653

EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES AND ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT

OF THE

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

NINETY-THIRD CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

PART 1

FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 8, APRIL 5, MAY 3, AND JUNE 7, 1974

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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1974

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1974

EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1974

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES AND
ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT OF THE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 11 a.m., in room 318, Russell Senate Office Building, Hon. William Proxmire (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Proxmire and Ribicoff.

Also present: Loughlin F. McHugh, senior economist; William A. Cox and Courtenay M. Slater, professional staff members; Michael J. Runde, administrative assistant; Leslie J. Bander, minority economist; George D. Krumbhaar, Jr., minority counsel; and Walter B. Laessig, minority counsel.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE

CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE. The subcommittee will come to order.

Today we resume our hearings on the state of the economy as reflected in the employment-unemployment situation just announced by the Department of Labor. It will be recalled that this subcommittee initiated these hearings following the White House-induced termination of the long-standing, regular press briefings held by the technical experts of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to explain in nonpolitical terms what the latest labor market report showed. That was an expert presentation in which the technicians explained what the unemployment figures meant without any partisan shading one way or the other.

The cancellation of those briefings was occasioned when a premature and misleading handout was issued by the Secretary of Labor in March 1971—only to be contradicted by the technical expert at the press briefing.

Under the circumstances, this subcommittee felt that its hearings could serve, in part at least, as a substitute in informing the press and the general public about the true state of current labor market trends.

In view of the current perilous economic situation, with most major indicators pointing to a downturn in business and a rise in unemployment, we feel it necessary to resume these hearings, and we do so because the administration has steadfastedly refused to reestablish the briefings.

Today we have with us the distinguished successor to Mr. Geoffrey Moore, the former Commissioner of Labor Statistics who appeared before us month after month and performed heroically in explaining the unemployment-employment situation—so much so that his Federal Government career was terminated before his term of office was completed.

Mr. Julius Shiskin, the present Commissioner of Labor Statistics, is a long-term Government employee and a highly competent statistician dedicated to the preservation of the integrity of the statistical program.

I mention this latter fact because of the growing fears that as election time nears and the economy is functioning badly, there may be pressure to use phoney numbers, a kind of economic Watergate and a nightmare that haunts many of us concerned with the integrity of Federal statistics.

I have no fear in this respect in regard to the data under Commissioner Shiskin's jurisdiction. This must not be allowed to take place anywhere in the Government. Also important is the necessity to see that the interpretation of the data is correctly disseminated to the public. This is why we are here today. We are pleased to have you with us, Mr. Shiskin.

I might point out that we are, as I am sure you are, very unhappy about the results that were announced in January with the very big increase in unemployment from 4.8 percent to 5.2 percent. Coming less than 48 hours after the President of the United States said there will be no recession, this seems on the verge of contradicting the President's confident assurance.

Senator RIBICOFF. Mr. Chairman, if there is one thing the people of this country are entitled to, it is no politics with the jobs of the people of America. We must know the truth and what the facts really are. Do we have higher unemployment or don't we?

Certainly the executive branch and the Congress cannot act responsibly if we do not have the true facts upon which our decisions must be based.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, you may proceed.

STATEMENT OF HON. JULIUS SHISKIN, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY JEROME A. MARK, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY; NORMAN J. SAMUELS, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF WAGES AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS; JAMES R. WETZEL, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS; W. JOHN LAYNG, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS; AND JANET L. NORWOOD, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF DATA ANALYSIS

Mr. SHISKIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Senator Ribicoff. Allow me to make a few brief introductory remarks.

First, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a correction to your press release. You referred to me as Dr. Shiskin. I am not a Ph. D.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You are certainly more qualified and eminent in this field than any Ph.D. I know, so we will call you an honorary doctor. You have the degree of the Joint Economic Committee.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is better than a university degree, sir.

Second, I found it very convenient to have a little card in my pocket which indicated the days the figures will be released in each of the succeeding 3 months for the principal BLS's indicators. They are shown on one side of the card so that it is very convenient for you to find out the release dates, and so there can be no possible question about the scheduling of these dates.

Third, on the other side of the card we put in as much current data as there is room for.

We put out only one of these cards each month, and the logistics are such that it is more convenient to put it out after the CPI comes out about the 20th of the month. So, the new unemployment figures are not here, but I offer you this card and I hope you will find it useful.

Fourth, I would like to introduce the people who will be helping me today.

I have with me four of our office chiefs. Now two of them are members of this committee are familiar with, because they used to accompany my predecessor. Mr. Mark, sitting in back of me, is in charge of our productivity and technology work, and Mr. Norman Samuels is in charge of our wages and industrial relations work.

During the period between the resignation of Mr. Moore and my confirmation by the Senate and appointment, two very serious vacancies occurred. Mr. Katz and Mr. Popkin both resigned. I am very happy to say that we have been able to replace them with new outstanding people who I am sure will do just as good a job.

To my immediate right is James Wetzel, who is in charge of our current employment statistics. He has replaced "Hy" Kaitz. Jim Wetzel worked for the BLS years ago, for about 5 years, then he went to the Federal Reserve Board, he was with the Council of Economic Advisers 1 year, went back to the "Fed" and now is with us.

During that whole period he has worked in the employment and unemployment field, so he is a highly qualified expert in this area.

Second, I will introduce John Layng. John Layng is head of our Office of Prices and Living Conditions. He has been with the BLS a long period of time and has worked his way up through the price divisions.

With those brief introductions, I would like to read a brief statement, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to place the "Employment Situation: January 1974" press release for February 1, 1974, in the record, and present a short summary of major developments. Before discussing the data for January, I should make two observations. First, this January, as in each January for years, we have revised the seasonal factors used to adjust the monthly household data. Thus, figures for 1973 and earlier years have been modified to reflect the experience of the past

[1] See press release, beginning on p. 6.

year. The modifications for 1973 are slight. All figures mentioned in this statement are seasonally adjusted.

Second, many of the changes reported for January were caused, to some degree, by actual or actual or anticipated shortages of gasoline and other petroleum products. Preliminary information intended to provide estimates of employment reductions that resulted directly from either shortages of fuel or power or of other materials, the scarcity of which arises from energy shortages, suggest that the number of jobs eliminated in the past several months was substantial. Examples of industries affected in this way are gasoline stations and air transportation. In addition, employment declined in industries where demand levels were changing, at least partly, because of actual or anticipated shortages of fuel. Examples of such industries are automobile manufacturing, automobile sales, and hotels and motels. For the present, reporting is not yet adequate to permit quantitative estimates.

The overall unemployment rate rose to 5.2 percent in January from 4.8 percent in December. The last time an increase of this magnitude occurred was between December 1969 and January 1970. Since reaching a 1973 low point of 4.6 percent in October, the unemployment rate has risen six-tenths of a percentage point. The rate in January 1973 was 5.0 percent, in January 1972, 5.9 percent, and in January 1971, 6.0 percent.

The number of persons unemployed increased by 368,000 in January to a total of 4.7 million. The January rise in joblessness occurred largely among young adults and teenagers. The unemployment rate for 20–24 year-olds rose from 7.7 to 8.5 percent, returning to the levels that had prevailed in late 1972. The January increase in the number of unemployed in this category was 92,000. The teenage jobless rate increased from 14.4 to 15.6 percent in January, after hovering near the 14 percent mark throughout the second half of last year. The increase in the number of unemployed in this category was 142,000.

Among the occupation and industry groups the largest increases in unemployment rates occurred among blue-collar workers, particularly, semiskilled operatives, and, on an industry basis, in the durable goods component of manufacturing. Many operatives are assembly-line workers in auto manufacturing and supplier plants, and increased unemployment for this group has been widely reported. Although a relatively large increase of unemployment for a particular group—such as auto workers—is very important, we should also note that jobless rates have moved up since October for most occupation groups and most industries.

In all, total unemployment has risen by 630,000 persons since October. Four-fifths of the net rise has been acounted for by persons who lost their last job, whether through temporary layoff or outright release, and three-fifths by young adults (20–24) and teenagers combined. As you know, the unemployment figures that I have just referred to are derived from the survey of households.

Preliminary estimates of nonfarm wage and salary employment in January based on our survey of establishments are also included

in our release. Total nonfarm payroll employment, which has grown vigorously for more than 2 years, showed a decline in January of some 260,000 jobs. The level in January was about the same as in October. Half of this reduction occurred in contract construction—mostly heavy construction such as highway building. The next largest deadline, 125,000, occurred in manufacturing, with the largest single drop—64,000—in transportation equipment.

The average workweek also dropped in January, with the largest declines in industries showing reduced employment.

I hope this brief statement will help get the discussion going. Mr. Chairman, I am now prepared to attempt to answer any questions the subcommittee may wish to ask.

[The press release referred to in Mr. Shiskin's statement for the record follows:]

NEWS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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FOR RELEASE: Transmission Embargo
10:00 A. M. (EDT)
Friday, February 1, 1974

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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 1974

Unemployment rose in January, and the number of jobs on nonfarm payrolls declined, it was announced today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The unemployment rate increased to 5. 2 percent from a revised December rate of 4. 8 percent. (As is usual in January, the seasonally adjusted household survey data have been revised based on seasonal factors through December 1973; see the note on page 6.)

Nonfarm payroll employment (as measured by the establishment survey), which had exhibited exceptional growth during much of 1973, leveled off in December 1973 and dropped by 260, 000 in January 1974. This decline was caused, to some degree, by actual or anticipated shortages of gasoline and other petroleum products. Preliminary information intended to provide estimates of employment reductions that resulted directly from shortages of fuel or power and shortages of other materials arising from energy shortages suggest that the number of jobs eliminated in the past several months was substantial. Examples of such industries are gasoline stations and air transportation. In addition, employment declined in industries where demand levels were changing, at least partly, because of actual or anticipated shortages of fuels. Examples of such industries are automobile manufacturing, automobile sales, and hotels and motels. For the present, reporting is not yet adequate to permit quantitative estimates.

Total employment (as measured by the household survey) has shown little change for the past 3 months, following substantial gains during most of 1973.

Unemployment

The number of persons unemployed increased by almost 370, 000 in January to a total of 4. 7 million, seasonally adjusted. This raised the unemployment rate to 5. 2 percent from 4. 8 percent in December and from 4. 6 percent in October. The rate had been 5. 0 percent in January a year ago.

The January rise in joblessness occurred largely among young adults and

teenagers. The unemployment rate for 20-24 year-olds rose from 7.7 to 8.5 percent, returning to the level that had prevailed in late 1972. The teenage jobless rate increased from 14.4 to 15.6 percent in January, after hovering near the 14-percent mark throughout the second half of last year. For women 25 and over, the unemployment rate of 4.2 percent was unchanged from the previous month but has increased from its recent low point of 3.8 percent posted in October 1973. The jobless rate for men 25 and over rose from 2.4 to 2.7 percent in January. (See table A-6.)

Table A. Highlights of the employment situation (seasonally adjusted data)

Selected categories	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1972	1973				Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1973	1973	1974
	(Millions of persons)							
Civilian labor force	87.2	87.6	88.5	89.0	89.9	89.9	90.0	90.5
Total employment	82.6	83.2	84.1	84.8	85.7	85.6	85.7	85.8
Adult men	47.3	47.5	47.7	48.1	48.5	48.4	48.6	48.7
Adult women	28.3	28.6	29.2	29.5	29.7	29.7	29.6	29.5
Teenagers	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6
Unemployment	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.7
	(Percent of labor force)							
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	5.2
Adult men	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.4
Adult women	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.2
Teenagers	15.6	14.8	14.7	14.3	14.3	14.5	14.4	15.6
White	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.7
Negro and other races	9.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	8.9	8.6	9.4
Household heads	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.0
Married men	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3
Full-time workers	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.7
State insured	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.9
	(Weeks)							
Average duration of unemployment	11.6	10.6	9.9	9.7	9.9	10.0	9.3	9.4
	(Millions of persons)							
Nonfarm payroll employment	73.8	74.6	75.3	75.7	76.6p	76.7	76.6p	76.4p
Goods-producing industries	23.4	23.7	24.0	24.2	24.4p	24.5	24.5p	24.2p
Service-producing industries	50.4	50.9	51.3	51.6	52.1p	52.2	52.2p	52.2p
	(Hours of work)							
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	37.2	37.1	37.2	37.1	37.0p	37.1	37.0p	36.6p
Manufacturing	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.6p	40.6	40.7p	39.9p
Manufacturing overtime	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7p	3.8	3.7p	3.3p
	(1967=100)							
Hourly Earnings Index, private nonfarm:								
In current dollars	141.0	142.7	145.0	147.8	150.4p	150.3	151.3p	151.8p
In constant dollars	111.1	110.8	110.3	110.0	109.3p	109.1	109.3p	N.A.

p= preliminary.
N.A.= not available.

SOURCE: Tables A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, and B-4.

Unemployment rates for household heads (males and females combined) and married men, at 3.0 and 2.3 percent respectively, were little changed from December. However, both rates have risen from the lows reached in the second half of 1973 and were at or about their year-ago levels.

The unemployment rate for workers covered by State unemployment insurance programs rose from 2.7 (as revised) in December to 2.9 percent in January, moving out of the narrow 2.6-2.7 percent range that had prevailed since April of last year.

The unemployment rate for white workers rose from 4.4 to 4.7 percent in January, while the rate for Negro workers increased from 8.6 to 9.4 percent; both increases primarily reflected a deterioration in the job situation for adult males. The unemployment rate for each of these groups was at its highest point in more than a year.

The January increase in joblessness occurred among both full- and part-time jobseekers. After reaching a low of 4.1 percent last October, the full-time rate has risen to 4.7 percent, a return to its level of late 1972 and early 1973. The rate for part-time workers rose from 7.5 to 8.2 percent over the month.

Blue-collar workers, whose unemployment rate rose from 5.2 to 6.0 percent, accounted for the bulk of the January increase in joblessness. Sizeable increases in unemployment occurred both among craft workers and operatives. (The latter occupation includes a large number of automobile assembly-line workers.) Among the major industry groups, the rise in unemployment was confined largely to manufacturing workers. Principally as a reflection of recent layoffs in the automobile industry, the jobless rate for workers in durable goods industries rose from 3.9 to 5.0 percent from December to January.

The unemployment rate of Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years of age rose nearly 1 percentage point to 5.2 percent in January. Nearly all of the increase was among the more recently discharged veterans (20-24 years), whose unemployment rate jumped from 7.5 to 10.6 percent. Their rate--the highest in more than a year--was again well above that of the young nonveterans (7.2 percent) after 2 months of little difference. There was little change over the month in the jobless rates for veterans 25 to 29 (3.6 percent) and 30 to 34 (3.1 percent), nor were these rates essentially different from those of their nonveteran counterparts.

The increase in total unemployment took place largely among persons who had lost their last job--the number of job losers increased by 250,000 to a level of 2.0 million. (See table A-5.) Since reaching a low of 1.5 million in October of last

year, the number of unemployed job losers has risen by almost 550, 000, and now accounts for more than two-fifths of total unemployment.

The average duration of unemployment was little changed in January at 9. 4 weeks. Since January a year ago, however, the average duration of unemployment has fallen by one and a half weeks. (See table A-4.)

Civilian Labor Force and Total Employment

The civilian labor force increased by more than 500, 000 in January, to a seasonally adjusted level of 90. 5 million. Since January 1973, the civilian labor force has risen by 3. 3 million. (See table A-1.)

Total employment, at 85. 8 million, was about unchanged for the third straight month. Over the past 12 months, employment has risen by 3. 0 million, with adult men accounting for nearly 1. 2 million of this expansion, adult women a like amount, and teenagers 640, 000.

Industry Payroll Employment

According to preliminary data from the establishment survey. the number of nonagricultural payroll jobs declined by 260, 000 in January to 76. 4 million (seasonally adjusted). Manufacturing jobs were down 125, 000 in January, with the losses concentrated in the production of durable goods. Hard hit were transportation equipment, particularly automobiles, and primary metals and machinery. Retail trade declined for the second month, despite the return to work of striking grocery workers. In addition, employment in contract construction, which had increased slightly in December, dropped by 130, 000 in January. (See table B-1.)

Partly offsetting these declines were employment increases of about 25. 000 each in transportation and public utilities (after settlement of an airline strike) and in State and local government.

Despite the turn of events in the last 2 months, nonagricultural payroll employment in January was still 2. 1 million above its year-ago level, reflecting the strong growth posted throughout most of 1973.

Hours of Work

The average workweek for production or nonsupervisory personnel fell more than usual between December and January, according to preliminary estimates. After seasonal adjustment, the workweek declined by 0. 4 hour to 36. 6 hours, the shortest workweek that has been recorded since the series began on a monthly basis in 1964. In manufacturing, the average workweek dropped 0. 8 hour to 39. 9 hours--the shortest in more than 2 years--and overtime fell by 0. 4 hour to 3. 3 hours. Within manufac-

turing, weekly hours in transportation equipment; stone, clay, and glass products; and primary metal industries posted the largest monthly declines. (See table B-2.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls were unchanged in January. Since January a year ago, hourly earnings have risen by 6.6 percent. Weekly earnings dropped 1.1 percent from December to January (seasonally adjusted) but have advanced by 5.8 percent from their year-earlier level.

Before adjustment for seasonality, average hourly earnings increased by 1 cent in January to $4.02. (See table B-3.) Since January 1973, hourly earnings have risen by 25 cents. Weekly earnings averaged $145.93 in January, down $3.24 from December but $7.95 above a year earlier.

Hourly Earnings Index

The Hourly Earnings Index--earnings adjusted for overtime in manufacturing, seasonality, and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries--was 151.8 (1967=100) in January, 0.4 percent higher than in December. (See table B-4.) The index was 6.7 percent above January a year ago. All industries recorded gains over the past 12 months, ranging from 4.5 percent in contract construction to 8.0 percent in mining. During the 12-month period ended in December, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power declined 2.0 percent.

This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Statistics on payroll employment, hours, and earnings are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A description of the two surveys appears in the BLS publication *Employment and Earnings*.

Note on Seasonal Adjustment

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics revises the seasonally adjusted labor force series derived from the Current Population Survey (household survey) to take into account data from the previous year. The revisions just completed did not affect the previously published 1973 seasonally adjusted overall unemployment rate for 7 months of the year and altered it by only 0.1 percentage point in the other 5 months. New seasonal adjustment factors for the 12 major components of the civilian labor force--along with the newly revised historical data for the labor force, employment, and unemployment series--will appear in the February 1974 issue of Employment and Earnings. The following table presents the seasonally adjusted monthly unemployment rates for 1973 as originally published and as revised based on the application of new seasonal adjustment factors incorporating data through December 1973.

Months in 1973	Unemployment rate as originally published	Revised unemployment rate
January.....	5.0	5.0
February.....	5.1	5.1
March.....	5.0	5.0
April.....	5.0	5.0
May.....	5.0	4.9
June.....	4.8	4.8
July.....	4.7	4.7
August.....	4.8	4.7
September.....	4.8	4.7
October.....	4.5	4.6
November.....	4.7	4.7
December.....	4.9	4.8

Table A-1: Employment status of the noninstitutional population by sex and age

(In thousands)

Employment status, age, and sex	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Seasonally adjusted: Jan. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
Total								
Total labor force	88,122	91,983	91,354	89,404	92,038	92,186	92,315	92,801
Civilian labor force	85,718	89,701	89,096	87,000	89,749	89,903	90,033	90,543
Employed	81,043	85,643	84,088	82,619	85,649	85,649	85,669	85,811
Agriculture	2,955	3,202	3,197	3,489	3,455	3,561	3,643	3,794
Nonagricultural industries	78,088	82,441	80,891	79,130	82,194	82,088	82,026	82,017
On part time for economic reasons	1,899	2,350	2,385	2,077	2,377	2,405	2,562	2,586
Usually work full time	951	1,140	1,274	905	1,103	1,143	1,192	1,213
Usually work part time	948	1,210	1,111	1,172	1,274	1,262	1,370	1,373
Unemployed	4,675	4,058	5,008	4,381	4,100	4,254	4,364	4,732
Men, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	48,629	49,870	49,926	49,061	49,921	49,926	50,085	50,371
Employed	46,630	48,324	47,869	47,398	48,432	48,425	48,559	48,660
Agriculture	2,319	2,420	2,448	2,546	2,489	2,544	2,569	2,687
Nonagricultural industries	44,311	45,905	45,421	44,852	45,943	45,881	45,990	45,973
Unemployed	1,999	1,545	2,057	1,663	1,489	1,501	1,526	1,711
Women, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	29,952	31,539	31,170	29,884	31,042	31,183	31,169	31,133
Employed	28,325	30,168	29,491	28,322	29,661	29,704	29,596	29,519
Agriculture	388	473	455	536	531	550	595	628
Nonagricultural industries	27,937	29,695	29,035	27,786	29,130	29,154	29,001	28,891
Unemployed	1,627	1,371	1,680	1,562	1,381	1,479	1,573	1,614
Both sexes, 16–19 years								
Civilian labor force	7,137	8,293	7,999	8,055	8,786	8,794	8,779	9,039
Employed	6,083	7,151	6,728	6,899	7,556	7,520	7,514	7,632
Agriculture	248	309	293	407	435	467	470	479
Nonagricultural industries	5,840	6,842	6,435	6,492	7,121	7,053	7,033	7,153
Unemployed	1,050	1,142	1,271	1,156	1,230	1,274	1,265	1,407

Table A-2: Full- and part-time status of the civilian labor force by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Full- and part-time employment status, sex, and age	Jan. 1973	Jan. 1974	Seasonally adjusted: Jan. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
Full time								
Total, 16 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	73,096	75,493	74,911	76,127	76,583	76,764	[illegible]	77,452
Employed	69,446	71,681	71,484	72,942	73,473	73,439	[illegible]	73,64[illegible]
Unemployed	3,650	3,812	3,427	3,185	3,110	3,325	[illegible]	3,815
Unemployment rate	5.0	5.1	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.3	[illegible]	4.7
Men, 20 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	46,216	47,318	46,688	47,193	47,374	47,439	[illegible]	47,792
Employed	44,372	45,473	45,155	45,861	46,042	46,066	46,156	46,256
Unemployed	1,844	1,848	1,533	1,332	1,332	1,364	1,340	1,535
Unemployment rate	4.0	3.9	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.9	[illegible]	3.2
Women, 20 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	23,433	24,311	23,566	24,159	24,229	24,392	[illegible]	[illegible]
Employed	22,174	22,995	22,354	[illegible]	23,154	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unemployed	1,259	1,316	1,212	1,169	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.4	5.1	[illegible]	4.4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Part time								
Total, 16 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	12,622	13,594	12,236	[illegible]	13,186	13,190	[illegible]	[illegible]
Employed	11,597	12,406	11,298	12,278	12,203	12,228	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unemployed	1,025	1,192	938	1,029	983	962	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unemployment rate	8.1	8.8	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.3	[illegible]	[illegible]

NOTE: Persons on part-time schedules for economic reasons are included in the full-time employed category; unemployed persons are allocated by whether seeking full- or part-time work.

Table A-3: Major unemployment indicators

(Seasonally adjusted)

Selected categories	Number of persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	Jan. 1973	Jan. 1974	Jan. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
Total (all civilian workers)	4,381	4,732	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.2
Men, 20 years and over	1,663	1,711	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.4
Women, 20 years and over	1,562	1,614	5.2	4.8	4.4	4.7	5.0	5.2
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,156	1,407	14.4	14.3	14.0	14.5	14.4	15.6
White	3,532	3,761	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.7
Negro and other races	864	986	8.9	9.2	8.4	8.9	8.6	9.4
Household heads	1,506	1,546	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.0
Married men	968	938	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3
Full-time workers	3,427	3,616	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.7
Part-time workers	938	1,086	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.5	8.2
Unemployed 15 weeks and over[1]	917	768	1.1	.9	.8	.9	.8	.8
State insured[2]	1,631	1,819	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.9
Labor force time lost[3]	--	--	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.7
Occupation[4]								
White-collar workers	1,293	1,390	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.2
Professional and technical	272	306	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.5
Managers and administrators, except farm	135	163	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.7
Sales workers	224	223	3.9	3.5	3.0	3.3	4.5	4.0
Clerical workers	662	698	4.5	4.2	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.5
Blue-collar workers	1,737	1,931	5.6	5.1	5.1	5.4	5.2	6.0
Craftsmen and kindred workers	422	450	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.2	3.8
Operatives	920	1,063	6.2	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.8	7.0
Nonfarm laborers	395	418	8.4	8.1	8.0	8.6	8.3	8.4
Service workers	633	649	5.5	5.7	5.1	5.9	6.2	5.5
Farm workers	77	63	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.4	1.9
Industry[4]								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers[5]	3,227	3,471	5.1	4.7	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.3
Construction	400	421	9.1	9.6	9.0	9.1	8.2	9.1
Manufacturing	1,049	1,113	5.0	4.2	3.9	4.3	4.3	5.1
Durable goods	575	639	4.7	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.9	5.0
Nondurable goods	474	474	5.4	4.4	4.1	5.1	4.9	5.3
Transportation and public utilities	137	144	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.9
Wholesale and retail trade	875	987	5.7	5.6	5.1	5.4	6.1	6.1
Finance and service industries	752	791	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.5
Government workers	317	344	2.1	2.0	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.5
Agricultural wage and salary workers	88	100	6.5	5.8	6.7	7.4	6.4	6.1

[1] Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.

[2] Insured unemployment under State programs—unemployment rate calculated as a percent of average covered employment. As with the other statistics presented, insured unemployment data relate to the week containing the 12th.

[3] Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.

[4] Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers.

[5] Includes mining, not shown separately.

Table A-4: Unemployed persons 16 years and over by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration of unemployment	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1973	Jan. 1974	Jan. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
Less than 5 weeks	2,231	2,644	2,041	2,158	2,041	2,143	2,318	2,466
5 to 14 weeks	1,501	1,575	1,369	1,339	1,261	1,231	1,276	1,477
15 weeks and over	942	789	917	766	754	820	740	704
15 to 26 weeks	557	478	510	476	475	474	408	446
27 weeks and over	386	311	407	292	279	346	332	258
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	10.4	9.0	10.9	9.4	10.2	10.1	9.3	9.4

Table A-5: Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason for unemployment	Jan. 1973	Jan. 1974	Seasonally adjusted					
			Jan. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
Number of unemployed								
Lost last job	2,228	2,519	1,773	1,611	1,461	1,664	1,761	2,006
Left last job	590	757	569	670	678	783	765	731
Reentered labor force	1,365	1,227	1,393	1,303	1,253	1,227	1,266	1,252
Never worked before	491	504	665	641	612	590	593	682
Percent distribution								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lost last job	47.7	50.3	40.3	38.1	36.5	39.0	40.2	42.9
Left last job	12.6	15.1	12.9	15.9	16.9	18.4	17.4	15.6
Reentered labor force	29.2	24.5	31.7	30.8	31.3	28.8	28.9	26.8
Never worked before	10.5	10.1	15.1	15.2	15.3	13.8	13.5	14.6
Unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force								
Lost last job	2.6	2.8	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.2
Left last job	.7	.8	.7	.7	.8	.9	.8	.8
Reentered labor force	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Never worked before	.6	.6	.8	.7	.7	.7	.7	.8

Table A-6: Unemployed persons by age and sex

Age and sex	Thousands of persons		Percent looking for full-time work	Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Jan. 1973	Jan. 1974	Jan. 1974	Jan. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,675	5,008	76.2	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.2
16 to 19 years	1,050	1,271	51.3	14.4	14.3	14.0	14.5	14.4	15.6
16 and 17 years	475	606	27.9	17.6	17.2	16.4	17.2	16.7	19.4
18 and 19 years	575	665	72.6	12.5	12.6	12.1	12.5	12.9	13.3
20 to 24 years	1,089	1,170	83.6	8.2	7.8	6.7	7.2	7.7	8.5
25 years and over	2,536	2,567	85.2	3.3	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2
25 to 54 years	2,080	2,122	87.1	3.4	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.4
55 years and over	456	445	76.0	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.8
Males, 16 years and over	2,603	2,764	79.6	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.4
16 to 19 years	605	707	50.1	13.5	13.7	13.4	14.3	13.6	14.1
16 and 17 years	293	365	27.9	17.5	15.6	15.6	17.2	16.3	18.8
18 and 19 years	312	341	73.6	11.1	12.6	11.3	12.1	11.9	11.2
20 to 24 years	608	648	84.9	7.8	7.0	6.3	6.6	6.7	7.9
25 years and over	1,391	1,409	92.1	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7
25 to 54 years	1,120	1,130	95.5	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.7
55 years and over	271	280	78.2	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.6
Females, 16 years and over	2,072	2,244	71.9	6.3	5.9	5.6	5.9	6.2	6.6
16 to 19 years	445	564	52.8	15.5	15.0	14.8	14.8	15.4	17.3
16 and 17 years	182	241	27.8	17.8	19.3	17.3	17.2	17.2	20.1
18 and 19 years	263	324	71.3	14.1	12.6	13.0	13.1	14.0	15.6
20 to 24 years	681	522	82.0	8.8	8.7	7.3	7.9	8.9	9.3
25 years and over	1,145	1,157	76.8	4.4	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.2
25 to 54 years	959	992	77.5	4.7	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.6
55 years and over	186	165	72.1	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.1

Table A-7: Employment status of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years of age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Seasonally adjusted: Jan. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974
VETERANS[1]									
Total, 20 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	[illegible]	5,900	5,935	5,515	5,795	5,833	5,865	5,900	5,935
Civilian labor force	5,113	5,578	5,653	5,164	5,408	5,497	5,503	5,589	5,712
Employed	4,787	5,357	5,311	4,884	5,143	5,251	5,300	5,348	5,417
Unemployed	326	221	342	280	265	246	203	241	295
Unemployment rate	6.4	4.0	6.0	5.4	4.9	4.5	3.7	4.3	5.2
20 to 24 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	1,818	1,517	1,488	1,818	1,602	1,577	1,546	1,517	1,488
Civilian labor force	1,639	1,368	1,370	1,651	1,437	1,431	1,382	1,366	1,377
Employed	1,472	1,267	1,205	1,504	1,322	1,314	1,282	1,263	1,231
Unemployed	167	101	165	147	115	117	100	103	146
Unemployment rate	10.2	7.4	12.0	8.9	8.0	8.2	7.2	7.5	10.6
25 to 29 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	2,848	[illegible]	3,243	2,848	3,104	3,139	3,173	3,208	3,243
Civilian labor force	2,656	3,060	3,102	2,684	2,190	2,974	3,004	3,062	3,139
Employed	2,521	2,973	2,963	2,575	2,793	2,874	2,928	2,957	3,027
Unemployed	135	87	139	109	117	100	76	105	112
Unemployment rate	5.1	2.8	4.5	4.1	4.0	3.4	2.5	3.4	3.6
30 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	849	1,175	1,204	849	1,084	1,117	1,146	1,175	1,204
Civilian labor force	818	1,150	1,181	829	1,061	1,092	1,117	1,161	1,196
Employed	794	1,117	1,143	805	1,028	1,063	1,090	1,128	1,159
Unemployed	24	33	38	24	33	29	27	33	37
Unemployment rate	2.9	2.9	3.2	2.9	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.8	3.1
NONVETERANS									
Total, 20 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	13,985	14,814	14,659	13,985	14,559	14,626	14,701	14,814	14,659
Civilian labor force	12,243	13,337	13,184	12,445	[illegible]	13,227	13,360	13,487	13,406
Employed	11,498	12,723	12,366	11,814	12,455	12,669	12,739	12,858	12,711
Unemployed	745	614	819	631	611	558	621	629	695
Unemployment rate	6.1	4.6	6.2	5.1	4.7	4.2	4.6	4.7	5.2
20 to 24 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	[illegible]	6,929	6,819	[illegible]	6,770	6,812	6,861	6,929	6,819
Civilian labor force	5,066	5,804	5,687	5,255	5,627	5,751	5,871	5,963	5,900
Employed	4,625	5,439	5,205	4,865	5,257	5,422	5,487	5,568	5,473
Unemployed	441	365	482	390	370	329	384	395	427
Unemployment rate	8.7	6.3	8.5	7.4	6.6	5.7	6.5	6.6	7.2
25 to 29 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	4,033	4,193	4,099	4,033	4,144	4,157	4,168	4,193	4,099
Civilian labor force	[illegible]	3,976	3,874	3,837	3,929	3,944	3,947	3,961	3,887
Employed	[illegible]	3,803	3,684	3,681	3,763	3,788	3,781	3,801	3,733
Unemployed	198	173	195	156	166	156	166	160	154
Unemployment rate	5.2	4.4	[illegible]	4.1	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0
30 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	3,492	3,692	3,741	[illegible]	3,643	3,659	3,672	3,692	3,741
Civilian labor force	3,347	3,557	3,619	3,353	3,512	3,532	3,542	3,563	3,619
Employed	[illegible]	3,481	3,477	3,268	3,435	3,459	3,471	3,489	3,505
Unemployed	106	76	142	85	77	73	71	74	114
Unemployment rate	3.2	2.1	3.9	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	3.2

[1] Vietnam Era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964. At present, of the Vietnam Era veterans of all ages, 90 percent are 20 to 34 years of age.
[2] Since seasonal variations are not present in the population figures, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

Table B-1: Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	Jan. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973 p	Jan. 1974 p	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Jan. 1973	Dec. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973 p	Jan. 1974 p	Change from Dec. 1973
TOTAL	73,343	77,322	77,399	75,467	2,124	-1,932	76,679	76,631	76,372	-259
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,032	24,667	24,391	23,662	630	-729	24,450	24,466	24,212	-254
MINING	598	643	641	633	35	-8	644	645	645	0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,155	3,822	3,637	3,248	93	-389	3,711	3,730	3,601	-129
MANUFACTURING	19,279	20,202	20,113	19,781	502	-332	20,095	20,091	19,966	-125
Production workers	14,130	14,886	14,800	14,491	361	-309	14,774	14,773	14,661	-112
DURABLE GOODS	11,253	11,909	11,873	11,666	413	-207	11,859	11,852	11,739	-113
Production workers	8,243	8,765	8,731	8,540	297	-191	8,712	8,707	8,607	-100
Ordnance and accessories	197.3	187.8	191.6	186.3	-11.0	-5.3	186	190	186	-4
Lumber and wood products	606.3	636.7	635.3	623.2	16.9	-12.1	637	644	642	-2
Furniture and fixtures	511.3	534.9	531.3	525.8	14.5	-5.5	528	527	526	-1
Stone, clay, and glass products	653.4	704.3	697.4	684.1	30.7	-13.3	701	704	705	1
Primary metal industries	1,274.5	1,339.2	1,338.3	1,323.9	49.4	-14.4	1,357	1,353	1,333	-20
Fabricated metal products	1,411.6	1,486.4	1,479.8	1,461.1	49.5	-18.7	1,473	1,468	1,468	0
Machinery, except electrical	1,961.0	2,108.4	2,126.2	2,105.2	144.2	-21.0	2,121	2,126	2,109	-17
Electrical equipment	1,920.7	2,066.2	2,069.1	2,041.0	120.3	-28.1	2,048	2,057	2,045	-12
Transportation equipment	1,827.7	1,875.8	1,847.1	1,773.9	-53.8	-73.2	1,857	1,827	1,763	-64
Instruments and related products	475.2	513.9	516.5	513.3	38.1	-3.2	512	514	515	1
Miscellaneous manufacturing	414.2	455.4	440.1	428.1	13.9	-12.0	439	442	447	5
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,026	8,293	8,240	8,115	89	-125	8,236	8,239	8,227	-12
Production workers	5,887	6,121	6,069	5,951	64	-118	6,062	6,066	6,054	-12
Food and kindred products	1,684.0	1,767.9	1,731.4	1,684.8	.8	-46.6	1,749	1,749	1,750	1
Tobacco manufactures	71.3	80.8	78.8	73.9	2.6	-4.9	75	75	74	-1
Textile mill products	1,011.3	1,033.4	1,034.9	1,028.4	17.1	-6.5	1,028	1,030	1,031	1
Apparel and other textile products	1,316.9	1,347.6	1,329.7	1,302.7	-14.2	-27.0	1,333	1,331	1,323	-8
Paper and allied products	703.5	729.6	727.0	721.4	17.9	-5.6	725	723	726	3
Printing and publishing	1,091.0	1,106.5	1,113.6	1,102.1	11.1	-11.5	1,102	1,106	1,104	-2
Chemicals and allied products	1,007.8	1,039.6	1,040.0	1,038.1	30.3	-1.9	1,043	1,043	1,046	3
Petroleum and coal products	184.7	190.1	190.6	188.1	3.4	-2.5	190	193	193	0
Rubber and plastics products, nec	660.2	698.9	696.7	683.5	23.3	-13.2	694	693	687	-6
Leather and leather products	294.8	298.5	296.9	292.2	-2.6	-4.7	297	296	293	-3
SERVICE-PRODUCING	50,311	52,655	53,008	51,805	1,494	-1,203	52,229	52,165	52,160	-5
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,510	4,659	4,639	4,600	90	-39	4,654	4,639	4,665	26
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	15,865	16,780	17,115	16,236	371	-879	16,520	16,400	16,363	-37
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,973	4,188	4,180	4,127	154	-53	4,163	4,151	4,156	5
RETAIL TRADE	11,892	12,592	12,935	12,109	217	-826	12,357	12,249	12,207	-42
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3,959	4,079	4,078	4,062	103	-16	4,095	4,098	4,099	1
SERVICES	12,406	13,096	13,058	12,884	478	-174	13,122	13,124	13,107	-17
GOVERNMENT	13,571	14,041	14,118	14,023	452	-95	13,838	13,904	13,926	22
FEDERAL	2,619	2,628	2,677	2,632	13	-45	2,638	2,654	2,648	-6
STATE AND LOCAL	10,952	11,413	11,441	11,391	439	-50	11,200	11,250	11,278	28

p = preliminary

Table B-2: Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Jan. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973[p]	Jan. 1974[p]	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Jan. 1973	Dec. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973[p]	Jan. 1974[p]	Change from Dec. 1973
TOTAL PRIVATE	36.6	37.0	37.2	36.3	-0.3	-0.9	37.1	37.0	36.6	-0.4
MINING	41.3	42.9	43.4	42.1	.8	-1.3	42.8	43.2	42.4	-.8
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	34.8	37.5	36.6	34.9	.1	-1.7	38.5	37.2	36.2	-1.0
MANUFACTURING	40.0	40.8	41.2	39.6	-.4	-1.6	40.6	40.7	39.9	-.8
Overtime hours	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.2	-.4	-.6	3.8	3.7	3.3	-.4
DURABLE GOODS	41.0	41.5	41.9	40.0	-1.0	-1.9	41.4	41.3	40.3	-1.0
Overtime hours	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.3	-.6	-.8	4.0	3.9	3.4	-.5
Ordnance and accessories	42.4	42.2	43.1	43.1	.7	0	42.1	42.7	43.2	.5
Lumber and wood products	39.0	40.2	41.2	39.7	.7	-1.5	40.3	41.2	40.6	-.6
Furniture and fixtures	38.4	39.8	40.5	39.4	1.0	-1.1	39.4	39.7	40.0	.3
Stone, clay, and glass products	40.2	42.2	42.0	40.0	-.2	-2.0	42.1	42.1	40.9	-1.2
Primary metal industries	42.4	43.0	42.5	40.6	-1.8	-1.9	43.4	42.5	40.6	-1.9
Fabricated metal products	41.0	41.7	42.1	40.4	-.6	-1.7	41.6	41.6	40.8	-.8
Machinery, except electrical	42.4	42.4	43.4	41.9	-.5	-1.5	42.3	42.6	41.9	-.7
Electrical equipment	40.3	40.5	40.7	39.3	-1.0	-1.4	40.2	40.1	39.4	-.7
Transportation equipment	41.9	41.4	42.6	38.3	-3.6	-4.3	41.1	41.2	38.6	-2.6
Instruments and related products	40.2	41.3	41.6	40.5	.3	-1.1	40.9	41.1	40.7	-.4
Miscellaneous manufacturing	38.4	39.3	39.2	38.3	-.1	-.9	38.9	38.9	38.6	-.3
NONDURABLE GOODS	38.7	39.9	40.0	39.0	.3	-1.0	39.7	39.7	39.4	-.3
Overtime hours	3.2	3.6	3.4	2.9	-.3	-.5	3.5	3.3	3.1	-.2
Food and kindred products	39.8	40.9	41.1	40.1	.3	-1.0	40.8	40.8	40.4	-.4
Tobacco manufactures	36.1	40.9	40.0	39.5	3.4	-.5	40.7	39.1	40.1	1.0
Textile mill products	39.1	41.0	41.1	39.9	.8	-1.2	40.6	40.7	40.3	-.4
Apparel and other textile products	34.1	36.0	35.9	34.6	.5	-1.3	35.7	35.9	35.1	-.8
Paper and allied products	42.3	42.9	43.2	42.7	.4	-.5	42.7	42.8	42.9	.1
Printing and publishing	37.3	38.0	38.3	37.1	-.2	-1.2	37.9	37.8	37.6	-.2
Chemicals and allied products	41.5	42.1	42.2	41.3	-.2	-.9	42.0	41.9	41.4	-.5
Petroleum and coal products	41.2	43.1	42.5	41.9	.7	-.6	43.0	42.8	42.6	-.2
Rubber and plastics products, nec	40.9	41.3	41.1	40.0	-.9	-1.1	41.2	40.8	40.1	-.7
Leather and leather products	37.2	38.1	38.3	37.6	.4	-.7	38.0	37.5	37.6	.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.2	40.8	40.8	40.3	.1	-.5	40.7	40.6	40.7	.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34.5	34.3	34.8	33.8	-.7	-1.0	34.6	34.6	34.2	-.4
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.5	39.4	39.7	38.5	-1.0	-1.2	39.4	39.3	38.7	-.6
RETAIL TRADE	32.9	32.8	33.3	32.3	-.6	-1.0	33.1	33.0	32.8	-.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37.0	37.0	37.1	36.7	-.3	-.4	37.0	37.1	36.7	-.4
SERVICES	33.9	33.9	34.0	33.7	-.2	-.3	34.0	34.0	33.9	-.1

[1]Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities, wholesale and retail trade, finance, insurance, and real estate, and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.

p preliminary.

Table B-3: Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings						Average weekly earnings					
					Change from						Change from	
	Jan. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973[p]	Jan. 1974[p]	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973[p]	Jan. 1974[p]	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1973
TOTAL PRIVATE	$3.77	$4.00	$4.01	$4.02	$0.25	$0.01	$137.98	$148.00	$149.17	$145.93	$7.95	-$3.24
Seasonally adjusted	3.77	3.99	4.02	4.02	.25	0	139.11	148.03	148.74	147.13	8.02	-1.61
MINING	4.60	4.86	4.94	4.99	.39	.05	189.98	208.49	214.40	210.08	20.10	-4.32
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	6.42	6.67	6.72	6.78	.36	.06	223.42	250.13	245.95	236.62	13.20	-9.33
MANUFACTURING	3.98	4.16	4.21	4.20	.22	-.01	159.20	169.73	173.45	166.32	7.12	-7.13
DURABLE GOODS	4.23	4.42	4.48	4.45	.22	-.03	173.43	183.43	187.71	178.00	4.57	-9.71
Ordnance and accessories	4.16	4.48	4.50	4.53	.37	.03	176.38	189.06	193.95	195.24	18.86	1.29
Lumber and wood products	3.45	3.65	3.69	3.68	.23	-.01	134.55	146.73	152.03	146.10	11.55	-5.93
Furniture and fixtures	3.15	3.34	3.37	3.37	.22	0	120.96	132.93	136.49	132.78	11.82	-3.71
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.03	4.28	4.29	4.28	.25	-.01	162.01	180.62	180.18	171.20	9.19	-8.98
Primary metal industries	4.87	5.23	5.26	5.22	.35	-.04	206.49	224.89	223.55	211.93	5.44	-11.62
Fabricated metal products	4.13	4.35	4.37	4.38	.25	.01	169.33	181.40	183.98	176.95	7.62	-7.03
Machinery, except electrical	4.44	4.65	4.73	4.71	.27	-.02	188.26	197.16	205.28	197.35	9.09	-7.93
Electrical equipment	3.80	3.93	3.98	3.99	.19	.01	153.14	159.17	161.99	156.81	3.67	-5.18
Transportation equipment	5.00	5.16	5.30	5.20	.20	-.10	209.50	213.62	225.78	199.16	-10.34	-26.62
Instruments and related products	3.82	3.95	4.04	4.04	.22	0	153.56	163.14	168.06	163.62	10.06	-4.44
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3.24	3.33	3.36	3.39	.15	.03	124.42	130.87	131.71	129.84	5.42	-1.87
NONDURABLE GOODS	3.61	3.78	3.80	3.82	.21	.02	139.71	150.82	152.00	148.98	9.27	-3.02
Food and kindred products	3.75	3.91	3.97	3.99	.24	.02	149.25	159.92	163.17	160.00	10.75	-3.17
Tobacco manufactures	3.56	3.81	3.87	3.96	.40	.09	128.52	155.83	154.80	156.42	27.90	1.62
Textile mill products	2.87	3.06	3.06	3.06	.19	0	112.22	125.46	125.77	122.09	9.87	-3.68
Apparel and other textile products	2.72	2.86	2.84	2.85	.13	.01	92.75	102.96	101.96	98.61	5.86	-3.35
Paper and allied products	4.06	4.30	4.31	4.32	.26	.01	171.74	184.47	186.19	184.46	12.72	-1.73
Printing and publishing	4.56	4.76	4.78	4.78	.22	0	170.09	180.88	183.07	177.34	7.25	-5.73
Chemicals and allied products	4.36	4.58	4.59	4.66	.30	.07	180.94	192.82	193.70	192.46	11.52	-1.24
Petroleum and coal products	5.09	5.29	5.27	5.44	.35	.17	209.71	228.00	223.98	227.94	18.23	3.96
Rubber and plastics products, nec	3.74	3.90	3.91	3.90	.16	-.01	152.97	161.07	160.70	156.00	3.03	-4.70
Leather and leather products	2.77	2.87	2.87	2.91	.14	.04	103.04	109.35	109.92	109.42	6.38	-.50
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.87	5.19	5.20	5.23	.36	.03	195.77	211.75	212.16	210.77	15.00	-1.39
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.11	3.29	3.28	3.34	.23	.06	107.30	112.85	114.14	112.89	5.59	-1.25
WHOLESALE TRADE	3.99	4.27	4.26	4.27	.28	.01	157.61	166.27	169.12	164.40	6.79	-4.72
RETAIL TRADE	2.78	2.94	2.93	2.99	.21	.06	91.46	96.43	97.57	96.58	5.12	-.99
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.54	3.67	3.71	3.75	.21	.04	130.98	135.79	137.64	137.63	6.65	-.01
SERVICES	3.27	3.45	3.48	3.48	.21	0	110.89	116.96	118.32	117.28	6.43	-1.04

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

p = preliminary.

Table B-4. Hourly Earnings Index for production or nonsupervisory workers in private nonfarm industries, seasonally adjusted

(1967 = 100)

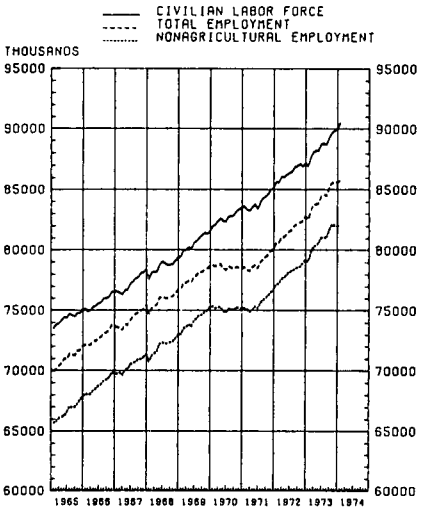
Industry	Jan. 1973	Aug. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. p 1973	Jan. p 1974	Percent change from	
								Jan. 1973–Jan. 1974	Dec. 1973–Jan. 1974
Total private nonfarm:									
Current dollars	142.3	147.6	149.0	149.6	150.3	151.3	151.8	6.7	.4
Constant (1967) dollars	111.3	109.3	110.0	109.5	109.1	109.3	NA	1/	2/
Mining	142.4	147.5	149.5	148.4	150.2	152.5	153.7	8.0	.8
Contract construction	154.0	157.2	159.1	159.2	160.3	161.7	161.0	4.5	-.4
Manufacturing	139.5	144.5	145.5	146.5	147.0	147.9	148.7	6.6	.5
Transportation and public utilities	150.4	157.7	158.5	159.8	160.0	160.8	161.5	7.4	.5
Wholesale and retail trade	138.7	144.4	145.7	146.2	146.9	147.5	148.5	7.1	.7
Finance, insurance, and real estate	136.8	140.9	143.4	142.7	143.6	145.3	145.9	6.6	.4
Services	142.2	146.9	148.8	149.1	149.9	151.2	151.8	6.8	.4

1/ Percent change was -2.0 from December 1972 to December 1973, the latest month available.
2/ Percent change was 0.1 from November 1973 to December 1973, the latest month available.
NA indicates data are not available.
p=Preliminary.

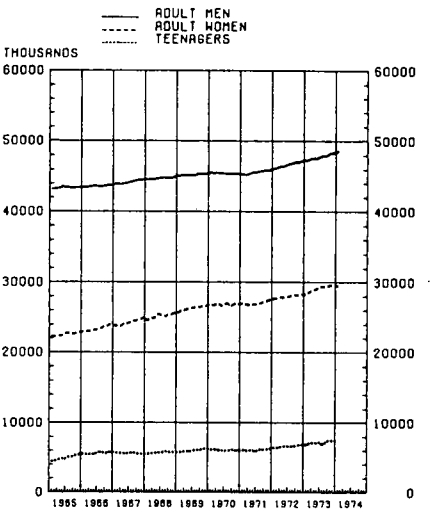
NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries. The seasonal adjustment eliminates the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude each year.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

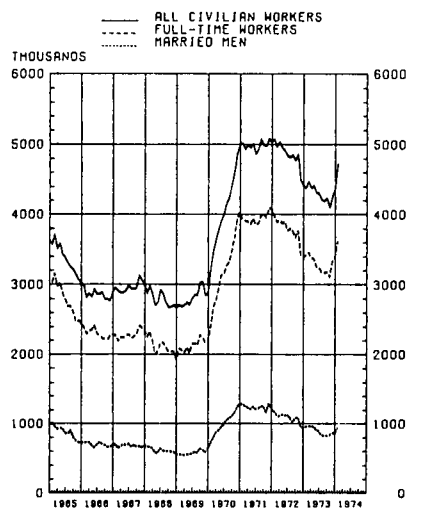
1. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



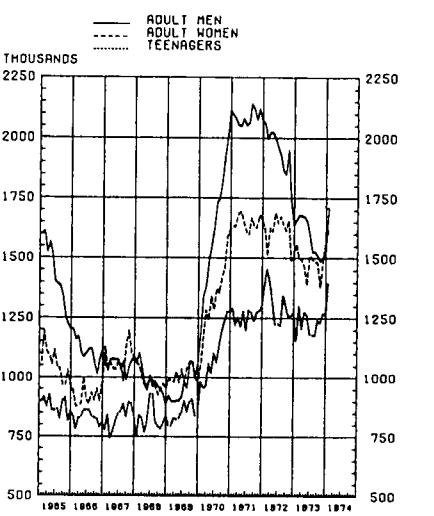
2. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



3. UNEMPLOYMENT

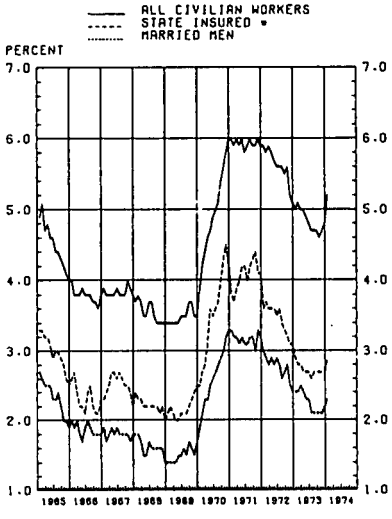


4. UNEMPLOYMENT

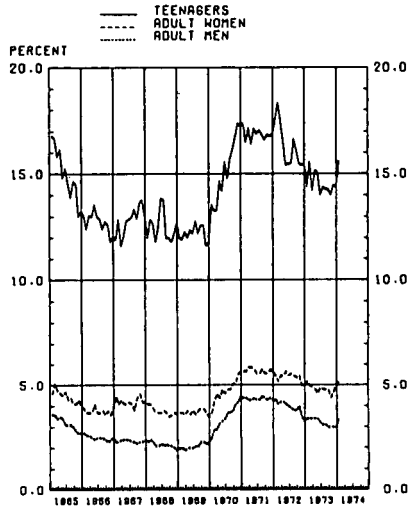


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

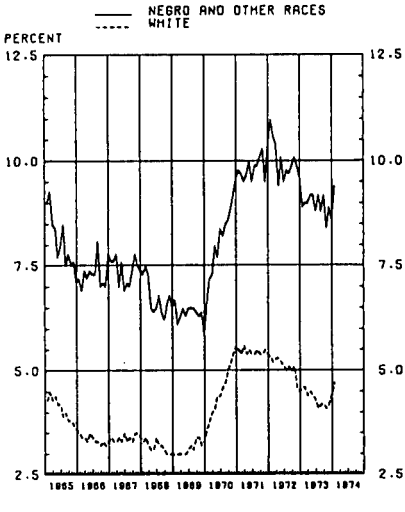
5. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



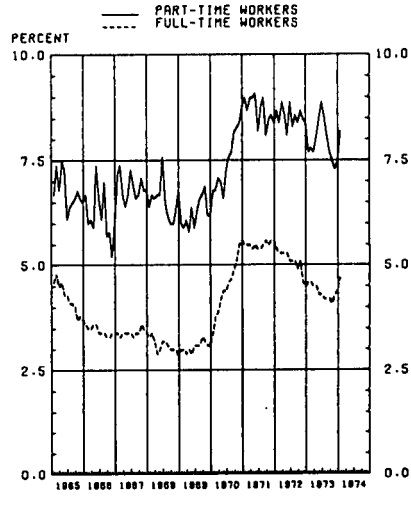
6. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



7. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

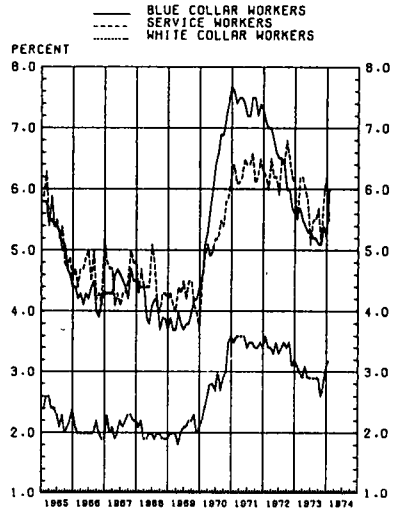


8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

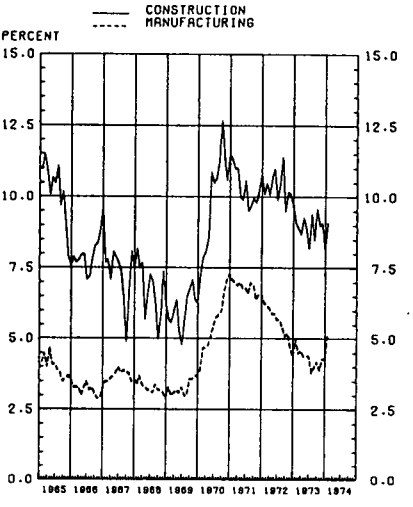


UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

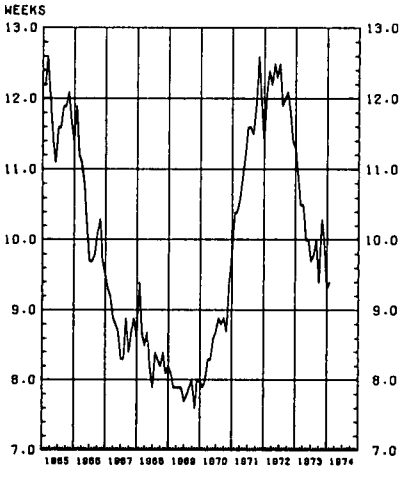
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



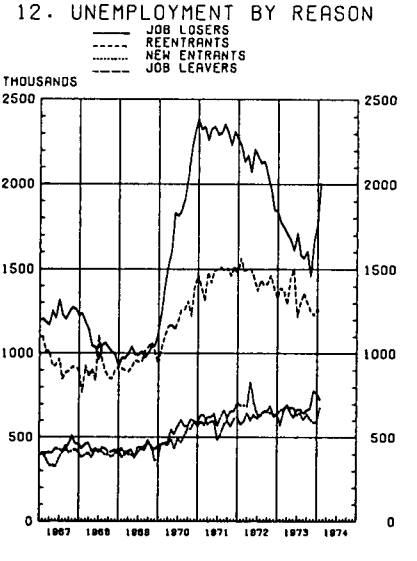
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

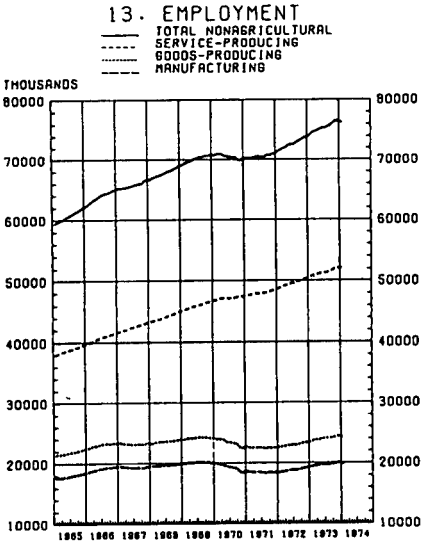


12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON

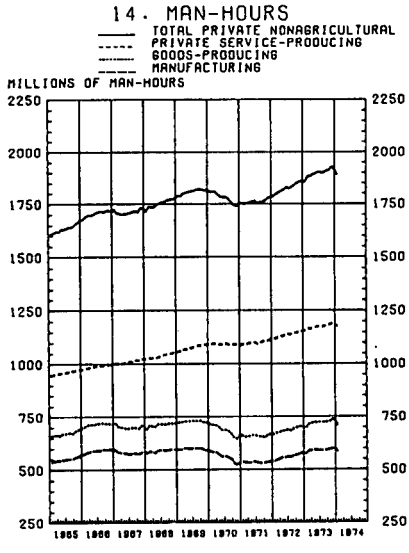


NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS
ESTABLISHMENT DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

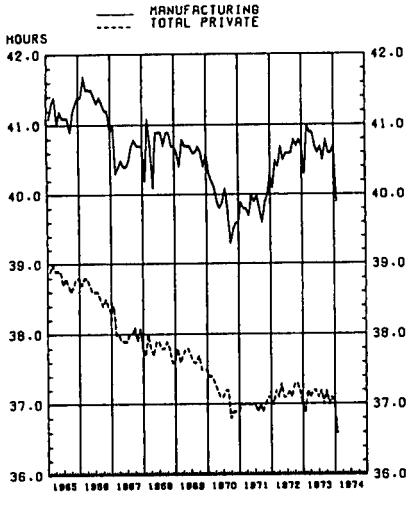
13. EMPLOYMENT



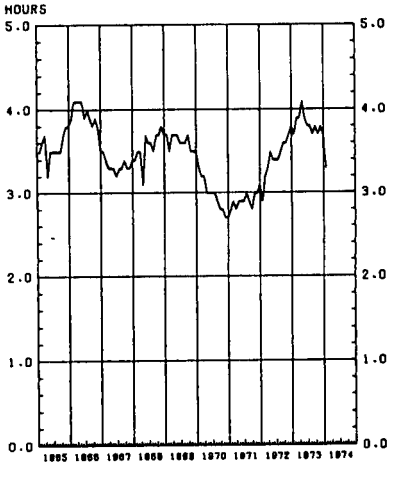
14. MAN-HOURS



15. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



16. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS IN MANUFACTURING



Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you very much, Mr. Shiskin.

Mr. Shiskin, since October the unemployment rate has risen from 4.6 percent to what it is now, 5.2 percent. That is over a 3-month period a rise of six-tenths of a percent.

You say in your statement, that the last time an increase of this magnitude occurred was 1969–1970. The staff of the subcommittee has checked and finds that the last time before that when that kind of increase occurred was in late 1960 when unemployment rose from 5.5 percent in September to 6.6 percent in December.

Now on both occasions we were entering a recession.

Doesn't the present pattern, a rise in overall unemployment, a sharp rise in the initial claims for unemployment compensation, a sharp drop—there was a very sharp drop in the average work week, have been typical signs of a recession?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. The unemployment series, as you may have learned from Mr. Moore, are classified as coincident indicators. However, th unemployment series leads at peaks, and tends to lag a little, or coincide at troughs. In the past when we have had recession unemployment rates have risen and it is always possible that it may be foreshadowing such events today.

However, I would like to emphasize a point that I have been making again and again over the years, which is that the objectives of our leading indicators is to provide early warning signs and is not to forecast recession.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What is that, your objective is what?

Mr. SHISKIN. The objective of the leading indicators is not to forecast recession, but to provide early warnings so that steps will be taken by the policy authorities to avert recessions.

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right, that is fine.

That leads me into my next question.

As you know, as I said in my opening statement, the President said the night before last, we will not have a recession.

Now the indications are that we may be moving toward a recession. As I say, the only time in the last 12 years or 15 years—when we have had this kind of situation—we moved into a recession.

What steps is the Administration taking or is the Congress about to take, which would be likely to turn this situation around and forestall a recession, permit us to have employment, begin to grow again. and unemployment drop?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, Mr. Chairman, you know I am the Commissioner of Labor Statistics and I am here to provide you and the subcommittee——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am not asking an opinion whether the policies are right or wrong, or anything of that kind or an evaluation of them or what they should do, I am asking you as an eminent expert what steps you see or what steps perhaps the people who are with you see that we may be taking that would change the situation?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, sir, I do not think that is an appropriate question for the Commissioner of Labor Statistics or the staff to answer.

I think other officials of the Government should address themselves to that, but I will be glad to be very responsive to any——

CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE. The reason I asked, I was not going to ask you that, except you said this purpose is not to forecast recession

but to put us in a position to act, and I do not see anything, frankly, that we are about to do that is going to change the situation in the next few months.

You say in your statement that:

Despite the turn of events in the last 2 months, nonagricultural payroll employment in January was still 2.1 million above a year ago.

Now it is fine to note the year to year gain, but the facts we are interested in today is where we are headed, and that seems to be covered in your phrase, "despite the turn of events in the last 2 months."

Let's go down the list of percentages unemployed which you have in Table A [1] of the press release to determine which are statistically significant.

Of course, obviously the increase for all workers from 4.8 percent to 5.2 percent is statistically significant. You nod. I presume the answer is yes.

For example, what I am getting at, if it were 4.8 percent to 4.9 percent with even that large a sample still it might not be statistically significant, but with four-tenths of a percent rise that is very large and certainly can not be and is not within any error likelihood?

Mr. SHISKIN. No; but let me make this observation about statistical significance. It is a very useful device for statisticians but you should not be wedded to it. I think there are other ways of judging the significance of the figure and the term I like to use in this context is "economic significance."

Chairman PROXMIRE. Please comment on that.

Mr. SHISKIN. And one way of judging that is how large the increase has been.

I do not find it very convincing to go down the list and say this is significant and that is not. But, Mr. Chairman, we have here a widespread increase in unemployment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then we come to—let me ask about the next bracket, teenagers. We found with Mr. Moore, whom you respect——

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. He would tell us when you get to the categories, even though there might be a big change, it might not be statistically significant unless it is rather big.

With teenagers there was a jump from 14.4 percent to 15.6 percent unemployment increased back to 1972, wiping out all of the gains you had last year.

Would you regard that as statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. With respect to Negroes and other races, that was an increase from 8.6 percent unemployment to 9.4 percent. How about that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And then in general you would say that it is sufficiently widespread so that overall you considered that to have economic significance?

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[1] See table A, p. 7.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Would you say a word about what you mean by economic significance?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, statisticians of whom I am one, have developed a very useful way of judging the month-to-month changes so you can distinguish erratic movements, what I prefer to call statistical noise, from true changes in the underlying trend, and that is very useful.

Now, sometimes you can have a series of small changes in numbers, each of which will not register as statistically significant, but if they are widespread, that is, if they are pervasive, I tend to view them somewhat differently, or if small changes have prevailed over a series of months.

For example, suppose you have a series of very small changes in both those categories you mentioned over a series of months, and you asked me the question each month, "Is that significant statistically," and I would have to say no because by the technique used the answer is no. But if I saw that going on month after month and if they were changes in the same direction, I would say that the changes have economic significance.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, now, we have had this change over a period of 3 months from October, 4.6 to 5.2. Is that period long enough and is that change significant to indicate a trend?

Mr. SHISKIN. I think so.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You think so.

We constantly got the explanation from the Administration officials, including Mr. Moore, that the reason for the rising unemployment or the subbornnesss of unemployment in the fact of increasing jobs was because of the impact of women and youngsters on the job market. There were far more young people looking for work and far more women entering the labor force than before.

Isn't this a significant change, if it ever existed? For example, auto workers are out of jobs. These are well established workers, mostly married men, they have relatively satisfactory unemployment insurance, they are not about to move elsewhere, employers are not likely to look to them for nonauto jobs.

If this is so, is it likely that we are facing a prospect of high unemployment of experienced workers unless we do something?

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, first, let me say I think Mr. Moore was right, there has been a great change over the years in the mix, particularly with more women participating in the labor force.

Now, however, I think what has happened the last 4 months is something different. I try to make this point in my statement. I studied these figures yesterday—let me just add a parenthesis—one of the great problems, you know, with instant analysis is you do not have time to check out things and look into things you should look into before you make a responsible statement. We had an extremely intensive day yesterday which did not end for many, many hours, but what I see here that is different from previous periods is that a lot of the loss in unemployment between October and January has been in "job losers."

That is a very significant category.

Now when you try to track it down, as we did, most of it has come in young adults, 20 to 24, and teenagers, 16 to 19 years old.

Now what this suggests to me—here departing a little bit, but not very much from the hard facts—that the layoffs—what is going on is we are having a lot of layoffs—and the layoffs are taking place mainly among the persons with the least seniority. That seems to be what is going on.

Chairman PROXMIRE. This has devastating impact with the young people, including the people 20 to 24?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Many of whom are married and have families?

Mr. SHISKIN. May I continue a minute, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes.

Mr. SHISKIN. You will see, for example, that to support this point that the rate—and I am looking at a table now which you do not have showing changes between October and January—for married men—the unemployment rate rose only from 2.1 to 2.3; for household heads 2.7 to 3. With respect to the insured unemployed figures, which I do not put out, they rose from 2.7 to 2.9. On the other hand, the rates for the 20–24 rose much more and the teenagers rose much more, so that is what led me to the conclusion that the seniority element is a big one in the present layoffs.

Chairman PROXMIRE. My time is up. I will be back.

Senator Ribicoff?

Senator RIBICOFF. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Just a few questions, Mr. Shiskin.

Do you break down these labor statistics according to States?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, we do.

We have figures for States, but we do not publish them every month because the samples are too thin.

We publish them once a year, I believe, and we do not publish them for all States for the same reason—the samples are too thin. We publish them for about 15 States.

Senator RIBICOFF. Isn't that important? In other words, it is an overall problem but what happens to the economy and the employment rate in the State is very important?

Mr. SHISKIN. It certainly is.

Senator RIBICOFF. I know I am deeply concerned with the rates for the entire country, but I am especially concerned with Connecticut, as I am sure Senator Proxmire is for Wisconsin, and I believe it becomes very important for the country and for those of Congress to know what the situation is in our own individual States.

Would it be possible for you to supply, at least to me, the figures for the State of Connecticut?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I am not sure about Connecticut.

Let me make a few remarks and I will try to answer your question directly.

One is that a new act passed by the Congress, signed by the President, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, paves the way for a very substantial increase in the amount of local area data on unemployment that will become available and we are vigorously

pursuing that. So hopefully in the not too distant future, we will be able to provide better statistics for each of the States.

Senator RIBICOFF. When do you think you will be able to start giving this out?

Mr. SHISKIN. It is a very complicated job and requires a lot of money. Our sample of unemployment covers only 50,000 households now. That is why our data are so thin for most individual States.

To go from national figures to State figures would take a very large increase in the sample, and a substantial amount of funds.

We are talking to the people from the Manpower Administration which is responsible for carrying out the new manpower revenue-sharing law, to try to figure out how to provide better data for States and we will hopefully do it, but we cannot do it today.

I do not know what I can provide for you on Connecticut immediately but Mr. Wetzel might.

Mr. WETZEL. Could I respond in a little more detail? About a year ago the Bureau of Labor Statistics was assigned the responsibility of reviewing the methods used to estimate State unemployment levels and rates. There had been such a system in the various State employment security agencies over the years since the early 1950's.

That system had a certain inconsistencies in it and the Bureau of Labor Statistics has introduced some changes in the way that is calculated and we think that is a step forward in this area and we are going to continue to work in that area and hope we will have fairly high quality figures in the not too far distant future.

Senator RIBICOFF. Let me ask you, I know, of course, you have got the unemployment rate increased by 368,000 in January. Let's go to other factors, the hours of work and the take-home pay of the country as a whole in addition to the unemployment. Be a little more specific as to what has happened to the hours of work and take-home pay of our workers.

Mr. SHISKIN. Hours of work declined sharply.

Senator RIBICOFF. They declined sharply?

Mr. SHISKIN. They declined four-tenths of 1 hour. In some industries it was greater. Transportation equipment, for example, I recall the figure was 2.6 and that suggests what is going on in the automobile industry and aircraft has not only reduced employment but for those who are still left, it has also reduced hours.

Senator RIBICOFF. Reduced hours and reduced earnings. I mean do you have the statistics as to the decline of earnings of our labor force?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Senator RIBICOFF. What were the declines in the earnings of our labor force?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Table B–3 in your news release.

Mr. SHISKIN. I thought I might try another table.

Well, let me give you what I think is a very useful and informative table, Senator.

Over the year, over the four quarters, the fourth quarter of 1972 to the fourth quarter of 1973, average weekly earnings rose by 6.6 percent. These are current dollars. Okay.

At the same time the CPI, Consumer Price Index, rose 8.4 percent.

Senator RIBICOFF. 8.1?

Mr. SHISKIN. 8.4. I will be glad to make this table available.

Senator RIBICOFF. What I am trying——

Mr. SHISKIN. Would you give me a moment, I haven't quite completed, because I want the full picture before you.

Now, when you adjust average weekly earnings by the CPI that gives you a decline of 1.7 percent in real average weekly earnings.

Now if you add increased taxes and social security payments to the deductions, you come out with a decline over the year of 3.1 percent.

Senator RIBICOFF. Three-point what?

Mr. SHISKIN. One percent.

Senator RIBICOFF. In dollars and cents taking the weekly earnings of our labor force, how much less is that in dollars and cents?

Do you have that?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not, but Mr. Samuels, I hope, does.

The figure I have here this morning is a decline of $1.61 in seasonally adjusted average weekly earnings from December to January.

Senator RIBICOFF. $1.61?

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is in current dollars, not adjusted for inflation?

Mr. SHISKIN. These are current dollars.

Senator RIBICOFF. What would it be in adjusted dollars?

Mr. SHISKIN. Real dollars, I do not have that figure. The other figures I have given you are more comprehensive, and I think they are more meaningful. That is why I gave them to you.

Senator RIBICOFF. What is going on them, we have unemployment going up rapidly, hours of work are declining, real wages, take-home, are declining, so you have a period of sharp accelerated inflation, cost of living, and the take-home pay of our work force is declining, so generally the entire country, those who are unemployed are suffering, and those who are employed are finding difficulty making ends meet.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, I would amend your statement in only one respect. You refer to the wage earnings of workers, then to the entire country. Now, I think, and here I am going beyond the BLS figures. I think what is also taking place in recent months are three other developments. One is that there has been a shift of income to farmers so there has been an increase in farmers' income. Some of the money, some of the income that used to go to wage earners is now going to farmers.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you indicate how big that is?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not know. I cannot give you that this morning. I have thought about it but you know I cannot give you that this morning, Mr. Chairman.

Second, as the figures I gave you indicate, there has been some increase in social security payments, that some of the income which

workers had are now going to retired workers and other recipients of social security benefits and, third, as we all know, some of this income is going to the Arab countries producing oil.

Now let me make one additional comment.

During the period of vigorous growth, such as we had earlier, such as we had almost throughout 1972 and early 1973, these things can be absorbed and they have been. But in the last quarter we have not had much growth so they have not been absorbed and it is hurting.

Senator RIBICOFF. In other words, the country is hurting, the people are hurting, and we have got some deep economic problems ahead of us?

Mr. SHISKIN. I think so.

Senator RIBICOFF. Thank you very much.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, I want to see if I can be a little more precise on what happened to weekly earnings.

You have, on Table B–3 in the press release, between December of 1973, last December, and January, a drop from $149.17 to $145.93. Now that is a drop of more than $3 in current income for the average weekly take-home pay for all workers; is that right?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So millions of workers not only suffered a $3 drop in their take-home pay, but when you allow for inflation, we do not know what that figure is because the January CPI is not out yet, but there is every indication it is going to be substantial.

At any rate, the likelihood is that could well be another 75 cents, maybe even a dollar, if it follows the pattern of what happened in the last few months.

So it appears that the average worker who is working—and we have, as you have indicated, a substantial increase in unemployment, the man who is working is suffering a significant drop in his real income, and did in the last month alone suffer a significant drop?

Now let me ask you how much of the unemployment is caused by the fuel shortge, if we can zero in on that.

Mr. SHISKIN. Okay, I am very glad you have given me that opportunity because obviously there is a very special factor at work at the present time.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is right.

Mr. SHISKIN. And this factor distinguishes, I think, this period from the earlier periods when you had a sharp rise in unemployment, the periods you cited.

We have a very special situation today. Now, it is very hard to get on top of such a situation very quickly. We have made an effort to do it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me interrupt to say it is my understanding, for example, that you had a substantial drop in contract construction.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And you also had a drop in the transportation industry, automobile industry? The contract construction it seems to me could not be directly and immediately related to the fuel shortage. Obviously the transportation section would be.

Can you make that kind of distinction?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. From what we have been able to find, and again I want to point out I got these figures yesterday in the middle of the afternoon and my staff only had them a few hours before, so we did not have the time to follow through on everything. We tried to track down the reasons for the drop in contract construction, and we did not do very well. I offer a few comments, but I do not have very much confidence in them. I think it might be useful to put them up as possibilities however, and I hate to use this kind of reason, bad weather, seems to have been the case. Also there seems to have been financial problems in getting funds for contract construction.

That seems to be the best explanation.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Getting funds for what?

Mr. SHISKIN. Contract construction.

I think there are financial problems, but I do not understand them and did not have time to look into them.

Chairman PROXMIRE. My fundamental question is: Could you give us a rough estimate of the proportion of increased unemployment caused by the energy crisis and fuel shortage or whatever it is.

Mr. SHISKIN. I was trying to get to that so I could give you a fuller answer.

Now, on our forms we have added a question directed to that problem. The question asked the respondents is this: If you have had a decline in employment and it is attributable to either a shortage of fuel or power, or to a shortage of materials that require fuel or power, record it on the form.

Now, we have gotten some reports back but I am completely dissatisfied with our understanding of the quality of the figures and we must audit them. We will try to audit those figures next week. When I say audit them, here is the kind of thing I mean. I think we should call a sample of companies that you would have expected to have problems arising from energy but did not report so, and ask them why not. Then we will be calling a sample of companies that did report a shortage, a decline due to shortage of energy, and try to pin them down on why.

So these are the direct effects and we will be studying this week or the week after through a telephone survey.

Now, in addition there are secondary effects which may be larger than the direct effects: And these are the effects on hotels, motels, ski resorts, the familiar ones you hear about.

There is still another element in it. We know there is increased activity in some industries, in the oil industry, the coal industry, and the utility industries, and so on. We at BLS have no way of pinning down these indirect effects.

Because of this, Senator, that is the farthest I feel I can go this morning. You see we have made an intensive effort to get information on the impact of energy on employment. The farthest I can go this morning is to say that it is clear to us that the impact of the energy shortage has been substantial, but I cannot provide a figure today.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, this is very disturbing. You are the Number One expert on Federal statistics. You have the source

of most of the Federal statistics, and if you don't know the answer, it seems to me that anybody else in Government who makes an estimate is guessing.

We have had an estimate from the administration I think 2 or 3 weeks ago, I think the energy crisis had caused, I think, 100,000, or 150,000, something like that, loss of that many jobs, but apparently that was based on a guess and not based on any kind of solid statistical data which had been gathered and verified. Is that right?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, besides being a statistician I hope I am an economist, too, and I understand quite well what most economists do in this kind of situation. I have no quarrel with what they do. I think they ought to be doing it and they are doing it and they will bt putting out figures.

Let me again say with that background comment that in terms of the direct effect on unemployment, in terms of direct impact of energy shortage, we are making an intensive survey to get a hard figure and we will be what I call auditing the figure we got yesterday in the next few weeks so we will know more about the direct effect. In a few months we hope to have a good figure in that area. We hope to.

Now in the other area, it is an estimating job. Now, people make very good estimates but that is not our business. Our business is to provide hard facts. So there will be other economists who are making estimates and they will be doing it in very responsible and in constructive ways. They will be providing very useful figures and you will be getting them from them and it is a perfectly sensible and useful thing to do.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That may well be, but based on what you are telling us this morning you do not have any hard statistical data.

You haven't completed your study. You haven't told us how accurate it will be when you get it.

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't know.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Therefore, any estimates are not based on solid factual study.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I am distinguishing between the kind of estimating that is done in same kinds of problems when you cannot get hard information, such as how to determine how many people have been laid off in the automobile industry because of the decline in demand.

The automobile industry sales have been declining 4 or 5 months. How do you distinguish between such declines in the underlying trends and the impact of energy shortages. That is a very difficult thing to do. There are people in the government and elsewhere who have it as their job to make the best estimates they can of these figures. It is very important that they do it. It is a very responsible and respectable professional activity. It just does not happen to be my activity at present.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you tell us how accurate your data will be?

Mr. SHISKIN. No, sir, we will audit in the next few weeks and I do not know how that will come out because we have not done it. I am sure you will be asking me about it in subsequent months.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What I am asking you is when we get the data, can you tell us what range of error there will be?

Could you give us a fairly precise estimate or would there be a range of 10,000 or 20,000?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not know because we have not made the audit. I want you, before our dialogues are over, to have great confidence in me so when I tell you something, you will know it is right, and if I were to give you answers to some of these questions you would quickly lose confidence in me.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am not asking you to give us estimates of any kind of data you do not have. You said you know what you are going to do. What kind of confidence do you have in the accuracy of the results on that data?

Mr. SHISKIN. I cannot tell because until we audit the data we won't know.

Chairman PROXMIRE. For a long time the administration has been telling us not only the persistence of unemployment was caused by the number of young people, teenagers and women in the work force but they have also been telling us that we should look at the donut and not the hole; in other words, look at the number of people that work and not the number out of work. The number at work is a significant number, of course, we have a growing country. We have an increasing number of people in the work force constantly because of the people finishing their education, exceeding the number dying or retiring. Can you tell us what has happened to employment in the last 4 months?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, we have two estimates of employment, as you know, from the household survey.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Household survey?

Mr. SHISKIN. And from the payroll survey.

One, for those who may not know—this is not including you, Mr. Chairman—the first comes from the survey of 50,000 households made each month for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census. This change between October and January is plus 162,000. For the payroll survey the figure is plus 9,000.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, I understand that through December there was no change in the level of 85.6 million. What data do you have?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, as I remember it, I do not have the figures in front of me, there was a sharp rise in November and then it declined in January, so October and January came out about the same for the payroll survey.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How about total nonagricultural employment?

Mr. SHISKIN. That is——

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is what you showed me, what you told me? Because our staff indicates to me that may show an actual decrease in the number of jobs.

Mr. SHISKIN. You are quite right. That was total employment including agricultural where we have had an increase. For nonagricultural employment, minus 177,000.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It is down?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It is down?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. By 177,000?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Your staff has spent quite a bit of time on the development of fuel price statistics. A considerable amount of money is involved. Can you tell us when these data are being published? You told us a week or two ago you would give us some idea. Can you tell us now?

Mr. SHISKIN. No, sir. However, I can say this: For those of you who do not know the details, we have been getting our refined petroleum product index from spot market quotations which are clearly unsatisfactory and over the last year or so BLS staff has been trying to get direct reporting from the companies.

Our efforts have not been very successful because as of a week ago only 50 percent of the companies who were in our sample had reported and only very few of these had reported promptly. Almost all of the reports involved 2 months' lag.

The figures were 2 months late.

I should emphasize this is a voluntary survey, we do not have authority to force companies to report to us.

Now, we have had some improvement, Mr. Chairman, during the last 2 weeks, but we are still not out of trouble on that index.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I understand that the Office of Management and Budget has been asking your office to publish an improved wholesale price index for petroleum and asked you to report back on its steps in that direction by today, that is, February 1.

What progress are you making?

Mr. SHISKIN. I am completely unfamiliar with that, Mr. Chairman, I do not know about that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How about your staff, does anybody on your staff?

Mr. SHISKIN. No.

What I prepared for you at your request, and I am very glad you asked me to do so, is what I thought was a comprehensive and frank statement, a completely blunt statement on the situation less than 2 weeks ago, and I said at that time that in my judgment those figures are not of the quality that warrants publication and I say that today again.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, I understand from what you said last time you appeared before the Joint Economic Committee on Statistics in the energy area that you had a fairly good sample. Can't you publish the national figure?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not think it is good enough. We have 50 percent of the returns and we have a 2-month lag. Suppose on February 15 that I published figures based on a weak sample, I do not know how bad it is, but it is far, far from the total we would need. Further, the date did not cover December and January, but covered September to October——

Chairman PROXMIRE. What you are telling us, it seems to me, is pretty outrageous.

Mr. SHISKIN. I think so.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We have a situation in which many people feel the oil companies are exploiting the fuel shortage. They have enjoyed immense increases in profits and yet you tell us that one-half of them have refused to cooperate, have not reported to you, that the figures are 2 months late, and it is very hard for the Congress or the President to make policy when this is as unsatisfactory as it is and you cannot give us a national figure on fuel prices.

Mr. SHISKIN. On refined fuel prices, right?

Chairman PROXMIRE. What this would suggest, and I realize you are not a policymaking official and you are very careful about that, buit it would suggest to me we have to pass a law requiring them to make these reports.

Mr. SHISKIN. I hope you will.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You hope we will. In the meanwhile isn't it possible for you to be as firm and emphatic and forceful as possible in shaming them into providing the statistics?

Mr. SHISKIN. Sir, we have been, and I think you have been very helpful in that respect and I am very optimistic in thinking perhaps that in a few months, even a month or so, the figures will be much better. But again I can't be sure.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can't you get some help from Mr. Simon? I understand he is now gathering the statistics that should be helpful to you.

Mr. SHISKIN. I dispatched a letter to Mr. Simon 2 days ago.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you have liaison with him?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Who in your office, or in his office is particularly responsible in this field?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, the persons in my office who are responsible, as you know from a previous hearing, are Mr. Norwood, who is sitting a few rows behind me, John Layng, who couldn't be here then but is here today, and Margaret Stotz. They are the ones in my office.

The situation is less clear to me obviously in the Energy Office, but the man I have been asked to deal with is Mr. Zausner and I wrote a letter to Mr. Simon several days ago and sent a copy to Mr. Zausner.

I have also been in touch with the appropriate people in OMB including I am very happy to say, the man who replaced me on my job over there.

Chairman PROXMIRE. In view of the different impacts of this oil crisis, I noticed a very, very vivid report on television this morning which they showed that you have a very serious situation in the big cities but no problem at all in the smaller towns.

They showed Auburn, Ill., for example, where they had no evidence of any kind of fuel shortage, nobody had to line up at the pump, anybody could drive anytime they wanted to get all of the gas they wished and they said on the basis of a survey this was typical of the smaller town, but in the East, particularly, the situation is very bad, people have to wait for a long time to get their oil, the reductions seem to be sharp.

It seems to me these area data on wholesale prices are very important so that we know the equity of the allocation and so that we are in some position to determine whether or not there is discrimination and whether or not we should act to do something about it.

Mr. SHISKIN. I would agree with that.

I would also add——

Chairman PROXMIRE. You are pressing for this, but I take it from your responses you feel if the Congress is going to expect to get this on a comprehensive and reliable basis, we need a law?

Mr. SHISKIN. I think so.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You told us you were working on new indexes of fuel prices which would drastically revise your data published and you indicated you would tell us how many resources were devoted to this effort?

Mr. SHISKIN. I sent that figure along in the record and as I remember it, perhaps John could correct me, we have four full-time people directly on it. But the way the BLS works, we have a central operation staff and we have field offices and people in these units work on a lot of different surveys. Our estimate is 19 persons in all.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That contrasts with what I am told. I am told you have two part-time workers.

That is not right?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I do not think so. Mr. Vince Kamenicky, who was with me at the hearing on the prices of petroleum products works full time in the energy field, and he has three full-time assistants.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Full time?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, and we have people working all over the rest of the BLS on this. That may not be enough. We have had problems with funds also over the past. Fortunately, we got a substantial appropriation for the WPI in Fiscal 1974 which has just become available, and we are going to make very good use of that.

To give you an idea of how well the BLS staff realizes the problems that exist here, the request for this money was made just a year ago and one of the items specifically mentioned was the need to improve the wholesale price index for refined petroleum products. So now we have some money for that, but we just got the money.

Chairman PROXMIRE. One of the very hopeful and constructive elements in the economy over the past few years has been the improvement in productivity, a vital element, of course, to improve our standard of living workers able to produce more and, therefore, the higher pay was absorbed by more productivity and the result was that there was a relatively modest pressure on prices from wage costs.

The current analysis seems to be depending on increased productivity to solve the inflation problem and your own figures are very discouraging in that respect.

Your press release of February 1, 1974, notes productivity in the private economy declined in the last half year and the final months of 1973 output rose by 1.2 percent, but worker activity, that is man hours, rose by 2.5 percent, indicating a fall in productivity.

How can we explain trends of that kind? What is the reason for that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I think I better refer that question to Mr. Mark who is our expert on this and see if he has any comments.

Mr. MARK. This was the general pattern that occurred when there are logged adjustments in employment to changes in output which and taking place in the course of——

Chairman PROXMIRE. You see, that would be another indication of recession, would it not?

Mr. MARK. This has occurred in previous periods where output falloffs have taken place.

Chairman PROXMIRE. This drop in productivity is especially troublesome because it is not one that reflects the increase in unemployment of the last months so much because it is a period of 6 months and it is a drop of a 6-month period, but it is a fall in productivity, and you say that that is typical of a slowdown in economic activity; is this right?

Mr. SHISKIN. During the year we had a period where in the first quarter we had very high growth productivity which was a reflection of the sharp increase in output with the increase in employment, but then in the second quarter we had some fallout by capacity pressures. There was pressure on capacity in the second quarter but now we have had this somewhat deceleration of output growth growth with the lag which has explained that actual decline in the third and fourth quarter.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me see if I understand that. If we are going to get an improvement in the inflationary section, it would rely to a considerable extent on improvement in productivity? Now the situation over the last 6 months has discouraged productivity, not only hasn't it improved as much as we like it, it actually has declined, which is shocking and unusual.

Usually the increase in productivity is about 3 percent a year. Can we expect a reversal to increased productivity over the next year or so?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, as you know, BLS avoids speculating about the future and this is clearly a forecasting type of question.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, is there any reason why productivity should not increase in line with this historical performance?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I would say this: That like other economic indicators, the productivity series has its ups and downs. The average of 3 percent is an average of rises, larger and more of them, than the declines. So I think we can expect to come back to 3 percent, though just when that will take place, I cannot say.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We learned yesterday that farm prices went up 9 percent during the month ending January 15. Am I correct that this increase will be reflected in the wholesale price index for January?

Mr. SHISKIN. I heard this over the radio when I was coming to work this morning.

John, can you say something about that?

Mr. LAYNG. Well, I think there is a relationship between retail prices and wholesale prices, but in our studies of the relationship,

historically, these relationships obviously are not very significant at times when there seems to be a lot happening in the agricultural sector.

In 1973, we went through a period of rapid price increase. We had decline at the end of the year and this increase announced on the radio and in the newspapers, which I just heard. To translate this on a 1–for–1 basis into the Consumer Price Index or retail level, is a very difficult thing to do.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am talking about farm prices now.

Mr. LAYNG. Farm prices, wholesale prices at the farm level and prices received by farmers, I believe I cannot verify that, I just heard it myself. That was a number that was released this morning.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am talking about the Wholesale Price Index.

Mr. LAYNG. Wholesale price index. There is a very good relationship between those two components.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And that actually constitutes about 12 percent of the wholesale price index, does it not? So if you have a 9–percent increase in farm prices and that constitutes 12 percent of the wholesale price, that means that from that source you would have a 1–percent increase in the coming months and that leaves out of account the impact you are going to have from fuel?

Mr. LAYNG. There are some differences in the levels and kinds of items that are priced but that is roughly the level at which we are talking about.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The article in the paper says farm prices soared in the month ending in mid-January. The grocery bill would be taking deeper cuts in family budgets. You would not dispute that. Does that seem logical?

Mr. LAYNG. That is hard to tell. I have looked at those relationships. On a month-to-month basis you can find plenty of periods in which they move in much different directions.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Last year the economic profession, of course, as you say, you are not in the predicting business, the economic profession all struck out. In the administration and private industry and business and everywhere it was wrong.

Mr. SHISKIN. I wouldn't agree with that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The fuel shortage is one thing and that was a very hard thing to foresee. One reason was the jump in farm prices. This year I hope we can do a little better job in anticipating what is going to happen.

What kind of coordination do you have with the Agriculture Department relative to the gathering and/or the forecasting of farm prices?

Will you have an early warning system so we have a better understanding?

Mr. SHISKIN. Let me make one comment, before turning to Mr. Layng on that question.

When you say the economic profession struck out, that applies to only one aspect of their forecasting activities. I am an economist and I do not like to let remarks like that go by without explaining them more fully.

The economic profession did well, very well in forecasting changes in the unemployment rate.

Now, the Council of Economic Advisers said the unemployment rate will go down to 4.5 percent. Until we revised the figures this week, they had estimated exactly that, but now we have raised it to 4.6 percent. That was pretty good.

Now, I do not have the same figures on the estimate's real output, but I think they are also very good.

Chairman PROXMIRE. They can't strike out all the time on everything.

If you flip a coin at least half of the time you are going to be right.

Mr. SHISKIN. They did well two-thirds of the time. I would say they did very well in estimating unemployment and real output and struck out in prices, almost all of them. I do not know whether the two-thirds is significant or not. We did not bring our sampling man along; I cannot really answer that. I wanted to make it clear when you talk about a miss in price, that it was a very widespread miss. I read recently, I am sorry I did not bring it along, a copy of Business Week, published a little more than a year ago, and it gave some of the forecasts of our best academic economists and they just missed the mark on prices as badly as the administration missed. Some of the most distinguished economic forecasters were quoted, and they all did pretty well on estimating real output and unemployment.

Having said that, your other question I would request John to comment on.

Mr. LAYNG. We do maintain very close contact with the Agriculture Department.

Our emphasis is on trying to understand what is happening to prices at the current time in terms of the factors that might explain their behavior. We also provide them with some information for their programs that we collect as part of our program at the retail level. We keep a very close contact in terms of satisfying their needs. We use data from them and they use data from us. But in the forecasting side, we find we have no time to do that mainly because it is so hard to determine what is happening in the area of food prices at the current time. It is a very complicated thing.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me ask you a question which you may or may not feel that it is proper for you to answer, but I hope you will consider it.

The administration has indicated that unemployment might go to 6½ percent this year. In view of the sharp increase this month, January, in view of the fact that in the last 3 months it has gone more than half way, to 5½ percent, it has gone from 4.5 to 5.2—does it seem likely that there should be a reconsideration of the previous estimates?

Mr. SHISKIN. You are quite right in saying I would not feel that is a proper question for me to answer. However, if I understand the forecast they have made, what they said was that the worst of the rise would take place in the first quarter.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But the unemployment might continue. After all, you have to get to a point later in the year where production is stepped up considerably if you are then going to be able not only

to put people back to working full-time, and with maybe a little overtime, before you begin to increase your employment.

Mr. SHISKIN. Again I do not want to comment on the reasonableness of their forecast, but only to explain, as I understand it, that they expected most of the rise to take place in the first quarter and then to level off, so the rise we have had in January is consistent with the annual forecast.

I would suggest you ask some of the others in the future.

Chairman PROXMIRE. A few years ao the National Bureau of Economic Research made a study of accuracy and successfulness of economic forecasting and they made a study of the results by all of the forecasters, academic, government, business, and so forth. They found they were pretty good for 6 months, but after that you might as well ask the nearest cab driver or anybody else, or flip a coin.

Well, their 6-month forecast is gloomy, if that is as far as we go, it is a pretty grim outlook.

Mr. SHISKIN. No comment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, and ladies and gentlemen, thank you very, very much for appearing. You were most helpful.

The subcommittee will stand adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:10 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.]

EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1974

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES AND
ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT OF THE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 11:10 a.m., in room 1114, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. William Proxmire (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senator Proxmire.

Also present: Loughlin F. McHugh, senior economist; Jerry J. Jasinowski and Courtenay M. Slater, professional staff members; and Michael J. Runde, administrative assistant.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE

Chairman PROXMIRE. The subcommittee will come to order.

Welcome Mr. Shiskin. We are delighted to have you this morning.

There is just no question that the figures in February show that unemployment seems to have leveled off at 5.2 percent. Frankly, it surprises us, and it is certainly better news than we had expected. We can hardly say that the fact that we maintain 600,000 more people out of work now than 4 months ago in October is good news. Nevertheless, the fact is—and it is welcome—that unemployment did not increase in February. And we are very anxious to hear from you and to have your viewpoint as to whether this may well mean that the recession which so many had anticipated may not develop.

You go right ahead. I have a number of questions.

