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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS. MAY 1, 1954.

(These data are subject to revision)

Employment in the major industrial divisions showed an upward movement at the beginning of May, reversing the trend of preceding months. The advance index of employment, on the 1949 base, was 106.2, 0.6 p.c. higher than at Apr. 1, but 4.2 p.c. below the May 1, 1953, figure, a maximum for the time of year. The weekly payrolls, which rose by 0.7 p.c. from a month earlier, were 1.0 p.c. lower than in the corresponding period in 1953. The average weekly wages and salaries advanced to a new all-time high, at \$59.12, as compared with \$59.06 a month earlier, and \$57.52 a year ago.

Improvement was reported at the date under review in all provinces except Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, where there were losses of 0.4 p.c. and 1.5 p.c. respectively, largely resulting from seasonal curtailment in transportation. The increases elsewhere noted ranged from O.1 p.c. in Ontaric and Alberta to 2.7 p.c. in Saskatchewan, 4.2 p.c. in Newfoundland and 4.5 p.c. in Prince Edward Island. Industrially, there were considerable gains in construction and transportation, storage and communication, with smaller additions to the working forces in public utility operation, trade, and the service industries for which data are available. The trends in logging, mining and manufacturing continued downward.

Employment in manufacturing fell by 0.5 p.c. The latest index was 5.1 p.c. lower than at May 1, 1953. The index of payrolls declined by 0.4 p.c. in the month, and was 1.8 p.c. below its position 12 months earlier. The preliminary figure of per capita weekly wages and salaries of factory workers at May 1 was \$61.28, as compared with the preceding figure of \$61.18, and \$59.43 at May 1, 1953.

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

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

	Employment			Payrolls			
Area	May 1 1954	Apr. 1 1954	May 1 1953	May 1 1954	Apr. 1 1954	day 1 1953	
Newfoundland	117.8	113.1	133.6	167.1	163.3	196.1	
Prince Edward Island	97.6	93.4	108.3	133.0	126.0	147.3	
Nova Scotia	92.9	93.3	97.4	125.1	124.8	129.2	
New Brunswick	89.9	91.3	94.8	120.3	124.1	123.5	
Quebec	104.5	103.5	109.1	144.3	143.2	146.4	
Ontario	109.1	109.0	113.4	151.1	150.6	152.8	
Manitoba	100.2	99.9	104.8	131.9	130.8	133.9	
Saskatchewan	110.2	107.4	109.2	147.7	143.0	140.9	
Alberta	118.6	118.5	123.5	160.1	159.2	160.3	
British Columbia	102.9	101.7	106.5	146.8	143.8	146.7	
Canada - Composite Index	106.2	105.6	110.9	146.7	145.7	148.2	
Canada - Manufacturing	107.9	107.9	113.1	150.2	150.8	152.9	

## Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	May 1 1954	Apr. 1 1954	May 1 1953
Newfoundland	\$53 <b>.23</b>	\$54.19	\$55,00
Prince Edward Island	45.93	45.45	45.77
Nova Scotia	50.43	50.08	49.43
New Brunswick	50,61	51.43	49.44
Quebec	56.68	56.85	54.56
Ontario	61.31	61.20	59.65
Manitoba	56.02	55.76	55.05
Saskatohewan	55.53	55.19	54.15
Alberta	59.95	59.68	58.51
British Columbia	65.11	64.51	63.81
Canada - Composite figure	59.12	59.06	57.52
Canada - Manufacturing	61.28	61.18	59.43

<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.