

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JESSE H. JONES, Secretary.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

J. C. CAPT, Director (Appointed May 22, 1941)  
WILLIAM LANE AUSTIN, Director (Retired January 31, 1941)  
PHILIP M. HAUSER, Assistant Director



SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES : 1940

POPULATION

THE LABOR FORCE

(Sample Statistics)

Wage or Salary Income  
in 1939

Prepared under the supervision of  
Dr. LEON E. TRUESDELL  
Chief Statistician for Population

UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1943

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## SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES : 1940

### REPORTS ON POPULATION

Volume

- I Number of Inhabitants, by States.
- II Characteristics of the Population, by States.
- III The Labor Force—Occupation, Industry, Employment, and Income, by States.
- IV Characteristics by Age—Marital Status, Relationship, Education, and Citizenship, by States.

Statistics for Census Tracts (Including Housing Data).

Additional Reports—Internal Migration, Families (Including Housing Data), Fertility, Parentage, Mother Tongue, Further Statistics on The Labor Force, etc.

Special Reports.

### REPORTS ON HOUSING

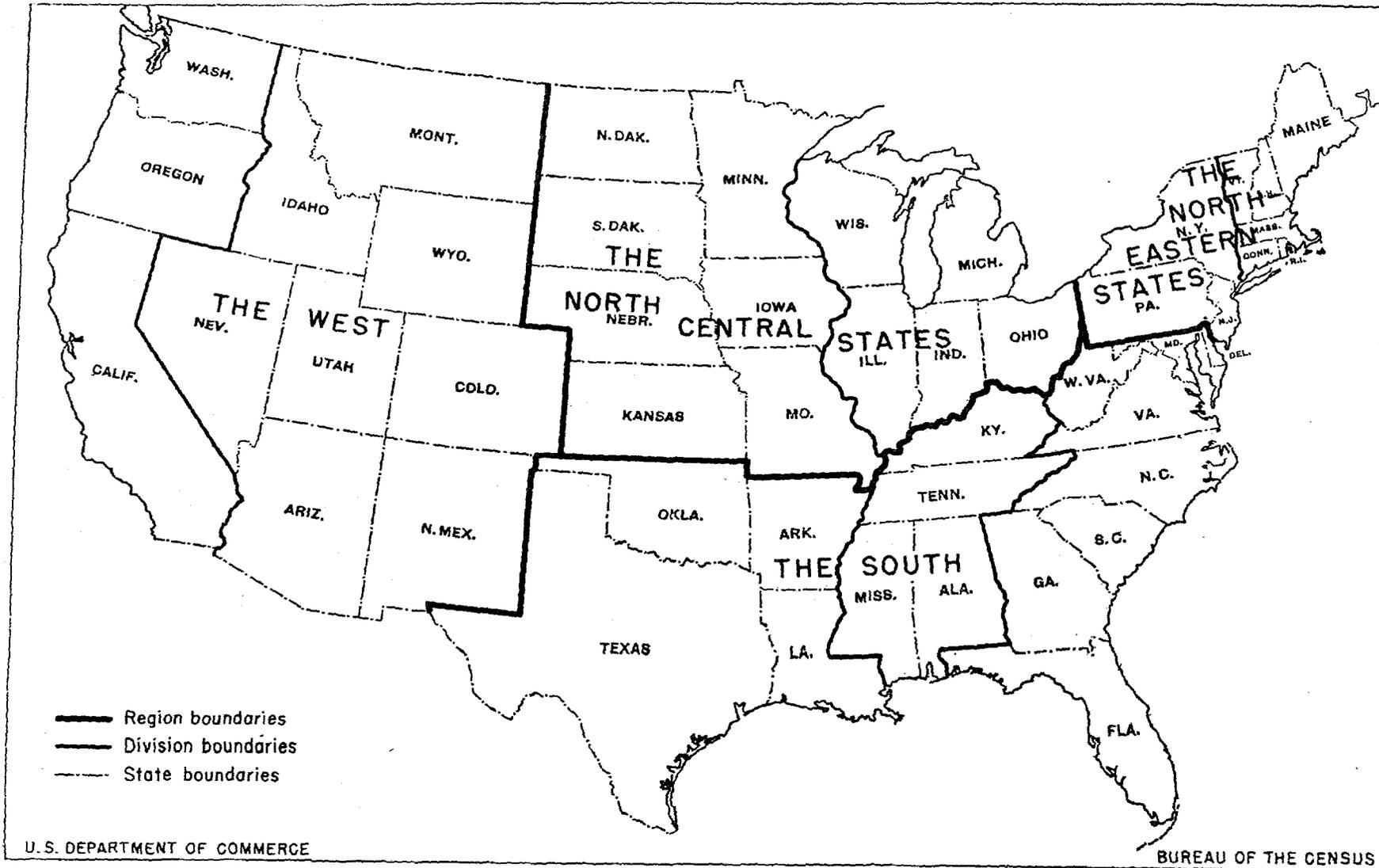
- I Data for Small Areas, by States.  
Supplement: Block Statistics for Cities.
- II General Characteristics of Housing, by States.
- III Characteristics by Monthly Rent or Value, by States.
- IV Mortgages on Owner-Occupied Nonfarm Homes, by States.  
Special Reports.

## FOREWORD

Sampling techniques were utilized in the Sixteenth Decennial Census for the first time in the history of the Population Census. The use of sampling methods permitted the collection of statistics on a larger number of inquiries than has heretofore been possible, the release of preliminary population statistics at an early date, and the tabulation of a great many social and economic characteristics of the population at a relatively low cost.

This report is based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the population returns, and presents statistics on the amount of wage or salary income and the receipt of other income in 1939 for persons 14 years old and over in the United States. The data are shown in combination with various economic and personal characteristics of the population, and provide a considerable body of information regarding the adequacy of employment and the economic well-being of the people. This report was prepared under the supervision of Dr. Leon E. Truesdell, Chief Statistician for Population, and Dr. A. Ross Eckler, Assistant Chief Statistician, by William H. Mautz, Chief of Economic Statistics, Dr. Selma Fine Goldsmith, and Alice B. Korstange. The sampling procedures were under the direction of Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Mathematical Adviser.

MAP OF THE UNITED STATES SHOWING REGIONS, DIVISIONS, AND STATES



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# WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939

## INTRODUCTION

### GENERAL

This report presents data on amount of wage or salary income in 1939 and on the receipt of other income in 1939 for persons 14 years old and over, based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the returns of the Sixteenth Decennial Census of Population, taken in April 1940.<sup>1</sup> The income data are shown in combination with certain personal and economic characteristics, such as age, sex, color, household relationship, months worked in 1939, employment status as of the census week of March 24 to 30, 1940, class of worker, and industry. Statistics are presented for the United States, regions, divisions, States, and for cities of 250,000 or more.

Many of the tables are confined to persons classified as wage or salary workers in March 1940, the class for which the data on wage or salary income are the most significant and which accounted for the great bulk of the recipients of wages or salaries in 1939. Most of the tables show separate distributions by amount of wage or salary income for persons who had no income from other sources, and for persons who had such other income. The distributions are more significant for persons having no other income than for persons having other income. For the latter group the data present only an incomplete picture of income distribution, whereas for the group having no other income they represent a very close approximation to a distribution by size of total income.

### RELATED REPORTS

Volume III of the Sixteenth Census Reports on Population, entitled "The Labor Force," presents statistics on wage or salary income in 1939, based on complete tabulations of the census returns. These statistics pertain to the experienced labor force classified by occupation and employment status. In order to show the relationship between income and amount of employment, the data are presented not only for the total number of workers but also for those who worked full time (12 months) during 1939. Part 1 of Volume III presents the data for the United States as a whole and for the four regions, and Parts 2 to 5 present the data for States and for cities of 100,000 or more.

Another report in the series "The Labor Force - Sample Statistics" appears under the title "Employment and Family Characteristics of Women." This report shows labor force status of women by marital status and number of children, according to age, education, and other personal and family characteristics, and includes statistics on wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939 for the husbands of married women 18 to 64 years of age, for the United States and regions, and for metropolitan districts of 1,000,000 or more.

