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THE LABOUR FORCE

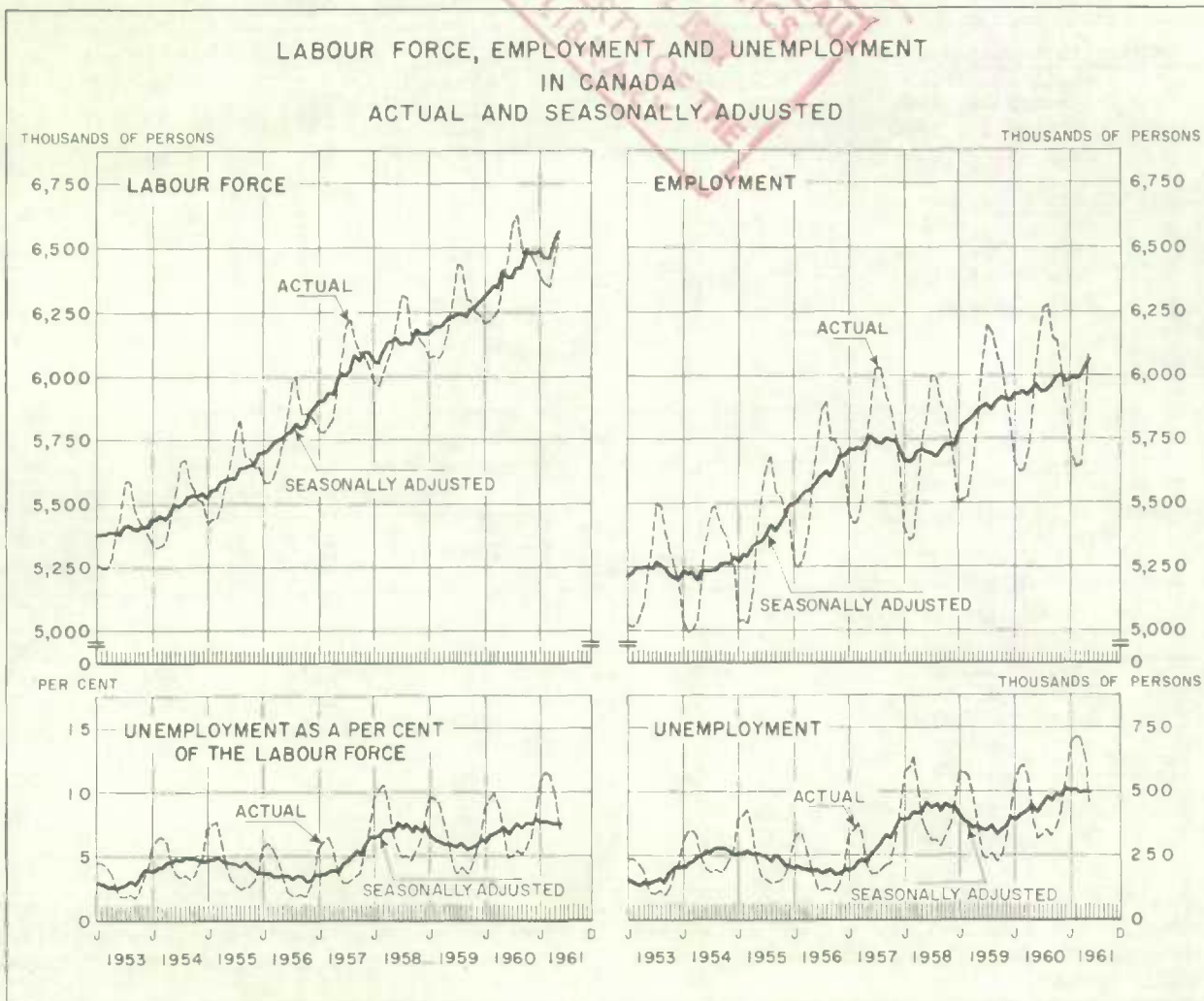
MAY, 1961

In the week ended May 20, 1961, the Canadian labour force was estimated at 6,542,000. There were 6,085,000 persons employed for all or part of the week and 457,000 unemployed for the whole week. The labour force increased by 102,000 from April; the employed increased by 267,000 and the unemployed decreased by 165,000. Between May 1960 and May 1961, the labour force went up 151,000, the employed increasing by 113,000 and the unemployed by 38,000.

and nonagricultural industries for 193,000. Over the year, employment increased in agriculture by 51,000 and in nonagricultural industries by 62,000. Employment among men increased by 224,000 from April to May and among women by 43,000. Between May 1960 and May 1961, however, the number of employed women increased by 103,000, which accounted for most of the rise in total employment.

