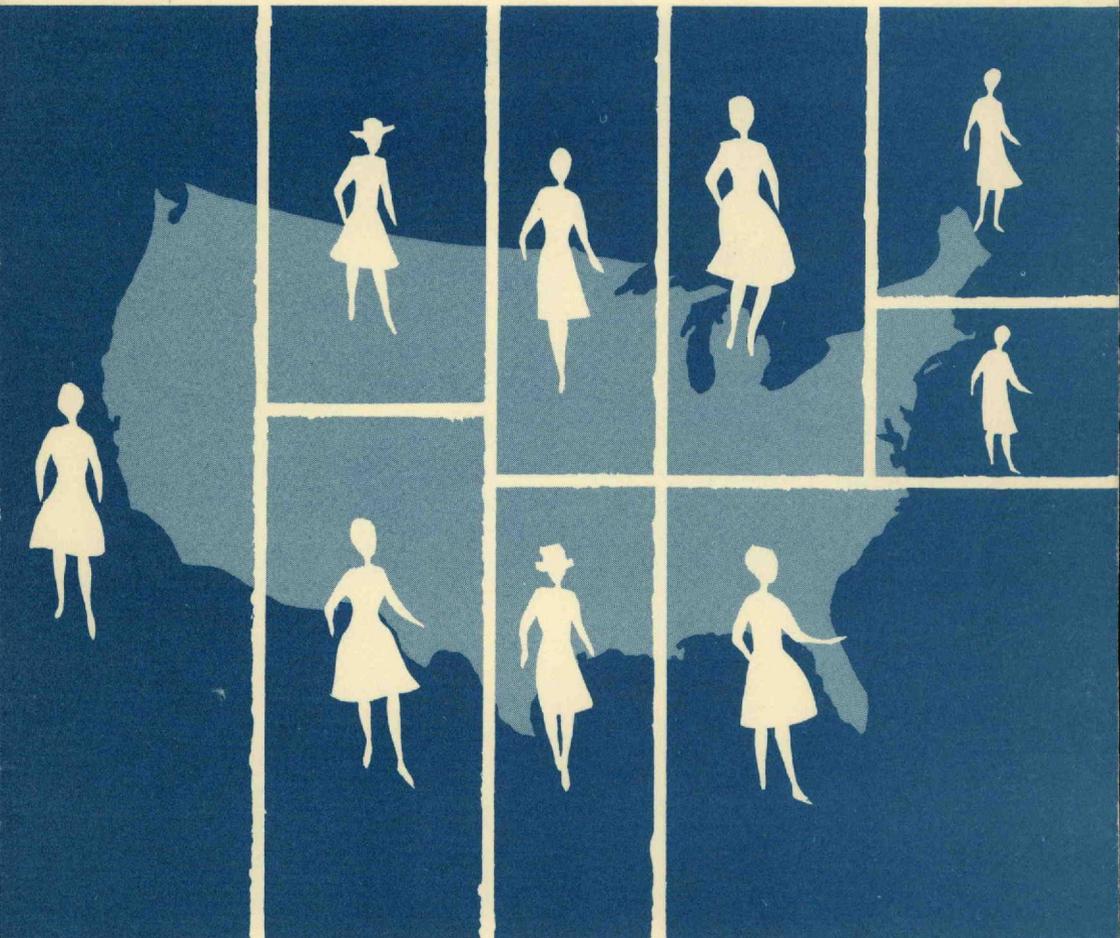


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WOMEN WORKERS

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Women's Bureau Bulletin 284

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

W. Willard Wirtz, *Secretary*

WOMEN'S BUREAU, Mrs. Esther Peterson, *Director* • 1962

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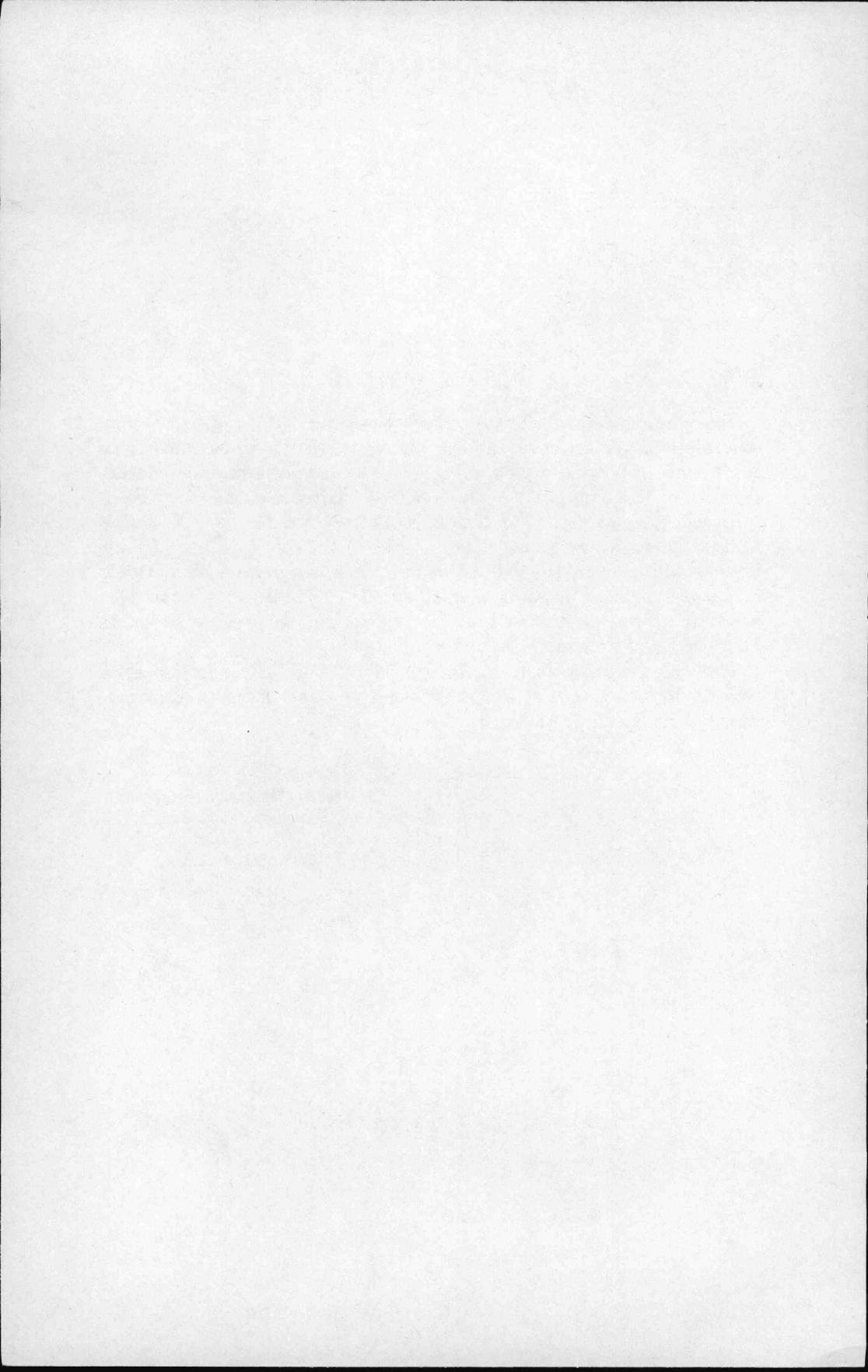
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Foreword

