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JAMES J. DAVIS, SECRETARY

WOMEN'S BUREAU

MARY ANDERSON, Director

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THE FAMILY STATUS OF BREADWINNING WOMEN

**A STUDY OF MATERIAL IN THE CENSUS
SCHEDULES OF A SELECTED LOCALITY**



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CONTENTS.

	Page.
Letter of transmittal.....	iv
Introduction.....	1
General summary.....	4
I. Detailed study based on census data.....	9
Scope of study.....	9
Nationality.....	10
Marital status.....	13
Age.....	14
Family status and responsibilities.....	16
Tenure of homes.....	22
Industries and occupations.....	24
Breadwinning mothers.....	35
II. Study based on personal survey.....	41

iii

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,
WOMEN'S BUREAU,
Washington, April 27, 1922.

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the report of a detailed study of material in the census schedules on the family status of breadwinning women in Passaic, N. J. This city was chosen because the population was not so large as to render the work of scrutinizing each schedule too expensive and yet possessed a sufficient number of breadwinning women to warrant statistical analysis. This city seemed to answer the requirements. Although small, it is an important industrial center and employs a great many women.

Respectfully submitted.

MARY ANDERSON, *Director.*

HON. JAMES J. DAVIS,
Secretary of Labor.

THE FAMILY STATUS OF BREADWINNING WOMEN.

INTRODUCTION.

The 1920 census of population shows that 8,549,511 of the Nation's 40,449,346 women 10 years of age and over are breadwinners—meaning thereby that this one-fifth of all women has a financial rating under our present system of national bookkeeping.

In the balance sheets drawn periodically from the Nation's books, the service rendered by breadwinning women is carefully analyzed by industries, occupation, and locality when these women work in factory, mill, or other mechanical establishments. Fragmentary pictures of the conditions surrounding their labor also appear in the balance sheets drawn at more frequent intervals showing the equipment, hours of operation, cost of materials, labor, power, and the other liabilities and assets of employers.

But it is almost a quarter of a century since balance sheets were drawn from the Nation's books showing the personal and family assets and liabilities of the millions of women who maintain themselves in the class officially recognized as "breadwinners."¹

In passing, it may be noted that no sheets have ever been drawn showing the personal and family liabilities and assets of men workers or of employers of either sex. However, the very fact that a person is an employer is evidence that the accumulation of wealth by saving or inheritance has been sufficient to care for the immediate personal and family liabilities and that there is enough left over to invest in productive equipment, labor, and materials. As long, therefore, as he is counted on the employers' balance sheets, drawn so carefully by the United States Bureau of the Census to promote the prosperity of manufactures and commerce, that fact alone is adequate assurance that the employer's personal and family liabilities are carried on reasonably comfortable levels.

In the case of the workingman, one of the principal services to be rendered by an analysis of personal and family responsibility is secured in large part by the assumption that the size of the average family as determined by the Bureau of the Census measures the burden which the workingman's wage must bear. In all the family

¹ One bulletin on "Women at work" was prepared from the schedules collected in 1900 by the United States Bureau of the Census. Although the bulletin in question did not cover all the breadwinning women reported in 1900, it included so large a proportion of such women and so much of the significant data to be found on the schedules that it constituted a most valuable public document.

budgets underlying the settlement of wage disputes there is no cavil over the fact that not all workmen are married nor over the degree of help which junior or adult members of the family may render to the married man in bearing the burden of family support.

Insignificant exceptions aside, neither the evidence of personal and family security afforded by status among employers, nor the basis available for measuring the personal and family responsibility of the workman attaches to the breadwinning woman. While only the fancy-fed mind still entertains the fiction that "women work chiefly for pin money," there is nevertheless a ceaseless and judgment-beclouding controversy as to the measure of responsibility for personal and family support which should be used in fixing the wage of women workers. Yet among the data collected by the Bureau of the Census from every household in the land there is a wealth of material which, properly assembled and published, would reflect with clearness the economic plane upon which breadwinning women of the Nation live.

Among the facts of manifest social significance this material would show how many of the millions of women breadwinners are married and how many are the mothers of young children; how many of the mothers are winning their bread outside and how many inside of the home; how many children of babyhood age are left at home while the mothers are winning bread in factory, store, or mill; and how many children of school age are at home, at school, or helping the wage-earning mother in the business of winning the bread.

It would show whether the mothers who work away from home are widowed, divorced, or separated, and how many are living with breadwinning husbands.

It would show whether there are servants or adult persons living in the house who could with reason be regarded as caretakers of young children left motherless during the day.

For the single women breadwinners, the schedules contain material throwing a direct and guiding light upon the degree of responsibility for personal and family support which rests upon the single woman breadwinner. The schedules reveal, for example, the number in given age groups who are living in normal families; that is, where the fathers are breadwinners and the mothers are at home.

They show how many of the single breadwinning women living in the family group are daughters of widowed, divorced, or separated mothers; how many without breadwinning fathers still have mothers at home, presumably looking after the needs and comforts of the family; how many have mothers at work outside the home; how many are sharing their homes with boarders and lodgers; and how many of the single breadwinning women are themselves boarding or odging or economically "adrift."

The schedules would show how many of the single women breadwinners are sole, one of two, and one of three breadwinners living in families where no male breadwinners² appear to share the burden of family support.

The schedules would show, for married and single women breadwinners alike, whether the homes were rented or owned, and if owned, whether free or encumbered. These and many other important facts, properly correlated, would sketch with adequate dependability the family conditions surrounding the Nation's millions of breadwinning women.

Quite aside from the availability of the material as a basis for gauging the demands made upon the earnings of women breadwinners for personal and family support, its value for guidance in Americanization and educational efforts is obvious.

How nearly 9,000,000 women are circumstanced in the matter of personal or family support, how many millions of young children are mothered by women classified as breadwinners, are questions of such large social significance that any reliable data throwing light on the answers are an asset in constructive efforts.

Much money is spent by the Bureau of the Census periodically collecting the data described in the foregoing paragraphs, but, except for the bulletin published nearly a quarter of a century ago, these fundamental facts concerning the entire body of breadwinning women have gone into the archives of the Government unpublished. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent by public and private agencies to get this same information as a basis for much needed intensive studies, such studies being confined necessarily to selected groups in selected localities. Assembling the basic facts already collected by the Bureau of the Census for the entire body of breadwinning women will release large sums for more intensive work.

But the appropriations allotted for the census have not been large enough ordinarily to provide for the publication of the data on breadwinning women without curtailing other census publications. While the 1920-21 appropriations were no exception to the rule, arrangements have been made for the publication of data bearing upon the breadwinning women as a whole in the more important industrial centers. These data will be of great value even though the funds available do not permit the publication of all of the data by cities. This information for the majority of breadwinning women will serve as a background for more intensive analysis of the breadwinning women in given cities.

With the consent of the Secretary of Commerce and the approval and generous cooperation of the Director of the Census, the Women's

² The census schedule covers every person living in the household. Some families, therefore, might have the help of male breadwinners who were not living in the family group.

Bureau undertook to extract the intensive data for a single city—choosing one whose population was not so large as to render the work of scrutinizing each schedule too expensive and yet possessing breadwinning women in large enough numbers to warrant statistical analysis. Passaic, N. J., seemed to answer the requirements best, as it is a comparatively small city of large industrial importance and contains industries conspicuous as extensive employers of women.

While data embodied in this report furnish a remarkably significant picture of the city chosen, the main purpose of the bulletin and the larger service which it is hoped the publication will render, is to show the quality and extent of the information available for publication concerning the Nation's nearly 9,000,000 breadwinning women who were, of course, included in the population census of 1920.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

What the data showed concerning Passaic women breadwinners.

The outlines of the picture of Passaic women breadwinners presented by the 26 tables found in the body of this report and derived exclusively from the 1920 census schedules are easily traced. They bring into view nearly ³ 10,000 women—not far from one-half of the adult woman population of Passaic—working for money, four-fifths of them earning it outside of the home. They show that one-half of these women were or had been married; that nearly three-fourths of the married or once-married women breadwinners were mothers; that more than one-half of the mothers were working outside the home and that of the 1,800 mothers working outside the home, over 900 had children under 5 years of age. The woolen industries were the conspicuous employers of these women.

They show that while the Poles and other Slavic peoples furnished less than a third of all of the Passaic women breadwinners, they accounted for over 45 per cent of the breadwinning women who were married, widowed, divorced, or separated, and for almost two-thirds of the mothers having children under 5 years of age.

The related tables show, too, that while American white women were 40 per cent of all the breadwinning women in Passaic, they were but 16 per cent of the women breadwinners who were or had been married and only 8 per cent of the breadwinning mothers having children under 5 years of age.

About one-fifth of all the breadwinning mothers were widowed, divorced, not living with husbands, or living with nonbreadwinning

* Not being restricted by the Census Bureau's need of maintaining the comparability of classifications from period to period, the Women's Bureau has included in this study all women who earned money regardless of whether the method of earning is the main source of income or not. As a consequence this bulletin discusses the conditions of over 2,000 more women engaged in breadwinning in Passaic than the census classified as "breadwinners." The difference, however, is not one of what the data show, but of ruling as to what constitutes a breadwinning woman.

husbands. Seven-eighths of the married women breadwinners were living in rented homes.

These are outstanding facts concerning this group of married women breadwinners. But these facts are themselves illumined in the body of this report by closely related data scarcely less important as barometers of economic and social conditions surrounding a material proportion of the wage-earning families in the city.

Turning to the single women breadwinners as pictured by the data assembled from the census schedules collected in Passaic in 1920, outlines of important features are impressively clear.

The most cheerful phase of the picture is the large proportion—41 per cent—who were living in normal families where the fathers were breadwinners and the mothers were home custodians.

Fifteen per cent were either sole breadwinners, one of two, or one of three or more breadwinners in families having no male breadwinners living in the family. More than 30 per cent of the single women breadwinners in Passaic were boarding or lodging, living with employers or with relatives, or were domiciled in institutions. In other words, nearly half of the single women breadwinners (women who were without male assistance in their families or women living independent of their families) apparently had sharply defined responsibilities for personal or family support.

Over a third of the single women breadwinners belonged to families owning their homes either free or encumbered. Less than 8 per cent lived in unencumbered homes.

Ninety-eight per cent of the single women worked outside of their homes, more than 92 per cent being employed in factories, stores, or offices.

Almost two-thirds of the single women breadwinners were American born, while 19 per cent belonged to Slavic peoples. Nearly 40 per cent of all of them were under 20 years of age.

Such are the most conspicuous features of the family conditions of Passaic women breadwinners, as shown by the 26 tables to be found in the body of this report.

All this information, it should be remembered, is to be found in the census schedules collected in 1920, and is equally available for all the breadwinning women in the Nation.

In thus emphasizing the importance and extent of available census data bearing upon the personal and family responsibilities of breadwinning women, the obscurities and omissions in such data should not be overlooked. For example, all census data are collected for households as such households are found at the time of enumeration. Whether husband or wife is widowed or divorced or not living with spouse is made plain, but other members of the family who are regu-

larly domiciled elsewhere do not appear in the household schedule, though of course they appear as boarders or lodgers or other sojourners on other household schedules and may be a material factor in the support of their own absent families.

Frequently these uncertainties are reduced in the light of contextual data such as the age of the mother and the number and ages of children at home, at school, and at work. But more often the uncertainties and omissions in important features of the pictures point clearly to the character of surveys that should be made in each locality for which the census data have furnished the general background.

The assembled census data for the breadwinning women of Passaic suggested pointedly the need of further information concerning the family conditions of the breadwinning mothers at work outside of the home. The large numbers of women who, in going to work in a factory, store, or office, left young children at home, challenged assurance as to the economic conditions surrounding these mothers and the children of these mothers. As a secondary purpose of this report is to demonstrate the availability of census data bearing upon family conditions surrounding breadwinning women as a guide to the sort of intensive surveys most needed, the Women's Bureau accepted one conspicuous suggestion of a needed survey afforded by the tables in this report summarizing the data for breadwinning mothers.

As stated, the census schedules show only the members living regularly in the house at the time of enumeration. It is no surprise that there was an insignificant number of breadwinning mothers going out to work who had servants living in the family. But there were too few cases where there were any other adults that might with reason be regarded as caretakers of children during the absence of mothers. The insistent question raised by the assembled census data is, "What care was provided for these children?" To answer this question the Women's Bureau took 1,000 addresses of women breadwinners having small children. These addresses were chosen from each enumeration district in Passaic with due reference to the proportion of married women breadwinners therein. Agents were commissioned to follow up the addresses, establishing the identity of the occupants of the houses with the occupants living there at the time of the census enumeration.

The limitation of funds restricted the inquiries made during the personal survey to the provisions for care of young children and the amount of help breadwinning mothers had in the performance of household duties. Over 500 were found and identified as breadwinning mothers enumerated in the census of 1920.

