

# CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

## POPULATION ESTIMATES

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### ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE: 1950 TO 1956

(The figures in this report supersede the corresponding estimates from 1953 to date published in Series P-25, including those in Nos. 111 and 135)

The population of the United States has increased by more than 16 million persons in the 6-year period since the last decennial census, according to estimates by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. On April 1, 1956, the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas numbered 167,440,000, compared with 151,132,000 on April 1, 1950. This represented an increase of 16,308,000, or 10.8 percent, and an increase of 2,823,000, or 1.7 percent, over the estimate for the corresponding month a year ago. Thus, the high rate of population growth that started in 1946, about one year after the end of World War II, has continued unabated for a decade.

The sustained high level of the annual number of births has been the primary factor in the continued rapid growth of the population. About 23½ million babies were born during the past six years, almost as many as the total number born during the entire decade of the 1930's. 1955 was the second year in succession in which the number of births exceeded 4 million; there were an estimated 4,091,000 babies born in 1955. In each of the last five years the number of births exceeded 3.8 million. In comparison, births in 1940 numbered only about 2.6 million.

In 1955, the population increased by about 2,810,000, or slightly less than the record

high gain of 2,841,000 recorded for 1954, but higher than in any other previous year. On the whole, annual population growth 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 rate of about 1.7 percent per year. The average annual rate of growth during the 1940's was about 1.4 percent.

The favorable mortality of 1954 generally continued through 1955. Mortality during 1955 was estimated at a rate of 9.3 deaths per 1,000 of the population including Armed Forces overseas, only a trifle higher than the record low mortality rate of 9.1 in 1954. Total deaths during 1955 exceeded 1½ million. As a result, the natural increase (excess of births over deaths) during 1955, estimated at 2,559,000 was slightly lower than that in 1954 in spite of the greater number of births in 1955. The rate of natural increase in 1955 was estimated at 15.5 per 1,000 of the population, compared with a rate of 16.0 in 1954.

Net civilian immigration to the United States was estimated at a rate of about 1.5 per 1,000 of the population for 1955, or approximately at the same rate as for the past three years but somewhat below the average rate of 2.4 for 1950 and 1951. Since the beginning of this decade, net civilian immigration has

contributed about 1.7 million, or about 10 percent of the net gain in our population, representing approximately the same proportion as in the 1940-50 decade.

Table A shows crude birth and death rates, rates of natural increase, and net civilian immigration per 1,000 of the population for each postcensal year.

Table A.--BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, RATES OF NATURAL INCREASE, AND NET IMMIGRATION PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1950 TO 1955

(Rates are based on midperiod estimates of total population including Armed Forces overseas. Vital rates have been adjusted for underregistration and for mortality of Armed Forces abroad)

Calendar year	Rate of natural increase	Birth rate	Death rate	Net civilian immigration per 1,000 population
1955.....	15.5	24.8	9.3	1.5
1954.....	16.0	25.1	9.1	1.5
1953.....	15.3	24.8	9.6	1.5
1952.....	15.3	24.9	9.6	1.5
1951.....	15.1	24.8	9.7	2.5
1950.....	14.3	23.9	9.7	2.3
Annual average, 1950 to 1955..	15.3	24.7	9.5	1.8

Table 1 presents figures on the components of population change, for the population including Armed Forces overseas, for each year 1950 to 1955, and for each calendar quarter from January 1, 1950, to April 1, 1956. 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, April 1, 1950 to 1956, 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, U. S. 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, and, in the case of deaths, for military personnel stationed abroad. 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 Hawaii and Puerto Rico provided by the local governments. 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, 1955. Data for July 1955 to April 1956 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, 1950 TO 1956, WITH COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

