Appendix A. Definitions and Explanations

DEFINITIONS

Mobility status. The population was classified according to mobility status on the basis of a comparison between the place of residence of each individual at the time of the March 1993 survey and the place of residence 1 year earlier. Nonmovers are all persons who were living in the same house at the end of the migration period (March 1993) and the beginning of the migration period (March 1992). Movers are all persons who were living in a different house at the end of the period than at the beginning. Movers are further classified as to whether they were living in the same or different county, State, region, or were movers from abroad. Movers are also categorized by whether they moved within or between central cities, suburbs, and nonmetropolitan areas of the United States.

Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence. The general concept of a metropolitan area (MA) is one of a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus. Some MA's are defined around two or more nuclei.

The MA classification is a statistical standard, developed for use by Federal agencies in the production, analysis, and publication of data on MA's. The MA's are designated and defined by the Federal Office of Management and Budget, following a set of official published standards. These standards were developed by the interagency Federal Executive Committee on Metropolitan Areas, with the aim of producing definitions that are as consistent as possible for all MA's nationwide.

Each MA must contain either a place with a minimum population of 50,000 or a Census Bureau-defined urbanized area and a total MA population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). An MA is comprised of one or more central counties, and an MA may also include one or more outlying counties that have close economic and social relationships with the central county. An outlying county must have a specified level of commuting to the central counties and also must meet certain standards regarding metropolitan character, such as population density, urban population, and population growth. In New England, MA's are composed of cities and towns rather than whole counties.

The territory, population, and housing units in MA's are referred to as "metropolitan." The metropolitan category is subdivided into "inside central city" and "outside central city." The territory, population, and housing units located outside MA's are referred to as "nonmetropolitan."

To meet the needs of various users, the standards provide for a flexible structure of metropolitan definitions that classify an MA either as a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or as a consolidated metropolitan statistical area (CMSA) that is divided into primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSA's). Documentation of the MA standards and how they are applied is available from the Secretary, Federal Executive Committee on Metropolitan Areas, Population Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

Central city. In each MSA and CMSA, the largest place and, in some cases, additional places are designated as "central cities" under the official standards. A few PMSA's do not have central cities. The largest central city and, in come cases, up to two additional central cities are included in the title of the MA; there are also central cities that are not included in an MA title. An MA central city does not include any part of that city that extends outside the MA boundary.

Consolidated and primary metropolitan statistical area. If an area that qualifies as an MA has more than one million persons, primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSA's) may be defined within it. PMSA's consist of a large urbanized county or cluster of counties that demonstrates very strong internal economic and social links, in addition to close ties to other portions of the larger area. When PMSA's are established, the larger area of which they are component parts is designated a consolidated metropolitan statistical area (CMSA).

Metropolitan statistical area. Metropolitan statistical areas are relatively freestanding MA's and are not closely associated with other MA's. These areas are typically surrounded by nonmetropolitan counties.

Nomenclature used in this report. In the detailed tables of this report, the older designation of "MSA" is used to refer to the current, generic metropolitan term of "MA" defined above. Throughout the report, the terms "metropolitan" and "inside MSA's" are synonymous, as are the terms "nonmetropolitan" and "outside MSA's." The "balance of the MSA" refers to the remainder of the

MSA or PMSA outside the central city or cities and is synonymous with the term "suburbs." The "size of the MSA" refers to the number of persons living in the MSA at the time of the 1980 census. Movers "within the same MSA" or "between MSA's" refer to moves within or between freestanding MSA's or PMSA's. Moves between PMSA's within the same CMSA are categorized as moves "between MSA's."

Comparability with earlier reports. In July 1985, the Current Population Survey began using the metropolitan area definitions announced by the Office of Management and Budget on June 30, 1984. Figures published from the CPS in the early 1980's and throughout most of the 1970's referred to metropolitan areas as defined on the basis of the 1970 census. Since there are important differences in the population classified as metropolitan using the 1970 and 1984 definitions, comparisons should be avoided.

