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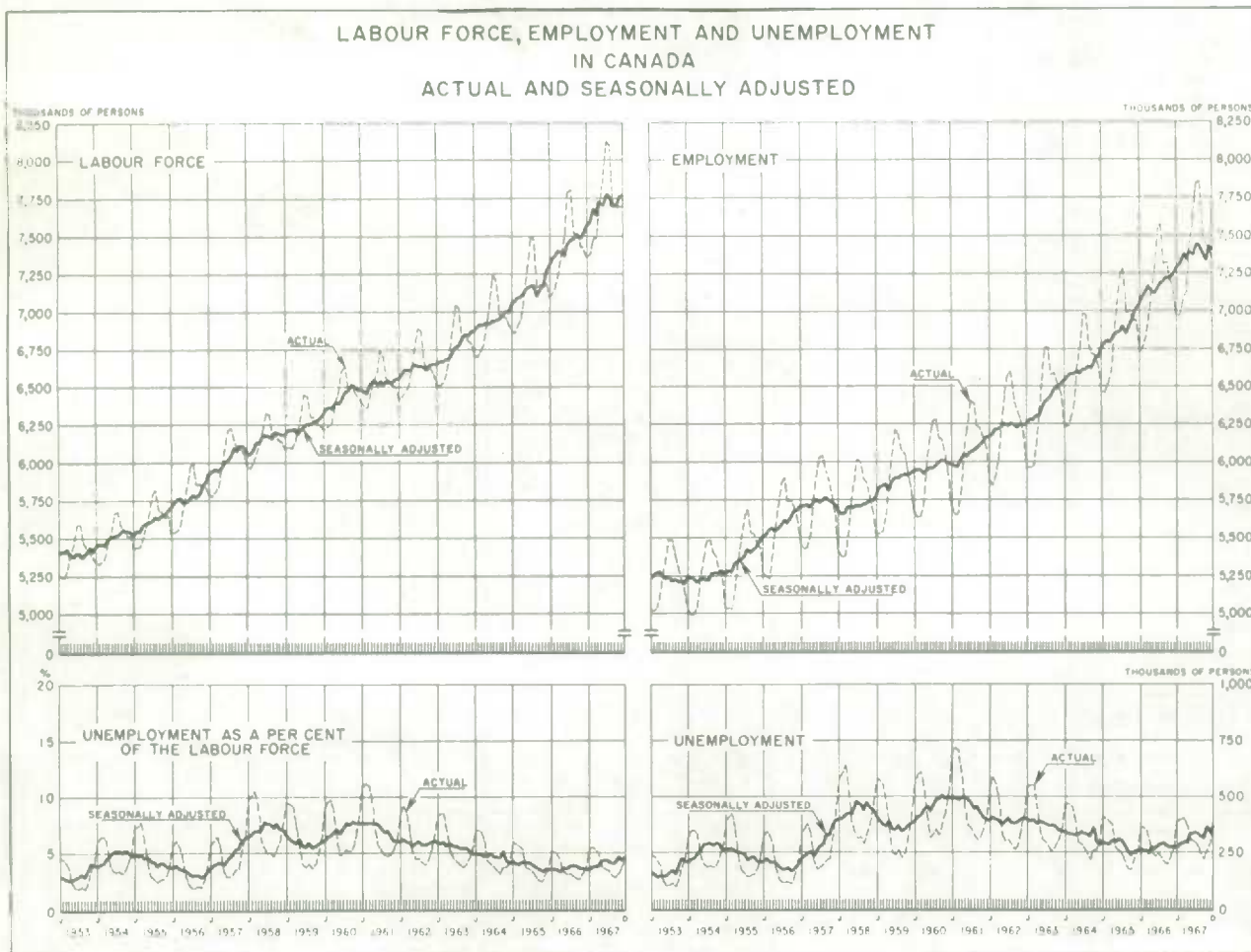
THE LABOUR FORCE DECEMBER 1967

The Canadian labour force was estimated at 7,697,000 in the week ended December 9, 1967. This total included 7,344,000 persons employed for all or part of the week and 353,000 persons unemployed for the whole week. Between November and December, the labour force was virtually unchanged; the number of employed decreased by 65,000 and the unemployed increased by 64,000. Compared with December 1966, the labour force was higher by 258,000, the employed by 171,000 and the unemployed by 87,000.

