



THE LABOUR FORCE

MONTHLY SURVEY, WEEK ENDED JUNE 20, 1959

Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended June 20, 1959. 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 over 130 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

Beginning in August 1958, the labour force statistics presented in these reports take account of revised population estimates based on the 1956 Census. They are not strictly comparable with labour force statistics originally published for dates from August 1951 to July 1958 (which were based on population projections from the 1951 Census). The statistics for this period have been adjusted on the basis of the revised population estimates and are published in *Reference Paper No. 58, 1958 Revision entitled The Labour Force, November 1945-July 1958*.

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 the 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 temporarily 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 and are not looking for work. This category includes those: going to school; keeping house; too old or otherwise permanently 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

Size of estimate	General sampling variability		General sampling variability + 40% ¹	
	Size	Per cent	Size	Per cent
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 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 June 20, 1959, May 16, 1959, and June 21, 1958, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	June 20 1959	May 16 1959	June 21 1958
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,554	11,531	11,353
Labour force	6,287	6,186	6,203
With jobs	6,053	5,852	5,879
Agriculture	731	724	740
Non-agriculture	5,322	5,128	5,139
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	234	334	324
Not in the labour force	5,267	5,345	5,150
With jobs	6,053	5,852	5,879
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,691	5,466	5,522
At work 35 hours or more	5,363	5,182	5,201
At work less than 35 hours due to short time and turnover	58	63	78
(a) on short time	30	39	50
(b) laid off for part of week	*	*	10
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	18	13	15
Not at work due to temporary layoff	14	20	16
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work, for other reasons	256	201	227
(a) bad weather	43	16	10
(b) illness	83	94	81
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	84	45	88
(e) miscellaneous	44	43	44
Usually work less than 35 hours	362	386	357

(1) Excludes inmates of institutions, members of the armed services, Indians living on reserves and residents of the 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 1, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 2. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended June 20, 1959, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,554	5,764	5,790
Labour force	6,287	4,728	1,559
With jobs	6,053	4,530	1,523
Agriculture	731	670	61
Non-agriculture	5,322	3,860	1,462
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	234	198	36
Not in the labour force	5,267	1,036	4,231
With jobs	6,053	4,530	1,523
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,691	4,412	1,279
At work 35 hours or more	5,363	4,155	1,208
At work less than 35 hours	163	130	33
Short time and turnover	58	43	15
(a) on short time	30	20	10
(b) laid off part of the week	*	*	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	18	15	*
Other reasons	105	87	18
(a) bad weather	39	39	*
(b) illness	23	16	*
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	11	*	*
(e) miscellaneous	32	24	*
Not at work	165	127	38
On temporary layoff	14	12	*
Other reasons	151	115	36
(a) bad weather	*	*	*
(b) illness	60	48	12
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	73	52	21
(e) miscellaneous	12	*	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	362	118	244
At work less than 35 hours	355	115	240
Not at work	*	*	*

(1)(2) See footnotes Table 1.

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	261	247	14
Without jobs	234	222	12
Worked	27	25	*
1-14 hours	*	*	*
15-34 hours	20	18	*

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
The labour force	6,287	589	810	2,896	1,762	230
Males	4,728	348	531	2,260	1,390	199
Females	1,559	241	279	636	372	31
Persons with jobs	6,053	535	771	2,813	1,712	222
Males	4,530	309	497	2,188	1,345	191
Females	1,523	226	274	625	367	31
Persons without jobs and seeking work	234	54	39	83	50	*
Persons not in the labour force	5,267	995	332	1,742	1,174	1,024
Males	1,036	449	27	40	105	415
Females	4,231	546	305	1,702	1,069	609

Table 5. - Percentage of the population 14 years of age and over in the labour force, by age and sex, week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	54.4	37.2	70.9	62.4	60.0	18.3
Males	82.0	43.7	95.2	98.3	93.0	32.4
Females	26.9	30.6	47.8	27.2	25.8	4.8

Note - See page 1, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 6. - Class of worker of persons with jobs, week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	6,053	4,899	620	353	181
Agriculture	731	133	394	72	132
Non-agriculture	5,322	4,766	226	281	49
Males	4,530	3,525	571	332	102
Agriculture	670	119	386	71	94
Non-agriculture	3,860	3,406	185	261	*
Females	1,523	1,374	49	21	79
Agriculture	61	14	*	*	38
Non-agriculture	1,462	1,360	41	20	41

Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended June 20, 1959, 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	6,053	172	134	212	172	3,317	1,073	973
Agriculture	731	*	26	33	16	67	108	474
Non-agriculture	5,322	165	108	179	156	3,250	965	499
Males	4,530	130	59	99	87	2,369	888	898
Agriculture	670	*	11	16	11	59	101	465
Non-agriculture	3,860	123	48	83	76	2,310	787	433
Females	1,523	42	75	113	85	948	185	75
Agriculture	61	*	15	17	*	*	*	*
Non-agriculture	1,462	42	60	96	80	940	178	66
<u>Paid Workers (Non-agriculture)</u>								
Both sexes	4,766	153	92	151	137	3,088	814	331
Males	3,406	112	42	69	65	2,176	654	288
Females	1,360	41	50	82	72	912	160	43

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (4)	Other
Both sexes	172	62	*	76	*	15	13

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

(3) In a business or on a farm. (4) Includes only those who had definite instructions to return to their jobs within 30 days of date on which layoff began.

Note - See page 1, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics". * Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Marital status of females with jobs, week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,523	686	681	156
Agriculture	61	14	43	*
Non-agriculture	1,462	672	638	152

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended June 20, 1959, 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	234	61	73	45	37	*	11

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended June 20, 1959, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Permanently unable or too old to work	Keeping house	Going to school	Retired or voluntarily idle	Other
Both sexes	5,267	162	3,583	828	668	26
Males	1,036	112	*	416	491	14
Females	4,231	50	3,580	412	177	12

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended June 20, 1959

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>Population 14 years of Age and Over (2)</u>							
Both sexes	11,554	269	897	3,261	4,066	1,982	1,079
Males	5,764	141	441	1,610	2,010	1,011	551
Females	5,790	128	456	1,651	2,056	971	528
<u>The Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	6,287	121	451	1,754	2,300	1,091	570
Agriculture	738	*	57	174	185	290	29
Non-agriculture	5,549	118	394	1,580	2,115	801	541

(1) Includes widowed, divorced and permanently separated. (2) Excludes inmates of institutions, members of the armed services, and Indians living on reserves.

Note - See page 1, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended June 20, 1959 - con.

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>The Labour Force - con.</u>							
Males	4,728	102	345	1,332	1,688	825	436
Agriculture	677	*	55	163	165	260	26
Non-agriculture	4,051	99	290	1,164	1,523	565	410
Females	1,559	19	106	422	612	266	134
Agriculture	61	*	*	*	20	30	*
Non-agriculture	1,498	19	104	416	592	236	131
All ages	6,287	121	451	1,754	2,300	1,091	570
14-19 years	589	15	47	203	183	100	41
20-24 years	810	20	60	258	273	132	67
25-44 years	2,896	57	189	803	1,081	495	271
45-64 years	1,762	28	135	439	671	319	170
65 years and over	230	*	20	51	92	45	21
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	6,053	105	428	1,660	2,239	1,073	548
Males	4,530	87	324	1,251	1,639	811	418
Females	1,523	18	104	409	600	262	130
Agriculture	731	*	55	172	184	289	28
Non-agriculture	5,322	102	373	1,488	2,055	784	520
14-19 years	535	13	41	181	168	96	36
20-24 years	771	17	56	241	265	128	64
25-44 years	2,813	50	182	767	1,061	490	263
45-64 years	1,712	24	130	423	655	315	165
65 years and over	222	*	19	48	90	44	20
Paid workers	4,899	86	339	1,368	1,910	728	468
Males	3,525	70	248	992	1,358	507	350
Females	1,374	16	91	376	552	221	118
<u>Persons without jobs and seeking work</u>							
Both sexes	234	16(1)	23	74	61	12	22
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,267	148	446	1,507	1,766	891	509
Males	1,036	39	96	278	322	186	115
Females	4,231	109	350	1,229	1,444	705	394

(1) The change between September and October 1958 in the level of estimates of "Persons without jobs and seeking work" in Newfoundland appeared to be mainly a manifestation of sampling error. This factor should be recognized in any comparison of estimates for September 1958 or earlier with estimates for October 1958 or later.

Note - See page 1, "Revision of Labour Force Statistics".

* Less than 10,000.