

OCCUPATIONS, BY STATES

INTRODUCTION

This volume presents for the several States, arranged alphabetically, the more important statistics relating to the occupations of the people as returned at the Fifteenth Census, together with a summary for the entire United States. The statistics here presented were first published in a series of State bulletins, a bulletin for each State, supplemented by a summary bulletin for the United States. These different bulletins, bound together, comprise the present volume.

The occupation returns.—The occupation returns at the Fifteenth Census form a part of the information obtained in the general enumeration of the population which was made as of April 1, 1930, through the agency of approximately 100,000 enumerators, who made a house-to-house canvass and secured the required information. The questions relating to occupation formed three of the 32 items of inquiry included on the population schedule, to be answered, so far as applicable, by each person enumerated. The three occupation questions call for (1) a statement of the "trade, profession, or particular kind of work done" by each gainful worker; (2) a statement of the "industry or business" in which he (or she) works; and (3) a statement as to whether he (or she) is an employer, a wage or salary worker, is working on his (or her) own account, or is an unpaid family worker.

In order to secure a definite statement of the specific occupation of each person engaged in gainful labor, detailed explanations concerning the manner of returning occupations were given the census enumerators in a book of printed instructions. In addition, the census supervisors and their assistants were directed to give the enumerators personal instruction prior to the enumeration and to supervise their work carefully during the enumeration.

Scope of the statistics.—The population schedule calls for a statement as to whether the gainful worker is an employer, a wage or salary worker, is working on his (or her) own account, or is an unpaid family worker, but since many of the returns were unsatisfactory no compilation was made of them. And although the enumerators were instructed to return an occupation for each gainful worker, the occupations returned for children under 10 years old were not compiled. The statistics of occupations presented in this volume relate, therefore, to gainful workers 10 years old and over. The term "gainful workers," in census usage, includes all persons who usually follow a gainful occupation, although they may not have been em-

ployed when the census was taken. It does not include women doing housework in their own homes, without wages, and having no other employment, nor children working at home, merely on general household work, on chores, or at odd times on other work. Statistics relating to women home-makers are presented in a series of bulletins on "Families", and in Volume VI of the Population Reports.

No attempt has been made to analyze the statistics here presented. The purpose has been to include only the explanatory text necessary for the proper interpretation of the statistics. The statistics relate to the number, sex, color, nativity, age, and occupations of all gainful workers, and to the marital condition of gainfully occupied women. Statistics relating to children in gainful occupations are presented in separate tables. For comparative purposes many of the tables include statistics for preceding censuses.

The statistics for each respective State and its principal cities are presented in a standard series of tables, numbered 1 to 25.

Additional statistics presented in Volume V.—Additional occupation statistics are presented in Volume V of the Fifteenth Census Reports on Population, entitled "General Report on Occupations." Statistics are presented in Volume V for the same areas as in Volume IV, and the general classifications by occupation, sex, color, nativity, age, and marital condition are the same in the two volumes, but the form of presentation is different. Thus, in Volume IV, where the presentation is primarily by States, all of the statistics for each particular State (except the statistics in the United States Summary) are presented together in a standard series of tables, the statistics relating to the several topics—age, color, etc.—being presented in consecutive tables. In Volume V, however, where the presentation is primarily by topic, the statistics relating to each particular topic—age, color, etc.—are presented together in consecutive tables, the statistics for all the States, or for all the cities of a particular class, being included in the same table. In Volume IV many of the statistics for States and cities are presented by occupation. In Volume V this presentation by occupation is omitted for States and cities, but additional statistics classified by occupation are presented for the United States. Volume V also includes additional summary statistics. Furthermore, Volume V includes statistics for the entire United States showing for each important industry and service group—public

service, professional service, and domestic and personal service—the total number of workers classified by occupation, sex, color, nativity, and age.

Geographic areas.—Statistics are presented in this volume for continental United States as a whole, for the several States, for nine groups of States designated “geographic divisions,” and for all cities having a population of 25,000 or more in 1930. For the outlying territories and possessions of the United States, except the Philippines, occupation statistics, together with other census statistics, are presented in the Report on Outlying Territories and Possessions.

