RESULTS OF A CENSUS OF UTAH GEOLOGISTS

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A recent census of the geologists working in Utah, conducted by a committee of the Utah section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists, has revealed some statistical information that may be interesting and perhaps useful to the general geologic profession. The census form was general in scope, requesting name, age, position, education, years of experience in several general fields and principal present activity. Every effort was made to contact all geologists working in the state; the questionnaire also requested names of those most likely to be missed by a search of the rosters of local and national professional organizations.

Returned questionnaires numbered three hundred eighteen, as of March 1, 1969, which is a formidable seventy-one percent of the total sent out. Of those returned, twenty-one residents outside the state of Utah and five were no longer employed in a geological capacity. Forty-six of those polled were employed by a governmental agency, either federal or state. The majority of those responding, nearly thirty-eight percent, were involved in mining of one form or another from uranium to base metals. Only nineteen percent of the respondents were employed as petroleum geologists. Nearly twelve percent of the returns counted indicated the education field as the major vocation. Over nine percent of those polled were self-employed consultant geologists. More than eight percent failed to indicate their principal activity of employment. Approximately two percent of the returns could not be classified into any of the general fields listed.

The following tabulation, the bar graphs (figs. 1 and 2) on age and experience distribution plus the percentage category distribution diagram (fig. 3) complete the statistical analyses made thus far. The age distribution graph (fig. 1) demonstrates an almost perfect distribution curve in the twenty-five to fifty age group, but overall a marked skewness toward youth is indicated. The experience distribution curve (fig. 2) also demonstrates a marked skewness toward youth or relative inexperience. A marked decrease in the number of respondents over forty-eight years of age or with more than twenty years of experience is also apparent. The marked skewness on both graphs, toward youthfulness on the age distribution graph and toward relative inexperience on the experience distribution graph, seems to indicate that geologists working in Utah generally are of middle management level and below. Apparently, the majority of geologists working in Utah are employed in field or district level offices with larger divisional or main offices located outside the state. Company employed geologists over forty-eight years of age or with more than twenty years of experience logically have attained management positions above the district level and therefore reside outside the state. For this reason, the census of Utah geologists is not considered applicable for statistical projections of regional or national scope.

TABULATION OF CENSUS RESULTS
March 1, 1969

Total individual send out  448
Total replies  318

71 percent return on questionnaires

RICHARD CHOJNACKI, a native of Erie, Pennsylvania, graduated with a degree of Geological Engineer in Mining from the Colorado School of Mines in 1952. Following graduation he accepted employment with the Texas Gulf Sulphur Company and was stationed in Mexico for two years. He joined the mining group of the Natural Resources Division of the Union Pacific Railroad Company in 1954, working in exploration. He has been with Union Pacific ever since, and for two years served as Assistant to the General Manager-Mining. In 1967 Mr. Chojnacki was made Project Manager-Mineral Commodities, the position he now holds. He resides in Salt Lake City and is a member of AIPG, IAG, UGS, AIME, and AMA.

Editor's Note: This paper is not "Uinta Mountains" but it is short and informative. See page 117 for biography of J. M. Hummel.

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