

TABLE 4.—Major issues involved in work stoppages in 1950

Major issues	Work stoppages beginning in 1950				Man-days idle during 1950 (all stoppages)	
	Number	Percent of total	Workers involved		Number	Percent of total
			Number	Percent of total		
All issues.....	4,843	100.0	2,410,000	100.0	38,800,000	100.0
Wages and hours.....	2,559	52.8	1,460,000	60.7	32,500,000	83.8
Wage increase.....	1,630	33.6	771,000	32.0	8,840,000	22.8
Wage decrease.....	32	.7	13,900	.6	486,000	1.3
Wage increase, hour decrease.....	67	1.4	98,000	4.1	815,000	2.1
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	3	.1	100	(1)	1,100	(1)
Wage increase, pension and/or social insurance benefits <sup>2</sup> .....	325	6.7	218,000	9.0	13,800,000	35.6
Pension and/or social insurance benefits <sup>3</sup> .....	40	.8	116,000	4.8	7,280,000	18.7
Other.....	462	9.5	245,000	10.2	1,300,000	3.3
Union organization, wages and hours.....	270	5.6	53,700	2.2	789,000	2.0
Recognition, wages and/or hours.....	175	3.6	23,900	1.0	269,000	.7
Strengthening bargaining position, wages and/or hours.....	23	.5	4,730	.2	122,000	.3
Closed or union shop, wages and/or hours.....	64	1.3	24,300	1.0	366,000	.9
Discrimination, wages and/or hours.....	8	.2	740	(1)	31,700	.1
Union organization.....	649	13.4	76,200	3.2	1,560,000	4.0
Recognition.....	476	9.9	33,700	1.4	580,000	1.5
Strengthening bargaining position.....	26	.5	2,870	.1	113,000	.3
Closed or union shop.....	89	1.8	18,900	.8	502,000	1.3
Discrimination.....	38	.8	8,630	.4	153,000	.4
Other.....	20	.4	12,100	.5	212,000	.5
Other working conditions.....	1,065	22.0	746,000	30.9	3,450,000	8.9
Job security <sup>4</sup> .....	590	12.2	472,000	19.5	2,250,000	5.8
Shop conditions and policies.....	379	7.8	198,000	8.2	855,000	2.2
Work load.....	74	1.5	47,200	2.0	254,000	.7
Other.....	22	.5	28,400	1.2	95,700	.2
Inter- or intra-union matters.....	255	5.3	65,800	2.7	419,000	1.1
Sympathy.....	49	1.0	18,600	.8	76,600	.2
Union rivalry or factionalism.....	77	1.6	20,900	.9	152,000	.4
Jurisdiction.....	123	2.5	24,900	1.0	188,000	.5
Union regulations.....	3	.1	900	(1)	1,210	(1)
Other.....	3	.1	430	(1)	1,240	(1)
Not reported.....	45	.9	7,330	.3	65,800	.2

<sup>1</sup> Less than a tenth of 1 percent.

<sup>2</sup> This category includes the strike of approximately 400,000 anthracite and bituminous-coal miners which began Sept. 19, 1949, and terminated Mar. 5, 1950.

<sup>3</sup> This category includes the 102-day strike of 95,000 workers at the Chrysler plants.

<sup>4</sup> This category includes the 175,000 workers involved in the May railroad strike of firemen.

service employees in New York City apartment houses.

Disputes over working conditions (other than wages and union organization matters), precipitated about a fifth of the stoppages. These were generally terminated rather quickly and accounted for less than 10 percent of the year's idleness. They accounted for almost a third of all workers. The largest of these strikes involved 175,000 railroad workers in May. Other large strikes in this group were the coal miners in Kentucky and Tennessee; Studebaker Corp. employees; employees of the Kaiser-Frazer Corp.; Briggs Co. workers; and Hudson Motor Car Co. employees.

Union recognition, the closed or union shop, discrimination, and other union-security questions were the primary issues in about 13 percent of the work stoppages. These important issues, in conjunction with wages, accounted for an additional 6 percent. For the most part, these stoppages were small and local in character and relatively minor in terms of workers involved and man-days idle.

