

The coasting trade of Canada is regulated by the Act, Chap. 83, Revised Statutes of Canada, which provides that no goods or passengers can be carried by water from one port in Canada to another except in British ships. This provision, however, may be declared by the Governor General in Council not to be applicable to the vessels of any country that allows British vessels to participate in its coasting trade on the same footing as its own national vessels. By different Orders in Council the ships of the following countries have been admitted to the coasting trade of Canada, viz., Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway, Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Belgium and the Argentine Republic.

The coasting trade of Canada is not included in any of the foregoing tables, but is given in the following one, since 1876, before which no returns were kept:—

TONNAGE OF VESSELS, BRITISH AND FOREIGN, EMPLOYED IN THE COASTING TRADE, WHICH ARRIVED AT AND DEPARTED FROM CANADIAN PORTS, 1876-97.

YEAR	TONNAGE.							Canada.
	Ontario.	Quebec.	Nova Scotia.	New Brunswick.	British Columbia.	Prince Edward Island.	Manitoba.	
1876..	3,360,588	3,574,485	1,256,926	1,097,431	128,007	883,502	.....	10,300,939
1877..	3,491,763	2,274,150	1,148,010	959,704	165,371	929,864	.....	8,968,862
1878..	5,205,538	2,708,029	1,067,224	1,007,663	196,789	862,418	.....	11,047,661
1879..	6,158,529	3,273,679	975,214	875,970	223,707	559,984	.....	12,066,683
1880..	7,774,922	3,362,782	1,195,397	846,248	244,922	628,742	.....	14,053,013
1881..	7,995,898	3,348,494	1,497,552	859,716	463,474	951,632	.....	15,116,766
1882..	7,864,085	3,081,303	1,522,072	815,907	605,428	902,269	.....	14,791,064
1883..	7,823,501	3,229,295	2,084,251	878,691	661,347	1,006,481	.....	15,683,566
1884..	7,157,144	3,792,466	2,161,783	679,495	768,118	910,175	4,326	15,473,707
1885..	6,460,929	3,841,634	2,512,572	898,658	1,051,606	1,157,573	21,448	15,944,422
1886..	6,581,088	4,309,031	2,819,165	895,661	865,240	891,633	6,456	16,368,274
1887..	6,670,488	4,140,620	3,150,560	917,641	1,476,133	1,151,023	7,252	17,513,677
1888..	6,484,394	5,318,397	3,456,488	967,629	1,434,266	1,120,815	7,290	18,739,279
1889..	6,913,546	4,552,643	3,930,119	1,040,339	2,196,906	1,194,020	7,004	19,834,577
1890..	7,679,890	5,473,427	4,432,561	1,148,910	2,808,648	1,243,993	9,686	22,797,115
1891..	9,679,403	5,393,868	4,402,816	1,220,335	3,141,140	1,139,178	8,792	24,986,130
1892..	9,701,471	4,833,025	4,755,154	1,139,956	3,399,280	1,271,638	9,406	25,109,929
1893..	9,832,803	4,433,307	4,368,366	1,090,055	3,630,883	1,198,539	5,170	24,579,123
1894..	11,299,718	5,681,964	4,403,014	1,118,767	2,931,298	1,120,383	5,804	26,560,968
1895..	10,799,497	4,874,502	4,789,410	1,259,613	2,625,655	1,118,491	6,296	25,473,434
1896..	11,687,217	4,890,000	5,230,242	1,508,278	2,835,677	1,310,339	..	27,431,753
1897..	10,995,311	5,354,449	4,855,610	1,301,667	3,551,340	1,209,602	.....	27,267,979

The following table shows the tonnage and the nationalities of steamers and of sailing vessels engaged in the coasting trade of Canada, by provinces, during the years 1896 and 1897:—