The facts challenging attention in the results are—

(1) That over one-fifth of the mothers worked at night, caring for the children in the intervals between indispensable rest taken during the day.

(2) That nearly one-fifth left children with neighbors, landladies, or boarders.

(3) That another fifth left children with mother's or father's relatives, about one-fourth of such relatives living outside the home.

(4) That over one-tenth of the mothers going out to work left the children at home to the care of husbands who were night workers, unemployed, or working at home.

(5) That more than one-fifth left children virtually without care in the home. Eighty-two of these mothers, having children of school age, were assured that for part of the working-day at least the young were safe. The others had children below school age—some under 5—who had no care at all or only that given by children 14 years of age and under.

(6) That but 25 mothers out of 522 left children in the care of paid custodians.

With such inadequate provision for the care of the young children, it is not surprising that scarcely more than one-fifth of these breadwinning mothers had any help in the performance of household duties; that the number having hired help even for washing and ironing regularly or irregularly was negligible; that the help came chiefly from the older children or relatives or lodgers.

There was no opportunity to analyze these facts more minutely. However, two objects of the personal survey were achieved. It served to measure the value of census data as background for intensive economic and industrial surveys; and, further, to test the validity of the census data as an index to the general plane of living maintained by the groups of breadwinning women whose economic and industrial conditions have been made the subject of constructive inquiry. For it should be borne in mind that the addresses of mothers of young children chosen for personal visit were selected from the number of wage-earning mothers in strict accord with the proportions of the mothers with young children reported in each enumeration district in Passaic. While the picture drawn by the results is small, it must be regarded as a miniature, fairly true in line and proportion, until a nearer life-size outline is made available by a comprehensive survey.

As stated previously, only one of the 26 tables constructed exclusively from census data was used as a basis for direct investigation. This table, showing the numbers of mothers of young children working outside the home, raised the sharpest question to be answered by

further study. But many other tables point to needed studies of social and economic conditions. Of course, it is well known that none of the census data in the population schedules include information as to earnings, unemployment, or family or personal budgets. But the level of personal and family responsibilities as shown by the assembled census data for the several groups of women breadwinners indicate in the main among what groups the earnings and conditions of employment should be the object of special studies.

I. DETAILED STUDY OF THE FAMILY STATUS OF BREADWINNING WOMEN IN PASSAIC, N. J., AS SHOWN BY CENSUS DATA.

Scope of study.

In the regular course of the official United States census enumeration, data are collected from which it is possible to construct a picture of the breadwinning woman in relation to her family life and responsibilities. For the purpose of presenting such a picture this study of the family status of the breadwinning women of Passaic, N. J., was undertaken by the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor.

The material gathered by the United States Bureau of the Census in 1920 was compiled and analyzed by agents of the Women's Bureau, and the information contained in this report is, with one exception, the result of that analysis. The exception arose out of the fact that, as the work progressed, it was found that many of the married workers had small children. What provision was made for the care of such children during the mother's absence from home, and what help in the home, if any, was provided for the working mother, the census data do not show. Personal visits were made, therefore, to several hundred selected families in Passaic, and a large amount of supplementary data was thereby secured.

The survey of census data covers all women and girls engaged in remunerative employment, both within and without the home. It embraces that large and economically important group of women who supplement the family income by taking boarders or lodgers not related to the family in addition to performing home duties. These women are not included by the Bureau of the Census among "breadwinning women," although they make definite and in some cases large contributions to the family earnings. For this reason, the numbers of breadwinning women discussed in this report are much larger than the numbers of women breadwinners reported by the census in Passaic, N. J.

The 9,769⁴ women and girls who constitute the subject of this report comprised the female breadwinning population of Passaic. The number is equal to approximately 46 per cent of the total female population 14 years of age and over of the city.

⁴ As all women taking boarders and lodgers are included as breadwinners in this report, the figures will not agree with the figures presented in the regular census publications in which are included only such women as report boarding and lodging house keeping as a "main source of income."

TABLE 1.—*Proportion which women breadwinners formed of the total female population 14 years of age and over.*

Total number of women 14 years of age and over.	Number of women breadwinners 14 years of age and over.	Per cent which women breadwinners formed of total female population 14 years of age and over.
21,263	9,769	45.9

Even taking into consideration the fact that women who supplement the family income by keeping boarders or lodgers were counted as breadwinners, the proportion of women who were engaged in remunerative occupations is unusually large. Furthermore, as will be seen in Table 2, almost 8,000, or 80.5 per cent of the breadwinning women of Passaic, were engaged in occupations which took them away from their homes. Less than 20 per cent were earning money at work which they did within their own homes.

TABLE 2.—*Number and per cent of women breadwinners working in their own homes or outside their homes.*

	Total.	Women working in own homes.	Women working outside own homes.			
			Total.	In factories, stores, or offices.	In others' homes.	Not reported.
Number.....	9,769	1,899	7,861	7,348	513	9
Per cent.....	100.0	19.4	80.5	75.2	5.3	0.1

Nationality.

The city of Passaic has a large foreign population. According to the 1920 census, more than 41 per cent of its total population of 63,841 were foreign born.⁵ Of the total female population 40 per cent were foreign born. Among the breadwinning women the percentage of foreign born was still larger or nearly 60 per cent of the total number as shown in Table 3. The Poles predominated among the foreigners, forming slightly more than one-fourth of the entire number of working women. The Hungarians, who formed about 10

⁵ U. S. Bureau of the Census. Fourteenth Census, 1920. Bulletin, Population: New Jersey. Composition and characteristics of the population, p. 12.

per cent, ranked next in numerical importance, and there were many smaller groups of Italians, Russians, Austrians, and other nationalities.

American whites were the largest single nationality group, comprising 40 per cent of the total. Included in this classification were native-born daughters of foreign-born parents. It should be borne in mind when nationality is discussed that for the purposes of this report all persons born in the United States, regardless of the nationality of their parents, were considered Americans in accordance with the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution.

TABLE 3.—Number and per cent distribution of breadwinning women, by nationality.

Nationality.	Number.	Per cent.	Nationality.	Number.	Per cent.
Total.....	9,769	100.0	German.....	197	2.0
American, white.....	3,929	40.2	Hungarian.....	983	10.1
American, negro.....	139	1.4	Italian.....	418	4.3
Austrian.....	345	3.5	Polish.....	2,519	25.8
Czechoslovakian.....	264	2.7	Russian.....	380	3.9
Dutch.....	80	.8	All other.....	515	5.3

The complete cessation of immigration from some countries and reduced immigration from all lands make figures concerning the years which women workers had been in the United States of less significance than would attach to them had the years immediately preceding 1920 been a period of normal immigration. Few women workers in Passaic had been in this country less than five years.

The fact revealed in Table 4 that over 40 per cent of the 5,701 foreign-born breadwinning women of Passaic did not speak English is rendered more astounding in view of the fact that only 73 women were recent immigrants and that approximately two-thirds had been here 10 years or more.

The number of non-English-speaking Poles is particularly striking, nearly two-thirds, or over 1,600, not speaking English. Forty per cent had been in the United States less than 10 but more than 5 years, while 56 per cent had been here 10 years or more. The percentage unable to speak English does not, however, diminish perceptibly among those who have been here 10 years and longer; nearly 65 per cent of that group were still unable to speak our language.

About one-third of the Austrians and Czechoslovakians, more than one-fourth of the Hungarians, and approximately one-fifth of the Italian women did not speak English. In these nationalities, however, the percentages of those who did not speak English were much smaller among those who had been here 10 years or over than among those who had been here less than 10 years. The percentage of non-English-speaking Italians is 34 per cent among the women who had been here from 5 to 10 years and 18 per cent among those

TABLE 4.—Number and per cent of breadwinning women of foreign birth unable to speak English, by years in the United States.

Nationality.	Grand total.	Total speaking English.	Total not speaking English.	Total not reported.	Breadwinning women who had been in the United States—															
					Under 5 years.				5 and under 10 years.				10 years and over.				Years of residence not reported.			
					Total.	Speaking English.	Not speaking English.	Not reported.	Total.	Speaking English.	Not speaking English.	Not reported.	Total.	Speaking English.	Not speaking English.	Not reported.	Total.	Speaking English.	Not speaking English.	Not reported.
Total:																				
Number.....	5,701	2,980	2,306	415	73	37	34	2	1,847	715	670	162	3,577	2,073	1,262	242	204	155	40	9
Per cent.....	100.0	52.3	40.4	7.3	1.3	.....	.....	.....	32.4	.....	.....	.....	62.7	.....	.....	.....	3.6	.....	.....	.....
Austrian:																				
Number.....	345	211	124	10	2	2	.....	.....	103	50	49	4	221	145	70	6	19	14	5	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	61.2	35.9	2.9	0.6	.....	.....	.....	29.9	.....	.....	.....	64.1	.....	.....	.....	5.5	.....	.....	.....
Czechoslovakian:																				
Number.....	264	144	86	34	1	1	.....	.....	80	30	35	15	176	108	50	18	7	5	1	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	54.5	32.6	12.9	.4	.....	.....	.....	30.3	.....	.....	.....	66.7	.....	.....	.....	2.6	.....	.....	.....
Dutch:																				
Number.....	80	79	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	7	7	.....	.....	62	62	.....	.....	10	9	1	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	98.8	1.3	.....	1.3	.....	.....	.....	8.8	.....	.....	.....	77.5	.....	.....	.....	12.5	.....	.....	.....
German:																				
Number.....	197	191	5	1	1	1	.....	.....	29	25	3	1	152	150	2	.....	15	15	.....	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	97.0	2.5	.5	.5	.....	.....	.....	14.7	.....	.....	.....	77.2	.....	.....	.....	7.6	.....	.....	.....
Hungarian:																				
Number.....	983	664	266	53	6	4	2	.....	307	187	100	20	659	462	164	33	11	11	.....	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	67.5	27.1	5.4	.6	.....	.....	.....	31.2	.....	.....	.....	67.0	.....	.....	.....	1.1	.....	.....	.....
Italian:																				
Number.....	418	328	90	.....	18	12	6	.....	98	65	33	.....	287	236	51	.....	15	15	.....	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	78.5	21.5	.....	4.3	.....	.....	.....	23.4	.....	.....	.....	68.7	.....	.....	.....	3.6	.....	.....	.....
Polish:																				
Number.....	2,519	639	1,635	245	31	7	23	1	1,026	231	691	104	1,414	386	890	138	48	15	31	2
Per cent.....	100.0	25.4	64.9	9.7	1.2	.....	.....	.....	40.7	.....	.....	.....	56.1	.....	.....	.....	1.9	.....	.....	.....
Russian:																				
Number.....	380	305	52	23	4	2	2	.....	94	61	26	7	259	226	22	11	23	16	2	5
Per cent.....	100.0	80.3	13.7	6.1	1.1	.....	.....	.....	24.7	.....	.....	.....	68.2	.....	.....	.....	6.1	.....	.....	.....
All other:																				
Number.....	515	419	47	49	9	7	1	1	103	59	33	11	347	298	13	36	56	55	.....	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	81.4	9.1	9.5	1.7	.....	.....	.....	20.0	.....	.....	.....	67.4	.....	.....	.....	10.9	.....	.....	.....

who had been here 10 years or over. The non-English-speaking Austrians drop from 48 per cent to 32 per cent after longer residence, and the Hungarians' figures are 33 per cent for the more recent immigrants and 25 per cent for those who arrived more than 10 years ago.

The Russians, a large proportion of whom are Jews, apparently learn to speak English very readily. Only 28 per cent of those who had been here between 5 and 10 years, and less than 9 per cent of those who had been here over 10 years, were non-English-speaking.

Among the nationalities represented by the breadwinning women of Passaic, it is apparent that the Poles clung most tenaciously to their own language, and consequently to their own national life and customs. There is nothing to indicate whether it was because they were less adaptable than other nationalities or because there were so many of them that they associated chiefly with one another and did not make outside contacts.

Whatever the cause, in every nationality the number of persons who did not speak English after several years in this country was larger than would seem possible, and can not fail to have its effect upon every phase of the immigrant's life in America.

Marital status.

One-half—that is, 4,945—of the breadwinning women of Passaic were single; 4,013, or 41 per cent, were married; 751, or nearly 8 per cent, were widows; and less than one-half of 1 per cent were divorced.

It will be noted in Table 5 that 367, or 3.8 per cent, are entered as "married, husband not living with family." The marital status of the women so described was given in the census report as "married," but there was no record of a husband in the family group. In some cases the separation may have been temporary, although the instructions to census enumerators stated explicitly that temporary absentees were to be recorded as residing at home. Where actual separation had occurred, there was a possibility that the wife was receiving some financial assistance from her husband. The economic status of this group was so uncertain that it has been considered and carried separately in the tables.

TABLE 5.—Number and per cent distribution of breadwinning women, by marital status.

