



Student worksheet 5: Index numbers of employment in leading cities, 1922 to 1936

Use *Canada Year Book 1937*, page 759, Table 23.

Topic of this table in your own words: _____

This table shows us information about the numbers of Canadians who had jobs between 1922 and 1936. This is an index, so it does not show actual numbers. It just shows trends. Your task is to figure out what the trends were for jobs in some Canadian cities during the 1920s and 1930s. Then you can make some guesses about how the trends affected everyday Canadians. You will share your findings with the rest of the class.

Fill in the table below, using numbers from the table on page 759. Use data for the cities and years indicated. One example, Ottawa, is done for you.

Index numbers of employment in leading cities			
Year	Capital of Canada:	City closest to you (not Ottawa):	City in another province:
	Ottawa		
1929	120.7		
1933	90.2		
1935	102.2		
1936	106.3		

Work with your group to answer these questions.

1. What trend can you notice from looking at the numbers for the city closest to you, for the years 1929 to 1933?

2. What trend can you notice for the city closest to you after 1933?

3. Suppose you are a worker in the city closest to you. In what years would you fear to lose your job? In what years would you think you might get hired?

4. Write a **factual sentence** about job trends in the city closest to you for the entire period from 1929 to 1936.

Here's a factual sentence about Ottawa's job trends: In Ottawa, the index numbers of employment was at a high of 120.7 in 1929 and dropped to a low of 90.2 in 1933, but it rose to 106.3 in 1936.

Now write your factual sentence.

5. Write a **factual sentence** comparing job trends in the city closest to you with the city in another province you selected.

6. Write a **guess** about the effects of the employment trends on families of people in the city closest to you during this time period. Here's an example of a guess for people living in Ottawa during this period: People in Ottawa were probably uncertain and fearful about losing their jobs, especially between 1929 and 1933.

Now write your own guess.
