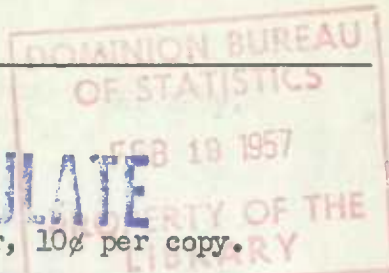


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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS, DECEMBER, 1956.

(These data are subject to revision)

In the first downward movement indicated since early in 1956, industrial employment, payrolls and average weekly earnings showed small declines at the beginning of December. A drop of 0.5 p.c. in employment lowered the index (1949=100) to 125.5, and was accompanied by a loss of 0.7 p.c. in amounts disbursed in weekly wages and salaries, bringing the index to 194.1. Per capita earnings fell by 11 cents from Nov. 1, but at, \$66.13, were considerably above the Dec. 1, 1955, average of \$62.02. The employment and payroll indexes also showed substantial increases in the 12-month comparison.

On the whole, reductions in staffs from Nov. 1 were reported in all provinces except New Brunswick and Quebec, where small gains took place. The losses ranged from 0.2 p.c. in Ontario to 2.9 p.c. in British Columbia and 5.4 p.c. in Newfoundland. Industrial employment generally in all provinces was at a higher level than at Dec. 1, 1955.

Curtailment as compared with a month earlier was noted in mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation, storage and communication, public utilities, finance, insurance and real estate and in the service industries surveyed. Trade and logging in most provinces showed expansion, the exceptions being Newfoundland and British Columbia.

The advance index numbers of employment and payrolls in manufacturing in Canada at Dec. 1 were both 0.5 p.c. lower than at Nov. 1, but were 5.1 p.c. and 11.7 p.c., respectively, higher than a year earlier. Per capita weekly wages and salaries reported in manufacturing were unchanged in the month, but at \$68.78 were considerably higher than the Dec. 1, 1955, average of \$64.71.

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

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Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls at Dec. 1, 1956, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1949=100)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Employment</u>			<u>Payrolls</u>		
	Dec. 1 <u>1956</u>	Nov. 1 <u>1956</u>	Dec. 1 <u>1955</u>	Dec. 1 <u>1956</u>	Nov. 1 <u>1956</u>	Dec. 1 <u>1955</u>
Newfoundland	143.0	151.2	140.9	229.5	241.3	207.0
Prince Edward Island	123.9	126.6	120.9	177.4	182.1	163.5
Nova Scotia	104.6	105.7	100.5	148.1	149.2	137.0
New Brunswick	114.1	112.8	110.2	169.4	169.7	150.7
Quebec	126.8	126.5	119.7	197.2	196.7	174.8
Ontario	125.8	126.0	117.1	194.9	195.4	170.9
Manitoba	111.5	112.2	108.5	160.9	164.1	149.1
Saskatchewan	126.6	128.7	121.6	194.0	197.7	172.8
Alberta	154.1	155.6	137.5	237.4	244.6	198.0
British Columbia	123.9	127.6	116.6	196.8	201.3	171.1
Canada - Composite Index	125.5	126.2	117.9	194.1	195.4	170.9
Canada - Manufacturing	118.0	118.6	112.3	185.7	186.6	166.3

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Dec. 1 <u>1956</u>	Nov. 1 <u>1956</u>	Dec. 1 <u>1955</u>
Newfoundland	\$ 60.24	\$ 59.88	\$ 55.11
Prince Edward Island	48.24	48.48	45.59
Nova Scotia	53.01	52.84	51.01
New Brunswick	56.16	56.86	51.68
Quebec	63.84	63.80	59.93
Ontario	68.56	68.63	64.55
Manitoba	61.34	62.17	58.45
Saskatchewan	63.38	63.56	58.79
Alberta	68.49	69.86	63.94
British Columbia	72.49	72.02	66.93
Canada - Composite figure	66.13	66.24	62.02
Canada - Manufacturing	68.78	68.78	64.71

^{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.