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## THE LABOUR FORCE

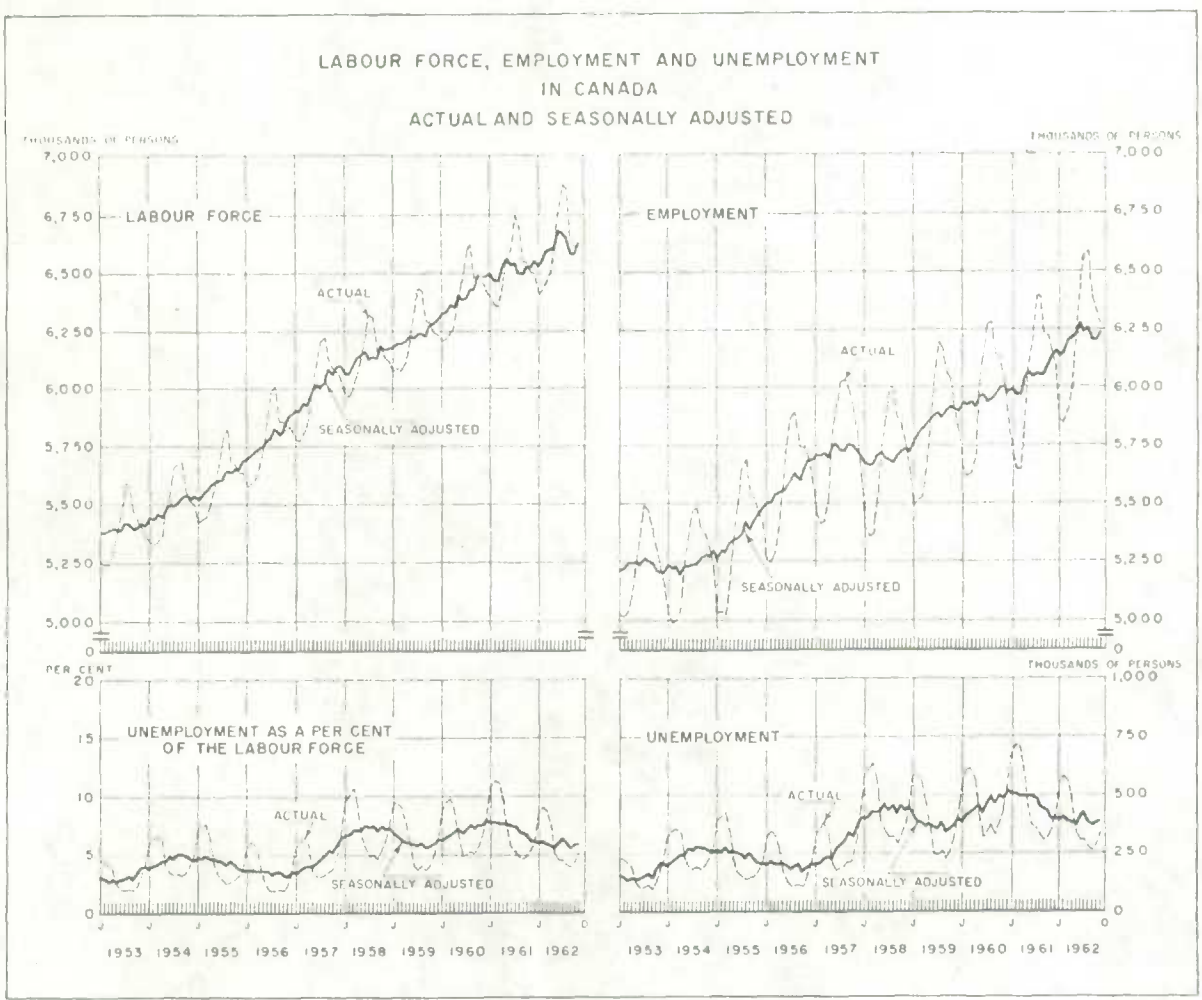
NOVEMBER, 1962

In the week ended November 17, 1962, the Canadian labour force was estimated at 6,612,000. Of this total, 6,270,000 persons were employed for all or part of the week and 342,000 were unemployed for the whole week. While the total labour force remained virtually unchanged from October, the employed decreased by 56,000 and the unemployed increased by 59,000. Compared with November 1961, the labour force was 108,000 higher, the employed having increased by 115,000 over the year, while the unemployed showed little change.

between October and November occurred in agriculture. Nonagricultural employment was 147,000 higher than in November last year; employment in agriculture was 32,000 lower. Men accounted for all of the drop in employment from October. Employment increased between November 1961 and November 1962 by 55,000 among men and by 60,000 among women.

