

heads of families, of whom 93,720 were fully employable, 13,490 partially employable, and 11,992 were unemployable. Of the 44,704 recipients classified as individual persons, 21,666 were returned as fully employable, 11,318 as partially so, and 11,720 as unemployable. Of the dependants of heads of families, totalling 392,770 receiving urban aid, 10,403 had been previously gainfully employed, 21,077 had never been employed, 544 were only partially employable, and the remainder were classified as 'non-worker type dependants', including wives, children under 16 years, and other dependants of non-worker type over 16 years of age.

7.—Persons on Urban and Agricultural Aid, by Months, 1938 and 1939.

Month.	1938.			1939.		
	Urban Aid.	Agricultural Aid.	Total, Material Aid.	Urban Aid.	Agricultural Aid.	Total, Material Aid.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January.....	631,974	383,191	1,015,165	668,196	308,332	976,528
February.....	654,529	389,419	1,043,948	697,896	320,771	1,018,667
March.....	652,690	392,036	1,044,726	704,694	322,842	1,027,536
April.....	632,294	391,928	1,024,222	686,033	318,823	1,004,856
May.....	575,960	380,492	956,452	626,274	297,147	923,421
June.....	520,880	363,687	884,567	557,408	281,918	839,326
July.....	497,127	339,429	836,556	534,720	270,934	805,654
August.....	471,099	286,536	757,635	544,817	257,835	802,652
September.....	444,732	108,872	553,604	488,984	50,029	539,013
October.....	473,262	167,795	641,057	484,309	59,574	543,883
November.....	534,893	251,936	786,829	507,893	77,803	585,696
December.....	604,666	291,811	896,477	556,676	72,570	629,246
Monthly Averages.....	557,842	312,261	870,103	588,158	219,882	808,040

In considering the question of unemployment, public attention is usually focussed on the fully employable worker who is receiving urban aid. For the first ten months of 1939, unemployment among persons of this class was greater in each month than in the corresponding month of 1938. The seasonal increase in unemployment in autumn invariably results in an increase in the number receiving aid in November and December. The percentage increase in the number receiving aid in these months in 1939 was considerably less than for the same months of 1938 and 1937. The existing state of war and the consequent acceleration of industrial production for war purposes no doubt was largely responsible for the improved situation at the close of 1939.

8.—Fully Employable Persons on Urban Aid, by Months and Sex, 1938 and 1939.

Month.	1938.			1939.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January.....	136,533	31,955	168,488	149,189	32,209	181,398
February.....	142,218	32,714	174,932	157,141	33,375	190,516
March.....	142,097	32,452	174,549	158,761	33,446	192,207
April.....	137,234	31,443	168,677	153,744	32,836	186,580
May.....	124,456	29,557	154,013	137,876	30,947	168,823
June.....	110,489	27,689	138,178	119,880	28,665	148,545
July.....	105,717	26,557	132,274	112,683	27,982	140,665
August.....	98,788	25,537	124,325	113,728	28,570	142,298
September.....	89,481	25,137	114,618	98,825	26,582	125,407
October.....	97,880	26,006	123,886	98,167	26,980	125,147
November.....	115,339	27,852	143,191	105,206	27,697	132,903
December.....	132,060	30,271	162,331	117,864	29,002	146,866
Monthly Averages.....	119,358	28,931	148,289	126,922	29,558	156,480