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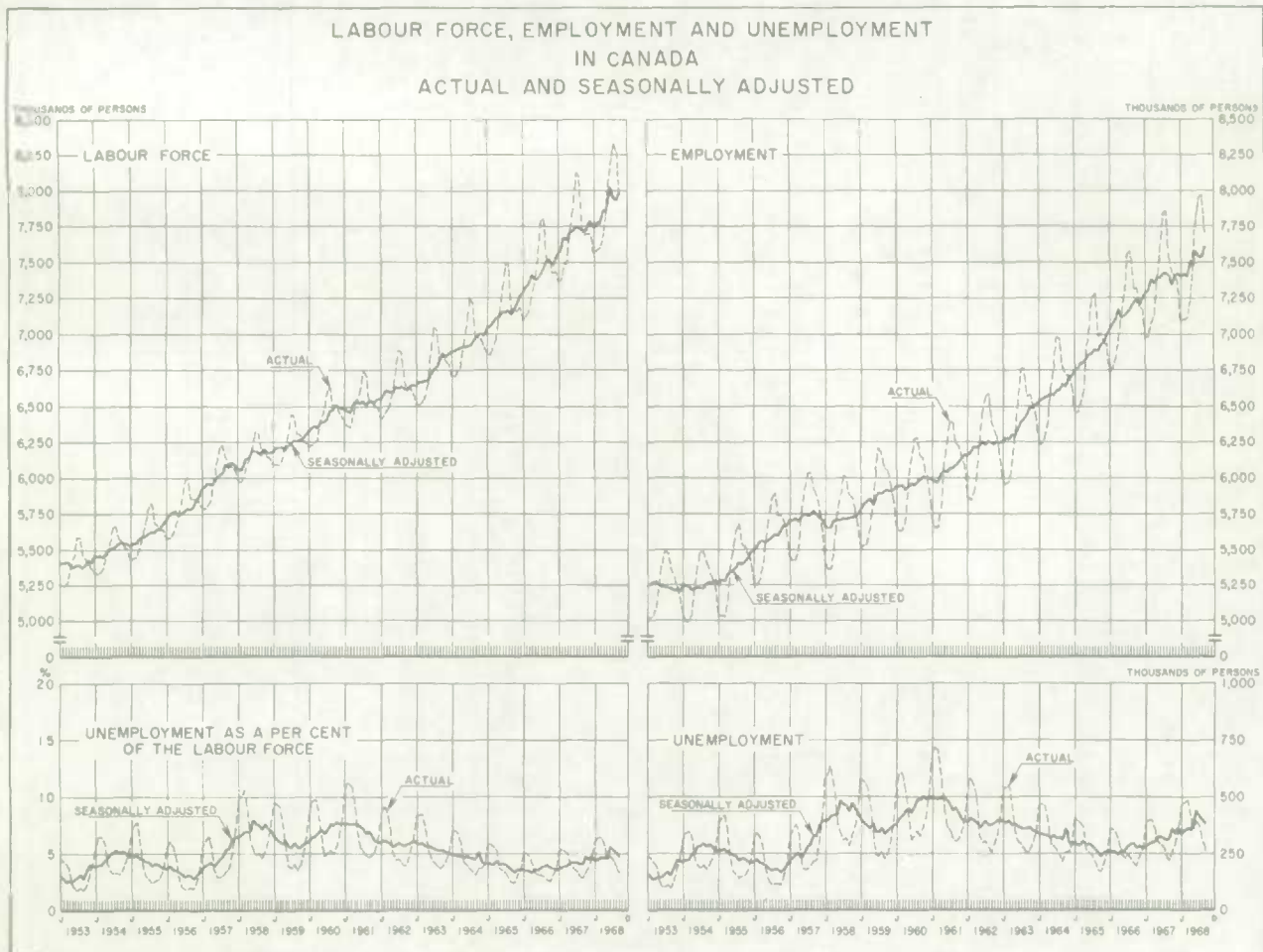
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THE LABOUR FORCE

SEPTEMBER 1968

In the week ended September 21, 1968, the Canadian labour force was estimated at 7,971,000. Of this total, 7,709,000 persons were employed for all or part of the week and 262,000 were unemployed for the entire week. Reflecting the return to school of students from summer employment, the labour force decreased by 313,000 between August and September. Employment in September was 256,000 lower and unemployment 57,000 lower than in August. In September 1968, the labour force was 241,000 higher than a year earlier, employment and unemployment being higher by 198,000 and 43,000, respectively.

