

The more rapid rate of increase of gainfully occupied females than of gainfully occupied males is not a recent phenomenon nor, as Table 25 shows, has it been confined to certain provinces. The ratio is highest in Quebec and Ontario where employment opportunities for females in manufacturing are relatively greater than in other provinces.

**25.—Number of Females to Every 1,000 Males in Gainful Occupations, by Provinces, Census Years 1901-31.**

Census Year.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total. <sup>1</sup>
1901.....	116	134	141	178	168	111	66 <sup>1</sup>		62	154
1911.....	141	164	160	183	185	142	68	80	88	155
1921.....	150	184	176	215	211	171	103	108	131	183
1931.....	156	182	187	247	227	199	124	132	167	204

<sup>1</sup> Separate figures for Saskatchewan and Alberta are not available for 1901 as these provinces were not then established.

<sup>2</sup> Exclusive of the Territories.

**Changes in the Age Composition of the Gainfully Occupied.**—A comparison of the ages of the gainfully occupied can be made covering the period 1911 to 1931 but only by broad age groups owing to the absence of detailed information by age in the compilations of the 1911 Census. However, the comparative information which is given in Table 26 does indicate a definite ageing of the gainfully occupied population. The falling off in the proportionate importance of the gainfully occupied in the age group 10-24 years of age relative to other age groups is largely due to the steady lengthening of the period the average child remains at school. The larger proportion of the total gainfully occupied in the age group 65 years or over, in 1931 than in 1921 or 1911 was mainly due to the greater importance of this age group in the general population in 1931 than in earlier census years. The percentage of the total gainfully occupied in the age group 65 years or over would have been still greater in 1931 if the same proportion of the population of this group had returned gainful occupations in that census year as in 1921. Actually 55.7 p.c. of the males and 6.2 p.c. of the females 65 years of age or over reported gainful occupations at the 1931 Census as compared with 58.5 p.c. of the males and 6.2 p.c. of the females in 1921, the females showing no appreciable change.

**26.—Numbers and Percentages of the Gainfully Occupied Males and Females 10 Years of Age or Over, by Age Groups, Census Years 1911-31.**

Age Group.	1911.				1921.				1931.			
	Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
10-24 years.....	638,348	27.1	187,769	51.5	626,997	23.4	243,155	49.6	757,287	23.2	322,957	48.5
25-64 years.....	1,619,885	68.7	168,034	46.1	1,930,855	72.0	234,257	47.8	2,340,297	71.8	325,543	48.9
65 years or over.	100,580	4.3	9,018	2.5	125,167	4.6	12,738	2.6	163,787	5.0	17,359	2.6
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>2,358,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>364,821</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,683,019</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>490,150</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,261,371</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>665,859</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The proportion of the population having gainful occupations varies considerably at different age periods. As is shown in Table 27, the percentage of children 10 to 15 years of age in gainful occupations is quite small, being somewhat lower in 1931 than in 1921. There is a substantial flow of young persons between 16 and 19 years of age into gainful occupations, about two-thirds of the males and almost one-third of the females between these ages being so reported at the 1931 Census. Ten years of the males between 16 and 19 years of age were gainfully