

THE LABOUR FORCE

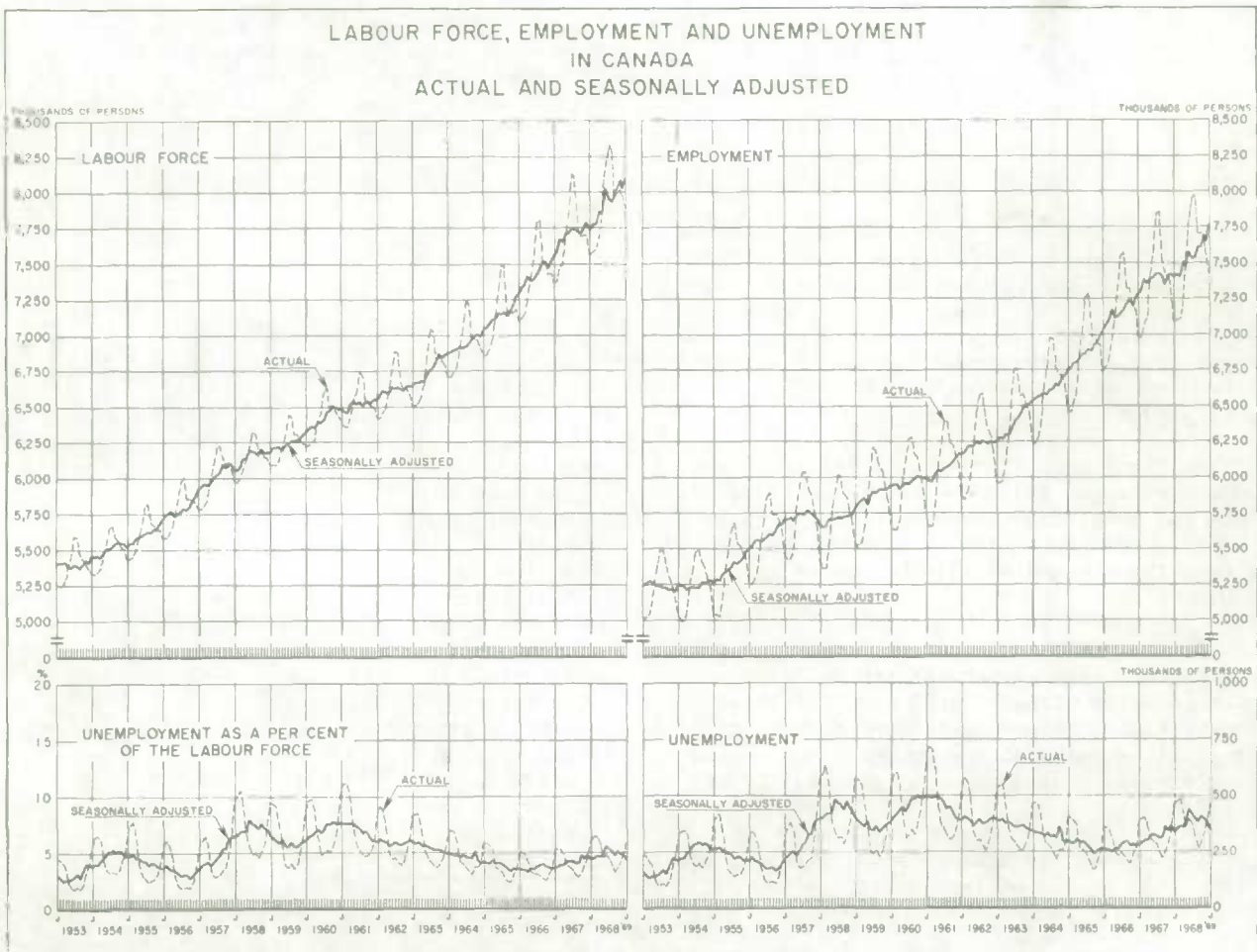
JANUARY 1969

The Canadian labour force was estimated at 7,891,000 in the week ended January 18, 1969. Of this total, 7,424,000 were employed for all or part of the week and 467,000 were unemployed for the whole week. The labour force declined by 49,000 from December; employment decreased by 143,000 and unemployment increased by 94,000. In January 1969, the labour force was 327,000 higher than in January 1968; the number of employed persons was up by 324,000 and the number of unemployed was about the same.

