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POVERTY INCREASES BY 1.2 MILLION IN 1970

(Advance data from March 1971 Current Population Survey)

The decade of the sixties has witnessed a sizable reduction in the number of persons living in poverty. Since 1959, the first year for which data on poverty are available, there has been an average annual decline of 4.9 percent in the number of poor persons. However, between 1969 and 1970, the number of poor persons increased by about 1.2 million, or 5.1 percent. This is the first time that there has been a significant increase in the poverty population. In 1970, about 25.5 million persons, or 13 percent of the population, were below the poverty level, according to the results of the Current Population Survey conducted in March 1971 by the Bureau of the Census. The rates of increase for both whites and Negroes below the poverty level were roughly the same. In 1970, however, the poverty rate for Negroes was more than three times that for whites.

The sex of the family head continues to be an important factor in the poverty status of families. The number of poor persons who were either members of families with a male head or male unrelated individuals increased between 1969 and 1970, as did the number of poor persons in families with a female head and female unrelated individuals. However, during the preceding decade, there was no measureable change in the number of poor persons in households with a female head whereas poor persons in households with a male head declined by about 53 percent between 1959 and 1969. In 1970, persons in households headed by a woman constituted only 14 percent of all persons but about 44 percent of poor persons.

There are significant differences in the age composition of the white and Negro poor. In 1970, children under 18 years accounted for about 36 percent of all white persons below the poverty level as compared to 54 percent of all Negroes who were poor. In contrast, aged family heads and unrelated individuals comprised about 19 percent of all poor white persons but only 7 percent of the Negro poor.

Although about 64 percent of the Nation's families resided in metropolitan areas in 1970, poor families were about equally distributed between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. About 50 percent of poor white families living in metropolitan areas were central city residents as compared to 80 percent of poor Negro families.

In 1970, it would have taken approximately 11.4 billion dollars to raise the income of all poor families and unrelated individuals above the poverty line. In terms of 1970 dollars, this figure represents about a 7 percent rise in the income deficit since 1969. In both 1969 and 1970, whites accounted for about 72 percent of the total deficit.

The median income deficit for poor families was about $1,100 in 1970. For white families the deficit was about $1,000 as compared to $1,300 for Negro families. The difference in the median deficit between white and Negro families is accounted for in part by the smaller size of the average poor white family. The average deficit per family member was about the same for families of both racial groupings.

On the average, incomes of poor families headed by men were closer to the poverty level than those of families headed by women. About 29 percent of the poor families headed by men had incomes within $500 of their respective poverty lines as compared to only 19 percent for those headed by women. The deficit per family member for families with a male head was about $330 as compared to $410 for families with a female head.

This report excludes inmates of institutions and unrelated individuals under 14 years. It includes only those members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post. The poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $3,968 in 1970 and $2,973 in 1959. For more detailed definitions of the terms and concepts used in this report, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 76. More detailed poverty data for families and persons will appear in a report in this series to be issued later this year.

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. Moreover, as in all field surveys of income, the figures are subject to errors of response and nonreporting. All statements of comparison made in the text of this report, however, are statistically significant. This means that the chances are at least 19 in 20 that a difference identified in the text indicates a true difference in the population rather than the change variations arising from the use of samples.

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Table 1. Persons Below the Poverty Level by Family Status and Sex and Race of Head: 1959 to 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March of the following year)

