

01 72 001
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce



Vol. 32 No. 2

Price: \$1.00 per year, 10¢ per copy.

NE PAS PRÉTER

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

FEB 30 1954

PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARY

ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY PAYROLLS, FEBRUARY, 1954.

(These data are subject to revision)

There was a further substantial decline in employment in the major non-agricultural industries at the beginning of February, when the seasonal loss of 2.7 p.c. from Jan. 1 was slightly greater than the reduction recorded in a similar comparison 12 months earlier. Based on the 1949 average as 100, the Feb. 1 index of employment, at 107.0, was 3.0 p.c. below its position at the same date in 1953, previously the high point for the time of year. The index number of payrolls showed a seasonal increase of 0.5 p.c. over the Jan. 1 figure, and was also fractionally higher than at Feb. 1 of last winter. The weekly wages and salaries averaged \$58.42, the highest in the record, as compared with \$56.56 in the holiday week of Jan. 1 and \$56.72 at Feb. 1, 1953. Previously, the maximum per capita figure was \$58.14, at Nov. 1, 1953.

Employment was curtailed in all provinces as compared with a month earlier. Except in Saskatchewan, the levels were also lower than at Feb. 1 of last year. The trend in weekly payrolls was upward as compared with Jan. 1 in New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. In New Brunswick, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces, the disbursements reported were greater than in the week of Feb. 1, 1953, but elsewhere showed a falling off. In all provinces except Saskatchewan the averages of weekly wages and salaries exceeded those reported for the holiday week of Jan. 1, and in all areas were higher than at Feb. 1 of last year.

Employment generally was quieter in forestry, construction, transportation, storage and communications, public utility operation, trade and the service industries included in the monthly surveys. The losses in staffs in trade, construction and transportation were pronounced, conforming to the seasonal pattern. Mining showed improvement, largely due to resumption of operations in certain Ontario metal mines following settlement of prolonged industrial disputes. There was a slight increase in employment in manufacturing, in which the amounts disbursed in weekly payrolls rose by 4.0 p.c. from the week of Jan. 1. The latest index of payrolls was fractionally lower than at Feb. 1, 1953, accompanying a decline of 3.5 p.c. in the employment index. The weekly wages and salaries reported in this group of industries averaged \$60.47 at Feb. 1, the highest in the record, slightly exceeding the previous maximum of \$60.29 at Dec. 1, 1953. As compared with the holiday week of Jan. 1, 1954, there was an increase of 3.8 p.c. in the weekly average.

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

8003-504
25/3/54

Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls at Feb. 1, 1954, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1949=100)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Employment</u>			<u>Payrolls</u>		
	Feb. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1954	Feb. 1 1953	Feb. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1954	Feb. 1 1953
Newfoundland	113.8	125.4	125.3	165.5	173.6	173.7
Prince Edward Island	96.4	105.8	110.8	128.2	135.8	145.2
Nova Scotia	95.6	97.5	101.0	126.2	126.2	131.5
New Brunswick	97.8	99.7	100.6	129.5	128.5	129.4
Quebec	105.8	108.7	110.6	144.7	143.0	146.2
Ontario	110.6	112.3	113.1	151.7	148.9	149.6
Manitoba	100.9	104.7	104.0	132.7	134.4	130.8
Saskatchewan	109.2	115.9	106.2	144.8	153.8	134.7
Alberta	118.4	124.7	121.6	159.5	162.1	156.2
British Columbia	97.7	103.2	101.0	134.1	139.5	136.2
Canada - Composite Index	107.0	109.9	110.3	146.0	145.3	145.6
Canada - Manufacturing	108.1	108.0	111.9	149.4	143.7	149.7

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Feb. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1954	Feb. 1 1953
Newfoundland	\$54.61	\$51.97	\$52.77
Prince Edward Island	44.81	43.23	44.37
Nova Scotia	49.36	48.41	48.74
New Brunswick	50.12	48.78	49.08
Quebec	56.17	54.03	54.41
Ontario	60.72	58.67	58.91
Manitoba	56.06	54.62	53.74
Saskatchewan	54.92	55.01	52.71
Alberta	59.86	57.77	57.50
British Columbia	62.64	61.67	61.65
Canada - Composite figure	58.42	56.56	56.72
Canada - Manufacturing	60.47	58.24	58.82

^{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.