Of the decrease in total employment from November, 48,000 was in agriculture and 17,000

in nonagricultural industries. Nonagricultural industries accounted for virtually all of the year-to-year increase in total employment. Between November and December, employment of men declined by 73,000 while employment of women rose slightly. Employment was higher than in December 1966 by 32,000 among men and by 139,000 among women.

The unemployment rate in December was 4.6, compared with rates of 3.8 in November and of 3.6 in December 1966. Seasonally adjusted, the unemployment rate was 4.7 in December 1967.



The Unemployed by Occupation and Industry
4th Quarter 1967

The Labour Force Survey provides information about the occupation and industry attachments of members of the labour force. For the employed, current occupation and industry are reported. The unemployed are identified with the industries in which they last worked and the occupations which they last followed. From these data, unemployment rates for broad occupation and industry groups are calculated by expressing the number unemployed as a percentage

of the labour force classified in each group. In addition, percentage distributions have been made according to occupation and industry groups. Unemployment rates and percentage distributions for the fourth quarter of 1967, with comparative data for the first three quarters of 1967 and the fourth quarter of 1966, are shown in the following tables - in Table 1 by occupation group, and in Table 2 by industry group.

Table 1 Occupation group	Percentage distribution of the unemployed (quarterly averages)					Unemployment rates(1) (quarterly averages)				
	1967				1966	1967				1966
	4th quar.	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.	4th quar.	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.
All occupations	100	100	100	100	100	3.9	3.1	4.2	5.3	3.1
Office and professional(2)	18	19	16	15	18	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.8	1.3
Transportation	5	5	7	7	6	4.4	3.2	6.0	7.7	4.2
Service and recreation	10	11	10	9	10	3.4	2.9	3.4	4.0	2.9
Primary(3)	9	6	8	10	9	3.9	1.6	3.6	6.6	3.1
Craftsmen, production process and related workers	35	30	32	38	34	5.2	3.7	5.0	7.4	4.0
Labourers(4)	14	12	14	17	15	12.5	7.4	12.5	18.7	10.0
Never worked(5)	8	17	14	5	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total unemployed(000's)	299	250	320	392	233					

Table 2 Industry group	Percentage distribution of the unemployed (quarterly averages)					Unemployment rates(1) (quarterly averages)				
	1967				1966	1967				1966
	4th quar.	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.	4th quar.	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.
All industries	100	100	100	100	100	3.9	3.1	4.2	5.3	3.1
Primary industries(6)	10	7	10	11	9	3.8	1.8	3.9	6.5	2.9
Manufacturing	25	24	22	23	25	4.1	3.2	3.8	5.0	3.2
Construction	18	15	18	23	18	10.1	6.5	10.6	17.5	8.0
Transportation and other utilities(7)	8	7	8	12	9	3.7	2.4	3.9	6.7	3.3
Trade	10	11	10	11	11	2.4	2.1	2.6	3.6	2.0
Service(8)	20	20	19	15	20	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.3	1.9
Never worked(5)	8	17	14	5	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total unemployed(000's)	299	250	320	392	233					

(1) The unemployed in an occupation group or an industry group as a percentage of the labour force in that group.

(2) Includes managerial, professional and technical, clerical, sales, and communication occupations.

(3) Includes farming, fishing, trapping, logging, and mining occupations.

(4) Includes labourers and unskilled workers not farming, fishing, logging, or mining.

(5) Comprises unemployed persons who never had a full-time civilian job lasting two weeks or more.

(6) Includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and trapping, and mines, quarries, oil wells.

(7) Includes transportation, storage, communication, and electric power, gas and water utilities.

(8) Includes community, business and personal service, public administration, and finance, insurance, real estate.

Note: The statistics in these tables are based on the 1961 Census Classification of Occupations and the 1960 Standard Industrial Classification.

Seasonally Adjusted Labour Force Statistics

The unadjusted time series appearing in "Seasonally Adjusted Labour Force Statistics, 1953-1966", have been adjusted for seasonal variation utilizing the latest twelve months of data. The second edition "Seasonally Adjusted Labour Force Statistics, 1953-1967", will be released shortly. For each series there will be presented four tables, as follows: (1) seasonally unadjusted data, (2) uncentered twelve-month moving average of unadjusted data, (3) final seasonal adjustment factors, including factors estimated one year ahead and (4) final seasonally adjusted series.

"Seasonally Adjusted Labour Force Series, 1953-1967", Catalogue no. 71-201, price \$1.00, may be obtained from the Queen's Printer or from the Publications Distribution Unit, DBS.