This comparison of women's employment in 1950 and 1960, with special emphasis on geographical differences, is based on Bureau of the Census reports covering the general social and economic characteristics of the population in each State. As more detailed information collected in the 1960 census becomes available, the Women's Bureau plans to issue a series of related bulletins. These future reports will give an analysis of changes in other aspects of women's employment, such as occupational detail; characteristics of women workers by marital status; and the relationship between a woman's education and her employment.

The bulletin was written by Jean A. Wells, Chief, Branch of Special Studies in the Program Planning, Analysis, and Reports Division, directed by Stella P. Manor.

ESTHER PETERSON,
Director, Women's Bureau.



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Highlights on Women Workers, 1950-60

Women in the Labor Force

The number of women workers, continuing a long-term upward trend, rose from 16½ million in 1950 to almost 22½ million in 1960—a gain of 35 percent. This greatly exceeded the 14 percent increase in the number of women of working age in the population—57 million in 1950 compared to 65 million in 1960.

Geographical Shifts in Women's Employment

The rate of growth of women's employment varied considerably by State, and there was a tendency for women workers to be distributed somewhat more evenly among individual States and regions in 1960 than in 1950.

Representation in Population and Labor Force

There was an increasing trend for women to work outside the home; the number of women workers advanced from 29 percent of all women in 1950 to 34 percent in 1960.

Consistent with their growing importance in the labor force, women's representation rose from 27 percent of all workers in 1950 to 32 percent in 1960.

Working Wives

The increase in the number of working wives—from 7.7 million in 1950 to 12.4 million in 1960—accounted for four-fifths of the 5.8-million gain over the decade in the total number of women workers.

The proportion of married women who work jumped from 22 percent in 1950 to 31 percent in 1960.

Working wives constituted over half (55 percent) of all women workers in 1960, as compared with less than half (47 percent) in 1950.

Ages of Women Workers

The importance of older women in the work force has increased; the number of women 45 to 64 years of age advanced from 27 percent of all women workers in 1950 to 35 percent in 1960.

The median age of women workers rose from 36 years in 1950 to 40 years in 1960.

Occupations of Women

Relatively more women had clerical, service, or professional jobs in 1960 than in 1950.

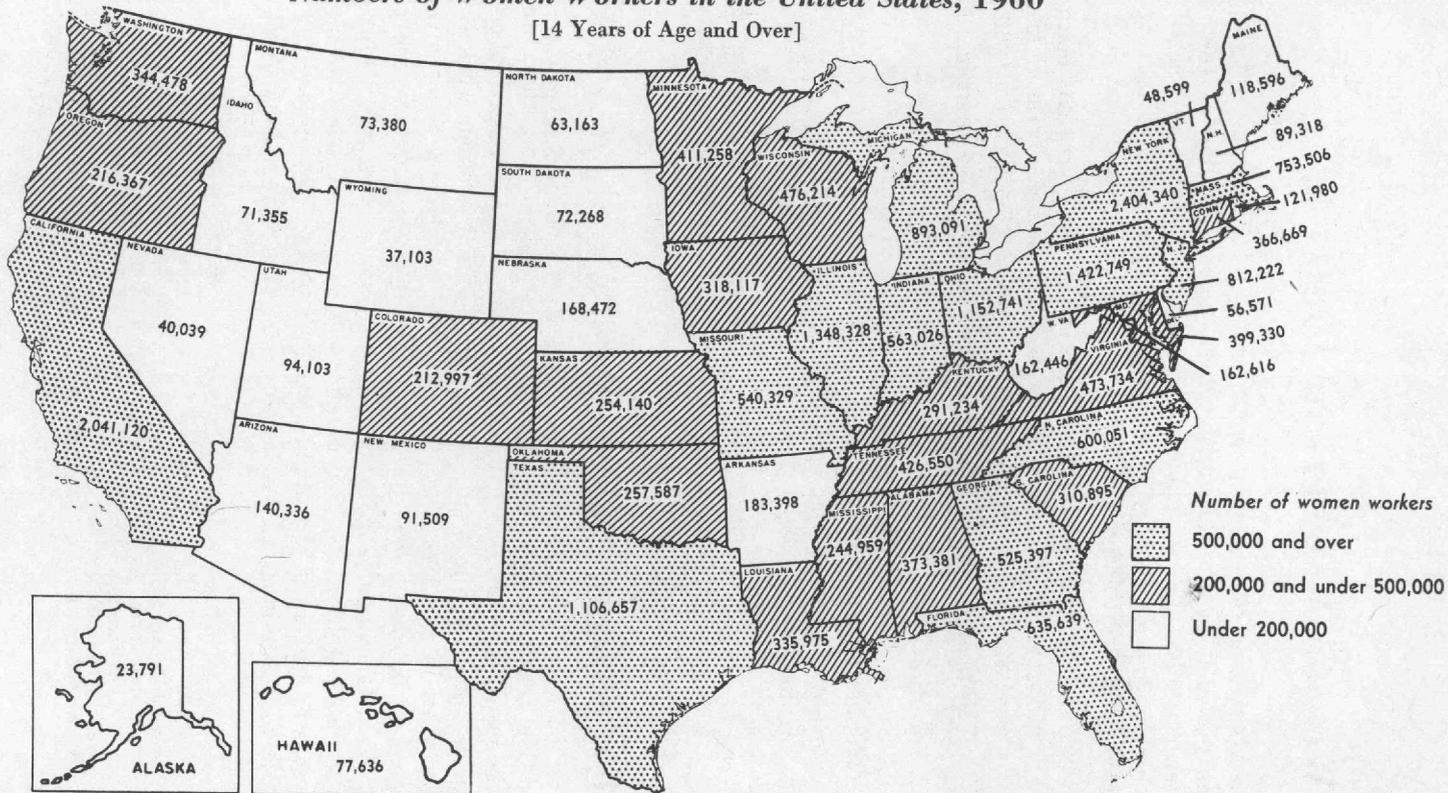
Women operatives declined the most in terms of relative occupational importance, although the total number of them expanded slightly.

