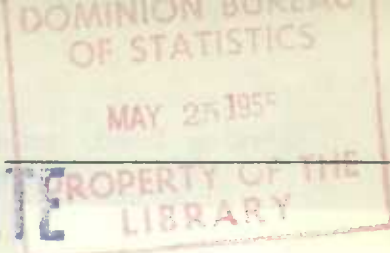


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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY PAYROLLS,  
MARCH, 1955.

(These data are subject to revision)

The index number of industrial employment declined slightly at Mar. 1, in a seasonal movement which continued the trend shown in the last 4 surveys. At 105.6 on the 1949 base, the figure was 0.2 p.c. lower than at Feb. 1 and 0.9 p.c. lower than at Mar. 1, 1954. In spite of the easing in employment, weekly payrolls rose by 1 p.c. in the month, and by 1.8 p.c. in the 12 months. The per capita weekly wages and salaries, standing at \$60.89, established a new high. The average in the week of Feb. 1 was \$60.16, and that at Mar. 1, 1954, \$59.22.

On the whole, industrial activity was moderately less in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Ontario and British Columbia, in which the reported staffs increased by 5.0 p.c., 0.8 p.c. and 0.9 p.c., respectively, as compared with Feb. 1. Settlement of prolonged labour-management disputes in the automotive industry was an important factor in the gain in Ontario, but other branches of manufacturing also afforded substantially more employment. Virtually no general change was reported in New Brunswick. Elsewhere, the losses on the whole ranged from 0.4 p.c. in Nova Scotia to 1.9 p.c. in both Manitoba and Alberta. The reduction in Quebec was 1.1 p.c., largely due to seasonal curtailment in forestry operations. The non-manufacturing industries surveyed released workers in most areas, while there was widespread improvement in manufacturing.

The weekly payrolls were higher than a month earlier in 6 of the provinces, and in all but 2 also exceeded those reported for the week of Mar. 1, 1954. The per capita earnings declines from Feb. 1, 1955, in Prince Edward Island and Alberta, but advanced in the other provinces. Only in Newfoundland was the latest average of wages and salaries below its level a year ago, due in part to completion of certain large engineering projects which had involved much overtime work.

Employment in manufacturing showed considerable expansion at Mar. 1. The advance index number, at 105.5, was 1.8 p.c. higher than at Feb. 1, but was 2.6 p.c. below the Mar. 1, 1954, figure of 108.3. Resumption of work following termination of strikes in several industries, notably in motor vehicle plants, contributed to the general increase in the division, but the trend was upward in many industries not affected by work stoppages. The weekly payrolls disbursed by the co-operating manufacturers on or about the date under review were greater by 2.9 p.c. than in the preceding survey, and slightly exceeded those reported at Mar. 1 of last year. The weekly wages and salaries averaged \$63.20, a new high, as compared with the Feb. 1 per capita of \$62.53, and that of \$61.13 at Mar. 1, 1954.

Prepared in the Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division

8003-504-35

Advance Index Numbers<sup>1/</sup> of Employment and Payrolls at Mar. 1, 1955, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1949=100)

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Area	Employment			Payrolls		
	Mar. 1 1955	Feb. 1 1955	Mar. 1 1954	Mar. 1 1955	Feb. 1 1955	Mar. 1 1954
Newfoundland	110.3	113.9	112.3	159.1	159.2	169.2
Prince Edward Island	101.4	96.7	102.4	137.3	132.7	132.6
Nova Scotia	91.3	91.7	95.2	125.2	123.4	128.6
New Brunswick	96.3	96.3	96.8	137.3	133.0	131.5
Quebec	104.6	106.7	105.2	149.2	148.8	145.8
Ontario	108.2	107.4	110.2	154.9	152.0	152.8
Manitoba	98.8	100.7	99.6	134.6	135.5	131.7
Saskatchewan	106.0	107.8	108.7	147.2	148.5	146.0
Alberta	121.4	123.7	119.4	168.8	172.9	163.6
British Columbia	100.8	99.8	98.5	144.2	141.8	138.6
Canada - Composite Index	105.6	105.8	106.6	150.3	148.8	147.6
Canada - Manufacturing	105.5	103.6	108.3	152.6	148.2	151.2

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Mar. 1 1955	Feb. 1 1955	Mar. 1 1954
Newfoundland	\$54.17	\$52.43	\$56.57
Prince Edward Island	45.61	46.27	43.62
Nova Scotia	51.32	50.36	50.57
New Brunswick	53.93	52.21	51.40
Quebec	58.60	57.78	56.89
Ontario	63.33	62.61	61.36
Manitoba	57.97	57.27	56.29
Saskatchewan	57.42	56.98	55.66
Alberta	61.74	62.05	60.80
British Columbia	65.29	64.82	64.23
Canada - Composite figure	60.89	60.16	59.22
Canada - Manufacturing	63.20	62.53	61.13

<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 operation, 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.