



USDL - 8662

FOR RELEASE: 3:30 P.M.

Wednesday, April 10, 1968

U. S. Department of Labor
BLS, 961 - 2634

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: MARCH 1968

Employment gains continued in March and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.6 percent, the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today.

Payroll employment rose 350,000 to a March high of 66.8 million. The increase was 143,000 larger than seasonal, with the bulk of improvement in the service-producing industries.

Unemployment rates moved down to 2.2 percent for adult men and 3.7 percent for adult women, while the teenage rate rose slightly to 13.0 percent. These rates were little changed from March 1967 or from the averages for 1967 as a whole. Since January 1966, the national unemployment rate has moved narrowly in a range from 3.5 to 3.9 percent, with the exception of a sharp but short-lived rise between August and October 1967.

Employment Developments

Total employment reached a record high of 75.8 million in March (seasonally adjusted). An increase of 180,000 in nonagricultural employment was partially offset by a seasonally adjusted decline in agricultural employment. The pickup in nonagricultural employment was concentrated among adult women and teenage boys.

Over the year, nonagricultural employment was up by 1.8 million, while agricultural employment fell by 125,000. The drop in farm employment reflects the continuing decline in farming jobs, which have fallen by 35 percent over the last decade. At the same time nonagricultural employment rose by more than 18 percent.

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The increase in nonfarm payroll employment was concentrated in trade (64,000), State and local government (57,000), and services (27,000). After adjustment for seasonal changes, employment in manufacturing and transportation was virtually unchanged over the month. Increased strike activity in the glass containers industry accounted for a seasonally adjusted decline of 13,000 in the stone, clay and glass industry.

Recent trends illustrate the Nation's continuing employment shift from goods-producing industries (mining, construction and manufacturing) to service-producing industries (transportation, trade, finance, services, and government). From March 1967 to March 1968, State and local government employment rose by 620,000, services by 480,000, trade by 445,000 and finance by 150,000. In contrast, employment in construction rose by 115,000 and manufacturing by only 80,000. Over the past decade, employment in the service-producing industries has risen three times as fast as employment in the goods-producing industries.

Hours and Earnings

The workweek for rank and file workers on private payrolls was unchanged between February and March at 37.7 hours. Their weekly earnings, at \$104.43, were up 38 cents over the month and \$4.87 over the year.

The average workweek of manufacturing production workers was unchanged over the month at 40.7 hours (seasonally adjusted). With the exception of a sharp weather-related dip in January, the seasonally adjusted factory workweek has held comparatively stable since August 1967.

The average weekly earnings of factory production workers, \$120.18, were up by \$7.74 from March 1967. The largest share of the rise was due to higher hourly earnings which were up from \$2.79 to \$2.96 (6.1 percent) over the year.

Unemployment

Unemployed workers numbered 2.9 million in March, about the same as a year earlier. There were 1.2 million adult men, 1.0 million adult women and 70,000 teenagers actively seeking work. About 90 percent of the men, 75 percent of the women, and 50 percent of the teenagers were seeking full time work.

Nonwhite unemployment, at 615,000 accounted for about one-fifth of total unemployment. Their jobless rate, at 6.9 percent seasonally adjusted, continued at more than double the white rate.

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Rates of unemployment continued comparatively high for nonfarm laborers (7.8 percent) and operatives (4.7 percent) and comparatively low for white-collar workers (1.9 percent) and craftsmen (2.6 percent). The jobless rate for workers covered by unemployment insurance was unchanged over the month at 2.3 percent (seasonally adjusted).

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This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted and tabulated by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Statistics on industry employment, hours, and earnings are collected by State agencies from payroll records of employers and are tabulated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A description of the two surveys appears in the BLS publication Employment and Earnings and Monthly Report on the Labor Force.

