

# CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

## POPULATION ESTIMATES

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### ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY STATES JULY 1, 1951 AND 1950

(The estimates given in this report are not consistent with those for 1940 to 1949 published in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 37, because the latter were made before the 1950 Census results became available. Estimates of the total population of each State for July 1, 1950 and 1951, consistent with the data shown here, are given in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 62)

About 1 in every 12 persons in continental United States on July 1, 1951, was 65 years old or over, according to estimates released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Fifty years ago only 1 in every 25 persons was 65 or over.

There were an estimated 12,759,000 persons 65 years old and over in the United States on July 1, 1951 (table 1); at the same time the total population in continental United States amounted to 153,383,000. In April 1950, when the Seventeenth Decennial Census was taken, 12,269,538 persons had been reported as 65 years old or over. There was, therefore, an estimated increase of nearly a half million, or four percent, in the number of aged persons between April 1950 and July 1951. In April 1940, when the Sixteenth Decennial Census was taken, 9,019,314 persons had been reported as 65 years old and over out of a total population of 131,669,275. Thus, the total population increased by about 16.5 percent during the 11-year period from April 1940 to July 1951, whereas the aged population grew by about 41.5 percent, or 2½ times as fast.<sup>1</sup>

The increase in the number of aged persons in the last decade or so, although large, was not unusual in the light of past changes in this age group. Large increases in this group have been occurring for many decades; and the increases have, in general, been becoming larger. The trend toward a larger number of elderly persons may be credited to increases in the number of births in the 19th century, to lowered mortality rates resulting from better medical care and a higher standard of living, and to the generally increasing volume of immigration up to World War I.

<sup>1</sup> If account is taken of persons serving in the armed forces overseas in April 1940 and in July 1951, the percentage increase in the total population was about 17.1 percent during the 11-year period.

The West, which in April 1950 had 1.6 million aged persons, had the largest rate of increase (4.9 percent) in the number of aged persons between April 1, 1950, and July 1, 1951 (table 2). The Northeastern States with 3.4 million in 1950 had an increase of 4.1 percent, the North Central States with 4 million in 1950 had an increase of 3.8 percent, and the South with 3.3 million in 1950 had an increase of 3.7 percent. All of the 48 States and the District of Columbia appear to have had more persons 65 years old and over on July 1, 1951, than on April 1, 1950. In several States, however, the number of aged persons remained virtually unchanged.

The estimates presented in this report are based on age data from the 1950 Census; statistics of deaths provided by the National Office of Vital Statistics, United States Public Health Service; statistics on the movement of persons into and out of the United States provided by the Immigration

Table 1.--POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER FOR THE UNITED STATES, 1900 TO 1950, AND ESTIMATE, 1951

(Estimate for 1951 is rounded to the nearest thousand; corresponding derived figures are based on the unrounded absolute numbers and are rounded to the nearest thousand)

Date	Population	Increase since preceding date	
		Total	Annual average
ESTIMATE			
July 1, 1951.....	12,759,000	489,000	392,000
CENSUS			
April 1, 1950.....	12,269,538	3,250,224	325,022
April 1, 1940.....	9,019,314	2,385,509	238,551
April 1, 1930.....	6,633,805	1,700,590	165,911
January 1, 1920.....	4,933,215	983,691	101,324
April 15, 1910.....	3,949,524	869,026	88,003
June 1, 1900.....	3,080,498	...	...

and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice; and estimates of net interstate migration, developed in part from official records of school enrollment for each State. The estimates were obtained by adjusting the 1950 Census data on the aged population for the United States and each Region, Division, and State for deaths and net international and interstate migration between April 1, 1950, and the estimate dates. The 1950 Census figures are based on advance tabulations and may differ slightly from final figures. The estimates of deaths are based on provisional estimates of deaths by age for the United States as a whole for 1950 and 1951 and on final statistics of resident deaths by age for each State for 1949.

The State estimates of net migration between April 1, 1950, and the estimate dates for the population 65 years old and over are derived from estimated State rates of net migration for the total

population. The latter rates had been developed in connection with the preparation of the estimates of the total population of States presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 62. It was uniformly assumed in preparing the estimates of the aged population shown in this report that the rate of net migration for the population 65 years old and over between April 1950 and the estimate dates for a given State was one-fourth the rate for the total population of the same State. Evidence for this assumption was found in annual migration data classified by age for the United States as a whole for recent years obtained in the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census. Because this assumption may not apply exactly, or even approximately, to each State, the State figures may vary considerably in accuracy, depending in large part on the validity of the assumption for the State.

