

Copper —

Canada ranks fourth in world production of copper, with average annual mine production exceeding 700 000 tonnes. Major producing areas are in Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec and Manitoba, but some copper mining is also carried out in the Atlantic Provinces, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory.

In Canadian mines, copper is frequently associated with other non-ferrous metals such as nickel, zinc, lead and molybdenum. Much of Canadian production comes from deposits in which the average ore-grade is 2 percent copper or less.

About 500 000 tonnes (550 000 net tons) of copper a year are refined in Canada; the balance of production is exported as concentrates, mainly to Japan. Of the copper refined in Canada, more than half is exported, principally to Europe and the United States.

Iron ore —

Canada is one of the major world suppliers of iron ore, ranking sixth in volume of production.

The Labrador area of Newfoundland is Canada's largest source of iron ore, followed by Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. The average annual production is in the vicinity of 45 million tonnes (49 500 000 net tons), 75 per cent of which is exported to the United States, Britain, Western Europe and Japan.

Zinc —

Canada, the leading producer, accounts for more than 25 per cent of annual world mine production of zinc.

All zinc mined in Canada is produced in association with lead, copper or silver. Major producing areas are Ontario, the Northwest Territories, New Brunswick, the Yukon and British Columbia. Zinc is also mined in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland. Production exceeds one million tonnes annually.

Aluminum —

Canada is the world's fourth-largest producer of aluminum ingot, accounting for about 9 per cent of total the production of the non-Communist world. About 65 per cent of Canadian production is shipped to many countries around the world, more than half these exports going to the United States.

In contrast to other major Canadian mineral products, aluminum is not produced from domestic ores, all the raw material — bauxite