

Subsection 3.—Employment as Reported by Employers.

Payroll data on employment are obtained and issued each month by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from employers of 15 persons and over; during 1928, some 6,400 of these firms, representing practically every industry except agriculture and the more specialized business and professional callings, made monthly returns covering an average staff of 928,580 workers. The payrolls varied from approximately 827,000 on Jan. 1 to 1,003,000 at the beginning of August. The movements of monthly employment in the years 1926 to 1928 are shown in Table 17. This depicts the favourable trend indicated during the greater part of 1928, employment having advanced almost uninterruptedly from early in January to the beginning of August. The curve in each month from Jan. 1 was higher than in the corresponding month of the years, 1921-27. The index, at its peak of 119.3 on Aug. 1, was over eight points higher than on Sept. 1, 1927, when activity was greater than in any previous month of the record. These indexes¹ have been recalculated upon the new base for the employment series—the average for the calendar year 1926 as 100. Although the usual seasonal curtailment was indicated at the close of the year, the situation on Dec. 1, 1928, was decidedly more favourable than in any month of the seven preceding years.

Employment by Economic Areas.—An analysis of the returns shows that the Prairie Provinces and Ontario recorded the greatest improvement over 1927, and the indexes of employment were higher in those areas than elsewhere. The gains in employment between Jan. 1 and the month in which activity was highest varied from 16.5 points in Quebec to 30.7 points in the Prairie Provinces. Table 17 is a record of employment in the five economic areas, as reported monthly by employers.

17.—Index Numbers of Employment as reported by Employers, by Economic Areas, as at the first of each month, January, 1926, to December, 1928, with yearly averages since 1921.

NOTE.—These indexes are recalculated upon the average for the calendar year, 1926, as 100. The relative weight shows the proportion of employees reported in the indicated economic area to the total reported by all employers making returns in Canada on Dec. 1, 1928.

Year and months.	Maritime Provinces.	Quebec	Ontario.	Prairie Provinces.	British Columbia.	Canada.
1921—Average.....	102.4	82.2	90.6	94.0	81.1	88.8
1922—Average.....	97.3	81.4	92.8	92.6	82.8	89.0
1923—Average.....	105.7	96.7	95.5	94.8	87.4	94.8
1924—Average.....	96.6	91.3	96.5	92.1	89.4	93.4
1925—Average.....	97.0	91.7	94.8	92.0	93.7	93.6
1926.						
Jan. 1.....	94.7	86.5	91.9	94.4	89.2	90.7
Feb. 1.....	95.5	88.3	93.8	90.1	91.9	91.8
Mar. 1.....	96.6	89.6	95.0	88.0	91.6	92.6
April 1.....	95.0	91.2	93.7	87.6	96.1	92.5
May 1.....	94.1	94.4	96.3	91.8	100.7	95.4
June 1.....	98.7	103.7	101.4	102.8	103.5	102.2
July 1.....	102.2	107.5	103.3	106.5	104.8	105.0
Aug. 1.....	106.1	108.2	103.0	105.8	107.2	105.5
Sept. 1.....	108.5	107.8	104.3	106.2	108.1	106.2
Oct. 1.....	106.8	107.8	105.1	109.2	105.8	106.5
Nov. 1.....	97.2	105.4	103.7	106.9	102.9	104.0
Dec. 1.....	95.5	102.7	103.1	104.7	100.0	102.3
Average ²	99.4	99.4	99.6	99.5	100.2	99.6

¹Indexes have been recalculated upon the new base by months since 1921 for the economic areas and main industrial groups, and for the leading cities since 1922, no earlier figures being available. Those desiring data in greater detail than is here published, may obtain the information upon application to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

²The average for the calendar year 1926, including figures up to Dec. 31, 1926, being the base used in computing these indexes, the average index here given for the 12 months Jan. 1-Dec. 1, 1926, generally shows a slight variation from 100.