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“NOMINAL WAGES IN ECUADOR, 1927-1937”

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INTRODUCTION

Ecuador is located in northwestern South America, between latitudes 1° north and 5° south. Its name originates from the French Geodesic Mission of 1736, which

determined that the equator passed through this territory. It was considered that its territory had a length of approximately 186,000 square kilometers (Meehan, 1927), and was divided into four regions, namely: the coast, characterized by the main Ecuadorian port, Guayaquil, a city located on the Pacific Ocean; Sierra, with Quito as the capital of the nation; Amazon, located east; and the Galapagos Islands, located in the Pacific Ocean, 1000 km from the Ecuadorian coast.

In mid 1929, the US economy began to show signs of weakness to the point known as the "Black Tuesday," the 29th of October, 1929. The economic indicators began to collapse, especially the stock index known as the Dow Jones, which expressed the behavior of stock prices of the thirty largest industrial companies in the United States. This crisis affected countries in the Latin American region through trade since The United States accounted for the largest trading partner for Latin American countries. The second trading partner was Britain (Mitchell, 1933: 473-482).

There are a variety of symptoms of the international crisis in the Ecuadorian economic system such as the GDP, exports, government revenues, income from taxes and inflation fluctuation. The global crisis created a financial and monetary shock, which forced the Ecuadorian government to take controversial decisions. The anti-crisis policies were taken within a decade of political instability, in nine years, eleven people were in front of the executive power.

The impact of the international crisis, weighted through the financial, political and economical symptoms, anti crisis policies and political context, is analyzed in my doctoral dissertation called "The Impact of the Great Depression in Ecuador, Salaries and Prices, 1927-1937"¹, which also includes the analysis of the evolution of salaries presented.

One of the problems found in this research were the limited sources available. There are few people who have studied the economic history of Ecuador, and those who have done so, have a majoritarian political analysis. This has driven my research to try to reconstruct the economic context during this decade through different primary sources such as executives decrees, ministries reports, banks' bulletins and press releases.

One of the aspects that have not been studied is the evolution of salaries during the Great Depression. There has been a number of complications to build complete series of salaries due to the few-existent primary sources. This problem is explained with more details in the first part of this paper, which includes an introductory situation of the population and economically active population. Then, it presents the primary data of salaries of seventeen public institutions, dividing the salaries into categories of job qualification. Finally, it shows nominal wages indexes, for each category, which are used to analyze the impact of the Great Depression in the evolution of the nominal wages in Ecuador.

1.1 POPULATION

¹ The doctoral degree is in Economic History of Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

In Ecuador, during the period studied, the estimated population was around 2.6 million people² (Alexander Rodríguez, 1992: 235), of which it is estimated that approximately 32% was part of the economically active population, that is to say, around 832,000 people³. By 1930, 14% of the population lived in urban areas⁴ (Bethell, 1998: 31). Extrapolating the economically active population percentage into the urban and rural data, we find that around 116,480 people were employed in urban areas, and around 715,520 in the rural sector.

Although there is no official data, it is possible to get a close understanding of the economically active population through a few reports of the Banco Central del Ecuador (1940). These reports mention the existence of three population groups. The first grouped the majority indigenous population, whose economic activity took place in the agricultural sector, who lived in a barter system, who had no monetary compensation and therefore did not receive any salary. This group is excluded from the analysis of the evolution of wages. The second group are the laborers and peasants, who mostly worked in farming and agricultural estates. The third group consists of public employees, merchants, manufacturers and renters who are actively involved in domestic market.

Given the composition of the population, it is important to note that the data of nominal wages of workers, peasants, merchants and manufacturers are scarce. There are some reasons to understand the unavailability of data on nominal wages such as: no usage in preserving files, which reflects the low priority given to the validity of this information; the disappearance, closure or bankruptcy of companies whose infrastructure, archives and other property had an uncertain fate; and the removal of documents considered irrelevant⁵. Thus, in reviewing the files of more than twenty companies, and after reviewing the possible places where they could have been deposited, the unviability of constructing a series of private sector wages, for the years studied, was determined.

Therefore, the only possible way to approach the study of the evolution of wages was the records of public institutions. Most public institutions studied had offices in all major cities, state capitals of the country. Thus, the public sector wage data provides of

² The first population census was conducted in 1950, and the first housing census was conducted in 1962. Therefore, the population data is an approximation to the real number.

³ The first data on the economically active population, for 1962, come from the population and housing censuses conducted in 1962. Research by the Junta Nacional de Planificación y Coordinación Económica (Desarrollo y Educación en el Ecuador 1960-1978, 1979) reveals that 32% of the total population can be considered as part of the economically active population. As there is no official data for the decade of the thirties, the first data of the economically active population in 1962 was extrapolated to estimate the thirties' economically active population. Therefore, the data of the economically active population for the decade of the thirties should be considered as a conjecture made based on the first national census.

⁴ Leslie Bethell (Latin America: Economy and Society Since 1930) explains that this rate applies to cities with over 20,000 inhabitants.

⁵ The custodian of the library of the Banco Central del Ecuador mentioned this during the revision of files available at their facilities. Because of the lack of space, through the years, some documents were declared as irrelevant and therefore they were destroyed.

very important data to understand the impact of the Great Depression in the evolution of urban wages.

The nominal wages data in this article shows the complete series of seventeen public institutions. Each of the studied labor positions have been classified according to their qualifications, in four categories: unqualified labor; less qualified labor; highly qualified labor; and, ministers and senior executives.

After grouping the salaries in their own categories, for every category an index at current prices has been created⁶. In these indexes, there are three evident trends which reflect the impact of the Great Depression in urban wages: first, the low-income wages show an upward trend, which means that the international crisis had no significant impact; second, the middle-income wages present a stagnation in their evolution; and, finally, the high-income wages indicate a downward trend, and this suggests that this group suffered the greatest impact.

TABLE 1.1 ECUADORIAN POPULATIONS FOR EVERY PROVINCE, 1933⁷

PROVINCES	POPULATION	%	URBAN	RURAL
COAST	799,914	30.76	111,988	687,926
ESMERALDAS	43,883	1.69	6,144	37,739
MANABÍ	235,077	9.04	32,911	202,166
LOS RÍOS	104,547	4.02	14,637	89,910
GUAYAS	351,438	13.51	49,201	302,237
EL ORO	64,969	2.50	9,096	55,873
SIERRA	1,611,899	61.99	225,666	1,386,233
CARCHI	64,836	2.49	9,077	55,759
IMBABURA	129,872	5.00	18,182	111,690
PICHINCHA	261,902	10.07	36,666	225,236
COTOPAXI	176,831	6.80	24,756	152,075
TUNGURAHUA	184,752	7.11	25,865	158,887
CHIMBORAZO	223,938	8.61	31,351	192,587
BOLÍVAR	82,513	3.17	11,552	70,961
CAÑAR	107,691	4.14	15,077	92,614
AZUAY	222,717	8.56	3,1180	191,537

⁶ First, 1927 is taken as the base year wages. Then, within each category, salaries receive the same percentage weight in order to eliminate the distortions created by higher-income wages.

