idleness. In both New York and Pennsylvania, however, idleness was at the lowest level since 1957. In Michigan, two-thirds of the man-days of idleness occurred in the major strikes, particularly the Ford and General Motors stoppages. Michigan's idleness was substantially higher than in 1960 but much below that of 1958 and 1959.

In the same five States in which the highest amount of idleness was recorded, the number of workers involved in stoppages was also relatively high. Four of the States had more than 100,000 workers in strikes and the fifth, California, had 99,000. Noteworthy among the strike records of these States was the fact that the number of workers idled by strikes in Pennsylvania in 1961 reached the lowest level since 1940.

Six of the 14 major strikes of 1961 were confined to 1 State; the other 8 crossed State lines. The stoppage on several airlines early in the year affected workers in 44 States; the Ford strike spread into 24 States; and the General Motors and the maritime strikes affected workers in 17 States each.

The percent of estimated total working time in nonagricultural employment lost through strike idleness was highest in Alaska (0.49 percent), followed by Michigan (0.38 percent). Other States with relatively high strike idleness ratios were Utah (0.24 percent), Delaware (0.23 percent), Oregon and Minnesota (0.22 percent), and Colorado, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia (0.21 percent).

Leading the States in number of stoppages were New York (421), Pennsylvania (393), Ohio (283), California (269), New Jersey (234), and Illinois (219). Five States had fewer than 10 stoppages each—Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, and South Carolina.

Metropolitan Areas. In two metropolitan areas—New York City and Philadelphia—more than a million man-days of idleness occurred as a result of strikes in 1961. Detroit idleness reached nearly a million man-days (940,000) and the workers involved (126,000), higher than any other area, were nearly double the number idle in Philadelphia (65,600), and 7,000 above the number in New York City (119,000). In all measures of strike activity, the figures for Detroit were substantially below those of 1958, another year in which the area was affected by major automobile strikes.

The number of workers involved in the idleness in the Houston metropolitan area were the highest on record, 9 largely as a result of the 24-day construction stoppage of 15,000 workers.

Monthly Trends

More than 300 stoppages started each month, from May through October, carrying somewhat later into autumn the typical high strike period (table 3). Peak idleness was reached in September and October, coinciding with the General Motors and Ford strikes.

The following tabulation shows the number of new stoppages affecting more than 1,000 workers, by month, for 1961, 1960, and 1959.

	1961	1960	1959
January	10	13	14
February	9	12	13
March	13	20	21
April	18	24	21
May	22	31	35
June	26	32	34
July	21	28	34
August	19	24	26
September	12	11	16
October	20	7	14
November	19	12	11
December	6	8	6

Unions Involved

As in the past 3 years, approximately three-fourths of the stoppages involved affiliates of the AFL-CIO (table 10). There was an increase in 1961 over 1960 in the number of AFL-CIO members on strike, while idleness declined. Strikes among members of unaffiliated unions were slightly above 1960, workers involved were the same, and idleness was somewhat lower than in 1960. No union was involved in 30 stoppages which affected about 2,000 workers, as compared with 38 stoppages involving slightly more than 4,200 workers in 1960.

Mediation

Parties to 44 out of every 100 stoppages in 1961 reported receiving assistance from government mediators, in most cases Federal mediators (table 15). These tended to be the larger stoppages, involving three-fourths of all workers in 1961 stoppages and more than four-fifths of total idleness. Mediation made

⁹ Prior to 1952, strike information was confined to city boundaries.

its greatest contribution in stoppages arising out of the renegotiation of contract terms, reported in 3 out of 4 cases. Relatively few of the stoppages arising during the term of the agreement involved mediation. In total, about 2.3 million man-days were lost in unmediated disputes, an amount less than half of the 1960 level.

Settlement

Seven out of eight strikes in 1961 were terminated by agreement between the parties which returned the workers to their jobs (table 16). In about 10 percent of the stoppages, including the maritime strike ended by a Taft-Hartley injunction, work was resumed without a formal settlement. In 37 instances, involving 1,850 workers, the employer went out of business, thereby terminating the dispute. One out of four strikes over union recognition or the negotiation of the first agreement ended without a settlement.

