SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

POPULATION

THE LABOR FORCE
(Sample Statistics)

Wage or Salary Income in 1939

Prepared under the supervision of
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SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

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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 S. Korstange. The sampling procedures were under the direction of Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Mathematical Adviser.

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WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939

INTRODUCTION

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. 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.

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 with accounted for the great bulk of the recipients of wages or salaries in 1939. Of the total amount of other income, they represent a very close approximation to a distribution of income by size of total 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 same returns as the statistics presented in this report. 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 I of Volume III presents the data for the United States as a whole and for the four regions, and Parts II and III 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 Woman." This report shows labor force status of woman 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 households of married women 14 to 54 years of age, for the United States and regions, and for metropolitan districts of 100,000 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.

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 head of the family, 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 age and sex 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, 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, by tenure, and, 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.

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 South, comprising the Southeast, West South Central, and West South Central Divisions; (c) 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 1,000,000 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.
DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939

In 1939, inquiries concerning income were made for the first time in the history of the Population Census, in order to provide statistics regarding the usual wage or salary income and the economic well-being of the people. All persons 14 years old and over, except inmates of specified institutions, were asked to report:

1. The amount of money wages 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: "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 money incomes, 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 reported between $50 and $100 in nonwage income might have led to erroneous conclusions regarding the purchasing power and economic status.

Wage or salary income. — Wages or salary income, as defined for the 1940 Census, includes all money received in cash or in kind, receipts from the sale of farm products, rents, interest, dividends, unemployment compensation, direct assistance, pensions, annuities, royalties, or other income 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 money, inheritances, receipts or receipts from the sale of property (unless the person earned his living by buying and selling such properties), or reimbursements for travel expenses, for which a report of receipt or nonreceipt of other income was not considered to have been made by those persons with other income. This procedure was followed in order to prevent reporting wage or salary income for persons primarily dependent upon such income from being affected by the inclusion of such persons among those who received more than $50 of income from other sources. Since the majority of the persons failing to report probably had no other income, the result of this combination of income was not reported as "other income." Whether income amounting to $50 or more was received in 1939 from sources other than money wages or salaries was included in order to make separate tabulations for persons who failed to report 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: WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939 FOR THE UNITED STATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939</th>
<th>POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER (EXCEPT IN INSTITUTIONS)</th>
<th>PERCENT DISTRIBUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>In labor force, March 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>79,542,897</td>
<td>37,710,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary income</td>
<td>77,740,264</td>
<td>36,919,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>1,802,633</td>
<td>1,546,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not represented</td>
<td>75,937,614</td>
<td>37,463,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary income</td>
<td>76,838,004</td>
<td>36,770,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>1,099,610</td>
<td>693,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not represented</td>
<td>74,838,004</td>
<td>37,164,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to $999</td>
<td>4,050,832</td>
<td>1,980,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to $999</td>
<td>3,972,719</td>
<td>1,945,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 to $299</td>
<td>2,924,004</td>
<td>1,338,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 to $499</td>
<td>2,269,497</td>
<td>1,018,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 to $799</td>
<td>1,780,805</td>
<td>769,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800 to $999</td>
<td>1,249,975</td>
<td>536,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000 to $1,999</td>
<td>799,819</td>
<td>316,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000 and over</td>
<td>1,428,960</td>
<td>620,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median (dollars)</td>
<td>1,222,300</td>
<td>571,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNITED OTHER INCOME

| WITH OTHER INCOME | Total persons | In labor force, March 1940 | Not in labor force, March 1940 | Total | In labor force, March 1940 | Not in labor force, March 1940 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total persons | 78,900,500 | 37,500,000 | 41,400,500 | 100.0 | 108.0 | 100.0 |
| With wage or salary income | 77,206,000 | 36,800,000 | 40,406,000 | 97.8 | 99.6 | 97.8 |
| Without wage or salary income | 1,694,500 | 800,000 | 894,500 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| Not represented | 76,506,000 | 36,400,000 | 39,106,000 | 97.2 | 99.7 | 97.2 |
| With wage or salary income | 75,702,000 | 36,100,000 | 39,602,000 | 97.1 | 99.4 | 97.1 |
| Without wage or salary income | 798,500 | 300,000 | 498,500 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Not represented | 76,500,500 | 36,400,000 | 39,100,500 | 97.2 | 99.7 | 97.2 |

Median (dollars) | 1,316,820 | 635,000 | 681,820 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 |

\* These "specifications" of institutions comprise the following types: penal institutions, hospitals for the mentally diseased or defective, and homes for the aged, insane, and needy.

