

Employment and Wages of Workers Covered by State Unemployment Compensation Laws, 1939*

INDUSTRIES COVERED BY State unemployment compensation laws probably participated to a greater extent than industry as a whole in the general economic improvement that characterized the year 1939. This is one of the conclusions to be drawn from a preliminary analysis of data on employment and wages of covered workers.¹ Covered employment in December 1939 totaled 22 million, 9.2 percent more than in December 1938; estimates published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show only a 5.8-percent increase in nonagricultural employment as a whole over the 12-month period.² Wages earned in covered employment totaled 12.1 percent more in the last quarter of 1939 than in the same quarter of 1938. The comparable gain in aggregate salaries and wages in the Nation as a whole, however, equaled only 5.6 percent, according to estimates of the Department of Commerce.

At the beginning of 1939, nonagricultural employment and industrial production in the United States had reached a plateau following the pronounced recovery during the last half of 1938 from the trough of the 1937-38 recession. This level was maintained, except for normal seasonal changes, until the beginning of the European war in September 1939. Thereafter, a marked expansion occurred in the volume of production and in the flow of wage payments to individuals, particularly in the durable-goods industries, a group which is virtually wholly covered by State unemployment compensation laws.

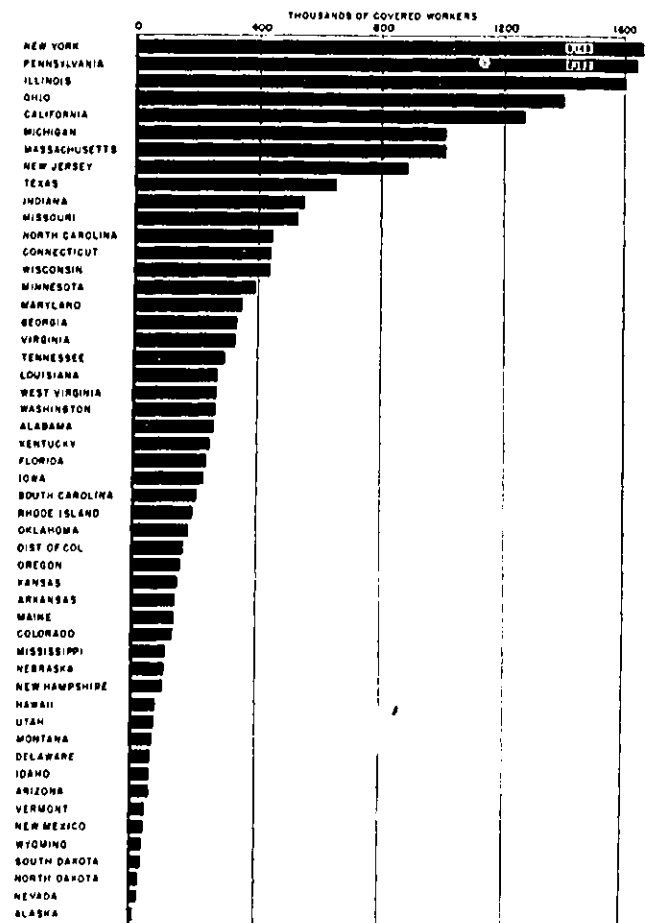
Description of the Data

During 1937, statistics on the employment and wages of workers covered by the unemployment compensation program were compiled by only a few States. Although all States submitted reports

for 1938, industry data for all States became first available only with the 1939 reports.³ Detailed comparisons between the 2 years are difficult, however, because of revisions in the classification of industries, the shift of railroad employees from coverage under State laws to inclusion under a federally administered law, various extensions of coverage to formerly excluded firms, and other changes. In the following analysis, railroad employment and wages have been excluded. The data include Alaska and Hawaii, in addition to the 48 States and the District of Columbia.

* Industry data were lacking only for Pennsylvania in 1938.

Chart 1.—Average monthly number of workers in employment covered by State unemployment compensation laws, by State, 1939



*Prepared in the Division of Research and Statistics, Bureau of Employment Security.

¹ A detailed analysis of 1939 data will be published this summer, similar to the monograph on 1938 data (Bureau of Employment Security, *Employment and Pay Rolls in State Unemployment Compensation Systems 1938*, Employment Security Memorandum No. 8, Washington, D. C., April 1940).

² The BLS series used for comparative purposes is that entitled "Employees in Nonagricultural Establishments," which does not include self-employed persons, casual workers, domestic servants, or the military and naval forces of the Government.

Other limitations attach to employment and wage data for covered workers. Their scope varies from State to State, depending on the provisions determining the size-of-firm and type-of-employment exclusions under the State unemployment compensation laws. Differences among the States

are relatively minor for the latter, but variations in size-of-firm exclusions significantly affect the data. In 1930 approximately half the States patterned their coverage after the Federal Unemployment Tax Act by including only firms with eight or more workers, 10 included all firms with

Table 1.—Number of workers in employment covered by State unemployment compensation laws,¹ by State and month, 1930

[Data reported by State agencies, corrected to Feb. 24, 1931; amounts in thousands]

State	Statutory size-of-firm inclusion ² (number of workers)	Monthly average	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Total		21,377.5	20,208.8	20,248.9	20,764.1	20,710.0	21,052.8	21,358.0	21,208.0	21,744.8	22,309.6	22,458.5	22,833.7	21,987.1
Alabama	8 or more	260.6	249.6	240.0	259.1	245.2	250.1	258.0	261.7	263.0	272.4	272.3	272.5	272.1
Alaska	do	10.2	5.2	5.2	5.8	7.0	12.5	15.1	17.0	18.7	12.5	0.3	7.1	7.0
Arizona	3 or more	57.8	57.8	50.2	57.8	57.5	50.8	57.3	55.5	55.6	58.1	58.9	60.0	62.2
Arkansas	1 or more	139.3	128.9	128.5	131.7	130.4	130.8	133.7	139.5	145.5	155.0	152.8	148.7	146.0
California	4 or more	1,204.4	1,201.5	1,109.6	1,220.4	1,246.7	1,201.6	1,286.9	1,303.1	1,339.4	1,325.8	1,291.8	1,257.0	1,239.3
Colorado	8 or more	120.6	110.2	117.7	122.7	125.1	128.3	131.8	132.8	136.3	137.0	138.3	135.2	129.7
Connecticut	5 or more	439.8	414.7	410.2	422.9	425.7	429.7	430.8	433.7	441.1	458.4	460.5	473.3	461.3
Delaware	1 or more	60.1	53.0	54.3	55.5	58.4	60.0	61.4	59.5	63.5	65.5	63.0	62.0	62.3
District of Columbia	do	162.0	150.6	153.9	160.7	161.4	161.1	162.2	160.2	162.0	163.9	166.4	169.0	172.7
Florida	8 or more	234.3	252.7	254.3	253.7	238.1	221.7	217.9	208.8	208.5	214.5	231.0	240.5	203.0
Georgia	do	331.3	309.0	314.4	320.3	324.6	321.8	325.9	325.3	335.9	350.1	348.5	346.8	343.4
Hawaii	1 or more	73.2	69.5	69.6	67.2	67.3	67.4	78.7	85.7	84.7	70.1	70.8	70.3	70.7
Idaho	do	69.9	49.9	48.6	51.0	55.0	60.2	62.8	62.1	66.4	67.5	68.3	65.7	61.6
Illinois	8 or more	1,604.2	1,618.3	1,524.3	1,558.4	1,585.2	1,578.2	1,591.4	1,599.7	1,620.8	1,670.4	1,686.0	1,685.7	1,652.3
Indiana	do	547.9	504.7	508.9	525.6	525.8	534.1	538.0	537.8	568.8	584.2	585.0	581.8	575.1
Iowa	do	228.6	213.0	211.6	220.1	225.1	230.9	230.3	231.0	233.7	240.8	238.7	236.6	230.8
Kansas	do	143.1	136.0	134.4	138.9	142.6	145.8	144.0	145.2	145.2	147.5	147.5	145.7	142.5
Kentucky	4 or more	245.7	238.4	232.5	233.5	215.5	240.4	244.8	240.0	252.1	258.6	262.0	261.0	262.0
Louisiana	4 or more	269.9	252.4	250.0	258.1	261.1	250.2	266.2	265.4	274.7	285.5	295.4	287.6	282.9
Maine	8 or more	136.9	120.0	128.2	126.7	126.4	135.3	142.8	140.0	140.6	144.8	141.1	137.4	138.6
Maryland	4 or more	340.3	317.0	325.2	341.5	341.0	345.3	349.9	349.9	356.0	374.1	364.0	367.1	358.9
Massachusetts	do	1,007.6	953.0	960.0	970.1	1,002.2	1,005.0	1,012.5	1,001.6	1,013.3	1,040.3	1,060.2	1,055.7	1,010.8
Michigan	8 or more	1,007.6	987.3	978.7	990.3	973.6	973.6	991.1	910.4	907.3	1,000.9	1,061.8	1,062.9	1,101.2
Minnesota	1 or more	391.9	355.8	361.8	365.4	378.4	363.3	408.3	403.0	411.6	415.9	410.6	407.4	401.2
Mississippi	8 or more	106.8	99.0	98.3	105.8	101.6	101.4	104.2	108.4	113.5	117.4	116.2	112.2	103.0
Missouri	do	527.5	506.5	509.8	521.1	524.4	525.4	528.2	530.3	528.2	542.3	543.5	540.1	530.8
Montana	1 or more	58.3	60.5	59.3	61.7	65.9	68.2	70.3	71.6	73.0	74.0	72.8	71.8	70.5
Nebraska	8 or more	101.9	93.3	93.3	97.4	101.1	104.0	104.0	104.0	104.8	107.2	107.2	105.4	101.1
Nevada	1 or more	22.2	19.3	19.0	20.2	21.1	22.3	22.9	23.3	24.1	24.4	23.8	23.2	22.0
New Hampshire	4 or more	101.2	95.4	95.2	95.3	97.1	98.1	103.4	100.1	100.3	107.9	104.5	102.6	102.1
New Jersey	8 or more	886.0	820.0	830.2	852.6	862.9	860.9	883.8	879.8	904.2	920.5	945.4	938.0	917.5
New Mexico	(?)	42.4	37.2	30.8	37.9	39.2	38.7	39.1	40.8	46.3	47.4	47.0	46.2	45.5
New York	4 or more	3,148.6	3,017.9	2,994.0	3,088.2	3,069.7	3,155.9	3,169.0	3,162.0	3,209.3	3,301.3	3,248.7	3,218.6	3,128.1
North Carolina	8 or more	443.2	414.3	410.3	430.2	424.2	424.2	431.5	431.4	468.4	478.1	478.1	474.2	466.1
North Dakota	do	26.2	23.4	22.6	23.0	25.2	26.3	27.2	27.0	27.6	28.9	27.5	27.1	26.8
Ohio	3 or more	1,397.0	1,260.4	1,307.8	1,345.7	1,347.5	1,369.7	1,386.6	1,386.5	1,416.1	1,452.4	1,457.5	1,480.0	1,469.3
Oklahoma	8 or more	181.6	174.2	172.7	179.6	179.4	181.8	183.6	182.8	183.3	188.3	185.6	184.7	183.4
Oregon	4 or more	154.1	128.0	128.2	132.1	140.2	148.5	155.9	161.2	171.4	173.4	175.6	170.4	164.0
Pennsylvania	1 or more	2,192.1	2,161.0	2,131.2	2,142.7	2,078.6	2,117.1	2,177.1	2,149.7	2,175.8	2,286.5	2,329.5	2,344.0	2,304.8
Rhode Island	4 or more	193.5	188.4	188.7	189.2	187.6	187.7	187.7	189.2	192.6	200.0	203.6	205.1	201.0
South Carolina	8 or more	261.2	193.2	195.6	204.4	201.1	200.4	201.7	199.9	203.7	207.9	216.7	214.3	211.4
South Dakota	do	32.8	29.5	20.0	30.4	32.2	33.4	33.8	34.0	34.0	34.9	34.3	34.3	33.5
Tennessee	do	292.1	275.9	279.5	287.7	287.5	291.2	292.8	291.9	294.0	301.0	304.0	302.6	296.5
Texas	do	652.7	623.6	627.3	651.8	649.0	654.6	658.2	646.7	649.2	660.1	664.7	667.3	670.4
Utah	(16)	72.7	62.6	61.2	63.6	65.7	67.5	69.3	70.1	80.8	84.5	86.2	79.2	78.7
Vermont	8 or more	40.3	42.6	42.9	43.7	43.6	47.4	46.1	47.9	47.5	47.4	47.8	47.7	46.3
Virginia	do	324.5	303.5	304.9	313.2	307.7	320.3	324.9	325.0	337.2	344.5	347.5	342.1	323.0
Washington	do	264.3	233.3	230.8	244.0	258.9	263.5	271.8	272.3	283.5	292.0	283.0	272.5	265.9
West Virginia	do	267.8	257.9	261.2	264.6	183.4	263.5	268.7	271.2	274.8	280.1	295.7	297.4	289.0
Wisconsin	6 or more	437.3	408.5	413.1	429.0	431.8	439.2	445.6	441.1	445.6	451.8	455.5	448.6	438.3
Wyoming	1 or more	34.0	29.3	28.0	29.7	31.3	33.3	36.9	38.3	39.6	36.2	34.2	32.1	

¹ As of last pay-roll periods ended in month. Includes workers receiving wages in excess of \$3,000 a year in all periods in which they were on pay roll. Excludes data for railroads and other groups subject to Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

² Represents number of workers employer must have for specified period to be subject to State law.

³ And total wages of \$78 or more in a quarter.

⁴ And wages of at least \$50 to each of 4 workers in each of 3 quarters; or 8 or more workers within 20 weeks of calendar year.

⁵ And total annual wages of \$500 or more.

⁶ And total wages of \$225 or more in a quarter.

⁷ For January-June, 4 or more workers in each of 20 different weeks of calendar year; for July-December, 2 or more workers within 13 weeks of calendar year, or total wages of \$450 or more in a quarter.

⁸ Data include approximately 23,000 workers in domestic service in private homes; such service is excluded under laws of other States.

⁹ And total wages of \$600 or more in a quarter.

¹⁰ For January-June, 4 or more workers; for July-December, total wages of \$450 or more in a quarter.

¹¹ Data include 13,500 non-Federal Government workers in January-June and 5,000 in July-December; such service is excluded under laws of other States. State amendment effective July 1, 1930, excluded certain government employees.

¹² Or total annual wages of \$6,000 or more if employer's records do not permit accurate count of workers.

¹³ And total wages of \$150 or more in a quarter.

one or more employees, and the remaining States ranged between these limits.

The employment figures, moreover, represent the number of covered employees on pay rolls during the last pay periods ended within each month, whereas earnings represent the total amount of wages paid to all covered workers during each calendar quarter. As a result, employment and wage data are not strictly comparable, since a number of workers employed at some time in a calendar quarter will not be included in the final pay rolls of any of the 3 months in the quarter. Averages derived by dividing wages by employment, therefore, have little economic significance.

In addition, New York reported taxable wages only, thereby excluding individual employee annual earnings in excess of \$3,000 from any one employer. This limitation especially affects the wage pattern for those industries in which New York predominates, especially finance, insurance, and real estate.

National Trends

The expansive effect of increased production upon pay rolls, stimulated in part by foreign developments, is demonstrated by the relatively higher level of employment and earnings of covered workers during 1939 than in 1938. Employment of covered workers in March 1939 approximated 20.8 million, only 4.7 percent above March 1938. By June, however, the increase over the same month of 1938 was 9.3 percent, and in September it reached 9.7 percent. Although covered employment declined slightly at the end of the year, the December 1939 total of nearly 22 million was still 9.2 percent more than the total for December 1938. Parallel increases were reported for employment included under the Federal old-age and survivors insurance program, which covers all employers of one or more workers in virtually the same services subject to the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. The number of employees earning taxable wages under the old-age and survivors insurance program during the last pay period of March 1939 totaled 4.1 percent more than during March 1938, according to data collected by the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance. By the end of June, the difference amounted to 10.0 percent. In September the 9.7-percent divergence was identical with that for unemployment insurance. A slight decline fol-

lowed, but covered employees still totaled 8.9 percent more in December 1939 than in December 1938.

Table 2.—Wages in employment covered by State unemployment compensation laws,¹ by State and quarter, 1939

[Data reported by State agencies, corrected to Feb. 21, 1941; amounts in thousands]

State	Total	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December
Total	\$28,518,053	\$6,574,822	\$6,035,460	\$7,183,488	\$7,821,274
Ala.	230,012	55,307	55,469	59,003	67,243
Alaska	18,063	2,171	4,778	8,221	3,493
Ariz.	73,731	17,605	17,701	17,653	20,382
Ark.	115,762	25,783	25,972	30,036	32,018
Calif.	1,008,470	450,691	491,838	514,677	522,364
Colo.	107,012	37,456	40,187	42,822	46,532
Conn.	626,914	110,207	148,268	155,029	182,440
Del.	84,401	18,233	20,555	21,109	21,501
Dist. of Col.	216,864	50,061	53,517	53,841	59,472
Fla.	224,692	57,793	53,658	50,910	62,322
Ga.	301,030	69,028	73,242	75,545	80,215
Hawaii	70,524	16,808	16,623	18,003	18,400
Idaho	67,320	13,376	16,471	18,740	18,733
Ill.	2,411,910	518,290	586,851	610,320	696,470
Ind.	753,384	165,784	178,346	190,046	210,208
Iowa	273,455	61,157	67,291	68,958	76,040
Kans.	168,387	38,438	42,051	43,212	44,685
Ky.	272,010	61,424	62,040	71,057	77,498
La.	288,563	61,911	60,175	71,910	82,537
Maine	141,359	32,653	33,738	38,496	30,472
Md.	431,000	91,747	104,904	108,438	123,811
Mass.	1,387,978	312,021	330,126	351,148	385,683
Mich.	1,687,430	364,429	380,773	387,609	454,538
Minn.	495,019	108,400	121,814	128,599	136,206
Miss.	87,219	18,889	20,311	22,753	25,236
Mo.	680,265	159,183	167,165	171,353	188,561
Mont.	90,317	19,307	21,846	23,692	25,472
Nehr.	122,788	27,225	30,535	31,340	33,682
Nev.	31,020	6,612	7,580	8,221	8,565
N. H.	100,148	24,079	25,038	29,611	20,520
N. J.	1,267,497	284,914	306,080	320,198	355,405
N. Mex.	47,382	10,722	11,215	12,430	13,009
N. Y.	4,419,814	1,110,512	1,143,414	1,110,609	1,085,240
N. C.	300,524	88,655	93,334	100,348	114,187
N. Dak.	20,711	5,263	7,337	7,006	8,205
Ohio	2,028,295	449,296	481,235	510,205	587,559
Okla.	233,077	54,775	67,627	58,814	62,761
Ore.	230,770	49,243	57,277	62,365	61,885
Pa.	2,809,606	680,060	681,113	711,038	737,326
R. I.	231,141	53,738	55,929	58,128	66,346
S. C.	102,618	37,578	39,580	40,249	45,211
S. Dak.	37,826	8,239	9,270	9,761	10,596
Tenn.	207,381	67,574	72,611	74,040	83,180
Tex.	781,084	182,617	192,097	195,430	210,904
Utah	90,411	19,153	20,728	24,100	26,340
Vt.	63,610	11,632	13,248	14,090	14,743
Va.	345,040	76,785	82,612	86,103	97,550
Wash.	370,574	80,292	91,023	96,765	101,594
W. Va.	348,602	81,115	72,652	92,122	102,713
Wis.	623,135	141,010	152,939	159,310	170,167
Wyo.	41,421	8,748	9,866	11,759	11,050

¹ Represents wages paid or payable according to State law. Except in New York, includes wages in excess of \$3,000 a year for a worker in covered employment. In 3 States and New York this excess was not taxable (see footnotes 2-5). Data for railroads and other groups subject to Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act excluded. For size-of-firm inclusion under State law see table 1.

² Of this amount, \$1,484,751,000 represents taxable wages; State law excludes wages in excess of \$3,000 a year for a worker from any 1 employer.

³ Data represent taxable wages; State law excludes wages in excess of \$3,000 a year for a worker from any 1 employer. Include \$30,473,000 in taxable wages for domestic service in private homes; such service is excluded under laws of other States.

⁴ Data represent total wages, on which employers were taxable under State law; for employer contributions, taxable wages were \$210,741,000, because individual employee annual wages in excess of \$3,000 were not taxable.

⁵ Of this amount, \$158,053,000 represents taxable wages. Wages in excess of \$3,000 a year for a worker from any 1 employer nontaxable for July-December under State amendment effective July 1, 1939.

⁶ Data include \$3,886,000 in taxable wages for non-Federal Government employees; such service is excluded under laws of other States. Wages were \$5,931,000 in January-June and \$2,955,000 in July-December; State amendment effective July 1, 1939, excluded certain government employees.

In contrast, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates of nonagricultural employment do not indicate so sharp a rise. Employment in both June and December 1939 totaled only 5.8 percent above the same months of 1938. Since a substantial increase in employment occurred generally during the latter half of 1938, the relatively greater employment of covered workers during the second half of 1939 is all the more striking. It probably reflects the concentration of covered employment in industries which are most likely to be influenced by wartime industrial expansion.

For the entire year 1939, average monthly employment of covered workers under State unemployment compensation programs totaled 21.4 million, 7.0 percent more than an estimated average of 20.0 million for 1938. Average monthly nonagricultural employment⁴ was only 4.1 percent higher in 1939 than in 1938, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates. The number of workers covered by unemployment compensation laws equaled about 75 percent of all wage earners in nonagricultural employment and approximately 85 percent of all workers covered by Federal old-age and survivors insurance.

Except for relatively slight declines in April and July, covered employment rose steadily from 20.2 million in January 1939 to a peak of 22.5 million in October. April employment was affected by a widespread stoppage in the bituminous coal industry; the downturn in July is attributable largely to normal seasonal movements. The usual seasonal decline in construction, coupled with a slackening of the war stimulus to industrial activity, probably accounted for the 2.1-percent decline during the last 2 months of the year.

Wages earned in covered employment increased proportionately more than employment, probably because of rising wage rates and an increase in average weekly hours of work. Wages totaled \$28.5 billion in 1939, 10.7 percent more than in 1938. The trend corresponded to that for average monthly employment, although at a higher level. First-quarter wages totaled 6.8 percent more in 1939 than in 1938; in the second quarter the gain was 10.9 percent; in the third quarter, 13.1 percent; and in the fourth, 12.1 percent. Between the first and fourth quarters of 1939, wages earned in covered employment increased 19.0 percent,

whereas during 1938 the corresponding advance was only 13.3 percent.

Industrial Distribution

Manufacturing industries accounted for 45.5 percent of average monthly employment during 1939 and paid 45.7 percent of total wages earned in covered employment. The proportion of employment and wages was also virtually identical for construction—4.5 and 4.4 percent—and for mining—3.8 and 3.0 percent, respectively.

Wholesale and retail trade ranked next to manufacturing in the concentration of covered workers. This group included 25.2 percent of average monthly employment and 23.7 percent of total wages paid during 1939. Service industries accounted for the third largest number of covered workers—8.1 percent—but in wages ranked fourth with 7.1 percent. Ranking third with respect to wages was the industry group consisting of transportation, communication, and other public utilities, with 8.5 percent of all wages paid in covered employment. This group ranked fourth in the proportion of average monthly employment—7.5 percent. Industries classified as finance, insurance, and real estate accounted for 4.9 percent of average monthly employment and 6.2 percent of total wages paid. In the latter two industry groups, the fact that the proportion represented by wages is higher than that for employment is probably due to higher annual earnings, because of more regular employment, higher wage rates, or overtime pay.

The sharp expansion in employment which characterized the last half of 1939 was led by a substantial increase in mining and was shared by manufacturing, transportation, and wholesale and retail trade. Preliminary analysis does not indicate how much of this increase was attributable to seasonal movements and how much to the stimulus of war abroad. It is significant, however, that covered employment in manufacturing in December 1939 was 7.3 percent higher than in March. On the other hand, old-age and survivors insurance data, which include information on small firms less sensitive to war repercussions than the larger ones covered by most unemployment compensation laws, indicate only a 4.4-percent increase from March to December.

In contrast to the general upward tendency of these four industry groups, covered employment in the highly seasonal construction industry fluctuated

⁴ See footnote 2.

Table 4.—Wages in employment covered by State unemployment compensation laws,¹ by major industry and quarter, 1939

[Data reported by State agencies, corrected to Feb. 24, 1941; amounts in thousands]

Industry division and major industry group	Total			January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December
	Amount	Percent of total	Percent of industry division				
Total	\$28,518,053	100.0	100.0	\$9,574,822	\$6,935,456	\$7,183,498	\$7,824,274
Mining	1,110,283	3.0	100.0	274,585	237,030	284,604	323,064
10. Metal mining	101,955	.6	14.5	26,600	33,900	40,808	45,881
11. Anthracite mining	123,988	.4	11.0	31,284	87,060	25,806	29,509
12. Bituminous and other soft-coal mining	453,517	1.0	40.5	119,578	66,680	120,632	140,727
13. Crude-petroleum and natural-gas production	207,509	1.0	26.6	70,817	73,365	74,722	78,005
14. Nonmetallic mining and quarrying	82,614	.3	7.4	16,830	20,210	22,480	23,582
Construction	1,250,211	4.4	100.0	226,125	325,742	355,052	342,292
15. Building construction—general contractors	420,947	1.5	33.7	80,200	110,045	118,767	111,285
16. General contractors, other than building	352,548	1.2	28.2	60,330	60,228	106,358	65,623
17. Construction—special trade contractors	476,716	1.7	38.1	85,520	124,869	130,937	135,384
Manufacturing	13,015,331	45.7	100.0	2,970,193	3,109,140	3,273,547	3,685,445
20. Food and kindred products	1,550,689	6.5	12.0	330,405	370,844	420,303	417,877
21. Tobacco manufactures	95,012	.3	.7	20,501	23,180	25,024	25,031
22. Textile-mill products	1,128,742	4.0	8.6	272,741	262,084	276,864	317,103
23. Apparel and other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials	861,199	3.0	6.6	209,599	203,682	220,807	230,051
24. Lumber and timber basic products	385,530	1.3	3.0	80,005	94,400	101,818	100,307
25. Furniture and finished lumber products	410,205	1.5	3.2	92,319	90,235	103,700	120,845
26. Paper and allied products	430,191	1.5	3.3	97,753	103,191	100,081	123,070
27. Printing, publishing, and allied industries	606,100	3.1	0.9	219,802	223,345	221,150	231,797
28. Chemicals and allied products	625,942	2.2	4.8	143,765	149,002	154,019	178,256
29. Products of petroleum, coal, and natural gas	241,101	.8	1.8	55,985	59,371	61,385	64,357
30. Rubber products	223,741	.8	1.7	60,800	52,705	56,644	63,433
31. Leather and leather products	378,870	1.3	2.9	90,040	87,934	97,529	97,367
32. Stone, clay, and glass products	437,487	1.5	3.4	94,704	106,641	111,071	124,481
33. Iron and steel and their products	1,700,222	0.2	13.6	301,787	410,010	435,743	527,782
35. Nonferrous metals and their products	414,168	1.5	3.2	92,274	95,740	100,238	125,910
36. Electrical machinery	623,455	2.2	4.8	140,208	147,810	156,014	180,363
37. Machinery (except electrical)	1,080,232	3.8	8.3	240,330	261,682	269,610	317,604
38. Automobiles and automobile equipment	816,844	2.0	0.3	195,334	193,044	185,661	241,005
39. Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	651,071	2.3	5.0	142,632	156,144	164,555	188,440
Transportation, communication, and other public utilities	2,435,203	8.5	100.0	678,222	611,668	623,618	621,888
41. Street, suburban, and interurban railways (other than interstate railroads) and city and suburban bus lines	289,668	1.0	11.9	71,242	73,350	73,798	71,272
42. Trucking and/or warehousing for hire	393,387	1.4	10.1	80,138	95,986	100,275	110,988
43. Other transportation, except water transportation	163,130	.6	0.7	38,783	30,819	41,630	42,698
44. Water transportation	72,424	.2	3.0	17,950	18,444	17,777	18,244
45. Services allied to transportation, not elsewhere classified	142,372	.5	5.8	33,418	30,711	34,567	37,076
46. Communication: Telephone, telegraph, and related services	620,062	2.2	25.5	150,368	158,467	161,004	160,103
48. Utilities: Electric and gas	728,540	2.5	29.9	174,287	182,351	187,873	184,029
49. Local utilities and local public services, not elsewhere classified	25,701	.1	1.1	6,027	6,534	6,522	6,618
Wholesale and retail trade	6,745,425	23.7	100.0	1,557,078	1,650,092	1,669,025	1,859,030
50. Full-service and limited-function wholesalers	1,120,030	3.9	16.6	262,198	271,125	273,013	313,094
51. Wholesale distributors, other than full-service and limited-function wholesalers	1,248,394	4.4	18.5	300,051	311,441	305,966	330,906
53. Retail general merchandise	865,627	3.2	13.3	195,929	213,565	213,236	272,897
54. Retail food (includes liquor stores)	658,100	2.3	0.8	160,980	102,976	170,662	173,607
55. Retail automotive	465,007	1.0	0.9	105,948	117,041	114,560	120,672
56. Retail apparel and accessories	360,404	1.3	5.4	83,050	92,632	80,777	103,045
57. Retail trade, not elsewhere classified	686,165	2.4	10.2	190,481	169,445	171,701	187,838
71. Eating and drinking places	440,645	1.6	0.7	102,271	113,227	117,415	110,732
75. Filling stations, garages, and automobile repair services	171,379	.6	2.5	30,883	42,205	44,185	45,010
72. Other wholesale and retail trade	681,524	2.4	10.1	150,281	168,016	171,034	188,563
Finance, insurance, and real estate	1,770,150	6.2	100.0	452,827	442,474	432,212	448,637
60. Banks and trust companies	107,440	.7	11.1	60,878	49,300	48,400	48,850
61. Security dealers and investment banking	138,206	.5	7.8	36,695	33,927	33,072	34,512
62. Finance agencies, not elsewhere classified	121,204	.4	0.8	29,535	29,602	29,817	32,000
63. Insurance carriers	635,772	2.2	35.8	158,416	159,782	159,001	160,078
64. Insurance agents and brokers	90,076	.3	5.1	22,087	22,640	21,600	23,983
65. Real estate dealers, agents, and brokers	314,460	1.1	17.7	75,255	78,840	78,491	81,874
66. Real estate, insurance, loans, law offices; any combination	48,636	.2	2.8	11,372	11,950	12,057	13,251
67. Holding companies (except real estate holding companies)	229,456	.8	12.9	67,989	56,391	52,308	52,708
Service	2,010,695	7.1	100.0	482,388	511,760	500,863	506,685
70. Hotels, rooming houses, camps, and other lodging places	295,459	1.0	14.7	71,152	73,194	78,905	72,148
72. Personal services	423,979	1.6	21.1	95,599	109,070	100,307	100,007
73. Business services, not elsewhere classified	378,738	1.3	18.8	95,843	94,723	91,765	90,417
74. Employment agencies and commercial and trade schools	10,629	.1	.8	4,031	4,006	4,004	4,408
76. Miscellaneous repair services and hand trades	58,114	.2	2.0	13,210	14,477	14,702	15,710
78. Motion pictures	314,791	1.1	15.7	70,848	80,171	78,798	78,947
79. Amusement and recreation and related services, not elsewhere classified	165,800	.6	8.3	35,755	44,551	46,365	39,138
80. Medical and other health services	70,813	.3	3.5	17,075	17,488	17,734	18,510
81. Law offices and related services	62,154	.2	3.1	19,016	15,840	14,899	15,390
82. Educational institutions and agencies	20,476	.1	1.0	5,611	5,136	3,950	8,873
83. Other professional and social-service agencies and institutions	72,087	.2	2.9	12,990	13,130	12,076	13,261
86. Nonprofit membership organizations	112,314	.4	5.9	28,652	28,642	27,041	27,070
89. Domestic service	30,473	.1	1.5	7,192	7,923	7,775	7,613
94. Regular Government agencies	8,586	.0	4	2,638	3,393	1,796	1,210
Miscellaneous ⁴	135,665	.5	100.0	27,401	37,058	34,070	36,233

