

little changed in the year at 8,000 and 69, respectively, while assets rose about 5% to \$20.6 million.

Sales volume of the wholesale co-operatives reflected the general upswing in economic activity by achieving a gain of \$124 million or 17% for a total of \$838 million. Supply volume was up in all merchandise categories for a composite increase of almost 20% while marketings, despite declines in fruit and vegetables, grains and seeds, recorded a 13% expansion. Hardware and machinery, and building materials led the accelerated growth rate of supply sales for 1972 reflecting further capital investment and consumer durables purchases which had lagged in the years of depressed farm incomes. Fertilizer sales also rose in a second straight year of increased plantings while food products, petroleum, and clothing and home furnishings featured gains of more than 10%. In the marketing sector livestock business volume rose substantially aided by rising prices. Dairy marketings rose about 11% in step with the general rise in dairy incomes. Poultry revenues registered an increase of 25% in contrast to a mediocre performance in the previous year and reflecting better prices and more stable conditions in the industry generally. Assets of the wholesale co-operatives grew at a rate of 7% during the year to \$255 million.

### 18.1.6 Control and sale of alcoholic beverages

The retail sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada is controlled by provincial and territorial government liquor control authorities. Alcoholic beverages are sold directly by most of these liquor control authorities to the consumer or to licensees for resale. However, in some provinces, beer and wine are sold directly by breweries and wineries to consumers or to licensees for resale. During the year ended March 31, 1973, provincial government liquor authorities operated 1,361 retail stores and had 310 agencies in smaller centres of population.

Table 18.22 shows the value and volume of sales of alcoholic beverages in the years ended March 31, 1972 and 1973. It should be noted that the value does not always represent the final retail selling price of alcoholic beverages to the consumer because, when sold to licensees, only the selling price to licensees is known. Volume of sales is a more realistic indicator of trends in consumption although, as a measure of personal consumption by Canadians, it is subject to the same limitations as the figures of value sales and includes, in addition, purchases by non-residents.

Government revenue specifically related to alcoholic beverages, and details of sales by value and volume for each province are given in Table 18.23. A Statistics Canada publication, *The report and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada* (Catalogue No. 63-202) shows further detail as well as volume figures of production and warehousing transactions, the value and volume of imports and exports and the assets and liabilities of provincial liquor commissions.

## 18.2 International trade

Canadian foreign trade statistics are compiled from information recorded on customs documents received by Statistics Canada from customs ports, supplemented with energy data obtained through other channels. Trade figures reflect the physical movements of goods across Canada's national and customs boundaries but do not always represent the financial transactions for changes in ownership of these goods.

**Coverage.** Total Canadian exports are the sum of domestic exports and re-exports. Domestic exports include shipments abroad of goods wholly produced in Canada together with exports of previously imported goods which have been changed in form by further processing in Canada. Re-exports or exports of foreign produce include only goods previously included in import statistics which are exported from Canada in the same form as when imported. Minor operations such as cleaning, sorting and repacking are not considered as changing the condition of imported goods. Since the introduction in January 1964 of the "General trade" system of compilation, re-exports have also included outward movements of goods previously imported but stored in customs warehouses.

Imports, as from January 1964, include all goods cleared by customs immediately on arrival in Canada together with goods that are entered into customs warehouses. For earlier years, imports under the "Special trade" system of presentation included goods cleared immediately on arrival plus goods cleared for consumption out of customs warehouses. This meant that those goods which crossed the national boundary into and out of customs warehouses without crossing the customs boundary were excluded.