

The rivers of the Pacific basin rise in the mountains of the Cordilleran Region and flow to the Pacific Ocean over tortuous, precipitous courses, rushing through steep canyons and tumbling over innumerable falls and rapids. They provide power for large hydro developments and in season swarm with salmon returning inland to their spawning grounds. The major rivers of the basin are the Fraser which rises in the Rocky Mountains and toward its mouth flows through a rich agricultural area, the Columbia which is an international river with a total fall of 2,650 feet during its course and has thus a tremendous power potential, and the Yukon River which is also an international river but, though the largest on the Pacific slope, is at present relatively unimportant economically.

Table 3 lists the principal rivers of Canada and their tributaries. The tributaries and sub-tributaries are indicated by indentation of names; thus the Ottawa and other rivers are shown as tributary to the St. Lawrence, and the Gatineau and other rivers as tributary to the Ottawa.

3.—Lengths of Principal Rivers and Their Tributaries

Drainage Basin and River	Length	Drainage Basin and River	Length
	miles		miles
Flowing into the Atlantic Ocean		Flowing into Hudson Bay	
St. Lawrence (to head of St. Louis, Minn.)	1,900	Nelson (to head of Bow)	1,600
Ottawa	696	Saskatchewan (to head of Bow)	1,205
Gatineau	240	South Saskatchewan	865
du Lièvre	205	Red Deer	385
Coulonge	135	Bow	315
Madawaska	130	Belly	180
Rouge	115	North Saskatchewan	760
Mississippi	105	Red (to head of Sheyenne)	545
Petawawa	95	Assiniboine	590
South Nation	90	Souris	450
Dumoine	80	Qu'Appelle	270
North	70	Winnipeg (to head of Firesteel)	475
North Nation	60	English	330
Saguenay (to head of Peribonca)	475	Churchill	1,000
Peribonca	280	Beaver	305
Mistassini	185	Koksoak (to head of Kaniapiskau)	660
Ashuapmuchuan	165	Kaniapiskau	575
St. Maurice	325	Severn (to head of Black Birch)	610
Mattawin	100	Albany (to head of Cat)	610
Manicouagan (to head of Racine de Bouleau)	310	Dubawnt	580
Outardes	270	Eastmain	510
Bersimis	240	Fort George (to Nichicum Lake)	480
Richelieu	210	Attawapiskat	465
St. Francis	165	Kazan	455
Chaudière	120	Nottaway (to head of Waswanipi)	400
Via the Great Lakes—		Waswanipi	190
French (to head of Sturgeon)	180	Nelson (to head of Lake Winnipeg)	400
Sturgeon	110	Rupert	380
Grand	165	Red (to head of Lake Traverse)	355
Thames	163	George (to Hubbard Lake)	345
Spanish	153	Moose (to head of Mattagami)	340
Trent	150	Abitibi	340
Mississagi	140	Mattagami	275
Nipigon (to head of Ombabika)	130	Missinabi	265
Moira	60	Hayes	300
Thessalon	40	Winisk	295
St. John	418	Whale	270
Romaine	270	Harricanaw	250
Natashquan	241	Great Whale	230
Moisie	210	Leaf	165
Hamilton	208		
Exploits	153		
Naskaupi	152		
Canairiktok	139		
Eagle	138		
Miramichi	135		
Marguerite	130		
Gander	102		
		Flowing into the Pacific Ocean	
		Yukon (mouth to head of Nisutlin)	1,979
		Yukon (Int. Boundary to head of Nisutlin)	714
		Porcupine	590
		Lewes	338
		Pelly	330