U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

1950 CENSUS OF HOUSING

SPECIAL TABULATIONS FOR LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES

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FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: APRIL 1950

This report is based on a transcription and tabulation of data from the 1950 Census of Population and Housing. The statistics relate to dwelling units considered substandard by the Public Housing Administration, in accordance with the contract for these statistics between the Bureau of the Census and the Alaska Housing Authority.

A dwelling unit in Alaska is considered substandard by the Public Housing Administration if it is either dilapidated or does not have the following plumbing facilities: flush toilet and bath inside the structure for the unit's exclusive use.

In addition to the number of substandard units shown in the tables, there were 13 other units for which there was no report on either condition or the presence of one of the plumbing facilities. Had there been complete reporting on these items, some additional units might have been found to be substandard.

The data are presented in the series of attached tables. In table 1 the structural and occupancy characteristics are shown for all substandard dwelling units. Table 2 shows the rent paid for renter-occupied substandard units; table 3 shows the condition and plumbing facilities of these same units. Table 4 shows the characteristics of all families (both primary and secondary) living in the substandard units. Table 4a classifies the primary families by family income. Table 5 classifies primary families with no subfamily or secondary family present, by rent as a percent of family income.

47388

DEFINITIONS

The definitions used in this special tabulation are generally the same as those used in the 1950 Census of Population and Housing. Some of the more important definitions are given below.

Dwelling unit.--In general, a dwelling unit is a group of rooms or a single room, occupied, or intended for occupancy, as separate living quarters by a family or other group of persons living together or by a person living alone.

Primary family.--A primary family consists of two or more persons including the head of the household and all (one or more) persons in the household who are related to the head by blood, marriage, or adoption. It may include a subfamily consisting of a married couple with or without children, or one parent with one or more children under 18 years of age, living in the household and related to but not including the head of the household or his wife. The subfamily is considered a part of the primary family for all tabulation purposes.

Secondary family.--A secondary family consists of two or more persons, such as a lodger or servant and his relatives, living in a household and related to each other but not related to the household head. The secondary family is considered a separate family for tabulation purposes.

Minor.--A minor is an unmarried person under 21 years of age other than the head of a family or his wife.

Dilapidation.--A dwelling unit is considered to be dilapidated when it has serious deficiencies, is rundown or neglected, or is of inadequate original construction, so that it does not provide adequate shelter or protection against the elements or it endangers the safety of the occupants.

Plumbing facilities.--The following are the three plumbing facilities tabulated:

1. Flush toilet inside the structure for the unit's exclusive use;
2. Installed bathtub or shower inside the structure for the unit's exclusive use; and
3. Running water inside the structure.

Exclusive use.--Equipment is for "exclusive use" if it is used only by the occupants of one dwelling unit.

Shared.--Equipment is "shared" when occupants of two or more units use the same equipment.

Family income.--Family income is the sum of the income received during 1949, by all members of the family. The following items were asked separately for the head of the family and for each of the other members of the family:

1. The amount of money wages or salary received in 1949;
2. The amount of net money income received from self-employment in 1949; and
3. The amount of other money income received in 1949, such as interest, dividends, veterans' allowances, pensions, or rents.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE DATA

The tables presented in this report were obtained by tabulating data transcribed from the 1950 Census schedules for all occupied substandard dwelling units. All of the data shown in this report are based on complete counts, and were obtained by tabulating the information as reported in the census.

Although the figures shown in the tables are based on the same data as the forthcoming 1950 Census tabulations of these items, they may differ from those to be published as part of the census. The present tables were obtained by transcribing and tabulating the data as received from the field offices of the Census Bureau and the figures, therefore, do not include all of the refinements that result from a careful examination of the schedules.

In addition, the data are subject to other biases due to errors of response or nonreporting which cannot be corrected in editing. Factors affecting the accuracy of enumeration include the respondent's knowledge of the facts and the ability of the enumerator to obtain accurate information on such items as income, rent, dilapidation and plumbing facilities. The regular 1950 tabulations are also subject to these biases.

