Population

The Labor Force
(Sample Statistics)

Occupational Characteristics
SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

POPULATION

THE LABOR FORCE

(Sample Statistics)

Occupational Characteristics

Prepared under the supervision of
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Volume

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II Characteristics of the Population, by States.
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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 had 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 data on the personal and economic characteristics of the men and women in each occupation at the time of the 1940 census. The occupation data shown in this publication supplement those presented in Volume III of the Sixteenth Decennial Census Reports on Population, entitled "The Labor Force." 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. Barry Casper, and David L. Kaplan. The sampling procedures were under the direction of Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Mathematical Adviser.
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INTRODUCTION

This report presents data on the personal and economic characteristics of the men and women in each occupation, based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the returns of the Sixteenth Decennial Census of Population, taken in April 1940. The subjects included are color, age, years of school completed, employment status, class of worker, hours worked during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, months worked in 1939, duration of unemployment, and industry. Statistics on all of these subjects are presented for the United States, and data for several subjects are shown for four broad regions and by urban-rural residence.

The statistics presented in this report, together with those presented in Volume III of the Reports on Population, entitled "The Labor Force," and those in another report in this series, entitled "Usual Occupation," constitute a body of information which describes the occupational structure of the American labor force in peacetime. Many of the statistics included in this report were made available to aid agencies in advance of publication for use in planning and administering programs. For example, data on the number and distribution of workers in March 1940 in those occupations in which wartime shortages subsequently developed have been useful in connection with the allocation of war contracts and the establishment of training programs. Similarly, figures on the age or workers in each occupation have been useful in the determination of selective service policies with respect to occupational deferment, and as measures of the extent to which military needs for persons with particular skills would be met by alternative deferment policies.

RELATED RESEARCH

The statistics in this report supplement the occupation data presented in Volume III of the Reports on Population. The data in Volume III (comprising the third series Population bulletins) are based on tabulations of the complete census returns and are presented for the United States, States, and large cities. The number of men and women employed in each of the 461 occupations which comprise the complete 1940 census occupation classification is shown for States and cities of 100,000 or more. The intermediate lists of occupations (167 items for males and 76 items for females) are cross-classified in that volume with the following subjects not shown in this report: Wage or salary income in 1939, race, and marital status by age. In addition, the industrial distribution of persons in each major occupation group is given for States and cities of 250,000 or more. Volume III also presents statistics for persons in the labor force on such subjects as industry, wage or salary income in 1939, and marital status, as well as on most of the subjects shown in this report.

Occupation statistics for small areas are presented, in terms of major occupation groups, in Volume II of the Reports on Population, entitled "Characteristics of the Population." That volume, which contains data for States, all urban places, counties, and principal metropolitan districts, includes statistics on the general characteristics of the population, as well as on employment status of persons 14 years old and over, and class of worker and industry for employed persons.

This report is one of a series of publications under the general title "The Labor Force--Sample Statistics." The specific titles or other reports in this series which are closely related to occupation statistics and a brief summary of the subjects covered are shown below:

**Usual Occupation.**--Data on the usual occupation of persons in the experienced labor force cross-classified with color, age, nativity and citizenship, and current or last major occupation group, for the United States, States, and large cities; data on the usual occupation of persons not in the labor force, according to color, age, and marital status, for the United States and regions, urban and rural.

**Industrial Characteristics.**--Statistics on the industrial characteristics of the experienced labor force (except persons on public emergency work), cross-classified with color, nativity and citizenship, age, employment status, class of worker, major occupation group, months worked in 1939, and other subjects, for the United States and for regions.

**GEOGRAPHIC AREAS**

Occupation statistics on most of the subjects included in this report are presented for each of four regions. The accompanying map shows the States included in each region. Regional figures are not given for the other characteristics presented in this report partly because of lack of publication space and partly because errors due to sampling are larger in the small cell frequencies often found in the detailed cross-classifications for regions.

**AVAILABILITY OF UNPUBLISHED DATA**

It has been necessary to omit from the tables in this report some of the occupation statistics 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.

Cross-classifications of occupation with age, years of school completed, class of worker, hours worked during the census week, months worked in 1939, and duration of unemployment are available, by sex and color, for each of the four regions, urban and rural. Data on occupation by industry (as shown in Table 10) have been tabulated by sex and color, for the United States, urban and rural. Data on years of school completed by all persons in the labor force are available, by employment status, sex, and color, for regions, urban and rural.

