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Our Changing Economy: A BLS Centennial Chartbook



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U.S. Department of Labor
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Our Changing Economy: A BLS Centennial Chartbook

A century ago, in 1884, Congress established a Bureau of Labor—later named the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Bureau was to be a permanent and independent agency to “collect information” on the earnings and working conditions of “laboring men and women.” Founded almost 20 years before the Bureau of the Census was established, BLS was thus a forerunner of a Federal statistical establishment that now includes a number of agencies in departments and commissions throughout government.

The Bureau’s present program arose from clearly recognizable social needs. For example, during World War I,

the need to adjust wages in shipyards to rapidly rising prices led to the development of a cost-of-living measure that later became the Consumer Price Index. Other BLS programs developed in similar fashion to answer the needs of business, labor, Congress, and the public for information on economic and social trends. Today, the Bureau publishes a wide array of detailed data on the labor force, employment and unemployment, earnings and hours of work, prices and living conditions, industrial relations, productivity and economic growth, occupational injuries and illnesses, and related subjects.

This chartbook celebrates 100 years of BLS statistics. Some charts reveal the long continuity of the Bureau’s series; others show the agency’s response to recent demands for data on new or emerging economic phenomena. The booklet gives a graphic picture of some of the changes in the American economy during the past century. The Bureau’s regular publications, listed in the back of the book, contain more comprehensive and detailed information on changing economic trends.

The chartbook was prepared in the Office of Publications by Constance Bogh DiCesare, Chief of the Division of Special Publications, with the cooperation of the various program offices of the Bureau. Eugene H. Becker was the editor. Material in this publication is in the public domain and may, with appropriate credit, be reproduced without permission.

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The labor force grew rapidly in the past century

When the Bureau of Labor Statistics was created in 1884, the American labor force numbered 16 million persons. A century later, the Nation's work force had grown to over 110 million. Labor force growth came from different sources over the period. In the early decades, European immigrants swelled the work force. From 1910 to 1940, internal population growth accounted for most of the increase. Since 1950, the increasing proportion of women taking jobs outside the home has been an important contributor to labor force growth.

The labor force consists of employed and unemployed men and women

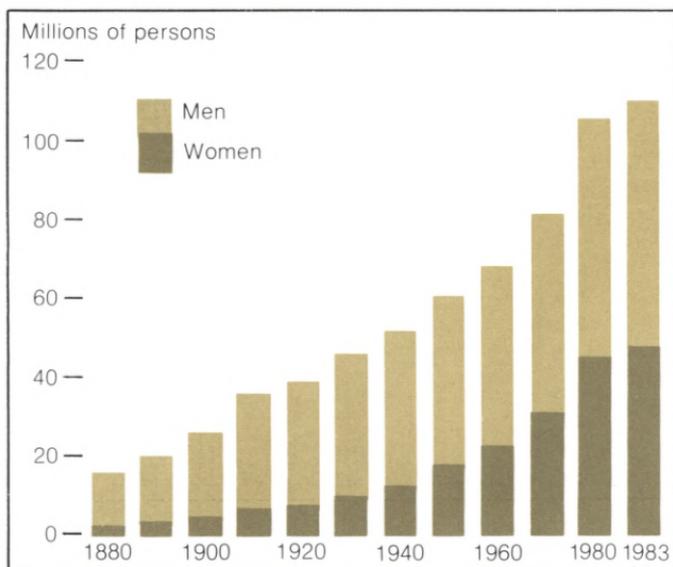


Chart 1. Civilian labor force by sex, selected years, 1880-1983

Women's labor force participation increased dramatically after 1950. By 1983, more than half of all women were in the labor force



Chart 2. Labor force participation rates by sex, selected years, 1890-1983

The rising proportion of women in the labor force has many implications

The proportion of women who are in the labor force has grown from one-third in 1950 to more than half today. Since 1970, nearly half of the increase has been among women age 25 to 34. In 1983, 1 out of 4 women workers was in this age group. In contrast, of the 32 million women who were full-time homemakers, 6 out of 10 were 45 years or older. Consistent with these developments has been a rise in the proportion of children with a mother in the labor force—to almost 60 percent of school-age children and 48 percent of preschoolers. Although participation rates for men continue to exceed those for women, the gap has narrowed considerably. Men were 2-½ times as likely as women to be in the labor force in 1950 but are only 1-½ times as likely today.

Fewer women are full-time housekeepers

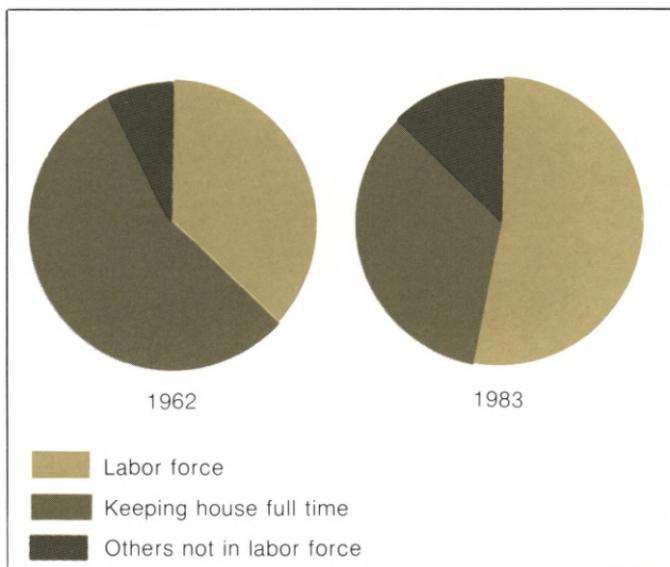


Chart 3. Labor force status of women, 1962 and 1983

Women can expect to spend more years in the labor market

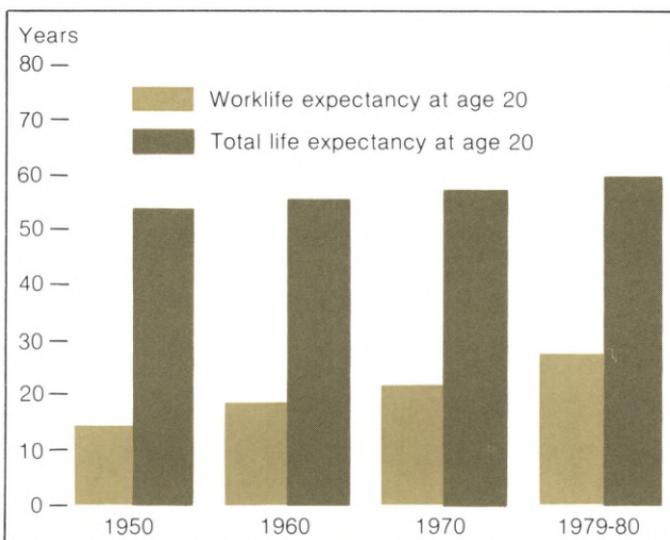


Chart 4. Life expectancy and worklife expectancy of women, selected years, 1950-80

Family patterns have continued to change

The composition and nature of American families changed very gradually from 1880 to the beginning of World War II. During the war, an unprecedented number of women took jobs outside the home, thus altering the traditional pattern of family life. A decline in fertility dating from the mid 1960's (along with changing attitudes about the role of women) further increased women's interest in working. The price inflation of recent years, coupled with rising expectations in living standards, also has enforced the trend toward two-earner, married-couple families, and there also has been an increase in the number of families maintained by women.

Nearly two-thirds of all married-couple families have 2 or more workers

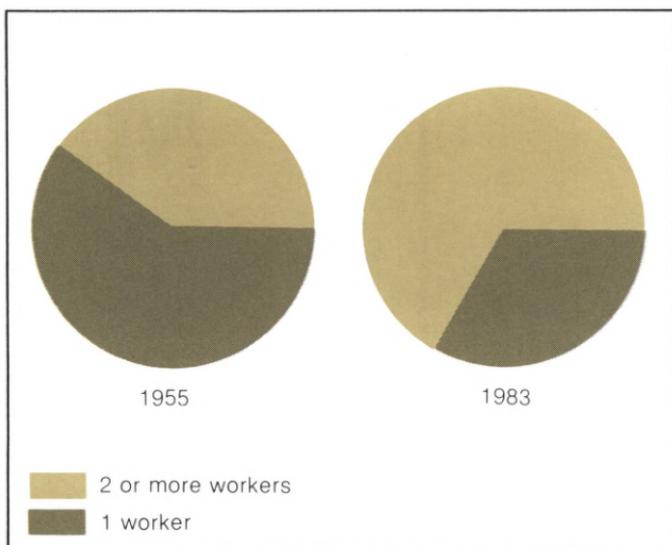


Chart 5. Married-couple families by number of workers, 1955 and 1983

The proportion of families maintained by women has increased

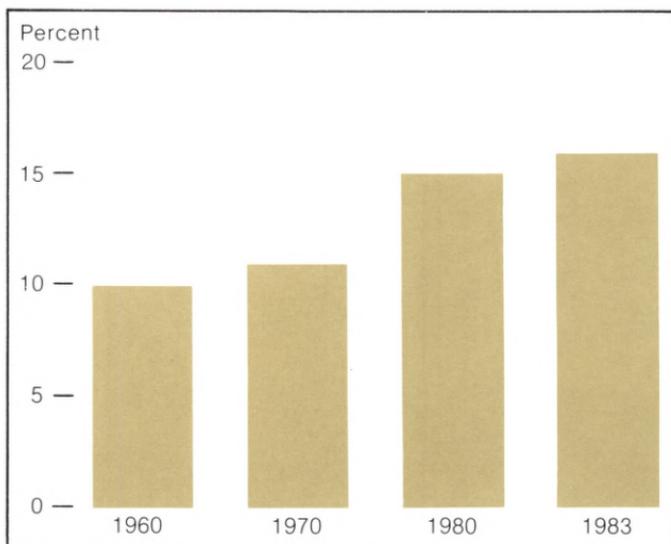


Chart 6. Families maintained by women as a percent of all families, 1960-83

Since 1900, employment growth has been shifting from industries that provide goods to those that furnish services

Most of the employment growth in the past three decades has been in industries which produce services rather than goods. Among the industries creating the greatest number of jobs since 1950 have been State and local government, trade, and services such as health care. In 1983, of the 90 million employees in nonfarm jobs, 67 million, or more than 7 out of 10, worked in service-producing industries.

