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ABSTRACT

Based on the current definition for farm population (all persons living in rural territory or places which in the reporting year had, or normally would have had, sales of agricultural products of $1,000 or more), an average of 6,051,000 persons, or 2.7% of the total population lived on farms in the United States in 1980, a drop of 190,000 below the 1979 estimate. Whites constituted 94.4%, Blacks 4%, and persons of Spanish origin 1.9% of all farm residents. The farm population, with a median age of 35.5 years, had a lower proportion of young adults (20-34 years) and a higher proportion of persons 35-64 years old and elderly persons than the nonfarm population. The fertility of farm women continued to be higher than that of nonfarm women. About 45% of the farm population lived in the North Central Region. Of all farm residents 14 years old and over, 64% were in the labor force or were seeking work. Only 47% of the average 3,500,000 persons employed in agriculture lived on farms. About three-fifths of the 1,700,000 farm residents employed in agriculture were self-employed. Median income of farm families was $16,357 in 1979, substantially lower than the $19,754 for nonfarm families. (NEC)

CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

Farm Population

Series P-27 No. 54

Farm Population of the United States: 1980

U.S. Department of Commerce
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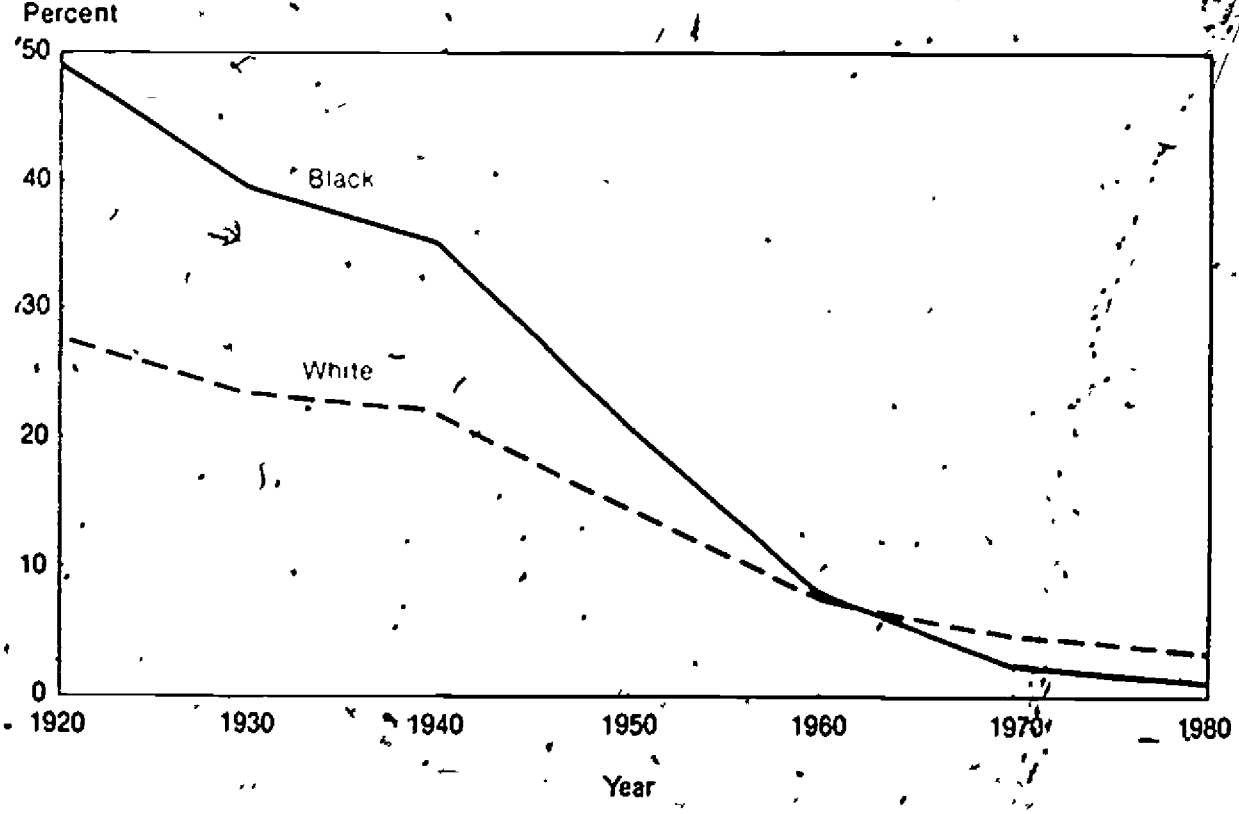
U.S. Department of Agriculture
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

FIGURE 1.
Percent of Population Living on Farms, by Race: 1920 to 1980



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APPENDIXES TABLES

Symbols Used in Tables

– Represents zero or rounds to zero.

B Base less than 75,000.

NA Not available.

X Not applicable.

Farm Population of the United States: 1980

(These estimates are based on the monthly Current Population Survey and do not reflect the results of the 1980 census.)

INTRODUCTION

The number of persons living on farms in rural areas of the United States averaged 6,051,000 for the 12-month period centered on April 1980. About 1 person out of every 36, or 2.7 percent of the Nation's total population, had a farm residence (table A). These estimates were prepared cooperatively by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The farm population estimates for 1980 are based on the farm definition that was introduced into this data series in 1978. Under this new definition, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory on places which had, or normally would have had, sales of agricultural products of $1,000 or more during the reporting year.

Under the current definition as well as under previous definitions, the farm share of the total U.S. population continued its long-term downward trend. In 1920, when the farm population was first identified separately, 30.1 percent of the Nation's total population resided on farms. By 1950, this proportion had fallen to 15.3 percent, and by 1980, it had dropped to 2.7 percent (3.3 percent under the previous definition).[1]

The 1980 estimate of farm population is 190,000 below the 1979 estimate but this apparent decrease is not statistically significant. The chances are about 1 out of 8 that a decline of this magnitude would have been obtained from the sample without any actual change having occurred in the farm population between 1979 and 1980. Although the single year change between 1979 and 1980 is not significant, the indicated loss of 450,000 farm residents during the 2-year period from 1978 to 1980 does represent a statistically significant decline.

[1] Estimates of the farm population from 1920 to the present are not strictly comparable due to definitional changes. Prior to 1960, farm residents themselves determined whether they lived on a farm. From 1960 to the mid-1970's, the farm population was restricted to persons living in rural territory and was identified on the basis of acreage and dollar sales of farm products. The current farm definition, announced in 1975 and introduced into this data series in the 1978 report, eliminated the acreage requirement and set the sales cut-off at $1,000.

Table A. Total and Farm Population of the United States: April 1970 to 1980

(Numbers in thousands)

Year	Total resident population	Farm population	
		Number of persons[1]	Percent of total population
CURRENT FARM DEFINITION			
1980	221,672	6,051	2.7
1979	219,611	6,241	2.8
1978	217,771	6,501	3.0
PREVIOUS FARM DEFINITION			
1980	221,672	7,241	3.3
1979	219,611	7,553	3.4
1978	217,771	8,005	3.7
1977	215,966	7,806	3.6
1976	214,282	8,253	3.9
1975	212,542	8,864	4.2
1974	211,018	9,264	4.4
1973	209,468	9,472	4.5
1972	207,802	9,610	4.6
1971	205,677	9,425	4.6
1970	[2]203,235	9,712	4.8

[1] Five-quarter averages centered on April. See Definitions and Explanations in appendix A.
[2] Official census count.

There was a slackening in the rate of decline in the 1970's as compared with the previous decade Using the previous farm definition, upon which earlier data are based, the rate of loss in the farm population averaged 2 9 percent per year between 1970 and 1980 This is significantly lower than the average rate of decline of 4 8 percent that occurred during the 1960-70 decade

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM POPULATION

Race and Spanish Origin In 1980, the farm population had a higher proportion of Whites than the nonfarm population and lower proportions of Blacks and persons of Spanish origin (table B) Whites constituted 94 percent of all farm residents and 86 percent of nonfarm residents, while Blacks accounted for 4 percent and 12 percent, respectively. Persons of Spanish origin who may be of any race, represented 2 percent of the farm population and 6 percent of the nonfarm population

Black farm residents have experienced higher rates of decline than Whites since the early 1900's Nearly one half of the total Black population lived on farms in 1920 compared with just over one fourth of the White population [2] By 1980, the proportions had fallen dramatically to 1 percent of Blacks and 3 percent of Whites (figure 1) Based on the previous farm definition, the decline in the Black farm population between 1970 and 1980 was 65 percent as compared with a 22 percent decline among White farm residents [3]

Age and sex The farm population had an older age structure than the nonfarm population The median age of farm residents in 1980 was 35 5 years, while the nonfarm median was 30 0 years (table 2) The farm population had about the same proportion of children and teenagers as the nonfarm population, a lower proportion of young adults (20 to 34 years), and higher proportions of persons 35 to 64 years old and elderly persons

Farm men outnumbered farm women by 267,000 in 1980 There were 109 males on farms for every 100 females, whereas there were only 93 males per 100 females in the nonfarm population The lower representation of females in the farm population, compared with the nonfarm population, is most pronounced among young adults in their twenties and persons over age 60 when women are more likely to be single or widowed The relatively high sex ratios for farm residents at these ages probably reflect a tendency toward outmigration of young farm women as they reach maturity and of older farm women upon widowhood Therefore, women on farms had a higher proportion married with husband present than nonfarm women (table 3)

Family type and size A greater proportion of farm families than of nonfarm families had both husband and wife present in 1980 92 percent versus 82 percent (table 4) Although the average size of both farm and nonfarm families was about 3 3 persons, 10 percent of farm families had six or more members, compared with 7 percent of nonfarm families The higher proportion of large families within the farm population was partially due to the presence of a greater number of children Among families with own children under 18 present, 12 percent of farm families had four or more children, compared with only 8 percent of nonfarm families This difference is not reflected in the average family size estimates because of the offsetting effect of the smaller proportion of farm families with own children under 18 present 45 percent of farm families had own children under 18, compared with 52 percent of nonfarm families

Fertility The fertility of farm women continued to be higher than that of nonfarm women (table C) According to June 1979 data, the average number of children born to farm women 18 to 44 years of age (1,911 per 1,000 women) was significantly higher than the average born to nonfarm women of comparable age (1,529 per 1,000 women)

[2] In 1920 the total White population was 94 820,915 and 26 072 800 lived on farms The total Black population was 10 463 131 and 5 099 963 lived on farms See United States Summary" Volume III *Fifteenth Census of the United States 1930*

[3] Under the previous farm definition the number of Blacks living on farms was 849 000 in 1970 and 299,000 in 1980 The number of White farm residents was 8 775,000 in 1970 and 6,828 000 in 1980

Table B. Farm and Nonfarm Population, by Race and Spanish Origin: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Race	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Percent distribution		
				Total	Farm	Nonfarm
All races	[1]217,520	6,051	211,469	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	187,633	5,714	181,919	86.3	94 4	86.0
Black	25,502	242	25,259	11.7	4 0	11 9
Spanish origin[2]	12,842	115	12,727	5 9	1.9	6.0

[1] The total U.S. population figure here differs from that shown in table A because the latter refers to the total resident population, whereas this and other tables refer only to the civilian noninstitutional population.