Statistics for families will be presented in a separate series of publications. The specific titles of the reports that contain income data and a brief summary of the subjects covered are given below.<sup>2</sup>

**Family Wage or Salary Income in 1939:** Statistics on wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939, for families classified by characteristics of the family and of the family head, for the United States and regions, urban and rural (with color for the South), and for cities of

1,000,000 or more. The characteristics of the family that are included are size, number of children, number of earners, months worked in 1939 by earners, and class-of-worker composition; the characteristics of the family head are sex, age, marital status, employment status, major occupation group, class of worker, and wage or salary income received in 1939. Family wage or salary income is also cross-classified by wage or salary income of the individual earners in the family. Statistics on wage or salary income of the head in combination with wage or salary income of the wife, by receipt of other income by the head, are presented for normal families.

**Families - General Characteristics:** Characteristics of families and of family heads. Statistics on family wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939, by tenure, are presented for States, cities of 100,000 or more, and metropolitan districts of 200,000 or more.

**Income and Rent:** Data on wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939 for urban and rural-nonfarm families classified by tenure and rent, and cross-classified by housing characteristics, family characteristics, and characteristics of the head, for regions and metropolitan districts of 1,000,000 or more.

**Tenure and Rent:** Data for urban and rural-nonfarm families classified by tenure and rent, and cross-classified by family characteristics and characteristics of the head. This report includes statistics on family wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939, by tenure and rent, for regions, cities of 1,000,000 or more, and metropolitan districts of 500,000 or more.

**Size of Family and Age of Head:** Characteristics of families (including family wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939) and of family heads, by type and size of family and age of head, for regions and cities of 1,000,000 or more.

**Characteristics of Rural-farm Families:** Data for rural-farm families classified by tenure and occupation of the head, and cross-classified by selected housing characteristics, family characteristics (including family wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939), and characteristics of the head, for regions and geographic divisions.

### GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

Statistics are presented in this report for the United States and for four broad regions: (a) the Northeastern States, comprising the New England and Middle Atlantic Divisions; (b) the North Central States, comprising the East North Central and West North Central Divisions; (c) the South, comprising the South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central Divisions; and (d) the West, comprising the Mountain and Pacific Divisions. Most of the statistics given here for the United States as a whole are given also for each of the four regions in order to facilitate the analysis of regional variations in income distribution. Certain of the data are also presented separately for the nine geographic divisions, and summary statistics are presented for States and for cities of 250,000 or more.

Practically all of the statistics in this report are presented separately for urban and for rural areas of the United States. In addition, statistics for rural-farm and rural-nonfarm areas are presented separately in table 10. Urban population, as defined by the Bureau of the Census, is in general that residing in cities and other incorporated places having 2,500 inhabitants or more. The remainder of the population is classified as rural, and is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, without regard to occupation, and the rural-nonfarm population, comprising the remaining rural population.

<sup>1</sup> The 1940 Population schedule is reproduced in Part 1 of Volume III and Part 1 of Volume IV of the Sixteenth Census Reports on Population. The instructions to enumerators are also reproduced in these volumes.

<sup>2</sup> At the time this report goes to press (early in 1943) the reports referred to in this paragraph are in various stages of completion, and it is possible that minor changes in titles may be made before publication.

## THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

Data for the urban and rural areas of the four regions are presented only in a few of the tables in this report but are available in unpublished form for most of the tables. (See "Availability of unpublished data" below.)

## DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

## WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939

In 1940, inquiries concerning income were made for the first time in the history of the Population census, in order to provide statistics regarding the adequacy of employment and the economic well-being of the people. All persons 14 years old and over, except inmates of specified institutions,<sup>2</sup> were asked to report:

1. The amount of money wage or salary income received in 1939. (Persons who received salaries over \$5000 were required only to report that they received more than that amount.)

2. Whether income amounting to \$50 or more was received in 1939 from sources other than money wages or salaries.

The second question was included in order to identify those persons whose incomes were practically limited to receipts from wages or salaries. The question called for a simple answer of "yes" or "no" and did not call for the exact amount of nonwage income, because of the very considerable additional burden of enumeration that such a question would have entailed. The limit for the question on other income was set at \$50 on the assumption that a lower limit would have caused many persons whose nonwage income was negligible to be classified with persons who had substantial nonwage income, and that a higher limit, such as \$100, would have excluded from the group having other income certain persons whose nonwage income represented a significant part of their total income. The classification of persons with low wage or salary incomes as "without other income" when they received between \$50 and \$100 in nonwage income might have led to erroneous conclusions regarding their purchasing power and economic status.

**Wage or salary income.**—Wage or salary income, as defined for the 1940 census, includes all money received in 1939 in compensation for work or services performed as employees, including commissions, tips, piece-rate payments, bonuses, etc., as well as receipts commonly referred to as wages or salaries. The value of income received in kind, such as living quarters, meals, clothing, etc., is not included.

The income reported was the total wages or salaries before deductions were made for Old-Age Insurance, Railroad Retirement, or Unemployment Compensation. In community property States (Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Washington) money wages or salaries were assigned to the person who earned them and were not divided between the husband and wife.

The enumerators were instructed to enter "0" for a person who had no wage or salary income in 1939. As a precaution against inconsistent entries, the following items were listed in the instructions to enumerators as types of income to be excluded from wage or salary income: (1) Earnings of businessmen, farmers, or professional persons derived from business profits, sale of crops, or fees; (2) sums received as unemployment compensation; (3) direct relief or charity; (4) income in kind, such as living quarters, meals, and supplies, even though received as payment for work performed; (5) sums received for travel and expenses incurred in travel; and (6) income from any source specifically listed as a source of other income.

The enumerators were told that in some instances informants might not know the annual earnings of household members, but might know the number of weeks worked and the weekly wage so that annual earnings could be computed. Many wage or salary entries were computed in this fashion.

Most of the tables presented here show the median wage or salary income for the various groups included in the tables. The median wage or salary income is the amount which divides the group receiving such income into two equal parts, one having incomes above the median, and the other having incomes below the median. The medians here presented relate to persons who reported that they received one dollar or more of wage or salary income in 1939.

**Receipt of other income.**—Other income includes all income other than money wages or salaries, such as income from roomers or boarders, business profits, professional fees, income in

<sup>2</sup> These "specified" institutions comprise the following types: Penal institutions, hospitals for the mentally diseased or defective, and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy.

kind, receipts from the sale of farm products, rents, interest dividends, unemployment compensation, direct relief, old-age assistance, pensions, annuities, royalties, and regular contributions from persons other than members of the immediate family. Other income does not include receipts in the form of lump-sum insurance settlements, occasional gifts of goods or money, inheritances, receipts or profits from the sale of properties (unless the person earned his living by buying and selling such properties), or reimbursements for travel expenses.

In the present report, statistics for persons for whom a receipt or nonreceipt of other income was not reported are combined with those for persons with other income of \$50 or more. This procedure was followed in order to prevent the statistic on wage or salary income for persons primarily dependent upon such income from being affected by the inclusion of any persons who may have had more than \$50 of income from nonwage sources. Since the majority of the persons failing to report probably had no other income, the result of this combination is an understatement of the number of individuals without other income. This is especially significant for persons classified as not in the labor force, a relatively large number of whom failed to answer the income questions. Unfortunately, it was not feasible to make separate tabulations for persons who failed to report on the receipt of other income, except in the case of wage or salary workers. (See table III, on page 4.)

Table I. POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER (EXCEPT IN INSTITUTIONS) 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939 FOR THE UNITED STATES

[Statistics based on a 5-percent sample]

