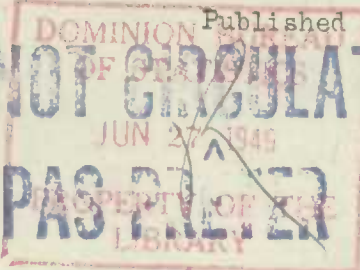


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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS SECTION
OTTAWA - CANADA

ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS AT MAY 1, 1949.

(These data are subject to revision).

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A preliminary tabulation of the results of the monthly survey of employment in leading establishments in the eight major industrial divisions shows moderate improvement in the situation at May 1, reversing the downward movement indicated in immediately preceding months. The advance index number of employment, based on 1926 as 100, stood at 188.6, as compared with 187.6 at Apr. 1, 1949, and 186.5 at May 1, 1948, previously the maximum for that date in the record of 29 years. Marked seasonal curtailment was noted in logging operations in the Eastern and Central Provinces, but the trend in numerous other industries was favourable at the beginning of May.

The rise of 0.5 p.c. in the advance index number of employment at May 1 was accompanied by a gain of 0.1 p.c. in the advance index number of payrolls. The per capita weekly earnings of the employees reported in the eight principal industries stood at \$43.16 at May 1, as compared with \$43.35 at Apr. 1, and \$39.70 at May 1, 1948. The most recent average is the highest in the record for the time of year.

Greater activity as compared with Apr. 1 was indicated in Quebec and the four Western provinces. The gains ranged from 0.7 p.c. in Quebec, to 3.7 p.c. in British Columbia and 4.1 p.c. in Saskatchewan. The losses in the remaining provinces varied from 0.1 p.c. in Ontario to 4.4 p.c. in Nova Scotia. The trend of payrolls was generally downward in all provinces except Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Reduced working time in some industries was a factor contributing to the decline in the disbursements in salaries and wages.

The advance index number of employment in manufacturing, at 203.2, was insignificantly higher than that of 203.0 at Apr. 1, 1949, and also slightly exceeded the May 1, 1948, figure of 201.8. The index of payrolls, however, showed a loss of 0.1 p.c. in the month, but was 9.8 p.c. higher than at May 1 of last year. The preliminary figure of per capita weekly salaries and wages of persons employed in leading manufacturing establishments at May 1 was \$44.45, as compared with \$44.54 at Apr. 1, 1949, and \$40.78 at May 1, 1948, previously the maximum for that date in the record, going back to 1941.

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See footnote on page 2.

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Advance Indexes^{1/} of Employment at May 1, with Comparisons as at
Apr. 1, 1949, and May 1, 1948.

(1926=100)

<u>Area</u>	<u>May 1, 1949</u>	<u>Apr. 1, 1949</u>	<u>May 1, 1948</u>
Prince Edward Island	137.6	163.0	143.0
Nova Scotia	165.1	173.1	170.4
New Brunswick	155.5	160.5	166.4
Quebec	186.1	184.8	186.3
Ontario	200.1	200.2	196.7
Manitoba	159.4	155.4	152.2
Saskatchewan	152.8	146.8	147.2
Alberta	198.5	194.6	179.1
British Columbia	195.7	188.8	196.1
Canada - Eight Leading Industries	188.6	187.6	186.5
Canada - Manufacturing	203.2	203.0	201.8

1/

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 and 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 in some detail the latest statistics of employment, payrolls and average earnings will be issued some days hence.

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