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THE LABOUR FORCE

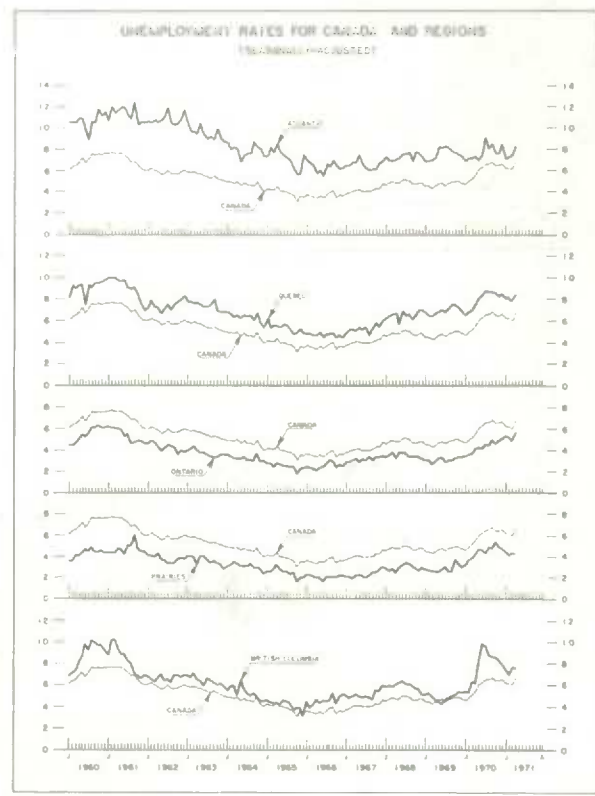
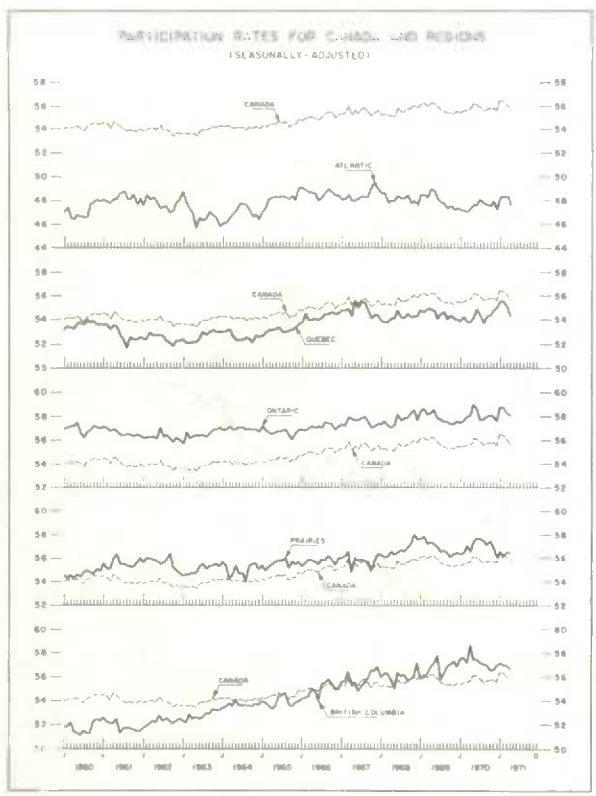
APRIL 1971

In the week ended April 17, 1971, the Canadian labour force was estimated at 8,396,000. This total included 7,737,000 persons employed for all or part of the week and 659,000 unemployed persons. Compared with the previous month, the labour force grew by 60,000 as a result of increases of 51,000 employed persons and 9,000 unemployed persons. The labour force, the employed, and the unemployed were higher than in April 1970 by 198,000, 83,000 and 115,000 respectively.

The changes in employment and unemployment from March to April indicate a worsening of the labour force situation. The employment increase was less than usual for this time of year and the gain in unemployment, while slight, was in contrast to a usual decline at this time of year. Unemployment in April was 7.8 per cent of the total labour force, the same as in March. Seasonally-adjusted, the unemployment rate rose sharply from 6.0 in March to 6.7 in April.

