

ca 72 002

PROPERTY OF THE LIBRARY

Rec'd APR 10 1924

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

DOES NOT CIRCULATE
NE PAS PRÊTER

C A N A D A

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

THE
APRIL
EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
1924

— + + + —

Published by Authority of the Hon. Thos. A. Low, M. P.,

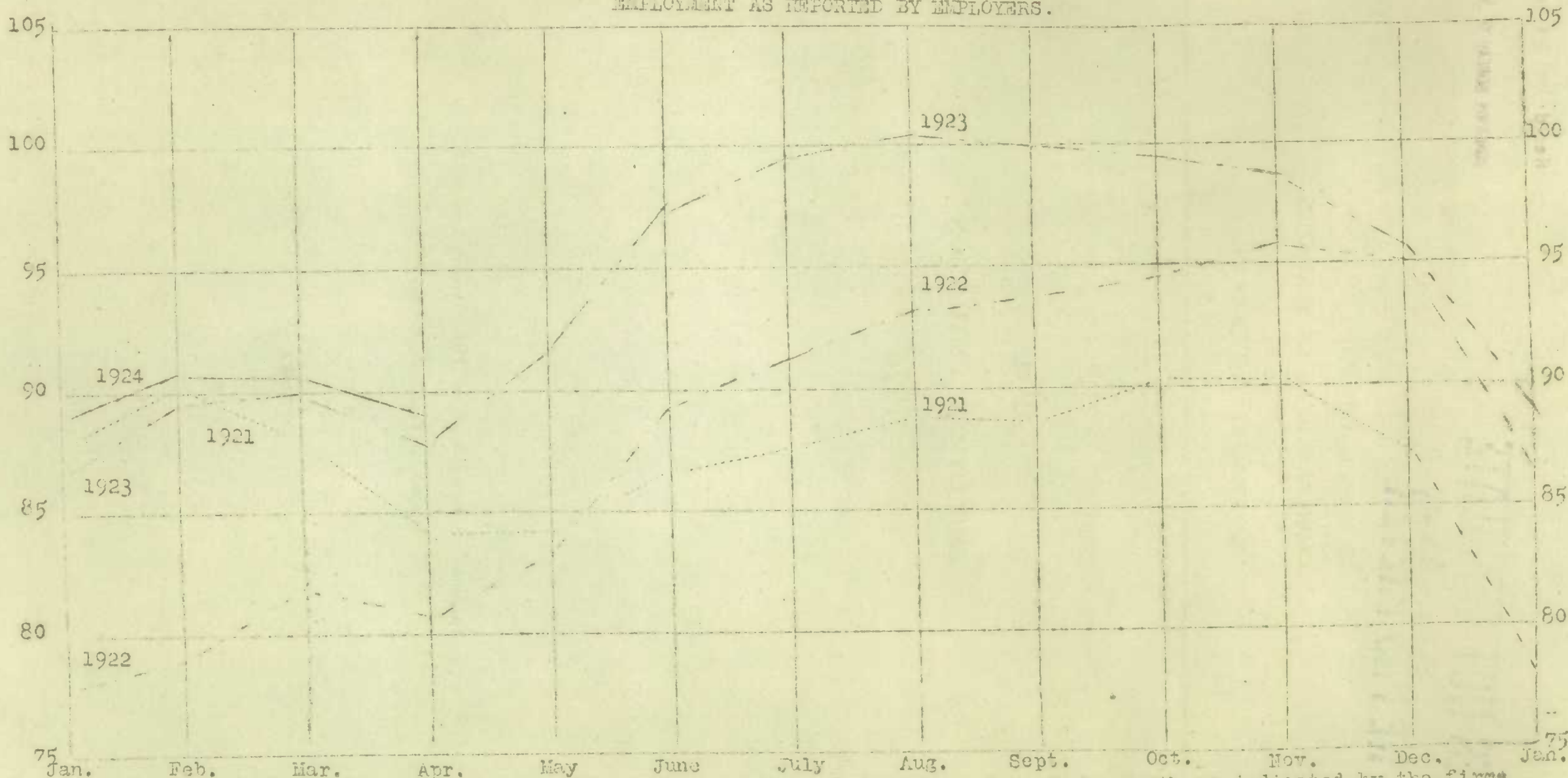
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

+ + +

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 April 26, 1924.

