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THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week Ended August 22, 1953

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Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended August 22, 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.

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(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 August 22, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,057	5,022	5,035
Persons not in the labour force	4,550	718	3,832
Civilian labour force	5,507	4,304	1,203
Persons at work	5,093	4,000	1,093
35 hours or more	4,820	3,867	953
Less than 35 hours	273	133	140
Usually work 35 hours or more	105	74	31
(a) laid off for part of the week	*	*	*
(b) on short time	25	15	10
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	*	*	*
(f) illness	16	12	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	18	13	*
(i) other	25	17	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	168	59	109
Persons with jobs not at work	322	228	94
Usually work 35 hours or more	313	225	88
(a) laid off for full week	17	15	*
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	53	42	11
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	231	157	74
(f) other	*	*	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (1)	92	76	16

(1) 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.

5093
322

5415

1093
94

1187

Table 2. - Persons looking for work during the week ended August 22, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	104	95	*
Without jobs	92	85	*
Worked	12	10	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	*	*	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 3. - Age distributions, week ended August 22, 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	5,507	657	738	2,477	1,411	224
Males	4,304	412	490	1,995	1,204	203
Females	1,203	245	248	482	207	21
Persons with jobs	5,415	633	722	2,446	1,393	221
Males	4,228	394	477	1,969	1,188	200
Females	1,187	239	245	477	205	21
Persons without jobs and seeking work	92	24	16	31	18	*
Persons not in the labour force	4,550	599	304	1,653	1,115	879
Males	718	217	17	39	91	354
Females	3,832	382	287	1,614	1,024	525

* Less than 10,000

Table 4. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended August 22, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own-account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,415	4,076	719	332	288
Agricultural	964	164	466	102	232
Nonagricultural	4,451	3,912	253	230	56
Males	4,228	3,026	681	312	209
Agricultural	888	140	461	100	187
Nonagricultural	3,340	2,886	220	212	22
Females	1,187	1,050	38	20	79
Agricultural	76	24	*	*	45
Nonagricultural	1,111	1,026	33	18	34

(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 August 22, 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	5,415	322	57	112	104	2,585	1,212	1,023
Agricultural	964	*	18	16	13	82	191	635
Nonagricultural	4,451	313	39	96	91	2,503	1,021	388
Males	4,228	228	21	54	58	1,906	1,012	949
Agricultural	888	*	*	*	*	66	177	616
Nonagricultural	3,340	220	18	45	49	1,840	835	333
Females	1,187	94	36	58	46	679	200	74
Agricultural	76	*	15	*	*	16	14	19
Nonagricultural	1,111	93	21	51	42	663	186	55
<u>Paid Workers</u> (Nonagricultural)								
Both sexes	3,912	296	32	76	75	2,349	838	246
Males	2,886	206	15	36	40	1,711	671	207
Females	1,026	90	17	40	35	638	167	39

* Less than 10,000.

Table 6. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended August 22, 1953, Canada.
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	322	54	*	238	*	17	*

(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 August 22, 1953, Canada.

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,187	678	395	114
Agricultural	76	33	38	*
Nonagricultural	1,111	645	357	109

(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 August 22, 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	92	44	31	*	*	*	*

* Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended August 22, 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	4,550	170	3,430	*	895	54
Males	718	109	3,427*	*	580	25
Females	3,832	61	3,427	*	315	29

* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Regional distributions, week ended August 22, 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	5,507	111	424	1,580	1,964	987	441
Agricultural	966	*	67	225	259	393	22
Nonagricultural	4,541	111	357	1,355	1,705	594	419
Males	4,304	94	339	1,223	1,501	805	342
Agricultural	890	*	60	215	229	368	18
Nonagricultural	3,414	94	279	1,008	1,272	437	324
Females	1,203	17	85	357	463	182	99
Agricultural	76	*	*	10	30	25	*
Nonagricultural	1,127	17	78	347	433	157	95
All ages	5,507	111	424	1,580	1,964	987	441
14-19 years	657	15	54	221	203	127	37
20-24 years	738	17	55	242	250	124	50
25-44 years	2,477	49	183	715	889	433	208
45-64 years	1,411	26	110	354	535	258	128
65 years and over	224	*	22	48	87	45	18

* Less than 10,000.



Table 10. Regional distributions, week ended August 22, 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	5,415	105	413	1,539	1,945	978	435
Males	4,228	88	329	1,189	1,485	800	337
Females	1,187	17	84	350	460	178	98
Agricultural	964	*	67	224	259	392	22
Nonagricultural	4,451	105	346	1,315	1,686	586	413
14-19 years	633	14	51	209	199	123	37
20-24 years	722	16	53	234	247	123	49
25-44 years	2,446	46	181	701	882	430	206
45-64 years	1,393	25	107	347	531	257	126
65 years and over	221	*	21	48	86	45	17
Paid workers	4,076	83	303	1,190	1,575	558	367
Males	3,026	68	232	877	1,157	412	280
Females	1,050	15	71	313	418	146	87
<u>Persons without Jobs and Seeking Work</u>							
Both sexes	92	*	11	41	19	*	*
<u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u>							
Both sexes	4,550	129	422	1,255	1,501	817	426
Males	718	30	76	178	216	124	94
Females	3,832	99	346	1,077	1,285	693	332

* Less than 10,000.