

Appendix A. Definitions and Explanations

Population coverage. The data in this report were collected in conjunction with the November 19 sample survey which covered the population of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The figures shown relate to the civilian noninstitutional population. None of the figures in the report reflect the results of the 1980 decennial census.

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, and Vermont.

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

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

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

The North as used in this report includes the combined Northeast and North Central regions.

Geographic divisions. The nine major geographic divisions for which data are shown in this report represent groups of States as follows:

New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington.

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 1970 census and does not include any subsequent additions or changes, other than the recognition of the Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y. SMSA as an area separate from the New York, N.Y. SMSA.

Central cities. Each SMSA must include at least one central city, and the complete title of an SMSA identifies the central city or cities. If only one central city is designated, then it must have 50,000 inhabitants or more. The area title may include, in addition to the largest city, up to two city names on the basis and in the order of the following criteria: (1) The additional city has at least 250,000 inhabitants or (2) the additional city has a population of one-third or more of that of the largest city and a minimum population of 25,000. An exception occurs where two cities have contiguous boundaries and constitute, for economic and social purposes, a single community of at least 50,000, the smaller of which must have a population of at least 15,000.

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

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

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

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

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

Race. The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race: White, Black, and "other races." The last category includes Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and any other race except White and Black. In this report, "other races" are usually shown in combination with the Black population.

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

Citizenship. All persons 18 years old and over were asked "Is (this person) a citizen of the United States?" Responses were recorded as "Yes," "No," and "Don't know."

Reported voter participation. Voter participation data for 1980 were derived from replies to the following question asked of persons (excluding noncitizens) of voting age: "This month we have some questions concerning registration and voting. In any election some people are not able to vote because they are sick or busy, or have some other reason, and others do not want to vote. Did (this person) vote in the election held on November 4th?"

Those of voting age were classified as "voted" or "did not vote." In most tables, this "did not vote" class includes those reported as "did not vote," "do not know if voted," and nonrespondents, but there are exceptions, which are properly noted in the tables where the "did not vote" class includes only those reported as "did not vote." Nonrespondents and persons who reported that they did not know if they voted were included in the "did not vote" class because of the general overreporting by respondents in the sample.

Data shown in this report on voting for President in 1976 were derived from questions asked in 1980. The question referring to 1976 was as follows: "Thinking back to 1976 did (this person) vote in the Presidential election in that year?"

Reason not voted. Data on reported reason for not voting were collected in the Current Population Survey by asking the following question of those persons who reported that they were registered but did not vote: "What was the main reason (this person) did not vote?"

The answer was recorded in one of the following categories:

- Had no way to get to the polls
- Could not take time off from work
- Out of town or away from home
- Sick or family emergency
- Did not prefer any of the candidates
- Not interested, don't care, etc.
- Other reason
- Don't know

Whether voted in person. Persons who reported that they voted were asked, "Did (this person) vote in person or by absentee ballot?" Responses were recorded as "In person," "Absentee ballot," or "Don't know."

Reported registration. The data shown on registration were obtained by tabulating replies to the following question for those persons included in the category "did not vote." "Was (this person) registered to vote in the November 4th election?"

All persons reported as having voted were assumed to have been registered. Therefore, the total registered population is obtained by combining the number of persons who voted and persons included in the category "did not vote," but who had registered.

Persons eligible to register. The population of voting age includes a considerable number of persons who meet the age

requirement but cannot register and vote. Only citizens are eligible to vote. Among citizens of voting age, some persons are not permitted to vote because they have been committed to penal institutions, mental hospitals, or other institutions, or because they fail to meet State and local resident requirements for various reasons. The eligibility to register is governed by State laws which differ in many respects.

Registration is the act of qualifying to vote by formally enrolling on a list of voters. With certain exceptions, such as for members of the Armed Forces and a few States which permit registration by mail, registration must be done in person. For the majority of States, registration is permanent, that is, once a person has enrolled as a voter his or her name remains on the list as long as he or she continues to vote in the same jurisdiction—usually at least once every two or four years. In a few States or parts of States, voters must register for each election in which they desire to vote. People who have moved to another election district must take steps to have their names placed on the voting rolls in their new place of residence.

In a few States or parts of States, no formal registration is required. Voters merely present themselves at the polling place on election day with proof that they are of age and have met the appropriate residence requirements. Therefore, in these areas persons who are citizens and of voting age, and who meet the residence requirement, would be considered as being registered.

Reason not registered. Data on reported reason for not registering to vote were collected in the Current Population Survey by asking the following question of those persons who reported that they had not registered to vote: "What was the main reason (this person) was not registered to vote?"

The answer was recorded in one of the following categories:

- Recently moved here
- Permanent illness or disability
- Hours or place inconvenient
- Other reason unable to register
- Did not prefer any of the likely candidates
- Not interested, don't care, etc.
- Other reason
- Don't know

Duration of residence. Data on duration of residence were obtained from replies to the following question: "How long has (this person) lived at this address?" The answer was recorded in one of the following categories:

- Less than 1 month
- 1 to 6 months
- 7 to 11 months
- 1 to 2 years
- 3 to 5 years
- 6 years or longer
- Don't know

Marital status. The marital status classification identifies four major categories: single, married, widowed, and divorced. These terms refer to the marital status at the time of the enumeration.

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

Household. A household consists of all the persons who occupy a housing unit. A house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a single room, is regarded as a housing unit when it is occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters; that is, when the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and there is either (1) direct access from the outside or through a common hall or (2) a kitchen or cooking equipment for the exclusive use of the occupants.

