## APPENDIX I

**Historical Series—Index to Tables in Which *Historical Statistics* Series Appear**

[The most recent historical supplement to the Statistical Abstract is the bicentennial edition, *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970* (see inside back cover). Listed below are statistical time series (identified by number) appearing in the present volume, for which tables in the Statistical Abstract present comparable figures. Historical Statistics series are listed only where related or comparable data are available for one or more years later than 1970. In a few instances, it may be necessary to combine figures shown in the Abstract to obtain totals comparable to the series shown in *Historical Statistics*]

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APPENDIX II

Metropolitan Area Concepts and Components

Statistics for metropolitan areas shown in the Statistical Abstract represent areas officially designated by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA’s). Definitions of the SMSA’s in terms of their geographic components are presented in Office of Management and Budget, Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, 1975, Revised Edition. OMB issues amendments to update this publication when changes in SMSA definitions are made. See also U.S. National Bureau of Standards, Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS Pub. 8–4, June 30, 1974).

The complete list of areas, their components, and population totals, which follows tables A, B, and C below (see p. 926) is based on the SMSA definitions as amended by OMB to March, 31 1976. On that date, there were 276 SMSA’s (including 4 in Puerto Rico). In June 1977, five new SMSA’s were added by OMB, but these additions are not reflected in the data shown in this Abstract.

Standard definitions of metropolitan statistical areas were first issued by the then Bureau of the Budget (predecessor of OMB) in 1949, under the designation “Standard Metropolitan Areas”; the present designation was adopted in 1959. The general concept of a metropolitan area is one of an integrated economic and social unit with a large population nucleus.

The criteria for the establishment and definition of SMSA’s have undergone several modifications since 1949. The current criteria were adopted in March 1976; they provide that each SMSA must include at least:

(a) One city with 50,000 or more inhabitants, or
(b) A city with at least 25,000 inhabitants, which, together with contiguous places (incorporated or unincorporated) having population densities of at least 1,000 persons per square mile, has a combined population of 50,000 and constitutes for general economic and social purposes a single community, provided that the county or counties in which the city and contiguous places are located has a total population of at least 75,000. (In New England, the cities and towns qualifying for inclusion in an SMSA must have a total population of at least 75,000.)

In addition to the central city or cities, the criteria provide that the SMSA include the county in which the central city is located, and adjacent counties that are determined to be metropolitan in character and economically and socially integrated with the county of the central city, according to specific rules. (In New England, as noted below, the units comprising the area are cities and towns rather than counties.) The largest city in each SMSA is designated a “central city”; in addition, there may be up to two additional central cities if certain criteria are met. With two exceptions (Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y. and Northeast Pennsylvania), the title of each SMSA includes the names of its central city or cities. An SMSA may include other cities of 50,000 or more besides its central cities, and may include territory in more than one State.

Recent previous editions (1967–1975) of the Statistical Abstract have included a section entitled “Metropolitan Area Statistics,” which presented numerous items of statistical information for SMSA’s. That section was omitted beginning with the 1976 edition. In its place, a much more comprehensive State and Metropolitan Area Data Book will be issued on a biennial basis; the first issue is scheduled for release in 1978.

New England SMSA’s and NECMA’s. Because SMSA’s in New England are defined in terms of cities and towns, rather than counties, some statistical data that are available

1 The new SMSA's are as follows: Bradenton, Fla.; Grand Forks, N.D.—Minn.; Kokomo, Ind.; Lawrence, Kans.; and Panama City, Fla.
only for counties cannot be compiled for individual New England SMSA's. Therefore, for New England areas data are shown for both New England County Metropolitan Areas (NECMA's) and SMSA's wherever possible. The NECMA's provide a county version of the New England areas defined following criteria adopted by OMB in March 1976, which are identical to those used to define SMSA's in the other States. NECMA's do not replace New England SMSA's as the standard areas.

**Standard Consolidated Statistical Areas.**—Standard consolidated statistical areas (SCSA's), defined under criteria adopted by OMB in August 1975, include two or more contiguous SMSA's which meet certain criteria of size, urban character, integration, and contiguity of urbanized areas.

**Effect of changes in SMSA definitions.**—Changes in the definitions of SMSA's since 1949 have included the recognition of new areas as, for example, cities reached 50,000 population, and large counties (or towns in New England) were added to existing SMSA's. Also, several formerly separate SMSA's have been merged, and occasionally territory has been transferred from one SMSA to another or (in rare instances) from an SMSA to nonmetropolitan territory. Comparisons of SMSA figures over time may be affected in cases where the SMSA definitions were changed. To maintain comparability, data for an earlier period have been revised in this volume, where possible, to reflect the SMSA boundaries of the more recent period. However, this could not always be done. For data based on a sample survey, in particular, it is usually not possible to reflect changes in SMSA definitions that occurred after the survey was made.

In the three tables that follow, data are given for SMSA's as defined for specified dates, thereby indicating the extent of change in population and land area resulting from revisions in definitions.

**Table A. Number, Population, and Land Area of SMSA's as Defined at Specified Dates: 1940 to 1975**

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<tr>
<th>SMSA Definition as of:</th>
<th>Number of SMSA's</th>
<th>Population (1,000)</th>
<th>Land area, 1970 (1,000 sq. mi.)</th>
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<td></td>
<td>1940, Apr. 1</td>
<td>1950, Apr. 1</td>
<td>1960, Apr. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950 census (Mar. 1950)</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>84,050</td>
<td>106,345</td>
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<td>1960 census (Oct. 1960)</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>82,343</td>
<td>95,317</td>
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<td>1944 (Aug. 31)</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>74,809</td>
<td>91,644</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939 (Jan. 1)</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>70,608</td>
<td>90,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970 census (Feb. 28, 1971)</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>77,155</td>
<td>94,579</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974 (Apr. 1)</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>85,028</td>
<td>100,220</td>
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<tr>
<td>1976 (Mar. 1)</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>84,455</td>
<td>103,668</td>
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1. Corresponds to total 1940 population for 1950 SMSA's published in 1950 census (90,279,675), with addition of Honolulu SMSA, and corrected by subtracting population (8,194) of Colonial Heights town erroneously included in Richmond SMSA.
2. Corresponds to total SMSA population for 1950 published in 1950 census (84,500,680), plus Honolulu SMSA.
3. Corresponds to total 1940 population for 1960 SMSA's published in 1960 census (72,584,408), corrected by adding population (59,000) of towns excluded from Stamford SMSA (remained in Bridgeport SMSA) and subtracting population (5,194) of Colonial Heights town erroneously included in Richmond SMSA.
4. Corresponds to total SMSA population for 1950 published in 1950 census (112,285,178), corrected by subtracting population (59,000) of towns erroneously included in Franklin County, Ohio (Columbus SMSA).
5. SMSA's as defined for the 1966 economic censuses.
6. SMSA's as defined for the 1967 economic censuses.
7. Corresponds to total SMSA population for 1970 SMSA's published in 1970 census (118,948,754), corrected by subtracting 1,265 population from Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA; this represented an addition to the 1960 population of Andover town made subsequent to the original census tabulations, and therefore not reflected in State or national totals.
9. Corresponds to total SMSA land area published in 1970 census (88,826,030), corrected by subtracting 15 square miles erroneously included in Norwich SMSA and 3 square miles included due to erroneous addition of area data.
10. SMSA's as defined for the 1972 economic censuses.
11. Includes estimated 1939 population (4,429) of Anchorage Census Division, as defined in 1970.
12. Includes estimated 1950 population (32,000) of Anchorage Census Division, as defined in 1970.
13. Includes 1960 population (58,833) of Anchorage Census Division, as defined in 1970.

TABLE B. NONMETROPOLITAN POPULATION AND LAND AREA AT SPECIFIED DATES: 1940 TO 1975

[See headnote for table A, p. 924. Nonmetropolitan population and land area are equivalent to that portion of the total national population and land area not included within SMSA's at the dates specified]

<table>
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<th>NONMETROPOLITAN POPULATION AS OF—</th>
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<th>Land area, 1970 (1,000 sq. mi.)</th>
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<td>Apr. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1950 census (Mar. 1952)</td>
<td>62,630</td>
<td>66,472</td>
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<td>1960 census (Nov. 1960)</td>
<td>59,320</td>
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<td>57,295</td>
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<td>1968 (Jan. 31)</td>
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<td>55,010</td>
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<td>1974 (Apr. 30)</td>
<td>50,127</td>
<td>51,109</td>
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<td>1976 (Mar. 31)</td>
<td>49,709</td>
<td>50,631</td>
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TABLE C. PERCENT OF TOTAL U.S. POPULATION AND PERCENT OF LAND AREA Inside SMSA's AS DEFINED AT SPECIFIED DATES: 1940 TO 1975

[See headnote for table A, p. 924]

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<td>52.6</td>
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<td>59.0</td>
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<td>1968 (Jan. 31)</td>
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<td>61.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>1976 (Mar. 31)</td>
<td>62.4</td>
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## APPENDIX II

### Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas as of March 31, 1976

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- 1975 Population: 121.9
- 1975 Population: 121.9

### Fresno, Calif.
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- 1975 Population: 121.9
- 1975 Population: 121.9

### Gadsden, Ala.
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### Gainesville, Fla.
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### Galveston-Texas City, Tex.
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### Gary-Hammond-East Chicago, Ind.
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- 1975 Population: 568.5
- 1975 Population: 96.3

### Gastonia, N.C. (See Charlotte-Gastonia SMSA)

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- 1975 Population: 429.6
- 1975 Population: 149.6

