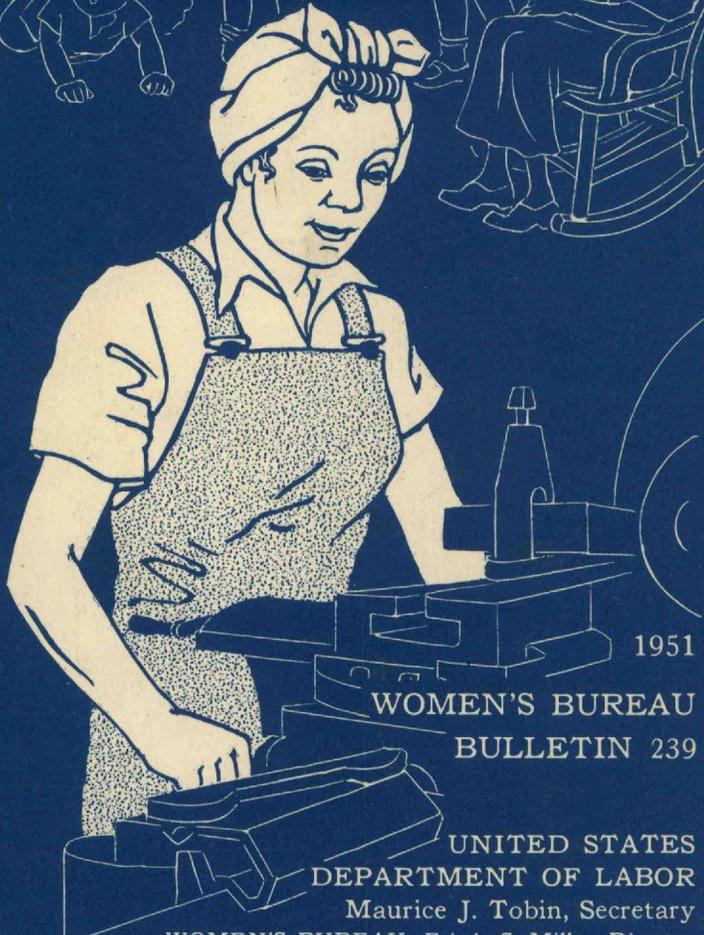
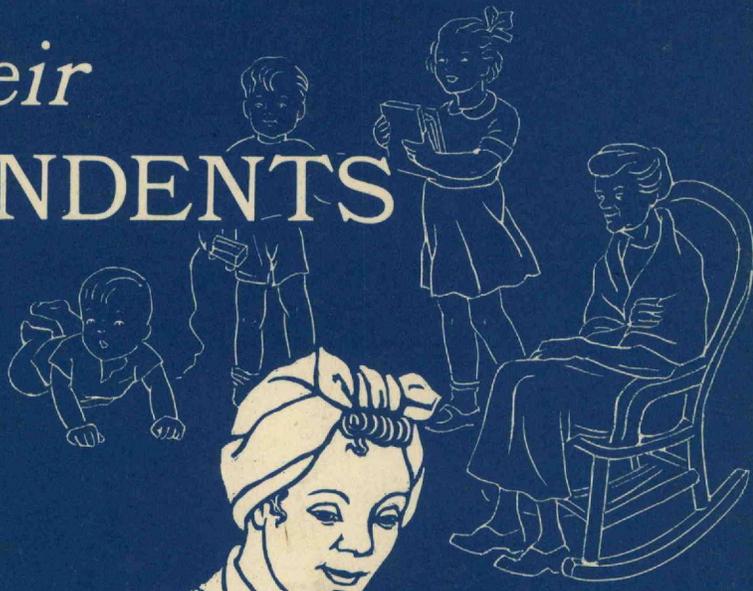


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WOMEN WORKERS *and their* DEPENDENTS



1951

WOMEN'S BUREAU
BULLETIN 239

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Maurice J. Tobin, Secretary
WOMEN'S BUREAU, Frieda S. Miller, Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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WOMEN'S BUREAU

Frieda S. Miller, Director

WOMEN WORKERS
AND
THEIR DEPENDENTS

By

Mary-Elizabeth Pidgeon



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF WOMEN AND CHILD LABOR
WOMEN WORKERS
AND
THEIR DEPENDENTS



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,
WOMEN'S BUREAU,
Washington, October 30, 1951.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit a report indicating the considerable share women's earnings furnish in the support of the American home. The perennial demand for knowledge as to the economic responsibilities of women is widespread not only among union groups, women's organizations, investigators of economic conditions, and the American public in general; it also is sought on a world-wide scale, through inquiries of the International Labor Office and many visitors to the Women's Bureau from other countries.

This study was made on urgent request of the Women's Bureau Labor Advisory Committee, composed of working women designated by their own unions. Usable questionnaires were filled in by about 9,000 women workers, members of 7 union groups that cooperated. The findings are shown in part I. They correspond with and reinforce those from more than 200 former studies by many agencies, over 70 of which were made by the Women's Bureau. These are examined in part II.

Results of this investigation are timely in a period that requires effective use of all this country's resources, since women carry an especially heavy support load when economic dislocations occur, whether by reason of war, depression, or other emergency. Women of all age groups, including some of those under 25 and some 65 or older, support or substantially aid in the support of others besides themselves. From over a tenth to more than a fourth of them are the only earners contributing to the upkeep of their families—even larger proportions of working mothers, according to several current reports on persons using day-care centers for their children.

Part I is the only report ever made on this subject that includes the locals of several different unions in many areas geographically widespread, and confines itself to replies from union women alone. I should like to call special attention to the efforts for the success of this project put forth by numerous officers and leaders in more than 100 union locals, often under the pressure of other important programs.

This report was made under the general direction of Mrs. Mary N. Hilton, Chief of the Bureau's Research Division; it was planned and written by Mary-Elizabeth Pidgeon, the statistical compilations for part I were directed by Isadore Spring, and a large share of the basic research was done by Anne Lefkowitz.

Respectfully submitted.

FRIEDA S. MILLER, *Director.*

HON. MAURICE J. TOBIN,
Secretary of Labor.

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WOMEN WORKERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Background and Summary of Findings

EVERGREEN INTEREST IN WOMEN'S FINANCES

How many women earners are supporting dependents? What part of a woman's earnings goes to provide essentials for the family or to raise its standard of living? How much of the family's wage income is furnished by women? In how many families is a woman worker the only earner?

The wide and lively discussion long given to these and related questions testifies to their absorbing interest. They also are of vital importance in determining public policies, as for example in defining adequate wage levels for women workers, or in attracting women into occupations or localities where their work is needed.

The public has asked repeatedly: Do women really need their earnings or are they working only for pin money? A multitude of investigators have replied on the basis of objective data: Women do indeed need and use their earnings not only for their own support, but also to support dependents, and otherwise as a substantial contribution to the family's upkeep! This is illustrated concretely by many striking facts gathered from far and wide, and by the experiences of many families.

One study pointed out in detail those who, though working, received part of their support from their families. This group was found to be less than 4 percent of the total (nearly 11,000 professional women included in the study). Modern economy has made the old theory that most women work only for "pin money" entirely obsolete. Even the small proportion receiving family help is likely to be made up largely of young women not yet fully established in their working life, who later may have fuller support responsibilities. There are families, too, that under some economic stress can keep their heads above water only because a young daughter earns part of her own expenses.

It is of interest that, in the course of a recent inquiry into women's economic situation in various countries, the Swiss expert consulted by the International Labor Office explained a lack of studies of this subject in that country by saying: "* * * everyone is aware that most mothers of families who go out to work do so from economic neces-

sity. * * * Most mothers belonging to the less well-to-do classes of the population only continue to work because of material necessity. This does not necessarily mean that the minimum subsistence level of the family could not be reached without the additional earnings of the mother; but there are many cases where the mother must have gainful employment to prevent the family income from falling below this minimum subsistence level."

In the United States, the continuing interest in the financial responsibilities of women workers has resulted, over the past 60 years and more, in a great variety of studies in this field. The present report, besides summarizing earlier findings, gives the results of a new investigation, showing the economic responsibilities of women workers who are members of several different unions.

Studies that afford some information are numerous, though the character of their reporting varies greatly. They give abundant data along some lines, though their results are fragmentary in other respects. These studies have been made in several periods and cover unlike areas. Some include only workers in special occupation groups or those employed in particular industries. Many of them are directed primarily to other subjects and give only incidental data on women workers' dependents.

But when these scattered bits are drawn together, they do give impressive evidence of the great responsibility the woman worker takes toward meeting the financial needs of her family. Moreover, they indicate certain prevailing patterns that are notably uniform regardless of time, place, or limits of the investigation. For example, the single woman's dependents are most likely to be parents and relatives of an older generation, while the married woman more frequently is supporting children. The majority of women workers live in family households. Many of these put their contribution into a common household fund; others assume some particular item such as payment for groceries or rent, which makes it difficult to assess the full extent of their share in family expenses. Appreciable proportions of those living apart from their families also are supporting dependents or substantially contributing to their support.

KERNELS OF FACT FROM MANY EARLIER STUDIES

The extent and character of women workers' contribution to the support of dependents varies widely in relation to many factors, such as the worker's broad occupation group, age or marital status, general economic situation, and so forth. The statements that follow are based on detailed findings in about 240 of the more prominent studies of this subject, and to a major extent on some 30 of these, made for the most part in the past 15 years and analyzed in part II of the present report.

WOMEN WORKERS CONTRIBUTING TO DEPENDENTS

The reports examined show that most frequently half or well over half of the women at work in all types of occupations consider themselves in some degree responsible for dependents (in addition, of course, supporting themselves). Studies of women workers on relief projects and some studies of women war workers show more than nine-tenths having responsibility for dependents. This is the proportion shown in the largest recent study, reporting on about 10,000 women workers in World War II industries, who lived with their families. Several large studies of teachers show half to two-thirds contributing to or fully supporting dependents. Of the studies analyzed here, almost none except those of nurses show fewer than a third having dependents. Among nurses, though many are young single women without dependents, still not far from a third report responsibilities for support of others. A few studies of varied groups of professional women show over 40 percent having dependents. The proportion of women who contribute to dependents ordinarily is largest among those widowed or divorced (which, however, includes a much smaller number of women workers than other marital groups), next among the married, and smallest among single women. Nevertheless, in most of the studies reporting on marital status at least a third, and in some cases over half, of the single women were contributing to dependents.

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS SUPPORTED BY WOMEN WORKERS

Generally over half the women with dependents have only one, but most studies show that at least a third have two or more dependents. Women who have dependents report an average of at least 1.3 dependents for each woman worker (in addition to support of herself); in some studies the average shown is more than 2.0. Married women are more likely than single to report more than one dependent, though (as later shown) they also appear somewhat the more likely to share with others rather than to have responsibility for full support.

RELATIONSHIP OF DEPENDENTS TO WOMAN WORKER

Single women are likely to be supporting adults, primarily mothers, but also fathers, sisters, brothers, occasionally aunts or other relatives, though many single women do have child dependents, such as nieces or nephews, or even younger sisters or brothers. Married women, on the other hand, are likely to be supporting children, though many married women do have adult dependents, such as parents and sometimes the husband.

DEPENDENTS OF WOMEN LIVING APART FROM FAMILY

A substantial proportion of women workers living apart from their families have responsibilities for support of relatives, according to

available information on this subject. In the more usual case this takes the form of regular contributions to these persons from the woman's salary. In other instances, the woman living apart sends lump sums to take care of special emergencies, such as doctors' bills and hospital bills, funeral expenses, school tuition, or the purchase of necessary clothing.

Patterns of support frequently found in the lives of women workers living apart include support of elderly parents without income, or contributions to the general funds of the worker's family at home; support of sons or daughters, either adult and unable to support themselves, or as often was the case during the war, minor children cared for by relatives while the mother works elsewhere; of sisters or brothers; of nieces and nephews, the children of a widowed sister or sister-in-law.

AGES OF WOMEN WITH DEPENDENTS

Few studies give information on the ages of women with dependents, and their findings vary as to ages at which the largest proportion of women have dependents. They show that women have such responsibilities at all ages, even those under 25, and 65 years old or over.

FULL SUPPORT OF DEPENDENTS

From one-fourth to three-fourths of the women who contribute to the support of others are responsible for the full support of one or more dependents, according to the few reports that give definite showing as to full dependency. From the very limited data on this phase of the subject, married women appear to be more likely than single to share support with other earners (though a notable proportion are fully responsible for dependents).

PART OF WOMEN'S EARNINGS THAT GO TO FAMILY SUPPORT

From a third to two-thirds of the women workers give all their earnings to family support, according to the findings in a long series of studies made over many years, supported by further recent studies. Fewer than 1 woman in 10 gives none of her earnings to her family. An early large-scale official investigation of the conditions of women's work in this country, made by direction of Congress in 1907-9, reported that nearly 4,700 women at work in stores and factories contributed 84 percent of their earnings to their families.

Married women workers to a considerably larger extent than single use the major share of their earnings for family needs. Nevertheless, the working daughter's contribution is of marked importance in many families.

WOMEN'S LONG-TERM RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SUPPORT

That women give a substantial part of their earnings to family support for long periods in their working lives is indicated in one of the earlier studies, which found that a tenth of the single and a third of the married women had used all their earnings for family expenses for at least 10 years. With the increase in employment of women, it is probable that increasing numbers contribute to family support through many years of working life.

WOMAN AS SOLE EARNER IN HER FAMILY

From a tenth to over a fourth of the women workers reported in most of the recent studies were the only earners contributing to the expenses of their families. Among mothers who leave their children at day-care centers, the proportion who are sole earners is much higher. Most comprehensive data are furnished from a census sample reporting on 14,367,000 women workers living in families in 1946. Of these, 11 percent were the only earners in their families. The proportion of women who are only earners ran as high as three-fourths (or more) in studies of women on work relief or at work but receiving relief during the depression of the 1930's. The group of widowed and divorced women (the smallest marital group of women workers) to a larger extent than others are the sole earners in their families.

PART OF FAMILY'S EARNINGS WOMEN PROVIDE

The contribution a woman makes to the support of her family is fairly clear when she is the only earner on whom the family depends. It is much more difficult to assess her share when she is one of two or more earners. This requires ascertaining not only her earnings but the entire income of the family, in order to determine the share that the woman worker provides. Furthermore, the contributions made by women, though regularly given, often are made in kind rather than in exact amounts of cash; for example, a woman will furnish particular family needs, such as purchase of all the groceries, pay the rent or medical bills, or take responsibility for the clothing of certain individuals.

One of the few reports that show the share of family earnings furnished by women was made in Cleveland, Ohio, by the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor in 1939. This showed that in well over half the nearly 2,000 families surveyed, women workers were furnishing half or more of the support; in a third of the families, entire support.

Other reports show the woman as the principal earner (the one who earns more than any other member of the family, though not neces-

sarily as much as half the family earnings). Varying with the type of family included and the time of study, all the reporting on this phase of the subject shows that in considerably more than a tenth of the families a woman is the principal earner.

The many studies showing women's economic responsibilities give striking flashes of insight here and there into the lives of women workers and the support load carried by them. A number of examples listed below indicate the variety of agencies that have investigated this general subject in the past 15 years (to use a round figure), and illustrate several types of information that result from the findings of these agencies.

Case Highlights From Various Recent Reports

Of nearly 800 women workers with dependents who applied for unemployment compensation, as reported by the Oregon Commission in 1948, not far from a third had adult dependents, for whom under the laws of many States they would not be able to receive dependency benefits.

Of over 89,000 active nurses who supported dependents, as reported in the 1949 Inventory of the American Nurses' Association, nearly two-thirds had child dependents.

Among more than 3,300 urban teachers in 1944 in all parts of the United States, as reported by the National Education Association, over half had dependents. Of those with dependents over three-fourths had adult dependents.

In a report by the United States Women's Bureau of nearly 10,000 women war workers in 10 areas in 1944-45 who lived with their families, over nine-tenths contributed regularly to family expenses and well over one-tenth were the only earners in their families.

In more than 11,500 families whose children were cared for in day-care centers in 1949, reported by the California Legislature Assembly, over half the mothers were the only earners in their families.

Of 38½ million families in this country in 1948, as reported by the United States Bureau of the Census, nearly a tenth had women heads, and 40 percent of these had only 1 earner.

Among over 3,300 women war workers in Dallas, Tex., reported to the Dallas Chamber of Commerce and Committee for Economic Development in 1944, over half were married. Of these, over two-fifths had dependents, and not far from a tenth reported three or more dependents.

Among over 4,000 women in professions, reported during World War II (1943) by the National Education Association and Pi Lambda Theta, two-thirds were single women, and of these more than a third had dependents.

Among nearly 11,000 business and professional women, reported by the Business and Professional Women's Clubs in 1937, nearly half had dependents. Of these, more than a third were responsible for dependents not living with them, of whom nearly half were older than the woman worker supporting them.

Among 1,000 women living with their families and working in New York electrical plants, reported by the New York State Department of Labor and the United Electrical Workers in 1944-45, over 90 percent had dependents. More than one in five contributed to support of persons outside the family, the majority of them sending a regular part of their pay for this purpose.

FINDINGS FROM CURRENT STUDY OF UNION WOMEN

The present study of women's economic responsibilities was made by the Women's Bureau in 1950, in response to urgent interest of the members of the Bureau's Labor Advisory Committee. In this study of union women a few striking facts stand out as characteristic of those reporting in all the cooperating groups. Two-thirds or more were using all or most of their earnings to support themselves or themselves and others. This was the primary reason for working given by the great majority, although many also had other urgent reasons. From half to nearly two-thirds either fully or partly supported at least one person in addition to self-support, and a substantial number supported two or more. About nine-tenths had no income from sources other than earnings. Although working from economic necessity, nine-tenths of those reporting said they liked the work they were doing.

The pages that follow summarize the findings as to the responsibilities these women have for the support of others, and part I gives further details.

RELATIONSHIP OF DEPENDENTS

In all but one of the union groups from a fifth to nearly two-fifths of the women who were fully or partly supporting others reported that their dependents were their children. In four groups about a fourth said their mothers were dependent on them. A smaller but notable proportion were either fully or partly supporting husbands or fathers, and many supported other relatives.

The relationship of dependents differed considerably for single and married women, largely because of their differing situation in the family group. Married women most often supported their children, and this also was true of the widowed and of the separated or divorced. Single women frequently were supporting their mothers.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY EXPENSES OR DEPENDENTS

Almost all the women, married or single, who were living in family households (and this was four-fifths of the total) contributed regularly to the family expenses. Often their contribution was substantial but was given in ways that make it very difficult to assess its full extent and value. From 40 to 50 percent made a regular contribution to the common family fund. In most of the union groups, about a fifth

of the women reporting regularly took care of particular family expenses, such as the grocery bill or the rent; some of them paid board in addition. From about a tenth to over a fourth paid board only, so could not be considered as giving more than their own cost to the family.

Of the smaller group of women who did not live with their families (single women, and those widowed, separated, or divorced) usually from about a fifth to nearly a third were fully or partially supporting dependents not living with them, in addition to supporting themselves.

WOMEN AS ONLY EARNERS CONTRIBUTING TO FAMILY

Of the women living in family households and reporting on this subject, from 14 to 21 percent were the only earners contributing to the expenses of their families. The majority of these families where a woman was the only contributing earner consisted of two persons, but a fourth or more had three members; and a tenth or more, in most of the unions, had at least four members. Roughly two-thirds of the women who lived at home shared family expenses with one other earner.

REASONS GIVEN FOR WORKING

The women's reasons for working correspond closely with their reports on dependents. Support of themselves, and often of others as well, was a primary reason given by the great majority—in 5 unions by 9 out of 10 women reporting. Many also worked for additional objectives. Prominent among these other reasons were work toward buying a home or educating children. Payment of doctor, hospital, or medical bills for themselves or some other family member also was a reason given by substantial proportions.

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Part I

Union Women and Their Dependents

Members of the Labor Advisory Committee to the Women's Bureau in the United States Department of Labor urged the Women's Bureau to help obtain information on the responsibilities union women carry for the support of their families. This committee is made up of union women from organizations with large woman membership. Its members offered cooperation in obtaining information as to women's responsibilities for family support. Accordingly, in the spring of 1950, officers of several such unions circulated questionnaires among their members and sent in the returns to the Women's Bureau. These questionnaires asked the extent to which the union women had dependents, the part of their earnings used for current family support, and other related questions.

Replies were received from more than 9,000 women members of these union groups. They give further striking evidence of findings similar to those in the many studies that have gone before. The findings of this study are discussed in detail here.

SCOPE AND METHODS OF THE STUDY

UNIONS INCLUDED AND LOCALS CHOSEN

With something like 18 million women in the labor force at the time of the study, the number that could be covered obviously had to be limited in some manner. For this reason the plans made included a small number of union groups. These were unions in industries that employ especially large numbers of women, and that were interested and able to assist with the study. Some of the unions participating were AFL, some were CIO, some were not affiliated with either.

Within each union group it was planned to send the questionnaires to a limited number of locals and have them distributed to all the women members in these locals. These locals were chosen for participation after considerable consultation between the Women's Bureau and the unions' national officers. The objective was to secure a good representation of each union, in relation to its general geographic distribution, the various branches of its industry, and other factors related in particular to its woman membership. Every effort was made with the cooperating groups to assure strict limitation of locals (or sometimes in the case of very large locals to include

only selected individual shops), and to have a complete distribution of questionnaires to the full woman membership of these locals (or shops). The study included well over 100 locals in 7 unions groups.

By these methods, it is believed that a reasonably representative basis of reporting was obtained. This is borne out by the fact that the findings show a general correspondence to those in other studies. For a variety of reasons no attempt was made to use a purely scientific statistical sample. For example, the types of organization and the ways of doing business vary widely among the different union groups. Situations and problems to be met also differ greatly in different localities, and procedures that are effective in one place are impracticable in another. Furthermore, most unions do not keep membership records separately by sex; therefore union officers do not have exact information on the number of members who are women, although they can make reasonable working estimates, usually on a local basis.

TYPES OF INFORMATION REPORTED

The information given on the questionnaires is discussed along the following lines:

Personal data about the women reporting.

The women who reported having dependents, and the number and type of their dependents.

The part of the women's earnings used to support themselves and others.

The extent to which the women were sole or contributing earners in their families.

The reasons for working reported by these women.

METHODS OF STUDY

The methods of distributing questionnaires and of securing responses differed somewhat according to the general type of organization in the union and the particular situations in the locals included. In general, local officers and assistants appointed by them distributed questionnaires and secured returns. Many of these officers, and especially the leading women in the locals, were much interested in the project and desired to cooperate to the best of their ability.

The officials of many of the locals put in a great deal of work to secure adequate returns. In some cases questionnaires were mailed to all members of the local, sometimes with dues notices, and in others they were given to all members when they came to the union office to pay dues or to seek work. In a few cases questionnaires were given to members at meetings; some of these gave fairly complete coverage since their members were fined for nonattendance. More often, if questionnaires were given out at meetings they went to key persons—shop stewards, chairladies, etc., who saw that they were distributed in particular shops or sections of the membership.

Women's Bureau field agents visited the officers in the great majority of the locals, and assisted in working out practicable plans for the distribution of questionnaires to the membership (or the part of it selected for inclusion). The agents also revisited most of these locals later to give further aid.

NUMBER OF WOMEN REPORTING

The number of questionnaires that were returned and tabulated totaled over 9,000, distributed as follows among the various cooperating union groups:

Total.....	9,124
Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, AFL.....	2,358
Communications Workers of America, CIO.....	929
Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union, AFL.....	1,149
International Association of Machinists ¹	835
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, AFL.....	2,215
Textile Workers Union of America, CIO.....	783
Women's Trade Union League of America.....	855

¹ Independent when studied; reaffiliated with AFL in 1951.

THE WOMEN REPORTING

In connection with this study the women were asked how many years they had had a paid job, how old they were, whether they were single, married, widowed, separated, or divorced, and how far they had gone in school.

YEARS IN THE LABOR FORCE

Women are more than temporary entrants in the labor force, to judge by the replies received to the question on years at work. The proportion who had held paid jobs for at least 10 years ranged from 30 to 55 percent in the various union groups. About 30 percent of the textile workers and railway clerks reporting and at least 10 percent in the other groups had worked 20 years or longer. On the other hand, more than a third of the garment workers reporting had been working less than 5 years, and only among the railway clerks was the proportion of these shorter-time workers as low as 11 percent.

Although the distribution would not necessarily be the same if all women workers in each union had replied, the figures do show that many women are stable and continuing members of the Nation's labor force.

AGE GROUPINGS

In age, the women reporting from these unions included smaller proportions of the very young (under 20), and of those who were 65

and over, than is the case among all women in the labor force. As compared to the age distribution of women in the entire labor force, women 20 and under 25 were in considerably larger proportion among the railway clerks and the communications workers reporting. They were in considerably smaller proportions among the hotel and restaurant workers, machinists, and textile workers reporting.

Slightly less than half (45 percent) of the women in the labor force are in age groups 25 to 44. Among the women reporting here, larger proportions than in the entire labor force were of these ages.

The 20 to 44 age-groups included three-fourths or more of the women CWA and IAM members reporting, and roughly two-thirds of those in each of the other union groups. These age groupings do not necessarily correspond with the age distribution of all women in these respective unions, but they do show the distribution of those reporting and are significant, therefore, in connection with their support of dependents. Table 1 shows the fuller information as to the ages reporting.

TABLE 1.—AGE OF WOMEN REPORTING, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting	Percent who were—							
		All ages	Under 20 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over
BRC.....	2,317	100	2	22	31	17	20	7	1
CWA.....	917	100	7	20	28	28	14	3	(1)
H & R.....	1,107	100	4	7	24	32	20	10	3
ILGWU.....	2,075	100	7	15	28	26	15	7	2
IAM.....	822	100	1	11	35	35	13	4	1
TWUA.....	770	100	1	8	18	33	25	13	2
WTUL.....	791	100	6	16	26	27	17	7	1
Woman labor force ²	17,795,000	100	9	15	23	22	18	10	3

¹ Percent not shown where less than 1.

² In March 1950, near the time questionnaires in this study were being answered.

FAMILY AND MARITAL STATUS

Single women constituted the largest marital group of women among the railway clerks (half of all reporting), and these, the telephone workers, and the Women's Trade Union League had notably larger proportions single than among all women in the labor force. Among the telephone workers and the members of the Trade Union League about the same proportions were single and married (roughly 40 percent of all reporting).

Married women were the largest group among the clothing workers, machinists, and textile workers, constituting in each of these unions from nearly 50 to 60 percent of all women reporting. The machinists and textile workers had larger proportions of married women reporting than among all women in the labor force.

Among the reporting hotel and restaurant workers, members of the machinists union, textile and clothing workers, and members of the Trade Union League, the proportion who were widowed, separated, or divorced was somewhat higher than among all women workers. For the hotel and restaurant workers the proportion of these was as high (roughly 40 percent) as for married women.

Table 2 shows the marital status of the women reporting.

TABLE 2.—MARITAL STATUS OF WOMEN REPORTING, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting	Percent who were—		
		Single	Married	Widowed, separated, divorced
BRC.....	2,345	51	34	15
CWA.....	924	41	41	18
H & R.....	1,118	19	40	41
ILGWU.....	2,142	32	47	21
IAM.....	833	22	53	25
TWUA.....	776	19	60	21
WTUL.....	837	38	38	24
Woman labor force ¹	17,795,000	32	48	20

¹ In March 1950, near the time questionnaires in this study were being answered.

In most of these unions, four-fifths or more of the women reporting lived in family groups with relatives. Among textile workers and clothing workers the proportions of women living in families were especially large. On the other hand, the hotel and restaurant employees reported somewhat larger proportions of women living apart from their families than the other cooperating union groups, as the following summary shows:

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF WOMEN

	Number of women reporting	Percent who lived—	
		In family	Apart
BRC.....	2,333	80	20
CWA.....	920	80	20
H & R.....	1,127	70	30
ILGWU.....	2,189	86	14
IAM.....	835	82	18
TWUA.....	780	88	12
WTUL.....	846	83	17

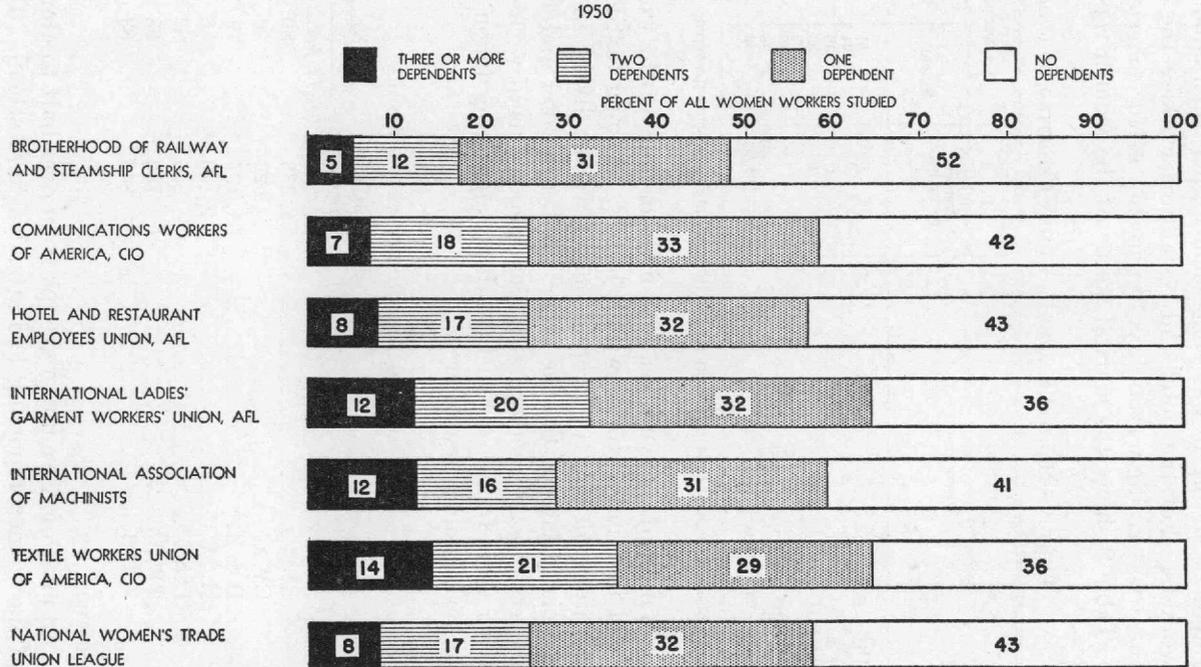
EDUCATION

In most of these union groups from over half to almost four-fifths of the women reporting had attended high school. The proportion who had been to high school was highest among the railway clerks and telephone operators (three-fourths or more). In each of these union groups some of the women reporting had been to college. Usually the proportion of women who had been to college was very

CHART I

WOMEN WORKERS WHO FULLY OR PARTLY SUPPORT DEPENDENTS, BY NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS

BASED ON 9,000 WOMEN FROM SELECTED UNIONS



small, but it was as high as 1 in every 10 women among Trade Union League members and nearly 1 in every 5 of the railway clerks. Very few had been to college for 4 years.

A third or more had stopped before high school in each of these union groups, except among the railway clerks and telephone workers. Lack of high-school attendance was especially great among the textile workers of whom almost one in every five women reporting had not gone beyond the sixth grade; and among the clothing workers of whom nearly 1 in every 10 women reporting had gone no farther than the sixth grade.

WOMEN WITH DEPENDENTS

Of all the women reporting in the various union groups, from about half to nearly two-thirds supported either in full or in part other persons besides themselves. All but a very few supported either themselves alone or themselves and others.

