U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Sinclair Weeks, Secretary

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Robert W. Burgess, Director

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FAMILY INCOME IN THE UNITED STATES: 1951

(Data showing income received in 1951 by persons 14 years old and over appear in the report, "Income of Persons in the United States: 1951," Series P-60, No. 11)

Average family income was estimated at $3,700 in 1951 or $400 higher than in 1950, according to figures released by Robert W. Burgess, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. This increase in family income was the largest recorded in any year since the end of World War II. It represented only a slight gain in purchasing power for the average family, however, since prices had also increased substantially during this period, according to the Consumers' Price Index.

Twelve million families in the United States received money incomes of $5,000 or more in 1951, but 8 million had incomes under $2,000. The remaining 20 million families were in the $2,000 to $5,000 range. The distribution by income of the Nation's 20 million families (groups of two or more related persons) is shown below.[1]

Table A.—NUMBER OF FAMILIES, BY FAMILY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Family income	Number of families
Total	40,400,000
Under $1,000	3,700,000
$1,000 to $1,999	4,600,000
$2,000 to $2,999	6,200,000
$3,000 to $3,999	8,000,000
$4,000 to $4,999	6,300,000
$5,000 to $5,999	4,300,000
$6,000 to $6,999	2,800,000
$7,000 to $9,999	3,000,000
$10,000 to $14,999	1,000,000
$15,000 and over	500,000

The gain in family income between 1950 and 1951 largely reflects the expansion of industrial production that has taken place in the United States since the outbreak of Korean hostilities. The increased industrial activity lead to a lengthened work week in 1951, particularly among employees in industries filling defense demands, and to an increase in the number of workers. Moreover, with unemployment at low levels throughout 1951, nonfarm wage earners had greater continuity of employment than in 1950. Most important of all, perhaps, is the fact that wage rates were increased in many sectors of the economy in 1951.

Not all groups in the population shared equally in the increase in income during 1951. Among the largest relative gains were those experienced by families headed by nonfarm laborers, whose income rose, on the average, by about 20 percent. Families headed by persons employed in other nonagricultural occupations received income increases of about 10 percent on the average. Families headed by farmers or farm laborers, however, had, on the average, about the same money income in 1951 as in 1950.

The 1951 income data presented in this report were obtained from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey of April 1952. Other data relating to the income received by the population are available from the Personal Income Series of the Department of Commerce, the Federal Reserve Board Survey of Consumer Finances, Federal Income tax data, and Old-Age and Survivors Insurance wage record data. These data are collected for different purposes and, therefore, differ in several important respects. A discussion of the comparability of these data may be found in the Census Bureau report, "Income of Persons in the United States: 1951," Series P-60, No. 11.

Information on income was collected in the Bureau of the Census Current Population Survey from the civilian noninstitutional population and members of the armed forces living off post or with their families on post in continental United States. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. Particular care should be exercised in the

[1] These figures are derived from the data in table 1 and are rounded to the nearest 100,000.

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interpretation of medians and other figures based on relatively small numbers of cases, as well as small differences between figures, as explained in the section on reliability of the estimates. Moreover, as in all field surveys of income, the figures are subject to errors of response and nonreporting.

This report covers money income only, prior to deductions for taxes. Inasmuch as farm workers typically receive an important part of their income in the form of goods produced and consumed on the farm rather than in money, this factor should be taken into consideration in comparing the income of farm and nonfarm residents. In comparing money income data for 1951 with those for previous years, one should take account of the fact that changes in money income were accompanied by changes in prices. Therefore, an increase or a decrease in money income does not necessarily represent a similar change in economic well-being.

The present report contains data for families and unrelated individuals only. Information relating to the income of persons 14 years old and over was presented in a report issued earlier this year, "Income of Persons in the United States: 1951," Series P-60, No. 11.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH INCOME DIFFERENTIALS

Income generally is distributed through individual recipients to family groups,[2] where it is allocated for expenditure. Only about 6 percent of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States live alone or apart from families; i.e., as unrelated individuals. The income of this group is essentially personal income, and it can be analyzed in terms of the personal characteristics of the recipients. The other 94 percent of the population, however, live as members of family groups where incomes are generally pooled for use by the members of the group. The analysis of family income requires, therefore, an examination of the size and composition of the group.

Income differentials among families, as among persons, may be partly attributable to factors like intelligence, ambition, and health which cannot readily be measured. However, there are other factors relating to the social and economic characteristics of families which can be measured and which are believed to play a basic role in the establishment of family income differentials. Three broad groups of such factors will be examined in this report: (1) Residence of the family, (2) size and composition of the family, and (3) characteristics of the family head.

[2] A family is defined here as a group of two or more persons related to each other and living together; all such persons living together are regarded as one family. The term "unrelated individual" is used to refer to a person living alone or with persons none of whom is related to him. See section entitled "Definitions and explanations."

As an introduction, table B presents basic data on the characteristics of families and individuals in three broad income classes.

Table B.—FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY RESIDENCE, AGE OF HEAD, AND TOTAL MONEY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Residence and age of head	Total	Under $2,000	$2,000 to $6,999	$7,000 and over
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Families	81.8	58.9	89.8	98.5
Unrelated individuals	18.2	41.1	10.2	1.5
Percent of families	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonfarm	86.2	68.4	90.4	92.9
Head under 25 years old	4.4	4.2	4.9	1.4
Head 25 to 64 years old	71.8	41.1	78.9	84.6
Head 65 years and over	10.0	23.1	6.6	6.8
Farm	13.8	31.6	9.6	7.1

Three major groups can be identified among the families and individuals with incomes under $2,000 in 1951. About two-fifths of the total were individuals who were not living with relatives and were generally responsible for their own support only. About one-third of the families in the lowest income group resided on farms where cash incomes are typically supplemented by income "in kind," such as housing and food produced and consumed on the family farm; the remaining families in this group resided in nonfarm areas. Many factors account for the low incomes of these nonfarm families. Chief among these is perhaps the fact that a large number of the family heads are employed in low-paying occupations. Also important is the fact that a relatively large proportion of the family heads are over 65 years old and therefore well beyond the peak of their earning power.

The wealthier groups tend to be much more homogeneous than those with incomes under $2,000. A relatively small proportion of the group with incomes of $7,000 or more were unrelated individuals or farm families. Nine-tenths of the group with incomes this high were nonfarm families, about two-fifths of whom were headed by persons employed in professional or managerial occupations.

1. Urban and Rural Residence

Residence may affect family income by limiting the type of work available to family members. Residents of large metropolitan areas generally have a rather wide choice of industries in which to seek employment. The choice is much more limited in the smaller cities, towns, and villages; and, in farming areas, it is frequently restricted to the family farm or neighboring farms. The fact that about two-fifths of the farm families derive their income largely from

nonfarm sources may indicate that, as a result of the development of good roads and the widespread ownership of private automobiles, farm residents are not so isolated from opportunities for nonagricultural employment as they once were or are now frequently thought to be. There can be little doubt, however, that even today many types of paid employment which are available to city dwellers, particularly to those who prefer part-time work, cannot be had by farm residents.

Although the median income of all families in the United States was about $3,700,[3] this figure varied considerably according to residence (table 1). The median money income of urban families was $4,100, or considerably above that of rural-nonfarm families ($3,400), or rural-farm families ($2,100). The higher incomes of families residing in cities are offset to some extent by the higher living costs in these areas.

One of the factors which accounts for the higher incomes of urban families as compared with rural-nonfarm families is the higher pay-and-price levels of the urban areas. Data from the present as well as from previous income surveys of the Bureau of the Census indicate a tendency for median income to increase with size of place. The paid employment of more than one family member is also more common in the larger cities. This difference is indicated by the fact that 42 percent of the urban families, but only 35 percent of the rural-nonfarm families, had more than one earner in 1951 (table 6).

Among urban residents, the median income of families showed a tendency to increase with size of place. In urbanized areas (large cities together with their closely settled environs), the median family income was $4,300 as compared with $3,600 for those residing in the smaller urban places which are generally distant from any large city.

Residence affects not only the level of family income, but the source of that income as well. For the country as a whole, 71 percent of the families were entirely dependent upon income received from employment, 23 percent received income from both earnings and other sources (pensions, rents, interest, dividends, etc.) and a very small proportion (5 percent) were dependent solely upon income other than earnings (table 2).

Nonfarm families are much more dependent upon wage or salary income than are farm families. About three-fifths of the nonfarm families, as compared with only one-fifth of the farm families, derived their incomes entirely from this source. On the other hand, only one-twentieth of the nonfarm families, as compared with almost one-third of the farm families, were entirely dependent upon income received from self-employment. Also important is the fact that farm families are much more likely to receive income from both wages and salaries and self-employment than are nonfarm families. Only 5 percent of the nonfarm families, as compared with 22 percent of the farm families, received part of their incomes from each of these sources.

[3] The figures cited in the text are taken from the detailed tables and are rounded to hundreds of dollars.

2. Size and Composition of Family

Type of family.—In April 1952 approximately 35 million families were husband-and-wife families and about 5 million were "broken" families, 4 million of which were headed by women. Since most "broken" families have been affected by either death or divorce, it is not surprising to find that their incomes are lower, on the average, than those of normal families. The median income of families headed by men was about $3,800 as compared with a median of only $2,200 for the families headed by women.

The relatively low incomes of the families headed by women can be explained in large measure by the fact that the chief bread-winner in these families tends to be a person who did not expect to assume the responsibility of providing for a family and may not have been well prepared for this task when faced with it. About 58 percent of these families were headed by widows, and an additional 32 percent were headed by women who were divorced or living apart from their husbands. Families headed by women tend to be much more dependent upon pensions, social security, alimony, or other types of relatively fixed incomes than do other families. Perhaps this fact provides a partial explanation for the relative stability in the incomes of these families during the past few years when most other families were experiencing substantial increases in income.

The income of husband-and-wife families in which the wife was a paid worker was considerably higher, on the average, than that of those in which the wife did not have a paid job or did only unpaid work on the family farm or in the family business. The importance of the working wife's contribution to family income is indicated in table C below which is derived from table 3 of this report. This table shows that almost one-half of the families with working wives had incomes of $5,000 or more, whereas only one-fourth of the families in which the wives did not work had this much income. There were proportionately twice as many working wives in families having incomes between $7,000 and $10,000 as there were in families having incomes under $4,000.

The working wife.—The working wife has become such a characteristic feature of the American economy that no discussion of family income would be complete without a consideration of the factors which influence the labor force participation of married women. It is important to emphasize, however, that the income figures represent money received before deductions for taxes and expenses incurred because of employment. In the case of working mothers, the expenses for household help and child care are frequently substantial and should be considered when the

Table C.--PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HUSBAND-AND-WIFE FAMILIES BY LABOR FORCE STATUS OF WIFE IN APRIL 1952, BY FAMILY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Family income	Wife in paid labor force	Wife not in paid labor force	Percent of families with wife in paid labor force
Total	100.0	100.0	23.0
Under $1,000	3.8	8.0	12.4
$1,000 to $1,999	6.8	11.4	15.1
$2,000 to $2,999	11.0	16.8	16.3
$3,000 to $3,999	16.3	21.8	18.2
$4,000 to $4,999	18.3	15.7	25.8
$5,000 to $5,999	16.1	10.2	32.0
$6,000 to $6,999	10.7	5.9	35.0
$7,000 to $9,999	13.0	6.3	38.1
$10,000 to $14,999	3.3	2.3	29.7
$15,000 and over	0.8	1.5	13.5
Median income	$4,631	$3,634	...

incomes of their families are compared with the incomes of families in which the mother does not work.

Most married women who have some income get it from paid work. The labor force participation of married women is dependent upon several factors such as the attitude of the community toward their employment, the availability of jobs, the presence of small children in the home or other household responsibilities, the earning power of the husband, and the desire to perform certain types of work irrespective of income needs. Only some of these factors can be examined through the available figures.

There has been a considerable increase in labor force activity among married women during the past 12 years. In 1952, 25 percent of the married women who were living with their husbands were in the labor force as compared with only 15 percent in 1940. The data indicate that this increase was not confined to any group or groups in the population; on the contrary, labor force participation appears to have increased among married women of all ages and at all income levels. For example, despite the high birth rate of the war and postwar years, the proportion of married women in their twenties and thirties who were working was higher in 1952 than in 1940. With regard to income, table D indicates a very substantial increase in the labor force participation of married women at all income levels for which data are available. The dollar values shown in the table do not have the same meaning for both of the periods covered; but even after rough corrections for changes in the value of the dollar, the increases in labor force participation are substantial for comparable income classes. For example, about 40 percent of the women whose husbands earned under $1,000 in wage or salary income in 1951 were in the labor force. In 1940, only 22 percent of the women whose husbands earned under $1,000 were in the labor force and the proportion was not much higher for those whose husbands earned as little as $200. Perhaps because of greater job opportunities today, women are in a much better position than they were in 1940 to enter the labor market and supplement the income of a husband with relatively low earning power. Table D also shows that the increased labor force participation among married women was by no means confined to the lowest income groups. In 1940, only about 6 percent of the women whose husbands earned $3,000 or more were in the labor force. Proportionately more than twice as many of the women whose husbands made $6,000 or more were in the labor force in 1951. Although these two income groups are not exactly comparable, they roughly approximate the upper 5 percent in the respective years.