The unpublished statistics, so far as the figures are large enough to be significant, can be made available upon request, for the cost of transcribing or reproducing them. Requests for such statistics, addressed to the Director of the Census, Washington, D. C., will receive a prompt reply which will include an estimate of the cost of preparing the data.

**DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS**

**URBAN AND RURAL AREAS**

In several of the tables figures are shown separately for urban and rural areas. Urban population, as defined by the Bureau of the Census, is in incorporated places and other incorporated places having 2,500 inhabitants or more. The remainder of the population is classified as rural.

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

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

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1 The instructions to enumerators are also reproduced in these volumes.

2 At the time this report goes to press in June of 1945, the reports referred to in this paragraph are in various stages of completion, and it is possible that minor changes may be made before publication.
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 of public emergency work, and those seeking work; and (b) not in the labor force. The latter group included persons reported as engaged in own home housework, those in prison, those unable to work, all inmates of penal and mental institutions with a classification for the aged, infirm, and needy regardless of their activity during the census week; others not at work and not having a job, not on public emergency work, and not seeking work; and persons for whom employment status was not reported. Table 1 presents the number of persons in the labor force and not in the labor force during the census week for the United States, by sex, in table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Status</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persons 14 years and over</td>
<td>152,813,748</td>
<td>79,952,867</td>
<td>72,860,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in labor force</td>
<td>58,306,955</td>
<td>28,571,132</td>
<td>29,735,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking work</td>
<td>9,851,201</td>
<td>5,065,077</td>
<td>4,786,124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active in work</td>
<td>77,863,739</td>
<td>36,327,758</td>
<td>41,536,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In agriculture</td>
<td>3,490,954</td>
<td>1,715,131</td>
<td>1,775,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In public emergency work</td>
<td>2,257,644</td>
<td>1,121,727</td>
<td>1,135,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experienced workers</td>
<td>4,922,385</td>
<td>2,498,247</td>
<td>2,424,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New workers</td>
<td>7,941,354</td>
<td>3,941,354</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Largest industries: The employment status categories of persons in the labor force are defined 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 nonfarm Federal, State, or local government work; or worked without pay on a family farm; or in a family business; or not at work but were expected to work—persons not actually at work and not seeking work during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, but who held a job, business, or profession which they temporarily left because of vacation, illness, industrial dispute, bad weather, or other, or if they expect to work in the future but were not at work during the week; and (b) "Not at work"—persons who did not work during the week for which they were classified as "at work." Among the "at work" group, the number of persons who worked at least 1 hour during the week was 14,989,726. The number of persons who worked less than 1 hour during the week and who were classified as "at work" was 12,407,161. The number of persons who worked less than 1 hour during the week and who were classified as "not at work" was 1,582,565.

Employed on public emergency work: This category includes persons who, in the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, were at work in public emergency work projects conducted by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), or State or local government authorities.

Seeking work: This category represents persons who, at the time of the census week, were seeking work, with or without pay, full or part time. Among the "seeking work" category, the number of persons who reported seeking work for pay or profit was 56,877,682. The number of persons who reported seeking work without pay was 3,973,518. The number of persons who reported seeking work for pay or profit and who were temporarily absent from work were classified as "not at work." Among the "seeking work" category, the number of persons who reported seeking work for pay or profit was 56,877,682.

Persons 65 years of age and over, and to some extent for those 55 to 64 years old, it is difficult to draw the line between able-bodied persons seeking work and disabled or retired persons no longer in the labor force. Moreover, many men in these age groups at the time of the census had been forced into retirement because of their inability to compete with younger workers, although they were still able and willing to work.

The category "Employment status not reported" includes all persons not in the labor force but not assigned to any specific category, who constituted about one-third of the 1,987,146 persons in the category "Employment status not reported," and (b) those for whom enumerators did not obtain sufficient information to place them in the labor force, representing four-fifths of the total. The entire category is included in the total of persons not in the labor force in 1940 on the basis of reports because most of the persons in group (b) were in classes of the population in which the proportion in the labor force is low. On the basis of available evidence, it seems probable that not more than 500,000 of the 1,987,146 persons reported as not reported would have been classified as in the labor force if full information had been obtained. Data on the characteristics of persons for whom employment status was not reported are presented in the report entitled "Characteristics of Persons Not in the Labor Force."

