

## 1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: APRIL 1, 1950

## Preliminary Data

(The reports in this series are numbered in alphabetical order according to the names of the standard metropolitan areas. The number of the report, therefore, does not indicate the sequence of publication. Reports in this series will be issued for the 57 standard metropolitan areas with a population of 250,000 or more in 1940)

A record number of young children, a large proportion of married persons, and a small average size of household are among the many facts about the population of the Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area<sup>1</sup> reflected in statistics of the 1950 Census of Population. Preliminary figures on these and other population characteristics of the metropolitan area were released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

The total population of the standard metropolitan area shown in this report is based primarily on the preliminary field count of the 1950 Census; to this count have been added the residents of the metropolitan area who were enumerated elsewhere but not included in the preliminary count. All of the other 1950 figures are based on a sample of the census returns. (Separate preliminary figures for Birmingham city, which would ordinarily be shown in this report, are not available because of recent boundary changes. Statistics for Birmingham city will be shown in subsequent reports containing final figures.) The sample data are subject to sampling variability, as explained in the section on "Reliability of 1950 estimates." It can be seen from the tables in that section that the smaller figures should be interpreted with particular care, as should also the smaller differences between figures.

The total population of the standard metropolitan area increased during the last decade from 459,930 on April 1, 1940, to 555,800 on April 1, 1950. There figures indicate a gain of about 95,850, or 21 percent. (See table 1.)

The white population constituted 63 percent of the total population in the standard metropolitan area in 1950. Between 1940 and 1950 the white population of the metropolitan area increased from 280,756 to 352,000, a gain of 25 percent. The nonwhite population increased at a lesser rate, 14 percent, from 179,174 in 1940 to 203,800 in 1950. About one in every three people in the metropolitan area was nonwhite.

Females outnumbered males, 287,800 to 268,000, in the metropolitan area. The sex ratio in the metropolitan area in 1950 was 93 males per 100 females, or about the same as in 1940.

Children under 5 years old increased between 1940 and 1950 at a very rapid rate, largely be-

cause of high birth rates during recent years. The increase was 66 percent for this age group as compared with 21 percent for the total population. The increase was smaller for whites than for nonwhites. At the same time, the rate of increase for persons 45 years old and over exceeded that for the total population. The median age of the total population of the metropolitan area in 1950 was 28.7 years as compared with 27.4 years in 1940. The nonwhite population was somewhat younger, on the average, than the white population.

A large proportion of persons 14 years old and over in the metropolitan area were married, namely, 70 percent. (See table 2.) Nineteen percent were single, and 11 percent were widowed or divorced. Of the 132,400 married couples in the metropolitan area, 10,700, or 8 percent, did not have their own household but were sharing the homes of others as relatives or as lodgers. (See table 3.) Nonwhite couples more frequently had "doubled-up" living arrangements than other couples.

Families in the metropolitan area numbered 143,200. In addition, there were 30,300 "unrelated individuals," who lived alone or with nonrelatives only. Unrelated individuals constituted 5 percent of the total population of the metropolitan area as a whole. The average size of household in 1950 for the metropolitan area was 3.6 persons.

Approximately 108,000 persons 5 to 24 years old were enrolled in public and private schools in this metropolitan area in 1950; this figure excludes children in kindergarten. The corresponding number in 1940 was 98,200. (See table 4.) The enrollment rate in the age group 5 to 13 years old was 83 percent in 1950. This age group includes the many children born during the war who had not yet entered school in 1950. Among those 14 to 17 years old, a somewhat larger proportion, 88 percent, were enrolled, even though this age group includes some children who had left school to enter the labor market. In the age group 18 to 24 years, 15 percent were enrolled in 1950, about the same as in 1940. The majority of the students 18 to 24 years old were enrolled in college. In 1950 college students were enumerated at their college residence, whereas in 1940 they were usually enumerated at their parental home.

The people living in the metropolitan area in 1950 were very highly mobile. Among persons 1 year

<sup>1</sup> The Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area comprises Jefferson County, Ala.

P R E L I M I N A R Y

old and over, 20 percent were reported as living in a different house in April 1950 from that in April 1949. (See table 5.) About 15 percent moved from one house to another in the same county, and 5 percent moved from another county or from abroad within the preceding year. The proportion of persons moving was less among nonwhites within the metropolitan area than among the total population.

The population changes since 1940 noted above were accompanied by changes in the size of the labor force in the Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area. During the last decade, the labor force (which consists of the employed, the unemployed, and the armed forces) expanded by approximately 18 percent. An estimated 214,900 residents of the metropolitan area were in the labor force in April 1950 as compared with 181,548 in 1940. (See table 7.)

This expansion reflects, in addition to population growth since 1940, a slight increase in the proportion of women in the labor force. About 60,600 women, or 28 percent of the female population 14 years old and over in the metropolitan area, were in the labor force in 1950, as compared with 47,484, or 26 percent, in 1940. For men, the proportion in the labor force was the same in both years (81 percent), although the number of male workers increased over the decade from 134,064 to 154,300 along with population growth.

During the past decade there was a decline in the proportion of nonwhite males living in the metropolitan area who were in the labor force--from 81 to 77 percent. This drop is due, in part, to the increased school enrollment of the nonwhite population 14 to 24 years old and to the change in the age composition of nonwhite male adults in the metropolitan area. The number in the 25 to 44 age group, almost all of whom work, declined over the past decade, whereas the number of older nonwhite males increased. The proportion of nonwhite women in the metropolitan area who were in the labor force--33 percent in 1950--was relatively unchanged from 1940.