The shift from goods to services was especially marked after 1950

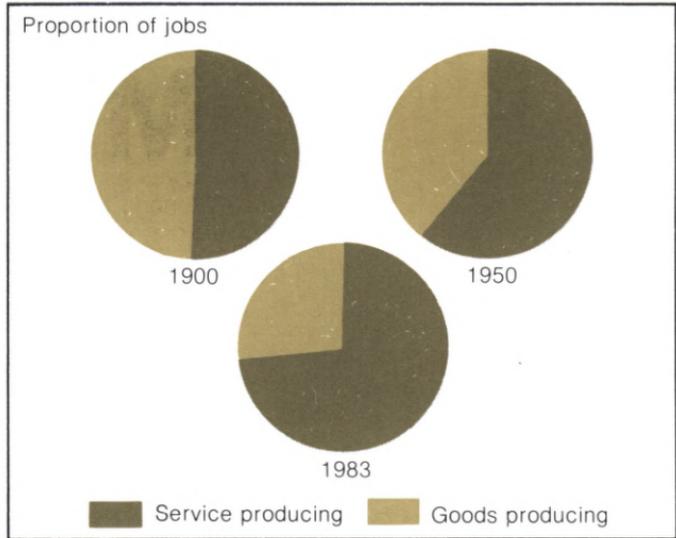


Chart 7. Nonagricultural employment by major economic sector, 1900, 1950, and 1983

Growth in service industries has spurred the expansion in clerical and professional jobs

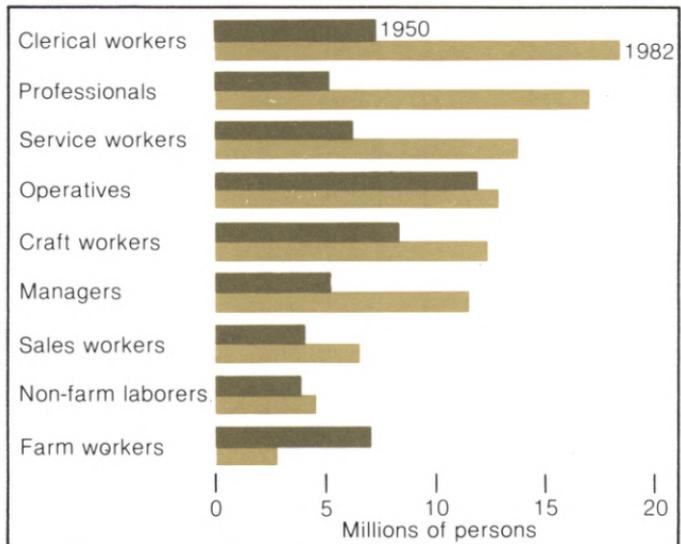
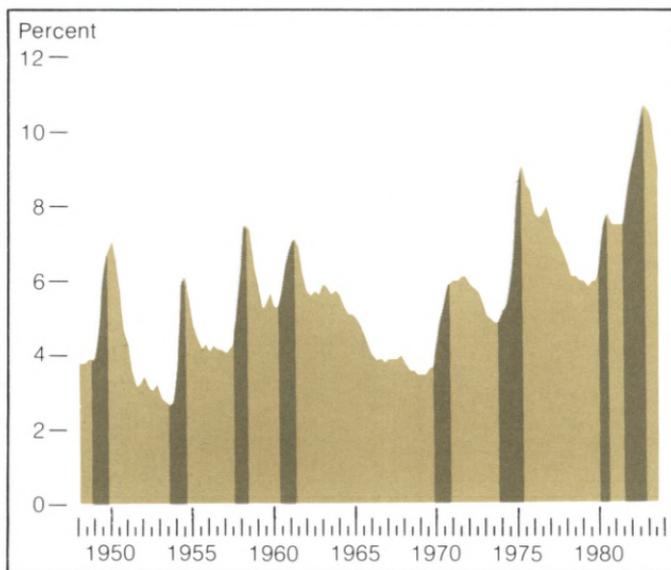


Chart 8. Employed workers by major occupations, 1950 and 1982

Sharp increases in unemployment have been a recurring problem

Since the end of World War II, there have been eight recessions. During each downturn, the rate of unemployment rose sharply and then usually declined markedly in the recovery phase of the business cycle. Improvements, however, generally failed to bring the unemployment rate completely back to prerecession levels. Thus, unemployment has had a long-term upward trend since 1970. In 1982, the unemployment rate rose to a record 10.7 percent; by June 1984, it had dropped to 7.1 percent.

The unemployment rate is primarily an indication of the amount of unused labor in the economy currently available



Note: Shaded areas represent recessions.

Chart 9. Civilian unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted, 1948-83

Some groups suffer more unemployment than others

The Nation's average unemployment rate is a good indicator of the overall health of the economy, but it tells only part of the story. Some groups suffer much more unemployment than others, whether the economy is prosperous or distressed.

Unemployment generally is more than twice as high among blacks as it is among whites, and is especially high among teenage blacks. Young people of all races suffer much more unemployment than adults over 35.

Unemployment also varies among regions. It tends to be higher in the heavily industrialized States east of the Mississippi than in the rest of the country. It varies, too, by industry. Workers in goods-producing industries, such as steel and autos, and in construction, experience greater unemployment than do workers in service industries such as banking.

Minorities and youth are vulnerable

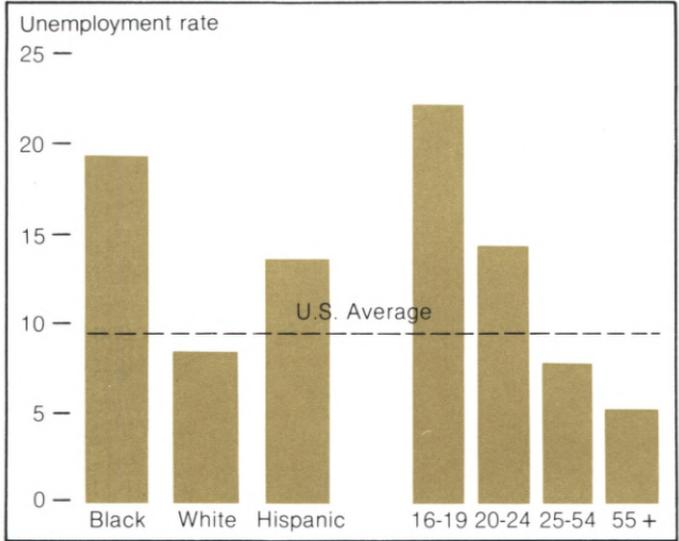


Chart 10. Unemployment rates by race, Hispanic origin, and age, 1983

School dropouts are at risk

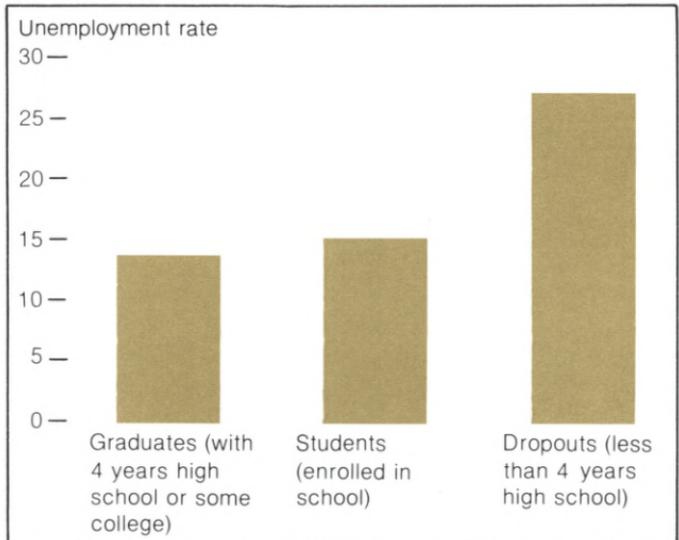


Chart 11. Unemployment rates of youth 16-24 years of age by school enrollment and years of school completed, October 1983

Today's workers produce five times as much in an hour as workers did early in the century

In the 100 years since the BLS was founded, American workers have steadily increased the quantity of goods and services they produce in an hour. Advances in technology, greater capital investment, and the increasing skill and education of workers all have contributed to this rise in productivity.

Since the early 1900's, worker productivity has risen an average of 2.5 percent a year, but movements over shorter spans have deviated from this trend. Between 1947 and 1973, productivity advanced 3 percent a year. In the past decade, however, the rate slowed to just above 1 percent.

Productivity has grown strongly over the past 7½ decades

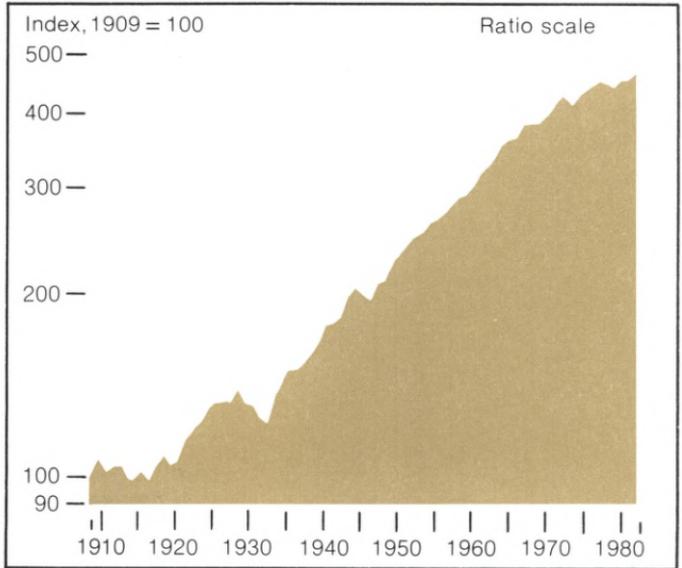


Chart 12. Output per hour, private sector economy, 1909-83

New ways to measure productivity have increased our understanding of changes in worker output

Early in the century, the Bureau of Labor Statistics began measuring what a worker produces in an hour on the job. This way of measuring productivity rests on the relationship of output to a single input—worker hours. Last year, the Bureau began publishing a new productivity measure that relates what workers produce to the combined input of their labor and of capital investment.