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### Greeley, Colo.
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### Green Bay, Wis.
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- 1975 Population: 190.8
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### Hamilton-Middletown, Ohio
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### Harrisburg, Pa.
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### Hartford, Conn.
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### Honolulu, Hawaii
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### Houston, Tex.
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### Lafayette-West Lafayette, Ind.
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### Lakeland-Winter Haven, Fla.
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### Lawrence-Haverhill, Mass.-N.H.
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### Lima, Ohio.
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### Little Rock-North Little Rock, Ark.
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### Long Branch-Ashbury Park, N.J.
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### Longview, Tex.
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2 Poquoson city became independent of York County in 1975.
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<td>Shawnee County</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Waco, Tex.</td>
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<tr>
<td>McLennan County</td>
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<td>Washington, D.C.-Md.-Va.</td>
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<td>District of Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Haven County (pt.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(See also New Haven NECMA, p. 932.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa.</td>
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<td>Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton, Pa.</td>
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<td>(See also Worcester NECMA, p. 982.)</td>
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### NEW ENGLAND COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREAS (NECMA’s)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1975 Population (1,000)</th>
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<td><strong>Boston-Lowell-Brockton-Lawrence-Haverhill, Mass.-N.H.</strong></td>
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<td>Essex County, Mass.</td>
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<td>Norfolk County, Mass.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plymouth County, Mass.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suffolk County, Mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockingham, N.H.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk-Danbury, Conn.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hartford-New Britain-Bristol, Conn.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartford County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesex County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tolland County</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1975 Population (1,000)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leviston-Auburn, Maine</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Androscoggin County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manchester-Nashua, N.H.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillsborough County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Bedford-Fall River, Mass.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol County</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>New Haven-West Haven-Waterbury-Meriden, Conn.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>New Haven County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New London-Norwich, Conn.</strong></td>
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<td>New London County</td>
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<td><strong>Pittsfield, Mass.</strong></td>
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<td>Berkshire County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumberland County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagadahoc County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Providence-Warwick-Pawtucket, R.I.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, Mass.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hampden County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampshire County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worcester-Fitchburg-Leominster, Mass.</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td>Worcester County</td>
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</table>

1 Estimates.


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### STANDARD CONSOLIDATED STATISTICAL AREAS (SCSA’s)

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<tr>
<th>1975 Population (1,000)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boston-Lawrence-Lowell, Mass.-N.H.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lowell, Mass.-N.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brockton, Mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chicago-Gary, Ill.-Ind.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary-Hammond-East Chicago, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cincinnati-Hamilton, Ohio-Ky.-Ind.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati, Ohio-Ky.-Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton-Middletown, Ohio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, Ohio.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleveland, Ohio.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Akron, Ohio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorain-Elyria, Ohio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Detroit-Ann Arbor, Mich.</strong></td>
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<td>Detroit, Mich.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Arbor, Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Houston-Galveston, Tex.</strong></td>
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<td>Houston, Tex.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galveston-Texas City, Tex.</td>
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<td>Los Angeles-Long Beach, Calif.</td>
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<td>Anaheim-Santa Ana-Garden Grove, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxnard-Simi Valley-Ventura, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Lauderhill, Fla.</strong></td>
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<td>Miami, Fla.</td>
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<td>Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood, Fla.</td>
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<td>Milwaukee, Wis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Racine, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York, N.Y.-N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark, N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey City, N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paterson-Clifton-Passaic, N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Branch-Asbury Park, N.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stamford, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwalk, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, Pa.-Del.-N.J.-Md.</strong></td>
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<td>Philadelphia, Pa.-N.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilmington, Del.-N.J.-Md.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trenton, N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, Calif.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Jose, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seattle-Tacoma, Wash.</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td>Seattle-Everett, Wash.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacoma, Wash.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Estimates.

APPENDIX III

Statistical Methodology and Reliability

Introduction.—The data presented in this Statistical Abstract came from many sources. The sources include not only Federal statistical bureaus and other organizations that collect and issue statistics as their principal activity, but also governmental administrative and regulatory agencies, private research bodies, trade associations, insurance companies, health associations, and private organizations such as the American Red Cross and philanthropic foundations. Consequently, the data vary considerably as to reference periods, definitions of terms, and, for ongoing series, the number and frequency of time periods for which data are available.

The data also vary as to how they were obtained. Some are based on complete enumeration (every person or item is counted); some on records kept for administrative or regulatory purposes (school enrollment, hospital records, securities registration, financial accounts, etc.); some on sample survey results (see below); and some on estimation procedures which range from highly sophisticated techniques to crude "informed guesses." In virtually all data collection operations, various types of errors will be present in the data. The types and sources of errors are discussed later.

Prior to carrying out a census or sample survey, the group of people or items of interest, referred to as the universe or population, must be clearly defined. For example, if data are collected for the universe of farms in the United States, it is necessary to define a "farm" before data are collected.

A large portion of the data appearing in the tables was obtained from sample surveys. A sample survey is a data collection operation in which data are obtained for only a part (i.e., a sample) of the entire population being surveyed. In many other cases the data came from a complete census—a data collection operation in which data are obtained for each member of the universe. For most censuses and sample surveys, the data were obtained from completed questionnaires. However, in some cases, data were obtained from other sources as noted above.

In cases in which a sample survey is used to obtain data about a universe, the sample selected for the survey is usually a probability sample, sometimes referred to as a random sample. It is a sample obtained from a universe by using a chance device in such a way that all the members of the universe have a known, nonzero probability (or chance) of selection into the sample. The probability of selection of a unit from the universe is a number, between zero and one, which represents the likelihood that the unit will be chosen for the sample.

For large-scale sample surveys, the probability sample of units is often selected as a multi-stage sample. The first stage of a multi-stage sample is the selection of a sample of large groups of population members, referred to as primary sampling units (PSU's). For example, in a national multi-stage household sample, PSU's are often counties or groups of counties. The second stage of a multi-stage sample is the selection, within each PSU selected at the first stage, of smaller groups of population units, referred to as secondary sampling units. In subsequent stages of selection, smaller and smaller nested groups are chosen until the ultimate sample of population units is obtained. To qualify a multi-stage sample as a probability sample, all stages of sampling must be carried out using probability sampling methods.

Prior to selection at each stage of a multi-stage (or a single-stage) sample, a list of the sampling units for that stage, referred to as a sampling frame, must be obtained. For example, for the first stage of selection of a national household sample, a list of the
counties and county groups that form the PSU’s must be obtained. For the final stage of selection, lists of households, and sometimes persons within households, have to be compiled in the field. If a single-stage sample of the Nation’s hospitals is to be selected, a list of hospitals must be obtained to use as the sampling frame. Unfortunately, it is virtually impossible to obtain a complete, up-to-date frame for a hospital survey. This is a problem incurred for most surveys of institutions and for many other types of surveys as well.

Whenever universe quantities in a table are constructed from data collected in a sample survey, the table quantities are referred to as sample estimates. In constructing a sample estimate, an attempt is made to come as close as is feasible to the corresponding universe quantity that would be obtained from a complete census of the universe. The errors that can be present in a sample estimate of a universe quantity are classified as either sampling errors or nonsampling errors.

The sampling error is that part of the difference between the estimate and the corresponding population quantity that arises because only a portion (i.e., a sample) of the universe was used to estimate the universe quantity. The measure of sampling error that is often used is the standard error of the estimate. Valid estimates of the standard errors of survey estimates can usually be calculated from the sample survey data. Under most circumstances, the estimated standard error of an estimate can be used as follows in measuring the sampling error: The chances are about two out of three (68 percent) that a sample estimate will be within one standard error of the corresponding universe quantity that would be obtained from a complete census, using the same data collection procedures. Also, the chances are about 19 out of 20 (95 percent) that a sample estimate will be within two standard errors of the corresponding population value.

As a measure of sampling error, some statisticians prefer to use the relative standard error, or coefficient of variation, of an estimate, rather than the standard error. The coefficient of variation (CV) of an estimate is the standard error of the estimate expressed as a percent of the estimate. That is, the CV of an estimate is the standard error of the estimate divided by the expected value of the estimate (i.e., divided by the average value of the estimate taken over repeated samples). It can be used as a measure of sampling error in a way similar to the use of the standard error. For example, if the estimated CV of an estimate is 2.3 percent, the chances are about 19 out of 20 that the estimate will not differ from the population quantity by more than 4.6 percent of the estimate (i.e. two times 2.3 percent).

Any error in a sample estimate that arises from sources other than sampling is classified as a nonsampling error. Nonsampling errors arise from such sources as varying interpretation of questions by interviewers, unwillingness or inability of respondents to give correct answers, nonresponse, improper coverage, and processing errors in coding, editing, and tabulating data.

Nonsampling errors are of two kinds—variances and biases. Nonsampling variances arise because of the varying interpretation of questions by respondents, interviewers, coders, or other processors. To the extent that people do not ask questions, record answers, code responses, or process data in other ways in a uniform manner, nonsampling variances result. The impact of these nonsampling variances is usually an overstatement of the precision of the survey estimates. Since special experiments are necessary to measure these nonsampling variances, their magnitudes are generally unknown.

Nonsampling biases in survey estimates result from nonresponse, from incorrect responses, from undercoverage of certain population groups, and other such sources. Estimates of these biases also require special experiments or access to independent data and, consequently, are seldom available.

To compensate for suspected biases, adjustments of the sample estimates are often made. For example, adjustments are frequently made for nonresponse, both total and partial. Total nonresponse refers to a case in which no usable survey responses were obtained from a sample person. Partial or item nonresponse refers to a case in which only a portion of the survey items was not obtained.
Adjustments made for either type of nonresponse are often referred to as imputations. Imputation for total nonresponse is usually made essentially by substituting for the questionnaire responses of the nonrespondents the “average” questionnaire responses of the respondents. These imputations are usually made separately within various groups of sample members, formed by attempting to place respondents and nonrespondents together that have “similar” survey characteristics. Imputation for item nonresponse is usually made by substituting for a missing item the response to that item of a respondent having characteristics that are “similar” to those of the nonrespondent.

For an estimate calculated from a sample survey, the total error in the estimate is composed of the sampling error, which can usually be estimated from the sample, and the nonsampling error, which usually cannot be estimated from the sample. The total error present in a population quantity obtained from a complete census is composed of only nonsampling errors. Ideally, estimates of the total error associated with data given in the Statistical Abstract tables should be given. However, due to the unavailability of estimates of nonsampling errors, only estimates of the levels of sampling errors, in terms of estimated standard errors or coefficients of variation, are available.

Principal data bases.—Following are brief descriptions of 39 of the sample surveys and censuses that provide a substantial portion of the data contained in this Abstract.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Census of Agriculture

The Census of Agriculture is taken every 5 years to obtain data on farm acreage, crops and livestock, machinery and equipment, farm sales, income and expenses, and other items, by State and county. The universe for this census includes all farm operators in the United States. The survey frame is primarily a list of persons and organizations engaged in agricultural activities compiled from lists provided by the Internal Revenue Service, the Social Security Administration, and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

In the 1974 Census of Agriculture, a regular reporting form, or questionnaire, was sent to all farms whose sales were expected to exceed $2,500 and a short form, covering only major items, to the others. As an exception to this, only a sample of the names contained on the ASCS list but not on either of the other lists was included in the mailing, because those operators accounted for very small amounts of agriculturalactivity. The initial mailing of about 2,391,000 regular forms and 1,742,000 short forms was followed by letters and telephone calls to nonrespondents in order to provide a high response rate.

