

Section 1.—Federal Government Programs

Subsection 1.—Family Allowances

The Family Allowances Act of 1944 is designed to assist in providing equal opportunity for all Canadian children. The allowances do not involve a means test and are paid from the federal Consolidated Revenue Fund. They do not constitute taxable income but there is a smaller income tax exemption for children eligible for allowances.

Allowances are payable in respect of every child under the age of 16 years who was born in Canada, or who has been a resident of the country for one year, or whose father or mother was domiciled in Canada for three years immediately prior to the birth of the child. Payment is made by cheque each month, normally to the mother, although any person who substantially maintains the child may be paid the allowance on his behalf. Allowances are paid at the monthly rate of \$6 for each child under 10 years of age and \$8 for each child aged 10 or over but under 16 years. If the allowances are not spent for the purposes outlined in the Act, payment may be discontinued or made to some other person or agency on behalf of the child. Allowances are not payable for any child who fails to comply with provincial school regulations or on behalf of a girl who is married and under 16 years of age. The program is administered by the Department of National Health and Welfare through regional offices located in each provincial capital. A Regional Director for the Yukon and Northwest Territories is located at Ottawa.

The Federal Government pays family assistance, at the rates applicable for family allowances, for each child under 16 years of age resident in Canada and supported by an immigrant who has landed for permanent residence in Canada, or by a Canadian returned to Canada to reside permanently. The assistance, which is payable monthly and for a maximum period of one year, is not payable for a child eligible for family allowances.

1.—Family Allowances Statistics, by Province, Year Ended Mar. 31, 1962 with Totals for 1958-62

NOTE.—Provincial figures for each year from the inception of the Act to 1961 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books, beginning with the 1947 edition.

Province or Territory	Families Receiving Allowance in March	Children for Whom Allowance Paid in March	Average Number of Children per Family in March	Average Allowance ¹		Net Total Allowances Paid during Fiscal Year
				Per Family	Per Child	
	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$
Newfoundland.....	65,705	204,855	3.12	20.87	6.69	16,336,849
Prince Edward Island.....	14,190	39,931	2.81	18.98	6.74	3,204,881
Nova Scotia.....	105,868	271,036	2.56	17.14	6.70	21,623,655
New Brunswick.....	83,014	239,340	2.88	19.41	6.73	19,222,615
Quebec.....	739,126	1,976,677	2.67	17.96	6.71	157,712,911
Ontario.....	929,461	2,133,116	2.29	15.32	6.68	168,442,100
Manitoba.....	132,338	315,238	2.38	15.94	6.69	25,065,334
Saskatchewan.....	131,975	329,681	2.50	16.70	6.69	26,313,109
Alberta.....	204,698	496,712	2.43	16.13	6.65	38,928,125
British Columbia.....	236,646	538,934	2.28	15.24	6.69	42,687,279
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	6,296	16,767	2.66	17.04	6.40	1,244,335
Canada..... 1962	2,649,317	6,562,287	2.48	16.58	6.69	520,781,193
1961	2,602,930	6,397,134	2.46	16.42	6.68	506,191,647
1960	2,551,264	6,219,989	2.44	16.27	6.67	491,214,359
1959	2,492,581	6,035,256	2.42	16.15	6.67	474,787,068
1958	2,406,734	5,796,380	2.41	16.08	6.68	437,886,560

¹ Based on gross payment for March.