STATEMENT OF HON. JULIUS SHISKIN, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY JAMES R. WETZEL, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS; W. JOHN LAYNG, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS; JACK ALTERMAN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC TRENDS AND LABOR CONDITIONS; VICTOR SHEIFER, CHIEF, DIVISION OF TRENDS IN EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION; JEROME A. MARK, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY; AND JANET L. NORWOOD, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF DATA ANALYSIS

Mr. SHISKIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have with me my staff, several of whom I had last month with me, and some others. And I will take a minute to introduce them.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Go right ahead.

Mr. SHISKIN. James Wetzel, head of current employment and unemployment work, sitting to my right. John Layng, head of our price work, sitting to my left. Mr. Alterman, economic trends—and the reason I brought him, Mr. Chairman, is that he is our energy expert.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I notice you have an excellent analysis here of the impact of the energy shortage on unemployment. And which we are anxious to hear about.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Sheifer is our expert in the wage area, and Mr. Mark, whom I am sure you remember, is an expert on productivity.

I have a brief statement which I hope wou will permit me to read.

Chairman PROXMIRE. By all means.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I would like to place the "Employment Situation: February 1974" press release in the record and present a short summary of major developments as reflected in the seasonally adjusted data.

[The press release referred to for the record follows:]

NEWS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

USDL - 74-106
FOR RELEASE: Transmission Embargo
10:00 A. M. (EDT)
Friday, March 8, 1974

Washington, D. C. 20212
J. Bregger (202) 961-2633
961-2472
961-2531
K. Hoyle (202) 961-2913
home: 333-1284

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: FEBRUARY 1974

Unemployment was unchanged in February, while nonfarm payroll employment increased after declining in the preceding 2 months, it was announced today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The Nation' s unemployment rate was 5. 2 percent, the same as in January but well above the 4. 6-percent low reached in October of last year.

Total employment (as measured through the household survey) remained unchanged in February, slightly above the level of October 1973. Nonfarm payroll employment (as measured through the establishment survey) posted an increase of 175, 000 in February despite a further drop in the number of manufacturing jobs. The February increase returned payroll employment to the previous high reached in November 1973.

Estimates of the effects of the energy crisis upon nonfarm payroll employment indicate that in the 3 months after November between 125, 000 and 200, 000 jobs were lost owing to the direct effects of energy shortages. Industries that may have experienced at least some indirect effects posted employment declines of 300, 000 over the period; while a substantial part of this can be attributed to energy shortages, some may stem from other factors. These reductions were offset by growth in other industries over the November-to-February period.

Unemployment

Both the number of unemployed persons and the unemployment rate remained stable in February, after rising in the previous month and the closing months of 1973. Since October 1973, when joblessness reached its lowest point in 3-1/2 years, the number of unemployed persons has increased by 650, 000 (seasonally adjusted) to 4-3/4 million, and the jobless rate has risen 0. 6 percentage point to 5. 2 percent.

Unemployment rates for most labor force groups were also basically unchanged in February. (See table A-3.) For example, there was virtually no change in the rates for household heads (3. 0 percent) and married men (2. 4 per-

cent), nor for all adult men (3.5 percent), adult women (5.1 percent), and teenagers (15.3 percent). The rate for white workers (4.7 percent) and that for Negroes (9.2 percent) were also unchanged from the previous month. Unemployment data by occupation and industry also showed few changes in February. Nearly all worker groups, however, have experienced an increase in joblessness since last fall.

Table A. Highlights of the employment situation (seasonally adjusted data)

Selected categories	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1972	1973				Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1973	1974	1974
	(Millions of persons)							
Civilian labor force	87.1	87.6	88.5	89.0	89.9	90.0	90.5	90.6
Total employment	82.6	83.2	84.1	84.8	85.7	85.7	85.8	85.8
Adult men	47.3	47.5	47.7	48.1	48.5	48.6	48.7	48.5
Adult women	28.3	28.6	29.2	29.5	29.7	29.6	29.5	29.7
Teenagers	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6
Unemployment	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.8
	(Percent of labor force)							
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.2
Adult men	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.4	3.5
Adult women	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.1
Teenagers	15.5	14.7	14.7	14.3	14.3	14.4	15.6	15.3
White	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.7
Negro and other races	9.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	8.6	9.4	9.2
Household heads	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0
Married men	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
Full-time workers	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.7
State insured	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0r	3.2
	(Weeks)							
Average duration of unemployment	11.5	10.6	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.3	9.4	9.6
	(Millions of persons)							
Nonfarm payroll employment	73.8	74.6	75.3	75.7	76.6	76.6	76.5p	76.7p
Goods-producing industries	23.4	23.7	24.0	24.2	24.4	24.5	24.3p	24.2p
Service-producing industries	50.4	50.9	51.3	51.6	52.1	51.2	52.2p	52.4p
	(Hours of work)							
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	37.2	37.1	37.2	37.1	37.0	37.0	36.7p	36.9p
Manufacturing	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.6	40.7	40.2p	40.5p
Manufacturing overtime	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.4p	3.4p
	(1967=100)							
Hourly Earnings Index, private nonfarm:								
In current dollars	141.0	142.7	145.0	147.8	150.4	151.3	151.7p	152.1p
In constant dollars	111.1	110.8	110.3	110.0	109.3	109.3	108.4p	NA

p= preliminary.
N.A.= not available.
r=revised.

SOURCE: Tables A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, and B-4.

The unemployment rate for Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years of age, at 5.0 percent, showed little change from January but was up from the fourth quarter 1973 average of 4.2 percent. The jobless rate for the more recently discharged veterans--those 20-24 years of age--was 10.0 percent, about the same as in the previous month and higher than that for nonveterans of the same ages (7.9 percent). Rates for veterans 25 to 29 (3.8 percent) and 30 to 34 (2.7 percent) were also essentially unchanged over the month at levels approximating those of their nonveteran counterparts. (See table A-7.)

The unemployment rate for workers covered by State unemployment insurance programs rose from 3.0 to 3.2 percent in February. This rate had held at or near 2.7 percent through all of 1973.

The distribution of the unemployed in terms of the reasons for their status was basically unchanged from January to February. Nevertheless, since October of last year the number of persons unemployed because of job loss has increased by 590,000, accounting for practically all of the rise in total unemployment. (See table A-5.)

The average (mean) duration of unemployment, at 9.6 weeks in February, was about unchanged from January and December but remained below the levels prevailing throughout the other months of 1973. (See table A-4.) Changes in the average duration of unemployment typically lag those in the overall level and rate of unemployment.

Civilian Labor Force and Total Employment

At 90.6 million (seasonally adjusted), the civilian labor force remained stable in February, as an increase in the number of adult women was offset by a decline among teenagers and adult men. Since February a year ago, the civilian labor force has expanded by 2.7 million. (See table A-1.)

Total employment was also unchanged in February. However, there was a noticeable increase in the number of persons who, although usually working full time, had been reduced at least temporarily to a part-time status because of adverse economic factors affecting their jobs (lack of work, material shortages, etc.). The number of involuntary part-time workers advanced to nearly 2.8 million (seasonally adjusted) from 2.6 million in January and 2.3 million last October.

Industry Payroll Employment

Nonagricultural payroll employment rose by 175,000 in February to 76.7 million (seasonally adjusted), following a January decline of 105,000 (the prelimi-

nary figures for January published last month had shown a decline of 260, 000). This increase returned the payroll-job total to the level reached in November 1973. Over the past year, payroll employment has grown by about 2 million. (See table B-1.)

February employment gains were widespread throughout the service-producing industries; increases were registered in services (90, 000), wholesale and retail trade (65, 000), State and local government (50, 000), and finance, insurance and real estate (20, 000). In addition, contract construction employment increased by 100, 000, after a drop of the same magnitude in the previous month.

Partly offsetting these increases was a drop of 150, 000 in manufacturing, nearly all of it in the durable goods industries. Transportation equipment suffered heavy job losses for the second straight month, reflecting, in large part, reduced consumer demand for automobiles stemming from the gasoline situation. Employment in electrical equipment and in machinery was also down somewhat in February.

Measuring the Effects of the Energy Crisis

Since November 1973, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has been engaged in a project to measure the direct impact of energy and other petroleum shortages on employment. Preliminary results based on employer reports show that from November to February between 125, 000 and 200, 000 jobs were lost as the direct result of employers being unable to obtain sufficient supplies of fuel and petroleum-based products to maintain their previous levels of operation. Principally affected were gasoline service stations and airlines. Other losses were generally small and widespread.

In addition to the project for measuring the direct effects of the energy crisis, an analysis was made of the industries experiencing declines which may have been attributable to reduced demand arising in part from actual or anticipated shortages of fuel available to their potential customers. Industries associated with automobile manufacturing and distribution showed the largest decreases. Others, such as hotels and motels and amusements, have been affected to a lesser extent by reduced travel. Reduced demand for recreational vehicles, small aircraft, and pleasure boats has also had some adverse impact on employment. Since November, these industries have shown net declines totaling about 300, 000 jobs. Approximately 80, 000 of the decline occurred in December, 90, 000 in January, and 130, 000 in February. While part of these curtailments can be attributed to factors other than

the energy shortage, a substantial portion probably resulted from actual or anticipated fuel shortages.

Since total nonfarm payroll employment in February had returned to its record level reached in November, job losses which may have stemmed from the direct or indirect effects of the energy crisis have been offset by employment gains in other industries.

Hours of Work

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers, which had declined in January, recovered most of this loss, as it rose by 0.2 hour to 36.9 hours, seasonally adjusted, in February. In manufacturing, the average workweek increased by 0.3 hour to 40.5 hours. Average overtime in manufacturing, on the other hand, was unchanged at 3.4 hours. All three measures were down considerably from their year-ago levels. (See table B-2.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls rose 0.2 percent in February (seasonally adjusted). Since February a year ago, hourly earnings have risen by 6.6 percent. Reflecting the rise in hourly earnings as well as the expansion of the workweek, weekly earnings rose 0.8 percent in February (seasonally adjusted). Weekly earnings advanced by 5.8 percent over the past year.

Before adjustment for seasonality, average hourly earnings increased by 1 cent in February to $4.03. (See table B-3.) Since February 1973, hourly earnings have risen by 25 cents. Weekly earnings averaged $147.10 in February, up 77 cents from January and $8.00 from a year earlier.

Hourly Earnings Index

The Hourly Earnings Index--earnings adjusted for overtime in manufacturing, seasonality, and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries--was 152.1 (1967 = 100) in February, 0.3 percent higher than in January. (See table B-4.) The index was 6.7 percent above February a year ago. All industries recorded gains over the past 12 months, ranging from 5.5 percent in finance, insurance, and real estate to 8.4 percent in mining. During the 12-month period ended in January, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power declined 2.6 percent.

This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Statistics on payroll employment, hours, and earnings are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A description of the two surveys appears in the BLS publication *Employment and Earnings*.

Table A-1: Employment status of the noninstitutional population by sex and age

(In thousands)

Employment status, age, and sex	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Seasonally adjusted				
				Feb. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
Total								
Total labor force	89,075	91,354	91,692	90,108	92,186	92,315	92,801	92,814
Civilian labor force	86,683	89,096	89,434	87,716	89,903	90,033	90,543	90,556
Employed	81,838	84,088	84,294	83,230	85,649	85,669	85,811	85,803
Agriculture	2,956	3,197	3,283	3,446	3,561	3,643	3,794	3,852
Nonagricultural industries	78,882	80,891	81,011	79,784	82,088	82,026	82,017	81,951
On part time for economic reasons	2,088	2,385	2,597	2,224	2,405	2,562	2,586	2,754
Usually work full time	1,020	1,274	1,375	1,024	1,143	1,192	1,213	1,381
Usually work part time	1,068	1,111	1,222	1,200	1,262	1,370	1,373	1,373
Unemployed	4,845	5,008	5,140	4,486	4,254	4,364	4,732	4,753
Men, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	48,834	49,926	49,945	49,195	49,926	50,085	50,371	50,312
Employed	46,767	47,869	47,754	47,513	48,425	48,559	48,660	48,529
Agriculture	2,289	2,448	2,483	2,496	2,544	2,569	2,687	2,708
Nonagricultural industries	44,478	45,421	45,271	45,017	45,881	45,990	45,973	45,821
Unemployed	2,067	2,057	2,191	1,682	1,501	1,526	1,711	1,783
Women, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	30,380	31,170	31,512	30,187	31,183	31,169	31,133	31,329
Employed	28,803	29,491	29,823	28,687	29,704	29,596	29,519	29,722
Agriculture	419	455	479	561	550	595	628	641
Nonagricultural industries	28,384	29,035	29,343	28,126	29,154	29,001	28,891	29,081
Unemployed	1,577	1,680	1,689	1,500	1,479	1,573	1,614	1,607
Both sexes, 16–19 years								
Civilian labor force	7,469	7,999	7,977	8,334	8,794	8,779	9,039	8,915
Employed	6,268	6,728	6,717	7,030	7,520	7,514	7,632	7,552
Agriculture	248	293	320	389	467	479	479	503
Nonagricultural industries	6,021	6,435	6,397	6,641	7,053	7,035	7,153	7,049
Unemployed	1,200	1,271	1,260	1,304	1,274	1,265	1,407	1,363

Table A-2: Full- and part-time status of the civilian labor force by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Full- and part-time employment status, sex, and age	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1974	Seasonally adjusted					
			Feb. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
Full time								
Total, 16 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	73,371	75,572	75,256	76,583	76,764	76,807	77,458	77,585
Employed	69,621	71,650	71,793	73,473	73,439	73,406	73,842	73,958
Unemployed	3,749	3,923	3,463	3,110	3,325	3,401	3,616	3,627
Unemployment rate	5.1	5.2	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.7
Men, 20 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	46,321	47,411	46,806	47,374	47,430	47,536	47,792	47,922
Employed	44,406	45,428	45,248	46,042	46,066	46,156	46,256	46,308
Unemployed	1,915	1,983	1,558	1,332	1,364	1,380	1,536	1,614
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.2	3.3	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.4
Women, 20 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	23,583	24,433	23,701	24,229	24,392	24,366	24,446	24,557
Employed	22,345	23,125	22,500	23,154	23,202	23,094	23,179	23,288
Unemployed	1,238	1,308	1,201	1,075	1,190	1,272	1,267	1,269
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.4	5.1	4.4	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.2
Part time								
Total, 16 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	13,312	13,861	12,563	13,186	13,190	13,317	13,171	13,067
Employed	12,216	12,644	11,578	12,203	12,228	12,314	12,085	11,975
Unemployed	1,095	1,217	985	983	962	1,003	1,086	1,092
Unemployment rate	8.2	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.5	8.2	8.4

NOTE: Persons on part-time schedules for economic reasons are included in the full-time employed category; unemployed persons are allocated by whether seeking full- or part-time work.

Table A-3: Major unemployment indicators

(Seasonally adjusted)

Selected categories	Number of persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1974	Feb. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
Total (all civilian workers)	4,486	4,753	5.1	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.2
Men, 20 years and over	1,682	1,783	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.4	3.5
Women, 20 years and over	1,500	1,607	5.0	4.4	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.1
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,304	1,363	15.6	14.0	14.5	14.4	15.6	15.3
White	3,565	3,768	4.6	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.7
Negro and other races	881	950	9.0	8.4	8.9	8.6	9.4	9.2
Household heads	1,539	1,553	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0
Married men	966	977	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
Full-time workers	3,463	3,627	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.7
Part-time workers	985	1,092	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.5	8.2	8.4
Unemployed 15 weeks and over[1]	898	830	1.0	.8	.9	.8	.8	1.0
State insured[2]	1,588	2,035	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0r	3.2
Labor force time lost[3]	--	--	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.7
Occupation[4]								
White-collar workers	1,249	1,347	3.0	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.2
Professional and technical	245	256	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	142	163	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.8
Sales workers	210	235	3.7	3.0	3.3	4.5	4.0	4.2
Clerical workers	652	693	4.3	3.6	4.0	4.1	4.5	4.5
Blue-collar workers	1,755	1,939	5.7	5.1	5.4	5.2	6.0	6.1
Craftsmen and kindred workers	442	463	3.9	3.5	3.9	3.2	3.8	3.9
Operatives	914	1,019	6.1	5.4	5.6	5.8	7.0	6.8
Nonfarm laborers	399	457	8.8	8.0	8.6	8.3	8.4	9.3
Service workers	712	725	6.2	5.1	5.9	6.2	5.5	6.1
Farm workers	79	72	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	1.9	2.1
Industry[5]								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers[6]	3,243	3,521	5.1	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.3	5.4
Construction	393	316	8.9	9.0	9.1	8.2	9.1	7.9
Manufacturing	957	1,151	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.3	5.1	5.3
Durable goods	515	646	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.9	5.0	5.1
Nondurable goods	442	505	5.0	4.1	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.7
Transportation and public utilities	145	150	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	3.1
Wholesale and retail trade	926	954	6.0	5.1	5.4	6.1	6.1	6.0
Finance and service industries	796	881	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.9
Government workers	368	406	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.5	3.5	3.8
Agricultural wage and salary workers	96	105	7.2	6.7	7.4	6.4	6.1	7.1

[1] Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.

[2] Insured unemployment under State programs--unemployment rate calculated as a percent of average covered employment. As with the other statistics presented, insured unemployment data relate to the week containing the 12th.

[3] Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.

[4] Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers

[5] Includes mining, not shown separately.

r = revised.

Table A-4: Unemployed persons 16 years and over by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration of unemployment	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1974	Seasonally adjusted					
			Feb. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
Less than 5 weeks	2,224	2,183	2,264	2,001	2,243	2,308	2,466	2,427
5 to 14 weeks	1,641	1,851	1,264	1,283	1,235	1,270	1,417	1,426
15 weeks and over	979	905	898	756	820	740	768	830
15 to 26 weeks	608	574	533	431	469	409	440	505
27 weeks and over	372	331	365	325	351	331	328	325
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	10.6	9.7	10.5	10.3	10.0	9.3	9.4	9.6

Table A-5: Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason for unemployment	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1974	Seasonally adjusted					
			Feb. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
Number of unemployed								
Lost last job	2,182	2,565	1,745	1,461	1,664	1,761	2,006	2,052
Left last job	678	769	661	678	783	765	731	750
Reentered labor force	1,432	1,292	1,374	1,253	1,227	1,266	1,252	1,240
Never worked before	553	514	677	612	590	593	682	630
Percent distribution								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lost last job	45.0	49.9	39.2	36.5	39.0	40.2	42.9	43.9
Left last job	14.0	15.0	14.8	16.9	18.4	17.4	15.6	16.1
Reentered labor force	29.6	25.1	30.8	31.3	28.8	28.9	26.8	26.5
Never worked before	11.4	10.0	15.2	15.3	13.8	13.5	14.6	13.5
Unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force								
Lost last job	2.5	2.9	2.0	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3
Left last job	.8	.9	.8	.8	.9	.8	.8	.8
Reentered labor force	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Never worked before	.6	.6	.8	.7	.7	.7	.8	.7

Table A-6: Unemployed persons by age and sex

Age and sex	Thousands of persons		Percent looking for full-time work	Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1974	Feb. 1974	Feb. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,845	5,140	76.3	5.1	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.2
16 to 19 years	1,200	1,260	50.1	15.6	14.0	14.5	14.4	15.6	15.3
16 and 17 years	572	613	27.4	18.1	16.4	17.2	16.7	19.4	17.9
18 and 19 years	629	647	71.6	13.3	12.1	12.5	12.9	13.3	12.9
20 to 24 years	1,095	1,209	83.6	8.1	6.7	7.2	7.7	8.5	8.6
25 years and over	2,550	2,671	85.4	3.3	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3
25 to 54 years	2,104	2,197	86.6	3.4	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.5
55 years and over	446	474	79.5	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.9
Males, 16 years and over	2,713	2,899	80.0	4.3	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.5
16 to 19 years	646	708	47.6	14.2	13.4	14.3	13.6	14.1	14.6
16 and 17 years	337	374	29.4	17.6	15.6	17.2	16.3	18.8	18.0
18 and 19 years	308	334	68.0	11.1	11.3	12.1	11.9	11.2	11.6
20 to 24 years	630	697	85.8	7.8	6.3	6.6	6.7	7.9	8.3
25 years and over	1,437	1,494	92.8	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.8
25 to 54 years	1,182	1,173	96.2	2.8	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.7
55 years and over	254	321	80.4	2.3	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.9
Females, 16 years and over	2,132	2,241	71.5	6.3	5.6	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.4
16 to 19 years	555	552	53.3	17.4	14.8	14.8	15.4	17.3	16.2
16 and 17 years	234	239	24.3	18.8	17.3	17.2	17.2	20.1	17.8
18 and 19 years	321	313	75.4	15.8	13.0	13.1	14.0	15.6	14.4
20 to 24 years	464	512	80.7	8.4	7.3	7.9	8.9	9.3	9.0
25 years and over	1,113	1,177	76.1	4.3	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3
25 to 54 years	922	1,024	75.7	4.5	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.8
55 years and over	191	153	78.4	3.5	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.9

Table A-7: Employment status of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years of age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Seasonally adjusted					
				Feb. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974
VETERANS[1]									
Total, 20 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	5,544	5,935	6,018	5,544	5,833	5,865	5,900	5,935	6,018
Civilian labor force	5,130	5,653	5,689	5,179	5,497	5,503	5,589	5,712	5,732
Employed	4,790	5,311	5,328	4,908	5,251	5,300	5,348	5,417	5,444
Unemployed	340	342	361	271	246	203	241	295	288
Unemployment rate	6.6	6.0	6.3	5.2	4.5	3.7	4.3	5.2	5.0
20 to 24 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	1,791	1,488	1,446	1,791	1,577	1,546	1,517	1,488	1,446
Civilian labor force	1,598	1,370	1,323	1,625	1,431	1,382	1,366	1,377	1,344
Employed	1,397	1,205	1,153	1,466	1,314	1,282	1,263	1,231	1,210
Unemployed	201	165	170	159	117	100	103	146	134
Unemployment rate	12.6	12.0	12.8	9.8	8.2	7.2	7.5	10.6	10.0
25 to 29 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	2,865	3,243	3,375	2,865	3,139	3,173	3,208	3,243	3,375
Civilian labor force	2,676	3,102	3,194	2,699	2,974	3,004	3,062	3,139	3,216
Employed	2,568	2,963	3,041	2,613	2,874	2,928	2,957	3,027	3,094
Unemployed	108	139	153	86	100	76	105	112	122
Unemployment rate	4.0	4.5	4.8	3.2	3.4	2.5	3.4	3.6	3.8
30 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	888	1,204	1,197	888	1,117	1,146	1,175	1,204	1,197
Civilian labor force	856	1,181	1,172	855	1,092	1,117	1,161	1,196	1,172
Employed	825	1,143	1,134	829	1,063	1,090	1,128	1,159	1,140
Unemployed	31	38	38	26	29	27	33	37	32
Unemployment rate	3.6	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.7
NONVETERANS									
Total, 20 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	13,983	14,659	14,664	13,983	14,626	14,701	14,814	14,659	14,664
Civilian labor force	12,351	13,185	13,030	12,586	13,227	13,360	13,487	13,406	13,287
Employed	11,587	12,366	12,189	11,933	12,669	12,739	12,858	12,711	12,564
Unemployed	764	819	841	653	558	621	629	695	723
Unemployment rate	6.2	6.2	6.5	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.7	5.2	5.4
20 to 24 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	6,384	6,819	6,878	6,384	6,812	6,861	6,929	6,819	6,878
Civilian labor force	5,108	5,687	5,651	5,350	5,751	5,871	5,963	5,900	5,911
Employed	4,679	5,205	5,124	4,971	5,422	5,487	5,568	5,473	5,445
Unemployed	429	482	527	379	329	384	395	427	466
Unemployment rate	8.4	8.5	9.3	7.1	5.7	6.5	6.6	7.2	7.9
25 to 29 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	4,080	4,099	3,999	4,080	4,155	4,168	4,193	4,099	3,999
Civilian labor force	3,861	3,879	3,760	3,866	3,944	3,947	3,961	3,887	3,765
Employed	3,660	3,684	3,569	3,702	3,788	3,781	3,801	3,733	3,609
Unemployed	201	195	191	164	156	166	160	154	156
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.1
30 to 34 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	3,519	3,741	3,787	3,519	3,659	3,672	3,692	3,741	3,787
Civilian labor force	3,382	3,619	3,619	3,370	3,532	3,542	3,563	3,619	3,611
Employed	3,248	3,477	3,496	3,260	3,459	3,471	3,489	3,505	3,510
Unemployed	134	142	123	110	73	71	74	114	101
Unemployment rate	4.0	3.9	3.4	3.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	3.2	2.8

[1] Vietnam-era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964. At present, of the Vietnam-era veterans of all ages, 91 percent are 20 to 34 years of age.

[2] Since seasonal variations are not present in the population figures, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

Table B-1: Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	Feb. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974 p	Feb. 1974 p	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Feb. 1973	Jan. 1974	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974 p	Feb. 1974 p	Change from Jan. 1974
TOTAL	73,724	77,391	75,608	75,678	1,954	70	76,626	76,520	76,695	175
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,202	24,391	23,736	23,643	441	-93	24,468	24,291	24,248	-43
MINING	598	642	639	643	45	4	646	651	658	7
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,184	3,639	3,273	3,305	121	32	3,732	3,629	3,730	101
MANUFACTURING	19,420	20,110	19,824	19,695	275	-129	20,090	20,011	19,860	-151
Production workers	14,258	14,799	14,530	14,401	143	-129	14,771	14,699	14,546	-153
DURABLE GOODS	11,359	11,878	11,699	11,578	219	-121	11,859	11,774	11,640	-134
Production workers	8,334	8,737	8,566	8,446	112	-120	8,712	8,633	8,498	-135
Ordnance and accessories	197.0	191.4	190.6	190.3	-6.7	-.3	190	190	191	1
Lumber and wood products	611.9	636.3	624.2	628.9	17.0	4.7	645	643	646	3
Furniture and fixtures	511.4	532.0	526.8	520.8	9.4	-6.0	527	527	523	-4
Stone, clay, and glass products	661.9	699.5	680.8	682.3	20.4	1.5	707	702	703	1
Primary metal industries	1,283.6	1,339.1	1,331.2	1,328.2	44.6	-3.0	1,354	1,341	1,331	-10
Fabricated metal products	1,423.1	1,481.5	1,461.4	1,454.1	31.0	-7.3	1,470	1,469	1,463	-6
Machinery, except electrical	1,985.0	2,127.8	2,128.1	2,128.9	143.9	.8	2,128	2,132	2,116	-16
Electrical equipment	1,939.2	2,069.4	2,047.0	2,026.4	87.2	-20.6	2,057	2,051	2,032	-19
Transportation equipment	1,844.8	1,847.3	1,770.5	1,676.6	-168.2	-93.9	1,827	1,760	1,677	-83
Instruments and related products	478.8	515.7	513.9	515.9	37.1	2.0	514	515	518	3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	422.6	438.0	424.8	425.8	3.2	1.0	440	444	440	-4
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,061	8,232	8,125	8,117	56	-8	8,231	8,237	8,220	-17
Production workers	5,924	6,062	5,964	5,955	31	-9	6,059	6,066	6,048	-18
Food and kindred products	1,673.5	1,735.7	1,698.7	1,684.3	10.8	-14.4	1,753	1,764	1,762	-2
Tobacco manufactures	70.5	79.2	75.3	73.8	3.3	-1.5	75	76	77	1
Textile mill products	1,019.6	1,034.8	1,024.8	1,022.1	2.5	-2.7	1,030	1,028	1,025	-3
Apparel and other textile products	1,350.0	1,319.4	1,296.4	1,306.3	-43.7	9.9	1,321	1,316	1,305	-11
Paper and allied products	704.8	728.3	723.8	722.5	17.7	-1.3	724	728	728	0
Printing and publishing	1,090.6	1,112.8	1,103.3	1,108.2	17.6	4.9	1,105	1,106	1,109	3
Chemicals and allied products	1,007.4	1,039.2	1,035.8	1,033.8	26.4	-2.0	1,042	1,044	1,040	-4
Petroleum and coal products	180.6	190.2	187.5	188.2	7.6	.7	192	192	193	1
Rubber and plastics products, nec	668.2	696.0	688.9	684.9	16.7	-4.0	693	692	688	-4
Leather and leather products	295.3	296.5	290.9	293.2	-2.1	2.3	296	291	293	2
SERVICE-PRODUCING	50,522	53,000	51,872	52,035	1,513	163	52,158	52,229	52,447	218
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,507	4,644	4,618	4,604	97	-14	4,644	4,684	4,679	-5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	15,776	17,113	16,292	16,139	363	-153	16,398	16,419	16,484	65
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,974	4,181	4,148	4,147	173	-1	4,152	4,177	4,197	20
RETAIL TRADE	11,802	12,932	12,144	11,992	190	-152	12,246	12,242	12,287	45
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3,978	4,080	4,068	4,086	108	18	4,101	4,105	4,123	18
SERVICES	12,530	13,062	12,900	13,054	524	154	13,128	13,123	13,213	90
GOVERNMENT	13,731	14,101	13,994	14,152	421	158	13,887	13,898	13,948	50
FEDERAL	2,619	2,677	2,642	2,647	28	5	2,654	2,658	2,658	0
STATE AND LOCAL	11,112	11,424	11,352	11,505	393	153	11,233	11,240	11,290	50

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Table B-2: Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Feb. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974[p]	Feb. 1974[p]	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Feb. 1973	Jan. 1974	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974[p]	Feb. 1974[p]	Change from Jan. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE	36.8	37.2	36.4	36.5	-0.3	0.1	37.0	36.7	36.9	0.2
MINING	41.4	43.5	42.2	42.5	1.1	.3	43.3	42.5	43.1	.6
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	34.9	36.6	34.9	36.2	1.3	1.3	37.2	36.2	37.5	1.3
MANUFACTURING	40.6	41.2	39.9	40.1	-.5	.2	40.7	40.2	40.5	.3
Overtime hours	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.2	-.5	-.1	3.7	3.4	3.4	0
DURABLE GOODS	41.6	41.9	40.4	40.6	-1.0	.2	41.3	40.7	41.0	.3
Overtime hours	4.1	4.1	3.4	3.3	-.8	-.1	3.9	3.5	3.5	0
Ordnance and accessories	42.7	43.0	41.4	42.0	-.7	.6	42.6	41.5	42.0	.5
Lumber and wood products	40.1	40.9	39.3	39.9	-.2	.6	40.9	40.2	40.5	.3
Furniture and fixtures	39.8	40.4	39.1	38.9	-.9	-.2	39.6	39.7	39.7	0
Stone, clay, and glass products	41.4	42.1	40.4	40.8	-.6	.4	42.2	41.4	41.6	.2
Primary metal industries	42.4	42.4	41.9	41.7	-.7	-.2	42.4	41.9	41.7	-.2
Fabricated metal products	41.4	42.0	40.4	40.5	-.9	.1	41.5	40.8	41.0	.2
Machinery, except electrical	42.8	43.7	42.2	42.4	-.4	.2	42.9	42.2	42.5	.3
Electrical equipment	40.6	40.7	39.6	39.6	-1.0	0	40.1	39.7	40.1	.4
Transportation equipment	42.7	42.4	39.7	40.2	-2.5	.5	41.0	40.1	40.7	.6
Instruments and related products	40.5	41.5	40.4	40.6	.1	.2	41.0	40.6	40.9	.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.1	39.1	37.9	38.6	-.5	.7	38.8	38.2	38.9	.7
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.3	40.1	39.1	39.3	0	.2	39.8	39.5	39.7	.2
Overtime hours	3.2	3.5	3.1	3.0	-.2	-.1	3.4	3.3	3.2	-.1
Food and kindred products	39.6	41.2	40.5	40.0	.4	-.5	40.9	40.8	40.7	-.1
Tobacco manufactures	37.3	39.8	39.2	38.8	1.5	-.4	38.9	39.8	40.0	.2
Textile mill products	40.9	41.2	40.0	40.3	-.6	.3	40.8	40.4	40.6	.2
Apparel and other textile products	35.8	35.9	34.7	35.3	-.5	.6	35.9	35.2	35.5	.3
Paper and allied products	42.6	43.2	42.5	42.3	-.3	-.2	42.8	42.7	42.7	0
Printing and publishing	37.6	38.3	37.1	37.3	-.3	.2	37.8	37.6	37.7	.1
Chemicals and allied products	41.8	42.2	41.6	41.9	.1	.3	41.9	41.7	42.1	.4
Petroleum and coal products	41.2	42.4	41.8	41.9	.7	.1	42.7	42.5	42.6	.1
Rubber and plastics products, nec	41.2	41.3	40.5	40.7	-.5	.2	41.0	40.6	41.0	.4
Leather and leather products	37.7	38.2	37.1	37.7	0	.6	37.5	37.1	37.8	.7
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.3	40.6	40.3	40.1	-.2	-.2	40.4	40.7	40.2	-.5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34.5	34.7	33.8	33.8	-.7	0	34.5	34.2	34.3	.1
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.5	39.5	38.7	38.7	-.8	0	39.1	38.9	38.9	0
RETAIL TRADE	32.9	33.2	32.2	32.3	-.6	.1	32.9	32.7	32.9	.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37.1	37.2	37.0	37.0	-.1	0	37.2	37.0	37.0	0
SERVICES	33.9	34.0	33.8	33.9	0	.1	34.0	34.0	34.1	.1

[1]Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.

p = preliminary.

Table B-3: Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings						Average weekly earnings					
	Feb. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974[p]	Feb. 1974[p]	Change from Feb. 1973	Change from Jan. 1974	Feb. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974[p]	Feb. 1974[p]	Change from Feb. 1973	Change from Jan. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE	$3.78	$4.01	$4.02	$4.03	$0.25	$0.01	$139.10	$149.17	$146.33	$147.10	$8.00	$0.77
Seasonally adjusted	3.78	4.02	4.02	4.03	.25	.01	140.62	148.74	147.53	148.71	8.09	1.18
MINING	4.55	4.92	4.98	4.96	.41	-.02	188.37	214.02	210.16	210.80	22.43	.64
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	6.31	6.70	6.73	6.73	.42	0	220.22	245.22	234.88	243.63	23.41	8.75
MANUFACTURING	3.97	4.21	4.21	4.20	.23	-.01	161.18	173.45	167.98	168.42	7.24	.44
DURABLE GOODS	4.23	4.48	4.47	4.46	.23	-.01	175.97	187.71	180.59	181.08	5.11	.49
Ordnance and accessories	4.15	4.49	4.48	4.46	.31	-.02	177.21	193.07	185.47	187.32	10.11	1.85
Lumber and wood products	3.47	3.68	3.66	3.68	.21	.02	139.15	150.51	143.84	146.83	7.68	2.99
Furniture and fixtures	3.17	3.36	3.36	3.38	.21	.02	126.17	135.74	131.38	131.48	5.31	.10
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.04	4.29	4.27	4.29	.25	.02	167.26	180.61	172.51	175.03	7.77	2.52
Primary metal industries	4.86	5.23	5.24	5.21	.35	-.03	206.06	221.75	219.56	217.26	11.20	-2.30
Fabricated metal products	4.15	4.39	4.38	4.38	.23	0	171.81	184.38	176.95	177.39	5.58	.44
Machinery, except electrical	4.45	4.75	4.72	4.75	.30	.03	190.46	207.58	199.18	201.40	10.94	2.22
Electrical equipment	3.78	3.98	3.98	3.96	.18	-.02	153.47	161.99	157.61	156.82	3.35	-.79
Transportation equipment	5.00	5.32	5.29	5.25	.25	-.04	213.50	225.57	210.01	211.05	-2.45	1.04
Instruments and related products	3.82	4.04	4.02	4.04	.22	.02	154.71	167.66	162.41	164.02	9.31	1.61
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3.22	3.36	3.40	3.40	.18	0	125.90	131.38	128.86	131.24	5.34	2.38
NONDURABLE GOODS	3.59	3.80	3.82	3.83	.24	.01	141.09	152.38	149.36	150.52	9.43	1.16
Food and kindred products	3.75	3.97	3.99	4.02	.27	.03	148.50	163.56	161.60	160.80	12.30	-.80
Tobacco manufactures	3.65	3.87	3.93	3.90	.25	-.03	136.15	154.03	154.06	151.32	15.17	-2.74
Textile mill products	2.88	3.07	3.06	3.06	.18	0	117.79	126.48	122.40	123.32	5.53	.92
Apparel and other textile products	2.72	2.83	2.85	2.87	.15	.02	97.38	101.60	98.90	101.31	3.93	2.41
Paper and allied products	4.07	4.31	4.32	4.31	.24	-.01	173.38	186.19	183.60	182.31	8.93	-1.29
Printing and publishing	4.58	4.79	4.79	4.82	.24	.03	172.21	183.46	177.71	179.79	7.58	2.08
Chemicals and allied products	4.35	4.60	4.63	4.63	.28	0	181.83	194.12	192.61	194.00	12.17	1.39
Petroleum and coal products	5.09	5.27	5.37	5.41	.32	.04	209.71	223.45	224.47	226.68	16.97	2.21
Rubber and plastics products, nec	3.73	3.91	3.92	3.94	.21	.02	153.68	161.48	158.76	160.36	6.68	1.60
Leather and leather products	2.78	2.87	2.90	2.91	.13	.01	104.81	109.63	107.59	109.71	4.90	2.12
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.90	5.19	5.22	5.22	.32	0	197.47	210.71	210.37	209.32	11.85	-1.05
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.13	3.28	3.34	3.35	.22	.01	107.99	113.82	112.89	113.23	5.24	.34
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.02	4.27	4.28	4.30	.28	.02	158.79	168.67	165.64	166.41	7.62	.77
RETAIL TRADE	2.80	2.94	2.99	2.99	.19	0	92.12	97.61	96.28	96.58	4.46	.30
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.56	3.72	3.72	3.73	.17	.01	132.08	138.38	137.64	138.01	5.93	.37
SERVICES	3.28	3.48	3.50	3.50	.22	0	111.19	118.32	118.30	118.65	7.46	.35

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

p - preliminary

Table B-4. Hourly Earnings Index for production or nonsupervisory workers in private nonfarm industries, seasonally adjusted

(1967 = 100)

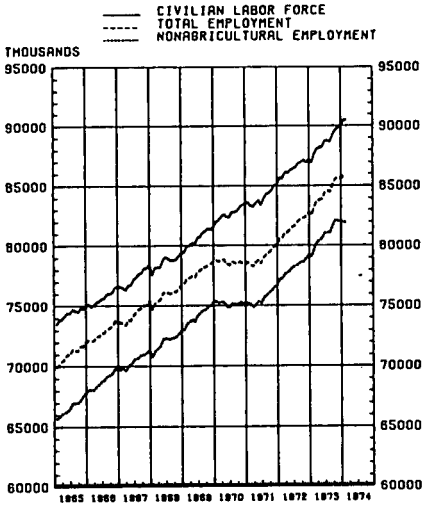
Industry	Feb. 1973	Sept. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan.P 1974	Feb.P 1974	Percent change from	
								Feb. 1973 - Feb. 1974	Jan. 1974 - Feb. 1974
Total private nonfarm									
Current dollars	142.5	149.0	149.6	150.3	151.3	151.7	152.1	6.7	.3
Constant (1967) dollars	110.7	110.0	109.5	109.1	109.3	108.4	NA	1/	2/
Mining	141.5	149.5	148.4	150.2	152.2	153.7	153.4	8.4	-.2
Contract construction	151.8	159.1	159.2	160.3	161.2	160.2	162.0	6.7	1.1
Manufacturing	139.7	145.4	146.5	147.0	147.9	148.5	149.2	6.8	.5
Transportation and public utilities	151.5	158.5	159.8	160.0	160.2	161.5	161.5	6.6	3/
Wholesale and retail trade	139.2	145.7	146.2	146.9	147.9	148.8	148.8	6.9	3/
Finance, insurance, and real estate	137.0	143.4	142.7	143.6	145.5	144.9	144.6	5.5	-.2
Services	142.3	148.8	149.1	149.9	151.3	152.1	152.0	6.8	-.1

1/ Percent change was -2.6 from January 1973 to January 1974, the latest month available.
2/ Percent change was -0.8 from December 1973 to January 1974, the latest month available.
3/ Less than 0.05 percent.
NA indicates data are not available. P=Preliminary.

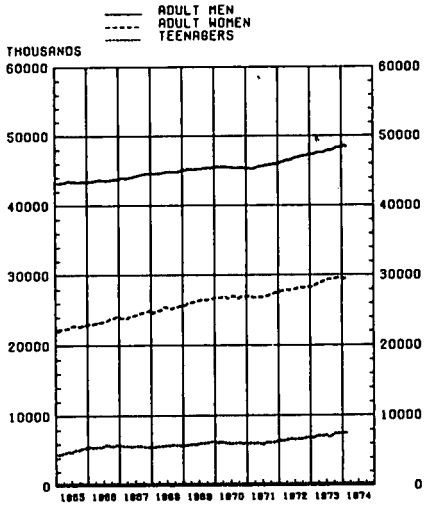
NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries. The seasonal adjustment eliminates the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude each year.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

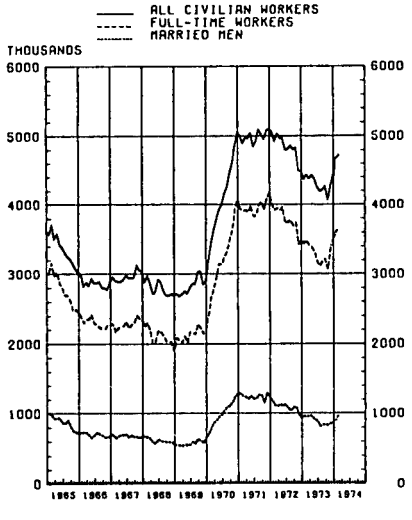
1. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



2. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



3. UNEMPLOYMENT



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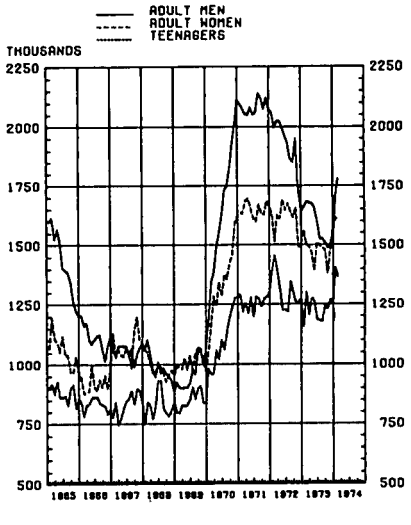
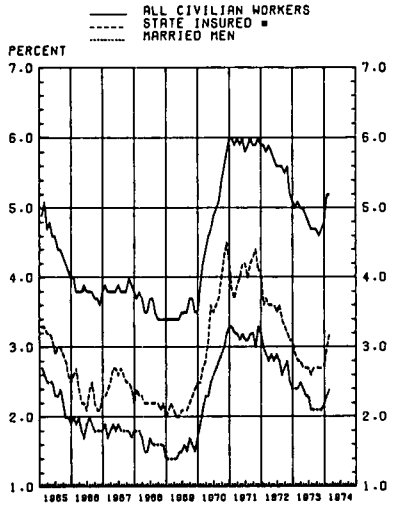
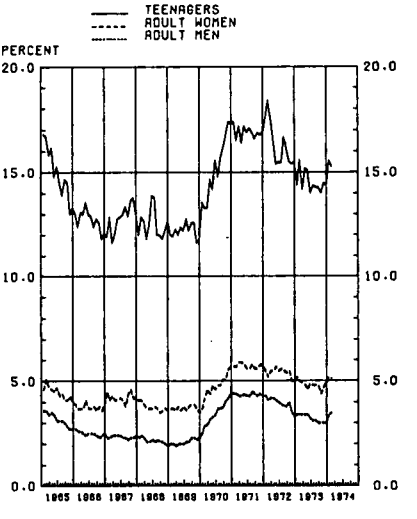


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

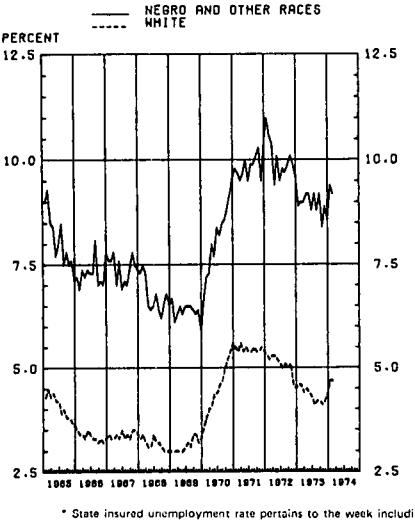
5. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



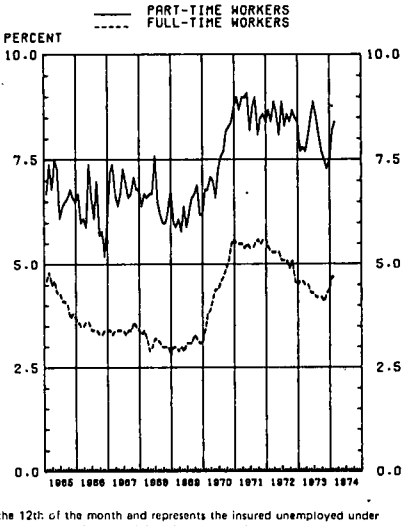
6. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



7. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



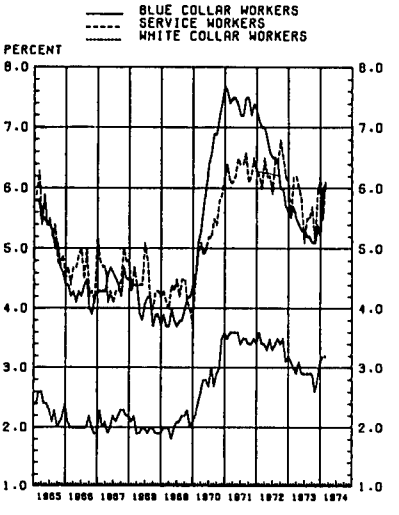
8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



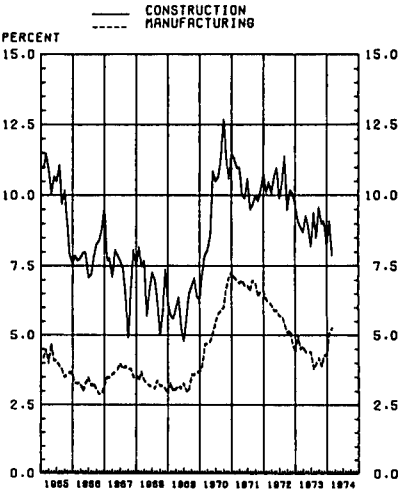
* State insured unemployment rate pertains to the week including the 12th of the month and represents the insured unemployed under State programs as a percent of average covered employment. The figures are derived from administrative records of unemployment insurance systems.

UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

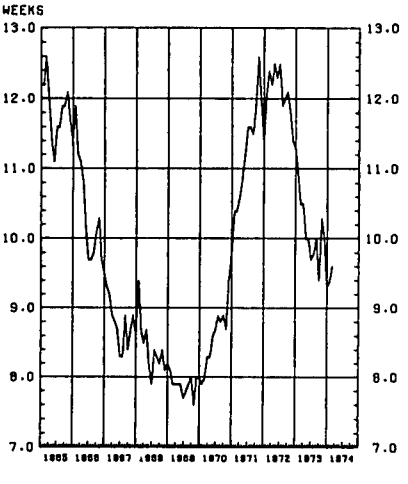
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



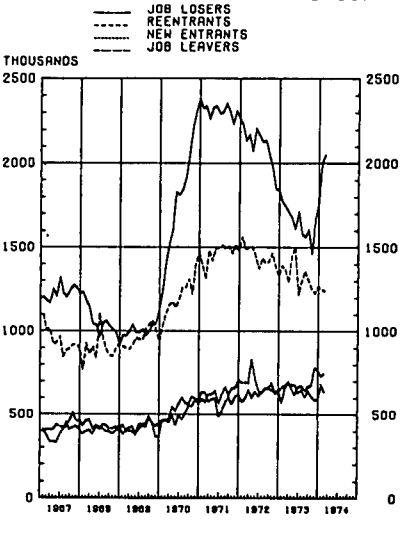
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



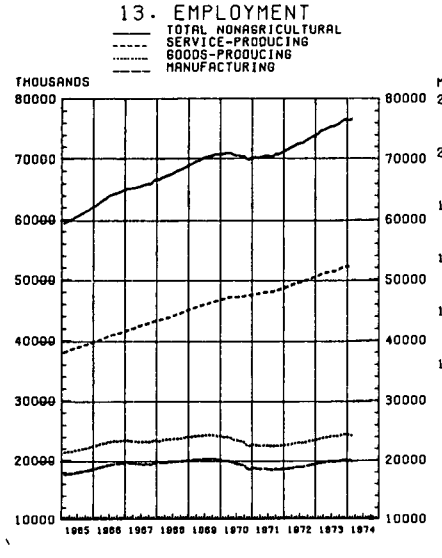
11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

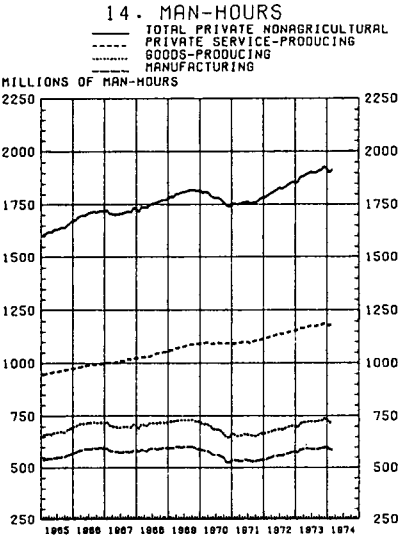


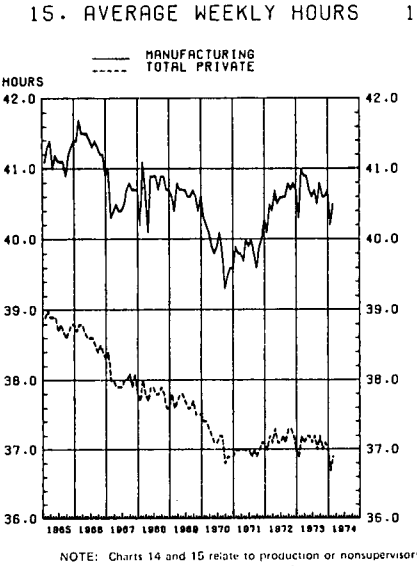
12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON

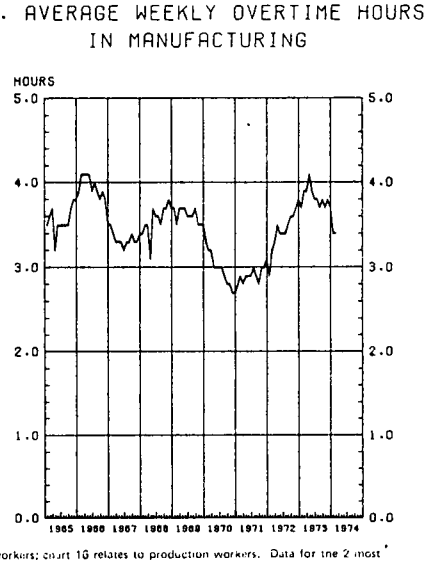


NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS
ESTABLISHMENT DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED









NOTE: Charts 14 and 15 relate to production or nonsupervisory workers; chart 16 relates to production workers. Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary in charts 13-16.

Mr. SHISKIN. On the basis of reports in our survey of establishment employment, payrolls and hours, and a special telephone survey conducted last week of a sample of these firms, we estimate that between 125,000 and 200,000 employees lost their jobs between November and February as a result of direct shortages of fuel and petroleum-based products. The industries most heavily affected were gasoline service stations and airlines. In addition, employment in industries indirectly affected by energy shortages declined 300,000, but part of this decline may have been due to other factors. The industries principally involved were automobile manufacturing and distribution; hotels, motels and amusement; recreational vehicles; small aircraft and pleasure boats.

Over the same period—November 1973 to February 1974—employment reported in this same survey remained unchanged, indicating that declines stemming from energy shortages were offset by rises in other sectors of the economy. The job expansion took place mainly in wholesale trade; finance, insurance and real estate; medical service; and State and local government.

Nonagricultural employment reported in the establishment survey rose in February to 76.7 million from 76.5 million in January, an increase of 175,000. This rise took place on top of an upward revision of 155,000 in the preliminary figure released for January a month ago. This revision reduced the December-January decline from 260,000 to 105,000. I would like to interrupt the statement, Mr. Chairman, to say that our returns from the 790 report, that is, our survey of establishments, have been declining, we have been getting fewer and fewer in time for our early release. That has been a very serious problem for us. One of the worst ones, if not the worst one, was January. And that explains in part, I think, this large revision that we had.

Now, let me go on. The February figure is at about the same level as the previous high in November 1973, and about 330,000 above the level in October 1973, the month when unemployment was at a 3½ year low.

Total employment reported in the household survey was unchanged in February, at a level slightly above that of October 1973. A small decline in nonagricultural employment reported in this survey over the period November-February was more than offset by a rise in agricultural employment. There should be a correction there. The figures should be November 1973.

The unemployment rate was unchanged between January and February at 5.2 percent, with very little movement for individual groups. Although employment rose only slightly, unemployment was able to hold its level because the labor force also remained stable. The overall employment rate had risen from 4.6 percent in October 1973 to 5.2 percent in January 1974, with the bulk of the rise among persons who had lost their last job.

Average hours of work in private nonfarm economy rose in February to 36.9 compared to 36.7 in January, and 37.1 in November. The highest level reached in 1973 was 37.2 in September. Now, my final point and sort of conclusion on this is as follows: These figures should not be taken to minimize the problems of the industries adversely

affected by energy shortages nor the problems of those who are unemployed because of it. While the greater strength shown in the February statistics represent only a single month, the figures do suggest that the employment and unemployment problems being encountered today are principally of a special nature related to the energy shortages.

I shall now try to answer your questions.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, it seems that the big news here is, No. 1, that unemployment did not continue to increase as it did in November, December, and January. And No. 2, that what stopped the increase in unemployment was, while you had continued difficulty in transportation equipment, for example, and electrical equipment, and some of the recreation industries that are obviously directly affected by energy, you had a compensating increase in jobs, in the services of State, local government, real estate, construction, and so forth. Now, it seems to me that we might get a handle on whether or not we can go somewhere on this, if we can determine what the outlook seems to be in those three groups. Is there any way that we can tell whether or not the increase in jobs in these areas that we have been talking about is likely to continue? I am not asking for a forecast, I am saying, are there facts that suggest that it is likely to continue in these areas?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, Mr. Chairman, my reaction to your comments is, I would say the big news here is the fact that despite the great shock that the country has been subjected to because of the energy shortages, nevertheless there was enough vitality and responsiveness in the economy so that employment recovered to its previous high level. I think it is a very important point.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You are looking at the donut and not the hole. I think we have to look at both. Unemployment is still very much higher than it was in October.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right. But here you had an economy which was subjected to a very great shock.

Now, I would say that on top of it we have another kind of shock, which was the rapid inflation last year, and continuing this year. Now, despite that, the economy was able to show a gain in employment last month, bringing it to previous high levels.

I find that very encouraging.

I also interpret it to mean that it is not the kind of broad decline you encountered earlier in recessions but it is a special type of decline which is primarily associated with the energy shortage.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I think that is well taken. But I think if we are going to determine what it means we have to examine its ingredients more precisely. So let's do that.

Number one, does it appear that this kind of increase in jobs in the services is the kind of increase that may well continue in the spring? Again, I will not ask for a forecast, I am simply asking you if it appears likely.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, the services generally lag. So we are not sure that they will continue. But I can repeat that the way the economy has maintained these higher levels is very encouraging.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How about retail trade?

Mr. SHISKIN. I really don't know about that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Certainly in State and local governments there are indications that that might continue to increase, inasmuch as there is every expectation that the level of government spending is going to go higher in the coming year.

Mr. SHISKIN. And revenue sharing will stimulate it too.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Real estate is relatively modest, and I won't ask about that because it is not as big a factor as the others.

CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION

There we have had recent news that the Nation's big corporations plan to increase their investment and equipment spending more than they said several months ago. One report shows a 13 percent anticipated increase, and another 18 percent. At any rate, it is a very large increase. Is this likely to suggest that this rate may continue in spite of the very bad situation in housing?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I was looking at those figures last night. And the advance forecasts shown in the Department of Commerce survey have, in the recent last year or so, been very good. So I would say that is a very helpful sign.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let's take the negative aspects. 150,000 lost jobs in manufacturing, nearly all in the durable goods industry, and especially in the construction of automobiles. How about that? Is that not likely to continue for some months in the doldrums?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, we took a look this morning at the change in hours, Senator, in manufacturing and elsewhere. And what we see there is a recovery in hours, including automobiles.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Shows hours are relatively short, 36.9 hours a week is not historically high——

Mr. SHISKIN. They are short.

But let me make this point, that when we looked into it, where we came out was that there was a rise in automobiles. And that was puzzling. And it looks as though that rise took place in the small car part of it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Of course it takes a long time to convert from building bigger cars to smaller cars.

Mr. SHISKIN. It does.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Was the electrical equipment and machinery industry sufficiently substantial so that you could comment on that, or don't you think——

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Wetzel may have some comments on that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. While it is true that, as I say, that the big news is good, there are technical problems here that suggest that it may not be quite as good as it would seem. For example, in the first 3 weeks of February 1973, the insured unemployment rate averaged 3.7 percent. In the first 3 weeks of February this year, insured unemployment averaged 4.1 percent, an increase of four-tenths of a percentage point. In other words, there has been a considerable increase in insured unemployment as compared with a year ago, and only a small increase in total unemployment. Insured unemployment is a rising part of the total. Is this typical of the early stage of a recession?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't know.

Mr. Chairman, I think a very important caveat is the point I made at the very end of my statement, which is that a lot of this judgment is based on a single month, February. And we have been getting fewer and fewer reports early enough to include them in our advance report. And I think that is something to give us pause.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Will you repeat that? I missed it.

Mr. SHISKIN. In our survey of employment, payrolls, and hours, we have been getting fewer and fewer reports early eonugh for our early closeout. We had a very serious problem——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why is that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I don't know. I have instituted a number of studies, and one of them came to fruition today, with the energy data. We discussed that last month. And another one I have instituted is to ask the State agencies which bring the figures together for us, to find out why they are lagging and to see if we can speed them up. We had a serious problem last month and a more serious one the month before, where we had to separate the employment and the unemployment releases.

But the point I am making is that the good picture arises from the employment picture indicated by establishment reports, although not entirely; we have it in the household survey too. In any case, in the establishment survey, we had the February data which looked good, but those are based on smaller than usual samples. So I think that is an important caveat.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If you had been attempting to predict total unemployment in February on the basis of available weekly data on insured employment, as some analysts do, would you have expected total unemployment to rise between January and February rather than remain approximately constant?

Mr. SHISKIN. I would not have predicted the employment that way. I would have tried to look at the cyclical situation as a whole. And the conclusion that many of us are slowly coming to is that this is a very special kind of situation that we are in now, namely, the situation is heavily influenced by energy shortages.

If I may, at this point let me give you another example of figures that indicate a very special situation. As you may know, I have had an important role in developing leading indicators. And I have had a lot of responsibility for putting together the leading indicator index and it is behaving in a very odd way. It is lagging behind the coincident indicator index. That has never happened before in the post World War II period.

If you take a look at that in detail as I did, you will find that there are two series principally responsible for that. The first is industrial materials prices. And the second is price per unit of labor cost. And there is a third one, which is inventory change.

But let me take the second one for a minute. As you know there are many theories of why cyclical fluctuations take place. But one of the principal ones is the relationship between unit labor costs and prices. Now, what typically has happened before the beginning of a recession is that unit labor costs have gone up rapidly before the recession got underway, unit labor costs have gone up rapidly, and

prices have gone up, but not quite so rapidly. So you have had a squeeze between prices and unit labor costs.

Now, this was a theory which Wesley Mitchell, I believe, first propounded and other very distinguished economists have supported his theory.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So as unit labor costs go up the prices don't there is an energy squeeze that is discouraging more buying?

Mr. SHISKIN. And that, I think, is one of the principal theoretical explanations of the business cycle, and it is very strongly supported——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Are we in exactly that position now?

Mr. SHISKIN. No. It is an amazing thing, Mr. Chairman, but the price per unit labor cost index is going up like mad, it is rising at an astronomical rate.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What has happened is that we haven't gotten—when George Meany appeared before our Banking Committee last week he said the 12-percent incerase would be the guideline. If you get that kind of a wage increase, and with the inflation continuing, you are certainly going to get a sharp increase——

Mr. SHISKIN. If that is what happened this will change. But right now, of the leading indicators that you would expect to be declining, one of them would be price per unit labor cost. But instead of declining it is going up. So what I am saying here is that there are numerous unusual developments taking place.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I think that is a statistical quirk we can clearly understand. What is happening is that we had a terrific inflation in January, and a very serious continuing inflation at a somewhat lower level in February in terms of wholesale prices and manufacturing prices, and a kind of a lag, as there often is, in the increase in wages because they are still being held down by the 5½ percent guideline, or something close to it. I just don't think that this is a time when we can throw our hats in the air and have the band strike up "Happy Days Are Here Again."

Mr. SHISKIN. I think we have to watch the situation very carefully. Next month the figures may look different. What have we got in the figures today? Do they show strength in employment? We have very unusual behaviors in the leading indicators. The major forces that affect developments today appear to be unusual, they are not the typical forces.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But you did describe accurately the decline in unemployment in the intensive energy industries. Wouldn't most energy related industrial unemployment spread to other sectors over the coming months?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, on the assumption that the energy shortages continue, perhaps they would spread. But on the other hand——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Doesn't everybody agree that we will have an energy shortage continuation, even if the embargo ends? We had testimony before our committee that we will have at least a shortage of 8 percent in petroleum.

Mr. SHISKIN. Okay, let's assume that for a moment. There is strength in other sectors of the economy. We have got an unusual situation here, I think. And we have to be very cautious in making

judgments about the future, and watch our figures very carefully. It is an unusual situation. It is more difficult, I think, than in any period in the last 25 years where I have carefully watched cyclical developments unfold, because there are special factors at work. We have never had a situation since I have followed the leading indicators where they have behaved in this way.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And what do you think is the significance of behaving in this peculiar and unusual way?

Mr. SHISKIN. We have a very unusual situation. It is not a typical prerecession period.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But it is not typical of anything, is it?

Mr. SHISKIN. It is a very unusual period.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It is not a typical recovery period?

Mr. SHISKIN. We have got a tremendous supply constraint on us, accompanied by a very rapid inflation.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, you are a very competent economist and statistician. What would you propose we do about this kind of stagflation we face with roaring inflation and unemployment up about 600,000 over the last 4 months? If it is not a prerecession situation it is at best a stagflation situation.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, I have some thoughts on that—but as Commissioner of Labor Statistics it is inappropriate for me to voice them at this hearing. So I would ask you to please allow me to decline to answer.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Are you convinced that the changed structure of the employment-unemployment situation, Dr. Shiskin, necessitates a change, to say, 5 percent as a full employment threat?

Mr. SHISKIN. Measure of full employment?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes, sir.

Mr. SHISKIN. We don't do that either, and I haven't been involved in that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You feel that that would also have to be a policy judgment?

Mr. SHISKIN. I think that that would be, yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. As you well know, many of our manpower and unemployment compensation programs depend on an accurate measurment of State and local unemployment statistics for the distribution funds. Is the sample size of the CPS large enough to provide this information?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't think it is, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It is not?

Mr. SHISKIN. No.

Chairman PROXMIRE. In how many State and SMSA's does the CPS measure employment to your satisfaction?

Mr. WETZEL. If I could answer, Mr. Chairman. By utilizing annual average data we develop quite reliable estimates of unemployment conditions quite reliable estimates of unemployment conditions in States and areas. We have concluded at this point that CPS data for 19 States and 30 metropolitan areas are superior to alternative ways of estimating State and local unemployment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. About 19 States?

Mr. WETZEL. That is correct, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What method is used in the other States and SMSA's, and how accurate is that method?

Mr. WETZEL. A common methodology is employed in calculating those annual averages and, to the extent that it is currently possible to do so, the techniques are consistent with the concepts and methods of the CPS. In those cases, however, we are building up from data and using methods which we think can and should be substantially improved.

Chairman PROXMIRE. There it would be of great value, it seems to me, for a number of reasons, policy reasons, State planning reasons, Federal determination reasons, were we to go ahead with our public works, and so forth, if we could increase the sample size of the CPA and instead of just having 19 States which are reasonably accurate we could have substantially more. How much could the sample be increased by?

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, the CETA, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act passed by Congress recently, assigns the Secretary of Labor the responsibility for developing better data at State and local area levels and many other types of data as well. And our staff, Mr. Wetzel, who is sitting to my right, and Mr. Norwood, who is in the audience, have put together a fairly large document of programs we are haping to fund and follow up. And I think one ingredient will be an expansion of the CPS. I can't tell you this morning how much. There will be other ingredients as well.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can we get a copy of that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Of our proposals? Yes, as soon as it is finished.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And how much would this increase costs?

Mr. SHISKIN. We don't know. But it will be trivial compared to our existing——

Chairman PROXMIRE. How many States and SMSA's under your proposal would be accurate?

Mr. SHISKIN. We are not ready to answer specific questions of that type. We are developing a program of options. And the Secretary will have to make some decisions. Now, the law says the Secretary shall set aside funds.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The Secretary of the Treasury?

Mr. SHISKIN. The Secretary of Labor, it puts the responsibility on the Secretary of Labor, Secretary Brennan, and it says he shall set aside funds for this purpose.

Now, we are developing what you might describe as a menu, a program with numerous options, and we will be saying in this menu what everything costs. The Secretary will have to make a judgment as to how much he is willing to put up in this fund and what kind of program he will have in the future. The only report we can make at present is that we will recommend, for the purpose of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act is a substantial increase in the amount and quality of State and local labor market data, especially employment and unemployment data.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You testified in our hearings we had as to the inadequacy and unsafe nature of the data we are getting on petroleum from the oil industry.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yesterday's release on the February wholesale price increase repeated the statement that BLS has a program going to develop an improved index for refined petroleum products. Has there been any improvement in the oil industry's cooperation in submitting the needed data since we talked about the matter last month?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you tell us now when BLS will begin publishing their new and improved index?

Mr. SHISKIN. I will answer a question, but not exactly your question, if I may.

Here is the present status of the returns on the wholesale prices of petroleum products. When I reported to you in an earlier hearing, Mr. Chairmanfi, I said we had 50 percent of the returns in. At the present time we have 65 percent of the returns in from our sample, but we also have promises of early returns which would raise that level to 85 percent. Now, with 85 percent we could probably go to press, we could probably develop an index.

Now, secondly, however, there has been little or no improvement in the timing. Almost all of the reports from the Petroleum Products Co. still have a 2-month lag, not quite as many as when I reported to you earlier, but most of them.

Now, we are considering a number of options on how to cope with the 2-month lag. We have tried to use the 1-month lag cases to estimate the 2-month lag cases, but we just didn't have enough of them, and the relationships were too erratic. So we are considering several other options. For example—and we have a lot of them in the mill—one option is to delay the monthly report on wholesale price indices from the beginning of the month to late in the month. And another one is to try to see if the companies will be able to report numbers not for the full month but, say, the middle of the month. There are numerous options we are considering.

So I consider thise a crucial element. I just don't see personally how the Bureau of Labor Statistics can, let's say, next month, when we cover March, be using January data and calling it March data.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Will we be able to get price statistics on the price of oil, which does not rely on the industry entirely, but is based on some kind of verification or auditing or independent gathering by the Government itself?

Mr. SHISKIN. I know of no way to do that, sir. We have tried to use secondary sources, and they turned out when we needed them to be almost useless.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We have so many agencies of the Government involved here, the Interior Department in a big way, and the other agencies. It is beyond me to understand why we can get such good information on food from the Agriculture Department and on farm prices and we can't seem to get our Federal agencies to give us the information on energy.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is a problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We are the victims of whatever the oil companies want to tell us.

Mr. SHISKIN. It is a problem. Now, the reporting—as I say, I don't find the reports sufficiently timely. I had a meeting since our last session with our Business Research Advisory Council to the BLS which has a broad representation of industry groups. And there was a very strong consensus against mandatory reporting. Now, they offered to work with me, and I offered to work with them, to find some option other than that to get the reports in. And I will be getting back to them early next week, to the head of that committee, and asking him—saying, now, here we have got this problem still not resolved, what can you do? They would like to work out some formula short of mandatory reporting which would provide the data we want. And I say, I will be happy to try to work with them. But at the moment the timeliness of those reports is unsatisfactory.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How do the unpublished indices based on comprehensive company data compare with the presently published indices based on spot basis?

Mr. SHISKIN. They show much lower rates of increase compared to what we used with January 1973 as a base.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do they show sizable divergencies between these two series for any product line?

Mr. SHISKIN. They show smaller rates of increase for all product lines. We suspected that very early in this study, because we were getting spot market prices where the market was very thin. We suspected that the petroleum products which reached the open market were being sold at very high prices unrepresentative of the bilateral sales that were being made. And that idea seems to be supported by the figures that we now have in.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I understand that the Bureau of Labor Statistics has not been getting funds appropriated by Congress fully over the years. That is what I have been told. Could you tell us whether there is any truth to this?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, what I have done in one of the many studies I have started is to look into the record of the funds in the President's budget and appropriated by Congress and the funds released to BLS as well as the personnel. And that is another study I have underway. We put some materials together, Mr. Chairman, and I have turned them over to our budget people and asked them to take a look at them, I have turned them over to our internal budget people in the BLS and other people in the Labor Department. And I would defer that question until I have a response from that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would think it would be a fairly simple situation. You have either been getting the appropriated funds or you haven't.

Mr. SHISKIN. I can tell you this. W got them in 1974. And we got the positions in 1974, since I have been on board. Now, the question is, what happened in the earlier years? And that is another study I have underway. And if I may say so, last month we discussed the problem of the energy statistics, and if I have enough time to work this up, I will be able to give you solid answers to the other questions in the months ahead. But I don't want to answer the question for earlier years, because I feel others should check the figures.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would like your observations as the Government's principal statistician on a practice that has been developing, and how reliable it is. In its weekly releases on insured employment the Manpower Administration has begun releasing the number of persons applying for unemployment compensation who believe that their unemployment is due to the energy shortage.

And of course it is very important that we have the best information we can possibly obtain on the employment effects of the energy shortage, but on the other hand, we don't want to publicize data which is so inaccurate as to be misleading. I understand that some experts are quite critical of the quality of this weekly data.

I know that BLS is not responsible for the collection or publication of this particular information, but could you tell us how this information on the proportion of insured unemployment due to the energy shortage is obtained?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, as you said, those data are collected by the Manpower Administration. Let me make two observations. First, on weekly data. All the experience I have had in my career indicates that weekly data are suspect.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me just say one more thing to indicate my problem. I understand it is obtained through questions put to unemployment insurance applicants at local offices throughout the country. And I am concerned whether this question is asked in a uniform, consistent way at all local offices. And I would doubt whether it would be.

Mr. SKISKIN. The two comments I have, one is that my experience over the years suggests that weekly data are too erratic to be very useful in current analysis. There are very few series that are good for that purpose. However, the insured unemployment series is one of the smoothest. So it is one of the best of the weekly series. With respect to this particular survey, I don't administer it and so I don't know what questions are being asked. I have only one suggestion, and that is to make the kind of validation of the reporting on those figures which we have just completed on our own figures.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It seems to me that if you ask a person whether he is unemployed because of the energy shortage, it is a question of judgment. In many cases they don't know. They may guess, or they may give the wrong answers, or an answer based one way because of something they hear on the radio, or because of something somebody tells them.

Mr. SHISKIN. The way I would put that, when I was concerned about the figures that we had, I didn't release them until we made a telephone survey of a sample of plants. We had people all over the country making the survey. We had a printed questionnaire in advance, and I now have confidence in those figures. And I think that is the right way to go about a statistical survey, to audit returns from surveys of this kind. And I am going to call Mr. Kolberg, Assistant Secretary for Manpower as soon as I can.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We appreciate that.

President Nixon spoke recently on the protection of privacy. I think almost all of us applaud his general position. But I have some serious questions in particular.

In this connection I would like to refer to an editorial in last Thursday's Washington Post entitled "Privacy: A Matter of Definition," a copy of which I wish to submit for the record.

[The editorial follows:]

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 28, 1974]

PRIVACY: A MATTER OF DEFINITION

Now that the protection of privacy is becoming a more popular cause, there is a danger that the issues involved will be blurred. A good example is President Nixon's recent radio speech on the subject. While using much of the standard rhetoric about protecting individual rights, Mr. Nixon defined the threats to privacy almost entirely in technological terms, and addressed only the problems raised by computerized data banks. In contrast, Sen. Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.), responding for the Democrats, framed the matter more comprehensively. While not discounting the impact of computers, Senator Hart emphasized that the basic issue is not machines but men. "With or without sophisticated technology," he said, "unprincipled men can find ways to invade our privacy. A crow bar, after all, is a rather simple machine."

Senator Hart is right. The central flaw in Mr. Nixon's definition of privacy is all that is left out. The President did not acknowledge, much less discuss, the entire question of political surveillance. He did not mention military spying on civilians, infiltration and harassment of dissident groups, the use of *agents provocateurs*, official searches of telephone records and bank accounts without court warrant, or the use of illegal techniques such as breaking and entering under the guise of "national security." Nor did Mr. Nixon linger on the subject of wiretapping and bugging; that, he said, is in the purview of a national commission which is due to make its final report in 1978.

This is not to say that Mr. Nixon's approach is entirely frivolous. For the first time, a President has addressed at some length the whole realm of privacy issues raised or aggravated by computers. The Justice Department has already produced an important proposal to regulate the collection, storage and use of criminal records, and subcommittees chaired by Sen. Sam J. Ervin (D-N.C.) and Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif.) have begun hearings on that bill and more stringent alternatives. A Cabinet-level committee chaired by Vice President Ford has been set up to review the broader spectrum of privacy problems posed by the $220-billion data-gathering business and the 7,000 or so government computers which hold information on citizens' private lives. This effort might seem redundant, since so many public and private studies of data banks have already been made. But if it is inded an "action" group, as Mr. Nixon pledged, it should have no trouble at all issuing some concrete recommendations with the President's deadline of four months.

The crucial factors are, as always, perception and emphasis: how broadly one defines the right of privacy, how keenly one perceives threats to that right, and how much weight one places on individual liberty as against competing interests such as efficiency in business or government, law enforcement, or the insidious forces of partisanship and nosiness. In his radio speech, Mr. Nixon quoted Justic Louis Brandeis' dictum that the right of privacy is the "right most valued by civilized men." But the rest of that Brandeis quote is that "the right to be let alone" is "the most comprehensive right" of free men. Mr. Nixon has yet to demonstrate a broad understanding of the claims of privacy, much less a real desire to prevent the intrusions by government which are most real and threatening to many citizens today.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I had looked forward to this talk with enthusiasm. I want to reserve privacy, but the President put almost all the emphasis on the problems raised by computorized data banks. The editorial says that Senator Hart framed the issue more comprehensively, that it was a matter of men, not machines.

The President left the impression that computers were bound to hurt privacy. I don't see how computers can do it, it is the people who operate the computers obviously, what they put into them, and so forth. When it comes to a provision of economic information I want

to point out that the computerization of information can be the greatest aid to the private citizen.

Number one, companies can present much more detailed information, and it can be generalized by computers so that no one person in the company is identified, and yet we get more and better information.

Number two, we can get much better statistics such as those normally developed by your Agency.

Is there any problem about preservation of secrecy is your collection of data on emploment, unemployment, prices, and so forth that would affect privacy?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't think so. However, Senator, allow me to say that this was a problem of great concern to me several years ago, when I was in OMB, is developing a proposed reorganization of Federal statistics, which actually was promulgated by the OMB Director, then George Shultz.

Now, there is a debate all over the statistical profession throughout the world as to whether you should have a single large-scale statistical agency in which all activities are conducted or whether you should operate a decentralized system. And without going into details each has its advantages. However, one of the reasons that led me to recommend that we not have a single agency was my concern over privacy. I think the system that we recommended, which was to set up the statistical activities in six to eight centers so that they are separated, is a better system, for two reasons. One reason I think is that the scale that we have to work on in a completely centralized system in the United States would be too large, and we might have "diseconomies" of scale. The other reason is that I am concerned about questions of privacy, and I don't think we ought to put all the figures even in a statistical system into one big bank.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, the Federal Trade Commission made a study a few years ago of the prices in Washington, D.C. in the inner city as compared to the prices in the suburban areas. And they found the prices were a great deal higher here, and I mean 15 or 20 or 25 percent higher. On last night's news program it was pointed out that prices for similar products were higher at a store serving older folks than at a chain store. The prices were 20 percent higher for the elderly, and black citizens have to pay more because so many of them live in the inner city.

President Woodcock of the AFL made the same comment about affluent persons versus poor persons.

Shouldn't we try to develop more detailed data on different costs of living by different groups? What is your Agency doing about this?

Mr. SHISKIN. That has come up many times. One of the issues for example, that we decided already is that we should broaden the coverage of the CPI when the revision comes out in a few years. The present CPI covers wage earners and clerical workers. The CPI is now being used for a great many additional purposes as an escalator. For example, many leases for apartments, for buildings, have escalator clauses built into them with the CPI as the escalator.

Some of you may have read the story in the Washington Post a couple of weeks ago about a famous divorce case where the alimony

was escalated by the CPI. The CPI is used as an escalator in many industries.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You are very likely in this coming year to get escalator clauses in wage contracts that cover 5 million workers. And in time it will be greatly expanded. I expect it to be two or three or four times that.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, there are roughly 30 million social security beneficiaries now tied to the CPI. Congress passed last December, and the President signed, a bill which requires to food stamp allotment program to use the food prices published by the BLS. Now, this is by way of saying that the uses are so broad today that we felt we had to broaden the coverage in the index, and that is what we are doing. And the Secretary has approved that.

However, we have a lot of demand for additional indices. For example, the labor unions and business would like also to have a CPI for wage earners and clerical workers. There are numerous requests for CPI's for elderly people. And certainly it is a very good case.

We have three problems in that context. One is the problem of money. It will cost more to do it that way. We don't have anything in any current budgets for additional CPI's.

The second problem is that we are now engaged in a massive revision of the CPI bringing up to date the retail outlet and the item—market basket—sample. This will take a long time, and I don't want to slow it up.

There is a third element which troubles me. You know, when you have one CPI life is easy for everybody. He just ties into the CPI. A person doesn't have to understand it. If you have two or three, he is going to have to understand each one and decide which one is the most appropriate. So there is going to be a lot of public confusion.

So my answer to your question is, there are certainly legitimate reasons for having more than one CPI. They cost money. They will take time. There are problems of confusion. But we certainly are sympathetic to the idea. And if Congress and the President should push this, we will go along willingly.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would appreciate it very much if you would give us some notion of how much it would cost and what would be practical. You make a very good point, your answer is very helpful. You are right, it would be very confusing. There are all kinds of differences, differences of age, difference of location, differences for minority groups, and so forth. But I think this is a very serious social problem and a very profound discrimination against many of our citizens, and any enlightenment we can get here would be helpful.

But I think you are right, we shouldn't proceed until we know what the cost is.

Mr. SHISKIN. And the timing. We are now scheduled to publish the revised CPI early in 1977. You know, that is a long time from now, and it is going to be based on 1972 and 1973 data. I don't want anything to interfere with that time schedule. It is bad enough as it is.

But let me try to be more responsive to your question. We have been carefully examining the extra cost and time that would be involved in putting out not only the broadened CPI but also the old one for urban wage earners and clerical workers.

Let me call on Ms. Norwood who is the Deputy Commissioner for Program Analysis. She has been present at many of these hearings.

Ms. NORWOOD. The question, as I understand it, is, how much would it add to our cost to have the CPI for urban wage earners and clerical workers as well as the broadened CPI.

Somewhere between $1½ and $2 million a year.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What does that mean in terms of your present costs, how much of an additional percentage increase, roughly?

Ms. NORWOOD. The present cost of the CPI is roughly $3 million per year without the costs of the revision program, which really are about another $3½ to $4 million per year over a 10 year period. In addition, the revised CPI, when it is completed, because of the expansion and changes in central design, will cost somewhat more than the current CPI. We are not sure exactly——

Chairman PROXMIRE. So altogether it is about a $6 or $7 million a year, and another $1½ to $2 million on top of that?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't think that is each year.

Ms. NORWOOD. Yes, it is.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I understand it is one every year for 10 percent.

Mr. SHISKIN. Let me put those costs in perspective. What Ms. Norwood said is, she thinks the figures come to about $7 million a year, if you count the current CPI and the revision costs. Now, I have explained the many different uses of the CPI. But now let me talk about a few narrow ones, as an escalator. And here is where we come out on that. A 1 percent increase in the CPI has a potential impact of $1 billion increase in wages, pensions, and social security payment. Now, last year we had an 8.8 percent increase in CPI, so that automatically triggered about $9 billion in wages.

Chairman PROXMIRE. This is a dramatic reason why we should be perfectly willing to devote what resources it takes, they are so relatively modest compared to the colossal economic impact. So next year we say they are getting on this escalator one way or the other rightly or wrongly. And the escalator is described by Mr. Woodcock of the UAW as not necessarily an inflationary escalator, because it is a moderate one. But that is a matter of dispute. At any rate, we do know that more and more salary increases and the wage costs and so forth are going to be immensely affected by this. And therefore whatever it takes, it seems to me, to make this more accurate, as long as we are dealing with a fraction of one-tenth of 1 percent of the impact, would make sense.

Mr. SHISKIN. I am glad you said that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me ask you this. We have been hearing more and more cases of people being forced to leave their apartments because they are unwilling to buy them, the condominium craze. As I hear the case, it would involve a doubling or trebling of rents for owners. How do you handle this in measuring cost of living?

Mr. SHISKIN. We have an index of rents. Now, we are now moving to a monthly index of rents.

Mr. LAYNG. Up to the present time as far as I know we haven't experienced any difficulty in our rent samples of that problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would think—what I am asking now is not whether you measure rents. I know you do that, of course. When a

person is put in a position where he has to buy his abode, and therefore his housing costs increase very sharply, his monthly payments might double, under those circumstances is there any way you can make an adjustment? Would that be reflected in the cost of living in any way?

Mr. LAYNG. It would be very difficult to reflect it. One thing, the housing unit would drop out of the rent sample because it would no longer be a rented dwelling and it would be in the owner-occupant part of the market, which is a very difficult market to measure. If that came to be an important problem we would have to take steps to try to capture it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. To what extent do you measure the owner-occupant cost?

Mr. LAYNG. We refer to it as the home purchase component of the CPI. Data on house prices are received every month from FHA.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Of course mortgage rates——

Mr. LAYNG. Mortgage rates are also in the consumer price index, as a separate component. It includes mortgage interest rates on conventional, FHA, and VA loans.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin?

Mr. SHISKIN. If those people were forced out they would have to rent other apartments, and this would affect the cost of rentals, and this would show up in that way.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If they what?

Mr. SHISKIN. If they are forced out of their apartments. If the landlord is able to do that, it would appear to me that this is a way of getting a higher return on his property. The people who lose their apartments would be paying more for rent. If they are forced out they have to seek other living quarters. So I think that would force rents up.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If they are forced out that would be true, but if they buy the apartment—if a person has been living in the place and he likes the location, and his children go to school in the area, and so forth, then he might be constrained to say, I don't have that much of a choice, I am not going to move, I am going to buy this even though it hurts.

Thank you very, very much, Mr. Shiskin. It is great to have you up here when the news is better than I anticipated, although not as great as we would like to have it. You have made a very good contribution.

The subcommittee will stand adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:05 a.m., the subcommittee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.]

EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1974

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES AND
ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT OF THE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 11:05 a.m., in room 1202, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. William Proxmire (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senator Proxmire and Representative Conable.

Also present: Loughlin F. McHugh, senior economist; Courtenay M. Slater, professional staff member; Leslie J. Bander, minority economist; and George D. Krumbhaar, Jr., minority counsel.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE

Chairman PROXMIRE. The subcommittee will come to order.

Mr. Shiskin, we are delighted to have you here. The fact that unemployment was about the same in March as in February, maybe a shade better, is good news when put in the perspective of the recession that was widely predicted to occur in the first half of this year.

No one should throw his hat in the air and shout hallelujah on the basis of 2 months of stability in the unemployment statistics when that stability is above the 5 percent level.

Nevertheless, when we recognize the many factors, including the energy shortage, the damaging effects of inflation on economic growth, the pessimism that has been well documented on the part of consumers, the deterioration of our export market because of unsettled world conditions, the stability of unemployment for these 2 months indicates that there is a fighting chance that we may not have a recession.

The good unemployment news comes at the same time as continued very bad inflation news, and it seems to this Senator it should remind us that our clear and visible opponent is not recession but inflation. Proposals to increase spending or to cut taxes, however welcome they might be politically in an election year would seem to be exactly the wrong medicine. The jury is out on recession. We may win or lose that one. It has rendered its verdict on inflation. We lost it and, unless we recognize that grim fact and act accordingly, we are in trouble.

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Mr. Shiskin, as an expert who is responsible for providing the facts as objectively and honestly as possible, I am not going to ask you to predict the course of prices or employment or to advocate policies. But I am anxious to get your opinion on the full significance on the price and employment data we have before us and I am also anxious to secure your responses this morning on the proposed changes in the make up of the consumer price index in the coming years. The proposals would have a profound effect on many aspects of our economic life in view of the widespread and rapidly growing use of cost-of-living escalators.

Mr. Conable.

Representative CONABLE. I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, I welcome Mr. Shiskin also. I note your remarks at the opening and urge you to sign the minority report the next time we put out an economic message in response to the current state of the economy.

Chairman PROXMIRE. As you know, I have a supplemental review in which I state the notion that I disagreed on the recommendation of a tax cut as did the minority.

Representative CONABLE. All I wanted to say, Senator, was that we greeted your views with considerable approbation.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Better be careful or I will be read out of the party. Mr. Shiskin, go right ahead.

STATEMENT OF HON. JULIUS SHISKIN, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY JAMES R. WETZEL, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS; AND JANET L. NORWOOD, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF DATA ANALYSIS

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, I would like again to introduce Ms. Norwood to my right who is the Deputy Commissioner for Data Analysis.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Delighted to have you. We have had you before but never sitting up at the table. That is fine.

Mr. SHISKIN. And Mr. Wetzel who is our expert on employment statistics.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Wetzel. Fine.

Mr. SHISKIN. Before she became Deputy Commissioner, Ms. Norwood was in charge of the price statistics, so I think I am well staffed here to deal with any questions that come up.

However, I do have a statement which provides some information we were able to put together after we sent the press release to the printer, and with your permission would like to read that.

I would like to place "The Employment Situation: March 1974" press release in the record.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes, without objection that will be printed in full in the record.

[The press release referred to for the record follows:]

NEWS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

USDL - 74-166
FOR RELEASE: Transmission Embargo
10:00 A. M. (EDT)
Friday, April 5, 1974

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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: MARCH 1974

Employment and unemployment were about unchanged in March, it was announced today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The Nation' s unemployment rate, at 5. 1 percent, was essentially the same as in the preceding 2 months, after rising during the October 1973-January 1974 period.

Total employment (as measured by the monthly sample survey of households) was 85. 9 million in March, showing little change for the second consecutive month. Nonfarm payroll employment (as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments) moved down slightly, with most of the decline occurring in the durable goods industries. Both of these employment indicators have shown relatively little movement since last fall, after rising rapidly over most of the 1972-73 period.

Unemployment

Both the level and rate of unemployment were about unchanged in March, marking the second straight month they have shown little or no change. At 4. 6 million, the number of unemployed persons was 530, 000 above the level of October 1973, when joblessness reached a 3-1/2 year low. The jobless rate was 5. 1 percent, compared to 5. 2 percent in January and February; the March figure was half a percentage point above the October level and about equal to the year-ago rate (5. 0 percent).

This month's release introduces additional detail in the household data tables (the "A" tables). Also introduced for the first time is a quarterly presentation of the job situation for persons of Spanish origin, including comparisons with white and black workers. This information will appear regularly in the March, June, September, and December releases.

The jobless situation for most of the major labor force categories was also little changed in March. (See table A-2.) The unemployment rates of household heads (3.0 percent) and married men (2.4 percent), as well as those of adult males (3.4 percent), adult females (5.0 percent), and teenagers (15.0 percent) showed little or no change for the second straight month. Rates for white and Negro workers, at 4.6 and 9.4 percent, respectively, have been essentially unchanged since January.

Table A. Highlights of the employment situation (seasonally adjusted data)

Selected categories	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1973				1974	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
	I	II	III	IV	I			
	(Millions of persons)							
Civilian labor force	87.6	88.5	89.0	89.9	90.5	90.5	90.6	90.5
Total employment	83.2	84.1	84.8	85.7	85.8	85.8	85.8	85.9
Adult men	47.5	47.7	48.1	48.5	48.5	48.7	48.5	48.4
Adult women	28.6	29.2	29.5	29.7	29.7	29.5	29.7	29.9
Teenagers	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
Unemployment	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.6
	(Percent of labor force)							
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1
Adult men	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4
Adult women	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.0
Teenagers	14.7	14.7	14.3	14.3	15.3	15.6	15.3	15.0
White	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6
Negro and other races	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.4	9.4	9.2	9.4
Household heads	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Married men	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4
Full-time workers	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.6
State insured	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.3
	(Weeks)							
Average duration of unemployment	10.6	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.5	9.4	9.6	9.4
	(Millions of persons)							
Nonfarm payroll employment	74.6	75.3	75.7	76.6	76.7p	76.5	76.7p	76.6p
Goods-producing industries	23.7	24.0	24.2	24.4	24.2p	24.3	24.2p	24.1p
Service-producing industries	50.9	51.3	51.6	52.1	52.4p	52.2	52.5p	52.5p
	(Hours of work)							
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	37.1	37.2	37.1	37.0	36.8p	36.7	36.9p	36.8p
Manufacturing	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.6	40.3p	40.2	40.5p	40.3p
Manufacturing overtime	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.5p	3.4	3.5p	3.5p
	(1967=100)							
Hourly Earnings Index, private nonfarm:								
In current dollars	142.7	145.0	147.8	150.4	152.4p	151.7	152.4p	153.1p
In constant dollars	110.8	110.3	110.0	109.3	NA	108.4	107.5p	NA

p= preliminary.
N.A.= not available.

SOURCE: Tables A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, and B-4.

The unemployment rate for Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years old (5.1 percent) held about steady for the second consecutive month. However, this rate was up from levels prevailing in late 1973 and was about the same as a year earlier. The rate for the younger (20-24), more recently discharged veterans, at 9.0 percent, was more than double the rates for the older, growing majority of veterans--4.3 percent for the 25-29 year-olds and 2.8 percent for those 30-34.

The unemployment rate for workers covered by State unemployment insurance programs inched up to 3.3 percent in March. This marked the third consecutive monthly rise in this rate, which had remained at or very near the 2.7-percent level throughout 1973.

The composition of the unemployed in terms of the reasons for their joblessness has remained stable since January. (See table A-5.) All of the 530,000 increase in unemployment that has occurred since October 1973, however, has been accounted for by job loss. Over this period, the number of workers receiving unemployment benefits under State programs has risen by 430,000, indicating that most of the persons added to unemployment rolls were compensated for at least part of their lost wages.

The average duration of unemployment, at 9.4 weeks, was about the same in March as in the previous 3 months. Since March a year ago, average duration has dropped by 1.2 weeks. (See table A-4.)

Civilian Labor Force and Total Employment

The civilian labor force, at 90.5 million in March, was about unchanged for the second month in a row. Since March 1973, however, the civilian labor force has expanded by 2.3 million. (See table A-1.)

Total employment, at 85.9 million, was also little changed for the second straight month. In fact, after rising rapidly for 2 years, total employment has shown relatively little growth since last October. Although white-collar employment has continued to expand at a strong pace, rising by more than 800,000 over the October-March period, this growth has been largely offset by a decline in blue-collar jobs. The blue-collar decrease has taken place entirely among operatives and is in part a reflection of the layoffs in the auto industry.

The number of persons working part time because of economic reasons (such as material shortages or slack work) fell by 210,000 in March to 2.5 million, reversing the upward trend evident since the fall of 1973. (See table A-3.)

Industry Payroll Employment

Nonagricultural payroll employment declined slightly (125, 000) in March from an upwardly revised February figure of 76. 8 million (seasonally adjusted). This reduction stemmed from a curtailment of 150, 000 jobs in the goods-producing industries, two-thirds of it in durable goods manufacturing. (See table B-1.)

Within manufacturing, the transportation equipment industry experienced heavy job losses for the third straight month. The total decline in March was more than 50, 000. Employment in the industry--which in addition to automobiles produces airplanes, watercraft, recreational vehicles, and the like--has declined by 200, 000 since last November. March employment was also down in primary and fabricated metals industries and in electrical machinery (due partly to labor disputes in that industry). Jobs in other goods-producing industries--contract construction and mining--declined by a total of 40, 000 over the month.

Employment remained about unchanged in the service-producing industries in March, but this followed an unusually sharp gain of 240, 000 in the previous month. Since January, the strongest employment growth has taken place in retail trade, services, and State and local government.

Hours of Work

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls edged down 0. 1 hour from its February level to 36. 8 hours, seasonally adjusted. The workweek was three-tenths of an hour below March a year earlier. In manufacturing, the average workweek fell by 0. 2 hour in March to 40. 3 hours and was 0. 6 hour below its year-ago level. Average overtime in manufacturing was unchanged at 3. 5 hours but had declined by 0. 4 hour since March 1973. (See table B-2.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls rose at a seasonally adjusted rate of 0. 5 percent in March. Since March 1973, hourly earnings have risen by 6. 6 percent. Average weekly earnings rose by 0. 2 percent in March. Over the past year, weekly earnings have increased by 5. 7 percent.

Before adjustment for seasonality, average hourly earnings rose by 1 cent in March to $4. 05. (See table B-3.) Since March a year ago, hourly earnings have increased by 25 cents. Weekly earnings averaged $148. 23 in March, up 77 cents from February and $8. 01 since March 1973.

