

CATALOGUE No.

71-001

MONTHLY

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

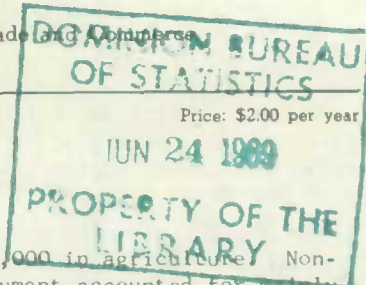
OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 25 - No. 5

THE LABOUR FORCE

MAY 1969

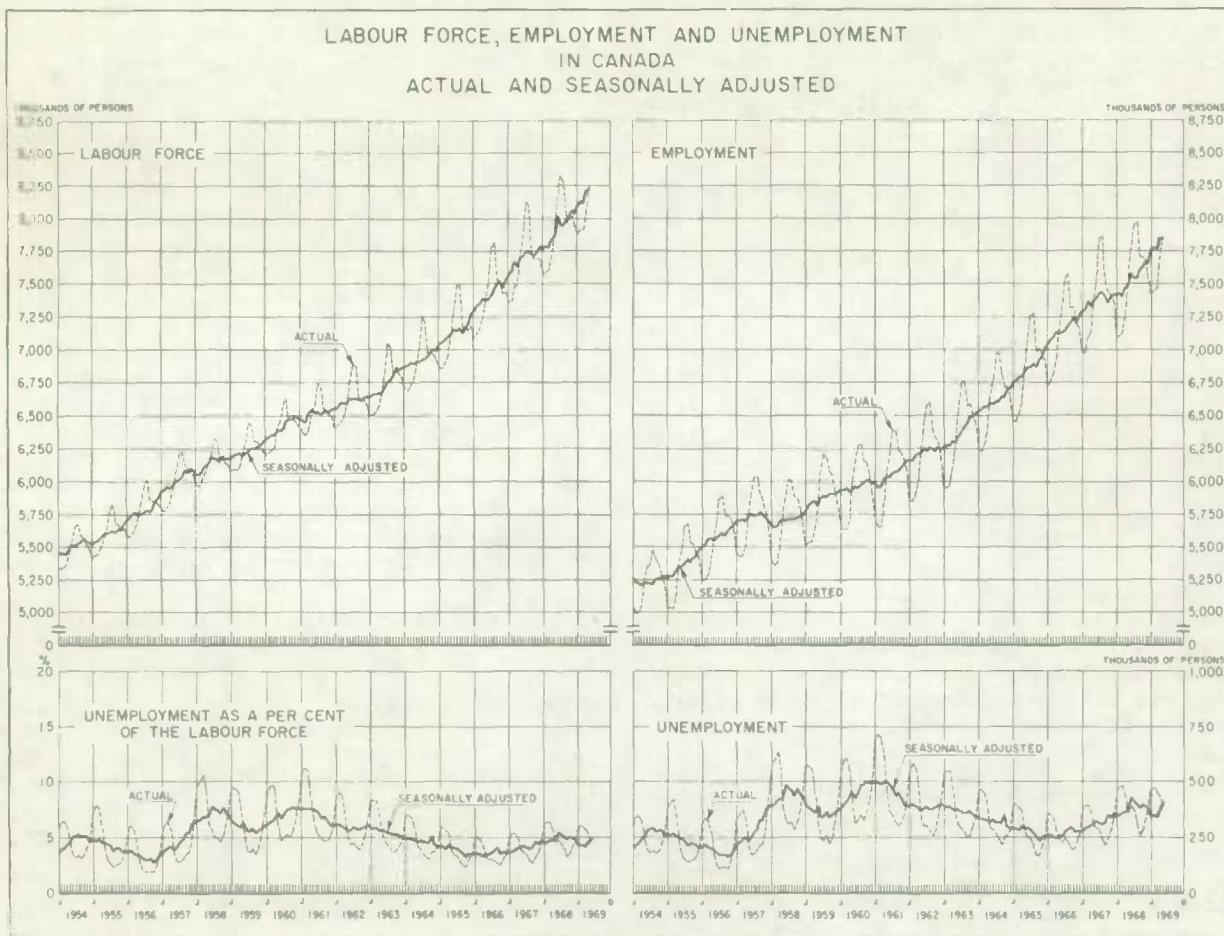


In the week ended May 24, 1969, the Canadian labour force was estimated at 8,248,000. This total included 7,862,000 persons employed for all or part of the week and 386,000 persons unemployed for the whole week. The labour force increased by 187,000 from April, the employed having increased by 233,000 and the unemployed having decreased by 46,000. Compared with May 1968, the labour force was higher by 377,000; the number of employed was up by 357,000 and the number of unemployed was higher by 20,000.

dustries and by 71,000 in agriculture. Non-agricultural employment accounted for mainly all of the year-to-year increase in total employment. Employment increased from April by 207,000 for men and by 26,000 for women. Compared with May 1968, there were 175,000 more men and 182,000 more women in employment.

Between April and May, employment increased by 162,000 in nonagricultural in-

Expressed as a percentage of the labour force, the unemployment rate was 4.7 in May, compared with 5.4 in April this year and 4.6 in May 1968. Seasonally adjusted, the unemployment rate was 4.9 in May, 1969.



The Labour Force, 1963-1968
(annual averages)

The number of persons in the Canadian labour force averaged 7,919,000 in 1968, an increase of 1,171,000, or 17.4 per cent from 1963. The growth in the total labour force during this interval was faster than any previous consecutive five-year period.

The male labour force at 5,443,000 in 1968, was 11.6 per cent larger and the female labour force at 2,476,000 was 32.4 per cent larger than in 1963. Women's share of the total labour force continues to rise. In 1968, the proportion of women in the labour force was 31.3 per cent compared with 27.7 per cent in 1963.

The Labour Force

	1968		1963	
	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%
