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Number of Employees, May, 1959

IN Great Britain the estimated total numbers of employees at end-May, 1959, were 14,230,000 males and 7,640,000 females: compared with May, 1958, there were increases of 10,000 males and 40,000 females. The figures cover all employees, including those who were unemployed and those who were absent from work through sickness and other causes as well as those who were actually at work. Employers and self-employed persons are excluded. The Table on the following pages shows the industrial distribution* of these figures in Great Britain, and in the United Kingdom also, at end-May, 1959.

The figures are based mainly on the counts of national insurance cards exchanged in the June-August quarter, together with information supplied by employers of five or more workpeople as to the total number of insurance cards held by them. National Insurance cards must be held in respect of all employed persons with the exception of certain Civil Servants and seamen (whose contributions are paid without the use of cards). Even in the case of employed married women who opt not to pay contributions there must still be an insurance card for the employer to pay his contribution, and in the case of persons whose weekly amount of employment is so small as to be deemed "inconsiderable" under the Act there must be a card for the payment of a contribution under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act.

Cards are current for twelve months, and at the end of their currency they must be taken or sent to a Local Office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance to be exchanged for new ones. As the total number of insured persons is well over 20 millions, the work of exchanging the cards has been spread over the four quarters of the year by arranging for one-quarter of the cards to be current for each of the twelve-month periods beginning in March, June, September and December. It is not practicable to obtain an industrial analysis of the cards exchanged in each of the four quarters, but an analysis of the figures for the cards exchanged in the June-August quarter, supplemented by the valuable information supplied by employers, provides an adequate basis for making estimates of the industrial distribution of the total number of employees. These estimates are related to the end of May, all employees exchanging cards in the June-August quarter being assumed to have been in

the employed population at the beginning of that quarter. Code numbers are inserted on every card exchanged to indicate the industry in which the person was employed or, if out of work, was last employed.

The procedure by which the figures for Great Britain are computed on the basis of the count of insurance cards exchanged and information supplied by employers is briefly as follows. The statements completed by employers (covering more than three-quarters of the total number of employees) show the number of cards due for exchange in the June-August quarter and also the number due for exchange in the other three quarters of the year. The sum of these figures, industry by industry, gives the total numbers of employees in the undertakings from which returns are received. As these returns are obtained only from undertakings employing five or more workpeople it is necessary to estimate the number of employees, industry by industry, in undertakings from which returns are not received. In each industry the total number of cards actually exchanged in the June-August quarter is known and the employers' returns showed how many of these cards relate to their employees. The balance therefore represents cards exchanged in the June-August quarter by employees of undertakings which had not rendered returns. This balance, for each industry, is multiplied by four and the product is then added to the total number of cards shown on the returns received from employers.

The summary of the returns received from employers showed that, for all industries taken together, the total number of cards held by them which were due to be exchanged in the June-August quarter of 1959 was almost exactly one-quarter of all cards held by them. This was to be expected, since cards are issued in the four periods of currency in strict rotation. The employers' returns showed, however, that the ratio of "June-August" cards to total cards varied (as would be expected) from industry to industry, being more than one-quarter in some industries and less than one-quarter in others. There was thus some possibility of error in estimates for separate industries arrived at by the procedure described in the preceding paragraph. Any such error, however, was relatively small, since the procedure of multiplying the numbers of "June-August" cards by four was limited to the small proportion of each industry that was not covered by employers' returns.

Statistics of Civil Servants without cards were provided by the Treasury. In the case of seamen without cards use was made of the statistics of employment compiled by the Department concerned. The figures of employees in Northern Ireland were supplied by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Labour and National Insurance.

