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Consumer Income

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Characteristics of Households Receiving Noncash Benefits: 1980

(Advance data from the March 1981 Current Population Survey)

Estimates in this report for 1980 are based on adjustment of weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population derived from the 1980 Census of Population. Previously published data for 1979 have been revised using the 1980 census population controls in order to make these data comparable with the new estimates. These revised figures are shown in table 1. All references to changes between 1979 and 1980 are based on the comparisons of the revised 1979 estimates. Details concerning the introduction of the 1980 census population figures can be found in the section, "Introduction of 1980 Census Population Controls." Because of modifications to data processing procedures, the data shown in this report for 1979 may differ slightly from those published in the Series P-23, No. 110 report.

INTRODUCTION

This report contains data on selected characteristics of households receiving noncash benefits in 1980. These data were obtained from the March 1981 Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted by the Bureau of the Census. Noncash benefits can be defined as benefits received in a form other than money which serve to enhance or improve the economic well-being of the recipient. In order to learn more about the economic and demographic characteristics of persons receiving noncash benefits, the Census Bureau began in March 1980 to supplement the collection of annual money income data in the CPS with questions designed to collect information on a selected group of noncash benefits.

The data collection in March 1981 concentrated on two major categories of noncash benefits: public transfers and employer- or union-provided benefits to employees. In the category of public noncash transfers, the survey covered the following programs: Food Stamp Program; National School Lunch Program; public and other subsidized housing; Medicare health insurance; Medicaid health insurance; and CHAMPUS, VA, or military health insurance. Data were collected for two types of employer- or union-provided noncash benefits: pension plans and group health insurance plans.

HIGHLIGHTS

While households in general experienced significant declines in purchasing power and large increases in poverty[1] (measured solely in money terms) in 1980, there were significant increases in the number of households receiving noncash benefits. The decline of 5 percent in real median household income between 1979 and 1980 and the increase from 9.8 million to 11.0 million in the number of households with incomes below the poverty level was accompanied by an increase from 13.6 million to 14.3 million in the number of households receiving means-tested noncash benefits.[2] In addition, the number of households receiving nonmeans-tested benefits from one or more of four sources, including Medicare, regular-price school lunches, employer- or union-provided pension plans, and employer- or union-provided group health insurance plans, increased from 67.6 million to 69.0 million.

Means-Tested Noncash Benefits

Because means-tested noncash benefits are received by households whose incomes and/or assets (resources) fall below specified program guidelines, the general deterioration in the income situation during 1980 helped contribute to the increase in the number of households receiving these noncash benefits. Of the four means-tested noncash benefits covered in this report, three showed significant increases in household recipiency between 1979 and 1980. The number of households receiving food stamps in 1980 increased by 12 percent to 6.8 million. The number of households containing

[1] See appendix A for an explanation of the poverty concept. Data on money income and poverty status in 1980 were published in Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 127.

[2] A "means-tested" transfer program requires that the household's income and/or assets (resources) fall below specified guidelines in order to qualify for benefits. The means-tested programs in this report are food stamps, free or reduced-price school lunches, publicly owned or other subsidized housing, and Medicaid. Eligibility for Medicare is based on age or disability status only.

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children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches rose from 4.9 million to 5.5 million, a 12-percent increase. Households residing in public or other subsidized housing rose to 2.8 million, up 8 percent from the previous year. The number of households with members covered by Medicaid (8.3 million) remained at about the 1979 level.

Approximately 45 percent of households receiving these means-tested noncash benefits had incomes below the poverty level during 1980. (See table A.) Food stamp households had the highest poverty rate (65 percent), while households with children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches had the lowest poverty rate (45 percent). For households receiving means-tested noncash benefits, the proportion below the official poverty line increased between 1979 and 1980 for each of the four means-tested benefits.

The 6.8 million households receiving *food stamps* during 1980 accounted for 8 percent of all households. The median total money income for these households was $5,540, or 31 percent of the median for all households. Approximately two-thirds of all food stamp households had total money incomes below the poverty level in 1980, and 77 percent had total money incomes below 125 percent of the poverty level. Overall, while only 8 percent of all households received food stamps during 1980, there were several subgroups with much higher rates of food stamp recipiency. These include households with Black householders (27 percent), those with householders of Spanish origin (19 percent), and households with female householders, no husbands present (30 percent).

Free or reduced-price school lunches were received by children in 21 percent of all households with school-age children (5 to 18 years). About 45 percent of households maintained by women (no husbands present) with children in school received free or reduced-price school lunches. The South, which contains about 35 percent of all households with children 5 to 18 years old, accounted for about 45 percent of the total 5.5 million households receiving free or reduced-price school lunches. Of the 3.9 million poverty households with children 5 to 18 years old, about 65 percent received free or reduced-price school lunches.

About 10 percent of the 26.5 million renter-occupied households were residing in *publicly owned or other subsidized housing* in March 1981. (See table B.) Of the 6.1 million renter-occupied households below the poverty level, 24 percent resided in public or subsidized housing. Thirty-four percent of all households residing in public or subsidized housing had a householder 65 years or older. About three-fourths of all public or subsidized housing units were in metropolitan areas; 55 percent were in central cities.

Of the 8.3 million households with members covered by *Medicaid,* 4.4 million (about 53 percent) had incomes below the poverty level. The median income for households with Medicaid coverage was $6,100, or 34 percent of the median income for all households. Medicaid covered 40 percent of all poor households, 52 percent of all poor households with children under 19 years, and 37 percent of all poor households with a householder 65 years and over. Of all households with Medicaid coverage, 67 percent had a White householder, 30 percent had a Black householder, and 9 percent had a householder of Spanish origin. (See table C.)

