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THE LABOUR FORCE

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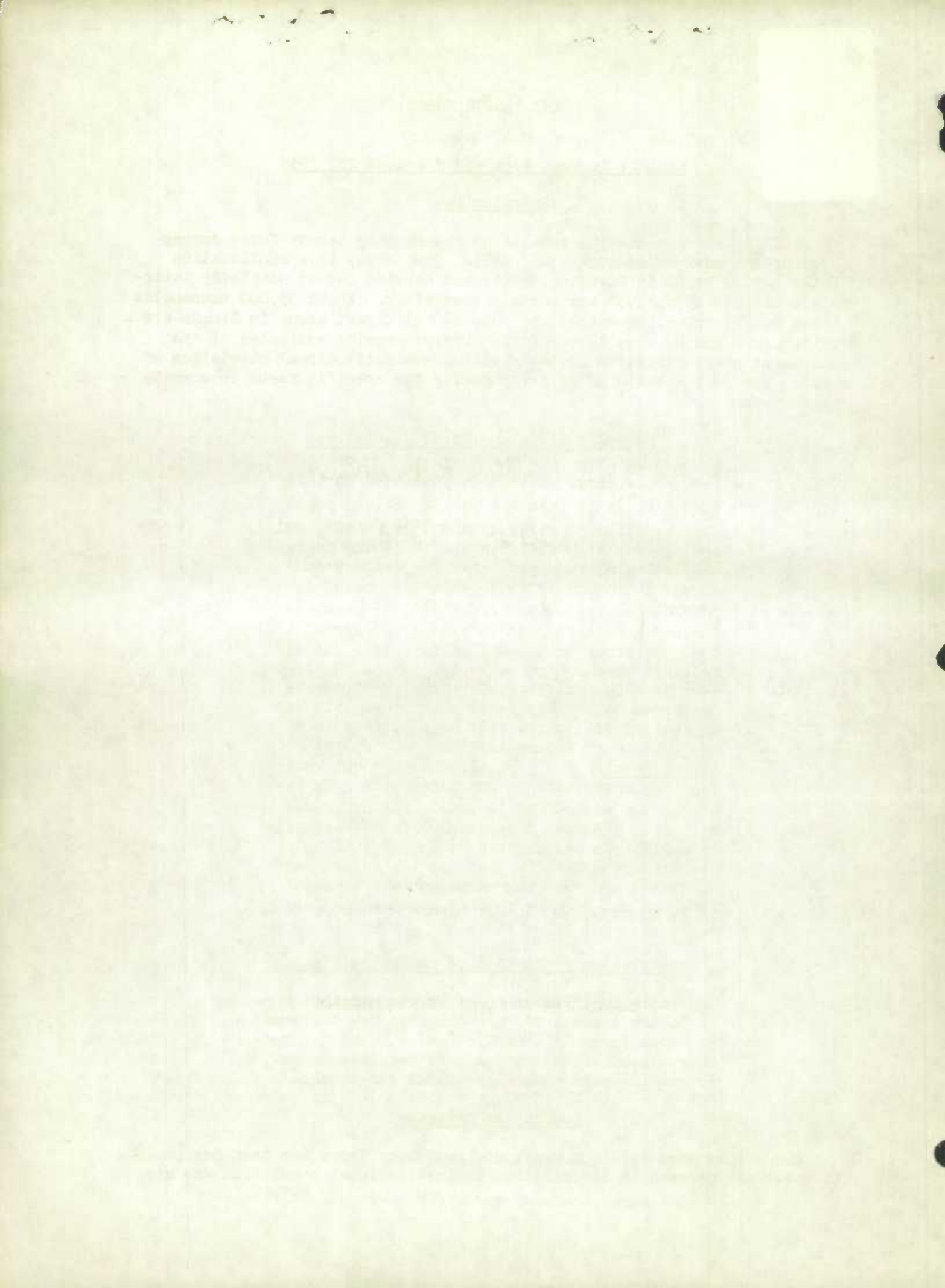
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THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week ended August 23, 1958

Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended August 23, 1958. The survey is a continuation of the series begun in November, 1945, and carried out at quarterly intervals until November, 1952, and monthly thereafter. About 35,000 households chosen by area sampling methods in some 120 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 on the basis of activity during the specific weeks covered by the surveys.

