

In size, Canada is the largest country in the Western Hemisphere and the second largest country in the world. Its area of 3,851,809 sq. miles may be compared with that of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, 8,649,512 sq. miles,* the United States of America (including Alaska and Hawaii), 3,615,214 sq. miles,* and Brazil, 3,287,204 sq. miles.* It is more than forty times the size of Britain and eighteen times that of France. The immense size of the country, while encompassing many resources and seeming to afford much scope for settlement, imposes its own burdens and limitations, particularly because much of the land is mountainous and rocky or is under an arctic climate. The developed portion is probably not more than one third of the total; the occupied farm land is less than 8 p.c. and the currently accessible productive forested land 19 p.c. of the total. The population of Canada, estimated at 18,570,000 on June 1, 1962, may be compared with 183,742,000† for the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii) (1961) and with 73,088,000† for Brazil (1961).

The milages in Table 2 are another indication of the size of Canada. They show the length of communication facilities required between the larger cities, between outlying industrial communities built up around large mining or smelting projects and the nearest cities, and between northern outposts and the supplying cities. In this table milage given is for the major means of transport used between the points concerned; air milages are given for most transcontinental distances.

* *United Nations Statistical Yearbook, 1961.*

† *United Nations Population and Vital Statistics Report, Oct. 1, 1962.*

2.—Travel Distances between Certain Cities and Other Points of Interest in Canada

NOTE.—The dash used in this table indicates that the distance concerned is of no particular interest. In each case the milage given is for the type of travel most generally used—road (H), rail (R), air (A) or water (W); air milages are given for most transcontinental distances. Water routes are given in nautical miles.

From	To	Halifax	Montreal	Quebec	Ottawa	Toronto	Winnipeg	Edmonton	Vancouver
		miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles	miles
St. John's, Nfld.....		W 531	W 1,043	W 904	—	W 1,336	—	—	A 3,955
Charlottetown, P.E.I.....		H 165	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Halifax, N.S.....		—	H 860	H 759	—	H 1,210	—	—	A 3,232
Fredericton, N.B.....		H 329	H 531	H 366	—	—	—	—	—
Saint John, N.B.....		H 296	H 624	H 459	H 748	H 974	—	—	—
Chibougamau, Que.....		—	—	R 608	—	—	—	—	—
Montreal, Que.....		R 840	—	H 165	H 124	H 350	A 1,419	A 2,225	A 2,668
Quebec, Que.....		—	H 165	H —	H 289	H 515	A 1,436	—	A 2,814
Schefferville, Que.....		—	R 357	R 357	—	—	—	—	—
			+	+	—	—	—	—	—
Sept îles, Que.....		—	W 430	W 291	—	—	—	—	—
Fort William, Ont.....		—	W 430	W 291	—	—	—	—	—
Hamilton, Ont.....		—	W 1,055	W 1,194	R 878	W 762	R 419	R 1,219	R 1,892
Ottawa, Ont.....		—	H 394	H 559	H 303	H 44	—	—	—
Sudbury, Ont.....		—	H 124	H 289	—	H 259	A 1,325	A 2,131	A 2,574
Toronto, Ont.....		W 1,188 ¹	—	—	H 313	H 234	R 945	—	—
Churchill, Man.....		—	H 350	H 515	H 259	—	A 957	A 1,748	A 2,360
Lynn Lake, Man.....		—	—	—	—	—	R 992	—	—
Winnipeg, Man.....		—	—	—	—	—	R 723	—	—
Regina, Sask.....		—	—	—	—	A 957	—	R 800	R 1,473
Saskatoon, Sask.....		—	R 1,764	—	R 1,653	R 1,587	R 356	R 512	R 1,117
Uranium City, Sask.....		—	—	—	—	—	R 470	R 330	R 1,095
Calgary, Alta.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	A 456	A 992
Edmonton, Alta.....		—	—	—	—	R 2,063	R 832	R 194	R 641
Fort St. John, B.C.....		—	R 2,159	—	R 2,041	R 2,007	R 800	—	R 765
Kitimat, B.C.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	A 371	R 728
Prince Rupert, B.C.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W 420
Vancouver, B.C.....		A 3,232	—	—	—	—	—	R 956	W 477
Victoria, B.C.....		A 3,279	A 2,668	R 3,042	R 2,770	A 2,360	A 1,403	R 765	—
Dawson, Y.T.....		—	—	—	—	—	A 1,058	A 316	A 615
Whitehorse, Y.T.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	H 1,287	A 1,056
Frobisher, N.W.T.....		—	A 1,297	—	—	—	—	A 3,522	A 3,965
Inuvik, N.W.T.....		—	A 3,543	—	—	—	A 2,140	A 1,318	A 1,854
Yellowknife, N.W.T.....		—	—	—	—	—	A 1,398	A 656	A 1,192

¹ Via Strait of Canso.