

CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

POPULATION ESTIMATES

FOR RELEASE

March 7, 1954

Washington 25, D. C.

Series P-25, No. 90

ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE: 1950 TO 1954

(The figures in this report supersede the corresponding estimates from 1950 to date published in Series P-25 including those in Nos. 65 and 88)

By January 1, 1954, the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas had increased by about 10 million since April 1, 1950, the date of the last census, according to estimates released today by Robert W. Burgess, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. At the beginning of this year the population numbered about 161,100,000, as compared with 151,132,000 on April 1950; a gain of 9,968,000, or 6.6 percent of the 1950 figure.

During 1953, the population had increased by about 2.7 million, or 1.7 percent. The growth in population has been remarkably stable for the past several years, ranging between 2.5 and 2.7 million a year, or at an average annual rate of about 1.7 percent. Of major significance is the continued high level of the number of births in this decade, reaching almost 4 million in 1953 alone, the greatest number to occur in any year to date. The year 1953 was the seventh in succession in which births exceeded $3\frac{1}{2}$ million. In comparison, births during 1940 numbered about 2.6 million.

Mortality during 1953 continued at the record low 1952 level of 9.6 deaths per 1,000 population, in spite of a rise in deaths from respiratory diseases early in the year and an unusually severe hot spell in late summer. There were about $1\frac{1}{2}$ million deaths in 1953. Natural increase (excess of births over

deaths) reached a new absolute high of about 2,438,000, or at a rate of 15.3 per 1,000 population. This rate is the highest since 1947.

Net civilian immigration to the United States, on the other hand, appears to have dropped somewhat these past two years. During 1952 and 1953, net civilian immigration was estimated at a rate of about 1.5 per 1,000 population compared with an estimated average rate of 2.4 for 1950 and 1951. On the whole, however, since the beginning of this decade, net civilian immigration has contributed about 11 percent to the net gain in our population, or about the same as in the 1940-50 decade.

Estimates of components of population change, i.e., births, deaths, and net civilian immigration, for the population including Armed Forces overseas, for each year since 1940 are given in table A.

As indicated earlier, the over-all growth in population since April 1950 was about 10 million. Thus, in less than four years the increase in population has been larger than the gain during the entire decade of the 1930's, and more than half as large as the record growth of 19.3 million during the 10-year period from 1940 to 1950. The average annual increase was about the same, however, as that in the four years from July 1946 to July 1950 shortly after World War II.

Table A.--ESTIMATES OF THE COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE, FOR THE POPULATION INCLUDING ARMED FORCES OVERSEAS: 1940 TO 1953

(In thousands)

Year	Net gain during year		Births ¹	Deaths ²	Net civilian immigration ³	Overseas admissions to less discharges from Armed Forces ⁴
	Number	Percent				
1953.....	2,677	1.69	3,967	1,529	⁵ 240	-1
1952.....	2,633	1.69	3,889	1,502	246	(⁶)
1951.....	2,718	1.78	3,826	1,497	379	+10
1950.....	2,520	1.67	3,627	1,464	350	+7
1949.....	2,551	1.72	3,649	1,448	354	-3
1948.....	2,530	1.74	3,637	1,449	329	+13
1947.....	2,638	1.85	3,817	1,451	275	-3
1946.....	2,145	1.52	3,411	1,404	171	-33
1945.....	1,452	1.04	2,858	1,545	169	-30
1944.....	1,581	1.15	2,939	1,577	208	+11
1943.....	1,791	1.32	3,104	1,498	160	+25
1942.....	1,704	1.27	2,989	1,402	96	+21
1941.....	1,367	1.03	2,703	1,408	63	+9
1940.....	1,210	0.92	2,559	1,428	73	+6

¹ Adjusted for underregistration.

² Adjusted for underregistration of infant deaths and includes deaths to Armed Forces overseas.

³ Figures for 1940 to 1950 include slight adjustments for "error of closure"; see Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 71, for detailed explanation.

