

SASKATCHEWAN REGION

P.A.

INDIAN LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

JULY 1967



INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF

INDIAN AFFAIRS & NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The general objectives of the Placement and Relocation Program are to explore employment opportunities for Indians to the fullest extent; to train and assist Indian workers to adopt wage employment, to facilitate the entry of Indian workers into a wider range of occupations and professions, and to assist Indian families in their relocation to urban centers or areas of employment and to become established in these non Indian communities.

In order to attain these objectives, it is necessary that accurate information is available both on the opportunities for employment, job requirements, and the skills, qualifications, and work experience of the Indian Labour Force. Information on these points, coupled with careful selection and sound counselling, constitutes the basic tools of the placement function.

It has been felt for some time that the Indian Labour Force, which is the only remaining underemployed Labour Pool in Canada contained within its ranks many individuals possessing work skills and qualifications on which no information was available. Indeed, it was even doubtful as to how many workers were available for employment.

It was considered that we urgently needed information on the number of employable people at present on the Reserves - their background, education, work experience, and skills and qualifications - in order that meaningful referrals could be made to outside placement services and employers; to ensure the worker getting the highest paid employment for which he is qualified; and to be in a position to plan training programs to upgrade the

educational levels and skills of the work force.

It is within this framework that a labour force survey was instituted in November 1966.

Because this information was so urgently required, it was decided to forego the undoubtedly superior results to be obtained from a professional survey in depth into the whole cultural and economic picture of the Reserves, and to settle for a basic approach designed toward providing information covering the education and training, work experience, skills and qualifications, and some indication of the types of work preferred by individuals and whether they and their families wanted to remain on the Reserve or relocate to off reserve situations. In short to concentrate on getting the basic information so vital to a constructive placement program.

The methods employed were based on a prepared questionnaire to be used by carefully selected Indians, who were then thoroughly counselled before starting the actual interviews on the Reserves. It was felt that while this method would lack the carefully balanced and objective approach of skilled interviewers, Indians would be able to establish better empathy with their clients, and, hopefully the information obtained would be more frank and detailed. Results have, we think, largely justified this choice.

Problems were not unanticipated. It was felt that some individuals and groups might well object to the type of unfamiliar questionnaire required to obtain the information we needed. Actually, very few such cases were reported, and by and large, the response was most favourable, and more than justified our expectations.

In addition to this report, index cards have been set up in each Agency and Sub Agency Office for each person interviewed. One card index covers the vital statistics and work experience of

the individual, this card will serve as a continuous record of work experience, training and skills. The second card index is based on trades qualifications, copies of this index have also been created for the District Placement offices at Saskatoon and Regina. Samples of these cards and their headings, etc., are shown in appendix 'A'.

Due to their absence from their Reserves, a number of individuals were not available for interview. Every effort will be made to interview these people as they return, and to continue and maintain the compilation of these statistics so that the card indexes are complete and up to date.

This would seem to be a fitting place to record our appreciation for the co-operation we received from all concerned; the excellent work done by most of the interviewers, and the unstinted support of the Agency Staffs throughout the region. Without this whole-hearted support, the program would undoubtedly have foundered in its infancy.

BATTLEFORD INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	L I T T L E P I N E	M O S O M I N	P O N D M A K E R	R E D P H E A S E N T	M O G S R Q I U Z I Z T L O Y	S W E T G R A S D	T H U N D E R C H I L D X	S A U L T E A U X	L U C K Y M A N	O N I O N L A K E	TOTAL
Carpenter							1			2	3
Carpenter's Helper			1	1	2	8	10	3		6	31
Cat/Dozer Operator				1		1	4				6
Clerk-Retail(M)							4				4
Clerk-typist(M)							1				1
Clerk-typist(F)						1					1
Construction & General Labour	11	7	14	6	4	16	20	6	2	15	101
Cook (F)			1								1
Domestic	2		3	6	1	3					15
Farm Labourer	6	2	6		10	18	26	4	1	24	97
Heavy Equipment Operator							2		1		3
Janitor						1	1				2
Mechanics Helper	1			1	2	2	1			1	8
Mechanic - Motor	1										1
Painter		1		1	1						3
Pulp/Sawmill						1	1				2
Steelworker			1								1
Truck-driver	1	2	1	1	1	1	3			1	11
Waitress			1	4		1					6
Ward-aid						1					1
Welder		1									1
Welder's Helper						1					1
X-Ray Technician						1					1
TOTAL	22	13	28	21	21	56	74	13	4	49	302