Of the 267,000 increase in employment from April, agriculture accounted for 74,000

In May 1961, 7.0 per cent of the labour force were unemployed. The comparable unemployment rate in April was 9.7, and in May 1960 was 6.6.



The Unemployed: Family Data (1)

April 1961

Labour force data have been tabulated for families in which someone was unemployed during the week ended April 22, 1961. Similar data for the weeks ended January 14, 1961, October 15, 1960, and July 23, 1960, were published in the February issue of this report.

In April, of the 622,000 persons unemployed, 302,000 (48%) were heads of family units, 266,000 (43%) were sons, daughters, or other relatives, and 54,000 (9%) were not members of family units.

The 568,000 unemployed members of families lived in 485,000 family units. In 251,000

(52%) of these units, at least one member was employed. There is a strong correlation between size of family unit and probability of some member being employed; for example, in 61 per cent of units with 8 or more members someone was employed, while in only 43 per cent of 2- or 3- person units was there any person employed.

Further detail for April is presented in the following tables, along with comparable estimates for January 1961 and October and July 1960. Table 1 refers to unemployed persons. Tables 2 and 3 relate to family units in which one or more members were unemployed.

Unemployed Persons

Table 1 Classified as heads, other members, or non-members of family units, Canada	Unemployed persons					
	Total unemployed	Members of family units (1)				Non-members of family units(1)
		Total	Heads of units	Single sons or daughters	Other relatives	
<u>Number (in thousands)</u>						
April 22, 1961	622	568	302	197	69	54
January 14, 1961	693	630	341	216	73	63
October 15, 1960	368	331	156	131	44	37
July 23, 1960	330	296	127	132	37	34
<u>Percent Distribution</u>						
April 22, 1961	100	91	48	32	11	9
January 14, 1961	100	91	49	31	11	9
October 15, 1960	100	90	42	36	12	10
July 23, 1960	100	90	39	40	11	10

Family Units(1)

Table 2 By number of employed persons in unit, Canada	Family units with one or more persons unemployed					
	Total units	No person in unit employed	One or more persons in unit employed			
			Total	1 employed	2 employed	3 or more employed
<u>Number (in thousands)</u>						
April 22, 1961	485	234	251	156	63	32
January 14, 1961	539	264	275	171	73	31
October 15, 1960	294	120	174	104	43	27
July 23, 1960	266	99	167	95	47	25
<u>Percent Distribution</u>						
April 22, 1961	100	48	52	32	13	7
January 14, 1961	100	49	51	32	13	6
October 15, 1960	100	41	59	35	15	9
July 23, 1960	100	37	63	36	18	9

(1) The family unit used in these tables is defined as "a group of two or more persons who are living together in the same dwelling and who are related by blood, marriage or adoption". A person living alone or who is related to no one else in the dwelling where he lives is classified under "Non-members of family units".

The head of a family unit is defined generally as the person who is mainly responsible for the maintenance of the unit. However, in families consisting of husband and wife (with or without unmarried children), the husband is always designated as the head. In families composed of parent and unmarried child (or children), the parent invariably is recorded as the head of the unit.

(continued on page 8)

Technical Notes

Scope of Labour Force Survey

The statistics contained in this report are based on information obtained through a sample survey of households. Interviews are carried out in about 35,000 households chosen by area sampling methods across the country. The Labour Force Survey, started in November 1945, was taken at quarterly intervals until November 1952. Since then it has been carried out monthly. Estimates of employment, unemployment and non-labour force activity refer to the specific week covered by the survey each month.

The sample used in the surveys of the labour force has been designed to cover all per-

sons in the civilian noninstitutional population who are 14 years of age or over and who reside in Canada, with the exception of: members of the armed forces, inmates of institutions, residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories and Indians on reservations. These excluded categories amount to about three per cent of the total population 14 years of age and over.

