

week, irrespective of the number of days worked. The benefit rates are calculated on the average weekly contributions for the last 30 weeks in the 104 weeks preceding claim. In order to qualify for regular benefit, a claimant must have at least 30 weekly contributions in the last 104 weeks prior to claim, eight weekly contributions since the start of the last preceding regular benefit period or in the last year prior to claim, whichever is the shorter period, and 24 weekly contributions since the start of the last preceding benefit period, or in the year prior to the claim, whichever is the longer period.

WEEKLY RATES OF CONTRIBUTION AND BENEFIT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, IN EFFECT FROM SEPT. 27, 1959

NOTE.—Weekly rates in effect from Oct. 2, 1955 to Sept. 26, 1959 are given in the 1962 Year Book, p. 738.

| Range of Weekly Earnings | Weekly Employee Contribution | Range of Average Weekly Contributions | Weekly Rates of Benefit | | Earnings not Deducted | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | Person Without Dependant | Person With Dependant | Person Without Dependant | Person With Dependant |
| | cts. | cts. | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Under \$9..... | 10 ¹ | Under 25..... | 6 | 8 | 3 | 4 |
| \$ 9 and under \$15..... | 20 | 25 and under 34..... | 9 | 12 | 5 | 6 |
| 15 " " 21..... | 30 | 34 " " 42..... | 11 | 15 | 6 | 8 |
| 21 " " 27..... | 38 | 42 " " 50..... | 13 | 18 | 7 | 9 |
| 27 " " 33..... | 46 | 50 " " 57..... | 15 | 21 | 8 | 11 |
| 33 " " 39..... | 54 | 57 " " 63..... | 17 | 24 | 9 | 12 |
| 39 " " 45..... | 60 | 63 " " 69..... | 19 | 26 | 10 | 13 |
| 45 " " 51..... | 66 | 69 " " 75..... | 21 | 28 | 11 | 14 |
| 51 " " 57..... | 72 | 75 " " 82..... | 23 | 30 | 12 | 15 |
| 57 " " 63..... | 78 | 82 " " 90..... | 25 | 33 | 13 | 17 |
| 63 " " 69..... | 86 | 90 or over..... | 27 | 36 | 14 | 18 |
| 69 or over..... | 94 | | | | | |

¹ A half stamp.

The Act contains a special provision whereby the regular contribution requirements are relaxed somewhat during a 5½-month period commencing with the first week of December each year. Under this provision, claimants unable to fulfil the contribution requirements for regular benefit may draw "seasonal benefit" if they have at least 15 contribution weeks during the fiscal year or, failing this, if they terminated regular benefit since the previous mid-May.

Statistics on the Operation of the Act.—In order to assess the impact of changing economic conditions on the insurance program, provision is made for collection of current operational data, such as claims filed and processed and payments made. This information is published monthly in the *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (Catalogue No. 73-001). Current claims and payment data are useful for administrative purposes and are also a source of information to the public regarding financial and other aspects of the program.

Persons wishing to draw benefit must file either an initial or a renewal claim. Where it is necessary to compute entitlement to benefit, an initial claim is taken, otherwise a renewal. In the main, initial and renewal claims combined are an approximation of recorded separations from employment during a month. However, if a claimant exhausts his benefit and wishes to be reconsidered for further benefit, an initial claim is required. Such claims, accounting for approximately 15 p.c. of the monthly volume in 1963, are not new cases of disemployment. The count of claimants at the month-end indicates the extent to which claimants maintain contact with local offices of the Commission.