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 nearly 35,000 households chosen by area sampling methods across the country. Percentages of total households selected for the sample were as follows: Atlantic region, 1.6 p.c.; Quebec, 0.5 p.c.; Ontario, 0.5 p.c.; Prairie region, 0.8 p.c.; British Columbia, 0.7 p.c. 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 represent all persons in the population 14 years of age and over residing in Canada, with the exception of: residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, Indians living on reserves, inmates of institutions and members of the armed forces. 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 non-sampling errors. 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 (page 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 either included in this report or released in separate reports.

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:

5. Labour force: by age; by sex, agricultural and nonagricultural.
Employed: by age.

For individual provinces of Atlantic and Prairie regions:

6. Population 14 years of age and over and labour force: by sex.
Total employed, total unemployed, and total persons not in labour force.

Definitions and Explanations

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

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

- (a) were without work and seeking work, i.e., did not work during the reference 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

(Estimates in thousands)

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Note: Due to the introduction of revised weighting factors in March 1965, small adjustments have been made to estimates published before that time. See the March 1965 edition of this report, page 8.

Table 1 Summary	S.D. (1)	1967		1966		1965	
		Dec. 9	Nov. 11	Dec. 10	Nov. 12	Dec. 11	Nov. 13
Total							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		14,053	14,026	13,648	13,620	13,278	13,252
Labour force	a	7,697	7,698	7,439	7,428	7,185	7,159
Employed	a	7,344	7,409	7,173	7,190	6,933	6,939
Agriculture	d	487	535	485	482	470	523
Non-agriculture	a	6,857	6,874	6,688	6,708	6,463	6,416
Unemployed	d	353	289	266	238	252	220
Not in the labour force	a	6,356	6,328	6,209	6,192	6,093	6,093

Participation rate (3)	a	54.8	54.9	54.5	54.5	54.1	54.0
Unemployment rate (4)							
Actual	d	4.6	3.8	3.6	3.2	3.5	3.1
Seasonally adjusted		4.7	4.3	3.6	3.7	3.5r	3.5
Men							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		6,965	6,952	6,765	6,751	6,580	6,568
Labour force	a	5,271	5,283	5,168	5,173	5,046	5,047
Employed	a	4,987	5,060	4,955	4,994	4,844	4,879
Agriculture	d	432	470	437	433	424	466
Non-agriculture	a	4,555	4,590	4,518	4,561	4,420	4,413
Unemployed	d	284	223	213	179	202	168
Not in the labour force	b	1,694	1,669	1,597	1,578	1,534	1,521

Participation rate (3)	a	75.7	76.0	76.4	76.6	76.7	76.8
Unemployment rate (4)	d	5.4	4.2	4.1	3.5	4.0	3.3
Women							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,088	7,074	6,883	6,869	6,698	6,684
Labour force	b	2,426	2,415	2,271	2,255	2,139	2,112
Employed	b	2,357	2,349	2,218	2,196	2,089	2,060
Agriculture	e	55	65	48	49	46	57
Non-agriculture	b	2,302	2,284	2,170	2,147	2,043	2,003
Unemployed	e	69	66	53	59	50	52
Not in the labour force	a	4,662	4,659	4,612	4,614	4,559	4,572

Participation rate (3)	b	34.2	34.1	33.0	32.8	31.9	31.6
Unemployment rate (4)	e	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.3	2.5

(1) "S.D." = Standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8.

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

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

(4) 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.

Note: Due to the introduction of revised weighting factors in March 1965, small adjustments have been made to estimates published before that time. See the March 1965 edition of this report, page 8.