Procedure for Handling Unsettled Issues

For more than 500 stoppages, information was available on the means by which

unsettled issues would be handled after the termination of the stoppage (table 17). In a fifth of these instances, remaining issues were to be arbitrated. In about a fourth, direct negotiations between the parties were to take place. A small proportion (59 stoppages) were to be referred to a government agency. For the remainder (229 stoppages), unsettled issues were to be resolved by various other means.

Of the 110 arbitration proceedings instigated by strike settlements with unresolved issues, 50 involved new (or first) contract terms, 56 the interpretation of contract language or other matters precipitating strikes during the term of the agreement, and in 4 cases contract status was not known.

Chief among the type of issues remaining to be settled after the workers returned to their jobs, as shown in the tabulation below, were interunion matters. The larger stoppages, however, tended to involve working conditions or a combination of unsettled issues.

	Stoppages		Workers involved		Man-da	ys_idle
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total stoppages covered 1	483	100.0	186,000	100.0	1, 700, 000	100.0
Wages and hours	63	13.0	25, 800	13.9	305,000	17.9
Fringe benefits	18	3,7	5,560	3.0	94, 200	5.5
Union organization	46	9, 5	3,800	2.0	54,700	3.2
Working conditions	92	19.0	72,300	38.9	669,000	39.3
Interunion matters	233	48. 2	16,500	8.9	80,000	4.7
Combination	20	4.1	37,700	20.3	198,000	11.6
Other	11	2. 3	24,000	12.9	300,000	17.6

¹ Excludes those for which information was insufficient to classify.

Table 1. Work Stoppages in the United States, 1927-611

	Work st		Workers i			ays idle duri	ng year
Year	Number	Average duration (calendar days) ³	Number (thousands)	Percent of total employed	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated total working time	Per worker involved
1927 1928 1929 1930	707 604 921 637	26.5 27.6 22.6 22.3	330 314 289 183	1.4 1.3 1.2 .8	26,200 12,600 5,350 3,320	0.37 .17 .07 .05	79.5 40.2 18.5 18.1
1931	810 841 1,695 1,856 2,014	18.8 19.6 16.9 19.5 23.8	342 324 1,170 1,470 1,120	1.6 1.8 6.3 7.2 5.2	6,890 10,500 16,900 19,600 15,500	.11 .23 .36 .38 .29	20.2 32.4 14.4 13.4 13.8
1936	2,172 4,740 2,772 2,613 2,508	23.3 20.3 23.6 23.4 20.9	789 1,860 688 1,170 577	3.1 7.2 2.8 4.7 2.3	13,900 28,400 9,150 17,800 6,700	.21 .43 .15 .28	17.6 15.3 13.3 15.2 11.6
1941	4,288 2,968 3,752 4,956 4,750	18.3 11.7 5.0 5.6 9.9	2,360 840 1,980 2,120 3,470	8.4 2.8 6.9 7.0 12.2	23,000 4,180 13,500 8,720 38,000	.32 .05 .15 .09	9.8 5.0 6.8 4.1 11.0
1946	4, 985 3, 693 3, 419 3, 606 4, 843	24.2 25.6 21.8 22.5 19.2	4,600 2,170 1,960 3,030 2,410	14.5 6.5 5.5 9.0 6.9	116,000 34,600 34,100 50,500 38,800	1.43 .41 .37 .59 .44	25.2 15.9 17.4 16.7 16.1
1951	4,737 5,117 5,091 3,468 4,320	17.4 19.6 20.3 22.5 18.5	2, 220 3, 540 2, 400 1, 530 2, 650	5.5 8.8 5.6 3.7 6.2	22,900 59,100 28,300 22,600 28,200	.23 .57 .26 .21	10.3 16.7 11.8 14.7 10.7
1956	3,825 3,673 3,694 3,708 3,333 3,367	18.9 19.2 19.7 24.6 23.4 23.7	1,900 1,390 2,060 1,880 1,320 1,450	4.3 3.1 4.8 4.3 3.0 3.2	33,100 16,500 23,900 69,000 19,100 16,300	.29 .14 .22 .61 .17	17.4 11.4 11.6 36.7 14.5

¹ The number of stoppages and workers relate to those beginning in the year; average duration, to those ending in the year. Man-days of idleness include all stoppages in effect.

