

# CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

## POPULATION ESTIMATES

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### ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE: 1950 TO 1955

(The figures in this report supersede the corresponding estimates from 1952 to date published in Series P-25, including those in Nos. 90 and 109)

By January 1, 1955, the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas was almost 164 million, according to estimates by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. At the beginning of this year, the population numbered about 163,930,000 as compared with 151,182,000 on April 1, 1950, the date of the last census. Thus, in a span of less than five years, the population has increased by about 12.8 million, or 8.5 percent of the 1950 figure.

During 1954, the population increased by a record 2,823,000, the largest annual increase in our history. On the whole, the growth in population has been remarkably stable at a relatively high level for the past several years, ranging between 2.5 and 2.8 million, or at an average annual rate of about 1.7 percent. The rate of growth during 1954 was about 1.8 percent, however. In comparison, the average annual rate of growth during the 1940-50 decade was about 1.4 percent.

Of major significance is the continued high level of the number of births in this decade, numbering over 4 million in 1954 alone, the first time in our history that births have gone over the 4 million mark in any one year. The year 1954 was the eighth in succession in which births exceeded 3½ million.

Mortality during 1954 declined to about 9.2 deaths per 1,000 of the population. This

rate compares with the previous minimum of 9.6 registered in 1952 and 1953. There were slightly fewer than 1½ million deaths in 1954. As a result, natural increase (excess of births over deaths) reached a new absolute high of about 2.6 million, or at an annual rate of 16.0 per 1,000 of the population.

Net civilian immigration to the United States during 1954 was estimated at a rate of about 1.5 per 1,000 of the population, or approximately the same rate as for 1952 and 1953. This rate is substantially lower than the estimated average rate of 2.4 for 1950 and 1951. Since the beginning of this decade, net civilian immigration has contributed about 1½ million, or 11 percent to the net gain in our population, representing approximately the same proportion as in the 1940-50 decade.

As indicated earlier, the over-all growth in population in the first half of this decade was about 13.4 million. Thus, in these five years the increase in population has been half as large again as the gain during the entire decade of the 1930's and more than two-thirds as large as the record growth of 19.3 million during the 10-year period from 1940 to 1950.

Table 1 presents figures on the components of population change, for the population including Armed Forces overseas, for each year 1950 to 1954 and for each calendar quarter from January 1, 1950, to January 1, 1955.

Estimates of the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas, the population residing in continental United States (excluding Armed Forces overseas), and of the civilian population for each month, January 1, 1952 to 1955, and for selected months back to April 1, 1950, 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 nonemigrant

aliens and on citizens traveling 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, 1954. Data for July to December 1954 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. Comparable figures for each month for 1950 and 1951 are given in Series P-25, No. 90.

Table 1.--ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES INCLUDING ARMED FORCES OVERSEAS, JANUARY 1, 1950 TO 1955, WITH COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

(These estimates supersede the corresponding estimates from 1952 to date published in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 90. 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				
		Net change <sup>1</sup>		Births <sup>2</sup>	Deaths <sup>3</sup>	Net civilian immigration
		Number	Percent			
BY CALENDAR YEARS						
January 1, 1955.....	163,930,000	2,823,000	1.75	4,073,000	1,485,000	236,000
January 1, 1954.....	161,107,000	2,672,000	1.69	3,967,000	1,532,000	238,000
January 1, 1953.....	158,434,000	2,644,000	1.70	3,912,000	1,508,000	240,000
January 1, 1952.....	155,790,000	2,718,000	1.78	3,826,000	1,497,000	379,000
January 1, 1951.....	153,072,000	2,520,000	1.67	3,627,000	1,464,000	350,000
January 1, 1950.....	150,552,000	...	...	...	...	...
BY CALENDAR QUARTERS						
January 1, 1955.....	163,930,000	720,000	0.44	1,043,000	383,000	460,000
October 1, 1954.....	163,210,000	801,000	0.49	1,093,000	352,000	460,000
July 1, 1954.....	162,409,000	647,000	0.40	957,000	367,000	58,000
April 1, 1954.....	161,762,000	655,000	0.41	980,000	383,000	58,000
January 1, 1954.....	161,107,000	694,000	0.43	1,004,000	377,000	69,000
October 1, 1953.....	160,412,000	769,000	0.48	1,074,000	360,000	56,000
July 1, 1953.....	159,643,000	619,000	0.39	926,000	374,000	67,000
April 1, 1953.....	159,024,000	590,000	0.37	964,000	420,000	47,000
January 1, 1953.....	158,434,000	659,000	0.42	991,000	383,000	52,000
October 1, 1952.....	157,775,000	748,000	0.48	1,057,000	348,000	39,000
July 1, 1952.....	157,028,000	607,000	0.39	919,000	377,000	66,000
April 1, 1952.....	156,421,000	631,000	0.40	945,000	399,000	83,000
January 1, 1952.....	155,790,000	683,000	0.44	964,000	383,000	101,000
October 1, 1951.....	155,107,000	747,000	0.48	1,011,000	347,000	81,000
July 1, 1951.....	154,360,000	670,000	0.44	934,000	367,000	100,000
April 1, 1951.....	153,691,000	619,000	0.40	917,000	400,000	97,000
January 1, 1951.....	153,072,000	656,000	0.43	925,000	374,000	100,000
October 1, 1950.....	152,416,000	733,000	0.48	977,000	339,000	91,000
July 1, 1950.....	151,683,000	551,000	0.36	846,000	364,000	69,000
April 1, 1950.....	151,132,000	580,000	0.39	878,000	386,000	89,000
January 1, 1950.....	150,552,000	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL CHANGE						
April 1, 1950, to Jan. 1, 1955	...	12,798,000	8.47	18,527,000	7,099,000	1,353,000
January 1, 1950, to 1955.....	...	13,378,000	8.89	19,405,000	7,485,000	1,442,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes change due to admissions into, and discharges from, Armed Forces overseas, mostly on the part of residents of United States Territories, possessions, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Figures are not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted for underregistration.

