

Section 9.—Strikes and Lockouts

Statistical information on strikes and lockouts in Canada is compiled by the Economics and Research Branch of the Department of Labour. Tables 39 and 40 cover strikes and lockouts involving six or more workers and lasting at least one working day; also strikes and lockouts lasting less than one day or involving fewer than six workers but exceeding a total of nine man-days. The developments leading to work stoppages are often too complex to make it practicable to distinguish statistically between strikes on the one hand and lockouts on the other. However a work stoppage that is clearly a lockout is not often encountered.

The number of workers involved includes all workers reported on strike or locked out, whether or not they belonged to the unions directly involved in the disputes that led to work stoppages. Where the number of workers involved varied in the course of a stoppage, the peak figure is used in tabulating annual totals. Workers who were laid off as a result of a stoppage but were not on strike or locked out are not included in the number of workers involved.

Duration of strikes and lockouts in terms of man-days is calculated by multiplying the number of workers involved in each work stoppage by the number of working days the stoppage was in progress. Where the number of workers involved varied during the period of a stoppage, an appropriate adjustment is made in the calculation as far as this is practicable. The duration in man-days of all work stoppages in a year is also shown as a percentage of estimated working time, based on the annual average of all non-agricultural paid workers in Canada.

The data on duration of work stoppages in man-days are provided to facilitate comparison of work stoppages in terms of a common denominator. They are not intended as a measure of the loss of productive time to the economy.

39.—Summary Statistics of Strikes and Lockouts, 1950-57

Year	Strikes and Lockouts Beginning during Year	Strikes and Lockouts in Progress during Year			
		Strikes and Lockouts	Workers Involved	Duration	
				Man-Days	Estimated Working Time
No.	No.	No.	No.	p. c.	
1950.....	158	161	192,153	1,389,039	0.14
1951.....	257	259	102,870	901,739	0.08
1952.....	216	222	120,818	2,879,955	0.29
1953.....	167	174	55,988	1,324,715	0.13
1954.....	158	174	62,250	1,475,200	0.15
1955.....	149	159	60,000	1,875,400	0.18
1956.....	221	229	88,680	1,246,000	0.11
1957.....	242	249	91,409	1,634,881	0.14

40.—Strikes and Lockouts, by Industry, 1957

Industry	Strikes and Lockouts	Workers Involved	Duration in Man-Days
	No.	No.	No.
Logging.....	6	1,423	28,828
Fishing.....	3	10,700	157,050
Mining.....	23	18,084	165,772
Coal.....	18	15,876	40,085
Metal.....	5	2,208	125,687