⁴ Change due to admissions into and discharges from the U. S. Armed Forces, mostly on the part of residents of U. S. Territories and possessions. Estimated from fragmentary data.

⁵ Includes projections based on data for period ending June 30, 1953.

⁶ Less than 500.

Table 1 presents figures on the components of population change, for the population including Armed Forces overseas, for each calendar quarter from January 1, 1950 to 1954. Estimates of the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas and of the civilian population for each month April 1, 1950, to January 1, 1954, and estimates of the total population residing in continental United States (excluding Armed Forces overseas) for each month from April 1, 1950, to August 1, 1953, are shown in table 2.

The estimates presented in tables 1 and 2 are based on the total population count from the 1950 Census; statistics and estimates of births and deaths provided by the National Office of Vital Statistics, United States Public Health Service; statistics on immigration and emigration provided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice; and data on the Armed Forces provided by the Department of Defense.

The figures on births and deaths have been adjusted for incomplete registration. Monthly figures on nonimmigrant and nonmigrant aliens and on citizens travelling abroad have been adjusted for seasonal variation. In addition, figures on immigration for recent years were supplemented by data on travel between continental United States and insular possessions provided by the local governments of Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Data on such movements are not completely reported to the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Statistics on net civilian immigration were available up through the period ending June 30, 1953. Data for July to December 1953 were estimated on the basis of past trends in these figures.

Estimates of the population for 1940 to 1950 comparable to the figures shown here are given in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 71.

Table 1.--ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES INCLUDING ARMED FORCES OVERSEAS, FOR EACH CALENDAR QUARTER, JANUARY 1, 1950 TO 1954, WITH COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

(Each estimate has been independently rounded to the nearest thousand from figures computed to the last digit; hence, sum of parts may differ slightly from totals shown. Percentages are based on unrounded numbers)

Date	Population	Change since preceding date					Overseas admissions to less discharges from Armed Forces ³
		Net change		Births ¹	Deaths ²	Net civilian immigration	
		Number	Percent				
January 1, 1954.....	161,100,000	692,000	0.43	1,004,000	377,000	466,000	-1,000
October 1, 1953.....	160,408,000	780,000	0.49	1,074,000	360,000	466,000	(⁵)
July 1, 1953.....	159,629,000	612,000	0.38	926,000	373,000	59,000	(⁵)
April 1, 1953.....	159,017,000	593,000	0.37	964,000	419,000	49,000	(⁵)
January 1, 1953.....	158,423,000	656,000	0.42	984,000	382,000	55,000	-1,000
October 1, 1952.....	157,767,000	745,000	0.47	1,053,000	349,000	41,000	(⁵)
July 1, 1952.....	157,022,000	601,000	0.38	910,000	375,000	66,000	(⁵)
April 1, 1952.....	156,420,000	630,000	0.40	942,000	396,000	83,000	+2,000
January 1, 1952.....	155,790,000	683,000	0.44	964,000	383,000	101,000	+1,000
October 1, 1951.....	155,107,000	747,000	0.48	1,011,000	347,000	81,000	+1,000
July 1, 1951.....	154,360,000	670,000	0.44	934,000	367,000	100,000	+3,000
April 1, 1951.....	153,691,000	619,000	0.40	917,000	400,000	97,000	+5,000
January 1, 1951.....	153,072,000	656,000	0.43	925,000	374,000	100,000	+4,000
October 1, 1950.....	152,416,000	733,000	0.48	977,000	339,000	91,000	+5,000
July 1, 1950.....	151,683,000	551,000	0.36	846,000	364,000	69,000	(⁵)
April 1, 1950.....	151,132,000	580,000	0.39	878,000	386,000	89,000	-1,000
January 1, 1950.....	150,592,000
Total change:							
April 1, 1950, to Jan. 1, 1954.....	...	9,968,000	6.60	14,431,000	5,606,000	1,124,000	+18,000
January 1, 1950, to 1954.....	...	10,548,000	7.01	15,309,000	5,992,000	1,214,000	+17,000

¹ Adjusted for underregistration.
² Deaths occurring in the United States, adjusted for underregistration, plus estimated deaths occurring to Armed Forces overseas.
³ Change due to admission into and discharges from U. S. Armed Forces, mostly on the part of residents of U. S. Territories and possessions. Estimated from fragmentary data.
⁴ Net civilian immigration for July to December 1953 was projected on the basis of figures for the period ending June 30, 1953.
⁵ Fewer than 500.

