

to decrease as the size of the estimate increases. A statistical measure of the sampling error is given in Statistics Canada monthly publication *The labour force* (Catalogue No. 71-001).

As illustrated in the accompanying chart and in Table 8.1, the period 1964-73 was one of rapid expansion as the actual labour force increased by 2.3 million persons or 33.8%. The number of women in the labour force increased by 59.8%, an advance that was greater, both absolutely and relatively, than the increase of 23.5% 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 1973 of 57.5% compared with 54.1% in 1964.

In the decade under review the male participation rate declined from 1964 to 1971 and increased from 1971 to 1973. In 1973 the rate was 76.8% compared with 78.1% in 1964 (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 61.4% in 1973 from 57.0% in 1964.

The accelerated entry of women into the labour force has more than compensated for the decline in male labour force participation; in 1973 the rate was 38.7% compared with 30.5% in 1964 (see Table 8.2). As the second chart indicates, the participation rate of women increased over the period in all age groups except for those 65 years and over. This increase was the result of changes in the rate of both major age groups. The participation rate for females 14-24 increased from 38.2% in 1964 to 46.4% in 1973 and that for women 25 years and over from 27.8% in 1964 to 35.7% in 1973.

The total number of persons employed in Canada rose by 32.5%, from 6.6 million in 1964 to 8.8 million in 1973 (Table 8.1). This increase was shared by all regions of the country (Table 8.3): employment in the Atlantic region rose by 134,000 (24.7%), in Quebec by 526,000 (28.8%), in Ontario by 893,000 (36.1%), in the Prairie region by 264,000 (22.7%) and in British Columbia by 332,000 (54.9%).

Table 8.4 illustrates the changes over the decade in the distribution of actual employment by industry. The proportion of persons employed in the service-producing industries continued to increase; the numbers in the goods-producing industries indicated a corresponding decline. Transportation, trade, finance and services accounted for 63.3% of total employment in 1973 compared with 56.3% in 1964. Conversely, the goods-producing industries, comprising agriculture, primary industries, manufacturing and construction, dropped from 43.7% of total employment in 1964 to 36.7% in 1973. The most significant changes occurred in services and in agriculture. The share of total employment increased from 26.7% to 32.7% in services and decreased from 9.5% to 5.3% in agriculture.

On the average in 1973, over 87% of the employed were full-time workers (people usually working 35 hours or more a week). As the third chart illustrates, men working full-time represented nearly 62% of total employment while women represented nearly 26%. The number of women in part-time employment represented 8% of total employment. Men working part-time however, accounted for only half as much of total employment.

On an annual average basis, unemployment as a percentage of the labour force ranged between 3.6% in 1966 and 6.4% in 1971; it averaged 5.6% in 1973. On an age/sex basis (see Table 8.2) only men 25 years and over showed a similar rate in 1973 compared to 1964; the other groups showed increases between those two years. Persons not in the labour force averaged 6.8 million in 1973 compared with 5.9 million in 1964, an increase of 16.3%.

8.2.2 Labour force (1971 Census)

At each decennial census of Canada, questions are asked of persons 15 years of age and over relating to their employment status and present work activities. The census questions have the advantage that they can provide far more detailed information on the occupational and industrial structure as well as other characteristics of the labour force than the small monthly surveys in terms of both geographical areas and classifications. A few short summary tabulations from the most recent 1971 Census are presented in Tables 8.5 to 8.11. For more details, reference can be made to the many census reports issued on these and other aspects of Canada's labour force, (see 1971 Census, Statistics Canada Catalogue Nos. 94-701 to 94-789).

Because of differences in coverage, methodology, reference period, etc., data from the census are in some ways not comparable with those collected by the monthly labour force surveys. Of particular importance among these differences are those of coverage and actual questions asked, even though the fundamental concepts are the same. As stated in the preceding