

8.—Statistics of Allowances for the Blind by Province, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1955-57—
concluded

| Province or Territory and Year | Recipients in Month of March | Average Amount of Monthly Allowance | P.C. of Recipients to Population Age 20-69 ¹ | Federal Government Contribution during Year | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------|
| | No. | \$ | | \$ | |
| Saskatchewan..... | 1955 | 374 | 38.58 | 0.076 | 132,670 |
| | 1956 | 389 | 38.84 | 0.079 | 135,219 |
| | 1957 | 399 | 38.80 | 0.081 | 141,797 |
| Alberta..... | 1955 | 409 | 38.59 | 0.069 | 140,149 |
| | 1956 | 415 | 38.54 | 0.070 | 145,707 |
| | 1957 | 418 | 39.25 | 0.070 | 151,071 |
| British Columbia..... | 1955 | 474 | 39.02 | 0.063 | 170,796 |
| | 1956 | 475 | 39.52 | 0.062 | 166,772 |
| | 1957 | 482 | 39.17 | 0.062 | 169,387 |
| Yukon Territory..... | 1955 | 2 | 40.00 | 0.035 | 900 |
| | 1956 | 6 | 40.00 | 0.105 | 1,350 |
| | 1957 | 6 | 40.00 | 0.105 | 2,160 |
| Northwest Territories..... | 1955 | 16 | 40.00 | 0.188 | 5,175 |
| | 1956 | 18 | 40.00 | 0.212 | 6,330 |
| | 1957 | 25 | 38.60 | 0.294 | 7,447 |
| Canada..... | 1955 | 8,122 | 38.99 | 0.094 | 2,886,185 |
| | 1956 | 8,230 | 39.36 | 0.093 | 2,918,495 |
| | 1957 | 8,256 | 39.24 | 0.094 | 2,959,040 |

¹ Estimated population as at June 1 of each year for the Provinces (1957 data related to 1956 population) and 1951 Census data for the Territories.

Subsection 3.—Allowances for Disabled Persons

The Disabled Persons Act of 1955 as amended November 1957 provides for federal reimbursement to the provinces for allowances paid to permanently and totally disabled persons aged 18 or over who are in need and who have resided in Canada for at least 10 years. The federal contribution may not exceed 50 p.c. of \$55 per month (\$40 prior to July 1, 1957; \$46 between July 1 and Oct. 31, 1957) or of the allowance paid, whichever is the less. The province administers the program and, within the limits of the federal Act, may fix the amount of allowance payable, the maximum income allowed and other conditions of eligibility.

To qualify for an allowance a person must meet the definition of permanent and total disability set out in the Regulations to the Act and have resided in Canada for at least 10 years immediately preceding commencement of allowance or, if absent from Canada during this period, must have been present in Canada prior to its commencement for a period equal to double any period of absence.

For an unmarried person, total income including the allowance may not exceed \$960 a year. For a married couple the limit is \$1,620 a year except that if the spouse is blind within the meaning of the Blind Persons Act, income of the couple may not exceed \$1,980 a year. Allowances are not paid to a person receiving an allowance under the Blind Persons Act or the War Veterans Allowance Act, assistance under the Old Age Assistance Act, a pension under the Old Age Security Act, or mothers' allowances.

The definition of permanent and total disability employed under the Act requires that a person must be suffering from a major physiological, anatomical or psychological impairment, verified by objective medical findings. The impairment must be one that is likely to continue indefinitely without substantial improvement and that will severely limit activities of normal living.