This measure, a multifactor productivity yardstick, sheds additional light on the rise in American worker output since World War II. Between 1948 and 1982, multifactor productivity in private business grew about 1.4 percent a year. The first 25 years of that period saw rapid improvement (2-percent) annual growth) followed by deceleration (no growth from 1973 on).

Multifactor productivity indexes take account of capital as well as labor inputs

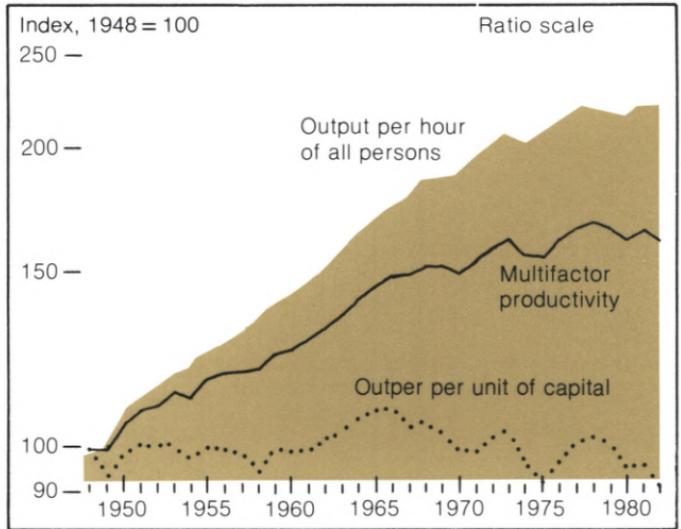


Chart 13. Output per hour of all persons, output per unit of capital, and multifactor productivity, private business sector, 1948-82

Productivity is an important determinant of prices and costs

Prices, costs, and productivity relate to one another in complex ways. Since 1960, price and cost trends have moved in an opposite direction from productivity changes. Hourly compensation rose more after the mid-1960's than before, while the rate of productivity improvement slowed. As a result, unit labor costs accelerated. This inverse relationship continued in 1983, a year when productivity improvements were accompanied by a slowing of unit labor cost increases.

A generally opposite relationship also exists between price changes and productivity changes in industries. For example, between 1960 and 1981, prices declined or rose slowly for hosiery, telephone communication, and radio and TV sets, while productivity rose in these industries at above-average rates. In contrast, prices climbed strongly for footwear, steel, and wood office furniture—industries where productivity change over the period was comparatively low.

Unit labor costs tend to rise when productivity growth slows

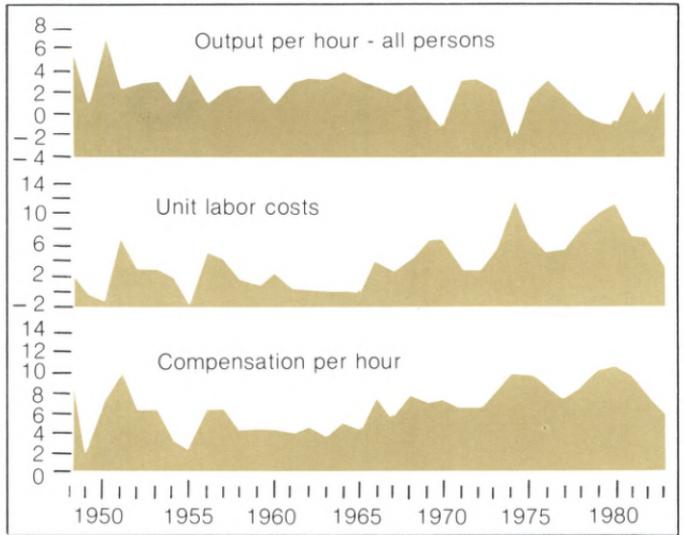


Chart 14. Output per hour of all persons, unit labor costs, and compensation in the business sector, 1948-83

Prices generally rise more rapidly when productivity increases slowly

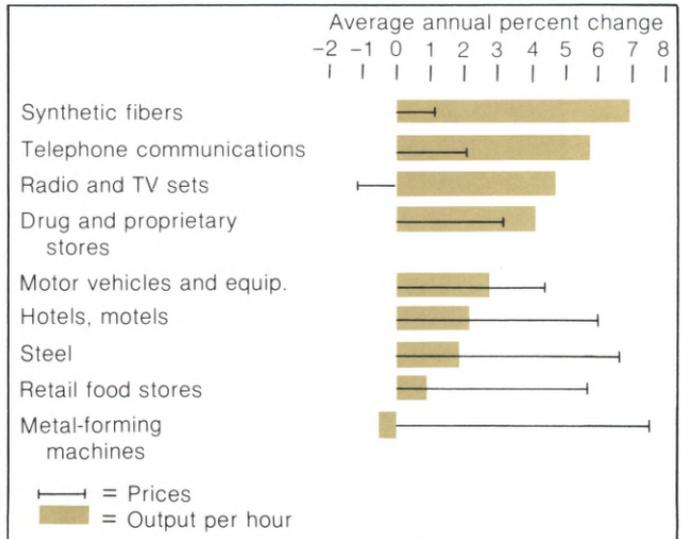


Chart 15. Output per employee hour and prices, average annual percent change selected industries, 1960-81

Collective bargaining contributes to changing pay patterns

Since the early 1900's, membership in a union (or coverage under a collective bargaining agreement) generally has resulted in pay levels that are higher than those of nonunion workers. Differences in the rates of increase in pay of union and nonunion workers, as measured by the Bureau's Employment Cost Index, were especially large in 1980, a year of double-digit inflation. The high inflation rate triggered large cost-of-living increases for workers covered by union contracts. More recently, increases in prices and rates of pay have slowed for all workers.

Historically, wage differences between skilled and unskilled craftworkers have been substantial, but over the past several decades they have narrowed considerably. For example, in the building construction trades, journeymen's wages were about double those of unskilled workers at the turn of the century; by the early 1960's, the difference had narrowed to about a third and has stabilized at about that level.

Wage increases generally have been greater for unionized workers

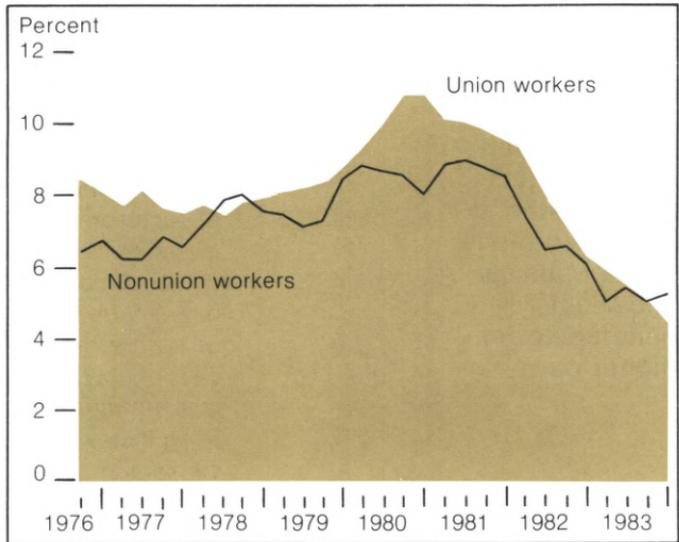


Chart 16. Percent changes in wages and salaries by union status, Employment Cost Index, 1976-83

The gap in wages between skilled and unskilled union workers has grown smaller

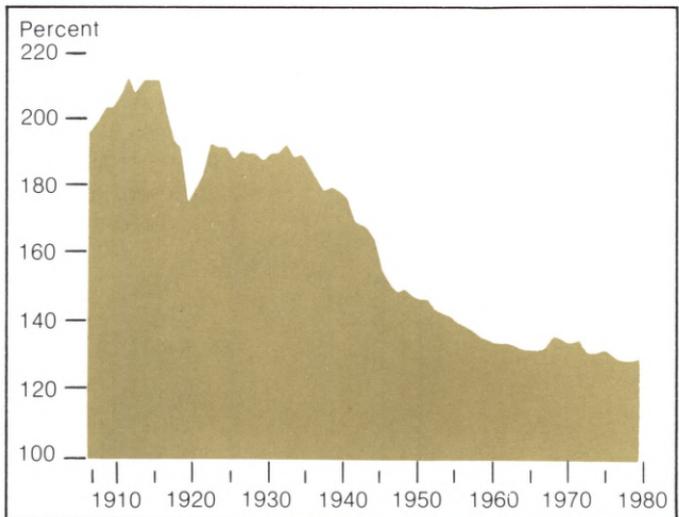


Chart 17. Average union wage rates for journeymen as a percent of rates for helpers and laborers, building construction, 1907-80

Many factors influence a worker's pay

Geographic location of the job can be a prime factor in what a worker earns. Larger metropolitan areas and those in the Midwest and West generally offer higher pay.

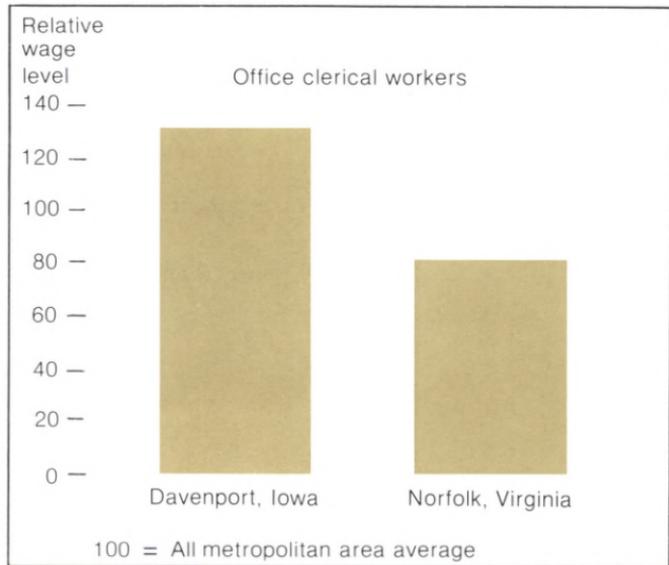


Chart 18. Geographic location as a wage level determinant, 1982

Women workers generally earn less than the average for their industry. This is true in high-paying industries as well as those with lower wage scales.

