

C.1

72 002

DOES NOT CIRCULATE

CANADA  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

THE  
MARCH  
EMPLOYMENT SITUATION  
1924

+++

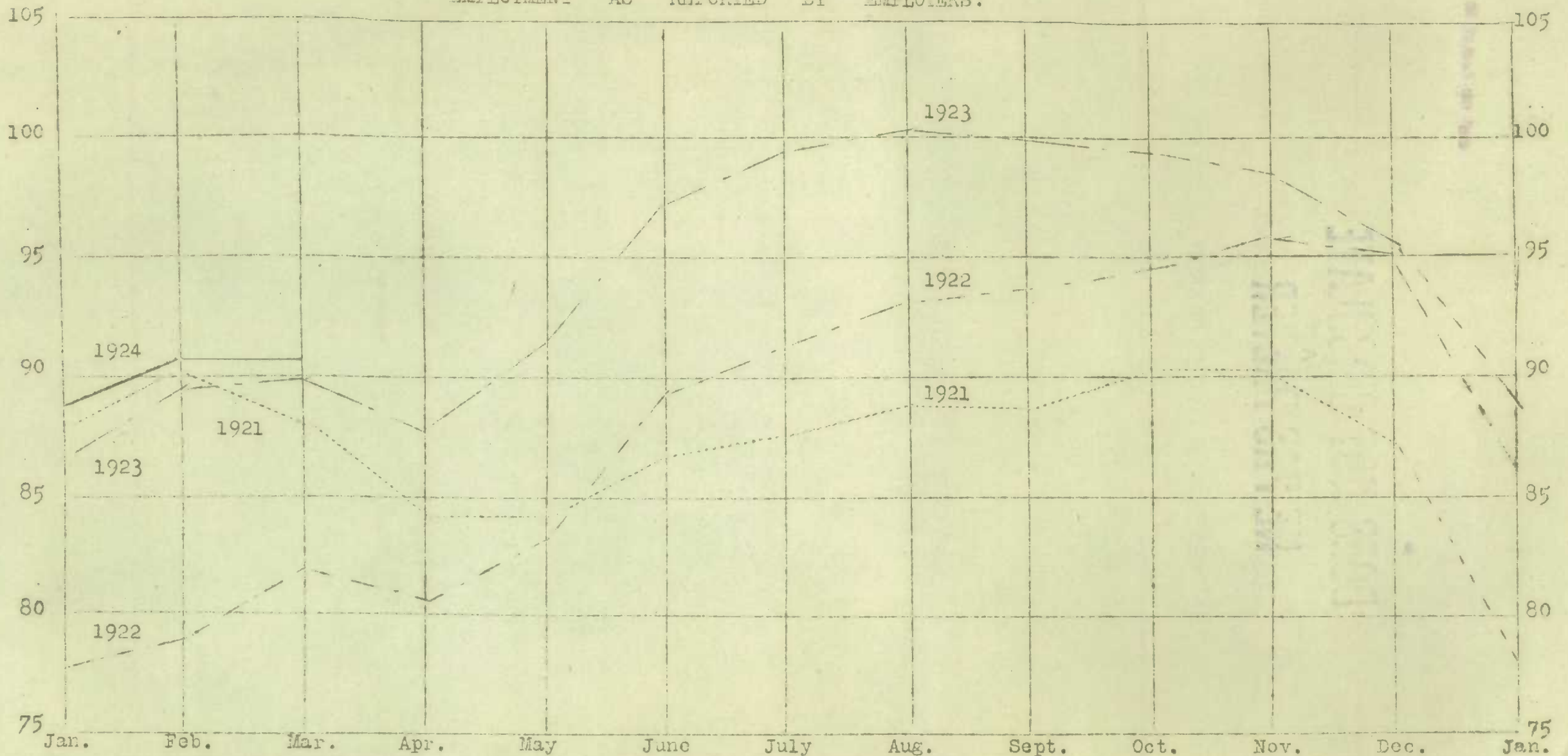
Published by Authority of the Hon. Theo. A. Low, M. P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

+++

OTTAWA

1924

EMPLOYMENT AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS.



