SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

POPULATION

THE LABOR FORCE
(Sample Statistics)

Usual Occupation

Prepared under the supervision of
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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).

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IV Characteristics by Monthly Rent or Value, by States.
V 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 on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the population returns and presents data on usual occupations of the labor force and of persons not in the labor force, by employment status and personal characteristics. These statistics are designed for the analysis of the incidence of unemployment upon various occupational groups, for the study of occupational shifts during the period of large-scale unemployment in which the census was taken, and for a description of the occupational skills to be found among possible recruits to the labor force. This report was prepared under the supervision of Dr. Leon E. Truesdell, Chief Statistician for Population, and Dr. A. Ross Eckler, Assistant Chief Statistician, by William H. Mautz, Chief of Economic Statistics, Dr. Barry Casper, and David L. Kaplan. The sampling procedures were under the direction of Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Mathematical Adviser.
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IV
USUAL OCCUPATION

INTRODUCTION

GENERAL

This report presents data on usual occupation based on tabulations of a five-percent sample of the returns of the Sixteenth Decennial Census of Population, taken in April 1940.\(^1\) Statistics are presented for experienced persons in the labor force, and for persons 14 years old and over not in the labor force (except those unable to work or in institutions). Data on usual occupation are shown by color, age, nativity and citizenship, marital status, employment status, and current or last major occupation group.

The statistics on usual occupation for the experienced labor force, presented in this report, constitute the only body of occupation data to be published in the 1940 census reports in which a uniform definition of occupation is used for all experienced persons in the labor force. In other publications, the occupation data for employed persons and for those on public emergency work refer to their jobs during the census week, and the data for experienced workers seeking work refer to their last jobs of one month or more. The classification by employment status, which is shown in this report for experienced workers in each usual occupation, can be used for analyzing the occupational incidence of unemployment. In addition, this report provides, for each occupation, information on the personal characteristics of all experienced workers in the labor force. The data given here also make possible the study of shifts between usual occupation and current or last occupation.

The data for persons not in the labor force presented in this report serve as an inventory of the skills to be found among possible recruits to the labor force. The classifications by urban-rural residence, age, and marital status help to identify the groups most readily available for employment in each occupation.

RELATIVED REPORTS

This is one of a series of reports based on sample tabulations, published under the general title "The Labor Force--Sample Statistics." The report entitled "Occupational Characteristics," in this series, presents statistics on the current occupation of employed persons and the last occupation of experienced workers seeking work, in terms of the intermediate lists of occupations for males and females. The data are presented by color, age, years of school completed, class of worker, months worked in 1939, and other characteristics, for the United States and regions.

The report entitled "Characteristics of Persons Not in the Labor Force," also based on sample tabulations, presents data on usual major occupation group, age, color, marital status, household relationship, months worked in 1939, and Social Security status, for persons not in the labor force, for the United States and regions.

Volume III of the Reports on Population, entitled "The Labor Force," presents, for States and large cities, statistics on current occupation for employed persons and last occupation for experienced workers seeking work, based on a complete count of the census returns. The intermediate occupation lists are shown by such characteristics as race, age, marital status, and wage or salary group in 1939. Volume III also shows the numbers of men and women employed in each of the 451 occupations in the complete census occupation classification, as well as data on current major occupation group for persons on public emergency work.

Occupation statistics for each State, county, and urban place, and for principal cities, are presented in Volume II of the Reports on Population, entitled "Characteristics of the Population." That volume gives data on current major occupation group for employed persons, based on a complete count of the census returns.

AREAS

Statistics on usual occupation for the experienced labor force and for persons not in the labor force are presented in this report for the United States and for each of four regions: The Northeastern States, the North Central States, the South, and the West. The accompanying map shows the States included in each region. In addition, the distribution by usual occupation of the experienced workers in the labor force is given for each State and for each city of 500,000 or more.

In some of the tables, figures are shown separately for urban and rural 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.