The Hourly Earnings Index

The Hourly Earnings Index--earnings adjusted for overtime in manufacturing, seasonality, and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries--was 153.1 (1967=100) in March, 0.5 percent higher than in February. (See table B-4.) The Index was 6.8 percent above March a year ago. All industries recorded gains over the past 12 months, ranging from 6.6 percent in the services and transportation and public utilities industries to 9.2 percent in mining. During the 12-month period ended in February, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power declined 2.8 percent.

Quarterly Labor Force Developments

The Nation' s labor force which has been expanding rapidly since mid-1971 rose by 640,000 in the first quarter of 1974 to 90.5 million. This followed a rise of 930,000 in the previous quarter.

The first quarter expansion in the labor force substantially exceeded the rise in employment, and the jobless rate therefore increased sharply--from 4.7 percent in the fourth quarter of 1973 to 5.2 percent in the first quarter. In contrast, over the 1972-73 period employment growth had equaled or exceeded labor force gains, bringing the jobless rate steadily downward from a first quarter 1972 high of 5.9 percent.

Details of these developments plus a new section on the status of persons of Spanish origin follow.

Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment

The labor force gain in the first quarter reflected the normal growth of the working age population and a further increase in the participation rate, which edged up to 61.3 percent, the highest in over 2 decades. Among the major age-sex groups, participation rates rose slightly for adult women (from 44.6 to 44.8) and teenagers (from 55.4 to 56.1 percent) but remained unchanged for adult men (81.4 percent).

Total employment rose by 170,000 in the first quarter, a much slower pace than it had shown since mid-1971. At 85.8 million, the employment level was equivalent to 58.1 percent of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and over, down slightly from the previous quarter. This ratio of employment to the population had been rising steadily since the second quarter of 1971. (See table A-7.)

The number of unemployed persons rose by 470,000 to 4.7 million in the first quarter, and the overall jobless rate moved from 4.7 to 5.2 percent, the largest quarter-to-quarter rise since the third quarter of 1970. The increase in joblessness

was experienced by all three major age-sex groups, whose rates returned to levels prevailing in late 1972.

Negro-White Differences

The Negro labor force rose by 140, 000 or 1. 4 percent in the first quarter, while the white labor force rose by a lesser degree, 0. 6 percent. These labor force gains, however, exceeded the employment expansion for both groups, with a resultant increase in the Negro jobless rate from 8. 6 to 9. 3 percent, while the rate for whites moved up from 4. 2 to 4. 7 percent. These developments held the ratio of their jobless rates at 2. 0 to 1. This relationship has generally held at 2 to 1 or more since the Korean War period, except for a narrowing during the 1969-71 cyclical downturn and initial stages of recovery.

Among persons not in the labor force, the proportion expressing some desire to be working "now" (although not currently seeking jobs) has also averaged at least twice as large for Negroes as for whites. It was 20 percent for Negroes and 8 percent for whites in the first quarter of 1974. Within this category, about 160, 000 Negroes and 530, 000 whites were not looking for jobs because of discouragement over job prospects. Thus, Negroes continue to be disproportionately represented among the "discouraged" as well as among the unemployed.

Persons of Spanish Origin

As announced on April 3 (USDL 74-124), regular publication of statistics on the employment status of persons of Spanish origin begins with this issue of the Employment Situation and will continue quarterly here and in the monthly BLS periodical, Employment and Earnings. These data, which are now being tabulated from the Current Population Survey and are not adjusted for seasonality, refer to persons who identified themselves as being of Spanish origin. These data are tabulated without regard to color. For a description of the self-identification method of determining the Spanish origin population and a few of the other major technical aspects of the data collection, see "Employment and Unemployment Among Americans of Spanish Origin" (based on 1973 annual average data), which will appear in the April 1974 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

The Spanish origin civilian labor force averaged 3. 6 million during the first quarter of 1974. These workers accounted for 4 percent of the Nation' s labor force, in line with their proportion of the population. Their overall labor force participation rate, at 59. 2 percent, was about equal to the rate for black workers but somewhat lower than that for whites. (See table B.)

Table B. Employment status of the civilian population of Spanish origin and color, by sex and age, first quarter 1974 averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Total	White	Negro[1]	Spanish origin[2]
TOTAL				
Civilian noninstitutional population...	147,604	130,562	15,017	6,148
Civilian labor force.....	89,387	79,242	8,880	3,640
Percent of population.....	60.6	60.7	59.1	59.2
Employment.....	84,420	75,236	8,006	3,333
Agriculture.....	3,271	3,005	214	229
Nonagricultural industries.....	81,149	72,231	7,792	3,104
Unemployment.....	4,968	4,006	874	307
Unemployment rate.....	5.6	5.1	9.8	8.4
Not in labor force.....	58,217	51,320	6,137	2,508

[1]Data relate to Negro workers only, who account for 89 percent of the Negro and other races population.

[2]Data on persons of Spanish origin are tabulated separately, without regard to race/color, which means that they are also included in the data for white and Negro workers. According to the 1970 Census, approximately 98 percent of their population is white.

An average of 3.3 million persons of Spanish origin was employed during the quarter, 54.2 percent of their civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. This ratio of employment to population was well below that for whites (58.0 percent) but little different from that of Negroes (55.7 percent).

During the January-March period, some 310,000 workers of Spanish origin were unemployed. At 8.4 percent, their jobless rate was substantially above the 5.1-percent rate for white workers, but a bit below the 9.8-percent rate for black workers. The ratio of Spanish-to-white unemployment rates of 1.6 to 1 indicates that, relative to the size of their respective labor forces, for every 10 white workers unemployed there were 16 jobless workers of Spanish origin.

This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Statistics on payroll employment, hours, and earnings are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A description of the two surveys appears in the BLS publication *Employment and Earnings*.

Table A-1. Employment status of the noninstitutional population

[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Mar. 1973	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
TOTAL									
Total noninstitutional population[1]	147,541	149,857	150,066	147,541	149,208	149,436	149,656	149,857	150,066
Total labor force	89,686	91,692	91,884	90,523	92,186	92,315	92,801	92,814	92,747
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	145,181	147,599	147,816	145,181	146,924	147,155	147,398	147,599	147,816
Civilian labor force	87,326	89,434	89,633	88,162	89,903	90,033	90,543	90,556	90,496
Employed	82,814	84,294	84,878	83,782	85,649	85,669	85,811	85,803	85,863
Agriculture	3,131	3,283	3,334	3,469	3,561	3,643	3,794	3,852	3,699
Nonagricultural industries	79,683	81,011	81,544	80,313	82,088	82,026	82,017	81,951	82,164
Unemployed	4,512	5,140	4,755	4,380	4,254	4,364	4,732	4,753	4,633
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.7	5.3	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.1
Not in labor force	57,855	58,165	58,183	57,019	57,021	57,121	56,855	57,043	57,320
Males, 20 years and over									
Total noninstitutional population[1]	62,551	63,536	63,622	62,551	63,225	63,355	63,455	63,536	63,622
Total labor force	51,131	51,772	51,752	51,307	51,791	51,931	52,197	52,139	51,912
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	60,617	61,709	61,801	60,617	61,359	61,510	61,628	61,709	61,801
Civilian labor force	49,198	49,945	49,931	49,373	49,926	50,085	50,371	50,312	50,091
Employed	47,267	47,754	47,962	47,694	48,425	48,559	48,660	48,529	48,379
Agriculture	2,388	2,483	2,503	2,524	2,544	2,569	2,687	2,708	2,646
Nonagricultural industries	44,879	45,271	45,459	45,170	45,881	45,990	45,973	45,821	45,733
Unemployed	1,931	2,191	1,969	1,679	1,501	1,526	1,711	1,783	1,712
Unemployment rate	3.9	4.4	3.9	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.4
Not in labor force	11,420	11,764	11,870	11,244	11,434	11,424	11,258	11,397	11,710
Females, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	68,908	69,937	70,035	68,908	69,701	69,781	69,840	69,937	70,035
Civilian labor force	30,482	31,512	31,650	30,330	31,183	31,169	31,133	31,329	31,498
Employed	29,004	29,823	30,089	28,834	29,704	29,596	29,519	29,722	29,916
Agriculture	457	479	493	568	550	595	628	641	613
Nonagricultural industries	28,547	29,343	29,596	28,266	29,154	29,001	28,891	29,081	29,303
Unemployed	1,477	1,689	1,561	1,496	1,479	1,573	1,614	1,607	1,582
Unemployment rate	4.8	5.4	4.9	4.9	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.0
Not in labor force	38,427	38,426	38,385	38,578	38,518	38,612	38,707	38,608	38,537
Both sexes, 16-19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	15,655	15,952	15,981	15,655	15,864	15,864	15,930	15,952	15,981
Civilian labor force	7,647	7,977	8,052	8,459	8,794	8,779	9,039	8,915	8,907
Employed	6,543	6,717	6,826	7,254	7,520	7,514	7,632	7,552	7,568
Agriculture	286	320	338	377	467	479	479	503	440
Nonagricultural industries	6,257	6,397	6,488	6,877	7,053	7,035	7,153	7,049	7,128
Unemployed	1,104	1,260	1,226	1,205	1,274	1,265	1,407	1,363	1,339
Unemployment rate	14.4	15.8	15.2	14.2	14.5	14.4	15.6	15.3	15.0
Not in labor force	8,008	7,976	7,928	7,196	7,070	7,085	6,891	7,037	7,074
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	128,632	130,555	130,739	128,632	130,086	130,197	130,393	130,555	130,739
Civilian labor force	77,451	79,301	79,483	78,104	79,673	79,704	80,089	80,122	80,163
Employed	73,825	75,137	75,675	74,634	76,339	76,223	76,328	76,354	76,498
Unemployed	3,626	4,164	3,808	3,470	3,334	3,481	3,761	3,768	3,665
Unemployment rate	4.7	5.3	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6
Not in labor force	51,181	51,255	51,256	50,528	50,413	50,493	50,304	50,433	50,576
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	16,549	17,044	17,077	16,549	16,839	16,958	17,005	17,044	17,077
Civilian labor force	9,876	10,133	10,150	10,006	10,210	10,300	10,499	10,340	10,289
Employed	8,989	9,157	9,203	9,109	9,299	9,412	9,513	9,390	9,323
Unemployed	887	976	948	897	911	888	986	950	966
Unemployment rate	9.0	9.6	9.3	9.0	8.9	8.6	9.4	9.2	9.4
Not in labor force	6,675	6,911	6,927	6,543	6,629	6,658	6,506	6,704	6,788

[1] Seasonal variations are not present in the population figures; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Data relate to the noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Total noninstitutional population and total labor force include persons in the Armed Forces.

Table A-2. Major unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Selected categories	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	Mar. 1973	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,380	4,633	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.1
Males, 20 years and over	1,679	1,712	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.4
Females, 20 years and over	1,496	1,582	4.9	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.0
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,205	1,339	14.2	14.5	14.4	15.6	15.3	15.0
White, total	3,470	3,665	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6
Males, 20 years and over	1,376	1,366	3.1	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.0
Females, 20 years and over	1,153	1,284	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.7
Both sexes, 16-19 years	941	1,015	12.5	12.7	12.8	13.7	13.3	12.8
Negro and other races, total	897	966	9.0	8.9	8.6	9.4	9.2	9.4
Males, 20 years and over	304	351	6.0	5.5	4.9	5.8	6.E	6.8
Females, 20 years and over	335	291	8.2	8.7	8.7	9.1	7.9	7.0
Both sexes, 16-19 years	258	324	29.3	29.1	28.7	29.1	29.2	33.8
Household heads	1,522	1,558	3.0	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0
Married men, spouse present	980	943	2.5	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4
Full-time workers	3,388	3,560	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6
Part-time workers	976	1,056	7.7	7.3	7.5	8.2	8.4	8.1
Unemployed 15 weeks and over[1]	869	815	1.0	.9	.8	.8	.9c	.9
State insured[2]	1,604	2,099	2.8	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.3
Labor force time lost[3]	--	--	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.6
OCCUPATION[4]								
White-collar workers	1,209	1,224	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.2	2.8
Professional and technical	269	239	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.0	1.9
Managers and administrators, except farm	103	134	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.5
Sales workers	201	216	3.6	3.3	4.5	4.0	4.2	3.8
Clerical workers	636	635	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.0
Blue-collar workers	1,712	1,937	5.5	5.4	5.2	6.0	6.1	6.1
Craft and kindred workers	444	438	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.8	3.9	3.6
Operatives	874	1,060	5.8	5.6	5.8	7.0	6.8	7.2
Nonfarm laborers	394	439	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.4	9.3	9.0
Service workers	718	721	6.2	5.9	6.2	5.5	6.1	6.1
Farm workers	76	92	2.4	2.3	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.8
INDUSTRY[4]								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers[5]	3,153	3,368	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.1
Construction	386	382	8.7	9.1	8.2	9.1	7.9	8.4
Manufacturing	967	1,122	4.6	4.3	4.3	5.1	5.3	5.2
Durable goods	536	637	4.4	3.6	3.9	5.0	5.1	5.0
Nondurable goods	431	485	4.9	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.7	5.5
Transportation and public utilities	140	136	3.0	3.1	3.1	2.9	3.1	2.8
Wholesale and retail trade	849	932	5.4	5.4	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.8
Finance and service industries	791	780	4.5	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.4
Government workers	371	405	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
Agricultural wage and salary workers	93	121	7.1	7.4	6.4	6.3	6.7c	7.8
VETERAN STATUS								
Males, Vietnam-era veterans[6]:								
20 to 34 years	283	290	5.4	3.7	4.3	5.2	5.0	5.1
20 to 24 years	147	115	9.1	7.2	7.5	10.6	10.0	9.0
25 to 29 years	106	141	3.9	2.5	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.3
30 to 34 years	30	34	3.4	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.8
Males, nonveterans:								
20 to 34 years	675	738	5.3	4.6	4.7	5.2	5.4	5.5
20 to 24 years	382	459	7.0	6.5	6.6	7.2	7.9	7.8
25 to 29 years	196	161	5.0	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.3
30 to 34 years	97	118	2.8	2.0	2.1	3.2	2.8	3.2

[1] Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.
[2] Insured unemployment under State programs; unemployment rate calculated as a percent of average covered employment.
[3] Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.
[4] Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers.
[5] Includes mining, not shown separately.
[6] Vietnam-era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964.

c = corrected.

Table A-3. Selected employment indicators

[In thousands]

Selected categories	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Mar. 1973	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
Total employed, 16 years and over	82,814	84,878	83,782	85,649	85,669	85,811	85,803	85,863
Males	50,891	51,678	51,761	5,2584	52,732	52,910	52,716	52,556
Females	31,923	33,200	32,021	33,065	32,937	32,901	33,087	33,307
Household heads	49,407	50,503	49,616	50,385	50,565	50,807	50,825	50,706
Married men, spouse present	38,624	38,752	38,882	39,237	39,252	39,394	39,268	39,025
Married women, spouse present	18,983	19,446	18,888	19,462	19,334	19,147	19,224	19,349
OCCUPATION								
White-collar workers	40,122	41,704	40,161	41,205	41,138	41,399	41,375	41,743
Professional and technical	11,833	12,444	11,653	11,980	12,030	12,068	12,350	12,260
Managers and administrators, except farm	8,446	8,893	8,493	8,989	9,099	9,186	9,031	8,938
Sales workers	5,361	5,391	5,430	5,425	5,254	5,386	5,408	5,462
Clerical workers	14,482	14,977	14,585	14,811	14,755	14,759	14,586	15,083
Blue-collar workers	28,859	29,007	29,602	30,075	30,101	30,212	29,760	29,773
Craft and kindred workers	10,933	11,371	11,155	11,403	11,357	11,444	11,337	11,603
Operatives	14,027	13,546	14,196	14,414	14,303	14,187	13,990	13,711
Nonfarm laborers	3,899	4,088	4,251	4,258	4,441	4,581	4,433	4,459
Service workers	11,064	11,249	10,945	11,230	11,260	11,098	11,177	11,136
Farm workers	2,768	2,917	3,030	3,102	3,123	3,326	3,380	3,204
MAJOR INDUSTRY AND CLASS OF WORKER								
Agriculture:								
Wage and salary workers	1,068	1,257	1,223	1,340	1,353	1,493	1,469	1,440
Self-employed workers	1,703	1,749	1,780	1,790	1,821	1,887	1,919	1,828
Unpaid family workers	360	329	446	420	405	392	429	408
Nonagricultural industries:								
Wage and salary workers	73,710	75,606	74,334	76,123	76,100	75,984	76,031	76,231
Private households	1,525	1,416	1,512	1,508	1,542	1,438	1,505	1,403
Government	13,706	14,224	13,516	13,690	13,668	13,590	13,844	14,028
Other	58,479	59,966	59,306	60,925	60,890	60,956	60,682	60,800
Self-employed workers	5,412	5,362	5,414	5,409	5,455	5,399	5,458	5,362
Unpaid family workers	562	574	509	528	473	466	461	520
PERSONS AT WORK[1]								
Nonagricultural industries	76,400	78,196	75,235	77,252	77,396	76,801	77,164	76,993
Full-time schedules	63,117	64,240	62,866	64,128	64,038	63,847	63,911	63,984
Part time for economic reasons	2,063	2,388	2,213	2,405	2,562	2,586	2,754	2,540
Usually work full time	967	1,261	958	1,143	1,192	1,213	1,381	1,249
Usually work part time	1,096	1,127	1,255	1,262	1,370	1,373	1,373	1,291
Part time for noneconomic reasons	11,220	11,568	10,156	10,719	10,796	10,368	10,499	10,469

[1] Excludes persons "with a job but not at work" during the survey period for such reasons as vacation, illness, or industrial disputes.

Table A-4. Duration of unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Weeks of unemployment	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Mar. 1973	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
Less than 5 weeks	1,862	2,117	2,168	2,243	2,308	2,466	2,427	2,464
5 to 14 weeks	1,529	1,588	1,337	1,235	1,270	1,437	1,426	1,388
15 weeks and over	1,121	1,051	869	820	740	768	830	815
15 to 26 weeks	680	682	496	469	409	440	505	503
27 weeks and over	441	369	373	351	331	328	325	312
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	12.0	10.8	10.5	10.0	9.3	9.4	9.6	9.4
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	41.3	44.5	49.6	52.2	53.5	52.8	51.8	52.8
5 to 14 weeks	33.9	33.4	30.6	28.7	29.4	30.8	30.5	29.7
15 weeks and over	24.8	22.1	19.9	19.1	17.1	16.4	17.7	17.5
15 to 26 weeks	15.1	14.3	11.3	10.9	9.5	9.4	10.8	10.8
27 weeks and over	9.8	7.8	8.5	8.2	7.7	7.0	6.9	6.7

Table A-5. Reasons for unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Mar. 1973	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED								
Lost last job	1,975	2,335	1,710	1,664	1,761	2,006	2,052	2,022
Left last job	675	712	701	783	765	731	750	739
Reentered labor force	1,299	1,193	1,291	1,227	1,266	1,252	1,240	1,186
Seeking first job	563	516	689	590	593	682	630	632
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers	43.8	49.1	38.9	39.0	40.2	42.9	43.9	44.2
Job leavers	15.0	15.0	16.0	18.4	17.4	15.6	16.1	16.1
Reentrants	28.8	25.1	29.4	28.8	28.9	26.8	26.5	25.9
New entrants	12.5	10.8	15.7	13.8	13.5	14.6	13.5	13.8
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE								
Job losers	2.3	2.6	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.2
Job leavers	.8	.8	.8	.9	.8	.8	.8	.8
Reentrants	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3
New entrants	.6	.6	.8	.7	.7	.8	.7	.7

Table A-6. Unemployment by sex and age

Sex and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Thousands of persons		Percent looking for full-time work						
	Mar. 1973	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,512	4,755	77.3	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.1
16 to 19 years	1,104	1,226	50.2	14.2	14.5	14.4	15.6	15.3	15.0
16 to 17 years	558	618	29.0	17.3	17.2	16.7	19.4	17.9	18.4
18 to 19 years	546	607	71.8	12.1	12.5	12.9	13.3	12.9	12.7
20 to 24 years	1,010	1,065	87.9	7.9	7.2	7.7	8.5	8.6	8.1
25 years and over	2,397	2,465	86.1	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3
25 to 54 years	1,976	2,037	88.4	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4
55 years and over	423	428	75.0	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.7
Males, 16 years and over	2,531	2,634	81.7	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.4
16 to 19 years	600	665	48.7	13.4	14.3	13.6	14.1	14.6	14.4
16 to 17 years	336	353	32.3	17.1	17.2	16.3	18.8	18.0	17.6
18 to 19 years	264	312	67.3	10.7	12.1	11.9	11.2	11.6	12.1
20 to 24 years	561	601	92.0	7.5	6.6	6.7	7.9	8.3	7.9
25 years and over	1,369	1,368	93.3	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.7
25 to 54 years	1,128	1,121	96.5	2.8	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7
55 years and over	242	247	78.9	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.4
Females, 16 years and over	1,981	2,121	71.7	6.1	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.2
16 to 19 years	504	561	51.9	15.2	14.8	15.4	17.3	16.2	15.8
16 to 17 years	222	265	24.5	17.7	17.2	17.2	20.1	17.8	19.3
18 to 19 years	282	296	76.4	13.6	13.1	14.0	15.6	14.4	13.4
20 to 24 years	449	464	82.5	8.4	7.9	8.9	9.3	9.0	8.4
25 years and over	1,028	1,097	77.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2
25 to 54 years	848	916	78.5	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.5
55 years and over	181	181	69.6	3.4	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.4

Table A-7. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population, seasonally adjusted quarterly averages

[Number in thousands]

Characteristic	1972				1973				1974
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	142,344	143,006	143,674	144,281	144,943	145,606	146,266	146,931	147,604
Civilian labor force	85,841	86,295	86,858	87,149	87,625	88,451	88,968	89,896	90,532
As percent of population	60.3	60.3	60.5	60.4	60.5	60.7	60.8	61.2	61.3
Employment	80,807	81,393	82,040	82,555	83,210	84,107	84,755	85,656	85,826
As percent of population	56.8	56.9	57.1	57.2	57.4	57.8	57.9	58.3	58.1
Unemployment	5,034	4,902	4,818	4,594	4,415	4,344	4,213	4,240	4,706
Unemployment rate	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	5.2
Not in labor force	56,503	56,711	56,816	57,132	57,318	57,155	57,298	57,035	57,072
Males, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	59,331	59,662	59,953	60,213	60,518	60,797	61,078	61,380	61,713
Civilian labor force	48,437	48,700	48,959	49,091	49,210	49,371	49,594	49,977	50,258
As percent of population	81.6	81.6	81.7	81.5	81.3	81.2	81.2	81.4	81.4
Employment	46,409	46,704	47,076	47,315	47,535	47,727	48,072	48,472	48,523
As percent of population	78.2	78.3	78.5	78.6	78.5	78.5	78.7	79.0	78.6
Unemployment	2,028	1,996	1,883	1,776	1,675	1,644	1,522	1,505	1,735
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.5
Not in labor force	10,894	10,962	10,994	11,122	11,308	11,426	11,484	11,403	11,455
Females, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	67,676	67,932	68,232	68,529	68,815	69,095	69,392	69,738	69,937
Civilian labor force	29,444	29,637	29,882	29,882	30,133	30,629	30,984	31,132	31,320
As percent of population	43.5	43.6	43.8	43.6	43.8	44.3	44.7	44.6	44.8
Employment	27,855	27,987	28,237	28,329	28,614	29,173	29,494	29,654	29,719
As percent of population	41.2	41.2	41.4	41.3	41.6	42.2	42.5	42.5	42.5
Unemployment	1,589	1,650	1,645	1,553	1,519	1,456	1,490	1,478	1,601
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.1
Not in labor force	38,232	38,295	38,350	38,647	38,682	38,466	38,408	38,606	38,617
Both sexes, 16-19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	15,337	15,412	15,489	15,539	15,609	15,715	15,796	15,857	15,954
Civilian labor force	7,960	7,958	8,017	8,176	8,282	8,451	8,390	8,787	8,954
As percent of population	51.9	51.6	51.8	52.6	53.1	53.8	53.1	55.4	56.1
Employment	6,543	6,702	6,727	6,911	7,061	7,207	7,189	7,530	7,584
As percent of population	42.7	43.5	43.4	44.5	45.2	45.9	45.5	47.5	47.5
Unemployment	1,417	1,256	1,290	1,265	1,221	1,244	1,201	1,257	1,370
Unemployment rate	17.8	15.8	16.1	15.5	14.7	14.7	14.3	14.3	15.3
Not in labor force	7,377	7,454	7,472	7,363	7,327	7,264	7,406	7,070	7,000
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	126,534	127,091	127,650	128,159	128,621	128,986	129,538	130,064	130,562
Civilian labor force	76,316	76,759	77,276	77,459	77,792	78,510	78,856	79,648	80,125
As percent of population	60.3	60.4	60.5	60.4	60.5	60.9	60.9	61.2	61.4
Employment	72,309	72,772	73,399	73,810	74,270	75,062	75,559	76,287	76,393
As percent of population	57.1	57.3	57.5	57.6	57.7	58.2	58.3	58.7	58.5
Unemployment	4,007	3,987	3,877	3,649	3,522	3,448	3,297	3,361	3,731
Unemployment rate	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.7
Not in labor force	50,218	50,332	50,374	50,700	50,829	50,476	50,682	50,416	50,437
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	15,810	15,915	16,025	16,122	16,321	16,620	16,728	16,866	17,042
Civilian labor force	9,500	9,545	9,587	9,690	9,820	9,946	10,105	10,232	10,376
As percent of population	60.1	60.0	59.8	60.1	60.2	59.8	60.4	60.7	60.9
Employment	8,484	8,624	8,646	8,733	8,940	9,047	9,191	9,348	9,409
As percent of population	53.7	54.2	54.0	54.2	54.8	54.4	54.9	55.4	55.2
Unemployment	1,016	921	941	957	880	899	914	884	967
Unemployment rate	10.7	9.6	9.8	9.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.3
Not in labor force	6,310	6,370	6,438	6,432	6,501	6,674	6,623	6,634	6,666

[1] Because seasonality, by definition, does not exist in population figures, these figures are not seasonally adjusted.

Table A-8. Persons not in labor force, by whether they want jobs, current activity, and reasons for not seeking work, seasonally adjusted quarterly averages

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	1972				1973				1974
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I
TOTAL									
Total not in labor force	56,503	56,711	56,817	57,132	57,317	57,155	57,298	57,034	57,073
Do not want job now	51,934	52,132	52,473	52,761	53,183	52,183	52,733	53,170	53,253
Current activity: Going to school	6,301	6,166	6,454	6,269	6,333	5,760	6,221	6,047	5,911
Ill, disabled	4,238	4,225	4,307	4,483	4,258	4,520	4,807	4,698	4,722
Keeping house	32,305	32,388	32,416	32,406	32,601	31,862	31,837	32,322	32,381
Retired	6,564	6,679	6,733	6,792	7,050	7,282	7,221	7,100	7,164
Other	2,526	2,674	2,563	2,811	2,941	2,759	2,647	3,003	3,075
Want a job now	4,503	4,361	4,301	4,664	4,355	4,752	4,314	4,335	4,334
Reason not looking: School attendance	1,269	1,102	1,118	1,254	1,284	1,266	1,111	1,131	1,175
Ill health, disability	579	604	637	723	540	640	609	692	652
Home responsibilities	1,101	1,054	1,114	1,111	976	1,109	1,117	956	1,024
Think cannot get job	828	806	716	729	630	787	633	687	682
Job-market factors	621	540	500	504	444	587	447	493	457
Personal factors	207	266	216	225	186	200	186	194	225
Other reasons	726	795	716	847	925	950	844	869	801
MALES									
Total not in labor force	14,034	14,122	14,164	14,349	14,532	14,489	14,615	14,599	14,672
Do not want job now	12,678	12,794	12,878	12,954	13,151	12,990	13,285	13,211	13,445
Want a job now	1,356	1,328	1,286	1,395	1,381	1,499	1,330	1,388	1,227
Reason not looking: School attendance	632	577	595	630	698	649	609	608	599
Ill health, disability	257	274	266	286	234	333	279	261	248
Think cannot get job	261	253	198	242	216	261	200	234	166
Other reasons[1]	206	224	227	237	233	256	242	285	214
FEMALES									
Total not in labor force	42,408	42,325	42,629	43,086	43,009	42,397	42,461	42,929	42,919
Do not want job now	39,256	39,338	39,595	39,807	40,032	39,193	39,448	39,959	39,808
Want a job now	3,152	2,987	3,034	3,279	2,977	3,204	3,013	2,970	3,111
Reason not looking: School attendance	637	525	523	624	586	617	502	523	576
Ill health, disability	322	330	371	437	306	307	330	431	404
Home responsibilities	1,085	1,016	1,092	1,090	959	1,073	1,100	934	999
Think cannot get job	567	553	518	487	414	526	433	453	516
Other reasons	541	563	530	641	712	681	648	629	616
WHITE									
Total not in labor force	50,113	50,282	50,383	50,842	50,851	50,371	50,721	50,524	50,508
Do not want job now	46,663	46,903	47,001	47,250	47,367	46,696	47,512	47,196	47,077
Want a job now	3,450	3,379	3,382	3,592	3,484	3,675	3,209	3,328	3,431
Reason not looking: School attendance	990	885	910	961	976	981	825	879	925
Ill health, disability	408	406	455	543	414	501	421	454	487
Home responsibilities	796	815	817	841	797	896	836	739	818
Think cannot get job	620	586	562	542	488	496	469	551	529
Other reasons	636	687	638	705	809	801	658	705	672
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES									
Total not in labor force	6,345	6,306	6,431	6,490	6,508	6,624	6,611	6,675	6,718
Do not want job now	5,290	5,337	5,475	5,356	5,656	5,568	5,515	5,642	5,843
Want a job now	1,055	969	956	1,134	852	1,056	1,096	1,033	875
Reason not looking: School attendance	246	228	211	294	272	317	267	257	217
Ill health, disability	169	189	183	193	122	129	190	246	162
Home responsibilities	287	257	289	281	175	237	272	228	196
Think cannot get job	236	170	167	199	152	234	174	144	162
Other reasons	117	125	106	167	131	139	193	158	138

[1] Includes small number of men not looking for work because of home responsibilities.

NOTE: Detail may not add to totals due to independent seasonal adjustment.

Table B-1. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

[In thousands]

Industry	Mar. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974p	Mar. 1974p	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Mar. 1973	Feb. 1974	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974p	Mar. 1974p	Change from Feb. 1974
TOTAL	74,255	75,620	75,754	75,963	1,708	209	76,533	76,773	76,648	-125
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,413	23,740	23,686	23,688	275	2	24,296	24,294	24,143	-151
MINING	598	642	643	640	42	-3	654	658	653	-5
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,294	3,280	3,317	3,391	97	74	3,636	3,744	3,710	-34
MANUFACTURING	19,521	19,818	19,726	19,657	136	-69	20,006	19,892	19,780	-112
Production workers	14,345	14,513	14,415	14,361	16	-54	14,682	14,557	14,469	-88
DURABLE GOODS	11,431	11,699	11,614	11,547	116	-67	11,774	11,676	11,580	-96
Production workers	8,397	8,557	8,469	8,419	22	-50	8,624	8,520	8,448	-72
Ordnance and accessories	195.7	192.6	189.6	187.7	-8.0	-1.9	192	190	189	-1
Lumber and wood products	616.9	626.5	629.2	633.5	16.6	4.3	645	646	647	1
Furniture and fixtures	513.7	526.8	520.2	520.3	6.6	.1	527	522	523	1
Stone, clay, and glass products	672.1	682.6	682.4	690.3	18.2	7.9	704	704	706	2
Primary metal industries	1,287.4	1,333.9	1,324.8	1,319.7	32.3	-5.1	1,343	1,327	1,312	-15
Fabricated metal products	1,430.2	1,458.3	1,441.4	1,433.4	3.2	-8.0	1,466	1,450	1,439	-11
Machinery, except electrical	2,002.1	2,129.1	2,134.2	2,143.5	141.4	9.3	2,133	2,121	2,131	10
Electrical equipment	1,947.0	2,047.3	2,036.9	2,005.0	58.0	-31.9	2051	2043	2015	-28
Transportation equipment	1,855.7	1,763.3	1,709.6	1,665.4	-190.3	-44.2	1,753	1,710	1,657	-53
Instruments and related products	482.3	514.1	517.9	517.3	35.0	-.6	516	520	519	-1
Miscellaneous manufacturing	427.8	424.8	427.9	431.2	3.4	3.3	444	443	442	-1
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,090	8,119	8,112	8,110	20	-2	8,232	8,216	8,200	-16
Production workers	5,948	5,956	5,946	5,942	-6	-4	6,058	6,037	6,021	-16
Food and kindred products	1,670.9	1,689.1	1,675.5	1,677.6	6.7	2.1	1,754	1,753	1,755	2
Tobacco manufactures	69.9	75.4	73.1	70.9	1.0	-2.2	76	76	77	1
Textile mill products	1,022.0	1,026.3	1,020.7	1,016.6	-5.4	-4.1	1,029	1,024	1,018	-6
Apparel and other textile products	1,359.0	1,295.2	1,309.4	1,301.9	-57.1	-7.5	1,315	1,308	1,293	-15
Paper and allied products	709.5	724.6	723.2	723.7	14.2	.5	729	729	729	0
Printing and publishing	1,093.8	1,103.5	1,107.5	1,105.0	11.2	-2.5	1,106	1,109	1,105	-4
Chemicals and allied products	1,016.2	1,037.6	1,037.3	1,044.2	28.0	6.9	1,046	1,044	1,046	2
Petroleum and coal products	182.5	187.9	188.1	189.8	7.3	1.7	193	193	193	0
Rubber and plastics products, nec	671.7	689.3	685.9	687.7	16.0	1.8	693	689	690	1
Leather and leather products	294.5	290.1	290.9	292.2	-2.3	1.3	291	291	294	3
SERVICE-PRODUCING	50,842	51,880	52,068	52,275	1,433	207	52,237	52,479	52,505	26
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,539	4,618	4,613	4,628	89	15	4,684	4,688	4,670	-18
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	15,880	16,290	16,112	16,167	287	55	16,417	16,456	16,467	11
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,989	4,155	4,139	4,142	153	3	4,184	4,189	4,184	-5
RETAIL TRADE	11,891	12,135	11,973	12,025	134	52	12,233	12,267	12,283	16
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	4,000	4,072	4,089	4,098	98	9	4,109	4,126	4,123	-3
SERVICES	12,627	12,913	13,060	13,136	509	76	13,136	13,219	13,229	10
GOVERNMENT	13,796	13,987	14,194	14,246	450	52	13,891	13,990	14,016	26
FEDERAL	2,623	2,642	2,659	2,662	39	3	2,658	2,670	2,670	0
STATE AND LOCAL	11,173	11,345	11,535	11,584	411	49	11,233	11,320	11,346	26

p = preliminary.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Mar. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974[p]	Mar. 1974[p]	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Mar. 1973	Feb. 1974	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974[p]	Mar. 1974[p]	Change from Feb. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE	36.9	36.4	36.5	36.6	-0.3	0.1	36.7	36.9	36.8	-0.1
MINING	41.4	42.3	42.6	40.7	-.7	-1.9	42.6	43.2	41.2	-2.0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	36.6	34.9	36.3	36.8	.2	.5	36.2	37.6	37.2	-.4
MANUFACTURING	40.8	40.0	40.1	40.2	-.6	.1	40.3	40.5	40.3	-.2
Overtime hours	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	-.4	0	3.4	3.5	3.5	0
DURABLE GOODS	41.6	40.5	40.7	40.9	-.7	.2	40.8	41.1	40.9	-.2
Overtime hours	4.0	3.4	3.4	3.5	-.5	.1	3.5	3.6	3.6	0
Ordnance and accessories	42.6	41.8	42.1	43.3	.7	1.2	41.9	42.1	43.1	1.0
Lumber and wood products	40.9	39.5	40.1	40.3	-.6	.2	40.4	40.7	40.4	-.3
Furniture and fixtures	40.3	39.2	38.8	39.0	-1.3	.2	39.8	39.6	39.3	-.3
Stone, clay, and glass products	42.1	40.6	41.1	41.2	-.9	.1	41.6	41.9	41.4	-.5
Primary metal industries	42.3	41.8	41.4	41.6	-.7	.2	41.8	41.4	41.4	0
Fabricated metal products	41.5	40.6	40.8	41.0	-.5	.2	41.0	41.3	41.2	-.1
Machinery, except electrical	42.9	42.3	42.4	42.6	-.3	.2	42.3	42.5	42.3	-.2
Electrical equipment	40.6	39.5	39.6	39.8	-.8	.2	39.6	40.1	39.8	-.3
Transportation equipment	42.0	39.6	40.1	40.4	-1.6	.3	40.0	40.6	40.4	-.2
Instruments and related products	40.7	40.4	40.6	40.6	-.1	0	40.6	40.9	40.6	-.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.3	38.0	38.7	39.0	-.3	.3	38.3	39.0	39.0	0
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.6	39.2	39.2	39.3	-.3	.1	39.6	39.6	39.5	-.1
Overtime hours	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	-.2	0	3.4	3.3	3.3	0
Food and kindred products	39.7	40.5	40.1	40.2	.5	.1	40.8	40.8	40.7	-.1
Tobacco manufactures	37.4	38.9	37.8	37.6	.2	-.2	39.5	38.9	39.0	.1
Textile mill products	41.2	40.2	40.3	40.2	-1.0	-.1	40.6	40.6	40.3	-.3
Apparel and other textile products	36.3	34.7	35.5	35.6	-.7	.1	35.2	35.7	35.5	-.2
Paper and allied products	42.8	42.6	42.2	42.1	-.7	-.1	42.8	42.6	42.4	-.2
Printing and publishing	38.0	37.2	37.2	37.3	-.7	.1	37.7	37.6	37.3	-.3
Chemicals and allied products	42.0	41.7	41.7	41.9	-.1	.2	41.8	41.9	41.9	0
Petroleum and coal products	41.4	41.8	41.9	42.0	.6	.1	42.5	42.6	42.6	0
Rubber and plastics products, nec	41.3	40.5	40.6	40.5	-.8	-.1	40.6	40.9	40.7	-.2
Leather and leather products	37.6	37.2	37.7	38.0	.4	.3	37.2	37.8	38.3	.5
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.2	40.4	40.2	40.3	.1	.1	40.8	40.3	40.5	.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34.5	33.9	33.9	33.9	-.6	0	34.3	34.4	34.2	-.2
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.6	38.9	38.7	38.7	-.9	0	39.1	38.9	38.8	-.1
RETAIL TRADE	32.9	32.3	32.3	32.3	-.6	0	32.8	32.9	32.8	-.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37.0	36.9	37.0	36.9	-.1	-.1	36.9	37.0	36.9	-.1
SERVICES	33.9	33.8	33.9	33.9	0	0	34.0	34.1	34.0	-.1

[1] Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities, wholesale and retail trade, finance, insurance, and real estate, and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.

p preliminary

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings						Average weekly earnings					
	Mar. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974[p]	Mar. 1974[p]	Change from Mar. 1973	Change from Feb. 1974	Mar. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974[p]	Mar. 1974[p]	Change from Mar. 1973	Change from Feb. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE	$3.80	$4.02	$4.04	$4.05	$0.25	$0.01	$140.22	$146.33	$147.46	$148.23	$8.01	$0.77
Seasonally adjusted	3.81	4.02	4.04	4.06	.25	.02	141.35	147.53	149.08	149.41	8.06	.33
MINING	4.55	4.99	4.98	4.94	.39	-.04	188.37	211.08	212.15	201.06	12.69	-11.09
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	6.28	6.74	6.74	6.74	.46	0	229.85	235.23	244.66	248.03	18.18	3.37
MANUFACTURING	3.98	4.21	4.21	4.23	.25	.02	162.38	168.40	168.82	170.05	7.67	1.23
DURABLE GOODS	4.23	4.47	4.47	4.49	.26	.02	175.97	181.04	181.93	183.64	7.67	1.71
Ordnance and accessories	4.17	4.49	4.51	4.52	.35	.01	177.64	187.68	189.87	195.72	18.08	5.85
Lumber and wood products	3.47	3.68	3.72	3.73	.26	.01	141.92	145.36	149.17	150.32	8.40	1.15
Furniture and fixtures	3.19	3.36	3.39	3.42	.23	.03	128.56	131.71	131.53	133.38	4.82	1.85
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.07	4.27	4.30	4.32	.25	.02	171.35	173.36	176.73	177.98	6.63	1.25
Primary metal industries	4.88	5.24	5.25	5.30	.42	.05	206.42	219.03	217.35	220.48	14.06	3.13
Fabricated metal products	4.15	4.38	4.38	4.42	.27	.04	172.23	177.83	178.70	181.22	8.99	2.52
Machinery, except electrical	4.46	4.73	4.75	4.77	.31	.02	191.33	200.08	201.40	203.20	11.87	1.80
Electrical equipment	3.79	3.98	3.97	3.99	.20	.02	153.87	157.21	157.21	158.80	4.93	1.59
Transportation equipment	4.96	5.28	5.23	5.26	.30	.03	208.32	209.09	209.72	212.50	4.18	2.78
Instruments and related products	3.82	4.04	4.06	4.07	.25	.01	155.47	163.22	164.84	165.24	9.77	.40
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3.23	3.41	3.42	3.41	.18	-.01	126.94	129.58	132.35	132.99	6.05	.64
NONDURABLE GOODS	3.61	3.83	3.83	3.85	.24	.02	142.96	150.14	150.14	151.31	8.35	1.17
Food and kindred products	3.77	4.00	4.02	4.04	.27	.02	149.67	162.00	161.20	162.41	12.74	1.21
Tobacco manufactures	3.70	3.92	3.89	4.01	.31	.12	138.38	152.49	147.04	150.78	12.40	3.74
Textile mill products	2.88	3.06	3.06	3.07	.19	.01	118.66	123.01	123.32	123.41	4.75	.09
Apparel and other textile products	2.73	2.85	2.86	2.88	.15	.02	99.10	98.90	101.53	102.53	3.43	1.00
Paper and allied products	4.08	4.33	4.31	4.34	.26	.03	174.62	184.46	181.88	182.71	8.09	.83
Printing and publishing	4.60	4.79	4.83	4.87	.27	.04	174.80	178.19	179.68	181.65	6.85	1.97
Chemicals and allied products	4.36	4.64	4.64	4.65	.29	.01	183.12	193.49	193.49	194.84	11.72	1.35
Petroleum and coal products	5.15	5.40	5.43	5.43	.28	0	213.21	225.72	227.52	228.06	14.85	.54
Rubber and plastics products, nec	3.73	3.92	3.93	3.93	.20	0	154.05	158.76	159.56	159.17	5.12	-.9
Leather and leather products	2.80	2.90	2.93	2.95	.15	.02	105.28	107.88	110.46	112.10	6.82	1.64
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.89	5.21	5.22	5.21	.32	-.01	196.58	210.48	209.84	209.96	13.38	.12
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.14	3.35	3.36	3.38	.24	.02	108.33	113.57	113.90	114.58	6.25	.68
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.03	4.29	4.30	4.33	.30	.03	159.59	166.88	166.41	167.57	7.98	1.16
RETAIL TRADE	2.81	2.99	2.99	3.01	.20	.02	92.45	96.58	96.58	97.22	4.77	.64
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.55	3.74	3.76	3.76	.21	0	131.35	138.01	139.12	138.74	7.39	-.38
SERVICES	3.30	3.50	3.53	3.52	.22	-.01	111.87	118.30	119.67	119.33	7.46	-.34

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

p = preliminary.

Table B-4. Hourly Earnings Index for production or nonsupervisory workers in private nonfarm industries, seasonally adjusted

[1967=100]

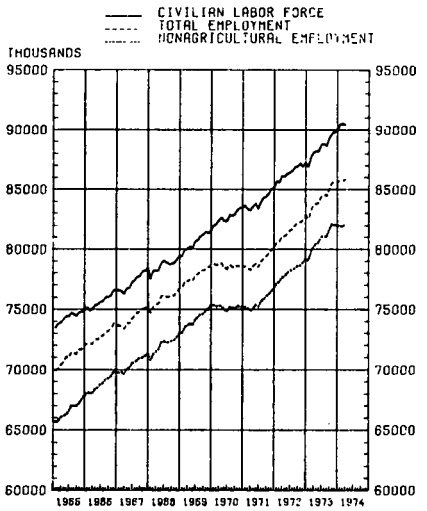
Industry	Mar. 1973	Oct. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb.p 1974	Mar.p 1974	Percent change from	
								Mar. 1973-Mar. 1974	Feb. 1974-Mar. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE NONFARM:									
Current dollars	143.3	149.6	150.3	151.8	151.7	152.4	153.1	6.8	.5
Constant (1967) dollars	110.4	109.5	109.1	109.3	108.4	107.5	NA	1/	2/
MINING	142.5	148.4	150.2	r152.1	154.2	154.4	155.6	9.2	.8
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	152.6	159.2	160.3	161.2	160.5	162.3	163.0	6.8	.4
MANUFACTURING	140.4	146.5	147.0	147.9	148.5	149.3	150.2	6.9	.6
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	152.1	159.8	160.0	160.2	161.1	161.3	162.1	6.6	.5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	140.2	146.2	146.9	147.9	148.8	149.0	150.4	7.3	.9
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	136.9	142.7	143.6	145.5	145.2	145.5	146.1	6.7	.4
SERVICES	143.6	149.1	149.9	151.3	152.1	152.8	153.0	6.6	.2

1 Percent change was -2.8 from February 1973 to February 1974, the latest month available.
2 Percent change was -0.8 from January 1974 to February 1974, the latest month available.
N.A. = not available.
p=preliminary.
r=Revised

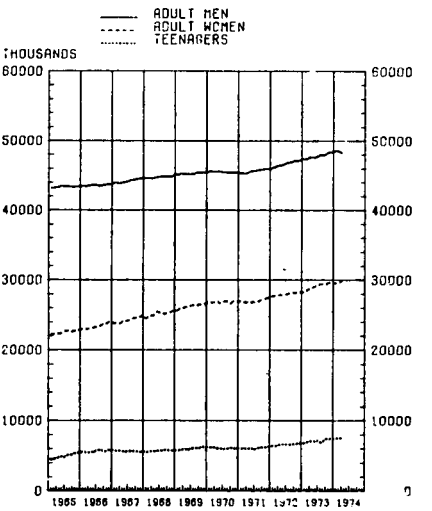
NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries. The seasonal adjustment eliminates the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude each year.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

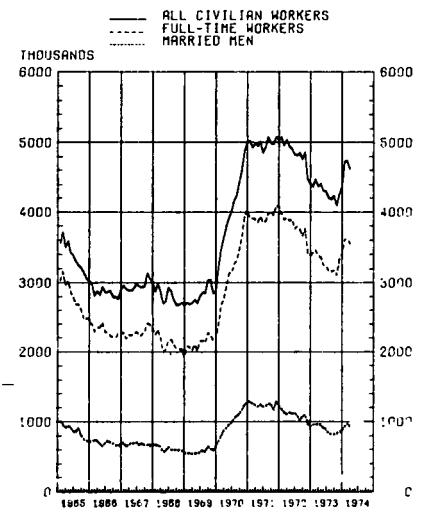
1. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



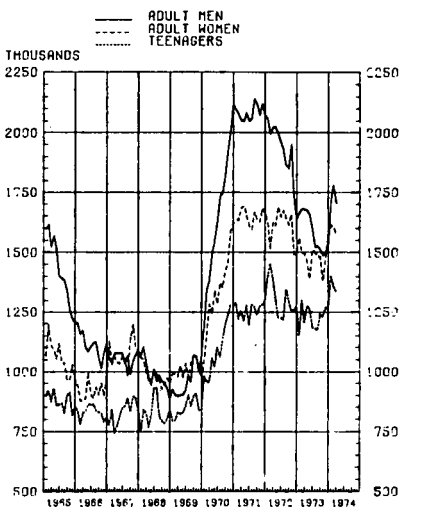
2. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



3. UNEMPLOYMENT

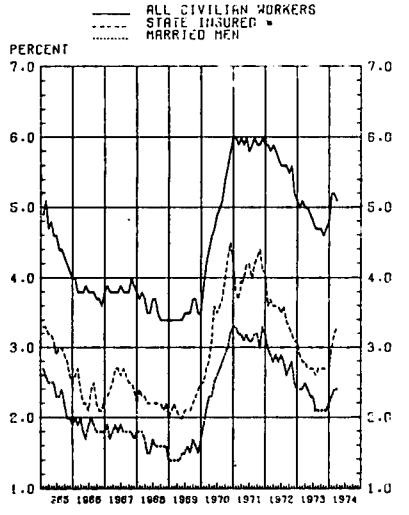


4. UNEMPLOYMENT

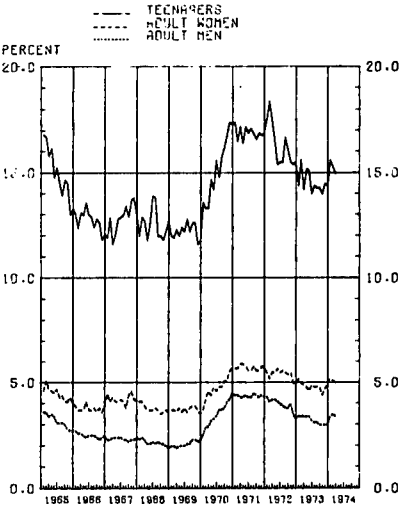


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

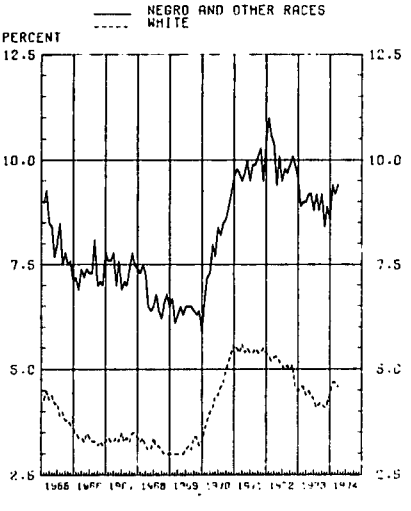
5. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



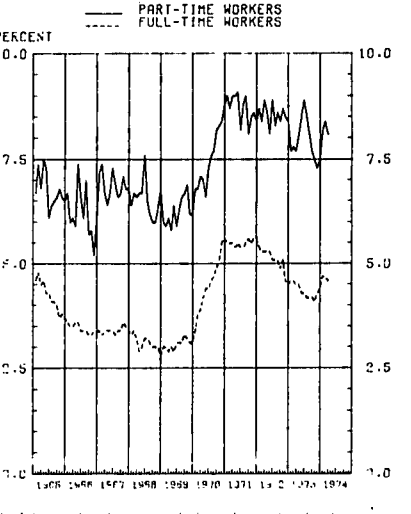
6. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



7. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



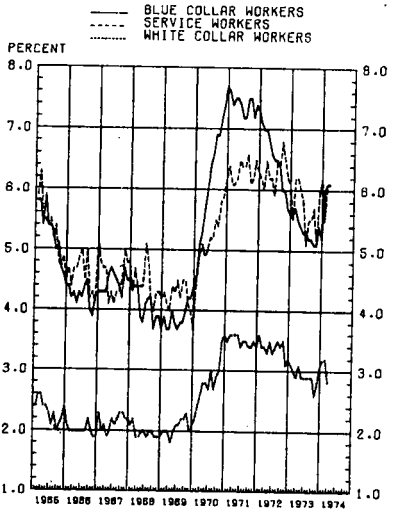
8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



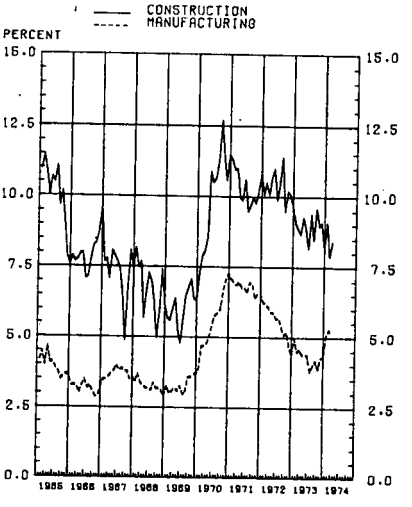
* State insured unemployment rate pertains to the week including the 12th of the month and represents the insured unemployed under State programs as a percent of average covered employment. The figures are derived from administrative records of unemployment insurance systems.

UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

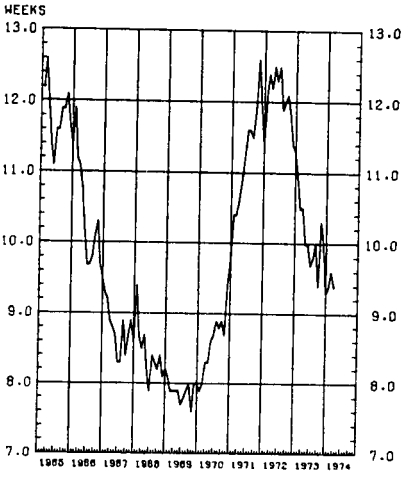
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



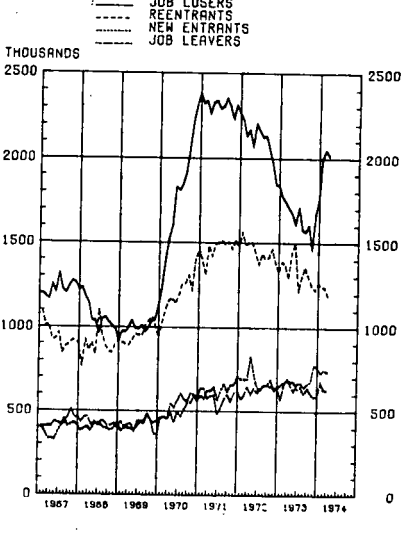
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

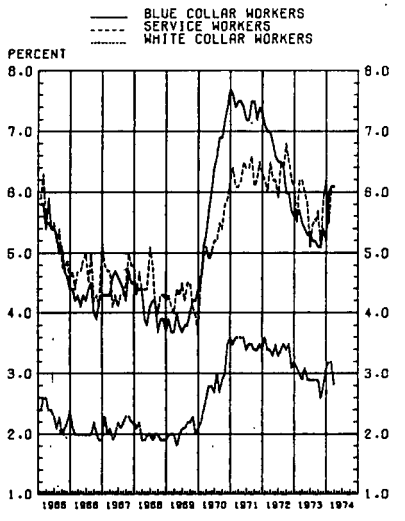


12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON

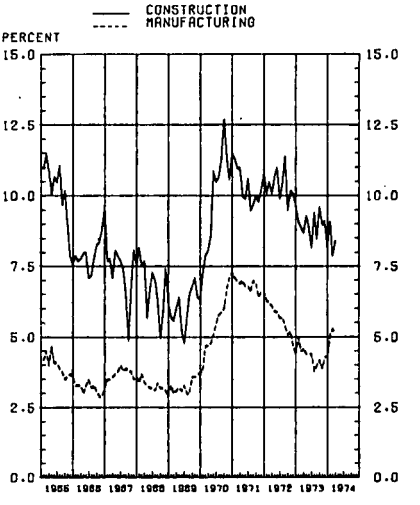


UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

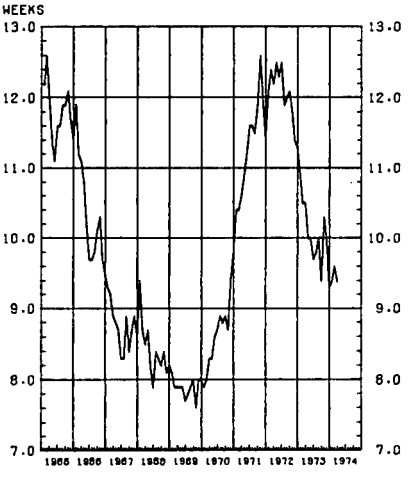
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



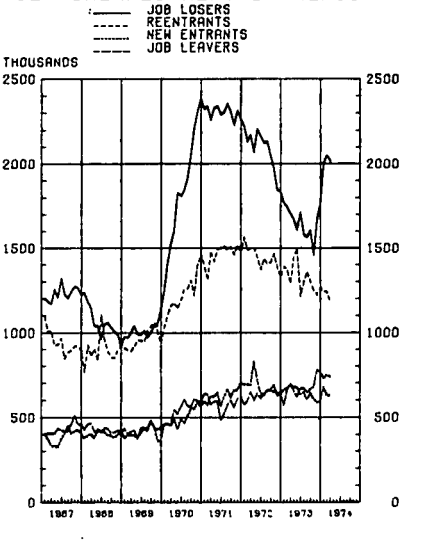
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

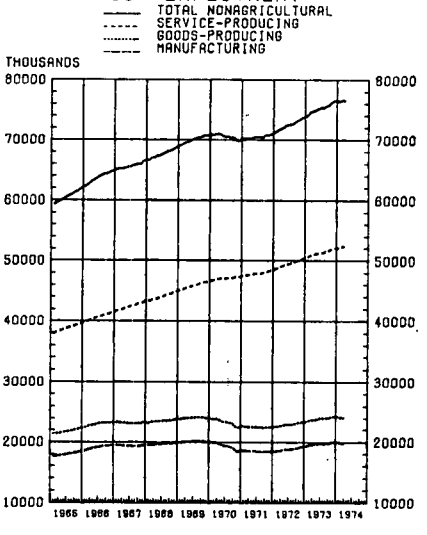


12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON

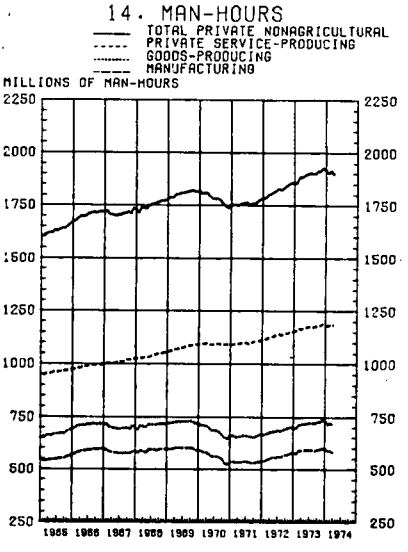


NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS
ESTABLISHMENT DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

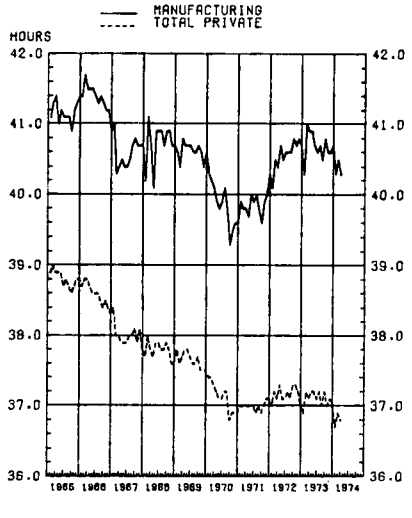
13. EMPLOYMENT



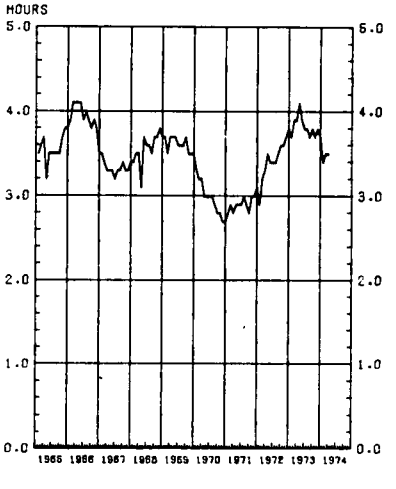
14. MAN-HOURS



15. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



16. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS IN MANUFACTURING



NOTE: Charts 14 and 15 relate to production or nonsupervisory workers; chart 16 relates to production workers. Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary in charts 13-16.

Mr. SHISKIN. This release indicates that employment and unemployment were essentially unchanged between February and March.

I'd also want to take this opportunity to report on a special study of the impact of the energy shortages on employment. This study is based on a special analysis of the 172 private nonagricultural industries covered in the BLS monthly survey of employment, payrolls, and hours. The 172 industries were divided into two groups —those classified as likely to have experienced negative effects of energy shortages and those likely to have felt minimal, if any, adverse effects of the shortages. A total of 44 industries, representing 35 percent of private nonagricultural employment, were placed in the energy-critical group and 128 industries, representing 65 percent of employment, in the other.

On the assumption that November 1973 represented a possible employment peak, developments during the 4 months following November were compared with the 4–month periods following the peaks of 1960 and 1970 which preceded extended employment declines and periods labeled as recessions.

A comparison of these periods shows clearly that the current employment decline is not so severe as in 1960 or 1970. Private nonagricultural employment declined only 0.3 percent during the current period in contrast with 4–month declines of 0.8 percent in 1960 and a 1 percent decline in 1970. The decline in the energy-related industries of 1.7 percent is somewhat greater in magnitude than the earlier declines in those industries. Employment in the other industries increased by 0.4 percent following the hypothetical November 1973 peak, the same as in 1960, and compared to an actual drop of 0.9 percent in 1970.

It is also clear that the recent declines were concentrated in the energy-critical industries. Although 46 percent of all industries have declined in the current period, this is a substantially smaller proportion than declined in the earlier periods. Even among the energy-critical industries, only 52 percent have declined since the hypothetical 1973 peak compared to 67 percent in 1960 and 75 percent in 1970. Current declines among the other industries were less widespread, 44 percent, than even during the very mild slowdown of 1967 when 52 percent of the other industries posted reductions during the 4 months following the employment peak.

Not only have the declines been relatively confined to the energy-related industries; they have also been of short duration, largely beginning since November when energy shortages began to be felt. Declines resulting from a shock to the economy, such as the oil embargo, would be expected to start about the same time, whereas declines due to general economic adjustments tend to start on a small scale and spread. Let us take 3 months before the peaks as our starting points. In 1960 and 1970, 40 percent or more of the energy-related industries had been declining for 7 months or longer, 4 months following the peak. In 1973 only 20 percent of these industries had experienced declines of 7 months or longer, half, or less than half the 1960 and 1970 numbers. This result points out the close relationship between the declines and the energy shortages. Had there been a gen-

ral economic downturn, more of these industries would have already experienced lengthy employment declines.

Finally, of the industries which were down during the 4 months following the 1960 and 1970 peaks, only about half experienced a decline during the current period. This contrasts with the high correspondence between the industries which declined in 1960 and again in 1970.

From these observations it seems reasonable to conclude that the pattern of employment declines occurring since November 1973 does not conform well to our historical experience with periods of negative or slow employment growth. Rather, the employment and unemployment problems being encountered today are principally of a special nature related to the energy shortages.

This conclusion should not be taken to minimize the problems of the industries adversely affected by energy shortages nor the problems of those who are unemployed because of it. This conclusion is important, however, because it indicates that a different set of policy actions may be needed to combat the current declines than those which have been traditionally used when early signs of a weakening employment picture appeared.

The tables providing supporting data are attached to my statement.

I am now ready to answer your questions about the employment situation and other BLS data.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you very much, Mr. Shiskin.

This is a very useful analysis that you have.

[The attached tables referred to above follow:]

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT DECLINES—1960 AND 1970 RECESSIONS, 1967 SLOWDOWN AND CURRENT PERIOD

TABLE 1.—PERCENT CHANGE IN PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT FROM EMPLOYMENT PEAK TO 4 MONTHS FOLLOWING PEAK

Industries	Peak date			
	4/60	1/67	3/70	[1] 11/73
All industries	−0.8	0.2	−1.0	−0.3
Energy related	−1.5	−0.5	−1.5	−1.7
All others	.4	.5	−0.9	.4

[1] Hypothetical peak.

TABLE 2.—PERCENT OF INDUSTRIES BELOW THEIR LEVEL AT THE PEAK, 4 MONTHS FOLLOWING THE PEAK

Industries	Peak date			
	4/60	1/67	3/70	[1] 11/73
All industries	66.9	53.5	76.7	46.5
Energy related	67.4	56.8	75.0	52.3
All others	66.7	52.3	77.3	44.5

[1] Hypothetical peak.

TABLE 3.—PERCENT OF INDUSTRIES SHOWING DECLINES OF AT LEAST 7 MONTHS IN LENGTH, 4 MONTHS AFTER THE PEAK

Industries	Peak date			
	4/60	1/67	3/70	[1] 11/73
All industries	31.3	26.2	50.0	19.8
Energy related	39.5	34.1	45.5	20.5
All others	28.3	23.4	51.6	19.5

[1] Hypothetical peak.

TABLE 4.—CONFORMANCE AMONG BUSINESS CYCLE PERIODS OF INDUSTRIES POSTING DECLINES BETWEEN THE PEAK AND 4 MONTHS LATER

Comparison peak base	Base peak date			
	4/60	1/67	3/70	[1] 11/73
4/60	100.0	84.1	73.6	79.1
1/67	67.9	100.0	60.8	67.5
3/70	86.2	87.5	100.0	81.3
11/73[1]	53.7	58.7	48.9	100.0

[1] Hypothetical peak.

Note: A given entry is the percentage of industries which declined in the column period which also declined in the row period.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Looking at the table in the press release, I wonder if we can very quickly run down the list of employment and unemployment on page 2.

Mr. SHISKIN. Are you talking——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Where you have the changes in table A[1] and, you have the unemployment rates. Do any of these rates constitute, in your view, a significant change or would you say that they are all so slight, that they can't be regarded as significant except possibly the first column?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I thing they reflect essentially no change in our situation.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Would that apply to all of them?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I notice there is only one that goes the wrong way and that is the black workers, Negroes, and other minorities. That goes from 9.2 and 9.4 and it is as bad as it has been any time in the tables.

Mr. SHISKIN. You and I have had this kind of conversation at an earlier hearing in which I emphasized what I consider to be "economic significance." In the context of this particular question, the sample for black unemployed, as you know, is very small. Therefore I come back to my original observation, which is that I think that we have here an essentially unchanged situation.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You talked about the—you put great emphasis in your statement and properly so, in relating the unemployment situation to the energy problem.

Mr. SHISKIN. In the statement I just read.

[1] See table A, p. 80.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes, that is right. Now, does this—is it true that there has been a general somewhat longer range decline in employment or, rather, increase in unemployment in the manufacturing sector?

Mr. SHISKIN. I think there is a little evidence here that a minor adjustment might have started just before the oil embargo, but it really amounts to very little, because as you can see, even when the impact of the energy shortages is taken into account, we still have a decline which is smaller and less widespread than those that preceded earlier recession periods.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Would it be fair or wouldn't you go this far to say that if you take the energy situation out of the picture, that unemployment would be at about the same level as it was before we started the decline in October?

Mr. SHISKIN. I would like to put it this way, that by far the major reason for the rise in unemployment and declines in employment that have taken place in certain industries are due to the energy shortages.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then there are several problems involved that could worsen the situation. One is that the effect that prices are going to continue to be higher for gasoline, for fuel oil. Prices are going to be high for industry which they have to pass on to consumers. We are going to have to pay a very high price indeed.

Some people have calculated as high as the equivalent of a 15 percent surtax on the income tax. This kind of a transfer on income, much of which won't go back to the consumer because some is spent overseas, some of it, of course, take a while for corporations, oil companies, et cetera, to reinvest although they eventually will, under these circumstances it seems to be a drain on the availability of the consumer to buy back what he is producing, if you know what I mean.

What policies would you have in mind to meet this problem? What other policies suggested—the policies that would be appropriate under these circumstances different than the policies that we should properly follow.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, as I have said earlier, Senator, I try to stay away from specific economic policy recommendations.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I wouldn't have pressed you if you hadn't mentioned that, but even so I am not asking you to advocate any policies. I am just asking you as an expert what you would say we might consider.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. I think in dealing with recessions, macroeconomic policies—fiscal policy, monetary policy, perhaps incomes policy in certain circumstances are appropriate. Here I think this evidence points to a microeconomic policies. That is, policies directed specifically to the problems arising from the energy shortages.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would take that to mean we should be a little careful about increasing the deficit in spending and perhaps the Federal Government might be careful how they expand or cut it.

One of the most conspicuous areas of the victims of the energy shortage is the automobile industry. One proposal has been, for example, to have some kind of temporary tariff on imports of foreign automobiles. Obviously that would be a micropolicy that might be considered, would it not?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't want to particularly comment——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Again, I am not asking your opinion, whether it is or not. That is debatable, very debatable. I am just asking whether that would be appropriate.

Mr. SHISKIN. I would say the automobile industry has certainly been a serious casualty of the current energy shortage. In fact, my staff put together for me and just made available a few minutes before we took off to come here a very illuminating table, and while we haven't published this, I don't mind citing these figures at this meeting. Let me read a couple of them.

Representative CONABLE. This relates to the auto industry specifically?

Mr. SHISKIN. The auto industry, yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Good.

Mr. SHISKIN. Now, the unemployment rate for the automobile industry by our calculations, and this is seasonally adjusted, ran 2.5 percent in September, 3 percent in October, 1.8 percent in November. The March reading is almost 15 percent.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Fifteen percent?

Mr. SHISKIN. Fourteen point six. So that is a serious——

Chairman PROXMIRE. What was it in November? You say it was 1 percent in November?

Representative CONABLE. One point eight.

Mr. SHISKIN. Let me read them again. I am sort of picking figures.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Those are fascinating.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, in July it was 1.7 percent. I am going back a little bit. In August it was 2.8 percent; September 2.5; October, 3.0; and in November, 1.8 percent. Then it grows very speedily until it is now 14.6 percent in March. That is a very serious problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. A few years ago, as a matter of fact, I recall in 1971 when President Nixon instituted his new economic policies, one of the proposals was to reduce the excise tax on automobiles. That is one of the specific kind of things that I had in mind. I mentioned the tariffs on imports. Not that I am asking you to advocate policies, again, I am just wondering when you say we ought to have policies that are appropriate, you must have had something in mind, and I wondered if you could make any suggestions at all as to what we might consider. Again, not advocating anything.

Representative CONABLE. We could have the Transportation Department buy automobiles the way the Agriculture Department buys beef.

Mr. SHISKIN. A certain Senator has been trying to get the Government to eliminate some of its limousines and I wonder if he wants to reconsider that policy in the light of these figures.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Never.

Mr. SHISKIN. I haven't really——

Chairman PROXMIRE. There are things even more important than buying limousines including getting these fellows out to get a little exercise, walk to work.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, I haven't had time to address myself to that particular problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Okay.

Mr. SHISKIN. You know, we have a very hectic period between the day the wholesale price data come to us and then the day that I arrive here for this hearing because we have two releases to get out—the WPI and the unemployment release.

But let me read you also—I would like to take this opportunity to read you some other figures on the automobile industry.

Employment in the automobile industry reached a peak in July 1973 of 985,000. Let me say again these are seasonally adjusted figures. The March figure is 782,000, a very substantial decline. Hours of work, again, they were 43.8 in July, they are 41.1 today. So the automobile industry has been very seriously hurt.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you tell us how much of the increase in unemployment which I think you say is 535,000, is that right over the last 3 months? Did you use that figure in your table? Something of that kind. It is between 500,000 and 600,000. How much of that increase is because of increased unemployment in the automobile industry?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't have that. We could develop——

Mr. WETZEL. We don't have it in hand at this moment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You don't have it?

Mr. WETZEL. We don't have it in hand but we could develop it.

[The following information was subsequently supplied for the record:]

The increase in auto industry unemployment between November 1973 and March 1974 is estimated to be about 150,000.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you have any breakdown on the increase in unemployment in other categories?

Mr. WETZEL. We can break it down by manufacturing, durable goods, the figures that I have in mind.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you tell us right now what the increase in manufacturing will be?

Mr. WETZEL. Sure. It will take me a few minutes if I can just——

[The following information was subsequently supplied for the record:]

The November-March increase in manufacturing (seasonally adjusted) was 180,000; nearly all (165,000) was in the durable goods industries.

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right. We will move into something else. Do you have any other categories?

Mr. SHISKIN. No; we just singled out automobiles because everyone knows that the automobile has been very, very hurt.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How about the recreation industry?

Mr. SHISKIN. We haven't been able to do that.

Representative CONABLE. Could I ask a couple of questions on the automobile industry?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Suppose while we do this, I wanted to concentrate with you on these statistics, but while we are doing this it might be helpful to have our other witness come up to the table because he is an expert in the industry too. I am sure you wouldn't mind. We would like to have Mr. Leonard Woodcock come up and he will be joined by Mr. Jack Beidler or whoever else you would like to have with you, Mr. Woodcock.

Representative CONABLE. Mr. Shiskin, when you refer to the auto industry, are you referring to the total auto-related industry or just auto manufacturing?

Mr. SHISKIN. Auto manufacturing industry.

Representative CONABLE. So, in fact, if sales are down very substantially, you have a multiplier factor, not just relating to the employment in the production of automobiles, but you have a multiplier factor also affecting those who work out of the automobile agencies and your salesmen and those who service new automobiles and so forth. Is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, we have provided an estimate on the total unemployment due indirectly to the energy shortages of somewhere up to 300,000. So that would include secondary effects that you just—that you have in mind.

Representative CONABLE. Well, in other words, we would have to conclude, if your auto employment—if your auto industry employment is down by 100,000 that this must be a substantial factor in the increase of unemployment nationally.

Mr. SHISKIN. Oh, yes. Oh, yes. That was the implication.

Representative CONABLE. Going far beyond the 100,000 figure.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is right.

Representative CONABLE. Now, let me ask you, has the unemployment in the auto industry gone up in a straight line or has it peaked at this point as far as you can tell, and is starting down? It has seemed to me that there is a great deal of retooling going on in the auto industry that in itself would generate some employment as large auto assembly lines converted to small auto assembly lines, and that we might already see some employment turnaround evident. As you have explained it to us today, we have had only an increase from 1.8 percent in November of last year to 15 percent now. But, in fact, aren't people going back onto the assembly line as the retooling is completed? Admittedly the complete retooling is going to take some time but don't we see some movement towards reemployment at this point?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, let me answer the first part of your question about the straight line first. I didn't read you all the figures, but now let me start reading some of them again, and again let me emphasize that these are seasonally adjusted figures, what they show is in November the unemployment rate in the automobile industry was 1.8 percent. In December it was 4.3 percent; January, 10.5; February, 12.8; and in March, 14.6 percent. So, while it wasn't a straight line, it was a very rapid rise without interruption.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I should think you would be able to tell me what is the basis for those figures. What is the total employment in the auto industry?

Mr. SHISKIN. The total employment in the auto industry in the peak month—in July, seasonally adjusted, was 985,000.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So it is roughly—it goes up and down roughly a million, I take it.

Mr. SHISKIN. Roughly a million.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So if you used the million, then you have 150,000 out of work in the automobile industry.

Mr. SHISKIN. Now——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then, as Congressman Conable pointed out, that is the direct unemployment.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right.

Chairman PROXMIRE. In addition to that, obviously the people who service the automobile industry, and they say there are often two jobs for every one, or something like that, it might be as high as another 300,000. So you can account for a great deal of this unemployment by this one industry.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right. Now let me try to answer your second question about whether there is——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me on this first question ask Mr. Woodcock if he has a differing opinion on this, if he feels that we are underestimating or are about right on the unemployment in the industry.

Mr. WOODCOCK. No, these figures, Mr. Chairman, come very close to what we have been making from our own internal projections. Of course, it is not misleading, but the fact is that the impact of unemployment is severely concentrated in certain areas. In Flint, Mich., for example, where there is normally an employed work force of 60,000, 70,000, 80,000, the unemployment rate in that area is 25 percent because of the kind of cars they were making in their community. You can have other auto centers where the unemployment rate would be quite low. So that the average of 14.6 in March would be very high in some areas and quite low in others.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, Mr. Shiskin, you wanted to——

Mr. SHISKIN. I wanted to make a comment in answer to the second question of Representative Conable, the second question that he asked me, whether there has been any evidence of a turnaround. The March aggregate figures certainly don't show it. However, in connection with the study of 172 industries which I cited earlier, we can see some indication that there is some turnaround in the 172 industries some slight turnaround, but I can't pinpoint it to the auto industry.

What we did in the study is to take 172 industries and compile data on a percentage of them that are declining and there has been some evidence that that has turned around.

Representative CONABLE. Mr. Chairman, may I ask another question and this isn't related to the automobile industry but it is something that we ought to get from Mr. Shiskin before he is through.

You talked about energy-intensive or energy-related cutbacks. Now, is there evidence of severe cutbacks in petroleum-related areas, such as those areas that depend upon feedstocks, on plastics generally which indicate that they have not given a high enough priority to this aspect of the petroleum shortage and therefore could you broaden your statement to include that type of impact beyond the use of petroleum for energy?

Mr. SHISKIN. Here is the kind of information we were able to release last March. Now, we haven't been able to bring this particular table up to date in the few hours we had between the time we got it and this moment, but we shall do so within the next few days.

We reported that as a result of the direct loss of energy to companies, employment declined by somewhere between 125,000 to 200,-

000 people. This was the direct result because people did not—companies did not have enough oil and power to run——

Representative CONABLE. Their machines.

Mr. SHISKIN [continuing]. Their machines. Okay, 125,000 to 200,000. We had to make quite a broad range because, as you recall, Senator Proxmire, we made a telephone survey a little more than a month ago.

Chairman PROXMIRE. This is precisely what the policies of the Federal Energy Office were designed to prevent. They said the automobile driver would just have to take it on the chin but they would do their best to prevent any loss of jobs because of the lack of oil.

Mr. SHISKIN. We had a very small sample in the telephone survey we made to check up on the figures we have gotten through the mails, the more comprehensive survey of employment, payrolls, and house. The figure we came out with in that sample survey was 125,000 to 200,000 between November 1973 and February 1974. Now, we haven't brought that up to date yet.

Now, in addition, there was a decline of about 300,000 in other industries.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Three hundred thousand?

Mr. SHISKIN. Three hundred thousand in other industries where there was a secondary effect.

Now, a lot of that is automobiles. But some of it is the industries you also mentioned.

I want to take this opportunity to make a point though that I made last month and I want to continually emphasize, that at the same time these declines were taking place, in these various industries, we had a strong rise in employment in other industries, the net result of which has been to keep total employment about stable. So I think as I said last month, it is a very, very encouraging aspect of recent developments that despite this big shock to the economy and this big loss of employment, the economy was able to maintain a total level of employment through growth in other industries.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let's take an example of that and see how it worked out. Certainly one of the great suppliers of the automobile industry is steel, and yet we know steel has been going at breakneck speed, operating at the highest capacity they have had except in wartime and yet at the same time I note there have been declines in employment in primary and fabricated metals and in electrical equipment and so forth. Declines in employment in those areas.

Now, is this because of the automobile industry's secondary effects?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't know enough about the individual industries. I haven't had a chance to study them to be able to answer that kind of a question.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Could you tell us——

Mr. WETZEL. We can't identify individual industries in this particular grouping in such a fashion that it makes it possible to say it with absolute confidence but the pluses and minuses in there appear to reflect the auto industry imbalance. Thus, we would infer that much of the decline was in those firms that are important suppliers to the auto industry.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would like to ask Mr. Woodcock to comment on this if he would, part of the automobile industry's problem, isn't

it that up until the last quarter, it was a banner year, an extraordinary year, one of the best years in the auto industry and there has been a tendency to be somewhat cyclical in this industry with perhaps there sometimes being a little overselling sometimes and then you pay the price with less production and less employment in following years? Wasn't there before the energy shortage anticipated to be some reduction in production and employment in the automobile industry from 1974 or not?

Mr. WOODCOCK. Yes. The last 3 years, Mr. Chairman, we sold 32½ million vehicles in the United States, imports and domestics, which is about one-third of all the cars on the road, so we have the most modern fleet in terms of age that we have had since the 1950's and we sold 1½ million units above the long-term trend line in the year 1973 alone. So there would have been some softening in the market.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You have a combination in which the energy shortage undoubtedly worsened it but you have something perhaps of an easing off in the very high sales that you had before.

Now, let me—unless Congressman Conable would like to question on something else, I would like to move into this area which I think is of enormous importance and one which is highly controversial. It concerns a lot of us.

We had reports in the newspapers, we have had some indications previously from you, Mr. Shiskin, that you intend to consider the possibility of some very far-reaching changes in the Consumer Price Index. As you know, this is likely to have a profound effect on the economy and that effect may be even greater by the time you make the change because the escalator factors that are being put into wage contracts, being put into rental contracts, being put into marriage, not marriage but alimony contracts [laughter] almost everything and the statistics that you provide are going to be of the greatest importance.

What assurance can you give us to begin with that this change will be made to make the index more comprehensive, fairer, more reflective of the actual impact that the rising cost of living has on the typical family in this country?

Mr. SHISKIN. The present CPI covers less than 50 percent of the population. The change we intend to make would extend that to almost 80 percent of the population. So it involves a very substantial increase in coverage. Therefore, it would be a broader based index. So it would come closer to representing what takes place in inflation throughout the whole country.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why does it only affect 50 percent or 55 percent?

Mr. SHISKIN. Fifty five percent of the urban population and less than 50 percent of the total population. Because the definition BLS followed in earlier decades has been a CPI for urban wage earners and clerical worker families and individuals. They represent about 55 percent of the urban population. We would under this plan add a great many other groups.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you tell us what the big ones are? I want to ask Mr. Woodcock, I take it, and I would like him to make that. I thought it would be best to put that in perspective.

Mr. SHISKIN. I wonder if it would be useful for me to make a few general background remarks about the CPI revision program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Fine. Then we will call on Mr. Woodcock to make his statement and then we will get to the general questions.

Mr. SHISKIN. I will try to keep this brief.

The first point I want to make is that the CPI revision program is scheduled for completion in early 1977. Under our present schedule, there will be no changes made in any definitions in the CPI whatever until April 1977. These would be made in the April 1977 release and based on March 1977 figures. So nothing is going to happen in the CPI between today and April 1977.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why is that? Why do you——

Mr. SHISKIN. Okay. Now, every 10 years or so the Bureau of Labor Statistics has updated and revised the CPI. The goals of the revision, of this revision and earlier ones, were the following. First of all, we will develop a new market basket. Now, obviously, the pattern of purchases, the kinds of things people buy, has changed a great deal over the 10-year period I think that was particularly true this time. So we update the market basket items.

Second, we need new weights to reflect the proportion of expenditurs for food, fuel, medical service, and so on. It is obvious people are spending different percentages of their income on fuel and food today than they were 10 years ago. So we have to update the weights.

And third, we have to update the sample of retail stores, because the pattern of retail sales changes. We have had shifts from central cities to suburbia, and we have shifts back and forth. I am not sure the way it stands now between retail stores and mail order houses. The CPI revision is an awesome operation. It is the biggest statistical operation in Federal government except for the Census of Population.

What I am talking about today will emerge just 3 years from now. So everybody is getting put on 3 years notice.

Okay. You might ask why does it take so long? Well, first of all we had to collect the data on consumer expenditures. Over the past 2 years, 1972 and 1973, the Bureau of Census on contract from us has been conducting a consumer expenditure survey. They have gone to a sample of 17,000 households and they have asked what they buy. And in very great detail. In addition, they have asked another sample of households to keep diaries for 2-week periods so we could nail down the smaller items.

This is a very big statistical operation. We asked the Census Bureau to do it because the census had just completed the census of population in 1970. They had a field organization all set. When I was in OMB, Geoffrey Moore and I talked a lot about this and it seemed to be a better way to do it.

So that job is just ending now, the collection phase is coming to an end.

The Census Bureau is now putting together some tapes for us. They are processing the data they have collected. We expect to get the tapes in October of this year.

Now, after we have the tapes, we still have many large scale activities to carry out. One is that we will have to select the items that we

are going to put in our sample—we won't put every item covered in our market basket. We don't cover in the ongoing CPI every single item that people buy. We have a sample of items. So, we have to select that sample.

The next thing we have to do is to take a sample of retail stores. In this whole operation so far we haven't dealt with retail stores. So we have to go back to the consumers and we have to ask where they buy their things and we are taking, a small sample of households for this purpose.

Finally, and this is probably going to turn out to be the biggest headache of all, we have to develop a new computer system to process all these data. Now, computer systems have tremendous advantages. I have profited greatly from them in my work. However, sometimes they sort of lock you in. You can't keep changing things when you are writing a big computer program. Therefore, we have to decide a lot of things early. There was a gap of about 8 months, you know, between Geoffrey Moore's resignation and my appointment, and that was a very troublesome period for BLS because many decisions had to be deferred. Then many decisions had to be made very quickly once I came on board. But I believe if Mr. Moore had been around longer he would have announced this decision, not I, the one we are talking about because he recommended to me that I do that, just as the BLS staff also did.

I want to make one or two other comments along this line. I have read the hearings of the Appropriations Committees for BLS. There have been very strong complaints because of the great rise in the cost of this survey. The costs of this survey started, you know, I hear such a small figure, I am ashamed to mention it. It would be rounded out in the present figures, almost, but we are now up to $38.7 million in 1973 dollars. Furthermore, the survey is now 18 months behind the original schedule. So there are some very serious financial and operating problems in completing the survey. The Appropriations Committees take a very dim view of the increase in costs and the delay in results. At least that is what I infer from the earlier hearings on this project which I have read.

For these reasons I told my staff as soon as I came on board that they would have to live with that $38.7 million and that I don't want any more delays in the time schedule.

Okay, now to come to your immediate questions. There has been a tremendous increase in the uses of CPI as an escalator in recent years. We are able to identify close to 50 million people now using the CPI as an escalator, and this excludes a great many other groups that are using it today that we can't quantify. Recently when I was in Dallas, I talked to a realtor who told me that there are at least 5,000 real estate contracts in Dallas alone that are tied to the CPI. I then went on to Miami and I visited with a vice president of one of the biggest savings and loan associations and he said they won't make a contract without a CPI escalator. He said that their standard contract has imprinted in it—they don't even write it extra—but——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mortgages?

Mr. SHISKIN. Mortgages, loans of all kinds.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Tied to the CPI?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes; you would be amazed, Mr. Chairman, what is tied to the CPI's these days. Anybody who is worrying about getting hurt by rising prices is tying to the CPI. Child support arrangements, alimony, and so forth, are all tied to CPI.

In the light of this it seems to me we have to have a CPI which takes into account these many other uses of the CPI, to say nothing about the greater role of the CPI as the most comprehensive monthly measure of inflation. If I had all the time in the world and more money I would have no objection to having more CPI's. There are problems there but we don't object to having additional CPI's. If funds and time arrangements were made, we would be most happy to provide them. We are in the service business. We are in the business of providing data and we will provide the data that the Congress and the administration think are appropriate.

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right. Now, let's have Mr. Woodcock's opening statement and then we will go ahead with the questioning.

STATEMENT OF LEONARD WOODCOCK, PRESIDENT OF UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE, AND AGRICULTURE IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA, ACCOMPANIED BY TIM NULTY

Mr. WOODCOCK. I would like to identify Tim Nulty who is with me.

This proposal to eliminate consumer price index for urban wage and clerical workers and to replace it with a CPI for all consumers is what we are here to protest. We are not here to protest having the CPI for all consumers.

Trade unions have a vital interest in the CPI as it currently stands. It is absolutely essential for effective, responsible, and rational collective bargaining that there be available a consistent and reliable index reflecting changes in the cost of living actually experienced by working people. The wages of millions of workers covered by escalator clauses are explicitly tied to the existing Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners and clerical workers. The UAW alone has nearly 2,000 contracts covering 1.3 million workers in which the existing CPI is expressly identified.

The entire history of the CPI is geared to this function. Its concept and construction are intended to focus on the cost of living of low- and middle-income working people. We have had nearly 30 years of experience dealing with it; we understand its strengths and weaknesses; we are familiar with its behavior and we know how to incorporate it responsibly into our contracts.

The proposed new index, on the other hand, is a completely different animal. It would make no attempt to focus on low- and middle-income workers but would indiscriminately lump together all consumers, including high-income executives, professionals and self-employed businessmen as well as retirees and the unemployed. In principle we are totally opposed to the abolition of a CPI geared to workers in favor of one geared to nobody. Such an index would not only be useless for analyzing the cost of living for workers, it would also be useless for those groups which are currently excluded—retirees, professionalis, et cetera. These groups would be buried in an all-encompassing average which would reveal nothing about the real expe-

riences of any of them. In practice neither we nor anyone else have any concrete experience as to how this new index would behave. However, there is a presumption that it would record lower rates of inflation than the current CPI, at least if prices continue to behave as they have done in the last decade. This is because items whose prices have generally been rising fastest are precisely those which figure most prominently in the budgets of lower income families. The BLS' own pilot study of how an All-Consumer Index would have behaved over the last 13 years suggests that such an index would have risen less than the existing CPI and would therefore have understated inflation actually experienced by working people. The Consumer Price Index for December 1972, using the same 1960–61 base employed by the BLS' pilot study, stood at 142.8. The BLS' study indicated that an All-Consumer Index for December 1972 would have been 142.4, and we have a table [1] attached to show this.

This difference, while not enormous, would still be worth between 1 cent and 2 cents an hour under most existing contracts—a total of between $80 million and $160 million per year for the 4.3 million workers directly covered by escalator clauses—not to mention the millions more who are indirectly affected. As can be seen from the table the study clearly underlined the well-known fact that the poorer you are the worse inflation has been.

Granted, due to its technical limitations, the BLS pilot study does not constitute hard evidence of how the proposed CPI would have compared with the current CPI. Granted also we have no way of predicting the future course and structure of inflation. Even so, whatever evidence there is gives grounds for concern that the proposed index might climb at a slower pace than the current one, thereby understating the real damage wrought by inflation on the living standards of working people.

The UAW, and the labor movement in general, clearly recognize that there are purposes for which the existing CPI is not suited. Certain macroeconomic analyses require more general indicators along the lines of the proposed All-Consumer Index. Other purposes, for example, setting the appropriate level for social security payments, require more specific measures covering groups currently excluded from the CPI. Such functions are legitimate and we would support the creation of indexes appropriate to them. The proper procedure we suggest would be for the BLS to formulate the case for new indicators, muster support among interested parties and then come to the Congress with a request for the necessary funds and authority. Such indexes would then be compiled and published concurrently with the existing index, such as the CPI whose independent worth and importance have long been established. What we vehemently and bitterly oppose is a unilateral decision within the BLS to abolish one of the most important social indicators currently available in the United States of America in order to provide funds for a new index.

We say "unilateral decisions within the BLS" because we strongly suspect that neither Congress nor the Secretary of Labor have been made fully aware of the magnitude and implications of what is being planned. The secretive way in which the decision was reached within

[1] See table, p. 117.

the BLS both disappoints and disturbs us. Our technicians serving in the BLS Labor Research Advisory Council were given only one opportunity, last November, to discuss this crucial matter. At that time they were led to believe that the current CPI would not be abolished. Other trade union economists came away from a meeting with Commissioner Shiskin in late January with the same impression. Yet in late February we hear, indirectly, that final decision had been taken within the BLS to abolish the current CPI in favor of an All-Consumer Index. This decision it appears had been taken on February 8—not only without consultation with the LRAC but without its members even being informed.

On March 15 a very concerned group of labor economists met with Commissioner Shiskin and officials of the BLS on this matter. The labor group was informed that the decision had not only been taken but had been already approved by Secretary Brennan. The labor group found it difficult to believe that Secretary Brennan would have approved the abolition of an index which is vital to the labor movement—including the contracts of the Secretary's own union—with so little discussion had he been fully apprised of its significance. Commissioner Shiskin assured the labor group that Secretary Brennan was fully informed and offered to show them the memo to Secretary Brennan in which, he said, the matter was laid out in detail. The labor group agreed to see the memo. Since the meeting Commissioner Shiskin has changed his mind and refused to disclose the memo.

We have similar doubts that Congress has been fully advised of the significance of the BLS decision. As late as March 8, in prepared testimony before the House Appropriation Subcommittee, the Commissioner made no reference whatsoever to the replacement of the CPI—surely one of the most important changes ever made in the activities of the BLS—and instead merely remarked that:

> The importance of maintaining the accuracy of the CPI cannot be over emphasized. At present a 1-percent increase in the CPI automatically triggers about $1 billion in wage, pension, and social security payments, and directly affects about 37 million Americans. Further use of the CPI as an escalator has been growing rapidly in recent years. A law recently passed by Congress ties food stamp allotments to the food index component of the CPI.

Let me stress again—what is being proposed under the guise of a normal decennial revision is nothing less than the abolition of the existing Consumer Price Index in favor of a totally different type of index.

Finally, let me remind you that the BLS has been questioned in the recent past as to the integrity and neutrality of its statistics—and not only by the labor movement. As you are no doubt aware, two congressional committees have responded to wide public concern by holding hearings into the possible politicization of Federal statistics. Numerous nonpartisan professional organizations such as the IRRA, the FSUC, ASA, et cetera, have also indicated their concern over the erosion of professional standards in Federal statistics, including those of the BLS, under this administration. In this context, any tampering with the CPI is very likely to be interpreted as an effort by the administration to conceal or minimize price change in a period of rampant inflation. These are times when the stability of our most fundamental institutions reuires a renewed commitment to absolute,

rock-solid integrity by those in positions of responsibility. I trust that this subcommittee will urge the Department of Labor to avoid any steps which could further undermine the credibility of its statistics, of its motives, and ultimately of the very institution of American government.

It is claimed that playing politics with prices is not involved because BLS does not plant to start publishing the revised price index until 1977. This, Mr. Chairman, is the worst set of circumstances. It would mean that the bellwether bargaining in automobile and agricultural implement of 1976, involving more than 800,000 workers, who have been, I want to emphasize, under escalation contracts for more than a quarter of a century, would be carried on in a state of uncertainty, confusion, and lack of credibility. It would place a severe strain on the continuance of the counter-inflationary wage policy of tying together basic wage increases, reflecting the national or social productivity, with a cost-of-living escalator. The same would be true of the 1977 bargaining in can, aluminum, steel, and communications. The relative stability in the industrial sector of recent years would be sorely threatened with resulting damage to the national economy.

We urge Congress to avoid these untoward circumstances and direct the continuance of a tried and true collective bargaining tool, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you, Mr. Woodcock. The table at the end of your statement will be printed in full in the record.

