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Monthly News From the U.S. Bureau of the Census

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1992 Agriculture Census

Volume 29, No. 1
January 1994

Delaware Leads the Parade of States

In 1992, poultry continued to be a mainstay of Delaware's agriculture industry. It was the State's leading product with over \$370 million in sales. Soybeans were by far the biggest crop (over 230,000 acres harvested).

You can glean such details for your State from the *Geographic Area Series* reports based on the 1992 Census of Agriculture (AC92-A). Delaware is the first report released; Oregon is also out; Indiana and Wisconsin are due out soon. The box to the right shows the subjects covered in these reports. There is one for each State. Data are shown for every State and county.

Debbie Norton of our Agriculture Division notes: "One special feature of the reports is the focus on the prominent crops and livestock for a State in a particular region. We used different questionnaires for each of 13 regions."

The reports are available from the U.S. Government Printing Office. Call Customer Services (301-763-4100) for

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics
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BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Subjects in 1992 Agriculture Census Reports for States

Historical highlights
Market value of products sold
Farm production expenses
Net cash return from agriculture sales
Government payments and other farm-related income
Commodity credit corporation loans
Land use and acres diverted
Land in farms
Harvested cropland
Irrigated land
Farm size
Value of land and buildings
Value of machinery and equipment on place
Selected machinery and equipment on place
Petroleum products expenses
Agricultural chemicals used

Tenure (owner and tenant) and characteristics (sex, race, and Hispanic origin) of operator
Type of organization
Characteristics of abnormal farms*
Livestock - inventory and sales
Poultry - inventory and sales
Cattle and calves - inventory and sales
Hogs and pigs - inventory and sales and litters farrowed
Sheep and lambs - inventory and sales
Other livestock and livestock products - inventory and sales
Crops harvested and value of production
Crops harvested - yield per acre irrigated and nonirrigated, acres harvested
Fruits and nuts
Nursery and greenhouse crops, mushrooms, and sod grown for sale

* Abnormal farms refer to institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and farms on Indian reservations.

NOTE: Reports have statistics for specific products (pineapples, oranges, coffee, fish, mink, etc.) for States within a region.

further ordering information. Watch the *Monthly Product Announcement* for news of reports released.

The data will also be available soon on computer tape and compact disc.

For more information about the content of the reports, contact Debbie Norton or Tom Manning, Agriculture Division (1-800-523-3215).

Inside This Issue!

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Sites Chosen for 1995 Test Censuses

The Census Bureau is working hard on a design to make the next census simpler, cheaper, and more accurate. To test our plans, we have selected four sites as locations for a 1995 Census Test. The sites are the cities of New Haven, Connecticut; Oakland, California; Paterson, New Jersey; and Bienville, De Soto, Jackson, Natchitoches, Red River, and Winn parishes in northwestern Louisiana.

Robert Tortora, Associate Director for Research on the 2000 Census, notes: "Perhaps the most significant changes involve our plans to use more sampling – visiting only a portion of households that don't respond via mail – and to use more estimation to augment the numbers of people missed using direct counting methods.

"We believe the increased use of sampling and estimation offers the best hope for reducing the differential undercounts and the costs."

"The old approach of relying on counting alone won't provide a census of sufficient quality in 2000."

Among other changes that will be studied in these areas in 1995 are closer cooperation with the U.S. Postal Service and a user-friendly questionnaire combined with improved motivational messages and multiple reminder notices.

The Census Bureau will be setting up offices beginning in late summer and fall 1994, and will employ a number of local residents at each site.

Results of the 1995 census test, in combination with other research, will be used by the Census Bureau, Congress, and the public in deciding how the 2000 census will be conducted.

For more information about the upcoming census tests, contact the Year 2000 Census Staff at the Census Bureau (301-763-4271).

Census and You

*Volume 29, No. 1
January 1994.*

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Kansas City	913-551-6711
Los Angeles	818-904-6339
New York	212-264-4730
Philadelphia	215-597-8313
Seattle	206-728-5314

Labor and Census Retool Current Population Survey

The United States keeps track of unemployment through the Current Population Survey (CPS). This monthly survey, the primary source of information on the labor force, is undergoing a major redesign, mainly to improve the measurement of employment and unemployment.

A joint effort of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Bureau of the Census, the redesign affects virtually every aspect of the survey, including the questionnaire and the data collection methods. The changes were incorporated into the CPS beginning with January 1994.

• *Questionnaire Changes.* This month the CPS got a new official questionnaire, previously tested in a separate national sample survey (July 1992-December 1993). BLS revised the questionnaire to obtain more accurate, comprehensive, and relevant information; to make minor definitional changes; and to switch to computer-assisted interviewing.

Changes to the questionnaire clarify concepts or terms — such as the reference week, part-time work for economic reasons, duration of unemployment, layoff, and jobseeking methods. At times, respondents found questions relating to these concepts difficult to interpret.

