

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 121 490

RC 008 966

AUTHOR Banks, Vera J.: And Others  
 TITLE Farm Population of the United States: 1974. Current Population Reports, Farm Population.  
 INSTITUTION Bureau of the Census (DOC), Suitland, Md. Population Div.  
 PUB DATE Dec 75  
 NOTE 23p.; For related documents, see ED 058 385 and ED 098 002  
 AVAILABLE FROM Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (Order No. ERS-P-27, No. 46, \$0.55)

EDRS PRICE MF-\$0.83 HC-\$1.67 plus Postage  
 DESCRIPTORS Age; Agricultural Laborers; Birth Rate; \*Census Figures; \*Comparative Analysis; \*Demography; Employment; Family Income; Industry; \*Labor Force; Population Trends; Racial Differences; \*Rural Farm Residents; Rural Urban Differences; Sex Differences; Socioeconomic Status: Tables (Data)  
 IDENTIFIERS \*Nonfarm Population

ABSTRACT

Based on data derived primarily from the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census, this statistical report presents demographic and labor force characteristics of the U.S. farm population and a comparison of selected characteristics of the farm and nonfarm population. Tabular data are presented as follows: (1) Population of the U.S., Total and Farm: April 1960 and 1974; (2) Persons 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture and Nonagricultural Industries by Farm-Nonfarm Residence and Race: April 1974 and 1970; (3) Nonfarm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker and Sex: April 1974 and 1970; (4) Selected Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Populations by Race: 1974; (5) Farm Population, by Age and Sex: April 1974 and 1970; (6) Farm Population, by Race and Sex, for Broad Age Groups: April 1974 and 1970; (7) Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Sex: April 1974 and 1970; by Regions: April 1974; (8) Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Race and Sex, for Regions: April 1974; (9) Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex: April 1974 and 1970; by Regions: April 1974; (10) Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Nonagricultural Industries by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex, for Regions: April 1974. (JC)

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished \*  
 \* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort \*  
 \* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal \*  
 \* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality \*  
 \* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available \*  
 \* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not \*  
 \* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions \*  
 \* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

RC



THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY.

# Farm Population

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / Bureau of the Census

Series Census—ERS  
P-27, No. 46

Issued December 1975

## FARM POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES: 1974

An average of 9,264,000 persons lived on farms in rural areas of the United States in the 12-month period centered on April 1974 (table A). Of the 211 million people in the Nation in April 1974, 4.4 percent, or about one person in 23, had a farm residence. The estimates were prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of the Census and the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Although the 1974 estimate of the farm population was 208,000 below that of 9,472,000 for 1973, this apparent decrease was not statistically significant. The chances are about one out of five that a decline of this magnitude or greater would have been obtained from the sample without any actual change having occurred in the farm population between 1973 and 1974.

There is some evidence that the farm population was smaller in 1974 than in 1970. The 1974 estimate was 448,000, or 4.6 percent smaller than 1970. The estimate for 1974 was 6.4 million, or 40.7 percent, lower than in 1960. The average annual rate of farm population loss for the 1970-74 period was 1.2 percent, compared with an annual rate of 4.8 percent in the 1960-70 period. Although the long-time downward trend in the number of persons living on farms continues, these rates indicate a slackening in the rate of farm population decline since 1970 (see figure 1).

Within the farm population, there was a marked difference in population loss by race. The lessening in the

Table A. Population of the United States,  
Total and Farm: April 1960 to 1974

Year	Total resident population (thousands)	Farm population	
		Number of persons <sup>1</sup> (thousands)	Percent of total population
1974.....	211,036	9,264	4.4
1973.....	209,445	9,472	4.5
1972.....	207,797	9,610	4.6
1971.....	205,658	9,425	4.6
1970.....	<sup>2</sup> 203,235	9,712	4.8
1969.....	200,887	10,307	5.1
1968.....	198,923	10,454	5.3
1967.....	196,976	10,875	5.5
1966.....	195,045	11,595	5.9
1965.....	192,983	12,363	6.4
1964.....	190,507	12,954	6.8
1963.....	187,837	13,367	7.1
1962.....	185,104	14,313	7.7
1961.....	182,298	14,803	8.1
1960.....	<sup>2</sup> 179,323	15,635	8.7

<sup>1</sup>Five-quarter average centered on April; see "Definitions and explanations."

<sup>2</sup>Official census count.

This report was prepared jointly by Vera J. Banks, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Robert C. Speaker and Richard L. Forstall, Population Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, and U.S. Department of Commerce district offices. Price 55 cents. Current Population Reports issued in Series P-20, P-23, P-25, P-26, P-27, P-28 (summaries only), P-60, and P-65 are sold as a single consolidated subscription at \$56.00 per year, \$14.00 additional for foreign mailing.

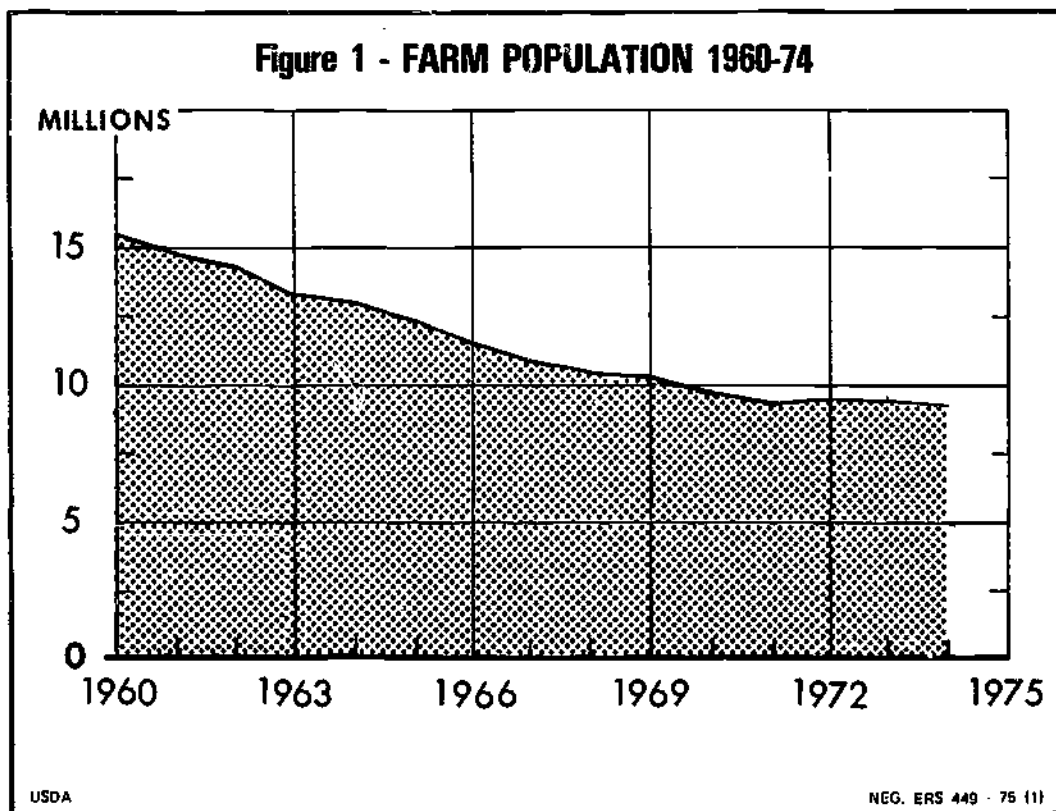
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ED121490

RC008966





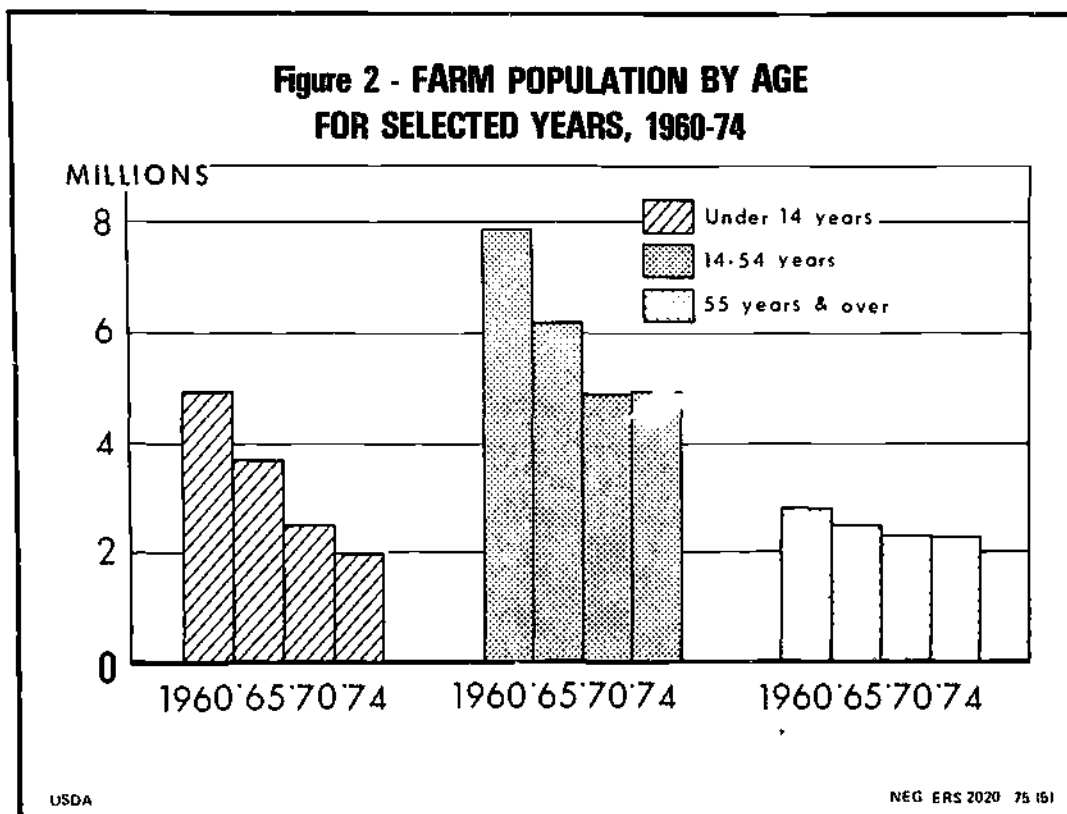
rate of population decline applied only to white farm residents. Between 1970 and 1974, the number of Negroes<sup>1</sup> on farms declined by an average annual rate of 9 percent, while the white farm population showed no significant loss. Whatever the combination of economic and social forces that have resulted in the leveling out in the number of whites living on farms, apparently they have not, as yet, had a similar effect on the Negro farm population.

#### DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM POPULATION

Differing rates of population loss in two broad age groups—under 14 years old and 14 years old and over—continue to affect the age structure of the farm popu-

<sup>1</sup> The data for Negroes in the text refer to persons of Negro and races other than white. Negroes comprised 90 percent of the total population other than white and 87 percent of the farm population other than white in the 1970 census.

lation, with young farm residents comprising a decreasing share of the farm total. Between 1970 and 1974, farm children under 14 years old declined by 20 percent, while there was no appreciable change in the number of farm persons 14 years old and over. For the 1960-70 decade, the relative loss in population for these two broad age groups was 50 percent and 32 percent, respectively. The proportion of young children in the farm population has fallen from nearly a third in 1960, to a fourth in 1970, and is expected to decline through 1974 (see figure 2 and table 1). To a considerable degree, this decline is a reflection of past high net outmigration of young farm adults of childbearing age. However, much of the decline since 1970 in the population under 14 on farms can also be attributed to the recent sharp drop in the national birth rate, which has extended to both farm and nonfarm areas. Between 1970 and 1974, the share of the farm population that was under 14 years old fell from 26 percent to 22 percent, or 4 percentage points, while the corresponding group in the nonfarm population fell from 28 percent to 25 percent, or 3 percentage points.



A comparison of the data for 1970 and 1974 indicates no significant change in the proportion of older farm residents. However, over a longer period—1960 to 1974—it becomes apparent that the decrease in the percentage of the young (those under 14) has been accompanied by an increase in the proportion of older adults (those 55 years old and over). From 1960 to 1974, the proportion of farm residents who were 55 years old and over rose from 18 to 25 percent.

There were 655,000 Negroes and persons of races other than white living on U.S. farms in 1974 (table 2). They comprised only 7 percent of all farm residents, compared to 13 percent in the nonfarm population. Although the number of Negro children under 14 years declined by one-half in the 4-year period 1970-74, the Negro farm population still has a higher proportion of youth than does the white. About a fourth of all Negroes on farms are under 14 years of age, as compared with about a fifth among white farm residents.

As has traditionally been the case, there were more males than females on farms; in 1974 the ratio was 107

males for every 100 females. The comparable ratio for the nonfarm population—where females are in the majority—was 93 males per 100 females.

#### LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

In 1974, three-fifths of the farm population 14 years old and over was in the labor force, either working or seeking work (table 3). As in earlier years, there was some regional variation; farm residents who lived in the combined Northern and Western States had higher labor force participation rates than those who resided in the South. The 1974 labor force participation rate was 63 percent for residents on farms outside the South, compared with 57 percent for Southern farm people.

The labor force participation rate for farm residents was slightly higher than the 59 percent rate for the nonfarm population. This difference can be accounted for by variations in farm and nonfarm labor force participation by sex. Farm-resident men have a higher labor force participation than do nonfarm men. In

1974, the participation rates for these two groups were 81 percent and 75 percent, respectively. On the other hand, the level of labor force participation of farm women remains below that of their nonfarm counterparts. Of all farm women 14 years old and over, 40 percent were in the labor force in 1974; the comparable nonfarm proportion was 44 percent.

The proportion of the population 14 years old and over who were working or seeking work was higher among white farm residents than among Negro and other races on farms, with participation rates of 61 and 56 percent, respectively (table 4). This racial difference resulted from the disparity in the labor force participation of men, as there was no significant difference by race in the participation of women in the labor force. In the male farm population, the labor force participation rate was 81 percent for whites compared with 71 percent for Negroes and other minority races. This tendency for higher labor force participation among white farm men has been evidenced consistently with little variation since the data were first collected in 1967. At that time, the participation rates were 82 percent for white men and 73 percent for Negro men.

Between 1970 and 1974, there were offsetting changes in the proportions of farm residents employed in agriculture and nonagriculture industries, as the downward trend in agriculture employment and the upward trend in nonagricultural employment continued. Since 1970, the proportion of the farm labor force employed solely or primarily in agricultural pursuits has fallen from 54 to 51 percent; in 1960, 64 percent were so employed. From 1970 to 1974, the proportion of the farm-resident work force employed in nonfarm work rose from 44 to 47 percent. In 1960, only a third worked in nonagricultural industries. The proportion employed in agricultural and nonagricultural industries was quite similar for both racial groups.

The unemployment rate continued low among farm residents. In 1974, as in 1970, about 2 percent of the labor force living on farms was unemployed; the comparable rates in the noninstitutional civilian nonfarm population were 5.5 percent in 1974 and 4.8 in 1970. The farm and nonfarm unemployment rates also differ by race. For the population off farms, the rate of unemployment was 5 percent for whites and 10 percent for Negroes and other races. The rates were 2 percent for farm whites and 5 percent for Negroes on farms (although there is only some evidence that the rates for farm whites and Negroes differ statistically). Because these data are a 5-quarter average centered on April 1974, they do not reflect the effects of the current recession.

The frequency of holding two or more jobs among persons employed in agriculture is thought to contribute to lower unemployment among farm residents. In May 1974, 22 percent of all multiple jobholders had

at least one job in agriculture.<sup>2</sup> Two-thirds of this group had self-employment in agriculture as the secondary job. Thus, farm operators with dual employment who lose their nonfarm job are not considered as unemployed because of their continued employment in farm work.

Of the 2.2 million farm residents employed in agriculture in 1974, three fifths were self-employed, chiefly as farm operators. About a fifth were employed in each of the remaining two classes—wage and salary work and unpaid family work (table 5). However, the dominance of self-employment as the major class of work pertained only to farm males, as about sixty percent of the farm women in agriculture were unpaid family workers. The proportion of farm men who are self-employed has remained essentially unchanged since 1970. At the same time, there has been an increase in the proportion of wage and salary workers, and a decrease in unpaid family help. Farm females who are employed in agriculture are still more likely than males to be unpaid family workers, but there has been a decline since 1970 in the proportion so employed, with increases in both wage and salary work and self-employment.

