

2.—Index Numbers of Employment as Reported by Employers in Leading Cities, by Months, 1939 and 1940, with Yearly Averages Since 1929—concluded

Year and Month	Montreal	Quebec	Toronto	Ottawa	Hamilton	Windsor	Winnipeg	Vancouver
1940								
January 1.....	108.0	107.8	116.6	109.6	114.3	149.7	97.8	111.0
February 1.....	105.7	107.1	113.9	109.2	116.6	148.6	95.8	110.3
March 1.....	108.1	108.7	114.6	108.9	117.1	149.2	94.4	109.0
April 1.....	108.8	108.1	115.9	110.6	116.4	155.1	95.4	111.5
May 1.....	111.3	115.6	117.9	111.0	120.1	155.2	96.6	115.7
June 1.....	113.5	125.6	119.9	117.9	122.3	160.0	99.4	118.6
July 1.....	114.3	127.3	121.4	124.0	124.2	143.4	101.3	122.9
August 1.....	114.9	134.9	124.4	126.1	126.8	149.2	102.8	127.3
September 1.....	117.8	138.9	128.5	124.4	129.6	169.1	105.6	128.9
October 1.....	122.4	144.7	133.0	127.8	133.2	177.6	105.3	129.5
November 1.....	124.3	149.0	135.2	131.2	134.4	188.5	107.5	127.9
December 1.....	126.9	149.0	136.3	129.2	138.1	188.8	110.2	129.7
Averages, 1940	114.7	126.4	123.1	119.2	124.4	161.2	101.0	120.2
Relative weights, by cities, as at Dec. 1, 1940.....	14.5	1.5	13.0	1.3	3.3	1.9	3.5	3.2

Employment by Industries.—Manufacturing employed a slightly larger proportion of the total staffs of the co-operating firms in 1940 than in 1939, 55.5 p.c. of the reported employees being in this category. Of the approximately 110,000 workers added to the forces of establishments in all industries, some 90 p.c. were taken on in factories, which showed an increase of 16.9 p.c. over the preceding year, as compared with one of 9 p.c. in all industries.

The expansion in manufacturing was continuous from January until December, and from early in the year successive new high levels of employment were established in the division as a whole and in many of its branches. The index number rose from 118.2 at Jan. 1, to 144.7 at Dec. 1, or by 22.4 p.c., an increase that has never been exceeded in the twenty years of the record, and compares extremely favourably with the average gain of 9.8 p.c. in the period since 1920. While all branches of manufacturing shared in the upward movement of 1940, the rates of improvement varied. The most important increase was in the manufacture of the various iron and steel products, which showed a general gain of 33.1 p.c.

There was also considerable improvement during 1940 among the non-manufacturing classes although this was generally on a smaller scale than that in manufacturing. Logging showed substantial gains over 1939, and was more active than in any other year of the record except 1937. In mining, a new all-time maximum was indicated, despite some falling-off in prospecting for metallic ores. Transportation and communications showed moderate increases, bringing the index numbers to the highest position in a number of years—since 1931 in the case of transportation, and since 1932 in the case of communications. Services and trade were both active, in spite of some reduction in the tourist trade.

Among the eight leading industrial groups, the one exception to the generally higher level in 1940 was construction. Building was brisker than it has been for many years, and there was also increased employment in the construction and maintenance departments of the railways in consequence of heavier traffic. Curtailment of unemployment relief projects, however, caused a marked decline in highway construction and maintenance, and this lowered the average index which dropped from 113.0 in 1939 to 90.7 in 1940.