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THE LABOUR FORCE

AUGUST 1971

In the week ended August 21, 1971, the Canadian labour force was estimated at 8,972,000. This total included 8,517,000 persons employed for all or part of the week and 455,000 unemployed persons. Compared with the previous month, the labour force decreased by 96,000 as a result of decreases of 37,000 employed persons and 59,000 unemployed persons.

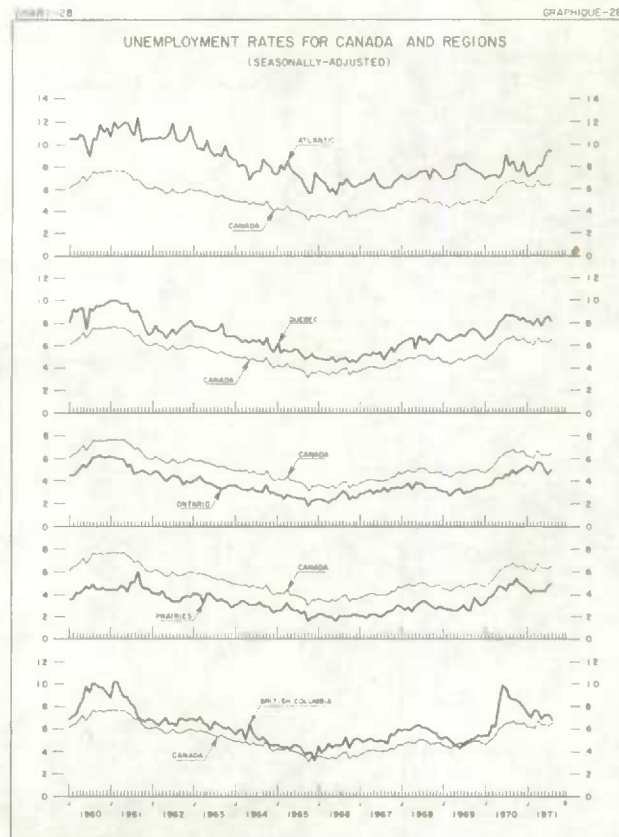
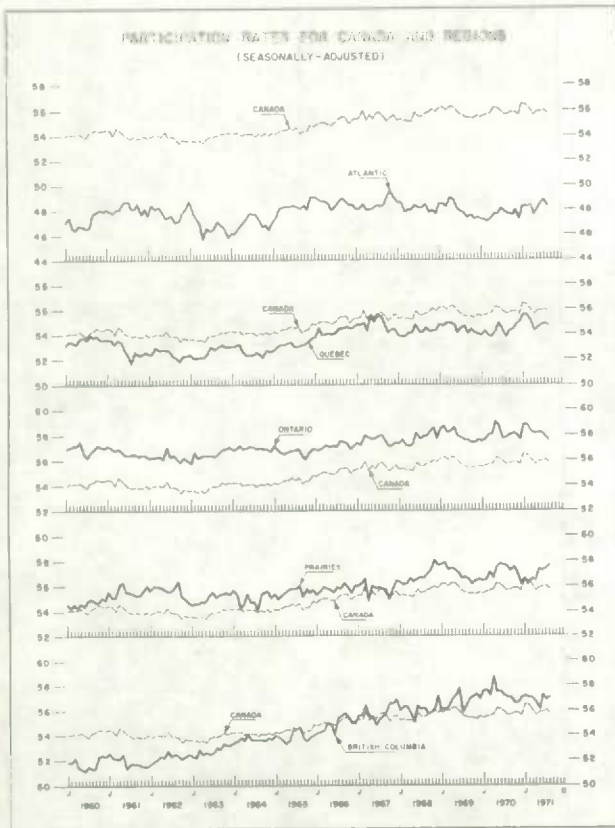
On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the August unemployment rate at 6.5 was up slightly from 6.3 in July and 6.4 recorded in June. Regionally, rates were up in Ontario and the Prairie Region and were down in British Columbia and Quebec. The rate for the Atlantic region was unchanged.

The seasonally-adjusted employment level at 8,104,000 in August was down 7,000 from July.

