

A SURVEY OF APPAREL MANUFACTURERS FOR CAREER  
OPPORTUNITIES IN APPAREL MANUFACTURING

By

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
I. INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
Statement of the Problem . . . . .	2
Purpose . . . . .	3
Objectives . . . . .	3
Definition of Terms . . . . .	3
II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE . . . . .	4
Apparel Industry . . . . .	4
Apparel Industry in Oklahoma . . . . .	5
Degree Options in Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising . . . . .	7
Apparel Manufacturing Careers . . . . .	8
Women in Business . . . . .	10
Related Research . . . . .	11
Summary . . . . .	16
III. METHODS AND PROCEDURES . . . . .	18
The Sample . . . . .	18
The Questionnaire . . . . .	20
Analysis of Data . . . . .	23
IV. FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS . . . . .	24
The Sample . . . . .	24
Apparel Producers' Data . . . . .	25
Types of Apparel Produced . . . . .	26
Raw Material Sources . . . . .	32
Design and Pattern Sources . . . . .	33
Apparel Industry Employment . . . . .	36
Career Planning . . . . .	43
Summary . . . . .	44
V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS . . . . .	45
Conclusions . . . . .	47
Recommendations for Further Study . . . . .	48
A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	49

Chapter	Page
APPENDIX A - NUMBER AND LOCATION OF OKLAHOMA APPAREL MANUFACTURING PLANTS . . . . .	51
APPENDIX B - CORRESPONDENCE AND QUESTIONNAIRE . . . . .	53

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
I. Major Group 23- Apparel and Other Finished Products Made From Fabrics . . . . .	19
II. Oklahoma Apparel Manufacturers Listed By Name, City and Number of Employees . . . . .	21
III. Types of Apparel Producers . . . . .	25
IV. Functions of Apparel Producers . . . . .	26
V. Types of Men's, Boys' and Youth Apparel Manufactured in Oklahoma . . . . .	27
VI. Categories of Men's, Boys' and Youth Apparel Manufactured in Oklahoma . . . . .	28
VII. Types of Misses, Juniors and Half Sizes Apparel Manufactured in Oklahoma . . . . .	29
VIII. Categories of Misses, Juniors and Half Sizes Apparel Manufactured in Oklahoma . . . . .	30
IX. Types of Girls', Children's and Infants' Apparel Manufactured in Oklahoma . . . . .	31
X. Categories of Girls', Children's and Infants' Apparel Manufactured in Oklahoma . . . . .	32
XI. Response of Plant Manager to Does Your Plant Purchase Fabric . . . . .	33
XII. Response of Plant Manager to Does Your Plant Purchase Trimmings and Findings . . . . .	34
XIII. Response of Plant Manager to Does Your Plant Design the Garments . . . . .	34
XIV. Response of Plant Manager to Does Your Plant Make the Patterns . . . . .	35
XV. Response of Plant Manager to Does Your Plant Make the Pattern Markers . . . . .	36

Table	Page
XVI. Number of People Employed in Whole or Part Time Selected Apparel Manufacturing Positions . . . . .	38
XVII. Number of Persons Employed Full Time in Oklahoma Apparel Manufacturing . . . . .	39
XVIII. Number of Persons Employed in Supervisory Positions . . . . .	39
XIX. Number of Persons Employed in Machine Operator Positions . . . . .	40
XX. Number of Plants Indicating Positions Other Than Supervisory and Machine Operator . . . . .	41
XXI. Response of Plant Manager to Do You Train Your Own Employees . . . . .	41
XXII. Previous Training Preferred for Employees by Plant Managers in Oklahoma . . . . .	42

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

The number of fashion oriented careers is constantly increasing and these careers require persons who are specially trained for them. College students majoring in Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising can use information concerning the many career opportunities which are available. Positions within retailing, teaching and manufacturing are some of the areas open to Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors.

Manufacturing has many career possibilities. Mass production of clothing is very specialized. A knowledge of construction techniques and textiles is an asset. A person holding a Bachelor's degree in Clothing, Textiles and Merchandising is prepared to hold a supervisory position because of his specific knowledge concerning construction, textiles or merchandising. Marketing positions in manufacturing involve selling the constructed garments to retail stores.

Apparel manufacturing is an important part of the industrial world. Troxell and Judelle (1971) stress that apparel manufacturing affects all phases of our lives. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising students should be informed of the career possibilities within the area. Oklahoma has approximately 76 apparel manufacturers employing about 12,000 employees (Oklahoma Industrial Development Department, 1976). Though Oklahoma is not one of the major apparel producing states, this number shows that it is an industry that is important in



the state. It is hard, however, to counsel a student in this direction with little previous knowledge of careers and their responsibilities. Communication between the apparel manufacturers and Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising faculty could result in benefits for the industry and the graduates. A more thorough knowledge of career requirements may contribute to better preparation of students who want to be employed in the apparel industry.

#### Statement of the Problem

The apparel industry is a little publicized manufacturing area within Oklahoma. It is important for teachers and counselors to know, however, what specific employment opportunities are available and what skills are required. Information pertaining to career opportunities in Oklahoma apparel manufacturing firms could be of much value to Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors. The study is designed to gain information from the apparel industry concerning plant function, apparel categories produced and apparel construction. Available careers in the apparel industry will be identified as well as the knowledge and skills required for employment. This information could help faculty to evaluate and develop curriculum which prepares students for careers in Oklahoma apparel manufacturing. Knowledge of the qualifications for employees should help in this preparation. Based on this type of information the existing curriculum could be evaluated and developed to acquaint students with skills required by the manufacturers.

## Purpose

The purpose of the study was to survey Oklahoma apparel manufacturers to obtain career information for use with Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates.

## Objectives

Specific objectives of the study are:

- 1) To develop a questionnaire to be mailed to each apparel manufacturing plant manager in Oklahoma.
- 2) To gather information about the apparel industry including functions of the plant, apparel categories produced, and information about apparel construction.
- 3) To identify the jobs in the apparel industry for Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates.
- 4) To study data for possible use in career planning with Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising students.

## Definition of Terms

The following terms as used in this study are defined according to Greenwood and Murphy (1978, p. 152).

### Types of apparel

Manufacturer- purchase fabrics from textile converters or directly from mill, design the styles and patterns to be used in making garments, cut each of the pieces in the pattern layouts from the fabrics designated, and sew and assemble the finished garments for shipment to the retail trade

Jobber- design the style of the garments to be produced, make arrangements to have cutting and sewing done in some independently owned shop, and store and ship finished garments to their customers

Contractor- cut the garment pieces using the specified pattern layout and fabric designated by the manufacturer or jobber, and sew and assemble the finished garments according to the specifications of the firm that hires them

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### Apparel Industry

The history of the garment industry and of the equipment used has been described by Anspach (1967), Levin (1965), Arnold and White (1961) and Ley (1975). Helfgoth (1959) described the New York apparel market and discussed the reasons for regional market importance. There is, however, a lack of specific information concerning apparel manufacturing.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (U.S. Department of Labor, 1969) described the labor and economic conditions within the apparel and textile industries. Areas included in the bulletin are employment, unemployment, labor turnover, industry location, size of establishment, wages, and industry relations. Employment in the apparel industry has changed little. There is a higher rate of employee turnover in the apparel industry than in the textile industry. The reason is thought to be the broadened alternative employment opportunities for apparel industry workers. Opportunities for apparel industry employment are generally located in urban areas and are found throughout the United States rather than concentrated in one region. The manufacturing plant establishment size was found to be less than 100 employees. Wages for workers averaged \$2.22 an hour and unionization was not prevalent.

It is thought that this accounts for the lower apparel industry wage as compared to other manufacturing areas.