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS

The most usual number of dependents supported was one. However, in most of these union groups, from a fourth to more than a third of the women, as shown in chart I, were fully or partly supporting two or more dependents (besides self support).¹ Largest proportions of the women reporting who had two or more dependents were among the clothing and the textile workers. Among the textile workers, 14 percent reported three or more dependents. Table 3 shows further details.

TABLE 3.—WOMEN REPORTING ON SUPPORT OF THEMSELVES AND OTHERS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting on support ¹	Percent supporting self only	Percent supporting others as well as self			
			Total	1 other person	2 other persons	3 or more other persons
BRC.....	2,335	51	48	30	13	5
OWA.....	924	42	58	33	18	7
H & R.....	1,131	43	56	32	16	8
ILGWU.....	2,192	36	64	32	20	12
IAM.....	829	40	59	31	16	12
TWUA.....	776	36	64	29	21	14
WTUL.....	850	42	57	32	17	8

¹ Full or partial support. In each union a small group of women (in most cases less than 1 percent) either did not contribute to the support of anyone, or contributed to the support of others but not self.

The average number of persons fully or partly supported by these women was 1.7 for the railway clerks, 1.9 for the telephone and hotel workers, 2.0 for the Trade Union League members, 2.1 for the ma-

¹ In a very few cases a woman was supporting a dependent but did not support herself.

chinists, and 2.2 for the textile and garment workers. These figures include support of self. Some of the cases that illustrate the responsibilities working women have for supporting two or more persons are as follows:

An ILGWU member over 40 working in a small city in the East is "a deserted wife with two minor children to support without any outside help of any sort."

A 30-year-old waitress in a large west coast city fully supports her three children, explaining "they are now from a broken home." She had remarried but considers support of her children her responsibility and not that of her new husband.

A 30-year-old ILGWU member from a town in the East has been working for 10 years in order to support herself and her two sons because she is separated from her husband and "he does not support the children so it all depends on me."

A woman over 35 living in a north central State has been a telephone worker over 10 years and supports her mother and her own young daughter by a previous marriage. She says "I don't think it's quite fair for my husband to take all the responsibility for my family." If she gave up her job her mother might get old-age assistance, but it would be too small an amount to pay her expenses.

CHILD DEPENDENTS

Of the women who reported types of their dependents, in all but one of the union groups from 22 to 36 percent had child dependents. The exception was the railway clerks reporting, only a little more than a tenth of whom had child dependents. Support of child dependents corresponded somewhat with marital status of these workers, as discussed later (p. 40); single women constituted a larger proportion of the railway clerks reporting than of those in the other union groups.

In most of these unions from nearly a tenth to a fifth had two or more child dependents. Among the textile workers and the machinists more than 5 percent of the women reporting had three or more child dependents.

The following summary shows details as to the number of children supported in full or in part by the women reporting from the various union groups.

WOMEN WITH CHILD DEPENDENTS

	<i>Percent of women who supported—</i>		
	<i>1 child</i>	<i>2 children</i>	<i>3 or more children</i>
BRC.....	8	3	1
CWA.....	14	6	2
H & R.....	17	8	4
ILGWU.....	16	8	4
IAM.....	19	9	6
TWUA.....	16	12	8
WTUL.....	12	6	3

Typical cases of some of the women who are supporting their children, and sometimes their grandchildren, are as follows:

In one of our largest eastern cities a widow over 50 years of age has worked 20 or more years. She is employed making neckwear, and works "to support myself and to give a home to my 18½-year-old daughter."

A worker in a west coast sportswear factory is under 40 but has been employed at least 20 years. She helps support the children of a daughter whose husband has a medical discharge from World War II, and also helps children of a sister whose husband "is not well at all times."

A woman BRC member who is over 50, lives on the west coast, and is separated from her husband, reports that she used all her wages to secure "a comfortable home and education for my four children. Now I have my mother and one grandchild with me." She has been employed 20 years or longer, and continues: "I had four children and had very little help in supporting them so nothing has been saved; legislation should require fathers to do their share * * * after awarding an allowance the court makes no attempt to enforce its order. * * *"

A married woman over 45, who lives in a midwestern city, a telephone operator who worked for at least 20 years, helps support the family of her son who became ill during the war. She reports: "His earnings are not enough to support his wife and two small children."

A southern textile mill worker under 30 years of age has been employed at least 5 years, and supports herself and two children fully and her mother partially. She is "the only one working with a regular income. My mother gets a check every month from the social security board."

An IAM member in a New England factory, who is under 30 years of age and has been employed less than 10 years, uses all of her income to support herself and child. She describes her pay as "insufficient amount to keep myself and child going to say nothing of constant medical attention needed."

A 65-year-old hotel service worker in Ohio has been employed some 20 years. Except for what is necessary for her own expenses she states that she uses all the rest "to help my son, an ex-GI who was overseas and wounded so that he is partially disabled. He has three boys, aged 12, 9, and 7. I am helping him to take care of them and to give them an education. His wife is able and willing to work but I prefer to work so that she may stay at home to give them the training they need at home as well as at school."

A Connecticut textile worker of about 35 lives in a household of two. She supports herself and her absent son who is "afflicted with epilepsy" and is at training school.

ADULT DEPENDENTS

Many of these women had adults dependent on them for support. In four of these union groups about a fourth of the women who reported the types of their dependents supported their mothers (BRC, CWA, WTUL, and ILGWU). In each of the seven union groups, an appreciable proportion (from 4 to 8 percent) of those reporting types

of their dependents had fathers to support. The dependency of aging relatives is likely to be an increasing load for the worker, especially if illness becomes an added cause of expense. Support of a mother is illustrated in the case of a 30-year-old ILGWU member who makes children's clothing, has worked for 10 years, and says "mother is ill and needs special care. I pay all her bills, especially doctor's bills." Another instance is typical of many women who send money to parents not living with them. This west coast worker on cotton dresses is over 35 years of age, lives with and supports her husband, and also supports her mother who lives in Texas.

In all of these union groups a number of women (from 9 to 21 percent) reported that they contributed to the support of their husbands. Illness of a husband, or his ability to find work on only an irregular or seasonal basis causes a considerable part of the support in many families to become the responsibility of the wife. In some of these reports, this situation may have been a temporary one during the husband's unemployment, such as that of a clothing worker under 35 who works in a small eastern city and explains her reason for working in one brief sentence—"Husband unemployed at present and I have two children." Others are more certain to continue working, as will a Pennsylvania textile worker over 40 who fully supports herself and a husband who has contracted that dread disease of the miners, silicosis.

The following are among the many instances that indicate the experiences of women workers in families where the husband is unable to support the family:

A married BRC member living in a southwestern city helps support an ill husband. Now over 40 years of age, she has been at work for over 10 years, and explains: "I intended working for 2 years at the time we married, but 4 months after our marriage the doctor diagnosed my husband as having 'angina pectoris.' I now feel that I will have to continue to work because we do not know how long he will be able to work."

One eastern clothing worker under 30 years of age says she must support her husband and brother partially as well as herself as her "husband works irregularly and brother gets epileptic attacks."

A 39-year-old married woman, living in Pennsylvania, reports that she went to work in a clothing factory 3 years ago in order to partially support herself, husband and daughter, "my husband is a cripple, and does not earn what an average man earns. We have to eat every day."

A married worker over 40 in a midwestern cotton-dress factory contributes to the support of herself, a crippled husband, child under 18 and a son over 18 finishing high school.

A west coast IAM member nearly 60 years of age says: "I have been a widow for 15 years and recently remarried. I did not know my husband had been paying \$100 alimony. His ex-wife has been in and out of the hospital nearly all her life so she needs the money. He had no money so I am trying to help pay for a

house and a little furniture. My husband is 60 years old and a guard and must walk 6 miles every night (swing shift). He can't keep that up much longer so I must work."

A New England woman of 55 works in a textile mill to support herself and partly supports a husband who is retired on a pension too small to cover his living expenses.

"He's laid off from September to April," says one married resident of a north central State whose work in a corset factory must support herself and husband fully when he is not working on his part-time job. She comments: "There should be more work for men over 50—they are reliable and anxious to work, but are considered unfit for work."

"Husband hasn't worked for over 6 months, unable to get a job—and landlord has raised the rent," explains a cotton garment worker in a west coast factory. She is over 45 and the mother of two children for whom she pays "tuition for schooling and extra expenses."

Table 4 shows details as to adult dependents of the women reporting from various union groups.

TABLE 4.—WOMEN REPORTING RELATIONSHIP OF DEPENDENTS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting ¹	Percent who supported ¹ —						
		Own children	Mother	Father	Husband	Other relatives—		
						Total	1	2 or more
BRC.....	2,335	11	22	6	9	14	10	4
CWA.....	924	22	24	8	12	12	8	4
H & R.....	1,137	28	16	4	14	11	8	3
ILGWU.....	2,192	28	23	8	16	15	10	5
IAM.....	829	35	16	5	14	9	7	2
TWUA.....	776	36	14	7	21	10	8	2
WTUL.....	850	22	24	8	15	12	10	2

¹ In full or in part. Some women had dependents of more than one type. Some of the "other" relatives also may be children.

² Includes some who had no dependents.

Other cases illustrating women's responsibilities for support of adult relatives are as follows:

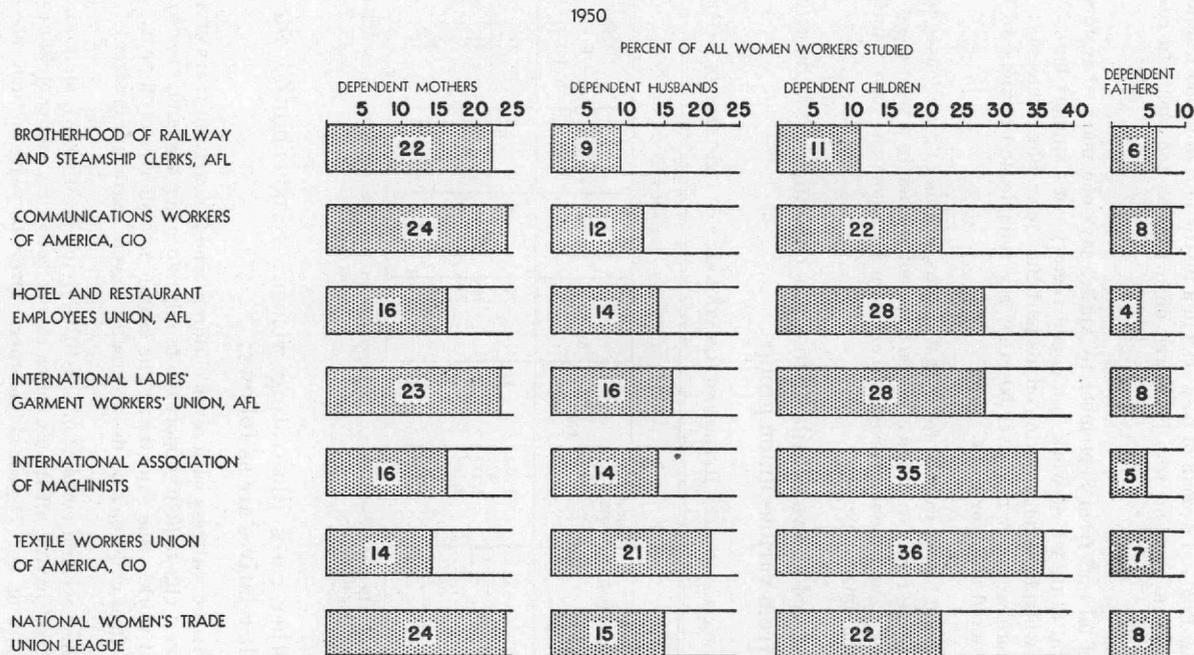
A married waitress with seven children, who is nearly 40 years of age, works in a midwest city to help support the family, since her husband, over 45, has only seasonal work. She explains: "The season gets shorter each year. In these days and times children's needs are greater so your needs are greater."

A single woman member of the BRC, living in Missouri, maintains a household of three, paying all the expenses except groceries, and contributes partly to the support of her 75-year-old mother. Over 45 years of age, she has been employed 20 years or longer.

"Mother needs money badly" explains a 40-year-old widow in a northeastern city who has worked nearly 10 years. This hotel worker goes on to say that she supports herself and her mother and adds: "I do wish we had social security or she could have old-age assistance. She is 64 years of age."

CHART II WOMEN WORKERS WHO FULLY OR PARTLY SUPPORT DEPENDENTS, BY RELATIONSHIP

BASED ON 9,000 WOMEN FROM SELECTED UNIONS



A woman of 34 in an east coast city supports her baby and sends money regularly to her mother from her earnings as a telephone worker. She has a hard time to make ends meet and says: "By the time I pay my bills each week sometimes I don't have enough for groceries and have to let the doctor bills wait. I am beginning to feel like a charity case. If my friends didn't give me and my child clothes we'd go ragged."

DEPENDENTS OF SINGLE AND MARRIED WOMEN

The number and relationship of dependents differed considerably for single and married women, largely because of their differing situation in the family group. It is well known that dependents of married women are likely to be their children. However, many of them also had adult dependents. Husbands were a close second to children as dependents of married women. In every union group, a tenth or more of the married women reported their mothers as dependents.

The varying relationship of the dependents to the women workers is shown in chart II.

For single women the most frequent dependents were their mothers. From over a fourth to two-fifths of the single women reported they had mothers as dependents. A considerable number of single women had fathers to support; in six of the union groups a tenth or more of the single women were supporting their fathers. Even more frequently than they supported fathers, single women also had other dependent relatives, such as brothers or sisters, nieces or nephews, aunts, and occasionally even an uncle or grandparent.

The average number of dependents usually was greater for the married than for any other group of women workers, though it frequently was almost as great or even greater for women who were separated or divorced from their husbands. It usually was slightly smaller for single women than for any other marital group. Table 5 shows further details as to average number of dependents of the women.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF PERSONS SUPPORTED¹ PER WOMAN, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Average number of persons supported by—						
	All women reporting	Women who lived—		Women who were—			
		In family group	Apart	Single	Married	Widowed	Separated or divorced
BRC.....	1.7	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.8	2.1
CWA.....	1.9	2.1	1.4	1.6	2.2	2.2	2.1
H & R.....	1.9	2.2	1.4	1.6	2.2	1.7	1.9
ILGWU.....	2.2	2.3	1.6	1.9	2.4	1.7	2.2
IAM.....	2.1	2.2	1.5	1.6	2.3	1.8	2.1
TWUA.....	2.2	2.4	1.1	1.6	2.6	1.7	2.0
WTUL.....	2.0	2.1	1.3	1.6	2.4	1.7	1.9

¹ Supported in full or in part; includes self-support.

The following stories illustrate situations characteristic of married and of single women workers who supported dependents partly or wholly:

Single Women's Dependents

An eastern ILGWU member 35 years of age lives at home with her parents. She reports that she must support her mother "as my father is on pension and does not get enough to make ends meet so I have to support her."

A woman telephone operator over 40 living in an Ohio city has worked at least 20 years and supports a nearly blind sister and a brother who has been ill for 10 years.

A BRC member under 40 years of age, who lives in a west coast city and has worked 20 years or longer, contributes all of her pay to support herself and her sister, explaining in one brief sentence "Sister left with a family of seven children."

One woman over 45 working in a Connecticut textile mill supports herself and her mother fully and also partly supports a brother who receives a pension too small to meet fully his living expenses.

A girl 25 years of age, working in a garment factory in an east coast city supports herself and partially helps a sick niece and a brother going to school.

A woman over 50 works in California as a waitress and besides supporting herself partially supports her blind sister.

A member of the IAM, employed in a large New England city, uses all of her income for the household because: "My sister is a widow. She has several children. The oldest is 14 and the youngest, 5. Two are with my sister elsewhere. We have the other five."

Married Women's Dependents

A woman working in a Connecticut textile mill supports herself and an ill daughter over 21. She has worked over 10 years and reports that her daughter "has had three brain operations and they have been very expensive, with private nurses."

A 50-year-old woman ILGWU member in a west coast city supports her husband "who has been without a job a full year."

One woman over 60 works as a soda dispenser in an Ohio city. She supports herself and partly supports her husband, who is nearly 70 and cannot work because partially blind and suffering from arthritis. This is one of the families in which the roles of housekeeper and wage earner are somewhat reversed, and she says: "He stays at home, does what housework he can, and has my dinner ready when I get home at night. He goes regularly to the City Hospital for treatments."

An IAM member from Texas helps support two stepchildren and her mother. Under 35 years of age, she has worked at least 10 years, and states: "My husband has been ill for 3 years and has just returned to work in the last 8 months. Mother is in very poor health and I have always tried to help her in any way I could. One stepson has T. B., so our doctor and medicine bills take up all surplus money that we can make."

A BRC member under 30 years of age who lives in a midwestern city has helped her husband, whose work is seasonal, to carry loans to assist members of his family. She has been employed 9 years and when her husband was drafted during the war she worked to support herself and her expected baby.

DEPENDENTS OF WOMEN LIVING WITH FAMILIES OR APART

A much larger proportion of women living in family households than of those living apart were responsible for the full or partial support of dependents. Of those living with their families, about two-thirds or more in most of these unions had dependents, and usually about a third, more or less, had two or more dependents.

In four of these union groups from about a fifth to nearly a third of the women reporting lived apart from the family group. The proportion living apart was smaller than this among the ILGWU and the Women's Trade Union League members reporting, and smallest of all among the TWUA members.

Usually at least a fourth of the women living apart from their families had dependents. Among the clothing workers and machinists who lived apart, almost a third had dependents. Among the textile workers, of whom fewer than in other unions lived apart from their families, the proportion with dependents was small (about a tenth).

In most groups appreciable proportions of the women living apart had two or more dependents (in addition to self-support). More than a tenth of the women living apart had two or more dependents among the telephone and clothing workers and the machinists; exceptional were the textile workers—a much smaller proportion than in the other union groups lived apart from their families, and of these none had as many as two dependents (besides self-support).

Table 6 shows further details as to the dependents of women living with their families or apart.

TABLE 6.—WOMEN LIVING IN FAMILY OR APART WHO SUPPORTED¹ DEPENDENTS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Women living in family			Women living apart		
	Number of women reporting	Percent with dependents		Number of women reporting	Percent with dependents	
		Any	2 or more		Any	2 or more
BRC.....	1,836	53	20	475	25	6
CWA.....	730	66	29	186	29	12
H & R.....	774	71	32	336	24	8
ILGWU.....	1,853	70	35	308	31	15
IAM.....	679	65	31	150	32	13
TWUA.....	681	71	39	92	9	-----
WTUL.....	695	65	29	146	19	7

¹ In full or in part.

Of the women with dependents who lived in family groups the largest proportions in most unions were supporting children. Many also supported mothers, husbands, or "other" relatives, and among the CWA and BRC members reporting, the largest group with dependents supported their mothers.

In four unions, the women living apart supported mothers and "other" relatives more frequently than children. However, in the other three unions child dependents were more frequent than mothers or other relatives; there often are instances when a mother's job requires her to stay in a place where she cannot keep her children, and she may be supporting them under the care of relatives elsewhere or in a boarding home.

Table 7 shows further details as to relationship of dependents of women living in families or apart.

TABLE 7.—RELATIONSHIP OF DEPENDENTS SUPPORTED¹ BY WOMEN LIVING IN FAMILY OR APART, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Women living in family						Women living apart				
	Number of women reporting	Percent who had as dependents ²					Number of women reporting	Percent who had as dependents ²			
		Own children	Mother	Father	Husband	Other relatives		Own children	Mother	Father	Other relatives
BRC.....	1,814	13	26	7	11	15	471	5	11	3	9
CWA.....	726	26	27	8	16	12	186	8	11	5	11
H & R.....	759	37	19	6	20	12	332	9	8	2	8
ILGWU.....	1,808	31	25	9	19	15	298	9	11	4	16
IAM.....	676	39	16	5	17	10	149	17	13	3	6
TWUA.....	677	41	16	8	24	11	89	5	1	-----	3
WTUL.....	678	26	26	8	18	13	141	4	13	4	6

¹ In full or in part.

² Some women had dependents of more than one type, some had none.

WOMEN FULLY SUPPORTING DEPENDENTS

The group of women living apart, as has been shown, was very much smaller than the group living in families. However, more definite information on full and partial support of dependents can be obtained for them than for women living in family groups, because in the latter so often responsibilities of support are shared by two or more family members. In most of these union groups from a fifth to a third of the women living apart had at least one dependent (in addition to self-support). Of those with dependents, from a fourth to half were fully supporting at least one person besides themselves. Among all women living apart, however, only about a tenth had full dependents—the range in the various unions was from 6 to 17 percent, except for one group where few women lived apart and only 3 percent of these had dependents. The following summary shows further details:

WOMEN LIVING APART WHO FULLY OR PARTLY SUPPORT DEPENDENTS

	<i>Number of women living apart</i>	<i>Percent with dependents—</i>		
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Full</i>	<i>Partial</i>
BRC.....	475	25	9	16
CWA.....	186	29	6	22
H & R.....	336	24	10	13
ILGWU.....	308	31	11	20
IAM.....	150	32	17	15
TWUA.....	92	9	3	5
WTUL.....	146	19	7	12

In five unions a fourth or more of the women living away from their families had either full or partial dependents. In these five unions, the number of women living away from home and fully supporting at least one dependent was large enough to be shown separately for women who were single, widowed, and separated or divorced.

The women living apart who usually carried the heaviest support load were those widowed, separated, or divorced; in several unions more than a fifth of these women fully supported one dependent or more. Many of the single women also had full dependents—among the clothing workers nearly a tenth of the single women living apart were fully supporting dependents.

The following summary gives further details on this subject:

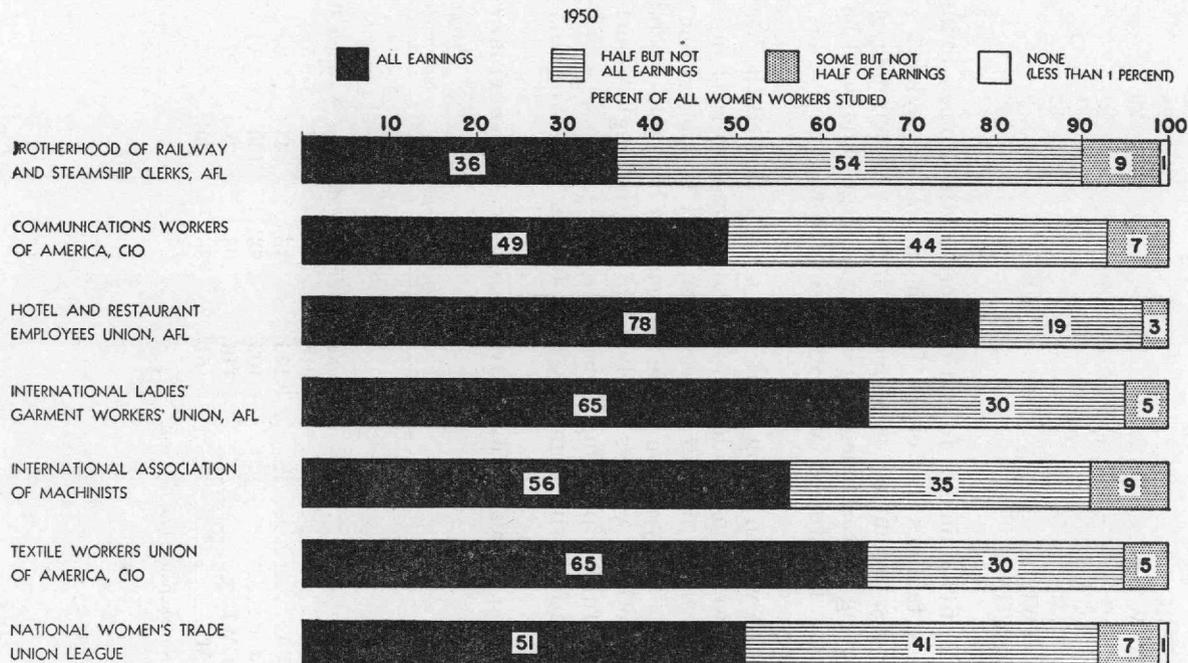
MARITAL STATUS OF WOMEN LIVING APART AND FULLY SUPPORTING DEPENDENTS

	<i>Number of women reporting</i>			<i>Percent who fully supported dependents</i>		
	<i>Single</i>	<i>Separated or</i>		<i>Single</i>	<i>Separated or</i>	
		<i>Widowed</i>	<i>divorced</i>		<i>Widowed</i>	<i>divorced</i>
BRC.....	318	76	77	5	15	21
CWA.....	126	15	45	2	(¹)	16
H & R.....	103	93	130	4	10	15
ILGWU.....	116	103	78	9	7	22
IAM.....	61	38	50	7	(¹)	28

¹ Not computed; base too small.

CHART III WOMEN WORKERS WHO USE ALL OR PART OF THEIR EARNINGS FOR SUPPORT

BASED ON 9,000 WOMEN FROM SELECTED UNIONS



PART OF EARNINGS USED FOR DAILY NEEDS

The impact of economic necessity on women who work is shown by the high proportions using all or most of their earnings for daily needs. Earnings spent on food, clothing, rent, medical care, and other daily needs of the women workers and their dependents are regarded for purposes of this report as used for current support. Half or more of the women reporting in most of the union groups (78 percent among the hotel and restaurant workers) used all they earned for current support. From 70 to 90 percent used at least three-fourths of their earnings for daily needs in all the groups except the railway clerks, where the proportion was 66 percent. Only 10 percent of the railway clerks reporting, and even smaller percentages in the other union groups, used less than half their earnings for daily needs.

A picture of the proportion of their earnings required for daily living by the members reporting in each union group is given in chart III and table 8.

TABLE 8.—PROPORTION OF EARNINGS WOMEN USED FOR DAILY NEEDS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting	Percent who used for daily needs—			
		All earnings	Three-fourths, but not all	Half, but not three-fourths	Less than half
BRC.....	2,066	36	30	24	10
CWA.....	919	49	24	20	7
H & R.....	1,045	78	11	8	3
ILGWU.....	1,962	65	15	15	5
IAM.....	761	56	14	21	9
TWUA.....	717	65	15	15	5
WTUL.....	776	51	19	22	8

In most of the union groups from about 45 to nearly 70 percent of the women reporting could make no saving from their earnings for any of the special emergencies that are likely to arise in every home. The railway clerks and telephone workers fared a little better in this respect, but still many had no surplus earnings—about 25 percent of the telephone workers reporting and 15 percent of the railway clerks were unable to save from their wages.

SINGLE AND MARRIED WOMEN'S USE OF ALL WAGE FOR DAILY NEEDS

Married women to a very much larger extent than single women used all their earnings for current support, and usually an even larger proportion of the widowed, separated, and divorced than of the married used all their earnings for their daily living. Table 9 shows

details as to the proportions of women in the various marital groups who used all their earnings for the daily needs of themselves and others.

TABLE 9.—MARITAL STATUS OF WOMEN WHO USED ALL THEIR EARNINGS FOR DAILY NEEDS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting					Percent who used all their earnings for daily needs				
	Total	Single	Married	Widowed	Separated or divorced	Total	Single	Married	Widowed	Separated or divorced
BRC.....	2,034	1,026	707	136	165	36	31	34	56	59
CWA.....	906	366	378	39	123	49	39	55	(1)	59
H & R.....	1,003	188	411	146	258	78	69	77	83	82
ILGWU.....	1,882	594	913	174	201	65	49	71	77	72
IAM.....	759	166	402	66	125	56	42	57	65	66
TWUA.....	708	131	426	96	55	65	49	70	58	69
WTUL.....	752	276	290	99	87	51	39	56	64	60

¹ Not computed; base too small.

USE OF ALL WAGE FOR DAILY NEEDS BY WOMEN LIVING AT HOME AND APART

In most of these union groups, the women living apart from their families to a somewhat larger extent than those living in the family group used all their earnings for current support. This was especially true of the single woman no longer under the family roof-tree, even though as has been noted (p. 23), the dependency load was somewhat smaller for single women than for those in other marital groups. Table 10 shows the proportions living in families and apart who used all their earnings for daily needs of themselves and their dependents.

TABLE 10.—LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF WOMEN WHO USED ALL THEIR EARNINGS FOR DAILY NEEDS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting who lived—		Percent who used all earnings for daily needs among—			
	In family	Apart	All women living—		Single women living—	
			In family	Apart	In family	Apart
BRC.....	1,639	395	34	45	28	41
CWA.....	721	185	49	50	33	50
H & R.....	717	286	76	82	63	76
ILGWU.....	1,640	242	65	67	47	61
IAM.....	624	135	56	58	38	48
TWUA.....	632	76	65	61	45	(1)
WTUL.....	627	125	50	58	35	53

¹ Not computed; base too small.

USE OF ALL WAGE FOR DAILY NEEDS BY WOMEN OF VARIOUS AGES

The proportion of women who used all their earnings for current support usually increased from age 20 to at least 40 and often 50 or older. Some decrease in the proportion needing all earnings for

bare necessities occurred after the age of 40 among the members of the machinists union and telephone workers reporting (only small proportions of whom were over 50), and after 50 among the railway clerks and textile workers. This may have been due to a somewhat lessening load of dependency, or to some increase in earnings, or to a combination of these factors. However, the need of entire earnings for current expenses still continued beyond 60 years of age for about 70 percent or more of the clothing and the hotel and restaurant workers reporting in this age group and for almost half the textile workers and railway clerks.

Two opposite situations were shown for girls under 20. In some groups very large proportions of them used all their earnings for daily needs; this may have been due to low earnings on starting work. In others only very small proportions used their entire wage for current living; this may have been because many lived at home and still had some of their living expenses carried by their families. Table 11 shows proportions of women of various ages who used all their earnings for current support.

TABLE 11.—AGE OF WOMEN WHO USED ALL THEIR EARNINGS FOR DAILY NEEDS, BY UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting	Percent using all in specified age groups						
		All ages	Under 20	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 and over
BRC.....	2,036	36	26	23	42	1 43	40	45
CWA.....	907	50	61	48	² 54	47	39	(³)
H & R.....	1,015	78	(³)	77	80	80	⁴ 79	73
ILGWU.....	1,837	64	47	55	68	75	73	69
IAM.....	749	56	(³)	50	57	56	69	(³)
TWUA.....	705	64	(³)	54	69	74	59	49
WTUL.....	723	49	20	40	57	55	56	(³)

¹ A notable decline came in the group 45 to 49 years.

² A slight decline came in the group 35 to 39 years.

³ Not computed; base too small.

⁴ The decline came at ages 50 to 54, and ages 55 to 59 showed an increase over 45 to 49.

The accounts given by some women of their need for current use of all their earnings are as follows:

"I have a son to support and no husband so I have all to pay," explains a 29-year-old worker in a midwestern cotton-dress factory who uses all her money to support herself and child.

