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ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE: 1940 TO 1962

The average annual rate of population growth in the United States has declined slightly since 1956 because of a lowering of the birth rate, but has remained virtually steady at 1.63 percent during the last two years. This trend is reflected in estimates of the Nation's population and components of population change for 1940 to 1961 (table 1). The rate in 1956 was 1.83 percent, one of the two peaks since World War II; the other was 1947 with a rate of 1.85 percent. In contrast, population growth in the two years immediately preceding the country's participation in World War II (1940-1941) averaged only about 1 percent per year.

During 1961, the population including Armed Forces abroad increased by 2,978,000 compared with the estimate for 1960 of 2,926,000. The peak numerical postwar gain in 1956 was an estimated 3,058,000. In 1940, the estimated numerical increase was only 1,221,000.

There were 4,329,000 births in 1961, representing a rate of 23.6 per 1,000 of the population (table A). This rate compares with a postwar peak of 26.5 in 1947. After a drop to 23.9 in 1950 the birth rate increased to 25.2 in 1954 and again in 1957 but has since declined each year. The average rate was 24.7 for the past 15 years, compared with a rate of 19.4 in 1940 and 20.5 in 1945.

Deaths numbered 1,702,000 in 1961, about the same as in 1960, but this number was larger than in any other year. The 1961 death rate was 9.3 per 1,000 of the population, the lowest since 1956. The lowest recorded death rate was 9.1 in 1954.

Net civilian immigration has contributed 10.8 percent of the population growth since World War II. Natural increase has contributed the remainder. Net civilian immigration has averaged 301,000 a year over

these last 15 years. The largest net gain from this source was in 1956 when immigration added 387,000 persons to the population. Immigration was swollen at that time by the many displaced persons admitted under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953. There were also many arrivals from Puerto Rico and Mexico. Immigration contributed to making 1956 the year of the greatest amount of growth in our history. The lowest point in net immigration since the end of World War II came in 1952 when only 242,000 were added to the population from this source.

Table A.--RATES OF THE COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE:
1940 TO 1961

(Rate per 1,000 of the mid-year population, for the population of the United States including Armed Forces abroad)

Calendar year	Rate of natural increase	Birth rate	Death rate	Net civilian immigration rate
1961.....	14.3	23.6	9.3	1.9
1960.....	14.4	23.8	9.4	1.8
1959.....	14.9	24.3	9.4	1.6
1958.....	15.0	24.5	9.5	1.7
1957.....	15.7	25.2	9.5	1.6
1956.....	15.8	25.1	9.3	2.3
1955.....	15.6	24.9	9.3	2.0
1954.....	16.0	25.2	9.1	1.8
1953.....	15.3	24.9	9.6	1.6
1952.....	15.4	25.0	9.6	1.5
1951.....	15.1	24.8	9.7	2.2
1950.....	14.3	23.9	9.6	2.0
1949.....	14.8	24.5	9.7	2.2
1948.....	15.0	24.8	9.9	1.9
1947.....	16.4	26.5	10.1	1.6
1946.....	14.2	24.1	9.9	1.1
1945.....	9.4	20.5	11.0	1.2
1944.....	9.9	21.3	11.4	1.5
1943.....	11.8	22.7	10.9	1.1
1942.....	11.8	22.2	10.4	0.6
1941.....	9.7	20.3	10.6	0.4
1940.....	8.6	19.4	10.8	0.6

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SOURCES AND METHODS

This report shows estimates of the population of the United States for each July 1 from 1900 to 1961, and for each month from April 1950 to May 1962, and components of population change from 1940 to 1961. The estimates include Alaska and Hawaii for the period since 1940. Previous reports had included the two States only from the time when they achieved statehood.

The estimates supersede the monthly estimates shown in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 249 and the components of change shown in P-25, No. 223. They also supersede the national totals shown in P-25, No. 246, and the national totals shown in P-25, Nos. 229 and 239. They supplement the estimates of the components of change for the United States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii, from 1940 to 1950, shown in P-25, Nos. 71, 98, and 223.

