

The Mineral Industry in 1965

The Canadian mineral industry in 1965 continued the strong advances in each of its three sectors—metallic minerals, industrial minerals and mineral fuels—that have been experienced since the slight decline in 1958. It was a good year that was characterized by growth of output both regionally and by commodity. Preparation for production was under way at several large mineral projects, commercial production commenced at some large projects and others were expanded, and a continuing high rate of success in the discovery of mineral deposits of economic importance was maintained.

Canada's mineral production had a value of \$3,744,000,000 in 1965, almost double the 1956 value of \$2,085,000,000. The increase over 1964 of 10.5 p.c. was one of the largest percentage increases in recent years and the total value gain of \$356,000,000 was the third largest annual advance ever recorded. The metallics sector accounted for \$229,000,000 of this increase, the non-metallics, including structural materials, accounted for \$46,000,000 and the mineral fuels for \$81,000,000. The percentage contributions to total mineral output value of these three sectors were 51.5, 19.5 and 29.0, respectively.

2.—Value of Mineral Production, by Class, 1956-65

Year	Metallics	Non-metallics	Fuels	Structural Materials	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1956.....	1,146,349,595	160,341,599	518,761,191	259,453,169	2,084,905,554
1957.....	1,159,579,226	169,061,110	564,776,791	296,905,265	2,190,322,392
1958.....	1,130,160,395	150,354,802	510,765,681	309,455,160	2,100,789,038
1959.....	1,370,648,535	178,216,641	535,577,823	324,577,512	2,409,020,511
1960.....	1,406,558,061	197,505,783	565,851,829	322,594,308	2,492,509,981
1961.....	1,387,159,036	210,467,786	653,327,802	331,345,763	2,582,300,387
1962.....	1,496,433,950	217,453,009	780,932,387	356,166,833	2,850,986,179
1963.....	1,509,536,931	253,452,413	908,428,067	379,011,116	3,050,428,527
1964.....	1,761,648,538	284,497,000	998,767,672	403,058,324	3,387,971,534
1965 ^a	1,930,231,456	310,827,059	1,079,737,806	423,185,127	3,743,981,248

The index of the volume of mineral production provides a means of measuring the mining industry's absolute growth and its comparative growth in the economy;* in 1965 it was 365.6 (1949 = 100) compared with 211.3 for industrial production of the economy as a whole. The extent of the industry's growth is also evident from per capita comparisons (see Table 1); the per capita value of mineral output in 1965 was \$191, which was 2.9 times greater than the 1949 per capita, whereas the increase in the per capita value of the gross national product was 2.1 times in the same period. Net value criteria, which measure value added in the production process, also point to the dynamic role of mining in the Canadian economy; mining net value increase has been about double that of the economy as a whole since 1949 and, as a percentage of total primary industry net value, mining has risen from 20 p.c. to over 30 p.c. since 1949 whereas agriculture has declined from 60 p.c. to a little more than 40 p.c.

* For a description of this index, as well as one for manufacturing and electric power and gas utilities, see DBS Reference Paper *Revised Index of Industrial Production, 1935-1957 (1949=100)* (Catalogue No. 61-502). To update these series and others in the Index of Industrial Production, see DBS monthly report *Index of Industrial Production (1949=100)* (Catalogue No. 61-005).