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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY PAYROLLS, JANUARY, 1953.

(These data are subject to revision)

There was a pronounced seasonal contraction in employment in the major non-agricultural industries at Jan. 1. The decline of 2.6 p.c. was somewhat below the average loss at that date in the post-war years, and the latest index, at 187.1 on the 1939 base, was 3.4 p.c. above its level at Jan. 1, 1952, previously the peak figure for the time of year.

The trend was unfavourable in all major industrial groups, except trade. There were especially large declines in construction, manufacturing and transportation. Geographically, there was also widespread curtailment in employment. The reductions ranged from 1.4 p.c. in New Brunswick and Ontario, to 3.9 p.c. in Quebec, 4.4 p.c. in British Columbia and 7.6 p.c. in Prince Edward Island. Lower levels of activity were also indicated in most metropolitan areas.

The weekly wages and salaries disbursed by the larger industrial establishments for the holiday week ending on or about Jan. 1 fell by 6.4 p.c. as compared with a month earlier. The payroll index, however, was the highest in the record for the time of year, exceeding the Jan. 1, 1952, figure by 10.6 p.c. The latest average of weekly wages and salaries in the major industrial groups stood at \$53.96, as compared with the all-time maximum of \$56.12 a month earlier, and the Jan. 1, 1952, average of \$50.42.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing in Canada at Jan. 1, at 196.1, was seasonally lower by 1.7 p.c. than at Dec. 1, but was 6.8 p.c. higher than at the beginning of January of last year. The weekly payrolls reported by the larger manufacturing plants showed the decline usual to the holiday week, falling by 7.5 p.c. from Dec. 1. This reduction was the same as that recorded at Jan. 1, 1952, when the index number was 11.9 p.c. below the latest figure. The weekly wages and salaries of men and women on the staffs of the co-operating manufacturers at Jan. 1, 1953, averaged \$55.05, as compared with \$58.46 at Dec. 1, and \$51.82 at Jan. 1 in 1952.

¹/See footnote on page 2.



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Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls at Jan. 1, 1953, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1939=100)

Area	Employment			Payrolls		
	Jan. 1 1953	Dec. 1 1952	Jan. 1 1952	Jan. 1 1953	Dec. 1 1952	Jan. 1 1952
Prince Edward Island	183.8	199.0	175.2	393.5	418.7	327.9
Nova Scotia	154.5	158.0	149.2	333.9	348.9	287.3
New Brunswick	178.4	180.9	190.7	418.2	419.9	419.7
Quebec	176.0	183.1	171.7	429.7	461.0	389.2
Ontario	197.9	200.7	190.3	448.2	477.9	406.6
Manitoba	177.9	183.9	173.0	363.9	374.8	334.2
Saskatchewan	158.5	164.7	152.1	341.7	349.2	305.3
Alberta	226.1	231.6	206.0	490.8	521.1	422.3
British Columbia	191.9	200.8	186.4	433.7	486.4	386.9
Canada - Composite Index	187.1	192.2	181.0	430.1	459.5	388.8
Canada - Manufacturing	196.1	199.6	183.6	474.0	512.2	417.8

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Jan. 1 1953	Dec. 1 1952	Jan. 1 1952
Prince Edward Island	\$42.61	\$41.87	\$37.25
Nova Scotia	46.30	47.30	41.24
New Brunswick	47.67	47.21	44.61
Quebec	51.96	53.59	48.27
Ontario	55.50	58.36	52.35
Manitoba	52.59	52.41	49.66
Saskatchewan	52.22	51.35	48.67
Alberta	55.19	57.22	52.17
British Columbia	58.74	62.98	53.97
Canada - Composite figure	53.96	56.12	50.42
Canada - Manufacturing	55.05	58.46	51.82

^{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.