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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BRANCH
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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS AT MAR. 1, 1948.

(These data are subject to revision).

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The preliminary tabulation of the monthly statistics of employment and payrolls shows a further but slight decline in the index of employment at Mar. 1, which based on 1926 as 100, stood at 189.0., as compared with 189.3 at Feb. 1. As compared with 180.4 at Mar. 1, 1947, however, there was an increase of 4.8 p.c. in the latest index, which was the highest on record for the first of March; previously, the maximum for that date was 161.7 at Mar. 1, 1944.

Provincially, the outstanding change at Mar. 1, 1948, as compared with a month earlier was the increase in Alberta, largely resulting from the re-employment of coal miners following the settlement of the dispute which had greatly affected the situation at Feb. 1. Improvement was also indicated in Ontario, and there was a slight gain in Prince Edward Island. The trend in the remaining provinces was downward; this was due in part to seasonal curtailment in construction and certain other industries, but there were also declines in logging.

In New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the preliminary tabulations indicate higher disbursements in salaries and wages by leading employers in the major industrial groups, while in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia, the reported payrolls were rather lower than at Feb. 1. The average weekly earnings in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, however, showed increases. The advance per capita figure for Canada at Mar. 1 was \$39.44, a new all-time high, as compared with \$38.63 at Feb. 1, 1948, and \$35.61 at Mar. 1, 1947.

Standing at 202.5, the advance index of employment in manufacturing was 0.9 p.c. higher than at Feb. 1, and exceeded by 4.1 p.c. the Mar. 1, 1947, index. In the month, the index of weekly payrolls rose by three p.c. The latest index was also higher by 17.1 p.c. than at Mar. 1 of last year. The salaries and wages reported by leading manufacturers averaged \$40.19 per employee at the beginning of March, the highest on record; a month earlier, the per capita figure was \$39.38, and that at Mar. 1, 1947, \$35.81.

Advance Indexes of Employment at Mar. 1, 1948, with Comparisons as at Feb. 1, 1948, and Mar. 1, 1947. (1926=100).

Area	Mar. 1, 1948	Feb. 1, 1948	Mar. 1, 1947
Prince Edward Island	171.2	170.2	124.0
Nova Scotia	169.1	182.4	138.1 ^x
New Brunswick	175.7	177.4	164.4
Quebec	193.3	193.6	188.4
Ontario	199.4	198.6	188.7
Manitoba	150.6	152.6	149.5
Saskatchewan	147.7	148.3	145.1
Alberta	177.1	167.4 ^x	171.1
British Columbia	188.3	190.3	180.9
Canada - Eight Leading Industries	189.0	189.3	180.4
Canada - Manufacturing	202.5	200.7	194.5

^x This figure was affected by disputes in the coal mining industry.

Note: The above data are based on the advance tabulation of statistics received from establishments usually employing 15 persons and over in the following major industrial divisions: manufacturing, logging, mining, communications, transportation, construction and maintenance, trade and certain service groups, mainly hotels, restaurants and laundries and dry-cleaning plants. The figures are subject to change, as a result of the arrival of revised or delayed returns during the period of tabulation. The monthly bulletin giving detailed statistics of employment, payrolls and average earnings will be issued some days hence.

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