Earnings and Income of Women

Women workers (full-time and part-time combined) received median annual earnings of \$2,230 in 1959.

Women's money income from all sources averaged \$1,357 in 1959, as compared with \$1,029 in 1949.

CHART A
Numbers of Women Workers in the United States, 1960
 [14 Years of Age and Over]



Women Workers in 1960

Many aspects of women's employment in the United States in 1960, as recorded by the decennial census, generally followed their long-term trends. These include trends in the number of women workers, the percent they are of all workers, their labor-force participation rates, age and marital characteristics, occupational and industrial distributions, and their income and earnings levels.

At the same time, some shifts occurred between 1950 and 1960 in the geographical distribution of women workers. The changes, which are closely related both to the movement of American industry and to the redistribution of our total population, reveal a tendency toward distribution of women workers somewhat more evenly among individual States and regions than was the case in earlier years. This is corroborated by the fact that percent increases in women's employment have been significantly high in many States that have relatively small numbers of women workers, whereas relative gains were considerably below the national average in many of the States with large employment totals. The result has been a slight shift in the number of women workers away from the Northeast and North Central States into the South and the West.

Employment Increases, 1950 to 1960

The continuing rise in women's employment in the United States is the result both of rapid population growth and of increased labor-force participation by women. Almost 22½ million women workers were recorded in the 1960 decennial census. This figure represents a 35 percent increase over the 16½ million women workers reported in 1950. It compares with only a 14 percent increase—from about 57 to 65 million—in the number of women of working age (14 years and over) in the population. These changes are shown in the following summary of the employment status of women of working age:

	<i>Number of women workers</i>		<i>Percent increase</i>
	<i>1960</i>	<i>1950</i>	
Women 14 years and over.....	64,961,254	57,229,161	14
In labor force.....	22,409,760	16,563,678	35
Civilian labor force.....	22,381,410	16,535,636	35
Armed Forces.....	28,350	28,042	1
Not in labor force.....	42,551,494	40,665,483	5

Social and economic factors behind the remarkable advance in the numbers of women workers have been discussed frequently. They include the need of an expanding economy for additional workers in occupations employing women; the easing of household tasks by use of modern appliances and equipment; the higher standard of living desired by our society; and changes in traditional attitudes toward women's work outside the home.

Geographical Shifts in Women's Employment

Between 1950 and 1960, the numbers of women workers increased in all 50 States, but decreased in the District of Columbia. The seven States with the largest numbers of women workers were the same in 1960 as in 1950. (Table 1.) As a result, women workers continue to be concentrated most heavily in the Middle Atlantic and North Central regions and in California and Texas. (Chart A.) Similarly, the seven States (including Alaska) with the smallest numbers of women workers were the same in 1950 and 1960. Nevertheless, the rate of growth of women's employment in the 1950's varied considerably among the States and generally resulted in some leveling of the geographical distribution of women workers.

A comparison of the percentage distribution of the woman work force by State reveals some small but significant changes from 1950 to 1960. Seven of the 13 States with the highest numbers of women workers had smaller percentages of the total woman work force at the end of the decade. For example, the proportion of the national woman work force dropped from 11.8 to 10.7 percent in New York, from 6.9 to 6.3 percent in Pennsylvania, and from 6.5 to 6.0 percent in Illinois. In contrast, there were no decreases in the proportion in the 13 States with the lowest numbers of women workers, and four of these States had slightly larger percentages of the total woman work force. Other noteworthy 1950-60 increases in women's representation were from 7.6 to 9.1 percent in California, 2.0 to 2.8 percent in Florida, and 4.5 to 4.9 percent in Texas.

An overall view of the leveling process underway in women's employment can be obtained from a comparison of growth rates among the four major regions of the country. The West had the highest percentage gain in the number of women workers and the Northeast, the lowest. The gain in the North Central States was somewhat below the national average and in the South, above average, although

there was considerable variation in growth rates among the large number of States grouped together in the South. The regional increases recorded during the 1950-60 decade in the woman labor force and the woman population follow:

	<i>Percent increase 1950 to 1960</i>	
	<i>Women workers</i>	<i>Women in population</i>
United States	35	14
Northeast	24	8
North Central	31	10
South	40	14
West	59	32

Because the size of the labor force is influenced by the size of the population, it is interesting to note that the population of women 14 years of age and over increased in 47 States. The exceptions were Arkansas (-5 percent), West Virginia (-5 percent), Mississippi (-2 percent), and the District of Columbia (-10 percent). These declines were probably caused by such factors as decreased employment opportunities, increased use of farm machinery, and, in the case of the District of Columbia, movement out of the central city to suburbs in neighboring States.

Further comparison of the rates of growth of women's employment among individual States shows that the four largest States in the northern industrial regions had a lower rate of expansion than the rest of the country. While the total number of women workers in the United States advanced 35 percent between 1950 and 1960, the comparable gain amounted to only 23 percent in New York, 24 percent in Pennsylvania, 26 percent in Illinois, and 33 percent in Ohio. (Chart B.)