Between August and September, employment declined by 208,000 in nonagricultural industries and by 48,000 in agriculture. Compared to September 1967, nonagricultural employment was 228,000 higher and employment in agriculture 30,000 lower. Men accounted for virtually all of the decrease in total employment between August and September. From September 1967, the number of men employed increased by 75,000 and the number of women by 123,000.

Expressed as a percentage of the labour force, the unemployment rate in September was 3.3 compared with 3.9 in August this year and 2.8 in September last year. Seasonally adjusted, the unemployment rate in September 1968 was 4.8.

LABOUR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
IN CANADA
ACTUAL AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Special Surveys Division

The Unemployed by Occupation and Industry

3rd Quarter 1968

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 third quarter of 1968, with comparative data for the first two quarters of 1968 and the two last quarters of 1967, 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)				
	1968			1967		1968			1967	
	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.	3rd quar.	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.	3rd quar.
All occupations	100	100	100	100	100	3.9	5.0	6.3	3.9	3.1
Office and professional(2)	19	17	16	18	19	1.8	2.0	2.3	1.6	1.4
Transportation	4	5	7	5	5	3.7	5.5	9.4	4.4	3.2
Service and recreation	12	11	8	10	11	3.8	4.6	4.4	3.4	2.9
Primary(3)	7	8	10	9	6	2.7	4.3	8.0	3.9	1.6
Craftsmen, production process and related workers	26	32	38	35	30	4.0	6.2	9.1	5.2	3.7
Labourers(4)	12	14	16	14	12	9.4	15.1	22.4	12.5	7.4
Never worked(5)	19	13	4	8	17	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total unemployed(000's)	317	399	478	299	250					

Table 2 Industry group	Percentage distribution of the unemployed (quarterly averages)					Unemployment rates(1) (quarterly averages)				
	1968			1967		1968			1967	
	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.	3rd quar.	3rd quar.	2nd quar.	1st quar.	4th quar.	3rd quar.
All industries	100	100	100	100	100	3.9	5.0	6.3	3.9	3.1
Primary industries(6)	8	9	12	10	7	2.6	4.5	7.9	3.8	1.8
Manufacturing	20	23	23	25	24	3.4	4.9	6.1	4.1	3.2
Construction	12	17	23	18	15	6.8	12.6	21.8	10.1	6.5
Transportation and other utilities(7)	7	8	10	8	7	2.9	4.3	6.9	3.7	2.4
Trade	12	11	11	10	11	2.8	3.5	4.2	2.4	2.1
Service(8)	23	19	17	20	20	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.3	2.0
Never worked(5)	19	13	4	8	17	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total unemployed(000's)	317	399	478	299	250					

(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.

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 30,000 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 (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 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.