The unemployment rate in November was 5.2, compared with rates of 4.3 in October this year and 5.4 in November 1961.

Nearly all of the decrease in employment



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Notes on Seasonal Patterns in the Labour Force

Owing to its geographic location Canada is subject to wide seasonal variations in climate, which along with other factors, have a pronounced effect on the employment level. These influences also affect the number of unemployed, but to a lesser extent because many people retire from the labour force during their inactive season. This is particularly true of workers in primary industries and construction, students and women in trade and some branches of manufacturing.

The 1960-61 average amplitude of seasonal variation was more than 10 per cent for employment and almost 75 per cent for unemployment. In actual numbers, the change in total employment between the winter trough and the summer peak averaged 636,000 over the past ten years. The drop in total unemployment between the winter high and the summer low points averaged 275,000 over the same period.

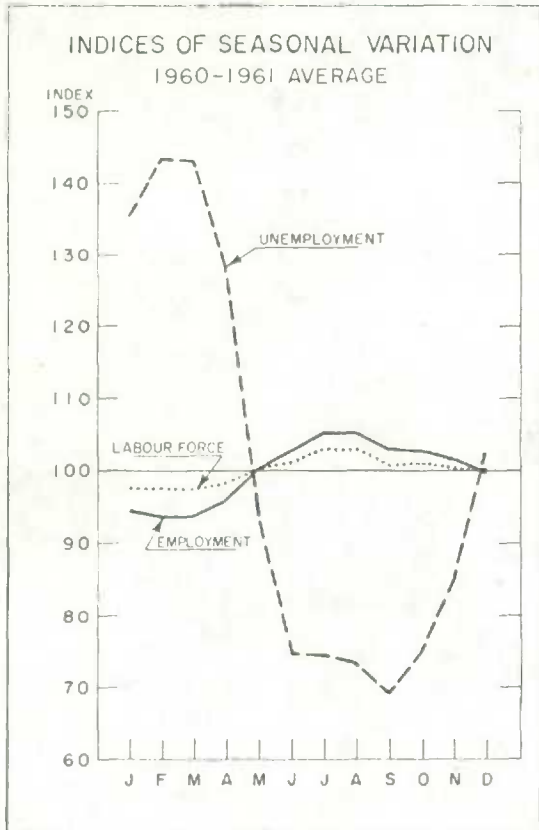
and 8 per cent for women while for unemployment it was 84 per cent for men and 37 per cent for women.

The seasonal pattern varies between regions. The peak of economic activity occurs in July or August in all regions. The seasonal low point usually is in March in the Atlantic and Quebec regions, in February in the Ontario and Prairie regions and in January in British Columbia.

The amount of fluctuation above and below the annual average is quite different among regions. For employment the amplitude ranges from 8 per cent in Ontario to 24 per cent in the Atlantic region and for unemployment from 66 per cent in Ontario to 104 per cent in the Prairie region.

Employment peaks and troughs do not coincide for all industries. Generally, the peaks occur in midsummer and the low points in the winter months. However, in service, the high point in employment occurs in June and the low in August. Trade has two peaks - one in midsummer and the other in the pre-Christmas period. No pronounced seasonal pattern is apparent in finance.

In the goods-producing industries the amplitude of seasonal variation is about 21 per cent as compared to 6 per cent for the service-producing industries.



Amplitude of Seasonal Variation  
Industrial Employment  
1960-1961 Average

	Per Cent
Goods-producing industries	21
Agriculture	36
Other primary industries	40
Manufacturing	9
Construction	43
Service-producing industries	6
Transportation and other utilities	9
Trade	11
Finance	5
Service	7

Seasonal patterns have not changed much in recent years. Maximum employment for the economy as a whole is attained in July or August while minimum employment occurs in February or March. Conversely, unemployment reaches a peak in February or March and a low point in the summer.

The amplitude of seasonal variation is much greater for men than for women. The 1960-1961 average for employment was 14 per cent for men

Labour force participation rates also exhibit seasonal patterns. Seasonal indices (see chart page 8) show, for specified age and sex groups, fluctuations in the participation rate above and below the annual average. For both men and women, the amplitude of seasonal variation is greatest for those in the 14-19 age group because of the large number of students entering the labour force during summer vacations. It is lowest for the group 25-64 years of age, and particularly for men, for whom the amplitude of seasonal variation is slightly more than 1 per cent.