Comparability with previous census data for gainful workers: The 1940 data on the labor force are not directly comparable with the census statistics for gainful workers in 1920 and earlier years, partly because of differences in definition and partly because of differences in the types of questions upon which the data were based. "Gainful workers" were persons reported as having a gainful occupation, regardless of whether they were working at the time of the census. The labor force is defined in the 1940 census on the basis of activity during the week of March 24 to 30. Certain classes of persons, such as retired workers, some inmates of institutions, recently incapacitated workers, and seasonal workers neither working nor seeking work at the time of the census, were frequently included among gainful workers in 1920, but in general, such persons are not in the 1940 labor force. On the other hand, the 1940 labor force includes persons seeking work without previous work experience, that is, new workers, and persons reported as

* For a more complete discussion of this subject, see Part 1 of Volume III of the Reports on Population.
INTRODUCTION

In the labor force for whom neither occupation nor industry was entered on the schedule. Most of the relatively few new workers at the time of the 1930 and earlier censuses were probably not counted as gainful workers. Likewise, some persons who were actually gainful workers, but for whom neither occupation nor industry was reported, were not included in the gainful worker figures for 1920 and earlier years.

The differences probably do not seriously affect the comparison of the total labor force in 1940 with the total number of gainful workers in 1920 and earlier years, since the groups included in the gainful workers in 1940 but not counted as gainful workers in 1930 and earlier years, at least partly offset the groups included in 1930 but not in 1940. For particular occupation groups, however, the number returned as in the labor force in 1930 but not in the labor force in 1940, would have been different from the number who would have been counted as gainful workers if the 1940 procedure had been used.

The 1940 labor force figures are restricted to persons 14 years old and over, whereas the number of gainful workers shown in earlier censuses included persons 10 years old and over.

The number of workers 10 to 14 years old has become relatively small and no longer justifies the additional burden of enumeration and tabulation necessary to retain the 10-year age limit.

In making comparisons between the 1940 labor force data and the gainful worker statistics in earlier census reports, the slight difference in age limits should be taken into consideration.

Changes in census dates also affect the comparison of 1940 data with those for earlier years.

In 1900 the census was taken as of June 1, whereas in 1910 it was taken April 1, and in 1930 both 1929 and 1930. The gains in the censuses of 1930 and 1940 were taken as of June 1.

These changes may have had a pronounced effect, especially in agricultural areas, on the size of the group returned as gainful workers and on their occupational and industrial distribution.

OCCUPATION

In the 1940 census, an inquiry relating to occupation was made of all persons 14 years old and over in the labor force during the census week. For employed persons and for persons on public emergency work this question referred to the "current" job, or the job on which they were engaged during the census week. For persons seeking work, the question referred to the "last" job, or the job on which they were most recently engaged for one month or more. A second inquiry on occupation was made of a five-percent cross section of all persons 14 years old and over, regardless of whether they were in the labor force during the census week. This question referred to the "usual" occupation, or the occupation the person regarded as his usual occupation and at which he was still physically able to work. For both of these inquiries, however, the enumerators were instructed to make no occupation entry for persons who had never worked full time for one month or more. It should be noted, therefore, that all occupation data for persons seeking work are restricted to those persons since "new workers" (persons who had never worked for a job on one month or more.

The data presented in this report are based on the first of the two occupation inquiries made in the preceding paragraph and refer to "current" or "last" occupation, rather than to "usual" occupation. The tables do not give figures for persons on public emergency work. Although the question for such persons referred to the work on the public emergency project (their current job), many of these workers reported the occupation of their most recent nonemergency job or of the job in which they were usually engaged. Volume II of the Reports on Population presents, for each State, the current occupation of persons on public emergency work, in terms of eight major occupation groups. More detailed data on the usual occupation of emergency workers (derived from the second inquiry mentioned in the preceding paragraph) will be shown in the report entitled "The Labor Force: Sample Statistics, Usual Occupation."

The statistician for most of the subjects shown in the detailed tables of this report are presented separately for employed persons (except on public emergency work) and for experienced workers seeking work, because of the differences between the two groups of workers in the reference of occupation. This separation makes possible an analysis of the differences in characteristics between the persons employed in a specific occupation and the persons whose last job was in the same occupation but who were seeking work at the time of the census. In tables 15 to 19, however, these two groups of workers are combined since the data (months worked) refer to the year 1939, whereas the employment status classification is based on activity during the census week of March 24 to 30, 1940.