Geographic regions. The four major regions of the United States for which data are presented in this report represent groups of States as follows:

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

Midwest: 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.

Another region for which data are shown is the:

Sunbelt: Consists of 13 States plus one county in Nevada and nine counties in California. The States that are entirely inside the Sunbelt are: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. Also included are Clark County, Nevada, and Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties in California.

Age. This classification is based on the age of the person at the survey date.

Race. The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race: White, Black, and other races. The last category includes American Indians, Asians, and any other race except White and Black. In this report, other races are included in the totals but are not shown separately.

Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin 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. Hispanic persons, in particular, were those who indicated that their origin was Mexican, Puerto Rico, Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Spanish origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Marital status. The marital status classification identifies four major categories: single, married, widowed, and divorced. These terms refer to the marital status at the time of the survey. Married persons are further 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 residing elsewhere.

Household. A household consists of all the persons who occupy a housing unit. A house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a single room, is regarded as a housing unit when it is occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters; that is, when the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and there is either (1) direct access from the outside or through a common hall or (2) a kitchen or cooking equipment for the exclusive use of the occupants. A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated persons, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit or a group of unrelated persons sharing a housing unit as partners is also counted as a household. Persons living in rooming houses, college dormitories, or other group quarters are not included in the household count.

Householder. The householder refers to the person (or one of the persons) in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented (maintained) or, if there is no such person, any adult member, excluding roomers, boarders, or paid employees. If the house is owned or rented jointly by a married couple, the householder may be either the husband or the wife. The person designated as the householder is the "reference person" to whom the relationship of all other household members, if any, is recorded. Prior to 1980, the husband was always considered the household head (householder) in married-couple households. The number of householders is equal to the number of households. Also, the number of family householders is equal to the number of families.

Nonfamily householder. A nonfamily householder (formerly called a primary individual) is a person maintaining a household while living alone or with nonrelatives only.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons (one of whom is the householder) related by birth,

marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of one family.

Married couple. A married couple, as defined for census purposes, is a husband and wife enumerated as members of the same household. The married couple may or may not have children living with them. The expression "married-couple" before the term "household" or "family" indicates that the household or family is maintained by a husband and wife.

Related persons and family members. In the classification of households by number of related persons, the person or couple who maintains the household (or housing unit) and all persons in the household related to them are included. In the classification of families by number of family members, all persons in the family are included. The number of family members is the same as the size of the family.

Own children. "Own children" in a family are sons and daughters, including step children and adopted children, of the family householder. The count of own children under 18 years old is limited to single (never married) children.

Educational attainment. Data on educational attainment are derived from a single question that asks, "What is the highest level of school ... has completed, or the highest degree... has received?" Levels of completion beyond a high school degree are identified with specific categories, such as associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees. Educational attainment applies only to progress in regular schools. Such schools include public, private, and parochial elementary and high schools (both junior and senior), colleges, universities and professional schools (whether day or night schools). Thus, regular school is that which may advance a person toward an elementary school certificate, a high school diploma, or a college, university, or professional school degree. Schooling in other than regular schools is counted only if the credits obtained are regarded as transferrable to schools in the regular school system.

The single educational attainment question now in use was introduced in the Current Population Survey in January 1993 and is similar to that used in the 1990 Census of Population and Housing. Consequently, data on educational attainment beginning in the 1993 CPS are not directly comparable to CPS data from earlier years. The new question replaces the previous two-part question used that asked respondents to report the highest grade they had attended, and whether or not they had completed that grade. The summary measure associated with this old educational concept of "median years of school completed" has been replaced by "percent high school graduates."