Nonmeans-Tested Noncash Benefits

Households receiving nonmeans-tested benefits are not required to meet income or asset guidelines. Two major public programs are covered in this report: Medicare and regular-price school lunches. (All school lunches served at schools participating in the National School Lunch Program are subsidized.) During 1980, the number of households with one or more members covered by Medicare (19.8 million) remained essentially unchanged from 1979. The number of households with school children receiving regular-price

Table A. Households Receiving Means-Tested Noncash Benefits—Number, Percent Below the Poverty Level, and Percent of Poor Receiving Benefits in 1980 and 1979

(Households as of March of the following year. Households are classified according to the poverty status of the family or the nonfamily householder)

Type of means-tested benefits	All households			Percent of households below the poverty level			Percent of all poor households receiving noncash benefits		
	Number (thousands)		Percent change			Difference (1980 minus 1979)			Difference (1980 minus 1979)
	1980	1979		1980	1979		1980	1979	
All households	82,368	80,776	*2.0	13.3	12.1	*1.2	(X)	(X)	(X)
Households with one or more means-tested benefits[1]	14,266	13,604	*4.9	44.6	40.5	*4.1	58.0	56.1	*1.9
Households receiving food stamps	6,769	6,054	*11.8	65.5	60.6	*4.9	40.4	37.4	*3.0
Households receiving free or reduced-price school lunches	5,532	4,933	*12.1	45.4	42.6	*2.8	[2]64.6	[2]63.6	[2]1.0
Households residing in publicly owned or other subsidized housing	2,777	2,573	*7.9	51.5	46.7	*4.8	[3]23.6	[3]22.3	*[3]1.3
Households with one or more members covered by Medicaid	8,287	8,146	1.7	53.3	47.7	*5.6	40.3	39.6	0.7

* Significant at the .05 level. (X) Not applicable.

[1]Detail does not add because some households have noncash benefits from more than one source.
[2]Based on poor households with school children 5 to 18 years old.
[3]Based on poor households in renter-occupied housing.

Table B. Percent of Households Receiving Means-Tested Noncash Benefits, by Selected Characteristics

(Households as of March 1981. Households are classified according to the race of the family or nonfamily householder)

Selected characteristics	Number (thousands)	Percent distribution, by selected characteristics				
		Total[1]	Food stamps	Free or reduced-price school lunches[2]	Public or other subsidized housing[3]	Medicaid
Total	82,368	100.0	8.2	20.9	10.5	10.1
White	71,872	100.0	5.9	15.6	7.6	7.7
Black	8,847	100.0	26.9	49.9	23.3	28.2
Spanish origin[4]	3,906	100.0	18.7	43.1	10.7	19.3
Households with--						
Children under 19 years old	34,329	100.0	13.1	20.9	12.9	12.7
Female family householder, no husband present	9,082	100.0	30.3	45.2	22.7	33.5
Householder 65 years old and over	16,912	100.0	6.9	35.8	23.2	14.8
Residence in the South	27,220	100.0	10.1	26.9	10.7	9.4
Residence in metropolitan areas	56,072	100.0	7.6	19.3	10.5	10.2
Residence in central cities	24,473	100.0	11.2	30.3	13.5	14.0

[1]Includes households not receiving means-tested noncash benefits, not shown separately.
[2]Based on households with children 5 to 18 years old.
[3]Based on households in renter-occupied housing.
[4]Persons of Spanish origin may be of any race.

Table C. Percent Distribution of Means-Tested Noncash Benefit Households, by Selected Characteristics

(Households as of March 1981. Households are classified according to the race of the family or nonfamily householder)

Selected characteristics	Food stamps	Free or reduced-price school lunches	Public or other subsidized housing	Medicaid
Total ... thousands	6,769	5,532	2,777	8,287
Percent distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	62.6	62.0	58.0	67.1
Black	35.1	34.1	38.7	30.1
Spanish origin[1]	10.8	14.5	8.0	9.1
Households with--				
Children under 19 years old	66.5	100.0	46.7	52.5
Female family householder, no husband present	40.7	44.4	37.1	36.7
Householder 65 years old and over	17.3	3.6	34.4	30.3
Residence in the South	40.5	44.8	31.0	31.0
Residence in metropolitan areas	63.3	61.3	75.2	69.2
Residence in central cities	40.4	36.9	55.2	41.3

[1]Persons of Spanish origin may be of any race.

school lunches declined by about 800,000 to 12.0 million. (See table D.) This decline appears to be largely the result of the 600,000 increase in the number of households with children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches, since the number of households with children who usually ate lunch prepared at school (17.6 million) was not significantly different from the 1979 figure.

About 24 percent of all households in the United States contained one or more persons covered by *Medicare* during 1980. Of these, about 82 percent had a householder 65 years old or over. The median income of Medicare households was $9,420 in 1980. The poverty rate for households in which one or more members were covered by Medicare was 19 percent, higher than the 13 percent poverty rate for all households. About 96 percent of all households with an elderly householder (65 years old or over) reported one or more members covered by Medicare; the percentage of poor households with an aged householder reporting Medicare coverage was about the same.

The 12.0 million households containing one or more children receiving *regular-price school lunches* in 1980 represented 45 percent of all households with children 5 to 18 years. The median income for households with children receiving regular-price school lunches was $25,840 in 1980, which is about 17 percent higher than the median income for all households with children 5 to 18 years and about 46 percent higher than the median income for all households.

Two important employer-provided noncash benefits are

Table D. Households Receiving Nonmeans-Tested Noncash Benefits—Number, Median Income, and Percent Below the Poverty Level in 1980 and 1979

(Households as of March of the following year. Households are classified according to the poverty status of the family or the nonfamily householder)

Type of nonmeans-tested benefits	All households						Percent of households below the poverty level		
	Total			Median income (In 1980 dollars)					
	Number (thousands)		Percent change	Value (dollars)		Percent change			Difference (1980 minus 1979)
	1980	1979		1980	1979		1980	1979	
All households	82,368	80,776	*2.0	17,710	18,687	*-5.2	13.3	12.1	*1.2
Households with one or more nonmeans-tested benefits[1]	69,021	67,578	*2.1	19,914	20,751	*-4.0	8.4	7.8	*0.6
Households with one or more members covered by Medicare	19,788	19,687	0.5	9,416	9,751	*-3.4	18.8	18.1	**0.7
Households receiving regular-price school lunches	12,049	12,866	*-6.4	25,841	27,562	*-6.2	5.4	4.3	*1.1
Households with one or more members with an employer- or union-provided pension plan	38,331	38,026	0.8	25,663	26,721	*-4.0	2.1	1.9	**0.2
Households with one or more members with an employer- or union-provided group health insurance plan[2]	48,824	46,903	*4.1	23,851	25,077	*-4.9	3.3	2.8	*0.5

* Significant at the .05 level.
** Significant between the .05 and .10 levels.