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

Table C. Fertility Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Women: June 1979

Characteristic	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
CHILDREN EVER BORN PER 1,000 WOMEN			
Total, 18 to 44 years	1,538	1,911	1,529
18 to 24 years	452	340	455
25 to 29 years	1,214	1,562	1,208
30 to 34 years	1,890	2,411	1,878
35 to 39 years	2,569	2,942	2,558
40 to 44 years	2,996	3,490	2,978
WOMEN 18 TO 34 YEARS OLD[1]			
Births to date per 1,000 women	1,144	1,301	1,140
Future births expected per 1,000 women	928	1,048	926
Lifetime births expected per 1,000 women	2,072	2,349	2,066

[1]Data limited to women reporting on birth expectations.

Source June 1979 Current Population Survey.

For women 18 to 34 years of age reporting on birth expectations in June 1979, expected lifetime births were also higher for farm women than for nonfarm women. The average number of lifetime births expected by farm women in this age group was 2,349 per 1,000 women, compared with an estimated 2,066 births per 1,000 nonfarm women.

Distribution. Nearly half of the farm population (2,730,000 or 45 percent) lived in the North Central Region of the United States in 1980 (table D). The South, which until 1965 had the largest farm population, ranked second with 2,162,000.[4] The West and Northeast Regions contained just 716,000 and 443,000 farm residents, respectively.

The majority of all farm residents lived in nonmetropolitan counties, only 17 percent of the farm total lived within the boundaries of standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) in 1980 (table 5). In contrast, 69 percent of the nonfarm population lived in SMSA's. As might be expected, metropolitan farm residents were primarily concentrated in the smaller SMSA's; three fourths resided in the rural parts of SMSA's of less than 1 million population.

Table D. Regional Distribution of the Farm Population: 1980

(Numbers in thousands)

Region	Number	Percent
Total	6,051	100.0
Northeast	443	7.3
North Central	2,730	45.1
South	2,162	35.7
West	716	11.8

Source Based on data from the June Enumerative Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

[4]Banks, Vera J. and Calvin L. Beale, *Farm Population Estimates 1910-70*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Statistical Bulletin No. 523, July 1973.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM POPULATION

Labor force participation. For the five quarters centered on April 1980, an average of 3.1 million farm residents 14 years old and over were in the labor force, either employed or seeking work (table E). The labor force participation rate for farm residents (64 percent) was higher than the rate for nonfarm residents (62 percent). While farm men had a higher rate of labor force participation than nonfarm men, farm women were less likely to be in the labor force than their nonfarm counterparts.

Persons living on farms in the combined Northern and Western States were more likely to be in the labor force than were Southern farm residents. (This regional pattern also exists in the nonfarm population.) Among persons 14 years old and over living on farms in the North and West, 66 percent were either working or looking for work in 1980. In comparison, persons on farms in the South had a labor force participation rate of 61 percent (table 6).

Unemployment. The rate of unemployment (the proportion of the civilian labor force currently without a job and looking for work) was relatively low in the farm population. In 1980, 2.6 percent of the labor force living on farms was unemployed, the comparable rate in the nonfarm population was 7.2 percent (table E). The frequency of agricultural workers holding two or more jobs is thought to contribute to their lower unemployment rates. When farm operators with dual employment lose their nonfarm jobs, they are not considered unemployed because of their continued employment in farm work.

Although there is some evidence of racial disparity in the farm unemployment rates, the rates for both Whites and Blacks were lower than the corresponding rates for the nonfarm population. In 1980, the rates of unemployment for White and Black farm residents were 2.3 percent and 7.5 percent, respectively (table 7). The comparable nonfarm rates (not shown in the tables) were 6.3 percent for Whites and 14.3 for Blacks.

Table E. Employment Status of the Farm and Nonfarm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Sex: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Sex and employment status	Farm	Nonfarm
Both sexes	4,905	166,386
In labor force	3,139	102,925
Percent of total	64.0	61 9
Employed	3,057	95,540
Unemployed	82	7,385
Percent of labor force	2.6	7.2
Not in labor force	1,766	63,461
Male	2,561	78,793
In labor force	2,066	58,921
Percent of total	80.7	74 8
Employed	2,028	54,813
Unemployed	38	4,108
Percent of labor force	1.8	7.0
Not in labor force	496	19,872
Female	2,344	87,593
In labor force	1,073	44,004
Percent of total	45.8	50.2
Employed	1,029	40,727
Unemployed	44	3,277
Percent of labor force	4.1	7.4
Not in labor force	1,271	43,589

Agricultural and nonagricultural employment Even though farm residents were more likely to be employed in agriculture than in nonagricultural industries, there was some evidence that they did not constitute the larger share of total agricultural employment In 1980, only 47 percent of the average 3 5 million persons employed in agriculture lived on farms (table F). The remaining 53 percent lived in nonfarm areas Fifty years ago, persons living on farms constituted 87 percent of all agricultural workers This proportion dropped to 75 percent in 1960 and 63 percent in 1970.[5]

The decline in the proportion of agricultural workers who were farm residents is largely due to the general trend among farm wage workers to commute from nonfarm residences to farm jobs In 1980, about 8 out of 10 wage and salary agricultural workers did not reside on farms Another factor is that agricultural employment as a category includes more than farmers and farm laborers These two occupations dominate the industry, but persons working on farms in occupations such as truck driver, bookkeeper, and mechanic are also included Additionally, persons employed in activities such as veterinary services, kennels, and landscaping are classified as agricultural workers Many of these peripheral agricultural activities are often performed in nonfarm settings

[5] According to census reports, the number of workers employed in agriculture in 1930 was 10,482,323, of which 9,141,362 were farm residents "See United States Summary, " Volume III, *Fifteenth Census of the United States 1930* Based on CPS estimates, 4,025,000 of the 5,395,000 agricultural workers in 1960 lived on farms, in 1970 2,333,000 of the total 3,696,000 agricultural workers lived on farms See Series P 27, No 42, *Farm Population of the United States 1970*

Table F Farm and Nonfarm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker and Sex: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Class of worker	Both sexes	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Both sexes	Male	Female
Total agricultural workers	3,464	2,785	679	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	1,622	1,446	176	46.8	51.9	25.9
Wage and salary workers	1,491	1,202	289	43.0	43.2	42.6
Unpaid family workers	351	137	214	10.1	4.9	31.5
Farm resident agricultural workers	1,642	1,307	334	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	1,034	930	105	63.0	71.2	31.4
Wage and salary workers	326	274	52	19.9	21.0	15.6
Unpaid family workers	282	104	178	17.2	8.0	53.3
Nonfarm resident agricultural workers	1,822	1,478	344	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers	587	516	71	32.2	34.9	20.6
Wage and salary workers	1,166	928	238	64.0	62.8	69.2
Unpaid family workers	69	34	36	3.8	2.3	10.5

Although farm residents overall were more likely to be employed in agriculture than in nonagricultural industries, there were differences by sex (table 6) Farm men were most often employed in agriculture (63 percent), whereas farm women most often had a nonagricultural job (65 percent) The large proportion of farm women engaged in nonagricultural work reflects, at least in part, the importance of supplemental nonfarm income to farm families Data on income of farm operator families reveal that, in 1979, 56 percent of their total income came from nonfarm sources [6]

About one half of all farm residents employed in nonagricultural industries were in services and manufacturing (table 8) There was a significant difference by sex, however Manufacturing was the leading industry for farm men (31 percent), whereas one half of farm women were in services

Class of worker Of the 1 7 million farm residents employed in agriculture in 1980, about three fifths were self employed (table 9 and figure 2) Persons living on farms and working in nonagricultural industries, however, were mainly wage and salary workers

The dominance of self employment as the major class of work among farm residents employed in agriculture pertained only to men, as about one half of the women were unpaid family workers Although these women are not classified in the paid labor force, they are an important source of farm labor

Income The median income of farm families was $16,357 in 1979, substantially lower than the $19,754 for nonfarm families (table 11) As illustrated in figure 3 farm families had a relatively large concentration in the lower income intervals

During the 1970's, farm families experienced a 29 percent gain in real median income, while nonfarm families had only a 6-percent increase (table 12) As a result of these income changes, the gap in median income between farm and nonfarm families narrowed considerably The ratio of farm to nonfarm median family income increased from 68 percent in 1970 to 83 percent in 1979

[6] U S Department of Agriculture *Economic Indicators of the Farm Sector* Statistical Bulletin No 650, Economics and Statistics Service Dec 1980

