NOTICE TO USERS

Last year, the Census Bureau announced its intention to offer more information in electronic format while reducing the number of printed reports. This change is now being implemented for the P20 Current Population Reports series. Many P20 reports, such as the Household and Family Characteristics report, will now be printed every other year.

Instead, to keep you informed of the major findings from the Current Population Survey, short data updates will be produced each year and made available in both printed and electronic forms. Additionally, the detailed tabulations that have been part of the printed reports will be updated annually in electronic form on the Internet. If you wish to obtain the new tabulations for March 1996, updating Household and Family Characteristics: March 1995 (Current Population Reports, P20-488), please see the “Detailed Tabulations” section at the end of this update.

Our decision to modify the format of the P20 series is based on a variety of factors. Ultimately, we hope this decision will provide users with more timely data on a wider variety of topics. If you have comments about this change or the P20 series in general, please contact us on the Internet at: pop@census.gov, or write to: Chief, Population Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

Detailed tabulations are now available which provide statistics on the composition of households and families in the United States, based on the March 1996 Current Population Survey. These tables provide information such as:

- The average number of people per household was 2.65.
- Married couples with their own children under age 18 accounted for 25 percent of all households.
- 29.2 million households were maintained by women with no husband present (29 percent of all households).
- 32 percent of all family groups with children were single-parent situations.
- People living alone made up 25 percent of all households.