(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

- 4 -

(Estimates in thousands)

Table 1 Summary	1962		1961		1960	
	Nov. 17	Oct. 20	Nov. 11	Oct. 14	Nov. 12	Oct. 15
<u>Total</u>						
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	12,307	12,291	12,089	12,073	11,878	11,862
Labour force	6,612	6,609	6,504	6,538	6,458	6,499
Employed	6,270	6,326	6,155	6,220	6,029	6,131
Agriculture	597	649	629	704	649	695
Non-agriculture	5,673	5,677	5,526	5,516	5,380	5,436
Unemployed	342	283	349	318	429	368
Not in labour force	5,695	5,682	5,585	5,535	5,420	5,363
-----						
Participation rate (2)	53.7	53.8	53.8	54.2	54.4	54.8
Unemployment rate (3)						
Actual	5.2	4.3	5.4	4.9	6.6	5.7
Seasonally adjusted	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.6 <sup>r</sup>	7.5	7.6
<u>Men</u>						
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	6,116	6,109	6,018	6,011	5,919	5,912
Labour force	4,787	4,801	4,745	4,784	4,748	4,776
Employed	4,509	4,573	4,454	4,522	4,385	4,470
Agriculture	542	584	579	632	600	642
Non-agriculture	3,967	3,989	3,875	3,890	3,785	3,828
Unemployed	278	228	291	262	363	306
Not in labour force	1,329	1,308	1,273	1,227	1,171	1,136
-----						
Participation rate (2)	78.3	78.6	78.8	79.6	80.2	80.8
Unemployment rate (3)	5.8	4.7	6.1	5.5	7.6	6.4
<u>Women</u>						
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	6,191	6,182	6,071	6,062	5,959	5,950
Labour force	1,825	1,808	1,759	1,754	1,710	1,723
Employed	1,761	1,753	1,701	1,698	1,644	1,661
Agriculture	55	65	50	72	49	53
Non-agriculture	1,706	1,688	1,651	1,626	1,595	1,608
Unemployed	64	55	58	56	66	62
Not in labour force	4,366	4,374	4,312	4,308	4,249	4,227
-----						
Participation rate (2)	29.5	29.2	29.0	28.9	28.7	29.0
Unemployment rate (3)	3.5	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.9	3.6

(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.

r Revised.

Note: With the exception of Tables 2 and 5, all statistics refer to a specific week, the last day of which is indicated.





Table 2 Annual averages, 1946-1961		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Population 14 years of age and over (1)		12,010	11,789	11,562	11,357	11,108	10,805	10,597	10,391
Labour force		6,518	6,403	6,228	6,127	6,003	5,782	5,610	5,493
Employed		6,049	5,955	5,856	5,695	5,725	5,585	5,364	5,243
Agriculture		674	675	692	712	744	776	819	878
Non-agriculture		5,375	5,280	5,163	4,983	4,981	4,809	4,546	4,365
Unemployed		469	448	373	432	278	197	245	250
Not in labour force		5,492	5,386	5,334	5,230	5,105	5,023	4,987	4,898
Participation rate (2)		54.3	54.3	53.9	53.9	54.0	53.5	52.9	52.9
Unemployment rate (3)		7.2	7.0	6.0	7.1	4.6	3.4	4.4	4.6
		1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Population 14 years of age and over (1)		10,164	9,956	9,732	9,615	9,268	9,141	9,007	8,779
Labour force		5,397	5,324	5,223	5,163	5,055	4,988	4,942	4,829
Employed		5,235	5,169	5,077	4,976	4,913	4,875	4,832	4,666
Agriculture		858	891	939	1,018	1,077	1,096	1,122	1,186
Non-agriculture		4,377	4,278	4,138	3,958	3,837	3,779	3,711	3,480
Unemployed		162	155	126	186	141	114	110	163
Not in labour force		4,767	4,632	4,509	4,453	4,213	4,153	4,065	3,950
Participation rate (2)		53.1	53.5	53.7	53.7	54.5	54.6	54.9	55.0
Unemployment rate (3)		3.0	2.9	2.4	3.6	2.8	2.3	2.2	3.4

Table 3 Age, sex, and marital status Week ended November 17, 1962	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)	12,307	1,847	3,578	970	3,677	910	1,325
Labour force	6,612	602	3,455	831	873	640	211
Employed	6,270	533	3,312	749	852	621	203
Unemployed	342	69	143	82	21	19	*
Not in labour force	5,695	1,245	123	139	2,804	270	1,114
Participation rate (2) - 1962, Nov. 17	53.7	32.6	96.6	85.7	23.7	70.3	15.9
Oct. 20	53.8	33.4	96.7	85.7	23.4	69.3	16.2
Unemployment rate (3) - 1962, Nov. 17	5.2	11.5	4.1	9.9	2.4	3.0	*
Oct. 20	4.3	9.9	3.4	8.0	1.7	2.7	*

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

\* Less than 10,000 unemployed.