FIGURE 2
Employed Farm Residents by Class of Worker 1980

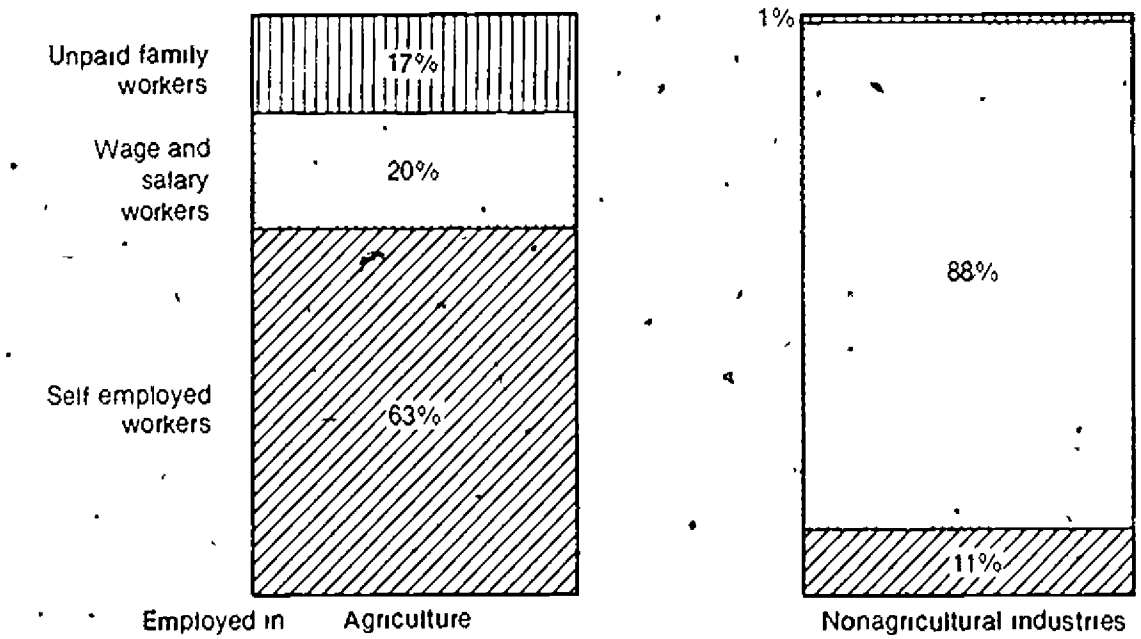
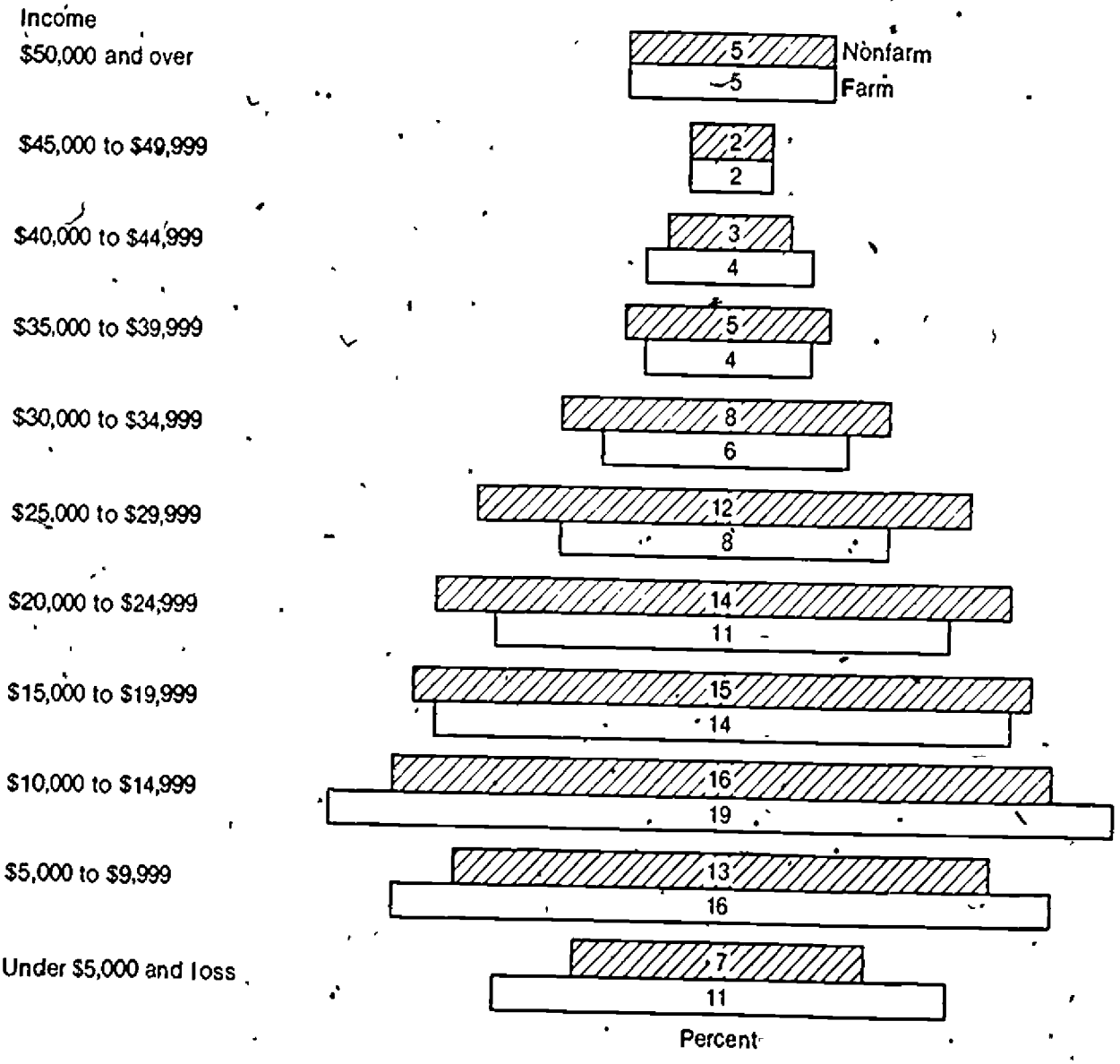


FIGURE 3.
Income Distribution of Farm and Nonfarm Families: 1979



RELATED REPORTS

Comparable figures for 1979 appear in Current Population Reports, *Farm Population of the United States 1979*, Series P-27, No. 53, and earlier reports were published annually beginning in 1961.

Beginning with 1972, the data are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years because of adjustments in sample design and survey procedures occasioned by 1970 census data. Application of 1972 procedures to data for March 1970 lowered the farm population 14 years old and over by about 75,000. In 1976, revisions were made in the processing procedure for determining farm-nonfarm residence of the rural population. The revisions lowered the total farm population by an estimated 130,000. In 1978, a new farm definition was introduced into the data series. The effects are examined in detail in Series P-27, No. 52.

Although not fully comparable with the Current Population Survey, farm population figures for 1970 for the United States, States, and counties appear in chapter C of 1970 Census of Population, Volume 1, *Characteristics of the Population*, characteristics of the farm population by State are presented in chapter D.

Table 1. Farm Population, by Race and Spanish Origin and Sex, for Broad Age Groups: 1980 and 1978

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April. For meaning of symbols, see text)

Race and age	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1980	1978	1980	1978	1980	1978	1980	1978	1980	1978	1980	1978
All races	6,051	6,501	3,159	3,396	2,892	3,105	100.0	100.0	100.0	100 0	100.0	100 0
Under 14 years	1,146	1,315	598	681	548	634	18.9	20.2	18.9	20.1	18 9	20.4
14 years and over	4,905	5,186	2,561	2,715	2,344	2,472	81.1	79.8	81 1	79.9	81 2	79 6
White	5,714	6,064	2,988	3,165	2,726	2,899	100 0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100 0
Under 14 years	1,065	1,198	556	624	509	574	18.6	19.8	18.6	19 7	18.7	19.8
14 years and over	4,649	4,866	2,432	2,541	2,217	2,325	81 4	80.2	81.4	80.3	81 3	80 2
Black	242	349	120	186	123	163	100 0	100.0	100.0	100 0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years	58	98	29	46	29	52	24.0	28.1	24.2	24 7	23.6	31.9
14 years and over	184	252	91	140	93	112	76.0	72.2	75.8	75.3	75 6	68.1
Spanish origin[1]	115	90	58	53	56	37	100.0	100.0	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Under 14 years	44	26	19	15	24	11	38.3	28.9	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
14 years and over	71	64	39	38	32	26	61.7	71.1	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

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

Table 2. Farm and Nonfarm Population, by Age and Sex: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April. For meaning of symbols, see text)

Age	Both sexes	Male	Female	Percent distribution		
				Both sexes	Male	Female
FARM						
All ages	6,051	3,159	2,892	100.0	100 0	100.0
Under 14 years	1,146	598	548	18.9	18.9	18.9
14 to 19 years	790	414	376	13.1	13 1	13.0
20 to 24 years	444	254	190	7.3	8 0	6.6
25 to 29 years	312	179	133	5 2	5 7	4.6
30 to 34 years	294	140	154	4.9	4 4	5.3
35 to 39 years	352	172	180	5 8	5 4	6.2
40 to 44 years	360	180	180	5.9	5 7	6.2
45 to 49 years	381	189	191	6.3	6 0	6 6
50 to 54 years	419	206	213	6.9	6.5	7 4
55 to 59 years	411	217	195	6 8	6 9	6.7
60 to 64 years	396	217	179	6.5	6 9	6.2
65 years and over	746	393	352	12.3	12.4	12 2
Median age	35.5	34 8	36.2	(X)	(X)	(X)
NONFARM						
All ages	211,469	101,777	109,692	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years	45,084	22,985	22,098	21 3	22 6	20.1
14 to 19 years	23,152	11,595	11,557	10.9	11 4	10 5
20 to 24 years	19,428	9,359	10,070	9.2	9 2	9.2
25 to 29 years	17,946	8,698	9,247	8.5	8.5	8.4
30 to 34 years	16,439	7,996	8,443	7.8	7.9	7 7
35 to 39 years	13,322	6,400	6,922	6.3	6 3	6.3
40 to 44 years	11,146	5,359	5,787	5 3	5 3	5 3
45 to 49 years	10,611	5,146	5,465	5.0	5.1	5.0
50 to 54 years	11,182	5,388	5,793	5 3	5 3	5 3
55 to 59 years	10,866	5,154	5,713	5 1	5 1	5 2
60 to 64 years	9,256	4,295	4,961	4.4	4.2	4.5
65 years and over	23,039	9,404	13,634	10 9	9.2	12.4
Median age	30 0	29.0	31.1	(X)	(X)	(X)

Table 3. Farm and Nonfarm Population, by Marital Status and Sex: March 1980

(For meaning of symbols, see text)

Sex and marital status	Total			White			Black		
	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
Female, 15 years old and over	87,980	2,220	85,761	76,480	2,102	74,378	9,828	86	9,742
Single	19,724	450	19,274	16,012	410	15,602	3,286	31	3,255
Married, husband present	48,765	1,560	47,206	44,472	1,504	42,968	3,337	35	3,302
Married, husband absent	3,176	26	3,150	2,040	18	2,022	1,067	7	1,061
Separated	2,444	16	2,428	1,448	11	1,438	963	6	957
Husband in Armed Forces	89	-	89	70	-	70	16	-	16
Other	642	9	633	522	8	515	88	1	87
Widowed	10,479	153	10,325	9,060	141	8,919	1,280	11	1,269
Divorced	5,836	31	5,805	4,896	29	4,867	858	2	856
Percent									
Single	100 0	100 0	100 0	100.0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100.0	100 0
Married, husband present	22 4	20 3	22.5	20.9	19 5	21 0	33.4	36.0	33 4
Married, husband absent	55 4	70.3	55 0	58 1	71 6	57.8	34.0	40.7	33 9
Separated	3.6	1 2	3 7	2 7	0 9	2 7	10.9	8.1	10.9
Husband in Armed Forces	2.8	0.7	2 8	1 9	0 5	1.9	9 8	7 0	9 8
Other	0 1	-	0 1	0 1	-	0.1	0.2	-	0 2
Widowed	0 7	0 4	0 7	0.7	0 4	0.7	0 9	1 2	0 9
Divorced	11.9	6.9	12 0	11.8	6 7	12.0	13.0	12 8	13.0
	6 6	1 4	6.8	6 4	1.4	6 5	8.7	2 3	8.8
Male, 15 years old and over	80,218	2,457	77,761	70,632	2,328	68,304	8,067	91	7,976
Single	23,512	738	22,774	19,752	685	19,067	3,244	40	3,204
Married, wife present	48,765	1,560	47,206	44,490	1,503	42,987	3,416	35	3,380
Married, wife absent	2,093	29	2,063	1,458	22	1,436	577	7	570
Separated	1,475	15	1,460	974	12	962	482	3	478
Other	617	14	603	485	10	475	95	4	91
Widowed	1,972	53	1,920	1,629	48	1,581	316	4	312
Divorced	3,875	77	3,798	3,303	71	3,232	515	5	510
Percent									
Single	100 0	100.0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100.0	100 0	100.0	100 0
Married, wife present	29 3	30.0	29.3	28.0	29.4	27 9	40.2	44 0	40 2
Married, wife absent	60 8	63.5	60 7	63.0	64 6	62.9	42 3	38.5	42 4
Separated	2.6	1.2	2 7	2.1	0.9	2 1	7 2	7.7	7.1
Other	1 8	0 6	1 9	1 4	0 5	1.4	6 0	3 3	6 0
Widowed	0.8	0.6	0 8	0 7	0 4	0.7	1 2	4 4	1.1
Divorced	2.5	2 2	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.3	3 9	4 4	3.9
	4 8	3.1	4 9	4 7	3.0	4 7	6.4	5 5	6.4

Source: March 1980 Current Population Survey.

