

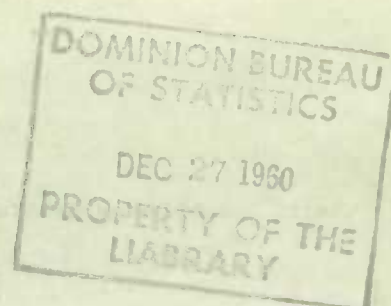
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STATISTICAL REPORT ON THE OPERATION OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

OCTOBER 1960

(Compiled from material supplied by the Unemployment Insurance Commission)

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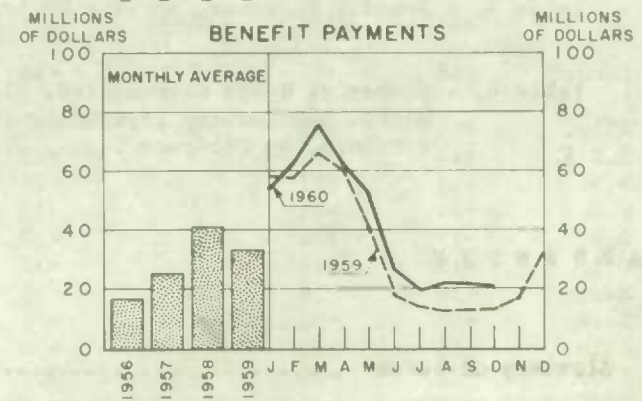
