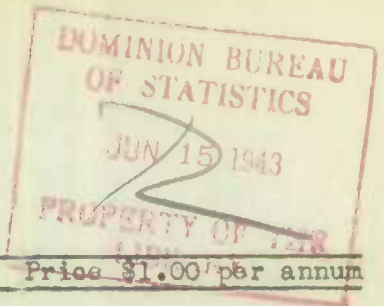


## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics  
Department of Trade and Commerce



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### Weekly Earnings of Male and Female Wage-Earners

Average weekly earnings of male wage-earners employed in the manufacturing industries of Canada as a whole amounted to \$24.78 in 1940, an increase of \$4.47 or 22 per cent as compared with 1934. However, due to an increase of one hour in the average hours worked per week, average hourly earnings advanced from 40.7 cents in 1934 to 48.7 cents in 1940, an increase of 19.6 per cent. Male wage-earners in Ontario received the highest average earnings of \$26.83 per week. British Columbia came second with \$26.00, followed by Manitoba with \$24.30, Quebec \$22.75, Alberta \$22.53, Saskatchewan \$20.67, New Brunswick \$20.54, Nova Scotia \$20.47 and Prince Edward Island \$15.31.

In comparing weekly earnings of the major industrial groups, it is found that the iron and steel group reported the highest earnings of \$30.00 per week, being followed by the other groups in the order named: Non-ferrous metal products, \$27.45; non-metallic mineral products, \$24.90; chemicals and allied products, \$24.16; wood and paper products, \$22.10; animal products, \$21.98; textiles and textile products, \$21.79; vegetable products, \$21.25; and miscellaneous industries, \$20.82.

Average weekly earnings in 1940 in the forty industries employing the greatest number of male wage-earners ranged from \$39.08 for automobiles to \$17.26 for sawmills. In only five industries were weekly earnings above \$30.00. These industries in order of their importance were: automobiles, automobile supplies, petroleum products, shipbuilding and repairs, and aircraft. In seventeen other industries earnings ranged between \$25 and \$30 per week. In thirteen others they received between \$20 and \$25, while in only five were they below \$20 per week.

Female wage-earners received on an average of \$13.49 per week in 1940, an increase of \$1.69 as compared with 1934. Workers in Ontario with \$14.37 per week were paid the highest wages. British Columbia and Manitoba, each with \$13.60 ranked second, followed by Quebec with \$12.70, Alberta \$12.69, New Brunswick \$11.64, Saskatchewan \$11.61, Nova Scotia \$11.19, and Prince Edward Island \$7.71. Female wage-earners in the iron and its products group received the highest wage of \$15.87 per week, while in the vegetable products group they received the lowest wage of \$12.02. In the textiles and textile products group which employs almost half of the number of female wage-earners employed in manufacturing, the average wage was \$14.02, fifty-three cents above the average for all groups.

Average weekly earnings of female wage-earners have a narrower range than those of male workers. Weekly earnings in the forty industries employing the greatest number of female wage-earners ranged in 1940 from \$18.67 for the fur goods industry to \$10.84 for fruit and vegetable preparations. In only seven industries were average weekly earnings above \$15.00. These were: fur goods, automobile supplies, clothing contractors, hats and caps, narrow fabrics, slaughtering and meat packing, and women's factory clothing. In seven other industries weekly earnings ranged from \$14 to \$15, in sixteen others they were from \$13 to \$14, while in the remaining ten they were below \$12.

### Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales in April

New and used motor vehicles financed in Canada in April totalled 4,132 units with a financed value of \$1,422,039, being 38 per cent lower in number and 43 per cent lower in dollar volume than the 6,613 vehicles financed for \$2,489,642 in April last year. There were only 45 new vehicles financed in April this year for an amount of \$43,883.

In the used vehicle field, 4,087 vehicles were financed for \$1,378,156 compared with 5,291 transactions involving \$1,595,162 in April last year, recording declines of 23 per cent in number and 14 per cent in amount. Decreases in various regions of the country were as follows: 41 per cent in the Maritime Provinces, 26 per cent in Quebec, 13 per cent in Ontario, 45 per cent in Manitoba and Saskatchewan combined, 35 per cent in Alberta and 10 per cent in British Columbia.

Cumulative results for the first four months of this year showed 205 new motor vehicles financed as compared with 5,390 in the corresponding period of 1942. Used vehicles financed in the January to April period numbered 10,170 units this year and 18,452 in the similar period of last year.



### Wholesale Price Indexes for April

Standing at 98.9 for April, the composite index of wholesale prices on the base 1926=100 showed a gain of 0.4 points over March. Increases for vegetable products, wood, wood products and paper and animal products outweighed decreases for iron and steel and chemicals and allied products. For vegetable products an advance of 1.2 points to 89.9 occurred between March and April, due to increases for oranges, lemons and bananas, wheat, rye, potatoes and onions. Miscellaneous vegetable items were easier due to reductions in hay.

Higher prices for spruce and hardwoods were sufficient to advance wood, wood products and paper 0.8 to 107.3 in April, while animal products rose 0.1 to 105.7 on higher prices for furs, sheepskins, fresh meats, poultry and eggs. Declines in this group were limited to livestock, milk products, prepared meats and oils and fats. A decrease of 0.1 to 115.3 for iron and its products reflected lower freight rates for steel sheets, while a drop of 0.6 to 100.5 for chemicals and allied products was due to downward price revisions for tanning materials and drugs and pharmaceuticals.

