

Canada's effort in the Second World War brought manufacturing production to a much higher level than ever before. The tremendous increase in production is indicated by the increases in some of the main factors of production between 1939 and the highest point attained during the War. For manufacturing as a whole there was an increase of 161 p.c. in the gross value of production, 162 p.c. in the value added by manufacture, 89 p.c. in the number of persons employed, and 175 p.c. in the salaries and wages paid.

As was to be expected, the industries producing the munitions and equipment needed by the Armed Forces during the War were the first to feel the effects of the cessation of hostilities. Consequently, the chemicals and allied products group suffered the greatest decline in production as measured by employment, with a drop of 54 p.c. in the number of persons employed since 1944, the last full year of war production. This was followed by the iron and its products group with a drop of 39 p.c.; non-ferrous metal products 19 p.c.; and miscellaneous industries 16 p.c. On the other hand, industries producing food, clothing and other consumer goods reported increases in production. Employment in the wood and paper products group was 18 p.c. higher, followed by an increase of 16 p.c. for non-metallic mineral products, 9 p.c. for animal products, 8 p.c. for textiles and 5 p.c. for vegetable products. Altogether there was a drop of 13 p.c. in the number of employees.

Of the forty leading industries in 1946, a number reported substantial declines in the volume of production as measured by the number of persons employed. Employment in the aircraft industry declined by 68,167 between 1944 and 1946, followed by shipbuilding with a drop of 46,830, miscellaneous chemical products 46,108, miscellaneous iron and steel products 30,862, non-ferrous metal smelting and refining 9,381, scientific and professional equipment 7,618, brass and copper products 7,381, primary iron steel 6,567, automobile supplies 5,018, electrical apparatus and supplies 4,836, etc. On the other hand, employment in the pulp and paper industry increased by 7,071, sawmills 5,836, women's factory clothing 4,153, leather boots and shoes 3,696, printing and publishing 3,134, bread and other bakery products 2,923, hosiery and knit goods 2,002, fish-curing and -packing 1,663, breweries 1,519, etc.

Geographically the percentage changes in manufacturing production between 1944 and 1946 were as follows:—

Province	1946 Compared with 1944			1946 Compared with 1945		
	Number of Employees	Salaries and Wages	Gross Value of Products	Number of Employees	Salaries and Wages	Gross Value of Products
Prince Edward Island.....	-18.0	- 2.6	+ 4.5	- 5.2	- 1.7	- 3.3
Nova Scotia.....	-21.4	-28.2	-12.5	-11.1	-16.7	-10.5
New Brunswick.....	- 1.9	+ 2.5	+12.3	+ 1.0	+ 2.3	+ 9.0
Quebec.....	-15.8	-15.3	-14.7	- 7.0	- 6.8	- 1.3
Ontario.....	-11.7	-13.3	-13.5	- 3.8	- 4.2	- 5.3
Manitoba.....	- 6.3	- 2.8	- 0.1	-	+ 2.0	+ 3.6
Saskatchewan.....	- 3.3	+ 1.4	- 4.0	+ 2.9	+ 6.2	+ 0.4
Alberta.....	+ 2.1	+ 5.1	+ 1.6	+ 5.4	+ 6.7	+ 3.5
British Columbia.....	-21.4	-23.0	- 1.7	-14.2	-14.3	+ 2.5
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>-13.5</b>	<b>-14.2</b>	<b>-11.4</b>	<b>- 5.5</b>	<b>- 5.7</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>