

Section 2.—The Construction Industry

Subsection 1.—Value of Construction Work Performed

Statistics of the construction industry are based largely on information received at the same time and from the same sources as the data on capital expenditures which appear in Section 1.* The data represent the estimated total value of all new and repair construction performed by contractors; labour forces of utility, manufacturing, mining and logging firms; and by government departments, home-owner builders and other persons or firms not primarily engaged in the construction industry.

Canada's intended construction program for 1958 is estimated at \$7,136,000,000, about 1.2 p.c. above the 1957 level. This contrasts with a rise in 1957 of more than 10 p.c. over 1956 and an increase of 20 p.c. in 1956 over 1955. New construction in 1958, estimated at \$5,991,000,000, is expected to account for most of the increase. The value of repairs to be undertaken in that year is estimated at \$1,145,000,000.

5.—Value of Construction Work Performed, Current and Constant (1949) Dollars, 1949-58

NOTE.—Actual expenditures 1949-56; preliminary actual 1957; intentions 1958.

(Millions of dollars)

Year	New		Repair		Total		Total Construction as Percentage of Gross National Product	
	Current	Constant	Current	Constant	Current	Constant	Current	Constant
1949.....	2,124	2,124	732	732	2,856	2,856	17.3	17.5
1950.....	2,366	2,247	766	727	3,132	2,974	17.2	17.2
1951.....	2,734	2,308	927	783	3,661	3,091	17.0	16.9
1952.....	3,282	2,616	916	730	4,198	3,346	18.0	17.1
1953.....	3,666	2,824	974	749	4,640	3,573	19.0	17.6
1954.....	3,700	2,852	1,023	787	4,723	3,639	19.6	18.5
1955.....	4,270	3,206	1,041	779	5,311	3,985	19.8	18.5
1956.....	5,300	3,799	1,082	776	6,382	4,575	21.1	19.4
1957.....	5,919	4,143	1,129	790	7,048	4,933	22.4	20.9
1958.....	5,991	..	1,145	..	7,136

Table 6, which compares contract construction with other construction, illustrates that contractors are accounting for a greater proportion of the work each year.

* An explanation of sources and methods is given in DBS annual report *Construction in Canada*.

6.—Value of Construction Work Performed by Contractors and Others, 1955-58

NOTE.—Actual expenditures 1955 and 1956; preliminary actual 1957; intentions 1958.

(Millions of dollars)

Item	1955	1956	1957	1958
Contract Construction	3,876	4,752	5,363	5,437
New.....	3,484	4,332	4,924	4,986
Repair.....	392	420	439	451
Other Construction¹	1,435	1,630	1,685	1,699
New.....	786	968	995	1,005
Repair.....	649	662	690	694
Totals, Construction	5,311	6,382	7,048	7,136
New.....	4,270	5,300	5,919	5,991
Repair.....	1,041	1,082	1,129	1,145

¹ Work done by the labour forces of utility, manufacturing, mining and logging firms and by government departments, home-owner builders and other persons or firms not primarily engaged in the construction industry.