These same four large States also had fairly low population increases. (Table 2.) Although the rate of expansion in the population of women of working age was at the national level in Ohio (14 percent), it was far below average in Pennsylvania (4 percent), New York (8 percent), and Illinois (9 percent). Some of these differences stem from migration away from depressed coal areas and also from rural areas.

The largest proportional gains in women's employment during the 1950's occurred in the States with the largest expansion in woman population: Nevada, Arizona, Alaska, and Florida. In these States, increases ranged from 91 to 125 percent in the woman labor force and from 68 to 81 percent in the woman population.

In addition, significantly high increases in both the labor force and population of women took place in two of the largest States: California and Texas. Their increases in women's employment were 63 and 47 percent, respectively.

Percentages of Women Who Work

In addition to population growth, the other major reason for the increasing numbers of working women is the increasing tendency of women to work outside the home. Throughout the United States, the percentage of women workers among all women of working age jumped significantly from 29 percent in 1950 to 34 percent in 1960. (Table 2.)

The relative importance of the two major reasons for the dramatic gain in women's employment may be ascertained generally from an analysis of the numerical increase which took place during the 1950-60 decade. If only 29 percent of the woman population had worked in 1960 as in 1950, there might have been about 18.8 million women workers, or an increase of only 2.3 million. But about 5.8 million more women workers were actually recorded at the end of the decade. Therefore, about two-fifths of the increase can be traced to population growth and about three-fifths to the fact that more women work outside the home.

There were only slight variations among regions in the percentages of women engaged in paid employment in 1960. These variations had narrowed since 1950, as may be seen from the following summary:

	<i>Women workers as percent of all women</i>	
	<i>1960</i>	<i>1950</i>
United States.....	34	29
Northeast.....	36	31
North Central.....	34	28
South.....	34	28
West.....	35	29

Women's rates of labor-force participation differed more noticeably among individual States than among regions, although a majority of the State rates centered between 32 and 36 percent. Variations in rates are related primarily to the availability of jobs as well as to tradition and custom.

The leading area in terms of the percentage of women in the labor force was the District of Columbia (52 percent), the exclusively metropolitan character of which is not comparable to the urban-rural mixture of the States. Next in rank was Nevada (41 percent), followed by Alaska, Hawaii, and New Hampshire (40 percent). Women in all five areas had relatively high labor-force participation in 1950 also. In this connection, it is noteworthy that, during the 1950's, Nevada and Alaska had recorded the highest population gains among all the States, and both had relatively more young

women in their 1960 population. In addition, population expansion is usually accompanied by intensified economic activity and may, thus, attract more women into the labor force.

The States where women had low labor-force participation in 1960 were West Virginia (24 percent), Kentucky (27 percent), and Arkansas (29 percent). There is little doubt that both custom and limited employment opportunities for women shared in producing these low rates. Also, the average age of women was markedly higher in 1960 than in 1950, indicating out-migration of some of the younger women seeking employment. In two of these States (Arkansas and West Virginia), the woman population had declined 5 percent since 1950; in Kentucky, it had increased only 2 percent. Women in these same three States had the lowest labor-force participation rates in 1950.

Women's Importance in Labor Force

Since greater expansion occurred in women's employment (35 percent) than in men's employment (8 percent) during the 1950-60 decade, women's representation in the total labor force also rose. Women workers comprised 32 percent of all workers in 1960, as compared with only 27 percent in 1950. (Table 1.) This gain was, of course, consistent with women's growing importance in the labor force since the early part of the century.

In both 1950 and 1960, women workers in the Northeast comprised a larger proportion of the labor force in their region than was true of women workers elsewhere in the country, as indicated below:

	<i>Women workers as percent of all workers</i>	
	<i>1960</i>	<i>1950</i>
United States.....	32	27
Northeast.....	34	30
North Central.....	31	26
South.....	32	27
West.....	31	27

Women's representation among all workers was highest in the urban District of Columbia (44 percent). Leading the States was New Hampshire (36 percent), followed by Georgia, Massachusetts, and South Carolina (35 percent). Women in these four States and the District of Columbia had higher labor-force participation rates than those of women in most other States. The representation of women among all workers in these five areas had also been considerably above average in 1950, reflecting the continued location in these areas of industries which employ high percentages of women.

States with the lowest percentages of women among all workers were Alaska (24 percent) and North Dakota (27 percent). These were also the two areas with the lowest representation of women in 1950. In Alaska, their consistently low rank in this respect is probably related to the fairly high ratio of men to women and to the relatively high proportion of temporary residents in the population.

Increase in Number of Working Wives

The great influx of married women into the labor market accounted for most of the expansion in women's employment in the 1950's. The number of working wives rose from 7.7 million in 1950 to 12.4 million in 1960. This *numerical* increase of 4.7 million working wives amounted to four-fifths of the total gain of 5.8 million women workers between 1950 and 1960.

During the 10-year period, there was a concurrent rise among married women in the *proportions* who combine homemaking and paid employment—from 22 percent in 1950 to 31 percent in 1960. This higher rate of labor-force participation accounted for about three-fourths of the increase in the number of working wives. The remaining one-fourth stemmed from the larger number of married women in the population.

Generally, higher percentages of married women worked in the South and the West, as shown in the following summary:

	Percent of married women who work	
	1960	1950
United States.....	31	22
Northeast.....	30	21
North Central.....	29	21
South.....	32	22
West.....	32	23

In 1960, the highest participation rate among married women prevailed in the District of Columbia (46 percent)—followed by Hawaii and South Carolina (40 percent). The lowest participation rates were in West Virginia (21 percent), Kentucky (25 percent), and North Dakota (26 percent). (Table 3.) In general, the same factors influence labor-force participation among married women as were previously discussed for all women.

Married women accounted for 55 percent of all women workers in 1960, as compared with 47 percent in 1950. Their percentages were highest in Alaska (68 percent) and Idaho (66 percent). These two States have considerably large portions of rural area, where single women tend to be relatively scarce. On the other hand, the woman labor force included the lowest proportions of working wives in the

District of Columbia (39 percent), followed by Massachusetts and New York (48 percent)—all areas with high percentages of urban population, including relatively more single women.