Estimates derived from a sample survey are subject to sampling and other kinds of error. Aspects of this subject in relation to the Labour Force Survey are reviewed under "Reliability of Estimates" on page 8.

Labour Force Statistics

Contents of the Tables - The results of the survey are presented in the tables on pages 4 to 7 of this report

Canada, Labour Force (pages 4 and 5). Tables 1 to 3 refer to the labour force, employment and unemployment and contain labour force participation and unemployment rates.

Canada, Employed (page 6). Tables 4 to 6 contain further detail on employment.

Canada, Unemployed (page 7). Table 7 contains further detail on unemployment.

Regions, Labour Force (page 7). Table 8 contains labour force data for the regions.

Supplementary Data - From time to time, additional data on particular aspects of the labour force or its components will be obtained. Such material, as it becomes available, will be released through occasional supplements inserted in or attached to regular issues of this report.

Other Data Available - In addition to the published statistics, there is a considerable amount of data which can be obtained on request. Following is a list of material available.

For Canada only:

1. Age and sex distributions.
2. Marital status and sex distributions.
3. Employed -
 - (a) Reasons for working less than full-time.
 - (b) Hours worked by sex for total employed, agriculture and non-agriculture, and for paid workers, non-agriculture.
 - (c) Industry and occupation groups, by sex for total employed and for paid workers.
4. Persons not in the labour force by category.

For regions:

1. Labour force -
 - (a) By age.
 - (b) Agriculture and non-agriculture by sex.
2. Employed by age.

Definitions and Explanations

Labour Force - The civilian labour force is composed of that portion of the civilian non-institutional population 14 years of age and over who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed.

Employed - The employed includes all persons who, during the survey week:

- (a) did any work for pay or profit;
- (b) did any work which contributed to the running of a farm or business operated by a related member of the household; or
- (c) had a job, but were not at work, because of bad weather, illness, industrial dispute, or vacation, or because they were taking time off for other reasons.

Persons who had jobs but did not work during the survey week and who also looked for work are included in the unemployed as persons without work and seeking work.

Unemployed - The unemployed includes all persons who, through the survey week:

- (a) were without work and seeking work, i.e., did no work during the survey week and were looking for work; or would have been looking for work except that they were temporarily ill, were on indefinite or prolonged layoff, or believed no suitable work was available in the community; or
- (b) were temporarily laid off for the full week, i.e., were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off for less than 30 days.

Not in the Labour Force - Those not in the labour force include all civilians 14 years of age and over (exclusive of institutional population) who are not classified as employed or unemployed. This category includes those: going to school; keeping house; too old or otherwise unable to work; and voluntarily idle or retired. Housewives, students and others who worked part-time are classified as employed. If they looked for work they are classified as unemployed.

Canada, Labour Force

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(Estimates in thousands)

Table 1 Summary	1961		1960		1959	
	May 20	Apr. 22	May 21	Apr. 23	May 16	Apr. 18
<u>Total</u>						
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,982	11,964	11,759	11,735	11,531	11,512
Labour force	6,542	6,440	6,391	6,259	6,186	6,109
Employed	6,085	5,818	5,972	5,707	5,831	5,642
Agriculture	726	652	675	641	724	661
Non-agriculture	5,359	5,166	5,297	5,066	5,107	4,981
Unemployed	457	622	419	552	355	467
Not in labour force	5,440	5,524	5,368	5,476	5,345	5,403
Participation rate (2)	54.6	53.8	54.3	53.3	53.6	53.1
Unemployment rate (3)	7.0	9.7	6.6	8.8	5.7	7.6
<u>Men</u>						
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	5,967	5,958	5,861	5,848	5,752	5,743
Labour force	4,792	4,721	4,752	4,682	4,659	4,595
Employed	4,395	4,171	4,385	4,189	4,344	4,173
Agriculture	657	610	629	607	677	625
Non-agriculture	3,738	3,561	3,756	3,582	3,667	3,548
Unemployed	397	550	367	493	315	422
Not in labour force	1,175	1,237	1,109	1,166	1,093	1,148
Participation rate (2)	80.3	79.2	81.1	80.1	81.0	80.0
Unemployment rate (3)	8.3	11.7	7.7	10.5	6.8	9.2
<u>Women</u>						
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	6,015	6,006	5,898	5,887	5,779	5,769
Labour force	1,750	1,719	1,639	1,577	1,527	1,514
Employed	1,690	1,647	1,587	1,518	1,487	1,469
Agriculture	69	42	46	34	47	36
Non-agriculture	1,621	1,605	1,541	1,484	1,440	1,433
Unemployed	60	72	52	59	40	45
Not in labour force	4,265	4,287	4,259	4,310	4,252	4,255
Participation rate (2)	29.1	28.6	27.8	26.8	26.4	26.2
Unemployment rate (3)	3.4	4.2	3.2	3.7	2.6	3.0

