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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

## THE

MARCH
EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
1928
(As REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS HAVING 15 OR MORE EMPLOYEES)

Note:- Statements relating to unemployment as reported by trade unions. and to the operations of the Employ. ment Service of Canada, together with the statistics of the present bulletin, are published in the Labour Gazette, the official journal of the Department of Labour. Canada.

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# DEPARY"ETT OF ITADE A゙D COIC ERCE <br> DOMINON BURZAU OF STAIISTICS <br> GENEZAL STATISIICS StaNCH <br> CTTAFA - CAIADA 

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> FHEMARCHEMPIOYMEUISITUATION.

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Ohief, General Statistics 3ranch: S. A. Cudmore, N.A., F.S.S.
There was a moderate aain in employment at the begimning of March, accordins to the monthly statements furnished to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics by 6,222 of the larger einployers of labour throuthout Canada. The working forces of these firms aggregated $\mathrm{s}^{4} \mathrm{C}, 095$ persons, as compared with. 842.065 in the preceding mointh. This increase of slichtly over 4,000 workers caused the index number to rise froin 100.8 on $\mathrm{Fe}^{3} .1,1928$ to 101.4 at the beginning of March, as comnared with $96.3,91.5$, $87.0,30.7,59.9,81.9$ and 88.0 on Mar. 1, 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 and 1921, respectively.

The largest increases took place in mamafacturin, while logsia, construc tion, minin and trasnportation vere seasonally slacker.

## FHFLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ARZAS

The trend was uward in the Maritime Provinces, Ontario and British Columbia, but in Quebec and the Prairie Drovinces contractions were indicated.

Maritime Provinces.- There was a slicht increase in the Maritime Provinces, where 500 employers enlarged their staffs from 64,581 गersons on Feb. 1, to 64,650 at the begimine of March. Improvement was resistered in manufactures, particularly in iroin and steel morks, and transportation mas also busier. Loggin, rainine and construction, homever, recorded seasonal losses. Employment on Mar. 1, 192.7, had shom a recuction, but the index then was practically the same as on the date under review.

Quebec.- In spite of the fact that activity declined on Mar. I, employment in Quevec vies at a higher level than in the early spring of any other year of the record. The decrease was due to seasonal curtailment, mainly in construction and loggin, but also in transportation and trade. Manufacturins, on the other hand, was decidedly brisker, the iron and steel, rulp and paper, leather, teatile, tobacco. distilled and malt liquor divisions showing especially pronounced gains. Statements were tableted from 1,357 firms, whose parrolls agsregated 237.393 umployees, as against 239.201 at the besinning of February. The index stood at 105.5, as adainst 100.9 on Mar. I of a year ago.

Ontario.- Purther expansion was resistered in Ontario, where the 2,887 co© neratin establishments added 4,836 nersons to their labour forces, bringing them to $360,5 \mathrm{l}$ on $: 2 r, 1$. The situation contimued to comnare favourablr with thet noted on the correspoidine dates of the years 1921-1927. Mamufacturing, notably of iron and steel products, recorded considerable recovery, and mining and trade were also more active thail on Feb. 1: construction and loggine, however, were seasonally slacker.

Prairie Provinces.- The contractions shown in the Prairie Provinces involved a rather snaller mumber of workers than those reccriud on the same date in the five precedine years, while the index was higher than on Mar. I in ady other year of the record. Data were tabulated from 810 firms, with 109,633 employees, compared with 111,027 in their last report. Manufacturine registered slizht increases and construcm tion marked impovement, while mining and trasnportation reported the greatest declines.

British. Columbia.- Mamfacturiner, particularly of lumber and metal products, recorded important advances in employment, as did logging and construction, while only small changes mere ncted in other intustries. The worline forces of the 667 reporting employeis adgreqated 73,838 persons, as against 71,512 in the mrecedia month. Additions to staff on a smaller scale had been indicated on Mar. l of last year, when the index mas several oints lower. The level of employment was higher on Nar. 1,1928 , than in the lete winter of any other year of the record.

Index numbers of employment by econcmic areas are given in Tebles 1 and 4 , while Chort 2 shows the course of employment since 1926 in these areas; the curves are based upon the muber of morters emnloyed by the reporting firms at the beginning of the month, as compared with the number on their nayrolls in Jan. 1920, as 1 CO .


Erployment advanced in Mcntreal. Tcronto, Windsor and the Other Border Cities and Vancouver, while the trend was unfavourable in Quebec City, Ottama, Hanilton and Finnipes.

Montreal.- Contimued gains were indicated in Montreal, chieflu in mafuactures, within wichiron and steel plants recorded especially important recovery; on the other hand, trans"ortation, trade and construction shomed seascnal curtailment. Statements were tabulated from 730 firms employing 114,205 workers, as combared with 113,400 in the precedim month. Tre tendency on liar. 1, 1927, was also upward, but the index then was several points 10 wer.