*The classification of employees by industry is based on the new (1958) edition of the Standard Industrial Classification and the figures for individual industries are therefore not comparable with those for previous years. An article on page 55 of the February, 1959, issue of this GAZETTE described the main changes in the Standard Industrial Classification.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AT END-MAY, 1959

Table with 10 columns: Industry, Males (Under 18, Total all ages), Females (Under 18, Total all ages), Total Males and Females. Rows include Agriculture, Mining, Manufacturing, etc.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AT END-MAY, 1959—continued

Table with 10 columns: Industry, Males (Under 18, Total all ages), Females (Under 18, Total all ages), Total Males and Females. Rows include Clothing and Footwear, Construction, Gas, Electricity and Water, etc.

TABLE I.—NUMBERS OF WORKERS COVERED BY THE RETURNS RECEIVED AND AVERAGE EARNINGS IN THE SECOND PAY-WEEK IN OCTOBER, 1959

(NOTE.—In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers, and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and payment-by-results schemes, the differences in average earnings shown in this Table should not be taken as evidence of, or as a measure of, disparities in the ordinary rates of pay prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions. In particular, the figures representing the average earnings of "All Workers" are, of course, affected by differences as between industries in the proportions of men, women and juveniles employed.)

Table with columns for Industry, Numbers of workers covered by the returns received (Men, Youths, Women, Girls, All Workers), and Average earnings* in the second pay-week in October, 1959 (Men, Youths, Women, Girls, All Workers). Rows include Mining and Quarrying, Treatment of Non-Metallic Mining Products, Chemicals and Allied Trades, Metal Manufacture, Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods, Vehicles, Metal Goods not Elsewhere Specified, Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc., and Textiles.

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns was too small to provide a satisfactory basis for the calculation of a general average. † For the purpose of the figures given in this column, women employed as part-time workers have been included on the basis of two part-time workers being taken as representing one full-time worker. The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed ordinarily for not more than 30 hours a week. ‡ Excluding coke-ovens and by-product works attached to blast furnaces, which are included under the heading Coke-Ovens and By-Product Works. § Excluding railway workshops.

Table I.—Numbers of Workers Covered by the Returns Received and Average Earnings in the Second Pay-Week in October, 1959—continued

Table with columns for Industry, Numbers of workers covered by the returns received (Men, Youths, Women, Girls, All Workers), and Average earnings* in the second pay-week in October, 1959 (Men, Youths, Women, Girls, All Workers). Rows include Textiles, Leather, Leather Goods and Fur, Clothing, Food, Drink and Tobacco, Manufactures of Wood and Cork, Paper and Printing, Other Manufacturing Industries, Building and Contracting, Gas, Electricity and Water Supply, and Transport and Communication.

* See footnotes on previous page. † The figures relate to the permanent employees of dock, harbour and canal authorities; they do not cover workers paid by the day or half-day. ‡ Mainly postal, telegraph and wireless communication, but including also some returns for port, river and canal transport. § These figures relate to a minority of Government industrial employees. The great majority have been included in the figures for other industries and services such as shipbuilding, engineering, ordnance and small arms, printing, building, civil engineering contracting, transport and communication. ¶ Excluding police and fire service.

TABLE II.—AVERAGE HOURS WORKED AND AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS IN THE SECOND PAY-WEEK IN OCTOBER, 1959

(NOTE.—In view of the wide variations, as between different industries, in the proportions of skilled and unskilled workers, and in the opportunities for extra earnings from overtime, night-work and payment-by-results schemes, the differences in average earnings shown in this Table should not be taken as evidence of, or as a measure of, disparities in the ordinary rates of pay prevailing in different industries for comparable classes of workpeople employed under similar conditions. In particular, the figures representing the average earnings of "All Workers" are, of course, affected by differences as between industries in the proportions of men, women and juveniles employed.)

Main table on page 52 showing average hours worked and average hourly earnings in the second pay-week in October, 1959, by the workers covered by the returns received. Columns include Industry, Men (21 & over), Youths and Boys, Women (18 & over), Girls, All Workers, and Average number of hours worked and Average hourly earnings (Men, Youths, Women, Girls, All Workers).