Seasonally-adjusted Employment and Unemployment, in thousands, showing changes from preceeding month in brackets

	Employment	Unemployment
November 1970	7,936 (+ 7)	548 (- 1)
December	7,897 (- 39)	556 (+ 8)
January 1971	8,006 (+ 109)	533 (- 23)
February	8,021 (+ 15)	532 (- 1)
March	8,018 (- 3)	515 (- 17)
April	7,932 (- 86)	567 (+ 52)
May	8,025 (+ 93)	541 (- 26)
June	8,049 (+ 24)	551 (+ 10)
July	8,111 (+ 62)	548 (- 3)
August	8,104 (- 7)	561 (+ 13)

(continued on page 8)



The Unemployed: Family Data(1)
July 1970 - July 1971

Beginning in July 1960, labour force data relating to families in which someone was unemployed have been tabulated at quarterly intervals and published several times a year. Since the most recent publication (in the February 1971 report), data referring to the weeks ended April 17, 1971 and July 24, 1971, have been compiled. These statistics are included in the following tables along with previously published data for July and October 1970, and January 1971. Comments on the July 1971 estimates and on seasonal patterns follow.

Of the 514,000 persons unemployed in July 1971, 144,000 (28%) were heads of family units, 319,000 (62%) were sons, daughters or other relatives of family heads, and 51,000 (10%) were not members of family units.

The 463,000 unemployed members of families were distributed throughout 410,000 family units. In 299,000 (73%) of these units, the membership of the unit included, in addition to the unemployed member or members, at least one person who was employed.

Pronounced seasonal patterns show up in the period for which the data are available. Notably, the proportion of the unemployed who were heads of households has been lowest in July (28-39%) and highest in January and April (40-51%). On the other hand, the proportion of the unemployed who were single sons and daughters of heads of families has been highest in July (40-50%), when many students are available for summer jobs, and lowest in January and April (30-36%). The proportion of families having one or more employed members, in addition to the unemployed member or members, ranged from 49 to 61 per cent in January and April and from 59 to 73 per cent in July and October.

Further detail for July 1971 is presented in the following tables, along with estimates for the four preceding reference periods. Table 1 refers to unemployed persons. Table 2 refers to family units in which one or more persons were unemployed.

Unemployed Persons

Table 1 Classified as heads, other members, or non-members of family units, Canada	Unemployed persons					
	Total unemployed	Members of family units(1)				Non-members of family units(1)
		Total	Head of units	Single sons or daughters	Other relatives	
<u>Number (in thousands)</u>						
July 24, 1971	514	463	144	250	69	51
April 17, 1971	659	598	267	225	106	61
January 16, 1971	668	607	282	221	103	62
October 17, 1970	419	369	155	149	65	50
July 18, 1970	518	472	143	256	73	46
<u>Per cent distribution</u>						
July 24, 1971	100	90	28	49	13	10
April 17, 1971	100	91	41	34	16	9
January 16, 1971	100	91	42	33	15	9
October 17, 1970	100	88	37	36	16	12
July 18, 1970	100	91	28	49	14	9

Family Units(1)

Table 2 By number of employed persons in unit, Canada	Family units with one or more persons unemployed					
	Total units	No person in unit employed	One or more persons in unit employed			
			Total	1 employed	2 employed	3 or more employed
<u>Number (in thousands)</u>						
July 24, 1971	410	110	299	155	90	54
April 17, 1971	529	211	318	209	80	29
January 16, 1971	540	229	311	201	76	35
October 17, 1970	338	112	226	143	59	24
July 18, 1970	413	118	295	165	83	47
<u>Per cent distribution</u>						
July 24, 1971	100	27	73	38	22	13
April 17, 1971	100	40	60	40	15	5
January 16, 1971	100	42	58	37	14	6
October 17, 1970	100	33	67	42	17	7
July 18, 1970	100	29	71	40	20	11

(1) The family unit used in these tables is defined as "a group of two or more persons who are living together in the same dwelling and who are related by blood, marriage or adoption". A person living alone or who is related to no one else in the dwelling where he lives is classified under "Non-members of family units". The head of a family unit is defined generally as the person who is mainly responsible for the maintenance of the unit. However, in families consisting of husband and wife (with or without unmarried children), the husband is always designated as the head. In families composed of parent and unmarried child (or children), the parent invariably is recorded as the head of the unit. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals because of rounding.

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	
		August 21	July 24	August 22	July 18	August 23	July 19
<u>Total</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		15,436	15,408	15,068	15,030	14,687	14,651
Labour force	a	8,972	9,068	8,720	8,819	8,489	8,550
Employed	a	8,517	8,554	8,272	8,301	8,171	8,201
Agriculture	d	622	612	614	619	636	644
Non-agriculture	a	7,895	7,942	7,658	7,682	7,535	7,557
Unemployed	d	455	514	448	518	318	349
Not in the labour force	a	6,464	6,340	6,348	6,211	6,198	6,101

