

# CHANGING ASPECTS OF RURAL RELIEF



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**WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION**

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# **CHANGING ASPECTS OF RURAL RELIEF**

**By**

**A. R. Mangus**

**RESEARCH MONOGRAPH XIV**

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# Letter of Transmittal

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION,  
*Washington, D. C., June 1, 1938.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit a report, *Changing Aspects of Rural Relief*, which describes the characteristics of people receiving relief in rural areas. These at one time numbered over 8,000,000. They were a widely varied group. They included all gradations of employability from totally incompetent to fully employable, all degrees of employment from totally unemployed to those working full time but unable to make an adequate living. They included all ages, and normal families as well as the widowed and orphaned were represented. Their previous employment experience represented the full range of rural occupations, and within the farm group dependence on agriculture varied from the displaced tenant who had moved into the village to the full-time operator who because of drought, flood, or poor land had failed to remain self-supporting. The planning and administration of a program for such a large and diverse group of distressed people is a complex problem and should be based on the type of analysis contained in this volume.

Since this report contains the complete results of the rural relief censuses taken in 1935, it constitutes a comprehensive picture of the situation and should serve as a source of general information on this problem. It is basic to any program for improving the conditions under which the ill-fed, ill-clothed, and ill-housed in the farm and rural-nonfarm populations live.

The study was made in the Division of Social Research under the direction of Howard B. Myers, Director of the Division, and under the general supervision of T. J. Woofter, Jr., Coordinator of Rural Research.

The collection and tabulation of the February data were made under the immediate supervision of T. C. McCormick with the assistance of T. G. Standing and Leland B. Tate. Collection and tabulation of later data and the preliminary analysis were done under the immediate supervision of A. R. Mangus, with the assistance of Wayne F. Daugherty, J. E. Hulett, Jr., and Daniel D. Droba. The report was prepared by A. R. Mangus and edited by Ellen Winston and Rebecca Farnham.

Respectfully submitted.

CORRINGTON GILL,  
*Assistant Administrator.*

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS,  
*Works Progress Administrator.*

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## **Changing Aspects of Rural Relief**

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## INTRODUCTION

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**THE COUNTRY** has suffered from the effects of a prolonged depression following the crash of 1929. No large group was fortunate enough to escape entirely the distress caused by that mighty disruption of economic life. Residents of rural areas were doubly victimized. Agriculture, the major industry of rural America, was already in a depressed state, having never recovered from the postwar collapse in 1921. Rural-nonfarm industries, such as lumbering and mining, had been on the decline for years in many sections of the country, owing to wasteful exploitation of forests and of mineral resources. Hence, the depression of the 1930's served to intensify a situation already serious for large segments of the rural population.

Added to the effects of the depression were the devastating results of drought. Crop destruction from drought and grasshopper plagues, more or less localized in 1932 and 1933, became widespread in 1934 and again in 1936, leaving thousands of farms desiccated and thousands of farmers destitute and dependent on public relief. Those nonfarm elements of the population which provided goods and services for the farmers were deprived of their market and likewise became dependent on public assistance in large numbers.

In October 1933, when a complete enumeration of the relief population was made, rural persons on general relief rolls numbered more than 5,000,000.<sup>1</sup> By the first quarter of 1935 the number of rural persons on relief had risen to a peak estimated at more than 8,500,000, a number equal to about 16 percent of the total rural population in 1930. It is the purpose of this monograph to discuss the unprecedented conditions which forced such huge masses of rural people onto relief rolls, to analyze relief trends and relief turnover, and to provide a summary analysis of the changing characteristics of persons and families which received general public relief during 1935.

The main body of data analyzed was obtained from a sample study made during 1935 and known as the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population.<sup>2</sup> That study was made in February and

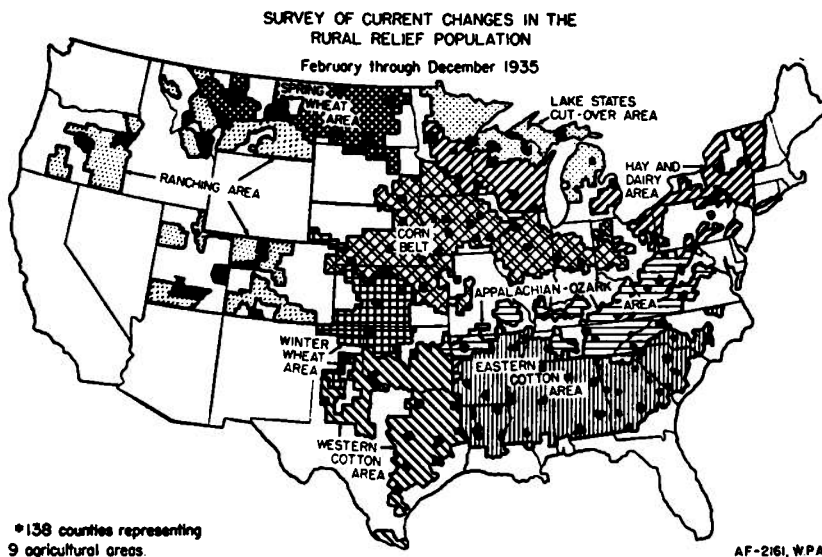
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<sup>1</sup> *Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933*, Report No. 2, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C., 1934, p. 12, table A.

<sup>2</sup> For methodology of this survey see appendix B.

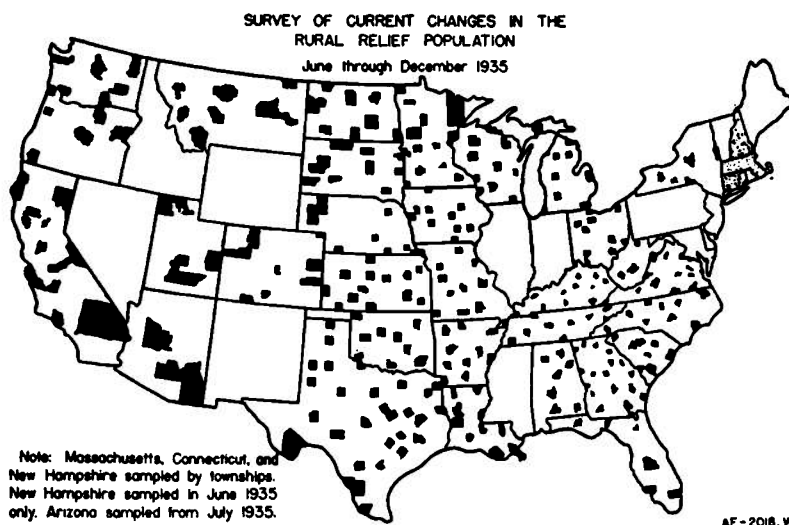
#### XIV • CHANGING ASPECTS OF RURAL RELIEF

FIG. 1 - AREAS REPRESENTED AND COUNTIES SAMPLED \*



succeeding months of 1935 in 138 sample counties representing 9 agricultural areas (fig. 1 and appendix tables 1 and 2). Additional counties and New England townships were added to the sample in June and were retained during subsequent months of 1935 in order to make possible a breakdown of the data by States as well as by areas. The State sample included 300 counties and 83 New England townships selected from 32 States (fig. 2 and appendix tables 5 and 6).<sup>3</sup>

Fig. 2 - STATES REPRESENTED AND COUNTIES SAMPLED



<sup>3</sup> For derived estimates of the rural relief load by areas, States, and residence, see appendix tables 3, 4, 7, and 8.

Data are presented both by areas and by States in this report. The discussion has been confined to the area sample when it was desirable to make comparisons between February and June or between February and October data. When such comparisons were not involved, the larger State sample has frequently been used. Average results given by the two samples are in close agreement on most items, and it is believed that the general results of either sample are applicable within reasonable limits of error to the entire rural relief population of the United States.



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## SUMMARY

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**RURAL RELIEF** needs depend largely upon the interrelationships of agriculture and nonagriculture. Although only about one-half of all rural workers are engaged in agricultural enterprises, the fortunes of a large part of the nonagricultural workers tend to rise and fall with those of the farmer.

The collapse of agriculture in the early 1930's was due not only to the impact of the depression following the crash of 1929 but also to the fact that agriculture had never recovered from the postwar collapse of 1921. From 1929 to 1932 gross farm income dropped from 12 to 5½ billion dollars, returns on investments largely vanished, land values dropped, bankruptcies and tax sales rose, and farmers were unable to pay for hired help. Added to the depression, severe drought and insect infestations began to plague farmers in many sections.

Meanwhile the nonfarming rural groups dependent on the farmer for marketing their goods and services saw their livelihood vanish. Other nonfarming rural workers were victims of depression unemployment, especially in such important rural industries as mining, building, steam railroads, iron and steel, street and road construction, sawmills, and clay, glass, and stone. Depletion of natural resources and technological improvements had reduced employment opportunities in mining and lumbering long before the depression.

### MEASURES FOR MEETING RURAL DISTRESS

The major depression of the early thirties brought to light the weak spots in the rural economy, and soon local and State provisions for the care of the needy proved inadequate to meet the increasing burden of distress. In July 1932 the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was authorized to lend \$300,000,000 in Federal funds to the States and localities for emergency relief purposes. Ten months later the Federal Government entered into the business of direct relief when in May 1933 the Federal Emergency Relief Administration was established under an act of Congress to make grants to the States for relief.

Until late in 1935 when the Federal Works Program, coordinated by the Works Progress Administration, became operative on a large scale, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration carried the bulk

of the assistance burden. In December 1935 final Federal grants for direct relief under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration were determined and responsibility for this type of aid was turned back to the States and localities. Federal funds became available for the aged, for the blind, and for dependent children in February 1936 in States which had enacted legislation approved by the Social Security Board.

Other assistance programs developed by the Federal Government were directed especially at rural distress. Among them were farm loan banks, higher tariffs, cooperative selling agencies, wheat and cotton purchases, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and its successor, the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Program, and the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation, now the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

The rural rehabilitation program established by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in 1934 and transferred to the Resettlement Administration in July 1935 aided farm families by advancing them goods needed for farm production and for subsistence and by furnishing them technical advice on farming. In November 1935 the Resettlement Administration introduced a program of emergency grants for farmers. Beginning in 1933, drought relief in the form of livestock feed, seed for planting, and human subsistence was provided in stricken farm areas by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in cooperation with other Federal agencies.

The discussion of relief trends and relief population in this study is limited largely to general relief as distributed by agencies expending Federal Emergency Relief Administration funds.

#### RURAL RELIEF TRENDS, 1932-1936

While the volume of general public relief rose sharply in urban areas after 1929, the limit of assistance that could be extended by local relief officials was soon reached in rural areas. During the first 9 months of 1932 the estimated number of rural cases receiving assistance under the terms of State poor laws was fairly constant at little over 100,000, amounting to about 1 percent of all rural families in the United States. After Federal funds became available in the last quarter of 1932, rural relief case loads rose rapidly to a million and a quarter cases by March 1933 when one-tenth of all rural families in the United States received relief. The upward trend in volume of case loads continued with minor interruptions over a 2-year period. It reached a peak in January 1935 when nearly 2 million rural families were estimated to be receiving relief, amounting to 16 percent of the total rural families in the United States. During the remainder of 1935 the number declined as the rural rehabilitation program, the Works Program, private industry, and administrative closings reduced the load.



Rural relief loads were particularly heavy in the Appalachian-Ozark and Lake States Cut-Over Areas, both of which are regions of self-sufficing and part-time farms. They were lightest in the relatively prosperous Corn Belt and in the Hay and Dairy Area. The 1934 drought was reflected in the high relief rates of the Wheat, Ranching, and Western Cotton Areas. In the Eastern Cotton Area relief loads were heaviest in the early period of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration program and declined steadily through 1934 and 1935.

A majority of the general relief cases in rural areas received work relief until the latter part of 1935 when the Works Program began to furnish emergency employment and the emergency work program of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration began to be liquidated. At least two-fifths, however, received only direct relief grants throughout the period.

Average amounts of relief granted per month in rural areas varied from \$10 to \$18 during the years 1934-1936. The high point was reached in January 1935, largely because of the development of the emergency work relief program, which paid higher grants than direct relief, and after drought had caused a concentration of relief in areas where payments were relatively high.

Cases were constantly coming on and going off rural relief rolls as a result of changing economic conditions and administrative policies. The peak load of almost 2 million families and single persons on rural relief rolls in January 1935 represented only a major fraction of all rural families which received relief during the depression. About half of the rural families on relief in February 1935 had left the rolls by June, but more than a third of their number had been replaced either by other families seeking reinstatement or by families newly applying for assistance. Similarly, about half of the cases on relief in June had left the rolls by the end of October, but about half of these had been replaced by other families. Even in the last 2 months of the year, when the Works Program was getting well under way and was removing substantial numbers from general relief, cases continued to come onto general relief rolls in considerable numbers in some regions.

The moving on and off general relief rolls was due to a variety of economic factors. About three-fourths of the cases on relief in rural areas in February and June 1935 and of those which came on relief in the period July through December 1935 were accepted on relief rolls because of recent loss of employment, loss or depletion of savings or other resources that had maintained the family since it lost its usual source of income, crop failure, loss of livestock, and, in the later months, reduced earnings from employment. During the last 6 months of the year administrative rulings, presumably reinstating cases which had previously been closed for reinvestigation or other purposes, accounted for a significant proportion of the openings.

When cases left relief it was also usually because of economic conditions. Of the cases closed in the spring months, nearly three-fifths left relief because of increased opportunities in private employment, crops marketed, and advances from landlords. In the summer and fall months over one-fourth of the closings of general relief cases were due to receipt of Works Program wages or Civilian Conservation Corps allotments, or to assistance from the Resettlement Administration or local agencies. Aside from these cases the majority of the relief closings in the latter period were accounted for by such factors as employment obtained, increased earnings, and crops marketed.

Although private industry absorbed many workers from relief, particularly the skilled and semiskilled, during the last part of 1935, the total net effect of private industry on relief rolls was not striking. For every 100 cases closed from June to October because a member secured a private job or obtained increased earnings in private employment, 76 were opened because of loss of such jobs or reduction in earnings. In October, in fact, the number of cases that left private industry to go on relief exceeded the number removed from relief because of opportunities in private industry.

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE 1935 RURAL RELIEF POPULATION

The characteristics of the rural relief population are important in relation both to the problem of restoring households to self-support and to the problem of financing public assistance.

The average household receiving relief in rural areas in 1935 included about four persons. The size of the average rural relief case decreased slightly during the year as the larger households, especially in the open country, left relief to become rural rehabilitation clients or to take private employment.

About 1 out of every 10 cases consisted of only 1 person. These one-person cases tended to concentrate in villages. They were particularly numerous in the Lake States Cut-Over Area where many single men had been left stranded by the decline of the lumber industry. On the other hand, nearly 3 out of every 10 cases included 6 persons or more. This was a somewhat higher proportion of large households than was found in the total rural population of 1930.

More than 8 out of 10 of the households consisted of family groups of husband and wife with or without children or of 1 parent with children. Of the other 2 households out of every 10, 1 was a 1-person case and the other was usually a nonfamily group, that is, a group of 2 or more persons living together without immediate marital or parental-filial ties. The head of this latter type of household was often an aged woman. The tendency of households to "double up" was revealed by the fact that about 10 to 12 percent of the families on relief included persons from outside the immediate family group.

As compared with the general rural population of 1930, there was a great overrepresentation of children in relief households. The large proportion of children was due only in part to the fact that the largest families are most likely to require and to receive relief. It was also due to the fact that much of the relief population came from normally low income groups whose birth rates are characteristically high. Another factor, however, was the younger age of women in the relief group and the greater proportions of married women on relief than in the total population.

Heads of rural relief cases were 43 years of age on the average, but 8 out of every 100 were under 25 and 10 out of every 100 were past 64 years. About 14 out of every 100 household heads were women. The tendency for widows, single women, and those who had been divorced and separated from their husbands to concentrate in villages is reflected in the greater percentage of female heads of households in villages than in the open country.

Compared with the total 1930 rural population, there were fewer single women and more widows in every age group on relief. There were more young women married in the relief group than in the total population. The proportion of older women who were married was smaller in the relief group than in the general population while a larger proportion of women on relief were widows. Also, there were fewer young divorced women on relief than in the total rural population of 1930, but among the older women there were relatively more divorcees on relief than in the general population.

Men showed an almost completely different situation in regard to marital condition. In every age group there were more married men on relief than in the general rural population and fewer single and divorced men. There was little difference in the proportions of widowers on relief and in the total population.

As would be expected, most of the women heads of households were widowed, divorced, or separated, whereas most of the men household heads were married and living with their wives.

Unlike the indigent population found in periods of business prosperity, families on relief in 1935 contained a vast army of able and willing workers who were without remunerative employment. About 30 percent of all persons on relief in rural areas were workers. Hence, for each worker there were more than two dependents, including children, the aged, homemakers, students, invalids, cripples, mental defectives, and others not working or seeking work.

The cases without workers, amounting to 13 percent of all rural relief households in June 1935, rarely included more than three persons. Many of them consisted merely of aged individuals; others were couples without children or broken families usually of the mother-and-children type. The proportion of unemployable cases increased

throughout the year as the rural rehabilitation program, the Works Program, and private employment began to remove employable cases from relief rolls.

Of the workers on relief 27 percent were past 44 and 31 percent were youth less than 25 years of age. Household heads, who accounted for two-thirds of all workers, were 40 years of age on the average, whereas other workers were 22 years of age. More than one-tenth of the household heads who were workers were women, and more than two-fifths of all other workers were women. The latter groups included many housewives as well as young girls recently out of school. Women workers were older on the average than were men.

Most of the household heads who were workers had had employment experience. Of the workers other than heads, however, more than one-fourth were without such experience in most cases because of their youth. At least half of all workers on relief in the open country had worked in agriculture. Most village residents reported work experience outside of agriculture, usually in unskilled labor.

About one-half of all rural workers on relief in October 1935 had at least 1 week's employment during the month, usually as farm operators or farm laborers on the home farm. Only 12 percent of the cases had members with private wage employment during the month. Earnings were so small, averaging \$5 a week, that the families required supplementary relief.

The average unemployed head of a relief household had been without any nonrelief job for nearly a year, but had stayed off relief for from 4 to 5 months after losing his job. Farm laborers managed to stay off relief rolls for only 3 months on the average after losing their last farm labor jobs, whereas farm owners remained off relief rolls for 16 months after losing their farms. Professional workers remained off relief rolls for 1 year on the average after losing the last job in their profession, but domestic servants maintained themselves for only 3 months without relief.

The rural relief population represents an educationally underprivileged group, suffering under the double disadvantage of living in rural areas and being economically dependent. Fewer educational opportunities are open to rural than to urban children, and fewer opportunities are open to rural children in relief families than to children in the higher economic groups in rural areas.

Of the heads of rural relief cases nearly one-tenth were without any formal schooling, and nearly one-fourth had had no schooling or had completed less than four grades. The median number of school grades completed by household heads was slightly over six.

Improvement of rural educational opportunities in recent years was reflected in the fact that educational achievement was greater for the younger than for the older persons on relief. Each successive age

group past 20 years had had less formal schooling than the preceding age group. In no age group, however, had children of relief families made normal school progress.

Children of rural relief clients attended school with about the same frequency as other children. Above the compulsory age limits, however, school attendance rates were much lower for rural youth in the relief population than in the general population.

Although the rural population is considered by some a stable and isolated group, students of rural life are aware of a constant flow of people from farms to cities and towns and from cities and towns to farms in addition to movements of families between farms and between villages and towns.

Large numbers of migrants appeared on the general relief rolls in rural areas in 1935. More than one-fourth of all heads of relief cases in the counties surveyed had moved to those counties since 1925. Only a little more than one-third were lifelong residents of the survey counties.

Migration of persons whose households were receiving relief in the open country in June 1935 was to some extent stimulated by the depression. This is indicated by the fact that those who arrived during the 4 years following the onset of the depression slightly outnumbered those who moved in during the preceding 4 years. Drought was probably responsible for much of the recent movement, as indicated by the numerous migrants from other States who appeared on relief rolls in the West.

Those heads of relief cases that moved after 1925 to the counties where they were receiving relief in June 1935 were more likely to be workers than were the older residents but were also more frequently unemployed than were older residents. Disproportionately large numbers of farm laborers, white-collar workers, and the higher skilled manual workers appeared among them.



# Part I

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## Backgrounds of Rural Relief

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# Chapter I

## BACKGROUNDS OF RURAL RELIEF

**IN 1930** the total rural population,<sup>1</sup> as defined by the United States Census, included approximately 54 million persons. Of these, 30 million resided on farms while 24 million occupied nonfarm residences.

Studies of the rural relief situation have usually divided the rural population into open country<sup>2</sup> and village<sup>3</sup> groups corresponding roughly to the farm and nonfarm categories used by the census. The relief problem of the open country, usually farm, population has differed from that of the village, usually nonfarm, rural group. This difference is reflected in relief statistics.

**Table 1.**—Incidence of Rural Relief,<sup>1</sup> February, June, and October 1935, by Residence  
[138 counties]

Residence	February	June	October
Total rural.....	15.2	10.5	7.9
Open country.....	15.1	9.5	7.0
Village.....	15.2	12.6	9.7

<sup>1</sup> Percentage ratio of cases on general relief to all families in 1930.

In February 1935 the open country population was receiving general relief in about the same proportion as was the village population. In both residence classes the number of relief cases was equal to 15 percent of all families found in those residence classes in 1930 (table 1 and fig. 3). By June 1935, however, the relief intensity rate was 1.3 times greater in villages than in the open country and by October it was 1.4 times greater in villages. These differences were due in part to the expansion of the rural rehabilitation program, which had been developed to meet the special relief problem presented by the farm

<sup>1</sup> Persons living outside cities or other incorporated places having 2,500 inhabitants or more.

<sup>2</sup> Territory outside centers of 50 or more population.

<sup>3</sup> Center of 50 to 2,500 population.

#### 4 • CHANGING ASPECTS OF RURAL RELIEF

group and which removed many farm families from general relief rolls in the spring of 1935. Other factors, such as greater opportunities for seasonal employment in the open country, also caused differences in the relief intensity rates.

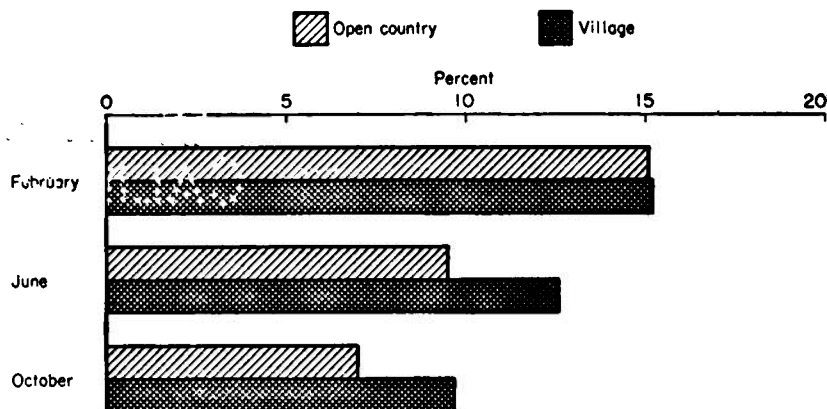


FIG. 3 - INCIDENCE OF RURAL RELIEF,\* BY RESIDENCE  
February, June, and October 1935

\*Percentage ratio of cases on general relief to all families in 1930.

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#### THE RURAL-FARM SITUATION

The economic well-being of the rural population depends to a very large extent upon the condition of agriculture. More than one-half of all gainful workers in rural areas are engaged in farming;<sup>4</sup> and a large segment of the rural-nonfarm workers are persons whose fortunes rise and fall with those of the farmer. They sell the farmer the commodities used by him for maintaining his family and for producing his crops and livestock; they construct his buildings and repair his tools, build and maintain his roads, teach his children, and serve him in innumerable other ways when he can afford their services.

#### Predepression Weaknesses in American Agriculture

The collapse of agriculture came as a result of factors which had developed over a long period of years.<sup>5</sup> Rapid industrial expansion

<sup>4</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. III, part 1, table 30, p. 22.*

<sup>5</sup> For a discussion of some of these factors not presented here, such as soil erosion, inadequate size of farms, growth of the tenant system, increasing dependence on a single cash crop, excess birth rate in poor land areas, decline of opportunities for supplementary employment in rural nonagricultural industries, and the progressively unsatisfactory place of the farm laborer, see Asch, Berta and Mangus, A. R., *Farmers on Relief and Rehabilitation*, Research Monograph VIII, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1937, pp. 7-12.

during the 19th century, and consequent development of both foreign and domestic markets for agricultural products, caused the American farm to change from a self-sufficient unit to a business venture in which production for the market more and more took the place of production for home use. By 1929 only 8 percent of all farmers in the United States consumed as much as half of the products of their farms.<sup>6</sup>

During the early years of the present century farmers attained a favorable position in the national economy. Domestic markets increased rapidly. Farm prices rose and with them came increases in land values, giving the farmers substantial unearned increment in total worth. During the pre-World War period agricultural and manufactured products were exchanged on a relatively stable basis.

It was the World War that laid the groundwork for the farmer's undoing. During the war the United States became a major source of the food supply for much of Europe. American farmers needed no urging to produce for the great foreign market, for prices were soaring. Wheat rose from about 80 cents a bushel at the beginning of the World War to more than \$3 soon after its close. Under the stimulus of such prices millions of additional crop acres were brought under cultivation and put to the most profitable use.

High prices brought higher incomes. Higher incomes led to a mad scramble among individual farmers for more land. Land values skyrocketed to unheard of peaks. Redoubled efforts were made to produce more on the land already available through the adoption of improved methods. Millions of horses disappeared from farms to be replaced by motor trucks and tractors.<sup>7</sup> As a result of extensive purchasing of abnormally high-priced land and of farm machinery, the farm mortgage debt rose rapidly. For every \$100 in interest on farm mortgages that the farmer was paying in 1914, he was paying \$200 in 1920 and \$237 in 1923.<sup>8</sup> His other fixed charges rose simultaneously. In 1920 the amount of his taxes was more than twice as great as in 1914.

Soon after the close of the war, when the European debt to the United States had reached some 10 billion dollars, this country stopped extending credit and set up tariff barriers to keep out foreign goods. By the fiscal year 1923-24 the total volume of agricultural exports

<sup>6</sup> Where the value of farm products used by the operator's family was 50 percent or more of the total value of all products of the farm, it was classified as "self-sufficing" by the United States Census. In 1929 only 7.9 percent of all farms were self-sufficing. Source: *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Agriculture* Vol. III, table 6.

<sup>7</sup> Cooper, Martin R., "Displacement of Horses and Mules by Tractors," *The Agricultural Situation*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., June 1937, pp. 22-24.

<sup>8</sup> *Agricultural Statistics 1936*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., p. 338.

had fallen to only 72 percent of the 1918-19 level. Barring cotton, it had fallen to 60 percent of the 1918-19 level.<sup>9</sup>

The farmer did not curtail his production accordingly. The total volume of agricultural production actually increased by nearly 9 percent from 1919 to 1923.<sup>10</sup> There could be only one result—deflation of farm prices, income, and farm values. The crash came in 1921. In that year agricultural prices dropped more than 40 percent.<sup>11</sup> The farmer's gross income dropped 34 percent, and the current value of his capital dropped 9 percent.<sup>12</sup>

During the 1920's the farmer's debt burden became more and more unbearable. The value of his fields, his buildings, his machinery, and his livestock did not recover after 1921 but continued to decline. By 1929 the current value of his capital was only 73 percent of the 1920 level.<sup>13</sup> Since the bulk of the farmer's interest charges was fixed at peak prices and peak values, those charges became more and more burdensome.

During this time the food habits of the Nation changed. The consumption of cereals declined nearly 100 pounds per capita between 1909 and 1930, and the number of acres required to feed a person for a year declined more than 15 percent.<sup>14</sup> The rate of population increase slowed down, owing to the falling birth rate and to the blocking of the stream of immigration following the World War. Although the number of animals to be fed actually decreased, efficiency of agricultural production increased, and production per acre and per man rose.<sup>15</sup> Surpluses of agricultural products inevitably piled up.

The relative position of agriculture in the so-called general prosperity of 1929 may be judged by reference to the gross income from agricultural production. The median value per farm of all products sold, traded, or used on the farm was only a little more than \$1,000.<sup>16</sup> Cotton farms, which comprised more than one-fourth of all farms, averaged only \$800 gross income. Self-sufficing and part-time farms, which comprised more than one-eighth of all farms, had less than \$400 gross income. There were 36 counties, concentrated in the southern sections of the country, in which the average income per farm was less than \$400, and there were 405 counties in which it was less than \$600.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 294.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 332.

<sup>11</sup> *The Agricultural Situation*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., October 1, 1936, p. 22.

<sup>12</sup> *Agricultural Statistics 1936*, *op. cit.*, p. 338.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>14</sup> Kolb, J. H. and Brunner, Edmund deS., *A Study of Rural Society*; Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1935, p. 281.

<sup>15</sup> See the series of studies, *Changes in Technology and Labor Requirements in Crop Production*, Works Progress Administration, National Research Project, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>16</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930*, Agriculture Vol. III, table 6.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, county table 6.

Effect of the Depression on Agriculture

The plight of the farmer during the 1920's, while severe, was only a foretaste to what was to come during the early 1930's. The farmer's gross income in 1932 was only 45 percent of the 1929 level.<sup>18</sup> What happened in that 3-year interval is well known. Following the stock market crash in the fall of 1929, many economic indices reached lower levels than ever before recorded. From February 1929 to February 1933 the prices of industrial stocks fell 82 percent. Commodity prices dropped 37 percent, while the income of urban consumers fell 46 percent and factory pay rolls dropped 63 percent. Production of manufactured articles fell 49 percent and construction contracts awarded fell 88 percent.<sup>19</sup>

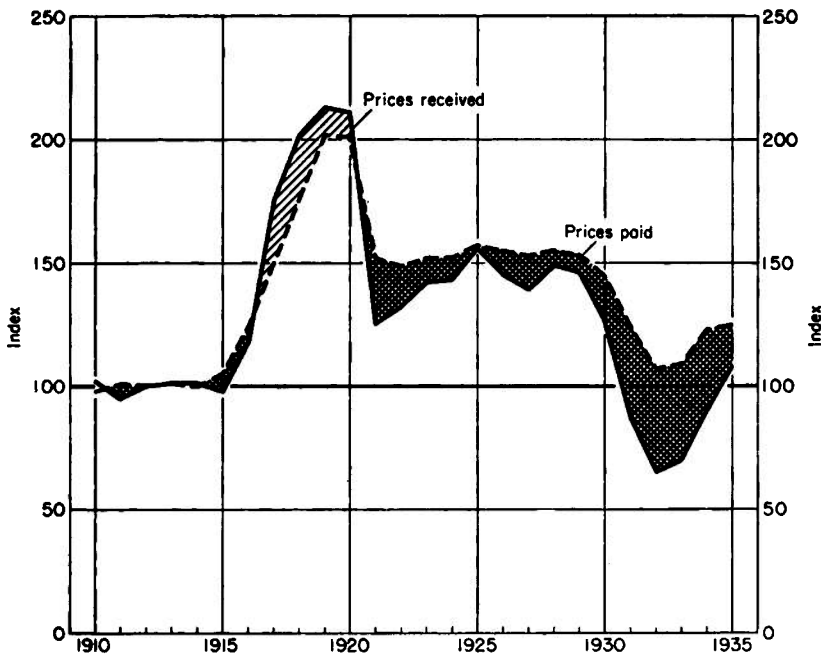


FIG. 4 - PRICES RECEIVED\* AND PRICES PAID\*\* BY FARMERS  
1910 - 1935

\* Average year, August 1909-1914 = 100

\*\* Average year, August 1910-1914 = 100

Source: *The Agricultural Situation*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, October 1936, p. 22.

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<sup>18</sup> *Agricultural Statistics 1936*, op. cit., p. 338.

<sup>19</sup> Ezekiel, Mordecai, and Bean, Louis H., *Economic Bases for the Agricultural Adjustment Act*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., December 1933, p. 4.

Agriculture suffered a terrific deflation. The damage cannot be fully measured by any simple index, but a fair measure is the exchange relationship between farm commodities and manufactured goods. This relationship is shown by computing the ratio between the prices received by farmers for their products and the prices paid by farmers for goods used in production and for family maintenance. Such a ratio provides a measure of the farmer's purchasing power.

In 1932 the farmer was receiving only 65 cents for products that he sold for \$1 before the World War, but he was paying \$1.07 for goods that cost him \$1 before the war (fig. 4). The farmer's purchasing power was only 61 percent of normal if the 5 prewar years are regarded as normal. Hence, for the same amount of clothing, food, or fertilizer for which the grain farmer exchanged 50 bushels of wheat before the war, he was exchanging 82 bushels in 1932.

The results were serious. Gross farm income dropped from 12 billion dollars in 1929 to 5½ billion dollars in 1932.<sup>20</sup> Returns on investments largely disappeared. Land values dropped sharply,<sup>21</sup> while bankruptcies and tax sales rose.<sup>22</sup>

Faced with such conditions, farmers could not keep their hired help. The number of hired workers per 100 farms declined from 114 in 1929 to 90 in 1932, and the monthly wage without board of those laborers who found jobs on farms declined from \$49 per month in 1929 to \$27 per month in 1932.<sup>23</sup>

### THE RURAL-NONFARM SITUATION

Of the 24 million rural-nonfarm residents in 1930 about 18 million, or three-fourths, lived in villages outside metropolitan areas<sup>24</sup> or were scattered throughout the open country.<sup>25</sup> The other fourth lived in the suburbs of large cities.

Some of the villagers lived in small manufacturing centers, whose economic life revolves around canneries, textile mills, sawmills, potteries, brickyards, railroad shops, coal mines, or other decentralized

<sup>20</sup> *Agricultural Statistics 1936*, op. cit., p. 338.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 350.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 351.

<sup>23</sup> *Survey of Current Business* (1936 Supplement), U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C., p. 34; and *Yearbook of Agriculture: 1936*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., p. 1152.

<sup>24</sup> A metropolitan district includes a central city or cities of 50,000 or more population and all adjacent and contiguous civil divisions having a density of 150 inhabitants or more per square mile, and also, as a rule, those civil divisions of less density that are directly contiguous to the central cities, or are entirely or nearly surrounded by minor civil divisions that have the required density. *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930*, Population Vol. II, p. 16.

<sup>25</sup> Woolter, T. J., Jr., "The Natural Increase of the Rural-Nonfarm Population," *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*, Vol. XIII, October 1935, p. 312.

industries. Others were residents of commercial centers, occupied in supplying the wants of the surrounding farm population. Many were retired farmers who had grown too old to farm and had moved to town, leaving the farm operation to a son or a tenant.

Some of the open country dwellers catered to tourists through crossroads filling stations, "hot-dog" stands, or room rental. Others worked as farm laborers, railroad workers, miners, woodsmen, or fishermen. Still others eked out a precarious living from subsistence gardens and day labor on farms or in nearby towns or villages.

The suburban residents were from many standpoints more a part of the adjacent city than of the surrounding country. Some engaged in local industries of various types. Many participated almost exclusively in the social and economic life of the nearby city.

The heterogeneous character of that segment of the rural population not living on farms was reflected in the way rural nonagricultural workers were distributed industrially. In 1930 there were more than 9 million rural nonagricultural workers 10 years of age and over in the United States.<sup>26</sup>

Nearly one-third of these workers were engaged in manufacturing and mechanical industries, especially building, iron and steel, textile, lumber, and food and allied industries. More than one-eighth were engaged in transportation and communication. Coal and metal mining, stone quarrying, gas and oil extraction, forestry, and fishing were other important rural-nonfarm industries. The remaining workers included tradesmen and their employees; teachers, doctors, and other professionals; persons engaged in domestic and personal service; and persons engaged in public service.

#### Long-Time Factors Causing Nonfarm Distress

The relief problem of the rural-nonfarm population is due only in part to depression factors. In many rural counties serious economic conditions exist which are not of an emergency nature—virgin timber stripped to the ground, mineral resources exhausted, technological displacement of human labor, closed factories, and rural slums.

Problems associated with the depletion of natural resources and the displacement of man labor by machines in rural areas are described in a field report from a county in the Lake States Cut-Over Area.<sup>27</sup>

"The major factors responsible for the present relief situation in this county are the curtailing of activity in iron mining and lumbering, combined with technological unemployment in mining. There has never been much agriculture in the county, although many families have lived in the open country on tracts of uncleared land. An-

<sup>26</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. III, part 1, table 30, p. 22.*

<sup>27</sup> County background report on file in the Rural Section of the Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration.

other factor is the inability to collect high taxes from owners of mining and lumbering property, as was formerly done, with which to carry on extensive programs of county road construction and maintenance. It was only through road work that many 'farmers' were able to make a living, and, when that work was no longer available, they had to be given relief \* \* \*.

"\* \* \* the mines that are closed down now or which are working on a part-time basis, even if a condition should call for a large increase in the production of ore, would not absorb a sufficient number of families to eliminate the relief question. Efficient and improved methods of mining have cut the man labor to approximately one-third of what it used to be. Therefore, if the mines were to go again to peak production, there still would be at least a thousand families which had worked in the mines previously which could not obtain employment."

The exhaustion of timber and of fishing grounds is described in another field report from the Lake States Cut-Over Area.<sup>28</sup>

"While the last of the really heavy stands of marketable timber were cut or destroyed by fire 15 years or more ago there remained a considerable quantity of timber too scattered for organized logging operations. These smaller areas have been gradually eliminated by small-scale operators until at the present time the few real woodsmen remaining are very fortunate indeed to secure a month or two of employment during the winter cutting cedar posts, ties, pulpwood, etc.

"As the timber began to disappear a number of woodsmen acquired farm lands and attempted to make a living for their families from the soil. However, the more productive farm lands had been bought up by the earlier settlers and, as it takes a farmer to farm successfully, a considerable number have only succeeded in eking out a most meager existence. \* \* \*

"Commercial fishing has suffered extensively during recent years. Most of the known productive fishing grounds have become exhausted due to scarcity of fish or their migration to other grounds. This has resulted in at least six vessels of companies operating out of one town moving their headquarters to other lake ports and causing the layoff of many men who had been connected with that industry for years and now are unable to secure other employment."

The results of the removal of a factory from a small town in Michigan are described in the following quotation from a field report. The town described was a thriving center of 2,800 in 1920 but, after the loss of its 1 industry, it had only half that number of inhabitants in 1930.<sup>29</sup>

"The depression started in the United States in October 1929, but it started in this county in the month of January 1926. Early on the

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*



25th day of that month, fire broke out in the wood rim plant in the county's second largest town. Due to the buildings being of wooden construction and the contents highly inflammable, the fire quickly enveloped the entire plant and completely destroyed it.

"In order to insure fulfilling requirements of contracts the company immediately began seeking quarters suitable to permit resumption of operations with a minimum delay. None was available in the county but one was found in another part of the State. The more valuable of the employees were moved to the new location; others obtained employment elsewhere with the result that the homes owned or rented by those leaving were abandoned. These homes were vacant for some little time, then gradually began to be occupied by resident and nonresident families to escape paying rent elsewhere.

"Today the town presents a sorry appearance. Naturally the homes have not been maintained by their irresponsible tenants. A goodly portion have reverted to the State for taxes; others are entirely beyond occupancy through neglect. Many have been condemned by town and State officials as fire hazards and demolished.

"As a result of the foregoing, approximately 60 percent of the relief load of this county is in the stranded town and its vicinity."

#### EFFECT OF THE DEPRESSION ON NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Nonagricultural industries employing large numbers of workers in rural areas were hard-hit by the depression. Mining, for instance, which is an important rural industry, was especially depressed, with employment in the different types of mining falling from 33 to 65 percent below the 1929 level.<sup>30</sup> During 1935 miners formed an increasingly larger proportion of rural relief clients (table 52, p. 97).

Building offers another example. The unprecedented contraction of building operations during the depression added hundreds of thousands of workers to the army of unemployed. The plight of those workers was reflected in relief figures. In March 1935 nearly 200,000 skilled and semiskilled workers and foremen from the building and construction industry were on relief rolls in rural areas, their number comprising 20 percent of all experienced nonagricultural workers on rural relief rolls.<sup>31</sup>

Other important rural industries, including steam railroads, street and road construction, iron and steel, sawmills, and clay, glass, and stone, reached much lower levels of employment during the depression and recovered more slowly than all industries combined. Rural workers employed in textiles, in food and allied industries, and in chemical and allied industries were more fortunate, for employment

<sup>30</sup> *Survey of Current Business* (1936 Supplement), *op. cit.*, pp. 33 and 40.

<sup>31</sup> Hauser, Philip M., *Workers on Relief in the United States in March 1935*, Vol. I, A Census of Usual Occupations, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., part III, United States table 3, 1938.

in these industries did not fall so low during the depression and recovery was more rapid.

Some persons who lost their industrial employment during the depression found jobs on street and highway construction and maintenance projects. After 1931, when employment indices were generally declining,<sup>32</sup> employment on such projects increased as a result of public works programs initiated by Federal, State, and local governments as a reemployment measure.

Faced with the plight of the farmer on the one hand and with that of the rural-industrial worker on the other, persons engaged in trade and professional service in rural areas were particularly hard-hit during the depression. With the purchasing power of their clients markedly decreased or entirely dried up, many small business and professional men were able to gain only the barest living or found themselves face to face with bankruptcy. Likewise, the domestic servant group and those engaged in catering to the tourist trade found that the public could no longer afford their services.

#### GOVERNMENTAL MEASURES FOR RURAL RECOVERY

As the major depression of the early thirties brought to light the weak spots in the rural economy, the Federal Government undertook both relief and nonrelief programs designed to aid the rural population.

##### Nonrelief Programs

The Federal Government had made many attempts to aid the farmer prior to 1933. Special farm loan banks had been organized, and higher tariff barriers had been raised against foreign wheat, cattle, flaxseed, and potatoes. New markets were sought for agricultural products, and farmers were aided in establishing cooperative selling agencies. When all these efforts failed to improve the farm situation, a Federal Farm Board was set up for the purpose of raising prices of wheat and cotton by purchasing them with Government funds and withholding them from the market. Even this drastic measure failed, and farm prices continued their downward course.

##### *Agricultural Adjustment Administration*

One of the earliest laws enacted to relieve the burden of depression was the Agricultural Adjustment Act, which aimed to do three things: (1) to adjust agricultural production to current demand and to restore prewar parity prices; (2) to provide a coordinated farm credit program through the Farm Credit Administration; and (3) to increase the amount of money and credit in circulation through controlled inflation.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>32</sup> *Survey of Current Business* (1936 Supplement), *op. cit.*, p. 34.

<sup>33</sup> Horne, Roman L., *The Farm Business*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1935, pp. 42-43.

Under the Agricultural Adjustment Act farmers received in rental and benefit payments 278 million dollars in 1933, 594 million in 1934, and 480 million in 1935.<sup>34</sup> The act was declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in 1935 and was replaced by the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act which, in addition to its soil conservation provisions, provides for the "reestablishment, at as rapid a rate as the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be practicable and in the general public interest, of the ratio between the purchasing power of the net income per person on farms and that of the income per person not on farms that prevailed during the 5-year period August 1909–July 1914, inclusive, as determined from statistics available in the United States Department of Agriculture, and the maintenance of such ratio."

### Relief Programs

Prior to the depression of the 1930's general relief for the destitute was the responsibility of local governmental units or of private charitable agencies. In accordance with this traditional method of extending assistance, neither the States nor the Federal Government were expected to participate financially in the relief program.

As the effects of the depression deepened, local public welfare agencies found themselves unable to cope with a rising tide of destitution. These agencies lacked both funds and personnel adequate to meet the problems confronting them. In 1931, when it became obvious that widespread suffering would result unless the local welfare units were helped, some States began to participate in the supervision and financing of relief. The State of New York was the pioneer in this field. In the fall of 1931 New York created a State relief administration which was authorized to reimburse local units for part of their expenditures for home relief and work relief.<sup>35</sup> Other States initiated similar relief programs in rapid succession. As a result, more needy were cared for, and relief became more adequate than before.

In 1932 the amount of destitution reached new heights, and it became apparent that the combined resources of State and local governments could not meet the increasing problems of administering and financing relief to the needy. With local funds exhausted and with unemployment mounting, demands for Federal aid became insistent. During the last half of 1932 Federal cooperation became effective on a limited scale through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation created by an act of Congress, January 22, 1932, to aid in financing agriculture, commerce, and industry. A later act, passed

<sup>34</sup> *Yearbook of Agriculture: 1936*, op. cit., p. 1149; and *The Agricultural Situation*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., February 1, 1936, table 1, p. 4.

<sup>35</sup> Hodson, William, "Unemployment Relief," *Social Work Year Book, 1937*, Fourth Issue, New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1937, pp. 518–524.

July 21, 1932, added functions to relieve destitution, to broaden the lending powers of the Corporation, and to create employment by providing for, and expediting, a public works program. The Corporation was authorized to make available \$300,000,000 under specified terms, to the several States and Territories to be used in furnishing relief and work relief to needy and distressed people and in relieving the hardships resulting from unemployment. The Corporation was further authorized to make loans to State or local public agencies or to private corporations for projects of a self-liquidating character, including loans for the purpose of providing housing for families of low income and for the reconstruction of slum areas.

*Federal Emergency Relief Administration*

In May 1933 the Federal Emergency Relief Administration was established at a time when about one-sixth of the Nation's population was, or had been, on public relief rolls.<sup>36</sup> The act authorizing the FERA directed the administration to make grants to the several States "to aid in meeting the costs of furnishing relief and work relief and in relieving hardships and suffering caused by the depression."

From the establishment of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration until late in 1935, when the Works Program became operative on a large scale, the bulk of the assistance burden was carried by the general relief program. About 3 billion dollars in Federal funds were spent by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration through June 30, 1936, mostly for general relief.<sup>37</sup> Under that program needy families, rural and urban, were provided with cash or commodities. Relief was extended either as direct grants or as payments for work. For a few months during the winter of 1933-34 the Civil Works Administration shared the relief burden by providing employment for large numbers of both relief and nonrelief workers.

In December 1935 final Federal grants for direct relief were determined and responsibility for this type of aid was turned back to the States and localities. Some of the States attempted to meet the need through State-administered and -financed relief agencies. Other States made no provision for relief and left the entire responsibility to counties and towns. Funds from the Federal Social Security Board to assist the States in providing aid to the aged, to the blind, and to dependent children did not become available until February 1936.

*Federal Surplus Relief Corporation*

Several special assistance programs were developed. Among these was the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation chartered in the fall of

<sup>36</sup> *Monthly Report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, June 1 Through June 30, 1936*, Washington, D. C., p. 169.

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.*, table M, p. 182.

1933 under a board of directors including the Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Federal Emergency Administrator of Public Works, and the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration. The Corporation, a nonprofit organization, was devised to carry out a two-way relief program. It aimed to help agricultural and other producers by purchasing their surpluses and to help destitute families by distributing these commodities to them.<sup>38</sup> The Corporation had, up to the end of November 1935, distributed more than 800,000 tons of foodstuffs, including meat and meat products, dairy products, cereals, and fruit and vegetables. In addition, it had distributed huge quantities of clothing, house furnishings, materials used in work projects, coal, seed, and livestock feed.<sup>39</sup>

After November 1935 the corporation was placed under the administration of the Department of Agriculture. Its new name, Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, reflected an emphasis thereafter on the commodity-purchase aspect of the work with the relief-distribution function becoming of secondary importance.

#### *Rural Rehabilitation Program*

The rural rehabilitation program, originally under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration but later transferred to the Resettlement Administration (July 1, 1935), was designed to assist families to become self-sustaining, largely by advancing them equipment, fertilizer, seed and livestock, and other necessary goods, including subsistence, on a loan basis and by furnishing technical advice concerning farm management.<sup>40</sup>

The program expanded rapidly during the first 6 months of 1935. The number of cases receiving advances during the month increased from 72,000 in January to 205,000 in May and 204,000 in June. During June, the last month of the program under the FERA, the rural rehabilitation program reported 367,000 clients, including those in debt for past loans as well as those receiving advances during the month.<sup>41</sup> The Resettlement Administration liberalized the loan policy and beginning in November 1935, when the Federal Emergency Relief Administration was about to be terminated, inaugurated direct grants for needy farmers.

#### *Drought Relief*

Shortly after the Federal Emergency Relief Administration began to function in 1933, it was reported that drought was devastating

<sup>38</sup> "Report of Federal Surplus Relief Corporation," *Monthly Report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, December 1 to December 31, 1933*, Washington, D. C., p. 39.

<sup>39</sup> *Monthly Report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, November 1 Through November 30, 1935*, Washington, D. C., table 8, pp. 64-69.

<sup>40</sup> See Asch, Berta and Mangus, A. R., *op. cit.*, pp. 15-22.

<sup>41</sup> Unpublished data, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C.

crops in the plains area. With the cooperation of other Federal agencies the Federal Emergency Relief Administration launched a drought relief program in September 1933. The Farm Credit Administration made loans to families for the purchase of livestock feed when first mortgages could be obtained. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration, in addition to administering relief to distressed families, furnished funds for feed and seed for fall planting to those who were unable to obtain loans.

The Agricultural Credit Corporation liberalized its policies in extending loans to drought-stricken families. Road projects were established under the supervision of the Bureau of Public Roads with funds provided by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, State and local governments, and the Public Works Administration. The Federal Surplus Relief Corporation shipped millions of bushels of grain for distribution in drought States.

The need of a drought program became even more urgent in the spring of 1934 when the development of extreme drought left families and livestock without water, crops parching in the fields, and livestock perishing on the ranges. By mid-August of 1934 more than one-half of the land area of the country was designated by the United States Department of Agriculture as an emergency drought area. Between July 3, 1934, and February 1, 1935, 1,400,000 cattle were shipped from drought States to other States for pasturage or slaughter. From September 1933 through June 1935, \$151,000,000 earmarked for drought relief were allocated to the States by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Castle, H. H., "Summary of Drought Relief," *Monthly Report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, November 1 Through November 30, 1935*, Washington, D. C., pp. 11-23.

## **Part II**

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### **Relief Trends and Relief Turnover**

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# Chapter II

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## **RELIEF TRENDS, 1932-1935**

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**PUBLIC RELIEF** on a large scale in rural areas is of recent origin. While the volume of general public relief rose sharply in urban areas after 1929, the limit of assistance that could be extended in rural areas by local poor relief officials was soon reached. Only as Federal funds became available could rural areas begin to meet the need for unemployment relief.

### **VOLUME OF RURAL RELIEF**

During the first 9 months of 1932 the estimated number of rural cases receiving general relief under the terms of the State poor laws rose slightly from 104,000 in January to 127,000 in September. In the latter month the total case load was equal to only 1 percent of all rural families in 1930 (appendix table 9).

When Reconstruction Finance Corporation funds became available during the last quarter of 1932, an enormous increase in rural relief loads occurred as local officials found it possible to accept applications that had been pending for months. The estimated number of cases aided increased from 127,000 in September to 694,000 in December 1932, and the proportion of all rural families on relief increased to 5.5 percent. By March 1933 a million and a quarter rural cases were on the relief rolls, a number equal to 10 percent of all rural families in 1930.

The Federal Emergency Relief Administration was created in May 1933, and a half billion dollars were made available for grants to the States. The relief program was now expanded to include many rural counties that had not previously had any provision for outdoor relief. Six months later, in November 1933, the general rural relief load had reached a million and a third cases, amounting to 11 percent of all rural families, more than twice the number aided a year earlier.

Employment on Civil Works projects removed great numbers of rural families from the general relief rolls in December 1933, but the trend turned upward again in January 1934 and continued in an almost unbroken upward curve throughout the year. Severity of the

winter season, loss of jobs by those who had been employed under the Civil Works Administration, and the extension of relief activities in several States to areas or groups which had not received relief in previous months<sup>1</sup> all contributed to the increase in the early months of 1934.

In April 1934 a reinvestigation of all rural relief cases<sup>2</sup> and the end of the CWA brought a temporary decline in the rural relief load. In the following months, however, the upward trend was resumed as State after State was visited by drought. The rural rehabilitation program, inaugurated in May 1934, was not yet an important factor in reducing general relief rolls. In August 1934 the rural load reached a new peak with nearly 1,800,000 rural cases on relief, a number equal to 14 percent of all rural families in 1930.

During September and October 1934 the total volume of rural relief declined largely because of administrative actions. In Tennessee and Pennsylvania, for example, the emergency work program was greatly curtailed. In Texas reinvestigation of relief cases resulted in the removal from the rolls of many cases declared ineligible for relief. Large numbers of drought relief cases were dropped in Arkansas in October. In Alabama "unemployables" were transferred from the Emergency Relief Administration to local authorities and numbers of "employables" were dropped from the general program pending their absorption by the rural rehabilitation program. In addition to these administrative factors seasonal employment in agriculture,<sup>3</sup> in connection with the harvesting of crops, as usual helped to reduce relief rolls.

Beginning in November 1934 with the end of seasonal employment, with the increased requirements of the winter season, and with the continued exhaustion of personal resources because of prolonged unemployment or drought, rural case loads began to increase again. They reached an all-time peak in January 1935 when nearly 16 percent of all rural families were on relief.<sup>4</sup>

In February 1935 rural relief rolls began a decline which continued throughout the year. So-called "unemployables" were transferred in a number of States from emergency relief rolls to local poor relief. More efficient social work personnel became available in rural areas

<sup>1</sup> *Monthly Report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, April 1 to April 30, 1934*, Washington, D. C., p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> Carothers, Doris, *Chronology of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, May 12, 1933, to December 31, 1935*, Research Monograph VI, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1937, p. 51.

<sup>3</sup> *Monthly Reports of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, October 1 Through October 31, 1934*, pp. 1-4, and *November 1 Through November 30, 1934*, pp. 2-10, Washington, D. C.

<sup>4</sup> *Monthly Reports of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, December 1 Through December 31, 1934*, pp. 4-5, and *January 1 Through January 31, 1935*, pp. 7-8, Washington, D. C.

for checking up on the actual need of cases on relief. Relief activities in certain States were curtailed because of insufficient funds, and in other States cases were transferred from general relief to the expanding rural rehabilitation program. Opportunities for employment in private industry increased, the agricultural price situation improved, and there was abundant rainfall in parts of the drought-stricken areas.<sup>5</sup> The reduction in the general relief rolls was intensified during the last months of 1935 when the new Works Program and the emergency grant program of the Resettlement Administration became effective.<sup>6</sup>

The Works Program was established in 1935 to provide jobs for 3,500,000 families on the general relief rolls. The work of transferring clients from general relief to the new Works Program began in July of that year. By October 136,000 rural cases, exclusive of households with members in Civilian Conservation Corps camps, had received pay for at least one full period of work performed under that program

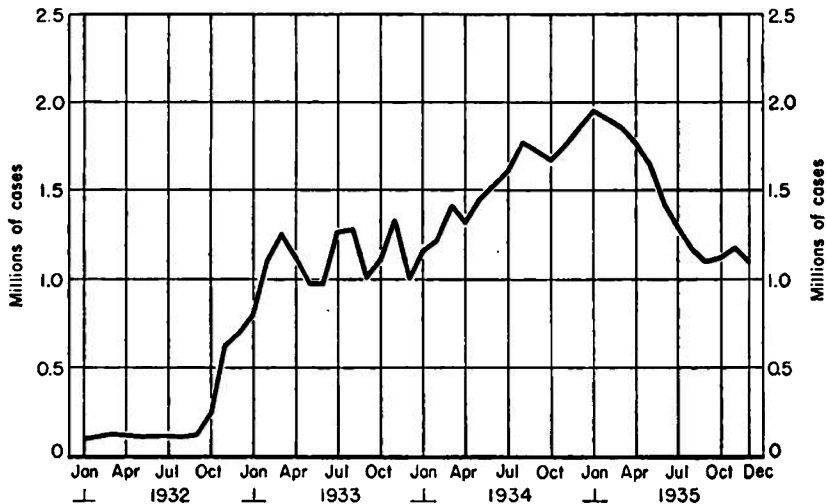


FIG. 5-TREND OF RURAL RELIEF AND WORKS PROGRAM CASES (Estimated)  
January 1932 through December 1935

Note: Works Program cases are included from August 1935.

Sources: Estimates of general relief cases July 1933 through December 1935 from Smith, Mapheus and Mangus, A. R., *Cases Receiving General Relief in Urban and Rural Areas, July 1933-December 1935 (Estimated)*, Research Bulletin Series III, No. 1, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, August 22, 1936; reports to the Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration from 226 rural and town areas in 24 States; and Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration.

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<sup>5</sup> *Monthly Report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, March 1 Through March 31, 1935*, Washington, D. C., pp. 4-6.

<sup>6</sup> For detailed reasons for closing cases see ch. IV.

and had been dropped from general relief rolls. By the end of the year the number of rural relief cases that had been closed because of receipt of Works Program wages had reached approximately 700,000 (appendix table 9).

Although the trend of general relief in rural areas continued downward throughout the year 1935, the estimated net number of cases receiving general relief or Works Program wages increased from 1,101,000 in September to 1,180,000 in November. The number of Works Program cases rose rapidly in December, but general relief cases fell even more rapidly so that the net effect was a decline in the load carried by these two Federal programs (fig. 5). However, Federal assistance other than general relief and Works Program earnings was being extended in rural areas at the end of 1935. In December about 130,000 rural families received Resettlement Administration emergency grants and of these families it is estimated that 81,000 received no other form of assistance and were not, therefore, reported as either Works Program or general relief cases.<sup>7</sup> Other rural families were receiving aid from the Civilian Conservation Corps. Some States were granting special assistance to the aged, to the blind, and to dependent children.

#### RATIO OF RURAL CASES TO ALL GENERAL RELIEF CASES

During the years 1933-1935 rural relief cases comprised from about 20 to 40 percent of all general public relief cases, rural and urban (table 2 and fig. 6). The proportion was smallest prior to Federal participation in aid to the destitute when rural relief needs were largely unmet. At no time did the proportion of rural cases in the total case load quite equal the proportion of rural families in the total population (42 percent in 1930). The maximum proportion reached (40 percent) was during January and February 1934 when the Civil

**Table 2.**—Ratio of Rural Cases to All Cases Receiving General Relief, January 1933 Through December 1935

[Estimated]

Month	1933	1934	1935
January.....	19	40	37
February.....	24	40	36
March.....	25	39	36
April.....	23	30	35
May.....	21	34	34
June.....	23	36	32
July.....	33	37	30
August.....	34	39	28
September.....	30	37	27
October.....	32	36	28
November.....	35	36	28
December.....	33	37	23

Sources: Computed from appendix table 9 and from *Statistical Summary of Emergency Relief Activities, January 1933 Through December 1935*, Division of Research, Statistics, and Records, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C., table 2, p. 2.

<sup>7</sup> Data on file in the Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C.

Works Program was removing relatively more urban than rural cases from the general relief rolls. Dropping of rural clients pending their reinvestigation or their absorption by the rural rehabilitation program and seasonal reductions in case loads caused the rural proportion of the general relief load to decline in the spring of 1934.

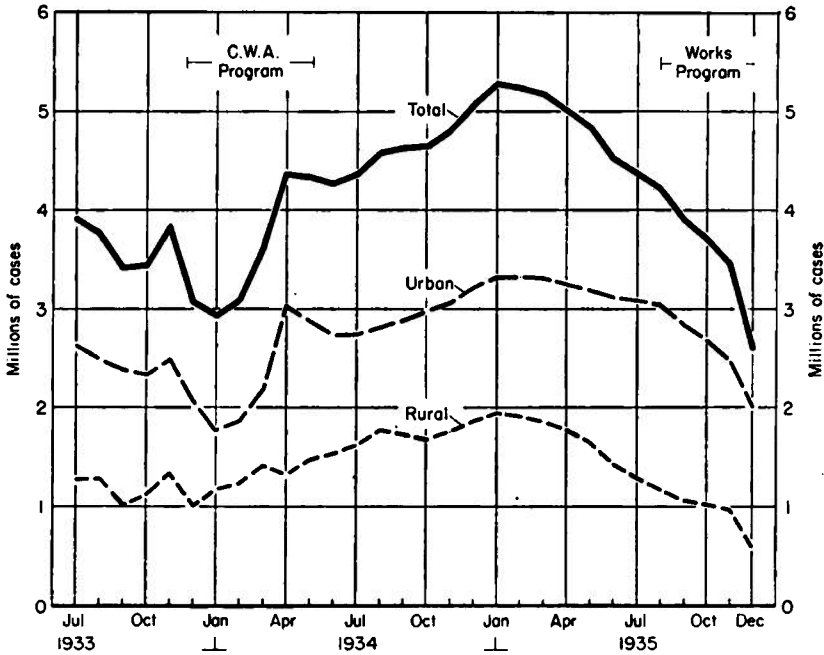


FIG 6-RURAL AND URBAN CASES\* RECEIVING GENERAL RELIEF  
July 1933 through December 1935

\* Urban and rural cases estimated separately and adjusted to total cases reported to Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

Source: Smith, Mapheus and Mangus, A. R., *Cases Receiving General Relief in Urban and Rural Areas, July 1933 - December 1935 (Estimated)*, Research Bulletin Series III, No. 1, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, August 22, 1936.

AF-2431, W. P. A.

Widespread drought in 1934 caused the proportion to rise to 39 percent in August. The rural proportion of general relief cases did not again fall below 35 percent until the spring of 1935 when the rural rehabilitation program became a major factor in removing farm families from the general relief rolls. Thereafter it declined steadily to 23 percent in December 1935 when the final Federal Emergency Relief Administration grants to the States had been determined and when the Resettlement Administration emergency grant program was aiding about 130,000 rural families.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

## AREA DIFFERENCES IN RELIEF INTENSITY

Relief was extended to a much larger part of the rural population in certain sections of the country than in others. Soil conditions, prevailing types of farming, drought, decadent rural industries, administrative differences, or a combination of these factors were responsible for variations in relief intensity.

Of the nine agricultural areas delineated for this study, the two areas of self-sufficing and part-time farms—Appalachian-Ozark and Lake States Cut-Over—showed consistently higher than average relief intensity rates throughout the period studied. In the Appalachian-Ozark Area about one-sixth of all rural families were on relief in October 1933 as compared with less than one-tenth in the country as a whole. In succeeding surveys, October 1934 and February, June, and October 1935, the proportion on relief in this area remained fairly constant at about one-fifth of the total, well above the national average. From one-fifth of the rural population on relief in the Lake States Cut-Over Area in October 1933, the proportion rose to almost one-third in October 1934, to two-fifths in February 1935, and was still over one-fourth in October 1935 when rural relief rolls in general had been sharply reduced as a result of the Works Program, the rural rehabilitation program, and increased private employment (table 3 and fig. 7).

Table 3.—Incidence of Rural Relief, October 1933 Through October 1935, by Area  
[138 counties]

Area	All rural families, 1930 <sup>1</sup>	Rural relief cases per 100 rural families				
		October 1933 <sup>2</sup>	October 1934 <sup>2</sup>	February 1935	June 1935	October 1935
All areas.....	554,870	9.0	13.7	15.2	10.5	7.9
Eastern Cotton.....	136,610	12.4	11.3	8.5	5.7	3.3
Western Cotton.....	66,252	6.1	21.2	24.9	11.0	8.4
Appalachian-Ozark.....	86,654	16.5	18.5	19.8	19.6	19.7
Lake States Cut-Over.....	12,044	18.6	32.1	38.9	31.7	26.3
Corn Belt.....	97,102	2.8	8.7	12.0	7.7	3.2
Hay and Dairy.....	113,985	5.1	8.1	11.5	7.6	5.7
Winter Wheat.....	12,112	12.0	16.4	16.8	10.6	7.0
Spring Wheat.....	14,765	9.8	32.4	33.5	22.9	14.2
Ranching.....	15,346	6.8	13.0	16.5	12.3	7.1

<sup>1</sup> Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. VI.

<sup>2</sup> Computed from data in *Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933*, Report No. 2, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C., 1934, table 9.

<sup>3</sup> Data from Survey of the Rural Relief Situation, October 1934, Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C.

In contrast were the Corn Belt and the Hay and Dairy Area, relatively prosperous farming regions, where the proportions of rural families on relief were always below average at every survey count. At the peak of the rural relief load in February 1935 less than one-eighth of the rural population in these areas was on relief. By October 1935 only 3 percent of the rural families in the Corn Belt and 6 percent in the Hay and Dairy Area were receiving relief.

The effects of the 1934 drought are seen in the relief intensity rates for the Spring Wheat, Winter Wheat, Ranching, and Western Cotton Areas. Only 10 percent of the rural population was on relief in the Spring Wheat Area in October 1933, but by October 1934 the proportion had increased to 32 percent and in February 1935 it was 34 percent. In June and October 1935, because of transfers to the rural rehabilitation program, better farming conditions, and closings caused by changes in administrative policy, the proportions had fallen to 23 and 14 percent, respectively. Similar sharp increases in the fall of 1934 as compared with 1933, rising to a peak in February 1935, and then decreases in the later months of the year were observed in the relief intensity rates of the other three areas especially hard-hit by the 1934 drought.

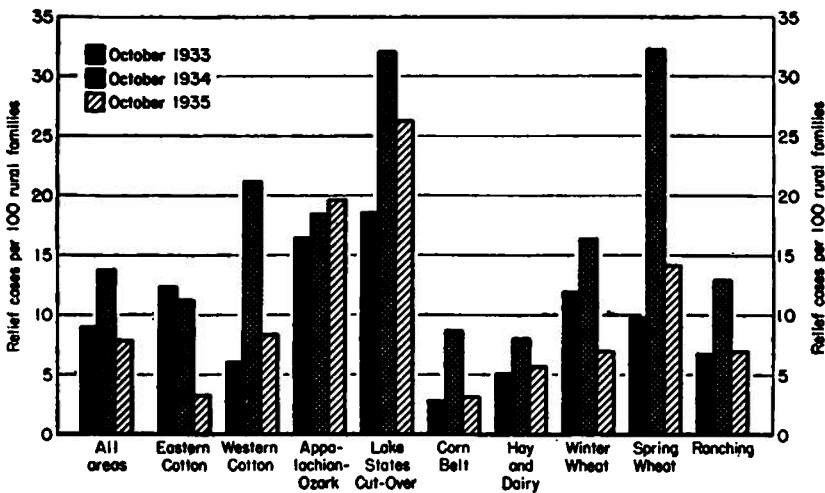


FIG. 7—INCIDENCE OF RURAL RELIEF, BY AREA  
October 1933, 1934, and 1935

Sources: *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. VI; Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933*, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Report No. 2; *Survey of the Rural Relief Situation, October 1934*, Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance, Federal Emergency Relief Administration; and *Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population*, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration.

AF-2433, W. R. A.

The Eastern Cotton Area showed an entirely different trend from any of the other areas studied. In October 1933 more than 12 percent of the rural families were on relief, a proportion exceeded only by the two self-sufficing and part-time farming areas. Succeeding surveys, however, showed a steady decrease in the proportions receiving relief in the area. The rural rehabilitation program of the FERA, first introduced in this area in 1934, partially accounts for the steady removal of families from relief in the Eastern Cotton Area after October 1933.

### TYPES OF RELIEF

Under the general relief program administered by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in cooperation with the States two primary types of assistance were extended—work relief and direct relief. Figures for the general relief program in February 1935 include, however, relief extended in connection with the drought relief activities of the FERA.

The emergency work relief program was inaugurated by the FERA as a part of its general relief activities in the spring of 1934 with the termination of the Civil Works Administration. By October of that year about 58 percent of all rural cases were receiving work relief exclusively or were receiving both work relief and direct relief.<sup>9</sup>

In February 1935 more than one-half of all rural cases were receiving emergency work relief and less than two-fifths were receiving direct relief exclusively. The remainder (11 percent) were receiving drought relief in the form of feed or seed with or without additional benefits for subsistence needs (appendix table 10).

In June 1935 three-fifths of all general relief cases in nine agricultural areas were receiving work relief while the remaining two-fifths were receiving direct relief only. The proportion of work relief cases declined sharply during the last half of 1935 after the Federal Emergency Relief Administration terminated its connection with the work program on July 1 of that year. In October less than one-fourth of all rural cases receiving general assistance were receiving work relief while more than three-fourths were receiving direct relief exclusively (appendix tables 10 and 11).