Family status	1970[r]	1969[r]	1968[r]	1967[r 1]	1966[r]	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
All Persons in Families and Unrelated Individuals													
Total	25,522	24,289	25,389	27,769	28,510	30,424	33,185	36,055	36,436	38,625	39,628	39,851	39,490
In families	20,499	19,438	20,695	22,771	23,809	25,614	28,358	30,912	31,498	33,623	34,509	34,925	34,562
Head	5,214	4,950	5,047	5,667	5,784	6,200	6,721	7,160	7,554	8,077	8,391	8,243	8,320
Related children under 18 years	10,493	9,821	10,739	11,427	12,146	12,876	14,388	15,736	15,691	16,630	16,577	17,288	17,208
Other family members	4,792	4,667	4,909	5,677	5,879	6,538	7,249	8,016	8,253	8,916	9,541	9,394	9,034
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	5,023	4,851	4,694	4,998	4,701	4,810	4,827	5,143	4,938	5,002	5,119	4,926	4,928
White	17,480	16,671	17,395	18,983	19,290	20,751	22,496	24,957	25,238	26,672	27,890	28,309	28,484
In families	13,359	12,709	13,546	14,851	15,430	16,731	18,508	20,716	21,149	22,613	23,747	24,262	24,443
Head	3,701	3,555	3,616	4,056	4,106	4,481	4,824	5,258	5,466	5,887	6,205	6,115	6,185
Related children under 18 years	6,208	5,777	6,373	6,729	7,204	7,649	8,595	9,573	9,749	10,382	10,614	11,229	11,386
Other family members	3,450	3,377	3,557	4,066	4,120	4,601	5,089	5,885	5,934	6,344	6,928	6,918	6,872
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	4,121	3,962	3,849	4,132	3,860	4,019	3,988	4,241	4,089	4,059	4,143	4,047	4,041
Negro and other races	8,042	7,618	7,994	8,786	9,220	9,673	10,689	11,098	11,198	11,953	11,738	11,542	11,006
In families	7,140	6,729	7,149	7,920	8,379	8,882	9,850	10,196	10,349	11,010	10,762	10,663	10,119
Head	1,514	1,395	1,431	1,611	1,678	1,719	1,897	1,902	2,088	2,190	2,186	2,128	2,135
Related children under 18 years	4,284	4,044	4,366	4,698	4,942	5,227	5,793	6,163	5,942	6,248	5,963	6,059	5,822
Other family members	1,342	1,290	1,352	1,611	1,759	1,936	2,160	2,131	2,319	2,572	2,613	2,476	2,162
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	902	889	845	866	841	791	839	902	849	943	976	879	887
Persons in Families With Male Head and Male Unrelated Individuals													
Total	14,310	13,819	15,025	17,178	18,260	19,579	22,127	25,084	25,339	27,394	28,830	29,188	29,100
In families	12,879	12,440	13,705	15,873	16,948	18,314	20,834	23,615	23,852	25,842	27,257	27,678	27,548
Head	3,280	3,146	3,292	3,893	4,063	4,384	4,805	5,338	5,582	6,043	6,437	6,288	6,404
Related children under 18 years	5,665	5,444	6,330	7,181	7,884	8,374	9,826	11,314	11,137	12,124	12,533	13,193	13,063
Other family members	3,934	3,850	4,083	4,799	5,001	5,556	6,203	6,963	7,133	7,675	8,287	8,197	8,081
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	1,431	1,379	1,320	1,305	1,312	1,265	1,293	1,469	1,487	1,552	1,573	1,510	1,552
Persons in Families With Female Head and Female Unrelated Individuals													
Total	11,212	10,470	10,364	10,591	10,250	10,845	11,058	10,971	11,097	11,231	10,798	10,663	10,390
In families	7,620	6,998	6,990	6,898	6,861	7,300	7,524	7,297	7,646	7,781	7,252	7,247	7,014
Head	1,934	1,804	1,755	1,774	1,721	1,816	1,916	1,822	1,972	2,034	1,954	1,955	1,916
Related children under 18 years	4,828	4,377	4,409	4,246	4,262	4,502	4,562	4,422	4,554	4,506	4,044	4,095	4,145
Other family members	858	817	826	878	878	982	1,046	1,053	1,120	1,241	1,254	1,197	953
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	3,592	3,472	3,374	3,693	3,389	3,545	3,534	3,674	3,451	3,450	3,546	3,416	3,376

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Persons Below the Poverty Level by Family Status and Sex and Race of Head: 1959 to 1970--Continued

(Number in thousands. Persons as of March of the following year)