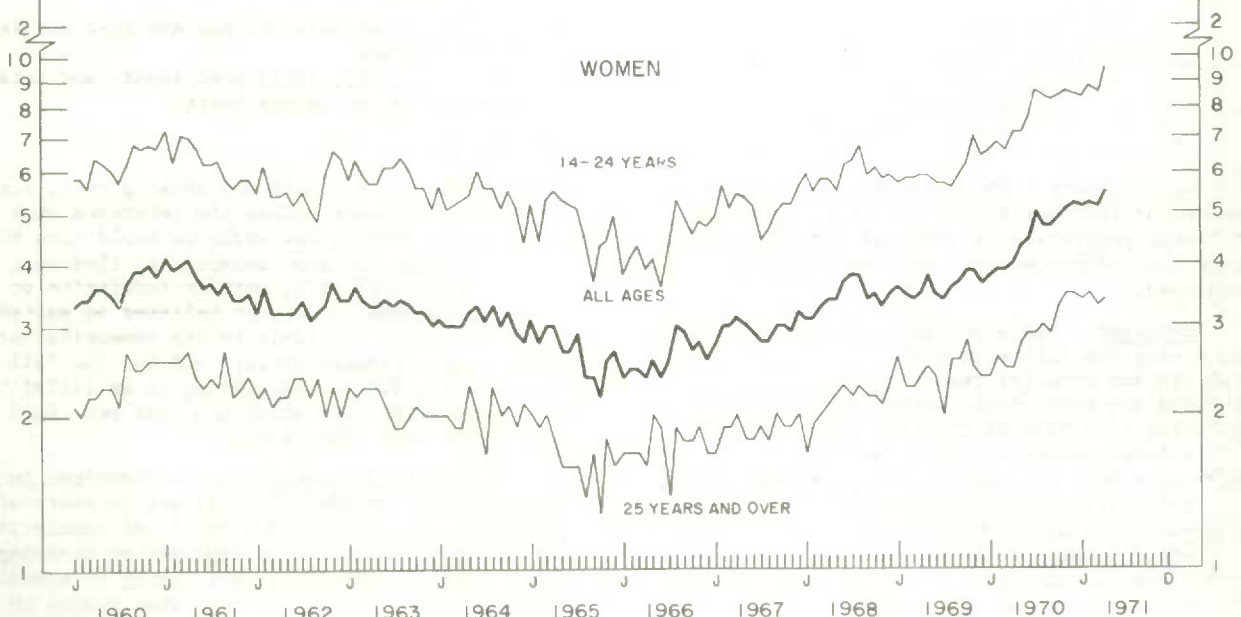
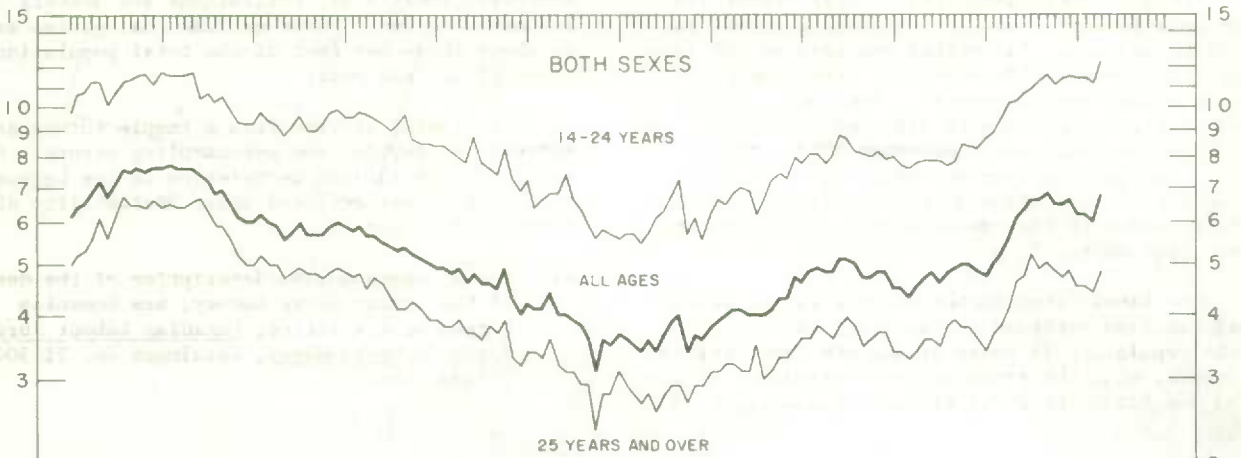
Among the various industries, employment increases between March and April were above average in agriculture (66,000) and construction (26,000) and were below average in trade. Employment in community, business and personal service declined for a second successive month, down by 12,000 from the March level, in contrast to sizable March-April gains in previous years. There was also a reduction of 12,000 employed in public administration. Smaller declines in manufacturing and transportation were in contrast to usual employment gains at this time.

