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THE

JANUARY
EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
1924

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IIssued January $21,1924$.
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Erployment at the beginning of January, 1924, showed the lare contraction always indicated at this time of year, al thourh the declines wer considerably less then at the begiming of January, 1423. According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Eureau of Statistics, there was a decrease of 57,581 persons or 7.3 per cent in the employment afforded by the reporting firms. The losses recorded at the same period of last year had affccted over 72,000 persons or 9 per cent of the payroll. The reduction recorded during the period under review caused the curve of employment in the chart on the opposite page to fonlow very much the course it pursued last yatr. It wos, however, somowhet highor than at the berinning of 1923 and considerably above the level indicated on jenuary $1,1922$.

The 5.768 firms making returns for the beginning of this month employed 729.950 perisons as compared with 787.531 on December 1, 1923. The index number declaned from 95.7 in the precedine month to 88.7 for the period under review; at the beginnine of January, 1923, it had stood at 86.3, in 1922 at 77.9 and in 1921 at 87.7. The tendency in all industries except logeine and retail trade, in which there were seasonal gains, was dommard. The heaviest reductions wore reported in maniracturing. largely owing to terporazy shutdowns over the holidays and for inventuries.

Wille shrinlage was reportad in all provinces, the losses $2 n$ Untario and Quebec were the largest; these in the former Affected some 25.900 workers and in the letter, appruximetely 17,900. The liaritime District, on account of seasonot eains in logeine and tiansportation, wasi least affected by the general curtailment of operations.

Reductions in employment were reconded in all of the six cities for wilich separate tabulatione are made. They were very extensive in Montreal, where jronounced contractions tue to the closine of railmey car, tobacco, textile and many other manufacturing jlants were supplemented by lare losses in shipping and stevedoring and in building construction. The payrolls of the firms reportine in this city were over 7 per cent less than at the beginnine of pecember. In Toronto there mes a large increase in retail trade, but textile, confectionery, iron and steel and many othor factories reported substantial curtailment; the street railways afforded less employment and there were considerable declines in bullding construction. There wes a recuction in employment in this city of betmeen 4. and 5 per cent. Sawmills and building construction acein suffered the hoaviest losses in uttema, where thore wes a decres.se of more than 3 per cent in the employment afferded by the reporting firms. Very lerpe losses in locorotive, wire and other iron and steel works, in textilo and other manuiacturine establishments in titilton caused the index number to decline by about 10 per cent. In winniper there were ceneral but rather mall reductions in a nurber of croups, the result beine a contraction of 3 per cent. continued curtiliment of operations in sevmills vas reported in Vancouver; there were also declines in shimping and stevecorine and somo othar industries, erploynent follice off by? por cent.

Wi thout exception, the trend of employment in manufacturing was downerd. Over 39,000 workers were released by the namufacturers reporting; this remresented a decline or 9 per cent.

The most pronounced decreases were those in iron ond steel, which Qffected over 9,600 persons. Tinis reduction mas generally distributod amone the different Erouns in this division, but the losses in reilway car and locomotive shops mere the most extensive. Lumber, hosiery, krittine, fabric, garment, leather, meat packing. furniture, biscuit, canning, chocolate, sugar, pulp, paper, rubber, tobacco, clay, mless, stone and non-ferrous metal product works also registered substintital curtailment. Nany of these plants will, however, heve resumed operations shortly aftor tho firet of the month. The declines in mufucturine as a whole at the beginning of the present month wore lose then durine the same period of last year. In lugeing there was an increase in personnel of over 3.700 workers or nearly 12 per cent, whech was very much lamger than the exjansion recorded on Janurry 1, 19:23. While the volume of employment afforded in ietail trade was not as preat on Tanuery 1 as juet before Christnas, it wes nevertheless about 5 per cent hicher then at the becinninc of Decomber. This increase linkely exceeded that recorded at the sare period of last year. In minize, comrunication, tronsportation and construction there were considerakle declincs.

The tables on page 3 give the index numbers of employment by districts and rain industrial eroups.
$\ldots \downarrow$

Note: The numbor employed on Jemunur 17, 1920, is taken as 100 in cuery case.

