SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES : 1940

POPULATION

THE LABOR FORCE

(Sample Statistics)

Part 2: Occupational and Industrial Characteristics

Bureau of the Census
Library

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

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1943

THE LABOR FORCE (SAMPLE STATISTICS)

This volume is comprised of two parts, with the reports arranged as follows:

Part 1. General Characteristics:

Employment and Personal Characteristics
Characteristics of Persons Not in the Labor Force
Employment and Family Characteristics of Women
Wage or Salary Income in 1939
Education, Occupation, and Household Relationship of Males 18 to 44 Years Old

Part 2. Occupational and Industrial Characteristics:

Industrial Characteristics
Occupational Characteristics
Usual Occupation
Population

6th Census
The United States
1940

The Labor Force
(Sample Statistics)

Industrial Characteristics
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(Sample Statistics)

Industrial Characteristics

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Tabulation Expert—James L. McPherson.
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SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES : 1940

REPORTS ON POPULATION

Volume
I Number of Inhabitants, by States.
II Characteristics of the Population, by States.
IV Characteristics by Age—Marital Status, Relationship, Education, and Citizenship, by States.

Statistics for Census Tracts (Including Housing Data).
Additional Reports—Internal Migration, Families (Including Housing Data), Fertility, Parentage, Mother Tongue, Further Statistics on the Labor Force, etc.
Special Reports.

REPORTS ON HOUSING

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

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

This report is based upon the tabulations of a 5-percent sample of the population returns, and presents data on the personal and economic characteristics of the men and women in each industry at the time of the 1940 census. These statistics were designed primarily for the analysis of the industrial structure of the American labor force prior to the impact of war on the national economy. Many of the data were made available to war agencies considerably in advance of publication for use in planning manpower and production programs. This report was prepared under the supervision of Dr. Leon W. Truesdell, Chief Statistician for Population, and Dr. A. Ross Bokier, Assistant Chief Statistician, by William H. Meutz, Chief of Economic Statistics, Dr. Barry Gasper, and David L. Kaplan. The sampling procedures were under the direction of Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Mathematical Adviser.
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INTRODUCTION

GENERAL

This report presents data on the personal and economic characteristics of the men and women in each industry, based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the returns of the Sixteenth Decennial Census of Population, taken in April 1940. The subjects included are color, nativity and citizenship, age, employment status, class of worker, major occupation group, hours worked during the week of March 14 to 20, 1940, months worked in 1939, and duration of unemployment. Statistics on all of these subjects are presented for the United States, and data on several subjects are shown for four broad regions and by urban-rural residence.

The data presented in this report, together with the industry statistics shown in Volume III of the Reports on Population, entitled "The Labor Force," constitute a body of information that describes the industrial structure of the American labor force in a peace-time economy. The various combinations of industrial data with personal and economic characteristics presented in these reports were designed to provide material needed by war manpower and production agencies, as well as by other agencies and persons interested in labor force data. Statistics showing the age, class of worker, and occupational skill of the men and women engaged in the various industries just prior to the impact of the war production program, are useful in estimating the characteristics of the workers who could be released for war work through the curtailment of less essential industrial activities. The age data for men in each industry can be used to evaluate the effect of alternative Selective Service induction policies on the various industries, and to measure the resulting needs for replacement. The figures also suggest opportunities for greater utilization of women in the war effort, and of minority groups, such as nonwhite and foreign-born workers.

