

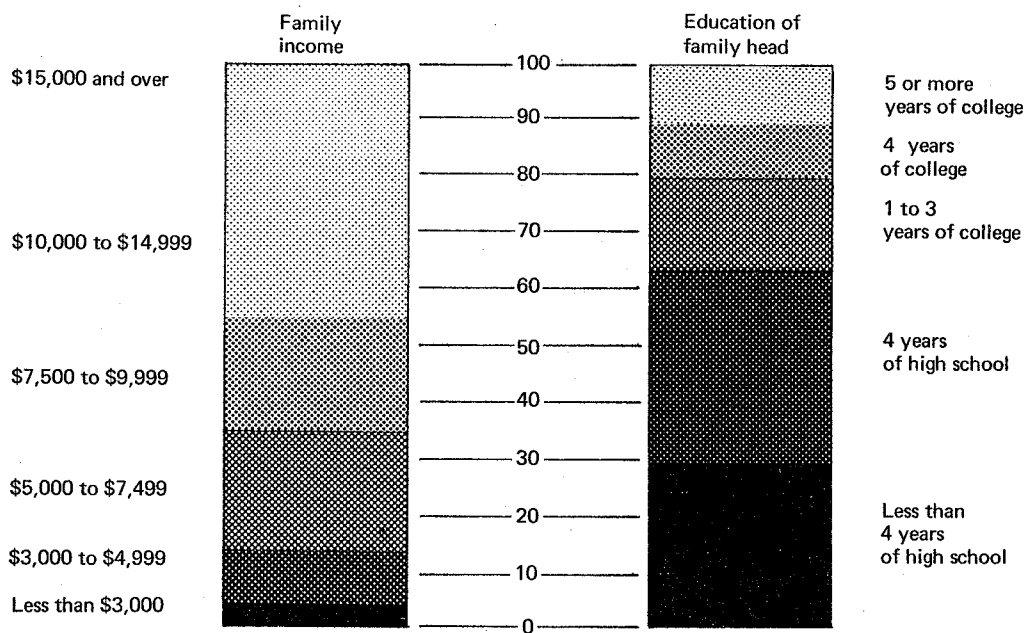
# Population Characteristics

Series P-20, No. 183

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## CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS AND THEIR COLLEGES OCTOBER 1966

**Family Income and Education of Family Head, of Dependents  
Age 14 to 34 Enrolled in College: October 1966**



Note: Income distribution based on total reporting.

Percent



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# CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS AND THEIR COLLEGES

## OCTOBER 1966

College students in October 1966 were more likely to be living with their parents or other relatives or in their own households than they were to be living in college housing; they were more likely to be majoring in education than in any other specific field; and they were more likely to be enrolled in public colleges than in private colleges. Those students who were dependent family members were receiving more education than the head of their family had received, were likely to be from families whose head was a white-collar worker, and were likely to be from a family whose income in 1965 was \$7,500 or more. These results are based on the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1966 by the Bureau of the Census.

In addition to the basic demographic characteristics of college students, such as age, sex, and color, which were presented in the earlier report in this series on school enrollment in October 1966, this report presents data on the characteristics of students and their colleges which are not available in the earlier report. These characteristics include year of high school graduation, family income, occupation and education of family head, living arrangements, type and size of college, control of college, predominant race of enrollees, tuition and fees, field of specialization, and college rank.

In October 1966, there were 5,999,000 persons 14 to 34 years old enrolled in college. Of those enrolled, 3,710,000, or 62 percent, were male and 2,289,000, or 38 percent, were female. White students constituted 94 percent of college enrollment and nonwhites 6 percent. There were 4,953,000 students enrolled in 4-year colleges and 1,046,000 enrolled in 2-year colleges. Among the 3,348,000 students enrolled in the first and second years of college, 2,302,000, or 69 percent, were enrolled in 4-year colleges and 1,046,000, or 31 percent, were enrolled in 2-year colleges (tables A and 1).

### YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Students enrolled in their first year of college in October 1966 were more likely to have graduated from high school in 1966 than in some earlier year. However, freshmen in 4-year colleges were more likely to be recent high school graduates than were freshmen in 2-year colleges. Of fresh-

men enrolled in a 2-year college, 40 percent had graduated from high school before 1966, whereas only 32 percent of freshmen enrolled in a 4-year college had graduated before 1966. A similar difference is also seen among those freshmen in 1966 who had graduated from high school 5 or more years before. Of freshmen enrolled in a 2-year college, 17 percent had graduated from high school in 1961 or earlier, whereas only 12 percent of the freshmen in a 4-year college had graduated from high school this long ago. Males were more likely to delay their entrance into college than were females, probably because of military service, among other reasons. The percent of males enrolled in the first 4 years of college who graduated from high school in 1961 or earlier was 19 percent, whereas the comparable figure for females was 12 percent.

Table A.--TYPE OF COLLEGE ATTENDED BY PERSONS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, BY RACE AND SEX: OCTOBER 1966

(In thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Race and sex | Total<br>enrolled | Type of college   |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|              |                   | 2-year<br>college | 4-year<br>college |
| ALL CLASSES  |                   |                   |                   |
| Total.....   | 5,999             | 1,046             | 4,953             |
| Male.....    | 3,710             | 612               | 3,099             |
| Female.....  | 2,289             | 435               | 1,854             |
| WHITE        |                   |                   |                   |
| Total.....   | 5,625             | 965               | 4,660             |
| Male.....    | 3,499             | 572               | 2,927             |
| Female.....  | 2,126             | 393               | 1,733             |
| NONWHITE     |                   |                   |                   |
| Total.....   | 374               | 81                | 293               |
| Male.....    | 211               | 40                | 172               |
| Female.....  | 163               | 42                | 121               |

### FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS OF DEPENDENT STUDENTS

There were 4,265,000 students enrolled in college in 1966 who were dependent family members (primarily unmarried sons and daughters). Most

**Table B.--YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY FAMILY HEAD OF DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE: OCTOBER 1966**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Years of school completed by family head | Number | Percent |
|------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Total, dependent family members.....     | 4,265  | 100.0   |
| 3 yrs. of high school or less.....       | 1,270  | 29.8    |
| 4 years of high school.....              | 1,416  | 33.2    |
| 1 to 3 years of college.....             | 689    | 16.2    |
| 4 years of college.....                  | 442    | 10.4    |
| 5 or more years of college....           | 449    | 10.5    |

of these students were receiving more education than had the heads of their families. For 63 percent of these students, their family head had not completed any years of college, and for 30 percent their family head had not even completed high school (tables B and 2).

Most students enrolled in college were from families where the head was a white-collar worker; and most were from families whose income in 1965 was \$7,500 or more; but 12 percent were from families where the income was under \$5,000 (tables C and D).

Family background is important in determining whether a student attends a 2- or a 4-year college. Students enrolled in college were more likely to attend a 2-year rather than 4-year college if their family head had a relatively low level of educational attainment than if the family head had a relatively high level of educational attainment. Among students enrolled in college, 21 percent of those whose family head had completed less than 4 years of college were attending a 2-year college and 79

**Table C.--OCCUPATION OF FAMILY HEAD OF DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE: OCTOBER 1966**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Occupation of family head                         | Number | Percent |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Total, dependent family members.....              | 4,265  | 100.0   |
| Head in experienced civilian labor force.....     | 3,890  | 91.2    |
| White-collar workers.....                         | 2,316  | 54.3    |
| Prof., tech., & kindred wkrs....                  | 765    | 17.9    |
| Other white-collar workers.....                   | 1,550  | 36.3    |
| Blue-collar, service, & farm wkrs.                | 1,574  | 36.9    |
| Head not in experienced civilian labor force..... | 376    | 8.8     |

