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THE
AUGUST
EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
1924

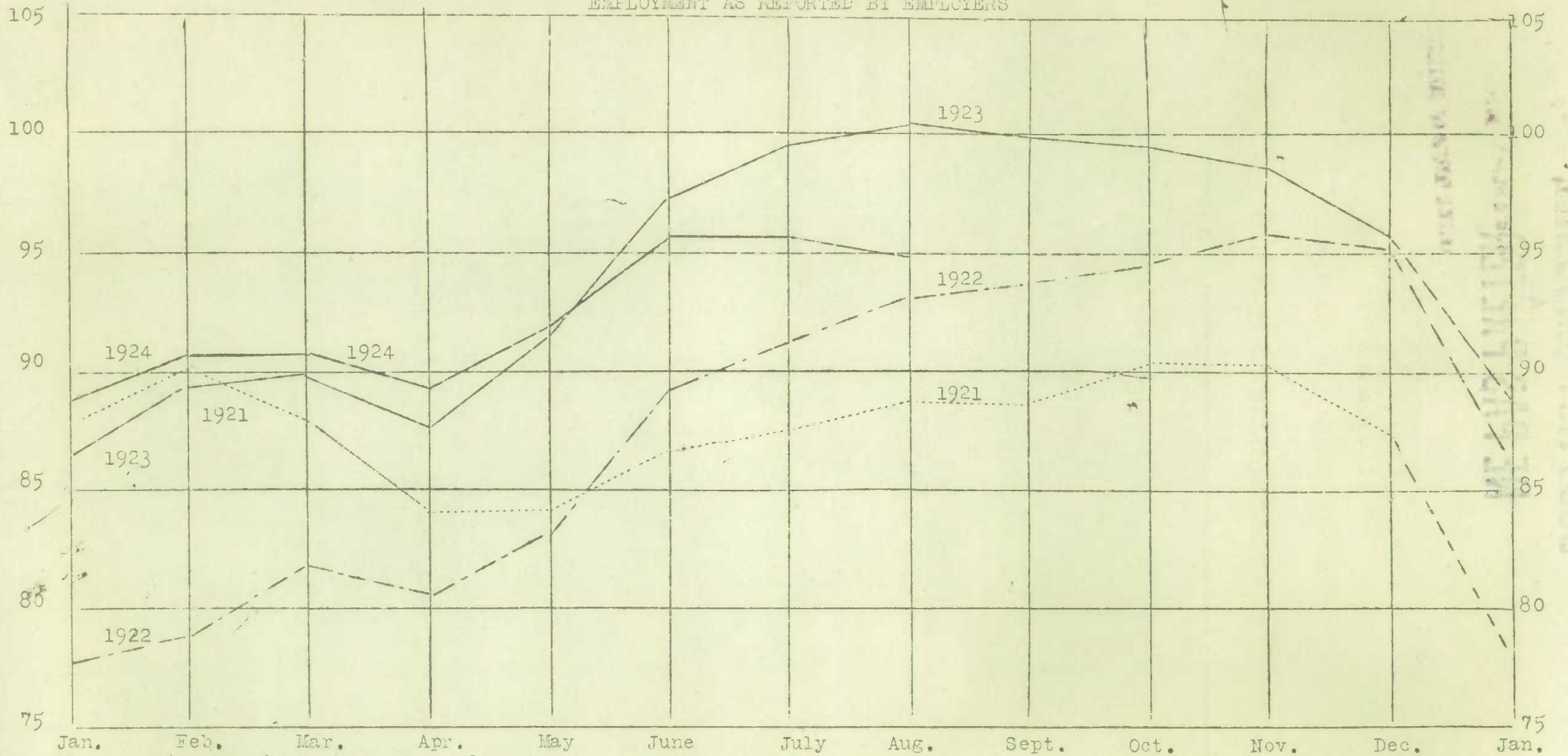


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OTTAWA

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 August 26, 1924.

THE AUGUST EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

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According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, employment showed a downward tendency at the beginning of August, when over 10,000 persons were released by the 5,727 firms making returns. They employed 775,759 workers as compared with 786,378 on July 1; this decline caused the index number to fall from 95.9 in the preceding month to 94.7 at the beginning of August. On the same date in 1923 the index was 100.2; in 1922, 93.1 and in 1921, 88.9.

