

# Highest January Unemployment Rate Since 1964

**Iowa Workforce and Unemployment:** The unemployment rate rose to 3.4 per cent, the highest January rate since 1964. Unemployment increased 8,100 from mid-December to 39,900 in mid-January. The unemployment rate was 2.6 per cent in mid-December and 3.1 per cent in mid-January 1969. Normally a seasonal rise takes place in unemployment between December and January.

Iowa experienced the usual seasonal decline in its workforce between December and January. The Iowa civilian workforce dropped 26,100 from mid-December to a mid-January level of 1,180,500.

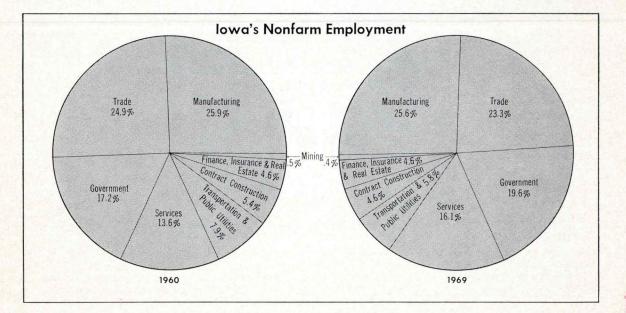
**Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment:** A drop of 21,000 from mid-December put the mid-January nonfarm wage and salary employment total at 865,400. Nonmanufacturing registered a loss of 17,000 workers while manufacturing dropped by 3,900.

The manufacturing employment decline was fairly well divided between durable and nondurable goods. Nonelectrical machinery with an increase of 400 was the only major division of durable goods manufacturing to show a gain. The greatest loss in nondurable goods employment took place in food and kindred products mainly as a result of a seasonal decline in meat products. The continued effect of winter weather was reflected in the employment levels of nonmanufacturing firms engaged in outdoor activities. As expected, employment in retail trade firms took a sharp drop of 9,000 with the end of the holiday shopping season. Over half of this loss was in general merchandise firms.

**Distribution of Nonfarm Employment:** The Sixties resulted in no startling shifts in the distribution of Iowa's nonfarm employment. Manufacturing employment still predominated although the 1969 total was 0.3 per cent less than the 1960 total. Services remained the fourth largest segment but had the largest increase of 2.5 per cent during the decade. The greatest reduction of 2.1 per cent of the total took place in transportation and public utilities. This decrease largely stemmed from diminished employment in railroad transportation.

Iowa Manufacturing Hours and Earnings: The average weekly wage of Iowa manufacturing production workers was \$145.89 during January compared to \$145.44 in December. Several wage rate increases contributed to a two cent increase in average hourly earnings while less overtime produced a 6 minute drop in the average workweek.

Depending upon the industry, several layoffs of lower-paid workers resulted in hourly



