# THE LABOUR FORCE 

## OCTOBER, 1954

Published by Authority of<br>The Right Honourable C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

# DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS <br> Special Surveys Division 

Monthly Survey, Week Ended October 23, 1954

## Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended Ooteber 23, 1954. The survey is a continuation of the series begun in November, 1945, and carried out at quarterly intervals until November, 1952, when the first survey on a monthly basis was taken. About 30,000 households chosen by area sampling mothods in approximately 110 different areas in Canada are visited each month. The labour force surveys provide estimates of the employment characteriatics of the civilian noninstitutional population of working age. Persons are classified according to current activity during the spocific wooks covered by the surveys.

Results of previous labour force surveys may be obtained from Reference Paper No. 35, "The Labour Force, November 1945 - March 1952", the regular quarterly reports for the weoks onded May 31, 1952 and August 16,1952 , and the regular monthly reports starting with the weak ended November 22, 1952. The figures for 1953 and 1954 are not strictly comparable with thoee for previous years in the publications referred to, because of revisions based upon new age and sex distributions obtained from the 1951 Consus. The figures for earlier yoars have boen revised and sumaries of the revised estimates appear in Table 1 of the roport for April, 1954.

## Dofinitions and Explanation

(a) Labour Force - The civilian labour force is composed of that portion of the civilian noninstitutional population 14 years of age and over that had jobs or that did not have jobs and were seeking work during the survey weok.
(b) Persong Ith fobs - For the purpose of the labour force survey, "persons with jobs" are grouped into two categories:
(1) Persons at rork - those who did any work for pay or profit or who did unpaid work which contributed to the running of a farm or business operated by a relative;
(if) Porsens with iobs not at work - those who had jobs but did not work because of illness, bad weather, vacation, industrial dispute, or temporary layoff with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of the time of being laid off. (Persons who had jobs but did not work during the survey week and who also looked for work are included in (c) below, "Persons without jobe and seoking work".)

While varistions in the estimates of the total number of persons with jobs provide a veluable indicator of economic conditions, significant changes in the omployment pattern may be concoaled unless attention is focussed on the axtend to which people worked lese than full time. Table 1 provides an analysie of the reasons for wich persons worked less than 35 hours in the survey week. Estimetes of weekly hours of work are contained in Table 6. Persons with jobs who did not work during the survey weak are classifiod in Table 7 by the reasons for their absence from work.
(c) Persons without fobs and seoking work - This category includes those persons who were looking for work in the survey week and who did no work. Persons who were temporarily away from their jobs during the whole of the survey week and were seeking work are considered as without jobs and are included in this category. In addition to those who actively looked for work, this classification includes persons who would have looked for work, except that they were temporarily 111, were on indefinite or prolonged lay-off, or believed that no work was avajlable.

Persons who worked part of the survey week and also looked for work are not included in this classification. However, the number of such persons is shown in Table 3 which presente estimates of all persons looking for wort.
(d) Persens not in the labour force - The non-working part of the population 14 years of age and over conslats of those who are outside the labour force in the sense that they do not work for pay or profit or as unpaid workers in family onter= prises such as farms or businesses and are not looking for work. Persons not in the labour force include, therefore, such groups as those going to school or keoping house, persons who are too old or are permanently unable to work for some other reason, and persone who are voluntarily idle or retired. Persons, such as housowives, students and others, who worked part-time are classed as persons with jobs, or, if they are looking for work, they are classed as persons without jobs and seeking work.

## Reliability of the estimates

The estimates are subject to sampling error. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference between the estimate and the figure which would have been obtained from a complete count is less than that show below.

| Size of <br> astimate | Sampling <br> rariability |
| :---: | :---: |
| 10,000 | 4,000 |
| 50,000 | 8,000 |
| 100,000 | 11,000 |
| 500,000 | 25,000 |
| $1,000,00$ | 33,000 |
| $5,000,000$ | 54,000 |

The sampling variability associated with estimates of less than 10,000 is relatively larger.

