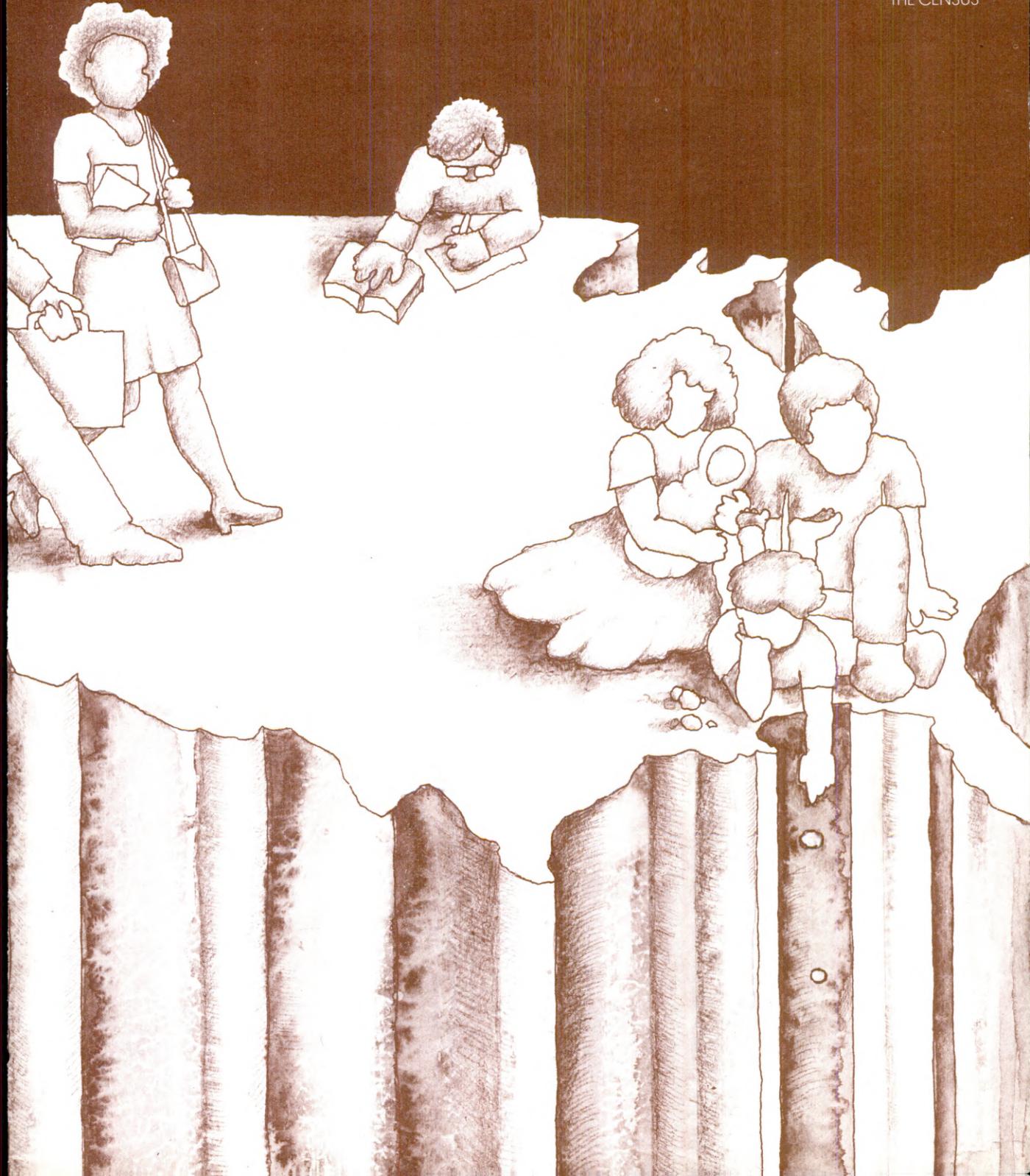


# Characteristics of American Youth: 1974

current population  
reports

Special Studies  
Series P-23, No. 51

U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMERCE  
Social and Economic  
Statistics Administration  
BUREAU OF  
THE CENSUS



## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**James L. Pate**, Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs

### **Social and Economic Statistics Administration**

**Edward D. Failor**, Administrator

### **BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

**Vincent P. Barabba**, Director

**Robert L. Hagan**, Deputy Director

**Daniel B. Levine**, Associate Director for Demographic Fields

### **POPULATION DIVISION**

**Meyer Zitter**, Chief

### **SUGGESTED CITATION**

---

U.S. Bureau of the Census,  
Current Population Reports,  
Special Studies, Series P-23, No. 51,  
**Characteristics of American Youth: 1974**

---

U.S. Government Printing Office,  
Washington, D.C., 1975

---

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, and U.S. Department of Commerce, district offices, \$1.10. Current Population Reports issued in Series P-20, P-23, P-25, P-26, P-27, P-28 (summaries only), P-60, and P-65 are sold as a single consolidated subscription at \$56.00 per year, \$14.00 additional for foreign mailing.

current population  
reports

---

Special Studies  
Series P-23, No. 51

---

Issued April 1975

# Characteristics of American Youth: 1974



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Social and Economic Statistics Administration**  
**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

## **PREFACE**

This report was prepared by Karen A. Crook, Ethnic Origins Statistics Staff, and Larry E. Suter, Education and Social Stratification Branch, Population Division. Important professional contributions were made by Jerry T. Jennings and Elmore J. Seraile. Clerical assistance was provided by Angela M. Britt, Annise L. Chapmon, Carmen DeNavas, and Nancy L. Swann. Editorial assistance was provided by Vivian Brown and Karen M. Mills. General direction was provided by Charles E. Johnson, Jr., Assistant Chief (Demographic and Social Statistics Programs), and Paul C. Glick, Senior Demographer, Population Division.

Diana Harley, Paul H. Tomlin, and George F. Train, Statistical Methods Division, conducted the statistical review of the report. Many individuals within the Publications Services Division made significant contributions in the areas of publication planning and design, editorial review, composition, and printing procurement.

## CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction .....	1
I. Population: growth, composition, distribution, and mobility .....	2
II. Education .....	6
III. Marital status and family composition .....	15
IV. Fertility .....	17
V. Labor force and employment status .....	19
VI. Income .....	24
VII. Voting .....	26
VIII. Crime victimization .....	29

### DETAILED TABLES

Table	Page
1. Total population and persons 14 to 24 years old, by race: 1940 to 1985 .....	3
2. Persons 14 to 24 years old, by age, 1940 to 1974, and projections to 1985 .....	4
3. Population distribution of persons 14 to 24 years old, inside and outside metropolitan areas, by race and Spanish origin: March 1974 .....	4
4. Mobility status between March 1970 and March 1974 of persons 14 to 24 years old, by age and race .....	5
5. Percent of persons 14 to 24 years old enrolled in school: 1940 to 1973 .....	8
6. School enrollment of persons 14 to 24 years old, by level: October 1945 to October 1973 .....	8
7. College enrollment of persons 14 to 34 years old, by race and sex: October 1973 and October 1964 .....	9
8. College enrollment of persons 18 to 21 years old, by race and Spanish origin: October 1973 .....	9
9. Major field of study of college students 14 to 34 years old: October 1972 and October 1966 .....	10
10. Major field of study of college students 14 to 34 years old: October 1972 .....	10
11. High school seniors in primary families who plan to attend college or vocational school by major occupation group of family head: October 1973 .....	11
12. Dependent family members 14 to 34 years old enrolled in college, by years of school completed by family head: October 1973 .....	11
13. College enrollment of persons 18 to 24 years old by marital status, age, and sex: October 1965 to October 1973 .....	12
14. Marital status of persons 14 to 24 years old enrolled in college, by whether attending full time or part time and sex: October 1973 .....	13
15. Primary families with dependent members 18 to 24 years old and percent with members enrolled full time in college, by family income: October 1967 to October 1973 .....	13
16. High school graduates 20 to 24 years old who have completed 1 year of college or more, by sex: 1960 to 1974 .....	14
17. Marital status of persons 18 to 24 years old, by race and sex: March 1974 .....	15
18. Percent single of persons 18 to 24 years old, by age, race, and sex: 1974 and 1960 .....	16
19. Family status of persons 18 to 24 years old, by race and sex: March 1974 .....	16
20. Average number of births to date and total births expected for wives 18 to 24 years old reporting on expectations, by race: June 1967 to June 1974 .....	17
21. Births to date, and total births expected per 1,000 wives 18 to 24 years old reporting on expectations, by age and educational attainment: June 1974 .....	18
22. Labor force and employment status of persons 16 to 24 years old, by sex: 1967 to 1974 .....	20
23. Summertime increase in civilian labor force 16 to 24 years old, by age, and sex: April and July 1974 .....	20
24. Labor force participation rates and unemployment rates of persons not enrolled in school, by educational attainment, age, and sex: October 1973 .....	21
25. Labor force status of 1972 degree recipients, by selected characteristics: October 1972 .....	21
26. Estimates of the Armed Forces by age and race: 1964 to 1974 .....	22
27. Labor force and employment status for Vietnam era veterans 20 to 24 years old by race: 1971 to 1974 .....	22
28. Employed persons 16 to 24 years old, by occupation group, age, and sex: 1974 .....	23
29. Total money income in 1973 of year-round full-time workers 14 years old and over, by age and sex .....	24
30. Total money income in 1973 for families with head 14 to 24 years old and unrelated individuals 14 to 24 years old .....	25
31. Low income status of persons 14 to 21 years old, by race and sex of head .....	25

## CONTENTS—Continued

### DETAILED TABLES—Continued

Table	Page
32. Reported voter participation of persons 18 years old and over, by age, race, and Spanish origin: November 1974 and November 1972 . . . . .	27
33. Reported voter participation and reason for not voting or registering in the Congressional election for persons 18 years old and over, by age: November 1974 . . . . .	27
34. Reported voter participation and reason for not voting or registering in the Congressional election for persons 18 to 24 years old, by race and Spanish origin: November 1974 . . . . .	28
35. Reported voter participation and registration of persons 18 to 24 years old in the Presidential election, by school enrollment status in October 1972, age, sex, and race: November 1972 . . . . .	28
36. Selected crimes against persons 12 years old and over by age and sex: 1973 . . . . .	29

### APPENDIX

Source and reliability of the estimates . . . . .	31
---	----

### APPENDIX TABLES

Table	
A. Standard errors of estimated numbers, total or white population, ages 14 to 24 and 25 Years and over. . . .	32
B. Standard errors of estimated numbers, Negro and other races, ages 14 to 24 and 25 Years and over . . . . .	33
C. Standard errors of estimated percentages, total or white population. . . . .	34
D. Standard errors of estimated percentages, Negro and other races . . . . .	34
E. Factors to be applied to tables A, B, C, or D for Current Population Survey data collected from 1967 to 1974 . . . . .	35
F. Standard errors of estimated fertility rates: June 1971 to June 1974 . . . . .	36
G. Number of wives reporting birth expectations by race and year: table 20 . . . . .	37
H. Number of wives 18 to 24 years old reporting birth expectations by age and educational attainment: table 21. . . . .	37
I. Standard errors of medians from table 15 . . . . .	37
J. Standard errors on median income in 1973 of year-round full-time workers 14 years old and over by age and sex: table 29 . . . . .	38
K. Standard errors of medians in table 30 . . . . .	38

# CHARACTERISTICS OF AMERICAN YOUTH: 1974

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents a statistical portrait of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of young persons—those 14 to 24 years old in 1974—born from approximately 1950 through 1960. These were the years of the greatest birth boom in United States history. Because of their growing numbers, as these persons reach employment age and begin to form families to their own, interest in the youth of America has increased in recent years.

