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Population Estimates

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ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS BY STATE JULY 1, 1966*

(Household estimates for States for 1965 are presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 356)

In July 1966, there were an estimated 58.3 million households in the United States. California led all the States in total number of households, with about 6.0 million, and Alaska had the smallest number of total households (64,000). California also had the greatest number of husband-wife households with about 4.1 million, and Alaska the smallest (46,000).

Differences between States with respect to increase in the number of households between 1960 and 1966 are largely attributable to differences in population growth. California, with the largest population growth, also led all the States in the increase in the number of households, with a gain of about 1 million, or 20 percent, for the 6-year period. Other States with even larger proportional increases were Nevada (46 percent), Arizona (25 percent), and Florida (21 percent). In several States, the change in the number of households for the period 1960 to 1966 was less than 2 percent; these States were Maine, Iowa, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Most of the States had a smaller average annual percent of increase in the number of households for 1960 to 1966 than for 1950 to 1960.

METHOD OF ESTIMATION

The method of preparing the 1966 estimates of households by State shown in this report was generally as follows: Percentages of persons who were household heads ("headship rates") and other relevant percentages were developed from the 1960 Census, by age, by State. These percentages were applied to 1966 State population estimates, by age, to obtain preliminary estimates of the number of households by State within each age group. These preliminary 1966 estimates were then adjusted to the number of households in the United States on July 1, 1966 (estimated from Current Population Survey figures), to yield the final 1966 estimates by States.

The specific steps involved are shown below:

1. Data for both sexes combined from the 1960 Census were posted by State, by age (under 14, 14 to 19, 20 to 24, 25 to 44, 45 to 64, and 65 and over) for the following categories:
   - (t) Total persons in age group
   - (a) Heads of husband-wife primary families
   - (b) Other primary family heads
   - (c) Primary individuals
   - (d) Household members not heads
   - (e) Persons not in households

2. The following household headship rates, and other proportions, were calculated by State, by age:

$$\frac{(a)}{(t)}, \quad \frac{(b)}{(t)}, \quad \frac{(c)}{(t)}, \quad \frac{(d)}{(t)}, \quad \frac{(e)}{(t)}$$

3. State population estimates for 1966 by age (as above) were posted.

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4. Preliminary estimates of the 1966 population in each class, (a) to (e), by age, by State were calculated (step 2 x step 3).

5. The preliminary estimates (step 4) were summed over all States to United States totals by age, for each class, (a) to (e).

6. Estimates for the United States for 1966, by age, for each class, (a) to (e), were posted. These estimates were basically the statistics obtained from the March 1966 Current Population Survey (with an allowance added to include resident Armed Forces in military barracks) which were converted to the July date by ratio adjustment to the July 1, 1966 population estimates.

7. Adjustment factors by age, for each class, (a) to (e), were calculated (step 6 ÷ step 5). The effect of this step was an upward adjustment of 3.0 percent in the total number of households estimated in step 5.

8. Adjustment factors derived in step 7 were applied to preliminary estimates of the 1966 population in each class, (a) to (e), by age, by State (step 7 x step 4).

The data for 1960 used in the preparation of this report are from the 1960 Census of Population, Vol. I, Characteristics of the Population, Parts 2 through 52, tables 96, 105, and 106. The 1966 estimates of population by States are consistent with Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 384, Estimates of the Population of States, by Age: July 1, 1966. The 1966 estimates of the number of households for the United States for July 1 used to develop adjustment factors were derived by adjusting data from Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 159, Marital Status and Family Status: March 1966, to the total resident population for July 1966.

EVALUATION OF THE METHOD

The accuracy of the estimates depends on the accuracy of the data on which they are based (that is, the national household estimates and State population estimates), and on the validity of the assumptions inherent in the method by which these data were joined to produce the estimates. The assumptions are: (1) that the interstate differences in household headship rates in the 1960 Census persisted over the 1960 to 1966 period; (2) that changes in headship rates by States occurred uniformly, that is, that between 1960 and 1966 the trends in the headship rates, by age, were the same for each State as for the United States. The validity of these assumptions was subjected to indirect and direct checks, as follows:

A study was made of the success with which the number of households by States in 1960, as given by the Census, could be estimated from the information on the 1960 Census population by States and the 1950 Census headship rates, by States, using a method corresponding to the method described above. The 1950 headship rates were applied to the 1960 Census State population figures to obtain preliminary estimates of the number of households by State, within each age group. These preliminary 1960 estimates were then adjusted proportionately so that they added to the total number of households for the United States (by age of head) as given in the 1960 Census. (This step involves the assumption of uniform changes in headship rates.) The effect of this step was an upward adjustment of 9.9 percent in the preliminary estimates of the number of households with the adjustment varying according to age of head and type of household.