RELATED REPORTS

This report supplements the industry data based on tabulations of the complete census returns which are presented for the United States, each State, and large cities, in Volume III of the Reports on Population, entitled "The Labor Force." Data on most of the subjects shown here for each of the 332 industries are presented in Volume III in terms of an 82-item consolidated industry grouping; the statistics in that volume, however, are given for each State and each city of 250,000 or more, as well as for the four broad regions shown in this report. In addition, similar data are also shown in Volume III for nonwhite in each Southern State, each Southern city of 200,000 or more, and each of the 16 Northern and Western cities in which the nonwhite population numbered 50,000 or more, or constituted 10 percent or more of the total population. The cross classifications presented in this report for wage or salary workers only are shown for all workers in Volume III; conversely, certain of the cross classifications presented here for all workers, are limited to wage or salary workers in the latter publication. The number of men and women in each of the 332 industries which comprise the complete 1940 census industry classification is given in Volume III for each State and each city of 100,000 or more. The detailed industrial distribution of nonwhite is also shown for Southern States, Southern cities of 100,000 or more, and 16 selected Northern and Western cities. Data on the racial distribution of persons in each of the 82 industries are presented for each State. In addition, Volume III gives statistics for persons in the labor force on such subjects as occupation, wage or salary income in 1939, and marital status, as well as on most of the subjects shown here.

Industry statistics for small areas, based on a 42-item consolidated grouping of the 152-item industry list used in this report, are presented in Volume II of the Reports on Population entitled "Characteristics of the Population." That volume contains data for States, all urban places, counties, and principal metropolitan districts, includes statistics on the general characteristics of the population, as well as employment status of persons 14 years old and over, and class of worker and major occupation group for employed persons. This report is one of a series of publications under the general title "The Labor Force--Sample Statistics." The specific titles and a brief summary of the subjects covered in the reports closely related to industry statistics are as follows:

Occupational Characteristics.-- Statistics on occupation by color, age, years of school completed, class of worker, months worked in 1939, and other subjects, for experienced persons in the labor force (except on public emergency work) for the United States and for regions: data on the occupational distribution of employed persons in each industry, for the United States.

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.

Geographic Areas

Industry statistics by age, class of worker, and major occupation group are presented in this report for each of the four regions. The accompanying map shows the States included in each of these four regions. Regional figures are not given for the other characteristics presented in this report partly because of lack of publication space and partly because errors due to sampling are larger in the small cell frequencies often found in the detailed cross classifications for regions.

AVAILABILITY OF UNPUBLISHED DATA

It has been necessary to omit from the tables in this report some of the industry statistics that were untabulated. Omissions were dictated partly by limited funds for publication and partly by considerations of the reliability of the data, since comparatively large sampling errors are sometimes encountered in the more detailed cross classifications for categories containing only a small number of persons. Although many of the data in this report are shown for the United States only, statistics cross classifying each of the 332 industries with the characteristics presented here are available for each of the four regions, by urban-rural residence. In addition, data on the usual industry of persons on public emergency work and of experienced workers seeking work are available for each of the four regions, by urban-rural residence.

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

2 At the time this report goes to press in May of 1945 the reports referred to in this paragraph are in various stages of completion, and it is possible that minor changes may be made before publication.
2

THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

The labor force, in terms of the complete 1940 census industry classification.

The unemployment statistics, so far as the figures are large enough to be significant, can be made available upon request, for those on unemployment or retraining plans. Request for such statistics, addressed to the Director of the Census, Washington, D.C., will receive a prompt reply which will include an estimate of the cost of preparing the data.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

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. 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, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The classification by employment status in the 1940 Census of Population was obtained from questions relating to 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 on public emergency 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 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 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.

Table I. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: MARCH 1940

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persons 14 years old and over</td>
<td>103,175,760</td>
<td>50,469,620</td>
<td>52,706,140</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person in labor force</td>
<td>58,360,958</td>
<td>29,915,660</td>
<td>28,445,298</td>
<td>56.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked in labor force</td>
<td>49,069,448</td>
<td>23,364,468</td>
<td>25,705,980</td>
<td>87.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged in own home housework</td>
<td>28,660,905</td>
<td>13,899,260</td>
<td>14,761,645</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In school</td>
<td>37,946,140</td>
<td>13,083,140</td>
<td>24,863,000</td>
<td>64.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to work</td>
<td>3,822,230</td>
<td>1,204,930</td>
<td>2,617,300</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In other labor force or public emergency work</td>
<td>1,978,120</td>
<td>620,540</td>
<td>1,357,580</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons not at work and not having a job</td>
<td>31,714,802</td>
<td>15,644,720</td>
<td>16,070,082</td>
<td>55.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LARGE SCALE LAY-OFFS

EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</th>
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<td>1,357,580</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employment status categories. The employment status category of persons in the labor force are defined below:

Employed (except on public emergency work). The group classified as employed includes two subgroups: (a) "At work"—persons who worked for pay or profit at some time during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, in private work or in 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 who 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 involving seeking work. Persons with definite instructions to return to work on a specific date are "Employed (except on public emergency work)" includes not only employees but also proprietors, farmers, other self-employed persons, and unpaid family workers.

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

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 group was relatively high in seasonal 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 and therefore be in any class of time lost from work. Table 13 presents the number of men and women at work, and the number with a job but not at work, in each industry, for the United States, urban and rural.

Due to such factors as 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, a considerable number of public emergency workers were improperly classified in the census returns. The most common type of misclassification was the reporting of emergency workers as "at work," although there is also evidence that considerable numbers were classified as "seeking work." Difficulties in employment status classification. Job loss 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 housework, though they may be working for pay or profit at some time. Women with part-time jobs and women who lost their jobs and were looking for another employment opportunity may have been reported in some cases in own home housework. The difficulties in employment status classification of both women and children were especially great in rural-farm areas since it is often very hard to distinguish unpaid family work on the one hand and incidental farm chores and home housework on the other. In addition, many students working part-time after school hours were probably reported as not at work. It was also true that some of the women on the NVA Student Work Program.

For persons 65 years of age and over, and to some extent for those 55 to 64 years old, it is difficult to draw the lines between able-bodied persons seeking work and disabled or retired persons no longer in the labor force. Moreover, many men in these age groups at the time of the census had been forced into retirement because of their health or the health of their families, while many of the younger workers, although they were still able and willing to work. The category "Employment status not reported" includes two groups: (a) Persons reported as not at work but not classified to any specific category, who constituted about one-fifth of the 1,978,120 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

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

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 15 years old has become relatively small and no longer justifies the additional burden of enumeration and tabulation necessary to retain the 10-year age limit. In making comparisons between the 1940 labor force data and the gainful worker statistics in earlier census reports, the slight difference in age limits should be taken into consideration.

Changes in census dates also affect the comparison of 1940 data with those for earlier years. In 1990 the census was taken on the 15th of April; it was in 1910, was in 1890, and was in 1920, January 1; in each 1930 and 1940, the census date was April 1; in each of these years the census was on the 15th of April. These changes may have had a pronounced effect, especially on certain areas of the size of the group returned as gainful workers and on their occupational and industrial distribution.

INDUSTRY

In the 1940 census an inquiry relating to industry4 was made of all persons 14 years old and over in the labor force during the census week. For employed persons and for persons on public emergency work, this question referred to the "current" job, that is, the job on which they were engaged during the census week. For persons seeking work, the question referred to the "last" job, or the job on which they were most recently engaged for one month or more. A second inquiry on industry5 was made of a five-percent cross section of all persons 14 years old and over, regardless of whether they were in the labor force during the census week. This question referred to "usual" industry, that is, the industry in which the person was engaged while practicing the occupation he regarded as his usual occupation and at which occupation he was physically able to work. For both of these inquiries, however, the enumerators were instructed to make no industry entry for persons who had never worked full time for one month or more. It should be noted, however, that all industry data for persons seeking work are restricted to experienced workers, since "new workers" had never worked on a job for one month or more.