Sampling errors in terms of estimated relative standard errors by county and State for farm acreage, value of land and buildings, and for various crop and livestock values can be found in the Appendix A tables of each 1974 State volume. Nonsampling errors include undercoverage of farms, incomplete or incorrect reporting, and processing errors. Imputations are made for missing sales values and quantities of cropland and livestock.

Independent sample surveys have been conducted since 1950 to measure the quality of census coverage. Over the years the undercoverage of farms, chiefly small farms, has ranged from approximately 8 to 15 percent for the entire country, while the amount of land missed ranges from about 6 to 9 percent. Estimates of undercoverage for each State in 1969 and 1974 are available in the State volumes. For additional information on census coverage, statistical adjustments for nonresponse and sampling reliability of the adjusted estimates, and a discussion of nonsampling errors, see the State and county data volumes for 1974.

See tables citing Census of Agriculture in source notes, section 24.

Censuses of Business (Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade, and Selected Services)

These censuses are taken every 5 years, the latest for 1972. They provide various statistics for the three classifications of establishments surveyed, including number of
establishments, number of employees, total payroll size, and total sales. In 1972, the universe consisted of employer establishments primarily engaged in wholesale trade, and employer and nonemployer establishments primarily engaged in retail trade or selected services industries during the calendar year 1972. All wholesale firms with paid employees received questionnaires by mail. For retail trade and selected services industries, questionnaires were mailed to all firms with four or more paid employees and to a sample of the smaller firms. Firms with no paid employees were not required to file a census return.

Mail and telephone followups were used to generate high response rates. Data for nonrespondents and for “nonselected” firms in retail trade and selected services industries were obtained from the administrative records of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Social Security Administration (SSA). The final response rate for the three censuses was 84.4 percent for single-establishment firms and 92.6 percent for multi-establishment (2 or more) firms. The portion of respondents answering individual questionnaire items ranged generally from 60 to 90 percent with higher completion rates for less detailed questions. Data included for missing or for unsatisfactory (failing edit checks) responses were based on imputation procedures which utilized data from other related responses, where available, or from appropriate IRS and SSA records. For information on coverage, methodology, and reliability, see Appendix A of the following 1972 census reports: Census of Retail Trade, vol. I; Census of Selected Services, vol. I; Census of Wholesale Trade, vol. I; and Economic Censuses, Procedural History, January 1976.

See tables citing the censuses of business in source notes, section 30.

1972 Censuses of Business Special Inquiry Samples (Retail Trade and Selected Services)

These samples were used to collect additional information from a probability sample of units covered in the 1972 censuses of business for retail trade and selected services industries (see above). Consequently, the universe for the special inquiry samples is the same as that for the 1972 censuses of business (i.e., employer firms engaged in retail trade or selected services industries).

All firms with a payroll above specified cutoffs but in categories for which specialized data were required were included in the sample. In addition, a 10-percent sample of all other employer firms was selected. For the selected firms, special inquiry questions were included in the census questionnaire.

The mail survey with subsequent mail and telephone followups resulted in nonresponse rates ranging from 10 to 40 percent at the national level. Incomplete response ranged from about 40 percent for some inquiries to less than 10 percent for others. Imputation for missing values was based on average relationships between survey items derived from the survey data. For further details, refer to U.S. Census of Business: 1967, BC 67–MLSI, and the following 1972 census reports: Census of Retail Trade: RC 72–L; Census of Selected Services Industries, SC 72–S–7; Census of Selected Services Industries, Arrangement of Passenger Transportation, SC 72–S–6; and Census of Selected Services Industries, Legal Services Report, SC 72–S–4.

See tables 300, 399, and 1079.

Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS)

This survey produces yearly estimates of retail sales in the United States. The universe includes all employer and nonemployer retail trade establishments in the United States operating at the end of the calendar year. A probability sample selected from establishments contained in the sample used for the monthly Current Business Survey (see below) serves as the sample for ARTS. All of the larger organizations contained in the monthly survey (i.e., those with 11 or more retail establishments reported in the 1967 Census of Business) were included in ARTS. A portion of the remaining establishments was selected on the basis of probability sampling procedures.

The estimated coefficient of variation (CV) for national estimates of total sales and
inventories is about 3.5 percent. For the more detailed estimates by kind of business or geographic area, CV's generally range from 0 to 7.0 percent, occasionally reaching as high as 10.5 percent. Tables of estimated coefficients of variation are included in the annual publication, Retail Trade.

Survey forms are sent early in the calendar year and are supplemented by mail and telephone followups. The nonresponse rate is 5 percent or less. Incomplete response to specific items ranges from 5 percent for inventories to 9 percent for sales. Imputation for missing items is based on previous reports of the firm in either the current monthly surveys or the last business census, supplemented by administrative records. For further details, refer to Retail Trade, 1975, BR–75–13, page 17; and Census of Retail Trade, 1972, vol. I, Chapter 2.

See tables 1423 and 1424.

Current Business Surveys (Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade, and Selected Services)

The Current Business Surveys provide monthly estimates of services receipts in the United States by kind of industry, merchandise exchanges between wholesalers and retailers, retail sales by kind of business and geographic area, and accounts-receivable balances of retail stores. Annual figures are cumulative monthly estimates. The universe consists of all retail and selected services establishments and employer establishments primarily engaged in wholesale trade.

A probability sample of establishments was selected for these surveys from a list frame and from an area frame. The list frame consists of Social Security Administration lists of establishments that have been assigned employer identification (EI) numbers. For the wholesale trade survey, the 1963 Census of Business lists were also used. Each one in a group of the largest establishments on these lists is included in the sample each month. A sample of the other establishments, obtained by selecting a sample of EI numbers, is included in the sample every three months on a rotating basis.

To supplement an incomplete EI list, a sample of geographic areas was selected and canvassed for establishments to include in the survey. These areas, which were located in 58 PSU's selected for the sample, were defined to contain an average of about four establishments each. Each of the establishments selected for the sample from these areas was assigned to one of the 12 months of the year for survey participation.

Estimates of sampling error are shown in the monthly source publications. Coefficients of variation are about .6 percent for total retail sales, 1.4 percent for wholesale sales, 1.2 percent for wholesale inventories, and about 3.5 percent or less for selected services receipts. Nonresponse, including refusals, averages about 10 percent for most months. Incomplete response for wholesale inventories and retail accounts receivable ranges between 20 and 25 percent each month. Imputation is made for each nonresponse item and each item failing edit checks.

A small reinterview check of area sample cases made monthly shows a response error from this source of about .1 percent of the total estimate. Response errors have not been measured from the list sample reports on a continuous basis, but a survey of small retail firms and other studies indicates a tendency to underreport current month sales and to exclude sales taxes in sales reports. For explanatory material describing the samples and estimates of sampling variability, see Monthly Retail Trade Reports, Monthly Wholesale Trade Reports, and Monthly Selected Services Receipts Reports.

See tables 1420–1422, 1432, 1435, 1436, and 1440.

Census of Construction Industries

This census is conducted every five years, most recently for 1972, when it covered all establishments primarily engaged in contract construction, in construction for sale on their own account (operative builders), or in subdividing real property into lots. Data for about 450,000 firms with paid employees were obtained from a probability sample of about 145,000 firms, which comprised all medium size and large employers and a probability sample of small employers. Data for approximately 480,000 establish
ments without paid employees were obtained from Internal Revenue Service business income tax returns.

Coefficients of variation are about 1 percent at the national level for estimated totals for all construction and about 5 percent for estimated totals for construction subindustries. The overall response rate for most questionnaire items was about 85 to 90 percent. A detailed computer scan identified incomplete questionnaires for analytical review. Whenever possible, further contacts were made with respondents to resolve problems with questionnaire responses. Imputation for missing data, based on relationships of known responses to administrative data, was performed on an industry by State basis. For detailed information on survey methodology and data reliability, see Census of Construction Industries, 1972, vol. I, Industry and Special Statistics.

See tables 1317–1319 and 1495.

Monthly Survey of New Construction

This survey covers the start, completion, and sale of all new housing, excluding mobile homes and nonhousekeeping residential buildings such as hotels, motels, courts, and cabins. Annual figures are aggregates of monthly estimates. A monthly survey of newly constructed units is taken in two parts. First, a probability sample of housing units obtained from building permits was selected from 14,000 permit-issuing places. Estimates for these places are adjusted to account for types of buildings not requiring permits. Second, for places where building permit systems are not used, a multi-stage probability sample of new housing units was selected in 187 PSU's. To obtain a sampling frame for nonpermit areas, “knowledgeable” persons are asked to provide lists of new housing starts, which are verified by field visits or telephone calls. Census employees canvass the area for further unreported buildings and for determination of the status of such buildings. For the entire survey the response rate is over 90 percent for most questionnaire items.

Coefficients of variation are about 3 or 4 percent for estimates of national totals, but are as high as 20 percent for estimated totals for more detailed characteristics, such as residential multi-unit structures. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample, definitional difficulties, differences in interpretation of questions, incorrect reporting, and processing errors. It is believed that most of the important response errors were corrected through computer review for internal consistency of responses. For more detailed information on the survey methodology and data reliability, see the January issues of Bureau of the Census, Construction Reports, Series C20, Housing Starts.

See tables 1325–1327, 1329, 1330, and 1352.

Value of New Construction Put in Place

This survey provides monthly data on the total value of all construction put in place during the current month, including both public and private projects. Annual figures are aggregates of monthly estimates. Construction values include costs of materials and labor, contractors' profits, overhead costs, cost of architectural and engineering work, and miscellaneous project costs. Data for the different types of building activity are obtained in various ways, as described below.

