

The following table summarizes the principal statistics for the years ended 31st March, 1934 and 1935 :—

	Year.		Index Numbers, 1934-35 (1933-34 = 100).
	1933-34.	1934-35.	
Establishments (number)	5,028	5,270	105
Persons engaged—			
Males (number)	55,299	59,874	108
Females (number)	17,352	19,484	112
Total (number)	72,651	79,358	109
Salaries and wages paid—	£	£	
To males	10,611,161	11,602,983	109
To females	1,495,339	1,641,390	110
Total	12,106,500	13,244,373	109
Motive power (horse-power)	645,547	721,223	112
Cost of materials used	£ 46,919,193	£ 52,084,741	111
Other expenses	8,257,261	9,002,456	109
Value of products	71,770,872	79,324,473	111
Added value	24,851,679	27,239,732	110
Value of—	£	£	
Land and buildings	22,159,073	23,159,573	105
Plant and machinery	42,231,331	44,108,877	104
Total	64,390,404	67,268,450	104

Analysis of the data for the various industries discloses the following principal differences for the years 1933-34 and 1934-35 :—

Persons employed.

Increases.—Clothing, 1,517; sawmilling, 1,002; coachbuilding and motor engineering, 982; general engineering, 489; printing, 335; furniture, 298.

Decreases.—Butter, cheese, and condensed milk, 559*; biscuit and confectionery, 147†; meat-freezing, 59; ham and bacon, 32.

Salaries and Wages paid.

Increases.—Sawmilling, £226,077; coachbuilding and motor engineering, £196,357; clothing, £120,973; general engineering, £103,397; printing, £69,346; furniture, £51,781.

Decreases.—Butter, cheese, and condensed milk, £73,351; biscuit and confectionery, £38,934; ham and bacon, £11,007.

Added Value.

From an industrial viewpoint, the best measure of the importance of an industry is the value created by the manufacturing operations carried on by the industry. This value is obtained by deducting the cost of materials used from the gross value of the products, and is referred to as the "added value." As the basis of the added value is the value of the products, it is clear that it must be affected by fluctuations in values, and this fact must not be overlooked when use is made of this figure.

Increases.—Sawmilling, £511,571; coachbuilding and motor engineering, £336,014; general engineering, £203,322; printing, £200,780; clothing, £127,573; brewing and malting, £127,057.

Decreases.—Meat-freezing, £198,225; grain-milling, £70,525; fellmongering and wool-scouring, £50,240.

* Previous years' returns included approximately 200 persons not actually employed in dairy factories.

† Previous years' returns included an unknown number on sales staff.