Table 2 Annual averages, 1946-1967		S.D. (1)	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Population 14 years of age and over (2)			13,874	13,475	13,128	12,817	12,536	12,280	12,053	11,831	11,605	11,388	11,123
Labour force	a		7,694	7,420	7,141	6,933	6,748	6,615	6,521	6,411	6,242	6,137	6,008
Employed	a		7,379	7,152	6,862	6,609	6,375	6,225	6,055	5,965	5,870	5,706	5,731
Agriculture	d		559	544	594	630	649	660	681	683	700	718	748
Non-agriculture	a		6,820	6,609	6,268	5,979	5,726	5,565	5,374	5,282	5,170	4,988	4,983
Unemployed	d		315	267	280	324	374	390	466	446	372	432	278
Not in the labour force	a		6,179	6,055	5,986	5,884	5,787	5,665	5,531	5,420	5,363	5,250	5,115
Participation rate(3)	a		55.5	55.1	54.4	54.1	53.8	53.9	54.1	54.2	53.8	53.9	54.0
Unemployment rate (4)	d		4.1	3.6	3.9	4.7	5.5	5.9	7.1	7.0	6.0	7.0	4.6
			1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Population 14 years of age and over (2)			10,807	10,597	10,391	10,164	9,956	9,732	9,615	9,268	9,141	9,007	8,779
Labour force			5,782	5,610	5,493	5,397	5,324	5,223	5,163	5,055	4,988	4,942	4,829
Employed			5,585	5,364	5,243	5,235	5,169	5,097	4,976	4,913	4,875	4,832	4,666
Agriculture			777	819	878	858	891	939	1,018	1,077	1,096	1,122	1,186
Non-agriculture			4,808	4,546	4,365	4,377	4,278	4,158	3,958	3,837	3,779	3,711	3,480
Unemployed			197	245	250	162	155	126	186	141	114	110	163
Not in the labour force			5,025	4,987	4,898	4,767	4,632	4,509	4,453	4,213	4,153	4,065	3,950
Participation rate(3)			53.5	52.9	52.9	53.1	53.5	53.7	53.7	54.5	54.6	54.9	55.0
Unemployment rate (4)			3.4	4.4	4.6	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 December 9, 1967	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(2)	14,053	2,328	3,988 a	1,102 b	4,106 a	1,043 c	1,486
Labour force	7,697 a	761 c	3,817 a	890 c	1,286 c	737 c	206 d
Employed	7,344 a	686 c	3,679 a	805 c	1,263 c	713 c	198 d
Unemployed	353 d	75 e	138 e	85 e	23 f	24 f	8 g
Not in the labour force	6,356 a	1,567 b	171 d	212 d	2,820 b	306 d	1,280 a
Participation rate (3) - 1967, Dec. 9	54.8 a	32.7 c	95.7 a	80.8 a	31.3 c	70.7 b	13.9 d
Nov. 11	54.9	32.6	95.9	80.5	31.2	70.8	14.5
Unemployment rate (4) - 1967, Dec. 9	4.6 d	9.9 e	3.6 e	9.6 e	1.8 f	3.3 f	3.9 g
Nov. 11	3.8	9.0	2.8	7.1	1.7	3.0	3.3

(1)(2)(3)(4) See footnotes on opposite page.

Note: a) The alphabetic symbol following each estimate in table 3 indicates its standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8.

b) Newfoundland included in estimates only from 1950.

Canada, Employed

(Estimates in thousands)

Note: Due to the introduction of revised weighting factors in March 1965, small adjustments have been made to estimates published before that time. See the March 1965 edition of this report, page 8.

Table 4 Summary	S.D. (1)	1967		1966		1965	
		Dec. 9	Nov. 11(2)	Dec. 10	Nov. 12(2)	Dec. 11	Nov. 13(2)
Total employed	a	7,344	7,409	7,173	7,190	6,933	6,939
Agriculture	d	487	535	485	482	470	523
Non-agriculture	a	6,857	6,874	6,688	6,708	6,463	6,416
Employed, non-agriculture	a	6,857	6,874	6,688	6,708	6,463	6,416
Usually work 35 hours or more	a	6,125	6,151	6,043	6,064	5,843	5,806
At work 35 hours or more	a	5,641	5,586	5,570	4,595	5,434	4,458
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	c	484	565	473	1,469	409	1,348
Due to economic reasons(3)	e	73	76	64	60	62	59
Due to other reasons(4)	c	411	489	409	1,409	347	1,289
Usually work less than 35 hours	c	732	723	645	644	620	610

Table 5 Industry	S.D. (1)	1967		1966		1965	
		Average Oct./Dec.	Average Sept./Nov.	Average Oct./Dec.	Average Sept./Nov.	Average Oct./Dec.	Average Sept./Nov.
Total employed	a	7,397	7,452	7,229	7,275	6,960	6,977
Agriculture	d	542	591	509	549	542	593
Other primary industries	d	226	229	228	229	243	247
Manufacturing	c	1,727	1,739	1,776	1,784	1,635	1,647
Construction	c	480	505	497	516	500	516
Transportation and other utilities	c	658	662	646	645	617	613
Trade	c	1,250	1,222	1,210	1,186	1,177	1,151
Finance, insurance, real estate	c	317	316	304	302	291	277
Community, personal, other services	c	1,757	1,746	1,646	1,650	1,551	1,539
Public administration	c	440	442	413	414	404	394

Note: From October 1962 to February 1966, the three-month averages in this table have been based on one-third of the records enumerated each month for the Labour Force Survey. Beginning with the three-month averages for January to March 1966, all of the records have been coded by industry each month, and the averages are based on the full monthly surveys. Monthly estimates of employment by industry and occupation are available on request in the Special Tables series mentioned on page 3, "Other Data Available".