[1]Detail does not add because some households have noncash benefits from more than one source.
[2]Includes only workers with group health insurance plans which were paid for in part (or all) by an employer or union.

pension plans and group health insurance plans. While the number of households with one or more members having a group health insurance plan paid for, at least in part, by their employer increased from 46.9 million in 1979 to 48.8 million in 1980, the number of households with one or more workers covered by an employer- or union-provided pension plan (38.3 million) was not significantly higher in 1980.

Households in which one or more persons were covered by a *pension plan at work* during 1980 represented about 47 percent of all households. After excluding households in which the householder was 65 years old or over, this figure rose to 56 percent. The median income for households with one or more members covered by a pension plan at work was $25,660, or $7,950 more than the median for all households.

During 1980, households in which one or more members were covered by a *group health plan at work* which was paid for, in full or in part, by an employer or union represented 59 percent of all households. Of all households with a householder under 65 years old, 71 percent had at least one member covered by an employer- or union-provided group health plan. The median income for households in which one or more members were covered by an employer- or union-provided group health plan was $23,850, $6,140 higher than the median for all households.

Note on Limitations of Noncash Data

Although these data on noncash benefits provide needed information on the characteristics of households receiving noncash benefits, caution should be used in interpreting the data or in using the data to determine whether eligibility rules are being observed. The accounting period and definition of income in the CPS often differ substantially from those used to determine program eligibility for public noncash transfer programs. Also, household composition may differ between the time benefits were received and the time the survey was taken. In addition, the CPS sample universe is limited to the civilian noninstitutional population. This fact should be kept in mind especially when examining the Medicare and Medicaid data because a significant proportion of persons receiving benefits from these programs are institutionalized. As in all household surveys, the CPS tends to underestimate the number of money income recipients. A preliminary evaluation of the quality of the noncash benefit data indicates that there are underestimation problems similar to those experienced for recipients of public cash transfer programs. For further details concerning the limitations of noncash benefit data, see Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 110.

Introduction of 1980 Census Population Controls

The estimation procedure used in this report involved the inflation of weighted sample results to independent estimates of the population. These independent estimates are based on civilian noninstitutional population controls from the 1970 and 1980 censuses. Data published in the Series P-23, No. 110, showing noncash benefit data in 1979 were based on population estimates derived by updating the 1970 census counts. Starting with the 1980 money income and noncash benefit data collected in the March 1981 CPS, independent estimates will be based on civilian noninstitutional population controls for age, race, and sex established by the 1980 census.

The April 1980 census population count differed somewhat from the independent estimates for April 1980 derived

by updating 1970 census population figures. The April 1980 census count of the civilian noninstitutional population was 222,420,441, compared with the updated 1970 census figure of 217,400,244 used for the CPS. Basically, this difference had little impact on 1979 income summary measures (means and medians) and proportional measures (percent distributions and poverty rates); however, use of the new controls may have significant impact on the absolute numbers. Table 1 of this report shows the effect of the new population controls on the numbers of households, median incomes, numbers of households receiving noncash benefits, and numbers of households with incomes below the poverty level by comparing estimates for 1979 based on the 1980 census population controls and the updated 1970 census population controls.

FORTHCOMING DETAILED REPORT AND TECHNICAL PAPER ON NONCASH BENEFITS: 1980

Later this year, the Census Bureau will publish a more complete report on noncash benefits. This report will present detailed information on recipiency patterns for various types of noncash benefits, including several detailed tables showing beneficiaries of multiple sources of noncash benefits. The report, which will contain data for both 1979 and 1980, will essentially provide information similar to that shown in this report but in much greater detail. Information on the CHAMPUS, VA, and other military health care programs which is not contained in this report will also be included. A section of the forthcoming report will also evaluate the quality of the March 1981 CPS noncash benefit data by comparing survey estimates with administrative program sources. Thus, the limitations of the data reported in the CPS will be described in more detail.

The Bureau also plans to release a technical report later this year containing results of a special research project on valuation of noncash benefits. This report will outline various methods for estimating recipient value of noncash transfer benefits and their potential impact on poverty. It is important to note that this technical report will be highly exploratory in nature and will outline both the strengths and weaknesses of various valuation methodologies for noncash benefits.

Table I. Households Receiving Selected Noncash Benefits in 1980 and 1979—Number of Households and Median Income and Poverty Status in 1980 and 1979, by Selected Characteristics of Householder

(NUMBERS IN THOUSANDS. HOUSEHOLDS AS OF MARCH OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR. HOUSEHOLDS ARE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE POVERTY STATUS OF THE FAMILY OR THE NONFAMILY HOUSEHOLDER)