Table 2.—ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER, FOR STATES: JULY 1, 1951 AND 1950

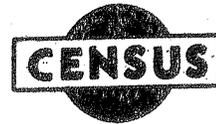
(The 1950 Census figures presented here are based on advance tabulations and may differ slightly from final figures. Each population estimate has been independently rounded to the nearest thousand from figures computed to the last digit; hence the sums of parts shown may differ slightly from the totals shown. Amounts and percentages of change are based on the unrounded numbers)

Region, division, and State	Population 65 years old and over			Increase (+) or decrease (-), April 1, 1950, to July 1, 1951		Region, division, and State	Population 65 years old and over			Increase (+) or decrease (-), April 1, 1950, to July 1, 1951	
	July 1, 1951	July 1, 1950	April 1, 1950 (census)	Amount	Per cent		July 1, 1951	July 1, 1950	April 1, 1950 (census)	Amount	Per cent
United States....	12,759,000	12,370,000	12,269,538	+490,000	+4.0	WEST NORTH CENTRAL:					
REGIONS:						Minnesota.....	280,000	271,000	269,130	+11,000	+4.1
Northeast.....	3,587,000	3,474,000	3,445,838	+141,000	+4.1	Iowa.....	280,000	275,000	272,998	+7,000	+2.4
North Central.....	4,123,000	4,005,000	3,973,475	+150,000	+3.8	Missouri.....	418,000	410,000	407,388	+11,000	+2.7
South.....	3,373,000	3,278,000	3,251,927	+121,000	+3.7	North Dakota.....	50,000	49,000	48,196	+1,000	+3.1
West.....	1,677,000	1,612,000	1,598,298	+78,000	+4.9	South Dakota.....	57,000	56,000	55,296	+2,000	+4.0
NORTHEAST:						Nebraska.....	135,000	131,000	130,379	+5,000	+3.9
New England.....	932,000	912,000	906,567	+26,000	+2.9	Kansas.....	200,000	195,000	194,218	+6,000	+3.0
Middle Atlantic....	2,654,000	2,563,000	2,539,271	+115,000	+4.5	SOUTH ATLANTIC:					
NORTH CENTRAL:						Delaware.....	27,000	27,000	26,320	+1,000	+3.2
East North Central.	2,703,000	2,618,000	2,595,870	+107,000	+4.1	Maryland.....	170,000	165,000	163,514	+7,000	+4.0
West North Central.	1,421,000	1,387,000	1,377,605	+43,000	+3.1	Dist. of Columbia..	59,000	57,000	56,687	+2,000	+3.9
SOUTH:						Virginia.....	221,000	216,000	214,524	+6,000	+2.9
South Atlantic....	1,453,000	1,409,000	1,397,002	+56,000	+4.0	West Virginia.....	143,000	140,000	138,526	+5,000	+3.3
East South Central.	841,000	826,000	821,739	+20,000	+2.4	North Carolina.....	235,000	227,000	225,297	+9,000	+4.2
West South Central.	1,078,000	1,043,000	1,033,186	+45,000	+4.4	South Carolina.....	119,000	116,000	115,005	+4,000	+3.6
WEST:						Georgia.....	227,000	221,000	219,655	+8,000	+3.5
Mountain.....	377,000	362,000	358,867	+18,000	+5.0	Florida.....	252,000	241,000	237,474	+14,000	+6.0
Pacific.....	1,300,000	1,250,000	1,239,431	+60,000	+4.9	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:					
NEW ENGLAND:						Kentucky.....	239,000	236,000	235,243	+4,000	+1.7
Maine.....	94,000	94,000	93,562	( <sup>1</sup> )	+0.4	Tennessee.....	242,000	237,000	234,884	+7,000	+3.0
New Hampshire.....	59,000	58,000	57,793	+1,000	+1.4	Alabama.....	204,000	200,000	198,648	+5,000	+2.7
Vermont.....	40,000	40,000	39,534	( <sup>1</sup> )	+0.8	Mississippi.....	156,000	153,000	152,964	+3,000	+2.0
Massachusetts.....	482,000	471,000	468,436	+14,000	+2.9	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:					
Rhode Island.....	73,000	71,000	70,418	+2,000	+3.0	Arkansas.....	155,000	150,000	148,995	+6,000	+3.7
Connecticut.....	186,000	178,000	176,824	+9,000	+4.9	Louisiana.....	183,000	179,000	176,849	+6,000	+3.7
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:						Oklahoma.....	200,000	195,000	193,922	+7,000	+3.4
New York.....	1,319,000	1,271,000	1,258,457	+61,000	+4.8	Texas.....	540,000	519,000	513,420	+26,000	+5.1
New Jersey.....	415,000	398,000	393,989	+21,000	+5.3	MOUNTAIN:					
Pennsylvania.....	920,000	894,000	886,825	+33,000	+3.7	Montana.....	53,000	51,000	50,864	+2,000	+4.6
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:						Idaho.....	46,000	44,000	43,537	+2,000	+4.5
Ohio.....	735,000	714,000	708,975	+26,000	+3.7	Wyoming.....	19,000	18,000	18,165	+1,000	+6.1
Indiana.....	372,000	364,000	361,026	+11,000	+3.1	Colorado.....	120,000	116,000	115,592	+4,000	+3.7
Illinois.....	787,000	762,000	754,302	+33,000	+4.3	New Mexico.....	35,000	35,000	35,064	+2,000	+6.1
Michigan.....	487,000	467,000	461,650	+25,000	+5.4	Arizona.....	48,000	45,000	45,241	+3,000	+7.5
Wisconsin.....	322,000	312,000	309,917	+12,000	+3.8	Utah.....	45,000	43,000	42,418	+2,000	+5.1
						Nevada.....	12,000	11,000	10,986	+1,000	+7.1
						PACIFIC:					
						Washington.....	220,000	213,000	211,405	+9,000	+4.1
						Oregon.....	140,000	134,000	133,021	+7,000	+5.2
						California.....	940,000	902,000	895,005	+45,000	+5.0

