

21.—Index Numbers of Employment as Reported by Employers in Economic Areas, as at the First of each Month, January, 1936, to December, 1937, with Yearly Averages since 1921—concluded.

Year and Month.	Maritime Provinces.	Quebec.	Ontario.	Prairie Provinces.	British Columbia.	Canada.
1936.						
January 1.....	108.1	95.5	102.7	95.1	92.4	99.1
February 1.....	102.2	95.2	102.4	93.7	94.1	98.4
March 1.....	101.7	95.1	103.8	95.1	92.4	98.9
April 1.....	101.8	91.4	103.4	90.5	95.9	97.4
May 1.....	103.4	96.4	103.4	92.7	99.0	99.5
June 1.....	103.4	99.8	104.7	97.7	102.2	102.0
July 1.....	111.7	101.6	106.2	101.9	104.8	104.6
August 1.....	113.9	101.3	107.1	103.9	107.9	105.6
September 1.....	114.4	103.0	108.1	107.4	109.3	107.1
October 1.....	117.9	106.0	112.6	108.6	108.1	110.1
November 1.....	119.4	110.3	112.8	106.0	105.4	111.0
December 1.....	115.3	112.6	112.9	98.6	101.5	110.1
Averages, 1936.....	109.4	100.7	106.7	99.3	101.1	103.7
1937.						
January 1.....	109.5	104.0	107.5	94.2	95.4	103.8
February 1.....	107.5	106.7	108.4	91.4	91.3	104.1
March 1.....	106.6	102.5	108.9	91.3	89.2	102.8
April 1.....	105.4	102.2	108.8	89.4	97.5	103.0
May 1.....	110.7	105.2	111.2	93.2	103.4	106.3
June 1.....	122.0	113.6	118.8	99.3	112.2	114.3
July 1.....	135.8	118.0	122.2	104.0	117.1	119.1
August 1.....	134.3	120.8	122.2	105.6	116.9	120.0
September 1.....	135.4	124.5	125.0	109.4	121.2	123.2
October 1.....	134.9	127.3	130.4	107.6	117.9	125.7
November 1.....	127.3	130.5	130.4	106.2	111.5	125.2
December 1.....	122.5	129.6	125.8	100.5	107.5	121.6
Averages, 1937.....	121.0	115.4	118.3	99.3	106.8	114.1
Relative weights of employment in economic areas, as at Dec. 1, 1937 ²	7.6	31.1	42.3	11.1	7.9	100.0

¹Since the average for the calendar year 1926, including figures up to Dec. 31, 1926, is 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.

²Percentages of Dominion total.

Employment by Cities.—Improvement was reported in each of the eight centres for which statistics are segregated, firms in Montreal, Quebec city, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Windsor, Winnipeg, and Vancouver affording more employment than in 1936. The greatest gains, proportionately, were in Hamilton and Windsor, where marked activity in the iron and steel industries brought employment to an unusually high level, only exceeded in the former by that of 1928 and 1929, and in the latter by that of 1929. The indexes in these two centres were higher than in any other of the eight, while the lowest indexes were in Winnipeg, Quebec city, and Montreal.

Despite the generally upward movement indicated in the year under review, industrial activity in the leading cities, taken as a unit, continued to lag behind that in the Dominion as a whole, their 1937 indexes averaging 105.8, as compared with the Canada index of 114.1. In the four years of general industrial revival from the low point of the depression, indeed, the improvement in these cities has not kept pace with that in the Dominion as a whole.

Employment in manufacturing, communications, trade, and construction in the larger cities generally, does not yet appear to have reached a level equal to that in other parts of Canada. The most outstanding difference in this comparison is, of course, in construction, in which the index for the cities averaged 62.7 during 1937,