Summarized information from the employment outlook for the apparel industry (Occupational Outlook Handbook, 1972-73) included the nature and location of the industry, training, other qualifications and advancement, the employment outlook, and earnings and working conditions. The apparel industry employed about 1.4 million persons during 1970. Apparel factories are located throughout the United States but the majority of workers are located in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, California, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Texas, Massachusetts and South Carolina. Occupations in apparel construction consist mainly of designing and cutting the garment, sewing pieces, and pressing the completed garment. The length of training time can range from a few weeks to several months. The job, the worker's attitude, and the training program are factors which determine the time needed for the employee to reach maximum efficiency. Advancement usually consists of progressing to a more complicated machine or task. Employment in the apparel industry is expected to increase throughout the 1970's. Average earnings for entry level jobs during 1970 were \$2.39 per hour (U.S. Department of Labor, 1972-73). Workers are paid, also, on a piecework basis, thus the total wage is dependent upon speed and skill.

#### Apparel Industry in Oklahoma

Information concerning the apparel industry in Oklahoma was available from the State Employment Office (Oklahoma State Employment Service, 1978). The average hourly earnings for February 1978 was

\$3.41 compared to \$3.01 earned during February 1977. The 1978 average weekly earnings were \$114.58, an increase over the previous year's earnings of \$110.17 (Oklahoma State Employment Service, 1978, p. 26).

There has been increased development within the apparel industry as employment opportunities have opened and persons have sought employment (Oklahoma State Employment Service, 1978). The Woodward area reported a supply of available job opportunities but a short supply of sewing machine operators. At the same time plant managers located in Durant, Holdenville, Poteau, and Seminole reported persons seeking jobs as sewing machine operators. Though only the sewing machine operators were listed specifically, other job openings might be cutters, pressers, shipping clerks and packagers.

Specific information (U.S. Department of Commerce, 1972) regarding Oklahoma industries was listed under Major Group 23, Apparel and Related Products in Oklahoma. There were 109 apparel and other textile product industries during 1972. Sixty of these establishments had 20 or more employees. According to the Department of Labor, (1969) statistics, the trend in apparel industries has been small establishments with between 20 and 99 workers. The number of employees in Oklahoma apparel industries, however, ranged from 1 to 650 with the average number of employees being 145. There are approximately 76 apparel manufacturers in Oklahoma which employ about 12,000 persons (Oklahoma Industrial Development Department, 1976). This number would seem to indicate that the apparel industry is important in Oklahoma.

Degree Options in Clothing, Textiles,  
and Merchandising

There are two degree options open to Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors at Oklahoma State University. The Fashion Merchandising option has usually led to a career in retailing while the Clothing and Textiles option has led to the clothing industry and teaching. Both degree options require the basic division requirements as listed in the catalog (Oklahoma State University Catalog, 1976). Courses in English composition; biological, physical and social sciences; humanities; home economics; art; and speech are required by the division of Home Economics. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising courses required by both degree options include basic clothing construction; clothing selection; fashion innovation and marketing; and textiles for consumers.

Additional course work in the Fashion Merchandising option includes fashion work experience, fashion work experience laboratory, fashion accessories sales techniques, merchandise display essentials, fashion buying and management procedures, and fashion promotion media. A basic course in management, marketing or accounting is required (OSUC, 1976).

The Clothing and Textiles option requires additional Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising courses to complete the option (OSUC, 1976). Intermediate clothing construction; analysis and comparative study of fabrics; heritage of dress or decorative fabrics; fashion sketching or creativity in textiles; and two courses selected from flat pattern design, dressmaker tailoring and draping are required as well as two

elective hours from Clothing, Textiles and Merchandising courses.

Students in Fashion Merchandising and Clothing and Textiles options have possibilities in apparel manufacturing. The course requirements for both options provide a good background knowledge for apparel manufacturing. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors can contribute their expertise to the apparel manufacturers. Possible careers in the apparel field utilizing a Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising background include textile testing, design, management or supervision of sewing machine skills, public relations, advertising, and specialty skills.

#### Apparel Manufacturing Careers

There are many career opportunities available to Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors. Retailing, teaching, and manufacturing are some of the areas.

A Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduate has the necessary background knowledge for these positions. Further knowledge and experience can be gained through an internship. Internships provide an opportunity for on-the-job experiences before a person must assume full responsibility for that job (Spillane and Levenson, 1976).

Internees have a chance to observe someone who has those responsibilities. The internee is able, also, to assume responsibilities under the guidance of a supervisor and to become qualified for job placement.

Retailing positions open to Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors include jobs ranging from the purchase of merchandise to promotion and presentation for the merchandise to the consumer. The sales person, stock person, and department manager are involved with the

customer in the store. The assistant buyer, buyer, and merchandise manager attend to the purchase of merchandise. Promotional activities are supervised by the fashion coordinator, display director, and advertising director.

Careers in apparel manufacturing are many and varied. They can be divided into the following categories: 1) management and supervision, 2) production, 3) sales, and 4) testing. Although some careers in apparel manufacturing require skills as well as knowledge, the careers which require knowledge of the clothing area are applicable to graduates of Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising.

Management and supervising careers constitute the highest level in apparel manufacturing. There are other positions which require Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising knowledge. The stylist or fashionist advises apparel manufacturers and retailers on style trends; the designer creates. An assistant designer selects the fabric and sketches the design for translation into a product. The personnel manager is concerned with employees and job placement.

Production is another area of apparel manufacturing. The sample stitcher prepares sample garments from the designers sketch and constructs the garment utilizing the machine and hand sewing operations. The patternmaker grades the master pattern to create a wide range of sizes. The inspectors examine the completed garment to see that it meets quality standards. Garments which do not meet workmanship standards are sent back for repairs. A production manager is in charge of all production activities including estimation of production costs, work flow schedules, and quality control. They may also hire, train, and fire workers.



The sales area within manufacturing includes different media. Advertising is one example. An industrial writer produces articles for an industry publications aimed for the employees or the customers. An artist decides how many illustrations will be used in advertisements. A public relations person creates favorable opinions about products. The use of news stories, pictures, pamphlets, and radio assist in this promotion. The home economist in business usually helps develop and improve products for the consumer.

Testing is an area of great importance. Products must perform satisfactorily or consumers become disinterested. A person who conducts testing must determine the quality standards for the products. Sometimes new products are also developed and tested in this area before marketing.

These careers cover all areas of apparel manufacturing. It would be helpful to know what specific careers are available in Oklahoma apparel manufacturing plants so that Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates could be aware of available jobs.

#### Women in Business

Women have become more involved in the business world. Business has realized that women, especially home economists, can be an asset. An article (HEIBs Speak Out, April, 1973) described the home economist as a business woman with additional skills.

Many factors have been considered in the education of home economists for business. Students, when they graduated, had a degree and were prepared for the job market. According to surveys in 1969 by Inman (1973) about 60% of graduates in the College of Home Economics

were currently employed and over 95% had held jobs since graduation. Swope (1972) found an increase in the number of women earning home economics degrees throughout the country. This would seem to indicate that the training received by home economists was important to industry. Clemens (1971) found that the preparation of home economists was significant not only for the business.

Strain (1970, p. 49) described the purpose of the home economist in business as 1) to make a profit, 2) to increase sales, 3) to meet competition, 4) to handle consumer matters, and 5) to achieve more efficiency. He saw the role of the home economist changing to more involvement in the industry and mass production.

Business has found that the home economist possess training which can be advantageous to them. Clemens (1971) felt clothing to be an area of study for those interested in business. Many home economists in business are found in the food industry and home services, but home economists could also be trained for positions in the clothing industry. In order to do this, there should be special emphasis courses in the clothing area which relate to the industry. An internship program could also be helpful in developing an awareness of responsibilities within the industry.

