

7.—Provincial Revenues from the Taxation of the Distribution and Operation of Motor-Vehicles, 1938 and 1939

NOTE.—Provincial Governments report for their respective fiscal years ended on the dates indicated in Table 1.

Year and Province	Passenger Cars	Trucks	Motor-cycles	Dealer Licences	Operators and Chauffeurs	Mileage Tax on Motor-Buses and Trucks	Gasoline Tax	Total, Including Miscellaneous Revenue
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1938								
P.E. Island.....	99,015	48,193	117	665	4,410	450	285,163	440,403
Nova Scotia.....	731,944	487,127	1,527	7,720	117,001	5,744	2,424,355	3,873,535
New Brunswick...	545,959	421,100	1,126	22,072	105,546	8,634	1,807,493	2,962,953
Quebec.....	3,439,206	1,973,679	12,001	33,603	1,243,615	106,893	7,637,151	14,886,691
Ontario.....	3,790,332	2,405,903	4,790	23,411	952,304	407,369	18,503,789	26,694,330
Manitoba.....	684,164	230,461	2,883	11,082	118,745	58,537	2,529,088	3,688,218
Saskatchewan.....	1,022,250	211,959	¹	17,933	78,877	146,200	1,822,689	3,518,079
Alberta.....	1,280,709	438,083	3,076	24,076	153,231	315,649	2,953,128	5,217,876
British Columbia..	1,829,911	637,477	10,044	15,628	228,180	116,881	3,284,490	6,189,490
Yukon.....	1,565	1,455	48	²	²	²	²	3,470
Totals, 1938.....	13,425,055	6,855,437	35,612³	156,190	3,001,909	1,166,407	41,247,346	67,475,045
1939								
P.E. Island.....	99,664	51,567	102	630	4,587	395	316,087	475,324
Nova Scotia.....	744,514	514,646	¹	8,100	121,320	16,795	2,608,189	4,110,429
New Brunswick...	552,832	437,546	¹	5,430	107,759	10,470	1,893,169	3,068,434
Quebec.....	3,656,356	2,019,342	12,956	31,723	710,435	75,551	9,969,226	16,932,153
Ontario.....	4,221,274	2,674,138	¹	23,782	1,003,430	428,004	25,105,359	34,127,465
Manitoba.....	722,256	184,087	2,710	10,793	133,831	210,830	2,750,638	4,074,080
Saskatchewan.....	1,008,632	376,391	3,024	19,064	91,927	305,429	2,760,196	4,697,849
Alberta.....	1,381,021	491,794	2,854	25,303	159,319	398,898	3,096,644	5,667,647
British Columbia..	2,016,768	701,557	11,038	16,419	314,072	123,608	3,454,852	6,708,439
Yukon.....	1,490	1,420	48	²	²	²	²	3,740
Totals, 1939.....	14,404,807	7,452,488	32,732³	141,244	2,646,680	1,569,980	51,954,360	79,915,560

¹ Not separately recorded.

² Tax not applicable.

³ Incomplete, see footnote 1.

Section 4.—Road Traffic

Up to the present the motor-vehicle has affected passenger traffic more than freight traffic of the steam and electric railways. This diversion of passenger traffic has been effected largely by the private automobile, although the motor-bus is rapidly becoming more important and now operates between all large centres. The motor-truck also carries a considerable amount of freight, although no statistics showing the tonnage handled are as yet available. The difficulties of collecting statistics from the very large number of unorganized operators concerned are obvious.

Widely differing opinions are held regarding the extent to which the motor-vehicle has cut into railway traffic.* A definite conclusion cannot be reached until reliable statistics regarding motor-vehicle traffic are available. While undoubtedly the passenger motor-vehicle now carries a certain amount of passenger traffic that would otherwise be carried by steam or electric railways, the error should be avoided

* Counsel for the railways before the Transport Committee of the Senate of Canada in 1938 presented arguments showing a serious loss of revenue by the railways from motor-vehicle competition. On the other hand, in *Automobile Facts and Figures, 1936*, published by the Automobile Manufacturers' Association, estimates of railway and motor traffic are given which, in the field of freight movement, rather minimize the seriousness of the motor-truck competition, if conditions of motor traffic in Canada may be assumed to be similar to those of the United States.