47388

Table 1.--STRUCTURAL AND OCCUPANCY CHARACTERISTICS, CONDITION, AND PLUMBING FACILITIES OF OCCUPIED SUBSTANDARD DWELLING UNITS, BY TENURE, FOR FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: 1950

(A substandard dwelling unit in Alaska is defined by the Public Housing Administration as a unit which is either dilapidated or does not have both a flush toilet and bath inside the structure for the unit's exclusive use)

Characteristic	Total	Owner	Renter
Total number occupied substandard dwelling units	608	202	406
Percent of total	100.0	33.2	66.8
NUMBER OF ROOMS			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 room	35.0	20.8	42.1
2 rooms	31.9	27.7	34.0
3 rooms	19.9	27.7	16.0
4 rooms	8.7	13.9	6.2
5 rooms	3.1	6.4	1.5
6 rooms	1.2	3.0	0.2
7 rooms	-	-	-
8 rooms or more	-	-	-
Not reported	0.2	0.5	-
CONDITION			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not dilapidated	72.4	70.8	73.2
Dilapidated	25.8	27.7	24.9
Not reported	1.8	1.5	2.0
WATER SUPPLY			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Piped running water inside structure	37.8	32.2	40.6
Piped running water outside structure	3.0	2.0	3.4
No piped running water	40.1	54.5	33.0
Not reported	19.1	11.4	22.9
TOILET FACILITIES			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Flush toilet inside structure, exclusive use	8.9	13.9	6.4
Flush toilet inside structure, shared	19.7	10.4	24.4
Other toilet facilities (including privy)	71.4	75.7	69.2
Not reported	-	-	-
BATHING FACILITIES			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Installed bathtub or shower inside structure, exclusive use	6.9	9.9	5.4
Installed bathtub or shower inside structure, shared	19.9	9.9	24.9
Other or none	73.0	79.7	69.7
Not reported	0.2	0.5	-
NUMBER OF PERSONS			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 person	37.2	40.6	35.5
2 persons	32.4	27.2	35.0
3 persons	16.1	12.4	18.0
4 persons	6.4	8.4	5.4
5 persons	4.4	5.0	4.2
6 persons	1.8	2.5	1.5
7 persons	0.7	1.0	0.5
8 persons	0.5	1.5	-
9 persons or more	0.5	1.5	-

Characteristic	Total	Owner	Renter
NUMBER OF LODGERS			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	84.5	85.1	84.2
1 or more lodgers	15.5	14.9	15.8
CONDITION AND PLUMBING FACILITIES			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not dilapidated:			
With private flush toilet, no private bath	3.5	5.4	2.5
With running water, no private flush toilet	27.3	16.8	32.5
No running water inside the structure	28.8	40.6	22.9
Dilapidated:			
With private bath and private flush toilet	5.1	8.4	3.4
With private flush toilet, no private bath	0.3	-	0.5
With running water, no private flush toilet	0.8	1.5	0.5
No running water inside the structure	13.8	14.9	13.3
Not reporting condition or plumbing facilities	20.4	12.4	24.4
CONDITION BY NUMBER OF PLUMBING FACILITIES			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not dilapidated:			
Lacking 1 facility	5.1	6.9	4.2
Lacking 2 facilities	25.7	15.3	30.8
Lacking 3 facilities	28.8	40.6	22.9
Dilapidated:			
With all facilities	5.1	8.4	3.4
Lacking 1 facility	0.5	-	0.7
Lacking 2 facilities	0.7	1.5	0.2
Lacking 3 facilities	13.8	14.9	13.3
Not reporting condition or plumbing facilities	20.4	12.4	24.4
NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS IN STRUCTURE			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 dwelling unit	69.1	85.6	60.8
2 to 4 dwelling units	18.6	11.9	21.9
5 or more dwelling units	12.3	2.5	17.2

47388

Table 2.—CONTRACT RENT OF RENTER-OCCUPIED SUBSTANDARD DWELLING UNITS, FOR FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: 1950

(See table 1 for the Public Housing Administration definition of substandard dwelling unit)

Monthly contract rent	Total
Total number renter-occupied substandard dwelling units..	406
Percent of total.....	100.0
$9 or less.....	9.4
$10 to $14.....	3.7
$15 to $19.....	3.9
$20 to $24.....	6.9
$25 to $29.....	8.1
$30 to $34.....	9.1
$35 to $39.....	6.4
$40 to $49.....	11.8
$50 or more.....	39.7
Not reported.....	1.0

Table 3.—CONDITION AND PLUMBING FACILITIES OF RENTER-OCCUPIED SUBSTANDARD DWELLING UNITS, BY CONTRACT RENT, FOR FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: 1950

(See table 1 for the Public Housing Administration definition of substandard dwelling unit)

Condition and plumbing facilities	Total	Monthly contract rent							
		$19 or less	$20 to $24	$25 to $29	$30 to $34	$35 to $39	$40 to $49	$50 or more	Not reported
Total number renter-occupied substandard dwelling units.....	406	69	28	33	37	26	48	161	4
Percent of total.....	100.0	17.0	6.9	8.1	9.1	6.4	11.8	39.7	1.0
Not dilapidated:									
With private flush toilet, no private bath....	2.5	0.5	-	0.2	-	-	0.2	1.5	-
With running water, no private flush toilet...	32.5	2.0	-	-	0.5	-	4.2	25.6	0.2
No running water inside structure.....	22.9	3.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.2	4.2	4.7	-
Dilapidated:									
With private bath and private flush toilet....	3.4	-	-	0.2	-	0.7	-	2.5	-
With private flush toilet, no private bath....	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-
With running water, no private flush toilet...	0.5	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	0.2	-
No running water inside structure.....	13.3	3.9	1.7	2.0	2.0	1.5	0.7	1.0	0.5
Not reporting condition or plumbing facilities..	24.4	6.7	2.2	3.0	4.2	2.0	2.5	3.7	0.2