The occupation classification.-The occupation classification used for the 1940 census is based on the 1940 Census of Occupations, which was reported in Vol. III of the Reports on Population. In this report, intermediate occupation lists of 167 items for males and 96 items for females are used in presenting the cross-classification of occupation with the various characteristics. These lists were made up chiefly by combining occupations in the detailed list of 451 occupations that are closely related or numerically small. The composition of each of the intermediate occupations in terms of the detailed occupations is shown in the Appendix of this report.

The occupation lists used in Table 19, which consist of 116 items for males and 82 items for females, are basically identical with the intermediate lists used in the other tables of this report. Since occupation is cross-classified with industry in the censuses of 1920 and 1930, in Table 19, it is obviously unnecessary to show the industry subdivisions in the occupation lists. Also, the two intermediate occupations which form the major group "Farm laborers and farm foremen" are not separated in Table 19 because the entire group is restricted to a single industry, "Agriculture," and the number of persons in each of the two component occupations, "Farm laborers, experienced" and "Farm laborers, inexperienced," is available from other tables in this report. On the other hand, three of the intermediate occupations for males ("Designers and draftsmen," "Stationary engineers, crane men, and locomotive firemen," and "Other specified laborers") are shown separately in Table 19 because the entire group is restricted to a single industry, "Agriculture," and the number of persons in each of the two component occupations, "Farm laborers, experienced" and "Farm laborers, inexperienced," is available from other tables in this report.

With very few exceptions, the 451 items in the complete 1940 classification are convertible to the 397 items of the International Classification of Occupations which was designed by an interdepartmental Joint Committee on Occupational Classification (sponsored by the Central Statistical Board and the American Statistical Association) to increase comparability among occupation statistics compiled by various governmental and private agencies. The principal difference between the two classifications arises from a more detailed industrial subdivision in the earlier classification, of primary importance, because the entire group is restricted to a single industry, "Agriculture." The number of persons in each of the two component occupations, "Farm laborers, experienced" and "Farm laborers, inexperienced," is available from other tables in this report.

The Bureau of the Census has published the "Alphabetical Index of Occupations and Industries: 1940," which gives an alphabetical list of approximately 30,000 occupation designations and shows the category of the complete census occupation classification to which each occupation return should be assigned. This publication also includes an alphabetical list of about 5,000 industry designations and the category of the complete census industry classification to which each industry return should be assigned. This is the "General Classification of Occupations: 1940," in which the 5,000 occupation designations are arranged according to the 451 categories in the census list.

Difficulties in the classification of occupations.-The task of classifying the enumerators' returns on occupation would be difficult enough if all the returns were specific; but the descriptions of the occupations concerned, since it involves the assignment of many thousands of different designations to one or another of the 451 titles, could be further increased the detailed census occupations, classifications. It is made more difficult, however, by the failure of many enumerators to return exact designations of specific occupations. Inexact returns resulted in some cases from carelessness on the part of...
THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

the enumerators or from their lack of knowledge of occupational designations. In other cases, the housewives and others from whom the enumerators obtained their information did not know the specific occupations of the persons to whom the questions referred.

In many instances, however, indefinite occupation returns can be assigned to the proper classification through an examination of the return entries or through a comparison of the occupations and the names of persons from which the returns were obtained. For example, a return "Drugstore clerk" or "Proprietors, ... drug store" on the basis of such collateral information as age, education, skill or work, and wages or salary may be useful. Likewise, a person for whom the return was simply "Farm laborer" can usually be classified as a wage worker or as an unpaid family worker on the basis of schedule entries for family relationship, age, and receipt of income.

The industry return in particular is often of great assistance in the classification of an occupation; in fact, for many of the items in the occupational list some dependence on industry is essential. This is true not only of those in which the occupational designation itself involves reference to an industry (as "Bakery, cotton mill"), but also of other cases where the return in the industry column indirectly points out the proper occupational classification. A return of occupation and industry, "Salesman, pushcart," for example, would be classified under "Retailers and peddlers" rather than under "Salesmen."

To some extent the difficulties in the classification of occupations grow out of the nature of the occupations themselves. At some points in the eight major series the groups are clear-cut and distinct. A carpenter, for example, is easily distinguished from a plumber or a bricklayer. In many instances, however, the series do not fall into distinct categories or convenient groups but rather are overlapping to such an extent that the figures representing occupations such as insurance salesmen or teachers of children in any age group in a given occupation, especially if the total number is small, should not be interpreted as necessarily indicating an increase in the number of children actually following that occupation.

Comparability with occupation data from earlier censuses.—No comparisons of the 1940 census data on occupations with similar data from the 1930 and earlier censuses are included in this report. Such comparisons are complicated by four important considerations.