**Table D.--FAMILY INCOME OF DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE: OCTOBER 1966**

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Family income                        | Number | Percent |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Total, dependent family members..... | 4,265  | 100.0   |
| Under \$3,000.....                   | 159    | 3.7     |
| \$3,000 to \$4,999.....              | 371    | 8.7     |
| \$5,000 to \$7,499.....              | 796    | 18.7    |
| \$7,500 to \$9,999.....              | 758    | 17.8    |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999.....            | 1,082  | 25.4    |
| \$15,000 and over.....               | 682    | 16.0    |
| Not reported.....                    | 416    | 9.8     |

percent were attending a 4-year college. However, only 10 percent of those students whose family head had completed 4 or more years of college were enrolled in 2-year colleges and 90 percent were enrolled in 4-year colleges. The college students from families whose head was a blue-collar worker were more likely to be enrolled in a 2-year college, 22 percent, than were the dependents of white-collar workers, 16 percent. Among the enrolled dependents of professional, technical, and kindred workers, only 11 percent were enrolled in 2-year colleges and 89 percent were enrolled in 4-year colleges. Generally, similar relationships held for family income, as students from families with higher incomes were more likely to attend a 4-year college than were students from families with lower incomes (table E).

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN 4-YEAR COLLEGES

Of the 4,953,000 students enrolled in 4-year colleges, 60 percent were enrolled in public colleges, 35 percent were enrolled in private colleges, and 6 percent were enrolled in colleges where the type of control was not known. About half the Negro students were enrolled in colleges where the predominance of students were white, but very few white students were enrolled in predominantly Negro colleges (tables F and 3).

Students from high income families were more likely to attend private schools, larger schools, and more expensive schools. Of those students whose family income was more than \$10,000, 44 percent were enrolled in private schools compared to 31 percent of those with a family income of less than \$10,000. Over 42 percent of the students from families whose incomes were \$10,000 or more went to colleges with an enrollment size of over

Table E.--TYPE OF COLLEGE OF DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, BY EDUCATION AND OCCUPATION OF FAMILY HEAD AND BY FAMILY INCOME: OCTOBER 1966

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Subject                                              | Total<br>enrolled | Type of college   |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                                      |                   | 2-year<br>college | 4-year<br>college |
| YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED<br>BY FAMILY HEAD          |                   |                   |                   |
| Total, dependent family members...                   | 100.0             | 18.9              | 81.1              |
| 3 years of high school or less.....                  | 100.0             | 23.6              | 76.4              |
| 4 years of high school.....                          | 100.0             | 19.5              | 80.5              |
| 1 to 3 years of college.....                         | 100.0             | 20.3              | 79.7              |
| 4 years of college.....                              | 100.0             | 12.9              | 87.1              |
| 5 or more years of college.....                      | 100.0             | 7.1               | 92.9              |
| OCCUPATION OF FAMILY HEAD                            |                   |                   |                   |
| Total, dependent family members...                   | 100.0             | 18.9              | 81.1              |
| Head in experienced civilian labor<br>force.....     | 100.0             | 18.4              | 81.6              |
| White-collar workers.....                            | 100.0             | 15.8              | 84.2              |
| Professional, tech., & kind. wkrs...                 | 100.0             | 11.5              | 88.5              |
| Other white-collar workers.....                      | 100.0             | 17.9              | 82.1              |
| Blue-collar, service, & farm wkrs....                | 100.0             | 22.1              | 77.9              |
| Head not in experienced civilian labor<br>force..... | 100.0             | 24.1              | 75.9              |
| FAMILY INCOME <sup>1</sup>                           |                   |                   |                   |
| Total, dependent family members...                   | 100.0             | 18.9              | 81.1              |
| Under \$3,000.....                                   | 100.0             | 24.2              | 75.8              |
| \$3,000 to \$4,999.....                              | 100.0             | 24.7              | 75.3              |
| \$5,000 to \$7,499.....                              | 100.0             | 22.7              | 77.3              |
| \$7,500 to \$9,999.....                              | 100.0             | 23.3              | 76.7              |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999.....                            | 100.0             | 16.0              | 84.0              |
| \$15,000 and over.....                               | 100.0             | 10.5              | 89.5              |
| Not reported.....                                    | 100.0             | 17.5              | 82.5              |

<sup>1</sup>Income for preceding 12 months.