Table A-1: Employment status of the noninstitutional population by age and sex

(In thousands)

Employment status, age, and sex	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967	Seasonally adjusted				
				Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Dec. 1967	Nov. 1967
Total								
Total labor force	80,938	80,869	78,949	82,150	82,138	81,386	81,942	81,459
Civilian labor force	77,447	77,402	75,513	78,658	78,672	77,923	78,473	77,989
Employed	74,517	74,114	72,560	75,802	75,731	75,167	75,577	75,005
Agriculture	3,537	3,462	3,410	4,014	4,127	4,003	4,216	3,839
Nonagricultural industries	70,980	70,653	69,149	71,788	71,604	71,164	71,361	71,166
On part time for economic reasons	1,670	1,741	1,978	1,743	1,775	1,537	1,807	1,950
Usually work full time	866	942	1,213	851	915	729	944	1,108
Usually work part time	804	799	765	892	860	808	863	842
Unemployed	2,929	3,288	2,954	2,856	2,941	2,756	2,896	2,984
Men, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	45,483	45,514	44,778	45,792	45,909	45,770	45,783	45,578
Employed	44,264	44,123	43,516	44,783	44,842	44,740	44,775	44,506
Agriculture	2,750	2,739	2,672	2,892	2,955	2,931	2,951	2,834
Nonagricultural industries	41,514	41,384	40,844	41,891	41,887	41,809	41,824	41,672
Unemployed	1,219	1,391	1,262	1,009	1,067	1,030	1,008	1,072
Women, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	26,141	26,085	24,999	26,094	26,070	25,810	26,348	26,068
Employed	25,153	24,957	23,955	25,128	25,036	24,802	25,273	25,036
Agriculture	486	441	447	681	690	683	825	625
Nonagricultural industries	24,667	24,516	23,508	24,447	24,346	24,119	24,448	24,411
Unemployed	988	1,127	1,044	966	1,034	1,008	1,075	1,032
Both sexes, 16-19 years								
Civilian labor force	5,823	5,803	5,737	6,772	6,693	6,343	6,342	6,343
Employed	5,100	5,034	5,088	5,891	5,853	5,625	5,529	5,463
Agriculture	301	282	291	441	482	389	440	380
Nonagricultural industries	4,799	4,752	4,798	5,450	5,371	5,236	5,089	5,083
Unemployed	722	769	648	881	840	718	813	880

Table A-2: Unemployed persons 16 years and over by duration of unemployment

(In thousands)

Duration of unemployment	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967	Seasonally adjusted				
				Mr. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Dec. 1967	Nov. 1967
Less than 5 weeks	1,461	1,697	1,408	1,689	1,721	1,360	1,418	1,609
5 to 14 weeks	893	1,076	986	755	776	840	968	930
15 weeks and over	575	515	560	448	455	488	445	485
15 to 26 weeks	370	338	354	268	286	302	259	307
27 weeks and over	206	178	206	180	169	186	186	178

Table A-3: Major unemployment indicators

(Persons 16 years and over)

Selected categories	Thousands of persons unemployed		Seasonally adjusted rates of unemployment					
	Mar. 1968	Mar. 1967	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Dec. 1967	Nov. 1967	Mar. 1967
Total (all civilian workers).....	2,929	2,954	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7
Men, 20 years and over.....	1,219	1,262	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3
Women, 20 years and over.....	988	1,044	3.7	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.1
Both sexes, 16-19 years.....	722	648	13.0	12.6	11.3	12.8	13.9	11.8
White.....	2,314	2,304	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.2
Nonwhite.....	615	650	6.9	7.2	6.4	6.9	7.3	7.4
Married men.....	787	825	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8
Full-time workers.....	2,236	2,300	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.3
Unemployed 15 weeks and over.....	575	560	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6
State insured ¹	1,421	1,524	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.5
Labor force time lost ²	--	--	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1
Occupation								
White-collar workers.....	690	721	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.1
Professional and managerial.....	157	189	.9	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.1
Clerical workers.....	377	367	2.9	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.0
Sales workers.....	156	165	3.2	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.3	3.5
Blue-collar workers.....	1,438	1,382	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.2
Craftsmen and foremen.....	330	303	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.1	2.6	2.4
Operatives.....	767	762	4.7	4.9	4.6	5.0	4.9	4.8
Nonfarm laborers.....	341	317	7.8	7.2	7.8	7.4	7.1	7.3
Service workers.....	414	443	4.0	4.4	4.1	4.8	4.7	4.3
Industry								
Private wage and salary workers ³	2,275	2,285	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.7
Construction.....	382	341	8.0	7.4	8.3	6.1	7.2	7.4
Manufacturing.....	776	799	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.6
Durable goods.....	411	410	3.1	3.4	2.8	3.5	3.2	3.1
Nondurable goods.....	365	389	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.4
Transportation and public utilities.....	77	91	1.6	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.5	1.9
Wholesale and retail trade.....	552	538	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.0
Finance and service industries.....	469	491	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.6	3.5	3.4
Government wage and salary workers.....	198	186	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.8
Agricultural wage and salary workers.....	110	92	6.3	4.3	4.8	5.0	7.8	5.5