(These estimates supersede the corresponding estimates from 1953 to date published in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 111 and 135. 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					Increase in population since April 1, 1950	
		Net change <sup>1</sup>		Births <sup>2</sup>	Deaths <sup>3</sup>	Net civilian immigration	Number	Per-cent
		Number	Per-cent					
BY CALENDAR YEARS								
January 1, 1956.....	166,766,000	2,810,000	1.71	4,091,000	1,531,000	254,000	15,634,000	10.3
January 1, 1955.....	163,956,000	2,841,000	1.76	4,078,000	1,485,000	248,000	12,824,000	8.5
January 1, 1954.....	161,115,000	2,681,000	1.69	3,965,000	1,527,000	239,000	9,982,000	6.6
January 1, 1953.....	158,434,000	2,644,000	1.70	3,912,000	1,508,000	240,000	7,302,000	4.8
January 1, 1952.....	155,790,000	2,718,000	1.78	3,826,000	1,497,000	379,000	4,658,000	3.1
January 1, 1951.....	153,072,000	2,520,000	1.67	3,627,000	1,464,000	350,000	1,940,000	1.3
January 1, 1950.....	150,552,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total change, January 1, 1950 to 1956.....	...	16,214,000	10.8	23,499,000	9,012,000	1,711,000	...	...
BY CALENDAR QUARTERS								
April 1, 1956.....	167,440,000	674,000	0.40	1,022,000	411,000	<sup>4</sup> 63,000	16,308,000	10.8
January 1, 1956.....	166,766,000	710,000	0.43	1,040,000	392,000	<sup>4</sup> 63,000	15,634,000	10.3
October 1, 1955.....	166,056,000	786,000	0.48	1,096,000	373,000	<sup>4</sup> 63,000	14,924,000	9.9
July 1, 1955.....	165,271,000	653,000	0.40	962,000	369,000	63,000	14,138,000	9.4
April 1, 1955.....	164,617,000	661,000	0.40	993,000	397,000	66,000	13,485,000	8.9
January 1, 1955.....	163,956,000	730,000	0.45	1,044,000	384,000	71,000	12,824,000	8.5
October 1, 1954.....	163,226,000	809,000	0.50	1,097,000	351,000	63,000	12,094,000	8.0
July 1, 1954.....	162,417,000	656,000	0.41	965,000	368,000	59,000	11,285,000	7.5
April 1, 1954.....	161,761,000	646,000	0.40	972,000	382,000	56,000	10,629,000	7.0
January 1, 1954.....	161,115,000	698,000	0.43	1,010,000	379,000	67,000	9,982,000	6.6
October 1, 1953.....	160,417,000	781,000	0.49	1,075,000	354,000	59,000	9,285,000	6.1
July 1, 1953.....	159,636,000	624,000	0.39	931,000	374,000	67,000	8,504,000	5.6
April 1, 1953.....	159,012,000	578,000	0.36	950,000	420,000	47,000	7,879,000	5.2
January 1, 1953.....	158,434,000	659,000	0.42	991,000	383,000	52,000	7,302,000	4.8
October 1, 1952.....	157,775,000	748,000	0.48	1,057,000	348,000	39,000	6,643,000	4.4
July 1, 1952.....	157,028,000	607,000	0.39	919,000	377,000	66,000	5,895,000	3.9
April 1, 1952.....	156,421,000	631,000	0.40	945,000	399,000	83,000	5,288,000	3.5
January 1, 1952.....	155,790,000	683,000	0.44	964,000	383,000	101,000	4,658,000	3.1
October 1, 1951.....	155,107,000	747,000	0.48	1,011,000	347,000	81,000	3,975,000	2.6
July 1, 1951.....	154,360,000	670,000	0.44	934,000	367,000	100,000	3,228,000	2.1
April 1, 1951.....	153,691,000	619,000	0.40	917,000	400,000	97,000	2,558,000	1.7
January 1, 1951.....	153,072,000	656,000	0.43	925,000	374,000	100,000	1,940,000	1.3
October 1, 1950.....	152,416,000	733,000	0.48	977,000	339,000	91,000	1,284,000	0.8
July 1, 1950.....	151,683,000	551,000	0.36	846,000	364,000	69,000	551,000	0.4
April 1, 1950.....	151,132,000	580,000	0.39	878,000	386,000	89,000	...	...
January 1, 1950.....	150,552,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total change:								
January 1950 to April 1956.....	...	16,888,000	11.2	24,521,000	9,422,000	1,774,000	...	...
April 1950 to 1956.....	...	16,308,000	10.8	23,643,000	9,036,000	1,684,000	...	...

<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 1955 to April 1956 was projected on the basis of figures for the period ending June 30, 1955.