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939	POPULATION 14 AND OVER (EXCEPT IN INSTITUTIONS)			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	In labor force, March 1940	Not in labor force, March 1940	Total	In labor force	Not in labor force
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Total persons.....	99,873,400	52,968,280	46,905,120	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	40,006,400	38,314,980	1,691,420	40.1	72.3	3.4
Without wage or salary income.....	49,785,380	11,988,840	35,796,540	48.8	22.6	78.1
Not reported.....	11,081,620	2,662,460	8,419,160	11.1	5.0	17.8
With wage or salary income.....	40,006,400	38,314,980	1,691,420	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	2,155,220	1,682,840	472,380	5.4	4.4	27.1
\$100 to \$199.....	2,920,280	2,629,120	291,160	7.3	6.9	17.1
\$200 to \$299.....	5,624,980	5,293,360	331,620	14.1	13.6	19.1
\$300 to \$399.....	4,757,900	4,579,000	178,900	11.9	12.0	16.1
\$400 to \$499.....	4,801,780	4,671,400	130,380	12.0	12.2	7.1
\$500 to \$599.....	3,739,500	3,658,700	80,800	9.3	9.5	4.1
\$600 to \$999.....	3,739,500	3,658,700	80,800	9.3	9.5	4.1
\$1,000 to \$1,999.....	11,663,680	11,516,100	147,580	29.2	30.1	9.1
\$2,000 and over.....	4,337,060	4,284,460	52,600	10.8	11.2	3.1
Median.....(dollars)...	789	816	250	-	-	-
<b>WITHOUT OTHER INCOME</b>						
Total persons.....	70,942,820	37,128,360	33,814,460	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	33,770,600	32,406,980	1,363,620	47.6	87.3	4.0
Without wage or salary income.....	33,975,640	3,975,480	30,000,160	47.9	10.7	83.7
Not reported.....	3,196,580	740,900	2,455,680	4.5	2.0	7.3
With wage or salary income.....	33,770,600	32,406,980	1,363,620	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	1,722,000	1,516,820	205,180	5.1	4.1	29.7
\$100 to \$199.....	2,854,100	2,119,400	734,700	7.0	6.5	17.2
\$200 to \$299.....	4,557,980	4,298,020	259,960	13.5	13.3	19.1
\$300 to \$399.....	4,010,940	3,868,080	142,860	11.9	11.9	10.5
\$400 to \$499.....	4,179,780	4,077,600	102,180	12.4	12.6	7.5
\$500 to \$599.....	3,233,900	3,223,040	10,860	9.7	9.9	4.8
\$600 to \$999.....	3,233,900	3,223,040	10,860	9.7	9.9	4.8
\$1,000 to \$1,999.....	10,240,720	10,121,080	119,640	30.3	31.2	8.8
\$2,000 and over.....	3,416,580	3,362,940	53,640	10.1	10.4	3.5
Median.....(dollars)...	804	832	222	-	-	-
<b>WITH OTHER INCOME<sup>1</sup></b>						
Total persons.....	28,930,580	15,842,920	13,087,660	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	6,235,800	5,908,000	327,800	21.6	37.3	2.5
Without wage or salary income.....	14,809,740	8,019,360	6,790,380	51.2	50.6	51.9
Not reported.....	7,885,040	1,921,560	5,963,480	27.3	12.1	45.6
With wage or salary income.....	6,235,800	5,908,000	327,800	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	432,920	356,020	76,900	6.9	6.2	20.4
\$100 to \$199.....	566,180	509,720	56,460	9.1	8.6	17.2
\$200 to \$299.....	1,047,000	995,340	51,660	17.1	16.3	21.9
\$300 to \$399.....	747,060	710,920	36,140	12.0	12.0	11.0
\$400 to \$499.....	622,000	599,800	22,200	10.0	10.1	8.5
\$500 to \$599.....	451,200	438,560	12,640	7.2	7.4	4.7
\$600 to \$999.....	1,428,960	1,395,020	33,940	22.9	23.6	10.4
\$1,000 to \$1,999.....	920,480	901,520	18,960	14.6	15.3	5.8
Median.....(dollars)...	696	725	318	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Includes statistics for persons for whom the receipt or nonreceipt of other income in 1939 was not reported.

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND CLASS OF WORKER

The classification by employment status in the 1940 Census of Population was obtained from questions regarding the activity during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, of all persons 14 years old and over. These questions permitted a classification into two large groups: (a) Persons in the labor force, including those at work, those with a job but temporarily absent from work, those on public emergency work, and those seeking work; and (b) persons not in the labor force, including those engaged in own home housework, those in school, those unable to work, inmates of institutions, other persons not in the labor force, and those whose employment status was not reported.

All persons 14 years old and over.— A summary of wage or salary income data by receipt of other income is shown in table I, above, for all persons 14 years old and over other than those in specified institutions. The table is presented in terms of broad wage or salary income intervals above \$1000 because the more detailed intervals shown for the labor force in later tables were not tabulated for persons outside the labor force. Of the 99,900,000 persons 14 years old and over (except those in institutions), 40,000,000 reported that they received some wages or salaries during 1939, 48,800,000 reported no income from these sources, and 11,100,000 failed to report whether or not they received wage or salary income. Probably relatively few of this last group actually received wage or salary income, since 8,400,000 of them were not in the labor force, and 1,700,000 were persons in the labor force other than wage or salary workers or persons on public emergency work (tables I and II).

A total of 70,900,000 of the 99,900,000 persons 14 years old and over reported that they did not receive income amounting to \$50 or more from sources other than wages or salaries during 1939. The remaining 28,900,000 either reported that they received other income or failed to report. Although no count of the persons who failed to report is available, it is estimated that the number of such persons was approximately 6 or 7 million. At least half of those who failed to report on the receipt of other income were housewives and students who probably had no such income.

Persons in the labor force.— The various categories of persons in the labor force are defined more precisely below.

Employed (except on public emergency work).— The group classified as employed includes two subgroups: (a) "At work"—persons who worked for pay or profit at any time during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, in private work or nonemergency Federal, State, or local government work, or assisted without pay on a family farm or in a family business; and (b) "With a job but not at work"—persons not actually at work and not seeking work during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, but with jobs, businesses, or professional enterprises from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, industrial dispute, bad weather, or lay-off not exceeding 4 weeks with definite instructions to return to work on a specific date. The group "Employed (except on public emergency work)" includes not only employees but also proprietors, farmers, other self-employed persons, and unpaid family workers.

On public emergency work.— This category includes persons who, during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, were at work on, or assigned to, public emergency work projects conducted by the Work Projects Administration (WPA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), or State or local work relief agencies.

In the interpretation of the data for persons on public emergency work, allowance must be made for the misclassification in the census returns of considerable numbers of public emergency workers. Among the factors that were responsible for the misclassification were confusion on the part of the enumerators and respondents regarding the classification of certain types of public emergency work, and reluctance on the part of some persons to report that they were on emergency work.

The most common type of misclassification was the reporting of emergency workers as "at work" rather than as "on public emergency work." Persons on the NYA Student Work Program were very frequently returned as in school and not in the labor force. There is also evidence that a considerable number of emergency workers were classified as seeking work.

In this report the income data for persons classified as being on public emergency work are presented separately from the data for private or nonemergency government workers, since both the wage rates and the amount of employment of the former group were determined by the policies of the various emergency

work programs. In interpreting the data for persons on public emergency work, it should be remembered that since the classification was based on activity during the census week, a considerable portion of the wage or salary income reported by these persons may have been derived from nonemergency employment during 1939. Conversely, the data for private or non-emergency government workers include some wages or salaries derived from public emergency work during 1939.

Seeking work.— This category represents persons without work of any sort in the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, who were actively seeking work during that week. The group seeking work was subdivided into experienced workers and new workers, the latter being persons who had not previously worked full time for one month or more. Persons seeking work for whom a report on work experience was lacking were classified as experienced workers.

Experienced persons in labor force (except on public emergency work).— This category includes employed persons (except on public emergency work) and persons seeking work other than new workers.

Tables 7 and 10 show data for all experienced persons in the labor force (except on public emergency work). Tables 3 to 6, 8, 9, 11, and 12 are limited to those experienced persons (except on public emergency work) who were classified as wage or salary workers in March 1940.

The data for employed persons (except on public emergency work) and for persons seeking work have been combined in the present report, since the distinction between the two groups is based on activity during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, whereas the income data refer to the calendar year 1939. Many persons who were seeking work at the time of the census had been employed throughout 1939, and many of those who were employed at the time of the census had worked only intermittently during 1939. Income statistics for the two employment status categories are available, separately, in unpublished form. (See "Availability of unpublished data" below.)

Class-of-worker distribution of the labor force.— The experienced labor force is further subdivided according to class of worker in the census classification. For employed workers and for persons on public emergency work, the classification by class of worker refers to their current work or job during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. For experienced workers seeking work it refers to the last job of one month or more. The composition of each category is described below.

Wage or salary workers.— This class consists of persons who, in their current or last job, worked as employees for wages or salary (in cash or kind). It includes not only factory operatives, laborers, clerks, etc., who worked for wages, but also persons working for tips or for room and board, salesmen and other employees working for commissions, and salaried business managers, corporation executives, and government officials. Persons in the labor force for whom class of worker was not reported have been included among wage or salary workers, unless there was evidence to the contrary.

Employers and own-account workers.— This group consists of persons who, in their current or latest work, operated their own business enterprises. It includes not only the owner-operators of large stores and manufacturing establishments, but also small merchants, independent craftsmen, farmers, professional men, peddlers, and other persons conducting enterprises of their own. It does not include managers paid to operate businesses owned by other persons or by corporations; such workers are classified as wage or salary workers.