For new private housing units a total project cost estimate is obtained for all new homes started during the month. The amount is allocated over subsequent months according to established monthly progress patterns. Consequently, the estimated total value of construction of single-family homes for a given month is the sum of the values allocated to that particular month for all single-family housing projects that have not yet been completed. Monthly data for multi-family housing projects are collected by mail from a multi-stage probability sample comprising about 1,200 multi-family housing projects. Monthly estimates of residential farm construction are obtained by distributing Department of Agriculture annual estimates over the 12 months.
Estimates for private nonresidential buildings are obtained monthly from a probability sample of architects, builders, and owners. In 37 Eastern States and the District of Columbia, the sample is drawn from the F.W. Dodge construction contract reports survey, while a list of building permits serves as the frame in the 13 Western States. For construction by telegraph and telephone companies, monthly values are supplied directly by the companies, while annual construction values for other public utilities are estimated from annual data submitted to Federal regulatory agencies. Federal agencies also supply their monthly construction costs directly to the Census Bureau. A monthly survey of State and local governments supplies data for the previous month's value of construction.

Coefficients of variation for private nonresidential building construction range from about 1 percent for office buildings to 6 percent for religious institutions. The coefficient of variation is approximately 1 percent for total new private nonresidential buildings. Imputation accounts for approximately 20 percent of the estimated value of construction for a month. For further information on methodology and reliability, see the annual Construction Reports, Series C30, Value of New Construction Put in Place.

See tables 1315 and 1316.

National Crime Survey (NCS)

This survey, conducted monthly for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration by the Bureau of the Census, is a continuing national probability sample survey of individuals, households, and commercial establishments designed to estimate criminal victimizations of those units. To obtain data on individual and household victimization, a sample of approximately 72,000 households is selected in 376 PSU’s, in groups of about four adjacent households. The frame for the household sample is essentially the list of addresses from the 1970 census, supplemented by new construction building permits.

Household interviews are conducted over a six-month period in groups of about 12,000 households per month. The households in each group are interviewed every six months for a period of three years. Respondents are asked questions regarding their personal experiences with victimizations over the previous six-month period.

The commercial component of the NCS is conducted similarly to the household component. Approximately 15,000 establishments, selected in 34 PSU’s, are interviewed over a six-month period in groups of 2,500. The selected establishments are interviewed every six months for an indefinite period.

The standard errors are typified by those associated with the 1975 estimated personal robbery victimization rate of 6.7 per 1,000 persons and the estimated household burglary victimization rate of 91.5 per 1,000 households. The estimated standard errors for these two rates are 0.3 (4.5 percent) and 1.4 (1.5 percent), respectively. Nonsampling errors vary with the type of crime reported and include nonresponse bias, errors due to memory failure, incomplete or erroneous responses, systematic mistakes introduced by interviewing, and possible biases associated with the sample rotation scheme. Through the use of personal interview data collection procedures, supplemented by some telephone interviewing, the nonresponse rate for commercial establishments was reduced to about 1 percent. For the household survey, about 4 percent of the eligible households were not interviewed, and an additional 1 percent of persons within responding households did not participate.


See tables 278–281.

Foreign trade—Export Statistics

Export statistics reflect the physical movement of all merchandise from the U.S. Customs Territory (the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico) to foreign
countries, with the following exceptions: Shipments to U.S. possessions, shipments to the U.S. Armed Forces, and shipments of gold, electrical energy, and bunker fuels. Export data are compiled primarily from Shipper's Export Declarations required to be filed with customs officials. Generally, exceptions to this filing requirement apply to shipments valued less than $250 and to exporters submitting monthly reports directly to the Bureau of the Census. Export statistics are based on complete enumerations of larger shipments (i.e., those valued at over $2,000 in Canada and those valued at $1,000 in other countries), and probability samples of other shipments valued at $251 or more (about 3 percent of total value of exports). Shipments valued at $250 or less (about 1 percent of total value of exports) are approximated from established percentages of individual country totals.

The relative standard error for the estimate of total value of exports is about .1 percent, and for major commodity groupings, about 1 percent. Relative standard errors are generally less than 1 percent for value totals over $10 million, less than 2 percent for totals between $3 million and $10 million, and less than possible errors due to rounding for values less than $3 million. Nonsampling errors include errors in reporting and/or processing and undercounting of exports to Canada due to nonreceipt of some Shipper's Export Declarations. For further information on coverage and reliability, see text, pp. 850–851, and U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Exports, Schedule B, Commodity by Country, FT 410.

See Bureau of the Census citations for export statistics in source notes, sections 23 and 31, and also tables 1181, 1278, and 1499.

Foreign trade—Import Statistics

Import statistics summarize the physical movement of all merchandise from foreign countries into the U.S. Customs Territory (the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico), with the following exceptions: Merchandise shipped in transit through the United States, returned goods from the Armed Forces, goods shipped from U.S. possessions, shipments of gold, and other transactions considered to be of little statistical significance. Import data are compiled monthly from various customs forms which importers are required to file with customs officials. The country of origin, shown in the data, is the country where the merchandise was grown, mined, or manufactured. When origin is unknown, the country of shipment is shown.

The data include estimates for low-valued shipments based on a 1-percent sample of entries valued under $251. These estimates generally amount to less than .5 percent of the overall import total; they are included in the overall import total, world area and country totals, but not in the data for individual commodity classifications.

Relative standard errors for the world area and country totals are generally less than .1 percent for totals over $20 million, less than .5 percent for totals between $1 million and $20 million, and less than possible rounding errors for values less than $1 million. Possible nonsampling errors arise from reporting and/or processing errors. Checks by customs officials on all transactions valued over $250, as well as clerical and computer processing checks, considerably reduce these errors. For further details on coverage and reliability, see text, p. 851, and monthly issues of U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. General Imports, Schedule A, Commodity by Country, Report FT 135.

See Bureau of the Census citations for import statistics in source notes, sections 23 and 31, and also tables 1278 and 1499.

Census of Governments

These censuses, taken every 5 years (the latest for 1972), cover all governmental units in the United States, including the 50 States and more than 78,000 local governments (counties, municipalities, townships, school districts, and numerous "special districts"). The 1972 census provides information on government revenue, expenditure, and debt; government employment and employee-retirement systems; property values; characteristics of public school systems; and number, size, and structure of State and local govern-
ments. A complete list of units to use as a frame is derived through classification of
government units recently authorized in each State and identification, counting, and
classification of existing local governments and public school systems.

Census Bureau personnel compile many of the financial data reports from the official
records of the States and large local governments. Employment and other basic data
are obtained from each State and local government by mail, with essentially complete
coverage being attained through mail and telephone followups. Errors found in com-
pleted questionnaires are corrected to the extent possible through supplementary corre-
spondence. Some incomplete or erroneous reporting probably escapes detection due to
inability to evaluate respondents’ interpretations of definitions and reporting instructions.
It is also possible that some changes in classification and counting made in late 1971 are
not reflected in the 1972 census.

See tables citing Census of Governments in source notes, section 10, and also tables
518, 519, and 808.

Annual Survey of State and Local Governments

The primary objective of this annual sample survey is to obtain data on the finances
(revenues, expenditures, and debt) and employment of all U.S. State and local govern-
ments. The universe consists of over 78,000 governmental units. All State governments,
county governments with 50,000 persons or more, and other municipalities containing
25,000 persons or more are included in the sample as well as governments whose relative
importance in their State, measured by expenditure or debt, was above a certain amount.
A probability sample of remaining governmental units was selected for the survey.
In total, about 16,000 governmental units were chosen.

A mail canvass of State and local officials provides most of the survey data. How-
ever, the financial data for each of the State governments and many of the large local
governments are compiled by Census Bureau personnel from official records and reports.
After followup procedures, usable replies are received from approximately 85 percent
of the governments surveyed. Data from the previous year are utilized to impute for
nonresponse.

Estimates of relative standard errors for major financial and employment items are
generally within 2 percent for most States, and less than 1 percent for more than half
of the States. Non sampling errors are attributed to inaccuracies in classification, response,
and processing. Efforts are made to minimize such errors through precise definition of
terms, supplementary correspondence and telephone followup to clarify responses, and
careful tabulation and editing of the data. For more information on data obtained from
these surveys, see Bureau of the Census, Public Employment in 1975, GE 75 No. 1, and
Governmental Finances in 1974–75, GF 75 No. 5.

See tables citing the above reports in source notes, section 10, and also tables 297,
299, and 340.

Census of Housing

This census, has been conducted as part of the census of population since 1940 when
it was authorized. Its major purpose is to determine the adequacy and quality of housing
facilities in the United States. All data in the censuses of population, from 1790 to 1960,
were collected by enumerators visiting households (see below for a discussion of the
census of population). In 1970, a self-enumeration census using a mail-out/mail-back
technique was used. The universe for the census comprises all occupied and vacant
housing units. It excludes group quarters (hotels, institutions, etc.). Mailing lists, com-
plied from several sources and checked by the Post Office, were supplemented with
listings of possible housing units observed by enumerators. Followup of nonrespondents
and the identification of vacant units was done by telephone and personal visit.

For the 1940 census, all households were asked the same questions. Beginning with
the 1950 census, only a basic set of questions was asked at each household. In addition,
households selected in a probability sample were asked more detailed sets of questions. For the 1970 census, 5 percent and 15 percent probability samples were selected for two sets of detailed questions.

Evaluation studies of the 1950, 1960, and 1970 censuses produced estimates of the net undercount of occupied housing units of 2.3 percent, 2.0 percent, and 1.4 percent, respectively. Estimates of response errors as well as imputation levels for nonresponse are available in the 1960 and 1970 census publications. The estimates for the various censuses are not strictly comparable due to differences in timing, procedures, and other factors. For major publications of the census of housing, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Census of Population and Housing: Procedural History, 1960 and 1970.

See tables 960, 1333-1339, 1341, and 1353.

**Annual Housing Survey (AHS)**

This survey, conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, provides information on the characteristics of occupied housing units and the households that occupy them, housing inventory changes due to losses, new housing and mobile home units, vacant units, recently relocated households, and housing and neighborhood quality indicators. The universe comprises all occupied and vacant housing units in the United States, excluding group quarters (hotels, dormitories, institutions, etc.). Two separate samples, one for the United States as a whole and one for 60 selected standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) provide annual information on the size and composition of the housing inventory. For both samples the same units are visited each enumeration.