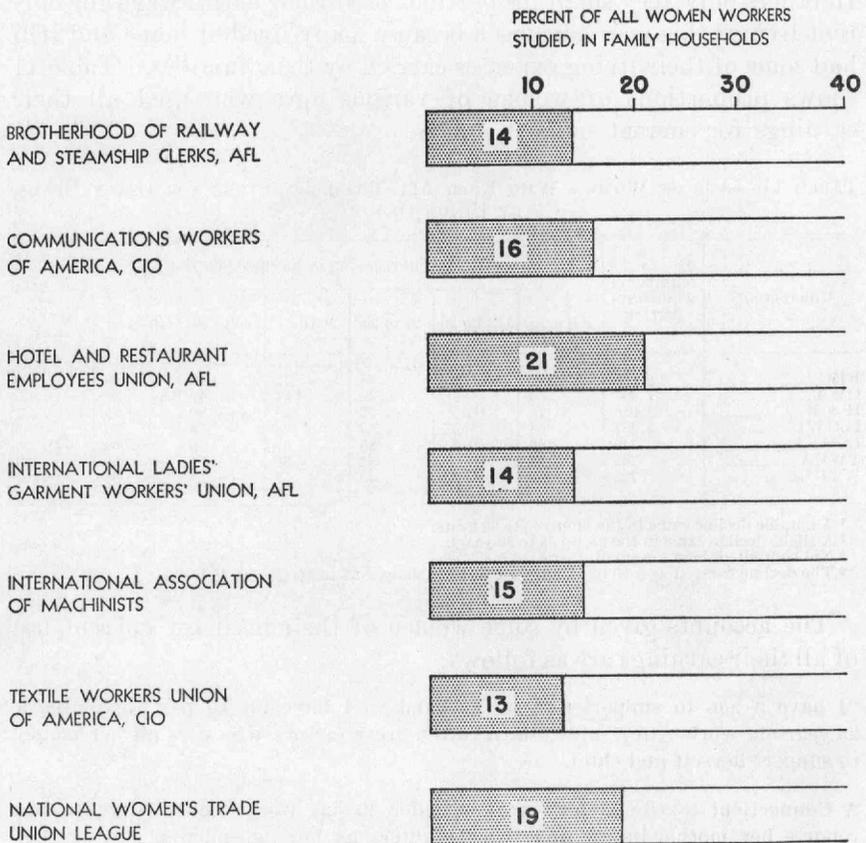
A Connecticut textile factory worker under 40 has worked over 10 years and reports her mother-in-law and two daughters as her dependents, stating that she uses her entire pay envelope each week to "clothe my children for school and buy food that they really need, like fruits, juices and necessary vegetables."

An Ohio restaurant worker under 50 years of age uses all her earnings to support herself and two grandchildren, aged 12 and 13. A son who cannot get steady work stays with her most of the time and gives nothing toward expenses of the family.

CHART IV WOMEN WORKERS WHO ARE THE ONLY CONTRIBUTING EARNERS IN THEIR FAMILIES

BASED ON 7,000 WOMEN LIVING IN FAMILY

1950



A widow about 35 years of age has worked over 5 years and is employed in a southern textile mill. She uses all of her pay to support herself and two children, one of whom "has asthma. Doctor's bills are a constant expense."

A married woman under 25 who works in an eastern clothing factory contributes all her income to the household in order to support herself and mother and partly support her husband. She explains: "My husband has been out of work a lot—thus when he has no income mine is the sole support—otherwise when he's working we share expenses. Of course he's been out of work so long it's hard to catch up. Just get going smoothly and something turns up. Expenses go on just the same and bills pile up. Another job of short duration and bong!! it happens again." She adds optimistically: "We're hoping for a better future!"

WOMEN AS SOLE EARNERS IN THEIR FAMILIES

It may come as a surprise to many people that a considerable number of families in this country depend for their support entirely on a woman earner. Census figures show that somewhat over a tenth of all women workers are the only earners in their families. Findings in the present study of union women as shown in chart IV, support this figure.

Of the women who lived in family households and who reported on this subject, from 13 to 21 percent were the only earners contributing to the expenses of their families. The proportion of these women who were providing the entire support for their families was highest (about a fifth) among the hotel and restaurant workers and the Trade Union League members.

SIZE OF FAMILIES IN WHICH WOMEN WERE SOLE EARNERS

The majority of the families in which a woman was the only contributing earner consisted of two persons. However, in every union group a fourth or more of these families had three members. In most of these unions a tenth or more were responsible for families of four or more persons, and in every union group some of these families had as many as five persons. Table 12 shows the number of women who were the only earners and the size of their families.

TABLE 12.—WOMEN WHO WERE SOLE FAMILY EARNERS BY SIZE OF FAMILY AND UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women living in family groups	Woman sole family earner		Percent of women sole earners whose families had—		
		Number	Percent	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons or more
BRC.....	1,644	235	14	65	25	10
CWA.....	644	105	16	59	29	12
H & R.....	707	148	21	59	32	9
ILGWU.....	1,729	242	14	57	29	14
IAM.....	612	90	15	52	25	23
TWUA.....	656	88	13	60	33	7
WTUL.....	661	128	19	67	23	10

SOLE FAMILY EARNERS BY MARITAL STATUS

Sole family earners were in considerably larger proportions among the widowed, separated, or divorced than among women of other marital groups. However, more than a tenth of the single women were the only earners contributing to the family upkeep—in three unions a fifth of the single women were sole family earners. Even among married women, an appreciable proportion were the only earners in their families, as the following summary shows:

SOLE FAMILY EARNERS, BY MARITAL STATUS

	<i>Percent who were sole family earners among—</i>				
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Separated or divorced</i>
BRC.....	14	16	3	47	45
CWA.....	16	21	5	(¹)	45
H & R.....	21	23	7	45	49
ILGWU.....	14	12	9	30	46
IAM.....	15	20	6	(¹)	40
TWUA.....	13	14	7	34	54
WTUL.....	19	12	13	46	48

¹ Not computed; base too small.

The numbers are too small to give reliable data on the size of family supported by women according to their marital status, except in the case of the clothing workers. As the following summary shows, the percentage of clothing workers reporting who were entirely responsible for families of four or five persons was highest among married women:

CLOTHING WORKERS' FAMILIES WITH WOMAN SOLE EARNER

	<i>Number of families</i>	<i>Percent of families having—</i>		
		<i>2 members</i>	<i>3 members</i>	<i>4 or 5 members</i>
Total.....	242	57	29	14
Single.....	64	67	27	6
Married.....	83	55	22	23
Widowed, separated or divorced.....	95	52	38	10

The stories of some of the women who were the only contributors in their families were as follows:

One of the BRC members in a southwestern city is a single woman past 40 years of age who is the sole support of herself and her mother, and has been a worker for 20 years or longer. Her mother "is over 70 years of age and has a very serious heart ailment which required her to go to the hospital twice last year for a week or 10 days each time and be under the constant care of a heart specialist."

A worker in a west coast cotton-garment factory is the sole support of a family of four—a daughter and two grandchildren besides herself. She is under 50 years of age and has worked 20 or more years.

A midwestern waitress is the sole support of a household of three—herself, her child and a 67-year-old mother who is not eligible for social security. She is over 40 and has been a worker at least 20 years. There is no income from any source but her earnings, and it takes all she can make for the family upkeep.

A widowed Wisconsin mother of 44 who works in a telephone exchange is the sole support of her four children, and has worked to support them since her husband's death some 4 years ago. She says "being a mother and working is mighty hard."

A widowed factory worker of 44 years, who is an IAM member employed in California, is the sole support of her son and self. She says: "My dependent is my little son. I have to pay his doctor bills and take care of him."

A single woman under 35 years of age who supports her mother by her work in a garment factory in an eastern city says: "Since I am the only one capable of working I am the only means of support for both of us. Supporting two people and maintaining a home takes all the income I am capable of earning."

A Rhode Island textile worker 65 years of age has been a widow for nearly 25 years and is the sole support of herself and a crippled daughter 33 years old.

A single woman past 45 years of age who reports as a BRC member is the only support of herself and an 80-year-old mother. She has worked 20 years or longer and says: "I have never known what it is like to have my entire salary to keep for myself," adding that she has "also raised three younger brothers and sisters until they were self-supporting."

An Ohio hotel service worker over 65 is the sole support of herself and her 75-year-old husband, to whom she has been married over 40 years. She says: "When I was laid off last June, I could not find work because I reached 65. I asked for social security. They could give me \$22.69 a month. I have to pay \$32 rent a month. Well, I could get nowhere on that amount. I was idle for 3 months and was called back at my present job. Thank God."

Since her sister is ill, a 55-year-old worker in a west coast underwear factory is the sole support of their home. Both she and her sister are widows and the sister "has a serious heart ailment. She does not have children and is dependent. She lives with me and I contribute fully to her support."

A BRC member living in an east coast city fully supports herself, child, and mother in addition to sending her child to school. A young woman under 30, she has been working more than 10 years.

A hotel worker under 35 in a leading eastern city is the sole support of herself, two children and also her husband; she also wants to help her two children by a former marriage. Though they do not live with her, she buys some of their clothes and other incidentals.

An IAM member living in the southwest is the only support of herself and her 18-year-old daughter "who is the mother of two small children, a girl 1 year old and a boy 2 years old. Her husband deserted her and the babies.

WOMEN AS EARNERS SHARING IN FAMILY SUPPORT

Besides the women who were the only earners contributing to the support of their families, most others who lived with their families regularly gave a share to the group expenses, some of them a substantial part of their earnings. This was true whether they were married or single. Almost all the women in this study who lived at home contributed regularly to the family funds, as table 13 shows.

TABLE 13.—WOMEN LIVING IN FAMILY AND CONTRIBUTING REGULARLY, BY MARITAL STATUS AND UNION GROUP

Union group	Number of women reporting	Percent who contribute regularly to the family expenses among—				
		All women	Single	Married	Widowed	Separated or divorced
BRC.....	1, 598	96	98	94	100	98
CWA.....	648	98	97	99	(¹)	99
H & R.....	622	98	96	99	99	97
ILGWU.....	1, 657	99	99	99	100	100
IAM.....	602	99	98	99	(¹)	100
TWUA.....	622	99	97	100	100	(¹)
WTUL.....	613	96	95	96	98	98

¹ Not computed; base too small.

The majority of these families had one other earner in addition to the woman reporting, some had two other earners, and from a tenth to a fifth had three earners or more. The following summary shows the number of earners contributing to families in which the women shared in the expenses.

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORS IN FAMILY

	Number of women reporting who contributed to family expenses	Percent who shared ¹ support as 1 of—	
		2 contributors	3 or more contributors
BRC.....	1, 608	66	19
CWA.....	639	67	17
H & R.....	700	69	10
ILGWU.....	1, 715	68	18
IAM.....	608	72	13
TWUA.....	653	67	19
WTUL.....	644	66	14

¹ For women sole earners, see table 12.

Many more of the married than of the single women workers were sharing in the family support with one other earner.

However, when the size of two-earner families in which the woman earner reporting was a single woman is compared with the size of those in which she was a married woman, it appears that a higher percentage

of single women than of married were, with the help of one other person, supporting families consisting of four or more persons. This holds true in all four of the union groups reporting sufficient data for comparison.

MARRIED AND SINGLE WOMEN IN 2-EARNER FAMILIES OF VARIOUS SIZES

MARRIED WOMEN	Number of women reporting	Percent with families of—		
		2 persons	3 persons	4 persons or more
BRC.....	556	62	26	12
CWA.....	274	48	20	32
H & R.....	347	46	26	28
ILGWU.....	758	37	28	35
IAM.....	330	32	30	38
TWUA.....	341	29	26	45
WTUL.....	236	44	22	34
SINGLE WOMEN ¹				
BRC.....	437	22	43	35
CWA.....	111	28	37	35
ILGWU.....	286	12	31	57
WTUL.....	132	19	30	51

¹ Report shown for union groups with as many as 100 families reporting where single woman was one of two contributing earners.

Instances of family sharing in the household upkeep are very numerous and might be expected to be the usual situation where several members are earners. Some of the kinds of families in which women earners contribute a substantial share of the expenses are indicated by such cases as the following.

One garment worker supports three people (herself, mother, father) in a household of six and reports: "My husband and I are both working as I take care of my mother and father (full support). And we have two children: a boy 10 years old and a girl 4 years old."

A New England TWUA member who is over 50 years of age lives in a household of three. Her two sons over 18 also work, but she says: "Between the three of us we just about make enough to cover expenses."

"Everybody in the family (four in household) contributes toward father's support and I help support my niece and my daughter who is 3½ years old," comments one worker in a west coast underwear factory.

A married BRC member explains that her "husband is in a sanitarium and it has cost a small fortune to go out to visit him or have him come home on weekends." A young woman under 30 and working less than 10 years, she is one of two contributors paying expenses for a household of six. She continues: "Sister earns just enough to keep herself and my brother in clothing and in school. She also pays my brother's medical fees and I board them both. Sister is 19 and started working only last summer so she doesn't earn much. Brother is 16."

A TWUA member who works in a southern factory is over 50 years of age and has been employed 20 years or longer. She lives in a household of four generations and reports supporting herself fully and contributing to her mother's, child's and grandchild's support. "I pay all family expenses except groceries and fuel," says this employee, "my husband does not work full time and I only get 4 days part of the time."

A married ILGWU member who works on sportswear in a western city reports that her "husband has been ill and cannot do heavy work. He works a few hours a day and my daughter works and also helps us with bills." This worker pays 75 percent of the household expenses.

A New England TWUA member 50 years of age supports herself and her husband because he has undertaken a small business for himself and must use any profit to enlarge the business. She says: "I have to put all my pay into the home for rent, gas, electricity, groceries, insurance, and this will go on for the next 5 years."

METHODS OF CONTRIBUTING TO FAMILY EXPENSES

The women reporting who furnished part of the support of their families did this in different ways. From 40 to over 50 percent regularly put what they gave into a common family fund to meet expenses. Usually a tenth or more paid board only, and so could not be considered as contributing to more than their own expenses. However, among the hotel and restaurant workers, the proportion of those who only paid board was smaller (7 percent). Especially large proportions paid board only among the Trade Union League members (not far from a fifth) and the BRC members reporting (over a fourth).

In most of these union groups, about a fifth of the women reporting regularly took care of particular family expenses, some of them paying board in addition. The special cost most usually assumed by women workers, according to these reports, is the purchase of groceries for the family. Next in importance comes the payment of the bills for utilities such as electricity, fuel, or gas. Many of these women workers pay the rent, others pay the telephone bill. Expenses for doctors, hospital bills, drug-store supplies, and other medical care needs of the family are among the bills often paid by the woman worker. Some women pay for the mortgage or repairs on the home. Some purchase necessary clothing, others carry the insurance. A number of other family expenses are reported taken care of by the women workers, though these appear somewhat less frequently; they include, among others, costs for maid, laundry, cleaning and tailoring, car, education, magazines or other reading matter, and amusements or recreation.

When women put their contributions to family expenses into a common household fund it is particularly difficult to size up the full extent of their share in family support; to do so would involve analysis

of the common shared fund in the light of all family income and expenditures. Married women to a much larger extent than single women use this method of helping with the family finances. About two-thirds of the married women contribute in this way, but among the single women reporting only the clothing workers had more than a third who used this method. Difficulty in assessing the woman's share in family support also occurs when she regularly takes care of particular expenses such as groceries, the amounts of which vary widely with economic changes and changing needs in the family. Larger proportions of the married than of the single women reporting make their contributions by regularly taking over special family expenses. Few married women but from a third to a half of the single women are responsible only for paying their own board to the family. Table 14 shows the kinds of contributions to family support made by the women reporting.

TABLE 14.—METHOD OF CONTRIBUTING TO FAMILY REPORTED BY SINGLE AND MARRIED WOMEN, BY UNION GROUP

Union group and marital status	Percent of women—			
	Contributing to common household fund	Paying board only	Paying particular expense ¹	Sole contributor
<i>All women reporting</i>				
BRC.....	42	27	16	15
CWA.....	50	15	19	16
H & R.....	49	7	21	23
ILGWU.....	52	13	20	15
IAM.....	49	15	21	15
TWUA.....	53	11	22	14
WTUL.....	45	19	15	21
<i>Single women</i>				
BRC.....	26	46	11	17
CWA.....	30	32	17	21
H & R.....	27	31	18	24
ILGWU.....	47	28	13	12
IAM.....	23	48	10	19
TWUA.....	32	42	12	14
WTUL.....	35	38	14	13
<i>Married women</i>				
BRC.....	70	5	21	4
CWA.....	69	3	23	5
H & R.....	67	2	24	7
ILGWU.....	63	3	25	9
IAM.....	64	2	28	6
TWUA.....	64	2	27	7
WTUL.....	67	3	17	13

¹ A few of these also pay board.

ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF WOMEN WORKERS, BY MARITAL STATUS

SINGLE WOMEN WORKERS

For young women to enter employment after they leave school has become a well-established custom. According to a recent census report on the subject, half of the single women in the population are in the labor force—a much larger proportion than in any other marital group. The idea is generally accepted that the single woman will develop competence in her chosen line of work and support herself with her earnings. Frequently she also supports others, or contributes substantially to family expenses.

The questionnaires as to their economic responsibilities answered by members of seven union groups included replies from more than 3,000 single women workers. Of these, 98 to 100 percent reported they were working primarily to support themselves, or themselves and others. Half to two-thirds of these single women said they worked chiefly to support themselves, proportions larger than among other marital groups in most unions. A third to half of them were working to support others as well as themselves, proportions usually smaller than among other marital groups. (See table 16.)

More than a fourth of the single women reporting were fully or partly supporting their mothers, and in three unions this was true of a third or more. About a tenth had fathers dependent on them (in one union 17 percent); and more than a tenth contributed to the support of other relatives, such as sisters, nieces or nephews, and so forth. The summary following shows further details.

RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS SUPPORTED¹ BY SINGLE WOMEN

	Number of women reporting	Percent who supported		
		Mother	Father	Other relatives
BRC.....	1,169	27	8	14
CWA.....	369	28	12	15
H & R.....	211	27	10	17
ILGWU.....	677	41	17	23
IAM.....	186	29	10	15
TWUA.....	146	32	14	16
WTUL.....	307	36	12	13

¹ In full or in part.

About two-thirds of the single women used at least three-fourths of their earnings for current living expenses. In most of the union groups about 40 to 50 percent used all their earnings for current needs. (See table 9.)

Ninety-five percent or more of the single women workers who lived with their families made regular contributions from their earnings to the family's expenses. From about a third to half of them paid board

only. Usually from about a fourth to a third put money into a common household fund. Over a tenth regularly paid particular family expenses, as for example those for groceries, rent, or utilities such as electricity, fuel, or gas. This sometimes was in addition to paying board. (See table 14.)

More than a tenth of these single women were the only earners contributing to expenses of their families. Among the telephone operators and the hotel and restaurant workers, more than a fifth of the single women reporting were the sole contributing earners. Most of the families in which a single woman was the only earner consisted of two persons, but in several unions a fifth or more of these families had three members and some had four or more. In about half the families of single women the woman worker shared expenses with one other person, and these tended to be larger families than where the single woman was the only earner. They generally consisted of three persons, but in three union groups over a third of these families had five or more members.

More than 20 percent of these single women lived apart from their families, except in two unions where there were only about 15 percent. In most unions 20 percent or more of the single women living apart reported that they fully or partly supported relatives.

MARRIED WOMEN WORKERS

Marriage does not necessarily relieve the woman worker of the economic responsibility she formerly carried. Building a home and raising a family is more than likely to increase her support load, as well as that of her husband. The most recent census figures on this subject show that about a fourth of all this country's married women are in the labor force. While this is a smaller proportion than among members of any other marital group, still it indicates the considerable financial part the married woman takes in her family's upkeep.

Replies made by women members of seven union groups to the questionnaires on their economic responsibilities include those of more than 3,800 married women workers; 60 to 80 percent reported they were working primarily to support themselves or themselves and others. (See table 16.)

From 40 to almost 60 percent of the married women reported that they were working primarily to support others as well as themselves. In every union group a considerably larger proportion of married than of single women were working to support dependents.

Usually somewhat less than a fifth of the married women, but more than a fourth among the telephone operators, were at work chiefly to support themselves. From a fourth to half of the married women (two-thirds of the married railway clerks) were working to aid in the major family objective of buying a home. Outstanding among other

special reasons why married women remained in the labor force was the plan to give their children a good education; this was reported as a chief reason for working by 14 to 26 percent.

In most unions a third or more of the married women workers reported that they fully or partly supported their children. Almost half the married women reporting in the machinists' and textile workers' unions had child dependents. In every union, more than a fourth of the married women reported that they were contributing to the support of their husbands for one reason or another. A tenth or more of the married women (in one union more than a fifth) were supporting their mothers. Very roughly, a tenth had dependents in other relationships. For details see the following summary.

RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS SUPPORTED ¹ BY MARRIED WOMEN

	Number of women reporting	Percent who supported—				
		Children	Husband	Mother	Father	Other relatives
BRC.....	772	18	26	17	4	12
CWA.....	381	31	30	21	6	10
H & R.....	436	35	35	12	5	9
ILGWU.....	1,000	40	35	15	5	12
IAM.....	436	45	27	10	3	8
TWUA.....	459	48	36	11	6	9
WTUL.....	307	35	40	16	5	13

¹ In full or in part.

More married women workers than single gave all their earnings to the support of their families. In most unions two-thirds or more of the married women needed three-fourths of their earnings for current living expenses, and from a half to more than three-fourths used all their earnings for current expenses. (See table 9.)

Nearly all (94 percent or more) of the married women workers made regular contributions from their earnings to the support of their families. Some were the only earners contributing to the support of their family. The proportion of married women reporting who were the only family earners ran up to almost a tenth among the clothing workers and to 13 percent among WTUL members. (See p. 34.)

Roughly two-thirds of the married women reporting on this subject put their contributions to the family into a common household fund. Most of the others paid regularly for special family expenses, in particular for groceries, or sometimes for children's clothing, medical care, rent, or utilities such as gas, electricity, or fuel. A few, 5 percent or less, paid only their own board. (See table 14.)

There were many two-person families where both members worked and shared the support. However, from 20 to 30 percent of the married women sharing support with one other were in families of

three, and a proportion ranging from 12 percent of the railway clerks to 45 percent of the textile workers were in families of four persons or more. (See p. 37.)

WIDOWED, SEPARATED, OR DIVORCED WOMEN WORKERS

The woman who is widowed, separated, or divorced may be thrown on her own resources to support herself, and sometimes also her children. She may have the benefit of insurance or alimony, but unless she has other independent income this may not relieve her of economic responsibilities. Recent census data on this subject show that over a third of the widowed and divorced group and almost half of those separated from their husbands are in the labor force. These are proportions smaller than among single women and considerably larger than among married women.

The questionnaires as to their economic responsibilities answered by members of seven union groups include replies from nearly 850 widows and over 1,100 separated or divorced women. These show that in both of these groups 97 percent or more were working to support themselves or themselves and others, which is much the same as with the single women.

Of the widows, from a third to nearly half reported that they worked to support dependents—a proportion usually smaller than among married women, and larger than among single women. From half to two-thirds of the widows reporting worked to support themselves only. (See table 16.)

Of the separated or divorced women half to two-thirds reported that they worked to support dependents, proportions often considerably larger than in any other marital group. A third to half of those separated or divorced worked chiefly to support themselves only; this was a considerably larger proportion than among married, and a very much smaller proportion than among widows or single women. Providing education for their children was the chief reason for working given by separated or divorced women to a considerably greater extent than by widows.

The separated or divorced women reporting were supporting their children to a much greater extent than women of any other marital group—40 to 55 percent of them had child dependents. These separated or divorced women also supported their mothers to a much greater extent than widows or married women—from over a tenth to a fourth had their mothers as dependents.

Roughly a fourth of the widows reporting had their children as dependents. Usually over a tenth of the widows were fully or partly supporting their mothers—proportions in several unions very similar to those for married women but always very much less than for single women. The following summary shows further details.

RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS SUPPORTED ¹ BY WIDOWED AND BY SEPARATED
OR DIVORCED WOMEN

	Number of women reporting	Percent who supported—			
		Children	Mother	Father	Other relatives
WIDOWED WOMEN					
BRC.....	156	24	15	5	21
CWA.....	39	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
H & R.....	166	23	11	2	16
ILGWU.....	201	23	10	4	14
IAM.....	72	26	13	3	13
TWUA.....	103	27	5	2	14
WTUL.....	112	28	17	2	11
SEPARATED OR DIVORCED WOMEN					
BRC.....	188	40	24	6	14
CWA.....	123	53	23	4	9
H & R.....	275	40	15	2	11
ILGWU.....	228	51	19	5	17
IAM.....	131	55	18	3	5
TWUA.....	58	47	16	-	5
WTUL.....	93	41	18	5	9

¹ In full or in part.

² Not computed; base too small.

Among both the widowed and the separated or divorced women reporting, from 80 to over 90 percent used at least three-fourths of their earnings for current living expenses. This was considerably larger than the proportion of either married or single women who required so much of their earnings for current expenses. Usually about 60 to 70 percent of the women reporting in each of these groups spent their entire earnings for current living costs. (See table 9.)

Ninety-seven percent or more of the widowed, separated, or divorced women who lived in family groups contributed regularly to the family expenses. At least a third of them, and in some unions half or more were the only earners contributing to the family support. The proportion who were sole earners was larger than among married and usually larger than among single women; from about 40 to nearly 50 percent of the widowed, separated, or divorced women were sharing the family expenses with one other earner. Among the garment workers particularly, families with a widowed, separated, or divorced woman as one of two earners tended to be large, about half of them consisting of four or more persons, and more than a fifth having at least five persons.

REASONS GIVEN FOR WORKING

Support of themselves or themselves and others was, of course, the primary reason for working given by the great majority of the women reporting. However, many also worked for additional objectives that were important to them. In several of the union groups at least a fifth of the women were working to buy a home. The proportions looking forward to home buying were somewhat smaller among members of the WTUL, ILGWU, and H & R workers; they were largest among the BRC and IAM members, where well over a fourth of those reporting were buying or planning to buy homes.

About a tenth of the women in these union groups were working to educate children. The proportion was smallest (less than a tenth) among the WTUL and BRC members reporting, largest (not far from a fifth) among the IAM members. A very small proportion said they worked to keep in practice, or because of satisfaction in having a job. The proportion listing satisfaction in the job as a reason was highest—about 3 percent—among members of the BRC, CWA, and WTUL.

TABLE 15.—CHIEF REASONS FOR WORKING, BY UNION GROUP AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Chief reason and living arrangement	Percent ¹ of women reporting who gave specified reasons						
	BRC	CWA	H & R	ILGWU	IAM	TWUA	WTUL
All women reporting:							
Support self only.....	46	42	42	33	33	33	42
Support self and others.....	40	49	46	54	47	51	47
Buy home.....	28	24	15	15	28	20	12
Educate children.....	8	13	11	11	17	15	7
Have money for special purposes.....	17	13	6	11	13	13	12
Women living with family:							
Support self only.....	38	33	26	27	25	26	34
Support self and others.....	45	55	57	59	51	57	53
Buy home.....	34	28	20	17	32	22	14
Educate children.....	9	16	14	13	20	16	8
Have money for special purposes.....	19	14	8	12	15	13	13
Women living apart:							
Support self only.....	78	73	78	72	70	91	83
Support self and others.....	22	26	21	28	30	7	17
Buy home.....	7	5	3	5	8	3	1
Educate children.....	2	3	4	3	4	2	1
Have money for special purposes.....	5	8	2	3	5	8	6

¹ Some women gave more than one reason, and some gave other reasons not shown.

Some women, over a tenth in most union groups, reported working for a great variety of special purposes, usually in addition to support of themselves and their dependents. In most of the union groups, the special purpose for working most frequently reported by these women workers was the payment of doctor, hospital, or other medical-care bills. An especially large proportion gave these as reasons for working among the TWUA, the IAM, the H & R, and the ILGWU members. Many were providing furnishings for their homes, or carrying the mortgage, payments on the home, or home-repair bills. Many

were putting what they could into savings "for old age" or for family emergencies. Some were paying the costs for keeping up a car, often so necessary for the workers' transportation, and other family business.

REASONS GIVEN BY WOMEN LIVING IN FAMILY OR APART

Self-support was the dominating reason for work among women living apart from their families and was given as the chief reason for working much more frequently by these women than by women living with their families. On the other hand, women living with their families more often reported their chief reason for working as support of themselves and others. Despite this, in most of these union groups more than a fifth of the women living apart gave support of others as well as self as a chief reason for working. Buying a home, educating children, and working for some special purpose were given to a considerably greater extent by women living with their families than by those living apart, as table 15 shows.

REASONS GIVEN BY MARRIED AND SINGLE WOMEN

Support of themselves and often of others as well was their chief reason for working given by practically all the single women. Family support was also the chief reason given by 60 to 80 percent of the married women. Single women were more likely to give self-support as their chief reason for working. On the other hand, more married women gave the support of others besides themselves as their chief reason for working.

TABLE 16.—CHIEF REASONS FOR WORKING, BY UNION GROUP AND MARITAL STATUS

Chief reasons and marital status	Percent ¹ of women reporting who gave specified reasons						
	BRC	CWA	H & R	ILGWU	IAM	TWUA	WTUL
Single:							
Support self only.....	65	59	64	49	62	61	59
Support self and others.....	34	40	35	50	39	39	39
Buy home.....	6	5	3	3	4	3	3
Educate children.....		(²)	2	(²)		1	
Have money for special purposes.....	9	12	1	8	7	8	11
Married:							
Support self only.....	18	27	21	17	16	16	19
Support self and others.....	42	54	51	58	46	59	54
Buy home.....	66	47	30	28	47	31	26
Educate children.....	15	22	16	19	26	21	14
Have money for special purposes.....	32	17	13	17	20	17	19
Widowed:							
Support self only.....	54	(³)	56	62	59	66	55
Support self and others.....	46	(³)	43	38	42	33	42
Buy home.....	12	(³)	5	5	9	2	1
Educate children.....	12	(³)	7	7	11	7	5
Have money for special purposes.....	3	(³)	1	3	3	7	5
Separated or divorced:							
Support self only.....	38	35	49	34	34	42	45
Support self and others.....	61	64	49	65	65	58	52
Buy home.....	18	8	4	3	7	9	5
Educate children.....	24	23	11	14	15	15	7
Have money for special purposes.....	6	5	3	2	4	2	2

¹ Some women gave more than one reason, and some gave other reasons not shown.

² Percent not shown where less than 1.

³ Not computed; base too small.

Other reasons for working most frequently given by married women were to buy a home and to educate children. From almost half to four-fifths of the married women in various union groups gave one or both of these as their reasons for working. By the single women, on the other hand, the most frequent reason given besides support of self and others was to have money for special purposes. A small proportion of the single women also were using their earnings toward purchase of a home. Among the women in the machinists union, a tenth of the single women living apart from families were working to buy homes. Of two reasons not given so often as those already discussed, satisfaction in having a job was given more frequently by single than by married women in all but two unions; and the desire to keep their skills in practice usually was given more often by married than by single women.

REASONS GIVEN BY WOMEN OF DIFFERENT AGES

Within the various age groups, the largest proportions of women reporting support of self and others as a chief reason for working were 30 to 34 years of age in three union groups, 35 to 39 in the other four. Home-buying as a chief reason for working was most frequently reported by women in groups over 35 among the telephone workers, clothing workers, and members of the machinists union; by women in age groups under 35 among textile and hotel workers. Both older and younger women among railway clerks and Trade Union League members gave home-buying as an objective. Education of children as a chief reason for working was given most frequently by women 35 to 39 years of age in five union groups, but among textile workers and Trade Union League members, by a slightly older group.

SUMMARY ON WOMEN WORKERS AND FAMILY SUPPORT AS REPORTED BY EACH COOPERATING UNION

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP CLERKS, FREIGHT HANDLERS, EXPRESS AND STATION EMPLOYES, AFL

Over 2,350 women members of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employes replied to questionnaires. They reported the following facts.

Most of them work because they must support themselves and often dependents.

Of every 100 women who reported, 48 women support or partly support dependents in addition to supporting themselves. Some have more than one dependent.