Marital status.	Num-ber.	Per cent.	Marital status.	Num-ber.	Per cent.
Total.....	9,769	100.0	Married, husband not living with family.....	367	3.8
Single.....	4,945	50.6	Widowed.....	751	7.7
Married, husband living with family.....	3,646	37.3	Divorced.....	38	.4
			Not reported.....	22	.2

Almost two-thirds of the single breadwinning women were to be found among the American born. As a consequence it is to be expected that the married women breadwinners were largely foreign born. From the Slavic races come half of the married women breadwinners whose husbands were also breadwinners. In this racial group, of which by far the largest number were Polish, fall also the greatest number who were married but whose husbands were not living with them.

Table 6 discloses in detail the differences in the proportions which women of each nationality formed of the total number of breadwinners and in the proportions they were of the several marital groups.

TABLE 6.—*Nationality of breadwinning women, by marital status.*

Nationality.	Total.	Marital status.						Not reported.
		Single.	Married, husband a breadwinner.	Married, husband not a breadwinner.	Married, husband not living with family.	Widowed.	Divorced.	
All nationalities:								
Number.....	9,769	4,945	3,596	50	367	751	38	22
Per cent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(¹)	(¹)
American, white:								
Number.....	3,929	3,134	502	14	72	185	16	6
Per cent.....	40.2	63.4	14.0	28.0	19.6	24.6	(¹)	(¹)
American, negro:								
Number.....	139	39	62		11	28	1	
Per cent.....	1.4	.9	1.7		3.0	3.5	(¹)	
Austrian:								
Number.....	345	90	166		33	55		
Per cent.....	3.5	1.8	4.6		9.0	7.3		(¹)
Czechoslovakian:								
Number.....	264	47	187	2	20	27	1	
Per cent.....	2.7	1.0	4.6	4.0	5.4	3.6	(¹)	
Dutch:								
Number.....	80	39	30		2	8	1	
Per cent.....	.8	.8	.8		.5	1.1	(¹)	
German:								
Number.....	197	72	82	1	6	32	4	
Per cent.....	2.0	1.5	2.3	2.0	1.6	4.3	(¹)	
Hungarian:								
Number.....	983	195	589	9	54	131	3	2
Per cent.....	10.1	3.9	16.4	18.0	14.7	17.4	(¹)	(¹)
Italian:								
Number.....	418	205	165	6	7	34		1
Per cent.....	4.3	4.1	4.6	12.0	1.9	4.6		(¹)
Polish:								
Number.....	2,519	724	1,504	13	715	145	8	10
Per cent.....	25.8	14.6	41.8	26.0	31.3	19.3	(¹)	(¹)
Russian:								
Number.....	380	181	150		19	26	2	2
Per cent.....	3.9	3.7	4.2		5.2	3.5	(¹)	(¹)
All other:								
Number.....	515	219	179	5	28	82	2	
Per cent.....	5.3	4.4	5.0	10.0	7.6	10.9	(¹)	

¹Not computed, owing to small number involved.

Age.

Table 7 brings out clearly the age differences between single and married breadwinning women. Seventy-one per cent of the single women breadwinners were under 25 years of age, almost 40 per cent

of the total being less than 20. On the other hand, 80 per cent of the married women breadwinners were 25 years of age or older, more than one-third of all married women being between 30 and 40 years. The numbers of married, widowed, and divorced who were under 20 were negligible, as might be expected. Widows and divorcees formed the largest group among those 50 or more years of age. As succeeding tables will show, the inclusion of boarding or lodging house keepers among breadwinning women accounts for the large number of women in the older age groups shown in Table 7.

TABLE 7.—*Marital status of breadwinning women, by age groups.*

Marital status.	Total.	Number and per cent of women whose age was—								
		Under 16 years.	16 and 17 years.	18 and 19 years.	20 and under 25 years.	25 and under 30 years.	30 and under 40 years.	40 and under 50 years.	50 years and over.	Not reported.
Total:										
Number.....	9,769	388	752	832	2,379	1,702	2,047	975	689	5
Per cent.....	100.0	4.0	7.7	8.5	24.4	17.4	21.0	10.0	7.1	(1)
Single:										
Number.....	4,945	388	745	776	1,602	653	469	187	123	2
Per cent.....	100.0	7.8	15.1	15.7	32.4	13.2	9.5	3.8	2.5	(1)
Married:										
Number.....	4,013	.....	6	52	748	990	1,369	584	263	1
Per cent.....	100.0	.....	.1	1.3	18.6	24.7	34.1	14.6	6.6	(1)
Widowed and divorced:										
Number.....	789	.....	1	.....	22	57	205	202	302	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	.....	.1	.....	2.8	7.2	26.0	25.6	38.3	.....
Not reported:										
Number.....	22	.....	.....	4	7	2	4	2	1	2

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

As the largest number of American women breadwinners were single, it is to be expected that these women would be found in the younger age groups. Over 60 per cent of all American white women, married and single, were under 25 years of age. Among the girls between 14 and 18 years of age, the largest number and proportion who were at work were American born, these including, as already stated, the children of foreign-born parents. Almost 8 per cent of all American women and girl breadwinners were under 16 years of age and 14.6 per cent were 16 and 17 years of age. The Dutch and Italians rank next to the Americans in the proportions going to work at an early age. About 16 per cent of the women workers of each of these nationalities were under 18 years of age. The significance of the proportions of Dutch and German is reduced materially because the actual numbers concerned were small.

It is interesting to note that among the Austrians, Czechoslovakians, and Hungarians a larger proportion of women at work were between the ages of 30 and 40 than were in other age groups.

TABLE 8.—Nationality of breadwinning women, by age groups.

Nationality.	Total.	Number and per cent of women whose age was—								
		Under 16 years.	16 and 17 years.	18 and 19 years.	20 and under 25 years.	25 and under 30 years.	30 and under 40 years.	40 and under 50 years.	50 years and over.	Not reported.
Total:										
Number.....	9,769	388	752	832	2,379	1,702	2,047	975	689	5
Per cent.....	100.0	4.0	7.7	8.5	24.4	17.4	21.0	10.0	7.1	(1)
American, white:										
Number.....	3,929	305	572	561	978	476	510	263	264	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	7.8	14.6	14.3	24.9	12.1	13.0	6.7	6.7	.....
American, negro:										
Number.....	139	2	2	8	24	24	32	26	21	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	1.4	1.4	5.8	17.3	17.3	23.0	18.7	15.1	.....
Austrian:										
Number.....	345	5	16	15	74	54	105	44	31	1
Per cent.....	100.0	1.4	4.6	4.3	21.4	15.7	30.4	12.8	9.0	0.3
Czechoslovakian:										
Number.....	264	4	9	8	50	52	79	43	19	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	1.5	3.4	3.0	18.9	19.7	29.9	16.3	7.2	.....
Dutch:										
Number.....	80	6	7	5	12	6	13	15	16	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	7.5	8.8	6.3	15.0	7.5	16.3	18.8	20.0	.....
German:										
Number.....	197	3	4	5	27	20	49	31	58	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	13.7	10.2	24.9	15.7	29.4	.....
Hungarian:										
Number.....	983	16	25	48	174	156	317	174	72	1
Per cent.....	100.0	1.6	2.5	4.9	17.7	15.9	32.2	17.7	7.3	1
Italian:										
Number.....	418	22	45	54	79	68	77	37	36	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	5.3	10.8	12.9	18.9	16.3	18.4	8.9	8.6	.....
Polish:										
Number.....	2,519	11	26	64	769	693	685	201	70	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	.4	1.0	2.5	30.5	27.5	27.2	8.0	2.8	.....
Russian:										
Number.....	380	5	30	40	115	63	66	36	22	3
Per cent.....	100.0	1.3	7.9	10.5	30.3	16.6	17.4	9.5	5.8	.8
All other:										
Number.....	515	0	16	24	77	90	114	105	80	.....
Per cent.....	100.0	1.7	3.1	4.7	15.0	17.5	22.1	20.4	15.5	.....

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Family status and responsibilities.

The family status and responsibilities of Passaic's women workers are reflected in three Tables, 9, 10, and 11. Table 9 deals with the apparent burdens of single breadwinning women.

The significant feature of this table is that almost two-thirds of the single breadwinning women were living at home with one or both parents. Not all of these were equally circumstanced, however, since only 63 per cent were living in homes where there were breadwinning fathers with mothers at home.⁶ The others showed marked deviations from the normal standard of family life.

The proportions of women who were sole breadwinners, or in families with one other or with two or more others, yet having no male breadwinners, show other curves in the lines of personal and family responsibilities of the single breadwinning women living under the parental roof.

⁶ Wherever a father was "retired" and the family apparently in comfortable circumstances, he has been considered a breadwinner on the assumption that his contribution to the family support had not ceased.

One-third of the entire number of single breadwinners in Passaic might be described as economically "adrift"; that is, they were boarding or lodging, maintaining independent homes, or living with relatives or employers. These may, of course, have been contributing to the support of absent families or may themselves have been recipients of help from home. The census data simply show the group as not under the parental roof or protected by the solidarity of an immediate family group.

Similar data with regard to married women, but showing the average number of children instead of the average number of persons in a family, are set forth in Table 10. Here the married women are divided into three groups—those with breadwinning husbands, those with non-breadwinning husbands, and those not living with their husbands. The average number of children is based on the total number of married women, including those who had no children.

Almost 90 per cent of the 4,013 married breadwinners were women whose husbands were employed. Nine per cent had husbands who were not living in the family, and less than 2 per cent (50 women) had husbands who were living in the family but whose occupations were recorded by the Bureau of the Census as "none."

TABLE 9.—Family status and family responsibilities of single women breadwinners.

Family status.	Single women breadwinners reporting.		Number reporting as to number of breadwinners in family.	Families in which daughter was sole breadwinner.		
	Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Average number in family.
Total.....	4,945	100.0	3,376	186	5.5	1.9
Living with parent or parents.....	3,179	64.3	3,179	98	3.1	2.6
Parents living, father breadwinner.....	2,008	40.6	2,008	.....	.....	.....
Parents living, mother breadwinner.....	16	.3	16	.....	.....	.....
Parents living, both parents breadwinners.....	283	5.7	283	.....	.....	.....
Parents living, neither parent breadwinner.....	67	1.4	67	12	17.9	3.2
Mother only living, mother breadwinner.....	221	4.5	221	.....	.....	.....
Mother only living, mother not breadwinner.....	442	8.9	442	80	18.1	2.5
Father only living, father breadwinner.....	117	2.4	117	.....	.....	.....
Father only living, father not breadwinner.....	25	.5	25	6	24.0	2.01
Maintaining home.....	197	4.0	197	88	44.7	1.01
Neither parent living.....	95	1.9	95	4	4.2	2.01
Adult women living independently.....	102	2.1	102	84	82.4	1.01
Living with relatives.....	256	5.2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Boarding or lodging.....	992	20.1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Living with employer.....	206	4.2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Living in institutions.....	115	2.3	.....	.....	.....	.....

TABLE 9.—Family status and family responsibilities of single women breadwinners—Con.

Family status.	Families in which daughter was one of two breadwinners.				Average number in family.
	Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Having men breadwinners.		
			Number.	Per cent of 2-breadwinner group.	
Total.....	800	25.5	630	73.3	4.3
Living with parent or parents.....	790	24.9	602	76.2	4.5
Parents living, father breadwinner.....	470	23.4	470	100.0	5.2
Parents living, mother breadwinner.....	4	(1)			3.3
Parents living, neither parent breadwinner.....	24	35.8	16	(1)	5.1
Mother only living, mother breadwinner.....	98	44.3			3.0
Mother only living, mother not breadwinner.....	147	33.3	73	49.7	3.7
Father only living, father breadwinner.....	40	34.2	40	100.0	3.0
Father only living, father not breadwinner.....	7	28.0	3	(1)	3.6
Maintaining home.....	70	35.5	28	40.0	2.3
Neither parent living.....	55	57.9	19	34.5	2.2
Adult women living independently.....	15	14.7	9	(1)	2.5

Family status.	Families in which daughter was one of three breadwinners.				Average number in family.
	Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Having men breadwinners.		
			Number.	Per cent of 3-breadwinner group.	
Total.....	2,330	69.0	2,244	96.3	6.4
Living with parent or parents.....	2,291	72.1	2,217	96.8	6.4
Parents living, father breadwinner.....	1,538	76.6	1,538	100.0	6.9
Parents living, mother breadwinner.....	12	(1)	10	(1)	7.0
Parents living, both parents breadwinners.....	283	100.0	283	100.0	6.0
Parents living, neither parent breadwinner.....	31	46.3	31	100.0	7.2
Mother only living, mother breadwinner.....	123	55.7	82	66.7	4.6
Mother only living, mother not breadwinner.....	215	48.6	189	87.9	5.4
Father only living, father breadwinner.....	77	65.8	77	100.0	5.0
Father only living, father not breadwinner.....	12	48.0	7	(1)	3.3
Maintaining home.....	39	19.8	27	69.2	4.2
Neither parent living.....	36	37.9	24	66.7	4.2
Adult women living independently.....	3	2.9	3	(1)	3.3

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

As would be expected, by far the great majority of married women maintained homes, with their husbands or by themselves. A few lived at home with their parents or with other relatives. About 9 per cent were boarding or lodging.