The adjusted 1960 estimates were then compared with the 1960 Census figures on households by State. The results of this study are shown in table A. The difference between the adjusted 1960 estimates and the 1960 Census was less than 4 percent in all but a few States. The average (mean) deviation disregarding sign was 2.7 percent over all States. These results suggest that, for most States, the assumptions inherent in the estimating method held reasonably true for the 1950-to-1960 period.

Table A.--DISTRIBUTION OF STATES BY PERCENT DEVIATION OF 1960 ESTIMATE OF HOUSEHOLDS FROM 1960 CENSUS NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS

Percent deviation of 1960 estimate from 1960 Census figure	Total households	Husband-wife households
Total, 50 States and the District of Columbia....	51	51
0 to 1.9.....	24	22
2.0 to 3.9.....	15	17
4.0 to 5.9.....	7	8
6.0 to 7.9.....	4	2
8.0 and over.....	1	2
Mean deviation.....	2.68	2.91

Comparison of the preliminary 1960 estimate and the adjusted 1960 estimate with the number of households for each State given in the 1960 Census indicated that making the adjustment to national household totals provided an improved estimate for the great majority of States. For 43 out of 50 States, and for the District of Columbia, the adjusted 1960 estimate was definitely better than the preliminary estimate; that is, the adjusted estimate was closer to the 1960 Census figure for the State than was the preliminary estimate. For

six States, the adjusted estimate was worse than the preliminary estimate and for one other State the adjusted estimate was not much better than the preliminary estimate. However, for none of these seven States did the adjusted estimate differ by more than 7.4 percent from the number of households given in the 1960 Census.

A direct check for the current time period was made by comparing the distribution of households by region shown in the present estimates with figures based on the Current Population Survey. A distribution of households by region was computed from an average of the Current Population Survey data for 1965 to 1967. This percentage distribution was then applied to the estimated total households for July 1, 1966, and the resulting estimates of households by region were compared with the corresponding figures obtained from the State household estimates. The results of this comparison are shown in table B. The distribution of households by region is quite similar in the estimates and in the Current Population Survey data.

Table B.--DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY REGION, IN THE 1966 ESTIMATES AND IN THE CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY

(Numbers in thousands)

Region	1966 estimates	Average of 1965-1967 CPS[1]	Difference between 1966 estimates and 3-year average	
			Number	Percent
United States...	58,332	58,332	-	-
Northeast.....	14,472	14,604	-132	-0.9
North Central.....	16,342	16,278	+64	+0.4
South.....	17,435	17,377	+58	+0.3
West.....	10,083	10,072	+11	+0.1

[1] See text.

The accuracy of the estimates as indicated by the results shown in tables A and B reflects only the effect on the estimates of the assumptions that were made concerning changes in household headship rates. Table A does not measure the additional effect of using postcensal estimates of age groups, by State, which themselves are subject to a fair degree of error. A priori, it is to be expected that the use of such age estimates would tend to increase the average error of the household estimates, but the exact contribution of this component to the error is not known.

An evaluation of the estimates by States for selected age groups in the 1950 decade is presented in "Accuracy of Methods of Preparing Postcensal Population Estimates for States and Local Areas," Meyer Zitter and Henry S. Shryock, Jr., Demography, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1964, table 7.[1]

RELATED REPORTS

Household estimates for States for 1965 are presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 356, and household projections for States for 1970 and 1975 are presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 387. Statistics on households in 1966 for the United States based on current surveys are presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 164. Population estimates for States are presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 384.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Household.--A household consists of all the persons who occupy a housing unit. A house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a single room, is regarded as a housing unit when it is occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters; that is, when the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and there is either (1) direct access from the outside or through a common hall or (2) a kitchen or cooking equipment for the exclusive use of the occupants.

A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated persons, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated persons sharing a housing unit as partners, is also counted as a household. The count of households excludes group quarters, such as rooming houses, military barracks, and institutions.

