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THE LABOUR FORCE

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THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week Ended December 11, 1954

Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended December 11, 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 methods in approximately 110 different areas in Canada are visited each month. The labour force surveys provide estimates of the employment characteristics of the civilian noninstitutional population of working age. Persons are classified according to current activity during the specific weeks 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 weeks ended May 31, 1952 and August 16, 1952, and the regular monthly reports starting with the week ended November 22, 1952. The figures for 1953 and 1954 are not strictly comparable with those for previous years in the publications referred to, because of revisions based upon new age and sex distributions obtained from the 1951 Census. The figures for earlier years have been revised and summaries of the revised estimates appear in Table 1 of the report for April, 1954.

Definitions and Explanations

(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 week.

(b) Persons with jobs - For the purpose of the labour force survey, "persons with jobs" are grouped into two categories:

- (i) Persons at work - 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;
- (ii) Persons with jobs 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 jobs and seeking work".)

While variations in the estimates of the total number of persons with jobs provide a valuable indicator of economic conditions, significant changes in the employment pattern may be concealed unless attention is focussed on the extent to which people worked less than full time. Table 1 provides an analysis of the reasons for which persons worked less than 35 hours in the survey week. Estimates of weekly hours of work are contained in Table 6. Persons with jobs who did not work during the survey week are classified in Table 7 by the reasons for their absence from work.

(c) Persons without jobs and seeking 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 ill, were on indefinite or prolonged lay-off, or believed that no work was available.

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 presents estimates of all persons looking for work.

(d) Persons not in the labour force - The non-working part of the population 14 years of age and over consists 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 enterprises 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 keeping house, persons who are too old or are permanently unable to work for some other reason, and persons who are voluntarily idle or retired. Persons, such as housewives, 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 shown below.

<u>Size of estimate</u>	<u>Sampling variability</u>
10,000	4,000
50,000	8,000
100,000	11,000
500,000	25,000
1,000,000	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 reasons, they are given no chance of selection for enumeration. This resulted in an increase of about 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole and about 1.8 per cent 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 are: Indians on reservations (68,000); inmates of institutions (128,000); and the population in remote areas of Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia (40,000). Also excluded are members of the armed forces and residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Table 1. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended December 12, 1954, Canada (estimates in thousands)

	Dec. 11 1954	Nov. 20 1954	Dec. 12 1953
Total civilian noninstitutional population	(3) 10,353	(3) 10,334	10,115
Persons not in the labour force	4,939	4,917	4,840
Civilian labour force	5,414	5,417	5,275
Persons at work	5,062	5,093	4,972
35 hours or more	4,614	4,747	4,550
Less than 35 hours	448	346	422
Usually work 35 hours or more	230	139	236
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	13
(b) on short time	42	39	52
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	21	20	30
(f) illness	23	28	25
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	17	*	15
(i) other (1)	108	25	94
Usually work less than 35 hours	218	207	186
Persons with jobs not at work	105	110	113
Usually work 35 hours or more	102	107	110
(a) laid off for full week	16	11	25
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	50	46	52
(d) industrial dispute	*	13	*
(e) vacation	10	26	*
(f) other	13	*	12
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (2)	247	214	190

- (1) Included are those who lost time during the week due to the religious observance of December 8, 1954.
- (2) 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 week, see Table 3.
- (3) 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. * Less than 10,000.

Table 2. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended December 12, 1954, Canada (estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,353	5,151	5,202
Persons not in the labour force	4,939	972	3,967
Civilian labour force	5,414	4,179	1,235
Persons at work	5,062	3,872	1,190
35 hours or more	4,614	3,623	991
Less than 35 hours	448	249	199
Usually work 35 hours or more	230	173	57
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	42	31	11
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	21	21	*
(f) illness	23	18	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	17	10	*
(i) other (1)	108	78	30
Usually work less than 35 hours	218	76	142
Persons with jobs not at work	105	90	15
Usually work 35 hours or more	102	88	14
(a) laid off for full week	16	15	*
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	50	41	*
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	10	*	*
(f) other	13	11	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (2)	247	217	30

- (1) Included are those who lost time during the week due to the religious observance of December 8, 1954.
- (2) 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 week, see Table 3. * 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 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	269	258	11
Without jobs	247	238	*
Worked	22	20	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	16	14	*

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. * Less than 10,000.

