

Except for the 1920-30 period the value of Canada's mineral production practically doubled each decade since the turn of the century. From \$64,000,000 in 1900 it rose to \$107,000,000 in 1910 and \$228,000,000 in 1920. In 1930 it was \$280,000,000, rising to \$530,000,000 in 1940, \$1,045,000,000 in 1950 and \$1,488,382,091 in 1954. Similarly, the revised index of physical volume of output from Canadian mines (see p. 526) advanced from 37·6 (average 1935-39=100) in 1920 to 63·9 in 1930 and 125·7 in 1940. In the next decade however the volume gain was not quite so rapid, the index standing at 145·4 in 1950 and 209·7 in 1954.

1.—Value of Mineral Production 1886-1954

Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita
	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$
1886.....	10,221,255	2.23	1933.....	221,495,253	20.83	1944.....	485,819,114	40.67
1890.....	16,763,353	3.51	1934.....	278,161,590	25.90	1945.....	498,755,181	41.32
1895.....	20,505,917	4.08	1935.....	312,344,457	28.80	1946.....	502,816,251	40.91
1900.....	64,420,877	12.15	1936.....	361,919,372	33.05	1947.....	644,869,975	51.38
1905.....	69,078,999	11.51	1937.....	457,359,092	41.41	1948.....	820,248,865	63.97
1910.....	106,823,623	15.29	1938.....	441,823,237	39.62	1949 ²	901,110,026	67.01
1915.....	137,109,171	17.18	1939.....	474,602,059	42.12	1950.....	1,045,450,073	76.24
1920.....	227,859,665	26.63	1940.....	529,825,035	46.55	1951.....	1,245,483,595	88.33
1925.....	226,583,333	24.38	1941.....	560,241,290	48.69	1952.....	1,285,342,353	89.07
1930.....	279,873,578	27.42	1942.....	566,768,672	48.63	1953 ¹	1,336,303,503	90.40
1931 ¹	230,434,726	22.21	1943.....	530,053,966	44.94	1954.....	1,488,382,091	96.59
1932.....	191,228,225	18.19						

¹ Beginning with 1931, exchange equalization on gold production is included.

² Includes value of Newfoundland production from 1949.

Current Production.—New records were established by the mineral industry in Canada during 1954 when the value of total production reached \$1,488,000,000 which was a gain of nearly \$152,000,000 or 11·4 p.c. over the \$1,336,000,000 of the preceding year. The total value in 1954 was treble that of 1944. All provinces showed greater mineral values than in 1953 and each of the classifications—metals, non-metals, fuels, and structural materials—reached a new high in total values. Crude petroleum increased by \$43,000,000, copper was up \$25,000,000 and nickel increased nearly \$20,000,000; however a decline of \$6,000,000 was shown for coal and for zinc.

Metals produced in 1954 were valued at \$799,916,000, an increase of 12·8 p.c. over the \$709,000,000 of 1953. Gold production of 4,366,000 oz. t. valued at \$148,765,000 was higher than in 1953, although the price per ounce troy was lower. The settlement of strikes in the earlier part of the year permitted the gold mines to resume production. The production of nearly 303,000 tons of copper was encouraged by the demand which maintained the price at a fairly high level. Nickel production of 161,000 tons valued at \$180,000,000 was 12 p.c. higher in tonnage than in 1953 and lead increased from 194,000 tons to 218,000 tons, valued at \$8,000,000. The volume of zinc declined from 402,000 tons to 376,000 tons and was valued at \$90,207,000. Iron ore shipped amounted to 7,362,000 tons in 1954, a new high in Canadian output. Shipments from the new iron mines in New Quebec and Labrador counterbalanced the lessened exports to steel plants in the Great Lakes area. Silver, a byproduct of many non-ferrous metal mines, increased by 3,000,000 oz. t. over the production of 1953.

Mineral fuels were valued at \$353,000,000, an increase of nearly 12 p.c. over the \$314,181,000 in 1953. Crude petroleum continued to lead all other minerals in value of production. The output was over 96,000,000 bbl. valued at \$244,000,000. Natural gas volume was up 20,000,000 M cu. feet to 121,000,000 M cu. feet. The conversion of coal burning equipment by railroads and industry has adversely affected the coal mining industry. In 1954 the coal output was 14,914,000 tons which was nearly 1,000,000 tons lower than the preceding year.