Less than 5 per cent of the married women were sole breadwinners. This group consists of 28 women with nonbreadwinning husbands, and 148 whose husbands were not living in the family. The women

who were sole breadwinners had for the most part but one child, usually young, and in no case as much as 18 years of age.

Most of the married women, 85 per cent of those reporting, were in the group having two breadwinners, and because, as has been said, the great majority were women with breadwinning husbands, in nearly every instance the second breadwinner was a man. The average number of children in the two-breadwinner group was about two.

Between 10 and 11 per cent of the married women were in families with three breadwinners. In these families the average number of children was more than three, the women with nonbreadwinning husbands having the largest families.

TABLE 10.—*Family status and family responsibilities of married women breadwinners.*

Family status.	Married women breadwinners.		Number reporting as to number of breadwinners in family.	Women who were sole breadwinners in family.				
	Number reporting.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Average number of children in family.		Total.
						Under 18 years.	18 years and over.	
Total.....	4,013	100.0	3,846	178	4.6	1.0	1.0	
Married women with husband breadwinners.....	3,596	89.6	3,596					
Maintaining home.....	3,281	81.8	3,281					
Living with parents.....	51	1.3	51					
Living with relatives.....	56	1.4	56					
Boarding or lodging.....	202	5.0	202					
Living with employer.....	6	.1	6					
Married women, husbands nonbreadwinners:								
Maintaining home.....	50	1.2	50	26	56.0	1.0	1.0	
Married women, husbands not living at home.....	367	9.1	200	148	74.0	1.0	1.0	
Maintaining home.....	111	2.8	111	74	66.7	.9	.9	
Living with parents.....	43	1.1	43	34	79.1	.9	.9	
Living with relatives.....	24	.6	15	10	(1)	1.5	1.5	
Boarding or lodging.....	165	4.1	31	30	96.8	1.2	1.2	
Living with employer.....	19	.5						
Living in institutions.....	5	.1						

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

TABLE 10.—Family status and family responsibilities of married women breadwinners—Continued.

Family status.	Women who were one of two breadwinners in family.						
	Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Having men breadwinners.		Average number of children in family.		
			Number.	Per cent of 2-breadwinner group.	Under 18 years.	18 years and over.	Total.
Total.....	3,252	84.6	3,237	99.5	1.6	(1)	1.6
Married women with husband breadwinners.....	3,211	89.3	3,211	100.0	1.6		1.6
Maintaining home.....	2,900	88.4	2,900	100.0	1.7		1.7
Living with parents.....	51	100.0	51	100.0	.6		.6
Living with relatives.....	53	94.6	53	100.0	.4		.4
Boarding or lodging.....	201	99.5	201	100.0	.5		.5
Living with employer.....	6	(1)	6	(1)			
Married women, husbands non-breadwinners:							
Maintaining home.....	11	22.0	6	(1)	1.0	0.5	1.5
Married women, husbands not living at home.....	30	15.0	20	66.7	1.1	.5	1.6
Maintaining home.....	21	18.9	14	66.7	1.2	.6	1.8
Living with parents.....	4	9.3	3	(1)	1.0	.3	1.3
Living with relatives.....	4	(1)	2	(1)	1.0	.3	1.3
Boarding or lodging.....	1	3.2	1	(1)	1.0		1.0
Living with employer.....							
Living in institutions.....							
Family status.	Women who were one of three or more breadwinners in family.						
	Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Having men breadwinners.		Average number of children in family.		
			Number.	Per cent of 3-breadwinner group.	Under 18 years.	18 years and over.	Total.
Total.....	418	10.9	414	99.0	2.6	0.9	3.5
Married women with husband breadwinners.....	385	10.7	385	100.0	2.7	.8	3.5
Maintaining home.....	381	11.6	381	100.0	2.7	.8	3.5
Living with parents.....							
Living with relatives.....	3	5.4	3	(1)	1.3		1.3
Boarding or lodging.....	1	.5	1	(1)	4.0	1.0	5.0
Living with employer.....							
Married women, husbands non-breadwinners:							
Maintaining home.....	11	22.0	10	(1)	2.0	2.0	4.0
Married women, husbands not living at home.....	22	11.0	19	(1)	1.5	1.5	3.0
Maintaining home.....	16	14.4	14	(1)	1.4	1.4	2.8
Living with parents.....	5	11.6	4	(1)	1.8	1.4	3.2
Living with relatives.....	1	(1)	1	(1)	2.0	4.0	6.0
Boarding or lodging.....							
Living with employer.....							
Living in institutions.....							

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

The family status and responsibilities of the 751 widowed and divorced women are shown in Table 11. About two-thirds of the

widows—a percentage smaller than that of the married women—maintained homes; 10 per cent lived with relatives and 14 per cent were boarding or lodging.

Almost three-fourths of the widows reporting family responsibilities had no man or boy in their families to share the burden. With the exception of the divorced women, who were but an insignificant number, the largest percentage of sole breadwinners was found among the widows, over one-half of them being the only breadwinners in the family.

One hundred and seventy-two of the widows, or about 30 per cent, were in families with two breadwinners. The children in this group averaged slightly less than two. Less than one-half of these women had men breadwinners in the family group.

The widows who were in families with three or more breadwinners formed the smallest group, approximating 16 per cent of the whole, and 85 per cent had the assistance of a wage-earning man or boy. The children in this group averaged more than 3 to each family.

There were so few divorced women that information concerning them is without special significance, except to account for the entire number of women breadwinners who were or had been married.

TABLE 11.—Family status and family responsibilities of widowed and divorced women breadwinners.

Family status.	Widowed and divorced women breadwinners.		Widowed.					
	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber reporting as to num-ber of bread-win-ners in family.	Women who were sole breadwinners in family.				
				Num-ber.	Per-cent of those report-ing num-ber of bread-win-ners.	Average number of children in family.			Total.
					Under 18 years.	18 years and over.		
Total.....	751	100.0	589	325	55.2	1.2	(¹)	1.3
Maintaining home.....	504	67.1	504	258	51.2	1.2	(¹)	1.2
Living with parents.....	26	3.5	26	21	(¹)	1.4	0.2	1.6
Living with relatives.....	77	10.3	27	17	(¹)	1.7	(¹)	1.7
Boarding or lodging.....	106	14.1	28	27	(¹)	1.8	(¹)	1.9
Living with employer.....	37	4.9	4	2	(¹)	1.0		1.0
Living in institution.....	1	.1						
Divorced.								
Total.....	38	100.0	27	19	70.0	1.0		1.0
Maintaining home.....	16	42.1	16	9	(¹)	1.1		1.1
Living with parents.....	7	18.4	7	6	(¹)	.7		.7
Living with relatives.....	1	2.6	1	1	(¹)	1.0		1.0
Boarding or lodging.....	12	31.6	3	3	(¹)	1.3		1.3
Living with employer.....	2	5.3						

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

TABLE 11.—Family status and family responsibilities of widowed and divorced women breadwinners—Continued.

Family status.	Widowed.						
	Women who were one of two breadwinners in family.						
	Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Having men breadwinners.		Average number of children in family.		
			Number.	Per cent of 2-breadwinner group.	Under 18 years.	18 years and over.	Total.
Total.....	172	29.2	77	44.8	1.1	0.7	1.8
Maintaining home.....	155	30.8	71	45.8	1.2	.7	1.9
Living with parents.....	5	(¹)	3	(¹)	.8	.2	1.0
Living with relatives.....	9	(¹)	2	(¹)	1.1	.4	1.6
Boarding or lodging.....	1	(¹)	.....	(¹)	.....	1.0	1.0
Living with employer.....	2	(¹)	1	(¹)	.....	1.0	1.0
	Divorced.						
Total.....	4	14.8	1	(¹)	0.8	1.0	1.8
Maintaining home.....	3	(¹)	1	(¹)	1.0	1.0	2.0
Living with parents.....	1	(¹)	.....	(¹)	.....	1.0	1.0

Family status.	Widowed.						
	Women who were one of three or more breadwinners in family.						
	Number.	Per cent of those reporting number of breadwinners.	Having men breadwinners.		Average number of children in family.		
			Number.	Per cent of 3-breadwinner group.	Under 18 years.	18 years and over.	Total.
Total.....	92	15.6	78	84.8	1.4	1.8	3.3
Maintaining home.....	91	18.0	77	84.6	1.4	1.9	3.3
Living with relatives.....	1	(¹)	1	(¹)	3.0	.....	3.0
	Divorced.						
Total.....	4	14.8	2	(¹)	2.3	0.5	2.8
Maintaining home.....	4	(¹)	2	(¹)	2.3	.....	2.8

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

Tenure of homes.

Three-fourths of all the women reporting tenure of homes lived in rented homes. The proportion was largest among the married women breadwinners whose husbands also were working, and smallest among the single women. Even in the latter group the number whose families rented homes was large, for only a little over a third

of the families of single working women owned their homes and less than 8 per cent owned their homes without encumbrance. But 1.5 per cent of all the married women workers with breadwinning husbands owned their homes free, and over 9 per cent owned their homes mortgaged. Among the widows over four-fifths rented their homes and only one-twentieth actually owned their homes free of encumbrance.

TABLE 12.—Tenure of home, by marital status of breadwinning women.

Marital status.	Number reporting tenure.	Women whose families rented homes.		Women whose families owned homes.							
		Number.	Per cent reporting tenure.	Number.	Per cent reporting tenure.	Free.		Mortgaged.		Encumbrance not reported.	
						Number.	Per cent reporting tenure.	Number.	Per cent reporting tenure.	Number.	Per cent reporting tenure.
Total.....	7,251	5,541	76.4	1,710	23.6	345	4.8	1,326	18.3	39	0.5
Single.....	3,277	2,069	63.1	1,208	36.9	253	7.7	946	28.9	9	.3
Married, husband breadwinner.....	3,230	2,879	89.1	351	10.9	47	1.5	303	9.4	1	(¹)
Married, husband not a breadwinner.....	47	31	66.0	16	34.0	8	17.0	7	14.9	1	2.1
Married, husband not living with family.....	162	119	73.5	43	26.5	11	6.8	4	2.5	28	17.3
Widowed.....	506	417	82.4	89	17.6	25	4.9	64	12.6	.....	.....
Divorced.....	18	16	(²)	2	(²)	1	(²)	1	(²)	.....	.....
Not reported.....	11	10	(²)	1	(²)	.....	.....	1	(²)	.....	.....

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.² Not computed, owing to small number involved.

The tendency to purchase homes appears to be greatest among the families of girls and women who were American, Dutch, or German. Thirty-seven and 40 per cent, respectively, of the American and Dutch women breadwinners, and about a third of the German women, lived in homes owned in part or in whole by their families. More than nine-tenths of the Polish, Czechoslovakian, and Hungarian workers lived in rented homes. Less than 1 per cent of the families of women workers of these nationalities owned their homes unencumbered.

TABLE 13.—Tenure of home, by nationality of breadwinning women.

Nationality.	Number reporting tenure.	Women whose families rented homes.		Women whose families owned homes.							
		Number.	Percent reporting tenure.	Number.	Percent reporting tenure.	Free.		Mortgaged.		Encumbrance not reported.	
						Number.	Percent reporting tenure.	Number.	Percent reporting tenure.	Number.	Percent reporting tenure.
Total.....	7,251	5,541	76.4	1,710	23.6	345	4.8	1,326	18.3	39	0.5
American, white.....	3,091	1,941	62.8	1,150	37.2	281	9.1	860	27.8	9	.3
American, negro.....	79	62	78.5	17	21.5	3	3.8	14	17.7	.....	.....
Austrian.....	242	215	88.8	27	11.2	2	.8	25	10.3	.....	.....
Czechoslovakian.....	203	188	92.6	15	7.4	1	.5	14	6.9	.....	.....
Dutch.....	69	41	59.4	28	40.6	3	4.3	25	36.2	.....	.....
German.....	140	92	65.7	48	34.3	7	5.0	41	29.3	.....	.....
Hungarian.....	801	734	91.6	67	8.4	5	.6	34	4.2	28	3.5
Italian.....	368	281	76.4	87	23.6	9	2.4	77	20.9	1	.3
Polish.....	1,565	1,459	93.2	106	6.8	11	.7	95	6.1	.....	.....
Russian.....	345	255	73.9	90	26.1	13	3.8	77	22.3	.....	.....
All other.....	348	273	78.4	75	21.6	10	2.9	64	18.4	1	.3

Industries and occupations.

