



### Student worksheet 3: Index of numbers of rates of wages, 1913 to 1936

Use *Canada Year Book 1937*, page 781, Table 1.

Topic of this table in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_

This table uses an index of 100, in 1913, to show rates of wages for people in various jobs. The index is not a dollar amount; it just shows how wages compared in various years to the starting point of 100 in 1913. You can see from the table that sometimes wages went up and people earned more. Sometimes they went down. If prices were high, people did not have enough money to support their families.

Your task: fill in this sheet, do some brainstorming and share your findings with the class. Use the data from the table, focusing on these years: 1913, 1920, 1930 and 1936. Focus on these jobs: building trades, printing trades, coal mining, factory labour, logging and saw milling. The example for logging is done for you. When your table is completed, write a sentence or two summarizing the information.

Year	Building trades	Printing trades	Coal mining	Factory labour	Logging, saw milling
1913					100.0
1920					202.7
1929					185.6
1930					183.9
1936					165.9

Next, your group needs to work together to write a **factual sentence** about the changes in wages between 1913 and 1936 for each category on your table (building trades, printing trades, coal mining, factory labour). Here is an example, for the people who worked in logging and saw milling: In 1913, the index for wages for logging and saw milling was 100. By 1920, the index was 202.7, more than twice as much. By 1936 it had fallen to 165.9.

Your group also needs to write a guess about the effects of the drop in the wage index during the 1930s on everyday Canadian workers.

Write the factual sentence and your guess here:

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