



Production of zinc in 1972 was 1.2 million tons valued at \$474.5 million. Production decreased 0.4% but the value increased 13.5% compared to the previous year (Table 12.13). Output of refined zinc was 524,885 tons in 1972, up 28% from 1971.

Exports of refined lead and zinc were substantially higher in 1972 due mainly to a world shortage of smelting capacity. Exports of lead and zinc in ores and concentrates declined for the same reason.

In the Atlantic Provinces lead production declined 27.3% to 57,692 tons and zinc production increased 10.3% to 201,118 tons in 1972. Three companies produced lead and zinc, one in Newfoundland and two in New Brunswick. Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation Limited in New Brunswick was the Maritimes' largest producer. Nigadoo River Mines Limited closed its mine at Robertville, NB, because of currently uneconomic ore grades. The mine may be reopened if prices warrant further production. American Smelting and Refining Company, Buchans Unit, was the only active producer in Newfoundland. Dresser Minerals, Division of Dresser Industries, Inc. closed its mine in Nova Scotia permanently.