Table D.—PERCENT OF NONFARM WIVES IN THE LABOR FORCE, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME OF HUSBAND: 1951 AND 1939

(Data are restricted to nonfarm married couples in which the wife was between 18 and 64 years of age and the husband had $1 or more of wage or salary income but no other income. The wage or salary income covers the years 1951 and 1939, respectively. Data for 1939 are revisions of figures which appeared originally in table 23 of the 1940 Census report on Population, The Labor Force (Sample Statistics): Employment and Family Characteristics of Women)

Wage or salary income of husband	April 1952	March 1940
$1 to $999	40.2	22.4
$1,000 to $1,499	37.8	19.2
$1,500 to $1,999	34.6	14.4
$2,000 to $2,999	32.0	9.4
$3,000 and over	24.5	6.0
$3,000 to $3,999	27.4	(1)
$4,000 to $4,999	25.6	(1)
$5,000 to $5,999	21.3	(1)
$6,000 and over	13.3	(1)

[1] Comparable figures not available.

The above data showing the relationship between the income of the husband and the labor force participation of the wife are somewhat restricted because of the necessity to limit the comparison to wage or salary income, which was the only type of income reported in the 1940 Census. A more adequate picture of this relationship may be found in table E. In all residence groups, there is an inverse correlation between the labor force activity of married women and the income of their husbands. In urban areas, the proportion of working wives declined from about one-third of those whose husbands had incomes under $3,000 to about one-seventh of those whose husbands had incomes of $10,000 or more. In rural areas a similar pattern may be observed, except that a lower proportion of the women were in the labor force. Many of the women in rural-farm families, however, who were not in

the labor force in April 1952 probably assisted in the farm work during periods of peak activity.

Table E.--PERCENT OF WIVES IN THE LABOR FORCE IN APRIL 1952 BY INCOME OF HUSBAND, BY RESIDENCE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Income of husband	Total	Urban	Rural non-farm	Rural farm
Total	25	27	23	17
Under $1,000	24	29	27	18
$1,000 to $1,999	28	36	23	18
$2,000 to $2,999	29	33	26	16
$3,000 to $3,999	27	28	23	21
$4,000 to $4,999	24	25	23	16
$5,000 to $5,999	20	22	17	12
$6,000 to $9,999	15	16	10	
$10,000 and over	13	14		

There is some evidence that the labor force participation of married women may be related to the husband's occupation as well as to his income (table F). For example, among men with incomes under $3,000, the wives of professional and managerial workers have higher labor force participation rates than the wives of men employed in most other occupations. Moreover, the data suggest that the wives of the professional and managerial workers may be somewhat more inclined to drop out of the labor market as their husband's incomes increase than are the wives of workers in most other occupation groups. It is possible that these patterns are affected by age, presence of children, and other factors which cannot be analyzed on the basis of the available data.

Table F.--PERCENT OF WIVES IN THE LABOR FORCE IN APRIL 1952, BY MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP AND INCOME OF HUSBAND, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Major occupation group of husband in April 1952	Income of husband in 1951			
	Under $3,000	$3,000 to $3,999	$4,000 to $4,999	$5,000 and over
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	40	30	25	18
Farmers and farm managers	22	(1)	(1)	(1)
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	41	24	28	21
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers	32	31	32	18
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	30	25	23	14
Operatives and kindred workers	32	26	25	22
Service workers, including private household	34	30	(1)	(1)
Farm laborers and foremen	18	(1)	(1)	(1)
Laborers, except farm and mine	26	29	(1)	(1)

[1] Fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

There is a direct correlation between the income of the wife (if she is doing paid work) and that of her husband. Data showing the income of working wives in April 1952 are not available. The median income of women doing paid work in April 1951, however, was $900 for those whose husbands had incomes under $1,000 and about $2,000 for those whose husbands had incomes of $4,000 or more (table G). Although the income of the wife tends to increase with that of the husband, it does not increase at the same rate. Thus, at the lowest income level, the labor force activity of the wife more than doubled the income of the couple, on the average; whereas, at the higher income levels, the working wife's contribution was proportionately much less.

Table G.--MEDIAN INCOME OF WIFE IN PAID LABOR FORCE IN APRIL 1951, BY INCOME OF HUSBAND, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

Income of husband	Median income of wife
Under $1,000	$908
$1,000 to $1,999	$1,094
$2,000 to $2,999	$1,548
$3,000 to $3,999	$1,718
$4,000 and over	$1,954

Size of family.--In 1951, family income varied with size of family from a median of $3,100 for families of two persons to about $4,100 for families of four or five persons. The larger families tend to be those in which there are more earners and in which the heads are closer in terms of age to the peak of their earning power. As in past surveys, there was a tendency for incomes to decline for families having six or more persons (table 4). Although the incomes of families having four or five persons tended to be higher than those of smaller families, the average income per person was greatest in small families. The median per capita income varied from $1,500 per person in 2-person families to less than $500 per person in families of seven or more persons.

The family, like its component members, may be regarded as having a life cycle. The typical family originates with marriage, expands in size with the birth of children, and then contracts as the children mature and branch off to form families of their own. Since a given family may vary in composition during its life cycle, it is important analytically that data on family size be related to other factors such as age of head which help to identify a given family with the stage of its development. Table H presents information on family income classified by both size of family and age of head. Because of the relatively small size of the sample, it was necessary to combine the statistics for families with six or more persons. The relationships between income, size of family, and age of head

for these larger families probably differ from those shown in the table for families having fewer persons.[4] Furthermore, the family, as defined here, may include relatives of the head or his wife other than their own children.

Among families having fewer than six persons, there is no evidence of a marked relationship between family income and size of family if the head is under 45 years of age. In such families the children have not yet reached working age and the wives are frequently unable to accept paid employment outside the home because of family responsibilities. Therefore, these families are largely dependent upon the income of the husband. In contrast, there appears to be a definite relationship between family income and size of family where the head is 45 years of age or over. For example, the median income of families in which the head was 55 years of age or over ranged from $2,700 for couples living alone to $5,100 for couples living with three other relatives. It is very likely that the higher incomes of the larger families in this age group mainly reflects the fact that they have more workers.

Table H.--MEDIAN INCOME IN 1951 OF NONFARM HUSBAND-AND-WIFE FAMILIES, BY SIZE OF FAMILY AND AGE OF HEAD

Size of family	Total	Age of head			
		Under 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 years and over
2 persons.....	$3,530	$3,927	$4,379	$4,021	$2,667
3 persons.....	4,113	3,908	4,259	4,448	4,148
4 persons.....	4,338	3,996	4,632	5,094	4,727
5 persons.....	4,405	3,964	4,543	5,129	5,063
6 persons or more	4,193	3,725	4,163	4,136	(1)

[1] Fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Number of children.—In 1951, the median family income increased from $3,600 for families with no children under 18 years of age to about $4,000 for families with two or three children and then declined for families having four or more children (table 5). The lower incomes of families having a large number of children is due in part to the fact that a larger proportion of them are farm residents. For both farm and nonfarm families, however, there is a tendency for the incomes to be lower for the families with many children.

There is little evidence in the data of a disproportionate concentration of children at the lower income levels. Approximately 9 percent of all families received incomes under $1,000 in 1951. These families had 7 percent of the children under 18 years of age. One-fifth of all families received incomes under $2,000 in 1951, and these families had one-fifth of the children. About three-fifths of the children in these families with cash incomes of less than $2,000 a year (or about $40 per week) were in large families (i.e., those having three or more children). It is possible, however, that a disproportionate concentration of related children under 18 years of age would be found in the lower income families if the data were standardized for age of head.

Among families with children of preschool age, those with the larger numbers of young children tended to have lower incomes. Table I below shows that there was a consistent decline in family income from $4,300 for families having no children under 6 years old to $3,300 for families having 3 or more young children. The relatively high income of families with no young children may be largely attributed to the freedom of the wife to take employment outside the home. The proportion of married women with no children of preschool age, who are in the labor force, is about four times as great as that of married women with one or more preschool children. There is little difference, however, in the labor force participation rates for women having one, two, or three or more children of preschool age. Therefore, the differences in their family income are probably due to other factors than the presence of the mother in the labor force.

Table I.—MEDIAN INCOME OF HUSBAND-AND-WIFE FAMILIES, WIFE 15 TO 49 YEARS OLD, BY NUMBER OF OWN CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS OF AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Number of children	Median income
None.....	$4,253
1.....	$3,919
2.....	$3,704
3 or more.....	$3,331

Note.--Figures not standardized for age of wife. Analysis of data for an earlier year indicates that if figures were standardized, the gap between the income of families with no children and those with three or more children would be reduced somewhat; however, the basic pattern would not be changed.

Number of earners.—Although supplemental earners in families are often only part-time workers, they have an important influence on the economic level of the family. About two-fifths of all families in the United States had two or more earners in 1951; and the incomes of these

[4] Table 8 of the 1940 Census report, Families: Size of Family and Age of Head, presents more detailed data on this subject.

families were considerably higher, on the average, than those of families having only one earner (table 6). The median income of families having one earner was $3,400, whereas the median for families with two earners was $4,500, and that for families with three or more earners was $6,100. The relatively small number of families with no earners had a median income of $900. About three-fifths of the families with no earners were headed by a person who was 65 years of age or over.

There were marked differences in the proportions of families with more than one earner at different income levels, as shown in the following table:

Table J.—PERCENT OF FAMILIES WITH MORE THAN ONE EARNER, BY FAMILY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Family income	Percent with more than one earner
Under $1,000	15
$1,000 to $1,999	26
$2,000 to $2,999	27
$3,000 to $3,999	31
$4,000 to $4,999	43
$5,000 to $5,999	56
$6,000 to $6,999	66
$7,000 to $9,999	68
$10,000 to $14,999	58
$15,000 and over	43

The proportion of families with more than one earner was smallest at the lowest income level. The proportion increased progressively and then dropped sharply at the highest income levels. The number of families having more than one earner has increased substantially since the late thirties (p. 4). It is very likely that, because of the greater employment opportunities which exist today, many families which were formerly at low income levels were able to improve their economic status as a result of the employment of other family members in addition to the head. This development may be one of the most important factors in the greater equality of income distribution observed in recent years, as compared with the depression period.[5]

3. Characteristics of the Family Head

Color.—As in all previous income surveys, marked differences were found in the distributions of white and nonwhite families by income levels. For the country as a whole, the median income of white families was $3,900, about twice that received by the nonwhite group (table 2). The disparity between the incomes of whites and nonwhites was greater in rural areas than in urban areas. The greater advantage of white families in farm areas is maintained despite a relatively smaller number of workers per family than the nonwhites, as indicated in table K.

Table K.—PERCENT OF FAMILIES WITH MORE THAN ONE EARNER, BY COLOR AND RESIDENCE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950

Residence	White	Nonwhite
Total	38	52
Urban	40	53
Rural nonfarm	34	49
Rural farm	33	54

In each residence group, the nonwhite families had a lower income than white families, on the average, despite the fact that the nonwhite families average more workers per family. The lower average incomes for the nonwhite families largely reflects their concentration in low-paying jobs and in those which do not permit continuous full-time employment. In April 1952 about 57 percent of the nonwhites but only 15 percent of the whites employed in nonfarm occupations were service workers or laborers.

Age.—Family income shows a tendency to rise until the head reaches middle age and to decline thereafter as he approaches retirement age. In 1951, the median income varied from $3,100 for families in which the head was under 25 years of age to about $4,100 for families headed by a person between 35 and 54 years of age and then declined to $2,000 for families in which the head was 65 years of age and over (table 8). Families living in urban areas showed the same general relationship between income and age of head as that noted above; however, the pattern for families living on farms was somewhat different. Among the latter group, the median income did not increase with age but was about the same ($2,400) for families headed by persons in the various age groups between 25 and 54 years and was lower for those headed by older persons.

The source pattern of income varies considerably among families headed by persons in different age groups (table 2). Families headed by an older person tend to be largely dependent upon income other than earnings; whereas other families depend to a much larger extent upon income from wages or salaries, self-employment, or both. In 1951, only about one-third of the families in which the head was 65 years old or over derived all of their income from earnings. In contrast, earnings provided the sole source of income for four-fifths of the families in which the head was under 25 years old and for three-quarters of

[5] For figures comparing the shares of income received by families and unrelated individuals at different income levels during the period before World War II and the postwar period, see The Economic Report of the President, Washington, Government Printing Office, January 1950, p. 97.

those in which the head was between 25 and 64 years old. One-fourth of the families in which the head was 65 years old or over depended entirely upon pensions, assistance, and other income derived from sources other than earnings and another two-fifths received part of their income from these sources. In contrast, only about one-fifth of the families in which the head was under 65 years old received any income other than earnings and a negligible proportion depended entirely upon these sources.

Labor force status and occupation.—Since most families derive their incomes entirely or largely from the employment of the head of the family, his labor force status is an important factor in determining family income. The data in table 9 indicate that families headed by a person who was employed in April 1952 have considerably higher average incomes than those headed by an unemployed person or by a person who is not in the labor market because of ill health, disability, retirement, or other reasons. The median income of families headed by an employed civilian ($3,900) was twice that of families in which the head was not employed in April 1952. Among the latter group, the median income was somewhat higher for families in which the head was seeking work than for those in which the head did not seek employment either because he felt he was physically unable to work or for other reasons. About half of the family heads who were not in the labor force in April 1952 were 65 years old or over.

Family income is related not only to the employment status of the head but also to the type of work he does. The table following, which is derived from table 10 of this report, indicates that families headed by persons in the more highly skilled occupations comprise a large proportion of the higher income group.