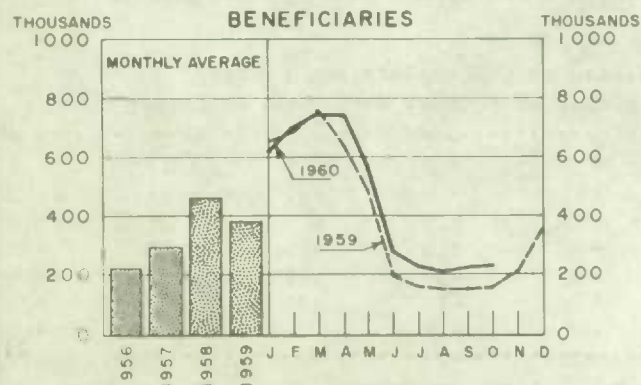
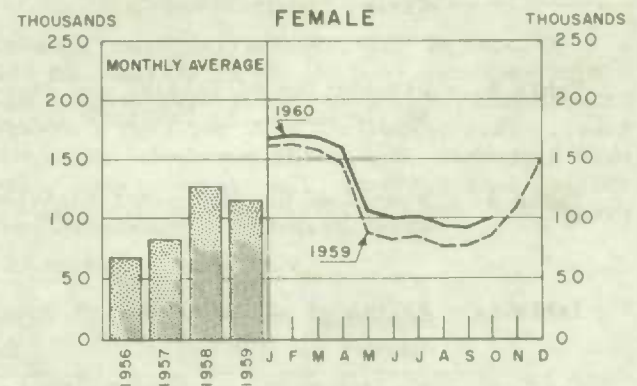
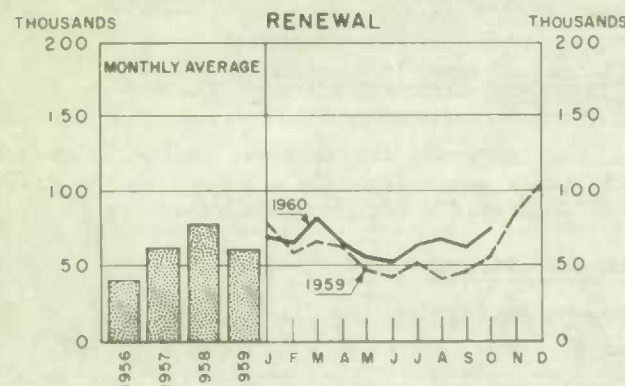
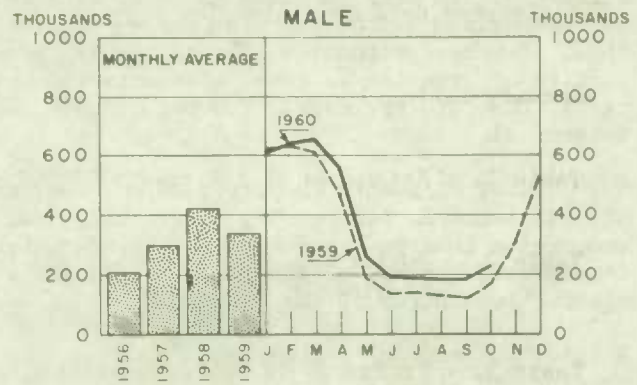
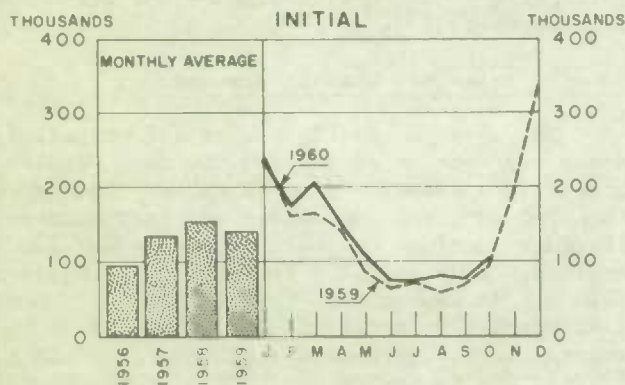
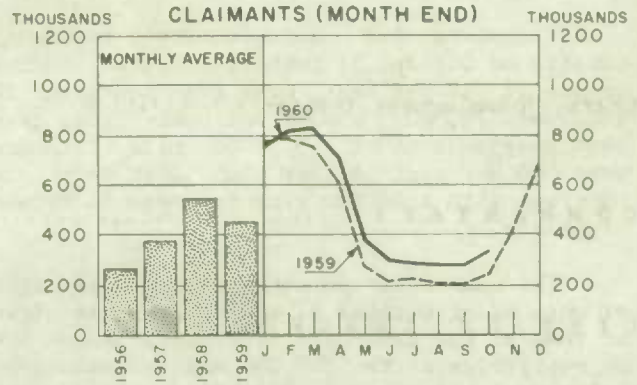
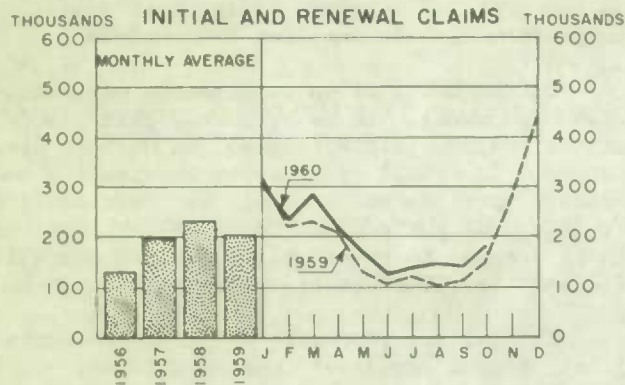
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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES



