

tend to distort the picture in the case of numerous minerals. Furthermore, the primary purpose is to show the changes and trends which have resulted under the circumstances arising since 1929. Therefore that year is used as a base for the indexes of volume.

Values upon which percentages in this table are based are the annual values of mineral production expressed in Canadian currency as published.

Indexes of volume for individual items are calculated directly from quantities reported as produced in each year. Indexes for groups and grand totals are calculated by applying the percentage change in value due to variation in quantity in each year as compared with the previous year to the cumulative percentage the said previous year represented of the base year.

The part of the table showing the percentage which the value of each mineral bears to the total production in each year, indicates the rise in the relative importance of the metals and the decline in fuels and especially in clay products and other structural materials. The rise in metals has been relatively greatest in gold, nickel, copper, and the platinum metals, although gold did not form so large a proportion of the total in 1937 as in 1933. The production of coal was a lower percentage of the total in 1937 than in any other year, but the percentage of structural materials rose slightly in 1937 from the low point of 1936.

The volume of mineral production reached its lowest point of the depression in 1932, as this year marked the low point for the principal groups. For structural materials, however, the low point came in 1933. The volume of nickel production declined more than that of any other important metal in the depression, but the price remained comparatively stable. Clay products declined to a lower point than any other important mineral and the volume of all structural materials was still relatively low in 1937.

3.—Percentages of the Total Value of Mineral Production, and Indexes of Volume, by Groups and Principal Minerals, 1929-37.

Mineral.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Percentages of Total Value.									
METALLICS.									
Cobalt.....	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Copper.....	14.0	13.6	10.6	8.0	9.8	9.6	10.3	10.9	15.1
Gold.....	12.8	15.5	24.4	37.4	35.0	36.9	37.0	36.3	31.3
Lead.....	5.3	4.7	3.2	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.4	4.1	4.6
Nickel.....	8.7	8.7	6.7	3.8	9.1	11.6	11.3	12.1	13.0
Platinum metals.....	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.7	2.2	1.7	2.2	2.2
Silver.....	3.9	3.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.8	3.4	2.3	2.3
Zinc.....	3.4	3.4	2.7	2.2	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.1	4.0
TOTALS, METALLICS¹.....	49.6	51.0	52.0	58.6	66.4	69.7	71.0	71.7	73.1
FUELS.									
Coal.....	20.3	18.9	18.1	19.4	16.3	15.1	13.4	12.7	10.7
Natural gas.....	3.2	3.7	4.0	4.7	3.9	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.5
Petroleum.....	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.2
TOTALS, FUELS¹.....	24.7	24.4	23.9	25.7	21.6	19.5	17.5	16.6	14.4
NON-METALLICS.									
Asbestos.....	4.2	3.0	2.1	1.6	2.4	1.8	2.3	2.8	3.2
Gypsum.....	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Salt.....	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4
Sulphur.....	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
TOTALS, NON-METALLICS¹.....	6.8	5.4	4.8	4.0	4.5	3.8	4.0	4.6	4.9

¹ Totals include minor items not specified.