Table 4.—CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES IN SUBSTANDARD DWELLING UNITS BY TENURE, FOR FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: 1950

(See table 1 for the Public Housing Administration definition of substandard dwelling unit)

Characteristic	Total	Owner	Renter
Total number of families..	314	102	212
Percent of total.....	100.0	32.5	67.5
TYPE OF FAMILY			
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Primary family.....	98.1	97.1	98.6
Secondary family.....	1.9	2.9	1.4
NUMBER OF PERSONS IN FAMILY			
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
2 persons.....	52.5	48.0	54.7
3 persons.....	22.6	17.6	25.0
4 persons.....	11.8	15.7	9.9
5 persons.....	7.6	8.8	7.1
6 persons.....	2.9	3.9	2.4
7 persons.....	1.0	1.0	0.9
8 persons or more.....	1.6	4.9	-

Characteristic	Total	Owner	Renter
NUMBER OF PERSONS PER ROOM IN DWELLING UNIT			
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
0.50 or less.....	2.5	2.9	2.4
0.51 to 0.75.....	15.0	22.5	11.3
0.76 to 1.00.....	34.1	36.3	33.0
1.01 to 1.50.....	15.6	13.7	16.5
1.51 to 2.00.....	25.5	16.7	29.7
2.01 or more.....	7.0	6.9	7.1
Not reported.....	0.3	1.0	-
NUMBER OF MINORS IN FAMILY			
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
No minors.....	49.7	52.9	48.1
1 minor.....	27.7	15.7	33.5
2 minors.....	10.8	13.7	9.4
3 minors.....	7.3	8.8	6.6
4 minors.....	2.9	5.9	1.4
5 minors.....	1.0	1.0	0.9
6 minors or more.....	0.6	2.0	-

Table 4a.--INCOME IN 1949 OF PRIMARY FAMILIES IN SUBSTANDARD DWELLING UNITS, BY NUMBER OF MINORS AND TENURE, FOR FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: 1950

(See table 1 for the Public Housing Administration definition of substandard dwelling unit)

Family income by number of minors	Total	Owner	Renter
Total number of primary families	308	99	209
Percent of total	100.0	32.1	67.9
Total	100.0	(1)	100.0
$999 or less	5.8		5.7
$1,000 to $1,249	2.9		3.3
$1,250 to $1,499	1.9		2.4
$1,500 to $1,749	1.6		1.4
$1,750 to $1,999	1.3		0.5
$2,000 to $2,249	1.9		1.9
$2,250 to $2,499	2.6		1.4
$2,500 to $2,749	2.3		2.3
$2,750 to $2,999	2.6		2.9
$3,000 to $3,999	12.7		13.4
$4,000 to $4,999	12.7		16.3
$5,000 or more	50.0		45.5
Not reported	1.6		1.9
No minors	48.7		47.4
$999 or less	2.9		1.9
$1,000 to $1,249	1.0		1.0
$1,250 to $1,499	1.0		1.4
$1,500 to $1,749	1.0		0.5
$1,750 to $1,999	0.6		0.5
$2,000 to $2,249	1.3		1.0
$2,250 to $2,499	1.6		0.5
$2,500 to $2,749	1.3		1.9
$2,750 to $2,999	0.6		1.0
$3,000 to $3,999	5.5		6.2
$4,000 to $4,999	3.9		4.8
$5,000 or more	26.9		25.8
Not reported	1.0		1.0
One minor	28.2		34.0
$999 or less	1.6		2.4
$1,000 to $1,249	1.0		1.4
$1,250 to $1,499	0.6		1.0
$1,500 to $1,749	0.3		0.5
$1,750 to $1,999	0.3		-
$2,000 to $2,249	0.3		0.5
$2,250 to $2,499	1.0		1.0
$2,500 to $2,749	1.0		1.4
$2,750 to $2,999	1.6		1.4
$3,000 to $3,999	4.5		4.8
$4,000 to $4,999	3.9		5.7
$5,000 or more	11.7		13.4
Not reported	0.3		0.5
Two minors	11.0		9.6
$999 or less	0.3		0.5
$1,000 to $1,249	0.3		0.5
$1,250 to $1,499	-		-
$1,500 to $1,749	0.3		0.5
$1,750 to $1,999	-		-
$2,000 to $2,249	0.3		0.5
$2,250 to $2,499	-		-
$2,500 to $2,749	-		-
$2,750 to $2,999	0.3		0.5
$3,000 to $3,999	1.0		1.0
$4,000 to $4,999	2.6		3.3
$5,000 or more	5.5		2.4
Not reported	0.3		0.5
Three or four minors	10.4		8.1
$999 or less	1.0		1.0
$1,000 to $1,249	0.6		0.5
$1,250 to $1,499	0.3		-
$1,500 to $1,749	-		-
$1,750 to $1,999	0.3		-
$2,000 to $2,249	-		-
$2,250 to $2,499	-		-
$2,500 to $2,749	-		-
$2,750 to $2,999	-		-
$3,000 to $3,999	1.6		1.4
$4,000 to $4,999	1.9		2.4
$5,000 or more	4.5		2.9
Not reported	-		-
5 minors or more	1.6		1.0
$999 or less	-		-
$1,000 to $1,249	-		-
$1,250 to $1,499	-		-
$1,500 to $1,749	-		-
$1,750 to $1,999	-		-
$2,000 to $2,249	-		-
$2,250 to $2,499	-		-
$2,500 to $2,749	-		-
$2,750 to $2,999	-		-
$3,000 to $3,999	-		-
$4,000 to $4,999	0.3		-
$5,000 or more	1.3		1.0
Not reported	-		-