The current report updates "Characteristics of American Youth: 1972," **Current Population Reports**, Series P-23, No. 44, and is the fifth in a series on the subject. Many of the figures on youth have been published previously, but they are being brought together here for convenient use. This report describes the most recent trends in the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of young persons, particularly those which have occurred between the late 1960's and early 1970's. Data are included on numbers and racial composition, metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence, migration, education, marital status, family composition, fertility, labor force status, occupation, income, voting, and crime. Special emphasis is placed on the school enrollment of American youth.

Some of the highlights on youth featured include the following:

1. On July 1, 1974, American youth numbered 43.8 million, approximately 21 percent of the total population of the United States.
2. Over two thirds of our Nation's youth lived in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) in 1974, including about 30 percent who were residents of a central city.
3. One-half of the population 20 and 21 years old and about 70 percent of the population 22 to 24 years old moved between March 1970 and March 1974.
4. About 93 percent of persons of high school age (14 to 17 years old) and 43 percent of 18- and 19-year olds were enrolled in school in October 1973.
5. College enrollment among women and Negroes has increased dramatically over the past decade.
6. Young women were more likely to be single in 1974 than they were in 1960.
7. Almost all of America's youth, approximately 90 percent, lived in families in 1974.
8. The total number of births expected by wives 18 to 24 years old declined from 2.4 to 2.2 between 1971 and 1974.
9. The proportion of women 16 to 24 years old who were in the labor force increased from 48 percent in 1967 to 57 percent in 1974, whereas the proportion not working because they were keeping house declined from 26 percent to 20 percent.
10. The median income in 1973 of families with a head under 25 years old and a year-round full-time civilian worker was \$10,155.
11. Youth 18 to 24 years old did not vote to as great an extent as did Americans 25 years old and over.
12. In the first half of 1973 the victimization rate for selected crimes against persons was higher for persons 16 to 24 years old than for the total population 12 years old and over.

## I. POPULATION: GROWTH, COMPOSITION, DISTRIBUTION, AND MOBILITY

On July 1, 1974, American youth numbered 43.8 million, approximately 21 percent of the total population of the United States.<sup>1</sup> This figure represents an increase of 16.4 million, or about 60 percent, over the 27.3 million of 1960. As in 1960, Negro youths comprise a slightly higher proportion of all Negro persons in 1974 (23 percent) than do white youths of all white persons (20 percent). Population projections indicate that the number of American youth will increase to about 45.2 million in 1980, but decline to 42.2 million by 1985. The number of persons of high school age (14 to 17 years old) totaled 16.9 million in 1974, but will decline to 14.4 million by 1985. The college-age population (18 to 21 years old) totaled 16.1 million

in 1974, will increase to 17.1 million by 1980, and decline to 15.4 million by 1985.

Over two-thirds of our Nation's youth lived in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) in 1974, including about 30 percent who were residents of a central city. Seventy-five percent of Negro youth 18 to 24 years old and 82 percent of Spanish youth in this age range were residents of metropolitan areas.

The youth of America are a highly mobile group. Young persons in their twenties are the most likely to move as they establish new households, enter or leave the military or school, and enter the labor force. One-half of the population 20 and 21 years old and about 70 percent of the population 22 to 24 years old moved between March 1970 and March 1974.

---

<sup>1</sup>Consistent with **Current Population Reports**, Series P-25, No. 529.

**Table 1. TOTAL POPULATION AND PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY RACE: 1940 TO 1985**

(Numbers in thousands. Estimates and projections as of July 1, including Alaska and Hawaii and Armed Forces overseas)

Race and year	Total population	14 to 24 years old		Race and year	Total population	14 to 24 years old	
		Number	Percent			Number	Percent
ALL RACES				WHITE--Continued			
1985 (projection).....	234,068	42,222	18.0	1971.....	181,133	36,313	20.0
1980.....	222,769	45,195	20.3	1970.....	179,491	35,125	19.6
1975.....	213,450	44,520	20.9	1960.....	160,023	24,008	15.0
1974 (estimate).....	211,909	43,786	20.7	1950.....	135,984	21,556	15.9
1973.....	210,404	43,127	20.5	1940 <sup>1</sup> .....	118,629	23,562	19.9
1972.....	208,842	42,457	20.3	NEGRO			
1971.....	207,045	42,057	20.3	1985 (projection).....	28,304	6,052	21.4
1970.....	204,879	40,593	19.8	1980.....	26,371	6,179	23.4
1960.....	180,671	27,347	15.1	1975.....	24,539	5,772	23.5
1950.....	152,271	24,519	16.1	1974 (estimate).....	24,201	5,628	23.3
1940 <sup>1</sup> .....	132,122	26,460	20.0	1973.....	23,876	5,481	23.0
WHITE				1972.....	23,545	5,312	22.6
1985 (projection).....	200,548	35,139	17.5	1971.....	23,182	5,148	22.2
1980.....	192,162	38,114	19.8	1970.....	22,787	4,914	21.6
1975.....	185,578	38,016	20.5	1960.....	19,006	3,072	16.2
1974 (estimate).....	184,543	37,463	20.3	1950.....	16,288	2,963	18.2
1973.....	183,517	36,984	20.2	1940 <sup>1,2</sup> .....	13,494	2,898	21.5
1972.....	182,426	36,515	20.0				

<sup>1</sup>Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.<sup>2</sup>Negro and other races.

Source: 1975 to 1985--For all races, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 541; for white and Negro, unpublished data consistent with P-25, No. 541. 1974--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 529. 1960 to 1973--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 519. 1940 to 1950--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 311.

**Table 2. PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE, 1940 TO 1974, AND PROJECTIONS TO 1985**

(Numbers in thousands. Estimates and projections as of July 1, including Alaska and Hawaii and Armed Forces overseas)

Year	Total, 14 to 24 years	14 to 17 years	18 to 21 years	22 to 24 years
1985 (projection).....	42,222	14,388	15,431	12,403
1984.....	42,717	14,259	15,976	12,482
1980.....	45,194	15,753	17,097	12,344
1976.....	45,040	16,879	16,762	11,399
1975.....	44,520	16,923	16,479	11,118
1974 (estimate).....	43,786	16,878	16,108	10,800
1973.....	43,127	16,746	15,789	10,592
1972.....	42,457	16,556	15,432	10,468
1971.....	42,057	16,281	15,019	10,758
1970 (estimate).....	40,593	15,910	14,705	9,978
1960.....	27,347	11,219	9,555	6,573
1950.....	24,519	8,444	8,946	7,129
1940 <sup>1</sup> .....	26,460	9,844	9,699	6,918

<sup>1</sup>Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: 1975 to 1985--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 541. 1974--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 529. 1960 to 1973--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 519. 1940 and 1950--Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 311.

**Table 3. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD, INSIDE AND OUTSIDE METROPOLITAN AREAS, BY RACE AND SPANISH ORIGIN: MARCH 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population plus members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces)

Area	Total		White		Black		Spanish origin <sup>1</sup>	
	14 to 17 years	18 to 24 years	14 to 17 years	18 to 24 years	14 to 17 years	18 to 24 years	14 to 17 years	18 to 24 years
United States.....	16,666	25,613	14,159	22,115	2,268	3,088	966	1,370
Percent, total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Metropolitan areas.....	67.2	69.9	66.0	68.9	71.8	75.3	80.5	82.3
Inside central cities.....	27.4	31.5	22.6	27.6	55.2	56.5	48.1	51.2
Outside central cities.....	39.7	38.4	43.4	41.2	16.5	18.7	32.4	31.2
Nonmetropolitan areas.....	32.8	30.1	34.0	31.1	28.2	24.7	19.4	17.7

<sup>1</sup>Persons of Spanish origin may be of any race.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 4. MOBILITY STATUS BETWEEN MARCH 1970 AND MARCH 1974 OF PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE AND RACE**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population plus members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces)

Mobility status <sup>1</sup>	Total, 14 to 24 years	14 to 17 years	18 and 19 years	20 and 21 years	22 to 24 years
Total.....	42,279	16,666	7,772	7,442	10,399
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonmovers.....	50.2	66.2	58.9	43.6	22.7
Movers within the U.S.....	44.3	29.5	36.3	50.1	69.7
Same county.....	26.8	18.6	23.6	31.2	39.0
Different county.....	17.5	10.8	12.8	18.9	30.7
Same State.....	8.7	4.7	6.2	10.5	15.6
Different State.....	8.8	6.1	6.5	8.4	15.1
Abroad.....	1.9	1.1	0.1	2.0	3.9
Not reported.....	3.7	3.3	3.8	4.2	3.8
WHITE					
Total.....	36,274	14,159	6,676	6,441	8,998
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonmovers.....	50.0	66.7	59.2	43.4	21.7
Movers within the U.S.....	44.5	28.9	35.9	50.7	70.9
Same county.....	25.8	17.2	22.4	30.8	38.3
Different county.....	18.7	11.7	13.6	19.9	32.6
Same State.....	9.2	5.1	6.9	11.3	16.7
Different State.....	9.4	6.6	6.7	8.6	15.8
Abroad.....	1.7	0.9	0.9	1.8	3.6
Not reported.....	3.7	3.4	3.9	4.2	3.8
NEGRO					
Total.....	5,355	2,267	994	886	1,208
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonmovers.....	52.6	64.4	58.0	46.3	30.5
Movers within the U.S.....	43.1	32.1	38.5	48.9	63.2
Same county.....	32.8	26.7	30.7	35.9	43.5
Different county.....	10.3	5.4	7.6	13.1	19.5
Same State.....	4.1	1.9	2.2	5.3	8.7
Different State.....	6.2	3.5	5.4	7.8	10.8
Abroad.....	1.1	1.0	0.2	0.6	2.6
Not reported.....	3.2	2.6	3.3	4.1	3.7

<sup>1</sup>Unmarried students who temporarily live away from home while attending college are counted as members of their parental families and would not be counted as movers unless their families had also moved.

