

7.9%, Newfoundland and Labrador 3.1%, Manitoba 2.4%, New Brunswick 1.6%, Yukon 1.1%, Northwest Territories 1.6%, Nova Scotia 1.0% and Prince Edward Island for a minimal amount. Tables 12.6 and 12.8 show mineral production and value by province.

Mineral production in Newfoundland and Labrador decreased 29.6%. Other decreases included iron ore 31.7%, lead 26.9% and asbestos 57.9%. Zinc production rose 3.3%. In Prince Edward Island sand and gravel production increased 2.0% in value. Nova Scotia mining production increased 27.8% in value. Coal, non-metallics and gypsum showed the greatest gains. In New Brunswick, metal products represented 81.7% of total mineral output. Zinc, lead and copper were the principal minerals and coal the principal fuel.

In Quebec, total mineral output increased by 8.8%. Iron ore, copper and zinc were the major metallics produced, and asbestos the major non-metallic. Titanium dioxide, a non-metallic, is produced only in Quebec and has firm world markets.

In Ontario the value of metallics fell by 18.3%. Nickel made up 24.6% of provincial output, copper 16.0%, precious metals 14.9%, iron ore 14.8% and zinc 9.8%. 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 in 1978.

Mineral production in Manitoba decreased 17.8%. Metallic minerals accounted for 71.3% of the total, with nickel 35.0%, copper 21.4% and zinc 9.4%. Crude petroleum contributed 9.3% of the provincial total. Manitoba produced 24.9% of Canada's nickel in 1978.

Saskatchewan produces mainly mineral fuels and non-metals. Crude petroleum represented 44.3% and potash 31.7% of mineral production, but metallics only 17.2%. Renewed interest in uranium resulted in increased production and Saskatchewan accounted for 42.1% of Canada's total.

In Alberta, crude petroleum, natural gas and natural gas byproducts represented 95.1% of 1978 total mineral production; sulphur, a byproduct in processing natural gas, represented 1.0%. Alberta produced 84.5% of Canada's petroleum and 91.7% of Canada's natural gas. Coal production accounted for 2.5% of provincial mineral production; structural materials made up most of the remainder.

Mineral output in British Columbia increased 7.8% in 1978. Metallics comprised 46.9% and mineral fuels 42.1% of all mineral production with copper accounting for 24.8%, zinc 4.3%, molybdenum 8.8% and lead 3.2%. Coal represented 19.3%, natural gas 14.4% and crude petroleum 7.2% of the total. Production of copper in all forms was increased with mine production value up 6.8%. Coal production increased and asbestos was the leading non-metallic mineral produced.

In the Northwest Territories, metallic minerals accounted for almost all mineral production. Zinc comprised 48.3%, lead 18.5%, gold 14.5% and silver 7.9% of total mineral output. Crude oil and natural gas are of considerable potential value mainly due to recent exploration developments in the Arctic Islands region. Tungsten production increased by 7.0% in 1978; the Northwest Territories is Canada's only producer of this metal. In Yukon, zinc made up 33.1% of total production, asbestos 14.2%, lead 28.7%, copper 7.9% and silver 12.9%. Output is not large by national standards but is increasing rapidly. A sharp drop in asbestos production in 1978 was due to the closure of the Clinton Creek mine of Cassiar Asbestos Corp.

Metals

12.3

Iron ore

12.3.1

Iron ore shipments by province from 1971-78 are given in Table 12.11. The lower level of shipments in 1978 was due primarily to a strike that paralyzed all iron ore operations in the Quebec-Labrador region from March 9 to July 14.

Iron ore was produced by 14 mining companies at 18 locations, with nine operations in Ontario, five in Quebec, two in Labrador, one in British Columbia and one in Quebec-Labrador. The Iron Ore Co. of Canada (IOC) was the largest Canadian