

THE DISTRIBUTION OF EARNINGS
AND INCOME IN ALASKA

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The 1970 Census of Alaska contains data on earnings and non-earnings income for individuals and groups of the population. The published data are of limited usefulness, however, providing inadequately crossclassified tabular data. Census Public Use Sample (PUS) magnetic tapes for Alaska are available, however, and these four magnetic tape files each contain a one-percent sample of actual Census records. All four can be combined to yield a four-percent (12,000 records) sample of Alaskan Census records. These records have been processed and converted to an SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) file which can then be used to create crosstabulations of all Census data, limited only by individual cell size. All of the data for the MAP research on income distribution have been generated from this file.

The initial task of income distribution research has been to examine the pattern of distribution as it applies to occupational groups and race groups. ^{1/} Figures 1-7 are a sample of the income distribution and earnings distributions which have been generated from the MAP four-percent sample. Figure 1 shows the number of recipients for each income class for total money income received in 1969 for all individuals over 14 years of age, while Figures 2 and 3

show the same distribution on a Native-non-Native basis. The substantial difference in the racial pattern of the total money income distribution reflects both economic and non-economic factors such as variations in labor force participation, education, experience, non-money "income-in-kind" and non-earnings money income.^{2/}

The variations in earnings among occupations is also quite substantial as revealed in Figures 4 and 5, comparing the earnings distribution of professional and clerical workers, respectively. Again, these earnings distributions include all individuals over 14 who were in the civilian labor force at any time in 1969.

Figures 6 and 7 reveal the dramatic differentials in earnings within the professional occupation category, between non-Natives and Natives. Again, the differentials reflect in part the economic and non-economic factors noted above.

Many more earnings and income distributions will be generated before proceeding to the parametric analysis stage of this research task.

KEY TO HORIZONTAL SCALE

- 1 = less than \$1,000
2 = \$1,000 - \$1,999
3 = \$2,000 - \$2,999
4 = \$3,000 - \$3,999
5 = \$4,000 - \$4,999

6 = \$5,000 - \$5,999
7 = \$6,000 - \$6,999
8 = \$7,000 - \$7,999
9 = \$8,000 - \$8,999
10 = \$9,000 - \$9,999

11 = \$10,000 - \$10,999
12 = \$11,000 - \$11,999
13 = \$12,000 - \$12,999
14 = \$13,000 - \$13,999
15 = \$14,000 - \$14,999

16 = \$15,000 - \$15,999
17 = \$16,000 - \$16,999
18 = \$17,000 - \$17,999
19 = \$18,000 - \$18,999
20 = \$19,000 - \$19,999

21 = \$20,000 - \$20,999
22 = \$21,000 - \$21,999
23 = \$22,000 - \$22,999
24 = \$23,000 - \$23,999
25 = \$24,000 - \$24,999

26 = \$25,000 - \$25,999
27 = \$26,000 - \$26,999
28 = \$27,000 - \$27,999
29 = \$28,000 - \$28,999
30 = \$29,000 - \$29,999

40 = \$30,000 - \$39,999

50 = \$40,000 - \$49,999

50+ = \$50,000 or more

Figure 1
NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY INCOME CLASS,
TOTAL MONEY INCOME, 1969,
ALL RACES