## Coverage

In the past, certain remote and relatively inaccessible areas of Canada have not been included in the estimates. In May, 1954, the sample design was altered so that totals would include estimates for these areas in Ontario, although, for cost reasone, they are given no chance of eelection for onumeration. This resulted in an increase of about 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole and about 1.8 per cont for Ontario. These percentages can be applied to previous figures for purposes of comparability in all characteristics. Still excluded from the estimates of population 14 years of age and over ares Indians on reservations ( 68,000 ); inmates of institutions ( 128,000 ); and the population in remote areas of Queboc, Manitobe and British Columbia $(40,000)$. Also excluded are members of the armed forces and residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Table 1. - Sumary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, weok ended October 23, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Oct. 23 1954 | $\mathrm{Sept.}_{1954} 18$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct. } 24 \\ 1953 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total civilian noninstitutional population | $\begin{gathered} (2) \\ 10,311 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2) \\ 10,290 \end{gathered}$ | 10,095 |
| Persons not in the labour force | 4,850 | 4,807 | 4,744 |
| Civilian labour force | 5,461 | 5,483 | 5,351 |
| Persons at work | 5,153 | 5,164 | 5,116 |
| 35 hours or more | 4,819 | 4,820 | 4,830 |
| Less than 35 hours | 334 | 344 | 286 |
| Usually work 35 hours or more <br> (a) laid off for part of the wook | 123 | 152 | 104 |
| (b) on short time <br> (c) lost job during the weok | 31 | 27 | 37 |
| (d) found job during the weak <br> (e) bad weather | 23 | 63 | 10 |
| (f) illness | 22 | 21 | 24 |
| (h) racation | * | 13 | * |
| (i) other | 27 | 13 | * |
| Usually work less than 35 hours | 211 | 192 | 182 |
| Persons with jobs not at work | 129 | 152 | 124 |
| Usually wort 35 hours or more | 125 | 149 | 121 |
| (a) laid off for full weok <br> (b) bad eeather | 11 | 11 | 14* |
| (c) illness | 47 | 43 | 57 |
| (d) industrial dispute | 17 | * | * |
| (e) vacation <br> (f) other | 38 11 | 70 | 30 10 |
| Usually work less than 35 hours | * | * | * |
| Persons without jobs and seaking work (1) | 179 | 167 | 111 |

(1) Included here are only those who did not work during the entire survey week and were looking for work. For all those who sought work during the survey weak, see Table 3.
(2) Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole in all characteristice. See section on "Coverage", page 4. Less than 10,000 .

Table 2. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, weok ended October 23, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | Males | Femal es |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total civilian noninstitutional population Persons not in the labour force Civilian labour force | $\begin{array}{r} 10,311 \\ 4,850 \\ 5,461 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5,128 \\ 900 \\ 4,228 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5,183 \\ & 3,950 \\ & 1,233 \end{aligned}$ |
| Persons at work <br> 35 hours or more <br> Less than 35 hours <br> Usually work 35 hours or more <br> (a) laid off for part of the weok <br> (b) on short time <br> (c) lost job during the weok <br> (d) found job durine the weok <br> (e) bad weather <br> (f) illness <br> (g) industrial dispute <br> (h) vacation <br> (i) other <br> Usually work less than 35 hours | $\begin{array}{r} 5,153 \\ 4,819 \\ 334 \\ 123 \\ * \\ 31 \\ * \\ 23 \\ 22 \\ * \\ * \\ 27 \\ 211 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3,979 \\ 3,817 \\ 162 \\ 97 \\ * \\ 21 \\ * \\ * \\ 22 \\ 16 \\ * \\ 22 \\ 65 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,174 \\ 1,002 \\ 172 \\ 26 \\ * \\ 10 \\ * \\ * \\ * \\ * \\ * \\ * \\ * \\ 146 \end{array}$ |
| Persons with jobs not at work <br> Usually work 35 hours or more <br> (a) laid off for full weok <br> (b) bad weather <br> (c) illness <br> (d) industrial dispute <br> (e) vacation <br> (f) othor <br> Usually work less than 35 houra | $\begin{array}{r} 129 \\ 125 \\ 11 \\ 47 \\ 47 \\ 17 \\ 38 \\ 11 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 102 \\ 101 \\ * \\ 39 \\ 17 \\ 27 \end{array}$ | 27 24 $*$ $*$ $*$ 11 |
| Persons without jobs and seoking work (1) | 179 | 148 | 31 |

(1) Included hers are only those who did not work during the entire survey week and were looking for work. For all those who sought work during the survoy week, see Table 3. * Less than 10,000.
Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cont for Canada as a whole in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week onded October 23, 1954, Canada (estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | Seeking <br> full-time work | Seeking <br> part-time work |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total looking for work | 195 | 186 | $*$ |
| Without jobs | 179 | 172 | $*$ |
| Worked | 16 | $*$ | $*$ |
| $15-14$ hour | 11 | $*$ | $*$ |

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formorly exciuded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole in all characteristics. See section on "Corerago", pege 4. *Lees than 10,000.