Table 4. Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Families, by Race: March 1980

(Numbers in thousands. For meaning of symbols, see text)

Characteristic	All races			White			Black		
	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
All families	58,426	1,666	56,760	51,389	1,598	49,790	6,042	47	5,995
TYPE OF FAMILY									
Married-couple families	48,180	1,538	46,642	44,008	1,489	42,519	3,355	32	3,324
Other families	10,246	129	10,118	7,381	109	7,272	2,686	15	2,671
Male householder	1,706	56	1,651	1,418	51	1,367	257	3	254
Female householder	8,540	73	8,467	5,963	58	5,905	2,429	12	2,417
SIZE OF FAMILY									
2 persons	22,913	711	22,202	20,771	697	20,074	1,882	10	1,873
3 persons	13,332	315	13,016	11,647	305	11,342	1,460	8	1,452
4 persons	12,180	291	11,890	10,730	278	10,451	1,243	10	1,233
5 persons	5,871	178	5,693	5,089	167	4,922	648	6	642
6 persons	2,439	106	2,333	1,971	97	1,874	389	6	383
7 or more persons	1,691	65	1,625	1,181	54	1,127	419	8	411
Total persons	191,418	5,581	185,837	165,431	5,262	160,169	22,166	229	21,937
Average per family	3.28	3.35	3 27	3.22	3.29	3.22	3.67	(B)	3 66
MEMBERS UNDER 18									
All families	58,426	1,666	56,760	51,389	1,598	49,790	6,042	47	5,995
No members under 18	26,511	892	25,620	24,334	869	23,465	1,847	15	1,832
1 member under 18	12,711	306	12,406	10,925	290	10,636	1,547	14	1,533
2 members under 18	11,658	245	11,414	10,122	234	9,889	1,302	5	1,297
3 or more members under 18	7,546	223	7,320	6,006	206	5,801	1,347	14	1,333
Total members under 18	61,103	1,563	59,540	50,678	1,452	49,226	9,064	81	8,983
Average per family	1.05	0.94	1 05	0.99	0.91	0.99	1.50	(B)	1.50
MEMBERS 18 TO 64									
All families	58,426	1,666	56,760	51,389	1,598	49,790	6,042	47	5,995
No members 18 to 64	4,854	198	4,657	4,519	193	4,326	297	4	292
1 member 18 to 64	8,649	169	8,480	6,729	157	6,572	1,813	11	1,803
2 members 18 to 64	34,675	916	33,760	31,278	892	30,386	2,808	13	2,795
3 or more members 18 to 64	10,247	384	9,864	8,863	356	8,506	1,124	20	1,105
Total members 18 to 64	114,239	3,375	110,864	100,248	3,201	97,047	11,744	119	11,624
Average per family	1.96	2 03	1.95	1.95	2.00	1.95	1 94	(B)	1.94
MEMBERS 65 AND OVER									
All families	58,426	1,666	56,760	51,389	1,598	49,790	6,042	47	5,995
No members 65 and over	47,931	1,268	46,663	42,028	1,221	40,807	5,055	29	5,026
1 member 65 and over	5,110	178	4,932	4,388	164	4,224	625	12	613
2 members 65 and over	5,253	208	5,046	4,860	202	4,657	343	3	339
3 or more members 65 and over	132	13	118	113	11	101	19	2	17
Total members 65 and over	16,076	643	15,433	14,506	609	13,897	1,358	28	1,330
Average per family	0.28	0 39	0.27	0.28	0.38	0.28	0.22	(B)	0.22
OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18									
All families	58,426	1,666	56,760	51,389	1,598	49,790	6,042	47	5,995
No own children under 18	27,909	921	26,988	25,227	884	24,343	2,311	26	2,285
With own children under 18	30,517	745	29,772	26,162	714	25,448	3,731	21	3,710
1 own child under 18	12,231	299	11,933	10,582	288	10,294	1,415	8	1,407
2 own children under 18	11,280	234	11,045	9,849	226	9,624	1,213	4	1,209
3 own children under 18	4,616	125	4,491	3,899	120	3,779	612	4	608
4 or more own children under 18	2,390	86	2,303	1,831	79	1,752	491	5	487
Total own children under 18	57,700	1,489	56,212	48,739	1,415	47,324	7,724	51	7,673
Average per family	0 99	0.89	0 99	0.95	0.89	0.95	1.28	(B)	1.28
Average per family with children	1.89	2 00	1.89	1 86	1.98	1.86	2 07	(B)	2.07

Source: March 1980 Current Population Survey.

Table 5 Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Residence of the Farm and Nonfarm Population, by Race and Spanish Origin: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Race and residence	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Percent distribution		
				Total	Farm	Nonfarm
ALL RACES						
United States[1]	219,520	6,051	211,469	100.0	100.0	100.0
Inside SMSA's[2]	146,812	1,004	145,808	67.5	16.6	69.0
SMSA's of 1 million or more	83,463	239	83,223	38.4	3.9	39.6
SMSA's of less than 1 million	63,349	765	62,585	29.1	12.6	29.6
Outside SMSA's	70,709	5,047	65,661	32.5	83.4	31.0
WHITE						
United States	187,633	5,714	181,919	100.0	100.0	100.0
Inside SMSA's	123,791	981	122,809	66.0	17.2	67.5
SMSA's of 1 million or more	68,585	232	68,351	36.6	4.1	37.6
SMSA's of less than 1 million	55,206	749	54,458	29.4	13.1	29.9
Outside SMSA's	63,843	4,733	59,110	34.0	82.8	32.5
BLACK						
United States	25,502	242	25,259	100.0	100.0	100.0
Inside SMSA's	19,610	13	19,596	76.9	5.4	77.6
SMSA's of 1 million or more	12,660	3	12,656	49.6	1.2	50.1
SMSA's of less than 1 million	6,950	10	6,940	27.3	4.1	27.5
Outside SMSA's	5,892	229	5,663	23.1	94.6	22.4
SPANISH ORIGIN[3]						
United States	12,842	115	12,727	100.0	100.0	100.0
Inside SMSA's	10,837	19	10,818	84.4	16.5	85.0
SMSA's of 1 million or more	7,226	8	7,218	56.3	7.0	56.7
SMSA's of less than 1 million	3,611	11	3,600	28.1	9.6	28.3
Outside SMSA's	2,005	96	1,910	15.6	83.5	15.0

[1] The total U S population figure shown here differs from that shown in table A because the latter refers to the total resident population, whereas this and other tables refer only to the civilian noninstitutional population.

[2] SMSA's refers to standard metropolitan statistical areas as designated in the 1970 census publications, see the section, Definitions and Explanations

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

Table 6. Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Sex, for 1980 and 1978, and Region, for 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Sex and employment status	United States		North and West	South	Percent distribution			
					United States		North and West	South
	1980	1978	1980	1980	1980	1978	1980	1980
Both sexes	4,905	5,186	3,173	1,732	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	3,139	3,273	2,088	1,051	64.0	63.1	65.8	60.7
Not in labor force	1,766	1,914	1,085	682	36.0	36.9	34.2	39.4
In labor force	3,139	3,273	2,088	1,051	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	3,057	3,199	2,034	1,023	97.4	97.7	97.4	97.3
Agriculture	1,642	1,774	1,182	459	52.3	54.2	56.6	43.7
Nonagricultural industries	1,415	1,426	852	563	45.1	43.6	40.8	53.6
Unemployed	82	73	54	28	2.6	2.2	2.6	2.7
Male	2,561	2,715	1,661	901	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	2,066	2,211	1,369	696	80.7	81.4	82.4	77.2
Not in labor force	496	504	290	205	19.4	18.6	17.5	22.8
In labor force	2,066	2,211	1,369	696	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	2,028	2,179	1,344	683	98.2	98.6	98.2	98.1
Agriculture	1,307	1,430	921	386	63.3	64.7	67.3	55.5
Nonagricultural industries	720	749	423	297	34.8	33.9	30.9	42.7
Unemployed	38	32	25	13	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.9
Female	2,344	2,472	1,513	831	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In labor force	1,073	1,061	719	354	45.8	42.9	47.5	42.6
Not in labor force	1,271	1,410	794	477	54.2	57.0	52.5	57.4
In labor force	1,073	1,061	719	354	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	1,029	1,029	690	339	95.9	96.1	96.0	95.8
Agriculture	334	344	261	73	31.1	32.4	36.3	20.6
Nonagricultural industries	695	676	429	266	64.8	63.7	59.7	75.1
Unemployed	44	41	29	15	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.2

Table 7. Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Race and Sex, for Regions: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April. For meaning of symbols, see text)

Race, sex, and employment status	United States	North and West	South	Percent distribution: United States	Percent distribution: North and West	Percent distribution: South
WHITE						
Both sexes						
In labor force	4,649	3,112	1,538	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in labor force	3,005	2,053	952	64.6	66.0	61.9
	1,644	1,058	586	35.4	34.0	38.1
In labor force	3,005	2,053	952	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	2,936	2,004	932	97.7	97.6	97.9
Agriculture	1,583	1,165	418	52.7	56.7	43.9
Nonagricultural industries	1,354	839	514	45.1	40.9	54.0
Unemployed	69	48	20	2.3	2.3	2.1
Male						
In labor force	2,432	1,627	805	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in labor force	1,979	1,347	633	81.4	82.8	78.6
	453	281	171	18.6	17.3	21.2
In labor force	1,979	1,347	633	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	1,947	1,322	624	98.4	98.1	98.6
Agriculture	1,256	908	349	63.5	67.4	55.1
Nonagricultural industries	690	416	275	34.9	30.9	43.4
Unemployed	33	22	10	1.7	1.6	1.6
Female						
In labor force	2,217	1,485	734	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in labor force	1,026	708	319	46.3	47.7	43.5
	1,191	777	415	53.7	52.3	56.5
In labor force	1,026	708	319	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	990	681	308	96.5	96.2	96.6
Agriculture	326	257	69	31.8	36.3	21.6
Nonagricultural industries	663	425	239	64.6	60.0	74.9
Unemployed	37	26	10	3.6	3.7	3.1
BLACK						
Both sexes						
In labor force	184	5	179	100.0	(B)	100.0
Not in labor force	93	4	89	50.5	(B)	49.7
	91	1	90	49.5	(B)	50.3
In labor force	93	4	89	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed	85	4	81	91.4	(B)	91.0
Agriculture	40	3	37	43.0	(B)	41.6
Nonagricultural industries	45	1	44	48.4	(B)	49.4
Unemployed	7	-	8	7.5	(B)	9.0
Male						
In labor force	91	3	88	100.0	(B)	100.0
Not in labor force	59	3	56	64.8	(B)	63.6
	32	-	32	35.2	(B)	36.4
In labor force	59	3	56	(B)	(B)	(B)
Employed	56	3	53	(B)	(B)	(B)
Agriculture	36	2	33	(B)	(B)	(B)
Nonagricultural industries	20	1	19	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unemployed	3	-	3	(B)	(B)	(B)
Female						
In labor force	93	2	91	100.0	(B)	100.0
Not in labor force	34	1	33	36.6	(B)	36.3
	59	1	58	63.4	(B)	63.7
In labor force	34	1	33	(B)	(B)	(B)
Employed	30	1	29	(B)	(B)	(B)
Agriculture	5	1	4	(B)	(B)	(B)
Nonagricultural industries	25	-	25	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unemployed	4	-	5	(B)	(B)	(B)

