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CANADA



**THE LABOUR FORCE**  
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## THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week ended April 23, 1955

### Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended April 23, 1955. 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 some 115 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. 58, "The Labour Force, November, 1945 -- January, 1955". The estimates which appeared in Reference Paper No. 35 and subsequent bulletins have been revised to cover the entire ten provinces of Canada including the remote and more inaccessible areas (See section on Coverage, page 4).

### 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 who, during the survey week: did some work; had jobs but did no work; or did not have jobs and were seeking work.

(b) Persons with jobs and at work - This category includes those who during the survey week did any work for pay or profit or who did unpaid work which contributed to the running of a farm or a business operated by a related member of the household.

While variations in the estimates of the total number of persons at work 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 I 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.

(c) Persons with jobs but not at work - This category includes those who had jobs but did not work during the survey week because of vacation, illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, or temporary layoff. Persons who had jobs but did not work during the survey week and who also looked for work are included in "Persons without jobs and seeking work".

Persons on temporary layoff are those who were laid off from their job with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of the date of layoff. Persons with jobs but not at work are classified in Table 8 by the reasons for their absence from work.

(d) 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 but are shown as with a job and at work.

(e) 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 are not working for pay or profit or as unpaid workers in family enterprises such as farms or businesses nor are looking for work. 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 "persons with jobs". If they are looking for work, they are classified 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

The sample used in the surveys of the labour force has been designed to include all persons 14 years of age and over who reside in Canada with certain specific exceptions. No estimates are made for: residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories; members of the armed services; Indians on reservations; and inmates of institutions. The totals of persons 14 years of age and over shown for these categories in the 1951 Census were 17,000, 71,000, 62,000 and 117,000 respectively. In surveys preceding February, 1955, certain remote and relatively inaccessible areas were not included in the estimates. The sample design was altered so that totals would include estimates for these areas in Ontario, from May, 1954, and for the remaining areas in Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia from February, 1955. The adjustments for Canada as a whole amounts to about 1.0% from November, 1945, to April, 1954, and to about 0.4% from May, 1954, to January, 1955. Revised estimates are contained in Reference Paper No. 58.

Table 1. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, weeks ended April 23, 1955, March 19, 1955, April 17, 1954. Canada (estimates in thousands)

	Apr. 23 1955	Mar. 19 1955	Apr. 17 1954
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,490	10,468	(3) 10,261
Persons not in the labour force	5,040	5,068	4,949
Civilian labour force	5,450	5,400	5,312
Persons at work	5,006	4,875	4,896
35 hours or more	4,636	4,484	(1) 2,920
Less than 35 hours	370	391	(1) 1,976
Usually work 35 hours or more	138	165	(1) 1,771
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	33	47	60
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	14	*	*
(e) bad weather	25	33	14
(f) illness	29	33	20
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	*	*	(1) 82
(i) other	19	32	(1) 1,577
Usually work less than 35 hours	232	226	205
Persons with jobs not at work	117	124	110
Usually work 35 hours or more	114	119	107
(a) laid off for full week	14	18	20
(b) bad weather	12	*	*
(c) illness	55	62	48
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	20	16	22
(f) other	10	12	12
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (2)	327	401	306

- (1) The unusually large number working less than 35 hours in the survey week ended April 17, 1954, 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.
- (3) Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955. 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, by sex, week ended April 23, 1955, Canada  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,490	5,225	5,265
Persons not in the labour force	5,040	1,000	4,040
Civilian labour force	5,450	4,225	1,225
Persons at work	5,006	3,834	1,172
35 hours or more	4,636	3,631	1,005
Less than 35 hours	370	203	167
Usually work 35 hours or more	138	115	23
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	33	25	*
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	14	13	*
(e) bad weather	25	25	*
(f) illness	29	21	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	*	*	*
(i) other	19	16	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	232	88	144
Persons with jobs not at work	117	96	21
Usually work 35 hours or more	114	94	20
(a) laid off for full week	14	13	*
(b) bad weather	12	12	*
(c) illness	55	43	12
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	20	14	*
(f) other	10	*	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (1)	327	295	32

(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.

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955. See section on "Coverage", page 4. \* Less than 10,000.

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended April 23, 1955, Canada  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	350	323	27
Without jobs	327	304	23
Worked	23	19	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	17	14	*

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.  
\* Less than 10,000.

