

One of the primary objectives of the compensation process in Canada is the rehabilitation of the injured worker. The boards may adopt any means considered expedient to aid in getting workers back to work and in lessening any handicap.

When a worker dies from an industrial accident or disease, the dependents are entitled to a monthly payment fixed by legislation. However, for recent cases in Alberta and Manitoba, the widow receives the permanent total disability pension the deceased worker would have been entitled to, if he had lived. This is also true for a widow with two or more children in British Columbia. In all provinces payments are made in respect of children. In Ontario and Quebec such payments may continue for as long as the child is pursuing his studies.

8.2 The labour force

8.2.1 Labour force (monthly surveys)

Since 1946 reliable information for analysis of employment in Canada, at the national level and for the five major regions, has been provided through a labour force survey. Between November 1945 and November 1952, quarterly surveys were taken and since then the survey has been carried out monthly. The sample used in the survey has been designed to represent all persons in the population 14 years of age and over, residing in Canada, with the exception of residents of the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories, Indians living on reserves, inmates of institutions and members of the Armed Forces. Interviews are carried out in approximately 30,000 households chosen by area sampling methods across the country. In the survey, people are classified on the basis of their activity during the reference week, i.e. the week prior to the survey interview week.

The civilian labour force is composed of that portion of the civilian non-institutional population 14 years of age and over who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed.

The employed include all persons who, during the reference week, did any work for pay or profit; did any work which contributed to the running of a farm or business operated by a related member of the household; or had a job but were not at work because of bad weather, illness, industrial dispute or vacation, or because they were taking time off for other reasons. People who had jobs but did not work during the reference week and who also looked for work are included in the unemployed as people without work and seeking work.

The unemployed are all those who, through the reference week, were without work and seeking work, i.e. did not work during the reference week and were looking for work, or would have been looking for work except that they were temporarily ill, were on indefinite or prolonged lay-off, or believed no suitable work was available in the community; were temporarily laid off for the full week, i.e. were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off for less than 30 days.

Those not in the labour force include all civilians 14 years of age and over (exclusive of the institutional population) who are not classified as employed or unemployed. This category includes people going to school, keeping house, too old or otherwise unable to work, and voluntarily idle or retired. Housewives, students and others who worked part-time are classified as employed or, if they looked for work, as unemployed.

Because they are based on a sample of households, estimates derived from the labour force survey are subject to sampling error. In the design and processing of the survey, extensive efforts are made to minimize the sampling error; in general, the percentage of error tends to decrease as the size of the estimate increases. A statistical measure of the sampling error is given in the Statistics Canada publication *The labour force* (Catalogue No. 71-001).

The period 1965-74 was one of rapid expansion as the actual labour force increased by 2.5 million persons or 35.3%. The number of women in the labour force increased by 60.1%, compared to the increase of 25.1% experienced by men. The total participation rate (the labour force as a percentage of the population 14 years of age and over) continued to increase and reached a level in 1974 of 58.3% compared with 54.4% in 1965.

In the decade under review the male participation rate declined from 1965 to 1971 and increased from 1971 to 1974. In 1974 the rate was 77.3% compared with 77.9% in 1965 (see Table 8.2). While there was a decline in the total male participation rate, there was an increase for men aged 14-24 over the period under review. The rate increased to 63.4% in 1974 from 57.2% in 1965.