* Where no figure is given, the number of workers covered by the returns was too small to provide a satisfactory basis for the calculation of a general average.
† In calculating the averages given in this column, women employed as part-time workers have been included on the basis of two part-time workers being taken as representing one full-time worker. The part-time workers referred to are those who were employed ordinarily for not more than 30 hours a week.
‡ Excluding coke-ovens and by-product works attached to blast furnaces, which are included under the heading Coke-Ovens and By-Product Works.
§ Excluding railway workshops.

Table II.—Average Hours Worked and Average Hourly Earnings in the Second Pay-Week in October, 1959—continued

Main table on page 53 showing average hours worked and average hourly earnings in the second pay-week in October, 1959, by the workers covered by the returns received. Columns include Industry, Men (21 & over), Youths and Boys, Women (18 & over), Girls, All Workers, and Average number of hours worked and Average hourly earnings (Men, Youths, Women, Girls, All Workers).

*† See footnotes on previous page.
‡ The figures relate to the permanent employees of dock, harbour and canal authorities; they do not cover workers paid by the day or half-day.
§ Mainly postal, telegraph and wireless communication, but including also some returns for port, river and canal transport.
|| These figures relate to a minority of Government industrial employees. The great majority have been included in the figures for other industries and services such as shipbuilding, engineering, ordnance and small arms, printing, building, civil engineering contracting, transport and communication.
¶ Excluding police and fire service.

EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC.

Contents of this Section

Table listing contents of the section with page numbers for various topics like Employment in Great Britain in December, 1959, and Unemployment at 11th January, 1960.

NOTE.—The estimated numbers of employees included in the Tables below have been revised on the basis of the new figures for end-May, 1959, based on counts of National Insurance Cards, that have now become available.

Employment in Great Britain in December

GENERAL SUMMARY

During December the number in civil employment is estimated to have fallen by 132,000 to 23,300,000. The largest reductions occurred in the seasonal industries, especially distribution, agriculture and fishing, building and contracting, and food, drink and tobacco.

The Employment Exchanges filled 175,000 vacancies in the five-week period ended 6th January. The number of vacancies notified to Exchanges but remaining unfilled at 6th January was 245,000; this was 5,000 less than in December.

The number of operatives working short-time in manufacturing industries in the week ended 2nd January was 40,200; this was almost 11,000 more than at the end of November and 132,000 less than a year previously.

There were 460,600 persons registered as unemployed on 11th January, of whom 448,300 were wholly unemployed and 12,300 temporarily stopped from work. Between 7th December and 11th January, unemployment increased by almost 40,000, the increase being almost entirely among the wholly unemployed.

The main changes were in the seasonal sectors, the principal increases being 13,600 among school-leavers, 7,900 in construction and 6,400 in the distributive trades; manufacturing industries as a whole increased by 10,300.

Expressed as a proportion of the estimated number of employees, unemployment in January was 2.1 per cent., in December it was 1.9 per cent. and in January, 1959, it was 2.8 per cent. The number of persons unemployed for more than eight weeks was 240,000—53 per cent. of the wholly unemployed.

It is estimated that the total working population* at the end of December was 24,272,000, a decrease of 113,000 compared with the end of November.

GENERAL MAN-POWER POSITION

The broad changes in the man-power situation between end-November and end-December, 1959, are shown in the following Table, together with the figures for recent months and end-December, 1958.

(End of Month)

Table showing General Man-Power Position with columns for Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1958 and Dec. 1959, and rows for Number in Civil Employment, Wholly Unemployed, and Total Working Population.

* The total working population represents the estimated number of persons aged 15 and over who work for pay or gain, or register themselves as available for such work.

† End of month estimates. Persons classed as temporarily stopped are included in the totals of persons in civil employment.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

(End of Month)

(Thousands)

Main table showing Industrial Analysis with columns for Males and Females (Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1958 and Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1959) and Total (Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1958 and Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1959). Rows list various industries like Mining, Chemicals, Metal Manufacture, etc.