\* Includes statistics for persons who were the receipt of nonreceipt of other income in 1939 was not reported.
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.

1. 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. An introduction to the various types of public emergency work is provided by the data in table I. In particular, the wide variation in the number of persons reporting receipt of other income or failure to report. Although no count of the number of such persons had no such income, the data in table I show that the number of persons receiving other income or failing to report is relatively small. Some of these persons may have been derived from nonemergency employment during 1939. Conversely, the data for private or nonemergency government workers included some wages or salaries derived from public emergency work during 1939.

2. 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 whose report on work experience was lacking were classified as experienced workers.

3. 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.

4. 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 employment and class of worker data for these class-of-worker groups are not shown in table II, which is limited to wage or salary workers, unless there was evidence to the contrary. The classification was based on activity 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.

5. 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 wage earners, clerks, etc., who worked for wages, but also persons working for tips or 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. The classification was based on activity during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. For experienced workers seeking work, the classification refers to the last job of one month or more. The composition of each category is described below.

6. 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 example, workers 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.
With or without other income and hence might have received all their income in kind or might have shifted from own-account work in 1939 to part or full-time work in 1940. (See Table II and III.) The remaining 15.2 percent 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 II. Percent 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wage or Salary Income in 1939</th>
<th>Without Other Income</th>
<th>Receipt of Other Income</th>
<th>Percent Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>96,266,460</td>
<td>61,786,800</td>
<td>52.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary</td>
<td>95,785,460</td>
<td>60,865,350</td>
<td>54.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary</td>
<td>95,212,800</td>
<td>60,901,600</td>
<td>54.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without report</td>
<td>95,212,800</td>
<td>60,865,350</td>
<td>53.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With other income but no wage or salary</td>
<td>95,212,800</td>
<td>60,901,600</td>
<td>53.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without other income, no wage or salary</td>
<td>95,785,460</td>
<td>61,786,800</td>
<td>52.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>96,266,460</td>
<td>61,786,800</td>
<td>52.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 $60 or more of income during 1939 from sources other than wage or salary. Some of 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 in which the data on wages or salaries are most reliable, and the class in which we had the round 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, the question on 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 emigrants or immigrants two-levels that the question on wage or salary income was inapplicable to groups other than wage or salary workers.

Of the 39,300,000 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 5,900,000 reported that they received $60 or more of income, and 800,000 failed to report on the receipt of nonwage or salary income. (See Table IV.)

The wage or salary distribution for the workers with other income or earnings 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-
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 mental 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 non-labor-force population for which income data are presented. This leaves for the purposes of the present report a non-labor-force population made up of all persons 16 years old and over in the five classes described below.