Revision of Labour Force Statistics

The labour force statistics presented in this August bulletin take account of revised population estimates based on the 1956 Census, and are not strictly comparable with labour force statistics already published for dates from August 1951 to July 1958 (which are based on population projections from the 1951 Census). Revised statistics for July 1958 and August 1957, together with summary statistics for all relevant months, are presented in the Supplement to this bulletin. The Supplement can be discarded later this year, when a complete set of revised statistics will be published in a new edition of Reference Paper No. 58, The Labour Force. The population adjustment varies from characteristic to characteristic. On average, the adjustment is small, rising gradually (but somewhat irregularly) from practically negligible proportions in August 1951 to about 1% in mid-1954. In 1955 the adjustment decreases somewhat but rises in 1956 to about 1% again and remains at that level until July 1958.

Presentation of Statistics in Tables 1 and 2

The individual labour force characteristics given in Tables 1 and 2 of this bulletin are the same as those formerly shown in Tables 1 and 2. However, the characteristics have been re-grouped, to provide more generally useful sub-totals.

Population Coverage

The sample used in the surveys of the labour force has been designed to cover all persons in the civilian noninstitutional population who are

14 years of age or over and who reside in Canada, with the exception of: members of the armed forces, inmates of institutions, residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories and Indians on reservations. The total persons 14 years of age and over in these categories as estimated at August 23, 1958 was 346,000.

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 not 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.

(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 jobs with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of the date of layoff. Persons who were not at work and were on any other kind of layoff are classified, according to their activity, either as "Persons without jobs and seeking work", or as "Not in labour force".

(d) Reasons for not working full-time - 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 these people worked less than full-time, or were not at work. Tables 1, 2, and 8 show the reasons for part-time work and absence from work. The term "usually" refers to the jobs held in the survey week. (A minor exception is the fact that all persons who actually worked 35 hours or more are classified as if they usually worked these hours in the jobs they held during the survey week.) Estimates of persons with jobs not at work, and at work by number of hours worked are given in Table 7.

(e) 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 temporary ill; were on indefinite or prolonged layoff; 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 category but are classified as with a job and at work. However, they are shown separately in Table 3.

(f) 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 Estimates

(a) Non-sampling Variability

The data obtained by enumeration, either of the entire population or of a sample of it, will differ in some degree from the true data as outlined by the definitions because of enumerator and respondent variations. The principal elements of this nature are:

- (i) the respondent may not recall correctly details of the past week, particularly those relating to persons other than himself;
- (ii) the enumerator may misinterpret the definitions despite careful instruction;
- (iii) the enumerator may inadvertently phrase questions which influence the answers of the respondent;
- (iv) the respondent may inadvertently phrase answers which influence the subsequent questions asked by the enumerator; and
- (v) there may be deliberate mis-statements by either enumerator or respondent.

The amount of variance associated with these factors differs with the nature of the inquiry. In general, the more personal and more subjective inquiries are subject to greater error.

(b) Sampling Variability

In addition to non-sampling error, discussed in sub-section (a), the survey results are subject to sampling variability. While for the non-sampling component of error statistical estimates of its magnitude are not available, estimates of the probable range of the sampling component of error have been calculated. Estimates of the sampling variability for specified sizes of estimates in any month are given in the following table. The columns headed "General sampling variability" apply to most labour force characteristics. However, for persons without jobs and seeking work and for persons working from 1 to 34 hours, the sampling variability is about 40 per cent higher and this higher variability is shown in the table also. Sampling variability is defined as twice the standard deviation; thus the odds are about 19 to 1 that the range (Labour Force Estimate \pm Sampling Variability) contains the true estimate.

These estimates are averages since sampling variability differs from characteristic to characteristic and from month to month.

Estimated sampling variability for the major labour force characteristics by size of estimate

<u>Size of estimate</u>	<u>General sampling variability</u>		<u>General sampling variability + 40% (1)</u>	
	<u>size</u>	<u>per cent</u>	<u>size</u>	<u>per cent</u>
10,000	3,500	35.0	5,000	50.0
25,000	5,500	22.0	7,500	30.0
50,000	8,000	16.0	11,000	22.0
75,000	9,500	12.7	13,500	18.0
100,000	11,000	11.0	15,500	15.5
250,000	17,500	7.0	24,500	9.8
500,000	24,000	4.8	33,500	6.7
750,000	28,500	3.8	40,000	5.3
1,000,000	33,000	3.3	46,000	4.6
2,500,000	49,000	2.0		
5,000,000	58,000	1.2		
6,000,000	60,000	1.0		

(1) applicable to persons without jobs and seeking work and to persons working 1 to 34 hours.

