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INTERNAL MIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES: APRIL, 1940, TO APRIL, 1947

(This report presents detailed migration data for the civilian population of the United States between April, 1940, and April, 1947. These figures supplement the preliminary data for the same period presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 5)

Approximately 70 million persons in April, 1947, were not living in the same house in which they had lived on April 1, 1940, according to estimates issued today by J. C. Capt, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Some 44 million persons had changed houses within the same county, 13 million had changed counties within the same State, and 12 million had changed their State of residence between 1940 and 1947. Probably never before in the history of the United States has there been internal population movement of such magnitude as in the past seven eventful years.

The net loss from farm areas through migration of about 3,200,000 persons, or 1 in every 8 who had lived on a farm in 1940, continued the long-time trend away from the land but the amount of the net loss, in conjunction with other information, suggests that the annual loss is now less than at the wartime peak. The West continued its great population increase from internal migration, drawing a net gain of about 2,000,000 persons from other regions, whereas the South continued its losses with a net of 1,500,000 persons moving to other regions. The nonwhite population in the United States outside the South, which between 1935 and 1940 had not equaled the white population in mobility, tended to be more migratory, and to move over longer distances, than the whites between 1940 and 1947.

All of the 1947 data in this report were derived from a sample survey of the civilian population conducted in April, 1947, by the Bureau of the Census.

POPULATION BORN ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 1940

Of the 123 million persons born on or before the beginning of the migration period,

April 1, 1940 (i.e., persons 7 years old and over in April, 1947), about 70 million were living in a house other than the one in which they had lived 7 years earlier. (See table 1.) Of these, 44 million were living in a different house in the same county, and 25 million had changed their county of residence and were, therefore, classified as "migrants." Thus about 21 percent of the population were migrants between 1940 and 1947 as compared with 13 percent between 1935 and 1940.

Between 1940 and 1947, about half the migrants moved within States, whereas between 1935 and 1940 a larger proportion of the migrants moved this "shorter" distance.¹ Data from other surveys indicate that during and shortly after the war less than half (or, at most, half) of the migrants were intrastate ones, or that half or more made interstate (i.e., "longer") moves.²

During the war, many persons moved long distances to work in war production centers, to live near their husbands in the armed forces prior to their embarkation, etc. Although the period covered by the present survey includes the war years, numbers of wartime long-distance migrants have returned to their home communities or the vicinity, and subsequent moving has been of the more normal sort, such as the search for employment in one's more immediate locality.

¹ The figure published for intrastate migrants in the 1940 census reports included an estimated 1,500,000 persons who moved into or out of a city of 100,000 or more but did not cross a county line. Subtracting these, in conformity with current procedure which does not count such persons as migrants, still yields the preponderance of intrastate migrants cited above.

² See Population, Series P-S, No. 11, "Internal Migration in the United States: April, 1940, to February, 1946"; and Series P-S, No. 5, "Civilian Migration in the United States: December, 1941, to March, 1945."

POPULATION BORN AFTER APRIL 1, 1940

Of the 19 million persons born after April 1, 1940, the beginning of the migration period (i.e., persons less than 7 years old in April, 1947), about 4 million, or 21 percent, were classified as "migrants" on the basis of the mother's having lived at the time of the child's birth in a county other than the one in which she lived in April, 1947. Thus, in spite of an average period during which these children could have "migrated" of only 3½ years, as compared with 7 years for the population born on or before April 1, 1940, the proportion of migrants was just as high as for the older group.

From the migration classification of these children under 7 years of age, a migration pattern may be inferred, not so much for the children themselves as for their mothers (or families). These data suggest that not only did these more recent parents have a higher migration rate than the rest of the population, but among those remaining in the same county a greater proportion moved from one house to another. It seems highly probable that the greater "mobility" of this group may be partially explained by the younger average age of the parents involved (younger adults always being the more mobile), the fact that new families generally go through a process of settling down, and the need to seek larger quarters by reason of increase in family size.

The subsequent discussion in this report is restricted to the population born on or before the beginning of the migration period (except where otherwise noted) as it is this group which has experienced a uniform period of "exposure" to the chance of migration. For the period 1940 to 1947, this decision restricts the population to those 7 years old and over. Where comparable data are shown for the period 1935 to 1940, the population discussed is restricted to those 5 years old and over.

(It should be noted that, in most reports based on previous surveys and in the 1940 census reports, all children born after the beginning of the period were classified as nonmigrants and included with the other nonmigrants. Therefore, no data are available on the migration status of such children for the period 1935 to 1940.)