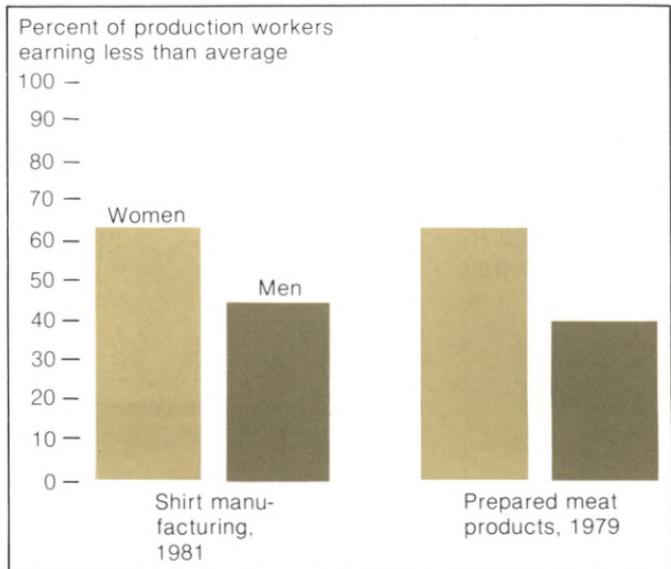


Chart 19. Sex as a wage level determinant, 1979 and 1981

The industrial location of a job can have more influence on pay than the work itself

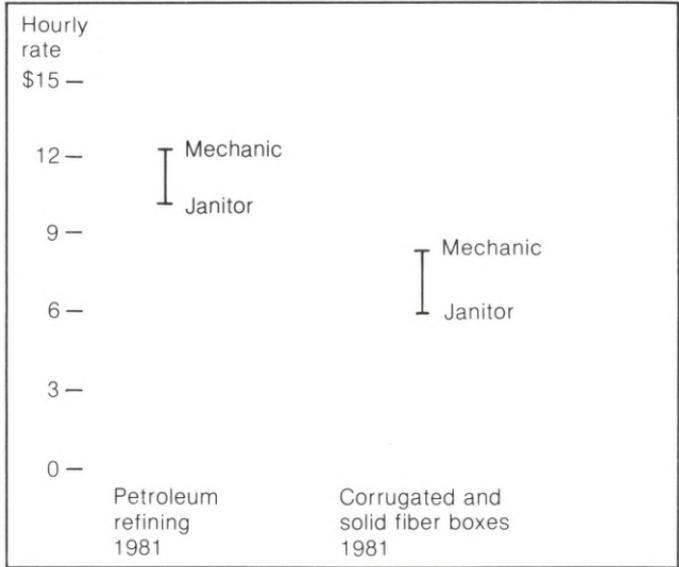


Chart 20. Industry as a wage level determinant, 1981

Skill and experience are important determinants of wages. Workers at the same skill level in different jobs often earn comparable pay.

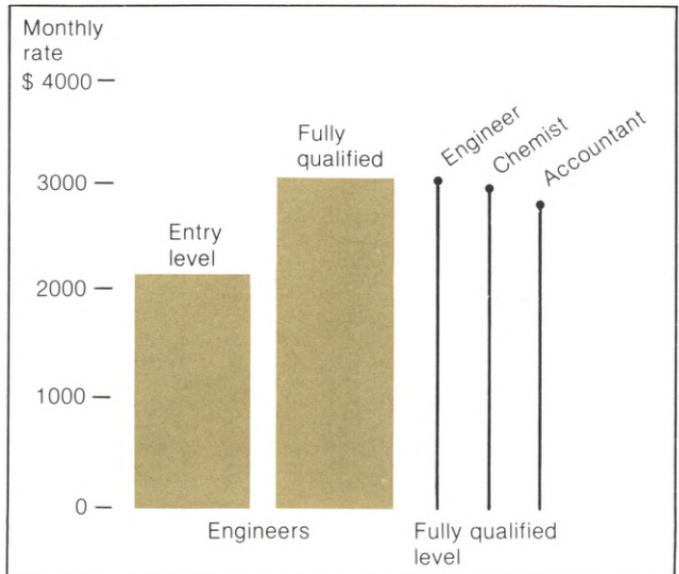


Chart 21. Skill as a wage level determinant, 1983

Changes in purchasing power reflect the greater volatility of price rather than wages

Workers have received pay increases in all but a handful of years during the past century. However, because increases in purchasing power depend not only on changes in workers' pay but also on the prices of goods and services they consume, purchasing power has not necessarily grown with each pay increase. Since the mid-1970's, wage gains have fallen behind price increases, resulting in a decline in a worker's purchasing power, as measured by the Employment Cost Index adjusted for changes in the Consumer Price Index. The bulk of the decline, however, occurred between 1978 and 1981. Workers began to recover lost purchasing power late in 1981 as wage gains slowed but as price increases declined even faster.

Workers' purchasing power increased in 1976-77 and again in 1982-83

Note: Shaded area represents change in purchasing power.

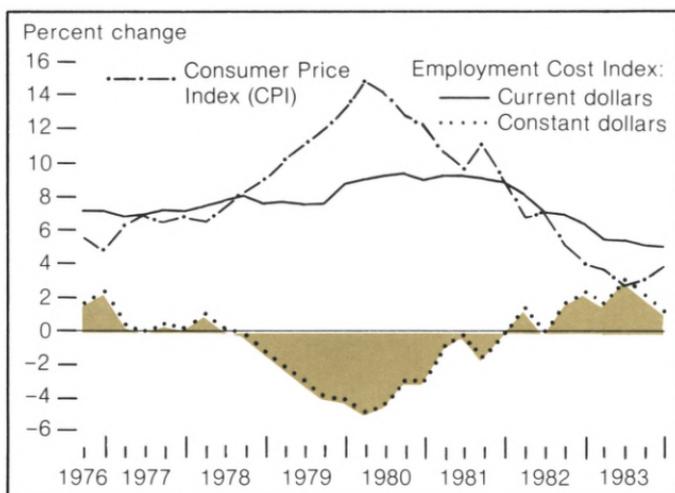


Chart 22. Percent change in the Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries of private industry workers and in the Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1976-83

Workers' pay and benefits frequently include some protection against catastrophic medical expenses

Employee benefits, such as paid leave, health, insurance, and retirement programs, have been increasing their share of compensation in the post-World War II era. Currently, they make up at least 25 percent of the wage and benefit package. Of these benefits, major medical insurance plans have registered among the largest gains. Such plans, geared toward catastrophic illness or injury, now cover 175 million people, up from 100,000 some 30 years earlier.

Major medical plans are a popular supplement to workers' pay

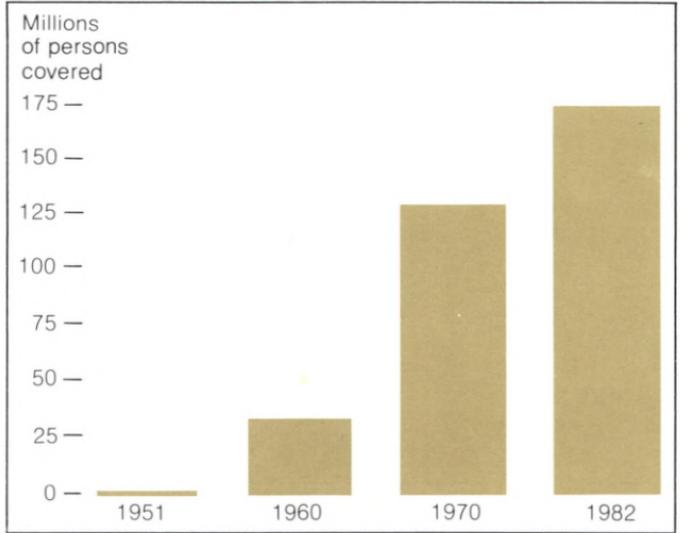


Chart 23. Workers and dependents covered by major medical plans, selected years, 1951-82

Wages of many union workers are changed each year under cost-of-living adjustments

As 1984 began, the wages of almost three-fifths of the nearly 8 million workers covered under major collective bargaining agreements were subject to automatic cost-of-living adjustments (COLA's). A decade earlier, less than a third were covered by COLA clauses.

Historically, COLA's have helped to recover some of the purchasing power that has been lost as a result of price increases. Typically, one-half to two-thirds of the rise is recovered when a COLA is triggered. (However, some COLA clauses decrease wages when prices fall.) The size of the adjustment depends on several factors, including the formula used to calculate the COLA—this may include a “cap” on the size of the COLA—and the timing of the COLA review process. COLA's generally go into effect after the CPI has changed by an amount specified in the collective bargaining agreement.

The percentage of union workers covered by COLA's has been fairly constant since 1976

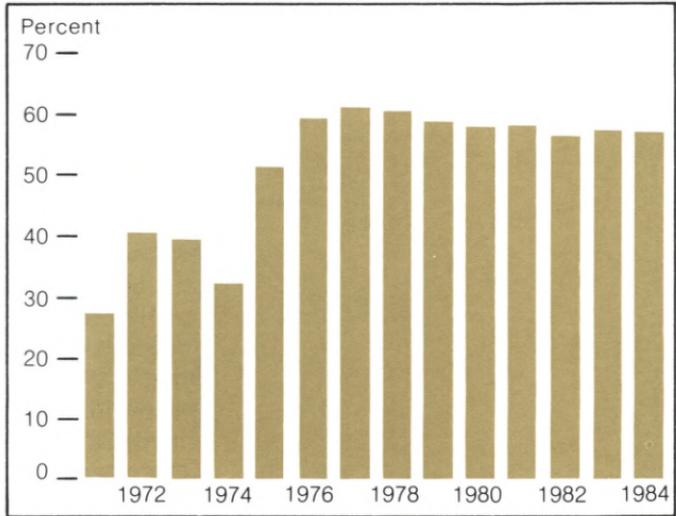


Chart 24. Percent of workers covered by COLA clauses in collective bargaining agreements covering 1,000 workers or more, 1971-84

Although union membership has continued to grow, it has not kept pace with the increase in the labor force

Passage in 1935 of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA)—which guaranteed the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively—marked the beginning of the rapid growth of unions in the United States. By the end of World War II, U.S. union membership had quadrupled to almost 15 million. Over the following decades, membership grew at a much slower pace—to about 20 million in 1980.