The dominance of self-employment among males was characteristic only of white farm residents in agriculture. Among farm-resident Negro and other races employed in agriculture, wage and salary employment was the prevailing class of work. This low incidence of self-employment reflects the comparatively small number of farms operated by Negroes. According to the 1969 Census of Agriculture (the latest data available) only 3.8 percent of all farms were operated by persons of races other than white.<sup>3</sup>

The total number of persons employed solely or primarily in agriculture in the United States averaged 3.8 million in 1974 (table 8). Of these, only about three-fifths lived on farms and the remaining two-fifths commuted from off-farm residences. Although the majority of all persons working in agriculture are still farm residents, this proportion continues to decline. At the beginning of the last decade, farm residents provided three-fourths of total agricultural employment. Between 1960 and 1974, the proportion of total agricultural workers who lived off the farm rose from 25 percent to 41 percent (in 1960, 1,370,000 of the total agricultural Labor Force of 5,395,000 lived off farms; see table 8 for 1974). Of the 3.8 million persons employed in agriculture in 1974, 82 percent were male,

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Multiple Jobholding in May 1974," *Monthly Labor Review*, 98 (2), February 1975, pp. 60-64.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Agriculture: 1969*, Vol. II, General Report, Chapter 3, "Farm Management, Farm Operators."

**Table B. Persons 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture and Nonagricultural Industries, by Farm-Nonfarm Residence and Race: April 1974 and 1970**

Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Residence	Total		White		Negro and other races		Percent distribution					
							Total		White		Negro and other races	
	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970
Total employed in agriculture	3,773	3,696	3,150	3,313	323	383	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Farm residents.....	2,212	2,333	2,109	2,158	133	175	59.4	63.1	61.1	65.1	31.2	45.8
Nonfarm residents..	1,531	1,363	1,311	1,153	190	207	40.6	36.9	38.9	34.9	58.8	54.2
Total employed in nonagricultural industries.....	83,693	76,376	71,557	68,163	9,136	8,213	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Farm residents.....	2,078	1,878	1,956	1,739	123	139	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	1.3	1.7
Nonfarm residents..	81,615	74,497	72,601	66,423	9,014	8,074	97.5	97.5	97.4	97.4	98.7	98.3

**Table C. Nonfarm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker and Sex: April 1974 and 1970**

Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Class of worker	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970
Total agricultural workers.	1,531	1,363	1,268	1,143	262	220	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	155	124	412	396	44	28	29.7	31.1	32.5	34.6	16.8	12.7
Wage and salary workers.....	1,016	872	830	719	186	163	66.4	64.0	65.5	62.9	71.0	69.5
Unpaid family workers.....	39	66	27	27	32	30	3.0	4.8	2.1	2.4	12.2	17.7

and the numerical dominance of males is apparent among agricultural workers with a nonfarm residence as well as among those living on farms. In 1974 about two out of every three wage and salary agricultural workers lived off farms (see tables C and 5). In contrast, self-employed and unpaid workers in agriculture are mainly farm residents.

There were 1.5 million agricultural workers who lived off farms in 1974, an increase of 168,000, or 12 percent, since 1970 (table C). Unlike their farm counterparts, who (as noted earlier) had variations in the class of worker distribution by sex and race, these nonfarm resident agricultural workers were predominantly wage and salary workers regardless of their race or sex.

In 1974, there were about 2 million persons who resided on farms and worked in nonagricultural industries (table 6). These farm resident nonagricultural

workers were also preponderantly wage and salary workers regardless of their race, sex, or region of residence.

#### COMPARISON OF SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM AND NONFARM POPULATIONS

Table D provides a comparison for 1974 of several key characteristics of the farm and nonfarm populations, with separate data by race. More than one-sixth of the farm population lives within standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) as these were defined in the 1970 population census publications. Most of these metropolitan farm residents are accounted for by certain SMSA's that comprise large individual counties, in which there is important farming activity as well as a large urban center. One-fifth of the white farm population lives within SMSA's, but this is true of only about one-twelfth of the Negro farm population of Negro and other races.

Table D. Selected Characteristics of the Farm and Nonfarm Populations, by Race: 1974

Characteristic	Total			White			Negro and other races		
	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
<b>PERSONS<sup>1</sup></b>									
Total.....thousands..	208,105	9,285	198,840	181,503	8,610	172,893	26,602	655	25,947
Metropolitan.....thousands..	142,223	1,723	140,500	121,875	1,675	120,200	20,347	48	20,300
Percent.....	68.3	18.4	70.7	67.1	19.5	69.5	76.5	7.3	78.2
Nonmetropolitan.....thousands..	65,882	7,542	58,340	59,628	6,935	52,693	6,255	607	5,647
Percent.....	31.7	81.4	29.3	32.9	80.5	30.5	23.5	92.7	21.8
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years.....	24.3	21.5	24.4	23.4	21.2	23.5	30.5	25.8	30.6
14 to 19 years.....	11.7	11.0	11.6	11.5	13.5	11.4	13.5	16.9	13.5
20 to 34 years.....	22.6	14.8	23.0	22.6	14.8	23.0	22.4	15.4	22.6
35 to 44 years.....	10.9	11.2	10.8	10.9	11.5	10.9	10.4	7.6	10.4
45 to 64 years.....	20.6	35.9	30.3	21.2	26.2	21.0	18.3	21.8	16.1
65 years and over.....	9.9	12.5	9.8	10.4	12.5	10.2	7.0	12.2	6.8
<b>FAMILIES<sup>2</sup></b>									
Total families.....thousands..	55,053	2,542	52,511	48,919	2,397	46,523	6,134	145	5,988
Metropolitan.....thousands..	37,317	484	36,832	32,584	468	32,117	4,733	16	4,715
Percent.....	67.8	19.0	70.1	66.6	19.5	69.0	77.2	11.0	78.7
Nonmetropolitan.....	17,736	2,058	15,679	16,335	1,929	14,406	1,401	129	1,273
Percent.....	32.2	81.0	29.9	33.4	80.5	31.0	22.8	89.0	21.3
All types.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Husband-wife.....	85.0	92.0	84.7	87.7	92.6	87.4	63.9	82.8	63.4
Other male head.....	2.6	3.5	2.6	2.4	3.4	2.3	4.3	5.5	4.3
Female head.....	12.4	4.5	12.7	9.9	4.0	10.2	31.8	11.7	32.3
All sizes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2 persons.....	37.3	37.5	37.3	38.4	38.1	38.4	29.6	26.9	28.7
3 to 5 persons.....	52.4	48.8	52.6	52.5	49.3	53.6	51.8	40.7	52.1
6 or more persons.....	10.2	13.8	10.0	9.1	12.5	9.0	18.6	34.5	18.2
Mean size of family.....	3.41	3.60	3.33	3.38	3.54	3.37	3.90	4.48	3.89
Mean number of own children--									
Under 18 years.....	1.15	1.12	1.16	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.47	1.25	1.48
Under 6 years.....	0.34	0.26	0.34	0.33	0.27	0.33	0.42	0.23	0.43
Under 3 years.....	0.16	0.12	0.16	0.15	0.12	0.16	0.19	0.12	0.17
Percent of families with members--									
Under 18 years.....	56.5	50.0	56.8	54.8	49.8	55.1	70.0	63.4	70.1
18 to 64 years.....	32.5	89.3	32.7	32.2	89.4	32.3	95.4	83.3	95.5
65 years and over.....	17.7	24.2	17.1	17.9	23.8	17.6	15.6	30.3	15.5
<b>FERTILITY<sup>3</sup></b>									
Children ever born per 1,000 women ever married--									
15 to 24 years.....	850	984	848	797	923	780	1,250	(B)	1,241
25 to 34 years.....	2,032	2,448	2,022	1,977	2,422	1,964	2,440	(B)	2,442
35 to 44 years.....	3,111	3,604	3,087	3,030	3,493	3,006	3,868	(B)	3,614
Married women 14 to 39 years old: <sup>4</sup>									
Births to date per 1,000 women.....	1,958	2,462	1,940	1,921	2,429	1,902	2,312	(B)	2,295
Lifetime births expected per 1,000 women.....	2,546	2,975	2,531	2,515	2,931	2,500	2,843	(B)	2,821
<b>FAMILY INCOME<sup>5</sup></b>									
Total families.....thousands..	55,712	2,398	53,314	49,451	2,284	47,168	6,262	113	6,148
Families by 1974 income.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than \$1,000 or loss.....	9.0	16.1	8.6	7.4	14.9	7.0	21.7	38.9	21.4
\$1,000 to \$9,999.....	26.9	31.9	26.0	25.6	31.5	25.3	37.0	39.8	36.9
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....	24.4	20.4	24.6	25.1	20.8	25.3	10.0	10.8	19.1
\$15,000 and over.....	39.8	31.7	40.2	42.0	34.7	42.5	22.3	10.6	22.6
Median family income (1974 dollars):									
1974.....	\$12,836	\$10,431	\$12,934	\$13,358	\$10,750	\$13,466	\$8,265	\$5,467	\$8,324
1973.....	13,373	11,149	13,488	13,977	11,517	14,102	8,429	5,072	8,522
1972.....	13,103	10,435	13,237	13,614	10,741	13,767	8,376	6,034	8,458
1971.....	12,523	8,780	12,706	12,995	9,026	13,192	8,176	4,509	8,295
1970.....	12,531	8,606	12,714	13,000	8,915	13,199	8,275	3,920	8,422
Families.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Below low-income level.....	9.2	14.2	8.9	7.0	12.7	8.8	28.0	48.1	25.6
Above low-income level.....	90.8	85.8	91.1	93.0	87.3	91.2	74.0	54.9	74.4