Estimates of the population since 1930 are presented according to three definitions--total including Armed Forces abroad, total resident, and civilian resident. The total resident population conforms to the definition of the United States population for which the principal tabulations are made for the census reports. Thus, it excludes residents of Puerto Rico, residents of other outlying areas under United States sovereignty or jurisdiction, and American citizens living abroad. As shown here, it includes Alaska and Hawaii for all dates since 1940. The "total population including Armed Forces abroad" includes the total resident population and the Armed Forces stationed in foreign countries or in the outlying areas, but not their dependents. The "civilian resident population" represents the total resident population less the Armed Forces stationed in the United States.

The estimates of the total resident population for 1900 to 1939 are the same as those shown in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 114 and 139; those for 1940 to 1949 represent the sum of the estimates for the United States, shown in P-25, No. 71, and for Alaska and Hawaii, shown in P-25, No. 80. In addition, estimates of the population including Armed Forces abroad and of the civilian resident population for 1930 to 1939 are being shown here for the first time. These sources may be consulted for a discussion of the derivation of the estimates.

The estimates from 1950 to date were prepared by essentially the same procedures as for earlier years and involved the following computational steps:

- (1) Census count of population,
- plus (2) Armed Forces abroad on the census date,
- plus (3) resident births,
- less (4) deaths, including deaths to Armed Forces abroad,
- plus (5) net civilian immigration,
- plus (6) net inductions to Armed Forces abroad,
- plus (7) "error of closure" for the intercensal period,

- less (8) Armed Forces abroad on the estimate date, to obtain the resident population,
- less (9) Armed Forces in the United States on the estimate date, to obtain the civilian population.

The Armed Forces components are based on data on the size and distribution of the Armed Forces obtained from the Statistical Service Center of the Department of Defense and from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. Reserve forces on a 6-month tour of training and students at the military academies are included in the Armed Forces; reserve forces on shorter tours of training, national guardsmen, and officers in the Public Health Service are not. Crews of naval vessels in American ports are considered inside the United States; those in foreign ports or on the high seas are considered abroad.

To maintain comparability over time, estimates of the Armed Forces based on the Defense Department data were used for census dates although census counts of the Armed Forces are available.¹ The component for net inductions to Armed Forces abroad includes an allowance for inductions in Puerto Rico.

Births and deaths for the resident population are tabulated by the National Vital Statistics Division of the United States Public Health Service. Final tabulations were available for births through 1960 and for deaths through 1959; preliminary tabulations were available through April 1962. The National Vital Statistics Division has corrected births for under-registration by factors obtained by extending the results of the 1950 Birth Registration Test to subsequent years. The test was conducted in connection with the 1950 Census through the joint efforts of the National Vital Statistics Division and the Bureau of the Census. No similar test has been conducted for deaths. However, the Census Bureau has corrected deaths under 1, using the same factors as for births, through December 1961. This correction has been dropped from the estimates starting in 1962 because it has become so small as to be trivial. Deaths to members of the Armed Forces abroad include data on military casualties during the Korean War obtained from the Department of Defense; military deaths for other periods have been estimated.

The figures on net civilian immigration are based on statistics on immigration from foreign countries, provided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service

¹ The census counts of Armed Forces and their ratios to the estimates based on Defense Department data for 1950 and 1960 are as follows:

	Census count		Ratio to estimated number	
	1960	1950	1960	1950
Total.....	2,366,949	1,312,869	93.4	87.6
Inside U.S.....	1,733,402	982,313	93.6	88.8
Outside U.S.....	633,547	330,556	92.6	84.3
Outlying areas of U.S..	23,827	28,961	81.9	78.7
Foreign country or high seas.....	609,720	301,595	93.1	84.9

of the Department of Justice, and from Puerto Rico, provided by the Planning Board of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The statistics include the following categories:²

1. Immigrant aliens granted permanent residence;
2. Emigrant aliens departing for residence abroad, through June 1958;
3. Net admissions of aliens for temporary residence, through June 1956 (non-immigrant aliens less nonemigrant aliens);³
4. Net arrivals of civilian citizen passengers by ship and plane;
5. Net arrivals of passengers from Puerto Rico.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service stopped tabulating data for nonemigrant aliens after fiscal year 1956 and for emigrant aliens after fiscal year 1958. On the other hand, since July 1957 they have added to the immigrant aliens the number of aliens who have had their residence status changed from temporary to permanent. These immigrants have been allocated back to their probable year of entry. The statistics for all categories except immigrants and emigrants have been smoothed by a moving average to eliminate variations arising from the seasonal movement of travelers.

