

employment and unemployment experience during the calendar week immediately prior to the interview.

Nearly 110,000 persons living in the UES areas—about one out of every five who worked or looked for work—were unemployed at some time during the 12 months prior to the survey week. This contrasts with about one out of every eight in the Nation as a whole in 1967. Negro workers were more likely than white workers to be jobless at some time during the year. About one out of four slum residents who experienced unemployment did not work at all during the year; this was more than twice the proportion in the entire Nation.

Of the 110,000 persons with some unemployment during the year, one-fourth were out of work for a total of 15 or more weeks—about the same proportion as in the Nation as a whole. For men 20 to 64 years old who were heads of households, the proportion was much higher—38 percent. Another one-third of the unemployed experienced a total of 5 to 14 weeks of joblessness. Thus, well over half of those who experienced some unemployment during the previous 12 month period were out of work 5 weeks or more, slightly higher than the proportion in the entire Nation.

Earnings

About 1 out of 6 full-time workers from the UES areas reported earning less than \$65 a week, or about the equivalent of the current Federal minimum wage for a 40-hour week. Women were four times more likely than men to be among the low earners. There was little variation in the proportion of Negro and white workers earning less than \$65 weekly.

Although a large proportion of slum area workers received low earnings, many other UES residents had substantial weekly earnings; about one out of seven full-time workers earned \$150 or more a week. Median weekly earnings for all full-time workers were \$92, with men averaging \$106 and women \$74.

Median earnings for all workers in the UES areas (including both full- and part-time workers) were \$85 a week in the third quarter of 1968. About 1 out of 4 earned less than \$65 weekly, while more than one out of three workers earned more than \$100 a week.

Family income

A disproportionate number of slum area residents are members of families with very low yearly incomes—which include earnings, welfare payments, rents, and money from all sources. About 20 percent of the UES area families with 4 persons or more reported incomes of less than \$3,500 during the previous 12 months. This level of income approximates the “poverty line” developed by the Social Security Administration, which takes into account such factors as family size, number of children, and farm-nonfarm residence, as well as the amount of money income. On the other hand, nearly one-third of these families had incomes of \$8,000 or more. There was little difference in the proportion of white and Negro UES area families with that level of income. The median annual income for all UES families was \$5,400, compared to the 1967 U.S. average (median) of \$8,000 for all families and \$5,100 for all Negro families. Although median income levels were significantly lower than the U.S. average for families in the slum areas, about 1 out of 4 slum area families received \$8,000 or more.

Unrelated individuals residing in the UES slums reported a median annual income of \$2,500. Two-thirds of them received incomes of less than \$3,500 during the 12 month period.

Future UES Reports

This preliminary release has furnished basic labor force information for the six poverty areas combined, although there are significant variations in the economic and social characteristics of persons residing in the separate UES areas. As the UES sample is accumulated to a satisfactory degree of statistical reliability, the data for each individual UES area will be published. Subsequent reports will also provide additional information on employment and unemployment as well as detailed data on job seeking methods, work history, job mobility, migration patterns, job skills, transportation problems, and attitudes towards work.

Senator PROXMIRE (presiding). Thank you, Mr. Secretary, for a thoughtful, intelligent, and I think most encouraging statement.

Mr. Secretary, do you envision your job as being the man to speak vigorously in the counsels of the administration for the migrant