

UNITED STATES SUMMARY

THE LABOR FORCE

INTRODUCTION

GENERAL

This summary, constituting Part I of Volume III of the Reports on Population, presents the basic characteristics of the labor force in the United States as a whole, as returned in the Sixteenth Decennial Census, taken in April 1940. The subjects included are employment status, class of worker, occupation, industry, wage or salary income in 1939, hours worked in the census week of March 24 to 30, 1940, months worked in 1939, duration of unemployment, and personal characteristics of the labor force: age, sex, race, and marital status. Detailed statistics on these subjects are presented here for the United States and for broad regions, and brief summary data for most subjects are shown by States and for large cities.

All of the characteristics of the labor force that are presented for the United States in the present summary (except marital status for male workers according to occupation) are presented for each State, and for each city of 250,000 or more, in the State sections which comprise the remaining parts of this volume. These State sections also give statistics on many of these subjects for cities of 100,000 to 250,000, and on some of the subjects for urban and rural areas of States. The material was first published in a series of State bulletins, each entitled "Population, Third Series, The Labor Force." These bulletins, with a few minor corrections, have been assembled and bound together as sections of the present volume.

Related reports.—Additional labor force statistics obtained in the 1940 census are given in other publications, which are described below:

a. Condensed labor force statistics for small areas are given in Volume II of the Sixteenth Census Reports on Population, entitled "Characteristics of the Population" and comprising the second series of Population bulletins for States. In that volume may be found data on employment status of persons 14 years old and over, and class of worker, major occupation group, and industry group for employed persons, as well as general characteristics of the population, for States, all urban places, counties, and principal metropolitan districts.

b. Statistics on employment status by more detailed age classes, and a classification of employed workers 14 to 24 years old by school attendance, are presented for States and cities of 100,000 or more in Volume IV, entitled "Characteristics by Age - Marital Status, Relationship, Education, and Citizenship" and comprising the fourth series of Population bulletins for States.

c. Supplementary information on the subjects covered by the present summary, and additional statistics on subjects not treated here, are to be given in a series of publications under the general title, "The Labor Force - Sample Statistics." The specific titles of these reports and a brief summary of the subjects covered are given below.¹

Employment and Personal Characteristics: Detailed figures on characteristics of the labor force according to age, employment status, class of worker, hours worked during the census week, months worked in 1939, duration of unemployment, marital status, and relationship to household head, for the United States and for regions.

Occupational Characteristics: Additional statistics on the occupational characteristics of the labor force, according to education, class of worker, hours worked in the census

week, months worked in 1939, and other characteristics, for the United States and for regions; and the occupational structure of industries, showing a detailed occupation classification of employed workers in each industry for the United States.

Industrial Characteristics: Industrial characteristics of the labor force, by citizenship status and other characteristics, for the United States and for regions.

Usual Occupation: Usual occupations of persons in the labor force (as contrasted to data on present or last occupation presented in this volume) and usual occupations of persons not in the labor force, including data for regions, States, and large cities.

Wage or Salary Income in 1939: Statistics on wage or salary income and receipt of other income in 1939 for wage or salary workers by months worked in 1939, industry, age, and other characteristics, for other persons in the labor force, and for persons not in the labor force, for the United States, geographic divisions, States, and large cities.

Employment and Family Characteristics of Women: Labor force status of women by marital status and number of children according to age, education, and other personal and family characteristics, for the United States, and regions, and for metropolitan districts of 100,000 or more.

Another report, based on sample tabulations, presents 1940 data pertinent to the problem of potential labor supply, and appears under the title indicated below.

Characteristics of Persons Not in the Labor Force:

Characteristics of persons not in the labor force, including sex, age, color, marital status, household relationship, and data on previous employment of persons not in the labor force, with an analysis of potential labor supply, for the United States and regions.

d. Statistics for families are to appear in other reports, which are to include data on family wage or salary income in 1939, number and employment status of workers in the family, employment status of head, wife, and other family members, and major occupation group of family head, by family characteristics.

Geographic areas.—Statistics are presented in this summary for continental United States as a whole, for four broad regions (the Northeastern States, the North Central States, the South, and the West), for the nine geographic divisions, for individual States, and for cities of 100,000 or more.

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 the characteristics of the labor force, and to provide an area classification similar to that used in the publications based on the five-percent sample tabulations. The Northeastern States comprise the New England and Middle Atlantic Divisions; the North Central States comprise the East North Central and West North Central Divisions; the South comprises the South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central Divisions; and the West includes the Mountain and Pacific Divisions.

Arrangement of tables.—The detailed tables in this summary are arranged in seven groups according to subjects:

1. Employment status and class of worker.—Tables 1 to 9 present data on the size of the labor force and its distribution by employment status, according to class of worker and personal characteristics (sex, age, race, and marital status), for the United States and for regions. They include also comparative data for gainful workers from previous censuses. Tables 10 to 40 give summaries by States of the 1940 data on employment status, class of worker, and personal characteristics of the labor force, and of gainful

¹ At the time this publication goes to press (early in 1943) only a part of the reports referred to in this paragraph have been printed. The remainder are still in various stages of completion and it is possible that minor changes may be made before publication.

worker data from previous censuses; and tables 41 to 57 present similar summaries for cities of 100,000 or more.

2. Occupation.—Tables 58 to 70 show the occupational distribution of each employment status group, in combination with personal characteristics, for the United States and regions. No summaries of occupation statistics for States and cities are included in this bulletin. Data on major occupation groups for employed workers are summarized for States and cities of 100,000 or more in the United States Summary section of volume II, part 1, of the Sixteenth Decennial Census Reports on Population.

3. Wage or salary income in 1939.—In tables 71 to 73, distributions by wage or salary income in 1939 are given for the experienced labor force by employment status and occupation, for the United States and for regions.

4. Industry.—Tables 74 to 84 present the industrial classification of employed workers and experienced workers seeking work, for the United States and regions, by class of worker, major occupation group, and personal characteristics.

5. Hours worked in the week of March 24 to 30, 1940.—Tables 85 to 87 show the number of hours worked during the census week by employed wage or salary workers, by industry, for the United States and regions.

6. Months worked in 1939.—In tables 88 to 90 wage or salary workers are classified according to amount of employment in the year 1939; by industry, for the United States and regions.

7. Duration of unemployment.—Tables 91 and 92 present data on duration of unemployment for wage or salary workers seeking work, by industry, for the United States. A summary by States of duration of unemployment for wage or salary workers seeking work appears in tables 93 to 96.

Population schedule and instructions to enumerators.—The schedule used in enumerating the population in the 1940 census is reproduced in the Appendix, with a note inserted to indicate the method of selecting the 5-percent sample of the population who were also asked the supplemental questions in columns 35 to 50 of the schedule.

The census enumerators were supplied with printed instructions as to the method of filling out the schedule and as to the method of determining what persons should be enumerated in their respective districts. These instructions are also reproduced in the Appendix.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural areas.—In several of the tables, figures are shown separately for urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm areas. 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. In addition, certain densely populated townships or other civil divisions, not incorporated as municipalities, have been classified as urban under special rules. 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, which comprises the remaining rural population.

Personal characteristics.—The labor force statistics in this summary are cross-classified with a number of personal characteristics of workers which are important in the economic analysis of the labor market. A classification by sex appears in all of the tables, and the statistics on most of the subjects are presented separately for nonwhites in the South. In addition, classifications by race, by age, and by marital status are presented in a number of the tables.

Color or race.—Because of the great differences between whites and nonwhites in economic status, occupational distribution, and employment status, most of the tables for the South include separate statistics for nonwhites, that is, for the total of Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and other nonwhite races. Ninety-nine percent of the nonwhite population in the South consists of Negroes. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who were not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race were returned as white in 1940. Such persons were designated Mexican in 1930 (but not in prior censuses), and were included in the general class of "Other races." The 1930 data for whites and nonwhites published in this bulletin have been adjusted to conform to the 1940 definition.

Detailed statistics on the characteristics of the nonwhite labor force were not tabulated for the regions other than the South because of their relatively small nonwhite population. Consequently the detailed tables for the United States as a whole are not presented separately for nonwhites in this summary. United States statistics for nonwhites will, however, be presented in the publications based on five-percent sample tabulations.

In addition to the detailed statistics for nonwhites in the South, data on employment status, occupation, and industry are presented in this summary for the United States and for each of the four regions, for three racial groups: White, Negro, and "Other races." (See tables 4, 62, 63, 64, 76, and 77.) Distributions of whites and Negroes by employment status are also presented for States and cities of 100,000 or more (tables 22 to 25 and 44 to 47).

Age and sex.—The age classification is based on age of the person at his last birthday before April 1, 1940, that is, age in completed years. In the 1940 census tabulations the category "age unknown" has been eliminated. When the age of a person was not reported, it was estimated on the basis of other information on the population schedules, such as marital status, school attendance, employment status, age of other members in the family, etc. The group "age unknown" for the earlier censuses is always included in the summary total "14 years and over" ("15 years and over" in table 9), since it is likely that most of the persons for whom age was not reported were in age classes above this limit.

The statistics in this summary show the extent to which men and women in various age classes participated in the labor market at the time of the census, the occupations and industries to which workers in various sex and age groups were attached, and variations in the incidence of unemployment according to sex and age. The statistics on labor-market participation for women, young persons, and the aged are especially useful in the study of problems of war labor supply, and the data on occupational distribution and unemployment for these groups are significant in connection with a wide variety of war and post-war problems of training, vocational guidance, unemployment, and social insurance.

Data on employment status by age and sex are presented in table 5, and in table 8 the 1940 labor-force data and gainful worker data for 1930, 1920, 1910, and 1900 are shown by age and sex. The occupation distribution of employed workers and experienced workers seeking work, by sex and age, is presented in tables 65 and 66, and in tables 80 and 81 similar statistics are given by industry.

Because of the rapid shifts in employment status and occupational distribution that occur at ages under 25 years, a finer age grouping is presented for persons in this age range than for other persons. In the tables on occupation by age and sex (tables 65 and 66), data are presented separately for persons 14, 15, 16 and 17 combined, 18 and 19 combined, and 20 to 24 years old; in the tables on employment status (table 5) and industry (tables 80 and 81) by sex and age, the same age intervals are used except that the single years 14 and 15 are combined. For ages between 55 and 64 years, a five-year age grouping is used in order to show the shifts in industry and employment status during the period when many workers retire. For the remainder of the age scale, ten-year age groups are shown in this summary. Statistics on employment status by single years of age, and data on occupations and industries by five-year age groups, will be given in the publications based on five-percent sample tabulations.

Marital status.—In the classification by marital status, four groups are shown: Single; married, spouse present; married, spouse absent; and widowed or divorced. The small group "married, spouse absent," consists of married persons whose spouses were not living in the same household at the time of the census, such as persons whose families had been broken by separation (often preceding divorce), immigrants whose husbands or wives were left abroad, husbands or wives of persons enumerated as inmates of institutions, and other married persons whose usual place of residence was not the same as that of their wives or husbands, such as soldiers, sailors, men in labor camps, etc., and their wives. The few persons whose marital status was not reported and could not be determined from the evidence given on the schedules were classified as single.

Statistics on marital status of males and females in the labor force, by age and employment status, are presented in table 6, and in tables 67 and 68 similar data are given for employed workers and for experienced workers seeking work, by occupation. The data on marital status for women are of central importance in the analysis of the potential female labor supply, since home responsibilities are among the chief factors limiting the number of women in the labor force and their occupational distribution. The classification by marital status for males of military age is also important in war-manpower analysis, as an indication of the number of workers in each occupation who may be subject to military duty. For this reason statistics on marital status of males by occupation are included in this summary, although they are not presented in

parts 2, 3, and 4 (or in the third series Population bulletins for the various States).

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 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. The latter group includes persons reported as engaged in own home housework, those in school, those unable to work, all inmates of penal and mental institutions and homes 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.

The various categories of persons in the labor force and not in the labor force during the census week are summarized for the United States, by sex, in table I. The employment status classes of persons in the labor force, to whom the statistics in this summary refer, are defined below.

