

Slight advances were recorded by some industries in the non-durable goods division of manufacturing, notably printing and rubber products. Employment in textiles, (excluding clothing), rose fractionally, following a 12 p.c. fall in 1952. The composite food index declined in 1953, although several of the component groups continued the expansion characteristic of the post-war period. Employment in the canned and cured fish industry, however, dropped by 15 p.c. in 1953, largely a result of labour-management disputes and unfavourable marketing conditions.

While employment in a majority of industries in the non-manufacturing sector showed little change or a moderately upward movement in 1953, three groups—forestry, mining and construction—reported curtailment. The loss in the last-named was minor, resulting from cutbacks in the highways, bridges and streets group; building construction, on the other hand, showed a small advance. Logging continued the unfavourable movement of 1952, employment decreasing by 19 p.c. in the year, bringing the index to 100·0, or to the 1949 level. The mining division was adversely affected in 1953 by prolonged labour disputes in the Ontario and Quebec gold fields, the Canada index falling by 4·4 p.c. from 1952. Employment in mining as a whole, however, was still slightly above the average for 1951, previously the maximum in the record. Transportation, storage and communication and trade reported advances of 0·4 p.c. and 3·0 p.c., respectively, in 1953, bringing the index numbers to peak positions. New high records were also established in public utility operation, finance, insurance and real estate, and in the service industries for which monthly data are obtained.

5.—Index Numbers of Employment, Industrial Divisions and Groups, by Annual Averages, 1939 and 1949-53

NOTE.—These indexes are calculated as at the first day of the month, on the base 1949=100.

Industry	Average 1939	Average 1949	Average 1950	Average 1951	Average 1952	Average 1953
Forestry (chiefly logging).....	59·3	100·0	100·8	138·6	123·9	100·0
Mining.....	93·7	100·0	105·5	110·6	116·8	111·7
Metal mining.....	100·8	100·0	104·9	111·1	118·3	112·0
Gold.....	132·5	100·0	101·1	96·2	94·7	83·6
Other metal.....	66·9	100·0	108·9	126·9	140·7	137·6
Fuels.....	90·8	100·0	101·5	106·1	109·5	105·8
Coal.....	103·3	100·0	96·8	93·8	91·2	83·8
Oil and natural gas.....	42·5	100·0	119·8	153·0	171·8	177·1
Non-metal.....	72·6	100·0	119·7	122·5	132·9	130·7
Manufacturing.....	56·3	100·0	100·9	108·0	109·3	113·3
Food and beverages.....	63·3	100·0	101·1	102·9	105·1	104·6
Meat products.....	60·8	100·0	100·8	104·1	111·7	113·8
Dairy products.....	61·3	100·0	98·9	101·4	102·4	103·6
Canned and cured fish.....	72·3	100·0	102·7	111·5	110·1	94·1
Canned and preserved fruits and vegetables.....	65·6	100·0	96·3	106·5	107·3	103·9
Grain mill products.....	62·0	100·0	99·3	104·9	109·0	102·7
Bread and other bakery products.....	68·8	100·0	101·7	104·6	104·7	106·0
Biscuits and crackers.....					89·0	97·9
Distilled and malt liquors.....	48·7	100·0	99·2	100·7	100·7	104·2
Other beverages.....	56·0	100·0	108·0	103·5	107·7	109·4
Confectionery.....		100·0			89·0	90·1
Tobacco and tobacco products.....	87·4	100·0	85·9	88·5	85·8	86·6
Rubber products.....	69·3	100·0	103·0	109·0	102·1	109·2
Leather products.....	81·0	100·0	95·6	92·3	92·8	96·6
Boots and shoes (except rubber).....	81·4	100·0	93·1	91·4	94·6	97·5
Other leather products.....	80·5	100·0	100·3	94·2	89·8	95·2