COLOR

General.--There was little difference in the migration rates between the white and the nonwhite population, about 1 person in 5 in each group having moved to a different county between 1940 and 1947. The groups differed sharply, however, in the distance of their moves. Among

nonwhite migrants, about twice as many moved to other States as within a State, and of the interstate nonwhite migrants twice as many moved to noncontiguous States as to contiguous ones. (The nature of these moves of the nonwhite population is more clearly brought out in the subsequent section on regions.) For the white population, on the other hand, a greater number moved within a State than between States, and of those moving between States the preponderance of those moving to noncontiguous States was not so pronounced as among the nonwhites.

Changes since 1940.--Among nonwhites in the period 1935 to 1940, the migrant rate was lower than for whites but the migration pattern (as indicated by the distribution of migrants among the various migration categories) was similar to that for the white population. Between 1940 and 1947, however, the nonwhite migrant rate had attained equality with that for whites and the pattern had changed greatly, whereas the pattern for whites was approximately the same as in the prewar period.

The changed relationship between the nonwhite and white migration patterns is shown by a comparison of nonwhite and white proportions in each migration category for the two periods. In the period 1935 to 1940, the nonwhite migration rate was 0.70 of that for whites. This ratio of the nonwhite to the white rate held approximately for each of the categories of migrants according to distance spanned (within a State and between States, between contiguous States, and between noncontiguous States). During the 1940-47 period, however, the nonwhite migration rate rose to 1.05 times that of the whites, or approximate equality. Only among the shorter-distance, or within-State, migrants was the prewar differential maintained (0.70). Among the longer-distance migrants, the ratio of nonwhite to white rates rose for migrants between States to about 1.45, for migrants between contiguous States to 1.15, and between noncontiguous States to 1.67.

It appears, therefore, that in the past 7-year period the nonwhite population has experienced more pronounced migratory movement, on the basis of several indices, than has been experienced either by the white population during this period or by the nonwhite population in the earlier period (1935 to 1940). Whatever the factors which make moving desirable, and whatever the means necessary to effect such movement, the nonwhite population not only "caught up" with the white population in the rate of its migration, but when moving showed a greater tendency to move longer distances.

URBAN-RURAL RESIDENCE

General.--The proportion of migrants was higher among the population living in rural-nonfarm areas in April, 1947, than among those living in urban or in rural-farm areas. This order does not necessarily imply a net movement from rural-farm and urban areas to rural-nonfarm areas, since each of these types of areas contained migrants from other areas of the same type. (The origin of these migrants according to type of residence is not known.)

The relative mobility of the population now in urban and rural areas is also indicated by the proportion of the population living in the same house. Rural-nonfarm areas, with the highest migrant rate, also had the lowest proportion in the same house, whereas rural-farm areas had the highest proportion.

The migrants in urban areas were, characteristically, the longer-distance migrants. The urban migrant group was the only one containing a majority of migrants from other States, and also the one with the highest proportion of migrants from noncontiguous States. On this basis, migrants in rural-farm areas tended to be shorter-distance migrants, with the proportion of migrants who moved within a State higher than for either of the other areas, and the proportion who moved from noncontiguous States lower.

Changes since 1940.--The general pattern of urban-rural differentials indicated above was also shown by the 1940 census data (except for that part based on the subclassification of nonmigrants, which was not given in 1940). For the migration period 1935 to 1940, however, although the urban-rural areas held the same relative rank in the various migration indices, each area contained a higher proportion than in 1947 of migrants within a State, which was almost entirely at the expense of a lower proportion of those from noncontiguous States. Only in the proportion of migrants who moved between contiguous States was there no significant variation between the two periods. The general fact of a higher proportion of longer-distance moves in the more recent period may be noted, therefore, for all urban-rural areas.

AGE AND SEX

Age differences.--For the period 1940 to 1947, mobility varied systematically with age. The median age was higher for nonmigrants than for migrants, highest of all for the group showing no mobility (persons living in the same house), and lowest for the group moving the

longest distances (migrants between noncontiguous States). The median ages characterizing these groups ranged from about 30.0 to 41.5 years. (See table 2.)

The relationship between age and migration may also be indicated in greater detail. The oldest ages (45 to 64 years and 65 years and over) showed the highest proportions of total nonmigrants and of nonmigrants living in the same house, and among the lowest ratios of interstate to intrastate migrants. On the other hand, those aged 20 to 24 and 25 to 34 years, evidenced the greatest mobility as indicated by the highest migration rates, among the highest ratios of interstate to intrastate migrants, and the lowest proportions of nonmigrants living in the same house.

Sex differences.--A comparison of males and females of all ages indicated no significant differences in migration rates. For specific ages, however, females exceeded males in the proportion of migrants for the ages 18 and 19 years, and 20 to 24 years. This fact is in line with previous findings which indicate that females tend to leave home at earlier ages than males, partly because of earlier marriage.

