



USDL -73-75

FOR RELEASE: Transmission Embargo
10:00 A. M. (EST)
Friday, March 9, 1973

Bureau of Labor Statistics
J. E. Bregger (202) 961-2633
K. D. Hoyle (202) 961-2913
home: 333-1384

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: FEBRUARY 1973

Employment increased markedly in February while unemployment remained essentially unchanged, the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The Nation's unemployment rate was 5.1 percent, about the same as in the previous 3 months but down substantially from the year-ago rate of 5.8 percent.

Total employment rose by 570,000 in February to 83.1 million on a seasonally adjusted basis, following a small decline in the previous month. Adult women accounted for nearly two-thirds of this increase. Over the past year, employment has increased by 2.5 million persons.

The number of nonagricultural payroll jobs also advanced strongly, rising by 440,000 in February, seasonally adjusted, to a high of 74.6 million. Large over-the-month gains were recorded in contract construction, manufacturing, and retail trade. In addition, the average workweek of rank-and-file workers increased substantially.

Unemployment

Total joblessness rose about in line with usual January-February movements, and, after seasonal adjustment, the number of unemployed persons remained at 4.4 million. Over the past year, unemployment has declined by 570,000.

Whereas the overall jobless rate was virtually unchanged in February at 5.1 percent, there were offsetting movements in the jobless rates for two major age-sex groups. The rate for adult women declined from 5.3 to 4.9 percent, while the rate for teenagers rose to 15.8 percent--about the same as the November and December rates--following a dip to 14.3 percent in January. The adult male jobless rate was about unchanged at 3.4 percent.

The unemployment rates for most other major labor force categories showed little or no change over the month: married men (2.4 percent), household heads (3.0 percent), white workers (4.6 percent), Negro workers (9.0 percent), full-time workers (4.6 percent), and part-time workers (7.9 percent).

Among the major occupational categories, jobless rates were essentially unchanged except for a rise in the rate for service workers (from 5.5 to 6.1 percent). On an

industry basis, the jobless rate for factory workers moved down from 5.0 to 4.5 percent in February after rising by a similar magnitude in January. This returned the manufacturing rate to the low levels to which it had fallen in late 1972 after being as high as 7 percent during the 1970-71 economic downturn.

The jobless rate for workers covered by State unemployment insurance programs was 2.8 percent in February, compared with 2.9 percent (as revised) in January but substantially below a year ago.

Table A. Highlights of the employment situation (seasonally adjusted data)

Selected categories	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	4th Qtr. 1972	3rd Qtr. 1972	2nd Qtr. 1972	1st Qtr. 1972	4th Qtr. 1971
(Millions of persons)								
Civilian labor force ¹	87.6	86.9	87.3	87.2	86.9	86.4	85.8	85.0
Total employment ¹	83.1	82.6	82.8	82.6	82.0	81.5	80.8	79.9
Adult men	47.4	47.4	47.5	47.3	47.1	46.7	46.4	46.1
Adult women	28.7	28.3	28.4	28.3	28.2	28.0	27.8	27.5
Teenagers	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.3
Unemployment	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1
(Percent of labor force)								
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.9
Adult men	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.4
Adult women	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.7
Teenagers	15.8	14.3	15.7	15.6	16.1	15.8	17.8	17.0
White	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.4
Negro and other races	9.0	8.9	9.6	9.9	9.9	9.6	10.6	10.1
Household heads	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.6
Married men	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.2
Full-time workers	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.6
State insured ²	2.8	2.9r	3.1r	3.1r	3.5	3.6	3.6r	4.2
(Weeks)								
Average duration of unemployment	10.5	10.9	11.4	11.6	12.0	12.3	12.4	12.1
(Millions of persons)								
Nonfarm payroll employment	74.6p	74.2p	74.0	73.8	72.9	72.5	71.8	71.1
Goods-producing industries	23.7p	23.6p	23.5	23.4	23.1	23.0	22.7	22.6
Service-producing industries	50.9p	50.6p	50.5	50.4	49.9	49.5	49.0	48.5
(Hours of work)								
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	37.3p	36.9p	37.0	37.2	37.2	37.1	37.1	37.1
Manufacturing	41.0p	40.2p	40.7	40.8	40.7	40.7	40.3	40.1
Manufacturing overtime	3.9p	3.7p	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.0
(1967=100)								
Hourly Earnings Index, private nonfarm:								
In current dollars	142.4p	142.5p	142.0	141.1	138.5	136.8	135.0	132.4
In constant dollars	NA	111.5p	111.6	111.2	110.2	109.8	109.0	107.9

¹ Civilian labor force and total employment figures for periods prior to January 1972 should be raised by about 300,000 to be comparable with subsequent data.

² For calculation of this rate, see table A-3, footnote 2. p=preliminary. r=revised.
SOURCE: Tables A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, and B-4.

The average (mean) duration of unemployment continued the downward trend in evidence since last fall, dropping to 10.5 weeks in February. This was its lowest level in 2 years and was 2 full weeks below a year ago.

The number of unemployed persons who had lost their last job was about unchanged in February but has diminished by nearly 500,000 over the past year, accounting for almost all of the total decrease in joblessness. Job losers now comprise slightly less than two-fifths of total unemployment.

Civilian Labor Force and Total Employment

Led by increased participation of women and teenagers, the civilian labor force rose more than seasonally expected between January and February. After adjustment for seasonality, the labor force rose by 650,000 to a level of 87.6 million, the biggest monthly advance since March 1972. A disproportionately large share of this gain took place among part-time workers. Compared with last February, the labor force has increased by 1.9 million.

Employment rose by 570,000 in February to a level of 83.1 million. More than four-fifths of this increase took place among adult women and teenagers. Over the past year, employment has risen by 2.5 million; adult men made up about 1.1 million of this advance, and adult women and teenagers accounted for 860,000 and 510,000, respectively.

Vietnam Era Veterans

The job situation for Vietnam Era veterans 20-to-29 years old was unchanged in February, as the unemployment rate (5.7 percent) held at about the same levels of the past few months. February marked the sixth straight month in which there was no material difference between the unemployment rates for veterans and nonveterans. However, younger veterans (20-24 years) continued to experience higher unemployment rates than their nonveteran counterparts, whereas those in the older ages (25-29) who have been out of the service longer have had jobless rates in recent months equal to or less than those of nonveterans.

For younger veterans, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 10.4 percent showed no improvement over the year; in contrast, the rate for 25-to-29 year-old veterans dropped to 2.9 percent, its lowest level in about 3 years.

The number of veterans in ages 30-34 (890,000) has continued to increase (due to aging rather than discharges at this age level) and now represents 15 percent of all Vietnam Era veterans. Their unemployment rate in February, at 3.6 percent (not seasonally adjusted), was about the same as for nonveterans in the same age group.

Industry Payroll Employment

Nonagricultural payroll employment rose sharply in February, advancing by 440,000 (seasonally adjusted) to 74.6 million. This large increase followed more modest gains in the previous 2 months. Payroll jobs have grown by 2.8 million over the past year.

About 175,000 or two-fifths, of the February increase in payroll jobs took place in the goods-producing industries. Manufacturing employment rose 85,000, nearly all of it in the durable goods sector. Since February a year ago, factory employment has risen by more than 900,000, but the industry was still about 700,000 jobs below its July 1969 alltime high. Contract construction employment showed a 90,000 increase (seasonally adjusted) in February and, at 3.6 million, has now recovered from the declines caused by unusually bad weather in late 1972.

In the service-producing industries, payroll employment registered a gain of 265,000. This reflected a sizeable increase in retail trade--where employment had shown no growth in the previous 2 months--as well as strong advances in services and State and local government.

Hours of Work

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls rose 0.4 hour to 37.3 hours, seasonally adjusted, in February. This large gain in hours followed small declines in each of the previous 3 months and returned the average workweek to its level of early last fall.

In manufacturing, the average workweek also rebounded in February, rising 0.7 hour, seasonally adjusted, to 41.0 hours. This strong gain came on the heels of declines in the previous 2 months and brought the factory workweek to its highest level since October 1968. Average overtime in manufacturing also increased in February--by 0.2 hour--and, at 3.9 hours, was at the highest level since October 1966.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory personnel on nonfarm payrolls were \$3.78 in February, up slightly from January. Compared with a year ago, hourly earnings rose 22 cents or 6.2 percent.

Average weekly earnings rose \$1.50 to \$139.48 in February, reflecting in large part an increase of 0.3 hour in the actual workweek. After seasonal adjustment, the increase was slightly higher--\$1.88. Since February a year ago, average weekly earnings have risen \$8.47 or 6.5 percent. During the latest 12-month period for which the Consumer Price Index is available--January 1972 to January 1973--consumer prices

increased 3.7 percent.