CARLTON INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	LA RONGE	PETER BALLANTYNE	MONTREAL LAKE	CUMBERLAND HOUSE	TOTAL
Barber			1		1
Boys' Supervisor			1		1
Carpenter	5				5
Carpenter's Helper	12	5	10		27
Cat/Dozer Operator	1	1	3		5
Clerk (Retail)	1	4			5
Clerk (Steno)	1	1			2
Cook			1		1
Diamond Driller	5	1			6
Domestic	16	13	15		44
Driller's Helper		3			3
Farm Labourer	4		29		33
General and Construction Labourer	120	146	68	3	337
Heavy Equipment Operator	1		1		2
Hoistman - Mine	1				1
Hospital Aide		1			1
Janitor		1	1		2
Mechanic		1			1
Mechanic's Helper		2	2		4
Miner (Underground)	3		1		4
Miner (Surface)	4	2			6
Painter	1				1
Pulp/Sawmill	16	9	9	2	36
Surveyor's Helper	1	1			2
Truck Driver	2	4	3		9
Waitress	7		3		10
Welder's Helper	1				1
TOTAL	202	195	148	3	550

CROOKED LAKE INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	WHITEBEAR	OCHAPOWAGE	SAKIMAY	KAHKEWISTAHAW	COMESSESS	TOTAL
Barber	1					1
Bartender	1					1
Carpenter	3				2	5
Carpenter Helper	17	1		2	2	22
Cat/Dozer Operator	6		2	2	3	13
Clerk-Typist(F)	1					1
Domestic	10	2	1		1	14
Farm Labourer	7	2	10		6	25
Construction & General Labourer	32	5	10	4	24	75
Hair Dresser	2					2
Heavy Duty Mechanic					1	1
Heavy Equip- ment Operator			1	1	4	6
Janitor	1					1
Mechanic's Helper	2			1		3
Mine Labourer			1		2	3
Miner's Helper	1					1
Motor Mechanic					1	1
Pulp/Sawmill	2					2
Steelworker					11	11
Surveyor's Helper			1			1
Truck Driver	4	1	2	1	6	14
Waitress	1	1				2
Welder's Helper					1	1
TOTAL	91	12	28	11	64	206

DUCK LAKE INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	BEARDY'S	JOHN SMITH	ONE ARROW	MOOSE WOODS	JAMES SMITH	TOTAL
Barber	1					1
Carpenter's Helper	5	4	7	1	3	20
Cat/Dozer Operator					1	1
Cement Finisher	1					1
Construction & General Labourer	44	9	24	8	13	98
Domestic	7	3	6	2	1	19
Electrician		1				1
Electrician's Helper		1				1
Heavy Equip- ment Operator	3	4	2		1	10
Mechanic's Helper	1	2				3
Miner (Underground)		1				1
Nurse's Aide	1					1
Pipeline Worker	1					1
Stenographer		1				1
Truck Driver	1	1				2
Waitress		1				1
Welder		1				1
TOTAL	65	29	39	11	19	163

FILE HILLS-U 'APPELLE INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	PEEPEE- KIBIS	STANDING BUFFALO	OKANESE	CARRY THE KEETLE	PASQUA	PIAPOT	MUSCOW- PETUNG	T O T A L
Caretaker						3		3
Carpenter	1				1	2	1	5
Carpenter's Helper	3	1			3	7	5	19
Construction & General Labourer	8		8		16	21	9	62
Domestic	1		4		1	6	5	17
Dozer/Cat Operator	2		2		3	1		8
Drafting						1		1
Farm Labourer	15	1	3	1	10	31	21	82
Hairdresser					1		1	2
Heavy Equip- ment Operator	6		3			1	1	11
Hospital Aide						1		1
Mechanic	1							1
Mechanic's Helper	4				1		1	6
Miner's Helper					1			1
Office Clerk (Male)	1		1			1		3
Painter's Helper						1	1	2
Pulp/Sawmill			1					1
Truck Driver	1				3	5	1	10
Waitress					1			1
Welder					1			1
Welder's Helper			1					1
X-ray Technician					1			1
TOTAL	45	2	23	1	43	82	46	242