<sup>1</sup> Base less than 75,000.

<sup>2</sup> Data are April-centered annual averages for 1974 (see "Definitions and Explanations"). See tables E, G, and H for standard errors.

<sup>3</sup> Data from March 1974 Current Population Survey. See *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, No. 276, "Household and Family Characteristics: March 1974." See tables F, I, and J for standard errors.

<sup>4</sup> Data from June 1974 Current Population Survey. See *Current Population Reports*, Series P-20, No. 277, "Fertility Expectations of American Women: June 1974." See table L for bases and table K for standard errors.

<sup>5</sup> Data limited to currently married women reporting on birth expectations. See table L for bases and table K for standard errors.

<sup>6</sup> Data relate to income in 1974, from March 1975 Current Population Survey. See *Current Population Reports*, Series P-60, No. 99, "Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States: 1974 (Advance Report)" and the forthcoming Series P-60, Non-101 and 102.

The age distribution of the population shows some significant differences between farm and nonfarm residents. The percent of population under 20 is about the same for the two groups, as is the percent from 35 to 44 years of age. However, the percent of the population aged 20 to 34, the younger adult years, is much lower for farm residents (15 percent) than for the nonfarm population (23 percent). On the other hand, the percent in the age groups above 44 is much higher in the farm population than in the nonfarm population.

About 92 percent of farm families have both husband and wife present. Only about 5 percent have a female head, as compared with 13 percent of nonfarm families. There is some evidence that a higher percentage of Negro farm families have a female head than is the case with white farm families.

The average size of farm and nonfarm families does not differ significantly. Nevertheless, relatively large families (those with six or more persons) constitute a larger share of farm families (14 percent) than of nonfarm families (10 percent). Among Negro farm families, as many as 35 percent have six or more persons, compared with 18 percent of nonfarm families of the same race.

The larger size of farm families, however, results not from a larger number of children, but from the presence of relatively more elderly persons. The number of own children per family is about the same for the farm population as for the nonfarm population. The percent of farm families that have members under 18 years of age is considerably lower than for nonfarm families, but the percent having members 65 years of age and over is much higher.

The fertility of farm women continues higher than that of nonfarm women. Data for June 1974 indicate there is some evidence that the average number of children born to ever married farm women aged 35 to 44 years (3,604 per 1,000 women) differs from the 3,087 children per 1,000 nonfarm women in the same age group. Among farm women aged 25 to 34, the average of 2,448 children ever born is slightly higher than the 2,022 per 1,000 for nonfarm women. However, for the youngest women of childbearing years, those aged 15 to 24, there is currently no significant difference in the number of children ever born for farm and nonfarm women.

Data on birth expectations are available for a group of married women aged 14 to 39 in 1974. The farm women in this group expected to have 2,975 births per 1,000 women, or about 18 percent more than the corresponding group of nonfarm women. This group of farm women had already had 2,462 births per 1,000, compared with 1,940 for the nonfarm women.

The contrast between farm residents and the nonfarm population is especially striking in regard to income. The median income of farm families was \$10,430 in 1974, compared with \$12,930 for nonfarm families. Although there is still a difference of about \$2,500 (24 percent of the farm median family income) this gap is only about 60 percent of that in 1970 as measured in constant (1974) dollars. Farm median family income in 1970, in terms of 1974 dollars, was about \$4,100 less than that of nonfarm families. Since 1970, the median income of farm families has increased by about 21 percent, while that of nonfarm families has increased about 2 percent in constant dollars.

The contrast between farm and nonfarm family income is particularly sharp among families with heads of Negro and other races. Their median farm family income was only \$5,470 compared with \$8,320 for nonfarm families. The median income of Negro farm families was also in sharp contrast with that of white farm families (\$10,750), being barely half as large.

The proportion of farm families who are poor (below the low income level) is approximately 50 percent higher than for nonfarm families, even though the official criteria for "low income" are set somewhat lower for farm residents than for the nonfarm population. The proportion of Negro farm families below the low income level (45 percent) is about five times as high as the National average for all families and about four times as high as that of white farm families.

## RELATED REPORTS

Comparable figures for 1973 appear in *Farm Population, Series Census-ERS (P-27), No. 45*, and earlier reports were published annually beginning in 1961.

Beginning with 1972, the data are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years because of adjustments in sample design and survey procedures occasioned by 1970 census data. However, the effect on comparability with prior data is not considered sufficient to warrant revisions of earlier statistics. Application of 1972 procedures to data for March 1970 lowered the farm population 14 years old and over by about 75,000.

Although not fully comparable with CPS, farm population figures for 1970 for the United States, States, and counties appear in chapter C of *1970 Census of Population, Volume 1, Characteristics of the Population*; characteristics of the farm population by States are presented in chapter D.



p. 8 blank

**Table 1. FARM POPULATION, BY AGE AND SEX: APRIL 1974 AND 1970**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Age	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970
All ages.....	9,264	9,712	4,785	5,004	4,478	4,708	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years.....	1,999	2,490	1,021	1,271	978	1,216	21.6	25.6	21.3	25.5	21.8	25.8
14 years and over.....	7,265	7,222	3,764	3,730	3,500	3,492	78.4	74.1	78.7	74.5	78.2	74.2
11 to 19 years.....	1,297	1,316	702	711	595	602	14.0	13.6	14.7	14.3	13.3	12.8
20 to 24 years.....	984	502	325	269	259	232	6.3	5.2	6.8	5.4	3.8	4.9
25 to 34 years.....	799	770	400	371	390	399	8.5	7.9	8.1	7.4	8.7	8.5
35 to 44 years.....	1,037	1,061	491	518	416	513	11.2	10.9	10.3	10.1	12.2	11.5
45 to 54 years.....	1,237	1,250	630	618	608	631	13.4	12.9	13.2	12.4	13.6	13.4
55 to 64 years.....	1,160	1,202	615	641	513	561	12.5	12.1	12.9	12.8	12.2	11.9
65 years and over....	1,159	1,122	601	599	558	520	12.5	11.6	12.6	12.0	12.5	11.1