Source: Current Population Survey unpublished data.

## II. EDUCATION

The youth of America were more likely to be enrolled in school in October 1973 than they were in October 1960. About 93 percent of persons of high school age (14 to 17 years old) and 43 percent of 18- and 19-year olds were enrolled in school in October 1973. These figures compare with 90 percent of persons of high school age and 38 percent of 18- and 19-year olds enrolled in school in 1960. Although the long-term trend has been toward increasing rates of college attendance, in the last three years the proportion of these young persons who continued schooling has declined. Consequently, a higher proportion of young persons 14 to 24 years old had graduated from high school but were not enrolled in college in 1973 than in 1970.

The total number of persons 14 to 34 years old enrolled in college in 1973 was 8.2 million. College enrollment among women and Negroes has increased dramatically over the past decade. Enrollment among women has approximately doubled since 1964 and Negro enrollment has grown from 234,000 in 1964 to 684,000 in 1973, an increase of 192 percent. In 1973 Negroes comprised 8 percent of all college enrollment. Approximately one-third of white youth 18 to 21 years old were enrolled in college in 1973, whereas about one-fifth of Negro youth of this age were enrolled.

Data pertaining to major field of study of college students were collected by the Bureau of the Census in October 1972. Of the 8.3 million college students 14 to 34 years old at that time, 1.2 million (14 percent) were enrolled in business or commerce fields, 1.0 million (12 percent) in education, and 954,000 (11 percent) in social sciences. Both the number of engineering majors and the number of physical or earth science majors decreased by around 32 percent since 1966. The number of education majors decreased by approximately 111,000 or by about 10 percent. Conversely,

the number of social science majors increased by about 49 percent since 1966, and commerce and business majors increased by 30 percent. Women predominated in education specializations (72 percent female) and in health fields (57 percent female).

Fifty-five percent of high school seniors in October 1973 who were members of families whose head was a white-collar worker reported that they planned to attend college as compared with 33 percent who were from families headed by a blue-collar worker. Conversely, a higher percentage of seniors from families headed by blue-collar workers reported some plans to enter vocational school than those seniors from families headed by white-collar workers. About 10 percent of the high school seniors from white-collar families reported no other school plans as compared with 21 percent of the seniors from blue-collar families. Of the white youths enrolled in college who were living with their families, 54 percent were from families whose head had not completed any years of college, including 18 percent who were from families in which the head had not completed high school. Three-fourths of Negro college students were from families in which the head had not completed any years of college, and one-half were from families in which the head had not graduated from high school.

Married men and women of college age living with their spouse were less likely to be attending college in 1973 than were men and women of some other marital status. However, married men were more likely to be attending college than married women. Among both men and women 18 to 21 years old of other marital status (primarily single), 39 percent were attending college. The college enrollment rate declined between 1972 and 1973 for married men 18 to 24 years old.

Married college students, particularly women, are more likely to be enrolled on a part-time basis than are college students of some other marital status. Among male students 14 to 24 years old who were married and living with their wife, approximately 39 percent were enrolled on a part-time basis as compared with 10 percent of those who were of some other marital status (primarily single). Among women students of this age who were married and living with their husband, 49 percent were enrolled part time.

There is some evidence that middle-income families were less likely to have family members enrolled in college in 1973 than in 1970. The proportion of families with incomes from \$7,500 to \$9,999 (in constant 1973 dollars) who have dependent members 18 to 24 years old attending college full time has declined from 35 percent in 1970 to 29 percent in 1973. Similarly, for those families with incomes from \$10,000 to \$14,999, the corresponding proportions are 43 percent and 36 percent, respectively. By contrast, the proportions of families with incomes of \$15,000 and over and \$3,000 or

less with members attending college full time have not changed significantly since 1970<sup>1</sup>.

America's youth have made great strides in their educational attainment since 1960. The proportion of young men who enter college after completing high school has increased since 1960 by about 10 percentage points, the corresponding increase for women is about 13 percentage points. A major shift in the educational level of young women is evidenced by the recent increase in the proportion who have completed some college—46 percent in 1974 compared with 42 percent in 1970. The corresponding proportion for men has remained fairly constant.

---

<sup>1</sup> Family income data obtained from one question in the October Current Population Survey underestimates the family income when compared with the data collected in the March Current Population Survey where several income questions are included. See the section on Definitions and Explanations in the report "Social and Economic Characteristics of Students: October 1972," *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, No. 260.

**Table 5. PERCENT OF PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN SCHOOL:  
1940 TO 1973**

Year	14 to 17 years	18 and 19 years	20 to 24 years
1973.....	92.9	42.9	20.8
1972.....	93.3	46.3	21.6
1970.....	94.1	47.7	21.5
1960.....	90.3	38.4	13.1
1950.....	83.4	29.7	9.2
1940.....	79.3	28.9	6.6

Source: 1950 to 1973--October Current Population Survey data, civilian noninstitutional population; 1940--census data based on a complete count of the resident population.

**Table 6. SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL:  
OCTOBER 1945 TO OCTOBER 1973**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Year	Total, 14 to 24 years old	In school		Not in school	
		Below college	In college	High school graduate	Not high school graduate
1973.....	41,759	15,945	6,350	14,543	4,920
1972.....	40,938	15,865	6,552	13,554	4,967
1971.....	39,695	15,813	6,494	12,636	4,753
1970.....	38,270	15,413	6,065	12,123	4,670
1969.....	36,731	15,102	6,082	11,025	4,524
1960.....	26,404	10,589	2,820	<sup>1</sup> 12,995	
1950.....	23,347	7,338	1,851	<sup>1</sup> 14,159	
1945.....	19,980	7,430	730	<sup>1</sup> 11,820	
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION					
1973.....	100.0	38.2	15.2	34.8	11.8
1972.....	100.0	38.8	16.0	33.1	12.1
1971.....	100.0	39.8	16.4	31.8	12.0
1970.....	100.0	40.3	15.8	31.7	12.2
1969.....	100.0	41.1	16.6	30.0	12.3
1960.....	100.0	40.1	10.7	<sup>1</sup> 49.2	
1950.....	100.0	31.4	7.9	<sup>1</sup> 60.6	
1945.....	100.0	37.2	3.7	<sup>1</sup> 59.2	

<sup>1</sup>Separate data not available.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 7. COLLEGE ENROLLMENT OF PERSONS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX:  
OCTOBER 1973 AND OCTOBER 1964**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Race and sex	Enrolled, 1973		Enrolled, 1964		Percent change 1964-1973
	Number	Percent of all students	Number	Percent of all students	
All students.....	8,179	100.0	4,643	100.0	76.2
White.....	7,324	89.5	4,337	93.4	68.9
Negro.....	684	8.4	234	5.0	192.3
Other.....	171	2.1	72	1.6	137.5
Male.....	4,677	57.2	2,888	62.2	61.9
White.....	4,218	51.6	2,720	58.6	55.1
Negro.....	358	4.4	120	2.6	198.3
Female.....	3,502	42.8	1,755	37.8	99.5
White.....	3,105	38.0	1,617	34.8	92.0
Negro.....	326	4.0	114	2.5	186.0

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 8. COLLEGE ENROLLMENT OF PERSONS 18 TO 21 YEARS OLD, BY RACE  
AND SPANISH ORIGIN: OCTOBER 1973**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Race	Total, 18 to 21 years old	Enrolled in college	
		Number	Percent
All races.....	14,763	4,590	31.1
White.....	12,702	4,146	32.6
Negro.....	1,852	358	19.3
Other.....	209	86	41.1
Spanish origin <sup>1</sup> .....	738	151	20.5

<sup>1</sup>Persons of Spanish origin may be of any race.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 9. MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY OF COLLEGE STUDENTS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD:  
OCTOBER 1972 AND OCTOBER 1966**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Field of study	October 1972	October 1966	Change, 1966 to 1972	
			Number	Percent
Total.....	8,313	5,999	2,314	38.6
Agriculture or forestry.....	97	73	24	(B)
Business or commerce.....	1,157	888	269	30.3
Biological and health sciences.....	952	602	350	58.1
Education.....	1,007	1,118	-111	-9.9
Engineering.....	357	534	-177	-33.1
Humanities.....	746	620	126	20.3
Mathematics or statistics.....	239	236	3	1.3
Physical or earth sciences.....	157	226	-69	-30.5
Social sciences.....	954	642	312	48.6
Other fields.....	1,740	461	1,279	277.4
Don't know or not reported.....	906	600	306	51.0

B Base less than 75,000.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 10. MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY OF COLLEGE STUDENTS  
14 TO 34 YEARS OLD: OCTOBER 1972**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Field of study	Total	Female	Percent
Total.....	8,313	3,459	41.6
Agriculture or forestry.....	97	11	11.3
Business or commerce.....	1,157	268	23.2
Biological sciences.....	257	94	36.6
Health or medical professions.....	695	393	56.5
Education.....	1,007	728	72.3
Engineering.....	357	7	2.0
English or journalism.....	291	150	51.5
Other humanities.....	455	215	47.3
Mathematics or statistics.....	239	82	34.3
Physical or earth sciences.....	157	43	27.4
Social sciences.....	954	453	47.5
Law.....	237	42	17.7
Other fields.....	1,503	596	39.7
Don't know or not reported.....	906	380	41.9

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 11. HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS IN PRIMARY FAMILIES WHO PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL BY MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF FAMILY HEAD: OCTOBER 1973**

(Number in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Employment status and major occupation group of family head	All high school seniors	Percent distribution				
		Total	Plan to attend college	May attend college	Some plans to enter vocational school	No other school plans
Total.....	3,272	100.0	42.8	28.1	10.5	16.9
In civilian labor force.....	2,928	100.0	43.7	27.3	10.8	16.8
Employed.....	2,889	100.0	43.8	27.4	10.8	16.5
White-collar workers.....	1,345	100.0	55.3	25.3	7.5	10.2
Blue-collar workers.....	1,146	100.0	32.9	31.1	14.0	20.8
Service workers.....	243	100.0	35.8	25.1	12.8	25.5
Farm workers.....	154	100.0	36.4	22.1	14.3	27.3
Unemployed.....	39	100.0	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Not in civilian labor force.....	344	100.0	34.9	35.2	9.0	18.3

B Base less than 75,000.