The AHS national sample is a multi-stage probability sample of about 70,000 housing units selected from a 1975 inventory of about 80 million. The sample units, which are selected within 461 PSU’s, are surveyed over a 3-month period in the fall of each year. Of the 60 SMSA’s selected for the second sample, about 20 are surveyed each year. Each SMSA sample is selected independently of the national sample. The four largest SMSA’s in each group of 20 have a sample size of about 15,000 housing units; the other 16 have a sample size of about 5,000 units. Approximately one-twelfth of the sample units in each of the 20 SMSA's are visited each month.

Incomplete or incorrect responses, errors in data coding and recording, and imputation errors are sources of nonsampling errors. In reinterview surveys in 1973, 1974, and 1975, checks were made at each one of a sample of households in the national survey to verify that the correct unit was visited, that the correct number of housing units was interviewed at the address, and that certain selected items were reported correctly. For the national survey, reinterview surveys have revealed that, in 1975, an estimated 6 percent (i.e. about 600,000 units) of all conventional new construction units and at least 200,000 new mobile homes were not included in the sample coverage. For more detailed information, including standard error estimates, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Housing Reports, Series H-150 and H-170, Annual Housing Survey.

See tables citing Annual Housing Survey in source notes, section 28, and also table 960.

**Housing Vacancy Survey (HVS)**

Basically, the HVS encompasses parts of two sample surveys, the Current Population Survey (CPS) and the Quarterly Household Survey (QHS). In the CPS, a monthly survey of about 55,000 housing units (see p. 944), data are collected concerning vacancy rates characteristics of vacant units, and tenure of occupied units. In the QHS, a probability sample of 6,000 households spread over 103 PSU’s, data concerning characteristics of occupied housing units are obtained. The 6,000 cooperating households in the QHS represent a response of about 95 percent. For both the CPS and QHS, the first contact with a household is a personal interview; subsequent interviews are often conducted by telephone.

Detailed information on sampling errors, housing characteristics, and vacancy rates is available in U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Housing Reports, Series H-111, Housing
Vacancies. Sampling errors are shown for vacancy rates, and year-to-year differences in rates, for the United States and some smaller areas and for selected characteristics of vacant units. For example, the estimated annual average vacancy rate for rental units with six rooms or more is 2.9 percent with an estimated standard error of .2 percent. The estimated standard errors also include some nonsampling errors such as interviewer or respondent errors, although not all biases and nonsampling errors are included.

See tables 1348 and 1349.

Census of Manufactures

These censuses, taken every 5 years (the latest for 1972), obtain information on labor, materials, capital input and output characteristics, plant location, and legal form of organization for all plants in the United States with one or more employees. The frame for the census, which contained about 312,000 firms, was obtained from Internal Revenue Service and Social Security Administration records. About 120,000 of these firms were small single-unit firms (about 1.2 percent of the total value added by manufacture). Data were estimated for these firms from administrative records. About 104,000 firms with no employees (.25 percent of the total value of shipments for all manufacturing industries) were excluded from the 1972 census.

Several hundred different questionnaires were mailed selectively to the remaining 192,000 firms covered by the 1972 census. Five mail followups, supplemented by telephone calls to large companies, allowed imputation from administrative records to be held to a minimum. Approximately 4.1 percent of the total value of shipments for all manufacturers were unreported and therefore required imputation. The proportion of value of shipments not reported is indicated in many tables in the census reports.

Evaluation studies of firms requiring imputed data revealed nonsampling errors of about 1.3 percent for total payroll, 2.0 percent for total employment, and approximately 1 percent for value of shipments.

For more detailed information on census processing and methods used to control processing error, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Manufactures, 1972, vol. I, Subject and Special Statistics.

See tables citing Census of Manufactures in source notes, section 29, and also tables 579, 924, 967, 968, 974, 1063, 1232, and 1496.

Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM)

This survey, which was initiated in 1949, provides basic measures of manufacturing activity for intercensal years. The universe includes all manufacturing establishments in the United States with one or more paid employees. The sampling frame is the list of 312,000 establishments in the 1972 Census of Manufactures (see above), supplemented by Social Security Administration lists of new manufacturers, from which a probability sample of about 70,000 establishments is selected. The sampling unit is the company, but survey data are collected separately for each manufacturing establishment in every selected company. All companies that have at least one establishment with 250 or more employees are included, along with a sample of the remaining establishments.

The survey is conducted initially by mail and includes extensive mail and telephone followup of nonrespondents, resulting in an overall response rate of about 85 percent. Relative standard errors for number of employees and for value added totals are presented in the annual publications. For State totals, these coefficients of variation are generally about 2 percent or less, but they vary considerably for more detailed characteristics. Nonsampling errors include response, collection, reporting, and transcription errors, many of which are corrected through clerical and computer edit checks. For more detailed information on survey methodology, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, Annual Survey of Manufactures and Technical Paper 24.

See tables citing Annual Survey of Manufactures in source notes, section 29.
Census of Population

In compliance with Constitutional requirements, a count of the U.S. population has been taken every 10 years since 1790 as a basis for apportionment of members of the House of Representatives. During this period the procedure has changed from a very simple enumeration of persons in families by broad age groups to a 400-question survey form in 1890, to a short form supplemented by additional questions asked of a sample of the population starting in 1940. The additional questions, asked of 20 percent of the population in 1970, cover items for which small area data are not needed. The restriction of these items to 20 percent of the population reduces respondent burden and data collection and processing costs. Collection methods have changed from registration with U.S. Marshalls, to visits by census enumerators, to extensive use of mail in 1970 with the opportunity for every person in the household to respond on a self-marked form.

The census is conducted after extensive pretests which use questions recommended and evaluated by a number of major user groups and advisory committees. In 1970, all persons were required to supply name, age sex, race, marital status, and relationship to head of household. Persons selected in the 20-percent sample were asked a substantial number of additional questions.

To minimize nonsampling errors, systems of quality control are introduced at every stage of the census processing operations. Imputation for nonresponse is held to a minimum by telephone and personal followups of nonrespondents. Since 1950, extensive record checks, reinterviews, and demographic analyses have been conducted during the census collection period and between decennial censuses to determine the census coverage, extent of undercounting, and importance of other nonsampling errors. For further details on undercoverage, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, Estimates of Coverage of the Population by Sex, Race, and Age: Demographic Analysis PHC(E)-4; for tables of sampling errors for sampled data, see Census of Population: 1970, PC(1)--C, General Social and Economic Characteristics, Appendix C.

See tables citing Census of Population in source notes, primarily in section 1, but also in sections 2, 5, 7, 13, 14, 16, 22, 28, and 32.

Current Population Survey (CPS)

The CPS is conducted monthly by the Bureau of the Census to collect labor force data for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and demographic information for the use of many agencies. The universe is all civilian noninstitutionalized persons in the United States who are at least 14 years of age. A list of housing units from the 1970 census, supplemented by newly constructed units and households known to be missed in the 1970 census, provides the sampling frame in most areas. In some rural locations current household listings of selected land areas serve as the frame.

The sample each month consists of a multi-stage sample of approximately 55,000 households that are eligible for interview. It is selected in groups of approximately four adjacent households located throughout 376 PSU's. In a typical month, 4 to 6 percent of the households are, for various reasons, unavailable for interview. Each sample household is in the sample for four months, out for eight, then returns for four more months, thus providing a 75-percent month-to-month overlap and a 50-percent year-to-year overlap. For the first and fifth months that a household is in the sample, personal interviews are conducted; approximately half of the data for other months are collected by telephone interview. Data are collected during the week containing the 19th day of the month and refer to the previous week.

The relative standard error for estimates of the civilian labor force, total employment, and nonagricultural employment is about .3 percent; for estimates of total unemployment and agricultural employment, it is about 1.5 to 3.0 percent. An attempt to control nonsampling errors created by interviewers is made monthly by supervisory staff checks of a sample of the work of interviewers. This sample indicates that the unemployment rate is underestimated by about .5 percent. However, it appears that other statistics
are much less seriously biased. A general problem in the CPS is undercoverage, especially of young adult Black males. A detailed discussion of the survey and its methodology appears in Concepts and Methods Used in Manpower Statistics from the Current Population Survey (Census series P–23, No. 62; BLS Report No. 313), available on request from either the Census Bureau or BLS.

See tables citing Current Population Reports in source notes, primarily in section 1, but also in sections 2, 5, 11, 13, 14, 16, 24, and 32. (In section 13, many BLS tables are based on the CPS.)

Census of Transportation

The 1972 Census of Transportation consisted of the 3 major surveys discussed below, which are conducted every 5 years.

The National Travel Survey provides data to Federal and State agencies for determination of travel patterns. It is based on a probability sample of about 24,000 households in which residents are asked for information about trips they have taken. Questionnaires were mailed quarterly, supplemented by telephone followups when necessary. The relative standard error for most national estimates was about 3 percent and ranged from about 6 to 9 percent for regional travel totals. The overall response rate was 90 percent.

The Truck Inventory and Use Survey provides data on the Nation's truck resources, excluding vehicles owned by government agencies. A probability sample of about 114,000 private and commercial trucks was selected from approximately 20 million truck registrations on file with motor vehicle departments in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. A questionnaire was mailed to the owner of each selected truck. After two mail followups, a final response rate of about 90 percent was achieved. Relative standard errors for major characteristics at the State level were approximately 1 to 2 percent, but were considerably larger for more detailed characteristics. Sample verification of coding and punching was designed to allow a maximum of 3 percent error in average quality.

The Commodity Transportation Survey measures the transportation and geographic distribution of commodities shipped to warehouses beyond the local area by about 118,000 U.S. manufacturers having 20 or more employees. A multi-stage probability sample of about 13,000 establishments was selected. A probability sample of about 150 shipping documents was selected from each chosen establishment. Data were collected primarily by mail, but personal visits were made to companies having more than three plants in the survey. About 25 percent of the companies required some imputation, accounting for about 1 percent of the survey totals. The relative standard error for the estimate of total tons shipped at the national level is approximately 2 percent. Computer checks and clerical review were used to identify and correct some processing errors.

For further details on methodology for these surveys, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Transportation: 1972, vol. I, National Travel Survey; vol. II, Truck Inventory and Use Survey; and vol. III, part 1, Commodity Transportation Survey.

See tables 896, 1045, and 1075.

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE (SRS)

Most of the SRS statistics are derived from sample surveys, based on a variety of sample designs. For more information on the following surveys, see U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, SRS, Scope and Methods of the Statistical Reporting Service, Miscellaneous Publication No. 1305, July 1975. See also tables citing SRS in source notes in section 24 of this Abstract and tables 1245, 1246, and 1388.