The women reporting supported various relatives—

11	} percent support	(their children
22		(their mothers
9		(their husbands
6		(their fathers
14		(other relatives.

Daily living takes all or nearly all the earnings of most of these women. Of every 100 women who reported—

66 use three-fourths or more of their wages for daily living and
36 use all their wages for daily living.

More married than single women who reported use all their earnings for daily living.

Daily living takes all the wages of—

31	} in every 100	(single women
34		(married women
57		(women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Daily living takes three-fourths or more of the wages of—

63	} in every 100	(single women
60		(married women
89		(women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

A larger proportion of women in age groups 35 and over than in younger age groups use all their wages for daily living—

24	} in 100 women	(under 25 years
35		(25 to 34 years
47		(35 to 44 years
38		(45 to 54 years
44		(55 years and over.

Some of these women are the only earners in their households. Of every 100 women who reported they live in family households, 14 are the only earners contributing to the family support.

In every 100 families where a woman is the only earner—

65	} families have	{	2 persons
25			3 persons
10			4 persons or more.

For almost all these women work is a necessity. Of every 100 women who reported, 86 said their chief reason for working is to support themselves and often dependents as well.

These replies were given by women members in the following cities:

Albany	Houston	Richmond (Va.)
Atlanta	Louisville	San Francisco
Baltimore	Minneapolis	St. Louis
Chicago	Mobile	St. Paul
Dallas	Omaha	Topeka
Denver	Philadelphia	
Detroit	Portland (Oreg.)	

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO

About 925 women members of the Communications Workers of America, CIO, replied to questionnaires and reported the following facts. All were in the traffic department.

Most of them work because they must support themselves and often dependents. Of every 100 women who reported, 58 women support or partly support dependents in addition to supporting themselves. Some have more than one dependent.

The women reporting supported various relatives—

22	} percent support	{	their children
24			their mothers
12			their husbands
8			their fathers
12			other relatives.

Daily living takes all or nearly all the earnings of most of these women. Of every 100 women who reported—

73 use three-fourths or more of their wages for daily living and

49 use all their wages for daily living.

More married than single women who reported use all their earnings for daily living.

Daily living takes all the wages of—

39	} in every 100	{	single women
55			married women
58			women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Daily living takes three-fourths or more of the wages of—

67	} in every 100	{	single women
74			married women
85			women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

About half or more of the women reporting in the various age groups use all their wages for daily living—

48	} in 100 at ages	{	20 to 29 years
54			30 to 39 years
47			40 to 49 years.

Some of these women are the only earners in their households. Of every 100 women who reported they live in family households, 16 are the only earners contributing to the family support.

In every 100 families where a woman is the only earner—

59	} families have	{	2 persons
29			3 persons
12			4 persons or more.

For almost all these women, work is a necessity. Of every 100 women who reported, 91 said their chief reason for working is to support themselves and often dependents as well.

These replies were given by women members in the following cities:

Atlanta	Minneapolis
Cincinnati	San Antonio
Denver	San Francisco
Milwaukee	Washington, D. C.

HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES AND BARTENDERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL

About 1,150 women members of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union, AFL, replied to questionnaires and reported the following facts.

Most of them work because they must support themselves and often dependents. Of every 100 women who reported, 56 women support or partly support dependents in addition to supporting themselves. Some have more than one dependent.

The women reporting supported various relatives—

28	} percent support	(their children
16		(their mothers
14		(their husbands
4		(their fathers
11		(other relatives.

Daily living takes all or nearly all the earnings of most of these women. Of every 100 women who reported—

89 use three-fourths or more of their wages for daily living and

78 use all their wages for daily living.

More married than single women who reported use all their earnings for daily living.

Daily living takes all the wages of—

69	} in every 100	(single women
77		(married women
82		(women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Daily living takes three-fourths or more of the wages of—

81	} in every 100	(single women
89		(married women
93		(women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

More than three-fourths of the women reporting in the various age groups use all their wages for daily living—

77	} in 100 women	(20 to 29 years
80		(30 to 39 years
80		(40 to 49 years
79		(50 to 59 years.

Some of these women are the only earners in their households. Of every 100 women who reported they live in family households, 21 are the only earners contributing to family support.

In every 100 families where a woman is the only earner—

59	} families have	(2 persons
32		(3 persons
9		(4 persons or more.

For almost all these women work is a necessity. Of every 100 women who reported, 88 said their chief reason for working is to support themselves and often dependents as well.

These replies were given by women members in the following locals:

Boston—Locals 112, 186.

St. Louis—Local 249.

Cincinnati—Local 363.

San Francisco—Locals 110, 283.

Los Angeles—Local 639.

Wilkes-Barre—Local 154.

Peoria—Local 744.

Worcester—Local 95.

Providence—Locals 307, 544.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION, AFL

About 2,225 women members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, AFL, replied to questionnaires and reported the following facts.

Most of them work because they must support themselves and often dependents. Of every 100 women who reported, 64 women support or partly support dependents in addition to supporting themselves. Some have more than one dependent.

The women reporting supported various relatives—

28	} percent support	(their children
23		(their mothers
16		(their husbands
8		(their fathers
15		(other relatives.

Daily living takes all or nearly all the earnings of most of these women. Of every 100 women who reported—

80 use three-fourths or more of their wages for daily living
and

65 use all their wages for daily living.

More married than single women who reported use all their earnings for daily living.

Daily living takes all the wages of—

49	} in every 100	(single women
71		(married women
74		(women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Daily living takes three-fourths or more of the wages of—

70	} in every 100	(single women
83		(married women
89		(women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

More than half the women reporting in all age groups and three-fourths of those 40 and over use all their wages for daily living.

55	} in 100 women	(20 to 29 years
68		(30 to 39 years
75		(40 to 49 years
73		(50 to 59 years.

Some of these women are the only earners in their households. Of every 100 women who reported they live in family households, 14 are the only earners contributing to the family support.

In every 100 families where a woman is the only earner—

57	} families have	{	2 persons
29			3 persons
14			4 persons or more.

For almost all these women work is a necessity. Of every 100 women who reported, 87 said their chief reason for working is to support themselves and often dependents as well.

These replies were given by women members in the following locals:

Chicago area—Locals 76, 286.	St. Louis—Locals 104, 182, 203, 336, and Consolidated Local.
Fall River—Local 178.	
Los Angeles—Locals 266, 496, 497.	San Francisco—Locals 8, 101, 352.
New York—Locals 22, 62, 89, 142.	Wilkes-Barre—Locals 249, 295.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS

About 850 women members of the International Association of Machinists answered questionnaires and reported the following facts.

Most of them work because they must support themselves and often dependents. Of every 100 women who reported, 59 women support or partly support dependents in addition to supporting themselves. Some have more than one dependent.

The women reporting supported various relatives—

35	} percent support	{	their children
16			their mothers
14			their husbands
5			their fathers
9			other relatives.

Daily living takes all or nearly all the earnings of most of these women. Of every 100 women who reported—

70 use three-fourths or more of their wages for daily living
and

56 use all their wages for daily living.

More married than single women who reported use all their earnings for daily living.

Daily living takes all the wages of—

42	} in every 100	{	single women
57			married women
66			women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Daily living takes three-fourths or more of the wages of—

61	} in every 100	{	single women
67			married women
86			women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Half or more of the women reporting in the various age groups use all their wages for daily living—

50	} in 100 women	{	20 to 29 years
57			30 to 39 years
56			40 to 49 years
69			50 to 59 years.

Some of these women are the only earners in their households. Of every 100 women who reported they live in family households, 15 are the only earners contributing to family support.

In every 100 families where a woman is the only earner—

52	} families have	{	2 persons
25			3 persons
23			4 persons or more.

For almost all of these women work is a necessity. Of every 100 women who reported, 80 said their chief reason for working is to support themselves and often dependents as well.

These replies were given by women members in the following locals:

Cleveland—Locals 233, 439.
 Elmira—Local 826.
 Erie—Local 1520.
 Fort Worth—Local 776.

Hartford—Locals 350, 354, 1746.
 St. Louis—Locals 688, 1345, 1654.
 San Francisco—Local 1327.

TEXTILE WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA, CIO

Nearly 800 women members of the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, replied to questionnaires and reported the following facts.

Most of them work because they must support themselves and often dependents. Of every 100 women who reported, 64 women support or partly support dependents in addition to supporting themselves. Some have more than one dependent.

The women reporting supported various relatives—

36	} percent support	{	their children
14			their mothers
21			their husbands
7			their fathers
10			other relatives.

Daily living takes all or nearly all the earnings of most of these women. Of every 100 women who reported—

80 use three-fourths or more of their wages for daily living
and

65 use all their wages for daily living.

More married than single women who reported use all their earnings for daily living.

Daily living takes all the wages of—

49	} in every 100	{	single women
70			married women
62			women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

Daily living takes three-fourths or more of the wages of—

66	} in every 100	{	single women
82			married women
85			women who are widowed, separated, or divorced.

More than half the women in all age groups, and about three-fourths of those 40 to 49 years of age, use all their wages for daily living—

54	} in 100 women at ages	{	20 to 29 years
69			30 to 39 years
74			40 to 49 years
59			50 to 59 years.

Some of these women are the only earners in their households. Of every 100 women who reported they live in family households, 13 are the only earners contributing to the family support.

In every 100 families where a woman is the only earner—

60	} families have	{	2 persons
33			3 persons
7			4 persons or more.

For almost all these women work is a necessity. Of every 100 women who reported, 84 said their chief reason for working is to support themselves and often dependents as well.

These replies were given by women members in the following locals:

Boston—Local 642.

Danville—Locals 452, 510, 511, 649.

Hartford—Locals 109, 411, 465, 471, 843, 885, 916.

Leakesville-Spray—Locals 294, 385.

New Bedford—Locals 593, 596.

Norwich—Locals 431, 460, 529.

Providence—Local 44.

Wilkes-Barre—Local 1080.

Worcester—Locals 40, 300.



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Part II

Findings From Many Studies of Women's Economic Responsibilities

SOURCES AND CHARACTER OF STUDIES

Reference has been made in part I to the many studies that give some information on the economic responsibilities of women workers and the varied character of these studies. They include women employed in differing areas, occupations, and industries, and they vary widely in type and definiteness of data shown. In preparing the present report, studies made over a period of 60 years have been examined, including many made by the Women's Bureau; altogether these number almost 240. In the text following, numbers in parentheses refer to studies listed in appendix A, where complete titles are given.

In the first decade of this century, keen public interest was shown in the conditions under which women were employed, including their economic status and their responsibilities for the support of others. A number of State labor departments reported on the situation, and a far-reaching national study authorized by Congress was conducted. Findings in some of these earlier reports will be discussed below, after which information from more recent studies on women's economic responsibilities will be considered.

The major source of information on the economic responsibilities of women workers is the Women's Bureau, which began early in its existence (1919-20) to investigate this subject, and includes new findings or references to earlier data on it in almost 80 reports. Among these are three large field studies made in quite different periods and directed primarily or largely to securing this particular type of information. In the earliest of these (70) personal interviews or records were secured for nearly 900 women employed in New Hampshire shoe factories in 1919-20. The latest (48) is a study of more than 13,000 women interviewed during 1944 and 1945 in 10 widely separated areas that had large labor forces of women war-production workers.

In addition to its own field investigations, the Women's Bureau has made special studies in years of the decennial census of the showing as to working women's share in family support from schedules of the Bureau of the Census for selected cities. These reported on nearly 38,500 women at work in four cities in 1920 (69), and on more than

58,000 women employed in three cities in 1930 (66). Besides the two types of special studies of this subject just described, the Women's Bureau has at three different periods interpreted the findings of a variety of studies of women's financial responsibilities made by many agencies. Those summarized run as far back as 1888, and all told they include some 85 special studies, the latest in 1936.

During the 1920's and since, a number of women's organizations reported on economic responsibilities of women. For example, the Young Woman's Christian Association long has had a primary interest in this subject and from time to time some of its many local branches have made investigations including data in regard to it. A number of studies of teachers' dependency load have been made by the National Education Association, as well as by local educational authorities or teachers' organizations, by Pi Lambda Theta (educational honor society), and by private persons. These, and studies by the American Woman's Association of New York and by the National Business and Professional Women's Clubs and individuals connected with it give well-defined information about professional women. Some of the reports on women war workers in various communities, on women receiving relief during the depression, on mothers or families with children in day-care centers, and on unemployed women seeking work have given data on this subject.

Careful analysis and reporting on women's economic responsibilities has been done in a number of important reports by individual research workers, sometimes for use as a thesis, or under the auspices of a university or a research foundation. Notable among these were some of the earlier investigations on the employment of mothers or married women, such as those by Katharine Anthony in New York, by Helen Wright in Chicago, and by Gwendolyn Hughes in Philadelphia. Somewhat later were studies by David Wilbur Peters, Cecile Tipton La Follette, and still later studies by Day Monroe, Margaret Hogg, Gladys Palmer, and Minnie Steckel.

EARLY REPORTING ON WOMEN'S ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITIES

As early as 1829, an "intelligent and respectable lady in New Jersey" addressed a letter to Mathew Carey, a noted Philadelphia philanthropist and publisher who interested himself extensively in the lot of the employed woman. This lady pointed out to Mr. Carey that women as well as men often have families to support. "Seeing that women labor equally with men," she continued, and "that their necessities are as great (for I will not allow that the clothing of a poor woman, properly clad, is of less cost than a man's) * * * they are fully entitled to an equality of wages."

The earliest major report resulting from modern methods of social investigation that afforded considerable information on the economic

responsibilities of women workers was that of the United States Bureau of Labor in 1888 (132). This was very extensive and was carried on through interviews of women agents of the Bureau with 17,427 women workers in 22 cities. Of 14,918 reporting on this subject, about 60 percent contributed to the general support of their families. Of the year's income reported by 5,716 of these women, nearly a fourth went to the support of dependents.

These initial findings were followed in 1891-95 by reports along similar lines from four State Labor Departments—Missouri (107), New Jersey (113), Indiana (90), and Kansas (94). Nearly 8,000 women had been interviewed. From 26 percent in New Jersey to 68 percent in Missouri (in three States about half or more) reported that they "had dependents" or "helped support others."

More than 10 years later a report on over 2,500 women in Illinois (89) showed conditions in 1906 similar to those of the first four States, and added a new note: The average number of dependents supported by women workers was 1.8.

THE INVESTIGATION OF WOMAN AND CHILD WAGE EARNERS

Following the Illinois report, and built on a growing eagerness to improve the conditions under which women and children were working, the demand grew for facts on their entire economic status as a basis for intelligent action. Interest was widespread through the more industrialized section of the country from Kansas, Missouri, and Illinois to Massachusetts. The recently formed Women's Trade Union League, organized in 1903 to help the largely unorganized women workers to help themselves, sent a persuasive committee headed by Mary MacDowell, an outstanding Chicago social worker, to President Theodore Roosevelt to ask that more facts be collected. The President reportedly was impressed by the Committee's representations, and in January 1907 he approved an act of Congress directing the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to undertake a large-scale investigation into the condition of woman and child wage earners. It included nearly 17,000 women in those manufacturing industries that employed women in greatest numbers, in stores, and in hotels and restaurants. Its results were published in 1910-11 in 19 volumes closely packed with revealing social data on women's hours, wages, and conditions of work (131).

This comprehensive report also showed types of evidence not formerly available on women's economic responsibilities. These included the extent to which women gave all their earnings to the support of the family, the part of the entire family earnings furnished by women, the extent to which women were the only earners in their families, the extent to which women workers had no men in their families. The report showed data for women living in family households and apart,

and for mothers and all other women workers. The following are among the highlights of this great study of woman and child wage earners that made a striking addition to the understanding of the social and economic needs in that period. These findings have been only reinforced and not superseded in import, and to a large extent in detail, by the innumerable later studies that have reported on the economic responsibilities of women.

Findings in Report on Woman and Child Wage Earners

Of 4,580 women in 7 cities who worked in stores and factories and lived at home, 98 percent contributed to support of their families. Three-fourths of them gave all their earnings to the family.

Of 1,274 women workers who lived apart, 22 percent contributed money to the support of relatives. They gave 29 percent of their earnings for this purpose.

Mothers who worked in different industries contributed 25 to 33 percent of the income of 1,917 families.

In 4,817 families there were 7,172 women and girls (exclusive of mothers) who were gainfully employed. Those at work in different industries gave from 86 to 96 percent of their earnings to support of the family, thus furnishing 27 to 40 percent of the entire income of their families.

REPORTS FOLLOWING WOMAN AND CHILD WAGE EARNERS

Planned by some of the most able and experienced of social investigators, the Report on Woman and Child Wage Earners set a pattern for future studies, both in method and in type of information shown. A long line of studies that followed, extending to the present, have found similar facts about women's economic responsibilities. From 1911 to 1914 reports were made in four States by special commissions appointed to investigate conditions of work and wages of women—Massachusetts (99), Connecticut (84), Michigan (104), and New York (117). Further reports made after 1913 and prior to 1920 by official agencies, usually labor or welfare departments, showed similar results in some of these and in four additional States (seven in all)—Kansas (93, 94), Michigan (103), Wisconsin (146), California (80), Connecticut (82), Louisiana (128), and Massachusetts (102). Other States had reports in preparation. Several private agencies and individual investigators also reported on this subject during these years.

Most studies of economic responsibilities made prior to the 1920's (except the national report discussed) reported only on the proportion of working women who contributed to the family support, and the proportion who gave all their earnings for this purpose. Some reported number having dependents, almost always with no definition of dependents. All prior to 1919 dealt with wage earners, some with specialized groups such, for example, as applicants for employment, full-time or part-time workers, employed homemakers, heads of families, workers with broken homes.

Few entirely new types of information were developed after those reported in *Woman and Child Wage Earners*, though several reports distinguished more definitely the dependency of various marital groups or gave more details on the relationship of women's dependents or on other phases of the subject. Exceptional in providing new kinds of information were the following: A 1913 Kansas Bureau of Labor Statistics report (93) that distinguished full from partial dependents; a 1914 Russell Sage Foundation report on working mothers (126) that showed size of family of those who were sole earners; a United States Department of Labor report (134) in 1916 that dealt with women who worked in Boston stores and who were heads of families; and a Louisiana Council of Defense report (128) in 1919 that showed the woman worker as chief earner (the one earning more than any other family member). Appendix B shows the earliest studies that contain the various types of information usually reported on the economic status of women workers.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NINETEEN-TWENTIES

In the studies on women's economic responsibilities in the 1920's two points still were uppermost: The extent to which women had dependents (often not well defined), and the extent to which they contributed some or all of their earnings to family support. However, in the 1920's these reports showed more frequently than before two somewhat more definite items—the extent to which women were the sole earners in the family, and their average number of dependents. A few carefully distinguished full from partial dependents.

Information now was more frequently shown on the types of dependents women have. In these years several studies were made of working mothers, following the early report on them by the *Woman and Child Wage Earner* study and one on 370 working mothers in Manhattan, N. Y., made by Katharine Anthony for the Russell Sage Foundation (126). Chief new studies of dependents of working mothers were one including 843 Chicago mothers prepared by Helen Wright for the Children's Bureau (135), and one on 728 Philadelphia mothers (88), done by Gwendolyn S. Hughes (Berry) as a Bryn Mawr thesis. Both found the great majority working because of inadequate contributions by husbands. One small study of Brattleboro, Vt., women workers (147), attempted to discover the age at which they carried the greatest dependency load.

In the 1920's the Bureau of the Census reports were being recognized and used to a greater extent as fertile sources of significant data by university students and research agencies. Federal agencies could gain access somewhat more easily than private investigators to unpublished census materials. They were used effectively by two recently established agencies that had great interest in social data—the Chil-

dren's Bureau, created in 1912, and the Women's Bureau, established in 1920. The influences that had secured the Woman and Child Wage Earner investigations were to a large extent active in bringing these agencies into being. They stressed the need to build on the facts of that investigation and to keep information current as to changes in the situation. A Census Bureau report early in the decade, presenting data on employed homemakers in Rochester, N. Y. (130), included 74,467 families and found that nearly 6 percent of these were entirely supported by women. Toward the close of the decade a large report on women in gainful work in 1920, issued by the Census Bureau (129), showed 7.5 percent of them to be sole earners in their families.

Further reports as to women's economic responsibilities were made by a few State agencies—those in Minnesota (106), Maryland (98), Washington (142), Massachusetts (100, 101), and Oregon (118, 119). A large study of housing conditions in New York, made by the Bureau of Social Hygiene (114), included data on women's dependents. Women's organizations also began making reports, usually in local studies, which contained data on women's economic responsibilities, for example, the YWCA (148) in Cincinnati; the Boston Educational and Industrial Union, a study in Brattleboro, Vt. (147); and the Information Bureau on Women's Work (91), a study in Toledo, Ohio.

Reports on the economic responsibilities of women, formerly largely directed to wage earners, had begun by 1920 to include professional women. In this decade several notable such studies were made, one of teachers in Minnesota (105), two of college graduates (76, 92). At the end of this decade, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women made a widespread study of their members (112), including a report on dependents.

WOMEN'S BUREAU STUDIES IN THE 1920's

The extent of women's economic responsibility was one of the subjects that received considerable attention from the Women's Bureau during its earlier years, and that has continued to the present as an important part of the Bureau's program. It seemed an inseparable part of the efforts to secure a living wage for working women. Their necessity for self-support, their frequent load of dependency, had to be reiterated again and again with new data in the face of a traditional idea that all women lived at home, were supported by the male members of the family, and worked for "pin-money" only.

Two major studies the Bureau made between 1920 and 1925 were directed primarily toward women's economic responsibilities. One of these was an examination of 1920 Census schedules for four cities (69). This included data for 31,482 women wage earners, and showed

that about a fifth of them were sole earners in their families and over a fourth were in families with no men earners.

The other study (70) reported from three main sources. One of these included almost 900 women shoe workers in Manchester, N. H., who were interviewed or whose records were examined by Women's Bureau field agents. The results showed that a fifth of the wives or mothers and a third of the daughters included furnished their "proportionate share" or more of the total family earnings—that is, half or more if the family had two earners, at least a third if there were three earners in the family, and so forth. An examination of schedules from a cost-of-living investigation in the District of Columbia that had just been made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that of some 860 daughters reported about a third furnished 30 percent or more of their families' earnings. The third section of this Women's Bureau study summarized findings of 33 studies of varied types made in many places (in addition to new summaries of data from the great Woman and Child Wage Earner study). In most of these 33 studies, at least a fifth of the women included had dependents; in 18 studies about half or more, and in 10 over 60 percent, of the women had dependents.

Besides these two major studies of the subject, the Women's Bureau included in 19 other reports of many types made in the 1920's some findings as to women's responsibilities for dependents or their contributions to family support, and 17 other Bureau studies briefly mentioned the subject. These showed consistent evidence that many women regularly contribute to family support, that most women work to support themselves or themselves and others, that a considerable proportion of women workers are responsible for dependents, and that a notable proportion carry the sole support of the family. In some of these studies the number of women actually interviewed was small; on the other hand, the following are large studies in which the Women's Bureau presented findings of outstanding significance during the 1920's.

Significant Women's Bureau Findings in the 1920's

Of 4,321 women workers in Kansas, interviewed by Women's Bureau agents in 1919-20, and giving information on this subject, three-fourths contributed regularly to the support of their families, and well over a third gave all their earnings for this purpose. (WB Bull. 17.)

Of 385 women injured in New Jersey industries in 1919-20, and later interviewed by Women's Bureau agents, almost half had some responsibility for the support of others besides themselves. (WB Bull. 60.)

Of a small group interviewed on this subject in a large study of Negro women workers in 1920, three-fourths contributed regularly to their families, half giving their entire earnings. (WB Bull. 20.)

Schedules of 1,578 West Virginia families investigated by the Coal Commission in 1922-23 showed that nine-tenths of the wives and daughters of the coal miners were working. Earnings of wives provided 20-25 percent, of daughters 15-20 percent, of the income of their families. (WB Bull. 45.)

Of 2,591 women in Washington State interviewed by Women's Bureau agents in 1923, who worked in canneries and lived with their families, 6 percent were the sole earners in their families, and 12 percent were in families with no male earners. (WB Bull. 47.)

Of 1,850 women laundry workers in 23 cities, interviewed by Women's Bureau agents in 1927-28, over 95 percent reported they were working to support themselves and others. (WB Bull. 78.)

Of 897 women workers in meat-packing plants in midwestern States, interviewed by Women's Bureau agents in 1928-29, 11 percent were fully responsible for the support of themselves and others. (WB Bull. 88.)

Of 405 married women workers in Denver interviewed and reporting on this subject in 1928, over nine-tenths supported themselves and others. (WB Bull. 77.)

CHARACTER OF STUDIES, 1930 TO 1935

The early 1930's were influenced primarily by the great economic depression and its aftermath. The subject of women's economic responsibilities was much to the fore. It was seriously considered by women's groups and those seeking to aid women workers. Economists, formerly little interested in the woman labor force, as they studied the current employment situation discovered, sometimes to their surprise, the basic importance of women's earnings in the support of their families.

Former studies had indicated the acute need of women's earnings in families of low income. Those of the depression emphasized this in a somewhat different context—when the men of the family were unemployed the family funds dwindled. The women of the family went to work to supplement the family income or provide its entire support. They often found jobs because employers could get them for lower pay. Necessity obscured the fact that general wage standards suffered by the lower wage scale for women.

At the same time that the earnings of women became more necessary in many families, inability to understand the larger economic picture resulted in a wave of public sentiment demanding more job openings for men, even at the cost of dismissing women workers, especially married women. This half measure tended to increase rather than relieve economic distress.

Under the general economic influences just outlined, three types of studies were characteristic of this period. Several extensive reports were made on the economic responsibilities of married women, two of these at Columbia University Teachers' College (96, 123), one at the

University of Pennsylvania (141). Appearing at this time, also, though based on 1920 Census schedules, was a large study of Chicago families with dependent children (108), which afforded some data on women's economic load. Closely allied were reports on the employed homemaker, though not all these are married, the largest such report being by the Women's Bureau based on 1930 Census data (66).

The second type of study in this period related to the financial needs and the dependents of those families affected by the depression. A new method of investigating these by examining applications for work at employment offices or applications for work relief was led by brilliant studies under the auspices of the New York State Department of Labor (115, 116), the University of Pennsylvania (139, 140), and the Russell Sage Foundation (124), the latter being sponsor for a study in New Haven, Conn. The Industrial Commission of Wisconsin (145) and the Connecticut Citizens' Committee on Unemployment and Relief (83) contributed to the reporting on the subject.

The third type of study, which was more numerous in this period than formerly, was that of the dependency load of teachers. Such studies were made in efforts to obtain higher salary scales. A few reports also were made of other professional women at this time, though data for some of these had been secured earlier. The Women's Bureau contributed large studies to each of these types, and in addition reported on dependents of women injured in industry as shown by the data of compensation agencies in several States.

A distinguishing feature of the reports of the early 1930's seems to be some effort toward fuller delineation of the status and type of dependents. More studies than before separate full from partial dependents. The La Follette study of married women (96) shows extent to which dependents supported lived in or outside the family. Some reports show more details as to adult as well as child dependents.

As before, data are shown on the general subject of whether women contribute some of their earnings to family support; the average number of dependents; and the dependents of working mothers. Each of three important points occasionally reported earlier again appeared in a new study: The size of family of women sole earners is shown in the Women's Bureau second survey of South Bend, Ind. (137); the part of the family income given by women, in the first South Bend survey (137); and dependents of single women who live apart and with relatives, in an extensive study of teachers made by the National Education Association (111).

The following list summarizes the findings of some of the more outstanding reports of the three types mentioned.

SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS IN 23 STUDIES

1931-35

<i>Date published</i>	<i>Subject of study</i>	<i>Findings on women workers</i>	<i>Appendix No.</i>
1. MARRIED WOMEN			
1931	University of Pennsylvania; employed married women in Philadelphia; 34,000 full-time workers.	Over 28 percent were sole earners in their families; for an added 19 percent the only other family earners were on part time or unemployed.	(141)
1931	U. S. Children's Bureau; children of working mothers in Philadelphia; 3,500 mothers who worked in 6-month period.	About 18 percent were sole support, 9 percent chief support of their families.	(136)
1932	Monroe; Chicago families; includes report on over 2,600 families of women with broken marital ties from the 1920 Census.	In over 40 percent of the families the mother worked to support dependent children; in 15 percent she was the only earner.	(108)
1934	Peters; status of married woman teacher; reports on 921 married teachers in Virginia and 921 single for comparison.	Married teachers had an average of 1.9 dependents, single of 1.5. Of these dependents, 0.4 of the married and 0.3 of the single were wholly dependent.	(123)
1934	La Follette; problems of 652 gainfully employed married women homemakers.	Of these women a third had children. A third of their families had dependents living <i>outside</i> the home. Well over a fourth had dependents living with them, 90 percent of these being <i>full</i> dependents. Of the dependents 28 percent were the married woman's mother, 33 percent were her father, sister, or brother.	(96)

2. WOMEN UNEMPLOYED OR IN FAMILIES WITH UNEMPLOYED

1931	New York State Department of Labor; 2 studies of unemployment, Buffalo and Syracuse; personal interviews with family heads—9,557 in Buffalo, and 4,582 in Syracuse.	Of these family <i>heads</i> , over 6 percent in Buffalo and almost 8 percent in Syracuse were women.	(115, 116)
1931	Citizens' Emergency Committee on Unemployment, Bridgeport, Conn.; records of 557 unemployed women registrants with the committee.	Of these 56 percent had child dependents, 8 percent, adult.	(83)
1930 1932}	Women's Bureau; 2 studies of wage-earners' families and the depression in South Bend, Ind.; in the first (1930), 765 families had but 1 earner; in the second (1932), 814 women reported part of the family earnings furnished.	(a) A woman was <i>sole</i> earner in nearly half these families. In families with woman sole earner: 40 percent had 4 or more members; <i>sole</i> earner was the wife in over a third. (b) 55 percent of these women <i>furnished half</i> or more of the family income.	(137)
1932	Russell Sage Foundation; incidence of work shortage; interviews with 1,034 women earners in New Haven, Conn.	About a fourth were responsible for nonearners-----	(124)
1934	Pennsylvania Civil Works Administration; case records on 13,329 women.	These women had 17,387 dependents, an average of 1.3 per woman.	(121)
1934- 1935}	University of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry; 3 studies of applicants for work at State employment offices.		
	(a) Almost 6,000 applicants in 1933 in Reading, Altoona, and Philadelphia.	Of 4,767 who reported on this subject nearly 60 percent had from 1 to 7 dependents; average was 2.1 per woman; 16 percent had 3 or more dependents.	(140)
	(b) Applicants for employment in Philadelphia, 10,356 women, 1933.	Of 6,932 reporting on the subject, two-thirds had dependents averaging 2.1 each and 18 percent had 3 or more.	(122)
	(c) About 9,000 new applicants in 1934 in Philadelphia Employment Office.	Of 6,574 reporting on the subject, about three-fourths had dependents, averaging 2.5 per woman; almost 30 percent had 3 or more dependents.	(139)

SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS IN 23 STUDIES—(Con.)