In the new questionnaire, these shortcomings are addressed: We now ask direct questions rather than relying on volunteered information. We include the definitions of the concepts in the questions themselves. And we have reformatted the response categories.

Profile of the Current Population Survey

Frequency: Monthly

Sample size: 60,000 occupied households

Rotation: Households are interviewed for 4 consecutive months, leave the sample for 8 months, and then reenter for 4 months.

Year begun: 1940

Sponsors: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
U.S. Bureau of the Census

Reference week: Conducted on the week containing the 19th of the month about the prior week's activities (the week containing the 12th).

Release: Monthly employment and unemployment information released on the first Friday of the month after the month data are collected.

Last major revision: 1967

Core subjects:

Demographic characteristics — household size and composition; relationship; household members' age, race, sex, ethnic origin, veteran status, marital status, educational attainment, and family relationships

Employment and unemployment characteristics — activities last week, hours worked, time off from work, overtime, industry and occupation, reason for work absence, earnings, union membership, looking for work, duration of and reasons for unemployment, jobseeking methods used, period since last major job, etc.

Selected supplements:

Adult education, child support, displaced workers, fertility and birth expectations, housing tenure, income, marital history, pension/retirement plan coverage, school enrollment, tobacco use, unemployment compensation, value of noncash benefits, veterans, voting, and work experience.

Also, for the first time, data will be collected monthly on such topics as multiple jobholding, the number of hours usually worked, and possible discouragement over job prospects.

Our tests have indicated that respondents will better understand the questions and we will be able to classify labor force activity more accurately.

• *Definition Changes.* The most significant change is in the process used to identify discouraged workers — those not looking for work because they believe the search would be

futile. Starting in 1994, we are modifying the classification of persons as "discouraged" to include the requirements that they have looked for work within the prior year and are available to take a job if one is offered, an approach based on recommendations of the National Commission on Employment and Unemployment Statistics made in 1979.

In the parallel test survey (see page 4, column 2), we found that changes to the wording of questions pertaining to discouraged workers greatly re-

Continued on page 4

CPS Redesign

Continued from page 3

duced the number of people classified in this category. During the test period, the drop was from 1.1 million to 420,000 (monthly average).

In addition, other minor changes were made to fine-tune components of the definitions of employment and unemployment (for example, persons working part-time for economic reasons and persons on layoff from a job).

• *Collection Method Changes.*

The 1994 redesign introduces a major change in the data collection method. Information will still be gathered by about 1,500 trained and experienced Census Bureau interviewers, but they will use a laptop computer on which the questionnaire has been programmed instead of a paper-and-pencil questionnaire. Automation allows for complicated skip patterns and standardized probes, and for questions that

Why Change the CPS Now?

- Growth of service jobs and decline of factory jobs.
- More prominent role of women in the workforce.
- Profusion of alternative work schedules.
- Major advances in survey research methods and data collection technology.

are tailored to an individual's situation.

The revised questionnaire was tested with a separate parallel sample of 13,000 households for an 18-month period that began in July 1992 and concluded in December 1993. The results of this test are being compared with data from the current CPS to identify overall differences at the national level in the labor force estimates. You can obtain a report on these results from BLS (see page 5).

The table (see page 5) shows the results of the official CPS and the parallel survey. Why the higher unemployment rate in the survey? Gender bias in the old CPS questionnaire caused some unemployed women to be misclassified as not in the labor force. The wording of questions about layoffs caused some laid-off employees to be missed or misclassified. New wording of the "looking for work" question might have led to more people being classified as unemployed.

Sample Redesign Underway

Every 10 years (after a decennial census), the Census Bureau routinely redesigns the sampling frame used for current surveys including the CPS. The Census Bureau is currently doing a sample redesign.

Using economic and demographic data from the 1990 census, we are selecting sample areas to represent each State and the District of Columbia. Most of these sample areas are the same ones that were selected after the 1980 decennial census and are currently in the sample. Some of these areas will be new to the CPS. Other areas currently in the CPS sample will be dropped.

Within these sample areas, we select new sample households using address lists and other materials from the 1990 census. Even if the sample area is currently in the CPS, new households from that area will be chosen.

The new sample will be introduced gradually from April 1994 through July 1995. Beginning in August 1994, we will gradually bring the new areas

Questions More Specific in Redesigned CPS

Current CPS

Why was . . . absent from work LAST WEEK?

- Own illness
- On vacation
- Bad weather
- Labor dispute
- New job to begin within 30 days
- Temporary layoff (Under 30 days)
- Indefinite layoff (30 days or more or no definite recall date)
- Other (Specify)

Redesigned CPS

What was the main reason you were absent from work LAST WEEK?