Before passing from the outline picture of economic conditions as reflected in the foregoing tables to the tables throwing a more concentrated light upon the conditions confronting the breadwinning mothers, it will be well at this point to show through what industries the total number of breadwinning women were distributed.

Passaic is essentially a manufacturing center. As is shown in Table 14, more than half the breadwinning women of the city were employed in the producing departments of its factories. Many others were engaged in the offices of its factories in clerical capacities, but these women were counted with all other office workers rather than with the factory workers.

Ranking first in size and importance, the woolen mills employed 2,528, or 26 per cent, of Passaic's breadwinning women, and the cotton and handkerchief factories provided work for 1,387, or 14 per cent. The chief work done by the women in the textile mills was spinning and weaving, while sewing-machine operating was done by many women in the handkerchief factories. The silk mills employed about 3 per cent of the breadwinning women. A smaller proportion were engaged in making cigars and cigarettes, clothing, paper boxes, and laces and embroideries.

Office service claimed the second largest group of women working outside the home. Over 11 per cent of all women breadwinners were employed as stenographers and typists, clerks, bookkeepers, cashiers, or accountants in the offices maintained by the professions or by industrial and commercial establishments.

TABLE 14.—Industries and occupations in which breadwinning women were employed.

Industry and occupation.	Women breadwinners.		Industry and occupation.	Women breadwinners.	
	Number.	Per cent of total number of breadwinners.		Number.	Per cent of total number of breadwinners.
Total	9,769	100.0	Telephones operators	76	0.8
Total manufacturing ...	5,115	52.4	Clerical occupations	1,117	11.4
Woolen and worsted goods ...	2,528	25.9	Stenographers and typists.....	505	5.2
Spinning.....	571	5.8	Bookkeepers, cashiers, and accountants.....	203	2.1
Weaving.....	643	6.6	All other clerical occupations.....	409	4.2
Other factory operations.....	1,314	13.5	Managerial and professional service	485	5.0
Cotton and cotton goods including handkerchiefs	1,387	14.2	Managers and executives.....	20	.2
Spinning.....	87	.9	School teachers.....	366	3.7
Weaving.....	102	1.0	Journalists, librarians, and other professional.....	99	1.0
Sewing-machine operating.....	250	2.6	Domestic and personal service outside worker's home	674	6.9
Other factory operations.....	948	9.7	Servants living in employer's home.....	250	2.7
Silk and silk goods	310	3.2	Servants living in own home.....	102	1.0
Winding.....	74	.8	Day workers.....	82	.8
Weaving.....	105	1.1	Power laundry workers.....	16	.2
Other factory operations.....	131	1.3	Cleaners and janitresses.....	20	.2
Textiles, not specified	108	1.1	Waitresses, restaurant keepers, and kitchen help.....	37	.4
Spinning.....	35	.4	Nurses.....	138	1.4
Weaving.....	40	.4	All other domestic and personal service.....	19	.2
Other factory operations.....	33	.3	Working in own home	1,899	19.4
Clothing, men's, women's, and children's	93	1.0	Taking boarders or lodgers.....	1,796	18.4
Sewing-machine operating.....	49	.5	Taking in washing.....	18	.2
Other factory operations.....	44	.5	Taking in sewing, millinery, or knitting.....	57	.6
Tobacco and cigars	188	1.9	Teaching music or performing other professional service at home.....	26	.3
Cigar making.....	100	1.0	All other home service.....	2	(¹)
Other factory operations.....	88	.9	Not reported	9	.1
All other manufacturing	501	5.1			
Dressmakers, seamstresses, tailoresses, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home.....	86	.9			
Selling trades	308	3.2			
Saleswomen.....	204	2.1			
Retail dealers.....	198	1.0			
Other selling occupations.....	6	.1			

¹ Thirty-three women shared business with husbands.² Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

A larger proportion of women were at work in managerial and professional capacities than in selling occupations. Teaching engaged the largest number of women in the professional group.

It is interesting to note the small but significant number of women who were retail dealers; 98 women were independent proprietors of notion or grocery stores, millinery shops, or other small establishments. Of this number, 33 shared with husbands the responsibility of the business.

Among the 7 per cent who were engaged in domestic and personal service the largest group were household servants. About 3 per cent were servants who lived with employers, 1 per cent were servants who went to their own homes at night, and less than 1 per cent were women who did washing or cleaning in homes by the day.

One thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine women, or 19.4 per cent of all women breadwinners in Passaic reporting, earned money by service rendered in their own homes. With the exception of about 100 who took in washing, or sewing, or millinery, or who taught music or other arts in their homes, all of these women took boarders or lodgers to increase the family income.

Among the women who were employed outside their homes 184 also took boarders or lodgers. These women are included among the women engaged in remunerative occupations in factory, store, or office rather than as workers in their homes, because the work outside the home was deemed their principal occupation.

The fact of importance disclosed by Table 15 is the large number of married women who were going outside of their homes to work. Fifty-six per cent of the women whose husbands were at work were employed in factories, stores, and offices or in others' homes. The proportion naturally was still greater among widows, divorcees, and women whose husbands were not living with the family group.

As one-half of all breadwinning women were employed in factories, it is to be expected that a large number in each marital group would be so employed, as is shown in Table 16. The woolen and worsted mills employed a much larger proportion of married or once-married women than did the other factories. Almost as many single women were employed in the cotton and handkerchief mills as were employed in the woolen mills.

Next to the woolen industry the taking of boarders or lodgers occupied the largest number of women workers whose husbands lived in the family group or who were widows. This is not true among the married women whose husbands were not living with their families; only 6 per cent of these women took boarders or lodgers, whereas about 13 per cent were employed in domestic and personal service outside the home.

The saleswomen, office workers, telephone operators, and professional workers were largely single women, and only 5.2 per cent of these women were engaged in domestic service and but 1.6 per cent worked in their own homes.

TABLE 15.—Breadwinning women working in their own homes or outside their homes, by marital status.

Marital status.	Total number breadwinning women.	Women working in own homes.				Women working outside their homes.										Not reported.		
		Total.		Number working alone on own account.	Number employing others.	Total.		In factories, stores, and offices.				In others' homes.				Number.	Per cent.	
		Number.	Per cent.			Number.	Per cent.	Total.		Number as employees.	Number as employees.	Number working alone on own account.	Total.		Number as employees.			Number working alone on own account.
				Number.	Per cent.			Number.	Per cent.				Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.	
Total.....	9,769	1,899	19.4	1,896	3	7,861	80.5	7,348	75.2	17	7,231	100	513	5.3	424	89	9	0.1
Single.....	4,945	77	1.6	77	.....	4,860	98.3	4,504	92.3	4	4,549	11	296	6.0	243	53	8	.2
Married, husband breadwinner	3,596	1,577	43.9	1,577	.....	2,019	56.1	1,942	54.0	3	1,877	62	77	2.1	62	15	.....	.....
Married, husband not a breadwinner	50	21	42.0	20	1	29	58.0	28	56.0	.....	27	1	1	2.0	.....	1	.....	.....
Married, husband not living with family	367	27	7.4	27	.....	340	92.6	306	83.4	.....	301	5	34	9.3	31	3	.....	.....
Widowed.....	751	189	25.2	187	2	561	74.7	465	61.9	10	434	21	96	12.8	82	14	1	.1
Divorced.....	38	7	18.4	7	.....	31	81.6	23	60.5	.....	23	.....	8	21.1	5	3	.....	.....
Not reported.....	22	1	4.5	1	.....	21	95.5	20	90.9	.....	20	.....	1	4.5	1	.....	.....	.....

TABLE 16.—Marital status of breadwinning women, by industry and occupation.

Industry or occupation.	Marital status.													
	Single.		Married, husband a breadwinner.		Married, husband not a breadwinner.		Married, husband not living with family.		Widowed.		Divorced.		Not reported.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Total.....	4,945	100.0	3,596	100.0	50	100.0	367	100.0	751	100.0	38	100.0	22	100.0
Manufacturing.....	2,726	55.1	1,770	49.2	23	46.0	265	72.2	383	51.0	18	(1)	16	(1)
Woolen and worsted goods.....	1,033	20.9	1,097	30.5	10	20.0	149	40.6	227	30.2	9	(1)	3	(1)
Cotton and cotton goods, including handkerchiefs.....	865	17.5	369	10.3	7	14.0	57	15.3	78	10.4	3	(1)	8	(1)
All other textiles.....	294	5.9	77	2.1	1	2.0	21	5.7	20	2.7	2	(1)	3	(1)
All other manufacturing ²	534	10.8	227	6.3	5	10.0	38	10.4	58	7.7	4	(1)	2	(1)
Selling trades.....	191	3.9	73	2.0	4	8.0	7	1.9	32	4.3	1	(1)	.....	.....
Saleswomen.....	178	3.6	18	.5	2	4.0	1	.3	4	.5	1	(1)	.....	.....
Other selling occupations.....	13	.3	55	1.5	2	4.0	6	1.6	28	3.7	.....	.....	.....	.....
Telephone operators.....	73	1.5	2	.1	.....	.....	1	.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clerical occupations.....	1,055	21.3	35	1.0	.....	.....	11	3.0	10	1.3	2	(1)	4	(1)
Professional service.....	425	8.6	29	.8	.....	.....	9	2.5	20	2.7	2	(1)	.....	.....
Domestic and personal service outside workers' homes.....	390	7.9	110	3.1	2	4.0	47	12.8	116	15.4	8	(1)	1	(1)
Servants living in employers' home.....	200	4.0	6	.2	.....	.....	17	4.6	35	4.7	2	(1)	.....	.....
Servants and dayworkers living in own home.....	60	1.2	58	1.6	.....	.....	15	4.1	47	6.3	3	(1)	1	(1)
Nurses.....	101	2.0	15	.4	.....	.....	8	2.2	11	1.5	3	(1)	.....	.....
All other domestic and personal service.....	29	.6	31	.9	2	4.0	7	1.9	23	3.1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Working in own home.....	77	1.6	1,577	43.9	21	42.0	27	7.3	189	25.2	7	(1)	1	(1)
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	27	.5	1,554	43.2	20	40.0	22	6.0	170	22.6	3	(1)	.....	.....
All other home service.....	50	1.0	23	.6	1	2.0	5	1.4	19	2.5	4	(1)	1	(1)
Not reported.....	8	.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.1	.....	.....	.....	.....

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

² Includes dressmakers, seamstresses, tailoresses, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home.

Just as the proportion in each age group employed in manufacturing decreased with advanced age, so the proportions in the various groups employed in work at home increased as the age increased. Eighty-nine per cent of the girls under 16 years of age worked in factories, while only 25 per cent of the women of 50 years and over were so employed. No children under 16 were earning money by service rendered in the home, whereas almost one-half of the women of 50 and over were at work in their own homes. However, the factories drew most heavily upon the women who were 20 to 40 years of age, whereas the home workers were women 25 years of age and over.

The factories employed many women of all ages. This is not true of other industries. Telephone operators were usually from 16 to 25 years of age. Almost three-fourths of all office employees and seven-tenths of all saleswomen were under 25 years of age. The professions and domestic pursuits drew largely from the more mature women.

TABLE 17.—Specified age groups of breadwinning women, by industry and occupation.