Basic Area Frame Sample

Two major area frame surveys of the universe of all U.S. farm operators are conducted annually: The June survey produces current information on planted acreages
and livestock inventories; the December survey is used to collect data on livestock inventories and fall seeded crop acreage. For both surveys a multi-stage probability sample of approximately 20,000 farms is selected. The final stage of selection consists of land areas (or area segments) which are typically about 1 square mile, but range from 1/10 of a square mile in city and residential areas to several square miles or more in open range areas. About 20 percent of the farms in the sample are replaced annually.

Coefficients of variation for these surveys range from about 1 to 2 percent for national estimates of major crop acres and livestock inventories and from 3 to 8 percent for corresponding State estimates. Data are collected by personal enumeration. Nonsampling errors are minimized through rigid quality controls on the collection process and careful review of all reported data.

Multiple Frame Surveys

The multiple frame surveys are used to obtain data on major livestock inventories, selected crop acres and production, and farm labor characteristics; and to obtain farm economic data for price indexing. The universe is basically all U.S. farm operators. The primary frames are lists formed from special or general purpose lists. To compensate for deficiencies in these lists, each of the samples is supplemented by a sample of land areas.

Coefficients of variation are similar to those for the Basic Area Frame Sample (see above). The coefficient of variation for the estimated number of hired farm workers in the Nation is about 3 percent. Personal interviews are used for initial data collection; extensive followup of nonrespondents is carried out by telephone, mail, and personal interviews. The nonresponse rates for these surveys vary from 5 to 10 percent. Information observed by enumerators is used to impute for nonresponse. If no such information is available, imputation for nonrespondents is based on data reported for respondents having similar agricultural characteristics.

Objective Yield Surveys

A national program of objective yield surveys for corn, cotton, potatoes, soybeans, and wheat was initiated in an effort to obtain better estimates of yield variations. Prior use of voluntary growth appraisals generally produced satisfactory crop forecasts but poorly reflected large yield variations. Trained enumerators and analysts count and measure plant characteristics in a sample of fields included in the June or December Basic Area Frame Sample (see above). The location of plots in the selected fields is randomly determined so that all areas of the field have equal probabilities of being included.

U.S. DEPT. OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS (NCES)

Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education

Summary data on revenues and expenditures for U.S. public elementary and secondary education are obtained from a census of all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. outlying areas. Where necessary, imputations for detailed items are based on relationships between total and detailed items observed in a State's report for the previous year.

In addition to the typical nonsampling errors associated with the collection and processing of data obtained in a census, there are special problems of definition. Although uniform definitions are used for questionnaire items, some States use slightly different definitions of detailed expenditures because of differing accounting systems. For example, some States include expenditures for the principal's office in instructional expenses, others in administrative. Also, fringe benefits are sometimes distributed in the various functions rather than separately in fixed charges. These variations result in a slight distortion in expenditures by function.

See tables 201, 202, 245–247, and 1490.
Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary Day Schools

A mail survey of public schools, covering local school districts, pupils, staff, estimated expenditures, and teachers salaries in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. outlying areas, has been conducted annually since the fall of 1954. To the extent possible, data are shown for each reporting jurisdiction, with estimates for missing data included in the national totals. NCES estimates are generally based on data reported over the previous 5-year period. Each State report is reviewed for internal consistency and for comparability with information in previous surveys, State publications, and related reports.

As in many mail surveys, there are probably some errors in the data resulting from differences in the interpretation of instructions and definitions. Also, differences in State and local educational practices are reflected in national totals. Standard forms and definitions are used in an attempt to minimize variations. For further descriptions of the data, see U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary Day Schools.

See tables in section 5 which present data from NCES, as indicated in source notes, for public elementary and secondary schools.

Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS)

HEGIS was designed to gather information on enrollment, tuition charges, and college finances of all public and private, two- and four-year colleges and universities (3,055 in 1975) included in the Education Directory: Colleges and Universities. The survey package is mailed in the spring of each year to all the listed institutions. With the use of intensive followup procedures for survey nonrespondents, a response rate of 100 percent is generally achieved. The survey is divided into three parts:

1. Basic student charges, 1974, 1975. Information on student charges gathered during the previous year is sent to the schools to be updated. Quality checks of the data reported include a comparison with the information published in college catalogs.

2. Fall enrollment in higher education, 1974, 1975. A one-page questionnaire requesting information about fall enrollments by October 15 is included in the HEGIS package. A 100-percent response rate has been achieved through reminder letters and telephone calls. This portion of the survey is intended to gather data on college enrollments by sex, attendance status, and student grade level.

3. Financial statistics of institutions of higher education, 1975. Questionnaires for reporting fiscal year financial data were sent to 3,038 institutions, branches, and campuses as part of the survey package. Approximately 93.7 percent (2,848 institutions) of the institutions completed the questionnaire. Imputed expenditures for the 190 schools that did not respond amounted to about 2.6 percent of the total expenditures. This imputation used either data for the previous year, or an earlier year, adjusted for trends observed in earlier HEGIS surveys. If earlier data were unavailable, data from schools in a similar geographical location, institution level, enrollment size, and (whenever possible) institutional control were the basis for imputation.

See tables 251–253, 256–258, 260, 261, and 263.

Earned Degrees Conferred

A census of institutions of higher education is conducted annually to determine the number of bachelor’s, master’s, and doctorate degrees conferred per university, disciplinary field, and sex of student. The universe for the 1974–75 census consisted of 1,819 institutional units granting a bachelor’s or higher degree and located in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. outlying areas. The frame for the 1974–75 census was the list of institutional units included in the Education Directory, 1973–74, Higher Education.

This census was conducted by mail with both mail and telephone followup. Imputations for nonresponse to questionnaire items were based on relationships presented
in the 1973–74 reports. Some nonsampling errors in the survey data are due to the nature of institutional record keeping. General categories of degrees (such as biology, general) tend to be over stated, resulting in an understatement of the numbers of bachelor's degrees in specialized fields (such as marine biology). Also, some institutions offer a number of degrees not specifically identified on the survey form. In an effort to control some of the nonsampling errors, clerical and computer checks were made for reasonableness of the data. For additional information, see U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, *Earned Degrees Conferred, 1974–75*, Summary Data.

See tables 249 and 264–266.

HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

Survey of Independent Health Insurance Plans

This survey gathers information on health insurance plans not underwritten by insurance companies or by Blue Cross-Blue Shield. They had over 12 million subscribers in 1974 and accounted for about 8 percent of all private health insurance business. Every four years a census of all known plans of this type is conducted. Between census years, a handpicked sample (i.e., not a probability sample) of about 40 of the larger plans is surveyed annually. Data collection is made primarily by mail, with telephone followups for data clarification and for possible completion of nonresponse questionnaires.

In the 1972 census, 465 plans were identified as being within the scope of the survey but only 383 of them provided usable responses. The other 82 plans were not covered because data were insufficient for determination of the size of their operations. The annual surveys do not reflect responses from these 82 plans, or any other plans entering the universe after 1972. Nonresponse to questionnaire items has generally averaged about 25 percent for enrollment variables and 30 percent for financial data. Imputation for missing values is carried out by a variety of methods. There are no sampling errors associated with the data obtained in the census years. Since probability sampling methods were not used for the annual surveys conducted between census years, valid estimates of sampling errors for sample estimates computed from these surveys cannot be made.

Further information for these plans is published annually in U.S. Social Security Administration, *Research and Statistics Note*, "Independent Health Insurance Plans" and *Social Security Bulletin* (usually March issues).

See tables 141, 142, 886, 887, and 899.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Health Interview Survey (HIS)

The HIS, a continuing nationwide probability sample survey, is designed to obtain data on personal and demographic characteristics, illnesses, injuries, impairments, chronic conditions, and other health topics. Data are collected continuously through the year by the Bureau of the Census through personal household interviews, each household being interviewed once. The universe is the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States; it excludes the Armed Forces, U.S. nationals living in foreign countries, and persons who died during the reference period.

The survey is based on a multi-stage probability sample of about 42,000 eligible households, selected in groups of about four geographically adjacent households, in 376 PSU's. With a typical response rate of about 96 percent of the eligible households, the final HIS sample contains about 116,000 persons in 40,000 households. Data are adjusted for total nonresponse by a procedure which imputes to persons in a noninterviewed household the "average" characteristics of persons residing in interviewed households in the same geographical area.
Following are estimated coefficients of variation (CV's) for a few estimates for 1975: Physician visits by males numbered 435 million with a CV of 1.5 percent; work days lost for males numbered 246 million with a CV of 3.6 percent; persons injured at home numbered 31.2 million with a CV of 4.3 percent. For more detailed information on the HIS design, data limitations, and sampling errors, see U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, Current Estimates from the HIS, U.S., 1974, Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10–No. 100, DHEW Pub. No. (HRS) 76–1527, September 1975.

See tables 151, 171, 172, 175–178, 185, and 242.

Master Facility Inventory (MFI)

The MFI, a comprehensive file (i.e., a complete census) of inpatient health facilities in the United States, covers three broad categories of facilities: Hospitals with six or more inpatient beds, nursing and related care homes with three or more inpatient beds, and other custodial or remedial care facilities. This file is updated periodically to include names and addresses of all newly established inpatient facilities obtained from State licensing agencies. Current basic information (i.e., names, locations, business type, number of beds, and number of residents or patients) for existing facilities are maintained through annual surveys of hospitals and biennial surveys of nursing homes.

Response rates for the 1973 Nursing Home Survey and the 1974 Hospital Survey were 96 and 92 percent, respectively. Statistics derived from these surveys are adjusted for both item and facility nonresponse. Missing questionnaire items are imputed, when possible, by using either information reported previously by the same facility or, when that is unavailable, by using current data from similar responding facilities. “Similar facilities” are defined as those having the same type of business, type of ownership, type of service, and approximately the same number of beds.

Coverage of hospitals was about 90 percent complete in the 1973 MFI; estimates of completeness of coverage are unavailable for 1974. According to Bureau of the Census surveys conducted for NCHS, coverage was 90 percent complete for the number of beds in nursing and related care homes and 98 percent complete for the number of beds in other types of institutions.


See tables 157, 163, and 165.