10,000 students, whereas 36 percent of the students with lower family income attended these colleges. And 28 percent of the students from families with incomes over \$10,000 attended colleges charging tuition and fees of \$1,000 or more compared to only 14 percent of the students from families with lower incomes (table 4).

There were differences in the types of 4-year colleges attended by students from different regions of the United States. Students residing in the West were more likely to be enrolled in public colleges than were students from the other regions--76 percent of the students residing in the West were enrolled in public colleges, whereas only 36 percent of the students residing in the

Northeast were in public colleges. Students residing in the Northeast were more likely to attend private colleges, both secular and church-related, than were the students residing in the other regions. Students living in the Northeast were also more likely to attend colleges where the basic costs (tuitions and fees) were higher than at the colleges attended by students from the other regions--specifically, 45 percent of the students from the Northeast were in colleges where tuitions and fees were \$1,000 or more for the academic year, whereas only 15 percent of the students from the North Central Region and 9 percent of the students from the South and from the West were in schools where the basic cost of college was this high.

Table F.--RACE OF PERSONS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN 4-YEAR COLLEGES, BY TYPE OF COLLEGE CONTROL AND PREDOMINANT ENROLLMENT RACE: OCTOBER 1966

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Type of control and predominant race of college | Total enrolled | White | Negro |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|-------|
| <b>TYPE OF CONTROL</b>                          |                |       |       |
| All colleges.....                               | 100.0          | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Public.....                                     | 59.6           | 59.8  | 52.9  |
| Private.....                                    | 34.9           | 34.9  | 36.7  |
| Private secular.....                            | 18.6           | 18.8  | 13.6  |
| Church related.....                             | 16.3           | 16.2  | 23.1  |
| Roman Catholic....                              | 7.8            | 8.1   | 3.2   |
| Other.....                                      | 8.6            | 8.1   | 19.9  |
| Not available.....                              | 5.5            | 5.2   | 10.4  |
| <b>PREDOMINANT RACE</b>                         |                |       |       |
| All colleges.....                               | 100.0          | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Negro.....                                      | 2.3            | -     | 50.7  |
| White and other.....                            | 92.2           | 94.7  | 38.9  |
| Not available.....                              | 5.5            | 5.2   | 10.4  |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

### LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Only about 29 percent of the Nation's college students were living in college housing, such as dormitories and fraternity or sorority houses. Approximately 33 percent were living with their parents or other relatives, and 24 percent were living in their own households (that is, were household heads or wives of heads). Women who were attending college were more likely to be living in college housing than were men students. The men students were more likely to be residing in their own households than were the women students (tables G and 6).

Table G.--LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF PERSONS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, BY SEX: OCTOBER 1966

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Living arrangements                 | Total enrolled | Male  | Female |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------|--------|
| Total.....                          | 100.0          | 100.0 | 100.0  |
| In own household <sup>1</sup> ..... | 23.8           | 27.1  | 18.5   |
| With parents or other relative..... | 33.2           | 31.9  | 35.3   |
| In college housing.....             | 28.8           | 26.1  | 33.1   |
| Other <sup>2</sup> .....            | 14.2           | 14.9  | 13.1   |

<sup>1</sup>Includes wives of household heads.

<sup>2</sup>Includes 2.3 percent not reporting on living arrangements.

### MARITAL STATUS

About 21 percent of the students enrolled in college were married and living with their spouse. This proportion was higher for men than for women students (24 percent and 15 percent, respectively), and was higher in 4-year colleges than in 2-year colleges.

