

Operators Licences.—The operator of a motor-vehicle must be over a specified age (usually 16 years) and must carry a licence, obtainable only after prescribed qualification tests and renewable annually. Special licences are required for chauffeurs.

Motor-Vehicle Regulations.—In general, all motor-vehicles and trailers must be registered annually, with the payment of specified fees, and must carry two registration plates, one on the front and one on the back of the vehicle (one only, for the back, in the case of trailers). A change of ownership of the vehicle must be recorded with the registration authority. However, exception from registration is granted for a specified period (usually at least 90 days) in any year to visiting private vehicles registered in another province or a State that grants reciprocal treatment. Further regulations require a safe standard of efficiency in the mechanism of the vehicle and of its brakes, and provide that equipment include non-glare headlights and a proper rear light, with a satisfactory locking device, a muffler, a windshield wiper, and a rear-vision mirror.

Traffic Regulations.—In all the provinces, vehicles keep to the right-hand side of the road. Everywhere motorists are required to observe traffic signs, lights, etc., placed at strategic points on highways and roads. While permissible speeds vary in different provinces, slower speeds are always required in cities, towns, and villages, in passing schools and public playgrounds, at road intersections, railway crossings, or at other places or times where the view of the highway for a safe distance ahead is in any way obscured. Motor-vehicles must not pass a street car that has stopped to take on or discharge passengers except where safety zones are provided. Accidents resulting in personal injury or property damage must be reported to a provincial or municipal police officer and any driver involved must not leave the scene of accident until he has rendered all possible aid.

Penalties.—These ascend in scale from small fines for minor infractions of any of the regulations to a suspension of the operator's driving permit, impounding of the car or imprisonment for serious infractions, recklessness, driving without an operators licence, and especially for attempting, while intoxicated, to operate a motor-vehicle.

There is such a wide variation in the different provinces regarding the basis of licences and fees, the regulation of public commercial vehicles, details of traffic rules, speed, and the use of motor vehicles, that it is impossible even to outline them satisfactorily in the space available here. The most important features are summarized in the annual bulletin referred to in the headnote to this Section, p. 568. The authorities responsible for the administration of motor-vehicles and the legislation governing vehicles and traffic are given below for each province.

Prince Edward Island.—*Administration.*—The Provincial Secretary, Charlottetown. *Legislation.*—The Highway Traffic Act (c. 2, 1936) and amendments.

Nova Scotia.—*Administration.*—Motor Vehicle Branch, Department of Highways and Public Works, Halifax. *Legislation.*—The Motor Vehicle Act (c. 6, 1932) and amendments and the Motor Carrier Act (c. 78, R.S.N.S. 1923) as amended by c. 29, 1937.

New Brunswick.—*Administration.*—Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Public Works, Fredericton. *Legislation.*—The Motor Vehicle Act (c. 20, 1934).

Quebec.—*Administration.*—Motor Vehicle Bureau, Provincial Revenue Offices, Treasury Department, Quebec. *Legislation.*—The Motor Vehicle Act (c. 35, R.S.Q. 1925) and amendments.