[The table referred to above follows:]

AVERAGE INDEX RELATIVES FOR SELECTED GROUPS OF CONSUMER UNITS BY INCOME CLASS AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS, DECEMBER 1972 (1960–61=100) INCOME CLASS

[In thousands]

Employment class	(1) Less than 1	(2) 1 to 2	(3) 2 to 3	(4) 3 to 4	(5) 4 to 5	(6) 5 to 6	(7) 6 to 7.5	(8) 7.5 to 10	(9) 10 to 15	(10) 15 and above	All consumer units
Unemployed:											
Average index	145.8	144.0	143.5	143.2	142.0	141.9	143.0	141.4	143.5	141.4	143.7
Variance [1]	17.4	11.1	8.7	6.0	4.6	6.4	6.8	7.8	27.9	8.8	11.6
Number of observations	83	162	91	64	32	28	20	18	11	5	5.4
Employed:											
Average index	143.6	143.6	143.3	142.5	142.5	142.1	141.9	141.7	141.3	141.3	142.1
Variance [1]	10.2	10.4	7.2	6.7	5.0	4.2	3.9	3.4	3.1	4.7	4.9
Number of observations	43	236	536	745	1,116	1,137	1,503	1,398	741	222	7,677
Retired:											
Average index	145.3	144.7	144.7	143.8	142.7	143.0	142.1	142.3	142.2	141.7	144.0
Variance [1]	17.0	12.2	9.9	9.4	8.5	9.2	6.6	4.6	6.6	8.8	11.3
Number of observations	84	375	266	289	106	80	50	44	29	9	1,232
All consumer units:											
Average index	145.1	144.2	143.7	142.8	142.2	142.1	142.0	141.7	141.4	141.3	142.4
Variance [1]	16.3	11.7	8.5	6.7	5.3	4.6	4.0	3.5	3.6	4.9	6.6
Number of observations	210	773	893	998	1,254	1,245	1,573	1,460	781	236	9,423

[1] The estimated variance of the distribution, and not the estimated variance of the mean.

Note: The December 1972 CPI as currently defined was 142.8 (1960–61=100).

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, August 1973.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, Mr. Shiskin, was a final decision made on February 8 or thereabouts to abandon the present CPI in favor of the so-called All-Consumer, whatever you want to call it, that new system, new Consumer Price Index?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. However, let me just briefly summarize the preceding——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Before you summarize, let me ask you, who made that decision? Was the decision made by the Secretary of Labor?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, let me explain. I can't answer that in a yes or no way.

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right.

Mr. SHISKIN. As I said, when I came on board BLS in August, I was confronted with a great many problems, that had not been resolved because of the transition, because of the gap between the resignation of the previous Commissioner and myself. For one reason or another, there was no Acting Commissioner. So decisions weren't made. I had to make a great many decisions very fast.

What I was told, and I am sure this was true, is that there were many discussions of this problem with inside Government groups and outside groups, prior to my arrival. This was not something new.

Now, also when I got on board, I held meetings with the labor people several times, had lunch several times, and we had formal meetings. They were formal meetings between BLS staff and them. The same thing goes on with business groups. There also are interagency groups. So there were many, many discussions. However, we had to bring this matter to an end because this kind of decision affects all the subsequent processing that I described.

So fairly—I don't remember the exact time—but fairly early in the discussions, I knew the union's position, what the union's position was. I went to see the Secretary and I told him about this problem and I told him that he was likely to get a lot of objections from the union people. What he told me was that I should make the best professional decision I could. And that is what I did.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, now——

Mr. SHISKIN. Subsequently——

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right.

Mr. SHISKIN. Subuseqeuntly, as the period of discussion was drawing to an end, when we were running out of time, I met with various different groups and told them what our decision was. Now, apparently there was some misunderstanding on some points, but we certainly told this subcommittee on March 8, and I told LRAC. I also told the various government agencies where we had come out. Then on February 7 I sent a memo to the Secretary summarizing what had taken place and saying that now we are going to move on this new plan, and that is what we have been doing.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You said you sent a memo to Secretary Brennan?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, on February 7.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Did you indicate you would show that memo, as Mr. Woodcock indicated, and you did not do that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Again, I don't remember my exact words, but the idea I tried to get across was that I could personally see no problem

with it, but I would have to check it out with the Secretary and after consultation with him, the decision was made we shouldn't make it public.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why didn't you inform this subcommittee or did you inform some other committee of the Congress? Did you have any consultation at all with Members of Congress on this?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't believe so, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why not?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well——

Chairman PROXMIRE. It is an enormously important decision. I think Mr. Woodcock and you would agree it is going to have a profound effect on the economy. It seems to me this is insulting to this subcommittee and to the Congress at least not to have had an opportunity to know what was going on before a final decision was made.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, Mr. Chairman, all I can say in response to that is that I had a great many problems to discuss about the CPI before Congress. I testified five times in 6 weeks before Congress on various energy problems, on employment problems, on mandatory reporting, and so on. This was one of the very many great problems——

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is correct, and you did very well.

Mr. SHISKIN. We finally got——

Chairman PROXMIRE. We demanded a great deal of your time and you have always been most responsive to us, but it seems to me that here was perhaps the most important decision that you made. These other consultations are very useful to us and we hope you will continue to give us your advice, but this was decision having the most profound effect and I can't think of any decision you have made since you have been in your position that is nearly this significant. Isn't that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, Mr. Chairman, you know, I think of all the decisions I have made, so many in the last few months, I am not sure this is the most important. Last month the energy questions seemed more important. But it certainly was an important one. You know, I did discuss it. I did raise the question last month and there are 5 pages of text in the transcript of the hearing to confirm that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That was a month after——

Mr. SHISKIN. Right.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The decision had been made finally?

Mr. SHISKIN. Right. But I wanted to be sure to inform you as I was informing many other people. I think this was a transition problem, Mr. Chairman. If I had more time, and I didn't have so many things to learn, I would have certainly discussed this more fully and with additional groups.

Now, you have to bear in mind something——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me ask you, weren't you chief statistician of the Federal Government before you became head of the BLS?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, I was.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Weren't you informed—didn't you know this was going on?

Mr. SHISKIN. I didn't know about this, Senator. I didn't know—at least I didn't know consciously of it until I appeared in BLS

when it was thrust upon me, something very important to be decided fast.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I realize you had a lot of decisions to make in a short time, but after all, you say this isn't going to be implemented until 3 years from now. It seems to me you could have taken a little more time to discuss, to inform the Congress, discuss this with labor, which has an obvious and direct and serious interest in it.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, I have had three or four luncheons with the labor people. I have met with them in my office on several occasions. This came up—we discussed it, so I don't think they were uninformed about it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But the decision was made, as I understood you to say, by Secretary Brennan on your recommendation, is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, Mr. Chairman, no.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If he disagreed with you——

Mr. SHISKIN. I think what Mr. Brennan had——

Chairman PROXMIRE. He turned to you and said he wanted you to make the best professional decision you could, but he could have said no, couldn't he?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It seems to me the Secretary of Labor should have discussed that with the people who were most interested, on whom it would have a profound effect. If he makes a decision preliminary to reviewing it, as I understand that kind of response, it would seem to me it would be strictly a technical matter and you yourself have said you don't make policy, you are not interested in making policy, you don't want to, that you provide the facts and let the policy decisions be made by the people appointed by the President, the cabinet officers.

Mr. SHISKIN. I want to distinguish between economic policy and statistical policy. We make statistical policy decisions.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You told me the Secretary of Labor made this decision.

Mr. SHISKIN. No. Before I took the job at BLS, the Secretary of Labor told me he would let me make the BLS decisions and he has. This one I came to him on because I knew there would be public relations problems, particularly with the groups he had worked with in the past. For this reason I thought it was very important to go to him and inform him early of that potential problem, and I did.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now I want to get into this other area which you suggested which I think, and Mr. Woodcock indicated this could be an acceptable settlement of this situation. How costly would it be and how practical would it be to continue the present Consumer Price Index which serves a tremendously important purpose and which is accepted and on which we have credibility and which we understand and which has a long historic tradition, how costly would it be to maintain and also develop this other so-called All-Consumer effort if you want to do that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, first of all, it would cause a delay in the scheduling.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why?

Mr. SHISKIN. In our estimate 4 to 6 months.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why would there be any delay?

Mr. SHISKIN. Since February we have been moving vigorously and rapidly with this other plan, which involves only one index. We would have to set up a new plan which provides for two indexes. This creates many operational problems. We have to sort of go back and start all over, not all over, but——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I really don't understand that. All I am saying is you maintain your present information that you disseminate and you have that established over the years. It is settled and firm. No change there. You go ahead to develop this other index just as you plan to develop it. You just simply don't drop the present information that you provide, the data that you provide.

Mr. SHISKIN. But we now have to provide for two separate indexes instead of just one, and this would change our operations. I have asked—and now, would you like to know more about this?

Chairman PROXMIRE. It would take 3 more years to do that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, to do it all. We estimate about 4 to 6 months more work to do the job.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You say 4 to 6 months in addition. So it wouldn't be in April of 1977. It would be in the fall of 1977?

Mr. SHISKIN. Now, that very fact——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I take it that your expert, Ms. Norwood, agrees with that. Ms. Norwood?

Mr. SHISKIN. Ms. Norwood, yes. I think the important point, Mr. Chairman, is that the old index, so-called old index would still have to be updated with new weights and items and sample design. We certainly would not want to continue, and I don't believe the unions would want to continue an urban wage earner, and a clerical worker index based on 1960 sampling and expenditure information.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, of course not.

Representative CONABLE. Mr. Chairman, let's ask Mr. Woodcock about that. You don't maintain that the CPI should be continued in exactly the same form that it was, that the weightings might not be improved in relation to changed spending patterns and changed price structures and changed retail outlet patterns, and so forth, do you? Your major objection here is not that we are going to a no-criterion Consumer Price Index but that we are relating it to every group instead of specifically to the group which you are concerned about. If I may say also Mr. Woodcock, you have a problem right within your own union of different levels of employment where you have highly skilled people who work at a higher pay level who have at least from time to time concerned themselves with whether the UAW could effectively represent them because they have different aspirations and different skills and different wage structure than the regularly hourly employees. I am sure you are interested in getting as flexible a criterion here for any escalation arrangement you want to make with management as you can. So isn't it true that you are not objecting to any change? You are objecting to this change because you feel that it is not relevant to your particular representation. Is that right?

Mr. WOODCOCK. We are objecting to the change of the basic nature of the index. Obviously, over time CPI's have been changed to reflect changing conditions and that we can expect, yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It was changed when you went to 1960. It will be changed when you go to 1970. There is no objection to that.

Mr. WOODCOCK. Of course, that is right.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It costs some money to make that change but we have always been willing to provide that. I would like to get from you, Mr. Shiskin, the additional cost. You have given us the time, the time element of 4 to 6 months. How about the cost?

Mr. SHISKIN. Time is money in a sense because if we go on for 4 extra months, we will have to keep more of the people on. We could reschedule to some extent. But there would be some losses, and we think the extra costs would be somewhat over a million dollars. So you have to go from $38.7 million in 1973 dollars to $39.7 or $40 million.

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right. In addition to the two indexes you would have a million dollars of transition costs.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. That is a good way to put it. However, if you want to maintain the index of urban wage earners and clerical workers at the same level of accuracy as at present, we would have to expand the samples, the market basket sample and the retail store sample. We estimate, and this is just sort of a ball-park figure, that the expansion of the samples would cost between $1½ and $2 million each year.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, is this the total cost, $1 million transition cost, and then each year it would be less than $2 million?

Mr. SHISKIN. I would say so.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, I have got as good a track record as anybody in being concerned about excessive spending. It seems to me that is a very modest investment in credible statistics especially when Mr. Woodcock points out even on conservative estimates they figure this would affect $150 million, $180 million on the basis of their present experience, and it could be a great deal more.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, you know this has come again and again and nobody agrees with you more than I. You know, we have very similar pressures for expansions in many other areas of our programs, on the wage statistics, on the wholesale pricing—by the way, the problem I was preoccupied most with in the last 3 or 4 months was getting better data on oil prices, as you know. So we get many demands for additional information, but look at the real world that I live in. I made a study of the recent history of the BLS and what this study tells me is that BLS today has fewer employees than in 1966.

Now, we have just gone through a period of wage-price controls and yet we have had fewer employees on board in BLS in 1973 than we had in 1970.

Now, this is the real world we have to live with. We have an endless number of tremendous demands upon us to improve our data. We have had a 28 percent increase in the last 3 years in the demands just for pieces of information like releases, telephone calls, and yet we have had a decline in employment.

We have had——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes. The decline in employment may or may not be significant. It could depend on what you do with computers, other labor-saving devices. I think you should be financed properly. I think we all agree on that, that it is ridiculous to expect that you can operate in a $304 billion economy by saving $1 million here and there on statistics and in doing so have policies which are based on faulty statistics and inaccuracy, great inequities, and injustices, because we wouldn't get the appropriate statistics unless we spend the money.

Mr. SHISKIN. I agree with that and I made that point both in my previous job at OMB and here.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me ask you this. Say legislation should be introduced to continue the present CPI as well as permitting the new system to go into effect. When would that have to be enacted in order to avoid catastrophe? I take it, one reason you can justify the April 1977 date is that you say this wouldn't be political. It would be done with whoever is President in 1977. And therefore it wouldn't be an effort by this administration to foreclose a decision by a later administration, is that right?

Mr. SHISKIN. I didn't say that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I know you didn't. I am asking you if that is the case.

Mr. SHISKIN. My job is to make the best objective, neutral decisions that I can in this area and in all other areas and I should do that on the basis of the evidence I have without regard to political pressures or pressures from particular pressure groups, and that is what I am going to do. Now it just so happens that under the schedule worked out when I arrived at BLS, the figures were due to be released in April 1977.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, that is all right. What I am trying to find out is what the——

Mr. SHISKIN. OK. I will answer the question.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The limitations on our legislation? If we want to get the legislation through.

Mr. SHISKIN. I will answer your question.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Preserving the BLS's present system so that we can have more credibility and reliability and negotiation with escalator clauses, when would that legislation, should it be enacted—should that be enacted this year? Would next year be——

Mr. SHISKIN. The sooner the better. That is, the longer we delay in this, the more it is going to cost to reverse our procedures.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You have the money——

Mr. SHISKIN. I would rather——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Would you oppose legislation of that kind?

Mr. SHISKIN. No sir. No sir. I don't oppose it. Perhaps there could be some agreement between the appropriate members of Congress and the administration and we could start reversing our tracks right away. That would require a commitment for more money to BLS, and, let me emphasize money alone doesn't do me too much good. I need to have the people. I don't know how to do the work at BLS without human beings to work the computers, and so forth.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You don't say you can't hire them.

Mr. SHISKIN. I have a personnel ceiling. I can't go above the personnel ceiling.

Chairman PROXMIRE. One of the provisions of the law, we would have to permit you to go above the ceiling. You are not saying there aren't people available to be hired if you can go above the ceiling.

Mr. SHISKIN. No. No. I have a personnel ceiling I have to adhere to. If we can get the ceiling raised and also some sort of agreement, then we can go ahead. Also, I would have to have some sort of a statement that deferring the CPI release for additional months is acceptable.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let's put all this together in writing, Mr. Shiskin. Will you for the record provide us with precisely what is needed in terms of the ceiling change, in terms of the funds that are needed, to be authorized, and in addition to make this——

Mr. SHISKIN. To make this change.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And other necessary changes that you feel are necessary or desirable.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right. May I take this opportunity to mention one very closely related matter. I don't think this is the right way to revise the CPI.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What is the right way?

Mr. SHISKIN. The way we are doing it is not right.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The way you are doing it?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. You may be interested to know that this was the subject of a very lively discussion at the hearing of our House Appropriations Committee and Representative Michel apparently shares my view. I think we should change it in the future—we can't do it now, I want to emphasize. It is too late. We should abandon not the urban wage earner and clerical index but the method of doing this. We should have an on-going quarterly method, we should have an on-going quarterly survey of consumers expenditures.

We then should phase in over the decade, maybe more than once, say twice over the decade, a new set of weights for consumer expenditures and new samples of items.

We proposed this last year to the administration, to OMB, and they accepted the proposal in principle. We now have $100,000 in planning funds in our budget before Congress. If we get that money we will plan this survey and get it going, if we get the funds, in 1976. That will provide us with a much more flexible program.

Given the right amount of funds, future Commissioners of BLS—I don't expect to be around when this has all come to a happy fruition—will be able to provide not only the kind of information that Mr. Woodcock seeks, which I think is perfectly reasonable for him to do so, but also you could have an index, for example, of prices for the aged or other groups. Now, this raises a whole new area of questions and issues, but I think that direction is the one to go and I wanted to get it into this record.

Representative CONABLE. Mr. Shiskin, isn't there some argument in favor of stability, though, in these indexes? You are suggesting a very flexible approach which might be statistically more desirable, because it would take into account a changing economy, but look at it from Mr. Woodcock's point of view. He wants to know what elements are

going to be in there and so do the employers that he is dealing with—so that they can anticipate what the contract actually is. You could change the impact on the UAW's contracts dramatically by changing the elements that were put into it if you had total flexibility, and wouldn't that make the BLS very much subject to political pressures, depending on who controlled the administration at a given time?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, this requires me to explain in little more detail. At the present time our weights for the CPI revision will be based on 2 years of data, 1972 and 1973. These are the years covered by the survey of consumer expenditures. So we have 2 years' quarterly data.

Now, this alternative proposal would involve a continuous survey so you could take a longer period. Now, just take a look at these 2 years. They were 2 years of very radical changes. We had a rapid increase in food prices and fuel prices, so we had shifts in expenditures. So what we would do in this new plan is take a larger number of years perhaps 3 or 4.

So far as the changes in the market basket and the retail stores, these changes would be made once in 5 years, instead of once in 10 years because of the rapidly changing nature of the American economy.

Now, we announced that well in advance, though, and the groups involved, you see, would have plenty of time to adjust to it. Today we are using the pattern of consumer expenditures that was revealed in 1960 and 1961. And that is just too long ago. So we are thinking of a change every 5 years.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me ask Mr. Woodcock, I don't know if you buy this proposal. It sounds all right. There is another alternative, too. I presume we might consider the possibility of trying to pass legislation that would prohibit money to be spent on this new proposal until they have assured us that they will continue the present CPI. Do you have any feeling, Mr. Woodcock, on how it would be best to proceed? I think that many members of our Congress would support your position, the position you have expressed with considerable vigor this morning, that we shouldn't just abandon the present CPI system in view of the difficulties that you point out if we do so.

Mr. WOODCOCK. Mr. Chairman, we are not here today just being stubborn, but we——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I understand.

Mr. WOODCOCK. This is a question of credibility and I am talking now about credibility within our own organization.

Back in 1948 it was General Motors Corp. that proposed the kind of wage system that we live under now and when we accepted that, the UAW workers in Chrysler and in Ford and what was then Nash Kelvinator, they wanted no part of it. They were absolutely opposed to having their wages tied into any Government statistical arrangement. And Walter Reuther at that time was under severe criticism within the labor movement because of what John Lewis at that time called the Fancy Dan economics.

Then when we hit the inflationary period of the Korean war, in 1951, 1952, in UAW, at least, they moved into Ford, Chrysler, and

all the rest. You know, I am the establishment in our union to our members and we have to have credibility in their minds. If they think there is monkeying with the business, we get into a very severe situation.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the strike against the General Motors Corp. in 1970 which cost this economy a great deal in lost taxes and many other things, and cost our union $160 million, was over essentially the question of the cost of living escalator. So this is something which is extremely important to our people.

I would not want to advocate the position that certainly you make it clear we want the CPI to exist on the question of doing it less than on a 10-year basis. I heard about that for the first time today. Mr. Nulty tells me that we have heard about it. We have some reservations. So I would not like to express anything further with regard to that.

I do not want to advocate that there sould not be the more comprehensive statistical measurement because, as we say, we need it and we would like to see the Bureau of Labor Statistics' operation beefed up. When we have this complex and huge economy of ours and we can't spend the necessary funds on getting accurate statistical information, we are being extremely short sighted as a government. So we are not here opposing the new index. We are simply here urging that the one that we are used to and our people have gotten to learn to live with overtime be maintained.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, you pointed out the profound effect this could have on you in 1976. Do you say if the change is going to come in 1977, and you are not going to have the present Consumer Price Index after 1976, then your negotiations are very complicated and reliance on the escalator would be in jeopardy, maybe. If the way you negotiate under these circumstances—we are going to have a change in CPI—it would be very difficult. Therefore I presume that you would feel it important also that Congress settle this promptly, if we can, and if we can get cooperation with the Administration—Mr. Shiskin has been very helpful in that regard this morning saying he has no objection to having both indexes. You would like to see that also accomplished as soon as we can do it, is that right, this year if we can? If we can have it settled this year?

Mr. WOODCOCK. We certainly would.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, I just want to call to everyone's attention that if we follow the alternative plan suggested by Mr. Woodcock, which, let me emphasize, I would welcome if we get the money and the time——

Mr. WOODCOCK. And the manpower?

Mr. SHISKIN. And the manpower. There would be three indexes in 1976, not just two.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The one——

Mr. SHISKIN. There will be three indexes in the mill in 1976.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Three consumer prices indexes.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right. There will be the one that we are publishing today, which will continue to be published, for a year. Let me explain. The one we are publishing today will be published through March 1977.

Chairman PROXMIRE. By the one we are publishing today, you mean the one with the 1960 basis, etc.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. That will be published through March 1977. Now, starting in March 1976 we are planning to start compiling the broader index. So we would have a year's experience with it before we phase out the older one.

Now, I know from experience that the first time we run a comprehensive survey like that, we are bound to run into problems. So we are allowing a year to debug it and to get new seasonal factors where we need them. Thus, we expect to have the first compilation under this scheduling in March 1976.

Now, under this plan where we add the second index, we would then have a new urban wage earner and clerical earner index with new weights, instead of the 1960 weights. And we would have the broader one, with new weights, and the present one with old weights. Thus, there will be in the BLS three different indexes at that time.

Now, I just want to call that to your attention.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is only for a very short time until you move——

Mr. SHISKIN. For a year. Then we would phase out this one that we have today and then if Mr. Woodcock's plan prevails, then we would starting publishing two new ones.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me see if I can put one other possibility to rest. We will be told maybe when we advance this legislation, everybody will want their own consumer price index. It will be hopelessly complicated and confused and expensive. As I understand it, that is not the case. That is the only substantial request of any real significance or standing.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, Senator, we all know that nothing is as simple as it appears on the surface. For one thing, there has been a lot of talk about an index for the aged. I don't know what is going to come of that, but that could be a real problem. But, you know, even without that we are not in a simple world because what are we going to do about the city indexes? Very recently the transit workers in New York settled a strike which tied their wages to the CPI index for New York City.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We have those now and they are fine. They are useful and they are different. Of course, the cost of living in Milwaukee is very different than it is in New York and very different than it is in, say, Miami, Florida.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, this is a rhetorical question. Are we going to——

Chairman PROXMIRE. For many reasons.

Mr. SHISKIN. Are we going to have two different indexes for each city, one for the broad coverage and one for the urban wage earners and the clerical workers? This raises questions about the size of the sample. Again, I am not against that in principle either, but if you are going to have two reliable indexes for New York City instead of one, you are going to have to have bigger samples. It is going to cost money and people. That is New York City, but let's take one of our smaller areas, like Miami. You need to beef it up a lot there. So you get into a new dimension of problems when you have two indexes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We are asking—I think we should try to keep it simple, as simple as we can. Not complicated. We want to have the one we have now and if in addition you want to provide this all consumer index, O.K.

Mr. SHISKIN. I am not against what you are suggesting. I just want to point out the problems. We have today an urban wage earner and clerical worker index for 23 cities. Now, are we going to have that along with the newer one for those cities? That is the question I am raising. You get into another level of the sampling process.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am sorry, and I can't make that decision. I mean, reach a reasonable opinion on that now. I think we have to have—we have to know the cost of it, how much more personnel is required, how many people use it, and so on. We may or may not need that. But my impression is that it might well be worth while because every time I ask the costs on these things and the number of people I find it is relatively small compared to the enormous benefits that you have in having more accurate and more appropriate and just statistics.

Mr. SHISKIN. My answer to that is that BLS will do what the Administration and Congress decide. If resources are made available to us, we do it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. All right. Just one final word. This subcommittee was not informed either formally or informally of this proposed CPI change or the recent abolition of job vacancy statistics. We have, however, been informed of other BLS decisions, such as revision of the State-Local Unemployment Estimation methods.

The Joint Economic Committee has a long standing interest in high quality statistics. The subcommittee of which I am chairman has the responsibility for statistical quality. Frequently we have supported BLS's decision against attack by other groups and have urged increased funding for the BLS.

It seems to me that phone calls from BLS staff wouldn't take much time and to follow it up by a little note just to let us know what you are doing about that so that we are informed. We have a responsibility to the Congress that we can't discharge if we are not told. I think it is insulting when we aren't told something as significant as this very major decision until more than a month after it takes place.

Mr. SHISKIN. We will try to keep the committee better informed but I just want to add I feel in the last few months I really have provided you with a tremendous amount of information.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You have, and we have asked for a lot, but I think in these major changes that are controversial, particularly, we ought to have information before we read about it in the paper a month later.

Mr. SHISKIN. If I knew 3 months ago what I know today, you would have been informed.

I would like to make a comment on the Wholesale Price Index for petroleum products, if I may.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes. I wish you would. That is fine.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I wrote out a page. It will take me a minute and a half to read it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We are very concerned about wholesale prices. They have been alarming. They have been going up and this

latest statistic, particularly in view of the fact that food prices went down last month on the wholesale basis——

Mr. WOODCOCK. Mr. Shiskin, if I might interrupt, could we be excused?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes, indeed.

Representative CONABLE. Just a general economic question first. Mr. Woodcock, I note with great interest your appearance on a Grand Rapids television program a couple of weeks ago on a Sunday in which you stated that you thought we were on the verge of a capital boom. At least, that is the way it was reported in the press and I was particularly interested in this. If anybody has the right to cry the blues at this point it is the auto workers and those related to the auto industry on both sides, and I would just like to know if you were accurately reported, if you do feel that there will be a sharp upturn in the economy this fall. You are reputed to be one of the best economists in the labor industry, what you say is likely to have the weight of some authority behind it, and I am particularly interested in that because, of course, we have a great deal of disagreement about our economy at this point.

Mr. WOODCOCK. I did say in that connection, Mr. Conable, that I was frankly surprised at how well the economy had held up, better than my expectations.

Representative CONABLE. We expected it to bottom out at a much lower point than it apparently has.

Mr. WOODCOCK. Yes. Automobiles, housing, whether housing has turned around or not, next month and the following month will show.

Representative CONABLE. Apparently it started to turn around and then money got tight again.

Mr. WOODCOCK. I did say there were some evidences that we were on the threshhold of a capital goods boom but material shortages and also skilled labor shortages could substantially modify that.

Representative CONABLE. You do expect an upturn to continue, though, during the year despite——

Mr. WOODCOCK. I hope, for one. I am beyond expecting.

Representative CONABLE. And, by a capital goods boom, are you describing what is transpiring in your own industry or are you describing a general condition?

Mr. WOODCOCK. In general. In point of fact——

Representative CONABLE. This has something to do with the pressure on our capital market at this point, quite obviously.

Mr. WOODCOCK. And adjustments to the new energy situation, but in point of fact, Ford and Chrysler have cut back slightly on their previously announced plans. General Motors has changed, but apparently are going to spend what they had previously announced, but the composition of things on which they will spend it has changed.

Representative CONABLE. Is there a great deal of machine tool work going on in the auto industry right now?

Mr. WOODCOCK. There is great pressure on the machine tool industry, particularly with regard——

Representative CONABLE. This is to reflect changeovers, to different types of automobiles?

Mr. WOODCOCK. More in the area of components, particularly powerplants.

Representative CONABLE. I wonder if you don't think, sir, that one of the upshots of this energy crisis will be to create more demand for automobiles, even though they will be of a different type. I know in my own case my wife has a station wagon and we are already thinking that we had better get rid of such a big boat and get something smaller. I am wondering if that attitude won't itself generate a rather strong potential boom, perhaps of a different nature, than we might have if there were not dissatisfaction with the type of model that has been popular over the last couple of years.

Mr. WOODCOCK. Well, we agree that if the industry makes the necessary accommodations to produce more fuel efficient automobiles, that the outlook for the industry after that accommodation is made and if it is made is brighter than it otherwise would have been precisely because there will have been a greater incentive. We accept the fact that fuel problems are going to continue, that there will be a greater incentive for those who have less fuel-efficient cars to begin to trade them in on those which may be more substantially fuel efficient.

Representative CONABLE. But this was not specifically what you were talking about. You were anticipating a general upturn even though the economy did not bottom out as deeply as we expected. You are hoping for a general upturn and did feel that regardless of what happened in the auto industry, the possibility of a capital goods boom was there. Is that right?

Mr. WOODCOCK. Yes, sir.

Representative CONABLE. Thank you.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, Mr. Shiskin, if you would give us your remarks on the Wholesale Price Index on the energy question.

Mr. SHISKIN. I want to make a few short remarks.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you very much, Mr. Woodcock.

Mr. SHISKIN. I want to make a few remarks on the Whole Price Index for Refined Petroleum Products. I thought I would bring you up to date to avoid a repeat of the kind of comments made a few minutes ago on where that stands.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Very good. Go right ahead.

Mr. SHISKIN. I have a brief statement. I might as well read it.

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that during the last 2 months the reporting of petroleum price data by companies has greatly improved, both in coverage and in timeliness. I am confident—but not certain—that in June we will be able to issue an improved index of the wholesale prices of petroleum products based on data from companies rather than from secondary sources. This release will show May 1974 data and also monthly data back to January 1973.

The hearings of this subcommittee have contributed to this improvement. Further, when I put this problem up to the BLS Business Research Advisory Council, the members rolled up their sleeves and went to work on it. They called the oil companies and explained to them the need for reporting to BLS and reporting promptly. At the same time we at BLS intensified our efforts to get better petroleum price data. All this has contributed to what now appears to be a successful effort. I want to thank you, as well as these other groups and the oil companies, for the very great help we have received.

I must call to your attention, in this context, that we have delayed the release of the May and June WPI for a week. These delays have

been scheduled because of additional time needed to process the greater volume of price data and some slowdown in the receipt of data. We shall make every effort over the next few months to speed up this work, so that we can get back to the previous time schedule.

Thank you.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, does that mean that from now on, at least by June, that you will have the oil industry on the same basis as most other industrial statistics that you gather?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That means that we won't rely on Platt's Oilgram.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And on the American Petroleum Institute. You will be getting them directly from the industry itself.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, though I have my fingers crossed.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The same kind of a verification system that you have with the rest of the industry.

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, I have my fingers crossed because part of this is, promises, but I really believe there is a lot of good will now among us all and I think we are going to have success.

Chairman PROXMIRE. This relates to prices.

Mr. SHISKIN. Prices, wholesale prices of petroleum products.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You don't have the responsibility in the other areas like reserves, imports.

Mr. SHISKIN. No, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you have any information about whether the same kind of information will be disclosed to other agencies of government in the areas of imports and production of reserves?

Mr. SHISKIN. No, sir, I don't know what is going on there. We made this intensive effort for price data.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I want to congratulate you. It is very good. It is the area in which I think there is the least credibility and the most concern. It is an area that obviously is going to have the most profound effect on our inflation, what we can do about it, and the policies we adopt, so we think this is a most useful contribution.

Mr. Shiskin, I want to congratulate you on your aggressiveness in being able to secure this kind of data.

Mr. SHISKIN. I want to again thank you for your help.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you, sir.

On this happy note we will adjourn until next month.

[Whereupon, at 12:45 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.]

EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1974

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES AND
ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT OF THE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 11:05 a.m., in room 318, Russell Senate Office Building, Hon. William Proxmire (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Proxmire and Schweiker.

Also present: Loughlin F. McHugh, senior economist; Lucy A. Falcone, Jerry J. Jasinowski, and Courtenay M. Slater, professional staff members; Michael J. Runde, administrative assistant; and George D. Krumbhaar, Jr., minority counsel.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE

Chairman PROXMIRE. The subcommittee will come to order.

Today's unemployment news is good. True unemployment is down only marginally from March. True we can never be satisfied with 4½ million Americans out of work. Five percent unemployment is too high based on our record over the past 15 years, and much too high as compared to the experience of all other developed countries.

But the good news is that we are doing far better than any economists—the pessimists or the optimists—the administration supporters or the administration critics estimated 4 or 5 months ago. For 4 successive months unemployment has been virtually stable. In fact it has actually declined a little since the beginning of the year.

And frankly to me that is surprising as well as pleasing.

Consider: In the first quarter of this year the gross national product suffered a 5.8 percent decline—the biggest drop since 1958. In the first quarter the energy crisis hit with its fullest fury, throwing hundreds of thousands out of work in the automobile industry itself and sharply reducing jobs in related industries and in recreational and other service industries that are highly sensitive to the availability of gasoline.

Consider also that while unemployment did not increase in this first 4-month period of 1974, this was precisely the period when the economists warned us we were most likely to suffer the big layoffs in the economy. Virtually every economic forecast predicted a bad first and second quarter with unemployment rising rather sharply, then stabilizing and perhaps falling off a little toward the end of the year.

For example the Wharton School predicted an average unemployment for the year of 5.65 percent. Otto Eckstein's data resources—up at Harvard—predicted 5.7 percent. The University of Michigan said 5.9 percent and even President Nixon's own Council of Economic Advisors forecast a 5.6 percent unemployment.

In virtually every case the economic slowdown effect of the energy shortage was cited as the reason to expect that January through April would be the period of sharply rising unemployment.

And fortunately—on the basis of the record to date—the economists conformed to their usual pattern and were wrong, badly wrong and not only wrong in predicting the rate of growth of unemployment but wrong in that they universally predicted rising unemployment and unemployment didn't rise at all, it declined.

Certainly this good economic news may be temporary. This month and next month may turn out to be very bad indeed and the forecasts for the year may turn out to be right and only the timing wrong.

But the fact is that we do at long last have good news on the economic front and we should hail it as such.

I hope this good news will be considered very carefully by Members of the Senate when they are asked to vote on a tax but proposal sometime in the next few weeks.

It is now clearer than ever that such a tax cut would be a very foolish action indeed. Our number one problem is now not a recession—for which a tax cut might be logical medicine, but inflation—the worst and most serious inflation that Nation has suffered in more than 20 years.

There's nothing hypothetical or iffy about the inflation. It takes no economic forecasting, no guessing, it is here, and it is the overwhelming economic problem that confronts us.

To cut taxes at a time of the most serious inflation would have been laughed out of Congress at any time in the last 40 years if our number one problem were inflation. It would have been considered as wrong as a tax increase in the depths of a serious depression.

But today it has the most distinguished support not only in the Senate and House in this election year, but among some of the very best economists, men we all admire and respect.

So, I hope there will be a little soul searching by these economists and Congressmen before we vote on the proposed tax reduction so we can avoid a tragic economic policy blunder.

Now, Mr. Shiskin, you have waited patiently through this long statement. Will you proceed with your statement?

STATEMENT OF HON. JULIUS SHISKIN, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY JACK BREGGER, CHIEF, DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS; W. JOHN LAYNG, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS; AND JANET L. NORWOOD, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF DATA ANALYSIS

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator Proxmire, I don't have a prepared statement today. I would like to put the press release "The Employment Situation: April 1974" in the record.[1] I think it speaks for itself.

[1] See press release, beginning on p. 137.

Before going on to introduce Jack Bregger, who is accompanying me, at my right. Mr. Wetzel, who usually accompanies me, is out of the city.

Ms. Norwood and Mr. Layng are right behind me and will support us as well.

While I don't have a prepared statement, Senator, I would be glad to provide you with my interpretation of recent trends.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I wish you would. Yes, indeed, that would be most useful.

Mr. SHISKIN. I want to go back to the year 1961. In that year a mild recession came to an end and an upturn started. And now in 1974 we have had 13 years of expansion with three very minor interruptions. There was a very slight interruption of the expansion in 1962. It lasted 1 month or 2. And there was another very slight one in 1967. And there was a somewhat larger one in 1969. It showed up mostly in the employment and unemployment figures. But that slowdown reached bottom with the General Motors strike. And if we didn't have the General Motors strike as part of that record, it would have been a very marginal recession indeed.

In 1972 and the first part of 1973 we had one of the strongest periods of expansion in American history. Great strength showed up in employment, GNP and many other economic indicators.

So what we see, looking over that stretch of 13 years, is a very, very strong and long period of expansion, with very minor interruptions.

Unemployment reached a trough of 4.6 percent in October 1973. And then it rose to 5.2 percent in January. Over that period from October 1973 to January 1974 there was a rise from 4.6 to 5.2 percent.

As you know, from our earlier hearings, we at BLS have been compiling evidence on the sources of the increase in unemployment and the leveling off of employment in recent months. We have made a study, as you will recall, of 172 industries. We broke them down into "energy critical" and "energy noncritical." And this study indicated to us that the major source, by far, of the rise in unemployment and the slowdown in employment was the shortage of energy.

Unemployment reached the level of 5.2 percent in January. There was no change in February.

If I may, Senator Proxmire, I would like again to come back to a point I have made in previous hearings about "economically significant," which is an expression I use in distinction from "statistically significant"—the fact that there was no change was "economically significant." It indicated that an apparent upward trend had been interrupted. The March and April unemployment figures have confirmed our first tentative judgment. So what I see here is a very significant development in the economic sense, that the rise in unemployment that had been induced primarily by the shortage of energy has come to a halt.

There is some indication that the levels reached in January and February were reduced in March and April. Our statistics say that the change between, let's say, February and April is "statistically significant." It may be. I interpret it that the rise in unemployment has halted.

One minor caveat on the new figures that have come out, and then I will be ready to answer your questions. The caveat is that the survey week this time occurred just before Easter.

This has affected significantly our hours of work figures, because people are inclined to take off in such a week. There is evidence that there was more sick leave, administrative leave, and just leave in general. So the hours figures are off, I think, for that reason.

We have studied the record of 8 previous years where the survey week came just before Easter. The hours figures were affected in all these years, but we see no significant effect on any other figures, as can be seen in the attached table.

[The attached table follows:]

MARCH-APRIL CHANGES IN YEARS WHEN SURVEY WEEK OCCURRED JUST BEFORE EASTER

	Manufacturing hours	Manufacturing overtime	Teenage unemployment rate	Teenage participation rate
April of:				
1949	−0.4	NA	+1.3	−1.5
1952	−.5	NA	−.6	−.2
1954		NA	+.6	−1.6
1960	−.2	−.3	−1.4	+1.8
1963	−.2	−.3	−.3	+.5
1965	−.4	−.5	+.4	+1.2
1968	−.6	−.4	−.9	−.3
1974	−.9	−.8	−1.2	−1.7

Mr. SHISKIN. Thank you. That concludes what I would like to say in opening this discussion.

[The news release referred to in Mr. Shiskin's statement for the record follows:]

NEWS | U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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FOR RELEASE: Transmission Embargo
10:00 A. M. (EDT)
Friday, May 3, 1974

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: APRIL 1974

Employment and unemployment showed little movement from March to April, but unemployment was lower than in January and February, it was announced today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The Nation' s unemployment rate was 5. 0 percent in April; it had been 5. 2 percent in both January and February and 5. 1 percent in March.

Total employment (as measured by the monthly sample survey of households), at 85. 8 million in April, was essentially unchanged from March. Moreover, total employment has been at about this level since October 1973. Nonagricultural payroll jobs (as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments) rose slightly in April and have shown little growth since last fall.

Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons and the unemployment rate showed little change from March to April. (See table A-1.) However, both have receded slightly from the levels of the first 2 months of the year. At 4. 5 million, seasonally adjusted, the level of unemployment was about 200, 000 lower in April than in January and February, although still 430, 000 higher than in October 1973 when joblessness reached a 3-1/2 year low. The unemployment rate, at 5. 0 percent, was not materially different from the 5. 1-percent rate of March but was lower than the 5. 2-percent rates recorded in both January and February. The April figure was equal to the year-ago rate.

The unemployment rate for teenagers declined from 15. 0 percent in March to 13. 8 percent in April. This decrease, which was concentrated among 16 and 17 year-olds, resulted from the net exit from the labor force of a relatively large number of youth. This development was also reflected by a drop in the number of unemployed seeking their first job (table A-5).

Among adult workers, there was little change in unemployment in April (table A-2). However, at 3. 6 percent, the unemployment rate for adult men (20 years and over) has increased substantially from its level in the last few months of 1973

(3.0 percent). The rate for adult women--4.9 percent in April--has shown relatively little movement since the end of the year.

Probably as a reflection of the labor force developments among teenagers, the unemployment rate for part-time workers declined from 8.1 to 7.3 percent from March to April, while the rate for full-time workers held steady at 4.6 percent. Also practically unchanged in April were the jobless rates for household heads and married men, both of which had risen substantially since last fall.

Table A. Highlights of the employment situation (seasonally adjusted data)

Selected categories	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1973				1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
	I	II	III	IV	I			
	(Millions of persons)							
Civilian labor force	87.6	88.5	89.0	89.9	90.5	90.6	90.5	90.3
Total employment	83.2	84.1	84.8	85.7	85.8	85.8	85.9	85.8
Adult men	47.5	47.7	48.1	48.5	48.5	48.5	48.4	48.3
Adult women	28.6	29.2	29.5	29.7	29.7	29.7	29.9	30.1
Teenagers	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.4
Unemployment	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.8	4.6	4.5
	(Percent of labor force)							
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0
Adult men	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6
Adult women	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9
Teenagers	14.7	14.7	14.3	14.3	15.3	15.3	15.0	13.8
White	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5
Negro and other races	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.4	9.2	9.4	8.7
Household heads	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1
Married men	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5
Full-time workers	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.6
State insured	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3
	(Weeks)							
Average duration of unemployment	10.6	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.5	9.6	9.4	9.8
	(Millions of persons)							
Nonfarm payroll employment	74.6	75.3	75.7	76.6	76.7p	76.8	76.8p	76.9p
Goods-producing industries	23.7	24.0	24.2	24.4	24.3p	24.3	24.2p	24.2p
Service-producing industries	50.9	51.3	51.6	52.1	52.4p	52.5	52.6p	52.7p
	(Hours of work)							
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	37.1	37.2	37.1	37.0	36.8p	37.0	36.8p	36.6p
Manufacturing	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.6	40.4p	40.5	40.4p	39.5p
Manufacturing overtime	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6p	3.5	3.6p	2.8p
	(1967=100)							
Hourly Earnings Index, private nonfarm:								
In current dollars	142.7	145.0	147.8	150.4	152.5p	152.5	153.5p	154.6p
In constant dollars	110.8	110.3	110.0	109.3	107.8p	107.6	107.2p	NA

p= preliminary.
N.A.= not available.

SOURCE. Tables A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, and B-4.

The unemployment rate for Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years old, at 5.1 percent, was about the same in April as in the previous 3 months and a year ago. Their rate had been close to 4 percent in the last quarter of 1973. The jobless rate for the declining number of veterans 20 to 24 years old was 9.2 percent in April, well above that of older veterans 25 to 29 (4.5 percent) and 30 to 34 (2.8 percent). It was also higher than that for nonveterans 20 to 24--7.6 percent. Unemployment among younger veterans has remained high largely because most of them have only recently entered the labor market and consequently lack the seniority and experience gained by many of their nonveteran peers. This difference in the incidence of unemployment between veterans and nonveterans disappears for the older age groups. (See table A-2).

The unemployment rate for Negro workers, which had been essentially unchanged since January, edged down from 9.4 to 8.7 percent in April, returning to about its average level for 1973. The rate for white workers, at 4.5 percent, was not significantly changed over the month.

Among the major occupational and industry groups, the jobless situation was little changed in April. The only exceptions were increases in unemployment among nonfarm laborers (from 9.0 to 10.4 percent) and construction workers (from 8.4 to 10.3 percent). Since last fall, there has been a substantial increase in the unemployment rate for blue-collar workers, while the rates for white-collar and service workers have shown relatively little change.

The unemployment rate for workers covered by State unemployment insurance programs held at 3.3 percent in April, following consecutive monthly increases during the December-March period.

The average (mean) duration of unemployment rose slightly--from 9.4 to 9.8 weeks--and was about equal to its year-ago level (table A-4).

Civilian Labor Force and Total Employment

The civilian labor force was 90.3 million in April (seasonally adjusted), not significantly changed from March. (See table A-1.) The labor force has not shown any growth since January, as reduced labor market participation among adult men and teenagers has completely offset the continued expansion among adult women. The number of teenagers in the labor force exhibited a particularly sharp drop from March to April.

Total employment in April, at 85.8 million seasonally adjusted, was also basically unchanged from March. After rising rapidly during the previous 2 years, total employment has, in effect, shown very little growth since last October. This is

attributable to employment weakness among adult men and teenagers, which, in turn, reflects a stagnation in the growth of jobs in the blue-collar and service occupations. (See table A-3.)

The number of persons working part time for economic reasons (those working part time but wanting full-time jobs) decreased 150, 000 in April to 2. 4 million, the second straight monthly decline.

Industry Payroll Employment

Nonfarm payroll employment increased slightly in April to 76. 9 million, seasonally adjusted, following a month of little change (as revised). April gains took place in the service-producing industries, but there was also a rebound in manufacturing employment stemming largely from recalls of auto workers. (See table B-1.)

Employment in the goods-producing sector was essentially unchanged in April, after declining by 90, 000 (as revised) in the previous month. Goods-producing employment has fallen by 240, 000 jobs since December 1973.

The April job situation in the goods industries was marked by offsetting movements. In manufacturing, employment registered its first increase in 5 months, advancing by 75, 000 (seasonally adjusted), all of it in the durable goods industries. The increase resulted mainly from a turn-around in the transportation equipment industry, where 60, 000 workers were added to payrolls. This followed 3 months of heavy employment losses. In contrast to the improvement in the manufacturing picture, there was a decline of 70, 000 jobs in contract construction.

The increase in employment in the service-producing industries was concentrated in State and local government, services, and retail trade. Employment in this sector has risen by more than half a million since last December; State and local government accounted for 200, 000 of this advance.

Hours of Work

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls declined by 0. 2 hour in April to 36. 6 hours (after seasonal adjustment). The workweek curtailment was paced by an 0. 9-hour decrease in manufacturing, with cutbacks widespread in both durable and nondurable goods sectors. Average overtime in manufacturing was also off--by 0. 8 hour. These declines probably resulted in large part from a normal reduction of work schedules in the Friday and Saturday preceding Easter (the week before Easter was the reference week for the April survey). As a result, comparisons with previous periods are difficult to interpret; prior to April, the factory workweek had declined gradually from highs reached in early 1973.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose at a seasonally adjusted rate of 0.2 percent in April. Since April a year ago, hourly earnings have advanced by 6.3 percent. Average weekly earnings fell by 0.3 percent in April, due entirely to the reduced workweek. Since April 1973, weekly earnings have increased by 4.5 percent.

Before adjustment for seasonality, average hourly earnings rose by 1 cent in April to $4.07. (See table B-3.) Since April 1973, hourly earnings have increased by 24 cents. Weekly earnings averaged $147.74 in April, a decrease of 86 cents from March but up $6.41 since April 1973.

The Hourly Earnings Index

The Hourly Earnings Index--earnings adjusted for overtime in manufacturing, seasonality, and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries--was 154.6 (1967 =100) in April, 0.7 percent higher than in March. (See table B-4.) The Index was 7.1 percent above April a year ago. All industries recorded gains over the past 12 months, ranging from 5.4 percent in finance, insurance, and real estate to 9.2 percent in mining. During the 12-month period ended in March, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power declined 2.9 percent.

This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Statistics on payroll employment, hours, and earnings are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A description of the two surveys appears in the BLS publication *Employment and Earnings*.

Table A-1. Employment status of the noninstitutional population

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Apr. 1973	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
TOTAL									
Total noninstitutional population[1]	147,729	150,066	150,283	147,729	149,436	149,656	149,857	150,066	150,283
Total labor force	89,823	91,884	91,736	90,622	92,315	92,801	92,814	92,747	92,556
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	145,380	147,816	148,040	145,380	147,155	147,398	147,599	147,816	148,040
Civilian labor force	87,473	89,633	89,493	88,272	90,033	90,543	90,556	90,496	90,313
Employed	83,299	84,878	85,192	83,854	85,669	85,811	85,803	85,863	85,775
Agriculture	3,295	3,334	3,437	3,356	3,643	3,794	3,852	3,699	3,511
Nonagricultural industries	80,004	81,544	81,756	80,498	82,026	82,017	81,951	82,164	82,264
Unemployed	4,174	4,755	4,301	4,418	4,364	4,732	4,753	4,633	4,538
Unemployment rate	4.8	5.3	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0
Not in labor force	57,906	58,183	58,547	57,108	57,121	56,855	57,043	57,320	57,727
Males, 20 years and over									
Total noninstitutional population[1]	62,623	63,622	63,712	62,623	63,355	63,455	63,536	63,622	63,712
Total labor force	51,111	51,752	51,738	51,254	51,931	52,197	52,139	51,912	51,880
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	60,699	61,801	61,897	60,699	61,510	61,628	61,709	61,801	61,897
Civilian labor force	49,186	49,931	49,924	49,329	50,085	50,371	50,312	50,091	50,065
Employed	47,487	47,962	48,104	47,655	48,559	48,660	48,529	48,379	48,272
Agriculture	2,488	2,503	2,508	2,472	2,569	2,687	2,708	2,646	2,493
Nonagricultural industries	44,999	45,459	45,596	45,183	45,990	45,973	45,821	45,733	45,779
Unemployed	1,699	1,969	1,820	1,674	1,526	1,711	1,783	1,712	1,793
Unemployment rate	3.5	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6
Not in labor force	11,512	11,870	11,973	11,370	11,424	11,258	11,397	11,710	11,832
Females, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	68,997	70,035	70,139	68,997	69,781	69,840	69,937	70,035	70,139
Civilian labor force	30,513	31,650	31,611	30,500	31,169	31,133	31,329	31,498	31,612
Employed	29,146	30,089	30,159	29,036	29,596	29,519	29,722	29,916	30,057
Agriculture	502	493	496	547	595	628	641	613	539
Nonagricultural industries	28,644	29,596	29,666	28,489	29,001	28,891	29,081	29,303	29,518
Unemployed	1,367	1,561	1,452	1,464	1,573	1,614	1,607	1,582	1,555
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.9	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9
Not in labor force	38,484	38,385	38,528	38,497	38,612	38,707	38,608	38,537	38,527
Both sexes, 16-19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	15,684	15,981	16,004	15,684	15,864	15,930	15,952	15,981	16,004
Civilian labor force	7,774	8,052	7,958	8,443	8,779	9,039	8,915	8,907	8,636
Employed	6,666	6,826	6,929	7,163	7,514	7,632	7,552	7,568	7,446
Agriculture	303	338	435	337	479	479	503	440	479
Nonagricultural industries	6,361	6,488	6,494	6,826	7,035	7,153	7,049	7,128	6,967
Unemployed	1,108	1,226	1,029	1,280	1,265	1,407	1,363	1,339	1,190
Unemployment rate	14.2	15.2	12.9	15.2	14.4	15.6	15.3	15.0	13.8
Not in labor force	7,910	7,928	8,046	7,241	7,085	6,891	7,037	7,074	7,368
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	128,796	130,739	130,922	128,796	130,197	130,393	130,555	130,739	130,922
Civilian labor force	77,615	79,483	79,415	78,281	79,704	80,089	80,122	80,163	80,100
Employed	74,298	75,675	75,950	74,792	76,223	76,328	76,354	76,498	76,464
Unemployed	3,316	3,808	3,465	3,489	3,481	3,761	3,768	3,665	3,636
Unemployment rate	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5
Not in labor force	51,181	51,256	51,507	50,515	50,493	50,304	50,433	50,576	50,822
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	16,584	17,077	17,118	16,584	16,958	17,003	17,044	17,077	17,118
Civilian labor force	9,859	10,150	10,078	9,958	10,300	10,499	10,340	10,289	10,168
Employed	9,001	9,203	9,242	9,046	9,412	9,513	9,390	9,323	9,285
Unemployed	858	948	835	912	888	986	950	966	883
Unemployment rate	8.7	9.3	8.3	9.2	8.6	9.4	9.2	9.4	8.7
Not in labor force	6,725	6,927	7,041	6,626	6,658	6,506	6,704	6,788	6,950

[1] Seasonal variations are not present in the population figures; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Data relate to the noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Total noninstitutional population and total labor force include persons in the Armed Forces.

Table A-2. Major unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Selected categories	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	Apr. 1973	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,418	4,538	5.0	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0
Males, 20 years and over	1,674	1,793	3.4	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6
Females, 20 years and over	1,464	1,555	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,280	1,190	15.2	14.4	15.6	15.3	15.0	13.8
White, total	3,489	3,636	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5
Males, 20 years and over	1,364	1,460	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2
Females, 20 years and over	1,143	1,257	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6
Both sexes, 16-19 years	982	919	13.1	12.8	13.7	13.3	12.8	11.9
Negro and other races, total	912	883	9.2	8.6	9.4	9.2	9.4	8.7
Males, 20 years and over	310	333	6.2	4.9	5.8	6.6	6.8	6.5
Females, 20 years and over	301	280	7.5	8.7	9.1	7.9	7.0	6.8
Both sexes, 16-19 years	301	270	32.5	28.7	29.1	29.2	33.8	30.3
Household heads	1,519	1,612	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1
Married men, spouse present	963	981	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5
Full-time workers	3,363	3,592	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6
Part-time workers	1,040	942	8.1	7.5	8.2	8.4	8.1	7.3
Unemployed 15 weeks and over[1]	787	857	.9	.8	.8	.9	.9	.9
State insured[2]	1,572	2,142	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.3
Labor force time lost[3]	--	--	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.7
OCCUPATION[4]								
White-collar workers	1,262	1,218	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	2.8	2.8
Professional and technical	258	282	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.0	1.9	2.2
Managers and administrators, except farm	131	147	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.6
Sales workers	222	186	3.9	4.5	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.3
Clerical workers	651	603	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.0	3.9
Blue-collar workers	1,703	2,021	5.4	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.4
Craft and kindred workers	444	470	3.8	3.2	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.9
Operatives	849	1,060	5.6	5.8	7.0	6.8	7.2	7.1
Nonfarm laborers	410	491	8.7	8.3	8.4	9.3	9.0	10.4
Service workers	709	688	6.0	6.2	5.5	6.1	6.1	5.8
Farm workers	95	86	3.1	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.8	2.7
INDUSTRY[4]								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers[5]	3,162	3,442	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.3
Construction	418	466	9.3	8.2	9.1	7.9	8.4	10.3
Manufacturing	927	1,080	4.4	4.3	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.0
Durable goods	479	637	3.8	3.9	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0
Nondurable goods	448	443	5.1	4.9	5.3	5.7	5.5	5.1
Transportation and public utilities	126	149	2.7	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.8	3.0
Wholesale and retail trade	892	948	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.9
Finance and service industries	780	776	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.4	4.3
Government workers	463	421	3.3	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.9
Agricultural wage and salary workers	106	116	8.0	6.4	6.3	6.7	7.8	8.2
VETERAN STATUS								
Males, Vietnam-era veterans[6]:								
20 to 34 years	288	292	5.5	4.3	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.1
20 to 24 years	143	113	9.0	7.5	10.6	10.0	9.0	9.2
25 to 29 years	119	144	4.3	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.3	4.5
30 to 34 years	26	35	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.8	2.8
Males, nonveterans:								
20 to 34 years	645	775	5.1	4.7	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.8
20 to 24 years	407	455	7.5	6.6	7.2	7.9	7.8	7.6
25 to 29 years	146	184	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.9
30 to 34 years	92	136	2.7	2.1	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.7

[1] Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.
[2] Insured unemployment under State programs; unemployment rate calculated as a percent of average covered employment.
[3] Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.
[4] Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers.
[5] Includes mining, not shown separately.
[6] Vietnam-era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964.

Table A-3. Selected employment indicators

[In thousands]

Selected categories	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Apr. 1973	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
Total employed, 16 years and over	83,299	85,192	83,854	85,669	85,811	85,803	85,863	85,775
Males	51,203	51,927	51,641	52,732	52,910	52,716	52,556	52,370
Females	32,096	33,265	32,213	32,937	32,901	33,087	33,307	33,405
Household heads	49,555	50,864	49,589	50,565	50,807	50,825	50,706	50,738
Married men, spouse present	38,701	38,858	38,807	39,252	39,394	39,268	39,025	38,975
Married women, spouse present	18,974	19,575	18,899	19,334	19,147	19,224	19,349	19,497
OCCUPATION								
White-collar workers	39,859	41,590	39,868	41,138	41,399	41,375	41,743	41,601
Professional and technical	11,634	12,446	11,471	12,030	12,068	12,350	12,260	12,274
Managers and administrators, except farm	8,456	8,883	8,573	9,099	9,186	9,031	8,938	9,009
Sales workers	5,398	5,416	5,427	5,254	5,386	5,408	5,462	5,443
Clerical workers	14,372	14,845	14,397	14,755	14,759	14,586	15,083	14,875
Blue-collar workers	29,362	29,182	29,909	30,101	30,212	29,760	29,773	29,722
Craft and kindred workers	11,057	11,361	11,230	11,357	11,444	11,337	11,603	11,534
Operatives	14,151	13,749	14,379	14,303	14,187	13,990	13,711	13,973
Nonfarm laborers	4,154	4,072	4,300	4,441	4,581	4,433	4,450	4,215
Service workers	11,178	11,353	11,036	11,260	11,098	11,177	11,136	11,212
Farm workers	2,900	3,066	2,954	3,123	3,326	3,380	3,204	3,128
MAJOR INDUSTRY AND CLASS OF WORKER								
Agriculture:								
Wage and salary workers	1,175	1,257	1,214	1,353	1,493	1,469	1,440	1,299
Self-employed workers	1,769	1,758	1,778	1,821	1,887	1,919	1,828	1,767
Unpaid family workers	350	421	379	405	392	429	408	456
Nonagricultural industries:								
Wage and salary workers	74,230	75,710	74,582	76,100	75,984	76,031	76,231	76,054
Private households	1,560	1,440	1,554	1,542	1,438	1,505	1,403	1,434
Government	13,627	14,148	13,526	13,668	13,590	13,844	14,028	14,036
Other	59,044	60,122	59,502	60,890	60,956	60,682	60,800	60,584
Self-employed workers	5,297	5,540	5,391	5,455	5,399	5,458	5,362	5,636
Unpaid family workers	476	506	469	473	466	461	520	498
PERSONS AT WORK [1]								
Nonagricultural industries	76,953	76,720	75,881	77,396	76,801	77,164	76,993	75,696
Full-time schedules	63,564	63,568	63,398	64,038	63,847	63,911	63,984	63,378
Part time for economic reasons	1,928	2,132	2,158	2,562	2,586	2,754	2,540	2,390
Usually work full time	966	1,052	989	1,192	1,213	1,381	1,249	1,078
Usually work part time	962	1,080	1,169	1,370	1,373	1,373	1,291	1,312
Part time for noneconomic reasons	11,461	11,020	10,325	10,796	10,368	10,499	10,469	9,928

[1] Excludes persons "with a job but not at work" during the survey period for such reasons as vacation, illness, or industrial disputes.

Table A-4. Duration of unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Weeks of unemployment	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Apr. 1973	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
Less than 5 weeks	1,878	1,931	2,207	2,308	2,466	2,427	2,464	2,269
5 to 14 weeks	1,274	1,257	1,487	1,270	1,437	1,426	1,388	1,467
15 weeks and over	1,022	1,112	787	740	768	830	815	857
15 to 26 weeks	649	728	467	409	440	505	503	528
27 weeks and over	373	384	320	331	328	325	312	329
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	11.4	11.2	10.0	9.3	9.4	9.6	9.4	9.8
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	45.0	44.9	49.3	53.5	52.8	51.8	52.8	49.4
5 to 14 weeks	30.5	29.2	33.2	29.4	30.8	30.5	29.7	31.9
15 weeks and over	24.5	25.9	17.6	17.1	16.4	17.7	17.5	18.7
15 to 26 weeks	15.5	16.9	10.4	9.5	9.4	10.8	10.8	11.5
27 weeks and over	8.9	8.9	7.1	7.7	7.0	6.9	6.7	7.2

Table A-5. Reasons for unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Apr. 1973	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED								
Lost last job	1,728	2,069	1,677	1,761	2,006	2,052	2,022	2,007
Left last job	615	674	657	765	731	750	739	720
Reentered labor force	1,275	1,110	1,451	1,266	1,252	1,240	1,186	1,263
Seeking first job	556	448	682	593	682	630	632	549
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers	41.4	48.1	37.5	40.2	42.9	43.9	44.2	44.2
Job leavers	14.7	15.7	14.7	17.4	15.6	16.1	16.1	15.9
Reentrants	30.5	25.8	32.5	28.9	26.8	26.5	25.9	27.8
New entrants	13.3	10.4	15.3	13.5	14.6	13.5	13.8	12.1
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE								
Job losers	2.0	2.3	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2
Job leavers	.7	.8	.7	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8
Reentrants	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
New entrants	.6	.5	.8	.7	.8	.7	.7	.6

Table A-6. Unemployment by sex and age

Sex and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Thousands of persons		Percent looking for full-time work						
	Apr. 1973	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1974	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,174	4,301	79.3	5.0	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0
16 to 19 years	1,108	1,029	53.2	15.2	14.4	15.6	15.3	15.0	13.8
16 to 17 years	606	500	31.6	18.8	16.7	19.4	17.9	18.4	15.7
18 to 19 years	501	529	73.3	12.4	12.9	13.3	12.9	12.7	12.5
20 to 24 years	938	968	88.5	8.1	7.7	8.5	8.6	8.1	8.1
25 years and over	2,128	2,304	87.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3
25 to 54 years	1,753	1,919	88.7	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6
55 years and over	376	384	79.2	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.6
Males, 16 years and over	2,286	2,401	83.2	4.4	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
16 to 19 years	587	581	52.3	14.5	13.6	14.1	14.6	14.4	14.0
16 to 17 years	359	306	36.3	19.0	16.3	18.8	18.0	17.6	16.3
18 to 19 years	228	275	70.2	10.8	11.9	11.2	11.6	12.1	12.4
20 to 24 years	528	542	89.7	7.8	6.7	7.9	8.3	7.9	7.8
25 years and over	1,171	1,278	94.5	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.9
25 to 54 years	941	1,051	96.3	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0
55 years and over	230	226	85.4	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.4	2.3
Females, 16 years and over	1,888	1,900	74.4	6.0	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.2	5.9
16 to 19 years	521	448	54.2	16.0	15.4	17.3	16.2	15.8	13.5
16 to 17 years	248	194	24.2	18.5	17.2	20.1	17.8	19.3	14.9
18 to 19 years	273	254	77.2	14.3	14.0	15.6	14.4	13.4	12.6
20 to 24 years	410	426	87.1	8.4	8.9	9.3	9.0	8.4	8.4
25 years and over	957	1,026	77.9	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1
25 to 54 years	811	868	79.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.4
55 years and over	146	158	69.6	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.4	3.0

Table B-1. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

[In thousands]

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Apr. 1973	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974p	Apr. 1974p	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974p	Apr. 1974p
TOTAL	74,861	75,792	76,100	76,678	75,105	76,626	r76,526	76,813	76,785	76,911
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,631	23,708	23,771	23,950	23,906	24,468	24,296	24,317	24,227	24,231
MINING	603	641	643	652	608	646	654	656	656	658
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,442	3,329	3,397	3,513	3,571	3,732	3,636	3,757	3,717	3,644
MANUFACTURING	19,586	19,738	19,731	19,785	19,727	20,090	20,006	19,904	19,854	19,929
Production workers	14,394	14,422	14,418	14,470	14,521	14,771	14,682	14,563	14,528	14,601
DURABLE GOODS	11,498	11,620	11,612	11,684	11,534	11,859	11,774	11,683	11,644	11,722
Production workers	8,452	8,472	8,466	8,542	8,483	8,712	8,624	8,524	8,495	8,574
Ordnance and accessories	193.0	190.2	190.3	187.7	195	190	192	191	192	190
Lumber and wood products	617.6	630.4	633.9	638.1	631	645	645	647	647	652
Furniture and fixtures	514.5	520.7	520.0	521.7	520	527	527	523	523	527
Stone, clay, and glass products	681.6	681.3	687.9	688.2	687	707	704	702	703	694
Primary metal industries	1,297.9	1,328.2	1,325.3	1,332.3	1,288	1,354	1,343	1,331	1,317	1,322
Fabricated metal products	1,439.5	1,445.7	1,442.7	1,446.2	1,448	1,470	1,466	1,454	1,448	1,455
Machinery, except electrical	2,016.3	2,135.3	2,147.2	2,146.7	2,006	2,128	2,133	2,123	2,134	2,136
Electrical equipment	1,958.2	2,036.7	2,022.6	2,031.7	1,970	2,057	2,051	2,043	2,033	2,044
Transportation equipment	1,869.2	1,706.1	1,689.1	1,737.8	1,869	1,827	1,753	1,706	1,681	1,738
Instruments and related products	479.3	518.5	519.0	520.0	481	514	516	521	521	522
Miscellaneous manufacturing	430.7	427.2	434.1	433.3	439	440	444	442	445	442
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,088	8,118	8,119	8,101	8,193	8,231	8,232	8,221	8,210	8,207
Production workers	5,942	5,950	5,952	5,928	6,038	6,059	6,058	6,039	6,033	6,027
Food and kindred products	1,665.4	1,678.0	1,686.8	1,680.8	1,746	1,753	1,754	1,755	1,764	1,762
Tobacco manufactures	68.4	73.3	70.6	69.5	76	75	76	76	77	77
Textile mill products	1,020.5	1,022.1	1,019.0	1,015.9	1,023	1,030	1,029	1,025	1,020	1,018
Apparel and other textile products	1,354.4	1,309.9	1,301.8	1,294.8	1,357	1,321	1,315	1,309	1,293	1,297
Paper and allied products	708.9	723.5	725.1	724.6	712	724	729	729	730	728
Printing and publishing	1,095.4	1,107.9	1,105.2	1,103.4	1,096	1,105	1,106	1,109	1,105	1,105
Chemicals and allied products	1,021.1	1,038.7	1,043.6	1,045.6	1,021	1,042	1,046	1,045	1,046	1,046
Petroleum and coal products	180.8	187.2	186.7	188.1	183	192	193	192	190	190
Rubber and plastics products, nec	677.0	686.6	687.5	684.7	680	693	693	690	690	688
Leather and leather products	295.7	290.7	292.9	293.5	299	296	291	291	295	296
SERVICE-PRODUCING	51,230	52,084	52,329	52,728	51,199	52,158	r52,230	52,496	52,558	52,680
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,559	4,616	4,633	4,636	4,591	4,644	4,684	4,691	4,675	4,669
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	16,088	16,127	16,180	16,398	16,217	16,398	16,417	16,472	16,480	16,518
WHOLESALE TRADE	4,000	4,142	4,141	4,141	4,044	4,152	4,184	4,192	4,183	4,187
RETAIL TRADE	12,088	11,985	12,039	12,257	12,173	12,246	12,233	12,280	12,297	12,331
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	4,019	4,087	4,103	4,120	4,031	4,101	4,109	4,124	4,128	4,132
SERVICES	12,771	13,056	13,143	13,294	12,746	13,128	13,136	13,215	13,236	13,267
GOVERNMENT	13,793	14,198	14,270	14,280	13,614	13,887	r13,884	13,994	14,039	14,094
FEDERAL	2,631	2,659	2,667	2,670	2,628	2,654	r 2,651	2,670	2,675	2,667
STATE AND LOCAL	11,162	11,539	11,603	11,610	10,986	11,233	11,233	11,324	11,364	11,427

p=preliminary.

r = revised.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Apr. 1973	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974[p]	Apr. 1974[p]	Apr. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974[p]	Apr. 1974[p]
TOTAL PRIVATE	36.9	36.6	36.6	36.3	37.2	37.0	36.7	37.0	36.8	36.6
MINING	41.7	42.7	42.5	43.4	41.7	43.3	42.6	43.4	43.0	43.4
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	36.8	36.4	36.8	35.9	37.0	37.2	36.2	37.7	37.2	36.1
MANUFACTURING	40.7	40.1	40.3	39.3	40.9	40.7	40.3	40.5	40.4	39.5
Overtime hours	3.8	3.3	3.4	2.6	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.6	2.8
DURABLE GOODS	41.6	40.7	40.9	39.7	41.8	41.3	40.8	41.1	40.9	39.9
Overtime hours	4.1	3.4	3.6	2.6	4.4	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.7	2.8
Ordnance and accessories	42.0	42.1	43.0	42.0	42.0	42.6	41.9	42.1	42.8	42.0
Lumber and wood products	41.1	40.0	40.3	40.1	41.1	40.9	40.4	40.6	40.4	40.1
Furniture and fixtures	39.8	38.9	39.2	38.4	40.4	39.6	39.8	39.7	39.5	38.9
Stone, clay, and glass products	42.2	41.1	41.5	41.1	42.3	42.2	41.6	41.9	41.7	41.2
Primary metal industries	42.5	41.4	41.7	40.8	42.2	42.4	41.8	41.4	41.5	40.5
Fabricated metal products	41.5	40.7	41.1	39.5	41.8	41.5	41.0	41.2	41.3	39.8
Machinery, except electrical	42.4	42.4	42.7	41.1	42.5	42.9	42.3	42.5	42.4	41.2
Electrical equipment	40.3	39.7	39.9	38.8	40.6	40.1	39.6	40.2	39.9	39.1
Transportation equipment	42.5	40.1	40.3	38.7	43.5	41.0	40.0	40.6	40.3	39.6
Instruments and related products	40.7	40.5	40.5	39.5	40.8	41.0	40.6	40.8	40.5	39.6
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.0	38.7	38.9	37.8	39.0	38.8	38.3	39.0	38.9	37.8
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.5	39.2	39.3	38.6	39.8	39.8	39.6	39.6	39.5	38.9
Overtime hours	3.3	3.1	3.1	2.5	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.7
Food and kindred products	39.5	40.1	40.0	39.2	40.1	40.9	40.8	40.8	40.5	39.8
Tobacco manufactures	38.0	37.7	36.8	37.3	39.2	38.9	39.5	38.8	38.1	38.5
Textile mill products	41.3	40.4	40.3	38.9	41.6	40.8	40.6	40.7	40.4	39.2
Apparel and other textile products	36.0	35.4	35.6	34.7	36.1	35.9	35.2	35.6	35.5	34.8
Paper and allied products	42.6	42.1	42.2	41.6	42.8	42.8	42.8	42.5	42.5	41.8
Printing and publishing	37.8	37.3	37.7	37.1	38.0	37.8	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.3
Chemicals and allied products	42.1	41.8	41.9	42.2	41.9	41.9	41.8	42.0	41.9	42.0
Petroleum and coal products	42.0	41.9	42.3	43.1	41.9	42.7	42.5	42.6	42.9	43.0
Rubber and plastics products, nec	41.3	40.6	40.7	39.1	41.5	41.0	40.6	40.9	40.9	39.3
Leather and leather products	37.5	37.7	37.8	37.1	38.2	37.5	37.2	37.8	38.1	37.8
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.2	40.3	40.3	39.7	40.7	40.4	40.8	40.4	40.5	40.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34.4	33.9	34.0	34.1	34.8	34.5	34.3	34.4	34.3	34.5
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.3	38.7	38.8	38.7	39.5	39.1	39.1	38.9	38.9	38.9
RETAIL TRADE	33.0	32.4	32.4	32.7	33.4	32.9	32.8	33.0	32.9	33.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37.2	37.0	36.9	36.8	37.2	37.2	36.9	37.0	36.9	36.8
SERVICES	34.0	33.9	33.9	33.8	34.1	34.0	34.0	34.1	34.0	33.9

[1] Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.
p=preliminary.

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Apr. 1973	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974[p]	Apr. 1974[p]	Apr. 1973	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1974[p]	Apr. 1974[p]
TOTAL PRIVATE	$3.83	$4.04	$4.06	$4.07	$141.33	$147.86	$148.60	$147.74
Seasonally adjusted	3.84	4.04	4.07	4.08	142.85	149.48	149.78	149.33
MINING	4.60	4.99	4.99	5.05	191.82	213.07	212.08	219.17
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	6.31	6.74	6.75	6.77	232.21	245.34	248.40	243.04
MANUFACTURING	4.01	4.21	4.23	4.24	163.21	168.82	170.47	166.63
DURABLE GOODS	4.26	4.47	4.50	4.49	177.22	181.93	184.05	178.25
Ordnance and accessories	4.18	4.51	4.51	4.52	175.56	189.87	193.93	189.84
Lumber and wood products	3.51	3.73	3.74	3.77	144.26	149.20	150.72	151.18
Furniture and fixtures	3.21	3.39	3.41	3.41	127.76	131.87	133.67	130.94
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.11	4.30	4.33	4.35	173.44	176.73	179.70	178.79
Primary metal industries	4.92	5.25	5.30	5.34	209.10	217.35	221.01	217.87
Fabricated metal products	4.19	4.39	4.43	4.41	173.89	178.67	182.07	174.20
Machinery, except electrical	4.49	4.75	4.78	4.73	190.38	201.40	204.11	194.40
Electrical equipment	3.81	3.97	3.98	3.99	153.54	157.61	158.80	154.81
Transportation equipment	5.00	5.23	5.27	5.23	212.50	209.72	212.38	202.40
Instruments and related products	3.81	4.05	4.07	4.07	155.07	164.03	164.84	160.77
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3.22	3.42	3.42	3.43	125.58	132.35	133.04	129.65
NONDURABLE GOODS	3.63	3.83	3.85	3.87	143.39	150.14	151.31	149.38
Food and kindred products	3.78	4.02	4.04	4.09	149.31	161.20	161.60	160.33
Tobacco manufactures	3.81	3.89	4.01	4.15	144.78	146.65	147.57	154.80
Textile mill products	2.90	3.06	3.07	3.04	119.77	123.62	123.72	118.26
Apparel and other textile products	2.74	2.86	2.87	2.88	98.64	101.24	102.17	99.94
Paper and allied products	4.11	4.31	4.34	4.35	175.09	181.45	183.15	180.96
Printing and publishing	4.63	4.82	4.85	4.86	175.01	179.79	182.85	180.31
Chemicals and allied products	4.40	4.64	4.64	4.67	185.24	193.95	194.42	197.07
Petroleum and coal products	5.22	5.42	5.43	5.52	219.24	227.10	229.69	237.91
Rubber and plastics products, nec	3.76	3.93	3.94	3.91	155.29	159.56	160.36	152.88
Leather and leather products	2.79	2.92	2.94	2.95	104.63	110.08	111.13	109.45
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.96	5.24	5.23	5.27	199.39	211.17	210.77	209.22
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.16	3.36	3.37	3.38	108.70	113.90	114.58	115.26
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.07	4.31	4.33	4.37	159.95	166.80	168.00	169.12
RETAIL TRADE	2.83	2.99	3.01	3.01	93.39	96.88	97.52	98.43
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.59	3.75	3.75	3.76	133.55	138.75	138.38	138.37
SERVICES	3.32	3.53	3.54	3.56	112.88	119.67	120.01	120.33

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
p=preliminary.

Table B-4. Hourly Earnings Index for production or nonsupervisory workers in private nonfarm industries, seasonally adjusted

[1967=100]

Industry	Apr. 1973	Nov. 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar.P 1974	Apr.P 1974	Percent change from	
								Apr. 1973-Apr. 1974	Mar. 1974-Apr. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE NONFARM:									
Current dollars	144.4	150.3	151.3	151.7	152.5	153.5	154.6	7.1	.7
Constant (1967) dollars	110.5	109.1	109.3	108.4	107.6	107.2	NA	1/	2/
MINING	144.0	150.2	152.1	154.2	154.8	155.8	157.3	9.2	.9
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	153.4	160.3	161.2	160.5	162.5	163.6	164.2	7.0	.4
MANUFACTURING	141.1	147.0	147.9	148.5	149.3	150.1	151.5	7.4	.9
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	154.6	160.0	160.2	161.1	162.2	163.0	163.8	6.0	.5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	141.2	146.9	147.9	148.8	149.1	150.1	150.9	6.8	.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	139.1	143.6	145.5	145.2	145.2	145.6	146.7	5.4	.8
SERVICES	144.7	149.9	151.3	152.1	152.9	153.9	155.0	7.1	.7

1 Percent change was -2.9 from March 1973 to March 1974, the latest month available.
2 Percent change was -0.4 from February 1974 to March 1974, the latest month available.

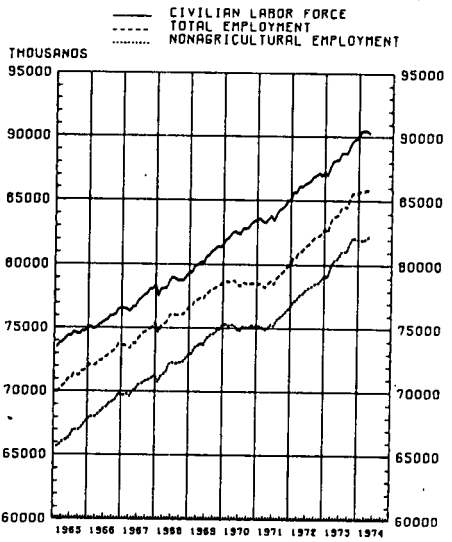
N.A. = not available.

P=preliminary.

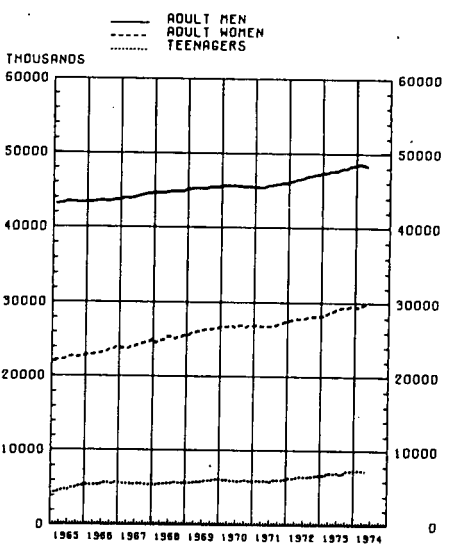
NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries. The seasonal adjustment eliminates the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude each year.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

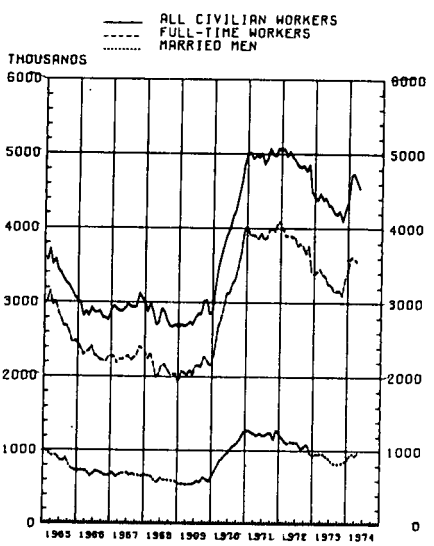
1. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



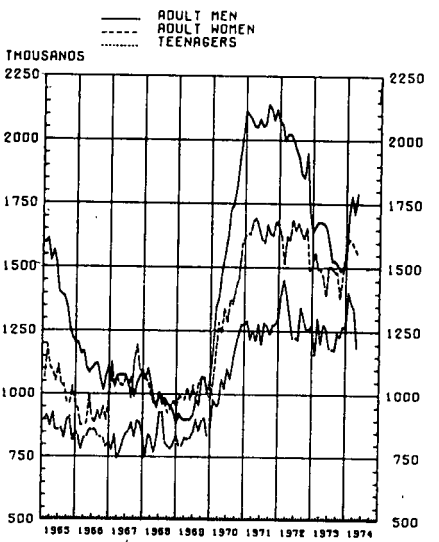
2. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



3. UNEMPLOYMENT

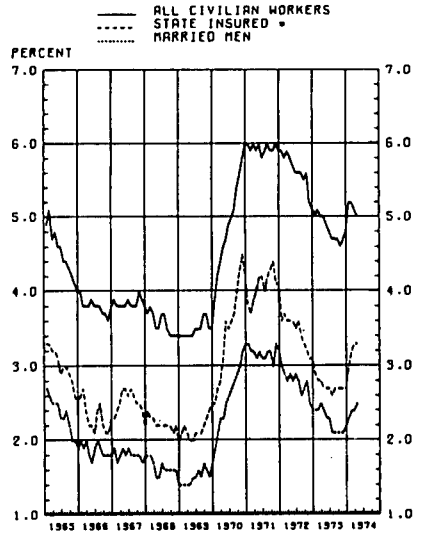


4. UNEMPLOYMENT

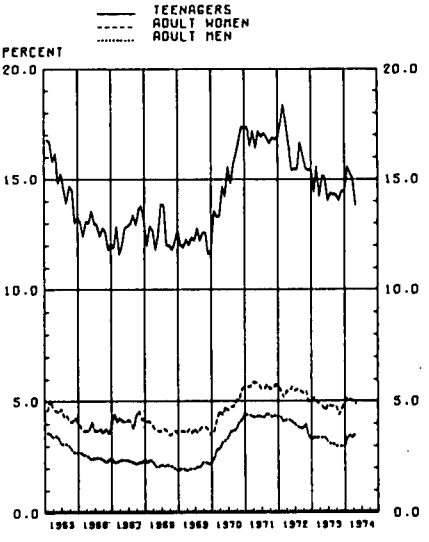


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

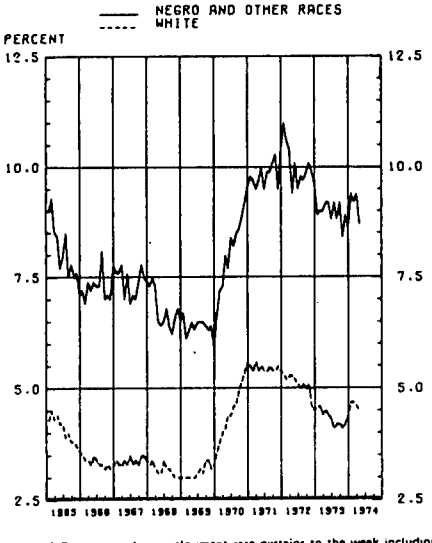
5. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



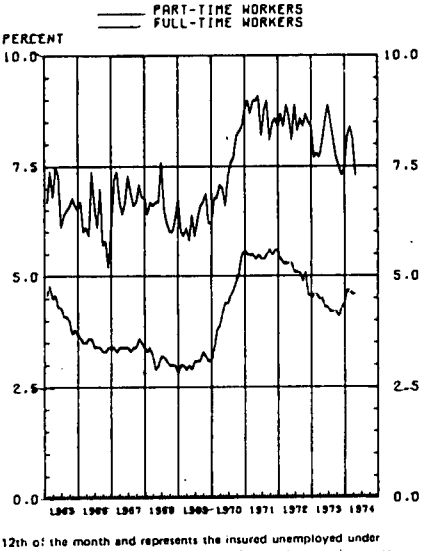
6. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



7. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



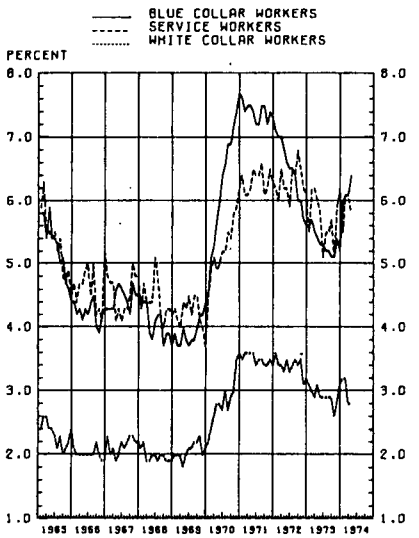
8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



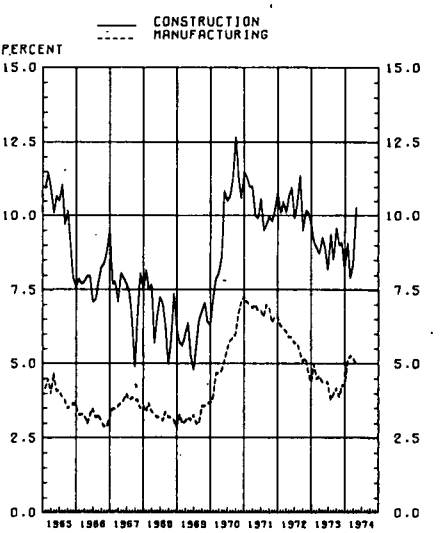
* State insured unemployment rate pertains to the week including the 12th of the month and represents the insured unemployed under State programs as a percent of average covered employment. The figures are derived from administrative records of unemployment insurance systems.

UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

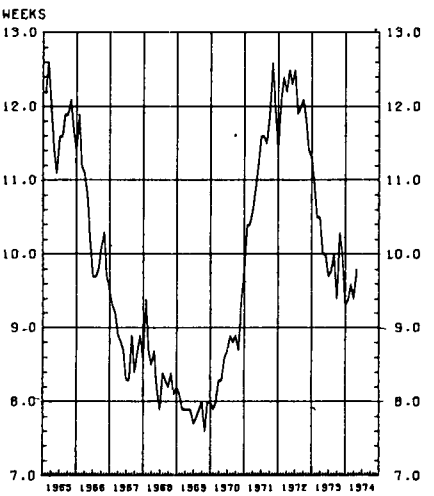
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



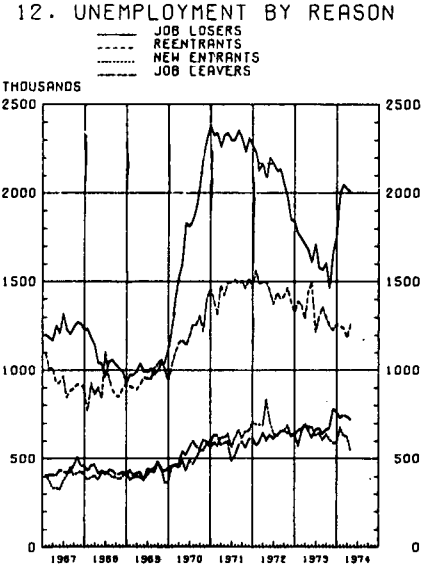
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

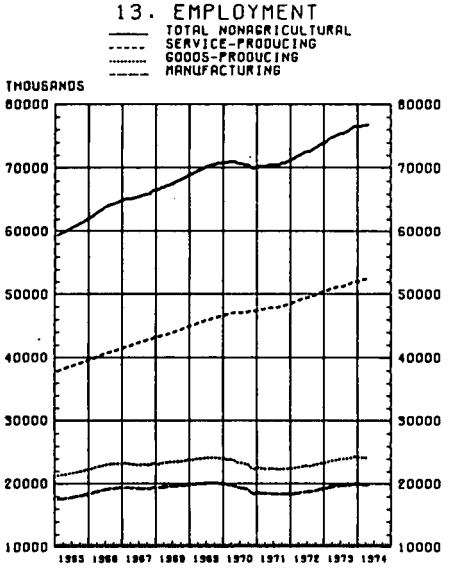


12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON

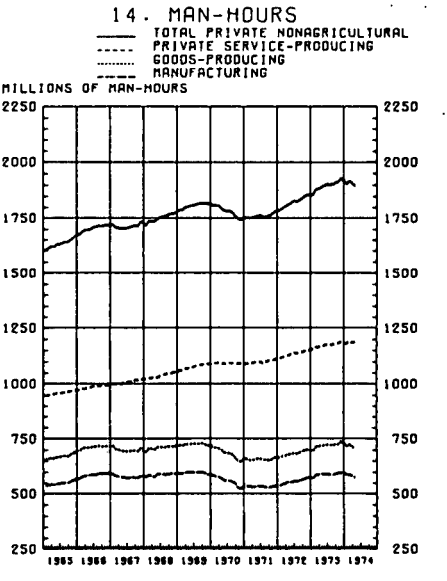


NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS
ESTABLISHMENT DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

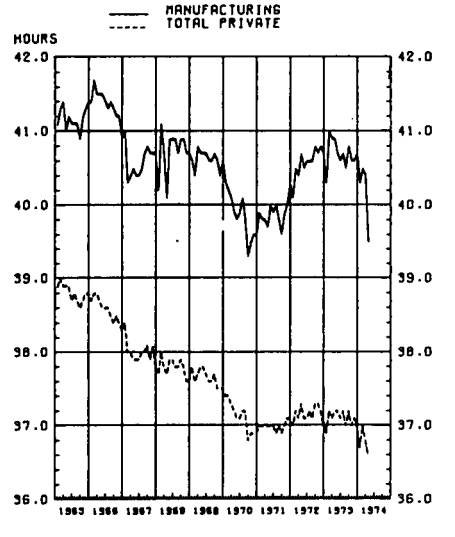
13. EMPLOYMENT



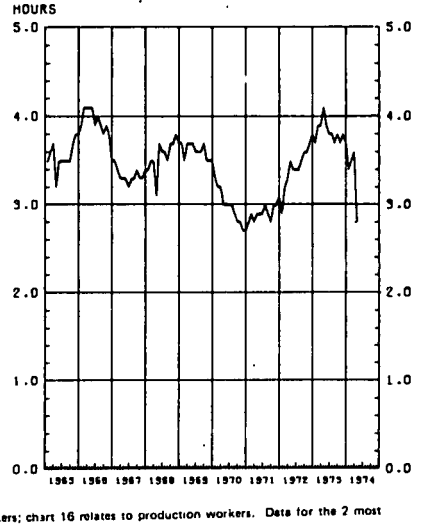
14. MAN-HOURS



15. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



16. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS IN MANUFACTURING



NOTE: Charts 14 and 15 relate to production or nonsupervisory workers; chart 16 relates to production workers. Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary in charts 13-16.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I appreciate that very much.

Speaking of significance, I would like to first go over the table A[1] of your news release. And you have answered the first part of my question when you indicate that in your judgment the stability of unemployment and the drop from 5.2 percent in February to 5.1 percent in March and 5.0 percent in April, the stability of unemployment is significant. Is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. The most convincing thing to me—the outstanding point of it—is the stability of unemployment. There is some slight indication of a decline.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, one of the sharpest drops is among teenagers. That was a drop from 15.0 percent down to 13.8 percent. In view of the difference in sample size I know there is a difference of significance here. Would that much of a difference, change, be regarded as statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Bregger is the expert on that, what is the answer Jack?

Mr. BREGGER. Yes, it is statistically significant.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What about the other large drop for Negroes and other races? That is from 9.4 percent down to 8.7 percent.

Is that regarded as statistically significant?

Mr. BREGGER. We would say that that is marginally significant. It takes about a 7 tenths of a percent point drop, and that is exactly what we had in April.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So it is on the border line?

Mr. BREGGER. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Fine.

Mr. SHISKIN. There is some possibility, and that is all I would call it, that the teenagers may have reacted to the fact that the survey was taken in the week before Easter. From the stories that I read, they go to Fort Lauderdale and other similar places for vacation. That is possible.

However, let me repeat. We made a study of the eight previous times when this happened. And this hypothesis did not have statistical support.

Chairman PROXMIRE. This raises something that I want to get into. The significance of this, what I said in my opening statement, and my interpretation of it could be challenged I am sure, by competent economists, at least the apparent conclusion that I come to. You say in your statement that the unemployment rate for teenagers declined from 15.0 to 13.8. And then you say this decrease was concentrated among 16 and 17-year olds. And then you say it resulted from a net exit from the labor force of a relatively large number of youths. In other words, there weren't more jobs, or there wasn't a stability of jobs, the jobs fell off, and the young people just stopped looking is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. We have data, as you know, on participation rates. And the participation rate for teenagers went down. Now, this is consistent with my theory—I don't have any evidence to support it—which is that the teenagers, a lot more of them than usual, took off

[1] See table A, p. 138.

the week before Easter. But I would be reluctant to press any of this very far, because the evidence is slight. I think if there is a trend here we ought to wait a few months and see if future figures confirm it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How about the significance of this very big drop in output, the gross national product drop of 5.8 percent in the first quarter, the biggest drop since 1958, one of the largest drops we have ever had in a quarter in real terms. Some say there is a lag involved here, and with this kind of a drop in production, that it takes a little while for the layoffs to occur. But this would foreshadow probably increasing unemployment in the coming months. What is your reaction to that? Is it true that the first quarter was terminated more than a month ago. But how about it?

Mr. SHISKIN. Here is my reaction to that. The natural question to ask is, if employment holds up as it did very well, and real GNP or output went down, why did it go down? The answer is that productivity went down. That is the answer that everyone gives.

What seems to have happened is that the automobile industry reacted very speedily to the energy shortage, and let a lot of workers go. On the other hand, their suppliers did not. And therefore in those industries, productivity went down a great deal, because their output declined but their employment held up.

If the energy shortage had continued, and we were also having a conventional recession, then the point you made would be reasonable. But I think it is true, as I have been saying now for several months, that the principal cause for the declines, such as they were, or the slowdown in employment and the rise in unemployment, was the energy shortage. Since the energy embargo is over, I would expect this trend to be reversed in the months ahead.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So you don't think that this is likely to be reflected in this big drop off because it was so heavily concentrated in the automobile industry and related industries?

Mr. SHISKIN. Energy critical industries.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is there any indication from accumulating inventories in the supply industry? After all, the automobile industry adjusted and cut their production and laid off employees, so I would think there could be an accumulation of automobile supply parts, and so forth.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, I have had so much to do in recent weeks, as you know, that I am no longer as much of an expert on inventories as I once was. However, we all know that there has been an involuntary rise of automobile inventories.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, the dropoff in productivity I understand doesn't mean people aren't working harder, or it doesn't mean they are working less efficiently, what it means is that if they don't have enough work in a plant, that rather than fire somebody, they keep them on the payroll and pay them for 40 hours although they may work 30 or 35 or 20, or whatever, but they don't work as fully as they did before.

Doesn't that suggest that the demand for labor may be weakening and that that aspect might be what lies ahead?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. But you have to analyze the causes. If our analysis of the causes is correct, we would expect that situation to be short-

lived, because the original cause is gone. We no longer have an oil embargo. And therefore I expect the rises in unemployment in the energy critical industry and the slowdown in employment to be reversing.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If the automobile industry sales haven't picked up, it was because they had the problem of people buying less of the big cars, with a big profit margin, where a great deal of the labor is, I guess. And then you had this spectacular drop in profits, an 85 percent drop for General Motors, and a huge drop for Ford and Chrysler. And new orders are down in manufacturing generally, I understand, compared to what they were, and inventories are up.