Industry or occupation.	Women in specified age groups.								
	Total	Under 16 years.		16 and 17 years.		18 and 19 years.		20 and under 25 years.	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.
Total.....	9,769	388	100.0	752	100.0	832	100.0	2,379	100.0
Manufacturing.....	5,201	346	89.2	518	68.9	512	61.5	1,347	56.6
Woolen and worsted goods.....	2,528	152	39.2	210	27.9	176	21.2	607	25.5
Cotton and cotton goods, including handkerchiefs.....	1,367	78	20.1	146	19.4	155	18.6	412	17.3
All other textiles.....	418	59	15.2	69	9.2	66	7.9	95	4.0
All other manufacturing.....	868	57	14.7	93	12.4	115	13.8	233	9.8
Selling trades.....	308	15	3.9	41	5.5	28	3.4	66	2.8
Saleswomen.....	204	15	3.9	41	5.5	27	3.2	58	2.4
Other selling occupations.....	104					1	.1	8	.3
Telephone operators.....	76			18	2.4	20	2.4	24	1.0
Clerical occupations.....	1,117	19	4.9	154	20.5	218	26.2	410	17.2
Professional service.....	485	1	.3	3	.4	10	1.2	112	4.7
Domestic and personal service outside workers' home.....	674	7	1.8	15	2.0	35	4.2	139	5.8
Servants living in employer's home.....	260	4	1.0	12	1.6	21	2.5	66	2.8
Servants and day workers living in own home.....	184	3	.8			6	.7	29	1.2
Nurses.....	138					5	.6	32	1.3
All other domestic and personal service.....	92			3	.4	3	.4	12	.5
Working in own home.....	1,899			3	.4	7	.8	277	11.6
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	1,796			2	.3	6	.7	270	11.3
All other home service.....	103			1	.1	1	.1	7	.3
Not reported.....	9					2	.2	4	.2

Industry or occupation.	Women in specified age groups—Continued.								
	25 and under 30 years.		30 and under 40 years.		40 and under 50 years.		50 years and over.		Age not reported.
	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	
Total.....	1,702	100.0	2,047	100.0	975	100.0	689	100.0	5
Manufacturing.....	888	52.2	990	48.4	426	43.7	173	25.1	1
Woolen and worsted goods.....	443	26.0	597	29.2	255	26.2	88	12.8	
Cotton and cotton goods, including handkerchiefs.....	263	15.5	214	10.5	84	8.6	35	5.1	
All other textiles.....	44	2.6	53	2.6	19	1.9	13	1.9	
All other manufacturing.....	138	8.1	126	6.2	68	7.0	37	5.4	1
Selling trades.....	38	2.2	65	3.2	38	3.9	17	2.5	
Saleswomen.....	23	1.4	23	1.1	15	1.5	2	.3	
Other selling occupations.....	15	.9	42	2.1	23	2.4	15	2.2	
Telephone operators.....	8	.5	4	.2	2	.2			
Clerical occupations.....	144	8.5	126	6.2	32	3.3	12	1.7	2
Professional service.....	106	6.2	140	6.8	81	8.3	32	4.6	
Domestic and personal service outside workers' home.....	108	6.3	135	6.6	114	11.7	119	17.3	2
Servants living in employer's home	44	2.6	34	1.7	33	3.4	44	6.4	2
Servants and day workers living in own home.....	23	1.4	41	2.0	46	4.7	36	5.2	
Nurses.....	29	1.7	37	1.8	22	2.3	13	1.9	
All other domestic and personal service.....	12	.7	23	1.1	13	1.3	26	3.8	
Working in own home.....	408	24.0	587	28.7	282	28.9	335	48.6	
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	391	23.0	564	27.6	260	26.7	303	44.0	
All other home service.....	17	1.0	23	1.1	22	2.3	32	4.6	
Not reported.....	2	.1					1	.1	

¹ Includes dressmakers, seamstresses, tailoresses, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home.

Table 18 indicates the industries and occupations in which the women of each nationality were concentrated. Table 19 following it summarizes the data for all women of foreign birth and shows the industries in which were employed those who had been here but a short time and those who came a number of years ago.

The distribution of American-born workers throughout the occupations was greater than that of the foreign-born women. About 41 per cent of the former were working in factories as against 61 per cent of the latter. The cotton and handkerchief mills had a slightly larger number of Americans than had the woolen mills, whereas the cotton mills employed little more than two-fifths as many foreign women as did the woolen and worsted mills. The silk mills and other factories in the city employed about as many American women and girls as foreign women. Office, professional, and selling occupations were filled chiefly by the American born, whereas domestic service had attracted but few Americans.

With the exception of the Dutch, German, and Russian women, foreign women workers were concentrated in Passaic's factory occupations. Their numbers tended to be greatest in the woolen mills, except that the Italians were employed in the largest numbers in cotton and handkerchief mills. A considerable proportion of Russians had become saleswomen and office workers. Only one-third were factory workers. More than a fourth took boarders or lodgers to supplement the family income. Of the Dutch and Germans a third did work in their own homes, and a larger proportion than among other white women were engaged in domestic and personal service.

TABLE 18.—Nationality of breadwinning women, by industry and occupation.

Industry or occupation.	Total number.	American, white.		American, negro.		Austrian.	
		Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	9,769	3,929	100.0	139	100.0	345	100.0
Total working outside the home	7,861	3,462	88.1	106	76.3	262	75.9
Manufacturing	5,115	1,604	40.8	15	10.8	200	58.0
Woolen and worsted goods.....	2,523	495	12.6	2	1.4	153	44.3
Cotton and cotton goods, including handkerchiefs.....	1,387	527	13.4	5	3.6	25	7.2
Silk and silk goods.....	310	172	4.4	2	1.4	10	2.9
Textiles, not specified.....	108	45	1.1	.....	.....	1	.3
Clothing, men's, women's, and children's.....	93	39	1.0	2	1.4	.....	.....
Tobacco and cigars.....	188	69	1.8	.....	.....	4	1.2
All other manufacturing.....	501	257	6.5	4	2.9	7	2.0
Dressmakers, seamstresses, tailresses, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home	86	35	.9	2	1.4	.....	.....
Selling trades	308	144	3.7	.....	.....	14	4.1
Saleswomen.....	204	122	3.1	.....	.....	7	2.0
Retail dealers.....	98	18	.5	.....	.....	7	2.0
Other selling occupations.....	6	4	.1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Telephone operators	76	74	1.9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clerical occupations	1,117	951	24.2	.....	.....	5	1.4
Stenographers and typists.....	505	436	11.1	.....	.....	1	.3
Bookkeepers, cashiers, and accountants.....	203	168	4.3	.....	.....	2	.6
All other clerical occupations.....	409	347	8.8	.....	.....	2	.6
Managerial and professional service	485	436	11.1	.....	.....	1	.3
Managers and executives.....	20	16	.4	.....	.....	.....	.....
School teachers.....	366	341	8.7	.....	.....	.....	.....
Journalists, librarians, and other professionals.....	99	79	2.0	.....	.....	1	.3
Domestic and personal service	674	218	5.5	89	64.0	42	12.2
Servants living in employer's home.....	260	66	1.7	21	15.1	26	7.5
Servants living in own home.....	102	19	.5	28	20.1	6	1.7
Day workers.....	82	8	.2	36	25.9	3	.9
Power laundry workers.....	16	7	.2	.....	.....	2	.6
Cleaners and janitresses.....	20	3	.1	.....	.....	2	.6
Waitresses, restaurant keepers, and kitchen help.....	37	14	.4	3	2.2	1	.3
Nurses.....	138	92	2.3	.....	.....	2	.6
All other domestic and personal service.....	19	9	.2	1	.7	.....	.....
Total working in own home	1,899	461	11.7	33	23.8	83	24.1
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	1,796	401	10.2	23	16.5	82	23.8
Taking in washing.....	18	3	.1	8	5.8	1	.3
Taking in sewing, millinery, or knitting.....	57	31	.8	2	1.4	.....	.....
All other home service.....	28	26	.7	.....	.....	.....	.....
Not reported	9	6	.2	.....	.....	.....	.....

TABLE 18.—Nationality of breadwinning women, by industry and occupation—Contd.

Industry or occupation.	Czecho-slovakian.		Dutch.		German.		Hungarian.	
	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.
Total	264	100.0	80	100.0	197	100.0	983	100.0
Total working outside the home	208	78.8	52	65.0	135	68.5	823	83.7
Manufacturing	178	67.4	28	35.0	67	34.0	714	72.4
Woolen and worsted goods.....	128	48.5	2	2.5	46	23.4	644	65.5
Cotton and cotton goods, including handkerchiefs.....	24	9.1	13	16.3	6	3.0	29	3.0
Silk and silk goods.....	4	1.5	4	5.0	4	2.0	9	.9
Textiles, not specified.....	1	.4	.....	.....	1	.5	8	.8
Clothing, men's, women's, and children's.....	2	.8	.....	.....	2	1.0	3	.3
Tobacco and cigars.....	4	1.5	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	1.3
All other manufacturing.....	15	5.7	9	11.3	8	4.1	8	.8
Dressmakers, seamstresses, tailresses, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home.....	.....	.....	1	1.3	1	.5	8	.3
Selling trades	7	2.7	5	6.3	5	2.5	8	.8
Saleswomen.....	2	.8	2	2.5	2	1.0	3	.3
Retail dealers.....	5	1.9	3	3.8	3	1.5	5	.5
Other selling occupations.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Telephone operators.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clerical occupations	3	1.1	5	6.3	10	5.1	17	1.7
Stenographers and typists.....	3	1.1	3	3.8	4	2.0	4	.4
Bookkeepers, cashiers, and accountants.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1.0	3	.3
All other clerical occupations.....	.....	.....	2	2.5	4	2.0	10	1.0
Managerial and professional service	2	.8	1	1.3	8	4.1	2	.2
Managers and executives.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.5	.....	.....
School teachers.....	2	.8	.....	.....	5	2.5	.....	.....
Journalists, librarians, and other professionals.....	.....	.....	1	1.3	2	1.0	2	.2
Domestic and personal service	18	6.8	12	15.0	44	22.3	79	8.0
Servants living in employer's home.....	7	2.7	3	3.8	25	12.7	31	3.2
Servants living in own home.....	3	1.1	2	2.5	9	4.6	22	2.2
Day workers.....	2	.8	1	1.3	4	2.0	11	1.1
Power laundry workers.....	1	.4	.....	.....	1	.5	1	.1
Cleaners and janitresses.....	.....	.....	1	1.3	1	.5	4	.4
Waitresses, restaurant keepers, and kitchen help.....	1	.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.6
Nurses.....	4	1.5	5	6.3	4	2.0	3	.3
All other domestic and personal service.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.1
Total working in own home	56	21.2	28	35.0	62	31.5	159	16.2
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	56	21.2	28	32.5	57	28.9	155	15.8
Taking in washing.....	.....	.....	2	2.5	1	.5	1	.1
Taking in sewing, millinery, or knitting.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2.0	3	.3
All other home service.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Not reported.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.1

TABLE 18.—Nationality of breadwinning women, by industry and occupation.—Contd.

Industry or occupation.	Italian.		Polish.		Russian.		Other.	
	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.
Total..	418	100.0	2,519	100.0	380	100.0	515	100.0
Total working outside the home.....	342	81.8	1,823	72.3	272	71.6	377	73.2
Manufacturing.....	300	71.8	1,701	67.5	123	32.4	185	35.9
Woolen and worsted goods.....	71	17.0	860	34.1	53	13.9	74	14.4
Cotton and cotton goods, including handkerchiefs.....	128	30.6	535	21.2	33	8.7	62	12.0
Silk and silk goods.....	50	12.0	24	1.0	12	3.2	19	3.7
Textiles, not specified.....	1	.2	42	1.7	3	.8	6	1.2
Clothing, men's, women's, and children's.....	10	2.4	32	1.3	3	.8	.....	.....
Tobacco and cigars.....	6	1.4	87	3.5	3	.8	2	.4
All other manufacturing.....	34	8.1	121	4.8	16	4.2	22	4.3
Dressmakers, seamstresses, tailor-esses, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home.....	15	3.6	12	.5	11	2.9	6	1.2
Selling trades.....	7	1.7	28	1.1	70	18.4	20	3.9
Saleswomen.....	3	.7	5	.2	47	12.4	11	2.1
Retail dealers.....	4	1.0	22	.9	23	6.1	8	1.6
Other selling occupations.....	.....	.....	1	(¹)	.....	.....	1	.2
Telephone operators.....	.....	.....	1	(¹)	.....	.....	1	.2
Clerical occupations.....	13	3.1	14	.6	56	14.7	43	8.3
Stenographers and typists.....	3	.7	8	.3	25	6.6	18	3.5
Bookkeepers, cashiers, and accountants.....	2	.5	2	.1	15	3.9	9	1.7
All other clerical occupations.....	8	1.9	4	.2	16	4.2	16	3.1
Managerial and professional service.....	2	.5	9	.4	5	1.3	19	3.7
Managers and executives.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.6
School teachers.....	.....	.....	8	.3	3	.8	7	1.4
Journalists, librarians, and other professionals.....	2	.5	1	(¹)	2	.5	9	1.7
Domestic and personal service.....	5	1.2	57	2.3	7	1.8	103	20.0
Servants living in employer's home.....	1	.2	17	.7	.....	.....	63	12.2
Servants living in own home.....	.....	.....	8	.3	.....	.....	5	1.0
Day workers.....	1	.2	11	.4	1	.3	4	.8
Power laundry workers.....	.....	.....	2	.1	.....	.....	2	.4
Cleaners and janitresses.....	1	.2	5	.2	.....	.....	3	.6
Waitresses, restaurant keepers, and kitchen help.....	1	.2	3	.1	1	.3	7	1.4
Nurses.....	1	.2	5	.2	4	1.1	18	3.5
All other domestic and personal service.....	.....	.....	6	.2	1	.3	1	.2
Total working in own home.....	75	17.9	697	27.7	107	28.2	138	26.8
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	73	17.5	693	27.5	104	27.4	126	24.5
Taking in washing.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.4
Taking in sewing, millinery or knitting.....	2	.5	4	.2	3	.8	8	1.6
All other home service.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.4
Not reported.....	1	.2	.....	.....	1	.3	.....	.....

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

As already stated, only 73 women workers in Passaic had been in this country less than 5 years. Their distribution in the industries is probably, therefore, without significance.

It can be readily seen in Table 19, however, that immigrants of five to ten years ago were more concentrated in factory occupations, and particularly in woolen and worsted mill work, than were the women who had been in this country 10 years or more. The latter

had entered the selling, office, and professional occupations to a small extent, while the numbers of recent immigrants therein were practically negligible.

