

ESTIMATED VOLUME OF EMPLOYMENT COVERED BY STATE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAWS

AS OF MARCH 15, JUNE 15, SEPTEMBER 15, AND DECEMBER 15, 1937

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In connection with the collection of contributions, most of the State unemployment compensation agencies are obtaining or will obtain from each employer subject to the law reports as to the number of workers employed in the pay-roll period ending nearest the last day of each month. When such reporting has been definitely established on a Nation-wide basis, it will provide a continuous record of monthly variations in employment in jobs covered by the State unemployment compensation laws. Until that time, it will remain necessary to estimate the number of persons employed as of given dates in covered jobs.

The estimates made by the Bureau of Research and Statistics of the Social Security Board have been based on periodic census data and current employment reports. Recently the data from the 1935 censuses of business and manufactures have become available, and a complete revision of the estimates has been made to utilize these new data. The resulting estimates of the number of persons employed in jobs covered by State unemployment compensation laws in pay periods ending nearest the 15th of March, June, September, and December 1937 are shown in the accompanying table.

Improved accuracy in the estimates for individual States, particularly those States where there is little diversification of industries, has resulted from the fact that the 1935 censuses of business and manufactures yielded important new information on employment in covered industries. Detailed data on employment have thus become available for a number of industries which were not included in the 1933 census of business; i. e., construction, motorbus transportation, motor-trucking, mines and quarries, and miscellaneous specialized industries. In 1935, moreover, tabulations were made showing distributions of firms and employees by size of firm in the principal covered industries—namely, trade, service, construction, and manufacturing, by State. The availability

of these distributions has made it possible to improve the accuracy of the estimates which previously had been based on size-of-firm distributions for the country as a whole.

For these, as for the previous estimates, the 1930 census of occupations served in general as a bench mark from which changes in covered employment were projected forward by months. In the case of Wisconsin and a few other States, employment figures reported by the State agency were used as a base. There are certain other States whose reports (Form UC-208) show a considerably larger number of workers employed in covered jobs at the end of the year than is indicated in these estimates. Such discrepancies may result from inadequacies in the census data on which the estimates are based. For instance, the census classifies workers according to their place of residence rather than according to their place of employment, whereas the States receive reports for all workers employed in covered industries within their boundaries no matter what the workers' places of residence may be. On the other hand, it is possible that some employers, through lack of familiarity with reporting requirements, are still indicating the total number of workers employed throughout a month rather than the number employed in pay periods ending nearest the last day of the month, as specified—a misunderstanding which would result in reports of inflated figures. Of the States from which reports have been received as to the number of workers employed in December, the reported figures of nine States are significantly higher than the estimates. Reports from these States for December were as follows: Connecticut, 398,000; Louisiana, 244,000; Maryland, 338,000; New Hampshire, 99,000; New Jersey, 854,000; North Dakota, 43,000; Rhode Island, 168,000. A report has not yet been received from Massachusetts for December; the number of workers employed in pay periods ending nearest the last day of November, as reported by that State, was

* Bureau of Research and Statistics, Division of Unemployment Compensation Research.

Estimated volume of employment¹ covered by provisions of approved State unemployment compensation laws as of Mar. 15, June 15, Sept. 15, and Dec. 15, 1937

