

**Subsection 4.—Production of Non-metallic Minerals  
(excluding Fuels)**

Asbestos is by far the most important item in this group in point of value, followed by salt, gypsum and sulphur. These four items are discussed separately below; the quantity and value of other non-metallic minerals produced are shown in Table 2, p. 570. See also the review of developments in the industrial mineral field at pp. 548-551.

**Asbestos.**—After a 11.6-p.c. decline in 1958, the tonnage of asbestos produced in 1959 increased again to almost the 1957 level and the value of that tonnage reached a record high of \$106,592,000. Quebec with 12 producing mines accounted for 94.5 p.c. of the Canadian total; Ontario had one mine which produced 23,700 tons and British Columbia one mine which produced 34,025 tons.

**16.—Quantity and Value of Asbestos Produced, 1950-59**

NOTE.—Figures from 1896 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1911 edition.

Year	Quantity	Value	Year	Quantity	Value
	tons	\$		tons	\$
1950.....	875,344	65,854,568	1955.....	1,063,802	96,191,317
1951.....	973,198	81,584,345	1956.....	1,014,249	99,859,969
1952.....	929,339	89,254,913	1957.....	1,046,086	104,489,431
1953.....	911,226	85,052,895	1958.....	925,331	92,276,748
1954.....	924,116	86,409,212	1959 <sup>a</sup> .....	1,042,253	106,591,686

**Salt.**—The production of salt in 1959 reached the record amount of 3,233,512 tons, a 36.1-p.c. increase in tonnage over 1958 and a 16.5-p.c. increase in value. Ontario produced 92.3 p.c. of the tonnage in 1959 and, with a large new mine in production, accounted for the major part of the increase over the previous year. Output in all producing provinces, with the exception of Nova Scotia, was somewhat higher. Rock salt is mined in Nova Scotia and Ontario only; brine wells are operated in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

**17.—Quantity of Salt Produced, by Province, and Total Value 1950-59**

NOTE.—Figures from 1926 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1946 edition.

Year	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Canada	
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	\$
1950.....	101,930	696,582	16,592	18,186	25,606	858,896	7,011,306
1951.....	127,252	772,585	16,778	28,192	19,718	964,525	7,905,977
1952.....	138,845	757,025	18,113	33,540	24,380	971,903	7,774,815
1953.....	127,819	749,046	18,078	35,100	24,885	954,928	6,974,501
1954.....	150,589	733,066	17,809	37,227	31,196	969,887	8,340,163
1955.....	144,862	998,789	18,954	40,748	41,408	1,244,761	10,122,299
1956.....	132,539	1,347,729	21,068	42,814	46,654	1,590,804	12,144,476
1957.....	122,763	1,538,805	19,372	43,684	46,935	1,771,559	13,989,703
1958.....	125,872	2,126,483	20,560	46,511	55,766	2,375,192	14,989,542
1959 <sup>a</sup> .....	120,000	2,983,087	22,600	48,000	59,825	3,233,512	17,462,050