

The duration of regular benefit is related to the contribution history—one week's benefit for every two weeks' contributions in the past 104 weeks with a maximum of 36 weeks. The rate of benefit is determined by the average of the contributions in the past 30 weeks. No benefit is payable in a benefit period until a claimant has served a waiting period equivalent to one full week's benefit.

Disqualifications for benefit include: loss of work owing to a labour dispute in which the contributor is participating or directly interested; unwillingness to accept suitable employment; being an inmate of any prison or any institution supported out of public funds; refusal to attend a course of instruction or training if directed to do so; residence outside Canada unless otherwise prescribed. Disqualification of a claimant for a period not exceeding six weeks may be imposed if an employee is discharged by reason of his own misconduct or leaves the employment voluntarily without just cause or refuses suitable employment.

Seasonal benefit is payable in the period Dec. 1 to mid-May to certain claimants whose benefits have been exhausted or who have insufficient contributions to qualify for regular benefit. Prior to 1958 the period was Jan. 1 to mid-April. A temporary extension of six weeks to the seasonal benefit period was made in 1958.

**Statistics of Unemployment Insurance.\***—Detailed statistics on unemployment insurance, collected for administration purposes, also provide information of general interest on employment and unemployment and on financial aspects of the scheme. Table 25 shows, for 1957 and 1958, the number of claims received each month in local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, the number of active claimants at each month-end, the average weekly number of beneficiaries each month and total benefits paid. The number of claims received shows the volume of new cases of recorded unemployment among insured persons, while the number of active claimants at month-end indicates recorded unemployment at a given time. Initial and renewal claims filed in 1958 increased by 407,307 from the previous year to a total of 2,780,542. The month-end count of active claimants, who were either applying for or receiving benefit, averaged 380,178 in 1957 and 551,508 in 1958. The average weekly number of beneficiaries in the peak month of March was 498,300 in 1957 and 802,200 in 1958. The difference between the 1957 and 1958 levels of beneficiaries narrowed to 2,100 by December. Benefits paid rose from \$305,000,000 in 1957 to some \$493,000,000 in 1958.

\* Statistics of unemployment insurance are compiled and published by the Unemployment Insurance Section, Labour Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, from material supplied by the Unemployment Insurance Commission. More detailed analysis of these data is available in DBS publication *Annual Report on Benefit Periods Established and Terminated under the Unemployment Insurance Act* (Catalogue No. 73-201) and monthly *Statistical Report on the Operations of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (Catalogue No. 73-001).

**25.—Claims Filed, Active Claimants, Beneficiaries, and Amount Paid, by Month, 1957 and 1958**

Month	1957				1958			
	Initial and Renewal Claims Filed	Active Claimants, End of Month	Beneficiaries, Weekly Average	Amount Paid	Initial and Renewal Claims Filed	Active Claimants, End of Month	Beneficiaries, Weekly Average	Amount Paid
	No.	No.	No.	\$	No.	No.	No.	\$
January.....	361,055	545,981	365,000	33,439,112	367,382	834,544	639,800	60,759,645
February.....	192,665	572,387	457,800	38,603,408	243,907	869,349	735,700	63,307,658
March.....	195,224	558,811	498,300	44,125,523	259,338	859,639	802,200	72,382,046
April.....	163,519	373,609	477,900	40,392,557	217,600	722,252	735,200	66,679,377
May.....	104,326	250,283	313,300	26,269,582	165,075	551,103	582,800	51,852,555
June.....	86,419	204,516	177,300	14,356,036	155,754	445,487	425,100	36,992,241
July.....	114,107	205,779	155,800	13,799,832	167,402	300,826	294,800	26,815,103
August.....	115,287	208,708	155,100	13,033,311	139,690	294,587	223,200	19,491,443
September.....	124,949	226,530	166,000	13,809,589	157,556	282,587	224,000	19,854,067
October.....	167,363	268,005	177,500	16,331,548	191,215	323,530	220,700	20,273,443
November.....	249,108	403,273	227,400	18,989,040	246,568	419,233	262,500	21,134,688
December.....	499,213	744,248	369,000	31,926,951	476,155	714,954	371,100	33,558,826
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>2,373,235</b>	<b>380,178</b>	<b>295,033</b>	<b>305,076,459</b>	<b>2,780,542</b>	<b>551,508</b>	<b>459,758</b>	<b>492,901,992</b>