A "husband-wife" household is a household in which the head is a married man whose wife lives with him.

ROUNDING OF ESTIMATES

Estimates presented in the tables of this report have been rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals which are independently rounded. Percentages are based on unrounded numbers.

[1]See also section "Accuracy of Estimates" Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 384.

Table 1.--ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS BY STATES, FOR THE UNITED STATES, JULY 1, 1966, WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR APRIL 1, 1960 AND 1950

Region, division, and State	Total households							Husband-wife households, 1966
	July 1, 1966	April 1, 1960 (census)	April 1, 1950 (census)[1]	Change, 1960 to 1966		Average annual percent of change		
				Number	Percent	1960 to 1966	1950 to 1960	
United States	58,332,000	53,021,061	43,000,477	+5,311,000	+10.0	+1.5	+2.1	42,222,000
REGIONS:								
Northeast	14,472,000	13,521,070	11,239,605	+951,000	+7.0	+1.1	+1.8	10,283,000
North Central	16,342,000	15,377,361	12,982,709	+965,000	+6.3	+1.0	+1.7	12,056,000
South	17,435,000	15,503,321	12,635,623	+1,932,000	+12.5	+1.9	+2.0	12,824,000
West	10,083,000	8,619,309	6,142,540	+1,464,000	+17.0	+2.5	+3.4	7,059,000
NORTHEAST:								
New England	3,322,000	3,115,910	2,616,797	+206,000	+6.6	+1.0	+1.7	2,377,000
Middle Atlantic	11,150,000	10,405,160	8,622,808	+745,000	+7.2	+1.1	+1.9	7,906,000
NORTH CENTRAL:								
East North Central	11,466,000	10,709,659	8,829,542	+756,000	+7.1	+1.1	+1.9	8,496,000
West North Central	4,876,000	4,667,702	4,153,167	+208,000	+4.5	+0.7	+1.2	3,560,000
SOUTH:								
South Atlantic	8,289,000	7,267,832	5,540,342	+1,021,000	+14.0	+2.1	+2.7	6,063,000
East South Central	3,611,000	3,307,354	2,991,927	+304,000	+9.2	+1.4	+1.0	2,702,000
West South Central	5,535,000	4,928,135	4,103,354	+607,000	+12.3	+1.9	+1.8	4,059,000
WEST:								
Mountain	2,255,000	1,975,581	1,446,725	+280,000	+14.2	+2.1	+3.1	1,663,000
Pacific	7,828,000	6,643,728	4,695,815	+1,184,000	+17.8	+2.6	+3.5	5,396,000
NEW ENGLAND:								
Maine	284,000	280,355	254,668	+3,000	+1.2	+0.2	+1.0	207,000
New Hampshire	200,000	180,020	155,174	+20,000	+10.9	+1.7	+1.5	146,000
Vermont	118,000	110,732	103,538	+7,000	+6.6	+1.0	+0.7	86,000
Massachusetts	1,605,000	1,534,732	1,307,450	+70,000	+4.6	+0.7	+1.6	1,119,000
Rhode Island	270,000	257,335	225,558	+12,000	+4.8	+0.8	+1.3	190,000
Connecticut	846,000	752,736	570,409	+93,000	+12.3	+1.9	+2.8	629,000
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:								
New York	5,662,000	5,248,261	4,329,699	+413,000	+7.9	+1.2	+1.9	3,882,000
New Jersey	2,022,000	1,806,295	1,374,477	+215,000	+11.9	+1.8	+2.7	1,509,000
Pennsylvania	3,467,000	3,350,604	2,918,632	+116,000	+3.5	+0.5	+1.4	2,515,000
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:								
Ohio	3,057,000	2,852,321	2,314,629	+205,000	+7.2	+1.1	+2.1	2,288,000
Indiana	1,484,000	1,387,910	1,169,306	+96,000	+6.9	+1.1	+1.7	1,122,000
Illinois	3,283,000	3,084,738	2,585,772	+198,000	+6.4	+1.0	+1.8	2,345,000