TYPE OF NONCASH BENEFITS	1980					1979									
						1980 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS					1970 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS				
	NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME	
		BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL			
	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)
ALL HOUSEHOLDS															
TOTAL	82 368	10 968	15 557	17 710	92	80 776	9 814	14 079	16 461	79	79 108	9 549	13 714	16 533	80
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	26 506	3 886	5 183	22 160	136	26 441	3 306	4 512	20 909	122	26 076	3 228	4 405	21 008	123
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	26 487	6 063	8 153	12 043	94	25 885	5 391	7 449	11 166	88	25 278	5 244	7 257	11 185	89
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	73 899	9 202	13 219	18 690	95	71 979	8 113	11 797	17 269	82	70 565	7 901	11 506	17 339	83
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	14 266	6 360	8 220	7 453	94	13 604	5 505	7 253	7 236	92	13 297	5 360	7 077	7 249	93
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	6 769	4 433	5 227	5 543	104	6 054	3 671	4 395	5 281	116	5 911	3 575	4 286	5 300	117
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	5 532	2 511	3 187	9 975	177	4 933	2 101	2 747	9 214	152	4 807	2 046	2 675	9 230	154
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	2 777	1 430	1 866	5 053	136	2 573	1 201	1 614	4 979	119	2 511	1 170	1 573	4 979	120
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	8 287	4 421	5 378	6 097	104	8 146	3 889	4 879	5 963	115	7 984	3 794	4 775	5 991	115
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	69 021	5 776	9 276	19 914	93	67 578	5 277	8 419	18 279	87	66 262	5 130	8 201	18 354	88
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	19 788	3 713	5 925	9 416	96	19 687	3 561	5 661	8 589	91	19 230	3 458	5 518	8 597	92
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	12 049	646	974	25 841	174	12 866	552	832	24 279	174	12 725	546	821	24 345	174
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	38 331	804	1 418	25 663	104	38 026	734	1 272	23 538	101	37 410	713	1 236	23 607	101
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	48 824	1 620	2 755	23 851	99	46 903	1 293	2 191	22 090	82	46 070	1 256	2 126	22 157	82
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 19 YEARS OLD															
TOTAL	34 329	4 928	6 607	21 443	113	33 902	4 213	5 730	20 277	106	33 345	4 111	5 588	20 360	107
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	26 506	3 886	5 183	22 160	136	26 441	3 306	4 512	20 909	122	26 076	3 228	4 405	21 008	123
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	10 036	3 126	3 949	12 460	154	9 554	2 714	3 530	11 711	140	9 341	2 642	3 436	11 747	140
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	32 311	4 539	6 051	21 847	116	31 622	3 831	5 177	20 656	107	31 118	3 741	5 053	20 737	108
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	8 574	3 788	4 794	9 833	143	7 932	3 238	4 167	9 264	133	7 749	3 157	4 063	9 286	135
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	4 501	2 926	3 448	6 706	110	3 987	2 417	2 877	6 499	122	3 899	2 358	2 809	6 514	123
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	5 532	2 511	3 187	9 975	177	4 933	2 101	2 747	9 214	152	4 807	2 046	2 675	9 230	154
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	1 297	787	917	6 557	221	1 197	670	813	6 504	225	1 167	654	792	6 488	228
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	4 349	2 574	3 000	7 118	126	4 107	2 237	2 669	7 042	137	4 028	2 189	2 615	7 063	139
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	28 667	1 914	3 053	23 744	128	28 290	1 654	2 592	22 138	103	27 858	1 613	2 524	22 214	104
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	1 660	400	557	15 942	574	1 774	381	524	15 342	547	1 743	373	513	15 401	561
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	12 049	646	974	25 841	174	12 866	552	832	24 279	174	12 725	546	821	24 345	174
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	19 590	546	1 012	26 426	135	19 563	485	892	24 439	128	19 311	470	865	24 507	128
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	24 918	1 083	1 909	24 738	128	24 057	861	1 507	23 112	122	23 706	833	1 458	23 199	122
HOUSEHOLDER 65 YEARS OLD AND OVER															
TOTAL	16 912	3 188	5 137	8 781	100	16 544	3 012	4 860	7 878	94	16 149	2 926	4 738	7 882	95
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	562	159	220	13 353	818	543	130	182	12 586	672	530	127	178	12 614	680
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	4 128	1 237	1 931	5 937	122	4 279	1 206	1 893	5 271	143	4 184	1 172	1 851	5 284	144
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	16 645	3 100	5 036	8 775	100	16 302	2 950	4 794	7 868	94	15 914	2 864	4 672	7 873	95
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	3 495	1 579	2 198	4 781	57	3 619	1 442	2 051	4 677	59	3 537	1 399	2 000	4 686	60
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	1 173	836	1 000	4 154	73	1 055	701	872	3 941	80	1 024	677	845	3 945	81
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	201	100	134	8 889	645	192	86	110	8 513	705	186	84	108	8 502	709
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	956	405	652	4 350	86	883	359	567	4 078	93	863	349	552	4 087	94
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	2 510	1 164	1 547	4 832	68	2 711	1 082	1 502	4 769	71	2 652	1 051	1 467	4 779	72
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	16 621	3 085	5 016	8 779	100	16 281	2 935	4 779	7 874	94	15 893	2 849	4 657	7 880	95
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	16 303	3 066	4 993	8 627	100	16 032	2 932	4 768	7 749	94	15 650	2 846	4 647	7 755	95
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	175	31	46	16 614	1 529	173	14	24	17 389	1 675	171	14	24	17 284	1 694
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	1 695	26	51	22 596	423	1 681	17	35	20 592	501	1 644	17	35	20 628	510
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	2 249	50	91	21 031	421	2 072	38	75	19 290	363	2 025	38	75	19 307	368

[1] DETAIL DOES NOT ADD BECAUSE SOME HOUSEHOLDS HAVE NONCASH BENEFITS FROM MORE THAN ONE SOURCE.
[2] INCLUDES ONLY WORKERS WITH GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS WHICH WERE PAID FOR IN PART (OR ALL) BY AN EMPLOYER OR UNION.

Table I. Households Receiving Selected Noncash Benefits in 1980 and 1979—Number of Households and Median Income and Poverty Status in 1980 and 1979, by Selected Characteristics of Householder—Continued

(NUMBERS IN THOUSANDS. HOUSEHOLDS AS OF MARCH OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR. HOUSEHOLDS ARE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE POVERTY STATUS OF THE FAMILY OR THE NONFAMILY HOUSEHOLDER)