State	Date of approval under title IX	Size-of-firm inclusion	Estimated employment within provisions of State law as of—			
			March 15	June 15	September 15	December 15
Total (40 States).....			10,403,000	17,758,000	20,101,000	18,724,000
Alabama.....	Dec. 31, 1935	8 or more.....	295,000	289,000	287,000	276,000
Arizona.....	Dec. 22, 1936	3 or more.....	75,000	77,000	77,000	71,000
Arkansas.....	Mar. 9, 1937	1 or more.....	145,000	147,000	150,000	143,000
California.....	Dec. 27, 1935	8 or more.....	1,068,000	1,108,000	1,200,000	1,050,000
Colorado.....	Nov. 27, 1936	8 or more.....	137,000	141,000	156,000	148,000
Connecticut.....	Dec. 8, 1936	5 or more.....	308,000	395,000	393,000	357,000
Delaware.....	June 8, 1937	1 or more.....	.....	54,000	56,000	47,000
Distrit of Columbia.....	Nov. 15, 1935	1 or more.....	134,000	136,000	133,000	155,000
Florida.....	June 24, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	185,000	184,000	241,000
Georgia.....	Apr. 2, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	328,000	331,000	313,000
Idaho.....	Sept. 1, 1936	1 or more.....	60,000	64,000	73,000	72,000
Illinois.....	July 10, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	.....	1,588,000	1,447,000
Indiana.....	Apr. 18, 1936	8 or more.....	551,000	542,000	584,000	495,000
Iowa.....	Dec. 20, 1936	8 or more.....	251,000	258,000	262,000	247,000
Kansas.....	Apr. 6, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	200,000	203,000	198,000
Kentucky.....	Dec. 31, 1936	4 or more.....	327,000	317,000	320,000	302,000
Louisiana.....	Nov. 20, 1936	8 or more.....	215,000	213,000	223,000	210,000
Maine.....	Dec. 24, 1936	8 or more.....	115,000	114,000	105,000	93,000
Maryland.....	Dec. 22, 1936	8 or more.....	310,000	322,000	328,000	295,000
Massachusetts.....	Feb. 4, 1936	8 or more.....	531,000	810,000	793,000	714,000
Michigan.....	Dec. 20, 1936	8 or more.....	980,000	1,019,000	902,000	886,000
Minnesota.....	Dec. 20, 1936	1 or more.....	391,000	408,000	433,000	408,000
Mississippi.....	May 20, 1936	8 or more.....	108,000	104,000	110,000	103,000
Missouri.....	July 13, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	.....	551,000	535,000
Montana.....	Mar. 30, 1937	1 or more.....	70,000	84,000	87,000	75,000
Nebraska.....	May 18, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	128,000	125,000	132,000
Nevada.....	Apr. 9, 1937	1 or more.....	.....	23,000	24,000	21,000
New Hampshire.....	Dec. 13, 1935	4 or more.....	97,000	95,000	94,000	82,000
New Jersey.....	Dec. 24, 1936	8 or more.....	780,000	803,000	805,000	744,000
New Mexico.....	Dec. 19, 1936	4 or more.....	46,000	47,000	48,000	40,000
New York.....	Jan. 24, 1936	4 or more.....	2,442,000	2,402,000	2,437,000	2,342,000
North Carolina.....	Dec. 19, 1936	8 or more.....	470,000	460,000	456,000	422,000
North Dakota.....	Apr. 10, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	35,000	30,000	35,000
Ohio.....	Dec. 22, 1936	3 or more.....	1,237,000	1,185,000	1,248,000	1,143,000
Oklahoma.....	Dec. 19, 1936	8 or more.....	205,000	215,000	213,000	207,000
Oregon.....	Dec. 23, 1935	4 or more.....	180,000	194,000	213,000	156,000
Pennsylvania.....	Dec. 8, 1936	1 or more.....	1,959,000	1,977,000	1,960,000	1,808,000
Rhode Island.....	June 8, 1936	4 or more.....	181,000	176,000	164,000	140,000
South Carolina.....	July 22, 1936	8 or more.....	201,000	194,000	194,000	187,000
South Dakota.....	Dec. 20, 1936	8 or more.....	35,000	36,000	36,000	37,000
Tennessee.....	Dec. 22, 1936	8 or more.....	306,000	308,000	310,000	280,000
Texas.....	Nov. 5, 1936	8 or more.....	598,000	631,000	639,000	620,000
Utah.....	Sept. 16, 1936	4 or more.....	80,000	83,000	84,000	71,000
Vermont.....	Dec. 29, 1936	8 or more.....	55,000	55,000	49,000	42,000
Virginia.....	Dec. 19, 1936	8 or more.....	312,000	307,000	304,000	294,000
Washington.....	Apr. 13, 1937	8 or more.....	.....	291,000	319,000	262,000
West Virginia.....	Dec. 22, 1936	8 or more.....	306,000	308,000	302,000	283,000
Wisconsin.....	Nov. 27, 1935	8 or more.....	454,000	455,000	473,000	434,000
Wyoming.....	Mar. 24, 1937	1 or more.....	37,000	35,000	39,000	40,000

¹ January 1938 revision. The data given in this table represent the estimated numbers of workers engaged, as of the dates specified, in employments covered by State unemployment compensation laws. These estimates are essentially a measurement of volume of employment and are not a measure of the number of individuals who by reason of past or present employment have accrued and are accruing rights to benefits under the provisions of State laws. Estimates have been adjusted for the size-of-firm provisions in the respective State laws but are in general based on occupational inclusion of employment as defined under title IX of the Social Security Act. The basic data are not yet available from which to estimate the volume of employment covered by the approved unemployment compensation laws of Alaska and Hawaii.

² The Oregon law covers firms employing 4 or more in any 1 day during any calendar quarter, provided the employer's pay roll amounts to \$500 or more during such quarter.

905,000. Michigan reported 1,163,000 workers employed in the November pay periods.