⁷ The last two columns have been added to the original table of Alexander Rodríguez (1992: 235) so that we can have an approach to the urban and rural population. It is relevant to note that this information is only a projection made based of the percentages of urban and rural population published by Bethell (1998: 31). Thus, it is important to consider that several provinces might have had different urban and rural rates.

LOJA	156,847	6.03	2,1959	134,888
AMAZON REGION	186,272	7.16	2,6078	160,194
GALÁPAGOS	2,031	0.08	284	1,747
TOTAL	2,600,116		36,4016	2,236,100

Source: Alexander Rodriguez, 1992: 235

1.2 MONINAL SALARIES

The nominal salaries presented in this study are divided into two sectors: industry and services. The total workforce of the institutions studied are 5,580 people, representing approximately 4.79% of the economically active population of the urban sector⁸. Thus, the wages studied represent an important urban labor sector of the country given the fact that many of the institutions studied had offices in the major cities around the country, such as Quito, Guayaquil, Riobamba, Ambato, Cuenca, Loja, Tulcán, Portoviejo and Machala.

The institutions studied within the industry sector are two: State Monopoly of Salt, State Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol. On the other hand, the service sector has split into two, the public administration and education. Within the public administration, there are ten institutions: Judiciary, Governorate, Register Office, Public Works Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Post Office, Telegraph Office, Treasury, Customs, and Comptroller General. Within the education sector there are four: Universidad Central de Ecuador, Universidad de Guayaquil, Colegio Bolívar e Instituto Nacional Mejía.

The positions of each of these institutions have been divided into four categories: unqualified labor, less qualified labor, highly qualified labor, and ministers and senior executive. Unqualified labor is those jobs where it requires people who do not need a prior or formal training for their work, it regularly requires no previous special experience (Freyssenet, 2010: 2-4). In this category porters and guards have been placed.

The less qualified labor are those jobs that require people with some prior knowledge or formal experience that allows them to perform their work. These workers are those ones with a low administrative responsibility, they are normally alphabets and with some knowledge of basic numerical operations. In this category, it has been located the positions of scribe, employee, calligrapher, assistant and comptroller of bags.

The highly qualified jobs are those administrative positions that require people with expertise in specific areas such as management, accounting, statistics, organizational, legal or managerial skills. This category has the following positions: secretary, cashier, accountant, chief statistician, lawyer, minister judge, prosecutor minister, governor,

⁸ The economically active population percentage comes from the 1962 population and housing censuses.

telegraphists, translator, teacher at the secondary level and university, and principles of colleges and universities.

The category of ministers and senior executives is created for people whose jobs depend directly on political decisions and the key representatives of the judiciary. They are usually people with great influence in the public sector. They possess skills in the management of public, human, managerial and judicial resources. In this category are included the positions of ministers, important managing directors of ministerial sections, presiding judges and prosecutors of the Supreme Court.

TABLE 1.2

INDUSTRIAL	NUMBER OF WORKERS
State Monopoly of Salt	147
State Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol	298

SERVICES			
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	NUMBER OF WORKERS	EDUCATION	NUMBER OF WORKERS
Judiciary	360	Universidad Central del Ecuador	141
Governorate	86	Universidad de Guayaquil	53
Register Office	955	Colegio Bolívar	15
Public Works Office	49	Instituto Nacional Mejía	58
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	99		
Ministry of Education	950		
Post office	591		
Telegraph Office	1,283		
Treasury,	638		
Customs	409		
Comptroller General	124		

1.2.1 NOMINAL WAGES IN THE INDUSTRY

The industrial sector is represented by two public companies: State Monopoly of Salt, and State Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol. By 1928, there are a total amount of 147 workers in the State Monopoly of Salt, and 298 in the State Monopoly of Tobacco and

Alcohol⁹. Thus, nominal wages in the industrial sector represent a workforce of 445 people.

STATE MONOPOLIES

The State Monopolies are monopolies in the production or sale of certain products. This production or sale may be assumed by a particular company as a government grant. In Ecuador, by 1928, the government had control over the sale of salt, tobacco and alcohol, however the production was acquired from the domestic private sector. During the decade of the twenties, there were four State Monopolies: tobacco, salt, matches and explosives. The marketing of these products was a state responsibility. Treasury mentioned, in its 1928 annual report, that the state monopoly of minor importance was the State Monopoly of Explosives (Paz y Miño, 2004: 1-3).

On the other hand, the State Monopoly of Matches underwent a series of changes determined by political decisions. In 1927, the Ecuadorian government signed a contract with the Swedish company "Aktiebolaget Svenska Tandstick" in order to obtain a loan of two million dollars to finance the Banco Hipotecario del Ecuador. In return, the Swedish company received the monopoly of matches. The contract lasted 25 years with an extension of 15 years. However, in 1931 the National Congress considered that the contract was unconstitutional and proceeded to annul (Paz y Miño, 2004: 2).

Thus, the most important monopolies, those who worked without interruption, were the Monopoly of Salt and the Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol. The Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol are two different industries, nonetheless, the government joined them into a single pay scale. Thus, the nominal wages are presented in two parts: first, salaries of the Monopoly of Salt; second, salaries of the Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol.

The Monopoly of Salt had agencies in the cities of Quito, Riobamba, Tipococha, Guayaquil, Portoviejo, Bahia and Machala , and "the budget for this branch, which will be collected by the constants employees in the Expenses Section of this Decree, is calculated in two million eight hundred thousand sucres" (Registro Oficial No. 523, 1927: 5099). In the budget of the Monopoly of Salt sums a total of 285,000 sucres for annual salaries, which are divided into a labor force of 147 people.

The Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol, according to the budget of 1927 (Registro Oficial No. 527, 1927: 5150-5157), had offices in the provinces of Carchi, Imbabura, Pichincha , León , Tungurahua , Chimborazo , Bolivar , Cañar, Azuay, los Ríos, el Oro, Loja, Guayas, Manabí and Esmeraldas. The budget recorded a workforce of 245 people. However, in the same budget, each province has an extra amount for two items, namely "for the payment of sales employees sub-inspectors and Guards". These items do not stipulate the number of people who can be hired, leaving it to the decision of the authority of each province. The total annual amount of all the provinces, for these two items, is 160,150 sucres. Considering the annual salary of the position of "senior officer", which is 3,000 sucres, the total annual amount for the two items would mean an additional hiring of about 53 people. Thus, the total workforce of the Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol would be the sum of the 245 people registered in the budget and the 53 people who possibly were hired , giving a total amount of about 298 persons.

⁹ The total amount of workers for every company comes from the counting of the positions listed in the Annual Government Budget.

Thus, the salary scale of the industry sector is represented by the Monopoly of Salt and the Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol, which together record a labor force of about 445 people, 147 people from the Monopoly of Salt and 298 people from the Monopoly of Tobacco and Alcohol.