The data presented in this report are based upon the first of two industry inquiries contained in the 1940 Census of Population schedule. The tables of personer classified by industry and occupation present the results of the first inquiry; hence, the statistics refer to "current" or "last" industry, rather than to "usual" industry. These tables do not include measures for persons seeking work, although the question for such persons referred to the work for the public emergency project (their current job), many of these persons reported the industry of their most recent nonemergency job or the job in which they were usually engaged for coverage.

The statistics for most of the subjects shown in the detailed tables are presented separately for employed persons (except on public emergency work) and for experienced workers seeking work because of the difference between these two groups of workers in time reference of industry. This separation makes possible an analysis of the differences in characteristics between the persons employed in the public emergency work and the other persons shown in the public emergency project (their current job), whereas the employment status classification is based on activity during the census week of March 24 to 30, 1940.

Structure of the industry classification. — The industry classification used in the 1940 census contains 152 items. This classification is a condensation of the 1,441 titles in the Standard Industrial Classification Manual (1937) used by most governmental agencies. 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.

Not all of the titles in the 1940 industry classification correspond with those in the 188-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 broadened or narrowed. Studies which are being made of the relationship between the 1940 and 1930 industry classifications will show the items that correspond in the two classifications. These, along with the differences, will indicate the probable extent of difference in other items, and will list the items that are not comparable.

The Bureau of the Census has published an "Alphabetical Index of Occupations and Industries: 1940" which gives an alphabetical list of approximately 9,000 industry designations and shows the category of the complete census industry classification to which each industry return should be assigned. This publication also includes an alphabetical list of some 25,000 occupation designations and the category of the complete census industry classification to which each occupation return should be assigned.

Difficulties in the classification of industries. — The task of classifying the enumerators' returns on industry would be difficult enough if all the returns were on a uniform basis and contained identical descriptions of the industries concerned, since it involves the assignment of many thousands of different designations to one of the 152 titles comprising the 1940 census industry classification. It is made more difficult, however, by the failure of many enumerators to return exact designations of specific industries. Indefinite returns resulted in some cases from carelessness on the part of the enumerators or from their lack of knowledge of industrial designations. In other cases, the housewives and others from whom the enumerators obtained their information did not know the specific industries of the persons to whom the questions referred.

In many instances indefinite industry returns can be assigned to the proper classification through an examination of other entries on the schedule. Assistance is also available, at times, 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. 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 Michigan 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 be classified as "Cotton manufacturing employee," always possible, of course, to supplement the enumerator's returns in this fashion.

4 For a more complete discussion of this subject, see Part 1 of Volume III of the Reports on Population.
5 For a more complete discussion of this subject, see Part 1 of Volume III of the Reports on Population.
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), "Petroleum refining," (which may represent the chemical industry producing rayon yarn or the textile industry using rayon yarn in weaving), "Mill, (which may represent the production of crude petroleum, the refining of petroleum, the sale of petroleum products, etc.)."

The user of statistics for workers classified by industry should keep in mind, therefore, that the figures for those industry classifications which are "clear-cut" and distinct are likely to be more accurate than those for industry classifications involving complications like those mentioned above. Additional detail regarding classification problems will be presented in a subsequent report.

Coverage of industry classifications—Government. "Domestic service," and "Agriculture."—The industry classification "Government (not elsewhere classified)", does not include all persons 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 driver employed by a municipally operated trolley 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 Volume III of the Reports on Population. 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 former operation, such as cotton ginning, landscape gardening, operation of greenhouses, and farm services such as irrigation and spraying.

Comparability with industry data from earlier censuses. — No comparisons of the 1940 census data on industry with earlier data from the 1930 and earlier censuses are included in this report. Such comparisons are compiled by four important considerations. In the first place, gainful workers, the group for which industry statistics were presented in previous censuses, are not directly comparable with the 1940 labor force.

Second, the industry data from these years do not cover the entire labor force. For persons on public emergency work, no data on industry are presented.

Third, the 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 industries. In the 1940 census, on the other hand, the industries were designed to obtain current industry for employed workers and latest industry for persons seeking work.