In the Birmingham labor force, proportionately fewer of the workers were unemployed than had been the case in 1940. In April 1950, 8,900 persons, or 4 percent of the civilians in the labor force of the metropolitan area, were unemployed. Ten years earlier when business activity was relatively slack, 29,576, or approximately 16 percent of the workers, were unemployed. In 1940 proportionately more of the nonwhite workers were unemployed than was the case for white workers, but the unemployment rate also declined markedly over this period for nonwhite workers in the metropolitan area--from 20 to 7 percent.

The number of employed civilians living in the Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area reached a total of 205,200 in 1950, or 35 percent above 1940. The expansion in employment over the 10-year period occurred almost entirely among wage and salary workers. This group, which includes both private and government wage and salary workers, rose from 136,108 to 188,800 during the decade. The number of self-employed persons, however, remained relatively stable, and was estimated at 15,200 in 1950. As a result, this group, which is made up mainly of independent business and professional people, constituted only 7 percent of the total employed in 1950, in comparison with 10 percent in 1940. (See table 10.)

From the standpoint of occupational trends, the last decade was marked by particularly large increases in the numbers of employed clerical and sales workers, skilled craftsmen, and semiskilled operatives living in the metropolitan area. In the case of the clerical and sales group, the increase was largely concentrated among the clerical workers. The expansion of the employed craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers group from 21,648 to 31,600 is of special significance, since this group possesses many of the occupational skills essential to defense production. Also of importance in this connection is the increase from 10,875 to 18,000 in the number of workers employed in professional, technical, and kindred occupations. (See table 11.)

Among working women, there was a marked trend away from the domestic service field. In 1940, 37 percent of the employed women were private household workers, whereas in 1950 only 22 percent were so employed.

In 1950, 41,200 of the employed workers living in the Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area were engaged in wholesale and retail trade, an increase of 15,000 over 1940. There were also employment gains of 13,000 in manufacturing and 12,000 in the service industries. As a result of these increases, there were 52,600 workers employed in manufacturing in 1950 and 53,200 in the service industries. The number of persons engaged in mining, on the other hand, decreased over the 10-year period. Consequently, mining declined sharply in importance as a field of employment among the various broad industry groups, while trade rose in relative importance over the decade. (See table 12.)

The generally high employment level was reflected in the figures on family income. The average (median) family income in 1949 in the Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area was \$2,839. The median for families and unrelated individuals combined was lower (\$2,483). Approximately 14 percent of the families and unrelated individuals in the metropolitan area received incomes of \$5,000 or more, whereas 37 percent received incomes under \$2,000. (See table 13.)

Nonwhite families and individuals have lower incomes, on the average, than the white population. In 1949 the median income of nonwhite families and individuals (\$1,552) in the Birmingham Standard Metropolitan Area was only about half that received by white families and individuals (\$3,285).

An estimated 191,900 metropolitan area residents 14 years old and over were outside the labor force at the time of the census. (See table 6.) Women engaged in their own home housework (125,600 in April 1950) constituted the major category outside the labor force. Some of them did not have the responsibility for the care of small children and were possible recruits for jobs outside the home. Another group outside the labor force at the time of the census (designated as "Other and not reported") included, primarily, seasonal workers for whom April was an "off" season, the retired, and the voluntarily idle. An estimated 18,500 in this group in April 1950 were 20 years old and over. The remaining persons outside the labor force probably did not represent a source of additional manpower. Some 32,000 were teen-agers, most of whom were attending full-time school. An additional 15,000 were in institutions or were reported as permanently unable to work.

## DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Several of the definitions and concepts used in the 1950 Census represent changes from those of 1940. These changes were made, after consultation with users of census data, in order to improve the statistics, even though it was recognized that comparability would be adversely affected. When it has been feasible to do so, measures of the impact of the change on the statistics have been, or are being, developed.

Coverage.--The figures in the present series of reports cover the entire population, including the institutional population and members of the armed forces residing in the standard metropolitan area at the time of the enumeration. The reports present separate data for each city with a 1940 population of 250,000 or more.

Standard metropolitan area.--Each standard metropolitan area contains at least one city of 50,000 or more. In general, each comprises an entire county or group of two or more contiguous counties that are economically and socially integrated. The outlying counties must meet several qualifications regarding population density and the volume of nonagricultural employment. In New England, standard metropolitan areas comprise groups of contiguous cities and towns.

Color.--The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white. For standard metropolitan areas containing a central city of at least 250,000 inhabitants, separate statistics are presented for nonwhites if, in 1940, nonwhites comprised at least 20 percent of the population of both the area and the central city. For other standard metropolitan areas statistics for nonwhites are presented if, in 1940, nonwhites comprised 20 percent of the population of the area as a whole.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the time of the enumeration, that is, the age of the person in completed years.

Marital status.--The marital status classification refers to the marital status at the time of the enumeration. Thus, some persons classified as married were previously widowed or divorced. Persons reported as separated are classified as married.

Married couple.--A married couple is defined as a husband and wife enumerated as members of the same household or quasi household. A married couple "with own household" is one with the husband as the head of the household. All other married couples are classified as "without own household."

Household.--A household includes all of the persons, without regard to relationship, who occupy a house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a room, that constitutes a dwelling unit. Quasi households, such as institutions, hotels, large rooming houses, and military barracks are not counted as households. The number of households, as shown in this report, may be regarded as comparable with the number of "families" or "private households" shown in the reports of the 1940 Census. The instructions used for identifying a household in the 1950 Census were more explicit than those used in the 1940 Census, but this difference in the instructions may not have had a significant effect on the number of households shown.

Family.--A family is defined as a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of the same family. The term "family" as used in the 1950 Census is not comparable with that used in the 1940 Census. The new definition excludes the large number of household heads with no relatives in the household who would have been classified as families under the old definition; on the other hand, it includes the small number of groups of persons in households related to each other but not related to the household head or groups of related persons in quasi households who would not have been classified as families under the old definition.

