

**17.—Index Numbers of Employment as reported by Employers, by Industries, as at the first of each month, January, 1921 to December, 1924—concluded.**

Years and Months.	Manu- facturin.	Logging.	Mining.	Communi- cation.	Transpor- tation.	Construc- tion and Main- tenance.	Services.	Trade.	All Indus- tries.
1923.									
Jan. 1.	78.1	87.0	100.8	97.4	104.8	96.0	92.8	98.2	86.3
Feb. 1.	85.0	95.1	101.3	96.5	101.5	86.0	92.4	93.7	89.5
Mar. 1.	87.5	88.8	98.6	97.4	99.8	83.8	93.4	88.9	89.9
April 1.	85.6	57.8	97.0	98.0	100.2	85.2	94.9	90.2	87.6
May 1.	90.5	48.0	96.7	99.7	101.7	101.6	97.1	91.7	91.4
June 1.	93.5	52.5	101.6	102.2	109.0	140.2	108.8	91.9	97.3
July 1.	93.6	48.4	101.6	103.4	112.2	169.1	115.1	92.3	99.5
Aug. 1.	93.5	42.2	101.0	105.2	113.4	183.7	118.7	91.7	100.2
Sept. 1.	93.0	43.1	104.0	106.4	113.4	180.9	120.3	92.0	100.0
Oct. 1.	91.8	51.7	104.9	106.6	116.2	171.8	113.7	93.2	99.5
Nov. 1.	91.2	62.6	105.4	105.3	116.8	159.3	108.5	93.1	98.8
Dec. 1.	88.2	82.2	105.9	106.1	113.8	125.2	106.2	96.8	95.7
1924.									
Jan. 1.	80.1	92.1	100.5	104.2	107.3	98.8	106.6	99.4	88.7
Feb. 1.	84.9	97.0	104.0	104.0	103.7	94.2	106.3	91.2	90.6
Mar. 1.	86.0	90.8	99.7	105.4	103.1	93.1	106.2	91.2	90.7
April 1.	86.5	54.2	99.5	106.0	103.7	91.4	107.9	91.0	89.3
May 1.	87.7	54.5	103.3	108.2	105.3	111.2	108.0	91.9	91.8
June 1.	88.4	53.6	103.7	109.8	110.1	147.3	113.8	92.5	95.2
July 1.	87.7	43.1	99.9	111.7	110.0	175.8	122.5	92.1	95.9
Aug. 1.	86.2	36.2	99.4	113.9	110.8	173.1	122.4	91.7	94.7
Sept. 1.	84.5	43.7	99.1	113.1	107.8	165.3	121.7	92.1	93.1
Oct. 1.	85.7	53.4	99.0	111.2	109.0	157.5	115.0	93.1	93.9
Nov. 1.	84.2	71.8	100.5	111.3	108.2	144.9	109.3	93.8	93.0
Dec. 1.	82.0	85.1	99.2	109.3	108.2	116.6	107.2	99.1	90.8

NOTE.—Number of employees of the reporting firms in January, 1920, is taken as 100 in every case.

## 9.—Child Labour Laws.

For several centuries the employment of children has been a subject of much legislation in Great Britain, but in the earlier part of this period the object of the legislators was to keep children fully employed, since idleness was regarded as one of the greatest existing evils, particularly in its connection with pauperism. A law of 1547, in dealing with vagrants, provided that their children who were between the ages of 5 and 14 years should be bound out as apprentices, while the Statute of Apprentices of 1562 decreed that children of working parents should ordinarily begin work not later than the age of 12. The period of apprenticeship for boys lasted until they were 24 years and for the girls until 21 years, or until marriage.