These estimates of sampling variability cannot be applied directly to estimates of month-to-month change. However, studies indicate that the sampling variability of a difference over a period of one month can be approximated for "persons with jobs" and for "persons without jobs and seeking work" using the following formula: (0.6) times (the square root of the sum of the squares of the sampling variabilities associated with the two estimates).

For example, suppose the estimates of persons with jobs in June and July, were 5,879,000 and 6,023,000 respectively, with sampling variabilities of about 60,000 each. The difference between these two estimates (144,000) would have a sampling variability of approximately:

$$0.6 \sqrt{60,000^2 + 60,000^2} \text{ or about } 51,000.$$

For "persons without jobs and seeking work", suppose the corresponding estimates for June and July were 324,000 and 291,000 with sampling variabilities of about 28,000 and 27,000. The difference between these two estimates (33,000) would have a sampling variability of approximately:

$$0.6 \sqrt{28,000^2 + 27,000^2} \text{ or about } 23,000.$$

Table 1. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, weeks ended August 23, 1958, July 19, 1958, and August 24, 1957, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Aug. 23 1958	July 19 1958	Aug. 24 1957
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,391	11,369	11,175
Labour Force	6,306	6,314	6,223
With jobs	6,025	6,023	6,047
Agriculture	868	851	899
Non-agriculture	5,157	5,172	5,148
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	281	291	176
Not in the labour force	5,085	5,055	4,952
With jobs	6,025	6,023	6,047
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,724	5,687	5,804
At work 35 hours or more	5,059	5,025	5,263
At work less than 35 hours due to short time and turnover	68	76	59
(a) on short time	45	44	32
(b) laid off for part of week	*	13	14
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	11	12	*
Not at work due to temporary layoff	37	20	18
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work, for other reasons	560	566	464
(a) bad weather	25	13	*
(b) illness	76	70	84
(c) industrial dispute	16	*	10
(d) vacation	396	433	340
(e) miscellaneous	47	45	24
Usually work less than 35 hours	301	336	243

(1) Excludes inmates of institutions, members of the armed services, Indians living on reserves and residents of Yukon and Northwest Territories.

(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.

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics" and "Presentation of Statistics in Tables 1 and 2".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 2. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended August 23, 1958, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,391	5,687	5,704
Labour Force	6,306	4,782	1,524
With jobs	6,025	4,548	1,477
Agriculture	868	778	90
Non-agriculture	5,157	3,770	1,387
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	281	234	47
Not in the labour force	5,085	905	4,180
With jobs	6,025	4,548	1,477
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,724	4,455	1,269
At work 35 hours or more	5,059	3,973	1,086
At work less than 35 hours	174	137	37
Short time and turnover	68	54	14
(a) on short time	45	37	*
(b) laid off part of week	*	*	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	11	*	*
Other reasons	106	83	23
(a) bad weather	23	22	*
(b) illness	19	13	*
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	29	21	*
(e) miscellaneous	32	24	*
Not at work	491	345	146
On temporary layoff	37	33	*
Other reasons	454	312	142
(a) bad weather	*	*	*
(b) illness	57	44	13
(c) industrial dispute	13	13	*
(d) vacation	367	240	127
(e) miscellaneous	15	13	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	301	93	208
At work less than 35 hours	283	87	196
Not at work	18	*	12

(1)(2) See footnotes Table 1. Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics" and "Presentation of Statistics in Tables 1 and 2".