- On layoff (temporary or indefinite)
- Slack work/business conditions
- Waiting for new job to begin
- Vacation/personal days
- Own illness/injury/medical problems
- Child care problems
- Other family/personal obligation
- Maternity or paternity leave
- Labor dispute
- Weather affected job
- School/training
- Civic/military duty
- Other (specify)
- Don't know
- Refused

Continued on page 5

Parallel Survey Showed Higher Unemployment

Averages based on September 1992-August 1993

	Labor force participation rate			Unemployment rate		
	Parallel survey	CPS	Difference	Parallel survey	CPS	Difference
All workers	66.7%	66.2%	0.5%*	7.6%	7.1%	0.5%*
Adult men	76.5%	77.0%	-0.5%*	6.9%	6.7%	0.2%
Adult women	59.6%	58.3%	1.3%*	6.8%	6.0%	0.8%*
Teenagers	54.1%	51.7%	2.4%*	20.3%	19.7%	0.6%
White males	75.9%	76.2%	-0.3%	6.7%	6.5%	0.2%
White females	59.5%	57.8%	1.7%*	6.5%	5.8%	0.7%*
Black males	67.2%	69.2%	-1.9%*	15.5%	14.6%	0.9%
Black females	57.8%	57.5%	0.3%	14.2%	12.7%	1.6%

*Statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Briefing Materials on the Redesigned Current Population Survey," November 16-17, 1993.

Continued from page 4

into sample (and drop other areas). Beginning in July 1995, the entire CPS sample will be based on results of the 1990 census. The reliability of State and other subnational estimates may be slightly affected during this period of transition.

More Information on Redesign Efforts

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has prepared a short report comparing results from the parallel survey and the official survey that you can obtain from the Division of Labor Force Statistics at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (202-606-6378). Ask for "Briefing Materials on the Redesigned Current Population Survey."

For more information on the CPS redesign, contact the Bureau of Labor Statistics (202-606-6378), or the Bureau of the Census (301-763-2773).

CPS Data Products

The CPS is the source of numerous products. Both the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau release printed reports derived from the survey; other agencies of the U.S.

Government sponsor supplements to the survey and release the results. Many State governments use the CPS data as a source in producing State "statistical abstracts" or data books.

The BLS reports draw mostly on the monthly core data – employment, occupation, industry, etc. The Census Bureau reports draw mostly on the supplements – on income and benefit program participation (March), fertility (June), education (October), and voting (November).

In addition, the Census Bureau releases microdata on computer tape.

New Questionnaire Less Burdensome for the Retired and Disabled

The redesign addresses a frequent complaint of the CPS. The old questionnaire was particularly burdensome for persons who were not working and who were reported to be retired or disabled. Such persons were asked the full series of labor force questions each month, even if it had no relevance to their situation.

In the new questionnaire, if persons report that they are retired (and are at least 50 years old), there is a skip to a question inquiring whether they want a job. If they do not want to work, the interview ends,

The microdata come in ASCII or EBCDIC, and you must use some kind of software to transform the household records into tabulations. Microdata consist of individual survey responses modified to protect the confidentiality of the respondents, but retain much of the original information that is of analytic importance. Microdata let users design their own tabulations rather than being limited to the statistical tables created by the Census Bureau.

The Census Bureau now releases the March file on CD-ROM, giving microcomputer users access to these benefits.

For more information about Census Bureau data products, you can contact Customer Services at the Census Bureau (301-763-4100).

Census, CD-ROM, and You!

We recently revised our popular booklet, *Census, CD-ROM, and You!* The booklet now reflects all of the 1990 census products on compact disc.

For a single free copy, contact Customer Services (301-763-4100).

and they are classified as not in the labor force. (If they do want to work, they are asked questions about looking for work, and the interview continues.)

If persons report that they are disabled, they are asked a followup question to determine if their disability prevents them from accepting any kind of work during the next 6 months. If the answer is "yes," the interview is concluded. In subsequent interviews, the interviewer simply will further verify their status and thus further ease their burden.

Counting Americans Living Abroad

When we conduct a census every 10 years, most of our emphasis is placed on counting people living *within our borders*. But we certainly don't forget about U.S. citizens living abroad.

The enumeration of these Americans is the focus of a recently released technical paper from our Decennial Management Division (DMD), *Americans Overseas in U.S. Censuses*.

The paper presents a detailed, historical look at how such persons have figured into each of the decennial censuses – which components (if any) of the U.S. population living abroad were counted in the overseas population, how the data on them were collected, how (if at all) these persons fit into reapportionment, and the instructions given to Stateside census takers on how to handle persons absent from a household because they were living outside the country.

"What's really striking are the variations from census to census," observes Karen Mills of DMD, who wrote the report. "To give an example, it wasn't until 1970 that selected components of the overseas population were included in the State-level population counts used for congressional apportionment. They were then excluded in 1980, but included again in 1990." Overseas populations have never been used in drawing State legislative districts.

