

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. 545. See also the review of developments in the industrial mineral field at pp. 522-524.

Asbestos.—In 1960, asbestos mines shipped a record 1,141,000 tons valued at \$119,000,000, representing an increase of 8.6 p.c. in quantity and 10.5 p.c. in value over 1959. Quebec, with 12 producing mines, accounted for 94.5 p.c. of the Canadian tonnage; Ontario's one mine produced 22,706 tons and British Columbia's one mine produced 40,238 tons.

16.—Quantity and Value of Asbestos Produced, 1951-60

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	\$
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	86,052,895	1958.....	925,331	92,276,748
1954.....	924,116	86,409,212	1959.....	1,050,429	107,433,344
1955.....	1,063,802	96,191,317	1960 ^a	1,140,538	118,700,998

Salt.—The output of salt in 1960 was slightly below the record amount of 3,289,976 tons produced in 1959, although the value was somewhat higher. The decline was more than accounted for by a 143,000-ton drop in Ontario's output; Ontario produces over 90 p.c. of the total tonnage. 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, 1951-60

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	\$
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.....	120,225	3,036,230	23,547	48,776	61,198	3,289,976	18,034,522
1960 ^a	169,400	2,892,819	21,432	50,000	72,513	3,206,164	18,644,203

Gypsum.—Nova Scotia deposits provided more than 86 p.c. of the total output of gypsum in 1960. The decrease of 11.8 p.c. in the tonnage produced in that province compared with 1959, together with moderate decreases in all other producing provinces