Table 8. Industry of Employed Farm Residents, by Sex, for Regions. 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Sex and industry	Number			Percent distribution		
	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South
BOTH SEXES						
Total employed, 14 years old and over	3,057	2,034	1,023	100 0	100 0	100 0
Agriculture	1,643	1,182	459	53 7	58 1	44 9
Nonagricultural industries	1,415	852	563	46.3	41 9	55 0
Nonagricultural industries	1,415	852	563	100 0	100 0	100 0
Mining	22	13	9	1 6	1 5	1 6
Construction	131	78	54	9 3	9 2	9 6
Manufacturing	338	191	146	23 9	22 4	25.9
Transportation, communication, and other public facilities	89	55	33	6 3	6 5	5 9
Wholesale trade	53	32	21	3 7	3 8	3 7
Retail trade	235	145	90	16 6	17 0	16 0
Financial, insurance, and real estate	68	39	29	4 8	4 6	5 2
Services industries	417	264	153	29 5	31 0	27 2
Public administration	63	34	28	4 5	4 0	5 0
MALE						
Total employed, 14 years old and over	2,028	1344	683	100 0	100 0	100 0
Agriculture	1,307	921	386	64 4	68 5	56 5
Nonagricultural industries	720	423	297	35.5	31 5	43 5
Nonagricultural industries	720	423	297	100 0	100 0	100 0
Mining	20	12	8	2 8	2 8	2 7
Construction	122	71	50	16.9	16 8	16 8
Manufacturing	221	128	93	30 7	30 3	31 3
Transportation, communication and other public facilities	68	40	28	9 4	9.5	9 4
Wholesale trade	34	20	14	4 7	4.7	4 7
Retail trade	105	62	42	14 6	14 7	14 1
Financial, insurance, and real estate	21	10	10	2 9	2 4	3 4
Services industries	96	63	33	13 3	14 9	11 1
Public administration	34	15	19	4 7	3 5	6 4
FEMALE						
Total employed, 14 years old and over	1,029	690	339	100 0	100 0	100 0
Agriculture	334	261	73	32 5	37 8	21 5
Nonagricultural industries	695	429	266	67 5	62 2	78 5
Nonagricultural industries	695	429	266	100 0	100 0	100 0
Mining	2	1	1	0 3	0 2	0 4
Construction	9	5	4	1 3	1 2	1 5
Manufacturing	117	64	54	16 8	14.9	20.3
Transportation, communication and other public facilities	20	15	5	2 9	3 5	1 9
Wholesale trade	19	13	7	2 7	3 0	2 6
Retail trade	131	83	47	18 8	19.3	17 7
Financial, insurance, and real estate	47	28	19	6 8	6 5	7 1
Services industries	321	200	120	46 2	46 6	45 1
Public administration	29	19	9	4 2	4 4	3 4

Table 9 Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture and Nonagricultural Industries, by Class of Worker and Sex, for 1980 and 1978, and Region, for 1980

(Numbers in thousands Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April For meaning of symbols, see text)

Sex and class of worker	United States		North and West	South	Percent distribution			
					United States		North and West	South
	1980	1978	1980	1980	1980	1978	1980	1980
TOTAL WORKERS								
Both sexes	3,057	3,199	2,034	1,023	100 0	100.0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	1,195	1,222	831	364	39 1	38 2	40 9	35 6
Wage and salary workers	1,564	1,659	968	596	51 2	51 9	47 6	58 3
Unpaid family workers	297	319	235	63	9 7	10 0	11 6	6 2
Male	2,028	2,179	1,344	683	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	1,033	1,089	720	314	50 9	50 0	53 6	46 0
Wage and salary workers	889	978	541	348	43 8	44 9	40 3	51 0
Unpaid family workers	105	113	83	21	5 2	5 2	6 2	3 1
Female	1,029	1,020	690	339	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	162	133	112	50	15 7	13 0	16 2	14 7
Wage and salary workers	675	681	428	248	65 6	66 8	62 0	73 2
Unpaid family workers	192	206	151	41	18 7	20 2	21 9	12 1
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS								
Both sexes	1,642	1,774	1,182	459	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	1,034	1,086	738	297	63 0	61 2	62 4	64 7
Wage and salary workers	326	383	218	109	19 9	21 6	18.4	23.7
Unpaid family workers	282	305	227	54	17 2	17 2	19 2	11 8
Male	1,307	1,430	921	386	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	930	996	660	269	71 2	69 7	71 7	69 7
Wage and salary workers	274	322	177	96	21 0	22 5	19 2	24.9
Unpaid family workers	104	112	83	21	8 0	7 8	9 0	5 4
Female	334	344	261	73	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	105	90	77	28	31 4	26 2	29 5	38 4
Wage and salary workers	52	61	39	12	15 6	17 7	14 9	16 4
Unpaid family workers	178	193	145	33	53 3	56 1	55 6	45 2
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WORKERS								
Both sexes	1,416	1,426	852	563	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	161	136	94	67	11 4	9 5	11 0	11 9
Wage and salary workers	1,239	1,276	751	487	87 6	89 5	88 1	86 5
Unpaid family workers	16	13	7	8	1 1	0 9	0 8	1 4
Male	720	749	423	297	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	103	93	58	45	14 3	12 4	13 7	15 2
Wage and salary workers	615	656	363	252	85 4	87 6	85 8	84 8
Unpaid family workers	2	-	1	-	0 3	-	0 2	-
Female	695	676	429	266	100 0	100 0	100.0	100 0
Self-employed workers	58	43	34	23	8.3	6 4	7 9	8 6
Wage and salary workers	623	620	388	235	89 6	91 7	90 4	88 3
Unpaid family workers	14	13	6	8	2 0	1 9	1 4	3 0

Table 10. Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture and Nonagricultural Industries, by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex, for Regions: 1980

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April. For meaning of symbols, see text)

Race, sex, and class of worker	Agricultural workers			Nonagricultural workers			Percent distribution					
							Agricultural workers			Nonagricultural workers		
	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South	United States	North and West	South
WHITE												
Both sexes	1,583	1,165	418	1,354	839	514	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	1,014	729	285	157	93	65	64.1	62 6	68 2	11 6	11 1	12 6
Wage and salary workers	292	210	82	1,180	739	441	18.4	18.0	19 6	87.1	88 1	85 8
Unpaid family workers	277	226	51	16	7	8	17.5	19.4	12 2	1.2	0 8	1 6
Male	1,256	908	349	690	416	275	100.0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	911	654	257	101	58	43	72.5	72 0	73 6	14 6	13 9	15.6
Wage and salary workers	245	171	73	588	356	231	19 5	18 8	20 9	85 2	85 6	84 0
Unpaid family workers	100	81	18	2	1	-	8 0	8 9	5 2	0 3	0 2	-
Female	326	257	69	663	425	239	100 0	100 0	(B)	100 0	100 0	100 0
Self-employed workers	103	75	28	56	34	22	31 6	29 2	(B)	8 4	8 0	9 2
Wage and salary workers	47	39	9	593	383	210	14 4	15 2	(B)	89 4	90 1	87 9
Unpaid family workers	177	144	33	14	6	8	54 3	56 0	(B)	2 1	1 4	3 3
BLACK												
Both sexes	40	3	37	45	1	44	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers	11	1	9	2	-	2	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers	27	2	26	43	1	42	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers	2	-	2	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Male	36	2	33	20	1	19	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers	11	1	10	2	-	2	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers	23	1	22	18	1	18	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers	2	-	2	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Female	5	1	4	25	-	25	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers	-	-	-	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers	4	1	4	25	-	24	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers	-	-	-	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

Table 11. Income of Farm and Nonfarm Families, by Race: 1979

(Families as of March 1980. For meaning of symbols, see text)

Characteristic	All races			White			Black		
	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
Total families (thousands)	58,426	1,666	56,760	51,389	1,598	49,790	6,042	47	5,995
Families by 1979 income	100 0	100.0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100.0	100.0	(B)	100 0
Less than $2,500 or loss	2.2	5.0	2.1	1 7	4 6	1.6	6 1	(B)	6 0
$2,500 to $4,999	4.8	5.6	4.7	3 8	4.9	3.7	13.1	(B)	13.0
$5,000 to $7,499	6.5	8.0	6.4	5 7	8.0	5 6	12 *	(B)	12.8
$7,500 to $9,999	7.1	8.5	7 0	6 6	8 4	6.6	11 1	(B)	11 1
$10,000 to $14,999	15 6	18 7	15 5	15 3	18.9	15.2	17 7	(B)	17.8
$15,000 to $19,999	15 0	14 3	15.0	15 3	14.5	15 3	12.3	(B)	12.4
$20,000 to $24,999	14.4	11.0	14 5	14.9	11.1	15.0	9.7	(B)	9.8
$25,000 to $29,999	11 5	8 4	11 6	12 0	8.7	12.1	7.0	(B)	7 1
$30,000 to $34,999	7.7	5 9	7.8	8 1	6 1	8.2	4 4	(B)	4.5
$35,000 to $39,999	4 9	3.9	4.9	5 2	4.1	5 2	2 3	(B)	2.4
$40,000 to $44,999	3.3	4.0	3 3	3 6	3.9	3 6	1.4	(B)	1 4
$45,000 to $49,999	2 1	2.0	2 1	2.2	2.1	2.2	0.9	(B)	0.9
$50,000 and over	5.2	4.6	5 2	5.7	4.8	5.7	0.9	(B)	1.0
Median income	19,661	16,357	19,754	20,502	16,684	20,609	11,644	(B)	11,689
Mean income	22,376	19,984	22,446	23,288	20,311	23,383	14,604	(B)	14,642
Percent of families	100 0	100.0	100 0	100 0	100.0	100.0	100 0	(B)	100 0
Below poverty level	9.1	16 8	9 1	6.8	9 6	6.8	27.6	(B)	27 4
Above poverty level	90 9	89.2	90 9	93 2	90 4	93.2	72 4	(B)	72 6
Percent of persons	100.0	100.0	100 0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100 0	100.0
Below poverty level	11.6	13.2	11 6	8.9	11.8	8.9	30.9	43.7	30.8
Above poverty level	88 4	86.8	88.4	91.1	88 2	91.1	69 1	56 3	69 2