The contraction indicated by employers on the first of this month is shown in the chart on the opposite page, as is also the moderately upward movement that had been recorded on the same date of the three previous years. The situation, while not so good as on August 1, 1923, continues to be better than in 1922 and 1921.

Firms in the manufacturing division as a whole, notably in iron and steel, and in logging and railway construction reported curtailment of activity, but communication, shipping and stevedoring, building and highway construction showed continued improvement; canneries also registered large additions to staffs.

Employment by Provinces.

British Columbia was the only province to record an increase in employment; elsewhere there were reductions ranging from 0.2 per cent in the Maritime Provinces to 2.8 per cent in the Prairie Provinces.

Maritime Provinces.- Manufacturing, chiefly fish canning, textiles and iron and steel, reported contractions, as did also logging camps and coal mines. Transportation, construction and trade, on the other hand, registered increased activity. Statements were received from 523 firms, employing 67,159 persons, or 154 less than on July 1.

Quebec.- In this province manufacturers employed smaller working forces; the declines in iron and steel (which occurred mainly in vehicle works) were most noteworthy. Logging and railway construction were also slacker. Communication, transportation, building and highway construction and services, however, were more active. The 1,222 employers from which returns were tabulated had 216,562 employees as compared with 220,895 in their last report.

Ontario.- An aggregate working force of 318,929 persons was indicated by the 2,624 reporting firms, who employed 322,881 at the beginning of July. Curtailment in some branches of manufactures, notably in iron and steel and textiles, was counterbalanced to some extent by seasonal expansion in canneries. Logging camps reported further reductions; transportation, railway construction and trade were also less fully employed, while mining, communication, building and highway construction reported improvement.

Prairie Provinces.- Contractions in railway construction in this district were partly offset by increases in employment in iron and steel and textile factories and in breweries. The result was a net reduction of 2,975 workers in the staffs of the 754 reporting firms, which employed 101,698 persons on August 1.

British Columbia.- The trend of employment was again upward at the beginning of August, when 793 persons were added to the payrolls of the 606 reporting firms; they employed 71,409 workers. Manufacturing was decidedly more fully employed, particularly the sawmilling and

fruit canning divisions. Transportation, building and railway construction, trade and mining also showed improvement. Logging and highway construction, however, employed smaller working forces than at the beginning of July.

Employment by Cities.

Firms in Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver registered additions to staffs, while in Toronto, Ottawa and Hamilton curtailment was indicated.

Montreal.- Considerable declines in railway car shops were more than offset by expansion in other branches of manufactures, in communication, water transportation and construction. According to returns from 670 employers, they had 107,454 persons on their paylists as against 107,202 on July 1.

Toronto.- The decreases in this city were comparatively large, 1,125 persons having been released by the 747 firms reporting, who employed 90,611 workers. Contractions in manufacturing, chiefly caused this decline; textiles and iron and steel recorded the largest losses.

Ottawa.- Employment in Ottawa showed a general but slight falling off, according to statements tabulated from 123 firms, employing 10,721 persons as compared with 10,825 in the preceding month.

Hamilton.- Further though less extensive reductions were registered in Hamilton, where the 197 reporting firms employed 24,472 workers or 389 less than at the beginning of July. There were considerable contractions in iron and steel, but improvement in building construction and canneries partly counteracted these declines.

Winnipeg.- Very little change was noted in this city; slight increases were recorded in abattoirs, trade and construction, while textiles showed small declines. A combined working force of 23,675 persons was reported by the 279 firms making returns, which employed 23,613 on July 1.

Vancouver.- General improvement was shown in Vancouver; manufacturing, trade and building construction registered the most marked gains. Reports were compiled from 218 firms, employing 22,146 workers on August 1, as compared with 21,473 at the beginning of July.

Employment by Industries.