<i>Date published</i>	<i>Subject of study</i>	<i>Findings on women workers</i>	<i>Appendix No.</i>
3. WOMEN IN TEACHING AND OTHER PROFESSIONS, AND IN BUSINESS			
1930 } 1934 }	National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs:		
	(a) Earnings of women in business and the professions; included 13,865 members of these clubs in all parts of the country who reported on dependents.	Of these almost 40 percent had dependents, averaging 1.7 per woman.	(112)
	(b) The age factor as it relates to women in business and the professions; Women's Bureau analyzed data; included 14,346 members of these clubs reporting on dependents.	Of these almost two-thirds had dependents, almost a fifth had full dependents.	(137)
1931 } 1932 }	Los Angeles Board of Education; teachers' salaries; 1931. California Department of Education; study of Oakland schools; 1932. Two reports on California elementary and secondary school teachers and adequacy of salary.	Los Angeles—63 percent had dependents, 28 percent had full dependents. Average per teacher was 0.7 for single, 1.2 for married, 1.5 for teachers who were widowed or divorced.	(97)
	Dependency was reported: In Los Angeles, by 1,099. In Oakland, by 761.		
1932	Cleveland Teachers Federation and Cleveland Board of Education; Cleveland teachers' salaries; reporting on 2,650 women teachers.	Oakland—Over three-fourths had dependents. Over half had adult dependents, about 5 percent had child dependents. Almost nine-tenths were single. Of the single, 59 percent of those living with relatives and 42 percent of those living apart had dependents.	(79) (81)
1931 } 1934 }	American Woman's Association, New York; two studies of New York business and professional women in a depression period:		
	(a) 1931, reporting 1,937 women;	In 1931 nearly a third had full dependents, 40 percent full or partial. In 1934 nearly a fifth had full dependents and almost half had full or partial dependents. About a fourth of the income of those with dependents went to support those dependents.	(77, 78)
	(b) 1934, reporting 1,350 women.		
1935	National Education Association; the teacher's economic position; included some 1,900 single women.	These had an average of 1.4 dependents (besides self-support). About 17 percent had 2 or more dependents not living with them.	(111)

FINDINGS IN RECENT STUDIES (1935 AND LATER)

The section of this report that follows presents findings on women's economic responsibilities chiefly from numerous studies of 1935 and later. It is based on detailed examination of more than 75 such studies. With one exception, those reporting a total of fewer than 450 women were not used for the general analysis. Thus, about 30 studies, including 5 large Women's Bureau field investigations, form the chief basis for this discussion. The list of references in the appendix indicates the character and findings in many additional studies not separately discussed here.

Not all the studies give all types of the information discussed, and some afford very much more definite data than others. For each phase of the subject considered, the analysis made uses the reports that appear to give the best information on that part of the subject. In some cases this also includes reference to some important report prior to 1935.

WOMEN WORKERS WHO SUPPORT DEPENDENTS

The type of information on the economic responsibilities of women workers that is most frequently shown relates to the extent to which they have dependents to support. Women who state to investigators that they have dependents give an important and definite indication that they feel an obligation to provide financially for others, even though the nature of this dependency sometimes is not determined. Quite frequently, support of family members or dependent relatives is shared among several earners. In such cases the woman (or women) in the family undoubtedly has a responsibility, perhaps a very considerable one, though it would require complicated methods to determine accurately the shares of individual earners. The list on page 70 shows the findings as to women's dependents in nearly 25 studies made over the past 15 years. This list includes dependents reported in these studies whether they are entirely or partially supported by the worker. Women who fully support others will be discussed later from the relatively few studies that show such information clearly.

An early Women's Bureau report (70) made an intensive study of more than 30 investigations into this subject (1919-20) and concluded that "it does not seem an exaggeration to state that about two-fifths of all wage earning women feel a definite responsibility for the entire or partial support of one or more dependents." This did "not include the large group of women who contributed regularly to the upkeep of the home but did not feel the individual responsibility sufficiently to report that they had dependents."

Studies of later years seem to indicate a notable increase in this figure, though there are still no over-all data to show conclusively the proportion of women in the entire country who support dependents.

Of the many reports available on this subject, a few show that only about a fourth of the women included had dependents. However, in more than half these studies about 50 percent of the women, and in some far more, had dependents. Several of the studies examined showed nine-tenths of the women responsible to some extent for dependents. Nine-tenths was the proportion found by the Women's Bureau among women living with their families in its report of nearly

WOMEN WHO CONTRIBUTE TO SUPPORT OF DEPENDENTS

<i>Study, period covered, and appendix reference</i>	<i>Number of women reporting on dependents</i>	<i>Percent contributing to support of dependents</i>
POSTWAR PERIOD		
Professional nurses (active); 1949 (99 percent women) (1)-----	300, 533	30
Women in advertising; 1949 (?)-----	1, 000	49
Women claiming unemployment compensation; Oregon; 1948 (18)-----	2, 712	28
Elementary and kindergarten teachers; Long Beach, Calif. 1947 (5)-----	520	35
Women workers, Utica, N. Y.; 1946 (30)-----	441	33
Registered professional nurses (active); 1946-47 (98 percent women) (24)-----	12, 500	27
Women workers, Bridgeport, Conn.; 1946 (26)-----	678	47
WAR PERIOD		
Women workers, Duluth, Minn.; 1945 (53) (based on all women in study)-----	1, 547	51
Women workers, electrical union, N. Y.; 1944-45 (39)-----	1, 114	91
Women war workers living in family; 10 areas; 1944-45 (48)-----	10, 700	92
Urban and rural teachers, 42 States; 1944 (36)-----	4, 028	51
Urban-----	3, 377	52
Rural-----	651	43
Women war workers, Dallas; 1944 (34)-----	3, 331	40
Women war workers, Kansas airplane plant; 1943-44 (49)-----	1, 230	48
Professional women workers, U. S.; 1943 (38)-----	3, 107	42
Gainfully employed women in Chicago; 1941-42 (51)-----	3, 033	33
Public school teachers, Conn.; 1941-42 (33)-----	4, 989	65
PREWAR PERIOD		
Negro women domestic workers, Baltimore; 1941 (71)-----	976	48
Elementary and secondary teachers; 1937-38 (60)-----	641	54
Business and professional women, U. S.; 1937 (58)-----	10, 965	48
Rural teachers, 20 States; 1936-37 (56)-----	7, 439	63
White women-----	6, 336	57
Negro women-----	1, 103	92
Employed women on relief, N. Y. City; 1935 (59)-----	6, 542	93
Rural women employed by W. P. A., Mo.; 1936 (72)-----	553	93
University women, U. S.; 1935 (54)-----	8, 796	41

10,000 such women in war production work in 1944-45. The findings in this study are of special significance since it is the largest of the recent studies reporting on dependents of women industrial workers, and it includes those employed in a great variety of wartime occupations in 10 widely scattered areas. From the evidence available, it probably is conservative to say that at least half this country's women workers consider themselves responsible for the entire or partial support of others, in addition to self-support.

A general review of these studies indicates that the proportion of women having dependents varies greatly in relation to a number of factors, such as broad occupation group, age of the worker, general economic situation, and so forth. Most studies reporting industrial workers, or workers in varied occupation groups but likely to be largely industrial, showed from nearly half to over nine-tenths of the women having dependents. In two studies reporting women on relief or on work-relief projects during the depression, over nine-tenths had dependents. Of several studies of teachers the majority showed over half, sometimes very far beyond half, of the women had dependents. However, in one reporting kindergarten teachers, as in those of nurses, which may include a considerable proportion of relatively young women, much smaller proportions had dependents. One study reporting on teachers in 20 States showed data separately for Negro women in States having a considerable number of them and reported that over 90 percent of the Negro women teachers included had dependents, as compared to less than 60 percent of the white women teachers.

Some information on women's dependents is afforded by data on women who receive unemployment compensation. However, the definitions of dependents covered vary among the States, so that their figures do not show the full extent to which the women may be responsible for dependents. Allowance may be given in one State for a dependent who would not be included in another, so that comparisons between States are not valid. Only a few States, 11 in all, make additional allowances for some of the dependents of these women.

Seven of these States limit benefits for dependents to children only; such benefits went to the following proportions of the women receiving unemployment compensation in the last quarter of 1950:

	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Connecticut -----	5	North Dakota -----	29
Maryland -----	6	Ohio -----	8
Massachusetts -----	3	Wyoming -----	12
Michigan -----	5		

Some adult dependents are provided for in Alaska, Arizona, District of Columbia, and Nevada. In the last quarter of 1950, of the women

receiving unemployment compensation in these States, respectively, 9, 37, 23, and 9 percent were entitled to allowances for dependents (27, 28, 29).

DEPENDENTS OF SINGLE OR MARRIED WOMEN

A number of studies show the extent to which women of differing marital status have dependents. In most of these the largest proportion contributing to dependents was among widows; usually the proportion next in size was among the married, with the single women having dependents to somewhat smaller extent.

SUPPORT OF DEPENDENTS, BY WOMEN'S MARITAL STATUS

<i>Study, period covered, and appendix reference</i>	<i>Percent contributing to dependents among women who were—</i>		
	<i>Single</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>Widowed, separated, divorced</i>
Registered professional nurses (active); 1946-47 (24)-----	19	30	49
Women workers, Bridgeport, Conn.; 1946 (26)	38	62	46
Women workers, electrical union, N. Y.; 1944-45 (39)-----	59	61	73
Women war workers living in family, 10 areas; 1944-45 (48)-----	92	91	96
Women war workers; Dallas 1944 (34)-----	19	43	60
War workers, Kansas airplane plant; 1943-44 (49)-----	14	61	73
Professional women workers, U. S.; 1943 (38)-	35	26	57
Negro women domestic workers, Baltimore 1941 (71)-----	37	51	53
Gainfully employed women in Chicago, 1941-42 (51)-----	32	35	32
Professional and business women, U. S. 1939 (57):			
In private employment-----	43	46	56
In public employment-----	40	67	58
Elementary and secondary teachers; 1937-38 (60)-----	52	63	NR
Rural teachers, 20 States; 1936-37 (56):			
White women-----	51	79	NR
Negro women-----	91	93	NR
University women, U. S.; 1934 (54)-----	39	48	60

There are some variations in this pattern. For example, the large and detailed study on professional women made during the war by the NEA and Pi Lambda Theta (38), which is one of the more carefully developed of the studies, showed that a considerably larger proportion of the single than of the smaller group of married women reported dependents. Or to take another instance of variation from an apparent norm, in the Women's Bureau study (26) of nearly 700 women in Bridgeport, Conn., in 1946, not far from half of whom were industrial workers, considerably larger proportions of the married than of the smaller group of widowed and divorced reported dependents.

In most of the studies affording this information for the several marital groups, a third or more of the single women were contributing to dependents, and in several over half the single women had such responsibilities. In about half these studies, 60 percent or more of the married women were contributing to dependents. In about half the studies showing this information for the smaller group of women who were widowed, divorced, or separated, 60 percent or more reported dependents. The summary on page 72 shows this in further detail.

The extent to which dependents are fully or only partially supported will be discussed later. However, it may be pointed out here that, while a few studies report this information by marital status of the worker, it probably is true in other cases, as was noted among rural teachers in 20 States, that the married women included are likely to be sharing with others in the support of dependents rather than supporting them fully.

New amendments in 1950 to the Social Security Act gave significant recognition to the responsibility of married women for dependents, in the provisions for old age and survivors' insurance. If a mother has been an earner for as long as 3 years in occupations covered by the act, her children under 18 now are entitled to dependents' benefits on her earnings, regardless of the father's contributions. In addition, if her husband has been actually dependent on her, and she retires or dies, he is entitled to benefits on the basis of the wife's wage record.

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS SUPPORTED BY WOMEN

Most of the studies that report on the number of dependents women workers have indicate that half or more of the women with dependents have only one. However, many women support or contribute to several persons, in numerous instances as many as four or five, and in some cases as many as nine or more. In most reports two or more dependents were reported by at least a third or more of the women with dependents and in several reports half of the women were contributing to the support of two or more persons. For example, nearly half the Dallas women war workers reported in 1944 (34), and more than a third of those claiming unemployment insurance in Oregon in 1948 (18), had two or more dependents. In each of these, some women had more than five dependents. In the study of employed women on relief in New York (59), 8 percent of the women with dependents had more than five. This report found 81 women factory workers who had 10 or more dependents. The following summary shows findings of several studies as to proportion of women workers who have one or more than one dependent, and the average number of dependents per woman.

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS SUPPORTED IN FULL OR IN PART BY WOMEN WORKERS

Study, period covered, and appendix reference	Number of women with dependents ¹	Average number of dependents per woman	Percent having—	
			1	2 or more
Women claiming unemployment compensation, Arizona; 1949-50 (3)---	2, 681	1. 6	56	44
Women claiming unemployment compensation, 11 States; 1950 (11)----	2, 828	-----	60	40
Women claiming unemployment compensation, Oregon; 1948 (18)----	767	1. 6	62	38
Elementary and kindergarten teachers, Long Beach, Calif.; 1947 (5)---	183	1. 3	77	23
Women workers, Duluth; 1945 (53)---	789	1. 5	-----	-----
Urban and rural teachers, 42 States; 1944 (36):				
Urban-----	1, 506	1. 3	72	28
Rural-----	206	1. 3	70	30
Women war workers, Dallas; 1944 (34)---	1, 324	1. 8	53	47
Professional women workers, U. S.; 1943 (38)-----	1, 308	1. 0	66	34
Elementary and secondary teachers; 1937-38 (60)-----	288	1. 6	55	45
Business and professional women, U. S.; 1937 (sole family earners only) (58)---	1, 906	1. 6	60	40
Rural teachers, 20 States; 1936-37 (56):				
White women-----	3, 637	² 1. 4	71	29
Negro women-----	1, 014	² 2. 4	47	53
Rural women employed by WPA; 1936 (72)-----	516	2. 9	28	72
University women, U. S.; 1934 (54)---	3, 153	2. 0	43	57
Employed women on relief, New York; 1935 (59):				
Domestic workers-----	2, 001	² 2. 5	-----	-----
Other workers-----	4, 096	² 4. 6	-----	-----

¹ Excludes women with number of dependents not reported.

² This figure differs somewhat from that originally reported in this study, which was based on all women reported; here, it has been adjusted to correspond to others in this list, which are based on women having dependents rather than on all reported.

For women who support others in addition to themselves, the number of dependents supported in full or in part averages at least 1.5, according to most studies of considerable size reporting on this point during the past 15 years. In several of these studies the women reported an average of two or more dependents; in a few, the average was less than one. Highest averages were reported for workers unemployed or on work relief, for Negro rural teachers, and for a group of over 3,000 university women. Lowest averages reported were in studies that included primarily teachers.

Married women appear somewhat more likely than single women to report more than one dependent, though few reports afford such information. This includes not only full dependents, but also partial dependents whose support is shared with another family member or members. Some of these studies show a fifth or more of the married women having three dependents or more.

On the other hand, several studies show that considerable proportions of the single women have at least two dependents, and among

the university women almost a fourth of the single women reported had three or more dependents. The study of New York women on relief found that among workers in every industry there were instances of single women responsible for large families. It also showed that among more than 4,000 workers who were in occupations other than domestic service and who had dependents, the number of dependents supported averaged 5.3 for the single women, 3.6 for married women, and 2.0 for those who were widowed or divorced. A summary follows based on several reports that furnish data on single and married women workers who have one or more than one dependent.

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS SUPPORTED BY WOMEN WORKERS WHO WERE SINGLE, MARRIED, OR WIDOWED

Study, period covered, and appendix reference	Number of women with dependents ¹	Percent having—		
		1	2	3 or more
Women war workers, Dallas; 1944 (34) ..	1, 324	53	29	18
Single	172	58	31	11
Married	774	50	29	21
Widowed or divorced	378	57	27	16
Professional women, U. S.; 1943 (38) (gainfully employed not reported separately by marital status)	1, 503	66	² 34	-----
Single	1, 027	69	² 31	-----
Married	315	61	² 39	-----
Widowed or divorced	161	57	² 43	-----
Elementary and secondary teachers; 1937-38 (60)	288	55	31	14
Single	227	55	33	12
Married	61	54	25	21
Rural teachers, 20 States; 1936-37 (56):				
White women	3, 637	71	17	12
Single	2, 541	73	17	10
Married	1, 096	68	17	15
Negro women	1, 014	47	21	32
Single	576	48	21	31
Married	438	45	21	34
University women; 1934 (54)	3, 153	43	32	25
Single	2, 416	45	32	23
Married	495	34	30	36
Widowed and divorced	242	39	37	24

¹ Excludes women with number of dependents not reported.

² Includes women supporting more than two dependents.

TYPES OF DEPENDENTS AND RELATIONSHIP TO WOMAN WORKER

The types and relationships of the dependents of women workers vary considerably from study to study. They are influenced by the economic level and marital status of the workers included. In particular, the reports indicate rather sharp differences in the types of dependents supported by single and married women.

The single workers are more likely to be supporting adults, such as mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, and occasionally aunts, or other relatives, although many single women do have child dependents, such as nieces or nephews, or younger brothers and sisters. Married

women, on the other hand, are likely to be supporting children, although a married woman may have adult dependents, such as parents and sometimes her husband. An early Women's Bureau study (70) reported a small number of wives who worked in shoe factories in Manchester, N. H., and who had dependents; nearly 60 percent had both child and adult dependents.

The summary following shows the findings on this subject from a number of studies. Most of these show the responsibility for children alone or for adults alone and usually some of the women included have both child and adult dependents.

Some of these studies show that half to three-fourths of the women with dependents are supporting adults only, and in several of these two-thirds or more of the workers reported are single women. Other studies show from 60 to 80 percent supporting children only; in several of these half or more of the workers included are married, though in one case 60 percent of the women are single.

CHILD AND ADULT DEPENDENTS

Study, period covered, and appendix reference	Number of women reporting types of dependents	Percent having as dependents—			Percent of women who were single
		Children only	Adults only	Both children and adults	
Women claiming unemployment compensation, Arizona; 1949-50 (3)-----	2, 681	76	18	6	NR
Professional nurses (active), inventory; 1949 (1)-----	89, 343	62	33	5	1 46
Women claiming unemployment compensation, Oregon; 1948 (18)-----	767	60	30	10	NR
Urban and rural teachers, 42 States, National Education Association; 1944 (36):					
Urban-----	1, 506	17	79	4	1 66
Rural-----	206	44	52	4	1 52
Women war workers, Kansas airplane plant; 1943-44 (49)	584	87	13	-----	32
Professional women workers, U. S.; 1943 (38)-----	1, 308	14	74	12	66
Gainfully employed women in Chicago; 1941-42 (51)-----	1, 008	36	54	10	34
Negro domestic workers, Baltimore; 1941 (71)-----	471	46	45	9	24
Elementary and secondary teachers; 1937-38 (60)-----	288	7	47	46	78
Employed women on relief, N. Y. City; 1935 (59)-----	6, 113	² 67	NR	NR	1 60
University women, U. S.; 1934 (54)-----	3, 618	² 20	NR	NR	77

¹ Percent of all reported in the study; data not given separately for those having dependents.

² These all support children, but some may support adults in addition; data not clear.

In the studies of teachers and of professional workers in general, large proportions were supporting adults. A study of war workers in Kansas City showed a large majority supporting children. The

same was true of nurses. Among women claimants for unemployment insurance with dependents studied in one State, a majority were supporting children. However, 30 percent had only adult dependents, and under the laws of many States these would not be eligible for dependency benefits.

Some studies report on the ages of the dependents themselves rather than on the numbers of women workers with child or adult dependents. Several of these show about two-thirds of the dependents to be children; in these, so far as shown, a minority of the workers included in the report were single women. In the Duluth Y. W. C. A. study (53), nearly two-thirds of the dependents were under 18, 21 percent being under 5; 14 percent were 50 or older. Similarly, in the report of Missouri women working on WPA projects, two-thirds of the dependents were under 18, 14 percent being under 6; more than a tenth were 60 or older (72).

Several studies gave interesting detail as to the relationship to the woman worker of the persons she supports:

Relationship of Dependents

Women claiming unemployment compensation, Arizona, 1949-50 (3). Of these who claimed dependents, more than a tenth claimed parents and more than a tenth, husbands; three-fourths claimed children only as their dependents.

Women workers, Utica, N. Y., 1946 (30). Parents and children were women's principal dependents. A few supported others, as brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews.

Elementary and secondary teachers, 1937-38 (60). Single women most frequently supported parents or siblings; married women supported children, husbands, parents.

Business and professional women, 1937 (58). Where a woman was the only family earner, in over half the cases she was making a home for her elders, in a fifth for those of her own generation.

Professional women, 25 Alabama cities, 1929-36 (63). Of dependents wholly supported by women, 23 percent were mothers, 10 percent sisters, 39 percent children, including a few nieces and nephews (1936 report). Others fully supported included fathers, husbands, brothers, sisters, families, aunts. Those supported either fully or partly by women were divided almost equally (in each group over a fourth) among mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, and children (including nieces, nephews, grandchildren). Other relatives supported included grandparents, various in-laws, aunts, uncles, cousins, and others.

Employed women on relief, New York City, 1935 (59). Many of the dependents were aged parents, other aged relatives, or employable adults out of work.

Rural women employed by WPA, Missouri, 1936 (72). Women's dependents in order of importance were children (about two-thirds of total) husbands, parents (about a tenth of total), brothers, and sisters. About two-thirds of the dependents were under 18 years of age, 14 percent being under 5; 40 percent

were under 12, the remainder of the two-thirds, 12 to 18. A tenth were 60 or over. About 12 percent of the women reported were single.

Women workers in three cities, from 1930 Census (66). Of single women workers living with their families, about three-fourths or more lived with one or both parents. In a fourth or more of these families the parents were not workers.

Women workers in various industries, 1919-20 (70). Of the single women with dependents, 40 percent were supporting one or both parents. Of the married women with dependents, three-fourths supported children.

SINGLE AND MARRIED WOMEN'S SUPPORT OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS

The dependents of single women generally are adults, such as parents, sisters, brothers, aunts. Nevertheless, many single women are supporting children, such as nieces or nephews and younger sisters or brothers. Among the Negro domestic workers reported in Baltimore in 1941 a fifth of the single women supported children (71). The 1939 study of professional and business women showed that over a tenth of the single women reporting had child dependents (57).

Married women, on the other hand, are more likely than single women to be supporting children. However, considerable proportions of married women support adults—parents or husbands, for example. In the large study of professional women in 1943, over half the married women had adult dependents only, whereas one-third were supporting children only. Among over 1,000 Chicago women with dependents, reported in 1941-42, a fifth of the 461 married women were supporting their husbands.

Table 17 shows the findings of several studies that give information on the support of children and adults by single and married women.

TABLE 17.—CHILD AND ADULT DEPENDENTS OF SINGLE AND MARRIED WOMEN

Study, period covered, and appendix reference	Single women			Married women		
	Number reporting dependents	Percent supporting—		Number reporting dependents	Percent supporting—	
		Children only	Adults only		Children only	Adults only
War workers, Kansas; 1943-44 (49).....	57	NR	NR	442	94	6
Professional women workers, U. S.; 1943 (38).....	1,027	7	85	1,315	32	53
Gainfully employed women in Chicago; 1941-42 (51).....	341	1	21	461	49	27
Negro domestic workers, Baltimore; 1941 (71).....	86	21	276	219	53	239
Professional and business women, U. S.; 1939 (57).....	484	11	91	289	17	60

¹ Includes some women not gainfully employed, since marital status is shown only for the total.

² May include a few children such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, since the report on children applies only to own children.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PERSONS LIVING OUTSIDE THE FAMILY

Most information as to support of dependents refers to those living under the same roof with the woman furnishing support. There also are many women who support or contribute to dependents not residing with them, such as elderly parents without income, or adult sons or daughters not able to support themselves, brothers, sisters, or other relatives. Some of these women are contributing to the support of dependents living in their families, and also to persons outside. Few studies give information on this subject. Some of the reports that are available along these lines show the following:

Women workers, electrical union, New York, 1944-45 (39).—Of the women reported who lived in family households, over one-fifth contributed to support persons outside. Over 60 percent of these gave a regular part of their pay, and more than 10 percent gave regularly and also gave additional amounts for emergency or special needs; the remainder made contributions for emergencies. Most frequently these outside dependents were aged or incapacitated parents or parents-in-law. In some cases they were adult sons or daughters, or brothers or sisters, unable to support themselves. In other instances contributions supported minor children who for various reasons were not living in the household.

Elementary and secondary teachers, 1937-38 (60).—Of the single women teachers selected for detailed analysis, almost two-fifths were supporting dependents not living with them. However, this may include workers living apart from their families, not separately shown.

Business and professional women, 1937 (58).—Of the women who had dependents, more than a third were responsible only for dependents outside their own household. (This may include workers living apart from their families.) Not far from a tenth had dependents both within and outside the household. The median number of dependents supported outside the home was 1.3, and nearly half of them were the elders of the woman who supported them.

DEPENDENTS OF WOMEN LIVING APART FROM FAMILIES

Women who live apart from their families often are a substantial mainstay in the support of relatives. In the more usual case this takes the form of regular contributions from their salaries to these persons. In other instances women living apart send lump sums to take care of special needs and unusual emergencies, such as doctor's bills, funeral expenses, school tuition, or the purchase of necessary clothing. Often, they contribute to the support of elderly parents without income, or to the general support funds of the worker's family at home. They may assist sons and daughters, either adults unable to support themselves, or as often was the case during the war, minor children cared for elsewhere while the mother was employed. They may help to support brothers or sisters, or nieces and nephews, the children of a widowed sister or sister-in-law. All these are patterns frequently found in the lives of women workers. Since data on this

particular phase are meager, the citations given here include a few reports considerably earlier than those presented in most other parts of the current study:

Women workers, electrical union, New York, 1944-45 (39).—Over a tenth of all women reported lived away from their families. Not far from half contributed to support relatives, the majority sending regular weekly or monthly payments. Others contributed lump sums for unusual or emergency needs.

Women war workers, 10 areas, 1944-45 (48).—About a fifth of the women workers reported lived apart from their families. The extent to which they contributed to their families varied widely in the eight areas from which data on this subject could be tabulated. In four cities, a fifth or more of these women living apart regularly sent home money for support of their families. The proportion who regularly made contributions ranged from 8 percent in two cities to 41 percent in one.

University women, 1934 (54).—Of the women reporting dependents, not far from half were living apart from their families. These were all single women, and they were almost three in five of all single women reporting dependents. Of these women, 24 percent had three or more dependents. All told, the contributions of 16 percent of these women who lived apart constituted the entire support of their dependents.

Women workers, Connecticut, 1915-16 (70).—Almost a fifth of the women living apart studied by State Bureau of Labor (82) sent financial help to relatives.

Women workers, stores and factories, 1910-11 (70).—The large early investigation of woman and child wage earners (131) showed that more than a fifth of the women reported who lived apart from their families contributed to the support of needy relatives. These women gave on the average about 30 percent of their earnings for this purpose.

FULL DEPENDENTS DISTINGUISHED FROM PARTIAL

The foregoing discussion has included women who had dependents whether or not they had the entire financial responsibility for these dependents. Information on full dependency would seem, with careful definition, to be more easily obtained than that on certain other phases of women's economic status. However, many studies of this subject do not clearly define the meaning of "dependent" or the extent of dependency. Often they do not show clearly whether dependents are completely or partly supported, except for data as to women who are the only support of their families.¹

¹ Various attempts have been made to report extent of dependency accurately. Studies of teachers made in recent years by the NEA and private individuals often count two partial as one whole dependent and report on "dependency units." Other studies estimate "average number of dependents" by dividing number of workers into total number of dependents, though these often include partial dependents in the total on which the average is based. An early definition used in British studies considered a woman to have a dependent if she had to share her wage with a person who gave no equivalent service. Another method used in an early Women's Bureau report (70, pp. 9, 33) was to calculate a woman's "proportionate share," that is if there were two earners her share was half; if she contributed more she shared in supporting a dependent. Obviously, following out any of these methods for each individual would make a very complicated study.

Definite information on full dependency is given in several of the recent studies, chiefly those made among women who are in the teaching or other professions or in business. These are summarized on this page. In each of them, from one-fourth to three-fourths of the women who reported type of dependents were responsible for the full support of one or more persons (or the equivalent).

One study not confined to professional groups reports on 1,000 Chicago women workers with dependents (51). Of these, a fourth fully supported dependents. Largest proportion having whole dependents was 30 percent for the self-employed. Other groups shown were domestic workers and women in all other occupations, where 25 percent of the women reporting dependents were responsible for full support.

The same studies also may be considered on the basis of all the women workers reported, including those who have no dependents. In two of the seven studies about a fourth and in one nearly half of all women reported were responsible for the entire support of others besides themselves. Actually, this is smaller than the true proportion would be, since some women are likely to support fully dependents not included in this total because, although they report having dependents, they do not state whether these are fully or only partly supported.

From the little information available as to shared support of dependents, it would seem that married women are more likely than

WOMEN FULLY SUPPORTING DEPENDENTS

<i>Study, period covered, and appendix reference</i>	<i>Women having dependents and with type of de- pendent reported</i>		<i>Total reported in study</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent with full depend- ents¹</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent with full depend- ents²</i>
Urban and rural teachers, 42 States; 1944 (36)-----	1, 712	54	4, 028	23
Urban-----	1, 506	55	3, 377	25
Rural-----	206	50	651	16
Professional women gainfully occupied; 1943 (38)-----	1, 308	60	3, 107	25
Gainfully employed women in Chicago; 1941-42 (51)-----	1, 008	26	3, 033	9
Elementary and secondary teachers; 1937-38 (60)-----	288	24	641	11
Rural teachers, 20 States, 1936-37 (56)---	4, 651	74	7, 439	46
White-----	3, 637	71	6, 336	41
Negro-----	1, 014	87	1, 103	80
Business and professional women, 25 Ala- bama cities; 1936 (63)-----	NR	NR	586	16
University women; 1934 (54)-----	3, 153	36	8, 796	13

¹ Those with two partial dependents counted as having one full dependent.

² These proportions are smaller than they would be if including the full dependency cases among those reporting dependents but not reporting whether full or partial.

single women to share support with others. The large study of professional women in 1943 shows that among those with dependents nearly half the single and over a third of the married are wholly supporting dependents (38). The study of rural teachers made in 1936-37 states that most of those married are sharing with others in the support of dependents (56). On the other hand, in the 1941-42 study of over 1,000 Chicago women workers having dependents (51), among both the single and the married something less than a fifth were fully responsible for the support of their dependents; however, in the smaller group of widowed and divorced women almost 60 percent of those with dependents were responsible for full support.

AGES OF WOMEN WITH DEPENDENTS

Few studies have afforded data as to ages of women with dependents. The first report that does this seems to be one dealing with women workers who had received relief in the early 1920's and before in Brattleboro, Vt. (147). In each of the five reports showing age, the median for women with dependents fell within the range of about 38 to 44 years. However, women receiving relief or claiming unemployment compensation seemed to be supporting dependents at a somewhat earlier age than did professional women. The following summary gives further details:

	<i>Women reporting both age and dependency</i>		<i>Median age of women</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent with dependents</i>	<i>Total (years)</i>	<i>With dependents (years)</i>
Women receiving relief, Brattleboro, Vt.; 1922 (147)-----	380	52	41.3	38.3
Women claiming unemployment compensation, Oregon; 1948 (18)-----	2,712	28	41.6	40.8
Professional women, U. S.; 1943 (38)-----	4,377	34	38.8	43.7
Professional women, U. S.; 1937 (58)-----	10,965	48	40.6	{ ¹ 41.8 ² 44
Professional women, Alabama; 1936 (63)-----	736	57	37.1	39.4

¹ Partial.

² Total.

These same studies also may be examined for proportions of the women in various age groups who support dependents. As before, the results indicate that the highest proportion of workers having dependents among those receiving relief or seeking unemployment compensation occurs at an earlier age than for professional women.