Available information for earlier periods appears in Handbook of Labor Statistics, BLS Bulletin 1016 (1951), table E-2. For a discussion of the procedures involved in the collection and compilation of work stoppages statistics, see Techniques of Preparing Major BLS Statistical Series, BLS Bulletin 1168 (1955), ch. 12.

² In this and following tables, workers are counted more than once if they were involved in more than 1 stoppage during the year.

³ Figures are simple averages; each stoppage is given equal weight regardless of its size.

Table 2. Work Stoppages Involving 10,000 or More Workers, Selected Periods

	Stoppages involving 10,000 or more workers								
Period		Workers	involved	Man-da	ys idle				
	Number	Number (thousands) 1	Percent of total for period	Number (thousands) 1	Percent of total for period				
1935-39 (average)	11	365	32.4	5, 290	31.2				
1947-49 (average)	18	1,270	53.4	23,800	59.9				
1945	42	1,350	38.9	19, 300	50.7				
1946	31	2,920	63.6	66,400	57.2				
1947	15	1,030	47.5	17,700	51.2				
1948	20	870	44.5	18,900	55.3				
1949	18	1,920	63,2	34,900	69.0				
1950	22	738	30.7	21,700	56.0				
1951	19	457	20.6	5,680	24.8				
1952	35	1,690	47.8	36,900	62.6				
953	28	650	27.1	7. 270	25.7				
954	18	437	28.5	7.520	33.3				
955	26	1,210	45.6	12, 300	43.4				
956	12	758	39.9	19,600	59.1				
957	13	283	20.4	3,050	18.5				
958	21	823	40.0	10,600	44.2				
959	20	845	45.0	50,800	73.7				
960	17	384	29.2	7, 140	37.4				
.961	(14)	601 v	41.4	4,950	30.4				

Includes idleness in stoppages beginning in earlier years.

Table 3. Work Stoppages by Month, 1960-61

	Number of	stoppages	Workers	involved in	stoppages	Man-days idle		
			'	In effect du	ring month	during month		
Month	Beginning in month	In effect during month	Beginning in month (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of total employed	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated total working time	
1960								
January	191 242 270 352 367 400 319 361 271 258 192 110	313 373 430 535 574 629 530 554 500 432 368 250	71 65 85 150 156 214 125 134 131 106 53 28	131 128 130 222 236 314 233 221 209 146 85 53	0.30 .29 .30 .50 .53 .70 .52 .49 .46 .33 .19	I, 110 1, 280 1, 550 1, 930 2, 110 2, 950 2, 140 1, 700 1, 650 1, 500 732 458	0.13 .14 .15 .21 .23 .30 .24 .16 .17 .16	
January February March April May June July August September October November December	196 191 224 281 393 337 352 355 315 324 257	309 319 350 399 561 554 553 605 573 568 501 366	76 113 47 88 110 171 102 84 314 226 86 37	90 133 62 112 148 240 177 157 372 275 160 86	.20 .30 .14 .25 .33 .52 .40 .34 .81	589 768 478 984 1,610 1,660 1,460 1,320 2,580 2,480 1,500 855	.06 .09 .05 .11 .16 .17 .16 .12 .28 .24 .16	