Table 6 Class of worker, agriculture and non-agriculture, and sex Week ended December 9, 1967	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	7,344 a	6,319 a	537 c	325 c	163 d
Agriculture	487 d	70 e	282 d	35 e	100 e
Non-agriculture	6,857 a	6,249 a	255 d	290 d	63 e
Men	4,987 a	4,158 a	455 c	301 c	73 e
Agriculture	432 d	60 e	277 d	34 f	61 e
Non-agriculture	4,555 a	4,098 a	178 d	267 d	12 g
Women	2,357 b	2,161 b	82 e	24 e	90 d
Agriculture	55 e	10 f	5 g	1 g	39 e
Non-agriculture	2,302 b	2,151 b	77 e	23 e	51 e

(1) "S.D." = Standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8. (2) In the reference weeks of November 1965 and 1966, unusually large numbers worked fewer than 35 hours due to Remembrance Day holidays. Since Remembrance Day fell on a Saturday in 1967, its effect on the number of hours worked in the November 1967 reference week was very much less than in 1965 or 1966. (3) 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. (4) 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. Note: The alphabetic symbol following each estimate in table 6 indicates its standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8.

Note: Due to the introduction of revised weighting factors in March 1965, small adjustments have been made to estimates published before that time. See the March 1965 edition of this report, page 8.

Table 7 Unemployed	S.D. (1)	1967		1966		1965	
		Dec. 9	Nov. 11	Dec. 10	Nov. 12	Dec. 11	Nov. 13
Total unemployed	d	353	289	266	238	252	220
Without work and seeking work	d	326	267	243	219	232	204
Seeking full-time work	d	312	253	233	203	215	188
Seeking part-time work	f	14	14	10	16	17	16
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	f	27	22	23	19	20	16
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Without work and seeking work	d	326	267	243	219	232	204
Seeking under 1 month	e	116	106	91	87	92	90
Seeking 1-3 months	e	135	100	101	82	93	70
Seeking 4-6 months	e	42	33	28	24	22	24
Seeking more than 6 months	e	33	28	23	26	25	20

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended December 9, 1967		Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over		14,053	1,321	4,050	4,997	2,293	1,392
Men		6,965	654	1,998	2,465	1,157	691
Women		7,088	667	2,052	2,532	1,136	701
Labour force		7,697 a	638 b	2,170 b	2,840 a	1,271 b	778 b
Men		5,271 a	445 b	1,502 a	1,921 a	881 a	522 b
Women		2,426 b	193 c	668 c	919 c	390 c	256 d
Employed		7,344 a	596 b	2,044 b	2,749 b	1,226 b	729 b
Men		4,987 a	407 b	1,402 b	1,856 a	841 b	481 b
Women		2,357 b	189 c	642 c	893 c	385 c	248 d
Agriculture		487 d	26 e	92 e	137 e	214 d	18 f
Non-agriculture		6,857 a	570 c	1,952 b	2,612 b	1,012 c	711 c
Paid workers		6,319 a	520 c	1,793 b	2,437 b	926 b	643 c
Men		4,158 a	349 b	1,208 b	1,602 b	583 b	416 c
Women		2,161 b	171 d	585 c	835 c	343 c	227 d
Unemployed		353 d	42 e	126 e	91 e	45 e	49 e
Men		284 d	38 e	100 e	65 e	40 f	41 e
Women		69 e	4 f	26 f	26 f	5 g	8 g
Not in the labour force		6,356 a	683 b	1,880 b	2,157 b	1,022 b	614 c
Men		1,694 b	209 c	496 c	544 c	276 c	169 c
Women		4,662 a	474 b	1,384 b	1,613 b	746 b	445 c
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Employed	1967, December 9	7,344 a	596 b	2,044 b	2,749 b	1,226 b	729 b
	November 11	7,409	613	2,081	2,748	1,230	737
	1966, December 10	7,173	583	2,034	2,674	1,205	677
	November 12	7,190	592	2,045	2,660	1,207	686
	1965, December 11	6,933	574	1,945	2,581	1,186	647
	November 13	6,939	580	1,945	2,572	1,197	645
Unemployed	1967, December 9	353 d	42 e	126 e	91 e	45 e	49 e
	November 11	289	36	101	77	32	43
	1966, December 10	266	36	93	65	32	40
	November 12	238	31	86	60	26	35
	1965, December 11	252	44	97	60	29	22
	November 13	220	29	93	49	24	25