Approximately one-half of the families with incomes under $2,000 were headed by farmers or by laborers, two of the lowest paying occupation groups, and only about one-tenth were headed by professional or technical workers or by nonfarm managers, officials, or proprietors, which are among the highest paying occupation groups. In contrast, about one-half of the families with incomes of $7,000 or more were headed by persons who were employed in these high-paying occupation groups, whereas only about one-tenth were farmers or laborers. As discussed earlier, farmers often have a considerable amount of nonmoney income which is not taken into account in the money income figures presented here, and an allowance should be made for this factor in interpreting the differences.

Families headed by self-employed professional workers (doctors, dentists, lawyers, etc.) had a higher median income ($7,400) than those headed by salaried professional workers ($5,100). Among families headed by managerial workers, however, the median income of the salaried group ($5,600) was higher than that received by the self-employed ($4,300). The lowest incomes were received by families headed by service workers, farmers, and laborers. Approximately one-third of all the families were headed by persons who were engaged in one of four occupation groups (salesworkers; nonfarm proprietors; craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers; or clerical and kindred workers) in which the average income ranged from about $4,200 to $4,600. The nearly 7 million families headed by operatives (largely semiskilled workers in manufacturing and related industries) had a median income of $3,800.

Table L.—PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF HEAD, FOR SELECTED FAMILY INCOME LEVELS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Major occupation group of head	Under $2,000	$7,000 and over
Total families with heads employed as civilians in April 1952	100.0	100.0
Professional, technical, and kindred workers	2.3	16.5
Farmers and farm managers	34.7	5.8
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	6.7	28.0
Clerical, sales, and kindred workers	5.7	13.4
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	8.4	20.2
Operatives and kindred workers	11.7	11.3
Service workers, including private household	12.3	2.9
Laborers, except mine	18.1	2.0

Families headed by nonfarm laborers were among those which made the greatest relative income gains between 1950 and 1951. The median for this group increased from $2,500 to $3,000. Gains were also experienced by families headed by persons employed in all other nonagricultural occupation groups.

Industry.—Each major industry group includes persons in various occupations and with varying degrees of skill. Because this diversity has a leveling effect on average earnings of the group, there is relatively little difference in the average incomes of families headed by persons employed in the various industry groups, with certain exceptions. Families headed by persons engaged in finance, insurance, and real estate had one of the highest median incomes ($4,700) and those headed by persons engaged in the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries group and the personal services group had the lowest median incomes ($2,000 and $2,500, respectively). These three groups of families comprise only one-fifth of all families having an employed head (table 11). The median incomes of the remaining four-fifths of the families ranged only from about $3,800 to $4,500.

TRENDS IN AVERAGE INCOME

Changes in total income, 1944 to 1951.—Table 12 presents some historical data from the

eight consecutive annual income surveys which have been conducted by the Bureau of the Census. In order to facilitate comparison, the statistics in this table are restricted to families and individuals in households and exclude the relatively small group living in hotels, lodginghouses, and similar places. Because of administrative factors, the latter group was not covered in uniform fashion in all of the surveys. Since different families were interviewed in each survey, the data represent income changes for a cross section of the population rather than for identical families.

Over the period 1944 to 1951, the median family income increased from $2,500 to $3,700, and the proportion of families with incomes of $5,000 and over increased from 12 percent to 29 percent. Among unrelated individuals, there was no appreciable change in income during this period.

Between 1944 and 1951, the median income of urban and rural-nonfarm families increased by about 40 percent, and that of rural-farm families increased by about 68 percent. The median income of both farm and nonfarm families rose steadily between 1944 and 1948. In 1949 nonfarm families experienced a slight drop in income, whereas the average income of farm families was reduced by about 22 percent. The upward climb of both farm and nonfarm income was resumed in 1950. The median income of both farm and nonfarm families was higher in 1951 than in any preceding year for which data are available.

Changes in wages and salaries, 1939 to 1951.—Comparisons with 1939 income distributions obtained in the 1940 Census must be restricted to wages and salaries of primary families and primary individuals (see section on "Definitions and explanations"). Table 13 shows data on wage or salary level of primary families and individuals reported as having wage or salary income in 1939, in each year 1944 to 1947, and 1949 to 1951. Table 14 shows the median wage or salary income of primary families and individuals by selected characteristics for 1951 and 1939. It was possible to classify the families and individuals for each of the years covered according to whether or not they had other income, so that the relatively large group of families and individuals who had wage or salary income only is also shown separately.

The figures in table 13 show the increase in wage income which occurred between 1939, the last full year before the World War II defense boom, and 1944, the last full year of the war. In 1939 the median wage or salary income of primary families and individuals was $1,200. By 1944 this figure had doubled. With the end of the war, wage incomes leveled off but resumed their upward climb as the Nation converted to postwar full employment. From $2,400 in 1944, the median rose to $2,900 in 1947 and increased to $3,500 in 1951.

The median wage or salary income of primary nonfarm families increased from $1,400 in 1939 to $3,800 in 1951. One of the factors which accounted for this rise, in addition to the higher wage rates and greater steadiness of employment, was an increase in the number of family members working. About 35 percent of the primary nonfarm families had more than one wage or salary earner in 1951 as compared with 28 percent in 1939.

Although data from other sources indicate that the share of the income received by the lowest fifth of the families and individuals has not changed appreciably since the prewar period,[6] there is some evidence that the composition of this group has changed considerably. (Approximately 20 percent of all primary families and individuals had wages or salaries under $500 in 1939, whereas about the same percentage had incomes under $1,500 in 1949 and under $2,000 in 1951. Therefore these groups approximate the lowest fifth in each of the three years.) In 1939 about 36 percent of the lowest fifth were older couples (husband-and-wife families in which the head was 55 years of age and over), unrelated female individuals or families headed by females. These groups constituted 44 percent of the lowest quintile in 1949 and 50 percent in 1951. These figures suggest that the lowest quintile today is composed to a larger extent than in 1939 of "broken" families, aged persons, and others who are most likely to live on fixed incomes.

The relative difference between the incomes of whites and nonwhites narrowed from 1939 to 1951. In 1939 the median wage or salary income of nonwhite primary families and individuals (about $500) was 37 percent of the figure for whites (about $1,300). In 1951 the figures were about $1,900 and $3,700 respectively, and the ratio was 53 percent.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS[7]

Dwelling unit and household.—A dwelling unit is defined, in general, as a house, apartment, or other group of rooms, or a single room, occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters by a family or other group of persons living together or a person living alone. A household consists of the entire group of persons who occupy a dwelling unit. Persons occupying living quarters which are not dwelling units, such as large rooming houses, dormitories, and YMCA buildings, are not regarded as households.

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[6] The Economic Report of the President, Washington, Government Printing Office, January 1950, p. 97.

[7] For a complete list of other income publications of the Bureau of the Census see, U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 11, "Income of Persons in the United States: 1951," p. 13.

Family.—The term "family," as used in this report, refers to a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of the same family. Thus, if the son of the head of the household and the son's wife are in the household, they are treated as part of the head's family. On the other hand, a lodger and his wife not related to the head of the household or an unrelated servant and his wife are considered as additional families, and not as part of the household head's family.

Unrelated individual.—The term "unrelated individuals," as used in this report, refers to persons (other than inmates of institutions) who are not living with any relatives. An unrelated individual may constitute a one-person household by himself, or he may be part of a household including one or more other families or unrelated individuals, or he may reside in a quasi household such as a hotel. Thus, a widow living by herself or with one or more other persons not related to her, a lodger not related to the head of the household or to anyone else in the household, and a servant living in an employer's household with no relatives are examples of unrelated individuals.

Primary families and individuals.—The term "primary family" refers to the head of a household and all other persons in the household related to the head by blood, marriage, or adoption. If there is no person in the household related to the head, then the head himself constitutes a primary individual. A household can contain one and only one primary family or primary individual. The expression "primary families and individuals" is used in this report with the same meaning as the term "families" in the 1940 Census. It excludes families and individuals who are lodgers or servants, and families and individuals who do not reside as members of households in dwelling units. These other types of families and individuals are included in all family and individual tables which are not specifically restricted. The number of "primary families and individuals" is identical with the number of households.

Urban and rural residence.—The definition of urban and rural areas used in the April 1952 survey was the same as that used in the April 1951 survey and in the 1950 Census. This definition differs slightly from that used in the March 1950 Current Population Survey, but it is markedly different from that used in earlier surveys and censuses. According to the new definition, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns, and villages; (b) incorporated towns of 2,500 inhabitants or more except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are simply minor civil divisions of counties; (c) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (d) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside of any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural.

According to the definition used prior to March 1950, the urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and in areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Size of place.—The urban population is classified as living in urbanized areas or in urban places outside urbanized areas. According to the definition used in the 1950 Census and in the April 1952 Current Population Survey, the population in urbanized areas comprises all persons living in (a) cities of 50,000 inhabitants or more in 1940 or according to a special census taken between 1940 and 1950; and (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, surrounding these cities. Residents of urbanized areas were classified according to the size of the entire area rather than by the size of the place in which they lived. The remaining urban population is classified according to the size of the smaller urban places not in the urbanized areas.

Farm and nonfarm residence.—The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. The method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the April 1952 survey is the same as that used in the 1950 Census and in the April 1951 and March 1950 Current Population Surveys but differs from that used in earlier surveys and censuses. Persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, "motels," and tourist camps were classified as nonfarm.

Income.—For each person in the sample 14 years of age and over, the following items were asked: (1) The amount of money wages or salary received in 1951; (2) the amount of net money income received from nonfarm self-employment in 1951; (3) the amount of net money income received from farm self-employment in 1951; and (4) the amount of other income received in 1951 such as interest, dividends, veterans' allowances, pensions, or rents. The amounts received represent income before deductions for personal taxes, social security, bonds, etc. If any amount was $10,000 or more it was recorded as a specific amount whenever possible. Where the specific amount was not known, the information was recorded as "$10,000 to $14,999" or "$15,000 or more" depending on the respondent's best estimate. Although income refers to receipts during

1951, the characteristics of the family, such as size of family, age, marital status, etc., refer to the date of interview, April 1952.

Money wages or salary.—This is defined as the total money earnings received for work performed as an employee during the calendar year 1951. It includes wages, salary, armed forces pay, commissions, tips, piece-rate payments, and cash bonuses earned, before deductions were made for taxes, bonds, pensions, union dues, etc.

Net income from nonfarm self-employment.—This is defined as net money income (gross receipts minus expenses) from a business or professional enterprise in which a person was engaged on his own account. Gross receipts include the value of all goods sold and services rendered. Expenses include costs of goods purchased, rent, heat, light, power, depreciation charges, wages and salaries paid, business taxes (not personal income taxes), etc. In general, inventory changes were not considered in determining net income; however, replies based on income tax returns or other official records do reflect inventory changes. The value of salable merchandise consumed by the proprietors of retail stores is not included as part of net income.

Net income from farm self-employment.—This is defined as net money income (gross receipts minus operating expenses) from the operation of a farm by a person on his own account, as an owner, renter, or sharecropper. Gross receipts include the value of all products sold, government crop loans, money received from the rental of farm equipment to others, and incidental receipts from the sale of wood, sand, gravel, etc. Operating expenses include costs of feed, fertilizer, seed and other farming supplies, cash wages paid to farmhands, depreciation charges, cash rent, interest on farm mortgages, farm building repairs, farm taxes (not poll taxes or personal income taxes), etc. The value of fuel, food, or other farm products used for family living is not included as part of net income. In general, inventory changes were not considered in determining net income; however, replies based on income tax returns, or other official records, may reflect inventory changes.

Income other than earnings.—This income includes net income from rents, royalties, or receipts from roomers or boarders; interest, dividends, and periodic income from estates and trust funds; pensions; veterans' payments, armed forces allotments for dependents, and other governmental payments or assistance; and other income such as contributions for support from persons who are not members of the household, alimony, and periodic receipts from insurance policies or annuities.

Receipts from the following sources were not included as income: money received from the sale of property, such as stocks, bonds, a house, or a car (unless the person was engaged in the business of selling such property in which case the net proceeds would be counted as income from self-employment); withdrawals of bank deposits; money borrowed; tax refunds; gifts; and lump-sum inheritances or insurance payments.

Total money income.—This is defined as the algebraic sum of money wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, and income other than earnings. The total income of a family is the algebraic sum of the amounts received by all income recipients in the family.

Receipt of nonwage income.—This concept was used in the tabulations made for the purpose of comparing current with 1939 data. In the 1940 Census, from which the 1939 income data were derived, the specific amount of income was asked only for money wages and salaries. In order to distinguish those whose money wages or salary were practically equivalent to their total income from those who had appreciable amounts of other income, a second question was asked: Whether income amounting to $50 or more was received from sources other than money wages or salary. Income in kind, such as living quarters, meals, and clothes, was included among the other sources. Thus, families or persons classified as "without nonwage income" in the 1939 data presented in this report are those who reported that they did not have as much as $50 of income other than money wages or salary. A similar classification was made for the 1950 data on the basis of the entries for income from self-employment and other income. All persons who reported $50 or more of such income were classified as with nonwage income. In addition, farmers were classified as with nonwage income on the assumption that they had at least $50 of income in kind. A family was classified as with nonwage income if any member of the family had nonwage income.

Color.—Families are classified as white or nonwhite in accordance with the color of the head. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are counted as white.