THE APRIL EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

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

Employment at the beginning of April showed a contraction of over one per cent; the curtailment of operations reported by employers was somewhat similar to that indicated at the same period of 1923, although the shrinkage of last year affected a much larger percentage of the reported payroll. The curve in the chart on the opposite page reflects the comparatively slight decline recorded during the month under review, as well as the more steeply downward trend that it had shown at the beginning of April in 1923, 1922 and 1921.

Reports were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,883 firms, employing 737,505 persons on April 1 as compared with 749,048 in the month before. Manufacturing continued to show moderate improvement; communication, water transportation and laundries also reported increased activity. On the other hand, logging camps recorded very pronounced seasonal contractions and the construction industry as a whole was slacker.

Employment by Provinces.

Employers in the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia reported increases in their payrolls, but in the remaining provinces there was a downward tendency. Reports were received from 510 firms in the Maritime Provinces, whose staffs aggregated 63,536 persons or 2.7 per cent more than on March 1; the improvement occurred mainly in coal mining, shipping and stevedoring, while logging camps reported severe losses. In Quebec contractions in logging and railway construction offset additions to staff in a number of manufacturing industries, notably iron and steel, and in water transportation. The 1,295 firms from which reports were received employed 202,174 workers as against 206,210 in the preceding month; this was a contraction of 2 per cent. In Ontario employment declined considerably, chiefly on account of very substantial seasonal reductions in logging. There were, however, gains in a number of industries, notably iron and steel, sawmills and construction. Employers in Ontario reported 312,007 persons, or over 2 per cent less than on March 1. Curtailment of operations was also registered in the Prairie Provinces, according to returns from 768 firms, employing 92,935 workers. Heavy losses in logging and coal mining caused the bulk of the decrease, which was largely seasonal in character. In British Columbia, lumber mills, transportation and construction afforded more employment than in the preceding month. The payrolls of the 592 reporting firms aggregated 66,853 workers or over 2 per cent more than on March 1.

Employment by Cities.

Employers in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa and Vancouver reported improvement, but in Winnipeg activity was somewhat curtailed. In Montreal practically all industries except tobacco registered expansion; the largest increases occurred in iron and steel works, in shipping and in construction. A combined working force of 103,045 persons was indicated by the 725 firms making returns in that city. The increases in Toronto were also fairly general, although they were on a much smaller scale; the reported payrolls totalled 93,276 workers or 0.4 per cent more than on March 1. Improvement in textiles accounted for the bulk of the gain in Hamilton, the changes in other industries being slight. The 203 reporting firms employed 25,952 persons, which was over 2 per cent more than in the month before. A slightly upward trend in a number of industries was shown in Ottawa; the 127 firms making returns had enlarged their payrolls

-2-

by over one per cent to 9,648 persons. Moderate declines in wood yards, on street railways and in retail trade largely caused a one per cent reduction in employment in Winnipeg. A working force of 23,394 persons was indicated in that city. In Vancouver lumber mills were decidedly more active, as was also shipping and stevedoring and construction; 21,738 persons were employed by the firms making returns, who had reported 20,525 workers on March 1.

Employment by Industries.

Manufacturing. Further moderate improvement was registered by manufacturers, 3,851 of whom reported an aggregate payroll of 492,053 persons, which was 0.6 per cent more than on March 1. Sawmills, carriage, rubber, cotton, brick, automobile and railway car works, rolling mills, foundries and machine shops increased their payrolls, but pulp and paper mills, biscuit and tobacco factories were slacker, Logging.- General and very heavy losses were recorded in logging camps at the beginning of April, when 14,099 persons or 40 per cent of the payroll were released by the 225 firms making returns. Their working forces comprised 20,848 persons. Mining.- Little change on the whole was shown in the mining group, according to returns from 204 operators, employing 46,139 persons. Large increases in coal mining in the Maritime Provinces were offset by declines in Alberta. Transportation. Water transportation afforded more employment than in the previous month, but steam railways and local electric railways were slacker. The payrolls of the 257 transportation firms making returns aggregated 104,880 persons or 0.7 per cent more than on March 1. Construction.- Building and road contractors were a good deal busier, but railway construction afforded less employment. The number of persons employed by the firms making returns in this group declined by 2 per cent to 47,051 persons. Communication and Services reported slight improvement, while Trade showed very minor declines.

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 Labor Gazette" and the "Monthly Labor Review" respectively.