Between March and April the number of unemployed younger persons increased by 20,000 where declines usually occur between these months. There was a below average reduction among the unemployed 25 years of age and over, occurring among men.



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY AGE AND SEX, CANADA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Ratio Scale



Technical Notes

Scope of Labour Force Survey

The statistics contained in this report are based on information obtained through a sample survey of households. Interviews are carried out in about 30,000 households chosen by area sampling methods across the country(1). 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.

- (1) For a comprehensive description of the design of the Labour Force Survey, see Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Canadian Labour Force Survey - Methodology, Catalogue No. 71-504, Ottawa, 1965.

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.

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:

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.

- (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)	1971		1970		1969	
		April 17	March 20	April 18	March 21	April 19	March 22
<u>Total</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		15,309	15,283	14,934	14,904	14,557	14,528
Labour force	a	8,396	8,336	8,198	8,067	8,061	7,919
Employed	a	7,737	7,686	7,654	7,525	7,629	7,471
Agriculture	d	502	436	481	438	521	466
Non-agriculture	a	7,235	7,250	7,173	7,087	7,108	7,005
Unemployed	d	659	650	544	542	432	448
Not in the labour force	a	6,913	6,947	6,736	6,837	6,496	6,609

Participation rate (3)	a	54.8	54.5	54.9	54.1	55.4	54.5
Unemployment rate (4)							
Actual	d	7.8	7.8	6.6	6.7	5.4	5.7
Seasonally adjusted		6.7	6.0	5.6	5.2	4.5	4.3
<u>Men</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,583	7,571	7,401	7,385	7,215	7,201
Labour force	a	5,655	5,605	5,545	5,481	5,467	5,400
Employed	a	5,146	5,091	5,107	5,038	5,126	5,038
Agriculture	d	434	386	418	390	452	412
Non-agriculture	a	4,712	4,706	4,689	4,648	4,674	4,626
Unemployed	d	509	514	438	443	341	362
Not in the labour force	b	1,928	1,966	1,856	1,904	1,748	1,801

Participation rate (3)	a	74.6	74.0	74.9	74.2	75.8	75.0
Unemployment rate (4)	d	9.0	9.2	7.9	8.1	6.2	6.7
<u>Women</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,726	7,712	7,533	7,519	7,342	7,327
Labour force	b	2,741	2,731	2,653	2,586	2,594	2,519
Employed	b	2,591	2,595	2,547	2,487	2,503	2,433
Agriculture	e	68	50	63	48	69	54
Non-agriculture	b	2,523	2,544	2,484	2,439	2,434	2,379
Unemployed	e	150	136	106	99	91	86
Not in the labour force	a	4,985	4,981	4,880	4,933	4,748	4,808

Participation rate (3)	b	35.5	35.4	35.2	34.4	35.3	34.4
Unemployment rate (4)	e	5.5	5.0	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.4

(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 Table 2 all statistics refer to a specific week, the last day of which is indicated. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals because of rounding.