In the first place, gainful workers, the group for which occupation statistics were presented in previous censuses, are not directly comparable with the 1940 labor force. Second, the occupation data shown here do not cover the labor force. For persons on public emergency work, no data on occupation are presented. Third, the occupations reported for 1930 and previous years did not necessarily apply to the current jobs of employed workers, or to the latest jobs of unemployed workers. Consequently, it is difficult to determine to what extent the figures for these earlier censuses may represent usual rather than current or latest occupation. In the 1940 census, on the other hand, the inquiries were designed to obtain current occupation for employed workers and latest occupation for persons seeking work.

Finally, the 1940 classification of occupation differs from that used in previous censuses. The occupation classifications used for the 1910, 1920, and 1930 censuses differed in minor respects from the classifications used in the 1940 census, and any nominal increases or decreases in the numbers of borderline cases, such as women returned as blacksmiths, were allowed to remain.

The figures for women in these unusual occupations are, therefore, not comparable with those for 1930 and any nominal increase which the figures may show should be regarded as possibly the result of the change in procedure. In particular, these nominal increases should not be interpreted as indicating an expansion of the field of female activities.

Two important considerations are, however, applicable to the data for women in unusual occupations, and the same cautions should be expressed with respect to the use of these figures. In particular, the number of female children in any age group in a given occupation, especially if the total number is small, should not be interpreted as necessarily indicating an increase in the number of children actually following that occupation.
INTRODUCTION

The statistics in this report include cross-classifications of the men and women in each occupation with color, age, and years of school completed. These data are useful in the study of child labor, vocational guidance, and social insurance problems. The data are not suitable for an exact analysis of the relationship between unemployment and color, age, and schooling of the persons in each occupation, since the corresponding statistics for persons on public emergency work are not shown. The occupational and personal characteristics of public emergency workers are materially different from those of the other workers in the labor force.

Color. — Because of the differences in economic status between whites and nonwhites, separate data for nonwhites in the United States and in the South are presented for most of the cross-classifications in this report. Statistics for nonwhites in other regions are not shown since the numbers of such persons are very small.

The group "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or other races not definitely Indian or other nonwhite races were returned as white in 1940. The great majority of the nonwhites are Negroes, except in the West, where there are many Indians, Chinese, and Japanese.

Table II presents the distributions by major occupation group of employed persons (except on public emergency work) and of experienced workers seeking work, by sex and color. The figures show, for example, that service workers and laborers constituted 20.4 percent of the employed white males and 24.2 percent of the employed white females, as compared with 55.6 percent of the employed nonwhite males and 68.3 percent of the employed nonwhite females.

The data also show that employment opportunities for nonwhites were extremely limited in the skilled-craft occupations. Although 9.0 percent of all employed men were nonwhites, only 2.7 percent of the employed males, "Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers" were nonwhite. This limitation in opportunity for nonwhites was even greater than these figures indicate. As table shows, 57.9 percent of the employed nonwhite males and only 30.2 percent were in these five occupations.

Table II. MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) AND OF EXPERIENCED WORKERS SEEKING WORK, BY SEX AND COLOR, FOR THE UNITED STATES: MARCH 1940

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP AND SEX</th>
<th>EMPLOYED (EXC. EMERG.)</th>
<th>SEEKING WORK, EXPERIENCED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total (W)</td>
<td>Nonwhite (W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>24,106,440</td>
<td>21,031,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and semiprofessional workers</td>
<td>1,688,640</td>
<td>1,504,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers and farm managers</td>
<td>2,856,000</td>
<td>2,518,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proprietors, managers, and owners, except farmers</td>
<td>4,290,850</td>
<td>3,962,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>craftsman, foremen, and kindred workers</td>
<td>6,106,700</td>
<td>5,620,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic service workers</td>
<td>760,500</td>
<td>669,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective service workers</td>
<td>1,024,260</td>
<td>914,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service workers, except domestic and personal service</td>
<td>1,963,260</td>
<td>1,773,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm laborers and foremen</td>
<td>972,820</td>
<td>842,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>occupations</td>
<td>2,127,820</td>
<td>1,907,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>21,083,440</td>
<td>18,046,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and semiprofessional workers</td>
<td>1,459,440</td>
<td>1,260,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers and farm managers</td>
<td>2,151,440</td>
<td>1,798,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proprietors, managers, and owners, except farmers</td>
<td>3,457,440</td>
<td>2,988,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>craftsman, foremen, and kindred workers</td>
<td>6,106,900</td>
<td>5,620,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic service workers</td>
<td>670,500</td>
<td>569,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective service workers</td>
<td>914,260</td>
<td>784,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service workers, except domestic and personal service</td>
<td>1,963,260</td>
<td>1,773,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm laborers and foremen</td>
<td>972,820</td>
<td>842,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>occupations</td>
<td>2,127,820</td>
<td>1,907,820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Statistics based on a 5 percent sample. Percent not shown where less than 0.1]
The occupational distributions of nonwhite persons classified as "Negroes" and "Other races" are shown for each State and each city of 100,000 or more in Volume III of the Reports on Population.

