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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

THE JUNE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.
Chief, General Statistics: S. A. Cudmore, M.A., F.S.S.

A further and marked increase in employment was indicated at the beginning of June in reports furnished by employers of labour to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the situation being more favourable than at any time since December, 1920. The improvement was general, but the seasonal gains in construction were the largest. A combined payroll of 800,605 persons was reported by the 5,865 firms making returns, who had employed 754,021 workers at the beginning of May. This increase of approximately 47,000 persons caused the index number to rise from 91.4 on May 1 to 97.3 for the period under review. During the corresponding month of 1922, when decided improvement had also been registered, the number had stood at 89.2, and in June, 1921, it was 86.6.

While all provinces shared in the upward movement, the gains in Quebec and Ontario, providing work for over 36,000 workers, greatly exceeded those reported elsewhere. The increase in British Columbia caused the index number there to be slightly higher than at the base period, a situation which last year was not indicated until August. The expansion, as mentioned above, was of a general character, a large number of industries in all provinces contributing to the net gains. Conditions everywhere were much better than at the beginning of June, 1922 and 1921.

Increased activity was recorded by firms in the six cities for which separate tabulations are made. In Montreal, where over 7,000 persons were added to the staffs of the employers reporting, the greatest improvement was indicated in shipping and stevedoring and construction; gains were also shown in manufacturing and trade. The expansion in Toronto, which was on a much smaller scale, occurred chiefly in construction, trade and transportation. Sawmills, pulp and paper factories registered the bulk of the increase in Ottawa, although there was also considerably increased activity in construction. General but moderate improvement was indicated in Hamilton and Winnipeg, the greatest gains in both cities being reported in construction. In Vancouver sawmills and rolling mills were busier and expansion was also recorded in construction and in several other industries.

Practically all groups within the manufacturing division except leather, textiles and musical instruments reported improvement. The increases in payroll in sawmills, iron, steel, fish canning, pulp and paper factories were especially pronounced. Fruit and vegetable canneries, dairies, tobacco, glass and electric current works, smelters and refineries were decidedly busier also. The losses in boot, shoe, garment and thread, yarn and cloth factories were largely of a seasonal character repeating those registered at the beginning of June, 1922. Rather tardy river driving operations caused employment in logging to show some temporary recovery from the heavy seasonal contractions recently recorded. Mining, transportation and construction reported considerably increased activity, the last named industry absorbing nearly 19,000 additional workers, of whom over 60 per cent were employed by the construction and maintenance departments of the railways. In addition, the volume of employment afforded in communication, in hotels and in trade increased, though not so extensively as in the industries mentioned above.

Index numbers of employment by districts and industrial divisions are given on page 2, while the chart on page 3 shows graphically the course of employment since the beginning of 1921. The favourable movement that employment has recently experienced may be seen clearly; the curve during the last two months paralleled its course during 1922, but it continues on a much higher level.

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Note: The number employed on January 17, 1920, is taken as 100 in every case.

The "relative weight" shows the proportion of employees in the indicated district or industry to the total number of employees reported in all districts and industries for the period under review.

TABLE I - Index Numbers of Employment in Canada by Months.

	1923.	1922.	1921
January 1	86.3	77.9	87.7
February 1	89.5	78.9	90.1
March 1	89.9	81.9	88.0
April 1	87.6	80.6	84.1
May 1	91.4	83.3	84.1
June 1	97.3	89.2	86.6
July 1		91.1	87.5
August 1		93.1	88.9
September 1		93.7	88.7
October 1		94.6	90.2
November 1		95.8	90.2
December 1		95.1	87.2

TABLE II - Index Numbers of Employment by Provinces.

District	Relative Weight	June 1 1923	May 1 1923	June 1 1922	June 1 1921
Maritime Provinces	8.7	93.9	90.0	87.4	89.5
Quebec and Ontario	70.3	97.7	91.1	87.9	84.3
Prairie Provinces	12.7	95.5	90.4	92.8	91.1
British Columbia.....	8.3	100.4	97.5	96.6	93.3
CANADA.....	100	97.3	91.4	89.2	86.6