TABLE 1.3 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, STATE MONOPOLY OF SALT, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR				UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	DIRECTOR GENERAL	SECRETARY	GENERAL ACCOUNTANT	GENERAL CASHIER	CHIEF STATISTICIAN	JANITOR
1927	1,500	300	400	400	300	50
1928	1,500	300	400	400	300	50
1929	1,500	500	400	500	300	50
1930	1,200	500	400	500	300	100
1931	900	600	400	500	300	100
1932	800	600	400	500	300	100
1933	800	400	450	500	300	100
1934	800	400	450	500	300	100
1935	800	400	450	400	300	100
1936	1,500	650	450	500	300	120
1937	1,500	650	450	500	400	140

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

TABLE 1.4 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, STATE MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR			LESS QUALIFIED LABOR	UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	DIRECTOR	SECRETARY LAWYER	SECRETARY INSPECTOR	OFFICER	SCRIBE	JANITOR
1927	1,500	500	800	250	120	80
1928	1,500	500	800	250	120	80
1929	1,500	500	800	250	120	80
1930	1,400	600	800	300	150	80
1931	1,000	600	800	250	150	90
1932	800	500	800	200	150	90
1933	800	500	800	250	150	90
1934	800	500	300	250	150	90
1935	800	500	300	250	150	90
1936	1,500	650	300	300	180	120
1937	1,500	650	300	300	200	140

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

1.2.2 NOMINAL SALARIES IN THE SERVICES SECTOR

Salaries in the services sector are divided into two: public administration and education. The salaries of public administration and education represent a total of 5,135 people.

The public administration is represented by eleven institutions, namely: the Judiciary, with a staff of 360 people; Governorates, with 86 people; the Register Office, with 955 people; the Public Works Office, with 49 people; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 99 people; the Ministry of Education¹⁰, with 950 people; Post Office, with 591 people; Telegraph Office, with 1,283 people; Treasury¹¹, with 638 people; Customs, with 409 people; and the Comptroller General, with 124 people.

The education sector is represented by four institutions, namely: Universidad Central del Ecuador, with 141 people; Universidad de Guayaquil, with 53 workers; Colegio Bolivar, with a staff of 15 people; Instituto Nacional Mejía, with 58 people. The workforce of these institutions are of 267 people¹².

1.2.2.1 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

JUDICIARY

On March 26th, 1929, Ecuador had a new constitution in which it was established the existence of the Supreme Court and the High Courts. The Supreme Court was the court whose decisions were final and could not be challenged. On the other hand, the High Courts were the courts of each city.

Article 130 of the Constitution of 1929 provides that the judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts shall be for six years and indefinitely re-elected; and article 131 provides that "judges of courts, officials and other employees of the Judiciary receive state income ... the law shall determine the remuneration or fees that apply for the auxiliary functions of the judiciary" (Asamblea Nacional, 1929).

The budget of January 1st, 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5171-5177) recorded a total of 150,480 sucres to the Supreme Court, and 244,560 sucres to the High Courts. All staff working in the different courts of the country, who belonged to the Title II of the Judiciary Ordinary Expenditure Budget, was of 360 people. Thus, nominal salaries studied in this section represent a workforce of 360 people.

¹⁰ The Ministry of Education has various public education institutions, these institutions are of higher, secondary, primary and special education. Therefore, to avoid double counting the number of workers, the number of employees of the Ministry of Education includes all the workers of the educational institutions studied in this paper.

¹¹ The Treasury is in charge of the Customs offices. Thus, to avoid the error of double counting the number of employees of Customs, the total workers of Treasury includes the number of workers at Customs.

¹² The total number of workers in the education sector is already considered in the data of the Ministry of Education.

TABLE 1.5 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, JUDICIARY, 1927-1937

YEA R	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES		HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR	
	SUPREME COURT		HIGH COURTS	
	JUSTICE MINISTER, PROSECUTOR MINISTERS	SECRETARY, DIRECTOR OF THE JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT	JUSTICE MINISTER, PROSECUTOR MINISTERS	SECRETARY
1927	1,000	400	600	300
1928	1,000	400	600	300
1929	1,000	400	600	300
1930	1,000	400	400	200
1931	1,000	400	400	200
1932	800	360	550	200
1933	800	360	370	200
1934	800	360	370	200
1935	800	360	370	200
1936	1,200	450	600	250
1937	1,200	500	600	300

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

GOVERNORATES

The governorates are provincial institutions which represent the executive power. According to article 138 (Asamblea Nacional, 1929), "in every province, except in Pichincha, there will be a Governor; in each city, a Political Head, and in each parish, a Political Lieutenant. The law shall determine the duties and powers of these officials. " The budget of the Governorates (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5178-5180) is divided into fourteen provincial branches, namely: Carchi, Imbabura, León, Tungurahua, Chimborazo, Bolivar, Cañar, Azuay, Loja, Gold, Guayas, Rios, Manabí and Esmeraldas, which employ a total of 86 people.

TABLE 1.6 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, GOVERNORATES, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR		LESS QUALIFIED LABOR
	GOVERNOR	SECRETARY	EMPLOYEE
1927	400	150	80
1928	400	150	80
1929	400	150	80
1930	400	150	80
1931	400	150	80
1932	450	200	80
1933	400	150	80
1934	400	150	80
1935	400	170	90
1936	400	170	90
1937	400	170	90

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

REGISTER OFFICE

The Register Office was the institution responsible for the registration of births and the management of cemeteries. The previous responsibility of registering births and of managing cemeteries was a part of Catholic Church functions. Birth registration and management of cemeteries passed to the state in 1900, when President, General Eloy Alfaro Delgado, sent to Congress the Bill of Civil Registry. The proposal was approved and published in the Official Gazette No.1252 on October 29th, 1900 (Registro Civil Identificación y Cedulación, 2013).

The Register Office had offices in all the major cities, in addition to offices in several rural parishes. According to the National Budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5181-5183), the Register Office had a Directorate General in Quito, with several county and parish offices, with a budget of 441,364 sucres and with a total labor force of 955 people.

TABLE 1.7 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, REGISTER OFFICE, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR		LESS QUALIFIED LABOR
	GENERAL DIRECTOR	SECRETARY	EMPLOYEE
1927	350	200	140
1928	350	200	140
1929	350	200	140
1930	400	250	140
1931	350	250	140
1932	400	240	140
1933	350	225	140
1934	350	225	140
1935	350	225	140
1936	500	250	140
1937	500	250	140

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial

N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936;
for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE

The Public Works Office was created in 1860 as part of the Ministry of the Interior, which was required to comply with the execution of assigned public works. The Ministry of the Interior had some restructuring and "July 13th, 1925, the government issued the presidential decree which made its official " (Avilés Pino, 2014).