(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 1 Summary	S.D. (1)	1968		1967		1966	
		Sept. 21	August 24	Sept. 16	August 19	Sept. 17	August 20
Total							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		14,349	14,316	13,963	13,931	13,555	13,524
Labour force	a	7,971	8,284	7,730	8,101	7,516	7,805
Employed	a	7,709	7,965	7,511	7,854	7,311	7,577
Agriculture	d	605	653	635	705	603	649
Non-agriculture	a	7,104	7,312	6,876	7,149	6,708	6,928
Unemployed	d	262	319	219	247	205	228
Not in the labour force	a	6,378	6,032	6,233	5,830	6,039	5,719
Participation rate (3)	a	55.6	57.9	55.4	58.2	55.4	57.7
Unemployment rate (4)							
Actual	d	3.3	3.9	2.8	3.0	2.7	2.9
Seasonally adjusted		4.8	5.1	4.1	4.0	4.0^r	3.9
Men							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,113	7,096	6,921	6,905	6,719	6,703
Labour force	a	5,440	5,741	5,335	5,652	5,204	5,477
Employed	a	5,258	5,515	5,183	5,470	5,061	5,315
Agriculture	d	505	558	532	596	510	563
Non-agriculture	a	4,753	4,957	4,651	4,874	4,551	4,752
Unemployed	d	182	226	152	182	143	162
Not in the labour force	b	1,673	1,355	1,586	1,253	1,515	1,226
Participation rate (3)	a	76.5	80.9	77.1	81.9	77.5	81.7
Unemployment rate (4)	d	3.3	3.9	2.8	3.2	2.7	3.0
Women							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,236	7,220	7,042	7,026	6,836	6,821
Labour force	b	2,531	2,543	2,395	2,449	2,312	2,328
Employed	b	2,451	2,450	2,328	2,384	2,250	2,262
Agriculture	e	100	95	103	109	93	86
Non-agriculture	b	2,351	2,355	2,225	2,275	2,157	2,176
Unemployed	e	80	93	67	65	62	66
Not in the labour force	a	4,705	4,677	4,647	4,577	4,524	4,493
Participation rate (3)	b	35.0	35.2	34.0	34.9	33.8	34.1
Unemployment rate (4)	e	3.2	3.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8

(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 September 21, 1968	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)	14,349	2,379	4,092 a	1,110 b	4,180 a	1,078 c	1,510
Labour force	7,971 a	764 c	3,936 a	903 c	1,384 c	755 c	229 d
Employed	7,709 a	699 c	3,849 a	851 c	1,355 c	733 c	222 d
Unemployed	262 d	65 e	87 d	52 e	29 f	22 f	7 g
Not in the labour force	6,378 a	1,615 b	156 d	207 d	2,796 b	323 d	1,281 a
Participation rate (3) - 1968, Sept. 21	55.6 a	32.1 c	96.2 a	81.4 a	33.1 c	70.0 b	15.2 d
Aug. 24	57.9	46.3	96.5	88.4	31.0	70.0	14.9
Unemployment rate (4) - 1968, Sept. 21	3.3 d	8.5 e	2.2 d	5.8 e	2.1 f	2.9 f	3.1 g
Aug. 24	3.9	8.1	2.6	6.6	2.2	3.6	2.7

(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)

Table 4 Summary	S.D. (1)	1968 Sept. 21	1968 August 24	1967 Sept. 16	1967 August 19	1966 Sept. 17	1966 August 20
Total employed	a	7,709	7,965	7,511	7,854	7,311	7,577
Agriculture	d	605	653	635	705	603	649
Non-agriculture	a	7,104	7,312	6,876	7,149	6,708	6,928
Employed, non-agriculture	a	7,104	7,312	6,876	7,149	6,708	6,928
Usually work 35 hours or more	a	6,381	6,706	6,267	6,592	6,113	6,414
At work 35 hours or more	a	5,884	5,544	5,746	5,494	5,609	5,398
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	c	497	1,162	521	1,098	504	1,016
Due to economic reasons(2)	e	65	79	71	84	48	63
Due to other reasons(3)	c	432	1,083	450	1,014	456	953
Usually work less than 35 hours	c	723	606	609	557	595	514

Table 5 Industry	S.D. (1)	1968 Sept. 21	1968 August 24	1967 Sept. 16	1967 August 19	1966 Sept. 17	1966 August 20
Total employed	a	7,709	7,965	7,511	7,854	7,311	7,577
Agriculture	d	605	653	635	705	603	649
Other primary industries	d	235	249	237	243	231	249
Manufacturing	c	1,805	1,835	1,749	1,828	1,778	1,839
Construction	c	513	546	527	538	526	575
Transportation and other utilities	c	682	702	669	698	643	656
Trade	c	1,238	1,297	1,206	1,295	1,159	1,217
Finance, insurance, real estate	d	317	335	314	312	299	310
Community, personal, other services	c	1,858	1,860	1,733	1,761	1,659	1,639
Public administration	c	456	488	441	474	413	443

Note: Since late 1962, statistics in Table 5 have been published on a 3-month average basis. However since January 1966, it has been possible to provide monthly estimates of the employed by industry. Accordingly, beginning with the February 1968 report, the statistics in Table 5 refer to the monthly reference periods. Industry estimates on the 3-month average basis are available on request from the Special Surveys Division.