Unrelated individual.--The term "unrelated individual" refers to a person (other than an inmate of an institution) who is living alone or with persons all of whom are not related to him. An unrelated individual may constitute a one-person household, he may be part of a household including other persons unrelated to him, or he may reside in a rooming house, dormitory, etc. In this report, data for unrelated individuals are shown only for persons 14 years of age and over.

School enrollment.--School enrollment is defined as enrollment at any time between February 1 and April 1, 1950, in any school which qualifies as a "regular" school. Regular schools

are those in which a person may be advanced toward an elementary or high school diploma, or a college, university, or professional school degree. Such schools may be public or private, day or night; and enrollment in them may be full or part time. Regular school enrollment does not include enrollment in kindergarten or nursery school or, generally, enrollment in vocational, trade, business, or correspondence schools.

Residence in 1949.--This is the usual place of residence one year prior to the date of enumeration.

Employment status

Census week.--The 1950 data on employment status in this report pertain to the calendar week preceding the enumerator's visit. This week, defined as the "census week," is not the same for all respondents, because not all persons were enumerated during the same week. The majority of the population was enumerated during the first half of April. The 1940 data refer to a fixed week for all persons, March 24 to 30, 1940, regardless of the date of enumeration.

Employed.--Employed persons comprise all civilians 14 years old and over who, during the census week, were either (a) "At work"--those who did any work for pay or profit, or worked without pay for 15 hours or more on a family farm or business; or (b) "With a job but not at work"--those who did not work and were not looking for work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, industrial dispute, bad weather, or layoff with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of layoff. Also included as "with a job" are persons who had new jobs to which they were scheduled to report within 30 days.

Unemployed.--Persons 14 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they were not at work during the census week but were either looking for work or would have been looking for work except that (a) they were temporarily ill, (b) they expected to return to a job from which they had been laid off for an indefinite period, or (c) they believed no work was available in their line of work or in their community. In addition to these groups, persons on public emergency work were included in the unemployed figures in 1940.

Civilian labor force.--The civilian labor force includes all persons classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described above.

Total labor force.--Members of the armed forces (persons on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard) are added to the civilian labor force to obtain the total labor force.

Not in labor force.--All civilians 14 years of age and over who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force." This group includes persons doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours). Persons not in the labor force are further classified as "keeping house," "unable to work," "inmate of an institution," or "other and not reported." The "unable to work" group includes persons who cannot work because of a long-term physical or mental illness or disability. Persons in the "other" group include students, the retired, those too old to work, seasonal workers for whom the census week fell in an "off" season, and the voluntarily idle.

Hours worked.--The statistics on hours shown for persons at work refer to the number of hours they actually worked during the census week, and not necessarily the number they usually worked or their scheduled number of hours. For persons working at more than one job, the figures relate to the hours worked at all jobs during the week. Persons for whom the number of hours worked was not reported are included in the "35 hours or more" group.

Occupation, industry, and class of worker.--The occupation, industry, and class-of-worker data for employed persons relate to the job held during the census week. Persons employed at two or more jobs were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during that week.

The occupational and industrial categories shown here are largely major groups in the classification systems used for the 1950 Census of Population. Lists of the specific occupation and industry categories included in each major group may be obtained by writing to the Bureau of the Census. In the classification by industry, the category "Service industries" includes the following 1950 major groups: finance, insurance, and real estate; business and repair services; personal services; entertainment and recreation services; and professional and related services. The residual category "All other industries" includes the agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and public administration groups. By "public administration" is meant those activities which are uniquely governmental functions such as legislative and judicial activities and

most of the activities in the executive agencies. Government agencies engaged in educational and medical services and in activities commonly carried on also by private enterprises, such as transportation service and manufacturing, are classified in the appropriate industrial category.

The class-of-worker classification comprises "Private wage and salary workers," "Government workers," "Self-employed workers," and "Unpaid family workers." Private wage and salary workers are persons working for wages, salary, commission, tips, pay in kind, or at piece rates for a private employer. Government workers are persons working for any governmental unit, Federal, State, or local, regardless of the industry in which they are working. Self-employed workers are persons working in their own business, profession, or trade, or operating a farm, for profit or fees. Unpaid family workers are persons working without pay on a farm or in a business operated by a member of the household to whom they are related by blood or marriage.

Total money income.--Total money income is the sum of the income received, less losses, by all members of a family, or by an unrelated individual, from the following sources: money wages or salary; net income (or loss) from the operation of a farm, ranch, business, or profession; net income (or loss) from rents, or receipts from roomers, or boarders; royalties; interest, dividends, and periodic income from estates and trust funds; pensions; veterans' payments, armed forces allotments for dependents, and other governmental payments or assistance; and other income such as contributions for support from persons who are not members of the household, alimony, and periodic receipts from insurance policies or annuities. The figures represent the amount of income received before deductions for personal income taxes, social security, bond purchases, union dues, etc.

Receipts from the following sources were not included as income: money received from the sale of property, such as stocks, bonds, a house, or a car, unless the person was engaged in the business of selling such property; the value of income "in kind," such as food produced and consumed in the home, free living quarters, etc.; withdrawals of bank deposits; money borrowed; tax refunds; gifts; and lump-sum inheritances or insurance payments.