Source March 1980 Current Population Survey

Table 12. Median Income of Farm and Nonfarm Families, by Race. 1970 to 1979

(In 1979 dollars. Families as of March of the following year For meaning of symbols, see text)

Year	All races			White			Black		
	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
CURRENT FARM DEFINITION									
1979	19,661	16,357	19,754	20,502	16,684	20,609	11,644	(B)	11,689
1978	19,635	17,075	19,714	20,447	17,357	(NA)	12,110	(B)	(NA)
1977	19,174	14,655	19,316	20,051	(NA)	(NA)	11,456	(NA)	(NA)
PREVIOUS FARM DEFINITION									
1979	19,661	16,642	(NA)	20,502	17,003	(NA)	11,644	(B)	(NA)
1978	19,635	17,012	19,737	20,447	17,323	20,561	12,110	7,584	12,178
1977	19,174	15,136	19,332	20,051	15,670	20,233	11,456	6,661	11,558
1976	19,065	14,871	19,209	19,811	15,465	19,950	11,784	6,606	11,928
1975	18,494	14,626	18,650	19,242	15,156	19,408	11,839	6,666	11,964
1974	18,984	15,619	19,122	19,736	16,053	19,896	11,784	7,687	11,879
1973	19,675	16,408	19,849	20,572	16,953	20,757	11,873	7,511	11,986
1972	19,279	15,359	19,483	20,038	15,810	20,263	11,909	6,805	12,039
1971	18,426	12,893	18,702	19,127	13,285	19,418	11,542	5,841	11,737
1970	18,436	12,668	18,713	19,134	13,122	19,427	11,737	5,659	11,953

Source: March Current Population Surveys

Appendix A. Definitions and Explanations

Population coverage. With the exception of the total population shown in table A, all figures in this report relate to the civilian noninstitutional population as estimated by the Current Population Survey None of the figures in the report reflect the results of the 1980 decennial census

Farm population. In the Current Population Survey, the farm population as currently defined consists of all persons living in rural territory on places from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold, or normally would have been sold, in the reporting year (for the CPS the preceding 12 months). Persons in institutions, summer camps, motels, and tourist camps, and those living on rented places where no land is used for farming, are classified as nonfarm

Under the previous farm definition, in use in this data series from 1960 through 1977, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory on places of 10 or more acres if at least $50 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year It also includes those living on places of under 10 acres if at least $250 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year

Farm residence under the current and previous farm definitions was determined in the Current Population Survey by the responses to two questions Owners (and renters) are first asked 'Does this place (you rent) have 10 or more acres?' They are then asked During the past 12 months, how much did sales of crops, livestock, and other farm products from this place amount to? The respondents are given a choice of four answers $1,000 or more," "$250 to $999," "$50 to $249, and 'Under $50 "

Farms located within the boundaries of urban territory, comprising a small minority of all farms, are not treated as farms for population census purposes, and their population is not included in the farm population Urban territory includes all places with a population of 2,500 or more and the densely settled urbanized fringe areas around cities of 50,000 or more. Beginning with the 1972 estimate, the estimated farm population is limited to the rural territory as determined in the 1970 Census of Population In the Current Population Surveys of 1963 through 1971, the urban-rural boundaries used were those of the 1960 Census of Population and did not take into account the annexations and other substantial expansions of urban territory that were incorporated into the 1970 Census of Population The net effect was to classify an unknown number of persons as rural farm in the Current Population Surveys of 1970 and 1971 who were treated as urban (and hence nonfarm) in the 1970 census as well as in the Current Population Surveys beginning in 1972

Nonfarm population. The nonfarm population comprises all persons living in urban areas and all rural persons not on farms

Five-quarter averages centered on April April centered annual averages of the farm population were computed by using data for the five quarters centered on the April date for which the estimate was being prepared For example, for April 1980, quarterly estimates for the months of October 1979, and January, April, July, and October 1980, were used with a weight of one eighth given to each of the two October estimates and a weight of one fourth to each of the estimates for the other 3 months One reason for the choice of April as the date for centering population estimates is that this is the decennial census month

April centered annual averages for persons under 14 years by race and sex, and for persons 14 years old and over, by race, sex, age, labor force characteristics, and region were also computed for 1980 by using data for the specified characteristics for the five quarters centered on April 1980.

Metropolitan nonmetropolitan residence The population residing in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA s) constitutes the metropolitan population The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA s as defined in the 1970 population census publications and does not include any subsequent additions or changes For the 1970 census, except in New England, an SMSA was defined as a county or group of contiguous counties which contains at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or 'twin cities' with a combined population of at least 50,000 In addition to the county, or counties, containing such a city or cities, contiguous counties were included in an SMSA if, according to certain criteria, they were essentially metropolitan in character and were socially and economically integrated with the central county. In New England, SMSA s consist of towns and cities, rather than counties

Geographic regions The major regions of the United States for which data are presented represent groups of States as follows

Northeast, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania Rhode Island, Vermont

North Central Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

South Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas Virginia, West Virginia

West Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

North and West Northeast, North Central and West regions combined

Age The age classification is based on the age of the person at last birthday

Race The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race White, Black, and "other races" The last category includes Indians Japanese, Chinese, and any other race except White and Black

Persons of Spanish origin Persons of Spanish origin in this report were determined on the basis of a question that asked for self identification of the person's origin or descent Respondents were asked to select their origin (or the origin of some other household member) from a "flash card" listing ethnic origins Persons of Spanish origin in particular, were those who indicated that their origin was Mexican, Puerto Rican Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Spanish origin It should be noted that persons of Spanish origin can be of any race

Family The term "family," as used here, refers to a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together, all such persons are considered as members of one family A lodger and his/her spouse who are not related to the person or persons who maintain the household, or a resident employee and his/her spouse living in, are considered as a separate family Thus, a household may contain more than one family However, if the son of the person or couple who maintains the household and the son's wife are members of the household, they are treated as part of the parent's family A person maintaining a household alone, or with unrelated persons only, is regarded as a household but not as a family Thus, some households do not contain a family

Marital status The marital status classification identifies four major categories single (never married), married, widowed, and divorced These terms refer to the marital status at the time of the enumeration

The category married is divided into "married, spouse present," and "married, spouse absent" A person was classified as "married, spouse present" if the husband or wife was reported as a member of the household, even though he or she may have been temporarily absent on business or on vacation, visiting, in a hospital, etc, at the time of the enumeration Persons reported as married, spouse absent include those with legal separations, those living apart with intentions of obtaining a divorce, and other persons permanently or temporarily separated because of marital discord The category also includes married persons living apart because either the husband or wife was employed and living at a considerable distance from home, was serving away from home in the Armed Forces, had moved to another area, or had a different place of residence for any other reason

Children ever born The term "children ever born" refers to the total number of live births reported by women Included in the number are children born to the woman before her present marriage, children no longer living, and children away from home, as well as children who were still living in the home

Births to date. In the data on birth expectations in table C, the number of "births to date" has the same meaning as the number of children ever born

Future births expected. In the data on birth expectations in table C, the number of "future births expected" refers to any births a woman expects in addition to the children she has already borne, if any

Lifetime births expected. In the data on birth expectations in table C, the number of "lifetime births expected" refers to the sum of births to date and future births expected The sum represents the total number of births a woman expects during her lifetime

Labor force and employment status The definitions of labor force and employment status in this report relate to the population 14 years old and over

Labor force Persons are classified as in the labor force if they were employed as civilians, unemployed, or in the Armed Forces during the survey week The "civilian labor force" is comprised of all civilians classified as employed or unemployed.

Employed Employed persons comprise (1) all civilians who, during the specified week, did any work at all as paid employees or in their own business or profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a farm or in a business operated by a member of the family, and (2) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, or because they were taking time off for personal reasons, whether or not they were paid by their employers for time off, and whether or not they were seeking other jobs Excluded from the employed group are persons whose only activity consisted of work around the house (such as own home housework, painting or repairing own home, etc) or volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations

Unemployed Unemployed persons are those civilians who, during the survey week, had no employment but were available for work and (1) had engaged in any specific job-seeking activity within the past 4 weeks such as registering at a public or private employment office, meeting with prospective employers, checking with friends or relatives,

placing or answering advertisements writing letters of application, or being on a union or professional register (2) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, or (3) were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job within 30 days

Not in the labor force All civilians 14 years old and over who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force" This group who are neither employed nor seeking work includes persons engaged only in own home housework, attending school, or unable to work because of long-term physical or mental illness persons who are retired or too old to work, seasonal workers for whom the survey week fell in an off season and the voluntarily idle Persons doing only unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the week surveyed) are also classified as not in the labor force

Agriculture The industry category "agriculture" is somewhat more inclusive than the total of the two major occupation groups, "farmers and farm managers" and "farm laborers and supervisors " It also includes (1) persons employed on farms in occupations such as truck driver, mechanic, and bookkeeper, and (2) persons engaged in certain activities other than strictly farm operation such as cotton ginning, contract farm services, veterinary and breeding services, hatcheries, experimental stations, greenhouses, landscape gardening, tree service, trapping, hunting preserves and kennels

Nonagricultural industries This category includes all industries not specifically classed under agriculture The industry groups shown were based on the classification system used in the 1970 Census of Population

Multiple jobs Persons with two or more jobs during the survey week were classified as employed in the industry in which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week Consequently, some of the persons shown in this report as engaged in nonagricultural activities also engaged in agriculture and vice versa

Class of Worker

Self employed workers Persons who worked for profit or fees in their own business, profession, or trade, or who operated a farm either as an owner or tenant

Wage and salary workers Persons who worked for any governmental unit or private employer for wages salary, commission, tips, pay "in kind," or at piece rates

Unpaid family workers. Persons who worked 15 or more hours per week without pay on a farm or in a business operated by a person to whom they are related by blood or marriage

Money income Data on income collected in the CPS are limited to money income received before payments for personal income taxes and deductions for Social Security union dues, Medicare premiums, etc Money income is the sum of the amounts received from earnings (including losses which occurred among the self employed from their own farm or nonfarm operations) Social Security and public assistance payments, Supplemental Security income, dividends, interest, and rent (including losses), unemployment and workmen's, compensation, government and private-employee pensions, and other periodic income Therefore, money income does not reflect the fact that many families receive part of their income in the form of nonmoney transfers such as food stamps, health benefits, and subsidized housing, that many farm families receive nonmoney income in the form of rent free housing and goods produced and consumed on the farm, or that nonmoney incomes are also received by some nonfarm residents, such as the use of business transportation and facilities, full or partial payments by business for retirement programs medical and educational expenses, etc These elements should be considered when comparing income levels

Receipts from the following sources are not included as income (1) 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, in which case the net proceeds would be counted as income from self employment), (2) withdrawals of bank deposits (3) money borrowed, (4) tax refunds, (5) gifts, and (6) lump sum inheritances or insurance payments