**Table 2. FARM POPULATION, BY RACE AND SEX, FOR BROAD AGE GROUPS: APRIL 1974 AND 1970**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Age and race	Both sexes		Male		Female		Percent distribution					
							Both sexes		Male		Female	
	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970	1974	1970
Total.....	9,264	9,712	4,785	5,004	4,478	4,708	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	8,608	8,775	4,447	4,524	4,161	4,251	92.9	90.4	92.9	90.1	92.9	90.3
Negro and other races..	656	937	338	480	317	458	7.1	9.7	7.1	9.6	7.1	9.7
Under 14 years.....	1,999	2,490	1,021	1,271	978	1,216	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,629	2,152	932	1,101	897	1,051	91.5	86.1	91.3	86.1	91.7	88.1
Negro and other races..	170	338	89	173	81	165	8.5	13.6	8.7	13.6	8.3	11.6
14 years and over....	7,265	7,222	3,764	3,730	3,500	3,492	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	6,779	6,623	3,513	3,123	3,264	3,200	93.3	91.7	93.4	91.8	93.3	91.6
Negro and other races..	185	600	249	307	236	293	6.7	8.3	6.6	8.2	6.7	8.4

**Table 3. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE FARM POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX, APRIL 1974 AND 1970, BY REGIONS, APRIL 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Labor force status and sex	Total		North and West	South	Percent distribution			
					Total		North and West	South
	1974	1970	1974	1974	1974	1970	1974	1974
Both sexes.....	7,265	7,222	1,570	2,690	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force.....	4,419	4,293	2,884	1,535	60.8	59.4	63.1	57.0
Not in labor force.....	2,846	2,929	1,685	1,161	39.2	40.6	36.9	43.1
Labor force.....	4,419	4,293	2,884	1,535	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed.....	4,321	4,211	2,829	1,492	97.8	98.1	98.1	97.2
Agriculture.....	2,242	2,333	1,540	702	50.7	54.3	53.4	45.7
Nonagricultural industries.....	2,078	1,878	1,289	789	47.0	43.7	44.7	51.4
Unemployed.....	98	82	56	43	2.2	1.9	1.9	2.8
Male.....	3,764	3,730	2,386	1,378	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force.....	3,033	2,974	1,975	1,058	80.6	79.7	82.8	76.8
Not in labor force.....	731	756	411	320	19.4	20.3	17.2	23.2
Labor force.....	3,033	2,974	1,975	1,058	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed.....	2,985	2,932	1,949	1,036	98.4	98.6	96.7	97.9
Agriculture.....	1,832	1,902	1,243	589	60.4	64.0	62.9	55.7
Nonagricultural industries.....	1,153	1,030	707	446	38.0	34.6	35.8	42.2
Unemployed.....	48	42	26	22	1.6	1.4	1.3	2.1
Female.....	3,500	3,492	2,183	1,317	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force.....	1,385	1,319	908	477	39.6	37.8	41.6	36.2
Not in labor force.....	2,115	2,173	1,274	841	60.4	62.2	58.4	63.9
Labor force.....	1,385	1,319	908	477	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed.....	1,335	1,279	879	456	96.4	97.0	96.8	95.6
Agriculture.....	410	431	297	113	29.6	32.7	32.7	23.7
Nonagricultural industries.....	925	849	582	343	66.8	64.4	64.1	71.9
Unemployed.....	50	40	29	21	3.6	3.0	3.2	4.4

**Table 4. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE FARM POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER,  
BY RACE AND SEX, FOR REGIONS: APRIL 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Labor force status, race, and sex	Total	North and west	South	Percent distribution		
				Total	North and West	South
<b>WHITE</b>						
Both sexes.....	6,779	4,530	2,249	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force.....	4,149	2,858	1,291	61.2	63.1	57.4
Not in labor force.....	2,631	1,672	959	38.8	36.9	42.6
Labor force.....	4,149	2,858	1,291	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed.....	4,065	2,804	1,261	98.0	98.1	97.7
Agriculture.....	2,109	1,528	581	50.8	53.5	45.0
Nonagricultural industries.....	1,956	1,276	680	47.1	44.6	52.7
Unemployed.....	84	54	30	2.0	1.9	2.3
Male.....	3,515	2,364	1,151	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force.....	2,857	1,958	899	81.3	82.8	78.1
Not in labor force.....	659	407	252	18.7	17.2	21.9
Labor force.....	2,857	1,958	899	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed.....	2,817	1,933	884	98.6	98.7	98.3
Agriculture.....	1,723	1,233	490	60.3	63.0	54.5
Nonagricultural industries.....	1,094	700	394	38.3	35.8	43.8
Unemployed.....	40	25	15	1.4	1.3	1.7
Female.....	3,264	2,166	1,098	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labor force.....	1,292	900	392	39.8	41.6	35.7
Not in labor force.....	1,972	1,266	706	60.4	58.4	64.3
Labor force.....	1,292	900	392	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed.....	1,248	871	377	96.6	96.8	96.2
Agriculture.....	386	295	91	29.9	32.8	23.2
Nonagricultural industries.....	862	576	286	66.7	64.0	73.0
Unemployed.....	44	29	15	3.4	3.2	3.8
<b>NEGRO AND OTHER RACES</b>						
Both sexes.....	485	59	446	100.0	(B)	100.0
Labor force.....	270	26	244	55.7	(B)	54.7
Not in labor force.....	215	13	202	44.3	(B)	45.3
Labor force.....	270	26	244	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed.....	256	25	231	94.8	(B)	94.7
Agriculture.....	133	12	121	49.3	(B)	49.6
Nonagricultural industries.....	123	14	109	45.5	(B)	44.7
Unemployed.....	14	1	13	5.2	(B)	5.3
Male.....	249	22	227	100.0	(B)	100.0
Labor force.....	176	17	159	70.7	(B)	70.0
Not in labor force.....	73	5	68	29.3	(B)	30.0
Labor force.....	176	17	159	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed.....	168	16	152	95.5	(B)	95.6
Agriculture.....	108	9	99	61.4	(B)	62.3
Nonagricultural industries.....	60	7	53	34.1	(B)	33.3
Unemployed.....	8	1	7	4.5	(B)	4.4
Female.....	236	17	219	100.0	(B)	100.0
Labor force.....	93	8	85	39.4	(B)	38.8
Not in labor force.....	143	8	135	60.6	(B)	61.6
Labor force.....	93	8	85	100.0	(B)	100.0
Employed.....	87	8	79	93.5	(B)	92.9
Agriculture.....	25	3	22	26.9	(B)	25.9
Nonagricultural industries.....	63	6	57	67.7	(B)	67.1
Unemployed.....	6	-	6	6.5	(B)	7.1

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.  
B Base less than 75,000.

**Table 5. FARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE BY CLASS OF WORKER, RACE, AND SEX, APRIL 1974 AND 1970, AND BY REGIONS, APRIL 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

Class of worker, race, and sex	Total		North and West	South	Percent distribution			
	1974	1970	1974	1974	Total		North and West	South
					1974	1970	1974	1974
<b>TOTAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS</b>								
Both sexes.....	2,242	2,333	1,540	702	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	1,350	1,411	941	409	60.2	60.5	61.1	58.3
Wage and salary workers.....	469	395	274	195	20.9	16.9	17.8	27.8
Unpaid family workers.....	423	526	324	99	18.9	22.5	21.0	14.1
Male.....	1,832	1,902	1,243	589	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	1,266	1,352	890	396	68.1	71.1	70.8	65.5
Wage and salary workers.....	393	349	230	163	21.5	18.3	18.5	27.7
Unpaid family workers.....	173	200	133	40	9.4	10.5	10.7	6.8
Female.....	410	431	297	113	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	84	59	62	22	20.5	13.7	20.9	19.5
Wage and salary workers.....	76	46	44	32	18.5	10.7	14.8	28.3
Unpaid family workers.....	250	326	191	59	61.0	75.6	64.3	52.2
<b>WHITE</b>								
Both sexes.....	2,109	2,158	1,528	581	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	1,310	1,358	937	373	62.1	62.8	61.3	64.3
Wage and salary workers.....	387	299	267	120	18.3	13.9	17.5	20.7
Unpaid family workers.....	412	501	324	88	19.5	23.2	21.2	15.1
Male.....	1,723	1,762	1,233	490	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	1,228	1,304	876	352	71.3	74.0	71.0	71.8
Wage and salary workers.....	328	271	224	104	19.0	15.4	18.2	21.2
Unpaid family workers.....	167	187	133	34	9.7	10.6	10.8	6.9
Female.....	386	396	295	91	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	82	54	61	21	21.2	13.6	20.7	23.1
Wage and salary workers.....	59	28	43	16	15.3	7.1	14.6	17.6
Unpaid family workers.....	245	314	191	54	53.5	70.3	64.7	59.3
<b>NEGRO AND OTHER RACES</b>								
Both sexes.....	133	175	12	121	100.0	100.0	(B)	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	41	53	5	36	30.8	30.3	(B)	29.8
Wage and salary workers.....	62	97	7	75	47.7	55.4	(B)	62.0
Unpaid family workers.....	11	25	1	10	8.3	14.3	(B)	8.3
Male.....	108	140	9	99	100.0	100.0	(B)	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	39	48	4	35	36.1	34.3	(B)	35.4
Wage and salary workers.....	65	79	6	59	60.2	56.4	(B)	59.6
Unpaid family workers.....	5	13	-	5	4.6	9.3	(B)	5.1
Female.....	25	35	3	22	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers.....	2	5	1	1	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers.....	17	18	1	16	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers.....	6	12	1	5	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.  
B Base less than 75,000.