The overseas totals, incidentally, don't always include the same set of people. For instance, we twice tried to count private U.S. citizens – in 1960 and again in 1970. However, these

"Over There" — A Look Back at Selected Censuses

1830

- Separate counts of the overseas population are reported — something never before done; included were crews of naval vessels at sea. After 1840, counts were not reported again until 1900.
- Total U.S. population living abroad in 1830: 5,318.

1900

- Enumeration of U.S. overseas population resumes. Counted are military personnel and Federal civilian employees at stations abroad and their dependents living with them, as well as naval personnel and Federal employees on naval vessels abroad or at sea. Listing sheets used.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 91,219.

1920

- A special listing form for enumerating persons overseas — a first.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 117,238.

1950

- Household or individual forms, rather than listing forms, now used to count persons overseas.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 481,545.

1960

- First census to include *private U.S. citizens* in overseas population, as efforts are made to get voluntary reports from citizens abroad for an extended period who are not with the government.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 1,374,421.

1970

- Given the large numbers of Americans in Southeast Asia, portions of the overseas population (Federal military personnel and civilian employees and their dependents living with them) are included for the first time ever in the congressional apportionment population. Persons are assigned a "home State" based on administrative records or responses to census questionnaires.
- Counts of Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps personnel stationed abroad are compiled by using Defense Department administrative records, rather than census forms. Census forms continue to be used to count others living abroad, like Federal civilian employees.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 1,737,836.

1980

- All Americans overseas who are counted are enumerated via administrative records. Attempts to count private U.S. citizens abroad are dropped. No component of the U.S. overseas population is included in the apportionment population.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 995,546.

1990

- As in 1970, certain components of the overseas population (Federal military personnel and civilian employees and their dependents living with them) are included in the State-level apportionment population (but once again, they aren't distributed among a State's political subdivisions).
- Administrative records are still the primary source of data on the overseas population; a notable exception is the use of a short Department of Defense questionnaire to enumerate overseas DOD civilian personnel and their dependents living with them.
- Total U.S. population living abroad: 925,845.

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Overseas Population

Continued from page 6
efforts were abandoned thereafter because it was virtually impossible to obtain an accurate count of them, much less the detailed characteristics. Title 13, U.S. Code, the legislative authorization for the decennial census, does not require the enumeration of Americans living in foreign countries.

Not only has *who* we've counted abroad been changing over the years, but so has *how* we've counted them. The method of data collection has evolved from the use of simple listing sheets early in the 20th century to separate forms for each overseas household or individual at mid-century, to complete reliance on administrative records in 1980. (We do not know what method was used in 1830 and 1840.)

Americans Overseas in U.S. Censuses, Technical Paper No. 62, is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office. Call Customer Services (301-763-4100) for ordering information. For more about the report, contact Karen Mills, Decennial Management Division (301-763-4263).

New State Data Center!

The State Data Center Program just added a brand new center: the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. There are now 55 SDC's, one in each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. Centers receive Census Bureau data for their areas and make them available to the public.

The contact for the Northern Mariana Islands SDC is Juan Borja. You can contact the SDC at the Department of Commerce and Labor, Central Statistics Division, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950 (670-322-0874/0876; fax 670-322-0880).

Elderly Becoming More Diverse

The elderly population, today overwhelmingly non-Hispanic White, will have an increasingly different racial and ethnic look over the next several decades.

According to the 1990 census, non-Hispanic Whites constitute 87 percent of the elderly. If recent demographic trends continue, their share will fall to 67 percent in 2050. At the same time, Hispanics and Asians/Pacific Islanders will make big gains: the Hispanic share is expected to quadruple, from

4 percent to 16 percent; the corresponding increase for Asians and Pacific Islanders will also be large (1 percent to 8 percent). The proportion of all elderly who are Black will increase more slowly – from 8 percent to 10 percent.