Of the decrease in employment from December, nonagricultural industries accounted for 127,000 and agriculture for 16,000. Compared

with a year earlier, nonagricultural employment in January 1969 was higher by 332,000; employment in agriculture showed little change. From December, there was a decrease of 82,000 in employed men and of 61,000 in employed women. There were 192,000 more men and 132,000 more women employed in January 1969 than in January 1968.

The unemployment rate, expressed as a percentage of the labour force, was 5.9 in January 1969, compared with 4.7 in December 1968 and 6.1 in January 1968. Seasonally adjusted, the unemployment rate was 4.3 in January 1969.



Fourth Quarter Review of the Labour Force
1967-1968

In the fourth quarter of 1968, the labour force was 288,000 greater than in the fourth quarter of 1967; employment and unemployment were higher by 253,000 and 34,000, respectively.

Fourth Quarter Averages
(000's)

	1968	1967
Labour Force	7,983	7,695
Employed	7,650	7,397
Unemployed	333	299

The labour force experienced a rapid expansion in the fourth quarter of 1968, following a relatively slower pace during the rest of the year. The year-to-year increase of 3.7 per cent in the fourth quarter compares with corresponding percentage gains of 2.6, 3.0 and 2.4 of the three preceding quarters.

Year-to-year Percentage Increase
in the Labour Force

	1967-1968					Average annual Increase 1962-1967
	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Cal. Year	
Both Sexes	2.4	3.0	2.6	3.7	2.9	3.0
Men	1.6	2.6	1.8	2.6	2.1	2.0
Women	4.3	3.8	4.4	6.2	4.7	5.5

For the year as a whole, the labour force averaged 7,919,000, 225,000 more than in 1967. The increase of 2.9 per cent was about the same as the annual average increase of the preceding five years, as was the year-to-year increase of 2.1 per cent for men. However, the increase of 4.7 per cent for women was somewhat lower than the five-year average.

In the fourth quarter of 1968, total employment averaged 7,650,000, a rise of 253,000, or 3.4 per cent, from the corresponding quarter of 1967. Employment rose by 118,000, or 2.3 per cent for men and by 135,000 or 5.8 per cent for women.

There were sizable percentage increases in employment from a year earlier in Prairie region (5.8) in Ontario (4.9) and in British Columbia (3.7). Quebec experienced a relatively small increase of 1.4 per cent and in the Atlantic region there was a slight decline of 1.6 per cent.

Employment was higher in the fourth quarter of 1968 than in the corresponding quarter of 1967 by 216,000 in the service-producing industries; men accounting for 87,000 and women for 129,000 of this increase. The largest year-to-year gains (52,000 for men and 71,000 for women)

were in community, personal and other services. In the goods-producing sector, employment was higher than a year earlier in manufacturing (45,000) and in construction (15,000). Employment declined by 20,000 in agriculture but was virtually unchanged in other primary industries.

Employment by Industry Sector and Sex

	Fourth Quarter averages (000's)		Year-to-year Increase (000's) %	
	1968	1967		
	Goods-producing	3,012	2,975	37
Men	2,524	2,493	31	1.2
Women	488	482	6	1.2
Service-producing	4,638	4,422	216	4.9
Men	2,649	2,562	87	3.4
Women	1,989	1,860	129	6.9

There was a decline in employment of 44,000 in the primary occupations between the fourth quarter of 1967 and the fourth quarter of 1968. Farmers and farm workers accounted for 26,000 of this decrease. There was little change in employment from a year earlier in transportation and communication occupations and among craftsmen, production process and related workers. Moderate to substantial gains were experienced by all the other groups ranging between 2.1 per cent for sales occupations and 10.3 per cent for the professional and technical group.