Total	7,919	100.0	6,748	100.0
Men	5,443	68.7	4,879	72.3
Women	2,476	31.3	1,870	27.7

Shifts occurred in the age composition of the male labour force between 1963 and 1968. The relative increase in the labour force during the period was much greater among younger men, particularly for the group 20-24. Consequently the proportion of those under 25 years of age rose from 18.5 per cent to 21.4 per cent. There was little change in the number of men 65 years of age and over in the labour force.

Men in the Labour Force

Age Group	1968		1963		Per- centage Change
	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	
All ages	5,443	100.0	4,879	100.0	+ 11.6
14-19	471	8.7	386	7.9	+ 22.0
20-24	690	12.7	519	10.6	+ 32.9
25-44	2,432	44.7	2,288	46.9	+ 6.3
45-64	1,682	30.9	1,512	31.0	+ 11.2
65 +	170	3.1	174	3.6	- 2.3

The number of women in the labour force continued to expand between 1963 and 1968, but even more rapidly. All age groups experienced substantial increases. The dynamic rate of growth of 51.3 per cent among women 20-24 years of age, during the five-year interval, is a recent development.

Women in the Labour Force

Age Group	1968		1963		Per- centage Increase
	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	
All ages	2,476	100.0	1,870	100.0	32.4
14-19	363	14.7	286	15.3	26.9
20-24	475	19.2	314	16.8	51.3
25-44	923	37.3	734	39.3	25.7
45-64	665	26.9	494	26.4	34.6
65 +	48	1.9	42	2.2	14.3

For both men and women in the 20-24 age group, the relatively large increase in the labour force is attributable, in part, to the high birth rates following World War II. Women 65 years of age and over now account for less than 2 per cent of the total female labour force.

All regions contributed to the increase in the total labour force during the period 1963-1968, the largest relative gain occurring in British Columbia. The regional distribution of the labour force did not change appreciably during the period. Ontario and Quebec together continued to account for almost two-thirds of the total labour force.