Table 6 Class of worker, agriculture and non-agriculture, and sex Week ended September 21, 1968	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	7,709 a	6,631 a	522 c	347 c	209 d
Agriculture	605 d	128 e	271 d	62 f	144 e
Non-agriculture	7,104 a	6,503 a	251 d	285 d	65 e
Men	5,258 a	4,398 a	457 c	318 c	85 d
Agriculture	505 d	103 e	266 d	59 f	77 e
Non-agriculture	4,753 a	4,295 a	191 d	259 d	8 f
Women	2,451 b	2,233 b	65 e	29 e	124 d
Agriculture	100 e	25 f	5 g	3 g	67 e
Non-agriculture	2,351 b	2,208 b	60 e	26 e	57 e

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

(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 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)	1968		1967		1966	
		Sept. 21	August 24	Sept. 16	August 19	Sept. 17	August 20
Total unemployed	d	262	319	219	247	205	228
Without work and seeking work	d	249	300	206	228	196	210
Seeking full-time work	d	234	275	194	210	182	195
Seeking part-time work	f	15	25	12	18	14	15
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	f	13	19	13	19	9	18
Without work and seeking work	d	249	300	206	228	196	210
Seeking under 1 month	d	83	82	76	76	80	70
Seeking 1-3 months	d	91	131	73	98	73	97
Seeking 4-6 months	e	38	38	29	25	21	18
Seeking more than 6 months	e	37	49	28	29	22	25

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended September 21, 1968	Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over	14,349	1,340	4,127	5,115	2,333	1,434
Men	7,113	664	2,036	2,524	1,177	712
Women	7,236	676	2,091	2,591	1,156	722
Labour force	7,971 a	658 b	2,250 b	2,932 a	1,337 b	794 b
Men	5,440 a	456 b	1,559 a	1,968 a	916 a	541 b
Women	2,531 b	202 c	691 c	964 c	421 c	253 d
Employed	7,709 a	630 b	2,151 b	2,859 a	1,311 b	758 b
Men	5,258 a	433 b	1,482 b	1,923 a	901 b	519 b
Women	2,451 b	197 c	669 c	936 c	410 c	239 d
Agriculture	605 d	35 e	139 e	160 e	244 d	27 f
Non-agriculture	7,104 a	595 b	2,012 b	2,699 b	1,067 c	731 c
Paid workers	6,631 a	549 c	1,871 b	2,529 b	1,006 b	676 c
Men	4,398 a	370 c	1,268 b	1,669 b	638 b	453 b
Women	2,233 b	179 c	603 c	860 c	368 c	223 d
Unemployed	262 d	28 e	99 e	73 e	26 e	36 e
Men	182 d	23 e	77 e	45 e	15 e	22 e
Women	80 e	5 f	22 f	28 e	11 g	14 f
Not in the labour force	6,378 a	682 b	1,877 b	2,183 b	996 b	640 c
Men	1,673 b	208 c	477 c	556 c	261 c	171 c
Women	4,705 a	474 b	1,400 b	1,627 b	735 b	469 c
Employed - 1968, September 21	7,709 a	630 b	2,151 b	2,859 a	1,311 b	758 b
August 24	7,965	647	2,203	2,981	1,346	788
1967, September 16	7,511	622	2,124	2,763	1,262	740
August 19	7,854	645	2,237	2,903	1,309	760
1966, September 17	7,311	615	2,062	2,675	1,262	697
August 20	7,577	638	2,129	2,794	1,292	724
Unemployed 1968, September 21	262 d	28 e	99 e	73 e	26 e	36 e
August 24	319	35	124	89	31	40
1967, September 16	219	24	84	64	20	27
August 19	247	26	86	86	19	30
1966, September 17	205	27	75	58	16	29
August 20	228	26	83	75	17	27

(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.

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 occuring 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 aeveral 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.