



## THE LABOUR FORCE

MONTHLY SURVEY, WEEK ENDED JUNE 18, 1960

## Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended June 18, 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 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 June 18, 1960, May 21, 1960, and June 20, 1959, Canada (1)

(estimates in thousands)

	June 18 1960	May 21 1960	June 20 1959
Population 14 years of age and over (1)	11,780	11,759	11,554
Labour force	6,454	6,391	6,287
With jobs	6,154	5,992	6,053
Agriculture	682	675	731
Non-agriculture	5,472	5,317	5,322
Without jobs and seeking work (2)	300	399	234
Not in the labour force	5,326	5,368	5,267
With jobs	6,154	5,992	6,053
Usually work 35 hours or more	5,761	5,592	5,691
At work 35 hours or more	5,414	5,253	5,363
At work less than 35 hours due to short time and turnover	70	73	58
(a) on short time	39	41	30
(b) laid off for part of week	*	*	*
(c) lost job during week	*	*	*
(d) found job during week	17	19	18
Not at work due to temporary layoff	15	19	14
At work less than 35 hours, or not at work, for other reasons	262	247	256
(a) bad weather	33	36	43
(b) illness	85	88	83
(c) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(d) vacation	85	64	84
(e) miscellaneous	57	57	44
Usually work less than 35 hours	393	400	362

(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 6. - Class of worker of persons with jobs, week ended June 18, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	6,154	5,010	623	350	171
Agriculture	682	113	378	74	117
Non-agriculture	5,472	4,897	245	276	54
Males	4,553	3,570	572	326	85
Agriculture	623	100	375	72	76
Non-agriculture	3,930	3,470	197	254	*
Females	1,601	1,440	51	24	86
Agriculture	59	13	*	*	41
Non-agriculture	1,542	1,427	48	22	45

Table 7. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended June 18, 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	6,154	178	154	232	176	3,421	1,050	943
Agriculture	682	*	34	33	20	61	103	423
Non-agriculture	5,472	170	120	199	156	3,360	947	520
Males	4,553	131	55	109	98	2,428	874	858
Agriculture	623	*	*	19	17	55	98	418
Non-agriculture	3,930	124	46	90	81	2,373	776	440
Females	1,601	47	99	123	78	993	176	85
Agriculture	59	*	25	14	*	*	*	*
Non-agriculture	1,542	46	74	109	75	987	171	80
<u>Paid Workers (Non-agriculture)</u>								
Both sexes	4,897	160	101	169	137	3,196	788	346
Males	3,470	116	41	77	70	2,240	638	288
Females	1,427	44	60	92	67	956	150	58

Table 8. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended June 18, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (4)	Other
Both sexes	178	61	*	76	*	15	21

(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 18, 1960, Canada

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,601	701	729	171
Agriculture	59	13	43	*
Non-agriculture	1,542	688	686	168

Table 10. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended June 18, 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	300	85	91	62	44	*	11

Table 11. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended June 18, 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	5,326	149	3,585	910	666	16
Males	1,070	99	*	465	491	*
Females	4,256	50	3,579	445	175	*

Table 12. - Regional distributions, week ended June 18, 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	11,780	275	910	3,335	4,145	2,017	1,098
Males	5,871	145	447	1,646	2,047	1,027	559
Females	5,909	130	463	1,689	2,098	990	539
<u>The Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	6,454	126	448	1,816	2,376	1,114	574
Agriculture	690	*	52	130	176	298	32
Non-agriculture	5,764	124	396	1,686	2,200	816	542

(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 18, 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	4,801	106	346	1,361	1,717	836	435
Agriculture	631	*	50	122	157	272	28
Non-agriculture	4,170	104	296	1,239	1,560	564	407
Females	1,653	20	102	455	659	278	139
Agriculture	59	*	*	*	19	26	*
Non-agriculture	1,594	20	100	447	640	252	135
All ages	6,454	126	448	1,816	2,376	1,114	574
14-19 years	617	13	48	217	193	104	42
20-24 years	829	24	61	271	269	140	64
25-44 years	2,954	58	182	822	1,120	497	275
45-64 years	1,821	29	137	455	701	325	174
65 years and over	233	*	20	51	93	48	19
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	6,154	111	428	1,715	2,283	1,085	532
Males	4,553	91	327	1,278	1,643	812	402
Females	1,601	20	101	437	640	273	130
Agriculture	682	*	51	128	174	296	31
Non-agriculture	5,472	109	377	1,587	2,109	789	501
14-19 years	549	12	42	190	172	99	34
20-24 years	777	20	58	250	256	134	59
25-44 years	2,849	51	176	788	1,086	487	261
45-64 years	1,751	26	132	439	677	317	160
65 years and over	228	*	20	48	92	48	18
Paid workers	5,010	89	341	1,438	1,954	736	452
Males	3,570	71	251	1,046	1,367	501	334
Females	1,440	18	90	392	587	235	118
<u>Persons without jobs and seeking work</u>							
Both sexes	300	15	20	101	93	29	42
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,326	149	462	1,519	1,769	903	524
Males	1,070	39	101	285	330	191	124
Females	4,256	110	361	1,234	1,439	712	400

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

\* Less than 10,000.