Size of family.—The term "size of family" refers to the entire group of persons who are living together and who are related to each other by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Head of family.—One person in each family was designated as the head. The head of a family is usually the person regarded as the head by members of the family. Females are not classified as heads if their husbands are resident members of the family at the time of the survey. Married couples related to the head of a family are included in the head's family and are not classified as separate families.

Age.—The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday.

Number of children under 18 years of age.—This number includes all persons in the family under 18 years old related to the head of the family by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Number of own children under 6 years of age.—This number includes all children (including stepchildren and adopted children) of the family head who were under 6 years old. The table presenting family income data for children under 6 years old was restricted to husband-and-wife families in which the wife was 15 to 49 years old. This age range was selected since few women beyond these limits have children under 6 years old.

Number of earners.—This number includes all persons in the family with $1 or more in wages and salaries, or $1 or more or a loss in net income from farm or nonfarm self-employment.

Number of wage or salary earners.—This number includes all persons in the family with $1 or more of wages or salary. Thus, all families with $1 or more of wage or salary income have one or more wage or salary earners, and families with no wage or salary income have no wage or salary earners.

Employed.—Employed persons comprise those who, during the survey week, were either (a) "at work"—those who did any civilian work for pay or profit, or worked without pay for 15 hours or more on a family farm or business; or (b) "with a job but not at work"—those who did not work and were not looking for work but had a civilian job or business from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, industrial dispute, bad weather, or layoff with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of layoff. Also included are persons who had new jobs to which they were scheduled to report within 30 days.

Unemployed.—Unemployed persons include those who did not work at all during the survey week, and who were looking for work. Also included as unemployed are persons who would have been looking for work except that (a) they were temporarily ill, (b) they expected to return to a job from which they had been laid off for an indefinite period, or (c) they believed no work was available in their line of work or in the community.

Labor force.—Persons are classified as in the labor force if they were employed as civilians, unemployed, or in the armed forces during the survey week.

Not in labor force.—All civilians 14 years of age and over who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force." These persons are further classified as "keeping house," "in school," "unable to work" because of disability, and "other," the latter group including for the most part retired persons, those too old to work, seasonal workers for whom the survey week fell in an "off" season, and the voluntarily idle. Persons doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not in the labor force.

Occupation, industry, and class of worker.—The data on occupation, industry, and class of worker for employed persons refer to the job held during the survey week. Persons employed at two or more jobs were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. Persons who were unemployed during the survey week are classified according to their last civilian job. The occupation and industry groupings used here are largely the same as the major groups in the classification systems used in the 1950 Census of Population. The specific occupation and industry titles included in each major group may be obtained by writing to the Bureau of the Census.

The class-of-worker classification comprises "Wage and salary workers," "Self-employed workers," and "Unpaid family workers." Wage and salary workers are persons who worked as employees for wages or salaries. They include not only factory operatives, laborers, clerks, etc., who worked for wages, but also other persons working for tips or for room or board, salesmen, and other employees working for commissions, and salaried business managers, corporation executives, and government officials. Self-employed workers are persons working in their own business, profession, or trade, or operating a farm, for profit or fees. Unpaid family workers are persons working without pay on a farm or in a business operated by a member of the household to whom they are related by blood or marriage.

Paid worker.—Persons are classified as paid workers if they were employed as wage or salary or self-employed workers during the survey week, April 6 to 12, 1952, or were looking for work at that time and had last worked as wage or salary or self-employed workers.

Medians.—The median income is the amount which divides the distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and the other having incomes below the median. The medians are based on all families and individuals. The medians for wage or salary income, income from nonfarm self-employment, income from farm self-employment, and income other than earnings are based on the distributions of families and individuals having these types of income.

Percentages.—Percentages are shown as calculated; therefore, they do not always add up to exactly 100.0 percent. The totals, however, are always shown as 100.0 percent.

Base figures.—An estimate of the size of the base (number of families or individuals) of each percent distribution is shown in most of the tables in this report. The base figures are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

The population from which the sample was selected for the study of 1951 income was the population of the United States on the date of interview, i.e., in April 1952. Persons in the following categories, however, were not included:

1. Members of the armed forces living in barracks, etc., on military reservations. (Members of the armed forces living off post or with their families on military reservations were included.)
2. Inmates of penal and mental institutions and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy.

The composition of families was taken as found at the time of interview. Thus, a family would not include a person who had been a member of the family in 1951 but who was not a member at the time of interview. On the other hand, it would include a person who had not been a member throughout 1951 but who was a member at the time of interview.

Data on income were collected from approximately 15,000 households in this survey in 68 sample areas located in 42 States and the District of Columbia. Of the 15,000 households, approximately 4 percent were "noninterview," i.e., households for which no information was recorded because no interview could be obtained during the week in which the enumeration was conducted. For these households, duplicates of other schedules in the sample were substituted. The duplicate schedules selected were for households of similar characteristics residing in the same area. In addition, approximately 9 percent of the households lacked income information for some person listed in the household. Substitutions were not made for these persons. Punch cards which were prepared from these schedules were included in the tabulations which provided the base numbers for families and individuals shown in the published tables. The distributions by income levels for each group, however, are based only on those cases which reported complete income information.

The estimating procedure used in the survey involved, as a final step, the inflation of the weighted sample results to agree with independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, sex, and veteran status. These independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1940 Census of Population; statistics of births, deaths, and net immigration; and statistics on the strength of the armed forces and separation records.

Since the estimates of income distributions are based on a sample survey, they are subject to sampling variability. The sampling variability of an estimated percentage depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total on which it is based. The table below presents the approximate sampling variability of estimated percentages based on totals of selected sizes for the United States in 1951.

Estimated percentages based on urban and rural residence and nonwhite distributions are subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than that shown in the table below.

The reliability of an estimated median depends upon both the form and the size of the distribution on which it is based. Table N indicates the approximate sampling variability of selected estimated medians for the United States in 1951.

The sampling variability of a difference between two estimates depends upon the sampling variability of each of the estimates and the correlation between them.

For statements on the sampling variability of estimates for earlier years see, U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, Nos. 1 to 10.

In addition to sampling variation, the figures are subject to errors of response and

Table M.—SAMPLING VARIABILITY OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES BASED ON TOTALS OF SELECTED SIZES

If the estimated percentage is:	And if the size of the base is:							
	40,000,000	20,000,000	10,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000	500,000
	Then the chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference between the estimated percentage and the percentage which would have been obtained from a complete census is less than:							
2 or 98	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.5	2.2	3.1
5 or 95	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.5	2.0	2.4	3.4	4.8
10 or 90	0.7	1.0	1.5	2.1	2.7	3.3	4.7	6.6
25 or 75	1.1	1.5	2.1	3.0	3.9	4.8	6.7	9.5
50	1.2	1.7	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	7.8	11.0

nonreporting, but the possible effect of such errors is not included in the measures of reliability shown. In most cases the schedule entries for income are based on memory rather than on records, and in the majority of instances on the memory or knowledge of some one person, usually the wife of the family head. The memory factor in data derived from field surveys of income probably produces underestimates, because the tendency is to forget minor or irregular sources of income. Other errors of reporting are due to misrepresentation or to misunderstanding as to the scope of the income concept.

The adjustment of an income distribution for biases is a difficult undertaking and one justifying an entirely independent study. Such a study is now being undertaken as a joint project by the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor, and Federal Reserve Board, under arrangements established by the Bureau of the Budget. All income figures presented here are based on replies received from the respondents interviewed and contain no adjustments involving independent sources of income data.

Table N.—SAMPLING VARIABILITY OF SELECTED MEDIANS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Table and distribution	Estimated median	The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the median which would have been obtained from a complete census would fall within the estimated range:
TABLE 1		
Families, total	$3,709	$3,650 - $3,768
Unrelated individuals, total	1,195	1,054 - 1.336
TABLE 2		
Nonwhite families and individuals	1,763	1,633 - 1,893
TABLE 3		
Families of 6 persons	3,862	3,607 - 4,160
Families of 7 or more persons	3,541	3,273 - 3,831
TABLE 4		
Families with male head, total	3,829	3,771 - 3,887
Families with female head	2,220	1,983 - 2,470
TABLE 5		
Families with head 45 to 54 years of age	4,066	3,931 - 4,208
Families with head 65 years of age and over	1,956	1,786 - 2,167
TABLE 6		
Families having 2 children under 18 years of age	3,930	3,805 - 4,045
TABLE 6—Con.		
Families having 4 children under 18 years of age	$3,578	$3,314 - $3,805
TABLE 7		
Families having 2 earners	4,459	4,358 - 4,572
Families having 3 or more earners	6,120	5,795 - 6,404
TABLE 8		
Families with head an employed civilian	3,927	3,868 - 3,986
Families with head unemployed	2,078	1,804 - 2,608
Families with head not in the labor force, total	1,703	1,554 - 1,852
TABLE 9		
Families with head a professional worker, total	5,216	4,929 - 5,497
Families with head a farmer	1,963	1,808 - 2,127
TABLE 10		
Families with head employed in manufacturing	4,242	4,142 - 4,342
Families with head employed in mining	4,142	3,799 - 4,456

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Table 1.--PLACE OF RESIDENCE: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

Total money income and age of head	Total	Urban								Rural non-farm	Rural farm
		Total	Urbanized areas				Places not in urbanized areas				
			Total	1,000,000 and over	250,000 to 999,999	Under 250,000	Total	25,000 and over	Under 25,000		
FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS											
Total											
Number.....thousands..	49,457	33,795	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	9,288	6,374
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	8.0	6.2	5.7	5.4	6.0	5.8	7.5	5.9	8.3	9.8	14.1
$500 to $999.....	7.4	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.4	6.7	6.2	6.9	8.4	13.4
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.9	4.3	3.9	3.6	3.7	5.0	5.3	4.8	5.6	6.7	12.5
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.6	5.6	5.1	5.1	4.9	5.4	6.8	6.5	6.9	7.1	11.0
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.9	7.4	6.9	7.1	5.6	8.5	8.5	7.2	9.3	8.0	10.7
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.6	7.6	6.7	7.0	5.9	7.2	9.7	9.9	9.6	8.0	6.8
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.5	9.7	9.2	9.2	8.8	10.1	10.6	9.8	11.0	10.9	6.5
$3,500 to $3,999.....	8.9	9.7	9.8	10.4	9.4	9.0	9.4	8.5	9.9	8.4	5.9
$4,000 to $4,499.....	8.1	8.8	9.2	8.9	9.7	9.2	7.9	8.8	7.4	8.0	4.8
$4,500 to $4,999.....	5.6	6.3	6.6	6.2	6.8	7.4	5.7	5.5	5.8	4.9	2.8
$5,000 to $5,999.....	9.2	10.4	11.2	11.4	11.5	10.1	8.7	9.8	8.2	8.9	3.6
$6,000 to $6,999.....	5.8	6.9	7.5	7.1	8.9	6.4	5.5	6.2	5.1	4.4	2.5
$7,000 to $9,999.....	6.4	7.4	8.4	8.6	8.5	7.5	5.2	7.3	4.0	4.8	3.5
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.0	2.5	2.9	3.2	2.9	1.9	1.7	2.1	1.5	1.2	0.8
$15,000 and over.....	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.0	0.9	1.6	0.5	0.6	1.1
Median income.....	$3,348	$3,661	$3,851	$3,837	$3,985	$3,643	$3,263	$3,485	$3,156	$3,093	$1,953
Head Under 25 Years Old											
Number.....thousands..	2,768	2,055	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	475	238
Median income.....	$2,615	$2,763	$2,813	$2,481	$3,074	(2)	$2,709	(2)	$2,656	$2,483	(2)
Head 25 to 64 Years Old											
Number.....thousands..	39,010	26,867	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	7,189	4,954
Median income.....	$3,683	$3,958	$4,130	$4,108	$4,243	$3,966	$3,585	$3,818	$3,483	$3,458	$2,200
Head 65 Years Old and Over											
Number.....thousands..	7,679	4,873	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,624	1,182
Median income.....	$1,252	$1,563	$1,703	$1,935	$1,370	$1,700	$1,379	$1,833	$1,256	$880	$1,028
FAMILIES											
Total											
Number.....thousands..	40,442	26,918	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	7,844	5,680
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	2.8	2.4	1.9	2.7	3.4	3.8	2.7	4.3	5.0	11.3
$500 to $999.....	4.7	2.9	2.2	1.8	2.7	2.6	4.3	4.6	4.2	5.6	12.0
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	3.5	2.8	2.4	3.0	3.7	4.8	4.4	5.0	6.5	12.2
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.1	4.6	4.0	3.6	4.1	4.8	5.9	5.5	6.1	7.3	11.5
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	6.6	5.8	5.5	5.0	7.7	8.4	7.3	9.1	8.3	11.5
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	7.5	6.4	6.8	5.2	7.5	9.8	10.2	9.7	8.6	7.5
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	10.0	9.3	9.5	8.4	10.4	11.3	9.7	12.1	11.9	7.0
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	10.6	10.9	11.6	10.5	9.4	10.1	8.5	11.0	9.5	6.3
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	10.1	10.5	10.3	11.0	10.4	9.1	9.8	8.8	8.9	5.3
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	7.4	7.7	7.6	7.6	8.4	6.7	6.5	6.7	5.7	3.0
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	12.4	13.5	14.1	13.6	11.9	10.1	10.8	9.7	10.1	3.9
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	8.2	9.0	8.7	10.5	7.3	6.5	7.4	6.0	5.0	2.8
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	8.9	10.3	10.8	10.3	8.9	6.1	8.4	4.8	5.5	3.9
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	3.0	3.5	3.9	3.5	2.3	2.0	2.5	1.8	1.4	0.7
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.2	1.0	1.8	0.6	0.7	1.2
Median income.....	$3,709	$4,071	$4,293	$4,334	$4,382	$4,021	$3,583	$3,832	$3,479	$3,365	$2,131
Head Under 25 Years Old											
Number.....thousands..	1,914	1,396	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	364	154
Median income.....	$3,085	$3,264	$3,434	(2)	(2)	(2)	$2,970	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Head 25 to 64 Years Old											
Number.....thousands..	33,350	22,336	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	6,430	4,584
Median income.....	$3,920	$4,260	$4,444	$4,487	$4,514	$4,199	$3,823	$4,115	$3,699	$3,622	$2,284
Head 65 Years Old and Over											
Number.....thousands..	5,178	3,186	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,050	942
Median income.....	$1,956	$2,629	$3,054	$3,119	$3,125	(2)	$2,083	$2,531	$1,913	$1,307	$1,345

