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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS,
MAY 1, 1955.

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(These data are subject to revision)

Employment in the major industrial divisions showed a further increase at the beginning of May, when the gain was a good deal larger than that recorded 12 months earlier. The advance index of employment, on the 1949 base, was 107.3, as compared with 105.7 at Apr. 1 and 106.2 at May 1, 1954. The weekly payrolls rose by 2.1 p.c. in the month, and were 4.3 p.c. higher than in the corresponding period last year. The average weekly wages and salaries advanced to a new all-time high, at \$61.00, as compared with \$60.68 a month earlier, and \$59.15 a year ago.

Improvement was reported at the date under review in most provinces. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta were the exceptions, with staff losses of 0.9 p.c., 0.9 p.c. and 0.3 p.c., respectively. The increases elsewhere noted ranged from 1.4 p.c. in Ontario to 4.4 p.c. in Newfoundland and 6.8 p.c. in Prince Edward Island. Industrially there were considerable gains in construction, transportation, storage and communication, manufacturing and trade, with smaller additions to the working forces in public utility operation and the service industries for which data are available. The trends in logging and mining were downward; the declines were on a smaller scale than those reported a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing rose by 0.6 p.c. in the month, bringing the latest index to 107.2, almost the same as at May 1, 1954. The index of payrolls mounted by 1.5 p.c. as compared with Apr. 1, and was 4.1 p.c. above the figure recorded 12 months earlier. The preliminary figure of per capita weekly wages and salaries of factory workers at May 1 was \$63.82, as compared with the preceding average of \$63.28, and \$61.30 at May 1, 1954.

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

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Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls at May 1, 1955, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1949=100)

Area	Employment			Payrolls		
	May 1 1955	Apr. 1 1955	May 1 1954	May 1 1955	Apr. 1 1955	May 1 1954
Newfoundland	118.4	113.4	117.9	171.9	161.3	167.1
Prince Edward Island	104.3	97.6	97.6	148.7	138.4	132.8
Nova Scotia	91.5	92.3	92.8	125.4	127.9	124.8
New Brunswick	94.1	95.0	90.2	130.6	135.3	120.5
Quebec	105.2	103.4	104.5	150.0	146.6	144.1
Ontario	110.3	108.8	109.0	158.7	155.6	151.1
Manitoba	101.3	98.5	100.4	138.1	134.3	132.2
Saskatchewan	108.5	106.1	110.0	149.1	145.7	147.4
Alberta	120.8	121.2	119.0	165.2	166.7	150.4
British Columbia	105.6	103.1	103.2	152.3	146.3	147.6
Canada - Composite Index	107.3	105.7	106.2	153.1	150.0	146.8
Canada - Manufacturing	107.2	106.5	107.3	156.5	154.2	150.3

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	May 1 1955	Apr. 1 1955	May 1 1954
Newfoundland	\$54.49	\$53.36	\$53.22
Prince Edward Island	48.04	47.77	45.84
Nova Scotia	51.28	51.84	50.33
New Brunswick	52.52	53.87	50.54
Quebec	58.56	58.22	56.63
Ontario	63.65	63.25	61.40
Manitoba	57.98	58.01	56.02
Saskatchewan	56.81	56.83	55.49
Alberta	60.73	61.07	59.82
British Columbia	65.78	64.70	65.24
Canada - Composite figure	61.00	60.68	59.15
Canada - Manufacturing	63.82	63.28	61.30

^{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 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.