Does this take the blush off the rose to any extent?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I hope I am not being boring——

Chairman PROXMIRE. No, no.

Mr. SHISKIN [continuing]. But I have to go back and say again, that we must make an analysis of the causes. If it is true, as we think it is—and an update of the table I distributed at an earlier meeting on energy critical industries supports my earlier judgment, we have had essentially a problem with energy critical industries. And since now the oil embargo is over and we can get more oil, I would expect that to be reversed, though the higher prices for oil may exert some drag on the upturn.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, for many months when we have had these hearings, and when unemployment did during some of those months increase, we were constantly counseled by Mr. Moore and others to look at the doughnut and not the hole, in other words, look not at unemployment, but look at employment. If we do that the situation isn't as encouraging in the last 3 months, as you know. Neither the labor force nor total employment has grown at all since January. If the labor force had grown in the last 3 months at the same rate as it did in the previous 3 months while employment failed to grow, then the unemployment rate would be 6 percent rather than 5 percent.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, I wouldn't agree with your original statement. I have felt that the employment figures are the strongest part of this. Employment figures are the most encouraging part of the present situation. I wouldn't make a big point of the April figures alone, because the employment figures we have in the establishment survey are the advance figures based on a relatively small sample. But nonagricultural employment is at an alltime high. And I want to emphasize, I am not making a big deal of this, because it is the advance sample. But I find the employment situation very encouraging. To think that the economy should have withstood a blow of the kind it had when we had an oil embargo, and at a time when we are experiencing a 10 percent inflation rate, and still maintaining employment is, I think, a very remarkable and encouraging sign.

The unemployment rate went up a little during this period.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I understand that since January the employment has not only not risen but it has actually declined a little. These are the statistics I have. You correct me if I am wrong.

Mr. SHISKIN. You know we have this survey——

Chairman PROXMIRE. From October to January the labor force increased from 85.7 million to 90.5 million. That was an increase of

4,800,000. Had it continued to grow at this rate it would have reached 91.3 million in April. Actually it was only 90.3 million. Had the labor force grown this much while unemployment stayed constant, the actual April unemployment would have risen to 5.15 million, or 6 percent.

These are the calculations on which I base this.

Mr. SHISKIN. Again, let me say I hope I don't sound like a phonograph record, but if we hadn't had an oil embargo I think these things would have probably happened.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We did have an extraordinary increase in the size of the labor force I know during the last 2 or 3 years, with a great influx of women and teenagers and others. Do you think that, putting all this together and looking at it with a little longer perspective, you would stand by your position that the employment picture gives us assurance, reassurance?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, as you know, I am sure, the labor force as we measure it doesn't move smoothly. You have periods of spurt, and then they seem to level off. And that is what seems to be going on right now. But my answer is, yes, I am very reassured by the performance of the economy in the field of employment.

I think it is very encouraging in the light of the analysis of the causes of recent problems in the economy.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, in the first quarter we had the worst kind of a situation with prices. Tell us about the price statistics and what conclusions you gather from those and how the situation looks from the standpoint of the experience we have just had?

Mr. SHISKIN. We have had a regrettably very large increase in prices. And it is no accident that a great deal of our discussion in recent months has been over the methodology in the price field. It is the largest rise in prices in a very, very long time. And it is just deplorable.

Now, I study the analyses of prices, as others do. And where I come out in studying all these analyses is that the principal explanations are the following.

One, we have had this very long boom in the United States, an extraordinary period of 13 years, with very minor interruptions, and especially great strength in 1972 and 1973. At the same time we had a boom in Europe and in Japan. We had a devaluation which encouraged rises in our prices. We have had poor harvests, for external reasons. These are all things that are familiar to anybody that reads the economic articles.

We had a large increase in the money supply in 1972. Some economists attribute the large rise in prices to the big increase in the money supply, though it is hard to see how a rise of the 1972 magnitude could have led to an inflation of the 1973 magnitude.

There is another group that says that we are in a new world, we have a different level of expectations, and no one is going to be satisfied unless you have very large increases in real output every month.

And so there is a bottomless demand, and new pressures. And these are all causes of inflation.

Take your pick as to which one is right. But this much is clear, that many of the causes listed are behind us. So we can at least be hopeful that price rises will decline.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, the two big elements in the inflation picture have been energy and food. The performance of food in the last month has been good. As I understand it, there has been in fact a dropoff in consumer food prices, is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. In meat prices.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Meat prices. What is the overall food?

Mr. SHISKIN. John, do you have those figures?

Mr. LAYNG. The food at home component on a seasonally-adjusted basis increase 0.9 percent, from February to March.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Will you repeat that?

Mr. LAYNG. The seasonally adjusted increase in the food at home component of the CPI was 0.9 percent from February to March.

Mr. SHISKIN. But meats, poultry, et cetera, went down.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Agricultural prices, farm prices went down?

Mr. LAYNG. In April. We do not have any April data at the retail level yet.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why don't you have that? The Department of Agriculture released it.

Mr. SHISKIN. We have their figures, Senator, but we will be putting out the whole CPI shortly—the new one for April.

And they will be included in our total CPI.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you have any price statistics for April?

Mr. SHISKIN. No, we don't have anything except the ones that have been published in the paper. Our survey took place over the month of April. And we will be getting returns in in a few weeks.

Chairman PROXMIRE. When do your price statistics come out in the month?

Mr. SHISKIN. The exact date for the CPI release is May 21. The WPI has been coming out earlier. And for reasons that I have explained at other hearings, but which I would be glad to explain again, the WPI will be a week late for the next few months. The WPI will come out in the second week of the month and the CPI about the 20th.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If the fall in food prices of the Department of Agriculture as reported for April is reflected in consumer food prices, then our principal problem is in the energy area, is it not?

Mr. SHISKIN. Other prices have been rising more——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I want to get in the other prices in a minute. But first, you have been working in the energy area to get a more comprehensive and direct reliable reporting system in energy prices, something we have never had.

Can you tell us how you are progressing in that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. We are progressing very well. And I would like to say again, we owe you a debt for that, because I think the hearings of the Joint Economic Committee surfaced the issue. And we also enlisted the aid of our business Research Advisory Council. They phoned the oil companies, which was a relief and great help for us. We usually do all of this, but this time they did some of it. And I wrote a letter to the presidents of all the oil companies. As a result of all that, we will be coming out with a revised index in June. The index will go back to March 1973.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You mentioned other prices. This is one of the most discouraging aspects of the inflation outlook, the fact that

in 1973 there was a food and energy price increase, not entirely but largely, and in the last few months it seems to have been generally communicated.

Now, can you give us any idea how much of that general price increase is the result of increased energy costs, any estimate of that or notion of that?

Mr. SHISKIN. Energy costs?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me finish.

What I have heard is that energy costs constitute a very large component of the price of many things, including food, everything has to be transported and almost everything has to be processed. The cost of energy is a varyng element, depending on what you are talking about, but it is rather high. And we simply can't account for it by what we pay for gasoline at the pump or for fuel that goes into our house, the clothing we buy, everything that we use. As I say, that price increase has a big energy component.

Has that been refined at all?

Mr. SHISKIN. There is a study under way using the input-output tables. Our role in that study is the manpower requirements that are involved. And that is about all I can say at the present time.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How about the steel price increase of 6 percent that was announced yesterday, when will that show up in the Wholesale Price Index and the Consumer Price Index.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, industrial prices tend to lead consumer prices, but the leads are variable. And I would be reluctant to predict what the impact would be of an increase in a particular industry material price on the CPI.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What is the lag from the time in the past that the steel companies have increased their prices until they have been reflected——

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't know about the steel companies.

Mr. LAYNG. The Whole Price Index? There shouldn't be any lag, depending upon the date and how they pass is through.

Chairman PROXMIRE. So that increase will be reflected in the May Wholesale Price Index that will be out in July, is that right?

Mr. SHISKIN. In June?

Chairman PROXMIRE. In mid-June sometime?

Mr. SHISKIN. Right.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And then how about any studies that have been attempted to determine the reflection of a steel price increases in the Consumer Price Index, how long will that take? Or is that so diffused that it is very hard to define?

Mr. LAYNG. It is very diffused. That is what is referred to as an intermediate product at the wholesale level. And it is very difficult to trace through all the effects; it is similar to the energy problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I notice that the payroll of employment data for March and even for January and February have been revised in the numbers presented last month. In some cases their revisions appear fairly substantial. You referred to earlier hearings and the difficulty of getting this information reported promptly.

Is the situation worse, and why?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, it is not better. It is a very serious situation. We have looked back at the last few years, we have traced the his-

tory of the past few years, measuring the percentage of returns that we are getting in time for our advance release. And it is steadily declining. And this is a very worrisome thing.

Now, one month, you will recall, we had to separate the release of the unemployment figures from the release of the payroll figures. This was the January release—and in 2 months since then, it has been touch and go. So it is a very serious problem. I have written a letter to everyone of our field directors, our assistant regional directors, and asked them to investigate the problems in each of the Federal, State offices where the data are collected. And we brought together their materials. A lot of the problem is that the statisticians in the States have difficulty in getting onto the computers. There is a very big rush job at the end, and we run into all kinds of trouble. For example, we got one tape this month that we couldn't read, and we didn't have time to get a new tape. So there is a very serious problem there. And we are giving it the utmost attention. And I am personally involved in the studies. And that is where it stands.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is there likely to be a revision in the employment data?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes. But I just can't tell you how big it will be. There will almost certainly be some revision.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is there any way of anticipating whether it will be up or down?

Mr. SHISKIN. We took a look at that. In the last few months the figures have been higher in the second release, but we went back a little further and it goes both ways. If the revisions were all in one direction, we could make what we call a "bias adjustment" but they aren't persistent.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Before I yield to Senator Schweiker, I would like to ask you about something that I have asked you a number of times. The staff of this committee is interested in it, but I have asked you so much that I feel I should apologize to you. I have asked you this before this subcommittee, before the Banking Committee, and before the Appropriations Committee. And I have gotten your assurance over and again—and I don't mean to challenge your sincerity, because I know you have it—but for the record of this meeting, as I understand it, when you change your data base collections so that you have some 80 percent of the American people who are covered by your Consumer Price Index instead of the—what do you have now, 50 percent?

Mr. SHISKIN. Something under 50 percent of the total population.

Chairman PROXMIRE. As you know, there is very serious concern on the part of many groups. I have gotten a great deal of protest, and the committee has received it, too. We would like your statement to this subcommittee as to how you would react to action on the part of Congress providing the funds for continuing the old index as well as developing the new.

Mr. SHISKIN. We have also been aware of all this interest. And I have a brief statement that I would like to read.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Fine.

Mr. SHISKIN. A great deal of public concern has surfaced over the Bureau of Labor Statistics decision announced April 5 to extend the

coverage of the Consumer Price Index beyond wage earners and clerical workers to other segments of the population.

We have listened to the arguments in support of the more narrowly defined index and read and studied the testimony presented by labor leaders and their staff economists and the many letters they have written to Secretary Brennan and to me. These have enhanced my understanding of the importance of an index for wage earners and clerical workers.

Over this period, further arguments have also been made supporting the need for a more broadly defined index, both with respect to obtaining a more comprehensive monthly measure of inflation and the need for an appropriate measure for escalation. In addition, we have also learned that payments by the Department of Agriculture for school lunches for about 24 million school children are now pegged to the Consumer Price Index. Like social security beneficiaries, Federal retirees, and others, they have little or no representation in the index for wage earners and clerical workers.

On May 1, Secretary of Labor Brennan requested us to reexamine our position in the light of this additional information. At that time we actually already had such a reexamination under way at BLS.

As part of this reexamination, the BLS is conducting active discussions of this issue with other officials of the Department of Labor. These will soon be extended to officials in other parts of the administration. We are also discussing this problem, not only at congresional hearings such as that being conducted here today, but also with members of congressional committees whose activities bear on this subject.

We expect these discussions and studies to be completed soon and that we will, therefore, be able to report on the results before long. If the plans are revised in such a way that additional funds are required, we will provide cost and time estimates. I hope you will bear with me until then.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We thank you very much for that statement. That is reassuring.

There is one thing I would like to put in the record before I yield to Senator Schweiker.

Did you say that the unemployment rate in the first quarter was 5.1 percent, is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. The average for the three?

Chairman PROXMIRE. For the 3 months.

Mr. SHISKIN. I didn't say.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I thought it was in your release somewhere.

Mr. SHISKIN. I will check that.

Mr. BREGGER. 5.2 percent.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then the first month of the second quarter is 5. The Wharton School estimates 5.5 percent, PRI 5.7, Michigan 5.8, and Perry Heller 5.9 percent. So that unless we have two very, very bad months indeed, it looks as though we are going to beat all the forecasts by a considerable margin.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman what you said at the beginning of your statement just now has confirmed my judgment, though I didn't need the confirmation, that it is unwise to make quantitative predictions.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you very much.

Senator Schweiker.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have a couple of questions I would like to ask the gentlemen. I apologize in advance for my redundancy in my questions, but a Labor-HEW appropriations meeting precluded my being present for the opening of the discussion.

First of all, how is the unemployment rate for April related to the decline in the gross national product for this last quarter? In answering that question, would you also explain whether a decline in gross national product is measured in relationship to the unemployment rate? And in view of the fact the decline in the gross national product was unusually steep during the past 10 years what might we expect in terms of an unemployment rate?

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator Schweiker, let me try to answer that in analytical terms.

During the first quarter GNP and output broke sharply. However, employment held steady—I'm talking now about total employment. The question is, how can output decline when employment is holding steady? The answer is that productivity declined. There was a sharp decline in productivity.

Now, what we know about that situation and what we think is the case is the following, that when the oil embargo struck, the automobile industry, which has been the center of the problems in recent months, reacted very speedily and let go a lot of employees. And they also were concerned, of course, about changes in taste, the shift from large to small autos. However, other energy criticial industries, including industries which supply the automobile industries, did not do that. They held onto their employees. So the big drop, you see, that occurred was due to productivity decline.

Now, employment held steady, and unemployment, which has risen sharply from October to January, has held steadily since then, or even declined a little.

So that is our explanation of productivity developments.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Here we have the worst drop in productivity in a decade. How is the productivity drop, then, going to relate to the unemployment situation, if at all? It strikes me as possibly a bit deceiving that, with the sharp decline in productivity, there is only an insignificant change in unemployment rates during the past months.

My question, then, is: "Should you not be as concerned with unemployment declines as decreases in productivity?"

Mr. SHISKIN. First of all, let me assure you that we have to worry about unemployment at all times. If it is 5 percent, that is too high.

In recent months the BLS has made an intensive study of the causes of the leveling off of employment and the 172 industries, and we divided them into energy critical industries, and industries which are not energy critical. And then we investigated the differences in the behavior of these two groups. And we found that a very large part, almost all of the difficulties, that we have had in employment and unemployment were energy-related. We concluded from that that this was not a typical early recession period, that we had a special factor at work.

Now, if this analysis is correct—and all the evidence we have confirms our original judgment. We just compiled a new table based on the figures that came out today, that it is mostly energy critical industries that are involved. If that is correct—and we think it is—and since the oil embargo is over and we will be getting more oil, we expect the situation to be reversed.

Senator SCHWEIKER. You are stating, then, that the principal reason for the productivity drop derives from the automobile sector of the economy?

Mr. SHISKIN. There is always a lag, or there almost always is, between the decline in production of autos and shipments and a decline in employment.

Now, we think, from our figures, that the automobile industry responded fairly promptly to the situation and let a lot of workers go. Other energy critical industries, most of them, held onto their employees. And that is where the main difficulty is—where the decline in productivity took place.

What was going on, and which has been going on also to some extent, I guess, in the automobile industry, though I don't have productivity figures for them, what went on is that there was less work for the workers to do. So productivity declined.

Senator SCHWEIKER. In the case of the automobile industry, the sales slump precipitated the letting go of some workers. Some people have the erroneous conception, obviously, that when productivity drops, somebody is goofing off. We are not saying that at all here.

Mr. SHISKIN. Not at all.

Senator SCHWEIKER. We are saying that a productivity decline is really a result of the deteriorating sales situation created by the energy crisis in the automobile sector.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is right.

Senator SCHWEIKER. For some reason, the term "productivity" has come to imply to some people a measure of how hard workers are working. Maybe that is a generic definition, but that is certainly not at all what we are alluding to here, correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. I think that is correct.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If the Senator would yield on that point, we discussed that before you came in. I think that if we can get at it we can see that what productivity really is is the production per man-hour. And the reason why productivity drops is because there is not enough work for men to keep busy during their 40-hour week. They are still there. They have to be paid.

Senator SCHWEIKER. They have not been laid off.

Mr. SHISKIN. They haven't been laid off. They are not doing anything wrong, they are not being less efficient or conscientious, they just don't have the work to do, so instead of being laid off, they are paid for 40 hours, they only have to work on the assembly line, or whatever for 35, or 37 hours.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I think this is a very crucial point, because we have a productivity commission, and the United States places a lot of emphasis on productivity. The whole thesis is, that if a worker works harder, productivity will go up. But here we say just the opposite has happened. Workers who probably want to work cannot

work because the production lines have been shut down due to the sharp decline in automobile sales.

So, I think the foregoing discussion means that we have to use the term "productivity" with a little more sophistication.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The best way to increase productivity in the statistics, and the best way, I guess, in the economy, is really just add more work.

Mr. SHISKIN. More output, more demand.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is right, as demand increases productivity almost always improves.

Mr. SHISKIN. However, Senator, may I make this remark. The problem of productivity is a very great personal problem to me, because I have about 2,000 employees at BLS. And I have instituted a very vigorous program to increase their output. We have taken a number of steps since I have been on board, which I am very hopeful will turn out well, to increase their productivity.

Now, this is not only a question of workers wanting to work, it is a question in large part of organization.

Now, let me give you just one example of one of the things we have done—two of the things. One of the things I found when I came to BLS—and here we have an establishment of about 2,000 workers—is that there were a lot of people that didn't know what they were supposed to be doing. There had been a big reorganization at BLS several years ago. And apparently there were many people in fairly high positions who didn't understand what their role was in the new organization. Therefore, with the cooperation of many of our people, top people—Ms. Norwood, who is sitting behind me had a major role in this—we spelled out the functions—we explained to people what they were to do. Another problem often heard about in the Government, a very real problem, is underutilization of people. The problem of underutilization is also a managerial problem, how to you get the people to where the work is.

Now, that is a very tough problem. It is a very widespread complaint. I have been in the Government over 30 years, and I have heard it all the time.

I will tell you what we have done there. What we have done there is to set up a new committee on underutilization. This committee is made up of a cross section of BLS employees with no top people. I am not on it, Ms. Norwood is not on it, nobody at this table is on it. It is the people who are down the line. And they are conducting a series of interviews with a sample of people to find how much underutilization there is. We are also putting pressure on the line managers and on the Personnel Division.

As a result of these efforts I expect productivity to be increased.

This is a managerial initiative. So I think that the problem of productivity has many different facets, and you have to work on all of them to expand productivity.

Senator SCHWEIKER. The other area I wanted to ask you about, considering the drop in gross national product and impact on employment, concerns an industry of great importance to Pennsylvania: The tourist industry. The decline in the tourist industry has resulted in many job cutbacks in my State. One of the arguments I had with

FEO was that they only viewed tourism and travel problems from the standpoint of the tourist. Travel, therefore, was considered an unnecessary luxury that had to go. The FEO completely ignored, in my judgment, the inimical impact that a decline in the tourist industry might have on employment, especially within popular tourist States like Pennsylvania. Mr. Shiskin, could you please relate the economic indicators we have been discussing to the tourist-recreation industry?

Mr. SHISKIN. May I reply to that question in terms of employment, which is what BLS studies intensively.

As part of our studies of employment we have found that through the month of March—between 150,000 and 225,000—had lost their jobs as a direct result of energy shortages. This is the case where a plant, for example, didn't have enough energy. It is a case, for example, of gasoline stations that couldn't pump enough gasoline. However, in addition, there was a decline of about 330,000 in industries which have an indirect relation to the energy shortages.

Included among those are the industries you are talking about, hotels, motels, and entertainment places, leisure places. There was a very substantial drop in employment in these industries. It was concentrated mostly, we think, in transportation equipment, but it also affected hotels, motels, et cetera. And there was a very substantial drain.

Fortunately, what also happened to the economy at the same time, is that we had growth in service industries, retail trade groups, State and local government groups. So the rise in those other industries just about offset the declines in those industries indirectly hit by energy shortages. But certainly the leisure industries were among them, they suffered.

Senator SCHWEIKER. The vehicle industry in my State during this period was faced with drastic unemployment.

Would it have been possible, in view of your available statistics, to more adroitly balance the distribution of energy so that the full burden did not fall on the travel-tourist-recreational job sector? In other words, instead of giving the power industry sector carte blanche, could we have more selectively allocated what they had and made them use it more sparingly, preserving, as much as possible, the tourist-recreation industry?

Mr. SHISKIN. I don't like to be unresponsive, as Senator Proxmire, I am sure, will agree, but I am so preoccupied with the price, wage and employment statistics, that I haven't really been able to study the detailed activities of the FEO.

So, I don't feel prepared to answer that question.

Senator PROXMIRE. If the Senator will yield on this, I think tourism is very important in our State, and it was very hard hit. But it is hard to see what could be done. If you are going to cut down on the use of gasoline, people make a choice of going to work or taking a vacation.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Your statement, Senator, immediately brings to mind the fact that I received very few complaints from industries being forced to conserve energy at all. In fact, some industries, I know, hoarded energy during this time, storing it underground, in tanks, et cetera.

So here we have an unfair situation. One industry, by hoarding energy, did not face widespread unemployment. On the other hand, workers in other industries have been laid off, largely because one sector hoarded the available energy. And, from what I understand, energy hoarding by industry is all too commonplace, indeed.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The example I have in mind is the Winnebago trailer, which is a tragic example of an industry that was almost demolished by the policies adopted in the energy crisis. I don't know what could have been done, because people could foresee that they would have higher gasoline prices, and so to operate one of these big trailers would be expensive, and therefore they just didn't buy them. Subsequently when we had a sharp rise in gasoline prices and the availability of gasoline was restricted, people just had to make a choice of cutting back on luxury, travel, and essentials——

Senator SCHWEIKER. Tourism may be a luxury from the tourists' viewpoint, but it is a necessity—and a way of life—for those engaged in serving the tourists.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I don't see what public policy we could adopt that would overcome that. Maybe there is some.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I believe we could have put a little more constraint on the industry users in terms of gas and oil without throwing people out of work, because the information I have indicates that no industry was faced with a life or death sithation all through the crisis: Most of the plants not only were fully in supply of energy, but had an extra tank in the backyard. Hoarding by these industries made it much more difficult for the gas allocators to deal with the problem.

So, all of this meant we were on alternate day of gasoline rationing, and a return to 80 percent of our base-year figures. And as soon as we got to 90 percent of our base-year figures we began to put the people back to work again. What was different? Only about 10 percentage points. Pennsylvania is a perfect example, we were extremely hard hit with 80 percent gasoline allocation. However, as soon as we got back to 90 percent, the employment figures and the tourist and recreational industries recovered substantially.

So, I feel that the tourist industry had to endure an unfair share of the burden because we did not want to allocate to industry and question them as to how they were really utilizing the energy they did have.

The other question that I had concerns the Vietnam veterans. Would you please sum up again where the Vietnam veterans unemployment is at this point, how bad it is, and what you foresee here.

Mr. SHISKIN. In general, as a trend, the Vietnam veterans situation improved just as total employment did through last October. And then it rose as the overall situation worsened.

The pattern of unemployment rises was that the layoffs—they were layoffs of full-time people—the layoffs came in these energy critical industries.

When these layoffs came they were on a last-in first-out basis. As a result of that policy, the veterans were hard hit. We have some detailed figures which are in this month's release. And we would be very glad to read them to you. We have two paragraphs. I could read you these two paragraphs if you wish.

The unemployment rate for Vietnam veterans 20 to—there are copies of this——

Senator SCHWEIKER. I see that. What I am essentially concerned with are the changes which you now foresee. You point out in your testimony that the unemployment rate for the 20- to 24-year-old veterans was 9.2 percent.

What do you foresee now?

Mr. SHISKIN. Again, the BLS analysis indicates that most of the unemployment problems of recent months arose from energy shortages. Now, if that analysis is correct, then the situation should be alleviated in the months ahead. And the Vietnam veterans as well as other unemployed would profit from that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If the Senator would yield, I think that what is disturbing is that you do have a very sharp increase in unemployment for people 20 to 24 years old. Because as we discussed before, they are the least senior, the first laid off. These companies will lay off the young men because they don't have any seniority. But this is a deteriorating situation for the veterans as compared with the nonvterans. And you say here that unemployment among younger veterans has remained high largely because most of them have only recently entered the labor market and consequently lack the experience gained by many of their nonveteran peers.

Why should you have that discrepancy asserting itself now particularly between veterans and nonveterans of the same age.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, if you have layoffs and they are based on the last-in first-out, the veterans, since they are the last in, are the first out. That is sad, but it seems to be true.

Mr. BREGGER. I would like to add one point to that, if I might. The situation for 20- to 24-year-old veterans has been this way for quite some time, that is to say, their unemployment rates have been higher than for the nonveterans of the same ages, whereas for the older age groups there has been no difference. So it isn't simply a question of the last few months, but one that has been even observed throughout 1973.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Was it the same pattern as was the case after World War II and the Korean War, do you know?

Mr. BREGGER. I believe so, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am surprised at that.

Mr. BREGGER. Interestingly enough—and it is beginning to show up now—after a period of time the veterans rates actually end up lower than the nonveterans rates, because they have the GI bill, and so forth, and it is beginning to show up now for the older veterans.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We had a dramatic increase in the number of veterans taking advantage of the GI bill, 600,000 more than was anticipated by the Veterans' Administration last year, which I think is a heartening, reassuring development. I would think that it would also have an impact among unemployment in veterans and tend to reduce it, although I suppose you have a lot of veterans take advantage of the GI bill to get their tuition paid, but need a job on the side to support their families while going to school.

Mr. BREGGER. Yes, part-time jobs.

Senator SCHWEIKER. It would seem to me that the black subgroup in the 20- to 24-year-old group that would be the most vulnerable of all. And we do not have that figure.

Mr. BREGGER. Sir, we publish that on a quarterly basis. It is a very thin figure on a monthly basis. And so we don't have that. We publish the data for the first quarter, for example.

Senator SCHWEIKER. You don't keep that on a monthly basis?

Mr. SHISKIN. The problem, Senator Schweiker, is that our sample isn't large enough to provide a monthly figure for relatively narrowly defined groups. We have to do them quarterly. Now, the blacks make up only 10 or 12 percent of the population, and therefore we have a thin sample for them. In turn, the black veterans make up only a small percentage of blacks. So what we do is to publish a figure for black veterans only, once a quarter.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I agree with your sample. I took statistics in school, too. But it seems to me that they problem is black unemployment among veterans 20 to 24. I think that the statistics here should be more comprehensive.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator Schweiker, at these hearings in the last few months the point has come up again and again that we ought to be expanding the CPS. And I am willing to quote Senator Proxmire that he thinks so. And I agree with him.

Senator SCHWEIKER. What is our outlook in this area?

Mr. SHISKIN. For the black veterans or for the statistics?

Senator SCHWEIKER. Well, our education committee and our unemployment manpower committee are very concerned about the staggering black unemployment rates, especially with regard to black youths and black veterans. And the picture has gotten pretty bad. It was bad before we hit this slump. And with the falling GNP, I suppose the slump must have put this unemployment figure through the ceiling. Having known we were in the slump, it seems to me that this is one area that we ought to monitor closely. What is the latest figure you have there?

Mr. SHISKIN. For black veterans——

Mr. BREGGER. 11.8 percent for black veterans 20 to 34 percent. That was first quarter 1974.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is bad enough, but you know the situation for black teenagers is very, very bad.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you compare that with their peers?

Mr. BREGGER. Black nonveterans, 10.9 percent. That would be close to the same level.

Senator SCHWEIKER. What is the white veterans figure for the same quarter period?

Mr. BREGGER. 5.5 percent.

Senator SCHWEIKER. That is my point.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is a problem.

Senator SCHWEIKER. 5.5 versus 11.8 percent. The young black veteran unemployment rate was more than two times the corresponding rate for whites. And I just feel that to compute these statistics on a quarterly basis is not to be very sensitive to a very critical problem.

Mr. SHISKIN. If the CPS is expanded in the years ahead we would be able to do better. The figures are derived from a sample survey.

It is not a technical problem, it is a problem of the size of the sample. We could certainly provide a monthly figure, but it requires a larger sample.

Senator SCHWEIKER. But is this not the most serious problem we face in unemployment today? Let's put all the cards on the table. I look at all these figures, and we say 5 percent is good. That is great; I am happy. But here is a group that is 11.8 percent, or 12 percent of the unemployment rate, and it is focused within many of our hard-core cities, where a lot of our social turbulance arises. It is the worst figure that we have today. I simply feel that if we just look and say 5 percent is great, not even studying a report on the 11 or 12 percent black unemployment rate, we are sort of deluding ourselves about how well we are doing.

What I am suggesting does cost a little more money, but inasmuch as that is the problem, why shouldn't we single it out? That is what our manpower committee has been concerned about.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Would it be fair to say that there has been a fairly consistent and a very sad, and you might even say shameful situation in which blacks in this country have about twice the unemployment rate, from 80 to 100 percent higher, going up as high as twice the unemployment rate of whites? And we can apply this as you get your monthly statistics on veterans, and you wouldn't be far off is you just made the assumption that blacks have been consistently about twice as bad off. And you wouldn't get a great deal of reassurance if you did have the monthly statistics on the black veteran, because it would be statistically subject to challange, and you would have to get great variations in order to make it statistically clear that there was any change, because they are a small number in relationship to the universe that you get your statistics on.

Mr. SHISKIN. That sounds very reasonable to me.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I don't agree with that. The problem is that when our labor committee allocates manpower training funds to put people to work, the one thing that we look at is these breakdowns by black age groups, and black veterans. Now, the administration has argued that we do not need more money for manpower training because we are doing fine. The truth of the matter is that we are not doing fine. When you have the complete statistics, you also point up what the real needs are in black manpower training funds.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I agree with you 100 percent. It is just a matter of whether you have to get statistics on a monthly basis to verify that. Every quarter we have gotten it, it has been consistent for years. And you have this great economic injustice as far as blacks in this country are concerned. And they have twice the unemployment problem that whites have, and we know it. And it seems to me that we ought to be able to make an unemployment policy on that kind of assurance. I don't think a monthly figure that would be subject to challenge because of the statistical thinness of the sample would change that policy.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Mr. Chairman, the reason our committee would be interested in a monthly figure is that we have just adopted this new manpower training program, and for the first time we are going to decentralize it, and we are going to use manpower revenue sharing.

I frankly have great doubts that manpower revenue sharing is going to do anything that this administration thinks it is going to do, Mr. Chairman. The administration pretty well wanted to cut the card completely, with a program that has been eminently successful, the Opportunity Industrialization Centers of America (OIC).

My point is that it would be helpful, when studying a new manpower revenue sharing program that is directed at the cities—where these problems are—to have a little more sensitive index so that we can accurately determine whether we are really doing a job, or whether the program is going to collapse. I just think it would give our labor committee a little more accuracy in its work.

How much would it cost to get these figures?

Mr. SHISKIN. I couldn't answer that offhand. We might be able to provide something later. But there is a general recognition that the unemployment data we have to back up the manpower revenue sharing program, which is based partially on unemployment estimates, should be expanded, that is, the survey should be expanded. And we have very active negotiations under way within the administration on that subject.

And again, as in the case of the question you asked me about the CPI, we are very hopeful that within the next few weeks that we can make positive statements about what we will be proposing to improve those statistics.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I would appreciate it, then, if you would be kind enough to supply this subcommittee with an estimate of the costs involved in getting us a monthly figure on some of our worst indexes, such as black veterans and black young people.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I might say that both Senator Schweiker and I serve on the HEW Labor Appropriations Subcommittee, so we will be very anxious to help you get the funds you need.

Senator SCHWEIKER. We would be glad to help. I realize that you must have a large sample to derive meaningful statistics. And I realize that it may cost some money. We would like to determine whether these monthly figures are worth the effort and cost involved in deriving them.

Mr. SHISKIN. We would be very glad to provide that for the record.

[The following information was subsequently supplied for the record:]

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS,
Washington, D.C., June 20, 1974.

Hon. WILLIAM PROXMIRE,
Subcommittee on Priorities and Economy in Government,
Joint Economic Committee,
Congress of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR PROXMIRE: During my testimony before your Subcommittee on May 3, 1974, Senator Schweiker raised several questions about the frequency of publication and quality of data on joblessness among black Vietnam-era veterans.

High unemployment among black veterans is fully and adequately documented in annual and quarterly analyses developed by my staff. Representative examples of those analyses are enclosed. In essence, the pattern of high unemployment among black veterans reflects the more general labor market prob-

lems among all black workers. As you know, the ratio of black to white jobless rates has tended to be about 2 to 1 or more since the Korean War period, except for a narrowing during the 1969–71 cyclical downturn and initial stages of recovery.

As I explained when I testified, the estimates of joblessness among black workers, particularly black veterans, are subject to a greater degree of sampling variability than those for white workers because of the relatively small size of the population group and the correspondingly small monthly sample. To provide more reliable estimates, sample figures for 3 months are aggregated to comprise a much larger sample; this minimizes the relative sampling variability of the estimates and provides publishable and analytically sound data on the employment situation among black veterans.

To develop reliable monthly estimates for black veterans, a greater representation of black veterans in the overall CPS sample would be required. This could be accomplished by a large expansion of the CPS sample. We estimate that a 10 percent increase in the overall sample (about 5,000 more households per month) concentrated in residential areas with a primarily black population would yield the desired reduction in statistical variability. However, such an expansion would be a shotgun approach to a statistical problem that truly requires a more precisely calibrated technique. In other words, the desired data probably could be obtained less expensively by developing a special survey of a sample of veterans drawn directly from Department of Defense or Veterans Administration records.

I hope this information will be useful and you will feel free to contact me if any further questions arise.

Sincerely yours,

JULIUS SHISKIN,
Commissioner.

Enclosures.

Enclosure 1

NEWS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Washington, D.C. 20212
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USDL - 74-187
FOR RELEASE: 11:00 A.M. (EDT)
Friday, April 19, 1974

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION OF VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS: FIRST QUARTER 1974

Employment of Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years old continued to rise in the first quarter of 1974, but the number unemployed and the unemployment rate also rose, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. On a seasonally adjusted basis, veterans' employment increased by 133,000 over the quarter to 5.4 million, but, in line with the pattern for all workers, the gain was not enough to absorb the increase in their labor force. Unemployment rose by about 60,000 to 290,000, and the unemployment rate moved up from 4.2 to 5.1 percent, about the same level as that for the first three quarters of 1973. (See table 1 and note on seasonal adjustment on page 2.)

Virtually all of the jobless increase occurred among veterans under age 30. The average unemployment rate for the younger (20-24), more recently discharged veterans rose to 9.9 percent from 7.7 percent in the fourth quarter of 1973, but was essentially the same as a year earlier. The substantially lower rate for veterans 25 to 29, at 3.9 percent, also increased over the quarter and was about the same as a year ago. At 2.9 percent, the rate for veterans 30 to 34 has shown only minor fluctuations for the past 2 years.

With the slowing of military demobilization during the last 2 years and the aging of veterans discharged earlier, a growing majority of Vietnam-era veterans are in the older age groups. By the first quarter of 1974, almost as many veterans in the civilian labor force were in ages 30-34 (1.2 million) as in ages 20-24 (1.3 million). As the number of older veterans continues to increase, their lower jobless rate will have a greater effect on the overall unemployment rate for veterans.

Compared with the unemployment rates for nonveterans of the same ages, that for the younger (20-24) veterans continued at a higher level, while those for older veterans remained at approximately the same level.

Other highlights for the first quarter of 1974 include the following (based on data that are not seasonally adjusted):

. In the first quarter of 1974, the unemployment rate rose for 20-34 year-old veterans of Negro and other minority races and also for whites. The rates for both groups were back up to year-ago levels, losing the decided over-the-year improvement registered in the fourth quarter of 1973. The jobless rate for Negro veterans, at 11.8 percent, was little different from that of Negro nonveterans in ages 20-34 (10.9 percent) but was double the rate for white veterans of the same ages--5.5 percent. (See table 2.)

. Jobless rates for veterans 20-34 years old increased over the previous quarter in each of the four regions, but remained lowest for those veterans residing in the Southern and North Central States (4.6 and 6.2 percent) and highest for those living in the Northeastern and Western States (7.3 and 7.4 percent). The same situation prevailed for nonveterans. (See table 3.)

. For both veterans and nonveterans, the proportion of the unemployed looking for work for 15 weeks or more declined over the year. (See table 4.)

. In terms of reasons for their unemployment, the proportion of veterans reporting job loss rose substantially over the year, especially for those reporting layoff. (See table 5.)

. For veterans and nonveterans who were not in the labor force, the most important reason given for neither working nor seeking work continued to be attendance in school. (See table 6.)

NOTE ON SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

As is usual at the beginning of each calendar year, the seasonally adjusted labor force series, including the data for male Vietnam-era veterans, were revised in January 1974 to take into account data through December 1973. The revised quarterly data for veterans and nonveterans are published in this release. Revised monthly data were published in the February 1974 issue of Employment and Earnings. The 1974 revision did not significantly affect the previously published 1973 data, as shown in the following example:

	Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for male Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years old	
Quarters in 1973	Originally published	Revised
1st	5.4	5.4
2nd	5.4	5.3
3rd	5.1	5.0
4th	4.1	4.2

Table 1. Employment status of male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years old, quarterly averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Not seasonally adjusted					Seasonally adjusted				
	1st 1973	2nd 1973	3rd 1973	4th 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	2nd 1973	3rd 1973	4th 1973	1st 1974
VETERANS[1]										
Total, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	5,547	5,654	5,756	5,866	5,999	5,547	5,654	5,756	5,866	5,999
Civilian labor force	5,140	5,307	5,443	5,531	5,670	5,192	5,310	5,382	5,530	5,724
Employed	4,807	5,031	5,192	5,326	5,322	4,914	5,026	5,115	5,300	5,433
Unemployed	333	276	250	205	348	278	284	267	230	291
Unemployment rate	6.5	5.2	4.6	3.7	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.0	4.2	5.1
20 to 24 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	1,792	1,712	1,627	1,547	1,454	1,792	1,712	1,627	1,547	1,454
Civilian labor force	1,611	1,567	1,475	1,389	1,317	1,629	1,561	1,458	1,393	1,331
Employed	1,429	1,427	1,358	1,291	1,159	1,478	1,415	1,331	1,286	1,199
Unemployed	181	140	118	97	158	151	146	127	107	132
Unemployment rate	11.3	9.0	8.0	7.0	12.0	9.3	9.4	8.7	7.7	9.9
25 to 29 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	2,871	2,968	3,069	3,173	3,335	2,871	2,968	3,069	3,173	3,335
Civilian labor force	2,674	2,798	2,934	3,021	3,171	2,704	2,806	2,900	3,013	3,204
Employed	2,554	2,685	2,823	2,942	3,021	2,604	2,692	2,784	2,920	3,079
Unemployed	120	113	112	78	150	100	114	116	94	125
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.0	3.8	2.6	4.7	3.7	4.1	4.0	3.1	3.9
30 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	885	974	1,060	1,146	1,211	885	974	1,060	1,146	1,211
Civilian labor force	855	942	1,033	1,122	1,182	859	943	1,024	1,123	1,189
Employed	823	919	1,012	1,092	1,142	832	920	1,000	1,094	1,154
Unemployed	32	22	21	30	40	27	24	24	30	34
Unemployment rate	3.7	2.4	2.0	2.6	3.4	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.9
NONVETERANS										
Total, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	13,990	14,254	14,488	14,714	14,687	13,990	14,254	14,488	14,714	14,687
Civilian labor force	12,376	12,844	13,331	13,241	13,115	12,582	12,845	13,004	13,358	13,340
Employed	11,636	12,210	12,736	12,685	12,304	11,929	12,200	12,381	12,755	12,621
Unemployed	740	634	595	557	812	653	645	623	603	719
Unemployment rate	6.0	4.9	4.5	4.2	6.2	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.5	5.4
20 to 24 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	6,382	6,359	6,721	6,867	6,876	6,382	6,359	6,721	6,867	6,876
Civilian labor force	5,140	5,506	5,896	5,737	5,683	5,343	5,498	5,571	5,862	5,904
Employed	4,721	5,110	5,530	5,398	5,192	4,959	5,105	5,200	5,492	5,454
Unemployed	418	396	363	339	491	384	394	371	369	451
Unemployment rate	8.1	7.2	6.2	5.9	8.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	6.3	7.6
25 to 29 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	4,078	4,111	4,134	4,172	4,038	4,078	4,111	4,134	4,172	4,038
Civilian labor force	3,854	3,890	3,930	3,959	3,800	3,864	3,896	3,924	3,951	3,811
Employed	3,649	3,734	3,769	3,811	3,613	3,692	3,732	3,750	3,790	3,654
Unemployed	205	155	161	148	188	172	164	173	161	157
Unemployment rate	5.3	4.0	4.1	3.7	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.1
30 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	3,520	3,583	3,633	3,674	3,774	3,520	3,583	3,633	3,674	3,774
Civilian labor force	3,382	3,448	3,507	3,545	3,632	3,376	3,450	3,509	3,546	3,624
Employed	3,265	3,366	3,437	3,476	3,499	3,278	3,363	3,431	3,473	3,513
Unemployed	117	82	70	69	133	97	87	79	73	111
Unemployment rate	3.5	2.4	2.0	1.9	3.7	2.9	2.5	2.2	2.0	3.1

[1] Vietnam-era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964. At present, of the Vietnam-era veterans of all ages, 90 percent are 20 to 34 years of age.

[2] Since seasonal variations are not present in the population figures, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. Rates are based on unrounded numbers. Data are subject to sampling variability which may be relatively large in cases where numbers are small. Therefore, differences between numbers or percents based on them may not be significant. For a detailed explanation of the reliability of estimates, including standard error tables, see the Explanatory Notes in the monthly BLS periodical, Employment and Earnings.

Original and seasonally adjusted data are published each month and quarter on the employment status of all male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20-24, 25-29, and 30-34 years old. Data by race are issued only on a quarterly basis because the estimates covering shorter time periods are subject to large sampling errors. The data by race are not seasonally adjusted. Other data issued on a quarterly basis and not seasonally adjusted include duration of unemployment, reasons for unemployment, and reasons for nonparticipation in the labor force.

Table 2. Employment status of male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years old, by race, quarterly averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	White					Negro and other races				
	1st 1973	2nd 1973	3rd 1973	4th 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	2nd 1973	3rd 1973	4th 1973	1st 1974
VETERANS [1]										
Total, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,014	5,081	5,191	5,283	5,411	533	573	565	584	588
Civilian labor force	4,679	4,795	4,944	5,010	5,134	461	511	499	521	536
Employed	4,391	4,569	4,739	4,832	4,849	416	462	453	494	473
Unemployed	288	227	204	178	285	46	49	46	27	63
Unemployment rate	6.1	4.7	4.1	3.6	5.5	9.9	9.6	9.2	5.2	11.8
20 to 24 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,594	1,476	1,432	1,360	1,285	197	235	195	187	169
Civilian labor force	1,437	1,359	1,318	1,227	1,171	173	208	157	162	146
Employed	1,282	1,253	1,221	1,143	1,041	147	174	136	148	119
Unemployed	155	106	97	84	130	26	35	21	14	28
Unemployment rate	10.8	7.8	7.4	6.8	11.1	15.2	16.4	13.2	8.5	18.9
25 to 29 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	2,620	2,721	2,791	2,877	3,040	251	247	278	296	295
Civilian labor force	2,464	2,579	2,679	2,755	2,900	211	219	255	266	270
Employed	2,357	2,479	2,591	2,690	2,779	197	206	232	253	242
Unemployed	106	100	88	65	121	14	13	24	13	29
Unemployment rate	4.3	3.9	3.3	2.4	4.2	6.6	5.9	9.3	4.9	10.6
30 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	800	883	968	1,046	1,086	85	91	92	101	125
Civilian labor force	778	857	946	1,028	1,063	77	84	87	94	120
Employed	751	837	927	999	1,029	72	82	85	91	113
Unemployed	26	20	19	29	33	5	2	2	1	7
Unemployment rate	3.4	2.3	2.0	2.8	3.1	6.9	2.4	1.9	.7	5.8
NONVETERANS										
Total, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,161	12,354	12,537	12,747	12,771	1,829	1,900	1,950	1,966	1,916
Civilian labor force	10,827	11,195	11,601	11,517	11,457	1,569	1,649	1,730	1,724	1,658
Employed	10,233	10,700	11,161	11,092	10,827	1,403	1,509	1,573	1,593	1,477
Unemployed	594	494	440	425	630	167	140	155	132	181
Unemployment rate	5.5	4.4	3.8	3.7	5.5	9.5	8.5	8.9	7.6	10.9
20 to 24 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,555	5,727	5,835	5,962	5,998	837	832	886	905	878
Civilian labor force	4,501	4,837	5,150	4,993	4,976	639	669	744	744	707
Employed	4,163	4,529	4,880	4,736	4,590	559	580	651	642	602
Unemployed	338	307	270	257	386	80	89	93	82	105
Unemployment rate	7.5	6.4	5.2	5.1	7.8	12.6	13.3	12.5	11.1	14.9
25 to 29 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,568	3,564	3,596	3,633	3,516	509	547	538	539	522
Civilian labor force	3,391	3,392	3,429	3,466	3,336	463	497	501	491	464
Employed	3,231	3,269	3,310	3,351	3,195	418	465	459	460	417
Unemployed	160	123	119	115	141	45	32	42	34	47
Unemployment rate	4.7	3.6	3.5	3.3	4.2	9.7	6.5	8.4	6.8	10.1
30 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,037	3,063	3,106	3,153	3,257	483	520	527	522	517
Civilian labor force	2,935	2,966	3,022	3,059	3,145	468	482	485	486	487
Employed	2,839	2,902	2,971	3,005	3,041	426	464	466	471	458
Unemployed	96	64	51	53	104	22	18	20	16	30
Unemployment rate	3.3	2.2	1.7	1.7	3.3	4.8	3.8	4.1	3.2	6.1

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.

NOTE: See note, table 1.

Table 3. Employment status of male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years old, by region, age, and race, first quarter averages, 1974

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status and race	Veterans[1]					Nonveterans				
	Total	North-east	North Central	South	West	Total	North-east	North Central	South	West
Total, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,999	1,252	1,691	1,887	1,169	14,687	3,410	4,006	4,631	2,640
Civilian labor force	5,670	1,181	1,604	1,791	1,094	13,115	2,944	3,596	4,221	2,353
Percent of population	94.5	94.3	94.9	94.9	93.6	89.3	86.3	89.8	91.1	89.1
Employed	5,322	1,095	1,506	1,710	1,013	12,304	2,708	3,387	4,025	2,183
Unemployed	348	86	99	82	81	812	236	210	195	170
Unemployment rate	6.1	7.3	6.2	4.6	7.4	6.2	8.0	5.8	4.6	7.2
20 to 24 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,454	292	427	438	296	6,876	1,588	1,902	2,147	1,239
Civilian labor force	1,317	269	389	396	263	5,681	1,226	1,588	1,838	1,030
Percent of population	90.6	92.1	91.1	90.4	88.9	82.6	77.2	83.5	85.6	83.1
Employed	1,159	230	346	362	221	5,192	1,094	1,458	1,713	927
Unemployed	158	39	43	34	42	491	132	131	125	103
Unemployment rate	12.0	14.5	11.1	8.6	16.0	8.6	10.8	8.2	6.8	10.0
25 to 29 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,335	699	958	1,049	628	4,038	925	1,110	1,254	748
Civilian labor force	3,171	658	916	1,003	593	3,800	857	1,049	1,194	700
Percent of population	95.1	94.1	95.6	95.6	94.4	94.1	92.6	94.5	95.2	93.6
Employed	3,021	619	875	963	564	3,613	797	1,001	1,162	653
Unemployed	150	39	42	40	29	188	60	48	32	47
Unemployment rate	4.7	5.9	4.6	4.0	4.9	4.9	7.0	4.6	2.7	6.7
30 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,211	261	306	400	245	3,774	897	994	1,230	653
Civilian labor force	1,182	254	299	392	238	3,632	861	959	1,189	623
Percent of population	97.6	97.3	97.7	98.0	97.1	96.2	96.0	96.5	96.7	95.4
Employed	1,142	246	285	385	228	3,499	817	928	1,150	603
Unemployed	40	8	14	8	10	133	44	31	38	20
Unemployment rate	3.4	3.1	4.7	2.0	4.2	3.7	5.1	3.2	3.2	3.2
White, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,411	1,167	1,554	1,606	1,085	12,771	3,039	3,648	3,758	2,326
Civilian labor force	5,134	1,106	1,480	1,531	1,019	11,457	2,644	3,296	3,433	2,085
Percent of population	94.9	94.8	95.2	95.3	93.9	89.7	87.0	90.4	91.4	89.6
Employed	4,849	1,035	1,399	1,469	947	10,827	2,447	3,131	3,307	1,941
Unemployed	285	71	80	63	71	630	196	165	125	143
Unemployment rate	5.5	6.4	5.4	4.1	7.0	5.5	7.4	5.0	3.6	6.9
Negro and other races, 20 to 34 years										
Civilian noninstitutional population	588	85	138	282	85	1,916	372	358	872	315
Civilian labor force	536	73	127	260	76	1,658	300	301	788	268
Percent of population	91.2	85.9	92.3	92.2	89.4	86.5	80.6	84.1	90.4	85.1
Employed	473	59	107	241	66	1,477	260	257	717	243
Unemployed	63	15	20	19	10	181	40	45	71	25
Unemployment rate	11.8	20.5	15.7	7.3	13.2	10.9	13.3	15.0	9.0	9.3

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.

NOTE: See note, table 1.

Table 4. Duration of unemployment of male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years old, by age, first quarter averages 1973 and 1974

(Percent distribution)

Duration of unemployment	Total, 20 to 34 years		20 to 24 years		25 to 29 years		30 to 34 years	
	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974
VETERANS [1]								
Total unemployed:								
Number (thousands)	333	348	181	158	120	150	32	40
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	([2])	([2])
Less than 5 weeks	43.6	42.1	45.6	38.9	44.6	43.3	-	-
5 to 14 weeks	33.7	40.1	34.1	44.6	30.6	39.3	-	-
15 weeks and over	22.7	17.9	20.3	16.6	24.8	17.3	-	-
NONVETERANS								
Total unemployed:								
Number (thousands)	740	812	418	491	205	188	117	133
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	42.9	43.3	47.6	45.2	38.0	36.2	34.5	46.6
5 to 14 weeks	34.2	37.6	33.3	37.9	35.6	40.4	35.3	32.3
15 weeks and over	22.9	19.1	19.1	16.9	26.3	23.4	30.2	21.1

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.
[2] Percent not shown where base is less than 50,000.

NOTE: See note, table 1.

Table 5. Reasons for unemployment of male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years old, by age, first quarter averages, 1973 and 1974

(Percent distribution)

Reason for unemployment	Total, 20 to 34 years		20 to 24 years		25 to 29 years		30 to 34 years	
	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974
VETERANS [1]								
Total unemployed:								
Number (thousands)	333	348	181	158	120	150	32	40
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	([2])	([2])
Lost last job	52.7	60.9	43.1	57.6	63.3	63.3	-	-
On layoff	18.7	24.7	10.5	19.0	26.7	28.7	-	-
Other job losers	34.0	36.2	32.6	38.6	36.7	34.7	-	-
Left last job	18.1	17.0	18.8	17.1	15.0	18.0	-	-
Entered labor force	29.2	22.1	38.1	25.3	21.7	18.7	-	-
Reentered labor force	23.8	20.1	29.3	22.2	20.0	17.3	-	-
Never worked before	5.4	2.0	8.8	3.2	1.7	1.3	-	-
NONVETERANS								
Total unemployed:								
Number (thousands)	740	812	418	491	205	188	117	133
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lost last job	63.1	68.1	55.8	63.1	71.7	73.9	73.7	78.2
On layoff	17.8	24.4	12.4	20.6	23.4	27.7	27.1	33.8
Other job losers	45.3	43.7	43.4	42.6	48.3	46.3	46.6	44.4
Left last job	16.7	14.2	17.4	15.1	13.2	11.7	20.3	14.3
Entered labor force	20.2	17.7	26.7	21.8	15.1	14.4	5.9	7.5
Reentered labor force	17.0	15.1	22.4	18.1	12.7	12.8	5.1	7.5
Never worked before	3.2	2.6	4.3	3.7	2.4	1.6	.8	-

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.

[2] Percent not shown where base is less than 50,000.

NOTE: See note, table 1.

Table 6. Reasons for nonparticipation in labor force for male Vietnam-era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 34 years old, by age, first quarter averages, 1973 and 1974

(Percent distribution)

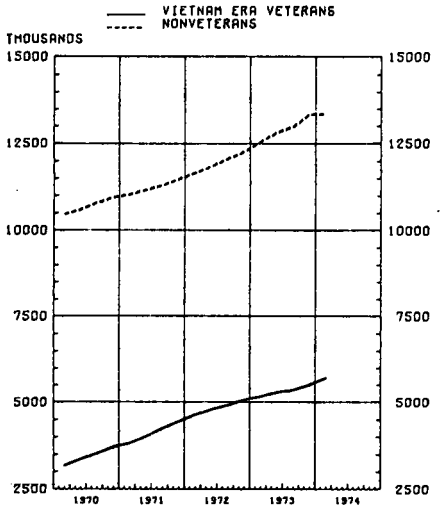
Reason for nonparticipation	Total, 20 to 34 years		20 to 24 years		25 to 29 years		30 to 34 years	
	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974	1st 1973	1st 1974
VETERANS[1]								
Total not in labor force:								
Number (thousands)	407	329	181	137	197	164	30	29
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	([2])	([2])
In school	67.0	52.4	70.6	59.9	68.4	48.2	-	-
Want job now[3]	12.1	5.2	13.3	6.6	11.7	4.9	-	-
Ill health or disability	12.1	17.9	5.6	8.0	15.3	23.8	-	-
No desire for job now	11.1	20.3	11.1	20.4	8.7	19.5	-	-
Think impossible to find job	3.4	1.5	4.4	1.5	2.6	1.2	-	-
All other	6.4	7.9	8.3	10.2	5.1	7.3	-	-
NONVETERANS								
Total not in labor force:								
Number (thousands)	1,614	1,572	1,252	1,193	224	238	138	142
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	71.2	68.0	81.2	78.3	45.7	45.1	21.2	19.7
Want job now[3]	7.9	6.3	9.2	7.2	4.5	4.2	1.5	2.1
Ill health or disability	10.3	12.2	4.4	6.2	22.0	24.5	46.0	42.3
No desire for job now	11.3	13.6	9.3	10.3	19.3	22.4	16.1	26.8
Think impossible to find job	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.7	2.5	5.1	5.6
All other	4.6	3.8	2.8	3.2	10.3	5.5	11.7	5.6

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.
[2] Percent not shown where base is less than 50,000.
[3] Included in "In school."

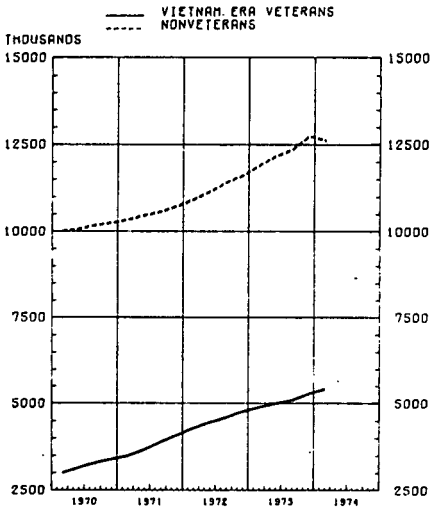
NOTE: See note, table 1.

VETERANS AND NONVETERANS 20-34 YEARS
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED QUARTERLY AVERAGES

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE



EMPLOYED



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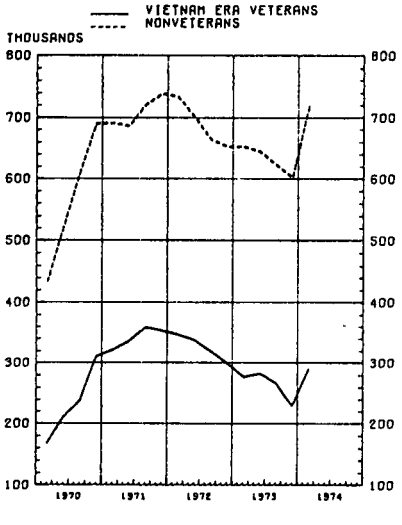

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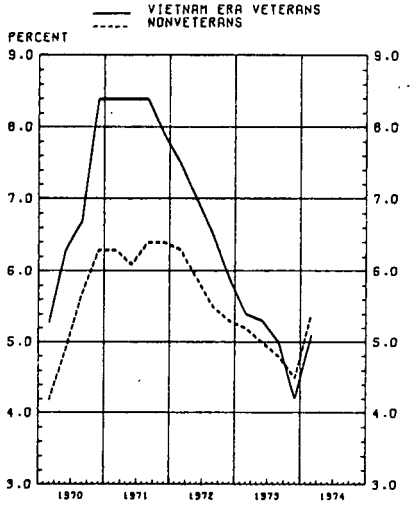
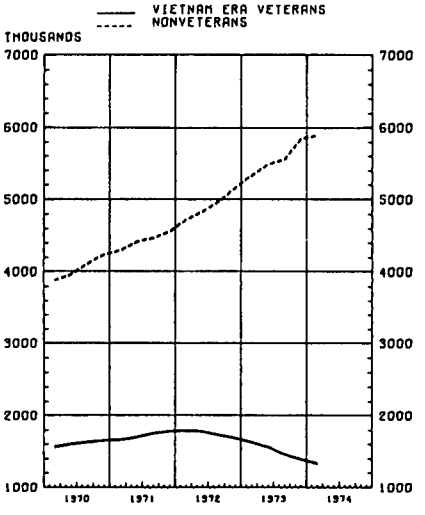
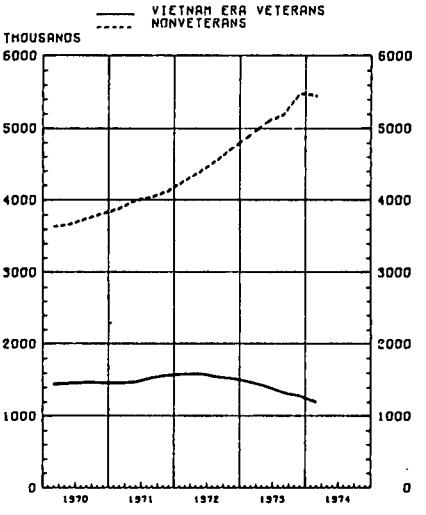


VETERANS AND NONVETERANS 20-24 YEARS
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED QUARTERLY AVERAGES

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE



EMPLOYED



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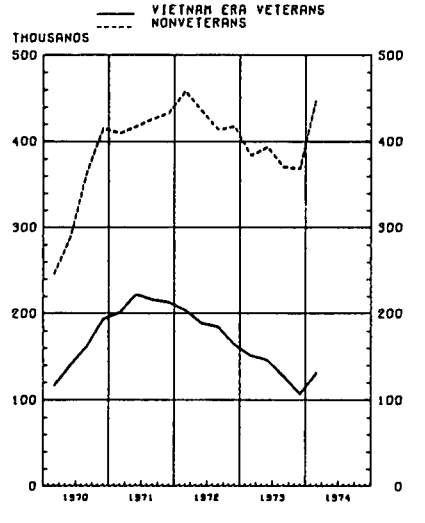

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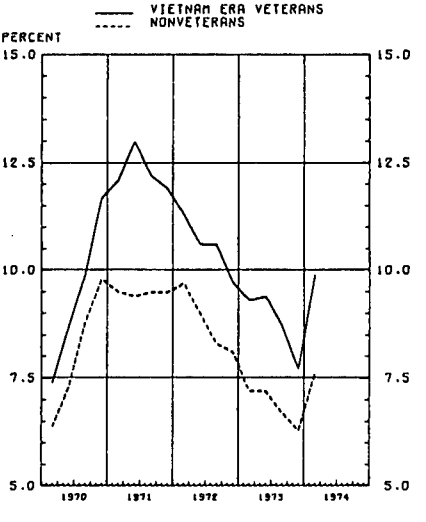

Enclosure 2

The employment situation of Vietnam Era veterans

Special Labor Force Report reviews employment gains of veterans during the year ending in June 1972, and new data on occupations, industry, and residence

KOPP MICHELOTTI AND KATHRYN R. GOVER

JOB PROSPECTS brightened for veterans during the year ending in June 1972, as young, newly separated servicemen returned to an economy in which employment was generally on the rise while unemployment remained stable. The number of veterans with jobs increased steadily during this period, and the unemployment rate for Vietnam Era veterans[1] in ages 20 to 29 dropped a full percentage point to 8.0 percent (seasonally adjusted) in the second quarter of 1972. Subsequently, the rate fell even further to 7.2 percent in the third quarter.

The civilian economy had to absorb fewer new veterans, as military discharges declined. In fiscal 1972, discharges numbered 880,000, down from an average of one million in each of the 3 preceding years, reflecting in part the drop in Armed Forces inductions that began about 3 years earlier.

At the close of fiscal 1972, the United States had been engaged in the war in Southeast Asia for 8 years, and 5.7 million men were Vietnam Era veterans. About 80 percent of the veterans were in their twenties and another 12 percent were 30 to 34 years old. The older group has been increasing in size as the men separated several years ago move out of their twenties. In the second quarter of 1972, there were about 660,000 in this age group compared with 420,000 a year earlier. About 97 percent were in the labor force and their unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 2.7 percent, not materially different from the 3.0 percent rate for nonveterans 30 to 34 years old.

The number of veterans in ages 30 to 34 is still too small to permit either reliable adjustment for recurring seasonal patterns in their employment or detailed tabulations for such basic characteristics as race and duration of unemployment. Since the job-finding problems of veterans 30 to 34 years old are much less serious than for the group under age 30, this analysis will continue to focus on those 20 to 29 years old.

This annual review of the employment situation of male Vietnam era veterans includes, for the first time, information on occupation and industry of employment, residence, household relationship, and reasons for being unemployed or out of the labor force.

Employment

During fiscal 1972 all of the net growth in the veterans' labor force was in employment, as the number of 20- to 29-year-old veterans with jobs rose by 550,000 to average 3.9 million. Similar patterns of increase occurred with respect to the nonveteran labor force and employment levels. (See table 1.) A year earlier employment had accounted for only three-fourths of the labor force increase for veterans and two-thirds for nonveterans.

Occupation. The occupational distribution of employed veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old is generally the same, with the exception of professional and technical workers and craftsmen. (See table 2.) In the second quarter of 1972, about one-fourth of the veterans were craftsmen (such as skilled construction workers and mechanics), compared with one-fifth of the nonveterans. A smaller proportion of veterans than nonveterans were in professional and technical jobs (11 and 17 percent, respectively). For the 20- to 24-year-olds, the proportion of veterans in these occupations was less than half that of nonveterans. This gap reflects the lower percentage of college graduates among the veterans.

Younger veterans (age 20–24) were more concentrated in jobs which generally require less education, training, and experience. In the second quarter of 1972, about two-thirds of the employed younger veterans but only half of the veterans 25 to 29 years old were blue-collar workers—craftsmen, operatives,

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and nonfarm laborers. On the other hand, less than a third of the younger veterans were in white-collar jobs, compared with 40 percent of the older veterans. Only 6 percent of the younger group but 14 percent of the older were in professional and technical occupations.

Negro[2] veterans were more heavily concentrated than white veterans in the less skilled laborer and service occupations. (See chart 1.) These differences result from a combination of several factors, such as job discrimination and the somewhat larger proportion of employed Negro veterans who were in the less experienced age group 20 to 24 years—50 percent, compared with 41 percent of the young whites.

Table 1. Employment status of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old, quarterly averages, 1971 and 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Veteran status and employment status	1971				1972		Seasonally adjusted					
							1971				1972	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	I	II	III	IV	I	II
VETERANS[1]												
Total, 20 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	3,809	3,981	4,145	4,293	4,429	4,515	3,809	3,981	4,145	4,293	4,429	4,515
Civilian labor force	3,459	3,623	3,844	3,931	4,058	4,174	3,470	3,632	3,814	3,951	4,076	4,180
Percent of population	90.8	91.0	92.7	91.6	91.6	92.4	91.1	91.2	92.0	92.0	92.0	92.6
Employed	3,087	3,314	3,525	3,626	3,658	3,862	3,160	3,302	3,463	3,623	3,743	3,848
Unemployed	372	309	319	304	400	312	310	330	351	328	332	332
Unemployment rate	10.8	8.5	8.3	7.8	9.8	7.5	8.9	9.1	9.2	8.3	8.2	8.0
20 to 24 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	1,902	1,947	1,974	1,990	2,000	1,967	1,902	1,947	1,974	1,990	2,000	1,967
Civilian labor force	1,668	1,711	1,782	1,782	1,788	1,788	1,676	1,719	1,768	1,783	1,801	1,782
Percent of population	87.7	87.9	90.3	89.5	89.4	90.9	88.1	88.3	89.6	89.6	90.0	91.1
Employed	1,424	1,499	1,583	1,587	1,544	1,606	1,471	1,490	1,551	1,579	1,596	1,596
Unemployed	244	212	199	195	244	182	205	229	217	204	206	186
Unemployment rate	14.6	12.4	11.2	11.0	13.6	10.2	12.2	13.3	12.3	11.4	11.4	10.9
25 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	1,907	2,035	2,171	2,303	2,429	2,549	1,907	2,035	2,171	2,303	2,429	2,549
Civilian labor force	1,791	1,912	2,062	2,149	2,270	2,387	1,794	1,912	2,046	2,168	2,274	2,388
Percent of population	93.9	94.0	95.0	93.3	93.5	93.6	94.1	94.0	94.2	94.1	93.6	93.7
Employed	1,663	1,815	1,942	2,039	2,114	2,256	1,689	1,811	1,912	2,044	2,148	2,251
Unemployed	128	97	120	109	156	130	105	101	134	124	127	136
Unemployment rate	7.2	5.1	5.8	5.1	6.9	5.5	5.8	5.3	6.5	5.7	5.6	5.7
NONVETERANS												
Total, 20 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	9,209	9,334	9,454	9,567	9,716	9,930	9,209	9,334	9,454	9,567	9,716	9,930
Civilian labor force	7,844	8,093	8,436	8,200	8,264	8,604	7,997	8,076	8,138	8,371	8,435	8,586
Percent of population	85.2	86.7	89.2	85.7	85.1	86.6	86.8	86.5	86.1	87.5	86.8	86.5
Employed	7,188	7,524	7,852	7,633	7,566	8,006	7,419	7,502	7,544	7,727	7,816	7,978
Unemployed	656	569	584	567	698	598	578	574	592	644	619	608
Unemployment rate	8.4	7.0	6.9	6.9	8.4	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.7	7.3	7.1
20 to 24 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	5,327	5,468	5,582	5,620	5,825	5,980	5,327	5,468	5,582	5,620	5,825	5,980
Civilian labor force	4,158	4,429	4,741	4,456	4,573	4,860	4,321	4,421	4,448	4,610	4,753	4,842
Percent of population	78.1	81.2	84.9	79.3	78.5	81.3	81.1	80.9	79.7	82.0	81.6	81.0
Employed	3,709	4,018	4,321	4,061	4,072	4,421	3,911	4,004	4,028	4,162	4,293	4,404
Unemployed	449	423	420	394	501	439	410	417	420	448	460	437
Unemployment rate	10.8	9.5	8.9	8.8	10.9	9.0	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.7	9.7	9.0
25 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population[2]	3,882	3,866	3,872	3,947	3,891	3,950	3,882	3,866	3,872	3,947	3,891	3,950
Civilian labor force	3,686	3,654	3,695	3,744	3,691	3,744	3,676	3,654	3,687	3,762	3,682	3,745
Percent of population	95.0	94.5	95.4	94.9	94.9	94.8	94.7	94.6	95.2	95.3	94.6	94.8
Employed	3,479	3,508	3,531	3,572	3,494	3,585	3,508	3,497	3,516	3,566	3,523	3,574
Unemployed	207	146	164	172	197	159	168	157	171	196	159	171
Unemployment rate	5.6	4.0	4.4	4.6	5.3	4.2	4.6	4.3	4.6	5.2	4.3	4.6

[1] Vietnam Era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964; they are all classified as war veterans. About 80 percent of the Vietnam Era veterans of all ages are 20 to 29 years old. Post-Korean peacetime veterans are not included in this table.

[2] Since seasonal variations are not present in the population figures, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals. Rates are based on unrounded numbers. Data are subject to sampling variability which may be relatively large in cases where numbers are small. Therefore, differences between numbers or percents based on them may not be significant. For a detailed explanation of the reliability of estimates, including standard error tables, see the Technical Note in the October 1972 issue of Employment and Earnings.

Industry. The distribution by industry of employed veterans 20 to 29 years old was virtually the same as that of employed nonveterans the same ages—nearly a third held jobs in manufacturing, primarily in the durable goods industries, and a fifth were in trade, mostly in retail trade.

Among the veterans, Negro men, to a greater extent than white men, seem to take advantage of preferential hiring programs in the public sector. In the second quarter of 1972, 20 percent of the employed Negro veterans 20 to 29 years old worked for Federal, State, or local governments, compared with 12 percent of the white veterans. (See chart 2.)

Table 2. Major occupation and industry group of employed male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old, second quarter averages, 1972

[Percent distribution]

Major occupation and industry group	Veterans			Nonveterans		
	20 to 29 years	20 to 24 years	25 to 29 years	20 to 29 years	20 to 24 years	25 to 29 years
Total employed (in thousands)	3,862	1,606	2,256	8,006	4,421	3,585
OCCUPATION						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional and technical workers	10.6	5.7	14.1	17.4	13.0	22.8
Managers and administrators, except farm	7.8	6.2	8.9	8.3	5.8	11.0
Clerical workers	9.7	10.0	9.6	7.4	8.6	5.8
Sales workers	6.7	5.7	7.4	5.6	5.5	5.9
Craftsmen and kindred workers	23.5	22.7	24.1	18.5	17.8	19.4
Operatives and kindred workers	23.6	27.9	20.5	21.8	23.4	19.8
Service workers	7.7	7.5	7.9	7.6	9.4	5.4
Farmers and farm laborers, foremen	1.9	2.6	1.4	3.8	4.0	3.5
Laborers, excluding farm and mine	8.4	11.5	6.1	9.8	12.5	6.5
INDUSTRY						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	2.4	3.3	1.8	4.6	5.1	4.1
Nonagricultural industries	97.6	96.7	98.2	95.4	94.9	95.9
Wage and salary workers	94.8	94.4	95.0	91.9	92.6	91.0
Construction	9.2	10.6	8.1	8.5	9.1	7.8
Manufacturing	31.6	31.6	31.5	28.1	27.4	28.9
Durable goods	20.1	19.9	20.3	18.0	17.2	18.9
Nondurable goods	11.5	11.8	11.2	10.1	10.2	10.9
Transportation, communication, and public utilities	9.0	8.0	9.7	6.0	5.7	6.3
Trade	19.1	21.1	17.7	19.0	21.9	15.6
Finance, insurance, and real estate	3.8	3.2	4.3	3.8	3.4	4.4
Service	8.1	8.3	8.0	11.4	11.7	11.1
Government	12.8	10.0	14.8	14.0	12.4	15.9
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	2.8	2.3	3.1	3.5	2.4	4.8

NOTE: For definitions and notes on data limitations, see table 1.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate of veterans 20 to 29 fell from 9.1 percent to 8.0 percent (seasonally adjusted) in the year ended in the second quarter 1972, while the rate of nonveterans remained the same at 7.1 percent (seasonally adjusted). All of the improvement in the veterans' unemployment rate occurred among the veterans in ages 20 to 24, whose average rate dropped to 10.9 percent in second quarter 1972 from 13.3 percent a year earlier. At 5.7 percent, the unemployment rate of veterans 25 to 29 was roughly the same as in second quarter 1971.

The gap between the unemployment rate of veterans and nonveterans narrowed substantially between mid-1971 and 1972. For the second quarter of 1972, the difference was 0.9 percentage points compared with 2.0 percentage points a year before. Although most of the narrowing reflects an improved job situation for veterans, some reflects a shift in the age composition of the veterans compared to the nonveterans. Very little of the increase in the 20- to 29-year-old veteran population and labor force was in ages 20 to 24, where unemployment problems are more severe than for older veterans. With fewer men going into military service (draft calls fell from 152,000 in fiscal 1971 to 25,000 in fiscal 1972), the nonveteran population and labor force increased primarily in ages 20 to 24. Regardless of veteran status, the jobless rate for men 25 to 29 is lower than that for men 20 to 24, for such reasons as greater work experience, more familiarity with the job market, and higher seniority.

By the third quarter of 1972, the unemployment rate for veterans 20 to 29 years old had dropped to 7.2 percent, and in October the veterans' rate of 6.4 percent was little different from the 6.6 percent rate for nonveterans the same ages.

Duration. Following the economic downturn of 1970, the duration of unemployment for both veterans and nonveterans lengthened. The percentage of unemployed veterans looking for work for 15 weeks or more increased from an annual average of 9 percent in 1969 to 15 percent in 1970 to 25 percent in 1971. The comparable statistic for nonveterans has increased in a similar fashion. In the second quarter of 1972, about 30 percent of the jobless veterans and nonveterans had been unemployed for at least 15 weeks, the same proportions as in the second quarter a year earlier. (See table 3.)

Reasons for unemployment. Some persons become unemployed by losing or quitting a job, while others are unemployed as a consequence of coming into the labor force and starting to look for work. As the following percentages for the second quarter of 1972 indicate, veterans and nonveterans differed slightly in their reasons for unemployment:

	Veterans	*Nonveterans*
Total unemployed (in thousands)	312	598
Percent	100.0	100.0
Job losers	45.2	50.2
On layoff	11.5	9.4
Other job losers	33.7	40.8
Job leavers	12.5	14.2
Labor force entrants	42.3	35.6
Reentrants	34.6	30.1
New workers	7.7	5.5

In the second quarter of 1972, veterans and nonveterans were about equally likely to be on layoff, but the veterans were less likely to have lost their jobs for such reasons as dismissal, expiration of a temporary job, or plant closing. A somewhat greater percentage of the veterans than of the nonveterans were either reentrants to the labor force or had never worked before.

Younger veterans were more likely than older veterans to be labor force entrants, because more of them had only recently left the Armed Forces. Job-finding problems for newcomers to the labor force, whether veterans or nonveterans, tend to be exacerbated by the fact that they may not be as familiar with the intricacies of the job market as those who left or lost a job.

Chart 1. Occupational distribution of male Vietnam Era veterans 20 to 29 years old, by race, 2d quarter averages, 1972

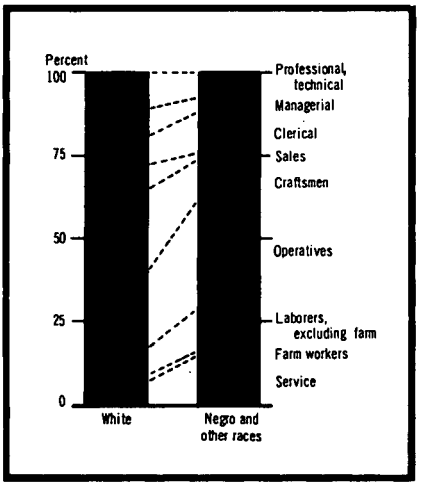


Table 3. Duration of unemployment of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old, quarterly averages, 1971 and 1972

(Percent distribution)

Veteran status and duration of unemployment	1971				1972	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II
VETERANS						
Total unemployed:						
Number (in thousands)	372	309	319	304	400	312
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	38.4	40.8	42.9	42.6	41.1	40.6
5 to 14 weeks	37.9	29.8	33.5	33.6	33.9	28.6
15 weeks or more	23.7	29.4	23.5	23.9	25.0	30.8
NONVETERANS						
Total unemployed:						
Number (in thousands)	656	569	584	567	698	598
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	39.3	45.1	44.0	39.8	35.7	46.0
5 to 14 weeks	38.9	25.2	35.3	36.4	34.7	24.7
15 weeks or more	21.8	29.6	20.7	23.9	29.6	29.3

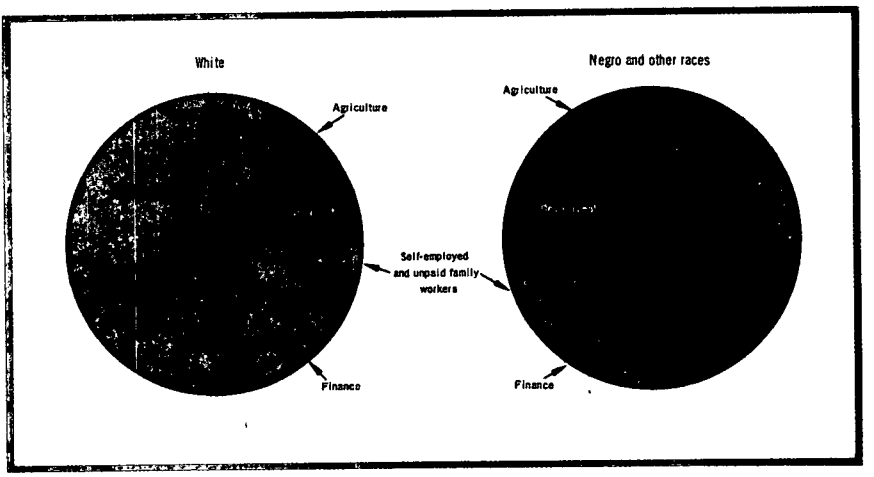
NOTE: For definitions and notes on data limitations, see table 1.

Men not in the labor force

In the second quarter of 1972, about 8 percent (340,000) of the veterans were neither working nor looking for work, compared with 13 percent (1.3 million) of the nonveterans. The proportion not in the labor force was smaller for veterans because of a combination of demographic and social factors. Among these is the larger proportion of veterans in their late twenties, an age group in which the labor force participation rate is higher than for those 20 to 24 years old. Another factor is the larger proportion of veterans than nonveterans who head households. In the April-June quarter of 1972, about two-thirds of the veterans but only half of the nonveterans were household heads, with a wife and, perhaps, young children to support. All of this difference was accounted for by the 20- to 24-year-old men, among whom about half of the veterans compared with about a third of the nonveterans had these family responsibilities.

Attendance at school was by far the most impor-

Chart 2. Employment of male Vietnam Era veterans 20 to 29 years old, by race and major industry group, 2d quarter 1972



[1] Excluding government.

tant reason given for not being in the labor force. In the second quarter of 1972, about two-thirds of the veterans and three-fourths of the nonveterans not in the labor force gave school as their reason for nonparticipation. The next most frequently given reason was not wanting a job. (See chart 3.)

On an annual average basis for 1971, veterans 20 to 24 years old and those 25 to 29 years old differed little in their reasons for nonparticipation in the labor force. In contrast, nonveterans exhibited large differences by age. Younger nonveterans were almost twice as likely as older nonveterans to be in school, while they were less likely than older nonveterans to mention ill health or disability as a reason for nonparticipation. Few of the veterans in either their early or late twenties gave this reason. Relatively few (2 to 3 percent) of the veterans and nonveterans not in the labor force in the first half of 1972 gave as their reason the belief that they could not find a job.

Education

Vietnam Era veterans are better educated when they leave the service than were World War II or Korean Conflict veterans at the time of their separation from military service, reflecting in part a general increase in the educational attainment of the population. For all the servicemen discharged from August 1964 through the end of 1971, the median years of schooling completed at time of separation was 12.5 years. This compares with 12.3 years for Korean Conflict veterans and 11.5 years for World War II veterans. Educational attainment at separation was highest for Vietnam Era veterans 25 to 29 years old (12.9 years). Nearly half (46 percent) of the men in this age group had completed at least 1 year of college.[5]

Since the midsixties, the median educational attainment of veterans at time of separation has increased gradually from 12.4 to 12.6 years. In fiscal 1965 through 1967, about 17 percent of the separatees had completed a year of college or more. This proportion reached 27 percent in the first half of fiscal 1972, including 13 percent who had graduated from college.[4]

Roughly 10 percent of the veteran population 20 to 24 years old in the year ending in June 1972, reported school as their major activity.[6] The proportion for nonveterans of the same age was twice as high. Among 25- to 29-year-olds, about 6 percent of the veterans and 3 percent of the nonveterans were in school.

Students generally have a much lower labor force participation rate than those whose major activity is something else. In the second quarter of 1972, 30 percent of the veterans 20 to 29 years old in school were in the labor force in contrast to 97 percent of the veterans out of school. The labor force participation rate of students was the same for veterans and nonveterans, but among nonstudents veterans had a slightly higher rate.

About a tenth of the unemployed veterans and nonveterans were students, and most of these were seeking part-time work. In the second quarter of the year, however, the proportion seeking part-time jobs usually decreases, probably because students begin working or looking for full-time summer jobs before the end of the school year, as shown by the following tabulation for veterans in the first and second quarters of 1972:

	I	II
Total unemployed (in thousands)	400	312
Percent	100.0	100.0
Major activity: school	13.0	9.0
Looking for full-time work	4.3	4.8
Looking for part-time work	8.7	4.2
Majority activity: other	87.0	91.0
Looking for full-time work	84.3	88.8
Looking for part-time work	2.7	2.2

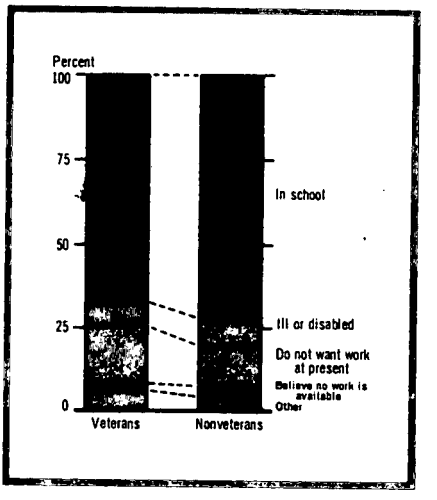
In contrast, the overwhelming majority of unemployed nonstudents look for full-time jobs the year round.

The unemployment rate of men 20 to 29 years old in school is far higher than that of those not in school. For veterans, in the second quarter of 1972, the unemployment rate was 29 percent for students in contrast to 7 percent for nonstudents. The corresponding unemployment rates for nonveterans were 13 percent for students and 7 percent for nonstudents.

Race and residence

Race. Negroes constitute a smaller proportion of Vietnam Era veterans than of nonveterans. In the first half of 1972, they made up about 9 percent of the 20- to 29-year-old veteran population and labor force but almost 13 percent of the nonveteran population and labor force. The smaller proportion of Negroes among veterans is primarily due to two reasons. Relatively more Negroes than whites are disqualified from entering the Armed Forces,[6] and relatively more eligible Negroes, than whites reenlist when their enlistments expire.[7]

Chart 3. Reasons for nonparticipation in the labor force of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old, 2d quarter averages, 1972



The employment situation of veterans of Negro and other minority races can be discussed only in general terms because the data are based on small numbers of sample cases and sampling variability is high. The unemployment rates of Negro veterans have not been significantly different statistically from those of Negro nonveterans, but have been substantially higher than the unemployment rates of white veterans. (See table 4.) During 1971 and the first half of 1972, the quarterly average unemployment rate of Negro veterans was in the range of 12 to 15 percent, compared with 7 to 10 percent for white veterans.

Residence. Following the national pattern,[8] more Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old reside in the Southern and North Central regions of the United States than in the Northeast and West. The unemployment rates for veterans and nonveterans in the Southern and North Central regions are considerably lower than comparable rates the Northeast and West. (See table 5.) In the second quarter of 1972, the jobless rates for veterans 20 to

29 years old were 5.6 and 6.7 percent, respectively, in the Southern and North Central regions, compared with 8.9 and 9.9 percent in the West and Northeast.

About half the Negro veterans 20 to 29 years old live in the South, in contrast to about one-quarter of the white veterans; this is comparable to the distribution of the total population by race. The unemployment rate for the Negro veterans in the South, at 13.8 percent, was about three times as high as for white veterans, though not significantly higher than for Negro veterans living elsewhere (11.7 percent). Outside the South, the unemployment rate of Negro veterans was only one and a half times as high as for white veterans.

Special programs

Among the continuing programs and benefits for veterans are the longstanding GI Bill administered by the Veterans Administration, Project Transition,

Table 4. Employment status of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old, by race, quarterly averages, 1971 and 1972

[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status	White						Negro and other races					
	1971				1972		1971				1972	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	I	II	III	IV	I	II
VETERANS												
Total, 20 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,446	3,596	3,721	3,878	4,028	4,102	363	386	425	415	401	413
Civilian labor force	3,135	3,274	3,456	3,558	3,708	3,799	324	350	388	373	350	375
Percent of population	91.0	91.0	92.9	91.7	92.1	92.6	89.3	90.7	91.3	89.9	87.3	90.8
Employed	2,812	3,008	3,191	3,306	3,361	3,535	275	308	334	322	297	327
Unemployed	323	266	265	252	347	264	49	42	54	52	53	48
Unemployment rate	10.3	8.1	7.7	7.1	9.3	7.0	15.1	12.1	14.0	13.8	15.3	12.7
20 to 24 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,699	1,737	1,761	1,798	1,800	1,748	203	210	214	192	200	219
Civilian labor force	1,489	1,527	1,593	1,615	1,617	1,595	179	184	189	167	171	193
Percent of population	87.6	87.9	90.5	89.8	89.8	91.2	88.2	87.6	88.3	87.0	85.5	88.1
Employed	1,282	1,347	1,424	1,447	1,411	1,442	142	153	159	140	133	164
Unemployed	207	180	169	168	206	153	37	31	30	27	38	2.9
Unemployment rate	13.9	11.8	10.6	10.4	12.7	9.6	20.9	17.0	16.0	15.9	22.4	15.1
25 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,747	1,859	1,961	2,080	2,228	2,354	160	176	211	223	201	195
Civilian labor force	1,646	1,747	1,863	1,943	2,091	2,205	145	165	199	206	179	182
Percent of population	94.2	94.0	95.0	93.4	93.8	93.7	90.6	93.8	94.3	92.4	89.1	93.3
Employed	1,529	1,661	1,767	1,859	1,950	2,093	133	154	175	181	164	164
Unemployed	117	86	96	84	141	112	12	11	24	25	15	2.9
Unemployment rate	7.1	4.9	5.2	4.3	6.7	5.1	8.0	6.7	12.0	12.0	8.6	10.2
NONVETERANS												
Total, 20 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population	7,964	8,072	8,183	8,260	8,463	8,652	1,245	1,262	1,271	1,307	1,253	1,278
Civilian labor force	6,798	7,020	7,338	7,116	7,232	7,539	1,045	1,073	1,098	1,084	1,032	1,065
Percent of population	85.4	87.0	89.7	86.2	85.5	87.1	83.9	85.0	86.4	82.9	82.4	83.3
Employed	6,277	6,567	6,888	6,679	6,678	7,053	910	958	963	955	888	953
Unemployed	521	453	450	437	553	486	135	115	135	129	145	112
Unemployment rate	7.7	6.5	6.1	6.1	7.6	6.4	12.9	10.7	12.3	11.9	14.0	10.5
20 to 24 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,616	4,739	4,834	4,838	5,066	5,220	711	729	748	782	759	761
Civilian labor force	3,604	3,850	4,119	3,853	3,994	4,263	554	589	621	603	579	597
Percent of population	78.1	81.2	85.2	79.6	78.8	81.7	77.9	80.8	83.0	77.1	76.3	78.4
Employed	3,252	3,519	3,795	3,549	3,596	3,913	457	497	525	513	476	508
Unemployed	352	331	324	304	397	350	97	92	96	90	104	89
Unemployment rate	9.8	8.6	7.9	7.9	9.9	8.2	17.4	15.6	15.5	15.0	17.9	14.9
20 to 29 years:												
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,348	3,333	3,349	3,422	3,397	3,433	534	533	523	525	494	517
Civilian labor force	3,195	3,170	3,219	3,263	3,238	3,277	491	484	477	481	453	467
Percent of population	95.4	95.1	96.1	95.4	95.3	95.5	91.9	90.8	91.2	91.6	91.7	90.3
Employed	3,026	3,048	3,093	3,130	3,082	3,140	453	460	438	442	412	444
Unemployed	169	122	126	133	156	136	38	24	39	39	41	23
Unemployment rate	5.3	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.8	4.2	7.8	4.9	8.1	8.0	9.0	4.9

NOTE: For definitions and notes on data limitations, see table 1.

Table 5. Employment status of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old, by region and race, second quarter averages, 1972

[Numbers in thousands]

Labor force status and race	Veterans					Nonveterans				
	Total	Northeast	North Central	South	West	Total	Northeast	North Central	South	West
ALL MEN										
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,515	997	1,293	1,344	881	9,931	2,427	2,675	3,091	1,738
Civilian labor force	4,174	921	1,209	1,242	802	8,603	2,034	2,370	2,699	1,500
Percent of population	92.4	92.4	93.5	92.4	91.0	86.6	83.8	88.6	87.3	86.3
Employed	3,862	830	1,128	1,173	731	8,005	1,856	2,210	2,570	1,369
Unemployed	312	91	81	69	71	599	178	161	129	131
Unemployment rate	7.5	9.9	6.7	5.6	8.9	7.0	8.8	6.8	4.8	8.7
Not in labor force	341	76	84	102	79	1,328	393	305	392	238
WHITE										
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,102	927	1,214	1,139	822	8,653	2,190	2,429	2,466	1,568
Civilian labor force	3,799	859	1,134	1,055	751	7,539	1,851	2,164	2,162	1,362
Percent of population	92.6	92.7	93.4	92.6	91.4	87.1	84.5	89.1	87.8	86.9
Employed	3,535	775	1,061	1,012	687	7,054	1,697	2,034	2,072	1,251
Unemployed	264	84	73	43	64	486	154	131	90	111
Unemployment rate	6.9	9.8	6.4	4.1	8.5	6.4	8.3	6.1	4.2	8.1
Not in labor force	303	68	80	84	71	1,114	339	265	304	206
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES										
Civilian noninstitutional population	413	70	79	205	59	1,278	237	246	625	170
Civilian labor force	375	62	75	187	51	1,064	183	206	537	138
Percent of population	91.8	[1]	95.0	91.2	[1]	83.3	77.2	83.7	85.9	81.2
Employed	327	55	67	161	44	951	159	176	498	118
Unemployed	48	7	8	26	7	113	24	30	39	20
Unemployment rate	12.8	[1]	10.7	13.8	[1]	10.6	13.1	14.6	7.3	14.5
Not in labor force	38	8	4	18	8	214	54	40	88	32

[1] Percent not shown where base is less than 75,000.

NOTE: For definitions and notes on data limitations, see table 1.

under the Department of Defense, and Employment Services, Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemen, and Reemployment Rights, all under the Department of Labor. In the past year, many of these programs have been expanded and new ones added. The President's 6-point veterans program spurred substantial increases in veterans' job counseling, placement, and training benefits, and also prompted increased job opportunities in private industry through such organizations as the National Alliance of Businessmen.

Through June 1972, 41 percent of all Vietnam Era veterans have participated in educational programs under the current GI Bill (effective June 1966). The comparable proportions of veterans participating under previous GI Bills after a similar length of time were 40 percent of Korean Conflict servicemen and 46 percent of World War II veterans. On October 24, 1972, amendments were signed into law raising the amount of the current GI Bill educational benefits for full-time students from the $175 per month for a single veteran to $220, with corresponding increases for veterans with dependents.

By the end of June 1972, about 1.5 million servicemen had received some type of job counseling for civilian jobs under Project Transition which began in January 1968. In addition, some 258,000 had participated in a job-training program, frequently run on or near military bases by private industry. Although Project Transition is primarily for those servicemen most in need of vocational training and education for civilian life, it recently incorporated many other special programs. One such program is Military Experience Directed Into Health Careers (MEDIHC), a joint program of the Departments of Defense and Health, Education, and Welfare, in which servicemen who received military training in the health or medical fields are assisted in obtaining jobs in the civilian health fields. The placement rate in mid-1972 ranged from 40 to 70 percent depending upon the State. A companion program, the Veterans Construction Jobs Clearinghouse, assists servicemen who have been trained as construction mechanics. The program is supported by Department of Labor funds and manned by representatives of the construction industry.

Other examples of new or amplified benefits for

Vietnam Era veterans were additional payments to eligible veterans (as well as others) under the Temporary Unemployment Compensation Program and the employment of veterans (and others) under the Public Employment Program.

These are only a few examples of the nationwide efforts which helped Vietnam Era veterans get educational and vocational training and contributed to the improvement in their employment situation during fiscal year 1972. □

FOOTNOTES

[1] About 83,000 women veterans of the Vietnam Era are not included in this report because employment data are not available for them. In this report, Vietnam Era veterans are those who served in the Armed Forces after Aug. 4, 1964, have been separated from active duty, and are now in the civilian noninstitutional population. Korean Conflict veterans served during the period June 27, 1950, to Jan. 31, 1955. World War II veterans served at any time from Sept. 16, 1940, to July 25, 1947. Nonveterans include those who have never served in the Armed Forces or who served only in peacetime prior to June 27, 1950. Post-Korean Conflict veterans—men who served between Feb. 1, 1955, and Aug. 4, 1964—are not included in this report.

Unless otherwise indicated, data on the civilian noninstitutional population, labor force, employment status, and educational attainment are derived from the nationwide Current Population Survey (CPS) sample of about 50,000 households. The CPS, conducted each month by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is the source of special tabulation by veteran status prepared for the Veterans Administration and BLS. The data are subject to sampling variability, which may be relatively large for the smaller figures and for small differences between figures. Standard errors of monthly sample estimates are published by BLS in *Employment and Earnings*. These standard errors must be reduced by a factor of .7070 for quarterly averages, and .4472 for annual averages. Details about basic labor force concepts, sample design, and estimating methods are decribed in *Concepts and Methods Used in Manpower Statistics From the Current Population Survey* (BLS Report 313, 1967).