In all 50 States and the District of Columbia, the number of working wives rose during the 1950-60 decade, and, in each case, the percentage increase for working wives exceeded that for all women workers. In comparison to the 60 percent increase of working wives averaged throughout the Nation, the gains were highest in the West (79 percent) and the South (61 percent) and below average in both the Northeast and North Central States (55 percent). Especially noteworthy gains were recorded in Nevada (147 percent), Arizona (133 percent), Alaska (117 percent), Florida (114 percent), and New Mexico (111 percent). These were the same five States with the largest increases in women workers and also with considerable population expansion.

Rise in Age of Women Workers

Another important characteristic of our expanding woman work force is the rise in the median age of women workers—from 36 years in 1950 to 40 years in 1960. The increased importance of older women in the work force extended throughout the country, as ages of women workers do not differ significantly among the various regions. In 1960, the median age of women workers was highest in the Northeast (41 years), slightly lower in the South (39 years), and the same as the national average in the North Central States and the West (40 years). These relationships have changed since 1950, when the median age of women workers was highest in the West (37 years), and the same as the national average in the other three regions (36 years).

Of the 5.8 million more women workers in 1960 than in 1950, almost three-fifths were 45 to 64 years of age and one-fourth, 35 to 44 years. In addition to these two groups, the oldest and youngest groups of women workers also made spectacular percentage gains during the 10-year period. The following summary lists the numbers of women workers in specific age groups and their percentage increases from 1950 to 1960:

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Number of women workers</i>		<i>Percent increase</i>
	<i>1960</i>	<i>1950</i>	
14-17 years.....	772, 207	475, 965	62
18-24 years.....	3, 594, 104	3, 518, 747	2
25-34 years.....	4, 116, 833	3, 885, 238	6
35-44 years.....	5, 265, 586	3, 805, 586	38
45-64 years.....	7, 742, 212	4, 421, 455	75
65 years and over.....	918, 818	508, 082	81

While the number of women workers who were 45 to 64 years of age increased from 27 percent of the woman work force in 1950 to 35 percent in 1960, the proportion 35 to 44 years of age remained at 23 percent. (Table 4.) In contrast, there were marked decreases in the relative importance of younger age groups. During the 1950-60 decade, the 25 to 34 year olds declined from 23 to 18 percent of all women workers and the 18 to 24 year olds, from 21 to 16 percent. The 14 to 17 year olds, whose numbers rose sharply, constituted 3 percent of all women workers in both 1950 and 1960.

Although age continues to have an important influence on a woman's decision whether or not to work outside the home, striking changes occurred between 1950 and 1960 in the extent to which mature women returned to work when their family responsibilities lessened. During the decade, the labor-force participation rates rose from 29 to 42 percent for women 45 to 64 years of age and from 35 to 43 percent for women 35 to 44 years. As the following figures show, there were much smaller changes in the percentages of workers among women in the remaining age groups:

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Percent of women who work</i>	
	<i>1960</i>	<i>1950</i>
United States.....	34	29
14-17 years.....	14	11
18-24 years.....	45	43
25-34 years.....	35	32
35-44 years.....	43	35
45-64 years.....	42	29
65 years and over.....	10	8

As might be expected, the sharp rise in labor-force participation of women workers aged 45 to 64 years and 35 to 44 years accounted for most of the expansion in their numbers. The small increases in the numbers of women workers 18 to 24 years and 25 to 34 years also stemmed from the greater propensity of women to work, since the population of women in these age groups actually decreased from 1950 to 1960. For the youngest and oldest age groups, the influence of this factor was shared fairly evenly with population growth.

Changes in Women's Occupations and Industries

The changes which took place during the 1950's in the relative importance of specific occupational groups among women workers reflect trends in the overall labor force. Three groups of occupations—clerical, service, and professional—attained added importance. Between 1950 and 1960, their representation among all women workers

rose from 28 to 31 percent, 12 to 14 percent, and 13 to 14 percent, respectively. (Table 5.) In occupational comparisons of women workers within the regions, the most noticeable gains were made by clerical workers in the West, by service workers in the Northeast and North Central States, and by professional workers in the Northeast.

Women operatives experienced the largest decline in occupational importance, dropping from 20 to 16 percent of all women workers. The decrease occurred in all four regions but was deepest in the Northeast and in the North Central States. The percentages of women farmers, managers, salesworkers, and private-household workers were also lower in 1960 than in 1950.

There were increases between 1950 and 1960 in the numbers of women in all major occupational groups except two: farm laborers and other laborers. The largest advances were made by the service, clerical, and professional groups, as shown below:

	<i>Number of women workers</i>		<i>Percent change 1950-60</i>
	<i>1960</i>	<i>1950</i>	
Clerical.....	6, 291, 420	4, 308, 020	+46
Operatives.....	3, 255, 949	3, 026, 231	+8
Service.....	2, 846, 289	1, 920, 269	+48
Professional.....	2, 753, 052	1, 951, 072	+41
Private household.....	1, 664, 763	1, 337, 795	+24
Sales.....	1, 661, 113	1, 334, 121	+25
Managers, officials, proprietors.....	779, 701	680, 108	+15
Craftsmen.....	252, 515	236, 328	+7
Farm laborers.....	242, 885	451, 053	-46
Farmers.....	118, 100	116, 993	+1
Laborers.....	109, 746	127, 557	-14

The number of private-household workers increased, although (as noted previously) their percentage of all women workers dropped between 1950 and 1960.

Regional changes in women's employment in specific occupational groups were generally consistent with total occupational changes in the country—as influenced, of course, by overall changes in women's employment in each region. Exceptional changes included: decreases in the number of women operatives and craftsmen in the Northeast and relatively little change in the size of these groups in the North Central States; relatively smaller expansion in the number of women service workers in the West; and the deepest decline in the number of women farm workers in the South.