Table I. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1940

EMPLOYMENT STATUS	Total	Male	Female	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
				Total	Male	Female
Total population (all ages).....	131,669,275	66,061,592	65,607,683	-	-	-
Persons 14 and over.....	101,102,924	50,553,748	50,549,176	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force.....	52,789,499	26,788,240	26,001,259	52.2	79.0	25.4
Employed (exo. emerg. work).....	45,166,088	23,027,905	22,138,183	44.7	67.3	22.0
At work.....	44,045,137	22,222,418	21,822,719	43.6	65.7	21.4
With a job but not at work.....	1,120,946	505,487	615,459	1.1	1.6	0.6
On public emergency work.....	2,529,606	1,278,094	1,251,512	2.5	4.1	0.9
Seeking work.....	5,093,810	3,044,241	2,049,569	5.0	7.6	2.5
Experienced workers.....	4,326,469	2,281,881	2,044,588	4.3	6.7	1.9
New workers.....	767,341	462,360	304,981	0.8	0.9	0.6
Not in labor force.....	48,313,425	24,273,352	24,040,073	47.8	21.0	74.6
Engaged in own home housework.....	28,981,869	14,285,125	14,696,744	28.5	0.5	56.7
In school.....	9,013,342	4,593,630	4,419,712	8.9	9.1	8.7
Unable to work.....	5,268,727	2,966,225	2,302,502	5.2	5.9	4.6
In institutions.....	1,176,998	567,474	609,524	1.2	1.5	0.8
Other and not reported.....	3,922,494	2,015,054	1,907,440	3.9	4.0	3.8

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

Persons with a job but not at work were classified as employed because the strict definition of the "With a job" category, and the fact that these persons were reported as not seeking work, tended to eliminate all except those who would shortly return to the employment from which they were temporarily absent. Of the total persons employed (except on public emergency work) in the United States, 97.5 percent were at work during the census week, and 2.5 percent were reported as having a job but not at work. In some industries, however, the proportion of employed wage or salary workers who were not at work during the census week was substantial. It was relatively high in seasonal industries and in industries in which large-scale lay-offs had occurred shortly before the time of the census. The number of persons with a job but not at work should therefore be taken into account in an analysis of time lost from work. In table 84 the number of wage or salary workers at work and the number with a job but not at work, by industry, are presented for the United States.

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

In the interpretation of the data for persons on public emergency work, allowance must be made for the misclassification in the census returns of considerable numbers of public emergency workers. The number of persons reported in the census as on public emergency work in the United States was 2,529,606, whereas the number recorded on the pay rolls of the Federal emergency work agencies at about the time of the census was 2,906,196 excluding the NYA Student Work Program, and 3,377,978 including that program. The amount of misclassification varied greatly from State to State. Among the factors that were responsible for the misclassification were confusion on the part of the enumerators and respondents regarding the classification of certain types of public emergency work, and reluctance on the part of some persons to report that they were on emergency work.

The most common type of misclassification was the reporting of emergency workers as "at work" rather than as "on public emergency work." Persons on the NYA Student Work Program were very frequently returned as in school and not in the labor force. There is also evidence that a considerable number of emergency workers were classified as seeking work. The amount of misclassification was somewhat reduced by careful editing of the schedules, but considerable numbers remain improperly classified, especially in the categories: Employed, seeking work, and in school.

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 1 month or more. Persons seeking work for whom a report on work experience was lacking were classified as experienced workers.

Experienced labor force.— Some of the tables in this summary present data for the experienced labor force, which includes employed persons, persons on public emergency work, and persons seeking work other than new workers.

Number of unemployed.— The total number of unemployed, as usually defined, includes (1) persons seeking work and without any form of public or private employment, and (2) those on public emergency work programs established to provide jobs for the unemployed. Because of the misclassification of public emergency workers, the census total of these two groups understates the amount of unemployment. More satisfactory figures can be obtained by adding to the census figures for persons seeking work, the number of persons on pay rolls of the Federal emergency work agencies at the time of the census.

This procedure yields a total of 8 million unemployed persons in the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, if persons on the NYA Student Work Program are excluded, or 8,471,788 unemployed if the persons on that program are regarded as unemployed.

These unemployment figures tend to be understated by the number of persons on State or local emergency work programs (for which adequate statistics could not be obtained), and by the number of unemployed persons among those whose employment status was not reported. They tend to be overstated to the extent that some of the agency pay-roll figures apply to a period longer than a single week, and to the extent that workers on Federal emergency work projects were reported as seeking work. The available evidence on the importance of these factors indicates that their net effect upon the total volume of unemployment was small.

Table II presents data on the number of persons on the pay rolls of the Federal emergency work agencies in each State at the time of the census, and estimates of unemployment by States similar to those presented above for the United States.

Difficulties in classifying women, children, and aged persons.— In the interpretation of the data on labor-market participation and unemployment according to sex and age, certain considerations bearing upon the employment-status classification of women, children, and aged persons should be borne in mind. It is comparatively difficult to obtain a reliable employment-status classification for women because most of them are normally engaged at least to some extent in home housework, though they may be working also for pay or profit or at unpaid family work. Women with part-time jobs may therefore have been reported in some cases as engaged in own home housework and not in the labor force, through oversight on the part of enumerators and respondents. Likewise, some women who had lost their jobs and were keeping house while looking for another employment opportunity may have been classified as engaged in home housework instead of seeking work. The difficulty in classification was especially great in rural-farm areas, where it is very often hard to distinguish between work for pay or profit or unpaid family work on the one hand, and incidental farm chores and home housework on the other.

THE LABOR FORCE

Table II. NUMBER OF PERSONS UNEMPLOYED, BY STATES: MARCH 24-30, 1940

STATE	Total in labor force	PERSONS SEEKING WORK		PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORKERS ON PAYROLL OF FEDERAL AGENCIES				TOTAL UNEMPLOYED			
		Number	Percent of labor force	Excluding NYA Student Work Program		Including NYA Student Work Program		Excluding NYA Student Work Program		Including NYA Student Work Program	
				Number ¹	Percent of labor force	Number ¹	Percent of labor force	Number ²	Percent of labor force	Number ²	Percent of labor force
United States.....	52,789,499	5,093,810	9.6	2,906,196	5.5	3,377,978	6.4	8,000,006	15.2	8,471,788	16.0
NEW ENGLAND:											
Maine.....	330,421	39,078	11.8	14,768	4.5	16,852	5.1	58,841	16.3	55,930	15.9
New Hampshire.....	206,919	21,253	10.3	11,108	5.4	12,286	5.9	32,361	15.6	38,539	16.2
Vermont.....	141,407	10,127	7.2	7,125	5.0	8,349	5.9	17,252	12.2	18,476	13.1
Massachusetts.....	1,844,260	206,082	11.2	122,156	36.6	185,214	7.3	328,238	17.8	341,296	18.5
Rhode Island.....	321,644	39,642	12.3	16,272	5.1	18,208	5.7	55,914	17.4	57,850	18.0
Connecticut.....	770,003	67,237	8.7	28,021	3.4	29,299	3.8	93,258	12.1	96,536	12.5
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:											
New York.....	5,962,199	816,469	13.7	199,093	3.3	241,944	4.1	1,015,562	17.0	1,058,413	17.8
New Jersey.....	1,897,340	210,870	11.4	92,601	5.0	103,288	5.6	303,471	16.3	314,258	16.9
Pennsylvania.....	3,966,000	575,462	14.4	189,511	4.8	220,144	5.6	764,973	19.2	798,606	20.0
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:											
Ohio.....	2,765,687	262,127	9.5	176,610	36.4	199,342	7.2	438,737	15.9	461,469	16.7
Indiana.....	1,331,378	106,552	8.0	78,026	5.9	90,562	6.8	184,578	13.9	197,114	14.8
Illinois.....	3,360,823	305,107	9.1	214,253	36.4	229,951	7.1	519,360	15.5	545,058	16.2
Michigan.....	2,125,877	198,877	9.4	118,869	35.3	130,331	6.1	312,246	14.7	329,208	15.5
Wisconsin.....	1,227,552	108,207	8.4	67,711	5.5	80,953	6.6	170,918	13.9	184,160	15.0
WEST NORTH CENTRAL:											
Minnesota.....	1,101,454	109,869	10.0	64,400	35.8	74,711	36.8	174,269	15.8	184,580	16.8
Iowa.....	937,869	61,618	6.4	38,362	34.0	46,521	34.9	99,980	10.4	108,139	11.8
Missouri.....	1,521,036	129,443	8.5	106,823	7.0	120,023	7.9	235,966	15.5	249,456	16.4
North Dakota.....	235,681	17,039	7.2	20,068	8.5	25,362	10.8	37,107	15.7	42,401	18.0
South Dakota.....	289,825	15,413	6.4	21,336	8.9	25,004	11.7	36,749	15.3	43,417	18.1
Nebraska.....	501,013	39,835	6.8	36,878	7.3	42,748	8.5	70,468	14.1	76,643	15.3
Kansas.....	669,815	48,773	7.3	37,990	35.7	47,973	37.2	86,765	13.0	96,748	14.4
SOUTH ATLANTIC:											
Delaware.....	114,260	8,711	7.6	3,927	3.4	4,378	3.8	12,638	11.1	13,089	11.5
Maryland.....	767,091	56,958	7.4	24,201	3.2	28,082	3.7	81,159	10.6	85,040	11.1
District of Columbia.....	844,033	24,716	2.9	15,721	4.6	17,401	5.1	40,437	11.8	42,117	12.2
Virginia.....	1,081,289	65,912	6.4	43,363	4.2	51,865	5.0	109,275	10.6	117,797	11.4
West Virginia.....	634,957	71,415	11.2	51,308	8.1	58,837	9.3	128,723	19.3	130,302	20.5
North Carolina.....	1,333,773	72,257	5.4	70,967	5.3	82,615	6.2	143,224	10.7	154,872	11.6
South Carolina.....	730,780	28,879	4.0	54,466	7.5	64,640	8.8	83,345	11.4	98,519	12.8
Georgia.....	1,225,705	64,014	5.3	65,476	5.3	77,971	6.4	130,290	10.6	142,785	11.6
Florida.....	786,804	59,618	7.6	52,293	6.6	57,950	7.4	111,911	14.2	117,568	14.9
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:											
Kentucky.....	998,700	96,311	9.6	60,812	6.1	70,740	7.1	157,123	15.7	167,051	16.7
Tennessee.....	1,071,904	78,456	7.3	60,365	5.6	71,579	6.7	138,821	13.0	150,935	14.0
Alabama.....	1,017,188	67,434	6.6	64,221	6.3	75,688	7.4	131,715	12.9	143,062	14.1
Mississippi.....	808,462	39,025	4.8	53,681	6.6	62,163	7.7	92,705	11.5	101,188	12.5
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:											
Arkansas.....	678,859	47,118	6.9	57,318	8.4	65,415	9.6	104,436	15.4	112,533	16.6
Louisiana.....	864,164	71,450	8.1	47,768	5.4	55,709	6.3	119,218	13.5	127,169	14.4
Oklahoma.....	804,582	82,234	10.2	71,386	8.9	85,805	10.7	153,620	19.1	168,039	20.9
Texas.....	2,454,924	199,151	8.1	139,257	5.7	161,885	6.6	338,408	13.8	361,036	14.7
MOUNTAIN:											
Montana.....	224,994	23,091	10.3	19,933	8.9	23,238	10.3	43,024	19.1	46,329	20.6
Idaho.....	191,186	19,523	10.2	15,896	8.2	18,208	9.5	35,119	18.4	37,731	19.7
Wyoming.....	100,409	8,724	8.7	6,272	6.2	7,121	7.1	14,596	14.9	15,845	15.8
Colorado.....	421,493	39,950	9.5	35,835	8.5	41,501	9.8	75,636	18.0	81,451	19.3
New Mexico.....	177,908	21,478	12.1	19,084	10.7	21,119	11.9	40,557	22.8	42,592	23.9
Arizona.....	180,247	19,746	11.0	13,518	7.5	15,627	8.7	33,264	18.5	35,375	19.6
Utah.....	181,244	18,983	10.1	15,685	8.6	20,076	11.1	34,018	18.8	36,459	21.2
Nevada.....	47,978	4,288	8.9	3,111	6.5	3,450	7.2	7,394	15.4	7,733	16.1
PACIFIC:											
Washington.....	716,501	70,883	9.9	44,398	6.2	51,181	7.1	115,281	16.1	122,064	17.0
Oregon.....	453,382	44,076	9.7	21,637	4.8	25,717	5.7	65,713	14.5	69,793	15.4
California.....	2,948,427	311,077	10.6	120,672	4.1	142,842	4.8	341,749	11.6	353,919	12.4

¹ The total number of public emergency workers, as indicated in official reports of the Federal agencies, includes the following: 2,271,130 persons assigned to WPA-financed projects on March 27, 1940; 299,767 persons in CCC Camps during March 1940 (average number during the month); 335,239 persons on the NYA Out-of-School Work Program and 471,782 persons on the NYA Student Work Program during March 1940 (number of different persons during the month). Two offsetting factors may be noted in connection with the number of public emergency workers presented above. Persons assigned to State and local work relief activities would have been included in the total, if satisfactory data had been available. The actual total of such persons was probably between 75,000 and 150,000. The increase in the total unemployed which would result from the inclusion of a specific allowance for State and local programs would be largely offset by the deduction that would have to be made from the official Federal agency figures to make them apply uniformly to the census week. The net effect of such adjustments, if they were feasible, would vary considerably from State to State, however, because of the concentration of State and local work relief activities in a few States.