Participation rate (3)	a	58.1	58.9	57.9	58.7	57.8	58.4
Unemployment rate (4)							
Actual	d	5.1	5.7	5.1	5.9	3.7	4.1
Seasonally adjusted		6.5	6.3	6.6 ^r	6.6	4.8 ^r	4.6
<u>Men</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,645	7,632	7,467	7,448	7,279	7,262
Labour force	a	6,097	6,137	5,987	6,020	5,833	5,867
Employed	a	5,780	5,769	5,667	5,649	5,609	5,613
Agriculture	d	523	519	519	526	531	543
Non-agriculture	a	5,258	5,251	5,148	5,123	5,078	5,070
Unemployed	d	317	368	320	371	224	254
Not in the labour force	b	1,548	1,495	1,480	1,428	1,446	1,395

Participation rate (3)	a	79.8	80.4	80.2	80.8	80.1	80.8
Unemployment rate (4)	d	5.2	6.0	5.3	6.2	3.8	4.3
<u>Women</u>							
Population 14 years of age and over(2)		7,791	7,776	7,601	7,582	7,408	7,389
Labour force	b	2,875	2,931	2,733	2,799	2,656	2,683
Employed	b	2,737	2,785	2,605	2,652	2,562	2,588
Agriculture	e	100	94	95	93	105	101
Non-agriculture	b	2,637	2,691	2,510	2,559	2,457	2,487
Unemployed	e	138	146	128	147	94	95
Not in the labour force	a	4,916	4,845	4,868	4,783	4,752	4,706

Participation rate (3)	b	36.9	37.7	36.0	36.9	35.9	36.3
Unemployment rate (4)	e	4.8	5.0	4.7	5.3	3.5	3.5

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

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

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

(4) The unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

^r Revised.

Note: With the exception of 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 August 21, 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)	15,436	2,556	4,312 a	1,290 b	4,450 a	1,212 c	1,615
Labour force	8,972 a	1,194 c	4,129 a	1,124 c	1,498 c	843 c	184 d
Employed	8,517 a	1,062 c	4,001 a	1,019 c	1,458 c	799 c	178 d
Unemployed	455 d	132 e	128 d	104 e	40 f	44 f	7 g
Not in the labour force	6,464 a	1,362 b	184 d	166 d	2,952 b	369 d	1,430 a
Participation rate (3) - 1971, Aug. 21	58.1 a	46.7 c	95.8 a	87.1 a	33.7 c	69.6 b	11.4 d
July 24	58.9	49.3	95.7	88.3	34.2	69.8	11.7
Unemployment rate (4) - 1971, Aug. 21	5.1 d	11.1 e	3.1 d	9.3 e	2.7 f	5.2 f	3.8 g
July 24	5.7	14.6	3.3	9.3	2.5	4.6	4.2

(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	
		August 21	July 24	August 22	July 18	August 23	July 19
Total employed	a	8,517	8,554	8,272	8,301	8,171	8,201
Agriculture	d	622	612	614	619	636	644
Non-agriculture	a	7,895	7,942	7,658	7,682	7,535	7,557
Employed, non-agriculture	a	7,895	7,942	7,658	7,682	7,535	7,557
Usually work 35 hours or more	a	7,121	7,132	6,928	6,911	6,873	6,862
At work 35 hours or more	a	5,824	5,225	5,606	5,282	5,603	5,374
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work	c	1,297	1,907	1,322	1,629	1,270	1,488
Due to economic reasons(2)	e	75	58	82	70	83	65
Due to other reasons(3)	c	1,222	1,849	1,240	1,558	1,187	1,423
Usually work less than 35 hours	c	774	810	730	771	662	695

Table 5 Industry	S.D. (1)	1971		1970		1969	
		August 21	July 24	August 22	July 18	August 23	July 19
Total employed	a	8,517	8,554	8,272	8,301	8,171	8,201
Agriculture	d	622	612	614	619	636	644
Other primary industries	d	253	252	250	242	243	245
Manufacturing	c	1,899	1,849	1,849	1,845	1,909	1,904
Construction	c	582	576	546	542	558	550
Transportation and other utilities	c	723	715	727	720	725	732
Trade	c	1,368	1,367	1,354	1,373	1,320	1,342
Finance, insurance, real estate	d	393	406	362	362	377	359
Community, personal, other services	c	2,125	2,194	2,046	2,076	1,906	1,896
Public administration	c	552	582	525	523	497	529

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 August 21, 1971	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers	Employers	Unpaid family workers
Total employed	8,517 a	7,390 a	503 c	390 c	233 d
Agriculture	622 d	161 e	241 d	69 f	151 e
Non-agriculture	7,895 a	7,229 a	263 d	321 d	82 e
Men	5,780 a	4,884 a	438 c	358 c	100 d
Agriculture	523 d	135 e	236 d	67 f	85 e
Non-agriculture	5,258 a	4,750 a	202 d	291 d	15 f
Women	2,737 b	2,506 b	65 e	33 e	133 d
Agriculture	100 e	27 f	4 g	2 g	66 e
Non-agriculture	2,637 b	2,480 b	61 e	30 e	67 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.