Family status	1970[r]	1969[r]	1968[r]	1967[r 1]	1966[r]	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LEVEL													
All Persons in Families and Unrelated Individuals													
Total	12.6	12.2	12.8	14.2	14.7	15.7	17.3	19.0	19.5	21.0	21.9	22.2	22.4
In families	11.0	10.5	11.3	12.5	13.1	14.2	15.8	17.4	17.9	19.4	20.3	20.7	20.8
Head	10.0	9.7	10.0	11.4	11.8	12.7	13.9	15.0	15.9	17.2	18.1	18.1	18.5
Related children under 18 years	15.0	14.1	15.3	16.3	17.4	18.4	20.7	22.7	22.8	24.7	25.2	26.5	26.9
Other family members	7.3	7.3	7.8	9.1	9.5	10.5	11.8	13.3	13.8	15.1	16.5	16.2	15.9
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	32.7	33.6	34.0	38.1	38.3	38.9	39.8	42.7	44.2	45.4	45.9	45.2	46.1
White	9.9	9.5	10.0	11.0	11.3	12.2	13.3	14.9	15.3	16.4	17.4	17.8	18.1
In families	8.1	7.8	8.4	9.2	9.7	10.5	11.7	13.2	13.6	14.7	15.8	16.2	16.5
Head	8.0	7.7	8.0	9.0	9.3	10.2	11.1	12.2	12.8	13.9	14.8	14.9	15.2
Related children under 18 years	10.5	9.8	10.7	11.3	12.1	12.8	14.4	16.1	16.5	17.9	18.7	20.0	20.6
Other family members	5.9	5.8	6.3	7.2	7.4	8.2	9.2	10.8	11.0	12.0	13.3	13.3	13.3
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	30.7	31.8	32.2	36.5	36.1	37.3	38.1	40.7	42.0	42.7	43.2	43.0	44.1
Negro and other races	32.1	31.1	33.5	37.2	39.8	41.7	47.1	49.6	51.0	55.8	56.1	55.9	56.2
In families	30.9	29.9	32.4	36.3	38.9	41.1	46.8	49.1	50.5	55.3	55.6	55.7	56.0
Head	28.0	26.7	28.2	32.1	33.9	35.0	39.7	40.0	43.7	48.0	49.0	49.0	50.4
Related children under 18 years	39.6	38.0	41.6	44.9	48.2	50.7	57.3	61.5	60.9	66.4	65.7	66.6	66.7
Other family members	19.5	19.4	20.9	25.3	27.7	30.2	35.3	35.7	38.9	43.2	44.8	43.3	42.5
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	46.4	44.9	45.7	48.2	53.1	50.0	50.7	55.0	58.3	62.1	62.7	59.3	57.4
Persons in Families With Male Head and Male Unrelated Individuals													
Total	8.3	8.0	8.8	10.1	10.8	11.6	13.2	15.1	15.4	16.9	18.1	18.5	18.7
In families	7.7	7.4	8.3	9.6	10.3	11.2	12.8	14.6	14.9	16.4	17.6	18.0	18.2
Head	7.1	6.9	7.3	8.7	9.3	10.0	11.1	12.5	13.1	14.3	15.4	15.4	15.8
Related children under 18 years	9.3	8.8	10.2	11.5	12.6	13.4	15.7	18.2	18.0	19.9	21.0	22.3	22.4
Other family members	6.5	6.5	7.0	8.3	8.7	9.6	10.9	12.4	12.9	14.1	15.4	15.3	15.3
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	24.0	25.3	25.4	26.9	29.3	27.7	28.9	32.0	34.8	36.5	36.0	36.1	36.8
Persons in Families With Female Head and Female Unrelated Individuals													
Total	38.4	38.3	38.9	40.6	41.0	43.8	46.0	45.9	48.4	50.5	49.5	49.5	50.2
In families	38.5	38.1	38.7	38.8	39.8	43.1	46.0	44.4	47.7	50.3	48.1	48.9	49.4
Head	32.5	32.3	32.3	33.3	33.1	35.1	38.4	36.4	40.4	42.9	42.1	42.4	42.6
Related children under 18 years	53.4	54.4	55.2	54.3	58.2	61.3	64.2	62.3	66.6	70.2	65.1	68.4	72.2
Other family members	17.9	17.3	17.8	18.9	18.6	22.2	24.5	24.3	26.0	28.8	29.8	28.3	24.0
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	38.2	38.5	39.2	44.7	43.5	45.4	46.2	49.3	50.0	51.0	52.4	50.9	52.1

[r] Based on revised methodology for processing income data; see Series P-60, No. 76, for explanation.