Table H.--MARITAL STATUS OF PERSONS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, BY TYPE OF COLLEGE, RACE, AND SEX: OCTOBER 1966

(Civilian noninstitutional population)

| Type of college, and race and sex of student | Total enrolled | Married, spouse present | Other marital status |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>ALL COLLEGES</b>                          |                |                         |                      |
| All Races                                    |                |                         |                      |
| Total.....                                   | 100.0          | 20.8                    | 79.2                 |
| Male.....                                    | 100.0          | 24.4                    | 75.6                 |
| Female.....                                  | 100.0          | 14.8                    | 85.2                 |
| Negro                                        |                |                         |                      |
| Total.....                                   | 100.0          | 14.5                    | 85.5                 |
| Male.....                                    | 100.0          | 16.9                    | 83.8                 |
| Female.....                                  | (B)            | (B)                     | (B)                  |
| <b>2-YEAR COLLEGES</b>                       |                |                         |                      |
| All Races                                    |                |                         |                      |
| Total.....                                   | 100.0          | 15.8                    | 84.1                 |
| Male.....                                    | 100.0          | 20.4                    | 79.6                 |
| Female.....                                  | 100.0          | 9.2                     | 90.6                 |

B Base less than 150,000.

### FIELD OF SPECIALIZATION

Of the 5,999,000 students enrolled, more were majoring in education, 1,118,000, than in any other field of specialization. The next most frequent field of study was business, with 888,000 students majoring in this area. The students majoring in education were more likely to be enrolled in a 4-year college, 89 percent, than were the students majoring in business 74 percent (table 7). Students in 4-year colleges majoring in education were also more likely to be enrolled in public colleges, 76 percent, than were the students majoring in business, 62 percent.

Among dependent students, females who were majoring in education were more likely to be from families with incomes as high as \$10,000 than were the male students majoring in education. Of the female students majoring in education, 38 percent were from families where the income was \$10,000 or more, whereas only 26 percent of the male

students majoring in education were from families where the income was this high (table 8). The reverse was true for students whose major field of study was business--46 percent of the males majoring in business were from families with incomes over \$10,000 per year, but only 26 percent of the females.

### COLLEGE RANK

Of the 5,999,000 students enrolled in college, 43 percent were enrolled in colleges of medium ranking as determined by the index of freshmen aptitude, 16 percent were enrolled in low-ranking colleges, 23 percent in high-ranking colleges, and 19 percent were enrolled in colleges for which no index of freshmen aptitude was available. Students residing in the South and West were more likely to attend colleges of low rank than were students residing in the Northeast and North Central Regions. Negro students were more likely to attend low-ranking colleges, 32 percent, than were white students, 15 percent (table 10). (See definitions section for a description of the method of ranking colleges.)

The dependent college students most likely to attend the high-ranking colleges were the dependents of household heads who were well-educated, who were white-collar workers, and who had high incomes. Of the students whose family head had completed 4 or more years of college, 39 percent attended high-ranking colleges, whereas less than 20 percent of the remaining students attended colleges in this category. Of the students whose family head was a white-collar worker, 28 percent attended high-ranking colleges, whereas 14 percent of the remaining students were attending colleges in this category; and of students whose family income exceeded \$15,000, 40 percent were in high-ranking colleges compared with 17 percent of the students from families with lower incomes (table 9).

### RELATED REPORTS

Enrollment data for all levels of school in October 1966 were presented in Series P-20, No. 167. Statistics on school enrollment for years prior to 1966 and for more recent years are presented in other reports in Series P-20. Statistics on educational change between generations can be found in Series P-20, Nos. 110 and 132.

1950 and 1960 Census data.--Statistics on college enrollment for cities, standard metropolitan statistical areas, States, regions, and the United States appear in reports of the decennial censuses. Detailed statistics on school enrollment by age and

socioeconomic characteristics for regions and the United States are presented in Subject Reports of the 1960 Census, especially in PC(2)-5A, School Enrollment.

Figures on college enrollment from the October Current Population Surveys differ from decennial census data for reasons in addition to the difference in the dates. In the first place, the survey data exclude the institutional population and members of the Armed Forces. These two groups were included in the census. Second, there were differences in field work. The small group of Current Population Survey enumerators were more experienced and had more intensive training and supervision than the large number of temporary Census enumerators and often may have obtained more accurate answers from respondents. Third, the census was taken in April and relates to enrollment since February 1, whereas the surveys were taken in October and relate to enrollment in the current term. This difference in months of the year affects not only the extent of college enrollment (through "dropouts" during the school year, etc.) but also the level of college in which persons of a given age are enrolled.