Despite this expansion in numbers, union membership has failed to keep up with the growth of the labor force. Union representation in the labor force in 1980, at about 18 percent, was at its lowest level since 1942.

Union membership alone is no longer an accurate measure of the number of workers represented by labor organizations. Since the early 1960's, professional and government employee associations increasingly have shifted to bargaining activities. Together, unions and employee associations counted 22.4 million U.S. workers as members, about one-fifth of the labor force.

Federal law provided the impetus for union growth in the 1930's

Note: Starting in 1968, includes members of employee associations.

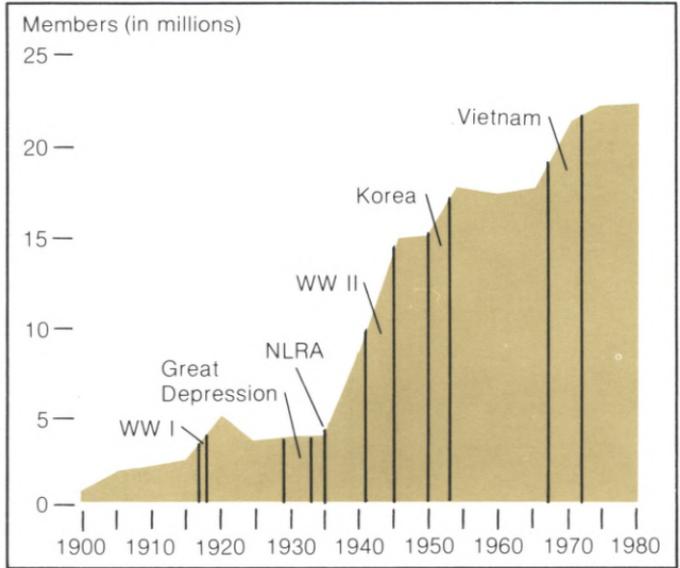
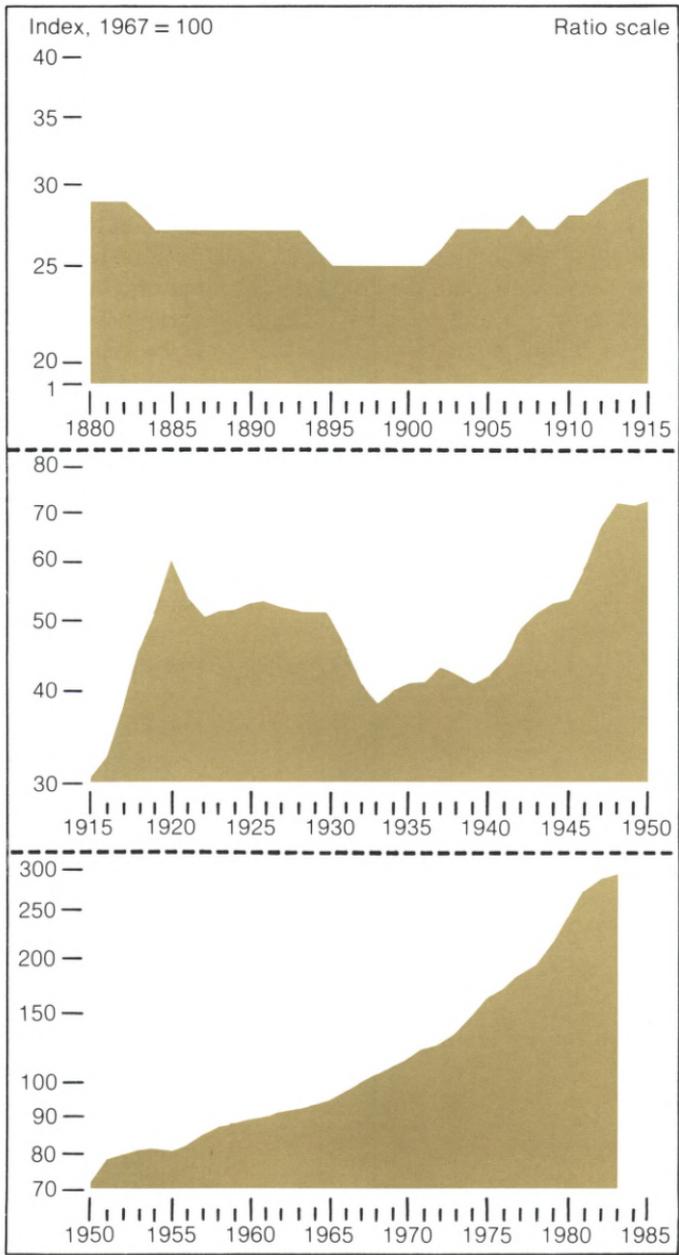


Chart 25. Union membership in the U.S., 1900-1980

The trend of consumer prices has changed over the century

Consumer prices were fairly stable from 1880 until the eve of World War I. After the war-induced inflation, prices fell and declined further during the depression of the 1930's. But since the start of World War II, prices have risen almost continuously, though the annual increases were small during the 1953-55 period and the early 1960's.

Consumer prices have risen almost continuously since 1940 in contrast to the ups and downs of earlier years



Note: Data before 1973 are estimated from several sources

Chart 26: Consumer Price Index, 1880-1983

The pace of inflation has varied from year to year

Since 1960, there have been three big spurts in consumer prices—one during the Vietnam conflict, one following the oil embargo of 1973, and the third during the Iranian crisis. Inflation reached a peak of more than 14 percent in mid-1980.

Such inflationary surges generally reflect a sudden increase in the demand for goods and services, a sharp drop in supply, a failure of supply to

keep up with the economy's growth, or a combination of these changes. International events have clearly contributed to supply shortages (the worldwide food crisis of 1973-74 and the oil cutbacks) and to increases in demand (the Vietnam war and other defense expenditures). But domestic factors—such as government fiscal and monetary policies and the rate of wage increases—are of fundamental importance.

One measure of inflation is the Consumer Price Index, produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It is a monthly measure of what consumers pay for a fixed market basket of goods and services that is representative of almost everything consumers buy. Three components of that index have been especially sensitive to changes in economic conditions—energy, food, and shelter costs.

The slowdown in the rate of inflation since 1981 has reflected the sharp slump in the demand for energy and the slow decline in the increase of food prices during a worldwide economic recession.

International events have had a strong influence on the CPI

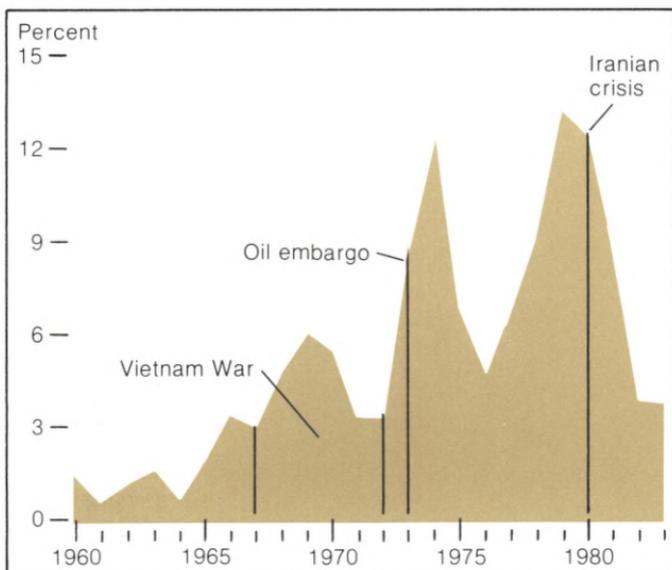
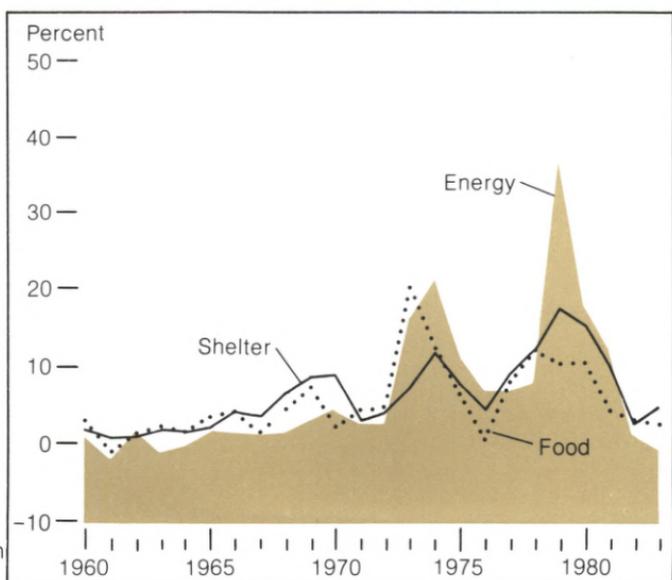


Chart 27. Annual rate of change in CPI, 1960-83

Energy, food, and shelter prices have had a big impact



Note: Rates of change in charts 27 and 28 are measured over 12-month spans.

Chart 28. Annual rate of change in CPI components, 1960-83

Variations in the prices of some 300 items are reflected in the CPI

Price changes for individual items and groups of items may vary substantially from the average. Medical care prices, for example, have risen over twice as much as clothing prices since 1967.

Changes in medical care prices or apparel prices have much less effect on the CPI than a change of the same magnitude in housing prices because housing is a much more important item in the household budget. During both the 1973-74 and 1978-81 periods of double-digit inflation, food, energy, and shelter prices accounted for two-thirds of the increase in the CPI. It was the increase in food prices that had the greatest effect on the index in earlier years and the rise in shelter prices that had the greatest effect in 1978-81.