Note: Includes 52,000 seniors who did not report on plans to enter school not shown separately.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 12. DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, BY YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY FAMILY HEAD: OCTOBER 1973**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population. Excludes family members whose head is a member of the Armed Forces)

Years of school completed by family head	All races		White		Negro	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total, family members enrolled in college <sup>1</sup> ....	5,022	100.0	4,496	100.0	423	100.0
Less than 4 years of high school.....	1,084	21.6	828	18.4	211	49.9
High school, 4 years.....	1,719	34.2	1,590	35.4	105	24.8
College, 1 to 3 years.....	751	15.0	688	15.3	51	12.1
College, 4 years or more.....	1,468	29.2	1,392	31.0	56	13.2

<sup>1</sup>A dependent family member is a relative of the head of household, excluding the head's wife or any other relative who is married with a spouse present. Such persons are generally the sons and daughters of the household head.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 13. COLLEGE ENROLLMENT OF PERSONS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY MARITAL STATUS, AGE, AND SEX: OCTOBER 1965 TO OCTOBER 1973**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Subject	Male			Female		
	Total, 18 to 24	18 to 21 years	22 to 24 years	Total	18 to 21 years	22 to 24 years
<b>ENROLLED MARRIED, SPOUSE PRESENT</b>						
1973.....	388	108	280	359	160	199
1971.....	589	168	421	318	175	143
1969.....	481	175	306	264	124	140
1967.....	457	170	287	226	114	112
1965.....	397	135	262	180	111	69
<b>PERCENT ENROLLED OF TOTAL MARRIED, SPOUSE PRESENT</b>						
1973.....	10.5	9.6	10.8	6.0	6.3	5.7
1971.....	16.8	17.2	16.6	5.5	7.7	4.0
1969.....	15.7	18.7	14.4	4.8	5.6	4.3
1967.....	14.6	18.6	12.9	4.3	5.2	3.7
1965.....	13.5	14.9	12.9	3.6	5.2	2.4
<b>ENROLLED OTHER MARITAL STATUS</b>						
1973.....	2,971	2,315	656	2,337	2,008	329
1971.....	3,010	2,366	644	2,292	2,012	280
1969.....	2,911	2,334	577	2,184	1,913	271
1967.....	2,525	2,094	431	1,891	1,723	168
1965.....	2,323	1,887	436	1,580	1,408	172
<b>PERCENT ENROLLED OF TOTAL, OTHER MARITAL STATUS</b>						
1973.....	35.4	38.9	26.9	32.8	39.0	16.6
1971.....	39.7	43.7	29.6	33.9	40.5	15.7
1969.....	44.2	49.4	31.1	35.2	40.4	18.6
1967.....	42.1	46.3	29.3	32.6	37.6	13.8
1965.....	40.5	43.2	31.9	31.3	36.4	14.5

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 14. MARITAL STATUS OF PERSONS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, BY WHETHER ATTENDING FULL TIME OR PART TIME AND SEX: OCTOBER 1973**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Marital status	Male			Female		
	Total enrolled	Enrolled full time	Enrolled part time	Total enrolled	Enrolled full time	Enrolled part time
Total.....	3,481	3,022	459	2,870	2,421	448
Married, spouse present.....	391	241	151	360	183	178
Other marital status.....	3,090	2,781	308	2,510	2,238	270
PERCENT BY MARITAL STATUS						
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Married, spouse present.....	11.2	8.0	32.9	12.5	7.6	39.7
Other marital status.....	88.8	92.0	67.1	87.5	92.4	60.3
PERCENT BY ENROLLMENT STATUS						
Total.....	100.0	86.8	13.2	100.0	84.4	15.6
Married, spouse present.....	100.0	61.6	38.6	100.0	50.8	49.4
Other marital status.....	100.0	90.0	10.0	100.0	89.2	10.8

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 15. PRIMARY FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT MEMBERS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD AND PERCENT WITH MEMBERS ENROLLED FULL TIME IN COLLEGE, BY FAMILY INCOME: OCTOBER 1967 TO OCTOBER 1973**

(Numbers in thousands. Income in constant 1973 dollars. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Family income and enrollment status of family member	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT MEMBERS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD <sup>1</sup>							
Total.....	9,803	9,752	9,644	9,349	8,773	8,610	8,631
Total reporting income.....	8,900	8,979	8,933	8,614	8,053	7,979	7,833
Under \$3,000.....	660	738	665	615	566	608	627
\$3,000 to \$4,999.....	832	808	792	723	650	640	631
\$5,000 to \$7,499.....	1,060	1,096	1,168	1,163	1,096	1,117	1,129
\$7,500 to \$9,999.....	945	1,118	1,284	1,274	1,198	1,240	1,279
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....	2,510	2,342	2,261	2,200	2,029	1,958	1,954
\$15,000 and over.....	2,894	2,877	2,762	2,639	2,514	2,416	2,213
Median income.....	\$11,898	\$11,557	\$11,231	\$11,210	\$11,272	\$10,981	\$10,643
PERCENT WITH MEMBERS ENROLLED FULL TIME IN COLLEGE							
Total reporting income.....	36.2	37.8	38.4	39.8	42.0	40.1	39.1
Under \$3,000.....	12.7	14.8	14.0	14.0	16.4	16.0	13.1
\$3,000 to \$4,999.....	18.0	19.8	21.0	19.1	22.5	20.9	19.7
\$5,000 to \$7,499.....	23.7	27.1	27.7	27.8	29.4	28.0	26.5
\$7,500 to \$9,999.....	28.9	31.4	32.2	34.6	36.0	34.4	32.4
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....	36.3	39.7	40.2	43.0	45.3	44.1	45.0
\$15,000 and over.....	53.7	53.7	55.1	56.5	58.5	56.5	57.1
Median income of families with members enrolled full time in college.....	\$14,679	\$14,190	\$13,947	\$13,831	\$13,798	\$13,638	\$13,481

<sup>1</sup>A dependent family member is a relative of the head of household, excluding the head's wife or any other relative who is married with a spouse present. Such persons are generally the sons and daughters of the household head.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 16. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 20 TO 24 YEARS OLD WHO HAVE COMPLETED  
1 YEAR OF COLLEGE OR MORE, BY SEX: 1960 TO 1974**

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex and year	Total, high school graduates <sup>1</sup>	Completed 1 year of college or more	
		Number	Percent
<b>MALE</b>			
1974.....	7,252	3,834	52.9
1973.....	7,130	3,760	52.7
1972.....	6,875	3,663	53.3
1971.....	6,373	3,398	53.3
1970.....	5,774	3,028	52.4
1969.....	5,267	2,741	52.0
1968.....	5,090	2,688	52.8
1965.....	4,413	2,017	45.7
1960.....	3,269	1,379	42.2
<b>FEMALE</b>			
1974.....	7,683	3,524	46.1
1973.....	7,584	3,274	43.2
1972.....	7,381	3,080	41.7
1971.....	7,139	3,097	43.4
1970.....	6,777	2,824	41.7
1969.....	6,310	2,542	40.3
1968.....	5,990	2,497	41.7
1965.....	4,933	1,655	33.5
1960.....	3,598	1,179	32.8

<sup>1</sup>Persons who had completed 4 years of high school or some college.

Source: 1972 to 1974--March Current Population Survey data, noninstitutional population, excluding members of the Armed Forces living in barracks. 1965 to 1971--March Current Population Survey data, excluding members of the Armed Forces living in barracks. 1960 census data based on 25-percent sample of the resident population.

### III. MARITAL STATUS AND FAMILY COMPOSITION

Young women were more likely to be single in 1974 than they were in 1960. Among women 18 to 24 years old, 50 percent were single in 1974 as compared with 41 percent in 1960. White men and women of this age group were less likely to be single than Negro men and women. Two-thirds of white men but three-fourths of Negro men 18 to 24 years old were single in March 1974. Comparable proportions for white women and Negro women of this age were 49 percent and 60 percent, respectively. Contrary to some expectations, almost

all of America's youth, approximately 90 percent, lived in families (generally either their own or their parents') in 1974, and about 6 percent maintained their own apartment or house apart from any relatives. About 29 percent of the men 18 to 24 years old were family heads, and about 42 percent of the women were wives of family heads. White men of this age were more likely than Negro men to be heads of families, and white women were more likely than Negro women to be wives of family heads. Negro women were more than four times as likely to head a family as white women.

**Table 17. MARITAL STATUS OF PERSONS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX: MARCH 1974**

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces)

Marital status	All races		White		Negro	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total.....thousands...	12,422	13,191	10,817	11,298	1,416	1,671
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION						
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single.....	67.5	50.4	66.4	49.1	75.3	59.5
Married.....	31.2	47.1	32.3	48.5	24.2	37.8
Widowed.....	-	0.2	-	0.1	-	0.7
Divorced.....	1.2	2.2	1.3	2.3	0.5	2.0

- Represents zero.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 18. PERCENT SINGLE OF PERSONS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE, RACE, AND SEX: 1974 AND 1960**

Age and sex	All races		White		Negro and other races	
	1974	1960	1974	1960	1974	1960
Male, 18 to 24 years old.....	67.5	64.9	66.4	64.4	74.9	67.8
18 years.....	95.4	94.6	94.8	94.5	98.9	94.7
19 years.....	87.4	87.1	86.8	87.0	91.4	88.0
20 years.....	80.1	75.8	79.5	75.6	84.5	77.2
21 years.....	68.5	63.4	66.8	63.0	79.3	66.4
22 years.....	54.9	51.6	52.9	51.1	70.2	55.8
23 years.....	46.4	40.5	45.2	39.8	54.5	45.3
24 years.....	32.2	33.4	31.0	32.5	39.4	39.8
Female, 18 to 24 years old...	50.4	40.5	49.1	39.7	58.3	45.6
18 years.....	81.9	75.6	81.7	75.5	82.9	76.4
19 years.....	68.9	59.7	67.1	59.4	79.7	61.7
20 years.....	57.8	46.0	57.1	45.2	61.6	51.4
21 years.....	49.0	34.6	47.3	33.7	59.7	41.3
22 years.....	37.6	25.6	36.1	24.5	45.7	33.7
23 years.....	28.0	19.4	26.4	18.3	38.5	27.0
24 years.....	23.4	15.7	22.0	14.6	32.3	23.3

Source: 1974--March Current Population Survey, civilian noninstitutional population plus members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces. 1960--census data based on 25-percent sample of the resident population.