The Public Works Office was a relatively small office, which depended on the Ministry of the Interior, had its headquarters in the capital, Quito, and had a budget of 150,000 sucres. The Public Works Offices split into four offices: office of Railways, office of roads and bridges, office of buildings and a special office in the city of Guayaquil. According to the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928 : 5202-5203), the staff working in the Public Works Office was a total amount of 49 people.

TABLE 1.8 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, PUBLIC WORK OFFICE, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR			LESS QUALIFIED LABOR	
	GENERAL DIRECTOR	SECRETARY	ACCOUNTANT	DISBURSING OFFICER	EMPLOYEE	DRAFTSMAN
1927	1,500	400	350	450	200	250
1928	1,500	400	350	450	200	250
1929	1,500	400	350	450	200	250
1930	1,500	400	350	450	200	250
1931	1,200	400	450	500	200	250
1932	1,200	400	450	500	200	250
1933	900	380	380	350	200	220
1934	900	380	380	350	200	220
1935	900	380	380	350	150	220
1936	900	380	380	350	200	250
1937	1,000	380	380	350	200	250

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is one of the oldest in Ecuador. Its beginnings date back to the founding of the Republic in 1830. Its functions are part of the diplomatic relations with other countries. In 1930, this ministry had an important role in the Ecuadorian diplomatic and commercial relations with the United States, Britain, Germany and France, while maintaining diplomatic relations with all the countries of Latin America.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs divided its functions into three offices, namely: Minister's office, diplomatic service and consular service. In the Minister's office there is a total of 25 people employed; in the diplomatic service, 26 people; and, in the consular service, 48 people. Thus, according to the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5208-5209), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had a workforce of 99 people. The Foreign Office had a budget of 2,172,138 sucres.

TABLE 1.9 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTRY	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR					LESS QUALIFIED LABOR
		UNDERSECRETARY	DIRECTOR LIMITS SECTION	DIRECTOR DIPLOMATIC SECTION	HEAD OF ARCHIVES	DIRECTOR CONSULAR SECTION	INTERPRETER	CALLIGRAPHER
1927	1,600	700	700	500	400	350	400	200
1928	1,600	700	700	500	400	350	400	200
1929	2,000	700	700	400	350	350	400	200
1930	1,500	700	700	400	350	350	400	200
1931	1,500	500	1000	450	350	400	350	200
1932	1,200	500	1000	450	350	400	350	200
1933	1,200	500	800	400	300	350	300	200
1934	1,200	500	800	400	300	350	300	200
1935	1,200	500	800	400	300	350	300	200
1936	1,500	700	800	400	400	400	350	250
1937	2,000	700	1500	400	400	560	350	250

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education, as an executive branch, had as its main function the organization of education as a whole system, which includes primary, secondary and higher education, which is organized and developed in schools, colleges and universities. The primary schools are of three classes: elementary, middle and high. The secondary schools are divided into three sections: the lower, upper and special institution. Higher education includes the following faculties: Jurisprudence; Medicine, Surgery and Pharmacy; Mathematical, Physical and Natural Science (Organization of American States , 1994).

The budget of the Ministry of Education (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5208-5226) was divided into five sections: Minister's office, higher education, secondary education, elementary education and special education. In the office of the Minister there are 23 people working; the section of higher education, within which all public universities in the country are included, there is a staff of 236 people; the section of primary education, in which all primary schools are included, there is a total workforce of 585 people; and the special education which consisted of art schools, conservatories, National Library and the Teatro Sucre, with a total of 106 people. Counting all educational institutions, the Ministry of Education represents a workforce of 950 people. The Ministry of Education had a budget of 6,856,299.60 sucres.

TABLE 1.10 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR	LESS QUALIFIED LABOR	
	MINISTRY	UNDERSECRETARY	GENERAL ASISTANT	DRIVER
1927	1,600	700	320	120
1928	1,600	700	320	120
1929	1,600	700	320	120
1930	1,500	600	320	120
1931	1,500	500	320	120
1932	1,200	500	320	120
1933	1,200	500	320	120
1934	1,200	500	320	120
1935	1,200	500	320	120
1936	1,500	700	320	120
1937	2,000	700	320	120

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

POST OFFICE

The Post Office in Ecuador is a public company working since the beginning of the Republic. Since the end of the XIX century, Ecuador has been a member of the Universal Postal Union. In the early twentieth century, the post office had a coverage of the major cities, "with respect to regularity, safety, speed and cost, there is no better system, considering that the mail are carried on mules. The service reaches everywhere in the Republic " (Bureau of the American Republics, 1894).

The Budget of the Post Office by 1928 (Registro oficial No. 528, 1928: 5229-5266) recorded a total of 591 people required to work in different offices around the country. The Post had offices in the provinces of Los Ríos, Esmeraldas, Manabí, Guayas , El Oro, Loja, Azuay, Chimborazo, Tungurahua, León, Carchi, Imbabura, and Pichincha. Its budget was of 735,935.28 sucres.

TABLE 1.11 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, POST OFFICE, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR		LESS QUALIFIED LABOR
	GENERAL DIRECTOR	SECRETARY	CONTROLLER OF BAGS
1927	600	350	160
1928	600	350	160
1929	600	350	160
1930	600	350	160
1931	600	350	180
1932	550	300	180
1933	550	300	180
1934	550	300	180
1935	550	300	180
1936	550	300	180
1937	550	300	200

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

TELEGRAPHS OFFICE

In 1871, the Government of the president Gabriel García Moreno gave the first concession to "All American Cable and Radio" to found the first telegraph company in Ecuador, using submarine cables. The first internal telegraph message was made in 1884, it was broadcast between Quito and Guayaquil. The National Organization for regulating telecommunications, the Directorate of Telegraph, was created in 1880. In 1934, Ecuador had 7.000 miles in telegraph and telephone lines, 167 telegraph offices and 19 wireless stations (Rebecajui 's Weblog , 2014) .

The Directorate Telegraph, according to the 1928 budget (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5266-5291), recorded a total of 1,283 people working in various offices located in the provinces of Pichincha, León, Imbabura, Carchi, Chimborazo, Tungurahua, Bolivar, Guayas, los Rios, Oro, and Azuay. In each of these provinces, the Directorate of Telegraph had offices in the major cities and in some small towns. The Directorate of Telegraph had a budget of 974,916 sucres.

TABLE 1.12 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, TELEGRAPHS OFFICE, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR			
	GENERAL DIRECTOR	SECRETARY	TELEGRAPHER PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE	GENERAL INSPECTOR
1927	600	270	350	450
1928	600	270	350	450
1929	600	270	350	450
1930	600	270	350	450
1931	600	320	350	450
1932	500	300	330	400
1933	500	300	300	400
1934	500	300	300	420
1935	500	300	345	460
1936	500	300	345	460
1937	435	300	360	460

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

TREASURY

The Treasury was created in the founding of the Republic in 1830. Since its inception, the treasury was devoted to the organization of government finances and economic policies, and promptly became one of the most important government ministries

The Treasury budget was divided into nine sections (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5312-5320): the first section which the Minister Office, with 20 people hired; second section, the Treasury Management, with 20 people; third section, the Directorate of Revenue, with 135 people; fourth section, Customs with a staff of 409 persons; fifth section, the Directorate of Supply, with 23 people; sixth section, the Budget Committee, with 25 people; seventh section, the Banking Department, with one person; eighth section, the Legal Department, with 2 people; and the ninth section, Retirees of Treasury, with 3 people. Together, all sections sums up to 638 people.