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	
		August 21	July 24	August 22	July 18	August 23	July 19
Total unemployed	d	455	514	448	518	318	349
Without work and seeking work	d	437	487	426	490	298	329
Seeking full-time work	d	413	453	397	442	275	304
Seeking part-time work	f	24	34	29	48	23	25
On temporary layoff up to 30 days	f	18	27	22	27	20	20
<hr/>							
Without work and seeking work	d	437	487	426	490	298	329
Seeking under 1 month	d	84	112	97	128	86	102
Seeking 1-3 months	d	183	183	184	205	115	131
Seeking 4-6 months	e	65	72	65	69	36	35
Seeking more than 6 months	e	106	120	79	88	61	61

Table 8 Regional distributions Week ended August 21, 1971		Canada	Atlantic region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie region	British Columbia
Population 14 years of age and over		15,436	1,408	4,371	5,592	2,463	1,602
Men		7,645	697	2,152	2,759	1,239	798
Women		7,791	711	2,219	2,833	1,224	804
Labour force		8,972 a	718 b	2,493 b	3,345 a	1,478 b	938 b
Men		6,097 a	502 b	1,707 a	2,234 a	1,015 a	639 b
Women		2,875 b	216 c	786 c	1,111 c	463 c	299 d
Employed		8,517 a	671 b	2,327 b	3,205 a	1,427 b	887 b
Men		5,780 a	464 b	1,588 b	2,139 a	981 b	608 b
Women		2,737 b	207 c	739 c	1,066 c	446 c	279 d
Agriculture		622 d	26 e	126 e	169 e	271 d	31 f
Non-agriculture		7,895 a	645 b	2,201 b	3,037 b	1,156 c	856 c
Paid workers		7,390 a	599 c	2,039 b	2,871 b	1,099 b	783 c
Men		4,884 a	405 c	1,373 b	1,875 b	705 b	526 b
Women		2,506 b	194 c	666 c	996 c	394 c	257 d
Unemployed		455 d	47 e	166 e	140 e	51 e	51 e
Men		317 d	38 e	119 e	95 e	34 e	31 e
Women		138 e	9 f	47 f	45 e	17 g	20 f
Not in the labour force		6,464 a	690 b	1,878 b	2,247 b	985 b	664 c
Men		1,548 b	195 c	445 c	525 c	224 c	159 c
Women		4,916 a	495 b	1,433 b	1,722 b	761 b	505 c
<hr/>							
Employed	1971 August 21	8,517 a	671 b	2,327 b	3,205 a	1,427 b	887 b
	July 24	8,554	681	2,335	3,228	1,419	891
	1970 August 22	8,272	661	2,237	3,128	1,407	839
	July 18	8,301	665	2,271	3,116	1,406	843
	1969 August 23	8,171	651	2,257	3,056	1,381	826
	July 19	8,201	655	2,269	3,074	1,373	830
<hr/>							
Unemployed	1971 August 21	455 d	47 e	166 e	140 e	51 e	51 e
	July 24	514	51	184	159	61	59
	1970 August 22	448	39	171	124	50	64
	July 18	518	48	184	153	57	76
	1969 August 23	318	38	138	83	26	33
	July 19	349	42	139	96	38	34

(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.

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. 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.

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

(continued from page 1)

Seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates

	Aug. 1971	July 1971	June 1971	May 1971	April 1971	March 1971	Feb. 1971	Jan. 1971	Dec. 1970	Nov. 1970
Canada	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.5
Atlantic	9.4	9.4	8.8	8.0	8.1	7.3	7.3	7.1	8.5	7.6
Quebec	8.2	8.6	8.4	7.7	8.4	7.8	8.2	8.1	8.5	8.3
Ontario	5.0	4.6	5.1	5.6	5.7	4.9	5.2	5.4	5.1	4.9
Prairies	5.0	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.8	5.0
British Columbia	6.8	7.3	7.3	6.8	7.6	7.7	7.0	7.3	7.9	8.3
Total	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.5
Persons 25 years and over	4.4	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.9	4.7
Men	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.4	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.2
Women	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.5
Persons 14-24	11.8	10.8	11.0	11.6	12.3	11.1	11.4	11.4	11.5	11.4