

tually reported some occupation at which they normally earned money or money equivalent, whether so engaged on the first of June, 1931, or not. Some of these, of course, were not employees or wage-earners at all but employers and some were engaged on own account as are most lawyers, doctors, and so on. Some were unpaid family workers, such as farmers' sons, who, though receiving no fixed money payment for their services, assist in the production of marketable goods, and so were regarded at the census as having a gainful occupation.

These 3,927,230 persons 10 years of age or over, who reported gainful occupations at the 1931 Census, represented 37.9 p.c. of the population and 48.1 p.c. of the population 10 years of age or over. The number of males reporting a gainful occupation was 3,261,371 and these represented 60.8 p.c. of all males in Canada and 76.7 p.c. of the total male population 10 years of age or over. Gainfully occupied females in 1931 numbered 665,859 and constituted 13.3 p.c. of the female population and 17.0 p.c. of the female population 10 years of age or over. Females in gainful occupations accounted for roughly 17 p.c. of the total gainfully occupied of both sexes.

**Growth of Gainfully Occupied, by Sex.**—As is shown in Table 24, there has been a tendency for the percentage of females in gainful occupations to rise while for males the tendency has been downward, at least since 1911. The percentage of males at working ages, *i.e.*, 10 years of age or over, in gainful occupations rose from 74.2 p.c. in 1901 to 79.5 p.c. in 1911, falling to 77.5 p.c. in 1921 and to 76.7 p.c. in 1931. The increase from 1901 to 1911 was probably due in the main to the heavy immigration of male adults into Canada at that time, causing the age distribution of the males to be more favourable to entrance to gainful employment. The fall since 1911 has been due largely to the raising of the school-leaving age and the consequent decline in the percentage of boys in gainful occupations. In 1921, for example, 10.7 p.c. of the boys between 10 and 15 years of age were gainfully occupied as compared with only 6.8 p.c. in 1931, while 76.4 p.c. of the youths between 16 and 19 years of age were following gainful occupations in 1921 as against 67.5 p.c. in the most recent census year.

Females 10 years of age or over have shown a steadily increasing percentage gainfully occupied since 1901, when the percentage was 12.0, until 1931 when it had risen to 17.0. Between 1921 and 1931 the gainfully occupied female population increased by 35.9 p.c. as compared with an increase of only 21.7 p.c. for all females 10 years of age or over. Gainfully occupied males increased by 21.6 p.c. over the same period, which was a slightly lower rate of increase than for the total male population 10 years of age or over, the latter rate being 22.9 p.c. between 1921 and 1931.

In the statistics of Table 24 and in the other tables of this section, percentages are given to the nearest decimal place; in percentage distribution tables no attempt has been made to adjust totals to add exactly to 100.0 since where the numbers are small material error would thereby be introduced in individual items.

**24.—Numbers and Percentages of the Population in Gainful Occupations, Classified According to Sex, Census Years 1901-31.**

Census Year.	Gainfully Occupied Population.			Percentages of Total Population.			Percentages of Population 10 Years or Over.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
1901.....	1,782,832	1,544,883	237,949	33.5	56.9	9.1	43.9	74.2	12.0
1911.....	2,723,634	2,358,813	364,821	37.9	62.0	10.8	49.4	79.5	14.3
1921.....	3,173,169	2,683,019	490,150	36.2	59.3	11.5	47.6	77.5	15.3
1931.....	3,927,230	3,261,371	665,859	37.9	60.8	13.3	48.1	76.7	17.0