

**Gainfully Occupied Population, 1931-46.**—The number of gainfully occupied males, 14 years of age or over, in the Prairie Provinces, declined from 799,433 in 1931 to 749,395 in 1946, or by 6.3 p.c. The latter figure, however, omitted about 9,000 gainfully occupied Indians on reserves, so that the actual decline would be somewhat less. The drop in the gainfully occupied males is all the more significant when it is considered that the total male population declined by only 2.3 p.c. while the male population 14 years of age or over increased by 2.9 p.c. during the period. Thus not only has the number of gainfully occupied males in the Prairie Provinces declined but the trend in the ratio of gainfully occupied males to the male population 14 years of age or over has also been downward. The more important factors contributing to this trend include the changing age structure of the population, earlier retirement of gainful workers and the later entry of young persons into gainful employment.

The number of gainfully occupied females, on the other hand, increased from 115,801 in 1931 to 143,474 in 1946, or by 23.9 p.c. The total female population increased by 3.5 p.c. since 1931 while the females, 14 years of age or over, increased by 13.3 p.c.

**14.—Gainfully Occupied, 14 Years of Age or Over, for the Prairie Provinces, by Sex, Census Years 1931-46**

Census Year	MANITOBA		SASKATCHEWAN		ALBERTA		PRAIRIE PROVINCES	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1931.....	225,573	44,893	301,261	37,459	252,599	33,449	799,433	115,801
1936.....	224,009	45,811	304,893	41,711	262,758	36,254	791,660	123,776
1941 (including Active Service).....	240,399	49,912	297,119	42,780	271,800	40,442	809,318	133,134
1941 (not including Active Service).....	215,705	49,832	273,122	42,724	247,622	40,393	736,449	132,949
1946 <sup>1</sup> .....	225,320	54,609	267,253	43,233	256,822	45,632	749,395	143,474

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of gainfully occupied Indians on reserves.

**Economic Status of the Population 14 Years of Age or Over, 1946.**—Table 15 classifies the population 14 years of age or over as gainfully occupied or not gainfully occupied (exclusive of Indians on reserves). The "gainfully occupied", or economically active category represents persons contributing directly to the production of goods and services at the time of the census. The "not gainfully occupied", or economically inactive population, includes a variety of classes of which homemakers formed the largest group. Young persons 14 to 24 years of age constituted only 0.3 and 0.5 p.c. of the male and female populations 14 years of age or over, respectively, persons 14 years of age or over with no occupation and not seeking employment accounted for 0.4 and 6.4 p.c., retired persons for 6.4 and 0.2 p.c., students for 9.3 and 9.6 p.c., and inmates of institutions for 1.2 and 0.8 p.c. of the respective male and female populations in this age group. The 12,285 male and 11,157 female Indians, 14 years of age or over, living on reserves are shown separately.