Table 2.--ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY MONTHS: 1950 TO 1956

(These estimates supersede the corresponding estimates from 1953 to date published in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, including those in Nos. 111 and 135)

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
1956				1953--Con.			
April 1.....	167,440,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	164,561,000	June 1.....	159,408,000	158,117,000	155,833,000
March 1.....	167,211,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	164,318,000	May 1.....	159,199,000	157,895,000	155,640,000
February 1.....	166,995,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	164,089,000	April 1.....	159,012,000	157,716,000	155,459,000
January 1.....	166,766,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	163,850,000	March 1.....	158,807,000	157,474,000	155,261,000
				February 1.....	158,629,000	157,322,000	155,081,000
				January 1.....	158,434,000	157,177,000	154,891,000
1955				1952			
December 1.....	166,540,000	( <sup>1</sup> )	163,594,000	December 1.....	158,222,000	156,932,000	154,652,000
November 1.....	166,307,000	165,381,000	163,355,000	November 1.....	158,008,000	156,713,000	154,414,000
October 1.....	166,056,000	165,130,000	163,096,000	October 1.....	157,775,000	156,461,000	154,157,000
September 1.....	165,787,000	164,851,000	162,814,000	September 1.....	157,525,000	156,251,000	153,870,000
August 1.....	165,519,000	164,558,000	162,550,000	August 1.....	157,271,000	155,985,000	153,598,000
July 1.....	165,271,000	164,303,000	162,307,000	July 1.....	157,028,000	155,761,000	153,366,000
June 1.....	165,046,000	164,084,000	162,049,000	June 1.....	156,819,000	155,592,000	153,133,000
May 1.....	164,821,000	163,823,000	161,756,000	May 1.....	156,616,000	155,376,000	152,904,000
April 1.....	164,617,000	163,599,000	161,484,000	April 1.....	156,421,000	155,201,000	152,711,000
March 1.....	164,388,000	163,322,000	161,201,000	March 1.....	156,209,000	155,001,000	152,531,000
February 1.....	164,186,000	163,118,000	160,955,000	February 1.....	156,007,000	154,809,000	152,411,000
January 1.....	163,956,000	162,927,000	160,748,000	January 1.....	155,790,000	154,649,000	152,292,000
1954				1951			
December 1.....	163,721,000	162,662,000	160,460,000	December 1.....	155,574,000	154,429,000	152,081,000
November 1.....	163,483,000	162,382,000	160,197,000	November 1.....	155,355,000	154,162,000	151,806,000
October 1.....	163,226,000	162,114,000	159,918,000	October 1.....	155,107,000	153,996,000	151,701,000
September 1.....	162,954,000	161,810,000	159,636,000	September 1.....	154,856,000	153,823,000	151,480,000
August 1.....	162,678,000	161,486,000	159,347,000	August 1.....	154,604,000	153,590,000	151,261,000
July 1.....	162,417,000	161,191,000	159,086,000	July 1.....	154,360,000	153,384,000	151,082,000
June 1.....	162,188,000	160,956,000	158,847,000	June 1.....	154,126,000	153,187,000	150,927,000
May 1.....	161,969,000	160,710,000	158,613,000	May 1.....	153,897,000	152,997,000	150,796,000
April 1.....	161,761,000	160,489,000	158,389,000	April 1.....	153,691,000	152,832,000	150,700,000
March 1.....	161,540,000	160,235,000	158,150,000	March 1.....	153,480,000	152,690,000	150,658,000
February 1.....	161,332,000	160,012,000	157,920,000	February 1.....	153,288,000	152,515,000	150,640,000
January 1.....	161,115,000	159,825,000	157,679,000	January 1.....	153,072,000	152,361,000	150,689,000
1953				1950			
December 1.....	160,883,000	159,548,000	157,391,000	December 1.....	152,860,000	152,153,000	150,573,000
November 1.....	160,658,000	159,300,000	157,141,000	November 1.....	152,647,000	151,986,000	150,505,000
October 1.....	160,417,000	159,045,000	156,873,000	October 1.....	152,416,000	151,793,000	150,503,000
September 1.....	160,161,000	158,788,000	156,579,000	September 1.....	152,174,000	151,600,000	150,525,000
August 1.....	159,896,000	158,519,000	156,304,000	August 1.....	151,921,000	151,443,000	150,402,000
July 1.....	159,636,000	158,313,000	156,046,000	July 1.....	151,683,000	151,234,000	150,202,000
				June 1.....	151,477,000	151,025,000	149,995,000
				May 1.....	151,292,000	150,846,000	149,803,000
				April 1.....	<sup>2</sup> 151,132,000	<sup>3</sup> 150,697,361	<sup>4</sup> 149,634,000

<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.