² These figures are the sum of the number of persons seeking work, as indicated by the census data, and the number of public emergency workers indicated in the official reports of the Federal agencies.

³ The omission of persons on State and local work relief should be particularly noted in these States, since available evidence indicates that there may have been a considerable number of such persons. It is believed that the number was not large enough in most States to have any significant effect upon the estimated volume of unemployment.

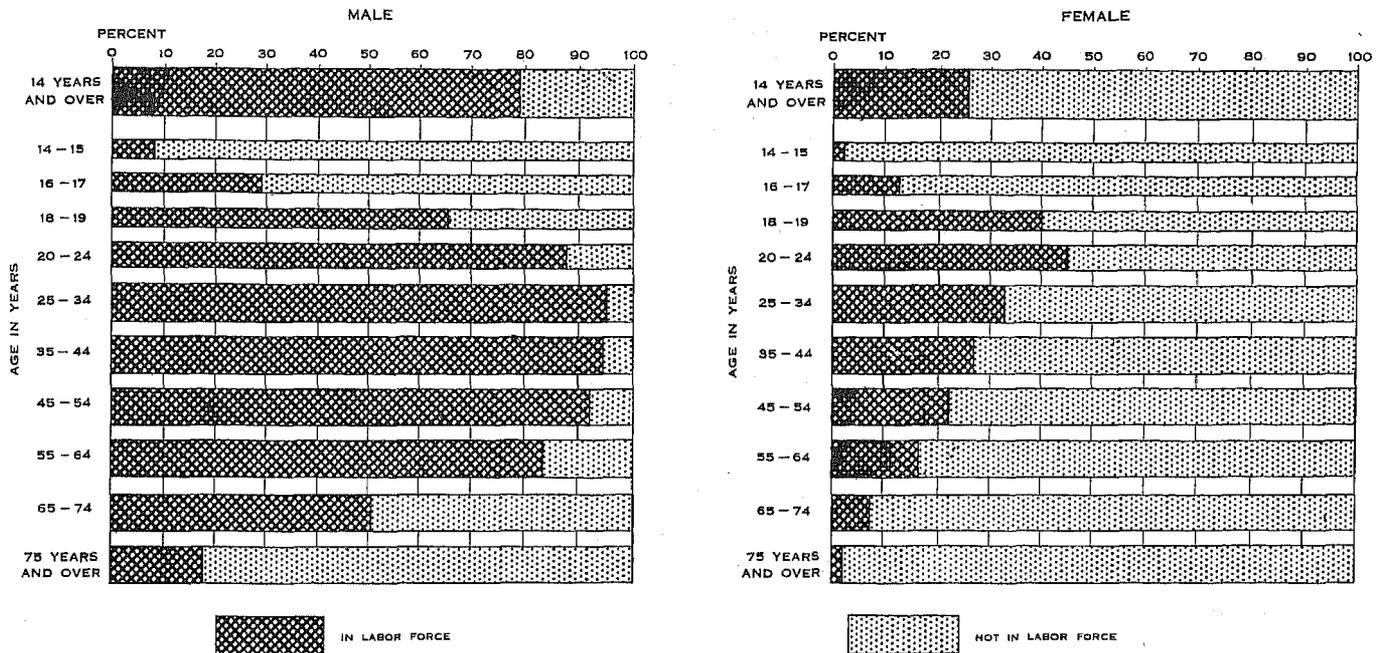
For similar reasons, the employment status classification for persons of school age tends to be less reliable than for older persons. Many students working part time after school hours were probably reported as in school and not in the labor force, and it was doubtless difficult in many cases to determine whether a person attending school was also seeking work. A very large proportion of the youths on the NYA Student Work Program were reported as in school instead of on public emergency work. (See "On Public Emergency Work," above.) On the other hand, a considerable number of students in farming areas who performed only incidental farm chores after school may have been included erroneously in the labor force as unpaid family workers.

For persons over 65 years of age, and to some extent for those 55 to 64 years old, the statistics on employment status

are less reliable and less meaningful than for younger persons. In these age classes it is difficult to draw the line between able-bodied persons seeking work and disabled and 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. Many of these prematurely retired workers should be considered as part of the nation's potential labor supply in periods of labor shortage, although they were not actively seeking work at the time of the 1940 census.

Diagram 1 shows the proportion of males and females in each age group who were in the labor force at the time of the 1940 census.

Diagram 1.—PERCENTAGE OF MALES AND FEMALES 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER IN THE LABOR FORCE, BY AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1940



SOURCE: TABLE 8

Persons for whom employment status was not reported.—The category, "Employment status not reported," includes two groups: (a) Persons reported as not in the labor force but not assigned to any specific category, who constituted about one-fifth of the 2,000,000 persons for whom employment status was not reported; and (b) those for whom enumerators did not obtain enough information to determine whether they were 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 the 1940 census reports, because most of the persons in the latter group were in classes of the population in which the proportion in the labor force is low.

Of the group for whom enumerators did not obtain enough information to determine their labor force status, 40 percent were attending school, 10 percent were 65 years old and over, and another 20 percent were married women living with their husbands; only 10 percent were men between the ages of 25 and 64. The majority of the group would probably have been classified as in school or engaged in own home housework if full information had been obtained. In many cases the failure to obtain the answers to the employment status questions was probably due to the enumerator's belief that the questions were not applicable to students, housewives, and aged persons.

On the basis of this evidence, it is probable that not more than 500,000 of the persons for whom employment status was not reported would have been classified as in the labor force if full information had been obtained.

Data on age, sex, color, marital status, household relationship, and months worked in 1939 for persons for whom employment status was not reported are presented in the report entitled, "Characteristics of Persons Not in the Labor Force," based on 5-percent sample tabulations (see "Related reports," above).

Comparison of 1940 data on the labor force 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 1930 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. The gainful worker statistics were obtained by means of questions regarding occupation rather than employment status. "Gainful workers" were persons reported as having a gainful occupation, that is, an occupation in which they earned money or a money equivalent, or in which they assisted in the production of marketable goods, regardless of whether they were working or seeking work 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, and includes only persons who were at work, with a job, seeking work, or on public emergency work in that week. The following are the most important types of

persons for whom the 1940 labor force classification differed from the gainful worker classification used in previous censuses:

a. Seasonal workers.—Seasonal workers who were neither working nor seeking work at the time of the census were not included in the 1940 labor force. Such persons were counted as gainful workers in 1930 and earlier years if they reported an occupation.

b. New workers.—Persons without previous work experience seeking work during the census week, that is, new workers, were included in the 1940 labor force; such persons were probably for the most part not counted as gainful workers in earlier censuses. In 1930, however, the number of new workers was probably much smaller than at the time of the 1940 census.

c. Retired and disabled persons.—Persons unable to work and retired workers no longer working or seeking work were excluded from the labor force in the 1940 census. In earlier censuses such persons frequently reported their former occupations and were counted as gainful workers.

d. Inmates of institutions.—In the 1940 census all inmates of penal and mental institutions and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy were excluded from the labor force, regardless of their activity during the census week. In previous censuses inmates of these institutions were reported as gainful workers if they performed regular work in the institutions.

The comparison of the 1940 figures with those from earlier censuses is affected also by the fact that some persons who were actually working or seeking work at the time of the 1940 census were not counted as in the labor force because they failed to answer the employment status questions; and in earlier censuses many persons who were actually gainful workers were omitted from the figures because they failed to report their occupations.

These differences probably do not seriously affect the comparison of the total labor force in 1940 with the total number of gainful workers in 1930 and earlier years, since the groups classified as in the labor force but not counted as gainful workers at least partly offset the groups in which the opposite difference occurred. For particular age and sex classes of the population, however, the number returned as in the labor force in 1940 may have been far different from the number who would have been counted as gainful workers if the 1930 procedure had been used.

The labor force in 1940 represented 52.2 percent of the population 14 years old and over; the corresponding proportion for gainful workers in 1930 was 54.5 percent (table III). For males, the 1940 percentages in the labor force were less than

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the 1930 gainful worker percentages in all of the age classes, but especially in the groups 14 to 19 years old and 55 years old and over. For females, on the other hand, the 1940 percentages were below those for 1930 only in the age groups under 20 years and over 65 years. Among women from 20 to 64 years of age, the percentages in the labor force in 1940 were greater than the percentages who were gainful workers in 1930. These differences between the 1930 and 1940 proportions of workers in the various sex and age groups are in accord with the economic and social trends during the decade. The decreasing proportions of workers among youths and aged persons are associated with the prolongation of schooling and extension of child-labor and child-welfare legislation, and with earlier retirement for aged persons, made possible by the social security program. The rising proportions of workers among women 20 to 64 years old are consistent with the trend toward increased employment of women which has continued for at least half a century. Nevertheless, the pattern of changes between 1930 and 1940 for various sex and age groups may have been greatly influenced by the differences in the questions and definitions used in the two enumerations. These differences probably affected women, children, and the aged more than men between the ages of 20 and 64.

Table III. PERCENT OF POPULATION IN THE LABOR FORCE, 1940, AND PERCENT WHO WERE GAINFUL WORKERS, 1930, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

[1930 figures for total 14 years old and over include unknown age. A plus sign (+) indicates that the 1940 percentage is greater than, and a minus sign (-) that it is less than, the percentage for 1930]

AGE	TOTAL			MALE			FEMALE		
	1940	1930	Difference	1940	1930	Difference	1940	1930	Difference
Total, 14 and over..	52.2	54.5	-2.3	79.0	84.1	-5.1	25.4	24.3	+1.1
14 and 15 years.....	5.2	9.2	-4.0	8.0	12.6	-4.6	2.2	5.8	-3.6
16 and 17 years.....	21.0	31.7	-10.7	29.0	41.2	-12.2	12.9	22.1	-9.2
18 and 19 years.....	52.7	55.3	-2.6	65.6	70.7	-5.1	40.0	40.5	-0.5
20 to 24 years.....	56.2	55.7	+0.5	88.0	89.9	-1.9	45.1	42.4	+2.7
25 to 34 years.....	63.6	62.4	+1.2	95.2	97.3	-2.1	32.9	27.6	+5.1
35 to 44 years.....	60.8	61.1	-0.3	94.7	97.6	-2.9	26.9	22.6	+4.3
45 to 54 years.....	58.0	60.2	-2.2	92.1	95.5	-3.4	22.1	20.4	+1.7
55 to 64 years.....	50.9	54.7	-3.8	83.8	90.2	-6.4	16.4	15.1	+1.3
65 to 74 years.....	29.0	39.6	-10.6	50.8	63.2	-12.4	7.5	9.8	-2.3
75 and over.....	9.5	17.5	-8.0	17.8	32.3	-14.5	2.1	4.0	-1.9

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 13 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. The statistics shown in this summary for earlier censuses have been adjusted to exclude those 10 to 13 years old.

Changes in census dates 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 15, and in 1920, January 1; in both 1930 and 1940, the census date was April 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.

In the Census of 1930, an employment status classification was obtained, consisting of seven unemployment classes for gainful workers who were not at work on the last regular working day preceding the enumerator's visit. Inasmuch as these classes are not comparable with the employment status categories of the labor force used in the 1940 census, the 1930 data on unemployment are not shown in this summary.

Class of worker.—A classification of the experienced labor force according to class of worker is given in several tables. These tables show the numbers of wage or salary workers, subdivided into private and government workers; of employers and own-account workers; and of unpaid family workers. Although a similar classification (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 subclassification 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.

For employed workers and for persons on public emergency work, the classification by class of worker refers to their current work or job during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. For experienced workers seeking work it refers to the last job of 1 month or more. The composition of each category is described below:

Wage or salary workers.—This class consists of persons who, in their current or last job, worked as employees for wages or salaries (in cash or kind). It includes not only factory operatives, laborers, clerks, etc., who worked for wages, but also persons working for tips or for room and board, salesmen and other employees working for commissions, and salaried business managers, corporation executives, and government officials. In some of the tables this group is 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 jobs were on public emergency work are classified as government workers.

