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cent of not more than \$75 per month for allowances to disabled persons in need 18 years of age or over. In 1965–66 payments for old age assistance amount to \$27 million, for disabled persons allowances \$15 million and for blind persons allowances \$4 million. In 1964–65 payments were \$45 million for old age assistance, \$23 million for disabled persons allowances and \$6 million for blind persons allowances. The decreases are due to the opting out of these programs by the Province of Quebec under federal-provincial agreement.

Under the Unemployment Assistance Act, the Minister may, with the approval of the Governor in Council, enter into an agreement with any province for the payment by Canada to the province of contributions not exceeding 50 per cent of unemployment assistance costs in the province. Contributions in 1965–66 are \$105 million compared with \$108 million in 1964–65. The decrease is due to the opting out of a portion of this program by the Province of Quebec under federal-provincial agreement.

The following table presents a distribution of these payments to provinces for 1965-66:

Government's contributions under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act

Contributions of \$314 million to the provinces under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act are \$120 million less than the 1964–65 total of \$434 million, due mainly to the Province of Quebec opting out of this program.

TABLE 34 (in millions of dollars)

Government's Contributions under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act	Fiscal year ending March 31		Increase
	1966 (estimated)	1965	decrease (-)
Newfoundland. Nova Scotia. Prince Edward Island. New Brunswick. Quebec. Ontario. Manitoba. Saskatchewan. Alberta. British Columbia. Northwest and Yukon Territories.	9.7 18.4 2.0 11.6 159.4 20.3 23.3 32.5 36.0 0.8	9.6 15.9 2.1 13.8 128.2 151.5 20.9 23.5 31.4 36.1 0.9	0.1 2.5 -0.1 -2.2 -128.2 7.9 -0.6 -0.2 1.1 -0.1 -0.1

General health grants and hospital construction grants to provinces

Grants to provinces for general health services total \$32 million and for hospital construction \$20 million compared with \$35 million and \$22 million respectively in 1964–65. The decrease is partially due to the opting out of a portion of this program by the Province of Quebec under federal-provincial agreement.