Jurisdictional, rival union, and sympathy strikes accounted for about 5 percent of all stoppages—about the same as in preceding postwar years. These stoppages affected only 3 percent of all workers and caused only 1 percent of the year's strike idleness.

Although the average strike in 1950 lasted 19.2 calendar days, important variations were noticeable. Stoppages over combined issues of wages and union-organization matters averaged 26 calendar days compared with 44 days in 1949; on union organization matters alone they averaged 20 days compared with 29 days in 1949; those over wages and related demands lasted 18.5 days compared with 26 days in 1949. Disputes over inter- or intra-union affairs averaged 16 days in both years but those over other working conditions lasted only 8.5 days in 1950 compared with 12 days in 1949.

## Industries Affected

In terms of man-days of idleness, the mining and

8 percent of the total) but yielded about half of the year's total strike idleness. Although most

TABLE 5.—Work stoppages beginning in 1950, by industry group

Industry group	Stoppages beginning in 1950		Man-days idle during 1950	
	Number	Workers involved (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time <sup>1</sup>
All industries.....	4,843	2,410.0	38,800.0	0.44
<i>Manufacturing.....</i>	<i>2,705</i>	<i>1,450.0</i>	<i>22,900.0</i>	<i>.66</i>
Primary metal industries.....	309	142.0	1,180.0	.41
Fabricated metal products (except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment).....	278	85.8	969.0	.45
Ordnance and accessories.....	2	.5	6.1	.11
Electrical machinery, equipment, and supplies.....	168	132.0	1,420.0	.73
Machinery (except electrical).....	317	224.0	4,410.0	1.40
Transportation equipment.....	171	368.0	8,540.0	2.88
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....	119	23.6	700.0	.38
Furniture and fixtures.....	106	15.8	315.0	.38
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	132	44.6	652.0	.55
Textile mill products.....	147	48.4	686.0	.23
Apparel and other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials.....	187	17.9	228.0	.08
Leather and leather products.....	84	25.3	157.0	.17
Food and kindred products.....	185	57.0	691.0	.19
Tobacco manufactures.....	5	2.8	33.0	.16
Paper and allied products.....	76	18.9	360.0	.33
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....	54	10.4	240.0	.14
Chemicals and allied products.....	96	39.2	795.0	.50
Products of petroleum and coal.....	22	16.4	792.0	1.39
Rubber products.....	136	136.0	385.0	.66
Professional, scientific, and controlling instruments; photographic and optical goods; watches and clocks.....	26	23.1	158.0	.27
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries.....	96	18.6	237.0	.22
<i>Nonmanufacturing.....</i>	<i>2,138</i>	<i>959.0</i>	<i>15,900.0</i>	<i>.30</i>
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing.....	12	20.7	152.0	( <sup>1</sup> )
Mining.....	508	196.0	9,700.0	4.37
Construction.....	611	237.0	2,460.0	.44
Trade.....	381	70.1	927.0	.04
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....	31	13.0	52.5	( <sup>1</sup> )
Transportation, communication, and other public utilities.....	386	405.0	2,380.0	.25
Services—personal, business, and other.....	182	13.9	161.0	( <sup>1</sup> )
Government—administration, protection, and sanitation <sup>2</sup> .....	28	3.9	32.7	( <sup>1</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> See footnotes 1 and 2, table 3.<sup>2</sup> The figure on number of workers involved includes some duplicate counting where the same workers were involved in more than one stoppage in the year.<sup>3</sup> This figure is less than the sum of the figures below because a few stoppages which extend into two or more industry groups have been counted in this table as separate stoppages in each industry group affected; workers involved, and man-days idle were allocated to the respective groups.<sup>4</sup> Not available.<sup>5</sup> Stoppages involving municipally operated utilities are included under "Transportation, communication, and other public utilities."

million and 9 million man-days idle, respectively, were recorded in these industry groups—almost half of the total for 1950.