In the classification of government workers by industry, which is presented in table 78, small numbers of government workers are sometimes shown as engaged in industries that are not ordinarily carried on by governmental agencies. For some of these workers the class of worker report or the industry classification may have been in error. (See "Reliability of categories with small numbers," below.) In some industries (e.g., "Apparel and accessories" and "Miscellaneous fabricated textile products"), most of the government workers seeking work were persons whose last employment was on public emergency work projects. In "Domestic service" and "Legal, engineering, and miscellaneous professional services," the only government workers were persons whose last employment was on public emergency work projects, since these industries include no government workers other than those on emergency work.

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

Enumerators were instructed to classify as employers persons who employed one or more wage or salary workers in their business enterprises, and to return as own-account workers those who employed no helpers. Examination of the returns revealed, however, that many enumerators had failed to distinguish properly between these two groups, and, therefore, the two categories are combined.

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. In volume II (or in the second series Population bulletins) the number of employed workers (except those on public emergency work) for whom class of worker could not be determined was shown separately for each State, city, and county. In the entire United States the number of employed persons for whom class of worker could not be determined was 239,108, or 0.5 percent of the total employed.

The class-of-worker composition of the labor force is pertinent to unemployment analysis because the risk of complete unemployment is far greater for wage or salary workers than for employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers. The latter class of workers become totally unemployed only when they (or their relatives operating the family enterprise) are forced out of business. Only 5.2 percent of the experienced workers seeking work at the time of the census were employers and own-account workers and only 0.5 percent were unpaid family workers, whereas 21.6 percent of the employed workers were employers and own-account workers, and 3.2 percent were unpaid family workers (table IV). The comparative immunity of self-employed workers to total unemployment does not necessarily mean that their economic situation is favorable since they may make very small gains or even suffer heavy losses while they remain in business.

INTRODUCTION

Table IV. CLASS OF WORKER OF PERSONS IN THE LABOR FORCE, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1940

EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND CLASS OF WORKER	TOTAL				MALE				FEMALE			
	United States	Urban	Rural-nonfarm	Rural-farm	United States	Urban	Rural-nonfarm	Rural-farm	United States	Urban	Rural-nonfarm	Rural-farm
In labor force.....	52,789,499	32,613,669	9,689,468	10,486,362	39,944,240	23,007,468	7,657,546	9,279,236	12,845,259	9,606,211	2,031,922	1,207,186
Experienced labor force.....	52,022,158	32,056,979	9,544,577	10,420,602	39,481,680	22,685,680	7,559,138	9,237,062	12,540,278	9,371,299	1,985,439	1,183,540
Wage or salary workers.....	40,578,682	28,396,260	8,119,104	4,061,318	29,426,897	19,776,450	6,364,283	3,286,164	11,148,785	8,618,810	1,754,821	775,154
Private wage or salary workers..	38,838,542	24,193,802	6,354,660	3,290,080	24,520,590	16,789,869	5,013,151	2,717,370	9,317,952	7,403,933	1,341,509	572,510
Government workers.....	6,737,140	4,201,458	1,764,444	771,338	4,906,307	2,986,581	1,851,132	568,594	1,830,833	1,214,877	413,312	202,644
Employed or seeking work.....	4,207,534	2,788,223	1,058,053	362,258	2,834,213	1,876,548	746,548	209,117	1,373,321	906,675	313,505	153,141
On public emergency work.....	2,529,606	1,418,235	702,391	408,980	2,072,094	1,110,038	602,584	359,477	457,512	308,202	99,807	49,508
Employers and own-account workers.	9,980,832	3,462,871	1,333,022	5,124,939	9,017,522	2,853,891	1,156,968	5,004,663	963,810	608,980	174,054	180,276
Unpaid family workers.....	1,465,644	198,848	92,451	1,174,345	1,037,461	55,399	35,897	946,235	428,183	143,509	56,564	222,110
New workers.....	757,341	556,690	144,891	65,760	462,360	321,778	98,408	42,174	304,981	234,912	46,483	23,586
Experienced Labor Force												
Total.....	52,022,158	32,056,979	9,544,577	10,420,602	39,481,680	22,685,680	7,559,138	9,237,062	12,540,278	9,371,299	1,985,439	1,183,540
Employed (exc. emerg. work)...	45,166,083	27,592,567	7,957,470	9,616,046	34,027,905	19,278,267	6,204,203	8,545,435	11,138,178	8,314,300	1,753,267	1,070,611
Wage or salary workers.....	33,965,239	24,078,543	6,586,295	3,300,421	24,190,453	16,496,410	5,059,484	2,634,559	9,774,806	7,582,133	1,526,811	665,862
Private wage or salary workers..	30,120,692	21,530,211	5,612,244	2,978,237	21,656,899	14,809,235	4,387,741	2,459,923	8,463,793	6,720,976	1,224,503	518,314
Government workers.....	3,844,567	2,548,332	974,051	322,194	2,533,554	1,687,175	671,743	174,636	1,311,013	861,157	302,308	147,548
Employers and own-account workers.	9,757,736	3,318,513	1,281,361	5,157,862	8,318,829	2,728,925	1,111,062	4,978,842	983,810	598,588	170,299	179,020
Unpaid family workers.....	1,443,088	195,511	89,814	1,157,763	1,018,623	52,932	33,657	932,034	424,465	142,579	56,157	225,729
Seeking work, experienced.....	4,326,469	3,046,177	884,716	395,576	3,381,881	2,297,880	782,351	382,150	944,588	746,797	132,955	63,426
Wage or salary workers.....	4,080,817	2,898,482	830,418	351,917	3,164,350	2,170,007	702,215	292,123	916,467	728,475	128,203	59,789
Private wage or salary workers..	3,717,850	2,663,591	742,416	311,843	2,863,691	1,980,634	625,410	257,647	854,159	682,957	117,006	54,193
Government workers.....	362,967	234,891	88,002	40,074	300,659	189,378	76,805	34,481	62,308	45,618	11,197	5,938
Employers and own-account workers.	223,056	144,358	51,661	27,077	198,693	124,966	47,906	25,821	24,403	19,392	3,755	1,256
Unpaid family workers.....	28,956	3,337	2,637	16,582	18,638	2,407	2,230	14,201	3,718	930	407	2,381
On public emergency work.....	2,529,606	1,418,235	702,391	408,980	2,072,094	1,110,038	602,584	359,477	457,512	308,202	99,807	49,508
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION												
In labor force.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Experienced labor force.....	98.5	98.3	98.5	99.4	98.8	98.6	98.7	99.5	97.6	97.5	97.7	98.0
Wage or salary workers.....	76.9	87.1	83.8	38.7	73.7	86.0	83.1	35.4	86.8	89.7	86.4	64.2
Private wage or salary workers..	64.1	74.2	65.6	31.4	61.4	73.0	65.5	29.3	72.5	77.1	66.0	47.4
Government workers.....	12.8	12.9	16.2	7.4	12.3	13.0	17.6	6.1	14.3	12.6	20.3	16.8
Employed or seeking work.....	8.0	8.5	11.0	3.5	7.1	8.2	9.8	2.3	10.7	9.4	15.4	12.7
On public emergency work.....	4.8	4.3	7.2	3.9	5.2	4.8	7.9	3.9	3.6	3.2	4.9	4.1
Employers and own-account workers.	18.9	10.6	13.8	49.4	22.6	12.4	15.1	53.9	7.5	6.3	8.6	14.9
Unpaid family workers.....	2.8	0.6	1.0	11.2	2.6	0.2	0.5	10.2	3.3	1.5	2.8	18.9
New workers.....	1.5	1.7	1.5	0.6	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.0
Experienced Labor Force												
Employed (exc. emerg. work)...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wage or salary workers.....	75.2	87.3	82.8	34.3	71.1	85.6	81.5	30.8	87.8	91.2	87.1	62.2
Private wage or salary workers..	66.7	78.0	70.5	31.0	63.6	76.8	70.7	28.8	76.0	80.8	69.8	48.4
Government workers.....	8.5	9.2	12.2	3.4	7.4	8.8	10.8	2.0	11.8	10.4	17.2	13.8
Employers and own-account workers.	21.6	12.0	16.1	53.6	2.6	14.2	17.9	58.3	8.4	7.1	9.7	16.7
Unpaid family workers.....	3.2	0.7	1.1	12.0	3.0	0.3	0.5	10.9	3.8	1.7	3.2	21.1
Seeking work, experienced.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wage or salary workers.....	94.3	95.2	93.9	39.0	93.6	90.1	93.3	68.0	97.0	97.3	96.9	94.3
Private wage or salary workers..	85.9	87.4	83.9	78.8	84.7	86.2	83.1	77.6	90.4	91.2	88.4	85.4
Government workers.....	8.4	7.7	9.9	10.1	8.9	8.2	10.2	10.4	6.6	6.1	8.5	8.8
Employers and own-account workers.	5.2	4.7	5.8	6.8	5.9	5.4	6.4	7.8	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.0
Unpaid family workers.....	0.5	0.1	0.3	4.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	4.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	3.8

Differences between urban and rural areas in the employment status of the labor force were due largely to the fact that the majority of workers in rural-farm areas were nonwage workers (Diagram 2). In these areas, 60.6 percent of the persons in the labor force were employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers, most of whom were farmers and farm laborers. The corresponding proportions for rural-nonfarm and urban areas were only 14.7 percent and 11.2 percent, respectively. The comparatively low proportion of persons seeking work in rural-farm areas was attributable largely to these differences in class-of-worker composition. For wage or salary workers, the differences between urban and rural areas in the proportions seeking work were relatively small.

In the interpretation of the data on employment status for rural-farm areas, it should also be borne in mind that nearly 1,200,000 of the employed workers in these areas were engaged in unpaid family work, which is often little better than a make-shift activity for sons and daughters of farmers when they cannot find other employment. Many of these unpaid family workers represented a labor reserve that would have been available for jobs in nonagricultural industries.

The census figures do not permit a precise comparison of unemployment rates for the various class-of-worker groups. In the first place, 15.1 percent of the persons seeking work during the census week were new workers, who could not be assigned to any class-of-worker category. Second, persons on public emergency work are defined as wage or salary workers, although they may have been employers, own-account workers, or unpaid family workers, before they became unemployed.

Occupation and industry statistics.— General.— In the 1940 census, inquiries relating to occupation and industry were made for all persons 14 years old and over in the labor force in the census week (March 24 to 30, 1940). For employed persons the occupation and industry questions referred to the current job in the census week, and for experienced workers seeking work, the questions referred to the last job of 1 month or more. Because of this difference in time reference, data for employed workers and for experienced workers seeking work are presented separately in most of the occupation and industry tables in this volume. In tables 72 and 73, however, showing occupation by wage or salary income, and in tables 89 and 90, showing industry by months worked in 1939 for wage or salary workers, employed workers (except those on public emergency work) and experienced workers seeking work are combined.

For persons on public emergency work, the occupation and industry questions referred to the work on the public emergency project. For many of these workers, however, the usual occupation and industry, or the occupation and industry of the most recent nonemergency job, were reported. For this reason, no industry statistics are presented in this volume for persons on public emergency work, and the occupation statistics are limited to a classification of major groups by sex (table 61).