**Table 6. FARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, BY CLASS OF WORKER, RACE, AND SEX, FOR REGIONS: APRIL 1974**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are four-quarter averages centered on April)

Class of worker, race, and sex	Total	North and West	South	Percent distribution		
				Total	North and West	South
<b>TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WORKERS</b>						
Both sexes.....	2,078	1,289	786	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	172	98	71	8.3	7.6	9.1
Wage and salary workers.....	1,886	1,180	706	90.8	91.5	89.5
Unpaid family workers.....	21	12	9	1.0	0.9	1.5
Male.....	1,153	707	446	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	124	73	51	10.8	10.3	11.4
Wage and salary workers.....	1,025	632	393	88.9	89.1	88.1
Unpaid family workers.....	4	1	3	0.3	0.1	0.7
Female.....	925	582	343	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	48	25	23	5.2	4.3	6.7
Wage and salary workers.....	861	518	313	93.1	91.2	91.3
Unpaid family workers.....	16	10	6	1.7	1.7	1.7
<b>WHITE</b>						
Both sexes.....	1,956	1,278	678	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	166	96	70	8.5	7.5	10.3
Wage and salary workers.....	1,789	1,168	601	90.1	91.5	88.4
Unpaid family workers.....	20	11	9	1.0	0.9	1.3
Male.....	1,094	700	391	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	121	73	48	11.1	10.4	12.2
Wage and salary workers.....	968	625	343	88.5	89.3	87.1
Unpaid family workers.....	4	1	3	0.4	0.1	0.8
Female.....	862	576	286	100.0	100.0	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	45	23	22	5.2	4.0	7.7
Wage and salary workers.....	801	543	258	92.9	94.3	90.2
Unpaid family workers.....	16	10	6	1.9	1.7	1.7
<b>NEGRO AND OTHER RACES</b>						
Both sexes.....	123	14	109	100.0	(B)	100.0
Self-employed workers.....	6	2	4	4.9	(B)	3.7
Wage and salary workers.....	117	12	105	95.1	(B)	96.3
Unpaid family workers.....	-	-	-	-	(B)	(B)
Male.....	60	7	53	(D)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers.....	3	-	3	(B)	(D)	(B)
Wage and salary workers.....	57	7	50	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers.....	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)
Female.....	63	6	57	(B)	(B)	(B)
Self-employed workers.....	3	2	1	(B)	(B)	(B)
Wage and salary workers.....	60	5	55	(B)	(B)	(B)
Unpaid family workers.....	-	-	-	(B)	(B)	(B)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.  
B Base less than 75,000.

# APPENDIX

## DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

**Population coverage.** With the exception of the total population shown in table A, all figures in this report relate to the civilian noninstitutional population. The total population shown in table D (208,105,000) differs from the estimated April 1, 1974 total civilian population (209,308,000) chiefly in excluding the institutional population, but also because the five-quarter average centered on April 1974 was slightly lower than the estimated noninstitutional total for that month. For the Current Population Survey, both the institutional and military components of the population are regarded as entirely nonfarm.

**Farm population.**<sup>1</sup> In the Current Population Survey, as in the 1960 and 1970 Censuses of Population, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory on places of 10 or more acres if as much as \$50 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year (for the CPS, the preceding 12 months). It also includes those living on places of under 10 acres if as much as \$250 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year. 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.

Since April 1960 farm residence has been determined in the Current Population Survey by the responses to two questions. Owners are asked, "Does this place have 10 or more acres?" and renters are asked, "Does the place you rent have 10 or more acres?" If the response is "Yes," the respondent is asked, "During the past 12 months, did sales of crops, livestock, and other farm products from this place amount to \$50 or more?" If the acreage response is "No," the inquiry relates to sales of \$250 or more.

Farms located within the boundaries of urban territory, comprising a small minority of all farms, are not treated as farms for population census purposes, and their population is not included in the farm population. Urban territory includes all places with a population of 2,500 or more and the densely settled urbanized fringe areas around cities of 50,000 or more. Beginning with the 1972 estimate, the estimated farm population is limited to the rural territory as determined in the 1970

<sup>1</sup>In August 1975, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of the Census announced a change in the official definition of a farm. In the future, a farm will be defined as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold, or would normally be sold, from the place in the reporting year. However, the figures presented in this report are based on the definition in use from 1960 to 1975 which is described in the text.

Census of Population. In the Current Population Surveys of 1963 through 1971, the urban-rural boundaries used were those of the 1960 Census of Population and did not take into account the annexations and other substantial expansions of urban territory that were incorporated into the 1970 Census of Population. The net effect was to classify an unknown number of persons as rural farm in the Current Population Surveys of 1970 and 1971 who were treated as urban (and hence nonfarm) in the 1970 census as well as in the Current Population Surveys beginning in 1972.

Under CPS procedures a place is classified by farm or nonfarm residence at the time the household enters the sample. Prior to April 1963, this initial classification was retained in most cases, without re-examination, for the entire 16-month period in which a household remains in the sample. (A household is in the panel for 4 months, drops out for 8 months, and then is reinstated for 4 months.) In view of the continued decline in the farm population, it is likely that some places which qualified as farms on entrance no longer met the criteria toward the end of the 16-month period. Since April 1963 the questions concerning farm residence have been re-asked of all households as they are reinstated in the sample a year after their first interview. The precise effect of the procedure has not been measured. It is not thought to be great, but the direction of change is almost certainly toward a lowering of the 1963 and subsequent farm population estimates in comparison with what the former procedure would have yielded.

In the Current Population Survey, unmarried persons attending college away from home are enumerated as residents of their parents' homes, whereas in the Census of Population such persons are enumerated as residents of the communities in which they live while attending college. The effect of this difference is to classify a larger number of college-aged persons as farm residents in the Current Population Survey than would be so classified under decennial census usage.

**Nonfarm population.** The nonfarm population comprises all persons living in urban areas and all rural persons not on farms.

Five-quarter averages centered on April. April-centered annual averages of the farm population for the years 1970 through 1974 were computed by using data for the five quarters centered on the April date for which the estimate was being prepared. For example, for April 1974, quarterly estimates for the months of October 1973, and January, April, July, and October 1974, were used with a weight of one-eighth given to each of the two October estimates and a weight of one-fourth to each of the estimates for the other 3 months. One reason for the choice of April as the date for centering population estimates is that this is the decennial census month.

April-centered annual averages for persons under 14 years by race and sex, and for persons 14 years old and over, by race, sex, age, labor force characteristics, and region were also computed for 1974 by using data for the specified characteristics for the five quarters centered on April 1974.

**Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence.** The population residing in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) constitutes the metropolitan population. The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA's as defined in the 1970 population census publications and does not include any subsequent additions or changes. For the 1970 census, 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 county. In New England, SMSA's consist of towns and cities, rather than counties.

**Geographic regions.** The major regions of the United States for which data are presented represent groups of States, as follows:

**North and West:** Northeast, North Central, and West regions combined.

**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.

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

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

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

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

**Family.** The term "family," as used in this report, refers to a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of the same family. Thus, if the son of the head of the household and the son's wife are in the household, they are treated as part of the head's family. On the other hand, a lodger and his wife not related to the head of the household or an unrelated servant and his wife are considered as additional families, and not a part of the household head's family.