Five other industry groups experienced as many as 1 million man-days idle in 1950. Except for the primary metals group in which stoppages were numerous but did not involve relatively large groups of workers, these instances also reflected the substantial effect of one or more major stop-

pages in the construction industry; railroad switchmen and firemen strikes in the "transportation, communication, and other public utilities" group; and the General Electric Co. strike in the "electrical machinery equipment and supplies" group. The primary metal industries, which recorded a large share of the preceding year's strike idleness as a result of the basic-steel

TABLE 6.—Work stoppages in 1950, by State

State	Work stoppages beginning in 1950			Man-days idle during 1950 (all stoppages)	
	Number	Workers involved		Number (thousands)	Percent of total
		Number (thousands)	Percent of total		
All States.....	4,843	2,410.0	100.0	38,800.0	100.0
Alabama.....	108	51.1	2.1	676.0	1.7
Arizona.....	23	8.0	.3	55.3	.1
Arkansas.....	21	4.1	.2	144.0	.4
California.....	238	138.0	5.7	1,630.0	4.2
Colorado.....	34	24.5	1.0	528.0	1.4
Connecticut.....	83	13.3	.5	87.1	.2
Delaware.....	11	5.1	.2	55.4	.1
District of Columbia.....	18	4.6	.2	32.5	.1
Florida.....	31	8.5	.4	65.7	.2
Georgia.....	42	9.8	.4	101.0	.3
Idaho.....	10	.5	( <sup>1</sup> )	4.7	( <sup>1</sup> )
Illinois.....	331	164.0	6.8	2,970.0	7.6
Indiana.....	179	159.0	6.6	2,010.0	5.2
Iowa.....	52	32.4	1.3	1,060.0	2.7
Kansas.....	41	16.7	.7	191.0	.5
Kentucky.....	160	72.9	3.0	1,260.0	3.2
Louisiana.....	39	9.2	.4	104.0	.3
Maine.....	23	2.5	.1	21.6	.1
Maryland.....	38	8.4	.3	115.0	.3
Massachusetts.....	193	58.4	2.4	776.0	2.0
Michigan.....	322	345.0	14.5	7,360.0	19.1
Minnesota.....	74	29.0	1.2	228.0	.6
Mississippi.....	15	2.2	.1	27.2	.1
Missouri.....	161	47.9	2.0	347.0	.9
Montana.....	18	5.7	.2	60.8	.2
Nebraska.....	15	5.6	.2	55.2	.1
Nevada.....	8	.9	( <sup>1</sup> )	9.6	( <sup>1</sup> )
New Hampshire.....	17	2.4	.1	22.8	.1
New Jersey.....	309	116.0	4.8	1,030.0	2.6
New Mexico.....	18	5.6	.2	98.1	.3
New York.....	578	187.0	7.8	2,190.0	5.6
North Carolina.....	31	12.7	.5	75.7	.2
North Dakota.....	8	4.4	.2	37.1	.1
Ohio.....	469	220.0	9.1	2,550.0	6.6
Oklahoma.....	43	11.1	.5	111.0	.3
Oregon.....	48	12.2	.5	226.0	.6
Pennsylvania.....	603	297.0	12.5	5,280.0	13.6
Rhode Island.....	29	5.0	.2	86.5	.2
South Carolina.....	15	8.3	.3	156.0	.4
South Dakota.....	5	.7	( <sup>1</sup> )	6.2	( <sup>1</sup> )
Tennessee.....	131	72.3	3.0	636.0	1.6
Texas.....	101	41.4	1.7	769.0	2.0
Utah.....	31	21.4	.9	369.0	.9
Vermont.....	5	.3	( <sup>1</sup> )	1.8	( <sup>1</sup> )
Virginia.....	84	26.3	1.1	419.0	1.1
Washington.....	76	23.4	1.0	446.0	1.1
West Virginia.....	216	54.4	2.3	3,340.0	8.6
Wisconsin.....	119	57.2	2.4	902.0	2.3
Wyoming.....	13	2.5	.1	96.9	.2