Manufacturing, in spite of substantial improvement in fruit and vegetable canneries and smaller gains in biscuit, flour, starch, boot, shoe and electric current factories, recorded a fairly large decrease on the whole. Railway car and automobile plants showed large reductions; textile, fish preserving, lumber, rubber, chemical, glass, electric apparatus and nickel works also recorded curtailment of operations. The 3,723 manufacturers reporting employed 423,671 persons or 6,848 less than in the preceding month. Logging.- Further contractions were indicated in logging camps, according to 211 firms, employing 13,797 workers as compared with 16,427 on July 1. Mining.- Coal mines employed smaller working forces, but metallic ore mines were busier. Statements were received from 213 operators in the mining division, who had 46,222 persons on payroll; on July 1 they had 46,413 workers. Communication.- An aggregate working force of 23,331 persons was registered by the 163 firms making returns in this division. This was 463 more than in their last report. Telephones and telegraphs both shared in the improvement. Transportation.- Moderate gains were indicated in the transportation group, largely on account of expansion in shipping and stevedoring. Steam railway operation, on the other hand, gave employment to fewer persons, while street railways reported very little change. The 275 divisional superintendents and other employers making returns in the transportation industries employed 112,189 workers as compared with 111,352 on July 1. Construction and Maintenance. - Building and highway contractors recorded improvement, but in railway

construction smaller working forces were employed than in the preceding month; this decline is a month earlier than such late summer contractions have occurred in recent years and caused employment in the construction group as a whole to diminish. Statements compiled from 431 employers showed that they had 88,099 persons on payroll, which was 2,197 less than in the preceding month. Trade showed little change on the whole; increases in the wholesale division were rather more than offset by declines in retail stores. A total sales force of 53,814 workers was indicated by the 554 firms reporting, who had employed 58,891 in their last report.

The tables on pages 4, 5 and 6 show the index numbers of employment by districts, cities, industries, and also by main industrial groups in the five areas into which the country is divided in these statistics.

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:

United Kingdom.- During the first half of June there was a decline in employment, the Whitsun holidays being extended in many cases. In the latter half of the month, however, there was a recovery, and at the end of June the numbers of workpeople unemployed were about the same as at the end of May. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received, the percentage of unemployed was 7.2 at the end of June, 1924, compared with 7.0 at the end of May and with 11.1 at the end of June, 1923. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000 and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed on June 23, 1924, was 9.4, compared with 9.5 on May 26, 1924, and 11.3 at the end of June, 1923.

United States.- Employment in manufacturing industries in the United States, following a decline in May, decreased by 3.8 per cent in June, while payroll totals decreased 6.7 per cent, and per capita earnings decreased 3 per cent. These unweighted figures are presented by the United States Department of Labor, and are based on reports from 8,627 establishments in 52 industries, covering 2,524,657 employees, whose total earnings during one week in June were \$63,892,615. The same establishments in May reported 2,624,141 employees and total payrolls of \$68,460,342.

Note: The number employed by the reporting firms in Jan. 1920 is taken as 100 in every case. The "relative weight" in Tables I, II and III shows the proportion of employees in the indicated district or industry to the total number of employees reported in all districts and industries on the date under review. In Table IV, it shows the relative importance of the indicated industry within the specified area.

TABLE I.- Index Numbers of Employment by Districts.

	Canada	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia
Jan. 1, 1922	77.9	78.1	74.4	78.3	82.8	79.9
Feb. 1	78.9	76.8	74.6	79.5	83.0	84.3
Mar. 1	81.9	80.7	80.6	81.7	84.4	85.3
Apr. 1	80.6	80.6	77.5	81.1	82.1	85.9
May 1	83.3	83.0	81.2	82.4	85.4	91.3
Jun. 1	89.2	87.4	88.1	87.8	92.8	96.6
Jul. 1	91.1	92.6	88.0	89.2	99.7	99.2
Aug. 1	93.1	94.0	90.3	90.8	101.5	99.8
Sep. 1	93.7	90.3	91.6	91.9	101.2	102.0
Oct. 1	94.6	91.8	92.0	93.6	101.9	100.1
Nov. 1	95.8	91.7	92.7	94.9	105.0	100.2
Dec. 1	95.1	92.1	93.9	94.4	101.5	95.6
Jan. 1, 1923	86.3	90.8	83.5	85.6	90.0	88.3
Feb. 1	89.5	90.4	87.7	90.0	91.6	88.4
Mar. 1	89.9	90.7	87.9	90.8	88.9	92.0
Apr. 1	87.6	90.5	85.5	88.4	83.5	92.8
May 1	91.4	90.0	90.3	91.6	90.4	97.5
Jun. 1	97.3	93.9	99.1	96.8	95.5	100.4
Jul. 1	99.5	101.0	100.5	97.2	101.4	103.9
Aug. 1	100.2	97.8	101.9	97.1	104.3	107.2
Sep. 1	100.0	101.4	100.1	98.1	101.1	106.6
Oct. 1	99.5	97.0	104.0	96.0	100.7	104.2
Nov. 1	98.8	95.2	103.2	96.0	99.2	102.8
Dec. 1	95.7	91.2	98.5	93.4	99.3	97.3
Jan. 1, 1924	88.7	86.3	90.5	86.1	94.3	90.9
Feb. 1	90.6	83.2	92.8	90.0	92.1	92.7
Mar. 1	90.7	82.4	93.5	89.8	89.6	97.1
Apr. 1	89.3	84.6	91.5	87.6	87.0	99.6
May 1	91.8	88.1	94.1	89.8	89.4	102.9
Jun. 1	95.2	90.0	99.9	92.1	94.1	103.4
Jul. 1	95.9	90.6	100.6	91.4	99.1	105.8
Aug. 1	94.7	90.2	98.7	90.3	96.4	107.1