Hourly Earnings Index

The Bureau's Hourly Earnings Index, seasonally adjusted, was 142.4 (1967=100) in February, about the same as in January, according to preliminary figures. The index was 5.6 percent above February a year ago. All industries posted increases over a year ago, ranging from 4.2 percent in services to 9.6 percent in transportation and public utilities. During the 12-month period ending in January, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power rose 2.1 percent.

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 payroll 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*.

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

(In thousands)

Employment status, age, and sex	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Feb. 1972	Seasonally adjusted				
				Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972
Total								
Total labor force	89,075	88,122	87,318	89,961	89,325	89,707	89,454	89,651
Civilian labor force	86,683	85,718	84,778	87,569	86,921	87,267	87,023	87,236
Employed	81,838	81,043	79,366	83,127	82,555	82,780	82,525	82,397
Agriculture	2,956	2,955	2,909	3,424	3,501	3,650	3,556	3,658
Nonagricultural industries	78,882	78,088	76,458	79,703	79,054	79,130	78,969	78,739
On part time for economic reasons	2,088	1,899	2,234	2,274	2,023	2,181	2,217	2,264
Usually work full time	1,020	951	1,147	1,020	893	968	1,025	1,027
Usually work part time	1,068	948	1,087	1,254	1,130	1,213	1,192	1,237
Unemployed	4,845	4,675	5,412	4,442	4,366	4,487	4,498	4,839
Men, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	48,834	48,629	48,126	49,095	49,001	49,152	49,044	49,162
Employed	46,767	46,630	45,665	47,448	47,361	47,475	47,308	47,227
Agriculture	2,289	2,319	2,243	2,475	2,557	2,664	2,599	2,630
Nonagricultural industries	44,478	44,311	43,422	44,973	44,804	44,811	44,709	44,597
Unemployed	2,067	1,999	2,461	1,647	1,640	1,677	1,736	1,935
Women, 20 years and over								
Civilian labor force	30,380	29,952	29,535	30,141	29,870	29,869	29,779	29,931
Employed	28,803	28,325	27,940	28,662	28,296	28,357	28,293	28,281
Agriculture	419	388	419	559	526	566	547	585
Nonagricultural industries	28,384	27,937	27,521	28,103	27,770	27,791	27,746	27,696
Unemployed	1,577	1,627	1,595	1,479	1,574	1,512	1,486	1,650
Both sexes, 16-19 years								
Civilian labor force	7,469	7,137	7,117	8,333	8,050	8,246	8,200	8,143
Employed	6,268	6,088	5,761	7,017	6,898	6,948	6,924	6,889
Agriculture	248	248	247	390	418	420	410	443
Nonagricultural industries	6,021	5,840	5,514	6,627	6,480	6,528	6,514	6,446
Unemployed	1,200	1,050	1,356	1,316	1,152	1,298	1,276	1,254

Table A-2: Full- and part-time status of the civilian labor force by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Full- and part-time employment status, sex, and age	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1972	Seasonally adjusted					Feb. 1972
			Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	
Full time								
Total, 16 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	73,371	71,565	75,244	74,935	74,715	74,402	74,688	73,135
Employed	69,621	67,333	71,755	71,491	71,224	70,969	70,947	69,213
Unemployed	3,749	4,233	3,489	3,444	3,491	3,433	3,741	3,922
Unemployment rate	5.1	5.9	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.4
Men, 20 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	46,321	45,619	46,767	46,648	46,630	46,539	46,749	45,964
Employed	44,406	43,369	45,220	45,139	45,095	44,964	44,971	44,148
Unemployed	1,915	2,250	1,547	1,509	1,535	1,575	1,778	1,816
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.9	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.8	4.0
Women, 20 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	23,583	22,895	23,693	23,549	23,390	23,303	23,443	22,983
Employed	22,345	21,583	22,503	22,330	22,268	22,144	22,166	21,723
Unemployed	1,238	1,312	1,190	1,219	1,122	1,159	1,277	1,260
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.7	5.0	5.2	4.8	5.0	5.4	5.5
Part time								
Total, 16 years and over:								
Civilian labor force	13,312	13,213	12,589	12,220	12,705	12,679	12,559	12,472
Employed	12,216	12,034	11,600	11,249	11,640	11,616	11,495	11,418
Unemployed	1,095	1,179	989	971	1,065	1,063	1,064	1,054
Unemployment rate	8.2	8.9	7.9	7.9	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5

NOTE: Persons on part-time schedules for economic reasons are included in the full-time employed category; unemployed persons are allocated by whether seeking full- or part-time work.

Table A-3: Major unemployment indicators

(Persons 16 years and over)

Selected categories	Thousands of persons unemployed		Seasonally adjusted rates of unemployment					
	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1972	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Feb. 1972
Total (all civilian workers)	4,845	5,412	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.8
Men, 20 years and over	2,067	2,461	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.9	4.1
Women, 20 years and over	1,577	1,595	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.1
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,200	1,356	15.8	14.3	15.7	15.6	15.4	18.5
White	3,949	4,383	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	5.0	5.2
Negro and other races	895	1,028	9.0	8.9	9.6	10.1	10.0	10.6
Household heads	1,865	2,068	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.3
Married men	1,239	1,461	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.9
Full-time workers	3,749	4,233	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.4
Part-time workers	1,095	1,179	7.9	7.9	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5
Unemployed 15 weeks and over ¹	979	1,422	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5
State insured ²	2,060	2,551	2.8	2.9r	3.1r	3.1	3.2r	3.7
Labor force time lost ³	—	—	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.8	6.1
Occupation⁴								
White-collar workers	1,279	1,410	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.4
Professional and technical	225	271	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.6	2.5
Managers and administrators, except farm	155	154	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.7
Sales workers	241	263	3.5	3.9	4.3	4.3	4.4	3.9
Clerical workers	659	721	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.9	4.8	4.8
Blue-collar workers	2,160	2,598	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.8	6.0	7.0
Craftsmen and kindred workers	581	678	3.8	3.7	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.5
Operatives	1,084	1,276	6.2	6.3	5.8	5.9	6.3	7.6
Nonfarm laborers	496	644	8.9	8.4	8.8	9.1	9.3	11.6
Service workers	759	742	6.1	5.5	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.0
Farm workers	88	89	2.5	2.4	2.3	3.4	2.9	2.6
Industry⁴								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers ⁵ ...	3,747	4,262	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.6	6.0
Construction	604	689	8.7	9.0	9.8	10.5	10.3	10.4
Manufacturing	1,073	1,422	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.6	5.1	6.2
Durable goods	586	838	4.3	4.6	3.9	4.2	4.5	6.3
Nondurable goods	487	584	4.9	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.8	6.1
Transportation and public utilities	179	222	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.3	3.9
Wholesale and retail trade	1,070	1,095	5.9	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.3
Finance and service industries	782	816	4.7	4.4	4.9	4.5	5.0	5.0
Government workers	341	377	2.6	2.3	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.9
Agricultural wage and salary workers	114	119	7.3	6.4	6.4	8.7	10.0	8.1

¹ Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.

² Insured unemployment under State programs—unemployment rate calculated as a percent of average covered employment. As with the other statistics presented, insured unemployment data relate to the week containing the 12th.

³ Man-hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force man-hours.

⁴ Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers.

⁵ Includes mining, not shown separately.

r= revised

Table A-4: Unemployed persons 16 years and over by duration of unemployment

(In thousands)

Duration of unemployment	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1972	Seasonally adjusted					
			Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Feb. 1972
Less than 5 weeks	2,224	2,080	2,324	2,060	2,026	2,151	2,239	2,173
5 to 14 weeks	1,641	1,909	1,265	1,375	1,444	1,348	1,455	1,471
15 weeks and over	979	1,422	895	919	1,001	1,068	1,117	1,298
15 to 26 weeks	608	766	530	515	530	579	589	655
27 weeks and over	372	656	365	404	471	489	528	643
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	10.6	12.6	10.5	10.9	11.4	11.6	11.9	12.5

Table A-5: Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason for unemployment	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1972	Seasonally adjusted					
			Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Feb. 1972
Number of unemployed								
Lost last job	2,182	2,677	1,724	1,758	1,846	1,882	1,988	2,214
Left last job	678	611	671	550	672	646	685	603
Reentered labor force	1,432	1,557	1,377	1,409	1,322	1,375	1,450	1,496
Never worked before	553	566	684	679	629	621	638	699
Percent distribution								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Lost last job	45.0	49.5	38.7	40.0	41.3	41.6	41.8	43.0
Left last job	14.0	11.3	15.1	12.5	15.0	14.3	14.4	12.3
Reentered labor force	29.6	28.8	30.9	32.1	29.6	30.4	30.5	30.5
Never worked before	11.4	10.5	15.4	15.4	14.1	13.7	13.4	14.2
Unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force								
Lost last job	2.5	3.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.5
Left last job8	.7	.8	.6	.8	.7	.8	.7
Reentered labor force	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7
Never worked before6	.7	.8	.6	.7	.7	.7	.8