AVAILABILITY OF UNPUBLISHED DATA

Some of the data obtained from the tabulations upon which the tables in this report are based have not been published because many of the categories in the unpublished tables are very small and hence are subject to comparatively large sampling errors. Statistics on usual occupation for persons in the experienced labor force, in terms of the intermediate lists of occupations for males and females, were tabulated for all cities of 150,000 to 500,000, and for selected cities of 100,000 to 175,000. In addition, usual occupation statistics for persons on public emergency work and for experienced workers seeking work, in terms of the complete 1940 census occupation classification, were tabulated by urban-rural residence and sex, for each of the four regions.

Such of the unpublished figures as are considered reliable can be obtained upon request, for the normal cost of transcribing or reproducing them. Requests for such unpublished 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.

LABOR FORCE CLASSIFICATION

In the 1940 Census of Population, persons 14 years old and over were classified on the basis of their activity during the census week of March 24 to 30, 1940, into two major groups: (a) Persons in the labor force, including those at work for pay or profit or at unpaid family work, those with a job or business from which they were temporarily absent, 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, in school, or unable to work; seasonal workers for whom the census week fell in an off-season, and who were not seeking work; others not employed, nor on public emergency work, nor seeking work: all inmates of penal and mental institutions and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy, regardless of their activity during the census week; and persons for whom employment status was not reported. Data relating to the various categories of this latter group are not in the labor force and not in the labor force 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>Percent Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persons 14 and over</td>
<td>92,618,460</td>
<td>50,576,880</td>
<td>42,041,580</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In labor force</td>
<td>58,463,460</td>
<td>32,798,890</td>
<td>25,664,570</td>
<td>66.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In farm work</td>
<td>40,049,460</td>
<td>21,456,690</td>
<td>18,592,770</td>
<td>62.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In nonfarm work</td>
<td>18,413,970</td>
<td>11,342,200</td>
<td>7,071,770</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in labor force</td>
<td>34,155,000</td>
<td>27,817,990</td>
<td>6,337,010</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed (ex. farm work)</td>
<td>40,049,460</td>
<td>21,456,690</td>
<td>18,592,770</td>
<td>62.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At work</td>
<td>26,890,600</td>
<td>14,924,010</td>
<td>11,966,590</td>
<td>66.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>13,158,860</td>
<td>6,532,680</td>
<td>6,626,180</td>
<td>34.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at work</td>
<td>34,155,000</td>
<td>27,817,990</td>
<td>6,337,010</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed not reported</td>
<td>5,905,540</td>
<td>4,811,550</td>
<td>1,093,990</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PERSONS IN THE LABOR FORCE

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

Public employment work—employed (except on public emergency work), union classified as employed includes (a) persons who worked for pay or profit at any time during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, in public or nonemergency Federal, State, or local government work, or assisted without pay on a project conducted by the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), or the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and (b) persons who actually worked during the week of March 24 to 30, 1940, in businesses, or professional enterprises from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, industrial dispute, bad weather, or lack of work.

Public emergency work—employed (except on public emergency work) includes 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 or engaged in work in projects conducted by the NYA. The NYA included persons who worked for wages or profit for pay or profit on public projects conducted by the NYA, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the Federal Security Agency, the Works Progress Administration, and the National Youth Administration.

Experienced labor force.—Many of the tables in this report present data for the experienced labor force, which includes employed persons, persons on public emergency work, and persons seeking work other than new workers. The entire labor force is composed of the experienced labor force and new workers. Occupation data for new workers are not available, since enumerators were instructed not to report occupation for persons who had never worked full time for one month or more.

Misperclassification of persons on public emergency work.—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 3,900,000 (according to the complete count of the census returns), whereas the number recorded on the pay rolls of the Federal emergency work agencies at the census was 2,958,100 excluding the NYA Student Work Program and 3,397,900 including that program. The most common type of misclassification was the classifying young workers as "employed (except 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 young workers were classified as seeking work. Since the amount of misclassification undoubtedly differed considerably among the various occupations, the occupation data for persons on public emergency work should be used with caution.

