try as a whole. The production workers in these 5 divisions accounted for 71% of the industry's total in 1966.

3. *Textiles in South Carolina*

Because of the availability of detailed tabulations in the annual reports of the Department of Labor of the State of South Carolina, it is possible to analyze the distribution of textile employment data for this state in a more comprehensive manner than for the other states. Inasmuch as South Carolina is one of the leading textile states (accounting for 145,800 of the nation's 961,500 textile jobs in 1966) and its locational characteristics are representative of the industry as a whole, we have made a study of the distribution of the state's textile mills and employees to determine the importance of this industry to the industrial structure on a local area basis.

The basic unit for analyzing local labor areas outside of Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas is the county. Consequently, our study is based on an analysis of the distribution of textile mills and employees among the counties in the state which contain textile establishments (Table 3). For counties whose textile employment is not disclosed by *County Business Patterns* (U.S. Department of Commerce), estimates of employment were made on the basis of non-salaried employment reported by the South Carolina Department of Labor.

The counties with textile establishments were distributed by size of manufacturing employment (Table 4). The following locational characteristics of the textile industry are evident from these data:

(*a*) More than half of the textile mills and employees are located in counties with less than 15,000 manufacturing employees (175 of the 345 mills and 72,749 of the 143,959 textile employees).

(*b*) In counties with less than 15,000 manufacturing employees, textiles accounts for 43% of total manufacturing jobs. Clearly, the textile industry is the predominant industrial employer in the smaller counties in which textiles are located.

(*c*) In the larger counties with textile employment (i.e., those with 15,000 or more manufacturing jobs) the predominance of the textile industry is even greater than in the smaller areas: textile employment comprises 57% of all manufacturing jobs in these counties.

(*d*) A large majority of textile employment is located in counties in which textiles accounts for more than half of manufacturing jobs: 69% of the textile workers are employed in counties with a ratio of textile to total manufacturing employment of 50% or more.

Personal Characteristics

The textile labor force is highly immobile. The age, sex, education and skill distribution of textile workers all conspire to prevent them from taking advantage of opportunities for reemployment in other industries and areas. Consequently, the theoretical means of adjusting to the dislocations caused by increased imports—retraining and relocation—are no solution to the problems confronted by textile workers in the event of a contraction in the industry.

It is obvious that women are handicapped by their sex and family status in utilizing relocation as a means of adjusting to the loss of employment. The ratio of women to total employment in textiles is exceptionally high (45% compared to an average of 27% for all manufacturing industries).

In appraising the geographic mobility of American workers, the United States Department of Labor has found that "older workers, the unskilled and the uneducated are those least likely to move and those who fare the worst when they do." [4] The particular difficulties faced by older workers are described as follows:

> Migrants 45 years old and over have a more severe unemployment problem after they move than men 25 to 44 years old. They have less education and face age discrimination. And since community and family ties are stronger among older persons, migration is probably a last resort for this greatly disadvantaged group.[5]

The textile labor force has a disproportionately high ratio of workers aged 45 and over. The latest available census shows that 40.1% of the males employed in the textile mill products industry were 45 years old and over compared with 35.9% for all manufacturing industries in 1960. Similarly, the proportion of

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[4] *A Report on Manpower Requirements, Resources, Utilization and Training.* Transmitted to the Congress March 1965, p. 146.

[5] *Ibid.*, p. 149.