Relative Weight of Employment by Districts as at August 1, 1924.

100. 8.7 27.9 41.1 13.1 9.2

TABLE II.- Index Numbers of Employment by Principal Cities.

	Montreal	Toronto	Ottawa	Hamilton	Winnipeg	Vancouver
Jan. 1, 1923	79.8	84.7	94.4	81.5	92.6	87.7
Feb. 1	86.2	88.5	95.7	86.0	89.0	85.8
Mar. 1	85.9	85.7	92.2	89.2	86.4	90.4
Apr. 1	83.3	86.7	90.6	88.4	85.7	86.9
May 1	88.8	88.1	94.8	82.6	86.3	91.8
Jun. 1	95.4	89.9	109.6	94.6	87.1	94.7
Jul. 1	95.9	89.5	110.2	91.4	87.7	100.3
Aug. 1	97.3	89.1	109.3	93.3	87.5	103.6
Sep. 1	93.6	89.6	107.5	92.2	89.9	104.3
Oct. 1	98.7	90.1	105.5	91.1	89.4	101.6
Nov. 1	99.1	89.9	103.8	89.7	88.6	98.6
Dec. 1	93.6	90.2	94.3	88.5	88.2	98.1
Jan. 1, 1924	86.3	85.6	91.0	79.0	85.3	91.1
Feb. 1	87.1	84.7	89.7	84.3	84.7	91.1
Mar. 1	87.7	84.5	89.3	83.0	83.8	94.2
Apr. 1	90.1	84.8	90.9	85.2	82.3	99.8
May 1	92.3	85.6	93.3	86.4	83.0	102.2
Jun. 1	96.2	85.2	101.6	83.1	83.6	99.7
Jul. 1	94.8	83.9	101.3	81.7	85.6	99.0
Aug. 1	95.1	83.9	100.6	80.9	85.5	102.3

Relative Weight of Employment by Cities as at August 1, 1924.

13.9 11.7 1.4 3.2 3.1 2.9

TABLE III.- Index Numbers of Employment by Industries.

