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## VENDING MACHINE OPERATORS

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## VENDING MĀCHINE OPERATORS

This is the wighti. Mn a serfes of annuat reports ©a ootrators of automatic merchandise vending machines. The first such survey was published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1959 (for the year 1958).

## Definition

The distinctive characteristic of automatic vending is the completion of a sales transaction by the insertion of coins or bills into the machine.

The survey of vending machine operators is designed to measure only one segment of automatic vending in Canada-sales through vending machines owned or operated by vending machine operators.

For the purpose of this survey, a vending machine operator is defined as:
"an individual of firm who owns (or rents). locates. services and repairs (on own account or on a contract basis) automatic merchandise vending machines with the right vested in the individual or firm to withdraw the cash from these machines. A number of the vending machines must be located on premises other than those of the "operator" except in the case of incorporated subsidiary firms whose function is to operate the machines on the premises of the parent company."
The following types of vending machine operatous are excluded from this survey:
(a) Firms which operate vending machines solely on premises wheretheir main business activU3 takes place. for example, firms engaged in operating restaurants or canteens in a number of different locations in which they have installed merchandise vending machines. Another example is a lessee of a garage or filling station who has installed a vending machine on the premises for the benefit of his customers and/or employees.
(b) Unincorporated divisions of companies which have been established primarily for the purpose of operating concessions, including vending machines, solely on the premises of the parent company. However, if these unincorporated divisions have installed merchandise vending machines in other locations as well, the firms come within the definition given above.
(c) Bottlers who operate vending machines for only short periods of time during the year,especially when difficulty is encountered in selling or renting the machines in their possession. Because of the difficulty of collecting sales data from such firms and because the operating of vending machines is in reality a negative function, these bottlers and
plants are excluded from the survey. Some bottlers. however, are retained in the survey when the information obtained indicates that the operation of venders is on a continuous basis. In order to insure that the coverage of vending machine operators remains at a high level, all soft drink bottlers in Canada are surveyed periodically and are requested to submit information on their vending machine operations. The last time a complete coverage of bottlers took place prior to 1965 , was for the 1958 vending machine survey. The results of the 1965 survey indicated that a relatively large number of bottlers were now engaged in vending on a continuous basis. As shown below. the addition of these bottlers in the survey had a significant effect on the year's results.
(d) Firms engaged in vending only non-food (except tobacco) items, i.e., pencils, ice, combs, etc. Firms which sell food and/or tobacco as well as non-food items are included, even in those cases where the sales of non-food items represent a larger proportion of the total business.

Commencing with the 1964 Vending Machine Operators report, the practice of stratifying operators into full-time and part-time categories was eliminated. With the development of the vending machine industry in Canada has come a greater diversification into fields of activity closely allied with automatic merchandise vending. such as vending machine manufacture and canteen and restaurant operations. As a result, the stratification of operators into full and part-time categories can no longer be considered significant.

## Summary of Results

Sales through automatic merchandise vending machines operated by vending machine operators increased to a record $\$ 89,815,415$ in 1965 , a gain of 14.3 per cent over the previous year. The number of firms engaged in vending operations rose to 764 . an increase of 113 over 1964. These vending machine firms operated over 85,000 vending machines in various locations, an increase of approximately 9,700 machines over the previous year.

Part of the increase in the number of firms, machines and sales is attributable to the inclusion of a large number of bottlers in the survey for the first time. The survey of bottlers revealed that 74 additional soft drink bottlers were engaged in vending operations on a continuous basis. These firms operated 4.270 vending machines, nearly half of the increase in the number of machines between 1964 and 1965. Sales through these machines totalled approximately $\$ 2,500,000$.