Table A-6: Unemployed persons by age and sex

Age and sex	Thousands of persons		Percent looking for full-time work	Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates					
	Feb. 1973	Feb. 1972		Feb. 1973	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972
			Feb. 1973						
Total, 16 years and over	4,845	5,412	77.4	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.8
16 to 19 years	1,200	1,356	49.8	15.8	14.3	15.7	15.6	15.4	18.5
16 and 17 years	572	611	24.1	18.8	17.3	17.5	18.3	17.6	21.1
18 and 19 years	629	745	72.8	13.5	12.2	14.4	13.7	13.7	16.5
20 to 24 years	1,095	1,205	87.4	7.9	8.2	8.7	8.4	9.2	9.2
25 years and over	2,550	2,850	86.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.7
25 to 54 years	2,104	2,314	88.1	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.8
55 years and over	446	536	76.7	2.7	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.2
Males, 16 years and over	2,713	3,293	82.3	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.3
16 to 19 years	646	832	49.4	14.4	13.4	15.4	15.7	14.5	19.3
16 and 17 years	337	377	25.5	18.0	17.1	17.4	18.4	17.1	21.1
18 and 19 years	308	455	75.6	11.3	11.0	13.7	13.7	12.5	17.4
20 to 24 years	630	736	89.4	7.5	7.7	8.2	8.5	8.8	9.4
25 years and over	1,437	1,726	94.0	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.2
25 to 54 years	1,182	1,358	96.3	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.2
55 years and over	254	368	84.3	2.3	2.5	3.0	2.7	3.5	3.2
Females, 16 years and over	2,132	2,119	71.1	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.7	6.4
16 to 19 years	555	524	50.1	17.5	15.4	16.2	15.4	16.6	17.6
16 and 17 years	234	234	22.2	20.0	17.7	17.6	18.1	18.4	21.1
18 and 19 years	321	290	70.4	16.1	13.7	15.4	13.8	15.2	15.4
20 to 24 years	464	470	84.9	8.3	8.9	9.2	8.2	9.7	8.9
25 years and over	1,113	1,125	75.8	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.4
25 to 54 years	922	957	77.5	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.8
55 years and over	191	169	67.5	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.0

Table A-7: Employment status of male Vietnam Era veterans and nonveterans 20 to 29 years old

Employment status	(Numbers in thousands)								
	Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Feb. 1972	Seasonally adjusted					
				Feb. 1973	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Feb. 1972
Veterans¹									
Total, 20 to 29 years old									
Civilian noninstitutional population ²	4,656	4,666	4,436	4,656	4,666	4,648	4,636	4,624	4,436
Civilian labor force	4,274	4,295	4,086	4,322	4,334	4,338	4,318	4,310	4,111
Employed	3,965	3,993	3,690	4,075	4,080	4,087	4,052	4,026	3,798
Unemployed	309	302	396	247	254	251	266	284	313
Unemployment rate	7.2	7.0	9.7	5.7	5.9	5.8	6.2	6.6	7.6
20 to 24 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population ²	1,791	1,818	2,008	1,791	1,818	1,837	1,861	1,885	2,008
Civilian labor force	1,598	1,639	1,811	1,620	1,649	1,673	1,682	1,709	1,837
Employed	1,397	1,472	1,585	1,452	1,508	1,524	1,514	1,543	1,648
Unemployed	201	167	226	168	141	149	168	166	189
Unemployment rate	12.6	10.2	12.5	10.4	8.6	8.9	10.0	9.7	10.3
25 to 29 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population ²	2,865	2,848	2,428	2,865	2,848	2,811	2,775	2,739	2,428
Civilian labor force	2,676	2,656	2,275	2,702	2,685	2,665	2,636	2,601	2,274
Employed	2,568	2,521	2,105	2,623	2,572	2,563	2,538	2,483	2,150
Unemployed	108	135	170	79	113	102	98	118	124
Unemployment rate	4.0	5.1	7.5	2.9	4.2	3.8	3.7	4.5	5.5
Nonveterans									
Total, 20 to 29 years old									
Civilian noninstitutional population ²	10,464	10,390	9,707	10,464	10,390	10,327	10,250	10,209	9,707
Civilian labor force	8,969	8,896	8,215	9,216	9,104	9,009	8,947	8,962	8,401
Employed	8,339	8,257	7,502	8,695	8,558	8,439	8,393	8,377	7,811
Unemployed	630	639	713	521	546	570	554	585	590
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.2	8.7	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.5	7.0
20 to 24 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population ²	6,384	6,337	5,802	6,384	6,337	6,289	6,226	6,194	5,802
Civilian labor force	5,108	5,066	4,507	5,349	5,266	5,231	5,180	5,158	4,689
Employed	4,679	4,625	3,998	4,994	4,874	4,808	4,768	4,719	4,267
Unemployed	429	441	509	355	392	423	412	439	422
Unemployment rate	8.4	8.7	11.3	6.6	7.4	8.1	8.0	8.5	9.0
25 to 29 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population ²	4,080	4,053	3,905	4,080	4,053	4,038	4,024	4,015	3,905
Civilian labor force	3,861	3,830	3,708	3,867	3,838	3,778	3,767	3,804	3,712
Employed	3,660	3,632	3,504	3,701	3,684	3,631	3,625	3,658	3,544
Unemployed	201	198	204	166	154	147	142	146	168
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.2	5.5	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	4.5

¹ Vietnam Era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964; they are all classified as war veterans. 77 percent of the Vietnam Era veterans of all ages are 20 to 29 years old. Post-Korean-peace-time veterans 20 to 29 years old are not included in this table.

² Since seasonal variations are not present in the population figures, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

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

Industry	(In thousands)									
	Feb. 1973 ^p	Jan. 1973 ^p	Dec. 1972	Feb. 1972	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Jan. 1973	Feb. 1972	Feb. 1973 ^p	Jan. 1973 ^p	Dec. 1972	Change from Jan. 1973
TOTAL	73,597	73,256	74,778	70,775	341	2,822	74,596	74,155	74,026	441
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,161	23,019	23,399	22,151	142	1,010	23,743	23,566	23,478	177
MINING	599	599	603	598	0	1	614	611	607	3
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,171	3,144	3,373	3,096	27	75	3,579	3,489	3,452	90
MANUFACTURING	19,391	19,276	19,423	18,457	115	934	19,550	19,466	19,419	84
<i>Production workers</i>	14,236	14,136	14,282	13,413	100	823	14,368	14,303	14,275	65
DURABLE GOODS	11,342	11,250	11,289	10,570	92	772	11,396	11,323	11,281	73
<i>Production workers</i>	8,320	8,246	8,290	7,638	74	682	8,362	8,311	8,274	51
Ordnance and accessories	200.0	197.2	197.9	181.9	2.8	18.1	201	197	197	4
Lumber and wood products	612.4	604.3	614.5	588.1	8.1	24.3	629	623	623	6
Furniture and fixtures	513.6	512.6	512.1	478.9	1.0	34.7	516	513	508	3
Stone, clay, and glass products	658.6	650.3	666.1	626.7	8.3	31.9	679	671	672	8
Primary metal industries	1,279.1	1,275.6	1,271.6	1,190.1	3.5	89.0	1,279	1,285	1,284	-6
Fabricated metal products	1,424.5	1,412.8	1,418.3	1,333.3	11.7	91.2	1,433	1,420	1,408	13
Machinery, except electrical	1,984.3	1,959.5	1,950.1	1,825.7	24.8	158.6	1,972	1,963	1,956	9
Electrical equipment	1,934.6	1,918.0	1,919.7	1,782.2	16.6	152.4	1,938	1,922	1,912	16
Transportation equipment	1,834.3	1,828.0	1,833.5	1,715.5	6.3	118.8	1,831	1,817	1,815	14
Instruments and related products	478.1	474.5	473.8	441.6	3.6	36.5	480	476	472	4
Miscellaneous manufacturing	422.8	417.4	431.7	406.4	5.4	16.4	438	436	434	2
NONDURABLE GOODS	8,049	8,026	8,134	7,887	23	162	8,154	8,143	8,138	11
<i>Production workers</i>	5,916	5,890	5,992	5,775	26	141	6,006	5,992	6,001	14
Food and kindred products	1,669.9	1,687.7	1,727.0	1,672.2	-17.8	-2.3	1,749	1,754	1,743	-5
Tobacco manufactures	70.6	71.4	75.7	70.7	-8	-1	73	72	72	1
Textile mill products	1,018.5	1,009.6	1,020.3	971.9	8.9	46.6	1,023	1,015	1,017	8
Apparel and other textile products	1,346.5	1,316.4	1,343.4	1,336.8	30.1	9.7	1,345	1,336	1,346	9
Paper and allied products	704.7	704.5	711.5	680.1	.2	24.6	710	709	707	1
Printing and publishing	1,082.9	1,091.4	1,097.3	1,070.8	-8.5	12.1	1,084	1,095	1,091	-11
Chemicals and allied products	1,011.6	1,008.2	1,011.1	990.8	3.4	20.8	1,018	1,016	1,015	2
Petroleum and coal products	184.3	183.9	187.3	187.7	.4	-3.4	189	189	190	0
Rubber and plastics products, nec	664.8	659.1	660.5	602.1	5.7	62.7	668	663	658	5
Leather and leather products	295.2	293.7	300.1	303.6	1.5	-8.4	295	294	299	1
SERVICE-PRODUCING	50,436	50,237	51,379	48,624	199	1,812	50,853	50,589	50,548	264
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,522	4,513	4,558	4,367	9	155	4,596	4,577	4,558	19
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	15,712	15,815	16,669	15,120	-103	592	16,061	15,939	15,946	122
WHOLESALE TRADE	3,960	3,967	3,998	3,817	-7	143	4,008	3,995	3,970	13
RETAIL TRADE	11,752	11,848	12,671	11,303	-96	449	12,053	11,944	11,976	109
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3,976	3,956	3,971	3,839	20	137	4,012	3,996	3,991	16
SERVICES	12,518	12,396	12,474	11,967	122	551	12,670	12,610	12,549	60
GOVERNMENT	13,708	13,557	13,707	13,331	151	377	13,514	13,467	13,504	47
FEDERAL	2,619	2,619	2,671	2,656	0	-37	2,632	2,637	2,652	-5
STATE AND LOCAL	11,089	10,938	11,036	10,675	151	414	10,882	10,830	10,852	52