Table 2.--ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES FOR EACH MONTH: APRIL 1, 1950, TO JANUARY 1, 1954

(These estimates supersede the corresponding estimates for these dates published in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 65 and 88)

Month and year	Total population including Armed Forces overseas	Total population residing in continental United States (excluding Armed Forces overseas)	Civilian population	Month and year	Total population including Armed Forces overseas	Total population residing in continental United States (excluding Armed Forces overseas)	Civilian population
1954				1952--Con.			
January 1.....	161,100,000	(¹)	157,648,000	March 1.....	156,211,000	155,003,000	152,533,000
				February 1.....	156,012,000	154,814,000	152,417,000
1953				January 1.....	155,790,000	154,649,000	152,292,000
December 1.....	160,873,000	(¹)	157,381,000	1951			
November 1.....	160,654,000	(¹)	157,137,000	December 1.....	155,574,000	154,429,000	152,081,000
October 1.....	160,408,000	(¹)	156,864,000	November 1.....	155,355,000	154,162,000	151,906,000
September 1.....	160,154,000	(¹)	156,572,000	October 1.....	155,107,000	153,996,000	151,701,000
August 1.....	159,889,000	158,511,000	156,296,000	September 1.....	154,856,000	153,823,000	151,480,000
July 1.....	159,629,000	158,306,000	156,039,000	August 1.....	154,604,000	153,590,000	151,261,000
June 1.....	159,410,000	158,119,000	155,834,000	July 1.....	154,360,000	153,384,000	151,082,000
May 1.....	159,202,000	157,898,000	155,643,000	June 1.....	154,126,000	153,187,000	150,927,000
April 1.....	159,017,000	157,721,000	155,463,000	May 1.....	153,897,000	152,997,000	150,796,000
March 1.....	158,804,000	157,471,000	155,258,000	April 1.....	153,691,000	152,832,000	150,700,000
February 1.....	158,623,000	157,315,000	155,074,000	March 1.....	153,480,000	152,690,000	150,658,000
January 1.....	158,423,000	157,166,000	154,880,000	February 1.....	153,288,000	152,515,000	150,640,000
				January 1.....	153,072,000	152,361,000	150,689,000
1952				1950			
December 1.....	158,216,000	156,926,000	154,646,000	December 1.....	152,860,000	152,153,000	150,573,000
November 1.....	158,002,000	156,707,000	154,408,000	November 1.....	152,647,000	151,986,000	150,505,000
October 1.....	157,767,000	156,453,000	154,148,000	October 1.....	152,416,000	151,793,000	150,503,000
September 1.....	157,516,000	156,243,000	153,862,000	September 1.....	152,174,000	151,600,000	150,525,000
August 1.....	157,259,000	155,973,000	153,587,000	August 1.....	151,921,000	151,443,000	150,402,000
July 1.....	157,022,000	155,755,000	153,360,000	July 1.....	151,683,000	151,234,000	150,202,000
June 1.....	156,815,000	155,587,000	153,129,000	June 1.....	151,476,000	151,025,000	149,995,000
May 1.....	156,617,000	155,377,000	152,905,000	May 1.....	151,292,000	150,846,000	149,803,000
April 1.....	156,420,000	155,201,000	152,710,000	April 1.....	² 151,132,000	³ 150,697,361	⁴ 149,634,000

¹ Data not shown for the most recent months because of security considerations.
² 1950 Census count (150,697,361) plus estimate of Armed Forces overseas.
³ 1950 Census count.
⁴ 1950 Census count minus estimate of Armed Forces in continental United States.