Table 4. Work Stoppages by Contract Status and Major Issues, 1961

	s	toppages be	ginning in 196	1	Man-days idle	
Contract status and major issue			Workers	involved	during 1961	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All stoppages	3, 367	100.0	1,450,000	100.0	16, 300, 000	100.0
Negotiation of first agreement or union recognition	513 106 18 360 20 7 2	15.2	36, 300 7, 550 1, 740 24, 100 1, 290 1, 500 120	2. 5	979, 000 182, 000 28, 500 710, 000 36, 300 22, 400 200	6.0
Renegotiation of agreement (expiration or reopening) General wage changes and supplementary benefits Wage adjustments Hours of work Union organization and security Job security and plant administration Interunion or intraunion matters Other	1,517 1,214 52 3 89 112 12 35	45.1	1,020,000 487,000 25,300 1,170 62,300 425,000 9,960 8,880	70.2	13, 200, 000 6, 550, 000 724, 000 3, 190 1, 650, 000 4, 120, 000 24, 000 165, 000	81.3
During term of agreement (negotiation of new agreement not involved)	1,084 70 3 46 145 363 315 142	32. 2	378,000 19,000 630 4,770 123,000 129,000 74,000 27,590	26.0	1,890,000 64,100 1,520 22,400 577,000 668,000 199,000 358,000	11,6
No contract, or other contract status General wage changes and supplementary benefits Job security and plant administration Interunion or intraunion matters Other	57 22 17 9	1.7	7, 640 2, 700 3, 280 1, 130 530	.5	52, 100 12, 800 10, 900 20, 800 7, 540	. 3
No information on contract status	196	5.8	10, 200	.7	122,000	.8

Table 5. Major Issues Involved in Work Stoppages, 1961

Table).	iviajor resuc	5 IIIVOIVEU III	work Stoppage	cs, 1901			
		Stoppages be	ginning in 196	1	Man-day during		
Major issues			Workers i	nvolved	(all stoppages)		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All issues	3,367	100.0	1,450,000	100.0	16,300,000	100.0	
General wage changes General wage increase General wage increase, plus supplementary benefits	1,359 590 473	40.3	483,000 115,000	33.3	6,520,000	40.0	
General wage increase, hour	22		219,000		3,080,000		
General wage decreaseGeneral wage increase and	14		4,410 2,110		60,400 72,800		
escalation Wages and working conditions	256		430 143,000		14,100	•	
Supplementary benefits Pensions, insurance, other welfare	145	4.3	33,200	2.3	458,000	2.8	
programs Severance or dismissal pay Premium pay Other supplementary benefits	41 20 21 63		9,830 5,880 3,000 14,500		122,000 47,400 42,600 246,000		
Wage adjustments Incentive pay rates or	154	4.6	46,800	3.2	823,000	5.0	
administration Job classification or job rates Downgrading Retroactivity Method of computing pay	61 57 2 15		18,400 24,900 320 1,420 1,750		204,000 603,000 1,860 8,590 5,960		
Hours of work	6	.2 `	1,800 1,800	.1	4,710 4,710	(¹)	
Other contractual matters Duration of contract Unspecified	26 15 11	.8	2,860 1,990 870	.2	32,500 28,800 3,670	.2	
Union organization and security Recognition (certification) Recognition and job security	518 194	15.4	92,300 9,470	6.4	2,390,000 279,000	14.7	
issuesRecognition and economic	13		3,430		58,100		
issuesStrengthening bargaining position, or union shop and economic	106		6,560		215,000		
issues Union security Refusal to sign	116 46		65,900 3,480		1,740,000 62,800		
agreement	15		1,060		15,100		
Other union organization matters	28		2,390		16,000		
Job securitySeniority and/or layoffSubcontractingNew machinery (all technological	243 143 28	7.2	183,000 45,000 15,900	12.6	1,800,000 618,000 297,000	11.0	
issues)	11 12		8,300 3,960		51,200 52,300		
prefabricated goodsOther	10 39		28,100 81,500		407,000 380,000		

See footnote at end of table.