A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated persons, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated persons sharing a housing unit as partners, is also counted as a household. The count of households excludes group quarters.

Group quarters. Group quarters are now defined in the Current Population Survey as noninstitutional living arrangement for groups not living in conventional housing units or groups living in housing units containing five or more persons unrelated to the person in charge. Inmates of institutions (starting in 1972) are not included in the Current Population Survey.

Head versus householder. Beginning with the 1980 CPS, the Bureau of the Census discontinued the use of the terms "head of household" and "head of family." Instead, the terms "householder" and "family householder" are used. Recent social changes have resulted in greater sharing of household responsibilities among the adult members and, therefore, have made the term "head" increasingly inappropriate in the analysis of household and family data. Specifically, the Bureau has discontinued its longtime practice of always classifying the husband as the reference person (head) when he and his wife are living together.

In this report, the term "householder" is used in the presentation of data that had previously been presented with the designation "head." The householder is the first adult household member listed on the questionnaire. The instructions call for listing first the person (or one of the persons) in whose name the home is owned or rented. If a home is owned jointly by a married couple, either the husband or the wife may be listed first, thereby becoming the reference person, or householder, to whom the relationship of other householder members is to be recorded.

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

Prior to 1980, the husband was always considered the household head (householder) in married-couple households. The number of householders is equal to the number of households. Also, the number of family householders is equal to the number of families.

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

Primary family. A primary family is a family that includes among its members the person or couple who maintains the household. In the text of this report the term "family households" is used in discussing the households or primary families—a term used in the detailed tables.

Married couple. A married couple, as defined for census purposes, is a husband and wife enumerated as members of the same household. The married couple may or may not have children living with them. The expression "husband-wife" or "married-couple" before the term "household," "family," or "subfamily" indicates that the household, family, or subfamily is maintained by a husband and wife. Detailed tables which display data for characteristics of the head (e.g., age, sex, race) for households or families show characteristics of the husband in husband-wife households or families.

Size of household, family, or subfamily. The term "size of household" includes all persons occupying a housing unit. "Size of family" includes persons in the living quarters who are related to each other by birth, marriage, or adoption. "Size of subfamily" includes the husband and wife or the lone parent and their sons and daughters under 18 years of age who constitute a subfamily. If a primary family has a subfamily among its members, the size of the primary family includes the members of the subfamily.

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

Own children and related children. "Own" children in a family are sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children, of the householder. Similarly, "own" children in a subfamily are sons and daughters of the married couple or parent in the subfamily. "Related" children in a family include own children and all other children in the household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

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

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

Unemployed. Unemployed persons are those civilians who, during the survey week, had no employment but were available for work and (1) had engaged in any specific jobseeking activity within the past 4 weeks, such as registering at a public or private employment office, meeting with prospective employers, checking with friends or relatives, placing or answering advertisements, writing letters of applications, or being on a union or professional register; (2) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off; or (3) were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job within 30 days.

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

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

Occupation. The data on occupation of persons in the civilian labor force refer to the civilian job held during the survey week for currently employed persons and the last full-time civilian job held for at least two weeks for currently unemployed persons. Persons currently employed at two or more jobs were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week.

The occupation groupings used here are mainly the major groups used in the 1970 Census of Population. The composition of these groups is shown in Volume 1, *Characteristics of the Population, Part 1, United States Summary*, chapter D. The categories used are either detailed classifications or combinations thereof.

The class-of-worker classification specifies "wage and salary workers" and "self-employed workers." Wage and salary workers received wages, salary, commissions, tips, pay in kind, or piece rates from a private employer or from a government unit. Self-employed workers have their own business, profession, or trade, or operate a farm for profit or fees. The self-employed include unpaid family workers.

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 month prior to the November 1978 survey. It should be noted that, although the family income statistics refer to receipts during the previous 12 months, the characteristics of the person, such as age, labor force status, etc., and the composition of families refer to the date of the survey.

The income tables include in the lowest income group (under \$5,000) those who were classified as having no income in the preceding 12 months and those reporting a loss in net income from farm and nonfarm self-employment or in

rental income. Many of these were living on income "in kind," savings, or gifts; or were newly constituted families, or families in which the sole breadwinner had recently died or had left the household. However, many of the families who reported no income probably had some money income which was not recorded in the survey.

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.

The money income level of families shown in this report may be somewhat understated. Income data from the November control card are based on the respondent's estimate of total family money income for the preceding 12 months coded in broad, fixed income intervals. Income data collected in the March supplement to the Current Population Survey are based on responses to 8 direct questions asked for all persons 14 years old and over identifying 14 different sources of income and cover the preceding calendar year.

Previous research has shown that the use of broad income intervals to record money income tends to reduce the rate of nonreporting while increasing the likelihood that the amounts reported will be significantly understated as compared with results from more detailed questions.

Years of school completed. In this report, data on years of school completed were derived from the combination of answers to two questions, (a) "What is the highest grade of school that the person has attended?" and (b) "Did the person finish this grade?"

The questions on educational attainment applied only to progress in "regular" schools. Such schools include 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 advances a person toward an elementary 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.

Rounding of estimates. Individual numbers are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded. Derived measures are based on unrounded numbers when possible; otherwise, they are based on the rounded numbers.

Symbols. A dash (—) represents zero or a number which rounds to zero. The symbol "B" means that the base is too small to show the derived measure; "NA" means not available; and "X" means not applicable.