36.0	51.9	128
Canned fruit	6.3	7.8	2.5	4.2	67
Frozen fruit	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	150
Dried fruit	8.3	6.2	6.2	8.6	104
Total Other Fruit (Fresh Equivalent) ..	80.2	70.0	63.6	90.8	113
<u>LEAFY, GREEN AND YELLOW VEGETABLES -</u>					
Fresh:					
Cabbage and greens	16.2	24.0	15.9	19.0	117
Carrots	15.4	22.2	12.6	12.7	82
Legumes	6.2	5.6	4.4	3.4	55
Canned (net contents)	6.4	10.1	7.4	11.9	186
Total Leafy, Green and Yellow Vegetables	44.2	61.9	40.3	47.0	106

Item	Quantity				1944 Compared with Pre-War %
	Average 1935-39 lb.	1942 lb.	1943 lb.	1944 lb.	
<u>OTHER VEGETABLES -</u>					
Fresh	29.8	36.3	22.6	50.4	169
Canned (net contents)	4.4	5.0	3.3	5.4	123
Total Other Vegetables	34.2	41.3	25.9	55.8	163
<u>GRAIN PRODUCTS -</u>					
Pot and pearl barley	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	133
Corn meal and flour	1.4	0.4	0.7	1.3	93
Edible starch	2.2	1.8	2.0	1.6	73
Buckwheat flour	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	50
Oatmeal and rolled oats	7.3	6.3	7.5	6.9	95
Rice (milled)	4.3	2.8	5.3	2.8	65
Wheat cereals (including other)	7.4	5.9	8.2	8.1	109
Flour (including rye flour)	184.8	177.6	200.3	177.3	96
Tapioca, sago and arrowroot	0.3	0.1	7/	7/	-
Total Grain Products	208.2	195.4	224.5	198.5	95
<u>BEVERAGES -</u>					
Tea	3.5	2.7	2.0	2.9	83
Coffee (green beans)	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.9	132
Cocoa (green beans)	3.7	3.9	3.0	3.1	84
Total Beverages	10.9	10.5	9.0	10.9	100

1/ Includes 25 per cent butterfat in pre-war years, and 18 per cent in war years.

2/ Includes evaporated skim milk.

3/ Includes whole-milk equivalent of cream in ice cream.

4/ Estimate by Department of Mines and Resources.

5/ Includes sugar used in manufactured products reported elsewhere in table, but excludes sugar used for industrial non-food purposes.

6/ Not available.

7/ Less than .05 pounds.

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