Changes in women's occupations reflect, of course, changes in the size of major industry groups. The greatest expansion in women's employment between 1950 and 1960 took place in finance, insurance, and real estate establishments, followed by construction and by the very large group of service industries, especially professional services. Below average gains were recorded in retail trade, wholesale trade, and transportation, as well as in manufacturing, the industry group

with the second largest number of women workers. Only in one industry—agriculture—were there fewer women at the end of the decade than at the beginning, as indicated in the following summary of women's employment by major industry group:

	Number of women workers		Percent change 1950-60
	1960	1950	
Services.....	7, 832, 999	5, 375, 975	+ 46
Manufacturing.....	4, 401, 121	3, 654, 906	+ 20
Retail trade.....	3, 943, 663	3, 177, 048	+ 24
Finance, insurance, real estate.....	1, 230, 347	781, 995	+ 57
Public administration.....	914, 134	658, 411	+ 39
Transportation.....	770, 699	699, 028	+ 10
Wholesale trade.....	450, 902	380, 509	+ 18
Agriculture.....	417, 659	592, 688	- 30
Construction.....	185, 409	122, 220	+ 52

Within each region, industry changes generally followed the expected pattern. Women's employment advanced more in the West than in other regions for each of the major industries except wholesale trade. In three industry groups—manufacturing, transportation, and wholesale trade—increases were exceptionally small in the Northeast and only moderate in the North Central States. Agricultural employment declined much more in the South than elsewhere.

Earnings and Income Levels of Women

Women workers received median earnings of \$2,230 in 1959. (Table 6.) This was less than one-half as much as the \$4,595 averaged by men. Many women received earnings from part-time or part-year jobs, whereas most men had full-time earnings. Women had the highest median earnings in the urbanized District of Columbia (\$3,292), followed by California (\$2,789), Connecticut (\$2,727), and New York (\$2,716). The lowest amounts were in Mississippi (\$1,014) and Arkansas (\$1,292).

Women's money income from all sources in 1959 averaged \$1,357. This was 32 percent more than the \$1,029 median income of women in 1949. Despite this increase, women's income dropped from two-fifths of men's income in 1949 (\$2,434) to one-third of men's income in 1959 (\$4,103). The relative decline may be attributed partly to the expanded percentage of women receiving some income (from 40 percent in 1949 to 54 percent in 1959) and the increased popularity of part-time and intermittent employment among the larger force of women workers.

During the 10-year period, the income level of nonwhite women improved in relation to that of all women. In 1949, nonwhite women with some income averaged \$590—less than three-fifths the amount

for all women receiving income. In 1959, the \$909 average of non-white women was more than two-thirds that of all women.

There was considerable variation in income levels among the various States. The leading area for all women with income in 1959 was the District of Columbia (\$2,457) and the second was New York (\$1,940). For nonwhite women, these two areas were reversed: New York (\$1,960) and the District of Columbia (\$1,894). At the other end of the range, Mississippi reported the lowest income for all women (\$656) as well as for nonwhite women (\$412).

Appendix Tables

TABLE 1.—Number of Women Workers, by State, 1960 and 1950

[14 years of age and over]

State	Number of women workers ¹		Percent increase, 1950 to 1960	As percent of all workers	
	1960	1950		1960	1950
UNITED STATES.....	22, 409, 760	16, 563, 665	35	32	27
New York.....	2, 404, 340	1, 947, 189	23	34	31
California.....	2, 041, 120	1, 254, 644	63	32	28
Pennsylvania.....	1, 422, 749	1, 148, 042	24	32	27
Illinois.....	1, 348, 328	1, 070, 747	26	33	29
Ohio.....	1, 152, 741	863, 824	33	31	27
Texas.....	1, 106, 657	750, 384	47	30	25
Michigan.....	893, 091	642, 614	39	30	25
New Jersey.....	812, 222	617, 584	32	32	29
Massachusetts.....	753, 506	630, 957	19	35	32
Florida.....	635, 639	332, 768	91	34	30
North Carolina.....	600, 051	440, 890	36	34	28
Indiana.....	563, 026	410, 727	37	31	26
Missouri.....	540, 329	436, 149	24	32	28
Georgia.....	525, 397	395, 921	33	35	30
Wisconsin.....	476, 214	369, 323	29	31	26
Virginia.....	473, 734	331, 317	43	31	25
Tennessee.....	426, 550	310, 674	37	32	26
Minnesota.....	411, 258	313, 700	31	32	26
Maryland.....	399, 330	274, 541	45	32	28
Alabama.....	373, 381	288, 690	29	32	27
Connecticut.....	366, 669	277, 327	32	34	31
Washington.....	344, 478	238, 958	44	31	25
Louisiana.....	335, 975	238, 554	41	31	26
Iowa.....	318, 117	249, 524	27	30	24
South Carolina.....	310, 895	245, 591	27	35	31
Kentucky.....	291, 234	214, 162	36	28	21
Oklahoma.....	257, 587	195, 415	32	30	25
Kansas.....	254, 140	177, 824	43	30	24
Mississippi.....	244, 959	187, 502	31	33	25
Oregon.....	216, 367	162, 205	33	32	26
Colorado.....	212, 997	136, 593	56	31	27
Arkansas.....	183, 398	142, 415	29	30	22
Nebraska.....	168, 472	129, 255	30	30	25
District of Columbia.....	162, 616	167, 555	² 3	44	41
West Virginia.....	162, 446	138, 048	18	28	21
Arizona.....	140, 336	68, 095	106	30	26
Rhode Island.....	121, 980	110, 243	11	34	32
Maine.....	118, 596	94, 881	25	32	27
Utah.....	94, 103	57, 294	64	30	24
New Mexico.....	91, 509	50, 979	80	28	22
New Hampshire.....	89, 318	67, 874	32	36	31
Hawaii.....	77, 636	50, 864	53	29	24
Montana.....	73, 380	50, 911	44	29	22
South Dakota.....	72, 268	53, 897	34	29	21
Idaho.....	71, 355	47, 478	50	28	22
North Dakota.....	63, 163	46, 998	34	27	20
Delaware.....	56, 571	37, 298	52	32	28
Vermont.....	48, 599	39, 937	22	33	27
Nevada.....	40, 039	17, 778	125	31	25
Wyoming.....	37, 103	25, 306	47	29	21
Alaska.....	23, 791	12, 219	95	24	18

¹ Includes members of the Armed Forces.