The classification by class of worker, like the occupation classification, refers to the current job during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, for employed persons, and to the last job held within the 5 years previous to the census for the unemployed. The composition of each class-of-worker category is described below.

White 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 or salary, 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. This category is further subdivided into: (a) Private wage or salary workers, working for individual employers, private corporations, and for all other employers except governmental agencies, and (b) Government workers, including all employees of Federal, State, or local governments. Persons whose current or latest job was on public emergency work are classified as government workers. Employers and own-account workers. — This group consists of persons who, in their current or last job, worked for their own enterprises. It includes not only the owner-operators of large stores and manufacturing establishments, but also small merchants, independent farmers, professionals, men on their own account, 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.

Persons in the labor force for whom class of worker was not reported have been included among private wage or salary workers, unless there was evidence to the contrary. The number of employed persons in the entire United States for whom class of worker could not be determined was 239,106, or only 0.5 percent of the total employed.

Although a similar classification by class of worker (except for the separation of government workers) has been available from the questions asked in preceding censuses, it has never been published except as a tabulation of persons engaged in agricultural pursuits. It is included in the 1940 census publications because of its value in many types of labor market analyses and in the interpretation of data on the employment status of the labor force.

The class-of-worker distribution of the persons in their current occupation is pertinent to unemployment analysis because the risk of complete unemployment is substantially greater for wage or salary workers than for employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers. The latter classes of workers become unemployed only when they (or their relatives operating the family enterprise) are forced out of business. Table IV presents the class-of-worker distributions of employed persons.
In the interpretation of the data for rural areas, it should be borne in mind that more than one million of the employed workers in these areas were employed as "Farm laborers (unpaid family workers)," which is often little better than a makeshift activity for sons and daughters of farmers when they cannot find other employment. Many of these unpaid family workers represented a labor reserve for nonagricultural industries.

HOURS WORKED DURING THE CENSUS WEEK

The groupings of hours worked that appear in this report are designed to show the length of the usual work week in each occupation at the time of the census, and the proportions of workers whose hours were above or below the typical number. Since 40 hours and 48 hours were standard for full-time work in many industries, persons who reported exactly these numbers of hours are shown separately. The proportions of persons who worked less than the most common number of hours are indicative of the prevalence of part-time employment in the various occupations at the time of the census. It should be borne in mind, however, that the standards of full-time work vary extensively even within a single occupation, and that many persons working part time do not desire more work. In addition, it should be pointed out that since the data refer to a single week they may not be as good a general measure of the amount of part-time work for seasonal activities as for nonsessional activities.

Data on hours of work are not shown in this report for persons other than wage or salary workers because these data are less significant and less reliable than those for wage and salary workers. Employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers do not ordinarily follow regular schedules of work, and it is often difficult, especially for professional men working on their own account, to determine the number of hours devoted to their occupations or businesses during a week. Statistics on the hours of work of all employed persons (except on public emergency work) are given, by industry and sex, in the report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Industrial Characteristics."

Because of the general interest in the relationship of unpaid family farm laborers to the agricultural labor force, a special tabulation was made of the hours worked by persons in agriculture during the census week. The results (presented in tables 11 and 15) are useful as a measure of the contribution of unpaid family farm laborers to farm production. Since these data refer to a single week, and since farm work is obviously a seasonal activity, considerable care should be exercised in interpreting the statistics. This caution is particularly necessary because a large proportion of these persons is young persons, many of whom were attending school during the last week of March, or were restricted by inclement weather to a limited participation in work on the farm. An additional measure of the contribution of unpaid farm laborers, and one which should be used in conjunction with the data on hours worked, is provided by the data on months worked in 1929 (shown in tables 15 and 16).