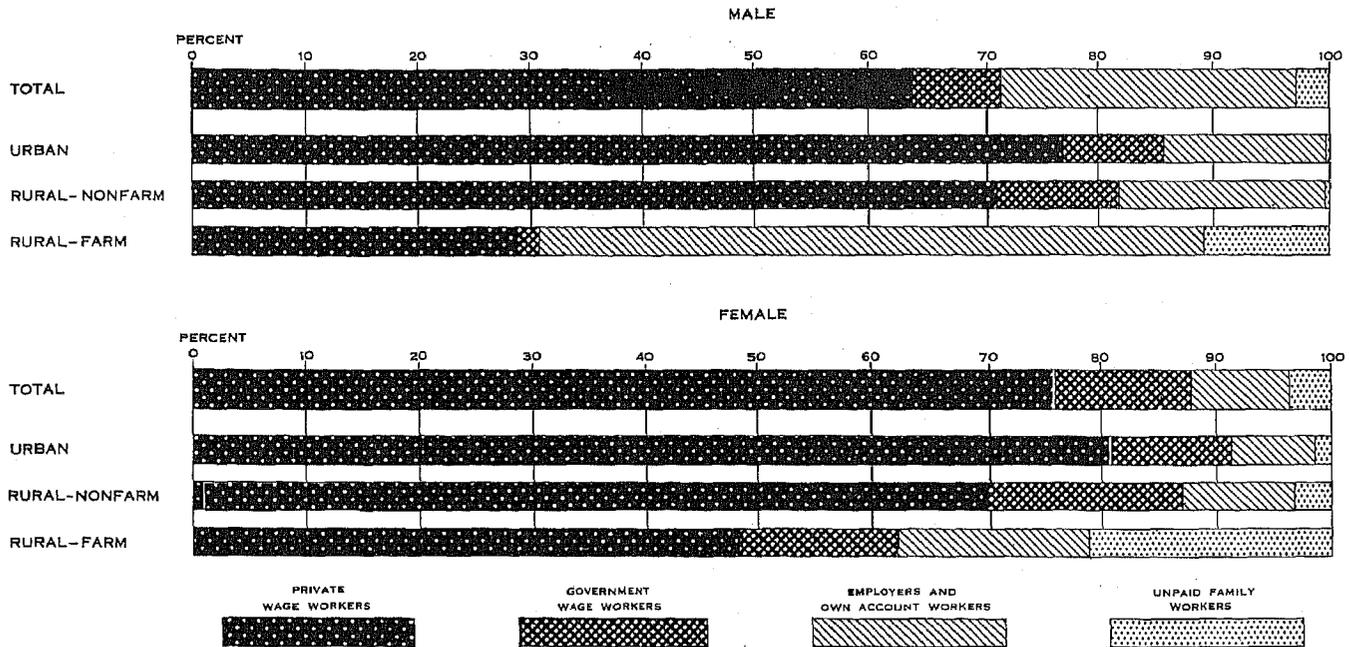
In addition to the occupation and industry questions referred to above, inquiries were made relating to the usual occupation and industry for a five-percent sample of all persons 14 years old and over, whether or not they were in the labor force during the census week. "Usual" occupation, in contrast to "current," "last," or "public emergency work" occupation,

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referred to that occupation which the person regarded as his usual occupation and at which he was physically able to work. The usual industry and usual class of worker were those relating to the occupation which the person regarded as his usual one.

Statistics on the usual occupation of experienced persons in the labor force (including those on public emergency work) will be presented in a forthcoming report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Usual Occupation" (described above).

Diagram 2.—PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYED MALES AND FEMALES, BY CLASS OF WORKER, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1940



SOURCE: TABLE 3

Occupation classification.—The occupation classification used for the 1940 census contains 451 titles, arranged in 11 major occupation groups. Of these 451 titles, 221 represent distinct occupations although a few of these may in fact have a restricted industrial distribution. (For example, the occupation "Postmasters" is limited to the single industry category "Postal service," and the occupation "Buyers and department heads, store" is restricted to wholesale and retail trade.) The remaining 230 titles in the 451-item census occupation classification represent industry subdivisions of five occupations: "Proprietors, managers, and officials;" "Foremen;" "Inspectors;" "Operatives and kindred workers;" and "Laborers."

The use of the 451-item list is restricted to the presentation of occupation information for employed workers by sex (table 58). In presenting the occupations of male and female experienced workers seeking work, and in the cross-classification of occupation by race, age, marital status, and wage or salary income (tables 59, 60, 62, 63, 65-70, 72, and 73), intermediate lists of 167 occupations for males and 76 occupations for females are used. All of the occupation data for employed workers were tabulated, however, according to the detailed classification of 451 items. (See "Availability of unpublished data," below.)

The intermediate occupation lists were derived chiefly by combining occupations in the detailed list of 451 occupations that are closely related or numerically small.

The intermediate occupation lists used in the 1940 census are uniform for all areas, whereas in previous censuses the condensed list differed from State to State according to the occupational distribution for a given State. Although this change in procedure may result in the loss of some significant information, it is believed that this loss is outweighed by the advantage of having statistics that are completely comparable from area to area.

With very few exceptions, the 451 items in the 1940 classification are convertible to the 327-item Convertibility List 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 census classification,

of proprietors, managers, and officials; foremen; inspectors; operatives; and laborers. The census intermediate list of 167 occupations for males is, with two minor exceptions, convertible to the standard intermediate Convertibility List of 99 occupations, a shorter standard list devised for the use of agencies not requiring a detailed classification. The census intermediate list of 76 occupations for females and the 99-item Convertibility List are both convertible to a somewhat broader grouping of occupations.

The occupation classifications used for the 1910, 1920, and 1930 censuses differed in relatively minor respects only, so that the occupation statistics for these censuses are reasonably comparable. The classification adopted for the 1940 census, however, differs considerably from those used for these earlier censuses, with respect to arrangement and content of titles. In 1930, for example, most of the 534 occupation titles were grouped under a few major industrial headings ("Agriculture," "Forestry and fishing," "Extraction of minerals," etc.), based upon the industry in which the occupation was most commonly followed. In 1940, the 451 occupation titles are grouped into 11 major subdivisions which are essentially occupation groups, ("Professional and semiprofessional workers," "Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers," "Operatives and kindred workers," etc.), regardless of industrial attachment. In addition, many titles appear in the classification for one year but not for the other, and even similar titles in the two classifications are sometimes different in actual coverage. At many points, therefore, the two classifications are not directly comparable, although for occupations having well-defined standards of education and experience, especially for many professional and skilled-craft occupations, the comparability is adequate for most purposes. Studies are being made to determine for each title in the 1940 classification the most nearly comparable title or group of titles in the 1930 classification, and to determine the degree of comparability where there is a difference in coverage. The results of these studies, which will be presented in a later publication, will facilitate the comparison of occupation statistics for 1940 with those for earlier census years.

Although the adoption of the new occupation classification for the 1940 census has created some problems of comparability with the past, it is believed that this difficulty is outweighed by the advantages that result from the use of a classification which is comparable with those used by other agencies.

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 and accurate descriptions of the occupations concerned, since it involves the assignment of many thousands of different designations to one or another of the 451 titles comprising the most detailed census occupational classification. It is made more difficult, however, by the failure of many enumerators to return exact designations of specific occupations. Indefinite returns result in some cases from carelessness on the part of the enumerators or from their lack of knowledge of occupational designations, and in other cases from lack of knowledge of the specific occupations of the family breadwinners on the part of housewives and others from whom the enumerators obtain their information.

In many instances indefinite occupation returns can be assigned to the proper classification through an examination of other entries on the schedule. For example, the return "Druggist" can often be assigned to the occupation class "Pharmacists" or to the class "Proprietors, drug store" on the basis of such collateral information as age, education, class of worker, and wage or salary income. 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 "Spinner, 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 "Hucksters 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 what might be termed the occupational series the groups are clear-cut and distinct. A cabinetmaker, for example, is easily distinguished from a plumber or a bricklayer. At other points in the series the occupations do not fall into distinct categories or convenient groups but shade off one into another in such fashion as to call for almost arbitrary allocations to standard groups or classes.

From this it follows that some parts of the occupation classification must be accepted as representing categories less accurately and specifically defined than the cabinetmakers, plumbers, and bricklayers mentioned above. Frequently, there is difficulty in distinguishing, for example, between trained nurses and practical nurses; between technical engineers and stationary engineers; or between truck drivers and deliverymen, as a result of which the figures for these occupations must be considered somewhat less accurate than the figures representing occupations not involved in difficulties of this kind. Much additional detail regarding classification problems will be presented in a subsequent report.

Occupations of women and children.—It is obvious that in so large a job as that represented by the application of a detailed occupation classification to 50 million workers, there will be some misclassifications, not only those growing out of insufficient information on the part of the persons answering the census enumerator's question, but also misclassifications resulting from carelessness on the part of the enumerator and from clerical errors in the tabulation of the returns. It is believed, however, that the number of misclassifications is too small to have any serious effect on the usefulness of the statistics so far as concerns practically the whole range of the occupation classification. There are a few cases, nevertheless, where relatively small numbers of erroneous returns may produce what might be regarded as a serious misstatement of the facts. These cases are found mainly in the figures which appear on the tabulation sheets for women and children in certain occupations in which women and children are seldom employed.

In many such occupations small numbers of women are actually employed, though mainly under unusual circumstances. A woman returned as a blacksmith, for example, may prove on investigation to be a widow who continues to operate, through hired labor, the blacksmith shop which she inherited from her husband; or, in a few cases, a woman of unusual physique and temperament may be found actually performing the work of a blacksmith. In the process of inspecting the enumerators' returns for women in this occupation, however, it was found more frequently that a careless enumerator had made the entry indicating the occupation of blacksmith on the line for the blacksmith's wife rather than on the line for the blacksmith himself.

In 1930, and likewise in 1920, and to a large extent in 1910, the cards representing questionable returns for women and children were sorted out, checked back to the schedules, and corrected if there was evidence on the schedule that the classification was in error. This, of course, involved a considerable amount of delay and expense and did not reduce very materially the total amount of misclassification in the occupation statistics as a whole. It did, however, remove the most obviously visible misclassifications.

At the time the detailed occupational tabulations were taken up in 1940, there was urgent demand for the occupation figures and other data coming from the same machine tabulations, and the funds available for the completion of these tabulations were limited. It was decided, therefore, to forego, for the most part, the process of checking the questionable cards back to the schedules and to make no attempt to check up occasional returns of unusual occupations for women and children, except in those extreme cases where the occupation seemed to be quite impossible, as, for example, women returned as locomotive engineers. Returns of this latter class were adjusted, and all cases where the questionable item represented considerable numbers were looked up and corrected; but small 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.²

The situation with respect to both the returns and the tabulated data for children in occupations unusual for children is practically the same as that just outlined with respect 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, a nominal increase in the number 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.³

Occupational distribution of the experienced labor force.—Since data for persons on public emergency work during the census week are not given in the detailed occupation tables in this volume, these tables do not show the detailed occupational distribution of the entire experienced labor force, nor the distribution by race, age, marital status, or wage or salary income for all experienced workers in each occupation. In table V, however, the distribution by major occupation group of the entire experienced labor force is presented for the United States, by employment status and sex.⁴ For the most

² Occupations for which the data for females should be interpreted with special caution include most of the occupations in the major group "Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers;" most of the 41 specified classes of operatives and kindred workers listed first in the major group "Operatives and kindred workers" in table 58; most of the occupations in the major group "Protective service workers;" and the 6 specified groups of laborers listed first in the major group "Laborers, except farm and mine" in table 58. For example, many of the females listed as skilled "Machinists" or "Mechanics or repairmen (not elsewhere classified)" actually were semiskilled machine operators; and many of the females listed as "Painters (construction and maintenance)" were interior decorators.

³ Occupations that are unusual for children under 18 years of age include many occupations in the major groups "Professional and semiprofessional workers" and "Farmers and farm managers;" and most of the occupations in the major groups "Proprietors, managers, and officials, except farm," "Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers," and "Protective service workers." Most of the children returned as craftsmen or professional workers were doubtless, in fact, apprentices or assistants.

⁴ For employed persons (except those on public emergency work) and for experienced workers seeking work the major occupation group "Professional and semiprofessional workers" has been subdivided into "Professional workers" and "Semiprofessional workers;" and the major group "Farm laborers and foremen" has been subdivided into "Farm laborers (wage workers) and farm foremen" and "Farm laborers (Unpaid family workers)."

For persons on public emergency work, the following combinations of major groups have been made, because of the special occupational distribution of these workers: "Farmers and farm managers" and "Proprietors, managers, and officials, except farm" (to form the group "Proprietors, managers, and officials, including farm"); "Domestic service workers" and "Service workers, except domestic and protective" (to form the group "Service workers, except protective"); "Farm laborers and foremen" and "Laborers, except farm and mine" (to form the group "Laborers, including farm").

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part, the occupational distribution for the entire experienced labor force shown in table V represents a mixture of current occupation for employed persons and emergency workers, and last occupation for experienced workers seeking work. It should be pointed out, however, that many emergency workers probably reported their usual or last nonemergency job instead of the emergency occupation to which they were assigned. These figures show striking differences between the occupational distributions of public emergency workers and the remainder of the experienced labor force. For example, only 14 percent of the employed workers and 27 percent of the experienced workers seeking work were laborers, whereas 51 percent of the persons on public emergency work were laborers. Operatives, on the other hand, represented 18 percent of all employed workers and 20 percent of the experienced workers seeking work, but only about 12 percent of the emergency workers. To some extent, the occupational distribution of emergency workers reflects the restricted character of emergency-work projects, which frequently utilized large numbers of men as laborers in various types of unskilled work and of women as operatives in apparel manufacturing. The usual occupations of many emergency workers were undoubtedly different from the emergency occupations to which they were assigned. Because of these differences in occupational distribution, the statistics in the detailed tables for employed workers and experienced workers seeking work do not give a precise indication of the occupational distribution of the total experienced labor force, nor can the data be used to compute directly unemployment rates by occupation. The basis of such unemployment rates will be provided by the occupation statistics for the entire experienced labor force which will be presented in the report entitled "The Labor Force--Sample Statistics, Usual Occupation" (See "Related reports," above).

