

18.—Wage-Earners Employed in the Manufacturing Industries of Canada, by Months and Sex, Representative Years 1922-39

Month	Total Wage-Earners						
	1922	1926	1929	1933	1937	1938	1939
January.....	324,257	417,469	502,644	340,027	484,480	503,659	490,337
February.....	336,729	430,469	519,423	347,777	502,635	508,897	496,160
March.....	349,110	444,597	536,866	355,888	518,663	513,955	503,475
April.....	360,248	457,680	555,711	358,759	536,691	522,288	509,739
May.....	382,504	478,541	574,905	377,659	558,205	534,266	530,864
June.....	393,935	491,858	575,693	392,196	569,613	534,706	531,245
July.....	391,186	494,467	573,554	393,464	564,685	525,714	529,575
August.....	389,511	489,367	567,022	402,249	559,760	534,743	543,605
September.....	392,423	490,115	564,796	410,954	582,305	536,044	562,355
October.....	385,262	486,996	553,338	405,757	564,493	519,834	568,564
November.....	378,992	467,936	527,213	396,384	546,473	511,128	563,117
December.....	367,724	449,342	499,893	380,612	521,565	485,880	544,817

Month	Wage-Earners by Sex									
	1922		1929		1933		1937		1939	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
January.....	243,682	80,575	397,459	105,185	257,445	82,582	380,314	104,166	381,997	108,340
February.....	253,178	83,551	410,865	108,558	260,728	87,049	392,475	110,160	385,955	110,205
March.....	263,849	85,261	426,713	110,153	267,259	88,629	406,202	112,461	391,623	111,852
April.....	274,821	85,427	443,569	112,142	271,348	87,411	422,678	114,013	398,982	110,757
May.....	294,095	88,409	459,783	115,122	285,705	91,954	440,211	117,994	416,963	113,901
June.....	304,395	89,540	460,294	115,399	296,937	95,259	450,121	119,492	417,975	113,270
July.....	304,020	87,166	459,051	114,503	300,329	93,135	448,991	115,694	417,987	111,588
August.....	301,234	88,277	449,721	117,301	302,969	99,280	440,123	119,637	421,895	121,710
September.....	298,918	93,505	441,510	123,286	304,908	106,046	449,011	133,294	431,509	130,846
October.....	291,973	93,289	432,576	120,762	301,315	104,442	438,890	125,603	437,220	131,344
November.....	286,511	92,481	412,114	115,099	294,945	101,439	425,171	121,302	432,920	130,197
December.....	277,854	89,870	391,903	107,990	285,690	94,922	408,663	112,902	422,538	122,279

Hours Worked by Wage-Earners.—From 1932, the first year for which figures of hours worked per week by wage-earners are available, to 1937 each firm was required to report the number of hours worked per week by its wage-earners during the month in which the greatest number had been employed. For 1938 and 1939, however, the figures represent one week in a month of *normal* employment. In any case, the figures of Table 19 do not refer to any particular month since the month of highest employment or a 'normal' month might be May for one firm and October for another; they represent the summation of the different months of highest employment or the different normal months as reported by all firms. For a given industry, however, the month of highest employment or a normal month is more significant as in this case it coincides for a great number of the firms engaged in the same industry.

The number of hours worked per week is affected both by business conditions and by changes due to government legislation and union demands. In times of depression the average number of hours per week is reduced, due to the policy of some employers of spreading the available work over as many employees as possible. With the return of better times the number of hours worked by each employee is naturally increased. This increase is, however, offset by the reduction in hours through legislative enactments and union agreements. The period of eight years, for which the figures of Table 19 are available, is not long enough to establish a definite trend in the average hours worked.