

T H E W O R K S P R O G R A M

--Works Progress Administration--

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Hopkins Reports 96 percent of WPA Workers Taken From Relief Rolls.

Approximately 96 persons out of every 100 working on Works Progress Administration projects throughout the country have been assigned to jobs from relief rolls, Administrator Harry L. Hopkins announced today.

Figures released by Mr. Hopkins also showed that about 2,150,000 or 80 percent of the 2,700,000 workers reported on Works Progress Administration project payrolls throughout the country in December, 1935, were assigned at unskilled work.

About seven percent of this total were assigned at jobs requiring intermediate skills, eight percent at skilled work, and two percent were placed on professional and technical work. The remainder were placed in supervisory and other positions exempted from the security wage. (See attached Table I)

About 85 percent of workers taken from relief rolls outside of New York City were employed in December at unskilled work whereas only 6 percent of non-relief workers were thus assigned. Over half (53 percent) of the non-relief persons employed were assigned to supervisory and other positions exempted from the security wage scale. The next largest classification in the non-relief group was skilled work which represented 18 percent of the total (See attached Table II).

Outside of New York City only 3.4 percent of all workers employed on the WPA Program were not taken from relief rolls. Of all workers assigned at unskilled work only 9.2 percent did not have relief origins, and about 6 percent of the intermediate workers and 10 percent of the skilled workers fell in the same category. Professional and technical workers not taken from the relief rolls accounted for 22 percent of this occupational class, and of the supervisory and other non-security wage workers, 68 percent did not have relief status. (See attached Table III)

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Table I

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Workers Employed on WPA Projects in Each Wage Class

December, 1935

Wage Class	Number	Percent of Total
Total	2,698,068	100.0
Supervisory	82,177	3.0
Professional & Technical	51,544	1.9
Skilled	207,041	7.7
Intermediate	204,410	7.6
Unskilled	2,152,016	79.8
Unknown	880	<u>a/</u>

a/ Less than .05 percent.

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Table II

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Workers Employed on WPA Projects by Wage Class and Former Relief Status, Exclusive of New York City

December, 1935

Percent

Wage Class	Total	From Relief Rolls	Not from Relief Rolls
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Supervisory	2.6	0.9	52.9
Professional & Technical	1.5	1.2	9.5
Skilled	6.0	5.5	18.2
Intermediate	7.6	7.4	13.3
Unskilled	82.3	85.0	6.0
Unknown	<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	0.1

a/ Less than .05 percent.

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Table III

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Relief and Non-relief Workers on WPA Projects in Each Wage Class,
Exclusive of New York City

December, 1935

Percent

Wage Class	Total	From Relief Rolls	Not from Relief Rolls
Total	100.0	96.6	3.4
Supervisory	100.0	31.9	68.1
Professional & Technical	100.0	78.1	21.9
Skilled	100.0	89.6	10.4
Intermediate	100.0	94.0	6.0
Unskilled	100.0	99.8	0.2
Unknown	100.0	93.8	6.2

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