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1.--PLACE OF RESIDENCE: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951--Continued

Total money income and age of head	Total	Urban								Rural non-farm	Rural farm
		Total	Urbanized areas				Places not in urbanized areas				
			Total	1,000,000 and over	250,000 to 999,999	Under 250,000	Total	25,000 and over	Under 25,000		
UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS											
Total											
Number.....thousands..	9,015	6,877	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,444	694
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	25.6	21.3	19.4	19.3	20.3	17.8	26.3	23.3	27.8	38.0	38.3
$500 to $999.....	21.0	19.6	20.1	20.6	19.5	19.4	18.4	15.1	20.1	25.0	25.0
$1,000 to $1,499.....	8.7	8.2	8.3	8.2	6.8	11.7	8.1	6.9	8.6	7.4	15.6
$1,500 to $1,999.....	9.1	10.1	9.7	10.9	8.2	8.3	11.2	11.9	10.9	5.9	7.2
$2,000 to $2,499.....	9.4	10.8	11.4	13.2	7.9	12.8	9.1	6.9	10.2	6.1	3.9
$2,500 to $2,999.....	6.8	8.1	7.7	7.6	8.9	5.6	8.9	8.2	9.3	4.6	0.6
$3,000 to $3,499.....	7.3	8.4	8.9	7.9	10.5	8.9	7.0	10.1	5.4	5.1	2.2
$3,500 to $3,999.....	4.7	5.6	5.5	5.7	4.7	6.7	5.7	8.2	4.5	1.8	2.2
$4,000 to $4,499.....	2.7	3.0	3.6	3.2	4.5	3.3	1.5	3.1	0.6	2.6	...
$4,500 to $4,999.....	1.4	1.7	2.1	1.1	3.7	2.2	0.6	...	1.0	0.5	1.1
$5,000 to $5,999.....	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.0	2.4	1.1	1.9	4.4	0.6	2.0	1.7
$6,000 to $6,999.....	0.9	1.0	1.3	0.8	1.8	1.7	0.4	...	0.6	0.5	...
$7,000 to $9,999.....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.6
$10,000 to $14,999.....	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	...	...	...	...	...	0.3	1.1
$15,000 and over.....	0.1	0.1	...	...	...	...	0.2	0.6	...	...	0.6
Median income.....	$1,195	$1,540	$1,615	$1,583	$1,710	$1,567	$1,329	$1,697	$1,120	$740	$733
Head Under 25 Years Old											
Number.....thousands..	854	659	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	111	84
Median income.....	$1,375	$1,625	$1,713	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Head 25 to 64 Years Old											
Number.....thousands..	5,660	4,531	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	759	370
Median income.....	$1,965	$2,121	$2,171	$2,009	$2,414	$2,292	$1,959	$2,056	$1,913	$1,398	(2)
Head 65 Years Old and Over											
Number.....thousands..	2,501	1,687	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	574	240
Median income.....	$635	$711	$750	$750	(2)	(2)	$601	(2)	$576	$478	(2)

[1] Comparable figures not available.
[2] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 2.--SOURCE OF INCOME: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income	Total[1]	Earnings only								Earnings and income other than earnings						Other income, no earnings
		Total	Wages or salary only	Self-employment income only			Wages or salary and self-employment income			Total	Wages or salary and other income	Self-employment income and other income			Wages or salary self-employment income and other income	
				Total[2]	Nonfarm self-employment income only	Farm self-employment income only	Total[3]	Wages or salary and nonfarm self-employment income only	Wages or salary and farm self-employment income only			Total[2]	Nonfarm self-employment income and other income	Farm self-employment income and other income		
UNITED STATES																
All families	100.0	71.3	55.8	8.4	4.0	4.2	7.1	3.6	3.2	22.9	17.3	2.9	1.4	1.4	2.7	4.7
Under $500	100.0	46.7	16.2	19.8	5.8	13.6	10.6	2.0	7.8	13.6	4.6	7.6	2.6	4.4	1.4	15.0
$500 to $999	100.0	47.9	22.6	14.1	2.8	10.7	11.3	2.6	7.5	23.5	12.6	7.9	2.6	5.1	3.0	28.6
$1,000 to $1,499	100.0	54.7	30.8	12.6	2.5	9.8	11.3	2.4	8.6	23.4	15.7	4.4	1.9	2.5	3.4	21.9
$1,500 to $1,999	100.0	67.0	46.8	13.0	3.7	8.9	7.2	2.0	4.7	21.1	14.0	4.2	1.3	2.8	2.8	12.0
$2,000 to $2,499	100.0	79.8	60.4	11.4	4.0	7.0	8.0	3.1	4.5	16.9	11.5	3.4	0.9	2.4	2.0	3.3
$2,500 to $2,999	100.0	75.5	62.0	6.7	3.0	3.2	6.9	3.8	3.1	22.7	18.1	2.4	1.0	1.4	2.2	1.7
$3,000 to $3,499	100.0	78.9	66.2	7.6	4.6	2.8	5.1	3.0	2.2	20.2	16.5	1.4	0.7	0.7	2.2	0.9
$3,500 to $3,999	100.0	78.5	66.1	5.5	3.6	1.5	6.9	4.2	2.6	20.9	18.0	1.3	0.7	0.5	1.6	0.6
$4,000 to $4,499	100.0	79.0	69.0	5.1	3.0	1.9	4.9	2.6	2.2	20.2	16.6	1.1	0.8	0.3	2.5	0.8
$4,500 to $4,999	100.0	73.5	63.1	3.9	2.5	1.0	6.5	4.7	1.7	26.1	23.3	0.8	0.7	...	1.9	0.4
$5,000 to $5,999	100.0	75.8	65.7	4.7	3.6	1.1	5.4	3.7	1.5	23.7	20.0	1.7	1.2	0.3	2.0	0.5
$6,000 to $6,999	100.0	73.7	64.1	4.5	2.5	2.0	5.1	4.2	0.8	25.9	20.3	1.6	0.9	0.7	4.1	0.4
$7,000 to $9,999	100.0	67.1	54.9	5.3	3.6	1.7	6.9	4.9	1.8	32.2	24.6	3.6	2.1	0.8	4.0	0.7
$10,000 to $14.999	100.0	64.1	37.5	16.8	13.7	3.1	9.8	9.0	0.4	34.0	21.5	6.3	5.1	0.8	6.3	2.0
$15,000 and over	100.0	60.3	15.4	32.4	24.3	8.1	12.5	8.1	3.7	39.7	16.2	9.6	8.1	1.5	14.0	...
Median income	$3,709	$3,791	$3,932	$2,806	$3,844	$1,918	$3,338	$4,204	$2,237	$4,023	$4,149	$2,466	$3,906	$1,829	$4,221	$1,146
Head under 25 years old	100.0	81.4	76.4	2.6	0.6	2.0	2.4	1.5	0.7	15.1	13.9	0.4	...	0.4	0.7	0.7
Head 25 to 64 years old	100.0	76.4	59.7	8.9	4.3	4.3	7.9	4.1	3.5	21.0	16.3	2.2	1.2	1.0	2.5	2.0
Head 65 years old and over	100.0	32.8	21.8	7.4	2.8	4.4	3.5	0.9	2.5	38.5	25.0	8.5	3.6	4.5	5.1	24.9
URBAN																
All families	100.0	70.9	62.7	4.5	4.4	0.1	3.8	3.6	0.1	23.5	19.7	1.7	1.6	...	2.1	4.5
Median income	$4,071	$4,133	$4,121	$3,958	$4,000	(4)	$4,670	$4,786	(4)	$4,411	$4,365	$4,375	$4,375	...	$5,176	$1,203
RURAL NONFARM																
All families	100.0	71.0	57.5	6.2	4.2	1.6	7.2	5.1	1.8	21.4	16.7	2.3	1.3	1.0	2.4	6.2
Median income	$3,365	$3,469	$3,510	$2,625	(4)	(4)	$3,425	$3,479	(4)	$3,672	$3,757	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	$1,146
RURAL FARM																
All families	100.0	73.3	20.7	30.2	1.7	27.3	22.4	1.5	19.8	22.4	6.6	9.5	0.5	8.2	6.3	3.5
Median income	$82,131	$2,236	$2,628	$2,013	(4)	$1,939	$2,071	(4)	$2,031	$2,125	$2,000	$1,850	(4)	$1,803	(4)	(4)

[1] Includes a relatively small number of families reporting no money income, not shown separately.
[2] Includes a relatively small number of families reporting both farm and nonfarm self-employment income, not shown separately.
[3] Includes a relatively small number of families reporting income from wages or salary, nonfarm self-employment, and farm self-employment, not shown separately.
[4] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 3.--TYPE OF FAMILY: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income	Families							Unrelated individuals		
	Total	Male head					Female head	Total	Male	Female
		Total	Married, wife present			Other marital status				
			Total	Wife in paid labor force	Wife not in paid labor force					
UNITED STATES										
Number.....thousands..	40,442	36,412	35,196	8,044	27,152	1,216	4,030	9,015	3,945	5,070
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	3.3	3.2	2.0	3.5	5.4	15.4	25.6	19.0	30.3
$500 to $999.....	4.7	4.0	3.8	1.8	4.5	9.7	11.2	21.0	17.3	23.6
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	4.8	4.8	2.8	5.4	5.7	9.5	8.7	7.6	9.5
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.1	5.6	5.5	4.0	6.0	8.2	10.6	9.1	7.5	10.3
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	7.7	7.6	5.5	8.2	9.1	7.4	9.4	9.9	9.1
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	7.8	7.9	5.5	8.6	4.8	7.4	6.8	8.5	5.7
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	10.1	10.1	7.7	10.9	7.9	8.9	7.3	10.3	5.2
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	10.3	10.4	8.6	10.9	7.3	5.3	4.7	6.6	3.3
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	9.6	9.6	10.0	9.5	8.2	5.4	2.7	4.7	1.3
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	6.6	6.7	8.3	6.2	5.7	4.5	1.4	2.5	0.7
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	11.5	11.6	16.1	10.2	8.2	4.3	1.7	3.1	0.6
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	7.0	7.0	10.7	5.9	6.6	5.1	0.9	1.8	0.2
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	7.9	7.9	13.0	6.3	10.6	3.7	0.5	0.9	0.2
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	2.5	2.5	3.3	2.3	2.1	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.1
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	1.3	1.4	0.8	1.5	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Median income.....	$3,709	$3,829	$3,837	$4,631	$3,634	$3,452	$2,220	$1,195	$1,909	$917
URBAN										
Number.....thousands..	26,918	23,808	23,090	6,088	17,002	718	3,110	6,877	2,775	4,102
Median income.....	$4,071	$4,216	$4,217	$4,883	$4,028	$4,191	$2,493	$1,540	$2,328	$1,054
RURAL NONFARM										
Number.....thousands..	7,844	7,218	6,998	1,496	5,502	220	626	1,444	696	748
Median income.....	$3,365	$3,451	$3,462	$4,353	$3,306	(1)	$1,675	$740	$963	$586
RURAL FARM										
Number.....thousands..	5,680	5,386	5,108	460	4,648	278	294	694	474	220
Median income.....	$2,131	$2,184	$2,194	$3,000	$2,131	(1)	(1)	$733	$833	(1)

[1] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 4.--SIZE OF FAMILY: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income and age of head	Total	Unrelated individuals	Families--							Median size of family
			Total	Having specified number of related persons						
				2	3	4	5	6	7 or more	
UNITED STATES										
Total										
Number.....thousands..	49,457	9,015	40,442	13,712	9,974	8,128	4,402	2,142	2,084	3.15
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	...
Under $500.....	8.0	25.6	4.4	7.6	3.7	2.5	1.7	2.4	3.7	2.38
$500 to $999.....	7.4	21.0	4.7	8.8	2.9	1.8	2.1	4.0	5.1	2.30
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.9	8.7	5.3	7.9	4.5	2.9	3.0	4.5	7.7	2.50
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.6	9.1	6.1	7.7	6.3	4.2	4.6	5.6	5.5	2.79
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.9	9.4	7.6	8.5	7.2	7.1	5.9	8.6	9.2	3.04
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.6	6.8	7.8	8.0	7.2	7.5	8.0	9.1	8.3	3.17
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.5	7.3	9.9	8.8	10.7	10.7	10.8	8.7	9.9	3.26
$3,500 to $3,999.....	8.9	4.7	9.8	8.2	11.2	10.7	10.3	9.8	8.6	3.27
$4,000 to $4,499.....	8.1	2.7	9.2	7.9	9.9	10.7	10.8	7.2	6.3	3.29
$4,500 to $4,999.....	5.6	1.4	6.4	5.1	7.2	7.4	6.7	8.7	4.6	3.35
$5,000 to $5,999.....	9.2	1.7	10.8	8.8	10.8	13.4	12.7	8.4	10.9	3.41
$6,000 to $6,999.....	5.8	0.9	6.8	4.9	7.6	7.5	9.0	8.2	6.5	3.44
$7,000 to $9,999.....	6.4	0.5	7.5	5.2	7.4	9.0	9.7	10.6	9.9	3.61
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.0	0.2	2.4	1.6	2.3	3.1	2.8	3.5	3.0	3.62
$15,000 and over.....	1.0	0.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.8	0.7	0.9	3.39
Median income.....	$3,348	$1,195	$3,709	$3,086	$3,838	$4,122	$4,166	$3,862	$3,541	...