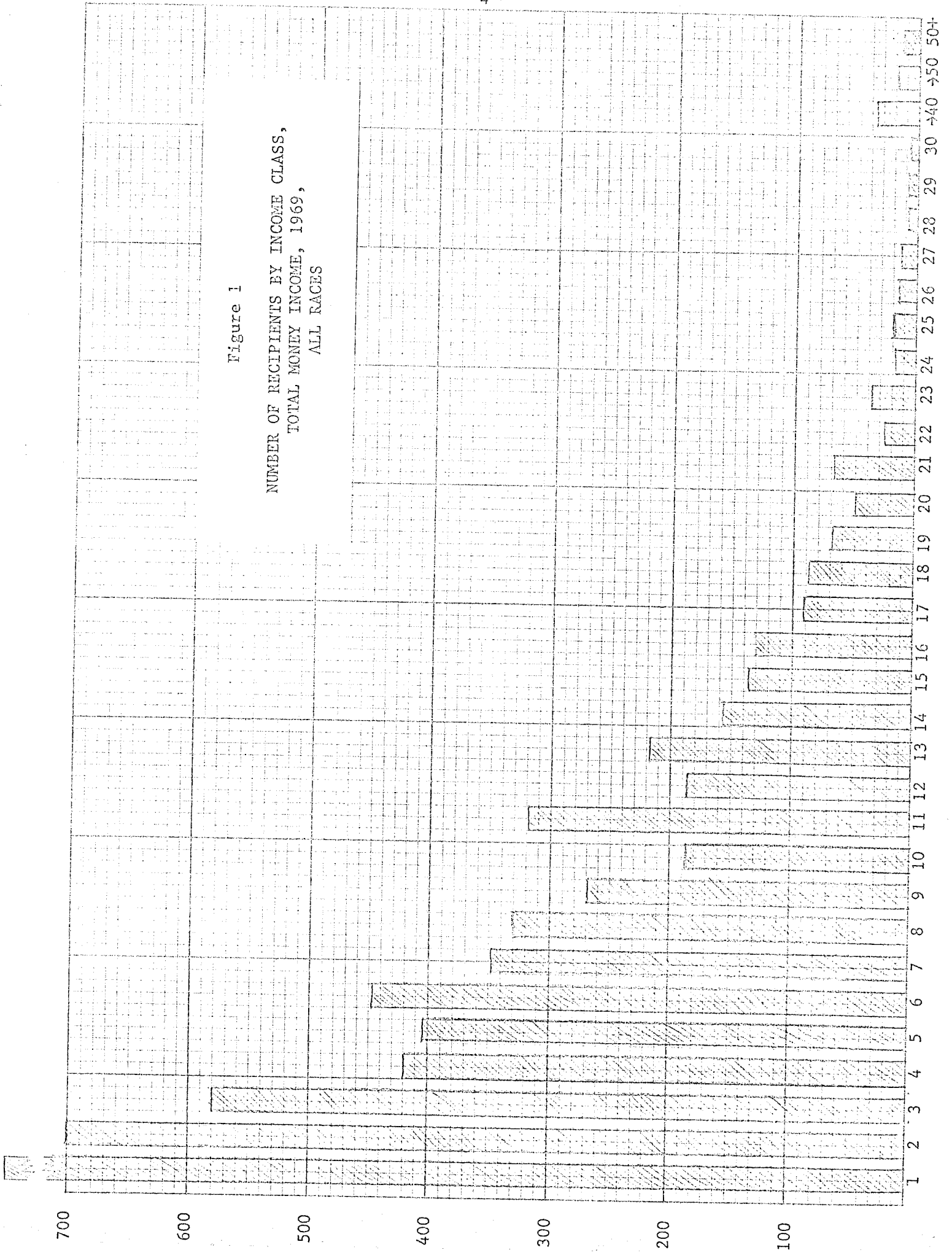


Figure 2

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY INCOME CLASS,
TOTAL MONEY INCOME, 1969,
NON-NATIVE