The mean size of family is derived by dividing the number of persons in families by the total number of families. In the classification of families by number of family members, the head of the family and all other persons in the family are included. The number of family members is the same as size of family.

**Head of family.** One person in each family 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. Married couples related to the head of a family are included in the head's family and are not classified as separate families.

**Type of family.** The classification of families by type is based on the sex and marital status of head. Families with a head and wife present are termed "husband-wife" families. Families in which the spouse of the head is not present are families with "other male head" or "female head" depending on the sex of the head.

**Own children.** "Own" children in a family are single (never married) sons and daughters, including step-children and adopted children, of the family head. The mean number of own children is derived by dividing the number of children of a specified age in families by the total number of families.

**Marital status.** Data refer to present marital status. The primary categories of marital status are single (never married) and ever married. The following sub-categories of ever married may be distinguished: (1) married, spouse present; (2) married, spouse absent (excluding separated); (3) separated; (4) widowed; or (5) divorced.

**Lifetime birth expectations.** Lifetime births expected are determined by adding any additional births a woman expects to the children she has already borne, if any. Questions regarding expected additional births were asked in June 1974 of women 14 to 39 years old who were currently married (spouse present or spouse absent excluding separated).

**Births to date.** In table D, in the data on birth expectations of wives, the number of "births to date" has the same meaning as the number of children ever born.

**Children ever born.** The term "children ever born" refers to the total number of live births reported by ever married women. Included in the number are children born to the woman before her present marriage, children no longer living, and children away from home, as well as children who were still living in the home.

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

**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.

**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 application, 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.

**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 voluntarily idle. Persons doing only unpaid family work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not in the labor force.

**Agriculture.** The industry category "agriculture" is somewhat more inclusive than the total of the two major occupation groups, "farmers and farm managers" and "farm laborers and foremen." It also includes (1) persons employed on farms in occupations such as truck driver, mechanic, and bookkeeper, and (2) persons engaged in activities other than strictly farm operation such as cotton ginning, contract farm services, veterinary and breeding services, hatcheries, experimental stations, greenhouses, landscape gardening, tree service, trapping, hunting preserves, and kennels.

**Nonagricultural industries.** This category includes all industries not specifically classed under agriculture.

**Multiple jobs.** Persons with two or more jobs during the survey week were classified as employed in the industry in which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. Consequently, some of the persons shown in this report as engaged in nonagricultural activities also engaged in agriculture and vice versa.

#### Class of Worker

**Self-employed workers.** Persons who worked for profit or fees in their own business, profession, or trade, or who operated a farm either as an owner or tenant.

**Wage and salary workers.** Persons who worked for any governmental unit or private employer for wages, salary, commission, tips, pay "in kind," or at piece rates.

**Unpaid family workers.** Persons who worked without pay on a farm or in a business operated by a person to whom they are related by blood or marriage.

**Income.** Total money income is the algebraic sum of the amounts received in the preceding calendar year from each of the following sources: (1) Money wages or salary; (2) net income from nonfarm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) Social Security or railroad retirement; (5) dividends, interest (on savings or bonds), income from estates or trusts, or net rental income; (6) public assistance or welfare payments; (7) unemployment and workmen's compensation, government employee pensions, or veterans' payments; (8) private pensions, annuities, alimony, regular contributions from persons not living in this household, and other periodic income.

Receipts from the following sources are not included as income: (1) Money received from the sale of property, such as stocks, bonds, a house, or a car (unless the person was engaged in the business of selling such property, in which case the net proceeds would be counted as income from self-employment); (2) withdrawals of bank deposits; (3) money borrowed; (4) tax refunds; (5) gifts; and (6) lump-sum inheritances or insurance payments.

**Family income.** The total income of a family is the algebraic sum of the amounts received by all income recipients in the family.

In the income distribution for families, the lowest income group (less than \$4,000) includes those families who were classified as having no income in the income year 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.

It should be noted that although the income statistics refer to receipts during the preceding year, the composition of families refers to the time of the survey. The income of the family does not include amounts received by persons who were members of the family during all or part of the income year if these persons no longer resided with the family at the time of enumeration. On the other hand, family income includes amounts reported by related persons who did not reside with the family during the income year but who were members of the family at the time of enumeration.

The median income is the amount which divides the distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and the other having incomes below the median. The medians for families are based on all families.

**Low-income (poverty) definition.** Families and un-related individuals are classified as being above or below the low-income level using the poverty index adopted by a Federal Interagency Committee in 1969. This index is based on the Department of Agriculture's 1961 Economy Food Plan and reflects the different consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family head, and farm-nonfarm residence. In order to keep the poverty index constant over time, the thresholds are updated annually based on changes in the Consumer Price Index. The low-income threshold for a nonfarm family of four was \$5,038 in 1974, \$4,275 in 1972,

and \$2,973 in 1959. Corresponding low-income thresholds for a farm family of four were \$4,302 in 1974, \$3,643 in 1972, and \$2,539 in 1959.

In analyzing data on the low-income population, the following limitations should be noted. The low-income concept has been developed in order to identify, in dollar terms, a minimum level of income adequacy for families of different types in keeping with American consumption patterns. Based on an analysis of the percent of income devoted to food expenditures, an estimate was developed of the minimum cost at which an American family, making average choices, can be provided with a diet meeting recommended nutritional goals. Consequently, it is an overall statistical yardstick which reflects the different consumption requirements of families of different size, taking into account family composition and farm-nonfarm residence. Insofar as individual circumstances or consumption patterns differ, the dollar value of the low-income threshold for a given family size may not represent the money income required by an individual family to maintain a level of economic well-being equivalent to other families with similar incomes.

**Rounding.** The individual figures in this report are rounded to the nearest thousand. With few exceptions, the individual figures in this report 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. Percentages are based on the rounded absolute numbers.

#### SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

**Source of Data.** The estimates in this report are based mostly on data obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS) of the Bureau of the Census for 1960, 1970, April 1974, and March 1975. The data in tables A, B, and C, tables 1-6 and part of table D are based on April-centered annual averages. (See Definitions and Explanations.) Table D also contains (1) data from March 1974 CPS on household and family characteristics of farm and nonfarm families, (2) data on income and low-income status for the year 1974 obtained from March 1975 CPS, and (3) data on fertility and birth expectations obtained from June 1974 CPS. Some data were also obtained from the 1969 Census of Agriculture.

**Current Population Survey.** The present Current Population Survey sample is spread over 461 areas comprising 923 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of



Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied housing units are eligible for interview each month. Of this number, 2,000 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 47,000, there are also about 8,000 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

In 1970, the sample was spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 50,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month.

The data collected in 1960 in the CPS were based on a sample spread over 333 areas comprising 641 counties and independent cities with coverage in 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 35,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month.

The estimation procedure used in the CPS involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. The independent estimates for 1974 and 1975 are based on statistics from the 1970 Census of Population, and statistics of births, deaths, immigration and emigration, and the strength of the Armed Forces, from 1970 to the Survey date. The independent estimates for years prior to 1972 are based on statistics from the 1960 Census of Population.

**1969 Census of Agriculture.** Data obtained from the 1969 Census of Agriculture are based on a complete census count. The 1969 agriculture census data relate to calendar year 1969.

**Reliability of the Estimates.** Since the CPS 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 reliability of an estimate is described in terms of standard errors, which are primarily measures 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 certain response and enumeration errors, but it does not measure, as such, 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

90 out of 100 that the difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error, and the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

All statements of comparison appearing in the text are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better, and most are significant at a level of more than 2.0 standard errors. This means that for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e.g., by use of the phrase "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors.

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. In addition, where two or more items have nearly equal standard errors, one table is used to represent them. 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.

The figures presented in tables A-1, A-2, and A-3 are approximations of the standard errors of various CPS estimates shown in this report. Table A-1 shows standard errors of estimated numbers of persons for April-centered annual averages for the farm population.

**Table A-1. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Persons in the Farm Population for April-Centered Annual Averages**

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error (thousands)
25.....	6
50.....	9
100.....	13
250.....	20
500.....	29
1,000.....	42
2,500.....	70
5,000.....	107
10,000.....	173
15,000.....	235

**Note:** For standard error for metropolitan residence, multiply the standard errors above by 1.4. For standard errors for persons in farm population for April-centered annual averages for the years 1960 to 1966, multiply the above standard errors by 1.2.