Changes since 1940.--For both males and females, for all age groups, the proportion of migrants was higher for the period 1940 to 1947 than for the period 1935 to 1940. Although it is not possible to compute exact annual averages for the two periods, it can be demonstrated that the annual rate of migration was higher in the current than in the prewar period. Among adults relatively great increases in the migrant rate between the two periods occurred in the groups comprising females 18 to 34 years old and males 20 to 44 years old, and relatively small increases were shown by both males and females aged 45 years and over. In general, the greatest increases in mobility occurred among those groups whose previous mobility had been relatively high.

VETERAN STATUS

Veterans of World War II were highly mobile. Only about 3 out of every 10 veterans were living in the same house in 1947 as in 1940, and approximately as many migrant veterans moved between States as within a State. (See table 3.) A comparison of all male veterans 18 years old and over with the comparable nonveteran group, indicates that the migrant rate among veterans was about one-half greater than for nonveterans (28 percent as against 18 percent). This difference is primarily a matter of age, however,

the veterans being younger and, therefore, characterized by higher mobility. Analysis by separate age groups reveals this fact more clearly.

For the age groups 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 years, the migration rate differed little between veterans and nonveterans, each ranging from about 23 percent to about 30 percent. For the older age groups (35 to 44 and 45 years and over), however, the proportion of migrants among veterans continued at the 30 percent level, whereas among nonveterans the rate was successively lower to a low of about 14 percent. It may be noted that nonveterans in these older age groups had approximately the same migration rates as females of those ages. In the two older age groups, it is probable that some portion of the higher mobility of veterans may be due to relative concentration at the younger ages within each age group, particularly within the group 45 years old and over.

FARM-NONFARM SHIFTS

General.--About 7,500,000 persons who lived on farms in 1940 had given up their farm residence by 1947. This loss was partly offset by a shift of 4,300,000 persons to farms. (See table 4.) Thus in the exchange the farm population sustained a net loss of about 3,200,000 persons, or 12 percent of those enumerated in April, 1947, who reported that they had lived on a farm in 1940.

Male veterans of World War II showed the highest proportion shifting from farms, the net loss of about 24 percent being twice that for the population as a whole, and about three times the net loss shown by male nonveterans.

Figures on gains, losses, and net change in farm population between April, 1947, and April, 1940, by veteran status and sex, for the United States, are shown in table I.

Table I.--GAINS, LOSSES, AND NET CHANGE IN FARM POPULATION, BY VETERAN STATUS AND SEX, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1940 TO 1947

Change in farm residence, 1940 to 1947	Total	Male			Female
		Total	Veteran	Nonveteran	
Gains in farm population (on farm in 1947 but not on farm in 1940).....	4,304,000	2,149,000	434,000	1,715,000	2,155,000
Losses in farm population (not on farm in 1947 but on farm in 1940).....	7,589,000	3,677,000	990,000	2,687,000	3,862,000
Net change in farm population ¹	-3,285,000	-1,528,000	-556,000	-972,000	-1,707,000
PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS ON FARM IN 1940					
Gains in farm population.....	15.9	15.4	18.9	14.7	16.6
Losses in farm population.....	27.9	26.3	43.2	23.0	29.7
Net change in farm population ¹	-12.0	-10.9	-24.2	-8.3	-13.1

¹ A minus sign (-) denotes net loss.

Note: Figures include only those persons born on or before the beginning of the migration period.

Comparison with other data.--In the farm-nonfarm exchange between 1940 and 1947, the farm population decreased by about 3,200,000 persons in the 7-year period. According to a similar census survey made in March, 1945,³ a net loss from farms of about 2,930,000 persons took place between December, 1941, and March, 1945, thus indicating that most of the loss between 1940 and 1947 occurred during the war years when urban job opportunities were at their peak. This fact is also shown by estimates prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, which indicate that the peak years of off-farm migration were 1941-43, with 1942 showing the greatest net loss.⁴

Age and sex differences.--For the population 7 years old and over, each age group showed a net shift away from farms. Of the net loss from farms of 3,200,000 persons, the group 18 to 24 years old contributed about 1,000,000 persons with approximately three times as many persons moving away from farms as moving to them. Those 45 years old and over contributed a net loss of about 1,200,000 persons, with about twice as many moving from farms as to them.

Males and females did not show any consistent differences in their migration to and from farms.

Type of migration.--It should be noted that shifts from farm to nonfarm residence, and vice versa, do not necessarily involve physical movement but may represent merely a change in the use to which the land is put. The figures indicate that about 191,000 persons while living

³ See Population, Series P-S, No. 6, "Shifts in Farm Population: December, 1941, to March, 1945."