#### Comparability of labor force data

Comparability with 1940.--The 1940 data on the labor force shown in this report may not

be completely comparable with those for 1950. During the period 1940 to 1950, various improvements were developed in the questionnaires and in interviewing techniques, designed to obtain a more nearly complete count of the labor force.<sup>2</sup> The improvements in the questionnaire were incorporated into the 1950 Census schedule, and interviewing techniques were stressed in training. To the extent that the 1950 data are affected by these measures, the differences between 1940 and 1950 Census results reflect not only actual changes in the activity of the population but also changes in procedure.

The occupational and industrial classification systems used in 1950 are basically similar to those used in 1940. Certain modifications, however, have been introduced in the specific content of particular groups, and there have also been several changes in title. The 1940 data shown here include adjustments which take account of the major content revisions in the classification systems. It should be noted that the unavailability of certain 1940 figures has made it impossible to present separate 1940 metropolitan area data for the following groups: "Sales workers" and "Clerical and kindred workers" in the occupation table; the subgroups of "Manufacturing" in the industry table; and "Private wage and salary workers" and "Government workers" in the class-of-worker table.

The 1940 data for employed persons vary in some cases from the figures originally published. In 1940, members of the armed forces were included among employed persons. This approach differs from the 1950 procedure since in 1950 the employed total is limited to civilians, and the armed forces represent the difference between the civilian and total labor force. Wherever necessary, therefore, the 1940 figures have been adjusted to exclude the estimated number of armed forces personnel living in the area in 1940. In those areas in which adjustments have been made, the following 1940 statistics for males and for both sexes combined are affected: "Employed"; certain occupation groups (primarily "Service workers, except private household"); the industry group "All other industries"; and the class-of-worker group "Government workers."

Comparability with current data.--The 1950 Census employment data were obtained by household interview and will differ from statistics based on reports from individual business

<sup>2</sup> See United States Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, "Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment in the United States, 1940 to 1946," Series P-50, No. 2, September 11, 1947.

establishments and farm enterprises. The data based on household interviews provide information about the work status of the whole population, without duplication. Persons employed at more than one job are counted only once as employed and are classified according to the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the census week. Estimates based on reports from business and farm establishments, on the other hand, count more than once persons who work for more than one establishment. Differences will also arise from the fact that other estimates, unlike those presented here, generally exclude private household workers, unpaid family workers, and self-employed persons, and may include workers less than 14 years of age. An additional difference arises from the fact that persons with a job but not at work are included with the employed in the estimates shown here, whereas only part of this group is likely to be included in employment figures based on establishment payroll reports. Furthermore, the household-type data refer to residents of the locality regardless of where they work, whereas establishment reports relate to persons working in the locality regardless of their place of residence.

For a number of reasons, the unemployment estimates of the Bureau of the Census are not directly comparable with the published figures for unemployment compensation claims or claims for veterans' readjustment allowances. Certain persons such as private household and government workers are generally not eligible for unemployment compensation. Further, the place where claims are filed may not necessarily be the same as the place of residence of the unemployed worker. In addition, the qualifications for drawing unemployment compensation differ from the definition of unemployment used by the Census Bureau. For example, persons working only a few hours during the week and persons with a job but not at work are sometimes eligible for unemployment compensation, but are classified by the Census Bureau as employed. Furthermore, some persons may be reported to the census enumerator as not looking for work even though they might consider themselves available for jobs and be eligible for unemployment compensation.

Comparability of income data.--For several reasons, the income data shown in this report are not directly comparable with those which may be obtained from statistical summaries of income tax returns. Income as defined for tax purposes differs somewhat from the Census concept. Moreover, income tax coverage is less inclusive because of the exemptions of persons having

small amounts of income. Furthermore, some of the income tax returns are filed as separate returns and others as joint returns and consequently, the income reporting unit is not consistently either a family or a person.

**SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF DATA**

Source of data.--The 1950 estimates presented in this report are based on a sample of approximately 17,500 persons selected from those enumerated on sample lines in the 1950 Census of Population. These persons are located in about 120 census enumeration districts systematically selected from all enumeration districts throughout the standard metropolitan area. Although the figures are based on data obtained from the 1950 Census, there may be differences between the data in the present report and the data to be published in the final 1950 Census reports, apart from differences caused by the sampling variability. The main reason for such differences is that the preliminary estimates do not include all of the refinements that result from the careful examination of the schedules and tables to which the census data will be subject prior to the publication of the final report.

Each of the figures for 1940 is the result of the complete enumeration in the 1940 Census of Population. These and more detailed figures on the same subjects may be found in the 1940 Census Reports on Population.

The 1950 figures are separately rounded to the nearest hundred; therefore the detailed figures do not always add to totals. Percentages for 1950 are based on the rounded absolute figures.

Reliability of 1950 estimates.--As indicated previously, the total population of the standard metropolitan area shown in this report is based primarily on the preliminary field count of the 1950 Census, with some minor adjustments. Editing revisions may change this figure somewhat in the final report. All of the other 1950 estimates are based on sample data, and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Although the smaller figures are subject to large relative sampling variability, they are shown in the tables to permit the analysis of various combinations of the figures that would have smaller relative sampling variability.

The following table presents the approximate sampling variability of estimates of selected sizes (except for nonwhite). The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference due to sampling variability between an estimate and the figure which will be available later from the complete tabulations of the 1950 Census is less than the sampling variability indicated below.

Size of estimate of 1950 data	Sampling variability of 1950 data	Size of estimate of 1950 data	Sampling variability of 1950 data
5,000.....	900	200,000.....	4,500
10,000.....	1,200	300,000.....	4,700
25,000.....	1,900	400,000.....	4,200
50,000.....	2,700	500,000.....	2,900
100,000.....	3,600		

Data relating to the nonwhite population, and data relating to residence in 1949, have about twice the variability of the figures in the above table.