Similarly, the slowdown in the rise of energy, food, and shelter prices accounted for most of the slowdown in the CPI that began in 1981. Prices of other items also rose less.

Medical care, housing, and transport prices have risen faster than other prices

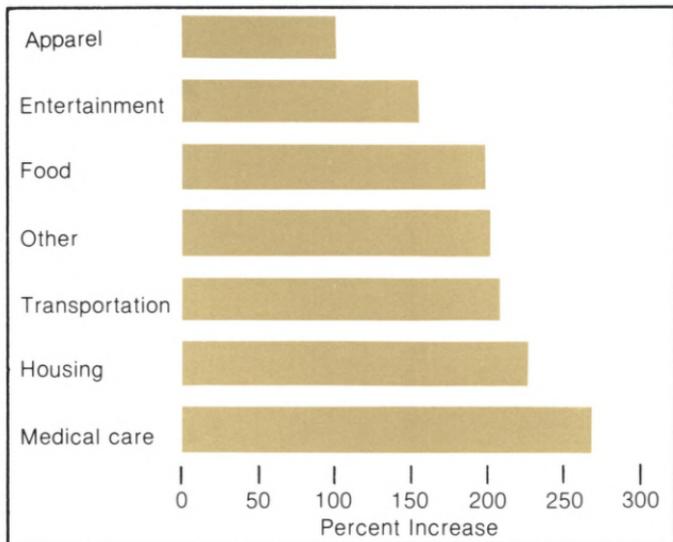


Chart 29. Percent increases for major expenditure groups from 1967 through 1983

Housing is the biggest expenditure in the CPI market basket

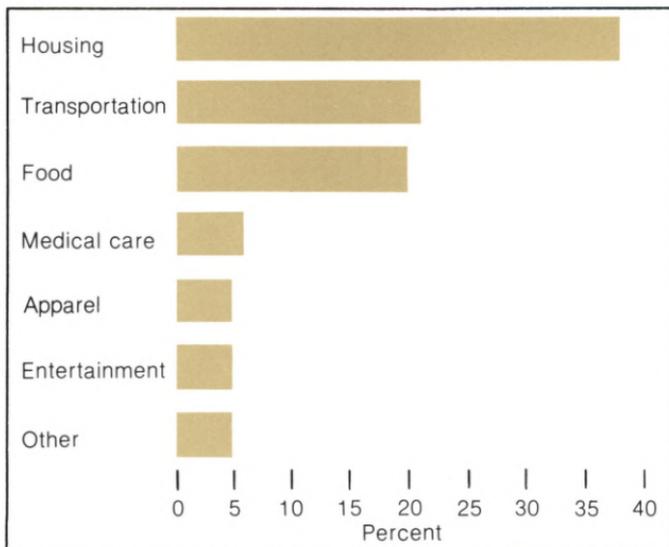


Chart 30. Relative importance of major expenditure groups, December 1983

Consumers have been changing their food buying habits

American families have been spending a smaller share of their budgets on food than they did in the past. A century ago, nearly half of the average spending dollar went for food; in recent years, less than a fourth, leaving a larger share for shelter, recreation, and other items. But families in the lower income bracket (the bottom 20 percent) still spend more than 40 percent of their income on food. Meals away from home (restaurants) now account for almost a third of the total food budget of all families.

Data on consumer spending are now being obtained by BLS in a program of continuing surveys launched during 1980-81.

Consumers have been spending less of their income on food, but spending more of their food budget in restaurants

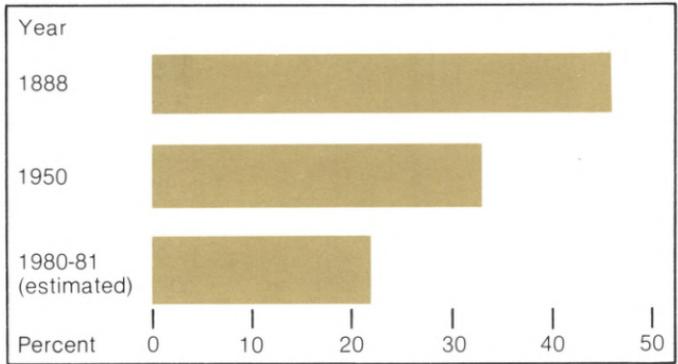


Chart 31. Food spending as a percent of family income, selected years

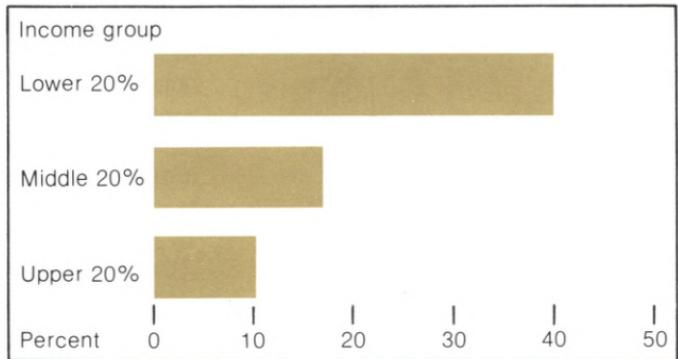


Chart 32. Food expenditures by income group, 1981

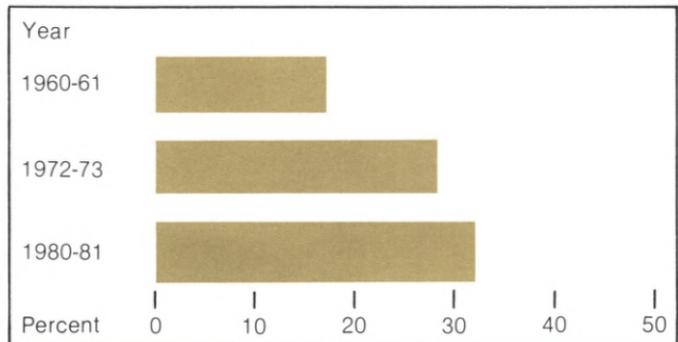


Chart 33. Food away from home as percent of all food expenditures, selected periods

The producer price index is used as a principal indicator of economic trends

The Bureau's Producer Price Indexes are important measures of inflation. The stage of processing indexes, particularly the Finished Goods Price Index, facilitate the analysis of inflationary movements throughout the economy. They also permit the tracing of the effects of government price stabilization efforts and wage and price policies directed at specific industries. Private business firms use PPI data in forecasting, in market analysis, and in comparing their costs with the prices they receive for their products with national averages. But one of the more important uses of PPI data by businesses is as an escalator in long-term sales and purchase contracts.

Raw material prices are more volatile and generally rise faster than prices for intermediate or finished goods

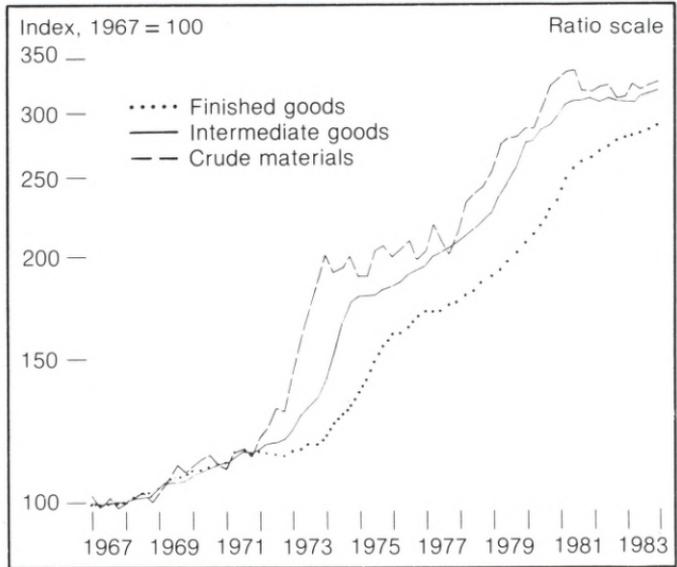


Chart 34. Produce price indexes by stage of processing, 1967-83

Changes in producer prices for finished goods are a barometer of inflation in the overall economy

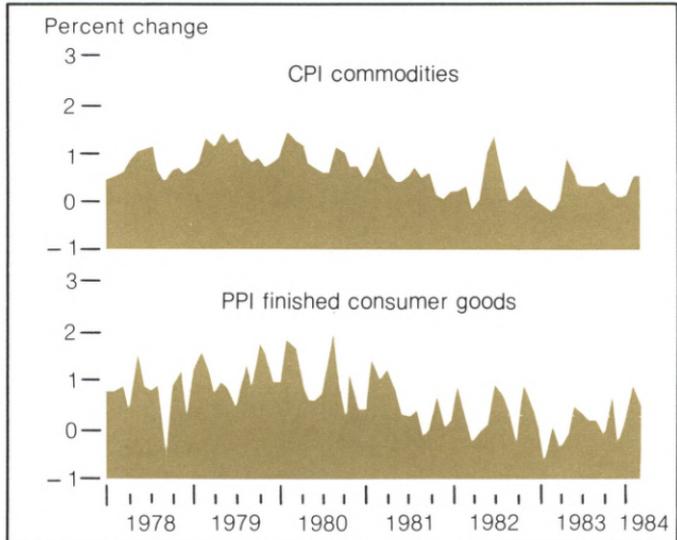


Chart 35. Retail and producer price changes for consumer goods, 1968-83

Import and export price indexes are used to analyze American price competitiveness

Over the past two decades, the United States has greatly increased its sales to foreign countries and its purchases from them. Exports of merchandise rose from 8 to 15 percent of the Nation's output of goods. The rise in imports was even greater—from 6 to 19 percent.

The rapid growth of foreign trade has made it increasingly necessary to measure changes in prices of imported and exported merchandise, because these prices (along with changes in the value of the dollar in terms of foreign currencies) greatly influence the flow of trade, and also have an effect on price levels in the U.S. economy. But until the 1980's, the United States did not have comprehensive indexes covering all imports and exports of merchandise.

Comprehensive indexes now are being issued by the BLS and provide better information on price trends of exports and imports. They also are important tools in the escalation of contracts where imported or exported products represent a substantial share of total cost, and in other economic studies.