¹Insured unemployment under State programs as a percent of average covered employment.²percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.³Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a⁴Includes mining, not shown separately.

Table A-4: Full-and part-time status of the civilian labor force

March 1968

Full- and part-time employment status	Total	Men, 20 and over	Women, 20 and over	Both sexes, 16-19 years
Full Time				
Civilian labor force.....	66,713	43,530	20,531	2,652
Employed:				
Full-time schedules.....	62,567	41,542	18,916	2,108
Part time for economic reasons.....	1,910	884	849	178
Unemployed, looking for full-time work.....	2,236	1,104	766	366
Unemployment rate.....	3.4	2.5	3.7	13.8
Part Time				
Civilian labor force.....	10,733	1,952	5,610	3,170
Employed (voluntary part time).....	10,040	1,838	5,388	2,814
Unemployed, looking for part-time work.....	693	115	223	356
Unemployment rate.....	6.5	5.9	4.0	11.2

Table A-5: Employed persons by age and sex

(In thousands)

Age and sex	Seasonally adjusted							
	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Dec. 1967	Nov. 1967
Total, 16 years and over	74,517	74,114	72,560	75,802	75,731	75,167	75,577	75,005
16 to 19 years	5,100	5,034	5,088	5,891	5,853	5,625	5,529	5,463
16 and 17 years	1,993	1,982	1,991	2,469	2,467	2,319	2,346	2,296
18 and 19 years	3,107	3,052	3,097	3,479	3,389	3,328	3,222	3,167
20 to 24 years	8,464	8,425	8,156	8,653	8,676	8,682	8,720	8,726
25 years and over	60,953	60,655	59,315	61,250	61,203	60,847	61,337	60,835
25 to 54 years	47,345	47,105	46,135	47,615	47,538	47,365	47,544	47,068
55 years and over	13,609	13,550	13,182	13,718	13,715	13,604	13,802	13,731
Males, 16 years and over	47,050	46,825	46,333	48,059	48,056	47,790	47,885	47,553
16 to 19 years	2,785	2,702	2,817	3,276	3,214	3,050	3,110	3,047
16 and 17 years	1,192	1,181	1,202	1,499	1,501	1,414	1,457	1,421
18 and 19 years	1,594	1,522	1,615	1,824	1,735	1,661	1,681	1,634
20 to 24 years	4,613	4,628	4,575	4,791	4,844	4,843	4,826	4,815
25 years and over	39,651	39,495	38,941	40,004	40,000	39,891	39,945	39,723
25 to 54 years	30,864	30,733	30,369	31,123	31,084	31,031	31,015	30,806
55 years and over	8,787	8,762	8,573	8,921	8,931	8,901	8,944	8,913
Females, 16 years and over	27,468	27,289	26,226	27,743	27,675	27,377	27,692	27,452
16 to 19 years	2,315	2,332	2,271	2,615	2,639	2,575	2,419	2,416
16 and 17 years	801	802	789	970	966	905	889	875
18 and 19 years	1,514	1,530	1,482	1,655	1,654	1,667	1,541	1,533
20 to 24 years	3,851	3,797	3,581	3,862	3,832	3,839	3,894	3,911
25 years and over	21,302	21,160	20,374	21,246	21,203	20,956	21,392	21,112
25 to 54 years	16,481	16,373	15,766	16,492	16,454	16,334	16,529	16,262
55 years and over	4,822	4,787	4,609	4,797	4,784	4,703	4,858	4,818

NOTE: Due to the independent seasonal adjustment of several of the series, detail will not necessarily add to totals.