Table 4. - Age distributiona, week anded October 23, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | $\begin{aligned} & 14-19 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20-24 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25-44 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 45-64 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | 65 years and over |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The Labour Force | 5,461 | 531 | 706 | 2,533 | 1,475 | 216 |
| Males | 4,228 | 316 | 462 | 2,022 | 1,234 | 194 |
| Fomales | 1,233 | 215 | 244 | 511 | 241 | 22 |
| Persons with jobs | 5,282 | 497 | 676 | 2,463 | 1,435 | 211 |
| Males | 4,080 | 292 | 437 | 1,964 | 1,198 | 189 |
| Famales | 1,202 | 205 | 239 | 499 | 237 | 22 |
| Persons without jobs and sooking work | 179 | 34 | 30 | 70 | 40 | * |
| Persons not in the labour force | 4,850 | 770 | 336 | 1,682 | 1,138 | 924 |
| Males | 900 | 335 | 42 | 1,43 | 101 | 379 |
| Tomales | 3,950 | 435 | 294 | 1,639 | 1,037 | 545 |

Note Includes eatimates for cortain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole in all characteristics. Seo section on "Coverage", page 4.

* Less than 10,000 .

Table 5. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended October 23, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | Paid <br> workers | own <br> account <br> workers <br> $(1)$ | Employers <br> $(2)$ | Unpaid <br> family <br> workers <br> (3) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Both sexes | 5,282 | 3,993 | 743 | 310 | 236 |
| Agricultural | 931 | 137 | 518 | 87 | 189 |
| Nonagricultural | 4,351 | 3,856 | 225 | 223 | 47 |
| Males | 4,080 | 2,913 | 703 | 292 | 172 |
| Agricultural | 881 | 127 | 511 | 85 | 158 |
| Nonagricultural | 3,199 | 2,786 | 192 | 207 | 14 |
| Females | 1,202 | 1,080 | 40 | 18 | 64 |
| Agricultural | 1,150 | 10 | $*$ | $*$ | 31 |
| Nonagricultural | 1,070 | 33 | 16 | 33 |  |

(1) Without paid amployees.
(2) With ow business, profession, or farm.
(3) In a business or on a farm.

* Less than 10,000.

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 6. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended October 23, 1954, Canada (estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | 0 <br> hours | $1-14$ <br> hours | $15-24$ <br> hours | $25-34$ <br> hours | $35-44$ <br> hours | $45-54$ <br> hours | 55 and <br> over |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| All Status Groups |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes | 5,282 | 129 | 71 | 135 | 128 | 2,689 | 1,157 | 973 |
| Agricultural | 931 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 84 | 199 | 602 |
| Nonagricultural | 4,351 | 119 | 58 | 121 | 119 | 2,605 | 958 | 371 |
| Males | 4,080 | 101 | 27 | 64 | 71 | 1,947 | 961 | 909 |
| Agricultural | 881 | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | 77 | 191 | 589 |
| Nonagricultural | 3,199 | 95 | 24 | 55 | 65 | 1,870 | 770 | 320 |
| Females | 1,202 | 28 | 44 | 71 | 57 | 742 | 196 | 64 |
| Agricultural | 50 | $*$ | 10 | $*$ | $*$ | $*$ | $* 8$ | 13 |
| Nonagricultural | 1,152 | 24 | 34 | 66 | 54 | 735 | 188 | 51 |
| Paid Workers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Nonagricultural) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes | 3,856 | 110 | 50 | 102 | 104 | 2,456 | 794 | 240 |
| Males | 2,786 | 87 | 21 | 48 | 58 | 1,745 | 622 | 205 |
| Females | 1,070 | 23 | 29 | 54 | 46 | 711 | 172 | 35 |

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whol in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4. * Less than 10,000 .

Table 7. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended October 23, 1954, Canada (estimatos in thousands)

|  | Total | Iliness | Bad <br> weather | Vacation | In- <br> dustrial <br> dispute | Temporary <br> layoff <br> (1) | Other |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Both sexes | 129 | 48 | $*$ | 40 | 17 | 11 | 12 |

(1) Includes oniy those who had definite instructions to return to their jobs within 30 days of date on which layoff began. * Less than 10,000.
Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a wholo in all characteristics. Seo section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 8. - Marital status of femeles with jobs, week onded October 23, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | Singlo | Married | Other <br> (1) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural <br> Nonagricultural | 1,202 | 50 | 642 | 442 |
| 118 |  |  |  |  |

(1) Includes widowed, divorced, and permanently separated. * Less than 10,000 .