**Table 19. FAMILY STATUS OF PERSONS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX: MARCH 1974**

(Civilian noninstitutional population plus members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces)

Family status	All races		White		Negro	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total persons, 18 to 24 years old.....thousands...	12,422	13,191	10,817	11,298	1,416	1,671
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION						
Total persons, 18 to 24 years old.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In primary family.....	87.5	89.6	87.4	89.2	89.5	92.5
Head of family.....	29.0	4.2	30.2	2.9	20.3	13.5
Wife of head.....	(X)	41.8	(X)	44.1	(X)	26.2
In subfamily.....	1.4	3.2	1.2	2.4	2.4	8.6
Others in primary family <sup>1</sup> .....	57.1	40.4	56.0	39.8	66.7	44.3
In secondary family.....	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.8
Primary individual.....	7.3	5.6	7.3	5.8	6.6	3.9
Secondary individual.....	5.1	4.4	5.1	4.7	3.9	2.7
In household.....	4.3	3.8	4.3	4.0	3.2	2.2
In group quarters.....	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6

X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Such persons are generally the sons and daughters of the primary family head.

Source: Current population Survey.

## IV. FERTILITY

The total number of births expected by wives 18 to 24 years old declined from 2.4 to 2.2 between 1971 and 1974, representing a continuation of the decline in birth expectations of young wives. The corresponding figure in 1967 was 2.9. Among wives 22 to 24 years old, those who had completed some

college expected 2.1 births overall compared with 2.5 births expected by those who were not high school graduates. Women of this age group who were not high school graduates had completed 72 percent of their expected fertility, whereas those women with some college had completed only 21 percent of their expected fertility.

**Table 20. AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO DATE AND TOTAL BIRTHS EXPECTED FOR WIVES 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD REPORTING ON EXPECTATIONS, BY RACE: JUNE 1967 TO JUNE 1974**

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Year	All races		White		Negro	
	Births to date	Total births expected	Births to date	Total births expected	Births to date	Total births expected
1974.....	0.8	2.2	0.8	2.2	1.2	2.2
1973.....	0.9	2.3	0.8	2.3	1.4	2.3
1972.....	0.9	2.3	0.9	2.2	1.3	2.4
1971.....	1.0	2.4	0.9	2.4	1.4	2.6
1967.....	1.2	2.9	1.1	2.9	1.8	2.8

Source: 1974--Current Population Survey, 1967--Survey of Economic Opportunity.

**Table 21. BIRTHS TO DATE, AND TOTAL BIRTHS EXPECTED PER 1,000 WIVES 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD REPORTING ON EXPECTATIONS, BY AGE AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: JUNE 1974**

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Age and educational attainment	Births to date	Total births expected	Percent of expected fertility completed
<b>18 TO 24 YEARS OLD</b>			
Total.....	848	2,165	39.2
Less than 4 years of high school...	1,389	2,321	59.8
High school, 4 years.....	836	2,124	39.4
College, 1 year or more.....	370	2,112	17.5
<b>18 AND 19 YEARS OLD</b>			
Total.....	558	2,189	25.5
Less than 4 years of high school...	839	2,153	39.0
High school, 4 years.....	406	2,211	18.4
College, 1 year or more.....	(B)	(B)	(B)
<b>20 AND 21 YEARS OLD</b>			
Total.....	669	2,142	31.2
Less than 4 years of high school...	1,336	2,285	58.5
High school, 4 years.....	554	2,082	26.6
College, 1 year or more.....	202	2,143	9.4
<b>22 TO 24 YEARS OLD</b>			
Total.....	1,022	2,170	47.1
Less than 4 years of high school...	1,766	2,452	72.0
High school, 4 years.....	1,121	2,122	52.8
College, 1 year or more.....	438	2,094	20.9

B Base less than 75,000.

Source: Current Population Survey.

## V. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Nationally, three out of every four young men 16 to 24 years old were in the total labor force in 1974. Approximately 69 percent were in the civilian labor force in 1974 and 7 percent were in the Armed Forces; the comparable proportions in 1967 were 59 percent and 14 percent, respectively. Almost one-fifth of the young men and women of this age group in 1974 were not in the labor force but were attending school. The proportion of women 16 to 24 years old who were in the labor force increased from 48 percent in 1967 to 57 percent in 1974, whereas the proportion not working because they were keeping house declined from 26 percent to 20 percent. The labor force participation rate of youth increases during the summer school recess. In 1974, there was a 20 percent summer increase in the number of youth 16 to 24 years old in the labor force. Among young persons 16 to 19 years old, the increase was around 40 percent. Among persons who received baccalaureate or advanced degrees between July 1971 and June 1972, those under 25 were more likely to be unemployed in October 1972 than were those 25

years old and over. Those who received a bachelor's degree were more likely to be unemployed than those who received an advanced degree.

During the peak of the Vietnam era there were 1.9 million youth 20 to 24 years old, serving in the Armed Forces compared to 873,000 in 1974. About 90 percent of the Vietnam veterans 20 to 24 years old were in the labor force in 1974 and among these about 11 percent were unemployed. The unemployment rate for Vietnam veterans 20 to 24 years old of Negro and other races was substantially higher than the unemployment rate for white Vietnam veterans in this age group, 21 percent versus 10 percent.

A majority of women workers under 25 years old in 1974 were employed in white-collar occupations, whereas a majority of men workers of this age were employed in blue-collar occupations. Young persons 20 to 24 years old, were more likely to be white-collar workers than those 16 to 19 years old.

**Table 22. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PERSONS 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY SEX: 1967 TO 1974**

(Noninstitutional population. Annual average data)

Labor force and employment status	1974		1970		1967	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total population...thousands...	17,596	17,416	16,051	15,852	14,599	14,413
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION						
Total population.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force.....	75.6	56.7	73.3	51.4	73.7	47.7
In Armed Force.....	6.9	0.3	12.8	0.2	14.3	0.2
In civilian labor force.....	68.6	56.4	60.5	51.2	59.4	47.5
Employed.....	60.8	49.4	53.8	45.6	54.8	42.9
Unemployed.....	7.8	7.0	6.7	5.6	4.7	4.6
Not in labor force.....	24.4	43.3	26.7	48.6	26.3	52.3
Keeping house.....	0.2	19.6	0.1	23.3	0.1	25.7
Going to school.....	18.7	18.9	21.1	20.6	21.7	22.2
Unable to work.....	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3
Other reasons.....	5.1	4.6	5.1	4.5	4.0	4.2

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 23. SUMMERTIME INCREASE IN CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE, AND SEX: APRIL AND JULY 1974**

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Total, 16 to 24 years	Total	16 to 21 years		22 to 24 years
			16 to 19 years	20 to 21 years	
TOTAL					
April.....	20,592	12,990	7,959	5,031	7,602
July.....	24,725	16,770	11,039	5,731	7,955
Percent increase in labor force....	20.1	29.1	38.7	13.9	4.6
MALE					
April.....	11,387	7,097	4,404	2,693	4,290
July.....	13,831	9,272	6,155	3,117	4,559
Percent increase in labor force....	21.5	30.6	39.8	15.7	6.3
FEMALE					
April.....	9,204	5,893	3,554	2,339	3,311
July.....	10,894	7,498	4,884	2,614	3,396
Percent increase in labor force....	18.4	27.2	37.4	11.8	2.6

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Table 24. LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF PERSONS NOT ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AGE, AND SEX: OCTOBER 1973**

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

Educational attainment and age	Labor force participation rates			Unemployment rates		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>NOT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE</b>						
16 to 21 years.....	60.8	84.1	39.3	17.3	15.5	21.0
22 to 24 years.....	65.7	91.4	44.4	10.3	7.7	14.6
<b>HIGH SCHOOL ONLY<sup>1</sup></b>						
16 to 21 years.....	81.3	93.6	72.3	8.4	6.6	10.1
22 to 24 years.....	76.5	95.6	61.6	5.4	4.0	7.1
<b>COLLEGE, 1 TO 3 YEARS</b>						
16 to 21 years.....	85.4	91.3	80.2	7.3	8.4	6.1
22 to 24 years.....	85.0	97.2	72.0	3.9	2.8	5.4
<b>COLLEGE, 4 YEARS OR MORE</b>						
16 to 21 years.....	93.0	(B)	(B)	10.0	(B)	(B)
22 to 24 years.....	91.9	96.7	88.1	4.5	3.2	5.6

B Base less than 75,000 <sup>1</sup>High school graduates who did not complete a year of college.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Table 25. LABOR FORCE STATUS OF 1972 DEGREE RECIPIENTS, BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS: OCTOBER 1972**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Subject	Total degree recipients <sup>1</sup>	In labor force		
		Total	Unemployed	
			Number	Unemployment rate
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>				
Both sexes.....	794	735	69	9.4
Under age 25.....	474	432	57	13.2
25 years and over.....	320	303	12	4.0
Male.....	458	435	36	8.3
Under age 25.....	244	225	27	12.0
25 years and over.....	214	210	9	4.3
Female.....	336	299	33	11.0
Under age 25.....	231	207	30	14.5
25 years and over.....	105	92	3	3.3
<b>TYPE OF DEGREE</b>				
Bachelor's.....	588	535	64	12.0
Master's.....	156	152	4	2.6
All others.....	52	49	2	(B)
<b>MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY</b>				
Business or commerce.....	116	111	6	5.4
Education.....	244	221	17	7.7
Humanities.....	103	91	14	15.4
Social sciences.....	123	115	18	15.7
All other fields.....	208	197	14	7.1

B Base less than 75,000.