### AVERAGE RELIEF BENEFIT PER CASE

The average monthly amount of relief per case showed decided fluctuations during 1934 and 1935 but became stabilized in 1936. Monthly statistics of cases aided and obligations incurred for general relief in 385 rural and town areas indicate that the average relief payment per case rose from less than \$11 in January 1934 and less than \$10 in February of that year to more than \$18 in January 1935. By the end of 1935 it had declined to around \$12 or \$13 and it remained at about that level throughout 1936 (table 4 and fig. 8).

The upward and downward swing of average relief payments in rural and town areas during 1934 and 1935 was closely associated with the rise and decline of employment on emergency work relief projects. Beginning early in 1934, when the Civil Works Administration program was being liquidated, the average relief payment per family advanced almost every month—from less than \$10 in February to a peak of approximately \$18 in January 1935. The

<sup>9</sup> Mangus, A. R., *Type and Value of Relief Received by Rural and Town Cases, October 1934*, Research Bulletin F-8, Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C., April 24, 1935.



**Table 4.—Average Monthly General Relief <sup>1</sup> Benefit per Case in Rural and Town Areas,<sup>2</sup> January 1934 Through December 1936**

Month	1934	1935	1936
January.....	\$10.80	\$18.30	\$13.10
February.....	9.50	17.10	13.40
March.....	10.00	17.30	12.90
April.....	12.60	17.20	12.80
May.....	13.80	17.60	12.00
June.....	13.80	16.10	11.80
July.....	14.40	16.50	11.20
August.....	14.90	15.80	11.50
September.....	14.80	13.70	12.10
October.....	15.90	14.90	12.60
November.....	17.10	13.10	12.50
December.....	17.00	12.20	13.10

<sup>1</sup> Does not include veterans' relief.<sup>2</sup> 385 areas in 36 States in 1935 and 1936 and 374 areas in 35 States in 1934.

Source: Survey of Cases Aided and Obligations Incurred for Public and Private Assistance in Rural and Town Sample Areas, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C.

increase was largely due to the development by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration of work relief projects which replaced the CWA projects. The FERA work projects were included as part of the general relief program, whereas the CWA projects were not. Work relief cases generally received larger benefits than did direct relief cases since they required funds for transportation and larger clothing allowances and since local sentiment generally favored larger payments when work was performed.

Another major factor responsible for the rapid rise during 1934 in the general average payment to relief clients in rural areas was a shift in the geographical concentration of case loads from relatively low-payment areas to relatively high-payment areas. In 1933, for example, there was a concentration of relief cases in the Eastern Cotton Area where average payments were lower than in any other section of the country. When drought intensity increased, the regions of concentration shifted to the Wheat Areas, the Corn-Hog States, the western part of the Hay and Dairy Area, the Pacific Coast Region, and to other areas where higher relief standards prevailed and where higher payments were the rule (fig. 9 and appendix tables 12 and 14).

Another factor possibly associated with the increase in average relief payments was the rapid rise in the cost of food during this period.<sup>10</sup> From December 1933 to November 1934 the Bureau of Labor Statistics index of food costs rose 8.3 percent.<sup>11</sup>

A third factor which probably played some part in the upward trend of relief payments was a change of attitude on the part of a large segment of the general population toward relief. Once it began to be generally recognized that a major portion of the relief problem was due to circumstances beyond the control of the individual, there

<sup>10</sup> Study (in preparation) of the average amount of relief extended to cases, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C.<sup>11</sup> *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 42, April 1936, p. 1162.

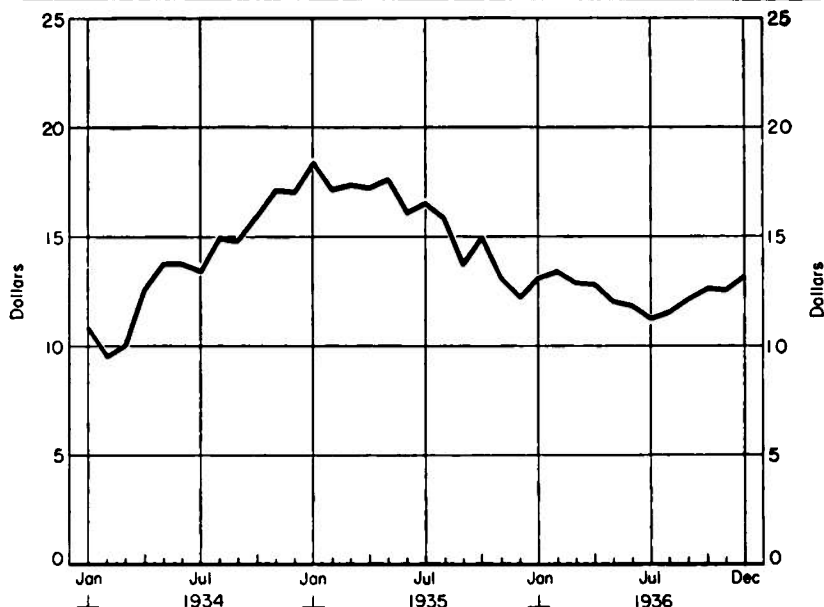


FIG. 8 - AVERAGE MONTHLY GENERAL RELIEF BENEFIT PER CASE  
IN RURAL AND TOWN AREAS

January 1934 through December 1936

Source: Survey of Cases Aided and Obligations Incurred for Public and Private Assistance in Rural and Town Sample Areas, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration.

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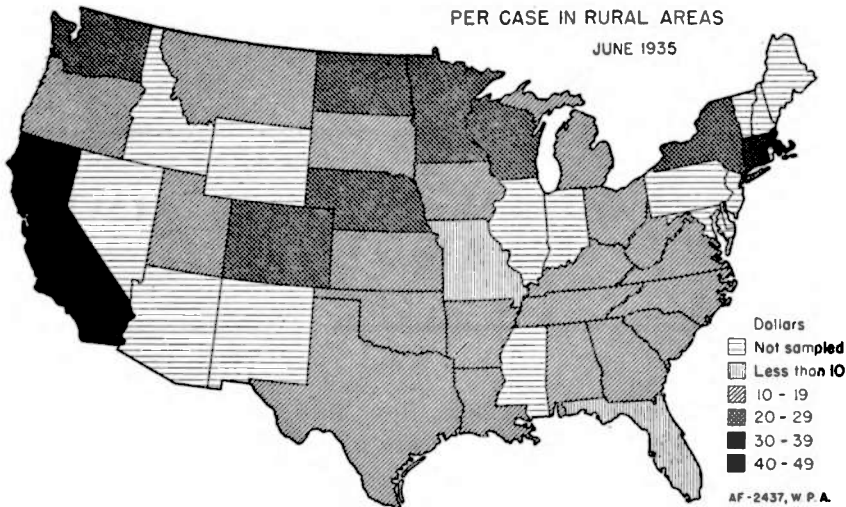
was less opposition to the payment of more nearly adequate benefits.<sup>12</sup>

After January 1935 the general trend in amounts of average relief payments to rural and town families was downward, decreasing from about \$18 in January to about \$12 in December. The decline was most rapid during the last 6 months of the year as employable cases were transferred from relief rolls to the new Works Program and work project earnings again, as in the Civil Works Administration days, ceased to be regarded as general relief. In some States, also, the emergency work relief program was liquidated prior to the establishment of the Works Progress Administration, and all cases were carried on direct relief for a period. Average monthly relief payments were also reduced by the fact that many cases received relief during only a part of the month, pending receipt of payment for a full period of work performed under the new program.

Another factor associated with the downward trend of average relief payments in rural areas was widespread uncertainty beginning

<sup>12</sup> Minor irregularities in the trend from month to month were caused by differences in pay roll periods. In May, August, October, and November of 1934 and in January, May, July, and October of 1935, certain States included five pay roll periods instead of the usual four.

FIG. 9 - AVERAGE MONTHLY GENERAL RELIEF BENEFIT  
PER CASE IN RURAL AREAS  
JUNE 1935



early in 1935 regarding the amount of Federal funds that would be available for general relief purposes. In many localities this uncertainty led to a considerable curtailment of relief payments. Still another factor associated with the decline in average relief grants was the increasing proportion of single resident persons or small families remaining on general relief as the Works Program tended to select larger families which were more likely to include eligible workers.

The average relief payment per case receiving relief under the general relief program was consistently lower in rural than in urban areas. During the years 1934 and 1935 the average amount of relief paid to urban cases ranged from \$9 to \$18 higher than payments to rural cases (table 4 and appendix table 13). This was true in spite of the fact that rural relief households are on the average considerably larger than are urban households.<sup>13</sup>

Higher standards of relief in urban areas partially explain the higher urban payments. These higher standards, in turn, result from higher living costs in cities, from longer experience with public assistance, and possibly from a greater tendency for city unemployed to organize and exert group pressure for higher relief standards.

The higher relief payments in urban communities also result from the fact that less supplementary and part-time relief is administered in cities than in rural areas. A much larger proportion of the rural relief population has current employment and therefore some income in addition to relief payments.

<sup>13</sup> Carmichael, F. L. and Payne, Stanley L., *The 1935 Relief Population in 15 Cities: A Cross-Section*, Research Bulletin Series I, No. 23, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., December 31, 1936, table 1.



## Chapter III

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### RELIEF TURNOVER, MARCH THROUGH OCTOBER 1935

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**T**HE TOTAL incidence of rural relief is only partially reflected in monthly case loads. Economic conditions and opportunities fluctuate rapidly in rural areas. Families that are able to support themselves one month are destitute the next. Other destitute families sell produce, find jobs, or otherwise achieve a self-supporting status which may continue only for a brief period. As a result, general relief in rural areas is characterized by a rapid movement of families on and off the rolls. The number of cases on relief during a year is, therefore, much greater than the number enrolled during any particular month of that year, and the number of recipients over a period of years is in turn greater than the number enrolled during any particular year. The peak month for general relief case loads in rural areas was January 1935 when it is estimated that almost 2 million rural families and single resident persons were on relief rolls. That this number formed only a major fraction of all rural cases aided during the depression is evident from a discussion of relief turnover.

After January 1935 the number of rural households receiving assistance under the general relief program of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in cooperation with the States declined during each succeeding month of the year. The decline was not the result of a gross one-way movement of families off relief but was the net effect of a rapid movement of cases on and off the rolls. Each month a large proportion of the households that left relief was replaced by others seeking reinstatement or initial assistance after exhausting other means of support.

#### MARCH-JUNE TURNOVER

The earliest available information concerning relief turnover in rural areas relates to the spring of 1935. In February of that year a study in nine agricultural areas indicated that 15 percent of all rural households were on relief (table 1, p. 3). In June 1935, 4 months

later, only a little more than one-half of the cases which received relief in February were still on the rolls (table 5). The other half had become self-supporting, had been aided by the rural rehabilitation program, or had found other means of assistance. Had none of those cases returned to the relief rolls and had no new families sought aid, a decline of 48 percent in the total case load would have resulted.

**Table 5.—Separations and Accessions of Rural Relief Cases, March Through June 1935,<sup>1</sup> per 100 Cases Receiving Relief in February, by Area**

[138 counties]

Area	Separations	Accessions			Percent change, February-June
		Total	New	Reopened	
All areas.....	48.1	17.6	7.6	10.0	-30.5
Eastern Cotton.....	55.4	22.4	9.7	12.7	-33.0
White.....	58.4	25.0	11.6	13.4	-33.4
Negro.....	49.6	17.2	5.9	11.3	-32.4
Western Cotton.....	64.7	8.7	3.7	5.0	-56.0
White.....	62.3	10.0	4.4	5.6	-52.3
Negro.....	70.0	5.8	2.0	3.8	-64.2
Appalachian-Ozark.....	28.7	28.0	11.1	16.9	-0.7
Lake States Cut-Over.....	40.4	21.8	9.2	12.6	-18.6
Corn Belt.....	49.9	14.5	7.7	6.8	-35.4
Hay and Dairy.....	47.8	13.7	7.2	6.5	-34.1
Winter Wheat.....	51.4	14.7	3.9	10.8	-36.7
Spring Wheat.....	44.5	12.6	3.3	9.3	-31.9
Ranching.....	47.8	22.3	9.2	13.1	-25.5

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of cases opened or reopened and closed within the period March through June.

More than one-third of the cases which left relief, however, were replaced by other households, about three-fifths of which were seeking reinstatement while the other two-fifths were making initial registration for assistance. The net effect was, therefore, a decline of only 31 percent in the case load from February to June. The total volume of turnover in rural relief cases was even greater than is indicated by these data since cases which were opened or reopened and also closed within the interim are not included.

#### JULY-OCTOBER TURNOVER

During the 4-month interval following June 1935, the relative volume of case turnover was slightly greater than during the previous period. By the end of October almost half of the cases which had received relief in June, in the nine areas studied, had been closed. The proportion of accessions, however, was considerably greater than in the earlier period. For every two cases that left relief, one returned or sought aid as a new case. The total volume of accessions during the period was equal to one-fourth of the June load (table 6).

Associated with the rapid turnover during the summer months was a general effort to conserve funds and the administrative practice in many localities of dropping cases pending reinvestigation of their eligibility for relief. The new Works Program began to remove some

**Table 6.—Separations and Accessions of Rural Relief Cases, July Through October 1935,<sup>1</sup> per 100 Cases Receiving Relief in June, by Area**

[138 counties]

Area	Separa- tions	Accessions			Percent change, June- October
		Total	New	Reopened	
All areas.....	49.4	24.5	7.5	17.0	-24.9
Eastern Cotton.....	68.6	26.4	6.9	19.5	-42.2
White.....	63.1	27.9	8.7	19.2	-35.2
Negro.....	79.3	23.6	3.4	20.2	-55.7
Western Cotton.....	46.1	22.8	3.5	19.3	-23.3
White.....	45.9	25.4	4.1	21.3	-20.5
Negro.....	46.6	15.1	1.9	13.2	-31.5
Appalachian-Ozark.....	28.3	28.8	14.1	14.7	+0.5
Lake States Cut-Over.....	34.9	18.0	2.4	15.6	-16.9
Corn Belt.....	73.9	15.6	3.8	11.8	-58.3
Hay and Dairy.....	52.7	27.5	7.7	19.8	-25.2
Winter Wheat.....	63.3	28.7	2.8	25.9	-34.6
Spring Wheat.....	60.3	22.5	0.9	21.6	-37.8
Ranching.....	62.7	20.5	4.8	15.7	-42.2

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of cases opened or reopened and closed within the period July through October.

families from general relief in July and became an increasingly important factor in succeeding months (table 7). In spite of continued administrative efforts to reduce general relief rolls during the summer of 1935, the net decline of rural cases was less than during the spring months.

**Table 7.—Accessions and Separations of Rural Relief Cases per 100 Cases at Beginning of Month, July Through December 1935**

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

Item	July	August	Septem- ber	October	Novem- ber	Decem- ber
Accessions.....	9.8	8.9	8.9	12.7	13.6	11.3
New.....	3.4	2.2	1.9	2.9	2.6	2.7
Reopened.....	6.4	6.7	7.0	9.8	11.0	8.6
Separations.....	17.2	17.8	18.5	19.2	32.1	76.2
Works Program employment <sup>1</sup> .....	0.1	1.6	3.3	6.8	18.1	38.7
Resettlement loans or grants.....	1.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	3.0
Other.....	15.8	16.0	15.1	12.3	13.8	34.5

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of Civilian Conservation Corps employment.

### TURNOVER IN MAJOR AGRICULTURAL AREAS

From March through June 1935 the separation rate was highest in the Western Cotton Area, where the number of cases closed amounted to 65 percent of the February case load, and in the Eastern Cotton Area, where the number of cases closed was equal to 55 percent of the February load. The rate was lowest in the Appalachian-Ozark Area (29 percent). Not only was the separation rate highest in the Western Cotton Area, but also the accession rate was lowest, the number of new and reopened cases amounting to only 9 percent of all Febru-

ary cases. As a consequence that area experienced a decline of 56 percent in its rural case load, a decline due in large measure to transfers of farmers from general relief to the rural rehabilitation program. While the Eastern Cotton Area had a high separation rate, it also had a high accession rate. As a result, the rate of change in total case load (—33 percent) was only slightly above the average (—31 percent) for all areas combined. In the Appalachian-Ozark Area accessions about balanced separations, leaving the total case load practically unchanged (table 5).

From July through October 1935 the separation rate was highest (74 percent) and the accession rate was lowest (16 percent) in the Corn Belt. Accessions continued to balance separations at 28 per 100 June cases in the Appalachian-Ozark Area. A large excess of separations carried the case load down 42 percent or more in the Eastern Cotton Area, the Corn Belt, and the Ranching Area (table 6).

During November and December 1935 general relief loads in rural areas were greatly reduced as the Works Program continued to absorb relief cases containing eligible workers. Applications for general relief continued, however, owing to the end of seasonal employment in agriculture and other factors. In the Cotton Areas and in the Hay and Dairy Area the volume of November and December accessions was equal to one-third of the October case loads. In the Hay and Dairy Area nearly one-third of the accessions were new cases. In five other areas the number of cases coming on relief in the 2 months was equal to 19 percent or more of the October load. Relatively fewer additions were found in the Appalachian-Ozark Area where the accession rate was only 8 percent (table 8).

**Table 8.—Separations and Accessions of Rural Relief Cases, November and December 1935, per 100 Cases Receiving Relief in October, by Area**

[138 counties]

Area	Separations			Accessions			Percent change, October-December
	Total <sup>1</sup>	Works Program employment	Other	Total	New	Reopened	
All areas.....	85.1	46.1	39.0	20.7	4.1	16.6	—64.4
Eastern Cotton <sup>1</sup> .....	96.4	62.8	33.6	32.5	3.6	28.9	—63.9
Western Cotton <sup>1</sup> .....	133.0	43.3	89.7	34.8	3.7	31.1	—98.2
Appalachian-Ozark.....	67.3	41.7	25.6	7.6	2.1	5.5	—59.7
Lake States Cut-Over.....	83.8	58.6	25.2	18.7	4.1	14.6	—65.1
Corn Belt.....	93.1	50.0	43.1	29.7	5.0	24.7	—63.4
Hay and Dairy.....	80.8	46.8	34.0	31.8	10.0	21.8	—49.0
Winter Wheat.....	102.4	73.5	28.9	18.8	2.9	15.9	—83.6
Spring Wheat.....	81.6	13.2	68.4	19.4	2.8	16.6	—62.2
Ranching.....	72.6	52.0	20.6	25.6	6.0	19.6	—47.0

<sup>1</sup> The high percentages of separations, exceeding 100 percent in the Western Cotton and Winter Wheat Areas, are due to the fact that it was not possible to exclude cases opened or reopened and closed in November and December.

<sup>2</sup> Data not available by color.



## Chapter IV

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### **REASONS FOR OPENING AND CLOSING RELIEF CASES**

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**A** COMPLETE answer to the question of why families find it necessary to accept relief would call for a detailed analysis of the causes of poverty, of unemployment, of drought, and of depression. The present chapter is not concerned with a study of such causes. It is based only on the immediate or proximate reasons given by case workers as to why rural households came on and went off the relief rolls. Such reasons represent only the culminating events that, in the opinion of the case worker, led the family to apply for assistance or to leave the relief rolls.

For each active relief case included in the samples which form the basis of this study, the most important immediate reason for opening was reported from case records. Likewise, for each closed case in the samples collected, the most important immediate reason for closing was reported. Reasons for opening rural relief cases were reported and tabulated for households in the February and June 1935 case loads and for cases admitted to relief during each month July through December of that year. Reasons for closing were reported and tabulated for cases that left relief during the months March through October 1935.

#### **REASONS FOR OPENING**

Cases came on rural relief because of a variety of economic factors, according to agency records. These factors varied in importance from month to month as a result of changes in agricultural conditions, in employment opportunities, and in administrative rulings.

#### **February 1935 Cases**

Three reasons of about equal importance in accounting for cases in the February 1935 relief load were loss of employment, crop failure or loss of livestock, and loss or depletion of assets.

For 24 percent of all cases the change in circumstances which made it necessary for that household to apply for relief was the loss by a

member of the household of a job in private industry<sup>1</sup> (including agricultural, nonagricultural, and regular governmental employment). More than 26 percent of all February cases were full- or part-time farmers who had sought assistance because of crop failure or loss of livestock. Most of these were drought victims although a few had suffered the effects of hail, flood, pests, or other disasters that destroyed their crops. Nearly 27 percent of all February cases were reported as having sought relief as a direct result of loss or serious depletion of such assets as cash reserves, bank deposits, income-providing investments, or other resources.

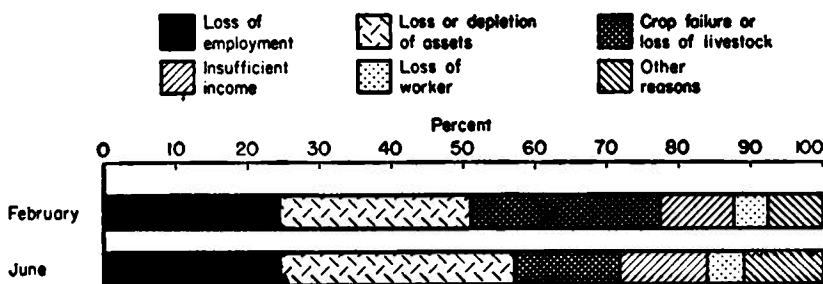


FIG. 10—REASON FOR ACCESSION OF RURAL CASES RECEIVING RELIEF IN FEBRUARY AND JUNE 1935

AP-2439, W. R. A.

For 10 percent of all February cases no more specific immediate reason for seeking relief could be given than that they had insufficient income from nonrelief sources to maintain a minimum family budget. Five percent sought aid after the loss through death, disability, or separation of a breadwinner for the family. Three percent required assistance because of illness in the household, and five percent for such miscellaneous reasons as increased needs because of colder weather, loss of support by relatives or friends, failure of landlord to "furnish" tenant, strikes, and loss because of fire or flood (table 9 and fig. 10).

As a reason for opening February cases, crop failure or loss of livestock was relatively most important in the two Wheat Areas and in the Western Cotton Area, all of which were especially hard-hit by the 1934 drought. Loss or depletion of assets as a reason for accession to relief rolls was cited most frequently in the Appalachian-Ozark Area where drought was least important as a factor. Loss of job was reported relatively most frequently in the Eastern Cotton, Hay and Dairy, and Ranching Areas. Loss of a worker from the household

<sup>1</sup> Loss of employment was not reported as a reason for opening a relief case except in instances where the loss occurred within 4 months prior to the accession. For cases in which the worker lost his job more than 4 months prior to accession to relief, a more immediate reason for opening the case was given.

Table 9.—Reason for Accession of Rural Cases Receiving Relief in February and June 1935, by Area

[138 counties]

Reason for accession	All areas	Eastern Cotton			Western Cotton			Appalachian-Ozark	Lake States Cut-Over	Corn Belt	Hay and Dairy	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Ranching
		Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro							
FEBRUARY														
Number .....	84, 136	11, 558	7, 638	3, 920	16, 523	11, 397	5, 126	17, 133	4, 685	11, 636	13, 082	2, 036	4, 951	2, 532
Percent .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss or depletion of assets.....	26.7	18.0	22.1	9.8	18.9	19.6	17.5	43.7	36.0	25.4	26.6	22.0	12.1	22.4
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	26.3	16.0	17.2	13.7	41.3	40.9	42.3	13.0	18.9	27.7	17.6	50.8	64.9	21.3
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	24.3	31.2	30.5	32.6	24.6	24.4	24.8	14.5	17.6	27.7	32.2	17.7	14.6	38.7
Insufficient income.....	10.3	15.6	13.6	19.5	5.6	5.9	4.9	10.9	12.0	11.1	13.8	6.0	2.4	6.4
Loss of worker.....	4.7	3.3	4.5	11.8	2.1	2.2	1.8	8.5	4.4	0.5	1.4	0.3	0.5	0.8
Illness.....	2.7	6.7	6.0	8.0	1.2	1.5	0.7	3.9	3.6	1.2	2.2	0.6	0.7	1.0
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	5.0	9.2	6.1	4.6	6.3	5.5	8.0	5.5	7.5	6.4	6.2	2.6	4.8	9.4
JUNE														
Number .....	58, 516	7, 732	5, 084	2, 648	7, 268	5, 432	1, 836	17, 016	3, 814	7, 512	8, 626	1, 288	3, 374	1, 886
Percent .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss or depletion of assets.....	32.6	22.1	26.1	14.4	21.2	23.2	15.5	48.6	34.2	30.1	29.1	33.3	14.8	26.7
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	14.6	8.4	8.6	8.0	19.3	19.9	17.4	10.7	8.9	13.2	8.4	22.4	59.4	16.5
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	24.4	27.3	27.3	27.4	28.5	28.9	27.6	14.1	27.2	30.2	35.5	18.0	13.6	34.8
Insufficient income.....	12.2	14.7	11.4	20.9	11.9	11.3	13.5	11.5	10.9	14.3	14.2	12.0	5.0	8.9
Loss of worker.....	5.1	10.1	8.1	14.0	2.7	2.5	3.3	5.5	5.1	1.8	6.6	2.5	4.8	2.9
Illness.....	2.9	4.8	4.5	5.5	1.2	1.1	1.5	3.6	4.5	2.3	2.5	0.6	1.6	1.6
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	8.2	12.6	14.0	9.8	15.2	13.1	21.2	6.0	9.2	8.1	3.7	11.2	0.8	8.6

<sup>1</sup> Within 4 months prior to the accession. For cases in which the worker lost his job more than 4 months prior to accession to relief, a more immediate reason for opening the case was given.

<sup>2</sup> Increased needs, loss of support by relatives or friends, failure of landlord to "furnish" tenant, strikes, and loss because of fire or flood.

was of greatest importance as a reason for accession in the Appalachian-Ozark Area and among Negroes of the Eastern Cotton Area. Illness was most frequently reported from the Eastern Cotton, the Appalachian-Ozark, and the Lake States Cut-Over Areas (table 9).

#### June 1935 Cases

In the June 1935 case load, as compared with the February load, a smaller percentage of the cases had come on relief because of crop failure or loss of livestock and a larger percentage because of loss or depletion of assets and miscellaneous reasons. One-third of the June cases consisted of households that sought relief as a result of loss or depletion of assets following cessation of income. Nearly one-half of all cases in the Appalachian-Ozark Area were on relief for that reason. Only 15 percent of all June cases had sought aid as a result of crop failure or loss of livestock, a marked decline from the 26 percent reported for February. The major reason for that decline was the transfer during the spring of 1935 of drought relief cases from general relief rolls to the care of the rural rehabilitation program then being conducted by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration as a special relief program for farmers. Crop failure or loss of livestock remained the major factor in the Spring Wheat Area where 59 percent of all June cases were on relief for that reason (table 9).

#### Openings July Through December 1935

During the last 6 months of 1935 more than two-fifths (41 percent) of all accessions to relief rolls represented families that sought aid because a member of the household lost employment (table 10 and fig. 11). Many were seasonal workers in agriculture or other industries whose period of employment ended during the summer or fall months. Others were dismissed or laid off for various reasons. Included were some persons working on "own account," mostly farmers who had lost their land, but also storekeepers, blacksmiths, and other persons with small enterprises who were forced to discontinue their businesses and to apply for relief.

Nearly one-eighth (12 percent) of all accessions to general relief rolls from July through December consisted of households with a member currently employed, but whose earnings had been reduced below the amount required to meet minimum needs. Included among these were farmers whose returns were insufficient to maintain their families as well as wage workers in agriculture and other pursuits whose wage rates were reduced or who were placed on part-time employment.

Loss or depletion of assets was reported as the reason which caused 13 percent of the families to apply for relief. Households that lost or

Table 10.—Reason for Accession of Rural Relief Cases, July Through December 1935

[300 counties]

Reason for accession	July- December	July	August	Septem- ber	Octo- ber	Novem- ber	Decem- ber
<b>TOTAL ACCESSIONS</b>							
Number.....	64,040	12,098	10,196	9,274	11,932	12,238	8,302
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	40.8	34.7	43.0	38.4	34.9	45.2	51.0
Decreased earnings.....	12.1	12.2	11.9	13.9	12.0	12.0	10.0
Loss or depletion of assets.....	12.9	12.1	12.5	13.6	13.9	11.9	13.5
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	10.8	11.8	9.4	10.4	12.3	12.8	6.9
Increased needs.....	9.3	11.5	11.5	8.9	7.9	7.6	8.6
Administrative ruling.....	5.7	4.4	6.7	9.7	6.0	4.4	3.6
Loss of worker.....	2.5	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.4	3.9
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	5.9	11.2	2.9	2.8	10.3	3.7	2.5
<b>NEW CASES</b>							
Number.....	15,690	4,166	2,488	1,962	2,704	2,426	1,944
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	40.2	33.3	46.1	40.1	34.0	42.9	52.0
Decreased earnings.....	9.4	8.0	10.4	13.3	7.4	8.9	9.8
Loss or depletion of assets.....	18.6	13.7	21.1	20.4	20.9	21.3	16.7
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	8.0	10.0	5.9	7.5	7.1	9.6	6.7
Increased needs.....	7.8	6.9	9.4	10.4	7.6	6.4	6.8
Administrative ruling.....	1.5	1.0	1.4	2.5	1.6	2.0	0.9
Loss of worker.....	4.2	3.0	3.1	4.6	5.3	5.1	5.7
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	10.3	24.1	2.6	1.2	16.1	3.8	1.4
<b>REOPENED CASES</b>							
Number.....	48,350	7,932	7,708	7,312	9,228	9,812	6,358
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	40.9	35.2	41.9	37.8	35.2	45.7	50.5
Decreased earnings.....	13.0	14.4	12.4	14.1	13.3	12.7	10.1
Loss or depletion of assets.....	11.1	11.2	9.8	11.8	11.8	9.5	12.6
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	11.7	12.8	10.5	11.2	13.9	13.6	7.0
Increased needs.....	9.8	14.0	12.2	8.5	7.8	8.0	9.2
Administrative ruling.....	7.1	6.3	8.4	11.7	7.3	5.0	4.4
Loss of worker.....	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.8	3.3
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	4.4	4.4	3.0	3.2	8.7	3.7	2.9

<sup>1</sup> Within 4 months prior to the accession. For cases in which the worker lost his job more than 4 months prior to accession to relief, a more immediate reason for opening the case was given.

<sup>2</sup> Loss of support by relatives or friends, failure of landlord to "furnish" tenant, loss of Resettlement status, strikes, loss because of flood, etc.

exhausted their cash reserves, bank deposits, income-providing investments, or other assets were included in this category in all instances where such loss could not be directly attributed to crop failure or loss of livestock, to loss of employment, or to withdrawal of support by relatives or friends. Crop failure or loss of livestock accounted for 11 percent of all openings or reopenings.

Of all cases which came on relief during the latter part of 1935, 9 percent requested aid because of increased needs resulting from increase in size of family, illness, death, or other events requiring outlays beyond the family's financial ability. Administrative rulings by relief officials admitting or reinstating clients previously declared ineligible for general assistance accounted for about 6 percent of all openings. Loss of a breadwinner through death, disability, or separation accounted for almost 3 percent. Six percent of all openings were explained by miscellaneous reasons, such as strikes, flood, with-

drawal of support by relatives, landlords, and friends, and loss of Resettlement status.

About one-fourth of all cases opened during the second half of 1935 had not previously received relief from the agencies which accepted them for care. The relative importance of the various reasons for opening new cases differed considerably from that for reopened cases. A larger percentage of the new than of the reopened cases was added because of loss or depletion of assets and miscellaneous reasons, whereas decreased earnings and administrative rulings affected a larger number of the reopened cases.

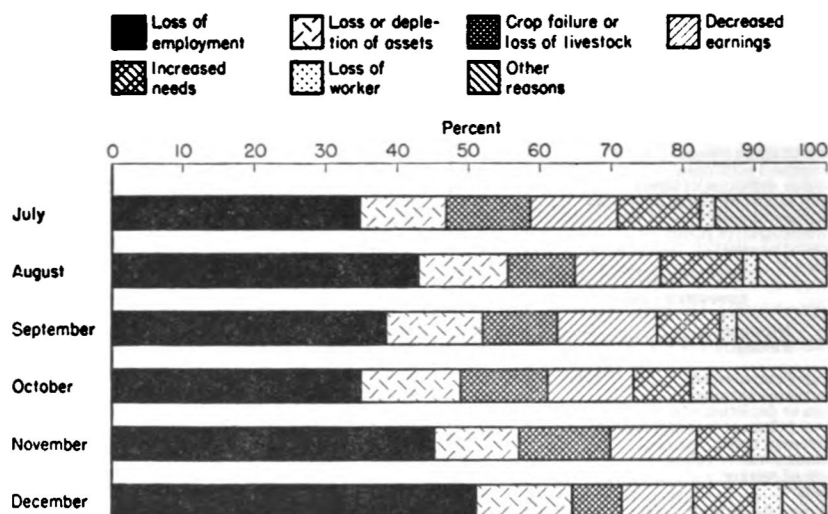


FIG. 11-REASON FOR ACCESSION OF RURAL RELIEF CASES  
July through December 1935

AF-2441, W. P. A

The usual occupation of the head of the case was reported for all cases in the rural relief intake during the months July through October 1935. It was found that 48 percent of all heads of cases coming on relief were agricultural workers, 30 percent being farm operators and 18 percent farm laborers. Unskilled laborers comprised 24 percent of the total intake. One-eighth of all accessions (13 percent) were skilled and semiskilled workers, and 3 percent were white-collar workers. Approximately 10 percent of the cases were headed by persons who were not working or seeking work and almost 2 percent by persons who had no usual occupation (table 11). There was a larger proportion of agricultural workers among the reopened than among the new cases that came on relief July through October 1935, while the reverse was true for nonagricultural cases.

Table 11.—Reason for Accession of Rural Relief Cases, July Through October 1935, by Usual Occupation of the Head

[300 counties]

Reason for accession	Total	Usual occupation of head					No usual occupation	Head not a worker
		Farm operator	Farm laborer	White collar	Skilled and semi-skilled	Unskilled		
TOTAL ACCESSIONS								
Number.....	43,500	13,296	7,706	1,486	5,422	10,350	692	4,548
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	37.5	11.8	64.2	50.1	58.7	50.2	10.1	12.8
Decreased earnings.....	12.4	16.2	12.5	13.2	11.4	12.1	0.6	4.8
Loss or depletion of assets.....	13.0	10.3	6.2	20.1	13.7	11.8	33.7	28.9
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	11.1	32.5	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.6	3.7
Increased needs.....	10.0	9.8	7.9	8.3	6.3	7.0	24.3	23.4
Administrative ruling.....	6.5	9.4	5.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	7.5	8.6
Loss of worker.....	2.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.5	19.7	15.0
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	7.2	9.6	1.8	1.6	3.7	13.1	3.5	2.8
NEW CASES								
Number.....	11,320	2,728	1,712	534	1,590	3,024	280	1,452
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	37.5	9.7	64.4	50.6	59.9	49.6	9.3	9.0
Decreased earnings.....	9.3	11.6	8.6	9.7	9.7	10.8	—	3.7
Loss or depletion of assets.....	18.2	12.2	11.3	23.6	17.7	14.2	34.3	41.3
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	8.0	27.7	2.3	1.9	1.0	1.3	—	2.9
Increased needs.....	8.2	6.7	8.9	9.7	4.8	5.0	24.3	17.1
Administrative ruling.....	1.5	0.5	1.5	1.9	2.6	1.2	2.1	2.5
Loss of worker.....	3.8	0.5	0.5	1.9	0.8	0.8	26.4	20.1
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	13.5	31.1	2.5	0.7	3.5	17.1	3.6	3.4
REOPENED CASES								
Number.....	32,180	10,568	5,994	952	3,832	7,326	412	3,096
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Loss of employment <sup>1</sup> .....	37.4	12.3	64.1	49.7	58.1	50.3	10.7	14.5
Decreased earnings.....	13.5	17.3	13.6	15.1	12.2	12.6	1.0	5.3
Loss or depletion of assets.....	11.2	9.8	4.7	18.1	12.1	10.9	33.4	23.1
Crop failure or loss of livestock.....	12.2	33.7	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.0	4.1
Increased needs.....	10.6	10.7	7.7	7.6	6.9	7.8	24.3	26.3
Administrative ruling.....	8.3	11.8	6.0	5.7	5.4	5.5	11.2	11.5
Loss of worker.....	1.8	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.4	15.0	12.7
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	5.0	4.0	1.6	2.1	3.7	11.5	3.4	2.5

<sup>1</sup> Within 4 months prior to the accession. For cases in which the worker lost his job more than 4 months prior to accession to relief, a more immediate reason for opening the case was given.

<sup>2</sup> Loss of support by relatives or friends, failure of landlord to "furnish" tenant, loss of Resettlement status, strikes, loss because of flood, etc.

Reasons for opening relief cases varied with the usual occupation<sup>2</sup> of the head. Loss of employment was the major reason for opening all cases with experienced workers as heads except farm operator families which were affected primarily by crop failure<sup>3</sup> and decreased earnings. Sixty-four percent of all farm laborers in the July-October

<sup>2</sup> Usual occupation: the occupation in nonrelief employment of at least 4 consecutive weeks' duration at which a worker had been employed the greatest length of time during the last 10 years. If the worker had spent approximately the same length of time at two or more occupations, the one at which he had worked last was considered his usual occupation.

<sup>3</sup> Small proportions of heads of cases that were farm laborers or nonagricultural workers by usual occupation were currently operating farms full- or part-time and suffered crop failure or livestock loss.

intake sought aid as a result of loss of job and an additional thirteen percent because of decreased earnings from current jobs. More than three-fourths of all nonagricultural heads of households went on relief because of loss of employment, decreased earnings, or loss or depletion of assets. Loss or depletion of assets, increased needs, and loss of a worker were the major reasons for opening cases whose heads were not workers or had never worked (table 11 and fig. 12).

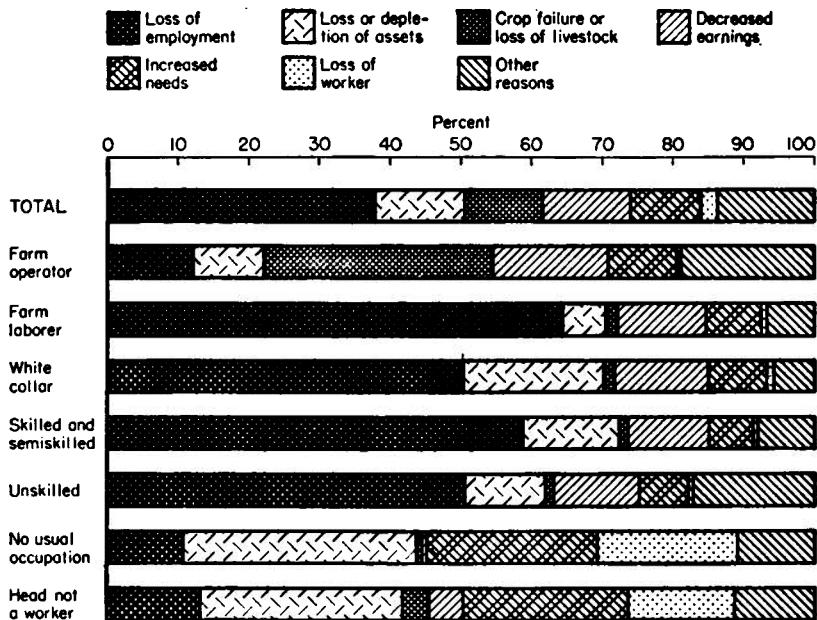


FIG. 12-REASON FOR ACCESSION OF RURAL RELIEF CASES,  
BY USUAL OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD

July through October 1935

AF-2443, W.P.A.

### REASONS FOR CLOSING

Economic factors, such as employment in connection with the planting season, marketing of crops, increased industrial employment, and transfers to other assistance programs, were the most important influences effecting closing of rural relief cases during 1935.

#### Closings March Through June 1935

From March through June 1935 about 57 percent of the rural households removed from relief had become self-supporting through private employment, advances from landlords, crops marketed, and other factors. Employment in the Civilian Conservation Corps was responsible for about 2 percent of the closings, and aid from other agencies or from relatives and friends accounted for 13 percent of the



closings. Another 13 percent of the cases were closed because of administrative policy and 15 percent moved away, failed to report, or were closed for miscellaneous reasons.<sup>4</sup>

#### Closings July Through October 1935

Of all rural cases closed during the months July through October 1935, two-thirds were closed as a result of income from private industry or from the Works Program. Nearly 27 percent obtained private employment; 6 percent received increased earnings from current jobs in private industry; 11 percent obtained income from marketing crops; 15 percent received initial Works Program pay checks; and almost 7 percent received allotments from sons in Civilian Conservation Corps camps. Of the remaining one-third 8 percent were closed because of migration or failure to report for relief orders or for work on Emergency Relief Administration projects; 8 percent were closed by administrative order; about 5 percent were transferred to the Resettlement Administration or to local relief agencies; 6 percent received aid from relatives and friends or from other sources; and 8 percent were closed as a result of decreased needs and miscellaneous reasons (table 12 and fig. 13).

**Table 12.—Reason for Separation of Rural Relief Cases, July Through October 1935, by Month**

[300 counties]

Reason for separation	July- October	July	August	Septem- ber	October
Number.....	79,126	21,416	20,522	19,381	17,804
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Private industry.....	43.4	49.4	47.9	40.0	34.7
Employment obtained.....	26.6	27.4	28.2	25.4	25.0
Increased earnings.....	6.0	6.4	7.2	6.2	4.0
Crops marketed.....	10.8	15.6	12.5	8.4	5.7
Works Program.....	21.4	4.4	17.1	26.7	41.2
Works Program wage.....	14.8	0.5	8.8	18.0	35.7
Civilian Conservation Corps allotment.....	6.6	3.9	8.3	8.7	5.5
Other public assistance.....	4.7	9.7	3.0	3.6	1.6
Resettlement Administration.....	2.6	7.4	1.4	0.4	0.3
Local agency.....	2.1	2.3	1.6	3.2	1.3
Other assistance.....	6.2	9.3	5.7	5.0	4.1
From relatives and friends.....	3.0	4.0	3.1	2.2	2.4
From other sources.....	3.2	5.3	2.6	2.8	1.7
Client moved or failed to report.....	8.4	8.5	9.2	7.4	8.2
Administrative policy.....	7.9	9.9	9.0	8.0	4.2
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	8.0	8.8	8.1	9.3	6.0

<sup>1</sup> Decreased needs and miscellaneous reasons.

<sup>4</sup> For a further discussion of reasons for closing relief cases in the period March through June 1935, see Droba, Daniel D., *Reasons for Closing Rural Relief Cases, March-June and July-October, 1935*, Research Bulletin H-7, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., March 30, 1936.

The proportion of closings because of obtaining private employment remained fairly constant during each of the 4 months July through October 1935. The percentage because of marketing crops declined from 16 percent in July to less than 6 percent in October.

The Civilian Conservation Corps was a factor of considerable importance in removing families from general relief. In August 8 percent and in September 9 percent of all rural cases closed left the relief rolls because of allotments from sons in CCC camps. The Works Program claimed an increasingly large share of the closings as it gained momentum; the proportion closed for this reason rose from less than 1 percent in July to 36 percent in October. Assistance from the Resettlement Administration was a factor of importance only in July when 7 percent of all general relief closings consisted of families which were transferred to the care of the Resettlement Administration under its rural rehabilitation program.

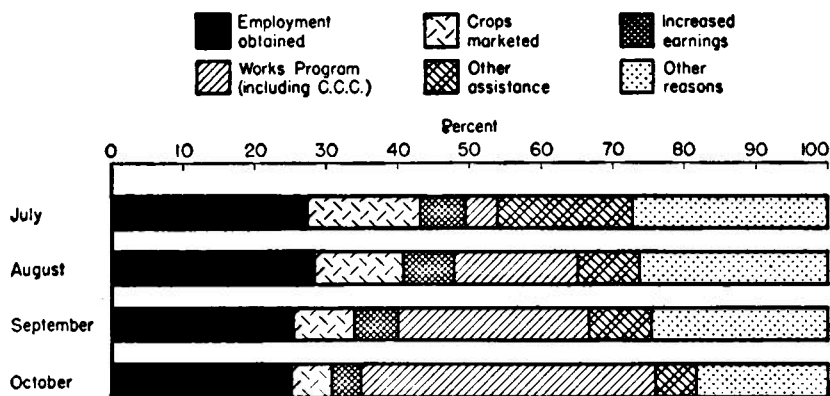


FIG. 13-REASON FOR SEPARATION OF RURAL RELIEF CASES  
July through October 1935

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Private industry took a larger proportion of skilled and semiskilled workers than of any other occupational group off relief. Of all skilled or semiskilled heads of cases who left the relief rolls July through October 1935, 45 percent obtained jobs in private industry. Only 36 percent of the farm laborers and only 41 percent of the other unskilled workers obtained private employment. Less than 37 percent of the heads of closed cases usually engaged in white-collar occupations found private employment. Although inexperienced or retired workers (workers without a usual occupation) were at a particular disadvantage in getting work, 11 percent of all closed cases with such heads left relief to accept private jobs. A few cases (8 percent) whose heads were not workers were closed because some member of the household secured work (table 13).

Cases with unemployable heads were usually able to leave the general relief rolls only upon receipt of assistance from some other source. Of all closed cases with unemployable heads, 16 percent were transferred to local public welfare agencies; 16 percent were aided by relatives and friends; and 11 percent found other sources of assistance. However, 13 percent of all closed cases with unemployable heads were closed as a result of the employment of a member in private industry and 11 percent were closed because a member secured employment on the Works Program.

**Table 13.—Reason for Separation of Rural Relief Cases, July Through October 1935, by Usual Occupation of the Head**

[300 counties]

Reason for separation	Total <sup>1</sup>	Usual occupation of head					No usual occupation	Head not a worker
		Farm operator	Farm laborer	White collar	Skilled and semi-skilled	Unskilled		
Number.....	79,096	25,948	13,544	2,700	9,862	17,844	1,140	8,058
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Private industry.....	43.4	41.7	48.6	46.5	53.4	51.4	12.1	13.3
Employment obtained.....	26.6	10.4	35.8	36.6	45.1	40.8	10.8	8.0
Increased earnings.....	6.0	1.5	11.5	8.3	6.8	9.8	0.9	1.7
Crops marketed.....	10.8	29.8	1.3	1.6	1.5	0.8	0.4	3.6
Works Program.....	21.4	22.0	21.6	17.9	23.5	24.7	22.8	10.9
Works Program wage.....	14.8	13.3	15.9	13.8	18.9	18.9	11.7	5.2
Civilian Conservation Corps allotment.....	6.6	8.7	5.7	4.1	4.6	5.8	11.1	5.7
Other public assistance.....	4.7	6.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	5.8	16.6
Resettlement Administration.....	2.6	6.2	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.7
Local agency.....	2.1	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	5.4	15.9
Other assistance.....	6.2	4.6	2.9	5.4	2.5	2.8	20.2	26.4
From relatives and friends.....	3.0	0.8	2.0	2.8	1.2	1.6	10.7	15.5
From other sources.....	3.2	3.8	0.9	2.6	1.3	1.2	9.5	10.9
Client moved or failed to report.....	8.4	7.2	8.5	10.0	9.1	8.2	12.3	10.0
Administrative policy.....	7.9	8.7	8.2	11.2	5.9	6.1	11.9	9.6
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	8.0	9.2	9.0	7.7	4.2	5.4	14.9	13.2

<sup>1</sup> The total does not check with that for table 12 as usual occupation of the head was unknown for 30 cases.

<sup>2</sup> Decreased needs and miscellaneous reasons.

Of all cases with inexperienced heads that were closed, 11 percent secured private employment. Such cases were particularly successful in getting CCC employment because of the large proportion of youth among them. Eleven percent of these cases were closed for that reason. Nearly 12 percent of the inexperienced heads obtained Works Program employment.

As a reason for closing relief cases, private industry was most important in the New England and Northern States and least important in the Southern States. The situation was reversed with respect to the Works Program, however, for the Works Program got under way more rapidly in the South than in other regions and CCC

allotments were most likely to take southern cases off relief (appendix table 15).

#### NET EFFECT OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY

During the summer of 1935 there was a large movement of rural families from relief rolls because of private industry. This movement resulted from the securing of remunerative jobs and from increased earnings from current employment. While some workers secured jobs or had their pay increased, however, others lost their jobs or had their pay decreased through reductions in wage rates or in hours worked so that they were forced to seek relief to meet their needs. As a result a large part of the movement from relief to private industry was offset by an opposite movement and the net effect of private industry in reducing the relief rolls was relatively small.

From July through October 1935 the excess of separations over accessions resulted in a decline of 31 percent in the total rural relief case load (table 14 and appendix table 16). The net decrease because of private industry amounted to 14 percent of the June load, while the net decrease because of other reasons, including employment under the Works Program, amounted to 44 percent of all June cases. During this period only 55 cases were opened or reopened for every 100 cases closed, but for every 100 cases closed because a member obtained a job or increased earnings in private industry, 76 cases were opened or reopened because of loss of job or reduction in earnings.

**Table 14.**—Net Change in the Rural Relief Case Load, July Through October 1935, Because of Private Industry <sup>1</sup> and Other Reasons

[300 counties]

Item	Reason for accession or separation		
	Total	Private industry	Other
Accessions.....	43, 510	26, 162	17, 348
Separations.....	79, 130	34, 344	44, 786
Accessions per 100 separations.....	55	76	39
Net change.....	-35, 620	-8, 182	-27, 438
Percent change <sup>2</sup> .....	-30.5	-7.0	-23.5

<sup>1</sup> Including cases opened or reopened because of loss of job or decreased earnings and cases closed because of job secured or increased earnings.

<sup>2</sup> Net change per 100 cases on relief in June.

The net effect of private employment upon the relief rolls differed by months and by the usual occupation of the household head. During July, August, and September private industry contributed 76 or 77 cases to relief rolls for every 100 it removed. In October more households went from private industry to relief than left the relief rolls to take private jobs (table 15).

**Table 15.**—Accessions to Rural Relief per 100 Separations, July Through October 1935, Because of Private Industry<sup>1</sup> and Other Reasons, by Usual Occupation of the Head of the Case

[300 counties]

Usual occupation of head	July			August			September			October		
	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons
Total.....	56	77	46	50	76	35	48	77	34	67	107	51
Agriculture.....	51	79	42	48	97	32	49	100	34	65	134	45
Farm operator.....	50	100	44	42	101	33	50	121	40	66	164	54
Farm laborer.....	55	69	34	62	95	20	48	90	20	63	120	25
Nonagriculture.....	71	76	63	49	63	33	45	64	29	64	88	48
White collar.....	55	59	50	53	75	34	50	71	35	64	116	31
Skilled.....	67	60	52	45	56	32	45	65	27	66	119	33
Semiskilled.....	67	69	62	54	72	34	50	71	28	61	104	32
Unskilled.....	80	86	69	49	62	34	44	60	28	65	75	58
All other <sup>2</sup> .....	44	77	40	56	81	52	50	96	45	91	116	88

<sup>1</sup> Including cases opened or reopened because of loss of job or decreased earnings and cases closed because of job secured or increased earnings.<sup>2</sup> No usual occupation and head not a worker.

The rapid decline in the number of agricultural families on relief was accounted for partly by private employment obtained or increased earnings from private employment, exclusive of the sale of farm produce. During the 4 months, July through October 1935, for every 100 farm operator families by usual occupation which left relief rolls for private industry, 74 farm operator families came on relief rolls because of loss of support from private employment. These included farmers who had lost their farms, part-time farmers who had lost their off-the-farm source of income, and ex-farmers who had entered the labor market but had lost their jobs. Farmers who left relief because of private industry were those who had obtained farms or jobs.<sup>5</sup> The situation regarding farm laborers was similar. For every 100 farm laborers who left relief because of private industry, 91 came on relief because of private industry in the 4-month period (table 16).

Private industry provided jobs or increased pay with sufficient frequency to contribute to the net decrease in each class of nonagricultural families. For white-collar, skilled, semiskilled, and unskilled household heads the number of accessions per 100 separations because of industry ranged from 68 to 76 for the period July through October 1935<sup>6</sup> (table 16).

The ratio of cases that lost jobs and sought relief to cases that found jobs and left relief from July through October varied considerably among the States sampled. At one extreme was Louisiana

<sup>5</sup> Farm families which came on relief because of crop failure or livestock loss and which left relief because of marketing farm produce are not included here since the net effect of these factors could not be determined.

<sup>6</sup> For industries responsible for closing rural relief cases see appendix table 18.

where the number of accessions to relief because of loss of job or decreased earnings in private industry was 397 per 100 separations from relief because of jobs or increased earnings obtained in private industry. At the other extreme was Iowa where the ratio of openings to closings because of private industry was only 34 (appendix table 17).

**Table 16.**—Accessions to Rural Relief per 100 Separations, July Through October 1935, Because of Private Industry<sup>1</sup> and Other Reasons, by Region and Usual Occupation of the Head of the Case

[300 counties]

Usual occupation of head	All States sampled			11 Northern States			13 Southern States			6 Western States		
	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons
Total.....	55	76	39	54	63	43	58	104	37	46	57	34
Agriculture.....	53	80	32	48	60	32	58	115	33	47	62	27
Farm operator.....	51	74	35	45	54	33	58	119	37	41	53	27
Farm laborer.....	57	91	25	56	75	28	58	111	23	54	72	27
Nonagriculture.....	57	71	41	56	65	41	61	91	43	46	52	36
White collar.....	55	76	37	54	68	37	51	82	34	67	94	48
Skilled.....	52	68	34	51	59	37	55	93	31	51	57	40
Semiskilled.....	58	76	37	60	68	46	63	107	32	43	47	35
Unskilled.....	58	70	45	56	65	41	64	88	49	41	47	32
All other <sup>2</sup> .....	57	83	53	73	79	72	48	98	43	45	62	42

<sup>1</sup> Including cases opened or reopened because of loss of job or decreased earnings and cases closed because of job secured or increased earnings.

<sup>2</sup> No usual occupation and head not a worker.

## **Part III**

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### **Characteristics of the Rural Relief Population**

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# Chapter V

## SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF HOUSEHOLDS

**THE SIZE** and structure of the rural relief household are important in relation both to the problem of restoring it to self-support and to the problem of financing public assistance. Small households are less likely than large households to include persons able to work who, when job opportunities arise, will be able to take their families off the relief rolls. Furthermore, the amount of funds necessary for relief depends upon the size and structure as well as upon the number of cases in need.

### SIZE OF RURAL RELIEF HOUSEHOLDS

Rural relief cases in 1935 were generally larger than were "private families," in the 1930 general rural population as defined by the

**Table 17.**—Size of Rural Relief Cases,<sup>1</sup> June and October 1935, and of All Rural Families,<sup>2</sup> 1930, by Residence

Size of case or family	Relief cases						All rural families, 1930 *
	June 1935			October 1935			
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	
Number.....	116,950	71,278	45,672	87,898	55,034	32,864	9,491,106
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 person.....	9.8	8.0	12.6	10.2	7.9	14.2	7.4
2 persons.....	16.6	15.0	19.1	18.0	16.4	20.3	20.5
3 persons.....	17.4	16.9	18.0	17.7	17.2	18.7	18.8
4 persons.....	15.9	16.0	15.8	14.9	15.2	14.5	16.6
5 persons.....	12.9	13.6	11.8	12.8	13.7	11.3	12.6
6 persons.....	9.8	10.4	8.9	9.6	10.5	8.1	8.9
7 persons.....	7.0	7.8	5.8	6.9	7.7	5.6	6.0
8 persons.....	4.7	5.3	3.8	4.4	5.0	3.4	4.0
9 persons.....	2.9	3.4	2.1	2.5	2.8	2.0	2.5
10 persons.....	1.6	1.9	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.2	1.4
11 persons.....	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.7
12 persons or more.....	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.6
Median.....	3.9	4.1	3.5	3.8	4.1	3.3	3.7

<sup>1</sup> Based on sample of 300 counties representing 30 States.

<sup>2</sup> Based on complete census of 30 States.

\* *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. VI.*

United States Bureau of the Census.<sup>1</sup> Rural relief cases having six or more persons comprised 27 percent of all cases in the June rural relief load as compared with 24 percent, the proportion which families of this size constituted of the total rural population in 1930. Cases of from two to five persons constituted 63 percent of the rural relief population, whereas families of this size made up 69 percent of the total rural population in 1930. About 10 percent of all rural relief cases were one-person cases while only 7 percent of the total rural families were of this type (table 17 and fig. 14).

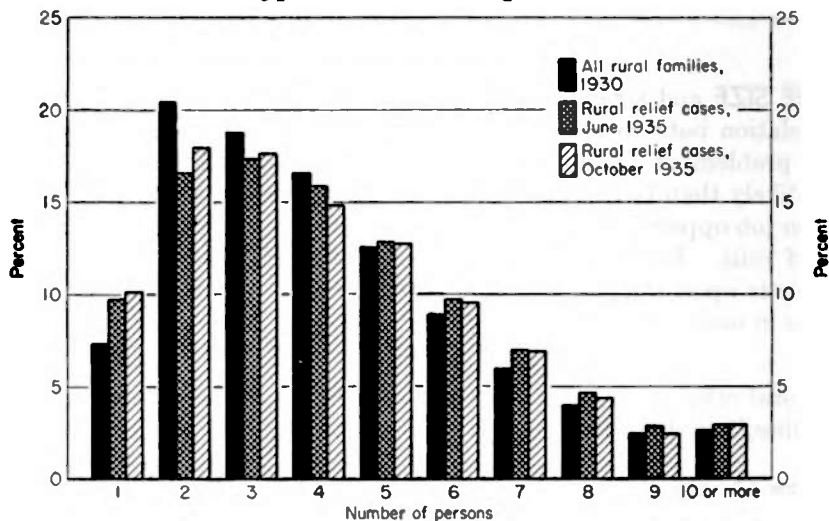


FIG. 14—SIZE OF RURAL RELIEF CASES, JUNE AND OCTOBER 1935, AND OF ALL RURAL FAMILIES, 1930

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#### Changes in Size of Households, February Through October 1935

The average size of rural relief cases declined slightly during 1935. In February of that year the average rural relief case contained 4.1 persons. This average decreased to 4.0 in June and to 3.9 in October. In the open country the average size of the relief household decreased from 4.3 in February to 4.1 in October. Village cases averaged 3.5 persons in February but decreased to 3.4 in October (table 18).

Being employable to a greater extent, large households left the relief rolls much more rapidly during 1935 than did small households. The number of one-person households on rural relief rolls decreased only 18 percent from February to June and only 21 percent from June to October, while the number of two-person households decreased 27 and 24 percent, respectively, in the two periods (table 19). Cases with three or more persons declined still more rapidly from February to June, the number dropping by about one-third, but from June to

<sup>1</sup> See appendix C for definition of a private family.

**Table 18.—Size of Rural Relief Cases, February, June, and October 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Size of case	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	84,132	56,758	27,374	58,494	35,782	22,712	43,932	26,440	17,492
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 person.....	8.0	5.9	12.4	9.5	7.5	12.5	9.9	7.5	13.6
2 persons.....	15.4	13.5	19.2	16.2	14.2	19.6	16.5	14.5	19.5
3 persons.....	16.9	16.6	18.0	16.8	16.2	17.9	17.6	16.6	19.3
4 persons.....	16.4	16.9	15.9	16.1	16.4	15.9	15.3	15.5	15.0
5 persons.....	13.4	14.2	11.7	12.9	13.5	11.9	13.5	14.2	12.4
6 persons.....	10.2	10.9	8.7	10.0	10.7	8.8	10.1	11.5	7.9
7 persons.....	7.4	8.1	5.8	7.1	8.1	5.4	6.9	8.2	5.0
8 persons.....	5.2	5.8	4.0	4.8	5.5	3.6	4.5	5.1	3.6
9 persons.....	3.3	3.9	2.0	3.2	3.8	2.2	2.9	3.4	2.1
10 persons.....	1.9	2.1	1.4	1.8	2.1	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.0
11 persons.....	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.4
12 persons or more.....	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.2
Median <sup>1</sup> .....	4.1	4.3	3.5	4.0	4.2	3.5	3.9	4.1	3.4

<sup>1</sup> The slight differences in median number of persons per case between this table and table 17 are due to the fact that this table is based on the 138 counties constituting the area sample, whereas table 17 is based on the larger State sample of 300 counties.

**Table 19.—Percent Decrease in Rural Relief Cases, February–June and June–October 1935, by Size of Case and Residence**

[138 counties]

Size of case	Percent decrease					
	February–June (February=100.0)			June–October (June=100.0)		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All cases.....	30.5	37.0	17.0	24.9	26.1	23.0
1 person.....	17.8	19.8	15.8	21.4	26.7	16.5
2 persons.....	26.6	33.8	16.1	24.0	24.5	23.4
3 persons.....	31.2	38.5	17.3	21.4	24.2	17.4
4 persons.....	31.8	38.5	17.1	28.9	30.0	27.2
5 persons.....	33.2	40.1	15.8	21.3	22.3	19.5
6 persons.....	31.9	38.0	15.9	24.2	20.8	30.6
7 persons.....	33.3	37.3	21.9	26.2	25.2	28.6
8 persons.....	35.8	39.7	23.9	29.7	32.1	24.0
9 persons.....	33.6	39.5	10.5	31.5	33.9	25.1
10 persons.....	35.1	38.5	24.5	38.1	38.0	38.5
11 persons.....	32.7	35.2	21.6	38.3	37.9	40.0
12 persons or more.....	38.8	44.4	†	34.9	27.5	†

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.

October only the largest cases decreased to this extent. These differential rates were in part a result of transfers of large families to the rural rehabilitation program.

### STRUCTURE OF RURAL RELIEF HOUSEHOLDS

The rural relief household is synonymous with the rural relief case, that is, with the person or group of persons that receives relief as a unit. In analyzing the case loads surveyed in this study it was found that about five-sixths of these relief units were family groups

of husband and wife with or without children (normal families) or of one parent with children (broken families), with or without other persons, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc., attached to the household. The other one-sixth of the relief cases included persons living alone, or receiving relief alone, and nonfamily groups of persons living together without immediate marital or parental-filial ties (fig. 15 and appendix table 19).

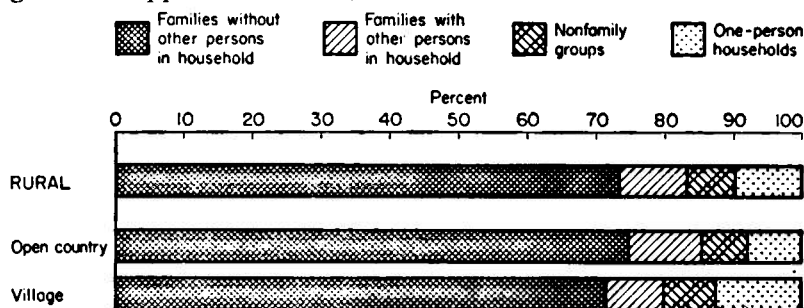


FIG. 15—TYPE OF HOUSEHOLDS ON RELIEF IN  
RURAL AREAS, BY RESIDENCE  
June 1935

A greater proportion of family groups was found in the open country than in villages, owing to the much greater proportion of one-person relief households in villages (13-14 percent) than in the open country (8 percent) (appendix table 19). The proportion of nonfamily groups was about the same in the open country as in villages (6-8 percent).

The relative importance of each of the major household types changed very little from June to October 1935. Between the two months a general decrease of about 25 percent took place in the total number of rural cases receiving relief. The rate of decline for nonfamily groups, family groups, and one-person households was 27, 25, and 21 percent, respectively (appendix table 19).

Nearly all types of households declined more rapidly in villages than in the open country between June and October. This residence difference resulted from the greater employment opportunities in the small industries of villages, opportunities in which farmers could not share during the growing and harvest seasons. The only striking exceptions to the proportionately greater decrease in villages were found in the case of unattached women and nonfamily groups with aged women at the head, types that declined much more rapidly in the open country than in villages.

#### The Rural Relief Family

For purposes of social analysis the family, as characterized by marital and/or parental relationships, is analyzed separately in this

study from the other types of households which make up the relief case load.

The great majority (88–90 percent) of the families on relief in rural areas in June and October 1935 were families alone, that is, without other related or unrelated persons attached to the household (appendix table 20). Families to which other persons were attached left the rural relief rolls more rapidly between June and October than did cases consisting of families alone (appendix table 19). This would be expected since the households consisting of families with other persons were larger, had more workers, and hence had greater chances of obtaining employment.

The presence in the household of persons other than members of the immediate family occurred somewhat more frequently in the open country than in villages. The explanation may lie in a greater tendency on the part of farm families to attempt to support needy relatives.

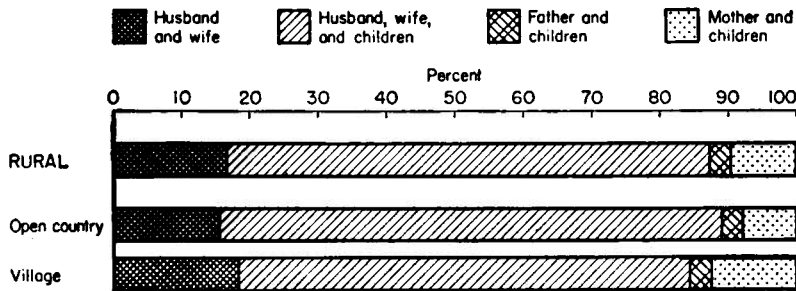


FIG. 16—TYPE OF FAMILIES ON RELIEF IN RURAL AREAS,  
BY RESIDENCE  
June 1935

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#### *Normal Families*

The great majority of all rural relief families were classified as normal in that they contained persons related as husband and wife with or without children. By far the largest class of families consisted of parents and children. About seven-tenths of all families on relief were of this type and usually there were no other persons in the relief household. Approximately one-sixth of all families were couples without children or not living with their children (fig. 16 and appendix table 20).

Proportionately more normal families were found in the open country than in villages, and among normal families more couples without children were found in villages than in the open country. These results are in accordance with generally accepted theories concerning the social solidarity of the farm family.

The proportion of normal families in the rural relief population differed widely by agricultural areas. In the Eastern Cotton Area only one-third and in the Western Cotton Area less than two-fifths of all Negro families on relief in June 1935 were normal family groups of parents with children. The largest proportion of normal families with children was found in the Spring Wheat Area where four-fifths of the families on relief were of this type (table 20).

A normal family with children had a somewhat better chance of getting off the relief rolls than did a couple without children. From June to October 1935 the number of families with children declined 27 percent while families without children declined only 21 percent (appendix table 19).