Table A-6: Unemployed persons by age and sex

Age and sex	Thousands		Percent looking for full-time work Mar. 1968	Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968		Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Dec. 1967	Nov. 1967	Mar. 1967
Total, 16 years and over	2,929	3,288	76.3	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7
16 to 19 years	722	769	50.7	13.0	12.6	11.3	12.8	13.9	11.8
16 and 17 years	352	363	27.6	15.2	15.8	13.4	14.7	15.9	13.6
18 and 19 years	370	406	72.7	11.4	10.9	9.9	11.3	11.9	10.6
20 to 24 years	571	651	82.8	6.0	6.4	5.6	5.8	5.5	5.5
25 years and over	1,637	1,868	85.3	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6
25 to 54 years	1,278	1,477	86.9	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.6
55 years and over	357	392	79.8	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Males, 16 years and over	1,619	1,809	78.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.0
16 to 19 years	400	417	43.5	11.8	12.0	11.7	12.0	14.0	10.9
16 and 17 years	222	212	27.9	13.9	13.3	13.1	14.2	15.8	12.4
18 and 19 years	178	205	62.9	9.8	10.6	10.3	10.0	11.6	9.6
20 to 24 years	305	337	88.5	5.4	5.5	4.6	4.8	5.3	4.3
25 years and over	914	1,055	91.2	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1
25 to 54 years	683	800	94.4	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.9	2.0
55 years and over	230	254	82.2	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.4
Females, 16 years and over	1,310	1,479	73.1	4.8	4.9	4.6	5.0	4.9	5.0
16 to 19 years	322	352	59.9	14.5	13.2	10.9	13.9	13.7	13.0
16 and 17 years	130	151	26.9	17.2	19.5	13.8	15.5	15.9	15.5
18 and 19 years	191	201	82.2	13.1	11.3	9.4	12.6	12.1	11.6
20 to 24 years	266	314	76.3	6.7	7.5	6.9	6.9	5.8	6.9
25 years and over	723	813	77.9	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.6
25 to 54 years	595	676	78.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.2	3.9
55 years and over	127	137	75.6	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.7

