

3.—Highway Traffic at Canadian Border Points, 1961 and 1962

Year, Province or Territory	Foreign Vehicles Inward				Canadian Vehicles Returning		
	Staying 24 Hours or Less	Staying Over 24 Hours	Repeats and Taxis	Commercial Vehicles	After Staying 24 Hours or Less	After Staying Over 24 Hours	Commercial Vehicles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1961							
Atlantic Provinces.....	234,073	158,925	1,186,555	81,276	1,883,640	124,692	129,650
Quebec.....	320,815	336,251	181,612	112,331	1,098,335	381,967	165,244
Ontario.....	2,927,477	2,121,440	884,649	184,943	3,038,938	545,361	256,107
Manitoba.....	52,163	46,349	53,227	27,473	169,244	79,052	34,078
Saskatchewan.....	21,347	23,742	14,106	8,146	79,475	29,542	7,357
Alberta.....	13,036	43,815	21,993	7,373	59,184	39,212	9,653
British Columbia.....	167,066	280,930	58,306	58,244	932,913	266,314	48,598
Yukon Territory.....	297	14,481	—	1,443	535	678	260
Totals, 1961.....	3,736,274	3,025,933	2,400,448	481,229	7,262,264	1,466,818	650,947
1962							
Atlantic Provinces.....	260,238	162,791	1,156,677	79,221	1,872,867	135,078	128,626
Quebec.....	324,121	339,881	172,565	107,437	1,054,946	349,027	169,100
Ontario.....	3,049,399	2,236,169	851,087	201,168	3,057,106	432,570	249,635
Manitoba.....	52,210	48,961	52,056	22,649	163,065	69,393	26,661
Saskatchewan.....	25,304	25,311	14,590	9,652	72,246	23,242	7,168
Alberta.....	14,398	46,230	21,822	8,551	59,933	28,705	9,804
British Columbia.....	195,588	353,631	53,790	58,299	862,118	229,889	38,819
Yukon Territory.....	860	17,623	189	2,155	2,374	952	731
Totals, 1962.....	3,922,118	3,230,597	2,322,776	489,132	7,144,655	1,268,856	630,544

Many factors influence the flow of American visitors to Canada, among them being the ease of making border crossings, the location of highly populated areas near the International Boundary, the natural attractions of the country, and the currency exchange rate and the economic situation generally. In addition, the recent construction of new roads and bridges has enticed the motor traveller to cross the border; of particular interest has been the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway north of Lake Superior and the international bridges at Prescott and Rainy River in Ontario, connecting the United States with Canada.

Completion of the Trans-Canada Highway north of Lake Superior has had an effect mainly on foreign vehicles entering and departing from Canada at Pigeon River to the west of Lake Superior and Sault Ste. Marie to the east. During the six-month period, May to October 1961 (the latest year for which data are available), 41,500 vehicles entered Canada at Pigeon River and stayed two days or more, compared with 26,800 a year earlier. Entries via Sault Ste. Marie for the same two periods were 81,000 and 62,300, respectively.

In addition to the increase in crossings, the records show that fewer vehicles returned at the port of entry. It would appear that since the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway the "circle tour" of both Lake Superior in Canada and Lake Michigan in the United States is becoming popular. Motorists using the direct route between Pigeon River and Sault Ste. Marie cover approximately 485 miles in Canada.

The new bridge spanning the St. Lawrence River at Prescott in Ontario also had an effect on the flow of traffic to Canada. In the year ended September 1961, 51,100 foreign automobiles entered Canada at Prescott, 21,000 more than during the previous year. Similarly, the new bridge at Rainy River was responsible for more entries in that area. During the year ended June 1961, 13,900 foreign automobiles crossed into Canada at that point, almost double the number in the previous year.