<sup>1</sup>Persons 16 years old and over in the civilian noninstitutional population in October 1972 who received baccalaureate or advanced degrees between July 1971 and June 1972 and who were not enrolled in school full time in October 1972.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Table 26. ESTIMATES OF THE ARMED FORCES BY AGE AND RACE: 1964 TO 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Estimates as of July 1)

Year	All ages	17 to 19 years	20 to 24 years
1974.....	2,220	384	873
1973.....	2,309	382	945
1972.....	2,385	356	1,033
1971.....	2,795	350	1,380
1970.....	3,157	387	1,656
1969.....	3,532	467	1,847
1968.....	3,593	403	1,887
1967.....	3,448	518	1,702
1966.....	3,140	493	1,372
1965.....	2,698	374	1,138
1964.....	2,748	355	1,177

Source: Consistent with Current Population Reports, Series P-25, Nos. 519 and 529.**Table 27. LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS FOR VIETNAM ERA VETERANS  
20 TO 24 YEARS OLD BY RACE: 1971 TO 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population. Annual average data)

Labor force and employment status	20 to 24 years old			
	1974	1973	1972	1971
<b>ALL RACES</b>				
Total.....	1,376	1,669	1,935	1,953
In civilian labor force.....	1,234	1,510	1,752	1,736
Percent.....	89.7	90.5	90.5	88.9
Employed.....	1,099	1,376	1,566	1,524
Unemployed.....	135	134	187	212
Unemployment rate.....	10.9	8.9	10.6	12.2
Not in civilian labor force.....	142	159	183	217
<b>WHITE</b>				
Total.....	1,210	1,466	1,731	1,749
In civilian labor force.....	1,093	1,336	1,575	1,556
Percent.....	90.3	91.1	91.0	89.0
Employed.....	988	1,225	1,416	1,375
Unemployed.....	105	110	158	181
Unemployment rate.....	9.6	8.3	10.0	11.6
Not in civilian labor force.....	117	130	156	193
<b>NEGRO AND OTHER RACES</b>				
Total.....	166	204	204	204
In civilian labor force.....	141	175	178	180
Percent.....	84.9	85.8	87.3	88.2
Employed.....	111	151	149	148
Unemployed.....	30	24	30	31
Unemployment rate.....	21.0	13.5	16.8	17.6
Not in civilian labor force.....	25	29	26	24

Note: Vietnam era veterans are those who served after August 4, 1964.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Table 28. EMPLOYED PERSONS 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY OCCUPATION GROUP, AGE, AND SEX: 1974**

(Civilian noninstitutional population. Annual average data)

Occupation	Male		Female	
	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years
Total employed.....thousands..	4,074	6,222	3,329	5,281
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION				
Total employed.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers.....	16.0	30.7	52.0	68.4
Professional technical, and kindred workers..	2.4	10.7	2.4	15.4
Managers and administrators, except farm.....	1.4	6.0	0.6	2.6
Sales workers.....	5.8	5.4	11.4	5.6
Clerical and kindred workers.....	6.5	8.7	37.6	44.8
Blue-collar workers.....	57.4	57.1	11.7	13.1
Craftsmen and kindred workers.....	10.9	20.2	0.9	1.2
Operatives, including transport.....	22.1	24.2	8.8	10.8
Laborers, except farm.....	24.3	12.7	2.0	1.1
Service workers.....	18.6	8.5	34.6	17.8
Private household workers.....	0.2	-	7.8	1.5
Service workers, except private household....	18.3	8.5	26.9	16.3
Farm workers.....	8.0	3.6	1.7	0.7
Farmers and farm managers.....	0.5	1.0	-	0.1
Farm laborers and foremen.....	7.5	2.6	1.7	0.6

- Represents zero.

Source: Current Population Survey.

## VI. INCOME

Young adults today are making a sizable contribution to our Nation's economy. About 56 percent of the men and 25 percent of the women 20 to 24 years old with income who were year-round full-time workers in 1973 had incomes of \$7,000 or more. The comparable proportions for men and women 25 years old and over were 85 percent and 47 percent, respectively. Among income recipients, the median income for men 20 to 24 years old who were year-round full-time workers was \$7,472 as compared with \$12,089 for men 25 years old and over. The median income in 1973 of families with a head under 25 years old and a year-round full-time civilian worker was \$10,155.

Despite the growing incomes of young persons, there are still those who are poor. About 3.9 million, or 12 percent, of all persons 14 to 21 years old were below the low-income level in 1973.

Approximately 30 percent of low-income white persons in this age group were in families headed by women, whereas 60 percent of young Negroes were in families with a woman as head.

The low-income rates in 1973 for persons 14 to 21 years old varied significantly by sex and race of the family head. Overall, 6 percent of young persons in families with a male head were below the low-income level, as compared with 34 percent for such persons in families headed by a woman. About half (54 percent) of young Negroes in families with a female head were below the low-income level in 1973. Young Negroes were around four times as likely to be poor as young whites. Forty-six percent of unrelated individuals 14 to 21 years old were below the low-income level.

**Table 29. TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1973 OF YEAR-ROUND FULL-TIME WORKERS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE AND SEX**

(Persons 14 years old and over as of March 1974. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Income in 1973	Male			Female		
	14 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	25 years and over	14 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	25 years and over
<b>YEAR-ROUND FULL-TIME WORKERS</b>						
Number of persons.....thousands..	691	3,671	35,281	436	2,477	14,632
Number of persons with income.....thousands..	670	3,659	35,266	431	2,469	14,322
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under \$1,000 or loss.....	7.5	2.0	0.9	7.9	2.1	1.3
\$1,000 to \$1,999.....	6.1	2.7	0.7	8.8	2.6	1.8
\$2,000 to \$2,999.....	10.1	2.8	0.9	10.9	5.8	3.3
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	15.1	4.5	1.6	25.3	10.5	8.1
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	14.0	8.1	2.8	19.7	19.1	11.8
\$5,000 to \$5,999.....	13.9	11.1	3.6	12.8	18.5	13.2
\$6,000 to \$6,999.....	12.5	13.1	4.6	7.4	15.9	13.2
\$7,000 and over.....	20.7	55.6	85.0	7.2	25.4	47.3
Median income.....	\$4,786	\$7,472	\$12,089	\$3,880	\$5,530	\$6,790

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 30. TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1973 FOR FAMILIES WITH HEAD 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD**

(Families and unrelated individuals as of March 1974. Civilian noninstitutional population including members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces)

Income in 1973	Families with head 14 to 24 years old	Unrelated individuals 14 to 24 years old
Number.....thousands..	4,258	3,006
Percent.....	100.0	100.0
Under \$3,000.....	11.8	40.4
\$3,000 to \$5,999.....	20.1	31.8
\$6,000 to \$9,999.....	33.2	22.2
\$10,000 and over.....	34.7	5.8
Median income.....	\$8,014	\$3,915
HEAD YEAR-ROUND FULL-TIME WORKER		
Percent of total excluding Armed Forces....	57.3	34.4
Median income.....	\$10,155	\$6,645

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 31. LOW INCOME STATUS OF PERSONS 14 TO 21 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX OF HEAD**

(Persons 14 to 21 years old as of March 1974. Civilian noninstitutional population including members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excluding all other members of the Armed Forces)

Subject	Number (thousands)			Percent below the low-income level		
	All races	White	Negro	All races	White	Negro
Total.....	3,900	2,343	1,459	12.2	8.6	35.2
In families.....	3,228	1,789	1,379	10.6	6.9	34.4
With male head.....	1,649	1,103	504	6.4	4.8	21.0
With female head.....	1,580	687	875	34.3	23.5	54.4
Unrelated individuals.....	671	554	81	46.1	43.7	57.9
Male.....	280	225	33	40.6	37.3	(B)
Female.....	391	329	48	51.0	49.5	61.5

B Base less than 75,000.

Source: Current Population Survey.

## VII. VOTING

Young Americans of voting age did not vote to as great an extent as did older Americans. In the November 1974 Congressional election, only about one-fifth of the 18- to 20-year olds and just over one-fourth of the 21- to 24-year olds reported that they voted, as compared with almost one-half of the persons 25 years old and over. Whites were more likely to vote than Negroes, as 25 percent of white youth 18 to 24 years old reported voting in the 1974 election compared with 16 percent of Negro youth. Voter turnout among young persons in the 1974 Congressional election was substantially below that reported in the Presidential election of 1972, as it was for all persons of voting age; but the decline in voter participation among youth in the 1974 election was greater than the decline among persons 25 years old and over.

Many youth did not vote because they were not registered. One of the primary reasons for not regis-

tering was because of lack of interest. Forty-three percent of the young persons 18 to 24 years old who were not registered to vote in the 1974 Congressional election reported lack of interest as their reason for not registering. The mobility of youth also affects their voter participation. One-fifth of the young persons 18 to 24 years old who were registered to vote in the 1974 election reported that they did not vote because they were out of town or away from home.

School enrollment data were not collected in the 1974 voting survey, but in the 1972 Presidential election young persons enrolled in school were more likely to vote than those not enrolled in school. About 71 percent of the 21- to 24-year olds enrolled in school reported that they voted in the 1972 Presidential election, as compared with about 47 percent of the persons in this age group who were not enrolled.

**Table 32. REPORTED VOTER PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS 18 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, RACE, AND SPANISH ORIGIN: NOVEMBER 1974 AND NOVEMBER 1972**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Race, Spanish origin, and age	1974 Congressional election		1972 Presidential election	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>ALL RACES</b>				
18 to 20 years.....	2,412	20.8	5,318	48.3
21 to 24 years.....	3,718	26.4	6,896	50.7
25 years and over.....	57,035	49.3	73,551	65.9
<b>WHITE</b>				
18 to 20 years.....	2,205	22.1	4,856	51.0
21 to 24 years.....	3,379	27.7	6,218	52.6
25 years and over.....	52,335	50.8	67,093	67.2
<b>NEGRO</b>				
18 to 20 years.....	199	13.5	425	30.7
21 to 24 years.....	302	18.4	615	38.2
25 years and over.....	4,286	38.7	5,993	57.1
<b>SPANISH ORIGIN<sup>1</sup></b>				
18 to 20 years.....	85	12.2	177	29.9
21 to 24 years.....	112	14.3	237	31.7
25 years and over.....	1,200	26.0	1,689	39.5

<sup>1</sup>Persons of Spanish origin may be of any race.