Table 20.—Type of Households on Relief in Rural Areas, June 1935, by Area

[138 counties]

Area	All households		Normal families			Broken families			Nonfamily groups			1-person households		
	Number	Percent	Total	With children	Without children	Total	Male head	Female head	Total	Male head	Female head	Total	Male	Female
All areas.....	58,494	100.0	72.9	59.2	13.7	10.9	2.6	8.3	6.7	4.8	1.9	9.5	6.4	3.1
Eastern Cotton.....	7,732	100.0	62.6	48.4	14.2	19.0	2.7	16.3	8.1	3.8	4.3	10.3	4.6	5.7
White.....	5,084	100.0	68.8	56.1	12.7	17.7	2.9	14.8	6.9	3.9	3.0	6.6	3.3	3.3
Negro.....	2,648	100.0	50.6	33.8	16.8	21.5	2.2	19.3	10.5	3.8	6.7	17.4	6.9	10.5
Western Cotton.....	7,268	100.0	70.5	55.2	15.3	13.5	2.9	10.6	7.3	5.1	2.2	8.7	4.6	4.1
White.....	5,432	100.0	76.2	61.3	14.9	11.9	2.7	9.2	6.4	4.8	1.6	5.5	3.4	2.1
Negro.....	1,836	100.0	53.6	37.0	16.6	18.3	3.5	14.8	10.0	5.9	4.1	18.1	8.0	10.1
Appalachian-Ozark.....	17,016	100.0	76.5	64.0	12.5	10.7	2.8	7.9	6.7	5.1	1.6	6.1	4.4	1.7
Lake States Cut-Over.....	3,792	100.0	63.8	51.5	12.3	8.5	2.6	5.9	5.9	5.1	0.8	21.8	19.3	2.5
Corn Belt.....	7,512	100.0	76.6	61.3	15.3	8.0	2.5	5.5	6.6	5.2	1.4	8.8	5.8	3.0
Hay and Dairy.....	8,626	100.0	76.1	61.9	14.2	7.7	2.1	5.6	5.9	4.7	1.2	10.3	7.2	3.1
Winter Wheat.....	1,288	100.0	79.2	59.3	19.9	8.4	2.7	5.7	5.6	5.3	0.3	6.8	5.1	1.7
Spring Wheat.....	3,374	100.0	79.8	70.1	9.7	6.6	2.4	4.2	5.3	4.5	0.8	8.3	6.5	1.8
Ranching.....	1,886	100.0	67.3	53.8	13.5	9.3	1.6	7.7	5.8	4.0	1.8	17.6	12.2	5.4

#### Broken Families

About 13 percent of all rural relief families in June and October 1935 were broken, one parent being absent. Most of these broken families consisted of mothers and children and about half of these mother-and-children families included only children under 16 years of age (appendix table 20). A larger proportion of broken families in the villages than in the open country were of the mother-and-children type. Excessively large proportions of broken families, mostly mothers and children, were found among both whites and Negroes on relief in the South (table 20).

As was to be expected, broken families left relief rolls more slowly than did normal families. While normal families decreased 26 percent from June to October 1935, broken families decreased only 20 percent. Broken families with male heads declined much more

rapidly than did those with female heads (appendix table 19). Many of the broken families with female heads represented mothers with dependent children who were kept on general relief rolls pending completion of plans for their assistance under the Social Security Act.

### Nonfamily Groups

Nonfamily groups formed about 7 percent of all rural relief cases (appendix table 19). Although the actual composition of these groups was not determined, it may be assumed that some of these cases were aged parents living with a son or daughter who had become head of the household; others were aged men or women living with relatives other than their children; others were persons living with brother, sister, or more distant relatives; while a few were heads of unrelated groups of two or more persons living together.

The age and sex distribution of the heads of nonfamily groups differed greatly from the distribution of all heads. A disproportionately large number of women, especially aged women, were found among them.

### One-Person Households

One-person households constituted approximately 10 percent of all rural relief cases (appendix table 19). In June 1935 two-thirds of these one-person households were men while one-third were women. About two-fifths of the men and one-half of the women were 65 years of age and over (table 21). In comparison with the open country an excessively large proportion of aged females was found in villages.

**Table 21.—Sex and Age of 1-Person Households on Relief in Rural Areas, June and October 1935, by Residence**

[300 counties]

Sex and age	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	June	October	June	October	June	October
Number.....	11,560	9,116	5,732	4,430	5,828	4,686
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male.....	68.4	63.2	74.7	73.4	62.1	53.6
16-64 years.....	42.4	35.3	45.8	41.4	39.0	29.5
65 years and over.....	26.0	27.9	28.9	32.0	23.1	24.1
Female.....	31.6	36.8	25.3	26.6	37.9	46.4
16-64 years.....	15.8	18.3	13.2	13.4	18.6	22.8
65 years and over.....	15.8	18.5	12.1	13.2	19.3	23.6

The age and sex distribution of one-person households changed greatly from June to October, owing to a rapid decline in the number of males on relief in villages (31 percent) but at the same time to an almost negligible decline in the number of females on relief (1.4 percent) (appendix table 19). In the open country the number of

males on relief also declined more rapidly than the number of females during this period.

The largest percentage of one-person cases was found in the Lake States Cut-Over Area where 22 percent of all cases consisted of unattached individuals (table 20). Many of these cases were unemployed lumbermen.



# Chapter VI

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## AGE AND SEX

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**RECENT TRENDS** in relief administration have shown a tendency to recognize the special needs of certain groups and to differentiate these groups for treatment. As a basis for such differentiation age and sex have been considered relevant factors. Special assistance programs directed toward meeting the needs of children, of the aged, of youth, and of able-bodied adults cover the entire life span of individuals. Special provisions for male and female youth and work projects for women indicate recognition of the different problems of men and women workers. It is the purpose of this chapter to present an analysis of the age and sex composition of the population that comprised the rural relief load in 1935 and to show the relative importance of those groups for which special relief programs have been designed.

The age and sex composition of the rural relief population differed considerably from that of the general rural population (fig. 17 and appendix table 21). The relief group was younger than the general rural population in 1930. The total population had about 8 percent more males than females, but the sexes were about equal in the relief group with only a slight excess of males.

### AGE DISTRIBUTION

Children were overrepresented in the rural relief population of June 1935 as in all other rural relief groups previously studied.<sup>1</sup> More than 26 percent of the total rural relief population was under 10 years of age, whereas only 23 percent of the total rural population in 1930 was less than 10 years old (appendix tables 22 and 23).

An excess of children was characteristic of each State sampled except South Carolina and West Virginia. It was greatest in the Western States and least in the Southern States.

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<sup>1</sup> See, for example, Beck, P. G. and Forster, M. C., *Six Rural Problem Areas, Relief-Resources-Rehabilitation*, Research Monograph I, Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C., 1935, pp. 46-48; and McCormick, T. C., *Comparative Study of Rural Relief and Non-Relief Households*, Research Monograph II, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1935, pp. 27 and 29.

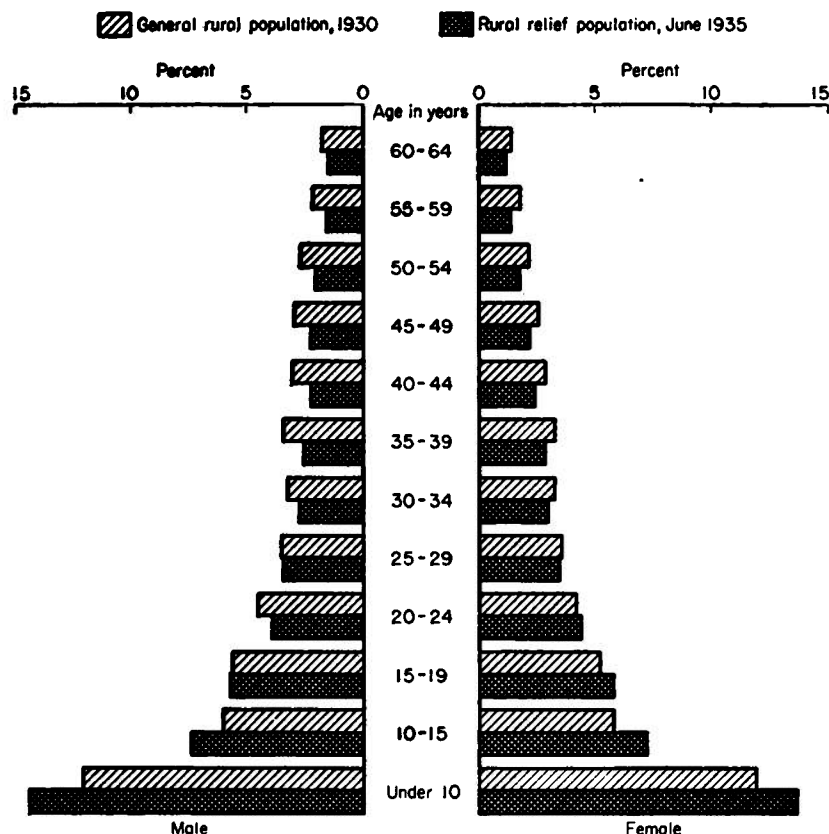


FIG. 17-AGE\*AND SEX OF THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION, JUNE 1935, AND OF THE GENERAL RURAL POPULATION, 1930\*\*

\*Exclusive of persons 65 years of age and over

\*\*Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.

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Similarly, 43 percent of the June rural relief population was under 16 years of age as compared with 37 percent of the general rural population of 1930 (table 22). By October 1935 the proportion of children under 16 years of age in the relief population had increased to 45 percent of the total as the proportion of youth declined. The percentage of children in the relief population was greater in the open country than in villages, but in both residence groups the percentage of children increased during the latter part of 1935.

Youth 16-24 years of age were slightly underrepresented in the rural relief population of June 1935 as compared with the total rural population of 1930 and were underrepresented still more in October 1935. Adults 25-64 years of age were strikingly underrepresented in both months. Aged persons 65 years of age and over were present in

the rural relief population in about the same proportion as in the total 1930 population (table 22).

**Table 22.—Age of Rural Relief Persons,<sup>1</sup> June and October 1935, and of the General Rural Population,<sup>2</sup> 1930, by Residence**

Age	Total rural		Open country		Village		General rural population, 1930
	June	October	June	October	June	October	
Number.....	500, 180	368, 850	320, 726	243, 974	179, 454	124, 376	53, 820, 223
Percent.....	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0
Under 16 years.....	43. 1	44. 9	44. 5	46. 5	40. 7	42. 1	37. 0
16-24 years.....	16. 0	14. 5	16. 0	14. 5	16. 1	14. 6	16. 9
25-64 years.....	35. 7	35. 1	34. 9	34. 3	37. 2	36. 4	40. 7
65 years and over.....	5. 2	5. 5	4. 6	4. 7	6. 0	6. 9	5. 4

<sup>1</sup> 300 counties.

<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population Vol. III.*

### AGE COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLDS

About two-thirds (66 percent) of all June 1935 rural relief households contained children under 16 years of age (appendix table 24), while 18 percent of all rural cases contained aged persons 65 years of age and over (appendix table 25). One-fifth (21 percent) of all cases contained no person within the dependent ages, under 16 or over 64 years (appendix table 26).

#### Children in Relief Households

Generally speaking, a larger proportion of cases in the Southern States than in other regions contained children. The New England region showed the smallest proportion with children (appendix table 24).

More open country than village relief cases contained children. Whereas 69 percent of all open country households included persons

**Table 23.—Rural Relief Cases With Children <sup>1</sup> Under 16 Years of Age, by Residence, Number of Children, and Region**

[300 counties]

Residence and number of children	All States sampled	11 North- ern States	13 South- ern States	6 Western States
<b>TOTAL RURAL</b>				
Number.....	70, 908	26, 832	36, 086	7, 990
Percent.....	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0
1 child.....	26. 7	27. 4	25. 9	28. 3
2 children.....	24. 2	23. 8	24. 0	25. 8
3 children or more.....	49. 1	48. 8	50. 1	45. 9
<b>OPEN COUNTRY</b>				
Number.....	45, 290	16, 160	25, 140	3, 990
Percent.....	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0
1 child.....	25. 2	25. 5	24. 6	28. 4
2 children.....	23. 4	22. 5	23. 4	26. 8
3 children or more.....	51. 4	52. 0	52. 0	44. 8
<b>VILLAGE</b>				
Number.....	25, 628	10, 672	10, 946	4, 010
Percent.....	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0	100. 0
1 child.....	29. 4	30. 2	26. 0	28. 2
2 children.....	25. 5	25. 6	25. 6	24. 7
3 children or more.....	45. 1	44. 2	48. 4	47. 1

<sup>1</sup> Does not include cases with both children and aged persons, a class which constituted about 5 percent of all cases.

under 16 years of age, only 60 percent of the village cases had children (appendix table 24).

Also, open country cases with children reported more children per household than did village cases. Open country relief cases that contained children had on the average 2.9 children per household, while village cases had 2.6 children per household. Only 25 percent of the open country families with children had but one child as compared with 29 percent of the village families. More than one-half (51 percent) of the open country cases with children had three or more in comparison with 45 percent of the village cases (table 23).

#### **Aged Persons in Relief Households**

The several States sampled showed wide differences with respect to the proportion of cases containing aged persons. The ratio varied from 8 percent in Louisiana to 30 percent in South Carolina (appendix table 25). The general tendency was for relatively more village than open country cases to contain aged persons although there were numerous exceptions from State to State.

The average number of aged persons per case having such persons was 1.2, a ratio which showed relatively little variation by residence or from State to State.

#### **Cases Without Children or Aged Persons**

Relatively fewer cases without old or young dependents appeared on relief rolls in the Southern States than in the rest of the country. In Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee only 14 percent of all cases were without old or young dependents. At the opposite extreme were the Western States. In California 32 percent and in Oregon 31 percent of all cases had neither children nor aged persons (appendix table 26).

#### **FERTILITY OF RELIEF FAMILIES**

The excessive proportion of young children in relief households is due in part to a more complete enumeration of young children by the relief survey than by the general census of 1930. An excess of children in the relief population would of course be expected since relief officials when working with limited funds tend to select the families with the most dependents to receive assistance. However, even if all households in need were accepted on the relief rolls regardless of size of family and number of dependents, the excess of children would probably still appear, owing to the generally high birth rates among low income groups.<sup>2</sup> As has been picturesquely stated, the

<sup>2</sup> Thompson, Warren S., *Ratio of Children to Women 1920*, Monograph XI, United States Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C., 1931, pp. 13-14; and Notestein, Frank W., "Class Differences in Fertility," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 188, November 1936, pp. 26-37.

big families live in the little houses while the little families live in the big houses. Although many persons receiving relief in rural areas in 1935 had been in comfortable and even prosperous circumstances before they became victims of drought, bank failures, and depression unemployment, much of the rural relief population had probably been near or at the poverty level of living even in times of general prosperity.

Thus, the excessive numbers of young children in relief households reflect in part a high birth rate in the population that requires and receives public assistance.<sup>3</sup> So far no study has appeared which shows

**Table 24.**—Children Under 5 Years of Age per 1,000 Women 20 Through 44 Years of Age in the Rural Relief Population, October 1935, and in the General Rural Population, 1930, by Residence

[300 counties]

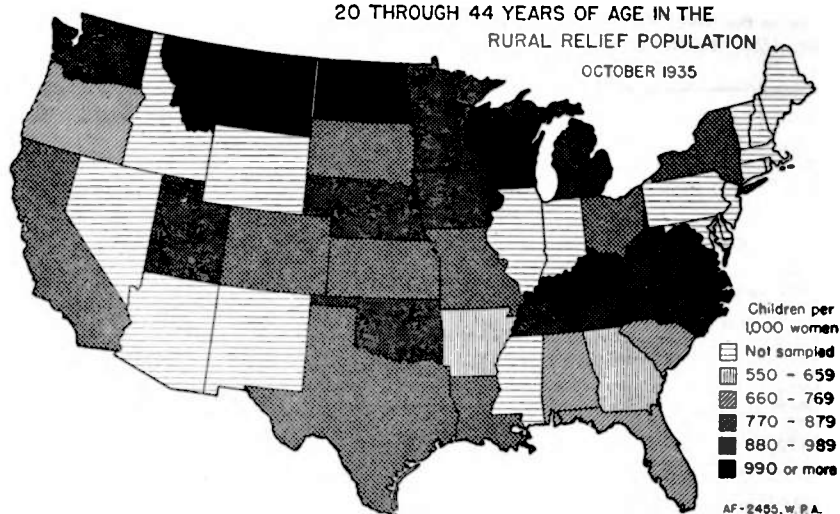
State	Rural relief population, October 1935	General rural population, 1930	Difference		Rural relief population, October 1935			
			Number	Percent	Open country	Village	Difference	
							Number	Percent
All States sampled.....	891	697	+194	+27.8	948	782	+166	+21.2
11 Northern States.....	919	637	+282	+44.3	980	825	+155	+18.8
Iowa.....	883	628	+255	+40.6	1,066	797	+269	+33.8
Kansas.....	857	596	+261	+43.8	918	813	+105	+12.9
Michigan.....	940	675	+265	+39.3	994	791	+203	+25.7
Minnesota.....	936	638	+298	+46.7	970	877	+93	+10.6
Missouri.....	879	647	+232	+35.9	909	782	+127	+16.2
Nebraska.....	880	611	+269	+44.0	964	839	+125	+14.9
New York.....	802	540	+262	+48.5	871	726	+145	+20.0
North Dakota.....	1,020	768	+252	+32.8	1,056	905	+151	+16.7
Ohio.....	811	622	+189	+30.4	887	718	+169	+23.5
South Dakota.....	820	671	+149	+22.2	911	795	+116	+14.6
Wisconsin.....	1,134	666	+468	+70.3	1,155	1,092	+63	+5.8
13 Southern States.....	878	755	+123	+16.3	942	720	+222	+30.8
Alabama.....	766	805	-39	-4.8	881	718	+163	+22.7
Arkansas.....	608	738	-130	-17.6	616	565	+51	+9.0
Florida.....	765	657	+108	+16.4	850	667	+183	+27.4
Georgia.....	615	735	-120	-16.3	751	437	+314	+71.9
Kentucky.....	1,023	750	+273	+36.4	1,061	867	+194	+22.4
Louisiana.....	824	760	+64	+8.4	828	808	+20	+2.5
North Carolina.....	966	827	+139	+16.8	1,002	857	+145	+16.9
Oklahoma.....	978	743	+235	+31.6	1,033	784	+249	+31.8
South Carolina.....	762	771	-9	-1.2	850	579	+271	+46.8
Tennessee.....	905	783	+122	+15.6	950	699	+251	+35.9
Texas.....	820	683	+137	+20.1	909	700	+209	+29.9
Virginia.....	889	790	+99	+12.5	931	747	+184	+24.6
West Virginia.....	927	858	+69	+8.0	1,026	688	+338	+49.0
6 Western States.....	859	595	+264	+44.4	838	878	-40	-4.6
California.....	781	549	+232	+42.3	731	838	-107	-12.8
Colorado.....	863	641	+222	+34.6	989	714	+275	+38.5
Montana.....	1,014	637	+377	+59.2	957	1,126	-169	-15.0
Oregon.....	696	540	+156	+28.9	735	657	+78	+11.9
Utah.....	939	903	+36	+4.0	1,333	924	+409	+44.3
Washington.....	892	570	+322	+56.5	845	1,012	-167	-16.5

<sup>3</sup> Stouffer, Samuel A., "Fertility of Families on Relief," *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, Vol. XXIX, September 1934, pp. 295-300; and Sydenstricker, Edgar and Perrott, G. St. J., "Sickness, Unemployment, and Differential Fertility," *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*, Vol. XII, April 1934, pp. 126-133.

that families either increase or decrease their birth rates after accession to relief rolls. All evidence points to the conclusion that high birth rates brought about the need for relief rather than that relief status resulted in high reproduction rates.

Birth statistics were not available for the rural relief population, but reproduction rates were measured by the number of children under 5 years of age per 1,000 women 20-44 years of age (fig. 18). Although this ratio of children to women is affected by the death rate of children under 5 years, it is useful in comparing the effective reproduction of different groups.<sup>4</sup>

FIG. 18-CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE PER 1,000 WOMEN  
20 THROUGH 44 YEARS OF AGE IN THE  
RURAL RELIEF POPULATION  
OCTOBER 1935



In the rural relief population included in the October 1935 survey in 300 sample counties, this child-woman ratio was 28 percent greater than that found in the general rural population of the same counties (table 24). This high ratio was related in part to the younger average age of the women 20-44 years old in the relief group and to the greater proportion married, as compared with the same age group in the general population.

The difference in the number of children per 1,000 childbearing women on relief in October 1935 and in the general rural population in 1930 probably understates considerably the actual situation regarding differential fertility. The child-woman ratio for the general rural population was undoubtedly smaller in 1935 than it was in 1930 since relatively fewer children were born during the years following 1930 than during the preceding years.<sup>4</sup> It also may be assumed that

<sup>4</sup> Lotka, Alfred J., "Modern Trends in the Birth Rate," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 188, November 1936, table 1, pp. 1-13.

differential fertility between women on relief and in the general population would be much greater if measured in terms of actual births rather than in terms of number of living children under 5 years of age. Infant mortality rates are higher for the lower than for the upper economic groups<sup>5</sup> and consequently higher for those on relief than for those not on relief rolls.

Women on relief in the open country had more children than those in villages. Differential fertility between residence groups was particularly striking in the South where the number of children per 1,000 women was 31 percent greater in the open country than in villages. Only in three Western States—California, Montana, and Washington—was the fertility of the relief population greater in villages than in the open country (table 24).

### SEX DISTRIBUTION

The rural relief population contained an abnormal distribution of the sexes when age was taken into account. Most striking was the considerable excess of young women 16–24 years of age and the great excess of men 65 years of age or older in the relief population. The ratio of males to females under 16 years of age was 104 in June 1935, the same as in the general rural population of 1930. In the youth group 16–24 years of age, however, there were only 94 males per 100 females in June 1935 as compared with 108 males for every 100 females of the same ages in the general rural population in 1930. (table 25).

**Table 25.**—Males per 100 Females in the Rural Relief Population,<sup>1</sup> June and October 1935, and in the General Rural Population,<sup>2</sup> 1930, by Age and Residence

Age	June 1935			October 1935			General rural population, 1930
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	
All ages.....	103	106	99	101	104	97	108
Under 16 years.....	104	105	102	105	105	105	104
16–24 years.....	94	97	88	85	87	80	108
25–44 years.....	97	99	93	91	94	86	105
45–64 years.....	115	121	107	114	122	102	120
65 years and over.....	134	145	121	137	154	117	120

<sup>1</sup> 300 counties.

<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.*

From June through October 1935 males 16–24 years of age left the relief rolls faster than did females of the same ages. As a result the ratio of males to females in this age group declined from 94 in June to 85 in October.

<sup>5</sup> Woodbury, Robert M., "Infant Mortality in the United States," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 188, November 1936 pp. 94–107.

## AGE AND SEX OF HEADS OF RELIEF CASES

The head of the relief case is usually the one to whom the household looks for its support. It is the function of the head to supply the necessary means for maintaining the natural or legal dependents in the household. The extent to which the head is able to exercise that function under our competitive economic system is contingent to a large extent upon age and sex.

Heads of rural relief cases were 43 years of age on the average in June 1935 and about 14 out of every 100 heads were women (tables 26 and 27). One-fourth (25 percent) of all heads of households were 55 years of age and over and 10 percent had reached or passed the age of 65. At the other extreme 8 percent were young persons less than 25 years of age.

**Table 26.**—Age of Heads of Rural Relief Cases, June 1935, by Residence and Sex  
[300 counties]

Age	Total rural			Open country			Village		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Number.....	117,763	100,947	16,816	71,722	63,321	8,401	46,041	37,626	8,415
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
16-24 years.....	7.7	8.1	5.9	7.9	8.2	5.4	7.4	7.8	6.3
25-34 years.....	23.4	24.9	15.2	24.4	25.7	15.5	22.1	23.9	14.8
35-44 years.....	22.8	22.9	21.9	23.3	23.4	22.3	22.1	22.1	21.6
45-54 years.....	20.8	20.4	22.7	20.6	20.3	23.4	20.9	20.5	22.1
55-64 years.....	15.7	14.9	19.7	15.4	14.6	20.8	16.1	15.4	18.6
65 years and over.....	9.6	8.8	14.6	8.4	7.8	12.6	11.4	10.3	16.6
Median.....	42.8	41.9	47.6	42.1	41.4	47.4	43.8	42.8	47.8

**Table 27.**—Female Heads per 100 Rural Relief Cases, June and October 1935, by Age and Residence  
[300 counties]

Age	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	June	October	June	October	June	October
All ages.....	14.3	16.3	11.7	12.8	18.3	22.2
16-24 years.....	10.8	12.6	8.0	9.1	15.5	18.4
25-34 years.....	9.2	12.0	7.5	9.6	12.2	16.7
35-44 years.....	13.7	16.2	11.2	13.0	17.9	22.2
45-54 years.....	15.7	18.2	13.3	15.0	19.4	23.6
55-64 years.....	18.0	18.5	15.9	14.9	21.2	24.2
65 years and over.....	21.7	21.7	17.6	15.5	26.4	28.6

Village heads of households were older by 2 years, on the average, than open country residents, the medians being 44 and 42 years, respectively. This residence difference in average age was the result of a concentration of aged heads in villages. More than 11 percent of all village heads were 65 years of age and over as compared with more than 8 percent of the heads in the open country (table 26).



Female heads of households were, on the average, 5 or 6 years older than male heads. In the open country male heads averaged 41 and female heads 47 years of age. In villages the average ages of male and female heads were 43 and 48 years, respectively. There were relatively fewer young female than young male heads in both the open country and village relief populations. Conversely, there was a disproportionately large number of aged female heads among relief clients.

A much larger proportion of female heads was found in villages than in the open country in June 1935. This difference indicates a tendency for widows, divorcees, and single women to concentrate in villages. The difference was found in each age group (table 27).

#### Regional and Racial Differences

The proportion of female heads of rural relief households was greater in the Southern States than in the other regions (table 28). While the average number of female heads per 100 households was about 14, in 13 Southern States the ratio was 18 per 100. One reason for the difference between the South and other parts of the country with respect to the ratio of females to all relief household heads was the presence of Negroes, among whom the proportion of female heads on relief was high. In June 33 percent and in October 28 percent of all heads of Negro cases in the Southern States were women.

**Table 28.—Female Heads per 100 Rural Relief Cases, June and October 1935, by Region and Residence**

[300 counties]

Region	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	June	October	June	October	June	October
All States sampled.....	14.3	16.3	11.7	12.8	18.3	22.2
11 Northern States.....	10.5	13.6	7.3	9.1	14.7	19.7
13 Southern States.....	18.3	19.0	15.6	15.7	23.8	26.1
White.....	14.8	16.9	12.1	14.0	20.6	23.7
Negro.....	33.0	27.9	31.8	24.1	35.0	34.1
6 Western States.....	10.2	14.1	7.2	9.6	13.3	18.8

In the total rural relief population of June 1935 every tenth household head was 65 years of age or older. The percentage of aged heads of households on relief was highest in the North and among Negroes of the South (table 29). Twelve percent of all heads of cases in the Northern States were aged persons and sixteen percent of all Negro heads of cases were aged persons. Racial differences in this respect were particularly striking. Whereas almost 1 out of every 6 Negro heads on relief was an aged person, only 1 out of every 16 white household heads on relief in the same counties was an aged individual.

**Table 29.—Aged Heads<sup>1</sup> per 100 Rural Relief Cases, June and October 1935, by Region and Residence**

[300 counties]

Region	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	June	October	June	October	June	October
All States sampled.....	9.6	11.1	8.4	9.3	11.4	13.8
11 Northern States.....	11.6	14.8	10.3	12.9	13.4	17.4
13 Southern States.....	8.1	8.7	7.2	7.3	9.9	11.8
White.....	6.2	7.7	5.4	6.6	7.9	10.5
Negro.....	15.9	12.6	15.5	10.7	16.4	15.7
6 Western States.....	8.9	9.0	7.5	8.1	10.3	9.9

<sup>1</sup> 65 years of age and over.

An especially large proportion of the aged heads of Negro relief cases in the South were women. In that region only 19 percent of the aged heads of white relief cases were women in comparison with 41 percent of the aged heads of Negro relief cases (table 30).

**Table 30.—Aged Female Heads per 100 Aged Heads<sup>1</sup> of Rural Relief Cases, June and October 1935, by Region and Residence**

[300 counties]

Region	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	June	October	June	October	June	October
All States sampled.....	21.7	21.7	17.6	15.5	26.4	28.6
11 Northern States.....	17.4	20.1	12.2	12.5	22.6	27.8
13 Southern States.....	27.2	24.5	24.4	20.6	31.2	29.7
White.....	18.6	18.5	13.7	14.4	25.7	24.6
Negro.....	40.5	39.7	41.0	38.9	39.7	40.6
6 Western States.....	20.3	19.0	10.0	6.1	27.9	29.9

<sup>1</sup> 65 years of age and over.

## Chapter VII

### MARITAL CONDITION

OF ALL rural persons 16-64 years of age on relief in October 1935 <sup>1</sup> more than two-thirds were married or separated, one-fourth had never been married, and the remainder had been married but their marriages had been broken by death (6 percent) or divorce (0.7 percent) (table 31).

**Table 31.**—Marital Condition of the Rural Relief Population,<sup>1</sup> October 1935, and of the General Rural Population,<sup>2</sup> 1930, 16 Through 64 Years of Age, by Sex

Sex	Total	Married <sup>1</sup>	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Unknown
Rural relief population.....	100.0	68.1	25.2	6.0	0.7	—
Male.....	100.0	66.7	30.1	2.8	0.4	—
Female.....	100.0	69.5	20.7	8.9	0.9	—
General rural population.....	100.0	65.2	29.3	4.5	0.9	0.1
Male.....	100.0	61.1	34.9	3.0	0.9	0.1
Female.....	100.0	69.8	23.1	6.1	0.9	0.1

<sup>1</sup> 300 counties and 83 New England townships. The relief sample included 88,596 males and 93,472 females 16-64 years of age.

<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.*

<sup>3</sup> Including separated persons.

#### SEX DIFFERENCES

As in the general population, the sexes showed striking differences in marital status by age (fig. 19). In both the open country and village relief populations there were, relatively speaking, more young women than young men married, owing to the fact that women generally marry at a younger age than men. Conversely, there were more older men than older women married owing to larger proportions of widows than of widowers, especially in the advanced age groups (tables 32 and 33). For the age group 16-24 years of age, 43 percent of the females but only 20 percent of the males on relief were married. At the opposite extreme was the age group 55-64 years in which 81 percent of the men were married in comparison with only 68 percent of the women.

<sup>1</sup> Data on the marital condition of the rural relief population are available for October 1935 only.

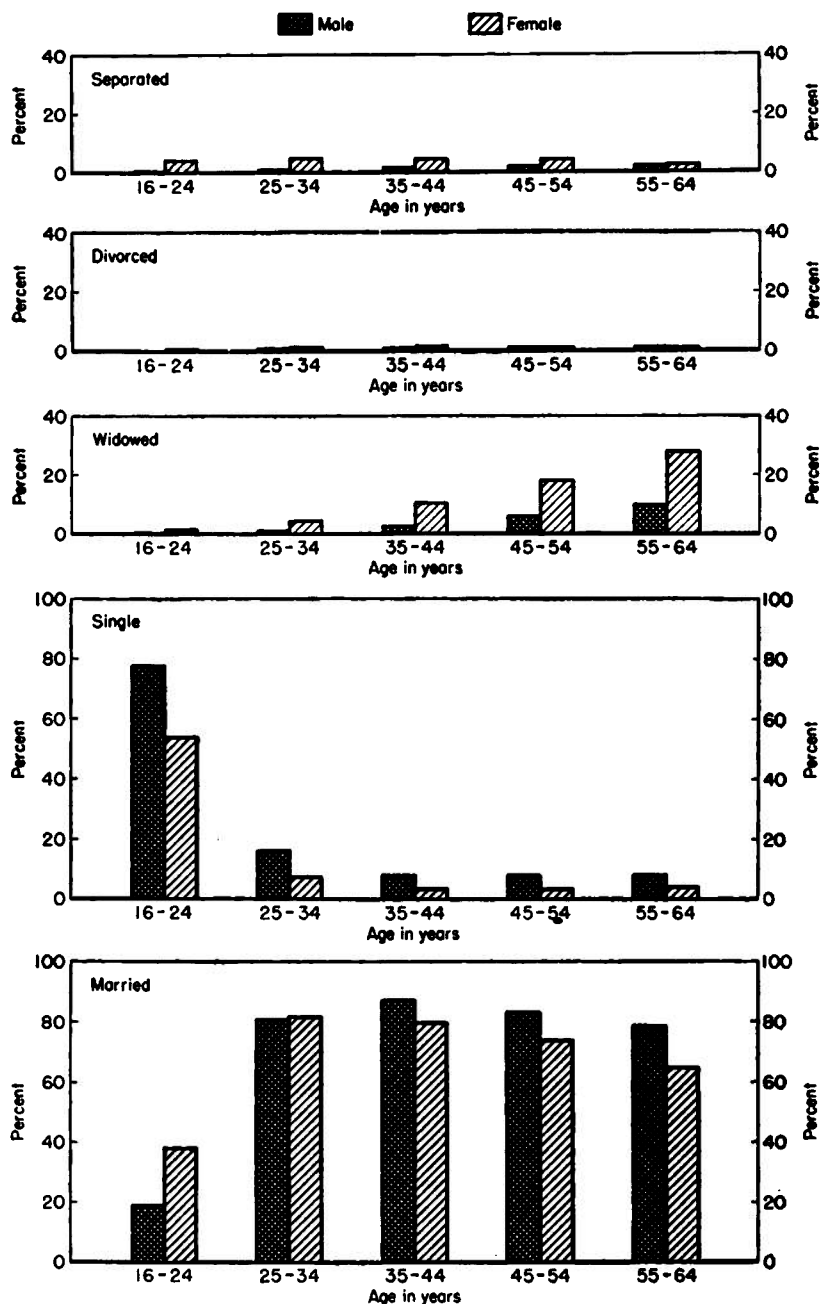


FIG. 19—MARITAL CONDITION OF THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION  
16 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE, BY SEX

October 1935

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Nearly 10 percent of all women on relief were widowed or divorced in comparison with only 3 percent of the men (table 31). The percentage of women on relief who had never married (21 percent) was much less than that for men on relief (30 percent).

**Table 32.**—Percent of Married Persons <sup>1</sup> in the Rural Relief Population, <sup>2</sup> October 1935, and in the General Rural Population, <sup>3</sup> 1930, 16 Through 64 Years of Age, by Residence and Sex

Residence and sex	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>RELIEF POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	68.1	32.7	84.2	86.8	81.6	74.9
Male.....	66.7	20.4	81.5	89.3	85.5	80.5
Female.....	69.5	43.0	86.6	84.5	77.5	67.9
Open country.....	69.4	33.6	85.4	88.5	83.7	77.0
Male.....	67.2	20.5	82.3	90.4	86.5	80.9
Female.....	71.7	45.1	88.2	86.7	80.5	71.6
Village.....	65.6	30.8	81.7	83.5	78.0	71.7
Male.....	65.7	20.3	80.0	86.9	83.6	75.8
Female.....	65.4	39.1	83.2	80.6	72.5	63.0
<b>GENERAL POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	65.2	27.7	77.1	84.7	81.9	74.6
Male.....	61.1	17.0	71.0	82.7	82.1	78.3
Female.....	69.8	39.2	83.4	86.8	81.7	70.1

<sup>1</sup> Including separated persons.

<sup>2</sup> 300 counties and 83 New England townships.

<sup>3</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.*

**Table 33.**—Percent of Widowed Persons in the Rural Relief Population, <sup>1</sup> October 1935, and in the General Rural Population, <sup>2</sup> 1930, 16 Through 64 Years of Age, by Residence and Sex

Residence and sex	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>RELIEF POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	6.0	0.6	2.9	6.5	11.7	17.5
Male.....	2.8	0.1	0.7	2.2	5.8	9.6
Female.....	8.9	1.0	4.9	10.5	18.0	27.3
Open country.....	5.2	0.6	2.6	5.6	10.3	16.2
Male.....	2.8	0.2	0.7	2.1	5.6	10.1
Female.....	7.6	0.9	4.2	9.0	15.7	24.5
Village.....	7.4	0.6	3.7	8.3	14.0	19.5
Male.....	3.0	0.1	0.7	2.5	6.2	8.8
Female.....	11.4	1.0	6.3	13.2	21.8	31.0
<b>GENERAL POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	4.5	0.5	1.8	3.8	7.9	15.5
Male.....	3.0	0.3	1.2	2.6	5.3	10.0
Female.....	6.1	0.8	2.5	5.2	11.0	22.5

<sup>1</sup> 300 counties and 83 New England townships.

<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.*

The proportions of separated persons were much greater for women than for men on relief. As a general average, 3.3 percent of all married rural relief persons were living apart from the spouse. The percent separated was three times as great for women as for men in the relief population (table 34).

**Table 34.**—Percent of Separated Persons Among All Married Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age on Relief in Rural Areas, October 1935, by Residence and Sex

[300 counties]

Age	Total rural			Open country			Village		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
All ages.....	3.3	1.5	4.9	2.7	1.4	3.9	4.4	1.7	6.9
16-24 years.....	3.4	0.9	4.4	2.8	0.7	3.6	4.8	1.2	6.3
25-34 years.....	3.1	0.8	5.1	2.6	0.7	4.3	4.2	1.1	6.9
35-44 years.....	3.5	1.7	5.3	2.8	1.6	4.1	5.0	2.1	7.8
45-54 years.....	3.2	1.7	5.0	2.6	1.6	3.7	4.4	1.8	7.6
55-64 years.....	3.0	2.6	3.5	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.5	2.6	4.7

**RESIDENCE DIFFERENCES**

A slightly higher proportion of the relief population was married or separated in the open country than in villages, 69 percent as compared with 66 percent (table 32). Greater proportions of separated persons were found in villages than in the open country for all age groups and for both sexes, except for men in the older age groups (table 34).

The percent widowed was also greater among village than among open country residents who were on relief in October 1935 (table 33). Such differences were present only among those in the older age groups, however, the incidence of widowhood falling about equally upon young village and open country persons.

The proportion of divorced persons in the villages was more than double that in the open country. The highest divorce ratio per thousand was found among women 35-44 years of age residing in villages (table 35).

**Table 35.**—Divorced Persons per 1,000 Rural Relief Population,<sup>1</sup> October 1935, and per 1,000 General Rural Population,<sup>2</sup> 1930, 16 Through 64 Years of Age, by Residence and Sex

Residence and sex	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>RELIEF POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	7	2	6	10	9	11
Male.....	4	1	3	5	7	10
Female.....	9	4	9	15	11	13
Open country.....	5	2	4	6	8	8
Male.....	3	1	3	3	6	8
Female.....	6	2	5	10	11	7
Village.....	11	4	11	17	10	17
Male.....	6	—	8	10	8	15
Female.....	15	7	17	24	11	20
<b>GENERAL POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	9	4	11	11	12	13
Male.....	9	2	10	12	14	14
Female.....	9	6	12	11	10	9

<sup>1</sup> 300 counties and 83 New England townships.<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.*

## RELIEF AND TOTAL POPULATION COMPARED

A larger number of relief persons were married in proportion to the total relief population 16-64 years of age than of all rural persons in proportion to the total rural population (table 31). When differences in the age and sex of the two populations (fig. 20) and the deficit of marriages during the depression<sup>2</sup> are taken into consideration, the

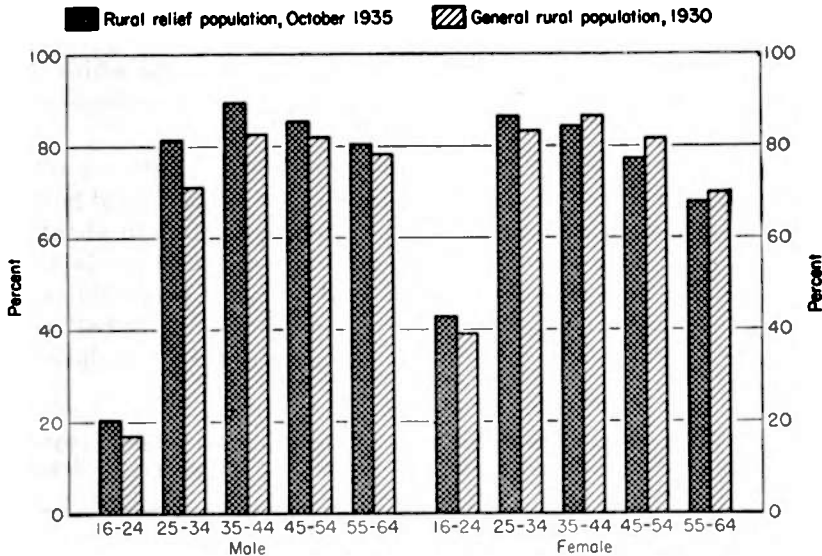


FIG. 20—PERCENT OF MARRIED\* PERSONS IN THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION, OCTOBER 1935, AND IN THE GENERAL RURAL POPULATION,\*\* 1930, 16 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE, BY SEX

\*Including separated persons.

\*\*Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.

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difference between the proportions married becomes even greater than the comparison with the 1930 Census indicates. The age and sex distribution of the rural relief population differed from that of the general population so as to give a smaller expectancy of married persons in the relief population, other things being equal. The relief population was younger, a larger proportion was under the ages at which the greatest percentages of people are married, and there were fewer men per 100 women in the relief than in the general population.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Stouffer, Samuel A. and Spencer, Lyle M., "Marriage and Divorce in Recent Years," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 188, November 1936, p. 64.

<sup>3</sup> Groves and Ogburn have shown that a greater percentage of people is married when there is an excess of men than when the sexes are equal. See Groves, E. R. and Ogburn, Wm. F., *American Marriage and Family Relationships*, New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1928, ch. XIII.

Persons in the relief population were married not only in larger proportions but also at earlier ages than persons in the general rural population. In each of the three younger age groups a larger percentage of relief persons than of persons in the total population was married (table 32).

In most age and sex groups the number divorced per thousand was greater in the general than in the relief population (table 35). This difference is to be expected since divorce rates are usually larger for the higher income classes than for the lower economic groups which were represented in the relief group and among which separations—"the poor man's divorce"—are more prevalent.

For each age group the incidence of widowhood was greater among women in the rural relief population than in the general rural population. Widowed males appeared in the relief population in about the same proportions, however, as in the general population (table 33).

The number of single persons 16-64 years of age in proportion to all persons 16-64 years of age was less in all age groups and for both sexes in the rural relief population than in the general rural population in 1930 (table 36).

**Table 36.**—Percent of Single Persons in the Rural Relief Population,<sup>1</sup> October 1935, and in the General Rural Population,<sup>2</sup> 1930, 16 Through 64 Years of Age, by Residence and Sex

Residence and sex	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>RELIEF POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	25.2	66.5	12.3	5.7	5.8	6.5
Male.....	30.1	79.4	17.5	8.0	8.0	8.8
Female.....	20.7	55.7	7.6	3.5	3.4	3.5
Open country.....	24.9	65.7	11.7	5.3	5.2	6.1
Male.....	29.7	79.3	16.7	7.2	7.3	8.2
Female.....	20.1	53.8	7.0	3.4	2.8	3.1
Village.....	25.9	68.2	13.6	6.4	7.0	7.0
Male.....	30.7	79.6	19.1	9.6	9.4	9.9
Female.....	21.7	59.1	8.8	3.8	4.6	4.0
<b>GENERAL POPULATION</b>						
Total rural.....	29.3	71.3	19.9	10.2	8.9	8.6
Male.....	34.9	82.3	26.7	13.4	11.2	10.3
Female.....	23.1	59.3	12.9	6.8	6.3	6.5

<sup>1</sup> 300 counties and 83 New England townships.

<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.*

Larger proportions of young women on relief than of young women generally were married, but relatively fewer women past 34 years of age were married in the relief group, owing to disproportionately large percentages of widows among older women on relief (tables 32 and 33). Men on relief in every age group were married in somewhat greater proportions than were men generally. The difference was largely accounted for by a smaller percentage of single men in the relief group. The percentage of widowed and divorced men in the relief population



was not greatly different from that of men in the general population (table 31).

#### AREA DIFFERENCES

Striking area differences in marriage<sup>4</sup> ratios were found when age and sex were taken into consideration. The proportion of youth on relief married varied from 23 percent in the Spring Wheat Area to 37 percent in the Western Cotton and Appalachian-Ozark Areas. Only 23 percent of the Negro youth on relief in the Western Cotton Area were married but 30 percent in the Eastern Cotton Area were married. Considering persons in the age group of maximum marriage ratios for both sexes together (35-44 years), the areas varied from 81 percent married in the Eastern Cotton Area to nearly 93 percent in the Winter Wheat Area. The presence of Negroes in the Eastern Cotton Area accounted only in part for the low percentage of relief persons married, for while 79 percent of the Negroes of this age group were married only 82 percent of the whites on relief were married (appendix table 27).

The smallest proportions of separated persons on relief were found in the Wheat Areas, while the largest proportions were reported in the Eastern Cotton Area, especially among Negroes. Next to the Eastern Cotton Area the regions with the greatest proportions of relief persons separated were the Western Cotton and the Lake States Cut-Over Areas (table 37).

**Table 37.—Percent of Separated Persons Among All Married Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age on Relief in Rural Areas, October 1935, by Residence and Area**

[138 counties]

Residence	All areas <sup>1</sup>	Eastern Cotton			Western Cotton			Appalachian-Ozark	Lake States Cut-Over	Corn Belt	Hay and Dairy	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Ranching
		Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro							
Total rural.....	3.3	8.2	7.0	12.1	4.2	3.3	9.0	2.3	4.2	3.2	3.2	1.9	1.5	2.7
Open country.....	2.9	7.0	5.8	11.9	3.1	2.6	6.2	2.1	3.9	2.6	2.7	0.9	1.1	1.2
Village.....	4.1	11.3	10.7	12.5	7.3	5.5	18.4	2.7	4.9	3.5	3.9	3.4	2.3	3.5

<sup>1</sup> The slight differences in open country and village percentages between this table and table 34 are due to the fact that this table is based on the 138 counties constituting the area sample, whereas table 34 is based on the larger State sample of 300 counties.

The proportion of the rural relief population widowed was smallest in the northern and western areas and largest in the southern areas (appendix table 28).

Single persons ranged from 23 percent of the rural relief population, 16-64 years of age, in the Winter Wheat Area to 31 percent in the Lake States Cut-Over Area (appendix table 28).

<sup>4</sup> In this section the married include the separated in order to make the data comparable with those in the preceding section which follows census procedure, i. e., including the separated with the married.

## MARITAL CONDITION OF HEADS OF RELIEF CASES

In October 1935 only three-fourths (75 percent) of all heads of rural relief cases were married and living with their spouses. An additional 4 percent, while married, were living apart. About one-tenth of all heads were widowed and an additional one-tenth were single persons. About 1 out of every 100 was a divorced person (tables 38 and 39).

**Table 38.**—Marital Condition of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Sex

[300 counties]

Age and sex	All heads		Married	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
	Number	Percent					
All ages.....	78,116	100.0	74.8	9.2	10.8	1.3	3.9
Male.....	65,868	100.0	86.2	8.6	3.5	0.5	1.2
Female.....	12,248	100.0	13.2	12.7	50.1	5.8	18.2
16-24 years.....	7,036	100.0	67.0	26.3	2.3	0.9	3.5
Male.....	6,150	100.0	76.1	23.0	0.5	—	0.4
Female.....	886	100.0	3.6	49.2	15.1	6.8	25.3
25-34 years.....	20,782	100.0	80.6	9.2	5.1	1.0	4.1
Male.....	18,284	100.0	90.4	8.1	0.7	0.2	0.6
Female.....	2,498	100.0	9.5	16.9	37.3	7.0	29.3
35-44 years.....	19,706	100.0	77.0	6.4	10.2	1.7	4.7
Male.....	16,492	100.0	89.9	6.0	2.2	0.5	1.4
Female.....	3,214	100.0	10.8	8.7	51.6	7.7	21.2
45-54 years.....	17,338	100.0	73.1	6.6	15.5	1.3	3.5
Male.....	14,168	100.0	86.0	6.3	5.6	0.7	1.4
Female.....	3,170	100.0	15.2	8.0	59.3	4.4	13.1
55-64 years.....	13,254	100.0	68.5	7.7	19.1	1.6	3.1
Male.....	10,774	100.0	79.6	7.9	9.3	1.1	2.1
Female.....	2,480	100.0	20.6	6.7	61.5	3.9	7.3

**Table 39.**—Marital Condition of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Residence

[300 counties]

Residence	All heads		Married	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
	Number	Percent					
Total rural.....	78,116	100.0	74.8	9.2	10.8	1.3	3.9
Open country.....	49,854	100.0	78.5	8.2	9.3	0.9	3.1
Village.....	28,262	100.0	68.2	11.1	13.5	2.0	5.2

While most male heads of rural relief cases were married, one-half of all female heads were widowed (fig. 21). About 86 percent of the males were married and living with their wives, whereas only 13 percent of the female heads were married and living with their husbands. Divorce and separation rates were naturally much higher among female than among male heads.

The lowest marriage rates among heads of households on relief in rural sections were found in the Eastern Cotton and Lake States Cut-Over Areas. The low marriage rate in the Eastern Cotton Area

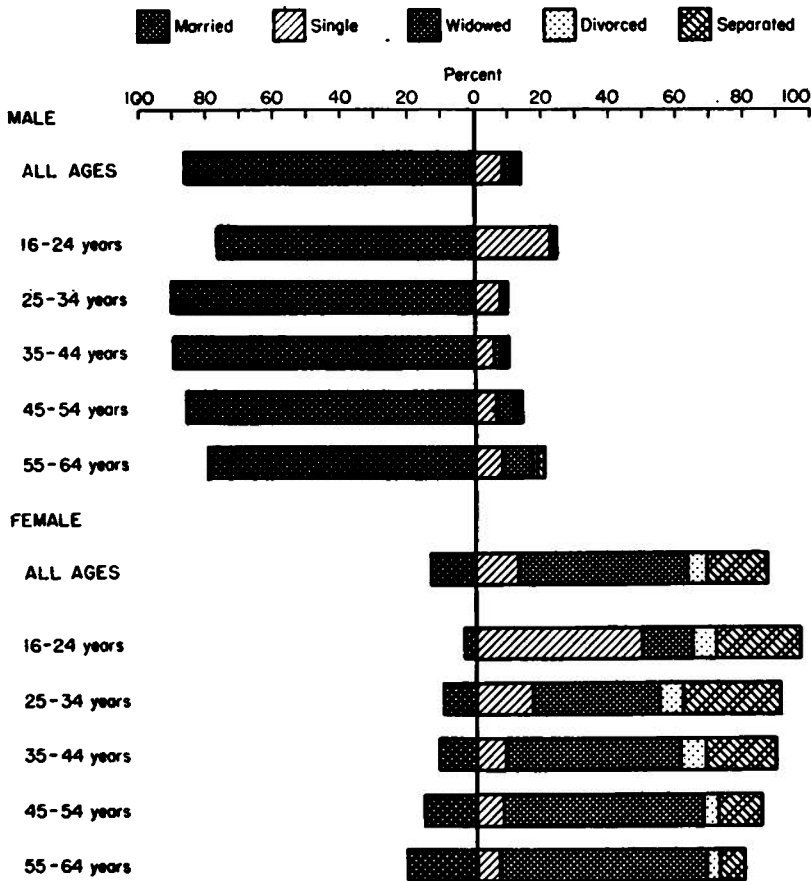


FIG. 21—MARITAL CONDITION OF HEADS OF RURAL RELIEF CASES,  
BY AGE AND SEX  
October 1935

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(62 percent) resulted from the large number of separated and single female heads. Only 61 percent of all heads in the Lake States Cut-Over Area were married, owing primarily to the large number of single men in that area (appendix table 29).

The highest proportions of heads of rural relief cases who were married were found in the Spring and Winter Wheat Areas. In these areas relatively few female heads were found and 81 percent of all heads of rural relief cases were married. In the Appalachian-Ozark Area 77 percent of all heads of rural relief cases were married. The remaining areas, Hay and Dairy, Corn Belt, Western Cotton, and Ranching, were fairly close to the average for all areas with respect to marital condition of the heads of rural relief cases.

Marked differences in marital condition were found between heads of Negro and white cases in the South. In the Eastern Cotton Area only 52 percent of the Negro heads of rural relief cases were married as compared with 65 percent of white household heads. More Negroes than whites on relief reported themselves as widowed or separated. Relatively more Negro than white men on relief were single, but a much greater proportion of white than of Negro women on relief were single.

Race differences in marital condition of heads of rural relief households were even more striking in the Western Cotton Area. Here a much greater proportion of whites than of Negroes was married and more than twice as great a proportion of Negroes as of whites was widowed. The proportions single and separated were also about twice as great for Negroes as for whites (appendix table 29). These race differences were due primarily to the large number of female heads among Negro households on relief.

# Chapter VIII

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## EDUCATION

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**THE RURAL** population of the United States is an educationally underprivileged group. Compared with those of cities, rural school facilities are seriously limited.<sup>1</sup> Small schools, inadequate curricula, poorly trained and poorly paid teachers, unsafe and unsanitary buildings, lack of up-to-date equipment, inadequate professional leadership, insufficient local school revenue, and inadequate units of local school administration are factors which sharply limit the educational opportunities of rural children.<sup>2</sup>

The marked differences between rural and urban communities with respect to school facilities lead to marked differences in the educational attainments of these two residence classes. The 1930 Census of Population revealed the fact that 4.3 percent of the total population, 10 years of age and over, were illiterate, i. e., unable to read or write either in English or in some other language. The illiteracy rate in urban areas was only 3.2 percent as compared with 4.8 percent for rural-nonfarm and 6.9 percent for rural-farm areas.<sup>3</sup>

As the rural population represents an educationally underprivileged part of the total population, so the rural relief population represents an educationally underprivileged group in the rural population. Of all rural relief persons 10-64 years of age in October 1935,<sup>4</sup> more than one-fifth (21 percent) had less than a fourth grade education, and 6 percent had no formal education at all, having failed to complete a single school grade (table 40 and fig. 22). The average achievement was only 6.5 grades.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States: 1932-34*, Bulletin, 1935, No. 26, U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of Education, Washington, D. C., p. 40.

<sup>2</sup> Dawson, Howard A., "Rural Schools of Today," *Journal of the National Education Association*, Vol. 25, May 1936, p. 156.

<sup>3</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930*, Population Vol. II, pp. 1219-1220

<sup>4</sup> Data on the education of the rural relief population are available for October 1935 only.

**Table 40.—School Grade Completed by Rural Relief Persons 10 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Age**

[138 counties]

Last grade or year completed	All ages	10-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
Number .....	119,902	21,370	9,810	7,478	8,726	10,430	21,708	17,658	13,504	9,218
Percent .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:										
None.....	5.6	1.7	1.2	2.2	2.6	3.2	4.6	8.2	11.4	16.9
1-3 grades.....	15.0	31.3	8.4	9.2	7.1	7.5	10.2	13.2	16.3	17.3
4-6 grades.....	23.7	42.5	19.0	12.5	12.9	15.6	19.7	22.3	24.5	24.1
6 grades.....	11.9	14.4	13.6	9.6	9.5	10.5	11.5	12.4	11.4	10.6
7 grades.....	10.4	7.9	20.9	11.3	10.6	10.3	10.9	9.8	8.3	7.3
8 grades.....	21.1	2.0	24.2	23.9	28.0	30.1	28.9	24.6	21.4	18.1
High school:										
1 year.....	4.1	0.2	9.9	11.7	6.3	5.8	4.2	3.1	1.9	1.6
2 years.....	3.2	—	2.4	11.5	7.4	6.2	3.4	2.3	1.8	1.5
3 years.....	1.7	—	0.4	6.3	6.2	3.0	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.4
4 years.....	2.7	—	—	1.7	9.0	7.9	3.9	2.0	1.4	1.5
Higher education:										
1 year or more.....	0.6	—	—	0.1	0.4	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.7
Median.....	6.5	4.8	7.4	8.2	8.3	8.1	7.4	6.5	5.8	5.3

\*Less than 0.05 percent.

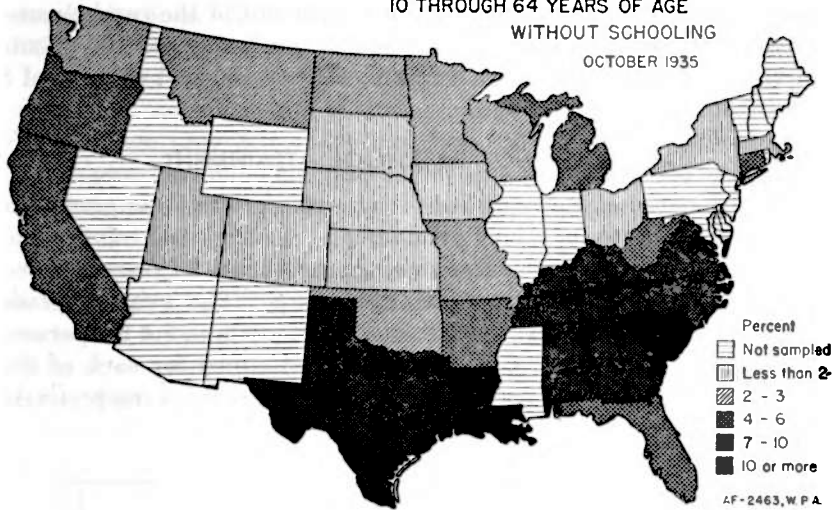
In no age group had the children of relief families made normal school progress if enrollment at age 6, the completion of one grade at age 7, and the attainment of an additional grade each successive year be taken as normal. On the basis of such a norm children 10 years of age would have completed four grades. Of all rural relief children 10-13 years of age 33 percent had completed no grade at all or less than four grades. The normal expectation would be that children past 14 years of age would be through grade school. Of all rural relief children 14 and 15 years of age, only 37 percent had completed eight grades and 10 percent had not completed four grades, owing to having left school or to extreme retardation. Of all rural youth just past high school age (18-20 years), only 9 percent had attained a complete high school education (table 40).

The educational attainment of the rural relief population was directly compared with that of persons not receiving relief in a study of rural relief and nonrelief families made in October 1933 in 47 sample counties.<sup>5</sup> It was found that the proportion of heads of households without any schooling was nearly three times as great in the relief as in the nonrelief population. The study showed further that children of relief families had less education than the children of their nonrelief neighbors although differences were not as great for children as for their parents.

In spite of the more extensive educational facilities in urban than in rural areas the average educational achievement of urban relief clients

<sup>5</sup> McCormick, T. C., *Comparative Study of Rural Relief and Non-Relief Households*, Research Monograph II, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1935, pp. 91-92.

FIG. 22—PERCENT OF RURAL RELIEF PERSONS  
10 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE  
WITHOUT SCHOOLING  
OCTOBER 1935



is little greater than that of rural clients. In a study of the characteristics of the relief population in 13 cities the educational achievement of heads of cases was determined for October 1935.<sup>6</sup> It was found that the median school grade completed by urban relief heads (7.0 grades) was only 0.6 of a grade more than that for rural relief heads (6.4 grades). The percentage of urban clients without any formal schooling (9.9 percent) was slightly greater than that of rural clients

Table 41.—School Grade Completed by Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Age

[138 counties]

Last grade or year completed	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
Number.....	38,636	3,638	10,526	9,972	8,354	6,146
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:						
None.....	9.0	3.8	4.4	8.4	12.3	16.7
1-3 grades.....	14.2	9.6	11.4	14.4	17.2	17.5
4-5 grades.....	22.2	18.9	19.9	22.3	24.5	24.2
6 grades.....	11.2	10.1	10.4	13.0	11.1	10.3
7 grades.....	9.1	9.2	11.0	9.7	7.7	6.9
8 grades.....	23.9	27.2	29.2	23.2	20.6	18.2
High school:						
1 year.....	3.4	5.7	4.8	3.1	2.0	1.7
2 years.....	2.6	5.7	3.4	2.1	1.8	1.6
3 years.....	1.2	3.4	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.4
4 years.....	2.3	5.6	3.0	1.8	1.2	1.6
Higher education:						
1 year or more.....	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9
Median.....	6.4	7.8	7.4	6.4	5.7	5.3

<sup>6</sup> Carmichael, F. L. and Payne, Stanley L., *The 1935 Relief Population in 13 Cities: A Cross-Section*, Research Bulletin Series I, No. 23, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., December 31, 1936, p. 8.

(9.0 percent). Among urban clients, however, 8.9 percent had finished high school as compared with 3.2 percent of the rural clients. Moreover, there were 8 more grade school graduates per 100 clients in urban than in rural areas where only 34 per 100 had completed 8 grades (table 41).

#### AGE DIFFERENCES IN SCHOOL ATTAINMENT

That educational opportunities have progressively improved is reflected in the data on school attainment. In the rural relief population of October 1935 each successive age group past 20 years had had less education than the preceding age group. The average grade completed dropped from 8.1 for persons 21–24 years to 7.4 for persons 25–34 years of age. The grade attainment declined for each of the three succeeding 10-year age periods to 6.5, 5.8, and 5.3, respectively (table 40 and fig. 23).

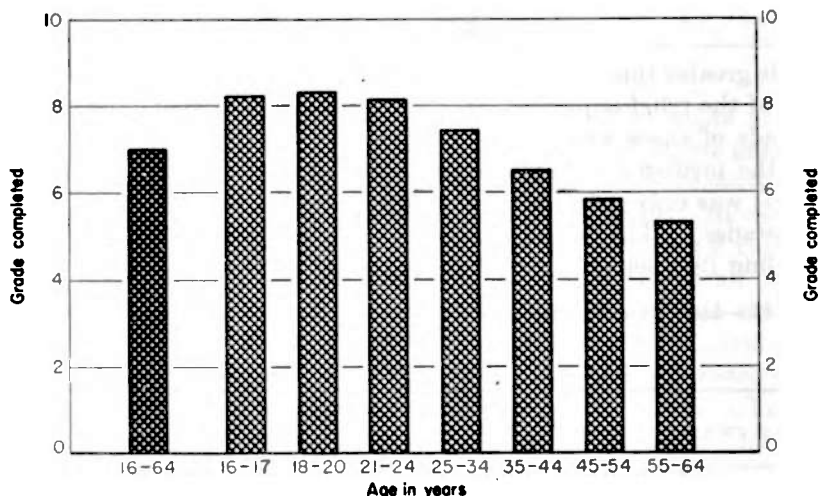


FIG. 23—MEDIAN SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED BY RURAL RELIEF PERSONS 16 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE  
October 1935

AF-2465, W. P. A.

The development of rural educational opportunities may be observed by comparing the grade completion of persons 55–64 years of age with that of persons 18–20 years of age. Persons in the older group reached the age of elementary school graduation between 1885 and 1894. About 34 percent reported no schooling or less than a fourth grade education, and only 24 percent finished elementary school. Persons in the 18–20 year age group reached their 14th year during 1929, 1930, or 1931. Only 10 percent of these failed to attain at least a fourth grade education, while 57 percent finished the eighth grade. Of the



older group 17 percent, but of the younger group only 3 percent, had no formal schooling. Only 2 percent of the older but more than 9 percent of the younger group had completed high school (table 40).<sup>7</sup>

Among heads of households, also, the younger ones reported greater educational achievements than the older ones. Of all heads 16-24 years of age only 4 percent had not completed any school grade. Each higher decennial age group showed a greater proportion without schooling, reaching 17 percent for the highest age group, 55-64 years (table 41).

The degree of schooling attained by household heads also was less for each higher age group. While 48 percent of the youngest group of heads had finished the eighth grade, only 24 percent of the oldest group had completed grade school. Twenty-one percent of the youngest group of heads had finished 1 or more years of high school and six percent had finished high school. At the other extreme, only 6 percent of the oldest group of heads had entered high school and less than one-half of those who entered had finished all 4 years (table 41).

#### RESIDENCE DIFFERENCES IN SCHOOL ATTAINMENT

The open country relief population was decidedly more retarded educationally than was the village population. The average school attainment of the village population 10-64 years of age was seven grades. The open country population lagged almost one full grade behind this average. Nearly 41 percent of the village group had completed the elementary school grades, whereas only 29 percent of the open country population had advanced that far in their education. Only 16 percent of the villagers, but 24 percent of the open country population, had failed to attain a fourth grade education. The percentage of open country persons with no schooling was nearly twice as great as that of villagers, and the proportion of open country persons who had finished high school was less than one-half the proportion of villagers who had completed high school (appendix table 30).

Similar differences were found between village and open country when the comparisons were limited to heads of relief households (appendix table 31). Village heads were better educated than open country heads in all age groups.

#### SEX DIFFERENCES IN SCHOOL ATTAINMENT

Of all rural relief persons 10-64 years of age, females were better educated than males. Although sex differences in educational attainment were not as great as were residence differences, such differences were persistent, characterizing every age group (appendix table 32).

Also, among heads of rural relief cases females possessed some educational advantage over males. This was particularly evident

<sup>7</sup> A very small number of persons of any age had attended college.

in the younger age groups. Of all female heads under 25 years of age, 57 percent had at least an eighth grade education and 14 percent had finished high school. Of all young male heads, only 47 percent had finished the grades and only 5 percent had completed high school. Four percent of the young men and three percent of the young women were without any formal education (appendix table 33).

As in the younger age group a larger proportion of female than of male heads 25-34 years of age had finished grade school and entered and finished high school. Of those heads of cases in the higher age groups, about the same proportions of men and women had finished the eighth grade but a larger proportion of the women than of the men had continued their schooling (appendix table 33).

#### AREA AND RACIAL DIFFERENCES IN SCHOOL ATTAINMENT

Educational attainment as indicated by the median school grade completed was much less in the southern than in the northern areas of the United States. The lowest educational level was found in the Eastern Cotton Area where the average attainment for all persons 10-64 years of age was only 5.1 grades. The average grade attainment was somewhat higher (5.6 grades) in the Appalachian-Ozark Area and was higher still (6.4 grades) in the Western Cotton Area. In all northern areas the average attainment approximated 8 grades except in the Lake States Cut-Over Area where it averaged only 7.5 grades (table 42 and fig. 24).

**Table 42.**—Median School Grade Completed by Rural Relief Persons 10 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Area

[138 counties]

Area	All ages	10-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
All areas.....	6.5	4.8	7.4	8.2	8.3	8.1	7.4	6.5	5.8	5.3
Eastern Cotton.....	5.1	3.6	5.5	6.3	6.4	6.3	5.9	5.4	4.6	4.2
White.....	5.7	4.0	5.9	7.2	7.3	7.4	6.4	6.2	5.4	5.1
Negro.....	3.0	2.7	4.1	3.3	4.3	3.6	3.7	3.1	2.1	0.9
Western Cotton.....	6.4	4.4	6.5	8.1	8.3	8.2	7.2	6.6	6.2	5.2
White.....	6.7	4.5	6.7	8.3	8.4	8.3	7.4	6.8	6.5	5.8
Negro.....	5.3	3.8	5.6	7.2	7.7	6.8	6.5	5.3	4.9	4.0
Appalachian-Ozark.....	5.6	4.6	7.0	7.2	7.5	6.9	6.1	5.4	4.9	4.2
Lake States Cut-Over.....	7.5	5.5	8.1	9.0	8.6	8.6	8.4	7.1	5.2	3.8
Corn Belt.....	8.2	5.6	8.4	9.1	9.5	8.8	8.6	8.3	7.6	6.8
Hay and Dairy.....	7.9	5.6	8.2	9.2	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.0	7.2	6.7
Winter Wheat.....	8.1	5.1	7.5	9.2	10.2	8.8	8.4	8.1	8.2	6.6
Spring Wheat.....	8.0	5.5	8.2	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.3	8.0	7.9	8.2
Ranching.....	8.3	5.1	8.1	9.3	9.6	9.2	8.8	8.4	8.3	8.1

Children were decidedly retarded in their educational development in each of the three southern areas. Assuming normal school progress, children 10-13 years of age would have a maximum average of 5.5 grades completed. In the Eastern Cotton Area children 10-13 years of age lagged about two grades behind this norm, and in the Appalachian-Ozark and Western Cotton Areas a lag of about 1 year was found. On the other hand, the normal expectancy was met in all but two of

the northern and western areas. Children 14 and 15 years of age would, under normal progress, have completed an average of 8.5 grades. A lag of 3 grades behind this norm was found in the Eastern Cotton Area, of 2 grades in the Western Cotton Area, and of 1.5 grades in the Appalachian-Ozark Area. In no other area except the Winter Wheat was the lag from expectation for this age group more than 0.4 of a grade. Similar differences in educational attainment of rural relief persons by area appear in all older age groups (table 42).