To illustrate, there were an estimated 32,700 males, under 5 years in the metropolitan area. The sampling variability is about 2,000. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the figure which will be obtained from the complete tabulation of the 1950 Census will be between 30,700 and 34,700.

In addition to the estimated number of persons with the specified characteristics, the 1950 data in the tables in the report also include percent distributions. In general, the reliability of an estimated percentage depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total on which it is based. The following table presents the approximate sampling variability of estimated percentages based on totals of selected sizes:

If the estimated percentage is:	And if the size of the base is:						
	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000	300,000	Total population
	Then the chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference due to sampling variability between the estimated percentage and the percentage which will be available later from the complete tabulation of the 1950 Census is less than:						
2 or 98	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
5 or 95	4	3	2	1	1	1	1
10 or 90	5	4	2	2	1	1	1
25 or 75	8	5	3	2	2	1	1
50	9	6	4	3	2	1	1

To illustrate, of the 13,600 nonwhite children between the ages of 14 and 17 years, 85 percent were enrolled in school. The sampling variability is about 4 percent. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the percentage which will be obtained from the complete tabulation of the 1950 Census will be between 81 percent and 89 percent.

The tables in the report also show the percent change from 1940 to 1950 for many of the characteristics of persons for which data are presented. The 1940 figures are used as the base in computing the percent change. Since the 1940 data are not based on a sample, the sole

cause of the sampling variability in these percentages is the variability in the 1950 estimates. The sampling variability of any percent change, therefore, is the sampling error of the estimated number of persons possessing that particular characteristic in 1950, divided by the 1940 figure for that characteristic.

In addition to sampling variation and limitations of the types mentioned above, the estimates are subject to biases due to errors of response and to nonreporting. The possible effect of such biases is not included in the measures of reliability; data obtained from a complete count of all persons are also subject to these biases.

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Table 1.--COLOR AND AGE, BY SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950 AND 1940

Color and age	1950			1940			Percent change, 1940 to 1950		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total population.....	555,800	268,000	287,800	459,930	223,054	236,876	21	20	21
COLOR									
White.....	352,000	173,100	178,900	280,756	138,649	142,107	25	25	26
Nonwhite.....	203,800	94,900	108,800	179,174	84,405	94,769	14	12	15
Percent.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	...	...	...
White.....	63	65	62	61	62	60	...	...	...
Nonwhite.....	37	35	38	39	38	40	...	...	...
AGE--TOTAL									
Under 5 years.....	63,500	32,700	30,800	38,194	19,119	19,075	66	71	61
5 to 9 years.....	52,700	27,700	25,000	39,282	19,808	19,474	34	40	28
10 to 14 years.....	42,100	21,000	21,100	44,309	22,182	22,127	-5	-5	-5
15 to 24 years.....	84,400	38,500	46,000	87,570	40,848	46,722	-4	-6	-2
25 to 34 years.....	94,700	44,800	49,900	84,108	38,783	45,325	13	16	10
35 to 44 years.....	83,500	39,500	44,000	71,346	34,652	36,694	17	14	20
45 to 64 years.....	102,400	49,300	53,100	75,917	38,589	37,328	35	28	42
65 years and over.....	32,400	14,600	17,900	19,204	9,073	10,131	69	61	77
Median age.....years..	28.7	28.1	29.2	27.4	27.4	27.4	...	...	...
Percent.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	11	12	11	8	9	8	...	...	...
5 to 9 years.....	9	10	9	9	9	8	...	...	...
10 to 14 years.....	8	8	7	10	10	9	...	...	...
15 to 24 years.....	15	14	16	19	18	20	...	...	...
25 to 34 years.....	17	17	17	18	17	19	...	...	...
35 to 44 years.....	15	15	15	16	16	15	...	...	...
45 to 64 years.....	18	18	18	17	17	16	...	...	...
65 years and over.....	6	5	6	4	4	4	...	...	...
AGE--NONWHITE									
Under 5 years.....	26,700	13,200	13,400	15,245	7,496	7,749	75	76	73
5 to 9 years.....	20,800	10,700	10,100	16,600	8,186	8,414	25	31	20
10 to 14 years.....	17,100	8,400	8,700	17,950	8,826	9,124	-5	-5	-5
15 to 24 years.....	32,500	14,600	17,900	33,656	14,773	18,883	-3	-1	-5
25 to 34 years.....	29,700	11,900	17,800	33,988	14,838	19,150	-13	-25	-8
35 to 44 years.....	30,200	13,700	16,400	29,764	14,065	15,699	1	-3	4
45 to 64 years.....	35,400	17,300	18,100	25,592	13,085	12,507	38	32	45
65 years and over.....	11,400	5,100	6,300	6,379	3,136	3,243	79	63	94
Median age.....years..	26.6	25.4	27.4	26.8	31.0	26.6	...	...	...
Percent.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	13	14	12	9	9	8	...	...	...
5 to 9 years.....	10	11	9	9	10	9	...	...	...
10 to 14 years.....	8	9	8	10	10	10	...	...	...
15 to 24 years.....	16	15	16	19	18	20	...	...	...
25 to 34 years.....	15	13	16	19	18	20	...	...	...
35 to 44 years.....	15	14	15	17	17	17	...	...	...
45 to 64 years.....	17	18	17	14	16	13	...	...	...
65 years and over.....	6	5	6	4	4	3	...	...	...