Table VI. Persons not in the labor force (except those in institutions) in March 1940, by receipt of wage or salary income in 1939 and by sex, for the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECEIPT OF WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939, RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, AND SEX</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>ENGAGED IN OWN HOUSEHOLD</th>
<th>UNABLE TO WORK</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
<th>EMPLOYMENT STATUS NOT REPORTED</th>
<th>ENGAGED IN OWN HOUSEHOLD</th>
<th>UNABLE TO WORK</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
<th>EMPLOYMENT STATUS NOT REPORTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>42,077,285</td>
<td>28,010,000</td>
<td>9,086,864</td>
<td>4,281,935</td>
<td>1,387,550</td>
<td>28,010,000</td>
<td>9,086,864</td>
<td>4,281,935</td>
<td>1,387,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary income</td>
<td>38,084,600</td>
<td>24,280,000</td>
<td>6,728,360</td>
<td>3,986,805</td>
<td>1,097,970</td>
<td>24,280,000</td>
<td>6,728,360</td>
<td>3,986,805</td>
<td>1,097,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>3,992,865</td>
<td>3,720,000</td>
<td>2,358,504</td>
<td>225,430</td>
<td>30,750</td>
<td>3,720,000</td>
<td>2,358,504</td>
<td>225,430</td>
<td>30,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not reported</td>
<td>3,961,500</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
<td>1,650,500</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
<td>1,650,500</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>42,077,285</td>
<td>28,010,000</td>
<td>9,086,864</td>
<td>4,281,935</td>
<td>1,387,550</td>
<td>28,010,000</td>
<td>9,086,864</td>
<td>4,281,935</td>
<td>1,387,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALE</td>
<td>21,492,155</td>
<td>14,805,000</td>
<td>4,434,300</td>
<td>2,427,760</td>
<td>797,795</td>
<td>14,805,000</td>
<td>4,434,300</td>
<td>2,427,760</td>
<td>797,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary income</td>
<td>18,706,500</td>
<td>12,920,000</td>
<td>3,494,240</td>
<td>2,062,880</td>
<td>692,320</td>
<td>12,920,000</td>
<td>3,494,240</td>
<td>2,062,880</td>
<td>692,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>2,785,650</td>
<td>1,885,000</td>
<td>940,060</td>
<td>364,880</td>
<td>105,475</td>
<td>1,885,000</td>
<td>940,060</td>
<td>364,880</td>
<td>105,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not reported</td>
<td>3,961,500</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
<td>1,650,500</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
<td>1,650,500</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21,492,155</td>
<td>14,805,000</td>
<td>4,434,300</td>
<td>2,427,760</td>
<td>797,795</td>
<td>14,805,000</td>
<td>4,434,300</td>
<td>2,427,760</td>
<td>797,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMALE</td>
<td>20,585,130</td>
<td>13,205,000</td>
<td>4,652,564</td>
<td>1,854,175</td>
<td>590,755</td>
<td>13,205,000</td>
<td>4,652,564</td>
<td>1,854,175</td>
<td>590,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary income</td>
<td>19,378,600</td>
<td>12,880,000</td>
<td>4,418,320</td>
<td>1,747,290</td>
<td>543,370</td>
<td>12,880,000</td>
<td>4,418,320</td>
<td>1,747,290</td>
<td>543,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>1,206,530</td>
<td>625,000</td>
<td>234,244</td>
<td>466,885</td>
<td>37,385</td>
<td>625,000</td>
<td>234,244</td>
<td>466,885</td>
<td>37,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not reported</td>
<td>3,961,500</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
<td>1,650,500</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>3,010,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
<td>1,650,500</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20,585,130</td>
<td>13,205,000</td>
<td>4,652,564</td>
<td>1,854,175</td>
<td>590,755</td>
<td>13,205,000</td>
<td>4,652,564</td>
<td>1,854,175</td>
<td>590,755</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Includes statistics for persons for whom the receipt or nonreceipt of other income in 1939 was not reported.
A total of 15,100,000 persons not in the labor force reported they received other income in 1939 or more or less to indicate whether they received such income. It should be noted that this figure does not represent the number actually receiving other income during the year 1939, since it includes persons who failed to report on other income, of whom a large number actually had no other income. The size of the group for which no reports on other income were available is not indicated in the tables. In this report, since these persons were included in the tabulations with persons who reported that they received other income during the year.

It is estimated on the basis of a small sample of the census schedules that reports on the receipt of other income were lacking for about 5 million persons not in the labor force, most of whom were housewives, students, and persons for whom unemployment status was not reported. Some of these persons were relatively few housewives and students receive other income, many of the enumerators assumed that the question was inapplicable and accordingly made no entry for them. Among other groups not in the labor force, the failure to answer the question on other income was relatively frequent. The money income reported by these groups of persons usually represented such items as pensions, old-age assistance, rents, interest, and dividends.

Table VI. MONTHS WORKED IN 1939 BY 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wage or Salary Income in 1939</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Without work in 1939</th>
<th>With work in 1939</th>
<th>Percent Distribution</th>
<th>Table VI. Months Worked in 1939 by 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</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Without work in 1939</td>
<td>With work in 1939</td>
<td>Percent Distribution</td>
<td>Table VI. Months Worked in 1939 by 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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

no wage or salary income during the year (table 4). Most of these received other income of $50 or more, indicating that they had been engaged in non-wage employment during part or all of the year. Some workers reported no income from any source, these including persons who had been engaged as unpaid employees during 1929 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 in public emergency work, the industry question was referred to the current job during that week; for persons seeking work, the question referred to the last job of one month or more.

The industry classification used in the 1940 census contains 1,441 items. This classification is a condensation of the 1,441 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 table 8 and 9 for wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work), and in tables 10 and 11 for wage or salary workers who worked full time (12 months) in 1929. These tables 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 1929 or early 1940, the industry classification may not represent the major source of 1929 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 the industry classification used was less shifting among persons who reported 12 months of employment during 1929 than among those who worked only part time during the year.