Classification of occupations.—In so far as it was practicable to make it such, the classification of occupations, in the statistics presented in this volume, is *occupational* rather than *industrial*. Thus, in Table 3 of the United States Summary, where the total workers are distributed by occupation, all the workers in a given specific occupation are grouped together without regard to the different industries in which the occupation is pursued; and each occupation, excepting clerical occupations, is classified in that part of the industrial field in which the occupation is most commonly pursued. For example, all electricians are grouped together and are classified under “Manufacturing and mechanical industries,” though electricians are employed in almost every industry. Clerical occupations, which can scarcely be said to be more common in one part of the industrial field than in another, are made a separate class.

The *occupational* classification presented in this volume is quite different from the *industrial* classification presented in Volume III and in Chapter 7 of Volume V of the Fifteenth Census Reports on Population. In that classification the workers are grouped by industry. Each industry is treated as a separate unit and all the workers in the industry are classified thereunder, irrespective of the occupations they pursue—whether productive, commercial, professional, or clerical. The industries are in turn grouped under the nine general divisions of the classification—agriculture, forestry and fishing, extraction of minerals, etc.

From the foregoing it is quite evident that the number of workers in the respective general divisions of occupations—agriculture, forestry and fishing, extraction of minerals, etc.—shown in the occupation statistics presented in this volume, will not exactly agree with the number shown in the industry statistics presented in Volume III and in Chapter 7 of Volume V. For example, the industry statistics for “Manufacturing and mechanical industries” include all the workers in each manufacturing industry, while the occupation statistics for “Manufacturing and mechanical industries,” as here presented, do not include the clerical workers in the manufacturing industries, nor the workers in other occupations—such as teamsters, lawyers, technical engineers, etc.—not peculiar to, or

not most commonly pursued in, manufacturing industries. On the other hand, the occupation statistics for “Manufacturing and mechanical industries” include all blacksmiths, carpenters, machinists, and other followers of skilled hand trades, wherever employed, while in the industry statistics many of the workers in these occupations are included in other general divisions of industry.

Since the industry figures presented in Volume III were compiled from a preliminary count—a count by sex and industry only—there was no opportunity to correct errors of occupation, sex, age, color, and nativity, which errors developed only when the workers in each occupation were later counted by age, color, and nativity. As a result of the correction of these errors, the industry figures presented in Volume III differ somewhat from the corresponding figures presented in Chapter 7 of Volume V.

Comparative figures.—Since the Fifteenth Census occupation classification differs somewhat from that of the Fourteenth Census, it has been necessary, for comparison, to assign a few Fourteenth Census occupations to general divisions of occupations different from those under which they were presented in 1920. Further, in 1930, an occupational designation returned by the enumerators occasionally was assigned to an occupation group different from that under which it was classified in 1920. Since modifications of this kind in the initial classification of individual cases may be reflected in the 1930 figures, it is evident that a small increase or decrease from 1920 to 1930 in the number of workers shown in an occupation may be apparent only and due to a difference in classification. The same is true, and for the same reasons, in regard to a small increase or decrease from 1910 to 1920.

Proportion of population gainfully occupied, 1900 to 1920.—The percentages in Table 1 of the United States Summary and those in Table 1 of the standard series of tables for individual States show that in the entire United States and in most of the States the proportion of the population gainfully occupied increased rather strikingly from 1900 to 1910 and then decreased materially from 1910 to 1920.

In the United States and in most of the States the increase from 1900 to 1910 in the proportion of the population gainfully occupied was particularly large in the case of females. While there probably was a large increase during this decade in the proportion of females 10 years old and over gainfully occupied, the marked increase shown by census figures is believed to be in part due to a difference in the basis of enumeration. The importance of returning “the occupation, if any, followed by a child, of any age, or by a woman,” was emphasized in the printed instructions to census enumerators in 1910, but not in the instructions in 1900, and it is believed the enumerators in 1910 enumerated as gainful workers many women and large

numbers of children who would not have been enumerated as gainful workers by enumerators working under the earlier instructions. Especially is it believed that in 1910 many women and large numbers of children were enumerated as agricultural workers—particularly as agricultural laborers—who would not have been so enumerated under the instructions of 1900.¹

The change in the census date was probably the chief cause of the decrease from 1910 to 1920 in the proportion of the population gainfully occupied. The change in the census date from April 15 in 1910 to January 1 in 1920 doubtless had a pronounced effect on the number of workers returned as pursuing those occupations which are seasonal or largely seasonal. A comparison of the 1920 with the 1910 statistics for the respective agricultural pursuits indicates strongly that, especially in the case of farm laborers, the marked decrease from 1910 to 1920, in the United States and in most of the States, was due in considerable measure to an underenumeration in 1920, because in most sections of the United States agricultural work, especially the work of field laborers, is at or near its lowest ebb in January. The enumerators' schedules for 1920 show that large numbers of young persons (including boys 16 and 17 years old) living on farms were returned as neither at work nor at school. In some measure, however, the decrease in farm laborers is believed to be apparent only and due to an overenumeration in 1910, especially of women and children in this occupation.