# Hours and Earnings of Production Workers By Industry In Iowa, January, 1970<sup>1</sup>

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

INDUSTRY	Ave	erage We Earnings <sup>2</sup>	ekly •		age W Hours	eekly		rage H Earnin	
INDUSTINI	Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969	Jan. 1970		Jan. 1969	Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969
ALL MANUFACTURING	\$145.89	\$145.44	\$135.41	40.3	40.4	40.2	\$3.62	\$3.60	\$3.37
Durable Goods	143.37	143.32	132.50	40.5	40.6	40.3	3.54	3.53	3.29
Lumber, wood prod., furn. & fix	107.24	107.80	98.12	38.3	38.5	37.7	2.80	2.80	2.60
Stone, clay & glass products	148.72	151.65	135.28	44.0	45.0	44.1	3.38	3.37	3.07
Primary metal industries	. 161.73	166.06	148.58	42.9	43.7	41.8	3.77	3.80	3.55
Fabricated metal products	136.78	135.79	125.73	41.7	41.4	41.3	3.28	3.28	3.05
Machinery except electrical	162.81	164.83	154.71	40.6	40.9	40.7	4.01	4.03	3.80
Farm machinery	. 174.03	176.61	163.58	40.1	40.6	40.2	4.34	4.35	4.07
Const. & related machinery	155.63	158.91	151.27	41.5	41.6	42.1	3.75	3.82	3.59
Electrical equip. & supplies	131.38	131.30	118.89	40.3	40.4	40.1	3.26	3.25	2.96
Transportation equipment	. 118.04	116.82	117.72	38.7	38.3	40.3	3.05	3.05	2.92
Other durable goods	120.00	117.06	110.31	37.5	37.4	37.4	3.20	3.13	2.95
Nondurable Goods	149.57	148.37	139.62	40.1	40.1	40.2	3.73	3.70	3.47
Food & kindred products	159.15	155.94	147.49	40.6	40.4	40.9	3.92	3.86	3.61
Meat products	176.80	170.17	162.25	40.0	39.3	40.2	4.42	4.33	4.04
Grain-mill products	153.30	159.34	147.28	42.0	43.3	42.8	3.65	3.68	3.44
Apparel & other textile prod	86.07	86.30	75.46	37.1	37.2	34.7	2.32	2.32	2.17
Printing & publishing	144.01	142.86	135.51	38.2	38.3	38.0	3.77	3.73	3.57
Newspapers	139.78	136.57	130.98	34.6	34.4	34.9	4.04	3.97	3.75
Chemicals & allied products	149.87	149.09	137.81	41.4	41.3	41.4	3.62	3.61	3.33
Other nondurable goods	143.20	146.01	137.65	40.0	40.9	40.7	3.58	3.57	3.38
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURIN	G								
Non-metallic minerals exc. fuels		183.21	126.58	46.9	59.1	45.2	3.16	3.10	2.80
Com., elec., gas & sanitary serv		137.76	127.01	40.0	39.7	39.5	3.44	3.47	3.22
Department stores.	61.11	61.79	54.12	*	*	*	*	*	*
Banking		84.42	82.47	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance carriers		100.49	102.18	*	*	*	*	*	*
Laundries, cleaning & dyeing		65.32	56.47	*	*	*	*	*	*

## Hours and Earnings For Total Manufacturing in Selected Iowa Areas, January, 1970<sup>1</sup>

(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor)

AREA	Av	$egin{array}{c} Average & Weekly \ Earnings^2 \end{array}$				Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969		Dec. 1969		Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969			
Cedar Rapids	\$146.32	\$144.79	\$136.28	41.1	40.9	41.5	\$3.56	\$3.54	\$3.29		
Davenport	163.21	161.95	152.81	40.6	41.0	40.5	4.02	3.95	3.77		
Des Moines	155.42	151.84	146.00	40.9	40.6	40.5	3.80	3.74	3.60		
Dubuque	165.33	166.34	143.07	38.9	39.7	38.1	4.25	4.19	3.76		
Sioux City	131.77	128.33	133.53	41.7	41.8	43.8	3.16	3.07	3.05		
Waterloo	160.80	162.41	158.28	40.1	40.5	41.1	4.01	4.01	3.85		

<sup>1</sup> Estimates are based upon a sample of full and part-time production and related employees, who were employed during the week containing the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings reflect, in addition to changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates, such variable factors as overtime premium pay, late shift work, changes in output of workers paid on an incentive basis, and changing employment of workers between relatively high-paid and low-paid work, and full-time and part-time status. Revised to most current information available at date of publication.

<sup>2</sup> Average weekly earnings may not equal the product of average weekly hours and average hourly earnings due to rounding.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes transportation.

\* Data not available.

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# Labor Turnover Rates For Selected Iowa Manufacturing Industries, January, 1970<sup>1</sup>