The statistics do not include the movement of agricultural workers from Mexico and the British West Indies under special contract. It is believed that they also fail to include some of the aliens entering the country by way of the Canadian or Mexican border.

Furthermore, the figures on citizen movement cover only movement by sea and air; movement across land borders to and from Canada and Mexico is excluded. It is possible that the statistics on citizen movements to and from foreign countries show too many net arrivals since, over a period of years, they show a continued excess of arrivals over departures, whereas other data suggest excess departures.

² These statistics include net arrivals in Puerto Rico and the other outlying areas from foreign countries as reported by the Immigration Service and the net departures from Puerto Rico to the Virgin Islands and foreign countries as reported by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. It is assumed that these categories balance out.

³ Nonimmigrant aliens are those arriving for temporary residence or returning to permanent residence after a temporary absence; nonemigrant aliens are those departing after a temporary residence or resident aliens leaving with the intention of returning.

For example, on the basis of the counts of civilian citizens overseas in the 1960 and 1950 Censuses and on the recorded births to American parents abroad, there appeared to be an excess of citizen departures from the U.S. during the 1950's. Since the estimates of net movement of citizens based on the immigration data depend on the "balancing-out" of large temporary movements (for example, in fiscal year 1961 the reported movement of citizens to and from the U.S. was about 2 million persons in each direction), deficiencies in completeness of reporting in either direction would have an important impact on the estimate of net movement.

Data on net immigration are available only through June 1961; figures for the following ten months have been estimated. An allowance has been made for Cuban refugees who have come to the United States but do not appear in the immigration data since they have not yet been granted permanent residence.

The last of the components of change in our list is the "error of closure." This is the amount necessary to force the components of change for an intercensal period to add to the difference between the census counts at the beginning and at the end of the period. For the period from 1950 to 1960, the error of closure amounted to only 3,000. Since the error may be the residual of large gross errors in the estimates of the components of change and of the two census counts, its small size should not be taken as a measure of the accuracy of either the estimates of change or the census counts. The error has been distributed evenly over the nine months from July 1959 through March 1960.

The components of population change in the form of rates, i.e., birth rate, death rate, and rate of net civilian immigration, for the population including Armed Forces abroad, are shown in table A for each calendar year, 1940 to 1961.

Components of change from 1940 to 1950 and from 1950 to 1960 according to the three definitions of population are shown in table B. They differ only in the treatment of the Armed Forces component. Components of change for the total resident population treat the movement of Armed Forces to posts abroad as an additional category of migrants; those for the total population including Armed Forces abroad take account of military deaths and inductions

abroad; those for the civilian population omit military deaths and take account of losses by inductions in the United States.

Components of change for the total population including Armed Forces abroad for each calendar year and half-year from 1940 to 1961

are shown in table 1. Annual population estimates according to all three definitions from 1940 and 1961 are shown in table 2; estimates for conterminous United States from 1900 to 1939 are shown in table 3. Monthly population estimates from 1950 to 1962 are shown in table 4.

