

Subsection 5.—Unemployment as Reported by Trade Unions

Quarterly statistics on unemployment are compiled and published in the Labour Gazette by the Department of Labour. These are based, at the present time, on returns received from about 2,500 local trade union branches, having an aggregate membership of over 500,000 workers. 'Unemployment' means involuntary idleness due to economic causes. Persons engaged in work other than their own trades, or idle because of illness, are not considered as unemployed, while union members retired and members of unions involved in industrial disputes are excluded from the tabulation. As the number of unions making returns varies from one date to another, with consequent variation in the membership upon which the percentages of unemployment are based, it should be understood that the figures for each date have reference only to the reporting organizations.

15.—Percentages of Unemployment in Trade Unions, by Provinces, half-yearly, 1939-49 and March, 1950

NOTE.—For percentages of unemployment as at June 30 and Dec. 31 from 1915 to 1930, see p. 827 of the 1934-35 edition of the Year Book; for percentages from 1931 to 1942 see p. 751 of the 1946 edition. For monthly data from 1921, see successive issues of the Year Book commencing with the 1922-23 edition.

Month and Year	P.E.I. and N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
June.....1939	6.3	8.9	15.0	9.7	10.2	6.6	18.2	9.7	11.6
December.....1939	5.3	4.3	16.1	9.7	12.0	10.2	4.9	12.4	11.4
June.....1940	2.4	3.7	12.2	4.9	3.9	3.4	14.6	7.7	7.6
December.....1940	2.6	2.3	11.1	5.9	6.6	6.7	4.8	9.0	7.4
June.....1941	2.0	1.9	6.2	2.0	4.3	1.8	11.5	3.8	4.1
December.....1941	1.0	2.1	5.7	6.0	6.2	4.2	3.8	5.3	5.2
June.....1942	1.3	4.7	4.6	1.6	1.1	0.9	2.6	0.9	2.5
December.....1942	0.3	2.4	1.6	1.0	2.6	1.1	1.7	0.6	1.2
June.....1943	0.3	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.1	0.6
December.....1943	2.9	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.8
June.....1944	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3
December.....1944	--	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6
June.....1945	1.2	0.1	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.5
December.....1945	4.6	4.7	1.8	4.0	1.2	1.3	0.9	3.5	3.0
June.....1946	3.6	3.7	1.0	0.8	1.5	0.7	0.4	2.3	1.3
December.....1946	1.5	0.3	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.4	3.6	1.5
June.....1947	7.2	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.8
December.....1947	3.6	8.4	2.2	0.9	1.1	0.6	1.5	2.0	1.7
June.....1948	5.1	6.6	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	2.9	1.3
December.....1948	2.4	7.5	3.3	2.8	1.2	3.7	2.4	6.0	3.4
June.....1949	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.5	2.6	1.9	1.2	2.8	1.8
December.....1949	7.7	5.0	5.5	3.6	2.2	3.1	3.7	7.6	4.8
March.....1950	12.8	8.5	4.5	3.3	3.4	4.6	5.1	4.7	4.4

Section 4.—Unemployment Insurance

The Unemployment Insurance Act, which came into operation on July 1, 1941, applies to all employed persons with the following exceptions: workers in specified industries or occupations such as agriculture, fishing, Armed Forces, permanent public service of the Federal Government, Provincial Governments and municipal authorities, private domestic service, private-duty nursing, certain director-officers