Vending Machine Operators 1958 to 1965 - Historical Statistics

|  | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of firms | 432 | 479 | 521 | 579 | 600 | 673 | 651 | 764 |
| Number of machines | 34,464 | 40,237 | 47,770 | 65, 028 | 73,397 | 78,477 | 75,392 | 85,091 |
| Siles.......................... \$'000 | 26,331.4 | 33,741.9 | 38,710.8 | 44,959.7 | 57, 799.2 | 67, 580. 0 | 78,561.8 | 89,815.4 |

 machines by regions,

Percentage Change in sales by Vending Machince Operators, by Product und by Region, 1964 and 1965

| Products | Change 1965/64 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Conada | Atlantic Provinces | Quebec | Ontario | Prairie Provinces | British Columbia ${ }^{1}$ |
| Tobacco products | + 8.7 | $+18.1$ | + 5.5 | + 2.5 | + 20.3 | + 15.7 |
| Frozen refreshments | + 27.1 | 2 | + 25.4 | + 18.8 | 2 | + 74.9 |
| Milk and milk products | + 17.4 | + 39.0 | + 11.0 | + 16.3 | + 64.0 | $+\quad 23.3$ |
| Cold drinks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vended in bottles, cans or cartons | + 83.9 | + 87.2 | + 18.7 | + 183.1 | + 104.7 | + 71.7 |
| Vended in disposable cups ..................... | $+\quad 24.8$ | + 113.2 | + 38.5 | + 11.7 | + 11.3 | + 32.0 |
| Hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cup-vended soup) | + 11.8 | - 1.6 | - 5.3 | + 20.9 | - 1.2 | +10.2 |
| Bulk (unwrapped) confectionery .................. | - 23.6 | - 16.4 | - 51.9 | + 8.7 | + 0.7 | + 27.1 |
| Packaged confectionery | + 6.2 | - 22.5 | + 14.1 | + 3.0 | + 18.2 | + 7.5 |
| Pastries ........... | + 35.5 | - 9.2 | + 42.1 | + 31.4 | + 9.6 | - 39.6 |
| Sandwiches (hot and cold) | +35.1 | + 10.3 | + 29.3 | + 35.7 | + 113.8 | + 415.1 |
| Canned hot foods and canned soup | + 14.4 | - 19.1 | + 4.3 | + 15.5 | + 45.5 | - 22.2 |
| Other hot foods | +19.2 | 2 | - | , |  | - |
| Other cold foods | +100.6 | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Other non food items | +38.9 | - | + 74.3 | +50.6 | 2 | 2 |
| Totals, all products | + 14.3 | + 24.8 | + 8.9 | + 15.4 | + 20.0 | + 16.9 |
| Share of the market-1965 | 100.0 | 5.3 | 31.6 | 42.5 | 10.6 | 10.0 |
| 1964 | 100.0 | 4.8 | 33.2 | 42.1 | 10.1 | 9. ${ }^{\text {\% }}$ |

${ }^{1}$ Includes Yukon and Northwest Territories.
${ }^{2}$ Figures withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

All provinces registered substantial increases in vending machine sales; the largest increases occurred in the Atlantic Provinces with 24.8 per cent, followed by the Prairie Provinces ( 20.0 per cent) and British Columbia ( 16.9 per cent).

All regions of Canada increased their share of the vending machine market with the exception of Quebec, whose share of the market dropped from 33.2 per cent in 1964 to 31.6 per cent in 1965 . On the other hand, Ontario's share of the market has continued to increase-from 41.7 per cent in 1963 to 42.1 per cent in 1964 and 42.5 per cent in 1965 .

In the 1964 Vending Machine Operators report, it was noted that although commodities sold through vending machines continue to be restricted to three main commodity lines-tobacco products, hot drinks and cold drinks-there appeared to be a slight trend towards a broader commodity base in the vending industry. This trend has continued into 1965 with the sale of the three main commodities noted above accounting for 82.6 per cent, slightly lower than the 83.0 per cent recorded in 1964 and the 84.7 per cent in 1963.

Industrial plants continued to be the favourite location for vending machine installations, account-
ing for nearly one quarter of all machines on location ( 20,046 vending machines). The second heaviest concentration of vending machines was in hotels, motels, restaurants, taverns and mess halls with approximately one fifth of the vending machines in operation ( 16,564 vending machines). Close behind were gasoline service stations with 15,377 vending machines on location.

The number of Canadian-made machines in use in 1965 increased to 34.6 per cent of the total as compared to 30.7 per cent in 1964. United Statesmanufactured machines accounted for the remainder except for a fractional percentage (0.1) of "other" origin.

Because of the difficulty in obtaining adequate data on employment from firms engaged solely in the operation of vending machines, it has been decided to eliminate the table on employment and salaries, As mentioned on page 1 , there is an increased tendency for firms in the vending industry to engase in business activities closely allied to vending, in most instances, such diversified companies are unable to separate employment and salaries by business activity.