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended August 23, 1958, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	300	285	15
Without jobs	281	267	14
Worked	19	18	*
1-14 hours	*	*	*
15-34 hours	13	12	*

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended August 23, 1958, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
The Labour Force	6,306	735	801	2,834	1,706	230
Males	4,782	451	526	2,238	1,370	197
Females	1,524	284	275	596	336	33
Persons with jobs	6,025	673	750	2,732	1,647	223
Males	4,548	406	483	2,150	1,319	190
Females	1,477	267	267	582	328	33
Persons without jobs and seeking work	281	62	51	102	59	*
Persons not in the labour force	5,085	793	330	1,776	1,172	1,014
Males	905	317	26	47	99	416
Females	4,180	476	304	1,729	1,073	598

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 5. - Percentage of the population 14 years of age and over in the labour force, by age and sex, week ended August 23, 1958, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	55.4	48.1	70.8	61.5	59.3	18.5
Males	84.1	58.7	95.3	97.9	93.3	32.1
Females	26.7	37.4	47.5	25.6	23.8	5.2

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

Table 6. - Class of worker of persons with jobs, week ended August 23, 1958
Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	6,025	4,762	632	359	272
Agriculture	868	146	412	93	217
Non-agriculture	5,157	4,616	220	266	55
Males	4,548	3,456	584	335	173
Agriculture	778	126	404	90	158
Non-agriculture	3,770	3,330	180	245	15
Females	1,477	1,306	48	24	99
Agriculture	90	20	*	*	59
Non-agriculture	1,387	1,286	40	21	40

(1) Without paid employees. (2) With own business, profession, or farm.

(3) In a business or on a farm.

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended August 23, 1958, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Not at work	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	6,025	509	98	176	183	2,954	1,059	1,046
Agriculture	868	10	21	27	20	92	140	558
Non-agriculture	5,157	499	77	149	163	2,862	919	488
Males	4,548	351	37	76	111	2,145	865	963
Agriculture	778	*	*	*	10	75	126	546
Non-agriculture	3,770	342	33	68	101	2,070	739	417
Females	1,477	158	61	100	72	809	194	83
Agriculture	90	*	17	19	10	17	14	12
Non-agriculture	1,387	157	44	81	62	792	180	71
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Non-agricultural)								
Both sexes	4,616	473	63	128	147	2,706	772	327
Males	3,330	319	28	59	92	1,940	613	279
Females	1,286	154	35	69	55	766	159	48

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended August 23, 1958, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	In- dustrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	509	59	*	380	13	37	18

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

Note- See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Marital status of females with jobs, week ended August 23, 1958, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,477	696	629	152
Agriculture	90	27	58	*
Non-agriculture	1,387	669	571	147

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

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended August 23, 1958, 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	281	81	104	40	42	*	*

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended August 23, 1958, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Permanently unable or too old to work	Keeping house	Going to school	Retired or voluntarily idle	Other
Both sexes	5,085	167	3,670	*	1,203	42
Males	905	112	*	*	762	23
Females	4,180	55	3,663	*	441	19

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended August 23, 1958

(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	6,306	110	447	1,783	2,303	1,099	564
Agriculture	875	*	65	204	217	356	32
Non-agriculture	5,431	109	382	1,579	2,086	743	532
Males	4,782	92	346	1,358	1,709	844	433
Agriculture	785	*	61	189	186	318	30
Non-agriculture	3,997	91	285	1,169	1,523	526	403
Females	1,524	18	101	425	594	255	131
Agriculture	90	*	*	15	31	38	*
Non-agriculture	1,434	18	97	410	563	217	129
All ages	6,306	110	447	1,783	2,303	1,099	564
14-19 years	735	13	59	252	225	139	47
20-24 years	801	17	61	259	272	130	62
25-44 years	2,834	50	177	793	1,066	479	269
45-64 years	1,706	28	128	430	651	305	164
65 years and over	230	*	22	49	89	46	22
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	6,025	98	419	1,675	2,220	1,080	533
Males	4,548	81	320	1,269	1,641	830	407
Females	1,477	17	99	406	579	250	126
Agriculture	868	*	63	202	216	355	31
Non-agriculture	5,157	97	356	1,473	2,004	725	502
14-19 years	673	10	52	222	211	134	44
20-24 years	750	14	56	241	256	126	57
25-44 years	2,732	46	169	755	1,033	473	256
45-64 years	1,647	26	121	410	633	301	156
65 years and over	223	*	21	47	87	46	20
Paid workers	4,762	82	320	1,340	1,877	690	453
Males	3,456	67	235	979	1,351	487	337
Females	1,306	15	85	361	526	203	116

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.



Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended August 23, 1958 - 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	281	12	28	108	83	19	31
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,085	154	438	1,428	1,706	853	506
Males	905	45	90	229	275	154	112
Females	4,180	109	348	1,199	1,431	699	394

Note - See page 3, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".