The relationship between prices and the exchange rate value of the dollar is illustrated by data on the machinery and equipment industry, which accounts for more than a third of U.S. merchandise exports. The increasing value of the dollar since 1980 has meant that it buys more in the world market than it did earlier. At the same time, the decline in the value of foreign currencies has made it more costly for other countries to buy from the United States. This trend has tended to discourage foreign buyers of U.S. goods and exerted pressure on U.S. exporters to hold prices steady; it also has increased the attractiveness to foreigners of selling in the U.S. market and put downward pressure on U.S. import prices. During the 1970's, however, when the value of the dollar generally was declining in terms of foreign currencies, there was a growing incentive for foreigners to buy U.S. products, and a declining incentive for them to sell products in the U.S. market.

The importance of foreign trade has doubled since 1960

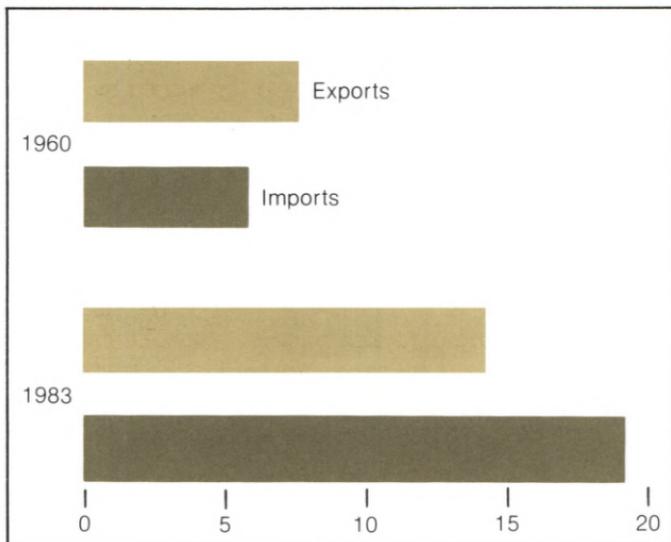


Chart 36. Exports and imports as a percent of Gross National Product, 1960 and 1983

The increasing value of the U.S. dollar drives up prices of U.S. exports in foreign currencies

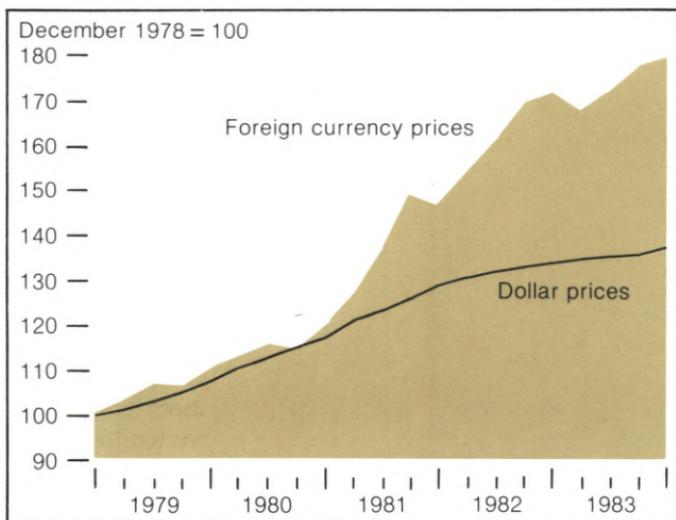


Chart 37. Price indexes of exports of machinery and transportation equipment in U.S. dollars and in foreign currencies, 1979-83

Occupational injury and illness rates have fallen over the past decade, especially in the goods-producing sector

Since 1972, when the Bureau began a new statistical series on occupational injuries and illnesses for private industry, the total injury and illness incidence rate declined despite a sizeable increase in employment. On average, 1 in 13 workers was injured or became ill in 1982 compared with 1 in 10 in 1972. However, there has been virtually no change in the rate of occurrence of lost workday cases.

The total injury and illness rate in the goods-producing sector has been about double the rate in the service-producing sector. Traditionally, factory work and construction jobs have contributed the lion's share to these high rates. Nevertheless, since 1979, there has even been a drop in the rates in the construction and manufacturing industries.

Except for transportation and public utilities, where rates are comparable to the goods-producing industries, incidence rates in the service-producing industries have remained almost stable. In fact, because many industries in this sector have a low risk of injury or illness, they are exempt from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's general record-keeping requirements.

But despite the overall decline, there were still almost 5 million job-related injuries and recognized illnesses in 1982.

The incidence of lost workday cases has remained virtually unchanged over the decade

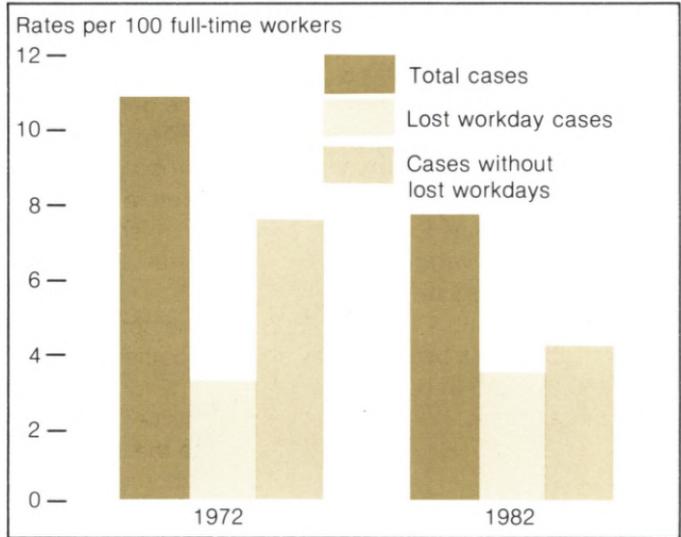


Chart 38. Occupational injury and illness incidence rates in the private sector, 1972 and 1982

Workers in goods-producing industries face a greater chance of injury or illness on the job than service-producing workers

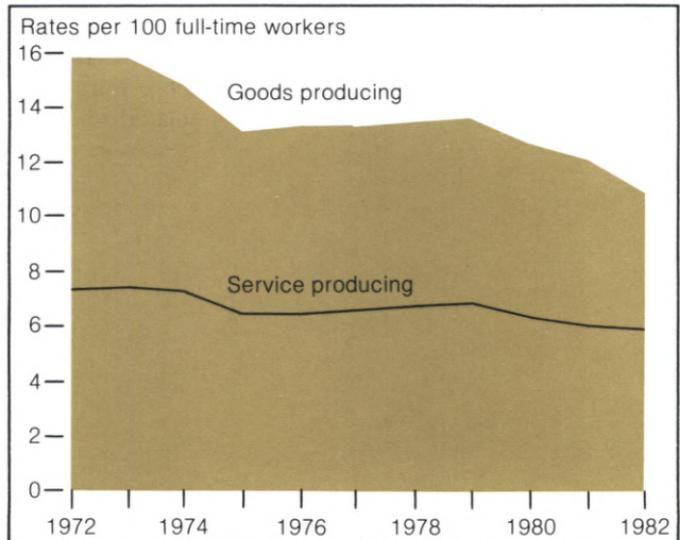


Chart 39. Occupational injury and illness rates by major industry sector, 1972-82

The next decade will bring a slowdown in labor force growth and an increase in jobs in the services industries

Labor force growth is expected to slow through 1995 in contrast to the increases registered from 1970 to 1982. Fewer persons reached working age in recent years because the high birth rates of the 1950's and early 1960's have not been sustained. In addition, fewer teenagers are entering the labor force than in previous years, a trend likely to continue. While women's labor force participation is the highest it has ever been, the rate of increase has begun to slow, especially among those who are 20 to 44 years old.

The continuing shift from goods-producing to service-producing jobs, begun several decades ago, will grow even more pronounced over the next 10 years. Manufacturing still will, however, be an important source of new jobs in the years ahead.

During the late 1980's and early 1990's, labor force growth will be largely among 25-to-54-year olds with declines falling heaviest on older and younger men

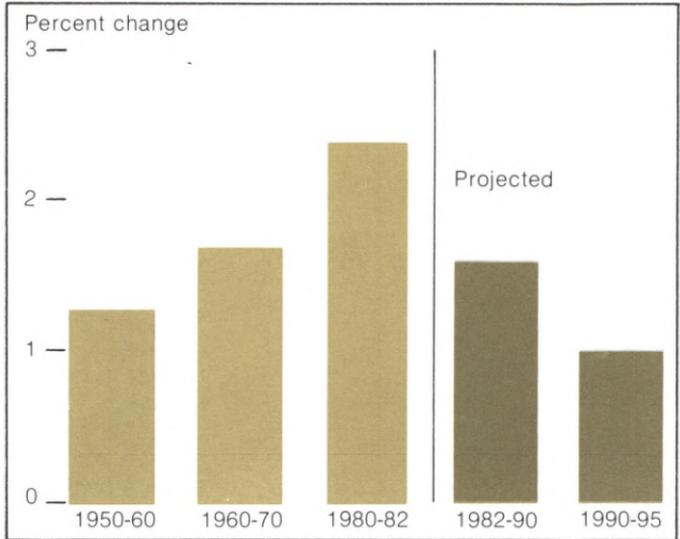


Chart 40. Annual rate of labor force change, 1950-82 and projected 1982-95

Industries providing services employ more people than those providing goods and will continue to do so in future years

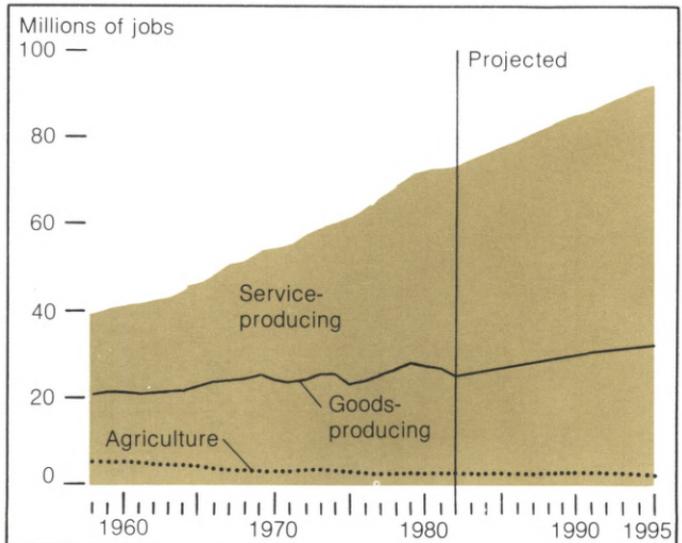


Chart 41. Employment by major economic sector, 1955-82 and projected 1982-95

Projected growth of major occupations will follow past patterns

Professional and technical jobs will continue their rapid expansion and will account for the largest numerical increase in jobs among the major occupational groups. Clerical jobs also will have a large numerical increase over this period. Although growth rates for these workers are expected to be only average, clerical jobs will continue to employ more workers than any other major group. Farm workers are expected to continue their long term decline.