TABLE 1.13 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, TREASURY, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTRY				
	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR		LESS QUALIFIED LABOR	
	MINISTER	UNDERSECRETARY	GENERAL OFFICE DIRECTOR	DRIVER	EMPLOYEE
1927	1,600	1100	800	120	170
1928	1,600	1100	800	120	170
1929	1,600	1100	800	120	170
1930	1,500	1100	800	120	170
1931	1,500	600	800	120	170
1932	1,200	600	800	120	150
1933	1,200	600	800	120	150
1934	1,200	600	800	120	150
1935	1,200	600	800	120	150
1936	1,500	800	800	150	200
1937	2,000	800	550	170	200

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

YEAR	TREASURY MANAGEMENT			DIRECTORATE OF REVENUE			
	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR		MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR		UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	TREASURY MANAGER	ASSISTANT MANAGER	GENERAL ACCOUNTANT	DIRECTOR OF REVENUE	ASSISTANT MANAGER	AUDITOR	JANITOR
1927	1,600	1,200	800	1,500	1,000	700	90
1928	1,600	1,200	800	1,500	1,000	700	90
1929	1,600	1,200	800	1,500	1,000	700	90
1930	1,200	800	700	1,000	800	700	90
1931	1,000	600	600	1,000	600	600	90
1932	800	500	500	800	500	500	90
1933	800	500	500	800	500	500	90
1934	800	500	500	800	500	500	90
1935	800	500	500	800	500	500	100
1936	1,000	500	600	1,000	600	600	120
1937	1,000	500	600	1,000	600	600	120

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

CUSTOMS

The creation of Customs was stated in the First Constituent Assembly on 14th August, 1830. However, the Directors of the Royal Customs of Guayaquil was created in 1778 by Mr. José García de León y Pizarro, visitor and President of the Audience of Quito (National Customs Service of Ecuador, 2011). Customs of Ecuador quickly became the main source of government revenues since the taxes imposed for external trade.

Customs of Ecuador are part of the Treasury, in the fourth section of the budget of the Ministry. Therefore, the workforce of Customs are represented in the total staff registered in the Treasury. However, taking into account only the employees of Customs, according to the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5314-5320), a total of 409 people were registered. Customs had offices in the coastal ports of the following cities: Guayaquil, Manta, Bahía de Caráquez, Esmeraldas, Puerto Bolívar. It also had offices in the border cities of Chakras, Macará and Tulcán. Therefore, salaries studied in Customs represent a total workforce of 409 workers. Customs had a budget of 2,622,982.75 sucres.

TABLE 1.14 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, CUSTOMS, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR				
	GENERAL DIRECTOR	HOME INSPECTOR	PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT	CHIEF STATISTICIAN	PRIVATE SECRETARY	SECRETARY STENOGRAPHER
1927	6,666	1200	600	450	700	600
1928	6,666	1200	600	450	700	600
1929	6,666	1200	600	450	700	600

1930	6,041	700	500	450	500	500
1931	1,500	600	500	450	500	500
1932	800	500	400	400	400	400
1933	800	500	400	400	400	400
1934	800	500	400	400	400	400
1935	800	500	450	400	400	400
1936	1,000	600	450	450	450	400
1937	1,000	650	450	450	450	400

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL

The Kemmer Mission found in Ecuador in 1927 a number of governmental institutions, one of them was the Comptroller General which was established by the Organic Law of Finance, published in Registro Oficial No. 448, November 16th, 1927 (Bonifaz Saltos, 2012). The main responsibility of the Comptroller General is the evaluation and control of the use of public resources.

The Comptroller General, according to the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5336), had a staff of 124 people who worked in the office of the Comptroller General. The office of the Comptroller General was in Quito, although it also had offices in Guayaquil, Cuenca, Portoviejo and Loja. The budget of the General Comptroller was 591,720 sucres.

TABLE 1.15 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, COMPTROLLER GENERAL, 1927-1937

YEAR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR					LESS QUALIFIED LABOR	UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	COMPTROLLER GENERAL	UNDER-COMPTROLLER GENERAL	GENERAL ACCOUNTANT	SECRETARY	DIRECTOR INSPECTORS	DIRECTOR REVIEWER	SCRIBE	JANITOR
1927	6,666	1,600	900	600	500	500	200	50
1928	6,666	1,600	900	600	500	500	200	50
1929	6,666	1,600	900	600	500	500	200	50
1930	2,000	1,000	900	550	450	450	200	50
1931	1,800	1,200	900	550	450	450	200	50
1932	1,500	800	750	400	460	360	200	120
1933	1,500	800	750	500	460	360	200	120
1934	1,500	800	750	500	460	360	200	120
1935	1,500	800	750	600	460	360	200	120
1936	1,200	800	750	600	460	360	200	120
1937	1,200	800	800	650	460	360	200	140

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for

1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

1.2.2.2 EDUCATION

The second branch studied in the services sector is education. In this section, the salaries of two universities and two high schools are presented. The salaries of Universidad Central del Ecuador, University de Guayaquil, Colegio Bolivar and Instituto Nacional Mejía. These institutions of higher education and secondary education were under the control of the Ministry of Education.

The staff working at the Universidad Central del Ecuador had a total of 141 people, at the University de Guayaquil, 53 people, at the Colegio Bolivar, 15 people, and the Instituto Nacional Mejía, 58 people. Thus, the workforce of these institutions has a total of 267 people.

UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR

The Universidad Central del Ecuador was created March 18th, 1826, during the Congress of the Gran Colombia in Cundinamarca and since then, it functions in the city of Quito¹³. During the studied period, the Universidad Central del Ecuador had the School of Nursing, Astronomical and Meteorological Observatory, and the School of Arts and Crafts in Quito.

The Universidad Central del Ecuador is an institution of higher education whose administration depends of the Ministry of Education, as it is recorded in the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5209-5211). The Universidad Central del Ecuador had a workforce of 141 people.

¹³ In this Congress was ordered: "in the capitals of the departments of Cundinamarca, Venezuela and Quito Central Universities will be established." (Consejo Nacional de Educación Superior, 2008, art. 42). The regulations of functioning of the Universidad Central del Ecuador was issued by the Liberator Simon Bolivar, the 25th of July, 1827, and it was in the Main Hall of Universidad Central del Ecuador where, in 1830, Ecuador was declared as an independent state.