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.

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH  
OTTAWA, CANADA.

Issued March 24, 1924.

THE MARCH EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

---

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

---

On the whole, practically no change in the situation since the preceding month was reported by employers at the beginning of March; the index number stood at 90.7 as compared with 90.6 on February 1. On the same date of 1923 the index was 89.9, in 1922, 81 and in 1921, 88.0. The curve in the chart on the opposite page reflected the static conditions indicated at the commencement of this month; on the corresponding date of last year the curve had followed an almost imperceptibly upward movement, but the level of employment is very slightly higher than at that time.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 5,886 firms employing 748,537 persons on March 1. Manufacturing as a whole reported improvement; communication, metallic ore mining, shipping and stevedoring, highway and railway construction also afforded increased employment, but logging showed seasonal declines; coal mining, steam railway transportation and building construction recorded further curtailment of operations.

Employment by Provinces.

An analysis of the returns by provinces shows that employment in Quebec and British Columbia reported expansion, while in the remaining provinces the tendency was downward. In the Maritime Provinces the greatest losses occurred in coal mining and logging, but rolling mills were decidedly busier and steam railways afforded increased employment. In Quebec manufacturing showed considerable improvement and railway construction employed a larger number of men than at the beginning of February. On the other hand, logging and building construction were decidedly slacker. Varying tendencies in different divisions in Ontario resulted in a decline of 0.5 per cent. Iron and steel and several other branches of manufacturing were more fully employed; communication and railway construction also recorded larger working forces. On the other hand, textile factories, logging camps and steam railways reported the release of large number of workers. Contraction in three industries principally caused the decline in the Prairie Provinces - coal mining, railway transportation and construction. In British Columbia there was an increase in employment of 4.6 per cent, of which the greater part was recorded in logging, shipping and stevedoring, highway and railway construction and maintenance.

Employment by Cities.

Of the six cities for which separate tabulations are made, three, Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver, reported moderate improvement, while Toronto, Hamilton and Winnipeg registered lessened activity. The textile, iron and steel and telephone industries in Montreal recorded increased employment, but rubber, tobacco and building construction showed contractions. In Toronto the greater part of the decline occurred in textile and printing establishments; musical instrument works were also slacker and employment on street railways showed a falling off. On the other hand, telephones, iron, steel and non-ferrous metal works reported larger working forces than at the beginning of February. The only change of any size in Ottawa was an increase in pulp and paper mills; apart from this a moderately downward tendency was in evidence. Considerable improvement was reported in iron and steel works in Hamilton, but this increase was not sufficient to offset declines in textiles, tobacco and building construction. The changes in Winnipeg were not large; printing works and construction reported the most pronounced declines, in each case affecting less than 100 workers. A substantial increase in employment in shipping and stevedoring in Vancouver accounted for the bulk of the increase in that city.

### Employment by Industries.

Manufacturing. Employers in this division increased their staff by practically 4,000 workers or 1 per cent. Sawmills, furniture, wooden vehicle, sugar, confectionery, rubber, rolling, forging, agriculture implement, automobile, steel shipbuilding, heating appliance, structural iron, sheet metal, lead, tin, zinc and copper works reported considerable expansion. On the other hand, musical instrument, garment, cloth, tobacco, brewing and electric current plants employed smaller payrolls than at the beginning of February. Logging.- This industry showed considerable curtailment of a seasonal character, in which all provinces except British Columbia shared. Mining.- Employment in coal mining in the Prairie and Maritime Provinces was reduced, repeating the movement indicated at the same time of last year. Other branches of mining showed moderate improvement. Transportation.- Steam railway operations in Ontario and the Prairie Provinces registered substantial decreases; shipping and stevedoring in British Columbia was more active than in the preceding month. There were large losses in building construction, but moderate increases in highway and railway construction and maintenance. Trade, both wholesale and retail, afforded slightly less employment.

The tables on page 3 show the index numbers of employment by districts and main industrial groups.