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 33. REPORTED VOTER PARTICIPATION AND REASON FOR NOT VOTING OR REGISTERING IN THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION FOR PERSONS 18 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE: NOVEMBER 1974**

(Number in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Reason	18 to 20 years	21 to 24 years	25 years and over
Total persons.....	11,621	14,098	115,579
Percent distribution.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Voted.....	20.8	26.4	49.3
Did not vote.....	79.2	73.6	50.7
Total reported registered but not voting.....	1,822	2,666	20,236
Reasons not voting, percent distribution.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not interested.....	18.1	20.1	18.3
Dislikes politics.....	8.9	10.9	13.3
Unable to go to polls.....	15.2	20.6	34.0
Out of town or away from home.....	27.0	17.6	11.5
Other reasons.....	14.7	17.4	15.1
Do not know and not reported.....	16.0	13.4	7.9
Total reported not registered.....	6,236	6,649	32,141
Reasons not registered, percent distribution.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not a citizen.....	4.0	6.6	10.3
Residence requirement not satisfied.....	3.4	6.1	4.1
Not interested.....	45.3	39.9	35.3
Dislikes politics.....	3.9	8.2	10.1
Unable to register.....	1.0	1.5	6.0
Other reasons.....	34.6	31.6	28.9
Do not know and not reported.....	7.8	6.1	5.2

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 34. REPORTED VOTER PARTICIPATION AND REASON FOR NOT VOTING OR REGISTERING IN THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION FOR PERSONS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SPANISH ORIGIN: NOVEMBER 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Reason	Total	White	Negro	Spanish origin
Total persons.....	25,719	22,187	3,113	1,481
Percent distribution.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Voted.....	23.8	25.2	16.1	13.3
Did not vote.....	76.2	74.8	83.9	86.7
Total reported registered but not voting.....	4,488	3,921	546	146
Reasons not voted, percent distribution....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not interested.....	19.3	19.1	21.6	19.2
Dislikes politics.....	10.1	10.6	6.6	7.5
Unable to go to polls.....	18.4	17.3	26.2	26.7
Out of town or away from home.....	21.4	22.7	12.1	13.0
Other reasons.....	16.3	16.9	12.1	14.4
Do not know and not reported.....	14.5	13.4	21.4	17.8
Total reported not registered.....	12,886	10,892	1,684	1,016
Reasons not registered, percent distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not a citizen.....	5.4	4.6	1.7	30.5
Residence requirement not satisfied.....	4.8	5.2	2.6	1.9
Not interested.....	42.6	42.5	46.0	30.1
Dislikes politics.....	6.1	6.5	4.0	4.9
Unable to register.....	1.3	1.1	2.4	0.9
Other reasons.....	33.0	33.9	30.8	23.7
Do not know and not reported.....	6.9	6.1	12.8	8.0

Source: Current Population Survey.

**Table 35. REPORTED VOTER PARTICIPATION AND REGISTRATION OF PERSONS 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, BY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT STATUS IN OCTOBER 1972, AGE, SEX, AND RACE: NOVEMBER 1972**

(Civilian noninstitutional population. Based on three-fourths of the sample for November CPS)

Enrollment status, sex, and race	18 to 20 years		21 to 24 years	
	Percent registered	Percent voted	Percent registered	Percent voted
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Enrolled in school.....	72.8	63.5	78.6	71.3
Not enrolled.....	49.7	39.7	55.9	47.4
<b>MALE</b>				
Enrolled in school.....	69.3	60.1	77.6	69.2
Not enrolled.....	49.1	38.5	54.3	45.3
<b>FEMALE</b>				
Enrolled in school.....	76.8	67.4	80.1	74.6
Not enrolled.....	50.1	40.6	57.1	49.1
<b>WHITE</b>				
Enrolled in school.....	75.4	66.8	80.4	73.3
Not enrolled.....	51.2	41.6	56.9	49.2
<b>NEGRO</b>				
Enrolled in school.....	54.5	40.4	63.7	54.2
Not enrolled.....	42.3	29.1	50.1	36.7

Source: Current Population Survey.

## VIII. CRIME VICTIMIZATION

In the first half of 1973 the victimization rate for selected crimes against persons was higher for persons 16 to 24 years old than for the total population 12 years old and over. The rates were 122 per 1,000 for 16- to 19-year olds, and 98 per 1,000 for 20- to 24-year olds, as compared with 64 per 1,000 for the total. The victimization rate for personal larceny, the most frequent crime against persons, was higher for persons 16 to 19 years old than for persons 20 to 24 years old, 87 per 1,000 versus 67 per 1,000. For both age

categories, males had the higher rate of personal larceny.

Of the three violent crimes—rape, robbery, and assault—assault (both aggravated and simple) was the most prevalent. The rate for aggravated assault was over 4 times higher for males 16 to 19 years old than for females in this age group, and the rate for simple assault was nearly twice as high.

**Table 36. SELECTED CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS 12 YEARS OLD AND OVER BY AGE AND SEX: 1973**

(Civilian noninstitutional population, first half of 1973)

Type of victimization	Total			Male		Female	
	Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years
Total persons.....thousands..	161,502	15,512	17,274	7,677	8,281	7,835	8,993
Total number of crimes per 1,000 persons.....	64.0	122.1	98.0	146.2	118.6	98.6	79.1
Rape.....	0.5	1.4	1.4	-	-	2.7	2.7
Robbery with injury.....	1.2	1.9	1.9	2.5	2.9	(B)	(B)
Robbery without injury.....	2.3	3.2	3.9	5.2	6.2	(B)	1.8
Aggravated assault.....	5.1	11.9	10.3	19.6	16.0	4.4	5.1
Simple assault.....	8.1	17.2	13.8	21.8	18.0	12.8	10.0
Personal larceny.....	46.7	86.5	66.7	97.0	75.4	76.2	58.6

- Represents zero.

B Base less than 10,000.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service.

## APPENDIX

### SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

**Source of Data.** The data for this report are based largely on results obtained in the March 1974 Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted by the Bureau of the Census. Some data were also obtained from CPS for other years and months and from the decennial censuses of the population. Some data are also obtained from the National Crime Survey. The CPS sample is spread over 461 areas comprising 923 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied households are eligible for interview each month. Of this number 2,000 occupied units, on the average, are visited but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 47,000, there are also about 8,000 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

Data collected in January 1967 through July 1972 in the CPS were based on a sample spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 50,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month.

From May 1956 through 1966 approximately 35,000 occupied housing units were eligible for interview each month.

The estimating procedure used in the CPS involves the inflation of weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. These independent estimates are based on statistics from the previous decennial census of population; statistics of births, deaths, immigration and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces.

The sample design and the estimation procedure used in the 1960 Decennial Census are discussed on Pages LXXXIII to XC of the volume **Characteristics of the Population: United States Summary** of the 1960 Census publications. The 1950 and 1940 censuses have different procedures.

The methodology used in the National Crime Survey (NCS) is summarized in Appendix II—Reliability of the Estimates—of the LEAA report: **Criminal Victimization in the United States: 1973.**

**Reliability of the Estimates.** Estimates based on a sample may differ somewhat from the figures obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting as well as being subject to sampling variability.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of certain response and enumeration errors, but it does not measure any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error, and the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

All statements of comparison appearing in the text are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better, and most are significant at a level of more than 2.0 standard errors. This means that for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e.g. by use of the phrase "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors.

The data in this report drawn from the complete counts of the decennial censuses have no sampling error. Other data from these censuses are based on tabulations of a sample of the returns in the census and, therefore, have some sampling error. However, these samples are so large that one can treat the sampling errors for this data as negligible.

It should be noted that data obtained from the CPS and the data obtained from the 1960 or earlier decennial censuses are not entirely comparable because of differences in interviewer experience and training

and in the differing survey processes. These differences account for an additional component of error not reflected in the standard error tables. Therefore, caution should be used in comparing results between these different sources.

**Note When Using Small Estimates.** Percentage distributions are shown in this report only when the base of the percentage is greater than 75,000. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that percentages would reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. Estimated totals are shown, however, even though the relative standard errors of these totals are larger than those for the corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates are provided primarily to permit such combinations of the categories as serve each user's needs.

**Use of Standard Error Tables.** The figures presented in tables A through K are approximations to the standard errors of various estimates shown in this report. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the tables of standard errors provide an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

**Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers (tables A, B, and E).** Tables A and B show standard errors of estimated numbers—table A for numbers associated with the total or white population and table B for numbers associated with Negro and other races. Each of the tables are subdivided into two sets of standard errors—one for characteristics of persons 14 to 24 and the others for persons 25 and over. Tables A and B shown general standard errors and must be adjusted depending on the kind of characteristic. Table E lists the various types of characteristics and a factor for each. To obtain a standard error for a number, first determine the value from table A or B as appropriate and from the appropriate age column. Linear interpolation can be used for values not exactly listed in the tables. Then look up in table E the factor for the type of characteristic and multiply this factor times the number you got from table A or B. The result is the appropriate standard error. An illustration of the process appears below.

**Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages (tables C, D, and E).** As for estimated percentages, there are two tables—table C for percentages of the total or white population and table D for percentages of Negro and other races. There is no subdivision by age. Also, as for estimated numbers, the values in tables C and D must be multiplied by the appropriate factor from table E.

**Table A. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS, TOTAL OR WHITE POPULATION, AGES 14 TO 24 AND 25 YEARS AND OVER**

(In thousands. 68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error		Size of estimate	Standard error	
	14 to 24	25 years and over		14 to 24	25 years and over
25.....	7.4	7.4	5,000.....	96.7	101.9
50.....	10.4	10.4	10,000.....	125.3	140.7
100.....	14.7	14.7	25,000.....	129.4	205.8
250.....	23.3	23.3	30,000.....	105.3	209.0
500.....	32.9	32.9	35,000.....	49.4	229.0
1,000.....	46.4	46.4	50,000.....	(X)	247.0
2,500.....	71.0	72.8	75,000.....	(X)	236.0

Note: See table E for factors pertaining to particular types of characteristics.

X Not applicable.