Table 5. Major Issues Involved in Work Stoppages, 1961-Continued

		Stoppages be	ginning in 1961		Man-day during	
Major issues			Workers in	volved	(all stoppages)	
·	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Plant administration Physical facilities, surroundings, etc. Safety measures, dangerous equipment, etc. Supervision Shift work Work assignments Speedup—workload Work rules Overtime work	462 15 38 19 10 40 58 32 9	13.7	503,000 5,170 15,900 3,310 5,670 10,300 25,000 17,100 1,530	34.7	3,630,000 15,500 159,000 18,800 14,700 85,400 151,000 231,000 4,850	22.3
Insubordination, discharge, disciplineOther 2	196 45		53,200 365,000		229,000 2,720,000	
Other working conditions Arbitration Grievance procedures Unspecified contract violations	48 11 18 19	1.4	15, 200 3, 720 9, 890 1, 630	1.0	333,000 23,700 292,000 17,000	2.0
Interunion or intraunion matters Union rivalry 3 Jurisdiction 4 Jurisdictional—work assignment Union administration , 5 no relation to contract Sympathy Other	364 4 17 281 3 46 13	10.8	87,700 1,980 9,150 27,300 1,170 20,800 27,400	6.0	273,000 23,700 11,800 123,000 1,490 70,700 41,800	1.7
Not reported	42	1.2	3,680	.3	14,000	.1

¹ Less than 0.05 percent.

² Includes General Motors and Ford strikes, which involved a variety of issues at the plant level. See text.

³ Includes disputes between unions of different affiliation, such as those between unions affiliated with AFL-CIO and nonaffiliated.

⁴ Includes disputes between unions, usually of the same affiliation or two locals of the same union, over representation of workers.

⁵ Includes disputes within a union over the administration of union affairs or regulations.

Table 6. Work Stoppages by Industry Group, 1961

		beginning 1961	Man-days idle during 1961 (all stoppages)		
Industry group	Number	Workers involved	Number	Percent of estimated total working time	
All industries	13,367	1,450,000	16,300,000	0.14	
Manufacturing	¹ 1,677	897,000	9,780,000	0.24	
Primary metal industriesFabricated metal products, except ordnance,	126	74,400	665,000	0.23	
machinery, and transportation equipment	191	96,600	1, 130, 000	.41	
Ordnance and accessories Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies	114	6, 160 67, 100	51,400 716,000	.10 .20	
Machinery, except electrical	176	89,100	1, 240, 000	.34	
Transportation equipment	98	297,000	2,500,000	.65	
Lumber and wood products, except furniture	75	12,500	234,000	.15	
Furniture and fixtures	70	12,500	256,000	.28	
Stone, clay, and glass products	130	24, 400	458,000	.32	
Textile mill productsApparel and other finished products made from	35	5,970	39, 100	.02	
fabrics and similar materials	112	15, 100	146,000	.05	
Leather and leather products	25	18, 200	70, 400	.08	
Food and kindred products	177	80,000	589,000	.13	
Tobacco manufactures	-	-	-	-	
Paper and allied products	62	15,300	324,000	.22	
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	50	8,850	93,500	.04	
Chemicals and allied products	94	14, 100	441,000	.21	
Petroleum refining and related industries	17	15,000	316,000	.61	
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products ————————————————————————————————————	65	22,600	215,000	.24	
watches and clocks	19	12,500	170,000	.19	
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	56	10, 400	125,000	.13	
Nonmanufacturing	11,694	555,000	6,500,000	² . 08	
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	31	10,900	80,600	(³)	
Mining	154	37,700	310,000	ò.í8	
Contract construction	824	217,000	3, 490, 000	.50	
Transportation, communication, electric,	242	311 000			
gas, and sanitary servicesWholesale and retail trade	243 308	211, 000 62, 400	1,710,000	. 17	
Finance, insurance, and real estate	308	62, 400 230	716,000	(³)	
Services	103	9,070	3,000 173,000	(3)	
Government	28	6,610	15,300	(3) (3)	
		·		. /	

Stoppages extending into 2 or more industry groups have been counted in each industry affected; workers involved and man-days idle were allocated to the respective groups.
Excludes government.
Not available.

