

Section 3.—Provincial Programs

Subsection 1.—Mothers' Allowances

All provinces make statutory provision for allowances to needy mothers who are deprived of the breadwinner and are unable to maintain their dependent children without assistance. Mothers' allowances programs, whether set out in separate Acts or included in general assistance legislation are, in most provinces, administered as separate programs. However, in British Columbia, since Sept. 1, 1958, aid has been provided to needy mothers as to other needy persons under the social assistance program. Therefore the following remarks do not apply to British Columbia, although Table 11 includes data for that province for the year ended Mar. 31, 1958.

Subject to conditions of eligibility which vary from province to province, mothers' allowances are payable from provincial funds to applicants who are widowed or whose husbands are mentally incapacitated and, except in Alberta, to those whose husbands are physically disabled and unable to support their families. They are also payable to deserted wives who meet specified conditions; in several provinces to mothers who are divorced or legally separated; in some, to unmarried mothers; and in Ontario and Quebec to certain Indian mothers. Foster mothers may be eligible under particular circumstances in most provinces.

The number of families and children assisted and amounts of benefits paid as at Mar. 31, 1958 and 1959 are given in Table 11 and rates of benefit as at July 1959 in Table 12.

11.—Mothers' Allowances, by Province, as at Mar. 31, 1958 and 1959

Province and Year	Families Assisted	Children Assisted	Benefits Paid
	No.	No.	\$
Newfoundland.....1958
.....1959	3,770	10,250 ¹	2,859,072 ¹
Prince Edward Island.....1958	266	712	88,740
.....1959	276	729	128,982
Nova Scotia.....1958	2,131	5,966	1,576,585
.....1959	2,196	5,483	1,887,882
New Brunswick.....1958	2,213	6,360	1,336,043
.....1959	2,235	6,495	1,365,075
Quebec.....1958	21,766	63,121	14,611,986
.....1959	22,403	64,869	18,991,476
Ontario.....1958	8,580	20,247	8,947,401
.....1959	9,433	22,632	11,033,273
Manitoba.....1958	1,121	2,620	1,091,629
.....1959	823	2,263	1,324,993
Saskatchewan.....1958	2,279	5,792	1,573,190
.....1959	2,222	5,491	2,030,222
Alberta.....1958	1,879	4,234	1,512,651
.....1959	2,093	4,768	1,857,031
British Columbia.....1958	243	584	143,000 ²
.....1959 ³
Canada.....1958⁴	40,478	109,696	39,881,225
.....1959⁵	45,451	122,080	41,478,296

¹ Approximate. ² Not including an estimated \$144,000 paid as supplementation from social allowance funds. ³ Caseload transferred to social assistance and no separate figures available. ⁴ Exclusive of Newfoundland in which province allowances are paid to needy mothers under the Social Assistance Act. ⁵ Exclusive of British Columbia (see footnote 3).