

Employers, Workers, and Wages, July-September 1950

The number of workers with taxable wages during July-September 1950 is estimated at 40.5 million, an increase of 2.5 percent over the number in April-June 1950 and 4 percent more than in July-September 1949. The total number of workers in covered industries, estimated at 42 million in July-September 1950, exceeded the numbers in the preceding quarter and in the corresponding quarter of the preceding year by about 5 percent. These gains, which bring employment in covered industry up to approximately the record highs reached in the third quarter of 1948, were the result of improved economic conditions due mainly to the increased momentum of the defense program. Preliminary estimates indicate that 49.5 million workers had some covered employment during 1950, about 5 percent more than in 1949.

Average taxable wages and average wages in covered industry in the third quarter of 1950, estimated at \$568 and \$667, respectively, were 9 and 7 percent higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1949—gains that were in line with the increases in average hourly earnings and average weekly hours. Average taxable wages declined 7 percent from the figure for the second quarter, in accordance with the usual seasonal pattern reflecting the \$3,000 limitation on taxable wages. Average wages in covered industry, on the other hand, exceeded those for the second quarter by 1 percent. For the whole year, average taxable wages and average wages in covered industries are estimated to be 5 percent and 4 percent higher than in 1949.

An estimated 2.9 million employers reported payment of taxable wages during the third quarter of 1950, 2 percent more than in the second quarter of 1950 and 5 percent more than in the third quarter of 1949. This increase, also, reflects the intensified defense effort.

Old-age and survivors insurance: Estimated number of employers¹ and workers and estimated amount of wages in covered industries, by specified period, 1940-50

[Corrected to Feb. 1, 1951]

Year and quarter	Employers reporting wages ² (in thousands)	Workers with taxable wages during period ² (in thousands)	Taxable wages ²		All workers employed in covered industries during period ² (in thousands)	Total payrolls in covered industries ²	
			Total (in millions)	Average per worker		Total (in millions)	Average per worker
1940.....	2,500	35,393	\$32,974	\$932	35,393	\$35,668	\$1,008
1941.....	2,646	40,976	41,848	1,021	40,976	45,463	1,110
1942.....	2,655	46,363	52,939	1,142	46,363	58,219	1,256
1943.....	2,394	47,656	62,423	1,310	47,656	69,653	1,462
1944.....	2,469	46,296	64,426	1,392	46,296	73,349	1,584
1945.....	2,614	46,392	62,945	1,357	46,392	71,560	1,543
1946.....	3,017	48,845	69,088	1,414	48,845	79,260	1,623
1947.....	3,246	48,908	78,372	1,602	48,908	92,449	1,890
1948.....	3,298	49,100	84,122	1,713	49,100	102,252	2,083
1949 ⁴	3,310	47,200	81,947	1,736	47,200	100,124	2,121
1950 ⁴	3,350	49,500	90,000	1,818	49,500	109,000	2,202
1943							
January-March.....	1,971	36,537	15,462	423	36,537	15,760	431
April-June.....	2,008	37,483	16,561	442	37,557	17,400	463
July-September.....	1,998	37,682	15,838	420	38,057	17,490	460
October-December.....	2,001	36,016	14,562	404	37,593	18,995	505
1944							
January-March.....	2,010	36,326	17,362	478	36,326	17,696	487
April-June.....	2,048	36,893	17,284	468	36,992	18,185	492
July-September.....	2,038	37,301	16,243	435	37,752	18,359	486
October-December.....	2,039	35,629	13,537	380	37,789	19,109	506
1945							
January-March.....	2,076	35,855	17,874	499	35,855	18,262	509
April-June.....	2,149	35,854	17,541	489	35,949	18,558	516
July-September.....	2,176	35,684	14,982	420	36,285	17,261	476
October-December.....	2,199	33,398	12,948	373	35,973	17,478	486
1946							
January-March.....	2,287	36,038	16,840	467	36,038	17,397	483
April-June.....	2,416	38,055	17,845	469	38,153	19,079	500
July-September.....	2,478	39,670	17,709	446	40,228	20,222	503
October-December.....	2,513	37,945	16,694	440	39,930	22,562	565
1947							
January-March.....	2,509	38,765	20,805	537	38,765	21,497	555
April-June.....	2,587	39,801	20,655	519	40,175	22,245	554
July-September.....	2,617	40,255	19,555	486	41,155	23,035	560
October-December.....	2,609	37,448	17,357	463	40,748	25,672	630
1948							
January-March.....	2,588	39,560	23,080	583	39,560	23,923	605
April-June.....	2,690	40,245	22,708	564	40,524	24,668	609
July-September.....	2,699	40,585	21,150	521	41,675	25,700	617
October-December.....	2,661	36,790	17,184	467	40,863	27,964	684
1949							
January-March ⁴	2,639	38,500	23,376	607	38,500	24,254	630
April-June ⁴	2,693	39,370	22,571	573	39,660	24,570	620
July-September ⁴	2,710	38,900	20,300	522	40,100	25,100	626
October-December ⁴	2,700	35,400	15,700	444	39,700	26,200	660
1950							
January-March ⁴	2,670	38,000	23,600	621	38,000	24,400	642
April-June ⁴	2,790	39,500	24,200	613	40,000	26,300	658
July-September ⁴	2,850	40,500	23,000	568	42,000	28,000	667

¹ Number corresponds to number of employer returns. A return may relate to more than one establishment if employer operates several separate establishments but reports for concern as a whole.

² Quarterly and annual data for 1937-39 were presented in the *Bulletin* for February 1947, p. 31; quarterly data for 1940 were presented in the *Bulletin* for August 1947, p. 30; quarterly data for 1941 and 1942

were presented in the *Bulletin* for February 1948, p. 31.

³ A description of these series and quarterly data for 1940 were presented in the *Bulletin* for August 1947, p. 30; quarterly data for 1941 and 1942 were presented in the *Bulletin* for February 1948, p. 31.

⁴ Preliminary.