The decrease from 1910 to 1920 in the proportion of children gainfully occupied undoubtedly was the result in part, of increased legal restrictions upon child labor, of better compulsory school attendance laws, and of more efficient enforcement of these two classes of laws.²

Color and nativity of gainful workers.—In most of the classifications of gainful workers by color and nativity, here presented, four classes are distinguished, namely, (a) native white, that is, white persons born in the United States or in any of its territories or possessions; (b) foreign-born white; (c) Negro, including both black and mulatto; (d) other races, comprising Mexicans, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, etc. In Table 11 of the United States Summary the principal minor races making up group (d) are shown separately. At censuses prior to 1930 Mexicans were included for the most part with the white population. In 1930 all persons born in Mexico or having parents born in Mexico, who were not definitely returned as white, Negro, Indian, Chinese, or Japanese, were classified separately as "Mexican."

Age of gainful workers.—The age classification in census statistics is based on age at last birthday; that is, age in completed years.

There is a growing interest in those problems in which occupation by age is a leading factor—the problems of child labor, woman labor, occupational mortality, unemployment, unemployment insurance, old-age dependency, old-age pensions, etc. Because of the rapidly increasing importance of age as a factor in occupation statistics, the 1930 statistics are presented in much greater age detail than were those of any preceding census. In the age tables for the United States, presented in the United States Summary, the workers are distributed into 18 age groups. These 18 groups are reduced, by combination, to 14 in the summary age tables for States and cities of 100,000 or more, and to five in the summary table for cities of 25,000 to 100,000.

In the standard series of tables for individual States statistics relating to the age of the gainful workers are presented in Tables 8 to 12. In Tables 8 and 9, which present statistics for the State and for each city of 100,000 or more, the total workers are distributed, by sex, into 18 age groups. These 18 groups are reduced, by combination, to 11 in Table 10, which presents an age distribution of the total workers of each sex for each city of 25,000 to 100,000, and they are reduced to 9 in Tables 11 and 12, which present, for the State and for each city of 100,000 or more, an age distribution of the workers of each sex in each of the more important occupations of the area.

Males and females in selected occupations.—In the standard series of tables for individual States it is impracticable to present, in separate tables, statistics distributing the gainful workers in each occupation, first, by color and nativity, and, second, by age. To save space, therefore, the statistics distributing the workers in each selected occupation by color and nativity and by age are presented in the same table (Table 11 for the State and Table 12 for cities of 100,000 inhabitants or more). In general, only the more important occupations have been selected for presentation in Tables 11 and 12; that is, those occupations shown in Table 4 which for the State or for the city are of most importance. Frequently, however, a main occupation group is shown, rather than the specific occupations which comprise it. Thus, the group "Retail dealers" is shown, rather than the several classes of retail dealers.

Marital condition of gainfully occupied women.—Marital status, always an important factor in the life of a woman, is particularly significant in the life of a working woman, for, quite commonly, her marital status determines whether she will be a breadwinner only or both a breadwinner and a home-maker. Since marital status in relation to occupation is so much more significant in the case of female workers than in the case of male workers, the Fifteenth Census statistics relating to the marital condition of gainful workers have been limited to statistics for females.

¹ For further discussion of the increase from 1900 to 1910, see Thirteenth Census (1910) Reports, Vol. IV, Occupation Statistics, pp. 26-29.

² For further discussion of the decrease from 1910 to 1920, see Fourteenth Census (1920) Reports, Vol. IV, Occupations, pp. 18-24.

The statistics relating to the marital condition of gainfully occupied women, presented in this volume for the United States, for States, and for cities of 100,000 or more, are limited to women 15 years old and over, while those presented for cities of 25,000 to 100,000 relate to all females 10 years old and over.