October 1960

Claimants at month-end:
volume and type

Claimants for unemployment insurance benefit on October 31 numbered 330,200, an increase of 18 per cent over the September 30 total of 279,500, and 32 per cent higher than last year's count of 250,600. Male claimants were 40 per cent higher than last year, in contrast with a 16 per cent increase in female claimants.

The number of persons on claim 13 weeks or more as at October 31 was 42 per cent higher than at the same date last year. About one in every five of the 230,000 male claimants on October 31 had been on claim 13 weeks or more, in comparison with one in three females. Thus, females accounted for a higher proportion of the longer term claimants (41 per cent) than of the total (30 per cent), on October 31.

Postal claimants comprised 26 per cent of all claimants on October 31, a slightly lower proportion than one year ago. Males accounted for three-quarters of the postal claimants as against two-thirds of the local.

Initial and renewal claims:
receipt and disposal

A total of 178,200 initial and renewal claims were received at local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission during October. This represents a 27 per cent increase over September and is 18 per cent above the intake last October. The year-to-year increase was substantially greater for renewal

claims (35 per cent) than for initial (8 per cent). As a result, initial claims comprised 58 per cent of October claims this year, in comparison with 64 per cent last October.

On the basis of an examination of initial claim documents, it is estimated that 15,000 of the 104,000 initial claims in October were received on behalf of persons terminating one benefit period and wishing to re-establish credits. Slightly more than 60* per cent of those seeking to re-establish benefit had sufficient contributions to enable them to do so.

The failure rate was 30 per cent for initial claims processed during October, up 6 percentage points over September but unchanged from October 1959.

Beneficiaries and benefit payments

The average weekly number of beneficiaries was estimated at 225,900 for October, virtually unchanged from September but more than 40 per cent in excess of last October. Payments during October amounted to \$20.7 million, down slightly from the \$21.2 million paid out in September, but 50 per cent above last October's total of \$13.8 million. The average weekly payment was \$22.86 for October, \$22.65 for September and \$20.51 for October 1959.

Claims and benefit payments,
by province

In general, the increase in the volume of claimants was relatively greater in the Prairie and Pacific regions than elsewhere.

Percentage change in month-end claimant count

	September 30 to October 31, 1960			October 30, 1959 to October 31, 1960			September 30 to October 30, 1959		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Canada	+18	+24	+ 7	+32	+40	+16	+24	+ 32	+13
Nfld.	+31	+39	+ 3	+22	+20	+29	+38	+ 44	+13
P.E.I.	+14	+22	+ 2	+ 5	+ 8	- 1	+17	+ 29	+ 1
N.S.	+13	+17	-	+29	+37	+ 3	+15	+ 17	+ 9
N.B.	+24	+25	+20	+21	+27	+ 6	+32	+ 35	+25
Que.	+17	+21	+ 9	+27	+33	+16	+27	+ 34	+15
Ont.	+12	+16	+ 5	+37	+50	+16	+16	+ 20	+10
Man.	+39	+59	+11	+39	+40	+37	+62	+115	+ 9
Sask.	+47	+81	+10	+ 7	+ 4	+12	+75	+143	+13
Alta.	+25	+39	+ 3	+50	+62	+28	+34	+ 50	+13
B.C.	+25	+32	+10	+32	+41	+13	+24	+ 29	+12

* This should not be interpreted as the re-qualifying rate for all claimants terminating benefit rights since it is based solely on such cases as are submitted for consideration of re-establishment.

Comparison of columns (1) and (7) indicate that the month-to-month percentage changes are considerably less this year than a year ago.

The October increase in claims filed was substantially heavier for the Atlantic and Prairie provinces than elsewhere. Ontario was

the only province where the month-to-month rise in claims filed was less than 25 per cent. The year-over-year percentage increases were less than 25 per cent in all provinces except in Nova Scotia (where they were up by more than 60 per cent) and in Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, where declines occurred.

Percentage change in claims filed

	September to October 1960			October 1959 to October 1960			September to October 1959		
	Total	Initial	Renewal	Total	Initial	Renewal	Total	Initial	Renewal
Canada	+27	+31	+21	+18	+ 8	+ 35	+ 31	+ 37	+ 22
Nfld.	+79	+85	+66	+12	+ 8	+ 22	+ 3	+ 70	- 48
P.E.I.	+47	+55	+33	- 1	- 7	+ 14	+ 41	+ 58	+ 12
N.S.	+57	+48	+66	+61	+10	+157	+ 36	+ 43	+ 24
N.B.	+46	+54	+35	+ 3	- 5	+ 19	+ 51	+ 72	+ 21
Que.	+26	+29	+22	+14	+ 6	+ 26	+ 34	+ 36	+ 31
Ont.	+14	+19	+ 9	+21	+11	+ 37	+ 17	+ 22	+ 9
Man.	+68	+81	+49	+18	+12	+ 30	+122	+130	+106
Sask.	+83	+83	+83	-10	-16	+ 7	+139	+145	+124
Alta.	+34	+42	+24	+22	+18	+ 29	+ 70	+ 68	+ 74
B.C.	+27	+31	+23	+17	+ 8	+ 32	+ 25	+ 27	+ 21

.. Figures not available.