TYPE OF NONCASH BENEFITS	1980					1979									
						1980 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS					1970 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS				
	NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME	
		BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL			
	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)
HOUSEHOLDS WITH WHITE HOUSEHOLDER															
TOTAL	71 872	7 828	11 593	18 683	96	70 766	7 003	10 474	17 258	83	69 454	6 846	10 237	17 332	84
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	22 035	2 439	3 403	23 602	154	22 214	1 983	2 824	22 097	127	22 011	1 957	2 782	22 173	128
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	21 135	3 934	5 549	12 922	124	20 853	3 542	5 120	11 865	98	20 428	3 466	5 007	11 884	99
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	64 417	6 417	9 686	19 685	101	62 889	5 594	8 547	18 135	92	61 787	5 473	8 363	18 211	93
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	9 840	3 960	5 292	7 932	153	9 404	3 375	4 624	7 569	135	9 233	3 304	4 530	7 597	139
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	4 238	2 631	3 177	5 807	132	3 799	2 131	2 607	5 594	151	3 726	2 088	2 555	5 616	153
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	3 429	1 353	1 798	10 967	208	3 014	1 104	1 514	10 001	200	2 963	1 088	1 489	9 995	202
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	1 612	745	1 029	4 896	91	1 504	605	884	4 814	99	1 473	592	863	4 822	100
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	5 561	2 656	3 299	6 499	134	5 484	2 279	2 972	6 344	142	5 398	2 235	2 920	6 379	143
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	61 316	4 385	7 289	20 517	90	60 170	3 987	6 557	18 839	91	59 117	3 892	6 406	18 916	92
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	17 593	2 806	4 684	9 845	101	17 526	2 743	4 543	8 898	94	17 112	2 668	4 428	8 907	95
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	10 704	544	824	26 016	184	11 541	433	658	24 475	180	11 450	430	653	24 536	181
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	34 204	594	1 068	26 157	108	33 898	498	865	24 070	104	33 430	490	850	24 128	105
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	43 397	1 171	2 053	24 454	102	41 727	901	1 542	22 602	100	41 093	883	1 509	22 670	101
HOUSEHOLDS WITH BLACK HOUSEHOLDER															
TOTAL	8 847	2 864	3 588	10 763	203	8 586	2 594	3 308	10 133	185	8 405	2 515	3 211	10 215	188
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	3 785	1 326	1 608	13 034	352	3 634	1 216	1 556	11 644	280	3 559	1 177	1 507	11 751	281
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	4 618	1 941	2 353	8 227	217	4 413	1 703	2 130	7 964	203	4 320	1 653	2 070	8 023	205
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	8 037	2 567	3 228	11 253	219	7 856	2 362	3 026	10 541	197	7 689	2 290	2 936	10 629	198
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	4 011	2 233	2 699	6 567	155	3 874	2 013	2 474	6 407	166	3 770	1 951	2 402	6 431	168
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	2 376	1 701	1 929	5 020	143	2 145	1 471	1 708	4 863	108	2 086	1 425	1 657	4 882	109
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	1 889	1 076	1 276	7 872	314	1 782	941	1 160	7 827	255	1 725	909	1 121	7 874	259
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	1 075	643	771	5 444	279	990	566	689	5 338	272	967	549	671	5 368	277
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	2 495	1 649	1 924	5 198	184	2 476	1 528	1 800	5 049	170	2 413	1 484	1 752	5 085	180
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	6 428	1 279	1 804	14 016	256	6 291	1 207	1 720	12 849	285	6 166	1 167	1 666	12 952	289
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	1 964	863	1 159	6 136	200	1 957	790	1 063	5 808	237	1 911	765	1 031	5 861	238
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	1 083	84	121	23 320	756	1 071	102	151	21 475	661	1 054	99	147	21 586	671
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	3 410	186	311	20 170	326	3 452	212	369	18 176	336	3 403	204	356	18 271	338
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	4 392	394	623	18 224	304	4 303	354	583	16 868	249	4 230	343	563	16 938	251
HOUSEHOLDS WITH SPANISH ORIGIN HOUSEHOLDER[3]															
TOTAL	3 906	956	1 317	13 650	370	3 684	791	1 090	13 042	377	3 730	779	1 068	13 423	378
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	1 866	521	719	15 132	533	1 721	421	573	15 047	558	1 755	421	568	15 439	520
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	2 085	685	908	10 486	362	1 931	572	795	10 125	322	1 924	562	778	10 253	313
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	3 454	811	1 133	14 468	386	3 222	680	928	13 814	403	3 274	672	912	14 194	404
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	1 433	679	891	8 416	366	1 310	592	752	7 999	398	1 296	583	737	8 037	399
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	732	497	582	6 138	308	627	421	473	5 681	348	619	417	467	5 656	355
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	804	393	520	9 488	429	702	314	406	9 278	452	688	312	400	9 209	455
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	223	121	155	6 752	735	201	101	128	6 026	726	202	99	126	6 147	730
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	754	458	547	6 255	350	731	413	498	5 782	396	725	407	489	5 837	397
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	2 816	360	606	17 118	404	2 683	316	502	16 049	391	2 742	310	490	16 432	398
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	500	165	232	8 009	606	495	148	218	7 616	639	492	143	211	7 778	646
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	548	47	80	23 106	1 120	518	27	43	23 190	1 074	550	30	46	23 466	1 039
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	1 563	77	163	21 560	513	1 511	67	125	20 339	505	1 569	66	121	20 743	502
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	2 251	168	331	19 360	451	2 072	133	240	18 141	438	2 127	129	232	18 575	436

[1]DETAIL DOES NOT ADD BECAUSE SOME HOUSEHOLDS HAVE NONCASH BENEFITS FROM MORE THAN ONE SOURCE.
[2]INCLUDES ONLY WORKERS WITH GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS WHICH WERE PAID FOR IN PART (OR ALL) BY AN EMPLOYER OR UNION.
[3]PERSONS OF SPANISH ORIGIN MAY BE OF ANY RACE.

Table I. Households Receiving Selected Noncash Benefits in 1980 and 1979—Number of Households and Median Income and Poverty Status in 1980 and 1979, by Selected Characteristics of Householder—Continued

(NUMBERS IN THOUSANDS. HOUSEHOLDS AS OF MARCH OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR. HOUSEHOLDS ARE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE POVERTY STATUS OF THE FAMILY OR THE NONFAMILY HOUSEHOLDER)