The type of estimates in the accompanying table must be differentiated from other series which may be available. The total number of persons working in covered occupations in a State or in the country as a whole changes from day to day. These estimates indicate current actual employment as of a given date. They do not represent the total coverage of workers for unemployment compensation purposes. It is obvious that, because of labor turn-over from month to month during the year, the number of workers

having accounts in the unemployment compensation agencies of each State may be from 25 to 50 percent larger than the number of workers employed in covered industries in a given pay-roll period.

Figures relating to coverage and to volume of employment are both useful. The statistics of current employment are essential for estimates of the solvency of State funds, estimates of the volume of unemployment, and as indicators of the potential load in local employment service agencies. State reports on current employment are now being submitted to the Social Security

Board by the majority of the States, but because of the recent passage of their unemployment compensation laws a few States have not yet entered this reporting system. As rapidly as the other States come into the reporting system and are able to submit complete and comparable data,

their figures for covered employment will be published currently and also will be used as a bench mark for making current estimates. At a later date, figures indicating the total coverage of the State laws over a period of a year will also be made available.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION STATISTICS

Table 1.—Number of initial claims received and number and amount of benefit payments during January 1938

[Data reported by State agencies,¹ corrected to Mar. 5, 1938]

State	Initial claims received for total and partial benefits	Payments for both total and partial benefits	
		Number	Amount
Total for States reporting.....	398,722	30,082	\$365,951
Alabama.....	5,806	753	9,627
Arizona.....	93,124	10,620	112,749
California.....	18,384	0	0
District of Columbia.....	18,615	1,400	1,505
Louisiana.....	(²)	0,751	59,740
Maryland.....	59,702	0	66
Massachusetts.....	25,930	38	456
Minnesota.....	103,695	1,238	8,479
New Hampshire.....	67,731	18,186	164,329
North Carolina.....	8,692	(³)	(³)
Rhode Island.....			
Vermont.....			

¹ Data reported on Forms UC-214 and UC-216. As of March 5, 1938, reports on these forms had not been received from the following States in which claims for benefits were filed in January: Alabama, California, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

² During January, partial benefits only were paid.

³ Not reported.

Regular monthly reporting of benefit statistics to the Social Security Board was inaugurated in February. Table 1 shows the number of initial claims received and the number and amount of benefit payments made during January in the 10 States from which benefit statistics reports on Forms UC-214 and UC-216 were received by the Social Security Board by March 5.

For reporting purposes, an initial claim is defined as the first application for benefits in a period of unemployment. The number of payments shown above represent the number of pay checks for total or partial unemployment issued by these 10 States during January. The data are preliminary and subject to revision.

The volume of initial claims for total unemployment benefits was considerably in excess of those for partial unemployment, according to the reports from States for which these separate data are available. Louisiana was the only exception; this was due in part to the fact that no waiting period is required for payments of partial benefits

in that State, while the waiting period for total unemployment is 4 weeks. Connecticut, Maryland, and Rhode Island were the only States to make a significant number of payments for total unemployment, the average payment being \$10.60, \$8.85, and \$9, respectively.

Table 2.—Amount of benefit payments charged to State benefit accounts during January 1938

[Data reported by State agencies,¹ corrected to Mar. 5, 1938]

State	Amounts charged to benefit payment account
Total for States reporting.....	\$1,109,429.26
Alabama.....	0
Arizona.....	9,627.37
California.....	0
Connecticut.....	116,478.22
District of Columbia.....	0
Louisiana.....	16,605.20
Maine.....	9,102.22
Maryland.....	59,940.22
Massachusetts.....	101,949.00
Minnesota.....	65.71
New Hampshire.....	456.00
New York.....	0
North Carolina.....	8,477.42
Oregon.....	25,452.55
Pennsylvania.....	0
Rhode Island.....	(²)
Tennessee.....	0
Texas.....	28,070.72
Utah.....	39,345.84
Vermont.....	0
West Virginia.....	30,433.91
Wisconsin.....	669,524.87

¹ Data reported on form UC-207. As of Mar. 5, 1938, reports on this form had been received from all States except Virginia in which claims for benefits were filed in January.

² Rhode Island charged no payments but actually paid benefits during the month.

Table 2 shows the amounts charged to the benefit-payment accounts maintained by the benefit-paying States, according to reports on financial transactions from the States to the Social Security Board. The charges to these accounts do not necessarily represent the total benefits paid during the month, because of the possibility of a difference in the time of issuance of a check and the posting of the items in the State books. In most cases for which figures are shown, however, the amount of funds charged to benefit-payment accounts approximates the amount of payments made during January.