Unpaid family workers.— This class is composed of persons who assisted without pay on farms or in stores or other enterprises operated by other members of their families. The great majority of unpaid family workers are farm laborers.

Since relatively few employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers received wages or salaries in 1939, the statistics for these class-of-worker groups are not shown separately in this report.

Statistics on wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939 for the labor force are shown in table 1. These statistics are summarized below in table II, which presents data for the following major groups of workers: Wage or salary workers engaged in private or nonemergency government work; persons on public emergency work; and other persons in the labor force (i.e., employers, own-account workers, unpaid family workers, and new workers). Table II shows, for each of these major groups, distributions by wage or salary income and by receipt of other income in 1939.

THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

Table II. PERSONS IN THE LABOR FORCE IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939 AND BY RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, AND SEX	PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE, MARCH 1940				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Wage or salary workers (exc. emerg.)	Persons on public emergency work	Other persons in labor force	Wage or salary workers (exc. emerg.)	Persons on public work	Other persons in labor force
<b>TOTAL</b>							
Total persons	52,922,220	35,322,420	2,452,440	12,191,420	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income	35,314,980	34,762,300	2,202,800	1,349,880	90.7	89.8	11.1
Without wage or salary income	11,983,840	2,673,440	191,700	9,123,700	7.0	7.8	74.8
Not reported	5,623,400	886,680	57,940	1,717,840	2.3	2.4	14.1
With wage or salary income	35,314,980	34,762,300	2,202,800	1,349,880	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99	1,627,840	1,377,220	209,100	196,460	3.7	9.5	14.6
\$100 to \$199	2,623,180	2,203,520	263,400	162,200	5.3	12.0	12.0
\$200 to \$299	3,333,860	4,450,840	641,220	221,300	12.7	29.1	16.4
\$300 to \$399	4,379,920	3,899,380	566,580	143,040	11.2	24.8	10.5
\$400 to \$499	4,671,400	4,241,080	322,660	106,860	12.2	14.6	7.9
\$500 to \$999	3,352,700	3,472,840	108,220	77,640	10.0	4.9	5.8
\$1,000 to \$1,999	3,334,340	3,110,120	44,380	80,340	8.9	2.0	6.0
\$2,000 to \$2,999	3,073,060	2,973,820	21,320	71,920	8.6	1.0	5.3
\$3,000 to \$3,999	2,407,330	2,333,240	15,820	53,820	6.7	0.7	4.0
\$4,000 to \$4,999	1,327,840	1,273,960	7,400	16,580	3.7	0.3	1.2
\$5,000 to \$1,999	1,302,930	1,463,340	6,300	31,340	4.2	0.4	2.3
\$2,000 to \$2,499	2,106,940	2,039,920	8,760	53,260	5.9	0.4	4.3
\$2,500 to \$2,999	302,350	771,520	2,840	28,000	2.2	0.1	2.1
\$3,000 to \$3,499	921,950	913,740	2,540	45,680	2.6	0.1	3.4
\$3,500 and over	413,250	355,000	760	56,440	1.0	-	4.2
Median....(dollars)	\$18	\$77	\$96	\$53	-	-	-
Total persons	2,922,220	35,322,420	2,452,440	12,191,420	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income	37,123,360	31,726,880	2,006,840	3,389,640	88.8	81.8	27.8
With other income	15,842,920	6,595,540	445,600	8,801,780	17.2	18.2	72.2
<b>MALE</b>							
Total persons	39,958,600	27,452,200	2,003,540	10,497,060	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income	25,209,000	25,188,880	1,824,140	1,200,980	91.7	91.0	11.4
Without wage or salary income	9,591,840	1,662,340	133,220	7,756,280	6.1	6.6	74.2
Not reported	5,157,760	811,980	46,180	1,540,800	2.2	2.3	14.4
Total persons	39,958,600	27,452,200	2,003,540	10,497,060	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income	29,616,880	25,564,800	1,623,800	2,630,780	82.2	80.9	25.1
With other income	13,141,920	4,893,900	381,740	7,866,280	17.8	19.1	74.9
<b>FEMALE</b>							
Total persons	12,963,620	10,864,220	448,900	1,694,360	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income	10,105,980	9,573,420	378,660	148,900	88.2	84.4	8.8
Without wage or salary income	2,407,000	1,011,100	55,480	1,337,420	9.8	13.0	78.9
Not reported	450,640	279,700	11,760	208,040	2.5	2.6	12.3
Total persons	12,963,620	10,864,220	448,900	1,694,360	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income	10,656,420	9,152,530	335,040	758,860	84.3	85.8	44.8
With other income	2,701,000	1,701,640	63,860	935,500	15.7	14.2	55.2

1 Includes statistics for persons for whom the receipt or nonreceipt of other income in 1939 was not reported.

Of the 53,000,000 persons in the labor force in March 1940, 38,300,000, or 72.3 percent, reported that they received some wage or salary income during 1939. They comprised 34,800,000 private or nonemergency government workers, 2,200,000 persons on public emergency work, and 1,300,000 other persons in the labor force. The last group includes employers and own-account workers who received wages or salaries in addition to their entrepreneurial or professional income, as, for example, farmers who supplemented their farm income by occasional wage work on highways or on other farms. It also includes persons who had worked for wages or salaries during all or part of 1939 but had changed to nonwage employment prior to the census week.

There were 12,000,000 persons who reported that they received no wage or salary income in 1939 and 2,700,000 who failed to report on wage or salary income.

The proportions of persons in the labor force who received wage or salary income and who received other income in 1939 differed greatly as between wage or salary workers and other classes of persons in the labor force. Wages or salaries were received by 90.7 percent of the wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work) and by 85.8 percent of the emergency workers, as compared with only 11.1 percent of the other persons in the labor force. In contrast, the proportions reporting other income of \$50 or more (or failing to report on other income) were only 17.2 percent for wage or salary workers and

only 18.2 percent for emergency workers, as compared with 72.2 percent for other persons in the labor force.

Of the wage or salary workers reported as receiving no money wage or salary income in 1939, about two-fifths reported the receipt of other income and thus might have received all their income in kind or might have shifted from own-account work in 1939 to work for wages in 1940. (See table III.) The remainder of the group represents in part those who were unemployed or outside the labor force in 1939 and in part those whose income or class-of-worker designation was incorrectly reported.

Table III. WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, FOR THE UNITED STATES

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939	WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK), MARCH 1940				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Without other income	With other income	Rec. of other income not reported	Without other income	With other income	Other income not rptd.
<b>Total persons</b>	38,322,420	31,726,880	5,801,940	798,600	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income	34,762,300	29,817,800	4,590,940	353,560	94.0	79.1	44.5
Without wage or salary income	2,673,440	1,591,720	1,082,940	18,780	5.0	18.3	2.4
Not reported	886,680	317,360	148,060	421,260	1.0	2.6	53.1
With wage or salary income	34,762,300	29,817,800	4,590,940	353,560	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99	1,277,280	1,065,100	196,340	15,040	3.6	4.3	4.5
\$100 to \$199	2,203,520	1,837,160	341,420	24,940	6.2	7.4	7.1
\$200 to \$299	4,430,840	3,662,420	716,760	51,680	12.3	15.5	14.6
\$300 to \$399	3,899,380	3,216,960	529,560	42,860	11.1	11.3	12.1
\$400 to \$499	4,241,880	3,722,680	479,820	45,380	12.5	10.3	12.8
\$500 to \$999	3,472,840	3,077,740	359,780	35,380	10.3	7.9	10.0
\$1,000 to \$1,999	3,110,120	2,779,400	300,880	29,840	9.3	6.6	8.4
\$2,000 to \$2,999	2,973,820	2,639,980	312,820	27,020	8.9	6.8	7.6
\$3,000 to \$3,999	2,333,240	2,067,300	249,880	21,060	6.9	5.4	6.0
\$4,000 to \$4,999	1,273,860	1,117,700	146,000	10,160	3.7	3.2	2.9
\$5,000 to \$1,999	1,463,340	1,266,380	185,440	11,520	4.2	4.0	3.3
\$2,000 to \$2,499	2,089,920	1,738,040	284,080	17,860	5.8	6.2	5.0
\$2,500 to \$2,999	771,520	635,560	129,480	6,480	2.1	2.3	1.6
\$3,000 to \$3,999	713,040	550,500	155,740	6,800	1.8	3.4	1.9
\$4,000 to \$4,999	200,700	142,400	55,900	2,400	0.5	1.2	0.7
\$5,000 and over	356,000	198,480	153,040	4,480	0.7	3.3	1.3
Median....(dollars)	\$77	\$85	\$81	\$78	-	-	-

Unpaid family workers and new workers accounted for most of the group of "other persons in the labor force" who reported that they did not receive \$50 or more of income during 1939 from sources other than money wages or salaries. The group also includes some employers and own-account workers who shifted from wage work in 1939 to own-account work in 1940, and some persons who were totally unemployed during 1939.

