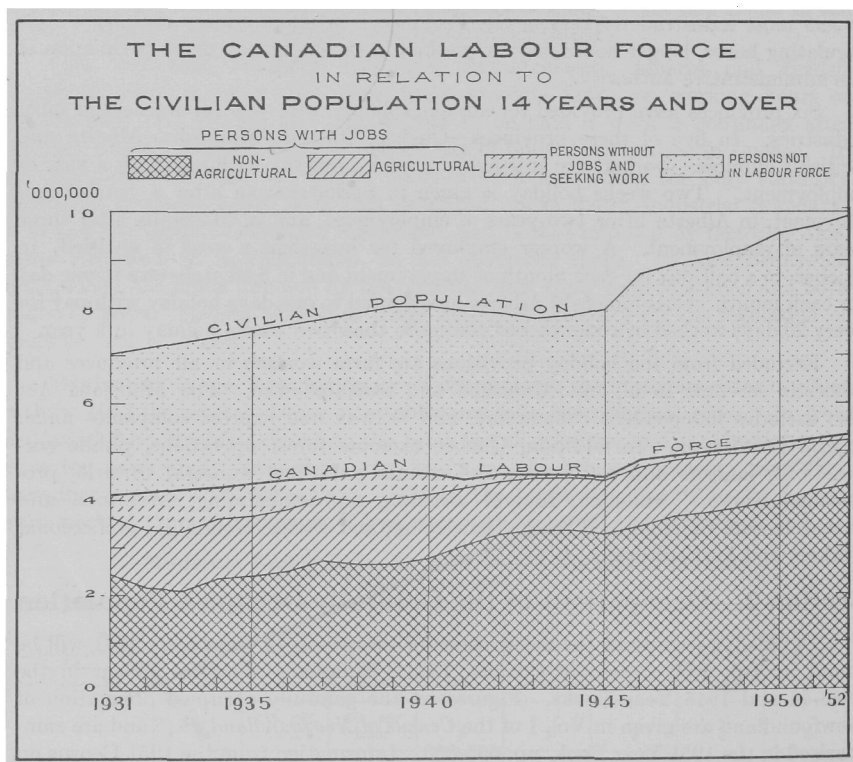


autumn of 1945, and quarterly surveys have been carried out since that time. A multi-stage area sampling was used involving the selection of progressively smaller sample areas and ultimately of households. Random methods of choice were used at every stage of selection so that all members of the population had an equal chance of inclusion.

The estimates of the labour force are restricted to the civilian labour force, since net strength of the Armed Forces is obtainable directly from official sources. Inmates of institutions and Indians living on reservations are also excluded because they are not in the competitive labour market. Because of inaccessibility and high cost of enumeration, certain remote areas of the country have been excluded from the sample.



The present sample includes about 30,000 households in over 100 different areas in Canada. These areas include the 28 cities having a population of 30,000 or over, in addition to some of the smaller cities and various rural areas. Once a year, at the mid-summer survey, the sample in the metropolitan areas of cities of 30,000 or over is doubled in order to improve the estimates of interprovincial migration obtained from the sample.

The labour force surveys provide a classification of persons 14 years of age or over on the basis of their activity during a specified week, which is, in each case, the week that precedes the beginning of the survey. Information on the part of the population not in the labour force is also collected. These non-workers are