

The estimates derived from the labour force surveys are subject to sampling error. In general, the percentage of error tends to decrease as the size of the estimate increases. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference between the estimate and the figure which would have been obtained from a complete count is less than shown below. The sampling variabilities indicated are averages, since sampling error differs from characteristic to characteristic; in particular, for the unemployed the sampling variability is about 40 p.c. higher than the general average.

	<u>Size of Estimate</u>	<u>Sampling Variability</u>
10,000	3,500
50,000	8,000
100,000	11,000
500,000	24,000
1,000,000	33,000
5,000,000	58,000
6,000,000	60,000

2.—Estimates of the Civilian Labour Force and its Main Components, Annual Averages, 1946 and 1954-63

NOTE.—Comparable figures for 1947-53 are given in the 1962 Year Book, p. 708. Figures do not include inmates of institutions and Indians on reservations.

Year	Civilian Population (14 years of age or over)	Civilian Labour Force (14 years of age or over)						Persons not in the Labour Force (14 years of age or over)	
		Employed					Un-employed		Total Labour Force
		Non-agriculture			Agri-culture	Total (em-ployed)			
		Paid Workers	Other	Total (non-agri-culture)					
'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	
1946 ¹	8,779	2,990	490	3,480	1,186	4,666	163	4,829	3,950
1954	10,391	3,840	525	4,365	878	5,243	250	5,493	4,898
1955	10,597	4,027	519	4,546	819	5,364	245	5,610	4,987
1956	10,805	4,286	523	4,809	776	5,585	197	5,782	5,023
1957	11,108	4,440	542	4,981	744	5,725	278	6,003	5,105
1958	11,357	4,454	529	4,983	712	5,695	432	6,127	5,230
1959	11,562	4,615	548	5,163	692	5,856	373	6,228	5,334
1960	11,789	4,727	553	5,280	675	5,955	448	6,403	5,386
1961	12,010	4,798	577	5,375	674	6,049	469	6,518	5,492
1962	12,224	4,978	587	5,564	653	6,217	391	6,608	5,616
1963	12,466	5,133	589	5,723	641	6,364	373	6,737	5,730

¹ Excludes Newfoundland.

Characteristics of the Civilian Labour Force, 1946-63.—The civilian non-institutional population averaged 12,466,000 in 1963 compared with 8,779,000 in 1946, an increase of 42.0 p.c., and during the same period the labour force rose by only 39.5 p.c. to 6,737,000. Thus, the proportion of the population 14 years of age or over in the labour force, which was 55.0 p.c. in 1946, dropped to 54.0 p.c. in 1963. Contributing to this decrease were such factors as shifts in the age composition of the population, the tendency for young people to remain in school until they are a little older and the tendency for older persons to retire at an earlier age. The effect of these factors was greater among men, whose rate of labour force participation dropped from 85.2 p.c. in 1946 to 78.8 p.c. in 1963. Although the growth in the female labour force was also affected by these factors, there was an offsetting development. From 1953 there was a rapid increase in job opportunities for women, particularly married women. The female participation rate dropped slightly from 24.7 p.c. in 1946 to 23.4 p.c. in 1953 and then rose to 29.6 p.c. in 1963. During the 1953-63 period, the participation rate for the female group 25-44 years of age rose from 23.1 p.c. to 30.4 p.c. and for the 45-64 age group from 17.2 p.c. to 30.6 p.c. In 1963, women