<sup>1</sup> Less than 500.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CHARLES SAWYER, SECRETARY      WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



For release in P.M.'s  
December 24, 1952

## ONE IN 12 U.S. CIVILIANS, 65 YEARS OLD OR OVER (Based on Bureau of Census Report Series P-25, No. 66)

One in 12 civilians in the United States is 65 years of age or over, according to the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. On July 1, 1951, the latest date for which Census estimates have been made, 12,759,000 persons, or 8.4 percent of the civilian population of 151,082,000, were 65 years old and over.

In 1930, the Census next preceding the enactment of Federal social security legislation reported about one in 19 persons as 65 years old or over, with 6,634,000 persons, or 5.4 percent of the civilian population of 122,519,000, in the 65-and-over age group.

Fifty years ago, the proportion of the civilian population 65 years old and over was one in 25 persons. The 1900 Census reported 3,080,000 persons 65 years old and over, or 4.1 percent of the civilian population of 75,983,000. While the population of the United States has doubled during the last half century, the number of persons 65 and over has quadrupled.

New Hampshire leads all the States with the highest estimated proportion of civilian population, 11.1 percent, aged 65 years or over. New Mexico is at the other end of the scale with only 5.1 percent of its population estimated to be in the 65-and-over age group. New York is the only State with more than a million, 1,319,000, in the oldest age groups, this figure representing 8.8 percent of the State's civilian population. One in 10 persons 65 years of age or over in the United States lives in New York State.

Area	Total Civilian Population	All persons 65 years and over	
		Number	Percent of total
United States .....	151,082,000	12,759,000	8.4
Alabama .....	2,993,000	204,000	6.8
Arizona .....	789,000	48,000	6.1
Arkansas .....	1,893,000	155,000	8.2
California .....	10,648,000	940,000	8.8
Colorado .....	1,334,000	120,000	9.0
Connecticut .....	2,026,000	186,000	9.2
Delaware .....	325,000	27,000	8.3
Florida .....	2,878,000	252,000	8.8
Georgia .....	3,399,000	227,000	6.7
Idaho .....	588,000	46,000	7.8

Area	Total Civilian Population	All persons 65 years and over	
		Number	Percent of total
Illinois .....	8,747,000	787,000	9.0
Indiana .....	4,000,000	372,000	9.3
Iowa .....	2,624,000	280,000	10.7
Kansas .....	1,922,000	200,000	10.4
Kentucky .....	2,833,000	239,000	8.4
Louisiana .....	2,721,000	183,000	6.7
Maine .....	885,000	94,000	10.6
Maryland .....	2,361,000	170,000	7.2
Massachusetts .....	4,671,000	482,000	10.3
Michigan .....	6,524,000	487,000	7.5
Minnesota .....	2,990,000	280,000	9.4
Mississippi .....	2,164,000	156,000	7.2
Missouri .....	4,005,000	418,000	10.4
Montana .....	584,000	53,000	9.1
Nebraska .....	1,342,000	135,000	10.1
Nevada .....	166,000	12,000	7.2
New Hampshire .....	531,000	59,000	11.1
New Jersey .....	4,901,000	415,000	8.5
New Mexico .....	683,000	35,000	5.1
New York .....	14,964,000	1,319,000	8.8
North Carolina ....	4,035,000	235,000	5.8
North Dakota .....	604,000	50,000	8.3
Ohio .....	8,047,000	735,000	9.1
Oklahoma .....	2,229,000	200,000	9.0
Oregon .....	1,551,000	140,000	9.0
Pennsylvania .....	10,518,000	920,000	8.7
Rhode Island .....	767,000	73,000	9.5
South Carolina ....	2,045,000	119,000	5.8
South Dakota .....	641,000	57,000	8.9
Tennessee .....	3,297,000	242,000	7.3
Texas .....	7,750,000	540,000	7.0
Utah .....	703,000	45,000	6.4
Vermont .....	372,000	40,000	10.8
Virginia .....	3,182,000	221,000	6.9
Washington .....	2,343,000	220,000	9.4
West Virginia .....	1,994,000	143,000	7.2
Wisconsin .....	3,452,000	322,000	9.3
Wyoming .....	285,000	19,000	6.7