

Subsection 2.—Unemployment as Reported by Trade Unions.

Monthly statistics on unemployment are compiled and published by the Employment Service Branch of the Dominion Department of Labour, based on returns received from 1,700 local trade unions having an aggregate membership of nearly 156,000 workers. "Unemployment" as here used means involuntary idleness, due to economic causes. Persons engaged in work other than their own trades, or idle because of illness, are not considered as unemployed, while unions involved in industrial disputes are excluded from the tabulations. As the number of unions making returns varies from month to month, with consequent variation in the membership upon which the percentages of unemployment are based, it should be understood that the figures for each month have reference only to the reporting organizations. Table 19 is a record of unemployment in trade unions, for the past 20 years, by provinces. The maximum of unemployment in 1934 was in January, when the percentage stood at 21.2; in 1933 the January figure of 25.5 p.c. constituted the maximum. In 1933 the minimum, reached in both September and October, was 19.8 p.c., while the 1934 low was 16.2 p.c. recorded in October. Employment among organized workers, as indicated by these statistics, was more active on the average in 1934 than 1933, the average of the monthly figures of unemployment for 1934 being 18.2 p.c., while for 1933 the corresponding figure was 22.3 p.c.

19.—Percentages of Unemployment in Trade Unions, by Provinces, half-yearly, 1915-32, and by months, 1933 and 1934.

Nota.—For the percentages of unemployment for 12 months in 1921 and 1922, see p. 732 of the 1922-23 Year Book; for 12 months in 1923, p. 688 of the 1924 Year Book; for 12 months in 1924, p. 700 of the 1925 Year Book; for 12 months in 1925, p. 704 of the 1926 Year Book; for 12 months in 1926, p. 757 of the 1927-28 Year Book; for 12 months in 1927, p. 745 of the 1929 Year Book; for 12 months in 1928 and 1929, p. 733 of the 1930 Year Book; for 12 months in 1930, p. 774 of the 1931 Year Book; for 12 months in 1931, p. 651 of the 1932 Year Book, and for 12 months in 1932, p. 769 of the 1933 Year Book.

| Month. | Year. | Nova Scotia and P.E.I. | New Brunswick. | Quebec. | Ontario. | Manitoba. | Saskatchewan. | Alberta. | British Columbia. | Canada. |
|-----------|-------|------------------------|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|---------------|----------|-------------------|---------|
| Dec..... | 1915 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 9.5 | 8.1 | 3.2 | 7.0 | 4.3 | 14.8 | 7.9 |
| June..... | 1916 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 5.4 | 2.1 |
| Dec..... | 1916 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 3.7 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| June..... | 1917 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 2.5 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 1.8 | 1.2 |
| Dec..... | 1917 | 2.6 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 2.4 | 1.1 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 2.5 |
| June..... | 1918 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.4 |
| Dec..... | 1918 | 2.0 | 0.4 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 4.0 | 2.5 |
| June..... | 1919 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 4.0 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 3.4 | 2.6 |
| Dec..... | 1919 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 3.2 | 1.9 | 5.0 | 6.0 | 2.8 | 18.6 | 4.3 |
| June..... | 1920 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 3.1 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 5.8 | 2.1 |
| Dec..... | 1920 | 6.9 | 11.0 | 19.6 | 12.3 | 7.8 | 10.1 | 9.2 | 11.6 | 13.0 |
| June..... | 1921 | 14.3 | 11.7 | 20.7 | 6.7 | 8.0 | 6.8 | 9.4 | 24.4 | 13.2 |
| Dec..... | 1921 | 5.9 | 6.9 | 26.8 | 9.7 | 15.5 | 10.4 | 6.8 | 24.7 | 15.1 |
| June..... | 1922 | 7.2 | 3.5 | 5.4 | 3.9 | 6.7 | 5.0 | 7.1 | 7.1 | 5.3 |
| Dec..... | 1922 | 3.2 | 6.1 | 7.8 | 4.7 | 7.8 | 4.1 | 5.1 | 13.3 | 6.4 |
| June..... | 1923 | 2.2 | 1.0 | 5.7 | 1.6 | 5.6 | 1.3 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 3.4 |
| Dec..... | 1923 | 7.3 | 3.6 | 9.7 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 4.2 | 6.0 | 7.1 | 7.2 |
| June..... | 1924 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 9.4 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 2.3 | 3.7 | 2.2 | 5.8 |
| Dec..... | 1924 | 4.7 | 6.9 | 22.4 | 8.1 | 8.9 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 10.2 | 11.6 |
| June..... | 1925 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 10.2 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 2.4 | 10.8 | 4.1 | 6.1 |
| Dec..... | 1925 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 14.2 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 4.4 | 6.9 | 7.9 |