MEADOW LAKE INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	I S L A N D	B J O G S H E E P A H D	C A N O E L A K E W E	M E A L D A O K W E	W A T E R L H A E K N E	L O N L A K E	P A R O L T O A C G H E E	P E R P O N S E H R	E N G R L I V S E H R	B L A C K L A K E	S T O N Y R A P I D S	F O N D U L A C	T O T A L
Carpenter			1										1
Carpenter Helper	2		3	1				5	3	4		1	19
Retail Clerk (Male)			1					1	2	1		1	6
Construction & General Labourer	1	3	9	2	2	4	5	17	14	27	17	51	152
Domestic		1	2	2	9		2		4	5	2	2	29
Dozer /Cat Operator			1	1	1								3
Drillers' Helper												1	1
Farm Labourer	9	10	4	10	13	15	3	4			1		69
Janitor										1	1	1	3
Mechanic								1					1
Mechanic's Helper								1	1				2
Miner's Helper										1		1	2
Painter				1									1
Pulp/Sawmill				2									2
Truck Driver	1	1						1					3
Waitress				1					1				2
TOTAL	13	15	21	20	25	19	10	30	25	39	21	58	296

PELLEY INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	KEY	KEESEEKOOSE	COTE	TOTAL
Bricklayer	1			1
Carpenter	1	1	3	5
Carpenter Helper	2	13	19	34
Domestic			6	6
Dozer Operator	2	1		3
Farm Labourer	12	14	29	55
Forklift Operator			1	1
General Construction Labourer	13	15	25	53
Heavy Duty Labourer		1		1
Heavy Equipment Operator		1	2	3
Mechanic Helper	4	1		5
Rodman/Chainman		1		1
Sawmill/Pulp	1	3	2	6
Steelworker			1	1
Supervisor (Boys)		1		1
Truck/Bus Drivers			4	4
Waitress			1	1
Welder		1		1
Welder Helper	1			1
TOTAL	37	53	93	183

SHELLBROOK INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	MISTAWASIS	MUSKEG LAKE	PELICAN LAKE	SANDY LAKE	WITCHEKAN LAKE	BIG RIVER	TOTAL
Caretaker						1	1
Carpenter Helper	4	5	1	3		3	16
Construction and General Labourer	10	11	2	3		4	30
Domestic	1	2					3
Farm Labourer	9	8	17	7	9	12	62
Heavy Equip- ment Operator	2	1	1				4
Mechanics Helper	1						1
Miner (Underground)		1					1
Pulp/Sawmill		1	1				2
Truck Driver	4	4	1			2	11
Waitress	1						1
Welder		1					1
TOTAL	32	34	23	13	9	22	133

TOUCHWOOD INDIAN AGENCY

TRADE	NUT LAKE	FISHING LAKE	DAYSTAR	GORDONS	MUSCOW- WEQUAN	POORMANS	KINIS- TINO	TOTAL
Artistic Ability				1				1
Barber	1							1
Carpenter			1	8		1		10
Carpenter's Helper		1	1	4	1		1	8
Cat/Dozer Operator	3			2				5
Construction & General Labourer	3	2	11	27				43
Cook			1					1
Domestic	2	1	3					6
Farm Labourer	19	8	4	15	2	1	1	50
Heavy Equip- ment Operator				1				1
Janitor				1				1
Leathercraft				1				1
Masonry				1				1
Mechanic's Helper	3							3
Mine Labourer	1							1
Painter				3	1			4
Plumber's Helper				1				1
Pulp/Sawmill	1	1						2
Shoemaker					1			1
Truck Driver			2	6				8
Waitress	1							1
Welder				1				1
TOTAL	34	13	23	72	5	2	2	151

REGIONAL SUMMARY

TRADE	B A T T L E F O R I D A	C A R L T O I N A	C R O K E D L A K I E A	D U C K L A K I E A	F Q I U L ' E A P H P J E L L I S E A	M E A D O W L A K I E A	P E L I Y A	S H E L L B R O O I K A	T O U C H W O O I D A	TOTAL
Artistic Ability									1	1
Barber		1	1	1					1	4
Bartender			1							1
Boys' Supervisor		1					1			2
Bricklayer							1			1
Caretaker					3			1		4
Carpenter	3	5	5		5	1	5		10	34
Carpenter's Helper	31	27	22	20	19	19	34	16	8	196
Cat/Dozer Operator	6	5	13	1	8	3	3		5	44
Cement Finisher				1						1
Clerk (Retail)	4	5				6				15
Clerk (Steno)		2								2
Clerk (Typist) F	1		1							2
Clerk (Typist) M	1									1
Construction and General Labourer	101	337	75	98	62	152	53	30	43	951
Cook	1	1							1	3
Diamond Driller		6								6
Domestic	15	44	14	19	17	29	6	3	6	153
Drafting					1					1
Driller's Helper		3				1				4
Electrician				1						1
Electrician's Helper				1						1
Farm Labourer	97	33	25		82	69	55	62	50	473
Forklift Operator							1			1
Hair Dresser			2		2					4
Heavy Duty Mechanic			1				1			2