TYPE OF NONCASH BENEFITS	1980					1979									
						1980 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS					1970 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS				
	NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME	
		BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL			
	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STANDARD ERROR (DOL.)
SOUTH															
TOTAL	27 220	4 551	6 107	16 298	149	26 613	4 088	5 527	14 967	137	25 523	3 905	5 281	15 040	142
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	9 228	1 643	2 172	20 151	259	9 166	1 402	1 885	18 768	233	8 855	1 346	1 809	18 863	239
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	8 069	2 242	2 825	11 166	169	7 869	2 045	2 627	10 513	164	7 520	1 951	2 506	10 532	167
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	24 110	3 842	5 196	17 230	159	23 320	3 428	4 675	15 707	148	22 381	3 276	4 469	15 785	151
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	5 247	2 667	3 278	7 176	156	5 022	2 395	2 956	6 906	174	4 815	2 291	2 829	6 928	178
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	2 741	1 921	2 220	4 961	120	2 502	1 636	1 888	4 835	103	2 401	1 567	1 809	4 846	106
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	2 480	1 158	1 468	9 688	260	2 224	990	1 266	9 069	226	2 135	950	1 214	9 088	229
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	862	568	659	4 551	147	844	497	609	4 606	173	809	476	583	4 618	177
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	2 571	1 622	1 841	4 948	119	2 596	1 527	1 764	4 849	100	2 486	1 459	1 689	4 860	102
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	22 434	2 635	3 826	18 465	169	21 771	2 381	3 478	16 689	145	20 893	2 270	3 319	16 773	148
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	6 767	1 783	2 477	8 879	178	6 721	1 707	2 381	7 986	161	6 413	1 629	2 275	7 988	165
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	4 509	290	444	25 036	321	4 861	225	349	22 897	315	4 710	217	336	22 989	319
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	11 741	357	587	24 588	201	11 379	282	497	22 070	171	10 966	268	472	22 150	174
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	15 251	685	1 135	22 518	176	14 253	518	888	20 588	159	13 708	491	843	20 676	162
INSIDE METROPOLITAN AREAS															
TOTAL	56 072	6 744	9 622	19 043	161	55 198	6 025	8 700	17 529	145	54 051	5 872	8 481	17 610	150
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	17 581	2 467	3 225	23 666	269	17 707	2 137	2 854	22 070	213	17 479	2 094	2 795	22 163	214
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	19 961	4 262	5 796	12 602	181	19 524	3 783	5 265	11 625	144	19 062	3 686	5 134	11 642	145
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	50 596	5 603	8 117	20 085	154	49 456	4 942	7 256	18 459	153	48 483	4 826	7 087	18 530	154
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	9 197	4 012	5 188	7 437	170	8 835	3 449	4 580	7 355	163	8 650	3 374	4 482	7 361	165
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	4 282	2 788	3 276	5 626	177	3 896	2 317	2 777	5 478	198	3 822	2 270	2 724	5 484	200
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	3 391	1 610	1 992	9 406	337	3 063	1 334	1 724	8 987	271	2 994	1 308	1 689	8 986	275
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	2 089	1 081	1 407	5 020	207	1 898	888	1 203	4 956	188	1 858	867	1 176	4 959	192
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	5 732	2 962	3 630	6 304	178	5 557	2 534	3 220	6 263	195	5 450	2 485	3 159	6 273	197
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	47 265	3 203	5 379	21 227	146	46 413	2 951	4 907	19 529	150	45 495	2 871	4 778	19 605	152
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	12 502	2 008	3 383	10 000	202	12 492	1 862	3 192	9 148	166	12 209	1 811	3 111	9 162	168
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	7 464	334	511	27 239	316	8 101	324	457	25 684	265	8 010	320	451	25 741	267
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	27 552	469	863	26 629	174	27 319	457	792	24 460	172	26 861	443	769	24 528	173
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	34 884	999	1 714	24 927	166	33 700	844	1 398	22 963	166	33 080	818	1 355	23 045	167
INSIDE CENTRAL CITIES															
TOTAL	24 473	4 106	5 743	15 629	207	24 212	3 666	5 143	14 358	204	23 705	3 578	5 022	14 396	206
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	6 733	1 473	1 867	19 002	436	6 806	1 313	1 694	18 286	387	6 709	1 287	1 661	18 364	390
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	11 343	2 878	3 895	11 312	213	11 156	2 584	3 522	10 434	194	10 913	2 524	3 444	10 456	196
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	21 936	3 477	4 928	16 423	216	21 532	3 073	4 354	15 155	217	21 101	3 007	4 261	15 183	219
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	5 457	2 639	3 393	6 639	185	5 261	2 329	3 011	6 480	198	5 159	2 282	2 951	6 485	199
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS	2 736	1 878	2 188	5 082	193	2 532	1 611	1 894	4 941	160	2 487	1 580	1 859	4 949	165
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	2 040	1 053	1 294	8 361	447	1 838	900	1 111	8 119	364	1 800	884	1 091	8 114	371
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	1 534	846	1 091	4 906	178	1 401	706	940	4 884	184	1 373	692	921	4 880	184
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID	3 420	1 974	2 418	5 506	220	3 339	1 746	2 166	5 359	246	3 285	1 716	2 130	5 379	247
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	19 813	1 877	3 113	18 065	244	19 580	1 707	2 777	16 597	211	19 182	1 665	2 709	16 633	214
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE	6 044	1 273	2 076	8 560	266	6 111	1 137	1 845	7 993	265	5 986	1 109	1 802	8 008	266
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES	2 255	135	194	25 905	616	2 488	145	200	23 672	606	2 457	143	197	23 752	600
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	10 730	257	472	24 082	299	10 616	236	433	21 941	241	10 423	230	422	21 985	243
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	13 931	523	926	22 154	227	13 570	470	803	20 493	218	13 305	458	782	20 534	221

[1]DETAIL DOES NOT ADD BECAUSE SOME HOUSEHOLDS HAVE NONCASH BENEFITS FROM MORE THAN ONE SOURCE.
[2]INCLUDES ONLY WORKERS WITH GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS WHICH WERE PAID FOR IN PART (OR ALL) BY AN EMPLOYER OR UNION.

Table I. Households Receiving Selected Noncash Benefits in 1980 and 1979—Number of Households and Median Income and Poverty Status in 1980 and 1979, by Selected Characteristics of Householder—Continued

(NUMBERS IN THOUSANDS. HOUSEHOLDS AS OF MARCH OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR. HOUSEHOLDS ARE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE POVERTY STATUS OF THE FAMILY OR THE NONFAMILY HOUSEHOLDER)