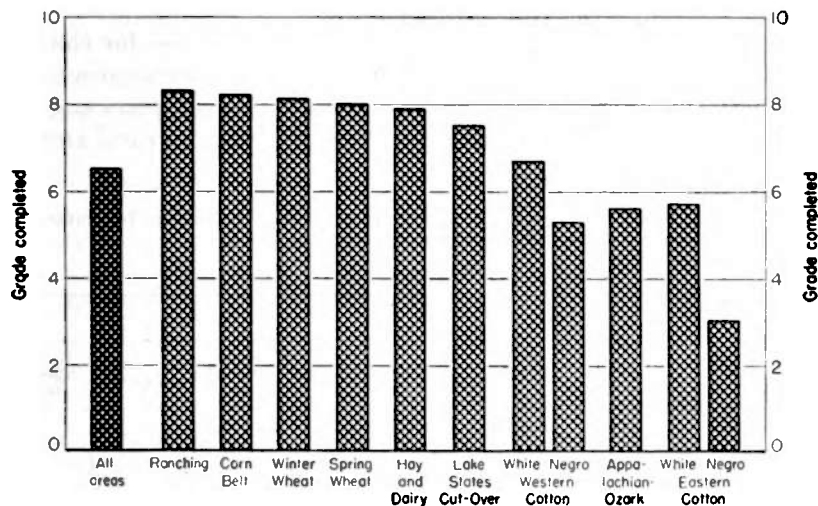


FIG. 24 - MEDIAN SCHOOL GRADE COMPLETED BY RURAL RELIEF PERSONS 10 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE, BY AREA  
October 1935

AF-2467, W. P. A.

When heads of rural relief cases were considered, regional differences again were found. On the basis of the percentage of all heads 16-64 years of age who had completed the eighth grade, the Ranching Area stood highest, two-thirds of the heads of cases in that area having at least an eighth grade education. Next in order were the Corn Belt, the Winter Wheat Area, and the Spring Wheat Area in each of which nearly three-fifths of all heads of cases had completed grade school. In the Hay and Dairy Area almost one-half of all relief heads had completed their elementary education. A much lower level of educational attainment was reached by relief clients in the Lake States Cut-Over Area where little more than two-fifths of the heads had finished eight grades and one-tenth were without any schooling. Even this low level of achievement was considerably above that in the southern areas. In the Eastern Cotton Area only one-fifth of all relief heads had completed the eighth grade. The situation was similar in the

Appalachian-Ozark Area where less than one-fourth of the heads had an eighth grade education. The Western Cotton Area made a little better showing with 30 percent of its clients having had at least a grade school education (table 43).

In the Eastern Cotton Area Negroes 10-64 years of age lagged 2.7 grades behind the whites of the same age in average grade attainment although the attainment of whites was also low. In the Western Cotton Area the discrepancy between whites and Negroes in average grade attainment was 1.4 grades (table 42).

Racial differences in educational attainment were less for children than for youth and adults. This situation reflects the improvement in educational opportunities for Negroes during recent years and also the migration of the better educated Negroes from the rural areas of the South.

**Table 43.**—School Grade Completed by Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Area

[138 counties]

Area	All heads	Percent of all heads				
		No grade completed	8 grades completed <sup>1</sup>	High school: 1 year or more	High school completed <sup>2</sup>	College: 1 year or more
All areas.....	38,636	9.0	34.3	10.4	3.2	0.9
Eastern Cotton.....	4,294	14.4	22.2	13.0	3.9	2.5
White.....	3,190	9.2	28.1	16.8	5.1	3.3
Negro.....	1,104	29.4	5.5	2.4	0.8	0.6
Western Cotton.....	4,610	6.4	30.4	12.9	2.1	0.8
White.....	3,728	5.4	33.3	13.7	2.2	0.7
Negro.....	882	10.9	17.6	9.2	1.5	1.0
Appalachian-Ozark.....	15,736	12.5	23.0	4.4	1.2	0.4
Lake States Cut-Over.....	2,410	9.9	42.1	14.8	4.0	0.7
Corn Belt.....	2,724	2.4	58.3	17.2	7.4	1.2
Hay and Dairy.....	5,158	2.9	48.9	14.8	5.0	1.1
Winter Wheat.....	790	2.8	58.2	16.6	5.7	1.1
Spring Wheat.....	1,982	5.2	55.6	13.3	5.5	1.2
Ranching.....	934	3.2	66.0	24.9	11.5	2.7

<sup>1</sup> Including those who went to high school.

<sup>2</sup> Including those who went to college.

Considering only heads of relief households, the level of educational attainment was much lower among Negroes than among whites in the two Cotton Areas. In the Eastern Cotton Area 29 percent of the Negro heads of rural relief cases had not completed a school grade and less than 6 percent had finished the eighth grade. In comparison only 9 percent of the heads of white cases in the Eastern Cotton Area were without any formal education and 28 percent had finished at least eight grades of schooling (table 43).

Both Negroes and whites were better educated in the Western Cotton Area, but here again the races differed greatly in educational attainment. In this area 33 percent of the white heads, but only 18 percent of the Negro heads, had finished the elementary school grades. Five percent of the white and eleven percent of the Negro heads lacked any formal education (table 43).

It is interesting to note in the Cotton Areas, where a small proportion of household heads had finished grade school, that a large proportion of those who did finish continued their schooling. In these areas grade school graduates constituted a select group that went on to high school although relatively few actually finished high school. The same situation was not found in the other southern region, the Appalachian-Ozark Area, where only a small proportion of those who finished grade school went to high school. This reflects the lack of educational facilities beyond elementary school available to mountain people.

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Closely related to the problem of grade attainment is the problem of school attendance. Between 1852 and 1918 every State in the Union enacted compulsory school attendance legislation. The laws differ greatly from State to State. They place the minimum compulsory attendance age at 6, 7, or 8 years and the maximum at from 14 to 18 years and require from 6 to 12 years of attendance.<sup>1</sup>

Under the compulsion of legislation and under the stimuli of improved courses of study, better health conditions, better means of transportation, and increased interest in education, school enrollment of children of compulsory attendance age has steadily improved. School attendance laws allow for very few exemptions for children 7-13 years of age. As a result, attendance for this group is at a maximum. In 1930, 93 percent of all rural children in this age group were attending school (table 44).

**Table 44.**—Percent of the Rural Relief Population,<sup>1</sup> October 1935, and of the General Rural Population,<sup>2</sup> 1930, 5 Through 24 Years of Age Attending School, by Area

Area	All ages	5-6 years	7-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years	18-20 years	21-24 years
All areas .....	58.7	29.4	95.5	86.7	40.2	9.3	0.7
Eastern Cotton .....	55.4	28.1	88.8	77.4	33.6	9.1	1.1
White .....	57.2	29.3	90.2	79.0	37.4	9.0	1.5
Negro .....	50.3	24.9	84.7	71.7	21.1	9.2	—
Western Cotton .....	60.6	14.9	94.2	89.1	45.5	12.4	—
White .....	60.4	14.5	95.3	89.5	48.6	12.6	—
Negro .....	61.6	16.5	90.2	87.7	33.0	11.7	—
Appalachian-Ozark .....	52.9	24.3	94.6	83.8	30.8	6.6	0.8
Lake States Cut-Over .....	62.1	41.8	99.0	90.0	48.0	8.0	0.3
Corn Belt .....	67.6	51.2	98.9	90.9	52.8	13.3	0.6
Hay and Dairy .....	68.0	43.0	99.2	97.6	55.3	10.4	0.3
Winter Wheat .....	67.5	35.7	98.6	94.9	69.0	20.0	3.1
Spring Wheat .....	60.5	31.6	98.1	77.9	32.1	11.9	1.3
Ranching .....	63.4	22.9	96.1	95.7	67.6	14.6	—
General rural population, 1930 .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	33.6	93.3	85.0	53.9	20.0	( <sup>3</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> 138 counties.

<sup>2</sup> *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930*, Population Vol. III, Part 1, p. 17.

<sup>3</sup> Comparable data for 21-24 year group not available.

<sup>4</sup> Deffenbaugh, Walter S. and Keesecker, Ward W., *Compulsory School Attendance Laws and Their Administration*, Bulletin, 1935, No. 4, U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of Education, Washington, D. C.

Children of rural relief clients attend school with about the same frequency as other children. In October 1935 about 94 percent of all open country relief children and 97 percent of all village relief children 7–13 years of age were attending full-time day school or intended to enter school upon the opening of the 1935–36 session (appendix table 34). The attendance rate of children in rural relief households (96 percent) (fig. 25) was actually higher than that for children in the general rural population of 1930 (93 percent) (table 44). The proportion of children 14 and 15 years of age in the rural relief population attending school was also higher than the proportion of all rural children of these ages in school in 1930. It is likely, however, that attendance rates were generally higher in 1935 than in 1930 because of constant improvement in school attendance.

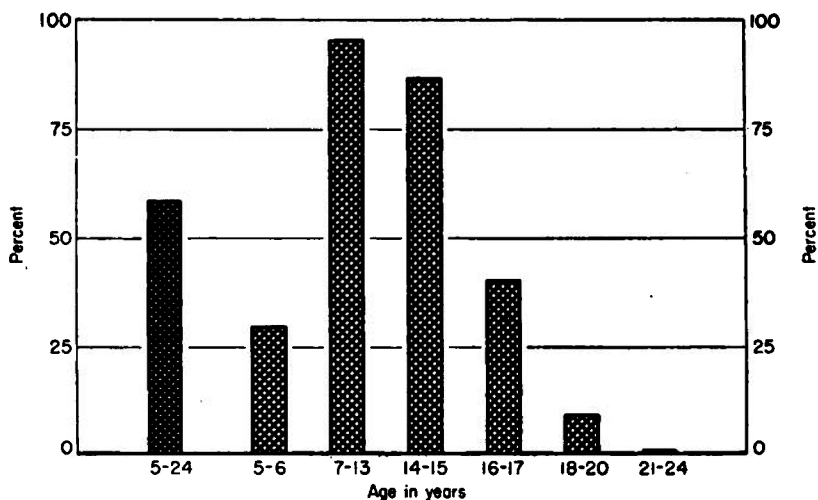


FIG. 25—PERCENT OF THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION  
5 THROUGH 24 YEARS OF AGE  
ATTENDING SCHOOL  
October 1935

AF-2469, W.P.A.

Whereas relief children under 16 years of age attended school with about the same frequency as did children in the general population of 1930, the older youth on relief were out of school in much greater proportions than were the same age groups in the general rural population. Attendance rates were much lower for rural youth 16–17 and 18–20 years of age in the relief population than in the general population of 1930 (table 44).

The nonattendance at school of children of relief parents was much greater in the South than in other areas. In all northern areas only 1 to 4 percent of children 7–13 years of age were out of school in October

1935. In striking contrast was the Eastern Cotton Area. More than 11 percent of all relief children, 15 percent of the Negro and 10 percent of the white children, of that area were out of school. Farm work during the cotton-picking season was probably the chief factor responsible for that condition. In the Western Cotton Area a similar but less severe situation was found. There 5 percent of the white children and 10 percent of the Negro children 7-13 years of age were not attending school. In the Appalachian-Ozark Area 5 percent of all relief children of elementary school age (7-13 years) were out of school (table 44).





## Chapter IX

### EMPLOYABILITY COMPOSITION AND EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

**ECONOMIC DISTRESS** is an ever present condition in a modern industrial society, such as that characterizing the United States. The amount and intensity of distress rises and falls with the business cycle, but even in periods of general prosperity many individuals find themselves deprived of the means of livelihood. In normal times the distress is largely that of the defective, the invalid, the crippled, and the aged who are unable to compete in the labor market. The widespread distress of recent years, however, has been to a very large extent that of able-bodied persons who have found themselves and their dependents submerged by an avalanche of economic disaster. It is the purpose of this chapter to indicate the extent of employability of the rural relief load and the size, composition, and occupational distribution of the rural labor force receiving relief in 1935.

#### WORKERS<sup>1</sup> AND DEPENDENTS ON RELIEF

In the rural relief population of June 1935 persons 16-64 years of age who were working or seeking work comprised 30 percent of the

**Table 45.—Workers and Dependents in Rural Relief Cases, June and October 1935, by Family Status**

[138 counties]

Workers and dependents	June			October		
	All persons	Household heads	Other members	All persons	Household heads	Other members
Number.....	253,636	58,474	195,162	186,812	43,912	142,900
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons 16-64 years of age.....	51.4	90.3	39.8	48.9	89.6	36.4
Working or seeking work.....	29.6	84.7	13.1	27.0	82.1	10.1
With work experience.....	26.1	82.3	9.3	23.9	79.5	6.8
Without work experience.....	3.5	2.4	3.8	3.1	2.6	3.3
Not working or seeking work.....	21.8	5.6	26.7	21.9	7.5	26.3
Persons under 16 years of age.....	43.4	—	56.4	45.9	—	60.0
Persons over 64 years of age.....	5.2	9.7	3.8	5.2	10.4	3.6

<sup>1</sup> A worker is defined in this study as a person 16-64 years of age who is working or seeking work.

total persons on relief (table 45). Hence, there were in the relief group more than two dependents for every worker.

On a case basis 87 percent of all rural relief cases in June included at least one worker (table 46 and fig. 26). About 9 percent of the June 1935 rural relief cases that had workers were without any male worker and 8 percent had only one female worker. Of all cases that had workers, 70 percent had one worker only, 19 percent had two workers, 7 percent had three workers, while 4 percent had four workers or more (table 47).

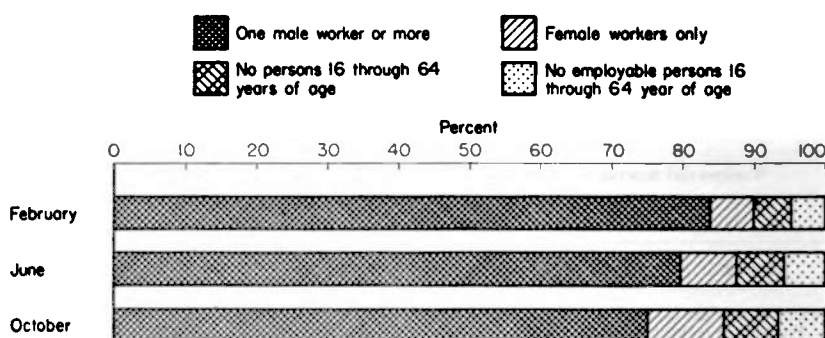
**Table 46.—Employability Composition of Rural Relief Cases, February, June, and October 1935**

[138 counties]

Employability composition	February	June	October
Number.....	84,136	58,516	43,932
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cases with workers.....	89.9	87.4	85.7
Female workers only.....	6.1	7.8	10.7
1 worker.....	5.2	6.6	9.2
2 workers or more.....	0.9	1.2	1.6
1 male worker or more.....	83.8	79.6	75.0
Cases without workers.....	10.1	12.6	14.3
No person 16-64 years of age.....	5.3	6.7	7.6
No person 16-64 years of age working or seeking work.....	4.8	5.9	6.7

About 85 percent of all heads of households were workers. Most of the heads not working or seeking work were past 64 years of age and the rest were widows, disabled persons, or others not looking for gainful employment.

Only 13 percent of all persons 16-64 years of age other than heads were working or seeking work. They accounted for about one-third of all workers.



**FIG. 26—EMPLOYABILITY COMPOSITION OF RURAL RELIEF CASES**

February, June, and October 1935

**Table 47.—Number of Workers in Rural Relief Cases Having 1 or More Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, February and June 1935,<sup>1</sup> by Residence**

[138 counties]

Number of workers	February			June		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	75,634	52,147	23,487	51,142	31,838	19,304
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 worker.....	70.1	68.3	73.7	69.5	67.5	72.8
2 workers.....	18.4	18.6	17.9	19.2	19.7	18.4
3 workers.....	7.5	8.3	5.9	7.4	8.2	6.1
4 workers.....	2.7	3.2	1.8	2.8	3.2	2.1
5 workers or more.....	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.1	1.4	0.6

<sup>1</sup> Comparable data not available for October 1935.**Unemployable Households**

Thirteen percent of all June 1935 rural relief cases consisted entirely of dependent persons. This was an increase in the proportion of such cases since February when only 10 percent of all rural relief cases were without workers. By October the proportion of unemployable cases in the rural relief load had increased still further, to 14 percent. The influence of the rural rehabilitation program, the Works Program, and private industry in removing employable cases from general relief rolls is reflected here (table 46 and fig. 26).

The cases without workers were mainly of three types: (1) one-person households (41 percent), (2) couples without children (31 percent), and (3) broken families, mostly mothers and children (12 percent). About one in every five was an aged man alone, and one

**Table 48.—Type of Rural Relief Cases Without Workers, June 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Household composition	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	7,352	3,944	3,408
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Husband and wife.....	31.4	32.3	30.3
Without others.....	28.6	28.9	28.2
With others.....	2.8	3.4	2.1
Husband, wife, and children.....	10.1	11.3	8.8
Without others.....	9.5	10.5	8.3
With others.....	0.6	0.8	0.5
Father and children.....	1.8	2.1	1.5
Without others.....	1.4	1.6	1.3
With others.....	0.4	0.5	0.2
Mother and children.....	9.7	9.3	10.2
Without others.....	8.5	8.1	9.0
With others.....	1.2	1.2	1.2
Nonfamily groups.....	6.3	6.3	6.2
1-person households.....	40.7	38.7	43.0
Male 16-64 years of age.....	4.4	4.6	4.1
Male 65 years of age and over.....	19.1	19.6	18.8
Female 16-64 years of age.....	4.8	4.3	5.3
Female 65 years of age and over.....	12.4	10.2	14.8

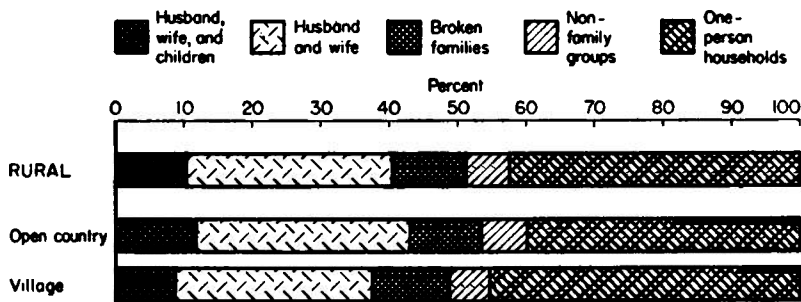


FIG. 27—TYPE OF RURAL RELIEF CASES WITHOUT WORKERS,  
BY RESIDENCE  
June 1935

AF-2473, W. P. A.

in every eight was an aged woman alone. Nine percent were lone individuals between the ages of 16 and 64 years who were unable to work (table 48 and fig. 27).

Nearly nine-tenths of all rural relief cases without workers were one-, two-, or three-person households. More than two-fifths of the cases without workers were one-person cases, almost two-fifths were two-person cases, and about one-tenth were three-person cases (table 49).

Table 49.—Size of Rural Relief Cases Without Workers, June 1935, by Residence

[138 counties]

Size of case	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	7,364	3,954	3,410
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 person.....	41.7	39.5	43.9
2 persons.....	36.9	36.9	36.9
3 persons.....	9.5	10.8	8.2
4 persons.....	5.1	4.9	5.4
5 persons.....	3.0	3.2	2.7
6 persons.....	1.8	2.2	1.3
7 persons.....	1.2	1.4	1.0
8 persons.....	0.4	0.7	0.2
9 persons.....	0.4	0.4	0.4
Median.....	1.7	1.7	1.7

#### Age and Sex of Workers

Workers on relief in rural areas were preponderantly youth and adults less than 45 years of age. The median age of all workers was 33 years, while 31 percent were youth less than 25 years of age and only 27 percent were past 44 years of age. The median age of workers other than heads of households was only 22 years, and nearly three-fourths were youth 16–24 years of age. The median age of household

heads who were working or seeking work was 40 years. Only 36 percent were less than 35 years of age while about two-fifths (38 percent) were 45 or more (table 50).

**Table 50.—Age and Sex of Rural Relief Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, June 1935, by Family Status**

[138 counties]

Family status and sex	All ages		16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	Median age
	Number	Percent						
All workers.....	75,230	100.0	30.8	23.2	18.8	16.5	10.7	32.8
Male.....	58,892	100.0	26.9	24.7	19.6	17.4	11.4	33.9
Female.....	16,338	100.0	44.6	18.1	15.9	13.1	8.3	27.5
Household heads.....	49,558	100.0	9.0	27.1	25.5	23.1	15.3	40.0
Male.....	44,220	100.0	9.1	28.1	25.3	22.7	14.8	39.6
Female.....	5,338	100.0	7.5	19.6	27.2	26.0	19.7	42.9
Other members.....	25,672	100.0	72.9	15.7	5.9	3.7	1.8	21.7
Male.....	14,672	100.0	80.7	14.4	2.5	1.3	1.1	21.1
Female.....	11,000	100.0	62.6	17.3	10.5	6.8	2.8	22.7

More than one-fifth of all rural relief persons 16-64 years of age working or seeking work in June 1935 were women, mostly young women, their average age being only 28 years. Whereas three-fourths of all male workers were heads of relief cases, only one-third of all female workers were household heads. A large proportion of the female workers were young girls only recently out of school. There were, however, fairly large percentages of older women working or seeking work. One-fifth of all female workers other than household heads were 35 years of age or more (table 50). The drastic changes wrought by the depression led many housewives to seek jobs outside the home.

Of the household heads who were workers, about 11 percent were women (table 50). The average age of the male heads was 40 years although 15 percent were 55-64 years of age and 38 percent were 45-64 years of age. The average female worker head was 43 years old, 3 years older than the average male worker head. About 20 percent of these women were past 54 and 46 percent were past 44 years of age.

#### EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE OF WORKERS

Although 30 percent of all rural relief persons were working or seeking work, only 26 percent had been gainfully occupied for at least 4 consecutive weeks during the past 10 years. The other 4 percent represented inexperienced persons who had never worked or retired persons who had not worked during the past decade (table 45).

Of the heads of households who were employable, 2 percent were without work experience (table 45). These belonged to three main groups. One group consisted of able-bodied young persons who

reached employable age, or reached the end of their schooling, and became responsible for themselves and their dependents during depression years when no jobs were available. Another group consisted of homemakers who had been left alone or with dependents upon the death or disability of, or separation from, the male breadwinner. More than two-thirds of the inexperienced workers who were heads of households were women, whose average age was 39 years (table 51). The third group consisted of elderly men who had suffered from disabilities during the past 10 years which kept them from working, whose independent sources of livelihood had failed, and who were, against many odds, seeking work to support themselves and their families. Twelve percent of the male heads of households who wanted work but had not worked during the past 10 years were 55-64 years of age.

More than one-fourth of the household members other than heads who were working or seeking work were without employment experience (table 45). This lack of work experience was largely due to their youth, the great majority being 16-24 years of age (table 50).

#### Usual Industries

Six out of every ten workers on relief in rural areas in February 1935 were usually agricultural workers, including farm operators, farm wage workers, and unpaid family workers on the home farm. Seven out of every ten were usually employed in either agriculture or manufacturing and mechanical industries. Transportation and communication had given employment to nearly 6 percent, trade and public and professional service to 4 percent, domestic and personal service to 5 percent, and mining and forestry and fishing to 6 percent. Nine percent were inexperienced persons without work histories (table 52).<sup>2</sup>

About 3 out of every 10 workers usually employed in manufacturing and mechanical industries had been in building and construction, and an additional 2 or 3 had been in the lumber, furniture, and textile industries. The remaining workers from manufacturing had been scattered among a large number of industries.

<sup>2</sup> This distribution is based on a sample study in 138 counties. The results are not comparable with those given in Hauser, Philip M., *Workers on Relief in the United States in March 1935*, Vol. I, A Census of Usual Occupations, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1938, for the following reasons: The sample study included farm operator families receiving drought relief which were excluded from the census enumeration. Many persons classified by the sample study as farm laborers on the home farm were classed as "inexperienced persons" by the occupational census. Many persons who had performed no other work than that on Government emergency projects, such as those conducted by the Civil Works Administration, by the Civilian Conservation Corps, and under the emergency work relief program, were assigned a usual occupation by the census but were classed as "inexperienced persons" in the sample study.

**Table 51.—Age and Sex of Heads of Rural Relief Cases Working or Seeking Work, June 1935, by Usual Occupation**

[138 counties]

Usual occupation and sex	All ages		16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	Median age
	Number	Percent						
Total.....	49,518	100.0	9.0	27.1	25.5	23.1	15.3	40.0
Male.....	44,186	100.0	9.2	28.0	25.3	22.7	14.8	39.6
Female.....	5,332	100.0	7.5	19.7	27.1	26.0	19.7	42.9
Farm operator.....	18,124	100.0	7.3	25.8	25.6	24.4	16.9	41.1
Male.....	16,598	100.0	7.8	27.1	25.8	23.6	15.7	40.4
Female.....	1,526	100.0	1.8	11.7	23.6	33.4	29.5	48.4
Farm laborer.....	6,850	100.0	14.3	32.0	22.6	17.9	13.2	36.1
Male.....	6,162	100.0	15.2	32.9	21.6	17.4	12.9	35.4
Female.....	688	100.0	6.7	22.4	31.6	22.7	16.6	41.1
Unskilled laborer.....	14,490	100.0	8.6	26.6	25.6	23.9	15.3	40.3
Male.....	13,012	100.0	8.7	27.5	25.0	23.7	15.1	40.0
Female.....	1,478	100.0	7.3	19.9	29.6	25.7	17.5	42.2
Other nonagricultural worker.....	8,640	100.0	6.5	27.6	28.1	23.8	14.0	40.2
Male.....	7,966	100.0	6.2	27.5	28.2	24.1	14.0	40.3
Female.....	674	100.0	10.1	29.1	26.4	20.8	13.6	38.6
No usual occupation.....	1,414	100.0	23.2	22.5	22.9	18.0	13.4	36.4
Male.....	448	100.0	39.8	20.5	16.5	11.6	11.6	29.5
Female.....	966	100.0	15.5	23.4	25.9	20.9	14.3	38.8

Of workers residing in the open country, nearly three-fourths had followed agricultural pursuits. Six percent had pursued occupations in manufacturing and mechanical industries. Nearly 5 percent were miners, woodsmen, and fishermen. Three percent had usually been engaged in transportation and communication, two percent in trade or public or professional service, two percent in domestic or personal service, and eight percent had never worked at any nonrelief job (table 52 and fig. 28).

**Table 52.—Usual Industry of Rural Relief Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, February, June, and October 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Usual industry	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	107,644	77,263	30,381	72,182	47,150	25,032	47,938	30,654	17,284
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture.....	60.0	74.1	25.6	49.4	64.3	22.3	48.0	64.0	20.8
Farm operator.....	31.4	40.8	8.4	24.5	33.8	7.7	25.7	36.4	7.4
Farm laborer.....	28.6	33.3	17.2	24.9	30.5	14.6	22.3	27.6	13.4
Forestry and fishing.....	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.7	0.8
Extraction of minerals.....	5.0	3.6	8.8	8.5	6.2	12.6	14.3	7.4	26.0
Manufacturing and mechanical.....	10.2	6.0	20.2	11.0	7.0	18.2	9.5	6.6	14.2
Building and construction.....	2.9	1.6	6.2	3.0	1.7	5.3	2.8	1.7	4.4
Lumber and furniture.....	1.7	1.3	2.8	1.8	1.4	2.5	1.3	1.1	1.7
Textile.....	1.0	0.4	2.2	1.1	0.7	1.9	0.8	0.5	1.2
Other.....	4.6	2.7	9.0	5.1	3.2	8.5	4.6	3.3	6.9
Transportation and communication.....	5.8	3.0	12.6	6.4	4.1	10.6	4.6	3.2	7.2
Street and road construction.....	2.5	1.5	5.0	2.8	2.0	4.5	2.1	1.7	3.0
Other.....	3.3	1.5	7.6	3.6	2.1	6.1	2.5	1.5	4.2
Trade, public and professional service.....	4.0	2.1	8.6	4.5	2.2	8.5	3.3	1.9	5.4
Domestic and personal service.....	4.6	2.4	9.9	5.6	3.0	10.4	6.1	3.9	9.8
No usual industry.....	9.4	7.7	13.2	12.7	11.2	15.9	12.8	11.3	15.8

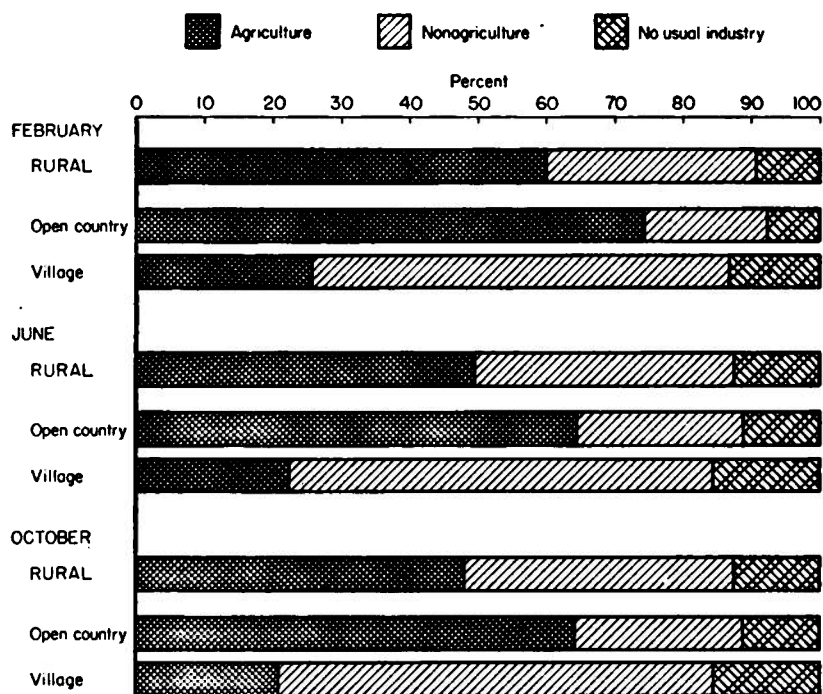


FIG. 28-USUAL INDUSTRY OF RURAL RELIEF PERSONS  
16 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE WORKING  
OR SEEKING WORK, BY RESIDENCE  
February, June, and October 1935

AF-2475, WPA

Agriculture had usually given employment to 26 percent of the rural workers on relief in February 1935 who resided in villages. About one-fifth (20 percent) of the village workers had been usually engaged in manufacturing and mechanical industries, and 13 percent had been employed in transportation and communication. About one-tenth (10 percent) were domestic and personal servants, and 9 percent were tradesmen or in public or professional service. An additional 9 percent were miners, 1 percent were woodsmen or fishermen, and 13 percent were inexperienced.

Between February and June 1935 a large movement of farmers from general and drought relief to the rural rehabilitation program took place. Since families assisted under the latter program were excluded from the relief survey, the occupational distribution of workers was quite different in June from that of 4 months earlier. While all workers on relief declined by one-third from February to June, farm workers declined with greater rapidity. As a result, agricultural workers comprised only 49 percent of the June workers, whereas



they had comprised 60 percent of the workers on relief in February. Although the rural relief load continued to decline rapidly between June and October, largely because of the inauguration of the Works Program, efforts to eliminate borderline cases from relief, and seasonal factors, agriculture's proportion of the total workers remained about constant. In October farm operators and laborers comprised 48 percent of the total (table 52).

While the total labor force on rural relief rolls declined consistently from February to October 1935, miners showed a persistent increase both in actual numbers and in proportion to the total.<sup>3</sup> From February to June the number of workers on rural relief experienced in extraction of minerals increased and their proportion of the total rose from 5 to nearly 9 percent. The movement of miners onto the relief rolls continued throughout the summer and by October miners accounted for 14 percent of all rural workers on relief.

The movement of miners onto the relief rolls was particularly characteristic of villages. In February mine workers comprised only 9 percent of the village total. Their proportion rose to 13 percent in June and to 26 percent in October.

The distribution by usual industry of heads of rural relief cases working or seeking work did not differ markedly from that of all workers in 1935 (table 52 and appendix table 35). Farm operators were much more important proportionately among heads of households, however, than among all workers. Few of the heads reported no usual industry although the percentage rose slightly from February to October.

#### Usual Occupations

In February 1935 farmers by usual occupation formed 31 percent and farm laborers 29 percent of all workers on relief. Professional workers formed only slightly more than one-half of 1 percent of the total; proprietors, managers, and officials less than 1 percent; and clerical workers less than 2 percent. Together, these three groups, often referred to as "white-collar" workers, formed 3 percent of all workers on relief in rural areas in February 1935. Skilled workers comprised 4 percent and semiskilled workers 5 percent of the total. Unskilled workers constituted 19 percent of the total if farm laborers are excluded or 47 percent of the total if farm laborers are included (table 53 and fig. 29).

During 1935 the occupational distribution of workers in rural relief cases changed considerably as a result of the transfer of farmers to

<sup>3</sup> The data are markedly affected by the abnormal decline in employment in mining between February and October in Muhlenburg County, Ky., and by an increase in part-time employment in mining in the other sample counties in the Appalachian-Ozark Area. See *Coal, Employment and Related Statistics of Mines and Quarries, 1935, Mineral Technology and Output per Man Studies, Report No. E-4*, Works Progress Administration, Philadelphia, Pa., July 1937.

the rural rehabilitation program and of various seasonal factors. While the proportion of agricultural workers in relief cases declined from February to October 1935, the proportion of unskilled nonagricultural workers rose from 19 to 29 percent and the proportion of inexperienced workers rose from 9 to 12 percent (table 53).

**Table 53.**—Usual Occupation of Rural Relief Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, February, June, and October 1935, by Residence

[138 counties]

Usual occupation	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	110,910	78,747	32,163	75,126	48,310	26,816	50,520	31,790	18,730
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture.....	60.0	74.1	25.6	49.3	64.3	22.3	48.0	64.0	20.8
Farm operator.....	31.4	40.8	8.4	24.5	33.8	7.7	25.7	36.4	7.4
Owner.....	10.3	13.4	2.6	8.7	12.2	2.3	9.0	12.8	2.3
Tenant.....	14.7	19.2	3.9	11.6	16.0	3.8	10.7	14.7	3.9
Cropper.....	6.4	8.2	1.9	4.2	5.6	1.6	6.0	8.9	1.2
Farm laborer.....	28.6	33.3	17.2	24.8	30.5	14.6	22.3	27.6	13.4
Nonagriculture.....	31.4	18.8	62.3	38.8	25.3	63.2	40.4	25.9	64.9
Professional.....	0.6	0.4	1.3	0.7	0.4	1.2	0.6	0.4	1.1
Proprietary.....	0.9	0.4	1.9	0.9	0.4	1.8	0.7	0.3	1.2
Clerical.....	1.6	0.7	3.9	2.1	0.9	4.4	1.5	0.7	2.7
Skilled.....	4.4	2.4	9.2	4.6	2.8	8.0	4.2	2.5	6.9
Semiskilled.....	5.2	2.8	11.0	5.8	3.9	9.2	4.5	3.2	6.9
Unskilled.....	18.7	12.1	35.0	24.7	16.9	38.6	28.9	18.8	46.1
Servant.....	3.5	1.8	7.6	5.0	2.7	9.1	5.3	3.4	8.5
Other.....	15.2	10.3	27.4	19.7	14.2	29.5	23.6	15.4	37.6
No usual occupation.....	8.6	7.1	12.1	11.9	10.4	14.5	11.6	10.1	14.3

#### *Usual Occupations of Heads of Relief Cases*

Almost three-tenths of all employable heads of rural relief cases in June 1935 were unskilled nonagricultural workers by usual occupation (appendix table 36). The average age of these unskilled workers was 40 years. About 10 percent of them were women, whose average age was 42 years (table 51).

Approximately 17 percent of all employable heads of rural relief cases were other nonagricultural persons including semiskilled, skilled, and white-collar workers. About 8 percent of these were women, whose average age was 39 years.

Of those employable heads who were experienced workers, farm operators were oldest and farm laborers were youngest. The average age of farmers was 41 years, while the farm laborers averaged only 36 years of age. Approximately 8 percent of all farm operators by usual occupation were women, who averaged 8 years older than the male farmers. Three out of ten of the women farmers were past 54 years of age. These elderly women farmers were mostly widows who were operating farms with the aid of family members or with outside help or who had retired from farming, or they were wives of farmers considered unemployable because of age or disability (table 51).

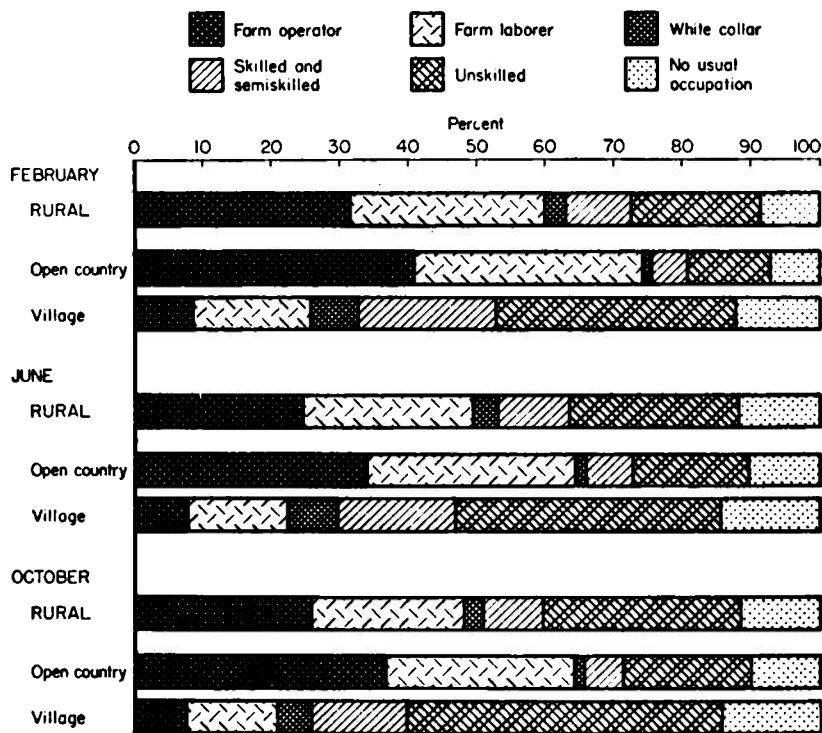


FIG. 29-USUAL OCCUPATION OF RURAL RELIEF PERSONS  
16 THROUGH 64 YEARS OF AGE WORKING  
OR SEEKING WORK, BY RESIDENCE  
February, June, and October 1935

AF-2477, W. R. A.

Ten percent of all farm laborer heads of households were women, who averaged 6 years older than men laborers. A large proportion of the farm laborers who were heads of cases were young men. More than 15 percent of all male farm laborers were youth under 25 years of age and nearly one-half (48 percent) were less than 35 years of age (table 51).

#### CURRENT EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS

A large proportion of workers in rural families receiving emergency relief had some form of employment. Thus, in February 1935 only 45 percent were totally unemployed while 55 percent had work for at least 1 week during the month (table 54). A major reason for the high employment rate for workers on relief in rural areas lies in the fact that farmers operating farms were reported employed even though they were operating without profit or at a loss. Only 11 percent of all farm operators by usual occupation were unemployed. A much

larger proportion of all farm laborers (43 percent) were unemployed, and many of those who were working received little or no remuneration. They were often engaged as unpaid laborers on the home farm because they could find no other work.

Employment rates were, of course, much lower for nonagricultural workers than for agricultural workers. The percentage with some employment during the month was 51 for domestic and personal servants, 38 for persons usually engaged in public and professional service, 34 for miners, 32 for tradesmen, 28 for those experienced in forestry and fishing, 27 for those usually occupied in manufacturing and mechanical industries, and 24 for those in transportation and communication industries. Not all of these workers were employed at the same time that they received relief. They may have left relief rolls to accept employment or lost their jobs and gone on relief within the same month.

**Table 54.—Percent With Some Employment<sup>1</sup> of All Rural Relief Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, February and October 1935,<sup>2</sup> by Usual Industry and Residence**

[138 counties]

Usual industry	February			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Total.....	54.9	68.0	21.8	48.8	58.6	31.4
Agriculture.....	73.6	80.2	27.2	71.3	76.7	42.8
Farm operator.....	89.0	92.7	44.4	87.2	89.9	65.4
Farm laborer.....	56.8	64.8	18.7	52.9	59.4	30.2
Forestry and fishing.....	27.7	35.1	11.4	31.3	33.5	23.5
Extraction of minerals.....	33.7	54.0	13.3	44.8	40.0	47.1
Manufacturing and mechanical.....	26.9	38.9	18.2	22.8	24.1	21.7
Transportation and communication.....	23.5	36.2	16.1	25.8	33.9	19.7
Trade.....	32.1	40.9	27.6	28.0	31.7	26.0
Public and professional service.....	37.7	45.5	31.1	26.5	23.0	28.9
Domestic and personal service.....	50.9	48.6	52.4	36.0	32.3	38.4

<sup>1</sup> Employment of at least 1 week's duration during the month.

<sup>2</sup> Comparable data not available for June 1935.

Removal of agricultural families from relief during the spring and summer months caused employment rates of workers on relief in the open country to be generally lower in October than in February 1935. While 68 percent of all open country workers on relief in February had some employment, only 59 percent of those on relief in October had employment, usually farming (table 54). Returns from employment of this type reached a maximum during the harvest and post-harvest season.

In villages the opposite tendency was found in regard to employment of workers on relief. The proportion of workers in village relief cases with employment increased from 22 percent in February to 31 percent in October. These workers were engaged at low-paid or part-time nonagricultural jobs which caused them to require supplementary

aid. The increase in such employment in the village relief population between February and October may reflect greater opportunities for this type of work in the fall, as compared with the winter months. Transfers to the Works Program which were beginning to take place at this time may also be reflected here. Workers transferred from relief to the Works Program during October would be reported as having both relief and employment status.

#### Industry of Current Employment

Nine-tenths of all workers who had some employment while on the relief rolls in February 1935 were employed in agriculture. Fifty-nine percent were employed as farm operators and thirty percent as farm laborers. Apart from agriculture, domestic and personal service was the only industrial group employing any appreciable number of workers who were on relief rolls. A little more than 4 percent of all workers with employment were servants. Only 2 percent of all workers with employment were working in manufacturing and mechanical industries, only 2 percent in trade and public and professional service combined, and only 1 percent in transportation and communication (table 55).

**Table 55.—Current Industry of Rural Relief Persons 16 Through 64 Years of Age Employed in Private Industry, February and October 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Current industry	February			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	58,540	52,345	6,195	23,340	18,052	5,288
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture.....	89.5	95.8	37.6	79.4	92.7	33.7
Farm operator.....	59.1	63.5	22.8	52.6	62.7	18.1
Farm laborer.....	30.4	32.3	14.8	26.8	30.0	15.6
Forestry and fishing.....	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.8
Extraction of minerals.....	0.6	0.3	3.1	10.1	2.5	35.9
Manufacturing and mechanical.....	2.3	1.0	13.0	2.8	1.1	8.8
Transportation and communication.....	1.1	0.3	7.3	1.3	0.7	3.7
Trade, public and professional service.....	1.9	0.7	12.1	1.6	0.8	4.7
Domestic and personal service.....	4.2	1.7	25.6	4.4	1.9	12.4

In the open country agriculture accounted for 96 percent of all workers on relief with employment, and agriculture and domestic and personal service combined included nearly 98 percent of all workers with employment.

Agriculture was also the most frequent source of employment for village residents, 38 percent of all employed persons in villages being farm operators or farm laborers. More than one-fourth (26 percent) of all village workers with employment during the month were working as servants. The proportion employed in manufacturing and

mechanical industries was 13 percent; in trade and public and professional service combined, 12 percent; in transportation and communication, 7 percent; in mining, 3 percent; and in forestry and fishing, 1 percent.

#### Income From Current Employment

The majority of workers employed while on relief rolls in rural areas were farmers and other persons employed on "own account" rather than for wages. In October 1935,<sup>4</sup> however, it was found that 12 percent of all cases on relief during that month had a member employed in private industry for wages for at least 1 week. For those wage workers the amount of weekly wages per household was determined.

The median weekly wage received by cases with employment in private industry was \$5. For some households employment of a worker during October lasted only 1 week. Other households had members employed for a longer period or for the entire month. Some cases obtained regular employment paying adequate wages after receipt of relief earlier in the month. For most of the cases, however, income from wage employment, even when regular, was insufficient to meet budgetary needs and required supplementation by relief (table 56 and fig. 30).

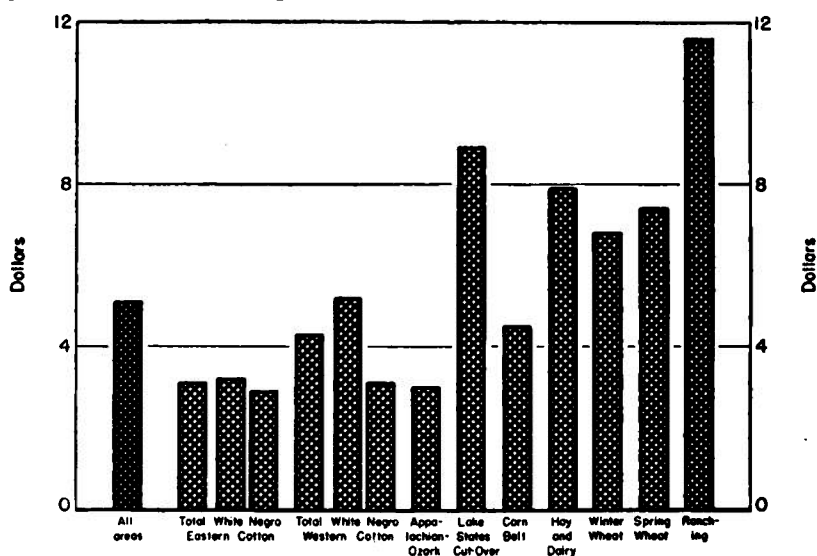


FIG. 30-MEDIAN WEEKLY INCOME FROM WAGE EMPLOYMENT OF RURAL RELIEF CASES WITH A MEMBER EMPLOYED, BY AREA  
October 1935

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<sup>4</sup> Data on wages were not available for February and June 1935.

**Table 56.—Current Employment Status of Workers and Wage Income Received by Rural Relief Cases, October 1935, by Area**

[138 counties]

Area	Total cases		Cases without workers	Cases with 1 or more workers				Median weekly income from wage employment
	Number	Percent		Total	No employment	Own account employment only	Wage employment <sup>1</sup>	
All areas.....	43,932	100.0	12.6	87.4	46.2	28.8	12.4	\$5.10
Eastern Cotton.....	4,468	100.0	5.6	94.4	59.9	17.7	16.8	3.10
White.....	1,172	100.0	5.2	94.8	60.2	18.3	16.3	3.20
Negro.....	3,296	100.0	6.7	93.3	58.9	16.0	18.4	2.90
Western Cotton.....	5,576	100.0	19.3	80.7	43.8	21.9	15.0	4.30
White.....	1,258	100.0	16.2	83.8	45.9	22.5	15.4	5.20
Negro.....	4,318	100.0	29.7	70.3	36.4	20.1	13.8	3.10
Appalachian-Ozark.....	17,108	100.0	8.9	91.1	47.0	39.5	4.6	3.00
Lake States Cut-Over.....	3,163	100.0	20.3	79.7	37.6	28.9	13.2	8.90
Corn Belt.....	3,134	100.0	15.3	84.7	49.7	12.9	22.1	4.50
Hay and Dairy.....	6,448	100.0	19.3	80.7	45.3	12.5	22.9	7.90
Winter Wheat.....	842	100.0	6.4	93.6	50.1	32.6	10.9	6.80
Spring Wheat.....	2,098	100.0	5.6	94.4	26.7	55.0	12.7	7.40
Ranching.....	1,090	100.0	14.3	85.7	44.8	28.8	12.1	11.60

<sup>1</sup> Employment of at least 1 week's duration during October.**Unemployment of Heads of Relief Cases**

About one-half of all worker heads of cases receiving relief in June 1935 were unemployed at the time records of their employment status were made, that is, during one or another of the months February through June 1935 (table 57). The extent of unemployment among agricultural heads bore an inverse relationship to the occupational status of the head. The ratio of unemployed heads to all heads in the same occupational group increased from 6 percent for owners to 14 percent for tenants, to 29 percent for croppers, and to 73 percent for farm laborers. Seventy-one percent of all nonagricultural heads were without any employment.

The incidence of unemployment among all heads of rural relief cases was greatest in the Western States. In the West 10 out of every 100 farm owners on relief and nearly 20 out of every 100 farm tenants (by usual occupation) had lost their farms and were without any other employment. In the South only 4 out of every 100 farm owners and 12 out of every 100 farm tenants (exclusive of croppers) on relief were unemployed. Among farm wage workers on relief 85 out of each 100 were unemployed in the West as compared with 69 out of each 100 in the North and 72 out of each 100 in the South. Similar comparisons could be made for heads of households usually employed in nonagricultural industry. The incidence of unemployment was much greater among village residents than among open country residents for all occupational groups on relief (table 57).

The average unemployed head of a rural relief case had been idle for nearly 1 year. The median period of time which had elapsed

between loss of the last nonrelief job of at least 1 week's duration and the recording of information was 11 months. This average was surprisingly constant for all classes of heads, agricultural and non-agricultural (table 57).

**Table 57.—Percent of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age, Working or Seeking Work, Who Were Unemployed and Median Number of Months Unemployed,<sup>1</sup> June 1935, by Region, Usual Occupation, and Residence**

[300 counties]

Region and usual occupation of head	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	Percent unemployed	Median months unemployed	Percent unemployed	Median months unemployed	Percent unemployed	Median months unemployed
All States sampled.....	48.6	11	34.0	11	73.5	11
Farm owner.....	5.9	12	3.4	11	24.2	15
Farm tenant.....	13.5	11	7.4	10	55.4	11
Farm cropper.....	29.3	11	24.2	10	57.7	11
Farm laborer.....	72.9	10	68.1	10	80.4	11
Nonagriculture.....	70.9	11	62.2	11	77.4	11
Unskilled.....	69.9	11	61.3	12	76.7	11
Other.....	72.3	11	63.5	12	78.3	11
11 Northern States.....	48.8	11	30.8	11	75.4	11
Farm owner.....	5.8	14	2.4	11	42.2	16
Farm tenant.....	14.3	12	5.7	11	68.2	12
Farm laborer.....	69.1	11	63.1	10	77.5	12
Nonagriculture.....	71.2	11	61.6	12	77.2	11
Unskilled.....	72.9	11	64.7	11	78.2	10
Other.....	68.8	13	57.2	13	75.8	13
13 Southern States.....	45.0	11	33.8	11	69.1	11
Farm owner.....	4.4	12	3.3	11	12.1	†
Farm tenant.....	12.2	10	8.8	10	42.2	12
Farm cropper.....	29.3	11	24.2	10	57.7	11
Farm laborer.....	71.9	10	69.1	10	78.2	10
Nonagriculture.....	67.4	11	59.2	12	74.5	11
Unskilled.....	64.6	14	55.6	15	72.2	13
Other.....	72.4	11	64.5	11	78.2	11
6 Western States.....	62.8	10	45.5	10	80.7	10
Farm owner.....	10.3	11	7.3	11	23.2	†
Farm tenant.....	18.9	10	6.5	†	54.9	9
Farm laborer.....	84.6	10	78.8	10	88.5	9
Nonagriculture.....	81.1	10	74.0	10	86.4	10
Unskilled.....	82.4	10	74.5	10	87.3	9
Other.....	80.0	10	73.7	11	85.4	10

† Median not computed for fewer than 100 cases.

<sup>1</sup> Months unemployed refers to months between loss of last nonrelief job of 1 week or longer and the month in which the data were recorded. The data were recorded in February 1935 or in 1 of the following 4 months.

#### Employment of Heads of Relief Cases at Usual Occupation

In addition to the heads of rural households on relief in June 1935 who were without any employment (49 percent of the total), 10 percent had jobs at other than their usual occupation (tables 57 and 58).

Farm operators were employed at their usual occupation to a much greater extent than were other heads of cases. However, 8 percent of all owners, 17 percent of all tenants, and 36 percent of all croppers had lost their land or, to a lesser degree, had shifted their tenure class or found a nonagricultural job. Only 19 percent of all experienced farm laborers were currently employed at their usual occupation, 73 percent were idle, and 8 percent were employed at other occupations. Still larger proportions of all nonagricultural workers were without



employment at their usual occupations. Only 14 percent of all unskilled workers were employed at their usual occupation, and only 10 percent of all other nonagricultural workers were currently exercising their usual skills (table 58).

**Table 58.**—Percent of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age, Working or Seeking Work, Without Employment at the Usual Occupation and Median Number of Months Without Such Employment,<sup>1</sup> June 1935, by Region, Usual Occupation, and Residence

[300 counties]

Region and usual occupation of head	Total rural		Open country		Village	
	Percent without employment at usual occupation	Median months unemployed	Percent without employment at usual occupation	Median months unemployed	Percent without employment at usual occupation	Median months unemployed
All States sampled.....	58.8	17	45.6	18	81.4	16
Farm owner.....	8.0	27	5.1	23	29.3	32
Farm tenant.....	17.1	22	9.9	19	66.2	24
Farm cropper.....	35.6	21	30.3	20	64.6	23
Farm laborer.....	81.4	11	78.1	11	86.6	12
Nonagriculture.....	87.6	19	90.3	24	85.6	16
Unskilled.....	85.8	18	88.2	19	83.9	15
Other.....	90.2	22	93.5	26	87.9	23
11 Northern States.....	59.3	18	42.6	18	83.7	17
Farm owner.....	8.1	29	4.1	25	52.0	32
Farm tenant.....	18.5	23	8.5	20	81.6	24
Farm laborer.....	80.0	13	76.4	11	85.0	17
Nonagriculture.....	86.7	18	89.2	22	85.1	16
Unskilled.....	85.8	15	87.3	18	84.8	14
Other.....	87.9	26	91.7	30	85.6	24
13 Southern States.....	55.2	17	44.9	18	77.4	16
Farm owner.....	6.1	24	4.7	21	15.6	33
Farm tenant.....	15.2	21	11.2	19	51.0	25
Farm cropper.....	35.6	21	30.3	20	64.6	23
Farm laborer.....	78.9	11	76.2	11	85.1	11
Nonagriculture.....	86.2	21	89.2	27	83.6	17
Unskilled.....	84.0	22	87.5	23	80.6	17
Other.....	90.2	21	92.9	26	88.3	18
6 Western States.....	72.2	14	59.5	17	86.2	12
Farm owner.....	12.8	30	9.8	28	25.3	†
Farm tenant.....	22.5	18	8.4	†	65.4	18
Farm laborer.....	92.6	11	94.2	11	91.5	11
Nonagriculture.....	94.5	16	96.7	20	92.9	13
Unskilled.....	93.6	13	95.1	15	92.6	12
Other.....	95.4	22	97.8	27	93.3	18

† Median not computed for fewer than 100 cases.

<sup>1</sup> Months without employment at the usual occupation refers to number of months between loss of last job at the usual occupation and the month in which the data were recorded. The data were recorded in February 1935 or in 1 of the following 4 months.

The incidence of unemployment of heads of relief cases at their usual occupation differed between open country and village residence. Five percent of all farm owners, ten percent of all tenants, and thirty percent of all croppers in the open country were without land or jobs or had shifted up or down the agricultural ladder. In villages 29, 66, and 65 percent of all farm owners, tenants, and croppers, respectively, had lost their usual tenure status. As would be expected, more of the farm laborers residing in the open country (22 percent) than of those in villages (13 percent) had jobs as farm hands. The opposite was true of nonagricultural workers: 14 percent of those in villages but only

10 percent of those in the open country were employed at their usual occupations (table 58).

The average head who was not working at his usual employment had been without employment at that occupation for nearly 1½ years (median—17 months) at the time the employment record was taken (table 58). For 20 percent of all heads the duration of unemployment was more than 3½ years, and for 13 percent it was more than 4½ years, covering nearly all of the depression period (table 59). The average period of unemployment at the usual occupation was considerably longer for farm owners than for any other occupational group.

**Table 59.**—Number of Months Without Usual Employment<sup>1</sup> of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age Who Had Lost Their Usual Employment, June 1935, by Residence and Usual Occupation

[300 counties]

Residence and usual occupation of head	Total		1-3 months	4-6 months	7-12 months	13-18 months	19-30 months	31-42 months	43-54 months	55 months or more
	Number	Percent								
<b>Total rural...</b>	<b>52,294</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>13.4</b>
Farm owner.....	998	100.0	2.2	3.4	17.8	10.8	20.7	14.4	10.4	20.3
Farm tenant.....	2,782	100.0	2.4	5.0	25.7	9.0	26.9	12.3	6.0	12.7
Farm cropper.....	1,872	100.0	1.6	2.4	33.4	4.2	33.7	12.3	5.9	6.5
Farm laborer.....	11,498	100.0	6.9	6.5	41.8	12.7	18.9	6.0	3.0	4.2
Nonagriculture.....	35,144	100.0	8.5	8.5	20.6	11.2	16.0	10.4	8.2	16.6
Unskilled.....	19,746	100.0	9.5	10.1	21.7	11.9	15.3	9.5	7.1	14.9
Other.....	15,398	100.0	7.1	6.4	19.3	10.2	16.8	11.6	9.6	19.0
<b>Open country</b>	<b>25,250</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>14.5</b>
Farm owner.....	540	100.0	2.6	4.4	23.0	11.1	20.0	14.8	8.5	15.6
Farm tenant.....	1,328	100.0	3.2	5.6	30.2	8.7	27.6	11.4	5.9	7.4
Farm cropper.....	1,336	100.0	1.6	2.8	35.3	3.7	34.7	11.7	6.1	5.1
Farm laborer.....	6,594	100.0	6.7	7.6	44.3	12.2	17.7	5.3	2.6	3.6
Nonagriculture.....	15,452	100.0	6.7	7.1	18.2	10.3	15.7	11.4	10.1	20.5
Unskilled.....	8,976	100.0	7.5	7.9	19.4	11.4	15.2	10.6	9.2	18.8
Other.....	6,476	100.0	5.6	6.0	16.6	8.8	16.5	12.4	11.4	22.7
<b>Village.....</b>	<b>27,044</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>12.4</b>
Farm owner.....	458	100.0	1.7	2.2	11.8	10.5	21.4	14.0	12.7	25.7
Farm tenant.....	1,454	100.0	1.7	4.4	21.6	9.2	26.2	13.1	6.2	17.6
Farm cropper.....	536	100.0	1.5	1.1	29.1	5.2	31.4	13.8	7.8	10.1
Farm laborer.....	4,904	100.0	7.3	4.9	38.7	13.4	20.4	6.9	3.5	4.9
Nonagriculture.....	19,692	100.0	9.8	9.6	22.6	11.8	16.1	9.7	6.7	13.7
Unskilled.....	10,924	100.0	11.2	11.9	23.5	12.3	15.3	8.7	5.5	11.6
Other.....	8,768	100.0	8.1	6.7	21.4	11.2	17.1	11.0	8.3	16.2

<sup>1</sup> Months without employment at the usual occupation refers to number of months between loss of last job at the usual occupation and the month in which the data were recorded. The data were recorded in February 1935 or in 1 of the following 4 months.

### RELIEF HISTORY IN RELATION TO USUAL OCCUPATION

Rural households differed greatly in their ability to remain off the relief rolls when overtaken by unemployment. Some turned immediately to the relief agency for assistance when their jobs failed, while others held off destitution for years before seeking relief. Nearly one-fourth of the rural households receiving relief in June 1935 were employable households receiving assistance in their first relief period and were distinguished by the fact that the head of the case had lost his regular employment prior to accession to relief. Such loss of

employment was the immediate or the remote cause of accession in most instances. For this group of rural relief households the length of time between the separation of the client from his usual job and his accession to relief was determined.

The average head of such a rural relief case was able to continue off the relief rolls only 4 to 5 months (median—4.5 months) after losing his job (fig. 31 and appendix table 37). In that short interval the job-seeker exhausted both his savings and all other independent sources of livelihood for himself and his dependents. Overtaken by destitution and unable to find reemployment, these heads were soon driven to seek public relief.

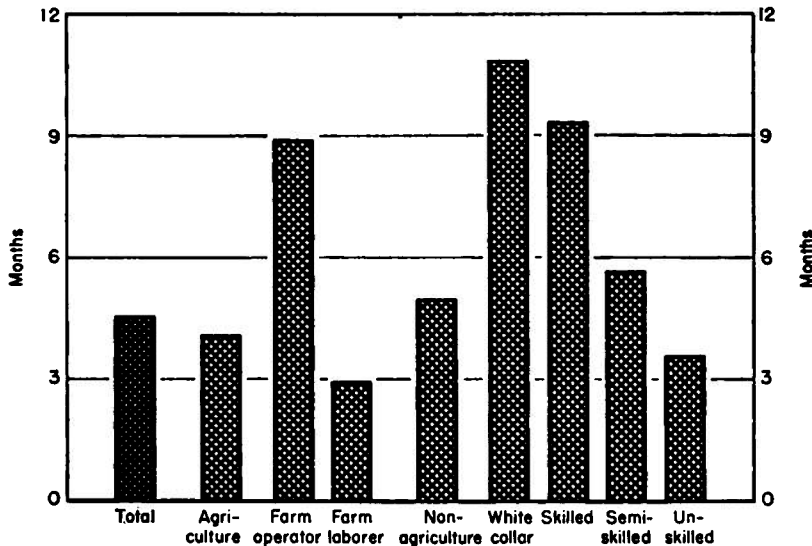


FIG. 31—LENGTH OF TIME\* BETWEEN LOSS OF LAST JOB AT USUAL OCCUPATION AND ACCESSION TO RELIEF BY HEADS OF RURAL CASES IN THEIR FIRST RELIEF PERIOD, BY USUAL OCCUPATION

June 1935

\* Median number of months.

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The average time interval for the several occupational groups varied widely. The jobless worker's resistance to destitution depended to a high degree upon the socio-economic status of his usual employment. For those at the base of the economic pyramid loss of employment created almost immediate distress. For those at the top who had been able to accumulate more savings, actual economic calamity was more remote.

The average farm owner who lost his land and eventually sought relief did so only after an interval of 16 months. The average farm laborer, on the other hand, had to seek relief after the short interval

of 3 months without employment at his usual occupation. The dispossessed farm tenant remained self-supporting 9 months after dispossession and the dispossessed cropper 6 months.

In nonagricultural industries, also, those heads of cases usually employed at the top of the occupational scale held out against relief longer after loss of employment than did those at the bottom. The averages expressing the time interval between loss of last job at the usual occupation and accession to relief ranged from 1 year for professional workers down to 3 months for servants.

Within each occupational class there were wide differences among jobless heads of cases with respect to their ability to remain off relief rolls. Considering all workers combined, nearly one-tenth sought relief the same month that they lost their jobs, and more than one-fourth came on relief either during the same month or during the month following loss of the last job at their usual employment. At the other extreme were 10 percent who remained off relief for more than 4 years, 6 percent remaining economically independent for more than 5 years. While the average interval between loss of usual employment and accession to relief was very low for some groups, particularly for farm laborers and for other unskilled workers, every group contained some individuals who had remained unemployed for more than 5 years before seeking relief. Farm owners by usual occupation had the largest proportion of members in that class (17 percent), and farm croppers had the smallest proportion (2 percent) (appendix table 37).

No statistical information is available concerning the history of households during the interval between the end of their usual employment and their appearance on relief rolls. There was a considerable amount of migration. In the search for work farmers moved to towns and cities. There, many found only intermittent employment at odd jobs or established unprofitable small trades of their own in fields so overcrowded that only failure could result. Many later returned to their place of legal residence to receive relief. While dispossessed farmers were moving to villages and towns, unemployed villagers and townsmen were moving to the country to seek a living on the same land that had starved off their predecessors. Many resourceful workers sought livelihoods through the establishment of small businesses of their own—hot-dog stands, gasoline stations, small stores—and did a thousand and one other things in an effort to earn a living before they finally asked for public assistance.

# Chapter X

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## MIGRATION

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**T**HE TYPICAL rural community, like the typical urban center, is a reservoir into which, and out of which, flows annually a great volume of migrating population. This migration of rural persons is well illustrated in the movement to and from farms. Since 1920 the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture has estimated annually the drift of persons from farms to cities, towns, and villages, and from cities, towns, and villages to farms. These estimates show that more than 20 million persons arrived at farms and nearly 28 million persons departed from farms during the 16 years 1920-1935 inclusive.<sup>1</sup> Since the total farm population in any one year was less than 32 million, the importance of this movement may be readily appreciated.

Migrant persons who moved from farms to nonfarm areas during the depression did not remain there permanently. Neither did migrants from nonfarm areas move to farms to remain there permanently. During the 5 years 1930-1934, according to Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates, 6,578,000 persons arrived at farms from nonfarm areas but less than 2,000,000 of them were still on farms at the beginning of 1935. Similarly, 7,176,000 persons left farms during the same period and only 2,593,000 of these failed to return.<sup>2</sup>

The exchange between farm and nonfarm areas is not the whole story of migration involving rural peoples. Annual movement from farm to farm and from one nonfarm area to another is probably just as great.

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<sup>1</sup> *Farm Population Estimates*, mimeographed report, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., released October 27, 1936. These estimates do not refer to different individuals but rather to arrivals at and departures from farms.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

## MOBILITY OF THE RELIEF POPULATION

In order to determine the extent to which relief clients were immigrants to the survey counties, and in order to determine the time of their migration, heads of cases were classified according to length of last continuous residence in the county. Residence was considered broken only by an absence from the county which lasted at least 1 year.

Only 36 percent of all clients receiving relief in June 1935 were lifelong residents of the counties in which they were living. Many of the household heads, while not lifelong inhabitants, were long-time residents of their counties. More than one-third of all household heads consisted of clients who had moved to the county prior to 1926. These long-time residents together with the lifelong inhabitants comprised almost three-fourths of all clients<sup>3</sup> (table 60 and fig. 32).

Table 60.—Year of Migration to County by Heads of Rural Relief Cases, June 1935, by Region and Residence

[300 counties]

Year of migration	All States sampled			11 Northern States			13 Southern States			6 Western States		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	116,972	71,298	45,674	45,896	26,218	19,678	57,292	38,116	19,176	13,784	6,964	6,820
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never moved.....	36.3	38.7	32.6	29.2	29.3	28.9	47.9	51.1	41.6	12.3	6.7	18.1
Prior to 1926.....	36.2	33.8	40.0	44.3	43.6	45.5	28.1	25.4	33.4	42.7	42.4	42.8
1926-1929.....	11.1	10.5	12.0	11.6	11.1	12.1	9.0	8.3	10.4	18.2	20.8	15.7
1930-1933.....	12.8	13.2	12.1	12.2	13.0	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.0	21.3	24.4	18.0
After 1933.....	3.6	3.8	3.3	2.7	3.0	2.4	3.9	4.1	3.6	5.5	5.7	5.4

A sizable proportion of rural relief clients represented fairly recent arrivals in the localities where they were receiving assistance in June 1935. Eleven percent of the total consisted of household heads who moved during the 4 years immediately preceding the depression, thirteen percent arrived during the first 4 depression years, and four percent arrived in 1934 or the early part of 1935 (table 60).

<sup>3</sup> The analysis of the significance of the mobility data is limited by the fact that comparable information is not available for the nonrelief population. However, other studies of the relief population indicate that it is more mobile than the nonrelief population. See McCormick, T. C., *Comparative Study of Rural Relief and Non-Relief Households*, Research Monograph II, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1935, pp. 17-20; and Asch, Berta and Mangus, A. R., *Farmers on Relief and Rehabilitation*, Research Monograph VIII, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1937, pp. 42-47.