### Employment in other Countries.

The following notes on employment in the United Kingdom and the United States are taken from the latest available issues of the "Ministry of Labour Gazette" and the "Monthly Labor Review", respectively.

Great Britain. During the first three weeks of January there was a continuous improvement in employment, but in the fourth week activity was affected indirectly by the railway dispute. Among workers covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the percentage of unemployment on February 28 was 11.9 as compared with 13.1 at the end of January, 1923. The trade unions making returns reported 8.9 per cent of their members unemployed at the close of January as compared with 13.7 at the end of January of last year.

United States. Employment in the United States, as indicated in reports from 7,408 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries, decreased by 1.5 per cent in December. The payrolls of the reporting firms included 2,448,370 employees, whose total earnings during one week in December were \$65,417,065. The same factories in November reported 2,484,503 employees and a total payroll of \$66,540,656.

Note: The number employed in January, 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.

	<u>1924</u>	<u>1923</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1921</u>
January 1 .....	88.7	86.3	77.9	87.7
February 1 .....	90.6	89.5	78.9	90.1
March 1 .....	90.7	89.9	81.9	88.0
April 1 .....	87.6	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
August 1 .....		100.2	93.1	88.9
September 1 .....		100.0	93.7	88.7
October 1 .....		99.5	94.6	90.2
November 1 .....		98.8	95.8	90.2
December 1 .....		95.7	95.1	87.2

TABLE II - Index Numbers of Employment by Provinces.

<u>District</u>	<u>Relative Weight</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1924</u>	<u>Feb. 1 1924</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1923</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1922</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1921</u>
Maritime Provinces .....	8.3	82.4	83.2	90.7	80.7	90.7
Quebec .....	27.5	93.5	92.8	87.9	80.6	88.7
Ontario .....	42.7	89.8	90.0	90.8	81.7	86.2
Prairie Provinces .....	12.8	89.6	92.1	88.9	84.4	91.0
British Columbia .....	8.7	97.1	92.7	92.0	85.3	87.3
CANADA.....	100.	90.7	90.6	89.9	81.9	88.0

TABLE III - Index Numbers of Employment by Cities.

<u>City</u>	<u>Relative Weight</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1924</u>	<u>Feb. 1 1924</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1923</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1922</u>
Montreal .....	13.4	87.7	87.1	85.9	80.5
Toronto .....	12.4	84.5	84.7	85.7	81.9
Ottawa .....	1.3	89.3	89.7	92.2	
Hamilton .....	3.4	83.0	84.3	89.2	
Winnipeg .....	3.2	83.8	84.7	86.4	82.6
Vancouver .....	2.7	94.2	91.1	90.4	91.1

TABLE IV - Index Numbers of Employment by Industries.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Relative Weight</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1924</u>	<u>Feb. 1 1924</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1923</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1922</u>	<u>Mar. 1 1921</u>
Manufacturing .....	56.8	86.0	84.9	87.5	78.1	84.6
Lumber products .....	5.5	82.1	79.7	85.8	70.8	72.4
Pulp and paper.....	6.8	100.3	99.7	97.7	88.9	97.3
Textile products .....	9.2	86.4	86.6	92.0	88.5	81.4
Iron and steel .....	16.7	80.8	78.5	82.5	68.5	88.0
Other manufacturing industries .....	18.6	87.5	87.2	87.2	81.0	82.3
Logging .....	4.7	90.8	97.0	88.8	54.8	81.8
Mining .....	6.2	99.7	104.0	98.6	90.3	92.8
Communication .....	2.9	105.4	104.0	97.4	97.5	104.1
Transportation .....	13.9	103.1	103.7	99.8	97.1	95.8
Construction and maintenance .....	6.4	93.1	94.2	83.8	83.7	89.2
Services .....	1.7	106.2	106.3	93.4	93.0	96.3
Trade .....	7.4	91.2	91.2	88.9	88.2	92.0
All Industries .....	100.	90.7	90.6	89.9	81.9	83.0

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010515352