Data from school systems.--Information on college enrollment and educational attainment is also collected and published by Federal, State, and local governmental agencies, and by independent research organizations. This information is generally obtained from reports of institutions of higher learning, and from other surveys and censuses. These data are only roughly comparable with data collected by the Bureau of the Census by household interviews, however, because of differences in definitions, subject matter covered, and enumeration methods. The census data are subject to sampling variability, which may be relatively large where numbers for specific age or population groups, or for given school categories, are small.

### DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Population coverage.--The figures shown are for the civilian population excluding the relatively small number of inmates of institutions.

Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence.--The population residing in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) constitutes the metropolitan population. Except in New England, an SMSA is 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 are included in an

SMSA if, according to certain criteria, they are essentially metropolitan in character and are socially and economically integrated with the central city. In New England, SMSA's consist of towns and cities, rather than counties. The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA's as defined in the 1960 Census and does not include any subsequent additions or changes.

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.

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, Mississippi, Maryland, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

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

College enrollment.--The school enrollment statistics from the current surveys are based on replies to the enumerator's inquiry as to whether the person had been enrolled at any time during the current term or school year in any type of public, parochial, or other private college in the regular school system. Attendance may be on either a full-time or part-time basis and during the day or night. Thus, regular schooling is that which may advance a person toward a college, university, or professional school degree.

Persons enrolled in classes which do not require physical presence in school, such as correspondence courses or other courses of independent study, and in training courses given directly on the job, are also excluded from the count of those enrolled in school, unless such courses are being counted for credit at a "regular" school.

College characteristics.--Information provided by the U.S. Office of Education was used to classify the colleges attended by college students in October 1966 according to type of college, type of control, enrollment size, predominant race, and required tuitions and fees.

Type of college.--The classification refers to whether a college is a 2-year institution, such as

a community or junior college, or a school offering at least 4 years of education beyond high school. Schools with graduate programs are included as "4-year colleges."

Type of control.--In this report, the term "type of control" refers to the legal control over the college. A public college is an institution of higher education operated under public legal control. Private colleges include institutions of higher education established and operated by religious bodies, as well as those which are under other private legal control. Private secular colleges are those whose legal control is not public or church related.

Enrollment size.--This term refers to the enrollment size of colleges in the fall of 1965. Enrollment includes all full and part-time students whose programs consisted of work normally creditable toward a bachelor's or higher degree. Counted in enrollment size are undergraduate, graduate, resident, extension, day and evening students.

Predominant race.--Colleges were classified according to whether the predominant number of students enrolled were Negroes or of some other race.

Tuition and fees.--The statistics on tuition and fees refer to the required tuition and fees for the 1965 academic year.

Field of specialization.--Information on field of specialization was obtained in response to a question asking for the student's major field of study.

Rank of college by index of freshman aptitude.--The colleges attended by students enumerated in the October 1966 Current Population Survey were ranked on the basis of a study connected with the "Project Talent" survey of high school students conducted in 1960 and subsequent years. "Project Talent" was a survey of high school students in the United States conducted by the University of Pittsburgh with the financial support of the U.S. Office of Education. Beginning in 1961 and ending in 1964, the aptitude scores on reading comprehension, abstract reasoning, and mathematics of students from each successive high school class entering college were obtained and combined into a composite score. These composite scores were standardized to a distribution with a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 10. The standardized scores for all of the students in the "Project Talent" survey attending a given college were then averaged and the resultant score was assigned to that institution as the index of freshman aptitude. In this report, institutions with an index of 47 to 52 were classified as "medium" rank colleges,



those with an index of less than 47 were ranked as "low," and those with an index of 53 or higher were ranked as "high." In general, institutions with less than 10 freshmen in the "Project Talent" survey were not ranked.