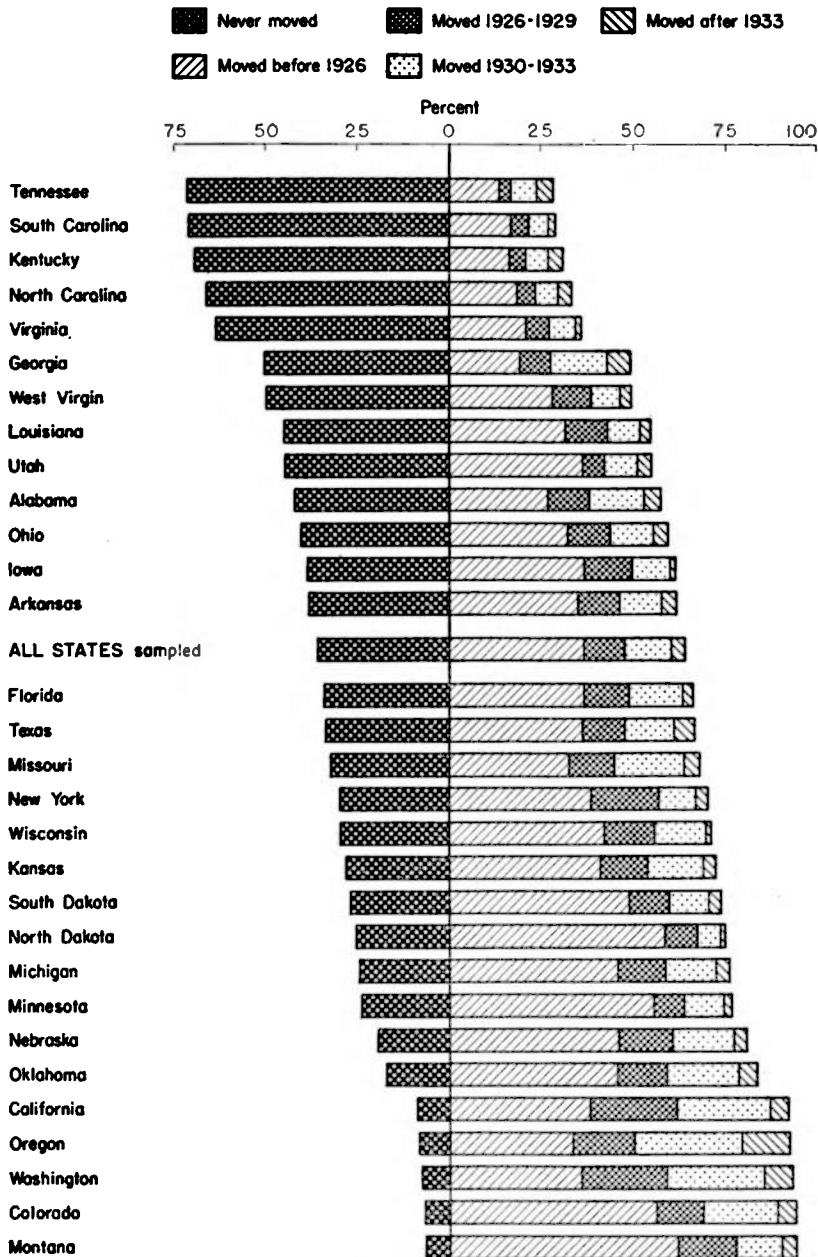


Fig. 32 - YEAR OF MIGRATION TO COUNTY BY HEADS  
OF RURAL RELIEF CASES, BY STATE  
June 1935

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### Lifelong Residents

The percentage of lifelong residents among rural relief clients was greater in the South than in other sections of the country. In 13 Southern States 48 percent of all heads of cases were persons who had never lived so long as 1 year outside the bounds of their native county. At the opposite extreme were the more recently settled Western States where only 12 percent of all recipients were lifelong residents of the county where they were receiving relief (table 60).

While regional averages reveal large sectional differences with respect to the mobility of relief clients, they cover equally wide differences among individual States. In the Southern States the percentage of lifelong residents ranged from 17 in Oklahoma to 72 in South Carolina and Tennessee. In five of the six Western States studied less than 10 percent of all clients were lifelong residents. In Utah, however, with a stable Mormon population, 45 percent of all clients had never moved (appendix table 38).

The percentage of clients on relief who had never moved across a county line was greater for open country (51 percent) than for village (42 percent) residents of the South, either because the open country received fewer migrants from other counties or because it received migrants who became more secure economically than those who settled in villages (table 60). The opposite situation was found in the Western States where the percentage of lifelong residents on relief was nearly three times greater in the villages than in the open country. This difference suggests the comparatively recent migration of large numbers of farm laborers to western counties. In the Northern States the percentage of nonmobile clients was about equal in the open country and in villages.

### Recent Migrants

Among the more recent arrivals in their county of residence in June 1935 were many persons whose movements were directly associated with their accession to relief rolls. Many of these moved to escape distress caused by prolonged unemployment and drought in their former location. Others moved to seek work, a more economical living, or the aid of relatives in a new environment.<sup>4</sup> Still others moved to their places of legal settlement in order to be eligible for relief.

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<sup>4</sup> See Landis, Paul H., *Rural Immigrants to Washington State, 1932-1936*, Rural Sociology Series in Population #2, Agricultural Experiment Station, State College of Washington, Pullman, Wash., July 1936; and Breithaupt, L. R., *Preliminary Data Concerning an Immigrant Family Survey in Oregon, January 1930 to November 1936*, Station Circular of Information No. 164, Agricultural Experiment Station, Oregon State Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oreg., January 1937.



With respect to the proportion of recent migrants among heads of rural relief cases, the older and more stable South is in sharp contrast to the West. In the southern counties only 24 percent of all clients had moved to their locality since 1925 in comparison with 45 percent of all clients in the western counties. The North was only slightly less stable than the South, 27 percent of the persons who became relief clients having become residents since 1925 (table 60).

Considering individual States with respect to the proportion of persons receiving relief in June 1935 who had come within the jurisdiction of the agency assisting them during or just prior to the depression, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia showed the greatest, and California, Oregon, and Washington showed the least stability of residence. In the counties of each of the five Southern States less than 16 percent of all clients had changed residence across a county line since 1925 and less than 36 percent had ever changed their residence from one county to another. In the counties of the three Pacific Coast States from 54 to 59 percent of all clients had moved in since 1925 and less than 10 percent were lifelong residents (appendix table 38).

Migration to the county of residence by households receiving relief in the open country in June 1935 was to some extent a depression phenomenon, for the percentage which arrived during the 4 years following the onset of the depression was slightly greater than during the preceding 4 years. This situation was not found in the villages where the proportion moving in was the same for both periods. In the Southern States, in particular, proportionately more open country cases had moved in during the depression than during the same number of predepression years (table 60).

Although for all States combined the rate of migration to villages of persons on relief in June 1935 was about the same during the depression as in the predepression period, there was considerably more movement into villages in the West during the depression than prior to the depression. In the Southern States the depression migrants only slightly overbalanced the earlier arrivals. In the northern villages, on the other hand, a larger percentage of the immigrant relief clients had arrived during the 4 predepression years than during the following 4 years (table 60).

#### Interstate Migrants

That many heads of relief cases moved considerable distances to their final destination in the localities where they were receiving assistance is indicated by the fact that 29 percent of all relief clients who had moved during the depression moved from another State. These interstate depression migrants comprised nearly 5 out of every 100 household heads who were on relief in June 1935 (appendix

table 38). The largest interstate movement during the depression years terminated in the Western States where 9 percent of all household heads had moved to the county from another State since 1929. The percentage of newcomers from other States during the depression was nearly three times larger in the western counties than in the southern counties and nearly twice as large as in the northern counties studied. It is likely that a large proportion of the interstate migration was intraregional in character, hard-pressed families moving from one Western State to another in search of a livelihood. Many were drought victims, however, who had left the Great Plains States to seek a living farther West.

There were more immigrant clients among relief cases in Oregon than in any other State surveyed. More than two-fifths of all household heads in that State had moved into the counties studied after 1929 and more than one-fifth of all clients had moved across State boundaries to reach their destination. The State of Washington was also outstanding in this regard. One-third of all relief clients in that State had migrated during the depression years to the counties assisting them, almost one-sixth having moved from outside the State. Nearly one-eighth of the June 1935 case load in Colorado counties consisted of households headed by persons who had moved in from other States during the post-1929 period. There was a relatively small movement from without the State into California and Montana. There was relatively little movement either intrastate or interstate into the Utah counties surveyed (appendix table 38).

The proportion of interstate depression migrants was low in all Southern States as compared to the Western States. Florida and Arkansas had received the largest percentages of out-of-State immigrants into their relief populations while Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and West Virginia had received the smallest percentages. Among the Northern States Missouri had the largest proportion of migrants in its relief population. Nearly 23 percent of the total number of relief case heads in that State had moved from outside the counties where they were receiving assistance and 11 percent had come from outside the State. The percentage of interstate depression migrants among all relief clients was less than 7 in all other Northern States sampled.

#### EMPLOYABILITY AND OCCUPATIONS OF RURAL MIGRANTS

Migration to or within rural areas is from two general sources. One stream of migrants consists of agricultural workers from other communities seeking improvement of their lot on different farms or in village industries; the other stream consists of nonagricultural workers seeking work in line with their previous experience or seeking a livelihood on the land.

**Employability**

Those clients who had moved after 1925 to the counties in which they were receiving assistance in June 1935 were mostly able-bodied persons who were seeking work. Among the older residents 17 percent of all heads of cases were neither working nor seeking work because of old age or other disabilities. In comparison, 12 percent of those clients who had moved to their present location in the predepression period 1926-1929 and 9 percent of those who had moved during the depression period were not working or seeking work. This difference in employability between older and newer residents was characteristic of both open country and village clients (table 61).

**Table 61.—Employability of Heads of Rural Relief Cases, June 1935, by Residence and Year of Migration to County**

[300 counties]

Residence and employability	All heads	Year of migration		All other
		1926-1929	1930-June 1935	
TOTAL RURAL				
Number.....	115,490	12,842	18,872	83,776
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Working or seeking work.....	85.1	88.3	91.1	83.2
Not working or seeking work.....	14.9	11.7	8.9	16.8
OPEN COUNTRY				
Number.....	70,256	7,448	11,888	50,920
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Working or seeking work.....	87.3	89.2	92.1	85.9
Not working or seeking work.....	12.7	10.8	7.9	14.1
VILLAGE				
Number.....	45,234	5,394	6,984	32,856
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Working or seeking work.....	81.6	86.9	89.5	79.0
Not working or seeking work.....	18.4	13.1	10.5	21.0

**Usual Occupations**

Among the employable household heads migrating to rural areas during the post-1925 period, who were eventually to become relief clients, were disproportionately large numbers of farm laborers and nonagricultural workers. The recent migrants to the open country included a considerably smaller proportion of farm operators than did the older residents. Nearly three-fifths (57 percent) of all open country clients who had maintained continuous residence since 1925 were farmers by usual occupation. Only 47 percent of the predepression migrants and only 41 percent of the depression migrants to the open country were farm operators by usual occupation. A disproportionately large number of recent migrants were farm laborers, white-

collar workers, and skilled and semiskilled workers who had moved to the country to eke out a living on the land or to villages to seek work and cheaper living (table 62).

**Table 62.—Usual Occupation of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, June 1935, by Residence and Year of Migration to County**

[300 counties]

Usual occupation of head	Total rural				Open country				Village			
	All heads	Year of migration		All other	All heads	Year of migration		All other	All heads	Year of migration		All other
		1926-1929	1930-June 1935			1926-1929	1930-June 1935			1926-1929	1930-June 1935	
Number.....	98,250	11,334	17,198	69,718	61,360	6,646	10,950	43,764	36,890	4,688	6,248	25,954
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture.....	53.6	49.4	48.2	55.5	68.0	64.5	59.4	70.9	29.3	27.7	28.6	29.7
Farm operator.....	37.9	32.3	30.3	40.6	52.8	47.3	41.0	56.6	13.0	10.9	11.6	13.6
Owner.....	13.9	9.7	7.0	16.2	19.6	14.7	9.4	22.8	4.4	2.6	2.7	5.2
Tenant.....	17.9	17.3	16.9	18.3	25.0	25.4	23.0	25.5	6.0	5.5	6.3	5.9
Cropper.....	6.1	5.3	6.4	6.1	8.2	7.2	8.6	8.3	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.5
Farm laborer.....	15.7	17.1	17.9	14.9	15.2	17.2	18.4	14.3	16.3	16.8	17.0	16.1
Nonagriculture.....	43.8	48.7	50.0	41.6	30.1	34.0	39.4	27.0	66.9	69.7	68.8	66.1
Professional.....	0.7	0.8	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.2	1.1	1.2	2.2	0.9
Proprietary.....	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.2	0.7	1.1	2.0	0.6	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.3
Clerical.....	2.2	2.3	3.3	2.0	1.3	1.5	2.5	0.8	4.0	3.5	4.7	3.9
Skilled.....	6.9	8.5	10.0	6.0	4.7	6.7	8.5	8.5	10.8	11.0	12.6	10.3
Semiskilled.....	6.9	8.5	9.2	6.1	4.9	5.9	7.7	4.1	10.3	12.1	12.0	9.6
Unskilled.....	25.8	27.0	24.5	25.8	18.2	18.2	17.8	17.8	38.4	39.6	34.6	39.1
Servant.....	4.1	3.4	3.7	4.3	2.2	1.9	2.4	2.2	7.1	5.6	6.3	7.7
Other.....	21.7	23.6	20.8	21.5	16.0	16.3	15.4	15.6	31.3	34.0	28.3	31.4
No usual occupation.....	2.6	1.9	1.8	2.9	1.9	1.5	1.2	2.1	3.8	2.6	2.6	4.2

**Table 63.—Current Occupation of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, June 1935, by Residence and Year of Migration to County**

[300 counties]

Current occupation of head	Total rural				Open country				Village			
	All heads	Year of migration		All other	All heads	Year of migration		All other	All heads	Year of migration		All other
		1926-1929	1930-June 1935			1926-1929	1930-June 1935			1926-1929	1930-June 1935	
Number.....	98,326	11,334	17,228	69,764	61,406	6,646	10,974	43,786	35,920	4,688	6,254	25,978
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture.....	41.5	34.4	35.2	44.3	60.0	53.2	51.1	63.3	10.6	7.7	7.4	12.0
Farm operator.....	37.5	30.7	30.8	40.2	55.4	49.1	45.8	58.8	7.6	4.8	4.6	8.9
Owner.....	15.5	11.2	9.1	17.8	22.5	17.7	13.2	25.5	3.9	2.0	1.8	4.7
Tenant.....	17.4	16.0	17.0	17.7	26.1	25.9	25.7	26.4	2.6	1.9	2.0	2.9
Cropper.....	4.6	3.5	4.7	4.7	6.8	5.5	6.9	6.9	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.3
Farm laborer.....	4.0	3.7	4.4	4.1	4.6	4.1	5.3	4.5	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.1
Nonagriculture.....	8.3	8.2	7.7	8.5	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.5	14.6	13.5	12.8	15.2
White collar.....	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5	1.8	1.8	2.3	1.8
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	2.9	2.7	2.2	3.2
Unskilled.....	5.7	5.6	5.1	5.9	3.4	3.0	3.2	3.4	9.9	9.0	8.3	10.2
Servant.....	1.9	1.4	1.3	2.0	1.0	0.7	0.8	1.0	3.3	2.3	2.5	3.7
Other.....	3.8	4.2	3.8	3.9	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4	6.5	6.7	5.8	6.5
Unemployed and seeking work.....	50.2	57.4	57.1	47.2	35.4	42.4	44.2	32.2	74.8	78.8	79.8	72.8

### Current Employment

Recent migrants to rural areas were totally unemployed and seeking work to a much greater extent than were older residents. These persons moved in search of employment which did not exist or which did not last. In the open country only 32 percent of the older resident heads of cases were unemployed, the majority being employed as farm operators. Of the recent migrants to the county, however, more than 40 percent were without any job at the time employment information was gathered. Recent migrants fared no better in villages where such jobs as were available were held in disproportionately large numbers by older residents. About 80 percent of all recent migrants to villages were unemployed and seeking work while about 73 percent of the older village residents were without jobs and seeking work (table 63).



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## Appendixes

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# Appendix A

## SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

**Table 1.—Rural Relief Cases in 138 Sample Counties, February, June, and October 1935, by Area Sampled**

Area	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All areas.....	84,136	56,763	27,373	58,516	35,802	22,714	43,932	26,440	17,492
Eastern Cotton.....	11,558	8,737	2,821	7,732	5,002	2,730	4,468	3,030	1,438
White.....	7,638	5,877	1,761	5,064	3,366	1,718	3,296	2,354	942
Negro.....	3,920	2,860	1,060	2,668	1,636	1,012	1,172	676	496
Western Cotton.....	16,523	12,843	3,680	7,268	4,686	2,582	5,576	3,852	1,724
White.....	11,397	8,861	2,536	5,432	3,510	1,922	4,319	3,010	1,308
Negro.....	5,126	3,982	1,144	1,836	1,176	660	1,258	842	416
Appalachian-Ozark.....	17,133	12,051	5,082	17,016	12,066	4,950	17,108	10,662	6,446
Lake States Cut-Over.....	4,685	3,619	1,066	3,814	2,512	1,302	3,168	2,204	964
Corn Belt.....	11,636	5,639	5,997	7,512	2,802	4,710	3,134	1,052	2,082
Hay and Dairy.....	13,082	7,896	5,186	8,626	5,028	3,598	6,448	3,464	2,984
Winter Wheat.....	2,036	1,309	727	1,288	670	618	842	492	350
Spring Wheat.....	4,951	3,729	1,222	3,374	2,396	988	2,098	1,350	748
Ranching.....	2,532	940	1,592	1,886	650	1,236	1,090	334	756

**Table 2.—Rural Relief Persons in 138 Sample Counties, February, June, and October 1935, by Area Sampled**

Area	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All areas.....	382,405	271,907	110,498	253,844	164,982	88,862	186,892	120,364	66,528
Eastern Cotton.....	53,786	42,156	11,630	31,692	21,410	10,282	18,692	13,796	4,896
White.....	36,258	28,634	7,624	21,688	14,876	6,812	13,912	10,530	3,382
Negro.....	17,528	13,522	4,006	10,004	6,534	3,470	4,780	3,266	1,514
Western Cotton.....	74,023	59,884	14,139	30,566	20,636	9,930	22,728	16,462	6,266
White.....	48,095	38,310	9,785	23,352	15,700	7,652	18,104	13,138	4,968
Negro.....	25,928	21,574	4,354	7,214	4,936	2,278	4,624	3,328	1,298
Appalachian-Ozark.....	82,722	62,430	20,292	79,518	60,176	19,342	77,198	61,726	25,472
Lake States Cut-Over.....	19,570	15,261	4,309	14,702	9,862	4,840	11,732	8,285	3,446
Corn Belt.....	60,280	25,847	34,433	31,134	12,452	18,682	12,476	4,750	7,726
Hay and Dairy.....	58,981	37,643	21,338	37,030	22,620	14,410	25,374	14,338	11,036
Winter Wheat.....	8,816	5,911	2,905	5,368	3,020	2,368	3,634	2,276	1,358
Spring Wheat.....	23,803	18,563	5,240	16,492	12,286	4,206	10,620	7,218	3,402
Ranching.....	10,424	4,212	6,212	7,322	2,520	4,802	4,438	1,512	2,926

Table 3.—Estimated Number of Rural Relief Cases in 9 Sample Areas, February, June and October 1935, by Residence

[Figures in thousands]

Area	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All areas.....	998	674	324	693	422	271	512	309	203
Eastern Cotton.....	168	127	41	112	72	40	65	44	21
White.....	111	85	26	74	49	25	48	34	14
Negro.....	57	42	15	38	23	15	17	10	7
Western Cotton.....	178	139	39	78	51	27	60	41	19
White.....	123	96	27	58	38	20	46	32	14
Negro.....	55	43	12	20	13	7	14	9	5
Appalachian-Ozark.....	188	132	56	187	133	54	188	117	71
Lake States Out-Over.....	70	54	16	57	38	19	47	33	14
Corn Belt.....	166	80	86	107	40	67	45	15	30
Hay and Dairy.....	139	84	55	92	54	38	66	37	32
Winter Wheat.....	31	20	11	20	10	10	13	6	5
Spring Wheat.....	44	33	11	30	21	9	19	12	7
Ranching.....	14	5	9	10	3	7	6	2	4

Table 4.—Estimated Number of Rural Relief Persons in 9 Sample Areas, February, June, and October 1935, by Residence

[Figures in thousands]

Area	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All areas.....	4,527	3,218	1,309	2,990	1,929	1,061	2,161	1,398	763
Eastern Cotton.....	780	611	169	459	310	149	271	200	71
White.....	526	415	111	314	215	99	202	158	49
Negro.....	254	196	58	145	96	50	69	47	22
Western Cotton.....	796	644	152	329	222	107	244	177	67
White.....	517	412	105	251	169	82	194	141	53
Negro.....	279	232	47	78	53	25	50	36	14
Appalachian-Ozark.....	909	686	223	874	661	213	848	668	280
Lake States Out-Over.....	392	228	64	219	147	72	175	124	51
Corn Belt.....	718	369	349	445	178	267	178	68	110
Hay and Dairy.....	627	400	227	394	241	153	270	153	117
Winter Wheat.....	136	91	45	82	46	36	55	35	21
Spring Wheat.....	213	166	47	148	110	38	95	65	30
Ranching.....	56	23	33	40	14	26	24	8	16

**Table 5.—Rural Relief Cases in 300 Sample Counties and 83 New England Townships, June and October 1935, by State Sampled**

State	June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All States sampled.....	120,505	71,298	45,674	90,708	55,034	32,864
<b>11 Northern States.....</b>	<b>45,896</b>	<b>26,218</b>	<b>19,678</b>	<b>34,410</b>	<b>19,978</b>	<b>14,432</b>
Iowa.....	2,155	690	1,466	1,258	384	874
Kansas.....	2,796	1,098	1,698	2,246	820	1,426
Michigan.....	5,602	3,752	1,850	4,724	3,306	1,416
Minnesota.....	7,304	4,374	2,930	5,342	3,314	2,028
Missouri.....	7,780	2,622	1,158	4,610	3,376	1,234
Nebraska.....	2,286	698	1,588	1,536	430	1,106
New York.....	1,954	1,068	886	1,816	924	892
North Dakota.....	6,230	4,634	1,596	3,696	2,762	894
Ohio.....	6,946	3,386	3,560	4,380	2,306	2,074
South Dakota.....	3,140	1,684	1,456	1,560	334	1,226
Wisconsin.....	3,702	2,212	1,490	3,242	2,020	1,222
<b>13 Southern States.....</b>	<b>57,292</b>	<b>38,116</b>	<b>19,176</b>	<b>44,798</b>	<b>30,642</b>	<b>14,156</b>
Alabama.....	1,662	804	858	1,550	476	1,074
Arkansas.....	3,308	2,074	1,234	2,110	1,724	386
Florida.....	2,564	1,400	1,164	2,232	1,146	1,086
Georgia.....	2,042	1,274	768	1,114	586	528
Kentucky.....	7,768	6,338	1,430	6,728	5,162	1,566
Louisiana.....	1,156	752	404	2,806	2,264	542
North Carolina.....	3,138	2,146	992	2,306	1,714	592
Oklahoma.....	9,430	7,318	2,112	6,926	5,222	1,704
South Carolina.....	5,246	3,464	1,782	2,156	1,444	712
Tennessee.....	2,882	1,770	1,112	2,194	1,722	472
Texas.....	10,126	5,244	4,882	8,066	4,506	3,560
Virginia.....	3,492	2,662	830	2,674	2,052	622
West Virginia.....	4,478	2,870	1,608	3,936	2,624	1,312
<b>6 Western States.....</b>	<b>13,784</b>	<b>6,964</b>	<b>6,820</b>	<b>8,690</b>	<b>4,414</b>	<b>4,276</b>
California.....	5,662	3,302	2,360	3,660	2,296	1,364
Colorado.....	2,128	984	1,144	1,180	598	582
Montana.....	1,594	1,024	570	892	578	314
Oregon.....	792	376	416	262	134	128
Utah.....	1,712	70	1,642	1,438	68	1,370
Washington.....	1,896	1,208	688	1,058	740	318
<b>2 New England States.....</b>	<b>3,533</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
Connecticut.....	889	—	—	824	—	—
Massachusetts.....	2,644	—	—	1,986	—	—

Table 6.—Rural Relief Persons in 300 Sample Counties and 83 New England Townships, June and October 1935, by State Sampled

State	June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All States sampled.....	514, 477	320, 726	170, 454	379, 968	243, 974	124, 376
11 Northern States.....	191, 768	115, 684	76, 084	139, 486	86, 556	52, 930
Iowa.....	9, 632	3, 162	6, 470	5, 902	1, 938	3, 964
Kansas.....	10, 548	4, 566	5, 982	8, 102	3, 296	4, 806
Michigan.....	21, 054	14, 528	6, 526	17, 728	13, 138	4, 590
Minnesota.....	30, 280	18, 700	11, 580	20, 998	13, 586	7, 412
Missouri.....	16, 194	11, 950	4, 244	20, 164	15, 606	4, 558
Nebraska.....	9, 098	3, 090	6, 008	5, 540	1, 774	3, 766
New York.....	7, 648	4, 286	3, 362	6, 632	3, 452	3, 180
North Dakota.....	30, 508	23, 740	6, 768	18, 854	14, 526	4, 328
Ohio.....	29, 250	15, 276	13, 974	17, 378	9, 852	7, 526
South Dakota.....	12, 478	7, 112	5, 366	5, 874	1, 270	4, 604
Wisconsin.....	15, 078	9, 274	5, 804	12, 314	8, 118	4, 196
13 Southern States.....	253, 812	177, 152	76, 660	194, 980	140, 392	54, 588
Alabama.....	7, 098	3, 388	3, 710	6, 496	2, 074	4, 422
Arkansas.....	12, 944	8, 588	4, 356	8, 390	6, 940	1, 450
Florida.....	11, 444	6, 640	4, 804	8, 862	5, 018	3, 844
Georgia.....	9, 172	5, 978	3, 194	4, 356	2, 580	1, 776
Kentucky.....	36, 696	31, 248	5, 448	31, 106	24, 616	6, 490
Louisiana.....	5, 030	3, 444	1, 586	12, 496	10, 242	2, 254
North Carolina.....	15, 926	11, 326	4, 600	11, 716	8, 948	2, 768
Oklahoma.....	44, 206	35, 092	9, 114	31, 924	24, 954	6, 970
South Carolina.....	20, 974	14, 298	6, 676	9, 476	6, 632	2, 844
Tennessee.....	14, 246	8, 846	5, 400	10, 388	8, 488	1, 900
Texas.....	38, 694	20, 818	17, 876	29, 830	17, 452	12, 378
Virginia.....	17, 830	13, 942	3, 888	13, 240	10, 476	2, 764
West Virginia.....	19, 552	13, 544	6, 008	16, 700	11, 972	4, 728
6 Western States.....	54, 600	27, 890	26, 710	33, 884	17, 026	16, 858
California.....	21, 756	12, 518	9, 238	13, 996	7, 974	6, 022
Colorado.....	8, 066	4, 036	4, 030	4, 918	2, 658	2, 260
Montana.....	6, 736	4, 514	2, 222	3, 996	2, 688	1, 308
Oregon.....	2, 926	1, 402	1, 524	948	502	446
Utah.....	7, 236	272	6, 964	5, 846	282	5, 564
Washington.....	7, 880	5, 148	2, 732	4, 180	2, 922	1, 258
2 New England States.....	14, 297	—	—	11, 618	—	—
Connecticut.....	3, 599	—	—	3, 448	—	—
Massachusetts.....	10, 698	—	—	8, 170	—	—

**Table 7.**—Estimated Number of Cases Receiving Relief in Rural Areas, June and October 1935, by State and Residence

[Figures in thousands]

State	June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
United States total.....	1,427	862	565	1,025	636	389
All States sampled.....	1,040	628	394	789	489	296
11 Northern States.....	379	213	166	291	168	123
Iowa.....	21	7	14	12	4	8
Kansas.....	25	10	15	20	7	13
Michigan.....	52	35	17	44	31	13
Minnesota.....	43	26	17	31	19	12
Missouri.....	35	24	11	43	32	11
Nebraska.....	22	7	15	15	4	11
New York.....	25	14	11	23	12	11
North Dakota.....	35	26	9	21	16	6
Ohio.....	67	33	34	43	23	20
South Dakota.....	21	11	10	10	2	8
Wisconsin.....	33	20	13	29	18	11
13 Southern States.....	539	361	178	420	288	132
Alabama.....	17	8	9	16	5	11
Arkansas.....	29	18	11	18	15	3
Florida.....	22	12	10	19	10	9
Georgia.....	21	13	8	12	6	6
Kentucky.....	88	72	16	76	66	18
Louisiana.....	7	5	2	16	13	3
North Carolina.....	31	21	10	23	17	6
Oklahoma.....	87	67	20	64	48	16
South Carolina.....	41	27	14	17	11	6
Tennessee.....	28	17	11	21	17	4
Texas.....	78	40	38	62	35	27
Virginia.....	29	22	7	22	17	5
West Virginia.....	61	39	22	54	36	18
6 Western States.....	104	54	50	64	33	31
California.....	36	21	15	24	14	10
Colorado.....	21	10	11	12	6	6
Montana.....	12	8	4	7	5	2
Oregon.....	8	4	4	3	2	1
Utah.....	10	•	10	9	•	9
Washington.....	17	11	6	9	6	3
2 New England States.....	18	—	—	14	—	—
Connecticut.....	3	—	—	3	—	—
Massachusetts.....	15	—	—	11	—	—

• Fewer than 1,000 cases.

**Table 8.—Estimated Number of Persons Receiving Relief in Rural Areas, June and October 1935, by State and Residence**

[Figures in thousands]

State	June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
United States total .....	6,136	3,905	2,231	4,315	2,840	1,475
All States sampled .....	4,473	2,843	1,557	3,319	2,176	1,085
11 Northern States .....	1,576	927	649	1,171	717	454
Iowa .....	95	31	64	58	19	39
Kansas .....	96	42	54	74	30	44
Michigan .....	195	135	60	164	122	42
Minnesota .....	178	110	68	124	80	44
Missouri .....	151	112	39	188	146	42
Nebraska .....	89	30	59	54	17	37
New York .....	97	54	43	84	44	40
North Dakota .....	171	133	38	106	82	24
Ohio .....	284	148	136	169	96	73
South Dakota .....	84	48	36	39	2	31
Wisconsin .....	136	84	52	111	78	38
13 Southern States .....	2,410	1,700	710	1,840	1,328	512
Alabama .....	72	34	38	66	21	45
Arkansas .....	112	74	38	72	60	12
Florida .....	100	68	42	77	44	33
Georgia .....	97	63	34	46	27	19
Kentucky .....	417	355	62	353	279	74
Louisiana .....	29	20	9	72	59	13
North Carolina .....	158	112	46	116	89	27
Oklahoma .....	406	322	84	293	229	64
South Carolina .....	165	113	52	75	52	22
Tennessee .....	138	86	52	101	82	19
Texas .....	298	160	138	229	134	95
Virginia .....	150	117	33	111	88	23
West Virginia .....	268	186	82	229	164	65
6 Western States .....	414	216	198	250	131	119
California .....	138	79	59	89	51	38
Colorado .....	81	41	40	49	26	23
Montana .....	63	35	18	31	21	10
Oregon .....	28	13	15	9	5	4
Utah .....	44	2	42	25	2	23
Washington .....	70	46	24	37	26	11
2 New England States .....	73	—	—	58	—	—
Connecticut .....	12	—	—	11	—	—
Massachusetts .....	61	—	—	47	—	—

Table 9.—Rural Relief and Works Program Cases, January 1932 Through December 1935

[Estimated]

Month	1932	1933	1934	1935		
				Total	General relief only	Works Program 1
Figures in thousands						
January.....	104	800	1,165	1,949	1,949	—
February.....	122	1,101	1,227	1,907	1,907	—
March.....	132	1,258	1,414	1,858	1,858	—
April.....	126	1,123	1,321	1,764	1,764	—
May.....	118	980	1,453	1,649	1,649	—
June.....	122	980	1,523	1,427	1,427	—
July.....	123	1,270	1,610	1,289	1,289	—
August.....	118	1,282	1,765	1,171	1,149	22
September.....	127	1,010	1,725	1,101	1,039	62
October.....	251	1,113	1,667	1,127	991	136
November.....	628	1,333	1,753	1,180	859	321
December.....	694	1,007	1,853	1,097	401	696
Percent of all families, 1930						
January.....	0.8	6.4	9.3	15.6	15.6	—
February.....	1.0	8.8	9.8	15.2	15.2	—
March.....	1.1	10.1	11.3	14.8	14.8	—
April.....	1.0	9.0	10.5	14.1	14.1	—
May.....	0.9	7.8	11.6	13.2	13.2	—
June.....	1.0	7.8	12.2	11.4	11.4	—
July.....	1.0	10.1	12.8	10.3	10.3	—
August.....	0.9	10.2	14.1	9.3	9.1	0.2
September.....	1.0	8.1	13.8	8.8	8.3	0.5
October.....	2.0	8.9	13.3	9.0	7.9	1.1
November.....	5.0	10.6	14.0	9.4	6.8	2.6
December.....	5.5	8.0	14.8	8.8	3.2	5.6

† Sample too small for estimating.

<sup>1</sup> Including cases receiving both general relief and Works Program earnings.

Sources: Estimates of general relief cases July 1933 through December 1935 from Smith, Mapheus and Mangus, A. R., *Cases Receiving General Relief in Urban and Rural Areas, July 1933-December 1935 (Estimated)*, Research Bulletin Series III, No. 1, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., August 22, 1936. The general relief series was extended back to January 1932 on the basis of reports to the Division of Social Research from 226 rural and town areas in 24 States. Works Program cases were estimated on the basis of transfers from general relief to the Works Program (exclusive of CCC) reported from 800 counties and 83 New England townships. Cases were considered transferred from general relief to the Works Program only upon receipt of the initial payment for a full period of work performed on a project. It was assumed that all cases received both general relief and Works Program earnings during the month of transfer.

Table 10.—Type of Assistance Received by Rural Relief Cases,<sup>1</sup> February, June, and October 1935, by Area

[138 counties]

Month and type of assistance	All areas	Eastern Cotton			Western Cotton			Appalachian-Ozark	Lake States Cut-Over	Corn Belt	Hay and Dairy	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Ranching
		Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro							
FEBRUARY														
Number.....	76,127	10,286	6,732	3,554	15,133	10,421	4,712	15,820	4,042	10,803	11,584	1,739	4,483	2,237
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Work relief only.....	34.9	43.6	51.5	28.4	31.4	33.0	27.8	34.5	20.5	47.5	21.2	23.7	55.5	26.5
Direct relief only.....	37.1	31.2	21.3	49.9	31.3	27.5	39.9	42.6	48.3	26.3	57.8	6.2	18.0	52.5
Both work and direct relief.....	17.2	25.2	27.2	21.7	11.9	14.0	7.1	21.6	16.8	17.2	12.0	12.0	18.0	14.0
Drought relief <sup>2</sup> .....	10.8	—	—	—	25.4	25.5	25.2	1.3	14.4	9.0	9.0	58.1	8.5	7.0
JUNE														
Number.....	54,668	7,026	4,558	2,468	6,892	5,152	1,740	16,084	3,538	6,944	8,106	1,212	3,180	1,686
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Work relief only.....	45.6	44.0	48.8	35.2	52.5	57.1	38.7	58.1	18.5	48.2	26.6	62.9	48.8	23.0
Direct relief only.....	39.7	35.9	28.3	50.1	34.9	29.3	51.6	30.1	59.8	39.9	62.8	18.6	20.1	64.3
Both work and direct relief.....	14.7	20.1	22.9	14.7	12.6	13.6	9.7	11.8	21.7	11.9	10.6	18.5	31.1	12.7
OCTOBER														
Number.....	37,018	3,486	2,698	788	5,052	3,920	1,132	14,258	2,948	2,638	5,294	714	1,728	900
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Work relief only.....	17.7	54.8	54.2	56.9	23.9	25.0	20.1	16.1	0.1	7.4	6.3	48.8	9.1	10.4
Direct relief only.....	77.1	40.7	41.5	37.8	70.0	67.8	77.4	77.3	99.8	86.6	90.5	47.3	84.3	85.8
Both work and direct relief.....	5.2	4.5	4.3	5.3	6.1	7.2	2.5	6.6	0.1	6.0	3.2	3.9	6.6	3.8

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of cases opened or reopened during the month.<sup>2</sup> Drought cases that received assistance in the form of feed and seed or in the form of work or direct relief.



Table 11.—Type of Assistance Received by Rural Relief Cases,<sup>1</sup> June and October 1935, by State

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	June					October				
	Total		Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief	Total		Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief
	Num-ber	Per-cent				Num-ber	Per-cent			
All States sampled.....	112,313	100.0	51.7	32.1	16.2	78,642	100.0	18.5	75.8	5.7
11 Northern States.....	43,244	100.0	43.0	41.0	16.0	29,354	100.0	4.5	91.5	4.0
Iowa.....	1,934	100.0	30.5	43.2	26.3	1,100	100.0	15.6	61.4	23.0
Kansas.....	2,712	100.0	80.3	14.6	5.1	2,052	100.0	0.2	99.8	—
Michigan.....	5,244	100.0	19.7	68.8	11.5	4,192	100.0	0.3	99.3	0.4
Minnesota.....	7,054	100.0	64.8	31.6	13.6	4,480	100.0	0.1	99.5	0.4
Missouri.....	3,378	100.0	59.1	33.0	7.9	3,986	100.0	3.6	93.6	2.8
Nebraska.....	2,170	100.0	70.1	20.7	9.2	1,230	100.0	5.7	91.2	3.1
New York.....	1,852	100.0	23.7	64.1	12.2	1,600	100.0	22.0	69.0	9.0
North Dakota.....	5,850	100.0	37.4	28.0	34.6	2,836	100.0	8.5	85.4	6.1
Ohio.....	6,510	100.0	15.2	66.8	18.0	3,952	100.0	4.7	85.6	9.7
South Dakota.....	3,056	100.0	—	2.0	—	1,180	100.0	12.7	84.2	3.1
Wisconsin.....	3,484	100.0	22.7	53.8	23.5	2,746	100.0	—	99.6	0.4
13 Southern States.....	53,084	100.0	58.5	24.2	17.3	38,956	100.0	28.1	64.5	7.4
Alabama.....	1,558	100.0	87.9	6.5	5.6	558	100.0	18.3	81.7	—
Arkansas.....	3,076	100.0	12.3	30.7	57.0	1,792	100.0	10.7	87.4	1.9
Florida.....	2,230	100.0	53.0	13.5	33.5	1,914	100.0	0.6	99.4	—
Georgia.....	1,854	100.0	93.3	0.6	6.1	788	100.0	92.4	4.3	3.3
Kentucky.....	7,394	100.0	67.7	26.4	5.9	6,330	100.0	1.4	97.4	1.2
Louisiana.....	716	100.0	71.8	26.5	1.7	2,628	100.0	31.4	68.1	0.5
North Carolina.....	2,656	100.0	55.9	24.3	19.8	2,114	100.0	23.9	36.4	39.7
Oklahoma.....	8,862	100.0	85.1	2.1	12.8	5,920	100.0	77.1	6.6	16.3
South Carolina.....	4,976	100.0	16.8	51.6	31.6	1,436	100.0	77.8	11.8	10.4
Tennessee.....	2,750	100.0	39.9	13.0	47.1	2,076	100.0	32.9	56.2	10.9
Texas.....	9,558	100.0	38.3	48.0	13.7	7,198	100.0	0.9	98.6	0.5
Virginia.....	3,182	100.0	95.3	1.6	3.1	2,414	100.0	82.3	3.8	13.9
West Virginia.....	4,272	100.0	75.0	22.7	2.3	3,788	100.0	1.8	93.6	4.6
6 Western States.....	12,826	100.0	48.2	36.8	15.0	7,638	100.0	3.4	93.0	3.6
California.....	5,364	100.0	87.0	2.1	10.9	3,524	100.0	0.2	97.1	2.7
Colorado.....	1,990	100.0	26.9	37.3	35.8	1,044	100.0	10.3	81.5	8.2
Montana.....	1,466	100.0	5.7	91.4	2.9	752	100.0	2.1	97.4	0.5
Oregon.....	678	100.0	24.8	67.2	8.0	138	100.0	4.3	95.7	—
Utah.....	1,600	100.0	32.6	55.9	10.5	1,320	100.0	8.6	84.7	6.7
Washington.....	1,728	100.0	12.6	66.8	20.6	860	100.0	0.5	99.3	0.2
2 New England States.....	3,159	100.0	69.7	23.1	7.2	2,694	100.0	73.5	22.0	4.5
Connecticut.....	781	100.0	57.2	32.3	10.5	708	100.0	63.3	27.7	9.0
Massachusetts.....	2,378	100.0	73.8	20.1	6.1	1,986	100.0	77.1	20.1	2.8

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of cases opened or reopened during the month.

**Table 12.—Average Monthly General Relief Benefit per Case <sup>1</sup> in Rural Areas, February June, and October 1935, by Area and Type of Assistance**

[138 counties]

Area	February <sup>1</sup>				June				October			
	Total	Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief	Total	Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief	Total	Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief
All areas.....	\$16	\$17	\$12	\$22	\$16	\$16	\$13	\$24	\$14	\$12	\$14	\$20
Eastern Cotton.....	10	12	6	13	12	14	7	15	11	13	9	17
White.....	12	13	7	14	14	16	8	16	12	13	10	19
Negro.....	7	10	7	10	8	10	6	13	10	10	8	11
Western Cotton.....	10	10	14	14	10	11	7	14	9	6	10	11
White.....	10	10	15	11	11	11	7	15	9	6	10	10
Negro.....	8	9	7	12	8	10	6	12	9	6	9	11
Appalachian-Ozark.....	12	13	8	18	12	12	10	19	14	10	14	17
Lake States Cut-Over.....	22	25	15	36	23	24	18	36	22	21	22	29
Corn Belt.....	20	21	13	28	18	19	14	30	16	17	15	23
Hay and Dairy.....	25	30	20	37	23	29	19	36	14	38	12	43
Winter Wheat.....	17	17	11	20	16	16	13	24	11	7	14	14
Spring Wheat.....	23	22	16	31	22	19	14	30	24	28	23	31
Ranching.....	20	21	16	31	18	19	15	31	20	19	20	29

† Average not computed for fewer than 50 cases.

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of cases opened or reopened during the month.<sup>2</sup> Exclusive of drought relief cases.**Table 13.—Average Monthly General Relief Benefit per Case in Urban Areas, 1934-1936**

Month	1934	1935	1936
January.....	\$19.90	\$35.50	\$26.90
February.....	21.10	32.30	27.20
March.....	22.00	33.10	27.90
April.....	25.10	33.10	27.80
May.....	28.90	33.20	26.50
June.....	28.20	31.90	28.80
July.....	28.80	34.10	26.10
August.....	31.00	32.70	25.60
September.....	28.50	28.90	27.00
October.....	30.80	30.80	28.00
November.....	32.40	26.80	28.70
December.....	32.80	25.50	30.40

Source: *Changes in Different Types of Public and Private Relief in Urban Areas*, monthly bulletins, U. S. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C.

**Table 14.—Average Monthly General Relief Benefit per Case <sup>1</sup> in Rural Areas, June and October 1935, by State and Type of Assistance**

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	June				October			
	Total	Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief	Total	Work relief only	Direct relief only	Both work and direct relief
All States sampled.....	\$17	\$18	\$12	\$23	\$16	\$17	\$16	\$21
11 Northern States.....	19	20	14	31	18	25	17	28
Iowa.....	18	18	13	27	21	22	17	32
Kansas.....	19	19	12	28	19	†	19	—
Michigan.....	18	23	15	25	18	†	18	†
Minnesota.....	23	24	14	35	20	†	20	†
Missouri.....	7	9	4	9	9	16	8	19
Nebraska.....	20	20	17	26	21	13	21	†
New York.....	24	34	18	40	26	36	20	46
North Dakota.....	21	20	14	28	24	31	22	32
Ohio.....	19	25	14	32	14	15	13	21
South Dakota.....	16	15	8	—	19	24	19	†
Wisconsin.....	26	32	18	40	22	—	22	†
13 Southern States.....	11	12	7	13	10	11	10	15
Alabama.....	18	17	11	17	10	14	9	—
Arkansas.....	12	15	8	13	10	18	9	†
Florida.....	9	10	6	10	7	†	6	—
Georgia.....	11	11	†	11	12	12	†	†
Kentucky.....	10	11	6	13	10	18	10	18
Louisiana.....	13	15	9	†	10	15	7	†
North Carolina.....	15	16	8	18	13	17	7	15
Oklahoma.....	11	10	6	13	8	8	6	13
South Carolina.....	11	19	6	15	10	11	1	9
Tennessee.....	11	12	6	11	6	5	5	11
Texas.....	10	13	7	15	11	42	10	†
Virginia.....	12	12	5	16	13	13	5	15
West Virginia.....	13	14	11	15	14	18	14	21
6 Western States.....	28	35	16	33	31	20	32	38
California.....	41	39	25	60	45	†	44	61
Colorado.....	23	20	17	31	23	21	24	26
Montana.....	17	24	16	†	25	†	25	†
Oregon.....	15	22	11	25	14	†	12	†
Utah.....	17	18	15	27	16	16	15	24
Washington.....	20	23	17	27	20	†	20	†
2 New England States.....	35	41	21	55	39	42	24	63
Connecticut.....	39	44	23	63	41	44	25	68
Massachusetts.....	36	40	20	51	38	41	23	58

† Average not computed for fewer than 50 cases.

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of cases opened or reopened during the month.

Table 15.—Reason for Separation of Rural Relief Cases, July Through October 1935, by State

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	All reasons		Reason for separation															Other
			Private industry				Works Program			Other public assistance			Other assistance			Client moved or failed to report	Ad- mini- strative policy	
	Num- ber	Per- cent	Total	Em- ploy- ment ob- tained	In- creased earn- ings	Crops mar- ket- ed	Total	WP wage	CCC allot- ment	Total	Re- settle- ment Ad- mini- stration	Local agency	Total	From rela- tives and friends	From other sources			
All States sampled.....	80,897	100.0	43.9	27.2	6.1	10.6	21.1	14.7	6.4	4.6	2.5	2.1	6.0	2.9	3.1	8.3	8.0	8.1
11 Northern States.....	31,530	100.0	55.5	28.7	7.9	18.9	13.3	9.3	4.0	5.9	4.4	1.5	5.1	2.3	2.8	7.2	10.0	8.0
Iowa.....	1,416	100.0	68.5	42.3	21.3	4.9	3.5	0.4	3.1	6.2	2.0	4.2	3.8	1.8	2.0	3.7	7.5	6.8
Kansas.....	1,336	100.0	48.5	34.6	11.4	2.5	12.9	3.9	9.0	8.1	8.0	0.1	5.8	2.4	3.4	11.4	10.6	2.7
Michigan.....	3,250	100.0	63.5	40.5	6.0	17.0	14.3	9.8	4.5	2.0	—	2.0	5.8	3.3	2.5	3.6	4.3	6.5
Minnesota.....	4,632	100.0	58.1	22.8	5.9	29.4	13.3	11.3	2.0	3.3	2.8	0.5	5.5	3.1	2.4	11.0	7.0	1.8
Missouri.....	3,138	100.0	50.9	17.1	20.5	13.3	17.4	3.6	13.8	2.0	1.0	1.0	5.1	4.2	0.9	21.2	1.1	2.3
Nebraska.....	1,822	100.0	51.2	32.2	10.9	8.1	15.6	12.2	3.4	3.0	2.7	0.3	3.3	2.3	1.0	3.8	19.2	3.9
New York.....	1,076	100.0	52.4	37.9	10.6	3.9	9.1	7.4	1.7	1.1	—	1.1	12.3	1.9	10.4	11.4	7.8	5.9
North Dakota.....	4,590	100.0	78.5	12.0	4.9	61.6	3.2	0.2	3.0	4.4	—	4.4	4.3	1.6	2.7	1.1	7.9	0.6
Ohio.....	4,730	100.0	59.4	51.9	4.3	3.2	24.1	21.7	2.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	5.7	1.6	4.1	3.3	5.4	1.3
South Dakota.....	3,380	100.0	17.5	9.7	2.5	5.3	1.0	0.3	0.7	29.6	28.2	1.4	4.1	1.5	2.6	6.7	37.9	3.2
Wisconsin.....	2,160	100.0	48.2	36.4	4.2	7.6	29.4	26.2	3.2	3.9	3.8	0.1	3.5	1.2	2.3	6.5	3.1	5.4
13 Southern States.....	38,444	100.0	30.9	20.1	5.5	5.3	30.4	20.5	9.9	2.9	1.3	1.6	7.4	3.8	3.6	8.1	6.8	13.5
Alabama.....	1,784	100.0	22.4	6.6	15.7	0.1	67.3	64.9	2.4	1.0	0.3	0.7	1.9	1.2	0.7	1.9	3.8	1.7
Arkansas.....	3,946	100.0	13.6	9.0	1.0	3.6	49.6	41.3	8.3	11.3	—	11.3	9.1	2.0	7.1	4.9	7.2	4.3
Florida.....	1,924	100.0	18.7	15.1	1.0	2.6	62.7	58.7	4.0	2.7	1.2	1.5	0.7	0.5	0.2	7.4	7.5	0.3
Georgia.....	2,184	100.0	15.6	10.5	2.7	2.3	58.3	50.5	7.8	0.4	0.3	0.1	1.3	0.5	0.8	8.5	11.2	4.8
Kentucky.....	2,574	100.0	40.7	22.6	4.2	13.9	43.2	19.2	24.0	0.5	0.3	0.2	6.5	3.2	3.3	4.0	4.0	1.1
Louisiana.....	1,256	100.0	26.1	22.8	1.4	1.9	31.6	19.3	12.3	28.4	27.0	1.4	3.3	0.3	3.0	3.2	3.8	3.6
North Carolina.....	2,038	100.0	58.7	37.4	11.2	10.1	14.5	2.7	11.3	3.4	—	3.4	1.4	0.6	0.8	10.8	6.5	4.7
Oklahoma.....	5,884	100.0	22.5	8.4	3.2	10.9	19.6	11.0	8.6	0.9	0.3	0.6	8.1	0.4	7.7	12.3	2.4	34.2
South Carolina.....	4,788	100.0	24.6	9.2	11.8	3.6	8.1	2.0	6.1	1.7	1.4	0.3	12.0	9.2	2.8	3.6	17.8	32.2
Tennessee.....	2,252	100.0	20.3	9.8	5.2	5.3	64.0	32.8	21.2	0.2	—	0.2	2.8	2.2	0.6	16.3	3.7	2.7
Texas.....	6,082	100.0	49.0	44.6	2.1	2.3	10.7	2.9	7.8	0.3	0.2	0.1	13.9	9.4	4.5	11.0	5.6	9.5
Virginia.....	2,212	100.0	34.3	27.4	2.8	4.1	28.8	15.8	13.0	1.4	1.2	0.2	3.6	2.4	1.2	5.4	6.1	20.4
West Virginia.....	1,806	100.0	54.2	35.8	15.9	2.5	18.8	9.0	9.8	0.4	—	0.4	9.4	6.3	3.1	8.3	4.1	4.8

<b>6 Western States.....</b>	<b>9,152</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>
California.....	3,296	100.0	58.7	55.3	1.0	2.4	6.1	5.9	0.2	3.5	1.2	2.3	4.9	3.2	1.7	15.7	8.1	3.0
Colorado.....	1,478	100.0	41.6	33.6	3.7	4.3	14.7	13.1	1.6	23.1	2.7	20.4	5.4	0.1	6.3	11.6	1.2	2.4
Montana.....	1,162	100.0	41.3	22.8	1.5	17.0	17.7	16.8	0.9	16.9	1.2	15.7	4.3	0.9	3.4	16.0	1.4	2.4
Oregon.....	896	100.0	52.7	44.9	4.0	3.8	15.6	14.9	0.7	1.8	0.4	1.4	4.3	1.8	2.5	8.7	14.3	2.6
Utah.....	874	100.0	53.1	42.6	3.4	7.1	19.9	14.2	5.7	3.4	1.6	1.8	3.8	1.1	2.7	7.8	5.5	6.5
Washington.....	1,446	100.0	69.4	60.9	0.3	8.2	11.1	9.3	1.8	0.3	0.3	—	2.6	0.8	1.8	15.2	0.3	1.1
<b>2 New England States...</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Connecticut.....	483	100.0	61.9	44.5	12.6	4.8	9.7	9.7	—	0.8	—	0.8	3.4	1.7	1.7	6.6	14.5	3.1
Massachusetts.....	1,288	100.0	67.4	59.2	7.3	0.9	6.2	5.6	0.6	0.5	—	0.5	3.6	1.4	2.2	5.0	10.6	6.7

<sup>1</sup> Decreased needs and miscellaneous reasons.

**Table 16.—Rate of Accessions and Separations of Rural Relief Cases, July Through October 1935, Because of Private Industry and Other Reasons, by Usual Occupation of the Head**

[300 counties]

Usual occupation of head	Reason for accession				Reason for separation				Net change			
	Total	Private industry		Other <sup>1</sup>	Total	Private industry		Other <sup>2</sup>	Total	Employment	Earnings	Other
		Lost private employment <sup>1</sup>	Decreased earnings <sup>2</sup>			Obtained private employment <sup>3</sup>	Increased earnings <sup>3</sup>					
Total.....	43,500	15,916	10,236	17,348	79,096	21,028	13,282	44,786	-35,596	-5,112	-3,046	-27,438
Agriculture.....	21,002	6,302	7,574	7,066	39,492	7,546	9,856	22,090	-18,490	-1,184	-2,282	-15,024
Farm operator.....	13,296	1,478	6,472	5,346	25,948	2,698	8,118	15,132	-12,652	-1,220	-1,646	-9,786
Owner.....	4,214	398	2,300	1,516	9,170	980	3,414	4,776	-4,956	-582	-1,114	-3,260
Tenant.....	6,480	696	3,342	2,442	13,012	1,216	4,246	7,550	-6,532	-520	-904	-5,108
Cropper.....	2,602	384	830	1,388	3,766	502	458	2,806	-1,164	-118	+372	-1,418
Farm laborer.....	7,706	4,884	1,102	1,720	13,544	4,848	1,738	6,958	-5,838	+36	-636	-5,238
Nonagriculture.....	17,258	8,940	2,296	6,052	30,406	12,710	2,988	14,708	-13,148	-3,770	-722	-8,656
White collar.....	1,486	736	218	532	2,700	988	268	1,444	-1,214	-252	-50	-912
Professional.....	322	130	44	148	526	180	40	306	-204	-50	+4	-158
Proprietary.....	420	216	62	142	796	238	130	428	-376	-22	-68	-286
Clerical.....	744	390	112	242	1,378	570	98	710	-634	-180	+14	-468
Skilled.....	2,634	1,452	378	804	5,036	2,232	452	2,352	-2,402	-780	-74	-1,548
Semiskilled.....	2,788	1,600	308	820	4,826	2,208	374	2,244	-2,038	-548	-66	-1,424
Unskilled.....	10,350	5,092	1,302	3,896	17,844	7,282	1,894	8,668	-7,494	-2,190	-532	-4,772
Servant.....	1,450	598	292	560	2,102	580	256	1,266	-652	+18	+36	-706
Other.....	8,900	4,494	1,070	3,336	15,742	6,702	1,638	7,402	-6,842	-2,208	-568	-4,066
No usual occupation.....	692	54	8	630	1,140	124	14	1,002	-448	-70	-6	-372
Head not a worker.....	4,548	560	388	3,600	8,058	648	424	6,986	-3,510	-88	-36	-3,386

Usual occupation of head	Accession rate <sup>1</sup>				Separation rate <sup>2</sup>				Percent change <sup>3</sup>			
Total.....	37.2	13.6	8.8	14.8	67.7	18.0	11.4	38.3	-30.5	-4.4	-2.6	-23.5
Agriculture.....	39.3	11.9	14.2	13.2	74.0	14.1	18.5	41.4	-34.6	-2.2	-4.3	-28.1
Farm operator.....	35.1	3.9	17.1	14.1	68.5	7.1	21.4	40.0	-33.4	-3.2	-4.3	-25.9
Owner.....	30.4	2.9	16.5	11.0	66.2	7.1	24.6	34.5	-35.8	-4.2	-8.0	-23.6
Tenant.....	35.5	3.8	18.3	13.4	71.3	6.7	23.3	41.3	-35.8	-2.9	-5.0	-27.9
Cropper.....	45.0	6.7	14.4	23.9	65.2	8.7	7.9	48.6	-20.2	-2.0	+6.4	-24.6
Farm laborer.....	49.6	31.4	7.1	11.1	87.2	31.2	11.2	44.8	-37.6	+0.2	-4.1	-33.7

Nonagriculture.....	30.7	20.6	5.2	13.9	70.0	29.3	6.9	33.8	-30.3	-8.7	-1.7	-19.9
White collar.....	35.1	17.4	5.1	12.6	63.7	23.8	6.3	34.1	-28.7	-5.9	-1.2	-21.6
Professional.....	47.8	19.3	6.5	22.0	78.0	26.7	5.9	45.4	-30.3	-7.4	+0.6	-23.5
Proprietary.....	32.1	16.5	4.7	10.9	60.9	18.2	9.9	32.8	-28.7	-1.7	-5.2	-21.9
Clerical.....	33.0	17.3	5.0	10.7	61.1	25.3	4.3	31.5	-28.1	-8.0	+0.6	-20.7
Skilled.....	38.1	21.0	5.5	11.6	72.9	32.3	6.5	34.1	-34.8	-11.3	-1.1	-22.4
Semiskilled.....	40.7	24.2	4.5	12.0	70.5	32.2	5.5	32.8	-29.8	-8.0	-1.0	-20.8
Unskilled.....	40.7	20.0	5.4	15.3	70.2	28.6	7.4	34.2	-29.5	-8.6	-2.1	-18.8
Servant.....	35.7	14.7	7.2	13.8	51.8	14.3	6.3	31.2	-18.1	+0.4	+0.9	-17.4
Other.....	41.6	21.0	5.0	15.6	73.7	31.4	7.7	34.6	-32.0	-10.3	-2.7	-19.0
No usual occupation.....	26.8	2.1	0.3	24.4	44.2	4.8	0.5	38.9	-17.4	-2.7	-0.2	-14.8
Head not a worker.....	26.0	3.2	2.2	20.6	46.1	3.7	2.4	40.0	-20.1	-0.5	-0.2	-19.4

<sup>1</sup> Private or regular Government employment for wages or employment on "own account," including farming in the case of operators who lost their land.

<sup>2</sup> From current private or regular Government employment, including farming in the case of crop failure or loss of livestock.

<sup>3</sup> Loss of Works Program employment, loss of Resettlement status, loss of assets, increased needs, administrative ruling, loss of primary wage earner.

<sup>4</sup> Private or regular Government employment for wages or employment on "own account," including farming in the case of operators who obtained land.

<sup>5</sup> From current private or regular Government employment, including farming in the case of crops marketed.

<sup>6</sup> Obtained Works Program employment; client moved or failed to report; administrative policy; assistance from Resettlement Administration, friends, relatives, local agencies, landlord, miscellaneous sources; compensations and pensions; loans secured; refused to work.

<sup>7</sup> Accessions per 100 cases on relief in June.

<sup>8</sup> Separations per 100 cases on relief in June.

<sup>9</sup> Net change per 100 cases on relief in June.

**Table 17.—Accessions to Rural Relief per 100 Separations, July Through October 1935, Because of Private Industry<sup>1</sup> and Other Reasons, by State and Residence**

[300 counties]

State	Total rural			Open country			Village		
	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons	Total	Private industry	Other reasons
All States sampled.....	55	76	39	55	79	37	56	72	41
11 Northern States.....	54	63	43	53	62	42	55	64	44
Iowa.....	39	34	51	38	29	57	40	37	47
Kansas.....	50	64	38	46	65	35	55	63	43
Michigan.....	58	55	64	59	51	73	57	63	47
Minnesota.....	60	50	74	63	47	91	52	58	47
Missouri.....	93	131	52	91	141	42	96	108	82
Nebraska.....	56	77	33	52	66	33	58	85	33
North Dakota.....	43	45	36	44	44	45	41	52	29
New York.....	61	79	41	55	72	36	69	90	46
Ohio.....	45	51	36	48	61	34	42	45	38
South Dakota.....	33	130	12	19	132	5	68	128	37
Wisconsin.....	59	64	54	56	62	51	63	67	59
13 Southern States.....	58	104	37	58	112	36	59	92	40
Alabama.....	91	38	106	53	†	47	116	23	154
Arkansas.....	58	168	40	75	191	55	25	110	14
Florida.....	82	376	15	65	329	15	106	421	15
Georgia.....	51	231	18	47	246	16	59	213	23
Kentucky.....	127	95	31	58	103	32	57	84	31
Louisiana.....	127	397	82	142	590	31	89	159	39
North Carolina.....	55	51	62	60	54	68	45	44	46
Oklahoma.....	55	97	42	54	98	42	55	96	41
South Carolina.....	38	84	24	39	89	24	36	72	23
Tennessee.....	22	47	16	22	53	14	25	33	22
Texas.....	59	87	33	64	95	35	55	78	31
Virginia.....	62	78	54	61	77	53	66	81	57
West Virginia.....	63	67	58	60	68	54	65	66	64
6 Western States.....	46	57	34	44	56	30	49	58	38
California.....	48	59	32	51	61	36	45	57	29
Colorado.....	40	70	19	40	85	16	41	62	21
Montana.....	40	71	18	37	72	14	44	69	25
Oregon.....	46	45	47	44	40	47	48	48	48
Utah.....	68	72	62	†	†	†	69	74	64
Washington.....	41	35	53	39	35	45	45	35	71

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.

<sup>1</sup> Including cases opened or reopened because of loss of job or decreased earnings and cases closed because of job secured or increased earnings.



**Table 18.—Private Industries Responsible for Closing Rural Relief Cases,<sup>1</sup> July Through October 1935, by Region and Residence**

[300 counties]

Industry	All States sampled			11 Northern States			13 Southern States			6 Western States		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	15,166	7,114	8,052	6,662	2,832	3,830	5,660	3,076	2,584	2,844	1,206	1,638
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture.....	31.4	36.9	26.4	26.9	30.5	24.2	35.6	42.9	26.8	33.2	35.8	31.2
Extraction of minerals.....	16.7	12.3	20.7	26.8	22.8	29.6	10.5	6.7	15.2	6.2	2.9	8.7
Transportation and communication.....	14.9	15.3	14.6	16.8	18.1	15.9	13.3	15.2	10.9	13.8	9.1	17.1
Building and construction.....	6.5	5.3	7.5	6.9	6.0	7.5	5.5	4.0	7.4	7.3	6.7	7.8
Forestry and fishing.....	4.7	6.8	2.7	3.0	5.8	0.9	4.6	6.5	2.2	8.6	10.1	7.5
Trade.....	4.1	3.2	5.0	3.3	1.6	4.6	4.5	3.6	5.5	5.3	5.8	4.9
Lumber and furniture.....	4.1	5.5	2.9	1.8	2.2	1.6	5.2	5.9	4.2	7.3	12.3	3.8
Domestic and personal service.....	3.9	3.3	4.4	3.5	2.8	3.9	4.4	3.9	5.0	3.8	2.7	4.6
Food and allied.....	3.3	2.4	4.2	2.7	1.0	4.0	1.6	1.7	1.5	8.1	7.4	8.5
Public and professional service.....	3.2	2.9	3.4	2.7	2.7	2.7	4.0	3.0	5.1	2.7	3.1	2.4
Textile.....	1.8	1.0	2.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	4.6	2.1	7.7	—	—	—
Auto factories and repair shops.....	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.7	2.4	1.2	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.9
Other.....	4.2	3.8	4.6	3.7	3.9	3.7	5.5	4.0	7.4	2.8	3.1	2.6

<sup>1</sup> For which information was available.

**Table 19.—Type of Households on Relief in Rural Areas, June and October 1935, by Residence**

[300 counties]

Type of household	Total rural			Open country			Village		
	June	October	Percent change, June cases = 100.0	June	October	Percent change, June cases = 100.0	June	October	Percent change, June cases = 100.0
Number.....	117,827	88,714	—	71,754	55,474	—	46,073	33,240	—
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	-24.7	100.0	100.0	-22.7	100.0	100.0	-27.9
<b>Family types.....</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>-25.0</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>-22.3</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>-20.3</b>
Without others.....	73.4	74.8	-23.3	74.7	76.9	-20.4	71.5	71.4	-27.9
With others.....	9.7	8.1	-37.8	10.6	8.7	-36.1	8.3	6.8	-41.0
<b>Normal families.....</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>-25.7</b>	<b>75.8</b>	<b>75.7</b>	<b>-22.8</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>-30.9</b>
Without others.....	64.9	65.4	-24.1	67.4	68.9	-21.0	61.1	59.6	-29.5
With others.....	7.6	6.1	-39.5	8.4	6.8	-37.2	6.2	4.8	-44.3
<b>Husband and wife.....</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>-21.0</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>-18.9</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>-24.0</b>
Without others.....	11.8	12.6	-19.2	11.1	12.0	-16.4	12.8	13.7	-23.1
With others.....	2.0	1.9	-31.2	2.1	1.9	-31.9	1.9	1.8	-30.1
<b>Husband, wife, and children.....</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>-26.8</b>	<b>62.6</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>-23.6</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>-32.9</b>
Without others.....	53.1	52.8	-25.2	56.3	56.9	-21.9	48.3	45.9	-31.3
With others.....	5.6	4.2	-42.5	6.3	4.9	-39.0	4.3	3.0	-50.4
<b>Broken families.....</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>-19.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>-18.9</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>-20.8</b>
Without others.....	8.5	9.4	-16.7	7.3	8.0	-15.0	10.4	11.8	-18.6
With others.....	2.1	2.0	-31.7	2.2	1.9	-31.9	2.1	2.0	-31.3
<b>Father and children.....</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-29.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-25.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-36.6</b>
Without others.....	2.0	2.0	-25.9	2.0	2.0	-19.7	2.1	1.9	-35.0
With others.....	0.6	0.5	-40.6	0.7	0.5	-39.6	0.5	0.4	-42.9
<b>Father with children 16 and over.....</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-31.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-28.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-36.7</b>
Without others.....	1.3	1.2	-28.2	1.3	1.2	-24.3	1.4	1.3	-33.9
With others.....	0.3	0.3	-45.0	0.4	0.3	-42.5	0.3	0.2	-50.8
<b>Father with children under 16 only.....</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-25.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-18.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-36.3</b>
Without others.....	0.7	0.8	-21.4	0.7	0.8	-11.3	0.7	0.6	-37.4
With others.....	0.3	0.2	-35.0	0.3	0.2	-35.8	0.2	0.2	-33.3
<b>Mother and children.....</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>-16.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>-16.5</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>-16.7</b>
Without others.....	6.5	7.4	-14.0	5.3	6.0	-13.3	8.3	9.9	-14.6
With others.....	1.5	1.5	-27.9	1.5	1.4	-28.2	1.6	1.6	-27.5
<b>Mother with children 16 and over.....</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-25.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-26.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>-25.0</b>
Without others.....	3.6	3.6	-23.9	2.9	2.9	-24.2	4.5	4.8	-23.7
With others.....	0.9	0.8	-33.1	0.9	0.8	-34.2	0.9	0.9	-31.5
<b>Mother with children under 16 only.....</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
Without others.....	2.9	3.8	-1.8	2.4	3.1	+0.2	3.8	5.1	-3.8
With others.....	0.6	0.7	-20.5	0.6	0.6	-19.3	0.7	0.7	-22.2
<b>Nonfamily types.....</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>-23.4</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>-24.7</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>-22.1</b>
<b>Nonfamily groups.....</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>-26.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>-26.9</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>-26.2</b>
Male head.....	5.2	4.9	-29.0	5.2	4.7	-30.1	5.3	5.3	-27.3
16-64 years.....	5.0	4.6	-30.4	5.0	4.5	-31.5	5.1	5.0	-28.7
65 years and over.....	0.2	0.3	+12.4	0.2	0.2	+14.8	0.2	0.3	†
Female head.....	1.8	1.9	-19.9	1.5	1.7	-16.3	2.2	2.4	-23.7
16-64 years.....	1.5	1.6	-18.0	1.2	1.4	-11.7	1.8	2.0	-24.2
65 years and over.....	0.3	0.3	-28.6	0.3	0.3	-34.5	0.4	0.4	-20.7
<b>1-person households.....</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>-21.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>-22.7</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>-19.6</b>
Male.....	6.8	6.5	-27.1	6.0	5.9	-24.1	7.9	7.6	-30.7
16-64 years.....	4.2	3.6	-34.3	3.7	3.3	-30.1	5.0	4.2	-39.2
65 years and over.....	2.6	2.9	-15.3	2.3	2.6	-14.5	2.9	8.4	-16.3
Female.....	3.1	3.8	-8.3	2.0	2.1	-18.8	4.8	6.5	-1.4
16-64 years.....	1.6	1.9	-9.4	1.1	1.1	-21.7	2.3	3.2	-0.7
65 years and over.....	1.5	1.9	-7.2	0.9	1.0	-15.6	2.5	3.3	-2.0

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.