The latest in this series of annual reports on the employment situation of Vietnam Era veterans was published in the *Monthly Labor Review*, September 1971, pp. 3–11, and reprinted as Special Labor Force Report 137.

[2] Data for all persons other than white are used in this report to represent data for Negroes, since the latter constitute about 92 percent of all persons other than white persons in the United States.

[3] See *Data on Vietnam Era Veterans, December 1971* (Veterans Administration, 1972), p. 8.

[4] *Ibid.*, p. 7.

[5] Respondents in the Current Population Survey were asked, "What were you doing most of last week?" On the basis of their replies, persons were classified into two groups —Major activity: going to school and Major activity: other. In this report, those whose major activity was going to school are referred to as "students" and those whose major activity was something else are classified as "not in school."

[6] Data on disqualifications on the basis of medical, mental, and trainability tests were provided by the Medical Statistics Agency, Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army. In these data, statistics for Negroes refer to Negroes only and statistics for whites refer to all others (non-Negro).

[7] Data on reenlistment rates and ineligibility to reenlist were provided by the Director of Procurement Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. In these data, statistics for Negroes refer to Negroes only and statistics for whites refer to whites only.

[8] See *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1971* (BLS Report 402, 1972).

Enclosure 3

Employment and unemployment—a report on 1973

Total employment posted greatest percentage increase since 1955, with adult men and women each gaining about 1.1 million jobs; number of jobless dropped to 4.3 million, as unemployment rate declined

CURTIS L. GILROY and THOMAS F. BRADSHAW

KEEPING PACE with the growth in the economy, the Nation's job market showed substantial improvement during 1973, particularly during the first three quarters of the year. Employment rose rapidly, leading to a sharp reduction in the number of unemployed workers and a significant decline in the overall jobless rate. (See table 1 and chart 1.)

Total employment rose by 2.7 million in 1973, to an average of 84.4 million workers—a 3.3-percent gain, the largest year-to-year increase since 1955. From mid-1971—when the current economic expansion began—through the fourth quarter of 1973, the number of jobs increased by 6.5 million.[1]

The civilian labor force rose 2.1 millon in 1973, an increase substantially in excess of the yearly gains of about a million and a half which can be anticipated from the increase in the population of working age. The large civilian labor force advance registered in 1973 resulted in part from increased job market participation by women and teenagers and, to a lesser extent, from further reductions in the size of the Armed Forces.

With the increase in employment outstripping the growth in the labor force, the number of jobless workers declined to an average of 4.3 million—a drop of 535,000 from the previous year—and the unemployment rate decreased from 5.6 to 4.9 percent. However, after edging down to 4.7 percent in the third quarter, the jobless rate showed no further improvement during the balance of the year. In the closing months it actually began to rise, as the pace of the economic expansion began to slacken.

Changes for major demographic groups

Adult men and women (age 20 and over) accounted for 80 percent of the 1973 increase in employment, with each of these groups posting job gains of 1.1 million to levels of 47.9 and 29.2 million, respectively. (See table 2.) Over half of the increase in adult employment took place among workers 25 years and over, but the greatest proportionate gains were by men and women age 20 to 24. This development is related to the rapid increase in the population in this group (which represents the maturing of the "baby boom" of the late 1940's and early 1950's), a rise in their participation in the labor force, and a reduction in the Armed Forces.

Altogether, men 20 and over made up three-fifths of the decrease in the number of unemployed persons in 1973. Their jobless rate averaged 3.2 percent, down substantially from the 4.0-percent level of 1972 and from its most recent high of 4.4 percent in the latter half of 1971. By the final quarter of 1973, the adult male rate had edged down to 3.0 percent. The decrease in joblessness was evident both among men 20 to 24 and those 25 years and over, as their rates fell, respectively, from 9.2 to 7.3 percent and from 3.1 to 2.5 percent.

Adult women accounted for one-quarter of the reduction in the number of jobless in 1973. Their unemployment rate declined from 5.4 percent in 1972 to 4.8 percent in 1973. As with adult men, the improvement benefited those in the 20-to-24 age group and those 25 and over. The jobless rate for women 20 to 24, which had showed no change from 1971 to 1972, declined from 9.3 to 8.4 percent in 1973; the rate for those 25 and over moved down from 4.6 to 4.0 percent.

The employment situation of teenagers also improved in 1973, as the number of teenage jobs rose about 515,000 to 7.2 million. Unemployment continued to run high among these young workers, relative to other labor force groups, however, although their unemployment rate did drop during 1973. Since hitting a post-World War II high of 17.8 percent in the first quarter of 1972, the rate for teenagers has exhibited a gradual downward trend, aver-

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aging 14.3 percent for the last two quarters of 1973.

The employment situation for two important demographic groups—household heads and married men—showed marked improvement. The jobless rate for heads of households (male and female combined) fell from 3.3 percent in 1972 to 2.9 percent in 1973, while that for married men declined by half a percentage point, to 2.3 percent. Both rates are important indicators—economic as well as social—because they apply to prime worker groups who have considerable family responsibilities as well as substantial productive capacity.

The employment situation of black workers

The continued expansion in the economy during 1973 produced an improvement in employment which was similar among black and white workers.[2] This occurred among all three major demographic groups—adult men, adult women, and teenagers. In terms of total employment, that for blacks rose to 9.1 million, up 330,000 from its 1972 level. White employment stood at 75.3 million in 1973, up 2.3 million over the year.[3] From mid-1971, when economic activity began to pick up, to the fourth quarter of 1973, employment advanced by approximately 8 percent both for whites and blacks. However, since the black civilian population of working age has been increasing at a more rapid rate than the comparable white population, the percentage with jobs (the employment-population ratio) did not change significantly for blacks, while edging upward for whites. In the last quarter of the year, the employment-population ratios were 55.4 percent for blacks and 58.7 percent for whites.

The number of jobless blacks decreased 60,000 during 1973—to 890,000—after rising slightly the previous year. Joblessness among white workers averaged 3.4 million, down substantially from 3.9 million in 1972. For both groups, the jobless rate declined in 1973, from 5.0 to 4.3 percent for whites and from 10.0 to 8.9 percent for blacks. (See chart 2.)

When absolute changes in the unemployment rate of blacks and whites are compared in ratio form, it can be seen that, in the recent recession as in others, a larger proportion of the black than of the white labor force became unemployed during the downturn. For example, from the last quarter of 1969 to early 1971, the jobless rate for blacks increased from 6.2 to 9.7 percent (or 3.5 percentage points), while that for whites rose from 3.3 to 5.5 percent (or 2.2 percentage points). Since the change in the black rate was 1.6 times as large as the change in the white rate, it meant that, proportionate to the size of their labor force, about 16 black workers were added to the unemployment rolls for every 10 white workers.[4]

During the recovery periods of previous business

Table 1. Employment situation highlights, 1969–73

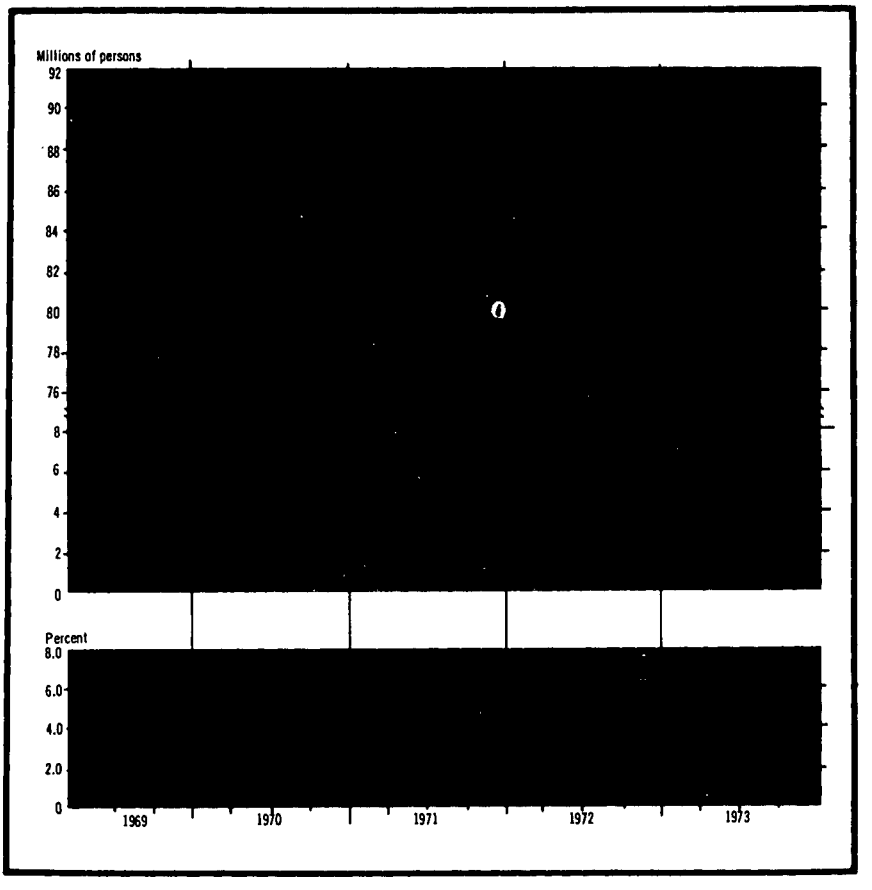
(Numbers in millions)

Selected categories	Annual averages					Seasonally adjusted quarterly averages, 1973[1]			
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	I	II	III	IV
Civilian labor force	80.7	82.7	84.1	86.5	88.7	87.6	88.5	89.0	89.9
Total employment	77.9	78.6	79.1	81.7	84.4	83.2	84.1	84.8	85.7
Men, 20 years and over	45.4	46.2	47.9	46.9	47.9	47.5	47.7	48.1	48.5
Women, 20 years and over	26.4	28.3	28.8	28.1	29.2	28.6	29.2	29.5	29.7
Both sexes, 16–19 years	6.1	7.2	7.5	6.7	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.5
Unemployment	2.8	4.1	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2
Unemployment rates (percent):									
All workers	3.5	4.9	5.9	5.6	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7
Men, 20 years and over	2.1	3.5	4.4	4.0	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0
Women, 20 years and over	3.7	4.8	5.7	5.4	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7
Both sexes, 16–19 years	12.2	15.3	16.9	16.2	14.5	14.7	14.7	14.3	14.3
White	3.1	4.5	5.4	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2
Negro and other races	6.4	8.2	9.9	10.0	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6
Household heads	1.8	2.9	3.6	3.3	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8
Married men	1.5	2.6	3.2	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1
Full time	3.1	4.5	5.5	5.1	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3
Part time	6.2	7.6	8.7	8.6	7.9	7.7	8.5	8.1	7.4
Workers unemployed 15 weeks and over	.5	.8	1.4	1.3	.9	1.0	.9	.9	.9

[1] Seasonally adjusted data have been revised to reflect the seasonal experience through December 1973.

Chart 1. Employment situation indicators, 1969–73

[Seasonally adjusted quarterly averages]



cycles, blacks left the ranks of the unemployed in relatively greater numbers than whites. This has not been the case so far during the present recovery period in which the unemployment rates of both blacks and whites declined about equally. From early 1971 to the last quarter of 1973, the white jobless rate fell from 5.5 to 4.2 percent, while the black rate has declined from 9.7 to 8.6 percent. Proportionate to the size of their labor force, about 8 black workers for every 10 whites left the ranks of the unemployed from early 1971. Unlike previous expansion periods, black unemployment has declined very slowly relative to that for whites. This is because the jobless rate for whites began its decline in early 1971, whereas the black rate did not begin to recede until the second quarter of 1972, after having reached a 10-year high of 10.7 percent in the first quarter. If the comparison were made from the peak of the black rate, approximately 2 blacks for every 1 white left the unemployment stream.

Overall, in 1973, blacks were still more than twice as likely as whites to be unemployed, as the black-to-white unemployment rate ratio remained at or above 2 to 1 throughout the year. This black-white ratio differed, however, among the major age-sex groups. The 1973 ratios of black and white jobless rates among adult men (5.7 and 2.9 percent respectively) and adult women (8.2 and 4.3 percent) were slightly below 2 to 1. The largest disparity existed between black and white teenagers. With an unemployment rate of 30.2 percent, black teenagers were nearly 2½ times as likely to be jobless as white teenagers (12.6 percent).

Full-time and part-time changes

The bulk of the yearly increase in employment was accounted for by persons working full time (35 or more hours a week)—another reflection of the strong job picture in 1973. The number of such workers increased by 2.3 million from its 1972 level to 66.0 million. There was also a small rise in the number of workers on part-time schedules, as well as an increase in the ranks of those who, although having a job, were absent for such reasons as vacation, illness, labor dispute, bad weather, and so on.

At 13.4 million, the number of part-time workers was up 230,000 in 1973 and represented slightly less than 20 percent of the persons at work. Over four-fifths of the part timers, primarily women and teenagers, did not want full-time work. The others, in contrast, had either taken part-time jobs after an unsuccessful search for full-time work, or had their workweek cut below 35 hours by adverse economic factors. The number of such "underemployed" averaged 2.5 million, 150,000 below the 1971 peak.

Of the 4.3 million workers unemployed during 1973, three-quarters (3.3 million) were seeking full-time work. Nearly all adult jobless men sought full-time jobs. One of every 5 jobless women and 1 out of every 2 unemployed teenagers wanted only part-time work. These proportions have remained relatively stable over the last several years, despite cyclical changes in the demand for labor.

Unemployment rates of both full-time and part-time jobseekers decreased during the current expansion. The rate for full-time workers declined from 5.1 percent in 1972 to 4.3 percent in 1973, while that for part-time workers fell from 8.6 to 7.9 percent (annual averages).

The amount of job-search activity which workers must undertake when they become unemployed has declined noticeably since 1971, for both full-time and part-time workers. For example, full-time workers used an average of 1.60 job-search methods in

Table 2. Employment status by age, sex, and color, 1971–73

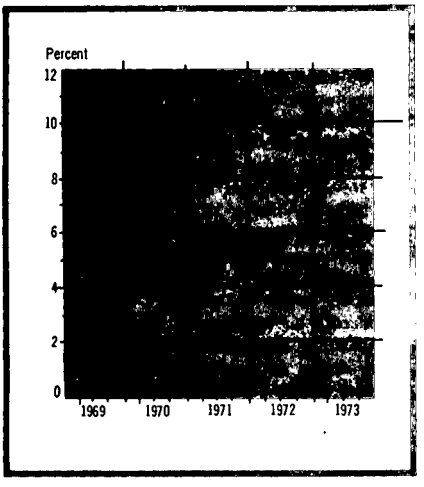
[Numbers in thousands]

Age, sex, and color	Civilian labor force			Employment			Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973
ALL WORKERS												
Total, 16 years and over	84,113	86,542	88,714	79,120	81,702	84,407	4,993	4,840	4,304	5.9	5.6	4.9
Men, 20 years and over	47,861	48,808	49,539	45,775	46,880	47,946	2,086	1,928	1,594	4.4	4.0	3.2
20–24 years	6,194	6,995	7,080	5,559	6,076	6,566	635	619	514	10.3	9.2	7.3
25 years and over	41,666	42,113	42,459	40,216	40,804	41,380	1,451	1,309	1,079	3.5	3.1	2.5
Women, 20 years and over	28,799	29,710	30,713	27,149	28,100	29,228	1,650	1,610	1,485	5.7	5.4	4.8
20–24 years	5,071	5,315	5,592	4,585	4,818	5,121	486	497	471	9.6	9.3	8.4
25 years and over	23,728	24,395	25,121	22,564	23,282	24,106	1,164	1,113	1,014	4.9	4.6	4.0
Both sexes, 16–19 years	7,453	8,024	8,461	6,195	6,722	7,236	1,257	1,302	1,225	16.9	16.2	14.5
WHITE												
Total, 16 years and over	74,790	76,958	78,689	70,716	73,074	75,278	4,074	3,884	3,411	5.4	5.0	4.3
Men, 20 years and over	43,088	43,961	44,490	41,347	42,382	43,183	1,741	1,599	1,307	4.0	3.6	2.9
Women, 20 years and over	25,030	25,882	26,647	23,707	24,554	25,494	1,324	1,328	1,153	5.3	4.9	4.3
Both sexes, 16–19 years	6,672	7,175	7,552	5,662	6,158	6,602	1,010	1,017	950	15.1	14.2	12.6
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES												
Total, 16 years and over	9,322	9,584	10,025	8,403	8,626	9,131	919	956	894	9.9	10.0	8.9
Men, 20 years and over	4,773	4,847	5,049	4,428	4,518	4,762	345	329	287	7.2	6.8	5.7
Women, 20 years and over	3,769	3,888	4,056	3,442	3,546	3,734	326	342	332	8.7	8.8	8.2
Both sexes, 16–19 years	781	849	707	533	564	634	248	284	275	31.7	33.5	30.2

NOTE: Comparisons of 1972 and 1973 data with earlier data are affected by the introduction of 1970 census adjustments to the estimation procedures. See text footnotes 1 and 6.

Chart 2. Unemployment rates of Negro and white workers, 1969–73

(Seasonally adjusted quarterly averages)



1973, compared with 1.70 in 1971; for part-time workers the decline was from 1.35 to 1.30.

Occupational developments

The year 1973 was characterized by considerable employment growth and reduced unemployment for most major occupation groups. Unlike the situation in 1972, economic expansion in 1973 led to a reduction in joblessness among white-collar as well as blue-collar workers.[6]

White-collar employment rose by 1.3 million in 1973. At 40.4 million, it accounted for 48 percent of total employment. The jobless rate of white-collar workers, after remaining above the 3-percent level throughout 1971 and 1972, dropped to 2.9 percent (annual average) in 1973. (See table 3.) Employment of managers and administrators increased by over 610,000 from 1972 to 1973, and their unemployment rate dropped to 1.4 percent. There was also an encouraging job gain among professional and technical workers, a group that suffered an unusually high rise in joblessness during the 1970 downturn. From 1972 to 1973 their jobless rate declined modestly, from 2.4 to 2.2 percent, but was down substantially relative to the post-World War II high of 3.1 percent in early 1971. This reflects in large part the marked improvement of the employment situation for scientists and engineers, occupational categories hard hit by cutbacks in defense and aerospace activity which began in 1969. Jobless rates for clerical workers and sales workers were also significantly lower than those of a year ago.

Employment of blue-collar workers—particularly sensitive to cyclical swings in the economy—has expanded at a rapid pace since late 1971. From 1972 to 1973, it increased 1.3 million, with craft and operative occupations accounting for 480,000 and 720,000, respectively, of the rise. As a result, the unemployment rate for blue-collar workers continued its descent begun in late 1971, and, as of the last quarter of 1973, was down to 5.3 percent, its lowest level since early 1970. On an annual average basis, the blue-collar jobless rate was also 5.3 percent, down from 6.5 percent in 1972. Operatives experienced the greatest reduction in unemployment —from 6.9 percent in 1972 to 5.7 percent in 1973. The 1973 rates for craft workers (3.7 percent) and nonfarm laborers (8.4 percent) were also substantially below their 1972 levels.

Private household employment fell by about 85,000 from 1972 to 1973, continuing its historical downward trend. The increase in job opportunities in other services, however, particularly in food and health services, resulted in a gain in employment of 160,000 for the service occupations group as a whole. The unemployment rate for service workers, which was unchanged at 6.3 percent over the 1971–72 period, dropped markedly throughout 1973, to 5.7 percent on an annual average basis.

Employment of farm workers, after increasing slightly in 1972, was unchanged at about 3.0 million in 1973.

Industry developments

Nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 2.8 million in 1973, exceeding the 2.1-million increase of 1972.[7] The most rapid growth occurred in the goods-producing industries, where the number of jobs grew by over 1 million or 4.5 percent, twice the gain in 1972. (See table 4.) This strong rebound from the cyclical lows reached in 1971 brought the number of goods-producing jobs in the fourth quarter of 1973 past the previous alltime high reached during the height of the 1961-69 job expansion. In the service-producing sector, less sensitive to cyclical swings of the economy, employment grew at a 3.6-percent rate in 1973,

slightly above that of 1972. In both sectors, employment growth was strong in the first two quarters, slowed considerably in the third quarter, and picked up again in the fourth.

Manufacturing dominated the advance in goods-producing jobs with an upswing of 890,000, over twice as large as that posted in 1972. Most of the 1973 increase was accounted for by production workers. Nonproduction workers—in their first job gains since 1969—rose by 150,000, after declining by 300,000 between 1969 and 1971 and holding constant in 1972. By the fourth quarter of 1973, factory employment had risen 1.6 million from the third quarter of 1971, its low point for the 1970–71 slump.

Despite the strong cyclical recovery in factory employment, its level in the last quarter of 1973 (20.1 million) was still 200,000 below the alltime high reached in mid-1969. This deficit stems primarily from the fact that employment in two of the defense supply industries—ordnance and aerospace—has declined from the marks reached during the Vietnam war.

The cyclical upswing in manufacturing employment has been concentrated in the durable goods industries, where the number of jobs rose by 1.3 million from the third quarter of 1971 to the last quarter of 1973. From 1972 to 1973, employment in the durable goods sector increased 750,000, or 6.9 percent, with all the component industries posting gains from the preceding year. Employment in the five major metal and metal-using industries—primary metals, fabricated metals, machinery, electrical equipment, and transportation equipment—accounted for over four-fifths of this rise.

Nondurable goods employment, less affected by the 1969–71 downturn, likewise contributed less to the expansion—rising 285,000 between the third quarter of 1971 and the fourth quarter of 1973. The gain on an annual basis between 1972 and 1973 was 140,000, with the largest advances posted in textiles and rubber and plastics.

Reflecting the large growth in total factory jobs, manufacturing workers experienced a second large yearly decline in unemployment, as their jobless rate dropped to 4.3 percent. This represented a substantial decline from the 5.6-percent level of 1972 and from the 13-year high of 7.0 percent in the first quarter of 1971. As was the case in factory employ-

Table 3. Unemployment rates by occupation and industry, 1969–73

Occupation and industry	Annual averages					Seasonally adjusted quarterly averages, 1973[1]			
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	I	II	III	IV
OCCUPATION									
White-collar workers	2.1	2.8	3.5	3.4	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.8
Professional and technical	1.3	2.0	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2
Managers and administrators, except farm	.9	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3
Sales workers	2.9	3.9	4.3	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6
Clerical workers	3.0	4.0	4.8	4.7	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.0
Blue-collar workers	3.9	6.2	7.4	6.5	5.3	5.6	5.3	5.2	5.3
Craftsmen	2.2	3.8	4.7	4.3	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.6
Operatives	4.4	7.1	8.3	6.9	5.7	6.0	5.6	5.3	5.6
Nonfarm laborers	6.7	9.5	10.8	10.3	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.3	8.3
Service workers	4.2	5.3	6.3	6.3	5.7	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.7
Farm workers	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.3	2.4
INDUSTRY									
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers[2]	3.5	5.2	6.2	5.7	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.8
Construction	6.0	9.7	10.4	10.3	8.8	8.9	8.8	9.2	8.8
Manufacturing	3.3	5.6	6.8	5.6	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.0	4.2
Durable goods	3.0	5.7	7.0	5.4	3.9	4.4	3.9	3.6	3.7
Nondurable goods	3.7	5.4	6.5	5.7	4.9	5.1	5.2	4.5	4.8
Transportation and public utilities	2.2	3.2	3.8	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.1
Wholesale and retail trade	4.1	5.3	6.4	6.4	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.8	5.6
Finance and service industries	3.2	4.2	5.1	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.3
Government workers	1.9	2.2	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.9	2.6
Agricultural wage and salary workers	6.0	7.5	7.9	7.6	6.9	6.9	7.9	6.1	6.8

[1] See footnote 1, table 1.

[2] Includes mining, not shown separately.

Table 4. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls by industry, 1970–73

[Numbers in thousands]

Industry	Annual averages					Seasonally adjusted quarterly averages, 1973			
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 p	I	II	III	IV p
Total	70,284	70,593	70,645	72,764	75,570	74,627	75,317	75,734	75,561
Goods-producing	24,221	23,352	22,542	23,061	24,090	23,740	24,018	24,167	24,433
Mining	619	623	602	607	625	611	615	633	643
Construction	3,435	3,381	3,411	3,521	3,649	3,565	3,615	3,685	3,718
Manufacturing	20,167	19,349	18,529	18,933	19,821	19,564	19,788	19,849	20,072
Durable goods	11,895	11,195	10,565	10,884	11,634	11,403	11,597	11,682	11,842
Nondurable goods	8,272	8,154	7,964	8,049	8,187	8,167	8,192	8,167	8,230
Service-producing	46,063	47,242	48,103	49,704	51,474	50,887	51,299	51,567	52,128
Transportation and public utilities	4,429	4,493	4,442	4,495	4,610	4,598	4,594	4,615	5,652
Trade	14,639	14,914	15,142	15,683	16,294	16,097	16,245	16,345	16,483
Wholesale trade	3,733	3,812	3,809	3,918	4,082	4,017	4,054	4,094	4,160
Retail trade	10,906	11,102	11,333	11,765	12,212	12,079	12,191	12,251	12,323
Finance, insurance, and real estate	3,564	3,688	3,796	3,927	4,053	4,011	4,041	4,063	4,093
Services	11,229	11,612	11,859	12,309	12,865	12,673	12,801	12,910	13,098
Government	12,202	12,535	12,856	13,290	13,652	13,578	13,638	13,634	13,802
Federal	2,758	2,705	2,664	2,650	2,624	2,631	2,627	2,605	2,629
State and local	9,444	9,830	10,191	10,640	11,028	10,897	11,011	11,029	11,173

P=preliminary.

ment, the reduction in joblessness since early 1971 has been much more pronounced for workers in durable goods manufacturing than for those in the less cyclically sensitive nondurable goods industries.

In the contract construction industry, employment grew 110,000 in 1972 and 130,000 in 1973, as overall construction activity continued to rise, even though residential construction, affected by the tight mortgage market, plummeted from the booming pace of the previous year. For the year as a whole, employment in contract construction was at an alltime record of 3.6 million. The jobless rate for the industry was 8.8 percent, considerably below its levels of the previous 2 years.

In mining, 1973 employment growth was minimal but sufficient to bring employment (625,000) back to the level it held prior to the 1970 recession.

In the service-producing group of industries, employment grew 1.8 million (or 3.6 percent) from 1972 to 1973, slightly larger than 1972's increase. Since this sector is less cyclically sensitive than the goods sector, it had managed to post some growth in employment during the recession, albeit at a reduced pace. Thus, the 1972–73 gains were not so much a cyclical rebound as a return to a more normal growth pattern. As in recent years, employment expansion in the sector was led by trade, State and local government, and services. All of the service producing industries exhibited some decline in unemployment in 1973, particularly during the first half of the year.

Trade employment gained more than 600,000 from 1972 to 1973. About three-fourths of this increase was in retail trade, a reflection of the strong performance of retail sales during the year. Wholesale trade also posted a relatively large employment gain—165,000—its largest absolute year-to-year gain in 25 years. The jobless rate for the industry fell to 5.6 percent, after averaging 6.4 percent in both 1971 and 1972.

As has been the case in other recent years, all of the increase in government employment occurred at the State and local level. State and local government staffs increased by 390,000, three-fourths of it at the local level, mostly in public education. Employment in the Federal Government declined slightly in 1973, as in the 3 previous years. The reduction in Federal jobs mainly was in the Defense Department—where it was related to reduced expenditures following the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam. Despite the small reductions in Federal employment, the jobless rate for all government workers has shown remarkable stability, never going significantly above the 3-percent mark even during the height of the recent recession. This stability results from the sustained growth in State and local government employment.

The number of State and local government jobs has been increasing more rapidly than Federal employment for many years. Since 1963, for example, State and local government employment has increased by 60 percent, Federal employment by just over 10 percent. Consequently, whereas State and local government workers made up less than

three-fourths of total government employment in 1963, they now account for more than four-fifths.

In the services industry—which includes such diverse establishments as hotels and other lodging places as well as medical, legal, educational, business, repair, and personal services—employment increased 560,000 or 4.3 percent from 1972. Medical services made up two-fifths of the gain, while business services accounted for another fifth.

The finance, insurance, and real estate industry and transportation and public utilities displayed substantial strength in 1973. The number employed rose by 130,000 and 120,000, respectively. In the closing months of the year, employment growth in the latter industry was stymied by the fuel shortage, which had particularly adverse effects on airlines.

Factory hours

Despite large gains in nonagricultural employment in 1973, the average workweek for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls remained stable.[7] For 1973 as a whole, the workweek averaged 37.1 hours, compared with 37.2 hours in 1972 and 37.0 hours in 1971.

In manufacturing, the workweek was up marginally relative to its 1972 average. The small 1973 gain, coupled with the large increase in the previous year, brought the factory workweek to 40.7 hours, its highest level since 1968. However, by the end of 1973 weekly hours of factory workers had returned to their late 1972 levels.

Factory overtime, an important indicator of prospective economic activity, averaged 3.8 hours in 1973, up from 3.5 hours in 1972 and at the highest annual level since 1966. After peaking at 4.1 hours in April, however, overtime hours were down to late 1972 levels in the second half of the year.

Factory labor turnover and job vacancies

Statistics on labor turnover and job vacancies in manufacturing give further evidence of the strength of the labor market in 1973. Both the number of job vacancies and the rate of new hires were well above their 1972 levels.

Job vacancies in manufacturing increased steadily from the third quarter of 1971 to the last quarter of 1973. For 1973 as a whole, factory vacancies averaged 185,000, up 60,000 from 1972. The number of long-term vacancies (in the sense that they have remained unfilled for a month or longer) averaged 55,000 for 1973, an increase of 20,000 over the previous year's average.

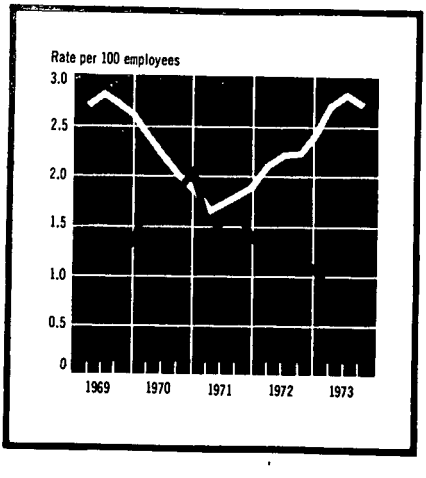
New hires, which had risen steadily in 1972, reached a peak of 40 per 1,000 workers in the first quarter of 1973. Although it edged down slightly in the remaining quarters, for 1973 as a whole the new-hire rate averaged 39 per 1,000 workers, its highest annual mark since the Korean war.

The factory quit rate tends to be high when employment opportunities are plentiful. This rate rose rapidly through the first half of 1973, but showed little change in subsequent months. (See chart 3.) For the year as a whole, the rate averaged 28 per 1,000 workers, its highest annual level in 20 years. The incidence of layoffs, conversely, continued to decline through the first two quarters of 1973. Layoffs averaged 9 per 1,000 for 1973, the lowest point since the World War II years.

Duration of unemployment

The length of time that workers remain unemployed is an important variable in determining the seriousness of the unemployment problem. As is the case for the unemployment rate, the mean duration of unemployment rises in recessionary periods and declines during business expansions. However,

Chart 3. Trends in quits and layoffs in manufacturing, 1969–73
[Seasonally adjusted]



changes in duration of unemployment usually lag somewhat behind changes in the incidence of unemployment. (See chart 4.)

This pattern was once again reflected in the recent period of business downturn and recovery, with average duration of unemployment rising sharply from its 16-year low of 7.9 weeks in 1969 to 12.4 weeks in the first half of 1972, before beginning a steady decline. On an annual average basis, mean duration declined from 12.1 weeks in 1972—its highest level in 8 years—to 10.0 weeks in 1973.

The direction that average duration follows depends, of course, on the changes in the proportions of the unemployed population in the various duration categories. During recessions there is typically a gradual rise in the proportion of the unemployed who have been seeking work for relatively long periods, say, more than 26 weeks, and this tends to raise the mean duration of unemployment. As the economy recovers, long-term unemployment declines and the short-term unemployed become an ever-increasing proportion of the jobless population, thus lowering the mean duration of unemployment. Changes in mean duration lag behind changes in the jobless rate because it takes some time for the persons who become unemployed to reach the long duration categories, and it also takes some time for them to find a job once the economy improves, since the first to be hired back are likely to be the most recently unemployed.

In 1971, when unemployment was at its cyclical high, 55 percent of the unemployed had been searching for jobs 5 weeks or longer. In 1973, on the other hand, over 50 percent of unemployment was of a short-term nature. The hard-core unemployed (those jobless more than 26 weeks) represented about 8 percent of total unemployment in 1973, below the 12-percent figure of 1972, yet well above the 5-percent mark registered in 1969, a year of low overall unemployment.

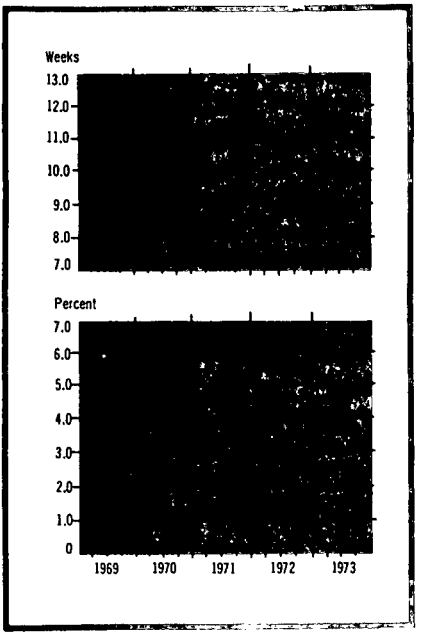
Severity of unemployment

A new measure of the "severity of unemployment," developed by Geoffrey H. Moore, takes into account both dimensions of the unemployment problem—the incidence or rate of unemployment, which expresses the number of jobless persons per hundred in the labor force, and mean duration, the average length of time a person has been unemployed.[8] By simultaneously adjusting for these factors (multiplying the unemployment rate by mean duration in days), the analyst can gain a better understanding of the seriousness of the unemployment burden.

Taking into account both variables, we find, for example, that in 1969 (a year of economic prosperity) the index of unemployment severity was only 1.4 days. This means that if the average unemployment during the year were distributed among all persons in the labor force, each worker would have been jobless for only 1.4 days. In contrast, in 1971—a year in which the jobless rate averaged 5.9 percent and mean duration was at 11.4 weeks—the index was 3.4 days. As the economy resumed a strong expansionary course, the index began to fall and, by the last quarter of 1973, was at 2.4 days.

The severity index also puts into better perspective the unemployment differences among various labor force groups with differing degrees of attachment to the labor market. Groups with the highest unemployment rates do not necessarily have the highest duration of unemployment. In fact, average

Chart 4. Mean duration of unemployment and unemployment rate, 1969–73
[Seasonally adjusted quarterly averages]



duration tends to be relatively low for teenagers—a group which has had by far the highest unemployment rate. Thus, severity-of-unemployment indexes for teenagers and for adults will not differ by quite as much as the unemployment rates for these two groups.

The gradual increase in the female and teenage components of the labor force has exerted an upward pressure on the overall unemployment rate. In the index of unemployment severity, this phenomenon has been offset by the simultaneous downward pressure which these two groups have exerted on the average duration of unemployment. The severity index for all workers is thus less affected by the changing age-sex composition of the labor force than is either the aggregate unemployment rate or the average duration of unemployment alone.

The 1971 severity index of 3.4 days was substantially below that of 5.2 days registered in the 1961 recession or the 4.7 days registered in the recessionary year of 1958. It was also lower than in such nonrecessionary years as 1959, 1962, 1963, and 1964.

Reasons for unemployment

As the number of unemployed declines during an economic upswing, there are also changes in the distribution among those who have lost their jobs, who voluntarily left their jobs, and who are entering or reentering the labor force.[9] Reflecting the strong growth of the economy in 1973, the number of unemployed who had lost their jobs declined significantly, and their proportion of total unemployment dropped to 39 percent, down from 46 percent in 1971. Although the combined number of unemployed job leavers, reentrants, and new entrants to the labor force was also lower than in 1971, their proportion of total unemployment rose. (See chart 5.)

Loss of job is the predominant reason for unemployment among adult men; in 1973, about 60 percent of those unemployed were job losers. Among adult women, the greatest proportion of the unemployed are those who have reentered the labor force after a period of absence. Labor force entry accounts for three-quarters of the unemployed teenagers.

The number of workers who became unemployed after voluntarily leaving their jobs rose slightly during the recent downturn, but their proportion of total unemployment declined considerably. The number of unemployed job leavers continued to rise even during the recovery, accounting for an ever-increasing proportion of total unemployment. This phenomenon—contrary to the trend for the other categories of "reasons"—can be explained in part by the rational behavior of workers who, in a "loose" labor market, are reluctant to quit their job in order to look for another one but are more willing to do so when the demand for labor increases. This behavior is consistent with the quit rate in manufacturing, which rises or falls depending upon whether the demand for labor is high or low.

Persons not in the labor force

The labor force participation rate for persons 16 and over increased between 1972 and 1973, while the number of persons remaining outside the labor force showed only a relatively small increase, rising from 56.8 to 57.2 million. The great majority of nonparticipants are women (plus a few men) keeping house, retirees, or students who had no current interest in the job market. (See table 5.) Nevertheless, the number reported as wanting a job "now"—even though not looking for one—was still sizable; 4.5 million—3.1 million women and 1.4 million men. Even among these persons, the most common reasons for not looking for work were school or family obligations. However, 680,000 of them were reported as not seeking work because of a belief that their search would be in vain. These are the persons commonly referred to as "discouraged workers" or the "hidden unemployed."

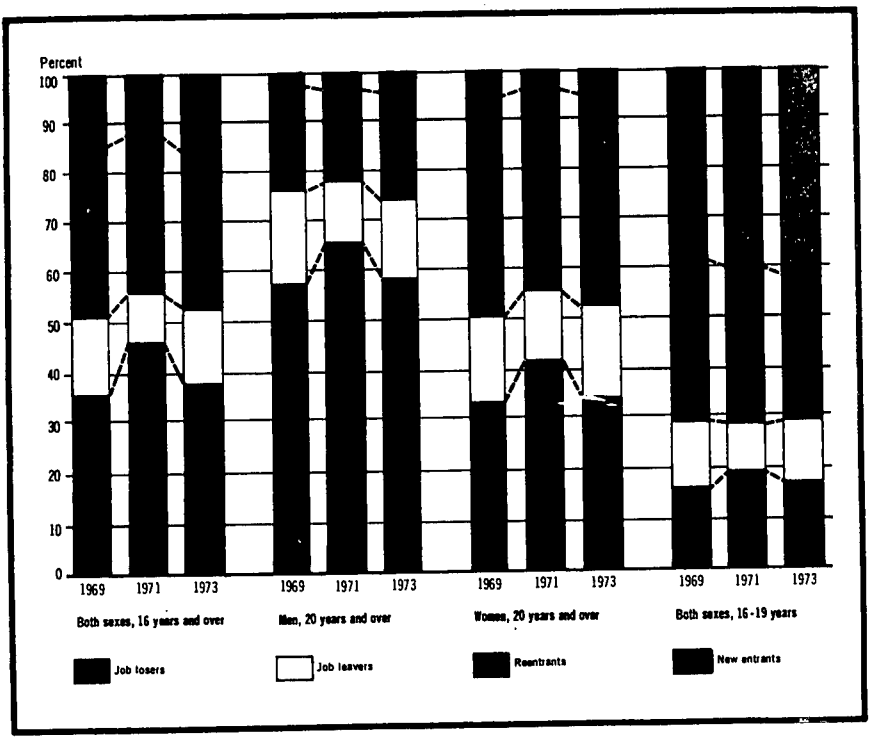
The ranks of discouraged workers include very few men of prime working age. In 1973 about

Table 5. Persons outside the labor force by reason and sex, 1973

(Numbers in thousands)

Labor force status	Total	Men	Women
Civilian noninstitutional population	145,936	68,785	77,191
In civilian labor force	88,714	54,203	34,510
Not in labor force	57,222	14,541	42,681
Do not want job now, total	52,760	13,145	39,614
Current activity: In school	6,117	3,115	3,002
Ill, disabled	4,572	2,407	2,171
Homemaker	32,145	204	31,941
Retired, old	7,165	5,927	1,238
Other	2,760	1,498	1,262
Want a job now, total	4,460	1,395	3,066
Reason not looking: School attendance	1,227	647	580
Ill health, disability	619	274	345
Home responsibilities	1,043	22	1,021
Think cannot get job	679	225	454
16–19 years	133	58	75
20 years and over	546	167	379
25–59 years	318	67	251
60 years and over	131	77	54
White	500	176	324
Negro	179	49	130
All other reasons	892	227	666

Chart 5. Percent distribution of unemployed persons, by reason for unemployment, by age and sex, 1969, 1971, and 1973



65,000, or 10 percent of the total, were men 25 to 59 years of age. The great majority classified as discouraged were women, teenagers, or elderly persons. This has been the case in every year since these data were first collected in 1967.

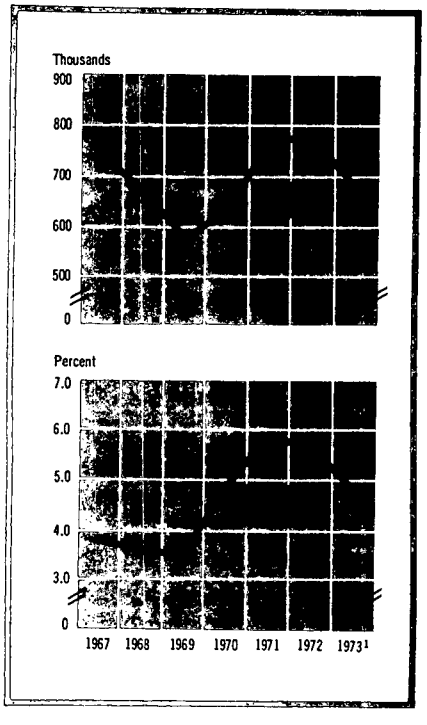
Changes in the number of discouraged workers have been consistent with cyclical changes in the demand for labor. Both the unemployment rate and the number of discouraged workers moved downward, though in differing degrees, from 1967 to 1969; both series rose substantially from 1969 to 1971, when job prospects were poor; and both moved downward again during 1972 and 1973 as the market improved. (See chart 6.)

Although the direction of change has been the same for both series, fluctuations have been much smaller in the number of discouraged workers than in the number of unemployed. For example, the increase between 1969 and 1971 in the number of jobless persons was 2.2 million (from 2.8 to 5.0 million), while the number of discouraged workers rose by only 200,000 (from 575,000 to 775,000). Similarly, the number of unemployed declined by 700,000 between 1971 and 1973, while the number discouraged edged down by only 95,000.

With respect to future jobseeking intentions, nearly four-fifths of the discouraged were reported as planning to look for work during the next 12 months. Thus, although at the time of interview they did not think they would get a job, most were apparently optimistic about future job prospects. It would thus be wrong to assume that these persons as a group have completely given up in terms of their participation in the job market.

Chart 6. Unemployment rate and number of discouraged workers, 1967–73

(Annual averages)



AS HAS BEEN described above, the employment performance for 1973 has been generally quite impressive, as nearly all significant labor force indicators have pointed to a strong year. As the year came to a close, however, the emerging energy shortage began to affect employment policies of firms. The extent to which joblessness might rise and employment and hours might fall in the months ahead, in light of this crisis, was yet to be determined. What was obvious, nevertheless, was the fact that consumption patterns of households, business, and government were being altered and that, with the reordering of priorities, some economic dislocation would occur. □

FOOTNOTES

[1] Figures for periods prior to 1972 are not strictly comparable with current data because of the introduction of 1970 census data into the estimation procedures. For example, the civilian labor force and employment totals were increased by more than 300,000 as a result of the census adjustment. An explanation of the change appears in "Revisions in the Current Population Survey," *Employment and Earnings*, February 1972.

[2] Statistics for Negroes and members of other minority races are used in this section to indicate the situation of black workers. Negroes constitute about 89 percent of the larger group.

[3] Figures for periods prior to March 1973 are not strictly comparable with current data because a further population adjustment to the 1970 census (subsequent to that introduced in January 1972) was introduced into the estimation procedures in March 1973. For example, white employment was lowered by about 150,000 while Negro levels were raised about 210,000.

[4] Dividing the change in the black unemployment rate by the change in the white rate over this period yields $\frac{9.7-6.2}{5.5-3.3} = 1.59$ or 16:10. See Curtis L. Gilroy, "Black and white unemployment: the dynamics of the differential," this issue of *Monthly Labor Review*, pp. 38–47.

[5] These job search methods include, for example, checking with public or private employment agencies, asking employers directly, or placing or answering newspaper ads. For a more detailed discussion of jobseeking methods, see Thomas F. Bradshaw, "Jobseeking methods used by unemployed workers," *Monthly Labor Review*, February 1973, pp. 35–40.

[6] As a result of changes in the classification of occupations to accord with the 1970 census, a number of shifts occurred between major occupational categories beginning in January 1971, creating a "break in series." For an explanation of these changes, see John E. Bregger, "Revisions in Occupational Classifications for 1971," *Employment and Earnings*, February 1972, pp. 5–8. A second break in series was created in December 1971 when a question on major activity was added to the monthly Current Population Survey questionnaire to elicit a more refined and accurate classification of occupational categories. Thus, meaningful comparisons of current occupational employment developments can be made only for the period since December 1971. However, these revisions in the occupational classification system are believed to have had a negligible impact on unemployment rates.

[7] Statistics on payroll employment and hours are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A description of the two surveys appears in *Employment and Earnings*.

[8] See Geoffrey H. Moore, *How Full is Full Employment?* (Washington, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, 1973), pp. 17–22.

[9] For an indepth analysis of the reasons for unemployment, see Curtis L. Gilroy, "Job losers, leavers, and entrants: Traits and trends," *Monthly Labor Review*, August 1972, pp. 3–15.

Appendix

This reprint contains, in addition to the article which was published in the February 1974 issue of the Review, the following material:

Supplementary tables--Continued

HOUSEHOLD DATA--Continued

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Explanatory note

The statistics in the following tables are compiled from two major sources: (1) household interviews and (2) payroll reports from employers. 1/

Data based on household interviews are obtained from a sample survey (Current Population Survey) of the population 16 years of age and over. The survey is conducted each month by the Bureau of Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics and provides comprehensive data on the labor force, the employed and the unemployed; including such characteristics as age, sex, color, marital status, occupations, hours of work, and duration of unemployment. The survey also provides data on the characteristics and past work experience of those not in the labor force.

Data based on establishment payroll records are compiled each month from mail questionnaires by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State agencies. The payroll survey provides detailed industry information on nonagricultural wage and salary employment, average weekly hours, average hourly and weekly earnings, job vacancies, and labor turnover for the Nation, States, and metropolitan areas.

Additional information concerning the preparation of the labor force, employment, and hours and earnings series--concepts and scope, survey methods, and limitations--is contained in technical notes for each of these series available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2/

1/ These tables were published in Employment and Earnings, January 1974, p. 24, pp. 140-168, and pp. 170-172.

2/ For an informative article comparing the two surveys, see Gloria P. Green, "Comparing Employment Estimates From Household and Payroll Surveys," Monthly Labor Review, December 1969, pp. 9-20.

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HOUSEHOLD DATA

A-1. Employment status of the noninstitutional population, 1929 to date

(In thousands)

Year and month	Total noninstitutional population	Total labor force		Civilian labor force							Not in labor force
					Employed			Unemployed			
		Number	Percent of population	Total	Total	Agriculture	Nonagricultural industries	Number	Percent of labor force		
									Not seasonally adjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
	Persons 14 years of age and over										
1929	(1)	49,440	(1)	49,180	47,630	10,450	37,180	1,550	3.2	-	(1)
1930	(1)	50,080	(1)	49,820	45,480	10,340	35,140	4,340	8.7	-	(1)
1931	(1)	50,680	(1)	50,420	42,400	10,290	32,110	8,020	15.9	-	(1)
1932	(1)	51,250	(1)	51,000	38,940	10,170	28,770	12,060	23.6	-	(1)
1933	(1)	51,840	(1)	51,590	38,760	10,090	28,670	12,830	24.9	-	(1)
1934	(1)	52,490	(1)	52,230	40,890	9,900	30,990	11,340	21.7	-	(1)
1935	(1)	53,140	(1)	52,870	42,260	10,110	32,150	10,610	20.1	-	(1)
1936	(1)	53,740	(1)	53,440	44,410	10,000	34,410	9,030	16.9	-	(1)
1937	(1)	54,320	(1)	54,000	46,300	9,820	36,480	7,700	14.3	-	(1)
1938	(1)	54,950	(1)	54,610	44,220	9,690	34,530	10,390	19.0	-	(1)
1939	(1)	55,600	(1)	55,230	45,750	9,610	36,140	9,480	17.2	-	(1)
1940	100,380	56,180	56.0	55,640	47,520	9,540	37,980	8,120	14.6	-	44,200
1941	101,520	57,530	56.7	55,910	50,350	9,100	41,250	5,560	9.9	-	43,990
1942	102,610	60,380	58.8	56,410	53,750	9,250	44,500	2,660	4.7	-	42,230
1943	103,660	64,560	62.3	55,540	54,470	9,080	45,390	1,070	1.9	-	39,100
1944	104,630	66,040	63.1	54,630	53,960	8,950	45,010	670	1.2	-	38,590
1945	105,530	65,300	61.9	53,860	52,820	8,580	44,240	1,040	1.9	-	40,230
1946	106,520	60,970	57.2	57,520	55,250	8,320	46,930	2,270	3.9	-	45,550
1947	107,608	61,758	57.4	60,168	57,812	8,256	49,557	2,356	3.9	-	45,850
	Persons 16 years of age and over										
1947	103,418	60,941	58.9	59,350	57,039	7,891	49,148	2,311	3.9	-	42,477
1948	104,527	62,080	59.4	60,621	58,344	7,629	50,713	2,276	3.8	-	42,447
1949	105,611	62,903	59.6	61,286	57,649	7,656	49,990	3,637	5.9	-	42,708
1950	106,645	63,858	59.9	62,208	58,920	7,160	51,760	3,288	5.3	-	42,787
1951	107,721	65,117	60.4	62,017	59,962	6,726	53,239	2,055	3.3	-	42,604
1952	108,823	65,730	60.4	62,138	60,254	6,501	53,753	1,883	3.0	-	43,093
1953[2]	110,601	66,560	60.2	63,015	61,181	6,261	54,922	1,834	2.9	-	44,041
1954	111,671	66,993	60.0	63,643	60,110	6,206	53,903	3,532	5.5	-	44,678
1955	112,732	68,072	60.4	65,023	62,171	6,449	55,724	2,852	4.4	-	44,660
1956	113,811	69,409	61.0	66,552	63,802	6,283	57,517	2,750	4.1	-	44,402
1957	115,065	69,729	60.6	66,929	64,071	5,947	58,123	2,859	4.3	-	45,336
1958	116,363	70,275	60.4	67,639	63,036	5,586	57,450	4,602	6.8	-	46,088
1959	117,881	70,921	60.2	68,369	64,630	5,565	59,065	3,740	5.5	-	46,960
1960[2]	119,759	72,142	60.2	69,628	65,778	5,458	60,318	3,852	5.5	-	47,617
1961[2]	121,343	73,031	60.2	70,459	65,746	5,200	60,546	4,714	6.7	-	48,312
1962[2]	122,981	73,442	59.7	70,614	66,702	4,944	61,759	3,911	5.5	-	49,539
1963	125,154	74,571	59.6	71,833	67,762	4,687	63,076	4,070	5.7	-	50,583
1964	127,224	75,830	59.6	73,091	69,305	4,523	64,782	3,786	5.2	-	51,394
1965	129,236	77,178	59.7	74,455	71,088	4,361	66,726	3,366	4.5	-	52,058
1966	131,180	78,893	60.1	75,770	72,895	3,979	68,915	2,875	3.8	-	52,288
1967	133,319	80,793	60.6	77,347	74,372	3,844	70,527	2,975	3.8	-	52,527
1968	135,562	82,272	60.7	78,737	75,920	3,817	72,103	2,817	3.6	-	53,291
1969	137,841	84,240	61.1	80,734	77,902	3,606	74,296	2,832	3.5	-	53,602
1970	140,182	85,903	61.3	82,715	78,627	3,462	75,165	4,088	4.9	-	54,280
1971	142,596	86,929	61.0	84,113	79,120	3,387	75,732	4,993	5.9	-	55,666
1972[2]	145,775	88,991	61.0	86,542	81,702	3,472	78,230	4,840	5.6	-	56,785
1973[2]	148,263	91,040	61.4	88,714	84,409	3,452	80,957	4,304	4.9	-	57,222

[1] Not available.

[2] Not strictly comparable with prior years due to the introduction of population adjustments in these years. For an explanation, see "Historic Comparability" under Household Data section of Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings.

A-2. Employment status of the noninstitutional population by sex, age, and color

1973

(In thousands)

Sex, age, and color	Total labor force		Civilian labor force				Not in labor force				
					Unemployed						
	Number	Percent of population	Total	Employed	Number	Percent of labor force	Total	Keeping house	Going to school	Unable to work	Other reasons
MALE											
16 years and over	56,479	74.5	54,203	51,963	2,240	4.1	14,541	241	3,685	1,755	8,860
16 to 21 years	8,182	68.2	7,318	6,648	869	11.9	3,810	26	3,046	38	699
16 to 19 years	5,039	61.6	4,664	4,017	647	13.9	3,138	21	2,538	20	558
16 and 17 years	2,100	50.5	2,058	1,708	349	17.0	2,061	13	1,698	7	343
18 and 19 years	2,939	73.2	2,607	2,309	298	11.4	1,077	8	840	13	215
20 to 64 years	49,532	90.9	47,631	46,095	1,537	3.2	4,931	104	1,145	1,230	2,452
20 to 24 years	8,021	86.8	7,080	6,566	514	7.3	1,224	13	872	52	288
25 to 54 years	34,505	95.1	33,549	32,696	853	2.5	1,761	49	270	644	799
25 to 29 years	7,325	95.0	6,960	6,680	281	4.0	384	11	182	62	129
30 to 34 years	6,125	97.0	5,888	5,744	144	2.4	187	5	43	56	82
35 to 39 years	5,273	96.8	5,063	4,954	109	2.1	173	5	20	68	80
40 to 44 years	5,308	95.8	5,207	5,107	100	1.9	230	6	14	95	115
45 to 49 years	5,388	94.3	5,357	5,239	118	2.2	325	9	6	151	159
50 to 54 years	5,087	91.7	5,074	4,972	101	2.0	463	12	6	211	234
55 to 64 years	7,005	78.3	7,003	6,833	170	2.4	1,945	42	3	535	1,365
55 to 59 years	4,141	86.2	4,138	4,048	90	2.2	662	16	2	258	386
60 to 64 years	2,864	69.1	2,864	2,784	80	2.8	1,284	27	2	277	979
65 years and over	1,908	22.8	1,908	1,851	57	3.0	6,473	116	2	505	5,850
65 to 69 years	1,099	34.2	1,099	1,059	40	3.7	2,116	33	1	158	1,924
70 years and over	809	15.7	809	792	17	2.1	4,357	83	1	347	3,926
White											
16 years and over	50,610	80.1	48,648	46,830	1,818	3.7	12,565	195	3,058	1,425	7,886
16 to 21 years	7,210	69.8	6,476	5,786	690	10.6	3,125	20	2,520	29	556
16 to 19 years	4,474	63.7	4,158	3,647	511	12.3	2,551	16	2,075	17	443
16 and 17 years	1,899	53.2	1,862	1,580	282	15.1	1,670	11	1,379	7	273
18 and 19 years	2,576	74.5	2,297	2,068	299	10.0	882	5	697	10	170
20 to 64 years	44,603	91.5	42,757	41,501	1,256	2.9	4,139	78	981	997	2,082
20 to 24 years	7,017	87.2	6,206	5,802	404	6.5	1,030	9	760	35	225
25 to 54 years	30,951	95.7	30,119	29,420	699	2.3	1,401	35	218	515	631
25 to 34 years	11,999	96.4	11,478	11,132	345	3.0	446	14	186	93	153
35 to 44 years	9,458	96.9	9,187	9,021	166	1.8	300	7	22	126	145
45 to 54 years	9,494	93.6	9,454	9,266	188	2.0	654	14	10	297	332
55 to 64 years	6,434	79.0	6,432	6,279	152	2.4	1,709	33	2	447	1,227
55 to 59 years	3,808	87.0	3,806	3,726	80	2.1	569	12	2	215	341
60 to 64 years	2,626	69.7	2,626	2,553	72	2.8	1,140	22	--	232	885
65 years and over	1,733	22.8	1,733	1,682	51	2.9	5,874	101	2	411	5,361
Negro and other races											
16 years and over	5,868	74.8	5,555	5,133	423	7.6	1,977	46	627	330	973
16 to 21 years	972	58.7	842	662	180	21.3	684	7	526	9	143
16 to 19 years	565	49.1	506	370	136	26.9	586	5	463	4	115
16 and 17 years	202	34.0	196	129	67	34.4	391	2	319	1	70
18 and 19 years	363	65.1	310	242	69	22.1	195	3	143	3	45
20 to 64 years	5,129	86.6	4,874	4,593	281	5.8	792	26	165	232	369
20 to 24 years	1,004	83.8	874	764	110	12.6	195	4	112	16	63
25 to 54 years	3,555	90.8	3,430	3,277	153	4.5	361	14	52	128	168
25 to 34 years	1,451	92.1	1,370	1,291	79	5.8	125	2	39	26	58
35 to 44 years	1,123	91.6	1,083	1,040	43	4.0	103	4	11	37	50
45 to 54 years	980	88.0	977	946	31	3.2	134	7	2	65	60
55 to 64 years	571	70.7	571	553	18	3.1	236	9	1	88	138
55 to 59 years	332	78.3	332	322	10	3.0	92	4	--	43	45
60 to 64 years	238	62.3	238	231	7	3.1	144	5	1	45	93
65 years and over	175	22.6	175	169	6	3.6	599	15	--	94	489

A-2. Employment status of the noninstitutional population by sex, age, and color--Continued

1973
(In thousands)

Sex, age, and color	Total labor force		Civilian labor force				Not in labor force				
					Unemployed						
	Number	Percent of population	Total	Employed	Number	Percent of labor force	Total	Keeping house	Going to school	Unable to work	Other reasons
FEMALE											
16 years and over	34,561	44.7	34,510	32,446	2,064	6.0	42,681	35,218	3,521	1,065	2,878
16 to 21 years	6,078	51.9	6,054	5,264	790	13.0	5,633	1,809	3,136	30	658
16 to 19 years	3,808	47.9	3,797	3,219	579	15.2	4,145	913	2,662	17	553
16 and 17 years	1,579	39.1	1,578	1,299	279	17.7	2,462	285	1,802	5	369
18 and 19 years	2,230	57.0	2,219	1,919	300	13.5	1,684	628	860	12	184
20 to 64 years	29,699	51.7	29,659	28,204	1,454	4.9	27,730	25,270	854	444	1,163
20 to 24 years	5,618	61.2	5,592	5,121	471	8.4	3,565	2,685	653	29	197
25 to 54 years	19,902	52.3	19,888	19,022	867	4.4	18,184	17,149	194	227	614
25 to 29 years	4,060	51.8	4,053	3,806	247	6.1	3,775	3,544	84	25	123
30 to 34 years	3,135	48.2	3,133	2,964	169	5.4	3,371	3,207	43	22	99
35 to 39 years	2,984	52.5	2,982	2,857	126	4.2	2,703	2,569	28	27	78
40 to 44 years	3,166	54.1	3,164	3,049	115	3.6	2,681	2,549	21	31	81
45 to 49 years	3,333	54.2	3,332	3,217	116	3.5	2,820	2,646	11	48	115
50 to 54 years	3,224	53.2	3,224	3,129	95	3.0	2,834	2,635	7	75	117
55 to 64 years	4,179	41.1	4,179	4,062	117	2.8	5,982	5,436	7	187	352
55 to 59 years	2,531	47.4	2,531	2,455	76	3.0	2,811	2,588	4	92	126
60 to 64 years	1,648	34.2	1,648	1,607	41	2.5	3,171	2,847	3	95	226
65 years and over	1,054	8.9	1,054	1,024	31	2.9	10,806	9,034	5	604	1,162
65 to 69 years	639	16.0	639	619	20	3.2	3,364	2,964	2	86	313
70 years and over	415	5.3	415	405	11	2.6	7,442	6,071	3	518	850
White											
16 years and over	30,085	44.2	30,041	28,448	1,593	5.3	38,049	31,810	2,873	833	2,533
16 to 21 years	5,391	53.9	5,371	4,779	591	11.0	4,619	1,481	2,574	24	540
16 to 19 years	3,403	50.2	3,394	2,954	440	13.0	3,377	736	2,170	14	456
16 and 17 years	1,432	41.7	1,432	1,207	226	15.7	2,006	231	1,462	4	309
18 and 19 years	1,971	59.0	1,962	1,748	214	10.9	1,371	506	708	10	147
20 to 64 years	25,741	51.0	25,706	24,579	1,127	4.4	24,768	22,720	698	329	1,020
20 to 24 years	4,880	61.8	4,858	4,516	342	7.0	3,023	2,305	538	21	158
25 to 54 years	17,109	51.2	17,097	16,415	682	4.0	16,294	15,436	153	166	540
25 to 34 years	6,063	48.6	6,055	5,749	306	5.1	6,425	6,099	101	35	191
35 to 44 years	5,239	52.2	5,236	5,043	192	3.7	4,794	4,574	38	41	140
45 to 54 years	5,808	53.4	5,806	5,624	183	3.1	5,075	4,762	14	89	209
55 to 64 years	3,750	40.8	3,750	3,647	103	2.8	5,451	4,980	7	143	322
55 to 59 years	2,277	47.1	2,277	2,210	67	3.0	2,560	2,372	4	69	114
60 to 64 years	1,474	33.8	1,474	1,438	36	2.4	2,891	2,608	2	73	207
65 years and over	941	8.7	941	915	26	2.8	9,904	8,353	5	490	1,057
Negro and other races											
16 years and over	4,476	49.1	4,470	3,999	471	10.5	4,632	3,408	648	231	345
16 to 21 years	687	40.4	683	485	199	29.1	1,014	328	562	6	118
16 to 19 years	405	34.5	403	264	139	34.5	768	177	492	3	97
16 and 17 years	146	24.3	146	93	53	36.5	456	54	340	1	60
18 and 19 years	259	45.3	257	171	86	33.3	313	122	152	2	36
20 to 64 years	3,959	57.2	3,953	3,625	328	8.3	2,963	2,549	156	115	143
20 to 24 years	738	57.7	734	605	129	17.6	542	381	114	9	39
25 to 54 years	2,793	59.7	2,791	2,606	186	6.7	1,890	1,713	41	61	74
25 to 34 years	1,132	61.1	1,131	1,021	109	9.7	721	652	27	11	31
35 to 44 years	911	60.7	910	862	48	5.3	590	543	11	16	20
45 to 54 years	750	56.4	750	722	28	3.7	579	519	3	34	23
55 to 64 years	428	44.7	428	415	14	3.2	531	456	1	45	30
55 to 59 years	254	50.3	254	246	8	3.3	251	216	—	23	12
60 to 64 years	174	38.3	174	169	5	2.9	280	240	1	22	18
65 years and over	113	11.1	113	109	4	3.9	901	682	—	114	105

A-3. Labor force by sex, age, and color

Sex, age, and color	Total labor force				Civilian labor force			
	Thousands of persons		Participation rate		Thousands of persons		Participation rate	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
MALE								
16 years and over	55,671	56,479	79.7	79.5	53,265	54,203	79.0	78.8
16 to 19 years	4,791	5,039	59.9	61.9	4,457	4,664	58.1	59.8
16 and 17 years	1,977	2,100	48.3	50.5	1,944	2,058	47.9	50.0
18 and 19 years	2,814	2,939	72.0	73.2	2,513	2,607	69.6	70.8
20 to 24 years	7,795	8,021	85.9	86.8	6,695	7,080	83.9	85.3
25 to 54 years	33,923	34,505	95.2	95.1	32,954	33,549	95.1	95.0
25 to 34 years	12,806	13,450	95.9	95.9	12,207	12,848	95.7	95.7
35 to 44 years	10,644	10,581	96.5	96.3	10,324	10,270	96.4	96.2
45 to 54 years	10,472	10,474	93.3	93.0	10,422	10,431	93.2	93.0
55 to 64 years	7,141	7,005	80.5	78.3	7,138	7,003	80.5	78.3
55 to 59 years	4,172	4,141	87.4	86.2	4,169	4,138	87.4	86.2
60 to 64 years	2,969	2,864	72.5	69.1	2,969	2,864	72.5	69.1
65 years and over	2,022	1,908	24.4	22.8	2,022	1,908	24.4	22.8
White								
16 years and over	50,041	50,610	80.3	80.1	47,930	48,648	79.6	79.5
16 to 19 years	4,259	4,474	61.7	63.7	3,969	4,158	60.1	62.0
16 and 17 years	1,778	1,899	50.6	53.2	1,749	1,862	50.2	52.7
18 and 19 years	2,481	2,576	73.3	74.5	2,220	2,297	71.1	72.3
20 to 24 years	6,862	7,017	86.2	87.2	5,890	6,206	84.3	85.8
25 to 54 years	30,527	30,951	95.8	95.7	29,681	30,119	95.7	95.6
25 to 34 years	11,462	11,999	96.2	96.4	10,940	11,478	96.0	96.3
35 to 44 years	9,540	9,458	97.1	96.9	9,261	9,187	97.0	96.8
45 to 54 years	9,525	9,494	94.0	93.6	9,479	9,454	94.0	93.5
55 to 64 years	6,551	6,434	81.2	79.0	6,548	6,432	81.2	79.0
55 to 59 years	3,830	3,808	88.1	87.0	3,827	3,806	88.1	87.0
60 to 64 years	2,721	2,626	73.2	69.7	2,721	2,626	73.2	69.7
65 years and over	1,841	1,733	24.4	22.8	1,841	1,733	24.4	22.8
Negro and other races								
16 years and over	5,630	5,868	74.7	74.8	5,335	5,555	73.7	73.8
16 to 19 years	531	565	48.2	49.1	488	506	46.0	46.3
16 and 17 years	198	202	34.5	34.0	195	196	34.1	33.4
18 and 19 years	333	363	63.1	65.1	293	310	60.1	61.4
20 to 24 years	932	1,004	83.6	83.8	804	874	81.5	81.8
25 to 54 years	3,396	3,555	90.7	90.8	3,273	3,430	90.3	90.5
25 to 34 years	1,344	1,451	93.1	92.1	1,267	1,370	92.7	91.7
35 to 44 years	1,105	1,123	91.7	91.6	1,063	1,083	91.4	91.3
45 to 54 years	947	980	86.2	88.0	943	977	86.1	88.0
55 to 64 years	590	571	73.6	70.7	590	571	73.6	70.7
55 to 59 years	342	332	80.8	78.3	342	332	80.8	78.3
60 to 64 years	248	238	65.5	62.3	248	238	65.5	62.3
65 years and over	181	175	23.6	22.6	181	175	23.6	22.6

A-3. Labor force by sex, age, and color--Continued

Sex, age, and color	Total labor force				Civilian labor force			
	Thousands of persons		Participation rate		Thousands of persons		Participation rate	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
FEMALE								
16 years and over	33,320	34,561	43.9	44.7	33,277	34,510	43.9	44.7
16 to 19 years	3,576	3,808	45.9	47.9	3,567	3,797	45.9	47.8
16 and 17 years	1,455	1,579	36.6	39.1	1,454	1,578	36.6	39.1
18 and 19 years	2,121	2,230	55.6	57.0	2,112	2,219	55.5	56.9
20 to 24 years	5,337	5,618	59.1	61.2	5,315	5,592	59.0	61.1
25 to 54 years	19,099	19,902	51.0	52.3	19,086	19,888	51.0	52.2
25 to 34 years	6,525	7,195	47.6	50.2	6,518	7,186	47.6	50.1
35 to 44 years	6,025	6,149	52.0	53.3	6,022	6,146	52.0	53.3
45 to 54 years	6,549	6,558	53.9	53.7	6,548	6,556	53.9	53.7
55 to 64 years	4,224	4,179	42.1	41.1	4,224	4,179	42.1	41.1
55 to 59 years	2,548	2,531	48.2	47.4	2,548	2,531	48.2	47.4
60 to 64 years	1,676	1,648	35.4	34.2	1,676	1,648	35.4	34.2
65 years and over	1,085	1,054	9.3	8.9	1,085	1,054	9.3	8.9
White								
16 years and over	29,066	30,085	43.3	44.2	29,028	30,041	43.2	44.1
16 to 19 years	3,214	3,403	48.2	50.2	3,206	3,394	48.2	50.1
16 and 17 years	1,330	1,432	39.3	41.7	1,330	1,432	39.3	41.7
18 and 19 years	1,884	1,971	57.5	59.0	1,876	1,962	57.4	58.9
20 to 24 years	4,652	4,880	59.5	61.8	4,633	4,858	59.4	61.6
25 to 54 years	16,428	17,110	49.8	51.2	16,417	17,097	49.8	51.2
25 to 34 years	5,491	6,063	45.8	48.6	5,484	6,055	45.8	48.5
35 to 44 years	5,129	5,239	50.7	52.2	5,126	5,236	50.7	52.2
45 to 54 years	5,808	5,808	53.5	53.4	5,807	5,806	53.4	53.4
55 to 64 years	3,813	3,750	42.0	40.8	3,813	3,750	42.0	40.8
55 to 59 years	2,301	2,277	48.0	47.1	2,301	2,277	48.0	47.1
60 to 64 years	1,512	1,474	35.2	33.8	1,512	1,474	35.2	33.8
65 years and over	959	941	9.0	8.7	959	941	9.0	8.7
Negro and other races								
16 years and over	4,254	4,476	48.7	49.1	4,249	4,470	48.7	49.1
16 to 19 years	362	405	32.3	34.5	361	403	32.2	34.4
16 and 17 years	125	146	21.4	24.3	125	146	21.4	24.3
18 and 19 years	237	259	44.0	45.3	236	257	43.9	45.1
20 to 24 years	685	738	56.8	57.7	682	734	56.7	57.5
25 to 54 years	2,671	2,793	59.5	59.7	2,670	2,791	59.5	59.6
25 to 34 years	1,035	1,132	60.1	61.1	1,034	1,131	60.1	61.0
35 to 44 years	895	911	60.7	60.7	895	910	60.7	60.7
45 to 54 years	741	750	57.3	56.4	740	750	57.3	56.4
55 to 64 years	411	428	43.9	44.7	411	428	43.9	44.7
55 to 59 years	247	254	49.9	50.3	247	254	49.9	50.3
60 to 64 years	164	174	37.2	38.3	164	174	37.2	38.3
65 years and over	126	113	12.8	11.1	126	113	12.8	11.1

A-4. Employment status of persons 16-21 years of age in the noninstitutional population by color and sex

1973
(In thousands)

Employment status	Total			White			Negro and other races		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total noninstitutional population	23,217	11,992	11,712	20,345	10,335	10,010	3,358	1,657	1,702
Total labor force	14,260	8,182	6,078	12,601	7,210	5,391	1,659	972	687
Percent of population	60.2	68.2	51.9	61.9	69.8	53.9	49.4	58.7	40.4
Civilian labor force	13,372	7,318	6,054	11,847	6,476	5,371	1,525	842	683
Employed	11,712	6,448	5,264	10,566	5,786	4,779	1,147	662	485
Agriculture	535	447	88	491	414	77	44	34	11
Nonagricultural industries	11,177	6,001	5,176	10,075	5,373	4,702	1,102	628	474
Unemployed	1,659	869	790	1,281	690	591	378	180	199
Percent of labor force	12.4	11.9	13.0	10.8	10.6	11.0	24.8	21.3	29.1
Looking for full-time work	1,040	546	495	772	419	353	269	127	142
Looking for part-time work	619	324	295	509	271	239	110	53	57
Not in labor force	9,443	3,810	5,633	7,744	3,125	4,619	1,699	684	1,014
Major activity: going to school									
Civilian labor force	2,944	1,587	1,357	2,699	1,453	1,246	245	134	111
Employed	2,449	1,312	1,138	2,292	1,226	1,066	157	85	71
Agriculture	122	106	16	119	103	16	3	3	--
Nonagricultural industries	2,327	1,206	1,121	2,173	1,123	1,050	154	83	71
Unemployed	495	275	220	407	227	180	88	49	39
Percent of labor force	16.8	17.3	16.2	15.1	15.6	14.5	35.9	36.2	35.5
Looking for full-time work	68	36	32	51	27	24	16	9	8
Looking for part-time work	427	239	188	356	199	156	71	40	32
Not in labor force	6,183	3,046	3,136	5,094	2,520	2,574	1,088	526	562
Major activity: other									
Civilian labor force	10,427	5,731	4,697	9,147	5,023	4,124	1,280	708	572
Employed	9,263	5,137	4,126	8,273	4,560	3,713	990	576	413
Agriculture	413	342	72	372	311	61	41	31	10
Nonagricultural industries	8,849	4,795	4,055	7,901	4,249	3,652	948	545	403
Unemployed	1,164	594	570	874	463	411	290	131	159
Percent of labor force	11.2	10.4	12.1	9.6	9.2	10.0	22.7	18.5	27.8
Looking for full-time work	972	509	463	720	392	329	252	118	134
Looking for part-time work	192	85	107	154	71	82	38	13	25
Not in labor force	3,260	763	2,497	2,650	605	2,045	610	158	452

A-5. Employment status of the noninstitutional population 16 years and over by sex, age, and color

(In thousands)

Employment status and color	Total		Men, 20 years and over		Women, 20 years and over		Both sexes, 16-19 years	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total								
Total noninstitutional population	145,775	148,263	61,862	62,844	68,126	69,289	15,787	16,130
Total labor force	88,991	91,040	50,880	51,440	29,744	30,753	8,366	8,847
Percent of population	61.0	61.4	82.2	81.9	43.7	44.4	53.0	62.2
Civilian labor force	86,542	88,714	48,808	49,539	29,710	30,713	8,024	8,461
Employed	81,702	84,409	46,880	47,946	28,100	29,228	6,722	7,236
Agriculture	3,472	3,452	2,501	2,500	560	550	411	402
Nonagricultural industries	78,230	80,957	44,379	45,445	27,540	28,678	6,311	6,834
Unemployed	4,840	4,304	1,928	1,594	1,610	1,485	1,302	1,225
Percent of labor force	5.6	4.9	4.0	3.2	5.4	4.8	16.2	14.5
Not in labor force	56,785	57,222	10,982	11,404	38,382	38,536	7,421	7,283
White								
Total noninstitutional population	129,507	131,309	55,433	56,169	60,511	61,353	13,563	13,806
Total labor force	79,106	80,695	45,782	46,136	25,852	26,682	7,473	7,878
Percent of population	61.1	61.5	82.6	82.2	42.7	43.5	55.1	57.1
Civilian labor force	76,958	78,689	43,961	44,490	25,822	26,647	7,175	7,552
Employed	73,074	75,278	42,362	43,183	24,554	25,494	6,158	6,602
Agriculture	3,161	3,144	2,266	2,269	521	506	374	370
Nonagricultural industries	69,913	72,134	40,096	40,915	24,033	24,988	5,784	6,232
Unemployed	3,884	3,411	1,599	1,307	1,268	1,153	1,017	950
Percent of labor force	5.0	4.3	3.6	2.9	4.9	4.3	14.2	12.6
Not in labor force	50,401	50,613	9,652	10,013	34,659	34,672	6,090	5,929
Negro and other races								
Total noninstitutional population	16,268	16,954	6,429	6,695	7,615	7,936	2,224	2,324
Total labor force	9,884	10,345	5,099	5,304	3,892	4,072	893	969
Percent of population	60.8	61.0	79.3	79.2	51.1	51.3	40.2	41.7
Civilian labor force	9,584	10,025	4,847	5,049	3,888	4,066	849	909
Employed	8,628	9,131	4,518	4,762	3,546	3,734	564	634
Agriculture	311	308	235	232	39	44	37	32
Nonagricultural industries	8,317	8,823	4,283	4,531	3,507	3,690	527	602
Unemployed	956	894	329	287	342	332	284	275
Percent of labor force	10.0	8.9	6.8	5.7	8.8	8.2	33.5	30.2
Not in labor force	6,384	6,609	1,330	1,391	3,723	3,864	1,331	1,354

A-6. Full- and part-time status of the civilian labor force by color, sex, and age

1973
(Numbers in thousands)

Age and sex	Full-time labor force					Part-time labor force			
	Total	Employed		Unemployed (looking for full-time work)		Total	Employed on voluntary part time[1]	Unemployed (looking for part-time work)	
		Full-time schedules[1]	Part time for economic reasons	Number	Percent of full-time labor force			Number	Percent of part-time labor force
TOTAL									
Total, 16 years and over	75,862	70,052	2,519	3,291	4.3	12,852	11,893	1,013	7.9
16 to 21 years	8,752	6,982	730	1,040	11.9	4,619	4,000	619	13.4
16 to 19 years	4,710	3,504	526	681	14.5	3,751	3,207	543	14.5
16 to 17 years	1,223	747	243	233	19.1	2,413	2,018	395	16.4
18 to 19 years	3,488	2,757	283	448	12.8	1,338	1,188	149	11.2
20 years and over	71,151	66,548	1,993	2,610	3.7	9,101	8,632	469	5.2
20 to 24 years	11,045	9,738	456	851	7.7	1,627	1,493	134	8.2
25 years and over	60,107	56,810	1,537	1,760	2.9	7,475	7,140	334	4.5
25 to 54 years	48,522	45,892	1,150	1,480	3.1	4,915	4,676	239	4.9
55 years and over	11,585	10,919	386	280	2.4	2,560	2,464	95	3.7
Males, 16 years and over	49,851	46,788	1,260	1,803	3.6	4,352	3,915	437	10.0
16 to 21 years	5,019	4,081	393	546	10.9	2,298	1,975	324	14.1
16 to 19 years	2,748	2,103	288	357	13.0	1,916	1,626	289	15.1
20 years and over	47,103	44,686	972	1,446	3.1	2,436	2,288	148	6.1
20 to 24 years	6,385	5,700	231	453	7.1	694	634	60	8.7
25 years and over	40,718	38,985	740	993	2.4	1,742	1,655	87	5.0
25 to 54 years	32,929	31,577	542	811	2.5	619	578	41	6.6
55 years and over	7,789	7,409	198	182	2.3	1,123	1,077	46	4.1
Females, 16 years and over	26,010	23,264	1,259	1,488	5.7	8,500	7,924	576	6.8
16 to 21 years	3,733	2,901	337	495	13.3	2,321	2,026	295	12.7
16 to 19 years	1,962	1,401	238	323	16.5	1,835	1,580	255	13.9
20 years and over	24,048	21,863	1,021	1,165	4.8	6,665	6,344	321	4.8
20 to 24 years	4,660	4,038	225	397	8.5	932	859	74	7.9
25 years and over	19,389	17,825	797	767	4.0	5,733	5,485	248	4.3
25 to 54 years	15,592	14,315	608	669	4.3	4,296	4,098	198	4.6
55 years and over	3,797	3,510	189	98	2.6	1,437	1,387	50	3.5
WHITE									
Males, 16 years and over	44,719	42,237	1,032	1,450	3.2	3,929	3,561	368	9.4
16 to 21 years	4,374	3,629	326	419	9.6	2,102	1,832	271	12.9
16 to 19 years	2,408	1,897	240	271	11.3	1,750	1,511	240	13.7
20 years and over	42,311	40,340	793	1,178	2.8	2,179	2,050	128	5.9
20 to 24 years	5,573	5,031	192	350	6.3	632	579	53	8.4
25 years and over	36,737	35,309	601	829	2.3	1,546	1,472	76	4.9
25 to 54 years	29,587	28,485	438	665	2.2	532	497	35	6.6
55 years and over	7,150	6,824	164	163	2.3	1,015	975	41	4.0
Females, 16 years and over	22,380	20,237	1,027	1,116	5.0	7,661	7,184	477	6.2
16 to 21 years	3,249	2,604	292	353	10.9	2,122	1,883	239	11.2
16 to 19 years	1,710	1,267	210	233	13.6	1,684	1,477	207	12.3
20 years and over	20,670	18,971	816	883	4.3	5,977	5,707	270	4.5
20 to 24 years	4,018	3,542	190	285	7.1	840	783	57	6.7
25 years and over	16,652	15,428	627	598	3.6	5,137	4,924	214	4.2
25 to 54 years	13,202	12,218	475	510	3.9	3,895	3,723	172	4.4
55 years and over	3,449	3,209	152	88	2.6	1,242	1,201	42	3.4
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES									
Males, 16 years and over	5,133	4,552	228	354	6.9	423	353	69	16.4
16 to 21 years	646	452	67	127	19.6	196	143	53	27.0
16 to 19 years	341	206	48	86	25.3	165	116	50	30.0
20 years and over	4,792	4,346	179	267	5.6	257	238	20	7.6
20 to 24 years	812	669	40	103	12.7	62	55	7	11.4
25 years and over	3,980	3,677	139	165	4.1	195	182	13	6.7
25 to 54 years	3,342	3,091	104	147	4.4	87	80	7	8.0
55 years and over	638	586	35	18	2.8	108	102	5	4.6
Females, 16 years and over	3,631	3,026	232	372	10.3	839	740	99	11.8
16 to 21 years	484	297	45	142	29.4	199	143	57	28.4
16 to 19 years	252	134	27	91	36.0	151	103	48	31.9
20 years and over	3,379	2,892	205	281	8.3	688	637	51	7.3
20 to 24 years	642	495	35	112	17.4	92	75	17	18.4
25 years and over	2,736	2,396	171	169	6.2	596	562	34	5.7
25 to 54 years	2,389	2,097	134	159	6.7	401	375	27	6.7
55 years and over	347	299	37	10	2.9	195	187	7	3.6

[1] Employed persons with a job but not at work are distributed proportionately among the full- and part-time employed categories.

A-7. Unemployed persons by sex and age

Age	Male				Female			
	Thousands of persons		Unemployment rates		Thousands of persons		Unemployment rates	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total, 16 years and over	2,635	2,240	4.9	4.1	2,205	2,064	6.6	6.0
16 to 19 years	707	647	15.9	13.9	595	579	16.7	15.2
16 and 17 years	355	349	18.2	17.0	274	279	18.8	17.7
18 and 19 years	352	298	14.0	11.4	321	300	15.2	13.5
20 years and over	1,928	1,594	4.0	3.2	1,610	1,485	5.4	4.8
20 to 24 years	619	514	9.2	7.3	497	471	9.3	8.4
25 years and over	1,309	1,080	3.1	2.5	1,113	1,015	4.6	4.0
25 to 34 years	456	424	3.7	3.3	405	416	6.2	5.8
35 to 44 years	282	209	2.7	2.0	293	240	4.9	3.9
45 to 54 years	273	219	2.6	2.1	237	211	3.6	3.2
55 to 64 years	226	170	3.2	2.4	140	117	3.3	2.8
55 to 59 years	118	90	2.8	2.2	89	76	3.5	3.0
60 to 64 years	108	80	3.6	2.8	52	41	3.1	2.5
65 years and over	73	57	3.6	3.0	38	31	3.5	2.9
Household head, 16 years and over	1,288	1,078	3.0	2.5	385	392	5.4	5.3
16 to 24 years	201	181	5.3	4.4	80	88	9.7	9.6
25 to 54 years	804	681	2.6	2.0	227	230	5.6	5.4
55 years and over	283	217	3.2	2.5	77	74	3.4	3.3

A-8. Unemployed persons by marital status, sex, age, and color

Marital status, age, and color	Male				Female			
	Thousands of persons		Unemployment rates		Thousands of persons		Unemployment rates	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total, 16 years and over	2,635	2,240	4.9	4.1	2,205	2,064	6.6	6.0
Married, spouse present	1,092	905	2.8	2.3	1,031	931	5.4	4.6
Widowed, divorced, or separated	214	174	7.0	5.4	381	363	6.1	5.8
Single (never married)	1,329	1,162	12.4	10.4	793	770	10.1	9.4
Total, 20 to 64 years of age	1,855	1,537	4.0	3.2	1,572	1,454	5.5	4.9
Married, spouse present	1,007	841	2.7	2.2	945	839	5.1	4.4
Widowed, divorced, or separated	202	161	7.3	5.5	339	330	6.2	5.9
Single (never married)	647	535	10.1	8.0	288	286	6.3	6.0
White, 16 years and over	2,160	1,818	4.5	3.7	1,724	1,593	5.9	5.3
Married, spouse present	937	772	2.6	2.1	871	784	5.1	4.4
Widowed, divorced, or separated	159	136	6.5	5.3	272	254	5.5	5.1
Single (never married)	1,065	910	11.4	9.4	580	555	8.5	7.8
White, 20 to 64 years of age	1,539	1,256	3.7	2.9	1,233	1,127	5.0	4.4
Married, spouse present	865	714	2.5	2.1	797	712	4.8	4.1
Widowed, divorced, or separated	149	123	6.8	5.3	236	227	5.4	5.1
Single (never married)	523	417	9.4	7.2	200	189	5.1	4.7
Negro and other races, 16 years and over	475	423	8.9	7.6	482	471	11.3	10.5
Married, spouse present	155	133	4.5	3.8	160	147	7.9	7.0
Widowed, divorced, or separated	56	39	9.1	6.1	109	109	8.9	8.6
Single (never married)	264	252	20.1	17.8	213	215	21.3	19.8
Negro and other races, 20 to 64 years of age	317	281	6.8	5.8	339	328	9.0	8.3
Married, spouse present	141	126	4.3	3.7	149	128	7.6	6.3
Widowed, divorced, or separated	53	37	9.4	6.3	102	103	9.1	8.6
Single (never married)	124	118	14.7	12.7	89	97	13.1	13.3

A-9. Unemployed persons by occupation of last job and sex

Occupation	Thousands of persons		Unemployment rates					
			Total		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
TOTAL	4,840	4,304	5.6	4.9	4.9	4.1	6.6	6.0
White-collar workers	1,369	1,219	3.4	2.9	2.4	1.8	4.4	4.0
Professional and technical	282	260	2.4	2.2	2.2	1.7	2.8	2.9
Managers and administrators, except farm	145	123	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.2	2.7	2.5
Sales workers	238	205	4.3	3.7	3.1	2.5	5.8	5.2
Clerical workers	704	630	4.7	4.2	3.8	3.0	5.0	4.5
Blue-collar workers	1,975	1,688	6.5	5.3	5.9	4.8	9.1	7.7
Craftsmen and kindred workers	482	434	4.3	3.7	4.2	3.6	5.7	5.9
Carpenters and other construction craftsmen	246	228	7.0	6.2	6.9	6.1	(1)	11.1
All other	236	206	3.0	2.6	2.9	2.4	5.6	5.5
Operatives, except transport	851	717	7.6	6.1	6.3	4.9	9.6	7.9
Transport equipment operatives	158	140	4.7	4.1	4.8	4.1	3.4	2.7
Nonfarm laborers	483	397	10.3	8.4	10.4	8.4	7.7	9.4
Construction laborers	166	137	15.9	13.8	15.9	13.7	25.3	(1)
All other	317	260	8.7	7.0	8.8	6.8	7.4	9.3
Service workers	737	674	6.3	5.7	6.2	5.5	6.4	5.8
Private household	60	62	4.0	4.4	2.8	(1)	4.0	4.4
All other	677	612	6.6	5.9	6.2	5.5	7.0	6.2
Farmers and farm laborers	83	78	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	3.8	3.5
No previous work experience	677	645	--	--	--	--	--	--
16 to 19 years	537	511	--	--	--	--	--	--
20 to 24 years	93	86	--	--	--	--	--	--
25 years and over	46	47	--	--	--	--	--	--

[1] Percent not shown where base is less than 35,000.

A-10. Unemployed persons by industry of last job and sex

Industry	Percent distribution		Unemployment rates					
			Total		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total	100.0	100.0	5.6	4.9	4.9	4.1	6.6	6.0
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	74.0	72.5	5.7	4.8	5.2	4.2	6.6	5.8
Mining	.4	.4	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.1	5.2	1.2
Construction	9.2	9.3	10.3	8.8	10.5	9.0	6.8	5.7
Manufacturing	23.7	21.5	5.6	4.3	4.4	3.3	8.3	6.8
Durable goods	13.4	11.5	5.4	3.9	4.7	3.3	8.4	6.1
Primary metal industries	1.3	1.0	4.8	3.1	4.5	2.8	8.6	5.9
Fabricated metal products	1.8	1.6	6.0	4.6	5.2	4.1	9.6	6.7
Machinery	1.9	1.3	4.5	2.5	3.7	2.0	9.1	4.7
Electrical equipment	2.1	2.1	5.1	4.0	3.6	2.7	7.5	5.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	1.0	.7	4.4	2.4	4.3	2.3	4.7	2.9
All other transportation equipment	2.4	1.3	5.6	5.4	5.1	4.7	9.4	9.5
Other durable goods industries	4.6	3.6	7.2	5.1	6.2	4.2	9.2	7.2
Nondurable goods	10.3	10.1	5.7	4.9	4.1	3.3	8.2	7.3
Food and kindred products	2.8	2.9	7.4	6.6	5.5	4.4	12.6	11.9
Textile mill products	1.0	.9	4.7	4.1	3.2	2.9	6.4	5.4
Apparel and other finished textile products	2.2	2.4	7.3	7.0	5.3	6.2	7.7	7.2
Other nondurable goods industries	4.2	3.9	4.7	3.8	3.4	2.6	7.6	6.2
Transportation and public utilities	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.0	3.2	2.9	4.6	3.4
Railroads and railway express	.4	.3	2.7	2.1	2.7	1.9	2.5	4.7
Other transportation	2.1	2.1	4.7	4.2	4.5	4.1	5.5	4.4
Communication and other public utilities	1.1	.9	2.6	1.9	1.6	1.5	4.2	2.7
Wholesale and retail trade	20.4	20.5	6.4	5.6	5.3	4.5	7.8	7.1
Finance, insurance, and real estate	2.8	2.7	3.4	2.7	2.8	1.8	3.8	3.6
Service industries	14.1	14.7	5.3	4.8	5.4	4.4	5.2	5.0
Professional services	5.2	5.8	3.7	3.5	3.4	2.8	3.9	3.8
All other service industries	8.9	9.0	6.9	6.2	7.0	5.6	6.8	6.7
Agricultural wage and salary workers	2.1	2.2	7.6	6.9	7.2	6.6	9.8	8.4
All other classes of workers	9.9	10.4	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.6	2.7	2.6
No previous work experience	14.0	15.0	--	--	--	--	--	--

A-11. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment, sex, age, and color

Reason for unemployment	Total unemployed		Male, 20 years and over		Female, 20 years and over		Both sexes, 16 to 19 years		White		Negro and other races	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Unemployment level												
Total unemployed, in thousands	4,840	4,304	1,928	1,594	1,610	1,485	1,302	1,225	3,884	3,410	956	894
Lost last job	2,089	1,666	1,207	941	635	514	247	210	1,709	1,357	379	308
Left last job	635	674	245	254	262	276	129	145	527	552	109	122
Reentered labor force	1,444	1,323	416	344	635	617	393	362	1,130	1,024	314	299
Never worked before	672	642	59	54	79	78	533	509	518	477	154	164
Total unemployed, percent distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lost last job	43.1	38.7	62.6	59.1	39.4	34.6	18.9	17.2	44.0	39.8	39.7	34.5
Left last job	13.1	15.7	12.7	15.9	16.2	18.6	9.9	11.8	13.6	16.2	11.4	13.7
Reentered labor force	29.8	30.7	21.6	21.6	39.4	41.5	30.2	29.5	29.1	30.0	32.8	33.4
Never worked before	13.9	14.9	3.1	3.4	4.9	5.3	41.0	41.5	13.3	14.0	16.1	18.4
Unemployment rate												
Total unemployment rate	5.6	4.9	4.0	3.2	5.4	4.8	16.2	14.5	5.0	4.3	10.0	8.9
Job-loser rate[1]	2.4	1.9	2.5	1.9	2.2	1.6	3.1	2.4	2.3	1.7	4.0	3.1
Job-leaver rate[1]	.7	.8	.5	.5	.9	.9	1.6	1.7	.7	.7	1.1	1.2
Reentrant rate[1]	1.7	1.5	.9	.7	2.1	2.0	4.9	4.3	1.5	1.3	3.3	3.0
New entrant rate[1]	.8	.7	.1	.1	.3	.3	6.6	6.0	.7	.6	1.6	1.6

[1]Unemployment rates are calculated as a percent of the civilian labor force.