p = preliminary.

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

Industry	Feb. 1973 ^p	Jan. 1973 ^p	Dec. 1972	Feb. 1972	Change from		Seasonally adjusted			
					Jan. 1973	Feb. 1972	Feb. 1973 ^p	Jan. 1973 ^p	Dec. 1972	Change from Jan. 1973
TOTAL PRIVATE	36.9	36.6	37.2	36.8	0.3	0.1	37.3	36.9	37.0	0.4
MINING	41.2	41.3	42.0	41.9	-.1	-.7	41.8	41.5	41.7	.3
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	34.8	34.7	35.2	36.0	.1	-1.2	36.0	36.0	35.6	0
MANUFACTURING	40.7	40.0	41.2	40.1	.7	.6	41.0	40.3	40.7	.7
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.7	3.6	3.9	3.0	.1	.7	3.9	3.7	3.8	.2
DURABLE GOODS	41.6	41.0	42.1	40.7	.6	.9	42.0	41.3	41.6	.7
<i>Overtime hours</i>	4.1	3.9	4.2	3.0	.2	1.1	4.4	4.1	4.0	.3
Ordnance and accessories	42.8	42.4	42.9	42.2	.4	.6	42.8	42.4	42.4	.4
Lumber and wood products	40.0	39.0	39.8	40.3	1.0	-.3	40.5	39.9	39.7	.6
Furniture and fixtures	39.6	38.3	40.8	39.8	1.3	-.2	40.4	38.9	39.9	1.5
Stone, clay, and glass products ..	41.3	40.3	41.5	41.2	1.0	.1	42.1	41.2	41.5	.9
Primary metal industries	42.7	42.4	42.4	41.0	.3	1.7	42.7	42.4	42.3	.3
Fabricated metal products	41.4	41.0	42.1	40.5	.4	.9	41.9	41.4	41.7	.5
Machinery, except electrical	42.7	42.4	43.4	41.4	.3	1.3	42.7	42.4	42.7	.3
Electrical equipment	40.9	40.3	41.1	40.1	.6	.8	41.4	40.4	40.5	1.0
Transportation equipment	42.6	41.9	43.8	41.1	.7	1.5	43.2	42.3	42.8	.9
Instruments and related products ..	40.6	40.3	41.0	40.3	.3	.3	40.9	40.5	40.6	.4
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.0	38.4	39.4	39.2	.6	-.2	39.2	38.7	39.1	.5
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.4	38.7	39.9	39.2	.7	.2	39.8	39.0	39.6	.8
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.1	3.1	3.5	3.0	0	.1	3.3	3.3	3.4	0
Food and kindred products	39.5	39.8	40.7	39.5	-.3	0	40.1	40.1	40.4	0
Tobacco manufactures	35.6	34.2	36.2	33.1	1.4	2.5	36.7	34.7	35.6	2.0
Textile mill products	40.8	39.0	41.7	41.0	1.8	-.2	41.0	39.4	41.2	1.6
Apparel and other textile products	35.8	34.1	35.7	36.0	1.7	-.2	36.0	34.5	35.7	1.5
Paper and allied products	42.7	42.3	43.3	42.2	.4	.5	43.1	42.6	42.9	.5
Printing and publishing	37.6	37.4	38.2	37.2	.2	.4	38.0	37.9	37.7	.1
Chemicals and allied products	41.8	41.5	42.2	41.6	.3	.2	42.0	41.6	41.9	.4
Petroleum and coal products	40.9	41.5	41.9	41.5	-.6	-.6	41.6	42.2	42.2	-.6
Rubber and plastics products, nec	41.5	41.1	41.6	40.7	.4	.8	41.8	41.3	41.2	.5
Leather and leather products	37.9	37.2	37.2	38.5	.7	-.6	37.9	37.1	36.4	.8
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.4	40.2	40.7	40.2	.2	.2	40.5	40.6	40.5	-.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34.5	34.5	35.3	34.6	0	-.1	35.0	34.9	35.1	.1
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.3	39.4	40.1	39.7	-.1	-.4	39.5	39.6	39.7	-.1
RETAIL TRADE	33.0	33.0	33.9	33.0	0	0	33.6	33.5	33.7	.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37.0	37.0	37.1	37.1	0	-.1	37.0	37.0	37.1	0
SERVICES	34.0	33.9	34.0	34.0	.1	0	34.2	34.1	34.0	.1

¹Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.