Industry	Relative Weight	Aug. 1 1924	July 1 1924	Aug. 1 1923	Aug. 1 1922	Aug. 1 1921
Manufacturing	54.6	86.2	87.7	93.5	85.3	81.3
Animal products-edible	1.9	98.4	101.3	94.5	94.1	94.9
Fur and products	.3	87.5	81.1	83.4	85.7	69.3
Leather and products	2.0	74.9	74.7	76.5	77.6	78.3
Lumber and products	7.1	111.0	111.9	123.0	116.6	105.4
Rough and dressed lumber	5.1	142.1	142.8	156.9	144.1	125.1
Lumber products	2.0	71.9	73.2	78.5	80.1	78.3
Musical instruments	.3	57.8	55.7	66.5	56.3	57.8
Plant products-edible	3.5	98.9	91.2	97.7	93.4	94.7
Pulp and paper products	6.6	99.9	99.9	105.5	95.8	89.8
Pulp and paper	3.3	107.3	106.8	117.1	100.1	93.0
Paper products	.7	82.6	84.6	89.5	84.4	72.6
Printing and publishing	2.6	97.0	96.9	97.2	94.6	91.5
Rubber products	1.3	68.1	71.0	65.7	77.6	71.2
Textile products	7.9	78.9	81.1	87.2	86.4	77.6
Thread, yarn and cloth	2.8	85.4	84.7	100.5	101.3	87.7
Hosiery and knit goods	1.4	78.6	87.9	93.1	90.2	71.6
Garments and personal furnishings	2.7	70.8	72.1	72.2	72.3	71.2
Others	1.0	87.0	89.5	92.2	87.1	79.3
Tobacco, distilled and malt liquors	1.5	98.6	98.5	100.5	100.4	100.8
Wood distillates and extracts	.1	107.6	108.2	101.3	72.3	64.7
Chemicals and allied products	.8	81.4	83.7	86.9	88.0	82.5
Clay, glass and stone products	1.2	91.8	94.1	102.1	95.7	89.9
Electric current	1.6	132.0	129.1	125.1	123.7	110.3
Electrical apparatus	1.1	106.0	108.3	101.3	77.3	75.2
Iron and steel products	14.3	72.5	76.0	84.8	70.8	70.7
Crude, rolled and forged products	1.5	56.8	57.8	75.7	64.8	66.3
Machinery (other than vehicles)	1.1	66.4	68.1	78.0	62.9	67.6
Agricultural implements	.7	49.5	52.2	61.8	56.2	50.1
Land vehicles	7.1	92.0	98.8	103.1	84.1	81.2
Steel shipbuilding and repairing	.4	31.6	39.7	24.9	21.9	45.9
Heating appliances n.o.s.	.6	79.1	75.4	94.6	85.4	78.2
Iron and steel fabrication, foundry and machine shop products	.6	79.5	80.9	97.5	74.4	85.5
Others	1.8	68.9	59.5	87.4	69.2	58.7
Non-ferrous metal products	1.4	80.2	84.0	90.4	72.7	65.5
Mineral products	1.3	108.1	106.8	105.0	96.7	85.4
Miscellaneous	.4	76.4	83.2	87.9	88.0	81.0
Logging	1.7	36.2	43.1	42.2	27.9	32.3
Mining	6.0	99.4	99.9	101.0	96.2	91.0
Coal	3.3	82.9	85.2	90.7	92.8	95.3
Metallic ores	1.9	159.2	154.1	132.4	101.6	82.8
Non-metallic minerals (other than coal)	.8	95.2	95.2	106.9	105.7	87.7
Communication	3.0	113.9	111.7	105.2	103.1	107.1
Telegraphs	.6	111.1	108.7	109.4	102.9	98.8
Telephones	2.4	114.7	112.5	104.1	103.1	109.4
Transportation	14.5	110.3	110.0	113.4	111.6	102.7
Street railways and cartage	2.4	115.9	114.6	119.6	133.7	111.1
Steam railways	10.2	100.3	101.6	103.2	97.0	95.9
Shipping and stevedoring	1.9	211.6	192.9	201.3	236.7	177.1
Construction and maintenance	11.4	173.1	175.8	183.7	169.4	144.6
Building	3.3	187.5	130.4	143.2	121.0	111.9
Highway	2.2	1946.9	1763.2	3548.3	3440.4	2519.4
Railway	5.9	144.6	159.9	171.6	156.6	138.9
Services	1.9	122.4	122.5	118.7	104.7	107.7
Hotels and restaurants	1.1	137.6	136.9	135.1	113.4	118.6
Professional	.2	110.4	111.4	108.7	90.2	74.9
Personal (chiefly laundries)	.6	104.3	106.1	100.5	96.0	99.4
Trade	6.9	91.7	92.1	91.7	90.1	91.4
Retail	4.4	89.4	89.9	89.2	86.8	87.3
Wholesale	2.5	96.1	96.2	96.4	96.2	98.2
All Industries	100.	94.7	95.9	100.2	93.1	88.9

x For explanation of term "relative weight," see note on page 4.

TABLE IV - Index Numbers of Employment by Areas and Industries.