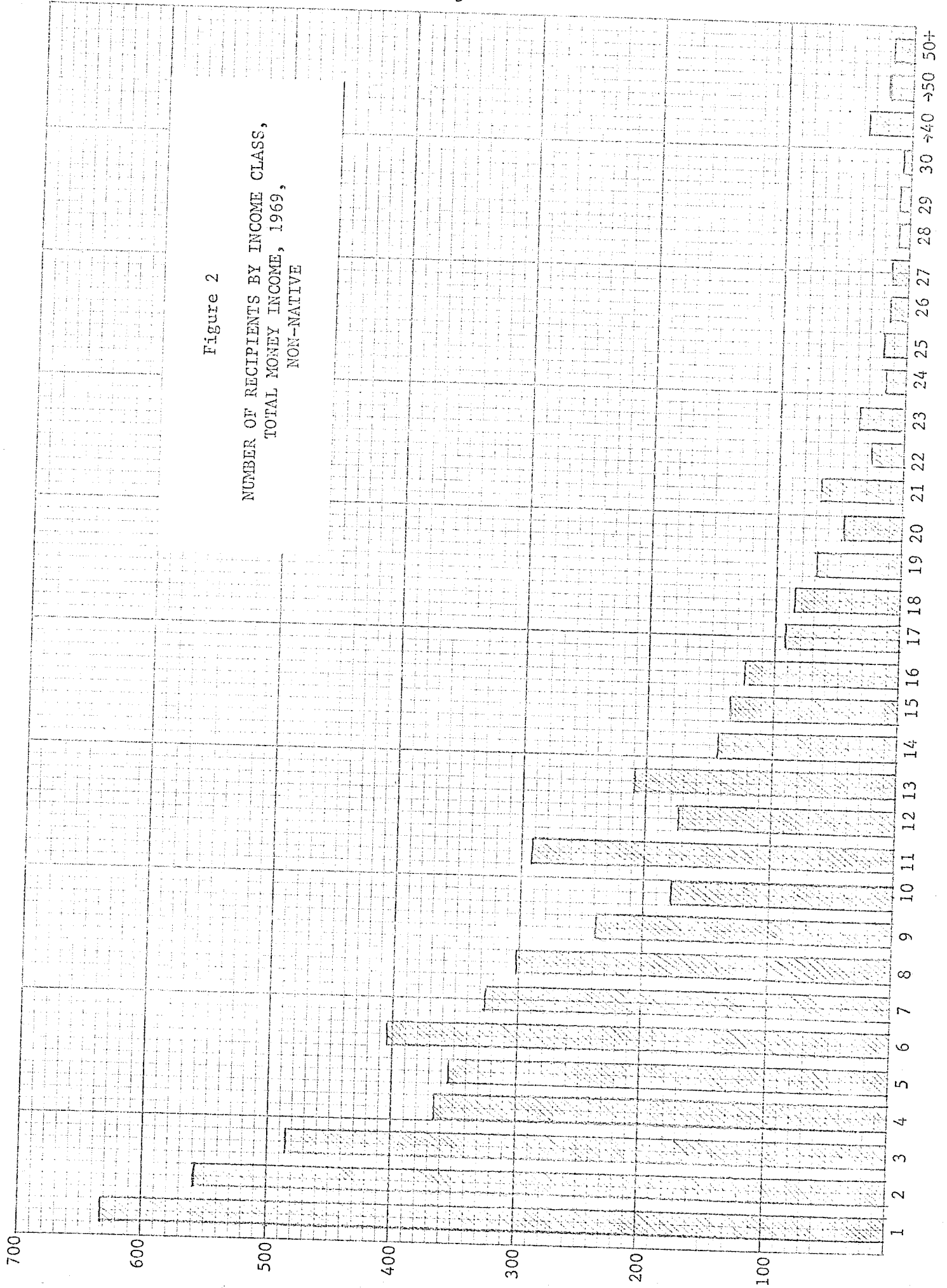


Figure 3
NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY INCOME CLASS,
TOTAL MONEY INCOME, 1969,
NATIVE