Family income The total income of a family is the algebraic sum of the amounts received by all income recipients in the family

In the income distribution for families, the lowest income group (less than $2,500) includes those families who were classified as having no income in the income year and those reporting a loss in net income from farm and nonfarm self employment or in rental income Many of these were living on income "in kind," savings, or gifts, or were newly constituted families, or families in which the sole bread winner had recently died or had left the household However, many of the families who reported no income probably had some money income which was not recorded in the survey

It should be noted that although the income statistics refer to receipts during the preceding year, the composition of families refers to the time of the survey The income of the family does not include amounts received by persons who were members of the family during all or part of the income year if these persons no longer resided with the family at the time of enumeration On the other hand, family income includes amounts reported by related persons who did not reside with the family during the income year but who were members of the family at the time of enumeration

Poverty (low income) classification Families are classified as being above or below the poverty level using the poverty index adopted by a Federal Inter agency Committee in 1969 This index is based on the Department of Agriculture's 1961 Economy Food Plan and reflects the different consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family head, and farm nonfarm residence

It was determined from the Department of Agriculture's 1955 survey of food consumption that families of three or more persons spend approximately one third of their income on food the poverty level for these families was, therefore, set at three times the cost of the economy food plan For smaller families and persons living alone, the cost of the economy food plan was multiplied by factors that were slightly higher in order to compensate for the relatively larger fixed expenses of these smaller households The poverty thresholds are updated every year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) The poverty threshold for a farm family of four was $1,329 in 1979, about 11 percent higher than the comparable 1978 cutoff of $5,681 Corresponding poverty thresholds for a nonfarm family of four were $7 412 in 1979 and $6,662 in 1978 For further details, see Current Population Reports, Series P 60, No 124

Median The median is the value which divides a distribution into two equal parts, one half of the cases falling below this value and one half of the cases exceeding this value

Symbols A dash "–" represents zero or a number which rounds to zero The symbol "B" means that the base for the derived figure is less than 75,000, an "X" means not applicable, and "NA" means not available

Rounding. The individual figures in this report are rounded to the nearest thousand With few exceptions, the individual figures have not been adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent, therefore, the percentages in a distribution do not always add to exactly 100 0 percent The totals, however, are always shown as 100 0 Percentages are based on the rounded absolute numbers

Appendix B. Source and Reliability of the Estimates

SOURCE OF DATA

Estimates in this report are primarily derived from data obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS) of the Bureau of the Census with some data from the 1980 June Enumerative Survey of the U S Department of Agriculture. Most of the CPS estimates are April-centered five-quarter averages Data on income, fertility, and marital status of farm and nonfarm families, however, are monthly estimates obtained from supplementary questions to CPS

Current population survey (CPS). The monthly CPS deals mainly with labor force data for the civilian noninstitutional population Questions relating to labor force participation are asked about each member 14 years old and older in each sample household In addition, supplementary questions regarding income, marital status, and family characteristics are asked each March and fertility each June Estimates developed from the supplementary questions asked in March include persons in the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post

The present CPS sample was initially selected from the 1970 census files and is continuously updated to reflect new construction where possible. (See section, "Nonsampling variability ") The monthly CPS sample is spread over 629 areas with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia The CPS sample areas are comprised of 1,133 counties, independent cities, and minor civil divisions in the Nation

Samples for previous designs were selected from files from the most recently completed census The following table provides a description of some aspects of the CPS sample designs in use during the referenced data collection periods

Description of the Current Population Survey

Time period	Number of sample areas[1]	Housing units eligible	
		Interviewed	Not interviewed
January 1980 to present	629	65,000	3,000
October 1977 to December 1979	614	53,500	2,500
August 1972 to September 1977	461	45,000	2,000
August 1971 to July 1972	449	45,000	2,000
January 1970 to July 1971	449	48,000	2,000

[1]These sample areas were chosen to provide coverage in each State and the District of Columbia.

The estimation procedure used in this survey involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the total civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex These independent estimates are based on statistics from decennial censuses, statistics on births, deaths, immigration, and emigration, and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces The estimation procedure for the data from the March supplement involved a further adjustment so that husband and wife of a household received the same weight

June enumerative survey (JES) The JES is conducted annually with a probability area sample of the 48 conterminous States, consisting of approximately 17,000 area segments Information was obtained from about 25,000 farm households associated with these sample units

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same questionnaires, instructions, and enumerators There are two types of errors possible in an estimate based on a sample survey—sampling and nonsampling The standard errors provided for this report primarily indicate the magnitude of the sampling error. They also partially measure the effect of some nonsampling errors in response and enumeration, but do not measure any systematic biases in

the data The full extent of nonsampling error is unknown Consequently, particular care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures based on a relatively small number of cases or on small differences between estimates

Nonsampling variability Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources, e g , inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample, definitional difficulties, differences in the interpretation of questions, inability or unwillingness to provide correct information on the part of respondents, inability to recall information, errors made in collection such as in recording or coding the data, errors made in processing the data, errors made in estimating values for missing data, and failure to represent all units with the sample (undercoverage)

Undercoverage in the CPS results from missed housing units and missed persons within sample households Overall undercoverage, as compared to the level of the decennial census, is about 5 percent It is known that CPS undercoverage varies with age, sex, and race Generally, undercoverage is larger for males than for females, and larger for Blacks and other races than for Whites Ratio estimation to independent age sex race population controls, as described previously, partially corrects for the bias due to survey undercoverage However, biases exist in the estimates to the extent that missed persons in missed households or missed persons in interviewed households have different characteristics than interviewed persons in the same age sex race group Further, the independent population controls used have not been adjusted for undercoverage in the 1970 census, which was estimated at 2 5 percent of the population with undercoverage differentials by age, sex, and race similar to those observed in CPS

A coverage improvement sample was included in computing the estimates beginning in October 1978 in order to provide coverage of mobile homes and new construction housing units that previously had no chance for selection in the CPS sample This sample is composed of approximately 450 sample household units which represent 237,000 occupied mobile homes and 600,000 new construction units These new construction units are composed of those units where building permits were issued prior to January 1970, and construction was not completed by the time of the 1970 Census (i e , April 1970) The extent of other sources of undercoverage of housing units is unknown but believed to be small The inclusion of this coverage improvement sample in the CPS does not have a significant effect on the estimates

Sampling variability The standard errors given in the following tables are primarily measures of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occurred by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population was surveyed The sample estimate and its estimated standard error enables one to construct confidence intervals—ranges that include the average result of all possible samples with a known probability For example, if all possible samples were selected, each of these surveyed under identical conditions using the same sample design, and an estimate and its estimated standard error were calculated from each sample, then

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

2 Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1 6 standard errors below the estimate to 1 6 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples

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

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

All the statements of comparison appearing in the text are significant at a 1 6 standard error level or better, and most are significant at a level of more than 2 0 standard errors This means that for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e g , by use of the phrase, "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1 6 and 2 0 standard errors

Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan area estimates Caution should be exercised in comparing metropolitan and nonmetropolitan area estimates from 1977 and later years to each other and to those from earlier years. Methodological and sample design changes have occurred in these recent years resulting in relatively large differences in the metropolitan and nonmetropolitan area estimates

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

STANDARD ERROR TABLES AND THEIR USE

In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a large number of estimates and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required

Therefore, instead of providing an individual standard error for each estimate, generalized sets of standard errors are provided for various types of characteristics As a result, the sets of standard errors provided give an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard error of an estimate rather than the precise standard error

The figures presented in tables B 1, B 2, B-3, and B 4 provide approximations to the standard errors of various estimates for families and for persons To obtain standard errors for specific characteristics, factors from table B 5 must be applied to the standard errors given in tables B 1 through B-4 in order to adjust for the combined effect of sample design and the estimation procedure on the value of the characteristics The figures shown in table B 6 provide standard errors for number of children ever born and number of expected lifetime births per 1,000 women Standard errors for intermediate values not shown in the tables may be approximated by interpolation

Table B-1. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Persons or Families in the Farm Population

(68 chances out of 100. Numbers in thousands)

Size of estimate	Standard error
25	8
50	11
100	16
250	25
500	35
1,000	49
2,500	78
5,000	109
10,000	152
15,000	184

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table B-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors For standard errors for regional data (North and West, South), multiply the standard errors obtained above by 1.4

Two parameters (denoted 'a' and 'b') are used to calculate standard errors for each type of characteristic, they are presented in table B 5 These parameters were used to calculate the standard errors in tables B 1, B 2, B 3 and B 4 and to calculate the factors in table B 5 They also may be used to calculate the standard errors for estimated numbers and estimated percentages directly Methods for direct computation are given in the following sections

Standard errors of estimated numbers The approximate standard error, σ_x, of an estimated number shown in this report can be obtained in two ways It may be obtained by use of the formula

$$\sigma_x = f\sigma \qquad (1)$$

where f is the appropriate factor from table B 5 and σ is standard error on the estimate obtained by interpolation from table B 1 or B-2 Alternatively, standard errors may be approximated by formula (2) below, from which the standard errors were calculated in tables B 1 and B 2 Use of this formula will provide more accurate results than the use of formula (1) above

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

Here x is the size of the estimate and a and b are the parameters in table B 5 associated with the particular type of characteristic.

Table B-2. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Persons or Families in the Total or Nonfarm Population

(68 chances out of 100 Numbers in thousands)

Size of estimate	Standard error
25	5
50	7
100	10
250	16
500	23
1,000	33
2,500	52
5,000	73
10,000	102
15,000	123
25,000	155
50,000	204
100,000	241
150,000[1]	223

[1]To derive the standard errors for an estimate greater than 150,000,000 use formula (2).

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table B-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors. For standard errors for regional data (North and West, South), multiply the standard errors obtained above by 1.4.

Standard errors of estimated percentages. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends on both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which this percentage is based Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more When the numerator and denominator of the percentage are in different categories, use the factor or parameters indicated by the numerator The approximate standard error, $\sigma_{(x,p)}$, of an estimated percentage can be obtained by use of the formula

$$\sigma_{(x,p)} = f\sigma \qquad (3)$$

In this formula f is the appropriate factor from table B 5 and σ is the standard error on the estimate from table B 3 or B 4 Alternatively, the standard error may be approximated by

formula (4) below from which the standard errors in tables B 3 and B 4 were calculated. direct computation will give more accurate results than use of the standard error tables and the factors

$$s_{(x\,p)} = \sqrt{\frac{b}{x}\,p\,(100 - p)} \qquad (4)$$

Here x is the size of the subclass of persons or families which is the base of the percentage, p is the percentage ($0 \leq p \leq 100$), and b is the parameter in table B 5 associated with the particular type of characteristic in the numerator of the percentage

Illustration of the use of tables of standard errors. Table F of the report shows that 1 642 000 farm residents 14 years old and over were employed in agriculture Table B 5 shows that for Total Farm Population Agriculture Employment, the appropriate factor is 1 0, this factor is to be used with the standard error obtained from table B 1 Interpolation in table B 1 shows the standard error on an estimate of this size to be approximately 61,000 Applying the factor and using formula (1) would also yield a standard error of 61,000 The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from the average of all possible samples by less than 61,000 The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from the average of all possible samples by less than 122,000 (twice the standard error) As an alternative, using formula (2) and the parameters a = −0 000014 and b = 2455 from table B 5 gives an estimate of the standard error to be 63,000

Table B 3 Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons or Families in the Farm Population

Base of percentages (thousands)	Estimated percentages					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25	3 1	4.4	6.8	9 4	13 6	15 7
50	2 2	3 1	4 8	6.6	9 6	11.1
100	1 6	2 2	3 4	4 7	6 8	7 8
250	1 0	1 4	2.2	3 0	4 3	5 0
500	0 7	1 0	1 5	2.1	3.0	3 5
1,000	0 5	0.7	1 1	1 5	2 1	2 5
2,500	0 3	0 4	0.7	0 9	1 4	1 6
5,000	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.1
10,000	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0 7	0.8
15,000	0 13	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6

Note. For a particular characteristic, see table B-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors For standard errors for regional data (North and West, South), multiply the standard errors obtained above by 1.4.