ANALYSIS OF NUMBERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

An analysis of the total numbers in civil employment by broad industrial groups* is given in the Table below.

(End of Month)

Table showing Analysis of Numbers in Civil Employment by Industry or Service, with columns for Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1958 and Dec., Oct., Nov., Dec. 1959, and Change during Dec. 1959.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS*

The Table on the next page shows, for those industries for which comparable figures are available, the numbers employed at the end of December, 1958, and October, November and December, 1959. The figures relate to employees (including persons temporarily laid off but still on the employers' pay-rolls); they exclude employers and persons working on their own account, and they are thus different in scope from those given in the preceding paragraphs.

The figures are based primarily on the estimates of the total numbers of employees and their industrial distribution at the middle of each year which have been computed on the basis of the counts of insurance cards. In the case of all industries other than coal mining, building and contracting and gas and electricity, use has also been made of the monthly returns rendered by employers under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947.

* Based on the 1948 edition of the "Standard Industrial Classification".

† Cotton—206,000. Wool—06,000. Other textiles—456,000.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Table with columns: Industry, District (see also Note at beginning of Table), Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Rows include Iron and Steel Manufacture, Tinplate Manufacture, Galvanising, Tube Manufacture, Bobbin Manufacture, Electrical Cable Making, Lock, Latch and Key Making, Basket Making, and Silk Manufacture.

* Agreements between the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association and the trade unions concerned.
† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
‡ Agreements of the Sheet Trade Board.
§ Agreements of the South Wales Siemens Steel Trade Conciliation Board.
|| Agreements between the South Wales and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association and the trade union concerned.
¶ Weekly minimum rates for process workers as published in "Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1st April, 1959" are unaffected; equivalent hourly rates on the basis of the reduced normal working week are therefore excluded.
** See also under "Changes in Hours of Work."

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Table with columns: Industry, District (see also Note at beginning of Table), Date from which Change took effect, Class of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Rows include Silk Manufacture, Pressed Felt Manufacture, Hosier Manufacture, Lace Furnishings Manufacture, Leavers Lace Manufacture, Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Manufacture, Hosiery Finishing, Textile Making and Packing, and Coir Mat and Matting Manufacture.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 35 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.
‡ Including Leicester, Loughborough, Hinckley and district, Nuneaton, Nottingham district and Derby.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District (see also Note at beginning of Table), Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Rows include Wholesale Mantle and Costume Making, Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing, Refractory Goods Manufacture, Salt Glazed Ware, Glass Processing, Envelope Making and Stationery Manufacture, and Printing.

* These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 35 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.
† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 86 of this GAZETTE.
‡ Fully qualified craftsmen employed as maintenance men are to be paid the appropriate district skilled rate for their occupation; the wages of maintenance men other than fully qualified craftsmen are to be settled by local negotiations.
§ These increases were authorised in January, 1960, with retrospective effect to the date shown.
|| Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District (see also Note at beginning of Table), Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, and Particulars of Change. Rows include Printing and Bookbinding, Lithographic Printing and Photogravure, Process Engraving, Lithographic Tin Printing, Rubber Manufacture, Rubber Floor Laying, Linoleum and Felt Base Manufacture, Drawing Office Materials Manufacture, Civil Air Transport, Post Office, Provincial Areas in the United Kingdom, and Cinematograph Film Production.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
† Merit money up to these amounts, where paid, is consolidated into the new rates.
‡ Also included in the agreement are provisions for a new cost-of-living bonus based on the official index of retail prices. The bonus is to be calculated in January and July each year according to the index figures relating to November and May immediately preceding; for each point rise or fall above the index figure of 109 (January, 1956 = 100) the bonus shall be increased or decreased, as the case may be, by 1s. 6d. a week for journeymen and by proportional amounts for apprentices. Minimum rates remain unchanged if the index figure falls below 109.
§ See also under "Changes in Hours of Work".
|| Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. The new bonus is now related to a datum figure of 104 (January, 1956 = 100), the cash value of each point movement in the index remaining the same; the amounts shown above are related to an index figure of 110.
‡ This change was authorised in October, 1959, with retrospective effect to the date shown.
** In these grades 100 per cent. scales are quoted—lower rates are in operation for women not accepting liability for attendance throughout the 24 hours (including Sundays).
†† These increases represent the sixth stage in the introduction of equal pay for men and women in the non-industrial Civil Service. The grades concerned are also affected by the extension of the national rate area reported under "National Government Service" on page 81 of this GAZETTE.
‡‡ See footnote † on page 159 of the April, 1958, issue of this GAZETTE.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Class of Workpeople, Particulars of Change. Rows include Cinematograph Film Production, Catering, Petroleum Distribution, Retail Food Trades, Retail Drapery, Footwear Trades, and Transport workers.