<sup>3</sup> Deaths occurring in the United States, adjusted for underregistration of infant deaths, plus estimated deaths occurring to Armed Forces overseas.

<sup>4</sup> Net civilian immigration for July to December 1954 was projected on the basis of figures for the period ending June 30, 1954.

Table 2.--ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY MONTHS: 1950 TO 1955

(These estimates supersede the corresponding estimates from 1952 to date published in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 90 and 109. Corresponding estimates for each month in 1950 and 1951 are given in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 90)

Date	Total population including Armed Forces overseas	Total population residing in United States excluding Armed Forces overseas	Civilian population	Date	Total population including Armed Forces overseas	Total population residing in United States excluding Armed Forces overseas	Civilian population
1955				1953--Con.			
January 1.....	163,930,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	160,727,000	March 1.....	158,812,000	157,478,000	155,266,000
				February 1.....	158,632,000	157,325,000	155,084,000
1954				January 1.....	158,434,000	157,177,000	154,891,000
December 1.....	163,699,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	160,439,000	1952			
November 1.....	163,465,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	160,180,000	December 1.....	158,222,000	156,932,000	154,652,000
October 1.....	163,210,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	159,902,000	November 1.....	158,008,000	156,713,000	154,414,000
September 1.....	162,945,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	159,627,000	October 1.....	157,775,000	156,461,000	154,157,000
August 1.....	162,667,000	161,474,000	159,336,000	September 1.....	157,525,000	156,251,000	153,870,000
July 1.....	162,409,000	161,183,000	159,078,000	August 1.....	157,271,000	155,985,000	153,598,000
June 1.....	162,184,000	160,952,000	158,843,000	July 1.....	157,028,000	155,761,000	153,366,000
May 1.....	161,966,000	160,707,000	158,611,000	June 1.....	156,819,000	155,592,000	153,133,000
April 1.....	161,762,000	160,490,000	158,390,000	May 1.....	156,616,000	155,376,000	152,904,000
March 1.....	161,543,000	160,238,000	158,153,000	April 1.....	156,421,000	155,201,000	152,711,000
February 1.....	161,335,000	160,015,000	157,923,000	March 1.....	156,209,000	155,001,000	152,531,000
January 1.....	161,107,000	159,817,000	157,671,000	February 1.....	156,007,000	154,809,000	152,411,000
				January 1.....	155,790,000	154,649,000	152,292,000
1953				1951			
December 1.....	160,879,000	159,544,000	157,387,000	July 1.....	154,360,000	153,384,000	151,082,000
November 1.....	160,658,000	159,300,000	157,141,000	January 1.....	153,072,000	152,361,000	150,689,000
October 1.....	160,412,000	159,040,000	156,868,000	1950			
September 1.....	160,162,000	158,789,000	156,579,000	July 1.....	151,683,000	151,234,000	150,202,000
August 1.....	159,899,000	158,522,000	156,307,000	April 1.....	<sup>2</sup> 151,132,000	<sup>3</sup> 150,697,361	<sup>4</sup> 149,634,000
July 1.....	159,643,000	158,320,000	156,053,000	January 1.....	150,552,000	150,085,000	148,980,000
June 1.....	159,421,000	158,130,000	155,845,000				
May 1.....	159,211,000	157,907,000	155,652,000				
April 1.....	159,024,000	157,728,000	155,471,000				

<sup>1</sup> Not available at time of publication.  
<sup>2</sup> 1950 Census count (150,697,361) plus estimate of Armed Forces overseas.  
<sup>3</sup> 1950 Census count.  
<sup>4</sup> 1950 Census count minus estimate of Armed Forces in continental United States.