

monthly totals of claims received have shown a definite seasonal variation, rising in the late autumn and winter and falling again in the spring. Monthly averages of initial and renewal claims filed have been as follows: 1942, 2,244; 1943, 3,055; 1944, 7,575; 1945, 24,699; 1946, 40,722; 1947, 36,904; 1948, 54,091; 1949, 77,821; and 1950, 88,165.

Since September 1943, a record has also been maintained of the number of claimants on the live unemployment register on the last working day in each month. This provides a measure of recorded unemployment among insured persons on one day of each month. Monthly averages of ordinary claimants on the live register at the end of the month have been: 1944, 10,454; 1945, 41,139; 1946, 96,760; 1947, 68,254; 1948, 88,909; 1949, 135,624; and 1950, 165,304.

Monthly statistics on the operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act also provide data on the number of days that claimants on the live unemployment register at the end of each month have been continuously on the register, the number of claimants considered entitled and not entitled to benefit, chief reasons for non-entitlement, number of days benefit paid and amount of benefit paid.

In addition to the monthly material on the operation of the Act, annual tabulations of the persons employed in insurable employment are prepared from returns covering the book exchange at Apr. 1, and annual data are published on benefit years established and benefit years terminated.

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act, shown in Table 21, was assumed to be those working in insurable employment as at Apr. 1, as indicated at that time from returns on those receiving insurance books and contribution cards.

Table 22 presents information on the persons who established benefit years and those benefit years that terminated during the calendar year 1949. A benefit year is established under the Unemployment Insurance Act when an insured person, upon becoming unemployed, submits a claim and proves that at least 180 daily contributions have been made on his behalf during the preceding two years. Because of other provisions of the Act or because he may regain employment before he actually receives benefit, the setting up of a benefit year does not necessarily result in the receipt of benefit payments. When a benefit year is established it means merely that the claimant's right to receive benefit at a certain rate at any time during the succeeding twelve months is determined. Thus, of the 410,820 benefit years which terminated during 1949, 62,289 were paid no benefit.

The benefit year remains in existence either until the authorized benefit rights are exhausted or until 12 months have passed since the date of its establishment, whichever occurs first.

The amount of benefit paid on benefit years terminated, as presented in Table 22, is secured by multiplying each daily rate of benefit by the number of days paid at that rate on the ledger cards representing benefit years upon which benefit was drawn.

Table 24 classifies benefit years terminated by daily rate of benefit authorized. The daily rate of benefit is determined by the amount of the daily average contribution paid on behalf of the claimant during the most recent 180 contribution days and by whether or not he has a dependant within the meaning of the Act.