² A percent decrease.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 2.—Women in the Population, by State, 1960 and 1950

[14 years of age and over]

State	Number of women in the population		Percent increase, 1950 to 1960	Women workers as percent of all women	
	1960	1950		1960	1950
UNITED STATES.....	64,961,254	57,229,151	14	34	29
New York.....	6,506,505	6,033,574	8	37	32
California.....	5,659,129	4,073,341	39	36	31
Pennsylvania.....	4,272,191	4,108,599	4	33	28
Illinois.....	3,723,281	3,418,775	9	36	31
Ohio.....	3,501,639	3,060,868	14	33	27
Texas.....	3,352,809	2,801,565	20	33	27
Michigan.....	2,729,762	2,349,955	16	33	27
New Jersey.....	2,280,684	1,931,114	18	36	32
Massachusetts.....	1,972,462	1,905,814	3	38	33
Florida.....	1,829,192	1,065,169	72	35	31
Indiana.....	1,671,516	1,486,515	12	34	28
Missouri.....	1,621,490	1,556,891	4	33	28
North Carolina.....	1,600,721	1,435,312	12	37	31
Georgia.....	1,397,951	1,247,615	12	38	32
Wisconsin.....	1,396,001	1,279,013	9	34	29
Virginia.....	1,392,549	1,193,627	17	34	28
Tennessee.....	1,306,500	1,209,638	8	33	26
Minnesota.....	1,196,494	1,099,128	9	34	29
Alabama.....	1,157,899	1,093,798	6	32	26
Louisiana.....	1,127,057	968,553	16	30	25
Maryland.....	1,101,782	884,036	25	36	31
Kentucky.....	1,074,244	1,048,459	2	27	20
Washington.....	1,002,319	862,214	16	34	28
Iowa.....	998,595	985,169	1	32	25
Connecticut.....	943,664	797,537	18	39	35
Oklahoma.....	856,366	822,794	4	30	24
South Carolina.....	810,800	733,249	11	38	33
Kansas.....	784,183	720,732	9	32	25
Mississippi.....	746,005	757,568	1	33	25
West Virginia.....	668,074	704,919	5	24	20
Arkansas.....	643,013	675,397	1	29	21
Oregon.....	634,732	561,087	13	34	29
Colorado.....	616,843	490,550	26	35	28
Nebraska.....	508,115	497,059	2	33	26
Arizona.....	436,091	259,511	68	32	26
Maine.....	349,329	342,686	2	34	28
Rhode Island.....	324,077	314,531	3	38	35
District of Columbia.....	313,301	347,872	1	52	48
New Mexico.....	301,779	223,050	35	30	23
Utah.....	290,046	234,486	24	32	24
South Dakota.....	229,673	227,366	1	31	24
Montana.....	224,898	202,470	11	33	25
New Hampshire.....	223,604	207,945	8	40	33
Idaho.....	221,598	198,781	11	32	24
North Dakota.....	208,196	207,649	(²)	30	23
Hawaii.....	194,788	153,511	27	40	33
Delaware.....	158,088	122,763	29	36	30
Vermont.....	141,398	141,356	(²)	34	28
Wyoming.....	109,013	96,526	13	34	26
Nevada.....	96,984	55,791	74	41	32
Alaska.....	60,024	33,223	81	40	37

¹ A percent decrease.

² Less than 1 percent.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 3.—*Married Women Workers, by State, 1960*

[14 years of age and over]

Region and State	Number of married women workers ¹	Percent increase, 1950 to 1960	As percent of all women workers ²	As percent of all married women
UNITED STATES.....	12,365,354	60	55	31
Northeast.....	3,072,338	55	50	30
Connecticut.....	201,396	64	55	34
Maine.....	67,328	47	57	31
Massachusetts.....	362,704	56	48	32
New Hampshire.....	52,001	59	58	38
New Jersey.....	430,880	62	53	30
New York.....	1,156,002	51	48	30
Pennsylvania.....	710,516	59	50	28
Rhode Island.....	64,931	37	53	34
Vermont.....	26,580	52	55	31
North Central.....	3,474,781	55	55	29
Illinois.....	719,644	47	53	31
Indiana.....	329,246	58	58	30
Iowa.....	181,828	51	57	28
Kansas.....	152,206	70	60	29
Michigan.....	498,966	60	56	28
Minnesota.....	216,065	55	53	29
Missouri.....	301,561	47	56	30
Nebraska.....	96,591	57	57	29
North Dakota.....	35,973	71	57	26
Ohio.....	632,206	59	55	28
South Dakota.....	42,423	64	59	28
Wisconsin.....	268,072	52	56	30
South.....	3,798,609	61	58	32
Alabama.....	214,736	48	58	31
Arkansas.....	111,815	51	61	28
Delaware.....	31,791	89	56	32
District of Columbia.....	64,070	2	39	46
Florida.....	369,816	114	58	32
Georgia.....	308,656	51	59	37
Kentucky.....	166,011	66	57	25
Louisiana.....	183,678	66	55	27
Maryland.....	226,778	75	57	33
Mississippi.....	144,241	55	59	33
North Carolina.....	376,148	56	63	39
Oklahoma.....	157,753	49	61	29
South Carolina.....	186,085	43	60	40
Tennessee.....	251,199	60	59	32
Texas.....	647,097	66	58	30
Virginia.....	273,540	72	58	32
West Virginia.....	85,695	39	53	21
West.....	2,019,626	79	58	32
Alaska.....	16,093	117	68	36
Arizona.....	82,779	133	59	29
California.....	1,156,478	81	57	32
Colorado.....	122,986	81	58	31
Hawaii.....	48,669	103	63	40
Idaho.....	46,883	69	66	31
Montana.....	43,403	69	59	29
Nevada.....	24,843	147	62	38
New Mexico.....	54,831	111	60	27
Oregon.....	132,494	45	61	32
Utah.....	56,667	87	60	29
Washington.....	210,145	63	61	32
Wyoming.....	23,355	65	63	31

¹ Refers to those classified as "married woman with husband present."