**Table B. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS, NEGRO AND OTHER RACES, AGES 14 TO 24 AND 25 YEARS AND OVER**

(In thousands. 68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error		Size of estimate	Standard error	
	14 to 24	25 years and over		14 to 24	25 years and over
10.....	5.1	5.1	500.....	34.3	35.1
25.....	8.0	8.0	1,000.....	46.2	48.5
35.....	9.5	9.5	2,500.....	61.0	71.5
50.....	11.3	11.3	5,000.....	45.3	87.3
75.....	13.8	13.8	6,000.....	No stand- ard error	89.0
100.....	15.9	15.9			
250.....	24.8	25.0			

Note: See table E for factors pertaining to particular types of characteristics.

**Illustration of the use of Tables A, B, C, D, and E to Determine Standard Errors of Numbers and Percentages.** Table 32 of this report shows that 3,718,000 persons, 21 to 24 years old, reported voting in the 1974 Congressional election. Table A shows the standard error on an estimate of this size to be approximately 84,000. Table E shows the factor for voting data is 1.0. Therefore, the approximation to the standard error on the estimate is 84,000. The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 84,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 168,000.

This estimate of 3,718,000 voters 21 to 24 years old represents 26.4 percent of the total 14,098,000 persons 21 to 24 years old. Table C shows the standard error of 26.4 percent on a base of 14,098,000 to be approximately 0.6 percentage points. Multiplying 0.6 by the factor 1.0, from table E, the standard error of 26.4 percent on a base of 14,098,000 for voting data is approximately 0.6 percentage points. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 26.4 percent would be within 0.6 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 1.2 percentage points of a complete census figures, i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be from 25.2 to 27.6 percent.

**Differences.** For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard errors of each estimate considered separately. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate the true standard error.

**Illustration of the Computation of the Standard Error of a Difference.** Table 32 of this report shows that in 1972, 6,896,000 persons 21 to 24 years old reported voting in the 1972 Presidential election. Thus, the apparent change in the number of persons 21 to 24 years old voting in 1972 and 1974 is 3,178,000. The standard error of 3,718,000 is 84,000 as shown above. Table A shows the standard error on an estimate of 6,896,000 to be approximately 108,000. Multiplying this by the voting factor from table E results in an approximate standard error of 108,000. The standard error of the estimated change of 3,178,000 is about

$$137,000 \doteq \sqrt{(108,000)^2 + (84,000)^2}.$$

This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference based on the sample would differ from that derived using complete census figures by less than 137,000. The 68 percent confidence interval around the 3,178,000 change is from 3,041,000 to 3,315,000, i.e.,  $3,178,000 \pm 137,000$ . A conclusion that the average estimate of the change derived from all

possible samples lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. The 95 percent confidence interval is 2,904,000 to 3,452,000 and thus we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the number of persons 21 to 24 voting in 1974 is actually less than the number that voted in 1972.

**Table C. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES,  
TOTAL OR WHITE POPULATION**

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)									
	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000	30,000	35,000
2 or 98....	2.1	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
5 or 95....	3.2	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
10 or 90...	4.4	2.8	2.0	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
25 or 75...	6.4	4.0	2.9	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3
50.....	7.4	4.7	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4

Note: See table E for factors pertaining to particular types of characteristics.

**Table D. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES,  
NEGRO AND OTHER RACES**

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)							
	50	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	6,000
2 or 98.....	3.2	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.3
5 or 95.....	4.9	3.5	2.2	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.5
10 or 90.....	6.8	4.8	3.0	2.1	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.6
25 or 75.....	9.8	6.9	4.4	3.1	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.9
50.....	11.3	8.0	5.1	3.6	2.5	1.6	1.1	1.0

Note: See table E for factors pertaining to particular types of characteristics.

Table E. FACTORS TO BE APPLIED TO TABLES A, B, C, OR D FOR CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA  
COLLECTED FROM 1967 TO 1974

Characteristics	Tables A or C	Tables B or D
<b>Population distribution:</b>		
Total United States:		
Total or white.....	No standard error	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	No standard error
Residence (SMSA, Non-SMSA):		
White.....	1.40	(X)
Negro.....	(X)	1.70
Spanish origin.....	2.63	(X)
<b>Mobility:</b>		
Total or nonmovers <sup>1</sup> .....	.92	(X)
All other nonmovers, total or white.....	1.45	(X)
All other nonmovers, Negro and other.....	(X)	1.39
Movers.....	2.2	(X)
<b>Education:</b>		
School enrollment:		
Total or white <sup>2</sup> .....	1.00	(X)
Negro and other <sup>2</sup> .....	(X)	1.00
Spanish origin.....	1.33	(X)
Recent college graduates (table 25):		
Total or white.....	.84	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.90
<b>Marital status and family composition:</b>		
Total or white.....	1.40	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	1.40
<b>Fertility<sup>3</sup>:</b>		
<b>Labor force characteristics:</b>		
Employment (annual averages):		
Total or white:		
Both sexes.....	.60	(X)
Male only, female only.....	.50	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.50
Vietnam veterans (table 27).....	.46	(X)
Other employment:		
Total or white:		
Both sexes <sup>2</sup> .....	.80	(X)
Male only, female only.....	.70	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.70
Unemployment:		
Total or white.....	.90	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.90
Summer employment of youth:		
Total or white.....	1.00	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	1.00

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table E. FACTORS TO BE APPLIED TO TABLES A, B, C, OR D FOR CPS DATA COLLECTED  
FROM 1967 TO 1974--Continued**

Characteristics	Tables A or C	Tables B or D
Income:		
Persons:		
Total or white.....	.84	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.74
Families:		
Total or white.....	.70	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.60
Low Income:		
Persons:		
Total or white.....	1.68	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	1.47
Families:		
Total or white.....	.70	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	.60
Voting:		
Total or white.....	1.00	(X)
Negro and other.....	(X)	1.00
Crime against youth.....	.88	(X)

X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Used for nonmovers on statistics relating to Educational Attainment, Labor Force, Marital Status, Income and One per Household.

<sup>2</sup>For data from CPS for the years 1956-1966, additionally multiply by the factor 1.2. For data prior to 1956 additionally multiply by 1.5, rather than the 1.2.

<sup>3</sup>For fertility standard errors see table F.

**Table F. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED FERTILITY RATES:  
JUNE 1971 TO JUNE 1974  
(68 chances out of 100)**

Number of women (thousands)	Children ever born per 1,000 women							
	500	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000
250.....	51	93	129	164	198	234	274	315
500.....	36	66	92	116	140	166	194	222
750.....	30	54	74	95	114	135	158	181
1,000.....	26	47	65	82	99	117	137	158
2,000.....	18	33	45	58	70	83	97	112
5,000.....	11	20	29	37	44	52	61	70
10,000.....	9	15	20	26	31	38	44	50
15,000.....	7	12	16	21	26	29	35	41
20,000.....	6	11	15	19	23	27	31	35
25,000.....	5	9	12	16	20	24	28	32

Note: To obtain standard errors for 1967 data multiply the above entries by 1.45 for total, or white and 1.30 for Negro.

**Standard Errors of Fertility Rates (tables F, G, and H).** Tables 20 and 21 contain estimates of number of births and births expected per woman (or per 1,000 wives) in certain groups. Standard errors of these estimated fertility rates are given in table F. To use table F, one needs to know the number of women in the groups. These numbers are given in tables G and H. The following example illustrates the use of these tables to obtain the standard error of a fertility rate.

Table 21 shows that in 1974 there were 2,165 total births expected per 1,000 wives 18 to 24 years old. Table H shows that there were about 5,053,000 women in this group. Table F shows the standard error of a rate of 2,165 children on a base of 5,053,000 women to be approximately 39. Consequently, the

**Table G. NUMBER OF WIVES REPORTING BIRTH EXPECTATIONS BY RACE AND YEAR: TABLE 20**

(In thousands)

Year	All races	White	Negro
1974.....	5,053	4,551	424
1973.....	5,018	4,510	434
1972.....	5,119	4,670	400
1971.....	4,987	4,523	427
1967.....	4,161	3,798	342

**Table H. NUMBER OF WIVES 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD REPORTING BIRTH EXPECTATIONS BY AGE AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: TABLE 21**

(In thousands)

Educational attainment	Age			
	Total, 18 to 24 years	18 and 19 years	20 and 21 years	22 to 24 years
Total.....	5,053	788	1,462	2,803
Less than 4 years of high school...	1,140	299	354	487
High school, 4 years.....	2,688	436	800	1,452
College, 1 year or more.....	1,223	53	307	863

**Table I. STANDARD ERRORS OF MEDIANS FROM TABLE 15**

Year	Families with dependent members 18 to 24 years old		Percent with members enrolled full time in college	
	Median	Standard error	Median	Standard error
1973.....	\$11,898	\$97	\$14,679	\$162
1972.....	11,557	103	14,190	163
1971.....	11,231	108	13,947	168
1970.....	11,210	110	13,831	159
1969.....	11,272	111	13,798	162
1968.....	10,981	118	13,638	166
1967.....	10,643	118	13,481	159

chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 39. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 78 (twice the standard error); i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be between 2,087 and 2,243 children ever born per 1,000 total births expected 18 to 24 years old.

**Medians.** The sampling variability of an estimated median depends upon the distribution as well as on the size of the base from which the median is determined. An approximate method for measuring the reliability of a median is to determine an interval about the estimated median, such that there is a stated degree of confidence that the median based on a complete census lies within the interval.

**Standard Errors of Median Income (tables I, J, and K).** Tables I, J, and K contain standard errors of estimates of median income for several categories of persons and families. The medians appear in tables 15, 29, and 30, respectively.

**Table J. STANDARD ERRORS ON MEDIAN INCOME IN 1973 OF YEAR-ROUND FULL-TIME WORKERS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER BY AGE AND SEX: Table 29**

Age and sex	Median	Standard error
MALE		
14 to 19 years.....	\$4,786	\$171
20 to 24 years.....	7,472	86
25 years and over..	12,089	45
FEMALE		
14 to 19 years.....	3,880	176
20 to 24 years.....	5,530	67
25 years and over..	6,790	38

**Table K. STANDARD ERRORS OF MEDIANS IN TABLE 30**

Class of families or unrelated individuals	Median	Standard error
Families with head 14 to 24..	\$8,014	\$127
Unrelated individuals 14 to 24	3,915	120
Head year-round full-time worker:		
Families with head 14 to 24	10,155	96
Unrelated individuals 14 to 24.....	6,645	93

UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20402  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
FIRST CLASS MAIL

POSTAGE AND  
FEES PAID  
U.S. GOVERNMENT  
PRINTING OFFICE  
375