(1) Excludes inmates of institutions, members of the armed services, Indians living on reserves and residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

(2) The labour force as a percentage of the population 14 years of age and over.

(3) The unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

Note: With the exception of Table 2, all statistics refer to a specific week, the last day of which is indicated.

Table 2 Annual averages, 1946-1960		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Population 14 years of age and over (1)		11,789	11,562	11,357	11,108	10,805	10,597	10,391	10,164
Labour force		6,403	6,228	6,127	6,003	5,782	5,610	5,493	5,397
Employed		5,955	5,856	5,695	5,725	5,585	5,364	5,243	5,235
Agriculture		675	692	712	744	776	819	878	858
Non-agriculture		5,280	5,163	4,983	4,981	4,809	4,546	4,365	4,377
Unemployed		448	373	432	278	197	245	250	162
Not in labour force		5,386	5,334	5,230	5,105	5,023	4,987	4,898	4,767
Participation rate (2)		54.3	53.9	53.9	54.0	53.5	52.9	52.9	53.1
Unemployment rate (3)		7.0	6.0	7.1	4.6	3.4	4.4	4.6	3.0
		1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	
Population 14 years of age and over (1)		9,956	9,732	9,615	9,268	9,141	9,007	8,779	
Labour force		5,324	5,223	5,163	5,055	4,988	4,942	4,829	
Employed		5,169	5,097	4,976	4,913	4,875	4,832	4,666	
Agriculture		891	939	1,018	1,077	1,096	1,122	1,186	
Non-agriculture		4,278	4,158	3,958	3,837	3,779	3,711	3,480	
Unemployed		155	126	186	141	114	110	163	
Not in labour force		4,632	4,509	4,453	4,213	4,153	4,065	3,950	
Participation rate (2)		53.5	53.7	53.7	54.5	54.6	54.9	55.0	
Unemployment rate (3)		2.9	2.4	3.6	2.8	2.3	2.2	3.4	

Table 3 Age, sex, and marital status Week ended May 20, 1961	Total	14-19 years all persons	20-64 years				65 years and over all persons
			Men		Women		
			Married	Other	Married	Other	
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,982	1,728	3,457	1,012	3,560	932	1,293
Labour force	6,542	609	3,348	912	798	644	231
Employed	6,085	532	3,138	790	783	621	221
Unemployed	457	77	210	122	15	23	10
Not in labour force	5,440	1,119	109	100	2,762	288	1,062
Participation rate (2) - 1961, May 20	54.6	35.2	96.8	90.1	22.4	69.1	17.9
Apr. 22	53.8	34.4	96.3	87.5	21.8	69.5	17.3
Unemployment rate (3) - 1961, May 20	7.0	12.6	6.3	13.4	1.9	3.6	4.3
Apr. 22	9.7	16.4	9.0	18.6	2.8	3.8	5.8

(1)(2)(3) See footnotes on opposite page.

Note: Newfoundland included in estimates only from 1950.

Canada, Employed

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(Estimates in thousands)

Table 4 Summary	1961		1960		1959	
	May 20	Apr. 22	May 21	Apr. 23	May 16	Apr. 18
Total employed	6,085	5,818	5,972	5,707	5,831	5,642
Agriculture	726	652	675	641	724	661
Non-agriculture	5,359	5,166	5,297	5,066	5,107	4,981
Employed, non-agriculture	5,359	5,166	5,297	5,066	5,107	4,981
Usually work 35 hours or more	4,938	4,733	..	..	..	..
At work 35 hours or more (1)	4,658	4,441	4,658	4,116	4,539	4,373
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	280	292	..	..	..	..
Due to economic reasons (2)	73	87	..	..	..	..
Due to other reasons (3)	207	205	..	..	..	..
Usually work less than 35 hours	421	433	..	..	..	..