² Includes members of the Armed Forces.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 4.—Age Distribution of Women Workers, by Region, 1960 and 1950

[14 years of age and over]

Region and year	Number of women workers ¹	Percent of women workers in specified age group						Average years of age (median)	
		Total	14-17 yrs.	18-24 yrs.	25-34 yrs.	35-44 yrs.	45-64 yrs.		65 yrs. and over
UNITED STATES:									
1960.....	22,409,760	100	3	16	18	23	35	4	40.2
1950.....	16,615,073	100	3	21	23	23	27	3	36.1
Northeast:									
1960.....	6,137,979	100	3	16	17	23	37	4	41.2
1950.....	4,941,590	100	2	23	23	22	27	3	36.1
North Central:									
1960.....	6,261,147	100	4	17	17	22	35	5	40.4
1950.....	4,774,305	100	3	22	22	22	27	3	36.2
South:									
1960.....	6,546,420	100	3	16	21	24	32	3	39.2
1950.....	4,712,695	100	3	20	25	25	24	3	35.5
West:									
1960.....	3,464,214	100	4	15	19	25	34	4	40.0
1950.....	2,186,483	100	3	18	24	24	29	3	37.3

¹ Includes members of the Armed Forces.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 5.—Occupational Distribution of Employed Women, by Region, 1960 and 1950

[14 years of age and over]

Occupational group	Women employed in specified occupation					
	Total, United States		North-east	North Central	South	West
	Number	Percent	Percent distribution			
<i>1960</i>						
TOTAL EMPLOYED WOMEN	21,172,301	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Clerical.....	6,291,420	31.5	33.6	32.6	26.5	35.5
Managers, officials, proprietors.....	779,701	3.9	3.4	3.5	4.1	5.2
Operatives.....	3,255,949	16.3	21.8	14.6	15.9	10.5
Private household.....	1,664,763	8.3	5.6	6.3	13.6	6.9
Professional.....	2,753,052	13.8	13.6	13.8	13.2	15.2
Sales.....	1,661,113	8.3	7.7	9.0	8.0	8.7
Service.....	2,846,289	14.2	11.9	16.1	14.3	15.0
Other ¹	723,246	3.6	2.5	4.2	4.4	3.1
<i>1950</i>						
TOTAL EMPLOYED WOMEN	15,772,899	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Clerical.....	4,308,020	27.8	29.8	29.5	22.5	31.1
Managers, officials, proprietors.....	680,108	4.4	3.7	4.2	4.4	6.4
Operatives.....	3,026,231	19.5	27.1	17.9	17.0	11.4
Private household.....	1,337,795	8.6	6.5	6.0	14.5	6.7
Professional.....	1,951,072	12.6	12.2	12.6	12.0	14.8
Sales.....	1,334,121	8.6	7.5	9.6	8.4	9.6
Service.....	1,920,269	12.4	9.8	13.6	12.7	15.0
Other ¹	931,931	6.0	3.4	6.6	8.7	5.0

¹ Includes craftsmen, farmers, farm managers, farm laborers, and other laborers.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6.—Median Earnings and Income of Women, by State, 1959 and 1949

[14 years of age and over]

Region and State	Median earnings of women, 1959 ¹	Median income of women		Median income of nonwhite women	
		1959	1949	1959	1949
UNITED STATES.....	\$2, 230	\$1, 357	\$1, 029	\$909	\$590
Northeast:					
Connecticut.....	2, 727	1, 893	1, 481	1, 594	1, 112
Maine.....	1, 922	1, 085	826	847	-----
Massachusetts.....	2, 413	1, 667	1, 318	1, 615	1, 104
New Hampshire.....	2, 231	1, 448	981	1, 062	-----
New Jersey.....	2, 650	1, 824	1, 525	1, 593	1, 061
New York.....	2, 716	1, 940	1, 560	1, 960	1, 301
Pennsylvania.....	2, 253	1, 445	1, 203	1, 391	995
Rhode Island.....	2, 226	1, 548	1, 280	1, 149	845
Vermont.....	1, 836	1, 053	762	-----	-----
North Central:					
Illinois.....	2, 652	1, 678	1, 355	1, 662	1, 172
Indiana.....	2, 252	1, 320	1, 034	1, 168	810
Iowa.....	1, 745	1, 080	880	1, 149	698
Kansas.....	1, 839	1, 136	864	966	698
Michigan.....	2, 399	1, 377	1, 161	1, 316	967
Minnesota.....	2, 029	1, 207	956	1, 384	820
Missouri.....	2, 166	1, 226	969	1, 020	758
Nebraska.....	1, 745	1, 153	926	1, 125	803
North Dakota.....	1, 410	931	778	853	422
Ohio.....	2, 352	1, 372	1, 106	1, 242	896
South Dakota.....	1, 396	925	802	647	396
Wisconsin.....	2, 112	1, 234	951	1, 299	817
South:					
Alabama.....	1, 434	870	533	592	380
Arkansas.....	1, 292	764	444	456	342
Delaware.....	2, 203	1, 430	1, 154	1, 061	677
District of Columbia.....	3, 292	2, 457	2, 065	1, 894	1, 396
Florida.....	1, 694	1, 163	805	844	522
Georgia.....	1, 615	979	636	660	389
Kentucky.....	1, 876	982	794	767	488
Louisiana.....	1, 405	948	721	744	512
Maryland.....	2, 363	1, 601	1, 144	1, 126	753
Mississippi.....	1, 014	656	428	412	330
North Carolina.....	1, 807	1, 032	772	517	421
Oklahoma.....	1, 803	1, 019	782	861	580
South Carolina.....	1, 552	915	660	462	363
Tennessee.....	1, 722	994	733	674	470
Texas.....	1, 743	1, 039	759	750	460
Virginia.....	2, 004	1, 232	926	737	530
West Virginia.....	1, 873	960	825	734	539
West:					
Alaska.....	2, 949	1, 724	1, 292	834	425
Arizona.....	2, 109	1, 291	864	797	441
California.....	2, 789	1, 732	1, 158	1, 583	977
Colorado.....	2, 234	1, 351	885	1, 393	852
Hawaii.....	2, 407	1, 773	1, 247	1, 801	1, 168
Idaho.....	1, 515	943	658	809	415
Montana.....	1, 737	1, 069	844	685	409
Nevada.....	2, 587	1, 863	1, 192	1, 469	814
New Mexico.....	1, 949	1, 226	803	901	478
Oregon.....	2, 124	1, 147	831	1, 203	734
Utah.....	1, 865	1, 090	791	1, 068	606
Washington.....	2, 330	1, 311	943	1, 292	876
Wyoming.....	1, 699	1, 118	845	807	469

¹ Earnings data were not collected in the 1950 Census.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.