(1) "S.D." = Standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8.

Note: The alphabetic symbol following each estimate in table 8 indicates its standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8.



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Reliability of Estimates

(a) Sampling Error

The estimates in this report are based on a sample of households. Somewhat different figures might have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same questionnaires, enumerators, supervisors, processing, etc. as those actually used in the Labour Force Survey. This difference is called the sampling error of the estimates. In the design and processing of the Labour Force Survey extensive efforts have been made to minimize the sampling error. The sampling error (expressed as a per cent of the estimate it refers to) is not the same for all estimates; of two estimates the larger one will likely have a smaller per cent sampling error and of two estimates of the same size the one referring to a characteristic more evenly distributed across the country will tend to have a smaller per cent sampling variability. Also, estimates relating to age and sex are usually more reliable than other estimates of comparable size.

(b) Non-sampling Errors

Errors, which are not related to sampling, may occur at almost every phase of a survey operation. Enumerators may misunderstand instructions, respondents may make errors in answering questions, the answers may be incorrectly entered on the questionnaires and errors may be introduced in the processing and tabulations of the data. All these errors are called non-sampling errors. Some of the non-sampling errors will usually balance out over a large number of observations but systematically occurring errors will contribute to biases. Non-sampling errors can be reduced by a careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of enumerators and a thorough control of the processing operation. In general, the more personal and more subjective inquiries are subject to larger errors. Also, data referring to persons with less stable labour force status will have relatively large non-sampling errors.

(c) Alphabetic Indicators of Standard Deviation

The sampling error, as described under (a) is not known. A quantity, called the standard deviation, can however be estimated from sample data itself. The standard deviation of an estimate is a statistical measure of its sampling error. It also partially measures the effect on non-sampling errors, but does not reflect any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that the difference between a sample estimate and the corresponding census figure would be less than the standard deviation. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard deviation and about 99 out of 100 that it would be less than 2 1/2 times as large.

The standard deviations of the estimates, expressed as a per cent of the estimates, are indicated by letters. The letter "a" indicates that the standard deviation is smaller

than 0.5% of the estimate, the letter "b" indicates that the standard deviation is between 0.6% and 1.0% of the estimate and so on as shown in the table below.

Alphabetic designation of per cent standard deviations

Alphabetic indicator	Per cent standard deviation
a	0.0% - 0.5%
b	0.6% - 1.0%
c	1.1% - 2.5%
d	2.6% - 5.0%
e	5.1% - 10.0%
f	10.1% - 15.0%
g	15.1% -

The actual standard deviation of an estimate is not the same each month. Since the standard deviations of the current estimates are not available at the time when this report is published, the alphabetic indicators are based on the average standard deviations during the last year. They should, therefore, be interpreted only as indications of the order of magnitude of the standard deviations.

(d) Standard Deviation of Month-to-Month Changes

A rough upper limit for the standard deviation of the difference (change) between two estimates referring to two months up to a year apart may also be indicated using the table above. For most characteristics published in this report the standard deviation of the difference between two estimates is likely to be somewhat smaller than the standard deviation of the smaller of the two estimates or in the immediately preceding range.

For example, suppose that a hypothetical estimate in May and June was 513,000 and 625,000 respectively and the per cent standard deviation of both estimates was indicated by the letter "c", i.e. it was between 1.1% and 2.5%. The difference between the May and June estimates (112,000) would, therefore, have a standard deviation which would likely be smaller than 2.5% of 513,000, i.e. it would likely be smaller than 12,800.

(e) Current Estimates of Standard Deviations

Standard deviations are computed monthly for several estimates and month-to-month changes. These are available usually in a few weeks after the publication of this report and can be obtained on request. Beginning with 1966, an annual report on the standard deviations during the last year will be released.