#### Related Research

Studies of apparel markets have included status information, consumer-related activities and utilization by apparel manufacturers. Job titles and status surveys have been conducted with regard to the employment of Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates.

Scott (1975) studied selected fashion markets in the United

States and investigated their use by apparel manufacturers. New York was found to be the nation's largest ready-to-wear center, Los Angeles concentrated on swimwear and sportswear, and Dallas was a primary outlet for Texas and Southwestern manufacturers. Regional markets were used by firms which employed large numbers of sales representatives, and had permanent showrooms in all three market areas. The Dallas market was used primarily by manufacturers located in Central United States. Recommendations resulting from the study included using samples from sources other than Poor's register, conducting a detailed study of services provided for manufacturers in local, regional and national markets, and conducting studies in other areas.

Golly (1966) investigated the contemporary Dallas Women's Apparel Market with reference to such aspects as the structure and organization of firms; types of lines designed and manufactured; distribution and promotional activities; the geographical extent, and the significance of the Dallas Market. Interviews were used with such key people as manufacturers, designers, retailers, promotional directors and educators. The Dallas Women's Apparel Market became important and attracted buyers from all parts of the country although they were concentrated from Southern, Southwestern, and Southeastern regions of the United States. Dallas manufacturers sent their products directly to retail stores. It was found that the major contribution of the Dallas market was the design and manufacture of distinctive, medium-priced apparel well-suited to the Southwestern way of life. Future activities probably would include production of designer-type apparel and saleability of "Dallas-look" apparel. It was felt that the Dallas market would probably continue to grow with the favorable conditions it possesses.

Golly (1966) recommended that other regional market studies be conducted to help in appraisal and evaluation of the regional markets and national apparel industry. Specific states might also be surveyed to determine the location of apparel manufacturers.

Peterson (1976) investigated the status of certain consumer-related activities in selected textile manufacturing companies. Three main conclusions reached from the study were: 1) most of the responsibilities for consumer-related activities were assigned to a person(s) or several departments rather than a specific department, 2) usually the president was in charge of consumer activities in the middle market companies, and 3) major responsibilities for consumer activities were a) response to consumer complaints, b) analyzation of consumer complaints and inquiries, c) response to customer communications (other than product complaints), and to conduct product testing. It was found that the types and frequency of complaints received were different from those previously investigated and most complaints registered with the textile company were from the retailer. An exception was the upper market companies who received more complaints from the consumer. Recommendations included having personal interviews with the sample group, determining the types of goods produced by the manufacturers and learning to whom their products are sold. Other surveys might include textile manufacturing jobs and the responsibilities associated with those jobs.

Another study (Greene, 1971) identified and described the job status of Oklahoma State University Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates between the years 1961-70 who were employed during the fall of 1970. The data were collected from a questionnaire mailed to

graduates currently employed in merchandising positions during 1970. Responsibilities, individual job factors and store information were the topics covered. The job status was identified by ranking each respondent's position on three management levels. The three levels of management were similar in type, location and annual dollar volume of the employing store, and the method of determining bonus or commission. As a result of the study better opportunities for higher salary and advancement in merchandising were found outside the state of Oklahoma, job titles in stores were inconsistent and progression of job title hierarchy was related to length of employment. Job responsibilities on the three management levels varied in the amount of responsibility and importance or time spent carrying out those responsibilities and salary was greater for those stores with training programs. It was recommended that an indepth study be done with a larger sample or with various store training programs. The study has implications for persons in areas other than merchandising, such as teaching or manufacturing.

Correll (1974) related job titles and activities of Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates of Oklahoma State University, 1964-73, presently employed in non-retailing clothing and textiles positions. Preliminary findings from the study indicated that slightly more than three-fourths of the responding graduates were employed. The majority of those were employed in clothing, textiles and merchandising related positions. Only those employed in non-retailing positions were included in the second part of the study which related to job titles, characteristic of the employment positions and the persons holding them, job activities performed and undergraduate curricula in clothing

and textiles at Oklahoma State University. Most respondents were employed in educational positions. There were more job opportunities in cities of 10,000 or greater population within Oklahoma and outside the state. The median salary for those employed in non-retailing positions was slightly lower than the median salary for home economists in other home economics related positions.

A degree in clothing, textiles, and merchandising was found to be desirable preparation for most non-retailing clothing and textiles positions (Gorrell, 1974). Sociology and education were the only subject matters considered not essential even though the participants were in teaching positions. Clothing constructions and flat pattern design were considered most beneficial. The clothing and textiles major seemed to meet a wide variety of needs as shown by the graduates activity inventory.

Gorrell (1974) recommended that a broader study to include graduates from several different universities be undertaken and that a study among employers of graduates in non-retailing clothing and textile related positions to identify employer expectations be conducted. A curriculum study, also, could be conducted to evaluate and develop clothing and textile curriculum based on job oriented competencies.

A survey (Kuttruff, 1970) was undertaken to determine the location and description of the apparel producing firms in southern Illinois. Seven manufacturers, three combined manufacturer-jobber and two combined manufacturer-jobber-contractor were located in the southern Illinois area. No contractors were found. Seasonal variation in labor occurred in fourteen of the plants during the production year. Several of the factors which influenced plant location were

suitable labor supply; availability of buildings and facilities; nearness of home office; and community attitudes. Though opinions were divided on the future of the industry, over half of the plants were established within the last twenty years and the number of employees had increased during recent years.

Greenwood and Murphy (1978) indicated descriptions of jobs in apparel manufacturing. The Oklahoma apparel manufacturing industry might be surveyed to identify which of these jobs are available in Oklahoma apparel manufacturing. Types of jobs and the skills required could then be determined in order to help Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising students in planning for these jobs.

#### Summary

As brought out in the review of literature, research of the apparel industry has dealt with the fashion markets and consumer-related activities. Job titles have been studied in both retailing and non-retailing areas of Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising. Information regarding apparel manufacturing in Oklahoma would be useful in planning courses of study. Job descriptions in apparel manufacturing could be of value for those persons interested in the manufacturing aspect of Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising.

Research has not been conducted specifically to concern the apparel industry in Oklahoma. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates could use career opportunity information to seek employment in apparel industry. A study to determine career opportunities indicating the knowledge and skills required by the apparel industry could be used by the Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising major to

choose electives. Some careers for which Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates might qualify are textile testing, design, management or supervision of sewing machine skills, public relations, advertising, and specialty skills.

The study could be used as a source for university instructors when evaluating and planning courses aimed toward apparel industry careers.



## CHAPTER III

### METHODS AND PROCEDURES

The purpose of the study was to survey managers of Oklahoma apparel manufacturing plants to determine plant function, the apparel categories produced, and to gather information about apparel construction. To accomplish the objectives of the study, information pertaining to manufacturing, apparel production, and apparel construction was collected and studied.

#### The Sample

The 1972 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) (U. S. Department of Commerce, 1972) will be used as the basis for selection of apparel producing manufacturers. The classification to be used in the study is found under Major Group 23, "Apparel and Other Finished Products Made from Fabrics and Other Similar Materials" (U. S. Department of Commerce, 1972). Standard Industrial Classification (U. S. Department of Commerce, 1972) described group 23 in this way:

. . . . as cutting-up and needles trades, includes establishments producing clothing and fabricating products by cutting and sewing purchased woven or knit textile fabrics and related materials such as leather, rubberized fabrics, plastic and furs (p. B9).