In the studies of the former, the age groups at which larger-than-average proportions of women had dependents began at 25 or 30 and continued to 45 or 50. In those of professional women, above-average support responsibility began in a later age group (35 or over) and continued to a much older age (60 or over) than among the women on relief or seeking unemployment compensation. The summary following gives further details:

WOMEN AT VARIOUS AGES HAVING DEPENDENTS ¹

	Professional women		Unemployment insurance claimants, Oregon, 1948 (18)
	Ala. 1936 (63) ²	U. S. 1943 (38)	
Number of women reporting on age and dependency.....	689	4,377	2,712
<i>Percent of those in each age group who had dependents</i>			
All age groups.....	57	34	28
20-24.....	34	8	18
25-29.....	47	19	30
30-34.....	54	27	
35-39.....	58	36	39
40-44.....	65	42	
45-49.....	74	52	28
50-54.....	70	55	
55-59.....	78	42	21
60-64.....	73	-----	
65 and over.....	43	42	15

¹ For complete references to studies, see Bibliography in the Appendix.

² These age groups vary slightly from the stub. They are reported, for example, as 21-25, 26-30, 31-35, and so forth. The 2 oldest groups are 61-65 and 66-70.

Ages of Greatest Dependency Load.—The relationship between age of worker and responsibility for family support can be analyzed not only by the percentage of workers of various ages who have any dependents, as in the preceding section, but by the number of dependents per worker (dependency load) at various ages. A comparison of studies of women claiming compensation (18) and of professional women (38) as to dependency load reinforces the findings on age in the earlier analysis. It reveals that the professional women had their greatest number of dependents per woman at a later age than did the unemployed.

Ages at Which Women Had Child or Adult Dependents.—These reports indicate, each in its own way, that women are more likely to have dependent children when they are younger (under 40 or under 45), while older women are more likely to carry the support of adults (or of relatives likely to be chiefly adults). Among the women claim-

ing unemployment compensation, 20 percent had child dependents, the proportion of child dependents being higher than average at ages 25 to 44. Dependent relatives (likely to be chiefly adults) were reported by 11 percent of all the women, and by a higher than average percentage of those 35 to 64. Data for the professional women indicate that women who support adults average at least 2½ years older than those responsible for the support of children, as the following summary shows:

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN REPORTED IN 1943 (38)

Number of total or partial dependents	Median age (in years) of women whose dependents are—		Median age of women supporting adults exceeds that of women supporting children, by (years)
	Children	Adults	
1 total.....	42.5	45.3	2.8
2 total.....	40.0	44.8	4.8
1 partial.....	40.8	44.1	3.3
2 partial.....	40.6	40.4	(1)
3 partial.....	40.6	50.6	10.0

¹ Women partly supporting two children have median *slightly* higher than those partly supporting two adults.

Ages of Single and Married Women With Dependents.—For the most part, studies do not show the ages of single and married women with dependents. As has been discussed, a number of studies show more dependents reported by married than single women, and married more likely than single to report child dependents. The two studies just discussed indicate that women with child dependents tend to be younger than those with adult dependents. From these facts it might be inferred that married women with dependents tend to be younger than unmarried ones.

However, this is not borne out for the women reported in the one study that gives data on this subject, that of about 650 elementary and secondary teachers reported in 1937-38 (60). Among these, the average married woman supporting dependents was slightly older than the average single woman having such responsibilities. A more striking fact shown for this group of teachers is that the women supporting dependents, whether married or single, averaged considerably *older* than the men with such responsibilities, the age differences between women and men supporting dependents being somewhat greater than the age differences between all women and men in the study, as the following summary shows:

	Average ages of—			
	Women teachers		Men teachers	
	Total	Supporting dependents	Total	Supporting dependents
Single.....	37.6	39.9	28.6	29.8
Married.....	39.5	41.9	38.5	38.5

WOMEN'S EARNINGS AND FAMILY FINANCES

PART OF WOMAN'S EARNINGS USED FOR FAMILY SUPPORT

The part of her earnings that a woman worker must give to support dependents or to take care of family needs is of primary importance to her, and to her family as well.

The more recent studies giving information on this subject (those made during World War II or in the postwar period) indicate that more than a third of all women workers give their total earnings to family support, and at least half give 50 percent or more of their earnings.

From these and a long series of earlier studies it can be stated with confidence that from one-third to two-thirds of women workers give all their earnings to the family upkeep. From one-half to four-fifths give at least half their earnings. Representative studies reporting this type of information are listed in table 18. Most reports on this subject indicate that fewer than 1 woman in 10 gives none of her earnings to her family. In some studies all women workers make some contribution. Only one report shows any considerable proportion not contributing, and in this case many of the workers included were young single women.

A study of business and professional women made in 1937 approaches this type of information in a somewhat different way (58). It shows that a total of 1,903 women gave 13 percent of their earnings to dependents not living with them.

These substantial contributions made by women workers to the support of their families are nothing new in the history of women's gainful employment. Striking data on this subject are shown in the large-scale official report, made over 40 years ago, on the conditions of women's work in this country which included nearly 4,700 women at work in stores and factories (131). It showed that these contributed 84 percent of their earnings to their families.

TABLE 18.—PART OF THEIR EARNINGS WOMEN GIVE TO FAMILY SUPPORT

Study, period covered, and appendix reference	Number of women reporting	Percent who gave of their earnings—			
		All	Half, but not all	Some, but not half	None
Women workers, Utica, N. Y.; 1946 (30).....	1 441	(²)	2 50	26	24
Women war workers living in family, 10 areas; 1944-45 (48).....	10, 700	34	20	38	8
Women workers, electrical union; 1944-45 (39).....	959	57	16	25	2
Women workers, 22 studies; 1929 (WB Bull. 75).....	61, 679	53	NR	NR	9
Women workers, shoe factories, Manchester, N. H., 1920 (70).....	445	68	12	11	³ 9

¹ Women living apart included, probably a small proportion.

² Fifty percent gave half or more; includes those who gave all.

³ Indefinite amount.

The married women workers, to a considerably larger extent than the single, use the major share of their earnings for family needs. Among the women included in the large Women's Bureau wartime study giving information on this subject, about three-fourths of those married, compared to over a third of those single, gave half or more of their earnings to the family. Other reports show a similar relation as regards the contributions made by women differing in marital status and relationship to the family. The summary given below shows further detail.

That women remain in the labor force for long periods and that many women workers have a *continuing* responsibility for family support is shown in a Women's Bureau study of early date (1919-20) which took pains to investigate how long women had been giving all their earnings to the family upkeep (70). A tenth of the single and a third of the married women for whom reports on this subject were obtained had given the family all their earnings for 10 years or longer.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY BY WOMEN WORKERS ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS

<i>Study, period covered, and appendix reference</i>	<i>All reported</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>Widowed, divorced</i>
War workers, 10 areas, 1944-45 (48):				
Number of women.....	9, 800	4, 100	4, 700	1, 000
Percent that gave family:				
All earnings.....	37	14	55	46
Half, but not all.....	32	21	21	22
Women workers, electrical union, 1944-45 (39):				
Number of women	943	360	441	142
Percent that gave family:				
All earnings.....	58	19	78	NR
Half, but not all.....	16	33	9	NR
Women shoe workers, Manchester, 1920 (70):				
Number of women.....	-----	¹ 307	² 119	NR
Percent that gave family:				
All earnings.....	-----	60	96	NR
Half, but not all.....	-----	16	0	NR

¹ Daughters; includes some who gave nothing.

² Wives; includes some who gave nothing.

Though a larger proportion of the wives and mothers than of the single women give *all* their earnings to the family, the working daughter's contribution often is of marked importance. Two Women's Bureau reports (one very early, the other much later) show the part of their earnings that working daughters give to their families. Of daughters employed in shoe factories, in Manchester, N. H., in 1919-20, not far from two-thirds gave all their earnings to their families (70). Of daughters at work in Cleveland in 1938 in a variety of industries, a fifth gave all their earnings to the family (65). In each case, such contributions were given by a much larger proportion

of the daughters than of unmarried sons living at home. It used to be considered more necessary for the man than for the woman to save up toward starting his own home. Today, however, the young wife often makes a contribution comparing well with that of the young husband toward starting their home,² though before marriage she contributed substantially to the parental home. The summary following shows details as to contributions of daughters and sons to family:

	<i>Shoe workers, Manchester, N. H., 1920 (70)</i>		<i>Workers in Cleveland, 1939 (65)</i>	
	<i>Daughters</i>	<i>Sons</i>	<i>Daughters</i>	<i>Sons</i>
Number reporting-----	307	289	398	362
Percent who contributed:				
All their pay-----	60	35	20	15
Half, but not all-----	16	26	29	24
Some, but less than half-----	NR	NR	44	49
None-----	NR	NR	7	12

PART OF THE FAMILY EXPENSES PAID FOR BY WOMEN WORKERS

Women's earnings often furnish a substantial part of the family support. Information on the exact share of family earnings women provide is very meager. Obviously, there are enormous difficulties in obtaining such data, requiring information from individual families as to the amount each earner gives to the family exchequer. Frequently numerous costs paid by women earners are not fully accounted for, even though they contribute markedly to the family well-being as well as to its more pressing needs. For example, a study begun in 1929 reported on 624 rural homemakers in southern Rhode Island (14³), all of whom had full-time or part-time jobs. Sixty percent bought three-fourths or more of the family's clothing, half bought all the bread eaten, some bought canned goods and other necessities.

A few studies have attempted to show exactly the share of the family earnings provided by individual women. These report chiefly on workers in the manufacturing or service industries. At an early date (1919-20) the Women's Bureau made an analysis of schedules for more than 850 earning daughters taken from a Bureau of Labor Statistics study of family incomes, which showed that almost a third of these daughters provided at least 30 percent (or more) of the earnings in their families (70). At about the same time, more than a

² Recent census data (1950) show that almost 30 percent of the wives aged 20-24 were in the labor force. In the next 10-year-age period the proportion of wives at work decreased, although among single women the proportion increased markedly in this age-group. See Census Current Population Report, P-50, No. 29, data for April 1950.

fifth of some 300 employed daughters in Manchester, N. H. shoe factories, interviewed by Women's Bureau agents, made similar contribution (70). In a still earlier study (1913-14) of over 1,150 women workers in Boston stores, nine-tenths of whom were single, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 40 percent of these women furnished at least a fourth of the income of their families (70).

Substantial percentages of the women reported in two recent studies were responsible for at least half of the home expenses, as follows:

	Number of women	Percent of women supplying specified part of family funds			
		All	Half, but less than all	Some, but less than half	None or NR
Duluth; 1945 (53)-----	789	15	32	26	26
South Bend; 1932 (137)----	814	31	29	40	-----

In addition, the percentage of families half or more of whose funds were furnished by women was found to be considerable in the large and detailed Women's Bureau study made in 1939 (65), which included over 2,000 families of women workers in Cleveland, and nearly 800 in Utah. Since many families had more than one woman earner, a total of 4,500 women workers in Cleveland and over 1,400 in Utah were reported. In over half the families women furnished 50 percent or more of the funds:

	Number of families	Percent of families in which specified part of funds was supplied by women			
		All	Half, but less than all	Some, but less than half	None
Cleveland-----	2,027	33	20	44	3
Utah-----	773	45	14	37	4

Women as Principal Earners in Their Families.—Some studies give information as to whether a woman is the principal earner in her family, without showing the proportion of the family earnings she provides. The principal earner is the member of the family with the highest earnings. If there are more than two earners in her family, she does not necessarily furnish as much as half the family earnings, even though she earns more than any other individual member.

The Bureau of the Census annual report on consumer income for 1946, made from its current sampling of the population, gives the most comprehensive data available on this subject (23). It shows that more than a fourth of the 14,367,000 women earners in the United States who lived in urban or rural-non-farm families were either the sole or the principal earners in their families. Of these women workers 11 percent were the sole family earners, and an additional 15

percent the principal earners in their families. (For earlier sources, see (64), (73) and (74) in appendix A.)

The census income report for 1947 shows that of the country's 37¼ million families 13 percent received half or more of their *income* from women, 27 percent received a fourth or more from women. In 6 percent of the families women furnished the only income. However, this is not confined to women workers nor to earnings, but includes all types of income, such as dividends from stocks and bonds, rentals, pensions, and so forth, as well as current earnings.

This census reporting also shows women as heads of families, and indicates that in the various years very roughly a tenth of the country's families have women at their heads—in 1949 women headed 3,637,000 families.

Women as the Only Earners in Their Families.—Most important of all, a woman is only earner contributing to support in a large number of families. A long series of studies over the past 30 years (and even longer) gives consistent testimony that many women workers, in widely scattered localities and occupations, are the sole wage earners, often in families of considerable size.

Nearly all reports on this subject show that at least a tenth of the women are the only earners in their families; in some groups studied the proportion was a fifth and well beyond. Most reports on mothers with children in day-care centers show that from about a fifth to well over half of these mothers provide the only support for their families. Among women workers who were on relief projects during the depression, very large proportions were sole family earners.

In discussing women as the sole earners, every effort has been made here to be sure the women workers reported include only those living with their families.

Listed on page 90 are some of the more notable findings in regard to women workers as the only earners in their families. These cover many different localities and periods of time. They are made by various agencies and for various purposes. They include women earning a living in a wide range of occupations and under differing economic conditions.

Information on women as sole family earners was given in the 1946 income data from the sample used by the Bureau of the Census in its Current Population Reports on civilians in the country (23). This showed 11 percent of the women earners in families to be the sole family earners. Aside from this census sampling, several fairly recent reports, each of which includes more than 5,000 women, give this type of information.

One of these relates to families sending children to day-care centers in San Francisco in 1949; over half the 11,500 families reported were

entirely supported by the mother (6). Another is an evaluation of the day-care program by the New York Youth Commission in the fall of 1946; this shows that the mother was the sole support in more than a fourth of the 6,349 families with children in these centers (16). A third report is a Women's Bureau investigation toward the close of World War II, which included nearly 10,000 women war workers living with their families in widely separated areas; of these 14 percent were the sole earners in their families (48).

Several smaller reports made since the war show that from more than a fourth to well over half of the mothers using child-care centers in Seattle (21), Fort Wayne (9), Omaha (17), and the District of Columbia (10) were the only earners in their families. An earlier study, including over 3,000 women in South Bend, Ind., 11 percent of whom were sole family earners, showed that of these sole earners 40 percent had families of four or more persons (137).

WOMEN WORKERS AS THE ONLY EARNERS IN THEIR FAMILIES

<i>Study, period covered, and appendix reference</i>	<i>Number of women reported</i>	<i>Percent women sole family earners</i>
POSTWAR PERIOD		
Employed mothers, New York City; 1950 (13) ----	NR	1 40
Families, San Francisco; 1949 (19) -----	461	1 40
Families, California; 1949 (6) -----	11, 548	1 55
Employed mothers, San Francisco; 1947 (20) -----	1, 414	1 16
Women earners, U. S.; Census sample for 1946 (23) --	14, 367, 000	11
Families, New York State; 1946 (16) -----	6, 349	1 27
Women workers, Bridgeport, Conn.; 1946 (26) -----	610	16
Women workers, Duluth, Minn.; 1945 (53) -----	2 789	15
WARTIME PERIOD		
Women war workers living in family, 10 areas; 1944-45 (48) -----	10, 700	14
Women workers, electrical union; 1944-45 (39) -----	960	19
Women war workers, Dallas; 1944 (34) (excludes single women with dependents) -----	2, 458	28
Professional women, U. S.; 1943 (38) -----	3, 680	11
Working mothers, Elmira, N. Y.; 1942 (40) -----	513	1 28
PREWAR PERIOD		
Women workers, Cleveland and Utah; 1939 (65):		
Cleveland -----	2, 661	16
Utah -----	1, 077	20
Business and professional women, U. S.; 1937 (58) --	7, 226	26
Employed women on relief, N. Y. C.; 1935 (59) ---	6, 181	86
Rural women employed by WPA, Missouri; 1935 (72) -----	553	76
Women workers, three cities; 1930 (66) -----	42, 975	10
Employed woman homemakers; 1930 (W. B. Bull. 148) -----	3, 311, 400	14
Women workers, four cities; 1920 (W. B. Bull. 155) --	31, 482	21
Single women workers, candy stores, laundries, hotels, restaurants; 1915-16 (82) -----	2, 271	33

¹ Refers to mothers.

² Number contributing to support of family.

Aside from the information that applies particularly to mothers, a few other reports give the marital status of the women who are the only family earners. These show that among the widowed and divorced (always the smallest in marital groups) larger proportions than in other marital groups are sole family earners. Among single and married women workers, the proportions who are the only earners in the family often do not differ markedly. Table 19 shows findings as to women who are sole family earners, by marital status.

TABLE 19.—WOMEN SOLE FAMILY EARNERS, BY MARITAL STATUS¹

Study, period covered, and appendix reference	Total reported		Single women		Married women		Women who were widowed or divorced	
	Number	Percent sole earners	Number	Percent sole earners	Number	Percent sole earners	Number	Percent sole earners
Women workers, Bridgeport, Conn.; 1946 (26).....	610	16	309	11	255	16	46	48
Women war workers, 10 areas; 1944-45 (48).....	10,700	14	4,400	12	5,200	11	1,100	34
Women workers, electrical union, New York; 1944-45 (39).....	959	19	367	13	450	14	142	53
Professional women; 1943 (53).....	3,680	11	2,314	13	1,168	2	198	44
Women workers, three cities; 1930 (66).....	42,975	10	22,577	8	14,875	5	5,523	29

¹ Women living apart from family groups excluded.

² Includes some women not gainfully occupied, since the marital breakdown is given only for the total.

An earlier report (137), that on women sole earners in South Bend, Ind., in 1930 during economic depression, shows that nearly a third of the sole family earners were daughters, not far from two-thirds wives, mothers, or both, and a few were in other relationships. A study made by the Connecticut Bureau of Labor in 1915-16 gave information especially on single women, and showed that a third of those reported in candy stores, laundries, hotels, and restaurants were the only earners in their families (82). However, it is not clear whether some of these were living apart and provided only for themselves.

The extensive study of consumer purchases made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1935-36 (64), indicated that women were the only earners in much larger proportions in other types of families than in those which had both husband and wife. This survey reported nearly 178,000 native-white husband-wife nonrelief families that had wage earners. A woman was the only earner in 2 percent of these families.

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APPENDIX A—REFERENCES

Listed With Annotations

I. RECENT STUDIES (1935 AND LATER)

USED AS THE BASIS FOR PART II

POSTWAR PERIOD

1. **American Nurses' Association.** Inventory of Professional Registered Nurses. 1949. Includes data on 502,637 women nurses—298,031 active and 204,606 inactive—from questionnaires. Over two-fifths reported dependents. Of these, 81 percent supported children; 16 percent, adults; and 3 percent, both. Children were the principal dependents of inactive nurses and adults of active nurses. Of the 300,533 active nurses (men and women) 30 percent had dependents.
2. **American Woman's Association.** 100 Women Look at the Future. Isobel A. Mikhalenkoff. 1948. Data on 100 New York City members of the association, 1946–47, from questionnaires. Dependents were supported by 15 of 42 women 50 years of age or older, by 12 of 23 women 35 to 49 years of age, and by an unreported number of the 20 women under 35. There were 15 retired women, 10 of whom had had dependents at some time in their working life.
3. **Arizona. Employment Security Commission.** Dependents' Allowances—How Much Do They Cost in Arizona? Earl A. Heise. In *Employment Security Review*, July 1951. Data on 2,681 female claimants for unemployment insurance, July 1949 to June 1950, from records; 56 percent claimed responsibility for one dependent, 27 percent for two, and 17 percent for three dependents.
4. **Baltimore Council of Social Agencies.** Day Care Needs in Baltimore City. July 1946 (mimeo). Data on 139 families as of February 28, 1946. The mother was the head in 31 families (22 percent). In nine families the only source of income was through women's employment.
5. **California. City Teachers' Club, Long Beach.** Salary Report, 1947. Includes information on 965 women teachers in early 1947, from questionnaires. Data for about 520 elementary-kindergarten teachers indicate that more than a third supported an average of 1.3 dependents.
6. ——— **Legislature Assembly. Interim Committee on Social Welfare.** Report on Child Care Center Program, January 1951. Includes 11,548 families in 1949. In nearly 55 percent (about 6,300 families) there was only one parent. In "practically all" these one-parent families the mother was the sole support.
7. **Council on Women's Advertising Clubs of the Advertising Federation of America and Printers Ink.** Women in Advertising. In *Printers Ink*, June 3, 1949. Data on 1,000 women in advertising, from questionnaires. Of these, 49 percent had dependents or contributed to support others.
8. **Fisher, Marguerite J.** Economic Dependents of Women Faculty. In *American Association of University Professors Bulletin*, Summer 1949. Data on 158 women faculty members in 20 colleges in 1949, from questionnaires. More than half (54 percent) had dependents. Of the women with responsibilities for support, 56 percent had total dependents, and 12 percent of them also had partial dependents.
9. **Fort Wayne, Ind. Social Planning Council.** Report of Day Care Committee, 1947, and Summary of Day Care Committee, November 1950. In 1947, the mother was the only family earner for 19 out of 51 children cared for in one day nursery, and for 10 out of 18 families whose children were cared for in another. In 1950, of 22 Negro mothers with 38 children in day nurseries, half were sole earners in their families.

10. **Foster Day Care and Counseling Association, Washington, D. C.** Plans of Fifty-two Mothers Currently Using Foster Day Care Homes. In *Child Welfare League of America Bulletin*, February 1946. Data on 52 working mothers in September 1945, from questionnaires. In 14 families (over a fourth of the total) mothers provided the entire support.
11. **Halsey, Olga S.** Allowances for Dependents of Claimants for Unemployment Benefits. In *State Government*, July 1951. Data on 47,195 female beneficiaries of unemployment insurance, October-December 1950, from records in 11 States. Of these women, 6.0 percent received allowances for dependents. In 7 States which recognize children only as dependents, 4.9 percent of 44,462 women received allowances. The 4 other States reported 23.2 percent of 2,733 women were paid benefits for both child and adult dependents. Unpublished tables show that of a total of 2,828 women with dependents in the survey, 60.0 percent were responsible for 1, 30.3 percent for 2, 7.9 percent for 3, and 1.8 percent for 4 dependents.
12. **Mohr, Jennie.** Home Making Problems of Working Women. In *Smith College Studies on Social Work*, October 1948. Data on 81 women, mostly clerical or service workers, serviced by the Family Service Association, Washington, D. C., in March 1947, from case records. An average of 2.7 dependents each were supported by 73 percent of the women.
13. **New York City. Department of Welfare.** Report on families using day-care centers, November 1950. Almost nine-tenths of the mothers in these families (number unreported) were employed or looking for work. Over 40 percent of the employed mothers were the sole support of their families.
14. **New York State. Department of Labor.** Women Who Work at Night. 1948. Data on 347 night workers in 20 manufacturing plants in 1947, from personal interviews. Nearly three-fourths of the women supported dependents. Of 313 women living in family groups, 20 percent were sole contributing wage earners.
15. ——— The Household Worker in New York State, 1948. May 1949. Data on 183 female applicants for household jobs in New York City in the spring of 1948, from personal interviews. Almost 80 percent of 144 nonresident workers and 36 percent of resident workers had dependents. Responsibility for supporting 134 children was reported by 81 women, an average of 1.7 child for each worker.
16. ——— Youth Commission. An Evaluation of the State-Aided Child Day Care Program. January 27, 1947 (mimeo). Data for September 1946 on 6,349 families in New York State. In 1,698, or about 27 percent of these 6,349 families, the mother was the only support.
17. **Omaha, Nebr. Community Welfare Council.** Report of Fact-Finding Committee on Day Care of Children. July 1946 (mimeo). Data on 136 families with children enrolled in day-care centers as of July 1, 1946, from application forms. In 54 (or 40 percent) of the families, the mother was the sole support.
18. **Oregon State Unemployment Compensation Commission.** Dependents' Allowances in Relation to Unemployment Compensation in Oregon, 1948. Includes 2,712 female claimants in Oregon during May 10-15, 1948, from questionnaires, of whom 28 percent had an average of 1.6 dependents. This was a special study to determine costs if the State should provide added allowances for dependents.
19. **San Francisco. Community Chest.** Use of Day Care in Solving Problems of Families and Children. August 1949. Data from personal interviews on 461 families serviced by 6 day-care centers in 1949. Mothers were the only earners in 40 percent of these families, having an average of 1.4 children. A total of 388 mothers were working.
20. ——— County Public Schools. Summary of Findings Concerning the Care of Children of 1,414 Working Mothers, Now Using Child Care Centers. 1947 (mimeo). Data on 1,414 San Francisco families with working mothers in March 1947, from questionnaires; 16 percent of these families were supported solely by the mother's employment.

21. **Seattle and King County, Wash. Health and Welfare Council.** Findings and Recommendations on Day Care Services. April 1951. Data on 245 families with children in 5 branch nurseries in Seattle and King County, Wash., on October 31, 1949. In 11 out of every 12 families served in the nurseries the mother was working, and of the working mothers two-fifths were sole family wage earners.
22. **United States Congress. Joint Committee on the Economic Report.** Low Income Families and Economic Stability. 1949. Data on 38,500,000 families in the United States in 1948, from census sampling. Women were the heads in almost 10 percent of the families (3,710,000). About 11 percent of 31,810,000 nonfarm families and 6 percent of 6,720,000 farm families had woman heads.
23. **United States. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census.** Current Population Reports. Consumer Income. June 1948 (data for 1946); February 1949 (data for 1947); February 1950 (data for 1948); and February 1951 (data for 1949). Series P-60, Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7. The 1946 data, which, unlike other years, omit the farm population, show that more than a fourth of the women workers living in families were either the sole or the principal earner in the family. Of 14,367,000 such women, 1,545,000 or 11 percent were the sole, 2,152,000 or 15 percent were the principal family earners. Of all the sole family earners (15,350,000) in 1946, women were 10 percent, and of all principal family earners (12,783,000), women were 17 percent. In 1947, women furnished half or more of the entire income in 13 percent of the country's 37,279,000 families; in 6 percent of these families women were the only members having income. Women were at the head of roughly a tenth of all families in the country in 1946, 1947, 1948 (see also 22 above), and 1949. In 1949 women headed 3,637,000 of the country's 39,193,000 families.
24. ——— **Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics.** The Economic Status of Registered Professional Nurses, 1946-47. Bull. 931. Data for about 12,500 active and 9,000 inactive nurses, 1946-47, from questionnaires. About 98 percent of the respondents were women. Dependents were supported by 27 percent of the active and 46 percent of the inactive nurses.
25. ——— **Women's Bureau.** Baltimore Women War Workers in the Postwar Period. 1948. Reports on 200 women war workers who in 1946 still remained in the labor force and lived with their families, from personal interviews. Over nine-tenths contributed regularly to family expenses, and almost half gave all their earnings. Entire responsibility for family support was borne by 15 percent of the 200 women.
26. ——— **Women Workers after V-J Day in One Community—** Bridgeport, Conn. Bull. 216. 1947. Data on 678 women workers in Bridgeport, Conn. in February, 1946, from personal interviews. About 47 percent of the women contributed to support of others. Of 610 women living in family groups, 16 percent were sole wage earners.
27. ——— **Bureau of Employment Security.** (Federal Security Agency to August 1949, thereafter Department of Labor.) Dependents' Allowances. In Statistical Supplement, Labor Market and Employment Security (U. S. Department of Labor), January-February-March, June, July, October, December, 1950; April 1951. In Employment Security Activities. (U. S. Department of Labor) October, November 1949. In Employment Security Activities. (Federal Security Agency.) February, April, May, June, August, October, 1947; January, May, July, October-November, 1948; January, April, 1949. Only 11 States make allowances for dependents of women receiving unemployment compensation—Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Wyoming. In the more recent years from about 4 percent to over 7 percent of those receiving unemployment compensation are entitled to allowances for dependents. The majority of these have only one dependent, but some have two and a small proportion are entitled to receive allowances for three or four dependents. Definitions of dependents differ considerably among these States. Only four of them provide allowances for women's adult dependents, and their data indicate that many women are responsible for adult dependents. In the last

quarter of 1950, for example, allowances for dependents in States where these are given for women with adult as well as child dependents went to about 9 percent of the women receiving unemployment compensation in Alaska and Nevada, and to 23 to 37 percent, respectively, in the District of Columbia and Arizona.

28. ——— **Federal Security Agency. Dependents' Allowances Under State Unemployment Insurance Laws.** Olga S. Halsey. In *Social Security Bulletin*, February 1951. Data on 140,976 women beneficiaries of unemployment insurance, April to June 1950, from records in 11 States; 4.6 percent received allowances for dependents. In four States which provide allowances for adult dependents as well as children, 21.3 percent of 3,913 women received benefits for both types of dependents.
29. ——— **The Dependents of Workers: Selected Data on Numbers and Types.** Marvin S. Bloom. In *Social Security Bulletin*, January 1949. Data on 49,642 women beneficiaries of unemployment insurance July to September 1948, from records in 5 States; 4.7 percent received allowances for dependents. In 3 States which recognized children only as dependents, 4.2 percent of 47,884 women received allowances. In the 2 other States, 16 percent of 1,758 women were paid benefits for both child and adult dependents. Of a total of 2,308 women with dependents in the survey, 57.3 percent were responsible for 1, 24.5 percent for 2, 9.4 percent for 3, 8.8 percent for 4, and 0.4 percent for 5 or more dependents.
30. **Young Women's Christian Association, Utica, N. Y. Women Who Work in Utica, 1947.** Data on 441 women in various occupations in 103 establishments, spring of 1946, from questionnaires. About a third were responsible for supporting others, principally parents and children. More than three-fourths turned over part of their earnings to the family; nearly half contributed at least half of what they earned.

WAR PERIOD

31. **Board of Education, Summit, N. J. Final Report of the Summit Teachers' Salary Survey Committee, 1943.** Includes about 60 women teachers in 1941, from questionnaires. Approximately half were responsible for dependents.
32. **Brewington, Ann, and Berg, Evelyn Van Emden. The Woman Graduate of a Collegiate School of Business. 1942.** Data on 180 employed women who were graduated from the University of Chicago between January 1913 and January 1941, from questionnaires. An average of 1.8 dependents were supported by 69 women. Seven mothers were sole earners.
33. **Connecticut State Department of Education and Connecticut State Teachers Association. Teachers in Connecticut Public Schools. Bulletin XXXI, June 1943.** Includes 5,975 female elementary and secondary school teachers in 1941-42, from questionnaires. Almost two-thirds of these women had dependents. Of these, 45 percent were responsible for the entire support of one or more persons; 11 percent for two or more persons.
34. **Dallas Chamber of Commerce and the Committee for Economic Development. Problems for Postwar Dallas Relating to Employment and the Labor Force. February 1945.** Dr. Arthur A. Smith. Includes over 3,300 women war workers in 1944. Dependents were supported by 19 percent of 889 single women, 43 percent of 1,814 married women, and 60 percent of 628 widowed, separated and divorced women. Excluding single women, an estimated 28 percent of the respondents were sole earners in households of two or more members.
35. **Kasman, Ruth A. Employed Mothers of Children in the ADC Program, Cook County Bureau of Public Welfare. In Social Service Review, March 1945.** Data on 100 working mothers in Cook County, Ill., in 1944, from personal interviews. Each had an average of two dependent children.
36. **National Education Association. The Teacher Looks at Personnel Administration. Research Bulletin, December 1945.** Includes 3,512 urban and 676 rural women teachers in elementary and secondary schools of 42 States in 1944, from questionnaires. Of the 4,028 women reporting on financial responsibilities, 51 percent had dependents. Of those with dependents, 17 percent supported children; 61 percent, adults; and 22 percent, both children and adults. (A small group designated "other patterns of dependency" is assumed to include more than one dependent.)