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, 1948-1970		S.D. (1)	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	
Population 14 years of age and over (2)			15,016	14,638	14,264	13,874	13,475	13,128	12,817	12,536	12,280	12,053	11,831	
Labour Force	a		8,374	8,162	7,919	7,694	7,420	7,141	6,933	6,748	6,615	6,521	6,411	
Employed	a		7,879	7,780	7,537	7,379	7,152	6,862	6,609	6,375	6,225	6,055	5,965	
Agriculture	d		511	535	546	559	544	594	630	649	660	681	683	
Non-agriculture	a		7,368	7,245	6,992	6,820	6,609	6,268	5,979	5,726	5,565	5,374	5,282	
Unemployed	d		495	382	382	315	267	280	324	374	390	466	446	
Not in the labour force	a		6,642	6,475	6,344	6,179	6,055	5,986	5,884	5,787	5,665	5,531	5,420	
Participation rate(3)	a		55.8	55.8	55.5	55.5	55.1	54.4	54.1	53.8	53.9	54.1	54.2	
Unemployment rate (4)	d		5.9	4.7	4.8	4.1	3.6	3.9	4.7	5.5	5.9	7.1	7.0	
			1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Population 14 years of age and over (2)			11,605	11,388	11,123	10,807	10,597	10,391	10,164	9,956	9,732	9,615	9,268	9,141
Labour force			6,242	6,137	6,008	5,782	5,610	5,493	5,397	5,324	5,223	5,163	5,055	4,988
Employed			5,870	5,706	5,731	5,585	5,364	5,243	5,235	5,169	5,097	4,976	4,913	4,875
Agriculture			700	718	748	777	819	878	858	891	939	1,018	1,077	1,096
Non-agriculture			5,170	4,988	4,983	4,808	4,546	4,365	4,377	4,278	4,158	3,958	3,837	3,779
Unemployed			372	432	278	197	245	250	162	155	126	186	141	114
Not in the labour force			5,363	5,250	5,115	5,025	4,987	4,898	4,767	4,632	4,509	4,453	4,213	4,153
Participation rate(3)			53.8	53.9	54.0	53.5	52.9	52.9	53.1	53.5	53.7	53.7	54.5	54.6
Unemployment rate (4)			6.0	7.0	4.6	3.4	4.4	4.6	3.0	2.9	2.4	3.6	2.8	2.3

Table 3 Age, sex, and marital status Week ended April 17, 1971	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)	15,309	2,537	4,291 a	1,265 b	4,418 a	1,198 c	1,600
Labour force	8,396 a	791 c	4,062 a	994 c	1,549 c	809 c	191 d
Employed	7,737 a	661 c	3,809 a	836 c	1,484 c	767 c	180 d
Unemployed	659 d	130 e	253 d	158 e	65 f	42 f	11 g
Not in the labour force	6,913 a	1,746 b	229 d	271 d	2,869 b	390 d	1,409 a
Participation rate (3) - 1971, Apr. 17	54.8 a	31.2 c	94.7 a	78.6 a	35.1 c	67.5 b	11.9 d
Mar. 20	54.5	29.7	94.6	78.3	35.1	67.9	11.8
Unemployment rate (4) - 1971, Apr. 17	7.8 d	16.4 e	6.2 d	15.9 e	4.2 f	5.2 f	5.8 g
Mar. 20	7.8	16.1	6.6	15.6	3.9	4.7	5.3

(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

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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)	1971		1970		1969	
		April 17(2)	March 20	April 18	March 21	April 19	March 22
Total employed	a	7,737	7,686	7,654	7,525	7,629	7,471
Agriculture	d	502	436	481	438	521	466
Non-agriculture	a	7,235	7,250	7,173	7,087	7,108	7,005
Employed, non-agriculture	a	7,235	7,250	7,173	7,087	7,108	7,005
Usually work 35 hours or more	a	6,312	6,337	6,258	6,204	6,252	6,214
At work 35 hours or more	a	4,936	5,838	5,798	5,715	5,802	5,668
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	c	1,375	499	460	489	450	546
Due to economic reasons(3)	e	70	77	87	93	72	74
Due to other reasons(4)	c	1,306	422	373	396	378	472
Usually work less than 35 hours	c	923	913	915	883	856	791

Table 5 Industry	S.D. (1)	1971		1970		1969	
		April 17	March 20	April 18	March 21	April 19	March 22
Total employed	a	7,737	7,686	7,654	7,525	7,629	7,471
Agriculture	d	502	436	481	438	521	466
Other primary industries	d	191	197	194	187	185	198
Manufacturing	c	1,720	1,728	1,750	1,761	1,809	1,773
Construction	c	441	415	426	406	436	416
Transportation and other utilities	c	689	693	669	653	694	659
Trade	c	1,293	1,286	1,301	1,272	1,277	1,268
Finance, insurance, real estate	d	392	397	353	356	333	337
Community, personal, other services	c	2,032	2,044	2,024	1,974	1,908	1,886
Public administration	c	477	489	454	478	466	468

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 Labour Force Survey Section.

