

The Canada-United States boundary is 3,986.8 miles long and that between Canada and Alaska is 1,539.8 miles; the Canada-Labrador boundary has not been surveyed but is estimated at 1,260 miles.

The St. Lawrence-Great Lakes system of navigable waterways provides ship transportation from the sea into the very heart of the continent. From the Strait of Belle Isle at the northern entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the sailing distance to the head of Lake Superior is 2,338 miles; from Montreal to Fort William, the great Canadian grain-shipping port, the distance is 1,215 miles. Throughout its length the waterway gives access to a region rich in natural and industrial resources.

The potentialities of these inland waterways of Canada are enormous since modern canal systems by-pass the unnavigable portions of the St. Lawrence River, link up the various bodies of water of the Great Lakes and are bound to have a much greater economic influence on the future wealth and progress of the nation. There are no tides in these Lakes although considerable variation in water levels is sometimes occasioned by strong winds or heavy precipitation. At the Great Lakes ports and harbours, ships load and unload their cargoes to and from all points in the Dominion.

1.—Approximate Land and Fresh-Water¹ Areas, by Provinces and Territories

NOTE.—For a classification of land area as agricultural, forested, etc., see pp. 29-30.

Province or Territory	Land	Fresh Water	Total	Percentage of Total Area
	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	
Prince Edward Island.....	2,184	²	2,184	0.1
Nova Scotia.....	20,743	325	21,068	0.6
New Brunswick.....	27,473	512	27,985	0.8
Quebec.....	523,860	71,000	594,860	16.1
Ontario.....	363,282	49,300	412,582	11.1
Manitoba.....	219,723	26,789	246,512	6.7
Saskatchewan.....	237,975	13,725	251,700	6.8
Alberta.....	248,800	6,485	255,285	6.9
British Columbia.....	359,279	6,976	366,255	9.9
Yukon.....	205,346	1,730	207,076	5.6
Northwest Territories—				
Franklin.....	541,753 ³	7,500	549,253 ³	14.9
Keewatin.....	218,460	9,700	228,160	6.2
Mackenzie.....	493,225	34,265	527,490	14.3
Canada.....	3,462,103³	228,307	3,690,410³	100.0

¹ Salt-water areas are excluded.

² Too small to be enumerated.

³ Revised since the publication of the 1945 Year Book.

Section 1.—Physical Geography

The physical features of Canada are considered under this heading in six natural divisions into which the country is divided, each of which is defined and shown in the map on p. 5.

(1) The Appalachian-Acadian Region, comprising the Maritime Provinces and most of that part of Quebec lying south of the St. Lawrence River. It is a hilly or mountainous Region and is made up largely of disturbed beds.

(2) The St. Lawrence Region, a lowland belt bordering the St. Lawrence River and extending westward through southern Ontario to Lake Huron. It is underlain chiefly by flat or gently dipping strata of Palæozoic age.