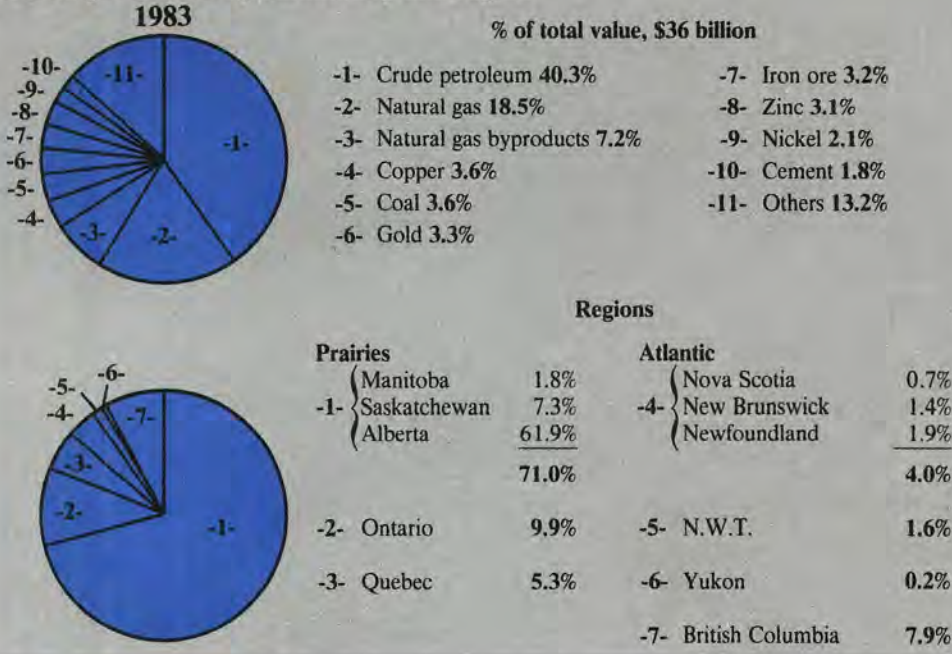


Chart 10.1
Mineral production by commodity and region



rising 13.1% to \$347 million; several new mines were opened and others were being developed. Reduced long-term world demand for iron ore forced the industry to contract, resulting in reductions in mine operating capacities and some permanent mine closures. Asbestos production was affected not only by the world recession, but also by adverse publicity and regulations limiting its use, resulting in mine closures.

Ontario. The value of mineral production increased by 17.6% over the four years. In 1982 production fell 23.7% from 1981. Metals fell sharply, with nickel down 58.9% to \$413 million and copper down 32.7% to \$336 million. Reduced demand for metals was forcing the industry to contract, resulting in extensive shut-downs and reductions in mine operating capacities, particularly those producing nickel. The most active sector of the industry was gold exploration, development and production; several new mines have been opened since 1978. The value of uranium was \$550 million, up 4.7% from 1981. Uranium mines were able to operate at capacity because of long-term contracts negotiated in previous years, even though prices fell sharply.

Manitoba. The value of mineral production increased by 11.2% in the four-year period. A number of small copper and zinc mines were opened

and nickel mines at Thompson were expanded. Layoffs and shut-downs took place throughout the mineral industry in 1982, and mineral production fell 20.4% from 1981 to \$511 million. Nickel dropped 28.3% to \$168 million, and copper fell 24.7% to \$93.7 million. Gold, however, increased by 3.5% to \$24 million, and petroleum was up 33.6% to \$85.9 million.

Saskatchewan. The value of mineral production increased by 38.5%, mostly because of potash mine expansions and petroleum price increases. But in 1982, mineral production in Saskatchewan declined 4.4% to \$2.2 billion, primarily because potash fell 36.8% to \$626 million as a result of intermittent mine shut-downs. Crude petroleum rose 29.6% to \$1.07 billion. The value of uranium in 1982 was relatively unchanged at \$265 million because the permanent closing of mining operations at Uranium City was offset by other mine expansions. Saskatchewan produces all of Canada's potash, almost all of the sodium sulphate, 33% of the uranium, and a large quantity of crude petroleum and coal. A major new uranium mine development was nearing completion in the north.

Alberta. The value of mineral production nearly doubled from 1978 to 1982, increasing by 99.8% mainly because of escalating prices for petroleum,