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THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week Ended December 12, 1953.

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Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended December 12, 1953. The survey is a continuation of the series begun in November, 1945, and carried out at quarterly intervals until November, 1952, when the first survey on a monthly basis was taken. About 30,000 households chosen by area sampling methods in approximately 110 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. Persons are classified according to current activity during the specific weeks covered by the surveys. The figures for 1953 are not strictly comparable with those for previous years because of revisions based upon new age and sex distributions obtained from the 1951 Census. The figures for earlier years are now being revised, the revision amounting to slightly more than one per cent of the sampled population.

Tables 1 to 9, inclusive, of this report present data for Canada as a whole, Table 1 summarizing labour force characteristics and the remainder dealing with particular classifications. All regional data are brought together in Table 10. Definitions and explanations with reference to these tables are contained in the section following this introduction.

Results of previous labour force surveys may be obtained from Reference Paper No. 35, "The Labour Force, November 1945 - March 1952", the regular quarterly reports for the weeks ended May 31, 1952 and August 16, 1952, and the regular monthly reports starting with the week ended November 22, 1952.

The estimates are subject to sampling error. In general, the smaller the estimate, the larger is the relative sampling error. Any estimate of less than 10,000 is replaced throughout the tables by an asterisk, as an indication that the sampling error associated with it is relatively large and that it should not be used without careful reservation.

It has not so far been possible to include in the labour force surveys persons living in certain inaccessible areas and Indians living on reservations, an estimated total of 180,000.

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 that had jobs or that did not have jobs and were seeking work during the survey week.

(b) Persons with jobs - For the purpose of the labour force survey, "persons with jobs" are grouped into two categories:

- (i) Persons at work - those who did any work for pay or profit or who did unpaid work which contributed to the running of a farm or business operated by a relative;
- (ii) Persons with jobs not at work - those who had jobs but did not work because of illness, bad weather, vacation, industrial dispute, or temporary layoff with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of the time of being laid off. (Persons who had jobs but did not work during the survey week and who also looked for work are included in (c) below, "Persons without jobs and seeking work".)

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 people worked less than full time. Table 1 provides an analysis of the reasons for which persons worked less than 35 hours in the survey week. Estimates of weekly hours of work are contained in Table 5. Persons with jobs who did not work during the survey week are classified in Table 6 by the reasons for their absence from work.

(c) 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 lay-off, 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 classification. However, the number of such persons is shown in Table 2 which presents estimates of all persons looking for work.

(d) 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 do not work for pay or profit or as unpaid workers in family enterprises such as farms or businesses and are not looking for work. Persons not in the labour force include, therefore, such groups as those going to school or keeping house, persons who are too old or are permanently unable to work or some other reason, and persons who are voluntarily idle or retired. Persons, such as housewives, students and others, who worked part-time are classed as persons with jobs, or, if they are looking for work, they are classed as persons without jobs and seeking work.

Table 1. - Summary of the labour force characteristics of the population 14 years of age and over, week ended December 12, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,115	5,040	5,075
Persons not in the labour force	4,840	958	3,882
Civilian labour force	5,275	4,082	1,193
Persons at work	4,972	3,818	1,154
35 hours or more	4,550	3,567	983
Less than 35 hours	422	251	171
Usually work 35 hours or more	236	181	55
(a) laid off for part of the week	13	10	*
(b) on short time	52	41	11
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	30	30	*
(f) illness	25	19	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	15	*	*
(i) other (1)	94	68	26
Usually work less than 35 hours	186	70	116
Persons with jobs not at work	113	91	22
Usually work 35 hours or more	110	89	21
(a) laid off for full week	25	20	*
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	52	41	11
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	*	*	*
(f) other	12	10	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (2)	190	173	17

(1) Included are those who lost time during the week due to religious observance of December 8, 1953.

(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 2.

* Less than 10,000.

4972
113
5085

3818
91
3909

1154
22
1176

Table 2. - Persons looking for work during the week ended December 12, 1953, Canada.

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	205	181	24
Without jobs	190	170	20
Worked	15	11	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	10	*	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 3. - Age distributions, week ended December 12, 1953, Canada.

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	14-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
The labour force	5,275	510	703	2,463	1,394	205
Males	4,082	296	450	1,969	1,181	186
Females	1,193	214	253	494	213	19
Persons with jobs	5,085	474	672	2,387	1,352	200
Males	3,909	266	422	1,899	1,141	181
Females	1,176	208	250	488	211	19
Persons without jobs and seeking work	190	36	31	76	42	*
Persons not in the labour force	4,840	758	335	1,681	1,157	909
Males	958	338	53	66	125	376
Females	3,882	420	282	1,615	1,032	533

* Less than 10,000.