Table 6 Class of worker, agriculture and non-agriculture, and sex Week ended April 17, 1971	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	7,737 a	6,685 a	533 c	330 c	189 d
Agriculture	502 d	87 e	255 d	44 f	116 e
Non-agriculture	7,235 a	6,598 a	278 d	286 d	73 e
Men	5,146 a	4,314 a	452 c	300 c	80 d
Agriculture	434 d	73 e	248 d	42 f	70 e
Non-agriculture	4,712 a	4,241 a	204 d	258 d	10 f
Women	2,591 b	2,371 b	82 e	30 e	109 d
Agriculture	68 e	14 f	7 g	2 g	45 e
Non-agriculture	2,523 b	2,357 b	74 e	28 e	63 e

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

(2) In April 1971, an unusually large number worked less than 35 hours due to Easter Monday 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.

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)	1971		1970		1969	
		April 17	March 20	April 18	March 21	April 19	March 22
Total unemployed	d	659	650	544	542	432	448
Without work and seeking work	d	621	613	499	490	404	409
Seeking full-time work	d	588	589	472	465	383	387
Seeking part-time work	f	32	24	27	25	21	22
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	f	39	37	45	52	28	39

Without work and seeking work	d	621	613	499	490	404	409
Seeking under 1 month	d	110	96	109	93	91	87
Seeking 1-3 months	d	169	209	162	197	125	152
Seeking 4-6 months	e	190	182	151	128	116	107
Seeking more than 6 months	e	152	126	78	72	72	63

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended April 17, 1971	Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over	15,309	1,399	4,346	5,533	2,449	1,582
Men	7,583	693	2,141	2,730	1,232	787
Women	7,726	706	2,205	2,803	1,217	795
Labour force	8,396 a	644 b	2,336 b	3,175 a	1,356 b	885 b
Men	5,655 a	449 b	1,596 a	2,079 a	928 a	603 b
Women	2,741 b	195 c	740 c	1,096 c	428 c	282 d
Employed	7,737 a	569 b	2,102 b	2,970 a	1,283 b	813 b
Men	5,146 a	384 b	1,402 b	1,932 a	876 b	552 b
Women	2,591 b	185 c	700 c	1,038 c	407 c	261 d
Agriculture	502 d	22 e	98 e	141 e	218 d	23 f
Non-agriculture	7,235 a	547 b	2,004 b	2,829 b	1,064 c	790 c
Paid workers	6,685 a	498 c	1,842 b	2,638 b	982 b	724 c
Men	4,314 a	328 c	1,208 b	1,669 b	623 b	485 b
Women	2,371 b	171 c	633 c	969 c	360 c	239 d
Unemployed	659 d	75 e	234 e	205 e	73 e	72 e
Men	509 d	65 e	194 e	147 e	52 e	51 e
Women	150 e	10 f	40 f	58 e	21 g	21 f
Not in the labour force	6,913 a	755 b	2,010 b	2,358 b	1,093 b	697 c
Men	1,928 b	244 c	545 c	651 c	304 c	184 c
Women	4,985 a	511 b	1,465 b	1,707 b	789 b	513 c

Employed	7,737 a	569 b	2,102 b	2,970 a	1,283 b	813 b
1971 April 17	7,737 a	569 b	2,102 b	2,970 a	1,283 b	813 b
March 20	7,686	572	2,094	2,953	1,262	805
1970 April 18	7,654	566	2,072	2,926	1,269	821
March 21	7,525	551	2,031	2,892	1,263	788
1969 April 19	7,629	574	2,091	2,894	1,290	780
March 22	7,471	555	2,041	2,856	1,261	758
Unemployed	659 d	75 e	234 e	205 e	73 e	72 e
1971 April 17	659 d	75 e	234 e	205 e	73 e	72 e
March 20	650	70	236	192	79	73
1970 April 18	544	66	203	145	72	58
March 21	542	67	206	141	69	59
1969 April 19	432	67	182	100	42	41
March 22	448	67	190	99	48	44

(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, interviewers, 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. Interviewers 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 interviewers 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.