37. **National Education Association and Pi Lambda Theta.** Women of the Pacific Northwest, 1945. Data on 325 women, consisting of 100 teachers, 50 other professional women, 50 businesswomen, 50 housewives, 25 war workers, and 50 students residing in the larger cities of the Pacific Northwest in 1943, from questionnaires. An average of 1.3 dependents were supported by 23 percent of 315 workers reporting on family responsibilities.
38. ———— **Women in the Professions.** 1945. Includes 4,387 professional women in the United States in December 1943, from questionnaires. Of 1,503 women supporting others, 30 percent were responsible for full dependents, 59 percent for partial dependents and 11 percent for both types. Single women were primarily responsible for adults, married women and widows for children. Of those reporting full support of one adult, 85 percent were single, whereas of those fully supporting one child, 79 percent were married or widows. The data were reported for all women and also for those gainfully employed; however, no breakdown by marital status was given for those gainfully employed.
39. **New York State. Department of Labor. Why Women Work.** March 1946. Data on 1,114 women members of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, in 47 war plants in 10 war-production areas in New York State in 1944-45 from personal interviews. Contributions for support were made by 46 percent of 154 women living apart and 98 percent of 960 women living in family households. Of the latter, 19 percent were sole contributing earners. Fifty percent or more of take-home earnings was turned over to the family households in which they lived by 52 percent of the single women, 87 percent of the married women and 92 percent of the widowed or divorced women.
40. **Department of Social Welfare. Children on the Home Front.** April 15, 1943. Data on 513 mothers working in Elmira in October-November 1942 and having children under 16 years of age, from personal interviews. Of 472 mothers working for economic reasons 31 percent completely supported the home.
41. **United States. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wartime Labor Force of Houston Ordnance Plant.** In Monthly Labor Review, March 1946. Includes 67 women in Houston in April 1945, from personal interviews. Half of the women had dependents, and 17 were heads of families with 2 or more members.
42. ———— **Mobile Shipyard Workers in Wartime.** June 1946. Includes 37 women, 35 white and 2 Negro in the Mobile, Ala., shipyards in March 1945, from personal interviews. Ten white women had one to four dependents (Negro not reported). Three women were heads of families.
43. ———— **War and Postwar Experiences of Skilled Cotton Textile Workers in New England.** June 1946. Includes 103 women in cotton textile mills in 3 New England cities in June 1945, from personal interviews. Of these women, 32 percent had an average of 1.4 dependents.
44. ———— **Wilmington Shipbuilders During and After World War II.** In Monthly Labor Review, June 1946. Includes 31 women in the Wilmington, Del., shipyard in April 1945, from personal interviews. Of these women, 42 percent supported an average of 1.5 dependents. Six of the twenty-four women living in family groups were sole earners in their families.
45. ———— **Work and Wage Experience of Willow Run Workers.** In Monthly Labor Review, December 1945. Includes 128 women at the Willow Run bomber plant in Ypsilanti, near Detroit, in May 1945, from personal interviews. An average of two dependents were supported by 31 percent of the women. Of 108 women in families of two or more persons, 37 were heads of their families.
46. ———— **City Family Composition in Relation to Income, 1941 and 1944.** In Monthly Labor Review, February 1946. Includes all city families (number unspecified) in the United States in 1944, from a sampling study. One-seventh of families of two or more persons were headed by women.
47. ———— **The Labor Force in Durable Goods Manufacture in San Francisco Bay Area, 1943.** In Monthly Labor Review, October 1945. Includes unspecified number of women workers in eight subareas

of the San Francisco Bay area in the summer and fall of 1943, from personnel records of 45 plants. Responsibility for dependents was reported by a fourth of the women; of these, 74 percent supported children only, 18 percent adults only, and 8 percent both children and adults.

48. ——— Women's Bureau. Women Workers in 10 War Production Areas and Their Postwar Employment Plans. Bull. 209, 1946. Data on 13,000 women war workers in 10 cities in 1944-45, from personal interviews. About four-fifths of the women lived in family groups; over 90 percent of these contributed regularly to family expenses. Contributions varied with marital status. All their earnings were given to the family by 55 percent of the married women, 46 percent of the widowed or divorced and 14 percent of the single workers. Complete responsibility for maintaining their families was carried by 34 percent of the widowed or divorced, 12 percent of the single and 11 percent of the married women.
49. ——— Women's Wartime Hours of Work. Bull. 208. 1947. Includes information on financial responsibilities for 1,230 women in one department of a Kansas airplane plant in 1943 and 1944, from plant records and personal interviews. Dependents were supported by 48 percent of the women. Of these, 87 percent were responsible for children and 13 percent for adults. Children were the principal responsibility of married, widowed and divorced women. In these marital groups, respectively, over 60 percent and nearly 75 percent supported dependents, as compared to 14 percent of the single women.
50. United States. Federal Security Agency. A Survey of Claimants for Unemployment Compensation in February-March 1943. Arnold Steinbach and Philip Booth. In Social Security Bulletin, December 1943. Data on the responsibility for dependents of 16,334 women claimants in 47 States for week ending February 13, 1943, from records and personal interviews. Of these women 31 percent were responsible for the support of children under 12 or for an aged or invalid person in the household. Dependents were claimed by 22 percent of the single women and 33 percent of the married.
51. ——— Gainfully Employed Women in Chicago. Erna Magnas. In Social Security Bulletin, April 1943. Erna Magnas. Data on 3,033 women workers for period November 1941-March 1942, from personal interviews; 33 percent had dependents. Of these, 36 percent supported children, 54 percent adults, and 10 percent supported both types of dependents. Full dependents were claimed by 24 percent, partial dependents by 74 percent, and both types of dependents by 2 percent of the women who supported others. The proportions of women in each marital group who were responsible for dependents consisted of 32 percent of the single women, 35 percent of the married, 25 percent of the widowed, and 42 percent of the separated and divorced. Of the single women 21 percent supported adults (parents only). Of the married women 49 percent supported children only (parents 7 percent, husbands 20 percent).
52. ——— Dependents of Unemployment Compensation Claimants in Delaware. Marvin Bloom. In Social Security Bulletin, November 1943. Data on 200 women workers for period December 1941-February 1942, from personal interviews. Of 196 women reported, 16 percent had dependents—8 percent had one, 4 percent had two, and 4 percent had three or four dependents.
53. Young Women's Christian Association, Duluth, Minn. Women at Work. September 1945. Data on 1,547 women workers in spring 1945, from personal interviews. More than half contributed to family support. About 15 percent of these were sole earners; 32 percent accounted for one-half the family income, and 26 percent for one-fourth; 26 percent did not designate the amount. Children under 18 years were principal dependents and were supported by 64 percent of the women. The average number of dependents was 1.5 persons.

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54. American Association of University Women in cooperation with the Women's Bureau. Economic Status of University Women in the U. S. A. Bull. 170. 1939. Includes 8,796 gainfully employed members of the asso-

- ciation in January 1935, from questionnaires. Over 40 percent were responsible for dependents, including 8 percent with full dependents, 23 percent with partial, and 5 percent with both types. An additional 5 percent supported others, type not reported, and 59 percent had no dependents. Larger proportions of the married women (48 percent) than of the single (39 percent) supported dependents. Of those supporting others, the great majority had adult dependents, but 16 percent supported children 16 years of age or less.
55. **Greenwich, Conn., Board of Education.** Report on the Salaries of Teachers and other Employees in the Greenwich School System. Willard S. Elsbree. Included 197 women teachers, from questionnaires answered in 1936-37. Of these teachers, 40 women had 59 total dependents; 103 women had 186 partial dependents.
 56. **National Education Association.** Teachers in Rural Communities. 1939. Includes 8,610 women teachers—7,415 white and 1,195 Negro—in towns of under 2,500 population in 20 States, during the period June 1, 1936, to May 31, 1937, from questionnaires distributed through county superintendents. Single women teachers had more dependents than did single men. Counting two partial or one whole dependent as a "dependency unit," white women teachers had an average of about 1.4 dependency units; Negro women teachers an average of about 2.4 dependency units.
 57. **National Federation of Business-Professional Womens' Clubs.** Position of Married Women in the Economic World. July 1940. Dr. Ruth Shallcross. Includes 2,300 members, 1939—571 married, 1,304 single, 416 widowed, divorced, and separated, from questionnaires. Of married women 36 percent were engaged in public employment and were subject potentially to restrictive legislation. These women, as a group, supported more dependents than did the other working members reported.
 58. ——— Why Women Work. Public Affairs Pamphlets No. 17. 1938. Includes 12,043 members of the Federation in 1937, from mailed questionnaires. Of women reporting on their responsibilities, 50 percent supported themselves only, and an additional 47 percent supported themselves and others.
 59. **New York State. Department of Labor.** Wages and Family Responsibilities of Employed Women on Relief in New York City. The Industrial Bulletin. February 1936. Study by Division of Women in Industry and Minimum Wage. Includes 6,674 gainfully employed women on relief in May-September 1935, from case records examined. In most of the families the woman worker had the entire burden of support; in only 7.5 percent were wages of employed males available. The median family consisted of 4.7 persons.
 60. **Pyle, Theresa P.** The Teacher's Dependency Load. Ph. D. thesis, Columbia University. 1939. Includes 641 women teachers in elementary and secondary schools—140 married, 501 single—in 1937-38, from questionnaires mailed to Pi Lambda Theta chapters. Single women teachers most frequently supported parents and siblings and their dependency load was heaviest in age group 50 to 60 years. Married women teachers' greatest responsibilities were for children, husbands, and parents; their burden was most significant at 40 to 50 years.
 61. **Rhode Island State College.** The Rural Homemaker in Southern Rhode Island as a Paid Worker. Bull. 259. December 1936. Margaret Whittemore and Blanche M. Kuschke. Study started in 1929 of 624 gainfully employed homemakers, through interviews. All women were included who were responsible for the conduct of the household, and also at least part of its financial support. Of the group, 85 percent reported they worked for necessities.
 62. ——— Allocation of Time by Employed Married Women in Rhode Island. Bull. 267. July 1938. Blanche M. Kuschke. Study started in 1935 of 69 gainfully employed homemakers, through time records. Of these women, 58 percent worked for necessities, 9 percent to buy a home, and 6 percent to support parents.
 63. **Steckel, Minnie L.** Women's Financial Responsibility Towards Maintenance of Others. In *Sociology and Social Research*, July-August 1938. Includes 586 business and professional women in 25 Alabama cities,

- 1929-36, from mailed questionnaires. "During a financial crisis the obligation for the support of others increases for women as well as for men." Responsibility for dependents was greatest for women aged 35 to 55 years. In order of numerical importance, the persons most frequently supported by all the women were children, mothers, sisters, brothers, and fathers.
64. **United States. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Study of Consumer Purchases. Urban Series. Family Income and Expenditures. 1935-36.** Bulls. 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 649. Published 1939, 1941. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with Works Progress Administration. Consumer Purchase Study. Urban and Village Series. Family Income and Expenditures. 1935-36. Bulls. 339, 345, 370, 375, 383. Published 1939, 1940. Of the native-white, husband-wife, non-relief families (the most usual type), 177,777 had wage earners, and in 4 percent of these a woman was the principal earner. Among these families 187,511 had only one earner, and in nearly 2 percent of these a woman was the only earner. Among Negro families having one earner, a woman was the only earner in 3 percent of those in New York, and 5 percent of those in four chief cities in the South. In comparison with husband-wife families, women were carrying a considerably heavier share of the support of families of other types.
 65. ——— **Women's Bureau. Women Workers in Their Family Environment.** Bull. 183. 1941. Includes 6,000 women workers in Cleveland, Ohio, and Utah in 1939 from personal interviews. Women contributed the entire income for 37 percent of 2,800 families reporting. Unmarried daughters were the most important woman earners. They contributed more to family income than did unmarried sons.
 66. ——— **Employed Women and Family Support.** Bull. 168. 1939. Data on 58,000 gainfully employed women in Fort Wayne, Ind., Bridgeport, Conn., and Richmond, Va., from 1930 Census schedules. Three-fourths of the women lived in families of two or more persons. Of these women, 10 percent provided the entire support for their families and 20 percent lived in families with no men earners.
 67. ——— **Unattached Women on Relief in Chicago, 1937.** Bull. 158. 1938. Includes 604 women, from records of social agencies in 1938. More than a tenth had worked to supplement the family income.
 68. ——— **Reemployment of New England Women in Private Industry.** Bull. 140. 1936. Includes 108,793 women wholly unemployed on January 2, 1934, from relief records examined. Relief assistance was sought in 1935 by 1,740 women of the Old Colony area, Massachusetts, of whom one-fourth had financial responsibility for two or more persons.
 69. ——— **Family Status of Breadwinning Women in Four Selected Cities.** Bull. 41. 1925. Data on nearly 40,000 working women in Jacksonville, Fla., Wilkes-Barre and Hanover Township, Pa., Butte, Mont., and Passaic, N. J., from 1920 census schedules. Of the 31,482 breadwinning women who reported on the number of wage earners in the family, 21 percent were classed as the sole breadwinner in the family and 27 percent were in families having no men wage earners.
 70. ——— **The Share of Wage-Earning Women in Family Support.** Bull. 30. 1923. Includes 893 women employed in the shoe industry in Manchester, N. H., in 1920, from personal interviews and plant records. All their earnings were contributed to the family by 70 percent of 445 women living at home. Of 307 daughters 65 percent, but of 289 sons only 35 percent, gave their entire wages. The study summarized data on this subject from 52 reports of other agencies made from 1888 to 1922, and contains Bureau of Labor Statistics data collected 1918-19 for 92 cities showing the economic importance of sons and of daughters in families.
 71. ——— **Federal Security Agency. Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance. Negro Domestic Workers in Private Homes in Baltimore.** Erna Magnas. In Social Security Bulletin, October 1941. Data on 1,093 Negro and 46 white women employed as domestic workers in January 1941, from personal interviews. Of 976 Negro workers reporting on the subject, nearly one-half had dependents. Of these, 37 percent of the

- single women, 51 percent of the married women, and 53 percent of the widowed, separated, and divorced were responsible for the support of others.
72. **University of Missouri.** Rural Women and the Works Progress Program. By E. L. Morgan, J. D. Ensminger, and W. W. Sneed. Research Bull. 253, April 1937. Includes 553 rural women in workrooms in 12 counties in Missouri in 1936, from questionnaires distributed to women at work. All but 7 were principal earners in their families; all but 37 supported dependents.
 73. **University of Pennsylvania in cooperation with Works Progress Administration.** Employment and Unemployment in Philadelphia in 1936 and 1937. Part I: May 1936. Part II: May 1937. Parts published separately August 1938 and October 1938. Gladys L. Palmer and Margaret W. Bell. Includes data from personal interviews in Philadelphia on 44,817 households in 1936 and 45,927 households in 1937. In 1936, women were chief earners in 13.5 percent of 15,138 households reporting on this subject, and in 1937 they were chief earners in 15.6 percent of the 45,927 households enumerated.
 74. **University of Pennsylvania.** The Significance of Employment Patterns in Households for Labor Market Analysis. Gladys L. Palmer, June 1942. Includes 23,392 women workers in 22,675 multiworker households in Philadelphia, Pa., Manchester, N. H., and Millville, N. J., in 1936, from sample studies, spring and fall 1936. Women were principal earners in 13.5 percent of these households.
 75. **Washington State Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.** Report of Special Survey: State, County, and City Employees of Washington, 1938. Includes 420 women employed in public service in 1937, 60 married and 360 single, from questionnaires. Excluding spouses, married women had more dependents than married men reporting. Of the single respondents living at home, women had 20 percent more dependents than men.

II. STUDIES PRIOR TO 1935 BY AGENCIES OTHER THAN THE WOMEN'S BUREAU

76. **American Association of University Women.** Married College Women in Business and the Professions. Chase Going Woodhouse. In Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, May 1929. Data for 1926-27, from questionnaires and interviews, on 568 college graduates. Of 336 women reporting reasons for working, 59 percent worked because of economic reasons.
77. **American Woman's Association.** The Trained Woman and the Economic Crisis. Harriet Houghton and Louisa Blaine. 1931. Data for 1931, from questionnaires, on 1,937 New York City business and professional women. Dependents were supported by 40 percent of the 1,710 women reporting on the subject; nearly a third of this group had total dependents.
78. ——— **Women Workers Through the Depression.** Lorine Pruette and Iva Lowther Peters. 1934. Data for 1929-33, from questionnaires, on 1,350 New York City members: 49 percent supported dependents—10 percent having total dependents; 31 percent, partial dependents; and 8 percent, both types. Women with dependents contributed about a fourth of their income for support.
79. **California. Department of Education.** Bull. 11. Adequacy of Salaries Paid to Oakland School Teachers. R. E. Rutledge and Emily H. Huntington. June 1, 1932. Data for 1931, from questionnaires, on 1,306 women teachers. Of 761 reporting on the subject, 77 percent supported dependents.
80. ——— **Industrial Welfare Commission.** First Biennial Report, 1913-14. 1915. Data for 1914, from personal interviews and questionnaires, on 4,810 women in retail dry-goods stores, of whom, 49 percent contributed to the support of dependents.
81. **Cleveland Teachers Federation and Cleveland Board of Education.** Cleveland Teachers' Salaries. T. C. Holy. Bureau of Educational Research. Monograph 16. 1932. Data for 1930-31, from questionnaires, on 2,650 women teachers; 57 percent supported an average of two dependents (besides self-support).

82. **Connecticut. Bureau of Labor.** Report on the Conditions of Wage-Earning Women and Girls. Charlotte Molyneux Holloway. 1916. Data for 1915-16, from personal interviews and company records, on 8,730 women working in laundries, hotels and restaurants, and stores. Of these women, 61 percent contributed to support of others, 19 percent being the sole support of their families.
83. ——— **Citizens' Emergency Committee on Unemployment and Relief.** Study of Unemployed Registered in Bridgeport, Conn. Thelma F. Skiff. Monthly Labor Review, May 1931. Data for January 1931 from records on 557 women, of whom 65 percent had dependents.
84. ——— **Special Commission to Investigate the Conditions of Wage-Earning Women and Minors.** Report of the Commission. 1913. Data for 1912, from payroll records and personal interviews, on 10,351 women in several industries. Of 2,001 women reporting on subject 70 percent gave all and 29 percent gave part of their earnings for family support.
85. **Fresno City Council of Education.** Salary and Cost Study of Fresno Schools. Walter Crosby Eels. May 1932. Data for 1931, from questionnaires, on 390 women teachers who were responsible for 105 child dependents and 305 adult dependents. These teachers averaged about 1.1 dependents (besides self-support).
86. **Graham, Irene J.** Family Support and Dependency Among Chicago Negroes: A Study of Unpublished Census Data. In Social Service Review, December 1929. Data based on 1920 census. Of 3,048 gainfully employed Negro women, 36 percent were heads of families who supported an average of over 2 dependents (besides self-support).
87. **Hewes, Amy.** Dependents of College Teachers. In Quarterly Publication of the American Statistical Association, December 1919. Data for 1919, from questionnaires, on 239 women teachers in 4 colleges. About 41 percent of 238 unmarried teachers had dependents.
88. **Hughes, Gwendolyn S.** (later, Gwendolyn Hughes Berry). Mothers in Industry. 1925. Data for 1918-19, from interviews, on 728 gainfully employed Philadelphia mothers of children under 16 years. Of these women, 89 percent worked because they had inadequate or no contributions from husbands. Wives were sole earners in 30 percent of 600 families maintaining own households.
89. **Illinois. Bureau of Labor Statistics.** Fourteenth Biennial Report, 1906. 1908. Data for 1906, from schedules for employers and wage earners, covers 2,545 working women in four cities in Illinois; 65 percent supported an average of 1.8 dependents (besides self-support).
90. **Indiana. Department of Statistics.** Fifth Biennial Report, 1893-94. 1894. Data for 1893-94, from personal investigations, on 500 women working in various industries. Half of these women helped support dependents.
91. **Information Bureau on Womens' Work, Toledo.** The Floating World: 1927. Data for 1925-26 from interviews with 126 nonfamily women in Toledo, Ohio. Of 95 women reporting on subject, 31 percent contributed to support of others.
92. **Institute of Women's Professional Relations.** Women and the Ph. D. By Emily Hutchinson, Jr. December 1929. Data from questionnaires on 1,025 women who received a Ph. D. degree from 1877 to 1924. Of 485 women who reported on the subject, 70 percent had had dependents at some time during their careers; of this group a fourth had total dependents.
93. **Kansas. Board of Public Welfare. Bureau of Labor Statistics.** Report on the Wage-Earning Women of Kansas City, 1912-13. 1913. Data for 1912-13, from personal interviews and schedules, on 10,854 wage-earning women in various industries. Of 5,680 women working in stores, factories and laundries, 24 percent had dependents.
94. ——— **Bureau of Labor and Industry.** Tenth Annual Report, 1894. 1895. Data for 1894, from questionnaire, on 1,865 working women in leading cities in Kansas; 45 percent supported dependents.
95. ——— **Department of Labor and Industry.** Twenty-Ninth Annual Report, 1913. 1914. Data for 1913, from personal interviews and questionnaires, on 6,544 working women in Kansas. Of 1,921 women reporting on subject, 42 percent supported others.

96. **La Follette, Cecile Tipton.** A Study of the Problems of 652 Gainfully Employed Married Women Homemakers. Teachers College, Columbia University, 1934. Data for 1932, from questionnaires, on 652 working wives living with their husbands throughout the United States. Of these women, 28 percent worked to support dependents; seven women provided entire support to their families.
97. **Los Angeles City Board of Education.** Teachers' Salaries in the Los Angeles Elementary and High School Districts. March 1931. Data for 1929 from questionnaires on 7,176 women. Of 1,099 reporting responsibilities 18 percent had sole dependents, 35 percent had partial dependents, and 10 percent had both types. Single women supported an average of 0.7 dependent, married women 1.2 dependents, and widowed and divorced 1.5 dependents (besides self-support).
98. **Maryland. State Board of Labor and Statistics.** Twenty-Eighth Annual Report, 1919. 1920. Data for 1919, from personal interviews, on 4,296 women in various industries; 35 percent supported dependents.
99. **Massachusetts. Commission on Minimum Wage Boards.** Report, 1912. Data for 1911, from payroll records and personal interviews, on about 7,000 women. Of 3,860 women working in candy factories, stores, and laundries, 65 percent contributed all and 33 percent contributed part of their earnings to the support of dependents.
100. ——— **Department of Labor and Industries, Division of Minimum Wage.** Wages of Women Employed in the Manufacture of Druggists' Preparations, Proprietary Medicines and Chemical Compounds in Massachusetts. 1923. (Mimeo.) Data for 1920, from payroll records and questionnaires, on 1,485 women. Of 504 women living at home 63 percent helped support others.
101. ——— **Second Report on the Wages of Women Employed in Paper Box Factories in Massachusetts.** Bull. 22. September 1920. Data for 1918-19, from payroll records and personal interviews, on 1,054 women working in 16 establishments. Of 573 women reporting on subject, 58 percent contributed to support others.
102. ——— **Second Report on the Wages of Women in Corset Factories in Massachusetts, 1919.** Bull. 21. November 1919. Data for 1919, from payroll records and questionnaires, on 1,361 women working in 10 factories. Of 610 women reporting on subject, 64 percent contributed to the support of others.
103. **Michigan. Department of Labor.** Thirtieth Annual Report, 1912-13. 1913. Data for 1912, from personal interviews, on over 1,500 women in various industries. Of the women living at home (the majority of the total reported), more than 61 percent contributed all or the larger part of their earnings toward support of their families—over 23 percent contributing all earnings.
104. ——— **State Commission of Inquiry into Wages and the Conditions of Labor for Women and the Advisability of Establishing a Minimum Wage.** Report, 1915. Data for 1914, from personal interviews, on 8,512 women in 18 occupations. Of 5,929 women reporting on the subject 42 percent contributed all their earnings and 46 percent contributed part toward the support of the family.
105. **Minneapolis. Central Committee of Teachers' Associations.** A Study of Costs and Standards of Living of Minneapolis Teachers in Relation to Their Salaries. Royal Meeker. September 1926. Data on 541 women teachers. Dependents were supported by 23 percent of 446 single women and 42 percent of 84 married and widowed women.
106. **Minnesota. Department of Labor and Industries.** Bureau of Women and Children. Women in Industry in Minnesota in 1918. Carol Aronovici. 1920. Data for 1918-19, from personal interviews, on 51,361 women in various industries; 56 percent contributed to family support.
107. **Missouri. Bureau of Labor Statistics.** Thirteenth Annual Report, 1891. Data for 1890-91, from personal interviews, on 1,458 women in industry; 63 percent had dependents.
108. **Monroe, Day.** Chicago Families: A Study of Unpublished Census Data. 1932. Data from 1920 census on 23,373 families. Of 2,625 women with

broken marital ties, 38 percent had dependent children. Mothers were the only workers in 15 percent of 2,091 families of women with broken marital ties. About three-fourths of 109 wives were sole earners in families of men without occupations.

109. **Morton, Grace M., and Clark, Marjorie R.** *Income and Expenditures of Women Faculty Members in the University of Nebraska.* In *Journal of Home Economics*, August 1930. Data for 1928, from questionnaires, on 29 unmarried faculty women, of whom 15 contributed to dependents.
110. **National Child Labor Committee.** *Survey of Wage Earning Girls Below 16 Years of Age in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.* 1915. Sarah H. Atherton. Data for 1913-14 from personal interviews, on 302 working girls aged 14 to 16 years. All but six of the girls contributed to their families.
111. **National Education Association.** *The Teacher's Economic Position.* Research Bulletin, September 1935. Data from individual records on 1,955 women teachers who never married or had been separated or widowed, in 37 cities, for period October 1932 to September 1933. These women supported on the average 1.4 dependent persons (besides self-support).
112. **National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.** *Earnings of Women in Business and the Professions.* Margaret Elliott and Grace E. Manson. University of Michigan Business Studies. Vol. III, No. 1, September 1930. Data for 1927, from questionnaires, on 14,073 members. Of 13,856 reporting on the subject 39 percent supported an average of 1.7 dependent persons (besides self-support).
113. **New Jersey. Bureau of Statistics of Labor and Industries.** *Sixteenth Annual Report, 1892-93.* 1894. Data for 1892-93, from personal investigations, on 3,877 women in various occupations; 26 percent helped support others.
114. **New York City. Bureau of Social Hygiene.** *Housing Conditions of Employed Women in the Borough of Manhattan.* Study directed by Dr. Katherine Bement Davis. Data for 1920-21, from questionnaires, on 8,782 women in various occupations. One-half had dependents.
115. **New York State. Department of Labor.** *Unemployment in Buffalo.* November 1931. Frederick E. Croxton. Special Bull. 172. 1931. Data for November 1931. Of 9,557 heads of families, over 6 percent were women. Of 3,009 women working, one-fifth were heads of families.
116. ——— *Unemployment in Syracuse,* November 1931. John Nye Webb. Special Bull. 173. 1932. Data for November 1931 from interviews. Of 4,582 heads of families nearly 8 percent were women. Of 1,663 women working, more than one-fifth were heads of families.
117. ——— **Factory Investigating Commission.** *Fourth Report, 1915.* Data for 1914, from personal investigations, on 1,937 women in stores and factories. Of 1,782 reporting on the subject 36 percent contributed to family support.
118. **Oregon. Bureau of Labor.** *Eleventh Biennial Report, 1923-24.* Data from records on 11,438 women employed in industry, October 1922 to September 1924. Of these women, about 17 percent supported 2,316 dependents, 1,652 children and 664 adults (an average of 1.2 dependents for 1,971 women).
119. ——— *Tenth Biennial Report, 1921-22.* Data for 1920-22, from records, on 13,625 women in 1,016 firms. Of these women, 16 percent supported 2,331 children and 1,392 adults (an average of 1.7 dependents for 2,209 women).
120. ——— *Ninth Biennial Report, 1919-20.* Data for 1918-19, from records, on 13,594 women employed in various industries. Of these women 19 percent supported 1,798 children and 987 adults (an average of 1.1 dependents for 2,519 women).
121. **Pennsylvania. Civil Works Administration Program in Pennsylvania.** Report of the Administrator of the Federal Civil Works Administration of Pennsylvania, November 15, 1933, to March 31, 1934. Eric H. Biddle. Data for November 1933 to March 1934 from case records on 13,329 women employed on CWA projects. These women supported 17,387 dependents, 12,568 full and 4,819 partial.

122. ——— Department of Labor and Industry. State Employment Commission. Thirty Thousand in Search of Work. Gladys L. Palmer. 1933. Data for 1932 from records on 10,356 women. Of 6,932 women reporting on the subject, two-thirds had dependents.
123. Peters, David Wilbur. Status of Married Women Teachers. 1934. Ph. D. thesis, Teachers College, Columbia University. Data for 1930-31 from questionnaires on 921 married and 921 single teachers in Virginia. Single teachers had about three-fourths as many dependents as did married teachers.
124. Russell Sage Foundation. The Incidence of Work Shortage. Margaret H. Hogg. 1932. Data for 1931 from personal interviews. Of 1,034 women workers in New Haven, Conn., reporting on the subject, 23 percent were responsible for dependents.
125. ——— Italian Women in Industry. Louise C. Odencrantz. 1919. Data for 1911-13, from personal interviews, on 1,095 women workers; of 884 who reported on dependency, 86 percent gave all and 9 percent gave part of earnings to their families.
126. ——— Mothers Who Must Earn. Katharine Anthony. 1914. Data for 1912, through records and personal visits, on 370 working mothers in New York City; 27 percent were sole earners in families having an average of 3.2 members.
127. Short, Jessie M. Women's Wages Compared With Living Costs and General Community Standards, 1914-32. In Reed College Bulletin, January 1933. Data for 1932 on 629 women teachers in Portland, Oreg. These women as a group supported on the average 1.5 dependents (besides self-support).
128. United States. Council of National Defense. New Orleans Division and Louisiana State Division. Women in Industry Committee. Conditions of Women's Labor in Louisiana. New Orleans and Louisiana Industrial Survey, 1919. Data for 1918-19, from company records and personal interviews, on 5,202 employed women, half of whom supported dependents. Women were chief earners in at least 56 percent of the families of 5,085 women living at home.
129. ——— Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Women in Gainful Occupations, 1870 to 1920. Census Monographs IX. 1929. Joseph A. Hill. Data from 1920 census on 271,000 women workers living with their families in 11 cities. Of these women 8.1 percent of the total—or 6.2 percent of 162,312 single women, 5 percent of 71,368 married and 22.2 percent of 37,342 widowed and divorced—were sole breadwinners in their families.
130. ——— ——— The Woman Homemaker in the City. Bertha M. Nienburg. 1923. Data from 1920 census on 74,000 Rochester, N. Y., women ever married. The wife or widow was the only wage earner in almost 6 percent of 74,467 families.
131. ——— Department of Commerce and Labor. Report on Condition of Woman and Child Wage Earners in the United States. Volumes 1-5. 1910-11. Data for 1907-8 from personal investigations on 16,982 women throughout the United States.
- Cotton textile, men's ready-made clothing, glass and silk industries:*
From 25 to 33 percent of net family income contributed by 1,917 working mothers; from 27 to 43 percent of net family income contributed by 7,172 women over 16 years (excluding mothers). The proportions of their earnings contributed by mothers ranged from 86 to 97 percent.
- Stores and factories in seven cities:* Of 4,584 women living at home, 75 percent gave all earnings and 23 percent gave part of earnings to the family. Of 1,275 women living away from home, 22 percent contributed to needy relatives.
- Hotels and restaurants in seven cities:* Of 127 women living at home, 69 percent gave all earnings to the family. Of 222 women living away from home, 20 percent contributed to needy relatives.
132. ——— Department of the Interior. Bureau of Labor. Working Women in Large Cities. Fourth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor, 1888. 1889. Data for 1888, from personal investigations, on 17,427 women in 22 cities. Of 14,918 reporting on subject, 59 percent con-

tributed to general support of families. Of 5,716 reporting year's income, about a tenth had dependents. An average of nearly a fourth of the earnings of these 5,716 women went to support of dependents.