[1] Due to coding errors, data for 1967 are not strictly comparable with those shown for 1966 and 1968 through 1970. It is estimated that this error may have overstated the number of poor families in 1967 by about 175,000 and the number of poor persons by approximately 450,000.

Table 2. Negro Persons Below the Poverty Level by Family Status: 1967 to 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March of the following year)

Family status	Number below poverty level				Percent below poverty level			
	1970	1969	1968	1967[1]	1970	1969	1968	1967[1]
Total	7,650	7,215	7,616	8,476	33.6	32.3	34.7	39.3
In families	6,810	6,409	6,839	7,677	32.4	31.2	33.7	38.4
Head	1,445	1,326	1,366	1,555	29.3	27.8	29.4	33.9
Related children under 18 years	4,101	3,879	4,188	4,558	41.5	39.7	43.1	47.4
Other family members	1,264	1,204	1,285	1,564	20.4	20.0	21.7	27.1
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	840	806	777	809	48.1	46.0	46.3	49.3

[1]Due to coding errors, data for 1967 are not strictly comparable with those shown for 1968 to 1970.

Table 3. Persons Below the Poverty Level in 1970, by Family Status and Sex and Race of Head

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March 1971)

Family status and sex of head	All races			White			Negro		
	Total	Below poverty level		Total	Below poverty level		Total	Below poverty level	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
ALL PERSONS									
Total	202,489	25,522	12.6	177,434	17,480	9.9	22,742	7,650	33.6
In families	187,132	20,499	11.0	164,021	13,359	8.1	20,996	6,810	32.4
Head	51,948	5,214	10.0	46,535	3,701	8.0	4,928	1,445	29.3
65 years and over	7,175	1,166	16.3	6,554	921	14.1	560	229	40.8
Related children under 18 years	69,873	10,493	15.0	59,065	6,208	10.5	9,871	4,101	41.5
Other family members	65,311	4,792	7.3	58,421	3,450	5.9	6,197	1,264	20.4
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	15,357	5,023	32.7	13,413	4,121	30.7	1,746	840	48.1
65 years and over	5,808	2,735	47.1	5,343	2,392	44.8	440	322	73.2
PERSONS IN FAMILIES WITH MALE HEAD AND MALE UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS									
Total	173,297	14,310	8.3	155,798	10,667	6.8	15,480	3,362	21.7
In families	167,334	12,879	7.7	150,798	9,579	6.4	14,646	3,061	20.9
Head	45,998	3,280	7.1	42,149	2,604	6.2	3,422	625	18.3
65 years and over	6,160	964	15.7	5,679	783	13.8	426	167	39.3
Related children under 18 years	60,824	5,665	9.3	53,800	3,934	7.3	6,201	1,612	26.0
Other family members	60,512	3,934	6.5	54,849	3,041	5.5	5,023	824	16.4
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	5,963	1,431	24.0	5,000	1,088	21.8	834	301	36.1
65 years and over	1,411	549	38.9	1,265	456	36.1	134	80	59.8
PERSONS IN FAMILIES WITH FEMALE HEAD AND FEMALE UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS									
Total	29,192	11,212	38.4	21,637	6,813	31.5	7,262	4,288	59.0
In families	19,798	7,620	38.5	13,223	3,780	28.6	6,350	3,749	59.0
Head	5,950	1,934	32.5	4,386	1,097	25.0	1,506	820	54.5
65 years and over	1,015	202	19.9	875	138	15.8	134	61	45.6
Related children under 18 years	9,049	4,828	53.4	5,265	2,274	43.2	3,669	2,490	67.9
Other family members	4,799	858	17.9	3,572	409	11.5	1,175	439	37.4
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	9,394	3,592	38.2	8,414	3,033	36.0	912	539	59.1
65 years and over	4,397	2,186	49.7	4,078	1,936	47.5	307	243	79.1