MONTHS WORKED IN 1929

All persons 14 years old and over at the time of the census, except inmates of certain institutions, were asked to report the number of weeks worked in 1929 for pay or profit, including emergency work, or at unpaid family work. For periods of part-time work, the report was to be made in terms of equivalent full-time weeks. For example, a 12-week period of part-time work was assumed to be equivalent to a 1920-week period of full-time work. The groupings of months worked that are used in this report are based on their equivalents in terms of weeks worked as reported.

Number of months worked

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Without work in 1929</th>
<th>0 weeks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 3 months</td>
<td>1 to 10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>11 to 14 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 and 5 months</td>
<td>15 to 22 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 8 months</td>
<td>23 to 35 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 to 11 months</td>
<td>36 to 49 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>50 to 52 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This lack of precision was evidenced by a marked tendency for enumerators to report weeks worked in multiples of 4 weeks, indicating that they had determined the approximate amount of employment in terms of months, and multiplied the number of months by four instead of by and one-third. The class intervals were so chosen that the weekly equivalent of any given number of months would always fall in the same interval, whether the conversion was made by four or by four and one-third. The class intervals were 3, 4, 5, and 6 weeks. Thus, 3 months might be figured incorrectly as 30 weeks or correctly as 39 weeks, but both figures fall in the group 36 to 49 weeks, which is equivalent to 9 or 12 months. In the case of 12 months, however, since it was apparent that enumerators had seldom used 40 weeks as the equivalent of 12 months.
THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

The data on months worked provide an indication of the continuity of employment, and are helpful in the analysis of unemployment in the various occupations. The deviation from twelve in the number of months worked by a given group yields a measure of employment. Because of three complications, however, this measure is only approximate. In the first place, the number of months worked includes time on public emergency work, so that some of the persons reporting 12 months worked in variously unemployed during part or all of that year. In the second place, the figures do not take account of periods during which the persons were not in the labor force; for example, persons without work in 1929 include not only those who were unemployed during the whole year, but also some persons who were in the labor force at the time of the census but had not been in the labor force at any time in 1929. Finally, work not to be reported in terms of full-time weeks so that for part-time workers the number of months worked in 1929 is less than the number of months during which they had some employment.

Although these statistics are a better measure of unemployment than employment status in the census seek for occupations in which there is much part-time or casual employment, and for seasonal occupations, the number of months worked should be interpreted with care. Accurate reports were frequently unattainable for persons who worked intermittently at many separate times during the year. In many cases the information was obtained from the worker himself, but from a relative or other member of the household who may not have been able to report accurately the amount of employment in 1929. Moreover, the classifications according to employment status, class of worker, industry, etc., refer to the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, nearly three months after the calendar year to which the data on months worked refer. The number of persons who shifted from one classification to another during 1939 and early 1940, particularly during the months immediately prior to Great Britain’s declaration of war, may not have been great enough to distort the distribution by months worked for the major occupation and are therefore useful as a supplement to other comparisons with a relatively large number of persons who did not report duration of unemployment, care should be exercised in the interpretation of the data, since it is unsafe to assume that the periods of unemployment of the persons who reported were representative of the total.

The occupational distribution of the men and women employed in each industry, as well as the industrial distribution of the men and women employed in each occupation, is presented in these tables. The occupational distribution of the persons in a particular industry is shown in the designated column of this table; conversely, the industrial distribution of the persons in a particular occupation is shown in the designated line of this table. Both the occupation and the industry shown in this table refer to the persons who were employed during the census week. The occupation classification is in effect the same as that used in the other tables of this report, as explained in "Structure of the occupation classification," above. The organization that used in this table is the complete 1940 census industry list of 1,332 items. The data shown in table 19 are summarized in table 25, in terms of major occupation and industry groups. The figures in these tables are useful as an indication of the number of persons with unemployment by occupation who were in major occupation and industry groups. The figures in these tables are also useful in connection with vocational guidance studies, as the statistics reflect the broad occupational needs of each industry.

A special caution with respect to small numbers should be expressed with respect to the figures in table 19. Exceedingly small numbers, such as 20, 40, or 60, may usually be interpreted to mean that some few persons were actually engaged in the industries and occupations indicated. For occupations that are very unusual for certain industries, however, such small figures may represent undetected errors in the classification. Data based on tabulations of the complete census returns are shown in Part I or Volume III of the Reports on Population for the occupation-industry combinations indicated in table 19 by an asterisk (*), as well as for the totals for each occupation and industry.