Employment by Occupation

	Fourth Quarter Averages (000's)		Year-to-year Change (000's) %	
	1968	1967		
	All occupations	7,650	7,397	+ 253
Managerial	741	690	+ 51	+ 7.4
Professional and technical	1,032	936	+ 96	+ 10.3
Clerical	1,110	1,050	+ 60	+ 5.7
Sales	530	519	+ 11	+ 2.1
Service and recreation	931	879	+ 52	+ 5.9
Transport and communication	414	408	+ 6	+ 1.5
Primary(1)	652	696	- 44	- 6.3
Craftsmen, production process and related workers	1,931	1,925	+ 6	+ 0.3
Labourers and unskilled workers(2)	309	294	+ 15	+ 5.1

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

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

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.

Canada, Labour Force

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(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)	1969	1968		1967		1966
		Jan. 18	Dec. 14	Jan. 13	Dec. 9	Jan. 14	Dec. 10
<u>Total</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		14,470	14,435	14,086	14,053	13,680	13,648
Labour force	a	7,891	7,940	7,564	7,697	7,364	7,439
Employed	a	7,424	7,567	7,100	7,344	6,983	7,173
Agriculture	d	451	467	459	487	451	485
Non-agriculture	a	6,973	7,100	6,641	6,857	6,532	6,688
Unemployed	d	467	373	464	353	381	266
Not in the labour force	a	6,579	6,495	6,522	6,356	6,316	6,209
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Participation rate (3)	a	54.5	55.0	53.7	54.8	53.8	54.5
Unemployment rate (4)							
Actual	d	5.9	4.7	6.1	4.6	5.2	3.6
Seasonally adjusted		4.3	4.8	4.4	4.7	3.7	3.6
<hr/>							
<u>Men</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,173	7,156	6,980	6,965	6,780	6,765
Labour force	a	5,393	5,401	5,217	5,271	5,144	5,168
Employed	a	5,025	5,107	4,833	4,987	4,831	4,955
Agriculture	d	403	412	418	432	404	437
Non-agriculture	a	4,622	4,695	4,415	4,555	4,427	4,518
Unemployed	d	368	294	384	284	313	213
Not in the labour force	b	1,780	1,755	1,763	1,694	1,636	1,597
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Participation rate (3)	a	75.2	75.5	74.7	75.7	75.9	76.4
Unemployment rate (4)	d	6.8	5.4	7.4	5.4	6.1	4.1
<hr/>							
<u>Women</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,297	7,279	7,106	7,088	6,900	6,883
Labour force	b	2,498	2,539	2,347	2,426	2,220	2,271
Employed	b	2,399	2,460	2,267	2,357	2,152	2,218
Agriculture	e	48	55	41	55	47	48
Non-agriculture	b	2,351	2,405	2,226	2,302	2,105	2,170
Unemployed	e	99	79	80	69	68	53
Not in the labour force	a	4,799	4,740	4,759	4,662	4,680	4,612
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Participation rate (3)	b	34.2	34.9	33.0	34.2	32.2	33.0
Unemployment rate (4)	e	4.0	3.1	3.4	2.8	3.1	2.3

(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.