Table 4. Selected Characteristics of Families Below the Poverty Level in 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Families as of March 1971)

Selected characteristics	All races			White			Negro		
	Total	Below poverty level		Total	Below poverty level		Total	Below poverty level	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
All families	51,948	5,214	10.0	46,535	3,701	8.0	4,928	1,445	29.3
AGE OF HEAD									
Under 25 years	3,745	581	15.5	3,327	435	13.1	404	146	36.1
25 to 44 years	21,489	2,042	9.5	19,008	1,368	7.2	2,262	641	28.3
45 to 64 years	19,538	1,426	7.3	17,647	977	5.5	1,702	430	25.3
65 years and over	7,175	1,166	16.3	6,554	921	14.1	560	229	40.8
SIZE OF FAMILY									
2 persons	18,282	1,951	10.7	16,703	1,581	9.5	1,470	359	24.4
3 persons	10,724	855	8.0	9,672	619	6.4	953	220	23.1
4 persons	9,899	731	7.4	8,992	496	5.5	797	220	27.6
5 persons	6,528	570	8.7	5,852	374	6.4	592	184	31.1
6 persons	3,381	394	11.7	2,908	231	7.9	433	157	36.3
7 or more persons	3,133	713	22.8	2,408	399	16.6	683	303	44.4
NUMBER OF RELATED CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS									
No children	21,946	1,752	8.0	20,300	1,487	7.3	1,500	254	16.9
1 and 2 children	19,273	1,644	8.5	17,205	1,130	6.6	1,849	482	26.1
3 and 4 children	8,364	1,114	13.3	7,270	706	9.7	998	392	39.3
5 children or more	2,364	704	29.8	1,761	379	21.5	580	317	54.7
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF HEAD[1]									
Elementary school, total	12,624	2,422	19.2	10,602	1,662	15.7	1,892	733	38.7
Less than 8 years	6,484	1,638	25.3	4,977	1,043	21.0	1,431	576	40.3
8 years	6,139	787	12.8	5,626	620	11.0	460	157	34.1
High school, total	23,475	1,824	7.8	21,098	1,276	6.0	2,181	524	24.0
1 to 3 years	8,051	938	11.7	6,902	588	8.5	1,090	339	31.1
4 years	15,423	887	5.8	14,196	689	4.9	1,091	185	17.0
College, total	12,104	378	3.1	11,508	326	2.8	451	37	8.2
1 to 3 years	5,405	241	4.5	5,091	204	4.0	263	32	12.2
4 years or more	6,699	137	2.0	6,417	122	1.9	187	5	2.7
NUMBER OF EARNERS									
No earners	4,691	1,839	39.2	4,061	1,350	33.2	588	470	79.8
1 earner	19,252	2,275	11.8	17,426	1,634	9.4	1,653	614	37.2
2 earners	20,443	809	4.0	18,269	550	3.0	1,990	242	12.2
3 earners or more	7,562	290	3.8	6,778	167	2.5	697	119	17.0
EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HEAD									
Employed	40,004	2,253	5.6	36,270	1,633	4.5	3,365	591	17.6
Unemployed	1,619	270	16.7	1,377	184	13.4	219	85	38.7
Not in labor force	9,322	2,635	28.3	7,980	1,840	23.1	1,260	763	60.6
In Armed Forces	1,003	56	5.6	907	44	4.9	84	6	7.1
WORK EXPERIENCE OF HEAD									
Worked in 1970	43,459	2,865	6.6	39,200	2,023	5.2	3,855	804	20.9
50 to 52 weeks	33,940	1,303	3.8	30,978	962	3.1	2,646	317	12.0
Full time	32,676	1,068	3.3	29,892	806	2.7	2,488	242	9.7
1 to 49 weeks	9,519	1,562	16.4	8,221	1,061	12.9	1,209	487	40.3
Main reason for working part-year:									
Unemployed	3,951	517	13.1	3,476	377	10.8	436	136	31.1
Other	5,568	1,045	18.8	4,745	684	14.4	774	352	45.5
Did not work in 1970	7,485	2,293	30.6	6,428	1,634	25.4	989	635	64.2
In Armed Forces	1,003	56	5.6	907	44	4.9	84	6	7.1
OCCUPATION OF LONGEST JOB OF HEAD									
Worked in 1970	43,459	2,865	6.6	39,200	2,023	5.2	3,855	804	20.9
Professional and managerial workers	12,775	364	2.8	12,278	320	2.6	348	36	10.3
Clerical and sales workers	5,909	243	4.1	5,426	196	3.6	435	45	10.4
Craftsmen and foremen	8,771	288	3.3	8,292	250	3.0	427	36	8.4
Operatives and kindred workers	7,789	508	6.5	6,686	334	5.0	1,061	170	16.0
Service wkrs., incl. private household	3,804	600	15.8	2,856	297	10.4	890	289	32.5
Nonfarm laborers	2,343	298	12.7	1,791	184	10.3	522	112	21.5
Farmers and farm laborers	2,070	565	27.3	1,870	442	23.6	173	116	67.1