Additional statistics on occupation by industry are presented in other 1940 census publications. Volume III of the Reports on Population gives, for each State and each city of 50,000 or more, the major occupation group of the men and women employed (except on public emergency work) in each of the 82 industry groups which comprise the intermediate industry list. The major occupation group distributions of employed wage or salary workers (except on public emergency work) and of wage or salary workers seeking work for each of the 132 industries are presented, for the United States and for regions, in the report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Industrial Characteristics."
### Table V. Major Occupation Group of Employed Persons (Excluding Emergency Work), by Major Industry Group and Sex, for the United States: March 1940

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Occupation Group and Sex</th>
<th>All Industries</th>
<th>Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing</th>
<th>Mining</th>
<th>Construction and Manufacturing</th>
<th>Wholesale and Retail Trade</th>
<th>Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate</th>
<th>Business and Personal Services</th>
<th>Amusement, Recreation, and Related Services</th>
<th>Professional, Technical, and Related Services</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Industries not classified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td>24,105,440</td>
<td>7,729,800</td>
<td>994,950</td>
<td>2,506,784</td>
<td>6,620,260</td>
<td>2,696,150</td>
<td>5,407,460</td>
<td>11,690,250</td>
<td>3,174,040</td>
<td>1,907,200</td>
<td>1,447,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and related</td>
<td>6,456,250</td>
<td>2,067,960</td>
<td>1,200,500</td>
<td>364,400</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proprietors, managers, and officials</td>
<td>4,080,740</td>
<td>1,691,870</td>
<td>499,950</td>
<td>306,784</td>
<td>499,400</td>
<td>499,400</td>
<td>499,400</td>
<td>499,400</td>
<td>499,400</td>
<td>499,400</td>
<td>499,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical, sales, and kindred workers</td>
<td>4,355,840</td>
<td>1,635,840</td>
<td>439,950</td>
<td>420,784</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government workers</td>
<td>4,260,750</td>
<td>1,600,750</td>
<td>400,950</td>
<td>400,784</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic service workers</td>
<td>4,355,840</td>
<td>1,635,840</td>
<td>439,950</td>
<td>420,784</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective service workers</td>
<td>670,800</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
<td>4,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm laborers and foremen</td>
<td>2,054,680</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers, except farm and mine</td>
<td>3,973,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
<td>3,703,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation not reported</td>
<td>3,833,000</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td>12,379,250</td>
<td>499,600</td>
<td>12,364</td>
<td>2,504,680</td>
<td>6,620,260</td>
<td>2,696,150</td>
<td>5,407,460</td>
<td>11,690,250</td>
<td>3,174,040</td>
<td>1,907,200</td>
<td>1,447,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and related</td>
<td>1,469,940</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proprietors, managers, and officers</td>
<td>154,130</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical, sales, and kindred workers</td>
<td>1,186,190</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government workers</td>
<td>1,961,880</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective service workers</td>
<td>1,054,880</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm laborers and foremen</td>
<td>1,054,880</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers, except farm and mine</td>
<td>106,400</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
<td>1,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation not reported</td>
<td>208,000</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table Notes:**
- The data presented is based on a 5-percent sample.
- The major occupation group is defined as the occupation classification used in the 1940 Census or the 1930 Census, or both, depending on the industry classification.
- The data includes all persons employed by governmental agencies.
- The figures for the industry classifications are likely to be more accurate than those for industry classifications involving complications like those mentioned above.

**Coverage of industry classifications:**
- "Domestic service" includes only those persons employed by private families.
- "Agriculture" includes only those persons employed in agriculture-related occupations.

**Difficulties in the classification of industries:**
- Problems in industry classification are general in similar to the problems of occupation classification. Certain industries may be classified as "industrial mining," while a similar return on a schedule for certain industries in Wisconsin may be classified as "mining." Likewise, the industry classification involves difficulties of the type just indicated are "box factories."
THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

Mechanics and repairmen, and bookkeepers, and persons engaged in agricultural activities other than strictly farm operation, such as cotton ginning, landscape gardening, operation of greenhouses, and farm services such as irrigation and spraying.

COMPARISON BETWEEN RESULTS OF SAMPLE TABULATIONS AND COMPLETE COUNT

The statistics shown in this report are based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the 1940 census returns, multiplied uniformly by 20. Exact agreement is not to be expected between these sample tabulations and tabulations of the complete returns. An analysis of the statistics based on tabulations of the five-percent sample of the population 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 all 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 counts. The purpose of the report will be to assist in evaluating the data that are published on the basis of samples.