Table B-4 Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons or Families in the Total or Nonfarm Population

Base of percentages (thousands)	Estimated percentages					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25	2.1	2.9	4.5	6.2	9.0	10.4
50	1.5	2.1	3.2	4.4	6.4	7 4
100	1.0	1.5	2.3	3.1	4.5	5.2
250	0.7	0.9	1.4	2.0	2.8	3.3
500	0 5	0.7	1.0	1.4	2.0	2.3
1,000	0.3	0 5	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.6
2,500	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0 9	1.0
5,000	0.15	0.2	0.3	0.4	0 6	0 7
10,000	0.10	0.15	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5
15,000	0 08	0 12	0.19	0.3	0.4	0.4
25,000	0.07	0 09	0.14	0.2	0.3	0.3
50,000	0.05	0.07	0 10	0.14	0.2	0.2
100,000	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.10	0.14	0.2
150,000	0.03	0.04	0,06	0.08	0.12	0.13
200,000	0 02	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.10	0.12
216,000	0 02	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.10	0 11

Note: For a particular characteristic, see table B-5 for the appropriate factor to apply to the above standard errors For standard errors for regional data (North and West, South), multiply the standard errors obtained above by 1 4.

Table B 5. Parameters and Factors to be Used to Obtain Standard Errors for Each Type of Characteristic

Type of characteristic	Parameters		"f" factors	Standard error tables
	a	b		
FIVE-QUARTER AVERAGES				
Farm Population				
Race, age, sex, and employment subsets:				
Total farm population, agricultural employment, or nonagricultural employment:				
All races	-0 000014	2455	1.0	B-1, B-3
Spanish origin	-0 000016	3087	1 1	B-1, B-3
Unemployed:				
Total or White	-0 000006	1054	0 7	B-1, B-3
Black	-0.000053	1211	0 7	B-1, B-3
Spanish origin	-0 000003	997	0 6	B-1, B-3
Total or Nonfarm Population				
Race, age, and sex subsets:				
Total or White	0 0	0	0 0	B-2, B-4
Black	0 0	0	0 0	B-2, B-4
Spanish origin	-0.000022	3884	1 9	B-2, B-4
Employment subsets:				
Agricultural employment:				
All races	-0 000017	2050	1 4	B-2, B-4
Spanish origin	-0.000018	2586	1.5	B-2, B-4
Nonagricultural employment:				
Total or White	-0 000008	1081	1.0	B-2, B-4
Male	-0 000013	935	0.9	B-2, B-4
Female	-0 000010	801	0 9	B-2, B-4
Black	-0 000069	1081	1.0	B-2, B-4
Male	-0.000115	935	0 9	B-2, B-4
Female	-0.000079	801	0.9	B-2, B-4
Spanish origin	-0.000009	1356	1.1	B-2, B-4
Unemployed:				
Both sexes, male or female	-0.000004	552	0 7	B-2, B-4
Regional or metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence:				
Farm:				
Total or White	-0.000017	5036	1.4	B-1, B-3
Black	-0.000262	8765	1.9	B-1, B-3
Total or nonfarm:				
Total or White	-0 000010	2212	1 4	B-2, B-4
Black	-0 000160	3849	1 9	B-2, B-4
MONTHLY LEVEL				
Family income:				
Total farm population	-0.000011	3167	1.1	B-1, B-3
Total nonfarm population	-0 000008	1721	1.3	B-2, B-4
Marital status:				
Farm:				
Total or White	-0.000011	2556	1.0	B-1, B-3
Black	-0.000097	2309	1.0	B-1, B-3
Total or nonfarm:				
Total or White	-0.000010	1389	1.1	B-2, B-4
Black	-0 000087	1255	1.1	B-2, B-4

Note. For regional (North and West, South) data cross-tabulated with other data, apply a factor of 2.0 to the parameters for the characteristic of interest.

Table F also shows that of the 334,000 female farm residents employed in agriculture, 52,000 or 15.6 percent were wage and salary workers.

Table B-5 shows the b parameter for this characteristic to be 2455, using formula (4), the standard error, $\sigma_{(x,p)}$, on an estimate of 15.6 percent is

$$\sqrt{\frac{2,455}{334,000}} (15.6) (100.0 - 15.6) = 3.1 \text{ percent}^1$$

Consequently, the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated percent would be within 3.1 percentage points of the average of all possible samples. Chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 6.2 percentage points of the average of all possible samples, i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be from 9.4 to 21.8 percent.

Standard error of a difference. For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to

$$\sigma_{(x-y)} = \sqrt{\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2} \qquad (5)$$

where σ_x and σ_y are the standard errors of the estimates x and y, respectively. the estimates can be of numbers, percents, ratios, etc. This will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between two separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive (negative) correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate (underestimate) the true standard error.

Illustration of the computation of the standard error of a difference between estimated percentages. Table F of this report shows that of the female farm residents employed in agriculture, 31.4 percent were self-employed. As mentioned above, the percentage of female farm residents employed in agriculture who were wage and salary workers was 15.6 percent. Thus, the apparent difference between female wage and salary workers and self-employed workers is 15.8 percent. Using table B-5 and formula (4), the standard error, $\sigma_{(y,p)}$, on an estimate of 31.4 percent with a base of 334,000 is approximately 4.0. Using formula (5), the standard error of the estimated difference of 15.8 percent is about

$$\sqrt{(3.1)^2 + (4.0)^2} = 5.1$$

This means that the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference based on the sample estimates would vary from the difference derived from the average of all possible samples by less than 5.1 percent. The 68 percent confidence interval about the 15.8 percent difference is from 10.7 to 20.9 percent, i.e., 15.8 ± 5.1. A conclusion that the average estimate of the difference derived from all possible samples of the same size and design lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. The 95 percent confidence interval is 5.6 to 26.0 percent. Since this interval does not contain zero, we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the percent of female farm residents employed in agriculture that were self-employed was greater than the percent that were wage and salary workers.

Standard error of a median. The sampling variability of an estimated median depends upon the form of the distribution as well as the size of its base. An approximate method for measuring the reliability of a median is to determine an interval about the estimated median, such that there is a stated degree of confidence that the average median derived from all possible samples lies within the interval. The following procedure may be used to estimate the 68 percent confidence limits of a median based on sample data.

(1) Determine, using the standard error tables and factors or formula (4), the standard error of the estimate of 50 percent from the distribution.

(2) Add to and subtract from 50 percent the standard error determined in step 1.

(3) Using the distribution of the characteristic, calculate the 68 percent confidence interval by calculating the values corresponding to the two points established in step 2.

A 95 percent confidence interval may be determined by calculating the values corresponding to 50 percent plus and minus twice the standard error determined in step 1.

Illustration of the computation of a confidence interval for a median. According to the current definition of a farm, table 11 of this report shows that the 1979 median income for nonfarm families is $19,754. The size, or base, of the distribution from which this median was determined is 56,760,000 families.

(1) Using formula (4), the standard error of 50 percent on a base of 56,760,000 is about 0.3 percent.

(2) To obtain a 95 percent confidence interval on an estimated median, add to and subtract from 50 percent twice the standard error found in step 1. This yields percent limits of 49.4 and 50.6.

(3) Since 35.7 percent of the families had income below $15,000 and 15.0 percent had income between $15,000 and $20,000, the dollar value of the lower limit may be found by linear interpolation to be

$$\$15,000 + (\$20,000 - \$15,000) \frac{49.4 - 35.7}{15.0} = \$19,567.$$

Similarly, the dollar value of the upper limit may be found by linear interpolation to be about

$$\$15,000 + (\$20,000 - \$15,000) \left(\frac{50.6 - 35.7}{15.0}\right) = \$19,967$$

[1] As an alternative, tables B-3 and B-5 can be used to compute an estimated standard error of 3.1 x 1.0 = 3.1 percent on the estimate of 15.6 percent.

Table B-6. Standard Errors of Estimated Fertility Ratios for the Total or Nonfarm Population

Number of women (thousands)	Children ever born or expected per 1,000 women							
	500	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000
250	51	93	129	164	198	234	274	315
500	36	66	92	116	140	166	194	222
750	30	54	74	95	114	135	158	181
1,000	26	47	65	82	99	117	137	158
2,000	18	33	45	58	70	83	97	112
5,000	11	20	29	37	44	52	61	70
10,000	9	15	20	26	31	38	44	50
15,000	7	12	16	21	26	29	35	41
20,000	6	11	15	19	23	27	31	35
25,000	5	9	12	16	20	24	28	32

Note. To derive the standard errors for the farm population, multiply the standard errors obtained above by 1.1.

The 95 percent confidence interval on the median income of nonfarm families is from $19,567 to $19,967. Therefore, a conclusion that the average median income, derived from all possible samples, lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 95 percent of all samples.

Standard error of estimated arithmetic mean. The standard error of an arithmetic mean can be approximated by formula (6) below. Because of the approximations used in developing formula (6), an estimate of the standard error of the mean obtained from that formula will generally underestimate the true standard error. The formula used to estimate the standard error of a mean is

$$\text{(6)}$$

where y is the size of the base and b is the parameter from table B-5 corresponding to the characteristic of interest. The variance, s^2, is given by formula (7)

$$s^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{c} p_i \bar{x}_i^2 - \bar{x}^2 \qquad (7)$$

where $\bar{x}$ is the mean of the distribution, c is the number of groups, i indicates a specific group, thus taking on values 1 through c, p_i is the estimated proportion with the characteristic in group i, Z_{i-1} and Z_i are the lower and upper interval boundaries, respectively, for group i, and $\bar{x}_i = \frac{Z_{i-1} + Z_i}{2}$, which is assumed to be the most representative value for the characteristic for persons or families in group i. Group c is open-ended, i.e., no upper interval boundary exists. For this group, an approximate average value is

$$\bar{x}_c = 3/2\, Z_{c-1}$$

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