**Table 20.—Type of Families on Relief in Rural Areas, June and October 1935, by Residence**

[300 counties]

Residence and type of family	June			October		
	All families	Without others	With others	All families	Without others	With others
<b>TOTAL RURAL</b>						
Number.....	97,967	86,531	11,436	78,510	66,394	7,116
Percent.....	100.0	88.3	11.7	100.0	80.3	9.7
Normal families.....	87.2	78.1	9.1	86.3	79.0	7.3
Husband and wife.....	16.6	14.2	2.4	17.5	15.3	2.2
Husband, wife, and children.....	70.6	63.9	6.7	68.8	63.7	5.1
Broken families.....	12.8	10.2	2.6	13.7	11.3	2.4
Father and children.....	3.1	2.3	0.8	3.0	2.4	0.6
Children 16 and over.....	2.0	1.5	0.5	1.8	1.5	0.3
Children under 16 only.....	1.1	0.8	0.3	1.2	0.9	0.3
Mother and children.....	9.7	7.9	1.8	10.7	8.9	1.8
Children 16 and over.....	5.4	4.3	1.1	5.3	4.3	1.0
Children under 16 only.....	4.3	3.6	0.7	5.4	4.6	0.8
<b>OPEN COUNTRY</b>						
Number.....	61,187	53,601	7,586	47,512	42,666	4,846
Percent.....	100.0	87.6	12.4	100.0	89.8	10.2
Normal families.....	88.9	79.1	9.8	88.4	80.4	8.0
Husband and wife.....	15.5	13.0	2.5	16.2	14.0	2.2
Husband, wife, and children.....	73.4	66.1	7.3	72.2	66.4	5.8
Broken families.....	11.1	8.5	2.6	11.6	9.4	2.2
Father and children.....	3.1	2.3	0.8	3.0	2.4	0.6
Children 16 and over.....	1.9	1.5	0.4	1.8	1.5	0.3
Children under 16 only.....	1.2	0.8	0.4	1.2	0.9	0.3
Mother and children.....	8.0	6.2	1.8	8.6	7.0	1.6
Children 16 and over.....	4.5	3.4	1.1	4.3	3.4	0.9
Children under 16 only.....	3.5	2.8	0.7	4.3	3.6	0.7
<b>VILLAGE</b>						
Number.....	36,780	32,930	3,850	25,998	23,728	2,270
Percent.....	100.0	89.5	10.5	100.0	91.3	8.7
Normal families.....	84.3	76.5	7.8	82.4	76.3	6.1
Husband and wife.....	18.4	16.1	2.3	19.8	17.5	2.3
Husband, wife, and children.....	65.9	60.4	5.5	62.6	58.8	3.8
Broken families.....	15.7	13.0	2.7	17.6	15.0	2.6
Father and children.....	3.2	2.6	0.6	2.9	2.4	0.5
Children 16 and over.....	2.1	1.8	0.3	1.9	1.7	0.2
Children under 16 only.....	1.1	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.7	0.3
Mother and children.....	12.5	10.4	2.1	14.7	12.6	2.1
Children 16 and over.....	6.9	5.6	1.3	7.3	6.2	1.1
Children under 16 only.....	5.6	4.8	0.8	7.4	6.4	1.0

**Table 21.—Age and Sex of the Rural Relief Population, June 1935, and of the General Rural Population, 1930, Under 65 Years of Age**

[138 counties]

Age	Percent					
	Rural relief population, June 1935			General rural population, 1930 <sup>1</sup>		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages.....	100.0	50.5	49.5	100.0	51.8	48.2
Under 10 years.....	28.2	14.5	13.7	24.1	12.2	11.9
10-14 years.....	14.7	7.5	7.2	11.9	6.1	5.8
15-19 years.....	11.6	5.8	5.8	10.9	5.7	5.2
20-24 years.....	8.4	4.0	4.4	8.8	4.6	4.2
25-29 years.....	7.0	3.5	3.5	7.2	3.6	3.6
30-34 years.....	5.8	2.8	3.0	6.6	3.3	3.3
35-39 years.....	5.5	2.6	2.9	6.8	3.5	3.3
40-44 years.....	4.7	2.3	2.4	6.0	3.1	2.9
45-49 years.....	4.5	2.3	2.2	5.6	3.0	2.6
50-54 years.....	3.9	2.1	1.8	4.9	2.7	2.2
55-59 years.....	3.0	1.6	1.4	4.0	2.2	1.8
60-64 years.....	2.7	1.5	1.2	3.2	1.8	1.4

<sup>1</sup> Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. II.**Table 22.—Age of the Rural Relief Population, June 1935, by State**

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	All ages		Under 10 years	10-15 years	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Med- ian age
	Num- ber	Per- cent									
All States sampled.....	514,477	100.0	26.3	16.7	16.1	12.0	9.8	8.2	5.7	5.2	19.4
11 Northern States.....	191,768	100.0	25.7	16.3	15.9	12.0	10.1	8.7	5.9	5.4	20.0
Iowa.....	9,632	100.0	27.6	15.6	14.9	14.1	10.7	8.3	6.1	2.7	19.6
Kansas.....	10,548	100.0	24.0	14.8	15.3	13.9	10.0	8.4	6.3	7.3	22.1
Michigan.....	21,054	100.0	23.3	16.3	15.4	10.7	10.0	8.9	7.2	8.2	21.6
Minnesota.....	30,280	100.0	24.5	16.5	16.0	11.6	10.4	9.2	5.9	5.9	20.5
Missouri.....	16,194	100.0	26.0	17.1	15.5	11.3	9.7	8.6	5.8	6.0	19.5
Nebraska.....	9,098	100.0	25.4	16.1	15.5	11.5	9.4	9.0	6.3	6.8	20.4
New York.....	7,648	100.0	27.0	17.0	12.9	8.8	11.0	9.7	7.3	6.3	19.7
North Dakota.....	30,508	100.0	28.7	17.0	16.9	12.6	9.6	8.1	4.1	3.0	17.8
Ohio.....	29,250	100.0	25.2	16.6	17.0	12.3	10.3	8.5	6.2	3.9	19.8
South Dakota.....	12,478	100.0	23.6	14.6	16.6	13.5	10.9	9.0	6.4	5.4	21.9
Wisconsin.....	15,078	100.0	27.9	15.9	14.5	11.4	9.7	8.2	5.4	7.0	19.3
13 Southern States.....	253,812	100.0	27.2	16.9	16.4	12.3	9.3	7.5	5.3	5.1	18.7
Alabama.....	7,098	100.0	28.2	16.0	14.2	13.9	9.4	7.8	5.4	5.1	19.2
Arkansas.....	12,944	100.0	27.0	15.5	15.7	13.7	8.2	7.6	6.0	6.3	19.8
Florida.....	11,444	100.0	27.3	17.9	15.2	12.2	10.5	8.9	4.8	3.2	18.3
Georgia.....	9,172	100.0	27.7	17.2	16.4	12.5	10.0	7.9	5.4	2.9	18.3
Kentucky.....	36,696	100.0	28.4	17.4	16.1	12.3	9.1	6.5	4.9	5.3	17.8
Louisiana.....	5,030	100.0	27.3	14.6	15.9	16.4	11.1	7.9	4.5	2.3	20.1
North Carolina.....	15,926	100.0	29.6	18.7	15.5	11.4	9.3	6.7	4.7	4.1	16.5
Oklahoma.....	44,206	100.0	28.4	16.0	18.3	13.9	9.2	7.4	4.4	2.4	18.3
South Carolina.....	20,974	100.0	25.0	17.1	16.3	9.5	8.5	8.1	6.7	8.8	19.9
Tennessee.....	14,246	100.0	28.9	17.6	16.1	12.3	9.9	6.5	4.8	3.9	17.5
Texas.....	38,694	100.0	25.5	16.1	15.3	12.3	9.6	7.4	5.8	8.0	20.4
Virginia.....	17,830	100.0	26.8	18.2	17.9	10.1	9.0	8.3	5.7	4.0	18.0
West Virginia.....	19,552	100.0	25.8	17.0	17.0	11.7	9.2	8.0	5.8	5.5	19.3
6 Western States.....	54,600	100.0	24.9	16.5	14.8	11.6	11.0	9.6	7.0	4.6	20.7
California.....	21,756	100.0	22.2	16.0	14.9	10.8	11.6	11.4	8.6	4.5	22.6
Colorado.....	8,066	100.0	26.5	16.3	14.7	11.9	9.9	8.8	6.3	5.6	19.9
Montana.....	6,739	100.0	27.8	17.3	14.0	10.4	11.2	8.9	6.3	4.1	18.7
Oregon.....	2,926	100.0	24.2	15.7	14.0	12.1	11.5	9.8	7.7	5.0	22.0
Utah.....	7,236	100.0	28.4	16.7	16.6	12.9	9.3	5.8	4.5	5.8	18.2
Washington.....	7,880	100.0	26.4	17.1	13.8	13.5	11.3	9.1	5.9	2.9	19.7
2 New England States.....	14,297	100.0	21.2	16.7	16.8	9.6	11.4	10.9	7.5	6.0	22.0
Connecticut.....	3,599	100.0	21.5	16.6	16.2	10.6	10.6	10.8	7.4	6.3	22.1
Massachusetts.....	10,698	100.0	21.0	16.7	17.0	9.2	11.7	11.0	7.5	5.9	22.0

Table 23.—Age of the General Rural Population, 1930, by State

[300 counties]

State	All ages		Under 10 years	10-15 years	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Median age
	Number	Per cent									
All States sampled.....	4,453,518	100.0	23.2	13.8	16.9	12.8	11.7	9.7	6.5	5.4	22.9
11 Northern States.....	1,668,990	100.0	20.9	13.0	15.4	12.6	12.5	10.6	7.8	7.2	25.6
Iowa.....	149,777	100.0	20.2	12.3	15.3	13.4	12.8	10.7	7.8	7.5	26.6
Kansas.....	126,182	100.0	20.7	12.4	16.2	13.4	12.6	10.4	7.6	6.7	25.5
Michigan.....	165,533	100.0	20.6	13.2	14.2	11.5	12.6	10.4	8.5	8.0	26.7
Minnesota.....	224,027	100.0	20.9	14.0	16.2	12.5	12.7	10.4	7.2	6.1	24.4
Missouri.....	191,245	100.0	21.5	13.1	16.0	12.5	11.8	10.4	7.7	7.0	24.7
Nebraska.....	90,240	100.0	21.4	12.8	16.5	14.1	12.7	9.7	6.7	6.1	24.6
New York.....	161,316	100.0	18.4	11.3	12.9	12.8	13.5	11.8	9.7	9.6	30.8
North Dakota.....	102,955	100.0	23.5	14.7	17.7	12.8	11.4	9.9	6.9	4.1	22.0
Ohio.....	216,171	100.0	19.8	12.4	14.1	11.8	11.9	11.2	9.4	9.4	27.8
South Dakota.....	84,307	100.0	22.9	13.5	16.9	14.1	12.9	9.1	5.7	4.9	23.2
Wisconsin.....	157,267	100.0	21.2	13.5	15.5	12.2	12.8	10.4	7.5	6.9	24.9
13 Southern States.....	2,500,757	100.0	25.7	14.7	18.2	12.6	10.7	8.6	5.3	4.2	20.7
Alabama.....	186,773	100.0	26.7	15.0	18.6	12.0	9.8	8.7	5.1	4.1	20.0
Arkansas.....	172,202	100.0	25.2	14.6	18.2	12.7	11.0	9.1	5.8	3.9	21.0
Florida.....	81,746	100.0	23.5	13.6	17.8	14.1	11.9	9.3	5.6	4.2	22.5
Georgia.....	193,255	100.0	25.7	15.5	19.0	12.2	10.2	8.5	5.0	3.9	20.2
Kentucky.....	154,832	100.0	25.0	13.8	16.6	12.2	11.1	9.2	6.5	5.6	22.1
Louisiana.....	219,946	100.0	25.9	14.9	18.4	13.0	10.8	8.6	4.9	3.5	20.5
North Carolina.....	239,377	100.0	27.4	15.3	18.5	12.4	9.8	7.9	4.8	3.9	19.6
Oklahoma.....	168,669	100.0	25.0	14.4	17.8	13.0	11.0	8.5	5.8	4.5	21.4
South Carolina.....	170,712	100.0	27.1	16.5	19.0	10.9	10.2	8.1	4.7	3.5	19.0
Tennessee.....	179,256	100.0	25.5	14.4	18.2	11.9	10.3	9.0	5.9	4.8	21.0
Texas.....	446,869	100.0	24.1	14.0	18.7	13.8	11.3	8.7	5.3	4.1	21.7
Virginia.....	197,643	100.0	25.7	15.1	17.6	11.7	10.3	8.9	5.8	4.9	20.7
West Virginia.....	89,447	100.0	27.4	14.2	16.2	13.3	11.3	8.3	5.1	4.2	20.7
6 Western States.....	283,771	100.0	19.9	11.7	15.3	14.4	14.2	11.5	7.4	5.6	27.2
California.....	24,571	100.0	18.8	10.4	14.8	15.6	15.2	12.0	7.6	5.6	28.8
Colorado.....	49,258	100.0	21.7	12.6	15.8	13.7	13.4	10.5	7.0	5.3	24.9
Montana.....	43,530	100.0	20.6	13.2	15.1	12.1	15.1	11.8	7.0	5.1	25.9
Oregon.....	48,663	100.0	17.5	11.4	14.9	13.8	13.9	12.7	8.8	7.0	29.5
Utah.....	41,160	100.0	27.3	15.4	17.7	12.3	10.6	7.8	4.9	4.0	19.7
Washington.....	76,589	100.0	19.5	12.2	15.6	14.0	13.4	11.4	7.8	6.1	26.9

Source: Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population Vol. III.

**Table 24.—Percent of All Rural Relief Cases and of 2 or More Person Cases, June 1935, Containing Children Under 16 Years of Age and Average Number of Children per Case With Children, by State and Residence**

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	Percent of cases with children						Average number of children per case with children		
	All cases			2 or more person cases					
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All States sampled.....	65.7	69.1	60.4	72.9	75.1	69.2	2.8	2.9	2.6
11 Northern States.....	61.9	65.1	57.7	70.6	73.4	66.8	2.8	3.0	2.6
Iowa.....	70.2	73.0	68.9	73.1	75.7	71.8	2.8	2.8	2.7
Kansas.....	67.6	65.2	52.7	65.2	70.3	61.6	2.5	2.6	2.5
Michigan.....	53.2	54.7	49.9	67.0	67.7	65.4	2.8	2.9	2.7
Minnesota.....	60.1	61.5	58.1	70.8	72.4	68.4	2.8	3.0	2.6
Missouri.....	66.5	71.3	55.4	72.1	75.3	63.9	2.8	2.9	2.4
Nebraska.....	60.5	67.3	57.6	69.3	74.6	66.9	2.7	3.0	2.6
New York.....	57.4	59.4	55.1	67.9	70.0	65.4	3.0	3.1	2.9
North Dakota.....	71.3	73.9	63.7	77.6	79.3	72.5	3.1	3.2	2.9
Ohio.....	63.1	67.3	59.2	69.8	74.0	65.8	2.8	3.0	2.6
South Dakota.....	58.2	62.6	55.2	66.4	69.0	63.3	2.6	2.6	2.5
Wisconsin.....	60.1	62.3	56.9	71.2	72.9	68.6	3.0	3.0	2.9
13 Southern States.....	70.0	73.6	62.8	75.2	77.6	70.3	2.8	2.9	2.6
Alabama.....	69.9	70.4	69.5	72.6	71.6	73.6	2.7	2.8	2.7
Arkansas.....	65.3	70.2	57.1	72.0	76.7	64.0	2.5	2.6	2.3
Florida.....	71.4	73.6	68.7	74.9	75.8	73.8	2.8	3.0	2.6
Georgia.....	73.9	78.5	66.4	77.3	81.4	70.2	2.7	2.8	2.6
Kentucky.....	74.3	77.8	59.2	77.9	80.1	66.8	2.9	3.0	2.6
Louisiana.....	69.9	72.1	65.8	71.5	72.7	69.3	2.6	2.7	2.4
North Carolina.....	77.6	80.9	70.6	80.1	82.7	74.5	3.1	3.3	2.8
Oklahoma.....	76.9	79.2	68.8	78.0	80.1	70.9	2.7	2.7	2.6
South Carolina.....	62.8	64.5	59.4	72.6	74.0	69.8	2.7	2.8	2.5
Tennessee.....	78.3	80.0	75.5	79.5	80.7	77.5	2.9	3.0	2.9
Texas.....	60.3	63.2	57.2	70.1	71.6	68.5	2.6	2.7	2.6
Virginia.....	74.1	75.3	70.4	77.3	78.1	74.5	3.1	3.2	2.9
West Virginia.....	65.2	70.6	55.6	72.9	75.4	67.7	2.9	3.0	2.6
6 Western States.....	61.2	60.7	61.8	70.4	68.1	72.9	2.7	2.7	2.7
California.....	57.1	54.9	60.1	64.5	61.3	69.2	2.6	2.5	2.7
Colorado.....	60.1	63.8	56.8	74.0	73.9	74.0	2.7	2.8	2.6
Montana.....	65.9	68.6	61.1	76.1	76.8	74.7	2.9	2.9	2.9
Oregon.....	55.8	55.3	56.3	66.4	66.2	66.5	2.6	2.6	2.7
Utah.....	67.4	†	68.2	77.9	†	78.1	2.8	†	2.8
Washington.....	67.7	69.4	64.8	74.6	75.1	73.6	2.7	2.7	2.6
2 New England States.....	57.1	—	—	65.6	—	—	2.7	—	—
Connecticut.....	56.4	—	—	65.5	—	—	2.7	—	—
Massachusetts.....	57.3	—	—	65.6	—	—	2.7	—	—

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.

**Table 25.—Percent of All Rural Relief Cases, June 1935, Containing Aged Persons<sup>1</sup> and Average Number of Aged Persons per Case With Aged, by State and Residence**

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	Percent of cases with aged			Average number of aged per case with aged		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
All States sampled.....	18.1	17.1	19.5	1.2	1.2	1.2
11 Northern States.....	18.4	16.7	20.6	1.2	1.2	1.3
Iowa.....	10.6	11.3	10.2	1.2	†	1.1
Kansas.....	22.1	18.6	24.4	1.3	1.2	1.3
Michigan.....	25.2	24.5	26.7	1.2	1.2	1.2
Minnesota.....	19.7	19.2	20.6	1.2	1.2	1.2
Missouri.....	20.3	17.5	26.8	1.3	1.3	1.2
Nebraska.....	21.1	15.2	23.7	1.3	1.2	1.3
New York.....	20.3	21.0	19.4	1.2	1.2	1.3
North Dakota.....	11.8	9.5	18.5	1.3	1.2	1.3
Ohio.....	13.5	11.9	15.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
South Dakota.....	17.5	14.1	21.4	1.2	1.2	1.3
Wisconsin.....	23.7	22.0	26.2	1.2	1.1	1.3
13 Southern States.....	18.4	17.8	19.7	1.2	1.2	1.2
Alabama.....	18.2	19.2	17.2	1.2	1.2	1.1
Arkansas.....	20.2	20.0	20.6	1.2	1.2	1.2
Florida.....	12.0	12.9	11.0	1.2	1.2	1.2
Georgia.....	11.0	10.7	11.5	1.2	1.2	†
Kentucky.....	19.6	17.7	28.1	1.3	1.3	1.3
Louisiana.....	8.0	7.7	8.4	†	†	†
North Carolina.....	17.4	17.6	16.9	1.2	1.2	1.1
Oklahoma.....	9.7	9.2	11.2	1.2	1.2	1.1
South Carolina.....	29.9	32.3	25.1	1.2	1.2	1.1
Tennessee.....	15.3	13.2	18.7	1.3	1.2	1.3
Texas.....	24.8	24.7	25.0	1.2	1.3	1.2
Virginia.....	17.2	17.4	16.9	1.2	1.2	1.2
West Virginia.....	19.4	20.1	18.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
6 Western States.....	15.3	14.5	16.0	1.2	1.2	1.2
California.....	14.7	15.4	13.6	1.2	1.2	1.2
Colorado.....	18.0	16.5	19.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Montana.....	14.8	13.5	17.2	1.2	1.1	†
Oregon.....	15.9	19.7	12.5	1.2	†	†
Utah.....	19.6	†	20.1	1.3	†	1.3
Washington.....	10.1	9.9	10.5	1.2	1.2	†
2 New England States.....	19.7	—	—	1.2	—	—
Connecticut.....	20.8	—	—	1.2	—	—
Massachusetts.....	19.4	—	—	1.2	—	—

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.

‡ Average not computed for fewer than 100 cases.

<sup>1</sup> 65 years of age and over

**Table 26.—Percent of Rural Relief Cases, June 1935, Having No Person Under 16 or Over 64 Years of Age, by State and Residence**

[300 counties and 83 New England townships]

State	Total rural	Open country	Village	State	Total rural	Open country	Village
All States sampled.....	21.4	19.5	24.4	13 Southern States—Contd			
11 Northern States.....	23.3	22.0	25.2	Louisiana.....	26.5	25.0	29.2
Iowa.....	22.1	19.1	23.5	North Carolina.....	14.0	11.1	20.4
Kansas.....	24.2	20.4	26.7	Oklahoma.....	18.6	16.9	24.6
Michigan.....	25.3	24.9	26.2	South Carolina.....	19.5	17.0	24.2
Minnesota.....	23.6	22.7	24.9	Tennessee.....	13.6	13.1	14.4
Missouri.....	18.7	16.2	24.4	Texas.....	20.8	18.7	23.1
Nebraska.....	21.3	20.3	21.8	Virginia.....	18.3	17.4	21.4
New York.....	25.0	22.3	28.2	West Virginia.....	21.8	17.2	30.0
North Dakota.....	19.9	19.8	20.4	6 Western States.....	26.6	28.3	25.2
Ohio.....	27.0	24.7	29.1	California.....	31.7	32.9	30.1
South Dakota.....	27.2	27.0	27.5	Colorado.....	25.4	24.2	26.4
Wisconsin.....	20.4	20.6	20.0	Montana.....	22.1	21.3	23.5
13 Southern States.....	18.6	16.2	23.3	Oregon.....	30.6	28.7	32.7
Alabama.....	19.9	18.4	21.2	Utah.....	15.5	†	14.4
Arkansas.....	19.5	16.3	25.0	Washington.....	25.9	24.5	28.8
Florida.....	22.0	20.6	23.7	2 New England States...	27.4	—	—
Georgia.....	20.0	16.2	26.3	Connecticut.....	27.6	—	—
Kentucky.....	13.5	12.2	19.2	Massachusetts.....	27.3	—	—

†Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.



**Table 27.—Percent of Married Persons <sup>1</sup> in the Rural Relief Population 16 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Sex and Area**

[138 counties]

Age and sex	All areas	Eastern Cotton			Western Cotton			Appalachian-Ozark	Lake States Cut-Over	Corn Belt	Hay and Dairy	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Ranching
		Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro							
All ages.....	68.6	63.6	65.8	56.8	67.6	70.3	56.0	69.6	63.8	70.7	71.9	72.3	67.0	66.3
Male.....	67.3	68.9	72.2	59.4	69.1	70.8	60.7	68.2	55.8	69.2	68.3	71.5	63.6	66.9
Female.....	69.8	59.6	61.2	55.1	66.4	69.8	52.8	71.1	73.5	72.3	75.7	73.1	70.4	65.6
16-24 years.....	34.3	33.4	34.8	29.7	36.6	39.6	22.7	37.1	27.3	35.2	31.9	32.6	23.3	33.3
Male.....	21.6	23.0	24.2	20.2	25.0	26.1	19.3	24.8	11.3	21.0	17.5	18.8	12.9	23.5
Female.....	42.6	34.5	36.0	29.9	42.5	47.0	23.3	46.4	43.6	43.9	43.9	40.7	31.0	37.6
25-34 years.....	84.9	79.4	80.2	76.5	85.8	87.1	79.0	85.4	81.3	85.7	86.8	86.1	85.7	87.5
Male.....	82.2	82.5	83.2	79.0	85.4	86.9	76.3	83.9	71.3	80.7	80.2	84.0	79.0	82.2
Female.....	81.9	64.6	66.4	58.5	81.1	83.7	69.3	82.4	84.1	84.2	89.5	86.5	90.4	90.5
35-44 years.....	86.8	81.2	82.1	78.5	83.1	86.5	66.6	87.7	86.8	88.3	88.7	92.5	91.6	86.5
Male.....	87.6	89.5	90.7	85.2	89.7	92.1	76.3	88.2	80.3	89.6	85.4	94.8	87.2	87.5
Female.....	80.0	63.3	65.2	58.2	68.7	74.7	43.7	82.9	87.1	80.5	86.1	85.6	93.4	90.4
45-54 years.....	81.6	73.4	78.8	59.0	75.3	78.4	62.9	81.7	81.6	83.1	86.8	92.2	89.6	72.8
Male.....	83.3	85.5	90.2	72.6	80.6	83.3	66.7	83.4	76.8	84.7	83.6	92.3	88.4	79.4
Female.....	74.1	56.2	63.0	39.5	64.1	67.1	53.1	76.2	81.8	76.4	81.8	88.0	88.9	61.2
55-64 years.....	74.8	66.4	70.9	53.6	71.1	72.9	64.8	79.2	61.8	74.1	77.4	83.1	80.3	66.3
Male.....	78.8	82.3	86.3	67.9	81.0	81.7	78.5	82.8	57.3	76.9	76.8	84.0	81.0	75.0
Female.....	64.9	43.0	46.4	34.7	57.0	60.1	48.0	70.6	59.1	69.0	72.7	76.8	76.2	53.6

<sup>1</sup> Including separated persons.

Table 28.—Marital Condition of the Rural Relief Population 16 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Sex and Area

[138 counties]

Sex and marital condition	All areas	Eastern Cotton			Western Cotton			Appalachian-Ozark	Lake States Cut-Over	Corn Belt	Hay and Dairy	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Ranching
		Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro							
BOTH SEXES														
Number.....	91,374	9,300	6,952	2,348	10,752	8,800	1,952	37,446	5,956	6,272	12,484	1,912	5,050	2,202
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married.....	66.3	58.4	61.2	49.9	64.8	68.0	50.9	68.0	61.1	68.5	69.6	70.9	66.0	64.5
Single.....	25.0	25.0	24.3	27.0	23.5	22.2	29.0	24.5	31.4	23.5	23.7	23.3	29.6	24.8
Widowed.....	5.8	11.1	9.6	15.9	8.5	7.2	14.5	5.4	4.3	4.3	3.7	3.2	3.1	7.0
Divorced.....	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.7	1.2	0.3	1.9
Separated.....	2.3	5.2	4.6	6.9	2.8	2.3	5.0	1.6	2.7	2.2	2.3	1.4	1.0	1.3
MALE														
Number.....	44,522	3,896	2,936	960	4,920	4,132	788	18,454	3,266	3,054	6,372	932	2,588	1,040
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married.....	66.2	67.6	71.0	57.9	68.4	70.4	58.7	67.2	54.5	68.4	66.5	71.3	63.1	66.5
Single.....	29.5	27.2	25.1	33.3	27.2	26.1	33.0	28.6	41.3	27.5	28.9	25.5	33.5	28.3
Widowed.....	2.8	3.9	2.7	7.3	3.6	3.0	6.3	2.8	2.4	2.2	2.3	1.5	2.7	3.5
Divorced.....	0.4	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	0.4	0.5	1.1	0.5	1.5	0.2	1.3
Separated.....	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.5	0.7	0.4	2.0	1.0	1.3	0.8	1.8	0.2	0.5	0.4
FEMALE														
Number.....	46,852	5,404	4,016	1,388	5,832	4,668	1,164	18,992	2,690	3,218	6,112	980	2,462	1,162
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married.....	66.3	51.6	54.1	44.4	61.8	65.8	45.8	68.9	60.3	68.7	72.9	70.7	68.8	62.5
Single.....	20.7	23.4	23.7	22.7	20.3	18.8	26.3	20.5	19.4	19.6	18.2	21.2	25.5	21.8
Widowed.....	8.7	16.4	14.5	21.8	12.7	10.9	19.9	7.8	6.5	6.2	5.1	4.9	3.6	10.2
Divorced.....	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.9	1.0	0.8	0.5	2.4
Separated.....	3.5	8.0	7.1	10.7	4.6	4.0	7.0	2.2	4.2	3.6	2.8	2.4	1.6	3.1

Table 29.—Marital Condition of Heads of Rural Relief Cases, October 1935, by Sex and Area

[138 counties]

Sex and marital condition	All areas	Eastern Cotton			Western Cotton			Appalachian-Ozark	Lake States Cut-Over	Corn Belt	Hay and Dairy	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Ranching
		Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro							
BOTH SEXES														
Number.....	43,920	4,468	3,296	1,172	5,576	4,318	1,258	17,108	3,156	3,134	6,448	842	2,098	1,090
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married.....	72.4	61.7	65.0	52.0	68.2	74.2	47.2	77.2	61.1	72.3	73.2	81.0	81.3	67.1
Single.....	9.1	9.5	9.5	9.6	7.4	6.3	11.1	7.6	17.3	9.3	10.8	7.6	8.5	7.7
Widowed.....	13.3	19.9	17.5	26.8	19.3	15.3	33.2	11.5	15.0	11.3	10.4	6.2	7.3	17.6
Divorced.....	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.6	1.3	0.9	1.8	3.3	1.6	2.6	0.8	3.9
Separated.....	3.9	8.5	7.5	11.4	4.4	3.6	7.2	2.8	4.8	3.8	4.0	2.6	2.1	3.7
MALE														
Number.....	36,912	2,944	2,250	694	4,462	3,656	806	14,910	2,788	2,668	5,508	750	1,926	866
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married.....	84.1	85.5	88.4	76.1	84.4	87.4	71.2	86.7	68.5	84.3	81.9	88.8	86.9	84.2
Single.....	8.6	7.2	6.4	9.8	7.7	6.3	13.9	6.8	18.4	8.3	10.4	6.9	8.4	7.2
Widowed.....	5.4	5.7	3.8	11.8	6.8	5.6	12.4	4.7	9.7	4.7	5.1	2.1	4.0	5.8
Divorced.....	0.6	—	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	0.5	1.3	1.8	0.8	1.9	0.1	1.6
Separated.....	1.3	1.6	1.4	2.3	0.9	0.5	2.5	1.3	2.1	0.9	1.8	0.3	0.6	1.2
FEMALE														
Number.....	7,008	1,524	1,046	478	1,114	662	452	2,198	368	466	850	92	172	224
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	†	100.0	100.0
Married.....	10.9	15.6	14.9	17.2	2.5	1.2	4.4	12.5	5.4	4.3	15.8	†	19.8	0.9
Single.....	12.0	14.0	16.3	9.2	6.5	6.6	6.2	13.3	8.7	14.6	13.4	†	9.3	9.8
Widowed.....	54.8	47.4	46.8	48.5	69.4	69.0	70.4	57.6	55.5	48.9	45.4	†	44.2	63.4
Divorced.....	4.5	1.2	1.5	0.4	2.9	2.4	3.5	3.8	5.4	12.0	6.8	†	8.1	12.5
Separated.....	17.8	21.8	20.5	24.7	18.7	20.8	15.5	12.8	25.0	20.2	18.6	†	18.6	13.4

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.

Table 30.—School Grade Completed by Rural Relief Persons 10 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Residence

[138 counties]

Last grade or year completed	All ages	10-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>OPEN COUNTRY</b>										
Number.....	75,902	14,212	6,406	4,840	5,630	6,686	13,854	11,090	8,080	5,284
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:										
None.....	6.7	2.3	1.7	2.8	3.4	4.1	5.5	10.0	13.2	21.1
1-3 grades.....	16.8	24.4	10.5	12.2	8.6	8.1	11.3	13.8	13.2	13.9
4-5 grades.....	24.6	41.3	21.3	13.4	14.9	16.8	21.0	23.7	25.0	22.7
6 grades.....	11.8	13.0	12.9	10.0	10.6	11.5	12.3	12.7	10.9	9.2
7 grades.....	10.8	7.0	21.9	12.1	11.8	11.0	12.0	10.3	7.9	7.0
8 grades.....	19.8	1.8	22.2	25.5	28.0	31.0	26.8	22.3	18.8	15.5
High school:										
1 year.....	3.5	0.2	7.7	10.3	6.1	4.9	3.5	2.6	1.5	1.3
2 years.....	2.4	—	1.7	7.7	8.9	3.8	2.8	1.8	1.3	1.7
3 years.....	1.2	—	0.1	4.8	4.2	2.2	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.5
4 years.....	1.9	—	—	1.1	6.2	5.9	2.7	1.2	1.0	1.6
Higher education:										
1 year or more.....	0.5	—	—	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.5
Median.....	6.2	4.6	7.2	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.0	6.2	5.4	4.9
<b>VILLAGE</b>										
Number.....	44,000	7,158	3,404	2,638	3,196	3,794	7,854	6,596	5,424	3,934
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:										
None.....	3.8	0.6	0.4	1.2	1.2	1.8	2.9	5.2	8.6	11.2
1-3 grades.....	11.8	24.8	4.6	3.7	4.5	6.4	8.4	12.2	13.5	15.1
4-5 grades.....	22.1	44.7	14.8	10.9	9.4	13.6	17.2	20.0	22.2	25.8
6 grades.....	12.0	17.1	14.7	8.9	7.5	8.9	10.2	12.1	12.2	12.4
7 grades.....	9.7	9.8	19.2	9.6	8.4	9.1	9.0	8.8	8.8	7.7
8 grades.....	23.4	2.6	27.8	21.1	28.3	26.2	32.6	28.4	25.5	21.5
High school:										
1 year.....	5.2	0.3	14.0	14.3	6.8	7.3	5.4	4.0	2.6	1.9
2 years.....	4.5	0.1	3.6	18.5	10.1	7.6	4.4	3.1	2.6	1.2
3 years.....	2.4	—	0.9	8.9	9.5	4.3	2.0	1.6	0.8	0.4
4 years.....	4.3	—	—	2.7	13.8	11.4	6.2	3.4	2.1	1.4
Higher education:										
1 year or more.....	0.9	—	—	0.2	0.5	1.4	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.4
Median.....	7.0	5.1	7.8	8.7	8.7	8.4	8.1	7.1	6.5	5.8

\* Less than 0.05 percent.

**Table 31.—School Grade Completed by Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64  
Years of Age, October 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Last grade or year completed	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>OPEN COUNTRY</b>						
Number.....	23,514	2,188	6,640	6,132	5,076	3,478
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:						
None.....	10.7	5.1	5.3	10.1	14.0	20.5
1-3 grades.....	15.1	9.7	12.3	14.6	19.3	18.6
4-5 grades.....	23.2	21.9	21.2	23.0	26.7	23.0
6 grades.....	11.1	11.1	10.8	13.1	10.4	9.1
7 grades.....	10.0	10.2	12.6	10.8	7.2	7.2
8 grades.....	22.0	26.3	27.6	21.6	17.6	16.2
High school:						
1 year.....	2.8	5.5	4.0	2.6	1.6	1.2
2 years.....	2.0	3.8	2.7	1.6	1.2	1.8
3 years.....	1.0	2.7	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.4
4 years.....	1.5	3.1	1.9	0.9	0.7	1.7
Higher education:						
1 year or more.....	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.4
Median.....	6.1	7.2	7.0	6.2	5.3	5.0
<b>VILLAGE</b>						
Number.....	15,122	1,450	3,886	3,840	3,278	2,668
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:						
None.....	6.5	1.9	2.7	5.7	9.6	11.7
1-3 grades.....	12.9	9.5	9.8	14.2	13.9	16.0
4-5 grades.....	20.4	14.3	17.8	20.8	21.0	26.0
6 grades.....	11.3	8.7	9.5	12.9	12.3	11.9
7 grades.....	7.9	7.6	8.3	8.0	8.4	6.5
8 grades.....	26.6	28.7	32.4	25.5	25.4	20.8
High school:						
1 year.....	4.2	5.9	6.2	4.1	2.7	2.3
2 years.....	3.5	8.6	4.5	2.9	2.7	1.3
3 years.....	1.6	4.4	1.9	1.6	0.8	0.4
4 years.....	3.7	9.4	5.0	3.1	2.0	1.5
Higher education:						
1 year or more.....	1.4	1.0	2.0	1.2	1.2	1.6
Median.....	6.9	8.3	8.1	6.7	6.5	5.7

**Table 32.—School Grade Completed by Rural Relief Persons 10 Through 64 Years of Age, October 1935, by Sex**

[138 counties]

Last grade or year completed	All ages	10-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>MALE</b>										
Number.....	50,440	10,870	4,980	3,578	3,802	4,742	10,338	8,742	7,154	5,264
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:										
None.....	6.1	1.7	1.3	2.5	2.4	3.8	4.6	9.2	11.8	16.9
1-3 grades.....	16.6	33.0	8.7	11.2	8.7	9.3	11.5	14.3	17.7	18.6
4-5 grades.....	24.4	43.0	20.9	13.3	13.8	17.2	19.8	21.9	24.5	24.3
6 grades.....	11.6	13.1	14.5	9.1	9.3	10.9	10.7	12.7	11.2	9.8
7 grades.....	10.1	7.4	20.6	11.7	10.0	10.0	11.0	9.9	7.6	6.8
8 grades.....	20.7	1.6	23.3	24.7	28.2	29.0	29.7	23.9	21.3	18.4
High school:										
1 year.....	3.8	0.1	8.9	11.0	6.5	5.0	4.7	2.6	1.8	1.4
2 years.....	2.7	0.1	1.6	9.6	7.7	4.3	3.2	2.0	1.6	1.4
3 years.....	1.4	—	0.2	5.2	5.9	2.6	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.3
4 years.....	2.1	—	—	1.5	7.2	7.1	2.9	1.8	1.0	1.5
Higher education:										
1 year or more.....	0.5	—	—	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6
Median.....	6.3	4.7	7.2	8.1	8.2	7.9	7.3	6.4	5.7	5.2
<b>FEMALE</b>										
Number.....	60,462	10,500	4,860	3,900	4,924	5,688	11,370	8,916	6,350	3,954
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:										
None.....	5.2	1.7	1.1	2.0	2.7	2.7	4.5	7.3	10.9	17.0
1-3 grades.....	13.3	29.3	8.1	7.4	5.8	5.9	9.1	12.1	14.8	15.5
4-5 grades.....	23.0	42.1	17.1	11.7	12.2	14.3	19.6	22.6	24.2	24.0
6 grades.....	12.2	15.6	12.6	10.2	9.7	10.3	12.2	12.2	11.7	11.5
7 grades.....	10.7	8.5	21.3	10.8	11.0	10.5	10.8	9.6	9.1	8.0
8 grades.....	21.5	2.5	25.1	23.1	27.9	31.1	28.2	25.3	21.6	17.6
High school:										
1 year.....	4.4	0.3	10.9	12.4	6.2	6.4	3.8	3.6	2.0	1.8
2 years.....	3.6	*	3.2	13.2	7.3	5.9	3.6	2.5	2.1	1.5
3 years.....	2.0	—	0.6	7.3	6.3	3.3	1.7	1.3	0.6	0.6
4 years.....	3.3	—	—	1.8	10.4	8.6	4.9	2.3	1.9	1.5
Higher education:										
1 year or more.....	0.8	—	—	0.1	0.5	1.0	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.0
Median.....	6.7	4.9	7.5	8.3	8.3	8.2	7.4	6.7	6.0	5.5

\* Less than 0.05 percent.

**Table 33.—School Grade Completed by Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64  
Years of Age, October 1935, by Sex**

[138 counties]

Last grade or year completed	All ages	16-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years
<b>MALE</b>						
Number.....	32,690	3,184	9,202	8,408	6,866	5,030
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:						
None.....	8.7	4.0	4.3	8.7	11.5	16.5
1-3 grades.....	14.6	10.1	11.8	14.4	17.9	18.2
4-5 grades.....	22.1	18.7	20.0	22.1	24.6	24.6
6 grades.....	11.1	10.4	10.4	12.8	11.2	9.8
7 grades.....	9.2	9.6	11.1	9.9	7.5	6.8
8 grades.....	24.8	27.9	29.9	24.0	21.4	18.8
High school:						
1 year.....	3.1	5.7	4.6	2.6	1.8	1.4
2 years.....	2.5	5.6	3.2	2.0	1.7	1.5
3 years.....	1.1	2.7	1.4	0.9	0.7	0.3
4 years.....	2.1	4.9	2.7	1.8	1.0	1.5
Higher education:						
1 year or more.....	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6
Median.....	6.4	7.7	7.3	6.4	5.7	5.2
<b>FEMALE</b>						
Number.....	5,946	454	1,324	1,594	1,488	1,116
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade school:						
None.....	10.6	3.1	5.7	7.2	15.7	17.2
1-3 grades.....	12.3	6.6	8.6	14.6	13.6	14.2
4-5 grades.....	22.3	18.9	19.7	22.7	24.2	23.0
6 grades.....	11.6	8.4	9.8	14.2	10.8	12.7
7 grades.....	8.5	6.2	10.1	8.6	8.7	7.3
8 grades.....	19.0	22.0	24.0	18.2	17.2	15.6
High school:						
1 year.....	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.3	3.1	2.9
2 years.....	3.1	6.6	4.8	2.3	2.3	2.0
3 years.....	2.1	8.4	2.1	2.7	0.5	0.7
4 years.....	3.4	10.6	5.7	1.4	2.0	2.3
Higher education:						
1 year or more.....	2.3	3.5	3.2	1.8	1.9	2.1
Median.....	6.4	8.3	7.6	6.4	5.7	5.6

**Table 34.**—Percent of the Rural Relief Population 5 Through 24 Years of Age Attending School, October 1935, by Residence and Area

[138 counties]

Residence and area	All ages	5-6 years	7-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years	18-20 years	21-24 years
<b>OPEN COUNTRY</b>							
All areas.....	56.1	26.1	94.3	83.6	33.3	7.2	0.6
Eastern Cotton.....	54.0	27.8	87.4	72.0	26.1	6.2	1.3
White.....	55.9	29.3	89.1	73.9	29.8	6.5	1.6
Negro.....	48.0	23.4	81.9	65.3	13.8	5.3	—
Western Cotton.....	59.6	15.4	93.7	87.3	43.2	11.2	—
White.....	59.6	15.2	95.4	88.0	46.1	11.9	—
Negro.....	59.5	16.9	87.7	85.2	31.9	8.1	—
Appalachian-Ozark.....	49.3	21.2	93.3	81.2	25.1	5.6	0.5
Lake States Cut-Over.....	61.0	40.8	98.6	89.3	47.3	6.7	0.4
Corn Belt.....	66.8	49.2	98.8	87.3	41.4	9.0	—
Hay and Dairy.....	66.6	39.4	99.0	97.5	47.1	6.8	0.5
Winter Wheat.....	68.6	36.4	99.6	95.6	66.7	19.6	3.4
Spring Wheat.....	56.9	28.2	97.6	69.8	19.3	6.2	0.5
Ranching.....	61.2	17.5	89.8	†	†	†	—
<b>VILLAGE</b>							
All areas.....	63.5	36.2	97.4	92.6	52.7	12.8	0.9
Eastern Cotton.....	60.0	29.1	93.7	92.1	54.5	16.8	0.7
White.....	61.6	29.3	94.4	92.2	58.8	16.7	1.0
Negro.....	56.1	†	92.1	†	†	†	—
Western Cotton.....	63.5	12.8	95.5	93.8	51.1	15.4	—
White.....	62.6	11.9	95.2	93.2	54.4	14.2	—
Negro.....	67.1	†	96.6	†	†	†	—
Appalachian-Ozark.....	59.2	32.0	96.4	89.5	42.0	8.8	1.1
Lake States Cut-Over.....	64.7	43.8	100.0	91.5	50.0	11.9	—
Corn Belt.....	68.1	52.4	99.0	93.4	61.0	15.3	1.1
Hay and Dairy.....	69.9	47.6	99.4	97.9	64.4	12.7	—
Winter Wheat.....	65.5	†	97.0	†	†	†	†
Spring Wheat.....	68.3	39.8	99.4	93.1	56.6	31.9	3.5
Ranching.....	64.6	26.0	99.6	97.3	77.6	10.3	—

† Percent not computed on a base of fewer than 100 cases.



**Table 35.—Usual Industry of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, February, June, and October 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Usual industry of head	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	72,689	50,419	22,270	49,526	31,002	18,524	36,054	22,200	13,854
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Agriculture.....</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Farm operator.....	46.6	62.1	11.9	36.6	51.9	10.9	35.8	51.9	9.9
Farm laborer.....	14.8	14.1	16.3	13.8	14.2	13.3	14.2	15.3	12.5
Forestry and fishing.....	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.5	2.9	2.0	1.7	2.3	0.9
Extraction of minerals.....	6.9	5.0	11.8	11.9	8.9	17.0	18.5	10.2	32.0
<b>Manufacturing and mechanical.....</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>17.2</b>
Building and construction.....	4.2	2.3	8.3	4.3	2.5	7.1	3.7	2.4	5.8
Lumber and furniture.....	2.3	1.8	3.4	2.4	2.0	3.1	1.6	1.3	2.2
Textile.....	0.8	0.4	1.8	1.2	0.7	1.7	0.8	0.5	1.2
Other.....	5.9	3.5	10.8	6.3	4.3	9.9	5.6	3.9	8.0
<b>Transportation and communication.....</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>
Street and road construction.....	3.4	2.0	6.3	3.7	2.5	5.5	2.7	2.1	3.7
Other.....	4.3	2.0	9.7	4.7	2.9	7.9	3.2	2.1	5.1
<b>Trade, public and professional service.....</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Domestic and personal service.....	2.9	1.5	6.2	4.4	2.2	8.1	5.0	2.7	8.5
No usual industry.....	2.0	1.4	3.6	3.1	2.3	4.4	3.6	3.0	4.6

**Table 36.—Usual Occupation of Heads of Rural Relief Cases 16 Through 64 Years of Age Working or Seeking Work, February, June, and October 1935, by Residence**

[138 counties]

Usual occupation of head	February			June			October		
	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village	Total rural	Open country	Village
Number.....	72,689	50,419	22,270	49,526	31,002	18,524	36,054	22,200	13,854
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Agriculture.....</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Farm operator.....	46.6	62.0	11.9	36.6	51.9	10.9	35.8	51.9	9.9
Owner.....	15.1	20.2	3.7	13.0	18.7	3.3	12.4	18.3	3.1
Tenant.....	22.1	29.4	5.5	17.4	24.6	5.4	8.4	12.6	1.6
Cropper.....	9.4	12.4	2.7	6.2	8.6	2.2	15.0	21.0	5.2
Farm laborer.....	14.8	14.1	16.3	13.8	14.2	13.3	14.2	15.3	12.5
<b>Nonagriculture.....</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>71.8</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>73.5</b>
Professional.....	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.6	0.3	1.0
Proprietary.....	1.2	0.6	2.5	1.2	0.6	2.3	0.9	0.5	1.6
Clerical.....	1.6	0.7	3.6	2.2	1.0	4.3	1.5	0.8	2.6
Skilled.....	6.2	3.6	12.3	6.6	4.1	10.7	5.6	3.5	9.0
Semiskilled.....	5.8	3.2	11.7	6.8	4.8	10.2	5.2	3.5	7.9
Unskilled.....	21.4	14.3	37.4	29.3	20.8	43.3	33.0	21.6	51.4
Servant.....	2.0	0.9	4.6	3.8	2.0	7.0	4.2	2.3	7.3
Other.....	19.4	13.4	32.8	25.5	18.8	36.3	28.8	19.3	44.1
No usual occupation.....	1.9	1.2	3.3	2.9	2.2	4.0	3.2	2.6	4.1

Table 37.—Length of Time Between Loss of Last Job at Usual Occupation and Accession to Relief by Heads of Rural Cases in Their First Relief Period, June 1935, by Usual Occupation

[300 counties]

Residence and usual occupation of head	Total		Length of time between loss of job and accession to relief											Median number of months
	Number	Percent	Less than 1 month	1 month	2 months	3-4 months	5-6 months	7-12 months	13-24 months	25-36 months	37-48 months	49-60 months	61 months or more	
Total rural.....	26,332	100.0	9.2	17.7	10.6	12.4	7.8	11.5	10.3	6.1	4.5	3.5	6.4	4.5
Agriculture.....	8,390	100.0	9.8	18.4	11.0	13.9	10.0	13.5	10.3	4.6	2.9	1.9	3.7	4.1
Farm operator.....	2,529	100.0	6.4	8.7	6.7	12.5	9.4	16.1	16.7	8.3	4.9	3.6	6.7	8.8
Owner.....	557	100.0	4.5	7.2	4.7	9.1	5.7	14.4	16.7	8.6	7.2	4.7	17.2	15.7
Tenant.....	1,126	100.0	8.1	9.2	5.5	12.7	7.9	15.5	16.6	9.8	5.2	4.2	5.3	9.1
Cropper.....	546	100.0	5.4	9.3	9.3	14.1	13.6	17.8	16.9	6.3	3.2	2.3	1.8	6.3
Farm laborer.....	5,861	100.0	11.3	22.7	12.9	14.5	10.2	12.3	7.5	3.1	2.1	1.1	2.3	2.9
Nonagriculture.....	17,942	100.0	8.8	17.5	10.5	11.7	6.7	10.6	10.3	6.8	5.3	4.2	7.6	4.9
Professional.....	344	100.0	4.4	12.2	9.3	5.2	8.7	11.9	20.4	9.6	5.8	2.9	9.6	11.6
Proprietary.....	586	100.0	5.8	9.4	6.1	11.4	7.2	12.6	14.8	11.3	5.8	5.5	10.1	11.3
Clerical.....	1,153	100.0	4.6	11.7	9.0	11.0	6.7	11.0	14.6	8.9	6.9	6.0	10.6	10.3
Skilled.....	3,181	100.0	5.0	12.7	10.0	11.2	5.6	12.6	11.1	9.6	7.0	6.9	9.3	9.1
Semiskilled.....	3,240	100.0	8.3	17.7	8.1	11.6	7.8	10.6	10.4	6.9	5.0	4.8	8.8	5.6
Unskilled.....	9,434	100.0	11.3	20.5	11.9	12.2	6.7	9.6	8.8	5.1	4.5	3.3	6.1	3.5
Servant.....	1,246	100.0	9.3	23.2	10.9	14.8	6.6	11.1	9.9	4.9	3.3	2.1	3.9	3.4
Other.....	8,192	100.0	11.5	20.2	12.0	11.9	6.7	9.4	8.6	5.1	4.7	3.5	6.4	3.6
Open country.....	12,214	100.0	8.4	17.3	11.0	12.7	7.6	11.5	10.3	6.0	4.8	3.7	6.7	4.7
Agriculture.....	4,793	100.0	9.9	20.2	11.6	15.1	9.8	13.2	9.1	4.0	2.3	1.6	3.2	3.6
Farm operator.....	1,456	100.0	6.4	10.6	7.6	12.9	11.0	17.0	14.6	7.7	3.7	2.9	5.6	7.0
Owner.....	288	100.0	5.9	8.3	4.5	9.0	6.9	16.7	10.4	11.1	3.5	2.1	21.6	12.0
Tenant.....	548	100.0	8.0	12.3	6.1	13.4	9.2	15.7	15.4	8.4	4.6	4.6	2.3	6.9
Cropper.....	620	100.0	5.3	10.2	10.2	14.2	14.2	18.4	15.8	5.5	3.1	1.9	1.2	5.9
Farm laborer.....	3,337	100.0	11.4	24.2	13.4	16.0	9.3	11.6	6.8	2.4	1.7	1.0	2.2	2.6
Nonagriculture.....	7,421	100.0	7.5	15.6	10.6	11.3	6.1	10.4	11.0	7.2	6.4	5.0	8.9	6.1
Professional.....	108	100.0	1.9	14.8	14.8	3.7	7.4	13.9	14.8	7.4	7.4	5.6	8.3	9.7
Proprietary.....	188	100.0	8.5	9.0	6.4	10.6	7.4	9.6	10.2	13.8	9.6	6.4	8.5	11.6
Clerical.....	359	100.0	2.2	9.7	7.8	5.8	6.1	12.3	13.4	8.9	12.0	8.4	13.4	18.0
Skilled.....	1,395	100.0	3.4	11.7	10.3	10.4	5.2	11.5	12.0	10.0	8.4	6.8	10.3	11.2
Semiskilled.....	1,373	100.0	6.8	14.0	8.4	12.5	7.3	10.6	11.2	7.8	5.7	5.7	10.0	7.1

Unskilled.....	3,998	100.0	9.7	18.1	11.9	11.7	5.9	9.8	10.4	5.6	5.4	3.8	7.7	4.3
Servant.....	442	100.0	7.5	17.7	9.5	16.7	7.0	11.8	12.0	4.5	6.3	1.8	5.2	4.3
Other.....	3,556	100.0	10.0	18.3	12.2	11.1	5.8	9.5	10.2	5.7	5.2	4.0	8.0	4.2
Village.....	14,118	100.0	9.8	18.2	10.3	12.2	7.9	11.5	10.3	6.2	4.2	3.3	6.1	4.4
Agriculture.....	3,597	100.0	9.6	16.4	10.2	12.3	10.1	13.8	11.8	5.4	3.8	2.2	4.4	4.8
Farm operator.....	1,073	100.0	6.3	6.3	5.4	11.8	7.3	14.8	19.7	9.1	6.5	4.7	8.1	11.7
Owner.....	269	100.0	3.0	5.9	5.2	9.3	4.5	11.9	23.4	5.9	11.2	7.4	12.3	17.7
Tenant.....	578	100.0	8.2	6.4	5.0	12.1	6.7	15.2	17.6	11.0	5.7	3.9	8.2	11.1
Cropper.....	226	100.0	5.8	6.7	6.7	14.2	11.7	16.7	20.0	8.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	8.3
Farm laborer.....	2,524	100.0	11.0	20.7	12.2	12.5	11.3	13.3	8.5	3.9	2.6	1.2	2.8	8.5
Nonagriculture.....	10,521	100.0	9.9	18.9	10.3	12.1	7.2	10.7	9.7	6.5	4.4	3.6	6.7	4.3
Professional.....	236	100.0	5.5	11.0	6.8	5.9	9.3	11.0	22.9	10.6	5.1	1.7	10.2	12.8
Proprietary.....	398	100.0	4.5	9.5	6.0	11.8	7.0	14.1	17.2	10.1	4.0	5.0	10.8	11.3
Clerical.....	794	100.0	5.7	12.6	9.6	13.4	6.9	10.5	15.1	8.9	4.5	3.5	9.3	7.5
Skilled.....	1,786	100.0	6.2	13.3	9.7	11.8	5.9	13.6	10.5	9.2	5.9	5.3	8.6	7.9
Semiskilled.....	1,867	100.0	9.5	20.3	7.9	10.8	8.1	10.7	9.8	6.3	4.5	4.2	7.9	4.9
Unskilled.....	5,440	100.0	12.4	22.1	11.9	12.8	7.2	9.5	7.6	4.8	3.9	2.9	4.9	3.1
Servant.....	804	100.0	10.3	26.3	11.8	13.8	6.4	10.7	8.7	5.1	1.6	2.2	3.1	2.7
Other.....	4,636	100.0	12.7	21.5	11.9	12.6	7.4	9.3	7.4	4.8	4.2	3.0	5.2	3.1

**Table 38.—Year of Migration to County by Heads of Rural Relief Cases, June 1935, by State**

[300 counties]

State	All heads		Year of migration							
	Num-ber	Per-cent	Never moved	Prior to 1926	1926-1929	1930-1933	After 1933	After 1929		
								Total	Intra-state	Inter-state
All States sampled.....	116,972	100.0	36.3	36.2	11.1	12.8	3.6	16.4	11.7	4.7
11 Northern States.....	45,896	100.0	29.2	44.3	11.6	12.2	2.7	14.9	9.9	5.0
Iowa.....	2,156	100.0	38.9	36.5	13.0	10.4	1.2	11.6	8.1	3.5
Kansas.....	2,796	100.0	28.0	40.7	12.8	15.3	3.2	18.5	12.2	6.3
Michigan.....	5,602	100.0	24.3	45.6	12.6	14.0	3.6	17.6	12.5	5.1
Minnesota.....	7,304	100.0	23.9	55.2	8.1	11.0	1.8	12.8	7.6	5.2
Missouri.....	3,780	100.0	32.7	32.2	12.4	19.0	3.7	22.7	12.0	10.7
Nebraska.....	2,286	100.0	19.6	45.6	14.6	16.6	3.6	20.2	13.5	6.7
New York.....	1,954	100.0	30.2	38.4	17.9	10.1	3.4	13.5	10.7	2.8
North Dakota.....	6,230	100.0	25.5	58.1	8.8	6.3	1.3	7.6	4.8	2.8
Ohio.....	6,946	100.0	40.6	32.1	11.6	11.6	4.1	15.7	12.6	3.1
South Dakota.....	3,140	100.0	26.8	48.6	11.1	10.4	3.1	13.5	9.1	4.4
Wisconsin.....	3,702	100.0	29.7	41.9	13.7	13.7	1.0	14.7	8.7	6.0
13 Southern States.....	57,292	100.0	47.9	28.1	9.0	11.1	3.9	15.0	11.6	3.4
Alabama.....	1,662	100.0	42.7	26.7	11.3	14.9	4.4	19.3	16.0	3.3
Arkansas.....	3,308	100.0	38.7	34.7	11.3	11.3	4.0	15.3	9.6	5.7
Florida.....	2,564	100.0	34.1	36.3	12.5	14.4	2.7	17.1	10.0	7.1
Georgia.....	2,042	100.0	50.9	19.0	8.3	15.6	6.2	21.8	16.9	4.9
Kentucky.....	7,768	100.0	69.9	16.2	4.7	6.0	3.2	9.2	7.6	1.6
Louisiana.....	1,156	100.0	45.3	31.5	11.3	9.1	2.8	11.9	7.9	4.0
North Carolina.....	3,138	100.0	66.6	18.2	5.1	6.4	3.7	10.1	8.6	1.5
Oklahoma.....	9,430	100.0	16.9	45.2	13.4	19.4	5.1	24.5	19.5	5.0
South Carolina.....	5,246	100.0	71.6	16.3	4.9	5.6	1.6	7.2	5.6	1.6
Tennessee.....	2,882	100.0	71.8	13.7	2.7	7.4	4.4	11.8	7.8	4.0
Texas.....	10,126	100.0	33.8	35.4	11.7	13.7	5.4	19.1	15.4	3.7
Virginia.....	3,492	100.0	64.1	20.8	6.1	7.3	1.7	9.0	5.4	3.6
West Virginia.....	4,478	100.0	50.6	28.0	10.6	7.5	3.3	10.8	9.5	1.3
6 Western States.....	13,784	100.0	12.3	42.7	18.2	21.3	6.5	26.8	17.5	9.3
California.....	5,662	100.0	8.5	38.0	23.3	25.3	4.9	30.2	23.4	6.8
Colorado.....	2,128	100.0	6.5	55.8	12.6	20.1	5.0	25.1	13.3	11.8
Montana.....	1,594	100.0	6.2	61.8	15.7	12.3	4.0	16.3	9.6	6.7
Oregon.....	792	100.0	8.2	33.2	16.7	29.0	12.9	41.9	19.5	22.4
Utah.....	1,712	100.0	45.2	36.1	5.9	9.0	3.8	12.8	8.6	4.2
Washington.....	1,896	100.0	7.4	35.5	23.2	26.1	7.8	33.9	18.1	15.8

# Appendix B

## METHODOLOGY OF RURAL CURRENT CHANGE STUDIES

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## METHODOLOGY OF RURAL CURRENT CHANGE STUDIES

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### INTRODUCTION

**T**HE RESULTS of an investigation can be better understood when there is an adequate understanding of the methods by which the results were obtained. During its period of activity the Federal Emergency Relief Administration carried through a series of surveys dealing with the characteristics of the rural relief population. These studies reached their greatest adequacy and reliability during the year 1935. Many of the results of these studies have been published in mimeographed bulletins. Other results are being published in the form of monographic reports. It is proposed here to indicate the kinds of broad studies that were made and to describe in detail the methods by which results were obtained.

The administration early recognized that the relief problem in rural areas differed in important respects from that in urban communities. It was further recognized that such rural-urban differences called for differentiation of programs and policies designed for application to the relief situation in country and in city. In order to formulate and operate a rural program, it was imperative that considerable information concerning the rural relief population be made available. The Rural Unit of the Research Section of the Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance was charged with responsibility for collecting that information.

From its beginning the FERA required the emergency relief administration in each State to submit detailed monthly reports showing the number of families and the number of persons receiving unemployment relief and the amounts of obligations incurred for the various types of assistance. These reports did not classify relief cases by rural and urban residence, but tabulations by counties gave clear evidence that the relief problem was by no means limited to urban or to industrial centers. On the contrary, they revealed that many counties, predominantly rural in character, had one-fifth or more of their families on relief.

Only one complete enumeration of the unemployment relief population by rural and urban residence has ever been made. This

enumeration was made as a part of the Unemployment Relief Census of October 1933. More than 5,000,000 persons, or 40 percent of all persons receiving relief at that time, resided in the open country and in villages of less than 2,500 population, the rural relief population being equal to about 9.5 percent of the total rural population in 1930.<sup>1</sup>

Following the Relief Census of October 1933, several special investigations of the numbers and characteristics of rural relief families were undertaken at various times by the Rural Unit of the Research Section. These studies led up to and paved the way for the initiation of a more adequate study known as the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population. This survey was launched in February 1935 for the purpose of providing current information concerning the characteristics of, and the changes taking place in, the rural relief population.

The great bulk of material concerning the phases of rural relief to be studied, together with limitations on time and funds available for collecting data, made full investigation prohibitive and made sampling necessary. Highly accurate generalizations about a whole may be made from a small part of that whole, if the part constitutes a properly selected sample. One of the first problems to which attention was given in the development of the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population was that of sampling. The techniques and procedures used in selecting samples, the type of information collected, and the reliability of the data are discussed in the following pages.

#### THE UNITS OF STUDY

For purposes of the survey the relief case or household was taken as the unit of study. Interest centered primarily in the composition and characteristics of these units. If lists of all rural cases had been available, it would have been statistically possible to select random samples from such lists. If pertinent information had been available for these cases, it would have been statistically possible to classify them and to select stratified samples on the basis of such information. However, no such lists of rural relief cases were available. Moreover, if they had been available, it would have been administratively impossible to study a sample selected from them because of the prohibitive amount of time and expense that would have been involved in visiting widely scattered units.

It was necessary for practical purposes, then, that the units to be studied be concentrated in a relatively small number of geographical localities. There was no serious theoretical objection to such limitation since the rural relief cases residing in one small geographical division might have many of the characteristics of cases residing in the entire area to be covered by the study and might have them in

<sup>1</sup> *Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933*, Report No. 2, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C., 1934, table A.



much the same proportions. A careful selection of a number of such divisions would then provide a representative sample of the entire universe of study. Since the country has been divided into numerous political divisions and subdivisions, as counties, townships, etc., it was possible to use one type of political unit as the unit of sampling. As the county was the unit for administering relief throughout most of the country and because much *a priori* information concerning the population and factors vitally affecting the population of the country was available from the United States Census Bureau publications, this unit was chosen for sampling.

#### SAMPLING METHOD

For practical purposes, then, the universe to be directly sampled was a number of counties covering as large a proportion of the United States as possible under the limitations imposed by administrative considerations. The aim was to select the counties in such a manner as to insure as far as possible the inclusion of a representative sample of rural relief cases. In selecting the sample counties two methods were available. A strictly random sample might have been drawn from among all counties to be included in the study, the selection being made according to one of the accepted procedures. The random method was not workable since the counties differed widely with respect to their availability for survey purposes, because of their location or the accessibility of sources of information concerning aspects of rural relief within their borders. Since pertinent information was available for counties, however, it was possible on the basis of factors related to rural relief to classify them into relatively homogeneous groups and to select usable counties from each group. This involved classification and subclassification of all counties on the basis of factors thought to be relevant to the purposes of the studies to be made and the selection of similar proportions of units from each subgroup. A sample selected in this manner may be called a controlled sample, the classificatory factors constituting the controls.

The procedure adopted for selecting representative counties was based primarily on three generally accepted propositions:

1. When, by classification of units, the variability within classes has been reduced to such an extent that each class may be considered sufficiently homogeneous for the purpose in view, any one unit may be studied as representative of the other units in the same class.

2. If one or more variables are related to or dependent upon a given variable, classification of units into groups homogeneous with respect to the given variable will tend at the same time to give groups which are relatively homogeneous with respect to the dependent variables. Hence, if farm tenancy in the relief

population is closely correlated with farm tenancy in the general population, then counties which are alike with respect to the proportion of tenants in the general population will tend to be alike with respect to the proportion of tenants in the relief population.

3. The units constituting a limited universe to be sampled may be broken down into a number of relatively homogeneous subgroups and each subgroup may be sampled separately. If equal proportions of units are selected from each subgroup, the selected units may be combined to form a properly weighted sample of the entire universe of units.

The attempt to sample the rural relief population was in effect an attempt to sample an unknown population. Little recent or usable information regarding the relief population was available. There was, therefore, no direct approach to the problem of selecting a series of counties containing a representative sample of rural relief cases. An indirect approach was made by selecting counties on the basis of certain background factors assumed to be correlated with various aspects of rural relief. The selection of these background factors was based upon *a priori* reasoning, ordinary logic and common sense, and upon the considered judgment and knowledge of research scholars familiar with the sociology and economics of rural life.

#### THE AREAS SAMPLED

In classifying counties for the selection of a controlled sample, the major control was introduced by grouping the units according to the dominant type of farming engaged in by the farm population, on the assumption that type of farming was a factor relevant to the rural relief situation in many of its aspects. It was possible by the use of 1930 Census data to define a number of large aggregations of counties which possessed a high degree of homogeneity with respect to the major agricultural source of income and which in general were geographically contiguous areas.

Nine major type-of-farming areas were delimited for study. The areas and the bases of their delineation were as follows.

##### Eastern Cotton Area

This area consisted of 424 counties of the Old South scattered among the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, and south-eastern Missouri. These were counties in which two-fifths or more of the total value of products sold, traded, or used on the farm in 1929 was produced on cotton farms as defined by the United States Census of Agriculture.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> *Cotton farm*: A farm from which 40 percent or more of the value of its products was derived from cotton (lint) or cottonseed.

#### Western Cotton Area

This area consisted of 151 counties in Texas and Oklahoma distinguished by the same basic criterion as the Eastern Cotton Area but separated from the latter on the basis of other factors, such as a smaller proportion of sharecroppers and greater frequency of drought.

#### Appalachian-Ozark Area

This area consisted of 265 counties in the self-sufficing farming regions of West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and southern Illinois. These were counties in which 20 percent or more of all farms in 1929 were classified as self-sufficing.<sup>3</sup>

#### Lake States Cut-Over Area

This area consisted of 76 counties in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, in which less than 50 percent of the approximate land area was in farms in 1930.

#### Hay and Dairy Area

This area consisted of 187 counties in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Vermont. These were counties in which 25 percent or more of all farms were classified as dairy farms in the 1930 Census of Agriculture.<sup>4</sup>

#### Corn Belt

This area consisted of 363 counties in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. These were counties in which 29 percent or more of the cropland and plowable pasture was planted to corn in 1929.