p = 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					
	Feb. 1973 ^p	Jan. 1973 ^p	Dec. 1972	Feb. 1972	Change from		Feb. 1973 ^p	Jan. 1973 ^p	Dec. 1972	Feb. 1972	Change from	
					Jan. 1973	Feb. 1972					Jan. 1973	Feb. 1972
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$3.78	\$3.77	\$3.74	\$3.56	\$0.01	\$0.22	\$139.48	\$137.98	\$139.13	\$131.01	\$1.50	\$8.47
Seasonally adjusted	3.78	3.77	3.75	3.56	.01	.22	140.99	139.11	138.75	132.43	1.88	8.56
MINING	4.57	4.61	4.55	4.33	-.04	.24	188.28	190.39	191.10	181.43	-2.11	6.85
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	6.37	6.42	6.32	5.95	-.05	.42	221.68	222.77	222.46	214.20	-1.09	7.48
MANUFACTURING	3.97	3.98	3.95	3.72	-.01	.25	161.58	159.20	162.74	149.17	2.38	12.41
DURABLE GOODS	4.22	4.23	4.21	3.96	-.01	.26	175.55	173.43	177.24	161.17	2.12	14.38
Ordnance and accessories	4.16	4.14	4.18	4.03	.02	.13	178.05	175.54	179.32	170.07	2.51	7.98
Lumber and wood products	3.47	3.44	3.38	3.21	.03	.26	138.80	134.16	134.52	129.36	4.64	9.44
Furniture and fixtures	3.16	3.15	3.15	2.99	.01	.17	125.14	120.65	128.52	119.00	4.49	6.14
Stone, clay, and glass products	4.05	4.03	4.02	3.78	.02	.27	167.27	162.41	166.83	155.74	4.86	11.53
Primary metal industries	4.84	4.85	4.81	4.54	-.01	.30	206.67	205.64	203.94	186.14	1.03	20.53
Fabricated metal products	4.14	4.13	4.13	3.89	.01	.25	171.40	169.33	173.87	157.55	2.07	13.85
Machinery, except electrical	4.44	4.44	4.44	4.18	.00	.26	189.59	188.26	192.70	173.05	1.33	16.54
Electrical equipment	3.78	3.80	3.79	3.60	-.02	.18	154.60	153.14	155.77	144.36	1.46	10.24
Transportation equipment	4.99	4.99	5.01	4.62	.00	.37	212.57	209.08	219.44	189.88	3.49	22.69
Instruments and related products	3.80	3.83	3.83	3.68	-.03	.12	154.28	154.35	157.03	148.30	-.07	5.98
Miscellaneous manufacturing	3.23	3.24	3.19	3.07	-.01	.16	125.97	124.42	125.69	120.34	1.55	5.63
NONDURABLE GOODS	3.59	3.61	3.58	3.40	-.02	.19	141.45	139.71	142.84	133.28	1.74	8.17
Food and kindred products	3.75	3.75	3.72	3.54	.00	.21	148.13	149.25	151.40	139.83	-1.12	8.30
Tobacco manufactures	3.63	3.57	3.49	3.38	.06	.25	129.23	122.09	126.34	111.88	7.14	17.35
Textile mill products	2.87	2.86	2.83	2.71	.01	.16	117.10	111.54	118.01	111.11	5.56	5.99
Apparel and other textile products	2.72	2.73	2.69	2.57	-.01	.15	97.38	93.09	96.03	92.52	4.29	4.86
Paper and allied products	4.05	4.06	4.06	3.83	-.01	.22	172.94	171.74	175.80	161.63	1.20	11.31
Printing and publishing	4.58	4.56	4.59	4.36	.02	.22	172.21	170.54	175.34	162.19	1.67	10.02
Chemicals and allied products	4.35	4.36	4.33	4.12	-.01	.23	181.83	180.94	182.73	171.39	.89	10.44
Petroleum and coal products	5.07	5.07	5.03	4.87	.00	.20	207.36	210.41	210.76	202.11	-3.05	5.25
Rubber and plastics products, nec	3.73	3.74	3.72	3.52	-.01	.21	154.80	153.71	154.75	143.26	1.09	11.54
Leather and leather products	2.79	2.77	2.74	2.70	.02	.09	105.74	103.04	101.93	103.95	2.70	1.79
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.89	4.88	4.86	4.47	.01	.42	197.56	196.18	197.80	179.69	1.38	17.87
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.13	3.11	3.07	2.98	.02	.15	107.99	107.30	108.37	103.11	.69	4.88
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.01	3.99	3.99	3.82	.02	.19	157.59	157.21	160.00	151.65	.38	5.94
RETAIL TRADE	2.80	2.78	2.75	2.66	.02	.14	92.40	91.74	93.23	87.78	.66	4.62
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.57	3.55	3.52	3.40	.02	.17	132.09	131.35	130.59	126.14	.74	5.95
SERVICES	3.27	3.27	3.27	3.13	.00	.14	111.18	110.85	111.18	106.42	.33	4.76

¹See footnote 1, table B-2.

p = preliminary.

Table B-4. Hourly Earnings Index for production or nonsupervisory workers in private nonfarm industries, seasonally adjusted

(1967=100)

Industry	Feb. ^p 1973	Jan. ^p 1973	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Sept. 1972	Feb. 1972	Percent change over month and year	
								Jan. 1973- Feb. 1973	Feb. 1972- Feb. 1973
Total private nonfarm:									
Current dollars	142.4	142.5	142.0	140.7	140.5	139.3	134.8	-.1	5.6
Constant (1967) dollars	NA	111.5	111.6	110.9	111.0	110.4	108.7	<u>1/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Mining	142.0	142.8	141.3	138.1	137.5	138.1	134.1	-.6	5.9
Contract construction	152.3	153.9	151.8	149.6	149.3	147.8	143.8	-1.0	5.9
Manufacturing	139.6	139.5	138.9	137.9	137.5	136.7	132.7	.1	5.3
Transportation and public utilities	151.2	151.0	150.4	149.1	148.3	145.6	138.0	.2	9.6
Wholesale and retail trade	139.0	138.7	138.7	137.3	137.2	136.3	132.4	.3	5.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate	137.5	137.0	136.6	135.1	135.5	134.8	130.2	.4	5.6
Services	141.8	142.3	142.1	141.0	140.9	139.9	136.1	-.4	4.2

1/ Percent change was -0.2 from December 1972 to January 1973, the latest month available.

2/ Percent change was 2.1 from January 1972 to January 1973, the latest month available.

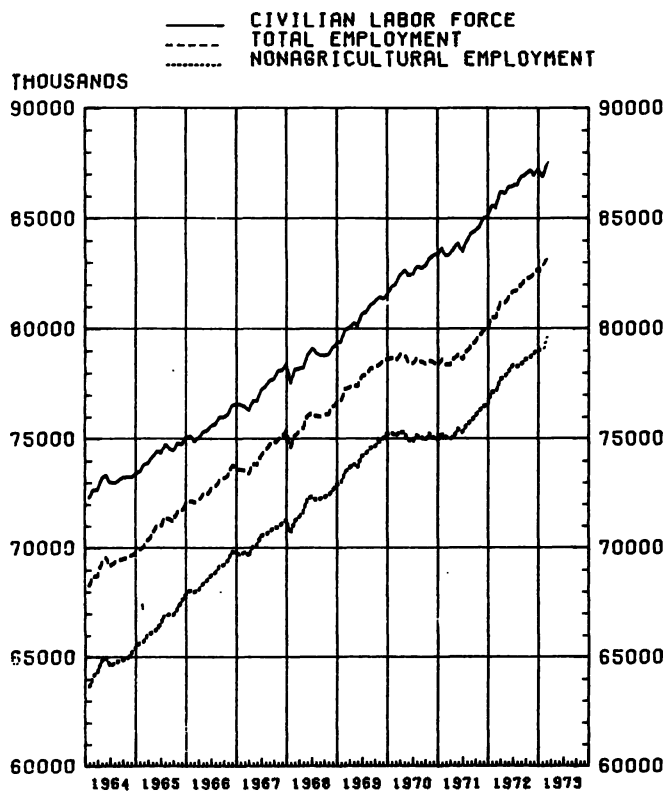
NA indicates data are not available.

p=Preliminary.

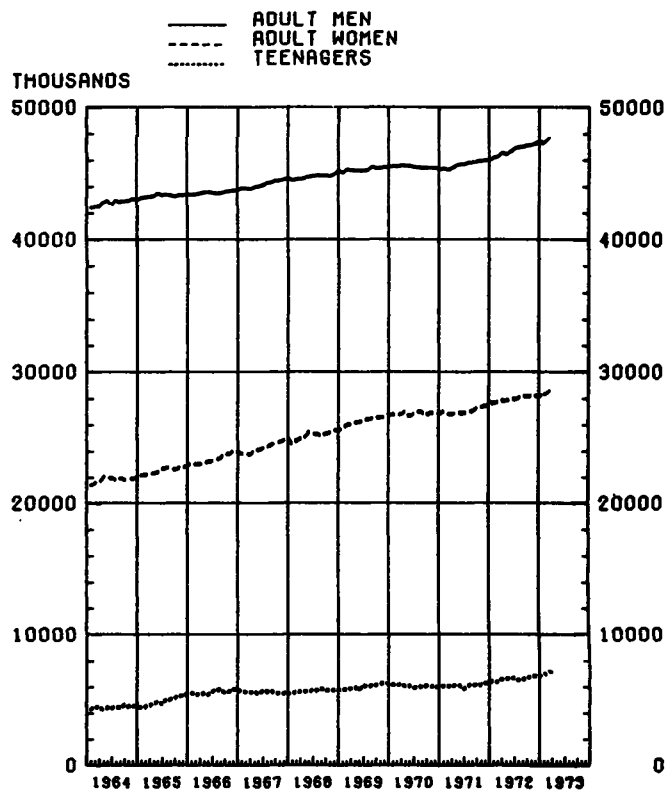
NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries. The seasonal adjustment eliminates the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude each year.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

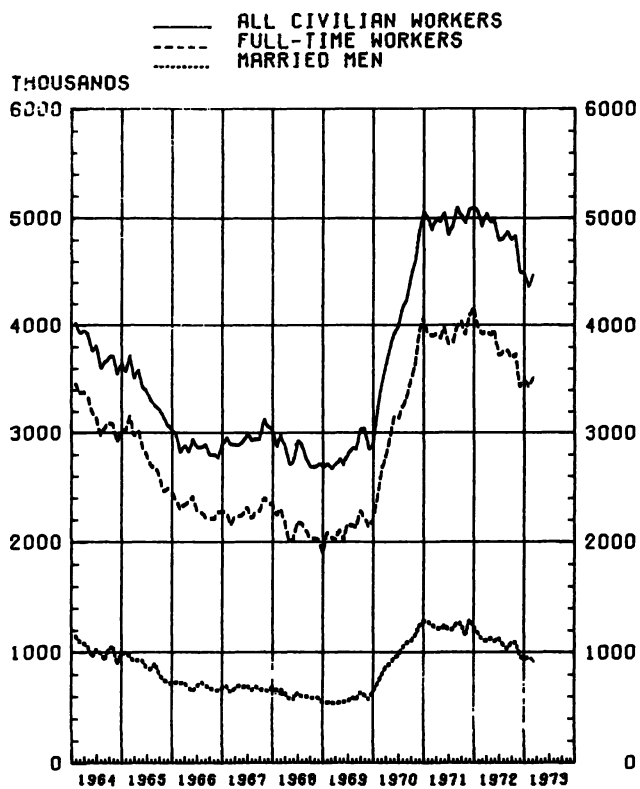
1. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