Table B.--ESTIMATES OF THE COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES:
1940 TO 1950 AND 1950 TO 1960

(Includes Alaska and Hawaii. Each estimate has been independently rounded to the nearest thousand from figures computed to the last digit; hence, the sum of parts may differ slightly from the totals shown. Percentages based on population at beginning of period)

Type of population and component of change	Number		Percent ¹	
	April 1950 to 1960	April 1940 to 1950	April 1950 to 1960	April 1940 to 1950
TOTAL POPULATION INCLUDING ARMED FORCES ABROAD				
Net change.....	28,289,000	19,429,000	18.6	14.7
Births ²	40,963,000	32,064,000	27.0	24.2
Total deaths including those in Armed Forces abroad ³	15,653,000	14,638,000	10.3	11.1
Net civilian immigration.....	2,975,000	1,789,000	2.0	1.4
Inductions less discharges abroad.....	8,000	12,000	(⁴)	(⁴)
Error of closure.....	-3,000	202,000	(⁴)	0.2
TOTAL RESIDENT POPULATION				
Net change.....	27,997,000	19,160,000	18.5	14.5
Births ²	40,963,000	32,064,000	27.1	24.3
Resident deaths ³	15,608,000	14,294,000	10.3	10.8
Net civilian immigration.....	2,975,000	1,789,000	2.0	1.4
Net movement of Armed Forces to posts abroad..	330,000	602,000	0.2	0.5
Error of closure.....	-3,000	202,000	(⁴)	0.2
CIVILIAN RESIDENT POPULATION				
Net change.....	27,253,000	18,360,000	18.1	13.9
Births ²	40,963,000	32,064,000	27.3	24.3
Civilian deaths ³	15,570,000	14,221,000	10.4	10.8
Net civilian immigration.....	2,975,000	1,789,000	2.0	1.4
Inductions less discharges in U.S.....	1,112,000	1,475,000	0.7	1.1
Error of closure.....	-3,000	202,000	(⁴)	0.2

¹ Percent of population at beginning of period.

² Adjusted for underregistration.

³ Infant deaths adjusted for underregistration.

⁴ Less than 0.05 percent.

Table 1.--ESTIMATES OF THE COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE FOR THE UNITED STATES INCLUDING ARMED FORCES ABROAD,
BY ANNUAL AND SEMI-ANNUAL PERIODS: 1940 TO 1961

(In thousands. Includes Alaska and Hawaii. Each estimate has been independently rounded to the nearest thousand from figures computed to the last digit; hence, the sum of parts may differ slightly from the totals shown)