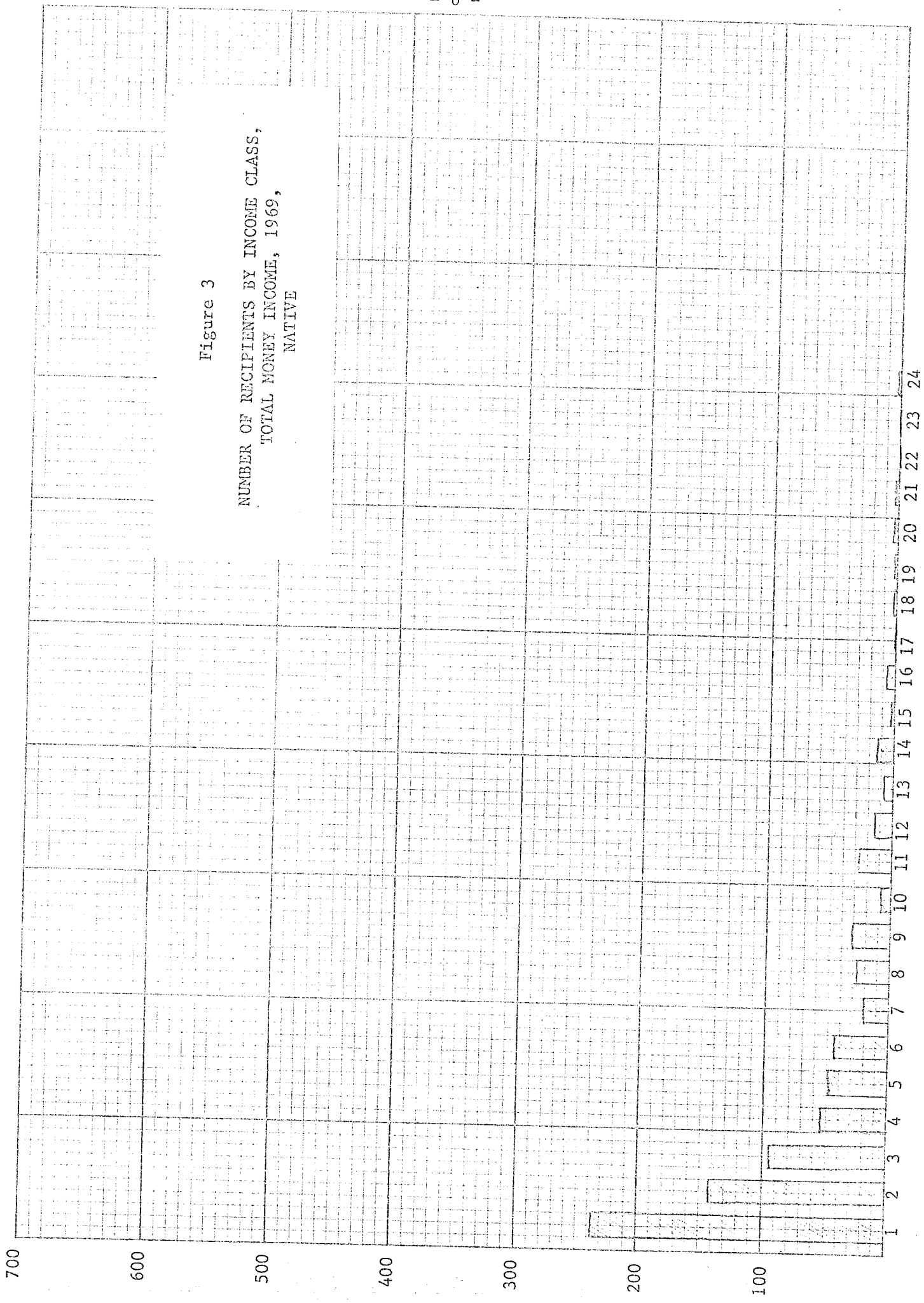


Figure 4

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY EARNINGS CLASS,
EARNINGS INCOME, 1969

PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, AND KINDRED OCCUPATIONS

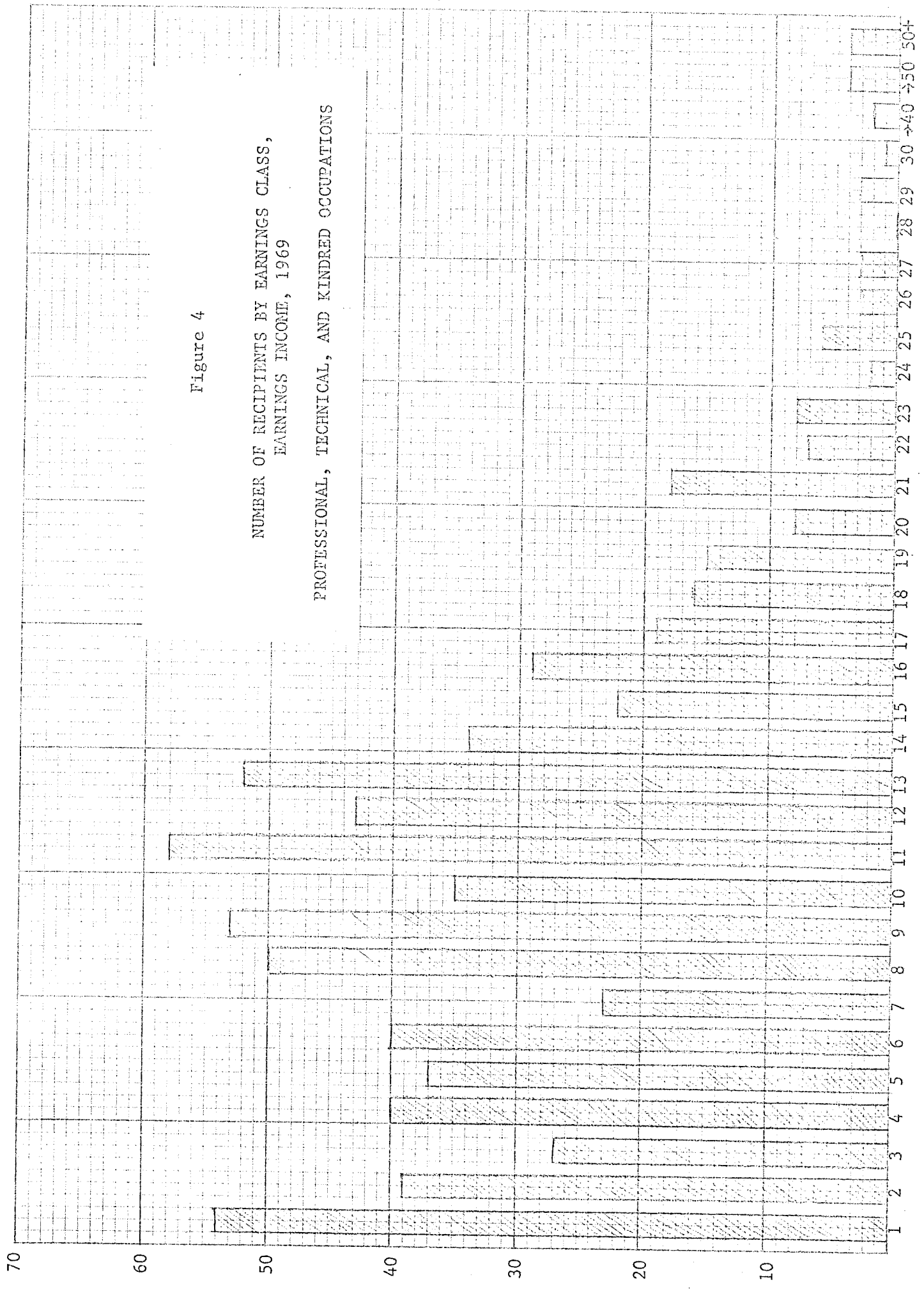


Figure 5
NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY EARNINGS CLASS,
EARNINGS INCOME, 1969
CLERICAL AND KINDRED OCCUPATIONS