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 underestimates the amount of unemployment. The statistician who show the proportion of workers unemployed for each occupation should, therefore, be interpreted with considerable care.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE

The figures relating to usual occupation presented in this report do not give a complete account of persons not in the labor force who had training or experience in each occupation. First, two groups of persons not in the labor force have been omitted from the tabulations because most of the persons in these groups are permanently outside of the labor force. These two groups are: (a) Persons reported as unable to work because of permanent disability, chronic illness, or old age, and (b) institutional and penal institutions for the mentally disordered and defective, and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy. Second, some persons who had a usual occupation failed to report it. Third, some persons with experience regarded themselves as no longer having a usual occupation because they had been out of the labor force for a long time. Fourth, persons with experience, in two or more skills could report only the one which they regarded as their usual occupation.

In the interpretation of the data for persons not in the labor force, consideration should also be given to the fact that this group includes 1,987,140 persons for whom employment status was not reported. The category "Employment status not reported" consists of two groups: (a) Persons reported as not in the labor force but not assigned to any special category who constituted about one-fifth of the 1,987,140 persons in the category "Employment status 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 group (b) were in classes of the population in which the proportion in the labor force is low. On the basis of available evidence, it is estimated that probably not more than 600,000 of the 1,987,140 persons for whom employment status was not reported would have been classified as in the labor force if full information had been obtained.

DIFFICULTIES IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND AID PERSONS

In the interpretation of the number of persons reported in each occupation, according to employment status, age, and sex, certain difficulties in the labor force classification of women, children, and aged persons could be brought to mind. It is sometimes 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 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 housework and not in the labor force. Likewise, some men who had lost their jobs and were keeping house while looking for another employment opportunity may have been classified as engaged in housework instead of seeking work. The difficulty in classification was especially great in rural areas, where it is very often hard to distinguish between work for pay or profit or unpaid family workers on the one hand, and incidental farm chores or housework on the other.

For similar reasons, the employment status classification for persons of school age tends to be less reliable than for older persons. Many students taking part-time work 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 student workers on the NYA Student Work Program were reported as in school instead of on public emergency work. On the other hand, a considerable number of students in farming areas who performed only incidental farm work.
INTRODUCTION

Chores after school may have been included in the labor force as unpaid family workers.

For persons 65 years old and over, and to some extent for those 14 and under, 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 or retired persons no longer in the labor force. Moreover, many men in these age groups at the time of the census had been forced into retirement because of their inability to compete with younger workers, although they were still able and willing to work. Many of these prematurely retired workers should be considered as part of the nation's unused labor supply, although they were not actively seeking work at the time of the 1940 census.

OCCUPATION

Two inquiries relating to occupation were made in the 1940 census. First, an inquiry regarding "current" or "last" occupation was made of all persons in the experienced labor force during the census week. For employed persons and persons on public emergency work, this question referred to the job in which they were engaged during the census week. For experienced workers seeking work, the question referred to the job in which they were most recently engaged for one month or more. Second, an inquiry regarding "usual" occupation was made of a five-percent sample of all persons 14 years old and over (except new workers), regardless of whether they were in the labor force during the census week. This question referred to the occupation which the person regarded as his usual occupation and at which he was still physically able to work.

SHIFTS BETWEEN USUAL OCCUPATION AND CURRENT OR LAST OCCUPATION

Although most of the data in this report are based on usual occupation, data on current or last occupation are also presented in some of the tables. Statistics on current or major occupation group for employed persons, by usual occupation, are presented in Table 9. This table shows the number of persons with a particular skill who were currently engaged at that general level of skill. The table also shows the level of skill at which persons were employed if they were not working at their usual level of skill. Table 10, which presents a cross-classification of usual occupation with last major occupation group, gives similar information for experienced workers seeking work. These two tables together indicate employment status differences in shifts between usual occupation and current or last occupation. A summary of the data in Tables 9 and 10 is presented in Table II, which shows the percentage of persons in each usual major occupation group who reported both usual occupation and current or last occupation in the same major group.