TABLE 1.16 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR				UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	PRINCIPAL PROFESSOR	GENERAL SECRETARY	LIBRARIAN PROFESSOR	PROFESSOR	GUARD
1927	600	320	250	350	120
1928	600	320	250	350	120
1929	900	450	450	450	120
1930	800	400	450	450	120
1931	800	400	450	450	120
1932	640	370	400	400	120
1933	640	370	400	400	120
1934	640	400	420	400	120
1935	640	400	420	400	120
1936	640	450	250	450	200
1937	640	450	250	450	200

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL

In 1867, the National Congress decreed that the foundation Junta Universitaria del Guayas has the privilege of awarding degrees and diplomas. The first faculty to settle was the law faculty in 1868. However, in 1877, the Junta Universitaria de la Provincia del Guayas is created abolishing the first foundation. This time the University had the faculties of law and medicine and pharmacy. Finally, the law that created the University of Guayaquil passed in 1897 (Universidad de Guayaquil, 2014).

The Universidad de Guayaquil is an institution of higher education whose administration depends on the Ministry of education, as it is recorded in the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5211-5212). The University had a workforce of 53 people.

TABLE 1.17 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR				UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	PRINCIPAL PROFESSOR	GENERAL SECRETARY	LIBRARIAN	PROFFESOR	JANITOR
1927	600	300	150	350	100
1928	600	300	150	350	100
1929	600	300	150	350	100
1930	600	300	150	350	90
1931	800	400	200	450	90
1932	640	370	190	400	100
1933	640	370	190	400	100
1934	640	400	250	400	100
1935	640	400	250	400	100
1936	640	400	250	400	120
1937	640	400	250	400	140

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

COLEGIO BOLÍVAR

The Constitutional Assembly of 1896 adopted the freedom of religion. The Colonel Coral directed immediately by post a letter to the supreme government indicating the determination to establish a high school of arts and humanities to counteract the influence of the Colombian conservatism. Thus, in May 19th, 1896, the government signed the decree of foundation of Colegio Bolívar en Tulcán, a city bordering Colombia (Bolivar Technological Institute, 2014).

The Colegio Bolivar is an institution of secondary education whose administration depends on the Ministry of Education, as it was recorded in the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5209-5211). The Colegio Bolivar has a workforce of 15 people.

TABLE 1.18 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, COLEGIO BOLÍVAR, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR				UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	PRINCIPAL TEACHER	TEACHER	SECRETARY LIBRARIAN	COLLECTOR	JANITOR
1927	250	155	95	100	45
1928	250	155	95	100	45
1929	250	155	95	100	45
1930	270	165	100	170	45
1931	300	200	80	180	50
1932	320	150	80	180	50
1933	320	150	80	180	50
1934	320	150	80	180	50
1935	320	200	80	180	50
1936	350	230	100	220	70
1937	350	230	100	220	70

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

INSTITUTO NACIONAL MEJÍA

On June 1st, 1897, by a decree of the National Assembly, the Instituto Nacional Mejía was founded and it became the first secular institution of the capital and the second of Ecuador. At that time, religious education marked the academic pace of the country but after the liberal revolution of 1895, which turned Ecuador in a secular state, this educational institution opened the way to separate education from religion (Guerrero, 1982: 153).

The Instituto Nacional Mejía is an institution of secondary education whose administration depends on the Ministry of Education, as it is recorded in the budget of 1928 (Registro Oficial No. 528, 1928: 5209-5211). The Instituto Nacional Mejía had a workforce of 58 people.

TABLE 1.19 MONTHLY SALARIES IN SUCRES, INSTITUO NACIONAL MEJIA, 1927-1937

YEAR	HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR				UNQUALIFIED LABOR
	PRINCIPAL	TEACHER	LIBRARIAN	COLLECTOR	JANITOR
1927	600	240	120	150	60
1928	600	240	120	150	60
1929	760	240	120	150	60
1930	700	250	160	150	60
1931	600	250	160	150	60
1932	510	250	160	150	60
1933	510	250	160	300	100
1934	510	250	160	300	100
1935	560	320	160	350	100
1936	600	350	200	350	115
1937	600	350	200	350	115

Source: salaries registered in executive decrees. For the year of 1927: Registro Oficial N. 419, 1927; for 1928: Registro Oficial N. 526, 1927; for 1929: Registro Oficial N. 113, 1929; for 1930: Registro Oficial N. 213, 1929; for 1931: Registro Oficial N. 500, 1930; for 1932: Registro Oficial N. 60, 1931; for 1933: Registro Oficial N. 32, 1933; for 1934: Registro Oficial N. 72, 1934; for 1935: Registro Oficial N. 109, 1935; for 1936: Registro Oficial N. 10, 1936; for 1937: Registro Oficial N. 205, 1936.

1.3 INDEXES OF NOMINAL SALARIES BY QUALIFICATION

After presenting nominal wages of some positions from seventeen public institutions, these positions have been grouped by their qualifications in order to build indexes of nominal wages for each category. These indexes of nominal salaries group the positions by qualification and establish their evolution in current prices during the decade studied. In table 1.20 every job positions can be seen grouped in their own qualification.

TABLE 1.20 JOBS CLASIFIED BY QUALIFICATION

UNQUALIFIED LABOR		
No.	INSTITUCIÓN	NOMBRE PUESTO
1	MONOPOLY OF SALT	JANITOR
2	MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	JANITOR
3	DIRECTORATE OF REVENUE	JANITOR
4	COMPTRROLLER GENERAL	JANITOR
5	UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR	GUARD
6	UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL	JANITOR
7	COLEGIO BOLÍVAR	JANITOR
8	INSTITUO NACIONAL MEJIA	JANITOR
LESS QUALIFIED LABOR		
N.	INSTITUCIÓN	NOMBRE PUESTO
1	MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	SCRIBE
2	GOVERNORATES	EMPLOYEE
3	REGISTER OFFICE	EMPLOYEE
4	PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE	EMPLOYEE
5	PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE	DRAFTSMAN
6	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	CALLIGRAPHER
7	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	GENERAL ASSISTANT
8	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	DRIVER
9	POST OFFICE	CONTROLLER OF BAGS

10	TREASURY	DRIVER
11	TREASURY	EMPLOYEE
12	COMPROLLER GENERAL	SCRIBE

HIGHLY QUALIFIED LABOR

N.	INSTITUCIÓN	NOMBRE PUESTO
1	MONOPOLY OF SALT	SECRETARY
2	MONOPOLY OF SALT	GENERAL CASHIER
3	MONOPOLY OF SALT	GENERAL ACCOUNTANT
4	MONOPOLY OF SALT	CHIEF STATISTICIAN
5	MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	SECRETARY LAWYER
6	MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	SECRETARY INSPECTOR
7	MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	OFFICER
8	JUDICIARY	SECRETARY, DIRECTOR OF THE JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT
9	JUDICIARY	JUSTICE MINISTER
10	JUDICIARY	SECRETARY
11	GOVERNORATES	GOVERNOR
12	GOVERNORATES	SECRETARY
13	REGISTER OFFICE	GENERAL DIRECTOR
14	REGISTER OFFICE	SECRETARY
15	PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE	SECRETARY
16	PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE	ACCOUNTANT
17	PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE	DISBURSING OFFICER
18	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	INTERPRETER
19	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	DIRECTOR CONSULAR SECTION
20	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	HEAD OF ARCHIVES
21	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	DIRECTOR DIPLOMATIC SECTION
22	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	DIRETOR LIMITS
23	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	UNDERSECRETARY
24	POST OFFICE	SECRETARY
25	POST OFFICE	GENERAL DIRECTOR