The Regional Labour Force

	1968		1963		Per- centage Increase
	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	
Canada	7,919	100.0	6,748	100.0	17.4
Atlantic	643	8.1	577	8.6	11.4
Quebec	2,227	28.1	1,904	28.2	17.0
Ontario	2,934	37.1	2,476	36.7	18.5
Prairies	1,318	16.6	1,181	17.5	11.6
B.C.	797	10.1	610	9.0	30.7

The Canadian population 14 years of age and over rose by 1,728,000 between 1963 and 1968. This increase of 13.8 per cent was considerably lower than the corresponding increase in the total labour force. Consequently, the total participation rate rose from 53.8 per cent to 55.5 per cent. The increase in the male population of working age (13.8 per cent) was relatively higher than in the male labour force. As a result, the percentage of the male population in the labour force declined from 78.5 in 1963 to 77.0 in 1968. On the other hand, the increase in the female population (13.8 per cent) was substantially lower than the growth of the female labour force, resulting in a very substantial increase in the participation rate for women from 29.6 per cent to 34.4 per cent, during the period.

Labour Force Participation Rates (1)

	Total	Men	Women
1968	55.5	77.0	34.4
1967	55.5	77.5	33.8
1966	55.1	77.8	32.8
1965	54.4	77.9	31.3
1964	54.1	78.1	30.5
1963	53.8	78.5	29.6

(1) The percentage of the population in each group in the labour force.

The participation rate for men dropped from 78.5 to 77.0 between 1963 and 1968. This is a continuation of an almost uninterrupted decline in evidence since the beginning of the post-war

(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 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

- 4 -

(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	
		May 24	April 19	May 18	April 20	May 20	April 22
<u>Total</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		14,592	14,557	14,213	14,184	13,824	13,790
Labour force	a	8,248	8,061	7,871	7,712	7,713	7,490
Employed	a	7,862	7,629	7,505	7,276	7,409	7,125
Agriculture	d	592	521	584	533	600	504
Non-agriculture	a	7,270	7,108	6,921	6,743	6,809	6,621
Unemployed	d	386	432	366	436	304	365
Not in the labour force	a	6,344	6,496	6,342	6,472	6,111	6,300
<hr/>							
Participation rate (3)	a	56.5	55.4	55.4	54.4	55.8	54.3
Unemployment rate (4)							
Actual	d	4.7	5.4	4.6	5.7	3.9	4.9
Seasonally adjusted		4.9	4.4	4.9	4.7	4.2	4.0
<u>Men</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,233	7,215	7,045	7,029	6,852	6,835
Labour force	a	5,622	5,467	5,444	5,322	5,349	5,198
Employed	a	5,333	5,126	5,158	4,967	5,113	4,904
Agriculture	d	502	452	511	473	526	451
Non-agriculture	a	4,831	4,674	4,647	4,494	4,587	4,453
Unemployed	d	289	341	286	355	236	294
Not in the labour force	b	1,611	1,748	1,601	1,707	1,503	1,637
<hr/>							
Participation rate (3)	a	77.7	75.8	77.3	75.7	78.1	76.0
Unemployment rate (4)	d	5.1	6.2	5.3	6.7	4.4	5.7
<u>Women</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,359	7,342	7,168	7,155	6,972	6,955
Labour force	b	2,626	2,594	2,427	2,390	2,364	2,292
Employed	b	2,529	2,503	2,347	2,309	2,296	2,221
Agriculture	e	90	69	73	60	74	53
Non-agriculture	b	2,439	2,434	2,274	2,249	2,222	2,168
Unemployed	e	97	91	80	81	68	71
Not in the labour force	a	4,733	4,748	4,741	4,765	4,608	4,663
<hr/>							
Participation rate (3)	b	35.7	35.3	33.9	33.4	33.9	33.0
Unemployment rate (4)	e	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.4	2.9	3.1