Finally, the 1940 classification of industry differs from that used in previous censuses. Studies are now being made of the relationship between the 1940 and 1930 classifications. Comparison will await the results of these studies, which will show the items that correspond in the classifications for the two periods, the probable extent of difference in other items, and the items that are not comparable. These studies will facilitate the comparison of 1940 industry statistics with data from earlier censuses.

Comparability with industry data from other sources. — The statistics on industry collected by other agencies are not entirely comparable with census data because of differences in the methods of obtaining the information. 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 workers themselves or from other members of their households who may not be able to describe accurately the worker's industry. Even when the respondent is entirely familiar with the worker's job, his description of it may be incorrect, or the enumerators frequently lack the technical knowledge needed to distinguish between closely related industries and to select the information most essential for accurate classification.

For workers classified by industry, the 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 as employed 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 to which a given person is employed than from the records of the person's household. The survey information concerning him to the census enumerator. Accordingly, the figures shown here for those industrial activities which are frequently subsidiary to the main activities are based on the reporting of auxiliary activities obtained from statistics obtained from reports by employers.

Another reason for possible differences between statistics based upon house-to-house canvass and those collected from employers lies in the tendency of persons to have more or different jobs in a given week. Such persons are counted only once in the population census, being classified in the industry in which they worked during the week. 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 in mining. 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.

Personal characteristics. — The statistics included in this report include cross classification of the men and women in each industry with color, nativity, citizenship, and age. These data are useful in the study of child labor, educational guidance, and social insurance programs. The data are also useful for an exact analysis of the relationship between unemployment and color, nativity, and age and of the persons in each industry since corresponding statistics for persons on public emergency work are not available. The industrial occupations of public emergency workers are materially different from those of the other workers in the labor force.

Statistics on the statistical distribution of white and nonwhite races are presented in tables 1 and 2. The latter group consists of Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who were not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race were returned as white in 1940. Nonwhites are principally Negroes, especially in the South, but include significant numbers of Indians, Chinese, and Japanese in the West.

Volume III of the Reports on Population presents, for each state, distributions by race ("White," "Negro," and "Other race") for employed persons (except on public emergency work), and for experienced workers seeking work, for each of the 82 industry groupings which comprise the intermediate industry list. Industry statistics for nonwhite persons, in terms of this intermediate list, are also available for selected cities in this report.

Volume II of the Reports on Population presents the industrial distribution of employed persons (except on public emergency work), in terms of a condensed 45-item industry list for each county, city of 10,000 or more, and metropolitan districts, in the South.

Nativity and citizenship. — Tables 1 and 2 also present the only statistics on industry by nativity and citizenship to be published in the 1940 census reports. In the classification by nativity, a person who was born in the United States or in any of its territories or possessions is counted as native. Persons included as native are the small number of persons who, although born in a foreign country or at sea, were American citizens by
INTRODUCTION

Birth because their parents were American citizens. Nativity is not shown for aliens in this report, since less than two percent of all nonwhites are foreign born.

The classification of the foreign-born white in regard to citizenship embraces two major categories, naturalized citizen and alien. The alien category is divided into those having first papers and those who have taken no steps toward becoming naturalized ("No papers"). There is an additional group designated not reported, for whom the enumerator secured no report as to citizenship.

The "first papers" constitute the declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States, a declaration which may be made by an eligible alien 18 years of age and over. The age data are presented for all aliens aged 18 years and over shown in a single group. For persons 14 to 19 years old the data are presented in two-year intervals because of the special interest in the industrial attachment of children.

Volume III of the Reports on Population presents, for States and large cities, the age distribution of all workers (as compared with the wage or salary workers shown here) who were employed (except on public emergency work) or were experienced workers seeking work, in terms of the 82-teen intermediate industry list. Similar statistics for nonwhites are also given for several areas. The age classification used in the volume is somewhat less detailed than the one used here, with the exception that, in the former, workers 65 to 74 years old are shown separately.