- Nil.

Note: Commencing with this issue claims data for Dawson Creek are included in British Columbia, rather than Alberta, as formerly.

Summary table

Activity	Oct. 1960	Sept. 1960	Oct. 1959	% Change from		Cumulative data			
				Sept. 1960	Oct. 1959	Calendar year		12 months ending October	
						1960	1959	1960	1959
	(Thousands)					(Thousands)		(Thousands)	
Insured population as at month-end	..	3,999	4,032	4,094*	..	4,106*
Initial and renewal claims filed	178	140	151	+27	+18	1,948	1,708	2,668	2,430
Claimants currently reporting to local offices	330	280	251	+18	+32	498*	435*	507*	457*
Beneficiaries (weekly average)	226	223	160	+ 1	+41	449*	405*	421*	390*
Weeks compensated	903	935	671	- 4	+35	18,764	16,813	21,121	19,369
Benefit paid \$	20,651	21,186	13,766	- 3	+50	415,487	355,956	465,628	410,650

Average weekly benefit \$	22.86	22.65	20.51	+ 1	+11	22.14	21.17	22.05	21.20
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* Monthly average.

Table 1. - Estimates of the Insured Population under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

End of:	Total	Employed	Claimants
1960 - September	3,999,100	3,719,600	279,500
August	4,040,000	3,759,800	280,200
July	4,024,000	3,729,900	294,100
June	4,048,000	3,751,600	296,400
May	3,988,000	3,623,700	364,300
April	4,222,000	3,507,100	714,900
March	4,307,000	3,484,000	823,000
February	4,308,000	3,493,800	814,200
January	4,296,000	3,513,500	782,500
1959 - December	4,295,000	3,609,300	685,700
November	4,131,000	3,713,500	417,500
October	4,032,000	3,781,400	250,600

Table 2. - Number of Initial and Renewal Claims Filed in Local Offices in each Province. (1)

Prov.	1960 - October - 1959					
	Total	Initial	Renewal	Total	Initial	Renewal
Canada -	178,211	103,919	74,292	151,191	96,354	54,837
Nfld.	3,386	2,319	1,067	3,021	2,143	878
P.E.I.	463	304	159	468	328	140
N.S.	10,098	4,562	5,536	6,291	4,138	2,153
N.B.	5,634	3,493	2,141	5,491	3,689	1,802
Que.	50,828	29,924	20,904	44,672	28,126	16,546
Ont.	62,406	35,963	26,443	51,753	32,441	19,312
Man.	7,060	4,603	2,457	5,997	4,114	1,883
Sask.	4,175	2,754	1,421	4,620	3,287	1,333
Alta.	9,878	5,900	3,978	8,100	5,016	3,084
B.C.	24,283	14,097	10,186	20,778	13,072	7,706

(1) In addition, revised claims received numbered 34,428.

Table 3. - Claimants* Currently Reporting to Local Offices by Number of Weeks on Claim, Province and Sex, and Percentage Postal.

(Counted on last working day of the month)

