

1.—Value of Mineral Production, 1886-1953

Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita	Year	Total Value	Value per Capita
	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$
1886.....	10,221,255	2-23	1932.....	191,228,225	18-19	1943.....	530,053,966	44-94
1890.....	16,763,353	3-51	1933.....	221,495,253	20-53	1944.....	485,819,114	40-67
1895.....	20,505,917	4-08	1934.....	278,161,590	25-90	1945.....	498,755,181	41-32
1900.....	64,420,877	12-15	1935.....	312,344,457	28-80	1946.....	502,816,251	40-91
1905.....	69,078,999	11-51	1936.....	361,919,372	33-05	1947.....	644,869,975	51-38
1910.....	106,823,623	15-29	1937.....	457,359,092	41-41	1948.....	820,248,865	63-97
1915.....	137,109,171	17-18	1938.....	441,823,237	39-62	1949 ²	901,110,026	67-01
1920.....	227,859,665	26-63	1939.....	474,602,059	42-12	1950.....	1,045,450,073	76-24
1925.....	226,583,333	24-38	1940.....	529,825,035	46-55	1951.....	1,245,483,595	88-33
1930.....	279,873,578	27-42	1941.....	560,241,290	48-69	1952.....	1,285,342,353	89-07
1931 ¹	230,434,726	22-21	1942.....	566,768,672	48-63	1953 ³	1,331,211,503	90-06

¹ Beginning with 1931, exchange equalization on gold production is included.

² Includes value of Newfoundland production from 1949.

Current Production.—Mineral production in Canada during 1953 reached a new high value of \$1,331,200,000, a figure \$45,900,000 or 3.6 p.c. above the previous year's total. The outstanding gain was in crude petroleum, which was \$55,100,000 above the recorded value for 1952. Cement was up nearly \$12,000,000 and iron ore about \$9,000,000. In contrast, the output value for zinc dropped \$34,400,000, gold was lower by \$13,400,000 and coal was down nearly \$8,300,000.

The value of metals was down 2.6 p.c. from \$727,900,000 in 1952 to \$708,900,000 in 1953. Prolonged strikes at some of the gold mines curtailed output during the latter half of the year, so that the annual total amounted to 4,061,000 oz. t. valued at \$139,800,000 compared with 4,472,000 oz. t. at \$153,200,000 in 1952. Copper production was about 2 p.c. lower than in 1952 but higher prices raised the total value slightly to \$150,600,000. Zinc output rose 7 p.c. and lead gained 16.8 p.c., but price declines resulted in much lower values for these metals at \$95,400,000 and \$52,000,000, respectively. Iron-ore shipments at 6,500,000 tons were the highest on record. Re-melt iron, a co-product of titanium ore smelting, was valued at \$3,800,000. Nickel at \$160,900,000 had the greatest value of any individual metal.

Mineral fuels, valued at \$311,200,000, in 1953, increased 18 p.c. over 1952. Crude petroleum output increased to 81,300,000 bbl. valued at \$198,100,000, thus leading all other minerals in value of production and exceeding gold which had held first place for nearly 25 years. On the other hand, coal production at 15,800,000 tons recorded a drop of nearly 1,700,000 tons from 1952, as several coal mines ceased operations. Natural gas output was close to 100,000,000 cu. feet valued at \$11,000,000.

Other non-metallic minerals were valued at \$127,500,000 in 1953. Of that amount \$87,600,000 was for asbestos, which fell slightly in both quantity and value as compared with 1952. Barite output was nearly double the 1952 production but most of the other non-metals, such as feldspar, fluorspar, mica, talc and salt, showed little change.