A-12. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment, duration, sex, and age

1973
(Percent distribution)

Reason, sex, and age	Total unemployed		Duration of unemployment				
	Thousands of persons	Percent	Less than 5 weeks	5 to 14 weeks	15 weeks and over	15 to 26 weeks	27 weeks and over
Total, 16 years and over	4,304	100.0	51.0	30.1	18.8	11.0	7.8
Lost last job	1,666	100.0	42.5	32.1	23.5	13.0	10.5
Left last job	674	100.0	55.3	28.3	16.5	9.6	6.7
Reentered labor force	1,323	100.0	57.2	28.8	14.0	8.1	5.9
Never worked before	642	100.0	56.1	29.4	14.5	8.1	6.4
Male, 20 years and over	1,594	100.0	42.8	31.6	25.6	14.2	11.4
Lost last job	941	100.0	39.3	32.6	28.0	15.8	12.2
Left last job	254	100.0	52.4	27.6	20.1	11.0	9.1
Reentered labor force	344	100.0	45.2	32.1	22.7	12.5	10.2
Never worked before	54	100.0	44.4	29.6	25.9	11.1	14.8
Female, 20 years and over	1,485	100.0	53.0	29.0	18.0	10.7	7.3
Lost last job	514	100.0	41.2	32.0	26.8	16.3	10.5
Left last job	276	100.0	52.0	30.5	17.4	10.9	6.5
Reentered labor force	617	100.0	62.2	26.3	11.5	6.5	5.0
Never worked before	78	100.0	60.8	25.3	13.9	6.3	7.6
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	1,225	100.0	59.4	29.4	11.1	7.3	3.8
Lost last job	210	100.0	60.0	29.5	10.5	8.1	2.4
Left last job	145	100.0	67.8	25.2	7.0	4.9	2.1
Reentered labor force	362	100.0	59.8	30.5	9.6	6.6	3.0
Never worked before	509	100.0	56.7	30.0	13.3	8.0	5.3

A-13. Unemployed jobseekers by the jobsearch methods used, sex, age, and color

1973

Sex, age, and color	Thousands of persons		Methods used as a percent of total jobseekers						Average number of methods used
	Total unemployed	Total jobseekers	Public employment agency	Private employment agency	Employer directly	Placed or answered ads	Friends or relatives	Other	
Total	4,304	3,710	25.9	7.5	71.6	26.1	14.1	6.6	1.52
16 to 19 years	1,225	1,150	17.1	4.5	79.0	22.2	14.0	3.8	1.41
20 to 24 years	985	876	30.0	8.0	72.3	28.9	14.2	4.3	1.58
25 to 34 years	840	689	32.1	11.2	69.7	28.0	13.5	6.7	1.61
35 to 44 years	449	364	31.6	8.5	66.5	28.3	12.6	8.2	1.58
45 to 54 years	430	335	29.0	9.0	65.4	27.2	14.9	11.3	1.57
55 to 64 years	287	222	24.8	8.1	60.8	27.0	15.8	16.2	1.53
65 years and over	88	74	20.2	4.1	54.1	20.3	16.2	16.2	1.31
Males	2,240	1,886	28.5	7.4	72.7	24.6	15.7	8.7	1.58
16 to 19 years	647	602	16.6	4.0	81.6	21.1	15.3	3.8	1.42
20 to 24 years	514	446	34.5	7.6	73.5	26.7	16.8	4.9	1.64
25 to 34 years	424	327	37.3	11.9	70.9	28.4	16.2	8.9	1.74
35 to 44 years	209	165	38.8	9.7	65.5	26.7	14.5	12.7	1.68
45 to 54 years	219	167	32.9	8.4	63.5	24.0	16.2	18.6	1.64
55 to 64 years	170	131	25.2	8.4	60.3	22.9	15.3	22.9	1.55
65 years and over	57	48	18.8	4.2	58.3	20.8	14.6	18.8	1.36
Females	2,064	1,824	23.3	7.7	70.5	27.7	12.3	4.3	1.46
16 to 19 years	579	548	17.7	4.9	75.9	23.2	12.6	3.8	1.38
20 to 24 years	471	430	25.3	8.4	70.7	31.2	11.4	3.7	1.51
25 to 34 years	416	362	27.3	10.2	68.5	27.6	11.0	4.4	1.49
35 to 44 years	240	200	25.5	8.0	67.5	29.5	11.0	4.5	1.46
45 to 54 years	211	168	25.0	8.9	67.3	30.4	14.3	3.6	1.50
55 to 64 years	117	91	24.2	7.7	62.6	33.0	17.6	7.7	1.53
65 years and over	31	26	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
White: Total	3,411	2,879	24.0	7.8	72.2	28.2	14.1	6.8	1.53
Males	1,818	1,504	26.8	7.6	72.8	26.3	15.8	9.3	1.59
Females	1,593	1,375	21.0	8.1	71.6	30.3	12.1	4.1	1.47
Negro and other races: Total	894	830	32.5	6.5	69.8	18.9	14.1	5.7	1.48
Males	423	382	35.1	7.1	72.5	17.8	15.4	6.5	1.54
Females	471	448	30.4	6.0	67.6	19.9	12.9	5.1	1.42

[1] Percent not shown where base is less than 35,000.

NOTE: The jobseekers total is less than the total unemployed because persons on layoff or waiting to begin a new wage and salary job within 30 days are not actually seeking jobs. It should also be noted that the percent using each method will always total more than 100 because many jobseekers use more than one method.

A-14. Unemployed jobseekers by the jobsearch methods used, sex, and reason for unemployment

1973

Sex and reason	Thousands of persons		Methods used as a percent of total jobseekers						Average number of methods used
	Total unemployed	Total jobseekers	Public employment agency	Private employment agency	Employer directly	Placed or answered ads	Friends or relatives	Other	
Total, 16 years and over	4,304	3,710	25.9	7.5	71.6	26.1	14.1	6.6	1.52
Lost last job	1,666	1,195	35.2	9.0	69.2	26.9	16.0	9.0	1.65
Left last job	674	650	25.2	9.5	74.0	30.9	13.7	4.3	1.58
Reentered labor force	1,323	1,238	21.5	6.5	70.3	25.5	11.9	6.9	1.43
Never worked before	642	627	17.7	4.8	76.6	20.9	15.3	3.7	1.39
Males, 16 years and over	2,240	1,886	28.5	7.4	72.7	24.6	15.7	8.7	1.58
Lost last job	1,080	788	34.9	8.2	69.5	25.4	16.5	11.3	1.66
Left last job	333	320	27.5	9.7	75.6	30.6	15.0	5.3	1.64
Reentered labor force	528	487	24.8	6.6	72.1	21.6	14.2	9.9	1.49
Never worked before	298	291	18.2	4.1	79.0	21.3	17.5	3.8	1.44
Females, 16 years and over	2,064	1,824	23.3	7.7	70.5	27.7	12.3	4.3	1.46
Lost last job	585	408	35.8	10.5	68.4	29.9	15.0	4.7	1.64
Left last job	341	330	23.0	9.4	72.1	31.2	12.4	3.6	1.52
Reentered labor force	794	749	19.4	6.4	69.4	28.3	10.4	4.9	1.39
Never worked before	343	336	17.0	5.4	74.1	20.5	13.4	3.6	1.34

NOTE: See note, table A-13.

A-15. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

Duration of unemployment	Total				Household head			
	Thousands		Percent distribution		Thousands		Percent distribution	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total	4,840	4,304	100.0	100.0	1,673	1,471	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	2,223	2,196	45.9	51.0	634	657	37.9	44.7
5 to 14 weeks	1,458	1,296	30.1	30.1	507	448	30.3	30.5
5 to 10 weeks	1,089	966	22.5	22.4	367	323	21.9	22.0
11 to 14 weeks	369	330	7.6	7.7	140	125	8.4	8.5
15 weeks and over	1,158	812	23.9	18.9	531	366	31.8	24.9
15 to 26 weeks	597	475	12.3	11.0	252	203	15.1	13.8
27 weeks and over	562	337	11.6	7.8	279	162	16.7	11.0
Average (mean) duration	12.1	10.0	--	--	12.1	12.5	--	--

A-16. Unemployed persons by duration, sex, age, color, and marital status

1973

Sex, age, color, and marital status	Thousands of persons					Average (mean) duration, in weeks	Less than 5 weeks as a percent of unemployed in group		15 weeks and over as a percent of unemployed in group	
	Total	Less than 5 weeks	5 to 14 weeks	15 to 26 weeks	27 weeks and over		1972	1973	1972	1973
Total	4,304	2,196	1,296	475	337	10.0	45.9	51.0	23.9	18.9
16 to 21 years	1,659	978	486	128	68	7.2	54.8	58.9	15.3	11.8
16 to 19 years	1,225	728	361	89	47	7.1	56.1	59.4	13.9	11.1
20 to 24 years	985	527	296	104	57	8.8	49.0	53.5	20.1	16.4
25 to 34 years	840	418	249	102	71	10.4	44.3	49.7	25.2	20.6
35 to 44 years	449	202	138	66	44	11.8	38.7	45.0	30.4	24.3
45 to 54 years	430	183	135	57	56	13.5	37.4	42.5	33.1	26.1
55 to 64 years	287	105	90	44	48	16.2	31.9	36.5	38.6	32.0
65 years and over	88	34	26	13	15	14.9	31.5	38.8	45.5	31.5
Male	2,240	1,053	706	275	206	11.2	41.6	47.0	27.1	21.5
16 to 21 years	869	492	270	71	37	7.4	52.4	56.6	16.6	12.3
16 to 19 years	647	371	203	48	25	7.2	54.4	57.3	14.9	11.2
20 to 24 years	514	253	164	62	34	9.6	44.0	49.3	23.6	18.8
25 to 34 years	424	187	131	60	46	12.1	38.4	44.2	29.9	25.0
35 to 44 years	209	81	63	37	27	14.7	31.5	38.8	35.8	30.8
45 to 54 years	219	84	72	30	33	15.4	9.5	38.4	32.5	28.9
55 to 64 years	170	55	57	28	30	17.6	29.3	32.1	40.2	34.2
65 years and over	57	21	17	9	11	15.9	29.4	36.6	47.2	34.5
Female	2,064	1,144	589	200	131	8.8	51.1	55.4	20.1	16.0
16 to 21 years	790	486	216	57	31	7.0	57.7	61.5	13.8	11.2
16 to 19 years	579	357	158	42	22	6.9	58.2	61.7	12.8	11.0
20 to 24 years	471	274	133	42	23	7.9	55.1	58.1	15.9	13.7
25 to 34 years	416	230	118	42	25	8.7	50.9	55.4	19.9	16.2
35 to 44 years	240	121	74	29	16	9.3	45.6	50.3	25.3	18.7
45 to 54 years	211	99	63	26	22	11.6	43.1	46.8	28.7	23.2
55 to 64 years	117	50	33	16	17	14.0	36.0	43.0	36.0	28.8
65 years and over	31	13	10	4	4	13.2	35.6	(1)	42.0	(1)
White: Total	3,411	1,774	1,011	365	261	9.8	46.4	52.0	24.0	18.4
Male	1,818	873	564	216	166	11.1	42.1	48.0	27.1	21.0
Female	1,593	901	447	150	95	8.4	51.7	56.6	20.2	15.4
Negro and other races: Total	894	423	285	110	77	10.8	44.2	47.3	23.6	20.8
Male	423	180	143	59	41	11.6	39.6	42.6	27.3	23.6
Female	471	242	142	51	36	10.0	48.8	51.5	19.9	18.3
Male: Married, wife present	905	382	285	134	104	12.9	36.2	42.2	32.9	26.3
Widowed, divorced, or separated	174	71	50	28	25	14.8	36.4	40.8	34.4	30.3
Single (never married)	1,162	600	371	113	78	9.4	47.0	51.6	21.2	16.4
Female: Married, husband present	931	523	262	92	54	8.3	50.8	56.2	21.4	15.7
Widowed, divorced, or separated	363	188	106	37	32	10.2	47.2	51.8	23.7	18.9
Single (never married)	770	433	221	72	45	8.6	53.2	56.2	16.8	15.1

[1] Percent not shown where base is less than 35,000.

A-17. Unemployed persons by duration, occupation, and industry of last job

1973

Occupation and industry	Thousands of persons					Average (mean) duration, in weeks	Less than 5 weeks as a percent of unemployed in group		15 weeks and over as a percent of unemployed in group	
	Total	Less than 5 weeks	5 to 14 weeks	15 to 26 weeks	27 weeks and over		1972	1973	1972	1973
OCCUPATION										
White-collar workers	1,219	608	368	141	102	10.4	44.7	49.9	25.7	19.9
Professional and managerial	383	169	120	52	42	12.3	40.3	44.1	30.2	24.5
Sales workers	203	108	57	23	17	10.0	47.1	52.7	22.7	19.6
Clerical workers	630	331	191	66	43	9.3	46.6	52.5	24.0	17.2
Blue-collar workers	1,688	812	525	208	143	10.6	41.9	48.1	27.4	20.8
Craftsmen and kindred workers	434	205	134	56	39	10.9	40.0	47.3	29.2	21.9
Operatives, except transport	717	354	215	85	63	10.5	42.4	49.4	28.3	20.6
Transport equipment operatives	140	62	47	18	14	11.3	41.4	44.1	28.4	22.7
Nonfarm laborers	397	191	129	50	27	10.0	43.1	48.2	23.5	19.3
Service workers	674	366	193	67	49	9.4	51.3	54.3	19.5	17.1
INDUSTRY[1]										
Agriculture	93	51	28	10	4	7.9	56.6	54.8	13.9	15.1
Construction	417	198	132	57	30	9.9	43.7	47.5	24.8	20.9
Manufacturing	932	434	293	117	88	11.3	38.5	46.5	31.9	22.0
Durable goods	499	230	153	63	53	12.2	35.3	46.2	35.5	23.2
Nondurable goods	434	204	140	54	36	10.4	42.7	47.0	27.2	20.7
Transportation and public utilities	152	72	44	21	16	11.9	43.1	47.1	27.7	24.0
Wholesale and retail trade	889	477	257	91	64	9.3	48.3	53.7	21.1	17.4
Finance and service industries	970	499	290	108	74	9.7	47.6	51.4	22.7	18.8
Public administration	121	61	37	12	11	11.5	45.8	50.0	21.3	19.1
No previous work experience	643	363	189	52	40	8.9	52.8	56.4	16.6	14.3

[1] Includes wage and salary workers only.

A-18. Employed persons by sex and age

(In thousands)

Age and type of industry	Total		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
All industries	81,702	84,409	50,630	51,963	31,072	32,446
16 to 19 years	6,722	7,236	3,750	4,017	2,972	3,219
16 to 17 years	2,770	3,008	1,589	1,708	1,181	1,299
18 to 19 years	3,952	4,228	2,161	2,309	1,791	1,919
20 to 24 years	10,894	11,687	6,076	6,566	4,818	5,121
25 to 64 years	50,095	51,717	31,943	32,696	18,152	19,022
25 to 34 years	17,864	19,193	11,751	12,424	6,113	6,770
35 to 44 years	15,771	15,967	10,043	10,061	5,728	5,906
45 to 64 years	16,460	16,557	10,149	10,211	6,311	6,346
55 to 64 years	10,995	10,895	6,912	6,833	4,083	4,062
55 to 59 years	6,510	6,504	4,051	4,068	2,459	2,435
60 to 64 years	4,485	4,391	2,861	2,784	1,624	1,607
65 years and over	2,996	2,875	1,949	1,851	1,047	1,024
Nonagricultural industries	78,230	80,957	47,791	49,130	30,439	31,827
16 to 19 years	6,311	6,834	3,412	3,685	2,899	3,149
16 to 17 years	2,533	2,756	1,395	1,499	1,138	1,257
18 to 19 years	3,778	4,078	2,017	2,186	1,761	1,892
20 to 24 years	10,605	11,381	5,828	6,302	4,778	5,079
25 to 64 years	48,407	50,031	30,621	31,380	17,786	18,652
25 to 34 years	17,382	18,708	11,355	12,040	6,027	6,668
35 to 44 years	15,219	15,441	9,631	9,656	5,588	5,785
45 to 64 years	15,806	15,883	9,635	9,683	6,171	6,200
55 to 64 years	10,341	10,239	6,362	6,273	3,979	3,966
55 to 59 years	6,174	6,168	3,778	3,771	2,396	2,396
60 to 64 years	4,167	4,072	2,584	2,502	1,583	1,570
65 years and over	2,565	2,471	1,568	1,491	997	980
Agriculture	3,472	3,452	2,839	2,833	633	619
16 to 19 years	411	402	338	333	73	70
16 to 17 years	237	252	194	209	42	42
18 to 19 years	174	151	144	123	30	27
20 to 24 years	289	306	248	264	41	41
25 to 64 years	1,687	1,686	1,322	1,317	366	369
25 to 34 years	482	486	396	383	86	102
35 to 44 years	552	526	412	405	140	121
45 to 64 years	654	674	514	528	140	146
55 to 64 years	654	655	550	559	105	96
55 to 59 years	337	336	273	277	63	59
60 to 64 years	318	319	276	282	41	37
65 years and over	431	404	381	360	50	43

A-19. Employed persons by occupational group, sex, and age

(In thousands)

Occupation	Total		Male, 20 years and over		Female, 20 years and over		Male, 16-19 years		Female, 16-19 years	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total	81,702	84,409	46,880	47,946	28,100	29,228	3,750	4,017	2,972	3,219
White-collar workers	39,092	40,386	19,544	20,065	17,378	18,022	632	640	1,538	1,659
Professional and technical	11,459	11,777	6,857	6,974	4,413	4,624	100	92	88	87
Health workers	1,888	1,939	728	721	1,140	1,196	6	4	14	17
Teachers, except college	2,841	2,916	843	873	1,967	2,018	9	5	21	20
Other professional and technical	6,731	6,922	5,288	5,379	1,306	1,410	85	82	53	50
Managers and administrators, except farm	8,032	8,644	6,570	7,007	1,395	1,571	52	48	15	19
Salaried workers	6,308	6,815	5,196	5,554	1,050	1,202	46	43	15	16
Self-employed workers in retail trade	933	953	691	698	240	251	2	2	--	1
Self-employed workers, except retail trade	791	876	683	754	105	118	4	3	--	1
Sales workers	5,354	5,415	2,901	2,941	1,876	1,874	227	234	350	366
Retail trade	3,107	3,074	1,028	1,014	1,572	1,532	179	184	328	344
Other industries	2,247	2,342	1,873	1,928	304	343	47	50	22	21
Clerical workers	14,247	14,548	3,216	3,142	9,694	9,953	254	266	1,084	1,187
Stenographers, typists, and secretaries	4,095	4,206	73	63	3,649	3,750	3	9	367	384
Other clerical workers	10,152	10,342	3,142	3,079	6,044	6,203	249	257	717	803
Blue-collar workers	28,576	29,869	21,700	22,273	4,456	4,833	2,100	2,352	321	410
Craftsmen and kindred workers	10,810	11,288	10,096	10,392	370	436	327	434	16	27
Carpenters	1,045	1,078	990	1,006	4	6	50	64	1	1
Construction craftsmen, except carpenters	2,248	2,357	2,143	2,223	12	18	92	110	2	5
Mechanics and repairmen	2,768	2,903	2,641	2,741	22	21	104	139	2	1
Metal craftsmen	1,095	1,159	1,061	1,104	15	22	19	31	--	1
Foremen, not elsewhere classified	1,413	1,460	1,310	1,343	98	109	4	8	--	--
All other	2,241	2,333	1,951	1,975	219	260	58	82	11	19
Operatives, except transport	10,340	10,972	5,678	5,886	3,734	4,002	674	767	255	317
Durable goods manufacturing	4,415	4,927	2,937	3,101	1,211	1,449	193	266	73	110
Nondurable goods manufacturing	3,558	3,653	1,366	1,395	1,942	1,966	123	143	127	148
Other industries	2,367	2,392	1,375	1,389	581	586	358	358	55	57
Transport equipment operatives	3,209	3,297	2,917	2,962	130	154	158	172	5	9
Drivers and deliverymen	2,751	2,798	2,489	2,499	126	145	131	146	4	8
All other	458	498	428	463	4	8	26	25	--	1
Nonfarm laborers	4,217	4,312	3,009	3,033	222	242	942	979	45	57
Construction	876	854	707	675	4	4	165	173	1	1
Manufacturing	1,008	1,100	797	837	84	96	120	136	8	11
Other industries	2,333	2,358	1,505	1,522	134	141	657	650	36	45
Service workers	10,966	11,128	3,409	3,380	5,785	5,913	720	740	1,053	1,095
Private household workers	1,437	1,353	22	13	1,092	1,057	12	10	311	274
Service workers, except private household	9,529	9,775	3,387	3,367	4,693	4,857	707	730	741	821
Food service workers	3,263	3,402	605	624	1,813	1,852	380	409	464	518
Protective service workers	1,144	1,158	1,066	1,083	64	61	13	11	1	2
All other	5,122	5,215	1,716	1,660	2,816	2,944	314	310	276	301
Farm workers	3,069	3,027	2,228	2,228	482	459	298	286	61	54
Farmers and farm managers	1,688	1,664	1,573	1,545	99	102	15	17	1	1
Farm laborers and foremen	1,381	1,363	655	683	383	357	283	269	60	54
Paid workers	925	956	604	643	109	110	182	172	30	31
Unpaid family workers	455	407	50	40	274	248	101	97	30	23

A-20. Employed persons by major occupational group, sex, and color

(Percent distribution)

Occupational group and color	Total		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total						
Total employed (thousands)	81,702	84,409	50,630	51,963	31,072	32,446
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	47.8	47.8	39.9	39.8	60.9	60.7
Professional and technical	14.0	14.0	13.7	13.6	14.5	14.5
Managers and administrators, except farm	9.8	10.2	13.1	13.6	4.5	4.9
Sales workers	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.1	7.2	6.9
Clerical workers	17.4	17.2	6.9	6.6	34.7	34.3
Blue-collar workers	35.0	35.4	47.0	47.4	15.3	16.2
Craftsmen and kindred workers	13.2	13.4	20.6	20.8	1.2	1.4
Operatives, except transport	12.7	13.0	12.5	12.8	12.8	13.3
Transport equipment operatives	3.9	3.9	6.1	6.0	.4	.5
Nonfarm laborers	5.2	5.1	7.8	7.7	.9	.9
Service workers	13.4	13.2	8.2	7.9	22.0	21.6
Private household workers	1.8	1.6	.1	(1)	4.5	4.1
Other service workers	11.7	11.6	8.1	7.9	17.5	17.5
Farm workers	3.8	3.6	5.0	4.8	1.7	1.6
Farmers and farm managers	2.1	2.0	3.1	3.0	.3	.3
Farm laborers and foremen	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.4	1.3
White						
Total employed (thousands)	73,074	75,258	45,769	46,830	27,305	28,448
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	50.0	49.9	41.7	41.7	63.8	63.3
Professional and technical	14.6	14.5	14.3	14.2	14.9	14.9
Managers and administrators, except farm	10.6	11.0	14.0	14.5	4.8	5.2
Sales workers	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.5	7.8	7.5
Clerical workers	17.8	17.5	6.8	6.5	36.3	35.7
Blue-collar workers	34.4	34.7	45.9	46.3	15.1	15.7
Craftsmen and kindred workers	13.8	13.9	21.2	21.5	1.3	1.5
Operatives, except transport	12.3	12.5	12.1	12.3	12.5	12.9
Transport equipment operatives	3.7	3.7	5.7	5.7	.4	.5
Nonfarm laborers	4.6	4.6	6.8	6.8	.9	.9
Service workers	11.8	11.7	7.3	7.1	19.3	19.3
Private household workers	1.2	1.1	.1	(1)	3.0	2.9
Other service workers	10.6	10.6	7.3	7.1	16.2	16.4
Farm workers	3.8	3.7	5.0	4.9	1.8	1.6
Farmers and farm managers	2.2	2.1	3.4	3.2	.4	.3
Farm laborers and foremen	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.3
Negro and other races						
Total employed (thousands)	8,628	9,131	4,861	5,133	3,767	3,999
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	29.8	31.1	22.2	23.0	39.7	41.5
Professional and technical	9.5	9.9	8.2	8.2	11.2	12.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	3.7	4.1	4.8	5.2	2.3	2.6
Sales workers	2.2	2.3	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.5
Clerical workers	14.4	14.9	7.4	7.4	23.3	24.4
Blue-collar workers	39.9	40.8	57.5	57.6	17.2	19.1
Craftsmen and kindred workers	8.7	8.9	14.7	14.9	.9	1.1
Operatives, except transport	15.8	16.9	16.5	17.4	15.0	16.4
Transport equipment operatives	5.5	5.3	9.5	9.1	.3	.5
Nonfarm laborers	9.9	9.7	16.8	16.3	.9	1.2
Service workers	27.2	25.3	15.8	15.4	42.0	38.1
Private household workers	6.8	5.7	.2	.1	15.2	12.9
Other service workers	20.5	19.6	15.6	15.3	26.8	25.2
Farm workers	3.0	2.8	4.5	4.0	1.2	1.3
Farmers and farm managers	.6	.7	1.0	1.1	.1	.1
Farm laborers and foremen	2.4	2.1	3.4	2.8	1.1	1.2

[1] Less than 0.05 percent.

A-21. Employed persons by class of worker, sex, and age

1973
(In thousands)

Age and sex	Nonagricultural industries						Agriculture		
	Wage and salary workers				Self employed	Unpaid family workers	Wage and salary workers	Self employed	Unpaid family workers
	Total	Private household workers	Government	Other					
Total	74,995	1,543	13,562	59,889	5,426	536	1,254	1,776	423
16 to 19 years	6,708	346	547	5,816	81	45	249	31	122
16 and 17 years	2,691	263	192	2,236	38	26	152	16	84
18 and 19 years	4,017	83	355	3,580	42	18	97	14	39
20 to 24 years	11,118	101	1,689	9,328	232	31	213	65	27
25 to 34 years	17,653	155	3,354	14,144	978	77	230	202	54
35 to 44 years	14,119	175	2,831	11,113	1,193	129	168	290	67
45 to 54 years	14,361	257	3,024	11,080	1,382	140	185	411	79
55 to 64 years	9,099	306	1,816	6,977	1,033	87	147	435	53
55 to 59 years	5,517	153	1,116	4,247	601	50	75	228	33
60 to 64 years	3,583	153	700	2,730	432	37	72	227	20
65 years and over	1,936	203	301	1,432	508	28	63	321	20
Male	45,048	184	7,268	37,596	4,022	60	1,039	1,655	139
16 to 19 years	3,601	68	244	3,289	50	34	206	28	99
16 and 17 years	1,455	52	94	1,308	24	21	127	14	67
18 and 19 years	2,146	16	150	1,981	26	13	78	14	32
20 to 24 years	6,134	14	742	5,379	158	10	184	65	16
25 to 34 years	11,334	12	1,864	9,459	703	3	187	186	11
35 to 44 years	8,752	11	1,537	7,204	901	3	134	267	5
45 to 54 years	8,620	15	1,694	6,911	1,061	2	143	383	2
55 to 64 years	5,480	27	992	4,461	790	3	129	428	3
55 to 59 years	3,318	12	622	2,684	452	1	64	211	2
60 to 64 years	2,163	15	370	1,778	337	2	64	217	1
65 years and over	1,126	38	194	894	359	5	57	299	4
Female	29,947	1,360	6,294	22,293	1,404	477	215	121	283
16 to 19 years	3,108	278	303	2,527	31	11	43	3	23
16 and 17 years	1,236	210	98	928	15	6	24	2	16
18 and 19 years	1,871	68	205	1,599	16	5	19	1	7
20 to 24 years	4,984	88	947	3,949	74	81	29	1	12
25 to 34 years	6,319	144	1,490	4,685	275	74	43	17	43
35 to 44 years	5,367	164	1,294	3,910	291	126	35	24	63
45 to 54 years	5,741	243	1,330	4,169	321	138	41	28	76
55 to 64 years	3,619	280	823	2,516	264	84	18	27	51
55 to 59 years	2,199	141	494	1,564	149	49	10	17	32
60 to 64 years	1,420	139	329	952	115	35	8	10	19
65 years and over	810	164	107	538	148	22	6	22	16

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A-22. Employed persons with a job but not at work by reason, pay status, and sex

(In thousands)

Reason not working	All industries		Nonagricultural industries					
			Total		Wage and salary workers[1]			
					Paid absence[2]		Unpaid absence[2]	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total	4,703	4,926	4,568	4,775	2,289	2,349	1,842	1,991
Vacation	2,501	2,609	2,473	2,578	1,716	1,744	609	692
Illness	1,329	1,362	1,292	1,317	459	469	703	726
Bad weather	141	191	103	148	--	--	--	--
Industrial dispute	78	75	78	74	--	--	--	--
All other reasons	653	689	621	657	114	136	530	573
Male	2,632	2,772	2,513	2,586	1,418	1,450	844	894
Vacation	1,365	1,402	1,341	1,376	1,054	1,061	200	233
Illness	763	794	731	754	286	302	375	387
All other reasons[3]	504	525	441	456	78	87	269	274
Female	2,070	2,204	2055	2,188	871	899	997	1,096
Vacation	1,137	1,207	1,132	1,203	661	683	408	459
Illness	566	568	562	563	173	168	328	338
All other reasons[3]	367	430	361	423	37	48	261	300

[1]Excludes private household.
[2]Pay status not available separately for bad weather and industrial dispute; these categories are included in all other reasons.
[3]Includes bad weather and industrial disputes, not shown separately.

A-23. Persons at work by type of industry and hours of work

1973

Hours of work	Thousands of persons			Percent distribution		
	All industries	Nonagricultural industries	Agriculture	All industries	Nonagricultural industries	Agriculture
Total at work	79,483	76,182	3,301	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-34 hours	18,509	17,473	1,036	23.3	22.9	31.4
1-4 hours	722	671	51	.9	.9	1.5
5-14 hours	3,680	3,421	260	4.6	4.5	7.9
15-29 hours	8,936	8,401	534	11.2	11.0	16.2
30-34 hours	5,171	4,980	191	6.5	6.5	5.8
35 hours and over	60,974	58,710	2,265	76.7	77.1	68.6
35-39 hours	5,639	5,475	164	7.1	7.2	5.0
40 hours	32,358	31,951	407	40.7	41.9	12.3
41 hours and over	22,977	21,284	1,694	28.9	27.9	51.3
41 to 48 hours	9,398	9,134	264	11.8	12.0	8.0
49 to 59 hours	7,435	7,011	425	9.4	9.2	12.9
60 hours and over	6,144	5,139	1,005	7.7	6.7	30.4
Average hours, total at work	39.3	39.0	45.3	--	--	--
Average hours, workers on full-time schedules	43.5	43.1	53.9	--	--	--

A-24. Persons at work 1-34 hours by usual status and reason working part time

1973

(In thousands)

Reasons working part time	All industries			Nonagricultural industries		
	Total	Usually work full time	Usually work part time	Total	Usually work full time	Usually work part time
Total	18,509	6,283	12,226	17,473	5,924	11,548
Economic reasons	2,519	1,193	1,326	2,311	1,074	1,237
Slack work	1,199	805	394	1,050	701	349
Material shortages or repairs to plant and equipment	82	82	--	80	80	--
New job started during week	212	212	--	203	203	--
Job terminated during week	95	95	--	91	91	--
Could find only part-time work	932	--	932	888	--	888
Other reasons	15,990	5,090	10,900	15,160	4,849	10,311
Does not want, or unavailable for, full-time work	8,801	--	8,801	8,355	--	8,355
Vacation	651	651	--	637	637	--
Illness	1,636	1,582	254	1,765	1,550	215
Bad weather	833	833	--	679	679	--
Industrial dispute	51	51	--	69	69	--
Legal or religious holiday	739	739	--	738	738	--
Full time for this job	1,396	--	1,396	1,353	--	1,353
All other reasons	1,686	1,236	450	1,588	1,199	389
Average hours:						
Economic reasons	21.0	23.3	18.9	21.1	23.5	19.0
Other reasons	20.8	26.3	18.3	20.9	26.5	18.3
Worked 30 to 34 hours:						
Economic reasons	686	444	242	642	413	229
Other reasons	4,685	2,734	1,751	4,338	2,660	1,678

A-25. Nonagricultural workers by industry and full- or part-time status

1973

Industry	Percent distribution							Average hours, total at work	Average hours, workers on full-time schedules
	Total at work	On part time for economic reasons	On voluntary part time	On full-time schedules					
				Total	40 hours or less	41 to 48 hours	49 hours or more		
Total [1]	100.0	3.0	13.5	83.4	55.5	12.0	15.9	39.0	43.1
Wage and salary workers	100.0	3.0	13.2	83.9	57.5	12.2	14.2	38.7	42.5
Construction	100.0	5.0	4.5	90.6	67.1	10.9	12.6	38.9	40.9
Manufacturing	100.0	2.3	3.2	94.6	63.6	16.4	14.6	41.3	42.4
Durable goods	100.0	1.5	2.2	96.3	63.7	17.1	15.5	41.9	42.6
Nondurable goods	100.0	3.5	4.5	92.0	63.3	15.5	13.2	40.4	42.1
Transportation and public utilities	100.0	2.1	6.5	91.4	62.3	12.8	16.3	41.2	43.2
Wholesale and retail trade	100.0	4.0	23.9	72.1	43.2	12.9	16.0	37.1	43.9
Finance, insurance, and real estate	100.0	1.1	9.4	89.6	67.3	9.2	13.1	39.1	41.4
Service industries	100.0	3.5	22.4	74.1	52.9	8.5	12.7	36.4	42.4
Private households	100.0	11.4	53.7	34.9	22.1	4.1	8.7	24.6	44.9
All other service	100.0	2.9	19.7	77.5	55.5	8.9	13.1	36.9	42.3
Public administration	100.0	.9	5.4	93.6	72.8	9.1	11.7	40.1	41.6
Self-employed workers	100.0	4.1	15.4	80.6	30.4	10.2	40.0	44.0	50.6
Unpaid family workers	100.0	1.9	38.4	59.7	28.7	7.5	23.5	39.0	50.3

[1] Includes mining not shown separately.

A-26. Persons at work in nonagricultural industries by full- or part-time status, sex, age, color, and marital status

1973

Age, sex, color, and marital status	Total at work	On part time for economic reasons	On voluntary part time	On full-time schedules			Average hours, total at work	Average hours, workers on full-time schedules
				Total	40 hours or less	41 hours or more		
	(In thousands)							
TOTAL								
Total, 16 years and over	76,182	2,311	10,311	63,560	42,276	21,284	39.0	43.1
16 to 21 years	10,775	684	3,646	6,445	4,855	1,590	31.4	40.9
16 to 19 years	6,610	490	2,919	3,201	2,451	750	28.4	40.6
16 and 17 years	2,667	220	1,819	628	477	151	21.7	40.2
18 and 19 years	3,944	269	1,100	2,575	1,975	600	33.0	40.7
20 years and over	69,572	1,821	7,393	60,358	39,825	20,533	40.1	43.2
20 to 24 years	10,871	435	1,363	9,073	6,548	2,525	37.9	41.6
25 years and over	58,701	1,386	6,030	51,285	33,276	18,009	40.5	43.5
25 to 44 years	32,203	739	2,816	28,648	18,200	10,448	41.1	43.7
45 to 64 years	24,230	568	2,235	21,427	14,268	7,159	40.6	43.2
65 years and over	2,269	78	977	1,214	813	401	30.7	43.2
Males, 16 years and over	46,544	1,101	3,260	42,183	25,008	17,175	42.0	44.4
16 to 21 years	5,785	356	1,746	3,683	2,509	1,174	33.2	42.0
16 to 19 years	3,561	259	1,429	1,873	1,325	548	30.1	41.4
16 and 17 years	1,449	125	914	410	303	107	23.5	40.5
18 and 19 years	2,113	133	515	1,465	1,025	440	34.7	41.7
20 years and over	42,982	843	1,831	40,308	23,681	16,627	43.0	44.6
20 to 24 years	6,050	215	577	5,258	3,356	1,902	39.9	43.0
25 years and over	36,933	628	1,253	35,052	20,329	14,723	43.6	44.8
25 to 44 years	20,689	349	353	19,987	11,208	8,779	44.4	45.2
45 to 64 years	14,881	240	362	14,279	8,599	5,680	43.5	44.4
65 years and over	1,363	38	538	787	524	263	31.7	42.8
Females, 16 years and over	29,639	1,210	7,052	21,377	17,268	4,109	34.3	40.4
16 to 21 years	4,990	328	1,900	2,762	2,345	417	29.4	39.5
16 to 19 years	3,049	231	1,490	1,328	1,125	203	26.4	39.5
16 and 17 years	1,218	95	905	218	175	43	19.4	39.6
18 and 19 years	1,831	137	584	1,110	951	159	31.0	39.5
20 years and over	26,590	978	5,562	20,050	16,144	3,906	35.3	40.4
20 to 24 years	4,821	220	786	3,815	3,193	622	35.5	39.8
25 years and over	21,769	757	4,776	16,236	12,952	3,284	35.2	40.7
25 to 44 years	11,515	391	2,464	8,660	6,992	1,668	35.1	40.2
45 to 64 years	9,348	328	1,874	7,146	5,667	1,479	35.9	40.8
65 years and over	906	38	439	429	292	137	29.1	43.8
COLOR								
White	67,931	1,895	9,367	56,669	36,759	19,910	39.3	43.3
Male	41,941	906	2,968	38,067	21,904	16,163	42.3	44.7
Female	25,990	988	6,399	18,603	14,856	3,747	34.3	40.5
Negro and other races	8,251	416	944	6,891	5,517	1,374	37.3	40.9
Male	4,602	195	292	4,115	3,103	1,012	39.3	41.7
Female	3,649	221	653	2,775	2,413	362	34.7	39.6
MARITAL STATUS								
Male:								
Married, wife present	34,950	527	1,060	33,363	19,039	14,324	43.7	44.9
Widowed, divorced, or separated	2,683	93	169	2,421	1,510	911	41.6	44.0
Single (never married)	8,910	482	2,031	6,397	4,457	1,940	35.5	42.3
Female:								
Married, husband present	17,217	591	4,165	12,461	10,153	2,308	34.4	40.2
Widowed, divorced, or separated	5,462	257	904	4,301	3,322	979	36.5	41.1
Single (never married)	6,959	362	1,983	4,614	3,792	822	32.4	40.3

A-26. Persons at work in nonagricultural industries by full- or part-time status, sex, age, color, and marital status--Continued

1973

Age, sex, color, and marital status	Total at work	On part time for economic reasons	On voluntary part time	On full-time schedules		
				Total	40 hours or less	41 hours or more
	(Percent distribution)					
TOTAL						
Total, 16 years and over	100.0	3.0	13.5	83.4	55.5	27.9
16 to 21 years	100.0	6.3	33.8	59.9	45.1	14.8
16 to 19 years	100.0	7.4	44.2	48.4	37.1	11.3
16 and 17 years	100.0	8.2	68.2	23.6	17.9	5.7
18 and 19 years	100.0	6.8	27.9	65.3	50.1	15.2
20 years and over	100.0	2.6	10.6	86.7	57.2	29.5
20 to 24 years	100.0	4.0	12.5	83.4	60.2	23.2
25 years and over	100.0	2.4	10.3	87.4	56.7	30.7
25 to 44 years	100.0	2.3	8.7	88.9	56.5	32.4
45 to 64 years	100.0	2.3	9.2	88.4	58.9	29.5
65 years and over	100.0	3.4	43.1	53.5	35.8	17.7
Males, 16 years and over	100.0	2.4	7.0	90.6	53.7	36.9
16 to 21 years	100.0	6.2	30.2	63.7	43.4	20.3
16 and 19 years	100.0	7.3	40.1	52.6	37.2	15.4
16 and 17 years	100.0	8.6	63.1	28.3	20.9	7.4
18 and 19 years	100.0	6.3	24.4	69.3	48.5	20.8
20 years and over	100.0	2.0	4.3	93.8	55.1	38.7
20 to 24 years	100.0	3.6	9.5	86.9	55.5	31.4
25 years and over	100.0	1.7	3.4	94.9	55.0	39.9
25 to 44 years	100.0	1.7	1.7	96.6	54.2	42.4
45 to 64 years	100.0	1.6	2.4	96.0	57.8	38.2
65 years and over	100.0	2.8	39.5	57.7	38.4	19.3
Females, 16 years and over	100.0	4.1	23.8	72.2	58.3	13.9
16 to 21 years	100.0	6.6	38.1	55.4	47.0	8.4
16 to 19 years	100.0	7.6	48.9	43.6	36.9	6.7
16 and 17 years	100.0	7.8	74.3	17.9	14.4	3.5
18 and 19 years	100.0	7.5	31.9	60.6	51.9	8.7
20 years and over	100.0	3.7	20.9	75.4	60.7	14.7
20 to 24 years	100.0	4.6	16.3	79.1	66.2	12.9
25 years and over	100.0	3.5	21.9	74.6	59.5	15.1
25 to 44 years	100.0	3.4	21.4	75.2	60.7	14.5
45 to 64 years	100.0	3.5	20.0	76.4	60.6	15.8
65 years and over	100.0	4.2	48.5	47.3	32.2	15.1
COLOR						
White	100.0	2.8	13.8	83.4	54.1	29.3
Male	100.0	2.2	7.1	90.7	52.2	38.5
Female	100.0	3.8	24.6	71.6	57.2	14.4
Negro and other races	100.0	5.0	11.4	83.6	66.9	16.7
Male	100.0	4.2	6.3	89.4	67.4	22.0
Female	100.0	6.1	17.9	76.0	66.1	9.9
MARITAL STATUS						
Male:						
Married, wife present	100.0	1.5	3.0	95.5	54.5	41.0
Widowed, divorced, or separated	100.0	3.5	6.3	90.3	56.3	34.0
Single (never married)	100.0	5.4	22.8	71.8	50.0	21.8
Female:						
Married, husband present	100.0	3.4	24.2	72.4	59.0	13.4
Widowed, divorced, or separated	100.0	4.7	16.6	78.7	60.8	17.9
Single (never married)	100.0	5.2	28.5	66.3	54.5	11.8

A-27. Persons at work in nonfarm occupations by full- or part-time status and sex

1973

Occupational group and sex	Total at work	On part time for economic reasons	On voluntary part time	On full-time schedules				Average hours, total at work	Average hours, workers on full-time schedules
				Total	40 hours or less	41 to 48 hours	49 hours or more		
	(Thousands of persons)								
TOTAL									
White-collar workers	38,002	645	5,233	32,124	21,014	4,096	7,014	39.7	43.5
Professional and technical	10,834	140	1,235	9,459	6,061	1,221	2,177	40.2	43.6
Managers and administrators, except farm	8,226	61	343	7,822	3,511	1,200	3,111	46.8	48.2
Sales workers	5,119	172	1,247	3,700	2,106	563	1,031	37.3	44.5
Clerical workers	13,824	273	2,408	11,143	9,338	1,111	694	36.0	39.9
Blue-collar workers	28,099	1,095	1,850	25,154	16,686	4,265	4,203	40.2	42.6
Craftsmen and kindred workers	10,638	280	347	10,011	6,382	1,729	1,900	41.7	43.0
Operatives, except transport	10,290	440	596	9,254	6,555	1,575	1,124	39.6	41.7
Transport equipment operatives	3,110	105	243	2,762	1,475	487	800	42.6	45.5
Nonfarm laborers	4,061	271	664	3,126	2,272	474	380	35.9	41.2
Service workers	10,482	595	3,310	6,577	4,731	812	1,034	33.5	42.8
Private household	1,289	137	701	451	288	52	111	24.7	44.7
Other service workers	9,193	459	2,609	6,125	4,442	760	923	34.7	42.6
MALE									
White-collar workers	19,695	190	1,182	18,323	9,756	2,735	5,832	44.1	46.0
Professional and technical	6,663	61	400	6,202	3,662	809	1,731	43.1	44.9
Managers and administrators, except farm	6,734	41	165	6,528	2,719	1,018	2,791	47.9	48.8
Sales workers	3,050	49	321	2,680	1,305	452	923	42.6	45.9
Clerical workers	3,249	39	296	2,914	2,073	455	386	39.5	42.0
Blue-collar workers	23,237	786	1,360	21,091	13,391	3,712	3,988	41.0	43.1
Craftsmen and kindred workers	10,206	263	289	9,654	6,113	1,672	1,869	41.9	43.1
Operatives, except transport	6,286	174	310	5,802	3,724	1,112	966	41.3	43.0
Transport equipment operatives	2,965	98	162	2,705	1,435	480	790	43.4	45.6
Nonfarm laborers	3,781	249	599	2,933	2,122	448	363	36.0	41.2
Service workers	3,913	145	763	3,005	1,976	424	605	38.1	44.2
Private household	22	3	10	9	7	1	1	24.9	45.2
Other service workers	3,891	142	753	2,996	1,970	423	603	38.1	44.2
FEMALE									
White-collar workers	18,307	455	4,051	13,801	11,257	1,361	1,183	35.0	40.3
Professional and technical	4,171	78	836	3,257	2,399	412	446	35.7	41.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	1,492	20	178	1,294	792	182	320	41.9	45.4
Sales workers	2,069	122	926	1,021	801	111	109	29.5	40.6
Clerical workers	10,575	234	2,112	8,229	7,265	656	308	34.9	39.2
Blue-collar workers	4,862	310	491	4,061	3,293	553	215	36.6	39.6
Craftsmen and kindred workers	432	16	58	358	269	58	31	36.6	40.4
Operatives, except transport	4,004	266	286	3,452	2,831	463	158	37.0	39.4
Transport equipment operatives	145	7	81	57	39	7	11	27.7	41.6
Nonfarm laborers	280	21	65	194	151	26	17	33.8	40.4
Service workers	6,569	450	2,547	3,572	2,755	388	429	30.8	41.6
Private household	1,267	133	690	444	283	51	110	24.7	44.7
Other service workers	5,303	317	1,856	3,130	2,474	336	320	32.2	41.2

A-27. Persons at work in nonfarm occupations by full- or part-time status and sex—Continued

1973

Occupational group and sex	Total at work	On part time for economic reasons	On voluntary part time	On full-time schedules			
				Total	40 hours or less	41 to 48 hours	49 hours or more
	(Percent distribution)						
TOTAL							
White-collar workers	100.0	1.7	13.8	84.6	55.3	10.8	18.5
Professional and technical	100.0	1.3	11.4	87.3	55.9	11.3	20.1
Managers and administrators, except farm	100.0	.7	4.2	95.1	42.7	14.6	37.8
Sales workers	100.0	3.4	24.4	72.2	41.1	11.0	20.1
Clerical workers	100.0	2.0	17.4	80.5	67.5	8.0	5.0
Blue-collar workers	100.0	3.9	6.6	89.6	59.4	15.2	15.0
Craftsmen and kindred workers	100.0	2.6	3.3	94.2	60.0	16.3	17.9
Operatives, except transport	100.0	4.3	5.8	89.9	63.7	15.3	10.9
Transport equipment operatives	100.0	3.4	7.8	88.8	47.4	15.7	25.7
Nonfarm laborers	100.0	6.7	16.4	77.0	55.9	11.7	9.4
Service workers	100.0	5.7	31.6	62.7	45.1	7.7	9.9
Private household	100.0	10.6	54.4	34.9	22.3	4.0	8.6
Other service workers	100.0	5.0	28.4	66.6	48.3	8.3	10.0
MALE							
White-collar workers	100.0	1.0	6.0	93.0	49.5	13.9	29.6
Professional and technical	100.0	.9	6.0	93.1	55.0	12.1	26.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	100.0	.6	2.5	96.9	40.4	15.1	41.4
Sales workers	100.0	1.6	10.5	87.9	42.8	14.8	30.3
Clerical workers	100.0	1.2	9.1	89.7	63.8	14.0	11.9
Blue-collar workers	100.0	3.4	5.9	90.8	57.6	16.0	17.2
Craftsmen and kindred workers	100.0	2.6	2.8	94.6	59.9	16.4	18.3
Operatives, except transport	100.0	2.8	4.9	92.3	59.2	17.7	15.4
Transport equipment operatives	100.0	3.3	5.5	91.2	48.4	16.2	26.6
Nonfarm laborers	100.0	6.6	15.8	77.5	56.1	11.8	9.6
Service workers	100.0	3.7	19.5	76.8	50.5	10.8	15.5
Private household	100.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other service workers	100.0	3.6	19.4	77.0	50.6	10.9	15.5
FEMALE							
White-collar workers	100.0	2.5	22.1	75.4	61.5	7.4	6.5
Professional and technical	100.0	1.9	20.0	78.1	57.5	9.9	10.7
Managers and administrators, except farm	100.0	1.3	11.9	86.7	53.1	12.2	21.4
Sales workers	100.0	5.9	44.8	49.4	38.7	5.4	5.3
Clerical workers	100.0	2.2	20.0	77.8	68.7	6.2	2.9
Blue-collar workers	100.0	6.4	10.1	83.5	67.7	11.4	4.4
Craftsmen and kindred workers	100.0	3.7	13.4	82.9	62.3	13.4	7.2
Operatives, except transport	100.0	6.6	7.1	86.2	70.7	11.6	3.9
Transport equipment operatives	100.0	4.8	35.9	39.3	26.9	4.8	7.6
Nonfarm laborers	100.0	7.5	23.2	69.3	53.9	9.3	6.1
Service workers	100.0	6.9	38.8	54.3	41.9	5.9	6.5
Private household	100.0	10.5	54.5	35.0	22.3	4.0	8.7
Other service workers	100.0	6.0	35.0	59.0	46.7	6.3	6.0

[1] Percent not shown where base is less than 35,000.

A-28. Employment status of 14-15 year-olds by sex and color

1973

(In thousands)

Employment status	Total			White			Negro and other races		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Civilian noninstitutional population	8,313	4,225	4,087	7,092	3,617	3,475	1,221	609	612
Civilian labor force	1,666	964	702	1,539	882	657	127	82	45
Employed	1,476	842	635	1,394	788	606	82	53	29
Agriculture	203	162	41	190	153	36	14	9	4
Nonagricultural industries	1,273	679	594	1,205	635	570	69	44	24
Unemployed	189	122	67	144	94	51	45	28	16
Not in labor force	6,647	3,261	3,386	5,553	2,734	2,819	1,094	527	567
Keeping house	153	16	137	122	12	110	32	4	27
Going to school	5,319	2,640	2,679	4,435	2,212	2,222	884	427	457
Unable to work	13	9	4	10	7	3	3	2	1
All other reasons	1,162	597	565	987	504	483	176	94	82

A-29. Employed 14-15 year-olds by sex, class of worker, and major occupational group

1973

Characteristics	Thousands of persons			Percent distribution		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
CLASS OF WORKER						
Total	1,476	842	635	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonagricultural industries	1,273	679	594	86.2	80.6	93.5
Wage and salary workers	1,163	591	572	78.8	70.2	90.1
Private household workers	505	117	388	34.2	13.9	61.1
Government workers	55	36	19	3.7	4.3	3.0
Other wage and salary workers	603	438	165	40.9	52.0	26.0
Self-employed workers	94	78	16	6.4	9.3	2.5
Unpaid family workers	16	10	6	1.1	1.2	.9
Agriculture	203	162	41	13.8	19.4	6.5
Wage and salary workers	95	77	18	6.4	9.1	2.8
Self-employed workers	20	19	2	1.4	2.3	.3
Unpaid family workers	88	67	21	6.0	8.0	3.3
OCCUPATION						
Total	1,476	842	635	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	320	236	84	21.7	28.1	13.4
Professional and technical	12	5	7	.8	.6	1.1
Managers and administrators, except farm	4	3	1	.3	.4	.2
Sales workers	248	208	40	16.8	24.7	6.3
Clerical workers	57	20	37	3.9	2.4	5.8
Blue-collar workers	321	294	27	21.7	34.8	4.4
Craftsmen and kindred workers	19	17	2	1.3	2.0	.3
Operatives, except transport	51	43	8	3.5	5.1	1.3
Transport equipment operatives	6	6	--	.4	.7	--
Nonfarm laborers	245	227	18	16.6	27.0	2.8
Service workers	655	170	485	44.3	20.2	76.3
Private household workers	409	25	384	27.7	3.0	60.4
Other service workers	246	145	101	16.7	17.2	15.9
Farm workers	180	142	38	12.2	16.9	6.0
Farmers and farm managers	5	5	--	.3	.6	--
Farm laborers and foremen	175	137	38	11.8	16.3	6.0

A-30. Reasons for nonparticipation in labor force by age and sex

Nonparticipants by reason for status	Total		Age in years							
			16-19		20-24		25-59		60 and over	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Thousands of persons										
Total	56,784	57,220	7,421	7,282	4,974	4,789	23,386	23,417	21,003	21,731
In school	7,301	7,344	5,426	5,244	1,370	1,565	490	521	15	13
Ill health, disability	4,945	5,191	96	80	177	162	2,379	2,512	2,293	2,437
Home responsibilities	33,482	33,188	814	830	2,665	2,504	18,534	18,312	11,470	11,543
Retirement, old age	6,691	7,165	--	--	--	--	114	125	6,577	7,037
Think cannot get job	766	679	132	133	113	98	366	318	154	131
All other reasons	3,398	3,652	952	995	448	439	1,505	1,628	493	571
Male	14,192	14,539	3,212	3,138	1,281	1,224	2,296	2,424	7,405	7,755
In school	3,827	3,762	2,624	2,572	921	899	280	288	3	3
Ill health, disability	2,522	2,675	47	38	75	74	1,172	1,268	1,241	1,295
Home responsibilities	214	226	18	21	12	11	51	52	132	142
Retirement, old age	5,703	5,927	--	--	--	--	107	114	5,595	5,811
Think cannot get job	240	225	65	58	34	23	67	67	75	77
All other reasons	1,688	1,725	458	449	238	215	620	634	372	425
Female	42,591	42,681	4,209	4,145	3,693	3,565	21,091	20,995	13,598	13,977
In school	3,474	3,582	2,802	2,672	649	666	210	233	13	10
Ill health, disability	2,424	2,516	49	43	102	87	1,207	1,245	1,065	1,142
Home responsibilities	33,269	32,962	796	809	2,653	2,493	18,482	18,260	11,337	11,401
Retirement, old age	989	1,238	--	--	--	--	7	12	983	1,226
Think cannot get job	526	454	68	75	80	75	300	251	79	54
All other reasons	1,710	1,928	494	545	210	243	886	995	121	145
Percent distribution										
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	13.2	12.8	73.1	72.0	31.6	32.7	2.1	2.2	.7	.1
Ill health, disability	8.7	9.1	1.3	1.1	3.6	3.4	10.2	10.7	10.9	11.2
Home responsibilities	59.0	58.0	11.0	11.4	53.6	52.3	79.3	78.2	54.6	53.1
Retirement, old age	11.8	12.5	--	--	--	--	.5	.5	31.3	32.4
Think cannot get job	1.3	1.2	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.4	.7	.6
All other reasons	6.0	6.4	12.8	13.7	9.0	9.6	6.4	7.0	2.3	2.6
Male	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	27.0	25.9	81.7	82.0	71.9	73.5	12.2	11.9	.4	(1)
Ill health, disability	17.8	18.4	1.5	1.2	5.6	6.1	51.0	52.3	16.8	16.7
Home responsibilities	1.5	1.6	.6	.7	.9	.9	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.8
Retirement, old age	40.2	40.8	--	--	--	--	4.7	4.7	75.6	75.0
Think cannot get job	1.9	1.5	2.0	1.8	2.7	1.9	2.9	2.8	1.0	1.0
All other reasons	12.0	11.9	14.3	14.3	18.6	17.7	27.0	26.2	5.0	5.3
Female	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	8.6	8.4	66.6	64.5	17.6	18.7	1.0	1.1	.9	.1
Ill health, disability	5.7	5.9	1.2	1.0	2.8	2.4	5.7	5.9	7.8	8.2
Home responsibilities	78.1	77.2	18.9	19.5	71.8	69.9	87.6	87.0	83.4	81.6
Retirement, old age	2.3	2.9	--	--	--	--	.3	.1	7.2	8.8
Think cannot get job	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.1	1.4	1.2	.6	.4
All other reasons	4.0	4.5	11.7	13.2	5.7	6.8	4.2	4.7	.9	1.0

[1] Percent less than 0.05.

A-31. Reasons for nonparticipation in labor force by age, color, and sex

Nonparticipants by reason for status	Total		Age in years					
			16-24		25-59		60 and over	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
White								
Male (in thousands)	12,291	12,564	3,738	3,582	1,864	1,969	6,690	7,013
In school	3,204	3,113	2,956	2,880	244	232	2	1
Ill health, disability	2,039	2,191	98	79	915	1,027	1,028	1,086
Home responsibilities	181	190	27	25	44	41	111	123
Retirement, old age	5,240	5,457	—	—	105	110	5,136	5,345
Think cannot get job	187	176	75	58	48	52	63	66
All other reasons	1,440	1,438	583	538	505	510	349	392
Female (in thousands)	38,110	38,049	6,623	6,399	19,024	18,854	12,463	12,795
In school	3,026	2,923	2,841	2,737	173	179	12	7
Ill health, disability	1,844	1,984	109	107	895	963	840	914
Home responsibilities	30,481	30,050	2,995	2,821	16,941	16,656	10,544	10,574
Retirement, old age	894	1,133	—	—	7	12	887	1,121
Think cannot get job	391	324	93	99	231	177	66	49
All other reasons	1,474	1,634	584	638	775	867	115	131
Male (percent distribution)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	26.1	24.8	79.1	80.4	13.1	11.8	(1)	(1)
Ill health, disability	16.6	17.4	2.6	2.2	49.2	52.1	15.4	15.5
Home responsibilities	1.5	1.5	.7	.7	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.8
Retirement, old age	42.6	43.4	—	—	5.6	5.6	76.8	76.2
Think cannot get job	1.5	1.4	2.0	1.6	2.6	2.6	.9	.9
All other reasons	11.7	11.4	15.6	15.0	27.1	25.9	5.2	5.6
Female (percent distribution)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	7.9	7.7	42.9	42.8	.9	.9	.1	.1
Ill health, disability	4.8	5.2	1.6	1.7	4.7	5.1	6.7	7.1
Home responsibilities	80.0	79.0	45.2	44.1	89.1	88.3	84.6	82.6
Retirement, old age	2.3	3.0	—	—	(1)	.1	7.1	8.8
Think cannot get job	1.0	.9	1.4	1.5	1.2	.9	.5	.4
All other reasons	3.9	4.3	8.8	10.0	4.1	4.6	.9	1.0
Negro and other races								
Male (in thousands)	1,901	1,975	755	780	433	454	714	741
In school	623	650	588	591	34	58	—	2
Ill health, disability	482	483	24	33	258	241	201	209
Home responsibilities	32	36	4	7	8	11	20	19
Retirement, old age	462	470	—	—	3	4	459	466
Think cannot get job	53	49	25	23	17	16	11	11
All other reasons	248	287	115	127	112	125	22	34
Female (in thousands)	4,481	4,632	1,280	1,310	2,068	2,141	1,135	1,181
In school	648	659	611	603	37	53	—	3
Ill health, disability	580	532	42	25	313	281	225	228
Home responsibilities	2,787	2,912	454	481	1,541	1,605	793	826
Retirement, old age	96	105	—	—	—	—	96	104
Think cannot get job	135	130	53	51	68	74	13	4
All other reasons	236	293	119	150	110	127	7	15
Male (percent distribution)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	32.8	32.9	77.8	75.7	7.9	12.7	—	.3
Ill health, disability	25.4	24.5	3.2	4.2	59.7	53.0	28.2	28.2
Home responsibilities	1.7	1.8	.5	.9	1.9	2.4	2.8	2.6
Retirement, old age	24.3	23.8	—	—	.7	.9	64.4	62.9
Think cannot get job	2.8	2.5	3.3	2.9	3.9	3.5	1.5	1.5
All other reasons	13.1	14.5	15.2	16.3	25.9	27.5	3.1	4.6
Female (percent distribution)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	14.5	14.2	47.8	46.0	1.8	2.5	—	.3
Ill health, disability	12.9	11.5	3.3	1.9	15.1	13.1	19.8	19.3
Home responsibilities	62.2	62.9	35.5	36.7	74.5	75.0	69.9	70.0
Retirement, old age	2.1	2.3	—	—	—	—	8.5	8.8
Think cannot get job	3.0	2.8	4.1	3.9	3.3	3.5	1.1	.3
All other reasons	5.3	6.3	9.3	11.5	5.3	5.9	.6	1.3

[1] Percent less than 0.05 percent.

A-32. Job desire of persons not in labor force and reasons for not seeking work by age and sex

Reasons for not seeking work	Total		Age in years							
			16-19		20-24		25-59		60 and over	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Thousands of persons										
Total not in labor force	56,783	57,220	7,421	7,282	4,974	4,789	23,386	23,417	21,003	21,731
Do not want job now	52,321	52,760	6,165	5,996	4,257	4,081	21,328	21,370	20,572	21,310
Want job now – total	4,462	4,460	1,256	1,286	717	708	2,058	2,047	430	421
In school	1,200	1,227	908	889	205	228	84	110	3	—
Ill health, disability	632	619	28	25	49	44	413	413	142	137
Home responsibilities	1,098	1,043	71	88	218	180	771	741	37	35
Think cannot get job	766	679	132	133	113	98	366	318	154	131
All other reasons	767	892	117	151	131	158	424	465	95	118
Male	1,347	1,395	586	591	215	227	340	360	206	215
In school	617	647	455	464	117	139	40	44	--	--
Ill health, disability	271	274	15	12	21	20	158	172	78	69
Think cannot get job	240	225	65	58	34	23	67	67	75	77
All other reasons[1]	224	249	52	57	43	45	73	77	54	69
Female	3,115	3,066	671	695	502	481	1,718	1,684	224	206
In school	588	580	453	425	89	89	45	66	3	—
Ill health, disability	361	345	14	13	28	24	255	239	64	68
Home responsibilities	1,074	1,021	68	86	216	179	764	732	27	24
Think cannot get job	526	454	68	75	80	75	300	251	79	54
All other reasons	567	666	69	96	90	114	355	396	52	60
Percent distribution										
Want job now – total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	26.9	27.5	72.3	69.1	28.6	32.2	4.1	5.4	1.0	—
Ill health, disability	14.2	13.9	2.2	1.9	6.8	6.2	20.1	20.2	33.0	32.5
Home responsibilities	24.6	23.4	5.7	6.8	30.4	25.4	37.5	36.2	8.6	8.3
Think cannot get job	17.2	15.2	10.5	10.3	15.8	13.8	17.8	15.5	35.8	31.1
All other reasons	17.2	20.0	9.3	11.7	18.3	22.3	20.6	22.7	22.1	28.0
Male	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	45.4	46.4	77.6	78.5	54.4	61.2	11.8	12.2	—	—
Ill health, disability	20.1	19.6	2.6	2.0	9.8	8.8	46.5	47.8	37.9	32.1
Think cannot get job	17.8	16.1	11.1	9.8	15.8	10.1	19.7	18.6	36.4	35.8
All other reasons[1]	16.6	17.8	8.9	9.6	20.0	19.8	21.5	21.4	26.2	32.1
Female	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	18.9	18.9	67.5	61.2	17.7	18.5	2.6	3.9	1.3	—
Ill health, disability	11.6	11.3	2.1	1.9	5.6	5.0	14.8	14.2	28.6	33.0
Home responsibilities	34.5	33.3	10.1	12.4	43.0	37.2	44.5	43.5	12.1	11.7
Think cannot get job	16.9	14.8	10.1	10.8	15.9	15.6	17.5	14.9	35.3	26.2
All other reasons	18.2	21.7	10.3	13.8	17.9	23.7	20.7	23.5	23.2	29.1

[1] Includes small number of men not seeking work because of home responsibilities.

A-33. Job desire of persons not in labor force and reasons for not seeking work by color and sex

Reasons for not seeking work	White				Negro and other races			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Thousands of persons								
Total not in labor force	12,291	12,564	38,110	38,049	1,901	1,975	4,481	4,632
Do not want job now	11,206	11,461	35,753	35,703	1,639	1,681	3,724	3,913
Want job now	1,085	1,103	2,357	2,346	262	294	757	719
In school	498	507	453	443	114	141	135	137
Ill health, disability	214	209	238	238	57	65	123	107
Home responsibilities[1]	--	--	797	795	--	--	276	226
Think cannot get job	187	176	391	324	53	49	135	130
All other reasons	186	211	478	546	38	39	88	119
Percent distribution								
Want job now	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In school	45.9	46.0	19.2	18.9	43.5	48.0	17.8	19.1
Ill health, disability	19.7	18.9	10.1	10.1	21.8	22.1	16.2	14.9
Home responsibilities[1]	--	--	33.8	33.9	--	--	36.5	31.4
Think cannot get job	17.2	16.0	16.6	13.8	20.2	16.7	17.8	18.1
All other reasons	17.1	19.1	20.3	23.3	14.5	13.3	11.6	16.6

[1]Small number of men not seeking work because of "home responsibilities" are included in "all other reasons."

A-34. Persons not in labor force who desire to work but think they cannot get jobs by age, color, sex, and detailed reason

1973
(In thousands)

Detailed reason for not seeking work	Total	Age in years				Color	
		16-19	20-24	25-59	60 and over	White	Negro and other races
Total	679	133	98	318	131	500	179
Employers think too young or old	106	23	--	15	68	97	9
Lacks education or training	56	13	10	29	3	47	9
Other personal handicap	25	3	3	17	3	23	2
Could not find job	273	63	48	137	24	164	109
Thinks no job available	218	30	37	118	33	169	49
Male	225	58	23	67	76	176	49
Employers think too young or old	54	12	—	1	41	48	6
Lacks education or training	12	5	4	2	1	9	3
Other personal handicap	7	1	—	6	1	7	--
Could not find job	94	32	12	37	13	66	28
Thinks no job available	58	9	8	22	21	46	12
Female	454	75	75	251	54	324	130
Employers think too young or old	53	12	—	13	27	49	3
Lacks education or training	45	8	6	29	3	38	6
Other personal handicap	18	2	3	11	2	16	2
Could not find job	179	31	36	100	12	98	81
Thinks no job available	160	21	30	97	11	123	37

A-35. Most recent work experience of persons not in labor force and reason for leaving last job for those who worked during previous 12 months by age and sex

Most recent work experience and reason leaving job	Total		Age in years							
			16-19		20-24		25-59		60 and over	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total										
Not in labor force (in thousands)	56,784	57,220	7,421	7,282	4,974	4,789	23,386	23,417	21,002	21,731
Never worked	10,402	10,198	4,188	3,990	941	950	2,551	2,572	2,723	2,686
Last worked over 5 years ago	25,964	26,404	32	21	295	305	12,019	11,990	13,619	14,087
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	10,792	10,573	527	482	1,684	1,410	5,350	5,199	3,232	3,482
Left job previous 12 months	9,624	10,043	2,674	2,788	2,054	2,124	3,467	3,654	1,430	1,476
Percent distribution by reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
School, home responsibilities	46.8	47.8	60.3	62.9	66.4	67.1	40.8	41.5	7.7	6.8
Ill health, disability	9.1	9.4	1.8	1.7	3.3	2.7	15.0	15.0	16.6	19.8
Retirement, old age	8.1	8.1	--	--	--	--	2.4	2.8	48.9	48.2
Economic reasons	19.3	17.9	20.0	17.8	13.5	13.2	22.8	21.4	17.7	15.9
End of seasonal job	8.6	8.3	10.8	9.9	5.9	6.0	8.9	9.0	7.6	6.8
Slack work	4.9	4.4	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.4	7.0	5.8	4.0	4.1
End of temporary job	5.8	5.2	5.5	4.5	4.1	3.8	7.0	6.6	6.1	5.1
All other reasons	16.7	16.8	17.8	17.7	16.8	17.0	19.0	19.2	9.1	9.2
Male										
Not in labor force (in thousands)	14,192	14,539	3,211	3,138	1,281	1,224	2,296	2,424	7,405	7,755
Never worked	2,050	1,970	1,597	1,529	264	225	164	175	27	40
Last worked over 5 years ago	5,558	5,733	15	8	27	36	754	810	4,762	4,879
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	3,022	3,122	207	172	243	186	754	777	1,819	1,986
Left job previous 12 months	3,561	3,714	1,394	1,427	747	776	623	660	797	849
Percent distribution by reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
School, home responsibilities	41.0	41.6	59.5	61.8	64.5	64.0	19.9	21.2	2.9	2.8
Ill health, disability	10.7	12.0	1.6	1.6	2.5	2.3	32.3	34.0	17.2	21.1
Retirement, old age	14.5	14.4	--	--	--	--	8.3	9.5	58.2	55.4
Economic reasons	17.1	16.2	19.9	19.0	14.1	13.9	16.7	15.0	15.2	14.3
End of seasonal job	8.6	8.0	11.5	10.7	7.4	6.3	5.8	5.6	7.3	6.9
Slack work	4.2	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.2	4.0	7.7	6.5	3.3	3.5
End of temporary job	4.2	3.8	4.6	4.4	3.6	3.6	3.2	2.9	4.8	3.8
All other reasons	16.8	15.9	18.9	17.6	18.9	19.7	22.8	20.3	6.5	6.5
Female										
Not in labor force (in thousands)	42,591	42,681	4,209	4,145	3,693	3,565	21,091	20,995	13,598	13,977
Never worked	8,352	8,228	2,592	2,462	677	723	2,387	2,398	2,697	2,645
Last worked over 5 years ago	20,406	20,672	17	13	268	269	11,265	11,180	8,857	9,209
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	7,770	7,451	321	310	1,441	1,224	4,595	4,421	1,413	1,496
Left job previous 12 months	6,062	6,329	1,280	1,360	1,308	1,348	2,844	2,994	632	626
Percent distribution by reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
School, home responsibilities	50.1	51.4	61.2	63.9	67.5	68.8	45.3	46.1	13.6	12.3
Ill health, disability	8.2	7.9	1.9	1.8	3.7	3.0	11.3	10.9	13.8	18.0
Retirement, old age	4.4	4.4	--	--	--	--	1.1	1.3	37.4	38.4
Economic reasons	20.6	18.9	20.2	16.5	13.2	12.8	24.2	22.8	20.8	18.3
End of seasonal job	8.5	8.4	10.0	9.1	5.0	5.8	9.5	9.8	7.9	6.5
Slack work	5.3	4.4	3.7	2.7	3.7	3.1	6.9	5.7	4.9	4.9
End of temporary job	6.8	6.0	6.4	4.7	4.4	3.9	7.8	7.4	7.9	7.0
All other reasons	16.7	17.4	16.7	17.9	15.7	15.4	18.2	18.9	12.4	12.9

A-36. Most recent work experience of persons not in labor force and reasons for leaving last job for those who worked during previous 12 months by color and sex

Most recent work experience and reason leaving job	White				Negro and other races			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total not in labor force (in thousands)	12,291	12,564	38,110	38,049	1,901	1,975	4,682	4,632
Never worked	1,639	1,526	7,299	7,078	411	443	1,053	1,150
Last worked over 5 years ago	4,881	5,039	18,619	18,800	678	693	1,787	1,872
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	2,658	2,749	6,881	6,639	364	373	889	812
Left job previous 12 months	3,113	3,249	5,310	5,530	448	465	752	798
Percent distribution by reason	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
School, home responsibilities	41.8	41.6	50.9	51.9	35.4	41.1	44.6	48.0
Ill health, disability	10.3	11.7	7.6	7.5	13.1	14.2	12.4	11.2
Retirement, old age	15.4	15.4	4.7	4.7	8.0	6.9	2.3	2.6
Economic reasons	16.1	15.4	20.0	18.5	23.8	21.5	24.7	21.4
End of seasonal job	7.9	7.5	8.0	8.2	14.0	11.8	11.8	9.9
Slack work	4.2	4.2	5.1	4.0	4.7	4.9	6.6	7.0
End of temporary job	4.0	3.7	6.8	6.2	5.1	4.7	6.4	4.5
All other reasons	16.4	15.9	16.8	17.4	19.6	16.3	15.9	16.8

A-37. Industry and occupation of last job for persons not in labor force who worked during previous 12 months by reasons leaving job

1973

Industry and class of worker and major occupation	Total (thousands of persons)	Reason left job (percent distribution)					
		Total	School, home responsibilities	Ill health, disability	Retirement, old age	Economic reasons	All other
Total who left jobs in previous 12 months	10,043	100.0	47.8	9.4	8.1	17.9	16.8
Industry							
Agriculture[1]	621	100.0	26.7	8.7	3.7	35.2	25.7
Unpaid family workers	144	100.0	11.2	--	1.4	4.9	82.5
Wage and salary workers	418	100.0	34.7	8.6	1.4	46.4	8.9
Nonagricultural industries	9,439	100.0	49.5	9.3	8.4	16.6	16.3
Self-employed workers	365	100.0	28.6	17.0	16.8	21.7	15.9
Unpaid family workers	156	100.0	17.2	1.3	1.3	7.6	72.6
Wage and salary workers	8,918	100.0	50.9	9.1	8.2	16.5	15.3
Private household workers	379	100.0	38.8	14.8	2.9	26.6	16.9
Government workers	1,419	100.0	44.2	6.5	14.6	21.7	13.0
All other[2]	7,120	100.0	52.8	9.4	7.1	15.0	15.7
Construction	383	100.0	46.7	13.3	6.3	19.1	14.6
Manufacturing	1,690	100.0	47.2	12.7	12.8	11.7	15.7
Transportation and public utilities	244	100.0	49.0	13.5	14.3	11.8	11.4
Trade	2,622	100.0	56.0	7.2	4.7	15.6	16.5
Finance and services	2,138	100.0	55.2	8.0	5.0	16.3	15.4
Occupation							
White-collar workers	4,248	100.0	50.4	6.1	9.5	17.6	16.4
Professional and technical	933	100.0	46.9	5.3	13.2	20.4	14.3
Managers and administrators, except farm	334	100.0	28.2	12.7	29.3	11.8	18.0
Clerical and sales	2,961	100.0	54.2	5.6	6.0	17.5	16.8
Blue-collar workers	2,876	100.0	45.7	13.0	10.0	15.8	15.5
Craftsmen and kindred workers	553	100.0	29.1	19.0	22.6	13.5	13.9
Operatives, except transport	1,287	100.0	49.1	12.9	7.9	14.2	15.9
Transport equipment operatives	180	100.0	33.0	16.2	16.2	16.8	17.9
Nonfarm laborers	857	100.0	54.0	8.6	3.9	18.1	15.4
Service workers	2,379	100.0	52.1	10.6	4.3	15.9	17.1
Farm workers	557	100.0	24.9	8.6	3.8	36.0	26.7

[1] Includes small number of self-employed workers, not shown separately.
[2] Includes forestries, fisheries, and mining, not shown separately.

A-38. Work-seeking intentions of persons not in labor force and major characteristics of those who intend to seek work within next 12 months by sex and color

Work-seeking intentions, most recent work experience, and major occupation	Total		Male		Female	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
Total						
Total not in labor force (in thousands)	56,784	57,220	14,192	14,539	42,591	42,681
Do not intend to seek work	48,200	48,607	11,066	11,366	37,134	37,241
Intended to seek work in next 12 months	8,584	8,613	3,127	3,173	5,457	5,440
Never worked	1,724	1,670	667	656	1,058	1,014
Last worked over 5 years ago	881	917	91	109	790	808
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	1,765	1,670	480	443	1,285	1,228
Worked during previous 12 months	4,214	4,335	1,889	1,965	2,325	2,390
Percent distribution by occupation	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers	38.4	36.9	22.6	21.2	51.6	50.0
Professional and technical	8.6	8.0	7.4	6.6	9.6	9.0
Managers and administrators, except farm	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.8	1.9	1.7
Clerical and sales	27.5	26.7	12.5	11.7	40.0	39.3
Blue-collar workers	31.1	33.0	51.4	52.9	14.1	16.4
Craftsmen and kindred workers	4.8	5.6	9.8	11.3	.7	.9
Operatives, except transport	12.3	13.0	13.0	13.1	11.7	12.9
Transport equipment operatives	2.4	1.9	4.9	3.7	.4	.4
Nonfarm laborers	11.5	12.5	23.8	24.8	1.3	2.2
Service workers	25.2	25.2	18.3	18.4	31.0	30.9
Farm workers	5.3	4.9	7.6	7.5	3.3	2.8
White						
Total not in labor force (in thousands)	50,401	50,613	12,291	12,564	38,110	38,049
Do not intend to seek work	43,388	43,579	9,661	9,917	33,728	33,662
Intend to seek work in next 12 months	7,013	7,034	2,631	2,647	4,382	4,387
Never worked	1,346	1,286	529	513	818	773
Last worked over 5 years ago	742	780	75	86	668	694
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	1,371	1,310	396	360	975	950
Worked during previous 12 months[1]	3,534	3,656	1,632	1,687	1,924	1,969
Negro and other races						
Total not in labor force (in thousands)	6,383	6,607	1,901	1,975	4,482	4,632
Do not intend to seek work	4,811	5,028	1,405	1,449	3,406	3,579
Intend to seek work in next 12 months	1,572	1,579	496	526	1,076	1,053
Never worked	378	384	138	143	240	241
Last worked over 5 years ago	139	137	17	23	123	114
Last worked 1 to 5 years ago	395	359	84	82	311	277
Worked during previous 12 months[1]	660	699	258	278	402	421

[1] Occupational data not available by color.

B-1. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	1970	1971	1972	1973[P]	Change from 1971-72	Change from 1972-73[P]
TOTAL	70,593	70,645	72,764	75,570	2,119	2,806
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,352	22,542	23,061	24,095	519	1,034
MINING	623	602	607	625	5	18
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,381	3,411	3,521	3,649	110	128
MANUFACTURING	19,349	18,529	18,933	19,821	404	888
DURABLE GOODS	11,195	10,565	10,884	11,634	319	750
Ordnance and accessories	241.9	192.1	188.2	192.4	-3.9	4.2
Lumber and wood products	572.7	580.8	612.0	630.8	31.2	18.8
Furniture and fixtures	459.8	458.5	492.7	522.0	34.2	29.3
Stone, clay, and glass products	640.2	633.7	660.0	692.9	26.3	32.9
Primary metal industries	1,315.6	1,227.4	1,234.8	1,315.2	7.4	80.4
Fabricated metal products	1,380.4	1,328.2	1,371.1	1,451.6	42.9	80.5
Machinery, except electrical	1,982.1	1,805.3	1,864.2	2,042.0	58.9	177.8
Electrical equipment	1,917.0	1,768.5	1,833.0	1,996.1	64.5	163.1
Transportation equipment	1,799.1	1,723.9	1,746.8	1,858.9	22.9	112.1
Instruments and related products	460.4	437.0	455.9	494.2	18.9	38.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	425.7	409.6	425.2	437.6	15.6	12.4
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,154	7,964	8,049	8,187	85	138
Food and kindred products	1,782.8	1,758.3	1,751.1	1,735.7	-7.2	-15.4
Tobacco manufactures	82.9	76.3	72.0	73.8	-4.3	1.8
Textile-mill products	975.9	957.0	991.0	1,023.9	34.0	32.9
Apparel and other textile products	1,364.6	1,335.7	1,335.3	1,340.9	-.4	5.6
Paper and allied products	705.5	683.6	697.0	718.0	13.4	21.0
Printing and publishing	1,101.6	1,071.2	1,079.6	1,098.3	8.4	18.7
Chemicals and allied products	1,049.0	1,008.2	1,002.2	1,029.5	-6.0	27.3
Petroleum and coal products	190.8	190.6	189.6	187.2	-1.0	- 2.4
Rubber and plastics products, nec	580.1	580.9	627.0	682.7	46.1	55.7
Leather and leather products	320.4	302.4	304.4	296.9	2.0	- 7.5
SERVICE-PRODUCING	47,242	48,103	49,704	51,474	1,601	1,770
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,493	4,442	4,495	4,610	53	115
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	14,914	15,142	15,683	16,294	541	611
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,812	3,809	3,918	4,082	109	164
RETAIL TRADE	11,102	11,333	11,765	12,212	432	447
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3,688	3,796	3,927	4,053	131	126
SERVICES	11,612	11,869	12,309	12,865	440	556
GOVERNMENT	12,535	12,856	13,290	13,652	434	362
FEDERAL	2,705	2,664	2,650	2,624	- 14	- 26
STATE AND LOCAL	9,830	10,191	10,640	11,028	449	388

[P]preliminary.

B-2. Production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	1970	1971	1972	1973[P]	Change from 1971-72	Change from 1972-73[P]
TOTAL PRIVATE	47,934	47,732	49,223	51,283	1,491	2,060
MINING	473	451	459	475	8	16
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	2,820	2,832	2,908	3,012	76	104
MANUFACTURING	14,020	13,434	13,838	14,577	404	739
DURABLE GOODS	8,042	7,598	7,919	8,548	321	629
Ordnance and accessories	131.5	96.3	94.4	98.4	-1.9	4.0
Lumber and wood products	492.6	499.7	526.8	543.6	27.1	16.8
Furniture and fixtures	378.9	377.1	407.5	431.1	30.4	23.6
Stone, clay, and glass products	508.8	502.8	527.1	554.7	24.3	27.6
Primary metal industries	1,043.3	967.5	984.1	1,058.6	16.6	74.5
Fabricated metal products	1,051.3	1,009.6	1,049.4	1,120.2	39.8	70.8
Machinery, except electrical	1,322.8	1,178.4	1,235.9	1,380.6	57.5	144.7
Electrical equipment and supplies	1,265.0	1,171.4	1,238.4	1,377.9	67.0	139.5
Transportation equipment	1,241.1	1,218.4	1,248.4	1,335.7	30.0	87.3
Instruments and related products	278.0	261.0	275.9	305.7	14.9	29.8
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	328.6	315.9	331.3	342.0	15.4	10.7
NONDURABLE GOODS	5,978	5,836	5,919	6,028	83	109
Food and kindred products	1,200.9	1,186.1	1,180.3	1,171.3	-5.8	-9.0
Tobacco manufactures	69.1	62.7	59.1	61.2	-3.6	2.1
Textile mill products	855.9	839.3	871.4	900.4	32.1	29.0
Apparel and other textile products	1,196.1	1,168.3	1,164.7	1,164.0	-3.6	-.7
Paper and allied products	543.2	523.2	537.4	557.1	14.2	19.7
Printing and publishing	678.2	654.2	656.9	662.9	2.7	6.0
Chemicals and allied products	601.7	580.0	581.2	599.7	1.2	18.5
Petroleum and coal products	116.5	116.7	117.2	118.2	.5	1.0
Rubber and plastics products, n e c	443.2	447.9	489.3	538.8	41.4	49.5
Leather and leather products	273.4	257.6	261.2	254.4	3.6	-6.8
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	3,897	3,844	3,883	3,966	39	83
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	13,264	13,439	13,923	14,457	484	534
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,203	3,181	3,278	3,413	97	135
RETAIL TRADE	10,061	10,258	10,645	11,044	387	399
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	2,918	2,984	3,072	3,146	88	74
SERVICES	10,542	10,748	11,140	11,649	392	509

[P]preliminary.

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B-3. Gross hours and earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average weekly hours				Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	1970	1971	1972	1973[P]	1970	1971	1972	1973[P]	1970	1971	1972	1973[P]
TOTAL PRIVATE	37.1	37.0	37.2	37.1	$3.22	$3.43	$3.65	$3.89	$119.46	$126.91	$135.78	$144.32
MINING	42.7	42.3	42.5	42.4	3.85	4.06	4.38	4.69	164.40	171.74	186.15	198.86
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	37.4	37.3	37.0	37.1	5.24	5.69	6.06	6.46	195.98	212.24	224.22	239.67
MANUFACTURING	39.8	39.9	40.6	40.7	3.36	3.56	3.81	4.06	133.73	142.04	154.69	165.24
Overtime hours	3.0	2.9	3.5	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DURABLE GOODS	40.3	40.4	41.3	41.5	3.55	3.79	4.05	4.32	143.07	153.12	167.27	179.28
Overtime hours	3.0	2.8	3.6	4.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ordnance and accessories	40.5	41.7	42.2	42.4	3.61	3.84	4.09	4.28	146.21	160.13	172.60	181.47
Lumber and wood products	39.7	40.3	41.0	40.7	2.96	3.15	3.31	3.58	117.51	126.95	135.71	145.71
Furniture and fixtures	39.2	39.8	40.5	39.9	2.77	2.90	3.06	3.26	108.58	115.42	123.93	130.07
Stone, clay, and glass products	41.2	41.6	41.9	42.1	3.40	3.66	3.91	4.17	140.08	152.26	163.83	175.56
Primary metal industries	40.5	40.4	41.6	42.4	3.93	4.23	4.66	5.03	159.17	170.89	193.86	213.27
Fabricated metal products	40.7	40.4	41.2	41.6	3.53	3.74	3.99	4.24	143.67	151.10	164.39	176.38
Machinery, except electrical	41.1	40.6	42.0	42.6	3.77	3.99	4.27	4.54	154.95	161.99	179.34	193.40
Electrical equipment	39.8	39.9	40.5	40.4	3.28	3.48	3.67	3.86	130.54	138.85	148.64	155.94
Transportation equipment	40.3	40.7	41.8	41.9	4.05	4.41	4.73	5.07	163.22	179.49	197.71	212.43
Instruments and related products	40.1	39.8	40.5	40.7	3.35	3.52	3.72	3.88	134.34	140.10	150.66	157.92
Miscellaneous manufacturing	38.7	38.9	39.3	39.0	2.83	2.97	3.11	3.27	109.52	115.53	122.22	127.53
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.1	39.3	39.7	39.6	3.08	3.26	3.47	3.69	120.43	128.12	137.76	146.12
Overtime hours	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food and kindred products	40.5	40.3	40.4	40.4	3.16	3.38	3.60	3.83	127.98	136.21	145.44	154.73
Tobacco manufactures	37.8	37.8	37.4	37.2	2.91	3.15	3.43	3.78	110.00	119.07	128.28	140.62
Textile mill products	39.9	40.6	41.3	40.8	2.45	2.57	2.73	2.94	97.76	104.34	112.75	119.95
Apparel and other textile products	35.3	35.6	36.0	35.8	2.39	2.49	2.61	2.78	84.37	88.64	93.96	99.52
Paper and allied products	41.9	42.1	42.8	42.8	3.44	3.67	3.94	4.18	144.14	154.51	168.63	178.90
Printing and publishing	37.7	37.5	37.9	37.9	3.92	4.20	4.48	4.68	147.78	157.50	169.79	177.37
Chemicals and allied products	41.6	41.6	41.8	42.0	3.69	3.94	4.20	4.46	153.50	163.90	175.56	187.32
Petroleum and coal products	42.7	42.4	42.2	42.2	4.28	4.57	4.95	5.22	182.76	193.77	208.89	220.28
Rubber and plastics products, nec	40.3	40.3	41.2	41.0	3.20	3.40	3.60	3.80	128.96	137.02	148.32	155.80
Leather and leather products	37.2	37.7	38.3	37.9	2.49	2.60	2.71	2.81	92.63	98.02	103.79	106.50
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.5	40.2	40.4	40.7	3.85	4.20	4.64	5.04	155.93	168.84	187.46	205.13
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	35.3	35.1	35.1	34.7	2.71	2.87	3.02	3.20	95.66	100.74	106.00	111.04
WHOLESALE TRADE	40.0	39.8	39.8	39.5	3.44	3.67	3.88	4.11	137.60	146.07	154.42	162.35
RETAIL TRADE	33.8	33.7	33.6	33.2	2.44	2.57	2.70	2.86	82.47	86.61	90.72	94.95
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	36.8	37.0	37.2	37.1	3.08	3.28	3.45	3.61	113.34	121.36	128.34	133.93
SERVICES	34.4	34.2	34.1	34.1	2.81	3.01	3.18	3.36	96.66	102.94	108.44	114.58

[P]preliminary unweighted averages.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What is the current status of your version of the wholesale oil prices, and when will you be publishing wholesale oil price statistics?

Mr. SHISKIN. As I said a little earlier, we have had a very vigorous effort—and again let me thank you for your help on it—it has been successful, it appears to be successful, at any rate. I have my fingers crossed. But we expect to come out with a revised index for prices of refined oil products in mid-June. It will be extended back to March 1973.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And it will be available in mid-June?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And finally, I want to congratulate you on the statement on productivity in your agency. As you know as an economist, the economists assumed for years that there was no improvement in productivity in the Federal Government, and many cynical observers scorn—it is hard to blame them. But we know it is not true. We have made studies of 60 percent of the jobs in the Federal Government for productivity change, which is a great deal more than you have in the private sector.

What you said about what you have done in your agency to improve productivity is most remarkable. I wish you would have a memorandum prepared for the record of the committee, and I would like to have it for my own purposes. We have been pressing hard to try to improve production in the Federal Government.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, we always seem to end up these meetings—I am very pleased it is that way—on a very happy note. I want to say that BLS now has the responsibility for compiling the government productivity program. And we recognize that you had a major role in initiating that program. And it is a very worthy project. And I will give you a report on the steps that I have taken in that regard.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Were the news stories stating that the unemployment among Vietnam veterans has been reversed in terms of the trend and has become negative based on your first quarter figure, or is this some other study?

Mr. SHISKIN. Those figures emerged last weekend when we released the first quarter figures.

Senator SCHWEIKER. When you released the first quarter figures?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Senator SCHWEIKER. So it was your first quarter study which was just released?

Mr. SHISKIN. Last week.

Senator SCHWEIKER. What was the comparison between that quarter and the quarter before for 20- to 24-year old veterans? Can you give me the last quarter?

Mr. BREGGER. Yes.

The unemployment rate for 20- to 24-year-old veterans in the first quarter was 9.9 percent. And that was up from 7.7 percent in the fourth quarter of 1973.

Senator SCHWEIKER. 9.9 percent, up to 7.7 percent. Now, could you please give me the same thing for the black young veteran?

Mr. BREGGER. I have that, sir. It is not seasonally adjusted, so it wouldn't be quite comparable. But the 20- to 24-year old black

veteran rate was 18.9 percent in the first quarter of 1974 compared with 8.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 1973.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Did you say 18 percent?

Mr. BREGGER. I did say 18.9 percent. But I repeat that is not seasonally adjusted.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How big a difference might it make? Do you have a rough idea? That is fantastic.

Mr. BREGGER. That is a series we are not able to seasonally adjust at the present time. But the fourth quarter would be quite low—that would be about the lowest quarter of the year on a seasonal basis.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Why do we not have a seasonally adjusted figure? You have the statistics.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That should be a matter of very simple arithmetic.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Here again is a key figure, and we do not even have it.

Mr. BREGGER. One of the problems is that we are talking about a population of only about 170,000 when we are talking about the black veteran 20 to 24.

Mr. SHISKIN. I happened to have spent a great part of my career studying seasonal variations, sir. And if the sample is so small that the random variations dominate the short term seasonal movements, then it is not a good candidate for seasonal adjustment. If the seasonal variations dominate the irregular, that is a good candidate for seasonal adjustment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then you don't make any seasonal adjustment at this time, is that right?

Mr. SHISKIN. Of this particular group. And I have not known about it before.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is that a matter of policy?

Mr. SHISKIN. If the random variations are so great that they dominate the series, you can't bring out a reliable seasonal factor. And this seems to be one of those situations.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Give us your expert interpretation of this mammoth increase, an increase, unless I misunderstood it, of more than 100 percent. What does it mean?

Mr. SHISKIN. I would have to study it, I couldn't give it offhand.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If you don't know it, we don't have the experience that you have, and it seems to me we need some guidance or we are likely to make a very bad policy based on erroneous judgment.

Mr. SHISKIN. We will take a hard look at it and be prepared to answer the question. But I would have to study it.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I do not see how we, as members of the Labor Committee or the HEW Appropriations Committee, can possibly decide intelligently where the manpower funds ought to go, when we really do not have an index here. It just seems pretty obvious to me that, debating how to use manpowers' funds most efficiently in this country, when one group has 18 percent, even if that is not seasonally adjusted unemployment, that figure should be the prime target.

Are you saying that you cannot get seasonally adjusted figures because they fluctuate so widely?

Mr. SHISKIN. It is because the sample is very thin, it is a very small sample. And in small samples, the figures vary a great deal. It comes back to the point we made a little while ago. My offhand reaction to this is that if we had a larger sample, it would be more reliable, and we would be able to seasonally adjust it. But I would have to look into it.

Mr. BREGGER. I would like to note two points on that, if I might.

A better figure to compare would be against first quarter 1973. And the rate for our Negro veterans 20 to 24 years old, then, was 15.2 percent. And so as you can see, it is up a little, although I doubt significantly, because the figures have a very great error associated with them.

Senator SCHWEIKER. 15.2 percent was the statistic?

Mr. BREGGER. A year ago for this same group.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Do you have a total figure for last year?

Mr. BREGGER. You mean the annual average for 1973?

Senator SCHWEIKER. Sure. If you do not seasonally adjust, then an annual figure would be perfectly proper.

Mr. SHISKIN. Then you don't have to seasonally adjust. It is one advantage of an annual figure.

Mr. BREGGER. I don't believe I have it here, I can get it.

I would also like to note, just for your interest, that the unemployment rate for black teenagers in April was 30.3 percent. So you can see it is quite a bit higher.

Senator SCHWEIKER. 30.3 percent?

Mr. BREGGER. Yes, sir.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Is that seasonally adjusted?

Mr. BREGGER. Yes, sir.

Senator SCHWEIKER. And you do it for black teenagers?

Mr. BREGGER. Yes, sir.

Mr. SHISKIN. When you are talking about black veterans, it is a very small group. Teenagers are a much larger group.

We will be very glad to leave this copy of Employment and Earnings with the page marked so that you and your staff can study these figures.

Chairman PROXMIRE. There is a great deal to what Senator Schweiker has to say when you consider the fact that we spend hundreds of millions of dollars per year, or are likely to spend it, on the manpower training programs. We are likely to come up with a $400 or $500 million program this year. The cost of gathering statistics is $1 million, so—I am talking about in this particular area—in other words, if you want to change it——

Mr. SHISKIN. You have incremental costs——

Chairman PROXMIRE. It might be a couple of hundred thousand dollars, or a small fraction of 1 percent in order get the base data on which we can base wise policy.

Mr. SHISKIN. We would have to have larger samples. But as you know, there are very serious problems in other parts of the system for using the manpower revenue sharing program. And we are very concerned with them, too. We have many States for which

we don't have reliable figures on unemployment. Pennsylvania I am sure is not one of them, however, is that right?

Senator SCHWEIKER. The reason, as I understand it, that you say the sample is so thin is because you do it on a prorata basis compared to the blacks in the total population. But since they are a small percentage of the total population, contrarywise it really should not cost that much to enlarge the sample, because you are dealing——

Mr. SHISKIN. That is correct. And we could certainly do it. It is what we call oversampling. You know, there are a lot of people who are interested in special groups.

For example, the Spanish-Americans. We have had a lot of pressure on us to improve those figures. And also we have this big problem right now of getting better statistics to back up CETA, the act which set up manpower revenue sharing.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I suppose the biggest pressure of all comes on a regional basis where a Senator says, "Why don't you have it for my State," or a Congressman says, "Why don't you have it for my city."

Mr. SHISKIN. We only get annual figures for States now, and only for 19 States and for 30 SMSA's. Now, our unemployment survey is based on a sample of 47,000.