The product code numbers found within Major Group 23 that will be used in the study are listed in Table I. Group numbers 231 through 238 were chosen to represent apparel in the study. Group 239,

TABLE I

MAJOR GROUP 23- APPAREL AND OTHER FINISHED  
PRODUCTS MADE FROM FABRICS

---

GP 231-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Suits, Coats and Overcoats
2311-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Suits, Coats and Overcoats
GP 232-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Furnishings, Work Clothing, and Allied Garments
2321-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Shirts (except work shirts) and Night Wear
2322-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Underwear
2327-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Separate Trousers
2328-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Work Clothing
2329-	Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing Not Elsewhere Classified
GP 233-	Women's, Misses' and Juniors' Outerwear
2331-	Women's, Misses' and Juniors' Blouses, Waists and Shirts
2335-	Women's, Misses' and Juniors' Dresses
2337-	Women's, Misses' and Juniors' Suits, Skirts and Coats
2339-	Women's, Misses' and Juniors' Outerwear
GP 234-	Women's, Misses', Children's and Infants Undergarments
2341-	Women's, Misses', Children's and Infants Underwear and Nightwear
GP 235-	Hats, Caps and Millinery
2352-	Hats and Caps
GP 236-	Girls', Children's and Infants' Outerwear
2361-	Girls', Children's and Infants' Dresses, Blouses, Waists and Shirts
2363-	Girls', Children's and Infants' Coats and Suits
2369-	Girls', Children's and Infants' Outerwear
GP 238-	Miscellaneous Apparel and Accessories
2384-	Robes and Dressing Gowns
2387-	Apparel Belts
2389-	Apparel and Accessories Not Elsewhere Classified
GP 239-	Miscellaneous Fabricated Textile Products
2391-	Curtains and Draperies
2392-	House Furnishings, Except Curtains and Draperies
2393-	Textile Bags
2394-	Canvas and Related Products
2395-	Pleating, Decorative and Novelty Stitching and Tucking for the Trade
2396-	Automotive Trimmings, Apparel Findings and Related Products
2399-	Fabricated Textile Products, Not Elsewhere Classified

---

Miscellaneous Fabricated Textile Products, was omitted as it did not represent apparel. Group numbers 231 through 238 include outerwear and underwear for both sexes and all ages plus various accessories.

The Oklahoma Manufacturers Directory (Oklahoma Industrial Development Department, 1976) listed 76 apparel manufacturers currently producing items found within Major Group 23. These manufacturers are listed by name, town and number of employees in Table II. A map of Oklahoma indicating the location of apparel manufacturing plants is indicated in Appendix A. Most apparel producing plants are located in the eastern half of the state.

#### The Questionnaire

The questionnaire was designed 1) to identify types of plants and plant functions, 2) to determine apparel categories, and 3) to describe careers in apparel manufacturing. In order to develop a suitable questionnaire for the survey, instruments of similar studies were examined. A list of questions covering the purposes of the study was compiled. Questionnaire revisions were made for ease in answering and clarification. The questionnaire was not pilot tested by apparel manufacturers so that all manufacturers could be used in the survey. "Fixed alternative" questions were used. These questions had provisions to specify other alternatives related to the firms' operations. Space for comments was provided at the end of the questionnaire (Appendix B).

A cover letter, questionnaire and return envelope were sent to each of the 76 plant managers; 38 questionnaires were returned. A cover letter and follow-up questionnaire were mailed to the firms who

TABLE II

OKLAHOMA APPAREL MANUFACTURERS LISTED BY  
NAME, CITY AND NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

Company	Location	Number of Employees
Asfahl, C. R., Company	Enid	5
Battle, J. B. Uniform Company, Inc.	Oklahoma City	72
Big Yank Corporation	Wewoka	418
Blue Bell, Inc.	Ada	144
	Coalgate	193
	Okemah	130
	Prague	300
	Seminole	440
Booster Bags, Unlimited	Cordell	5
Bryan's Infant Wear	Tulsa	210
Buffington and Associates, Inc.	Norman	15
Cherokee Togs Co.	Pryor	100
Collegiate Cap and Gown	Oklahoma City	93
Comanche Manufacturing Company	Comanche	15
Commander Mills, Inc.	Sand Springs	79
Costume Shop, Inc., The	Tulsa	4
Cowden-Shawnee Co.	Shawnee	193
Custom Sizes, Inc.	Wewoka	110
Debbie Ann, Inc.	Atoka	80
Dee's Manufacturing Co.	Tishomingo	75
Diaper Jeans, Inc.	Calera	25
Diener Chandler Mills, Inc.	Chandler	250
Duncan Manufacturing Co.	Duncan	330
Durant Dress Manufacturing Co.	Durant	87
Elsing Manufacturing	McAlester	170
Eufaula Manufacturing Co.	Eufaula	95
Faith Garment Company	Tulsa	9
Ferguson, R. H., Inc.	Pharoah	120
Frybrant, Inc.	Frederick	36
G. H. R. Manufacturing	Fairfax	8
	Ponca City	-
Glenn Berry Manufacturing, Inc.	Commerce	453
Grade Sports, Inc.	Duncan	10
Green's Manufacturing, Inc.	Waurika	48
Hamlin Manufacturing Co.	Poteau	120
Haywood Company	Miami	250
Healdton Manufacturing Co.	Healdton	40
Hugo Dress Co. Inc.	Hugo	85
James, Guy H. Industries, Inc.	Midwest City	350
Kellwood Company	Altus	265
	Frederick	408
	Idabel	500
	Pauls Valley	266

TABLE II (Continued)

Company	Location	Number of Employees
Komar, Charles & Sons, Inc.	Holdenville	200
	McAlester	650
Lawton Manufacturing Co.	Lawton	300
Lillian Russell, Inc.	Wewoka	124
Linda Dress Co.	Caddo	20
Lindsay Manufacturing Co.	Lindsay	110
Lyntone Belts, Inc.	Oklahoma City	72
Madill Manufacturing Co.	Madill	275
Marcus Manufacturing Co.	Nowata	125
Marietta Sportswear Co.	Marietta	400
Michael Casuals	Konawa	110
Moore Hat Company, Inc.	Lawton	38
Munsingwear, Inc.	Hominy	270
	Pawnee	166
Oklahoma City Manufacturing Co.	Oklahoma City	214
P. M. Manufacturing	Tahlequah	70
Pawhuska Manufacturing Co.	Pawhuska	100
Paxton's Fashions	Hobart	13
	Mangum	31
Peddlers II of Oklahoma, Inc.	Antlers	75
Reed's World for Girls, Inc.	Tulsa	49
Riddle Manufacturing	Tahlequah	35
Ringling Manufacturing Company	Ringling	-
Scarves by Barbara	Tulsa	1
Shawnee Garment Manufacturing Co.	Shawnee	65
Sherri Classics Manufacturing Co., Inc.	Purcell	37
Temple Manufacturing Co.	Temple	220
Tregos Westwear, Inc.	Woodward	120
Tri-City Manufacturing Company, Inc.	Wewoka	10
Tri-County Industry, Inc.	Talihina	63
White Stag Manufacturing Co.	Checotah	125
Wholesale Hatters	Tulsa	2
Woodward Manufacturing Co.	Woodward	375
	Total	11,071

had not returned the questionnaires. Nine responses were received after the second mailing. Three questionnaires were returned indicating an incorrect address. A total of 47 (62%) questionnaires were used in the study.

#### Analysis of Data

Responses from 47 questionnaires were tabulated as frequencies and percentages. Tabulated results were studied and are reported in Chapter 4.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

The data presented in the chapter are based on the responses obtained from the returned questionnaires completed by apparel manufacturers in Oklahoma. Data reported were based on responses of 47 (62%) Oklahoma apparel manufacturing plants.