TABLE 1. Sales by Vending Machine Operators, by Product and by Region. 1964 and 1965

| Products | Canada |  | Atlantic Provinces |  | Quebec |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | 1965 |
|  | dollars |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tobacco products. | 43, 884, 342 | 47,685, 010 | 2,533,315 | 2.992,824 | 15, 170,531 | 15,998,559 |
| Frozen refreshments | 190.548 | 242,278 | 1 | 1 | 63,266 | 79,341 |
| Milk and milk products ...................... | 2, 209, 893 | 2.594.466 | 32. 180 | 44,733 | 390,465 | 433,605 |
| Cold drinks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vended in bottles, cans or cartons | 2,571.141 | 4,728,097 | 347, 196 | 650,035 | 1,174,674 | 1,394,857 |
| Vended in disposable cups ............. | 6,565.415 | 8.196.638 | 215.440 | 459,319 | 2,183,800 | 3, 025, 496 |
| Hot drinks (coffee, tea hot chocolate and cup-vended soup) $\qquad$ | 12,121.452 | 13,550,644 | 186.522 | 183.601 | 3. 193.630 | 3,025,595 |
| Bulk (unwrapped) confectionery .......... | 1.643,653 | 1,255, 490 | 186. 789 | 156.130 | 787. 058 | 378,690 |
| Packaged confectionery .................... | 3.295, 256 | 3,499, 169 | 195.607 | 151,692 | 817.780 | 932,932 |
| Pastries. | 2.218.402 | 3,005,542 | 52.466 | 47.614 | 1,196,258 | 1,699,651 |
| Sandwiches (hot and cold) ................. | 2.792.731 | 3,772.308 | 23.488 | 25.898 | 872, 225 | 1,127,676 |
| Canned hot foods and canned soup .... | 882.597 | 1.009, 512 | 14,689 | 11,881 | 209, 150 | 218,110 |
| Other hot foods... | 96.858 | 115,436 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Other cold foods... | 59.215 | 118, 802 | - | - | 1 | ' |
| Other non-food ltems | 30,257 | 42,023 | - | - | 6,074 | 10,589 |
| romals, all monlucts | 78,561,760 | 89, 815,415 | 3,795, 055 | 4,736,979 | 26,118,990 | 28,440,791 |
|  | Ontario |  | Prairie Provinces |  | British Columbia ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
|  | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | . 1965 | 1964 | 1965 |
|  | dollars |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tobacco products. | 14,033,844 | 14,387, 163 | 5,477.513 | 6,591,498 | 6,669, 139 | 7.714,966 |
| Frozen refreshments | 95.190 | 113,046 | 1 | 1 | 15.280 | 26,731 |
| Milk and milk products | 1.692,996 | 1.968, 246 | 77, 812 | 127,604 | 16,440 | 20,278 |
| Cold drinks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vended in bottles, cans or cartons | 723. 504 | 2, 048, 343 | 229. 128 | ${ }^{4} 468,974$ | 96.639 | 165.888 |
| Vended in disposable cups ............. | 3,335, 146 | 3.725, 007 | 532.105 | 592.309 | 298.924 | 394.507 |
| Hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cup-vended soup) $\qquad$ | 7.569,023 | 9.151,870 | 898.427 | 887.895 | 273.850 | 301,683 |
| Bulk (unwrapped) confectionery .......... | 459.815 | 499,597 | 173,452 | 174,648 | 36,539 | 46.425 |
| Packaged confectionery .................... | 1.704,756 | 1.755, 136 | 362,804 | 428,993 | 214,309 | 230,416 |
| Pastries ......................................... | 912,735 | 1, 199, 343 | 49.894 | 54,675 | 7,049 | 4. 259 |
| Sandwiches (hot and cold) ................ | 1,864,048 | 2,528,651 | 26,466 | 56,584 | 6. 504 | 33,499 |
| Canned hot foods and canned soup .... | 572,044 | 660, 806 | 75.720 | 110. 157 | 10,994 | 8,558 |
| Other hot foods................................. | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| Other cold foods ................................ | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other non-food items ......................... | 17,651 | 26. 576 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Totals, all products................... | 33, 068.792 | 38.177.271 | 7.921.617 | 9,509,379 | 7,657,306 | 8,950,995 |

