

PART II.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Section 1.—Wage Rates.*

Statistics of rates of wages and hours of labour have been collected for recent years by the Dominion Department of Labour, and are published in a series of bulletins supplementary to the *Labour Gazette*. Report No. 1 of this series was issued in March, 1921. The records upon which the statistics are based begin in most cases with the year 1901. Index numbers have been calculated to show the general movement of wage rates; the series covers six groups of occupations back to 1901, and common factory labour, miscellaneous factory trades and lumbering back to 1911. The index numbers are based upon wage rates in 1913 as 100. Average index numbers, weighted according to the average numbers of employees in each group, as shown in the Censuses of 1921 and 1931, are also given. Weighting has not been applied within groups. In groups by occupations or industries such as these, weighting makes comparatively little difference as rates of wages for the various classes of labour tend to rise and fall to the same extent even in different localities. In the three groups, common factory labour, miscellaneous factory trades, and logging and sawmilling, the index numbers being calculated from samples, the averages are automatically weighted by the number of samples which vary according to the number of workers in the various occupations and industries. In 1935 there was an appreciable upward movement in all group indexes.

Rates of wages and hours of labour in 1935 in various trades in the largest cities of the five economic areas of Canada will be found in Table 2. The attention of those specially interested in the subject of wages and hours is directed to the valuable detailed study, "Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada, 1929, 1934 and 1935", published by the Department of Labour as a supplement to the *Labour Gazette*, January, 1936.

*See pp. 774-783 of the 1927-28 Year Book for an article on the "Wages Statistics of the Census of 1921" and pp. 797-799 of the 1933 Year Book for "Earnings in the Census Year 1931".

1.—Index Numbers of Rates of Wages for Various Classes of Labour in Canada, 1913-35.

NOTE.—Rates of wages in 1913=100. Index numbers for 1901-12 were given at p. 674 of the 1932 Year Book.

Year.	Build- ing Trades.	Metal Trades.	Print- ing Trades.	Electric Rail- ways.	Steam Rail- ways.	Coal Mining.	Com- mon Factory Labour.	Miscel- laneous Factory Trades.	Logging and Saw- milling.	Weight- ed Aver- age. ¹
1913.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1914.....	100.8	100.5	102.4	101.0	101.4	101.9	101.0	103.2	94.7	101.1
1915.....	101.5	101.5	103.6	97.8	101.7	102.3	101.0	106.2	89.1	101.6
1916.....	102.4	106.9	105.8	102.2	105.9	111.7	110.4	115.1	109.5	105.4
1917.....	109.9	128.0	111.3	114.6	124.6	130.8	129.2	128.0	130.2	122.4
1918.....	125.9	155.2	123.7	142.9	158.0	157.8	152.3	146.8	150.5	145.9
1919.....	148.2	180.1	145.9	163.2	183.9	170.5	180.2	180.2	169.8	169.5
1920.....	180.9	209.4	184.0	194.2	221.0	197.7	215.3	216.8	202.7	202.2
1921.....	170.5	186.8	193.3	192.1	195.9	208.3	190.6	202.0	152.6	156.8
1922.....	162.5	173.7	192.3	184.4	184.4	197.8	183.0	189.1	158.7	176.6
1923.....	166.4	174.0	188.9	186.2	186.4	197.8	181.7	196.1	170.4	178.3
1924.....	169.7	175.5	191.9	186.4	186.4	192.4	183.2	197.6	183.1	179.5
1925.....	170.4	175.4	192.8	187.8	186.4	167.6	186.3	195.5	178.7	178.4
1926.....	172.1	177.4	193.3	188.4	186.4	167.4	187.3	196.7	180.8	179.4
1927.....	179.3	178.1	195.0	189.9	198.4	167.9	187.7	199.4	182.8	185.6
1928.....	185.6	180.1	198.3	194.1	198.4	168.9	187.1	200.9	184.3	188.3
1929.....	197.5	184.6	202.3	198.6	204.3	168.9	187.8	202.1	185.6	195.0
1930.....	203.2	186.6	203.3	199.4	204.3	169.4	188.2	202.3	183.9	197.3
1931.....	195.7	182.9	205.1	198.6	199.2	169.4	183.4	197.3	163.0	188.7
1932.....	178.2	174.7	194.2	191.1	183.9	164.0	173.6	184.3	141.3	179.4
1933.....	158.0	169.2	184.3	182.7	179.7	161.9	168.1	175.7	121.7	170.2
1934.....	154.8	168.0	183.5	182.4	173.7	162.9	170.8	180.5	145.1	167.1
1935.....	159.8	169.7	184.5	183.7	183.9	165.8	174.9	184.7	152.3	172.4

¹Weighted according to average numbers of workers in each group in 1921 and 1931.