Prov. and Sex	Total claimants	Number of weeks on claim							Percent- age Postal	October 30, 1959 Total claimants
		2 or Less	3-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	Over 20		
	October 31, 1960									
CANADA -	330,223	121,806	41,306	52,063	33,316	22,578	14,860	44,294	25.7	250,583
MALE	230,025	93,860	30,277	36,138	21,883	13,527	8,583	25,757	27.1	164,391
FEMALE	100,198	27,946	11,029	15,925	11,433	9,051	6,277	18,537	22.4	86,192
Nfld.	6,886	2,665	767	859	576	494	317	1,208	59.8	5,659
Male	5,718	2,430	656	702	440	366	207	917	62.0	4,754
Female	1,168	235	111	157	136	128	110	291	48.9	905
P.E.I.	896	375	81	130	66	63	55	126	59.6	852
Male	588	293	60	78	30	34	25	68	64.8	542
Female	308	82	21	52	36	29	30	58	49.7	310
N.S.	14,069	4,924	1,647	2,288	1,341	945	569	2,355	40.8	10,927
Male	11,277	4,252	1,339	1,828	991	695	385	1,787	42.0	8,225
Female	2,792	672	308	460	350	250	184	568	36.2	2,702
N.B.	11,286	4,054	1,358	1,780	1,334	801	405	1,554	53.0	9,357
Male	8,456	3,345	1,077	1,354	929	460	240	1,051	55.5	6,679
Female	2,830	709	281	426	405	341	165	503	45.6	2,678
Que.	99,111	36,462	12,487	15,860	9,836	6,960	4,617	12,889	26.1	78,010
Male	67,991	27,629	9,020	11,236	6,438	3,919	2,503	7,246	27.5	51,122
Female	31,120	8,833	3,467	4,624	3,398	3,041	2,114	5,643	22.9	26,888
Ont.	118,603	41,634	14,941	19,036	12,558	8,418	5,587	16,429	19.4	86,444
Male	79,761	30,735	10,687	12,735	8,144	5,150	3,265	9,045	19.5	53,044
Female	38,842	10,899	4,254	6,301	4,414	3,268	2,322	7,384	19.2	33,400
Man.	12,294	5,328	1,551	1,672	1,174	658	477	1,434	18.9	8,828
Male	8,185	4,005	1,016	968	695	392	290	819	21.5	5,827
Female	4,109	1,323	535	704	479	266	187	615	13.7	3,001
Sask.	6,917	2,815	812	961	631	450	318	930	40.5	6,456
Male	4,463	2,170	550	522	318	225	154	524	43.7	4,273
Female	2,454	645	262	439	313	225	164	406	34.6	2,183
Alta.	16,468	6,587	1,821	2,488	1,479	989	759	2,345	22.6	11,006
Male	11,305	5,182	1,308	1,618	852	534	432	1,379	23.6	6,964
Female	5,163	1,405	513	870	627	455	327	966	20.5	4,042
B.C.	43,693	16,962	5,841	6,989	4,321	2,800	1,756	5,024	24.6	33,044
Male	32,281	13,819	4,564	5,097	3,046	1,752	1,082	2,921	25.9	22,961
Female	11,412	3,143	1,277	1,892	1,275	1,048	674	2,103	20.9	10,083

* Changes in the wording of this heading do not involve any change in concept.

Table 4. - Disposition of Initial and Renewal Claims and Claims Pending at the End of the Month.*

Prov.	A d j u d i c a t e d					P e n d i n g	
	Total	Entitled to Benefit		Not Entitled to Benefit		Initial	Renewal
		Initial	Renewal	Initial	Renewal		
O c t o b e r - 1 9 6 0							
Canada -	162,512	56,913	65,418	35,991	4,190	32,424	17,689
Nfld.	2,729	1,036	842	783	68	974	320
P.E.I.	387	136	134	107	10	120	37
N.S.	9,168	2,572	4,889	1,512	195	1,457	927
N.B.	4,906	1,847	1,801	1,127	131	1,123	536
Que.	46,246	16,672	18,440	10,033	1,101	9,526	4,995
Ont.	58,080	20,190	23,797	12,584	1,509	11,412	6,263
Man.	6,071	2,379	1,978	1,522	192	1,214	634
Sask.	3,453	1,263	1,132	967	91	882	386
Alta.	9,449	3,488	3,786	1,963	212	1,611	1,060
B.C.	22,023	7,330	8,619	5,393	681	4,105	2,531

O c t o b e r - 1 9 5 9

Canada -	138,239	51,457	48,465	34,455	3,862	30,077	11,575
Nfld.	2,517	926	740	786	65	1,010	270
P.E.I.	440	177	140	111	12	115	32
N.S.	5,926	2,552	1,904	1,332	138	1,183	473
N.B.	4,604	1,699	1,517	1,236	152	1,308	486
Que.	40,967	15,300	14,716	9,816	1,135	8,575	3,125
Ont.	49,210	18,158	17,621	12,055	1,376	9,314	3,778
Man.	4,902	1,962	1,452	1,364	124	1,210	491
Sask.	3,816	1,472	1,103	1,159	82	1,070	299
Alta.	6,956	2,448	2,681	1,680	147	2,115	868
B.C.	18,901	6,763	6,591	4,916	631	4,177	1,753

* In addition 32,721 revised claims were disposed of. Of these, 3,645 were special requests not granted and 1,215 were appeals by claimants. There were 8,272 revised claims pending at the end of the month.