#### The Sample

The sample consisted of all apparel manufacturing plants in Oklahoma. A cover letter, questionnaire, and return envelope were mailed to the plant manager of each apparel manufacturing plant listed in the directory.

Responses were received from 47 apparel manufacturers. Three questionnaires were received indicating the manufacturer was no longer in business. Men's apparel was produced by 11 plants. Four plants produced each of these combinations of apparel: 1) Misses and half sizes, 2) misses and juniors, and 3) men and boys. The majority of plants produced only men's apparel. Those plants producing misses apparel, usually produced half sizes or juniors also. The data reported in the study concern the responses of the 47 apparel manufacturers in Oklahoma.

## Apparel Producers' Data

Oklahoma apparel plant managers were asked to indicate their plant type. As shown in Table III, four plant manager indicated manufacturing and contracting to be plant functions. Manufacturing was the main function in 35 plants. Five plant managers indicated the plant function to be contracting. None of the plant managers considered themselves jobbers.

TABLE III  
TYPES OF APPAREL PRODUCERS  
(N= 47)

Plants	Number	Percent
Manufacturer	40	85
Jobber	0	0
Contractor	9	19

The managers were asked to check each function performed in their plant. Almost two-thirds (64%) of the apparel produced was from raw material. Many manufacturers (45%) made products from cut or uncut materials sent by a jobber or a contractor (38%) and sold a finished product to wholesalers and/or retailers. Most of the Oklahoma apparel producers are involved in all steps of the manufacturing process.

(See Table IV.)



TABLE IV  
 FUNCTIONS OF APPAREL PRODUCERS  
 (N= 47)

Functions	Number	Percent
Purchases raw materials	15	32
Produces product from raw material	30	64
Sends raw materials in cut or uncut form to contractor	2	4
Makes product from cut or uncut materials sent by jobber or contractor	21	45
Sells finished product to wholesalers and/or retailers	18	38
Sells directly to consumer through own retail outlet	8	17
Fabricates or mills cloth	0	0

#### Types of Apparel Produced

A variety of apparel products are produced in Oklahoma plants. Plant managers were asked to circle each type of apparel produced and to check all of the apparel categories produced in their plant. Twenty-eight (60%) of the plants, as shown in Table V, produce men's, boys', and youth apparel. Men's apparel was produced in 86% of these plants and youth and boys' apparel was produced in over one-half (54%) of the plants. Apparel categories produced in Oklahoma included men's suits, men's overcoats and topcoats, men's tailored dress and sports

coats and jackets, boys' suits, coats and tailored jackets, knit sports shirts, woven dress and sports shirts, work clothing, separate trousers, outerwear coats and jackets, robes, nightwear, and underwear. Additional space was provided for other apparel categories to be listed. Blue jeans were listed by four manufacturers. Ski pants, tennis wear, active sportswear, western jeans and jackets, disposable cloth caps and gowns, made to measure shirts, and jogging suits were listed by one apparel producer.

TABLE V  
 TYPES OF MEN'S, BOYS', AND YOUTH APPAREL  
 MANUFACTURED IN OKLAHOMA  
 (N= 28)

Types	Number	Percent
Men	24	86
Youth	5	18
Boys	10	36
No response	3	11

The responses are presented in Table VI. Separate trousers, work clothing, and underwear produced more often than any other category. All other apparel items were produced by one or two firms.

TABLE VI  
 CATEGORIES OF MEN'S, BOYS' AND YOUTH  
 APPAREL MANUFACTURED IN OKLAHOMA  
 (N= 28)

Categories	Number	Percent
Men's Suits	1	4
Men's Overcoats and Topcoats	1	4
Men's Tailored Dress and Sports Coats and Jackets	2	7
Boys' Suits, Coats and Tailored Jackets	1	4
Knit Sports Shirts	1	4
Woven Dress and Sports Shirts	1	4
Work Clothing	5	18
Separate Trousers	12	43
Outerwear Coats and Jackets	2	7
Raincoats and Waterproof Garments	0	0
Robes	1	4
Neckwear	0	0
Nightwear	1	4
Underwear	3	11
Ski Pants	1	4
Tennis Wear	1	4
Active Sportswear	1	4
Western Jeans and Jackets	1	4
Blue Jeans	4	14
Disposable Cloth Caps and Gowns	1	4
Made to Measure Shirts	1	4
Jogging Suits	1	4

Misses apparel was manufactured in over one-half (56%) of the plants. Junior and half size apparel accounted for 36% and 20%, respectively, of the apparel produced for women. Apparel for ladies and women was produced in two plants. (See Table VII.)

TABLE VII  
 TYPES OF MISSES, JUNIORS AND HALF SIZES  
 APPAREL MANUFACTURED IN OKLAHOMA  
 (N= 25)

Types	Number	Percent
Misses	14	56
Juniors	9	36
Half Sizes	5	20
Ladies	1	4
Women	1	4
No response	6	24

Skirts and jackets were produced in 15 plants (60%), blouses in 12 (48%), and dresses in 11 plants (44%) as shown in Table VIII. Suits, coats, washable service apparel, robes and dressing gowns, nightwear, and underwear were produced in a small number of plants. As a group this category represented 92% of the total apparel produced for women. The plant managers were asked to indicate any categories of women's

TABLE VIII  
 CATEGORIES OF MISSES, JUNIORS AND HALF SIZES  
 APPAREL MANUFACTURED IN OKLAHOMA  
 (N=25)

Categories	Number	Percent
Blouses	12	48
Dresses	11	44
Coats	3	12
Suits	8	32
Skirts and Jackets	15	60
Washable Service Apparel	4	16
Raincoats and Other Waterproof Apparel	0	0
Robes and Dressing Gowns	3	12
Nightwear	2	8
Ski Pants	1	4
Knit Tops	1	4
Tennis Wear	2	8
Pants-Jeans	6	24
Disposable Cloth Caps and Gowns	1	4
Blazers	1	4
Shells	1	4
Jogging Suits	1	4
Pant Suits	1	4

apparel produced in their plants which were not given in the questionnaire. Other categories listed by the plant managers included ski pants, knit tops, tennis wear, pants-jeans, disposable cloth caps and gowns, blazers, shells, jogging suits, and pants.

Girls' apparel was manufactured in about one-third (33%) of the plants. Children and infants' apparel accounted for 22% and 11%, respectively. (See Table IX.)

TABLE IX  
 TYPES OF GIRLS', CHILDREN'S AND INFANTS'  
 APPAREL MANUFACTURED IN OKLAHOMA  
 (N= 9)

Types	Number	Percent
Girls	3	33
Children	2	22
Infants	1	11
No response	5	56

The apparel produced included dresses (67%), blouses (56%), coats, suits and snow suits (22%), and underwear (11%). Other apparel listed by the manufacturers were disposable cloth type cap and gown and jeans. Nightwear for children was not being produced in any Oklahoma apparel plant. The responses are presented in Table X.

TABLE X  
 CATEGORIES OF GIRLS', CHILDREN'S AND INFANTS'  
 APPAREL MANUFACTURED IN OKLAHOMA  
 (N= 9)

Categories	Number	Percent
Dresses	6	67
Blouses	5	56
Coats, Suits, and Snow Suits	2	22
Raincoats and Other Waterproof	0	0
Nightwear	0	0
Underwear	1	11
Disposable Cloth Cap and Gown	1	11
Jeans	1	11

Miscellaneous apparel and accessories were manufactured by three plants. One plant produced leather accessories such as men's and boys' leather belts, billfolds, and jewelry; one plant produced disposable hoods; and one plant produced horse blankets.