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended April 23, 1955, Canada  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
The Labour Force	5,450	496	712	2,556	1,475	211
Males	4,225	296	466	2,042	1,233	188
Females	1,225	200	246	514	242	23
Persons with jobs	5,123	442	655	2,422	1,402	202
Males	3,930	253	414	1,919	1,165	179
Females	1,193	189	241	503	237	23
Persons without jobs and seeking work	327	54	57	134	73	*
Persons not in the labour force	5,040	834	343	1,733	1,181	949
Males	1,000	371	46	65	124	394
Females	4,040	463	297	1,668	1,057	555

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.  
\* Less than 10,000.

Table 5. - Percentage of the population 14 years of age and over in the civilian labour force, by age and sex, week ended April 23, 1955, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	52.0	37.3	67.5	59.6	55.5	18.2
Males	80.9	44.4	91.0	96.9	90.9	32.3
Females	23.3	30.2	45.3	23.6	18.6	4.0

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.

Table 6. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended April 23, 1955, Canada  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,123	3,895	715	296	217
Agricultural	807	100	481	65	161
Nonagricultural	4,316	3,795	234	231	56
Males	3,930	2,814	678	275	163
Agricultural	781	94	477	63	147
Nonagricultural	3,149	2,720	201	212	16
Females	1,193	1,081	37	21	54
Agricultural	26	*	*	*	14
Nonagricultural	1,167	1,075	33	19	40

(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, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.



Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended April 23, 1955, 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	5,123	117	90	158	122	2,829	1,175	632
Agricultural	807	*	13	22	16	144	255	350
Nonagricultural	4,316	110	77	136	106	2,685	920	282
Males	3,930	96	41	90	72	2,050	997	584
Agricultural	781	*	*	18	16	138	250	344
Nonagricultural	3,149	89	33	72	56	1,912	747	240
Females	1,193	21	49	68	50	779	178	48
Agricultural	26	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,167	21	44	64	50	773	173	42
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Nonagricultural)								
Both sexes	3,795	97	63	115	92	2,519	749	160
Males	2,720	76	28	63	48	1,775	596	134
Females	1,075	21	35	52	44	744	153	26

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955. See section on "Coverage", page 4.  
\* Less than 10,000.

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended April 23, 1955, Canada (estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	In- dustrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	117	57	12	20	*	14	11

(1) Includes only those who had definite instructions to return to their jobs within 30 days of date on which layoff began.

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955. See section on "Coverage", page 4.  
\* Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Marital status of females with jobs, week ended April 23, 1955, Canada  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,193	638	435	120
Agricultural	26	*	13	*
Nonagricultural	1,167	629	422	116

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

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended April 23, 1955, 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	327	57	115	108	33	*	*

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended April 23, 1955, 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	5,040	174	3,476	743	623	24
Males	1,000	116	*	386	481	14
Females	4,040	58	3,473	357	142	10

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended April 23, 1955.

(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	5,450	93	397	1,564	1,993	960	443
Agricultural	814	*	42	178	229	332	31
Nonagricultural	4,636	91	355	1,386	1,764	628	412
Males	4,225	75	317	1,203	1,509	775	346
Agricultural	788	*	41	174	219	323	29
Nonagricultural	3,437	73	276	1,029	1,290	452	317
Females	1,225	18	80	361	484	185	97
Agricultural	26	*	*	*	10	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,199	18	79	357	474	176	95
All ages	5,450	93	397	1,564	1,993	960	443
14-19 years	496	*	38	175	167	79	28
20-24 years	712	17	50	232	242	125	46
25-44 years	2,556	42	180	735	934	449	216
45-64 years	1,475	22	109	380	565	267	132
65 years and over	211	*	20	42	85	40	21
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	5,123	83	363	1,411	1,921	921	424
Males	3,930	65	285	1,063	1,447	740	330
Females	1,193	18	78	348	474	181	94
Agricultural	807	*	41	176	227	330	31
Nonagricultural	4,316	81	322	1,235	1,694	591	393
14-19 years	442	*	31	147	157	74	25
20-24 years	655	15	42	204	232	118	44
25-44 years	2,422	38	168	671	904	433	208
45-64 years	1,402	19	103	351	545	257	127
65 years and over	202	*	19	38	83	39	20
Paid workers	3,895	67	279	1,094	1,568	531	356
Males	2,814	51	210	779	1,131	373	270
Females	1,081	16	69	315	437	158	86

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.

See section on "Coverage", page 4.

\* Less than 10,000.



Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended April 23, 1955 - con.

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>Persons without Jobs and Seeking Work</u>							
Both sexes	327	10	34	153	72	39	19
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,040	157	464	1,396	1,637	926	460
Males	1,000	54	104	255	287	195	105
Females	4,040	103	360	1,141	1,350	731	355

Note Includes estimates for certain remote areas, excluded prior to February, 1955.  
See section on "Coverage", page 4.