The criteria for determining the relative ranking of colleges differ, somewhat, from those used in the advance report, "Men with College Degrees: March 1967," Series P-20, No. 180, and in the forthcoming final report on these men. In ranking colleges from which males with college degrees graduated, those institutions with an index of 50 to 55 were classified as "medium" rank colleges, those with an index of less than 50 were ranked as "low," and those with an index of 56 or higher were ranked as "high."

Different criteria were used in determining the relative rank of colleges in the two surveys because the 1966 survey included all students enrolled in 2-year and 4-year colleges, whereas, the 1967 survey of male college graduates included only male graduates of 4-year colleges. Moreover, there were substantial differences in the proportion in unranked colleges in the 1966 survey of college students (19 percent) and in the 1967 survey of male college graduates (9 percent).

Of the college students in the October 1966 survey, 43 percent were enrolled in colleges of medium rank, 16 percent in colleges of low rank, 23 percent in colleges of high rank, and 19 percent in unranked colleges. If the same criteria had been used in ranking the colleges of the students in the October 1966 survey as were used in ranking colleges in the 1967 survey of males with college degrees, 38 percent would have been counted as enrolled in colleges of medium rank, 35 percent in colleges of low rank, 9 percent in colleges of high rank, and 19 percent in unranked colleges.

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

Race and color.--The term "race" refers to the division of population into three groups, white, Negro, and other races. The group designated as "other races" consists of Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. The term "color" refers to the two-fold classification white and nonwhite..

Years of school completed.--Data on years of school completed in this report were derived from the combination of answers to two questions: (a) "What is the highest grade of school he has ever attended?" and (b) "Did he finish this grade?" The questions on educational attainment apply only

to progress in "regular" schools. Such schools include graded public, private, and parochial elementary and high schools (both junior and senior high), colleges, universities, and professional schools, whether day schools or night schools. Thus, regular schooling is that which may advance a person toward an elementary school certificate or high school diploma, or a college, university, or professional school degree. Schooling in other than regular schools was counted only if the credits obtained were regarded as transferable to a school in the regular school system.

Marital status.--The marital status category shown in this report, "married, spouse present," includes persons who are currently married and living with their spouse.

Living arrangements.--College students were classified on the basis of special questions according to the type or place where they lived while attending school. Four categories of living arrangements were delimited: (1) In own household, which includes students who were heads of households and wives of heads; (2) with parents or other relatives; (3) in college housing--dormitories, and fraternity and sorority houses; and (4) other--rooming houses, and private rooms and apartments away from the college grounds.

Family.--The term "family," as used here, refers to a group of two persons or more related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of one family.

Head of family.--One person in each family residing together was designated as the head. The head of a family is usually the person regarded as the head by members of the family. Women are not classified as heads if their husbands are resident members of the family at the time of the survey, except in the case of husbands who are in the Armed Forces, since the October survey included only the civilian population. Married couples related to the head of a family are included in the head's family and are not classified as separate families.

Dependent family members.--For the purpose of this report, a dependent family member is a relative of the household head, excluding the head's wife or any other relative who is married with a spouse present. Such persons are generally sons and daughters of the household head. However, members who are living away from home while attending college are also counted as dependent family members unless they are married and living with spouse.

Experienced civilian labor force.--The experienced civilian labor force comprises employed civilian workers and experienced unemployed workers.

Occupation.--Data on occupation relate to the job held during the survey week for the employed or the last job held for the experienced unemployed. Data are shown for two broad occupational groups (white-collar workers; and blue-collar, service, and farm workers). The "white-collar" group includes professional workers, proprietors, managers, and sales and clerical workers. The "blue-collar, service, and farm workers" group includes craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers; operatives and kindred workers; service workers; laborers, both farm and nonfarm; and farmers, farm foremen, and farm managers. The detailed occupational composition of these groups is mainly the same as that shown in the 1960 Census of Population report, Volume I, Characteristics of the Population, Part I, United States Summary.

