

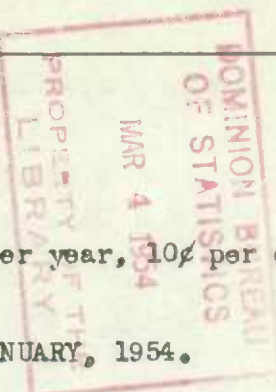
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## ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS, JANUARY, 1954.

(These data are subject to revision)

The seasonal contraction in employment in the major non-agricultural industries at Jan. 1 was somewhat greater-than-average for that date in the post-war period, although it was rather smaller than at Jan. 1 in either 1949 or 1950. At 110.2, the latest index, (1949=100), was 3.4 p.c. lower than a month earlier and 2.5 p.c. lower than at Jan. 1, 1953, the peak figure for the time of year. With this exception, it was the highest on record for the opening of January.

On the whole, the movement was decidedly downward in all major industrial groups except finance, insurance and real estate, which showed a minor gain. The greatest declines in employment were in construction, manufacturing, forestry and transportation. Geographically, there was also widespread curtailment. The reductions in staffs ranged from 1.9 p.c. in Ontario, to 5.0 p.c. in Quebec, 5.5 p.c. in Saskatchewan, 11.2 p.c. in Newfoundland and 12.6 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 5.8 p.c. as compared with a month earlier, bringing the payroll index to 145.9. The decrease was smaller than at Jan. 1 of last year, when the payrolls were 3.0 p.c. lower than at the date under review. The latest average of weekly wages and salaries in the major industrial groups stood at \$56.57, as compared with \$58.13 a month earlier, and \$53.81 at Jan. 1, 1953.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing in Canada at Jan. 1, at 108.3, was seasonally lower by 2.4 p.c. than at Dec. 1, and was also 2.9 p.c. lower than at the beginning of January of last year, when the decline had been on a rather smaller scale. The weekly wages and salaries reported by the larger manufacturers showed the reduction usual in the holiday week, falling by 5.5 p.c. from Dec. 1. This loss was smaller than that indicated in a similar comparison at Jan. 1, 1953. The index of payrolls was then lower by 3.9 p.c. The weekly earnings of men and women on the staffs of the co-operating manufacturers at Jan. 1, 1954, averaged \$58.39, as compared with \$60.29 at Dec. 1, and \$54.93 at Jan. 1 a year ago.

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

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Advance Index Numbers<sup>1/</sup> of Employment and Payrolls at Jan. 1, 1954, with Indexes  
for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1949=100)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Employment</u>			<u>Payrolls</u>		
	Jan. 1 1954	Dec. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1954	Dec. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1953
Newfoundland	125.4	141.2	132.4	173.6	205.1	175.1
Prince Edward Island	105.8	121.1	116.7	135.0	157.5	147.3
Nova Scotia	97.8	100.2	99.3	126.0	132.0	128.0
New Brunswick	99.4	102.3	107.8	128.2	131.9	134.1
Quebec	108.9	114.6	113.8	143.5	155.2	142.6
Ontario	112.6	114.8	114.5	149.5	156.3	142.4
Manitoba	104.8	108.8	106.7	134.5	140.7	131.2
Saskatchewan	115.9	122.7	113.5	154.2	162.0	142.7
Alberta	124.7	130.1	125.7	162.5	174.9	155.1
British Columbia	103.7	107.1	106.4	141.0	152.2	136.2
Canada - Composite Index	110.2	114.1	113.0	145.9	154.9	141.6
Canada - Manufacturing	108.3	110.9	111.4	144.5	152.8	139.1

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Jan. 1 1954	Dec. 1 1953	Jan. 1 1953
Newfoundland	\$51.97	\$54.54	\$49.64
Prince Edward Island	42.98	43.84	42.85
Nova Scotia	48.19	49.26	46.43
New Brunswick	48.80	48.80	47.57
Quebec	54.12	55.62	51.75
Ontario	58.77	60.28	55.35
Manitoba	54.64	55.03	52.52
Saskatchewan	55.12	54.71	52.30
Alberta	57.87	59.71	55.10
British Columbia	62.03	64.85	58.50
Canada - Composite figure	56.67	58.13	53.81
Canada - Manufacturing	58.39	60.29	54.93

<sup>1/</sup> 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.