Great Britain. After the settlement of the railway dispute on January 29 employment quickly recovered from the decline caused by the shortage of transport and there was further and continuous improvement during February. Among members of trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage of unemployed was 8.6 at the end of February, 1924, as compared with 8.9 at the end of January, 1924 and with 13.1 at the end of February, 1923. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act, numbering approximately 11,500,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private and domestic service, the percentage unemployed on February, 25, 1924 was 10.7, compared with 11.9 in January, 1924, and 12 at the end of February, 1923.

United States: Employment in manufacturing industries in the United States increased 1.2 per cent in February - this being the first general increase since June, 1923 - as shown by figures presented by the United States Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These unweighted figures are based on reports from 8,222 establishments in 52 industries, covering 2,693,636 employees, whose total earnings during one week in February were \$72,552,483. The same establishments in January reported 2,661,233 employees and total payrolls of \$67,970,982. Therefore, in addition to the increase in employment, there was an increase of 6.7 per cent in payroll totals and an increase of 5.4 per cent in per capita earnings.

Note: The number employed by the reporting firms 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 | 89.3 | 87.6 | 80.6 | 84.1 |
| May 1 | 91.8 | 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>Apr. 1 1924</u> | <u>Mar. 1 1924</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1923</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1922</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1921</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Maritime Provinces | 8.6 | 84.6 | 82.4 | 90.5 | 80.6 | 87.2 |
| Quebec | 27.4 | 91.5 | 93.5 | 85.5 | 77.5 | 80.4 |
| Ontario | 42.3 | 87.6 | 89.8 | 88.4 | 81.1 | 83.5 |
| Prairie Provinces | 12.6 | 87.0 | 89.6 | 83.5 | 82.1 | 83.7 |
| British Columbia | 9.1 | 99.6 | 97.1 | 92.8 | 85.9 | 88.1 |
| CANADA | 100. | 89.3 | 90.7 | 87.6 | 80.6 | 84.1 |

TABLE III - Index Numbers of Employment by Cities.

| <u>City</u> | <u>Relative Weight</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1924</u> | <u>Mar. 1 1924</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1923</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1922</u> |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Montreal | 14.0 | 90.1 | 87.7 | 83.3 | 76.0 |
| Toronto | 12.6 | 84.8 | 84.5 | 86.7 | 82.7 |
| Ottawa | 1.3 | 90.9 | 89.3 | 90.6 | |
| Hamilton | 3.5 | 85.2 | 83.0 | 88.4 | |
| Winnipeg | 3.2 | 82.3 | 83.8 | 85.7 | 83.6 |
| Vancouver | 2.9 | 99.8 | 94.2 | 86.9 | 87.8 |

TABLE IV - Index Numbers of Employment by Industries.

| <u>Industry</u> | <u>Relative Weight</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1924</u> | <u>Mar. 1 1924</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1923</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1922</u> | <u>Apr. 1 1921</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Manufacturing | 58.2 | 86.5 | 86.0 | 85.6 | 78.0 | 80.7 |
| Lumber products | 5.7 | 83.8 | 82.1 | 88.3 | 76.2 | 74.3 |
| Pulp and paper | 6.9 | 93.8 | 100.3 | 97.4 | 90.1 | 91.6 |
| Textile products | 9.4 | 86.9 | 86.4 | 91.1 | 90.3 | 79.8 |
| Iron and steel | 17.2 | 82.0 | 80.8 | 77.2 | 64.9 | 78.2 |
| Other manufacturing in- | | | | | | |
| dustries..... | 19.0 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 86.5 | 81.3 | 82.3 |
| Logging | 2.8 | 54.2 | 90.8 | 57.8 | 27.2 | 44.5 |
| Mining | 6.3 | 99.5 | 99.7 | 97.0 | 88.9 | 88.0 |
| Communication | 3.0 | 106.0 | 105.4 | 98.0 | 98.2 | 101.8 |
| Transportation | 14.2 | 103.7 | 103.1 | 100.2 | 96.8 | 95.5 |
| Construction and maintenance | 6.4 | 91.4 | 93.1 | 85.2 | 81.4 | 86.7 |
| Services | 1.7 | 107.9 | 106.2 | 94.9 | 94.6 | 97.8 |
| Trade | 7.4 | 91.0 | 91.2 | 90.2 | 88.6 | 92.5 |
| All Industries | 100. | 89.3 | 90.7 | 87.6 | 80.6 | 84.1 |

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010515351