[^0]TABLE 2. Percentage Distribution of Sales by Vending Machine Operators, by Product and by Region, 1964 and 1965

| Products | Canada |  | Atlantic Provinces |  | Quebec |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | 1965 |
| Tobacco products | 55.9 | 53.1 | 66.8 | 63.2 | 58.1 | 56.3 |
| Frozen refreshments | 0.2 | 0.3 | 1 | 1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Milk and milk products | 2.8 | 2.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Cold drinks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vended in bottles, cans or cartons | 3.3 | 5.3 | 9.1 | 13.7 | 4.5 | 4.9 |
| Vended in disposable cups............. | 8.4 | 9.1 | 5.7 | 9.7 | 8.4 | 10. 6 |
| Hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cup-vended soup) $\qquad$ | 15.4 | 15.1 | 4.9 | 3.9 | 12.2 | 10.6 |
| Bulk (unwrapped) confectionery | 2.1 | 1. 4 | 4.9 | 3.3 | 3. 0 | 1.3 |
| Packaged confectionery | 4.2 | 3.9 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.3 |
| Pastries | 2.8 | 3.4 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 4.6 | 6.0 |
| Sandwiches (hot and cold) | 3.6 | 4.2 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 3.3 | 4.0 |
| Canned hot foods and canned soup | 1.1 | 1. 1 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Other hot foods | 0.1 | 0. 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Other cold foods | 0.1 | 0.1 | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other non-food items | 2 | 3 | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Totals, all products | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100. 0 |
|  | Ontario |  | Prairie Provinces |  | British Columbia ${ }^{3}$ |  |
|  | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | 1965 | 1964 | 1965 |
| Tobacco products | 42.4 | 37.7 | 69.1 | 69.3 | 87.1 | 86.2 |
| Frozen refreshments | 0.3 | 0.3 | 1 | 1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Milk and milk products | 5.1 | 5.1 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Cold drinks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vended in bottles, cans or cartons | 2.2 | 5.4 | 2.9 | 4.9 | 1.3 | 1.9 |
| Vended in disposable cups............. | 10.1 | 9.8 | 6.7 | 6.2 | 3.9 | 4.4 |
| Hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cup-vended soup) $\qquad$ | 22.9 | 24.0 | 11.3 | 9.3 | 3.6 | 3.4 |
| Bulk (unwrapped) confectionery ......... | 1.4 | 1. 3 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Packaged confectionery .................... | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 2.8 | 2.6 |
| Pastries | 2.8 | 3.1 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.1 | * |
| Sandwiches (hot and cold) ................. | 5.6 | 6. 6 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0. 1 | 0.4 |
| Canned hot foods and canned soup ... | 1.7 | 1. 7 | 1. 0 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Other hot foods ..................................... | 1 | 0.2 | - | 2 | 1 | - |
| Other cold foods.. | 1 | 0.1 | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Other non-food items | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Totals, all products ................. . | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

[^1]TABI.E 3. Number of Vending Machines by Type and Location as of December 31, 1965