⁴ See "Farm Population Estimates, United States and Major Geographic Divisions, 1940-1947, States, 1940-1945," published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture, August, 1947.

in the same house changed from a nonfarm to a farm residence, whereas 653,000 changed from a farm to a nonfarm residence while continuing to live in the same house. Of the estimated 6,900,000 persons who actually moved from a farm in 1940 to a nonfarm area in 1947, and of the 4,100,000 who moved from nonfarm to farm areas between the two dates, approximately half moved within the same county, a quarter moved between different counties within the same State, and the remaining quarter moved between States. Thus there was little difference in type of migration between the two groups which changed farm status, both being composed in large part of intracounty migrants.

Of those who actually moved from one farm to another, about 71 percent moved within a county, 21 percent moved from one county to another in the same State, and only 8 percent moved between States. The figures suggest that moves of such persons were even shorter, on the average, than those of persons shifting their farm status. On the other hand, as compared with those who moved between farms, the people who moved from one nonfarm residence to another included relatively more interstate migrants (18 percent).

Veterans of World War II.--Of the estimated 1,700,000 male veterans of World War II living on farms in April, 1947, about 600,000 had returned to the farm on which they lived in 1940, 700,000 had returned to civilian life on a different farm, and 400,000 had been in nonfarm residences in 1940. (See table 5.) On the other hand, about 1,000,000 veterans who had lived on farms in 1940 were no longer living there in 1947, representing a net loss to farm areas of about 550,000 veterans.

Veterans traveled longer distances, on the average, than nonveterans 18 years old and over in making both farm-to-nonfarm and nonfarm-to-farm shifts. Among those moving from one farm to another and from one nonfarm residence to another, veterans had higher proportions of intercounty movers than nonveterans 18 years old and over.

REGIONS

Migration status and type of migration.--Approximately 2 out of every 5 persons living in the West in 1947 were classified as "migrants." (See table 6.) This migration rate was about twice as high as that for the South or the North Central States and three times that for the Northeastern States. As measured by the other migration indices also, the West greatly exceeded all other regions in the mobility of its population. At the other extreme, the North-

eastern States showed the least mobility of population, with the lowest migration by any of the indices and the highest proportion (50 percent) living in the same house as seven years earlier.

There were no important differences between the migration patterns of males and females for any of the regions.

Net changes since 1940.--The West continued to gain population through migration at the expense of all the other regions. The net influx to the West of about 2,000,000 persons since 1940 was at a greater annual rate than in the period 1935 to 1940, when the net gain was less than 900,000 persons. The South continued its losses with a net of about 1,500,000 persons having left for other regions between 1940 and 1947. The net loss for this period was at a greater annual rate than between 1935 and 1940, when the depression deterred the usual movement from the rural South to the urban North, and the net loss for the period was only 270,000 persons. The figures on net migration are summarized in table II.

Table II.--NET MIGRATION, BY REGIONS: 1940-1947 AND 1935-1940

Interregional migration	The Northeastern States	The North Central States	The South	The West
April, 1940, to April, 1947				
In-migrants.....	819,000	1,817,000	1,280,000	2,767,000
Out-migrants....	1,084,000	2,099,000	2,803,000	697,000
Net migration ¹ ..	-265,000	-282,000	-1,523,000	+2,070,000
April, 1935, to April, 1940				
In-migrants.....	388,978	688,946	726,504	1,159,528
Out-migrants....	535,606	1,156,947	998,815	272,588
Net migration ¹ ..	-146,628	-468,001	-272,311	+886,940
PERCENT OF POPULATION ²				
April, 1940, to April, 1947				
In-migrants.....	2.4	4.9	3.5	18.7
Out-migrants....	3.1	5.7	7.7	4.7
Net migration ¹ ..	-0.8	-0.8	-4.2	+14.0
April, 1935, to April, 1940				
In-migrants.....	1.1	1.7	1.8	8.4
Out-migrants....	1.5	2.9	2.4	2.0
Net migration ¹ ..	-0.4	-1.2	-0.7	+6.4

¹ A plus sign (+) denotes net in-migration; a minus sign (-) net out-migration.

² Percents for 1947 are based on the total civilian population in 1947; percents for 1940 on the number reporting migration status in 1940.

Note: Figures include only those persons born on or before the beginning of the migration period.

Region of residence in 1947 and 1940.--Of the estimated 2,800,000 persons who came into the West from all the other regions, the South and the North Central States each contributed roughly 1,200,000, and the Northeastern States about 300,000 persons. (See table 7.)