Table 5. - Number of Claimants Not Entitled to Benefit in each Province during October 1960 and 1959 with Chief Reasons for Non-entitlement. ∞

Chief Reasons for Non-entitlement	Year	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.
Benefit period not established	1960*	27,539	594	66	1,149	894	7,890	9,329	1,033	661	1,407	4,516
	1959	25,726	615	72	987	997	7,637	8,665	950	859	1,160	3,784
Claimants disqualified	1960	25,661	501	117	1,023	801	7,906	9,708	1,023	629	1,363	2,590
	1959	21,567	393	95	831	716	6,750	7,923	797	529	1,001	2,532
Not unemployed	1960	487	18	1	44	20	136	130	22	33	34	49
	1959	413	9	2	16	12	121	134	20	33	13	53
Not capable of and not available for work	1960	7,234	118	19	264	198	2,046	2,985	329	219	453	603
	1959	6,555	117	21	193	186	1,877	2,697	278	207	383	596
Loss of work due to a labour dispute	1960	196	3	-	1	-	96	87	2	-	4	3
	1959	531	-	-	15	10	127	170	-	4	-	205
Refused offer of work and neglected opportunity to work	1960	1,504	3	18	65	59	506	539	80	54	99	81
	1959	1,507	11	10	84	34	476	579	106	27	84	96
Discharged for misconduct	1960	1,123	24	4	33	24	394	472	23	13	42	94
	1959	1,007	12	1	45	35	376	377	25	15	49	72
Voluntarily left employment without just cause	1960	6,582	146	32	259	224	1,878	2,224	356	191	459	813
	1959	6,474	114	36	239	202	1,853	2,309	278	177	368	898
Other reasons	1960	8,535	189	43	357	276	2,850	3,271	211	119	272	947
	1959	5,080	130	25	239	237	1,920	1,657	90	66	104	612

* Previously failed on initial claim but subsequently established on revised claim

during October	1960	3,492	79	19	159	149	1,215	1,225	46	36	101	463
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Table 6. - Estimates of the Number of Beneficiaries, by Province.

Province	Average per week	
	1960 - October - 1959	
	(in thousands)	
Canada -	225.9	159.8
Newfoundland	4.0	3.4
Prince Edward Island	0.6	0.6
Nova Scotia	10.5	7.2
New Brunswick	7.7	5.7
Quebec	67.2	50.1
Ontario	85.9	58.5
Manitoba	7.1	4.7
Saskatchewan	3.9	2.7
Alberta	10.8	6.5
British Columbia	28.2	20.4

Table 7. - Benefit Payments, by Province.

Prov.	1960 - October - 1959			
	Weeks	Amount (in dollars)	Weeks	Amount (in dollars)
Canada -	903,403	20,650,922	671,150	13,765,753
Nfld.	15,799	342,739	14,148	297,642
P.E.I.	2,462	46,856	2,467	44,027
N.S.	41,903	917,198	30,300	581,072
N.B.	30,700	657,156	24,061	458,874
Que.	268,984	5,948,623	210,238	4,236,250
Ont.	343,642	8,072,034	245,805	5,109,663
Man.	28,274	617,230	19,834	390,394
Sask.	15,750	333,182	11,538	265,874
Alta.	43,115	983,653	27,218	563,265
B.C.	112,774	2,732,251	85,541	1,818,692

Table 8. - Number of Weeks of Benefit, by Province.