The statistical class of the class-of-worker distribution of employed persons (except on public emergency work) and of experienced workers seeking work in each industry are presented in Table 1, for the current January. The data for the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. For experienced workers seeking work, this classification refers to the last job of one month or more. The composition of each class-of-worker category is described below.

Wage or salary workers. — This class consists of persons who, in their current or last job, worked as employees for wages or salary (in cash or kind). It includes not only regular workers, such as clerks, typists, employees of large firms, laborers, clerks, etc., who work 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. This category 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 last job were on public emergency work are classified as government workers. Industry data for these two groups are not presented separately in this report, but are shown in Volume III of the Reports on Population.

Employed and own-account workers. — This group consists of persons who, in their current or last job, 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 also classified as wage or salary workers.

The class-of-worker data are presented for the United States for each of the 82 industries. The intermediate industry list is presented for States and large cities in Volume III of the Reports on Population. The volume also includes similar data for nonwhites in selected areas.

Table II. CLASS OF WORKER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS (EXCEPT ON PUBLIC EMERGENCY WORK) AND OF EXPERIENCED WORKERS SEEKING WORK, BY SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: MARCH 1940

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND CLASS OF WORKER</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed (excl. emergency work)</td>
<td>45,551,860</td>
<td>22,777,440</td>
<td>22,774,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage or salary workers</td>
<td>24,571,860</td>
<td>12,356,440</td>
<td>12,215,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed and own-account workers</td>
<td>9,955,360</td>
<td>5,301,420</td>
<td>4,653,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid family workers</td>
<td>1,145,760</td>
<td>659,060</td>
<td>486,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking work, experienced</td>
<td>4,402,800</td>
<td>2,414,800</td>
<td>2,008,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage or salary workers</td>
<td>4,183,160</td>
<td>2,395,860</td>
<td>1,787,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed and own-account workers</td>
<td>294,640</td>
<td>159,800</td>
<td>134,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid family workers</td>
<td>8,560</td>
<td>5,080</td>
<td>3,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Distribution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed (excl. emergency work)</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage or salary workers</td>
<td>74.75</td>
<td>74.01</td>
<td>75.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed and own-account workers</td>
<td>21.25</td>
<td>22.99</td>
<td>19.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid family workers</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking work, experienced</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage or salary workers</td>
<td>94.30</td>
<td>92.50</td>
<td>96.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed and own-account workers</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid family workers</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the interpretation of the data for rural-farm areas, it should be borne in mind that more than one million of the employed workers in these areas were engaged in unpaid family work in agriculture, 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 for nonagricultural industries.

The class-of-worker distribution of employed persons (except on public emergency work) and of experienced workers seeking work for each of the 82 industries is presented in Volume III of the Reports on Population. That volume also includes similar data for nonwhites in selected areas.
THE LABOR FORCE—SAMPLE STATISTICS

The broad occupational distribution of the wage or salary workers in each industry is presented in Table 9 to 12. For these industries and for regions, for employed persons (except on public emergency work), the classifications both by class of worker and by occupation refer to the job at which these persons were employed during the census week. For persons seeking work, these classifications refer to the last job of one month or more. The occupation grouping used in these tables represents a combination of the 11 principal classifications in the complete 1940 census occupation list of 451 titles. The following consolidations have been made:

Farmers and farm managers have been combined with "Proprietors, managers, and officials, except farm." to form the group "Proprietors, managers, and officials, including farming."
Domestic service workers have been combined with "Service workers, except domestic and protective" to form the group "Domestic workers, including farm."

