

ONTARIO BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL TREASURER
GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

EMPLOYMENT IN ONTARIO

December, 1949

There was no significant change in the overall employment situation in the eight leading industries of the Province as at December 1st, 1949 in relation to a year ago and compared with the previous month. An outstanding feature of Ontario's economy is the wide diversification of its industry which makes possible the maintenance of a high level of employment in spite of adverse developments in different areas of the Province.

Employment in MANUFACTURING as a whole in December was about 1% below both Nov., 1949 and December, 1948. Within this group the only increase recorded over the month was a fractional one in electrical apparatus. Compared with a year ago all groups showed declines except food, the largest drop occurring in the non-ferrous metal products group.

Employment in LOGGING continued at a level about 41% below 1948 but showed a 5% seasonal increase over the month. Wholesale and retail TRADE stood about 5% above the 1948 level and was seasonally stronger. The overall picture in MINING was relatively steady while TRANSPORTATION and SERVICES showed declines. Employment in CONSTRUCTION was 6% above 1948, although seasonally weaker. COMMUNICATIONS registered a 10% increase over the year and a small seasonal advance.

Table 1. Percentage Change in Employment in the Eight
Leading Industries of Ontario⁽¹⁾

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Weight⁽²⁾</u>	<u>Dec. 1949 Dec. 1948%</u>	<u>Dec. 1949 Nov. 1949%</u>
1. Manufacturing:	59.5	- 1.5	- 0.9
Lumber Products		- 1.3	- 5.6
Plant Products		+ 2.3	- 8.0
Pulp and Paper		- 0.6	- 0.6
Textiles		- 2.4	- 0.7
Chemicals		- 1.6	- 1.9
Electrical Apparatus		- 0.4	+ 0.5
Iron and Steel		- 3.2	- 0.3
Non-ferrous Metal Products		- 8.6	- 0.6
2. Logging	2.0	-41.3	+ 5.0
3. Mining	2.9	- 0.6	- 0.2
4. Communications	2.5	+ 9.9	+ 0.6
5. Transportation	6.4	- 0.4	- 0.9
6. Construction	9.0	+ 6.1	- 3.0
7. Services	3.5	- 0.8	- 0.3
8. Trade	14.2	+ 4.7	+ 5.4
All Industries	100.0	- 0.8	N/C

(1) Original data reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

(2) shows the distribution of employees among the reporting firms of the eight leading industries in December, 1949.

Employment and Payrolls and Average Weekly Earnings in the
Leading Manufacturing Industries of Ontario by Zones

Fractional increases in employment were recorded in four zones of the Province in December in comparison with a month earlier. The remaining fourteen areas showed declines, ranging from two-tenths of a point in the Metropolitan Zone (1) to 22.2 points in the Highlands (14) area. Other substantial decreases occurred in the Niagara (3), Lake Erie (4), Quinte (11), Nickel Range (16) and Lakehead (18) areas.

Payrolls advanced 31.2 points in the Kawartha Zone (10) over the November level as a result of the strike settlement in the automotive industry. Other increases were shown in the Metropolitan (1), Burlington (2), Upper Thames (5), St. Clair River (7), and Upper St. Lawrence (12) zones, while decreases related to curtailed employment occurred in the other twelve areas. The most outstanding declines in total payrolls were shown in the Highlands (35.0 points), Lakehead (31.8 points), Niagara and Lake Erie zones.

Thirteen areas recorded increases in average weekly earnings, the largest being in the Kawartha Zone (\$3.51).

Table 2. Index Numbers of Employment and Payrolls as Reported by Leading Manufacturers in Eighteen Economic Areas in Ontario, 1949.