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

	AC	CESSI	ON RA	TES	SEPARATION RATES						
INDUSTRY		Total		Hires	Total		Quits		Layoffs		
	Jan. 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1970 <sup>2</sup>								
MANUFACTURING	3.3	2.6	2.1	1.9	4.2	3.7	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.7	
Durable Goods	3.0	2.4	1.7	1.7	4.2	3.1	1.5	1.1	2.0	1.5	
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.4	1.7	1.0	1.4	7.2	3.8	1.4	1.2	5.1	1.8	
Primary Metal Industries	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.4	3.1	3.2	2.2	1.2	.2	1.4	
Fabricated Metal Products	4.2	3.3	3.6	3.1	4.5	3.8	2.7	1.9	.7	1.0	
Machinery Except Electrical	4.0	2.8	1.6	1.3	2.9	1.6	.7	.7	1.5	.6	
Electrical Equipment & Supplies		1.7	1.0	1.4	4.1	4.9	1.5	1.2	2.0	3.1	
Other Durable Goods		2.1	1.5	1.7	6.1	3.5	2.1	1.4	3.4	1.6	
Nondurable Goods	3.7	2.8	2.7	2.1	4.3	4.6	1.9	2.0	1.2	2.0	
Food & Kindred Products	3.4	2.5	2.1	1.8	4.7	5.9	1.5	2.2	1.7	3.1	
Meat Products	3.5	2.3	1.5	1.4	6.2	8.5	1.0	2.3	3.0	5.4	
Printing & Publishing	3.9	3.2	3.4	2.3	3.4	2.1	2.4	1.4	.3	.3	
Rubber, Plastics & Leather Prod		2.1	1.2	1.3	3.3	2.7	1.2	1.3	1.2	.8	
Other Nondurable Goods	5.1	3.6	4.8	3.2	4.2	3.4	3.1	2.3	.4	.5	

<sup>1</sup> Figures presented are expressed as a rate per 100 employees.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary figures.

\* Less than .05

# Average Weekly Overtime Hours of Production Workers In Iowa Manufacturing, January, 1970<sup>1</sup>

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

INDUSTRY –	1970	19	69	1969	19	1968	
INDUSTRI =	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	Jan.	Dec. 3.4 2.7 3.3 5.6 4.2 2.9 2.2 2.3 2.0 4.5 4.9 4.8 1.3 3.7 2.3	Nov.	
MANUFACTURING	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.6	
Durable Goods	2.4	2.7	2.2	2.7	2.7	2.7	
Lumber, wood prod., furn. & fix	1.8	1.7	1.8	2.2	3.3	2.5	
Stone, clay & glass products	6.8	7.0	5.4	5.9	5.6	5.2	
Primary metal industries	5.0	5.4	4.7	4.7	4.2	5.6	
Fabricated metal products	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.9	
Machinery (except electrical)	1.9	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.2	1.8	
Electrical equip. & supplies	2.5	2.5	1.4	2.8	2.3	2.2	
Other durable goods	.9	1.2	1.2	1.6	2.0	2.9	
Nondurable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.7	
Food & kindred products	4.9	4.7	5.3	4.8	4.9	5.2	
Meat products	5.4	4.9	5.6	4.2	4.8	5.2	
Apparel & other textile prod	2.0	2.1	.9	.5	1.3	1.4	
Printing & publishing	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.8	
Chemicals & allied products	3.1	3.2	3.5	2.7	2.3	2.9	
Other nondurable goods	4.7	5.2	5.0	4.8	5.7	5.6	

<sup>1</sup> Estimates are based upon a sample of full and part-time production and related employees, who worked in the above industry groups during the week containing the 12th of the month. Revised to most current information available at the date of publication.

wage increases of 1 to 7 cents. In the durable goods segment, this was especially true in industries where weather conditions forced some curtailment of demand.

Wage rate increases in January were nearly all confined to nondurable goods industries. Workers in meat packing, apparel and various printing and publishing firms received pay raises sufficient to push the nondurable goods hourly wage up 3 cents.

Labor Turnover in Iowa Manufacturing: A slight increase in the demand for factory labor was apparent between December and January. Total accessions increased from a rate of 26 per 1,000 in December to 33 per 1,000 in January. Voluntary quits also inched upward from 15 per 1,000 in December to 17 per 1,000 in