[1] Head 25 years old and over.

Table 5. Families and Unrelated Individuals Below the Poverty Level in 1970, by Type of Residence, Region, and Race

(Numbers in thousands. Families and unrelated individuals as of March 1971)

Residence	All races			White			Negro		
	Total	Below poverty level		Total	Below poverty level		Total	Below poverty level	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
FAMILIES									
United States	51,948	5,214	10.0	46,535	3,701	8.0	4,928	1,445	29.3
Nonfarm	49,600	4,778	9.6	44,328	3,345	7.5	4,804	1,373	28.6
Farm	2,347	436	18.6	2,207	357	16.2	124	72	58.1
Metropolitan areas	33,431	2,654	7.9	29,484	1,790	6.1	3,583	828	23.1
Inside central cities	14,531	1,583	10.9	11,538	896	7.8	2,807	662	23.6
Outside central cities	18,900	1,071	5.7	17,946	893	5.0	776	166	21.4
Nonmetropolitan areas	18,516	2,561	13.8	17,051	1,911	11.2	1,345	617	45.9
Northeast	12,381	864	7.0	11,382	691	6.1	938	163	17.4
North Central	14,563	1,170	8.0	13,485	910	6.7	1,040	253	24.3
South	16,003	2,376	14.8	13,391	1,405	10.5	2,538	953	37.5
West	9,001	804	8.9	8,277	694	8.4	412	76	18.4
UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS									
United States	15,357	5,023	32.7	13,413	4,121	30.7	1,746	840	48.1
Nonfarm	14,983	4,889	32.6	13,073	4,013	30.7	1,716	815	47.5
Farm	374	134	35.8	340	108	31.8	30	25	(B)
Metropolitan areas	11,047	3,203	29.0	9,525	2,589	27.2	1,350	559	41.4
Inside central cities	6,746	1,989	29.5	5,462	1,474	27.0	1,147	467	40.7
Outside central cities	4,300	1,215	28.3	4,063	1,115	27.4	202	92	45.5
Nonmetropolitan areas	4,310	1,820	42.2	3,888	1,532	39.4	396	280	70.7
Northeast	3,883	1,086	28.0	3,451	938	27.2	402	138	34.3
North Central	4,204	1,409	33.5	3,780	1,237	32.7	393	163	41.5
South	4,187	1,671	39.9	3,358	1,176	35.0	803	482	60.0
West	3,082	857	27.8	2,825	770	27.3	148	56	37.8

B Base less than 75,000.