(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, 1946-1968		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 May 24, 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)	14,592	2,419	4,136 a	1,157 b	4,220 a	1,128 c	1,532
Labour force	8,248 a	829 c	3,979 a	996 c	1,410 c	807 c	227 d
Employed	7,862 a	739 c	3,845 a	910 c	1,372 c	780 c	216 d
Unemployed	386 d	90 e	134 d	86 e	38 f	27 f	11 g
Not in the labour force	6,344 a	1,590 b	157 d	161 d	2,810 b	321 d	1,305 a
Participation rate (3) - 1969, May 24	55.5 a	34.3 c	96.2 a	86.1 a	33.4 c	71.5 b	14.8 d
Apr. 19	55.4	31.6	95.5	80.8	33.6	70.3	14.3
Unemployment rate (4) - 1969, May 24	4.7 d	10.9 e	3.4 d	8.6 e	2.7 f	3.3 f	4.8 g
Apr. 19	5.4	11.5	4.4	10.8	2.8	2.7	5.0

(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

- 6 -

(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	
		May 24(2)	April 19	May 18	April 20	May 20	April 22
Total employed	a	7,862	7,629	7,505	7,276	7,409	7,125
Agriculture	d	592	521	584	533	600	504
Non-agriculture	a	7,270	7,108	6,921	6,743	6,809	6,621
Employed, non-agriculture	a	7,270	7,108	6,921	6,743	6,809	6,621
Usually work 35 hours or more	a	6,463	6,252	6,177	6,015	6,131	5,950
At work 35 hours or more	a	3,512	5,802	5,741	5,180	5,597	5,560
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	c	2,951	450	436	835	434	390
Due to economic reasons(3)	e	83	72	79	86	74	63
Due to other reasons(4)	c	2,868	378	357	749	360	327
Usually work less than 35 hours	c	807	856	744	728	678	671

Table 5 Industry	S.D. (1)	1969		1968		1967	
		May 24	April 19	May 18	April 20	May 20	April 22
Total employed	a	7,362	7,629	7,505	7,276	7,409	7,125
Agriculture	d	592	521	584	533	600	504
Other primary industries	d	223	185	220	183	195	171
Manufacturing	c	1,827	1,809	1,742	1,715	1,767	1,741
Construction	c	486	436	458	416	472	441
Transportation and other utilities	c	722	694	680	659	659	637
Trade	c	1,274	1,277	1,244	1,239	1,201	1,184
Finance, insurance, real estate	d	342	333	325	320	311	304
Community, personal, other services	c	1,922	1,908	1,806	1,772	1,759	1,715
Public administration	c	474	466	446	439	445	428

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 May 24, 1969	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	7,862 a	6,751 a	552 c	350 c	209 d
Agriculture	592 d	105 e	289 d	52 f	146 e
Non-agriculture	7,270 a	6,646 a	263 d	298 d	63 e
Men	5,333 a	4,444 a	475 c	322 c	92 d
Agriculture	502 d	88 e	232 d	51 f	81 e
Non-agriculture	4,831 a	4,356 a	193 d	271 d	11 f
Women	2,529 b	2,307 b	77 e	28 e	117 d
Agriculture	90 e	17 f	7 g	1 g	65 e
Non-agriculture	2,439 b	2,290 b	70 e	27 e	52 e

(1) "S.D." = Standard deviation. For explanation, see "Reliability of Estimates", page 8. (2) In May 1969, an unusually large number worked less than 35 hours due to the Queen's Birthday being in the reference week. (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)	1969		1968		1967	
		May 24	April 19	May 18	April 20	May 20	April 22
Total unemployed	d	386	432	366	436	304	365
Without work and seeking work	d	362	404	347	403	285	334
Seeking full-time work	d	339	383	327	387	268	320
Seeking part-time work	f	23	21	20	16	17	14
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	f	24	28	19	33	19	31
<hr/>							
Without work and seeking work	d	362	404	347	403	285	334
Seeking under 1 month	d	117	91	100	87	97	93
Seeking 1-3 months	d	103	125	108	140	91	121
Seeking 4-6 months	e	71	116	77	119	57	85
Seeking more than 6 months	e	71	72	62	57	40	35