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canade as whole in all charecteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 9. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, wesk onded October 23, 1954, Canada (estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | Under 1 <br> month | $1-3$ <br> months | $4-6$ <br> months | $7-12$ <br> months | 13-18 <br> months | 19 <br> and over |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Both sexes | 179 | 65 | 60 | 28 | 17 | $*$ | $*$ |

Note Includes estimates for cortain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 por cont for Canada as a whole in all charactoristics. Soe section on "Coverage", page 4.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended October 23, 1954, Canada (estimates in thousands)

|  | Total | Permane <br> ently <br> unable or <br> too old <br> to work | Keeping <br> House | Going <br> to <br> school | Retired or <br> voluntar- <br> ily idle | Other |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Both sexes | 4,850 | 163 | 3,432 | 682 | 562 | 11 |
| Males | 900 | 106 | 3,430 | 358 | 429 | $*$ |
| Females | 3,950 | 57 | 324 | 133 | $*$ |  |

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole in sll characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4. *Less than 10,000 .

Table 11. - Regional distributions, week ended October 23, 1954
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Canada | Nfld. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { P.E. I. } \\ & \text { N. S. }_{0} \\ & \text { N. B. }_{0} \end{aligned}$ | Que. | Ont. | den. Sask. Alta. | B. C. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The Labour Force | (1) |  |  |  | (1) |  |  |
| Both sexes | 5,461 | 105 | 412 | 1,560 | 1,981 | 962 | 441 |
| Agricultural | 936 |  | 58 | 214 | 268 | 366 | 28 |
| Nonagricultural | 4,525 |  | 354 | 1,346 | 1,713 | 596 | 413 |
| Males | 4,228 | 88 | 322 | 1,204 | 1,492 | 786 | 336 |
| Agricultural | 886 |  | 51 | 208 | 253 | 348 | 24 |
| Nonagricultural | 3,342 | 86 | 271 | 996 | 1,239 | 438 | 312 |
| Females Agricultural | 1,233 50 | 17 | 90 | 356 | 489 15 | 176 18 | 105 |
| Nonagricultural | 1,183 | 17 | 83 | 350 | 474 | 158 | 101 |
| All ages | 5,461 | 105 | 412 | 1,560 | 1,981 | 962 | 441 |
| 14-19 years | 531 | 12 | 46 | 196 | 160 | 89 | 28 |
| 20-24 years | 706 | 18 | 50 | 229 | 239 | 122 | 48 |
| 25-44 years | 2,533 | 48 | 184 | 720 | 923 | 446 | 212 |
| 45-64 years | 1,475 | 25 | 113 | 370 | 569 | 263 | 135 |
| 65 years and over | 216 | * | 19 | 45 | 90 | 42 | 18 |

(1) Includes estimates for certain remote areas in Ontario, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a wholo and 1.8 per cent for Ontario in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4. *ess than 10,000 .

Table 11. - Regional distributions, week ended October 23, 1954 - con.
(estimates in thousands)

|  | Canada | Nfld. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { P.E. . }_{0} \\ & \text { N.S. } \\ & \text { N. B. } \end{aligned}$ | Que. | Ont. | Man. Sask. Alta. | B. C. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Persone Nith Jobs | (1) |  |  |  | (1) |  |  |
| All status groups | 5,282 | 99 | 397 | 1,490 | 1,921 | 949 | 426 |
| Malez | 4,080 | 82 | 307 | 1,148 | 1,442 | 777 | 324 |
| Fomalor | 1,202 | 17 | 90 | 342 | 479 | 172 | 102 |
| Agricultural Nonagricultural | 931 4,351 | 97 | 57 340 | 213 1,277 | 266 1,655 | 365 584 | 28 398 |
| 14-19 years | 497 | 11 | 43 | 181 | 150 | 87 | 25 |
| 20-24 years | 676 | 17 | 48 | 216 | 229 | 120 | 46 |
| 25-44 years | 2,463 | 45 | 178 | 696 | 898 | 440 | 206 |
| 45-64 years | 1,435 | 24 | 120 | 354 | 556 | 260 | 131 |
| 65 years and over | 211 | * | 18 | 43 | 88 | 42 | 18 |
| Paid workers | 3,993 | 80 | 305 | 1,165 | 1,541 | 546 | 356 |
| Mas | 2,913 | 65 | 225 | 852 | 1,105 | 401 | 265 |
| Fomales | 1,080 | 15 | 80 | 313 | 436 | 145 | 91 |
| Parsons without Jobs and Seekine Work |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes | 179 | * | 15 | 70 | 60 | 13 | 15 |
| Persons not in the |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes | 4,850 | 139 | 445 | 1,332 | 1,600 | 888 | 446 |
| Males | 900 | 37 | 97 | 218 | 278 | 164 | 106 |
| Females | 3,950 | 102 | 348 | 1,114 | 1,322 | 724 | 340 |

(1) Includes ostimates for certain remote areas in Ontario, formerly oxcluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole and 1.8 per cent for Ontario in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

* Less than 10,000.