#### Raw Material Sources

A majority (55%) of the Oklahoma apparel producers purchased the fabric used in production. Fabric was received from other sources to be used in 45% of the plants. Plant managers voluntarily indicated that their fabric included the government, a mill in New York, and fabric purchased by the customer and billed to the apparel producer.

The majority of apparel producers who do not purchase their own fabric receive it from the parent company or main headquarters (Table XI).

TABLE XI  
RESPONSE OF PLANT MANAGER TO DOES YOUR  
PLANT PURCHASE FABRIC  
(N= 47)

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	26	55
No	21	45

Over two-thirds (68%) of the apparel producers purchased the trimmings and findings used in production. The remaining respondents (34%) indicated that trimmings and findings were received from other sources such as the parent company, the home office, or the contractor. One firm answered yes and no with the explanation that they purchase only thread (Table XII).

#### Design and Pattern Sources

The plant managers were asked to indicate where the design for garments they manufacture are produced. Over one-third (38%) of the managers indicated that garments were designed in their plant while almost two-thirds (62%) of the garments were designed elsewhere. The source of garment design for use in eight of the plants was the home



office or company headquarters. Contractors were the source of design for use in five plants. Other sources of designs were listed as locations in New Jersey, New York, Minneapolis, Portland, Nashville, Greensboro and Hattiesburg. The government and Sears were also given. No explanation was given for the source of design by five firms.

The responses are presented in Table XIII.

TABLE XII

RESPONSE OF PLANT MANAGER TO DOES YOUR PLANT  
PURCHASE TRIMMINGS AND FINDINGS  
(N= 47)

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	32	68
No	16	34

TABLE XIII

RESPONSE OF PLANT MANAGER TO DOES YOUR  
PLANT DESIGN THE GARMENTS  
(N= 47)

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	18	38
No	29	62

Similar questions were asked concerning where the patterns were made and where the markers for pattern layouts were developed. Approximately half (52%) of the patterns used are developed within the local plant. Contractors were responsible for providing patterns in five situations, four indicated the home office as the source. Other responses were Nashville, Lexington, McAlester, Greensboro, and Hattiesburg as other sources of patterns. The government was also listed as a source. Five questionnaires gave no explanations for their sources of patterns and pattern layouts. One question gave no response to these questions. (See Table XIV.)

TABLE XIV  
 RESPONSE OF PLANT MANAGER TO DOES YOUR  
 PLANT MAKE THE PATTERNS  
 (N= 46)

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	24	52
No	22	48

Markers for patterns were made in approximately two-thirds (65%) of the plants. Other sources for the markers included from the contractors and from the home office. One manager reported that the

source was a centralized cutting room while four questionnaires had no response. (See Table XV.)

TABLE XV  
 RESPONSE OF PLANT MANAGER TO DOES YOUR  
 PLANT MAKE THE PATTERN MARKERS  
 (N= 46)

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	30	65
No	16	35

#### Apparel Industry Employment

A variety of positions requiring some type of training were reported by Oklahoma plant managers. Each apparel plant manager was asked to indicate the number of employees for each position listed in the questionnaire. The positions found most often in the Oklahoma plants were inspectors, cutters, and production; positions that could be filled by Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors. Some plants had designers, personnel managers, sample sketchers, patternmakers, pattern graders and teachers. Testing and styling positions were found less often; there were five positions reported for all of the plants. Other positions listed by apparel plant managers were pressers,

stock handlers, service people, traffic manager, comptroller, raw materials manager, supervisor, industrial engineer, sewing machine mechanics, sewing machine operators, patternmarker/pattern grader, sewing department supervisors, and assorted production type jobs. Thirteen questionnaires were checked rather than indicating a number and were included in a separate column. Three respondents did not reply to the question. The responses are presented in Table XVI.

Each apparel plant manager was asked to indicate the number of full time employees in their plant. There were 45 responses to the question. The fewest number of employees reported was five and the largest number of employees was 600. The median number of workers in Oklahoma plants was 153 workers. A total of 7,214 workers were reported by the 45 managers responding to the question. (See Table XVII.)

There were found to be about one-tenth as many employees in supervisory positions as there were machine operators. The majority of the plants had one to ten supervisory employees. A total of 506 supervisory employees were reported by 43 plant managers as shown in Table XVIII. The greatest number of machine operators, 500-599, was reported by one plant manager. As would be expected the smaller plants, those with 199 or less employees, reported the greatest number of machine operators overall, 37 plants (86%). Tabulations indicated 5,404 employees operating machines in Oklahoma apparel plants. (See Table XIX.)

Various types of positions other than supervisory and sewing machine operator were indicated by the plant managers. The positions indicated most often were mechanical and cutter/bundlers. Also

TABLE XVI  
 NUMBER OF PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN WHOLE OR PART TIME  
 SELECTED APPAREL MANUFACTURING POSITIONS  
 (N= 43)

Positions	Number Given	Number Not Given
Stylist	1	X
Designer	10	X
Assistant Designer	0	X
Personnel Manager	13	X
Sample Stitcher ✓	14	X
Pattern Maker ✓	13	X
Pattern Grader ✓	9	X
Inspector	254	X
Production Manager	40	X
Industrial Writer	0	
Artist	0	
Public Relations	0	X
Home Economist ✓	0	
Testing	4	X
Cutter	87	X
Promotion ✓	0	X
Teacher	18	
Supervisor	5	
Industrial Engineer	1	X
Plant Manager	0	X
Trainers	0	X

TABLE XVII

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED FULL TIME IN  
OKLAHOMA APPAREL MANUFACTURING  
(N= 45)

Maximum Number of Employees	Number of Plants	Percent
1-99	15	33
100-199	17	38
200-299	6	13
300-399	5	11
400-499	0	0
500-600	2	4

TABLE XVIII

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN  
SUPERVISORY POSITIONS  
(N= 45)

Supervisory Employees	Number of Plants	Percent
1-10	30	70
11-20	7	16
21-30	3	7
31-40	1	2
41-50	1	2
51-60	0	0
61-70	1	2

mentioned frequently were construction related and shipping positions. Positions mentioned by less than ten plants were business and clerical, inspectors, custodial, and pressers. (See Table XX.)

TABLE XIX  
NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MACHINE  
OPERATOR POSITIONS  
(N= 45)

Employees	Number of Plants	Percent
1-99	23	51
100-199	16	36
200-299	3	7
300-399	2	4
400-499	0	0
500-599	1	2

Almost all (96%) of the responding plant managers indicated that employees were trained in the plant. Only two firms had other means of training employees. The responses are presented in Table XXI.

Power machine use was given preference over other types of training by 33 (97%) of the responding plant managers shown in Table XXII. The managers indicated that pressing and inspecting, 53% and 50%, respectively, were important training preferences. Training for

TABLE XX  
 NUMBER OF PLANTS INDICATING POSITIONS OTHER  
 THAN SUPERVISORY AND MACHINE OPERATOR  
 (N= 30)

Position	Number
Business and Clerical	9
Inspectors	6
Mechanical	14
Construction Related	11
Custodial	3
Cutters/Bundlers	14
Pressers	7
Shippers	11

TABLE XXI  
 RESPONSE OF PLANT MANAGER TO DO YOU TRAIN  
 YOUR OWN EMPLOYEES  
 (N= 46)

Response	Number	Percent
Yes	44	96
No	2	4



buttonhole use (35%), regular machine use (32%), and cutting machine use (23%) were also considered to be important. A minority of employers stated a preference for construction techniques (15%), figuring pay for piecework (15%), how to grade (12%), and how to mark (15%). Some types of training listed by employers are power machine control, sewing machine repairs and maintenance. Responses are presented in Table XXII.