26	TELEGRAPH OFFICE	GENERAL INSPECTOR
27	TELEGRAPH OFFICE	TELEGRAPHER
28	TELEGRAPH OFFICE	SECRETARY
29	TELEGRAPH OFFICE	GENERAL DIRECTOR
30	TREASURY	GENERAL OFFICE DIRECTOR
31	TREASURY	UNDERSECRETARY
32	TREASURY MANAGEMENT	GENERAL ACCOUNTANT
33	TREASURY MANAGEMENT	ASSISTANT MANAGER
34	DIRECTORATE OF REVENUE	AUDITOR
35	DIRECTORATE OF REVENUE	ASSITANT MANAGER
36	CUSTOMS	SECRETARY STENOGRAPHER
37	CUSTOMS	PRIVATE SECRETARY
38	CUSTOMS	CHIEF STATISTICIAN
39	CUSTOMS	PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT
40	CUSTOMS	HOME INSPECTOR
41	COMPTROLLER GENERAL	DIRECTOR REVIEWERS
42	COMPTROLLER GENERAL	DIRECTOR INSPECTORS
43	COMPTROLLER GENERAL	SECRETARY
44	COMPTROLLER GENERAL	GENERAL ACCOUNTANT
45	COMPTROLLER GENERAL	UNDER-COMPTROLLER GENERAL
46	UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR	PROFFESOR
47	UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR	LIBRARIAN
48	UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR	GENERAL SECRETARY
49	UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR	PRINCIPAL PROFFESOR
50	UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL	PROFFESOR
51	UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL	LIBRARIAN
52	UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL	GENERAL SECRETARY
53	UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL	PROFFESOR
54	UNIVERSIDAD DE GUAYAQUIL	PRINCIPAL
55	COLEGIO BOLÍVAR	COLLECTOR
56	COLEGIO BOLÍVAR	SECRETARY LIBRARIAN
57	COLEGIO BOLÍVAR	TEACHER
58	COLEGIO BOLÍVAR	PRINCIPAL TEACHER

59	INSTITUO NACIONAL MEJIA	PRINCIPAL
60	INSTITUO NACIONAL MEJIA	TEACHER
61	INSTITUO NACIONAL MEJIA	LIBRARIAN
62	INSTITUO NACIONAL MEJIA	COLLECTOR

MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES		
N.	INSTITUCIÓN	NOMBRE PUESTO
1	MONOPOLY OF SALT	GENERAL DIRECTOR
2	MONOPOLY OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	DIRECTOR
3	JUDICIARY	JUSTICE MINISTER, PROSECUTOR MINISTERS
4	PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE	GENERAL DIRECTOR
5	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	MINISTER
6	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	MINISTER
7	TREASURY	MINISTER
8	TREASURY	TREASURY MANAGER
9	TREASURY	DIRECTOR OF REVENUE
10	CUSTOMS	GENERAL DIRECTOR
11	COMPROLLER GENERAL	GENERAL COMPROLLER

To generate the indexes, the following methodology has been applied: first, give an equal weight to each of the job positions that belong to the a same group. These equal weights eliminate the distortions that could be caused by the fluctuations in salaries with higher incomes, no doing so would mean that the higher salaries would mark the trend, minimizing the developments with lower incomes. Thus, giving each salary of the same group an equal weighting, a purified tendency is marked.

In the category of unqualified labor, there are eight job positions, each of them has been given a 12.5% weight¹⁴. In the category of less qualified labor, every position has received a 8.33 %. In the category of highly skilled labor, each position has been given a weight of 0.62%. In the category of ministers and senior executives, each position has been given a weight of 9.09% .

Second, after finding the weighting for each category, the year 1927 has been established as the base year. Thus, each of the salaries has been multiplied by the given weight and has been divided for the salary of 1927. This procedure allows to have a weighted salary based on the salary of 1927. Finally, the weight of ever year has been

¹⁴ Taking in account that for the unqualified labor there are eight job positions, each job position would weight a 100/8%; for the less qualified labor, every job position would weight a 100/12%; for the highly qualified labor, every position would weight a 100/62%; and for the category of ministries and senior executives, every position would weight a 100/11%.

summed in order to create the index for each category. In this way, the distortions have been removed and an index for every category has been generated.

The index of nominal salaries at current prices, as shown in table 1.21 and in figure 1.1, shows that the evolution of salaries depends on the qualification. The unqualified labor shows an upward trend throughout the decade. From 1927 to 1929 salaries remain unchanged. From 1929, when the international crisis began, salaries of the unqualified labor rise up to 56% until 1933. From 1933 to 1935, salaries of this sector remain stable, with very small fluctuations. In 1937, salaries recorded an increase of 210% of wages registered 1927.

The evolution of salaries of the less qualified labor sector has stagnated from 1927 to 1937. The wage gap between the start and end of the decade studied is of 15%. However, it is in the last two years, in 1936 and 1937, that this difference of percentage appears. Until 1935, the fluctuation of wages was imperceptible, registering the same levels in 1927 than in 1935. Thus, until 1935, wages remain unchanged, with very slight fluctuations. From 1935, the nominal wages increase by 15 % in two years.

The sector of highly qualified labor has a slight downward trend until 1934. From 1929-1934, wages fell by 8%. From 1934, wages increase by 15% until 1937. During the decade of 1927-1937, wages in this sector increased by 9%, with two light trends, a downward trend until 1934 and then with an upward trend until 1937.