Heavy Equipment Operator	3	2	6	10	11		3	4	1	40
Hoistman - Line		1								1
Hospital Aide (Ward)	1	1			1					3
Janitor	2	2	1			3			1	9
Leathercraft									1	1
Masonry									1	1
Mechanic	1	1	1		1	1				5
Mechanic's Helper	8	4	3	3	6	2	5	1	3	35
Miner (Surface)		6	3						1	10
Miner (Under-ground)		4		1				1		6
Miner's Helper			1		1	2				4
Nurse's Aide				1						1
Office Clerk					3					3
Painter	3	1				1			4	9
Painter's Helper					2					2
Pipeline Worker				1						1
Plumber's Helper									1	1
Pulp/Sawmill	2	36	2		1	2	6	2	2	53
Rodman							1			1
Shoemaker									1	1
Steeleworker	1		11				1			13
Stenographer				1						1
Surveyor's Helper		2	1							3
Truck Driver	11	9	14	2	10	3	4	11	8	72
Waitress	6	10	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	25
Welder	1			1	1		1	1	1	6
Welder's Helper	1	1	1		1		1			5
X-ray Technician	1				1					2
TOTAL	301	550	206	163	239	296	183	133	151	2222

LABOUR FORCE AGE GROUPS BY AGENCY

AGENCY	16/20	21/30	31/40	41/50	51 +	TOTAL
						MALE - FEMALE
Battleford:						
male	53	87	30	15	5	190 -
female	9	7				- 16
Carlton:						
male	90	103	100	71	34	398 -
female	35	15	2	2		- 54
Crooked Lake:						
male	18	40	27	17	8	110 -
female	4	7		2		- 13
Duck Lake:						
male	31	48	36	14	9	138 -
female	12	9	1	1		- 23
File Hills-Qu'Appelle:						
male	24	60	32	22	4	142 -
female	13	3	2			- 18
Meadow Lake:						
male	54	78	73	27	5	237 -
female	23	4	1		1	- 29
Pelly:						
male	23	46	17	20	1	107 -
female	7					- 7
Shellbrook:						
male	19	34	34	15	1	103 -
female	4	1				- 5
Touchwood:						
male	20	26	23	18	2	89 -
female	1		1	3		- 5
TOTAL:						
male	332	522	372	219	69	1514 -
female	108	46	7	8	1	170
	440	568	379	227	70	1684

REGIONAL
EDUCATION STANDARDS
LABOUR FORCE

Agency	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
<u>Battleford</u>														
Male	10	-	4	14	14	24	37	38	35	6	6	2	3	193
Female	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	2	2	-	2	2	14
	10	-	4	14	14	25	39	41	37	8	6	4	5	207
<u>Carlton</u>														
Male	99	16	20	23	28	56	79	37	53	10	13	4	-	438
Female	5	-	-	1	4	9	19	10	12	4	3	1	-	68
	104	16	20	24	32	65	98	47	65	14	16	5	-	506
<u>Crooked Lake</u>														
Male	2	-	2	4	8	5	17	23	26	16	3	2	2	110
Female	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	4	4	2	5	-	-	17
	2	-	2	5	8	6	17	27	30	18	8	2	2	127
<u>Duck Lake</u>														
Male	1	1	1	3	4	13	22	36	40	9	5	3	-	138
Female	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	8	4	1	1	-	3	22
	1	1	1	3	5	13	26	44	44	10	6	3	3	160
<u>File Hills</u>														
<u>Qu'Appelle</u>														
Male	2	-	2	1	3	11	27	47	40	16	5	-	3	157
Female	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	10	4	4	2	2	-	25
	2	-	2	1	3	13	28	57	44	20	7	2	3	182
<u>Meadow Lake</u>														
Male	94	9	11	25	28	34	40	16	10	2	5	-	-	274
Female	-	3	-	-	4	10	3	4	4	1	1	-	-	30
	94	12	11	25	32	44	43	20	14	3	6	-	-	304
<u>Pelly</u>														
Male	4	-	-	1	2	7	20	34	52	15	10	5	1	151
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	-	-	-	-	8
	4	-	-	1	2	7	21	39	54	15	10	5	1	159
<u>Shellbrook</u>														
Male	2	4	5	3	8	11	19	27	19	6	2	-	-	106
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	5
	2	4	5	3	8	11	19	29	20	8	2	-	-	111
<u>Touchwood</u>														
Male	5	-	1	7	9	13	21	24	13	3	-	-	-	96
Female	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
	5	-	1	8	10	16	22	24	13	3	-	-	-	102
TOTAL	224	33	46	84	114	200	313	328	321	99	61	21	14	1858

Summary

The Indian Population of Saskatchewan as of June 1967 was 31,189. Of this figure, 85.2% or 26,148 were living on the 127 Reserves contained in the Province and 4,771 or 14.8% were living off the Reserves.

