The region which would be most seriously affected is the Appalachian Region. According to a study made by the Man-Made Fiber Producers Association, Inc., the manmade fiber, textile and apparel industry accounts for 452,957 of the total of 1,709,844 manufacturing employees in the 373 counties of Appalachia.[1] Inasmuch as others have testified on this subject we shall not enter into further discussion, except to note that a decline in the industry which accounts for more than a quarter of the industrial jobs in this depressed region would strike a devastating blow at the efforts being made to restore it to prosperity under the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965. It should also be noted that while this region employs more than 20% of the workers in the manmade fiber-textile-apparel complex, it accounts for approximately one-half of the jobs in the manmade fiber producing segment (50,300 out of 104,000).

The outstanding geographic characteristic of the textile mill products segment of the industry is the fact that a large majority of the plants are located in small towns or rural areas where they comprise the major source of industrial employment opportunities. This fact is vital to an appreciation of the importance of the industry to the areas in which they are located. It is also a key to understanding the difficulties faced by workers who lose their jobs as a result of mill curtailment or liquidation. In most cases they have no where to turn for alternative employment in the area.

The limitations of available statistics make it impossible for us to furnish the Committee with a comprehensive picture of the distribution of the industry's establishments by size of area. Regulations restricting the publication of employment statistics which might disclose information relating to an individual reporting unit preclude us from access to the necessary information.

The following data clearly indicate the predominant location of the textile industry in small labor areas where the mills comprise the major source of employment.

1. *Textiles and Major Labor Areas*

The Bureau of Employment Security of the United States Department of Labor compiles monthly statistics on employment for 150 Major Labor Areas for purposes of analyzing the adequacy of their local labor supply. These areas are defined as follows:

"Major" labor areas usually have at least one central city with a population of 50,000 or more, according to the 1960 Census. In most instances, boundaries of major labor areas coincide with those of Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, as determined by a Federal interagency committee chaired by the Budget Bureau.[2]

These areas comprise the principal centers of industrial employment in the United States. In 1966 they accounted for 68% of the nation's manufacturing employees (13,035,000 out of 19,186,000). However, only 34% of the textile mill employment is located in the 150 major labor areas (326,000 out of 961,500). Almost two-thirds of the textile labor force is employed in areas outside of the major labor areas. (Table 1.)

2. *Textiles and Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas*

Another indication of the predominant location of textile employment in small areas is afforded by a statistical breakdown of production workers in the major subdivisions of the industry. These are available from wage surveys conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor in recent years. They show that 70.5% of the production workers in five divisions of the textile mill products industry were employed in establishments outside of Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.[3] (Table 2.)

The proportions of workers located in nonmetropolitan areas vary from a low of 53.0% in Textile Dyeing and Finishing to a high of 78.6% in Children's Hosiery. These proportions are representative of the textile mill products indus-

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[1] *Impact of Imports on American Industry and Employment,* Hearings before the General Subcommittee on Labor, House Committee on Education and Labor, 90th Session, Part 2, 1967, p. 1042 ff.

[2] *Directory of Important Labor Areas,* Bureau of Employment Security, U.S. Department of Labor, July 1, 1965, p. i.

[3] Defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Budget as an area containing "at least one city of at least 50,000 inhabitants," and including "the county of such central city, and adjacent counties that are found to be metropolitan in character and economically and socially integrated with the county of the central city." (*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas,* 1967, pp. vii-viii.)