Table 5 Industry	1961		1960		1959	
	May 20	Apr. 22	May 21	Apr. 23	May 16	Apr. 18
Total employed	6,085	5,818	5,972	5,707	5,831	5,642
Agriculture	726	652	675	641	724	661
Other primary industries	162	128	185	158	161	153
Manufacturing	1,503	1,444	1,479	1,428	1,503	1,466
Construction	422	357	427	361	445	393
Transportation and other utilities	515	507	523	506	518	506
Trade	960	962	965	964	915	907
Finance, insurance and real estate	240	236	226	231	216	214
Service	1,557	1,532	1,492	1,418	1,349	1,342

Table 6 Class of worker, agriculture and non-agriculture, and sex Week ended May 20, 1961	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	6,085	4,905	621	361	198
Agriculture	726	117	381	82	146
Non-agriculture	5,359	4,788	240	279	52
Men	4,395	3,399	559	337	100
Agriculture	657	111	374	80	92
Non-agriculture	3,738	3,288	185	257	*
Women	1,690	1,506	62	24	98
Agriculture	69	*	*	*	54
Non-agriculture	1,621	1,500	55	22	44

- (1) An unusually large number worked less than 35 hours in the week ended April 23, 1960, due to Easter Monday being in the survey week.
- (2) Economic reasons for not working 35 hours or more include short time, layoff for part of the week and termination or start of employment during the week.
- (3) Other reasons for not working 35 hours or more include illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, and reasons such as a statutory holiday in the week.
- .. Not available. * Less than 10,000.

Canada, Unemployed
and
Regions, Labour Force

(Estimates in thousands)

Table 7 Unemployed	1961		1960		1959	
	May 20	Apr. 22	May 21	Apr. 23	May 16	Apr. 18
Total unemployed	457	622	419	552	355	467
Without work and seeking work (1)	439	590	399	517	334	445
Seeking full-time work	416	559	385	494	321	425
Seeking part-time work	23	31	14	23	13	20
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	18	32	20	35	21	22
Without work and seeking work (1)	439	590	399	517	334	445
Seeking under 1 month	70	84	75	90	61	70
Seeking 1-3 months	120	177	119	174	102	135
Seeking 4-6 months	141	221	135	191	99	156
Seeking more than 6 months	108	108	70	62	72	84

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended May 20, 1961		Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over		11,982	1,206	3,408	4,207	2,047	1,114
Men		5,967	602	1,682	2,077	1,040	566
Women		6,015	604	1,726	2,130	1,007	548
Labour force		6,542	589	1,811	2,391	1,159	592
Men		4,792	448	1,347	1,711	846	440
Women		1,750	141	464	680	313	152
Employed		6,085	515	1,646	2,266	1,114	544
Men		4,395	379	1,204	1,605	806	401
Women		1,690	136	442	661	308	143
Agriculture		726	59	145	163	329	30
Non-agriculture		5,359	456	1,501	2,103	785	514
Paid workers		4,905	409	1,351	1,950	736	459
Men		3,399	287	949	1,342	491	330
Women		1,506	122	402	608	245	129
Unemployed		457	74	165	125	45	48
Men		397	69	143	106	40	39
Women		60	*	22	19	*	*
Not in labour force		5,440	617	1,597	1,816	888	522
Men		1,175	154	335	366	194	126
Women		4,265	463	1,262	1,450	694	396
Employed	1961, May 20	6,085	515	1,646	2,266	1,114	544
	Apr.22	5,818	474	1,570	2,207	1,046	521
	1960, May 21	5,972	498	1,624	2,263	1,064	523
	Apr.23	5,707	453	1,529	2,202	1,012	511
	1959, May 16	5,831	491	1,589	2,177	1,043	531
	Apr.18	5,642	457	1,527	2,132	1,007	519
Unemployed	1961, May 20	457	74	165	125	45	48
	Apr.22	622	99	233	160	72	58
	1960, May 21	419	64	156	116	40	43
	Apr.23	552	89	221	136	58	48
	1959, May 16	355	66	143	87	29	30
	Apr.18	467	85	190	118	40	34

(1) Formerly termed "without jobs and seeking work".

