

As copper occurs in association with precious metals and with other base metals which are normally in heavy demand, it is likely that copper production will continue at a fairly uniform rate.

Subsection 2.—Gold

Canada has been a gold-producing country for over 75 years. During the latter half of the nineteenth century production was chiefly from placer operations in British Columbia and Yukon, while during the present century there has been a rapid growth of production from lode mining both of auriferous quartz and of gold in association with other metals. Gold production in Canada attained its earlier maximum at 1,350,057 fine oz., in 1900, when the Yukon production reached its highest point. The quantities and values of gold produced in Canada are given by provinces for 1936 and subsequent years in Tables 10 and 11.

Gold is produced in Nova Scotia, at points across the Canadian Shield from Quebec to the Northwest Territories, and in the Cordilleran Region of British Columbia and Yukon. Except for comparatively small amounts obtained from alluvial workings in Yukon, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the production is derived from lode mining either of auriferous quartz or of other metallic ores such as copper, nickel and zinc that carry varying amounts of gold. The principal producing districts are: western Quebec; the adjacent districts of Porcupine and Kirkland Lake in Ontario, with other smaller camps scattered across northern Ontario to the western boundary; the Rice Lake and Gods Lake areas in eastern Manitoba and the Flin Flon district on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan boundary; the Bridge River district and the Zeballos camp in British Columbia. Developments in the Yellowknife district in the Northwest Territories have resulted in several producing mines. At the present time the leading gold producer in Canada is the Hollinger mine in the Porcupine camp, the second is the Lake Shore mine in the Kirkland Lake camp, both in northern Ontario, and the third is Noranda, a copper-gold mine in western Quebec. In 1946, about 82.6 p.c. of the total production came from auriferous quartz mines; about 15.2 p.c. from mines in which gold was associated with ores of copper, nickel, zinc, etc.; and about 2.2 p.c. from alluvial operations. The auriferous quartz mining industry suffered severely from the shortage of labour and of essential supplies in the later war years; the number of producing mines decreased from 232 in 1939 to 88 in 1946 and their employees dropped from 29,001 to 17,889 during the same period.

10.—Quantities of Gold Produced, by Provinces, 1936-46

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1862-1910, inclusive, will be found at pp. 268-269 of the 1916-17 Year Book; for the years 1911-28 at p. 336 of the 1939 edition; and for 1929-35 at p. 332 of the 1946 edition.

Year	Nova Scotia	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Total
	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine	oz. fine
1936..	11,960	666,905	2,378,503	139,273	48,981	109	451,938	50,359 ¹	3,748,028 ¹
1937..	19,918	711,480	2,587,095	157,949	65,886	46	505,857	47,982	4,096,213
1938..	26,560	881,263	2,896,477	185,706	50,021	305	605,617	79,168 ¹	4,725,117 ¹
1939..	29,943	953,377	3,086,076	180,875	77,120	359	626,970	139,659 ¹	5,094,379 ¹
1940..	22,219	1,019,175	3,261,688	152,295	102,925	215	617,011	135,617 ¹	5,311,145 ¹
1941..	19,170	1,089,339	3,194,308	150,553	138,015	215	608,203	145,376 ¹	5,345,179 ¹
1942..	12,989	1,092,388	2,763,819	136,226	178,871	34	474,339	182,640 ¹	4,841,306 ¹
1943..	4,129	922,533	2,117,215	91,775	174,090	21	241,346	100,192 ¹	3,651,301 ¹
1944..	5,840	746,784	1,731,836	74,168	122,782	51	196,857	44,593 ¹	2,922,911 ¹
1945..	3,291	661,608	1,625,368	70,655	108,568	7	186,854	40,376 ¹	2,696,727 ¹
1946 ² ..	4,579	586,231	1,835,867	78,732	112,000	105	123,348	66,761 ¹	2,807,643 ¹

¹ Includes production of the Northwest Territories amounting to 1 oz. fine in 1936; 6,800 oz. fine in 1938; 51,914 oz. fine in 1939; 55,159 oz. fine in 1940; 77,354 oz. fine in 1941; 99,394 oz. fine in 1942; 59,032 oz. fine in 1943; 20,775 oz. fine in 1944; 8,655 oz. fine in 1945; and 19,738 oz. fine in 1946.

² Subject to revision.