Industry classification.—Because of the increased importance of industry as a classification of the labor force, the volume of industry statistics presented for the 1940 census is considerably greater than for earlier censuses. In 1930, industry statistics published for States and principal cities were limited to a condensed classification, by sex. In the 1940 census, on the other hand, industry statistics for these areas include classifications by race, age, employment status, class of worker, major occupation group, hours worked in the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, months worked in 1939, and duration of unemployment.

The industry classification used in the 1940 census contains 132 items. This classification is a condensation of the 1,411 titles in the Standard Industrial Classification. It 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.

The use of the 132-item list of industries is restricted to the presentation of industry data for employed workers (except those on public emergency work) and experienced workers seeking work, by sex and color (tables 74 and 75). An intermediate list of 82 industries is used in presenting classifications of industry by race, age, class of worker, major occupation group, hours worked in the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, months worked in 1939, and duration of unemployment (tables 76-84, 86, 87, and 89 to 91). This intermediate list was derived chiefly by combining industries in the 132-item list which are closely related or numerically small. All of these data, however, were tabulated in terms of the complete list of 132 industries. (See "Availability of unpublished data," below.)

Not all of the titles in the 1940 industry classification correspond with those in the 128-item industry classification used in the 1930 census. Some titles appear in the classification for one year but not the other, and similar titles in the two classifications are sometimes different in actual coverage. Studies which are being made of the relationship between the 1940 and 1930 industry classifications will show the items that correspond in the classifications for the two censuses, indicate the probable extent of difference in other items, and list the items that are not comparable.

Difficulties in the classification of industries.—The problems in industry classification are in general similar to the problems of occupation classification discussed above, except that assistance in the classification of indefinite returns is sometimes available not only from other parts of the population schedule, but also from information with respect to industries existing in a given locality or from the industry classification of a specifically-named employer, which may be obtained from industrial directories and similar publications.

Table V. MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF THE EXPERIENCED LABOR FORCE, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1940

EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP	Total	Male	Female
Experienced labor force.....	52,022,158	39,481,800	12,540,278
Professional and semiprofessional workers.....	3,549,354	2,006,073	1,543,281
Proprietors, managers, and officials, incl. farm....	9,026,984	8,443,063	583,921
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	8,807,490	4,809,619	3,997,871
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	5,877,094	5,751,587	125,507
Operatives and kindred workers.....	9,415,901	7,009,752	2,406,149
Protective service workers.....	740,876	733,420	7,456
Service workers, except protective.....	5,517,194	1,900,476	3,616,718
Laborers, including farm.....	8,605,256	8,139,309	465,947
Occupation not reported.....	982,009	688,311	293,698
Employed (except emergency work).....	45,166,083	34,027,905	11,138,178
Professional workers.....	2,881,592	1,511,118	1,370,474
Semiprofessional workers.....	463,456	364,269	99,187
Farmers and farm managers.....	5,143,614	4,991,715	151,899
Proprietors, managers, and officials, exc. farm....	3,749,287	3,325,767	423,520
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	7,517,630	4,360,648	3,156,982
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	5,055,722	4,949,132	106,590
Operatives and kindred workers.....	8,252,377	6,205,692	2,046,685
Domestic service workers.....	2,111,314	142,231	1,969,083
Protective service workers.....	681,534	677,213	4,321
Service workers, exc. domestic and protective....	2,776,800	1,519,482	1,257,318
Farm laborers (wage workers) and farm foremen....	1,924,890	1,825,164	99,726
Farm laborers (unpaid family workers).....	1,185,120	941,841	223,279
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	3,064,123	2,955,693	98,435
Occupation not reported.....	378,719	244,734	133,985
Seeking work, experienced.....	4,326,469	3,381,891	944,578
Professional workers.....	102,958	59,395	43,563
Semiprofessional workers.....	30,406	23,984	6,422
Farmers and farm managers.....	33,184	32,551	633
Proprietors, managers, and officials, exc. farm....	85,543	78,988	6,555
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	545,253	316,612	228,641
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	591,225	583,613	7,612
Operatives and kindred workers.....	873,483	678,385	195,097
Domestic service workers.....	215,845	19,450	196,395
Protective service workers.....	24,771	24,557	214
Service workers, exc. domestic and protective....	266,935	160,015	106,920
Farm laborers (wage workers) and farm foremen....	302,898	284,737	18,161
Farm laborers (unpaid family workers).....	18,403	15,829	2,574
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	846,135	828,557	17,578
Occupation not reported.....	399,435	273,207	116,228
On public emergency work.....	2,529,506	2,072,094	457,412
Professional and semiprofessional workers.....	70,942	47,307	23,635
Proprietors, managers, and officials, incl. farm....	15,356	14,042	1,314
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	244,607	130,859	113,748
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	230,147	219,112	11,035
Operatives and kindred workers.....	290,141	125,455	164,686
Protective service workers.....	34,571	31,650	2,921
Service workers, except protective.....	146,300	59,898	87,002
Laborers, including farm.....	1,203,687	1,274,488	9,199
Occupation not reported.....	213,855	170,370	43,485
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
Experienced labor force.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional and semiprofessional workers.....	6.8	5.1	12.3
Proprietors, managers, and officials, incl. farm....	17.4	21.4	4.7
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	16.0	12.2	27.9
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	11.3	14.6	1.0
Operatives and kindred workers.....	18.1	17.8	19.2
Protective service workers.....	1.4	1.9	0.1
Service workers, except protective.....	10.6	4.8	28.8
Laborers, including farm.....	16.5	20.6	3.7
Occupation not reported.....	1.9	1.7	2.3
Employed (except emergency work).....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional workers.....	6.4	4.4	12.8
Semiprofessional workers.....	1.0	1.1	0.9
Farmers and farm managers.....	11.4	14.7	1.4
Proprietors, managers, and officials, exc. farm....	8.3	9.8	3.8
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	16.6	12.8	29.3
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	11.2	14.5	1.0
Operatives and kindred workers.....	18.3	18.2	18.4
Domestic service workers.....	4.7	0.4	17.7
Protective service workers.....	1.5	2.0	-
Service workers, except domestic and protective....	6.1	4.5	11.3
Farm laborers (wage workers) and farm foremen....	4.3	5.4	0.9
Farm laborers (unpaid family workers).....	2.6	2.8	2.0
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	6.8	8.7	0.9
Occupation not reported.....	0.8	0.7	1.2
Seeking work, experienced.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional workers.....	2.4	1.8	4.6
Semiprofessional workers.....	0.7	0.7	0.7
Farmers and farm managers.....	0.8	1.0	0.1
Proprietors, managers, and officials, exc. farm....	2.0	2.3	0.7
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	12.6	9.4	24.0
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	13.7	17.3	0.8
Operatives and kindred workers.....	20.2	20.1	20.7
Domestic service workers.....	5.0	0.6	20.8
Protective service workers.....	0.6	0.7	-
Service workers, except domestic and protective....	6.2	4.7	11.3
Farm laborers (wage workers) and farm foremen....	7.0	8.4	1.9
Farm laborers (unpaid family workers).....	0.4	0.5	0.3
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	19.6	24.5	1.9
Occupation not reported.....	9.0	8.1	12.3
On public emergency work.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional and semiprofessional workers.....	2.8	2.3	5.2
Proprietors, managers, and officials, incl. farm....	0.6	0.7	0.3
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers.....	9.7	6.3	25.0
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	9.1	10.6	2.4
Operatives and kindred workers.....	11.5	6.1	36.0
Protective service workers.....	1.4	1.5	0.6
Service workers, except protective.....	5.8	2.9	19.0
Laborers, including farm.....	50.7	61.5	2.0
Occupation not reported.....	8.5	8.2	9.5

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The industry returned as "Mining" on a schedule for certain counties in Pennsylvania, for example, may safely be classified as "Coal mining," while a similar return on a schedule for certain counties in Wisconsin may be classified specifically as "Metal mining." Likewise, the industry return, "Textile mill," on a schedule for a town in Alabama in which the only textile plant is a cotton mill, may safely be classified as "Cotton manufactures." It is not always possible, of course, to supplement the enumerator's returns in this fashion.

Typical industry returns in connection with which there are difficulties of the type just indicated are "Box factory" (which may make either paperboard boxes or wooden boxes), "Rayon factory" (which may represent the chemical industry producing rayon yarn or the textile industry using rayon yarn in weaving), "Lumber company" (which may represent a logging company, a sawmill, or a lumber dealer), and "Oil company" (which may represent the production of crude petroleum, the refining of petroleum, the selling of petroleum products, etc.).

As in the case of the occupation classification, therefore, the user of the statistics for workers classified by industry should keep in mind the fact that the figures for those industry classifications which are clear-cut and definite are likely to be more accurate than those for industry classifications involving complications like those mentioned above.

Coverage of industry classifications "Government," "Domestic service," and "Agriculture."—The industry classification "Government (not elsewhere classified)" does not include all persons employed by governmental agencies. Persons are included in this classification only if they were engaged in activities that are peculiarly governmental functions. Government employees who were engaged in activities that are commonly performed by employees of private enterprises are included in the industry classification in which their activities fell. For example, a tax collector is included in the industry classification "Government," but a lineman employed by a municipally owned power plant is classified in the category "Electric light and power." The total number of persons employed by governmental agencies, therefore, cannot be obtained from the industry classification, but such a figure is available from the class of worker data presented in tables 2 and 78.

The industry group "Domestic service" is somewhat more inclusive than the major occupation group "Domestic service workers," which is limited to "Housekeepers, private family," "Laundresses, private family," and "Servants, private family." The industry classification "Domestic service" includes not only these workers but also persons in occupations such as practical nurse, chauffeur, and gardener, if they were employed by private families.

The industry classification "Agriculture" is likewise somewhat more inclusive than the two major occupation groups "Farmers and farm managers" and "Farm laborers and foremen." The industry classification also includes persons employed on farms in other occupations, such as truck and tractor drivers, mechanics and repairmen, and bookkeepers, and persons engaged in agricultural activities other than strictly farm operation, such as cotton ginning, landscape gardening, greenhouses, and farm services such as irrigation and spraying.

Unemployment by industry.—Table VI presents, for the United States, a distribution of males and females by major industry group, for employed persons (except those on public emergency work) and for experienced workers seeking work. The figures in this table cannot be used directly to compute unemployment rates by industry group, since these statistics do not include persons assigned to public emergency work projects, whose industrial distribution was quite different from that of other workers. It is possible, however, to use these figures to indicate approximate differences in unemployment rates among industry groups, by comparing the percentage of all experienced workers seeking work who were in a given industry group with the percentage of all employed persons in that group. On the basis of such a comparison, it appears that unemployment was relatively high in the construction, mining, and amusement industries, and relatively low in professional services; government; agriculture, forestry, and fishery; and finance, insurance, and real estate.

Comparison of occupation and industry statistics for 1940 with data from earlier censuses.—No comparisons of the 1940 census data on occupation and industry with similar data from the 1930 and earlier censuses are included in this summary. Such comparisons are complicated by four important considerations.

In the first place, gainful workers, the group for which occupation and industry statistics were presented in previous censuses, are not directly comparable with the 1940 labor force. (See "Comparison of 1940 data on the labor force with previous census data for gainful workers," above.)