Province	Complete Weeks	Partial Weeks	
		Total	Due to Excess Earnings

October - 1960

Canada -	831,188	72,215	50,984
Newfoundland	13,903	1,896	1,576
Prince Edward Island	2,287	175	131
Nova Scotia	36,355	5,548	4,631
New Brunswick	27,071	3,629	2,695
Quebec	249,027	19,957	13,091
Ontario	318,906	24,736	17,112
Manitoba	26,137	2,137	1,516
Saskatchewan	14,677	1,073	748
Alberta	39,808	3,307	2,281
British Columbia	103,017	9,757	7,203

October - 1959

Canada -	619,103	52,047	34,814
Newfoundland	12,730	1,418	1,065
Prince Edward Island	2,285	182	131
Nova Scotia	26,468	3,832	3,014
New Brunswick	21,085	2,976	2,112
Quebec	195,450	14,788	9,112
Ontario	228,849	16,956	11,367
Manitoba	18,334	1,500	1,017
Saskatchewan	10,685	853	578
Alberta	25,084	2,134	1,294
British Columbia	78,133	7,408	5,124

APPENDIX

Glossary of Terms

Insured population: For purposes of this report, the insured population is defined as the number of persons estimated as currently in contact with the Unemployment Insurance Commission either as contributors or as claimants. The estimates are revised once a year when data from the book renewal are available.

Employed population: The number of persons estimated as currently contributing under the scheme.

Claimant population: The count of persons currently reporting to the local offices as at the end of the month. An exception occurs in the month which serves as a benchmark, i.e., May or June, when the claimant count represents the number of persons reporting to local offices as claimants during the first two weeks of book renewal.

Initial claim: An application for benefit from an insured person for whom there is no benefit period in existence. This category includes both regular and seasonal claims, since it is impossible to determine, at the time of filing a claim, the type of benefit for which the claimant will subsequently qualify. On an initial claim the claimant's contribution history for the two years preceding the claim is examined. This is required in order to test the claimant's attachment to insured employment and thus determine the type of benefit for which he is eligible, if at all. In cases of eligibility, this record is used to calculate the weekly rate of benefit and maximum entitlement for the benefit period. Only one initial claim is required for each benefit period.

Benefit period: A period commencing with the week in which the initial claim is made, provided the qualifying conditions are fulfilled. The maximum length of the benefit period is 52 weeks, in the case of claimants qualifying under the regular terms of the Act. Seasonal benefit periods may be established only from December 1 to mid-May, with a maximum length of 24 weeks. In either case, however, the benefit period terminates with exhaustion of benefit.

Renewal claim: An application for benefit from an insured person during the currency of a benefit period. As in the case of initial claims, this category includes renewal claims from all classes of claimants, i.e., regular, seasonal and fishing.

Initial and renewal claims filed: The number of new cases of recorded unemployment among insured persons during a period. However, an initial claim representing a request for re-establishment of a benefit period with no actual interruption in the period on claim would not constitute a new case of

unemployment. To the extent that such claims are filed in any month, these claims overstate the number of new cases.

Revised claims: Those, other than initial or renewal, which must be considered by an insurance officer, e.g., involving dependency, extension of qualifying period, etc. A revised claim is thus an administrative device to initiate action for reconsideration of an existing initial or renewal claim.

Claimants currently reporting to local offices: All persons currently reporting to local offices to claim unemployment insurance benefit, either regular, seasonal or fishing. Under the Unemployment Insurance Act a person may claim benefit for any week during which he did not work a full working week.

Number of weeks on claim: The cumulative number of weeks during which a claimant has reported to prove unemployment during the current period on claim. The count commences with the week in which the initial (or renewal) claim is filed and continues unbroken so long as the claimant continues to report as directed. Cases occur in which a spell of unemployment extends beyond the termination of a benefit period and a new benefit period is immediately established with no actual interruption of the period on claim. In such cases the cumulative number of weeks is transferred from the previous claim document to that covering the subsequent benefit period and the count continued. This procedure applies also for contiguous periods on regular and seasonal benefit. Excluded from the count are any weeks for which a claimant reported "non-availability" during a complete week.