Ginebec.- Manufacturing afforded more employment, while construction was slacker. Al though improvement had been noted on the corrosiondinc date of last year, the situamtion then wis not so favourable. The working forces of the 101 co-operating employers totalled 9,393 persons, compared with 10,436 on Feb. $1,1928$.

Toronto.- Iron and steel rejorted a considerable increase, and there was a swaller advance in trade and some cther industries, while printing and puolishing were quiet. According to returns received from 826 firms, they enlarged their staffs from 104,602 nor?ers in the preceding month ts 105,602 at the beginning of ijarch. Less extensive goins were indicated on the same date of last year. When the indox was several points lower.

Ottema,- Employment in Ottawa showed a small decline; manufactures mere more active, but transportation and construction were seasonally dull. The 137 co-cperating employers recuced their payrolls by 90 perscns, brinsing them to 10,613 on the date under review. Activity was greater than on Mar. I, 1927, althoush improvenent had trien been noted.

Fanilton.- Manufacturing and construction afforded less employment in Hamilton, Where 204 firms employed 29,652 rorkers, as compared with 29,950 in their last redort. Additions to staffs had been recorded on the correspondin date of last year, but the situation then mas no favourable.

Windsor and The Other Borker Cities.- Further pronounced improverent was indicated in the Border Cities, manly in automobile factories. Data were received from 126 firms with 11,893 emnloyees, or 1,758 more than on Feb. 1. Fmplomment was at a very slightly higher level than at the beginning of March, 1927.

Minnipes.- There plas another, but smaller reduction in Minipeg, there 289 emoloyers reported 27.937 workers, as against 28,045 in the preceding month. The decline was largely in trade and construction, while marufactures were somethat busier. Employment wes rather more active than on Mar. I of last year, when similar losses were registered.

Varcouver.- ManufacturinE (especially of lumber products), and construction recorded substantial increases in Vancouver. Returns were comnlled from 253 employers, whose staffs were increased by 767 persons to 25,412 at the beginnin of March. Gains on a similer scale had been shown on the corresponding date of a year a o, and the index then ras practically the same as on the date under review.

Index numbers of employment by cities are given in Tables 2 and 5.

## EMPLOYMEITT BY INLUSTRIES.

Munfacturing. - Fie trena of employment in this grcup contimued uprard, accoraing to statistics furnished by 3,851 mamufacturers employing 480,480 operatives, as compared with 469,366 at the beginning of February. The most pronounced recovery toak place in iron and steel factorles; lumber mills showed further seasonal gains which exceeded the average increase recorded on Mar. 1, and there mere also important advances in toxtile, vegetable food, tobacco. distilled and malt liquor, nen-ferrous metal, leather and mineral product itcrks. Animal food establishments, hovever, registered reduced enployment. The general improvement in mamfactures was rather greater than on Mar. 1, 1927, when the index mumber, as in the early spring of the otiner years since 1920, 7as several points lower than on the date under review.

ICESink, - Karked contractions were noted in logeine camps, in many of which the season's operations mere almost completed; 257 firms had 37,339 men in their emnloy, or 2,520 less tran in their last report. The decline invclved a rather smaller mumber of \%orlers than that reccrded at the beginning of March of a year ago, when the index tras some 12 points lower.

Minine. - Statements were compiled from 223 onerators emplowing 47,708 Dersons, as against $45,4 \bar{Z}$ on Feb . 1 . Coal mines showed curtailment, while small increases tcok place in other branches of the industry, Larger losses mere resistered on the correspndin date in 1927, and the situation then "!as not so favourajle.

Comanications.- Practically no change was indicated on telegraphs and telenhones, which afforded more employment than at the besinnine of March of other vears of the record. Returns mere received from 187 companies and branches with 24,535 ommloyees, comparel with 24,501 in the preceding month.
ransportation.- Shiprinf and stevedoring recorded improvement, but the gains wore erfcet ty contractions in local and steam railway oneration. The working forces of the 27 co-operatin employers declined from 109,756 perscns on Feo. 1 , to 108,125 on Mar. 1. The index vas higher than in the early sprine of other vears of the record.

Construction and haintenance.- Enployment in this industry showed a fallinecff, 2,28 perscns beinf released from the payrolls of the 628 contractors and divisional sperintendents makine returns, who had 63,451 emnloyees on Nar. 1. Baildine and Litiwav construction recorded curtailment, mile railnay construction and maintenance reported a minor eain. The volume of employment ras considerably greater than on the same dato in any other year since the series was commenced.