Table VI. MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS (EXCEPT ON PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK) AND OF EXPERIENCED WORKERS SEEKING WORK, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1940

EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP	Total	Male	Female
Employed (except emergency work)	45,166,088	34,027,905	11,138,178
Agriculture, forestry, and fishery.....	8,475,432	7,988,343	487,089
Mining.....	913,000	902,061	10,939
Construction.....	2,056,274	2,022,032	34,242
Manufacturing.....	10,572,842	8,250,590	2,322,252
Transport., commun., and other public utilities..	3,118,358	2,768,257	345,086
Wholesale and retail trade.....	7,538,768	5,509,228	2,029,540
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	1,467,597	1,013,297	454,300
Business and repair services.....	864,254	787,377	76,877
Personal services.....	4,009,317	1,138,555	2,875,762
Amusement, recreation, and related services.....	395,342	316,068	79,279
Professional and related services.....	3,317,581	1,472,453	1,845,128
Government.....	1,753,487	1,414,069	339,418
Industry not reported.....	688,836	480,570	208,266
Seeking work, experienced	4,325,469	3,381,861	944,588
Agriculture, forestry, and fishery.....	393,869	368,973	24,896
Mining.....	130,523	129,757	756
Construction.....	708,856	703,824	5,032
Manufacturing.....	697,134	629,565	197,569
Transport., commun., and other public utilities..	223,428	222,835	593
Wholesale and retail trade.....	584,379	413,152	171,227
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	67,871	51,769	16,102
Business and repair services.....	84,032	78,277	5,755
Personal services.....	369,526	105,542	263,984
Amusement, recreation, and related services.....	64,736	52,123	12,613
Professional and related services.....	104,474	45,263	59,211
Government.....	57,352	43,925	13,427
Industry not reported.....	640,269	476,866	163,403
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			
Employed (except emergency work)	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, forestry, and fishery.....	18.8	23.5	4.4
Mining.....	2.0	2.7	0.1
Construction.....	4.5	5.9	0.3
Manufacturing.....	23.4	24.2	20.8
Transport., commun., and other public utilities..	6.9	8.1	3.1
Wholesale and retail trade.....	16.7	16.2	18.2
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	3.2	3.0	4.1
Business and repair services.....	1.9	2.3	0.7
Personal services.....	8.9	3.3	25.8
Amusement, recreation, and related services.....	0.9	0.9	0.7
Professional and related services.....	7.3	4.3	16.6
Government.....	3.9	4.2	3.0
Industry not reported.....	1.5	1.3	2.1
Seeking work, experienced	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, forestry, and fishery.....	9.1	10.9	2.6
Mining.....	3.0	3.8	0.1
Construction.....	16.4	20.8	0.5
Manufacturing.....	20.7	20.7	20.9
Transport., commun., and other public utilities..	5.2	6.3	1.1
Wholesale and retail trade.....	13.5	12.2	18.1
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	1.6	1.5	1.7
Business and repair services.....	1.9	2.3	0.6
Personal services.....	8.5	3.1	27.9
Amusement, recreation, and related services.....	1.5	1.5	1.3
Professional and related services.....	2.4	1.3	6.3
Government.....	1.3	1.3	1.4
Industry not reported.....	14.8	14.1	17.3

Second, the detailed occupation and industry data shown here do not cover the entire labor force. For persons on public emergency work, no data on industry are presented, and the occupation classification is limited to major occupation groups.

Third, the occupations and industries 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 occupations and industries. In the 1940 census, on the other hand, the inquiries were designed to obtain current occupation and industry for employed workers and latest occupation and industry for persons seeking work. Finally, as pointed out above, the 1940 classifications of occupation and industry differ from those used in previous censuses.

Comparability of census statistics on occupation and industry with data from other sources.—The statistics on occupation and industry collected by other agencies are not entirely comparable with census data because of differences in the methods of obtaining the information. Occupation and industry classifications based on the reports of employers may be expected to differ considerably from those based on interviews with employees. Likewise, data obtained from detailed interviews with individual workers may be considerably different from those obtained by the census method of house-to-house enumeration. In census enumeration, the information is frequently obtained from the wives of the workers or from other members of their households who may not be able to describe accurately the worker's

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occupation and industry. Even when the respondent is entirely familiar with the worker's job, his description is often inexact. Moreover, the enumerators frequently lack the technical knowledge needed to distinguish between closely related occupations and industries and to select the information most essential for accurate classification.

In most of the industry statistics based upon reports obtained from employers, the employees of a given establishment are classified according to the major industrial activity of the establishment. Thus, persons employed in the garage of a department store, or the power plant of a steel rolling mill are usually classified in the department store or steel mill industries, respectively. The 1940 census enumerators were similarly instructed that persons working in a department or other unit incidental to the main work of an establishment should be reported as engaged in the major industrial activity of the establishment. However, the relationship between major and auxiliary activities of a given establishment is much more readily identifiable from the records of the establishment in which a given person is employed than from the member of the person's household who supplies information concerning him to the census enumerator. Accordingly, the figures shown here for those industrial activities which are frequently subsidiary to other activities are likely to be greater than corresponding statistics obtained from reports by employers.

Another reason for possible differences between statistics based upon house-to-house canvass and those collected from employers arises in the treatment of persons having two or more different jobs in a given week. Such persons are counted only once in the population census, being classified in the occupation and industry in which they worked the greater number of hours. They may be counted more than once, however, in reports collected from employers, since they appear on the weekly pay roll of more than one employer. For example, a person who devoted most of his time to working in a mine but in addition operated a farm was classified in the population census as a mine operative. Such a person may have been included as a farm operator by an agency collecting statistics on agricultural employment and also as a mine worker by an agency collecting statistics on nonagricultural employment.

Wage or salary income in 1939.—In 1940, inquiries concerning income were made for the first time in the history of the Population census, in order to provide statistics regarding the adequacy of employment and the economic well-being of the people. All persons 14 years old and over (except inmates of specified institutions) were asked to report the amount of money wage or salary income received in 1939. (Those who received over \$5,000 were required only to report that they had received more than that amount.) Persons 14 years old and over were also asked to report whether they had received \$50 or more from sources other than money wages or salaries in 1939. This comparatively small amount was chosen in order to identify those persons whose incomes were, for all practical purposes, limited to receipts from wages or salaries. A question regarding the exact amount of nonwage income was not included in the census because of the very considerable additional burden of enumeration that such a question would have entailed. Statistics on the receipt of nonwage income are not presented in this summary but are shown, together with more detailed statistics on wage or salary income, in the report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Wage or Salary Income in 1939," described above.

Wage or salary income as defined for the purposes of the 1940 census includes all money received by persons as compensation for work or services performed as employees, including commissions, tips, piece-rate payments, bonuses, etc., as well as receipts commonly referred to as wages or salaries. Enumerators were instructed not to consider as wage or salary income receipts from business profits, fees, travel reimbursements, sale of crops, unemployment compensation, etc., nor compensation in forms other than money, such as meals, lodging, clothing, fuel, etc.

The data on wage or salary income for persons comprising the experienced labor force as of the census week, March 24 to 30, 1940, are summarized for the United States in table VII. Table 71 presents similar data for the urban and rural areas of four broad regions.

Statistics on wage or salary income in 1939 by occupation and sex are presented for the United States and for regions in tables 72 and 73 for persons who were in the labor force in the census week, except new workers and persons who were on public emergency work. In order to show the relationship between income and amount of employment, wage or salary income data are presented not only for the total of these workers in each occupation, but also for the group who worked 12 months (50 to 52

weeks) in 1939. The latter group represents persons who worked substantially full time during the year for pay or profit or at unpaid family work.

Table VII. WAGE OR SALARY INCOME RECEIVED IN 1939 BY EXPERIENCED PERSONS IN THE LABOR FORCE IN 1940, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

[In the tabulation from which the income tables in this bulletin were derived it was impossible to separate persons who received no wage or salary income from those who received \$1 to \$99. For purposes of the present table, this separation has been made on the basis of data derived from tabulations of a five-percent sample of the 1940 census returns]

WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1939	NUMBER			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total.....	52,022,156	39,481,880	12,540,276	100.0	100.0	100.0
With wage or salary income...	38,112,361	28,137,632	9,974,729	73.3	71.3	79.5
Without wage or salary income...	11,349,109	9,224,668	2,124,441	21.8	23.4	16.9
Not reported.....	2,560,686	2,119,580	441,106	4.9	5.4	3.5
With wage or salary income..	38,112,361	28,137,632	9,974,729	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$1 to \$99.....	1,654,505	895,726	758,779	4.3	3.2	7.6
\$100 to \$159.....	2,597,522	1,564,910	1,032,612	6.8	5.6	10.4
\$200 to \$299.....	5,273,144	3,517,272	1,755,872	13.8	12.5	17.6
\$400 to \$599.....	4,542,653	3,036,976	1,505,677	11.9	10.8	15.1
\$600 to \$799.....	4,666,915	3,067,331	1,599,584	12.2	10.9	16.0
\$800 to \$999.....	3,658,595	2,531,134	1,127,461	9.6	9.0	11.9
\$1,000 to \$1,199.....	3,218,152	2,477,273	740,879	8.4	8.8	7.4
\$1,200 to \$1,399.....	3,054,564	2,324,150	730,414	8.0	9.0	5.4
\$1,400 to \$1,599.....	2,386,362	2,060,968	325,379	6.3	7.3	3.2
\$1,600 to \$1,999.....	2,786,498	2,483,170	303,328	7.3	8.8	3.0
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	2,095,224	1,833,794	261,430	5.5	6.9	1.5
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	800,721	747,032	53,689	2.1	2.7	0.5
\$3,000 to \$4,999.....	963,345	905,448	57,897	2.5	3.2	0.6
\$5,000 and over.....	404,161	392,433	11,728	1.1	1.4	0.1

In occupational groups containing many employers, own-account workers, or unpaid family workers, a large proportion of the workers are classified as having received less than \$100 in wage or salary income, since for these classes of workers receipts other than wages or salaries are the principal source of income. Because of mechanical limitations, it was impossible to restrict the tabulation to wage or salary workers or to separate persons who received no wage or salary income from those who received \$1 to \$99. In table VII, however, this separation has been made on the basis of data for a five-percent sample of the population. In table 72, the size of the group normally receiving compensation in the form of wages or salaries is indicated for each occupation by figures showing the number of experienced persons in the labor force (except those on public emergency work) during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, who were wage or salary workers in that week. In order to facilitate comparisons of the wage or salary distributions for the various occupations, percentage distributions by amount of wage or salary income are shown in table 73. This table is limited to occupations for which the wage or salary data are most significant, namely, to occupations which, for the United States as a whole, are composed predominately (95 percent or more) of wage or salary workers.

The majority of the persons for whom wage or salary income was not reported probably had no wage or salary income in 1939, since available evidence indicates that most of these persons were employers, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers.

The wage or salary income questions on the population schedule referred to the calendar year 1939, while the employment status, class of worker, and occupational classifications referred to the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. The number of persons who shifted from one occupation to another during 1939 and early 1940 is probably not great enough to distort the income distributions for the majority of occupations, but there is a possibility that substantial shifts may have occurred in particular occupations in some areas. Because of the rapid turnover of emergency project employment the difference in time reference probably is most important in connection with the wage or salary income distribution of persons on public emergency work. A considerable proportion of the wage or salary income reported by persons on public emergency work was derived from private employment.

Two important factors may have operated to make for inaccurate reporting of the data on wage or salary income. First, persons who received their compensation in many separate installments of irregular amounts may not have been able to determine accurately the total amount received. Second, some informants who replied to the census inquiries for the whole family undoubtedly did not know the precise amount of wage or salary income received by each member. Nevertheless the statistics present a reasonably accurate picture of the amount and distribution of wage or salary income received in 1939.

Hours worked during the census week. — The question on hours of work in the 1940 census pertained to the number of hours worked during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, by persons who were at work (except on public emergency work) during that week. The data on hours of work for wage or salary workers at work are summarized for the United States in table VIII. In table 87 a percentage distribution by hours worked is given for each industry.

Table VIII. HOURS WORKED DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 24-30, 1940, BY WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS AT WORK (EXCEPT ON PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK), AND NUMBER OF SUCH WORKERS WITH A JOB BUT NOT AT WORK, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

HOURS WORKED DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 24-30, 1940	NUMBER			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Employed (exc. emerg. work)	33,965,259	24,190,453	9,774,806	-	-	-
At work.....	33,146,758	23,631,165	9,515,593	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 hours.....	617,399	359,185	258,214	1.9	1.5	2.7
14 to 29 hours.....	2,055,884	1,311,147	744,737	6.2	5.5	7.8
30 to 34 hours.....	1,638,762	1,012,811	625,951	4.9	4.3	6.6
35 to 39 hours.....	1,768,864	1,031,575	737,289	5.3	4.4	7.7
40 hours.....	10,375,241	7,590,530	2,784,711	31.3	32.1	29.3
41 to 44 hours.....	3,738,169	2,645,725	1,092,443	11.3	11.2	11.5
45 to 47 hours.....	704,059	506,275	197,784	2.1	2.1	2.1
48 hours.....	4,688,980	3,495,382	1,192,598	14.1	14.8	12.5
49 to 59 hours.....	2,827,977	2,007,179	820,798	7.9	8.5	6.5
60 to 69 hours.....	2,107,434	1,561,282	546,152	6.4	7.1	4.5
70 or more hours.....	1,274,641	997,242	277,399	3.8	4.2	2.9
Hours not reported.....	1,549,348	991,831	557,517	4.7	4.2	5.9
With a job but not at work...	818,501	559,288	259,213	-	-	-

The groupings of hours worked that appear in these tables are designed to show the length of the usual work week in each industry 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 standards 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 industries 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 industry, and that many persons working part time do not desire more work.

