

employers in each province. In all provinces compensation is provided for workers in most types of industries, for personal injuries sustained in the course of employment unless the disablement is for less than a stated number of days or where the injury is attributable solely to the worker's serious and wilful misconduct and does not result in death or serious disablement. Compensation is also payable for specified industrial diseases.

Each workmen's compensation act provides for an accident fund administered by a workmen's compensation board to which employers are required to contribute and from which compensation and medical benefits are paid. The acts thus provide for a system of compulsory collective liability, relieving employers of individual responsibility for accident costs. The assessment rate for each class of industry is fixed by the board according to the hazards of the class.

A worker entitled to receive compensation under a workmen's compensation act has no right of action against his employer for injury from an accident occurring in the course of employment or for an industrial disease.

Various types of benefits are provided for a worker protected by workmen's compensation legislation. Benefits for disability are based on a percentage of average weekly earnings subject to an annual ceiling. Persons having a permanent or temporary total disability are presumed not to be able to work at all and receive 75% of their average weekly earnings for as long as the disability lasts. Partial disablement entitles a worker to a proportionate compensation. Medical and hospital benefits are provided without limitation regardless of a waiting period.

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, statistics relating to employment and unemployment at the national level, and since 1966 at the provincial level, have been provided through the Labour Force Survey. From 1945 until 1952, the survey was conducted quarterly and since November 1952, it has been carried out monthly. In January 1976, after three years of developmental work, substantial revisions to the survey were introduced to enhance the quality of the data and increase the range of data collected, particularly information relating to the dynamics of the labour market.

The sample used in the survey was designed to represent all persons in the population 15 years of age and over residing in Canada with the exception of the following: residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Armed Forces. Interviews are carried out in approximately 55,000 households chosen by area sampling methods across the country. (Until March 1977 the sample size had been fixed at approximately 30,000 households.) The estimates of employment, unemployment and non-labour force activity generated from the survey refer to a specific week each month, normally the week containing the 15th day.

The labour force is composed of that portion of the civilian non-institutional population 15 years of age and over who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed.