Survey of Income and Program Participation

WORK EXPERIENCE DATA FROM SIPP

No. 8703 25

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PREFACE

An important part of the data collected in SIPP is the information in labor force activity. From this data, it is possible to construct work experience data, or "panoramas" of individuals' experiences in the labor market. In this paper, work experience estimates derived from SIPP are compared to those obtained through the March Current Population Survey. In addition, potential uses of SIPP work experience data are discussed as well as the resopnse bias problem found in labor force transition categories.

INTRODUCTION

Work experience data generally relate to the experiences of individuals in the labor market over a period of time, typically a year. Labor force data, on the other hand, refer to the labor market statuses of individuals—employed, unemployed, not in the labor force—at a point in time, usually a week. The Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is the chief source of both types of data.

Each month the BLS publishes the labor force data collected in the CPS which relate to the labor force statuses of persons age 16 and over in the previous month (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1986). These data receive considerable attention in the media and in policy circles since the Nation's "official" unemployment rate is based on them. Each year the BLS also publishes work experience data, usually for the previous year, which summarize the labor market experiences of individuals <u>during</u> the year (Smith, 1986). These data receive less attention, but nevertheless are used by policy makers and especially labor market researchers.

The purpose of this paper is to compare the CPS work experience data with work experience data from the Survey of income and Program Participation (SIPP) and to discuss various questions are previously been compared (Ryscavage and Bregger, 1985), consequently this paper is a logical extension of the earlier effort. It is essential to compare these survey results so as to evaluate how well (or poorly) the same phenomena are being measured.

SIPP is a new household survey which began in October 1983. Its objective is to collect information on the economic well-being of persons and households

as reflected in their incomes, assets, and participation in Federal government programs. An important part of the survey is the information obtained on the labor force behavior of parsons. Its principal use is as an aid in the interpretation of the income and participation data. Labor market researchers will also be interested in it as another "reading" of labor market behavior.

In this paper, we discuss the similarities and differences of the SIPP and CPS in obtaining work experience data from the population. Then we compare the estimates from both surveys for the 1983-84 period. We go on to show how the SIPP can be used also as a source of data on the length of completed spells of unemployment and their outcomes. A concluding section examines the response error problem detected in the SIPP work experience data and the implications of this for their use.

COLLECTING WORK EXPERIENCE DATA

The approaches used to correct work experience data in the GPS and SIPP are significantly different. These differences, in many respects, reflect the different goals of each survey—the CPS to collect labor force data and the SIPP to collect income and program participation data. 1/

Grestions

The CPS sample consists of approximately 60,000 interviewed households,

Each March, as a supplement to the questions asked every month about labor force status, additional questions are asked concerning labor force activity in the previous calendar year: 2/ These questions are straightforward and are designed to find out: 1) if an individual worked, the characteristics of that employment (e.g., full-time, occupation, industry), how long one worked, and for now many employers; 2) if one looked for work or was on layoff, for how long, and how many times and 3) if one was neither working nor looking for work (or layoff), what one was doing. It desimportant to note that the

of unemployment occurred in the CPS

Together, these questions yield a "panorama" of labor market activity in the previous year for all persons 16 years of age and over. The monthly CPS labor force questions, on the other hand, provide a "snapshot" of labor force activity 12 times a year. Given the dynamic nature of the labor force, that is, the movement of persons in and out of the labor market each month (and the movement of persons between employment and unemployment), the panoramic view identifies a much larger economically active population than the average of the 12 snapshots.

The SIPP is significantly different in decign from the CPS. It is a longitudinal survey in which sample members are interviewed eight times for roughly a two and one-half year period. 3/ In each wave of interviewing, respondents are asked about their incomes, program participation activity, and labor force statuses in the previous four months— or reference period (see Figure 1). With respect to labor force statuses, individuals are asked whether they had a job in the reference period and if so in which weeks.

Any weeks in which a person did not have a job or was absent from one are identified and a serious functions then sooks to find out if the person had looked for work or the reason for the absence from the job.

SIPP is a rotating panel survey, with a new panel beginning each year. The 1984 panel (actually begun in October of 1983) is the focus of this paper and it consisted of approximately 20,000 interviewed households when it began. A panel consists of four rotation groups, one of which is in operation each month, and this results in a staggered sample design (see Figure 1).

Because sample members in SIPP are interviewed over a two and one-half year period, it is possible to develop work experience data not only on a calendar year basis, but for any period of time which does not exceed survey constraints. 4/ In short, SIPP's work experience data are built up from respondents' recollections of weekly labor force statuses in the previous four months, while the CPS data are based on respondents' memories of their labor force activities in a calendar year that took place between 3 to 15 months earlier.

Survey methodologists have generally believed that the quality of data collected through a survey with a short recall period would be superior to data obtained with a much longer recall period. It would be logical, therefore, to think that SIPP work experience data would be of a higher quality than that obtained in the CPS. In the next few pages we begin to examine this question.

COMPARING SIPP AND CPS WORK EXPERIENCE DATA

Our comparison of SIPP and CPS work experience data must be considered preliminary at this point for a number of reasons. The most important reason is that the SIPP and CPS data we are comparing relate to slightly different time periods. The SIPP estimates span the period from June 1983 to August 1984; this is because of the staggered sample design used in the survey. 5/ Nevertheless, for each rotation group the data relate to a 12 month period. Because the SIPP data bridge 1983 and 1984, it was decided to average the CPS work experience estimates for each calendar year.

<u>Data Results</u>. As the text table below indicates, SIPP showed a greater proportion of the population as being active in the labor market in the 1983-84 period than did the CPS--74.0 percent as compared to 69.5 percent. This would tend to support the notion that because the SIPP interviews occur every four

months as opposed to only once as in the CPS, a more comprehensive accounting of labor force experiences is obtained in the former than the latter.

	SIPP	CPS
Population, age 16 and over (thous.)	175,862	176,771
. Total who worked or looked for		
work or were on layoff (thous.)	130,190	122,810
Percent of population	74.0	69.5
Total who worked during the		
year/12 month period* (thous.)	122,969	119,362
Percent of population	69.9	67.5
Total who looked for work or		
were on layoff* (thous.)	30,958	22,649
Percent of population	17.6	12.8

* Among those who worked during the year are individuals who also looked for work; among those who looked for work are individuals who did not work at all during the period.

The higher labor market activity rate is the result of more persons in SIPP indicating that they looked for work or were on layoff than was the case in the CPS. SIPP found approximately 8.3 million more persons looking for work or on layoff than the CPS. However, SIPP also discovered more persons as having worked--3.6 million more. Tables 1 and 2 take a closer look at these differences.

Table la shows the distribution of the weeks worked according to SIPP and CPS in the 1983-84 period. According to SIPP, persons who reported they had a job at some time in this period totaled 123.0 million, compared to 119.4 million in the CPS. This larger "worker count" was accounted for by greater

number of persons reporting they had worked part-time in 1983 and 1984. On the other hand, the SIPP showed about 2.0 million fewer full-time, year round workers than the CPS.

The weeks worked data are further broken down by age and sex in Table 1b and 1c. Among the men, full-time, year-round employment was reported to be quite similar in both surveys--slightly more than 42.5 million. But total part-time employment continued to be larger for the men in SIPP than in the CPS. Among the women, SIPP counted 2.2 million fewer full-time, year-round workers but significantly more part-time workers--close to 4.0 million more. Women in the central ages of 25 to 64 years appeared to be responsible for most of these differences.

Table 2a displays the differences in the SIPP and CPS estimates of looking for work or layoff in the 1983-84 period. The SIPP obtained a much higher estimate of persons looking for work or on layoff--31.0 million vs. 22.6 million. Not only did the SIPP find greater numbers of persons with some work experience in the year who looked for work or were on layoff, but the looking-layoff category was also higher among those with no work experience in 1983-1984. Among workers, looking for work or being on layoff for 1 to 10 weeks was particularly higher in SIPP than in the CPS.

women accounted for most of the difference in the jobseeking/layoff estimates. According to SIPP, approximately 15.0 million women were looking for work or on layoff compared to 9.6 million as estimated in the CPS. The largest differences were found among teenage women and women age 25 to 64. Again, the estimate of those looking for jobs or on layoff for 1 to 10 weeks a year was much larger in the SIPP than in the CPS. (See Table 2c). Among

the men (Table 2b), the jobseeking/layoff estimates were similar in the 25 to 64 year age group, but quite different among teenage boys and young men.

Speculating About the Differences. In addition to the fact that the work experience data from both surveys relate to different periods of time, many other factors no doubt account for the different work experience estimates from SIPP and CPS. For example, questionnaires differ (as mentioned earlier), the surveys' sample designs differ, the training of interviewers differs, the degree to which information is obtained through telephone interviews differs, and so on.

One very obvious difference alluded to earlier concerns the length of the recall period used in both surveys. SIPP respondents are required to review their labor market experiences over the past four months, whereas in the March CPS respondents must look back over a 12 month period that ended nearly three months prior to the interview. It stands to reason that for even diligent respondents, the task of recollecting is much easier over a shorter period of time than a longer one, especially when the questionnaire for the longer period makes no special effort to help respondents recall the events.

An article by Morgenstern and Barrett (1974) addressed the issue of retrospective bias in unemployment reporting using the labor force data from the monthly CPS and the annual work experience data from the March CPS. They found that unemployment was understated to the work experience data for woman and youths. They concluded that this occurred because:

"...when asked to recollect their unemployment expansions likely a distasteful task for anyone) of the previous years above groups, whose part-time employment and movement into and out as the labor force is much greater than everage, can and domains sensity discount

The basis for their conclusion was that these groups, while having a higher elasticity of labor force participation with respect to economic activity than middle-age men, may have less anxiety about spells of unemployment since they do not view labor force activity as their primary activity.

While one might quibble with how they perceived the economic roles of women and youth (it was 12 years earlier), there can be no doubt that the strength of labor market attachment will vary in a sample of individuals.

The diferences in the SIPP and CPS estimates of looking for work and layoff, of course, were greatest for the women and youth, but it is premature to say that the SIPP data corroborate the Morgenstern and Barrett finding. We need to know more about the SIPP work experience data in general. Moreover, we must explore the differences relating to employment and weeks worked; it could be that the shorter recall period in SIPP is also yielding a more accurate reflection of work activity. Indeed, in the concluding section of this paper possible response biases in the SIPP work experience estimates are discussed.

Potential Application of SIRP Work Experience Data. Because of SIRP's survey, design and sequence of labor force questions, the data should be particularly useful in examining topical issues in labor market research. One of these involves estimating completed spells of unemployment and their outcomes.

Researchers have delived into this issue using the CPS and other data sources (Clark and Summers, 1979).

The data contained in Table 3 are based on a special SIPP extract file which refers to the September 1983-August 1984 period. 7/ The data represent unweighted sample respondents who were neither unemployed in the first or

last week of the period, but who did experience at least one spell of unemployment in the intervening period. One of the problems that has been encountered by researchers in estimating completed spells of unemployment is the censoring or truncation problem, and for this reason we selected the above sample respondents. They totaled 2,866, or approximately one-half of those who were "ever" unemployed in the September 1983-August 1984 period.

For this group of persons the average completed spell of unemployment was 6.4 weeks and approximately 61 percent of the spells ended in employment. But, of course, these broad averages conceal some variation among subgroups, especially with respect to the outcomes of unemployment spells. For men age 25 to 54, 84 percent of their spells resulted in a job, but for teenage women only 44 percent of their spells ended in employment.

A very revealing contrast in the outcomes of unemployment spells is seen in the case of whites and blacks: While roughly 66 percent of the spells for blacks did. See whites turned into jobs only 37 percent of the spells for blacks did. Naturally, we would want to know more about the outcome of the unemployment spell than just whether the under in a job or labor force withdrawl. We might want to know what that of job was found, how long to lasted, when did it pay, and so forth. Movertheloge, whose found, how long to lasted, when did not potential for labor market analysis.

RESPONSE ERROR IN SIPP WORK EXPERIENCE DATA

Problems of between wave response error have been observed in the SIPP program and recipiency data, specifically with the responses between the last month of one reference period and the first month of the next (Burkehead and Coder, 1985). Similar problems have been found in the labor force data (Ryscavage and Short, 1986). Inconsistent reporting of labor force statuses

between waves of interviewing may affect the estimates of persons working and looking for work or on layoff and bias duration or spell estimates derived from respondents.

To further examine this issue in the context of the SIPP work experience data, we analyzed unweighted data from four waves of interviewing (see Figure 1). We also utilized the surveys' employment status recodes (ESR's) which summarize a respondent's labor force activities during a month. There are eight

SIPP Employment Status

ESR's:

ESR

Description

Jatus Recode·

- 1 With job entire month, worked all weeks.
- 2 With job entire month, missed 1 or more weeks, but not because of a layoff.
- 3 With job entire month, missed 1 or more weeks because of a layoff.
- 4 With job part of month, but not because of a layoff or looking for work.
- 5 With job part of month, some time spent on layoff or looking for work.
- 6 No job in month, spent entire month on layoff or looking for work.
- 7 No job in month, spent part of month on layoff or looking for work.
- ESR's 3, 4, 5, and 7 contain more than one labor force status in the conventional sense of being employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force because activity is being measured across time and not at a point in time.

ESR's 1, 2, 6, and 8 contain only one labor force status for the month: 1 and 2, employment; 6, unemployment; and 8, not in the labor force.

Average Month-to-Month Transitions in Labor Force Status. As has been reported before, a greater amount of change, or transition, in the ESR's occurs between the reference periods than within the reference periods.

Ryscavage and Short (1986) found that the average month-to-month change in ESR's in the months at the "seams" of the reference periods was 13.1 percent compared to 7.2 percent in months not at the seams of reference periods. In other words, a greater amount of change in labor force status was taking place between two months when the information had been obtained from two interviews rather than just one. Moreover, the transition categories (i.e., the ESR's) responsible for much of the difference were identified.

Table 4 shows which transition categories appear to be accounting for the greatest amount of change in the seam months. It was constructed by subtracting the average of the 12 month-to-month transition matricies in "nonseam" months from the average of the 3 month-to-month transition matricies in "seam" months (see Figure 1). The largest numbers in the table (not including those on the diagonal) indicate where the greatest differences in labor force transitions between seam months and nonseam months were occurring. 8/ Six transition categories stand out:

ESR 1 to 6

ESR 1 to 8

ESR 6 to 1

ESR 6 to 8

ESR 8 to 1

ESR 8 to 6

Note that each of these ESR's contains only one labor force status for the whole month: 1, employed; 6, unemployed; and 8, not in the labor force.

Consequently, the transition categories reflect two distinct labor force statuses in two adjacent months.

At this point, we can only suspect a problem exists with these transitions occurring in seam months. Indeed, distinct breaks in labor market activity do occur at month's end (e.g., "I'm through at the end of the month!"). But perhaps we can become legitimately more suspicious if the change in ESR, or labor force status, occurs after four months of the same status followed by four months of another status. For example, an individual may have reported in May that he had a job in the four preceding months, but then in the next interview taking place in September reported that he looked for work the entire subsequent reference period. In other words, his ESR pattern would appear as

ESR's 1 1 1 1 6 6 6 6

for the first eight months of the year. And in SIPP, there is the possibility for a respondent to report that they were in one particular status for the entire reference period, especially for those who find the survey burdensome or are not concerned with the accuracy of their responses.

"Suspicious" Transitions in Labor Force Status. With this possibility in mind, we examined ESR patterns for these suspicious transition categories. The data appear in Table 5. The data show that in the three month-to-month periods which occurred at the seams of reference periods there was an average of 1,930 persons with suspicious ESR changes, the largest groups being ESR's 1 to 8 and 8 to 1. Of the total, 1,287 persons, or 66 percent, had the same ESR for four consecutive months before the seam and a different ESR for four consecutive months after the seam. In ESR categories 6 to 8, 1 to 8, and 8 to 1, the percentages were nearly 70 percent or above. Can we believe that these transitions in labor force status were, in reality, as sharp and as distinct as they were reported? The Table also shows the other ESR wave

patterns among the suspicious transition categories and here too one could question responses.

Obviously, we can only conjecture about the accuracy of the responses from the individuals reporting labor force status changes at the seams and the stability of ESR patterns before and after the seams. For those familiar with the interview process, however, it is very possible that some respondents simply wish to get through the interview so find the easiest path. It is true that it takes much less time to report one status for the entire reference period then to report changes. And the fact that respondents reported a change in status may reflect "telescoping" or simply unconcern with regard to the timing of a labor force status change. 9/ In any event the accuracy assignificant number of the accuracy as a significant number of the accuracy as a signific

The Affect of Suspicious Transitions on Work Experience Data. In Table 6 we present the age and sex characteristics of persons with suspicious labor force transitions. These data, unlike those just reported, show the number of individuals who had at least one suspcious employment transition, that is, they had one labor force status for four months before the seam and another status for four months after the seam. This Table is more consistent with a work experience concept than Table 5 in the previous discussion which dealt with month-to-month averages.

The Table shows there were 2,923 persons with at least one suspicious transition over the June 1983-December 1984 period. This represents about 12 percent of all the 24,709 sample members that reported some labor market activity in this period. Sample members with a suspicious transition that involved at least one period of looking for work or layoff (the sum of the 1

to 6, 6 to 1, 6 to 8, and 8 to 6 categories) totaled 1,440, or about 24 percent of all persons that reported at least one instance of looking for work or layoff.

Suspicions transitions transit women comprised 57 percent of the total with suspicious transitions, and women in the central ages of 25 to 54 were the single largest age-sex group. When the age-sex categories are examined by specific transition, however, a different picture emerges. In the 1 to 6, 6 to 1 categories, that is, transitions involving employment and unemplyment and vice versa, men appeared to predominate. In most of the categories involving transitions between being in the labor force and not being in it (8 to 6, 1 to 8, and 8 to 1) women made up the majority. And, it is these latter categories that make up 66 percent of the total number of suspicious transition categories.

One might speculate that proxy vs. self-reporting of labor force activity could be responsible for the suspicious transitions. That is, a proxy respondent may be more inclined to misreport the labor force status of a sample member either because they are unsure of the individual's labor force status or are simply cavalier in their responses. The data, however, are not convincing on this point. Almost one-half of the suspicious respondents "self-reported" their statuses in both interviews, while only about one-fourth had proxy respondents account for their labor force activity in both interviews.

CONCLUSION

The SIPP work experience data offer researchers a new opportunity to examine the dynamic underpinnings of the labor force. Preliminary comparisons indicate that the SIPP data find more people economically active in the labor market than previously reported in the CPS. Considerably tone part-time work activity was observed on the part of youth and women. In security, significantly was observed on the part of youth and women.

cantly more persons reported they had leaked for work or were on leyest each was the case in the GPS.

The results of the comparison must be considered preliminary both on the grounds of the nature of the comparison and our investigation into the potential response error in the SIPP data. The comparison of the SIPP and CPS work experience data involved slightly different time periods and a number of survey differences were not controlled for which could also affect the comparisons. Moreover, response error in the SIPP and the survey be further investigated. Our exploration of this issue discovered that in a number of instances changes in labor force statuses between the comparisons.

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FOOTNOTES

- For information about the CPS see, <u>Technical Paper No. 40</u>, the <u>Current Population Survey</u>: <u>Design and Methodology</u> (1978), and for information concerning, <u>SIPP</u>, see <u>Dawn Nelson</u>, <u>David B. McMillen</u>, and <u>Daniel Kaspryzk</u>, "An Overview of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, <u>Update 1</u>," (1985).
- 2/ See Appendix for facsimilies of the CPS and SIPP questionnaires relating to work experience data.
- 3/ SIPP sample members that move to new addresses are followed and interviewed if possible. In the CPS, sample members are not followed.
- 4/ Work experience data for the 1984 SIPP panel could be developed for the full (all rotation groups) sample for the period beginning in September 1983 and ending in April 1986.
- 5/ The reference period for the first rotation was from June 1983 to May 1984; for the second, from July 1983 to June 1984; for the third, from August 1983, to July 1984, and for the fourth, from September 1983 to August 1984. Recause of the staggered sample design, 22 of the 48 rotation group months fall in 1983 and the remaining 26 in 1984. No adjustment was made in the comparison, however, for the slightly greater weight of the 1984 data visavis the 1983 data.
- 6/ See Morgenstern and Barret (1974), p. 357.
- 7/ This file contained weekly data that enabled the estimation of durations of looking for work and layoff.
- The diagonal of the transition matrix contains individuals who have not changed their labor force status. Since we have observed a larger amount of change in seam months than in nonseam months (or smaller amount of nonchange in nonseam months than in seam months), when the nonseam matrix is subtracted from the seam matrix, negative numbers result in the diagonal.
- Mathiowetz (1985) recently reported on the problems of forgetting and telescoping error in unemployment reporting. Based on an analysis of an employer's records and the responses of persons who had been laid off from this employer, she found that over a 30-month reference period, both memory decay and forward and backward telescoping were present in respondents' answers concerning their unemployment experiences. Given the fact that SIPP has a relatively short reference period (relative to the March CPS), it may well be that telescoping is outweighing memory decay.

Figure 1. SIPP sample design and rotation group pattern (for part of the 1984 panel)

Rotation groups	3	3	192	<u>S</u>	0	Z	a	.	<u>.</u>	X	<u> </u>	Σ	1984	4	S	0	Z	O	 <u>. </u>	Σ	⋖	Σ	1983 A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J	
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R3			.	က	m	7	m ,	m	m	<u></u>	m -	"" "	3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	~~	e e	, m	m '		•	•	•			
R4				•	₹	4	-	→	4	€	/	~	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	4	*	4	4	4					•	

SIPP began in October 1983 when the first rotation group (one-fourth of the sample) was interviewed. The second rotation group was interviewed in November and so on. The reference periods for the rotation groups are the four months to the left of each broken line. Seam months are those months which come at the end of one reference period and the beginning of another. For example, in rotation group one, the seam months are September-October, January-February, and May-June.

Table la. Extent of employment according to SIPP and CPS -- 1983-84 $\frac{1}{2}$

(In thous.)

(In thous.)			
Extent of employment	(1)	(2)	(3) = (1)-(2)
Extent of employment	SIPP	CPS	Difference
Total who worked during period, age 16 and over	122,969	119,362	3,607
Full-Time	89,925	92,459	- 2,534
50-52 weeks	66,595	68,582	- 1,987
48-49 weeks	2,635	2,365	270
40-47 weeks	6,067	5,318	749
27-39 weeks	5,950	5,625	325
14-26 weeks	4,540	5,768	- 1,228
1-13 weeks	4,138	4,804	- 666
Part-Time	33,044	26,903	6,141
50-52 weeks	11,612	10,065	1,547
48-49 weeks	1,383	812	571
40-47 weeks	3,820	2,360	1,460
27-39 weeks	5,717	3,116	2,601
14-26 weeks	5,613	4,623	990
1-13 weeks	4,900	5,927	- 1,027

 $[\]underline{1}/$ The SIPP data cover the June 1983 to August 1984 period while the CPS data are averages of data for 1983 and 1984.

Table 1b. Extent of employment for men by age according to SIPP and CPS -- 1983-84 1/

	Total	2	16 to	16	20 to	24	25 to	0 64	65 and	over
Extent of employment	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS
Total who worked during period, age 16 and over	67,403	65,236	5,400	4,568	9,255	8,655	50,181	49,611	2,567	2,403
	55,859 42,857	56,030 42,651	1,688	1,658	3,880	6,635 3,638	46, 37,	46,	1,095	1,200
48-49 weeks 40-47 weeks 27-30 meeks	3,287	3,023	111	104	598 718	545 643	2,540	2,320	38	8 53 8
	2,512	3,186	311	319	659 593	777	ī —	<u></u>	120	108 135
Part-Time	11,544	9,206	3,712	2,910	2,468	2,022	3,891	<u>س</u> اً-	1,472	1,203
	465	252	113	156	128	61 215	167	302	.58 011	45 93
	2,095	1,025	585	321 639	504 403	235	753 699		254 251	111
		2,279	1,00	1,043	329	450	346		203	253

Table 1c. Extent of employment for women by age according to SIPP and CPS -- 1983-84 1/

	Tota	16	16 to	91 0	20 to	24	25 to	5 64	65 and	over
Extent of employment	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS
Total who worked during period, age 16 and over	995, 56	54,126	4,685	4,196	8,372	8,068	40,786	40,231	1,724	1,633
Full-Time 50-52 weeks 48-49 weeks	34,066 23,737	36,429 25,930	1,009	1,150	4,972 2,953	5,284	27,539 20,273 912	23	545 278 14	595 360 21
40-47 weeks 27-39 weeks 14-26 weeks 1-13 weeks	2,780 2,556 2,028 1,874	2,295 2,436 2,583 2,207	73 100 244 343	60 109 212 424	440 595 385 450	424 519 590 548	2,212 1,801 1,341 1,002	1,777	56 60 59 79	36 20 25 25 25
Part-Time 50-52 weeks 48-49 weeks	~ ~	17,696 6,911 560 1,595	3,675 799 81	3,046 688 56	3,400 1,065 169 453	2,784 932 97	13,247 5,531 637	10,828 4,827 350	1,179 543 32 114	1,038 465 58 99
27-39 weeks 14-26 weeks 1-13 weeks	3,621 3,449 3,020	2,092 2,892 3,648	682 809 962	385 692 1,045	540 638 535	330 510 646	2,241 1,778 1,417	1,292 1,576 1,739	158 225 106	85 115 218

Table 2a. Extent of looking for work or layoff according to SIPP and CPS -- 1983-84 1/

(In. thous.) (3)=(1)-(2)(1)(2) Extent of looking for work/layoff SIPP CPS Difference 130,190 Total who worked or looked for 122,810 7,380 work/layoff during period, age 16 and over Total who looked for work/layoff 22,649 8,308 30,958 Percent who looked for work/layoff 23.8 18.4 NA 3.771 Did not work, but looked/layoff 7,220 3,449 1-14 weeks 2,563 15 weeks or more 4,657 19,199 4,539 Worked and also looked/layoff 23,738 Worked 50 or more weeks: 908 556 1-2 weeks looked/layoff 1,464 Worked less than 50 weeks: 3,529 1,366 1-4 weeks looked/layoff 4,895 5-10 weeks looked/layoff 5,032 3,611 1,421 2,448 181 11-14 weeks looked/layoff 2,629 1,184 15-26 weeks looked/layoff 5,855 4,671 3,863 - 171 27 or more weeks 4,034

NA - Not applicable.

^{1/} See footnote, Table 1a.

Table 2b. Extent of looking for work or layoff for men according to SIPP and CPS -- 1983-84 1/

	Total		16 to	61	20 to	24	25 to	0 64	65 and	d over
Extent of looking for Work/layoff	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS
Total who worked or looked for work/ layoff during period, age 16 and over	70,261	66,792	6,203	4,857	671.6	8,964	51,592	50,525	2,737	2,448
Total who looked for work/layoff	15,971	13,047	3,076	1,491	3,603	2,895	8,919	8,531	373	131
Percent who looked for work/layoff	22.7	19.5	49.6	30.7	37.0	32.3	17.3	16.9	13.6	5.3
Did not work, but looked/layoff l-14 weeks l5 weeks or more	2,858 666 2,192	1,556 442 1,114	803 360 443	289	473 103 371	309	1,412 154 1,258	913	169 49 120	46
Worked and also looked/layoff Worked 50 or more weeks: 1-2 weeks looked/layoff	13,113	11,491	2,273	1,202	3,129	2,586	7,507	7,618	204	82 82
Morked less than 50 weeks: 1-4 weeks looked/layoff 5-10 weeks looked/layoff 11-14 weeks looked/layoff 27 or more weeks	2,002 2,795 1,393 3,399 2,553	1,730 2,048 1,512 2,996 2,631	435 594 586 373	307 263 113 225 279	587 627 849 567	494 446 343 648 565	913 1,532 1,934 1,599	923 1,328 1,045 2,099 1,762	67 41 29 14 8	12 12 12 23 23

Table 2c. Extent of looking for work or layoff for women according to SIPP and CPS -- 1983-84 1/

	Total		16 to	61 0	20 to	24	25 to	0 64	65 and	over
Extent of looking for Work/layoff	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS	SIPP	CPS
Total who worked or looked for work/layoff during period, age 16 and over	626,65	810,33	5,577	4,488	9,217	8,437	43,317	41,431	1,818	1,663
Total who looked for work/layoff	14,987	9,602	2,813	1,226	3,234	2,164	8,758	6,124	182	83
Percent who looked for work/layoff "	25.0	17.1	50.4	27.3	35.1	25.6	20.2	14.8	10.0	3.4
Did not work, but looked/layoff -14 weeks 5 weeks or more	4,363 1,897 2,465	1,894 1,057 836	892 455 437	293	845 381 464	369	2,531 1,024 1,507	1,202	94 37 57	30
Worked and also looked/layoff Worked 50 or more weeks: l-2 weeks looked/layoff	10,625	7,709	1,920	933	2,388	1,794	6,227	4,921	68	09
Worked less than 50 weeks: 1-4 weeks looked/layoff 5-10 weeks looked/layoff 11-14 weeks looked/layoff 27 or more weeks	2,640 2,237 1,236 2,456 1,310	1,800 1,562 935 1,676	614 443 217 394 195	324 216 84 155	634 465 323 587 204	492 379 209 364	1,351 1,316 697 1,453	975 957 629 1,145	21 2 5	51445

Table 3. Characteristics of unemployment spells for persons who were not unemployed in the first and last weeks of the Semptember 1983--August 1984 period by age, sex, and race

Age, sex, and race	Average number of weeks spent unemployed (weeks)	Average duration of completed spells (weeks)	Proportion of spells ending in employment (percent)
Total	9.9	6.4	61.2
Men	10.7	6.9	72.9
16 to 19	10.3	6.5	49.0
20 to 24	10.5	6.9	76.4
25 to 54	10.9	7.1	84.0
55 to 64	12.2	6.7	67.8
65 and over	8.5	6.3	49.0
Women	9.1	5.9	50.9
16 to 19	9.1 7.7	5.1	44.2
20 to 24	8.9	6.0	50.6
25 to 54	9.9	6.3	52.5
55 to 64	8.5	4.9	60.1
65 and over	6.5	4.2	32.3
Whites	9.7	6.4	65.7
Blacks	10.9	5.8	37.4

Table 4. Average monthly difference between employment status transitions occurring in "seam" months and "nonseam" months--June 1983 to December 1984

Employment status			Ε	mploymen	t status	recodes	(month 1	r + 1)	
recodes (month T)	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	0	194	- 93	- 4	-147	-133	83	- 58	160
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	- 4 17 1 22 31 -67 - 2	-541 102 17 52 41 152 20 352	14 -169 4 12 4 7 1	9 5 -36 0 5 9 0	- 27 5 1 - 56 1 10 0	- 22 3 2 3 - 42 - 91 - 2 16	158 17 10 22 - 11 -464 32 318	12 1 0 - 4 1 14 - 62 - 17	394 54 3 - 7 33 297 10 -624

Table 5. Persons with "suspicious" employment status transitions in average seam months by whether or not employment status was the same or mixed during four months before and after the seam--June 1983 to December 1989

ESR pattern in				ESR Trai	nsition		
wave (Before - After)	Total	1 - 6	6 - 1	6 - 8	8 - 6	1 - 8	8 - 1
Total	1,930	200	211	317	340	457	405
Same - Same Same - Mixed Mixed - Same Mixed - Mixed	1,287 380 188 222	96 77 16 12	143 24 36 8	231 50 25 11	199 94 29 17	323 79 39 16	295 56 44 10

Table 6. Characteristics of persons with "suspicious" employment status transitions occuring at least once in seam months -- June 1983 to December 1984

				ESR	Transit	ion	
Age and Sex	Total	1 - 6	6 - 1	6 - 8	8 - 6	1 - 8	8 - 1
Total	2,923	233	306	441	460	797	686
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Men	42.5	61.8	63.7	43.3	37.1	38.0	34.8
16 to 19	11.3	9.0	6.9	12.7	15.2	10.7	11.
20 to 24	7.2	14.2	15.0	5.7	5.4	4.5	6.
25 to 54	14.6	34.3	39.2	17.2	10.2	7.4	6.
55 to 64	4.9	2.6	2.0	5.0	3.9	7.3	5.0
65 and over	4.4	1.7	0.6	2.7	2.4	8.2	5.4
Women	57.4	38.2	36.3	_56.7	62.8	62.0	65.
16 to 19	10.2	6.4	4.6	11.8	14.8	8.4	12.
20 to 24	9.2	6.9	7.2	10.2	10.2	10.8	7.
25 to 54	29.5	23.2	22.2	29.5	31.3	29.0	34.
55 to 64	5.4	1.3	2.0	3.9	5.2	8.5	5.
65 and over	3.1	-	-	1.4	1.3	5.3	5.

Section 1 - LABOR FORCE AND RECIPIENCY							
(SHOW FLASHCARD J) 1. During the 4-month period outlined on this		P0M 7					
menthi time er Merk " tempor	er, that ie, from (4 months ago) thre (Las), did have a job or business, either full r part time, even for enly a few days? Yes" for active duty in the Armed Forces, any ary or part-time work, and work without pay in y business or form.	1000	1 □ Yes — Mark "Worked" (code 170) on ISS and SKIP to 4 2 □ No				
period,	nough did not have a job during this , did spend any time looking for work or off from a job?	1002	ı □Yes ₂□No — SKIP to 3e				
	look at the calendar. In which weeks was king for work or on layoff from a job?	1004	x6 ALL 1010 7 1030 13				
Mark ()	K) all that apply.	1008	□2 1020 □8 1032 □14 □3 1022 □9 1024 □15				
		1012	□4 1024 □ 10 1036 □ 16 □5 1028 □ 11 1038 □ 17 □6 1028 □ 12 1040 □ 18				
C. Could weeks	heve taken a job during any of these If one had been offered?	1042	1 Yes — SKIP to Check Item R1 2□ No				
job du	vas the main reason equid not take a ring those weeks?	1044	1 ☐ Already had a job 2 ☐ Temporary illness 3 ☐ School				
CHECK	Refer to item 2b.	1046	4☐ Other — Specify				
TEMR1	la the "ALL" box marked in 2b?	1048	2□ No - SKIP to 3b				
	here any weeks in the 4-menth period when nted a job?	1050	2□ No - SKIP to Check Item RB, page 4				
did not	recorded that there were weeks that I work or leok for work. Did want a hose weeks?	1000	ı □ Yes 2□ No — SKIP to 9e, page 4				
	have taken a job in those weeks if one on offered?	1052	1 Yes 2 No - SKIP to 9a, page 4				
Wee no	the weeks that wented a job but of locking for one, what was the main was not locking?	1054	1 ☐ Believes no work available in line of work or area 2 ☐ Couldn't find any work 3 ☐ Lacks necessary schooling, training, skills, or expenses 4 ☐ Employers think too young or too old to 5 ☐ Other personal handicap in finding job 9a, page				
		1056	7 Femily responsibilities e In school or other training s IN health, physical disability 10 Other — Specify				
time, d Note t	. have a job or business, either full or port luring EACH of the weeks in this period? hat the person did not have to work each week.		2□ No - SKIP to 6e				
5a. Was busine period	absent without pay from's job or nee for any FULL weeks during the 4-month 17	1058	2□ No — SKIP to Se, pege 4				
ab	o lock at the estender. In which weeks was sent without pay? X) all that apply.	1662 1664 1666 1666 1970	X5				
'0	was the main reason was absent from ob or business during these weeks? X) only one.	1098	I On leveff 2 Own illness 3 On vacation 4 Bed weather 6 Labor dispute 9 New job to begin within 30 days 3 Other - Specify				
Page 2		<u>!</u>	PORM 8/7-4000 (1) 19 (

Section 1 — LABOR FORCE AND RECIPIENCY (Continued)									
		1100							
6a.	Please look at the calendar. In which weeks did have a job or business?	1102							
	Mark (X) calendar below, "With a job or business." AND then mark appropriate box(es).	1108 1108 1110	□4 1118 □ 10 1130 □ 16 □ 15 □ 17 □ 17						
b.	Of those weeks that had a job or business, was absent from work for any full weeks without pay?	1136	1 □ Yes 2 □ No - SKIP to 7e						
C.		1138 1140 1142 1144 1146 1148	1						
	What was the main reason was absent from's job or business during those weeks? Mark (X) only one.	1174	1 □ On leyoff 2 □ Own illness 3 □ On vacation 4 □ Bad weather 5 □ Labor dispute 6 □ New job to begin within 30 days 7 □ Other - Specify						
	I have marked that there were some weeks in this period in which did NOT have a job or business. During that week or weeks did spend any time looking for work or on layoff?	1176	1 Yes 2 No − SKIP to 7e						
b.	In which of these weeks was looking for work or on layoff from a job?	1178	xs□All weeks without a job						
	Affacts (V) paleographology (V) paleographology	1180 1182 1184 1186 1188 1190	☐2						
C.	Could have taken a job during these weeks if one had been offered?	1216	1 ☐ Yes — SKIP to Check Item R2 2 ☐ No						
d.	What was the main reason could not take a job during those weeks?	1218	□ Already had a job □ Temporary illness □ School □ Other - Specify						
	Refer to the Labor Force Calendar, below. Is each week of the 4-month period marked as "With a job or business" or "Looking for work or on layoff"?		1 ☐ Yes — SKIP to 8a 2 ☐ No — SKIP to 7f						
7• .	Did went a job in these weeks when did not have one?	1222	ı □ Yes — SKIP to 7g 2 □ No — SKIP to 8a						
f. I have marked that there were weeks in this period when did not have a job and was not looking for a job. Did want a job in those weeks? If necessary, refer to Labor Force calendar.			1 □ Yes 2 □ No - SKIP to 8e						
g.	Could have taken a job during those weeks if one had been offered?	1226	I □Yes 2 □ No - SKIP to 8e						
LABOR FORCE CALENDAR — Use when item 4 is marked "No"									
•	WEEK —— 1 2 3 4 5 6 th a job or business. rk for item 6e.	7 8	8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18						
Loc laye	oking for work or on off (and without a job obsiness.)								

IF CIVILIAN 14+, BEGIN WITH ITEM 2	19A. IF CURRENT ARMED FORCES MEM	ER. BEGIN WITH ITEM 48A		
18A LINE POP. 18C. 18E. OFFICE USE ONLY NUMBER STATUS AGE Set	37. Were the (entry in Hem 36)	OO A OOONO		
CIV Male	(or on layoff) all in one stretch?		0 0 255 0 0 111 0	
140	Yes - 1 stretch No - 2 stretches (Go to 36)	Different from er 488)	33 D O 333 R O	
Female	No - 3+ stretches	itom 23 or itom 23 blank (Specify in 47.4—472)	55 FC = 555TO	
AF	(if the eneries in Home 33 and 36, add to	47A. For whom did work?	777 H G 77 VO	
	52 works, ship to nom 39. If not, ask 38) 38. What was the main resson was		888 J (88 W O 999 K C 59 K O	
- -	not working or teaking for work in the remaining weaks of 1881?	478. What bind of business or industry is this?	Ref. C M C Ref. C Z O	
29A Old work at a job or business at any time during 1891?	ill or desbled and unable to work	47C. What bind of work was downg?	1	
Yes (She to 23) No -	Taking care of home or family		··· Remain IIIII	
7	Going to school	470. What were's most important activities or duties?	# 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
200 Did do any temperary, part-time, or sessand work	Returned		44 444	
even for a few days during 1881?	Other (Specify)	47E. CLASS OF WORKER PrivateP	66 666	
Yes (She to 33) No 7	••••••	Federal Gov's. F (Ask Inc.) No fee form SE C. (88 88	
30 Even though did not work in 1881, did he/she spend any time	30. For how many employers didwart in 10017 If more than one at some	Size Gov1 S Without say WP O (
trying to find a job or on level1?	time, only count it as one employer.	48A. How much did earn from 000	Worker's Companyation accounts or	
Yes 7 No (Ship to 32)	1 (Ship to 41)	this employer before deductions I I I I during 1881?	1 I released injury or illnam? (Exclude section	
31 How many different weeks was	3+ (Au 40)	400. What was not earnings from this 3 3 3 3 bueness/form ofter expenses c.	3 3 Yes (1 7) No O (She to SI)	
looking for work or an layoff from a job?	40. Did look for work between jobs in 1661?	during 19917	5 5 S29. What was the source of these	
	Yes No	- 6666	Constitution Commence	
	41, in the weeks	Less merey N & S	Out meurones	
(Mark weeks)	that worked, 1 1	48C. Does this procure makels all tips, borrups, exercime pay	Other	
	did usually 3 3	or commissions may have reserved?	S2C. New much 00000	
32. What was the main reason did not work in 1981?)	Yes No (Probe and make corrections of the Alice and make corrections of the Alice and make corrections of the Alice and Alice	2 2 2 2 1001 garub	
IN or dissoled and unable to work	6 6	Yes No (Ship to 504)	5 5 5 5 5 5 5	
Taking care of home or family	(mare neurs) —	400. Now much did corn from:	66666	
Going to school		All other employers? His/her own business His/her form	77 777	
Retired	42. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM Number of hours in item 41 is	Yes No Yes No Yes	99999	
In Armed Forces (Ship to 48A)	1-34 (Ship to 44) 35° (Ash 43)	\$ 5 6	1 year ago; that a, an March 1, 1981?	
33 During 1881 in how many weeks did	43. Did work loss than 35 hours for	00000 0000 000		
Include paid vacation and sick leave as work.	at least one wast in 1881? Enclude wine off with any bacause	c	2 2 March 1, 1977?	
	of helidays, vezation, days off,	4, 666 4666 466		
	or sections. Yes (Ash 44)	66 66 66 66 66	A. Name of State, fareign country,	
(Mark weeks	No (Ship to 46)	7. 7// 17 77/ 17/ 1// 1// 1// 1// 1// 1//	7 7	
	44. How many works (C) (C		8. Name of country	
34. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM 1-40 (See to 36)	then 35 hours in	Lest menoy Lest m	G. Name of city, seem, etcy	
Number of weeks in item 33-is 50-51 (Ast 35) 52 (Ship to 39)	10017	SOA. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM Longest pob (nom 46) is to	(mar) D. Did tive inside the limits of that arty, town, utlage, etc.	
35. Did lose any full weeks Yes	3 2	Vos. 7 No (Ship to S1A)	Ye - No O	
of work in 1881 because harden was (Ship to 39) on layoff from a job or test a job?		SCE. Other than the farm receive we have already talked about, did receive any receive from agricultural work done for		
36. You said worked about	(Mark works) 5	represent services, or government form programs other than learns! You (Probe and make No (Ash STA) You C (next person)		
(entry in room 33) weeks in 1881.	46. What was the main resson worked	conscillate to 48A or 400)	66A. Five years ago, on March 1, 1877	
(52 minus enery on norm 33)	Could not find a full time job	\$1A. During 1081 did reasive any unemployment companies from the State or least government?	Yes is (neet person). No. O	
or an layoff from a jab?	Wanted to work part time or	Vos. 7 No. (Ship to SZA)	8. This case?	
(Most works 4- and ask 37)	Only able to work part time	Any Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB)? Val.	Yes ∪ (next person) No O G. In which date was Brings	
None (She to 38)	Other	Any Union unemployment or strike bandlish Yes / No /		