National Nursing Home Survey (NNHS)

This survey was conducted during the fall of 1973 and winter of 1974 to collect data on nursing homes, their expenditures, residents, and staff. A probability sample of 2,118 homes was drawn from the universe of 17,685 nursing homes classified as nursing care homes in the 1971 Master Facility Inventory (see above) or open for business in 1972. Of these, approximately 7 percent did not fit the universe definition and were excluded. In each sampled home, probability samples of about 10 residents and 14 employees were chosen.

Data on facilities were collected by personal interviews with administrators: Resident data were collected by personal interview with the resident’s nurse and by referring to patient medical records. Expenditure data were gathered from questionnaires completed by facility accountants, and staff data were collected from self-administered questionnaires completed by employees. Response rates were 97 percent for facilities, 98 percent for residents, 88 percent for expenditures, and 82 percent for staff. Statistics were adjusted to account for nonparticipation of a home selected for the survey, total questionnaire nonresponse, and item nonresponse.

Some estimated coefficients of variation (CV) for a few estimates follow: Beds in proprietary homes numbered 832,300 in 1973–74 with a CV of 1.4 percent; days of care to residents in homes located in the Northeast numbered 80,996,400 in 1972 with
a CV of 3.8 percent; residents in homes with less than 50 beds numbered 162,600 in 1973–74 with a CV of 2.8 percent.


See tables 163 and 166.

**Vital Registration System**

This NCHS system collects and publishes data on births and deaths in the United States. The Division of Vital Statistics obtains information from the registration offices of all States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and certain cities that perform their own data collection. Until 1972, microfilm copies of all death records and a 50-percent sample of birth records were received from all registration areas and processed by NCHS. Beginning in 1972, some States sent their data to NCHS through the Cooperative Health Statistics System (CHSS). These States (6 in 1972 and 23 in 1975) process 100 percent of their birth and death records and send the entire file to NCHS. Birth and death certificates, although varying in content by State, contain a specified minimum data set required by NCHS.

In most areas, practically all births and deaths are registered. A study during 1964–68 indicated that 99.3 percent of all U.S. births during that period were registered. No comparable information on deaths is available although death registration is believed to be at least as complete as birth registration. There are isolated areas in the Nation where underreporting is severe enough to affect the validity of local statistics.


**NATIONAL CENTER FOR SOCIAL STATISTICS (NCSS)**

**Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC)**

The AFDC studies are probability sample surveys of all families receiving financial assistance during a given month under the aid to families with dependent children program (excluding foster care cases). The survey universe contained approximately three million families in the January 1973 survey and 3.4 million in the May 1975 survey. For both surveys a sample of at least .5 percent of the State caseload was taken from each State. The resulting sample sizes were 33,309 families in 1973 and 31,063 families in 1975. State caseworkers completed the survey schedules by referring to State administrative records.

Standard errors for recipient rates shown in table 543 are estimated as .5 percent or less. More detailed information on the methodology and reliability of the sample design can be found in U.S. Social and Rehabilitation Service, *Findings of the 1973 Study, Part I*, June 1974.


**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA)**

**Title II—Benefit Data**

Under Title II of the Social Security Act, monthly benefits are paid under the old-age, survivors, disability, and health insurance program. A periodic census of all persons receiving monthly benefit payments is carried out to obtain summary data
on type of benefits paid, State monthly benefits, benefits withheld and terminated, and value of benefits awarded. Data are based on administrative records, which consist of actions pursuant to applications for benefits, updated by subsequent post-entitlement actions. At the end of 1976 the census covered approximately 38,024,000 persons receiving benefits.

There are no sampling errors associated with data from a census. However, samples of the persons receiving monthly benefits are sometimes selected to obtain data for special purposes. The nonsampling errors are essentially processing errors which are believed to be small. For additional information, including definitions of terms used in tables, see U.S. Social Security Administration, *Annual Statistical Supplement* to the *Social Security Bulletin*.

See tables 513–515 and 553.

**Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI)**

Under the SSI program administered by the Social Security Administration, monthly cash benefits are paid to all eligible aged, blind, or disabled persons to supplement their countable income. As of June 1976, the number of persons receiving these benefits was approximately 4,300,000. A periodic census is taken of all persons receiving benefits under this program. The data are obtained from SSA administrative records of applications for benefits, updated by subsequent post-entitlement actions. The data tabulated for this census include number of persons receiving federally-administered SSI payments and amounts paid and also data on State-administered supplementation, reported by individual States.

Data on SSI benefit payments for the year are adjusted to reflect returned checks and over-payment refunds. For States with federally-administered SSI payments, the actual adjusted amounts are used; for other States, the payments have been uniformly deflated by an average rate across all States. For further information, see U.S. Social Security Administration, *Annual Statistical Supplement* to the *Social Security Bulletin*.

See tables 505, 543–546, 549, and 551.

**U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**

**Current Employment Statistics Program (CES)**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics works jointly with State employment security agencies or State departments of labor in collecting monthly data on employment, hours, and earnings from a sample of establishments participating in nonagricultural activities. Over 160,000 of the universe of over 4 million nonagricultural establishments report monthly.

The cooperating State agencies mail questionnaires monthly to the sample establishments, develop State and local estimates from the data collected, and forward schedules in machine-readable form to the Bureau of Labor Statistics where national estimates are prepared. A response analysis survey of reporting establishments in manufacturing industries, which was done several years ago, showed that while a number of employers did not report accurately all data items, deviations tended to offset each other. The net effects of incorrect reporting were quite insignificant.

As examples of sampling errors, estimated coefficients of variation for the estimates of average weekly hours paid and average hourly earnings are .1 percent and .2 percent, respectively. Current estimates of employment are adjusted annually to reflect complete universe counts which are derived from quarterly unemployment insurance tax reports filed by employers. The average adjustment for the past several years was .2 percent of total nonagricultural employment. For further information concerning concepts and methods of estimating employment, hours, and earnings, see U.S. Bureau of Labor

See tables 636, 654, 656, 657, 666, 668, 670, and 671.

**Current Population Survey (CPS)**

This survey is conducted each month by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics and provides comprehensive data on the labor force, employed and unemployed, including such characteristics as age, sex, race, household relationship, marital status, occupation, and industry. The CPS and its characteristics are summarized in the section of this appendix covering Bureau of the Census data bases. Additional information may be found in U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment and Earnings*, Explanatory Notes, and in chapter 1 of the *BLS Handbook of Methods*, Bulletin 1910 (1976).

**Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

The CPI measures the average movement over time of prices for urban wage earners and clerical workers. It is not directly applicable to any other occupational group or to non-urban workers. The CPI is the product of a complex of samples, including items, outlets, and areas. Currently, prices of approximately 400 different items are obtained from 1,800 food outlets, 30,000 tenants, and 16,000 other reporters in 56 urban areas. Annually, over one million food price quotations, 60,000 rent charges, and 475,000 quotations for items other than food and rent are collected for use in the index.

Some of the nonsampling problems associated with the CPI are potentially more dangerous to the validity of a price index than the sampling errors. Inaccurate reporting is one source of nonsampling error which the Bureau of Labor Statistics attempts to minimize by using personal observation of prices. Undoubtedly some errors result from difficulties in defining basic concepts and their operational implementation. The lack of a systematic method of incorporating new outlets into the sample has probably caused some bias over time. Finally, some errors are associated with attempts to reflect properly the introduction of product quality changes and new products on the market. For other limitations of the data and for historical development of the CPI, see text, pp. 469-470.

Estimates of standard errors for the CPI reflect sampling errors and also interviewer, supervisory, processing, and similar nonsampling errors to the extent that such errors are random in nature. However, any persistent biases present in the data are not reflected. Current estimates of standard errors, in terms of monthly, quarterly, and annual percentage changes, are, respectively, as follows: All items (.04, .05, .10), food at home (.10, .11, .22), food away from home (.08, .14, .31), housing (.06, .10, .18), apparel and upkeep (.15, .27, .25), transportation (.07, .12, .20), medical care (.14, .19, .27), personal care (.16, .26, .64), reading and recreation (.09, .16, .33), and other goods and services (.11, .12, .18).

See tables 135, 759, 760, 770-773, and 781-785.

**Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**

The WPI measures average changes in prices of commodities sold in primary markets in the United States. It is based on a sample of about 2,700 commodities and 10,000 respondents, selected on a judgment rather than a probability basis. That is, the commodities and respondents in the sample are "handpicked" in an effort to select those that will represent the movement of prices of all commodities produced in manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, gas and electricity, and public utilities. The universe from which the sample is chosen includes all commodities produced or imported for sale in commercial transactions in primary markets in the United States.

Prices used in the index usually apply to the first significant commercial transaction in the United States. Price data are collected monthly, primarily by mail questionnaire. Respondents are asked to supply actual selling prices; if such prices are unobtainable, list prices are used. Most prices are obtained directly from producing companies on a voluntary and confidential basis but some are obtained from trade publications, organized exchanges, or government agencies.
In calculating the index, price changes are multiplied by weights which represent
their importance in the total net selling value of all commodities as of 1972. Some
problems with interpretation of the WPI are: The impossibility of deriving measurements of
accuracy because the results come from a judgment sample, rather than a probability
sample; inability to obtain transaction prices for a few indexes, which, therefore, reflect
changes only in manufacturers' list prices; and inaccurate reflection of the impact of
quality changes and improved technology on price change for some commodities.
See also text, p. 469, and, for a more detailed description of the methodology
See tables 759, 760, 763–766, 1234, and 1403.
Other data bases.—Information on methodology and reliability of several other
data bases represented by tables in this Abstract may be found in the reports cited below.
Table references are to this Abstract.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Construction Reports, series C40, Housing Authorized by Building Permits and Local
Public Construction. See tables 1320 and 1328.
Construction Reports, series C50, Residential Alterations and Repairs. See table 1342.
See table 1366.
Census of Mineral Industries. This census is taken every 5 years, the latest for 1972.
See tables 1268 and 1270.
Annual Survey of Oil and Gas. See table 1288.

U.S. BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Regional Workforce Characteristics and Migration Data: A Handbook on the Social

U.S. NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Plan and Operation of the Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, United States,
1971–73, Vital and Health Statistics, Series 1, Nos. 10a and 10b, DHEW Pub. No. (HSM)
Utilization of Short-Stay Hospitals: Annual Summary for the United States, 1974,
Vital and Health Statistics, Series 13, No. 26, DHEW Pub. No. (HRA) 76–1777, September
1976. See tables 162 and 164.