Entitled to benefit: For purposes of this report, this category comprises those adjudications arising from initial claims on which a benefit period (regular, seasonal or fishing) is shown as established **and no disqualification imposed** and adjudications indicating "approval" on renewal claims, either regular, seasonal or fishing.

Not entitled to benefit: Claimants disqualified on initial and renewal claims, and those for whom the adjudication on an initial claim was to the effect that the claimant was ineligible to establish either a regular, seasonal or fishing benefit period.

Benefit period not established: The minimum contribution requirements for any type of benefit have not been met. This figure thus represents the net total of persons with insufficient contributions to establish a benefit period under either the regular, seasonal or fishing benefit provisions, based on decisions arising from initial claims only. Subsequent decisions arising from a revised claim and

constituting a reversal of the initial adjudication are not taken into account, but such decisions would reduce the number of benefit periods not established.

Failure rate: The number of initial claims on which a benefit period was not established in a month expressed as a per cent of initial claims cleared during that month. During the period when seasonal benefit is effective, the failure rate represents the net cases with insufficient contributions to qualify for either regular, seasonal or fishing benefit. In some cases additional contributions are located necessitating a recomputation whereby the claimant subsequently establishes a benefit period. No account is taken of such cases.

Disqualification: A disqualification is imposed because of circumstances surrounding the claim which render the claimant ineligible for the receipt of benefit either for a stated period or so long as the condition causing the disqualification continues. Where it is established that loss of employment was voluntary on the part of the claimant, i.e., he left employment of his own volition or was dismissed because of misconduct, the maximum disqualification is six weeks; claimants participating in a labour dispute in which they are directly interested are disqualified for the duration of the work stoppage. In assessing the number of cases of disqualification, no distinction is made as to the type of claim, hence disqualifications arising from revised claims are included. The cases mentioned here serve as examples only and do not constitute a complete summary of conditions under which a disqualification may be imposed. Sections 59-66 of the Act contain a description of these conditions.

Weeks compensated: Calendar weeks in respect of which some benefit, either regular, seasonal or fishing, was paid. A compensated week is counted in the month in which the copy of the payment voucher is received in the District Treasury Office, which is not necessarily the month in which the week of unemployment occurred.

Amount of benefit: The sum of all benefit payments made during the month. This comprises regular, seasonal or fishing benefit.

Complete week: A week in respect of which a claimant received the full weekly rate of benefit authorized on that benefit period.

Partial week: A week for which a claimant received less than the full weekly rate authorized. A partial week may be due to excess earnings resulting in a reduced payment in direct proportion to the amount of such earnings. If a claimant was "not available for work" on any day or days during a week, a reduction will be made in the weekly rate proportionate to the number of days of "non-availability". A reduction will occur also if a portion of a week was designated as part of the prescribed waiting period.

Excess earnings: Earnings during a week in excess of the allowable earnings for a claimant's weekly benefit rate. As an example, a claimant whose weekly rate is \$30.00 may earn up to \$15.00 in a week without suffering a reduction in benefit; however, in a week where he earns \$17.00 his benefit will be reduced to \$28.00.

Beneficiaries: Persons who received one or more benefit payments. The estimate, based on the number of payment documents, represents the average weekly number of beneficiaries.

Seasonal benefit: Benefit payable during the period commencing with the Sunday prior to December 1 and ending with the Saturday after May 15, to certain classes of claimants unable to fulfil the requirements under the regular benefit provisions of the Act. Claimants in class A must prove 15 contributions since the Saturday preceding the 31st day of March immediately prior to the date of claim, while qualification under class B is contingent upon a regular benefit period having terminated since the Saturday following the 15th day of May immediately prior to the claim.

Fishermen: For purposes of regular benefit, a fisherman is a claimant showing five or more fishing contribution weeks during the last 52 weeks. For purposes of seasonal benefit, however, any claimant whose qualifying contributions include even one fishing contribution week is classed as a fishing claimant.

Fishing contribution week: Any week for which a fishing contribution is recorded, whether or not a contribution was also made in respect of other insured employment. Specially designed stamps are used to record insured employment in fishing and employers using the bulk pay method must report employee's fishing contributions separately from those relating to other insurable employment.

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