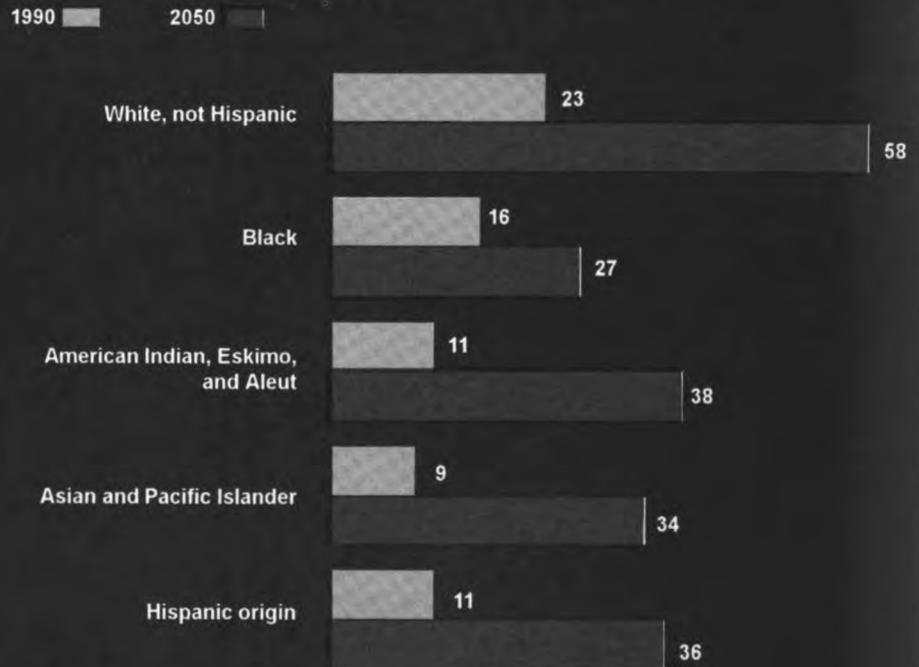
The racial and ethnic composition of the age 65-and-over population is the focus of a new handout in our *Profiles of America's Elderly* series, "Racial and Ethnic Diversity of

Continued on page 8

More of Us Will Be Caring for Frail Relatives

Parent support ratio, by race and Hispanic origin: 1990 and 2050

(Number of persons 80 years and over per 100 persons aged 50 to 64 years in a specific race group or for Hispanics)



NOTE: Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Source: "Race and Ethnic Diversity of America's Elderly Population," *Profiles of America's Elderly*, POP/93-1.

Elderly

Continued from page 7

America's Elderly Population." The colorful 8-page handout, from our Population Division, offers current data (from the 1990 census and recent surveys), as well as projections well into the next century, for each elderly racial and ethnic group.

The profile has current data on total population, life expectancy, geographic distribution, sex ratios, parent and elderly support ratios, educational attainment, widowhood and living alone, language spoken, and income. It also has projections to the year 2050 of each group's population totals and parent support ratios. Data are shown for different elderly age subgroups.

Speaking of parent support ratios, it's worth noting that more and more middle-aged adults will be caring for very old, often frail relatives. The parent support ratio, the number of persons aged 80 years and over per 100 persons aged 50 to 64 years, will make dramatic jumps for all racial and ethnic groups, especially for Asians and Hispanics (see graph, page 7).

For a free copy of "Racial and Ethnic Diversity of America's Elderly Population," *Profiles of America's Elderly*, POP/93-1, or for more details about the content, contact our Population Division (301-763-7883).

Call Now!

Get a copy of *Census Bureau Telephone Contacts for Data Users*, so you know who to call for help in understanding our data, beginning an age search, checking out the latest release date for a subject, or some other such activity.

Contact Customer Services (301-763-4100) for a free copy.

New Booklet on Data for Business!

Do you own a small business? Are you considering expanding, marketing a new product, changing your inventory, or moving to a new location, but are uncertain about where to locate or how to target your customers?

We can't guarantee you success, but we can give you some help with these and other pressing concerns. Get a free copy of *Taking Care of Business: A Guide to Census Bureau Data for Small Businesses* from Customer Services (301-763-4100).

This new booklet gives owners and would-be owners of small businesses a look at how Census Bureau data can

be used in business-related activities. Barbara Hatchl, the booklet's author says: "This booklet is designed for people who really don't know the variety of data the Census Bureau has to offer or where to go for help. We want them to know that the data are easily accessible and that there's a lot they can use."

In addition to case studies that use both economic and demographic data, the booklet lists local resources to contact with questions about products.

For more information, contact Barbara Hatchl, Data User Services Division, (301-763-1584).

Here "We" Are!

Even if you're not having an identity crisis, you might be curious about who "we" are. The Census Bureau has released a new series of "We" reports highlighting 1990 census data about segments of the U.S. population. These 11 colorful, and easy-to-read brochures provide summarized demographic and economic information from the census.

The series includes one brochure each on Blacks; Hispanics; Asians; Pacific Islanders; American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts; the foreign-born population; women; the elderly; children; education; and housing.

The brochures provide a brief summary on topics such as educational attainment, marital status, housing, age distribution by sex, voting-age population, family status, labor force activity, income, poverty, and more.

Single copies of brochures in the "We" series (1990 WE-1 through 11)

are free from Customer Services (301-763-4100). For more information about these brochures, contact the Population Division (301-763-5002).

Happy New Year!

The Nation's projected population as of January 1, 1994, stood at 259,353,627, representing an increase of 10.6 million people since the 1990 census. Demographers in our Population Division projected that the Nation's population increased by 2.7 million during 1993.

The January 1 projection is based on 4.1 million births, 2.3 million deaths, a net international migration of 895,000, and the net return of 60,000 American citizens (including armed forces) to the United States during 1993.