Our Survey was concerned solely with the employable Indian people living on the Reserves. Sixty per cent or 15,688 of the Reserve population is under sixteen years of age and of these, approximately 8,966 are students enrolled in Education or Training Courses, leaving a potential Labour Force of approximately 6,700. However, this figure also contains a number of unemployables by reason of age, physical or social disability. It would, therefore, appear that we have an actual potential Labour Force of approximately 5,000, which again is subject to seasonal fluctuation. As of February 1967, 1,800 were working off their Reserves, therefore, the 1,858 interviews covered approximately 38% of the actual work force.

It will also be noted that a total of 911 indicated they would like to upgrade their education, showing a healthy interest in bettering themselves. It is of interest to note that approximately 900 have availed themselves of Upgrading Courses in the past year.

This survey deals primarily with the available adult Labour Force on the Reserves. While no comparative Literacy research was undertaken, it will be seen that only a minority of those interviewed have better than a Grade eight education, the average being approximately Grade five, and that the preponderance of illiteracy in the English language occurs in the Northern areas, such as Montreal Lake and Lac la Ronge in the Carlton Agency, and the Athabaskan areas of Fond du Lac, Stony Rapids and Black Lake in the Meadow Lake Agency. It is encouraging to note that more than 50% of these people are actively seeking to improve their education and that programs are under way to provide the necessary courses. It is interesting to see that those who attended school

in the group survey have an average of Grade 6, and that 22½ of those interviewed are illiterate in English.

Forty-one families interviewed expressed a wish to be Relocated off the Reserve, but less than 25% of those who so indicated can be classed as having even a minimal chance of success by reasons of age, size of family, poor education and lack of skills beyond those of unskilled labour.

Notwithstanding the above, the Branch has been carrying on an active Relocation program mainly in the cities of Saskatoon and Regina. A total of sixteen families have been established in Saskatoon during the past year, and five more are in the process of review, while 23 families have been relocated in Regina during the same period.

In addition to the above, the Branch is collaborating with Canada Manpower, under whose auspices, a pilot project is being undertaken to relocate a selected group of twenty families in Saskatoon.

The number of approved applications for off-Reserve housing offer some indication of the success of the Branch program.

In conclusion, we feel that the information developed by this survey will be real value in our programming and with regular revisions to keep it up to date, will so continue for as long as it may be required.

APPENDIX 'A'

S A M P L E C A R D

General Placement

14 Gen. 1966-67

DOE, Joseph
ADDRESS: Sub 17, Saskatoon, Sask.
AGE: 19
HEIGHT: 5'11" WEIGHT: 170 lbs.
RELIGION: R.C.
MARITAL STATUS: Single

No. 322 Any Band
Any Agency
PHONE: 784-8324
DATE OF BIRTH:
Grade VII

April 13, 1966: Worked for a few days last year at Saskatoon Reinforcing Steel. Also worked for Pine Lumber (2 months). Took a mechanic course at Saskatoon Technical School; has papers to say he is an apprentice mechanic. Referred to Sutherland Shell Service (Louis'), 115th Street and Nelson Ave.
April 25, 1966: Released from job. Feel employer was not too good anyway. Referred to Kramer Tractor - no luck.
April 26, 1966: Referred to Caswell's Service, Avenue A North for interview.
April 27, 1966: Caswell interested but subject feels wages too low. Referred to Charlebois Roofing.
May 5, 1966: Now taking a mechanical course at Technical School - MVMR.
May 30, 1966: Mrs. Isabel Quewezance - P.O. Box Sub 17, Saskatoon (offered two jobs).
June 13, 1966: Quit course - wants farm work. Referred to Bean, NES. Subject appears lazy.
September 21, 1966: Previously worked for Pine Lumber - rehired this date. Counselling very fully - employer will only keep him on if he works better then previously and cuts down on absenteeism. Subject promises to do better.
October 31, 1966: Contacted employer who advised that subject is still with them and has only missed a couple of days so far. Earning \$1.25 per hour.