Table 6. Weighted Average Thresholds at the Poverty Level in 1970 by Size of Family and Sex of Head, by Farm-Nonfarm Residence

Size of family	Total	Nonfarm			Farm		
		Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]
All unrelated individuals	$1,947	$1,954	$2,044	$1,898	$1,651	$1,697	$1,602
Under 65 years	2,005	2,010	2,092	1,935	1,727	1,778	1,644
65 years and over	1,852	1,861	1,879	1,855	1,586	1,597	1,576
All families	3,850	3,601	3,640	3,305	3,147	3,164	2,845
2 persons	2,507	2,525	2,534	2,471	2,131	2,138	2,036
Head under 65 years	2,589	2,604	2,619	2,522	2,218	2,225	2,104
Head 65 years and over	2,328	2,348	2,349	2,336	1,994	1,996	1,972
3 persons	3,080	3,099	3,113	3,003	2,628	2,635	2,511
4 persons	3,944	3,968	3,970	3,948	3,385	3,387	3,345
5 persons	4,654	4,680	4,684	4,639	4,000	4,002	3,963
6 persons	5,212	5,260	5,263	5,220	4,490	4,491	4,441
7 or more persons	6,407	6,468	6,486	6,317	5,518	5,521	5,472

[1]For unrelated individuals, sex of the individual.

Table 7. Size of Income Deficit for Families and Unrelated Individuals Below the Poverty Level in 1970, by Sex and Race of Head

(Families and unrelated individuals as of March 1971)

Size of income deficit	All races			White			Negro		
	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]
FAMILIES									
Number.....thousands..	5,214	3,280	1,934	3,701	2,604	1,097	1,445	625	820
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
$1 to $249.....	12.6	14.7	8.9	13.5	15.2	9.6	10.1	13.1	7.8
$250 to $499.....	12.3	13.8	9.7	13.2	13.9	11.2	9.9	12.8	7.7
$500 to $999.....	21.3	21.8	20.3	22.5	22.6	22.2	18.8	20.0	17.8
$1,000 to $1,499.....	16.7	17.2	15.8	16.4	17.0	14.9	17.4	17.9	17.0
$1,500 to $1,999.....	10.9	9.4	13.6	9.9	8.6	13.0	13.3	11.7	14.5
$2,000 to $2,999.....	15.2	13.2	18.6	15.0	13.6	18.5	15.5	11.8	18.4
$3,000 and over.....	11.1	9.8	13.2	9.5	9.1	10.5	15.1	12.8	16.8
Median income deficit.....	$1,110	$989	$1,350	$1,024	$955	$1,219	$1,316	$1,109	$1,492
Mean income deficit.....	1,419	1,309	1,604	1,337	1,279	1,475	1,621	1,427	1,769
Deficit per family member.....	361	333	407	370	348	428	344	291	387
UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS									
Number.....thousands..	5,023	1,431	3,592	4,121	1,088	3,033	840	301	539
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
$1 to $249.....	16.5	16.5	16.6	17.3	17.4	17.3	13.1	13.0	13.0
$250 to $499.....	20.4	16.5	22.0	21.5	16.9	23.1	16.1	15.7	16.2
$500 to $749.....	17.1	15.1	17.9	17.2	15.7	17.7	16.3	12.0	18.8
$750 to $999.....	14.6	13.0	15.3	14.0	13.3	14.3	18.0	13.7	20.4
$1,000 to $1,499.....	16.2	16.7	16.0	15.7	14.8	16.0	18.3	22.3	16.2
$1,500 and over.....	15.0	22.1	12.2	14.2	21.8	11.5	18.2	23.3	15.4
Median income deficit.....	$690	$787	$660	$663	$750	$635	$813	$916	$774
Mean income deficit.....	806	917	762	785	896	745	894	983	844

[1]For unrelated individuals, sex of the individual.

Table 8. Distribution of Poor Families and Unrelated Individuals and Aggregate Income Deficit: 1970, 1969, and 1959

(Families and unrelated individuals as of March of the following year. Deficit in 1970 dollars)