The projection does not include U.S. citizens - armed forces or civilians - who live abroad. It is based on the April 1, 1990, resident population as enumerated in the 1990 census.

“Golden Years” Not So Golden for Aged in Eastern Europe and Former Soviet Union

Countries in Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union have a growing elderly population – but this is not necessarily a symptom of better health care or increased longevity.

In these countries, and in Western Europe, life expectancy for both sexes increased rapidly after World War II and continued to increase through the 1950's and into the 1960's; in the mid-1960's, however, life expectancy in Eastern countries did not improve and even decreased for some age groups, especially for men. The decrease continues, possibly attributable to poor health and exercise habits.

The statistics can be found in *Aging in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union* (P25/93-1). The report is a compilation of data on the aged in 22 countries, many formed since the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The data cover life expectancy, cause of death, labor force participation, pension coverage, and the ratio of men to women.

Eastern Europe and countries of the former Soviet Union, as of 1992, hold 12 percent of the world's elderly — 41 million persons out of the world's total elderly population of 342 million. Of the total population of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, about 1 in 10 is aged 65 and over.

By 2025, one out of every five persons in these countries will be 65 and over. The chief factor in the increasing proportion of elderly is not improved health care, “but low fertility, in some countries even below the replacement level,” according to Victoria Velkoff, one of the Census Bureau's co-authors of the report.

Women outnumber men in the elderly population in virtually all countries of the world, but in Eastern Europe and countries of the former Soviet Union the difference is even more pronounced. “The life expectancy of men actually declined in the 1960's,” she says.

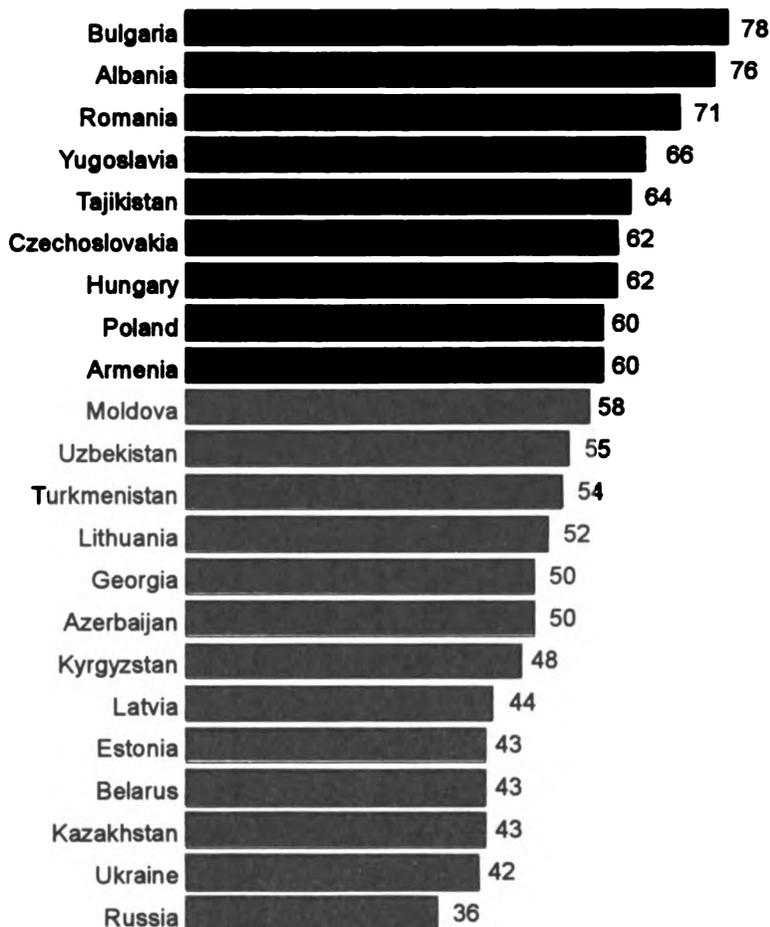
Says co-author Kevin Kinsella, “The bright spot in all these data is that such information is actually becoming available. This is part of the

freer access to information since the collapse of the Soviet Union.”

Aging in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, Series P95/93-1, is available for \$10 from the U.S. Government Printing Office (S/N 003-024-08722-7). You can obtain more information from Victoria Velkoff (301-763-4020) or Kevin Kinsella (301-763-4884) of the Census Bureau's Center for International Research.

Elderly Men In Short Supply

Sex ratio at ages 65 and over: 1990 (Men per 100 women)



Source: *Aging in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union*, Series P95/93-1.

Chart the Nation's Economic Course in 1994

Just as they have for decades, the Nation's key economic indicators will continue to flow from the Census Bureau during 1994. We give these statistics carefully established release dates, shown below, so that analysts know when to expect them. There are several ways to get these data on the exact day of release. One is through CENDATA™, our online data service available through DIALOG and CompuServe. Call 301-763-2074 for information. Another is through our *FastFax* service (301-763-1384). Another is through our Electronic Bulletin Board (301-763-1580).