Services.- Very little general chanee mas noted in the service roul, 182 establishments remortine a staff of 16,009 , aompared with 15,958 on Feb. 1. Activity contimued at a higher level than in the correspondine month of early years of the record.

Trade.- Retail trade shored a slight advance, but wholesalers released some help. The result was an increase of 45 in the personnel of the 622 firms furnishing data, who had 68,448 vorkers. Imployment was in decidedly greater volume than on Mar, 1 of any other year for which statistics are available.

T-ble 3 gives index numbers in some 60 industries.

## PMPICYEETT IM GREAT BEITATM

The notes of employment in the British Isles are taken from the latest ovailable statistics of the Eritish Ministry of Labour:- Following the sharj decline whick. cocurced inmediately after Christmas, employment showed a steady inprovement on the whole through:out Jamury, but at the end of the month employment in most industries was worse than in the third reek in December. Amons tre $11,800,000$ workers insured against une:nploynent under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Mortrern Ireland, the periontige unemoloyed, both wiolly and temporarily, in all industries, wes 10.7 on ion. 23, 1928, as compared with. 9.8 on Dec. 19, 1927 , and 12.0 on Jan. 24, 1927. Recent press reports state that l,106,700 persons mere out of work at the end of February, as compered with $2,168,900$ it the sue of Jemmary.

BHOMENI IN THE URIMED STATES.
(These netes are basci on the latest official reports)
NeNYork. - The index mamber of factory employment in Mer York Stete increased from 91 in Jomary to 92 in Febmary, but was lower than in Febmary of any other year since 1915. Clothine, shoe, food, rubber, iron and steel, heating apnaratus and sheet retal Ments reported gains, but cicarette, radio, electrical equipnent, locomotive and seriway car shops were slacker.

Massechusetts.- Returns received by the Department of Labour and Industries of Wastadnusets from 995 mamfacturing establishments shew that their wage-earners smereased from 218,382 in January to 221,148 in February, or br 1.3 p.c. The most outerandin imptovement was in the boot and shce industry, but increases were al so indicatve in stova, clothin and cotton factories, while employment declined i: rubber, wollen and worrlyed and confectionery factories.

I2lingis.- moloyment in Illincis, for the first time since Septonber, 1927, shomed an frocease in emploment, treere being an advance of 1.3 p.c. in the number reported to the State Bureau of Labor. The industries showing the most decided gains in pobruary worg metals, clothins and meat nackin, while reductions were reported in printin estelishments, ouilding construction and some other industries.

Wisconsin, The irdex number of employment in Wisconsin manfectures, (rith Jan. 1922 as the base esual to 100) stood at 118.3 in Jamuary, 192s, as compared with 113.5 in December and 122.7 in January, 1927. There were losses as comparo3 with Docomber is the metal, rubber, textile, leather, food and other industrics, while wocd products, printiug and pubishains rlants were busier.

Note: Nubat Empioyec by the reporting firms in Jan, $1920=100$ in eveny case, The
"Rolative Deight" shoms the proportion of employees in the indicated area to the total mamer of all eployees reported in Canade on the date under review. Table l.-Index Numbers of 2l? Exployment by Econowic Areas, and of Dominion Employment in Manfacturing