* Including boiler attendants, storemen, transport mechanics, transport drivers, charge-hand cleaners, cleaners, commissionaires, doormen and gatemen, charge-hand painters, painters' mates, carpenters, carpenters' mates and general labourers.

† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Work".

§ For the purpose of payment, existing drivers of vehicles of over 2,500 gallons capacity and up to 2,999 gallons capacity will continue to be treated as being in the top category, the intention being to transfer such drivers to vehicles of 3,000 gallons capacity and over as circumstances permit.

|| In addition, compensatory bonus payments of 6d. an hour for drivers and 3d. for vehicle mates are introduced for all hours worked, subject to a minimum payment equal to that of the guaranteed hours of the working week or to the standard weekly hours in a shift cycle, in return for the co-operation of driving staff in achieving the maximum improvement in running times by driving at speeds permitted by law.

¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 35 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.

** These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 34 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Class of Workpeople, Particulars of Change. Rows include Retail Furnishing and Allied Trades, Retail Book-selling and Stationery Trades, National Government Service, Prison Services, Local Authorities' Services, and Transport workers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF WORK REPORTED DURING JANUARY

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date, Class of Workpeople, Particulars of Change. Rows include Flour Milling and Fish Curing.

* These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 35 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.

† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act, which also specifies the transference of certain areas in Scotland from Provincial B to Provincial A area. See page 35 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.

‡ Includes Post Office manipulative rank-and-file grades (page 196 in the volume "Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, 1st April, 1959") and messengers, paperkeepers, non-industrial car drivers and non-industrial cleaners in other Departments, for whom changes in rates of wages and hours of work are published from time to time in this GAZETTE.

§ The towns concerned are Bath, Blackburn, Burnley, Cambridge, Darlington, Doncaster, Grimsby (County Borough), Halifax, Ipswich, Luton (Municipal Borough), Newport (Monmouth), Northampton, Norwich, Oldham, Oxford, Paisley, Preston, Poole, Reading, Rhondda, Rochdale, Romford (that part outside the London area), Rotherham, St. Helens (Lancs.), Solihull, Southampton, Swindon, Thurrock, Walsall, Wigan and York. The extension of the national rate area to include towns previously in the provincial rate area is proceeding in annual stages on the basis of a descending population scale. The above extension represents the third stage under these arrangements, and all staff outside the London area will achieve national rates by 1st January, 1962.

¶ Subject to deduction of an amount not exceeding 10s. a week when the average number of actual working hours over a year does not exceed 46 a week, and to addition of an amount not exceeding 10s. where such average exceeds 50. Appropriate deductions at current rates are also made for emoluments supplied in kind (uniform is supplied free).

** See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages".

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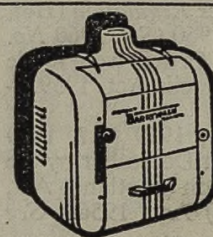
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