

The number of persons not in the labour force at the beginning of June 1958 was 5,213,000, a figure 33 p.c. higher than on June 1, 1946. The increase in this category was most marked for students.

While the proportion of males 14 years of age or over in the labour force decreased from an average of 85.2 p.c. in 1946 to 81.7 p.c. in 1958, the proportion of females in the labour force showed an increase over the period from 24.7 p.c. to 26.3 p.c. Of the total females with jobs, an average of 27.2 p.c. in 1946 were married women; this proportion rose steadily year by year, reaching 43.5 p.c. in 1958.

The decline in agricultural employment relative to the population was large for both males and females. In 1946, 23.4 p.c. of the male population 14 years of age or over was employed in agriculture; by 1958 the proportion had dropped to 11.6 p.c. The decrease for females was relatively greater. Both males and females showed increases in the percentage of the population in non-agricultural employment even though for males the labour force participation rate decreased and the percentage of persons without jobs and seeking work doubled. The proportion of males not in the labour force increased from 14.8 p.c. in 1946 to 18.3 p.c. in 1958; students advanced from 5.5 p.c. to 6.8 p.c. during the period. For females, the proportion not in the labour force decreased from 75.3 p.c. in 1946 to 73.7 p.c. in 1958. Females keeping house increased from 63.2 p.c. in 1946 to 66.7 p.c. in 1953 and then dropped back to 63.2 p.c. by 1958. Females attending school increased over the period from 5.1 p.c. to 6.1 p.c. while the remainder of the category decreased from 7.0 p.c. to 4.4 p.c.

In 1946, 14.1 p.c. of the males and 14.4 p.c. of the females 14 years of age or over were in the 14-to-19-year age group. These percentages decreased gradually for five years, held steady for some time and in the following two years gave indication of increasing in line with the wartime increase in the birth rate. The proportion of males and females aged 65 years or over increased from under 10 p.c. in 1946 to about 11 p.c. in 1958, but there was little change during the period in the relative size of the 20-to-64-year group.

### 3.—Percentage Distribution of the Population 14 Years of Age or Over in Labour Force and Non-labour Force Categories, by Sex, 1946-58

NOTE.—Percentages are annual averages; those for 1946-52, inclusive, are based on estimates from quarterly surveys and those for 1953-58 on monthly estimates.

Sex and Year	Population (14 years or over)	Labour Force				Not in Labour Force			
		With Jobs		Without Jobs and Seeking Work	Total	Females Keeping House	Persons Going to School	Other <sup>1</sup>	Total
		Agri- culture	Non- agri- culture						
<b>Males—</b>									
1946.....	100.0	23.4	59.0	2.8	85.2	...	5.5	9.3	14.8
1947.....	100.0	21.5	61.8	1.8	85.1	...	5.3	9.6	14.9
1948.....	100.0	21.1	62.1	1.9	85.1	...	5.2	9.7	14.9
1949.....	100.0	20.9	61.8	2.4	85.1	...	5.0	9.9	14.9
1950.....	100.0	19.5	61.6	2.9	84.0	...	5.1	10.9	16.0
1951.....	100.0	17.8	64.3	1.8	83.9	...	5.0	11.1	16.1
1952.....	100.0	16.6	64.6	2.2	83.4	...	5.4	11.2	16.6
1953.....	100.0	16.1	64.4	2.4	82.9	...	5.6	11.5	17.1
1954.....	100.0	16.2	62.0	4.0	82.2	...	5.8	12.0	17.8
1955.....	100.0	14.8	63.5	3.8	82.1	...	6.0	11.9	17.9
1956.....	100.0	13.6	65.7	2.9	82.2	...	6.2	11.6	17.8
1957.....	100.0	12.7	65.5	4.1	82.3	...	6.3	11.4	17.7
1958.....	100.0	11.6	63.8	6.3	81.7	...	6.8	11.5	18.3
<b>Females—</b>									
1946.....	100.0	3.6	20.6	0.5	24.7	63.2	5.1	7.0	75.3
1947.....	100.0	3.2	20.5	0.4	24.1	64.7	5.0	6.2	75.9
1948.....	100.0	2.7	20.4	0.4	23.5	65.3	5.2	6.0	76.5
1949.....	100.0	2.2	21.0	0.4	23.6	65.9	4.9	5.8	76.4
1950.....	100.0	1.6	21.1	0.5	23.2	65.9	5.0	5.9	76.8

<sup>1</sup>Includes mainly retired persons, persons voluntarily idle, and persons permanently unable or too old to work.