The chart shows the date of release and the reference period covered by the data (e.g., 1st Q '94). For further information about release times, contact the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of News Relations (202-377-4901).

<u>Data</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Business and Manufacturing												
Advance Monthly Retail Sales (CB)	13 Dec	11 Jan	11 Feb	13 Mar	12 Apr	14 May	14 Jun	11 Jul	14 Aug	14 Sep	15 Oct	13 Nov
Advance Report on Durable Goods, Manufacturers' Shipments, & Orders (M3)	27 Dec	24 Jan	23 Feb	27 Mar	25 Apr	23 May	27 Jun	24 Jul	28 Aug	26 Sep	23 Oct	23 Nov
Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, & Orders (M3-1)	5 Nov	3 Dec	3 Jan 30 Feb		4 Mar	2 Apr 30 May		3 Jun 31 Jul		5 Aug	2 Sep	2 Oct
Manufacturing & Trade: Inventories & Sales	14 Nov	14 Dec	14 Jan	14 Feb	13 Mar	15 Apr	15 May	12 Jun	15 Jul	17 Aug	16 Sep	15 Oct
Monthly Wholesale Trade: Sales & Inventories (BW)	7 Nov	8 Dec	9 Jan	5 Feb	6 Mar	7 Apr	7 May	9 Jun	7 Jul	7 Aug	8 Sep	8 Oct
Quarterly Financial Report (QFR) for Manufacturing, Mining, & Wholesale Trade Corporations				4* 4th Q '93		13 1st Q '94			12 2nd Q '94			13 3rd Q '94
QFR for Retail Corporations	12 3rd Q '93					13 1st Q '94			12 2nd Q '94			
Plant & Equipment Expenditures				7 4th Q '93		9 1st Q '94		8 2nd Q '94				21 3rd Q '94
Construction and Housing												
Housing Completions (C22)	6 Nov	4 Dec	4 Jan	6 Feb	5 Mar	3 Apr	6 May	4 Jun	6 Jul	6 Aug	4 Sep	6 Oct
Housing Starts & Building Permits (C20)	20 Dec	16 Jan	16 Feb	20 Mar	17 Apr	16 May	20 Jun	16 Jul	21 Aug	20 Sep	17 Oct	16 Nov
Housing Vacancies (H-111)	28 4th Q '93			16 1st Q '94			21 2nd Q '94			27 3rd Q '94		
New One-Family Houses Sold and For Sale (C25)		2 Dec	2 Jan 29 Feb	29 Mar	31 Apr	28 May		2 Jun 30 Jul	29 Aug		3 Sep	5 Oct 30 Nov
Value of New Construction Put in Place (C30)	3 Nov	1 Dec	1 Jan	1 Feb	2 Mar	1 Apr	1 May	1 Jun	1 Jul	3 Aug	1 Sep	1 Oct
Foreign Trade												
U.S. Merchandise Trade (FT 990)	19 Nov	17 Dec	22 Jan	19 Feb	19 Mar	21 Apr	19 May	18 Jun	20 Jul	19 Aug	18 Sep	20 Oct

* Includes retail trade data.