# Nonagricultural Employment By Industry In Iowa

January, 1970<sup>1</sup>

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

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MANUFACTURING.         217,300         221,200         223,100 $-3,900$ Durable Goods         125,900         127,900         131,400 $-2,000$ Stone, clay & glass products.         7,900         8,300 $-3,000$ Primary metal industries         8,600         6,400         6,000 $-700$ Primary metal industries         8,600         8,600         0           Machinery (except electrical)         46,800         46,400         47,000         400           Const. & related machinery         26,000         28,200 $-700$ $-700$ Const. & related machinery         26,000         28,200 $-700$ $-700$ Const. & related machinery         26,000         8,300 $-900$ $-700$ Const. & related machinery         26,000         28,400 $-1,000$ $-700$ Nondurable Goods         91,400         93,300         91,800 $-1,900$ $-700$ Nondurable goods <sup>2</sup> 13,300         14,000         10,400 $-3,000$ $-700$ Grain-mill products         51,400         53,400         52,000 $-1,600$ $-1,600$	Jan. 1969 to Jan. 1970	to				INDUSTRY
MANUFACTURING.         217,300         221,200         223,100 $-3,900$ Durable Goods         125,900         127,900         131,400 $-2,000$ Stone, clay & glass products.         7,900         8,300 $-3,000$ Primary metal industries         8,600         6,400         6,000 $-700$ Primary metal industries         8,600         8,600         0           Machinery (except electrical)         46,800         46,400         47,000         400           Const. & related machinery         26,000         28,200 $-700$ $-700$ Const. & related machinery         26,000         28,200 $-700$ $-700$ Const. & related machinery         26,000         8,300 $-900$ $-700$ Const. & related machinery         26,000         28,400 $-1,000$ $-700$ Nondurable Goods         91,400         93,300         91,800 $-1,900$ $-700$ Nondurable goods <sup>2</sup> 13,300         14,000         10,400 $-3,000$ $-700$ Grain-mill products         51,400         53,400         52,000 $-1,600$ $-1,600$	8,400	-21,000	857,000	886,400	865,400	TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL
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Machinery (except electrical)       46,800       46,400       47,000       400         Farm machinery       26,300       28,300       500       -         Const. & related machinery       8,600       8,800       7,900*       -       200         Electrical equip. & supplies       25,900       26,600       28,200       -       700       -         Transportation equipment       5,200       5,400       5,400       -       200       -         Nondurable Goods       91,400       93,300       91,800       -       1,600       -       700       -         Food & kindred products       51,400       53,400       52,800       -       2,000       -         Meat products       26,000*       27,600*       26,900       -       1,600       -         Bakery products       3,700       3,400       3,500       300       -       -         Bakery products       3,700       3,700       3,400       -       100       -	600	0				
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Other durable goods <sup>2</sup> 13,300       14,000       16,100       —       700       —         Nondurable Goods       91,400       93,300       91,800       —       1,900       —         Food & kindred products       51,400       53,400       52,800       —       2,000       —         Meat products       26,000*       26,600*       26,900       —       1,600       …         Bakery products       3,700       3,400       3,500       300       …       …       …         Apparel & other textile prod       4,600       4,700       4,200       …       100       … <td>- 200</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Transportation equipment</td>	- 200					Transportation equipment
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Finance, insurance & real estate41,40041,30039,300100Banking13,10012,90012,200200Insurance carriers & agents17,60017,70016,700100Service & miscellaneous143,400143,200139,800200	- 200					General merchandise
Banking13,10012,90012,200200Insurance carriers & agents17,60017,70016,700100Service & miscellaneous143,400143,200139,800200	2,100					
Insurance carriers & agents         17,600         17,700         16,700         100           Service & miscellaneous         143,400         143,200         139,800         200	2,100					
Service & miscellaneous	900					
	3,600					
Medical wother health services $44.600 - 44.400 - 47.700 - 700$	2,400	200	42,200	44,400	44,600	Medical & other health services
Government	6,400					

<sup>1</sup> Revised to most current information available at date of publication. Data include all full and part-time wage and salary workers employed during the week containing the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, domestic workers, and the armed forces are excluded. Detail may not add up to total due to rounding. <sup>2</sup> Includes ordnance & accessories, instruments, related products & misc. mfg. <sup>3</sup> Includes textile mill products, petroleum & coal products and leather and leather products.

\* Strike

January. Layoffs remained constant with a rate of 17 per 1,000 in both December and January.