Industry	Relative Weight	Aug. 1 1924	July 1 1924	Aug. 1 1923
<u>Maritime Provinces</u> -Manufacturing	40.7	84.0	89.2	92.1
Lumber products	9.9	138.8	140.7	149.0
Pulp and paper	3.6	116.9	120.2	121.0
Textile products	4.2	74.4	84.1	102.0
Iron and steel	12.7	61.5	66.6	68.7
Other manufactures	10.3	86.3	93.3	86.3
Logging	.3	8.4	22.6	11.7
Mining	23.0	98.1	103.5	105.6
Communication	3.3	95.7	93.0	92.4
Transportation	14.0	72.7	68.8	73.7
Construction and maintenance	12.3	190.3	145.3	221.3
Services	.9	146.7	137.0	139.5
Trade	5.5	111.2	107.4	114.0
<u>Maritime Provinces</u> - All Industries	100.	90.2	90.6	97.8
<u>Quebec</u> Manufacturing	62.3	89.1	91.9	94.4
Lumber products	5.6	142.5	142.5	146.9
Pulp and paper	8.6	100.3	101.6	87.9
Textile products	12.0	85.3	87.2	89.9
Iron and steel	13.7	75.3	83.4	87.2
Other manufactures	22.4	88.5	89.6	88.6
Logging	1.8	36.4	43.0	42.3
Mining	1.3	73.7	69.8	94.8
Communication	2.7	140.4	135.2	122.6
Transportation	15.7	141.0	138.9	140.9
Construction and maintenance	9.6	179.6	177.8	165.8
Services	1.9	146.6	140.4	139.8
Trade	4.7	92.9	94.1	92.4
<u>Quebec</u> - All Industries	100.	98.7	100.6	101.9
<u>Ontario</u> Manufacturing	63.6	81.9	83.0	91.0
Lumber products	7.3	105.8	108.0	116.8
Pulp and paper	7.4	99.0	99.7	102.6
Textile products	9.5	73.9	76.0	83.0
Iron and steel	17.3	69.4	72.2	85.5
Other manufactures	22.1	86.5	85.3	90.0
Logging	1.0	22.6	29.9	17.2
Mining	3.4	148.8	145.0	131.0
Communication	2.9	114.8	113.3	104.0
Transportation	10.9	112.5	113.4	117.5
Construction and maintenance	10.2	180.4	179.3	197.7
Services	1.6	117.1	117.5	112.5
Trade	6.4	92.5	93.9	90.2
<u>Ontario</u> - All Industries	100.	90.3	91.4	97.1
<u>Prairie Provinces</u> Manufacturing	31.9	98.9	97.2	101.4
Lumber products	2.3	82.5	85.3	86.4
Pulp and paper	2.0	93.3	85.3	89.2
Textile products	1.5	84.0	77.3	64.4
Iron and steel	14.7	99.2	67.2	105.2
Other manufactures	10.4	103.0	105.7	102.1
Logging	3.2	7.5	10.8	11.1
Mining	6.4	64.4	63.7	74.4
Communication	3.9	92.0	91.1	91.2
Transportation	23.7	98.8	99.5	101.6
Construction and maintenance	17.1	168.8	198.7	212.8
Services	2.6	117.1	126.3	118.0
Trade	14.2	80.4	80.0	83.5
<u>Prairie Provinces</u> - All Industries	100.	86.4	89.1	104.3
<u>British Columbia</u> Manufacturing	36.7	97.7	95.1	104.8
Lumber products	15.1	93.6	92.8	114.8
Pulp and paper	5.0	98.9	83.9	102.5
Textile products	1.0	102.0	103.4	122.1
Iron and steel	4.3	50.9	48.7	48.3
Other manufactures	11.3	163.6	154.9	148.7
Logging	8.6	64.6	69.1	123.1
Mining	14.8	111.6	110.1	101.0
Communication	3.0	124.8	124.1	120.5
Transportation	13.7	110.8	107.7	114.5
Construction and maintenance	12.7	137.3	147.3	97.2
Services	3.3	104.2	103.4	100.3
Trade	7.2	114.1	112.6	113.0
<u>British Columbia</u> - All Industries	100.	107.1	105.8	107.2

x For explanation of term "relative weight," see note on page 4.

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