In the standard series of tables presented for each State, statistics showing the marital condition of the women in each of the more important occupations for women in the area, with a distribution of the single (including those of unknown marital condition) and of the married by age, are presented for the State in Table 17 and for each city of 100,000 or more in Table 18. The occupations shown in Table 17 are the same as those shown for females in Table 11, and the occupations shown in Table 18 are the same as those shown for females in Table 12.

While the age distribution of the gainfully occupied widowed and divorced women is not given in Tables 16 to 18 of the standard series, it is possible to compute this distribution, by color and nativity, by adding, by age groups, in Table 16, the single and unknown and the married, and then subtracting the sum for each age group from the total of all gainfully occupied women of the same color, nativity, and age, as shown in Table 9.

Statistics showing, for each city of 25,000 to 100,000 inhabitants, the marital condition of the total gainfully occupied females 10 years old and over are presented in Table 7 of the standard series, with the color and nativity statistics for these cities.

Children in gainful occupations.—Because of the present-day interest in child workers and in the problems connected with their employment, statistics relating to the occupations of children are presented in separate tables. For comparative purposes many of these tables include statistics for preceding censuses.

The number of children 10 to 17 years old in each of the more important occupations for children in the area is shown by sex and years of age for the State in Table 23 and for each city of 100,000 or more in Table 24 of the standard series of tables presented for each State. In general, in Table 23 and in Table 24, all specific occupations which gave employment to 25 or more children, and all general occupations—such as the laborers or the operatives in a given industry—which gave employment to 50 or more children in the area were selected for presentation. Frequently, however, a main occupation group is shown rather than the specific occupations which comprise it.

The number of children 10 to 15 years old in each of the more important occupations for children is shown by sex for each city of 25,000 to 100,000 in Table 25 of the standard series.

Occupations classified with difficulty.—Sometimes by reason of the inherent difficulties of enumeration, resulting from the great complexity and overlapping of present-day industries and industrial processes, and

sometimes because of the practical difficulties of enumeration, there were numerous occupational returns at the Fifteenth Census that were classified with difficulty. While these faulty returns did not constitute a large percentage of the total returns, it is possible that in the case of certain occupations the number of faulty returns and the degree of inaccuracy in classifying them affected the accuracy of the resulting statistics perceptibly. The most important of these occupations are referred to below.

Sometimes it was impossible, from the enumerators' returns, to distinguish between—

- Farm laborers, wageworkers, and farm laborers, unpaid family workers;
- Firemen of boilers at mines and firemen who inspect mines for gases, sufficiency of ventilation, etc.;
- Workers at gas wells and workers at gas works;
- Workers in different kinds of mines in the same locality, when enumerators neglected to specify the kind of mines;
- Apprentices and journeymen in hand trades;
- Contractors and men working at trades with their tools;
- Dressmakers or seamstresses in factories or shops and those working elsewhere;
- Machinists and machine tenders;
- Painters of buildings, etc., and painters in factories;
- Shoemakers in factories and those working in cobbler shops;
- Workers in "Suit, coat, and overall factories" and workers in other clothing factories;
- Workers in fruit packing houses and workers in meat packing houses in the same locality;
- Workers in blast furnaces and steel rolling mills and workers in iron manufacturing establishments;
- Workers in iron foundries and workers in brass foundries;
- Jewelers in factories and jewelers working elsewhere;
- Workers in rayon mills and workers in silk mills in the same locality;
- Workers in "Electrical machinery and supply factories" and workers in "Other iron and steel and machinery factories";
- Workers in cottonseed, linseed, and essential oil mills and workers in petroleum refineries;
- Proprietors and employees, when returned under such trade names as baker, hatter, jeweler, miller, shoemaker, tailor, etc.;
- Workers on steam railroads and workers on street railroads;
- Locomotive engineers and stationary engineers;
- Locomotive firemen and firemen of stationary boilers;
- Clerks in stores and salesmen;
- Wholesale and retail merchants and dealers;
- Practical and trained nurses;
- Paid *housekeepers* and *housewives* in their own homes;
- Paid housekeepers and servant girls;
- Cooks and servants;
- Laundresses in laundries and laundresses at home, in hotels, or working out.

In addition to the cases listed above, difficulty in classifying was experienced where two occupations were returned for the same person, where women were returned as following occupations very unusual for women, and where children were returned as following occupations the mental or physical requirements for the pursuit of which usually are not possessed by persons so young.