As a result of 2,800,000 persons' leaving the South for other regions, the South retained, in 1947, within its regional boundaries a smaller proportion than any other region of those who lived within the region in 1940. Of the 37,700,000 persons reporting 1940 residence in the South, the 34,900,000 persons who had remained in that same region constituted about 92.6 percent, lower than the "regional retention" of any of the other regions.

With respect to net directional movement, the Northeastern States exchanged with the North Central States and the South on fairly even terms, but lost about 250,000 persons to the West. The North Central States gained about 500,000 persons from the South, but lost 800,000 to the West. The South lost an estimated 1,000,000 persons to the West.

There were no important sex differences with respect to number and direction of inter-regional migrants.

Migration in the South, by color.--Migration within the South, including 4,300,000 migrants within a State and 2,100,000 migrants between States within the region, making a total of about 6,500,000 persons, exceeded that within any other region. (See table 8.) A large part of this movement within the South represents a continuation of the historical pattern of migration away from Southern farms to developing industrial areas in the region.

The nonwhite population in the South was less mobile than its white counterpart, although for the country as a whole, the reverse was generally true. (See table 1.) A higher proportion of Southern nonwhites than of whites remained in the same house. Southern nonwhites showed a lower proportion of migrants in the population than whites and a lower proportion among migrants of those who moved between States and between noncontiguous States (i.e., the long-distance movers). With respect to these indices, the South is generally the reverse of the remainder of the country.

Although the data indicate that it is the nonwhite population residing outside the South in 1947, rather than that still in the South, which was relatively mobile, it should be understood that those nonwhites outside the South in 1947 who had moved since 1940 include the large number of former Southern nonwhites who left the

South between 1940 and 1947. It is also likely that a part of the relative mobility of nonwhites outside the South represents the moves made in the "settling down" process after migration out of the South.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

For the population of both sexes 20 years old and over, as well as for males and females separately, the median years of school completed was higher for each successive migration category involving a greater distance moved; the median ranged from about 8.8 years for those staying in the same house to 12.0 years for migrants between noncontiguous States. (See table 9.) Within any age group, however, there was no evidence of this pattern and the range of variation in median school years completed was considerably less among the different migration categories than it was for the total population 20 years old and over. Therefore, the apparent relationship between mobility and education must be, in part, a relationship between mobility and age. (That is, the most mobile groups were the younger ages, who also were the most highly educated; whereas, the older age groups were the least mobile and the least educated.)

However, a relationship between mobility and education is demonstrated by the fact that for each age group (above 24 years) the educational level was higher among migrants than among nonmigrants. Also, within each age group (above 24 years) the proportion among migrants of the long-distance movers (migrants between States and between noncontiguous States) was highest for those completing at least one year of college. In addition, for both males and females, within each age group the proportion of migrants was highest among those having completed one year of college or more.

It may be noted that approximately 45 percent of those 25 to 34 years old who had completed one year of college or more were migrants, whereas only about 12 percent were migrants among those 45 years old and over who had completed less than 7 years of grade school.

EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION

Employment status.--For both males and females, the proportion of migrants of all types and the proportion of migrants moving between noncontiguous States were greater among those unemployed at the time of the survey than among those employed. (See table 10.) The search for satisfactory employment is one of the major reasons for moving about, and previous data in

icate that persons who moved because they were looking for work traveled longer distances than those moving for most other reasons.⁵

Major occupation group.--Among broad occupational groups, mobility differentials generally agreed with previous findings. For both males and females, professional and semiprofessional workers (among the larger groups) were the most mobile and tended to move longer distances. The least mobility was shown by farmers and farm managers, who contained the highest proportion living in the same house and the lowest proportions of migrants and of persons moving between noncontiguous States. The explanation may be partly that professional and semiprofessional workers have relatively few appropriate jobs to choose from within a particular area, and partly that they are often so highly specialized as to receive (and accept) attractive employment offers from more distant employers.

HOUSEHOLD STATUS

Among the various household members of all ages, the proportion of migrants varied considerably. Among males, for example, the migrant rate was about 41 percent for nonrelatives of the head, as compared with a rate of 14 percent for heads other than those with wife present. (See table 11.) The relationship between migration and household status, however, is largely one between migration and age. For example, among the different types of household head, married male heads living with their wives, being younger on the average than other male heads (single, widowed, divorced, and with wife absent) had a higher proportion of migrants. Female heads, having approximately the same age distribution as male heads other than "married, wife present" had an equally low migrant rate.

This relationship to age is also evident within each category of household relationship. Among male heads, the proportion of migrants dropped from about 35 percent for those 14 to 24 years old to 10 percent for those aged 65 years and over. Among female heads the drop between the same age groups was from about 57 to 5 percent. (The higher female rate in the younger group also indicates the tendency, previously mentioned in this report, for females to migrate at earlier ages than males.)