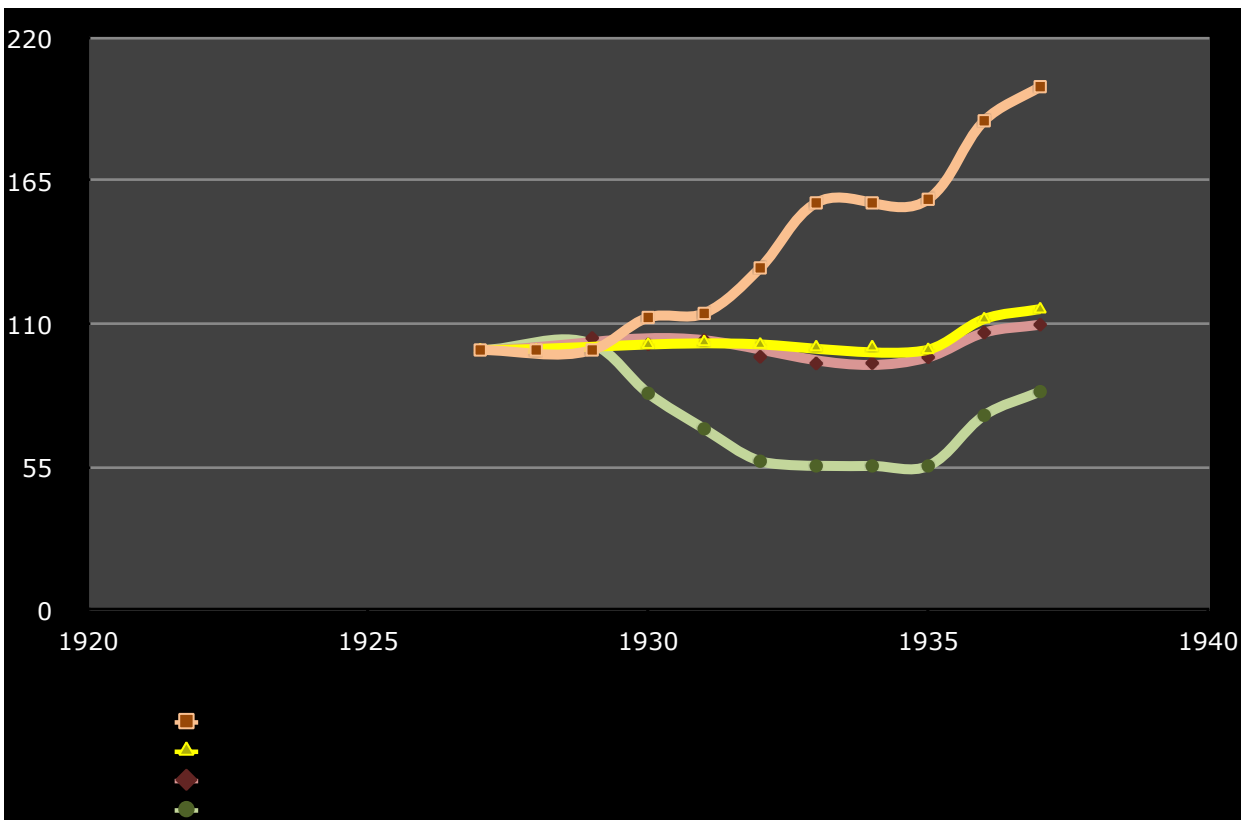
The category of ministers and senior executive presents two clearly defined trends, a downward trend from 1929 to 1933, in which a fall in wages of 46% is recorded. This decrease remained for three years, until 1935. From 1936, wages in this sector increased by 19%. From 1927 to 1937, the salaries of ministers and senior executive ranks sector decreased by 16%.

**TABLE 1.21 INDEXES OF NOMINAL SALARIES BY QUALIFICATION, 1927-1937.
BASE YEAR: 1927**

YEAR	UNQUALIFIED LABOR	LESS QUALIFIED LABOR	HIGLY QUALIFIED LABOR	MINISTERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES
1927	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
1928	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
1929	100.00	100.00	104.60	102.27
1930	112.50	102.08	102.15	83.35
1931	114.06	103.13	103.75	69.69
1932	131.56	102.14	97.38	57.23
1933	156.56	101.14	94.80	55.41
1934	156.56	101.14	94.95	55.41
1935	157.95	100.10	97.18	55.41
1936	188.13	111.89	106.67	74.86

1937	201.25	115.71	109.71	83.99
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FIGURE 1.1 INDEXES OF NOMINAL SALARIES BY QUALIFICATION, 1927-1937



The evolution of nominal salaries at current prices shows three clear trends: the first trend shows the evolution of the unqualified jobs. Those jobs with lower incomes show an upward trend throughout the decade studied. On average, these salaries rise 38% each year.

The second tendency includes the wages two categories, the less qualified labor and the highly qualified labor. These two sectors have a stagnant evolution of wages. From 1927 to 1937, the less qualified jobs have an average annual increase of 3 %, while the highly qualified jobs have an average annual increase of 1%. However, until 1935, wages in these sectors recorded no increase, it is from 1936 that wages increase significantly.

The third trend displayed the evolution on the salaries of ministers and senior executive. This sector shows a downward trend until 1935, and then an upward trend until 1937. From 1927 to 1937, wages in this sector show an average annual reduction of 13%. However, from 1927 to 1935, the annual average reduction was of 24%. It is in the last two years that wages recovered.

Thus, the three trends described suggest that wages with lower monthly incomes did not suffer the impact of the international crisis, and its development was based on a steady increase over the decade. On the other hand, middle-income wages stagnated, they remained relatively unchanged throughout the decade, showing a recovery in the last two years, in 1936 and 1937. Finally, the salaries of the highest incomes show a greater impact of the international crisis, with a continued reduction until 1932, stagnating evolution from 1932 to 1935, and a recovery in the last two years

Joining the trends of the four categories, it is clear to see that the impact of the Great Depression, in the urban wage sector, reached its lowest point in 1935, and from 1936 wages began to recover. Since 1936, all categories present a significant upward trend, marking this year as the year of recovery of wage incomes.

Given the limited information of wages in the private sector, information of nominal wages in the public sector become very relevant, as they are the only ones available to build complete wage series. Thus salary developments and trends permitted to present an image of the impact of the Great Depression in the urban sector by job qualifications.

CONCLUSIONS:

Ecuador had an estimated population of 2.6 million people, from whom 14% lived in urban areas. The population could be divided into three groups: indigenous population, whose economic activity took place in the agricultural sector; the laborers and peasants, who mostly worked in farming and agricultural estates; and, the group of public employees, merchants, manufacturers and renters who were actively involved in domestic market.

In this context, the Great Depression affected Ecuador in a variety of ways. The international crisis hit Ecuadorian economic system through the international trade, given that the United States was Latin America first trading partner. The impact of the international crisis can be understood through the evolution of economic indexes and social analysis. In this paper, the impact of the international crisis is understood through the evolution of salaries at current crisis.

The nominal wages data shows the complete series of seventeen public institutions divided into four categories. unqualified labor; less qualified labor; highly qualified labor; and, ministers and senior executives. There are three trends in the evolution of the indexes: the low-income wages show an upward trend, the middle-income wages present a stagnation in their evolution, and, the high-income wages indicate a downward trend.

These trends suggest that the international crisis impacted the evolution of salaries in differentiated ways: the high-income wages registered the strongest impact: in 1935, wages show a reduction of 46% of the incomes registered in 1927; The middle-income displayed a stagnation until 1935, which means that their purchasing power of the jobs located in these categories fluctuated as much as the inflation did; the low-income wages, even though it displays an upward trend, the low-income wages also went through a three-year stagnation period from 1933 to 1935.

The conclusions in this paper are to be considered taking in consideration the problems of finding data among the limited sources available. Thus, the new data presented is important to contribute to the understanding of the international crisis within the Ecuadorian economic situation.

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