Note: Newfoundland included in estimates only from 1950.



Canada, Employed

(Estimates in thousands)

Table 4 Summary	1962		1961		1960	
	Nov. 17 (1)	Oct. 20	Nov. 11	Oct. 14(1)	Nov. 12 (1)	Oct. 15(1)
Total employed	6,270	6,326	6,155	6,220	6,029	6,131
Agriculture	597	649	629	704	649	695
Non-agriculture	5,673	5,677	5,526	5,516	5,380	5,436
Employed, non-agriculture	5,673	5,677	5,526	5,516	5,380	5,436
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,224	5,251	5,085	5,098	4,985	5,008
At work 35 hours or more	4,565	4,971	4,725	3,120	3,868	3,150
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	659	230	260	1,978	1,117	1,858
Due to economic reasons (2)	59	54	62	57	78	71
Due to other reasons (3)	600	226	298	1,921	1,039	1,787
Usually work less than 35 hours	449	426	441	418	395	428

Table 5 Industry	1962		1961		1960	
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Aug.
	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	Sept.
Total employed	6,327	6,431	6,203	6,279	6,102	6,133
Agriculture	661	728	686	744	700	757
Other primary industries	183	191	203	200	220	218
Manufacturing	1,593	1,612	1,575	1,576	1,488	1,508
Construction	469	484	454	468	461	473
Transportation and other utilities	534	550	509	520	518	525
Trade	1,014	1,021	984	996	999	1,001
Finance, insurance and real estate	260	262	238	241	225	228
Service	1,612	1,494	1,555	1,533	1,491	1,473

Note: Effective with the October 1962 report, the figures in Table 5 will show Industry estimates as an average for three successive months. In future, one-third, rather than all, of the records will be coded for Industry each month (a different third each month). The accuracy of the new 3-month averages will, therefore, be comparable to the accuracy of the previously published monthly estimates.

Table 6 Class of worker, agriculture and non-agriculture, and sex Week ended November 17, 1962	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	6,270	5,176	590	337	167
Agriculture	597	98	336	54	109
Non-agriculture	5,673	5,078	254	283	58
Men	4,509	3,585	530	314	80
Agriculture	512	87	332	53	70
Non-agriculture	3,997	3,498	198	261	10
Women	1,761	1,591	60	23	87
Agriculture	55	11	*	*	39
Non-agriculture	1,706	1,580	56	22	48

(1) In the November 1960 and 1962 and October 1960 and 1961 reference weeks, unusually large numbers worked fewer than 35 hours due to Remembrance Day or Thanksgiving Day holidays. (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. \* Less than 10,000.



Canada, Unemployed  
and  
Regions, Labour Force

(Estimates in thousands)

Table 7 Unemployed	1962		1961		1960	
	Nov. 17	Oct. 20	Nov. 11	Oct. 14	Nov. 12	Oct. 15
Total unemployed	342	283	349	318	429	362
Without work and seeking work (1)	324	267	331	305	401	347
Seeking full-time work	305	257	307	280	380	332
Seeking part-time work	19	10	24	25	21	15
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	18	16	18	13	28	21
Without work and seeking work (1)	324	267	331	305	401	347
Seeking under 1 month	117	92	106	95	127	120
Seeking 1-3 months	125	95	122	102	158	125
Seeking 4-6 months	39	32	45	47	62	53
Seeking more than 6 months	43	48	58	61	54	49