Beginning in January 1970, the industry groups in the labor turnover table have been changed. Other durable goods industries now includes ordnance and accessories, lumber and wood products, furniture and fixtures, transportation equipment, instruments and related products and miscellaneous manufacturing industries.

Other nondurable goods include textile mill products, apparel and other textile products, paper and allied products, chemicals and allied products and petroleum and coal products. Rubber, plastics and leather products which were previously included in other nondurable goods is now listed separately.

#### Workforce and Unemployment For State and Selected Areas

AREA	Workforce (000)	Number Unemployed (000)	Percent of Workforce Unemployed	Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment <sup>1</sup> (000)	Manu- facturing Employment (000)
January 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Sec. Sec.				CP States
Statewide	1,180.5	39.9	3.4	865.4	217.3
Cedar Rapids	76.1	1.8	2.4	66.5	27.4
Des Moines		3.9	2.7	129.1	26.9
Dubuque	41.1	1.2	2.8	34.2	14.4
Sioux City	49.3	1.7	3.4	39.7	8.5
Waterloo	58.9	2.4	4.2	50.2	19.3
December 1969					
Statewide	1,206.6	31.8	2.6	886.4	221.2
Cedar Rapids	77.7	1.5	1.9	68.0	27.6
Des Moines	147.3	3.4	2.3	130.5	26.6
Dubuque		1.0	2.4	34.6	14.4
Sioux City		1.3	2.6	40.8	8.6
Waterloo	60.0	2.5	4.1	50.9	19.3
January 1969					
Statewide	1,166.5	36.0	3.1	857.0	223.1
Cedar Rapids	75.1	1.6	2.1	65.9	27.5
Des Moines	140.4	3.1	2.2	125.0	26.6
Dubuque	39.1	1.2	2.9	32.4	13.7
Sioux City	49.4	1.5	3.1	41.1	10.1
Waterloo		1.8	3.1	49.4	19.8

<sup>1</sup> Excludes self-employed, domestics, unpaid family workers and members of the armed forces. Preliminary data.

\* Data not available at time of publication.

NOTE: STATEWIDE ESTIMATES BASED ON MARCH 1968 BENCHMARK. HAVE BEEN REVISED TO A MARCH 1969 BENCHMARK LEVEL. AREA ESTIMATES

## **Employment Security Activities**

Characteristics of Iowa's Insured Unemployed: Insured unemployment continued the seasonal increase begun in November. Between the October and January survey weeks, insured unemployment rose 218 per cent. During the same period a year earlier, a seasonal gain of 238 per cent took place.

The 15,150 insured unemployed workers in January was 66 per cent higher than the total recorded in December and 16 per cent higher than the January 1969 total. Men made up 76 per cent of the total January insured unemployed compared to 72 per cent in December.

Although all age groups showed more insured unemployed workers, the greatest gain took place in the under 25 age group where a rise of 81 per cent was reported from Decem-

ber. Workers 55 years of age and older had a 78 per cent increase in insured unemployment from December. However, only the under 25 age group had more than a 20 per cent increase from January 1969. Compared to last January, this age group showed a rise of 71 per cent in insured unemployment. Workers 65 years of age and older had an 11 per cent decrease in insured unemployment from January 1969.

Sixty-five per cent of the 15,150 insured unemployed workers in January were classified in occupations with a low level of complexity. Almost half of this group were structural workers. Levels of job complexity are only shown in the industrial categories and are not listed in the professional, clerical and sales, service or farming categories.

## Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed<sup>1</sup> in Iowa January, 1970

INDUSTRY	Total Insured Unemployed			<b>Number of</b> Women in Total Insured Unemployed			Number of Insured People Unemployed 5 Weeks or More		
	Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969	Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969	Jan. 1970	Dec. 1969	Jan. 1969
Total	15,150	9,147	13,054	3,679	2,579	3,117	6,348	3,660	5,630
Contract const	5,767	2,505	5,672	*	*	*	1,896	*	2,097
Manufacturing	5,764	4,276	4,393	2,195	1,401	1,869	2,803	2,136	2,282
Durable Goods	3,965	3,318	2,587	1,168	835	*	2,058	1,790	1,464
Nondurable Goods.	1,799	958	1,806	1.027	566	1.293	*	346	818
Trade	1,793	1.264	1,425	836	635	680	860	592	*
All other	1,826	1,102	1,564	*	500	*	789	503	599

<sup>1</sup> The insured unemployed are for the week including the 12th and are based on a survey of claims filed during the week including the 19th. Less than 5 per cent of total insured unemployed.