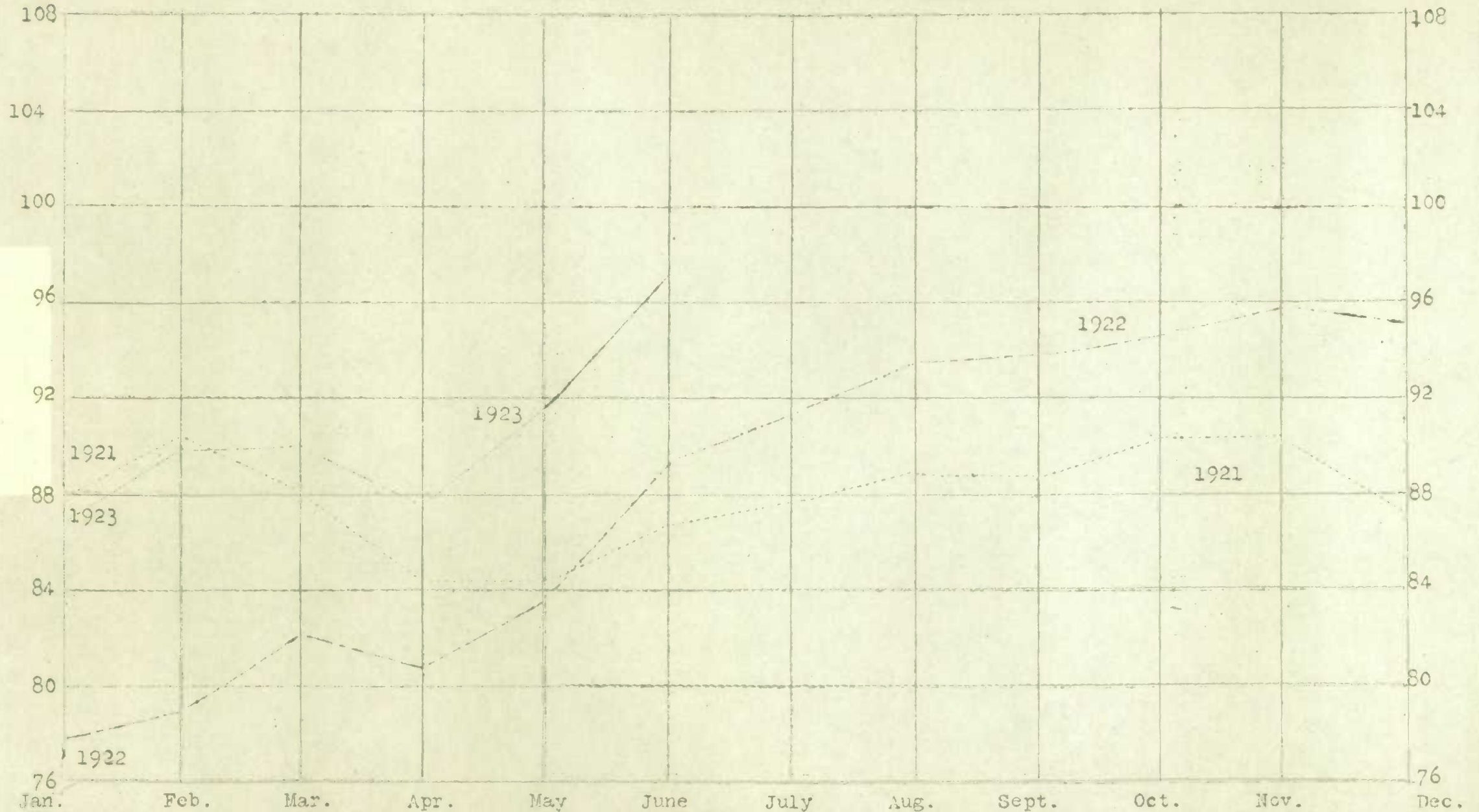
TABLE III - Index Numbers of Employment by Cities.

City	Relative Weight	June 1 1923	May 1 1923	June 1 1922
Montreal	13.8	95.4	88.8	85.9
Toronto	12.5	89.9	88.1	86.6
Ottawa	1.5	109.6	94.8	
Hamilton	3.8	94.6	92.6	
Winnipeg	3.1	87.1	86.3	92.9
Vancouver	2.6	94.7	91.8	97.5

Table IV - Index Numbers of Employment by Industries.

Industry	Relative Weight	June 1 1923	May 1 1923	June 1 1922	June 1 1921
Manufacturing	57.8	93.5	90.5	84.2	81.1
Lumber Prdducts	7.0	112.4	95.5	107.0	99.7
Pulp and Paper	6.7	104.4	101.1	96.5	94.2
Textile Products	9.0	90.6	92.5	88.2	78.0
Iron and Steel	16.7	86.7	85.4	70.5	70.7
Other manufacturing industries.	18.4	92.2	89.6	84.9	84.9
Logging	2.4	52.5	48.0	37.5	47.3
Mining	5.9	101.6	96.7	92.6	88.7
Communication.....	2.6	102.2	99.7	100.6	106.1
Transportation	13.8	109.0	101.7	106.2	98.1
Construction and maintenance....	9.0	140.2	101.6	129.5	111.9
Services	1.7	108.8	97.1	100.3	103.8
Trade	6.8	91.9	91.7	90.0	92.5
ALL INDUSTRIES.....	100	97.3	91.4	89.2	86.6

EMPLOYMENT AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS



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The curve is based on the number of employees actually at work on the first day of the month as indicated by the firms reporting, in comparison with the number of employees they reported in January, 1920.

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