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## DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA



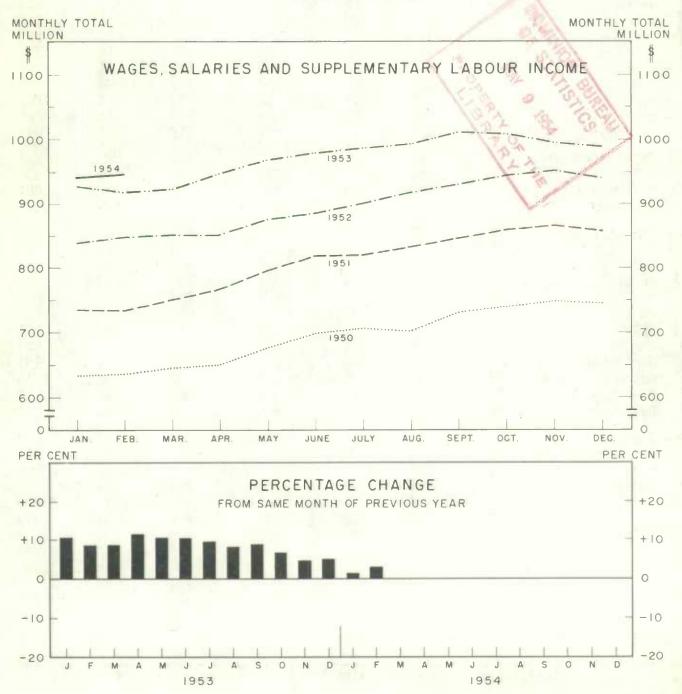
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VOLUME VIII No. 2

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## ESTIMATES OF LABOUR INCOME

FEBRUARY 1954



ESTIMATES OF LABOUR INCOME
(\$ Millions)

Agriculture,   Forestry,   Finance,   Fina	(\$ Millions)								
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x Includes Newfoundland, since 1949. \* Includes retroactive wage payment to railway employees.

#### ESTIMATES OF LABOUR INCOME

### February 1954

Canadian labour income for February was estimated at \$947 million, up \$6 million from the previous month. This total of wages, salaries and supplementary labour income was \$27 million or nearly 3 per cent higher than the estimate for the corresponding month of 1953.

All the major industrial groups, with the exception of construction, contributed to the small rise in labour income during February. Total wages and salaries in manufacturing advanced \$3 million; each of the totals for the distributive group of industries and for finance and services increased by \$2 million, and that for the primary industries by \$1 million. A decline of \$2 million in construction wages and salaries followed the seasonal pattern of recent years.

The wages and salaries total for the commodity producing sector, comprising the primary industries, manufacturing and construction, showed a decline of \$7 million from \$447 million for February 1953 to \$440 million for February 1954. Over the same period, the total for the distributive group and finance and services rose \$33 million to \$475 million in February 1954. Average weekly earnings for the main non-agricultural industries surveyed reached a new record of \$59.30 at the beginning of March 1954, as compared with \$57.40 one year previously.

The level of the Consumer Price Index (1949 = 100), which declined fractionally during the current month, was 115.5 at March 1, 1954, in comparison with 114.8 at the beginning of March 1953.

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### Components of Labour Income

Estimates of total labour income include all wages, salaries and supplementary remumeration for employees' services. Gross earnings—before deductions for income tax, unemployment insurance and pension contributions—are used in the calculation of wages and salaries, and include bonuses and commissions as well as allowances for food, clothing and living accommodation where these are provided by the employer. Employers' contribution to unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation, pensions and welfare are shown as supplementary labour income.

### Methods of Estimation

The monthly estimates of total wages and salaries are projections from annual estimates; these projections are based mainly on the indexes of aggregate payrolls for major industries, compiled by the Bureau's Employment Section. Federal and provincial government payroll statistics collected by the Public Finance and Transportation Division are incorporated; and various employment and wage rate data are used to compute monthly estimates for other industries. The annual estimates of labour income are compiled from original sources within the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and from other statements and reports of governments and business. A full description of the concepts, sources and methods covering the annual estimates is found in the reference document "National Accounts, Income and Expenditure, 1926-1950" (December 1951).

A constant number of working days in each month is assumed in the estimation of monthly labour income. A detailed account of concepts and methods is set out in the bulletin "Wages, Salaries and Supplementary Labour Income in Canada by Months, January 1946 to April 1947", and also in the report "National Accounts, Income and Expenditure by Quarters 1947=1952" (November 1953).

The figures included in this bulletin supersede those in earlier issues, and those for the most recent years are subject to further minor revisions as new source materials become available.

### Relation to the National Accounts

Labour Income constituted 61 per cent of "Net National Income at Factor Cost" in 1953. The relationship between labour income and other items of the National Accounts can be studied in the bulletin, "National Accounts, Income and Expenditure, Preliminary 1953" (February 1954).