These consolidations have been made because the industrial distribution provided for all prevalent purposes the 11 detailed classifications. All "Farmers and farm managers" and "Farm laborers and foremen" are in the industry "Agriculture," which includes only a small number of "Proprietors, managers, and officials, except farm" and of "Laborers, except farm and mine." A similar situation exists with regard to "Domestic service workers" and the industry "Domestic service," which includes only a small number of "Service workers, except domestic and protective." The number of persons in each of the 11 principal occupation groups is presented in the report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Occupational Characteristics." These data show the regional differences in the characteristics of a given industry as reflected by variations in the broad occupational composition of the industry. These tables also show the differences in occupational utilization of men and women both within a specific industry and among the several industries. The data provide some indication of occupational differences in unemployment rates for a specific industry, as well as industrial differences in unemployment rates for a specific major occupation group.

Volume III or the Reports on Population presents, for States and large cities, statistics on the major occupation group distribution of employed persons (except on public emergency work) in each of the 56 intermediate industry groupings. Similar data for nonmetropolitan areas are also shown for selected areas. The statistics in this volume, which are presented in terms of the same occupational groups as used in this report, include employed persons (except public emergency work); that is, the data cover employed persons and non-account workers, and unpaid farm workers, in addition to the wage or salary workers shown here.

A more detailed cross classification of occupation and industry is presented in the report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Occupational Characteristics." In that report, the number of employed males (except on public emergency work) in each of 116 occupations, and the number of employed females (except on public emergency work) in each of 56 occupations, are shown for each of 132 industries.

HOURS WORKED DURING THE CENSUS WEEK

Tables 13 and 14 present statistics on 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, for the United States, urban and rural. 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 a number of part-time workers 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 within a single industry, and that many persons working part time do not desire more work. In addition, it should be pointed out that since the data refer to a single week they may not be as good a general measure of the amount of part-time work for seasonal industries as for nonseasonal industries.

Table 15 describes the reports on population presents, for States and large cities, a somewhat more detailed classification of hours worked than is shown in this report, but the data are limited to the wage or salary workers in each of the 56 intermediate industry groupings. Similar data for nonmetropolitan areas are also shown for selected areas.

HOURS WORKED IN 1939

Statistics on the number of months worked in 1939 by the persons in each industry are presented in Tables 15 and 16, for the United States. The group "Experienced workers in the labor force (except on public emergency work)," for whom the statistics are presented in these tables, is a combination of the two employment status categories "Employed persons (except on public emergency work)" and "Experienced workers seeking work."

The classification by employment status refers to activity during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940. The data are shown for (a) wage or salary workers, and (b) employed, own-account workers, and unpaid family workers. The figures are less significant and less reliable for nonwage or salary workers than for wage or salary workers; 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 in 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 weeks actually worked and not days. Paid vacations or other absences with pay were included in the number of weeks worked, except that summer vacations of school teachers who did no other work during the summer were not counted in the weeks worked.

The returns for weeks worked in 1939 have been converted into months in the tables in this report, because a large proportion of the returns were only approximate, and did not have a sufficient number of valid statements of the precise number of weeks of work.

The groupings of months worked that are used in this report are listed below with their equivalents in terms of weeks worked as reported.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of months worked</th>
<th>Reported number of weeks worked</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without work in 1939</td>
<td>0 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With work in 1939:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 2 months</td>
<td>1 to 6 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>7 to 10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>11 to 14 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 or 5 months</td>
<td>15 to 22 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 8 months</td>
<td>24 to 30 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 or 10 months</td>
<td>36 to 49 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 months</td>
<td>50 to 52 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data on months worked provide an indication of the continuity of employment, and are helpful in the analysis of unemployment in various industries. The deviation from twelve in the number of months worked by a given group yields a measure of unemployment. Because of three complications, however, this measure is only approximate. In the first place, the number of months worked includes time on public emergency work, so that some of the persons reporting 10 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

*This lack of precision was evidenced by a marked tendency for examiners 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 examiners' procedure of multiplying the number of months by 4 instead of 39. The months worked 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 4 or 4 and one-third, weeks per month. Thus, 4 months might be figured approximately 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 12 months was not an exact multiple of 4 weeks. Summarized data showed 46 weeks as the equivalent of 12 months.

