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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS
AT MAR. 1, 1951.

(These data are subject to revision)

The advance tabulation of the monthly statistics of employment in the major non-agricultural industries^{1/} shows a further but slight decline in industrial activity at the beginning of March. The index number of employment, on the 1939 base as 100, stood at 172.1, insignificantly lower than at Feb. 1, 1951, but 9.0 p.c. above its level at Mar. 1, 1950. The latest index exceeded by 7.8 p.c. the previous maximum for the time of year (159.6 at Mar. 1, 1949). A reduction from Feb. 1 to Mar. 1 has been indicated in 9 of the last 12 years.

The general trend of industrial employment was slightly downward in all provinces except Quebec and Ontario, in which small gains from Feb. 1 were noted. The decreases in the remaining provinces ranged from 0.2 p.c. in Alberta and British Columbia, to 4.6 p.c. in Nova Scotia, where construction showed a rather large decline.

Accompanying the small recession in industrial employment generally at the beginning of March, was an increase of 0.5 p.c. in the index number of payrolls as compared with a month earlier. The latest index number of payrolls was higher by 17.6 p.c. than at Mar. 1, 1950. The advance figure of average weekly salaries and wages in the nine major industrial groups at the beginning of March, 1951, was \$48.16, the highest in the record. The average at Feb. 1, 1951, was \$47.87, and that at Mar. 1, 1950, \$44.61.

Employment in manufacturing throughout Canada showed a moderate rise at Mar. 1, when the advance index number, at 186.2, was 0.9 p.c. higher than at Feb. 1, and 8.6 p.c. higher than at Mar. 1, 1950. The latest figure was the maximum in the post-war period. The amounts expended by the co-operating manufacturers in weekly wages and salaries at the date under review were greater by 0.7 p.c. than at Feb. 1 and exceeded by 18.1 p.c. the disbursements 12 months previously. The weekly earnings of their employees averaged \$49.57, slightly lower than the per capita of \$49.64 recorded a month earlier, but considerably higher than the average of \$45.55 at Mar. 1, 1950.

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See footnote on page 2.

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Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls at Mar. 1, 1951, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago.

(1939=100)

A r e a	Employment			Payrolls		
	Mar. 1 1951	Feb. 1 1951	Mar. 1 1950	Mar. 1 1951	Feb. 1 1951	Mar. 1 1950
Prince Edward Island	160.1	165.3	143.8	298.2	313.6	260.2
Nova Scotia	135.7	142.2	130.8	265.9	272.5	242.3
New Brunswick	178.5	179.3	157.4	370.6	371.1	311.3
Quebec	160.8	159.9	145.5	348.8	342.1	293.7
Ontario	185.6	185.6	169.5	378.2	379.0	319.2
Manitoba	164.2	165.5	159.0	302.2	296.9	272.4
Saskatchewan	133.9	134.9	126.2	251.5	250.7	226.1
Alberta	186.1	186.5	174.0	361.1	357.4	314.3
British Columbia	176.7	177.0	163.2	347.6	341.5	293.3
Canada - Composite Index	172.1	172.3	157.9	353.3	351.4	300.5
Canada - Manufacturing	186.2	184.5	171.5	405.0	402.1	342.8

^{1/} The above data are based on an advance tabulation of statistics received from establishments usually employing 15 persons and over, in the following major industrial divisions: logging, mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation, storage and communications, public utility operations, trade, finance, insurance and real estate, and service, mainly hotels, restaurants, laundries, dry cleaning plants, business and recreational services.

The monthly bulletin giving detailed statistics of employment, payrolls and average earnings will be issued some days hence.

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Prepared in the Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division.

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