



## THE LABOUR FORCE

MONTHLY SURVEY, WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 20, 1960

## Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended February 20, 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% <sup>1</sup>	
	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		

<sup>1</sup> 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 February 20, 1960, January 16, 1960, and February 21, 1959, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Feb. 20 1960	Jan. 16 1960	Feb. 21 1959
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,699	11,678	11,482
Labour force	6,218	6,203	6,084
With jobs	5,663	5,699	5,547
Agriculture	568	594	608
Non-agriculture	5,095	5,105	4,939
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	555	504	537
Not in the labour force	5,481	5,475	5,398
With jobs	5,663	5,699	5,547
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,283	5,325	5,190
At work 35 hours or more	4,898	4,954	4,800
At work less than 35 hours due to short time and turnover	74	85	73
(a) on short time	53	61	51
(b) laid off for part of week	10	12	10
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	*	*	*
Not at work due to temporary layoff	43	42	33
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work, for other reasons	268	244	284
(a) bad weather	46	40	56
(b) illness	120	109	127
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	40	36	33
(e) miscellaneous	62	56	62
Usually work less than 35 hours	380	374	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 February 20, 1960, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,699	5,831	5,868
Labour force	6,218	4,632	1,586
With jobs	5,663	4,136	1,527
Agriculture	568	546	22
Non-agriculture	5,095	3,590	1,505
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	555	496	59
Not in the labour force	5,481	1,199	4,282
With jobs	5,663	4,136	1,527
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,283	4,012	1,271
At work 35 hours or more	4,898	3,702	1,196
At work less than 35 hours	196	154	42
Short time and turnover	74	58	16
(a) on short time	53	40	13
(b) laid off part of the week	10	*	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	*	*	*
Other reasons	122	96	26
(a) bad weather	37	33	*
(b) illness	44	31	13
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	*	*	*
(e) miscellaneous	35	28	*
Not at work	189	156	33
On temporary layoff	43	38	*
Other reasons	146	118	28
(a) bad weather	*	*	*
(b) illness	76	58	18
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	34	27	*
(e) miscellaneous	27	24	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	380	124	256
At work less than 35 hours	374	122	252
Not at work	*	*	*

(1)(2) See footnotes Table 1.

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended February 20, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	578	556	22
Without jobs	555	535	20
Worked	23	21	*
1-14 hours	10	*	*
15-34 hours	13	12	*

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended February 20, 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	6,218	567	791	2,880	1,766	214
Males	4,632	317	502	2,243	1,390	180
Females	1,586	250	289	637	376	34
Persons with jobs	5,663	469	696	2,661	1,635	202
Males	4,136	244	418	2,040	1,266	168
Females	1,527	225	278	621	369	34
Persons without jobs and seeking work	555	98	95	219	131	12
Persons not in the labour force	5,481	1,066	362	1,776	1,223	1,054
Males	1,199	507	61	65	129	437
Females	4,282	559	301	1,711	1,094	617

Table 5. - Percentage of the population 14 years of age and over in the labour force, by age and sex, week ended February 20, 1960, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	53.1	34.7	68.6	61.9	59.1	16.9
Males	79.4	38.5	89.2	97.2	91.5	29.2
Females	27.0	30.9	49.0	27.1	25.6	5.2

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

\* Less than 10,000.



Table 6. - Class of worker of persons with jobs, week ended February 20, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,663	4,642	580	305	136
Agriculture	568	80	358	43	87
Non-agriculture	5,095	4,562	222	262	49
Males	4,136	3,238	533	282	83
Agriculture	546	75	356	42	73
Non-agriculture	3,590	3,163	177	240	10
Females	1,527	1,404	47	23	53
Agriculture	22	*	*	*	14
Non-agriculture	1,505	1,399	45	22	39

Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended February 20, 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	5,663	195	169	206	195	3,355	966	577
Agriculture	568	11	23	26	19	144	151	194
Non-agriculture	5,095	184	146	180	176	3,211	815	383
Males	4,136	158	76	102	98	2,391	804	507
Agriculture	546	11	15	22	17	140	149	192
Non-agriculture	3,590	147	61	80	81	2,251	655	315
Females	1,527	37	93	104	97	964	162	70
Agriculture	22	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Non-agriculture	1,505	37	85	100	95	960	160	68
<u>Paid Workers (Non-agriculture)</u>								
Both sexes	4,562	157	121	151	157	3,048	682	246
Males	3,163	122	52	66	70	2,118	539	196
Females	1,399	35	69	85	87	930	143	50

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended February 20, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (4)	Other
Both sexes	195	78	*	35	*	44	29

(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 February 20, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,527	678	689	160
Agriculture	22	*	15	*
Non-agriculture	1,505	673	674	158

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended February 20, 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	555	111	283	116	25	*	12

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended February 20, 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	5,481	150	3,619	1,012	679	21
Males	1,199	102	*	548	532	12
Females	4,282	48	3,614	464	147	*

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended February 20, 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	11,699	273	907	3,311	4,113	2,005	1,090
Males	5,831	144	445	1,635	2,031	1,021	555
Females	5,868	129	462	1,676	2,082	984	535
<u>The Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	6,218	109	436	1,757	2,313	1,043	560
Agriculture	583	*	42	125	149	239	25
Non-agriculture	5,635	106	394	1,632	2,164	804	535

(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 February 20, 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	4,632	90	331	1,321	1,675	791	424
Agriculture	560	*	42	121	140	230	24
Non-agriculture	4,072	87	289	1,200	1,535	561	400
Females	1,586	19	105	436	638	252	136
Agriculture	23	*	*	*	*	*	*
Non-agriculture	1,563	19	105	432	629	243	135
All ages	6,218	109	436	1,757	2,313	1,043	560
14-19 years	567	12	44	204	188	85	34
20-24 years	791	18	58	256	264	132	63
25-44 years	2,880	52	183	803	1,090	480	272
45-64 years	1,766	25	133	449	683	304	172
65 years and over	214	*	18	45	88	42	19
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	5,663	80	382	1,523	2,179	986	513
Males	4,136	61	281	1,111	1,559	740	384
Females	1,527	19	101	412	620	246	129
Agriculture	568	*	41	120	146	236	23
Non-agriculture	5,095	78	341	1,403	2,033	750	490
14-19 years	469	*	34	158	165	77	26
20-24 years	696	13	47	212	246	122	56
25-44 years	2,661	39	163	709	1,036	459	255
45-64 years	1,635	18	121	402	648	288	158
65 years and over	202	*	17	42	84	40	18
Paid workers	4,642	68	303	1,264	1,874	693	440
Males	3,238	51	211	887	1,297	470	322
Females	1,404	17	92	377	577	223	118
<u>Persons without jobs and seeking work</u>							
Both sexes	555	29(1)	54	234	134	57	47
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,481	164	471	1,554	1,800	962	530
Males	1,199	54	114	314	356	230	131
Females	4,282	110	357	1,240	1,444	732	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.