# DOES NOT GTMPUATE <br>  DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE <br> DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS <br> GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH 

## THE

## AUGUST

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

1927
(AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS HAVING 15 OR MORE EMPLOYEES)

Note:- Statements relating to unemployment as reported by TRADE UNIONS, AND YO THE OPERATIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF CANADA, TOGETMER WITH THE STATISTICS OF THE PRESENT BULLETIN, ARE PUBLISHED IN THE LABOUR Gazette, the official journal of the Department of Labour, Canada

Published by authority of the Hon. James Malcolm, M. P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce



The carve is based on the number of employees at work on the first day of the anth as indicated by the firms repartiag in comparison with the nunder of employees they reported in January, 1920 , as 100.

# DEPATMMENT OE TRADE AND COMMERCE <br> DOMINION BUEEAU OE STATISIICS <br> GONERAL STATISTTCS BRANOH <br> OTTAWA, CAITADA. 

Issued Aug. 25, 1927.
THE AUGUST EMPIOYMENT SITUATION
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Chief, General Statistics: S.A Cudmore, N.A., F.S.S.

Employment at the beginning of August showed a further, moderate increase, according to statements tabulated by the Dominion Eurcau of Statistics from 6,211 firms, whose payrolls aggregated 903,060 persons, as compared with 898,766 on July 1. This advance involved a rather smaller number of workers than that registered on Aug. 1, 1926, but the index number, at 109.2 on the date under reviem, was higher than in any other month since the record was instituted in 1920; on July 1, 1927, it stood at 108. 4 , and on Aug. $i, 1926,1925,1924,1923,1922$ and 1921, it was 104.2, $96.3,94.7,100.2,93.1$ and 88.9 , respectively.

Construction and mining reported the most pronourced gains, but the tendency was also favourable in manufacturing, services, trade and commeications. On the other hand, trensportation released some employees, and logeing continued seasonally quiet.

## EMPLOMNENT BI ECONCMIC AREAS

Somewhat greater activity was shom in all provinces except Quebec, where the situation was practically unchanged.

Maritime Provinces. - Statements were tabulated from 565 firms in the Naritime Prcvinces employing 75,062 persons, as compared with 74,983 in the preceding month. This increase was conslderably shaller than that indicated on Aug. 1, 1926, when the index was much lower. Manufacturing was decidedly slacker, chiefly owing to the completion of the season's mork in fish canneries, and logesing was also seasonally quiet, but the trend of employment was upward in construction, mining and transportation.

Quebec.- Little general change was show in Quebec, according to returns from 1,367 employers mith 257,878 workers; manufacturing, construction, services and trade reported larger payrolls, but losging and transportation wore slacker. Imployment was in greater volume than at the beginning of Argust of a year ago, al though moderate improvement was then indicated.

Ontario.- There was a strall advance in employment in this province on Aug. 1, when the 2,800 co-operating firms increased their staffs by 515 to 365,431 persons. The fluctuations in personnel reported to the Dominion Burcau of Statistics wore generally insignificant, the greatost changes being gains in transportation, construction and trade. Slight curtailment of operations was recorded on the corresponding date of last year; the index number then was nearly six points lower than at the beginning of August, 1927, when it reached 102, 6 , the highest since 1920 .

Prairie Provinces. - In contrast with the declines noted on Aus. 1, 1926, there was on the date under review a considecable increase in the payrolls of the 799 employers whose statistics were tabulated and who reported 122,090 workers, or 3,150 more than at the beginning of July, The most pronounced improvement was shown in construction, but manufacturing, trade and mining were also more active, while transportation recorded the only large reducticms. Tho index number, at 114 . 8 , was over eight points hicher than on the corresperiding aate in 1926.

British Columbiac - Continued gains were registered in British Columbia, chiefly in manufacturing, locsine, mining, construction and services. Returns were compiled from 682 fims employing 82,599 persons, as acainst 81,738 in the precedine month. Rather more extensive increases vere indicated at the beiginning of August of last year, but the situation then was not so favourable.

Tables 1 and 4 give index numbers by aconomic areas.

Employment in Quebec, Hamilton, Ottawa, Windsor (including the other Border Cities) and Winnipeg advanced, while the tendency was unfavourable in Montreal, Ioronto and Fancouver,

Montreal. - For the first time since the beginning of this year, employment in Montreal shcwed a decline, rhich, however: was expected so be largely temporary in character; 715 firms reportied 119 , 421 employees, or 456 less than on july $I$. Construction and trade registered decided improvement, but manufacturing and transportation released workers. The index was the same as the beginning of August, 1926, when a slight advance was indicated.