TABLE XXII

PREVIOUS TRAINING PREFERRED FOR EMPLOYEES  
BY PLANT MANAGERS IN OKLAHOMA  
(N= 34)

Training	Number	Percent
Construction Techniques	5	15
Power Machine Use	33	97
Regular Machine Use	11	32
Buttonhole Machine Use	12	35
Cutting Machine Use	11	32
Figuring Pay for Piecework	5	15
How To Grade	4	12
How To Mark	5	15
Pressing	18	53
Inspecting	17	50

## Career Planning

Career planning is an important part of the educational process. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising courses taken by the student will aid in the achievement of educational goals. Some careers mentioned by the apparel managers were inspector, teacher-trainer, designer, sample stitcher, and pattern maker and grader. Inspectors and those people in testing must be familiar with quality control standards. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors have been given the opportunity to recognize seam types and finishes, and various construction techniques in construction courses. Teacher-trainers should be able to instruct employees in using all types of power and regular machines. This would include machine maintenance and care. Persons in the field of testing would need to have a knowledge of fibers, fabrics, and testing methods. Analysis and comparative study of fabrics, a Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising course, provides an opportunity for students to learn basic testing procedures. Garment design precedes the production of apparel. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising courses such as fashion sketching, creativity in textiles, and draping provide background knowledge for the person who is interested in this area of apparel manufacturing. Sample stitching, pattern making, and pattern grading are careers which would require a thorough background in clothing construction and flat pattern design. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates could use their knowledge in apparel manufacturing careers.

### Summary

The responses of 47 Oklahoma plant managers were reported in the chapter. Responses pertained to plant types and functions, apparel categories produced, apparel construction, and employees.

Apparel manufacturers were categorized according to types and functions, apparel categories produced, sources of materials used, and employee information. Data were studied through frequencies and percentages.

The following chapter includes a summary of the study, conclusions from the findings, and recommendations for further study.

## CHAPTER V

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of the study was to survey Oklahoma apparel plant managers to determine plant function, and the apparel categories produced, and to gather information about apparel construction. This information could be important to Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising majors during career planning.

Specific objectives of the study were 1) to develop a questionnaire to be mailed to each Oklahoma apparel manufacturing plant manager, 2) to gather information about the apparel industry including functions of the plant, apparel categories produced, and information about apparel construction, 3) to identify the jobs in the apparel industry for Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates, and 4) to study data for possible use in career planning with Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates.

A list of apparel manufacturers was found in the Oklahoma Manufacturers Directory (Oklahoma Industrial Development Department, 1976). A questionnaire, cover letter, and return envelope were mailed to each of the 76 Oklahoma apparel manufacturers. The questionnaire was designed to collect information concerning plant type and function, the apparel categories produced, and apparel construction. The 47 apparel manufacturers who returned the questionnaire composed the sample for the study. Percentages and frequencies were used in the

analysis of the data.

The majority of the apparel producers considered themselves manufacturers rather than jobbers or contractors. The main apparel industry functions were producing products from cut or uncut materials sent by the jobber or contractor, and selling the finished product to wholesalers and/or retailers.

Men, misses, boys and juniors were the types of apparel frequently produced in Oklahoma. Garments most often produced in Oklahoma were separate trousers, blouses, dresses, skirts, and jackets.

Approximately half of the Oklahoma plants purchased fabric and produced patterns. Each of the plants usually purchased trimmings and findings and made the markers. Garment design was usually provided through other sources.

Inspectors, cutters, production managers, teachers, and sewing machine operators were found most frequently in the apparel manufacturing plants. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates are qualified for many jobs found in apparel manufacturing. Course work completed by a Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising major provides a good background for graduates to become inspectors, teachers, production managers, and trainers for cutting personnel. The number of employees reported by the plant managers ranged from less than 100 to 600. The majority of the plants have less than ten supervisory employees and less than 200 machine operators. Most employees are trained in the plants. The plant managers prefer that the employees have training in power machine use, pressing, inspecting, and buttonhole machine use before they are employed.

Oklahoma apparel manufacturing plants generally hire a relatively small number of employees who are not trained in the plant. The garment is usually designed elsewhere; however, fabric, trimmings, and findings were purchased in at least one-half of the plants. Pattern markers were produced in approximately one-half of the plants.

Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates could be an important asset to apparel manufacturers. With the knowledge a Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduate has acquired, there are many career areas that could be filled by graduates in this field. Apparel manufacturers do not seem to be aware of the skills and background of a Clothing, Textiles graduate. Communication between Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising faculty and apparel manufacturers would facilitate the exchange of information regarding possible apparel manufacturing careers and the abilities and potential of Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising graduates.

### Conclusions

The following conclusions were drawn from the study:

1. Most of the apparel producers consider themselves manufacturers.
2. Men and misses apparel are produced most frequently in Oklahoma apparel manufacturing.
3. Fabric purchase and pattern production are done in about half of the plants, markers are made in most of the plants, trimmings and findings are purchased by individual plants' personnel, and garment design is usually obtained from another source.

4. Inspectors, cutters, production managers, and teachers are the positions most frequently found in the plants surveyed.
5. The majority of plants have less than 200 employees.
6. Employees usually receive training in the plant after hiring.

#### Recommendations for Further Study

Recommendations for further study are to

1. Conduct a study among textile manufacturers in Oklahoma to obtain career information.
2. Conduct a study in one particular apparel manufacturing plant in Oklahoma to obtain in-depth information concerning skills and abilities for careers in apparel manufacturing.
3. Conduct a curriculum study to evaluate and develop clothing and textiles curriculum relevant to apparel manufacturing careers.
4. Conduct a study to develop methods of communication between Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising faculty and apparel manufacturers.

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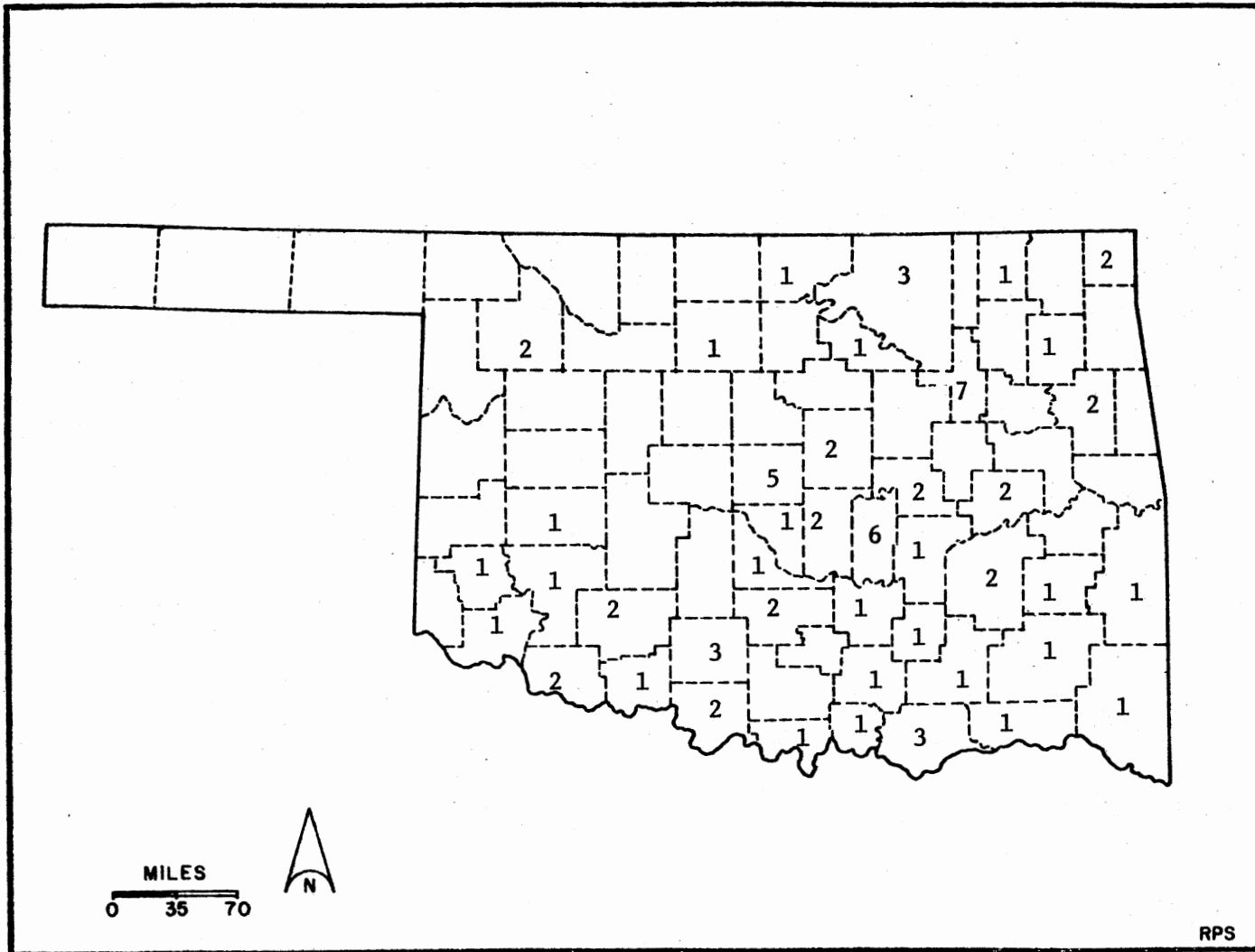


