

**8.—Statistics of Allowances for the Blind, by Province, Years Ended
Mar. 31, 1952¹ and 1953**

Province or Territory and Year	Recipients in March	Average Amount of Assistance Monthly	P.C. of Recipients to Population Age 20-69 ²	Federal Contribution During Year	
	No.	\$	p.c.	\$	
Newfoundland.....	1952 ¹	321	39.26	0.178	28,237
	1953.....	336	39.88	0.183	117,937
Prince Edward Island.....	1952 ¹	75	38.10	0.141	6,460
	1953.....	79	37.83	0.145	26,681
Nova Scotia.....	1952 ¹	734	38.69	0.210	64,199
	1953.....	722	38.54	0.204	253,718
New Brunswick.....	1952 ¹	783	39.25	0.292	69,186
	1953.....	750	39.85	0.276	273,941
Quebec.....	1952 ¹	3,013	39.48	0.132	271,902
	1953.....	3,041	39.23	0.131	1,104,180
Ontario.....	1952 ¹	1,604	39.20	0.056	142,984
	1953.....	1,751	38.87	0.060	632,329
Manitoba.....	1952 ¹	401	39.37	0.086	35,949
	1953.....	430	39.24	0.092	153,549
Saskatchewan.....	1952 ¹	343	39.25	0.072	30,667
	1953.....	342	39.22	0.071	123,692
Alberta.....	1952 ¹	378	38.89	0.068	33,767
	1953.....	383	39.31	0.067	133,822
British Columbia.....	1952 ¹	426	39.25	0.059	37,827
	1953.....	485	39.19	0.066	162,910
Yukon Territory.....	1952 ¹	2	40.00	0.035	180
	1953.....	2	40.00	0.035	720
Northwest Territories.....	1952 ¹	1	40.00	0.012	90
	1953.....	11	40.00	0.130	1,740
Canada.....	1952 ¹	8,079	39.26	0.098³	721,449
	1953.....	8,332	39.17	0.099³	2,965,217

¹ Program in effect for the last three months only of the fiscal year. ² Estimated population as at June 1 of each year. ³ Exclusive of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

A description of the pensions payable to blind persons under the Old Age Pensions Act 1927, repealed in 1951, will be found in the 1951 Year Book, pp. 234-235. The final statistics of operations under that program are given in the 1952-53 Year Book, p. 267.

Subsection 3.—National Physical Fitness Program

A program of physical fitness and recreation for Canadians was introduced with the proclamation on Oct. 1, 1943, of the National Physical Fitness Act. A National Council was set up on Feb. 15, 1944, to promote the well-being of the people of Canada through physical fitness and recreational activities; its members are appointed by the Governor General in Council. In some provinces, councils have been established by the provincial governments.

A number of projects of significance have been initiated. National Fitness Scholarships are awarded annually to give financial assistance to professionally qualified Canadians with three years' successful experience who desire to improve