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ADVANCE STATEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS,
AUGUST 1, 1954.

(These data are subject to revision)

The monthly survey of employment in the principal industrial divisions showed further though slight improvement at the first of August, the general index rising by 0.4 p.c. as compared with July 1. In the 12-month comparison, there was a decline of 3.0 p.c. Activity mounted from the July 1 level in all provinces except Ontario, where there was a reduction of 0.9 p.c., largely due to curtailment of operations in manufacturing. The provincial index of employment in that group of industries fell by 1.8 p.c. On the whole, the greatest advances in the industries surveyed were reported in the Western Provinces, the gain of 4.5 p.c. in Alberta being most noteworthy. The improvement in Quebec was slight.

Preliminary figures for Canada indicate a loss of 0.8 p.c. in employment in manufacturing, and small reductions in forestry and trade. There was considerable expansion in construction. The remaining non-manufacturing industries showed a moderately upward movement.

The weekly wages and salaries paid by the co-operating establishments rose by 0.7 p.c. in the month. Although this increase was a little larger than that recorded at Aug. 1, 1953, the payroll index then was fractionally above its position at the date under review. With that exception, it was the highest in the record for midsummer. The disbursements in the major industrial groups as a whole exceeded those reported in the preceding survey in all provinces except Ontario, where the index dropped by 0.6 p.c. The average weekly earnings were rather lower than a month earlier in the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia, and higher in Newfoundland, the Central and Prairie Provinces. Except in Newfoundland, the provincial averages were also higher than at Aug. 1, 1953.

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

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

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Area	Employment			Payrolls		
	Aug. 1 1954	July 1 1954	Aug. 1 1953	Aug. 1 1954	July 1 1954	Aug. 1 1953
Newfoundland	138.1	134.9	156.6	201.9	196.9	244.6
Prince Edward Island	119.4	115.1	124.6	156.7	152.3	162.7
Nova Scotia	99.9	99.2	104.2	132.6	132.0	134.5
New Brunswick	100.3	97.6	105.4	131.8	129.5	135.6
Quebec	110.8	110.6	114.0	152.3	151.0	150.4
Ontario	111.2	112.2	115.4	154.6	155.5	155.5
Manitoba	108.5	106.2	110.5	145.6	141.4	143.4
Saskatchewan	127.3	123.0	123.3	175.0	166.7	165.1
Alberta	136.6	130.9	135.2	185.4	176.6	181.9
British Columbia	111.4	109.2	114.2	157.7	156.5	159.5
Canada - Composite Index	112.1	111.7	115.6	155.0	154.0	155.3
Canada - Manufacturing	108.0	108.8	114.4	150.7	151.7	153.9

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Aug. 1 1954	July 1 1954	Aug. 1 1953
Newfoundland	\$54.86	\$54.79	\$58.62
Prince Edward Island	44.27	44.58	44.02
Nova Scotia	49.73	49.77	48.26
New Brunswick	49.71	50.08	48.65
Quebec	56.43	56.09	54.43
Ontario	61.51	61.34	59.66
Manitoba	57.06	56.63	55.20
Saskatchewan	56.92	56.10	55.49
Alberta	60.18	59.90	59.64
British Columbia	64.62	65.41	63.83
Canada - Composite figure	59.11	58.98	57.52
Canada - Manufacturing	61.06	60.99	58.93

^{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.