Coverage of industry classification. The industry classification "Government," does not include all persons employed by governmental agencies. Persons are included in this classification only if they were engaged in activities that are commonly governmental, not connected with governmental housing or other activities.

The nonwhite population consists of Negroes, except in 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 7 for wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work). The age classification is based on age at the 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 or not of other income. Table XII indicates, proportion of wage or salary workers who received incomes from wages or salaries during 1929 was relatively high in the several age groups between 20 and 64 years, and lower in both younger and older groups, this probably reflects recent entry into the labor
force for a sizable portion of the group, and for older workers it reflected earlier continued unemployment during 1939 or shift from own-account work in 1939 to wage work in 1940. The proportion of wage or salary workers who received other income of $20 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 WORK IN EMERGENCY WORK) IN MARCH 1940, BY AGE AND RECEIPT OF OTHER INCOME IN 1939, FOR THE UNITED STATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Years)</th>
<th>14 and under</th>
<th>15 and 16</th>
<th>17 and 18</th>
<th>19 and 20</th>
<th>21 to 24</th>
<th>25 to 29</th>
<th>30 to 34</th>
<th>35 to 39</th>
<th>40 to 44</th>
<th>45 to 49</th>
<th>50 to 54</th>
<th>55 to 59</th>
<th>60 to 64</th>
<th>65 and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total persons</td>
<td>38,200,892</td>
<td>3,680,180</td>
<td>2,690,370</td>
<td>1,670,350</td>
<td>1,130,160</td>
<td>1,070,910</td>
<td>1,110,810</td>
<td>1,170,030</td>
<td>1,220,900</td>
<td>1,290,000</td>
<td>1,170,950</td>
<td>1,070,800</td>
<td>990,750</td>
<td>930,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With wage or salary income</td>
<td>3,670,350</td>
<td>2,460,370</td>
<td>1,750,350</td>
<td>1,200,350</td>
<td>1,130,160</td>
<td>1,170,910</td>
<td>1,190,810</td>
<td>1,240,030</td>
<td>1,300,900</td>
<td>1,350,000</td>
<td>1,310,950</td>
<td>1,270,800</td>
<td>1,200,600</td>
<td>1,130,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>3,200,542</td>
<td>2,220,320</td>
<td>1,420,320</td>
<td>870,020</td>
<td>860,020</td>
<td>1,000,820</td>
<td>1,320,810</td>
<td>1,280,030</td>
<td>1,280,900</td>
<td>1,140,000</td>
<td>940,800</td>
<td>790,600</td>
<td>1,200,600</td>
<td>1,130,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without wage or salary income</td>
<td>3,200,542</td>
<td>2,220,320</td>
<td>1,420,320</td>
<td>870,020</td>
<td>860,020</td>
<td>1,000,820</td>
<td>1,320,810</td>
<td>1,280,030</td>
<td>1,280,900</td>
<td>1,140,000</td>
<td>940,800</td>
<td>790,600</td>
<td>1,200,600</td>
<td>1,130,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Household relationship. The classifications according to the relationship of 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 all related family members and the unrelated lodgers, servants, and hired hands who live in the same dwelling unit and share common householdkeeping 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 quarter houses, include individuals living in boarding or lodging houses, institutions, schools, labor camps, military or naval posts, transient in hotels, and the crews of vessels. If the household was a lodging house rather than a private household, the household was considered 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 "head," being in general the person regarded as the head 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.

 hlfe 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.

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.

Relatives of head not related to head.-This group comprises lodgers, servants, hired heads, and all other members of private households who are not related to the head of the household.

In the present 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.
INTRODUCTION

The differences between the five-percent sample figures and those obtained from the complete count are due partly to sampling fluctuations and partly to errors or blunders 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 99 percent of the cases, the simple 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 19,999, and by less than 20 percent for numbers between 2,000 and 4,999. Some larger differences may be expected in numbers below 2,000. Even for these small numbers, however, the majority of the differences between the sample and complete counts are less than 10 percent, although such larger differences occasionally occur.

In a forthcoming technical report, there will be a detailed exposition of the sampling method, descriptions of the various subdivisions 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 presented. 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 on 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 4 (Table 4 to 11), also, for persons not related to the head, and for persons classified as single; married, spouse absent; widowed, and divorced.

The statistics on income for employed persons (except on public emergency work) were tabulated separately from those for employed workers. The 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 are 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; other income not reported). In addition, wage or salary income data classified by sex (Tables 8 and 9) 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.