Quebec. - Further but smaller gains were noted in quebec City: mainly in the manufacturing and transportation industries. Statements were received from 97 employers whose staffs aggregated 10,812 workers, campared with $=10,662$ in the preceding month. Although this increase involved fewer workers than that noted on Aug. 1 of a year ago, the situation then was not so good.

Toronto. - Employment in Toronto remained practically unchanged, according to data frem 786 employers of 104,634 persons, but it continued at a higher level than on the corresponding date of other years of the record. Manufacturing, especially of electrical gcods, showed seasonel dullness, while transportation and construction recorded heightened activity.

Ottawa, - The tread of employment in ottama continued to be upward, 207 workers having been taken on by the $i 32$ co-operating firms, who employed 11,740 on Aug. 1. The largest gains were in manufactures, particularly in lumber mills, although construction was also busier. Smali losses were indicatad at the beginning of August, 1926, and the indox then was much lower.

Hamiltone- Additions to staffs on a decidedly larger scale than or the Same date of last sumer were made in Hamilton, where 202 employers reported 30,757 persons on their paylists: as agains $\%, 0,112$ in their last retirns. Manufacturing registered general improvement, and construction also afforded more employment. Activity was greater than on Aug, 1 of any other year of the record.

Windsor and the Other Border Citiess- Partial recovery from the losses noted in the preceding month was made in the Border Cities, but employment was not so brisk as at the beginning of Aagust of last year. Statistics were received from 92 firms eroploying 9,514 workers, or 293 more than on July 1 . Automobile works and construction registered siightly greater working forces, while only small general changes took place in other industries.

Winnipeg, - Continued advances were shown in Winnipeg, according to 283 firms who had 28,849 employees, as compared with 28,513 at the beginning of July! There were general increases in manufactures, construction and trade. The improvement evidenced of the correspcnding date of last jear was less pronounced and the index then was lower.

Vancouver. - Manufacturing and transportation reported curtailment of operations, while construction was somewhet more active. Returns were compiled from 237 employers whose staffs aggregated 26,386 persons, compared with 26,800 in the preceding month. Narked expansion was indicated on Aug. 1,1926 , when the level of employment was rather higher.

Index numbers by cities are siven in Tables 2 ard 5.

## FMPLOYAENT BY INIUSTIIES

Manufacturing - Further, moderate gains were made in manufacturing works, 3,908 of which reported 488,448 operatives on their payrolls, as compared with 488,094 on July 1. The most marked increases were in fruit and vegetable canning, lumber, tobacco, distilled and malt ljquor, pulp and paper, building material ard eiectric current plants, while fish-preserving, electrical appliance, iron and steel and nonferrous metal factories showed reductions. Rather greater advances were registered on the same date of last year, but the index then was some three points lower.

Logging:- Seasonal dulness continued to affect employment in logeing comps, especially in Eastern Canada. Statements were tubulated from 219 firms employing 15,948 men, or 672 more than in the precedinemonth. Much greater losses were reportud on Aug. 1, 1926, when employment was in rather smaller volume.



Jai. دैeo. Mor Aor May Juñe July Aus. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan.
Curves are based upon number of wnrleers reported at first of month by firms making returns, as compared with the number they erployed in Jan.1920, as 100.

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Mining.- Continued expansion on a larger scale than on the corresponding date of last summer was indicated in mining: most of the gain taking place in coal and metallic ore mines, An aggregate working force of 46,924 persons mas employed by the 213 reporting operators, who had 45,785 employees on July 1. Employment was more active than at the beginning of August of any other year since 1920.

Communications. - There was another moderate advance in employment in communications on Augn 1, the 188 companies and branches whosc statistics were received kaving 25,826 morkers in their amploy, as against 25,725 in the preceding month. The number engaged in this group was at its maximum for the last eight years.

Mransportation. - Employment in steam railway and water transportation showed a falling off, while street and electric rallway operation was slightly busier. Returns were tabulated from 277 employers whose payrolls ageregated 115,125 persons, ecmpared with 117,323 at the beginning of July. Slight gains were noted on the corresponding date in 1926, when the index nunber was rather lower.

Construction and Maintenance.- Continued improvement was registered in this group; the increase ras more extensive than is usual on Aug. 1 , and the index rumber, at 244.8 , was at its peak for the record. Rallway track mork afforded less employment, but building and hi chway construction showed considerable advances. A combined morking force of 130,282 persons was employed by the 673 contractors furnishing data, who had 125,762 in their last report.