TRADE

NAME:

BAND:

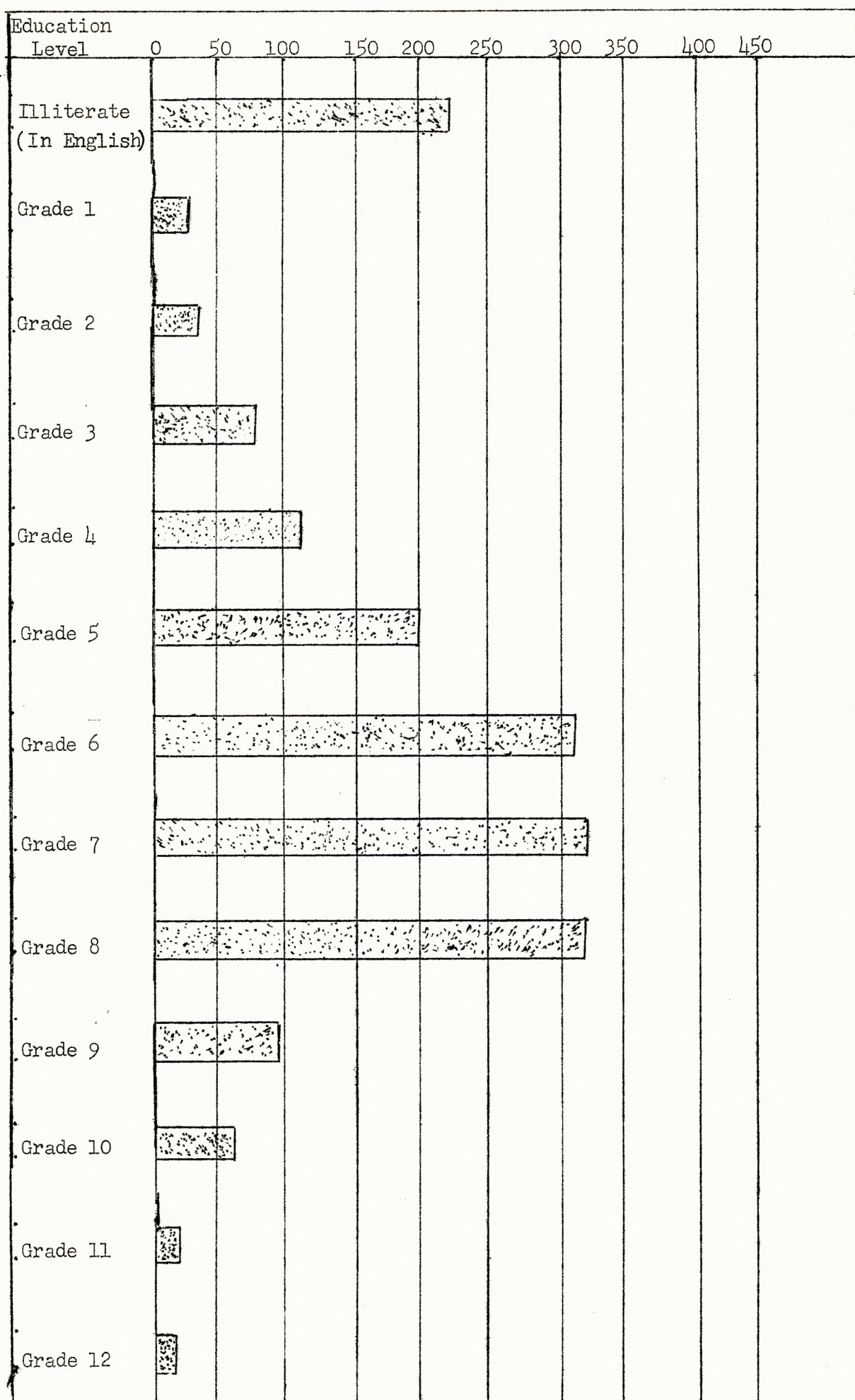
MARITAL STATUS:

AGENCY:

DEPENDENTS:

AGE:

EDUCATIONAL LEVELS OF THOSE INTERVIEWED



+ NOTE: Of the approx. 242 persons interviewed shown as illiterate in English, more than 85% live in isolated Northern areas.

TOTAL INTERVIEWED - 1858

AVERAGE EDUCATIONAL LEVEL - Grade 6.