The "raletive waient" shors the proportion of emnloyees in the indicated district or induetry to the total number of emioyees repurted in all districts and industries for the period under revie\%.

TABIE I - Index Numbers of Employment in Canade by Montlis.

|  | 1923 | 1902 | 1021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jenuary 2 | 86.3 | 77.9 | 87.? |
| February 2 | 80.5 | 78.9 | 00.1 |
| March 1 | 89.9 | $3 . .9$ | 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 | 99.5 | 91.1 | 87.5 |
| Aucrast 1 | 100.2 | 93.1 | 88.9 |
| September 1 | 100.0 | 93.7 | 88.7 |
| Octoher 1 | 49.5 | 94.6 | 30.2 |
| Hovember $?$ | 96.8 | 95.8 | 90.2 |
| becember? | 95.7 | 95.1 | 87.2 |

IABLE II - Index Numbers of Frmployment by Provinces.

| District | Relative <br> Veigint | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Jan} .1 \\ & 1924 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec. } 1 \\ & 1023 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{J} 231.1 \\ & 1923 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Jan} .1 \\ & 1922 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jar. } \\ & 1921 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Naritime Provinces | 8.8 | 86.3 | 91. | 90.8 | 78.1 | 95.4 |
| Quebec | 27.3 | 90.5 | 98.5 | 83.5 | 74.4 | 88.3 |
| Ontario | 41.9 | 36.1 | 93. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 85.6 | 78.3 | 83.4 |
| prairie provinces | 13.7 | $9 \therefore .3$ | 90.3 | 90.0 | 32.8 | . |
| British Columbia | 8.3 | 90.9 | 97.8 | 88.3 | 79.9 | $6.6$ |
| CALU.DA | 100 | 88.7 | 95.7 | 86.3 | 77.9 | 87.7 |

TABLE III- Indox Jur:bers of momloyment by cities.

|  | City | Relative Weight | $\begin{aligned} & 32 n .1 \\ & 1224 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec. } 1 \\ & 1923 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } 1 \\ & 1923 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { To.n. } 1 \\ & 1922 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Montrear |  | 13.6 | 86.3 | 93.6 | 29.8 | 73.2 |
| Toronto |  | 12.3 | 85.6 | 90.2 | 84.7 | 85.1 |
| $0+18 \mathrm{cos}$ |  | 1.3 | 91.0 | 94.3 | 94.4 |  |
| 运milton |  | 3.3 | 79.0 | 88.5 | 81.5 |  |
| Winnipee |  | 3.3 | 85.3 | 88.2 | 92.6 | 85.2 |
| Vancouver |  | 2.7 | 91.1 | 98.1 | 87.7 | 79.9 |

TAPLE IV - Index Numbers of Employment by Industrics.

|  | Relotive Weight | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } 1 \\ & 192 t \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DeC. } 1 \\ & 1923 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } 1 \\ & 1923 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } \\ & 1922 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| nufacturin | 54.2 | 30.1 | 88.2 | 78.1 | 68.7 |
| Lumber products | 5.1 | 74.8 | 88.6 | 80.1 | 62.7 |
| Fulp and papor | . 8 | 98.4 | 182.1 | 85. | 85.9 |
| Textile productís | 15.3 | 80.9 | 88.7 | $84.6$ |  |
| Iron and steel ....... | 15.3 |  |  |  | 49.6 |
| other manufacturing industrics..... | 18.1 | 82.8 | 92.0 | 81.7 | 78. |
| Logeing | 4.9 | 92.1 | 82.2 | 187.0 | 59.5 |
| juning | 6.4 | 200.5 | 105.9 | 100.8 | 93.0 |
| Cormunication | 2.9 | 101.? | 106.1 | 97.4 | 101.1 |
| Transportation | 14.9 | 107.3 | 113.3 | 104.8 | 99.2 |
| Construction and raintenance |  | 98.8 | 125.2 | 96.0 | 92.4 |
| Services.. |  | 106. | 106. | 92. | 92. |
| Trade |  |  |  |  |  |

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