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)	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	
Population 14 years of age and over (2)			14,264	13,874	13,475	13,128	12,817	12,536	12,280	12,053	11,831	11,605	11,388	
Labour force	a		7,919	7,694	7,420	7,141	6,933	6,748	6,615	6,521	6,411	6,242	6,137	
Employed	a		7,537	7,379	7,152	6,862	6,609	6,375	6,225	6,055	5,965	5,870	5,706	
Agriculture	d		546	559	544	594	630	649	660	681	683	700	718	
Non-agriculture	a		6,992	6,820	6,609	6,268	5,979	5,726	5,565	5,374	5,282	5,170	4,988	
Unemployed	d		382	315	267	280	324	374	390	466	446	372	432	
Not in the labour force	a		6,344	6,179	6,055	5,986	5,884	5,787	5,665	5,531	5,420	5,363	5,250	
Participation rate(3)	a		55.5	55.5	55.1	54.4	54.1	53.8	53.9	54.1	54.2	53.8	53.9	
Unemployment rate (4)	d		4.8	4.1	3.6	3.9	4.7	5.5	5.9	7.1	7.0	6.0	7.0	
			1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Population 14 years of age and over (2)			11,123	10,807	10,597	10,391	10,164	9,956	9,732	9,615	9,268	9,141	9,007	8,779
Labour force			6,008	5,782	5,610	5,493	5,397	5,324	5,223	5,163	5,055	4,988	4,942	4,829
Employed			5,731	5,585	5,364	5,243	5,235	5,169	5,097	4,976	4,913	4,875	4,832	4,666
Agriculture			748	777	819	878	858	891	939	1,018	1,077	1,096	1,122	1,186
Non-agriculture			4,983	4,808	4,546	4,365	4,377	4,278	4,158	3,958	3,837	3,779	3,711	3,480
Unemployed			278	197	245	250	162	155	126	186	141	114	110	163
Not in the labour force			5,115	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)			54.0	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)			4.6	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 January 18, 1969	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)	14,470	2,399	4,116 a	1,131 b	4,220 a	1,083 c	1,521
Labour force	7,891 a	724 c	3,919 a	907 c	1,380 c	751 c	210 d
Employed	7,424 a	632 c	3,726 a	808 c	1,336 c	726 c	196 d
Unemployed	467 d	92 e	193 d	99 e	44 f	25 f	14 g
Not in the labour force	6,579 a	1,675 b	197 d	224 d	2,840 b	332 d	1,311 a
Participation rate (3) - 1969, Jan. 18	54.5 a	30.2 c	95.2 a	80.2 a	32.7 c	69.3 b	13.8 d
1968, Dec. 14	55.0	32.1	95.3	80.1	32.9	69.8	14.6
Unemployment rate (4) - 1969, Jan. 18	5.9 d	12.7 e	4.9 d	10.9 e	3.2 f	3.3 f	6.7 g
1968, Dec. 14	4.7	9.1	3.9	9.0	2.4	3.1	5.9

(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

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(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)	1969		1968		1967		1966
		Jan. 18	Dec. 14	Jan. 13	Dec. 9	Jan. 14	Dec. 10	
Total employed	a	7,424	7,567	7,100	7,344	6,983	7,173	
Agriculture	d	451	467	459	487	451	485	
Non-agriculture	a	6,973	7,100	6,641	6,857	6,532	6,688	
Employed, non-agriculture	a	6,973	7,100	6,641	6,857	6,532	6,688	
Usually work 35 hours or more	a	6,174	6,248	5,965	6,125	5,917	6,043	
At work 35 hours or more	a	5,600	5,769	5,344	5,641	5,497	5,570	
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	c	574	479	621	484	420	473	
Due to economic reasons(2)	e	77	80	79	73	68	64	
Due to other reasons(3)	c	497	399	542	411	352	409	
Usually work less than 35 hours	c	799	852	676	732	615	645	

Table 5 Industry	S.D. (1)	1969		1968		1967		1966
		Jan. 18	Dec. 14	Jan. 13	Dec. 9	Jan. 14	Dec. 10	
Total employed	a	7,424	7,567	7,100	7,344	6,983	7,173	
Agriculture	d	451	467	459	487	451	485	
Other primary industries	d	202	219	208	227	209	226	
Manufacturing	c	1,764	1,765	1,658	1,712	1,711	1,757	
Construction	c	431	466	401	452	437	470	
Transportation and other utilities	c	646	675	649	657	641	646	
Trade	c	1,267	1,314	1,205	1,287	1,186	1,228	
Finance, insurance, real estate	d	336	331	320	319	304	302	
Community, personal, other services	c	1,858	1,873	1,768	1,769	1,632	1,649	
Public administration	c	469	457	432	434	412	410	

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 January 18, 1969	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	7,424 a	6,452 a	510 c	308 c	154 d
Agriculture	451 d	72 e	261 d	25 f	93 e
Non-agriculture	6,973 a	6,380 a	249 d	283 d	61 e
Men	5,025 a	4,238 a	437 c	278 c	72 d
Agriculture	403 d	60 e	256 d	24 f	63 e
Non-agriculture	4,622 a	4,178 a	181 d	254 d	9 f
Women	2,399 b	2,214 b	73 e	30 e	82 d
Agriculture	48 e	12 f	5 g	1 g	30 e
Non-agriculture	2,351 b	2,202 b	68 e	29 e	52 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 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.