*The complete list of 451 titles is shown in an appendix to the report "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Occupational Characteristics."
unemployed during the whole year, but also some persons who
were in the labor force at the time of the census, but not in
the labor force at any time in 1939. Finally, work was
to be reported in terms of equivalent full-time weeks, 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.

Although these statistics are a better measure of unemploy-
ment than hours worked during the census week for workers in
which there is much part-time or casual employment, and for
seasonal industries, the data on months worked should be inter-
preted 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 three months
after the calendar year to which the data on months worked refe-
red. 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 par-
ticular industries in some areas.

Data on months worked in 1939, limited to wage or salary
workers (except on public emergency work) in each of the 52
intermediate industry groupings, are presented for States and
large cities in Volume III of the Reports on Population. Simi-
lar statistics for nonwhites in selected areas are also shown
in that report.

**DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

Table 17 presents statistics on the duration of unemployment
of experienced persons seeking work in each industry, for the
United States. 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 non-emergency government jobs, duration of unemployment was de-
dined as the length of time since the end of the last full-time
private or nonemergency government job of one month or more.
For persons who had never worked for one 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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration in months</th>
<th>Reported duration in weeks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1 month</td>
<td>Under 3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>3 to 6 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>7 to 10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>11 to 14 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 and 5 months</td>
<td>15 to 22 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 8 months</td>
<td>23 to 35 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 to 11 months</td>
<td>36 to 49 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 23 months</td>
<td>50 to 99 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 to 35 months</td>
<td>100 to 149 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 to 59 months</td>
<td>150 to 249 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 or more months</td>
<td>250 or more weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These statistics indicate the severity of unemployment in
each industry and are therefore useful as a supplement to other
measures of unemployment by industry. For industries with a
relatively large number of persons who did not report duration
of unemployment, care should be exercised in the interpretation
of the data since it is unsafe to assume that the periods of
unemployment of the persons who failed to report were similar
to those of the persons who did report.

Statistics on duration of unemployment limited to the wage
or salary workers in each of the 52 intermediate industry
groupings are presented for States and large cities in Volume
III of the Reports on Population. Similar data for nonwhites
in selected areas are also shown in that volume.

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

The statistics shown in this report are based on tabulations
of a five-percent sample of the 1940 census returns multiplied
uniformly by 20. Exact agreement is not to be expected between
these sample tabulations and tabulations of the complete count.
An analysis of the statistics based on tabulations of the five-
percent sample of the population for items that were obtained
also for the total population indicates that in 99 percent of the cases the sample statistics differ from the com-
plete census statistics by less than 5 percent for all numbers
of 10,000 or more, by less than 10 percent for numbers between
5,000 and 10,000, and by less than 20 percent for numbers be-
tween 2,000 and 5,000. Somewhat larger variations may be ex-
pected in numbers below 2,000. Even for these small numbers,
however, the majority of the differences between the sample and
complete statistics are less than 10 percent, although much
larger differences occasionally occur.

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

**DERIVATION OF DATA FOR PERSONS OTHER THAN WAGE OR SALARY WORKERS**

The cross classifications of industry by age and by major
occupation group, which are shown in this report for wage or
salary workers only, are presented for all workers in Volume III
of the Reports on Population. Conversely, the cross classifi-
cations by hours worked during the census week and by duration
of unemployment, which are shown here for all workers, are pre-
sented for wage or salary workers only in Volume III. Conside-
erable caution should be exercised in attempting to derive
distributions for workers other than wage or salary workers by
obtaining the differences between sample and complete-count
figures. The residuals obtained in this manner, especially for
industries with small numbers of such workers, may be seriously
affected by sampling variation and by undetected errors in pro-
cessing the data.

10 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 un-
employment 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 15 to 23 months, 24 to 35 months, 30 to 59 months, and 60 or more
months, representing 1, 2, 3, and 4, 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.