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended November 17, 1962		Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over		12,307	1,245	3,529	4,297	2,099	1,137
Men		6,116	620	1,740	2,118	1,063	575
Women		6,191	625	1,789	2,179	1,036	562
Labour force		6,612	606	1,848	2,422	1,140	598
Men		4,787	449	1,368	1,716	818	436
Women		1,825	157	480	704	322	162
Employed		6,270	552	1,724	2,338	1,097	559
Men		4,509	403	1,264	1,653	783	406
Women		1,761	149	460	685	314	153
Agriculture		597	37	115	160	265	20
Non-agriculture		5,673	515	1,609	2,178	832	539
Paid workers		5,176	464	1,458	2,017	757	480
Men		3,585	329	1,035	1,309	490	342
Women		1,591	135	423	628	267	138
Unemployed		342	54	124	82	43	39
Men		278	46	104	63	35	30
Women		64	*	20	19	*	*
Not in labour force		5,695	639	1,681	1,877	959	539
Men		1,329	171	372	402	245	139
Women		4,366	468	1,309	1,475	714	400
Employed	1962, Nov. 17	6,270	552	1,724	2,338	1,097	559
	Oct. 20	6,326	566	1,730	2,335	1,131	564
	1961, Nov. 11	6,155	538	1,698	2,294	1,082	543
	Oct. 14	6,220	571	1,698	2,294	1,106	551
	1960, Nov. 12	6,029	530	1,664	2,257	1,052	526
	Oct. 15	6,131	546	1,694	2,272	1,080	539
Unemployed	1962, Nov. 17	342	54	124	82	43	39
	Oct. 20	283	42	109	63	29	35
	1961, Nov. 11	349	51	112	99	49	38
	Oct. 14	313	42	114	92	36	34
	1960, Nov. 12	429	53	143	127	49	57
	Oct. 15	362	46	126	120	31	45

(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  $\pm$  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:

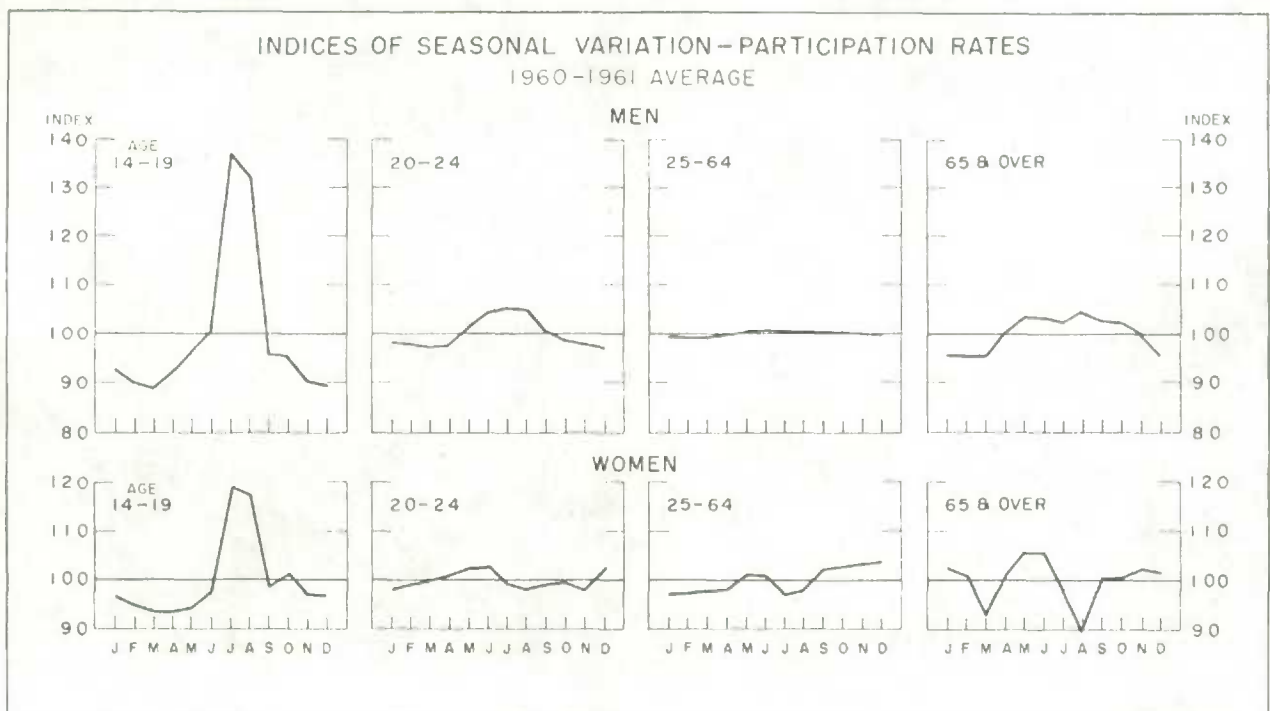
$$0.6 \sqrt{28,000^2 + 28,000^2} \text{ or about } 24,000.$$

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.

Notes on Seasonal Patterns in the Labour Force (continued from page 2)



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