Wage or salary workers.—Wage or salary workers are the class for which the data on wage or salary income are most significant, and the class in which were found the great bulk of the recipients of wages or salaries in 1939.

Not only are the income data more significant for wage or salary workers than for other groups but they are also more reliable. Since wages or salaries represented the normal type of compensation of wage or salary workers, there was likely to be less confusion on the part of the enumerator between income from wages or salaries and income from nonwage sources for these workers than for own-account and other workers. Partly as a result of this factor, incomplete reporting of income was much less common among wage or salary workers than among other groups. Only 2.3 percent of the wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work) failed to report on wage or salary income, and only 2.1 percent failed to report on the receipt of other income. In contrast, among persons in the labor force other than wage or salary workers, the proportion with no report on wage or salary income was 14.1 percent (tables II and III). This relatively high proportion was in part the result of the fact that some enumerators erroneously believed that the question on wage or salary income was inapplicable to groups other than wage or salary workers.

Of the 38,300,000 wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work), more than four-fifths, or 31,700,000, were mainly dependent on wages or salaries. Only 5,800,000 reported that they received \$50 or more of other income, and 800,000 failed to report on the receipt or nonreceipt of other income. (See table III.)

The wage or salary distribution for the workers with other income differs considerably from that for the workers without such income. Those with other income are more highly concentrated at both ends of the wage or salary income scale than the workers who received only wage or salary income. For persons at the lower end of the wage or salary income scale, other in-

# INTRODUCTION

Income consisted primarily of direct relief payments and income in kind, such as food, clothing and lodging, whereas for persons at the upper end of the scale it consisted mainly of rents, interest, dividends, and profits.

Urban-rural differences in wage or salary distribution are summarized below in table IV for the wage-or-salary-worker group. Nine-tenths of both urban and rural wage or salary workers reported that they received wage or salary income during 1939. In rural areas, however, the workers were more highly concentrated in the lower wage or salary brackets than in urban areas. In interpreting the wage or salary statistics for urban and rural areas, it should be remembered that a much larger proportion of the rural than of the urban wage-or-salary-income recipients reported supplementary income from other sources, and that a much higher percentage of the rural than of the urban labor force is outside the wage-or-salary-worker group. (See table 1.)

Table IV. WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939	WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK), MARCH 1940			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
Total persons.....	38,322,420	27,133,620	11,188,800	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	34,762,300	24,647,920	10,114,380	90.7	90.8	90.4
Without wage or salary income.....	2,678,440	1,912,440	764,000	7.0	7.0	6.8
Not reported.....	886,680	573,260	313,420	2.3	2.1	2.8
With wage or salary income.....	34,762,300	24,647,920	10,114,380	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	1,277,280	667,340	609,940	3.7	2.7	6.0
\$100 to \$199.....	2,803,520	1,137,600	1,065,920	6.3	4.6	10.5
\$200 to \$299.....	4,430,840	2,530,120	1,900,720	12.7	10.3	18.8
\$300 to \$399.....	3,889,380	2,536,100	1,353,280	11.2	10.3	13.4
\$400 to \$499.....	4,241,880	2,987,960	1,253,920	12.2	12.1	12.4
\$500 to \$999.....	3,472,840	2,547,040	925,800	10.0	10.3	9.2
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	3,110,120	2,399,020	711,100	8.9	9.7	7.0
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	2,979,820	2,383,060	650,760	8.6	9.4	6.4
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	2,338,240	1,870,200	468,040	6.7	7.6	4.8
\$1,600 to \$1,799.....	1,278,860	1,016,880	256,980	3.7	4.1	2.5
\$1,800 to \$1,999.....	1,463,340	1,177,960	285,380	4.2	4.8	2.8
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	2,039,920	1,699,460	340,460	5.9	6.9	3.4
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	771,520	655,900	114,620	2.2	2.7	1.1
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	713,040	614,540	98,500	2.1	2.5	1.0
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	200,700	173,800	26,900	0.6	0.7	0.3
\$5,000 and over.....	356,000	304,840	51,160	1.0	1.2	0.5
Median.....(dollars).....	377	994	620	-	-	-

**Persons not in the labor force.**—The questions with respect to income were not asked of the inmates of specified institutions, comprising penal institutions, hospitals for the mentally diseased or defective, and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy, since the inmates of these institutions were considered as outside the labor force regardless of their activity during the census week. These persons are therefore omitted from the nonlabor-force population for which income data are presented. This leaves for the purposes of the present report a nonlabor-force population made up of all persons 14 years old and over in the five classes described below:

**Engaged in own home housework.**—Persons primarily occupied with their own home housework.

**In school.**—Persons enrolled in school.

**Unable to work.**—Persons unable to work because of permanent disability, chronic illness, or old age.

**Other.**—Persons reported as not in the labor force who were not engaged in own home housework, in school, nor unable to work. This group includes retired persons, persons who chose not to work, seasonal workers for whom the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, fell in an off season and who were not seeking work, and persons who for any other reason were not in the labor force.

**Employment status not reported.**—Persons for whom the enumerators did not obtain enough information to determine whether they were in the labor force, and persons reported as not in the labor force but not assigned by enumerators to any of the specific classes listed above.

Table V presents a summary of the data on wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939 for the various classes of persons not in the labor force. More detailed income data for these groups of persons are available in table 2.

Of the 46,900,000 persons not in the labor force (other than those in specified institutions), only 1,700,000 reported that they received wages or salaries during 1939. Housewives and students together accounted for 1,000,000 of these wage recipients. They include women who were engaged in wage work during 1939, but who dropped out of the labor force prior to the census week to take up housekeeping, housewives who worked for short periods during 1939, as, for example, at Christmas time, and students who were employed part time during the year 1939. The remaining 700,000 represented seasonal workers, retired persons, and others who had worked for wages or salaries in 1939 but were reported as outside the labor force at the time of the census.

Table V. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE (EXCEPT THOSE IN INSTITUTIONS) IN MARCH 1940, BY RECEIPT OF WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, AND BY RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

RECEIPT OF WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, AND SEX	PERSONS NOT IN LABOR FORCE, MARCH 1940						PERCENT DISTRIBUTION					
	Total	Engaged in own home housework	In school	Unable to work	Other	Employment status not reported	Total	Engaged in own home housework	In school	Unable to work	Other	Employment status not reported
<b>TOTAL</b>												
Total persons.....	46,907,120	28,685,300	9,034,660	5,221,500	1,978,520	1,987,140	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	1,691,420	720,300	278,420	239,040	219,300	175,300	3.6	2.5	3.1	5.7	11.1	8.8
Without wage or salary income.....	36,796,540	28,682,340	6,850,520	4,172,200	1,545,860	565,620	78.4	82.5	75.8	79.9	73.1	33.5
Not reported.....	8,419,160	4,302,660	1,905,720	751,260	213,360	1,246,160	17.9	15.0	21.1	14.4	10.8	52.7
Total persons.....	46,907,120	28,685,300	9,034,660	5,221,500	1,978,520	1,987,140	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income.....	38,819,460	22,719,760	7,275,900	2,329,340	794,740	699,720	72.1	79.2	80.5	44.5	40.2	35.9
With other income <sup>1</sup> .....	13,087,660	5,965,540	1,758,760	2,892,160	1,183,780	1,287,420	27.9	20.8	19.5	55.4	59.8	64.8
<b>MALE</b>												
Total persons.....	9,838,100	273,760	4,588,240	2,953,400	1,200,540	822,160	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	714,780	19,360	200,360	224,940	152,680	117,220	7.3	7.1	4.4	7.6	12.7	14.3
Without wage or salary income.....	7,060,780	205,540	3,431,300	2,322,560	920,380	131,060	71.8	75.1	74.8	78.6	76.7	22.0
Not reported.....	2,062,540	48,860	956,560	405,900	127,540	523,880	21.0	17.8	20.8	13.7	10.6	63.7
Total persons.....	9,838,100	273,760	4,588,240	2,953,400	1,200,540	822,160	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income.....	5,657,460	186,360	3,670,220	1,153,160	402,540	245,180	57.5	68.1	80.0	39.0	33.5	29.8
With other income <sup>1</sup> .....	4,180,640	87,400	918,020	1,800,240	798,000	576,980	42.5	31.9	20.0	61.0	66.5	70.2
<b>FEMALE</b>												
Total persons.....	37,069,020	28,411,540	4,446,420	2,268,100	777,980	1,164,980	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	976,640	700,940	78,040	73,100	66,420	58,140	2.6	2.5	1.8	3.2	8.5	5.0
Without wage or salary income.....	29,735,760	28,456,800	3,419,220	1,849,640	625,540	384,660	80.2	82.6	76.9	61.5	50.4	35.0
Not reported.....	6,356,680	4,253,800	949,160	345,360	56,020	722,280	17.1	15.0	21.3	16.2	11.1	62.0
Total persons.....	37,069,020	28,411,540	4,446,420	2,268,100	777,980	1,164,980	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income.....	28,182,000	22,833,400	3,505,680	1,176,180	392,200	454,540	76.0	79.3	81.1	61.9	50.4	39.0
With other income <sup>1</sup> .....	8,907,020	5,578,140	840,740	1,091,920	385,780	710,440	24.0	20.7	18.9	38.1	49.6	61.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes statistics for persons for whom the receipt or nonreceipt of other income in 1939 was not reported.