TYPE OF NONCASH BENEFITS	1980					1979									
						1980 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS					1970 CENSUS POPULATION CONTROLS				
	NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME		NUMBER			MEDIAN INCOME	
		BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL					BELOW SPECIFIED POVERTY LEVEL			
	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STAND-ARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STAND-ARD ERROR (DOL.)	TOTAL	BELOW 100 PERCENT	BELOW 125 PERCENT	VALUE (DOL.)	STAND-ARD ERROR (DOL.)
FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS WITH FEMALE HOUSEHOLDER, NO HUSBAND PRESENT															
TOTAL.	9 082	2 972	3 666	10 830	165	8 705	2 645	3 323	10 251	148	8 540	2 575	3 241	10 300	149
HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN 5 TO 18 YRS	5 434	2 199	2 657	9 803	201	5 240	1 927	2 412	9 374	169	5 142	1 877	2 353	9 436	170
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS	4 529	2 112	2 492	7 820	211	4 205	1 864	2 250	7 427	157	4 117	1 815	2 195	7 470	165
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE NONCASH BENEFITS[1]	8 509	2 799	3 453	10 973	171	8 137	2 488	3 119	10 348	153	7 980	2 424	3 042	10 396	155
MEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1] . . .	4 391	2 499	2 970	6 584	116	4 234	2 232	2 722	6 444	128	4 138	2 174	2 655	6 470	128
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMPS .	2 755	2 048	2 306	5 115	129	2 535	1 740	2 033	5 043	128	2 475	1 696	1 983	5 078	135
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES. . .	2 458	1 556	1 836	6 414	134	2 340	1 345	1 628	6 549	157	2 281	1 310	1 586	6 571	159
HOUSEHOLDS RESIDING IN PUBLICLY OWNED OR OTHER SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	1 029	674	771	5 481	229	890	573	668	5 308	227	867	558	650	5 326	230
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICAID . . .	3 038	2 021	2 300	5 645	133	2 946	1 801	2 130	5 567	146	2 886	1 757	2 083	5 605	146
NONMEANS-TESTED NONCASH BENEFITS[1]. .	6 190	903	1 375	14 388	192	5 984	864	1 277	13 016	182	5 871	838	1 241	13 069	183
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS COVERED BY MEDICARE . . .	1 790	333	507	12 544	422	1 831	293	438	11 571	315	1 799	285	429	11 559	319
HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING REGULAR PRICE SCHOOL LUNCHES.	1 567	235	312	15 002	353	1 554	257	345	13 569	339	1 529	250	337	13 638	340
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A PENSION PLAN AT WORK	3 211	207	382	18 108	284	3 092	206	333	16 354	259	3 044	199	321	16 417	261
HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE MEMBERS HAVING A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AT WORK[2]	4 375	394	649	16 573	217	4 111	357	577	15 118	232	4 038	344	558	15 194	241

[1]DETAIL DOES NOT ADD BECAUSE SOME HOUSEHOLDS HAVE NONCASH BENEFITS FROM MORE THAN ONE SOURCE.
[2]INCLUDES ONLY WORKERS WITH GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS WHICH WERE PAID FOR IN PART (OR ALL) BY AN EMPLOYER OR UNION.

Appendix A. Definitions and Explanations

Noncash benefits. Noncash benefits can be defined as benefits received in a form other than money which serve to enhance or improve the economic well-being of the recipient. Data collection in March 1981 concentrated on two major categories of noncash benefits: those which could be categorized as public transfers and those which could be categorized as employer- or union-provided benefits to employees. In the area of public noncash transfers, the following programs were covered: Food Stamp Program, National School Lunch Program, public and other subsidized housing, Medicare health insurance, Medicaid health insurance, and CHAMPUS, VA, or military health insurance. For employer- or union-provided noncash benefits, pension plans and group health insurance plans were covered.

Population coverage. This report includes the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States (the 50 States and the District of Columbia) and members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post, but excludes all other members of the Armed Forces. The exclusion of the institutional population from the CPS sample universe is an important limitation which should be noted when examining the Medicare and Medicaid data. The exclusion of Puerto Rico from the sample is an important limitation when examining the food stamp data.

Money income. Median income figures shown in this report are limited to money income before payment of Federal, State, local, or Social Security (FICA) taxes and before any other types of deductions such as union dues and Medicare premiums. Total money income is the sum of the amounts received from wages and salaries, self-employment income (including losses), Social Security, Supplemental Security income, public assistance, interest, dividends, rent, royalties, estates or trusts, veterans' payments, unemployment and workers' compensations, private and government retirement and disability pensions, alimony, child support, and any other source of money income which was regularly received. Capital gains (or losses) and lump-sum or one-time payments such as life insurance settlements are excluded.

Underreporting. As in all household surveys, the estimates of the number of noncash benefit recipients, money income recipients, and the total amount of money income derived from the March CPS are, in most cases, somewhat less than comparable estimates derived from independent sources, such as the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Health and Human Services, and Department of Agriculture. The difference between the survey estimate and the independent estimate is generally termed "underreporting." Underreporting tends to be more pronounced for income sources such as public assistance and welfare, unemployment compensation, and property income (interest, dividends, and net rental income) and less for wages and salaries. For details concerning the reporting of money income, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 123. The forthcoming detailed report on 1980 noncash benefits will evaluate the quality of the March 1981 CPS noncash benefit data by comparing survey estimates with administrative program sources.

Poverty (low-income) classification. In this report, households are classified as being above or below the poverty level using the poverty index developed at the Social Security Administration in 1964 and revised by a Federal Interagency Committee in 1969. It should be noted that this index is based solely on money income and does not reflect the fact that many persons are receiving noncash benefits such as those described in this report. The index is based on the Department of Agriculture's 1961 economy food plan and reflects the different consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family householder, and farm-nonfarm residence. It was determined from the Department of Agriculture's 1955 survey of food consumption that families of three or more persons spend approximately one-third of their income on food; the poverty level for these families was, therefore, set at three times the cost of the economy food plan. For smaller families and persons living alone, the cost of the economy food plan was multiplied by factors that were slightly higher in order to compensate for the relatively larger fixed expenses of these smaller households. Households are classified according to the poverty status of the family or the nonfamily householder. The poverty thresholds are updated every year to reflect changes in the annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI). The average poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $8,414 in 1980, about 13.5 percent higher than the comparable 1979 cutoff of $7,412. For further details, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 124.

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

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

Symbols. A dash (–) represents zero or rounds to zero, and the symbol "B" means that the base is less than 75,000. An "X" means not applicable, and "NA" means not available.

Appendix B. Source and Reliability of the Estimates

SOURCE OF DATA

The estimates are based on data obtained in March 1981 from the Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted by the Bureau of the Census and from supplementary questions to the CPS. The monthly CPS deals mainly with labor force data for the civilian noninstitutional population. Questions relating to labor force participation are asked about each member 14 years old and over in every sample household. In addition, supplementary questions were asked in March 1981 about money income, noncash benefits, and work experience for the previous year. For this report, persons in the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post are also included.

The present CPS sample was initially selected from the 1970 census files with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The sample is continually updated to reflect new construction. The current CPS sample is located in 629 areas comprising 1,133 counties, independent cities, and minor civil divisions in the Nation. In this sample, approximately 68,500 occupied households were eligible for interview. Of this number, about 3,000 occupied units were visited but interviews were not obtained because the occupants were not found at home after repeated calls or were unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 68,500 there were also about 12,800 sample units which were visited but were found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed. For a description of the previous CPS sample designs see the detailed reports in the series, Current Population Reports, Series P-60.