Services, - Summer hotels reported further additions to staffs, while only slight changes were noted in other branches of the group; 169 firms employed 16,828 persons, or 360 more than at the beginning of July. Although this increase was rather smaller than that noted or Alg. 1, 1926, the situation ther was not so favourable, in fact, employment on the date of review was at its maximum for this record,

Trade. - Activity in retail and wholesale establishments again increased, according to 564 employers who added 690 workers to their staffs, bringing them to 63,679 on the date under review, The advances recorded at the beginning of August of last year were somewhat smaller, and the index then was eeveral poir.ts lower.

Index numbers by industries are given in Table 3: While Chart 2 shows the course of emplcyment since 1924 in some of the leading industrial groups.

## EMPIOYNENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following notes on employment in the British Isles are taken from the latest available statistics of the British Ministry of Labour. The extracts respecting conditions in the United States are taken from the latest official reports received.

Great Britain and Northern Ireland.- Employment during June showed little change on the whole as compared with Nay, Among the workers (numbering approximately $12,000,000$ ) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percontage unemployed, both temporarily and wholly, in all industries, was 8.9 on June 20, 1927, as compared with 8.8 cn May 23, 1927, and 14.6 on June 21, 1926. Recent press reports state that 1,119,800 workers were unemployed ir the first week of August. as compared with 1,053,000 in the first week of July.

## UNITED STATES

Ne York - Factory employment in New York State declined nearly 2 p.c. betmeen June 15 and July 15, the decrease being partly seasonal in character for vacations, inventories and repairs. The food and shoe groups reported improvement, but the notal, textile and other industrics mere slacker.

Massochusetts, - There was also a reduction in employment in Massachusetts' iactories, according to returns from 1,025 establishments employing 222,158 persons in July, as compared mith 227,579 in June. The largest decreases were in cotton, electrical machinery, apparatus and supplies, kntting, printirg, rubber, stove ard woollen Pactoriss, while boot and shoe and motor plants were busier.

Illinois. - Emplcyment in Illincis manufactures declined 3.6 p.c. during July, largely swing to vacations and the completion of several large contracts. The metal sndustries registered the largest losses, mhile there mere slight increases in meatpuciking and alothing factories. suilding cortinucd active.

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Note! Number employed by the reporting firms in Jon. 1920=700 in every case. The "relative meight" shows the proportion of employees in the indicated area to the total number of employees reported in Canada on the date under reviet. Table 1.-Indez Numbers of all Employment by Economic Areas, ank of Dominion Employnent in Manufacturing.