Table 4.--SIZE OF FAMILY: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951--Continued

Total money income and age of head	Total	Unrelated individuals	Families-- Total	Having specified number of related persons: 2	3	4	5	6	7 or more	Median size of family
UNITED STATES--Con.										
Head Under 25 Years Old										
Number.....thousands..	2,768	854	1,914	762	680	310	100	44	18	2.79
Median income.....	$2,615	$1,375	$3,085	$2,858	$3,217	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	...
Head 25 To 64 Years Old										
Number.....thousands..	39,010	5,660	33,350	9,556	8,318	7,408	4,098	2,002	1,968	3.36
Median income.....	$3,683	$1,965	$3,920	$3,564	$3,971	$4,176	$4,210	$3,894	$3,495	...
Head 65 Years Old And Over										
Number.....thousands..	7,679	2,501	5,178	3,394	976	410	204	96	98	2.26
Median income.....	$1,252	$635	$1,956	$1,464	$2,852	$3,800	(1)	(1)	(1)	...
URBAN										
Number.....thousands..	33,795	6,877	26,918	9,562	7,004	5,526	2,728	1,130	968	3.06
Median income.....	$3,661	$1,540	$4,071	$3,464	$4,120	$4,406	$4,629	$4,625	$4,750	...
RURAL NONFARM										
Number.....thousands..	9,288	1,444	7,844	2,562	1,766	1,572	986	494	464	3.27
Median income.....	$3,093	$740	$3,365	$2,551	$3,547	$3,782	$3,815	$3,707	$3,333	...
RURAL FARM										
Number.....thousands..	6,374	694	5,680	1,588	1,204	1,030	688	518	652	3.55
Median income.....	$1,953	$733	$2,131	$1,350	$2,091	$2,594	$2,778	$2,417	$2,306	...

[1] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 5.--NUMBER OF CHILDREN: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income	Total	Families having specified number of children under 18 years of age: None	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more	All children in families[1]
UNITED STATES									
Number.....thousands..	40,442	17,524	8,902	7,340	3,668	1,564	710	734	49,480
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	5.7	3.7	3.5	2.9	2.9	6.0	4.0	3.6
$500 to $999.....	4.7	6.9	3.4	2.2	2.5	5.2	6.5	7.6	3.6
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	6.7	4.5	3.7	3.4	3.8	5.5	12.1	4.8
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.1	6.8	6.1	4.8	4.9	7.0	4.5	8.6	5.7
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	7.3	7.9	7.5	6.0	9.5	10.9	13.1	8.4
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	7.0	8.1	7.6	9.2	9.3	10.4	10.1	8.7
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	8.7	10.4	11.1	11.7	10.2	12.4	10.1	10.9
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	8.3	11.0	11.3	10.0	13.1	11.4	6.1	10.7
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	7.8	10.2	11.0	11.3	7.5	7.5	4.5	9.6
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	5.6	7.2	7.0	7.0	8.6	2.5	5.6	6.7
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	9.7	10.6	12.9	12.7	8.4	11.4	9.1	11.4
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	6.7	7.2	6.9	8.4	3.6	4.5	4.0	6.4
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	8.2	6.7	7.2	7.8	9.5	4.5	4.0	7.0
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	3.1	2.1	2.1	1.5	1.1	1.5	...	1.6
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	1.5	1.0	1.4	0.8	0.2	0.5	1.0	0.9
Median income.....	$3,709	$3,555	$3,771	$3,930	$3,974	$3,578	$3,250	$2,725	$3,700
URBAN									
Number.....thousands..	26,918	12,274	6,186	4,882	2,230	772	298	276	29,056
Median income.....	$4,071	$3,985	$4,019	$4,228	$4,293	$3,972	(2)	(2)	$4,129
RURAL NONFARM									
Number.....thousands..	7,844	3,076	1,676	1,500	840	408	162	182	10,868
Median income.....	$3,365	$2,946	$3,561	$3,549	$3,778	$3,604	(2)	(2)	$3,499
RURAL FARM									
Number.....thousands..	5,680	2,174	1,040	958	598	384	250	276	9,556
Median income.....	$2,131	$1,696	$2,140	$2,400	$2,738	$2,422	(2)	(2)	$2,313

[1] Distributed by income levels of their families.
[2] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 6.--NUMBER OF EARNERS: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income and age of head	Families--					Unrelated individuals		
	Total	Having specified number of earners				Total	Earners	Non-earners
		None	1	2	3 or more			
UNITED STATES								
Total								
Number.....thousands..	40,442	2,441	22,258	12,550	3,193	9,015	5,961	3,054
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	30.4	3.9	1.7	0.5	25.6	12.2	50.6
$500 to $999.....	4.7	23.3	4.6	2.3	1.9	21.0	14.2	33.5
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	19.8	5.0	3.6	3.3	8.7	9.4	7.3
$1,500 to 1,999.....	6.1	12.6	6.8	4.6	2.0	9.1	11.9	4.0
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	4.3	9.7	5.5	4.0	9.4	13.6	1.7
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	2.3	9.9	5.9	3.8	6.8	10.2	0.6
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	1.5	12.6	8.3	4.2	7.3	10.9	0.6
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	1.1	11.9	8.8	5.5	4.7	7.0	0.4
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	1.1	10.1	10.1	5.1	2.7	4.0	0.3
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	0.5	5.8	8.8	5.9	1.4	2.1	0.3
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	1.1	8.4	16.4	12.2	1.7	2.5	0.1
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	0.5	4.1	11.0	14.1	0.9	1.2	0.1
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	0.9	4.3	10.2	24.6	0.5	0.6	0.4
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	0.8	1.7	1.7	10.6	0.2	0.3	...
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	...	1.2	1.1	2.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Median income.....	$3,709	$921	$3,401	$4,459	$6,120	$1,195	$2,082	$494
Head Under 25 Years Old								
Number.....thousands..	1,914	67	983	814	50	854	668	186
Median income.....	$3,085	(1)	$2,723	$3,850	(1)	$1,375	$1,766	(1)
Head 25 to 64 Years Old								
Number.....thousands..	33,350	885	18,764	10,851	2,850	5,660	4,649	1,011
Median income.....	$3,920	$889	$3,541	$4,565	$6,121	$1,965	$2,286	$477
Head 65 Years Old And Over								
Number.....thousand..	5,178	1,489	2,511	885	293	2,501	644	1,857
Median income.....	$1,956	$955	$2,348	$3,711	(1)	$635	$1,054	$550
URBAN								
Number.....thousands..	26,918	1,595	14,140	8,948	2,235	6,877	4,720	2,157
Median income.....	$4,071	$948	$3,714	$4,766	$6,663	$1,540	$2,237	$546
RURAL NONFARM								
Number.....thousands..	7,844	605	4,497	2,171	571	1,444	809	635
Median income.....	$3,365	$950	$3,219	$4,212	$4,750	$740	$1,563	$417
RURAL FARM								
Number.....thousands..	5,680	241	3,621	1,431	387	694	432	262
Median income.....	$2,131	(1)	$2,058	$2,655	$2,800	$733	$1,012	(1)

[1] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 7.--COLOR: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income	Families and unrelated individuals			Families			Unrelated individuals		
	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite
UNITED STATES									
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500	8.0	7.0	16.7	4.4	3.7	11.7	25.6	24.5	32.2
$500 to $999	7.4	6.7	14.6	4.7	4.0	12.6	21.0	21.0	20.7
$1,000 to $1,499	5.9	5.2	11.7	5.3	4.6	12.5	8.7	8.6	9.0
$1,500 to $1,999	6.6	5.9	13.3	6.1	5.5	12.3	9.1	7.9	16.1
$2,000 to $2,499	7.9	7.5	11.5	7.6	7.2	11.7	9.4	9.2	10.8
$2,500 to $2,999	7.6	7.4	9.1	7.8	7.5	10.1	6.8	7.0	5.9
$3,000 to $3,499	9.5	9.8	6.7	9.9	10.1	8.0	7.3	8.1	2.8
$3,500 to $3,999	8.9	9.4	4.5	9.8	10.2	5.6	4.7	5.3	0.9
$4,000 to $4,499	8.1	8.6	3.7	9.2	9.6	4.8	2.7	3.1	0.3
$4,500 to $4,999	5.6	5.9	2.4	6.4	6.7	3.2	1.4	1.7	...
$5,000 to $5,999	9.2	9.9	3.1	10.8	11.4	3.9	1.7	1.8	0.6
$6,000 to $6,999	5.8	6.3	1.5	6.8	7.3	2.0	0.9	1.0	...
$7,000 to $9,999	6.4	7.0	0.9	7.5	8.2	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.6
$10,000 to $14,999	2.0	2.2	...	2.4	2.6	...	0.2	0.2	...
$15,000 and over	1.0	1.1	0.2	1.2	1.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	...
Median income	$3,348	$3,524	$1,763	$3,709	$3,859	$2,032	$1,195	$1,258	$929
URBAN									
Median income	$3,661	$3,851	$2,078	$4,071	$4,229	$2,457	$1,540	$1,650	$1,040
RURAL NONFARM									
Median income	$3,093	$3,168	$1,206	$3,365	$3,427	(1)	$740	$766	(1)
RURAL FARM									
Median income	$1,953	$2,178	$941	$2,131	$2,351	$966	$733	$750	(1)

[1] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 8.--AGE OF HEAD: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL: 1951

Total money income	Families							Unrelated individuals						
	Total	Age of head (years)						Total	Age (years)					
		14 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and over		14 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 65	65 and over
UNITED STATES														
Number.....thousands..	40,442	1,914	9,126	9,646	8,088	6,490	5,178	9,015	854	977	1,148	1,685	1,850	2,501
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500	4.4	5.4	2.3	2.5	3.6	5.8	11.7	25.6	30.4	9.2	15.6	13.4	25.3	40.4
$500 to $999	4.7	2.6	2.3	2.7	3.0	5.5	16.0	21.0	13.7	10.9	13.8	15.5	15.8	35.6
$1,000 to $1,499	5.3	4.8	3.3	3.3	4.3	6.0	13.9	8.7	7.8	3.3	7.6	10.4	12.0	8.1
$1,500 to $1,999	6.1	9.5	4.3	5.6	5.2	7.3	9.1	9.1	15.7	10.5	10.9	9.5	9.8	5.4
$2,000 to $2,499	7.6	12.3	7.4	7.1	8.1	7.1	7.5	9.4	12.7	13.4	12.7	12.5	9.8	3.9
$2,500 to $2,999	7.8	13.2	8.8	7.6	6.6	7.1	6.4	6.8	9.8	15.1	8.4	9.8	6.2	1.4
$3,000 to $3,499	9.9	13.2	13.3	9.4	8.7	8.5	6.9	7.3	5.4	12.6	10.2	12.8	7.1	2.1
$3,500 to $3,999	9.8	10.4	12.4	10.5	9.2	8.8	5.1	4.7	2.5	9.2	7.6	7.1	5.3	0.9
$4,000 to $4,499	9.2	8.4	11.8	9.9	9.3	7.5	4.8	2.7	1.5	5.0	6.2	3.3	3.1	0.3
$4,500 to $4,999	6.4	6.1	7.6	7.6	6.4	6.0	2.5	1.4	...	4.2	1.8	0.8	2.4	0.4
$5,000 to $5,999	10.8	7.6	13.1	12.6	11.4	9.1	4.8	1.7	0.5	2.5	2.9	2.7	1.8	0.6
$6,000 to $6,999	6.8	3.0	6.2	8.2	8.2	7.1	4.1	0.9	...	2.5	1.8	1.4	...	0.4
$7,000 to $9,999	7.5	3.5	5.5	9.4	10.4	8.5	3.6	0.5	...	1.3	...	0.8	0.7	0.3
$10,000 to $14,999	2.4	...	1.0	2.3	3.5	4.2	2.1	0.2	...	0.4	0.4	...	0.4	...
$15,000 and over	1.2	...	0.5	1.3	2.0	1.5	1.4	0.1	...	...	...	...	0.2	0.1
Median income	$3,709	$3,085	$3,831	$4,069	$4,066	$3,654	$1,956	$1,195	$1,375	$2,590	$2,079	$2,049	$1,370	$635
URBAN														
Number.....thousands..	26,918	1,396	6,228	6,488	5,382	4,238	3,186	6,877	659	825	953	1,351	1,402	1,687
Median income	$4,071	$3,264	$4,018	$4,435	$4,422	$4,288	$2,629	$1,540	$1,625	$2,565	$2,156	$2,231	$1,593	$711
RURAL NONFARM														
Number.....thousands..	7,844	364	1,838	1,826	1,556	1,210	1,050	1,444	111	108	131	204	316	574
Median income	$3,365	(1)	$3,750	$3,727	$3,642	$3,156	$1,307	$740	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	$478
RURAL FARM														
Number.....thousands..	5,680	154	1,060	1,332	1,150	1,042	942	694	84	44	64	130	132	240
Median income	$2,131	(1)	$2,381	$2,518	$2,469	$1,633	$1,345	$733	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