Michigan	2,434,000	2,238,650	1,791,651	+195,000	+8.7	+1.3	+2.2	1,838,000
Wisconsin	1,208,000	1,146,040	968,184	+62,000	+5.4	+0.8	+1.7	903,000
WEST NORTH CENTRAL:								
Minnesota	1,045,000	991,981	845,733	+53,000	+5.3	+0.8	+1.6	762,000
Iowa	855,000	841,357	780,999	+14,000	+1.7	+0.3	+0.7	633,000
Missouri	1,443,000	1,359,826	1,198,977	+83,000	+6.1	+0.9	+1.3	1,027,000
North Dakota	180,000	173,362	162,184	+7,000	+3.8	+0.6	+0.7	136,000
South Dakota	197,000	194,821	182,981	+2,000	+1.0	+0.2	+0.6	147,000
Nebraska	444,000	433,448	394,615	+10,000	+2.4	+0.4	+0.9	327,000
Kansas	712,000	672,907	587,678	+39,000	+5.9	+0.9	+1.4	528,000
SOUTH ATLANTIC:								
Delaware	145,000	128,582	90,361	+16,000	+12.5	+1.9	+3.5	108,000
Maryland	996,000	863,003	640,526	+133,000	+15.4	+2.3	+3.0	750,000
District of Columbia	262,000	252,066	224,099	+10,000	+4.1	+0.6	+1.2	133,000
Virginia	1,224,000	1,074,442	845,716	+150,000	+13.9	+2.1	+2.4	914,000
West Virginia	528,000	521,142	518,736	+7,000	+1.3	+0.2	(Z)	392,000
North Carolina	1,358,000	1,204,715	994,441	+153,000	+12.7	+1.9	+1.9	1,038,000
South Carolina	678,000	603,551	514,672	+75,000	+12.3	+1.9	+1.6	499,000
Georgia	1,223,000	1,070,287	889,809	+152,000	+14.2	+2.1	+1.8	904,000
Florida	1,875,000	1,550,044	821,982	+325,000	+21.0	+3.0	+6.3	1,325,000
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:								
Kentucky	907,000	851,867	779,669	+55,000	+6.5	+1.0	+0.9	683,000
Tennessee	1,113,000	1,003,301	871,277	+110,000	+11.0	+1.8	+1.4	840,000
Alabama	974,000	884,116	786,205	+90,000	+10.1	+1.5	+1.2	728,000
Mississippi	617,000	568,070	554,776	+49,000	+8.6	+1.3	+0.2	451,000
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:								
Arkansas	580,000	523,552	524,708	+56,000	+10.7	+1.6	(Z)	430,000
Louisiana	998,000	892,344	724,534	+106,000	+11.9	+1.8	+2.1	715,000
Oklahoma	803,000	734,593	663,292	+68,000	+9.3	+1.4	+1.0	578,000
Texas	3,154,000	2,777,646	2,190,820	+377,000	+13.6	+2.0	+2.4	2,336,000
MOUNTAIN:								
Montana	213,000	202,240	175,614	+11,000	+5.5	+0.9	+1.4	153,000
Idaho	210,000	193,839	169,264	+16,000	+8.3	+1.3	+1.4	160,000
Wyoming	98,000	99,187	84,288	-1,000	-0.9	-0.1	+1.6	73,000
Colorado	598,000	529,424	391,577	+68,000	+12.9	+1.9	+3.0	431,000
New Mexico	266,000	251,209	177,216	+15,000	+5.9	+0.9	+3.5	202,000
Arizona	457,000	366,630	210,403	+90,000	+24.5	+3.5	+5.6	339,000
Utah	280,000	241,532	188,075	+39,000	+15.9	+2.4	+2.5	217,000
Nevada	133,000	91,520	50,288	+42,000	+45.6	+6.0	+6.0	92,000
PACIFIC:								
Washington	970,000	894,168	736,988	+76,000	+8.5	+1.3	+1.9	685,000
Oregon	638,000	558,222	479,294	+80,000	+14.3	+2.1	+1.5	463,000
California	5,978,000	4,981,024	3,336,391	+997,000	+20.0	+2.9	+4.0	4,076,000
Alaska	64,000	57,250	31,047	+7,000	+11.5	+1.7	+6.1	46,000
Hawaii	177,000	153,064	112,095	+24,000	+15.7	+2.3	+3.1	126,000

Z Less than 0.05 percent.
[1]Alaska and Hawaii have been added to the totals for the United States, the West, and the Pacific Division for the purpose of comparability.

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