Table II. EMPLOYED PERSONS (EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY WORK) WHO REPORTED USUAL AND CURRENT OCCUPATIONS, AND EXPERIENCED WORKERS SEEKING WORK WHO REPORTED USUAL AND LAST OCCUPATIONS, BY MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: MARCH 1940

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employed (Excl. on Emerg. Work)</th>
<th>Seeking Work, Experienced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reporting current occupation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reporting current and usual occupations in same major occupation group</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number</strong></td>
<td><strong>Percent</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and semiprof. workers</td>
<td>1,333,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm and farm managers</td>
<td>259,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers, except farm and mill</td>
<td>336,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>336,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table II presents, for whites and nonwhites, the distributions of employed persons by usual occupation and by current occupation, and the distributions of experienced workers seeking work and usual occupation and by last occupation. This table indicates the amount of shift into and out of each occupation according to employment status and color. Similar statistics by age are presented for employed persons in Table 12 and 13.

Persons who reported a lower level of current or last occupation than usual occupation were for the most part underemployed workers, that is, persons whose skills were not being completely utilized. On the other hand, persons who reported a higher level of current or last occupation than usual occupation were mainly those in the process of occupational advancement. It should be noted, however, that the data on usual occupation undoubtedly reflect a tendency for persons to report their highest occupational skill. Because of this tendency, the group reporting a lower level of current or last occupation than usual occupation includes not only persons who were temporarily forced to accept employment at a lower skill, but also many who had worked at a lower skill for so long that they were unlikely to return to their former activity, and some who were no longer physically able to perform the tasks of their former job. For the same reason, the group reporting a higher level of current or last occupation than usual occupation does not include all persons who were in the process of occupational advancement, since many of these persons probably reported their current or last job, rather than their usual job, at the time of the census. In addition, the relatively large number of persons who did not report a usual occupation should be taken into consideration in comparing the data on usual occupation with those on current or last occupation.

STRUCTURE OF THE 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, and
the remaining 430 represent industrial subdivisions of five occupations: "Proprietors, employers, and officials; "Foremen;" "Inspectors;" "Operatives and kindred workers;" and "Laborers."

The wording of the 461-item list is restricted to the presentation of statistics on current occupation for employed workers by sex in Volume III of the Reports on Population. In this report, intermediate occupation lists of 187 items for males and 114 items for females are given in terms of the statistics on usual occupation. These lists were made up chiefly by items in the detailed list of 461 occupations that are closely related or numerically small. The occupational character of each of the intermediate occupation groups in terms of the detailed occupations is shown in the Appendix to the report entitled "The Labor Force—Sample Statistics, Occupational Characteristics."

The Bureau of the Census has published the "Alphabetical Index of Occupations and Industries: 1940" which gives an alphabetical list of approximately 26,000 occupation designations and shows the category of the complete census occupation classification to which each return should be assigned. The Bureau of the Census has also published the "Classified Index of Occupations: 1940," in which the 25,000 occupation designations are arranged according to the 461 categories in the census list.

With two minor exceptions, the 187 items in the census intermediate lists for males are convertible to the standard intermediate Convertibility List of 99 occupations, which was designed by an interdepartmental Joint Committee on Occupational Classification sponsored by the Central Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association. This work was aimed at increasing comparability among occupation statistics compiled by various governmental and private agencies. The census intermediate list of 76 items for females and the 99-item Convertibility List for both are convertible to a somewhat broader grouping of occupations.

### DIFFICULTIES IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS

The task of classifying the enumerators' returns on occupation would be difficult enough if all the returns were straightforward and simple. More difficulties are encountered because the returns must be sorted out and classified according to the classification of occupations. The Bureau of the Census has published the "Alphabetical Index of Occupations and Industries: 1940" which gives an alphabetical list of approximately 26,000 occupation designations and shows the category of the complete census occupation classification to which each return should be assigned. The Bureau of the Census has also published the "Classified Index of Occupations: 1940," in which the 25,000 occupation designations are arranged according to the 461 categories in the census list.

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With two minor exceptions, the 187 items in the census intermediate lists for males are convertible to the standard intermediate Convertibility List of 99 occupations, which was designed by an interdepartmental Joint Committee on Occupational Classification sponsored by the Central Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association. This work was aimed at increasing comparability among occupation statistics compiled by various governmental and private agencies. The census intermediate list of 76 items for females and the 99-item Convertibility List for both are convertible to a somewhat broader grouping of occupations.