Data on hours of work are not shown in this summary for persons other than wage or salary workers because these data are less significant and less reliable than those for wage or 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. Data on hours worked for all persons at work in the census week will be shown in some of the publications based on five-percent sample tabulations (see "Related reports," above).

Months worked in 1939. — In addition to data on employment status in the census week, information was obtained in the 1940 census on amount of employment in 1939. 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 for pay or profit, including public 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, a full-time week being defined as the number of hours locally regarded as full time for the given occupation and industry. Paid vacations or other absences with pay were included in the number of weeks worked. However, summer vacations of school teachers who did no other work during the summer were not counted as time worked.

The returns for weeks worked in 1939 have been converted into months in the tables in this summary, because a large proportion of the reports were only approximate, and did not represent valid statements of the precise number of weeks of work. The groupings of months worked that are used in this summary are listed below with their equivalents in terms of the original reports of weeks worked.

Number of months worked	Reported number of weeks worked
Without work in 1939.....	0 weeks
With work in 1939:	
Less than 3 months.....	1 to 10 weeks
3 to 5 months.....	11 to 23 weeks
6 to 8 months.....	24 to 35 weeks
9 to 11 months.....	36 to 49 weeks
12 months.....	50 to 52 weeks

The distribution of wage or salary workers by number of months worked in 1939, according to employment status during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, is presented for the United States in table IX. An indication of the relationship between employment status at the time of the census and idleness during the preceding year can be obtained by subtracting the number of months worked from twelve. This procedure yields only an approximate indication of the number of months unemployed, however, because of three complications. In the first place, the number of months worked includes months on public emergency work, so that some of the persons reporting 12 months worked in 1939 were actually unemployed during part or all of the 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 1939 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 1939. Finally, months worked were to be reported in terms of equivalent full-time months, so that for part-time workers the number of months worked in 1939 is less than the number of months during which they had some employment.

Table IX. MONTHS WORKED IN 1939 BY PERSONS WHO WERE WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS IN 1940, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES

MONTHS WORKED IN 1939	NUMBER			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All wage or salary wkrs..	40,575,682	29,426,897	11,148,785	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without work in 1939.....	2,120,693	1,322,376	798,317	5.2	4.5	7.2
With work in 1939.....	37,454,989	27,583,784	10,082,235	92.8	93.7	90.3
Under 3 months.....	1,874,375	849,883	524,492	4.6	2.9	4.7
3 to 5 months.....	3,173,052	2,190,392	982,670	7.8	7.4	8.8
6 to 8 months.....	5,395,884	4,016,456	1,380,378	13.3	13.6	12.4
9 to 11 months.....	6,617,613	4,778,905	1,838,708	16.3	16.2	16.5
12 months.....	21,084,135	15,748,148	5,335,987	52.0	53.5	47.9
Work in 1939 not reported.....	808,970	520,737	288,233	2.0	1.8	2.6
Employed (exc. emerg. work)	33,965,259	24,190,453	9,774,806	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without work in 1939.....	900,615	434,558	466,057	2.7	1.8	4.8
With work in 1939.....	32,557,908	23,456,542	9,101,366	95.9	97.0	92.1
Under 3 months.....	770,871	421,889	348,982	2.3	1.7	3.6
3 to 5 months.....	2,023,626	1,279,219	744,407	6.0	5.3	7.5
6 to 8 months.....	4,004,688	2,838,940	1,165,648	11.8	11.7	11.9
9 to 11 months.....	5,560,082	3,895,194	1,664,888	16.4	16.1	17.0
12 months.....	20,198,741	15,021,300	5,177,441	59.5	62.1	53.0
Work in 1939 not reported.....	506,736	299,353	207,383	1.5	1.2	2.1
On emergency work.....	2,529,606	2,078,094	457,512	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without work in 1939.....	178,710	124,017	54,693	7.1	6.0	12.0
With work in 1939.....	2,281,530	1,893,895	387,635	90.2	91.4	84.7
Under 3 months.....	175,249	119,379	55,870	6.9	5.8	12.2
3 to 5 months.....	388,883	309,025	79,858	15.4	14.9	17.4
6 to 8 months.....	582,738	505,607	77,131	23.0	24.4	16.9
9 to 11 months.....	812,965	517,504	295,461	24.2	25.0	20.9
12 months.....	521,895	442,380	79,515	20.6	21.3	17.4
Work in 1939 not reported.....	69,366	54,182	15,184	2.7	2.6	3.3
Seeking work.....	4,080,817	3,164,350	916,467	100.0	100.0	100.0
Without work in 1939.....	1,041,368	768,801	272,567	25.5	24.1	30.3
With work in 1939.....	2,805,581	2,233,847	573,234	68.8	70.6	62.5
Under 3 months.....	428,255	308,615	119,640	10.5	9.8	13.1
3 to 5 months.....	760,753	602,148	158,605	18.6	19.0	17.3
6 to 8 months.....	809,508	671,909	137,599	19.8	21.2	15.0
9 to 11 months.....	444,566	366,207	78,359	10.9	11.6	8.6
12 months.....	363,499	284,458	79,041	8.9	9.0	6.6
Work in 1939 not reported.....	232,868	167,202	65,666	5.7	5.3	7.2

The data on months worked are especially valuable in the analysis of the incidence of unemployment in various industries, since the statistics on employment status during the census week do not take account of seasonal variations and other

* 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 to obtain the number of weeks. In converting the returns to months for purposes of publication, it was necessary to take account of the slight error that resulted from the enumerators' procedure of multiplying the number of months by four instead of by four 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 on the basis of four or four and one-third weeks per month. Thus, 9 months might be figured incorrectly as 36 weeks or correctly as 39 weeks, but both figures fall in the group 36 to 49 weeks, which is equivalent to 9 to 11 months. In the case of 12 months, however, this procedure was not used, since it was apparent that enumerators had seldom used 48 weeks as the equivalent of 12 months.

Irregularities in employment, which are exceedingly important in many industries. Data on months worked in 1939 for wage or salary workers (except those on public emergency work) are presented by industry in tables 89 and 90. For industries in which there is much part-time or casual employment, however, and for seasonal industries, the data on months worked should be interpreted with care. Accurate reports were frequently unobtainable for persons who worked intermittently at many separate times during the year. In many cases the information was not 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 1939. Moreover, the classifications according to employment status, class of worker, and industry refer to the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, nearly 3 months after the calendar year to which the data on months worked refer. The number of persons who shifted from one industry to another during 1939 and early 1940 was probably not great enough to distort the distribution by months worked for the majority of industries, but substantial shifts may have occurred in particular industries in some areas. Because of the rapid turnover of emergency project employment the difference in time reference probably is most important in connection with the data on months worked for persons on public emergency work.

Data on months worked in 1939 are not presented in this volume for employers, own-account workers, or unpaid family workers because these figures are less significant and less reliable for such workers than for wage or salary workers. Statistics on months worked for all persons 14 years old and over will be presented in some of the publications based on five-percent sample tabulations (see "Related reports," above).

In the Censuses of 1890 and 1900, gainful workers were classified according to number of months unemployed during the 12-month period preceding the census date. Similar information was obtained on the census schedules for 1880 and 1910, but the results for these years were not published.

Duration of unemployment.—Data on the duration of unemployment were obtained for persons who were seeking work or on public emergency work in the census week. The duration of unemployment represents the length of time (up to March 30, 1940) during which these persons had been seeking work or working on public emergency projects. For persons who had previously worked at private or nonemergency government jobs, duration of unemployment was defined as the length of time since the end of the last full-time private or nonemergency government job of 1 month or more. For persons who had never worked for 1 month or more at such a job (and for persons who had been out of the labor force for considerable periods of time), enumerators were instructed to report the length of time since the person last began to seek work.

Statistics on duration of unemployment were obtained also in the 1930 census. These statistics, however, are not closely comparable with the 1940 figures because of differences in the definitions of the groups of workers to which the figures refer.

Duration of unemployment was reported on the 1940 census schedules in terms of weeks, but in this summary the data are presented in terms of months.* The classes of duration of unemployment that are used, and their equivalents in terms of weeks as reported, are listed below.

Duration in months	Reported duration in weeks
Less than 1 month.....	Under 3 weeks
1 month.....	3 to 6 weeks
2 months.....	7 to 10 weeks
3 months.....	11 to 14 weeks
4 and 5 months.....	15 to 23 weeks
6 to 8 months.....	24 to 35 weeks
9 to 11 months.....	36 to 49 weeks
12 to 23 months.....	50 to 99 weeks
24 to 59 months.....	100 to 249 weeks
60 or more months.....	250 or more weeks

* For a statement of the reasons for the conversion to months and the procedures used, see "Months worked in 1939," above. In addition, there was evidence of a tendency to report very long durations of unemployment in multiples of 50 weeks, indicating that some enumerators had calculated the number of weeks by multiplying a given number of years by 50. To take account of this tendency, the classes designated as 12 to 23 months, 24 to 59 months, and 60 or more months, representing 1, 2 to 4, and 5 or more years, respectively, were so designed that the weekly equivalent of any given number of years would always fall in the same interval, whether the conversion was made on the basis of 50 or 52 weeks per year.

A summary of the statistics on duration of unemployment for wage or salary workers seeking work, by sex, with a percent distribution, is presented for the United States in table X. In tables 91 and 92, similar data are given for wage or salary workers seeking work, by industry. The statistics for new workers and for persons on public emergency work are not as reliable as those for experienced workers seeking work. For new workers the duration of unemployment is intended to represent the length of time since the person began to seek work, which is less definite and more difficult to report accurately than the length of time since the end of the last job. A large proportion of new workers and of persons on public emergency work did not report duration of unemployment, and it is unsafe to assume that the periods of unemployment of those who failed to report were similar to those which were reported.

Table X. DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT OF WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS SEEKING WORK, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1940

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT	NUMBER			PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total.....	4,080,817	3,164,850	916,467	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 1 month.....	119,508	87,479	32,029	2.9	2.8	3.5
1 month.....	312,754	237,156	75,598	7.7	7.5	8.2
2 months.....	259,249	199,792	59,457	6.4	6.3	6.5
3 months.....	404,009	309,805	94,204	9.9	9.8	10.3
4 and 5 months.....	463,588	374,564	88,974	11.4	11.8	9.7
6 to 8 months.....	476,515	380,627	95,888	11.7	12.0	10.5
9 to 11 months.....	272,509	209,691	62,818	6.7	6.6	6.9
12 to 23 months.....	550,840	420,836	130,004	13.5	13.3	14.2
24 to 59 months.....	444,328	358,244	86,084	10.9	11.3	9.4
60 months or more.....	155,369	138,746	16,623	3.8	4.2	2.4
Duration not reported....	622,198	452,410	169,788	15.2	14.3	18.5

Reliability of categories with small numbers.—Categories with small numbers should be used with care, since they may in part represent undetected errors of enumeration. This caution applies especially to occupation and industry classifications that include small numbers of persons. (See "Comparability of census statistics on occupation and industry with data from other sources," and "Occupations of women and children," above.)

AVAILABILITY OF UNPUBLISHED DATA

Because of space limitations it has not been possible to publish all of the statistics that were tabulated. These statistics can be made available for the cost of preparing and reproducing them. Requests for these data, addressed to the Director of the Census, Washington, D. C., will receive a prompt reply, including an estimate of the cost of preparing the figures.

All of the statistics on occupation for employed workers are available according to the detailed classification of 451 occupations, although only intermediate lists are published in tables 59, 60, 62, 63, 65 to 70, and 72. The data for persons seeking work, on the other hand, were tabulated according to the intermediate lists of occupations and cannot be obtained in greater detail. All of the statistics by industry, both for employed workers and for those seeking work, are available according to the detailed classification of 132 industries shown in tables 74 and 75, although a condensed classification appears in tables 76 to 84, 86, 87, and 89 to 92.

In the tables on wage or salary income and months worked in 1939 (tables 71 to 73, 89, and 90), the data for employed workers and persons seeking work have been combined; separate figures for these two employment status categories are available. The figures on major occupation group by industry, presented for employed workers only in tables 82 and 83, are available for experienced workers seeking work.

Finally, statistics on class of worker according to occupation were tabulated, but only the number of wage or salary workers in each occupation is published, in table 72. The unpublished tabulation shows the numbers of private wage or salary workers, government workers, employers and own-account workers, and unpaid family workers, by sex, employment status, and occupation (according to the detailed occupation list for employed workers and the intermediate lists for experienced workers seeking work), for States, urban, rural-nonfarm, and rural-farm areas, and each city of 100,000 or more.