A composite index for 30 industrial materials on the base 1926=100 advanced 0.1 to 96.7 in April on strength in the stable products series which moved up 0.4 to 116.0 on higher prices for spruce. Five foods eased 0.2 to 94.3 as lower quotations for hogs steers and oats overbalanced an increase in wheat, while the manufacturing series of 13 commodities dipped 0.1 to 82.6 on a reduced rosin quotation. Canadian farm products stiffened 1.0 to 92.3 in April, with both field and animal product prices contributing to the rise.

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### Express Company Earnings

Gross earnings of all express companies in Canada in 1942 amounted to \$25,725,512 compared with \$22,933,227 in 1941 an increase of \$2,792,285. There are only two express companies and two express departments of railways carrying on express business in Canada. The railway express agency operates mainly over the Canadian sections of United States railways and the Northern Alberta Railway company business is handled by a department of the railways but the accounts are kept separate and the data are included in the general report.

The net operating revenue increased from \$617,817 in 1941 to \$945,527. Money Orders, Travellers' Cheques and other financial papers issued amounted to \$93,138,055 in 1942, an increase of \$13,717,518 over 1941. Provincial taxes were reduced due to the agreement with the Dominion Government whereby the Provinces ceased taxing income. The Dominion taxes did not show corresponding increases because the Federal tax was assessed on the incomes of the railway.

Full time employees numbered 5,296 as against 5,084 in 1941 while total salaries and wages amounted to \$9,417,112 against \$8,451,872 in 1941.

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### Motion Picture Theatres in 1942

Preliminary results of the annual survey of motion picture theatres in Canada for 1942 reveal an increase of 10 per cent in number of admissions and 13 per cent in the value of net receipts compared with 1941. Admissions numbered 179,611,306 in 1942 compared with 162,646,690 in 1941, while box-office receipts exclusive of all taxes amounted to \$46,930,278 in 1942 and \$41,569,259 in 1941. Taxes collected on motion picture theatre admissions for the Federal and provincial governments amounted to \$10,256,502, which, when added to the net receipts, gives a gross expenditure of \$57,186,780 at motion picture houses in 1942.

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### Railway Rolling Stock Industry

Production by the Canadian railway rolling stock industry during 1941 was valued at \$118,080,141 as compared with \$95,341,712 in 1940, an increase of 24 per cent. Products made during the year included 2,616 freight cars at \$7,811,450; locomotive and car parts at \$6,025,482; three locomotives at \$163,278; car wheels at \$4,399,398; 32,495 tons of castings and forgings at \$3,192,038; brakes and parts at \$128,204; 95 passenger cars at \$1,939,845 and repair work on railway cars and locomotives valued at \$34,287,445. In addition to the items listed, these firms also made munitions, electric railway cars, cast iron pipe, railway track equipment, track motor cars, machinery, etc.



### Production of Concentrated Milk

The production of concentrated whole milk and by-products in April amounted to 24,132,912 pounds compared with 17,925,797 in the preceding month and 23,968,533 in April last year. During the first four months of this year production totalled 65,053,942 pounds compared with 63,921,043 in the corresponding period of 1942.

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### Visible Supply of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store on May 20 totalled 404,236,644 bushels, including 391,773,754 in Canadian positions and 12,462,890 in United States positions. On May 13, stocks amounted to 408,287,672 bushels and on May 21 last year 420,692,713.

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### Farmers' Marketings of Wheat

During the week ended May 21 farmers in western Canada delivered 4,338,157 bushels of wheat from the farms as compared with 3,133,050 bushels in the previous week. Marketings during the elapsed portion of the crop year totalled 201,589,658 bushels as compared with 186,241,609 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

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### Department Store Sales in April

Sales of Canadian department stores in April were nine per cent higher than in the corresponding month last year and recorded a gain of eight per cent above the previous month. Sales for the first four months of this year were four per cent above the like period of 1942. Unadjusted indexes, on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 157.5 for April 145.4 for March and 145.1 for April last year.

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### Stocks of Tobacco

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco on March 31 totalled 146,829,475 pounds including 144,995,780 home grown tobacco and 1,833,695 imported. Flue-cured varieties exceeded in bulk all the others combined. A year ago the stocks of unmanufactured tobacco amounted to 133,891,501 pounds.

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### Retail Merchandise Trade in British Columbia

Retail sales in British Columbia totalled almost three-hundred million dollars in 1941, according to preliminary figures for the census of merchandising and service establishments. Sales during 1941 aggregated \$295,132,700 as compared with \$248,597,500 in 1930, in which year the previous census was taken. The volume of retail business was 19 per cent higher in 1941 than in the earlier period.

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### Reports Issued During the Week

1. School Attendance and Years of Schooling, British Columbia, 1941 (10 cents).
  2. Prices and Price Indexes, April (10 cents).
  3. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
  4. The Railway Rolling Stock Industry, 1941 (25 cents).
  5. Summary of Monthly Railway Traffic Reports, 1942 (25 cents).
  6. Production of Concentrated Milk, April (10 cents).
  7. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, April (10 cents).
  8. Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco during Quarter Ending March 31 (10 cents).
  9. Express Statistics for 1942 (10 cents).
  10. Retail Merchandise Trade in British Columbia, 1941 (10 cents).
  11. Weekly Earnings and Hours of Work of Male and Female Wage-Earners Employed in the Manufacturing Industries, 1940 (25 cents).
  12. Immigration and Citizenship, British Columbia, 1941 (10 cents).
  13. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
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