

individuals were out of work for six months or more. Many of these persons had exhausted their financial resources including unemployment insurance.

Men aged 45 or older had an average unemployed rate throughout the nation of about 4.0 percent in 1963, compared with about 3.9 percent for those in the age group 25-44. In recent years, a fractionally higher rate for older workers has prevailed.

Older workers are often out of work longer when they become unemployed. In 1963, almost half of unemployed men aged 65 and over throughout the nation who were looking for work had been unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, and about two out of five in the age group 45-64 were in a similar situation.^{11/} The duration of unemployment for workers between 45 and 64 increased with age. Studies of shutdowns of several large plants during 1963 showed that the proportion of displaced workers who remained unemployed for more than six months was almost 50 percent higher for those aged 45 and over than for younger workers.

Between the censuses of April 1950 and April 1960, unemployment rates rose for men and women in all age groups, with the highest rates reserved for the youngest age category:

Table 1
Unemployment Rates^{a/} by Age and Sex
United States, April 1950 and April 1960

Age	Total		Female	
	1960	1950	1960	1950
Total 14 years and over	5.1	4.9	5.4	4.7
Under 25	8.7	8.2	8.0	6.9
25-44	4.4	4.0	5.3	4.1
45-64	4.4	4.2	4.2	3.7
65 and over	5.2	4.7	4.4	3.6

^{a/} Per 100 persons in civilian labor force. Not seasonally adjusted.
Source: U.S. Census of Population.
1950, PCL. Table 118.
1960, PC(1) 1D. Table 194.

In the subsequent three-year period, the average annual rate fluctuated from 6.7 percent to 5.6 percent, with rates for women ranging from 7.2 percent to 6.2 percent.^{12/} Highest rates were experienced by the group under age 25, of whom 11.8 percent were unemployed on the average in 1963. For both men and women aged 65 and over, however, the average rate in 1963 dropped below the 1950 average to a recent low