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THE LABOUR FORCE

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THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week ended May 21, 1955

Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended May 21, 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 May 21, 1955, April 23, 1955, May 22, 1954. Canada (estimates in thousands)

	May 21 1955	Apr. 23 1955	May 22 1954
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,506	10,490	(3) 10,274
Persons not in the labour force	4,969	5,050	4,861
Civilian labour force	5,537	5,450	5,413
Persons at work	5,218	5,006	5,100
35 hours or more	4,763	4,636	4,748
Less than 35 hours	455	370	352
Usually work 35 hours or more (1)	228	138	128
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	37	33	44
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	10	14	*
(e) bad weather	*	25	16
(f) illness	18	29	23
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation (1)	30	*	*
(i) other (1)	118	19	17
Usually work less than 35 hours	227	232	224
Persons with jobs not at work	106	117	95
Usually work 35 hours or more	104	114	92
(a) laid off for full week	11	14	10
(b) bad weather	*	12	*
(c) illness	49	55	44
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	28	20	28
(f) other	11	10	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (2)	213	327	218

- (1) Included here are those who lost time during the week due to the religious observance of May 19, 1955.
- (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 May 21, 1955, Canada (estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,506	5,233	5,273
Persons not in the labour force	4,969	941	4,028
Civilian labour force	5,537	4,292	1,245
Persons at work	5,218	4,025	1,193
35 hours or more	4,763	3,789	974
Less than 35 hours	455	236	219
Usually work 35 hours or more	228	157	71
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	37	27	10
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	10	*	*
(e) bad weather	*	*	*
(f) illness	18	14	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	30	19	11
(i) other	118	76	42
Usually work less than 35 hours	227	79	148
Persons with jobs not at work	106	81	25
Usually work 35 hours or more	104	80	24
(a) laid off for full week	11	*	*
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	49	36	13
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	28	21	*
(f) other	11	*	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (1)	213	186	27

(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 May 21, 1955, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	228	211	17
Without jobs	213	197	16
Worked	15	14	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	11	10	*

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 May 21, 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	5,537	507	725	2,585	1,506	214
Males	4,292	306	477	2,062	1,254	193
Females	1,245	201	248	523	252	21
Persons with jobs	5,324	470	687	2,504	1,455	208
Males	4,106	277	445	1,989	1,208	187
Females	1,218	193	242	515	247	21
Persons without jobs and seeking work	213	37	38	81	51	*
Persons not in the labour force	4,969	825	331	1,710	1,156	947
Males	941	362	36	49	105	389
Females	4,028	463	295	1,661	1,051	558

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 May 21, 1955, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	52.7	38.1	68.7	60.2	56.6	18.4
Males	82.0	45.8	93.0	97.7	92.3	33.2
Females	23.6	30.3	45.7	23.9	19.3	3.6

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 May 21, 1955, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,324	4,059	732	305	228
Agricultural	873	124	500	76	173
Nonagricultural	4,451	3,935	232	229	55
Males	4,106	2,962	691	285	168
Agricultural	838	116	496	75	151
Nonagricultural	3,268	2,846	195	210	17
Females	1,218	1,097	41	20	60
Agricultural	35	*	*	*	22
Nonagricultural	1,183	1,089	37	19	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, 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
May 21, 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	5,324	106	83	153	219	2,823	1,087	853
Agricultural	873	*	15	16	*	101	175	554
Nonagricultural	4,451	100	68	137	213	2,722	912	299
Males	4,106	81	33	75	128	2,063	918	808
Agricultural	838	*	*	11	*	94	169	549
Nonagricultural	3,268	75	28	64	124	1,969	749	259
Females	1,218	25	50	78	91	760	169	45
Agricultural	35	*	10	*	*	*	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,183	25	40	73	89	753	163	40
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Nonagricultural)								
Both sexes	3,935	90	57	112	196	2,556	747	177
Males	2,846	67	26	53	113	1,831	603	153
Females	1,089	23	31	59	83	725	144	24

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
May 21, 1955, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	In- dustrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	106	51	*	28	*	11	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 May 21, 1955, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,218	645	446	127
Agricultural	35	12	18	*
Nonagricultural	1,183	633	428	122

(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
May 21, 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	213	50	65	55	30	*	*

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
May 21, 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	4,969	165	3,471	732	582	19
Males	941	105	*	376	444	11
Females	4,028	60	3,466	356	138	*

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 May 21, 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	5,537	104	412	1,565	2,016	991	449
Agricultural	877	*	49	188	235	370	31
Nonagricultural	4,660	100	363	1,377	1,781	621	418
Males	4,292	87	326	1,213	1,517	800	349
Agricultural	842	*	46	184	223	357	28
Nonagricultural	3,450	83	280	1,029	1,294	443	321
Females	1,245	17	86	352	499	191	100
Agricultural	35	*	*	*	12	13	*
Nonagricultural	1,210	17	83	348	487	178	97
All ages	5,537	104	412	1,565	2,016	991	449
14-19 years	507	13	37	175	170	83	29
20-24 years	725	16	51	234	245	131	48
25-44 years	2,585	50	187	734	941	456	217
45-64 years	1,506	22	116	382	574	278	134
65 years and over	214	*	21	40	86	43	21
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	5,324	96	388	1,469	1,969	967	435
Males	4,106	79	304	1,128	1,478	780	337
Females	1,218	17	84	341	491	187	98
Agricultural	873	*	48	186	234	370	31
Nonagricultural	4,451	92	340	1,283	1,735	597	404
14-19 years	470	12	31	159	161	79	28
20-24 years	687	15	45	217	237	127	46
25-44 years	2,504	46	179	694	927	446	212
45-64 years	1,455	20	113	361	559	273	129
65 years and over	208	*	20	38	85	42	20
Paid workers	4,059	79	295	1,147	1,620	553	365
Males	2,962	64	224	837	1,170	391	276
Females	1,097	15	71	310	450	162	89

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

See section on "Coverage", page 4.

* Less than 10,000.

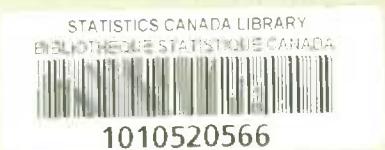


Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended May 21, 1955 - con.

(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	213	*	24	96	47	24	14
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	4,969	147	450	1,400	1,619	898	455
Males	941	43	95	247	281	172	103
Females	4,028	104	355	1,153	1,338	726	352

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

* Less than 10,000.