#### Spring Wheat Area

This area consisted of 64 counties in North and South Dakota and Montana in which 30 percent or more of all cropland and plowable pasture was land from which wheat was harvested in 1929.

#### Winter Wheat Area

This area consisted of 79 counties in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas in which 30 percent or more of all cropland and plowable pasture was land from which wheat was harvested in 1929.

#### Ranching Area

This area consisted of 64 counties in Colorado, Montana, Utah, and Oregon in which 40 percent or more of all farm acreage was in

<sup>3</sup> *Self-sufficing farm*: The value of farm products used by the farm family was 50 percent or more of the total value of all products of the farm.

<sup>4</sup> *Dairy farm*: A farm from which 40 percent or more of the value of its products was derived from milk, cream, butterfat, butter, and dairy cows and calves.

farms classified by the United States Census of Agriculture as stock ranches<sup>5</sup> in 1929. Only a small part of the total ranching area was sampled because of lack of adequate field staff for carrying on studies in the ranching States.<sup>6</sup>

The delineation of areas of homogeneity with respect to type of agriculture constituted the first major step toward the selection of a controlled sample. Homogeneous farming areas are not necessarily homogeneous in many other respects. It was assumed, however, that type of agriculture and agricultural resources have a multiplicity of correlates, many of which are directly or indirectly associated with the rural relief situation.

The 9 areas delineated for sampling included 1,673 counties, somewhat more than half (54 percent) of all such political units in the country (see list A and fig. A). While these areas do not cover the entire rural United States, they do comprise the largest number of aggregations of counties that are characterized by both a high degree of agricultural homogeneity and geographical contiguity.

The maximum sample was limited to about 140 counties because of administrative limitations upon the amount of time allowed for getting the initial study under way and upon the amount of funds available for collecting data. It was not thought advisable to attempt to represent all rural areas of the country with so small a number of counties. Consequently, the counties lying outside the nine areas described above were not included. Moreover, in the States not touched by the nine areas there was no research organization or personnel for carrying on field work at the time.

The areas not sampled consisted of general and mixed farming areas which are often found between areas of dominant types of agriculture; that part of the western Ranching Area lying in States with no administrative machinery for carrying on rural research; various localized farming regions, such as fruit and truck areas; and areas devoted to special crops, such as tobacco, beans, potatoes, rice, sugar beets, etc. Finally, certain very thinly populated nonagricultural regions, such as the Cascade Mountains in the far West, the Colorado-Mohave Desert, the Adirondacks and northern Maine, and the Florida Flatwoods and Everglades (see fig. A) were also omitted.

#### SELECTION OF SAMPLE COUNTIES TO REPRESENT AREAS

The first major step toward the selection of a controlled sample of counties to represent the rural relief situation was a classification of the units into agricultural areas as described above. The second

<sup>5</sup> *Stock ranch*: A farm where chief emphasis is on grazing rather than on production of crops and feeding of livestock, and on which 40 percent or more of the value of all farm products is derived from meat animals.

<sup>6</sup> That part of the Ranching Area extending into other States besides the four listed was not included.

major step consisted of subgrouping the counties within each area on the basis of certain relevant factors.

It was contemplated that the items of information to be collected in the sample counties would be many and varied. Proposed field studies would be designed to provide information regarding nearly all aspects of the rural relief situation and would cover a considerable period of time. Hence, in stratifying the counties for the selection of the sample, indices of fundamental and fairly permanent socio-economic conditions underlying the rural relief situation were used. They included the following:<sup>7</sup>

- Percent of all families in the county that were rural families.
- Percent of all rural families that were farm families.
- Percent of all farm operators that were tenants.
- Percent of all rural families whose heads were foreign born.
- Percent of all gainful workers in agriculture that were wage laborers.
- Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.

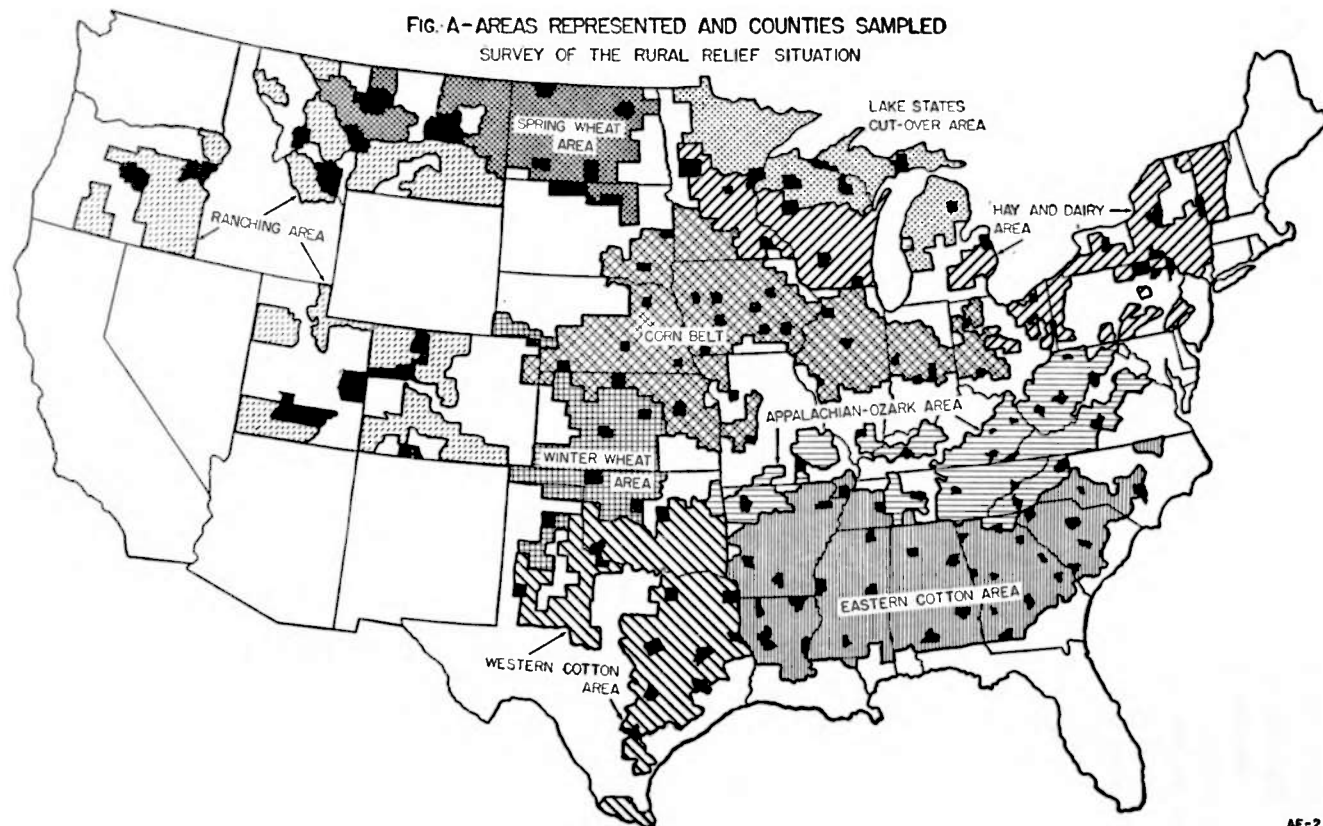
Each of these factors is, undoubtedly, correlated with other background variables which in turn are correlated with phases of rural relief. For example, a fairly close relationship was found in southern counties between the percent of Negroes in the rural population and the percent of farm tenancy. A fair degree of correlation between the proportion of Negroes in the general and in the relief population may be assumed. Hence, by controlling farm tenancy in selecting sample counties, it is probable that some control is exercised over both color and tenancy in the relief population. These inter-correlations among background factors underlying the rural relief situation eliminated the necessity of attempting to control any considerable number of variables in selecting the sample, for in selecting a county in which certain conditions are present, closely related conditions are *ipso facto* present.

The method of selecting counties from those grouped by agricultural areas may be shown by describing its application to the Corn Belt. The 140 counties to which the sample was limited constituted about 8 percent of the 1,673 counties in all areas combined. There were 363 counties in the entire Corn Belt and the sampling ratio (8 percent) allowed for a selection of 29 counties. In order to facilitate the sampling technique this number was arbitrarily reduced to 27 counties.

Three background factors considered relevant by informed research scholars were used as the bases for classifying the 363 Corn Belt counties into 27 subgroups. These were (a) the percent of all rural families that were farm families in 1930, (b) the percent of all agricultural workers that were wage laborers in 1930, and (c) land value per capita of the rural-farm population, 1930.

The 363 counties were first ranked from highest to lowest on the basis of per capita land value and broken into 3 equal groups of

<sup>7</sup> The indices were based on 1930 Census data.



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counties representing high, low, and intermediate values. Each of these three groups was then ranked on the basis of the rural-farm index and was subdivided into equal groups of counties with high, low, and intermediate percentages of rural-farm population. These 2 steps gave 9 subgroups of about 40 counties each. These nine groups were in turn ranked on the basis of the farm labor index and divided into three equal groups.

The final result was a classification of the 363 counties into 27 subgroups, each having from 12 to 14 counties and each representing 1 of 27 phases of joint variation of 3 background factors (see table A).

The counties within each subgroup were considered homogeneous for practical purposes with respect to the three classificatory factors. In some other important respects, however, the counties in a particular subgroup differed widely among themselves. The subgroups did not, for example, form geographically contiguous subregions of the Corn Belt but tended to scatter throughout a particular State or among several States. In making the final selection of the sample, one choice was made from each of the subgroups, the choice being governed by an endeavor to obtain a fairly even geographical distribution throughout the area and to select a county including approximately 8 percent of the total rural population of its subgroup. At the same time a State could be apportioned no larger number of counties than could be surveyed with the then existing research personnel. It was considered highly important that the sample include counties from each State overlapped by the areas sampled since many aspects of the relief problems to be investigated were related to administrative practices which varied from State to State. If upon initial contact by the field staff the selected county was found unsuitable for survey purposes because of the lack of reliable sources of information or the lack of cooperation on the part of local relief officials, another county from the same subgroup was substituted in its place, the process of substitution being continued until a usable selection resulted.

In general, the sampling method applied to the Corn Belt counties was followed in the other eight areas. Some variation was necessary, however, because of differences in the total number of counties in the areas and differences among areas with respect to the control factors used.

Considering the advice and judgment of experts in the field of rural sociology and economics, the background factors used in forming subgroups of counties making up the other eight areas were as follows:

**Eastern Cotton Area:**

1. Percent of all farm operators that were tenants.
2. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
3. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

**Western Cotton Area:**

1. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
2. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

**Appalachian-Ozark Area:**

1. Percent of all farm operators that were tenants.
2. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

**Lake States Cut-Over Area:**

1. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
2. Percent of all rural families whose heads were foreign born.

**Hay and Dairy Area:**

1. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
2. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

**Spring Wheat Area:**

1. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
2. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

**Winter Wheat Area:**

1. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
2. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

**Ranching Area:**

1. Land value per capita of the rural-farm population.
2. Percent of all rural families that were farm families.

The final list of sample units, including 138 counties, represented 9 major type-of-farming areas overlapping 33 States (see list B and fig. A). These 138 counties, selected as representative of certain background factors considered relevant to the rural relief situation, were therefore assumed to be representative of the general aspects of the rural relief situation. The size of the samples varied from 7.4 percent of all counties in the Corn Belt to 18.8 percent of the counties in that part of the Ranching Area actually sampled (table B).

**Table B.**—Proportion of All Counties Included in Each Area Sample and Proportion of All Rural Families 1930, of All Rural Relief Cases October 1933, and of All Farms January 1935 Found in Sample Counties in 9 Areas

Area	Counties			Families, 1930 <sup>1</sup>			Relief cases, October 1933 <sup>2</sup>			Farms, January 1935 <sup>3</sup>		
	Area total	Sample counties		Area total	Sample counties		Area total	Sample counties		Area total	Sample counties	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
All areas.....	1,673	138	8.2	6,830,298	554,870	8.1	643,103	49,989	7.8	4,208,625	342,610	8.1
Eastern Cotton.....	424	32	7.5	1,985,026	136,610	6.9	216,954	16,886	7.8	1,396,234	95,401	6.8
Western Cotton.....	151	12	7.9	715,803	66,252	9.3	53,450	4,031	7.5	482,291	45,053	9.3
Corn Belt.....	363	27	7.4	1,385,178	97,102	7.0	57,939	2,707	4.7	770,072	56,150	7.3
Hay and Dairy.....	187	16	8.6	1,211,253	113,985	9.4	75,152	5,843	7.8	590,696	57,997	9.8
Appalachian-Ozark.....	265	20	7.5	952,963	86,654	9.1	166,530	14,340	8.6	600,601	53,815	9.0
Winter Wheat.....	79	6	7.6	185,083	12,112	6.5	17,862	1,458	8.2	115,754	8,059	7.0
Spring Wheat.....	64	7	10.9	132,140	14,765	11.2	12,053	1,450	11.6	93,371	10,394	11.1
Lake States Cut-Over.....	76	6	7.9	179,980	12,044	6.7	36,846	2,238	6.1	118,513	7,912	6.7
Ranching.....	64	12	18.8	82,872	15,346	18.5	5,867	1,036	17.7	41,092	7,829	19.1

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population.*

<sup>2</sup> Source: *Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933.*

<sup>3</sup> Source: *United States Census of Agriculture: 1935.*



## SELECTION OF SAMPLE COUNTIES TO REPRESENT STATES

Field studies were conducted in the 138 counties representing 9 agricultural areas from October 1934 to October 1935. During the spring of 1935 administrative need for information concerning the rural relief situation in particular States as well as in agricultural areas became pressing. In order to meet this need it was decided to devise a State sampling procedure and to select a list of counties for survey in each of a number of States. As an arbitrary standard, sample counties were to contain not less than 10 percent of the rural population of each State sampled.

The following procedure was used for selecting sample counties to represent separate States with respect to factors pertaining to the rural relief situation.

1. All counties within the State<sup>a</sup> were classified by principal type of farming. All counties falling within a particular type-of-farming area were indicated on a county outline map of the State.

2. The percent of all gainful workers, 10 years of age and over, engaged in nonagricultural enterprises was computed for each county.

3. Where rural nonagricultural enterprise was of much importance (including 25 percent or more of the gainful workers, 10 years of age and over), the principal type of industry was determined and indicated along with the type of farming on the county outline map of the State.

4. On the basis of two background factors judged relevant to the purposes of the study, the counties of each State were classified into subgroups, the number of which was fairly close to 10 percent of all counties in the State concerned. Hence, for a State having 90 counties, the counties were classified into 9 subgroups of 10 counties each. The two factors used in classifying the counties into subgroups were: (1) percent of the rural population classified as rural-farm in 1930, and (2) percent of farm tenancy (or percent of farm labor in those States where this factor was of more importance than tenancy). In arriving at the subclasses the following steps were taken:

- a. The counties of the State were ranked on the rural-farm index and divided into two or more equal groupings, each group having a different range of the index used for ranking the counties. The number of subgroupings depended upon the total number of counties in the array and therefore upon the total number of subgroups needed in the final classification.

- b. Each of the initial groups of counties was ranked on the basis of the farm tenancy (or farm labor) index. The groups were then broken into equal numbers of secondary groups so that the total number of subgroups approached 10 percent of all counties being sampled.

For illustration of procedure, see table C.

<sup>a</sup> Counties largely urban in character, that is, counties containing very small rural populations in comparison with their urban populations, were excluded.

5. One or more counties were selected from each subgroup. Selection was made of counties that contained approximately 10 percent of the total rural population<sup>9</sup> in the group of counties to which they belonged. These counties were selected from the subgroups so that counties previously selected as part of an area sample were included as part of the larger State sample wherever possible. In making the selection the following factors were included in their proper proportions as far as possible:

- a. Type of farming as shown on county outline map.
- b. Type of nonagricultural industry in counties where important, as shown on county outline maps.
- c. Intensity of relief as shown on latest relief intensity maps.

**Table C.—Scheme for Selecting Controlled Sample of 10 Out of 86 Ohio Counties**

[Counties selected in *italics*]

Percent tenancy	Percent of all rural families that were rural-farm families in 1930		
	Lowest third of counties	Middle third of counties	Highest third of counties
Lowest third of counties..	<i>Carroll</i> .....	<i>Ashtabula</i> .....	<i>Coshocton</i>
	<i>Columbiana</i> .....	<i>Geauga</i> .....	<i>Delaware</i>
	<i>Guernsey</i> .....	<i>Jackson</i> .....	<i>Fairfield</i>
	<i>Harrison</i> .....	<i>Knox</i> .....	<i>Gallia</i>
	<i>Lake</i> .....	<i>Medina</i> .....	<i>Marion</i>
	<i>Mahoning</i> .....	<i>Meigs</i> .....	<i>Monroe</i>
	<i>Muskingum</i> .....	<i>Portage</i> .....	<i>Morgan</i>
	<i>Perry</i> .....	<i>Vinton</i> .....	<i>Morrow</i>
	<i>Trumbull</i> .....	<i>Washington</i> .....	<i>Noble</i>
	<i>Tuscarawas</i> .....		<i>Pike</i>
Middle third of counties..	<i>Athens</i> .....	<i>Allen</i> .....	<i>Auglaize</i>
	<i>Belmont</i> .....	<i>Ashland</i> .....	<i>Crawford</i>
	<i>Erie</i> .....	<i>Holmes</i> .....	<i>Defiance</i>
	<i>Hocking</i> .....	<i>Huron</i> .....	<i>Hardin</i>
	<i>Jefferson</i> .....	<i>Licking</i> .....	<i>Highland</i>
	<i>Lawrence</i> .....	<i>Marion</i> .....	<i>Ross</i>
	<i>Lorain</i> .....	<i>Putnam</i> .....	<i>Union</i>
	<i>Scioto</i> .....	<i>Richland</i> .....	<i>Williams</i>
	<i>Stark</i> .....	<i>Sandusky</i> .....	<i>Wyandot</i>
		<i>Wayne</i> .....	
Highest third of counties..	<i>Brown</i> .....	<i>Champaign</i> .....	<i>Adams</i>
	<i>Butler</i> .....	<i>Clark</i> .....	<i>Darke</i>
	<i>Clermont</i> .....	<i>Clinton</i> .....	<i>Fayette</i>
	<i>Franklin</i> .....	<i>Fulton</i> .....	<i>Hancock</i>
	<i>Greene</i> .....	<i>Logan</i> .....	<i>Henry</i>
	<i>Lucas</i> .....	<i>Madison</i> .....	<i>Pickaway</i>
	<i>Montgomery</i> .....	<i>Miami</i> .....	<i>Preble</i>
	<i>Ottawa</i> .....	<i>Paulding</i> .....	<i>Seneca</i>
	<i>Summit</i> .....	<i>Warren</i> .....	<i>Shelby</i>
	<i>Wood</i> .....		<i>Van Wert</i>

6. It was assumed that a sample drawn in the manner described would be properly weighted for all practical purposes so that no weighting of final results would be called for in order to correct for disproportions growing out of the selection of the county units.

Following the general procedure outlined above, a total of 304 sample counties was selected to represent 31 States<sup>10</sup> for purposes

<sup>9</sup> In actual practice it was not always possible to select counties to meet the requirement of a 10 percent sample. Hence, some disproportions exist in the final sample both within and among States.

<sup>10</sup> Four sample counties in Arizona were included only in the Current Change Survey in October 1935.

of the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population. These counties included 117 of the 138 counties previously selected to represent 9 agricultural areas. In addition to the counties 33 New Hampshire townships were selected,<sup>11</sup> largely on the bases of size of population and geographical distribution, to represent all townships in the State with less than 5,000 population. Forty Connecticut townships and forty-three Massachusetts townships selected by competent research students in those States were accepted as satisfactory for the current change study. These sample town-

**Table D.—Proportion of All Counties Included in Each State Sample and Proportion of All Rural Families 1930, of All Rural Relief Cases October 1933, and of All Farms January 1935 Found in Sample Counties in 31 States**

State	Counties			Families, 1930 <sup>1</sup>			Relief cases, October 1933 <sup>2</sup>			Farms, January 1935 <sup>3</sup>		
	State total	Sample counties		State total	Sample counties		State total	Sample counties		State total	Sample counties	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
All States sampled <sup>4</sup>	2,500	304	12.2	9,559,074	1,094,259	11.4	896,344	100,272	11.2	5,527,073	667,003	12.1
Alabama.....	67	7	9.0	408,990	40,064	9.8	69,178	7,030	10.2	273,455	28,653	10.5
Arizona.....	14	4	28.6	67,968	17,832	26.2	11,369	3,298	29.0	18,824	4,397	23.4
Arkansas.....	75	10	13.3	339,468	39,475	11.6	29,415	2,843	9.7	253,013	29,777	11.8
California.....	58	12	20.7	397,841	62,871	15.8	17,112	3,478	20.3	150,360	28,306	18.8
Colorado.....	63	8	12.7	125,986	12,601	10.0	5,772	503	8.7	63,644	6,341	10.0
Florida.....	67	6	9.0	174,251	19,961	11.5	46,958	5,533	11.7	72,857	9,728	13.4
Georgia.....	161	17	10.6	428,689	40,641	9.5	35,490	3,287	9.3	250,544	24,922	9.9
Iowa.....	99	10	10.1	373,350	37,671	10.1	10,883	1,142	10.7	221,986	22,123	10.0
Kansas.....	105	13	12.4	288,485	31,697	11.0	19,032	1,993	10.5	174,589	19,719	11.3
Kentucky.....	120	12	10.0	401,935	35,199	8.8	80,543	8,511	10.6	278,298	24,543	8.8
Louisiana.....	64	10	15.6	280,925	48,702	17.3	37,985	8,018	21.1	170,216	31,388	18.4
Michigan.....	83	11	13.3	380,313	41,258	10.8	48,479	4,044	8.3	196,517	25,268	12.9
Minnesota.....	87	13	14.9	298,762	50,804	17.0	9,514	2,297	24.1	203,302	36,526	18.0
Missouri.....	114	12	10.5	447,442	47,687	10.7	13,558	792	5.8	278,454	32,656	11.7
Montana.....	56	8	14.3	89,330	11,412	12.8	9,863	1,403	14.2	50,564	7,226	14.3
Nebraska.....	93	9	9.7	217,196	22,196	10.2	4,412	619	14.0	133,616	12,886	9.6
New York.....	62	5	8.1	529,357	41,718	7.9	34,498	1,529	4.4	177,025	16,084	9.1
North Carolina.....	100	12	12.0	463,589	46,717	10.1	34,950	2,177	6.2	300,967	30,290	10.1
North Dakota.....	53	8	15.1	119,076	21,149	17.8	8,351	2,159	25.9	84,606	15,590	18.4
Ohio.....	88	10	11.4	537,455	55,392	10.3	47,081	3,547	7.5	255,146	28,686	11.2
Oklahoma.....	77	9	11.7	351,539	38,312	10.9	74,803	8,434	11.3	213,325	24,291	11.4
Oregon.....	36	6	16.7	126,790	13,182	10.4	4,442	211	4.8	64,826	7,150	11.0
South Carolina.....	46	8	17.4	277,056	35,067	12.7	63,631	10,790	17.0	165,504	20,856	12.6
South Dakota.....	69	9	13.0	128,261	19,087	14.9	18,238	1,936	10.6	83,303	12,399	14.9
Tennessee.....	95	9	9.5	375,391	38,730	10.3	23,218	2,044	8.8	273,783	29,436	10.8
Texas.....	254	28	11.0	778,601	101,243	13.0	31,147	4,177	13.4	501,017	66,099	13.3
Utah.....	29	6	20.7	51,951	8,639	16.6	5,653	632	11.2	30,695	6,343	20.7
Virginia.....	100	13	13.0	341,848	40,577	11.9	5,356	778	14.5	197,632	25,038	12.7
Washington.....	39	6	15.4	178,853	19,979	11.2	11,910	266	2.2	84,381	9,985	11.8
West Virginia.....	55	4	7.3	257,165	18,647	7.3	65,287	5,029	7.7	104,747	7,830	7.5
Wisconsin.....	71	9	12.7	321,211	35,749	11.1	18,416	1,772	9.6	199,877	21,868	10.9

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, Population.*

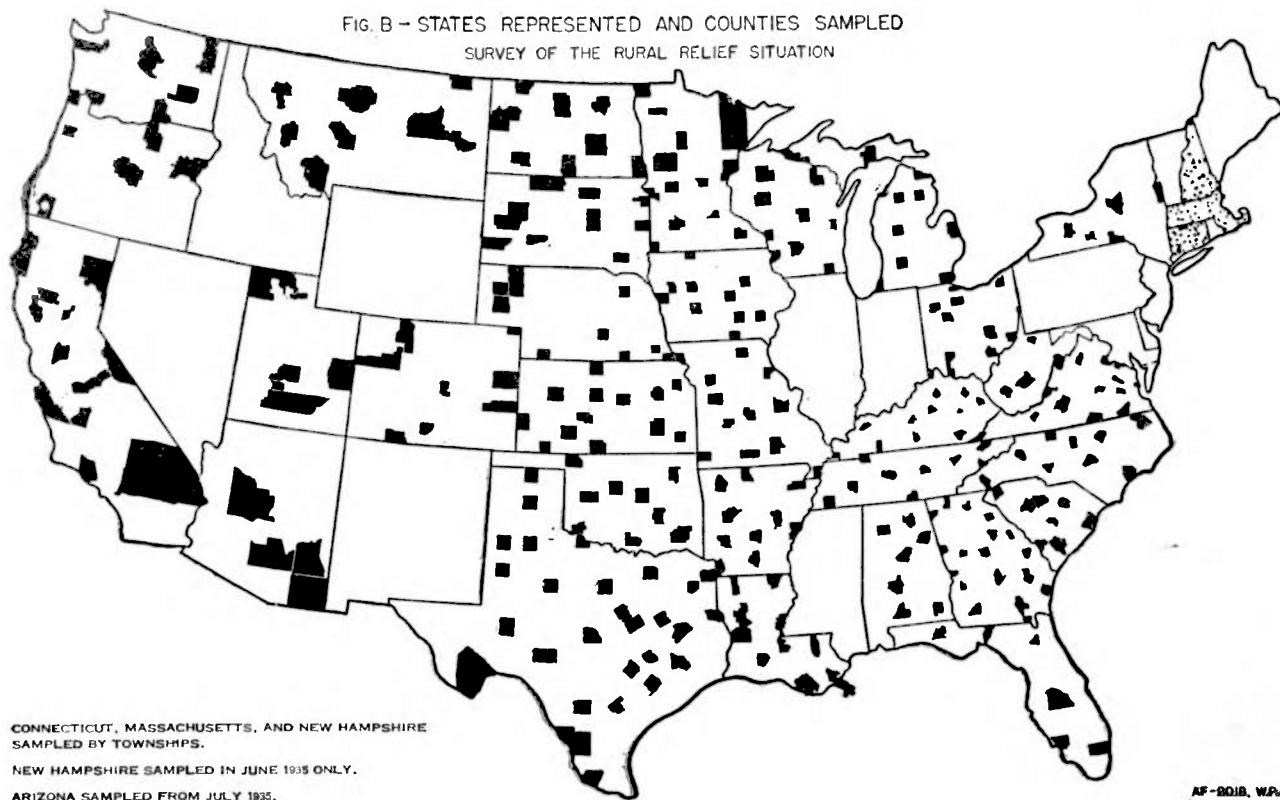
<sup>2</sup> Source: *Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933.*

<sup>3</sup> Source: *United States Census of Agriculture: 1935.*

<sup>4</sup> New England States excluded.

<sup>11</sup> Included only in survey of June 1935.

FIG. B - STATES REPRESENTED AND COUNTIES SAMPLED  
SURVEY OF THE RURAL RELIEF SITUATION



CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS, AND NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SAMPLED BY TOWNSHIPS.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SAMPLED IN JUNE 1935 ONLY.

ARIZONA SAMPLED FROM JULY 1935.

AF-2018, W.P.A.

ships were selected to represent all townships having less than 5,000 population <sup>12</sup> (see fig. B and lists C and D).

The States sampled contained considerably more than three-fourths of the total rural population of the United States in 1930, while the total number of sample counties and townships contained about one-tenth of the total rural population of the United States. The remaining States were not sampled because of lack of a cooperative plan for rural research in those States and therefore lack of a research staff for conducting field studies.

The size of the State samples averaged 12.2 percent of all counties. This ratio ranged from 9.0 percent in Alabama and Florida to 20.7 percent in Utah and 28.6 percent in Arizona. The relative size of the sample was necessarily large in the latter States because of the small number and heterogeneous character of the counties from which the samples were drawn (table D).

### FIELD STUDIES CONDUCTED IN SAMPLE COUNTIES

#### *Survey of the Rural Relief Situation, October 1934*

The first field study, Survey of the Rural Relief Situation, October 1934, was made as of October 1934. Household schedule DRS-77A and county schedule DRS-77B were devised for this study (see schedules A and B). Approximately 29,800 household schedules were taken in 136 counties selected to represent the 9 areas, 2 counties in the Ranching Area not being included. An additional 2,500 schedules were filled in 6 locally selected Pacific Coast counties and in 40 Connecticut townships.<sup>13</sup>

#### *Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population*

In February 1935 the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population was inaugurated in the 138 sample counties. This study was designed to provide periodic information concerning the number and characteristics of rural relief and rehabilitation cases and to provide current information regarding the number and characteristics of opened, reopened, and closed cases.

Schedule DRS-109 was devised as the main instrument for collecting data for the Current Change Study (see schedules C and D). The schedule was used in its original form from February to June and in a considerably revised form after June. Samples representative of cross sections of the rural and town <sup>14</sup> relief population

<sup>12</sup> In these New England States the primary divisions of the counties are known as towns or townships and include rural territory as well as compactly settled areas.

<sup>13</sup> For results of this study see Research Bulletins, Series F, Numbers 1-10, Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C.

<sup>14</sup> *Town*: A center having from 2,500 to 4,999 inhabitants in 1930.

were taken in February, June, and October 1935. In addition to these cross-section studies, samples were taken of cases closed during the interval March to June, inclusive, of cases opened, reopened, and closed each month July to October, inclusive, and of cases opened and reopened during November and December. These samples were taken as representative of the nine agricultural areas prior to June and as representative of both areas and States in June and succeeding months.

At the close of the year 1935 schedule DRS-409A (see schedule E) was devised for a study of rural families that had received relief in June 1935 but had been closed later. This schedule was taken in the sample counties of seven States only.<sup>15</sup> The study aimed to determine the sources of livelihood of the cases in December 1935 and the characteristics of families receiving their income from different sources, including special forms of public assistance.

#### **Reporting of Public and Private Assistance in Rural and Town Areas**

The Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population was closed as of December 1935 when the FERA ceased operation. At that time a new field study was inaugurated, namely, Reporting of Public and Private Assistance in Rural and Town Sample Areas (see schedule F).

This project was designed to obtain on a sampling basis current information concerning (a) the intensity, (b) the cost, (c) the types, and (d) the trend of public and private assistance in rural areas including towns up to 25,000 population.<sup>16</sup> The State sample was adjusted for this survey to insure representation of towns up to 25,000 population and was expanded to include the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Mississippi.

#### **SELECTION OF SAMPLE CASES WITHIN COUNTIES**

In filling DRS-77A schedules as of October 1934 in 142 counties,<sup>17</sup> samples were taken from local agency files of case records. In order to keep the total number of cases within the limits of time and expense allowed for field work and tabulation, not more than 300 to 400 cases were selected from any 1 county regardless of the size of the case load in that county. The following sampling procedure was used in each county surveyed.

<sup>15</sup> Georgia, Iowa, Montana, North Carolina, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

<sup>16</sup> For the results and methodology of this study, see Wynne, Waller, Jr., *Five Years of Rural Relief*, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C., 1938.

<sup>17</sup> Including 136 counties in the 9 agricultural areas and 6 locally selected Pacific Coast counties.

If there were—

- Fewer than 300 rural cases, all were enumerated.
- 300–399 rural cases, 2 out of every 3 cases were selected.
- 400–599 rural cases, every second case was selected.
- 600–899 rural cases, every third case was selected.
- 900–1,199 rural cases, every fourth case was selected.
- 1,200–1,499 rural cases, every fifth case was selected.
- 1,500–1,799 rural cases, every sixth case was selected.
- 1,800–2,099 rural cases, every seventh case was selected.
- 2,100–2,699 rural cases, every ninth case was selected.
- 2,700 rural cases or more, every tenth case was selected.

In combining the results of the survey by areas, it was possible to apply proper county weights to correct for unequal sampling ratios.

In order to facilitate the selection of case samples, a complete card file of all cases was set up in each county in February 1935 with the inauguration of the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population. For that file, control cards, form DRS-109B and revised form DRS-109D,<sup>18</sup> were used (see schedules G and H). One of these cards was filled for every rural and town relief or rehabilitation case in the county at the time that county began participating in the survey. The card file was kept up to date for each case. When a new case was extended assistance, a new card was filled. When a case left the rolls, the card for that case was removed to a closed case file. If the case later returned to the relief rolls, the card was replaced in the active case file.

Samples were selected from the files of control cards. In drawing the February sample the cards were arranged alphabetically in three groups: (a) cases receiving unemployment relief only; (b) cases receiving rehabilitation loans only; and (c) cases receiving both relief and rehabilitation loans. The number of cards selected was determined according to the same procedure as that followed in October 1934.

In order to assure an adequate sample from each county and in order to avoid weighting results by counties, sampling from control cards for the DRS-109 schedule was done on a uniform 50 percent basis<sup>19</sup> after February 1935, selecting every second card from alphabetical groups. In October certain exceptions were made when in the interest of speed a few counties with very large relief case loads were sampled on a 25 percent basis, every fourth card being selected. The resulting disproportion was adjusted by applying proper weights to the final results of the survey.

In taking the DRS-409A schedules, the sampling ratio ranged from 5 percent to 50 percent, depending on the size of the population sampled. In the interest of economy of time and expense, no adjustments of these disproportions were made in the final tabulation of results.

<sup>18</sup> Revised July 1935.

<sup>19</sup> In Connecticut schedules were filled for all cases in the sample townships.

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**COLLECTION OF DATA****Field Staff**

Field studies were conducted in the sample counties under a joint rural research plan by which the Division of Research, Statistics, and Finance of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the State Emergency Relief Administrations, and the State colleges of agriculture, or other institutions engaged in rural research in the States, agreed to cooperate in conducting investigations of rural relief. The rural sociologist or economist at the State college of agriculture was appointed State supervisor of rural research in each State where mutually satisfactory cooperative arrangements could be perfected among the agencies interested.

The State supervisors of rural research were men exceptionally well qualified to supervise the field work necessary in connection with the rural studies.<sup>20</sup> As they were full-time workers on the staffs of their State colleges, they did not spend any considerable amount of time in the field in detailed supervision of field work but were responsible for its direction and for the prompt and accurate return of schedules to the national office.

In addition to the State supervisor of rural research, the field personnel consisted of a full-time assistant supervisor and a survey staff, including clerical workers. The assistant supervisors of rural research were persons experienced in social and economic research who had graduate training equivalent at least to a master's degree. The clerical personnel was made up of local persons who were qualified for work under the provisions of the professional and technical works program carried on by the FERA. Most of these workers conformed to the "needs test" as applied by the State emergency relief administrations. However, no person was employed on the survey staff unless he was considered well qualified to perform the work required. Carefully written instructions were provided these workers by the Washington Office and, in addition, personal instruction and training was given them by the State supervisor or assistant supervisor of rural research.

**Sources of Data**

In general, data entered on schedules taken in the sample counties were transcribed from family case record cards on file in local relief offices. Such records had previously been filled in connection with the investigation and social service activities of the agencies concerned. In some instances information for specific items on the schedules was obtained by interviews with case workers and from local relief or rehabilitation officials. Some of the information given by the DRS-409 schedule was obtained through family interview.

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<sup>20</sup> See attached list of State supervisors.



### Editing Schedules and Tabulating Results

More than 270,000 DRS-109 and DRS-109A schedules were filled in the field during the months the survey was in progress. These schedules were edited in the field and were carefully re-edited in the Washington Office. Each section on every schedule submitted was carefully examined to detect, wherever possible, erroneous, inconsistent, incomplete, or missing entries. In order to insure the greatest possible accuracy of the data, each schedule which needed revisions that could not be made by the editor from other entries was returned to the field for completion or revision. Coding, punching, and machine tabulation were done in Washington and New York.

### REPRESENTATIVENESS OF SAMPLE

An accurate or representative sample is a miniature picture of a larger whole. The conclusions drawn from such a sample apply, within reasonable limits, to the entire field from which the sample was drawn. It is of greatest importance that a sample be selected in such a manner that its statistical values measure what they are supposed to measure; that is, so that they measure that larger whole predefined as constituting the population<sup>21</sup> to be studied. It is possible for a sample to be representative of a larger population of units, but through bias in selection that population may not coincide with that which the sample was supposed to represent. Hence, the measure may not actually apply to the field presumably under investigation. In order for a sample to measure the large whole it is supposed to measure, it must include all the important phases of the whole and must include them in their proper proportions. Such a sample is said to be an unbiased or *valid* sample. If the sample is at the same time sufficiently large to reduce accidental errors and to produce stable measures the sample is said to be *reliable*.

Two major questions arise concerning the accuracy of the relief studies here described. The first question relates to the precision of the data themselves and the second question concerns the representativeness of the sample. The final results of the studies would be biased if there were constant errors in recording the original data. The accuracy of the data depends upon the correctness of the sources used. As has been pointed out, secondary sources were used almost exclusively in filling household schedules. Specific entries on agency case records as well as data supplied by such informants as case workers, case aides, or relief officials may often have been in error. Very few items were of such nature, however, that one would expect a constant error in reporting. Error in one direction would probably be cancelled by errors in opposite directions. Hence, while

<sup>21</sup> The term *population* is used in its technical sense to indicate the entire number of units represented by a sample.

inaccuracies may have been present in individual case schedules, averages were likely to be essentially correct. It may be pointed out that information was collected from ERA agencies only, local poor relief being excluded. Relief standards maintained by these ERA agencies were generally high, including the standards of maintaining complete and accurate records. Records were particularly good in the sample counties because of cooperation of local case workers and relief officials in the research aim to report accurate data.

One of the most pertinent questions that can be asked concerning any sample is whether it is representative of the whole which final generalizations are purported to encompass. In the discussion of this question in connection with the rural relief samples reviewed, it is necessary to exercise caution in the claims made for their accuracy. Samples selected from a totality for which no complete enumeration exists can never be directly tested statistically for their representativeness. The search for a solution must be directed largely to the application of logic and sound judgment rather than to the application of mathematical computations.

In undertaking the development of a procedure for selecting samples representative of the rural relief population, three major difficulties had to be recognized.

*The relief situation in a particular locality as of a particular month may be largely a reflection of administrative policy.*—Much of the variation in phases of rural relief is not a result of natural socio-economic conditions about which *a priori* knowledge is available but is a result of unpredictable differences in programs and policies of relief administration. Such differences arise among counties within particular States as well as among the States themselves. Hence, temporary shortage of funds may result in curtailment of relief or in dropping certain classes of clients during a particular month. Special classes of relief clients may be shifted from the general relief rolls to special relief programs. Local relief administrators may order all employable members of a particular occupational group removed from relief because seasonal employment is considered available for them during a particular month. All cases may be closed pending reinvestigation of the eligibility of each client for relief. These and numerous other administrative differences and changes are unpredictable and beyond the reckoning of the investigator.

*The relief situation in a locality as of a particular month may be largely a reflection of temporary factors that profoundly affect the relief program.*—Temporary pick-up or shut-down of industrial plants may remove or add certain types of clients. Every year floods occur in some localities, producing the necessity for temporary aid to their victims. Loss of crops and livestock because of drought, insect

infestations, or other reasons occur in some localities yearly. In years of widespread drought the extent of its devastation differs widely among the localities affected.

*The major purpose of the relief surveys conducted made it necessary that they cover many aspects of rural relief.*—The relief studies under discussion were not made for the purpose of providing scientific discoveries in the social field. Rather, these studies were made for the purpose of providing information that would contribute to the solution of pressing problems confronting the persons charged with the task of administering relief. The questions which needed answers were many, covering all phases of the rural relief situation. Sampling for the answer to a single specific question would be relatively simple. It is known, however, that a sample representative for one purpose will not necessarily be representative for other purposes. It was recognized from the beginning that the difficulties involved in the selection of a sample that would represent the rural relief population in its multitudinous aspects were enormous.

The natural reaction to the above discussion is that, because of lack of statistical controls known to be relevant to the various aspects of rural relief, a strictly random sample should have been taken. This should have included a large number of counties, selected in such manner as to allow each relevant factor an equal chance of inclusion. On purely theoretical grounds this is probably true. Practical considerations, however, made the random sample impossible. The optimum number of counties that the field staff of each State was equipped to survey under existing limitations on time and expense was known. In order to assure an approach to that optimum, it was necessary to control the sample to the extent of predetermining the number of counties in each State and in each area.

The question may still be raised, however, as to the advisability of selecting counties at random within each State or area. Again, practical considerations made the random sampling method impossible. In certain counties the relief case records were found to be in such poor condition as to render the county useless as a sample. In other counties local relief officials declined to cooperate with the survey staff. Hence, in the final selection of the sample it was necessary not only that the counties be as representative as possible but that they be counties from which trustworthy information could be had with as great ease as possible. This necessitated the selection of a controlled sample.

In spite of the numerous pitfalls into which a sampling method might lead when applied to the field of rural relief, it is believed that the samples taken are accurate enough in their general aspects for most practical purposes. This belief is based on the following considerations.

*The way the sample was selected had an important bearing on its validity.*—The factors used as controls in selecting sample counties for relief surveys were chosen on the basis of logic, reasoning, judgment, and common sense considerations on the part of those investigators who aided or advised in the development of the sampling procedure. The controls used were those readily available from the 1930 Census and which were judged relevant to the purposes of the studies contemplated.

The application of the sampling procedure resulted in the selection of a series of counties that were truly representative with respect to various background factors. They were representative not only of the factors directly controlled in selecting them, such as type of farming, farm tenancy, farm labor, farm and nonfarm distribution of the population, and per capita land value, but they proved to be representative also of other background variables. For example, data given by the 1935 Census of Agriculture were used for testing.

**Table E.—Proportion of All Farm Operators Who Worked 150 Days or More off Their Farms During 1934 for State as a Whole and for Sample Counties in 31 States**

State	State total			Sample counties		
	Total farmers	Part-time farmers		Total farmers	Part-time farmers	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
All States sampled <sup>1</sup> .....	5,527,073	448,013	8.1	667,455	52,100	7.8
Alabama.....	273,455	15,901	5.8	28,653	1,444	5.0
Arizona.....	18,824	3,318	17.6	4,897	768	15.6
Arkansas.....	253,013	11,375	4.5	29,779	1,378	4.5
California.....	150,360	26,121	17.4	28,305	5,060	20.1
Colorado.....	63,644	5,125	8.1	6,341	438	6.9
Florida.....	72,857	11,494	15.7	9,728	1,674	17.2
Georgia.....	250,544	16,631	6.6	25,879	1,464	5.6
Iowa.....	221,986	9,742	4.4	22,123	1,026	4.6
Kansas.....	174,589	11,752	6.7	19,719	1,250	6.3
Kentucky.....	278,298	20,227	7.3	24,543	1,638	6.7
Louisiana.....	170,216	8,820	5.2	31,388	1,575	5.0
Michigan.....	196,517	18,934	9.6	25,268	2,236	8.9
Minnesota.....	203,302	8,630	4.2	36,520	1,811	5.0
Missouri.....	278,454	19,100	6.9	32,658	2,072	6.3
Montana.....	50,564	4,197	8.3	7,226	501	6.9
Nebraska.....	133,616	4,497	3.4	12,886	496	3.8
New York.....	177,025	22,369	12.6	16,084	2,299	14.3
North Carolina.....	300,967	26,977	9.0	30,290	2,642	8.7
North Dakota.....	84,606	2,637	3.1	15,690	452	2.8
Ohio.....	255,146	29,353	11.5	28,686	2,336	8.1
Oklahoma.....	213,325	11,271	5.3	24,291	1,175	4.8
Oregon.....	64,826	10,009	15.4	7,150	1,062	15.1
South Carolina.....	165,504	14,947	9.0	20,855	2,038	9.8
South Dakota.....	83,303	3,056	3.7	12,399	493	4.0
Tennessee.....	273,753	22,462	8.2	29,436	2,303	7.8
Texas.....	501,017	34,209	6.8	66,699	3,442	5.2
Utah.....	30,695	4,289	14.0	6,343	777	12.2
Virginia.....	197,632	29,807	15.1	25,038	3,517	14.0
Washington.....	84,381	13,369	15.9	9,965	1,537	15.4
West Virginia.....	104,747	16,095	15.4	7,830	1,343	17.2
Wisconsin.....	199,877	11,339	5.7	21,868	1,231	5.6

<sup>1</sup> Data not available for townships in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Source: *United States Census of Agriculture: 1935.*

That the sample counties were highly representative of most of the States with respect to part-time farming during 1934 and with respect to movement of population to farms during the depression is shown in accompanying tables <sup>22</sup> (tables E and F).

**Table F.**—Proportion of the Total Farm Population January 1935 That Reported a Nonfarm Residence 5 Years Earlier for State as a Whole and for Sample Counties in 31 States

State	State total			Sample counties		
	Farm population, 1935	Moved from nonfarm residence		Farm population, 1935	Moved from nonfarm residence	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
All States sampled <sup>1</sup> .....	25,997,427	1,566,609	6.0	3,145,315	183,909	5.8
Alabama.....	1,386,074	63,665	4.6	140,955	6,337	4.3
Arizona.....	100,083	10,082	10.1	21,014	2,585	12.3
Arkansas.....	1,180,238	51,763	4.4	140,138	6,254	4.5
California.....	608,838	71,078	11.7	118,922	12,577	10.6
Colorado.....	276,198	26,920	9.7	25,614	2,325	9.1
Florida.....	319,658	22,287	7.0	36,469	2,156	5.9
Georgia.....	1,405,944	57,582	4.1	141,744	4,359	3.1
Iowa.....	967,979	51,168	5.3	95,657	5,572	5.8
Kansas.....	703,743	48,395	6.9	78,488	4,956	6.3
Kentucky.....	1,307,816	61,326	4.7	113,368	6,334	5.6
Louisiana.....	859,351	31,186	3.6	160,439	5,684	3.5
Michigan.....	840,514	110,413	13.1	108,128	13,317	12.3
Minnesota.....	928,487	49,676	5.4	164,199	10,207	6.2
Missouri.....	1,183,499	81,958	6.9	147,857	9,796	6.6
Montana.....	195,262	15,674	8.0	26,710	2,296	8.6
Nebraska.....	580,694	23,299	4.0	55,959	2,290	4.1
New York.....	784,483	81,514	10.4	72,683	8,434	11.6
North Carolina.....	1,623,481	60,227	3.1	163,341	5,402	3.3
North Dakota.....	365,614	11,562	3.0	71,245	2,365	3.3
Ohio.....	1,127,405	105,297	9.3	124,040	9,993	8.1
Oklahoma.....	1,015,562	71,186	7.0	114,109	7,466	6.5
Oregon.....	248,767	45,141	18.1	27,544	5,149	18.7
South Carolina.....	948,435	32,510	3.4	124,344	3,213	2.6
South Dakota.....	358,204	12,950	3.6	53,855	2,266	4.2
Tennessee.....	1,398,420	59,400	4.5	146,076	5,621	3.8
Texas.....	2,332,693	112,774	4.8	314,465	11,641	3.7
Utah.....	138,242	9,198	6.7	27,625	1,447	5.2
Virginia.....	1,053,469	40,053	3.8	135,545	4,950	3.7
Washington.....	335,840	47,818	14.2	40,575	6,678	16.5
West Virginia.....	561,919	47,150	8.4	43,011	4,820	11.2
Wisconsin.....	930,515	63,357	6.8	105,196	7,419	7.1

<sup>1</sup> Data not available for townships in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Source: *United States Census of Agriculture: 1935*.

The fact that the counties were representative of numerous background factors does not, however, assure their representativeness with regard to the aspects of relief actually studied. Making a sample representative in some respects only increases the possibilities that it will be representative in other aspects. Representativeness with respect to other aspects is assured only to the extent that the background factors are relevant to the purposes of the study, i. e., relevant to those aspects in which one is interested.

<sup>22</sup> With respect to part-time farming and movement to farms, the results shown by States in the 1935 Census of Agriculture could have been obtained within reasonable limits of accuracy if the study had been limited to the sample counties.

Tests indicate that the sampling procedure followed actually gave a fair degree of control over aspects of the rural relief situation. They indicate that the factors judged relevant on *a priori* reasoning were actually pertinent to the purposes of the studies. In the tabulation of data a few classifications of the relief population of each sample county were made. Hence, it was possible to determine the variation among sample counties with regard to certain aspects of rural relief and to test this variation against the variation among the counties with respect to the control factors used in selecting the sample. The object of such tests was to determine whether the relationships among phases of relief and background factors expected on logical grounds were actually found in the results of the study.

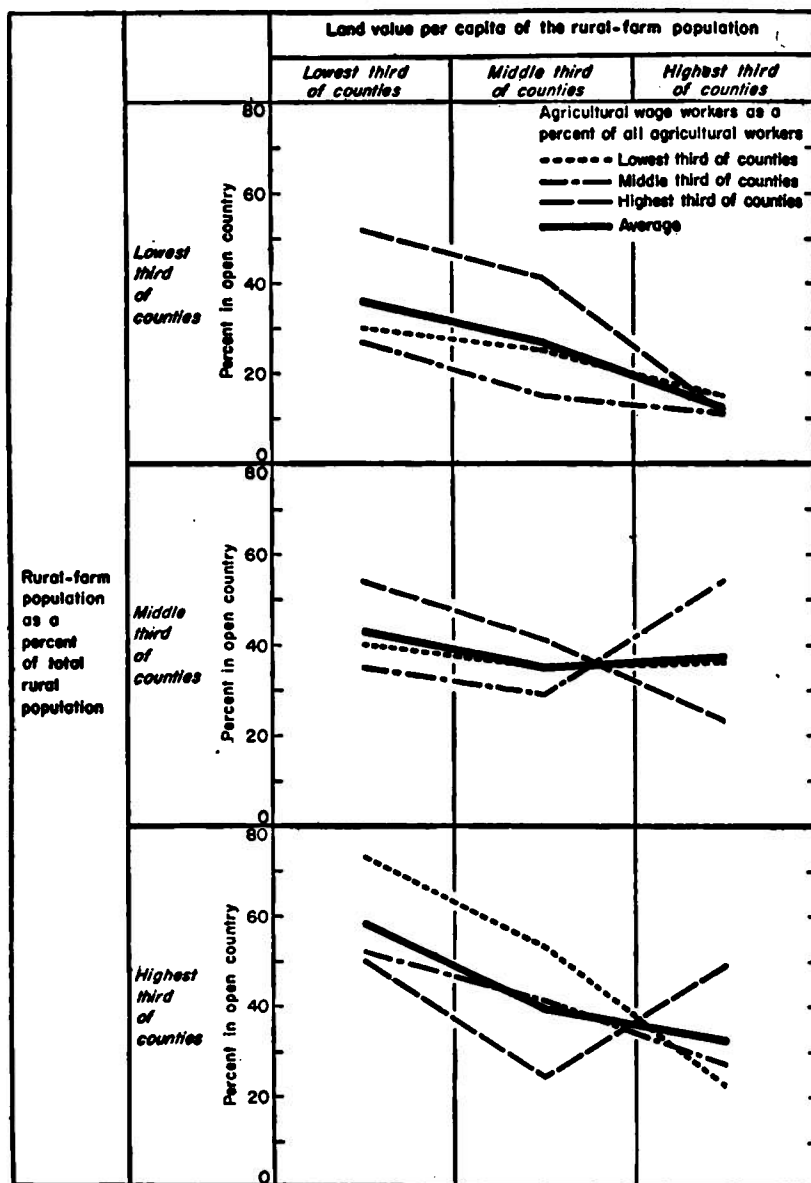
For example, one of the major purposes of the rural relief studies was to determine the distribution of the relief population between farm and nonfarm residence. As an index of this distribution, the percent of the rural relief cases located in the open country<sup>23</sup> was determined. This index is available for each of the sample counties. Significant and consistent relationships were found between this relief variable and the background factors used as controls. Figure C shows this relationship in the Corn Belt, the area used for illustrative purposes.

In selecting the counties from the Corn Belt it was assumed that the residence distribution and other aspects of the rural relief population would depend to some extent upon the fertility of the soil, upon the residence distribution of the general rural population, and upon the proportion of wage laborers among agricultural workers, and that a sample representative of these factors would also be representative of the relief variable. It appears that these assumptions were essentially correct. There was an unmistakable tendency for those counties having low per capita land value to have a large proportion of relief clients resident in the open country, and for those counties having high land values to have a small proportion of their relief clients in the open country. In other words, the relief variable is negatively correlated with the background factor.<sup>24</sup> This negative relationship is not disturbed by the subgrouping of the counties on the basis of the other two background factors. Regardless of the subgroupings, counties with high land values had low proportions of open country relief cases. Counties with low land values had high proportions of open country relief cases, and counties with intermediate land values had intermediate values of the relief index (fig. C).

As was to be expected on logical grounds, a positive relationship was found between the residence distribution of the general rural

<sup>23</sup> Outside of centers having 50 or more inhabitants.

<sup>24</sup> The rank-difference coefficient of correlation was found to be  $-.53$ .



**FIG. C - RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BACKGROUND FACTORS AND THE PERCENT OF THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION LOCATED IN OPEN COUNTRY IN 27 SAMPLE CORN BELT COUNTIES**

June 1935

AF-2018, W.R.A.

population and the residence distribution of the rural relief population. Some relationship between the farm labor index and the relief index was also found. The data do not show sufficient consistency, however, to indicate clearly the nature or significance of this relationship (fig. C and table G).

The relationship between the background factors and the proportion of the relief population resident in the open country is not entirely consistent but is disturbed in several instances by administrative factors and by the operation of temporary emergencies. Hence, three counties (Hall and Johnson, Nebr., and Hutchinson, S. Dak.) with very high land values show large proportions of agricultural families on relief because of the very great impoverishment of the rural-farm population by drought in 1934 and by adverse weather conditions during the spring of 1935. An unduly high proportion of open country residents was on relief in Hickory County, Mo., because of drought in 1934 and floods in 1935. An unexpectedly low percent of the agricultural population was on relief in Brookings, S. Dak., because of the administrative shift of farmers from general relief to a special program of rural rehabilitation (table G).

**Table G.—Relationship Between Background Factors and the Percent of the Rural Relief Population Located in Open Country in 27 Sample Corn Belt Counties, June 1935**

Rural-farm population as percent of total rural population	Agricultural wage workers as a percent of all agricultural workers	Land value per capita of the rural-farm population		
		Lowest third of counties	Middle third of counties	Highest third of counties
		Percent in open country	Percent in open country	Percent in open country
Lowest third of counties	Lowest third of counties	30 Putnam	25 Guthrie	15 Woodford
	Middle third of counties	27 Fountain	15 Hitchcock	11 Calhoun
	Highest third of counties	52 Clinton	41 Scott	11 Ida
Middle third of counties	Lowest third of counties	40 Smith	35 Wabaunsee	36 Johnson
	Middle third of counties	35 Hancock	29 Washington	54 Hutchinson
	Highest third of counties	54 Morgan	41 Whiteside	23 Pierce
Highest third of counties	Lowest third of counties	73 Hickory	53 Black Hawk	22 Marshall
	Middle third of counties	52 Ray	41 Mahaska	27 Page
	Highest third of counties	50 Shelby	24 Brookings	49 Hall



Y <sub>1</sub>		Randolph Missouri: Henry	South Dakota: Gregory
	Z <sub>1</sub>	Indiana: Cass Hamilton Hancock Pulaski Ohio: Auglaize	Ohio: Henry Preble Illinois: Brown Shelby Iowa: Bremer Iowa: Wapello Kansas: Jefferson Nebraska: Cedar
	Z <sub>2</sub>	Indiana: Clinton Decatur Gibson Howard Knox	Indiana: Morgan Putnam Tippecanoe Illinois: Schuyler Iowa: Winnebago Kansas: Doniphan Minnesota: Renville Nebraska: Dawson Ohio: Ross
	Z <sub>3</sub>	Missouri: Benton Cedar De Kalb Hickory St. Clair	Missouri: Worth Kansas: Bourbon Franklin Graham Jewell Kansas: Norton Iowa: Monroe Ohio: Fayette
Y <sub>2</sub>	Z <sub>1</sub>	Kansas: Allen Jackson Lyon Miami Indiana: Boone	Indiana: Fulton Wabash Iowa: Jefferson Lee Missouri: Bates Missouri: Ray Colorado: Yuma Nebraska: Sherman Ohio: Van Wert
	Z <sub>2</sub>	Indiana: Fayette Jasper Rush Shelby Tipton Illinois: Boone	Illinois: Jersey Kansas: Atchison Douglas Missouri: Andrew Pettis Ohio: Hancock Ohio: Pickaway Minnesota: Chippewa

X = land value per capita of the rural-farm population.

Y = percent of rural families that are farm families.

Z = percent of all gainful agricultural workers that are wage workers.

Subscript 1 indicates the lowest third of the 363 counties with



It seems clear that the factors used in selecting a controlled sample for relief purposes were relevant. This does not mean that the sampling procedure followed was a perfect one, for administrative factors, as well as such emergency conditions as drought, flood, hail, insect infestation, strikes, etc., were not taken into account in selecting it. However, the sampling procedure followed gave sufficient control of the variation in the general aspects of rural relief to assure a fairly representative sample and thereby to render the main conclusions of the studies conducted reliable for most practical purposes.

*Statistical tests indicated that the sample counties were, in general, representative with respect to certain aspects of the rural relief population of October 1933.*—As shown above, it was found *a posteriori* that the background factors used in stratifying counties for the selection of samples were relevant in that they controlled a certain amount of the variation in aspects of rural relief. Possibility of bias because of local administrative policy and other local conditions was, however, implicit in the sampling method used. The only complete check on the extent of such bias would be a comparison of relief aspects found in the sample counties with those in all counties from which the sample was drawn. Unfortunately no such check was possible since no complete enumeration was made during the period when studies were being conducted in the sample counties.

Only one complete census of the rural relief population was ever taken.<sup>25</sup> That enumeration was made as of October 1933, only 6 months after the organization of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Considerable information was collected by that census. However, the published information is not satisfactory as a means of checking relief samples taken more than a year later. In the interim between the time the Unemployment Relief Census was taken and the time the sample studies were made, important changes took place in the rural relief field. These changes are reflected in such factors as the great drought of 1934, the extension of Federal relief to include all counties of the country, the development of a special program of rural rehabilitation, the development of a works program, and the development of higher standards of relief administration. In view of these changes it is not to be expected that the various aspects of rural relief in 1935 would be entirely similar to those of October 1933.

While the rural relief samples of 1935 cannot legitimately be checked against the rural relief universe of October 1933, it is possible to check the extent to which the selected counties constituted a sample representative of some phases of the rural relief population of that month. From county data in the Unemployment Relief Census, the representativeness of the sample counties was tested in

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<sup>25</sup> *Unemployment Relief Census, October 1933*, Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C.

two respects, (a) with respect to aggregate numbers of rural relief cases and (b) with respect to average number of persons per rural relief case.

A close estimate of the aggregate number of rural cases receiving relief in the 9 agricultural areas in October 1933 could have been made from a count of the cases in the 138 sample counties. For example, the 138 counties contained 8.1 percent of all rural families in the 9 areas in 1930. They contained 7.8 percent of all rural relief cases in the same areas as reported by the Unemployment Relief Census, a fairly close agreement. Such close agreement between these ratios was not found in each of the nine separate areas though in most areas a fairly satisfactory comparison was obtained (table B). Likewise, a reasonably close estimate of the number of rural cases receiving relief in 31 States in October 1933 could have been made from a count of cases in the 304 sample counties selected to represent these States. The 304 sample counties selected from 31 States contained 11.4 percent of all rural families in those States in 1930. They contained 11.2 percent of all rural relief cases reported by the Unemployment Relief Census. The relief ratio showed considerable departures in some individual States (table D). Such discrepancies were to be expected, however, because of local administrative factors contingent upon the developmental stage of relief in October 1933.

The State samples were representative with respect to the average size of rural cases in October 1933. In 283 counties selected to represent 29 States <sup>26</sup> the ratio of rural relief persons to cases was the same as in all counties from which the samples were selected, the ratio being 4.5 persons per case. In nine of the separate States the average number of persons per case was the same for the sample as for the State. In each of 13 States the sample average departed from the State average by only one-tenth person per case. In no State was the discrepancy greater than two-tenths person per case.

The fact that the sample counties were representative in these respects increases the confidence that they were representative in other respects, and the fact that they were representative of aspects of rural relief in October 1933 increases confidence although it does not prove that they were also representative in the months in which interest centers.

*Close comparison between the averages given by the area and State samples indicated that the two samples were actually representative of the same relief population.*—This in itself was not so much an argument for the validity as for the reliability of the sampling procedure; that is, the procedure produced consistent results. In other words, it may be said that regardless of whether the samples pro-

<sup>26</sup> Colorado and Virginia excluded because of lack of, or small number of, cases in sample counties. New England States excluded because of lack of information by townships.

vided unbiased pictures of the populations they were supposed to represent, they did provide consistent pictures of a relief population.

Beginning with June 1935, tabulations of the data given by the Survey of Current Changes in the Rural Relief Population were made by States for all States sampled. In order to preserve the continuity of the previous surveys, however, tabulations were also made by areas, combining the information collected in 138 counties selected from 9 agricultural areas. Hence, in June and October the results of two cross-section studies of the rural relief population were available for comparison. Results of the one study were derived from a sample of about 29,000 schedules taken in 138 counties selected from 9 agricultural areas. Results of the other study were derived from a larger sample of nearly 61,000 schedules taken in 300 counties and 83 New England townships. The larger sample included 117 of the counties and about 23,000 of the schedules of the smaller sample. The one sample was, however, in all respects at least twice as large as the other (table H). Moreover, the larger sample included all types of agricultural and of most rural nonagricultural enterprises in the United States.

**Table H.**—Comparison of Larger and Smaller Sample With Respect to Size and With Respect to Specified Relief Items, June 1935

Item	Smaller sample <sup>1</sup>	Larger sample <sup>2</sup>
<b>SIZE OF SAMPLE</b>		
Percent of all counties sampled.....	8.2	12.1
Percent of all counties in United States.....	4.5	9.8
Percent of all rural families (1930) in areas or States sampled.....	8.1	12.1
Percent of all rural families (1930) in United States.....	4.4	8.8
Percent of all farm operators (1935) in areas or States sampled.....	8.1	12.1
Percent of all farm operators (1935) in United States.....	5.0	10.0
Total number of case schedules taken.....	29,258	60,674
Total number of cases in sample counties and townships.....	58,516	120,471
<b>RELIEF ITEMS</b>		
Percent of rural relief cases among all rural families, 1930.....	10.5	10.8
Percent of relief farmers among all farmers, 1935.....	5.5	5.7
Percent of unemployable cases among all rural cases.....	12.6	12.0
Percent of village cases among all rural cases.....	38.8	39.1
Percent of farm operator heads among all heads.....	31.0	31.6
Percent of farm laborer heads among all heads.....	11.7	13.1
Percent of nonagricultural heads among all heads.....	39.5	38.0
Percent of normal families among all cases.....	73.0	72.4
Percent of broken families among all cases.....	10.9	10.6
Percent change in number of rural cases, June to October 1935.....	-24.9	-24.7
Average number of persons per rural case.....	4.3	4.3
Percent of persons under 16 years of age among all relief persons.....	43.3	42.9
Percent of persons 16-24 years of age among all relief persons.....	16.3	16.0
Percent of persons 25-64 years of age among all relief persons.....	35.1	35.8
Percent of persons 65 years and over among all relief persons.....	5.2	5.2
Average number of workers per employable case.....	1.5	1.5
Percent of 1-person households among all rural cases.....	9.5	9.9

<sup>1</sup> 138 counties.

<sup>2</sup> 300 counties and 83 New England townships.

Notwithstanding the great difference in size and geographical coverage of the two June samples, when the results were compared, it was found that nearly all of the general conclusions drawn from the

one were substantiated by the other. For example, the relationship between the relief population and the general population was not widely different in the two samples (10.5 and 10.8 percent). The distribution of the relief population with respect to residence, employability, occupational characteristics, age, and household composition was not significantly different in the two samples. The percent decrease of the case load from June to October 1935 was almost identical in the two samples (24.9 and 24.7 percent) (table H).

What significance is to be attached to the close correspondence between the results of the area and State samples? Two probabilities are indicated. It is probable that the rural relief population in the nine areas originally sampled was, as a whole, not essentially different in many respects from that in the combined areas not sampled (see discussion of areas not sampled, page 166). It is further probable that the counties and townships selected as State samples or as parts of State samples but lying outside the original 9 areas (there were 117 such counties and 83 New England townships) represent fairly well that portion (or most of that portion) of the rural United States outside the 9 areas. It appears that provisional generalizations concerning the general aspects of rural relief and embracing the entire rural United States may be made from either sample. Such generalizations would in all probability be sufficiently accurate for practical purposes.

#### LIST A.—COUNTIES IN NINE AGRICULTURAL AREAS

##### Eastern Cotton Area

Alabama:	Alabama—Contd.	Alabama—Contd.
Autauga	Geneva	Tallapoosa
Barbour	Greene	Tuscaloosa
Bibb	Hale	Walker
Blount	Henry	Washington
Bullock	Houston	Wilcox
Butler	Jackson	Winston
Calhoun	Lamar	Arkansas:
Chambers	Lauderdale	Ashley
Cherokee	Lawrence	Bradley
Chilton	Lee	Calhoun
Choctaw	Limestone	Chicot
Clarke	Lowndes	Clark
Clay	Macon	Clay
Cleburne	Madison	Cleburne
Coffee	Marengo	Cleveland
Colbert	Marion	Columbia
Conecuh	Marshall	Conway
Coosa	Monroe	Craighead
Covington	Montgomery	Crittenden
Crenshaw	Morgan	Cross
Cullman	Perry	Dallas
Dale	Pickens	Desha
Dallas	Pike	Drew
De Kalb	Randolph	Faulkner
Elmore	Russell	Garland
Escambia	St. Clair	Grant
Etowah	Shelby	Greene
Fayette	Sumter	Hempstead
Franklin	Talladega	Hot Spring

Arkansas—Contd.

Howard  
Independence  
Izard  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Lafayette  
Lawrence  
Lee  
Lincoln  
Little River  
Logan  
Lonoke  
Miller  
Mississippi  
Monroe  
Montgomery  
Nevada  
Ouachita  
Perry  
Phillips  
Pike  
Poinsett  
Pope  
Pulaski  
Randolph  
St. Francis  
Saline  
Scott  
Sharp  
Union  
Van Buren  
White  
Woodruff  
Yell  
Georgia:  
Baker  
Baldwin  
Banks  
Barrow  
Bartow  
Ben Hill  
Bleckley  
Bulloch  
Burke  
Butts  
Calhoun  
Campbell  
Candler  
Carroll  
Catoosa  
Chattahoochee  
Chattooga  
Cherokee  
Clarke  
Clay  
Clayton  
Cobb  
Colquitt  
Columbia  
Coweta  
Crawford  
Crisp  
Dawson  
De Kalb  
Dodge  
Dooly  
Douglas

Georgia—Contd.

Early  
Elbert  
Emanuel  
Evans  
Fayette  
Floyd  
Forsyth  
Franklin  
Glascok  
Gordon  
Greene  
Gwinnett  
Hall  
Hancock  
Haralson  
Harris  
Hart  
Heard  
Henry  
Houston  
Irwin  
Jackson  
Jasper  
Jefferson  
Jenkins  
Johnson  
Lamar  
Laurens  
Lee  
Lincoln  
McDuffie  
Macon  
Madison  
Marion  
Meriwether  
Miller  
Mitchell  
Monroe  
Montgomery  
Morgan  
Murray  
Newton  
Oconee  
Oglethorpe  
Paulding  
Peach  
Pickens  
Pike  
Polk  
Pulaski  
Putnam  
Quitman  
Randolph  
Richmond  
Rockdale  
Schley  
Screven  
Spalding  
Stephens  
Stewart  
Sumter  
Talbot  
Taliaferro  
Taylor  
Telfair  
Terrell  
Tift

Georgia—Contd.