1939 = 100

Zone	Weight 1949	Date ⁽²⁾ (1949)	Employment	Dec/Nov + or -	Payrolls	Dec/Nov + or -	Average Weekly Wages and Salaries \$	Dec/Nov + or - \$
1. Metropolitan (Halton, Peel, York)	34.0	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	177.5 180.7 180.5	- 0.2	328.6 338.2 339.5	+ 1.3	45.20 45.71 45.95	+ .24
2. Burlington (Brant, Went., Burlington)	13.1	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	190.7 186.7 185.9	- 0.8	385.7 375.4 385.1	+ 9.7	47.87 47.55 49.02	+1.47
3. Niagara (Lincoln, Welland)	6.7	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	190.0 190.2 181.1	- 9.1	388.3 386.5 369.5	-17.0	50.21 49.92 50.13	+ .21
4. Lake Erie (Haldimand, Norfolk)	0.6	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	119.6 138.3 131.7	- 6.6	237.8 281.5 265.3	-16.2	37.39 38.28 37.89	- .39
5. Upper Thames R. (Elgin, Midd., Oxford)	4.9	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	171.4 174.2 174.4	+ 0.2	325.1 336.6 338.7	+ 2.1	41.38 42.44 42.68	+ .24
6. Border (Essex, Kent)	8.9	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	197.8 206.3 205.6	- 0.7	380.7 405.8 393.0	-12.8	50.99 52.11 50.64	-1.47
7. St. Clair R. (Lambton)	1.8	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	242.9 254.7 252.4	- 2.3	392.7 411.2 415.6	+ 4.4	54.84 54.99 56.09	+1.10

(1) Indicates the relative distribution of employees among the reporting firms of the leading manufacturing industries in the various zones in September, 1949.

Zone	Weight 1949	(1) Date (1949)	Employment	Dec/Nov		Payrolls	Dec/Nov		Average Weekly Wages and Salaries			
				+ or -			+ or -		\$	\$		
8. Upper Grand R. (Perth, Water., Wellington)	7.9	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	159.9 157.4 156.9			323.2 327.5 326.7			40.79 42.02 42.06			+ .04
9. Blue Water (Bruce, Duff., Grey, Huron, Simcoe)	2.4	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	188.6 178.1 176.4			385.9 368.8 363.7			35.92 36.30 36.14			- .16
10. Kawartha Lakes (Durham, Ont., Peter., Vic., Northumberland)	4.9	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	183.4 186.3 187.1			391.9 391.3 422.5			47.65 46.78 50.29			+3.51
11. Quinte (Front., Hast., Lennox and Adding., Prince Edward)	2.6	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	280.2 266.7 258.2			608.1 607.1 593.5			40.27 42.35 42.77			+ .42
12. Upper St. Law- rence (Dun., Glen., Gren., Leeds, Stormont)	2.0	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	149.1 147.9 148.3			307.2 316.2 319.5			42.66 43.84 44.19			+ .35
13. Ottawa Valley (Carl., Lan., Pres., Ren., Russell)	3.5	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	167.4 165.9 163.1			301.9 305.5 304.4			40.40 41.27 41.83			+.56
14. Highlands (Hal., Muskoka, Nip., Parry S.)	0.8	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	143.4 166.7 144.5			282.8 327.9 292.9			41.18 41.00 42.26			+1.26
15. Clay Belt (Cochrane, Timiskaming)	1.0	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	148.0 150.9 145.5			298.2 313.5 302.7			53.67 55.37 55.46			+ .09
16. Nickel Range (Manitoulin, Sudbury)	1.6	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	170.6 170.7 160.1			309.6 312.4 303.5			55.75 56.26 58.30			+2.04
17. Sault (Algoma)	1.4	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	176.2 182.3 182.7			340.8 361.7 353.7			53.58 54.96 53.62			-1.34
18. Lakehead (Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay)	1.9	Apr. 1 Nov. 1 Dec. 1	219.1 216.4 204.5			404.6 431.2 399.4			52.02 56.13 55.00			-1.13
ONTARIO	100.0											

(2) The latest figures are preliminary; those for the preceding month have been revised where necessary. Original data reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

Employment and Payrolls Reported by
Leading Mine Operators in Ontario by Zones⁽¹⁾

Employment in mining increased in four zones in December over the November level and decreased in two, the largest increase occurring in the Sault and the greatest decline in the Border Zone.

Payrolls advanced in the Border and James Bay areas while decreases were shown in the Lakehead, Sault and Nickel Range Zones.

Average weekly earnings reflected the drop in payrolls and declined most notably in the Lakehead Zone. The Border and James Bay areas showed increases of \$2.64 and \$1.21 respectively.

Table 3. Indices of Employment and Payrolls Reported by Leading Ontario Mines
(1939 = 100)

Zone	Date (1949)	Employment	Dec/Nov + or -	Payrolls	Dec/Nov + or -	Average Weekly Wages and Salaries \$	Dec/Nov + or - \$
6. Border (Salt, Natural Gas)	Apr. 1	104.2		171.8		44.02	
	Nov. 1	113.2		184.8		43.58	
	Dec. 1	110.0	- 3.2	190.3	+ 5.5	46.22	+2.64
15. Clay Belt (Gold, Silver)	Apr. 1	75.5		109.7		50.59	
	Nov. 1	76.0		116.5		53.30	
	Dec. 1	75.7	- 0.3	116.5	--	53.60	+ .30
16. Nickel Range (Nickel, Copper, Gold)	Apr. 1	125.2		219.4		53.25	
	Nov. 1	112.5		208.1		61.48	
	Dec. 1	112.7	+ 0.2	207.5	- 0.6	61.21	- .27
17. Sault (Iron Ore)	Apr. 1	181.1		320.1		57.38	
	Nov. 1	196.1		352.5		58.38	
	Dec. 1	200.4	+ 4.3	351.1	- 1.4	56.88	-1.50
18. Lakehead (Silver, Gold, Iron Ore)	Apr. 1	72.9		115.3		53.34	
	Nov. 1	81.5		137.1		56.66	
	Dec. 1	83.0	+ 1.5	129.2	- 7.9	52.47	-4.19
19. James Bay (Gold, Silver, Lead)	Apr. 1	102.1		157.5		53.69	
	Nov. 1	102.9		159.2		53.84	
	Dec. 1	106.4	+ 3.5	168.4	+ 9.2	55.05	+1.21

(1) Reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics; latest figures are subject to revision; those for the preceding month have been revised where necessary.

Statistics Relating to Unemployment

On January 26, 1950, 91,842 persons were seeking employment in the Province as a whole. This compares with 70,551 on the 3rd of February last year and presently represents about 5% of the total labour force.

The ratio of unplaced applicants to unfilled vacancies in the Province currently stands at about 11:1, having increased from 9:1 at the beginning of January. Among the various zones, the most unfavourable conditions appear to exist in the Upper St. Lawrence, Border, Quinte, Highlands and Niagara areas, while a reasonably favourable picture continues to prevail in the Metropolitan, Upper Thames, and Upper Grand River Zones.

Table 4. Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants in Ontario by Zones as at Jan. 26, 1950⁽¹⁾

Zone	Unfilled Vacancies	Unplaced Applicants	Ratio of Unplaced Applicants to Unfilled Vacancies	Zone	Unfilled Vacancies	Unplaced Applicants	Ratio of Unplaced Applicants to Unfilled Vacancies
1.Metro.	4,532	20,811	4.6	10.Kawartha	139	4,255	30.6
2.Burlington	669	9,372	14.0	11.Quinte	98	3,949	40.3
3.Niagara	218	6,790	31.1	12.U. St. Lawr.	25	3,087	123.5
4.Lake Erie	23	623	27.1	13.Ottawa V.	602	8,147	13.5
5.U. Thames	659	3,415	5.2	14.Highlands	78	2,422	31.1
6.Border	112	7,783	69.5	15.Clay Belt	136	2,110	15.5
7.St. Clair R.	44	1,063	24.2	16.Nickel Range	147	1,951	13.3
8.U. Grand R.	393	3,756	9.6	17.Sault	45	1,170	26.0
9.Blue Water	245	6,199	25.3	18.Lakehead	208	4,939	23.7
ONTARIO (Jan. 26, 1950) ⁽²⁾					8,373	91,842	11.0
ONTARIO (Feb. 3, 1949)					12,060	70,551	5.9

- (1) Figures reported by the various offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission. Owing to the fact that these offices serve areas not entirely coincident with the economic zones shown here, some degree of overlapping has resulted.
- (2) These totals do not include statistics on executive and professional persons but do include data on industries other than the leading eight, e.g. agriculture.

February, 1950.