|  | Type of location |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130 of maxitio | All locations | Industrial plants | Business offices | Amusement and recreational centres, i, e. theatres. bowling, etc. | Hotels, motels. restaurants. taverns, mess halis | Gasoline service stations | instituthons, i.e. hospitals, universities, schools, etc. | All other locations |
|  |  |  |  |  | mber |  |  |  |
| Cigarette and cigar machines | 17.103 | 2,629 | 631 | 1,303 | 9,198 | 2,035 | 508 | 799 |
| Frozen refreshment machines (ice cream, etc.) | 226 | 145 | 2 | 16 | 21 | 2.035 | 35 | 6 |
| Bottled or canned drink machines $\qquad$ | 7,497 | 2,515 | 946 | 543 | 646 | 953 | 723 | 1,171 |
| Cartoned milk or juice machines $\qquad$ | 1,229 | 668 | 118 | 56 | 30 | 50 | 262 | 45 |
| Cup-vending machines: <br> Milk | 317 | 227 | 8 | 49 | 2 | - | 23 | 8 |
| Other cold drinks: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Post-mix | 3.413 2,044 | 2,034 859 | 317 | 403 | 109 45 | 88 | 318 | 144 |
| $\underset{\text { Pre-mix }}{\text { Hot drinks }}$................. |  |  | 155 | 269 | 45 | 52 | 312 | 352 |
| Hot drinks .................. | 6,040 | 3. 563 | 905 | 334 | 98 | 359 | 449 | 332 |
| Combination hot and cold Confectionery machines: | 97 | 58 | 8 | , | 3 | 9 | 8 | , |
| Confectionery machines: Bulk (unwrapped) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Packaged confectionery | 34,217 5,820 | 2. 2487 | 282 | 1,162 | 4,884 |  | 414 | 13. 567 |
| Pastries ........................ | 2,635 | 1.809 | 152 | 46 | 2 | 6 | 569 | 51 |
| Canned food machines-Hot Fresh food machines: | 1,003 | 809 | 51 | 21 | 4 | 1 | 84 | 33 |
| Heated ....................... | 107 | 72 | 12 | 2 | 2 | - | 13 | 6 |
| Refrigerated ............... | 1.120 | 872 | 104 | 23 | 8 | 2 | 54 | 57 |
| No temperature control |  | 36 | $\overline{55}$ | $-$ | - | - | $\stackrel{2}{2}$ | 1 |
| Other machines ............... | 1,951 | 517 | 55 | 29 | 856 | 43 | 32 | 419 |
| Totals, all machines | 84.858 | 20.046 | 4. 309 | 6. 891 | 16,564 | 15.377 | 4.065 | 17.606 |

1AB1E 4. Percentage Distributon of Vendist lachates by Type and Location. as of December 31, 1965

| Type of machine | Type of location |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | All locations | Industrial plants | Business offices | Amusement and recreational centres, i.e. theatres, bowling, etc. | Hotels, motels, restaurants, taverns, mess halls | Gasoline service stations | Institutions, i.e. hospitals, universities, schools, etc. | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { other } \\ \text { locations } \end{gathered}$ |
| Cigatette and cigar machines | 20.2 | 13.1 | 14.6 | 18.9 | 55.6 | 13.2 | 12.5 | 4.6 |
| Frozen reffeshment machines (ice cream, etc.) | 0.3 | 0.7 | , | 0.2 | 0.1 | , | 0.9 | 1 |
| Bottied of canned drink machines.. | 8.8 | 12.5 | 22.0 | 7.9 | 3.9 | 6.2 | 17.8 | 6.7 |
| Cartoned milk or juice machines | 1.5 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 6.4 | 0.3 |
| Cup-vending machines: <br> Milk <br> Other cold drinks: | 0.4 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1 | - | 0.6 |  |
| Post-mix .................. | 4.0 | 10.2 | 7.4 | 5.9 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 7.8 | 0.8 |
| Pre-mix .................... | 2.4 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 7.7 | 2.0 |
| Hot drinks ................ | 7.1 | 17.8 | 21.0 | 4.9 | 0.6 | 2.3 | 11.0 | 1.9 |
| Combination hot and cold Confectionery machines: | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 |  |  | 0.1 | 0.2 | 1 |
| Bulk (unwrapped)...... | 40.3 | 4.9 | 13.1 | 38. 2 | 29.3 | 73.6 | 6.4 | 77.3 |
| Packaged confectionery | 6.9 | 11.2 | 6. 5 | 16.9 | 4.1 | 3.0 | 10.2 | 3.2 |
| Pastries ........................ | 3.1 | 9.0 | 3.5 | 0.7 |  |  | 14.0 | 0. 3 |
| Canned food machines - Hot Fresh food machines: | 1.2 | 4.0 | 1.2 | 0.3 | ${ }^{1}$ | 1 | 2.1 | 0.2 |
| Heated ....................... | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.3 |  | 1 | - | 0.3 | 1 |
| Refrigerated ................. | 1.3 | 4.4 | 2.4 | 0.3 | 1 |  | 1.3 | 0.3 |
| No temperature control |  | 0. 2 | - | - | 7 | 0.3 |  |  |
| Other machines ............... | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 5.2 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 2.4 |
| Totals, all machines | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

[^2]


[^0]:    Figures withheld in order to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
    " Includes Yukon and Northwest Territories.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Figures withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations
    ${ }^{2}$ Less than 0.05 per cent.
    ${ }^{3}$ Includes Yukon and Northwest Territories.

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ Less than 0.05 per cent.