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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 1920 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 in more nearly obtaining a classification which is comparable with those used by other agencies.

Fourthly and finally, the 1940 data presented here are based on a five-percent sample. Considerable caution should therefore be exercised in the comparison of the figures for categories with small numbers. This caution is especially important for occupations that are unusual for women and children. In previous censuses, cards representing questionable returns for women and children were checked back to the schedules. In 1940, however, this check was made only in the extreme cases where the occupation seemed to be quite impossible for women or children (e.g., locomotive engineer). A nominal increase in the number of women or children in such groups as "Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers" and "Protective service workers" should be regarded, therefore, as possibly resulting from sampling variations or from changes in the editing procedure.

COMPARABILITY WITH OCCUPATION DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES

The statistics on occupation collected by other agencies are not entirely comparable with census data because of differences in the methods of tabulating the information. Statistics 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 or from other members of their households who may not be able to describe accurately the worker's occupation. Even when the respondent is entirely familiar with the worker's occupation, the interviewers frequently lack the technical knowledge needed to distinguish between closely related occupations and to select the information most essential for accurate classification.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

COLOR

Because of the great differences in economic status between whites and nonwhites, statistics on usual occupation are presented separately for each of these two groups. Nonwhites include 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. The great majority of the nonwhites are Negroes, except in the West, where there are many Indians, Chinese, and Japanese.

AGE

The data on usual occupation by age are useful in the study of many problems such as child labor, vocational guidance, social insurance, and unemployment. The statistics presented here for the experienced labor force and for employed persons provide information on age differentials in the incidence of unemployment among workers. They can also be used for analyzing the relationship of age to shifts between usual occupation and current occupation. For persons not in the labor force, the age data are helpful as indications of potential availability for employment. The age classification is based on age of the person at his last birthday before April 1, 1940, that is, in completed years.

NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP

The statistics on nativity and citizenship show the occupational differentials existing between native workers, foreign-born workers who have become naturalized citizens, and aliens. In the classification by nativity: "Person born in the United States or in any of its territories or possessions is counted as native. Likewise included as native are the small number of persons who, although born in a foreign country or at sea, were American citizens by birth because their parents were American citizens. The classification of the foreign born in regard to citizenship embraces two major categories: Naturalized citizens, and alien. Citizenship by naturalization is open only to white persons, persons of African nativity or descent, and descendants of races indigenous to the Western Hemisphere. Foreign-born Chinese, Japanese, and other Asiaties are not eligible for citizenship except under rare circumstances. There is an additional category designated "Citizenship not reported," comprising persons for whom the enumerators secured no report as to citizenship."

MARRITAL STATUS

Data on marital status by usual occupation are presented only for females in this report. The statistics on this subject are especially useful in the determination of availability for employment of the women with a particular skill who were not in the labor force during the census week.

In the classification by marital status, two groups are shown: Married, husband present; and other marital status, that is, single, married with husband absent, widowed, or divorced. A woman was classified as "married, husband present" if her husband was reported as a member of the household in which the woman was enumerated. Women in each marital status category are classified by age in order to provide further indications of the family responsibilities which affect their ability to take jobs.

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 the tabulations of the sample and the corresponding tabulations of a complete count, but the sample data nevertheless indicate the relationships among the various characteristics involved. With regard to the individual numbers in the tables, comparisons thus far made with figures obtainable also from the complete count indicate that 95 percent of the numbers above 10,000 will differ from those available from the complete count by less than 5 percent, 95 percent of those between 5,000 and 10,000 will differ by less than 10 percent, and 95 percent of those between 2,000 and 5,000 will differ by less than 20 percent. Somewhat larger variations may occur in the case of numbers below 2,000, but even here the majority of the differences 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 sample 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.

Footnote: In the 1940 census there were 835,072 foreign-born white persons in the United States for whom citizenship was not reported. It would appear that this group consisted predominantly of aliens. This conclusion is based partly upon the fact that the total number of foreign-born reported as aliens, plus those for whom citizenship status was not reported, is approximately equal to the number of aliens registered under the Alien Registration Act of 1940.