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no wage or salary income during the year (table 4). Most of them received other income of \$50 or more, indicating that they had been engaged in nonwage employment during all or part of the year. Some of them reported no income from any source, these including persons who had been employed as unpaid family workers during 1939 and some persons for whom duration of employment or income was incorrectly reported.

## INDUSTRY STATISTICS

In the 1940 census, information relating to industry was requested of all persons 14 years old and over who were in the labor force during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. For persons at work, with a job, or on public emergency work, the industry question referred to the current job during that week; for experienced workers seeking work, the question referred to the last job of one month or more.

The industry classification used in the 1940 census contains 132 items. This classification is a condensation of the 1,411 titles in the Standard Industrial Classification and was prepared for use in classifying industry returns from workers or members of their families by the Joint Committee on Occupational Classification, in cooperation with the Committee on Industrial Classification which was sponsored by the Central Statistical Board.

Data on wage or salary income classified by industry are shown in table 7 for experienced persons in the labor force (except on public emergency work), in tables 8 and 8a for wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work), and in tables 9 and 9a for wage or salary workers who worked full time (12 months) in 1939. These figures provide the basis for estimating the total wage bill in the different industries and for comparing industries with respect to opportunities for earnings. In interpreting the industry statistics, it should be remembered that the income data in these tables apply only to income received as money wages or salaries. Wages paid in kind, such as meals and lodging, may represent a significant portion of the total income received by workers engaged in such industries as domestic service and agriculture.

The wage or salary figures presented in tables 7 to 9 refer to earnings during the calendar year 1939, whereas the industry designations refer to activity during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, or to the last job of one month or more. For individuals who shifted from one industry to another during 1939 or early 1940, the industry classification may not represent the major source of 1939 earnings. The number of individuals who shifted was probably not great enough to distort the income distributions for the majority of industries, but substantial shifts may have occurred in particular industries in some areas. It is probable that there was less shifting among persons who reported 12 months of employment during 1939 than among those who worked only part time during the year.

**Coverage of industry classification "Government."**—The industry classification "Government (not elsewhere classified)" does not include all persons employed by governmental agencies. Persons are included in this classification only if they were engaged in activities that are peculiarly governmental functions. Government employees who were engaged in activities that are commonly performed by employees of private enterprises are included in the industry classification in which their activities fell. For example, a tax collector is included in the industry classification "Government," but a lineman employed by a municipally owned power plant is classified in the category "Electric light and power."

## PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The income statistics in this report are shown in combination with a number of personal characteristics which are important in the analysis of the data. A classification by sex is shown in all of the tables; classifications by color and age appear in certain of the tables, and a classification by household relationship is shown in one of the tables.

**Sex and color.**—Tables 5 and 5a present income data separately for white and for nonwhite wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work), by sex. Summaries of the data are shown below in table VII for males and females, and in table VIII for whites and nonwhites. Additional data for nonwhites are presented in table 10 which covers the experienced labor force (except on public emergency work).

The nonwhite group represents the total of Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and other nonwhite races. The great majority of the nonwhite population consists of Negroes, except in

Table VII. SEX OF PERSONS WHO WERE WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, FOR THE UNITED STATES

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939	WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK), MARCH 1940			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total persons.....	86,322,420	27,458,200	10,864,220	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income....	34,762,300	25,183,880	9,578,420	90.7	91.7	88.2
Without wage or salary income...	2,673,440	1,662,340	1,011,100	7.0	6.1	9.3
Not reported.....	886,680	611,980	274,700	2.3	2.2	2.5
With wage or salary income	34,762,300	25,183,880	9,578,420	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	1,277,280	606,340	670,940	3.7	2.4	7.0
\$100 to \$199.....	2,203,520	1,235,500	967,940	6.3	4.9	10.1
\$200 to \$399.....	4,430,840	2,783,960	1,646,880	12.7	11.1	17.2
\$400 to \$599.....	3,889,380	2,460,600	1,428,780	11.2	9.8	14.9
\$600 to \$799.....	4,241,880	2,690,840	1,551,040	12.2	10.7	16.2
\$800 to \$999.....	3,472,840	2,368,500	1,104,340	10.0	9.4	11.5
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	3,110,120	2,368,320	741,800	8.9	9.4	7.7
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	2,979,820	2,436,650	543,160	8.6	8.7	6.7
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	2,338,240	2,011,720	326,520	6.7	8.0	3.4
\$1,600 to \$1,799.....	1,273,860	1,115,720	158,140	3.7	4.4	1.7
\$1,800 to \$1,999.....	1,463,340	1,316,020	147,320	4.2	5.2	1.5
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	2,039,920	1,874,160	165,760	5.9	7.4	1.7
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	771,520	717,400	54,120	2.2	2.8	0.6
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	713,040	664,680	48,360	2.1	2.6	0.5
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	200,700	190,460	10,240	0.6	0.8	0.1
\$5,000 and over.....	356,000	342,920	13,080	1.0	1.4	0.1
Median..... (dollars)...	877	1,038	610	-	-	-

Table VIII. COLOR OF PERSONS WHO WERE WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, FOR THE UNITED STATES

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939	WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK), MARCH 1940			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite
Total persons.....	86,322,420	34,429,140	3,893,280	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income....	34,762,300	31,272,280	3,490,020	90.7	90.8	89.6
Without wage or salary income...	2,673,440	2,360,420	313,020	7.0	6.9	8.0
Not reported.....	886,680	796,440	90,240	2.3	2.3	2.3
With wage or salary income	34,762,300	31,272,280	3,490,020	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	1,277,280	935,140	342,140	3.7	3.0	9.8
\$100 to \$199.....	2,203,520	1,560,220	643,300	6.3	5.0	18.4
\$200 to \$399.....	4,430,840	3,506,440	924,400	12.7	11.2	25.5
\$400 to \$599.....	3,889,380	3,237,540	651,840	11.2	10.5	17.2
\$600 to \$799.....	4,241,880	3,801,240	440,640	12.2	12.2	12.6
\$800 to \$999.....	3,472,840	3,265,460	207,380	10.0	10.4	5.9
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	3,110,120	2,973,960	136,160	8.9	9.5	3.9
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	2,979,820	2,832,860	146,960	8.6	9.2	2.8
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	2,338,240	2,296,660	41,580	6.7	7.3	1.0
\$1,600 to \$1,799.....	1,273,860	1,257,500	16,360	3.7	4.0	0.5
\$1,800 to \$1,999.....	1,463,340	1,450,640	12,700	4.2	4.6	0.4
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	2,039,920	2,020,180	19,740	5.9	6.5	0.6
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	771,520	768,540	2,980	2.2	2.5	0.1
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	713,040	711,080	1,960	2.1	2.3	0.1
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	200,700	200,240	460	0.6	0.6	-
\$5,000 and over.....	356,000	354,680	1,320	1.0	1.1	-
Median..... (dollars)...	877	956	364	-	-	-

the Pacific States, where there are many Chinese and Japanese, and in certain Mountain States, where many of the nonwhites are Indians. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who were not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race were returned as white in 1940.