|  | Canada | Maritimo Provinces | Quebec | Cotario | Prairie <br> Provinces | British <br> Columbia | All manufacturing |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Aug. 1, 1921 | 88.9 | 91.2 | 87.8 | 85.0 | 97.5 | 9.3 | 81.3 |
| Aug. 1, 1922 | 93.1 | 94.0 | 30.3 | 90.8 | 101.5 | 99.8 | 85.3 |
| Aus. 1, 1923 | 100.2 | 7.8 | 101.9 | 97.1 | 104.3 | 107.2 | 93.5 |
| Aug. 1, 1924 | 94.7 | 90.2 | 98.7 | 90.3 | 95.4 | 107.1 | 86.2 |
| Jan. 1, 1925 | 83.9 | 78.5 | 85.0 | 81.4 | 88.1 | 32.9 | 75.5 |
| Feb . 1 | 8.1 | 79.1 | 89.1 | 83.4 | 88.4 | 95.1 | 79.3 |
| Max. 1 | 87.0 | 81.7 | 8.6 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 9 Cb . 1 | 81.9 |
| Apr. 1 | 87.2 | 83.4 | 8.8 | 84.9 | 84.1 | 100.1 | 84.3 |
| May 1 | 90.8 | 86.6 | 94.2 | 87.7 | 88.0 | 105.1 | 86.6 |
| June 1 | 94.5 | 90.3 | 100.6 | 89.8 | 93.1 | 106.5 | 88.3 |
| July 1 | 96.8 | 99.4 | 101.1 | 21.8 | 95.9 | 108.0 | 89.1 |
| AuE. 1 | 96.3 | 92.2 | 101.1 | 90.8 | 97.3 | 112.2 | 88.5 |
| Sept. 1 | 96.6 | 88. + | 101.3 | 92.7 | 96.0 | 114.2 | 89.4 |
| Oct. 1 | 98.3 | 88.1 | 102.7 | 94.3 | 99.8 | 114.8 | 91.3 |
| Nov. 1 | 97.1 | 85.5 | 101.1 | 93.7 | 99.1 | 111.5 | 89.2 |
| Dec. 1 | 95.3 | 83.5 | 98.5 | 92.6 | 97.5 | 109.0 | 88.1 |
| Jan. 1, 1926 | 89.6 | $8+.4$ | 90.7 | 86.3 | 95.1 | 100.5 | 83.2 |
| Feb. 1 | 90.7 | 85.1 | 92.6 | 88.1 | 90.7 | 103.6 | 85.9 |
| Mar 1 | 91.5 | 88.7 | 94.0 | 8.2 | 88.6 | 103.3 | 87.7 |
| Apr. 1 | 91.4 | $8+.7$ | 95.7 | 88.0 | 88.2 | 108.3 | 89.3 |
| May 1 | 94.3 | 83.8 | 99.0 | 90.4 | 92.5 | 113.5 | 91.3 |
| June 1 | 101.0 | 87.9 | 108.8 | 95.2 | 103.5 | 116.6 | 93.9 |
| July 1 | 103.7 | 91.1 | 112.8 | 97.0 | 107.3 | 118.1 | 95.3 |
| Aug. 1 | 104.2 | 94.5 | 113.5 | 96.7 | 106.5 | 120.8 | 95.8 |
| Sept.1 | 104.9 | 96.7 | 113.1 | 97.9 | 100.9 | 121.8 | 96.9 |
| cot. 1 | 105.2 | 94.2 | 113.1 | 98.7 | 110.0 | 119.2 | 96.7 |
| Nov. 1 | 102.8 | 86.6 | 110.6 | 97.4 | 107.7 | 116.0 | 94.9 |
| Dec. 1 | 101.1 | 85.1 | 107.7 | 96.8 | 105.4 | 112.7 | 93.8 |
| Jan. 1, 1927 | 94.8 | 90.8 | 98.2 | 90.9 | 100.6 | 98.8 | 87.5 |
| Feb. 1 | 95.4 | 87.5 | 99.9 | 92.3 | 97.2 | 102.5 | 90.7 |
| Mar. 1 | 96.3 | 8.8 | 100.9 | 94.0 | 95.9 | 104.8 | 92.2 |
| Apr. 1 | 96.2 | 87.2 | 99.2 | 94.3 | 94.8 | 108.3 | 93.8 |
| May 1 | 100.6 | 89.5 | 105.5 | 98.1 | 99.7 | 112.0 | 96.1 |
| June 1 | 105.9 | 92.2 | 212.8 | 101.5 | 107.2 | 118.9 | 98.8 |
| Julv 1 | 108.4 | 100.5 | 115.0 | 102.3 | 111.5 | 122.9 | 98.7 |
| Aug. 1 | 109.2 | 100.9 | 115.2 | 102.6 | 114.8 | 124.0 | 98.9 |
| Relative Meie | ployme | $t$ by Distr | ts and | in Manu | facturing | as at Aug. | 1927 |



Table 3.-Index Numbers of Employment in Canada by Industries (Jan. 1920 $=100$ )


1/ The "Relative Weight" column shows the proportion that the number of omployees in the indicated industry is of the total number of employees reported in all industries by firms making returns on the date under review.


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Table 4.-Index Numbers of Employment by Economic Areas and Industries (Jan. 1920=100)


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- Ta*ble 5.- Index lumbers 21 Employment by Cities and Principal IndustctesiJan-1920=100) Cities and Industries

1/Relative Aus. 1 Montreal - Manufacturing llant products - edible Heisht $1327 \quad 1921$ Aपद् $?$ A Pulp and paper (chiefly printing) Textiles Tobacco, distilled and malt liquors Iron and steel
other manufactures
Communications
Transportation Construction

## Irade

Montreal - All industries
Quebec - Manufacturing
Leather products
Other manufactures
Transportation
Construction
Quebec - All industries
Toronto - Manufacturing
Plant products - edible
Printing and publishing
Textiles
Iron and steel
Other manufactures
Ocmmunications
66.6
5.1
4.1
12.4
5.8
16.3
22.5

Transportation
Construction
Trade
Toronto - All industries
Ottawa - Manufacturing
Lumber products
Pulp and paper
Other manufactures
Construction
Trade
Ottawa - All industries
Hamilton - Manufacturing
Textiles
Electrical apparatus
Iron and steel
Other manufactures
Construction
Trade
Hamilton - All industries
Windsor - Manufacturing
Iron and steel
Other manufactures
Construction
Findsor - All industries
Timines - Manufacturing
Animal products - edible
Plant products - edible
Printing and publishing
Textiles
Other manufactures
Transpertation
Construction
Trace
Winnipeg - All industries
Vancouver - Manufacturing
Iumber products
Other manufactures
Ccramnications
Transportation
Construction
Services
Trade

## Toncouver - A11 industries

1. Pworn 100.0 - 20.6 -122.6
employees reported in tiat city by the fims maling returns.