Table 2.--MARITAL STATUS OF THE POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX AND COLOR, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950

Color and marital status	Total	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Total	Male	Female
Total, 14 years and over.....	406,800	191,400	215,400	100	100	100
Single.....	77,900	41,600	36,300	19	22	17
Married.....	285,900	140,100	145,800	70	73	68
Widowed or divorced.....	43,000	9,700	33,300	11	5	15
Nonwhite, 14 years and over.....	142,900	64,500	78,500	100	100	100
Single.....	28,800	15,000	13,800	20	23	18
Married.....	95,300	45,700	49,600	67	71	63
Widowed or divorced.....	18,900	3,800	15,100	13	6	19

Table 3.--MARRIED COUPLES, FAMILIES, AND HOUSEHOLDS, BY COLOR, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950

Subject	Total	Nonwhite	Subject	Total	Nonwhite
MARRIED COUPLES			FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS		
Total.....	132,400	40,300	Total.....	173,400	61,800
With own household.....	121,600	35,500	Families.....	143,200	47,100
Without own household.....	10,700	4,800	Unrelated individuals.....	30,300	14,700
Percent.....	100	100	HOUSEHOLDS		
With own household.....	92	88	Households.....	153,000	52,600
Without own household.....	8	12	Population in households.....	545,600	199,800
			Population per household.....	3.6	3.8

Table 4.--SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF PERSONS 5 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE AND COLOR, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950 AND 1940

(Percent change, 1940 to 1950, not shown where 1950 figure is less than 100 sample cases)

Color and age	1950			1940			Percent change in number enrolled in school, 1940 to 1950
	Total	Enrolled in school		Total	Enrolled in school		
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Total, 5 to 24 years.....	179,300	108,000	60	171,161	98,200	57	10
5 to 13 years.....	85,500	70,600	83	74,624	61,592	83	15
14 to 17 years.....	32,500	28,500	88	35,625	28,710	81	-1
18 to 24 years.....	61,300	8,900	15	60,912	7,898	13	13
Nonwhite, 5 to 24 years....	70,400	41,700	59	68,206	37,740	55	10
5 to 13 years.....	34,200	27,600	81	30,972	25,426	82	9
14 to 17 years.....	13,600	11,600	85	13,829	10,349	75	12
18 to 24 years.....	22,600	2,500	11	23,405	1,965	8	...

Table 5.--RESIDENCE IN 1949 OF THE POPULATION ONE YEAR OLD AND OVER, BY COLOR, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950

Residence in 1949	Total		Nonwhite	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Persons 1 year old and over.....	543,200	100	198,400	100
Same house as in 1950.....	431,800	79	167,500	84
Different house, same county.....	79,600	15	24,600	12
Different county or abroad.....	27,600	5	5,000	3
Residence not reported.....	4,100	1	1,300	1

Table 6.--EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION, BY COLOR AND SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950

(Percent not shown where less than 1)

Color and employment status	Both sexes	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Persons 14 years and over.....	406,800	191,400	215,400	100	100	100
Total labor force.....	214,900	154,300	60,600	53	81	28
Civilian labor force.....	214,100	153,500	60,600	53	80	28
Employed.....	205,200	147,000	58,200	50	77	27
Unemployed.....	8,900	6,600	2,400	2	3	1
Not in labor force.....	191,900	37,100	154,700	47	19	72
Keeping house.....	126,200	800	125,500	31	...	58
Unable to work or inmate of institution..	15,000	9,000	6,000	4	5	3
Other and not reported.....	50,600	27,400	23,200	12	14	11
14 to 19 years.....	32,000	15,000	17,000	8	8	8
20 to 64 years.....	12,800	8,000	4,800	3	4	2
65 years and over.....	5,700	4,300	1,400	1	2	1
Civilian labor force.....	214,100	153,500	60,600	100	100	100
Employed.....	205,200	147,000	58,200	96	96	96
At work.....	197,300	141,300	55,900	92	92	92
35 hours or more.....	172,600	128,200	44,500	81	84	73
15 to 34 hours.....	19,000	10,500	8,500	9	7	14
1 to 14 hours.....	5,600	2,700	2,900	3	2	5
With a job but not at work.....	7,900	5,600	2,300	4	4	4
Unemployed.....	8,900	6,600	2,400	4	4	4
<b>NONWHITE</b>						
Persons 14 years and over.....	142,900	64,500	78,500	100	100	100
Total labor force.....	75,900	49,800	26,100	53	77	33
Civilian labor force.....	75,900	49,800	26,100	53	77	33
Employed.....	70,800	46,200	24,600	50	72	31
Unemployed.....	5,100	3,600	1,500	4	6	2
Not in labor force.....	67,000	14,700	52,400	47	23	67
Keeping house.....	39,500	400	39,100	28	1	50
Unable to work or inmate of institution..	7,100	3,900	3,200	5	6	4
Other and not reported.....	20,400	10,300	10,100	14	16	13
14 to 19 years.....	13,100	5,500	7,600	9	9	10
20 to 64 years.....	5,300	3,300	2,000	4	5	3
65 years and over.....	2,000	1,500	500	1	2	1
Civilian labor force.....	75,900	49,800	26,100	100	100	100
Employed.....	70,800	46,200	24,600	93	93	94
At work.....	67,700	44,100	23,600	89	89	90
35 hours or more.....	54,100	38,500	15,600	71	77	60
15 to 34 hours.....	10,400	4,500	5,900	14	9	23
1 to 14 hours.....	3,200	1,100	2,100	4	2	8
With a job but not at work.....	3,200	2,200	1,000	4	4	4
Unemployed.....	5,100	3,600	1,500	7	7	6

Table 7.--EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION, BY COLOR AND SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950 AND 1940