* Less than 10,000.



Reliability of Estimates

(a) Non-sampling Variability

The data obtained by enumeration, either of the entire population or of a sample of it, will differ in some degree from the true data as outlined by the definitions because of enumerator and respondent variations. The amount of variance associated with these factors differs with the nature of the inquiry. In general, the more personal and more subjective inquiries are subject to greater error.

(b) Sampling Variability

In addition to non-sampling error, mentioned in subsection (a), the survey results are subject to sampling variability. While for the non-sampling component of error statistical estimates of its magnitude are not available, estimates of the probable range of the sampling component of error have been calculated. Estimates of the sampling variability for specified sizes of estimates in any month are given in the table in the next column.

The measure of sampling variability as shown is twice the standard deviation; thus the odds are about 19 to 1 that the range (Labour Force Estimate + Sampling Variability) contains the true estimates.

These estimates are averages since sampling variability differs from characteristic to characteristic and from month to month. In particular, for the unemployed and for persons working from 1 to 34 hours, the sampling variability is about 40 per cent higher than the general average and this higher variability is shown in the table also.

These estimates of sampling variability cannot be applied directly to estimates of month-to-month change. However, studies indicate that the sampling variability of a difference over a period of one month can be approximated for the employed and for the unemployed using the following formula: (0.6) times (the square root of the sum of the squares of the sampling variabilities associated with the two estimates).

For example, suppose the estimates of employed persons in June and July, were 6,139,000 and 6,262,000

respectively, with sampling variabilities of about 61,000 each. The difference between these two estimates (123,000) would have a sampling variability of approximately:

$$0.6 \sqrt{61,000^2 + 61,000^2} \text{ or about } 52,000.$$

For "the unemployed", suppose the corresponding estimates for June and July were 315,000 and 330,000 with sampling variabilities of about 28,000. The difference between these two estimates (15,000) would have a sampling variability of approximately:

$$0.6 \sqrt{28,000^2 + 28,000^2} \text{ or about } 24,000.$$

Estimated sampling variability for the major labour force characteristics by size of estimate

Size of estimate	General sampling variability		General sampling variability + 40% (1)	
	Size	Per cent	Size	Per cent
10,000	3,500	35.0	5,000	50.0
25,000	5,500	22.0	7,500	30.0
50,000	8,000	16.0	11,000	22.0
75,000	9,500	12.7	13,500	18.0
100,000	11,000	11.0	15,500	15.5
250,000	17,500	7.0	24,500	9.8
500,000	24,000	4.8	33,500	6.7
750,000	28,500	3.8	40,000	5.3
1,000,000	33,000	3.3	46,000	4.6
2,500,000	49,000	2.0		
5,000,000	58,000	1.2		
6,000,000	60,000	1.0		

(1) Applicable to the unemployed and to persons working 1 to 34 hours.

The Unemployed: Family Data - continued from page 2

Family Units⁽¹⁾

Table 3 By size of family unit, with and without employed members, Canada	Family units with one or more persons unemployed				
	Total units	Size of family unit			
		2 - 3 persons	4 - 5 persons	6 - 7 persons	8 or more
<u>Total (in thousands)</u>					
April 22, 1961	485	161	158	95	71
January 14, 1961	539	187	186	97	69
October 15, 1960	294	107	92	52	43
July 23, 1960	266	92	87	44	43
<u>No one in unit employed</u>					
April 22, 1961	234	92	71	43	28
January 14, 1961	264	111	87	42	24
October 15, 1960	120	58	35	15	12
July 23, 1960	99	50	29	10	10
<u>One or more employed in unit</u>					
April 22, 1961	251	69	87	52	43
January 14, 1961	275	76	99	55	45
October 15, 1960	174	49	57	37	31
July 23, 1960	167	42	58	34	33

(1) See footnote page 2.