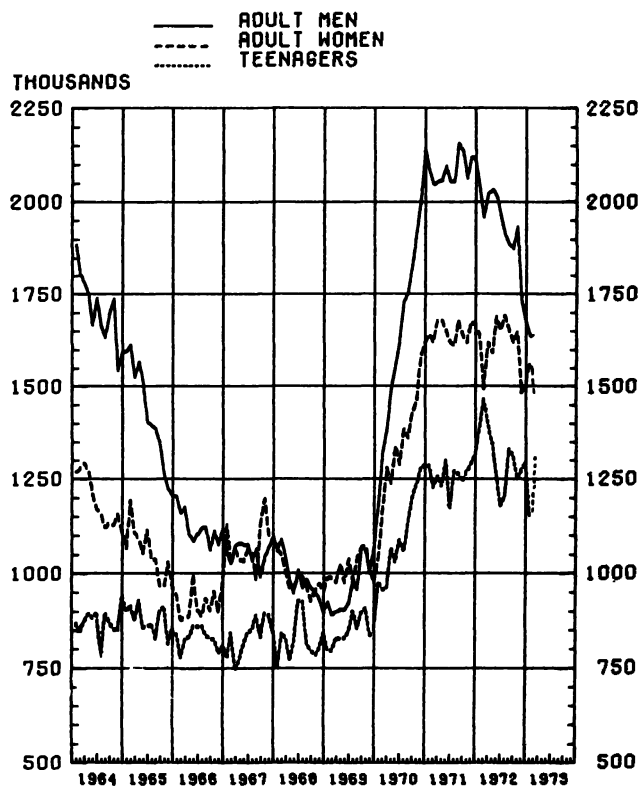
2. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



3. UNEMPLOYMENT

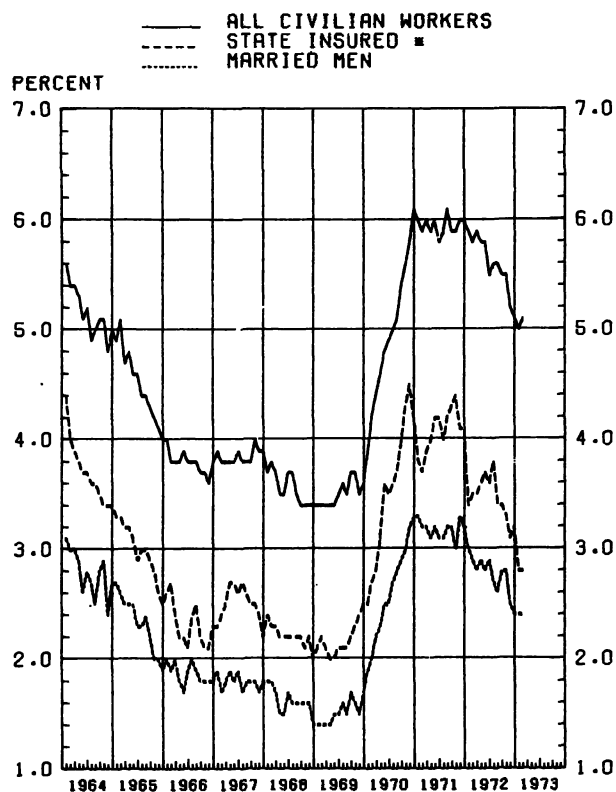


4. UNEMPLOYMENT

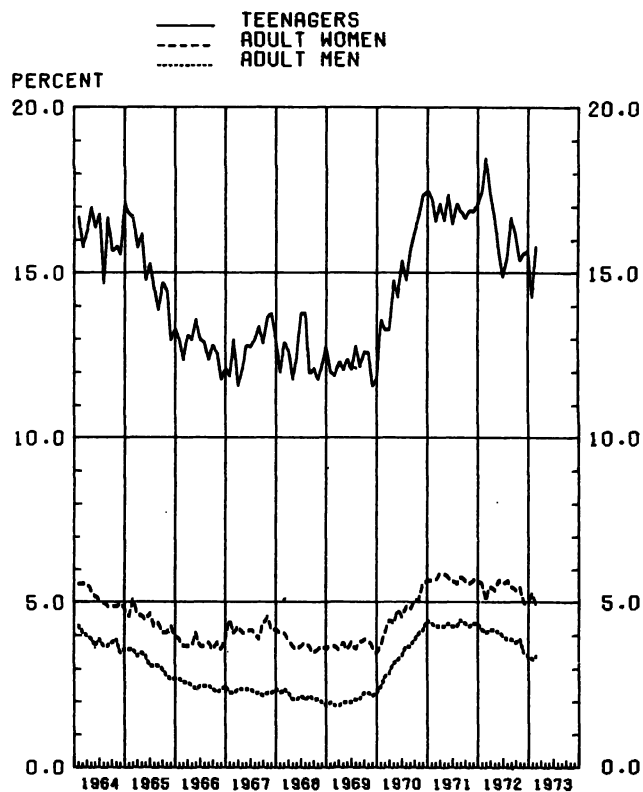


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

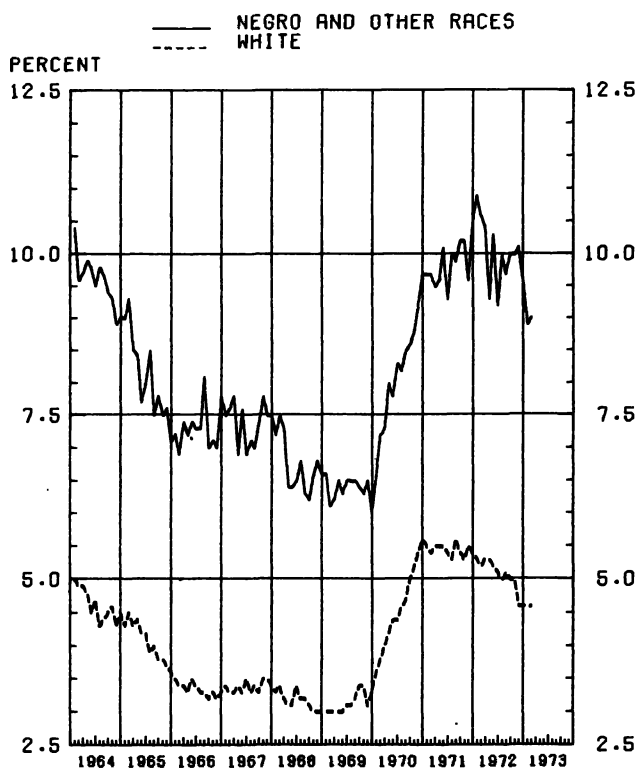
5. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



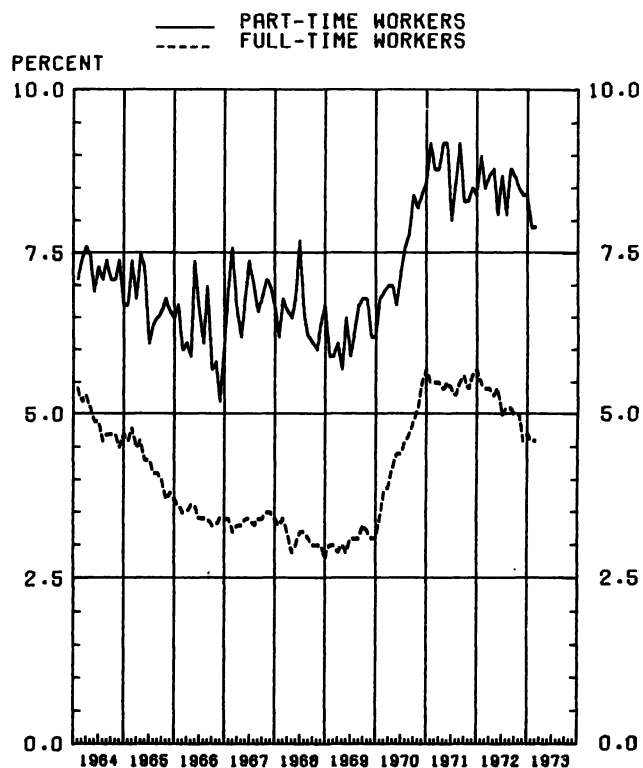
6. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



7. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



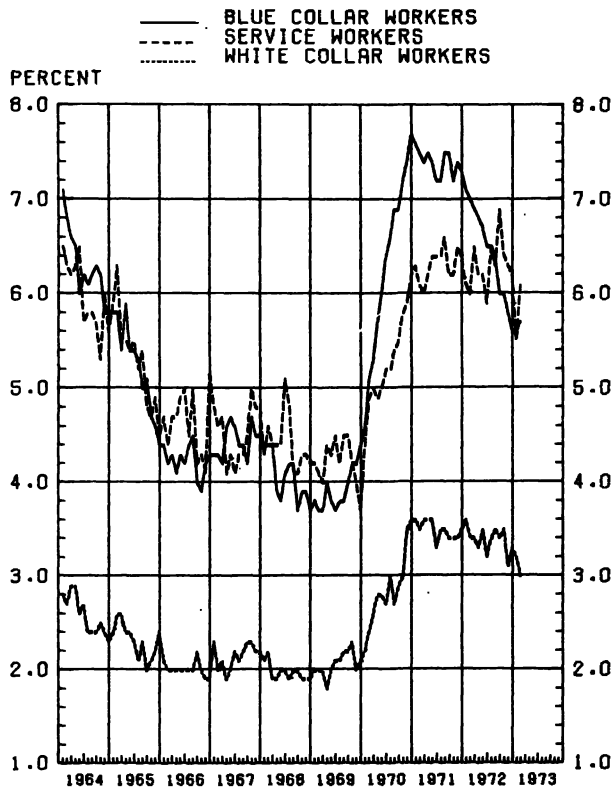
8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



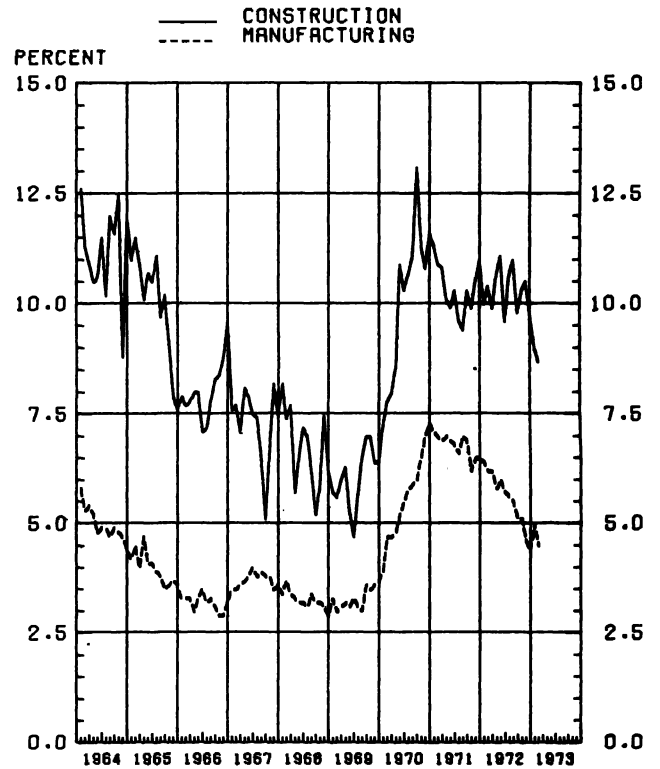
* State insured unemployment rate pertains to the week including the 12th of the month and represents the insured unemployed under State programs as a percent of average covered employment. The figures are derived from administrative records of unemployment insurance systems.

UNEMPLOYMENT HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

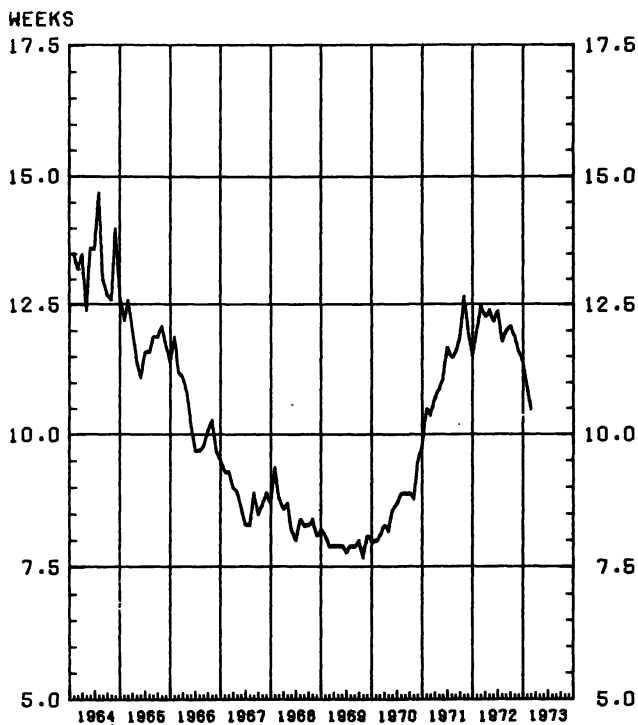
9. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



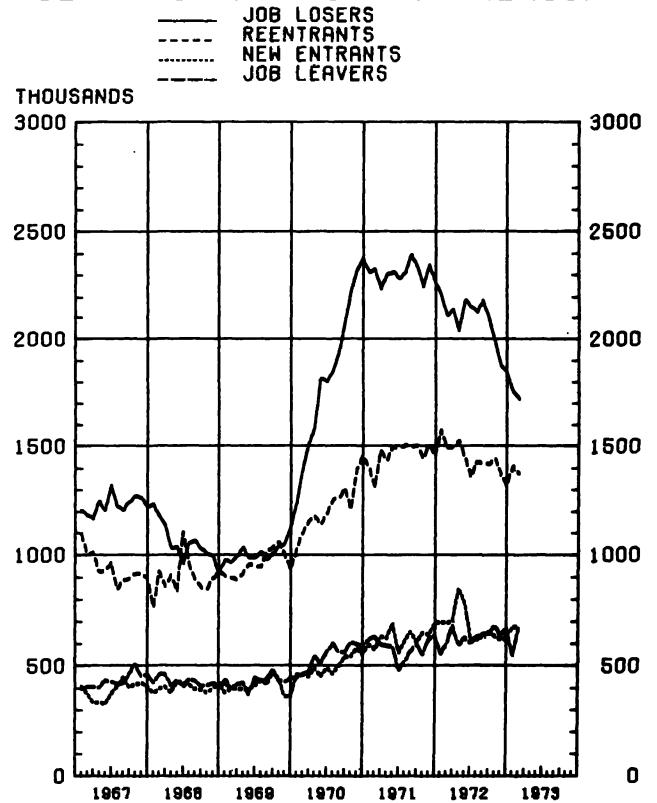
10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



11. AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT



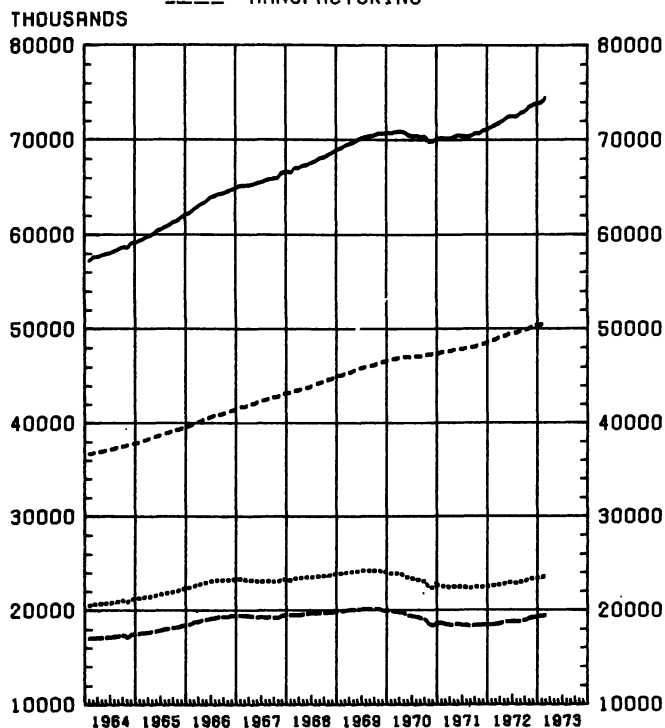
12. UNEMPLOYMENT BY REASON



NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS ESTABLISHMENT DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