⁵ Data on type of migration by reason for move were presented in Population, Series P-20, No. 4, "Postwar Migration and Its Causes in the United States: August, 1945, to October, 1946."

TENURE OF HOME

Heads of households who were home owners were considerably less mobile than heads who were tenants, with about 55 percent of the 21,300,000 owners living in the same house in 1947 as in 1940, as compared with 31 percent of the 17,600,000 tenants. (See table 12.) About 1 tenant head in every 4 was living in a different county, whereas only 1 owner head in 7 was classified as a migrant. Also, a greater proportion of tenant migrants than of owner migrants crossed State lines.

Among male owners, a comparison of married heads, living with their wives, with other heads (single, widowed, divorced, and with wife absent) indicates that the former were more mobile, probably due in large part to the fact that they were, on the average, younger. The migrant rate for the former group was about twice that for the latter. The most mobile among all heads of households were the married tenants, living with their wives. Female heads who were home owners, being comparable in age with male owners not living with their wives, showed an almost identical stability, with over 90 percent of the group classified as nonmigrants, and about 70 percent living in the same house in 1940 and 1947.

TYPE OF HOUSING

As was to be expected, the mobility of persons classified as living in households was much less than that of the group classified as not living in households (i.e., living in hotels, institutions, etc.). (See table 13.) However, the group of household members living in public housing projects (and in "special" dwelling places) showed the greatest mobility, even greater than for the total group "Not in households." This was undoubtedly because persons had to be migrants to be eligible for residence in certain of the public housing projects, as well as because the larger part of public housing has been constructed since 1940, and residents therein are necessarily persons of recent movement.

Among household members living in private dwelling places, there was no difference in the proportion of migrants (or nonmigrants) between those living in one-dwelling-unit structures and those living in structures with two or more units (which include apartment houses). However, those living in one-dwelling-unit structures may still be characterized as less mobile, since a larger proportion of the nonmigrants among them were living in the same house, and a larger pro-

portion of the migrants had moved within a State rather than between States.

There were no important differences in the migration patterns of males and females as classified by type of housing.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Population.--The figures for 1947 (the migration period 1940 to 1947) shown in this report relate primarily to the civilian population. Approximately 254,000 members of the armed forces living off post or with their families on post were included, but all other members of the armed forces were excluded. For simplicity, this 1947 population is called the "civilian population" in this report. The figures shown for 1940 (the migration period 1935 to 1940) relate to the total population including all members of the armed forces (267,000) in continental United States on April 1, 1940.

Urban and rural residence.--In this report, the urban and rural areas are those that were classified as urban or rural on the basis of the results of the 1940 census. All incorporated places having 2,500 or more inhabitants in 1940 were classified as urban, together with certain additional areas declared urban under special rules. All other areas were classified as rural.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The classification of the rural population into farm and nonfarm in 1947 is based on residence at the time of the enumeration. Thus, the April, 1947, rural-farm population is the population living on farms (without regard to occupation) in April, 1947, in areas that were classified as rural in 1940. The classification into farm and nonfarm residence in 1940 is based on the statements made by persons enumerated in 1947 as to their 1940 residence.

Migration status.--The civilian population of the United States is classified by migration status for a specified period on the basis of a comparison between the place of residence of each individual at the end of the period (the date of the survey or census) and the place of residence at the beginning of the period. This comparison restricts the classification by migration status to the population born on or before the beginning of the migration period. The classification by migration status of those born after the beginning of the migration period, presented in table 1, is based on the residence of the mother at the time the child was born. (The residence called for was the mother's usual

residence at the time the child was born, and not the location of the hospital in which the child may have been born.) In most reports based on previous surveys and in the 1940 census reports, all children born after the beginning of the migration period were classified as nonmigrants and included with the other nonmigrants.

It should be noted that because of the relative length of the migration period covered in this survey the factors of lack of memory or knowledge concerning earlier residence, as well as deaths of migrants, tended to be higher than what they would have been in a shorter period. Thus, the migration statistics resulting from the present survey are, most probably, an understatement of the true figures. There is some evidence of this presumption in the case of the farm-nonfarm shifts, and there are also indications that the interregional movements may be affected by misreporting.

Three categories of migration status are distinguished:

1. Migrants. This group consists of persons living in the United States at the beginning of the specified period whose place of residence at the end of the period was not in the same county as the place of residence at the beginning.

2. Nonmigrants. This group consists of persons whose place of residence at the end of the specified period was in the same county as the place of residence at the beginning of the period. Thus, persons who moved from place to place within the same county and those who moved to a different county but returned before the end of the period are classified as nonmigrants. Among the nonmigrants, a distinction is made between those living in the same house at the end of the period as at the beginning, and those living in a different house.