Table 7. Work Stoppages by Region, 1961 and 1960

Region	heginni		Stoppages beginning in—		in sto	Workers involved in stoppages beginning in—		Man-days idle during (all stoppages)		
	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960		
United States	² 3, 367	² 3, 333	1,450,000	1, 320, 000	16, 300, 000	19, 100 , 000	0.14	0.17		
New England Middle Atlantic	232 1,048 843 264 318 205 175 153 419	215 1,030 831 227 333 211 156 146 408	66, 800 375, 000 538, 000 84, 400 93, 900 43, 700 59, 200 41, 000 151, 000	438,000 308,000 120,000 94,300 64,300 41,600 34,600	843,000 4,350,000 4,910,000 1,230,000 1,060,000 535,000 1,140,000 538,000	2, 880, 000 5, 510, 000 3, 480, 000 2, 300, 000 953, 000 527, 000 1, 090, 000	0. 10 .17 .20 .14 .07 .10 .13 .14	0. 35 .21 .14 .21 .08 .17 .06 .30		

The regions used in this study include: New England—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic—New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; East North Central—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central—Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota; South Atlantic—Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central—Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; West South Central—Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; Mountain—Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific—Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

² Stoppages extending across State lines have been counted in each State affected; workers involved and man-days idle were allocated among the States.

Table 8. Work Stoppages by State, 1961

		s beginning 1961	Man-days idle during 1961 (all stoppages)		
State	Number	Workers involved	Number	Percent of estimated total working time	
United States	1 3, 367	1,450,000	16, 300, 000	0.14	
Alabama	65	12,900	167,000	0.11	
Alaska	10	2,770	40,800	.49	
Arizona	13	2,790	31,800	.05	
Arkansas	30	3, 480	43, 100	.06	
California	269	99, 100	1,110,000	.11	
Colorado	49	16,800	220,000	.21	
Connecticut	56	17,900	372,000	.18	
Delaware	23	5, 260	78,800	.23	
District of Columbia	10	4,910	45,600	.06	
Florida	66	23,600	183,000	.06	
Georgia	30	17,600	241,000	;11	
Hawaii	33	21,700	47, 100	(²)	
Idaho	18	1,570	20, 100	.06	
Illinois	219	91,900	869,000	.11	
Indiana	107	60,700	510,000	.17	
Iowa	47	12,800	158,000	.11	
Kansas	39	7,680	65,400	.06	
Kentucky	67	15,700	119,000	.09	
Louisiana	34	5,840	207,000	.13	
Maine	6	520	4,700	.01	
Maryland	46	14,000	185,000	.10	
Massachusetts	134	44,500	412,000	.10	
Michigan	180	239,000	1,820,000	.38	
Minnesota Mississippi	46 15	20,700 4,230	452,000 47,100	.22 .06	
Witssissippi	15	7,230	47,100	.00	
Missouri	88	. 34,500	470,000	.16	
Montana	16	1,920	38, 200	.12	
Nebraska	26	5,830	70,300	.09	
Nevada	9	2,830	28,000	.13	
New Hampshire	3	170	2,030	(3)	
New Jersey	234	82, 300	762,000	.17	
New Mexico	19	3,650	53, 400	.12	
New York	421	180,000	1,860,000	(3)	
North Carolina North Dakota	14 4	2,000	6,460 3,780	(³) .02	
Ĭ					
Ohio	283	127,000	1,420,000	.21	
Oklahoma	29	8,550	92,400	.08	
Oregon	25	13,000	229,000	.22	
PennsylvaniaRhode Island	393 23	112,000 2,470	1,730,000 17,300	.21	
1.		1			
South Carolina	8	1,080	13,000	.01 .03	
South Dakota	14 50	2,650 10,900	7,240		
Tennessee	58 82	41, 300	202,000 798,000	.10 .15	
Utah	13	8, 980	128,000	.24	
Vormont	10	1 210	34, 400	.15	
Vermont	40	1,210 12,900	112,000	.05	
Virginia Washington	82	14, 800	251,000	.15	
West Virginia	81	12,700	197,000	.21	
Wisconsin	54	18,700	285,000	.11	

Stoppages extending across State lines have been counted in each State affected; workers involved and man-days idle were allocated among the States.
 Data not available.
 Less than 0.005 percent.