Senator SCHWEIKER. I can see, Mr. Shiskin, where you run into the problem of giving it to this group or that group. There may be one criteria we could use; that is, where the need is, where the biggest unemployment is. And a survey of the groups that have the big unemployment ought to be the prime category, whether they are Puerto Ricans, blacks, or whatever. And it seems to me this is what we need to know for our labor and manpower appropriation funds. And just elevate the worse groups in terms of unemployment —they would be the ones you would single out regardless of whether they are black, white, or yellow. I would forget the color and just go to the problem and, I hasten to add, I would support your funding in our subcommittee, because this is what we have all been struggling with, to solve the unemployment problem.

Mr. SHISKIN. I am hopeful that the next time I come here we will be able to talk more concretely about our plans for the CPS.

Senator SCHWEIKER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you very much, Mr. Shiskin and ladies and gentlemen.

The subcommittee will adjourn until the first Friday in June.

[Whereupon, at 12:27 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned, to reconvene on Friday, June 7, 1974.]

EMPLOYMENT-UNEMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1974

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES AND
ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT OF THE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 11 a.m., in room 1202, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. William Proxmire (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senator Proxmire.

Also Present: Richard F. Kaufman, general counsel; Lucy A. Falcone and Courtenay M. Slater, professional staff members; Michael J. Runde, administrative assistant; and George D. Krumbhaar, Jr., minority counsel.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PROXMIRE

Chairman PROXMIRE. The subcommittee will come to order.

This morning we again welcome the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, Mr. Julius Shiskin, and his colleagues to discuss the latest developments in the unemployment situation, and previous developments.

We are delighted to have you, Mr. Shiskin.

As I look at the figures, do I understand that unemployment increased from 5 to 5.2 percent, and unemployment increased by a limited amount, and the various components of the employment picture have very interesting changes. One way of viewing this unemployment change is that an increase in unemployment of from 5 to 5.2 percent could not be considered by itself good news. It is depressing for all of us to have any unemployment at all. We all feel that 5 percent is too high, and 5.2 percent is even higher.

At the same time, here we are in the fifth month of the year, and all the forecasts were that unemployment would increase to between 5½ to 6 percent, and that most of the increase would be in the first half of the year. Well, the unemployment is at the same level it was at in January. And while there had been this increase, unfortunate increase in the last month, putting it in perspective of forecasting and so forth, it seems that the big news is that unemployment is relatively stable. I do not want to be a Pollyanna about it and there are some very disturbing elements here involved with respect to the relationship between prices and income which I want to get into, as well some of the changes in the unemployment picture that are rather serious for some of our citizens.

So if you will go ahead and make your statement, then we will proceed with questioning.

STATEMENT OF HON. JULIUS SHISKIN, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY JOHN LAYNG, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS; AND JAMES R. WETZEL, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS

Mr. SHISKIN. Thank you, Senator Proxmire.

We have been discussing at this hearing and many others, problems of price statistics; and I wonder if you would not mind, before I read my statement on the employment situation, my making a brief statement on the status of the wholesale price index.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We would like very much to get that. I wanted to ask you about that. We are disturbed by the fact that it seems to be coming out late. And of course that has a useful relationship with the unemployment figures.

Mr. SHISKIN. There is a great deal of talk about that. And you may wish to ask me questions about it later.

What I would like to say at the beginning is that as you know, we have been vigorously engaged in revising the wholesale price index for petroleum products. That index will be released on Thursday on schedule, and revised.

Now, we are revising it back to March 1973. You will recall that we ran into serious problems in the fall, that is, they appeared to be serious, because we were taking data from a secondary source, and most of us thought that the data were not representative. Now we are close to a fix on what the revised figures for those months, March 1973 and April 1974, will show.

I have indicated at earlier hearings that I thought the revised figures would be lower. They are in fact lower.

Now, what I can also add today is that not only will the trends of prices of fuels, various petroleum products such as gasoline, show a smaller trend over that period than the figures we are presently publishing, but that will also be the case for the All Commodities wholesale price index and the Industrials Component of the wholesale price index.

This information will be available next week. But I wanted to give you an earlier indication of what we are finding.

So the trend shown by the overall index over the past year will be lower.

That covers what I wanted to say.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Are you saying that it is possible that the wholesale price index may go down very dramatically? And if it does go down, could this be construed as an effort to dissuade people that inflation is as serious as it really is?

Mr. SHISKIN. Let me use my own words to describe that situation again.

The trend from March 1973 to March 1974 is what I am talking about. We have had a very rapidly rising trend in wholesale prices. The new figures will still continue to show a sharp rise. However,

they will show a lower rise over the period than the figure we have been publishing.

Now, the reason is, we revised the index for wholesale prices of petroleum products in accordance with the many discussions we have had here. The index for the components of that group will be much lower, will show much lower trends on balance. But what I can say today is that the All Commodities Index and the Industrials Index will also be affected.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, as I understand it, there have been at least one study and perhaps two. The one that I recall most clearly was made at Yale by a Yale professor of the Wholesale Price Index. And he contended that it greatly overstated the inflation in the last year by, as I understand it, maybe as much as two-thirds. It was a very, very large overestimate.

This concerned me some, and I have been trying to get as much information on it since then as I can. Is this related to what you are doing?

Mr. SHISKIN. No, as a matter of fact, I think you are referring to the article that appeared in Challenge magazine. And I was surprised that in that article they did not at all mention what we have been talking about month after month, the impending revision of the petroleum price component of that index which we all thought was showing more sharply rising trends that in fact were taking place. The authors did not mention that at all.

Now, that article—and I have become such a great expert on the CPI, Senator, in recent months that my expertise on the WPI is lagging somewhat. So if you will bear that in mind I will try to respond to the question.

The WPI is an index of commodities, it is a commodities index. Now, in that article they argue in part that the use of value of shipments for weighting leads, to duplication of certain items like petroleum products in the final index. Petroleum products were included in the crude products stage, the intermediate product stage, and the finished product stage, and therefore the WPI all-commodities index was going up more than it should.

We also have a WPI for finished goods, which is included in our release as well. Now, the authors could very easily have used that instead, which is what they were getting at, and it would have showed about the same thing. It is right there in our release. So that would have been a very easy way to have demonstrated their point.

There is a duplication in the WPI, in the all-commodities WPI. We try to deal with it by showing the stages of processing, so that is another way to get at it.

A second point the authors made was that in certain other areas of prices the rate of inflation was also greater. And those were the services. We do not cover them in the WPI. The WPI is a commodity index. We do have a program in these other areas under way, and we have in fact a request for funds in this year's budget, to expand that area of price information, which is a gap.

And Mr. Layng to my right will fill you in on that if you wish. But we are moving in that direction.

Now, a third point is that the weighting problem is a very complicated problem. What are the appropriate weights? The answer varies with the problem in hand. And thus far we have dealt with that problem by showing indexes for the various stages of processing.

Again, in our budget for recent years, and especially 1975, we have a request for funds to revise the WPI and to improve the weighting.

So I have really made three points: One, that the WPI does contain duplication. An unduplicated figure is also available, however, in the finished commodity part of it, which is published regularly in the release.

A second point I made is that much of the criticism in that article was directed against the fact that we did not cover certain industries, certain kinds of activities in the WPI. And that is certainly true. The WPI is a commodity index. However, we know that price data for industries are needed. And we have made requests for funds to expand the industry coverage.

And finally, we also are taking a hard look at the weighting. And if we get the funds we requested, we hope to provide a better set of weights in the future.

Now, is this the time for me to read my statement?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Yes.

Mr. SHISKIN. Mr. Chairman, the unemployment rate rose to 5.2 percent in May from 5 percent in April. Any rise in the unemployment rate must be viewed as bad news.

The principal factors in the rise in unemployment were increases of 200,000 in number of teenagers unemployed and 85,000 in the number of 20–24-year olds. On the other hand, there was a decline of 120,000 in the number of 25 and over males. Reflected in this decline were 52,000 household heads and 87,000 married men with spouse present. The net result was an increase in total unemployment of 170,000. The declines in unemployment in job losers and job leavers categories continued for the third month in a row.

Employment rose, both as measured in the household survey and the establishment survey. The steady rise in nonagricultural payroll employment from January to May, a total increase of nearly 600,000, is especially noteworthy.

Average weekly hours rebounded from the low level in April to the March level. This rise supports the view expressed last month that the decline then was due primarily to the fact that the survey week came just before Easter. It is common for unusually large amounts of leave to be taken in the week before Easter. Since the survey week occurs before Easter only occasionally, an appropriate adjustment cannot be made as a normal part of the seasonal adjustment, and no special adjustment was made for this factor by the BLS.

And now I am coming to some information that is not in our press release. A special study of the pattern of change in 1972 industries covering all private nonagricultural payroll employment shows that the diffusion index for these industries reached a low in March, turned up in April and continued to increase in May. This index dropped from 76.7 in October 1973 to 46.5 in March 1974, but it has risen to 55.8 in April and 56.4 in May. Since diffusion indexes

almost always lead the aggregates to which they correspond, this pattern suggests that further increases in nonagricultural payroll employment are likely in the months immediately ahead.

Average earnings of production workers rose sharply—1.5 percent, the largest increase since the monthly series began in 1964. This rise was probably due to a combination of several factors—higher-than-usual contract settlements, higher-than-usual cost-of-living adjustments and an increase nearly back to the March level in overtime. In addition, the Federal minimum wage law was amended, effective May 1, raising the level for already covered workers and expanding its coverage.

In summary, the new employment data show that (1) the unemployment rate continued essentially on the plateau it has held since last January, (2) nonagricultural employment continued to rise, (3) the continued upturn in the diffusion indexes for 1972 nonagricultural industries suggests further increases in employment in the months immediately ahead, (4) hours of work rebounded to the March level, and (5) hourly earnings rose sharply. Though the data have unfavorable aspects, especially the rise in unemployment for young people, on balance they suggest some net strengthening of the overall employment situation.

With your permission, I would like to place in the record the employment situation press release.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Without objection, so ordered.

Mr. SHISKIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The press release follows:]

NEWS

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USDL - 74-306
FOR RELEASE: Transmission Embargo
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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: MAY 1974

Unemployment rose in May, but employment also increased, it was announced today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. Primarily because of a rise in joblessness among teenagers, the Nation' s unemployment rate edged up to 5. 2 percent from 5. 0 percent in April. The jobless rate has been in the 5. 0-5. 2 percent range since January, after rising from last October' s low of 4. 6 percent.

Total employment (as measured by the monthly sample survey of households) was 86. 0 million in May, up slightly from the 85. 8 million plateau at which it had held since January.

Nonagricultural payroll employment (as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments) rose by 180, 000, with the entire gain occurring in service-producing industries. There was also a rebound in the workweek and a sizeable increase in average hourly earnings.

Unemployment

The number of persons unemployed in May totaled 4. 7 million (seasonally adjusted), up 170, 000 from the previous month. This was a return to the levels of the first 2 months of the year. The unemployment rate of 5. 2 percent was above the April level but continued between 5. 0 and 5. 2 percent for the fifth consecutive month.

Teenagers accounted for most of the May rise in total joblessness; their unemployment rate, which had dropped the previous month, increased from 13. 8 to 15. 8 percent. Except for April, the teenage jobless rate has held between 15 and 16 percent since January (table A-2).

Jobless rates for most adult worker groups, on the other hand, remained either unchanged or declined marginally in May. There was some improvement among married men, whose unemployment rate declined from 2. 5 to 2. 2 percent over the month; this was mirrored by a drop in the rate for all men 25 years and over (table A-6). The rates for men 20 years and over (3. 4 percent), women

20 years and over (5.1 percent), and household heads (3.0 percent) did not show statistically significant movements over the month.

The jobless rate for full-time workers, at 4.6 percent in May, has been virtually unchanged since January. In contrast, the part-time worker rate rose substantially in May, from 7.3 to 8.8 percent, due largely to the increase in teenage joblessness. Increased youth unemployment also affected the unemployment rates of

Table A. Highlights of the employment situation (seasonally adjusted data)

Selected categories	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1973				1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
	I	II	III	IV	I			
	(Millions of persons)							
Civilian labor force	87.6	88.5	89.0	89.9	90.5	90.5	90.3	90.7
Total employment	83.2	84.1	84.8	85.7	85.8	85.9	85.8	86.0
Adult men	47.5	47.7	48.1	48.5	48.5	48.4	48.3	48.5
Adult women	28.6	29.2	29.5	29.7	29.7	29.9	30.1	30.1
Teenagers	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.4
Unemployment	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.7
	(Percent of labor force)							
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.2
Adult men	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4
Adult women	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.1
Teenagers	14.7	14.7	14.3	14.3	15.3	15.0	13.8	15.8
White	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.7
Negro and other races	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	9.4	9.4	8.7	9.5
Household heads	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0
Married men	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.2
Full-time workers	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
State insured	2.9r	2.7	2.6r	2.6r	3.3r	3.4r	3.4r	3.3
	(Weeks)							
Average duration of unemployment	10.6	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.5	9.4	9.8	9.5
	(Millions of persons)							
Nonfarm payroll employment	74.6	75.3	75.7	76.6	76.7	76.8	76.9p	77.1p
Goods-producing industries	23.7	24.0	24.2	24.4	24.3	24.2	24.2p	24.2p
Service-producing industries	50.9	51.3	51.6	52.1	52.4	52.6	52.7p	52.9p
	(Hours of work)							
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	37.1	37.2	37.1	37.0	36.8	36.8	36.6p	36.8p
Manufacturing	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.6	40.4	40.4	39.4p	40.3p
Manufacturing overtime	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.6	2.9p	3.5p
	(1967=100)							
Hourly Earnings Index, private nonfarm:								
In current dollars	142.7	145.0	147.8	150.4	152.6	153.5	154.5p	155.9p
In constant dollars	110.7	110.3	110.1	109.3	107.8	107.2	107.3p	N.A.

p= preliminary.
N.A.= not available.
r=revised.

SOURCE: Tables A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, and B-4.

white and Negro workers, which rose to 4.7 and 9.5 percent, respectively. At 33.5 percent, the unemployment rate for Negro youth continued to be more than twice the white teenage rate.

The unemployment rate for Vietnam-era veterans 20 to 34 years old, at 4.8 percent in May, was not materially different from the rates of the first 4 months of 1974 or of a year ago. The rate for the more recently discharged veterans (20-24) was 10.3 percent, remaining much higher than that for young nonveterans (7.9 percent), who have greater civilian job market experience. For older veterans (those 25-34), jobless rates have been at or below the rates for their nonveteran counterparts.

Among the major industries, one of the few significant changes in the jobless situation was a decline in the rate for durable goods workers to 4.5 percent in May from the 5-percent plateau at which it had held in the previous 4 months. Among the major occupational groups, there was a decline in the jobless rate for blue-collar workers, a group that had been most adversely affected by energy shortages. This decline however, was more than offset by increases among clerical, sales, and service workers.

The jobless rate for workers covered by State unemployment insurance programs edged down from 3.4 percent in April (as revised) to 3.3 percent but remained well above the year-earlier rate of 2.7 percent.

A decline in the number of job losers was not sufficient to offset an increase among unemployed reentrants to the labor force (table A-5). The proportion of the total unemployed who had lost their last job dropped below 40 percent for the first time since last November.

Civilian Labor Force and Total Employment

The number of persons in the civilian labor force rose by 370,000 in May, registering the first increase since January and bringing it to a level of 90.7 million; the gain was paced by adult men and teenagers. (See table A-1.) For adult men, this increase reversed a downward trend evident since January, whereas the teenage advance represented a rebound from a substantial drop the previous month (which may have stemmed from the fact that this year, for the first time in many years, the April survey week immediately preceded Easter, when many youth were on spring vacations).

Total employment in May--at 86.0 million, seasonally adjusted--rose slightly after having shown little growth during the winter and early spring. Since

May a year ago, total employment has expanded by 2.0 million. The April-to-May change in employment was attributable to gains among men and persons working in blue-collar occupations, a marked reversal of recent trends.

The number of persons working part time because of economic reasons (those working part time but wanting full-time jobs) increased substantially in May (360,000) to 2.7 million, bringing to a halt a 2-month decline.

Industry Payroll Employment

Nonagricultural payroll employment rose by 180,000 in May to 77.1 million, seasonally adjusted. The entire expansion took place in the service-producing industries, but increased strike activity in contract construction and manufacturing may have forestalled advances in these industries. The largest over-the-month gains occurred in services and State and local government. (See table B-1.)

Since May 1973, service-producing industries have accounted for 1.6 million of the 1.8-million increase in total payroll employment. However, goods-producing employment had risen substantially through the end of last year and then dropped by nearly a quarter of a million in the ensuing months of energy shortages.

Hours of Work

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls increased by 0.2 hour in May, returning to the March level of 36.8 hours (seasonally adjusted). Manufacturing paced this recovery, with the workweek increasing 0.9 hour and overtime 0.6 hour. (See table B-2.) These gains support the view that the timing of the reference week in April (the week before Easter) was the major contributing factor in that month's declines. Over the past year, average weekly hours have decreased 0.4 hour, both among all production or nonsupervisory workers and those in manufacturing. Overtime hours in manufacturing were also down 0.4 hour from the May 1973 level.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls rose 1.5 percent in May (seasonally adjusted). Since May 1973, hourly earnings have advanced by 7.5 percent. Average weekly earnings also increased sharply in May--by 2.0 percent--reflecting both the large increase in hourly earnings and the rebound in the workweek. Since May a year ago, weekly earnings have risen by 6.4 percent.

Before adjustment for seasonality, average hourly earnings rose 7 cents in May to $4.14 (table B-3). Since May 1973, hourly earnings were up by 29 cents.

Weekly earnings averaged $151.52 in May, an increase of $3.78 from April and $9.07 from May a year ago.

The unusually large increase in average hourly earnings during May reflected several contemporaneous events. Large cost-of-living increases became effective in some industries, including steel. In addition, the Federal minimum wage law was amended effective May 1, expanding its coverage and raising the level for already covered workers. A third factor leading to the rise was the rebound in factory overtime.

The Hourly Earnings Index

The Hourly Earnings Index--earnings adjusted for overtime in manufacturing, seasonality, and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries--was 155.9 (1967=100) in May, 0.9 percent higher than in April. (See table B-4.) The Index was 7.7 percent above May a year ago. All industry divisions recorded gains over the past 12 months, ranging from 6.5 percent in finance, insurance and real estate to 9.5 percent in mining. During the 12-month period ended in April, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power declined 2.9 percent.

This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Statistics on payroll employment, hours, and earnings are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Unless otherwise indicated, data for both series relate to the week of the specified month containing the 12th day. A description of the two surveys appears in the BLS publication *Employment and Earnings*.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-1. Employment status of the noninstitutional population

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 1973	April 1974	May 1974	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
TOTAL									
Total noninstitutional population[1]	147,940	150,283	150,507	147,940	149,656	149,857	150,066	150,283	150,507
Total labor force	89,891	91,736	92,158	90,597	92,801	92,814	92,747	92,556	92,909
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	145,607	148,040	148,277	145,607	147,398	147,599	147,816	148,040	148,277
Civilian labor force	87,557	89,493	89,929	88,263	90,543	90,556	90,496	90,313	90,679
Employed	83,758	85,192	85,785	83,950	85,811	85,803	85,863	85,775	85,971
Agriculture	3,467	3,437	3,604	3,320	3,794	3,852	3,699	3,511	3,457
Nonagricultural industries	80,291	81,756	82,181	80,630	82,017	81,951	82,164	82,264	82,514
Unemployed	3,799	4,301	4,144	4,313	4,732	4,753	4,633	4,538	4,708
Unemployment rate	4.3	4.8	4.6	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.2
Not in labor force	58,050	58,547	58,349	57,343	56,855	57,043	57,320	57,727	57,598
Males, 20 years and over									
Total noninstitutional population[1]	62,706	63,712	63,804	62,706	63,455	63,536	63,622	63,712	63,804
Total labor force	51,112	51,738	51,931	51,237	52,197	52,139	51,912	51,880	52,031
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	60,795	61,897	62,000	60,795	61,628	61,709	61,801	61,897	62,000
Civilian labor force	49,210	49,924	50,127	49,325	50,371	50,312	50,091	50,065	50,227
Employed	47,680	48,104	48,539	47,668	48,660	48,529	48,379	48,272	48,508
Agriculture	2,524	2,508	2,571	2,447	2,687	2,708	2,646	2,493	2,494
Nonagricultural industries	45,156	45,596	45,968	45,221	45,973	45,821	45,733	45,779	46,014
Unemployed	1,531	1,820	1,588	1,657	1,711	1,783	1,712	1,793	1,719
Unemployment rate	3.1	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4
Not in labor force	11,585	11,973	11,873	11,470	11,258	11,397	11,710	11,832	11,773
Females, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	69,096	70,139	70,247	69,096	69,840	69,937	70,035	70,139	70,247
Civilian labor force	30,532	31,611	31,622	30,536	31,133	31,329	31,498	31,612	31,651
Employed	29,249	30,159	30,149	29,145	29,519	29,722	29,916	30,057	30,051
Agriculture	576	494	575	508	628	641	613	539	507
Nonagricultural industries	28,673	29,666	29,574	28,637	28,891	29,081	29,303	29,518	29,544
Unemployed	1,282	1,452	1,474	1,391	1,614	1,607	1,582	1,555	1,600
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.1
Not in labor force	38,565	38,528	38,625	38,560	38,707	38,608	38,537	38,527	38,596
Both sexes, 16-19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	15,715	16,004	16,030	15,715	15,930	15,952	15,981	16,004	16,030
Civilian labor force	7,815	7,958	8,180	8,402	9,039	8,915	8,907	8,636	8,801
Employed	6,829	6,929	7,098	7,137	7,632	7,552	7,568	7,446	7,412
Agriculture	367	433	459	365	479	503	440	479	456
Nonagricultural industries	6,462	6,494	6,639	6,772	7,153	7,049	7,128	6,967	6,956
Unemployed	986	1,029	1,082	1,265	1,407	1,363	1,339	1,190	1,389
Unemployment rate	12.6	12.9	13.2	15.1	15.6	15.3	15.0	13.8	15.8
Not in labor force	7,900	8,046	7,850	7,313	6,891	7,037	7,074	7,368	7,229
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	128,984	130,922	131,114	128,984	130,393	130,555	130,739	130,922	131,114
Civilian labor force	77,758	79,413	79,797	78,402	80,089	80,122	80,163	80,100	80,488
Employed	74,749	75,950	76,488	74,952	76,328	76,354	76,498	76,464	76,694
Unemployed	3,009	3,465	3,309	3,450	3,761	3,768	3,665	3,636	3,794
Unemployment rate	3.9	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.7
Not in labor force	51,225	51,507	51,316	50,582	50,304	50,433	50,576	50,822	51,626
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES									
Civilian noninstitutional population[1]	16,623	17,118	17,164	16,623	17,005	17,044	17,077	17,118	17,164
Civilian labor force	9,799	10,078	10,132	9,937	10,499	10,340	10,289	10,168	10,292
Employed	9,009	9,242	9,297	9,023	9,513	9,390	9,323	9,285	9,315
Unemployed	790	835	834	914	986	950	966	883	977
Unemployment rate	8.1	8.3	8.2	9.2	9.4	9.2	9.4	8.7	9.5
Not in labor force	6,824	7,041	7,032	6,686	6,506	6,704	6,788	6,950	6,872

[1] Seasonal variations are not present in the population figures; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Data relate to the noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Total noninstitutional population and total labor force include persons in the Armed Forces.

Table A-2. Major unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Selected categories	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	May 1973	May 1974	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
Total, 16 years and over	4,313	4,708	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.2
Males, 20 years and over	1,657	1,719	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4
Females, 20 years and over	1,391	1,600	4.6	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.1
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,265	1,389	15.1	15.6	15.3	15.0	13.8	15.8
White, total	3,450	3,794	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.7
Males, 20 years and over	1,338	1,395	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.1
Females, 20 years and over	1,101	1,295	4.1	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,011	1,104	13.4	13.7	13.3	12.8	11.9	14.0
Negro and other races, total	914	977	9.2	9.4	9.2	9.4	8.7	9.5
Males, 20 years and over	319	324	6.3	5.8	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.3
Females, 20 years and over	318	336	7.9	9.1	7.9	7.0	6.8	8.0
Both sexes, 16-19 years	277	317	30.8	29.1	29.2	33.8	30.3	33.5
Household heads	1,458	1,560	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0
Married men, spouse present	919	894	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.2
Full-time workers	3,254	3,577	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6
Part-time workers	1,087	1,148	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.1	7.3	8.8
Unemployed 15 weeks and over[1]	818	877	.9	.8	.9	.9	.9	1.0
State insured[2]	1,611r	2,116	2.7	3.1r	3.3r	3.4r	3.4r	3.3
Labor force time lost[3]	--	--	5.2	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.7
OCCUPATION[4]								
White-collar workers	1,195	1,387	2.9	3.2	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.2
Professional and technical	245	269	2.1	2.5	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.1
Managers and administrators, except farm	130	176	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.9
Sales workers	201	237	3.6	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.3	4.2
Clerical workers	619	705	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.6
Blue-collar workers	1,690	1,933	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.4	6.0
Craft and kindred workers	439	441	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.7
Operatives	847	956	5.6	7.0	6.8	7.2	7.1	6.3
Nonfarm laborers	404	430	8.6	8.4	9.3	9.0	10.4	8.8
Service workers	679	798	5.8	5.5	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.7
Farm workers	100	82	3.3	1.9	2.1	2.8	2.7	2.6
INDUSTRY[4]								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers[5]	3,106	3,417	4.8	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.3	5.2
Construction	400	432	8.9	9.1	7.9	8.4	10.3	9.6
Manufacturing	942	1,020	4.4	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.7
Durable goods	500	575	4.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.5
Nondurable goods	442	445	5.1	5.3	5.7	5.5	5.1	5.0
Transportation and public utilities	138	148	3.0	2.9	3.1	2.8c	3.0	3.0
Wholesale and retail trade	884	1,021	5.6	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.3
Finance and service industries	726	772	4.2	4.5	4.9	4.4	4.3	4.3
Government workers	380	499	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.4
Agricultural wage and salary workers	117	101	8.8	6.3	6.7	7.8	8.2	7.1
VETERAN STATUS								
Males, Vietnam-era veterans[6]:								
20 to 34 years	273	278	5.2	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.1	4.8
20 to 24 years	138	129	8.9	10.6	10.0	9.0	9.2	10.3
25 to 29 years	114	117	4.1	3.6	3.8	4.3	4.5	3.6
30 to 34 years	21	32	2.2	3.1	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.3
Males, nonveterans:								
20 to 34 years	676	760	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.8	5.6
20 to 24 years	404	481	7.3	7.2	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.9
25 to 29 years	179	184	4.6	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.9	4.8
30 to 34 years	93	95	2.7	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.7	2.6

[1] Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.
[2] Insured unemployment under State programs; unemployment rate calculated as a percent of average covered employment.
[3] Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.
[4] Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers.
[5] Includes mining, not shown separately.
[6] Vietnam-era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964.

r=revised
c=corrected

Table A-3. Selected employment indicators

[In thousands]

Selected categories	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	May 1973	May 1974	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
Total employed, 16 years and over	83,758	85,785	83,950	85,811	85,803	85,863	85,775	85,971
Males	51,470	52,519	51,597	52,910	52,716	52,556	52,370	52,628
Females	32,288	33,267	32,353	32,901	33,087	33,307	33,405	33,343
Household heads	49,578	50,919	49,468	50,807	50,825	50,706	50,738	50,817
Married men, spouse present	38,817	39,064	38,814	39,394	39,268	39,025	38,975	39,064
Married women, spouse present	19,252	19,564	19,200	19,147	19,224	19,349	19,497	19,305
OCCUPATION								
White-collar workers	39,909	41,462	40,066	41,399	41,375	41,743	41,601	41,615
Professional and technical	11,600	12,297	11,555	12,068	12,350	12,260	12,274	12,248
Managers and administrators, except farm	8,564	9,136	8,573	9,186	9,031	8,938	9,009	9,145
Sales workers	5,360	5,364	5,435	5,386	5,408	5,462	5,443	5,440
Clerical workers	14,385	14,664	14,503	14,759	14,586	15,083	14,875	14,782
Blue-collar workers	29,656	29,933	29,914	30,212	29,760	29,773	29,722	30,192
Craft and kindred workers	11,300	11,530	11,388	11,444	11,337	11,603	11,534	11,623
Operatives	14,067	13,953	14,255	14,187	13,990	13,711	13,973	14,137
Nonfarm laborers	4,289	4,450	4,271	4,581	4,433	4,459	4,215	4,432
Service workers	11,151	11,235	11,049	11,098	11,177	11,136	11,212	11,129
Farm workers	3,042	3,155	2,924	3,326	3,380	3,204	3,128	3,028
MAJOR INDUSTRY AND CLASS OF WORKER								
Agriculture:								
Wage and salary workers	1,242	1,360	1,206	1,493	1,469	1,440	1,299	1,320
Self-employed workers	1,788	1,778	1,750	1,887	1,919	1,828	1,767	1,740
Unpaid family workers	437	466	374	392	429	408	456	398
Nonagricultural industries:								
Wage and salary workers	74,145	75,839	74,638	75,984	76,031	76,231	76,054	76,132
Private households	1,525	1,433	1,515	1,438	1,505	1,403	1,434	1,424
Government	13,641	14,163	13,549	13,590	13,844	14,028	14,036	14,065
Other	58,980	60,243	59,574	60,956	60,682	60,800	60,584	60,643
Self-employed workers	5,573	5,823	5,457	5,399	5,458	5,362	5,636	5,703
Unpaid family workers	572	519	543	466	461	520	498	495
PERSONS AT WORK [1]								
Nonagricultural industries	77,109	78,736	76,016	76,801	77,164	76,993	75,696	77,679
Full-time schedules	63,761	64,795	63,508	63,847	63,911	63,984	63,378	64,337
Part time for economic reasons	1,980	2,412	2,234	2,586	2,734	2,540	2,390	2,746
Usually work full time	949	1,147	1,043	1,213	1,381	1,249	1,078	1,260
Usually work part time	1,031	1,265	1,211	1,373	1,373	1,291	1,312	1,486
Part time for noneconomic reasons	11,368	11,529	10,254	10,368	10,499	10,469	9,928	10,396

[1] Excludes persons "with a job but not at work" during the survey period for such reasons as vacation, illness, or industrial dispute.

Table A-4. Duration of unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Weeks of unemployment	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	May 1973	May 1974	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
Less than 5 weeks	1,871	2,094	2,251	2,466	2,427	2,464	2,269	2,520
5 to 14 weeks	1,024	1,080	1,287	1,437	1,426	1,388	1,467	1,358
15 weeks and over	904	970	818	768	830	815	857	877
15 to 26 weeks	531	593	470	440	505	503	528	525
27 weeks and over	373	377	348	328	325	312	329	352
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	11.2	10.6	10.0	9.4	9.6	9.4	9.8	9.5
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	49.2	50.5	51.7	52.8	51.8	52.8	49.4	53.0
5 to 14 weeks	27.0	26.1	29.5	30.8	30.5	29.7	31.9	28.6
15 weeks and over	23.8	23.4	18.8	16.4	17.7	17.5	18.7	18.4
15 to 26 weeks	14.0	14.3	10.8	9.4	10.8	10.8	11.5	11.0
27 weeks and over	9.8	9.1	8.0	7.0	6.9	6.7	7.2	7.4

Table A-5. Reasons for unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	May 1973	May 1974	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED								
Lost last job	1,472	1,726	1,610	2,006	2,052	2,022	2,007	1,888
Left last job	520	566	621	731	750	739	720	676
Reentered labor force	1,236	1,313	1,505	1,252	1,240	1,186	1,263	1,599
Seeking first job	571	538	682	682	630	632	549	643
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers	38.7	41.7	35.7	42.9	43.9	44.2	44.2	39.3
Job leavers	13.7	13.7	13.5	15.6	16.1	16.1	15.9	14.1
Reentrants	32.5	31.7	33.7	26.8	26.5	25.9	27.8	33.3
New entrants	15.0	13.0	17.1	14.6	13.5	13.8	12.1	13.4
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE								
Job losers	1.7	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1
Job leavers	.6	.6	.7	.8	.8	.8	.8	.7
Reentrants	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.8
New entrants	.7	.6	.8	.8	.7	.7	.6	.7

Table A-6. Unemployment by sex and age

Sex and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Thousands of persons		Percent looking for full-time work						
	May 1973	May 1974	May 1974	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974	May 1974
Total, 16 years and over	3,799	4,144	80.5	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.2
16 to 19 years	986	1,082	62.1	15.1	15.6	15.3	15.0	13.8	15.8
16 to 17 years	496	510	41.8	18.1	19.4	17.9	18.4	15.7	18.1
18 to 19 years	490	572	80.2	13.0	13.3	12.9	12.7	12.5	14.3
20 to 24 years	919	1,043	88.9	7.9	8.5	8.6	8.1	8.1	8.6
25 years and over	1,893	2,019	85.9	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2
25 to 54 years	1,557	1,661	88.3	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.3
55 years and over	337	359	74.7	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.7
Males, 16 years and over	2,052	2,147	85.5	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4
16 to 19 years	521	559	62.6	14.3	14.1	14.6	14.4	14.0	14.6
16 to 17 years	275	281	43.4	17.8	18.8	18.0	17.6	16.3	18.0
18 to 19 years	246	278	82.4	11.8	11.2	11.6	12.1	12.4	12.2
20 to 24 years	490	552	91.1	7.7	7.9	8.3	7.9	7.8	8.3
25 years and over	1,040	1,037	94.7	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.6
25 to 54 years	821	839	98.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	2.7
55 years and over	219	197	78.7	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.4	2.3	2.3
Females, 16 years and over	1,747	1,996	75.1	5.8	6.6	6.4	6.2	5.9	6.4
16 to 19 years	465	523	61.6	15.9	17.3	16.2	15.8	13.5	17.2
16 to 17 years	221	229	40.2	18.6	20.1	17.8	19.3	14.9	18.3
18 to 19 years	244	294	78.2	14.4	15.6	14.4	13.4	12.6	16.7
20 to 24 years	429	492	86.4	8.2	9.3	9.0	8.4	8.4	9.0
25 years and over	853	982	76.7	3.8	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.2
25 to 54 years	736	821	78.0	4.1	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.4
55 years and over	117	160	70.0	2.3	3.1	2.9	3.4	3.0	3.2

Table B-1. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	May 1973	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p
TOTAL	75,404	76,117	76,695	77,199	75,321	76,526	76,813	76,804	76,928	77,110
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,891	23,773	23,943	24,103	24,010	24,296	24,317	24,231	24,224	24,224
MINING	608	642	651	660	608	654	656	655	657	660
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,616	3,405	3,524	3,636	3,620	3,636	3,757	3,725	3,656	3,640
MANUFACTURING	19,667	19,726	19,768	19,807	19,782	20,006	19,904	19,851	19,911	19,924
Production workers	14,457	14,405	14,456	14,481	14,551	14,682	14,563	14,516	14,585	14,585
DURABLE GOODS	11,575	11,610	11,688	11,691	11,602	11,774	11,683	11,644	11,725	11,717
Production workers	8,514	8,459	8,543	8,536	8,528	8,624	8,524	8,489	8,574	8,555
Ordnance and accessories	191.2	191.2	198.7	190.6	193	192	191	193	192	192
Lumber and wood products	624.9	634.6	638.8	641.9	629	645	647	648	653	646
Furniture and fixtures	516.8	519.0	517.6	515.0	523	527	523	522	523	521
Stone, clay, and glass products	692.3	687.9	692.7	698.7	692	704	702	703	698	699
Primary metal industries	1,310.3	1,323.5	1,329.0	1,329.0	1,299	1,343	1,331	1,316	1,318	1,317
Fabricated metal products	1,448.3	1,443.1	1,447.3	1,443.6	1,456	1,466	1,454	1,449	1,456	1,451
Machinery, except electrical	2,022.7	2,146.8	2,145.6	2,137.5	2,021	2,133	2,123	2,134	2,135	2,135
Electrical equipment	1,970.0	2,022.5	2,023.8	2,012.7	1,984	2,051	2,043	2,033	2,036	2,027
Transportation equipment	1,876.7	1,689.7	1,745.5	1,758.7	1,877	1,753	1,706	1,681	1,746	1,759
Instruments and related products	488.4	519.2	522.1	522.1	490	516	521	521	524	524
Miscellaneous manufacturing	433.0	432.7	435.8	441.1	438	444	442	444	444	446
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,092	8,116	8,080	8,116	8,180	8,232	8,221	8,207	8,186	8,207
Production workers	5,943	5,946	5,913	5,945	6,023	6,058	6,039	6,027	6,011	6,030
Food and kindred products	1,673.4	1,686.4	1,669.2	1,690.7	1,736	1,754	1,755	1,764	1,750	1,754
Tobacco manufactures	67.6	70.6	69.9	69.7	76	76	76	77	78	78
Textile mill products	1,020.2	1,017.7	1,013.9	1,009.7	1,022	1,029	1,025	1,019	1,016	1,012
Apparel and other textile products	1,350.7	1,302.7	1,294.9	1,293.6	1,351	1,315	1,309	1,294	1,297	1,294
Paper and allied products	711.3	724.7	725.9	724.5	719	729	729	730	730	733
Printing and publishing	1,091.9	1,104.5	1,101.2	1,104.4	1,095	1,106	1,109	1,105	1,102	1,108
Chemicals and allied products	1,022.8	1,045.7	1,045.1	1,048.2	1,025	1,046	1,045	1,048	1,045	1,050
Petroleum and coal products	181.7	187.1	188.6	191.3	182	193	192	190	191	191
Rubber and plastics products, nec.	673.9	683.7	678.9	688.7	676	693	690	686	682	691
Leather and leather products	298.2	292.5	292.2	295.3	298	291	291	294	295	296
SERVICE-PRODUCING	51,513	52,344	52,752	53,096	51,311	52,230	52,496	52,573	52,704	52,886
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,593	4,634	4,630	4,667	4,593	4,684	4,691	4,676	4,663	4,667
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	16,200	16,187	16,422	16,522	16,256	16,417	16,472	16,487	16,542	16,581
WHOLESALE TRADE	4,014	4,148	4,155	4,180	4,046	4,184	4,192	4,190	4,201	4,214
RETAIL TRADE	12,186	12,039	12,267	12,342	12,210	12,233	12,280	12,297	12,341	12,367
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	4,040	4,102	4,123	4,147	4,044	4,109	4,124	4,127	4,135	4,151
SERVICES	12,865	13,147	13,287	13,418	12,776	13,136	13,215	13,240	13,260	13,325
GOVERNMENT	13,815	14,274	14,290	14,342	13,642	13,884	13,944	14,043	14,104	14,162
FEDERAL	2,638	2,667	2,684	2,692	2,641	2,651	2,670	2,675	2,681	2,695
STATE AND LOCAL	11,177	11,607	11,606	11,650	11,001	11,233	11,324	11,368	11,423	11,467

pPreliminary.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	May 1973	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p	May 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p
TOTAL PRIVATE	37.0	36.6	36.3	36.6	37.2	36.7	37.0	36.8	36.6	36.8
MINING	42.4	42.4	42.4	42.9	42.5	42.6	43.4	42.9	42.4	43.0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	37.5	36.7	36.1	36.9	37.5	36.2	37.7	37.1	36.3	36.9
MANUFACTURING	40.7	40.3	39.2	40.3	40.7	40.3	40.5	40.4	39.4	40.3
Overtime hours	3.8	3.4	2.7	3.4	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.6	2.9	3.5
DURABLE GOODS	41.6	40.9	39.6	41.0	41.6	40.8	41.1	40.9	39.8	41.0
Overtime hours	4.1	3.6	2.7	3.6	4.2	3.5	3.6	3.7	2.9	3.7
Ordnance and accessories	41.9	42.9	41.5	42.5	41.9	41.9	42.1	42.7	41.5	42.5
Lumber and wood products	41.0	40.2	40.1	40.7	40.7	40.4	40.6	40.3	40.1	40.4
Furniture and fixtures	39.8	39.2	38.4	39.0	40.1	39.8	39.7	39.5	38.9	39.3
Stone, clay, and glass products	42.4	41.5	41.0	41.5	42.3	41.6	41.9	41.7	41.1	41.4
Primary metal industries	42.1	41.7	41.5	41.9	41.9	41.8	41.4	41.5	41.2	41.7
Fabricated metal products	41.7	41.1	39.4	41.3	41.6	41.0	41.2	41.3	39.7	41.2
Machinery, except electrical	42.6	42.7	40.7	42.5	42.6	42.3	42.5	42.4	40.8	42.5
Electrical equipment	40.5	39.9	38.8	40.1	40.6	39.6	40.2	39.9	39.1	40.2
Transportation equipment	42.3	40.3	38.1	40.5	42.1	40.0	40.6	40.3	39.0	40.3
Instruments and related products	40.6	40.5	39.3	40.5	40.7	40.6	40.8	40.5	39.4	40.6
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.0	38.9	37.7	38.9	39.1	38.3	39.0	38.9	37.7	39.0
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.5	39.3	38.5	39.3	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.5	38.8	39.4
Overtime hours	3.3	3.1	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.8	3.2
Food and kindred products	40.2	39.9	39.2	40.5	40.4	40.8	40.8	40.4	39.8	40.7
Tobacco manufactures	37.6	36.4	37.4	37.1	37.9	39.5	38.8	37.7	38.6	37.4
Textile mill products	40.7	40.3	38.9	40.1	40.9	40.6	40.7	40.4	39.2	40.3
Apparel and other textile products	35.9	35.6	34.5	35.5	36.0	35.2	35.6	35.5	34.6	35.6
Paper and allied products	42.6	42.3	41.5	42.3	42.8	42.8	42.5	42.6	41.7	42.5
Printing and publishing	37.9	37.6	36.9	37.5	38.0	37.7	37.7	37.6	37.1	37.6
Chemicals and allied products	42.0	41.8	42.1	41.5	42.0	41.8	42.0	41.8	41.9	41.5
Petroleum and coal products	42.3	42.2	42.8	42.6	42.1	42.5	42.6	42.8	42.7	42.4
Rubber and plastics products, nec	40.8	40.6	39.2	40.1	40.8	40.6	40.9	40.8	39.4	40.1
Leather and leather products	38.1	37.8	36.6	38.1	37.9	37.2	37.8	38.1	37.3	37.9
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.7	40.1	40.6	40.4	41.0	40.8	40.4	40.3	41.1	40.7
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34.5	34.0	34.1	34.0	34.8	34.3	34.4	34.3	34.5	34.3
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.5	38.8	38.6	38.8	39.7	39.1	38.9	38.9	38.8	39.0
RETAIL TRADE	33.0	32.4	32.7	32.5	33.4	32.8	33.0	32.9	33.1	32.9
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	36.9	36.9	36.8	36.8	37.0	36.9	37.0	36.9	36.8	36.9
SERVICES	33.9	33.9	33.8	33.8	34.2	34.0	34.1	34.0	33.9	34.1

[1] Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.
p=preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	May 1973	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p	May 1973	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p
TOTAL PRIVATE	$3.85	$4.06	$4.07	$4.14	$142.45	$148.60	$147.74	$151.52
Seasonally adjusted	3.85	4.07	4.08	4.14	143.22	149.78	149.33	152.35
MINING	4.61	4.99	5.07	5.08	195.46	211.58	214.97	217.93
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	6.34	6.75	6.78	6.81	237.75	247.73	244.76	251.29
MANUFACTURING	4.02	4.24	4.24	4.32	163.61	170.87	166.21	174.10
DURABLE GOODS	4.28	4.50	4.50	4.60	178.05	184.05	178.20	188.60
Ordnance and accessories	4.23	4.53	4.53	4.61	177.24	194.34	188.00	195.93
Lumber and wood products	3.54	3.74	3.76	3.80	145.14	150.35	150.78	154.66
Furniture and fixtures	3.24	3.41	3.42	3.48	128.95	133.67	131.32	135.72
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.14	4.33	4.38	4.44	175.54	179.70	179.58	184.26
Primary metal industries	4.95	5.30	5.38	5.50	208.40	221.01	223.27	230.45
Fabricated metal products	4.21	4.43	4.40	4.52	175.56	182.07	173.36	186.68
Machinery, except electrical	4.50	4.78	4.73	4.85	191.70	204.11	192.51	206.13
Electrical equipment	3.81	3.99	3.99	4.07	154.31	159.20	154.81	163.21
Transportation equipment	5.00	5.27	5.25	5.41	211.50	212.38	200.03	219.11
Instruments and related products	3.86	4.06	4.05	4.10	156.72	164.43	159.17	166.05
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3.26	3.43	3.43	3.47	127.14	133.43	129.31	134.98
NONDURABLE GOODS	3.64	3.85	3.86	3.91	143.78	151.31	148.61	153.66
Food and kindred products	3.82	4.05	4.07	4.12	153.56	161.60	159.54	166.86
Tobacco manufactures	3.84	4.01	4.11	4.20	144.38	145.96	153.71	155.82
Textile mill products	2.90	3.07	3.04	3.10	118.03	123.72	118.26	124.31
Apparel and other textile products	2.74	2.87	2.89	2.95	98.37	102.17	99.71	104.73
Paper and allied products	4.12	4.33	4.35	4.38	175.31	183.16	180.53	185.27
Printing and publishing	4.67	4.85	4.84	4.92	176.99	182.36	178.60	184.50
Chemicals and allied products	4.42	4.65	4.69	4.70	185.64	194.37	197.45	195.05
Petroleum and coal products	5.22	5.42	5.54	5.49	220.81	228.72	237.11	233.87
Rubber and plastics products, nec	3.71	3.93	3.86	3.92	151.37	159.56	151.31	157.19
Leather and leather products	2.80	2.94	2.95	3.01	106.68	111.13	107.97	114.68
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.96	5.23	5.28	5.31	201.87	209.72	214.37	214.52
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.17	3.38	3.38	3.43	109.37	114.92	115.26	116.62
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.09	4.33	4.37	4.40	161.56	168.00	168.68	170.72
RETAIL TRADE	2.84	3.01	3.01	3.07	93.72	97.52	98.43	99.78
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.57	3.75	3.76	3.78	131.73	138.38	138.37	139.10
SERVICES	3.32	3.54	3.56	3.60	112.55	120.01	120.33	121.68

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
p=preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-4. Hourly Earnings Index for production or nonsupervisory workers in private nonfarm industries, seasonally adjusted

(1967=100)

Industry	May 1973	Dec. 1973	Jan. 1974	Feb. 1974	March 1974	April 1974p	May 1974p	Percent change from: May 1973–May 1974	Percent change from: April 1974–May 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE NONFARM:									
Current dollars	144.7	151.3	151.7	152.5	153.5	154.5	155.9	7.7	0.9
Constant (1967) dollars	110.1	109.2	108.4	107.6	107.2	107.3	NA	1/	2/
MINING	144.8	152.1	154.2	154.8	156.1	157.7	158.6	9.5	.6
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	153.7	161.2	160.5	162.5	163.6	164.6	164.6	7.1	3/
MANUFACTURING	141.8	147.9	148.5	149.3	150.1	151.4	153.2	8.0	1.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	153.5	160.2	161.1	162.2	163.0	164.4	164.7	7.3	.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	141.7	147.9	148.8	149.1	150.4	150.9	153.1	8.0	1.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	138.5	145.5	145.2	145.2	145.5	146.9	147.5	6.5	.4
SERVICES	144.7	151.3	152.1	152.9	153.8	155.2	156.5	8.1	.9

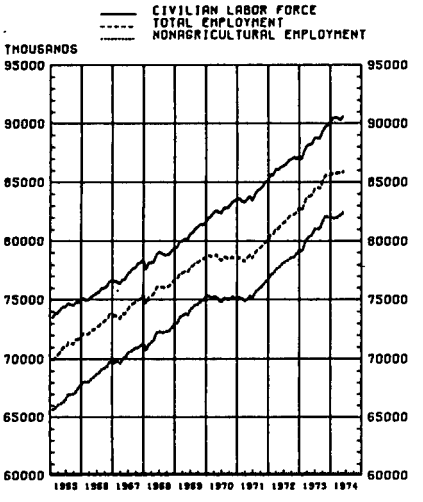
[1] Percent change was -2.9 from April 1973 to April 1974, the latest month available.
[2] Percent change was 0.1 from March 1974 to April 1974, the latest month available.
[3] Less than 0.05 percent.
NA=not available.
p=preliminary.

NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries. The seasonal adjustment eliminates the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude each year.

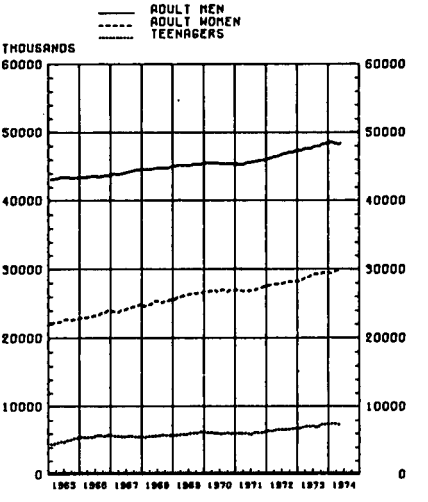
The constant dollars hourly earnings index series may have been revised, reflecting the calculation of new seasonal adjustment factors for the Consumer Price Index. The revised historical series will be published in the June 1974 issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

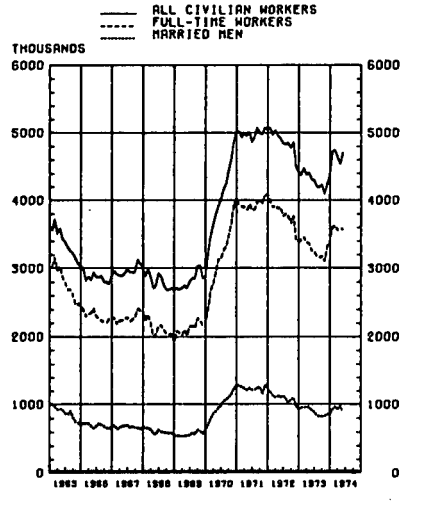
1. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



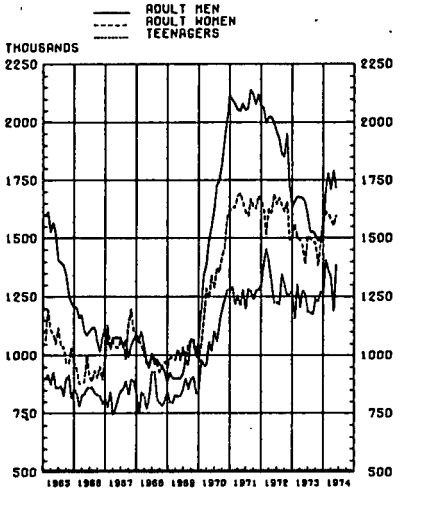
2. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



3. UNEMPLOYMENT

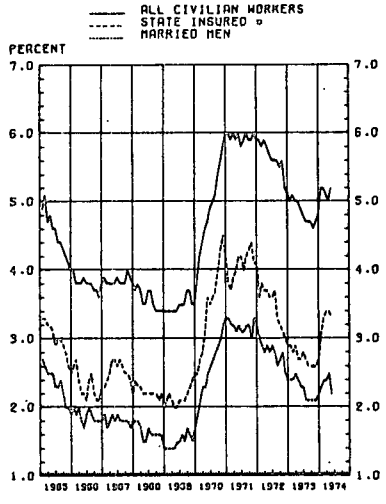


4. UNEMPLOYMENT



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

5. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



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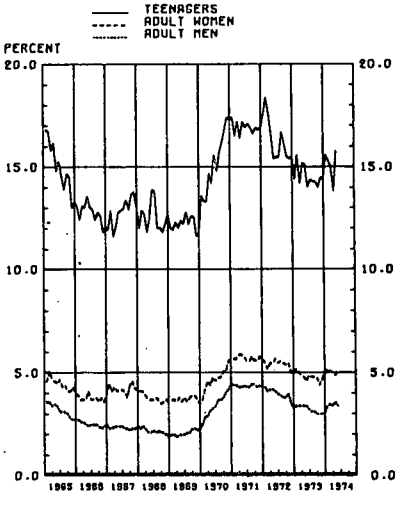

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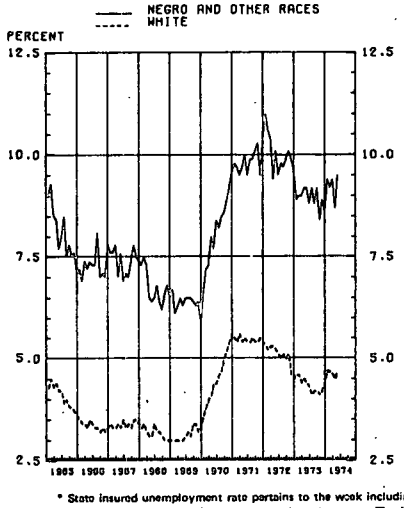
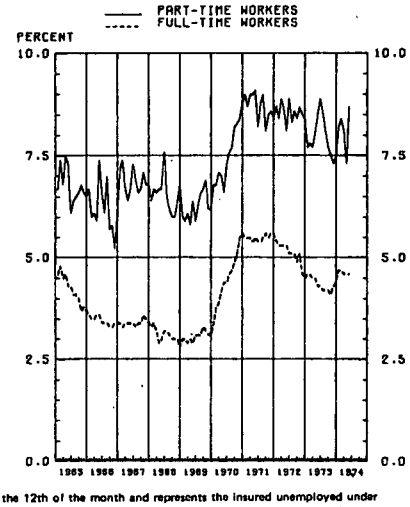


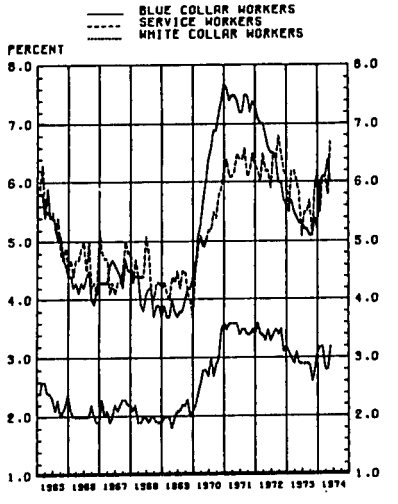
8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



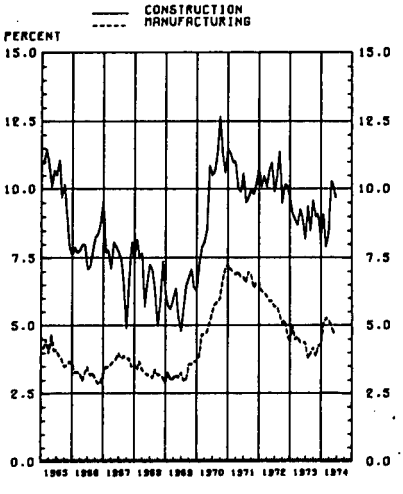
* State insured unemployment rate pertains to the week including the 12th of the month and represents the insured unemployed under State programs as a percent of average covered employment. The figures are derived from administrative records of unemployment insurance systems.

UNEMPLOYMENT
HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

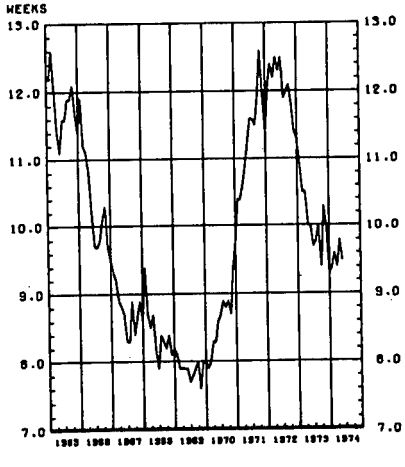
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



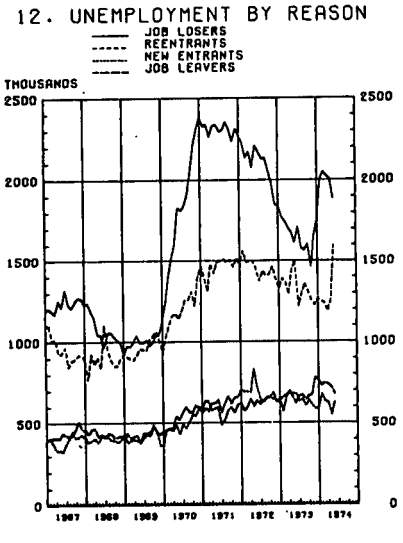
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

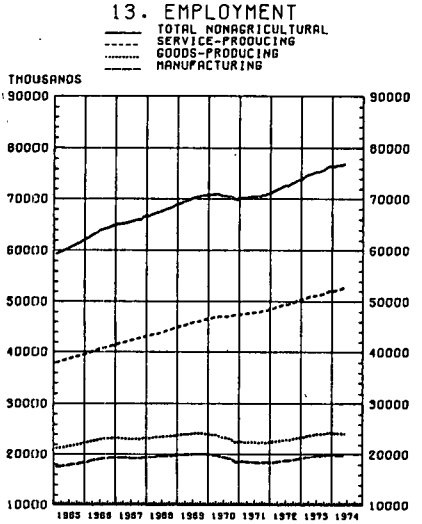


12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON

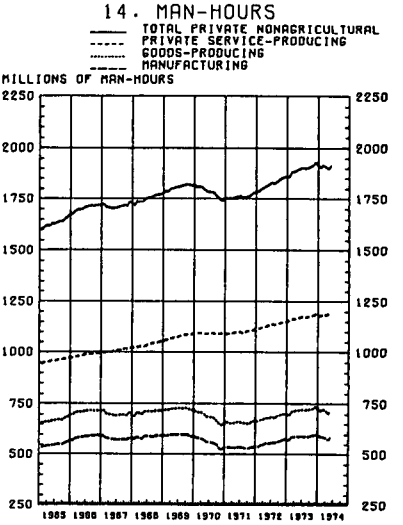


NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS
ESTABLISHMENT DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

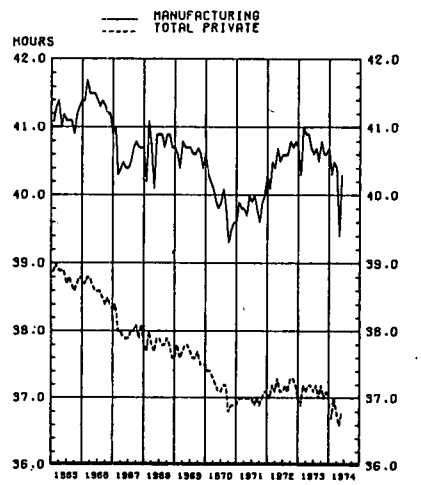
13. EMPLOYMENT



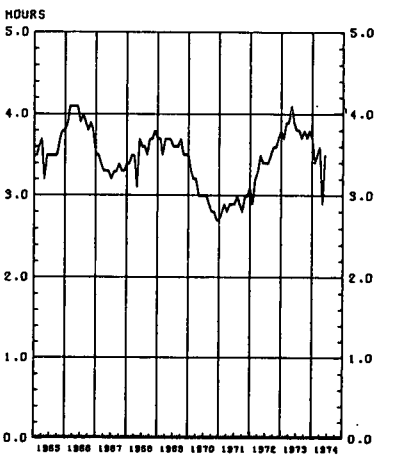
14. MAN-HOURS



15. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



16. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS IN MANUFACTURING



NOTE: Charts 14 and 15 relate to production or nonsupervisory workers; chart 16 relates to production workers. Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary in charts 13-16.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Table A[1] of your press release, which breaks down the employment-unemployment figures is very helpful. We have some good news and some very unfortunate news. The good news, No. 1, the total employment is up, but it is up very slightly, from 85.8 to 86 million.

For the adult man, as you say, unemployment is down from 3.6 percent to 3.4 percent. Is that statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not know—but I consider it unimportant.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me ask you if the increase from 5 to 5.2 percent is statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. It is statistically significant.

But I keep coming back to the same point.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am asking two questions. Question one—I should have asked this first—is the overall increase in unemployment from 5 to 5.2 percent in your judgment statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And second, you say that the reduction in unemployment for adult men is also statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. No; but for 25 and over it is. That is the category.

But let me add, Mr. Chairman, as you know, I take a dim view of looking at the month-to-month changes and determining whether or not they are statistically significant and using that as a basis for interpreting current changes. If you look at the period, as you yourself did in your opening statement, from January to May, it is clear we had a plateau in the level of unemployment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I think I put that in perspective in my opening statement.

Mr. SHISKIN. You did.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But I want to get this so that I understand each of those individual figures.

Then the married men's rate is down from 2.5 to 2.2 percent, that is a drop of 0.3 of a percent. Do you say that to the extent that that coincides, it is significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. That is statistically significant.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The average duration for unemployment is down from 9.8 to 9.5 percent in weeks. So that is good news.

Mr. SHISKIN. I am not too sure of that. What that may reflect is this increase in the number of teenagers that become unemployed. There are a large number of people with short-term employment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Perhaps. But overall, it would certainly be bad news if the average duration of unemployment rose.

Mr. SHISKIN. It depends on the composition of that. Because when unemployment is rising rapidly, the average duration will decline, because the new entrant to unemployment will have very short unemployment periods.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I see, that consequence. Perhaps I was looking at it from the standpoint of trying to envision a typical unemployed person—the longer they are unemployed, the more serious the hardship, if a person is unemployed a couple of weeks, it is a problem, but it is not the disaster that it is if he is unemployed for 3 or 4 months.

[1] See table A, p. 249.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right. But I think the place to look at that is table A–4,[1] which shows the breakdown by duration.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then I notice that manufacturing overtime seems to be stabilized. It went up. But April seems to have been kind of an aberration. In March it was 3.6 percent and then it went down to 2.9 percent in April and back up to 3.5 percent in May. So would you construe that as really an indication of stability?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And then I go to the last figure you have in table A,[2] which concerns me very much. It shows that in May of 1974 in current dollars how high earnings were 5.9 percent higher than they were in 1967. Now, that looks pretty good. But then when they are corrected for inflation they seem to be only about 7 percent higher. In other words, there is an improvement of only about 1 percent a year—in view of the fact that the long-term increase in real per capita growth in the economy is about 3 percent, people should normally expect an increase in real income of 21 percent in 7 normal years they have only gotten 8 percent in the past 7 years, so they have only gotten one-third of what Americans have been enjoying historically, is that right?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes; but a lot of that came in the last year when real earnings declined. For a long time real earnings were rising but they have declined in the last year.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Then what, we do not have here, and which I suspect would make that drop even more serious, is the fact that hours of work per week are low this year. So if we cranked that component in it is conceivable that weekly earnings, corrected for inflation, would be very close to what they were in 1967. Conceivably they might even be less.

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I do not remember that comparison, but hours of work are no doubt lower. And we do have data on that.

Senator, may I just try to put this all in perspective. Let us take another look, as we have been doing, at the context in which we are interpreting these figures. As you recognized in your opening statement again, but I want to repeat it at this point, we were in a period where, mainly because of the oil shortage, I thought, we were in real trouble. The economy was going down, unemployment was rising, employment had stopped rising. And there was a great expectation that things would get quite bad. But in fact they have not. They have pretty well held now for 5 months. Now, what I see is a rise in payroll employment and its diffusion index, which we compute from 172 industries—I see a good prospect that employment increase will continue. So I see here some evidence that the pattern of the first quarter is behind us and we will be starting up again.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I want to get to that in a minute. But I have just been given by the staff a further extension of the table which shows gross average weekly earnings in current dollars and 1967 dollars. And this you do have, as I suspected, in current dollars—I should say in 1967 dollars corrected for inflation—you have only had an increase of $3.69 for $100 in the past 7 years.

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[1] See table A–4, p. 255.
[2] See table A, p. 249.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is the series on real spendable earnings?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, real spendable earnings is down even further. Real spendable earnings in 1967 dollars, that is, after taxes—that would have been my next point—are down to $90, in other words, it is $10 below for every $100, it is 10 percent below what it was in 1967. So if you corrected for inflation and taxes, the average worker is a great deal worse off than he was 7 years ago.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, I realize that I am the witness—but you seem to have more information than I do. So maybe I could ask you what that figure was a year ago.

Chairman PROXMIRE. A year ago, in April of 1973, it was $95.95.

Mr. SHISKIN. Now I have that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. There has been a steady fall, and it is down now to $90.56. I take it that is spendable average weekly earnings as corrected by the index?

Mr. WETZEL. May I comment about real spendable weekly earnings. That is not an index figure, it is a dollar figure. While it is not necessarily higher than 1967, there has not been a decline of the magnitude implied just by the dollar comparison. Unfortunately I do not have the base 1967 figure with me. But we could provide that.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am glad you made that correction.

Now, let me refer to the economic indicators, the last column shows average weekly earnings in 1967 dollars, manufacturing industries in 1967, $114.90; in April, I guess for the whole year, $114.90. In April of 1974, $115.72. So it is almost the same when you consider the fact that 7 years have passed and the difference is a matter of a few cents, less than a dollar. So you have no progress at all really in the actual amounts the worker could take home at the end of the week after taxes and inflation, is that correct? In the manufacturing industry, now, this may not be typical of the whole economy.

Mr. WETZEL. That particular comparison is accurate. What we had, of course, was a run up in real earnings until late 1972 and early 1973. And now we had a dropping off over the course of this past year. Perhaps we should prepare a little summary for you of the historical trends.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We would like to have that to see what progress or lack of progress there is.

[The following information was subsequently supplied for the record:]

SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS—WORKER WITH THREE DEPENDENTS—IN 1967 DOLLARS

Year	Total private (annual average)	Manufacturing (annual average)
1967	90.86	101.26
1968	91.44	102.45
1969	91.07	101.49
1970	89.95	99.66
1971	92.43	102.17
1972	96.40	108.19
1973	95.08	107.36

SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS—WORKER WITH THREE DEPENDENTS—IN 1967 DOLLARS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1973	95.76	96.06	95.67	95.95	95.63	95.26	96.19	94.19	95.10	94.30	94.01	93.83
1974	92.18	92.13	91.33	p 90.56								

p=Preliminary.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, let us take a look at the labor force data. It did increase in May about 370,000. I assume that is a large number, and it would be statistically significant.

Mr. WETZEL. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We look at several months—the growth of the labor force is very slow. For the last 4 months it had been growing at a rate of less than 0.5 percent per year, one-half of 1 percent a year. For the last 6 months it has been growing at a rate of less than 1 percent a year. Now, what do you estimate the trend growth of the labor force to be, Mr. Shiskin?

Mr. SHISKIN. Let me turn that over to Mr. Wetzel, if I may.

Mr. WETZEL. Longer term projections of the civilian labor force growth call for a "normal" increase of about 1½ million a year, which is in the neighborhood of 1¾ percent.

In recent years that growth rate has been exceeded pretty substantially.

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is right. It was much greater, as I recall, in 1971 and 1972–73. However, what do you estimate the unemployment rate would be if the labor force had grown at the trend rate in the last 6 months, while the job picture remained what it actually had been?

Mr. WETZEL. We have not prepared such estimates. And I am not sure how one would prepare them. There is a relationship, of course——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Of course in the last 6 months we go from one-half million to 750,000—the job picture remained the same—so that means we would have unemployment of more than 5½ percent, moving toward 6 percent.

This suggests that we ought to take a look at the discouraged workers or hidden unemployment. Do you have any information on discouraged workers?

Mr. SHISKIN. No; we will get new information on that in July, because we do that once a quarter.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You do that how often?

Mr. SHISKIN. Once a quarter.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What was the information the last time?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not have those figures today either, but they are very small, the number of discouraged workers has been small.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you think the official statistics fully reflect the rise in hidden unemployment which appears to have taken place in recent months?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not know what hidden unemployment is.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You will not know that until July?

Mr. SHISKIN. We will have figures on the number of people who would like to work, but are not in the labor force for various reasons. Many of them are in school, as you know, and many of them are ill, and some of them are discouraged. The past statistics have shown that the number who are discouraged is very small.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Can you tell us what number was?

Discouraged workers are those who have stopped looking, they need a job, but they feel it is hopeless. And when the questioner comes to their home they are not included as unemployed because the question is asked, do you have people living here who are looking

for work during the last week, they may be unemployed, but they have thrown in the towel, so they are not counted as unemployed.

Mr. SHISKIN. We also get information on people who would like to have a job, and why they do not have one, and why they are not looking. And that is the information we are talking about. We publish that once a quarter. What we have found is that most of these people are in school or they are ill or they are mothers with dependent children, and that the number who are actually discouraged, who find it would be hopeless to look for a job, is a very small number. I do not have those figures here today, but we will have new figures in July, next month. And if you will ask me that again, I will provide you with up-to-date information based on the present quarter.

[The following information was subsequently supplied for the record:]

Data on the number of discouraged workers (persons who want work but do not seek a job because they think their search would be in vain) have been available on a regular basis since early 1967. Over the past 7 years (1967–1973), the number of such persons has fluctuated between 550,000 and 800,000, with the year-to-year movements paralleling the underlying movements of the unemployment rate.

The relationship between the two variables has not been that close, however, in terms of quarter-to-quarter movements. It is thus not too surprising that the number of discouraged workers has not shown appreciable increase during the first 5 months of 1974, despite the rise in unemployment which took place as the year begun. (See table)

In terms of composition, the majority of the discouraged workers' population consists of women. Moreover, the relatively small number of male discouraged workers includes few persons of prime working age. Negroes, who account for about one-tenth of the Nation's labor force, have been accounting for 20 to 25 percent of the discouraged workers over the past 7 years.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB, BUT THINK THEY CANNOT FIND WORK, 1969–74

[In thousands]

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 [1] I	1974 [1] II [2]
Total	574	638	774	765	679	682	668
Men, 16 years and over	183	221	238	239	225	166	239
Women, 16 years and over	391	417	536	525	454	516	429
Whites	446	494	589	578	500	529	519
Negro and other races	128	145	185	188	179	162	123
Job market reasons	311	437	537	540	491	457	459
Personal reasons	263	201	236	226	188	225	209

[1] Seasonally adjusted.
[2] April–May average.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let us take a look at teenage unemployment. That was perhaps the most shockingly bad news. And that was bad news. That went according to your index from 13.8 percent to 15.8 percent. 15.8 percent is the highest teenage unemployment on this chart, the highest since the first quarter of 1973 at least, and perhaps for an even longer period. You regard that big increase in teenage unemployment as being statistically significant, is that correct?

Mr. SHISKIN. I am looking at the table [1] of teenage unemployment now. And the level is only slightly above what it was 3 or 4 months ago.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Well, in March it was 15 percent, and now it is 15.8 percent.

[1] See table A, p. 249.

Mr. SHISKIN. It certainly is a problem, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is there any factor like the change in the minimum wage or anything like that that could have affected it?

Mr. SHISKIN. It could be, but it is too early to tell. We have 1 months' data there. In my statement I pointed out that we have had the largest rise in average hourly earnings since we began compiling that series in 1964. There were numerous factors that could explain it. One is the rise in the use of escalation clauses in ways contracts. And another is, we know that contract settlements are running high. There is, in addition, the fact that on May 1 the new minimum wage law went into effect, and that could have affected the teenagers. But it is too early to tell, because we have only 1 month's data, and we do not have any analysis. So I would just say that it is a possibility, but we have got to have more than we have now before we can make a judgment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. While that teenage figure is discouraging, and it represents a real social problem——

Mr. SHISKIN. It certainly does.

Chairman PROXMIRE. [continuing.] Even more discouraging and more dramatic is unemployment for black teenagers, which is 33½ percent, that is really shocking, a third of all the black teenagers in this country are unemployed. That is nothing new, but it is still a shocking statistic.

Mr. SHISKIN. It is a very serious problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What is going to happen, this month, in June, young people, black and white, will be looking for work out of school. And it is going to be a very bleak situation, it would seem. What study is BLS making or planning to make on the summer unemployment situation?

Mr. SHISKIN. Do you know about that, Jim?

Mr. WETZEL. We have done a number of things already, Senator, and we hope to do a couple more. We have issued a release which shows the projected changes in the youth labor forces before allowance for this seasonal change. And we hope to follow that on with an analysis of the trends as they actually unfold in June and July.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you have the figures on how many Federal or federally sponsored jobs are going to be available this summer?

Mr. WETZEL. No, sir.

Mr. SHISKIN. Senator, may I supplement Mr. Wetzel's remarks with this.

In addition to all those statistics that BLS put out, we put out another document which has greater circulation than any one of our statistical documents. And that is the "Occupational Outlook Handbook." We put that our every 2 years, and we sell 90,000 copies.

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" is a primer used by counsellors in high schools and colleges to guide the students into the different occupational field. We describe the working conditions in each field, and we make estimates of prospects.

Now, in addition to that, BLS puts out a publication called the "Occupational Outlook Quarterly," which in a sense keeps this biennual document up to date with timely articles. We had articles, for example, on what the prospects are for women policemen, and things of that kind.

The reason I am telling you about this is, I have an article under way—two articles—one will deal with the occupational problems and outlook of black teenage girls, and another one with black teenage boys. Now, the objective of these articles is to provide practical advice to counsellors in high schools——

Chairman PROXMIRE. I think that is excellent and I am all for it and I want to encourage it any way I can. But that does not relate directly to the question I am asking now—or does it?

Mr. SHISKIN. You are concerned about black unemployment as we are.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am concerned about it, but I am concerned right now about what is going to happen this summer?

Mr. SHISKIN. I said I wanted to supplement Mr. Wetzel's remarks and that is what I am trying to do. And what I am pointing out is——

Chairman PROXMIRE. In other words, I am talking about temporary jobs to a great extent, the kids are out of high school or college, and they need a summer job if they are going to continue with their education. It is going to be a real tragedy if they cannot find one, they may have to quit their education, if they cannot find a job, and it has a disastrous effect on them.

Mr. SHISKIN. Right.

The point I am making is that on a long-term basis we are trying to do something very constructive, which is part of this occupational guidance program we have, to develop articles which will help the counsellors give practical advice on what job opportunities there are for black teenagers, and what the prospects are in those different areas, and what training skills they need.

Now, in the long run this could be quite helpful in reducing the magnitude of that problem.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I think that is right—I understand that the Bureau of Labor Statistics puts out a monthly labor review which is very helpful. Last month's issue was particularly so. You had a great deal devoted to unemployment problems for women. Would it not be a good idea to have a similar article on unemployment for blacks? Have you done that recently?

Mr. SHISKIN. Do you have something on that, Jim?

Mr. WETZEL. On various occasions we have done that. To my knowledge one is not in the works for the immediate future. We are, however, doing a number of things on youth unemployment.

Chairman PROXMIRE. When is the last time you did it?

Mr. WETZEL. I can not tell you for sure. There are a number of publications that deal with the employment situation of blacks and the Bureau is working toward the development of a clearinghouse for economic data relating to minority groups. In terms of current work, there is an annual publication which is very comprehensive, covering income and housing and a wide variety of other matters. It is put out jointly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau.

Then there are additional special articles. Recently we had a piece on analytical techniques for dealing with cyclical change in the white and black unemployment rates. I would be happy to pull together a group of those articles and send them along to you.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We would like to have that, that would be very helpful. And it would encourage you to have an article on black unemployment, because as I point out, 33.5 percent unemployment is appalling.

As you say, you have done something in the area of black teenage female unemployment, and as I think that is the most acute of all.

Mr. SHISKIN. This is another aspect of the work, which is that we are trying to develop those articles to guide the high school counselors, who is turn can guide the children.

Senator, may I as a parenthetical remark say that in the next issue of the Monthly Labor, the issue which will come out about July 15, there will be a long article describing our efforts on the CPI revision program—it will be the first such article since the revision got under way—so that everybody will be informed on that particular program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I want to ask you, for the record—I have seen your report—I would like to get this is the public record as well, let me ask you, is the Bureau of Labor Statistics committed not only to a new CPI but to continue the existing CPI, including updating as well? Can you give us an unqualified answer to that question?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, we are.

Here is the status of that, Senator. We now have an administration agreement to submit an amendment to the Appropriations Committee requesting additional funds to make it possible for us to do both these indices. I am not sure of the exact amount at the moment. We have been working with the OMB people, looking into details and trying to get a very solid figure. However, we have got a firm agreement throughout the administration on that. And we will be submitting an amendment. However, the decision has been made that all the Labor Department amendments will be submitted at the same time.

There were several other amendments in the mill. For example, another one in the mill—and I do not know what the status of it is today—is the work that has to be done because of the passage of the recent Fair Labor Standards Act affecting minimum wages. That amendment has not reach the House Appropriations Committee yet. As I understand it, they have been marking up the bill. And I am not sure it will reach the Senate in time. But there is a firm commitment for such an amendment to be sent up.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I have a letter from the American Association of Retired Persons and the National Retired Teachers Association expressing their feelings that a consumer price index for retired persons is of the utmost importance. I would like that letter to be in the record at this point.

[The letter follows:]

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS,
NATIONAL RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION,
Washington, D.C., May 24, 1974.

Senator WILLIAM PROXMIRE,
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Priorities and
Economy in Government of the Joint Economic Committee,
Dirksen Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR PROXMIRE: As you know, the Consumer Price Index, having been appropriated for use as the automatic trigger for cost-of-living increases

in social security, railroad retirement, civil service and other pension and retirement benefit systems, is especially important to the welfare of the aged.

Because the current index is based exclusively on the expenditure patterns of urban and clerical workers rather than on those of the aged, our organizations believe that it would be conceptually preferable to have, for purposes of adjusting retirement benefits, an index which is based on a survey of prices from retail stores in areas where the aged shop and are concentrated and the price weights for which are derived from the aged's expenditure patterns.

Our organizations are concerned that the existing index may be understating the actual price experience of the aged. We therefore urged the Bureau of Labor Statistics to determine if there exists a statistically significant downward bias under the C.P.I. with respect to the aged, and if so, the feasibility of constructing a separate index. It appeared to us that the expenditure information would be quite simple to obtain from the new 1971 expenditure survey.

We were informed, however, that the cost of sampling prices in the appropriate places and in the appropriate retail outlets is prohibitive, given the population involved, the Bureau of Labor Statistics' budget, and federal manpower limitations. To us this is not a sufficient reason for not taking action potentially beneficial to the welfare of many millions of people.

We are aware of the considerable controversy generated as a result of the Bureau's proposal to alter the structure of the C.P.I. sample to take into account the expenditure patterns of previously excluded population groups such as the self-employed, salaried persons, the unemployed, and the retired based on the 1970–71 consumer expenditure survey. Since the existing index is most appropriate for wage negotiations and since we believe that an index should reflect the expenditure pattern of the group whose welfare is being adjusted in accordance therewith, we sympathize with the opposition of organized labor to the Bureau's alterations.

We also recognize, however, that the current index is not used uniquely for labor purposes. Policymakers use it to determine revenue needs, changes in the money supply and changes in federal expenditure patterns. It may be argued, therefore, that for "national" policy purposes, a more "national" index, such as the Bureau has proposed, would be preferable since it would reflect the price experience of most of the population.

Our organizations are not opposed to the development of a more broadly based index. We do not agree that, because of the inclusion of the price exprience of higher income salaried and self-employed persons who tend to spend proportionately more on services and less on necessities the new index will inevitably register smaller price increases than the existing index. Although prices for necessaries have been rising more rapidly over the past few years than those for services, this has not been the case over the past fifteen years.

Our organizations believe that the Congress should require the Bureau of Labor Statistics to construct a family of indices, each designed for its specific purpose and based upon the group affected thereby and should facilitate such a project by making available the necessary funds. The current index should be retained. The Bureau should proceed with its project for an all-inclusive index; but in order to preclude the possibility of manipulation for political purposes, its development should be closely monitored by the Congress. Finally, an index for the aged should be constructed simultaneously if the current and proposed indices are found or are expected to undrstate significantly their price experience.

Should the Subcommittee hold further hearings with respect to the Consumer Price Index, our organizations would appreciate the inclusion in the hearing record of this statement of their views.

Sincerely,

CYRIL F. BRICKFIELD,
Legislative Counsel.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me get back if I can to the summer job programs. You have no idea of whether the summer job program is bigger than it was last year, the same, or smaller?

Mr. SHISKIN. I am sorry to say, I do not follow it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Of course this is the time when—next month will be too late to do anything about it—if we do more about it than we have done, we should act now.

Mr. Shiskin, throughout this year to date, hours of work have been low. And they rose somewhat this month, from 36.6 to 36.8 hours. And that is still very low, as you know by any historical experience. Has there ever been a previous time when hours of work averaged this low?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, I am not sure there has ever been a previous time when they averaged that low.

I could make two comments on it——

Chairman PROXMIRE. As I get it, the yearly data show no year when hours of work averaged less than 37 per week, but there have been periods shorter than a year when they did. So it seems to me that this could be very significant.

Mr. SHISKIN. There are two comments I could make on that. One is that the trend of hours has been down, as you all know. So we probably will continue to reach lows.

Now, the other point I want to make is that hours of work is one of the best leading indicators. And we must watch that closely——

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is what I have in mind. What I have in mind is, it indicates a weak labor market. In other words, when employees are working their employer's long hours it is because they have a great deal of work to do, and they may well be looking for new employees so that they do not have to pay overtime. When they are working shorter hours the likelihood of the labor market expanding, the demand for labor increasing, employment increasing would seem to be a lot less. Have you done any analysis to separate the cyclical from the long-term factors? You say that there is a long-terms tendency for hours to be shorter. Have you had any chance to analyze that?

Mr. SHISKIN. No. But from earlier work, I have made an intensive study of all the different leading indicators, and that is certaintly one of the best ones, and I watch it very closely.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But that is adverse right now. I should say that we have an increase this month.

Mr. SHISKIN. But it just bounced back to the previous level.

Chairman PROXMIRE. And it is still low——

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, it is still low.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why is the Wholesale Price Index coming out late this month?

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, it came out late last month as well. It is easier to answer the question for this months, which is that we have the problem of revising the WPI for petroleum products, and we have a very big task on our hands to get that out. But let me answer the real question.

The WPI has been delayed for several reasons, and I take the responsibility for that. One reasons is, there has been a very big increase in our workload. The way the WPI is worked up, only changes in prices have to be processed. If there is no change, we do not have to do anything. Now, our workload has more than doubled over the last few months.

A second reason is that perhaps partly because of the mails, which are a continuing problem here as well as in our employment survey, but also perhaps because employers are getting more and more

reports to send back to the Government, there has been some delay in the information we have been getting.

A few months ago, John Layng and I and a few of our colleagues took a hard look at what was going on, and we saw a lot of errors being made, an emergency situation developing, where we had to rerun data the night before without knowing whether we would have a release the next day, because we could not be sure of the run. And we were concerned because in one month we were about to go to press without the chemical industry data, but the computer run did not work out, and we had to do it again. By the time we did the second computer run, we got the chemical data. But the schedule was just too tight. So I made the decision to defer the WPI release a week.

Now, we are very hopeful that by the fall, if prices stabilize, we can shorten the schedule. So I do not look on that——

Chairman PROXMIRE. You say that we are going to have a late wholesale price index in July and August too?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

I do not consider this a permanent delay. I am seeking a way of speeding it up. And if I may say so, one of my great tasks at OMB when I was there 4 years ago was to speed up data. But there is a trade off between speeding up of data and maintaining its accuracy. I felt that we had reached a stage where we needed a little more time to get those figures out.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, we do not know as yet what happened to real wages in May, because that depends on the Consumer Price Index, while is not available yet. We do now have the data for April, which we did not have last time, remember. So let us take a look at that.

By any of the available measures real earnings were down sharply, 5.6 percent or so from the year earlier. Can you tell me when was the last time we had a drop of comparable magnitude?

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not have the statistics.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You would have to go back a long way to when there was a time when the American workers suffered that big a drop in a month.

How much is due to inflation and how much to shorter hours of work? I am talking about April.

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not know if they break this down. I have brought it in other times, but I did not bring it in this time. We will put that in the record.

[The following information was subsequently supplied for the record:]

Due to CPI, 82 percent; due to hours of work, 13 percent; and due to tax effects, 5 percent.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I think this is one of the figures we ought to concentrate on, because it is something of course of the greatest concern to the American worker, the fact that his income is suffering terrific attrition because of inflation, and it is also suffering attrition because the hours of work are not longer. So that this gives some perspective for the unemployment situation.

You have often stated in the past that if the overall unemployment rate changed by at least two-tenths of 1 percent it would be statistically significant. Would you tell us either now, or for the record, how much the unemployment rate for each category has to change to be statistically significant?

Mr. SHISKIN. I will do that. And please bear in mind, my statement about economic significance of month-to-month changes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If it is not statistically significant how can it be economically significant? The reason I ask this is because when you say it is not statistically significant, it means that the possible margin of error is so great that you do not know whether it actually declined or grew for sure, and for that reason you do not make a judgment on it. If that is the case, it seems to me it would be foolish to make an economic decision based on the figures which may be going one way when you think they are going the other.

Mr. SHISKIN. I will give you a very good example of that.

In January the unemployment rate reached 5.2 percent, it was also 5.2 percent in February. It was 5.1 percent in March. Now, there was no significant change there statistically; 5 to 5.2 percent is significant, but 5 to 5.1 percent is not. But as you yourself pointed out in your opening statement, the stability of unemployment has been a very significant economic development, because it shows that unemployment, which had risen, we think, because of the energy crisis to 5.2 percent, had leveled off. That was the most significant statement I can make about that period, that unemployment leveled off. That is very important. And whether it was statistically significant from month to month is not important. The most significant change that can take place in my judgment in an economic trend, there sometimes is no change, because that can show the end of the cyclical movement. If you have a cyclical rise and it stops, which is what appeared to happen, that is very significant.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me change the framework of the question——

Mr. SHISKIN. I am sorry—let me try again.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Perhaps this is my fault. But what I should have said is, is there an economically significant change? Obviously the stability might be, as I indicated, very important, at a time when everybody expects the economy to deteriorate for one reason or another, either the war is over or you have an energy crisis or whatever —if you did not have a change in unemployment, the fact that there is no change has economic importance. But what I have been trying to get at is whether there was an economically significant change, or statistically significant change. And there I think, if you do not have a statistically significant change, or an economically significant change, it may be significant that there was no change, right?

Mr. SHISKIN. I am not sure I follow that. But I will repeat that I think some of the most significant changes in economic trends—significant movements—are the no changes. Our economy has been characterized ever since it got under way 100 years ago in the modern sense by cyclical movements. And the most significant developments occur at the peaks and troughs, when there is a turnaround. Usually the changes are very small, frequently no change at all. And if you

went back and used the statistical analysis you would have said month after month there was no significant change in the statistical sense. But in fact it was very significant.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Let me just get back—I am almost through—I have just one more question—this is the last question I would like to ask you with respect to wholesale price increases for petroleum products, you did mention that. And I think that is quite significant.

I understand that beginning with the wholesale price indices for May to be released next week the Bureau of Labor Statistics will publish data for petroleum products based on information collected directly from the oil companies——

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Now, of course the Joint Economic Committee has been strongly urging you to do this for some months now so I am delighted that this program is finally getting under way. Your release, announcing this change, states that the data will have to be included with a 1 month lag. For example, it says, "The May 1974 index will reflect changes in prices of refined petroleum products from March to April 1974". Does this mean that you will include April data in the May index?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It will be identified, then, as April data?

Mr. SHISKIN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is this not going to be awfully confusing? Are there other items in the Wholesale Price Index which are published with a hidden time lag?

Mr. SHISKIN. It is regrettable, Senator, and I wish I knew how to solve that problem. And we are struggling with it. And we are considering several alternative ways of solving it. Let me explain how that comes about.

In many of our WPI component indices we get data for the middle of the month, or for 1 day, or for the first week of the month. So that we can then come out at the very beginning of the next month with an index for the previous month. What we have found in the case of wholesale petroleum products is that that approach did not yield good information during 1973. And we shifted to a plan which involved taking total revenues in the month and the physical volume during the month and getting the unit value. The unit value is based on very narrowly specified products. So there are good price data.

Now, during my negotiations over the last 6 months with the companies we pressed them very hard. And it turned out to be the case, the best they could do was to provide those data to us by the 20th of the month following the month covered.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What is that? Those oil companies have every kind of modern computer, and heaven knows, their profits are big enough so that they can afford to buy whatever is necessary so that they can give you the proper information.

Mr. SHISKIN. I do not want to speak for the oil companies or any companies, but I have a lot of experience with statistics, and I have talked with many big company officials and asked them to send data, and I can give you their answers. A big company has a great many branches. And——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Everyone of which has a telephone——

Mr. SHISKIN. Well, that is what the problem is—that is what they tell me; I am not rationalizing it or justifying it. As the month ends they have to collect data from all their branches, some get it done promptly and some do not. And it takes several weeks to put the data together.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would accept that if that was something that was common to industry—but if everybody else in your wholesale price statistics——

Mr. SHISKIN. No, there is a different method. You see, that is the problem. We collect data sometimes for midweek of the month instead of for the whole month. In wholesale petroleum products we are collecting data for the whole month. In other cases we select data for a week or even for a day.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why do you do it for the whole month?

Mr. SHISKIN. Because we found that the figures we were getting for smaller periods were just not very good, and we abandoned them—that is, we have not abandoned them yet but we will next month. There are real problems there, Senator. This index has been going on——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is this the index that is published with a time lag?

Mr. SHISKIN. No, the chemicals data are also published with a time lag.

Mr. LAYNG. Also gas and electricity.

Mr. SHISKIN. It is a very serious problem. I do not want to understate it, it is a very serious technical statistics problem. It is a new problem with me, or at least it became new to me when I got to BLS. And I tried to figure out ways of handling it.

I would like to ask a rhetorical question: Why is it acceptable to have a CPI come out the 20th of the month but unacceptable to have a WPI to come out the 13th of the month?

Chairman PROXMIRE. I would not say one is acceptable or unacceptable, all I say is that we have been able to provide these price indexes earlier before, and it is very helpful to everybody to get these statistics as soon as possible.

Mr. SHISKIN. Absolutely. And we have put out great efforts to do it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We have been able to do it in the past, and our communications are getting even more efficient and more rapid, so it should not deteriorate.

Mr. SHISKIN. That is true. But the important thing or one of the important things that is often lost sight of is the elapsed time between the period covered by the data and the report of the data. For example, everyone applauds the speed with which we got out the unemployment figures. And it is a remarkable effort. It is done jointly by us and the Census Bureau. But you have to bear in mind that the unemployment figures refer to the midweek of the month. And in fact there has been a 3-week lapse between the period covered by the unemployment figures and the figures we are reporting on today.

Now, in a case of the wholesale price data for petroleum products, it will be somewhat longer. But what I am directing your attention

to it the lapse between the period covered and the date we report. And that is sometimes lost sight of when you look at the calendar months alone. But I assure you, Senator, I am committed, and have been for my whole career, to speeding up the release of data. It is very important.

Chairman PROXMIRE. The information that you will actually collect from the oil companies provide you with the actual price of oil products as well as the changes from the previous month. Will this data and the actual dollar and cents price be published? Will it be available to the public on request?

Mr. LAYNG. No, it will not be.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why not?

Mr. LAYNG. Our original goal was to provide both types of information. And most of the problem relates to what we refer to as the mixed problem, where in an average price you have to be very careful that you have exactly the same products included each month. One month you would have a very large shipment of a certain type product, and the next month you would have another mix of products. When you compare the averages for those two; they may not be comparable. When you are trying to measure price changes——

Chairman PROXMIRE. Do you not have a similar problem with other wholesale prices, and are they available?

Mr. LAYNG. The other wholesale prices are collected under what we refer to as a specification, which is a relatively narrowly defined product description. Our next goal in the refined petroleum program is to move to average refined prices and regional data. But it got to be such a complicated problem with the petroleum companies that we felt we had to first achieve a measure of price change and then achieve a measure of the price level. It got to be very complicated, and it drags out the process.

Chairman PROXMIRE. How long will it take to get that?

Mr. LAYNG. I do not know, because the companies—I think some companies have very strong feelings about the adequacies of that kind of average price information. And our job would be to try to design a program which they feel is useful and important and get the reporting on it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You are not serving them, you are serving the American people and the whole society. If we let these companies decide whether they think the information which the elected officials—that is the President and the Congress feel is necessary—if private oil officials decide that you put them in a special class, for one thing, and in the second place, we are just not going to get the kind of data that we need.

Mr. SHISKIN. May I remind you, Senator, that this is a voluntary program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Maybe we need legislation to require it.

Mr. SHISKIN. Our program remains a voluntary program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is it not true that the Treasury Secretary Simon when he was head of the FEO promised us some months ago that one thing we would get was this information from the oil companies.

Mr. SHISKIN. On prices? I think the oil companies have been very cooperative since we started this new program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Cooperative? They are not giving us the information the other firms are giving us.

Mr. SHISKIN. We were getting data from a secondary source for the program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. It is much better than it was.

Mr. SHISKIN. It is much better. My reaction is that oil companies have been very cooperative. I told you a couple of months ago that one of the companies was giving us a kind of hard time. They said we could not meet our deadline, and I wrote a letter to the president of the company, and then his assistant called back and said, we are going to give it to you in time. I have an order from the president telling me to do it, so I will do it.

So I think we are getting good cooperation from them, Senator, and so we have to solve the problems one at a time. And we are solving them, and then we will go on to the next stage, as Mr. Layng said.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I hope you will inform us if you feel you need any further legislative authority, at least to secure additional information.

Mr. SHISKIN. Let me come back to that for one moment. You know, we tried a new method this time as a result of the difficulties on petroleum prices. We got our business research advisory committee to help us with the companies. And they did a marvelous job. They called—and that is really a twist—instead of our calling the companies the businessmen called the companies for us. And that has worked quite well. And I would like to try that for some other industries and areas. And perhaps that is a better solution than mandatory reporting, which has some advantages, as I pointed out earlier. But it is not an easy answer either, because you run into the problem that I was familiar with at Census, where we had mandatory authority, but would get many reports that would have 75 percent of the information but not all of it; or reports would come in so late we could not include them in the statistical reports.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Shiskin, you know the whole history of this situation, you need to get the industries involved to sit down with you and do this on a voluntary basis, too often you have a situation in which the industry is dominating, directing, and controlling the agencies, giving you what they want to give you and not giving you what they do not want to give you.

Mr. SHISKIN. That did not happen this time in petroleum products, we told them what we wanted. We did not get it for awhile, then we put a drive on, and we got our committee to help us, and we got the data. Now, I would like to try that in other places.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you very much.

The subcommittee will stand adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:05 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.]

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