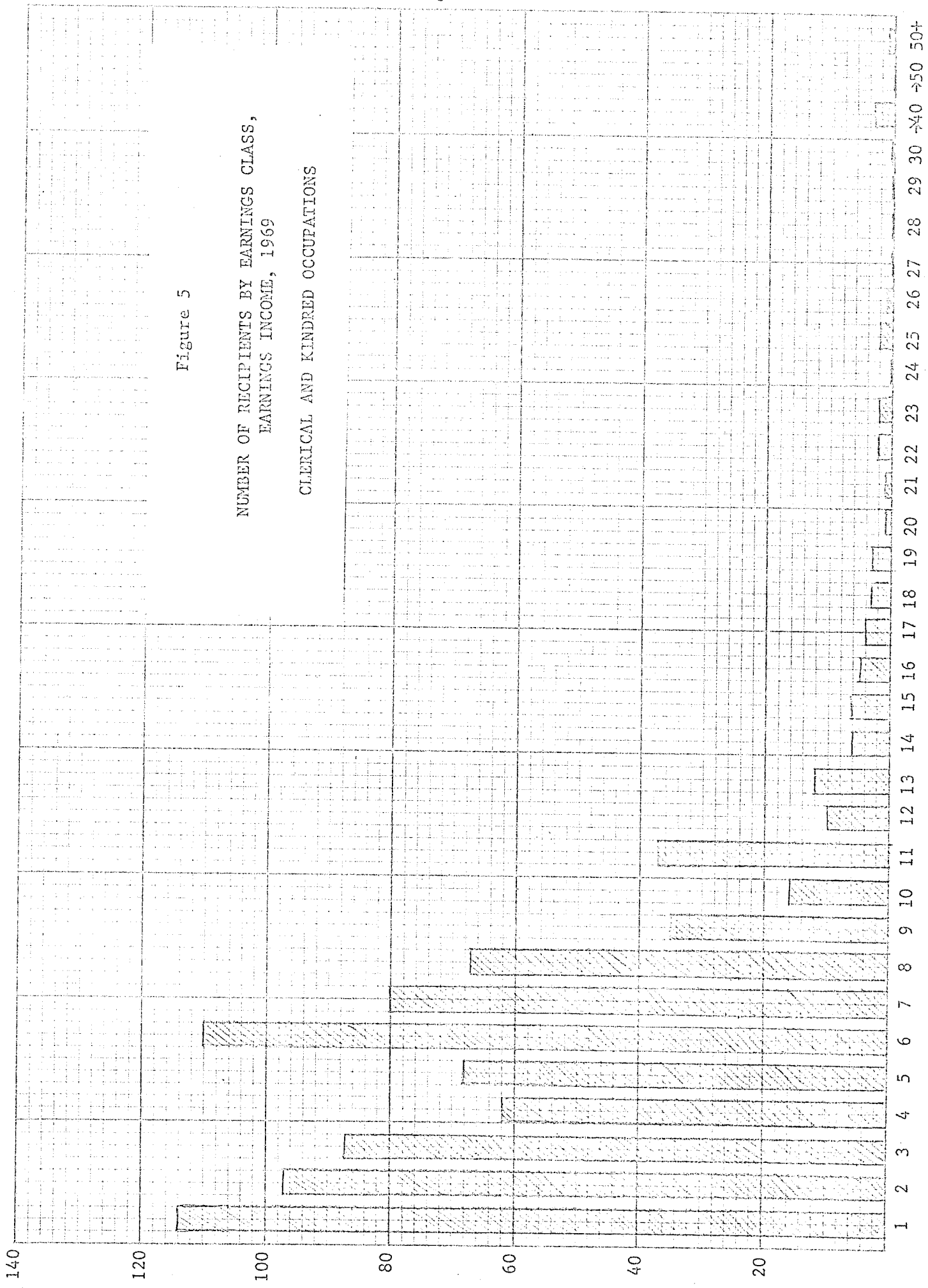


Figure 6

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY EARNINGS CLASS,
EARNINGS INCOME, 1969

PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, AND KINDRED OCCUPATIONS

NON-NATIVES

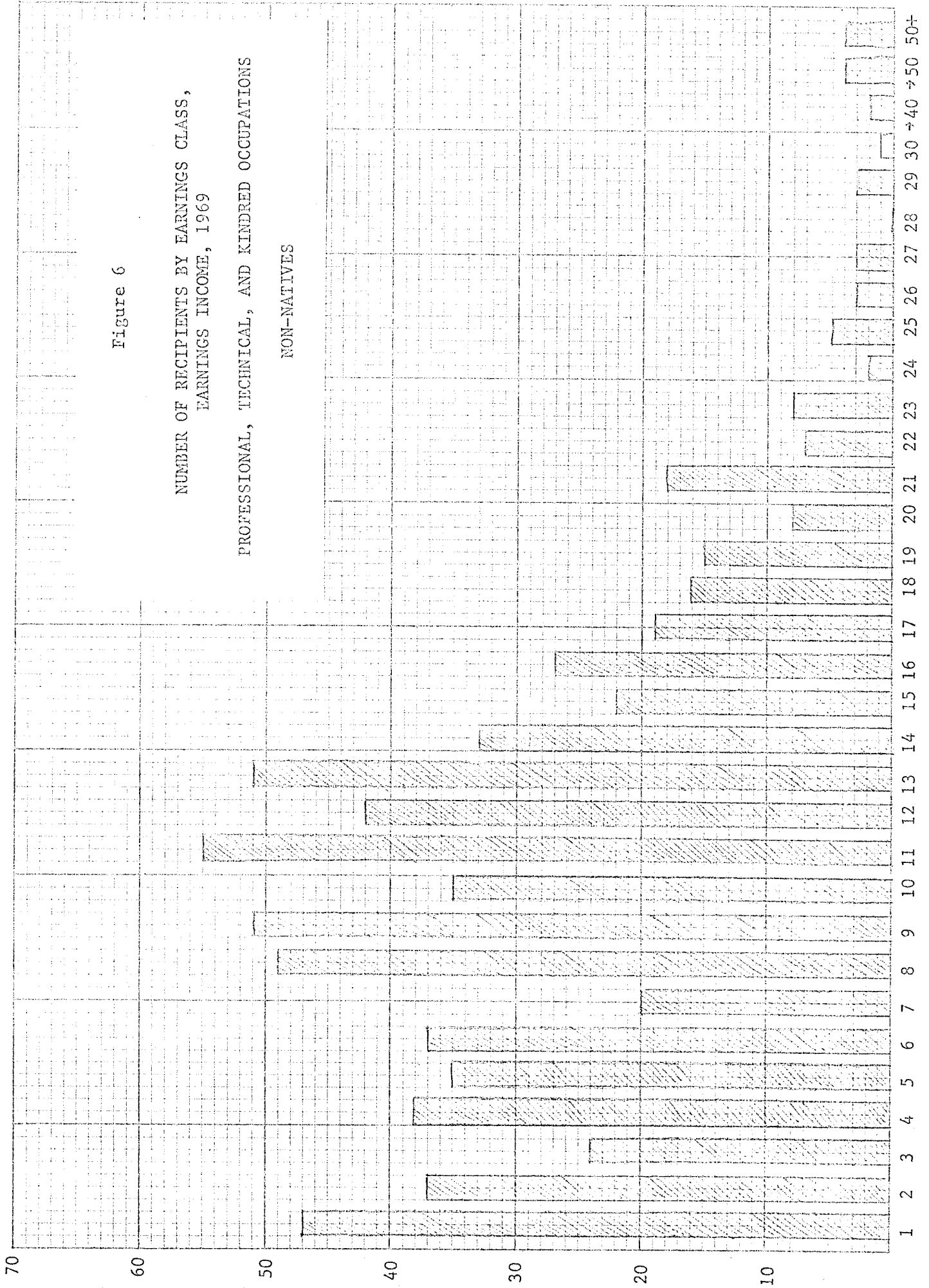
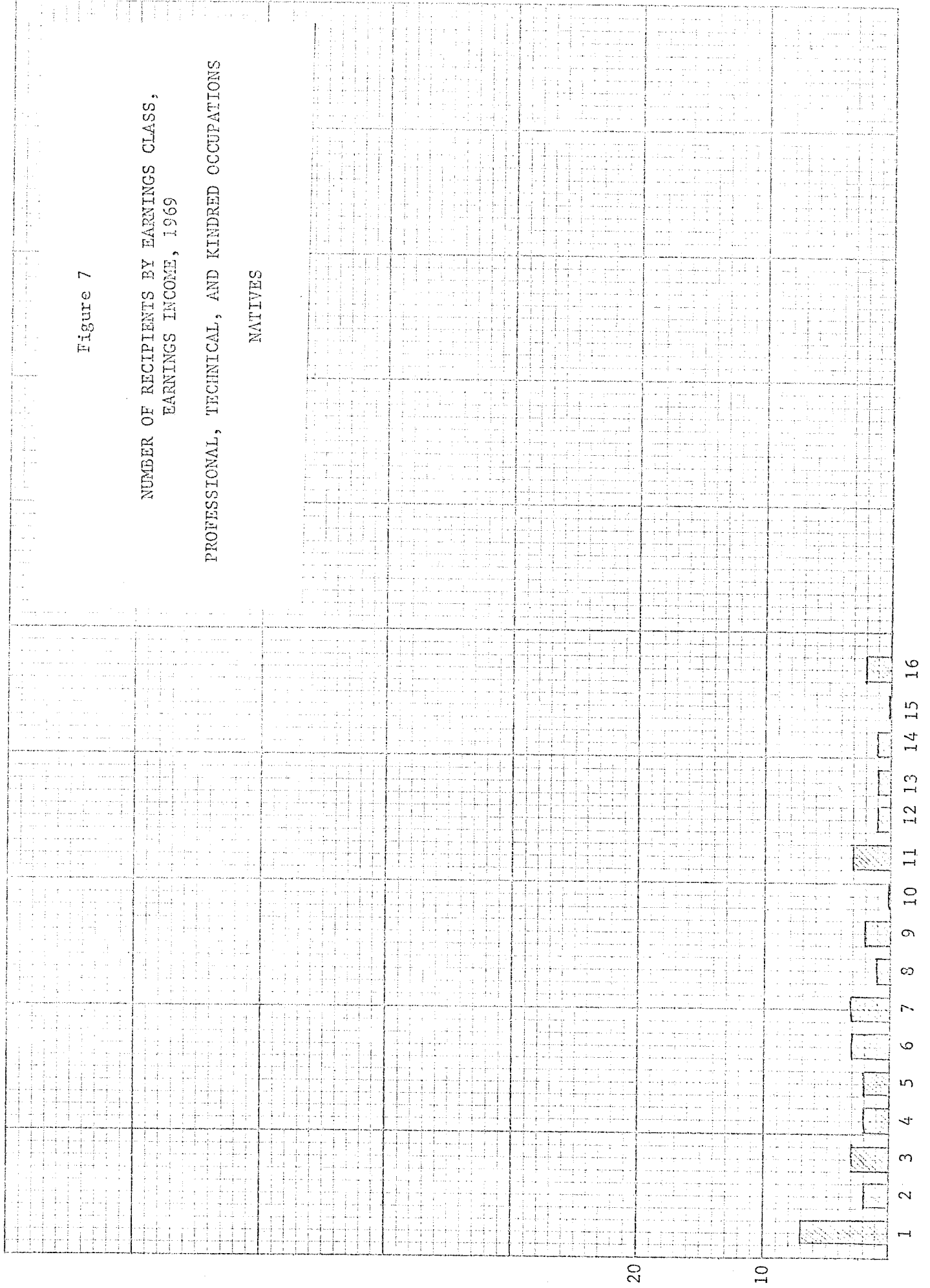


Figure 7

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS BY EARNINGS CLASS,
EARNINGS INCOME, 1969

PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, AND KINDRED OCCUPATIONS
NATIVES



FOOTNOTES

1. No published Census data is crosstabulated on a Native-non-Native basis. This racial breakdown can be made with Public Use Sample data, however. The occupational groupings used in income distribution research are identical to those used in manpower research.

2. Census income data are subject to many limitations and have only limited comparability with other sources of income data. These matters are fully discussed in U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population: 1970, Detailed Characteristics, PC(1)-D3, pp. App-22 - App-26. An additional weakness of the data is evident from close inspection of Figures 1-7: the economic equivalent of "digit preference" in age-reporting also applies to income reporting: \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000, and \$20,000 are much more likely to be reported than dollar amounts slightly above or below these round figures.