

4.—Index Numbers of Employment, by Industrial Groups and by Months, 1945 and 1946, with Yearly Averages since 1929—concluded

Year	Manu- factur- ing	Logging	Mining	Com- muni- cations	Trans- porta- tion	Con- struction and Main- tenance	Services	Trade	All Indus- tries ¹
1946									
January 1.....	179.9	344.4	149.1	127.1	125.2	107.7	207.3	193.6	168.2
February 1.....	182.8	343.5	150.8	127.3	122.2	102.4	211.9	178.6	167.2
March 1.....	182.6	339.5	152.9	128.4	121.3	101.3	211.7	179.9	167.0
April 1.....	184.9	303.6	153.8	132.4	124.0	106.0	217.1	184.8	168.9
May 1.....	186.2	223.9	155.9	135.4	127.7	115.2	219.1	186.7	169.3
June 1.....	184.7	193.7	157.5	141.4	126.8	131.1	224.3	187.7	169.9
July 1.....	187.2	197.0	159.5	146.4	128.3	141.7	233.3	191.1	173.6
August 1.....	184.2	188.5	156.6	151.1	129.6	148.1	239.8	190.0	172.8
September 1.....	187.2	193.5	155.7	152.9	131.4	152.3	239.3	192.1	175.5
October 1.....	188.4	241.7	154.5	151.9	133.2	152.2	235.1	198.8	178.1
November 1.....	192.8	298.5	156.5	153.6	135.7	151.9	224.9	201.3	182.7
December 1.....	194.2	353.9	159.8	154.7	135.8	145.8	226.8	212.0	185.7
Averages, 1946...	186.3	268.5	155.2	141.9	128.4	129.6	224.2	191.2	173.2
Relative weights, by industries, as at Dec. 1, 1946..	53.7	5.5	3.9	2.2	9.2	9.9	3.0	12.6	100.0

¹ Except agriculture (see p. 608).

Subsection 3.—Labour Force Surveys

During the War, there was a rapid and marked growth of the total labour force of Canada (including the Armed Services) in response to the greatly expanded manpower needs of war industry, agriculture and the Armed Services. It was expected that there would be a gradual reduction in the permanent labour force as the women and students, who entered the labour market during the war emergency, again resumed their normal activities, such as keeping house and attending school. Since the end of the War, however, the retirement of temporary, wartime entrants into the civilian labour force has been counterbalanced by the influx of ex-service personnel.

It would be practically impossible to measure this movement by a census of total coverage apart from the fact that the expense would be too great. Its importance, however, led to the application of the sampling method to the problem. In November, 1945, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics began a series of labour force surveys. These surveys are carried out quarterly and are based on interviews with about 25,000 households chosen by scientific sampling methods in nearly 100 different areas across Canada. Their aim is to provide periodic estimates of the employment characteristics of the civilian non-institutional population of working age. The classification of persons used in the labour force surveys is not based on normal or usual activity, but on current activity or status during the specific weeks covered by the survey.

Every person 14 years of age or over is classified in one of the following groups: (1) working; (2) looking for work; (3) with a job but not at work; (4) non-workers. However, anyone with a dual status, such as a housewife who worked part-time, is counted in whichever one of the two classifications is higher on the above scale. The labour force of Canada is comprised of all those persons who are either employed or are seeking work and those with a job but not at work.