

5.—Estimates of Employment and Unemployment, by Region, 1946-61—concluded

Year	Atlantic ¹		Quebec		Ontario		Prairie		British Columbia	
	Employment	Unemployment	Employment	Unemployment	Employment	Unemployment	Employment	Unemployment	Employment	Unemployment
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1956.....	489	31	1,535	80	2,096	51	975	22	490	14
1957.....	496	45	1,574	101	2,157	77	988	27	511	27
1958.....	476	68	1,577	153	2,133	122	1,004	43	504	47
1959.....	493	60	1,613	138	2,187	103	1,036	35	526	36
1960.....	507	60	1,632	164	2,239	128	1,053	46	524	50
1961.....	526	66	1,644	168	2,261	132	1,083	52	536	50

¹ Newfoundland included from 1950.

Section 3.—Employment, Earnings and Hours*

Monthly records of employment statistics in Canada date from 1921. At that time a survey of employment in business establishments was instituted to provide employment index numbers which would serve as current economic indicators. In 1941 and 1944 this survey was extended to provide information on payrolls, per capita wages and salaries and hours of work. In this period also, separate records for men and women employees were established.

The survey covers the larger establishments (15 persons or more) in the major industrial divisions of forestry, mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation, storage and communication, public utility operation, trade, finance, insurance and real estate. It also covers certain branches of the service industry, including hotels and restaurants, laundries and dry-cleaning plants, recreational and business services. It excludes agriculture, public administration and community services such as health and education. The coverage corresponds closely, therefore, to what might be termed the business sector of the economy. Since the survey does not cover small firms and excludes several industries, these employment records are published in the form of index numbers. The present reference period is the year 1949.

The monthly employment statistics relate to numbers of employees drawing pay in the last pay period of the month. Statistics for casual workers employed for less than one day in the pay period are omitted by definition, as are owners of the business, even though they receive part of the return on their investment in the form of salary. The reported payrolls include payments for straight time and overtime work, and also shift premiums, regularly paid production, incentive and cost of living bonuses, and commissions. Straight time and overtime hours and hours credited to wage-earners absent on paid leave during the reported pay periods are required. Payrolls and hours relating to periods exceeding one week are reduced to weekly equivalents for accumulation with data from employers paying each week.

Subsection 1.—Employment and Weekly Wages and Salaries

The composite employment index (1949=100) rose almost without interruption from a postwar recession level of 46.9 in 1921 to a high of 62.8 in the boom year of 1929, but the severe depression that followed reduced the annual figure to a low of 44.0 in 1933. Slow recovery in the next six years left the 1939 index slightly lower than in 1929. However, after the outbreak of the Second World War in the autumn of 1939, employment soon started to increase under the stimulus of production for military requirements. The wartime peak of 93.0 was reached in 1943 when the index was more than 50 p.c. above its 1939 level. A declining tendency that became evident in 1944 persisted after the termination of the War in 1945 but the impact of cutbacks in wartime production was cushioned by public demand for goods and services that had been largely unavailable during the War, so that the over-all loss recorded in 1946 was small. The index showed successive gains

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