

The table of road mileages below includes all roads under provincial jurisdiction and local roads in the Maritime Provinces and Ontario and estimates of local roads in the four western provinces. There are great stretches of country in the northern portions of Quebec, Ontario, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia with very few people and very few roads, but the southern portions are well supplied. The Trans-Canada Highway provides a strategic link between Eastern and Western Canada that permits motorists to traverse the Dominion without entering United States territory.

Statistics of urban streets have been collected since 1935 from cities and principal towns; the small municipalities omitted would increase the totals very little. For 1944 the total number of miles of street reported was 14,686, composed of: 3,236 miles of bituminous pavements; 1,015 miles of portland cement concrete; 1,897 miles of bituminous surfaces; 3,348 miles of gravel and crushed stone; and 392 miles of other surfaces; making a total of 9,888 miles of surfaced streets and 4,798 miles of earth roads. These figures for urban streets or roads are not included in the table of highway mileage.

1.—Classification of Highways, by Provinces, 1944

NOTE.—The date for which the mileage was reported is indicated for each province. The figures for Canada are the sums of the mileages so reported. Urban streets are not included in the figures. Dashes indicate that no mileages were reported under the corresponding stub items.

Classification	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total
	Mar. 31, 1945	Nov. 30, 1944	Oct. 31, 1944	Mar. 31, 1945	Mar. 31, 1945	Apr. 30, 1945	Apr. 30, 1945	Mar. 31, 1945	Mar. 31, 1944	
	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles
SURFACED ROADS										
Portland cement concrete..	4	7		328	2,107	31			41	2,518
Bituminous pavement.....	205	58		2,867	2,129	6		72	120	5,457
Bituminous surface.....		872	977	1,193	3,171	536	139	561	1,418	8,867
Gravel—crushed stone.....	242	5,826	7,620	18,298	49,361	8,376	6,912	6,020	7,908	110,563
Other surfaces.....									42	42
TOTALS, SURFACED ROAD...	451	6,763	8,597	22,686	56,768	8,949	7,051	6,653	9,529	127,447
NON-SURFACED ROADS										
Improved earth.....	2,352	3,276	2,700	538	3,223	8,180	145,147	14,707	9,842	189,965
Other earth roads.....	903	5,054	1,015	18,728	13,012	74,236 ¹	60,636	59,734	2,575 ²	235,893
TOTALS, NON-SURFACED ROADS.....	3,255	8,330	3,715	19,266	16,235	82,416	205,783	74,441	12,417	425,858
Grand Totals.....	3,706	15,093	12,312	41,952	73,003	91,365	212,834	81,094	21,946	553,305

¹ Includes road allowances.

² Cleared only.

The Alaska Highway.—The Alaska Highway, a 1,600-mile roadway, 24 to 36 feet wide, extends from Fort St. John, B.C.,* through Whitehorse, to Fairbanks, Alaska. It was virgin territory, and a pioneer air route, in the spring of 1942; on Nov. 20, 1942, it was officially opened for wheeled traffic. About 10,000 United States engineer troops and 4,000 civilians, of whom half were Canadians, hewed their way through the bush, bridged the rivers, overcame mountain grades and sur-

* Dawson Creek, about 30 miles to the southwest, is the railhead from which supplies are trucked in to Fort St. John. The existing road between Dawson Creek and Fort St. John has been improved and to all intents and purposes forms part of the main highway.