U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Current Medicare Survey. See table 527.
Medicare: Health Insurance for the Aged and Disabled, section 2, Enrollment, and
section 4, Inpatient Hospital Care. See tables 529 and 531.

Average Annual Percent Change

Estimates of annual rates of growth or change over a specified time period are based
on the assumption that within the period the rate of increase or decrease is constant.
Unless otherwise noted in this Abstract, (for example, in section 1, Population) computa-
tions of average annual percent change were made by use of a formula like that used in
calculating balances for savings accounts which involve compound interest. The com-
ounding period used for estimating average annual changes is one year. Use of the
exponential formula for computing annual average percent change (i.e., continuous
compounding rather than annual compounding) is often preferred by demographers
because they consider population and many other populated-related items to be chang-
ing continuously. When the average annual rates are small, e.g., less than 5 percent, the
exponential formula and the compound interest formula will give virtually the same
results. (For explanation of the exponential method, see U.S. National Bureau of Stan-
dards, Tables of the Exponential Function e^x, 4th edition, 1961.)
APPENDIX IV

Guide to Sources of Statistics

Alphabetically arranged by subject, this guide contains references to the important primary sources of statistical information for the United States. Secondary sources have been included if the information contained in them is presented in a particularly convenient form or if primary sources are not readily available. Nonrecurrent publications presenting compilations or estimates for years later than 1967 or types of data not available in regular series are also included.

Much valuable information may also be found in State reports (see pp. 999–1002) and in reports for particular commodities, industries, or similar segments of our economic and social structure, many of which are not included here.

Publications listed under each subject are divided into two main groups: "U.S. Government" and "Other." The location of the publisher of each report is given except for Federal agencies located in Washington, D.C. Most Federal publications may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, tel. (202) 783–3238, or from Government Printing Office bookstores in certain major cities. In some cases, Federal publications may be obtained from the issuing agency.

Major reports, such as the Census of Population, which consist of many volumes, are listed by their general, all-inclusive titles.

Accidents—see also Health; Insurance; and Vital Statistics

U.S. Government

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Occupational Injuries and Illness by Industry. Annual.

Department of Transportation

Federal Aviation Administration
FAA Statistical Handbook of Aviation. Annual.

Federal Railroad Administration
Rail-Highway Grade-Crossing Accidents. Annual.
Summary of Accidents Reported by All Line Haul and Switching and Terminal Railroad Companies. Monthly with quarterly summary.

Accidents—Con.

U.S. Government—Con.

Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration
Safety Reviews:
Metal and Nonmetal Mine Injuries. Quarterly.

National Center for Health Statistics
Current Estimates from the Health Interview Survey. Annual.

Other

National Safety Council, Chicago
Accident Facts. Annual.
The Travelers Insurance Companies, Hartford
The Travelers Book of Street and Highway Accident Data. Annual.

Agriculture—see also Construction; Food; Irrigation; Labor; Money and Banking; and Population
Agriculture—Con.

U.S. Government

Bureau of the Census
Census of Agriculture. Quinquennial. (1974, most recent.)
U.S. Commodity Exports and Imports as Related to Output. Annual. (Series ES2).

Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Mines

Commodity Exchange Authority
Commodity Futures Statistics. Annual. (Statistical Bulletin No. 516.)

Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Statistics. Annual.
Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service
The Balance Sheet of the Farming Sector. Annual. (Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 403.)
Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency; Summary Report. Annual. (Statistical Bulletin No. 561.)

Economic Tables. Annual.
Farm Income Statistics. Annual. (Statistical Bulletin No. 557.)
Farm-Retail Spreads for Food Products. (Miscellaneous Publication No. 741.) 1972.

Feed Statistics. September 1967. (Statistical Bulletin No. 410.) (Supplemented annually.)
Food Consumption, Prices, and Expenditures. July 1968. (Agricultural Economics Report No. 188.) (Supplemented annually.)

Agriculture—Con.

U.S. Government—Con.

Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service—Con.
Foreign Agricultural Trade of the United States. Monthly with annual supplements on calendar year and fiscal year trade statistics.


Hired Farm Working Force. Annual.
Livestock-Feed Relationships. June 1974. (Statistical Bulletin No. 530.) (Supplemented annually.)
Poultry and Egg Statistics. February 1974. (Statistical Bulletin No. 525.) (Supplemented periodically.)

Situation Reports. Monthly, quarterly, annual.
Statistics on Cotton and Related Data, 1920–73. (Statistical Bulletin No. 585.) (Supplemented annually.)


Department of Agriculture, Statistical Reporting Service
Citrus Fruits: Production, Use, and Value.
Commercial Vegetables. Annual.
Crop Production. (Acreage, yield, and production, by States.) Monthly with annual summary.
Dairy Products. Monthly and annual.
Field Crops: Production, Disposition, and Value of Principal Crops. Annual.
Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Reports: Inventory Numbers, Production, Disposition, and Income. (Meat animals, chickens, eggs, turkeys, and milk.) Annual.
Agriculture—Con.

*U.S. Government*—Con.

Department of Agriculture, Statistical Reporting Service—Con.

Milk Production, Disposition, and Income. Annual.

Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts. Annual with mid-year supplements.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms by States. Annual.

Potatoes and Sweetpotatoes, Disposition and Value. Annual.

Seed Crops: Production, Disposition, Value, Supply, and Disappearance. Preliminary issued in January, final in May.

Farm Credit Administration

Annual Report.

Loans and Discounts of Farm Credit Banks and Associations. Annual.

Farmer Cooperative Service


National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration


Other


Air Force—see National Defense.

Air Pollution—see Health.

Aliens—see Immigration.

American Samoa—see Outlying Areas.

Area—see Geography.

Army—see National Defense.

Aviation—see Transportation.

Banks and Banking—see Money.

Births—see Vital Statistics.

Broadcasting—see Communications.

Building Permits—see Construction.

Business—see also Economic Indexes; Investments; Manufactures; Scientific Resources; Service Establishments; and Retail and Wholesale Trade

Business—Con.

*U.S. Government*

Administrative Office of the United States Courts

Tables of Bankruptcy Statistics. Annual.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System


Bureau of the Census

Census of Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade, and Selected Service Industries. Quinquennial. (1972, most recent.)

County Business Patterns. Annual.

Current Business Reports. Monthly series on Department Store Sales in Selected Areas, BD; Retail Trade, BR; Selected Services Receipts, BS; and Wholesale Trade Sales and Inventories, BW. Canned Food Report, BJ, issued 5 times a year. Green Coffee, BG, issued quarterly.


Bureau of Economic Analysis


Council of Economic Advisers

Economic Indicators. Monthly.


Federal Trade Commission


Internal Revenue Service

Statistics of Income. (Annual reports on Corporation and
Business—Con.

U.S. Government—Con.

Internal Revenue Service—Con.

Business Income Tax Returns. Periodic reports on foreign income and tax reported on U.S. corporation tax returns.


Small Business Administration Annual Report.

Other


Fortune (Time, Inc.), New York The Fortune Directory of the 500 Largest Industrial Corporations. (Annual supplement to Fortune.)


The Channels of Monetary Effects on Interest Rates, by Phillip Cagan. 1972. (General Series 97.)


Forecasts with Macroeconometric Models, by Yoel Haitovsky, George Treyz, and Vincent Su. 1974. (Studies in Business Cycles 23.)

Business—Con.

Other—Con.

National Bureau of Economic Research—Con.

The Formation and Stocks of Total Capital, by John W. Kendrick. 1976. (General Series 100.)


Measures of Credit Risk and Experience, by Edgar R. Fiedler. 1971. (General Series 95.)


Urban Land Institute, Washington, D.C. The Dollars and Cents of Shopping Centers. Triennial.

Canal Zone—see Outlying Areas.

Child Welfare—see Education; and Social Insurance.

City Government—see State and Local Government.

Civil Service—see Federal Government; and State and Local Government.

Climate

U.S. Government

Climate—Con.

U.S. Government—Con.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Con.
General Summary of Tornadoes. Annual.
Hourly Precipitation Data. Monthly with annual summary; for each State.
Local Climatological Data. Monthly with annual summary; for major cities.
Storm Data. Monthly.

Commerce—see Foreign Commerce; Transportation; and Retail and Wholesale Trade.

Commodity Prices—see also Economic Indexes

U.S. Government
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Consumer Price Index, U.S. City Average and Selected Items, Groups, and Areas. Monthly.
Consumer Prices in the United States, 1959–68, Trends and Indexes. (Bulletin No. 1647.)
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Wealth—see National Income.
Weather—see Climate.
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Wholesale Prices—see Commodity Prices.

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Work Stoppages—see Labor.

Bureau of the Census Publications

In most cases, separate reports of the most recent censuses are available for each State, subject, industry, etc. Complete information on publications of all the censuses and current surveys conducted by the Bureau of the Census appears in the Bureau of the Census Catalog, which is published quarterly and cumulated to the annual issue, with monthly supplements. A list of data files (computer tapes and punchcards) and unpublished materials is also included, beginning with the 1964 issues. A sample copy of the Catalog is available from the Bureau of the Census on request. The annual subscription price is $14.40 for 4 quarterly issues and 12 monthly supplements ($3.60 additional for foreign mailing).
Guide to State Statistical Abstracts

This bibliography includes the most recent statistical abstracts for States and Puerto Rico published since 1968 plus those that will be issued in late 1977 or early 1978. For some States, a near equivalent has been listed in substitution for, or in addition to, a statistical abstract. All sources contain statistical tables on a variety of subjects for the State as a whole, its component parts, or both. The page counts given for publications cited as "In process" are approximate.

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Colorado
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Connecticut
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Delaware
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Florida
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Georgia
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Hawaii
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Idaho
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Kansas
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North Carolina
Department of Administration, Raleigh, Division of State Budget and Management, Research and Planning Services Section

North Dakota
Business and Industrial Development Department, Bismarck

Ohio
Department of Economic and Community Development, Columbus, Office of Population Statistics

Oklahoma
University of Oklahoma, Norman, Center for Economic and Management Research

Oregon
University of Oregon, Eugene, Bureau of Business Research

Pennsylvania
Department of Commerce, Harrisburg, Bureau of Statistics, Research and Planning

Rhode Island
Department of Economic Development, Providence

South Carolina
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Virginia
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West Virginia
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