|  | Canada | Uaritime <br> Frarinces | Quebec | Ontario | Erairie <br> Sovinces | British <br> Columbia | All manufacturing |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| War. 1, 1021 | $\frac{88.0}{88}$ | 90.7 | $\frac{38.7}{38}$ | 86.2 | $\underline{91.0}$ | $\frac{87.3}{}$ | 84.6 |
| Mar. 1, 1922 | 81.9 | 80.7 | 80.6 | 81.7 | 84.4 | 85.3 | 78.1 |
| Mar. 1, 1923 | 89.9 | 90.7 | 87.9 | 90.8 | 88.9 | 92.0 | 87.5 |
| Mar. 1, 1924 | 90.7 | 82.4 | 93.5 | 89.8 | 89.6 | 97.J. | 36.0 |
| Mar. 1, 1925 | 87.0 | 81.7 | 89.6 | 85.0 | 85.0 | $98 . ?$ | 81.9 |
| Jan. I, 1926 | 89.6 | 84.4 | 90.7 | 86.3 | 95.1 | 100.5 | 83.2 |
| Feb. 1 | 90.7 | 85.1 | 92.6 | 88.1 | 90.7 | 103.6 | 55.9 |
| War. 1 | 91.5 | 88.7 | 94.0 | 89.2 | 83.6 | 103.3 | 87.7 |
| Apr. 1 | 91.4 | 84.7 | 95.7 | 88.0 | 38.2 | 103.3 | 89.3 |
| Way 1 | 04.3 | 83.8 | 99.0 | 90.4 | 92.5 | 113.5 | 91.3 |
| tine 1 | 101.0 | 87.9 | 108.8 | 95.2 | 103.5 | 116.6 | 93.9 |
| July 1 | 103.7 | 91.1 | 112.5 | 97.0 | 107.3 | 115.7 | 95.3 |
| AuS. 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 | 106.9 | 121.8 | 06.9 |
| Oct. I | 105.2 | 94.2 | 113.1 | 98.7 | 110.0 | 119.2 | 06.7 |
| S\%\%. 1 | 102.8 | 86.6 | 110.6 | 97.4 | 107.7 | 11.5 .0 | 94.9 |
| Tee. 1 | 101.1 | 85.1 | 107.7 | 96.8 | 105.4 | 112.7 | 33.8 |
| Jan. 1, 1027 | 94.8 | 90.8 | 98.2 | 30.9 | 100.6 | 98.8 | 87.5 |
| Feb. 1 | 95.4 | 87.5 | 99.9 | 92.3 | 97.2 | 102.5 | 90.7 |
| inar. 1 | 96.3 | 86.8 | 100.9 | 94.0 | 95.9 | 104.8 | 92.2 |
| Apr. 1 | 96.2 | 37.2 | 99.2 | 94.3 | 94.8 | 108.3 | 93.8 |
| Hay 1 | 100.6 | 89.6 | 105.5 | 98.1 | 99.7 | 112.0 | 96.1 |
| June 1 | 105.9 | 92.2 | 112.8 | 101.5 | 107.2 | 118.9 | 98.8 |
| July 1 | 108.4 | 100.5 | 115.0 | 102.3 | 111.5 | 122.9 | $\bigcirc 8.7$ |
| Aug. 1 | 109.2 | 100.9 | 115.2 | 102.6 | 114.8 | 124.0 | 98.9 |
| Sept.1 | 109.7 | 100.0 | 115.9 | 103.8 | 115.2 | 122.5 | 08.7 |
| Oct. 1 | 109.0 | 96.3 | 115.4 | 104.3 | 112.5 | 121.5 | 96.3 |
| Nicv. 1 | 107.5 | 89.2 | 115.6 | 103.1 | 111.5 | 117.5 | 97.0 |
| Dec. 1 | 106.8 | 88.3 | 115.5 | 102.5 | 111.6 | 113.6 | 96.4 |
| Jan. 1, 1925 | 99.5 | 86.5 | 104.5 | 95.7 | 108.3 | 103.0 | 90.5 |
| Feb. 1 | 100.8 | 86.4 | 106.6 | 98.5 | 103.9 | 105.-1 | 4.5 |
| Mar. 1 | 101.4 | 86.9 | 105.8 | 99.8 | 102.5 | 103.3 | 96.8 |

Relative Teight of mployment by Districts and in Mamfacturing as at Mar. $1,1192 \%$.


Relative Feiglit of tmployment by Cities as at Mar. 1, 1928.


1/ The "Relative Weight" column slows the proportion tinet the number of emplcyees in the indicited industry is of tiae to tal number of emmioyees reperted in all industries by firms miking returns on tise date under review.
. $6-$
Table 4. - Index Nimbers of Fmplayment by Ecoriomic Areas and Industries (Jan, 1920=100)

## Maritime Provirces-Manufacturing

Relative Mar. 1 Feb. 1 Mer.
 Teigh

Lumber products
Pulp and paper
Textiles products
Gron and steel
other manufactures
Leging
Mining
Communications
Transpertation
Construction

| 36.3 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4.4 |  |
| 3.7 | 12 |

Services Trade
20
nces- All Industries
100.1

Naritime Provinces- All Indus
Quebec Manufacturing
Lumber products
Pulp and paper
Textile prciucts
Iron and steel
other manufactures
Lugging
Mining
Communicatior.s
Transportation
Cerstruction
Services
Trade
Queboc - All Industries
Cntario Manufacturing
Iumber products
Puly ard paper
Textile products
Iron and steel
Other manufactures
63.8

IC Eging
Mining
Communications
Transportation
Corstruction
Services
Trade
Ortario - All Industries
Erairie Provinces- Marufacturing
Lumber products
Pulp and paper
Textiles products
Iron and steel
Other manufactures
Logging
为ining
commications
Transportation
Construction
Services
Prade
Prairie Provinces - All Industries
British Cclumbia Nanufacturing
Lumber
Pulp axd paper
Textile products
Ircn and stee?
Other manufactures
LCEEITE
Minirg
Communications
Traxisportation
Corstruction
Services
Trade
British Columbia - All Industries

[^0] employees reported in that area by the firms makirg returns.
†


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[^0]:    1) Proportion of emoloyees in indicated industry in ar area to total number of