3. Persons abroad at the beginning of the period. This group consists of persons, either citizens or aliens, whose place of residence was in continental United States at the end of the specified period but was outside at the beginning of the period, that is, in an outlying territory or possession of the United States or in a foreign country. These persons are distinguished from migrants who are persons who moved from one place to another within continental United States.

Type of migration.--Migrants are further classified by type of migration, on the basis of a comparison of the State of residence at the end of the specified period with the State of

residence at the beginning of the period. Two main categories of migrants are shown:

1. Migrants within a State. This group consists of migrants whose residence at the end of the specified period was in a different county but in the same State as the place of residence at the beginning of the migration period.

2. Migrants between States. This category consists of migrants whose State of residence at the end of the specified period was different from the State of residence at the beginning of the period. Among these migrants between States a distinction is made between those who moved between contiguous States and those who moved between noncontiguous States:

a. Migrants between contiguous States. These are migrants who crossed only one State line, that is, whose place of residence at the end of the specified period was in a State contiguous to their State of residence at the beginning of the period. States have been defined as contiguous if their boundaries touch at any point.

b. Migrants between noncontiguous States. These are migrants who moved across at least one intervening State, that is, across more than one State line. Their place of residence at the end of the period was in a State which was not contiguous to their State of residence at the beginning of the period.

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

Color.--Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who were not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white. The group designated "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and other nonwhite races.

Veteran of World War II.--A veteran of World War II is defined as a civilian who had been a member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty at any time between September 16, 1940, and the time of enumeration. Persons on terminal leave are included as veterans. This report shows separate data for male, but not for female, veterans of World War II.

Highest grade of school completed.--The data for years of school completed indicate the formal educational attainment of each person, and are based on the replies to the enumerator's

inquiry as to the last full grade that the person had completed in the regular school system--public, private, or parochial school, college or university.

Employment status.--In the classification by employment status, persons are classified into two major groups, "In the labor force" and "Not in the labor force." In this report, the labor force comprises the total of all civilians classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described below, and those members of the armed forces included in the survey.

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

Unemployed persons include those who did not work at all during the survey week and who were looking for work. Also included as unemployed are persons who would have been looking for work except that (a) they were temporarily ill, (b) they expected to return to a job from which they had been laid off for an indefinite period, or (c) they believed no work was available in their line of work in the community.

All civilian persons 14 years of age and over who are not classified as employed or unemployed (or in the special armed forces group) are defined as "not in the labor force." This group consists of persons keeping house, in school, retired, permanently unable or too old to work, seasonal workers for whom the survey week fell in an "off" season, and persons voluntarily idle.

Major occupation group.--The employed persons in the civilian labor force are classified into broad occupational categories which are largely major groups in the classification system used in the 1940 Census of Population. Persons were classified according to the job they 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.

Household status.--Each person in the civilian population is classified as to whether he

was "in a household" or "not in a household," and, if in a household, whether he was the head or related to the head.

The group "in a household" includes all of the persons who occupy a house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a room that constitutes "separate living quarters." It includes the related family members and also the unrelated persons, if any, such as lodgers, servants, or hired hands who share the living quarters. A person living alone or a group of unrelated persons sharing the same living accommodations as "partners" is counted as a household.

The group "not in a household" includes all persons not living in households, such as those living in institutions, hospitals, transient hotels, YMCA buildings, private residential clubs, nurses' homes, dormitories, and boarding or lodging houses containing 10 or more rooms or suites of rooms rented or for rent.

In each household one person is designated as the "head"--usually the one regarded as the head by the members of the household. The number of heads of households is, therefore, equal to the number of households. The head of a household is usually a married man and the chief breadwinner; however, in some cases the head is a parent of the chief earner or is the only adult member of the household.

In the classification of persons in households by relationship to the head of the household, males are subdivided into head, relative of head, and nonrelative of head; and females are subdivided into head, wife of head, other relative of head, and nonrelative of head. The number of wives of heads is equal to the number of "husband-wife" or "normal" households, that is, households with both a head and his wife living together. "Relatives" (male) and "other relatives" (female) include relatives of the head such as parents, grandchildren, brothers and sisters, and relatives-in-law. Nonrelatives include persons such as lodgers, partners, and resident servants and hired hands.

Marital status.--Persons are classified as "married, spouse present" if the husband or wife was reported as a resident member of the household even though the husband or wife may have been temporarily away on business or vacation, visiting, in a hospital, etc., at the time of the enumeration. All other persons are classified as of "other marital status."