Toombs  
Treutlen  
Troup  
Turner  
Twiggs  
Upson  
Walker  
Walton  
Warren  
Washington  
Webster  
Wheeler  
Whitfield  
Wilcox  
Wilkes  
Wilkinson  
Worth  
Louisiana:  
Avoyelles  
Bienville  
Bossier  
Caddo  
Caldwell  
Catahoula  
Claiborne  
Concordia  
De Soto  
East Carroll  
Evangeline  
Franklin  
Grant  
Jackson  
Lincoln  
Madison  
Morehouse  
Natchitoches  
Ouachita  
Pointe Coupee  
Rapides  
Red River  
Richland  
Sabine  
St. Landry  
Tensas  
Union  
Vernon  
Washington  
Webster  
West Carroll  
Winn  
Mississippi:  
Adams  
Alcorn  
Amite  
Attala  
Benton  
Bolivar  
Calhoun  
Carroll  
Chickasaw  
Choctaw  
Claiborne  
Clarke  
Clay  
Coahoma  
Covington  
De Soto

**Mississippi—Contd.**

Franklin  
George  
Grenada  
Hinds  
Holmes  
Humphreys  
Issaquena  
Itawamba  
Jasper  
Jefferson  
Jefferson Davis  
Jones  
Kemper  
Lafayette  
Lamar  
Lauderdale  
Lawrence  
Leake  
Lee  
Leflore  
Lincoln  
Lowndes  
Madison  
Marion  
Marshall  
Monroe  
Montgomery  
Neshoba  
Newton  
Noxubee  
Oktibbeha  
Panola  
Pike  
Pontotoc  
Prentiss  
Quitman  
Rankin  
Scott  
Sharkey  
Simpson  
Smith  
Sunflower  
Tallahatchie  
Tate  
Tippah  
Tishomingo  
Tunica  
Union

**Mississippi—Contd.**

Walthall  
Warren  
Washington  
Wayne  
Webster  
Wilkinson  
Winston  
Yalobusha  
Yazoo  
Missouri:  
Dunklin  
New Madrid  
Pemiscot  
North Carolina:  
Anson  
Cabarrus  
Catawba  
Cleveland  
Cumberland  
Franklin  
Gaston  
Halifax  
Harnett  
Hoke  
Iredell  
Johnston  
Lee  
Lincoln  
Mecklenburg  
Montgomery  
Northampton  
Polk  
Richmond  
Robeson  
Rowan  
Rutherford  
Sampson  
Scotland  
Stanly  
Union  
Warren  
South Carolina:  
Abbeville  
Aiken  
Allendale  
Anderson  
Bamberg  
Barnwell

**South Carolina—Contd.**

Calhoun  
Cherokee  
Chesterfield  
Clarendon  
Colleton  
Darlington  
Dillon  
Dorchester  
Edgefield  
Fairfield  
Greenville  
Greenwood  
Hampton  
Kershaw  
Lancaster  
Laurens  
Lee  
Lexington  
McCormick  
Marlboro  
Newberry  
Oconee  
Orangeburg  
Pickens  
Richland  
Saluda  
Spartanburg  
Sumter  
Union  
York  
Tennessee:  
Carroll  
Chester  
Crockett  
Dyer  
Fayette  
Gibson  
Hardeman  
Hardin  
Haywood  
Henderson  
Lake  
Lauderdale  
Lawrence  
McNairy  
Madison  
Shelby  
Tipton

**Western Cotton Area****Oklahoma:**

Beckham  
Bryan  
Caddo  
Choctaw  
Comanche  
Cotton  
Creek  
Garvin  
Grady  
Greer  
Harmon  
Haskell  
Hughes  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Kiowa

**Oklahoma—Contd.**

Le Flore  
Lincoln  
Love  
McClain  
McCurtain  
McIntosh  
Marshall  
Muskogee  
Okfuskee  
Okmulgee  
Pottawatomie  
Roger Mills  
Seminole  
Sequoyah  
Stephens  
Tillman

**Oklahoma—Contd.**

Wagoner  
Washita  
Texas:  
Anderson  
Angelina  
Austin  
Bastrop  
Bee  
Bell  
Bosque  
Bowie  
Brazos  
Burleson  
Caldwell  
Cameron  
Camp



**Texas—Contd.**

Cass  
Cherokee  
Childress  
Coleman  
Collin  
Collingsworth  
Colorado  
Coryell  
Cottle  
Crosby  
Dallas  
Dawson  
Delta  
Denton  
De Witt  
Ellis  
Erath  
Falls  
Fannin  
Fayette  
Fisher  
Foard  
Fort Bend  
Franklin  
Freestone  
Gonzales  
Grayson  
Gregg  
Grimes  
Guadalupe  
Hall  
Hamilton  
Hardeman  
Harrison  
Haskell

**Texas—Contd.**

Henderson  
Hidalgo  
Hill  
Hockley  
Hopkins  
Houston  
Howard  
Hunt  
Johnson  
Jones  
Karnes  
Kaufman  
Knox  
Lamar  
Lamb  
Lavaca  
Lee  
Leon  
Limestone  
Live Oak  
Lubbock  
Lynn  
McLennan  
Madison  
Marion  
Martin  
Milam  
Mitchell  
Montgomery  
Morris  
Nacogdoches  
Navarro  
Nolan  
Nueces  
Panola

**Texas—Contd.**

Polk  
Rains  
Red River  
Robertson  
Rockwall  
Runnels  
Rusk  
Sabine  
San Augustine  
San Jacinto  
San Patricio  
Scurry  
Shelby  
Smith  
Somervell  
Starr  
Stonewall  
Taylor  
Terry  
Titus  
Travis  
Trinity  
Upshur  
Van Zandt  
Walker  
Waller  
Washington  
Wharton  
Wheeler  
Wichita  
Wilbarger  
Williamson  
Wilson  
Wood

**Appalachian-Ozark Area**

**Arkansas:**

Boone  
Carroll  
Crawford  
Franklin  
Johnson  
Madison  
Marion  
Newton  
Searcy  
Stone  
Washington

**Georgia:**

Dade  
Fannin  
Gilmer  
Habersham  
Lumpkin  
Rabun  
Townsend  
Union  
White

**Illinois:**

Franklin  
Hamilton  
Hardin  
Johnson  
Pope  
Saline  
Williamson

**Kentucky:**

Adair  
Allen  
Bell  
Breathitt  
Butler  
Caldwell  
Carter  
Casey  
Clay  
Clinton  
Crittenden  
Cumberland  
Edmonson  
Elliott  
Estill  
Floyd  
Grayson  
Greenup  
Harlan  
Hopkins  
Jackson  
Johnson  
Knott  
Knox  
Larue  
Laurel  
Lawrence  
Lee  
Leslie

**Kentucky—Contd.**

Letcher  
Lincoln  
Livingston  
McCreary  
Magoffin  
Martin  
Meade  
Menifee  
Metcalf  
Monroe  
Morgan  
Muhlenberg  
Ohio  
Owsley  
Perry  
Pike  
Powell  
Pulaski  
Rockcastle  
Rowan  
Russell  
Wayne  
Whitley  
Wolfe  
Missouri:  
Bollinger  
Camden  
Carter  
Crawford

## Missouri—Contd.

Dent  
Douglas  
Iron  
Madison  
Oregon  
Reynolds  
St. Francois  
Ste. Genevieve  
Shannon  
Taney  
Washington  
Wayne

## North Carolina:

Alexander  
Alleghany  
Ashe  
Avery  
Buncombe  
Burke  
Caldwell  
Chatham  
Cherokee  
Clay  
Graham  
Haywood  
Henderson  
Jackson  
McDowell  
Macon  
Madison  
Mitchell  
Moore  
Randolph  
Swain  
Transylvania  
Watauga  
Wilkes  
Yancey  
Oklahoma:  
Adair  
Cherokee  
Delaware  
Latimer  
Pushmataha

## Tennessee:

Anderson  
Benton  
Bledsoe  
Blount  
Bradley  
Campbell  
Cannon  
Carter  
Claiborne  
Clay  
Cocke  
Coffee  
Cumberland  
Decatur  
De Kalb  
Fentress  
Franklin

## Tennessee—Contd.

Grainger  
Grundy  
Hamblen  
Hancock  
Hawkins  
Hickman  
Houston  
Humphreys  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Johnson  
Lewis  
McMinn  
Macon  
Marion  
Marshall  
Maury  
Monroe  
Morgan  
Overton  
Perry  
Pickett  
Polk  
Putnam  
Rhea  
Roane  
Scott  
Sequatchie  
Sevier  
Smith  
Stewart  
Sullivan  
Unicoi  
Union  
Van Buren  
Warren  
Washington  
Wayne  
White  
Williamson

## Virginia:

Albemarle  
Alleghany  
Amherst  
Appomattox  
Bedford  
Botetourt  
Buchanan  
Campbell  
Carroll  
Craig  
Culpeper  
Floyd  
Franklin  
Giles  
Grayson  
Greene  
Henry  
Lee  
Madison  
Montgomery  
Nelson

## Virginia—Contd.

Orange  
Page  
Patrick  
Rappahannock  
Rockbridge  
Russell  
Scott  
Smyth  
Spotsylvania  
Stafford  
Tazewell  
Wise

## West Virginia:

Barbour  
Boone  
Braxton  
Calhoun  
Clay  
Doddridge  
Fayette  
Gilmer  
Grant  
Greenbrier  
Hampshire  
Hancock  
Hardy  
Harrison  
Jackson  
Kanawha  
Lewis  
Lincoln  
Logan  
McDowell  
Marion  
Mason  
Mercer  
Mineral  
Mingo  
Monongalia  
Monroe  
Morgan  
Nicholas  
Pendleton  
Pleasants  
Pocahontas  
Preston  
Putnam  
Raleigh  
Randolph  
Ritchie  
Roane  
Summers  
Taylor  
Tucker  
Tyler  
Upshur  
Wayne  
Webster  
Wetzel  
Wirt  
Wood  
Wyoming

## Lake States Cut-Over Area

## Michigan:

Alcona  
Alger

## Michigan—Contd.

Alpena  
Antrim

## Michigan—Contd.

Baraga  
Benzie

**Michigan—Contd.**

Charlevoix  
Cheboygan  
Chippewa  
Clare  
Crawford  
Delta  
Dickinson  
Emmet  
Gladwin  
Gogebic  
Grand Traverse  
Houghton  
Iosco  
Iron  
Kalkaska  
Keweenaw  
Lake  
Leelanau  
Luce  
Mackinac  
Manistee  
Marquette  
Mason  
Menominee

**Michigan—Contd.**

Midland  
Missaukee  
Montmorency  
Newaygo  
Ogemaw  
Ontonagon  
Oscoda  
Otsego  
Presque Isle  
Roscommon  
Schoolcraft  
Wexford  
**Minnesota:**  
Aitkin  
Beltrami  
Carlton  
Cass  
Clearwater  
Cook  
Crow Wing  
Hubbard  
Itasca  
Koochiching  
Lake

**Minnesota—Contd.**

Lake of the Woods  
Pine  
Roseau  
St. Louis  
**Wisconsin:**  
Ashland  
Bayfield  
Burnett  
Douglas  
Florence  
Forest  
Iron  
Langlade  
Lincoln  
Marinette  
Oconto  
Oneida  
Price  
Rusk  
Sawyer  
Taylor  
Vilas  
Washburn

**Hay and Dairy Area**

**Michigan:**

Arenac  
Bay  
Genesee  
Ingham  
Jackson  
Kent  
Lapeer  
Livingston  
Macomb  
Mecosta  
Muskegon  
Oakland  
Osceola  
Ottawa  
St. Clair  
Sanilac  
Washtenaw

**Minnesota:**

Anoka  
Becker  
Benton  
Carver  
Chisago  
Dakota  
Dodge  
Douglas  
Freeborn  
Goodhue  
Houston  
Isanti  
Kanabec  
Kandiyohi  
McLeod  
Meeker  
Mille Lacs  
Morrison  
Mower  
Olmsted  
Otter Tail

**Minnesota—Contd.**

Pennington  
Pope  
Red Lake  
Rice  
Scott  
Sherburne  
Sibley  
Stearns  
Steele  
Todd  
Wabasha  
Wadena  
Waseca  
Washington  
Winona  
Wright

**New York:**

Albany  
Allegany  
Broome  
Cattaraugus  
Cayuga  
Chautauqua  
Chemung  
Chenango  
Clinton  
Columbia  
Cortland  
Delaware  
Dutchess  
Genesee  
Greene  
Jefferson  
Lewis  
Livingston  
Madison  
Montgomery  
Oneida  
Onondaga

**New York—Contd.**

Orange  
Oswego  
Otsego  
Rensselaer  
St. Lawrence  
Saratoga  
Schoharie  
Steuben  
Sullivan  
Tioga  
Tompkins  
Washington  
Wyoming

**Ohio:**

Ashtabula  
Belmont  
Columbiana  
Delaware  
Geauga  
Jefferson  
Licking  
Lorain  
Medina  
Portage  
Stark  
Trumbull  
Tuscarawas  
Union  
Wayne

**Pennsylvania:**

Beaver  
Bedford  
Bradford  
Bucks  
Chester  
Crawford  
Cumberland  
Erie  
Franklin

## Pennsylvania—Contd.

Juniata  
Lawrence  
Lebanon  
Mercer  
Montgomery  
Montour  
Susquehanna  
Tioga  
Washington  
Wayne  
Wyoming

## Vermont:

Addison  
Caledonia  
Chittenden  
Franklin  
Lamoille  
Orange  
Orleans  
Rutland  
Washington  
Windham  
Windsor

## Wisconsin:

Adams  
Barron

## Wisconsin—Contd.

Brown  
Buffalo  
Calumet  
Chippewa  
Clark  
Columbia  
Crawford  
Dane  
Dodge  
Door  
Dunn  
Eau Claire  
Fond du Lac  
Grant  
Green  
Green Lake  
Iowa  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Juneau  
Kenosha  
Kewaunee  
La Crosse  
Lafayette  
Manitowoc  
Marathon

## Wisconsin—Contd.

Marquette  
Monroe  
Outagamie  
Ozaukee  
Pepin  
Pierce  
Polk  
Portage  
Racine  
Richland  
Rock  
St. Croix  
Sauk  
Shawano  
Sheboygan  
Trempealeau  
Vernon  
Walworth  
Washington  
Waukesha  
Waupaca  
Waushara  
Winnebago  
Wood

## Com Belt

## Colorado:

Yuma

## Illinois:

Alexander  
Boone  
Brown  
Bureau  
Carroll  
Cass  
Champaign  
Christian  
Coles  
De Kalb  
De Witt  
Douglas  
Edgar  
Ford  
Fulton  
Gallatin  
Greene  
Grundy  
Hancock  
Henderson  
Henry  
Iroquois  
Jersey  
Kane  
Kankakee  
Kendall  
Knox  
La Salle  
Lee  
Livingston  
Logan  
McDonough  
McHenry  
McLean  
Macon  
Macoupin

## Illinois—Contd.

Marshall  
Mason  
Menard  
Mercer  
Morgan  
Moultrie  
Ogle  
Peoria  
Piatt  
Putnam  
Rock Island  
Sangamon  
Schuyler  
Scott  
Shelby  
Stark  
Tazewell  
Vermilion  
Warren  
Whiteside  
Will  
Winnebago  
Woodford

## Indiana:

Benton  
Boone  
Carroll  
Cass  
Clinton  
Decatur  
Delaware  
Fayette  
Fountain  
Fulton  
Gibson  
Grant  
Hamilton  
Hancock

## Indiana—Contd.

Hendricks  
Henry  
Howard  
Jasper  
Johnson  
Knox  
Madison  
Miami  
Montgomery  
Morgan  
Newton  
Parke  
Pike  
Pulaski  
Putnam  
Randolph  
Rush  
Shelby  
Tippecanoe  
Tipton  
Union  
Vermillion  
Wabash  
Warren  
Wayne  
White

## Iowa:

Adair  
Adams  
Audubon  
Benton  
Black Hawk  
Boone  
Bremer  
Buchanan  
Buena Vista  
Butler  
Calhoun

Iowa—Contd.

Carroll  
Cass  
Cedar  
Cerro Gordo  
Cherokee  
Chickasaw  
Clarke  
Clay  
Clinton  
Crawford  
Dallas  
Delaware  
Des Moines  
Dickinson  
Emmet  
Fayette  
Floyd  
Franklin  
Fremont  
Greene  
Grundy  
Guthrie  
Hamilton  
Hancock  
Hardin  
Harrison  
Henry  
Humboldt  
Ida  
Iowa  
Jasper  
Jefferson  
Johnson  
Jones  
Keokuk  
Kossuth  
Lee  
Linn  
Louisa  
Lyon  
Madison  
Mahaska  
Marion  
Marshall  
Mills  
Mitchell  
Monona  
Monroe  
Montgomery  
Muscatine  
O'Brien  
Osceola  
Page  
Palo Alto  
Pocahontas  
Pottawattamie  
Poweshiek  
Ringgold  
Sac  
Scott  
Shelby  
Sioux  
Story  
Tama  
Taylor  
Union  
Wapello

Iowa—Contd.

Warren  
Washington  
Webster  
Winnebago  
Woodbury  
Worth  
Wright  
Kansas:  
Allen  
Atchison  
Bourbon  
Brown  
Chase  
Cheyenne  
Clay  
Cloud  
Coffey  
Decatur  
Doniphan  
Douglas  
Franklin  
Geary  
Graham  
Jackson  
Jefferson  
Jewell  
Johnson  
Linn  
Lyon  
Marshall  
Miami  
Morris  
Nemaha  
Norton  
Osage  
Phillips  
Pottawatomie  
Republic  
Riley  
Shawnee  
Smith  
Wabaunsee  
Washington  
Minnesota:  
Blue Earth  
Brown  
Chippewa  
Cottonwood  
Faribault  
Jackson  
Lac qui Parle  
Le Sueur  
Lyon  
Martin  
Murray  
Nobles  
Pipestone  
Redwood  
Renville  
Rock  
Watonswan  
Yellow Medicine  
Missouri:  
Andrew  
Atchison  
Bates  
Benton

Missouri—Contd.

Cedar  
Clinton  
De Kalb  
Gentry  
Henry  
Hickory  
Holt  
Nodaway  
Pettis  
Ray  
St. Clair  
Saline  
Worth  
Nebraska:  
Adams  
Antelope  
Boone  
Boyd  
Buffalo  
Burt  
Butler  
Cass  
Cedar  
Chase  
Clay  
Colfax  
Cuming  
Custer  
Dakota  
Dawson  
Dixon  
Dodge  
Dundy  
Fillmore  
Franklin  
Frontier  
Furnas  
Gage  
Gosper  
Greeley  
Hall  
Hamilton  
Harlan  
Hayes  
Hitchcock  
Howard  
Jefferson  
Johnson  
Kearney  
Knox  
Lancaster  
Lincoln  
Madison  
Merrick  
Nance  
Nemaha  
Nuckolls  
Otoe  
Pawnee  
Phelps  
Pierce  
Platte  
Polk  
Redwillow  
Richardson  
Saline  
Sarpy

## Nebraska—Contd.

Saunders  
Seward  
Sherman  
Stanton  
Thayer  
Thurston  
Valley  
Washington  
Wayne  
Webster  
York

## Ohio:

Auglaize  
Butler  
Champaign  
Clark  
Clinton  
Darke  
Fayette

## Ohio—Contd.

Greene  
Hancock  
Henry  
Logan  
Madison  
Marion  
Miami  
Montgomery  
Paulding  
Pickaway  
Preble  
Putnam  
Ross  
Van Wert  
Warren  
Wood

## South Dakota:

Bon Homme  
Brookings

## South Dakota—Contd.

Brule  
Charles Mix  
Clay  
Davison  
Douglas  
Gregory  
Hanson  
Hutchinson  
Kingsbury  
Lake  
Lincoln  
McCook  
Miner  
Minnehaha  
Moody  
Sanborn  
Turner  
Union  
Yankton

## Spring Wheat Area

## Montana:

Cascade  
Chouteau  
Daniels  
Dawson  
Fallon  
Fergus  
Hill  
Judith Basin  
Pondera  
Prairie  
Richland  
Roosevelt  
Sheridan  
Stillwater  
Teton  
Valley  
Wibaux

## North Dakota:

Adams  
Barnes  
Benson  
Billings

## North Dakota—Contd.

Bottineau  
Burke  
Burleigh  
Cavalier  
Divide  
Dunn  
Eddy  
Emmons  
Foster  
Golden Valley  
Grant  
Hettinger  
Logan  
McHenry  
McIntosh  
McKenzie  
McLean  
Mercer  
Morton  
Mountrail  
Nelson  
Oliver

## North Dakota—Contd.

Pierce  
Ramsey  
Renville  
Rolette  
Sheridan  
Sioux  
Slope  
Stark  
Stutsman  
Towner  
Wahkiakum  
Ward  
Wells  
Williams

## South Dakota:

Brown  
Campbell  
Corson  
Edmunds  
McPherson  
Spink  
Walworth

## Winter Wheat Area

## Colorado:

Sedgwick

## Kansas:

Barber  
Barton  
Clark  
Comanche  
Dickinson  
Edwards  
Ellis  
Ellsworth  
Ford  
Gove  
Grant  
Gray  
Harper  
Harvey  
Haskell  
Hodgeman  
Kingman

## Kansas—Contd.

Kiowa  
Lane  
Lincoln  
McPherson  
Marion  
Meade  
Mitchell  
Ness  
Osborne  
Ottawa  
Pawnee  
Pratt  
Rawlins  
Reno  
Rice  
Rooks  
Rush  
Russell  
Saline

## Kansas—Contd.

Sedgwick  
Seward  
Sheridan  
Stafford  
Stanton  
Stevens  
Sumner  
Thomas  
Trego

## Nebraska:

Banner  
Cheyenne  
Deuel  
Kimball  
Perkins

## Oklahoma:

Alfalfa  
Beaver  
Blaine

Oklahoma—Contd.

Canadian  
Cimarron  
Custer  
Dewey  
Ellis  
Garfield  
Grant  
Harper  
Kay

Oklahoma—Contd.

Kingfisher  
Major  
Noble  
Texas  
Woods  
Woodward  
Texas:  
Armstrong  
Carson

Texas—Contd.

Castro  
Floyd  
Gray  
Hale  
Hansford  
Lipscomb  
Ochiltree  
Swisher

Ranching Area

Colorado:

Archuleta  
Costilla  
Custer  
Dolores  
Eagle  
Garfield  
Grand  
Gunnison  
Hinsdale  
Huerfano  
Jackson  
Larimer  
Las Animas  
Moffat  
Montezuma  
Ouray  
Park  
Rio Blanco  
Routt  
Saguache  
San Miguel

Montana:

Beaverhead  
Big Horn  
Broadwater  
Carter  
Custer  
Garfield  
Glacier  
Golden Valley  
Granite  
Jefferson  
Lewis and Clark  
Madison  
Meagher  
Musselshell  
Park  
Powder River  
Powell  
Rosebud  
Sanders  
Sweet Grass  
Wheatland

Oregon:

Baker  
Crook  
Grant  
Harney  
Jefferson  
Klamath  
Lake  
Malheur  
Wallowa  
Wheeler

Utah:

Daggett  
Garfield  
Grand  
Iron  
Kane  
Morgan  
Piute  
Rich  
Summit  
Tooele  
Wasatch  
Washington

LIST B.—SAMPLE COUNTIES REPRESENTING NINE AGRICULTURAL AREAS

Eastern Cotton Area

Alabama:

Bullock  
Calhoun  
Conecuh  
Winston

Arkansas:

Calhoun  
Craighead  
Pike

Georgia:

Chattooga  
Dodge  
Heard  
Jenkins  
McDuffie

Georgia—Contd.

Madison  
Mitchell  
Pike  
Webster

Louisiana:

Concordia  
Morehouse  
Natchitoches  
Webster

Mississippi:

Lawrence  
Tippah  
Washington  
Winston

Missouri:

Pemiscot

North Carolina:

Cabarrus  
Sampson

South Carolina:

Allendale  
Calhoun  
Fairfield  
Pickens

Tennessee:

Henderson

Western Cotton Area

Oklahoma:

Jackson  
Lincoln  
Texas:  
Bastrop  
Cass

Texas—Contd.

Collin  
Houston  
Karnes  
McLennan  
Montgomery

Texas—Contd.

Shelby  
Terry  
Wilbarger

**Appalachian-Ozark Area**

Arkansas:  
Madison  
Georgia:  
Lumpkin  
Illinois:  
Franklin  
Kentucky:  
Johnson  
Knox  
Lee  
Muhlenberg

Missouri:  
Shannon  
North Carolina:  
Jackson  
Wilkes  
Tennessee:  
Cocke  
White  
Williamson

Virginia:  
Bedford  
Lee  
Page  
West Virginia:  
Boone  
Marion  
Nicholas  
Pendleton

**Lake States Cut-Over Area**

Michigan:  
Gogebic  
Oscoda  
Schoolcraft

Minnesota:  
Pine

Wisconsin:  
Forest  
Sawyer

**Hay and Dairy Area**

Michigan:  
Sanilac  
Minnesota:  
Benton  
Olmsted  
Otter Tail  
New York:  
Broome  
Livingston

New York—Contd.  
Oneida  
Washington  
Ohio:  
Geauga  
Stark

Pennsylvania:  
Bradford  
Wayne  
Wyoming  
Wisconsin:  
Chippewa  
Sauk  
Walworth

**Corn Belt**

Illinois:  
Scott  
Whiteside  
Woodford  
Indiana:  
Fountain  
Hancock  
Morgan  
Shelby  
Iowa:  
Black Hawk  
Calhoun  
Guthrie

Iowa—Contd.  
Ida  
Mahaska  
Marshall  
Page  
Washington  
Kansas:  
Smith  
Wabaunsee  
Missouri:  
Hickory  
Ray

Nebraska:  
Hall  
Hitchcock  
Johnson  
Pierce  
Ohio:  
Clinton  
Putnam  
South Dakota:  
Brookings  
Hutchinson

**Spring Wheat Area**

Montana:  
Chouteau  
North Dakota:  
Burke

North Dakota—Contd.  
Emmons  
Hettinger  
Ramsey

South Dakota:  
Corson  
Edmunds

**Winter Wheat Area**

Colorado:  
Sedgwick  
Kansas:  
Pawnee

Kansas—Contd.  
Saline  
Oklahoma:  
Harper

Oklahoma—Contd.  
Kingfisher  
Texas:  
Carson

**Ranching Area**

Colorado:  
Archuleta  
Garfield  
Routt  
Montana:  
Garfield

Montana—Contd.  
Granite  
Madison  
Meagher  
Oregon:  
Baker

Oregon—Contd.  
Crook  
Utah:  
Garfield  
Grand  
Piute



LIST C.—SAMPLE COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIPS REPRESENTING 34 STATES

<b>Alabama:</b>	<b>Connecticut—Contd.</b>	<b>Iowa—Contd.</b>
Calhoun	Litchfield County—Con.	Emmet
Conecuh	Goshen	Guthrie
Dale	Harwinton	Ida
Dallas	Kent	Mahaska
Marshall	Middlesex County:	Marshall
Shelby	Durham	Monona
Winston	East Haddam	Washington
<b>Arizona:</b> <sup>1</sup>	Essex	<b>Kansas:</b>
Cochise	Middlefield	Barber
Graham	New Haven County:	Ford
Pinal	Beacon Falls	Gove
Yavapai	Cheshire	Greenwood
<b>Arkansas:</b>	Madison	Hamilton
Calhoun	Orange	Jefferson
Craighead	Oxford	Neosho
Grant	Prospect	Pawnee
Madison	Southbury	Russell
Marion	New London County:	Saline
Miller	East Lyme	Seward
Phillips	Lebanon	Smith
Pike	Montville	Wabaunsee
Prairie	Preston	<b>Kentucky:</b>
Yell	Voluntown	Boone
<b>California:</b>	Tolland County:	Hickman
Glenn	Coventry	Johnson
Humboldt	Hebron	Knox
Kings	Somers	Larue
Lake	Tolland	Lee
Lassen	Windham County:	Mercer
Madera	Ashford	Metcalfe
Mono	Canterbury	Rowan
Monterey	Pomfret	Scott
San Bernardino	Woodstock	Todd
San Joaquin	<b>Florida:</b>	Webster
Ventura	Bradford	<b>Louisiana:</b>
Yuba	Broward	Acadia
<b>Colorado:</b>	Jefferson	Concordia
Alamosa	Lee	Morehouse
Archuleta	Polk	Natchitoches
Garfield	Washington	Plaquemines
Kiowa	<b>Georgia:</b>	Pointe Coupee
Kit Carson	Chattooga	Tangipahoa
Routt	Dodge	Terrebonne
Sedgwick	Greene	Vernon
Teller	Heard	Webster
<b>Connecticut:</b>	Jenkins	<b>Massachusetts:</b>
Fairfield County:	Jones	Barnstable County:
Easton	Lumpkin	Dennis
Monroe	McDuffie	Eastham
New Fairfield	McIntosh	Mashpee
Wilton	Madison	<b>Berkshire County:</b>
<b>Hartford County:</b>	Mitchell	Alford
Burlington	Murray	Cheshire
Granby	Muscogee	Florida
Rocky Hill	Pike	Richmond
Simsbury	Tattnall	Sheffield
South Windsor	Ware	<b>Bristol County:</b>
Suffield	Webster	Freetown
<b>Litchfield County:</b>	<b>Iowa:</b>	Rehoboth
Barkhamsted	Appanoose	Westport
Bethlehem	Black Hawk	
Canaan	Calhoun	

<sup>1</sup> In survey during October, November, and December 1935 only.

**Massachusetts—Contd.****Dukes County:**

Gay Head  
Oak Bluffs

**Essex County:**

Essex  
Georgetown  
Middleton  
Salisbury

**Franklin County:**

Buckland  
Colrain  
Shutesbury  
Warwick  
Whately

**Hampden County:**

Chester  
Monson  
Tolland

**Hampshire County:**

Belchertown  
Cummington  
Southampton

**Middlesex County:**

Ashland  
Carlisle  
Littleton  
Stow  
Townsend

**Norfolk County:**

Avon  
Wrentham

**Plymouth County:**

Duxbury  
Plympton  
Scituate

**Worcester County:**

Boylston  
Charlton  
Hubbardston  
Millville  
New Braintree

**Michigan:**

Barry  
Berrien  
Gogebic  
Kalkaska  
Leelanau  
Mecosta  
Monroe  
Oscoda  
Presque Isle  
Sanilac  
Schoolcraft

**Minnesota:**

Benton  
Big Stone  
Hubbard  
Kittson  
Olmsted  
Otter Tail  
Pennington  
Pine  
Pope  
Redwood

**Minnesota—Contd.**

Rock  
St. Louis  
Scott

**Missouri:**

Adair  
Douglas  
Franklin  
Hickory  
Holt  
Johnson  
Miller  
Newton  
Pemiscot  
Ralls  
Ray  
Shannon

**Montana:**

Chouteau  
Daniels  
Garfield  
Granite  
Lake  
Madison  
Meagher  
Prairie

**Nebraska:**

Box Butte  
Hall  
Hitchcock  
Johnson  
Morrill  
Pierce  
Richardson  
Sheridan  
Thayer

**New Hampshire: \***

Belknap County:  
Gilmanton

**Carroll County:**

Eaton  
Tamworth

**Cheshire County:**

Alstead  
Chesterfield  
Troy

**Coos County:**

Dummer  
Northumberland  
Pittsburg

**Grafton County:**

Dorchester  
Enfield  
Franconia  
Haverhill  
Hebron  
Holderness  
Thornton

**Hillsborough County:**

Deering  
Greenville  
Hudson  
Milford  
Peterborough

**New Hampshire—Contd.****Merrimack County:**

Bow  
Canterbury  
Warner

**Rockingham County:**

Fremont  
Newington  
Newton  
North Hampton  
Nottingham

**Strafford County:**

Milton  
Strafford

**Sullivan County:**

Charlestown  
Springfield

**New York:**

Broome  
Livingston  
Oneida  
Schuyler  
Washington

**North Carolina:**

Alamance  
Cabarrus  
Caldwell  
Chowan  
Franklin  
Gates  
Harnett  
Jackson  
Onslow  
Pasquotank  
Perquimans  
Stokes

**North Dakota:**

Burke  
Emmons  
Hettinger  
McHenry  
McKenzie  
Ramsey  
Richland  
Stutsman

**Ohio:**

Athens  
Brown  
Clinton  
Geauga  
Hardin  
Monroe  
Muskingum  
Ottawa  
Putnam  
Seneca

**Oklahoma:**

Carter  
Custer  
Harper  
Hughes  
Jackson  
Kingfisher  
Lincoln  
Pushmataha  
Rogers

\* In survey during June 1935 only.

<b>Oregon:</b>	<b>Texas:</b>	<b>Virginia:</b>
Baker	Bastrop	Alleghany
Clatsop	Bosque	Bedford
Crook	Brewster	Charles City
Josephine	Burleson	King William
Morrow	Carson	Lee
Polk	Cass	Mathews
<b>South Carolina:</b>	Collin	Mecklenburg
Allendale	Colorado	Page
Calhoun	Fisher	Powhatan
Colleton	Floyd	Pulaski
Fairfield	Freestone	Southampton
Georgetown	Frio	Stafford
Lee	Hansford	Westmoreland
Newberry	Houston	<b>Washington:</b>
Pickens	Karnes	Adams
<b>South Dakota:</b>	Lamb	Benton
Brookings	McLennan	Chelan
Corson	Montgomery	Cowlitz
Custer	Palo Pinto	Jefferson
Edmunds	San Saba	Stevens
Grant	Shelby	<b>West Virginia:</b>
Hand	Starr	Boone
Hutchinson	Sutton	Marion
Jackson	Terry	Nicholas
Meade	Upshur	Pendleton
<b>Tennessee:</b>	Upton	<b>Wisconsin:</b>
Anderson	Webb	Calumet
Cocke	Wilbarger	Chippewa
Fayette	<b>Utah:</b>	Crawford
Franklin	Box Elder	Forest
Hawkins	Garfield	La Crosse
Henderson	Grand	Portage
Stewart	Piute	Sauk
White	Sevier	Sawyer
Williamson	Weber	Walworth

**LIST D.—STATES SAMPLED, BY REGIONS**

<b>Northern States:</b>	<b>Southern States:</b>	<b>Western States:</b>
Iowa	Alabama	Arizona (October 1935 only)
Kansas	Arkansas	California
Michigan	Florida	Colorado
Minnesota	Georgia	Montana
Missouri	Kentucky	Oregon
Nebraska	Louisiana	Utah
New York	North Carolina	Washington
North Dakota	Oklahoma	<b>New England States:</b>
Ohio	South Carolina	Connecticut
South Dakota	Tennessee	Massachusetts
Wisconsin	Texas	New Hampshire (June 1935 only)
	Virginia	
	West Virginia	

# SCHEDULE A

## SURVEY OF THE RURAL RELIEF SITUATION—RURAL HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING RELIEF OR REHABILITATION ADVANCES IN OCTOBER 1934

F. E. R. A. FORM DRS-77A

SCHEDULE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FILLED BY \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE \_\_\_\_\_

LINE NUMBER	CASE NUMBER	NAME OF HEAD OF CASE	SEX OF HEAD OF RELIEF CASE		NUMBER OF PERSONS IN RELIEF CASE		PERSONS 16-64 YEARS OF AGE				USUAL OCCUPATION OF HEAD				KIND OF RELIEF RECEIVED IN OCTOBER			VALUE OF RELIEF RECEIVED IN OCTOBER (Exclusive of Rehabilitation Advances)	VALUE OF REHABILITATION ADVANCES RECEIVED IN OCTOBER	RECEIVED RELIEF DURING					EXPECTED TO BE ON RELIEF IN FEBRUARY 1935	WAS RELIEF CASE ON RURAL REHABILITATION IN OCTOBER		FAMILY IN BROOKLYN	
			MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE	NONE	NO PERSON EMPLOYED OR SEEKING WORK	ONE OR MORE PERSONS EMPLOYED OR SEEKING WORK	ONE OR MORE MALES	ONE OR MORE FEMALES	ONE OR MORE MALES	ONE OR MORE FEMALES	OWNER	TENANT OR CROPPER	UNEMPLOYED LABORER	NO USUAL OCCUPATION			ALL OTHERS	WORK RELIEF ONLY	DIRECT RELIEF ONLY	DIRECT AND WORK	MAY		JUNE	JULY		AUGUST
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1																													
2																													
3																													
20																													
TOTAL			A..	B..																									

SCHEDULE B

F. E. R. A. FORM DRS-77B

COUNTY.....

DATE.....

STATE.....

FILLED BY.....

SURVEY OF THE RURAL RELIEF SITUATION

*Rural Rehabilitation Schedule*

I. CASES RECEIVING ADVANCES UNDER THE RURAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM.

1. MONTH AND YEAR FIRST CASE WAS PLACED ON ROLLS.....
2. NUMBER OF NEW CASES ENROLLED:

a. BEFORE JULY 1, 1934.....	.....
b. DURING JULY.....	.....
c. DURING AUGUST.....	.....
d. DURING SEPTEMBER.....	.....
e. DURING OCTOBER.....	.....
f. TOTAL NEW CASES.....	.....

3. TOTAL CASES REMAINING ON ROLLS OCTOBER 31, 1934.....
4. TOTAL CASES DROPPED FROM ROLLS..... (2f) MINUS (3)
  - a. BECAUSE NO FURTHER AID NECESSARY.....
  - b. FOR NONFULFILLMENT OF CONTRACT.....
  - c. FOR OTHER REASONS (SPECIFY UNDER REMARKS).....

5. NUMBER OF CASES RETURNED FROM REHABILITATION TO RELIEF THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 1934.....

II. NUMBER OF CASES EXPECTED TO BE ON RURAL REHABILITATION ROLLS IN FEBRUARY 1935.....

1. CASES TO BE CARRIED OVER FROM OCTOBER.....
2. NEW CASES TO BE ADDED AFTER OCTOBER 31.....

F. E. R. A. FORM DRG-109

A. FOR NEW CASES	B. FOR CLOSED CASES
DATE OF FIRST RELIEF ORDER	DATE OF LAST RELIEF ORDER

C. FOR REOPENED RELIEF CASES	
DATE OF FIRST RELIEF ORDER IN PRESENT RELIEF PERIOD	DATE OF LAST RELIEF ORDER IN PREVIOUS RELIEF PERIOD

D. FOR REHABILITATION CASES		
DATE OF TRANSFER FROM RELIEF	DATE OF OPENING	DATE OF CLOSING

## SCHEDULE C

### FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

HARRY L. HOPKINS, ADMINISTRATOR

DIVISION OF RESEARCH, STATISTICS, AND FINANCE

CORRINGTON GILL, DIRECTOR

### SURVEY OF CURRENT CHANGES IN THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION

AGENCY..... COUNTY..... STATE.....

NAME OF CLIENT.....

ADDRESS..... CASE No.....

E. COLOR OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD— CHECK ONE (X)		
WHITE ( )	NEGRO ( )	OTHER ( )
IF "OTHER" SPECIFY.		

F. ACRES IN FARM OR HOMESTEAD		
USUAL	AT TIME OF OPENING	AT TIME OF CLOSING

G. RESIDENCE—CHECK ONE (X)		
OPEN COUNTRY ( )	VILLAGE 50-2499 ( )	TOWN 2500-6999 ( )

H. YEAR LAST MOVED TO THIS COUNTY

I. IF 1990 OR AFTER: COUNTY OR STATE FROM WHICH MOVED	
COUNTY	STATE

J. RECEIVED RELIEF DURING—CHECK (X)		
1922 ( )	1933 ( )	1984 ( )

# X. PERSONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL DATA

ALL PERSONS IN RELIEF CASE						PERSONS 16-64 YEARS OF AGE WORKING OR SEEKING WORK													
LINE NO.	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	SEX	YEAR OF BIRTH	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	WORKING OR SEEKING WORK: YES/NO	CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS					LAST EMPLOYMENT AT USUAL OCCUPATION					ALTERNATE OCCUPATION			
						OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	WEEKLY EARNINGS	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	DATE LAST NONRELIEF JOB ENDED	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	MONTH AND YEAR ENDED	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY
1	2	3	4	A	5	6	7	B	8	C	9	D	10	11	E	12	F	13	14
1	HEAD																		
2																			
3																			
4																			
5																			
6																			
7																			
8																			
9						L. REASON FOR OPENING OR REOPENING—CHECK ONE (X)					M. REASON FOR CLOSING—CHECK ONE (X) CHECK FOR CLOSED OR REOPENED CASES					N. IF THE CASE WAS CLOSED FOR REASONS 1 OR 2 GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD INVOLVED			
10						1 ( )					1 ( )								
11						2 ( ) LOSS OF JOB IN ORDINARY EMPLOYMENT.					2 ( ) SECURED ORDINARY EMPLOYMENT.					LINE NUMBER SHOWN IN K 1	OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS
12						3 ( ) LOSS OR DEPLETION OF ASSETS.					3 ( ) CROP MARKETING OR INCREASED CROP PRICES.								
13						4 ( ) CROP FAILURE OR LOSS OF LIVESTOCK.					4 ( ) TRANSFER TO OTHER AGENCY.								
14						5 ( ) OTHER—SPECIFY.					5 ( ) OTHER—SPECIFY.								

# SCHEDULE C—Continued

O. IF HEAD WAS ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE SINCE AGE 16												
YEARS ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE				LAST TENURE STATUS								
1-3	4-6	7-9	10 OR MORE	OWNER OR MAN-AGER	CROP- PER	RENT- ER	LA- BORER	N. A.	ACRES OPER- ATED	PRINCIPAL PRODUCT	DATE ENDED	REASON FOR ENDING

P. IF CASE IS ON REHABILITATION ROLLS											
MONTH AND YEAR	DATE EN- ROLLED	TOTAL COM- MIT- MENT	YEAR OF LAST REPAY- MENT	ADVANCES TO DATE			REPAY- MENTS TO DATE	BAL- ANCE DUE	METHOD OF REPAYMENT—CHECK (X)		
				TOTAL	REHA- BILITA- TION GOODS	SUB- SIST- ENCE GOODS			EMPLOYMENT ON—		
									SELF- LIQUIDATING PROJECT	WORK DIVISION PROJECT	OTHER
FEB. 1935				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			

Q. IF CASE RECEIVED RELIEF				PROPOSED FOR REHABILI- TATION YES/NO
AMOUNT OF RELIEF RECEIVED				
MONTH AND YEAR	WORK RELIEF	DIRECT RELIEF	BOTH WORK AND DIRECT RELIEF	
FEB. 1935				

DATE..... FILLED BY.....

DATE..... EDITED BY.....



**A. MONTH OF SURVEY**

**B. REASON FOR OPENING OR REOPENING: CHECK ONE (X).**

**1. LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT (WITHIN FOUR MONTHS).**

- A. ☐ WORKS PROGRAM.  
 B. ☐ PRIVATE OR REGULAR GOVERNMENT.  
 C. ☐ OWN ACCOUNT.  
 D. ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).  
 2. ☐ LOSS OR DEPLETION OF ASSETS.  
 3. ☐ DECREASED EARNINGS FROM CURRENT EMPLOYMENT.  
 4. ☐ LOSS OF RESETTLEMENT STATUS.  
 5. ☐ CROP FAILURE OR LOSS OF LIVESTOCK.  
 6. ☐ INCREASED NEEDS (SPECIFY BELOW).  
 7. ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).

IF 1D, 6, OR 7 IS CHECKED—SPECIFY.

**C. EMERGENCY RELIEF AND EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

PERIOD	DATE OF FIRST ASSISTANCE	PRO-GRAM	DATE OF LAST ASSISTANCE
FIRST.....	.....	.....	.....
SECOND.....	.....	.....	.....
THIRD.....	.....	.....	.....
FOURTH.....	.....	.....	.....
FIFTH.....	.....	.....	.....

**D. RESIDENCE—CHECK ONE (X)**

TIME	OPEN COUN-TRY	VIL-LAGE 80-2499	TOWN 2500-4999
JUNE 1935.....	( )	( )	( )
MONTH OF SURVEY.....	( )	( )	( )

**SCHEDULE D**

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION**

HARRY L. HOPKINS, ADMINISTRATOR

DIVISION OF RESEARCH, STATISTICS, AND FINANCE

CORNINGTON GILL, DIRECTOR

**SURVEY OF CURRENT CHANGES IN THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION**

AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF CLIENT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

<b>E. YEAR LAST MOVED TO THIS COUNTY</b>		<b>F. COLOR OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD—CHECK ONE (X)</b>	
IF 1930 OR AFTER: COUNTY AND STATE FROM WHICH MOVED		WHITE	NEGRO
COUNTY	STATE	( )	( )
		OTHER (SPECIFY)	

<b>G. IF CASE RECEIVED RELIEF</b>			<b>REFERRED TO RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION</b>	
AMOUNT OF RELIEF RECEIVED			YES	NO
WORK RELIEF	DIRECT RELIEF	BOTH WORK AND DIRECT RELIEF		
\$	\$	\$		

**H. KIND OF CASE—CHECK ONE (X). NEW ( ) REOPENED ( ) CLOSED ( )**

**I. REASON FOR CLOSING—CHECK ONE (X).**

**1. EMPLOYMENT SECURED.**

- A. ☐ WORKS PROGRAM.  
 B. ☐ PRIVATE OR REGULAR GOVERNMENT.  
 C. ☐ OWN ACCOUNT.  
 D. ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).  
 2. ☐ INCREASED EARNINGS FROM CURRENT EMPLOYMENT.  
 3. ☐ CROPS MARKETING OR INCREASED CROP PRICES.  
 4. ☐ LOANS (SPECIFY SOURCE BELOW).  
 5. ☐ GOVERNMENT BENEFIT (SPECIFY BELOW).  
 6. ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY:  
 A. ☐ RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.  
 B. ☐ LOCAL AGENCY (SPECIFY BELOW).  
 C. ☐ LANDLORD.  
 D. ☐ RELATIVES OR FRIENDS.  
 E. ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).  
 7. ☐ ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY.  
 8. ☐ CLIENT MOVED OR FAILED TO REPORT.  
 9. ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).

IF 1D, 4, 5, 6B, 6E, OR 9 IS CHECKED—SPECIFY.

**K. IF THE CASE WAS CLOSED FOR REASON 1, A TO D, SECTION I, GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD INVOLVED**

LINE NUMBER SHOWN IN SECTION L, COLUMN 1	OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS	HOURS WORKED
			\$	

# SCHEDULE D—Continued

L. PERSONAL DATA									OCCUPATIONAL DATA									
ALL PERSONS IN RELIEF CASE									ALL PERSONS 16-64 YEARS OF AGE WORKING OR SEEKING WORK									
LINE NO.	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	SEX	YEAR OF BIRTH	CODE (LEAVE BLANK)	MARITAL STATUS	EDUCATION				PRESENT STATUS: ENTER YES, NO, N. A.		CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: IF UNEMPLOYED LAST EMPLOYMENT		IF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED		IF UNEMPLOYED DATE LAST NONE RELIEF JOB ENDED	USUAL OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY	
						IN SCHOOL (CHECK)	LAST GRADE COMPLETED		WORKING	SEEKING WORK	OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS	HOURS WORKED	OCCUPATION		INDUSTRY	
1	2	3	4	4A	5	6	7	8								9		10
1	HEAD																	
2																		
3																		
4																		
5																		
6																		
7																		
8																		
9																		
10																		
11																		
12																		
13																		
14																		
15																		

M. IF HEAD WAS ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE DURING LAST 10 YEARS										FILLED BY _____ DATE _____	
YEARS ENGAGED			LAST STATUS							EDITED BY _____ DATE _____	
1-3	4-6	7-10	OWNER OR MAN-AGER	CROP-PER	TEN-ANT	LA-BOR-ER	N. A.	ACRES OPER-ATED	DATE ENDED		

## SCHEDULE E

## WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

HARRY L. HOPKINS, ADMINISTRATOR

CORRINGTON GILL  
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORHOWARD B. MYERS, DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF SOCIAL RESEARCHSURVEY OF RURAL HOUSEHOLDS THAT RECEIVED RELIEF  
IN JUNE AND WERE CLOSED PRIOR TO DEC. 1, 1935

## E. IDENTIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLD

NAME OF CLIENT..... CASE NO.....

RESIDENCE: STATE.....

COUNTY.....

VILLAGE OR TOWN..... IN JUNE SAMPLE  
YES ( ) NO ( )

NAME OF FIELD AGENT..... DATE OF  
INTERVIEW.....

NAME OF SCHEDULE CLERK..... SCHEDULE NO.....

F. COLOR OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD  
CHECK ONE (X)

WHITE	NEGRO	OTHER (SPECIFY)
( )	( )	

## H. RESIDENCE—CHECK TWO (X)

TIME	OPEN COUN- TRY	VIL- LAGE (50- 2499)	TOWN (2500- 4999)
JUNE 1935	( )	( )	( )
DEC. 1935	( )	( )	( )

A. REASON FOR CLOSING: RELIEF PERIOD WHICH  
INCLUDED JUNE 1935—CHECK (X)

1. EMPLOYMENT SECURED.
  - A. ( ) WORKS PROGRAM.
  - B. ( ) PRIVATE OR REGULAR GOVERN-  
MENT.
  - C. ( ) OWN ACCOUNT.
  - D. ( ) OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).
2. ( ) INCREASED EARNINGS FROM CURRENT  
EMPLOYMENT.
3. ( ) CROP MARKETING OR INCREASED CROP  
PRICES.
4. ( ) LOANS (SPECIFY SOURCE BELOW).
5. ( ) GOVERNMENT BENEFIT (SPECIFY BE-  
LOW).
6. ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY:
  - A. ( ) RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION.
  - B. ( ) LOCAL AGENCY (SPECIFY BELOW).
  - C. ( ) LANDLORD.
  - D. ( ) RELATIVES OR FRIENDS.
  - E. ( ) OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).
7. ( ) ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY (SPECIFY BE-  
LOW).
8. ( ) CLIENT MOVED OR FAILED TO REPORT.
9. ( ) OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).

IF 1D, 4, 5, 6B, 8E, 7, OR 9 IS CHECKED—SPECIFY.

## B. DATE OF THIS CLOSING

I.

1. REASON FOR REOPENING PRESENT  
RELIEF PERIOD—CHECK  
ONE (X)

1. LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT.
  - A. ( ) WORKS PROGRAM.
  - B. ( ) PRIVATE OR REGULAR  
GOVERNMENT.
  - C. ( ) OWN ACCOUNT.
  - D. ( ) OTHER (SPECIFY BE-  
LOW).
2. ( ) LOSS OR DEPLETION OF  
ASSETS.
3. ( ) DECREASED EARNINGS  
FROM CURRENT EMPLOY-  
MENT.
4. ( ) LOSS OF RESETTLEMENT  
STATUS.
5. ( ) CROP FAILURE OR LOSS OF  
LIVESTOCK.
6. ( ) INCREASED NEEDS (SPECIFY  
BELOW).
7. ( ) OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW).

IF 1D, 6, OR 7 IS CHECKED—SPECIFY.

2. DATE OF FIRST  
ORDER IN THIS  
RELIEF PERIODDATE OF LAST  
ORDER IN  
PREVIOUS RE-  
LIEF PERIOD3. TYPE AND AMOUNT OF RELIEF  
RECEIVED IN DECEMBER

DIRECT RELIEF	WORK RELIEF	DIRECT AND WORK RELIEF

FOR CASES  
REOPENED  
SINCE  
JUNE 1935  
AND RE-  
CEIVING  
EMER-  
GENCY  
UNEM-  
PLOYMENT  
RELIEF  
DURING  
DECEM-  
BER 1935

## SCHEDULE E—Continued

C. IF CASE WAS CLOSED MORE THAN ONCE SINCE JUNE 1935	
MONTH OF CLOSING	REASON FOR CLOSING

D. HOUSEHOLD RECEIVED STATE OR LOCAL RELIEF OR AID DURING DECEMBER 1935: YES ( ) NO ( )			
IF YES IS CHECKED			
TYPE OF RELIEF	RELIEF AGENCY		VALUE
	PUBLIC OR PRIVATE	NAME OF AGENCY	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			\$

G. FAMILY UNDER CARE RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION: YES ( ) NO ( ) IF YES IS CHECKED		
DATE ACCEPTED	ADVANCES TO DATE	
MO. ....	TOTAL .....	\$ .....
DAY .....	CAPITAL GOODS .....	
YR. ....	SUBSISTENCE GOODS .....	
	AMOUNT REPAID .....	

J. YEARS PRIOR TO 1935 AND MONTHS DURING 1935 IN WHICH HOUSEHOLD RECEIVED EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF—CHECK (X)												
1933	1934	1935										
		JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.
( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )

K. IF HEAD WAS ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE DURING PAST 10 YEARS				
LINE NO.	YEARS ENGAGED—CHECK ONE (X)	LAST FARM OCCUPATION		
		DATE ENDED .....		OR IF CURRENT ( )
		STATUS—CHECK ONE (X)		NUMBER OF ACRES OPERATED
(1)	(2)	(3)		(4)
1	1-5 .....	OWNER OR MANAGER ( )	CROP ACRES .....	
2	6-9 .....	TENANT .....	CASH CROP ACRES .....	
3	7-10 .....	CROPPER .....	OTHER ACRES .....	
4		LABORER .....	TOTAL ACRES .....	
5		N. A. ....	TYPE OF CASH CROP .....	

M. IF CASE WAS REOPENED SINCE JUNE 1935	
MONTH OF REOPENING	REASON FOR REOPENING

N. OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME DECEMBER 1935	
SOURCE	AMOUNT
1. RELATIVES AND FRIENDS .....	\$ .....
2. BANK ACCOUNTS, SAVINGS .....	
3. SALE OF PERSONAL BELONGINGS .....	
4. CREDIT ESTABLISHED .....	
5. SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS .....	
A. CROPS .....	
B. LIVESTOCK .....	
C. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS .....	
6. A. A. A. PAYMENTS .....	
7. VETERANS COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS .....	
8. OTHER SOURCES (SPECIFY) .....	

O. PERSONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL DATA																	
LINE NO.	ALL PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD											ALL PERSONS 16-64 YEARS OF AGE				ALL PERSONS 16-64 YEARS OF AGE WORKING OR SEEKING WORK	
	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	IN HOUSEHOLD JUNE 1935 (CHECK)		SEX (M. OR F.)	YEAR OF BIRTH	MARITAL STATUS (M., S., WID., SEP., DIV.)	EDUCATION				PRESENT STATUS (ENTER "YES" OR "NO")				USUAL EMPLOYMENT		
		YES	NO				IN SCHOOL (CHECK)		LAST GRADE COMPLETED	WORKING	SEEKING WORK	CERTIFIED FOR W. P. EMPLOYMENT (IF "NO," ENTER NUMBER SHOWN IN "P")	IF NOT WORKING OR SEEKING WORK, REASON (ENTER NUMBER SHOWN IN "Q")	IF UNEMPLOYED DATE LAST NONRELIEF JOB ENDED			
							YES	NO							GRADE AND HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
1	HEAD																
2																	
3																	
4																	
5																	
6																	
7																	
8																	
9																	
10																	
11																	
12																	
13																	
14																	
15																	

REMARKS:

**P. REASON FOR INELIGIBILITY FOR W. P. EMPLOYMENT**

CODE

1. PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY UNFIT
2. NEEDED AT HOME
3. NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR RELIEF
4. OTHER (SPECIFY)

**Q. REASON FOR NOT WORKING OR SEEKING WORK**

CODE

1. HOUSEWIFE
2. UNPAID HOMEWORKER
3. STUDENT
4. CHRONIC ILLNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY
5. FEEBLE-MINDEDNESS OR INSANITY
6. OTHER (SPECIFY)

**R. REASON FOR ENDING GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT**

CODE

1. SECURED ORDINARY EMPLOYMENT
2. LAID OFF OR PROJECT ENDED
3. INJURED OR ILLNESS
4. DISCHARGED
5. OTHER (SPECIFY)

**SCHEDULE E—Continued**[illegible][illegible]

DRS-162

SCHEDULE F

DIVISION OF SOCIAL RESEARCH, W. P. A.

NUMBER OF CASES AIDED AND AMOUNT OF OBLIGATIONS INCURRED FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ASSISTANCE IN RURAL AND TOWN SAMPLE AREAS

AGENCY.....  
 STATE..... COUNTY.....  
 SIGNATURE OF PERSON REPORTING.....  
 DATE..... REPORT FOR MONTH OF..... 19.....

LINE NO.	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	NUMBER OF CASES AIDED	AMOUNT	LINE NO.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	
1	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (ENTRIES FOR PUBLIC AGENCIES):			1
2	CATEGORICAL OR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE:			2
3	STATUTORY AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN.....		\$.....	3
4	STATUTORY OLD AGE ASSISTANCE.....			4
5	STATUTORY AID TO THE BLIND.....			5
6	STATUTORY VETERAN'S AID.....			6
7	GENERAL ASSISTANCE <sup>1</sup> .....			7
8	OTHER (SPECIFY):			8
	A. ....			
	B. ....			
9	NET UNDUPLICATED TOTAL OF CASES RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.....			9
10	PRIVATE ASSISTANCE (ENTRIES FOR PRIVATE AGENCIES).....			10
11	OTHER ASSISTANCE (ENTRIES FOR COMBINATION PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES).....			11

<sup>1</sup> Additional information concerning general public assistance:

[LINE 7, CONTINUED]

LINE NO.	RESIDENT FAMILIES			UNATTACHED RESIDENT PERSONS		TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS IN CASES RECEIVING GENERAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	LINE NO.
	NUMBER OF FAMILIES	NUMBER OF PERSONS REPRESENTED	AMOUNT	NUMBER OF PERSONS	AMOUNT		
	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
7	.....	.....	\$.....	.....	\$.....	.....	7

REMARKS:

## SURVEY OF CURRENT CHANGES IN THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION

## SCHEDULE H

**SURVEY OF CURRENT CHANGES IN THE RURAL RELIEF POPULATION CONTROL CARD**  
**DRS-109D**

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STATE SUPERVISORS OF RURAL RESEARCH

[Personnel record as of July 1, 1937]

Name	State	Period of cooperation
Allred, C. E.	Tennessee	Jan. 16, 1935, to date.
Anderson, W. A.	New York	Sept. 16, 1934, to July 1, 1935.
Beers, Howard W.	Washington	May 16, 1935, to Sept. 15, 1935.
	Wisconsin	Sept. 16, 1935, to Feb. 1, 1936.
	New Jersey	Feb. 4, 1936, to June 30, 1936.
Boyer, Phillips B.	Tennessee	Nov. 1, 1934, to Jan. 15, 1935.
Brannen, O. O.	Arkansas	Oct. 1, 1934, to date.
Breithaupt, L. R.	Oregon	Jan. 2, 1936, to Dec. 31, 1936.
Burgess, P. S.	Arizona	Oct. 1, 1935, to June 30, 1937.
Coen, B. F.	Colorado	Oct. 1, 1934, to Dec. 31, 1935.
Coffey, W. C.	Minnesota	May 16, 1935, to June 30, 1937.
Dennis, W. V.	Pennsylvania	Oct. 16, 1934, to June 30, 1936.
Duncan, O. D.	Oklahoma	Sept. 16, 1934, to date.
Eastman, M. Gale	New Hampshire	June 1, 1935, to Jan. 31, 1936.
Gabbard, L. P.	Texas	Oct. 1, 1934, to date.
Geddes, Joseph A.	Utah	June 1, 1935, to June 30, 1937.
Gillette, John M.	North Dakota	Nov. 1, 1934, to date.
Hamilton, C. H.	North Carolina	Sept. 16, 1934, to June 30, 1936.
Hill, George W.	Wisconsin	Feb. 1, 1936, to date.
Hill, Randall O.	Kansas	Sept. 16, 1934, to date.
Hoffsommer, H. C.	Alabama	Oct. 1, 1934, to Aug. 31, 1935.
Hummel, B. L.	Virginia	Nov. 1, 1934, to date.
Johansen, Sigurd	New Mexico	July 2, 1936, to date.
Kirkpatrick, E. L.	Wisconsin	Oct. 1, 1934, to Sept. 15, 1935.
Kraenzel, Carl F.	Montana	July 16, 1935, to date.
Kumlien, W. F.	South Dakota	Oct. 1, 1934, to date.
Landis, Paul H.	Washington	Oct. 1, 1935, to date.
Larson, Olaf F.	Colorado	Jan. 2, 1936, to date.
Lively, Charles E.	Ohio	Jan. 1, 1935, to date.
Manny, T. B.	Maryland	Oct. 1, 1935, to date.
Moore, E. H.	Oregon	Nov. 23, 1934, to Sept. 30, 1935.
Morgan, E. L.	Missouri	June 25, 1935, to date.
Mumford, Eben	Michigan	Oct. 1, 1934, to Nov. 30, 1936.
Nelson, Lowry	Utah	Sept. 24, 1934, to Dec. 26, 1934.
Nicholls, W. D.	Kentucky	Sept. 16, 1934, to June 30, 1937.
Peterson, George M.	California	Nov. 1, 1934, to June 15, 1935.
Smith, T. Lynn	Louisiana	Oct. 1, 1934, to date.
Wakeley, Ray E.	Iowa	Sept. 16, 1934, to date.
Whetten, Nathan L.	Connecticut	Oct. 16, 1934, to date.
Williams, B. O.	South Carolina	Mar. 1, 1935, to date.
Zimmerman, Carle C.	Massachusetts	May 16, 1935, to date.

Temporary State Supervisors of Rural Research

Name	State	Name	State
Anderson, T. W.	Georgia.	Johansen, Sigurd	New Mexico.
	Florida.	Lindstrom, D. E.	Illinois.
	Alabama.	Link, Irene L.	West Virginia.
Broderick, Katherine	Indiana.	Lounsbury, Thomas	New York.
Callin, A. E.	Nebraska.	McClure, John H.	Alabama.
Creek, Charles R.	Indiana.	Matthews, M. Taylor	North Carolina.
DeFord, John F.	Nebraska.	Minear, Kenneth	West Virginia.
Durham, W. E.	Mississippi.	Rapp, Robert E.	California.
Facinni, John	West Virginia.	Sneed, Melvin	Missouri.
Galbraith, Charles S.	Florida.	Wilson, Edwin E.	California.



## Appendix C

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### METHOD OF CLASSIFYING RELIEF CASES BY HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

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#### DEFINITION OF RELIEF HOUSEHOLD

**AS USED** here, the term *relief household* is synonymous with the term *relief case*. It consists of one person or of a group of related or unrelated persons who live together and who receive assistance as one unit and are considered as one case by the agency extending the assistance. The relief case may consist of an unattached man or woman living alone or with relatives or friends, of a group of persons bound together by ties of kinship, or of unrelated persons living together as "partners."

The relief household is, for the most part, synonymous with the unit designated as a "private family" by the United States Bureau of the Census. The 1930 Census reported as "private families" all persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption, who lived together as one household, usually sharing the same table. Single persons living alone as well as small groups of unrelated persons living together as "partners" were also considered "families." Those groups having more than 10 boarders or lodgers were designated as boarding or lodging houses rather than as families. Other groupings, such as hotels and institutions, along with boarding houses were called "quasi-family groups."

As a general term, *household* has a broader meaning than does the word *family* as the latter is used by the census. The household includes the family and in addition those boarders, lodgers, servants, and others who are accustomed to living with the family. Very rarely, however, does a rural relief household contain persons related as employer and servant or as landlord and lodger. Generally speaking, the relief household contains only persons related by blood or by marriage and is, therefore, like the "private family" of census parlance.

There are, however, two respects in which the relief household may differ from the *private family*. In the first place a *private family*

may, for administrative reasons, be split into two or more relief households by the agency extending assistance. Such a procedure may, for example, be followed in instances where two or more groups have combined or "doubled up" during depression years. In the second place the agency extending assistance may set off certain members of a particular "family" as in need of assistance while other members are considered undeserving of aid or capable of supporting themselves. Only the needy member or members are included as a relief household or case. For example, an aged couple may receive relief as a unit while living with the family of a self-supporting relative who nevertheless is not considered able to support the aged pair in addition to his other dependents.

The extent to which the relief households or cases included in the present study have been split off from other members of their families or households is not known. The procedure of splitting "families" into two or more cases or into relief and nonrelief personnel varies with local agency practice. In some localities the relief policy is to extend assistance to some member or members of a "family" while other members are considered self-supporting. In other localities assistance is denied any individual so long as any member of his immediate family can be held responsible for his support.

#### METHOD OF CLASSIFYING RELIEF HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE

Rural relief households are not homogeneous units. On the contrary they represent as much diversification of structure as is found in the general population. The majority of rural relief cases consist of husband, wife, and their children living apart from any other persons and forming a relief unit in and of themselves. Others consist of married pairs, parent and child, and unattached individuals either receiving relief as units in themselves or as parts of larger units.

In order to determine the structure of the rural relief household, the following general classification was made of those cases included in the relief samples of June and October 1935.

##### **Relief households consisting of:**

- A. Husband and wife without children
  - Without other persons
  - With one or more other persons
- B. Husband, wife, and children
  - Without other persons
  - With one or more other persons
- C. Father and children
  - Without other persons
  - With one or more other persons

## D. Mother and children

Without other persons

With one or more other persons

## E. Man without wife or children

Without other persons

With one or more other persons

## F. Woman without husband or children

Without other persons

With one or more other persons

A relief household might be classified in any one of a number of ways, depending upon the relationship of the several members to the head of the household. Consider a household composed as follows:

A man

His wife

Their unmarried son

Their unmarried daughter

His sister

His sister's child

His brother

His brother's child

If either the man or his wife were head of the relief household, the case was classified as "husband, wife, and children with others." If the brother and sister and their children had not been present, the case would have been classified as "husband, wife, and children without others." If the man and his wife had been aged, disabled, or if for other reasons the unmarried son were head of the household, the case would have been classified as "man without wife or children with others." Similarly, if the daughter were head, the case was classified as "woman without children with others." If the brother were head, the case was classified as "man and children with others." Finally, if the sister were head, the case was classified as "woman and children with others."

## The Relief Family

The scheme of classification revealed relationships which may be discussed under the term *relief family*. For present purposes the term *family* is given a different meaning than that provided by the United States Bureau of the Census. The *relief family* is a restricted kinship group constituting, or included in, a relief household. This kinship group consists of persons related as husband and wife or as parent and child. Married pairs without children or without children living at home are called families as are groups consisting of a single parent of either sex with one or more children. Children may be own, step, or foster children and may be legitimate or illegitimate.

Membership in the relief family is determined on the basis of marital, parental, and filial relationships. In general family membership is limited to those relatives who live together though members temporarily away from home are included in the family group if they were also included in the relief case.

Relief families, as defined above, may be classified into several groups. From the scheme followed in classifying relief households, four types of families emerge, the husband-wife type, the husband-wife-children type, the father-child type, and the mother-child type. As a matter of convenience, relief families may be classed as *normal* or *broken*. *Normal families* include the husband-wife and the husband-wife-children types. *Broken families* include the mother-child and the father-child types. These families are broken in the sense that the marital bond has been severed by death, divorce, or separation.

#### Nonfamily Types of Relief Households

In instances where the head of the relief household is not a father, a husband, or a wife to another person in the relief unit, the case may be designated as a nonfamily type. Nonfamily relief cases are of two kinds, one-person households consisting of a single individual receiving relief and *nonfamily groups* consisting of cases the head of which is not a parent or a spouse. The term *nonfamily group* is used only for convenience and for lack of a better term. As will readily be seen from the method of classifying households by type, a relief group, although under the headship of a man without a wife or children or of a woman without a husband or children, may nevertheless contain other persons related as husband and wife or as parent and child.

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