Table B-1: Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	(In thousands)									
	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Mar. 1967	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Change from Feb. 1968
TOTAL	66,831	66,481	66,107	64,843	350	1,988	67,855	67,712	67,137	143
MINING	585	585	585	607	0	-22	602	602	598	0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,036	2,956	2,826	2,922	80	114	3,442	3,461	3,175	-19
MANUFACTURING	19,345	19,316	19,287	19,263	29	82	19,522	19,525	19,511	-3
<i>Production workers</i>	14,164	14,155	14,127	14,200	9	-36	14,322	14,340	14,325	-18
DURABLE GOODS	11,344	11,332	11,351	11,359	12	-15	11,417	11,422	11,444	-5
<i>Production workers</i>	8,248	8,250	8,265	8,340	-2	-92	8,314	8,330	8,346	-16
Ordnance and accessories	305.9	304.8	305.8	285.3	1.1	20.6	307	305	304	2
Lumber and wood products	583.8	580.4	572.9	577.6	3.4	6.2	609	607	603	2
Furniture and fixtures	463.7	463.4	463.5	455.8	.3	7.9	467	468	468	-1
Stone, clay, and glass products ..	578.3	584.4	617.3	617.7	-6.1	-39.4	597	610	642	-13
Primary metal industries	1,288.0	1,283.2	1,277.6	1,330.9	4.8	-42.9	1,289	1,292	1,291	-3
Fabricated metal products	1,354.7	1,352.3	1,358.2	1,350.2	2.4	4.5	1,369	1,366	1,368	3
Machinery, except electrical	1,971.8	1,961.7	1,963.8	1,994.0	10.1	-22.2	1,962	1,958	1,966	4
Electrical equipment	1,906.3	1,921.8	1,928.2	1,933.4	-15.5	-27.1	1,919	1,926	1,924	-7
Transportation equipment	2,015.2	2,009.1	1,998.9	1,941.2	6.1	74.0	2,005	1,999	1,985	6
Instruments and related products ..	454.4	455.2	455.8	453.8	-.8	.6	456	456	457	0
Miscellaneous manufacturing	421.8	415.6	409.2	419.3	6.2	2.5	437	435	436	2
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,001	7,984	7,936	7,904	17	97	8,105	8,103	8,067	2
<i>Production workers</i>	5,916	5,905	5,862	5,860	11	56	6,008	6,010	5,979	-2
Food and kindred products	1,696.1	1,688.5	1,709.5	1,713.0	7.6	-16.9	1,785	1,778	1,779	7
Tobacco manufactures	79.0	82.7	83.7	77.0	-3.7	2.0	87	86	85	1
Textile mill products	969.0	967.1	952.5	948.1	1.9	20.9	973	976	966	-3
Apparel and other textile products	1,402.3	1,401.0	1,364.0	1,396.3	1.3	6.0	1,389	1,394	1,385	-5
Paper and allied products	686.7	686.1	685.0	676.8	.6	9.9	694	693	691	1
Printing and publishing	1,073.3	1,068.5	1,064.8	1,060.4	4.8	12.9	1,077	1,072	1,070	5
Chemicals and allied products	1,007.6	1,003.7	999.2	980.1	3.9	27.5	1,009	1,012	1,008	-3
Petroleum and coal products	190.5	189.6	188.3	182.8	.9	7.7	194	194	192	0
Rubber and plastics products, n e c	541.3	540.2	535.2	518.4	1.1	22.9	543	542	535	1
Leather and leather products	355.2	357.0	353.6	351.4	-1.8	3.8	354	356	356	-2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,265	4,248	4,234	4,191	17	74	4,321	4,321	4,294	0
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	13,778	13,712	13,728	13,332	66	446	14,111	14,047	13,915	64
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,599	3,599	3,587	3,486	0	113	3,650	3,643	3,609	7
RETAIL TRADE	10,179	10,113	10,141	9,846	66	333	10,461	10,404	10,306	57
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3,307	3,288	3,268	3,157	19	150	3,330	3,321	3,308	9
SERVICES	10,300	10,242	10,151	9,817	58	483	10,436	10,409	10,358	27
Hotels and other lodging places ..	668.3	658.5	643.8	647.0	9.8	21.3	721	714	706	7
Personal services	1,020.4	1,018.9	1,020.2	1,016.2	1.5	4.2	1,031	1,033	1,029	-2
Medical and other health services ..	2,579.7	2,566.6	2,547.6	2,367.1	13.1	212.6	2,585	2,575	2,558	10
Educational services	1,159.9	1,153.8	1,139.3	1,065.4	6.1	94.5	1,118	1,112	1,103	6
GOVERNMENT	12,215	12,134	12,028	11,554	81	661	12,091	12,026	11,978	65
FEDERAL	2,711	2,697	2,697	2,669	14	42	2,727	2,719	2,721	8
STATE AND LOCAL	9,504	9,437	9,331	8,885	67	619	9,364	9,307	9,257	57

NOTE: Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary.