TABLE 19.—*Years in the United States of foreign-born breadwinning women, by industry and occupation.*

Industry or occupation.	Foreign-born women breadwinners.		Number women reporting years in United States.	Women in United States less than 5 years.		Women in United States from 5 to 10 years.		Women in United States 10 years and over.	
	Number.	Per cent.		Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Total	5,701	100.0	5,497	73	100.0	1,847	100.0	3,577	100.0
Manufacturing	3,496	61.3	3,401	45	61.6	1,335	72.3	2,021	56.5
Woolen and worsted goods.....	2,031	35.6	1,992	20	27.4	825	44.7	1,147	32.1
Cotton and cotton goods including handkerchiefs.....	855	15.0	826	13	17.8	318	17.2	495	13.8
Silk and silk goods.....	136	2.4	126	3	4.1	36	1.9	87	2.4
Textiles, not specified.....	63	1.1	63	2	2.7	16	.9	45	1.3
Clothing, men's, women's, and children's.....	52	.9	48	.....	.....	22	1.2	26	.7
Tobacco and cigars.....	119	2.1	115	2	2.7	56	3.0	57	1.6
All other manufacturing.....	240	4.2	231	5	6.8	62	3.4	164	4.6
Dressmakers, seamstresses, tailors, milliners, and apprentices in shops or employer's home	49	.9	46	1	1.4	15	.8	30	.8
Selling trades	164	2.9	156	1	1.4	21	1.1	134	3.7
Saleswomen.....	82	1.4	70	1	1.4	14	.8	64	1.8
Retail dealers.....	80	1.4	75	.....	.....	7	.4	68	1.9
Other selling occupations.....	2	(¹)	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.1
Telephone operators	2	(¹)	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	(¹)
Clerical occupations	166	2.9	154	1	1.4	15	.8	138	3.9
Stenographers and typists.....	60	1.2	67	.....	.....	4	.2	63	1.8
Bookkeepers, cashiers, and accountants.....	35	.6	35	.....	.....	6	.3	29	.8
All other clerical occupations.....	62	1.1	52	1	1.4	5	.3	46	1.3
Managerial and professional service	49	.9	43	.....	.....	8	.4	35	1.0
Managers and executives.....	4	.1	4	.....	.....	1	.1	3	.1
School teachers.....	25	.4	21	.....	.....	4	.2	17	.5
Journalists, librarians, and other professionals.....	20	.4	18	.....	.....	3	.2	15	.4
Domestic and personal service outside worker's home	367	6.4	330	11	15.1	79	4.3	240	6.7
Servants living in employer's home.....	173	3.0	153	9	12.3	51	2.8	93	2.6
Servants living in own home.....	55	1.0	51	1	1.4	12	.6	38	1.1
Day workers.....	38	.7	34	1	1.4	1	.1	32	.9
Power laundry workers.....	9	.2	8	.....	.....	2	.1	6	.2
Cleaners and janitresses.....	17	.3	15	.....	.....	2	.1	13	.4
Waitresses, restaurant keepers, and kitchen help.....	20	.4	19	.....	.....	1	.1	18	.5
Nurses.....	46	.8	41	.....	.....	5	.3	36	1.0
All other domestic and personal service.....	9	.2	9	.....	.....	5	.3	4	.1
Working in own home	1,405	24.6	1,363	14	19.2	374	20.2	975	27.3
Taking boarders or lodgers.....	1,372	24.1	1,332	14	19.2	370	20.0	948	26.5
Taking in washing.....	7	.1	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.2
Taking in sewing, millinery, etc.....	24	.4	22	.....	.....	3	.2	19	.5
All other home service.....	2	(¹)	2	.....	.....	1	.1	1	(¹)
Not reported	3	.1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.1

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Breadwinning mothers.

There were 4,802 women breadwinners in Passaic who were or had been married. Of these, 4,462 reported concerning children. Nearly three-fourths of these married, widowed, or divorced breadwinners were mothers; only 27 per cent had no children. There is little variation in the proportion having children in the several marital groups. The range is from 81 per cent in the small number of divorced women to 70 per cent among the women workers whose husbands were not breadwinners. Among the married women whose husbands were employed, and who represented by far the largest group of workers, 72.5 per cent had children.

TABLE 20.—*Breadwinning women who had children, or had no children, by marital status.*

Marital status.	Number of women reporting concerning children.	Women who had children.	Women who had no children.
Total:			
Number.....	4,462	3,271	1,191
Per cent.....	100.0	73.3	26.7
Married, husband breadwinner:			
Number.....	3,596	2,608	988
Per cent.....	100.0	72.5	27.5
Married, husband not a breadwinner:			
Number.....	50	35	15
Per cent.....	100.0	70.0	30.0
Married, husband not living with family:			
Number.....	201	151	50
Per cent.....	100.0	75.1	24.9
Widowed:			
Number.....	589	456	133
Per cent.....	100.0	77.4	22.6
Divorced:			
Number.....	26	21	5
Per cent.....	100.0	80.8	19.2

Although approximately three-fourths of the married or once-married women workers were mothers of children, the prevailing families were not large. The essential feature of Table 21 lies in the fact that over 60 per cent of the women breadwinners had only one or two children. Only about 10 per cent of the mothers had families ranging from five to ten children.

The variations in the actual and average number of children of the mothers living with husbands and of those widowed, divorced, or separated are so slight as to indicate that the number of children in a family was not a differential factor in conditions surrounding the breadwinners in each group.

TABLE 21.—Number of children of breadwinning mothers, by marital status of mother.

Marital status.	Total women having children.	Women having specified number of children.										Average number of children per mother.	
		One.	Two.	Three.	Four.	Five.	Six.	Seven.	Eight.	Nine.	Ten.		
Total:													
Number.....	3,271	1,073	926	500	370	176	82	34	12	6	2		2.4
Per cent.....	100.0	32.8	28.3	18.0	11.3	5.4	2.5	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.1		.....
Married, husband breadwinner:													
Number.....	2,608	767	755	489	306	157	68	31	9	4	2		2.5
Per cent.....	100.0	30.2	28.9	18.8	11.7	6.0	2.6	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.1		.....
Married, husband not a breadwinner:													
Number.....	35	13	7	7	4	1	2			1			2.6
Per cent.....	100.0	37.1	20.0	20.0	11.4	2.9	5.7			2.9			.....
Married, husband not living with family:													
Number.....	151	84	41	16	6	1	1	1	1				1.7
Per cent.....	100.0	55.6	27.2	10.6	4.0	.7	.7	.7	.7				.....
Widowed:													
Number.....	456	178	117	76	52	17	11	2	2	1			2.3
Per cent.....	100.0	39.0	25.7	16.7	11.4	3.7	2.4	.4	.4	.2			.....
Divorced:													
Number.....	21	11	6	2	2								1.8
Per cent.....	100.0	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)								.....

¹ Not computed, owing to small number involved.

Though the families of working mothers were not large, the children were young. Approximately 60 per cent of the employed mothers had children under 5 years of age, 20 per cent had children of 5 to 7 years of age who had not yet entered school, although the New Jersey school regulations permit children to go to school at the age of 5 years. These percentages are not mutually exclusive, as mothers with children under 5 years may also have had children between 5 and 7 years. But Table 22 presents the strikingly significant fact that all of these breadwinning mothers had small children at home requiring care. The 12 per cent of breadwinning mothers who had children of 5 to 7 at school had the assurance that for a part of the working day at least the little ones were safe. Who got them ready for school in the morning or looked to their physical and moral welfare after school, the census data, of course, do not indicate.

Another singularly striking feature of Table 22 is the revelation that it was not the widowed mothers nor other women with disrupted marital relations who were winning bread apparently at the expense of the care of young children, but the married women living with breadwinning husbands. The revelation makes a strong urge for further information.

Although children are permitted to enter school at the age of 5 in New Jersey, attendance is compulsory only from 7 to 16 years of age. With the consent of parents and upon securing a proper certificate, children may leave school at the age of 14 to go to work.

Apparently many working women find it necessary to take their children from school as soon as permitted by law. Eleven per cent had children 14 to 17 years of age at work. Eight per cent permitted children of these ages to continue their school work; less than 1 per cent had children at school who were as much as 18 years of age.

TABLE 22.—*Breadwinning mothers having children of specified age groups in school, at home, or at work, by marital status of mother.*

Marital status.	Total.	Women having children under 5 years of age.		Women having children 5 and 6 years of age.		Women having children 7 and under 14 years of age.		Women having children 14 and under 18 years of age.			Women having children 18 years of age and over.								
		In school.	At home.	In school.	At home.	In school.	At home.	At work.	In school.	At home.	At work.	In school.	At home.	At work.					
Total:																			
Number.....	3,271	1,934	303	642	1,445	187	261	41	376	21	51	476							
Per cent.....	100.0	59.1	12.0	19.6	44.2	5.7	8.0	1.3	11.5	0.6	1.6	14.6							
Married, husband breadwinner:																			
Number.....	2,608	1,767	345	575	1,172	153	194	29	238	16	29	232							
Per cent.....	100.0	67.8	13.2	22.0	44.9	5.9	7.4	1.1	9.1	0.6	1.1	8.9							
Married, husband not a breadwinner:																			
Number.....	35	6	3	2	14	2	7	1	9	2	1	14							
Per cent.....	100.0	17.1	8.6	5.7	40.0	5.7	20.0	2.9	25.7	5.7	2.9	40.0							
Married, husband not living with family:																			
Number.....	151	57	11	14	55	6	7	2	27	.....	1	33							
Per cent.....	100.0	37.7	7.3	9.3	36.4	4.0	4.6	1.3	17.9	.....	.7	21.9							
Widowed:																			
Number.....	456	99	32	50	195	26	50	7	100	3	20	192							
Per cent.....	100.0	21.7	7.0	11.0	42.8	5.7	11.0	1.5	21.9	.7	4.4	42.1							
Divorced:																			
Number.....	21	5	2	1	9	.....	3	2	2	.....	.....	5							
Per cent.....	100.0	23.8	9.5	4.8	42.9	.....	14.3	9.5	9.5	.....	.....	23.8							

How many mothers with young children were away from their homes during working hours? Table 23 shows that over 47 per cent of the mothers with children under 5 years of age, and about one-half of those having children 5 and 6 years of age at home, were engaged in remunerative service outside of the home. The census schedules show that in none of these families were there servants who might care for the children in the absence of the mothers. Whether other arrangements were made for the care of these children is a question of indisputable social significance but it can not be answered from census data.⁷

More than half of these mothers who went out to work were employed in the woolen and worsted mills. The cotton and handkerchief mills gave work to the next largest number.

⁷ See Chapter II, p. 41.

TABLE 23.—Breadwinning mothers having children of specified age groups in school, at home, or at work, by industry or occupation of mother.

Industry or occupation.	Total.	Women having children under 5 years of age.	Women having children 5 and 6 years of age.		Women having children 7 and under 14 years of age.		Women having children 14 and under 18 years of age.			Women having children 18 years of age and over.		
			In school.	At home.	In school.	At home.	In school.	At home.	At work.	In school.	At home.	At work.
Total:												
Number.....	3,271	1,934	393	642	1,445	187	261	41	376	21	51	478
Per cent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Working outside own home:												
Number.....	1,778	924	220	316	876	73	134	23	235	7	17	226
Per cent.....	54.4	47.8	56.0	49.2	60.6	39.0	51.3	56.1	62.5	33.3	33.3	47.5
Manufacturing:												
Number.....	1,517	833	187	290	734	66	84	18	202	1	5	155
Per cent.....	46.4	44.1	47.6	45.2	50.8	35.3	32.2	43.9	53.7	4.8	9.8	32.6
Woolen and worsted goods:												
Number.....	938	525	122	176	460	41	56	11	135		3	101
Per cent.....	28.7	27.1	31.0	27.4	31.8	21.9	21.5	26.8	35.9		5.9	21.2
Cotton and cotton goods:												
Number.....	319	185	32	77	148	12	11	3	27			25
Per cent.....	9.8	9.6	8.1	12.0	10.2	6.4	4.2	7.3	7.2			5.3
All other manufacturing:												
Number.....	260	143	33	37	126	13	17	4	40	1	2	29
Per cent.....	7.9	7.4	8.4	5.8	8.7	7.0	6.5	9.8	10.6	4.8	3.9	6.1
Selling trades:												
Number.....	96	35	17	13	52	5	27	2	11	3	4	24
Per cent.....	2.9	1.8	4.3	2.0	3.6	2.7	10.3	4.9	2.9	14.3	7.8	5.0
Clerical occupations:												
Number.....	20	8	2	2	10	1	1		1			3
Per cent.....	.6	.4	.5	.3	.7	.5	.4		.3			.6
Professional service:												
Number.....	22	2	1	2	10	1	3	1	1	1	3	7
Per cent.....	.7	.1	.3	.3	.7	.5	1.1	2.4	.3	4.8	5.9	1.5
Domestic and personal service:												
Number.....	123	26	13	0	70		19	2	20	2	5	37
Per cent.....	3.8	1.3	3.3	1.4	4.8		7.3	4.9	5.3	9.5	9.8	7.8
Working in own home:												
Number.....	1,493	1,010	173	326	569	114	127	18	141	14	34	250
Per cent.....	45.6	52.2	44.0	50.8	39.4	61.0	48.7	43.9	37.5	66.7	66.7	52.5

Table 24, concerned with the apparent influence of nationality, shows a less proportion of mothers among the American born than among any foreign-born group except the Germans. The American white, it will be recalled, were a much younger group of women. The large number of Polish women and the comparatively small groups of Austrians, Czechoslovakians, and Russians show that 80 to 85 per cent have had children.