133. ——— Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Cost of Living in the District of Columbia. In *Monthly Labor Review*, January and March, 1918. Data for 1916-17, from personal interviews, on 600 women working in various occupations in the District of Columbia. Almost 22 percent supported others. Of 137 self-supporting women who lived away from home, 38 helped support dependents.
134. ——— ——— ——— Unemployment Among Women in Department and Other Retail Stores of Boston. *Bull.* 182. 1916. Data for 1913-14, from personal interviews, on 1,763 women. Of 1,156 women regularly employed, 85 percent contributed to their families.
135. ——— Children's Bureau. Children of Wage-Earning Mothers. *Pub.* 102. 1922. Helen Wright. Data for 1918-20 from interviews and case records on 843 gainfully employed Chicago mothers of children under 14 years. The average number of dependent children under 14 years was about 2.5 per woman.
136. ——— ——— Children of Working Mothers in Philadelphia. Part 1. *The Working Mother.* *Pub.* 204. Clara Mortenson Beyer. 1931. Data for January-September 1928, from interviews and records, on 12,227 families. Of 3,509 mothers who had children under 16 years and who worked during 6 months preceding interview, 18 percent were the sole support, 9 percent were the chief support, and 73 percent were supplementary earners in their families.
137. ——— ——— Women's Bureau. See section III of appendix A.
138. University of Kentucky. A Salary Study for the Lexington Public Schools. *Bulletin of the Bureau of School Service, College of Education*, March 1935. Data for 1934 from questionnaires on 235 women teachers; 76 percent had dependents.
139. University of Pennsylvania. The Employment Characteristics of New Applicants at the Philadelphia State Employment Office, 1934. *Special Report A-6.* Gladys L. Palmer. November 1935. Data for 1934 from records on about 15,000 women. Of 6,574 women reporting on the subject, 77 percent supported an average of 2.5 dependent persons (besides self-support).
140. ——— The Applicants at Three Pennsylvania State Employment Offices in 1933. *Special Report A-3.* Gladys L. Palmer. October 31, 1934. Data for 1933 from records on almost 6,000 women. Of 4,767 women reporting on subject, 59 percent supported dependents—25 percent having one dependent, 17 percent two dependents, and 16 percent three or more dependents (besides self-support).
141. ——— Employed Married Women in Philadelphia. November 17, 1931. Estimated data from records for April 1931, on 55,000 married women workers. Of 34,000 employed full-time, 28 percent, and of 10,000 employed part-time, 28 percent were only wage earners in their families.
142. Washington (State) Industrial Welfare Commission. Fourth Biennial Report, 1919-20. 1920. Data for 1918-20, from records and personal interviews on 3,256 applicants for apprenticeship licenses and 2,560 women workers in public housekeeping, manufacturing, laundry and dye industries. Dependency burden described in report for at least 1,600 women in various industries and of varied marital status. The 263 widowed apprenticeship applicants supported 389 children. Among 739 laundry workers, over half of 146 widows and more than a fourth of 262 single girls had dependents. Of 991 women in manufacturing, 43 percent had dependents. Widows with dependents constituted almost a fourth of 830 women in public housekeeping.
143. Whittemore, Margaret. Wage Earning Homemaker and the Family Income. In *Journal of Home Economics*, November 1931. Data on 408 women in one rural Rhode Island county; 71 percent worked because they must.
144. Wisconsin. Consumers' League. Women's Wages in Milwaukee. Ruby Stewart. In *Proposed Minimum Wage Law for Wisconsin*. 1911. Data from questionnaires on 1,189 women in 15 Milwaukee factories. Of 1,078

- women living at home, 81 percent contributed all and 18 percent contributed part of earnings for family support.
145. ——— **Industrial Commission.** Employment Services in Wisconsin, January 1934 to December 1935. June 1936. Data on 19,623 women applicants in the 6 months preceding January 1934, who as a group averaged 0.73 person as dependents (besides self-support).
 146. ——— **Cost of Living of Wage-Earning Women in Wisconsin.** Mary C. Wiggin, Emma Lundberg, et al. Women in Wisconsin. May 1, 1916. Data for 1913-14, from questionnaires, on 17,356 women in 41 cities. Of 13,686 single women living at home, 39 percent gave all their earnings and 59 percent gave part toward family support.
 147. **Women's Educational and Industrial Union.** Boston. A Legacy to Wage-Earning Women, Lucille Eaves, et al. 1925. Data for 1922, from personal interviews, on 480 working women in Brattleboro, Vt.; 56 percent had dependents.
 148. **Young Women's Christian Association of Cincinnati and Helen S. Trounstine Foundation.** Wage Earning Girls in Cincinnati. 1927. Data for 1926, from questionnaires, on 500 women. Of 287 women reporting on the subject, 66 percent contributed regularly to family support.

III. WOMEN'S BUREAU BULLETINS

Section III lists all Women's Bureau studies referring to the economic responsibilities of women workers. Where titles are followed by numbers in parentheses, the study appears in the annotated list in section I of appendix A.

Studies Directed Primarily or Largely to this Subject

SPECIAL FIELD STUDIES

Women's Bureau

Bulletin No.

30. The Share of Wage-Earning Women in Family Support. 1923. (1919-20 data.) 170 pp. (70)
183. Women Workers in Their Family Environment. 1941. (1939 data.) 82 pp. (65)
209. Women Workers in Ten War Production Areas and Their Postwar Employment Plans. 1946. (1944-45 data.) 56 pp. (48)
- Baltimore Women War Workers in the Postwar Period. (Mimeo.) 1948. (1946 data.) 61 pp. (25)

SPECIAL STUDIES FROM CENSUS DATA

23. The Family Status of Breadwinning Women. 1922. (1920 Census data.) 43 pp. Of 7,838 women in Passaic, N. J., reporting, 9 percent were sole earners in their families.
41. Family Status of Breadwinning Women in Four Selected Cities. 1925. (1920 Census data.) 145 pp. (69)
148. The Employed Woman Homemaker in the United States; Her Responsibility for Family Support. 1936. (1930 Census data.) 22 pp. Well over one-tenth of 3,311,386 homemakers in the United States were sole earners in their families.
168. Employed Women and Family Support. 1939. (1930 Census data.) 57 pp. (66)

BULLETINS SUMMARIZING MANY STUDIES

30. The Share of Wage-Earning Women in Family Support. 1923. (1919-20 data.) 170 pp. Includes summary of 52 reports and Bureau of Labor Statistics data for 92 cities (1888-1922). (70)
75. What the Wage-Earning Woman Contributes to Family Support. 1929. 21 pp. Reports on 35 studies (1888-1927), including 16 that were not reported in Bull. 30.
155. Women in the Economy of the United States of America. 1937. 137 pp. Summary of data from 33 studies, based on examination of 72 reports (1888-1936). (Of these, 31 were studies not summarized in earlier bulletins.)

Studies Including Considerable Information on this Subject

STUDIES OF A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY

4. Wages of Candy Makers in Philadelphia in 1919. 1919. 46 pp. Study covered 1,505 women. Of 42 women interviewed at home, 32 supported others besides themselves.
11. Women Street Car Conductors and Ticket Agents. 1921. (1919-20 data.) 90 pp. Study covered 880 women in 4 cities. Of 47 women interviewed in Detroit, 34 supported 79 dependents.
45. Home Environment and Employment Opportunities of Women in Coal-Mine Workers' Families. 1925. (1922-23 data.) 61 pp. In 1,578 families scheduled in an investigation by the Coal Commission, 90 percent of the gainfully employed wives and daughters contributed regularly to their families. Wives gave all their earnings, which amounted to 20-25 percent of family income; daughters gave from one-half to three-fourths of their earnings and this amounted to 15-20 percent of family income.
47. Women in Fruit-Growing and Canning Industries in the State of Washington. 1926. (1923 data.) 224 pp. Study of 3,014 women interviewed. Of 2,591 women who lived with their families, 12 percent had no male wage earner in family and 6 percent were sole earners.
62. Women's Employment in Vegetable Canneries in Delaware. 1927. (1924 data.) 47 pp. Of 1,167 women interviewed, 95 were chief wage earners in their families.
78. A Survey of Laundries and Their Women Workers in 23 Cities. 1930. (1927-28 data.) 166 pp. Study covered 19,758 women. Of 1,850 women interviewed who reported reasons for working, all but 78 worked to support themselves or themselves and others.
88. The Employment of Women in Slaughtering and Meat Packing. 1932. (1928-29 data.) 210 pp. Study covered 6,568 women. Of 897 women visited in their homes, 11 percent were the sole support of themselves and others.
93. Household Employment in Philadelphia. 1932. (1928 data.) 88 pp. About 2,000 women were included in questionnaires answered by employers. Separate questionnaires were filled out by 76 employees; of those reporting on family obligations, more than two-thirds were responsible for dependents.

STUDIES OF A PARTICULAR STATE OR LOCALITY

4. Wages of Candy Makers in Philadelphia in 1919. 1919. (Discussed above.)
10. Hours and Conditions of Work for Women in Industry in Virginia. 1920. (1919-20 data.) 32 pp. Study covered 18,781 women. Of 59 women interviewed, 37 were responsible for full or part support of their families.
17. Women's Wages in Kansas. 1921. (1919-20 data.) 104 pp. Study of 5,651 women interviewed. Of 4,321 reporting on the subject, 39 percent contributed all their earnings and 36 percent contributed part of their earnings to the home.
34. Women in Alabama Industries. 1924. (1922 data.) 86 pp. Study covered 5,726 women. Of 194 interviewed and reporting personal data, 114 gave all their earnings and 69 gave part of their earnings to their families; 41 were sole breadwinners.
47. Women in the Fruit-Growing and Canning Industries in the State of Washington. 1926. 224 pp. (Discussed above.)
48. Women in Oklahoma Industries. 1926. (1923-24 data.) 118 pp. Study covered 4,135 women. Of 46 women interviewed, 25 supported dependents.
58. Women in Delaware Industries. 1927. (1924 data.) 156 pp. Study covered 4,176 women. Of 3,255 women interviewed, 4 percent were sole earners in their families.
60. Industrial Accidents to Women in New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin. 1927. (Discussed below.)
62. Women's Employment in Vegetable Canneries in Delaware. 1927. (Discussed above.)

77. A Study of Two Groups of Denver Married Women Applying for Jobs. 1929. (1928 data.) 11 pp. Of 448 women interviewed in survey, 91 percent of 405 reporting on subject supported themselves or themselves and dependents.
80. Women in Florida Industries. 1930. (1928 data.) 115 pp. Study covered 7,844 women. Of 114 women interviewed on this subject in 3 Florida cities, 31 of 55 single, widowed, separated and divorced women had dependents; only 2 of 59 married women did not work because of need.
92. Wage-Earning Women and the Industrial Conditions of 1930. A survey of South Bend, Ind. 1932. (Discussed below.)
93. Household Employment in Philadelphia. 1932. (Discussed above.)
103. The Effects of the Depression on Wage Earners' Families. A Second Survey of South Bend. 1936. (Discussed below.)
124. Women in Arkansas Industries. 1935. (1932-33 data.) 45 pp. Study covered 3,959 women. Women were sole wage earners in 60 out of 202 households in Little Rock, in which women were interviewed.
129. Industrial Injuries to Women in 1930 and 1931 Compared with Injuries to Men. 1935. (Discussed below.) Illinois data.
140. Reemployment of New England Women in Private Industry. 1936. (1934-35 data.) (68)
151. Injuries to Women in Personal Service Occupations in Ohio. 1937. (Discussed below.)
153. Unattached Women on Relief in Chicago, 1937. 1938. (67)
160. Industrial Injuries to Women and Men, 1932 to 1934. 1938. (Discussed below.) Pennsylvania data.
216. Women Workers after VJ Day in One Community—Bridgeport, Conn. 1947. (1946 data.) (26)

STUDIES OF WOMEN INJURED IN INDUSTRY

60. Industrial Accidents to Women in New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin. 1927. (1919-20 data.) 316 pp. Of 385 injured women interviewed, 182 had some responsibility for support of others (26 percent were the sole support) besides themselves.
129. Industrial Injuries to Women in 1930 and 1931 Compared with Injuries to Men. 1935. (1930, 1931 data.) 57 pp. Among 2,408 Illinois women injured in 1930, as reported by the State Department of Labor, about 47 percent of 977 married women and 37 percent of 295 widowed and divorced had dependent children.
151. Injuries to Women in Personal Service Occupations in Ohio. 1937. (1932-33 data.) 23 pp. The Ohio Department of Industrial Relations reported that 1,122 women injured in 1932 and 1,119 women injured in 1933 had an average of 0.7 dependent in each year.
160. Industrial Injuries to Women and Men, 1932 to 1934. 1938. (1932-34 data.) 37 pp. Among 4,943 Pennsylvania women injured in 1932 and 1933, as reported by State authorities, about 39 percent of 1,632 married women and 27 percent of 657 widowed and divorced women had dependents. Only 10 of 2,654 single women were responsible for support of others.

STUDIES DURING ECONOMIC DEPRESSION

92. Wage-Earning Women and the Industrial Conditions of 1930. A Survey of South Bend, Ind. 1932. (1929-30 data.) 84 pp. Study covered over 5,000 women. Of 3,245 interviewed, 11 percent were sole earners in their families.
103. Women Workers in the Third Year of the Depression. 1933. (1931-32 data.) 16 pp. Of 109 women attending the Bryn Mawr summer school in 1932, about 40 gave from one-half to all their wages for family support.
108. The Effects of the Depression on Wage Earners' Families: A Second Survey of South Bend. 1936. (1932 data.) 31 pp. Of 814 women interviewed, 30 percent were the sole support of their families and another 25 percent supplied half or more of their families' earnings.

113. *Employment Fluctuations and Unemployment of Women*. 1933. (1928-31 data.) 236 pp. Summarizes findings of several earlier studies which showed from over a fifth to nearly two-thirds of the respondents to have dependents.
140. *Reemployment of New England Women in Private Industry*. 1936. (1934-35 data.) (68)
158. *Unattached Women on Relief in Chicago, 1937*. 1938. (67)

STUDIES OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

117. *The Age Factor as it Relates to Women in Business and the Professions*. 1934. (1931 data.) 66 pp. Of 14,346 women responding to questionnaires as to whether they had dependents, 9,118 were contributing to support of others and more than a third of these were fully responsible for dependents. Of some 3,400 who reported number of dependents, 35 percent had 2 or more, some as many as 5.
170. *Economic Status of University Women*. 1939. (1935 data.) (54)

MISCELLANEOUS

20. *Negro Women in Industry*. 1922. (1920 data.) 65 pp. Study covered 11,812 women. Of 85 women interviewed, 70 lived with their families; of these, 35 contributed all and 19 contributed part of their earnings to the household.
49. *Women Workers and Family Support*. 1925. (1924 data.) 10 pp. Of 101 women workers attending Bryn Mawr Summer School, all but 13 contributed to family support.
74. *The Immigrant Woman and Her Job*. 1930. (1925 data.) 179 pp. Of 2,146 immigrant women interviewed in Philadelphia and Lehigh Valley, 156 were sole earners.
89. *The Industrial Experience of Women Workers at the Summer Schools, 1928 to 1930*. 1931. (1928-29-30 data.) 62 pp. Study covered 609 women. Of 459 women reporting proportion of their earnings contributed to family support, 20 percent gave all, 30 percent gave half or more, and 39 percent gave less than half of their earnings; 11 percent did not contribute.
208. *Women's Wartime Hours of Work*. 1947. (Wartime data.) (49)

OTHER BULLETINS WITH REFERENCES OR SUMMARIES OF OTHER STUDIES (1935 AND LATER)

134. *Summaries of Studies on the Economic Status of Women*. Compiled by the American Association of University Women. 1935. 20 pp. Bibliography, including references on dependents.
145. *Special Study of Wages Paid to Women and Minors in Ohio Industries Prior and Subsequent to the Ohio Minimum Wage Law for Women and Minors*. 1936. 83 pp. Section I:3 cites findings of reports on this subject.
152. *Differences in the Earnings of Women and Men*. 1938. 57 pp. Part I cites findings of reports on this subject.
164. *Women in Industry*. 1938. 85 pp. Section III-b refers to studies on married woman workers' responsibilities for support of their families.
196. "Equal Pay" for Women in War Industries. 1942. 26 pp. Quotes data on the subject from earlier studies.
220. *Old Age Insurance for Household Workers*. 1947. 20 pp. Refers to earlier studies on the support responsibilities of working women.
224. *Women's Bureau Conference*. 1948. 210 pp. Three addresses on women who work to support themselves and others quote findings of studies on this subject.
225. *Handbook of Facts on Women Workers*. 1948. 79 pp. Part III quotes findings of Women's Bureau Bulletin 209.
237. *Handbook of Facts on Women Workers*. 1950. 106 pp. Part III cites 1946 Census data on woman sole and principal earners in their families, as well as findings of Women's Bureau Bulletin 209.
- Special Bulletin No. 18. *A Preview as to Women Workers in Transition from War to Peace*. 1944. 26 pp. Cites findings of earlier studies on women's share in the support of families.

Other Studies Briefly Mentioning the Subject

[Page numbers refer to pages of bulletin where subject is mentioned]

*Women's Bureau
Bulletin No.*

19. Iowa Women in Industry, 1922, p. 35.
21. Women in Rhode Island Industries, 1922, pp. 58-60.
22. Women in Georgia Industries, 1922, pp. 57-58.
24. Women in Maryland Industries, 1922, pp. 76-79.
25. Women in the Candy Industry in Chicago and St. Louis, 1923, pp. 56-58.
26. Women in Arkansas Industries, 1923, pp. 60-61.
29. Women in Kentucky Industries, 1923, pp. 84-85.
32. Women in South Carolina Industries, 1923, p. 79.
35. Women in Missouri Industries, 1924, pp. 61-63.
36. Radio Talks on Women in Industry, 1924, pp. 5, 33.
37. Women in New Jersey Industries, 1924, pp. 67-68.
38. Married Women in Industry, 1924. (Entire text.)
44. Women in Ohio Industries, 1925, p. 8.
55. Women in Mississippi Industries, 1926, pp. 57-58.
56. Women in Tennessee Industries, 1927, p. 85.
59. Short Talks About Working Women, 1927, pp. 21-24.
67. Women Workers in Flint, Michigan, 1929, p. 9. Majority of 143 married women workers interviewed reported husbands' earnings inadequate to support of family due to irregular employment.
79. Industrial Home Work, 1930, p. 6.
84. Fact Finding with the Women's Bureau, 1931, pp. 32-35.
85. Wages of Women in 13 States, 1931, pp. 85-86.
86. Activities of the Women's Bureau of the United States, 1931, pp. 10-11.
161. Women at Work, 1939, pp. 7-8.
233. Night Work for Women in Hotels and Restaurants, 1949, p. 28. A "substantial proportion" of 148 women night workers interviewed were the sole support of the family or contributed to its expense.

APPENDIX B

EARLIEST REPORTING OF CERTAIN KINDS OF INFORMATION ON ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF WOMEN

<i>Date of publication</i>	<i>Agency, subject, and Appendix A reference</i>	<i>Type or combinations of information not given in earlier reports</i>
1889	Department of the Interior, U. S. Bureau of Labor. Fourth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor (132).	Number of women workers (living at home) reported <i>who gave</i> of their earnings to the family. Number of women reporting dependents. Part of worker's annual earnings that went for support of dependents (average).
1891	Missouri Bureau of Labor Statistics. Thirteenth Annual Report (107).	Women workers as <i>sole</i> support of their families. Dependents of women workers <i>not living at home</i> as well as those living at home.
1895	Kansas Bureau of Labor and Industry. Tenth Annual Report (94).	<i>Average</i> number of dependents supported by women workers.
1908	Illinois Bureau of Labor Statistics. Fourteenth Biennial Report (89).	<i>Relationship</i> of dependents (parents, brothers, sisters, children, husbands).
1911-12	U. S. Department of Commerce and Labor, by special Act of Congress, January 1907. Report on Condition of Woman and Child Wage Earners (131).	Proportions who gave to family support <i>all</i> , part, or none of their earnings. Part of family earnings furnished by mothers; other women, by <i>nationality group</i> . Proportions of their earnings given for support of family by women <i>living at home</i> , and for support of dependents by women <i>living apart</i> . Part of family income given by <i>widows, married women with husbands at work, ill, idle, deserted</i> . Comparison with men as to part of earnings given; part of family support furnished.
1912	Massachusetts Report of Commission on Minimum Wage Boards (99).	Women workers living at home, in <i>families with no male wage earners, by size of family</i> .
1913	Kansas Board of Public Welfare, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Twenty-ninth Annual Report (93).	Dependents distinguished as to whether <i>fully</i> or partially supported, with <i>income distribution</i> for women having each type. <i>Marital status</i> of women workers having dependents (combined for separated and divorced).

<i>Date of publication</i>	<i>Agency, subject, and Appendix A reference</i>	<i>Type or combinations of information not given in earlier reports</i>
1914	Russell Sage Foundation. Mothers Who Must Earn (126).	Average size of family of 101 mothers who were sole family support.
1915	California Industrial Welfare Commission. First Biennial Report (80).	Married women workers whose husbands were present by whether or not contributing to family support, and absent by whether or not contributing.
1916	Wisconsin Industrial Commission. Cost of Living of Wage-Earning Women (146).	Single women living at home giving family all, part, or none of earnings. Widows with children fully dependent. Part of earnings given by 128 women to family and to support dependents, by earnings per week.
1916	Connecticut Bureau of Labor. Report on the Conditions of Wage-Earning Women and Girls (82).	Single women living apart (as well as those at home) who contributed to support of others. Single women who were sole earners. Married women, and combined widowed and divorced, fully or partly supporting families.
1916	U. S. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Unemployment Among Women in Department and Other Retail Stores of Boston (134).	Women heads of families.
1919	Amy Hewes. Dependents of College Teachers (87).	Dependency load of a group of professional women shown by marital status and relationship of dependents. Part of salary spent for dependents. Age of these with and without dependents.
1919	Russell Sage Foundation. Italian Women in Industry. Louise Odencrantz (125).	Proportions who gave all earnings to the family among women in a defined nationality group.
1919	U. S. Council of National Defense, New Orleans Division and Louisiana State Division. Conditions of Women's Labor in Louisiana (128).	Women as chief earners in their families.
1920	Maryland State Board of Labor Statistics. Twenty-eighth Annual Report (98).	Women who had 1, 2, 3, or more dependents.
1920	Minnesota Department of Labor, and Industries. Bureau of Women and Children. Women in Industry (106).	Contributions to family support shown separately for separated and divorced women as well as single, married, widowed.
1920	Oregon Bureau of Labor. Ninth Biennial Report (120).	Numbers of child dependents and adult dependents, given separately.
1922	Children's Bureau. Children of Wage-Earning Mothers. Helen Russell Wright (135).	Inadequacy of husband's support as a reason for wife's employment.

<i>Date of publication</i>	<i>Agency, subject, and Appendix A reference</i>	<i>Type or combinations of information not given in earlier reports</i>
1925	Gwendolyn Hughes Berry. Mothers in Industry (88).	Mothers, in own households or boarding who are sole earners in families.
1925	Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Boston. Report on wage-earning women in Brattleboro, Vt. (147).	Age groups in which women have greatest dependency load; age groups at which specified relatives were dependent on women.
1929	Irene J. Graham. Family Support and Dependency Among Chicago Negroes (86).	Negro women workers with dependents. Comparison of numbers of Negro and white working mothers of young children.
1931	Children's Bureau. Children of Working Mothers in Philadelphia. Clara Mortensen Beyer (136).	Mothers who were sole, principal and supplementary earners in their families.
1931	Los Angeles Board of Education. Teachers Salaries in the Los Angeles Elementary and High School Districts (97).	Average number of dependents given separately for single, married, and for widowed and divorced women teachers.
1934	Cecile Tipton La Follette. Problems of 652 Gainfully Occupied Married Women (96).	Dependents not living with woman worker who supports them.

APPENDIX C

SCHEDULE USED IN PART I

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WOMEN'S BUREAU

WASHINGTON

WHAT ARE YOUR REASONS FOR WORKING?

This is often asked about women workers.

The questions in this folder are being asked of groups of union women in order to tell the story of why they are at work.

Will you help tell this story by your replies? The form looks complicated, but most questions can be answered merely by circling a number.

Read the questions *one at a time*. Please answer them carefully and correctly so that a true picture can be given. Please continue to the end of the questionnaire.

ALL INFORMATION GIVEN IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. Your answers will be analyzed by the Women's Bureau in the United States Department of Labor. They will be used, with those of women in your union and several other unions, to show the public the facts about why these women work and how they use their wages.

If you *already have answered* a questionnaire like this, DO NOT ANSWER ANOTHER.

1. To WHAT UNION DO YOU BELONG? (Circle only one number.)
 1. Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks.
 2. Communications Workers of America.
 3. Hotel and Restaurant Employees International.
 4. International Ladies Garment Workers Union.
 5. International Association of Machinists.
 6. Textile Workers Union of America.
 7. Other (give name)-----
2. GIVE THE NUMBER OF YOUR LOCAL-----
IN WHAT CITY DO YOU WORK?-----
3. WHAT KIND OF WORK DO YOU DO? (Circle one number.)
 1. Factory or shop.
 2. Sales.
 3. Clerical or office.
 4. Telephone operator.
 5. Waitress.
 6. Other hotel and restaurant work.
 7. Other work (tell what)-----
4. HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU USUALLY GET IN YOUR PAY ENVELOPE?
(If you customarily receive tips add the usual amount of your tips to the amount in your pay envelope.) Amount, \$-----
5. HOW OFTEN ARE YOU PAID? (Circle only one number.)
 1. Weekly.
 2. Monthly.
 3. Twice a month.
 4. Other period (tell what)-----
6. DO YOU SAVE PART OF YOUR PAY? (Circle only one number.)
 1. By deduction from my pay for bonds.
 2. By some other way.
 3. Both by deduction from my pay for bonds and by some other way.
 0. I do not save any of my earnings.
7. DO YOU RECEIVE OTHER INCOME (OF AS MUCH AS \$50) DURING THE YEAR BESIDES YOUR EARNINGS? (Circle one number.) 1. Yes. 2. No.
8. DO YOU SUPPORT (circle one number)—
 1. Yourself only (either fully or partly)?
 2. Yourself and others (either fully or partly)?
 3. Others but not yourself?

9. HOW MUCH OF THE MONEY IN YOUR PAY ENVELOPE GOES TO SUPPORT YOURSELF OR YOURSELF AND OTHERS? Amount, \$-----

If you cannot give an exact amount, give your best estimate. Amount, \$-----

10. WHAT RELATION TO YOU ARE THE PERSONS YOU SUPPORT?
 Check in column 1 each person you support fully *and*
 check in column 2 each person you support partly.

RELATIONSHIP TO WORKER	(1) YOU SUPPORT FULLY	(2) YOU SUPPORT PARTLY
A. Self-----	-----	-----
B. Mother-----	-----	-----
C. Father-----	-----	-----
D. Husband-----	-----	-----
E. 1 child of your own under 18 years old-----	-----	-----
F. 2 children of your own under 18 years old-----	-----	-----
G. 3 or more children of your own under 18 years old (give number)-----	-----	-----
H. 1 other relative (who?)-----	-----	-----
I. 2 other relatives (who?)-----	-----	-----
J. 3 or more other relatives (who?) (give number)-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
11. TOTAL (leave blank)-----	-----	-----

12. WHY DO YOU WORK?

In column 1 check the chief reason why you work.

If you have other important reasons for working check these reasons in column 2 but do not check more than 3 items in column 2.

REASON FOR WORKING	(1) CHIEF REASON (Check one item only)	(2) OTHER IM- PORTANT REASONS (Check not more than 3 items)
A. To buy a home-----	-----	-----
B. To educate my children-----	-----	-----
C. To support myself-----	-----	-----
D. To support myself and others-----	-----	-----
E. Satisfaction out of having a job-----	-----	-----
F. To keep in practice-----	-----	-----
G. To have money for other special purposes----- (Indicate special purpose)-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----

13. DO YOU LIVE WITH SOME MEMBER OR MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY (PERSONS RELATED TO YOU)? (Circle one number.) 1. Yes. 2. No.

QUESTIONS 14-18 TO BE ANSWERED ONLY BY WORKERS LIVING
WITH FAMILY

14. HOW MANY PERSONS ARE IN YOUR FAMILY HOUSEHOLD, INCLUDING YOURSELF?
Number -----
15. HOW MANY IN YOUR FAMILY HOUSEHOLD ARE WAGE EARNERS OR HAVE REGULAR
INCOME, INCLUDING YOURSELF? Number -----
16. HOW MANY CONTRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY EXPENSES, INCLUDING YOURSELF?
Number -----
17. WHAT SHARE OF THE FAMILY EXPENSES DO YOU PAY REGULARLY? (Circle
number which represents most nearly your share.)
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. All. | 4. One-fourth. |
| 2. Three-fourths. | 0. None. |
| 3. Half. | |
18. HOW DO YOU CONTRIBUTE REGULARLY TO THE FAMILY EXPENSES? (Circle
number or numbers which apply.)
1. By putting regularly *all* of your earnings into the common household fund.
 2. By putting regularly *part* of your earnings into the common household fund.
 3. By paying regularly a specified amount for board.
 4. By paying regularly a particular family expense (such as grocery bill, rent, etc.).
- Describe -----

0. I do not contribute regularly to the family expense.

TO BE ANSWERED BY ALL

(Circle one number in each one of the following questions)

19. HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU HAD A PAID JOB?
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Under 3 years. | 4. 10 to 19 years. |
| 2. 3 to 4 years. | 5. 20 or more years. |
| 3. 5 to 9 years. | |
20. WHAT WAS THE LAST SCHOOL GRADE YOU ATTENDED?
- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Below sixth. | 4. College, 1 to 3 years. |
| 2. Sixth to eighth. | 5. College, 4 years. |
| 3. Ninth to twelfth. | |
21. WHAT WAS YOUR AGE AT YOUR LAST BIRTHDAY?
- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 0. Under 20. | 6. 45 to 49. |
| 1. 20 to 24. | 7. 50 to 54. |
| 2. 25 to 29. | 8. 55 to 59. |
| 3. 30 to 34. | 9. 60 to 64. |
| 4. 35 to 39. | X. 65 or over. |
| 5. 40 to 44. | |
22. ARE YOU—
- | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Single? | 3. Widowed? |
| 2. Married? | 4. Separated or divorced? |
23. DO YOU LIKE THE KIND OF WORK YOU ARE DOING? 1. Yes. 2. No.

USE THIS PAGE FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS YOU CARE TO
MAKE

Comments as to type of contributions you make:
Comments as to other uses of your money:
Comments as to dependents:
Other comments:

Date -----

(Name of distributing agent)