Presence of related children under 18 years and sex of head	All races			White			Negro and other races		
	1970	1969	1959	1970	1969	1959	1970	1969	1959
NUMBER BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (thousands)									
Total.....	10,237	9,801	13,248	7,822	7,517	10,226	2,416	2,284	3,022
All families.....	5,214	4,950	8,320	3,701	3,555	6,185	1,514	1,395	2,135
Male head.....	3,280	3,146	6,404	2,604	2,490	4,952	677	656	1,452
No children.....	1,484	1,438	2,486	1,278	1,236	2,088	206	202	398
With children.....	1,796	1,710	3,918	1,326	1,256	2,864	471	454	1,054
Female head.....	1,934	1,804	1,916	1,097	1,065	1,233	837	739	683
No children.....	268	307	391	209	226	285	59	81	106
With children.....	1,666	1,496	1,525	888	837	948	778	658	577
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over...	5,023	4,851	4,928	4,121	3,962	4,041	902	889	887
Male.....	1,431	1,379	1,552	1,088	1,048	1,158	343	332	394
Female.....	3,592	3,472	3,376	3,033	2,914	2,883	559	557	493
AGGREGATE INCOME DEFICIT (millions)									
Total.....	$11,447	$10,723	$18,220	$8,182	$7,706	$13,073	$3,265	$3,019	$5,141
All families.....	7,399	6,729	13,076	4,948	4,520	8,904	2,451	2,208	4,169
Male head.....	4,294	3,913	9,535	3,328	2,981	6,726	966	933	2,805
No children.....	1,333	1,236	2,505	1,155	1,054	2,085	178	183	422
With children.....	2,961	2,678	7,030	2,173	1,931	4,641	788	749	2,383
Female head.....	3,105	2,815	3,540	1,620	1,539	2,178	1,485	1,275	1,363
No children.....	248	253	405	191	175	292	(B)	78	(B)
With children.....	2,857	2,563	3,135	1,429	1,360	1,886	1,428	1,198	1,249
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over...	4,048	3,994	5,144	3,234	3,186	4,169	814	811	972
Male.....	1,312	1,232	1,593	976	903	1,176	336	330	416
Female.....	2,736	2,763	3,551	2,258	2,282	2,994	478	482	557

B 1970 base less than 75,000; 1959 base less than 200,000.

Table 9. Persons Below the Near-Poverty Level in 1970 by Family Status and Sex and Race of Head

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March 1971)

Family status	All races			White			Negro		
	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]	Total	Male head[1]	Female head[1]
NUMBER BELOW NEAR-POVERTY LEVEL[2]									
All persons	35,752	21,985	13,767	25,374	16,673	8,701	9,789	4,845	4,943
In families	29,433	20,183	9,250	20,097	15,279	4,818	8,831	4,494	4,337
Head	7,455	5,075	2,380	5,496	4,084	1,412	1,859	908	951
65 years and over	1,763	1,482	281	1,446	1,244	202	300	222	77
Related children under 18 years	14,631	8,919	5,713	9,184	6,365	2,819	5,160	2,332	2,827
Other family members	7,347	6,189	1,157	5,417	4,830	587	1,812	1,254	559
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	6,319	1,802	4,517	5,277	1,394	3,883	958	351	606
65 years and over	3,487	714	2,773	3,095	605	2,490	367	97	271
PERCENT BELOW NEAR-POVERTY LEVEL[2]									
All persons	17.7	12.7	47.2	14.3	10.7	40.2	43.0	31.3	68.1
In families	15.7	12.1	46.7	12.3	10.1	36.4	42.1	30.7	68.3
Head	14.4	11.0	40.0	11.8	9.7	32.2	37.7	26.5	63.1
65 years and over	24.6	24.1	27.7	22.1	21.9	23.1	53.5	52.2	57.6
Related children under 18 years	20.9	14.7	63.1	15.5	11.8	53.5	52.3	37.6	77.1
Other family members	11.2	10.2	24.1	9.3	8.8	16.4	29.2	25.0	47.6
Unrelated individuals 14 years and over	41.1	30.2	48.1	39.3	27.9	46.2	54.8	42.1	66.4
65 years and over	60.0	50.6	63.1	57.9	47.8	61.1	83.4	72.2	88.3

[1]For unrelated individuals, sex of individual.
[2]Below 125 percent of the poverty level.

Note.--The near-poverty level threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $4,960 in 1970. Other thresholds at the near-poverty level can be obtained directly by multiplying the poverty thresholds shown in table 6 by 1.25.