TABLE 24.—*Breadwinning women who had children, or had no children, by nationality.*

Nationality.	Number of women who were or had been married.	Women reporting children.	Women who had children.		Women who had no children.	
			Number.	Per cent of those reporting.	Number.	Per cent of those reporting.
Total.....	4,802	4,462	3,271	73.3	1,191	2.67
American, white.....	789	746	448	60.1	298	39.9
American, negro.....	100	82	33	40.2	49	69.8
Austrian.....	254	223	184	82.5	39	17.5
Czechoslovakian.....	217	196	157	80.1	39	19.9
Dutch.....	41	40	29	72.5	11	27.5
German.....	125	117	63	53.8	54	46.2
Hungarian.....	786	726	495	68.2	231	31.8
Italian.....	212	205	155	75.6	50	24.4
Polish.....	1,785	1,682	1,360	80.9	322	19.1
Russian.....	197	190	163	85.8	27	14.2
All other.....	296	255	184	72.2	71	27.8

The prevailing number of children in the families of the foreign born differed very little from the number in American families. Table 25 discloses the fact that the average number of children per mother varied by less than one. However, there was one distinguishing difference. The percentage of women having only one child was highest among the Americans, white and negro, approximately one-half of whom had but one child. Among the great number of Polish women, 28.5 per cent had but one child, 29.9 per cent had two children, and 18.5 per cent had three children.

TABLE 25.—Number of children of breadwinning mothers, by nationality of mother.

Nationality.	Total women having children.	Women having specified number of children.										Average number of children per mother.		
		One.	Two.	Three.	Four.	Five.	Six.	Seven.	Eight.	Nine.	Ten.			
Total:														
Number.....	3,271	1,073	926	590	370	176	82	34	12	6	2		2.4	
Per cent.....	100.0	32.8	28.3	18.0	11.3	5.4	2.5	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.1		.....
American, white:														
Number.....	448	211	115	70	27	13	9	1	1	1			2.0	
Per cent.....	100.0	47.1	25.7	15.6	6.0	2.9	2.0	.2	0.2	0.2			.....
American, negro:														
Number.....	33	18	7	4	2	2							1.9	
Per cent.....	100.0	54.5	21.2	12.1	6.1	6.1							.....
Austrian:														
Number.....	184	59	48	29	23	15	5	5					2.6	
Per cent.....	100.0	32.1	26.1	15.8	12.5	8.1	2.7	2.7					.....
Czechoslovakian:														
Number.....	157	46	38	32	23	16	1		1				2.6	
Per cent.....	100.0	29.3	24.2	20.4	14.6	10.2	.6		.6				.....
Dutch:														
Number.....	29	8	8	5	3	3	1	1					2.7	
Per cent.....	100.0	27.0	27.6	17.2	10.3	10.3	3.4	3.4					.....
German:														
Number.....	63	23	22	9	5	2	2						2.2	
Per cent.....	100.0	36.5	34.9	14.3	7.9	3.2	3.2						.....
Hungarian:														
Number.....	495	177	145	79	55	20	11	5	2	1			2.3	
Per cent.....	100.0	35.8	29.3	16.0	11.1	4.0	2.2	1.0	.4	.2			.....
Italian:														
Number.....	155	40	45	32	22	9	6			1			2.6	
Per cent.....	100.0	25.8	29.0	20.6	14.2	5.8	3.9			.6			.....
Polish:														
Number.....	1,360	337	406	252	169	81	38	18	6	2	1		2.5	
Per cent.....	100.0	28.5	29.9	18.5	12.4	6.0	2.8	1.3	.4	.1	.1		.....
Russian:														
Number.....	163	44	48	38	21	6	3	2	1				2.5	
Per cent.....	100.0	27.0	29.4	23.3	12.9	3.7	1.8	1.2	.6				.....
All other:														
Number.....	181	60	44	40	20	9	6	2	1	1	1		2.6	
Per cent.....	100.0	32.6	23.9	21.7	10.9	4.9	3.3	1.1	.5	.5	.5		.....

In most cases the Polish mothers had young children. Over three-fourths of these breadwinning mothers had children under 5 years of age; nearly a third had children of 5 and 6 at home, and 10 per cent had children of those ages at school. The problem of the very young child was less acute with the Americans, somewhat more than a third of whom had children of less than 5 years of age.

The Poles, it would seem, did not as a rule send children to school before the compulsory school age was reached. Less than one-fourth of those having children of 5 and 6 years were sending them to school. The same tendency was marked among the Austrians. Larger proportions of the remaining groups took advantage of the opportunity afforded by the State law to begin the education of children at an early age.

The American whites and the Russians were the only nationalities whose mothers of children from 14 to 18 years of age had more of them in school than at work. The tendency among other nationalities to send the child to work as soon as the law allowed is revealed in Table 26.

TABLE 26.—*Breadwinning mothers with children of specified age groups in school, at home, or at work, by nationality of mother.*

Nationality.	Total women having children.	Women having children under 5 years of age.	Women having children 5 and 6 years of age.		Women having children 7 and under 14 years of age.		Women having children 14 and under 18 years of age.			Women having children 18 years of age and over.				
			In school.	At home.	In school.	At home.	In school.	At home.	At work.	In school.	At home.	At work.		
Total:														
Number.....	3,271	1,934	393	642	1,445	187	261	41	376	21	51	476		
Per cent.....	100.0	59.1	12.0	19.6	44.2	5.7	8.0	1.3	11.5	0.6	1.6	14.6		
American, white:														
Number.....	448.	162	47	34	158	12	52	9	43	8	24	122		
Per cent.....	100.0	36.2	10.5	7.6	35.3	2.7	11.6	2.0	9.6	1.8	5.4	27.2		
American, negro:														
Number.....	33	12	1	3	16	.....	1	.....	3	.....	2	9		
Per cent.....	100.0	36.4	3.0	9.1	48.5	.....	3.0	.....	9.1	.....	6.1	27.3		
Austrian:														
Number.....	184	99	17	33	91	13	20	4	34	.....	1	32		
Per cent.....	100.0	53.8	9.2	17.9	49.5	7.1	10.9	2.2	18.5	.....	.5	17.4		
Czechoslovakian:														
Number.....	157	96	22	26	78	8	11	1	32	1	2	25		
Per cent.....	100.0	61.1	14.0	16.6	49.7	5.1	7.0	.6	20.4	.6	1.3	15.9		
Dutch:														
Number.....	29	8	5	.....	15	.....	6	1	8	.....	3	13		
Per cent.....	100.0	27.6	17.2	.....	51.7	.....	20.7	3.4	27.6	.....	10.3	44.8		
German:														
Number.....	63	10	8	3	32	.....	8	2	14	2	.....	25		
Per cent.....	100.0	15.9	12.7	4.8	50.8	.....	12.7	3.2	22.2	3.2	.....	39.7		
Hungarian:														
Number.....	495	241	84	61	268	23	40	5	74	1	3	65		
Per cent.....	100.0	48.7	17.0	12.3	54.1	4.6	8.1	1.0	14.9	.2	.6	13.1		
Italian:														
Number.....	155	82	33	19	75	9	13	2	17	.....	2	25		
Per cent.....	100.0	52.9	21.3	12.3	48.4	5.8	8.4	1.3	11.0	.....	1.3	16.1		
Polish:														
Number.....	1,360	1,041	130	416	557	109	64	13	110	2	3	81		
Per cent.....	100.0	76.5	9.6	30.6	41.0	8.0	4.7	1.0	8.1	.1	.2	6.0		
Russian:														
Number.....	163	98	27	15	69	9	28	2	12	6	5	29		
Per cent.....	100.0	60.1	16.6	9.2	42.3	5.5	17.2	1.2	7.4	3.7	3.1	17.8		
All other:														
Number.....	184	85	19	32	96	4	18	2	29	1	6	50		
Per cent.....	100.0	46.2	10.3	17.4	46.7	2.2	9.8	1.1	15.8	.5	3.3	27.2		

II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF BREADWINNING MOTHERS AS SHOWN BY PERSONAL SURVEY.

The foregoing tables, based exclusively upon the data to be found on the schedules collected by the United States Bureau of the Census, raise a number of important questions which can be answered only by supplementary investigations. Because the census enumeration includes all the people in a city, and therefore shows how large a number of persons are included in each classification to which unanswered questions apply, there is little chance of directing expensive surveys into conditions of numerically unimportant groups when census data are available for guidance. For example, the census data studied show an actually and relatively large number of married women working outside of the home though having breadwinning

husbands. It is of manifest importance to know why so large a group of women with home responsibilities should be at work when the usual family providers are in evidence. Rarely are the wages of fathers sufficient to keep grown unmarried daughters from going into industry as breadwinners, but that the wife and mother should go out to work while the husband and father is a breadwinner challenges attention. Is it because she must or because she "wants to"? Without information on family income, which it is not possible to secure from census schedules, a definite answer to this question can not be given.

As previously stated, one of the most important questions raised by the census data concerned the care provided for young children of mothers working outside the home and the amount of help in household duties which these mothers had from paid or unpaid assistants. To test the dependability of collected census data as an index to the importance of questions left unanswered, this subject alone was chosen for an experimental survey.

Approximately 1,000 addresses of women having small children were selected. The numbers were chosen from each Passaic enumeration district in proportion to the numbers of breadwinning women reported therein. Five hundred and twenty-two of these women were found and were identified as those enumerated in 1920. They were interviewed as to the care provided for the children and the help received in the performance of household duties during the year the census was taken. The results, though briefly stated, have a long reach in social consequence.

Care of young children of mothers working away from home.

Mother kept store, cared for children at same time.....	22
Mother worked nights, cared for children in daytime	107
Paid custodian to care for young children.....	25
Relative.....	2
Hired woman.....	4
Day nursery.....	3
Neighbor.....	16
Relatives looked after children.....	93
Living at home.....	66
Living near.....	27
Landlady or boarders looked after children.....	35
Neighbors cared for children.....	68
Husband "kept eye on children".....	54
Worked nights, home during day.....	44
Worked at home or unable to work.....	10
Children cared for each other.....	118
All from 7 to 14 years.....	82
Some under 7, others from 7 to 14 years in same family.....	34
All under 5 years.....	2

The care provided seems in great measure to have been casual and inadequate. It is difficult to fix the line of demarcation between the conditions confronting women who said they depended on neighbors to care for their children and those who frankly stated that the children cared for themselves or that "God took care of them." Many of the families lived in three-story tenements, containing from 6 to 12 families. The children, therefore, were not left in the isolation that would have obtained under other living conditions. Undoubtedly, should any children of the absent mothers have been hurt, neighbors would have rendered assistance whether or not the children were supposed "to care for themselves."

Mothers working at night usually had a ten-hour shift five nights a week, that is, from 7 p. m. to 5 a. m., or from 8 p. m. to 6 a. m. They were, therefore, at home in time for breakfast in the morning. Sixteen night workers, however, worked on a short shift, or from early evening to midnight, thus enabling them to get some sleep before beginning the household duties of the day. At the time the investigator visited Passaic many women who had been on night work in 1920, when the census was taken, were out of work. As soon as the mills were busy enough to run the night shifts, however, these women expected to return to work.

Except for the women storekeepers and those who were fortunate enough to have relatives living in the family, or those who paid some one to care for the children, the picture given above indicates very clearly that the children of many of these working mothers had to depend upon themselves for most of their needs during the mothers' absence.

Almost four-fifths of the women interviewed did the housework in addition to the performance of their other labors, with no assistance except that rendered by the husband or small children. Women who worked in the factories five nights a week had, of course, Saturday in which to work at home. Twenty-one others said they took off from one-half to two days weekly in order to look after household affairs.

Only 14 employed help for housework, either regularly one or two days a week or for an occasional day; 19 sent laundry out to be done. About 70 others stated that a mother, daughter, boarder, or neighbor helped with the laundry and cleaning. All the other breadwinning mothers—that is, 419 of the 522 interviewed—cooked, cleaned, and washed for their families in addition to caring for the children and performing remunerative service outside the home.