Labor force status. 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" comprises all civilians classified as employed or unemployed. All civilians who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force." Employed persons include all civilians who did any work at all during the specified week as paid employees, in their own business or professional practice, 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 all those who were not working but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not they were paid by their employers for the time off, and whether or not they were seeking other jobs. Excluded from the employed group are persons whose only activity consisted of work in or around their own house or volunteer work. Unemployed persons are those civilians who had no employment but were available for work and had engaged in any specific job-seeking activity within the last 4 weeks or were on a union or professional register, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, or were waiting to report to a new job within 30 days.

Occupation. The data on occupation of employed persons refer to the civilian job held during the survey week. Persons employed at two or more jobs were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. The occupation groupings used here are mainly the major groups used in the 1990 census. The composition of these groups is shown in the 1990 Census of Population, CP-2 Series, *Social and Economic Characteristics.*

Income. For each person 15 years old and over, questions were asked about the amount of money income received in the preceding calendar year. 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 the survey. However, family income includes amounts reported by related persons who did not reside with the family during the income year but were members of the family on the survey date.

Tenure. A housing unit is "owner occupied" if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit, even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. A cooperative or condominium unit is "owner occupied" only if the owner or co-owner lives in it. All other units are classified as "renter occupied," including units rented for cash rent and those occupied without payment of cash rent.

Mean. The mean (average) number of persons per family is the value obtained by dividing the number of persons having the characteristics under consideration by the appropriate number of families. The mean number of own children is the number of own children of the age under consideration divided by the total number of families with own children.

Median. The median is the value which divides the distribution into two equal parts, one-half of the cases falling below this value and one-half of the cases exceeding this value. It is presented in connection with the data on age, years of school completed, and income.

Rounding. Detailed data in the tables may not agree with the totals because of independent rounding. Furthermore, calculations such as means, medians, and percentages are based on the unrounded figures and therefore may not agree with those derived from rounded figures in the table.

MIGRATION UNIVERSE

The mobility data in this report are derived from the answers to questions on residence 1 year before the survey date and the geographical location of the respondent's current residence. A facsimile of the questions is shown on this page. These questions were asked for all members of the survey household who were 15 years old and over on the survey date. Residence 1 year earlier for persons under 15 years old was allocated based on the responses of their parents or other members of the household. (See the following section, "Allocations of Migration Data," for a further discussion of the allocation of mobility data for children and other persons for whom no response or only partial responses to the mobility questions were given.)

The universe sampled includes all civilian noninstitutional households and members of the Armed Forces living off base or with their families on base. (For a more detailed discussion of the sample selection and limitations of the sample and survey design, see "Source and Reliability of the Estimates".)

Undocumented immigrants. The 1980 census counted about two million undocumented immigrants according to Census Bureau estimates. Beginning in January 1986, the independent population controls included an allowance for growth in the undocumented population for every year since 1980. This methodological change was partially offset by another change that increased the allowance for emigration of legal residents. Data shown for Current Population Surveys with controls based on pre-1986 methods have not been revised to take into account these methodological changes. Consequently, direct comparisons of CPS figures for months before January 1986 with later months will not be consistent. Series P-25, No. 985 reviews the postcensal population estimates methodology currently in use.

ALLOCATIONS OF MIGRATION DATA

In the March Current Population Surveys, complete mobility information is usually not reported for about 10 percent of all persons 15 years old and over; the mobility questions were not asked for any persons under 15 years of age. In these cases, persons missing mobility data are assigned the mobility status and previous residence obtained for other family members or allocated using the data for another sample person who did respond to the questions. The mobility status and previous residence allocated to a nonrespondent is that obtained for another person with similar demographic characteristics who has been selected systematically in the order in which individual records are processed. Characteristics used in these allocations (when assignment of data for other family members is not possible) are age, race, years of school completed, and metropolitan status and State of current residence. State of previous residence is used instead of State of current residence if the individual being allocated data reported State of previous residence but not city or county.

Now I want to ask some questions about where . . . lived 1 year ago.