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
The Labour Force	5,414	516	707	2,524	1,457	210
Males	4,179	303	460	2,007	1,222	187
Females	1,235	213	247	517	235	23
Persons with jobs	5,167	472	666	2,432	1,396	201
Males	3,962	270	425	1,925	1,164	178
Females	1,205	202	241	507	232	23
Persons without jobs and seeking work	247	44	41	92	61	*
Persons not in the labour force	4,939	793	338	1,708	1,164	936
Males	972	352	46	68	117	389
Females	3,967	441	292	1,640	1,047	547

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.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 5. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended December 12, 1954,
Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,167	3,954	708	291	214
Agricultural	800	105	471	68	156
Nonagricultural	4,367	3,849	237	223	58
Males	3,962	2,857	675	274	156
Agricultural	767	97	467	67	136
Nonagricultural	3,195	2,760	208	207	20
Females	1,205	1,097	33	17	58
Agricultural	33	*	*	*	20
Nonagricultural	1,172	1,089	29	16	38

(1) Without paid employees.

(2) With own 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
December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	0 hours	1-14 hours	15-24 hours	25-34 hours	35-44 hours	45-54 hours	55 and over
<u>All Status Groups</u>								
Both sexes	5,167	105	75	153	220	2,814	1,164	636
Agricultural	800	10	*	22	11	154	263	331
Nonagricultural	4,367	95	66	131	209	2,660	901	305
Males	3,962	90	32	81	136	2,067	970	586
Agricultural	767	10	*	17	10	147	255	324
Nonagricultural	3,195	80	28	64	126	1,920	715	262
Females	1,205	15	43	72	84	747	194	50
Agricultural	33	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,172	15	38	67	83	740	186	43
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Nonagricultural)								
Both sexes	3,849	84	55	109	190	2,491	723	197
Males	2,760	69	24	54	113	1,776	556	168
Females	1,089	15	31	55	77	715	167	29

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. * Less than 10,000.

Table 7. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	105	52	*	10	*	16	14

(1) Includes only 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 whole in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 8. - Marital status of females with jobs, week ended December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,205	637	445	123
Agricultural	33	12	16	*
Nonagricultural	1,172	625	429	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 Canada as a whole in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 9. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Under 1 month	1 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7-12 months	13-18 months	19 and over
Both sexes	247	85	104	33	17	*	*

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.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended December 12, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Permanently unable or too old to work	Keeping House	Going to school	Retired or voluntarily idle	Other
Both sexes	4,939	168	3,444	708	601	18
Males	972	113	3,444 *	377	469	10
Females	3,967	55	3,441	331	132	*

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. * Less than 10,000.

Table 11. - Regional distributions, week ended December 12, 1954.

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>The Labour Force</u>	(1)				(1)		
Both sexes	5,414	96	413	1,554	1,983	928	440
Agricultural	808	*	49	178	247	303	29
Nonagricultural	4,606	94	364	1,376	1,736	625	411
Males	4,179	77	323	1,197	1,490	755	337
Agricultural	775	*	46	173	234	294	26
Nonagricultural	3,404	75	277	1,024	1,256	461	311
Females	1,235	19	90	357	493	173	103
Agricultural	33	*	*	*	13	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,202	19	87	352	480	164	100
All ages	5,414	96	413	1,554	1,983	928	440
14-19 years	516	12	48	186	161	81	28
20-24 years	707	16	51	231	239	122	48
25-44 years	2,524	43	178	724	931	434	214
45-64 years	1,457	22	115	367	567	254	132
65 years and over	210	*	21	46	85	37	18

(1) Includes estimates for certain remote areas in Ontario, formerly excluded, 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.

Table 11. - Regional distributions, week ended December 12, 1954 - Con.

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>	(1)				(1)		
All status groups	5,167	91	392	1,460	1,908	897	419
Males	3,962	72	303	1,117	1,424	728	318
Females	1,205	19	89	343	484	169	101
Agricultural	800	*	48	178	244	299	29
Nonagricultural	4,367	89	344	1,282	1,664	598	390
14-19 years	472	11	44	168	148	76	25
20-24 years	666	15	47	213	229	117	45
25-44 years	2,432	41	171	690	900	423	207
45-64 years	1,396	21	110	345	549	246	125
65 years and over	201	*	20	44	82	35	17
Paid workers	3,954	74	305	1,140	1,545	537	353
Males	2,857	57	223	828	1,099	388	262
Females	1,097	17	82	312	446	149	91
<u>Persons without Jobs and Seeking Work</u>							
Both sexes	247	*	21	94	75	31	21
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	4,939	150	445	1,352	1,613	929	450
Males	972	50	96	232	288	199	107
Females	3,967	100	349	1,120	1,325	730	343

(1) Includes estimates for certain remote areas in Ontario, formerly excluded, amounting to 0.6 per cent for Canada as a whole and 1.3 per cent for Ontario in all characteristics. See section on "Coverage", page 4.

* Less than 10,000.

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