U.S. STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Economic Indicators

	Latest data	Unit	Latest month	Previous month	Last year	Percent change from previous month year		
Business			Sources: Census Bureau, Federal Reserve Board					
Retail: Sales	November	\$bil.	178.9	178.2	167.1	0.4	7.1	
Inventory	October	\$bil.	273.3	271.6	255.4	0.6	7.0	
Inv./sales ratio	October	ratio	1.53	1.55	1.53	X	X	
Consumer installment credit ¹	September	\$bil.	789.2	782.5	733.0	0.9	4.9	
Merchant wholesalers: Sales	October	\$bil.	159.9	160.7	154.2	-0.5	3.7	
Inventory	October	\$bil.	214.1	215.1	206.7	-0.5	3.6	
Stock/sales ratio	October	ratio	1.34	1.34	1.34	X	X	
Construction and Housing			Sources: Census Bureau, Federal Housing Finance Board					
Residential: Building permits — AR	November	1,000	1,367	1,304	1,136	4.8	20.3	
Housing starts — AR	November	1,000	1,432	1,378	1,226	3.9	16.8	
New home sales — AR	October	1,000	679	726	637	-6.5	6.6	
New home mortgage rate — NSA	October	pct.	6.80	6.95	7.90	-2.2	-13.9	
New construction: Total expenditures — AR	October							
Current dollars		\$bil.	485.8	474.1	442.6	2.5	9.8	
Constant (1987) dollars		\$bil.	414.0	406.3	388.5	1.9	6.5	
Manufacturing			Sources: Census Bureau, Federal Reserve Board					
Durable goods: Shipments	October	\$bil.	137.7	137.5	125.2	0.1	10.0	
New orders	October	\$bil.	136.6	133.2	125.3	2.6	9.0	
Unfilled orders	October	\$bil.	427.4	428.5	453.4	-0.3	-5.7	
Total goods: Shipments	October	\$bil.	260.2	260.1	244.4	0.0	6.4	
Inventories	October	\$bil.	380.3	380.7	383.7	-0.1	-0.9	
Inv./ship ratio	October	ratio	1.46	1.46	1.57	X	X	
Index of industrial production	October	1987=100	112.2	111.4	107.5	0.7	4.4	
Foreign Trade			Source: Census Bureau					
Exports, f.a.s. basis	October	\$bil.	40.1	38.9	37.8	3.2	6.1	
General imports, customs basis	October	\$bil.	50.6	49.5	45.6	2.1	10.8	
Merchandise trade balance	October	\$bil.	-10.5	-10.6	-7.8	-1.6	33.4	
Money Supply, Prices, Interest Rates			Sources: Federal Reserve Board, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Treasury					
Money supply (M1)	October	\$bil.	1,116	1,107	1,006	0.9	10.9	
Consumer Price Index — NSA	November	1982-84=100	145.8	145.7	142.0	0.1	2.7	
Producer Price Index ²	November	1982=100	124.2	124.2	123.8	0.0	0.3	
Prime rate charged by banks ¹	October	pct.	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.0	0.0	
3-month U.S. T-bill — NSA	October	pct.	3.04	2.96	2.84	2.7	7.0	
Other Principal Indicators			Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Economic Analysis					
Civilian labor force	November	mil.	128.6	128.7	127.4	-0.1	1.0	
Unemployment rate	November	rate	6.4	6.8	7.3	-5.9	-12.3	
Index of leading indicators	September	1982=100	153.6	152.9	146.7	0.5	3.3	
Personal income — AR	October	\$bil.	5,471	5,438	5,239	0.6	4.4	
				Qtr. 3 1993	Qtr. 2 1993	Percent change ³		
Constant (1987) dollars:								
Gross domestic product (GDP)		\$bil.	5,136	5,102	2.7			
Personal consumption expenditures		\$bil.	3,470	3,433	4.4			
Gross private domestic investment		\$bil.	812	804	4.2			

NOTE: Figures are seasonally adjusted except as noted. AR Annual rate. NSA Not seasonally adjusted. ¹As of end of month. X Not applicable. ²Finished goods.

News from other Federal agencies

New Employment Projections From BLS

New projections for the American work force from 1992 to 2005 from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show where future job growth is expected and what the demographic makeup of the work force will be.

Presented in a press release, these projections to 2005 focus on economic growth, the labor force, and employment by occupation and industry.

The release shows three alternative sets of projections: low, moderate, and high growth for overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and for changes in the demand for goods and services.

The release concentrates on the moderate growth projections according to which personal consumption expenditures continue to account for about two-thirds of the GDP, the improvement in foreign trade seen during the latter half of the 1980's moderates somewhat, and national defense spending declines.

You can obtain this release, "BLS Releases New 1992-2005 Employment Projections," USDL93-513, from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (202-606-5902).

Ten Fastest-Growing Industries: 1992-2005

Industry	Percent change 1992-2005
Residential care (830)*	150
Computer and data processing services (737)	98
Health services, n.e.c. (807, 808, 809)	89
Child day care services (835)	73
Business services, n.e.c. (732, 7331, 7338, 7383, 7389)	71
Management and public relations (874)	69
Individual and miscellaneous social services (832, 839)	65
Passenger transportation arrangement (472)	64
Miscellaneous equipment rental and leasing (735)	59
Accounting, auditing, and services, n.e.c. (872, 889)	51

*Residential care establishments are those that provide residential social and personal care for children, the aged, and special categories of people with some limits on the ability for self-care, but where medical care is not a major element. Examples: Drug rehab centers, halfway houses, juvenile homes, etc.

NOTE: Standard Industrial Classification code in parentheses.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, USDL 93-513

More detailed information on the 1992-2005 projections appears in five articles in the November 1993 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A graphic presentation of the highlights of the projections appears in the fall 1993 *Occupational Outlook Quarterly*.

The *Monthly Labor Review* and *Occupational Outlook Quarterly* are sold by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The *Review* costs \$25 a year; single copies are \$7. The *Quarterly* costs \$8 a year; single copies are \$2.75. Make checks payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

Annual Research Conference

The Census Bureau's 1994 Annual Research Conference (ARC 1994) will be held March 20-23, 1994, in Arlington, Virginia.

For further information about the agenda and registration, contact Maxine Anderson-Brown, Office of the Director (301-763-1150).

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