**Table B-2: Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers¹
on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry**

Industry	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Mar. 1967	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Change from Feb. 1968
TOTAL PRIVATE	37.7	37.7	37.5	38.0	0.0	-0.3	37.9	38.0	37.7	-0.1
MINING	41.6	41.2	41.4	41.8	.4	-.2	42.2	41.9	41.6	.3
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	36.3	36.3	35.0	36.8	0	-.5	36.9	38.0	36.0	-1.1
MANUFACTURING	40.6	40.5	40.0	40.3	.1	.3	40.7	40.7	40.2	0
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2	.1	.1	3.4	3.4	3.5	0
DURABLE GOODS	41.3	41.2	40.8	41.0	.1	.3	41.4	41.4	41.0	0
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4	.1	.1	3.6	3.7	3.7	-.1
Ordnance and accessories	41.6	41.9	40.7	41.6	-.3	0	41.9	42.1	40.4	-.2
Lumber and wood products	40.7	40.5	38.3	40.3	.2	.4	41.2	41.2	38.6	0
Furniture and fixtures	40.4	40.4	38.9	39.8	0	.6	40.8	40.9	39.5	-.1
Stone, clay, and glass products	41.2	41.2	40.1	40.9	0	.3	41.8	42.2	40.8	-.4
Primary metal industries	41.9	41.7	41.6	40.9	.2	1.0	41.8	41.7	41.5	.1
Fabricated metal products	41.1	40.9	41.0	41.2	.2	-.1	41.4	41.2	41.4	.2
Machinery, except electrical	42.3	42.2	41.8	43.1	.1	-.8	42.1	42.2	41.8	-.1
Electrical equipment	40.2	40.3	40.0	39.9	-.1	.3	40.3	40.3	40.2	0
Transportation equipment	41.8	41.4	41.9	40.5	.4	1.3	42.1	41.8	41.9	.3
Instruments and related products	40.7	40.8	40.3	41.4	-.1	-.7	40.8	40.8	40.5	0
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.6	39.7	38.8	39.4	-.1	.2	39.4	39.7	39.2	-.3
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.6	39.7	38.9	39.4	-.1	.2	39.7	40.0	39.2	-.3
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	.1	.1	3.3	3.2	3.3	.1
Food and kindred products	39.8	40.0	40.1	40.5	-.2	-.7	40.4	40.7	40.4	-.3
Tobacco manufactures	37.9	38.1	36.7	37.4	-.2	.5	38.7	40.4	37.5	-1.7
Textile mill products	41.3	41.4	39.6	40.2	-.1	1.1	41.3	41.5	39.9	-.2
Apparel and other textile products	36.3	36.5	34.6	35.9	-.2	.4	35.9	36.4	35.1	-.5
Paper and allied products	42.4	42.4	42.2	42.6	0	-.2	42.6	42.8	42.6	-.2
Printing and publishing	38.2	38.0	37.5	38.6	.2	-.4	38.1	38.3	37.8	-.2
Chemicals and allied products	41.7	41.6	41.4	41.6	.1	.1	41.7	41.8	41.7	-.1
Petroleum and coal products	41.3	41.4	42.3	42.4	-.1	-1.1	41.9	42.2	42.9	-.3
Rubber and plastics products, n e c	41.3	41.1	41.1	40.8	.2	.5	41.5	41.5	41.2	0
Leather and leather products	38.6	39.0	38.1	36.9	-.4	1.7	38.7	38.6	37.8	.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	35.7	35.8	35.9	36.3	-.1	-.6	36.0	36.1	36.2	-.1
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.9	39.8	40.0	40.4	.1	-.5	40.0	40.0	40.1	0
RETAIL TRADE	34.3	34.5	34.5	35.0	-.2	-.7	34.6	34.9	34.9	-.3
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	36.7	36.8	37.0	37.1	-.1	-.4	36.6	36.7	37.0	-.1

¹Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in wholesale and retail trade, finance, insurance, and real estate; transportation and public utilities; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls. Transportation and public utilities, and services are included in Total Private but are not shown separately in this table.

NOTE: Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary.