Technological change will continue to have a significant affect on occupational growth. The continuing development of computer technology and the increasing use of computers in a wide variety of functions, for example, will have a significant effect on growth among detailed occupations. Five of the ten occupations expected to have the fastest growth from 1982 to 1995 are directly associated with the computer.

Half of the 10 fastest growing occupations will be in computer fields

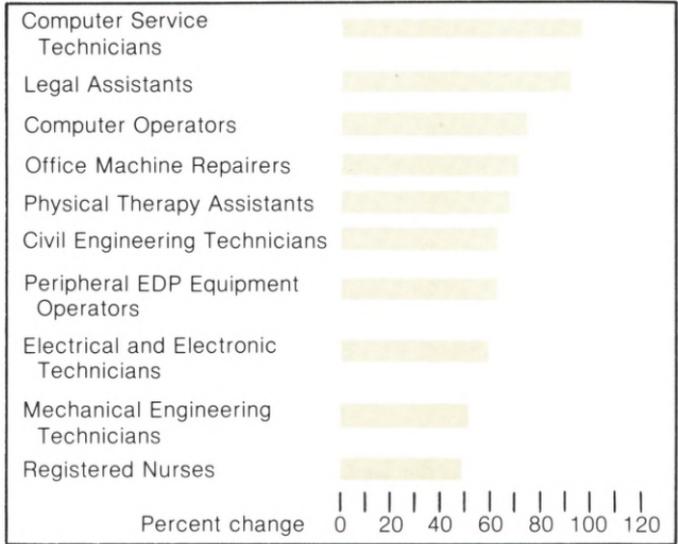


Chart 42. Occupations projected to have the fastest growth, 1982-95

Between 1982 and 1995, professional/technical, clerical and sales occupations will experience the largest growth

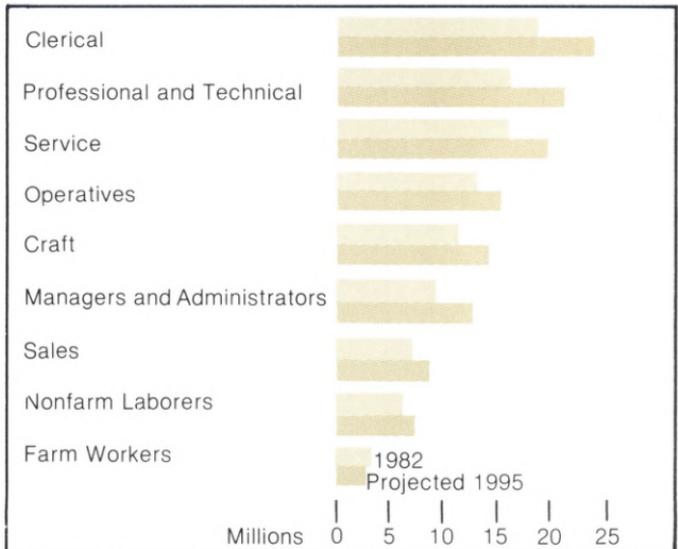


Chart 43. Employment by major occupation group, 1982 and projected 1995

A note on sources

Current data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, represented by the charts in this bulletin, are available from a variety of sources. These include the Bureau's news releases, periodicals, bulletins and reports, and its file of unpublished data contained in the Bureau's computer data banks. To assist the reader in locating more information on BLS programs, including analytical articles, technical program descriptions, and detailed statistical compilations, the references found here have been organized by source.

NEWS RELEASES

Employee Benefits (annual)
Employment Cost Index (quarterly)
Major Collective Bargaining Settlements (quarterly)
Multifactor Productivity Indexes (annual)
Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (annual)
Producer Price Indexes (monthly)
Productivity and Costs: Nonfarm Business, and Manufacturing Sectors (quarterly)
Productivity and Costs: Nonfinancial Corporate Sector (quarterly)
Real Earnings (monthly)
State and Metropolitan Area Unemployment (monthly)
The Consumer Price Index (monthly)
The Employment Situation (monthly)
U.S. Export and Import Price Indexes (quarterly)

PERIODICALS

CPI Detailed Report. Provides current data on consumer price movements and rates of change as well as technical notes and charts. (monthly)

Current Wage Developments. Presents current information and analytical articles on employee compensation, collective bargaining activities, and statistical summaries of wage and benefit changes and work stoppages. (monthly)

Employment and Earnings. In addition to articles describing the most recent statistical procedures in the employment and unemployment statistics programs, contains current detailed data on the labor force, earnings, employment, unemployment, and various worker characteristics. (monthly)

Employment in Perspective: Minority Workers. Provides latest quarterly data on the employment situation of workers who are black, of Hispanic origin, and white. Data are disaggregated by sex. (quarterly)

Employment in Perspective: Working Women. Provides latest data on the employment characteristics of working women, including their labor force participation rates, employment status, unemployment rates, and family status. Most data are disaggregated by age. (quarterly)

Monthly Labor Review. Contains the results of BLS research, analytical articles, regular monthly departments, and current statistics on employment and unemployment, prices, wages, and productivity. (monthly)

Occupational Outlook Quarterly. Provides information on new occupations, training opportunities, salary trends, and career counseling programs.

Producer Prices and Price Indexes. Includes price movements on both farm and industrial goods, by industry and stage of processing as well as technical notes. (monthly)

U.S. Department of State Indexes of Living Costs Abroad, Quarters Allowances, and Hardship Differentials. Contains data for foreign cities computed by the Department of State to establish allowances to compensate American civilian government employees for costs and hardships related to organizations to assist in establishing compensation systems.

BULLETINS AND REPORTS

A BLS Reader on Productivity, Bulletin 2171, June 1983

A Century of Change in Boston Family Consumption Patterns (New England Regional Office) Regional Report 79-5, 1979

Analysis of Work Stoppages (Annual Bulletins; publication discontinued with the release of 1980 data.)

Bargaining Calendar (annual bulletin.)

BLS Economic Growth Model System Used For Projections to 1990, Bulletin 2112, 1982

BLS Handbook of Methods, Vol. I, Bulletin 2134-I, Dec. 1982

Labor Force	Chapters 1-3
Prices and Living Conditions	Chapters 6-8
Wages and Industrial Relations	Chapters 9-12
Productivity and Technology	Chapters 13-16
Occupational Safety and Health	Chapter 17

BLS Handbook of Methods, Vol. II, Bulletin 2134-2, April 1984, The Consumer Price Index

BLS Machine-readable Data and Tabulating Routines, Report 620, 1981

BLS Publications on Productivity and Technology, Report 671, Oct. 1982

Directory of National Unions and Employee Associations, Bulletin 2079, Sept. 1980

Employment Projections for 1995, Bulletin 2197, 1984

Escalation and Producer Price Indexes: A Guide for Contracting Parties, Report 570, 1979

Handbook of Labor Statistics, Bulletin 2175, Dec. 1983

Industry Wage Surveys: (Various industries and dates; BLS Bulletin series.)

Labor Force Statistics Derived from the Current Population Survey: A Databook, Vols. I and II. Bulletin 2096, Sept. 1982

National Survey of Professional, Administrative, Technical, and Clerical Pay, March 1983, Bulletin 2181, 1983

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in the United States by Industry, Bulletin 2164, 1983

Perspectives on Working Women: A Databook, Bulletin 2080, Oct. 1980

Productivity and the Economy: A Chartbook, Bulletin 2172, June 1983

Productivity Measures for Selected Industries, 1954-82, Bulletin 2189, Dec. 1983

Special Labor Force Reports, (Reprints from the *Monthly Labor Review* covering various aspects of the labor force; includes detailed tables not published in the Review.) Bulletin 2192, "Students, Dropouts, and Graduates," Dec. 1983

Tables of Working Life: The Increment-Decrement Model, Bulletin 2135, Nov. 1982

Trends in Multifactor Productivity, 1948-81, Bulletin 2178, Sept. 1983

Union Wages and Benefits: Building Trades, July 1980, Bulletin 2091

Consumer Expenditure Survey: Diary Survey, 1980-81, Bulletin 2173, 1983

Wage Differences Among Metropolitan Areas, 1982, Summary 83-5, 1983

OTHER DATA SOURCES

National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, 1982 to 1995 Alternatives (Published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics but available only from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.)

U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1957*, Washington, D.C., 1960

Urban U.S., A Study of Consumer Expenditures, Incomes and Surveys, Vol. XVIII, University of Pennsylvania, 1957

1982-83 Source Book of Health Insurance Data, Health Insurance Association of America, 1983

How to obtain BLS data

News releases

News releases are available without charge from the Bureau's regional offices listed in this publication and from Inquiries and Correspondence, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C. 20212. Regular mailings of releases on specific subjects are available upon request to be put on the mailing list.

Periodicals

Subscriptions to the Bureau's periodicals may be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Single copies also may be ordered.

Reports

Reports on national data are available without charge from the Washington or regional offices. Regional offices also issue reports presenting local or regional data. These are available from the originating office.

Bulletins

Bulletins may be purchased from any of the Bureau's regional offices or from the Superintendent of Documents. Bulletins that are out of print may be available for reference at leading public, college, or university libraries, and at Federal depository libraries.

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Many BLS published series are available on magnetic tapes, usually for a fee equal to costs. To purchase tapes, contact the Bureau's Division of Financial Planning and Management for ordering information.

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