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**APPENDIX A**

**NUMBER AND LOCATION OF OKLAHOMA**

**APPAREL MANUFACTURING PLANTS**



NUMBER AND LOCATION OF OKLAHOMA APPAREL MANUFACTURING PLANTS

APPENDIX B

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUESTIONNAIRE

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF CLOTHING, TEXTILES  
& MERCHANDISING

Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074  
Home Economics West 312  
(405) 624-5034

March 31, 1978

Dear Sir:

Your help is needed to determine the functions of plants in Oklahoma, the apparel categories produced, and the types of positions available in your plant.

The study is being conducted under the direction of Dr. Lavonne Matern; Clothing, Textiles and Merchandising Department; Oklahoma State University. I am a graduate student in the Department and will use the data in a master's thesis.

It is very important that the enclosed questionnaire be completed and returned at your earliest convenience. If you do not have time to complete the questionnaire personally, would you please refer it to someone within your organization who would be able to supply the needed information. Your responses will be held in strictest confidence and data will be reported as frequencies and percentages.

I will send you a summary of the results obtained from the study if you desire. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

/s/ Connie Guthrie

(Mrs.) Connie S. Guthrie  
Graduate Student

/s/ Lavonne Matern

Lavonne Matern, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Clothing, Textiles  
and Merchandising

## Survey of Apparel Manufacturing in Oklahoma

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

If results are desired, please indicate where the summary should be mailed

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Place an X in all appropriate spaces in response to apparel manufacturing operations, apparel categories produced and careers.

1. Is your plant considered

 manufacturer jobber contractor

2. What are the present functions of your plant?

 purchases raw materials produces product from raw material sends raw materials in cut or uncut form to contractor makes product from cut or uncut materials sent by jobber or manufacturer sells finished product to wholesalers and/or retailers fabricates or mills cloth other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Circle types of apparel produced    MEN    YOUTH    BOYS

Check all apparel categories produced within your plant

 men's suits men's overcoats and topcoats men's tailored dress and sports coats and jackets boy's suits, coats and tailored jackets knit sports shirts woven dress and sports shirts work clothing separate trousers outerwear coats and jackets raincoats and waterproof garments robes neckwear nightwear underwear outerwear not elsewhere classified (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Circle types of apparel produced MISSES JUNIORS HALF-SIZES

Check all apparel categories produced within your plant

- blouses  
 dresses  
 coats  
 suits  
 skirts and jackets  
 washable service apparel  
 raincoats and other waterproof apparel  
 robes and dressing gowns  
 nightwear  
 underwear  
 outer, not elsewhere classified (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Circle types of apparel produced GIRLS CHILDREN INFANTS

Check all apparel categories produced within your plant

- dresses  
 blouses  
 coats, suits and snow suits  
 raincoats and other waterproof garments  
 nightwear  
 underwear  
 outerwear, not elsewhere classified (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

#### MISCELLANEOUS APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

- fur goods  
 dress goods  
 dress gloves and mittens  
 work gloves and mittens  
 belts  
 millinery  
 apparel, not elsewhere classified (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Does your plant purchase the fabric used in production?  Yes  No  
 If no, explain \_\_\_\_\_
5. Does your plant purchase the findings and trimmings used in production?  Yes  No If no, explain \_\_\_\_\_
6. Does your plant design the garments produced?  Yes  No  
 If no, explain \_\_\_\_\_
7. Does your plant make the patterns used?  Yes  No  
 If no, explain \_\_\_\_\_
8. Does your plant make the markers for pattern layouts?  Yes  No  
 If no, explain \_\_\_\_\_

9. Approximately how many of these people are employed at your plant whole or part time?

- stylist
- designer
- assistant designer
- personnel manager
- sample stitcher
- patternmaker
- pattern grader
- inspector
- production manager
- industrial writer
- artist
- public relations
- home economist
- testing
- cutter
- promotion
- teacher
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

10. Maximum number of full time employees in your plant \_\_\_\_\_

11. Approximate number of employees in these areas

- supervisory or management
- machine operators
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you train your own employees?  Yes  No

13. What kind of training do you prefer your employees have before they come to work?

- construction techniques
- power machine use
- regular machine use
- buttonhole machine use
- cutting machine use
- figuring pay for piecework
- how to grade
- how to mark
- pressing
- inspecting
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Add any comments in this space or on back of questionnaire.



April 21, 1978

Dear Plant Manager,

The questionnaires sent to apparel manufacturers in Oklahoma are being returned promptly by many firms. The information you can give us by completing the enclosed questionnaire is important and should be included in this study. If you have delayed in your response, would you please complete and return the questionnaire as soon as possible.

Thank you again for your cooperation and assistance in completing this research which deals with apparel manufacturing in Oklahoma.

Sincerely,

/s/ Connie Guthrie

(Mrs.) Connie S. Guthrie  
Graduate Student

VITA<sup>2</sup>

Connie Sue Hayes Guthrie

Candidate for the Degree of

Master of Science

Thesis: A SURVEY OF APPAREL MANUFACTURERS FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES  
IN APPAREL MANUFACTURING

Major Field: Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born in Perry, Oklahoma, May 22, 1951, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Loren E. Hayes. Married to Winford G. Guthrie.

Education: Graduated from Mulhall-Orlando High School, Orlando, Oklahoma, in May, 1969; attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, Oklahoma, 1969-1971; received Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics Education, December, 1972 from Oklahoma State University; completed requirements for Master of Science degree from Oklahoma State University in July, 1978.

Professional Experience: Teacher of Vocational Home Economics, Weleetka High School, Weleetka, Oklahoma, Spring Semester, 1973; Teacher of Occupational Home Economics, Whitaker State Children's Home, Pryor, Oklahoma.

Professional and Honorary Organizations: American Home Economics Association, Oklahoma Home Economics Association, American Vocational Association, Oklahoma Vocational Association, National Education Association, Oklahoma Education Association, Beta Epsilon Conclave of Kappa Kappa Iota Sorority.