**Age.**—Statistics on income by age are shown in tables 6 and 6a for wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work). The age classification is based on age of the person at his last birthday before April 1, 1940, that is, age in completed years. In the 1940 census tabulations, the category "age unknown" has been eliminated. When the age of a person was not reported, it was estimated on the basis of other information on the population schedules, such as marital status, school attendance, employment status, age of other members of the family, etc.

The statistics on income by age are summarized below in table IX, which presents for each age group distributions by wage or salary income and by receipt of other income in 1939.

As table IX indicates, the proportion of wage or salary workers who received incomes from wages or salaries during 1939 was relatively high in the several age groups between 20 and 64 years, and lower in both the younger and older age groups. For youths, this probably reflected recent entry into the labor

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force for a sizable portion of the group, and for older workers it reflected either continued unemployment during 1939 or shifts from own-account work in 1939 to wage work in 1940. The proportion of wage or salary workers who received other income of \$50 or more (or failed to report) tended to increase with increasing age. For older workers the "other income" probably represented, to a large extent, such items as rents and dividends derived from accumulated savings.

Table IX. AGE OF PERSONS WHO WERE WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939 AND BY RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, FOR THE UNITED STATES

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939 AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939	Total	AGE (YEARS)									
		14 and 15	16 and 17	18 and 19	20 to 24	25 to '34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 and over
Total persons.....	38,322,420	112,680	561,000	1,830,720	6,296,720	10,997,160	8,248,100	5,998,100	1,948,880	1,298,860	1,041,800
With wage or salary income.....	34,762,300	72,360	390,200	1,459,600	5,666,660	10,264,900	7,664,840	5,484,120	1,746,040	1,141,980	871,620
Without wage or salary income.....	2,679,440	31,280	137,580	398,100	477,680	530,520	411,100	378,260	185,400	121,200	182,240
Not reported.....	886,680	9,040	33,220	73,020	152,380	201,740	167,160	130,720	46,940	35,120	37,340
With wage or salary income.....	34,762,300	72,360	390,200	1,459,600	5,666,660	10,264,900	7,664,840	5,484,120	1,746,040	1,141,980	871,620
\$1 to \$99.....	1,277,280	37,540	138,880	289,480	285,860	219,120	188,920	110,960	45,640	38,460	41,520
\$100 to \$199.....	2,203,520	22,820	117,640	303,200	530,200	480,000	288,860	224,280	88,100	67,940	70,480
\$200 to \$299.....	4,430,840	8,500	69,720	424,940	1,112,520	1,189,240	699,960	508,080	189,320	180,120	120,440
\$300 to \$399.....	3,889,380	1,340	28,080	223,120	916,960	1,146,440	698,280	496,640	171,560	118,320	88,640
\$400 to \$499.....	4,241,880	800	14,240	166,680	983,020	1,384,720	798,900	552,840	183,180	117,900	95,200
\$500 to \$599.....	3,472,840	360	4,520	68,640	737,640	1,182,060	682,020	470,940	148,640	99,820	78,000
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	3,110,120	340	1,500	25,400	497,200	1,126,840	678,900	466,380	147,860	96,120	74,560
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	2,979,880	220	600	9,040	305,720	1,099,480	736,520	498,640	156,740	98,680	75,180
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	2,938,240	80	280	4,300	152,640	836,880	652,200	435,700	124,840	78,200	53,180
\$1,600 to \$1,799.....	1,278,860	100	120	1,300	55,740	425,340	381,880	262,800	76,520	43,980	26,080
\$1,800 to \$1,999.....	1,463,340	-	140	860	48,660	442,760	476,200	323,100	90,180	53,800	32,660
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	2,039,820	120	180	1,300	31,020	508,280	715,720	516,240	199,600	122,840	84,840
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	771,520	40	100	360	6,600	158,900	275,800	214,100	60,680	35,380	20,040
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	713,040	80	60	380	3,680	111,500	260,840	211,920	64,300	37,680	22,460
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	200,700	-	40	220	1,100	33,520	71,700	65,320	19,240	12,160	7,400
\$5,000 and over.....	356,000	20	160	380	3,060	29,820	108,640	126,780	40,740	25,500	20,900
Median.....(dollars).....	877	96	133	293	597	988	1,164	1,162	1,088	987	850
Total persons.....	38,322,420	112,680	561,000	1,830,720	6,296,720	10,997,160	8,248,100	5,998,100	1,948,880	1,298,860	1,041,800
Without other income.....	31,726,880	96,600	469,220	1,589,000	5,518,860	9,528,280	6,789,020	4,651,800	1,447,260	981,000	691,640
With other income <sup>1</sup> .....	6,595,540	16,080	71,780	241,720	788,160	1,468,880	1,454,080	1,341,800	501,180	887,360	349,560
PERCENT											
Total persons.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income.....	90.7	64.2	69.6	79.7	90.0	93.8	93.0	91.5	89.6	88.0	88.7
Without wage or salary income.....	7.0	27.8	24.5	16.3	7.6	4.8	5.0	6.3	9.0	9.8	12.7
Not reported.....	2.3	8.0	5.9	4.0	2.4	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.7	3.6
With wage or salary income.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	3.7	51.9	34.1	15.7	5.0	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.6	3.1	4.8
\$100 to \$199.....	6.3	31.5	30.1	20.8	9.4	4.7	3.9	4.1	5.0	5.9	8.1
\$200 to \$299.....	12.7	11.7	23.0	29.1	19.6	11.1	9.1	9.3	10.8	12.1	12.8
\$300 to \$399.....	11.2	1.9	7.2	15.3	16.2	11.2	9.1	9.1	9.8	10.4	10.2
\$400 to \$499.....	12.2	1.1	3.6	11.4	17.3	13.0	10.4	10.1	10.5	10.8	10.9
\$500 to \$599.....	10.0	0.5	1.2	4.7	18.0	11.5	8.9	8.6	8.5	8.7	8.9
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	8.9	0.5	0.4	1.7	8.8	11.0	8.8	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.6
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	8.6	0.3	0.2	0.6	5.4	10.7	9.6	9.1	8.9	8.6	8.6
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	6.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	2.7	8.2	8.5	7.9	7.1	6.8	6.1
\$1,600 to \$1,799.....	3.7	0.1	-	0.1	1.0	4.1	5.0	4.8	4.4	3.9	3.0
\$1,800 to \$1,999.....	4.2	-	-	0.1	0.8	4.3	5.2	5.9	5.2	4.7	3.7
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	5.9	0.2	-	0.1	0.5	5.0	9.3	9.4	8.0	7.2	5.1
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	2.2	0.1	-	-	0.1	1.5	3.6	3.9	3.5	3.1	2.3
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	2.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	1.1	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.3	2.6
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	0.6	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.8
\$5,000 and over.....	1.0	-	-	-	0.1	0.3	1.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4
Total persons.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without other income.....	82.8	85.7	87.2	86.8	87.6	86.6	82.4	77.6	74.3	71.7	66.4
With other income <sup>1</sup> .....	17.2	14.3	12.8	13.2	12.4	13.4	17.6	22.4	25.7	28.3	33.6

<sup>1</sup> Includes statistics for persons for whom the receipt or nonreceipt of other income in 1939 was not reported.

**Household relationship.**—The classifications according to household relationship shown in tables 10 and 10a are based on marital status and relationship to head of household.

In the classification by relationship to the head of the household, each individual was classified on the basis of whether or not he was living in a "private household."

**Persons in private households.**—The term "private household," as used in the 1940 census, includes the related family members and the unrelated lodgers, servants, and hired hands who live in the same dwelling unit and share common housekeeping arrangements. A person living alone or a small group of unrelated persons sharing the same living accommodations as "partners" was also counted as a private household.

**Persons not in private households.**—Persons not living in private households, i.e., persons living in quasi households, include individuals living in boarding or lodging houses, institutions, schools, labor camps, military or naval posts, transients in hotels, and the crews of vessels. If a household reported 11 or more lodgers, it was classified as a lodging house rather than as a private household.

Persons in private households were further classified according to relationship to the head of the household, as follows:

**Head of private household.**—One person in each private household was designated in the 1940 census as the household

head, being in general the person regarded as the head by members of the household. The head of a private household is usually a married man and the chief breadwinner or "economic head" of the family. In some cases, however, the head is the parent of the chief earner or is the only adult member of the household.

**Wife of head.**—The category "wife" in the relationship tables includes only wives of heads of households and excludes other married women who may be living in the household.