## Gross Hours and Earnings of Production Workers On Manufacturing Payrolls By State, October, 1969

UNITED STATES	\$3.24	Kentucky	\$3.10	North Dakota	\$2.86
Alabama		Louisiana			
Alaska	4.94	Maine	2.62	Oklahoma	3.00
Arizona	3.15	Maryland	3.27	Oregon	3.64
Arkansas	2.36	Massachusetts	3.11	Pennsylvania	3.24
California	3.68	Michigan	4.00	Rhode Island	2.74
Colorado		Minnesota			
Connecticut	3.32	Mississippi	2.35	South Dakota	2.86
Delaware		Missouri		Tennessee	
Florida	2.81	Montana	3.48	Texas	3.07
Georgia	2.61	Nebraska	3.01	Utah	3.31
Hawaii		Nevada		Vermont	2.81
Idaho		New Hampshire		Virginia	2.62
Illinois		New Jersey	3.29	Washington	3.91
Indiana		New Mexico	2.67	West Virginia	3.23
IOWA	3.53	New York	3.30	Wisconsin	3.49
Kansas		North Carolina		Wyoming	

\*Data not available

Source: "Employment and Earnings," U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, January 1970.

Industrially, contract construction had a 130 per cent increase between December and January. However, compared to a year ago, the increase was only 2 per cent. Nondurable manufacturing followed a similar pattern with an 88 per cent increase from December but a small decrease of less than one per cent from January 1969.

**Economic Conditions Varied:** New job applicants throughout Iowa had as anticipated an increase of 24 per cent from December. New non-agricultural job openings rose 11 per cent while unfilled job openings increased 6 per cent. An explanation by one office was that apparently more people are unemployed than a year ago but that available jobs have increased.

Agricultural job referrals were up 2 per cent from December while nonagricultural referrals increased 7 per cent. Total job placements were down 3 per cent from December and were 20 per cent under the January 1969 level.

Economic conditions varied throughout the state. In some areas, local industries have indicated no further cutbacks and anticipate calling back laid-off workers in late February or in March. In other locations, the area economy continues to remain steady with no major layoffs.

Average Hourly Earnings: Alaska's manufacturing production workers had the highest hourly earnings of \$4.94 during October 1969. The lowest hourly wage of \$2.35 was recorded by Mississippi. Only 3 states had hourly earnings of \$4 or more while 16 states had hourly earnings below \$3.

Iowa, with an average hourly wage of \$3.53, surpassed all its surrounding states in wages and was well above the national average of \$3.24.

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ACTIVITY	Janua Total	ry 1970 Female	Decen Total	nber 1969 Female	Janua Total	ry 1969 Female
New applicants	9,151	3,482	7,386	2,212	7,983	3,108
Total placements	3,679	*	3,776	*	4,617	*
Nonagricultural	3,613	1,174	3,676	942	4,491	1,384
Agricultural	66	*	100	*	126	*
Job openings received <sup>1</sup>	5,428	*	4,900	*	6,293	*
Active applications	29,385	10,682	24,778	9,223	25,156	9,049
Initial claims	12,563	2,859	10,433	2,476	9,790	2,249
Continued claims	59,616	15,407	42,999	12,458	51,497	12,552
Number of first payments						
issued	6,981	1,496	3,097	787	6,443	1,239
Amount of benefits paid Average weekly benefit					\$2,059,597	\$364,071
payment Average weekly payment	\$49.09	\$38.95	\$48.71	\$40.12	\$46.23	\$34.11
for total unemployment	\$50.82	\$41.62	\$50.38	\$42.59	\$48.67	\$38.22

### Summary of Employment Security Activities

<sup>1</sup> Limited to nonagricultural activities.

<sup>2</sup> Change in reporting requirements January 1, 1969 excludes Volunteer Farm Representative placements.

\* Data not available.