

**7.—Old Age Assistance Statistics by Province, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1954 and 1955**  
—concluded

Province or Territory and Year	Recipients in Month of March	Average Amount of Monthly Assistance	P. C. of Recipients to Population Age 65-69 <sup>1</sup>	Federal Government Contribution During Year
	No.	\$	p. c.	\$
Quebec.....1954	32,391	37.50	32.39	7,187,259
.....1955	32,882	37.48	32.46	7,392,923
Ontario.....1954	21,587	36.83	13.36	4,726,153
.....1955	22,061	36.86	13.52	4,858,693
Manitoba.....1954	4,838	37.77	17.16	1,112,322
.....1955	4,847	37.64	17.19	1,119,639
Saskatchewan.....1954	4,584	36.71	15.81	1,017,535
.....1955	4,853	37.22	16.79	1,089,704
Alberta.....1954	5,014	36.80	16.60	1,107,190
.....1955	5,341	36.67	17.74	1,165,332
British Columbia.....1954	8,144	37.72	15.60	1,863,052
.....1955	7,868	37.76	15.25	1,872,909
Yukon Territory.....1954	4	40.00	2.15	880
.....1955	12	38.41	6.45	2,220
Northwest Territories.....1954	64	38.40	37.21	14,251
.....1955	90	38.11	52.33	18,942
<b>Canada.....1954</b>	<b>93,273</b>	<b>36.50</b>	<b>20.80</b>	<b>20,288,152</b>
<b>.....1955</b>	<b>94,625</b>	<b>36.56</b>	<b>21.01</b>	<b>20,869,126</b>

<sup>1</sup> Estimated population as at June 1 of each year for the provinces and 1951 Census data for the Territories.

### Subsection 2.—Allowances for the Blind

The Blind Persons Act (R.S.C. 1952, c. 17), effective January 1952, was amended in 1955 to lower the eligible age and to increase the income limits. The Act as amended provides for financial aid to the provinces toward the provision of allowances to blind persons aged 18 (formerly 21) or over. Within the limits of the federal Act each province is free to fix the amount of the maximum allowance payable and the maximum income allowed. The Federal Government's contribution per recipient cannot exceed 75 p.c. of \$40 per month or of the allowance paid, whichever is less.

For an unmarried person, the total income allowed including the allowance cannot exceed \$960 (formerly \$840) a year; for an unmarried person with one or more dependent children, \$1,160 (formerly \$1,040); for a married couple, \$1,560 (formerly \$1,320) a year; where the spouse is also blind the total income of the couple cannot exceed \$1,680 (formerly \$1,440) a year. The exact allowance payable in each case depends on the amount of outside income and the resources of the applicant and his spouse. To be eligible for an allowance the applicant must not be in receipt of assistance under the Old Age Assistance Act, of an allowance under the War Veterans Allowance Act, of a pension under the Old Age Security Act or of a pension in respect of blindness under the Pensions Act. The applicant must have resided in Canada for at least 10 years immediately preceding the commencement of the allowance but may have certain temporary absences; where the