

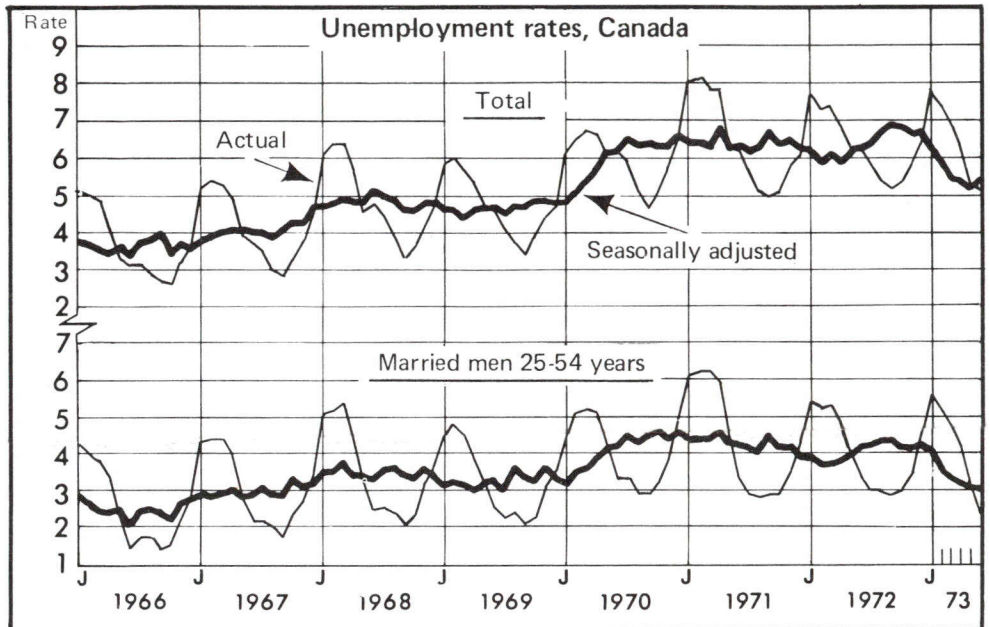
Employment and unemployment

Statistics Canada estimates that in June there were 9,613,000 persons in the labour force, of which 9,110,000 were employed and 503,000 were unemployed.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment level increased slightly (by 6,000) to 491,000 in June after decreasing for five consecutive months. This was largely owing to the increase in unemployment among persons aged 14-24. The level of unemployment for married men aged 25-54 continued to decrease, falling to 100,000.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the level of employment continued to increase – reaching 8,836,000 in June. Employment for married men aged 25-54 has shown little change since March. After an increase last month, employment for married women aged 25-54 decreased to the April 1973 level. The employment level for persons aged 14-24 increased substantially to 2,319,000 in June from 2,275,000 in May.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the employment level increased substantially in Ontario (+ 51,000). The level in British Columbia and the Atlantic region increased slightly, while the



level in Quebec decreased. The decrease in Quebec follows several months of substantial increases. There was no change in the level of employment in the Prairie region.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for Canada increased to 5.3 in June from 5.2 in May after declining for five consecutive months.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate increased substantially in Quebec following a series of decreases.

The increase was concentrated among teenage students entering the labour market for the summer months. The rate increased slightly in British Columbia, while it decreased in the Atlantic region, the Prairie region and Ontario.

By age groups, the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate increased marginally for persons 14-24 after five months of decreasing. For the second consecutive month there was no change in the rate for persons 25 and over.

Help-wanted index

The Canadian help-wanted index, recently established by the Department of Finance, rose 8 per cent during the second quarter of 1973, which more than offset the decline of 1.5 per cent during January and March from the fourth quarter of last year.

The index provides an indication of changing trends in the availability of jobs as measured by the volume of classified help-wanted advertising carried by daily newspapers in 18 metropolitan areas across Canada.

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The figures for the first two quarters bring the index up to date. When first published by the Department in the *Economic Review* of April 1973, the index indicated the changing trend in the volume of classified help-wanted advertising in the 18 metropolitan centres during the years 1962 to 1972 and its relation to the level of unemployment.

The moderate decline in the index in the first quarter and the more-than-offsetting increase during the second quarter of this year follows a rapid and continuous rise in the volume of help-wanted advertising over the seven previous quarters to the end of 1972.

Throughout most of the 1960s, as the *Economic Review* pointed out, a relatively close relation was established between movements in the Help-Wanted Index and in the rate of unemployment. During this time, a decline in the rate of unemployment tended to be matched

by a rise in the volume of help-wanted advertising, while an increase in the rate of unemployment tended to be accompanied by a decline in the volume of such advertising.

A significant change in this relation developed for a period of several months after mid-1971, when the index rose sharply, despite the fact that unemployment remained at a high level.

There was a move back toward the historical relation during the first half of 1973, when the continued rise in help-wanted advertising was paralleled by a substantial decline in the level of unemployment.