**Other relative of head.**—This category includes children, grandchildren, parents, nephews, brothers, and all other persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption to the head of the household.

**Not relative of head.**—This group comprises lodgers, partners, servants, hired hands, and all other members of private households who are not related to the head of the household.

In the census classification by marital status, four major groups are distinguished: Single, married, widowed, and divorced. These terms refer to marital status at the time the census was taken. The category married is further divided into "married, spouse present" and "married, spouse absent." A person was classified as "married, spouse present" if the person's wife or husband was reported as a member of the household in which the person was enumerated.

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In this report two marital status groups are shown for male heads of private households, for relatives of the head other than wife, for persons not related to the head, and for persons not in private households: Married, spouse present; other marital status. The category "other marital status" includes persons classified as single; married, spouse absent; widowed; and divorced. For female heads of private households, the two marital status groups shown are: Single; married, widowed, and divorced.

The data on income by household relationship presented in this report are confined to the experienced labor force (except on public emergency work). Thus, the statistics in tables 10 and 10a cover most heads of households, since relatively few heads reported that they were not in the labor force or that they were new workers or were on public emergency work. In contrast, relatively few wives of heads are covered in these tables since most wives were classified as housewives not in the labor force and, as such, are not included in the statistics for the experienced labor force. The proportion of persons 14 years old and over who were classified as in the labor force is shown for the several relationship groups in the report in this series entitled "Employment and Personal Characteristics."

### COMPARISON BETWEEN RESULTS OF SAMPLE TABULATIONS AND COMPLETE COUNT

The statistics in this report are based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the 1940 census returns. For the group of persons comprising the experienced labor force, the totals for the various wage or salary income classes differ slightly from the corresponding figures obtained from the complete count, which appear in Part 1 of Volume III of the Sixteenth Census Reports on Population. The two sets of figures for the United States are presented in table X, by employment status and sex.

Table X. COMPARISON OF RESULTS OF COMPLETE COUNT AND SAMPLE TABULATIONS FOR EXPERIENCED PERSONS IN THE LABOR FORCE IN MARCH 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939 AND SEX	EXPERIENCED PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE (EXCEPT ON PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK), MARCH 1940			PERSONS ON PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK, MARCH 1940		
	Based on complete count	Based on 5-percent sample		Based on complete count	Based on 5-percent sample	
		Number	Percent of complete count		Number	Percent of complete count
<b>MALE</b>						
Total persons.....	37,409,788	37,516,940	100.3	2,072,094	2,003,540	96.7
\$0 to \$99.....	9,845,945	9,855,240	100.1	274,449	265,220	97.0
\$100 to \$199.....	1,351,398	1,369,180	101.3	213,512	206,440	96.7
\$200 to \$399.....	2,953,180	2,975,620	100.8	564,092	545,720	96.7
\$400 to \$599.....	2,547,733	2,584,880	101.5	489,243	474,260	96.9
\$600 to \$799.....	2,782,205	2,783,500	100.0	285,125	278,720	97.8
\$800 to \$999.....	2,438,009	2,436,740	99.9	98,125	90,600	97.3
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	2,436,324	2,440,160	100.2	40,949	37,020	90.4
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	2,504,450	2,502,260	99.9	19,700	17,320	87.9
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	2,046,932	2,061,940	100.7	13,991	13,400	95.8
\$1,600 to \$1,999.....	2,466,516	2,476,860	100.4	16,654	13,900	83.5
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	1,924,998	1,929,800	100.2	8,796	8,060	91.6
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	744,018	744,320	100.0	3,014	2,740	90.9
\$3,000 to \$4,999.....	903,013	899,060	99.6	2,438	2,260	92.3
\$5,000 and over.....	391,907	397,900	101.5	528	700	-
Not reported.....	2,073,097	2,059,480	99.3	46,453	46,180	99.3
<b>FEMALE</b>						
Total persons.....	12,082,766	12,265,930	101.5	457,512	448,900	98.1
\$0 to \$99.....	2,746,721	2,798,800	101.9	136,499	134,580	98.6
\$100 to \$199.....	972,656	990,380	101.8	59,956	56,960	95.0
\$200 to \$399.....	1,660,943	1,673,140	100.7	94,924	95,500	100.6
\$400 to \$599.....	1,481,054	1,446,680	101.1	74,623	72,320	96.9
\$600 to \$799.....	1,855,025	1,864,840	100.5	44,559	43,940	98.6
\$800 to \$999.....	1,110,053	1,113,620	100.3	17,408	17,620	101.2
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	739,411	750,240	102.8	7,468	7,360	98.6
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	536,258	549,360	102.4	4,156	4,000	96.2
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	322,991	330,100	102.2	2,898	1,920	80.4
\$1,600 to \$1,999.....	301,487	308,200	102.3	1,841	1,800	-
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	160,880	168,340	104.7	600	700	-
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	53,505	55,200	103.2	184	100	-
\$3,000 to \$4,999.....	57,588	60,360	104.8	309	280	-
\$5,000 and over.....	11,593	14,540	125.4	130	60	-
Not reported.....	423,639	442,120	104.1	12,469	11,760	94.3

The differences between the five-percent sample figures and those obtained from the complete count are due partly to sampling variations and partly to minor errors or biases in coding, card-punching, and machine tabulation. An analysis of the statistics based on tabulations of the five-percent sample for items that were obtained also for the total population indicates that in 95 percent of the cases the sample statistics differ from the complete census statistics by less than 5 percent for numbers of 10,000 or more, by less than 10 percent for numbers between 5,000 and 10,000, and by less than 20 percent for numbers between 2,000 and 5,000. Somewhat larger variations may be expected in numbers below 2,000. Even for these small numbers, however, the majority of the differences between the sample and complete statistics are less than 10 percent, although much larger differences occasionally occur.

In a forthcoming technical report there will be a detailed exposition of the sampling method, descriptions of the various samples that were taken, and comparisons between the samples and complete count. The purpose of the report will be to assist in evaluating the data that are published on the basis of the samples.

### AVAILABILITY OF UNPUBLISHED DATA

It has been necessary to omit from the tables in this report some of the statistics on wage or salary income and the receipt of other income that were tabulated. Omissions were dictated partly by limited funds for publication and partly by considerations of the reliability of the data, since comparatively large sampling errors are sometimes encountered in the more detailed cross-classifications for categories containing only a small number of persons. Such of these unpublished statistics as are considered reliable can be made available for the cost of preparing and reproducing them. Requests for these data, addressed to the Director of the Census, Washington, D. C., will receive a prompt reply, including an estimate of the cost of preparing the figures.

All of the statistics in this report are available for urban and rural areas of each of the four geographic regions. Table 10 is available, also, for rural-nonfarm and rural-farm areas of each region. In addition, aside from the tables on industry, all of the statistics for wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work), are available for the nine geographic divisions, urban and rural areas, and for New York City. The data presented in table 11 are available for urban and rural areas of each State.

The statistics for States and for cities of 250,000 or more, shown in tables 11 and 12, relate to all wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work). Similar data are available for certain States and cities of 250,000 or more for wage or salary workers who worked 12 months in 1939.<sup>5</sup>

The statistics on income for employed persons (except on public emergency work) were tabulated separately from those for experienced workers seeking work in the classification by household relationship, but the two employment status categories have been combined in table 10. Data on income by household relationship are also available in unpublished form for persons on public emergency work and for new workers. All of the data on household relationship were tabulated by color (white; nonwhite), as were the data for persons not in the labor force.

Finally, certain additional statistics on the receipt of other income are available in unpublished form. For the experienced labor force other than wage or salary workers, wage or salary income data for the various industries (table 7) are available with a cross-classification by receipt of other income (without other income; with other income and other income not reported). In addition, wage or salary income data classified by color (tables 5 and 5a) were tabulated separately for the group of wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work) who failed to report on the receipt of other income.

<sup>5</sup> These data are available for the following States and cities: Ala., Ariz., Ark., Calif., Colo., Conn., Del., Fla., Idaho, Ill., Ind., Iowa, Ky., La., Me., Mass., Miss., Mo., Mont., Nev., N. H., N. M., N. C., N. D., Okla., Oreg., R. I., S. C., S. D., Tenn., Tex., Utah, Vt., Va., Wash., W. Va., Wyo.; Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Jersey City, Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, New Orleans, New York City, Oakland, Philadelphia, Portland; Oreg., Providence, St. Louis, St. Paul, San Francisco, Seattle, Toledo, and Washington, D. C.