Canada, Unemployed
and
Regions, Labour Force

(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 7 Unemployed	S.D. (1)	1969	1968		1967		1966
		Jan. 18	Dec. 14	Jan. 13	Dec. 9	Jan. 14	Dec. 10
Total unemployed	d	467	373	464	353	381	266
Without work and seeking work	d	429	343	417	326	342	243
Seeking full-time work	d	408	320	400	312	330	233
Seeking part-time work	f	21	23	17	14	12	10
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	f	38	30	47	27	39	23

Without work and seeking work	d	429	343	417	326	342	243
Seeking under 1 month	d	124	110	134	116	127	91
Seeking 1-3 months	d	185	142	195	135	153	101
Seeking 4-6 months	e	58	47	51	42	36	28
Seeking more than 6 months	e	62	44	37	33	26	23

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended January 18, 1969	Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over	14,470	1,349	4,157	5,162	2,351	1,451
Men	7,173	668	2,051	2,547	1,186	721
Women	7,297	681	2,106	2,615	1,165	730
Labour force	7,891 a	626 b	2,221 b	2,947 a	1,309 b	788 b
Men	5,393 a	433 b	1,548 a	1,983 a	892 a	537 b
Women	2,498 b	193 c	673 c	964 c	417 c	251 d
Employed	7,424 a	563 b	2,034 b	2,836 a	1,256 b	735 b
Men	5,025 a	378 b	1,396 b	1,904 a	849 b	498 b
Women	2,399 b	185 c	638 c	932 c	407 c	237 d
Agriculture	451 d	22 e	90 e	123 e	201 d	15 f
Non-agriculture	6,973 a	541 b	1,944 b	2,713 b	1,055 c	720 c
Paid workers	6,452 a	493 c	1,787 b	2,537 b	973 b	662 c
Men	4,238 a	325 c	1,202 b	1,666 b	605 b	440 b
Women	2,214 b	168 c	585 c	871 c	368 c	222 d
Unemployed	467 d	63 e	187 e	111 e	53 e	53 e
Men	368 d	55 e	152 e	79 e	43 e	39 e
Women	99 e	8 f	35 f	32 e	10 g	14 f
Not in the labour force	6,579 a	723 b	1,936 b	2,215 b	1,042 b	663 c
Men	1,780 b	235 c	503 c	564 c	294 c	184 c
Women	4,799 a	488 b	1,433 b	1,651 b	748 b	479 c

Employed 1969 January 18	7,424 a	563 b	2,034 b	2,836 a	1,256 b	735 b
1968 December 14	7,567	588	2,069	2,852	1,286	772
1968 January 13	7,100	548	1,970	2,684	1,196	702
1967 December 9	7,344	596	2,044	2,749	1,226	729
1967 January 14	6,983	538	1,981	2,616	1,177	671
1966 December 10	7,173	583	2,034	2,674	1,205	677
Unemployed 1969 January 18	467 d	63 e	187 e	111 e	53 e	53 e
1968 December 14	373	45	152	87	45	44
1968 January 13	464	67	166	120	52	59
1967 December 9	353	42	126	91	45	49
1967 January 14	381	59	133	102	38	49
1966 December 10	266	36	93	65	32	40

(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.

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% -

(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.

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.

(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.

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.

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

Fourth Quarter Review of the Labour Force 1967-1968 (continued from page 2)

Total unemployment averaged 333,000 in the fourth quarter of 1968, an increase of 34,000 from the fourth quarter of 1967. Men accounted for 21,000 of this increase. Unemployed persons comprised 4.2 per cent of the labour force compared with 3.9 per cent a year earlier; the unemployment rate was higher for both men and women.

Comparing fourth quarters, unemployment rates were higher in 1968 than in 1967 in the Atlantic region and in Quebec. There was not much change in the rates in the other regions.

Unemployment Rates by Region
Fourth Quarter Averages

Unemployment and Unemployment Rates by Sex
Fourth Quarter Averages

	Unemployment		Unemployment Rates	
	(000's)		%	
	1968	1967	1968	1967
Total	333	299	4.2	3.9
Men	253	232	4.7	4.4
Women	80	67	3.1	2.8

	1968	1967
Canada	4.2	3.9
Atlantic	6.2	5.4
Quebec	6.0	5.0
Ontario	2.7	2.8
Prairies	2.6	2.5
British Columbia	3.4	3.3