



## THE LABOUR FORCE

MONTHLY SURVEY, WEEK ENDED MARCH 19, 1960

## Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended March 19, 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 March 19, 1960, February 20, 1960, and March 21, 1959, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Mar. 19 1960	Feb. 20 1960	Mar. 21 1959
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,712	11,699	11,495
Labour force	6,234	6,218	6,077
With jobs	5,668	5,663	5,552
Agriculture	589	568	619
Non-agriculture	5,079	5,095	4,933
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	566	555	525
Not in the labour force	5,478	5,481	5,418
With jobs	5,668	5,663	5,552
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,289	5,283	5,189
At work 35 hours or more	4,897	4,898	4,836
At work less than 35 hours due to short time and turnover	84	74	69
(a) on short time	60	53	46
(b) laid off for part of week	11	10	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	11	*	*
Not at work due to temporary layoff	42	43	29
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work, for other reasons	266	268	255
(a) bad weather	46	46	24
(b) illness	119	120	129
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	33	40	35
(e) miscellaneous	66	62	61
Usually work less than 35 hours	379	380	363

(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.

Notes - 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 March 19, 1960, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,712	5,837	5,875
Labour force	6,234	4,630	1,604
With jobs	5,668	4,119	1,549
Agriculture	589	562	27
Non-agriculture	5,079	3,557	1,522
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	566	511	55
Not in the labour force	5,478	1,207	4,271
With jobs	5,668	4,119	1,549
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,289	3,993	1,296
At work 35 hours or more	4,897	3,675	1,222
At work less than 35 hours	211	169	42
Short time and turnover	84	67	17
(a) on short time	60	47	13
(b) laid off part of the week	11	10	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	11	*	*
Other reasons	127	102	25
(a) bad weather	34	31	*
(b) illness	43	30	13
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	*	*	*
(e) miscellaneous	41	34	*
Not at work	181	149	32
On temporary layoff	42	37	*
Other reasons	139	112	27
(a) bad weather	12	12	*
(b) illness	76	58	18
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	25	19	*
(e) miscellaneous	25	22	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	379	126	253
At work less than 35 hours	370	122	248
Not at work	*	*	*

(1)(2) See footnotes Table 1.

Table 3. - Persons looking for work during the week ended March 19, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	595	573	22
Without jobs	566	545	21
Worked	29	28	*
1-14 hours	*	*	*
15-34 hours	20	19	*

Table 4. - Age distributions, week ended March 19, 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	6,234	562	788	2,894	1,778	212
Males	4,630	315	499	2,240	1,396	180
Females	1,604	247	289	654	382	32
Persons with jobs	5,668	471	687	2,669	1,642	199
Males	4,119	244	408	2,031	1,268	168
Females	1,549	227	279	638	374	31
Persons without jobs and seeking work	566	91	101	225	136	13
Persons not in the labour force	5,478	1,076	366	1,763	1,216	1,057
Males	1,207	511	64	69	125	438
Females	4,271	565	302	1,694	1,091	619

Table 5. - Percentage of the population 14 years of age and over in the labour force, by age and sex, week ended March 19, 1960, Canada

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Both sexes	53.2	34.3	68.3	62.1	59.4	16.7
Males	79.3	38.1	88.6	97.0	91.8	29.1
Females	27.3	30.4	48.9	27.9	25.9	4.9

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

\* Less than 10,000.



Table 6. - Class of worker of persons with jobs, week ended March 19, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,668	4,625	594	300	149
Agriculture	589	77	369	45	98
Non-agriculture	5,079	4,548	225	255	51
Males	4,119	3,203	546	281	89
Agriculture	562	74	365	44	79
Non-agriculture	3,557	3,129	181	237	10
Females	1,549	1,422	48	19	60
Agriculture	27	*	*	*	19
Non-agriculture	1,522	1,419	44	18	41

Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended March 19, 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	5,668	190	169	232	180	3,316	961	620
Agriculture	589	10	26	35	19	111	143	245
Non-agriculture	5,079	180	143	197	161	3,205	818	375
Males	4,119	153	72	119	100	2,329	802	544
Agriculture	562	10	16	28	17	108	142	241
Non-agriculture	3,557	143	56	91	83	2,221	660	303
Females	1,549	37	97	113	80	987	159	76
Agriculture	27	*	10	*	*	*	*	*
Non-agriculture	1,522	37	87	106	78	984	158	72
<u>Paid Workers (Non-agriculture)</u>								
Both sexes	4,548	158	120	165	142	3,050	673	240
Males	3,129	124	50	75	72	2,091	531	186
Females	1,419	34	70	90	70	959	142	54

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended March 19, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (4)	Other
Both sexes	190	81	12	26	*	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 March 19, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,549	680	704	165
Agriculture	27	*	19	*
Non-agriculture	1,522	674	685	163

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended March 19, 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	566	90	244	181	32	*	13

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended March 19, 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	5,478	153	3,602	1,030	678	15
Males	1,207	101	*	552	536	11
Females	4,271	52	3,595	478	142	*

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended March 19, 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	11,712	274	907	3,315	4,118	2,007	1,091
Males	5,837	144	446	1,636	2,033	1,022	556
Females	5,875	130	461	1,679	2,085	985	535
<u>The Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	6,234	107	427	1,753	2,327	1,057	563
Agriculture	605	*	47	129	151	249	27
Non-agriculture	5,629	105	380	1,624	2,176	808	536

(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 March 19, 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	4,630	87	326	1,320	1,674	798	425
Agriculture	578	*	46	125	144	235	26
Non-agriculture	4,052	85	280	1,195	1,530	563	399
Females	1,604	20	101	433	653	259	138
Agriculture	27	*	*	*	*	14	*
Non-agriculture	1,577	20	100	429	646	245	137
All ages	6,234	107	427	1,753	2,327	1,057	563
14-19 years	562	12	43	200	185	90	32
20-24 years	788	18	55	256	266	130	63
25-44 years	2,894	51	179	805	1,102	484	273
45-64 years	1,778	24	131	448	687	313	175
65 years and over	212	*	19	44	87	40	20
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	5,668	78	371	1,517	2,192	991	519
Males	4,119	59	273	1,106	1,555	739	387
Females	1,549	19	98	411	637	252	132
Agriculture	589	*	45	124	147	246	25
Non-agriculture	5,079	76	326	1,393	2,045	745	494
14-19 years	471	10	32	157	164	81	27
20-24 years	687	12	44	211	248	117	55
25-44 years	2,669	37	159	709	1,046	460	258
45-64 years	1,642	18	118	400	651	294	161
65 years and over	199	*	18	40	83	39	18
Paid workers	4,625	66	291	1,251	1,889	680	448
Males	3,203	49	202	875	1,294	457	326
Females	1,422	17	89	376	595	223	122
<u>Persons without jobs and seeking work</u>							
Both sexes	566	29(1)	56	236	135	66	44
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,478	167	480	1,562	1,791	950	528
Males	1,207	57	120	316	359	224	131
Females	4,271	110	360	1,246	1,432	726	397

(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.