¹ For definition of wages, see table 2, footnote 1.

² Includes major industry group 34 (transportation equipment, except automobile).

³ Reported by New York only; excluded from coverage in other States.

⁴ Reported by Wisconsin only; excluded from coverage in other States.

⁵ Less than 0.05 percent.

⁶ Includes agriculture, forestry, fishery, and establishments not elsewhere classified.

tuated widely during the year. From a low of 733,000 in February it rose 52.7 percent to a peak of 1.1 million in August, thereafter declining 27.5 percent to 811,000 by the end of December, but still 8.9 percent more than in the first month of the year.

Only in the industry group of finance, insurance, and real estate did the number of covered workers remain virtually steady throughout 1939. This group was also the only one with fewer employees at the end of the year than at the beginning; the decline—less than 1 percent—occurred in the last 2 months of the year.

Covered employment in the service industries, of which personal service is the largest, rose gradually from January to June, then declined slightly before attaining a point in September 7.3 percent above January. Thereafter, it declined by the end of December to a total only 2.2 percent above the January figure.

Industrial trends in quarterly wages in covered employment generally followed the same patterns, with the exception of the finance, insurance, and real estate group. In this group, wages declined more than \$10 million from the first to the second quarter, and an almost equal drop took place between the second and third quarters, although no comparable decrease occurred in the number of workers employed. However, if the data for New York, which reported only taxable wages, were omitted, the trend throughout the year would have shown a steady increase, from \$298 million in the first quarter to \$338 million in the fourth. Exclusion by New York of wages for an individual worker in excess of \$3,000 a year from any single employer tends to understate increasingly the amount of wages paid during the last 3 quarters of the year.

State Industrial Patterns

The data also reflect the high concentration of industry in certain sections of the country. New York and Pennsylvania each reported average monthly employment of more than a million workers in manufacturing and with 5 other large industrial States—Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, and Ohio—accounted for almost 57 percent of all covered employment in manufacturing. This distribution corresponds to that which was obtained by the 1939 census of manufactures.

New York and Pennsylvania also led in the number of covered workers engaged in trade; combined with California and Illinois they contained more than 39 percent of all covered workers in this industry. These same four States also included 47 percent of all covered service workers, California ranking second because of its motion picture industry.

Workers in transportation, communication, and other public utilities were similarly concentrated. Slightly more than half of the covered workers in this group were employed in New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, California, Texas, and Ohio. Even less dispersion appeared in finance, insurance, and real estate; because of the paramount position of New York City's financial institutions, New York State alone accounted for 31 percent of the average monthly employment—more than the combined total for Pennsylvania, California, and Illinois, which had the next largest numbers. Pennsylvania and West Virginia, centers of the coal-mining industry, accounted for 36 percent of total average monthly employment in mining. Construction workers, however, were less heavily concentrated, although New York and Pennsylvania again predominated.