54. Was . . . living in this house (apt.) 1 year ago, that is on March 1, 1992?

Yes ○ *(Next person)* No ○ *(Ask 55A)*

55A. Where did . . . live on March 1, 1992?

1. Name of State, foreign country, U.S. possession, etc.

2. Name of county

3. Name of city, town, village, etc.

B. Did . . . live inside the limits of that city, town, village, etc.?

Yes ○ No ○

RELATED REPORTS AND DATA PRODUCTS

Statistics on the geographical mobility of the population of the United States have been collected annually in the Current Population Survey since 1948. Migration data from these annual surveys are published in Series P-20 of the Current Population Reports. The most recent report was Series P20-473, *Geographical Mobility: March 1991 to March 1992.*

Microdata computer files are also available for each of the Current Population Survey's Annual Demographic Files (March Supplement) beginning with 1968. The 1993 tape is available from Data User Services Division, Customer Services (Tapes), U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233; telephone (301) 763-4100. Technical documentation comes with the tape or is available separately from the Data Access and Use Staff of the Data User Services Division, at the same address, telephone (301) 763-2074, and should be cited as Current Population Survey: March 1993: Technical Documentation.

Geographical mobility researchers may wish to utilize data from two other current surveys conducted by the Bureau of the Census. The American Housing Survey (formerly Annual Housing Survey), conducted since 1973, contains a broad array of data pertaining to residential mobility for the nation as a whole and for selected metropolitan areas. The Survey of Income and Program Participation, begun in 1984, is a series of panel surveys, initiated annually, where national samples of individuals are reinterviewed every 4 months for a period of 2 1/2 years. Details concerning data products from both of these current surveys are available in the *Census Catalog and Guide: 1993* (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993).

The Bureau of the Census also publishes annual State population estimates, which contain net migration estimates for States, and population projections that employ a variety of migration assumptions. Recent reports including net migration for States include Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1106, *State Population Estimates by Age and Sex: 1980 to 1992.* National population projections for the next century are available in Series P-20, No. 1104, *Population Projections of the United States, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Orgin: 1993 to 2050.* Projections for individual States that incorporate alternate migration assumptions based on interstate movement between 1976 and 1988 derived from IRS data are available in Series 25, No. 1053, *Projections of the Population of States by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1993 to 2020.*

Various forms of geographical mobility data are also collected as part of the decennial census. Each decennial census since 1850 has collected information on place of birth and current location of residence. In addition, the decennial censuses of 1940, 1960, 1970, 1980, and 1990 asked where individuals resided 5 years previously; i.e., in 1935, 1955, 1965, 1975, and 1985. The 1950 census asked where individuals resided in 1949. Tabulations and microdata computer files are available from each of these censuses.

Tabulations from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing are available by State in *Social and Economic Characteristics*, Series CP-2; by metropolitan area or State remainder in *Population and Housing Characteristics for Census Tracts and Block Numbering Areas*, Series CPH-3; in CPH-L-121, *Selected Place of Birth and Migration Statistics for States*; on CD-ROM or computer tape in Summary Tape File 3 (STF-3); on computer tape in STF-4; on CD-ROM in Subject Summary Tape File 15 (SSTF-15), *Geographical Mobility for Metropolitan Areas*; and on CD-ROM in the *County to County Migration Flow File*, SP-312.

Tabulations from the 1980 Census of Population are available by States in *General Social and Economic Characteristics*, Series PC80-1-C, and in *Detailed Population Characteristics*, Series PC80-1-D; in three Supplementary Reports: *State of Residence in 1975 by State of Residence in 1980*, PC80-S1-9; *Residence in 1975 for States by Age, Sex, Race, and Spanish Origin*, PC80-S116; and *Gross Migration for Counties: 1975 to 1980*, PC80-S1-17; and in two Volume 2, Subject Reports: *Geographical Mobility for States and the Nation*, PC80-2-2A and *Geographical Mobility for Metropolitan Areas*, PC80-2-2C.