Family income.--Income as defined in this report represents the combined total money income of the family before deductions for personal taxes, Social Security, bonds, etc. It is the algebraic sum of money wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, and income other than earnings received by all family members during the 12 months prior to the October 1966 survey. It should be noted that, although the family income statistics refer to receipts during the previous 12 months, the characteristics of the persons, such as age, college enrollment, etc., refer to the date of the survey.

The income tables include in the lowest income group (under \$3,000) those that were classified as having no income in the previous 12 months and those reporting a loss in net income from farm and nonfarm self-employment or in rental income.

The income tables in this report include a separate category for families for whom no income information was obtained. In most of the other Current Population Survey reports showing income data, the missing income data have been allocated.

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.

## SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Source of data.--The estimates are based on obtained in October 1966 in the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census. The sample is spread over 357 areas comprising 701 counties and independent cities, with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 35,000 occupied housing units are designated for interview in the Current Population Survey each month. Of this number, 1,500 occupied units, on the average, are visited but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 35,000, there are also about 5,000 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be enumerated.

The estimating procedure used in this survey involved the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, color, and sex. These independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1960 Census of Population; statistics of births, deaths, immigration, and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces.

Reliability of the estimates.--Since the estimates 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 schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting as well as being subject to sampling variability.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of response and enumeration errors but does not measure any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

The figures presented in tables I and J are approximations to the standard errors of various estimates shown in this report. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the tables of standard errors provide an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

Table I contains the standard errors for a given class of persons age 14 to 34 enrolled in school.

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon the size of the percentage and the size of the total on which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding absolute estimates of the numerator of the per-

centage, particularly if the percentage is 50 percent or greater.

Table J shows the standard error of estimated percentages for a given class of persons age 14 to 34 enrolled in school.

Table I.--STANDARD ERROR OF ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE

(68 chances out of 100)

| Estimated number | Standard error | Estimated number | Standard error |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 400,000.....     | 23,000         | 5,000,000.....   | 85,000         |
| 500,000.....     | 25,000         | 8,000,000.....   | 103,000        |
| 800,000.....     | 31,000         | 10,000,000.....  | 115,000        |
| 1,000,000.....   | 35,000         | 20,000,000.....  | 121,000        |
| 2,000,000.....   | 52,000         | 25,000,000.....  | 115,000        |
| 2,500,000.....   | 60,000         | 40,000,000.....  | 100,000        |
| 4,000,000.....   | 75,000         |                  |                |

Illustration of the use of tables of standard errors.--Table 7 of this report shows that 1,118,000 or 18.6 percent of the 5,999,000 persons enrolled in college were majoring in education. Table I shows the standard error of the estimated 1,118,000 persons to be approximately 37,000. The chances are 68 out of 100 that a complete census would have shown a figure differing from the estimate by less than 37,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that a census would have shown a figure differing from the estimate by less than 74,000 or twice the standard error.

Table J shows the standard error of 18.6 percent on a base of 5,999,000 to be approximately 0.6 percent. Consequently, chances are about 68 out of 100 that a complete census would have disclosed a figure between 18.0 and 19.2 percent. Chances are 95 out of 100 that the figure shown would have been between 17.4 and 19.8 percent.

Table J.--STANDARD ERROR OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE

(68 chances out of 100)

| Estimated percentage | Base of estimated percentage (thousands) |       |       |        |        |        |        |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                      | 500                                      | 1,000 | 5,000 | 10,000 | 25,000 | 50,000 | 75,000 |
| 2 or 98.....         | 0.8                                      | 0.5   | 0.2   | 0.2    | 0.1    | 0.1    | 0.1    |
| 5 or 95.....         | 1.2                                      | 0.8   | 0.4   | 0.3    | 0.2    | 0.1    | 0.1    |
| 10 or 90.....        | 1.6                                      | 1.1   | 0.5   | 0.4    | 0.2    | 0.2    | 0.1    |
| 25 or 75.....        | 2.3                                      | 1.7   | 0.7   | 0.5    | 0.3    | 0.2    | 0.2    |
| 50.....              | 2.7                                      | 1.9   | 0.9   | 0.6    | 0.4    | 0.3    | 0.2    |