[1] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 9.--LABOR FORCE STATUS OF HEAD: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1951, BY AGE OF HEAD, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL

Total money income and age of head	Total	Heads in the labor force in April 1952				Heads not in the labor force in April 1952		
		Total	Employed as civilians	Unemployed	In armed forces[1]	Total	Unable to work	Other
UNITED STATES								
Total								
Number.....thousands..	40,442	35,002	33,606	504	892	5,440	1,022	4,418
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	2.8	2.8	4.6	...	15.2	14.4	15.4
$500 to $999.....	4.7	2.9	2.9	8.5	0.4	16.8	17.1	16.8
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	4.0	3.9	13.1	3.0	13.7	15.8	13.2
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.1	5.4	5.1	22.2	6.3	10.6	11.6	10.4
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	7.7	7.6	10.5	8.9	7.1	6.8	7.2
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	8.0	7.9	6.5	12.9	5.9	8.9	5.1
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	10.5	10.6	11.1	6.3	6.5	4.5	7.0
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	10.6	10.7	5.2	8.5	4.7	4.1	4.8
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	9.9	10.1	2.6	9.6	4.3	4.8	4.2
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	7.0	7.0	2.6	7.7	2.7	2.4	2.8
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	11.9	11.8	6.5	18.1	3.5	2.4	3.8
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	7.2	7.3	1.3	8.1	4.3	4.1	4.4
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	8.2	8.2	5.2	9.6	3.1	2.7	3.2
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	2.6	2.7	...	0.7	1.1	...	1.3
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	1.4	1.4	...	...	0.3	0.3	0.3
Median income.....	$3,709	$3,910	$3,927	$2,078	$4,202	$1,703	$1,618	$1,726
Head Under 25 Years Old								
Number.....thousands..	1,914	1,812	1,498	10	304	102	...	102
Median income.....	$3,085	$3,134	$3,231	(2)	(2)	(2)	...	(2)
Head 25 to 64 Years Old								
Number.....thousands..	33,350	31,044	30,024	432	588	2,306	376	1,930
Median income.....	$3,920	$4,017	$4,023	$2,100	$4,726	$1,959	$1,975	$1,953
Head 65 Years Old and Over								
Number.....thousands..	5,178	2,146	2,084	62	...	3,032	646	2,386
Median income.....	$1,956	$2,773	$2,792	(2)	...	$1,479	$1,328	$1,543
URBAN								
Number.....thousands..	26,918	23,338	22,314	380	644	3,580	644	2,936
Median income.....	$4,071	$4,253	$4,290	$2,214	$3,833	$1,951	$1,711	$2,014
RURAL NONFARM								
Number.....thousands..	7,844	6,584	6,254	92	238	1,260	230	1,030
Median income.....	$3,365	$3,639	$3,609	(2)	(2)	$1,398	(2)	$1,417
RURAL FARM								
Number.....thousands..	5,680	5,080	5,038	32	10	600	148	452
Median income.....	$2,131	$2,231	$2,233	(2)	(2)	$1,293	(2)	$1,111

[1] Includes only members of the armed forces living off post or with their families on military reservations.
[2] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 10.--OCCUPATION OF HEAD: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1951, FOR THE UNITED STATES

Total money income and age of head	Total	Heads employed as civilians in April 1952																In armed forces or not employed in April 1952
		Total employed civilians	Professional, technical, and kindred workers			Farmers and farm managers	Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm			Clerical and kindred workers	Sales workers	Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	Operatives and kindred workers	Private household workers	Service workers, except private household	Farm laborers and foremen	Laborers except farm and mine	
			Total	Self-employed	Salaried		Total	Self-employed	Salaried									
Number.....thousands..	40,442	33,606	2,640	498	2,142	3,551	4,636	2,544	2,092	2,352	1,698	7,060	6,723	210	1,932	512	2,292	6,836
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	2.8	1.6	6.1	0.8	12.7	2.4	4.5	0.2	1.6	1.5	0.5	1.0	(1)	3.1	5.6	2.5	12.2
$500 to $999.....	4.7	2.9	0.3	0.9	0.2	13.5	1.6	2.7	0.4	0.9	...	0.5	1.4	(1)	4.4	11.3	3.4	13.8
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	3.9	1.1	1.7	1.0	12.2	1.7	2.9	0.4	2.1	1.5	1.5	2.1	(1)	7.1	21.9	7.3	12.1
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.1	5.1	1.2	...	1.5	12.5	2.4	3.4	1.3	3.0	2.8	3.1	3.8	(1)	8.4	19.4	10.7	10.9
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	7.6	2.6	3.5	2.4	11.8	5.2	7.7	2.4	6.1	6.1	5.7	8.6	(1)	10.9	14.4	13.4	7.7
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	7.9	5.5	3.5	5.9	7.0	6.3	7.7	4.7	7.1	5.9	7.1	9.9	(1)	10.1	5.6	12.9	6.9
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	10.6	9.3	9.6	9.3	6.1	7.8	9.1	6.4	10.5	9.8	10.6	14.8	(1)	11.5	5.6	12.6	6.8
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	10.7	7.3	4.3	7.8	5.2	8.6	8.1	9.1	13.2	9.6	12.5	14.8	(1)	10.1	5.6	9.8	5.3
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	10.1	9.9	4.3	10.9	4.1	8.4	7.2	9.7	14.8	11.8	11.3	12.2	(1)	9.2	0.6	8.4	4.9
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	7.0	7.8	1.7	8.9	2.0	5.9	5.9	6.0	9.1	5.9	9.6	7.6	(1)	7.8	0.6	5.8	3.4
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	11.8	15.9	6.1	17.7	3.2	13.5	11.6	15.5	12.0	17.2	16.6	11.0	(1)	6.5	3.8	6.9	5.8
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	7.3	11.6	6.1	12.7	2.6	8.3	6.5	10.2	10.1	8.5	9.7	6.0	(1)	4.8	1.9	3.6	4.6
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	8.2	15.9	16.5	15.8	3.8	14.2	8.4	20.6	7.3	13.9	8.9	5.9	(1)	3.8	1.9	2.6	4.2
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	2.7	6.7	20.9	4.1	1.6	7.6	6.2	9.1	2.1	4.1	1.9	0.7	(1)	2.1	0.6	...	0.9
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	1.4	3.3	14.8	1.1	1.7	6.2	8.2	4.0	0.1	1.3	0.4	0.1	(1)	0.4	1.3	...	0.3
Median income.....	$3,709	$3,927	$5,216	$7,395	$5,078	$1,963	$4,985	$4,279	$5,612	$4,185	$4,583	$4,371	$3,778	(1)	$3,267	$1,790	$2,988	$2,060

[1] Percent and median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting on income.

Table 11.--INDUSTRY OF HEAD: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1951, FOR THE UNITED STATES

Total money income	Total	Heads employed as civilians in April 1952														In armed forces or not employed in April 1952
		Total employed civilians	Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation, communication, and other public utilities	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Business and repair services	Personal services	Entertainment and recreation services	Professional and related services	Public administration	
Number.....thousands..	40,442	33,606	4,259	755	3,141	9,624	3,139	1,479	4,202	1,063	863	1,131	216	1,798	1,936	6,836
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500.....	4.4	2.8	11.7	0.4	1.4	0.6	0.8	0.8	2.6	1.9	0.9	12.7	...	2.8	0.6	12.2
$500 to $999.....	4.7	2.9	12.7	0.4	1.8	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.8	1.1	0.9	9.3	3.4	2.2	0.6	13.8
$1,000 to $1,499.....	5.3	3.9	13.3	0.9	4.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	4.3	3.0	3.1	6.3	3.4	3.7	0.8	12.1
$1,500 to $1,999.....	6.1	5.1	13.5	2.2	6.4	3.0	3.8	1.8	4.8	4.9	5.4	10.3	6.8	2.8	1.5	10.9
$2,000 to $2,499.....	7.6	7.6	12.2	8.1	9.1	6.2	5.4	5.3	9.8	5.6	8.9	10.7	5.1	6.7	4.1	7.7
$2,500 to $2,999.....	7.8	7.9	6.7	7.2	9.9	7.6	8.6	9.0	8.9	6.4	11.6	7.3	1.7	9.0	5.0	6.9
$3,000 to $3,499.....	9.9	10.6	6.6	15.7	9.8	11.5	12.4	9.3	12.1	9.7	6.2	8.0	5.1	11.4	11.9	6.8
$3,500 to $3,999.....	9.8	10.7	5.2	11.2	10.1	13.3	12.2	9.0	10.2	9.4	12.5	5.3	13.6	9.5	14.0	5.3
$4,000 to $4,499.....	9.2	10.1	3.7	13.5	10.3	11.8	12.3	12.8	7.6	6.0	12.1	5.7	11.9	8.6	16.2	4.9
$4,500 to $4,999.....	6.4	7.0	1.9	9.0	8.1	8.0	7.5	7.8	7.4	6.4	5.8	5.0	3.4	8.8	9.4	3.4
$5,000 to $5,999.....	10.8	11.8	3.5	14.3	12.4	14.2	15.4	11.5	10.7	15.4	15.2	8.7	15.3	9.2	12.0	5.8
$6,000 to $6,999.....	6.8	7.3	2.4	10.8	4.9	8.3	8.3	12.5	6.8	9.0	8.0	4.7	8.5	6.7	10.4	4.6
$7,000 to $9,999.....	7.5	8.2	3.4	3.1	8.3	9.9	7.9	13.0	7.7	10.1	6.2	4.7	10.2	9.9	10.2	4.2
$10,000 to $14,999.....	2.4	2.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.4	2.6	3.0	3.0	7.5	2.7	0.7	8.5	4.9	3.2	0.9
$15,000 and over.....	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.2	2.0	2.4	3.7	0.4	0.7	3.4	3.9	...	0.3
Median income.....	$3,709	$3,927	$1,955	$4,142	$3,852	$4,242	$4,171	$4,490	$3,780	$4,662	$4,019	$2,545	$4,464	$4,119	$4,355	$2,060

Table 12.--TOTAL INCOME, 1944-1951: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS IN HOUSEHOLDS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL

(Figures are limited to families and individuals in households only in order to facilitate historical comparison. The small number of families and individuals residing in hotels, lodginghouses, and similar places are therefore excluded. See paragraph on earlier income publications and on definition of dwelling unit and household)

Total money income	Families and unrelated individuals								Families								Unrelated individuals							
	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
UNITED STATES																								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500	7.8	9.4	9.4	7.9	8.4	(1)	10.0	11.9	4.4	5.8	5.9	4.8	4.3	(1)	5.8	7.5	25.5	28.1	27.1	26.0	31.0	(1)	34.2	31.6
$500 to $999	7.4	8.4	9.1	8.3	8.4	(1)	9.5	11.3	4.8	5.7	6.2	5.8	6.4	(1)	7.7	9.5	21.2	22.2	23.6	22.9	19.7	(1)	19.7	19.2
$1,000 to $1,499	5.9	6.9	7.9	8.0	8.7	(1)	9.1	11.5	5.3	6.2	7.2	7.1	7.8	(1)	8.4	10.2	9.0	10.5	11.0	13.0	13.4	(1)	13.6	17.3
$1,500 to $1,999	6.5	7.3	7.9	7.8	9.0	(1)	12.0	10.6	6.1	7.0	7.6	7.4	8.8	(1)	12.1	10.4	9.0	9.0	9.5	10.0	10.5	(1)	11.6	11.3
$2,000 to $2,499	7.9	9.0	10.2	10.2	11.0	(1)	12.4	11.2	7.6	9.0	10.2	10.4	11.3	(1)	13.0	11.7	9.4	9.3	9.9	9.4	9.3	(1)	8.9	9.1
$2,500 to $2,999	7.6	8.5	9.8	9.6	9.9	(1)	11.5	9.5	7.8	8.9	10.4	10.1	10.7	(1)	12.5	10.6	6.6	6.3	6.9	6.1	5.5	(1)	5.5	4.6
$3,000 to $3,499	9.5	10.7	10.1	10.7	10.1	(1)	9.3	9.4	9.9	11.6	11.2	11.6	11.4	(1)	10.3	11.0	7.3	5.7	4.5	5.5	3.3	(1)	3.4	2.6
$3,500 to $3,999	9.0	8.1	7.8	8.1	7.5	(1)	6.0	6.7	9.8	9.0	8.8	9.1	8.3	(1)	7.0	7.9	4.6	3.5	2.8	2.4	2.7	(1)	0.6	1.5
$4,000 to $4,499	8.1	6.9	5.9	6.7	6.0	(1)	5.0	4.2	9.2	7.9	6.8	7.6	6.9	(1)	5.8	5.0	2.6	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.1	(1)	0.3	0.9
$4,500 to $4,999	5.7	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.2	(1)	3.4	3.7	6.4	5.7	5.3	5.4	4.8	(1)	3.9	4.3	1.5	1.1	0.4	1.1	0.8	(1)	0.7	0.7
$5,000 to $5,999	9.3	7.7	6.8	7.1	6.7	(1)	5.3	4.1	10.8	9.0	7.8	8.1	7.7	(1)	6.1	5.0	1.8	1.0	1.4	0.8	0.9	(1)	0.3	0.4
$6,000 to $9,999	12.3	9.3	8.3	8.5	7.7	(1)	5.3	4.2	14.4	11.0	9.8	9.8	8.9	(1)	6.1	5.1	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8	(1)	0.8	0.5
$10,000 and over	3.1	2.8	2.3	2.5	2.5	(1)	1.3	1.6	3.6	3.2	2.6	2.8	2.7	(1)	1.4	1.8	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.0	(1)	0.3	0.4
Median income	$3,368	$3,025	$2,783	$2,909	$2,727	(1)	$2,379	$2,209	$3,714	$3,319	$3,107	$3,190	$3,033	(1)	$2,621	$2,533	$1,180	$992	$984	$1,042	$983	(1)	$899	$979
URBAN AND RURAL NONFARM																								
Median income	$3,546	$3,188	$2,989	$3,101	$2,900	$2,659	$2,595	$2,410	$3,913	$3,497	$3,324	$3,391	$3,207	$2,981	$2,857	$2,794	$1,285	$1,079	$1,042	$1,148	$1,077	$1,105	$976	$1,057
RURAL FARM																								
Median income	$1,953	$1,790	$1,462	$1,861	$1,781	(1)	$1,291	$1,157	$2,131	$1,970	$1,587	$2,034	$1,958	(1)	$1,410	$1,272	$733	$532	$500	$533	$582	(1)	$401	$461

[1] Comparable figures not available.