Color, year, and employment status	Both sexes	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>TOTAL--1950</b>						
Persons 14 years and over.....	406,800	191,400	215,400	100	100	100
Total labor force.....	214,900	154,300	60,600	53	81	28
Civilian labor force.....	214,100	153,500	60,600	53	80	28
Employed.....	205,200	147,000	58,200	50	77	27
Unemployed.....	8,900	6,600	2,400	2	3	1
Not in labor force.....	191,900	37,100	154,700	47	19	72
<b>TOTAL--1940</b>						
Persons 14 years and over.....	347,112	166,423	180,689	100	100	100
Total labor force.....	181,548	134,064	47,484	52	81	26
Civilian labor force.....	181,548	134,064	47,484	52	81	26
Employed.....	151,972	112,655	39,317	44	68	22
Unemployed.....	29,576	21,409	8,167	9	13	5
Not in labor force.....	165,564	32,359	133,205	48	19	74
<b>NONWHITE--1950</b>						
Persons 14 years and over.....	142,900	64,500	78,500	100	100	100
Total labor force.....	75,900	49,800	26,100	53	77	33
Civilian labor force.....	75,900	49,800	26,100	53	77	33
Employed.....	70,800	46,200	24,600	50	72	31
Unemployed.....	5,100	3,600	1,500	4	6	2
Not in labor force.....	67,000	14,700	52,400	47	23	67
<b>NONWHITE--1940</b>						
Persons 14 years and over.....	132,957	61,651	71,306	100	100	100
Total labor force.....	73,763	49,694	24,069	55	81	34
Civilian labor force.....	73,763	49,694	24,069	55	81	34
Employed.....	58,928	38,983	19,945	44	63	28
Unemployed.....	14,835	10,711	4,124	11	17	6
Not in labor force.....	59,194	11,957	47,237	45	19	66

Table 8.--EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950  
(Percent not shown where base is less than 100 sample cases)

Sex and age	Popula- tion	Total labor force	Civilian labor force			Not in labor force	Percent distri- bution by age	
			Total	Employed	Unem- ployed		Total labor force	Unem- ployed
Total, 14 years and over.....	406,800	214,900	214,100	205,200	8,900	191,900	100	100
14 to 24 years.....	93,700	38,100	38,000	34,600	3,300	55,700	18	3'
25 to 34 years.....	94,700	56,600	56,100	53,900	2,200	38,100	26	2'
35 to 44 years.....	83,500	54,600	54,400	52,700	1,800	29,000	25	2'
45 to 64 years.....	102,400	59,000	58,900	57,500	1,500	43,400	27	1'
65 years and over.....	32,400	6,700	6,700	6,500	200	25,700	3	
<b>Male, 14 years and over.....</b>								
14 to 24 years.....	43,300	25,000	25,000	22,700	2,300	18,200	16	3
25 to 34 years.....	44,800	41,600	41,000	39,300	1,700	3,200	27	2
35 to 44 years.....	39,500	38,200	38,000	36,800	1,300	1,300	25	2
45 to 64 years.....	49,300	44,000	44,000	42,900	1,100	5,300	29	1
65 years and over.....	14,600	5,500	5,500	5,300	200	9,100	4	

Table 8.--EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950--Con.

(Percent not shown where base is less than 100 sample cases)

Sex and age	Popula- tion	Total labor force	Civilian labor force			Not in labor force	Percent distri- bution by age	
			Total	Employed	Unem- ployed		Total labor force	Unem- ployed
Female, 14 years and over.....	215,400	60,600	60,600	58,200	2,400	154,700	100	...
14 to 24 years.....	50,500	13,000	13,000	11,900	1,000	37,400	21	...
25 to 34 years.....	49,900	15,100	15,100	14,600	500	34,800	25	...
35 to 44 years.....	44,000	16,400	16,400	15,900	500	27,600	27	...
45 to 64 years.....	53,100	15,000	15,000	14,600	400	38,100	25	...
65 years and over.....	17,900	1,200	1,200	1,200	...	16,700	2	...

Table 9.--PERCENT OF THE POPULATION IN THE LABOR FORCE AND PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE UNEMPLOYED, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950

(Percent not shown where base is less than 100 sample cases)

Age	Percent of the population in the labor force			Percent of the civilian labor force unemployed		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total, 14 years and over.....	53	81	28	4	4	4
14 to 19 years.....	26	35	16	13	13	14
20 to 24 years.....	57	85	35	7	7	6
25 to 34 years.....	60	93	30	4	4	3
35 to 44 years.....	65	97	37	3	3	3
45 to 54 years.....	63	93	34	2	2	3
55 to 64 years.....	50	83	20	2	3	2
65 years and over.....	21	38	7	3	4	...

Table 10.--CLASS OF WORKER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950 AND 1940

(Percent not shown where less than 1)

Year and class of worker	Total	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Total	Male	Female
1950						
Employed.....	205,200	147,000	58,200	100	100	100
Private wage and salary workers.....	174,000	126,900	47,200	85	86	81
Government workers.....	14,800	7,000	7,800	7	5	13
Self-employed workers.....	15,200	12,800	2,400	7	9	4
Unpaid family workers.....	1,200	300	800	1	...	1
1940						
Employed.....	151,972	112,655	39,317	100	100	100
Private wage and salary workers.....	136,108	101,205	34,903	90	90	89
Government workers.....						
Self-employed workers.....						
Unpaid family workers.....						
	14,475	10,913	3,562	10	10	9
	1,389	537	852	1	...	2

Table 11.--MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950 AND 1940

(Statistics for 1940 are revised; see text. Percent not shown where less than 1)