Tenure of home.--All heads of households are classified as "owners" if the dwelling unit in which the head was living was owned by him or a member of his family who was living in the

dwelling unit or temporarily absent from it. Heads of all other dwelling units are classified as "tenants."

Type of housing.--All persons in households are classified as living in either "private dwellings" or "public housing projects or special dwelling places." Private dwellings are units such as ordinary houses, apartments, units above or behind a store, or cottages. Public housing projects are housing projects owned by a city, county, State, or the Federal government. Special dwelling places include houses or separate living quarters for officials or employees on the grounds of an institution; rooms, suites of rooms, or apartments which constitute separate dwelling units (for employees or for rent) in hotels or dormitories; trailers in trailer camps; and regular dwelling units on military posts and naval stations.

Persons in private dwellings are further classified as living in structures containing one dwelling unit, or two or more dwelling units.

Source and reliability of the estimates.--The 1947 estimates presented in this report are based on data obtained in connection with the Census Bureau's Survey of Population, Labor Force, and Housing conducted in April, 1947. This survey covered about 30,000 households located in 148 sample areas in 44 States and the District of Columbia, each area comprising one or more counties or parts of counties. The households surveyed were private dwelling units and other units in dwelling places such as rooming houses, hotels, school dormitories, and various types of institutions.

The estimating procedure used in this survey involved, as a final step, the inflation of weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian population of the United States by age, color, sex, and veteran status. These estimates were based on statistics from the 1940 Census of Population, statistics of births, deaths, and foreign immigration, and statistics on the strength of the armed forces. The estimate of the number of veterans of World War II in continental United States on April 1, 1947, is a provisional estimate based on statistics available at the time this survey was made. It was prepared from separation records of the armed forces and excludes reenlistments, deaths after discharge from the service, and discharges outside continental United States. The distribution by age was obtained from a sample of separation records.

The figures on migration of the civilian population from 1935 to 1940 were obtained from the 1940 Census of Population reports, "Internal Migration, 1935 to 1940," and are based on a complete enumeration of the population.

Since the 1947 estimates, except the independent estimates mentioned above, are based on a sample survey, they are subject to sampling variability. The following table presents the approximate sampling variability of estimates of selected sizes for the United States. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference between the estimate and the figure which would have been obtained from a complete census

is less than the sampling variability indicated below:

Size of estimate	Sampling variability	Size of estimate	Sampling variability
100,000.....	42,000	5,000,000.....	377,000
300,000.....	78,000	10,000,000.....	540,000
500,000.....	104,000	20,000,000.....	760,000
1,000,000.....	155,000	40,000,000.....	1,000,000
3,000,000.....	288,000		

The reliability of an estimated percentage depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total on which it is based. The following table presents the approximate sampling variability of estimated percentages based on totals of selected sizes for the United States:

If the estimated percentage is:	And if the size of the base is:							
	30,000,000	20,000,000	10,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000	500,000
	Then the chances are about 19 out of 20 that the difference between the estimated percentage and the percentage which would have been obtained from a complete census is less than:							
5	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.8	3.7
10	1.0	1.1	1.5	2.1	2.5	2.9	4.1	5.5
25	1.4	1.7	2.3	3.1	3.8	4.4	5.9	8.1
50	1.6	1.9	2.6	3.6	4.3	5.2	6.9	9.4
75	1.4	1.7	2.3	3.1	3.8	4.4	5.9	8.1
90	1.0	1.1	1.5	2.1	2.5	2.9	4.1	5.5
95	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.8	3.7

Estimates of characteristics of the population by urban-rural residence, of characteristics on the nonwhite population, and of the regional distribution of the population are subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than that shown in the above tables.

The reliability of an estimated median depends upon both the form and the size of the distribution on which it is based. For example, migrants between noncontiguous States had completed an estimated 12.0 years of school in 1947. The chances are about 19 out of 20 that the median which would have been obtained from a complete census is between 11.4 and 12.1 years of school.

The estimates of sampling variability shown above are not directly applicable to differences obtained by subtracting one figure from another. The sampling variability in an observed difference between two estimates depends on the sampling variability of each of the estimates and the correlation between them.

In addition to sampling variation, the estimates are subject to biases due to errors of response and to nonreporting, but the possible effect of such biases is not included in the above measures of reliability. There is evidence that in the survey veterans were underrepresented in the sample relative to non-veterans and that some veterans were incorrectly reported as nonveterans. Veterans are concentrated in the age groups in which the population is more mobile than the population of older ages. Veterans are, therefore, subject to greater underenumeration than older persons whose place of residence is more firmly established. In addition, veterans whose length of service was short may in some cases be erroneously classified as nonveterans by the respondent. Therefore, although the total number of veterans is controlled by independent figures, the distribution of veterans by migration status may be affected.

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