Period	Population at beginning of period	Net change during year		Components of change			
		Number	Percent	Births ¹	Deaths ²	Net civilian immigration	Other ³
Calendar year:							
1962	185,290
1961	182,312	2,978	1.63	4,329	1,702	348	+2
1960	179,386	2,926	1.63	4,307	1,706	326	-1
1959	176,447	2,939	1.67	4,313	1,663	292	-2
1958	173,533	2,915	1.68	4,279	1,655	292	(4)
1957	170,571	2,961	1.74	4,332	1,641	272	-1
1956	167,513	3,058	1.83	4,244	1,572	367	-1
1955	164,588	2,925	1.78	4,128	1,537	337	-2
1954	161,690	2,898	1.79	4,102	1,489	287	-2
1953	158,973	2,717	1.71	3,989	1,521	261	-1
1952	156,309	2,663	1.70	3,933	1,512	242	(4)
1951	153,622	2,688	1.75	3,845	1,501	325	+9
1950	151,155	2,486	1.65	3,645	1,468	299	+11
1949	148,580	2,556	1.72	3,667	1,452	323	+18
1948	146,047	2,533	1.73	3,655	1,453	280	+52
1947	143,594	2,653	1.85	3,834	1,455	238	+35
1946	141,229	2,165	1.53	3,426	1,409	151	-3
1945	139,767	1,462	1.05	2,873	1,549	162	-24
1944	138,170	1,597	1.16	2,954	1,582	202	+23
1943	136,371	1,799	1.32	3,118	1,503	148	+36
1942	134,657	1,714	1.27	3,002	1,407	83	+36
1941	132,275	1,382	1.04	2,716	1,415	60	+21
1940	132,054	1,221	0.92	2,570	1,432	77	+6
Half-year periods:							
1961: July-December	183,742	1,548	0.84	2,230	847	162	+2
1961: January-June	182,312	1,430	0.78	2,098	855	186	(4)
1960: July-December	180,676	1,637	0.91	2,266	825	196	(4)
1960: January-June	179,386	1,289	0.72	2,041	881	130	-1
1959: July-December	177,850	1,556	0.88	2,238	817	137	-2
1959: January-June	176,447	1,382	0.78	2,074	846	154	(4)
1958: July-December	174,862	1,565	0.90	2,224	802	143	(4)
1958: January-June	173,533	1,349	0.78	2,055	854	149	(4)
1957: July-December	171,984	1,548	0.90	2,259	830	121	-2
1957: January-June	170,571	1,413	0.83	2,073	811	151	(4)
1956: July-December	168,903	1,668	0.99	2,239	770	200	(4)
1956: January-June	167,513	1,390	0.83	2,005	802	187	-1
1955: July-December	165,931	1,582	0.95	2,162	768	189	(4)
1955: January-June	164,588	1,343	0.82	1,966	768	148	-2
1954: July-December	163,026	1,562	0.96	2,154	737	146	-1
1954: January-June	161,690	1,336	0.83	1,948	752	141	-1
1953: July-December	160,184	1,506	0.94	2,097	735	144	-1
1953: January-June	158,973	1,212	0.76	1,892	797	116	(4)
1952: July-December	157,553	1,420	0.90	2,060	733	94	-1
1952: January-June	156,309	1,243	0.80	1,874	779	147	+1
1951: July-December	154,878	1,431	0.92	1,985	732	176	+2
1951: January-June	153,622	1,256	0.82	1,860	769	159	+7
1950: July-December	152,271	1,350	0.89	1,912	715	147	+7
1950: January-June	151,135	1,136	0.75	1,733	753	152	+4
1949: July-December	151,718	554	0.36	851	366	68	(4)
1949: January-June	151,135	583	0.39	882	387	84	+4
1949: July-December	149,767	1,368	0.91	1,905	712	156	+19
1949: January-June	148,580	1,188	0.80	1,762	740	167	-1
1948: July-December	147,208	1,371	0.93	1,898	700	146	+27
1948: January-June	146,047	1,162	0.80	1,756	754	134	+25
1947: July-December	144,698	1,348	0.93	1,902	703	129	+21
1947: January-June	143,594	1,304	0.91	1,932	752	109	+15
1946: July-December	141,936	1,458	1.03	2,015	677	108	+12
1946: January-June	141,229	707	0.50	1,411	721	43	-16
1945: July-December	140,468	761	0.54	1,462	711	45	-34
1945: January-June	139,767	701	0.50	1,411	838	118	+10
1944: July-December	138,916	851	0.61	1,526	801	114	+12
1944: January-June	138,170	746	0.54	1,428	781	89	+11
1943: July-December	137,250	920	0.67	1,562	739	82	+15
1943: January-June	136,371	879	0.64	1,556	764	66	+20
1942: July-December	135,361	1,010	0.75	1,612	687	63	+23
1942: January-June	134,657	704	0.52	1,390	720	20	+13
1941: July-December	133,894	763	0.57	1,399	669	25	+9
1941: January-June	133,275	619	0.46	1,317	746	36	+12
1940: July-December	132,594	681	0.51	1,314	679	36	+11
1940: January-June	132,054	540	0.41	1,256	753	40	-5
1940: April-June	132,288	305	0.23	624	346	22	+6
1940: January-March	132,054	234	0.18	632	406	18	-10
Intercensal decade:							
Total change:							
April 1, 1950, to April 1, 1960	151,718	28,289	18.6	40,963	15,653	2,975	+5
April 1, 1940, to April 1, 1960	132,288	19,429	14.7	32,064	14,638	1,789	+214
Annual average change:							
April 1, 1950, to April 1, 1960	...	2,829	1.72	4,096	1,565	297	+1
April 1, 1940, to April 1, 1960	...	1,943	1.37	3,206	1,464	179	+21

¹ Adjusted for underregistration.

² Deaths occurring in the United States plus estimated deaths occurring to Armed Forces abroad. Infant deaths adjusted for underregistration.

³ Comprises estimates of overseas admissions into and discharges from the Armed Forces and the "error of closure," that amount necessary to make the components of change add to the net change between censuses. See text.

⁴ Less than 500.