Year and major occupation group	Total	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Total	Male	Female
1950						
Employed.....	205,200	147,000	58,200	100	100	100
Professional, technical, and kindred workers.....	18,000	10,300	7,700	9	7	13
Managers, officials, and proprietors, incl. farm...	19,600	17,100	2,500	10	12	4
Clerical and kindred workers.....	25,100	9,600	15,500	12	7	27
Sales workers.....	16,000	11,400	4,600	8	8	8
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	31,600	31,200	500	15	21	1
Operatives and kindred workers.....	45,000	39,300	5,700	22	27	10
Private household workers.....	13,000	300	12,600	6	...	22
Service workers, except private household.....	15,500	7,200	8,300	8	5	14
Laborers, except mine.....	20,200	19,600	600	10	13	1
Occupation not reported.....	1,200	900	300	1	1	1
1940						
Employed.....	151,972	112,655	39,317	100	100	100
Professional, technical, and kindred workers.....	10,875	6,129	4,746	7	5	12
Managers, officials, and proprietors, incl. farm...	13,270	11,958	1,312	9	11	3
Clerical and kindred workers.....	25,241	15,396	9,845	17	14	25
Sales workers.....	21,648	21,442	206	14	19	1
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	35,991	32,767	3,224	24	29	8
Operatives and kindred workers.....	15,383	862	14,521	10	1	37
Private household workers.....	11,516	6,734	4,782	8	6	12
Service workers, except private household.....	16,873	16,572	301	11	15	1
Laborers, except mine.....	1,175	795	380	1	1	1
Occupation not reported.....						

Table 12.--MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP OF EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY SEX, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA: 1950 AND 1940

(Statistics for 1940 are revised; see text. Percent not shown where less than 1)

Year and major industry group	Total	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Total	Male	Female
1950						
Employed.....	205,200	147,000	58,200	100	100	100
Mining.....	14,300	14,300	100	7	10	...
Construction.....	13,000	12,600	400	6	9	...
Manufacturing.....	52,600	47,300	5,300	26	32	9
Durable goods.....	40,500	38,200	2,300	20	26	4
Nondurable goods.....	12,000	9,000	3,000	6	6	5
Not specified manufacturing.....	100	100	...	...	...	...
Transport., commun., and other public utilities....	20,700	18,100	2,700	10	12	5
Wholesale and retail trade.....	41,200	27,000	14,200	20	18	24
Service industries.....	53,200	20,300	32,900	26	14	57
All other industries.....	8,400	6,400	2,000	4	4	3
Industry not reported.....	1,700	1,100	600	1	1	1
1940						
Employed.....	151,972	112,655	39,317	100	100	100
Mining.....	17,548	17,465	83	12	16	...
Construction.....	6,385	6,268	117	4	6	...
Manufacturing.....	39,876	37,082	2,794	26	33	7
Transport., commun., and other public utilities....	12,000	10,962	1,038	8	10	3
Wholesale and retail trade.....	25,974	18,522	7,452	17	16	19
Service industries.....	40,884	14,528	26,356	27	13	67
All other industries.....	7,138	6,276	862	5	6	2
Industry not reported.....	2,167	1,552	615	1	1	2

Table 13.--INCOME IN 1949 OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS, BY COLOR, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM STANDARD METROPOLITAN AREA

(Percent not shown where less than 1)

Income level	Total	White	Nonwhite	Percent distribution		
				Total	White	Non-white
Families and unrelated individuals....	173,400	111,600	61,800	...	...	...
Number reporting.....	166,600	107,400	59,200	100	100	100
Under \$500.....	19,900	8,100	11,800	12	8	20
\$500 to \$999.....	14,000	5,000	9,000	8	5	15
\$1,000 to \$1,499.....	13,600	5,700	7,900	8	5	13
\$1,500 to \$1,999.....	15,400	6,700	8,700	9	6	15
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	21,100	9,800	11,300	13	9	19
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	15,300	10,600	4,700	9	10	8
\$3,000 to \$3,499.....	16,800	13,700	3,100	10	13	5
\$3,500 to \$3,999.....	11,500	10,400	1,200	7	10	2
\$4,000 to \$4,499.....	8,600	8,000	600	5	7	1
\$4,500 to \$4,999.....	6,700	6,300	400	4	6	1
\$5,000 to \$5,999.....	9,500	9,200	300	6	9	1
\$6,000 to \$6,999.....	5,600	5,500	200	3	5	...
\$7,000 to \$9,999.....	5,700	5,700	100	3	5	...
\$10,000 and over.....	2,900	2,800	...	2	3	...
Income not reported.....	6,800	4,300	2,500	...	...	...
Median income.....	\$2,483	\$3,285	\$1,552	...	...	...
Families.....	143,200	96,100	47,100	...	...	...
Number reporting.....	137,800	92,500	45,400	100	100	100
Under \$500.....	9,900	4,300	5,600	7	5	12
\$500 to \$999.....	8,600	3,100	5,500	6	3	12
\$1,000 to \$1,499.....	10,000	3,700	6,300	7	4	14
\$1,500 to \$1,999.....	12,400	4,900	7,600	9	5	17
\$2,000 to \$2,499.....	18,700	8,400	10,300	14	9	23
\$2,500 to \$2,999.....	13,700	9,300	4,400	10	10	10
\$3,000 to \$3,499.....	15,700	12,700	3,000	11	14	7
\$3,500 to \$3,999.....	11,000	9,900	1,100	8	11	2
\$4,000 to \$4,499.....	8,100	7,500	500	6	8	1
\$4,500 to \$4,999.....	6,600	6,200	400	5	7	1
\$5,000 to \$5,999.....	9,200	9,000	300	7	10	1
\$6,000 to \$6,999.....	5,500	5,300	100	4	6	...
\$7,000 to \$9,999.....	5,600	5,600	100	4	6	...
\$10,000 and over.....	2,800	2,800	...	2	3	...
Income not reported.....	5,300	3,600	1,700	...	...	...
Median income.....	\$2,839	\$3,494	\$1,849	...	...	...

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