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CANADA



THE LABOUR FORCE

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THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week Ended May 22, 1954.

Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended May 22, 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.

In May, 1954, the coverage of the survey was increased to include representation for some of the remote areas not previously covered. In making comparisons with previous months, this increase in coverage, amounting to approximately three-fifths of one per cent should be kept in mind.

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 2 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 7. Persons with jobs who did not work during the survey week are classified in Table 8 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 4 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 or 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 proportionately larger.

Table 1. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended May 22, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	May 22 1954	Apr. 17 1954	May 16 1953
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,234	10,158	10,006
Persons not in the labour force	4,842	4,901	4,685
Civilian labour force	5,392	5,257	5,321
Persons at work	5,080	4,845	5,108
35 hours or more	4,729	2,890	4,720
Less than 35 hours	351	(1) 1,955	388
Usually work 35 hours or more	128	(1) 1,752	177
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	44	59	25
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	16	14	20
(f) illness	23	20	20
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	*	(1) 81	24
(i) other	17	(1) 1,560	73
Usually work less than 35 hours	223	203	211
Persons with jobs not at work	95	109	99
Usually work 35 hours or more	92	106	96
(a) laid off for full week	10	20	11
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	44	47	54
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	28	22	20
(f) other	*	12	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (2)	217	303	114

(1) The unusually large number working less than 35 hours was due to Good Friday being in the survey week. This explains nearly all the absence reported under (h) and (i). (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.

Table 2. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended May 22, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,234	5,096	5,138
Persons not in the labour force	4,842	894	3,948
Civilian labour force	5,392	4,202	1,190
Persons at work	5,080	3,933	1,147
35 hours or more	4,729	3,754	975
Less than 35 hours	351	179	172
Usually work 35 hours or more	128	97	31
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	44	31	13
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	16	15	*
(f) illness	23	17	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	*	*	*
(i) other	17	13	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	223	82	141
Persons with jobs not at work	95	76	19
Usually work 35 hours or more	92	74	18
(a) laid off for full week	10	*	*
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	44	36	*
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	28	21	*
(f) other	*	*	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (1)	217	193	24

(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 week, see Table 3.

* Less than 10,000.

5775
4009

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended May 22, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	235	219	16
Without jobs	217	204	13
Worked	18	15	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	14	12	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended May 22, 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	5,392	515	723	2,498	1,440	216
Males	4,202	313	469	2,006	1,219	195
Females	1,190	202	254	492	221	21
Persons with jobs	5,175	475	685	2,413	1,392	210
Males	4,009	283	436	1,928	1,173	189
Females	1,166	192	249	485	219	21
Persons without jobs and seeking work	217	40	38	85	48	*
Persons not in the labour force	4,842	773	316	1,688	1,149	916
Males	894	333	33	45	107	376
Females	3,948	440	283	1,643	1,042	540

* Less than 10,000.

Table 5. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended May 22, 1954,
Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own-account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,175	3,885	751	307	232
Agricultural	886	124	497	85	180
Nonagricultural	4,289	3,761	254	222	52
Males	4,009	2,834	707	293	175
Agricultural	850	115	491	84	160
Nonagricultural	3,159	2,719	216	209	15
Females	1,166	1,051	44	14	57
Agricultural	36	*	*	*	20
Nonagricultural	1,130	1,042	38	13	37

(1) Without paid employees.

(2) With own business, profession, or farm.

(3) In a business or on a farm.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 6. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended
May 22, 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	5,175	95	80	144	127	2,742	1,103	884
Agricultural	886	*	13	18	13	86	180	572
Nonagricultural	4,289	91	67	126	114	2,656	923	312
Males	4,009	76	34	74	71	2,006	916	832
Agricultural	850	*	*	12	10	81	175	563
Nonagricultural	3,159	72	29	62	61	1,925	741	269
Females	1,166	19	46	70	56	736	187	52
Agricultural	36	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,130	19	38	64	53	731	182	43
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Nonagricultural)								
Both sexes	3,761	81	54	104	96	2,490	752	184
Males	2,719	63	25	53	51	1,785	587	155
Females	1,042	18	29	51	45	705	165	29

* Less than 10,000.

Table 7. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended May 22, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	95	45	*	28	*	10	10

(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.

Table 8. - Marital status of females with jobs, week ended May 22, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,166	632	420	114
Agricultural	36	*	22	*
Nonagricultural	1,130	623	398	109

(1) Includes widowed, divorced, and permanently separated.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended May 22, 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	217	53	70	61	27	*	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended May 22, 1954, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Perman- ently unable or too old to work	Keeping house	Going to school	Retired or voluntar- ily idle	Other
Both sexes	4,842	177	3,412	676	561	16
Males	894	112	*	342	429	*
Females	3,948	65	3,410	334	132	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 11. - Regional distributions, week ended May 22, 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>							
Both sexes	5,392	100	405	1,515	1,987	957	428
Agricultural	891	*	53	221	245	352	18
Nonagricultural	4,501	98	352	1,294	1,742	605	410
Males	4,202	83	327	1,182	1,503	773	334
Agricultural	854	*	50	217	230	339	16
Nonagricultural	3,348	81	277	965	1,273	434	318
Females	1,190	17	78	333	484	184	94
Agricultural	37	*	*	*	15	13	*
Nonagricultural	1,153	17	75	329	469	171	92
All ages	5,392	100	405	1,515	1,987	957	428
14-19 years	515	13	42	182	166	83	29
20-24 years	723	17	50	234	247	130	45
25-44 years	2,498	45	183	704	917	441	208
45-64 years	1,440	22	108	356	564	262	128
65 years and over	216	*	22	39	93	41	18

* Less than 10,000.

Table 11. - Regional distributions, week ended May 22, 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>							
All status groups	5,175	89	377	1,439	1,922	938	410
Males	4,009	73	301	1,114	1,447	756	318
Females	1,166	16	76	325	475	182	92
Agricultural	886	*	52	219	244	351	18
Nonagricultural	4,289	87	325	1,220	1,678	587	392
14-19 years	475	*	36	169	155	80	26
20-24 years	685	15	44	219	237	126	44
25-44 years	2,413	42	174	675	887	434	201
45-64 years	1,392	20	102	339	552	257	122
65 years and over	210	*	21	37	91	41	17
Paid workers	3,885	72	279	1,103	1,551	537	343
Males	2,834	57	214	803	1,121	377	262
Females	1,051	15	65	300	430	160	81
<u>Persons without Jobs and Seeking Work</u>							
Both sexes	217	11	28	76	65	19	18
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	4,842	141	450	1,352	1,567	880	452
Males	894	41	91	229	256	171	106
Females	3,948	100	359	1,123	1,311	709	346

* Less than 10,000.

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