Table 13.--WAGE OR SALARY INCOME, 1939-1951: DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMARY FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS WITH WAGE OR SALARY INCOME, BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME AND RECEIPT OF NONWAGE INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES, URBAN AND RURAL

Wage or salary income and receipt of nonwage income	Primary families and individuals								Primary families								Primary individuals							
	1951	1950	1949	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939	1951	1950	1949	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939	1951	1950	1949	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939
UNITED STATES																								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
$1 to $499	5.9	7.9	7.0	6.1	(1)	10.2	9.8	20.2	5.0	7.1	6.5	5.3	(1)	9.3	8.8	18.9	16.2	18.4	13.3	19.1	(1)	22.9	19.1	38.1
$500 to $999	4.7	5.7	5.7	6.4	(1)	8.1	9.4	21.0	4.1	5.1	5.2	5.7	(1)	7.5	8.4	20.6	11.4	13.5	12.8	17.0	(1)	16.7	18.0	27.6
$1,000 to $1,499	4.5	6.0	7.2	8.1	(1)	9.6	10.6	19.0	4.1	5.5	6.8	7.5	(1)	9.3	9.5	19.2	8.8	12.3	12.5	16.3	(1)	14.3	20.9	16.2
$1,500 to $1,999	6.1	7.2	8.6	9.5	(1)	11.8	10.8	15.3	5.8	6.7	8.0	9.3	(1)	11.4	10.3	15.7	10.2	13.0	15.8	12.6	(1)	16.7	15.4	9.0
$2,000 to $2,499	8.8	9.9	11.3	12.1	(1)	13.2	12.5	9.8	8.2	9.8	10.9	12.0	(1)	13.1	12.6	10.2	15.8	12.1	16.4	13.1	(1)	14.6	11.5	4.2
$2,500 to $2,999	8.8	9.4	11.0	10.9	(1)	12.0	11.2	5.2	8.7	9.5	11.0	11.2	(1)	12.3	11.6	5.4	10.5	8.5	11.7	7.6	(1)	7.0	7.7	1.7
$3,000 to $4,999	36.1	34.8	32.3	31.9	(1)	26.3	27.7	7.2	37.2	36.1	33.7	33.3	(1)	27.7	30.0	7.6	23.8	19.9	14.7	10.8	(1)	6.5	6.4	2.3
$5,000 and over	25.1	18.9	16.8	14.9	(1)	8.8	8.0	2.3	27.0	20.3	17.9	15.7	(1)	9.3	8.8	2.4	3.3	2.4	2.8	3.4	(1)	1.2	1.0	0.9
Median wage or salary income	$3,515	$3,216	$2,959	$2,854	(1)	$2,390	$2,378	$1,231	$3,660	$3,353	$3,096	$2,955	(1)	$2,476	$2,517	$1,272	$2,109	$1,725	$1,860	$1,424	(1)	$1,361	$1,308	$714
Without nonwage income	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
$1 to $499	2.1	3.3	2.4	2.5	(1)	4.0	3.9	16.4	1.2	2.2	1.6	1.4	(1)	2.4	2.6	14.8	11.2	13.5	10.1	16.3	(1)	20.9	14.7	36.1
$500 to $999	2.7	4.4	4.0	5.2	(1)	6.4	6.7	20.8	1.9	3.3	3.1	4.2	(1)	5.2	5.6	20.1	10.6	13.8	12.8	17.6	(1)	18.3	16.2	29.0
$1,000 to $1,499	3.5	5.5	6.0	6.9	(1)	8.6	9.8	20.5	2.8	4.6	5.2	6.1	(1)	7.9	8.0	20.7	10.0	13.6	13.3	17.8	(1)	15.4	23.9	17.4
$1,500 to $1,999	5.4	7.3	7.6	9.0	(1)	12.0	11.1	17.0	4.9	6.6	6.8	8.7	(1)	11.6	10.5	17.6	10.7	13.5	15.0	13.2	(1)	16.0	16.4	9.3
$2,000 to $2,499	9.0	10.6	11.7	12.6	(1)	15.3	13.5	10.8	8.1	10.2	11.1	12.6	(1)	15.4	13.6	11.3	17.6	13.9	17.7	13.2	(1)	14.2	12.8	4.1
$2,500 to $2,999	8.8	9.9	12.4	12.3	(1)	15.0	13.2	5.6	8.5	9.9	12.3	12.6	(1)	15.7	13.8	5.9	11.2	9.8	12.9	8.0	(1)	7.6	7.6	1.6
$3,000 to $4,999	40.8	38.7	37.1	35.9	(1)	29.3	32.6	7.3	42.4	40.8	39.1	37.9	(1)	31.5	35.6	7.7	25.6	20.2	15.9	11.1	(1)	6.3	7.6	1.9
$5,000 and over	27.7	20.3	18.9	15.6	(1)	9.6	9.2	1.7	30.3	22.5	20.5	16.5	(1)	10.4	10.2	1.8	3.2	1.7	2.3	2.8	(1)	1.3	0.9	0.5
Median wage or salary income	$3,792	$3,466	$3,323	$3,084	(1)	$2,627	$2,689	$1,312	$3,962	$3,650	$3,493	$3,232	(1)	$2,741	$2,851	$1,363	$2,215	$1,838	$1,959	$1,454	(1)	$1,351	$1,400	$739
URBAN AND RURAL NONFARM																								
Median wage or salary income:																								
Total	$3,664	$3,408	$3,162	$3,042	$2,680	(1)	$2,528	$1,345	$3,817	$3,547	$3,317	$3,184	$2,773	(1)	$2,697	$1,389	$2,137	$1,799	$1,902	$1,478	$1,429	(1)	$1,332	$764
Without nonwage income	$3,848	$3,545	$3,408	$3,191	$2,852	(1)	$2,769	$1,380	$4,021	$3,728	$3,577	$3,340	$2,956	(1)	$2,941	$1,431	$2,239	$1,890	$2,000	$1,491	$1,548	(1)	$1,412	$781
RURAL FARM																								
Median wage or salary income:																								
Total	$1,741	$1,313	$1,202	$1,510	(1)	(1)	$1,075	$453	$1,763	$1,355	$1,209	$1,546	(1)	(1)	$1,101	$461	...	(2)	(2)	$750	(1)	(1)	$383	$336
Without nonwage income	$2,575	$1,899	$1,933	$2,008	(1)	(1)	$1,599	$455	$2,673	$2,020	$2,000	$2,073	(1)	(1)	$1,647	$469	...	(2)	(2)	$850	(1)	(1)	$500	$331

[1] Comparable figures not available.
[2] Median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting with wage or salary income.

Table 14.--SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, 1939 AND 1951: MEDIAN WAGE OR SALARY INCOME OF PRIMARY FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS WITH WAGE OR SALARY INCOME, FOR THE UNITED STATES

Characteristics of primary family or individual	Total		Without nonwage income	
	1951	1939	1951	1939
COLOR				
White families and individuals	$3,673	$1,325	$3,935	$1,409
Nonwhite families and individuals	1,943	489	2,289	531
SEX, MARITAL STATUS, AND AGE OF HEAD				
Families with male head, married, wife present	$3,773	$1,319	$4,032	$1,399
Age of head:				
Under 35 years	3,665	1,171	3,828	1,221
35 to 44 years	4,111	1,449	4,289	1,527
45 to 54 years	3,957	1,481	4,281	1,627
55 years and over	3,303	1,243	3,755	1,399
Other families with male head	3,412	1,159	4,016	1,304
Families with female head	2,407	909	2,602	950
SIZE OF FAMILY				
2 persons	$3,365	$1,219	$3,644	$1,295
3 persons	3,694	1,297	3,996	1,384
4 persons	3,891	1,374	4,194	1,463
5 persons	3,952	1,322	4,226	1,418
6 or more persons	3,556	1,134	3,842	1,265
FAMILIES BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE				
None	$3,662	$1,368	$3,999	$1,469
1	3,662	1,315	3,954	1,385
2	3,761	1,288	4,055	1,369
3 or more	3,544	956	3,796	1,077
NONFARM FAMILIES BY NUMBER OF WAGE OR SALARY EARNERS				
1	$3,332	$1,195	$3,544	$1,213
2	4,547	1,680	4,651	1,708
3 or more	6,139	2,415	6,228	2,417

Table 15.--TYPE OF INCOME: DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY WAGE OR SALARY INCOME, NONFARM SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME, FARM SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME, AND INCOME OTHER THAN EARNINGS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1951

(Sum of the families and individuals with each type of income is greater than the total number of families (40,442,000) and individuals (9,015,000) because some families and individuals have more than one type of income and are counted more than once)

Income	Wage or salary income			Nonfarm self-employment income			Farm self-employment income			Income other than earnings		
	Families and unrelated individuals	Families	Unrelated individuals	Families and unrelated individuals	Families	Unrelated individuals	Families and unrelated individuals	Families	Unrelated individuals	Families and unrelated individuals	Families	Unrelated individuals
Number....thousands..	49,457	40,442	9,015	49,457	40,442	9,015	49,457	40,442	9,015	49,457	40,442	9,015
Number with specified type of income thousands..	36,761	31,533	5,228	4,887	4,468	419	4,331	4,141	190	14,154	11,023	3,131
Percent of those with specified type of income....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $500	6.1	5.0	13.9	21.1	19.8	35.5	34.2	33.9	(1)	40.7	41.3	38.1
$500 to $999	5.1	4.1	12.4	8.8	7.7	21.8	15.4	14.5	(1)	30.8	27.7	43.0
$1,000 to $1,499	4.8	4.2	8.7	6.5	6.6	5.5	10.7	10.9	(1)	12.9	13.9	8.7
$1,500 to $1,999	6.6	5.8	12.4	6.1	6.2	4.5	8.6	8.9	(1)	7.2	7.7	5.3
$2,000 to $2,499	9.0	8.3	14.0	7.8	7.7	9.1	8.4	8.5	(1)	3.2	3.5	2.0
$2,500 to $2,999	9.0	8.7	11.2	6.8	6.8	6.4	4.4	4.4	(1)	1.4	1.6	0.6
$3,000 to $3,499	10.8	10.8	10.7	7.6	7.8	4.5	4.7	4.9	(1)	1.0	1.1	0.6
$3,500 to $3,999	9.8	10.3	6.7	5.9	6.3	1.8	2.6	2.7	(1)	0.6	0.6	0.4
$4,000 to $4,499	8.9	9.5	4.2	4.7	4.9	2.7	2.3	2.3	(1)	0.7	0.9	0.3
$4,500 to $4,999	5.9	6.5	2.0	2.4	2.5	0.9	0.7	0.8	(1)	0.2	0.2	0.3
$5,000 to $5,999	10.0	11.0	2.3	6.2	6.3	4.5	1.8	1.8	(1)	0.4	0.5	0.3
$6,000 to $6,999	6.0	6.7	1.0	2.5	2.7	...	1.6	1.7	(1)	0.2	0.2	0.1
$7,000 to $9,999	6.2	7.0	0.5	4.8	5.1	1.8	1.9	1.9	(1)	0.4	0.4	0.4
$10,000 to $14,999	1.4	1.6	0.1	4.5	4.8	0.9	1.2	1.1	(1)	0.2	0.3	...
$15,000 and over	0.4	0.4	0.1	4.5	4.9	...	1.6	1.7	(1)	0.1	0.1	0.1
Median income of specified type for those with such income	$3,434	$3,650	$2,094	$2,488	$2,652	$833	$1,021	$1,075	(1)	$652	$657	$639

[1] Percent and median not shown where there were fewer than 100 cases in the sample reporting with specified type of income.