**Table B-3: Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers¹
on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry**

Industry	Average hourly earnings						Average weekly earnings					
	Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Mar. 1967	Change from		Mar. 1968	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1968	Mar. 1967	Change from	
					Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967					Feb. 1968	Mar. 1967
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$2.77	\$2.76	\$2.74	\$2.62	\$0.01	\$0.15	\$104.43	\$104.05	\$102.75	\$99.56	\$0.38	\$4.87
MINING	3.31	3.30	3.32	3.16	.01	.15	137.70	135.96	137.45	132.09	1.74	5.61
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	4.26	4.26	4.33	3.99	0	.27	154.64	154.64	151.55	146.83	0	7.81
MANUFACTURING	2.96	2.95	2.94	2.79	.01	.17	120.18	119.48	117.60	112.44	.70	7.74
DURABLE GOODS	3.14	3.13	3.13	2.96	.01	.18	129.68	128.96	127.70	121.36	.72	8.32
Ordnance and accessories	3.32	3.33	3.33	3.21	-.01	.11	138.11	139.53	135.53	133.54	-1.42	4.57
Lumber and wood products	2.49	2.49	2.46	2.31	0	.18	101.34	100.85	94.22	93.09	.49	8.25
Furniture and fixtures	2.43	2.42	2.40	2.28	.01	.15	98.17	97.77	93.36	90.74	.40	7.43
Stone, clay, and glass products	2.92	2.91	2.91	2.78	.01	.14	120.30	119.89	116.69	113.70	.41	6.60
Primary metal industries	3.48	3.47	3.47	3.31	.01	.17	145.81	144.70	144.35	135.38	1.11	10.43
Fabricated metal products	3.08	3.07	3.08	2.93	.01	.15	126.59	125.56	126.28	120.72	1.03	5.87
Machinery, except electrical	3.32	3.30	3.28	3.16	.02	.16	140.44	139.26	137.10	136.20	1.18	4.24
Electrical equipment	2.89	2.88	2.89	2.73	.01	.16	116.18	116.06	115.60	108.93	.12	7.25
Transportation equipment	3.60	3.60	3.62	3.37	0	.23	150.48	149.04	151.68	136.49	1.44	13.99
Instruments and related products	2.92	2.92	2.91	2.79	0	.13	118.84	119.14	117.27	115.51	-.30	3.33
Miscellaneous manufacturing	2.49	2.49	2.45	2.34	0	.15	98.60	98.85	95.06	92.20	-.25	6.40
NONDURABLE GOODS	2.69	2.68	2.67	2.54	.01	.15	106.52	106.40	103.86	100.08	.12	6.44
Food and kindred products	2.76	2.75	2.74	2.63	.01	.13	109.85	110.00	109.87	106.52	-.15	3.33
Tobacco manufactures	2.48	2.45	2.34	2.34	.03	.14	93.99	93.35	85.88	87.52	.64	6.47
Textile mill products	2.17	2.16	2.14	2.02	.01	.15	89.62	89.42	84.74	81.20	.20	8.42
Apparel and other textile products	2.18	2.18	2.10	2.00	0	.18	79.13	79.57	72.66	71.80	-.44	7.33
Paper and allied products	2.97	2.96	2.96	2.81	.01	.16	125.93	125.50	124.91	119.71	.43	6.22
Printing and publishing	3.42	3.40	3.37	3.24	.02	.18	130.64	129.20	126.38	125.06	1.44	5.58
Chemicals and allied products	3.18	3.18	3.19	3.05	0	.13	132.61	132.29	132.07	126.88	.32	5.73
Petroleum and coal products	3.71	3.70	3.72	3.56	.01	.15	153.22	153.18	157.36	150.94	.04	2.28
Rubber and plastics products, n e c	2.87	2.85	2.86	2.70	.02	.17	118.53	117.14	117.55	110.16	1.39	8.37
Leather and leather products	2.22	2.20	2.15	2.05	.02	.17	85.69	85.80	81.92	75.65	-.11	10.04
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	2.36	2.36	2.33	2.22	0	.14	84.25	84.49	83.65	80.59	-.24	3.66
WHOLESALE TRADE	3.00	3.01	2.97	2.84	-.01	.16	119.70	119.80	118.80	114.74	-.10	4.96
RETAIL TRADE	2.12	2.12	2.09	1.98	0	.14	72.72	73.14	72.11	69.30	-.42	3.42
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	2.74	2.73	2.70	2.57	.01	.17	100.56	100.46	99.90	95.35	.10	5.21

¹See footnote 1, table B-2.

NOTE: Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary.