

2.—Number and Percentage of the Population in the Labour Force, by Sex, Census Years 1921-51

(Exclusive of the Yukon and Northwest Territories)

Census Year	Labour Force Population ¹			Percentage of Total Population			Percentage of Population 14 Years or Over		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	No.	No.	No.						
1921.....	2,675,290	489,058	3,164,348	59.2	11.5	36.1	86.7	17.2	53.4
1931.....	3,256,531	665,302	3,921,833	60.7	13.3	37.8	85.3	19.1	53.7
1941 (incl. Active Service).....	3,676,563	833,972	4,510,535	62.4	14.9	39.3	83.6	20.2	52.9
1941 (excl. Active Service).....	3,363,111	832,840	4,195,951	57.1	14.9	36.5	76.7	20.2	49.3
1951 (incl. N ^o T ^o l ^o d.) ² ..	4,121,832	1,164,321	5,286,153	58.3	16.9	37.8	82.2	23.6	53.1
1951 (excl. N ^o T ^o l ^o d.) ² ..	4,032,372	1,147,241	5,179,613	58.5	17.0	38.0	82.3	23.8	53.3

¹ The "gainfully occupied" rather than the "labour force" concept was used prior to 1951 (see text on p. 693). ² Excludes a few persons seeking work who have never been employed.

The decline in the proportion of males at working ages, as indicated in Table 3, is largely caused by the raising of the school-leaving age and, at the older ages, by earlier retirement. Only 14.1 p.c. of the males 14-15 years of age were in the labour force at the 1951 Census date. While the proportion of males 16-19 years of age in the labour force at the 1951 Census was considerably higher than in 1941, it was lower than in 1921 or 1931. The substantial increases during the 1941-51 decade in the proportions of males in age groups from 20 to 64 years were chiefly accounted for by the return of persons in the Armed Forces to civilian employment. The percentage of males in the oldest age group (65 years or over) in the labour force has continued to decline from about 58 p.c. in 1921 to less than 39 p.c. in 1951.

3.—Numbers and Percentages of the Population, 14 Years of Age or Over, in the Labour Force, by Age Group and Sex, Census Years 1921-51

(Exclusive of the Yukon and Northwest Territories)

Census Year and Age Group	Number			Percentage of Population 14 Years or Over		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1921						
14-15 years.....	50,345	14,042	64,387	29.3	8.4	19.0
16-19 ".....	244,821	101,795	346,616	76.3	32.2	54.4
20-24 ".....	324,102	126,226	450,328	92.4	35.1	63.4
25-34 ".....	663,919	111,628	775,547	96.2	17.2	58.0
35-64 ".....	1,266,936	122,629	1,389,565	94.4	10.7	55.8
65 years or over.....	125,167	12,738	137,905	58.4	6.2	32.9
Totals, 1921¹.....	2,675,290	489,058	3,164,348	86.6	17.2	53.3

For footnote, see end of table.