

# CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

## POPULATION ESTIMATES

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### PROVISIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY MONTHS: NOVEMBER 1, 1947, TO JANUARY 1, 1948

The population of the United States exceeded 145 million persons on January 1, 1948, according to estimates released today by J. C. Capt, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Provisional estimates of the population, including persons in the armed forces overseas, for recent months, are as follows:

November 1, 1947.....	144,949,000
December 1, 1947.....	145,149,000
January 1, 1948.....	145,340,000

The greatest annual increase in population ever to occur in the United States took place during 1947. The increase during this year amounted to approximately 2,667,000 persons, and exceeded the previous record increase of 1946 by approximately 400,000. During the period between April 1, 1940, the date of the last census, and January 1, 1948, the population of the United States increased by approximately 13,700,000 persons, or 10.4 percent.

The great size of the population increase during 1947 was largely the result of the rise in the number of births during the year. The number of live births during 1947 was approximately 3,908,000, a record never equaled in this country in the past. The crude birth rate in 1947, 27.1 births per 1,000 of the population, was the highest attained in the Birth Registration Area of the United States since it was established in 1915. The uncorrected crude birth rate in 1915 was only 25.0 births per 1,000 of the population in the 10 States and the District of Columbia that reported on birth registration at that time. (The rate was undoubtedly higher in the nineteenth century.)

The continuation of the death rate at a low level and a net immigration of about 215,000 persons also contributed to the great population increase during 1947.

Provisional estimates of the population, excluding armed forces overseas, and of the civilian population, for recent months, are as follows:

	Population excluding armed forces overseas	Civilian population
November 1, 1947.....	144,410,000	143,632,000
December 1, 1947.....	144,646,000	143,859,000
January 1, 1948.....	144,881,000	143,089,000

The estimates presented in this release are based on the 1940 census, statistics of births and deaths provided by the National Office of Vital Statistics, United States Public Health Service, statistics of immigration and emigration provided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, and data on the size and distribution of the armed forces obtained from armed forces records. The figures on births and deaths have been adjusted for incomplete registration. The death statistics used include deaths of persons in the armed forces overseas.

Comparable estimates for earlier months in 1947, and for January 1 and July 1 of each year since the last census, are available in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 3 and 6.