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended May 24, 1969			Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over			14,592	1,357	4,189	5,211	2,367	1,468
Men			7,233	672	2,067	2,572	1,193	729
Women			7,359	685	2,122	2,639	1,174	739
Labour force			8,248 a	666 b	2,294 b	3,056 a	1,384 b	848 b
Men			5,622 a	462 b	1,590 a	2,048 a	949 a	573 b
Women			2,626 b	204 c	704 c	1,008 c	435 c	275 d
Employed			7,862 a	614 b	2,128 b	2,959 a	1,351 b	810 b
Men			5,333 a	419 b	1,459 b	1,983 a	926 b	546 b
Women			2,529 b	195 c	669 c	976 c	425 c	264 d
Agriculture			592 d	28 e	120 e	139 e	279 d	26 f
Non-agriculture			7,270 a	586 b	2,008 b	2,820 b	1,072 c	784 c
Paid workers			6,751 a	534 c	1,844 b	2,539 b	1,007 b	727 c
Men			4,444 a	357 c	1,240 b	1,724 b	640 b	483 b
Women			2,307 b	177 c	604 c	915 c	367 c	244 d
Unemployed			386 d	52 e	166 e	97 e	33 e	38 e
Men			289 d	43 e	131 e	65 e	23 e	27 e
Women			97 e	9 f	35 f	32 e	10 g	11 f
Not in the labour force			6,344 a	691 b	1,895 b	2,155 b	983 b	620 c
Men			1,611 b	210 c	477 c	524 c	244 c	156 c
Women			4,733 a	481 b	1,418 b	1,631 b	739 b	464 c
<hr/>								
Employed	1969	May 24	7,862 a	614 b	2,128 b	2,959 a	1,351 b	810 b
		April 19	7,629	574	2,091	2,894	1,290	780
	1968	May 18	7,505	599	2,079	2,798	1,292	737
		April 20	7,276	553	2,013	2,741	1,246	723
	1967	May 20	7,409	584	2,087	2,750	1,265	723
		April 22	7,125	545	2,012	2,687	1,183	698
Unemployed	1969	May 24	386 d	52 e	166 e	97 e	33 e	38 e
		April 19	432	67	182	100	42	41
	1968	May 18	366	44	134	104	36	48
		April 20	436	63	175	107	40	51
	1967	May 20	304	45	123	74	26	36
		April 22	365	60	131	100	33	41

(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.

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

The Labour Force, 1963-1968 (continued from page 2)

period. Participation rates were substantially lower for the 20-24 and 65+ age groups; the decrease was less pronounced in the 25-44 and 45-64 age groups and there was virtually no change in the participation rate for the 14-19 group.

The labour force participation rate for women has been rising rapidly since approximately 1953. In the period under review, there was a further acceleration, the rate increasing from 29.6 to 34.4. With the exception of women 65 years of age and over, participation rates were higher in 1968 than in 1963 for all age groups.

Labour Force Participation Rates
Selected Age Groups

Age Group	Men		Women	
	1968	1963	1968	1963
14-19	39.1	39.2	31.3	29.9
20-24	84.4	83.7	58.4	50.3
25-44	97.0	97.7	36.4	30.5
45-64	91.1	91.9	35.4	30.5
65 +	24.4	26.4	5.9	5.9

The increase in labour force participation of women 20-24 years of age is a recent development. Between 1948 and 1959 their rate fluctuated between 45.4 and 47.4. In

1959, the participation rate was 46.5 and began to rise steadily to 50.3 in 1963. It continued to rise even more rapidly reaching 58.4 in 1968.

In all regions, the growth of the labour force exceeded the growth of the population 14 years of age and over and consequently participation rates were higher in 1968 than in 1963.

With the exception of British Columbia, male participation rates declined in all regions during the period. Rates for women, however, were substantially higher in 1968 than in 1963, in all regions.

For both men and women, participation rates remained the highest in Ontario and the lowest in the Atlantic region.

Labour Force Participation Rates
by Region and Sex

	Both Sexes		Men		Women	
	1968	1963	1968	1963	1968	1963
Atlantic	48.2	46.8	68.1	71.1	28.5	24.9
Quebec	54.3	52.6	76.7	78.3	32.4	27.8
Ontario	57.7	55.5	73.2	81.2	36.9	32.5
Prairies	56.8	55.0	77.8	79.0	35.4	30.2
B.C.	55.0	52.8	77.1	75.9	35.3	24.9