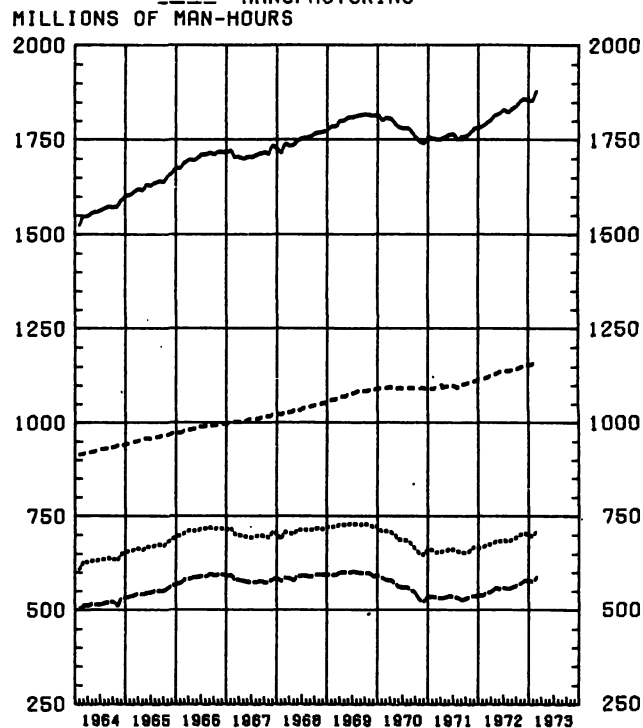
13. EMPLOYMENT

— TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL
- - - SERVICE-PRODUCING
... GOODS-PRODUCING
- - - MANUFACTURING



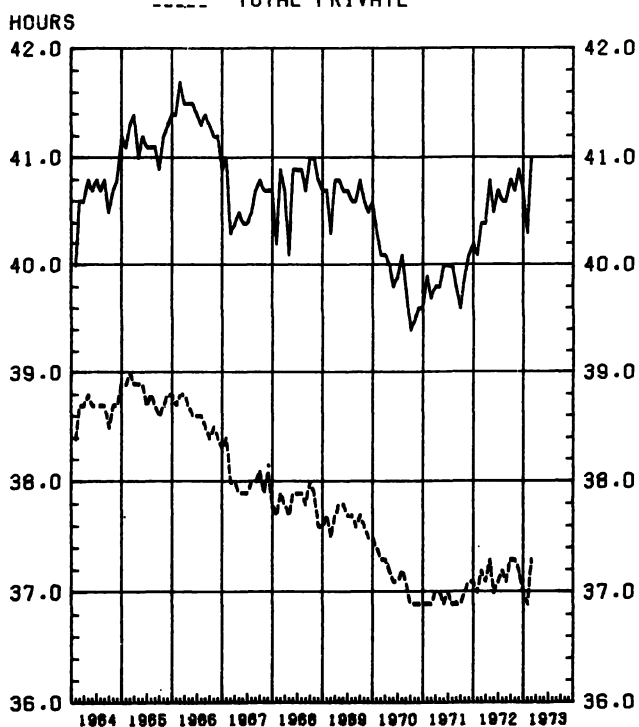
14. MAN-HOURS

— TOTAL PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL
- - - PRIVATE SERVICE-PRODUCING
... GOODS-PRODUCING
- - - MANUFACTURING

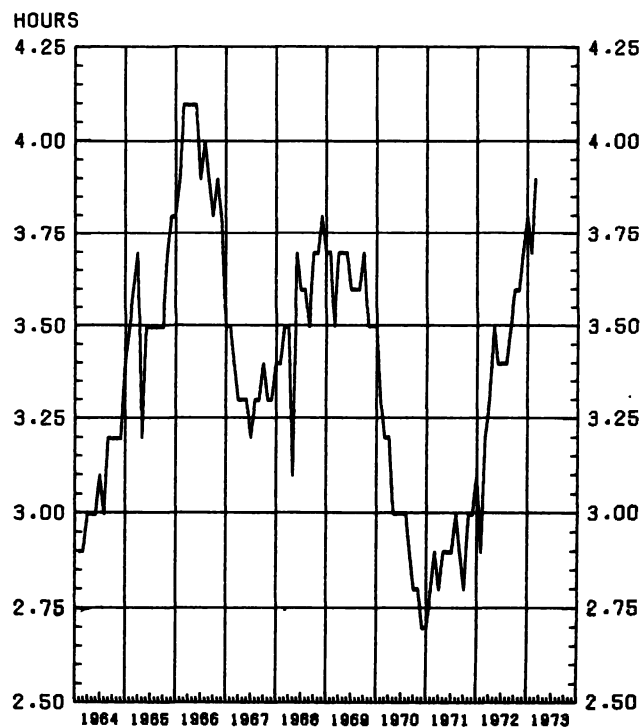


15. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

— MANUFACTURING
- - - TOTAL PRIVATE



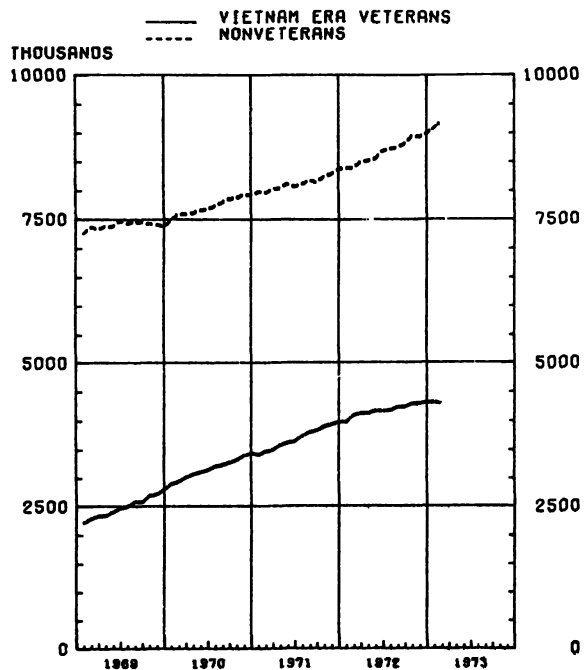
16. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS IN MANUFACTURING



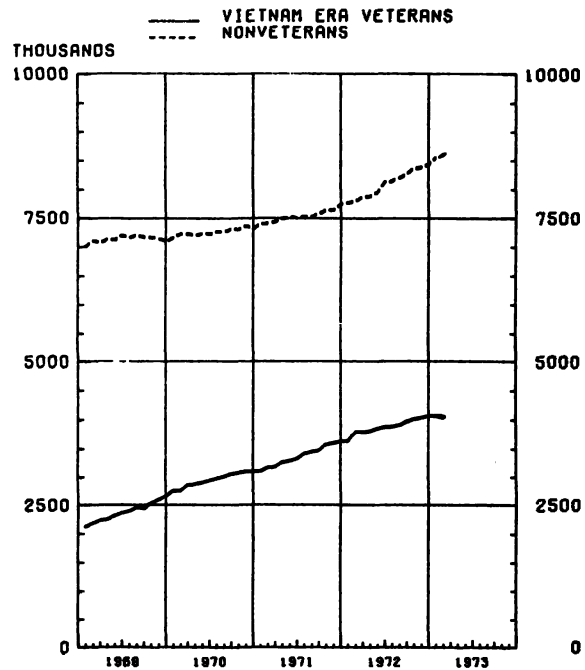
NOTE: Charts 14 and 15 relate to production or nonsupervisory workers; chart 16 relates to production workers. Data for the 2 most recent months are preliminary in charts 13-16.

VETERANS AND NONVETERANS, 20-29 YEARS HOUSEHOLD DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

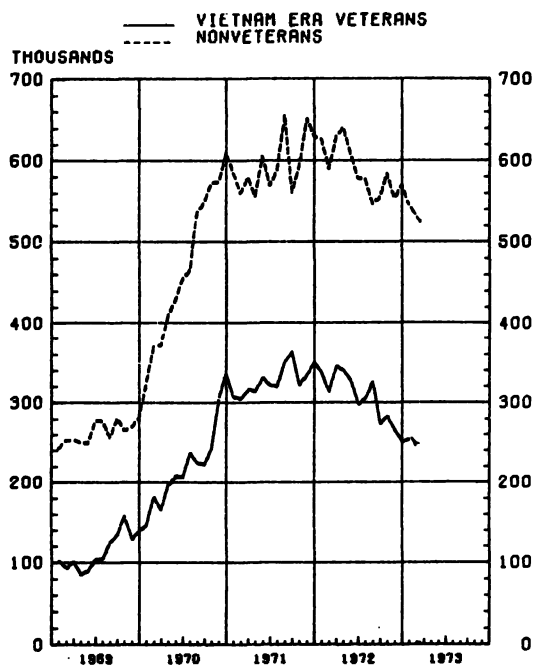
17. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE



18. EMPLOYED



19. UNEMPLOYED



20. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

