



THE LABOUR FORCE

MONTHLY SURVEY, WEEK ENDED JANUARY 16, 1960

Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended January 16, 1960. 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 155 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 January 16, 1960, December 12, 1959, and January 17, 1959, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Jan. 16 1960	Dec. 12 1959	Jan. 17 1959
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,678	11,660	11,465
Labour force	6,203	6,231	6,076
With jobs	5,699	5,861	5,538
Agriculture	594	618	605
Non-agriculture	5,105	5,243	4,933
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	504	370	538
Not in the labour force	5,475	5,429	5,389
With jobs	5,699	5,861	5,538
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,325	5,473	5,204
At work 35 hours or more	4,954	5,094(3)	4,825
At work less than 35 hours due to short time and turnover	85	92	78
(a) on short time	61	55	54
(b) laid off for part of week	12	14	11
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	*	15	*
Not at work due to temporary layoff	42	35	39
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work, for other reasons	244	252(3)	262
(a) bad weather	40	25	39
(b) illness	109	96	111
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	36	29	32
(e) miscellaneous	56	98(3)	74
Usually work less than 35 hours	374	388	334

(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.

(3) Some persons lost time from work due to the religious observance of December 8.

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 January 16, 1960, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,678	5,821	5,857
Labour force	6,203	4,628	1,575
With jobs	5,699	4,184	1,515
Agriculture	594	563	31
Non-agriculture	5,105	3,621	1,484
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	504	444	60
Not in the labour force	5,475	1,193	4,282
With jobs	5,699	4,184	1,515
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,325	4,052	1,273
At work 35 hours or more	4,954	3,752	1,202
At work less than 35 hours	186	145	41
Short time and turnover	85	65	20
(a) on short time	61	45	16
(b) laid off part of the week	12	10	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	*	*	*
Other reasons	101	80	21
(a) bad weather	24	24	*
(b) illness	39	26	13
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	*	*	*
(e) miscellaneous	32	26	*
Not at work	185	155	30
On temporary layoff	42	36	*
Other reasons	143	119	24
(a) bad weather	16	16	*
(b) illness	70	57	13
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	30	23	*
(e) miscellaneous	24	21	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	374	132	242
At work less than 35 hours	365	129	236
Not at work	*	*	*

(1)(2) See footnotes Table 1.

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended January 16, 1960, Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	527	499	28
Without jobs	504	478	26
Worked	23	21	*
1-14 hours	*	*	*
15-34 hours	15	13	*

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended January 16, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
The labour force	6,203	574	784	2,881	1,752	212
Males	4,628	319	501	2,244	1,387	177
Females	1,575	255	283	637	365	35
Persons with jobs	5,699	485	699	2,683	1,630	202
Males	4,184	254	428	2,062	1,273	167
Females	1,515	231	271	621	357	35
Persons without jobs and seeking work	504	89	85	198	122	10
Persons not in the labour force	5,475	1,052	368	1,773	1,229	1,053
Males	1,193	501	61	63	128	440
Females	4,282	551	307	1,710	1,101	613

Table 5. - Percentage of the population 14 years of age and over in the labour force, by age and sex,
week ended January 16, 1960, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	53.1	35.3	68.1	61.9	58.8	16.8
Males	79.5	38.9	89.1	97.3	91.6	28.7
Females	26.9	31.6	48.0	27.1	24.9	5.4

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

* Less than 10,000.

Table 6. - Class of worker of persons with jobs, week ended January 16, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,699	4,647	587	318	147
Agriculture	594	85	367	46	96
Non-agriculture	5,105	4,562	220	272	51
Males	4,184	3,265	538	293	88
Agriculture	563	79	363	44	77
Non-agriculture	3,621	3,186	175	249	11
Females	1,515	1,382	49	25	59
Agriculture	31	*	*	*	19
Non-agriculture	1,484	1,376	45	23	40

Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended January 16, 1960, 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	5,699	194	161	212	178	3,303	1,008	643
Agriculture	594	13	24	25	23	130	152	227
Non-agriculture	5,105	181	137	187	155	3,173	856	416
Males	4,184	158	73	102	99	2,347	836	569
Agriculture	563	13	13	19	21	124	149	224
Non-agriculture	3,621	145	60	83	78	2,223	687	345
Females	1,515	36	88	110	79	956	172	74
Agriculture	31	*	11	*	*	*	*	*
Non-agriculture	1,484	36	77	104	77	950	169	71
<u>Paid Workers (Non-agriculture)</u>								
Both sexes	4,562	157	114	154	137	3,022	707	271
Males	3,186	123	52	66	68	2,097	559	221
Females	1,376	34	62	88	69	925	148	50

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended January 16, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (4)	Other
Both sexes	194	73	16	32	*	43	27

(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 January 16, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,515	668	688	159
Agriculture	31	*	22	*
Non-agriculture	1,484	661	666	157

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended January 16, 1960, 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	504	148	252	63	24	*	12

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended January 16, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Permanently unable or too old to work	Keeping house	Going to school	Retired or voluntarily idle	Other
Both sexes	5,475	156	3,625	995	674	25
Males	1,193	107	*	539	527	14
Females	4,282	49	3,619	456	147	11

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended January 16, 1960

(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	11,678	272	906	3,303	4,106	2,003	1,088
Males	5,821	143	445	1,631	2,028	1,020	554
Females	5,857	129	461	1,672	2,078	983	534
<u>The Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	6,203	106	435	1,738	2,317	1,049	558
Agriculture	608	*	46	132	163	245	20
Non-agriculture	5,595	104	389	1,606	2,154	804	538

(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 January 16, 1960 - 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	4,628	86	336	1,313	1,678	792	423
Agriculture	577	*	45	125	151	235	19
Non-agriculture	4,051	84	291	1,188	1,527	557	404
Females	1,575	20	99	425	639	257	135
Agriculture	31	*	*	*	12	10	*
Non-agriculture	1,544	20	98	418	627	247	134
All ages	6,203	106	435	1,738	2,317	1,049	558
14-19 years	574	13	43	202	189	92	35
20-24 years	784	18	58	253	261	131	63
25-44 years	2,881	51	182	803	1,095	480	270
45-64 years	1,752	22	130	438	683	306	173
65 years and over	212	*	22	42	89	40	17
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	5,699	79	387	1,546	2,189	991	507
Males	4,184	59	291	1,146	1,568	740	380
Females	1,515	20	96	400	621	251	127
Agriculture	594	*	44	127	161	242	19
Non-agriculture	5,105	78	343	1,419	2,028	749	488
14-19 years	485	10	34	163	169	83	26
20-24 years	699	13	49	217	243	120	57
25-44 years	2,683	39	165	730	1,043	457	249
45-64 years	1,630	16	119	396	648	292	159
65 years and over	202	*	20	40	86	39	16
Paid workers	4,647	67	306	1,270	1,874	691	439
Males	3,265	50	220	910	1,299	464	322
Females	1,382	17	86	360	575	227	117
<u>Persons without jobs and seeking work</u>							
Both sexes	504	27(1)	48	192	128	58	51
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,475	166	471	1,565	1,789	954	530
Males	1,193	57	109	318	350	228	131
Females	4,282	109	362	1,247	1,439	726	399

(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.