Table 4. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended December 12, 1953,
Canada
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own-account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,085	3,895	716	264	210
Agricultural	762	92	471	49	150
Nonagricultural	4,323	3,803	245	215	60
Males	3,909	2,819	678	248	164
Agricultural	741	86	468	48	139
Nonagricultural	3,168	2,733	210	200	25
Females	1,176	1,076	38	16	46
Agricultural	21	*	*	*	11
Nonagricultural	1,155	1,070	35	15	35

- (1) Without paid employees. (2) With own business, profession, or farm.
(3) In a business or on a farm.
* Less than 10,000.

Table 5. - Number of hours worked by persons with jobs during the week ended
December 12, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	0 hours	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	5,085	113	69	153	200	2,784	1,201	565
Agricultural	762	*	10	27	16	173	249	280
Nonagricultural	4,323	106	59	126	184	2,611	952	285
Males	3,909	91	34	91	126	2,051	1,000	516
Agricultural	741	*	*	23	16	167	245	277
Nonagricultural	3,168	84	28	68	110	1,884	755	239
Females	1,176	22	35	62	74	733	201	49
Agricultural	21	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,155	22	31	58	74	727	197	46
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Nonagricultural)								
Both sexes	3,803	95	46	98	165	2,445	777	177
Males	2,733	73	22	50	98	1,745	601	144
Females	1,070	22	24	48	67	700	176	33

* Less than 10,000.

Table 6. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended December 12, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	113	54	*	*	*	25	13

(1) Includes only those who had definite instructions to return to their jobs within 30 days of date on which layoff began.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 7. - Marital status of females with jobs, week ended December 12, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,176	658	399	119
Agricultural	21	*	11	*
Nonagricultural	1,155	650	388	117

(1) Includes widowed, divorced, and permanently separated.

* Less than 10,000.

Table 8. - Number of months looking for work for persons without jobs, week ended December 12, 1953, 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	190	80	82	19	*	*	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended December 12, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Permanently unable or too old to work	Keeping House	Going to school	Retired or voluntarily idle	Other
Both sexes	4,840	174	3,386	663	599	18
Males	958	116	*	354	472	13
Females	3,882	58	3,383	309	127	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Regional distributions, week ended December 12, 1953.
(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>The Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	5,275	97	398	1,546	1,912	900	422
Agricultural	769	*	40	188	210	314	16
Nonagricultural	4,506	96	358	1,358	1,702	586	406
Males	4,082	81	318	1,171	1,450	736	326
Agricultural	748	*	39	186	202	306	14
Nonagricultural	3,334	80	279	985	1,248	430	312
Females	1,193	16	80	375	462	164	96
Agricultural	21	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonagricultural	1,172	16	79	373	454	156	94
All ages	5,275	97	398	1,546	1,912	900	422
14-19 years	510	12	40	195	157	77	29
20-24 years	703	15	47	237	242	116	46
25-44 years	2,463	46	182	719	892	419	205
45-64 years	1,394	21	109	360	532	248	124
65 years and over	205	*	20	35	89	40	18

* Less than 10,000.



Table 10. - Regional distributions, week ended December 12, 1953 - Con.

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<u>Persons with Jobs</u>							
All status groups	5,085	89	368	1,477	1,865	881	405
Males	3,909	73	289	1,111	1,408	718	310
Females	1,176	16	79	366	457	163	95
Agricultural	762	*	38	187	208	312	16
Nonagricultural	4,323	88	330	1,290	1,657	569	389
14-19 years	474	11	34	179	149	75	26
20-24 years	672	13	43	226	234	112	44
25-44 years	3,387	42	169	691	874	413	198
45-64 years	1,352	20	103	347	521	242	119
65 years and over	200	*	19	34	87	39	18
Paid workers	3,895	72	280	1,158	1,520	517	348
Males	2,819	58	211	821	1,095	372	262
Females	1,076	14	69	337	425	145	86
<u>Persons without Jobs and Seeking Work</u>							
Both sexes	190	*	30	69	47	19	17
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	4,840	143	453	1,304	1,564	924	452
Males	958	43	99	234	267	203	112
Females	3,882	100	354	1,070	1,297	721	340

* Less than 10,000.