Table 2.--ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE OF POPULATION: 1940 to 1961
(In thousands. For explanation of the three types of population, see text)

Year (July 1)	United States (including Alaska and Hawaii)			Conterminous United States (excluding Alaska and Hawaii)		
	Total population including Armed Forces abroad	Total resident population	Civilian resident population	Total population including Armed Forces abroad	Total resident population	Civilian resident population
1961.....	183,742	183,043	181,193	182,942	182,151	180,393
1960.....	180,676	179,983	178,144	179,897	179,114	177,366
1960 (April 1).....	180,007	179,323	177,472	179,235	178,464	176,700
1959.....	177,830	177,135	175,277	177,080	176,296	174,527
1958.....	174,882	174,149	172,226	174,154	173,332	171,498
1957.....	171,984	171,187	169,110	171,278	170,375	168,404
1956.....	168,903	168,088	166,055	168,225	167,310	165,378
1955.....	165,931	165,069	162,967	165,276	164,309	162,312
1954.....	163,026	161,884	159,695	162,388	161,161	159,057
1953.....	160,184	158,956	156,595	159,599	158,235	155,969
1952.....	157,553	156,393	153,892	156,947	155,680	153,286
1951.....	154,878	153,982	151,599	154,283	153,307	151,005
1950.....	152,271	151,868	150,790	151,689	151,241	150,208
1950 (April 1).....	151,718	151,326	150,219	151,133	150,698	149,634
1949.....	149,767	149,304	148,157	149,188	148,665	147,578
1948.....	147,208	146,730	145,746	146,631	146,093	145,168
1947.....	144,698	144,083	143,138	144,126	143,446	142,566
1946.....	141,936	140,686	138,932	141,389	140,054	138,385
1945.....	140,468	139,434	138,112	139,928	138,481	137,573
1944.....	138,916	138,915	137,227	138,397	137,885	136,708
1943.....	137,250	135,107	133,010	136,739	134,245	132,499
1942.....	135,361	134,617	131,444	134,860	133,920	132,942
1941.....	133,894	133,669	132,086	133,402	133,121	131,595
1940.....	132,594	132,457	132,129	132,122	131,954	131,653
1940 (April 1).....	132,288	132,166	131,859	131,820	131,669	131,391

¹ Includes an estimate for Alaska of 74,000. Census count as of October 1, 1939, was 73,024.

Table 3.--ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE OF POPULATION: 1900 to 1939
(In thousands. Conterminous United States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii)

Year (July 1)	Total population including Armed Forces abroad	Total resident popula- tion	Civilian resident popula- tion	Year (July 1)	Total resident popula- tion	Year (July 1)	Total resident popula- tion	Year (July 1)	Total resident popula- tion
1939.....	131,028	130,880	130,683	1929.....	121,770	1919.....	¹ 104,512	1909.....	90,492
1938.....	129,969	129,825	129,635	1928.....	120,501	1918.....	¹ 103,203	1908.....	88,709
1937.....	128,961	128,825	128,639	1927.....	119,038	1917.....	¹ 103,266	1907.....	87,000
1936.....	128,181	128,053	127,879	1926.....	117,399	1916.....	101,966	1906.....	85,437
1935.....	127,362	127,250	127,099	1925.....	115,832	1915.....	100,549	1905.....	83,820
1934.....	126,485	126,374	126,228	1924.....	114,113	1914.....	99,118	1904.....	82,165
1933.....	125,690	125,579	125,436	1923.....	111,950	1913.....	97,227	1903.....	80,632
1932.....	124,949	124,840	124,694	1922.....	110,055	1912.....	95,331	1902.....	79,160
1931.....	124,149	124,040	123,886	1921.....	108,541	1911.....	93,868	1901.....	77,585
1930.....	123,188	123,077	122,923	1920.....	106,466	1910.....	92,407	1900.....	76,094

¹ Total population (in thousands) including Armed Forces abroad, 1917, 103,414; 1918, 104,550; 1919, 105,063. Civilian population (in thousands), 1917, 102,796; 1918, 101,488; 1919, 104,158.