[1] Percentage distribution is not shown where the number of cases is less than 100.

47388

Table 5.--RENT AS PERCENT OF INCOME BY FAMILY INCOME IN 1949 OF PRIMARY FAMILIES WITH NO SUBFAMILY OR SECONDARY FAMILY IN RENTER-OCCUPIED SUBSTANDARD DWELLING UNITS, BY PRESENCE OF MINORS, FOR FAIRBANKS, ALASKA: 1950

(See table 1 for the Public Housing Administration definition of substandard dwelling unit)

Contract rent as percent of income by family income	Total	No minors	With minors
Number of families.....	203	98	105
Percent of total.....	100.0	48.3	51.7
Total.....	100.0	(1)	100.0
9 percent or less.....	39.4		38.1
10 percent to 14 percent.....	21.2		21.9
15 percent to 19 percent.....	14.8		18.1
20 percent to 24 percent.....	5.9		4.8
25 percent to 29 percent.....	4.9		5.7
30 percent to 34 percent.....	4.9		4.8
35 percent or more.....	6.4		4.8
Not reported.....	2.5		1.9
$1,499 or less.....	10.8		13.3
9 percent or less.....	3.4		3.8
10 percent to 14 percent.....	0.5		1.0
15 percent to 19 percent.....	1.0		1.0
20 percent to 24 percent.....	1.0		1.9
25 percent to 29 percent.....	0.5		1.0
30 percent to 34 percent.....	2.0		1.9
35 percent or more.....	2.5		2.9
$1,500 to $1,999.....	2.0		1.9
9 percent or less.....	-		-
10 percent to 14 percent.....	-		-
15 percent to 19 percent.....	-		-
20 percent to 24 percent.....	-		-
25 percent to 29 percent.....	1.0		1.0
30 percent to 34 percent.....	-		-
35 percent or more.....	1.0		1.0

Gross rent as percent of income by family income	Total	No minors	With minors
$2,000 to $2,499.....	3.4		3.8
9 percent or less.....	-		-
10 percent to 14 percent.....	-		-
15 percent to 19 percent.....	1.5		1.9
20 percent to 24 percent.....	0.5		-
25 percent to 29 percent.....	1.0		1.9
30 percent to 34 percent.....	-		-
35 percent or more.....	0.5		-
$2,500 to $2,999.....	6.4		6.7
9 percent or less.....	-		-
10 percent to 14 percent.....	1.0		1.9
15 percent to 19 percent.....	2.5		3.8
20 percent to 24 percent.....	0.5		-
25 percent to 29 percent.....	1.0		1.0
30 percent to 34 percent.....	0.5		-
35 percent or more.....	1.0		-
$3,000 or over.....	74.9		78.4
9 percent or less.....	36.0		34.3
10 percent to 14 percent.....	19.7		19.0
15 percent to 19 percent.....	9.9		11.4
20 percent to 24 percent.....	3.9		2.9
25 percent to 29 percent.....	1.5		1.0
30 percent to 34 percent.....	2.5		3.9
35 percent or more.....	1.5		1.0
Not reporting income or rent	2.5		1.9

[1] Percentage distribution is not shown where the number of cases is less than 100.

47388