

1975, compared with petroleum and coal products at \$488.5 million, down 16.3%, and primary metals at \$1,301.2 million, down 9.9%.

Overall capital expenditures increased in the minerals sector and the mineral fuels sector (excluding coal). Investment in iron mines increased to \$485.6 million from \$393.1 million in 1974. Capital expenditures in the mineral fuels sector (excluding coal) increased to \$2,270.1 million in 1976, an increase of 32.3% over 1975, with more emphasis placed on exploration in areas where new finds of gas and oil have been reported.

The volume index of mineral production, which measures the mining industry's absolute growth, based on the revised index of 1971=100, increased to 110.4 from 109.3 in 1975.

Alberta accounted for 45.4% and Ontario 16.9% of the Canadian output value of minerals in 1976. Quebec accounted for 9.9%, British Columbia 9.2%, Saskatchewan 5.9%, Newfoundland and Labrador 4.7%, Manitoba 3.1%, New Brunswick 1.7%, Yukon Territory 1.4%, Northwest Territories and Nova Scotia 0.8% each and Prince Edward Island for a minimal amount. Tables 12.6 - 12.8 show mineral production and value by province.

Provincial summary

12.2

Newfoundland. Mineral production in Newfoundland and Labrador was valued at \$756 million compared to \$551 million in 1975, an increase of 37.2%. Iron ore production increased 23.8% to 28.0 million tonnes. Production of lead increased 77.3% in 1976 and zinc production rose 41.7%. Asbestos production increased 48.3%. Fluorspar concentrate production decreased 50% in 1976 to 72 500 tonnes valued at \$2.2 million.

Prince Edward Island. Sand and gravel is the only mining product of this province. Production, valued at \$1.7 million, decreased 4.9% in value from 1975.

Nova Scotia. Total mining production increased 15.6% in value to \$117.2 million in 1976. The quantity of coal produced was 1.99 million tonnes, up from 1.66 million tonnes in 1975. Production of non-metallics increased to \$32.9 million from \$28.8 million in 1975, with gypsum accounting for \$13.8 million or 42%.

New Brunswick. Mineral production increased to \$255 million in 1976 from \$232 million in 1975. Metal products, mined mainly around Bathurst, represented 85.5% of total mineral output. Zinc, lead and copper were the principal minerals produced. Coal production dropped to 290 000 tonnes from 418 000 tonnes in 1975.

Quebec. Total mineral output was \$1,521 million, an increase of 22.7% over 1975. Metallics accounted for 50.3% of production, non-metallics 28.9% and structural materials 20.8%. Iron ore, at 21.3% of total mineral output, copper 11.9% and zinc 6.7%, were the major metallics produced. Asbestos was the major non-metallic, accounting for 22.6% of the total. Titanium dioxide, a non-metallic, is produced only in Quebec and has firm world markets; production was valued at \$74.4 million in 1976 compared to \$55.8 million in 1975.

Ontario produced minerals valued at more than \$2,594 million in 1976, mostly metallics. The value of metallics increased by 10.5% from the previous year. Nickel made up 38.3% of provincial output, copper 15.1%, zinc 10.3%, iron ore 10.2% and precious metals 7.9%. The range of minerals is more diverse in Ontario than in any other province. Output of fuels is relatively small. The principal non-metals — salt, nepheline syenite, asbestos, gypsum, quartz and sulphur — are produced in relatively small quantities. Structural materials produced increased in value to \$353 million from \$333 million in 1975.

Manitoba. Mineral production in 1976 was valued at \$478 million, a decrease of 9.7% from 1975. Metallic minerals accounted for 81.0% of the total, with nickel 49.9%, copper 17.9% and zinc 10.7%. Crude petroleum contributed 6.9% of the provincial total. Manitoba produced 19.3% of Canada's nickel, a decrease of 6.9% from the total value for 1975.