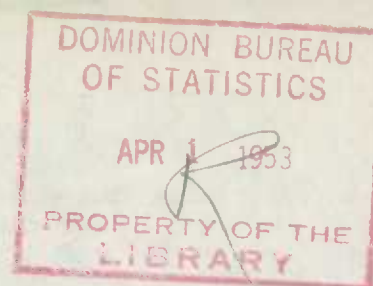




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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY PAYROLLS, FEBRUARY, 1953.

(These data are subject to revision).

Employment in the major non-agricultural industries^{1/} considerably declined at the beginning of February, when the seasonal loss of 2.4 p.c. as compared with Jan. 1 exceeded the reduction recorded in a similar comparison 12 months earlier. Based on the 1939 average as 100, the Feb. 1 index of employment was 182.6, 2.7 p.c. above its level at the same date in 1952, previously the high point for the time of year. The index number of payrolls showed a seasonal increase of 2.6 p.c. over the Jan. 1 figure, and was 9.1 p.c. higher than at Feb. 1 last winter. The weekly wages and salaries averaged \$56.54, the highest in the record as compared with \$53.81 in the holiday week of Jan. 1, and \$53.19 at Feb. 1, 1952. The Dec. 1, 1952, per capita figure was \$56.12.

Employment was lower than a month earlier in all provinces. In the Maritime Provinces, there was also a falling off in the index numbers as compared with Feb. 1 of last year, but elsewhere industrial activity continued at a higher level. The trend in weekly payrolls was upward as compared with Jan. 1 in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. In all areas except New Brunswick, the disbursements reported were higher than in the week of Feb. 1, 1952. The provincial averages of weekly wages and salaries showed a generally upward movement as compared with the relatively low figures indicated in the holiday week of Jan. 1. Except in British Columbia, the Feb. 1 per capita earnings were also higher than at Dec. 1, 1952, and in all areas, exceeded those reported a year ago.

Employment showed curtailment in all major industries included in the monthly surveys except manufacturing, in which there was a gain of 0.7 p.c. The losses were particularly marked in trade, construction and transportation, in accordance with the seasonal pattern. Accompanying the moderate recovery in manufacturing was an increase of 7.2 p.c. in the amounts disbursed in weekly payrolls. The average weekly wages and salaries in this group of industries, at \$58.46, coincided with the Dec. 1 per capita figure, the highest in the record, and were 6.4 p.c. higher than in the holiday week of Jan. 1. The latest figure for manufacturing was 5.6 p.c. above its level at the beginning of February, 1952.

^{1/}See footnote on page 2.



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

Area	Employment			Payrolls		
	Feb. 1, 1953	Jan. 1, 1953	Feb. 1, 1952	Feb. 1, 1953	Jan. 1, 1953	Feb. 1, 1952
Prince Edward Island	176.4	184.4	183.4	392.4	397.0	336.5
Nova Scotia	148.3	154.5	150.9	339.5	334.8	313.2
New Brunswick	169.2	178.9	186.3	408.8	418.4	415.4
Quebec	171.6	175.6	169.0	438.0	427.0	406.1
Ontario	195.6	198.2	187.6	467.2	447.6	425.4
Manitoba	173.4	177.9	169.1	362.1	363.3	333.4
Saskatchewan	148.7	158.5	142.4	324.5	342.3	291.7
Alberta	219.1	226.6	201.7	494.8	490.9	424.3
British Columbia	181.7	190.7	179.9	429.9	429.2	395.3
Canada - Composite Index	182.6	187.0	177.8	439.7	428.7	402.9
Canada - Manufacturing	197.7	196.3	196.1	507.1	473.2	474.0

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Feb. 1, 1953	Jan. 1, 1953	Feb. 1, 1952
Prince Edward Island	\$44.28	\$42.85	\$36.51
Nova Scotia	49.03	46.43	44.47
New Brunswick	49.13	47.57	45.23
Quebec	54.32	51.75	51.14
Ontario	58.54	55.35	55.59
Manitoba	53.71	52.52	50.68
Saskatchewan	52.85	52.30	49.68
Alberta	57.43	55.10	53.52
British Columbia	61.53	58.50	57.12
Canada - Composite figure	56.54	53.81	53.19
Canada - Manufacturing	58.46	54.93	55.36

^{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.