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## THE LABOUR FORCE

Monthly Survey, Week Ended September 19, 1953

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Introduction

This report presents the results of the monthly labour force survey covering the week ended September 19, 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 September 19, 1953, Canada.  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Males	Females
Total civilian noninstitutional population	10,080	5,034	5,046
Persons not in the labour force	4,682	830	3,852
Civilian labour force	5,398	4,204	1,194
Persons at work	5,175	4,026	1,149
35 hours or more	4,896	3,887	1,009
Less than 35 hours	279	139	140
Usually work 35 hours or more	110	81	29
(a) laid off for part of the week	10	*	*
(b) on short time	25	16	*
(c) lost job during the week	*	*	*
(d) found job during the week	*	*	*
(e) bad weather	11	11	*
(f) illness	24	17	*
(g) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(h) vacation	*	*	*
(i) other	19	13	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	169	58	111
Persons with jobs not at work	139	107	32
Usually work 35 hours or more	135	105	30
(a) laid off for full week	13	12	*
(b) bad weather	*	*	*
(c) illness	54	43	11
(d) industrial dispute	*	*	*
(e) vacation	59	42	17
(f) other	*	*	*
Usually work less than 35 hours	*	*	*
Persons without jobs and seeking work (1)	84	71	13

(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.

5175  
139  
5314

4026  
107  
4133

1149  
32  
1181

Table 2. - Persons looking for work during the week ended September 19, 1953, Canada.

(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Seeking full-time work	Seeking part-time work
Total looking for work	98	90	*
Without jobs	84	79	*
Worked	14	11	*
1 - 14 hours	*	*	*
15 - 34 hours	10	*	*

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 3. - Age distributions, week ended September 19, 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	5,398	539	730	2,487	1,420	222
Males	4,204	321	475	1,999	1,207	202
Females	1,194	218	255	488	213	20
Persons with jobs	5,314	521	714	2,455	1,404	220
Males	4,133	308	462	1,971	1,192	200
Females	1,181	213	252	484	212	20
Persons without jobs and seeking work	84	18	16	32	16	*
Persons not in the labour force	4,682	720	314	1,652	1,113	883
Males	830	309	33	40	92	356
Females	3,852	411	281	1,612	1,021	527

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 4. - Occupational status of persons with jobs, week ended September 19, 1953, Canada.  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Paid workers	Own-account workers (1)	Employers (2)	Unpaid family workers (3)
Both sexes	5,314	4,080	681	321	232
Agricultural	898	152	465	98	183
Nonagricultural	4,416	3,928	216	223	49
Males	4,133	3,012	646	306	169
Agricultural	840	130	460	98	152
Nonagricultural	3,293	2,882	186	208	17
Females	1,181	1,068	35	15	63
Agricultural	58	22	*	*	31
Nonagricultural	1,123	1,046	30	15	32

(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 September 19, 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
<b>All Status Groups</b>								
Both sexes	5,314	139	58	119	102	2,681	1,260	955
Agricultural	898	*	13	21	11	73	181	593
Nonagricultural	4,416	133	45	98	91	2,608	1,079	362
Males	4,133	107	22	59	58	1,949	1,044	894
Agricultural	840	*	*	12	*	60	171	580
Nonagricultural	3,293	101	19	47	50	1,889	873	314
Females	1,181	32	36	60	44	732	216	61
Agricultural	58	*	10	*	*	13	10	13
Nonagricultural	1,123	32	26	51	41	719	206	48
<b>Paid Workers (Nonagricultural)</b>								
Both sexes	3,928	122	39	80	81	2,459	900	247
Males	2,882	92	17	39	45	1,765	713	211
Females	1,046	30	22	41	36	694	187	36

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 6. - Reason for absence of persons with jobs not at work during the week ended September 19, 1953, Canada.  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Illness	Bad weather	Vacation	Industrial dispute	Temporary layoff (1)	Other
Both sexes	139	56	*	60	*	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 September 19, 1953, Canada.  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Single	Married	Other (1)
Total	1,181	667	397	117
Agricultural	58	25	29	*
Nonagricultural	1,123	642	368	113

(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 September 19, 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	84	37	32	*	*	*	*

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 9. - Class of non-worker of persons not in the labour force, week ended September 19, 1953, Canada.  
(estimates in thousands)

	Total	Perman- ently unable or too old to work	Keeping House	Going to school	Retired or voluntar- ily idle	Other
Both sexes	4,682	173	3,358	601	536	14
Males	830	112	*	310	400	*
Females	3,852	61	3,356	291	136	*

\* Less than 10,000.

Table 10. - Regional distributions, week ended September 19, 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	5,398	108	414	1,560	1,928	959	429
Agricultural	899	*	60	197	230	393	18
Nonagricultural	4,499	107	354	1,363	1,698	566	411
Males	4,204	92	327	1,201	1,465	786	333
Agricultural	841	*	54	191	207	372	16
Nonagricultural	3,363	91	273	1,010	1,258	414	317
Females	1,194	16	87	359	463	173	96
Agricultural	58	*	*	*	23	21	*
Nonagricultural	1,136	16	81	353	440	152	94
All ages	5,398	108	414	1,560	1,928	959	429
14-19 years	539	15	42	204	157	93	28
20-24 years	730	15	54	241	246	125	49
25-44 years	2,487	50	185	714	897	432	209
45-64 years	1,420	24	111	355	540	263	127
65 years and over	222	*	22	46	88	46	16

\* Less than 10,000.



Table 10. - Regional distributions, week ended September 19, 1953 - (Con.)

(estimates in thousands)

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I. N.S. N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. Sask. Alta.	B.C.
<b><u>Persons with Jobs</u></b>							
All status groups	5,314	107	402	1,527	1,903	954	421
Males	4,133	91	316	1,172	1,444	782	328
Females	1,181	16	86	355	459	172	93
Agricultural	898	*	60	197	229	393	18
Nonagricultural	4,416	106	342	1,330	1,674	561	403
14-19 years	521	15	39	195	153	93	26
20-24 years	714	15	52	234	243	123	47
25-44 years	2,455	49	182	703	885	430	206
45-64 years	1,404	24	107	350	535	262	126
65 years and over	220	*	22	45	87	46	16
Paid workers	4,080	92	300	1,222	1,563	547	356
Males	3,012	77	227	895	1,141	399	273
Females	1,068	15	73	327	422	148	83
<b><u>Persons without Jobs and Seeking Work</u></b>							
Both sexes	84	*	12	33	25	*	*
<b><u>Persons not in the Labour Force</u></b>							
Both sexes	4,682	133	433	1,280	1,543	854	439
Males	830	33	88	203	255	148	103
Females	3,852	100	345	1,077	1,288	706	336

\* Less than 10,000.