

In the case of Japan only, the increase of 4 or 5 per cent is based on U.S. Department of Commerce and Japanese Government figures. It covers the eight months January to August, and the final four months have been estimated according to standard practice.

It is apparent from these figures that, in terms of the rate of growth in national output, Canada leads the major industrial countries of the free world. Moreover, within Canada's recent history, this rate of growth has been exceeded in only three of the past 17 years.

This expansion is all the more notable in that it has been achieved in the face of increasingly competitive world conditions, which is in sharp contrast to the buoyant demand situation of earlier post-war years.

Main Growth in Goods Production

The growth in output between 1961 and 1962 has been more pronounced in goods-producing industries than in services, and a major part of the gains have been realized in sectors of industry which are highly exposed to foreign competition. Figures available to date show industrial production in total up by more than 8 per cent. A number of secondary industries have contributed materially to this advance. Approximately 500,000 motor vehicles were produced in Canada in 1962, 30 per cent more than in 1961, and surpassing the previous record levels of the mid-50's. Production of electrical apparatus increased by 15 per cent, appliances by 15 per cent and textiles by 9 per cent. Rising activity in durable-goods industries and in construction kept Canada's steel mills running close to capacity.

On the basis of figures so far available, the materials which have shown substantial production gains so far this year compared with last include the following:

	<u>Percentage Increase</u>
Steel	10
Petroleum and equivalent	17
Natural gas	44
Iron Ore	44
Lumber	12
Cement	11

Expanding industrial activity has brought a substantial increase in new job opportunities. In the first 11 months of the year, 177,000 more persons were employed, on average, than in the same period of 1961. The rise in employment has exceeded the growth in the labour force, and there have been 85,000 fewer persons unemployed. In 1962 there were 5.9 per cent of the labour force unemployed, compared with 7.2 per cent in 1961 and 7.0 per cent in 1960.