The estimation procedure used in this survey involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the total civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. These independent estimates are based on civilian noninstitutional population controls from the 1970 and 1980 censuses; statistics on births, deaths, immigration and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces. The estimation procedure for data in this report also includes an additional adjustment so that the husband and wife of a household receive equal weights.

Beginning with the 1980 money income and noncash benefit data collected in the March 1981 CPS, independent estimates are based on civilian noninstitutional population controls for age, race, and sex established by the 1980 Census of Population. Data published in the previous report (Series P-23, No. 110) showing noncash benefit data in 1979 were based on population estimates derived from the 1970 census. For further details on this change, see the section of the text, "Introduction of 1980 Census Population Controls."

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Since the CPS estimates in this report are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same questionnaires, instructions, and enumerators. There are two types of errors possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling and nonsampling. The standard errors primarily indicate the magnitude of the sampling error. They also partially measure the effect of some nonsampling errors in response and enumeration, but do not measure any systematic biases in the data. The full extent of nonsampling error is unknown. Consequently, particular care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures based on a relatively small number of cases or on small differences between estimates.

Sampling variability. The standard errors that may be obtained using this appendix are primarily measures of sampling variability. That is, they are measures of the variation that occurred by chance because a sample rather than the entire population was surveyed. The sample estimate and its estimated standard error enable one to construct confidence intervals, ranges that would include the average result of all possible samples with a known probability. For example, if all possible samples were selected, each of these surveyed under essentially the same general conditions and using the same sample design, and an estimate and its estimated standard error were calculated from each sample, then:

1. Approximately 68 percent of the intervals from one standard error below the estimate to one standard error above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.

2. Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.6 standard errors below the estimate to 1.6 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples.

3. Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from two standard errors below the estimate to two standard errors above the estimate would include the average results of all possible samples.

The average estimate derived from all possible samples is or is not contained in any particular computed interval. However, for a particular sample, one can say with a specified confidence that the average estimate derived from all possible samples is included in the confidence interval.

Standard errors may also be used to perform hypothesis testing, a procedure for distinguishing between population parameters using sample estimates. The most common types of hypotheses appearing in this report are 1) the population parameters are identical versus 2) they are different. An example of this would be comparing the number of households receiving noncash benefits in 1980 with the number of households receiving noncash benefits in 1979. Tests may be performed at various levels of significance,

where a level of significance is the probability of concluding that the parameters are different when, in fact, they are identical.

All statements of comparison in the text have passed a hypothesis test at the 0.10 level of significance or better, and most have passed a hypothesis test at the 0.05 level of significance or better. This means that, for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference between parameters is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. For the other differences mentioned, the estimated difference between parameters is between 1.6 and 2.0 times the standard error of the difference. When this is the case, the statement of comparison will be qualified in some way; e.g., by use of the phrase "some evidence".

Note when using small estimates. Summary measures (such as means, medians, and percent distributions) are shown only when the base is 75,000 or greater. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that summary measures would reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. Estimated numbers are shown, however, even though the relative standard errors of these numbers are larger than those for corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates are provided primarily to permit such combinations of the categories as serve each user's needs.

Standard errors for data based on CPS. Standard error parameters are provided in table B-1 for estimated numbers and percentages of households for characteristics discussed in this report. Generalized standard error tables, and appropriate factors for adjusting these to obtain estimated standard errors for particular characteristics of interest are provided in the detailed reports for 1979 in this series, Current Population Reports P-60, Nos. 126 and 130. The reader should note, however, that approximate standard errors obtained by using the formulas provided in this appendix will be more accurate than those obtained by adjusting the generalized standard errors. A more complete source and reliability statement containing generalized standard error tables similar to those mentioned above, will be published in the forthcoming final report, *Characteristics of Households Receiving Noncash Benefits: 1980 and 1979.*

Standard errors of estimated numbers and estimated percentages. Approximate standard errors of estimated numbers and estimated percentages can be computed using formulas (1) and (2) below, respectively. The formulas are:

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{ax^2 + bx} \qquad (1)$$

Table B-1. Parameters for Computation of Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers and Percentages for Households: 1980

Characteristic	Parameters	
	a	b
ALL INCOME LEVELS		
Type of residence	-0.000020	3442
Region:		
Northeast	-0.000010	1773
North Central	-0.000010	1790
South	-0.000011	1876
West	-0.000009	1601
Race and Spanish origin:		
Total or White	-0.000010	1721
Black	-0.000089	1876
Spanish origin	-0.000014	2420
Type of household, age of householder, and tenure	-0.000010	1721
BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL		
Type of residence	0.000152	3752
Region:		
Northeast	0.000078	1932
North Central	0.000079	1951
South	0.000083	2045
West	0.000071	1745
Race and Spanish origin:		
Total, White, or Black	0.000076	1876
Spanish origin	-0.000014	2420
Type of household, age of householder, and tenure	0.000076	1876

where x is the size of the estimate and a and b are the parameters from table B-1 associated with the characteristic; and

$$\sigma_{(x,p)} = \sqrt{\frac{b}{x} \cdot p\,(100-p)} \qquad (2)$$

where x is the size of the subclass of the population which is the base of the percentage, p is the percentage ($0 < p < 100$), and b is the parameter from table B-1 associated with the characteristic in the numerator of the percentage.

Standard error of a difference. The formula for the approximate standard error of the difference between two estimates x and y is given by

$$\sigma_{(x-y)} = \sqrt{\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 - 2\rho\sigma_x\sigma_y} \qquad (3)$$

Correlation coefficients (ρ) for year-to-year comparisons of income and poverty estimates are presented in table B-2. For other comparisons assume ρ equals zero. Making this assumption will result in accurate estimates of the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive (negative) correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate (underestimate) the true standard error.

Table B-2. Year-to-Year Correlation Coefficients for Income and Poverty Estimates of Households: 1980 and 1979

Characteristic	Income	Poverty
Total	0.35	0.35
White	0.35	0.30
Black	0.35	0.35
Spanish origin	0.55	0.55

Note: These coefficients are based on CPS data obtained in March 1978 and March 1979.

Standard errors of estimated medians. The estimated medians published in this report are accompanied by their estimated standard errors. Thus, it is not necessary for the reader to make any additional computations in order to obtain estimates of standard errors for these statistics.

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