

Summary of Traffic Statistics.—A summary of freight and passenger traffic statistics and of the ratio of operating expenses to gross earnings, continuing a series which has been compiled since 1875, will be found for recent years in Table 6. This table, however, has the defect that its figures of passengers and freight carried are not comparable throughout but have been reduced as a result of the consolidation of railways. Better tests of the real volume of passenger and freight traffic are supplied in Table 9 of this chapter under the headings "Passengers carried one mile" and "Freight carried one mile". These records, commencing in 1915, show that the maximum volume of passenger traffic was reached in the calendar year 1919 and the maximum volume of freight traffic in 1928. Both freight and passenger traffic, especially the latter, have in recent years been affected by the increase in the use of motor vehicles. This traffic decrease has been much aggravated since 1929 by the general decline in commercial activity.

Operating expenses of Canadian railways rose during 1918, 1919 and 1920, much more than operating revenues, and the operating ratio, or ratio of expenses to revenues, increased from around 70 p.c. to above 90 p.c. and remained high thereafter. The United States Government took over the operation of the United States railways when that country entered the World War and increased the rates of pay of the railway employees. The Canadian railways were also obliged to make corresponding increases and this increase in payroll has been the chief factor in increased operating ratio. Declining revenues without corresponding reductions in expenses during the past five years have also maintained the high operating ratio.

6.—Summary of Steam Railway Statistics of Freight and Passenger Traffic, and Ratio of Expenses to Earnings, years ended June 30, 1911-19, and calendar years 1919-34.

NOTE.—These statistics were published for the years 1875-1910 on p. 434 of the 1916-17 Year Book, and for 1901-25 on p. 591 of the 1926 Year Book.

Year.	Miles in Operation. ²	Total Train-Miles.	Passengers Carried. ¹	Freight Carried. ¹	Gross Earnings.	Operating Expenses.	Ratio of Expenses to Receipts.
	No.						No.
1911 (June 30).....	25,400	89,716,533	37,097,718	79,884,282	188,733,494	131,034,785	69.43
1912 (").....	26,840	100,930,271	41,124,181	89,444,331	219,403,753	150,726,540	68.70
1913 (").....	29,304	113,437,208	46,185,968	106,992,710	256,702,703	182,011,690	70.90
1914 (").....	30,795	107,895,272	46,702,280	101,393,989	243,083,539	178,975,259	73.63
1915 (").....	34,882	93,218,479	46,322,035	87,204,838	199,843,072	147,731,099	73.92
1916 (").....	36,985	111,075,890	43,503,459	109,659,088	261,888,654	180,542,259	68.94
1917 (").....	38,369	115,797,100	48,106,530	121,916,272	310,771,479	222,890,637	71.72
1918 (").....	38,252	109,857,560	44,948,638	127,543,687	330,220,150	273,955,436	82.96
1919 (").....	38,329	103,832,835	43,754,194	116,699,572	382,976,901	341,866,509	89.27
1919 (Dec. 31).....	38,495	107,053,735	47,940,456	111,487,780	408,598,361	376,789,093	92.26
1920 (").....	38,805	117,384,819	51,318,422	127,429,154	492,101,104	478,248,154	97.18
1921 (").....	39,191	104,652,167	46,793,251	103,131,132	458,008,891	422,581,205	92.25
1922 (").....	39,358	107,625,144	44,383,620	108,530,518	440,687,128	393,927,406	89.39
1923 (").....	39,654	113,907,613	44,834,337	118,289,604	478,338,047	413,862,818	86.52
1924 (").....	40,059	110,032,845	42,921,809	106,429,355	445,923,877	328,483,908	85.77
1925 (").....	40,350	109,289,865	41,458,084	109,850,925	455,297,288	372,149,656	81.70
1926 (").....	40,350	113,538,876	42,686,166	122,476,822	493,599,754	389,503,452	78.91
1927 (").....	40,570	116,895,751	41,840,550	125,967,439	499,064,207	407,646,280	81.68
1928 (").....	41,022	125,034,253	40,592,792	141,230,026	563,732,260	442,701,270	78.53
1929 (").....	41,380	117,645,670	39,070,843	137,855,151	534,106,045	433,077,113	81.08
1930 (").....	42,047	107,620,076	34,698,767	115,229,511	454,231,650	380,723,411	83.86
1931 (").....	42,280	93,443,731	26,396,812	85,993,206	358,549,382	321,025,588	89.53
1932 (").....	42,409	81,291,028	21,099,582	67,722,105	293,390,415	256,668,375	87.48
1933 (").....	42,336	73,938,707	19,172,193	63,634,893	270,278,276	233,133,108	86.26
1934 (").....	42,270	77,863,412	20,530,718	75,746,093	300,837,816	251,999,667	83.77

¹ Duplications included. (See also Table 9.)

² Revised since the publication of the 1934-35 Year Book.