Table A-2 shows standard errors of estimated numbers of persons for April-centered annual averages for the total or nonfarm population employed in agriculture and nonagriculture. Table A-3 shows standard errors of estimated numbers of families by farm and nonfarm residence for income and low-income characteristics and household and family characteristics.

**Table A-2. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Persons in Total or Nonfarm Population Employed in Agriculture and Nonagricultural Industries for April-Centered Annual Averages**

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error of estimate (thousands)			
	Employed in agriculture	Employed in non-agricultural industries		
		Total or white	Negro and other races	
25.....	6	4	4	
50.....	8	6	6	
100.....	12	9	8	
250.....	19	14	13	
500.....	27	19	18	
1,000.....	39	27	25	
2,500.....	67	43	37	
5,000.....	105	60	47	
10,000.....	176	84	44	
15,000.....	(X)	100	(X)	
25,000.....	(X)	123	(X)	
50,000.....	(X)	152	(X)	
100,000.....	(X)	126	(X)	

X Not applicable.

Note: For standard errors of estimated numbers of persons in the total and nonfarm population for April-centered annual averages, use column 3 for total or white and column 4 for Negro and other races.

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more. Tables A-4 through A-8 contain

standard errors for estimated percentages calculated from CPS data. Table A-4 contains the standard errors of estimated percentages of persons for April-centered annual averages for the farm population. Tables A-5 and A-6 contains the standard errors of estimated percentages of persons for April-centered annual averages for the nonfarm population employed in agriculture and nonagriculture, respectively. Tables A-7 and A-8 contain the standard errors of estimated Percentages of farm and nonfarm families, respectively, for household and family characteristics with factors to be applied to the tables to get standard errors for income or low-income data.

Table A-9 contains standard errors for fertility rates and table A-10 contains estimates of the number of ever-married women and number of women currently married, reporting on birth expectations, needed to calculate standard errors in table A-9. Standard errors for values within the ranges of Tables A-1 through A-9 may be approximated by interpolation.

Note when using small estimates. Percentage distributions are shown in this report only when the base of the percentage is greater than 75,000. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that percentages would reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. Estimated totals are shown, however, even though the relative standard errors of these totals are larger than those for the corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates are provided primarily to permit such combinations of the categories to serve each user's needs.

Illustration of the use of tables of standard errors. Table 2 of this report shows that in 1974 there were 4,785,000 males living on farms. By interpolation, table A-1 shows the standard error ( $\sigma_x$ ) of an April-centered annual estimate of this size to be approximately 104,000. The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 104,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 208,000, i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be from 4,577,000 to 4,993,000.

Of these 4,785,000 males 338,000 or 7.1 percent were of Negro and other races. Table A-4 shows the standard error of 7.1 percent on a base of 4,785,000 to be approximately 0.5 percent. Chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 7.1 percent would be within 0.5 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 1.0 percentage points of a complete census figure, i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be from 6.1 to 8.1 percent.

Table A-3. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Families For Household, Family, Income, and Low-Income Characteristics

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate (thousands)	Standard error of estimates (thousands)					
	Household and family characteristics <sup>1</sup>			Income and low-income characteristics		
	Farm	Nonfarm		Farm	Nonfarm	
		Total or white	Negro and other races		Total or white	Negro and other races
25.....	8	6	6	7	5	5
50.....	12	8	8	10	7	7
100.....	16	12	11	14	10	10
250.....	26	19	18	23	16	15
500.....	37	26	25	32	23	21
1,000.....	53	37	34	47	33	29
2,500.....	88	58	51	77	51	44
5,000.....	133	82	64	117	72	55
10,000.....	211	114	62	186	99	53
15,000.....	283	136	(X)	250	119	(X)
25,000.....	(X)	169	(X)	(X)	147	(X)
50,000.....	(X)	211	(X)	(X)	182	(X)
100,000.....	(X)	197	(X)	(X)	162	(X)

X Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>For standard errors for metropolitan or nonmetropolitan data, multiply the appropriate standard errors by 1.4.

Table A-4. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons in Farm Population For April-Centered Annual Averages

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percentage (thousands)	Estimated percentage					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25.....	2.5	3.5	5.5	7.6	10.9	12.6
50.....	1.8	2.5	3.9	5.4	7.7	8.9
100.....	1.3	1.8	2.8	3.8	5.5	6.3
250.....	0.8	1.1	1.7	2.4	3.5	4.0
500.....	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.4	2.8
1,000.....	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.0
2,500.....	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3
5,000.....	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.9
10,000.....	0.13	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
15,000.....	0.10	0.14	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5

Note: For metropolitan or nonmetropolitan standard errors, multiply appropriate standard errors above by 1.4. For standard errors for persons in farm population for April-centered annual averages for the years 1960 to 1966, multiply above standard errors by 1.2.

**Table A-5. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons in Nonfarm Population Employed in Agriculture for April-Centered Annual Averages**

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percentage (thousands)	Estimated percentage					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25.....	2.3	3.2	5.0	6.9	10.0	11.6
50.....	1.6	2.3	3.6	4.9	7.1	8.2
100.....	1.1	1.6	2.5	3.5	5.0	5.8
250.....	0.7	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.2	3.7
500.....	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.5	2.2	2.6
1,000.....	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.6	1.8
2,500.....	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.2
5,000.....	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8
10,000.....	0.11	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6
15,000.....	0.09	0.13	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
25,000.....	0.07	0.10	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
50,000.....	0.05	0.07	0.11	0.2	0.2	0.3
100,000.....	0.04	0.05	0.08	0.11	0.2	0.2

**Table A-6. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons in Total or White Nonfarm Population Employed in Nonagricultural Industries for April-Centered Annual Averages**

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percentage (thousands)	Estimated percentage					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25.....	1.7	2.4	3.8	5.2	7.5	8.7
50.....	1.2	1.7	2.7	3.7	5.3	6.2
100.....	0.9	1.2	1.9	2.6	3.8	4.4
250.....	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.4	2.8
500.....	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.9
1,000.....	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.4
2,500.....	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.9
5,000.....	0.12	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
10,000.....	0.09	0.12	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
15,000.....	0.07	0.10	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
25,000.....	0.05	0.08	0.12	0.2	0.2	0.3
50,000.....	0.04	0.05	0.08	0.12	0.2	0.2
100,000.....	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.08	0.12	0.14

Note: For estimated percentages for Negro and other races, multiply the above standard errors by 0.95.

**Standard error of a difference.** For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors of the estimates. This formula will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate the true standard error. The standard error of the change in the total farm population from 1973 to 1974 is about 93,000. This standard error was calculated by taking the standard error of the average of the farm population estimates for 1973 and 1974, and multiplying that standard error by a factor of 0.566, which reflects the high positive correlation between total farm population estimates for successive years.

Illustration of the computation of the standard error of a difference. Table 2 of this report shows that in 1974 there were 4,478,000 females on farms. The apparent difference between the number of females on farms and number of males on farms in 1974 is 307,000. The standard error ( $\sigma_x$ ) of 4,785,000 males is 104,000 as shown above. Table A-1 shows that the standard error ( $\sigma_y$ ) of an April-centered annual estimate of 4,478,000 is approximately 99,000. To get the standard error of the estimated change, the standard error of a difference formula is used as follows:

$$\sigma_{(x-y)} = \sqrt{\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2}$$

Therefore, the standard error of the estimated change of 307,000 is about

$$144,000 = \sqrt{(104,000)^2 + (99,000)^2}$$

This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference based on the samples would differ from the difference derived using complete census figures by less than 144,000. The 68 percent confidence interval around the 307,000 difference is from 163,000 to 451,000, i.e.,  $307,000 \pm 144,000$ . A conclusion that the average estimate of the difference derived from all possible samples of same size and design lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for roughly 68 percent of all possible samples. The 95 percent confidence interval is 19,000 to 595,000; thus,

we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the number of males on farms in 1974 was actually greater than the number of females on farms in 1974.

**Standard error of a ratio.** The standard error of a ratio, where the numerator and denominator are both sample estimates, but the numerator is not a subset of the denominator, cannot be read directly from any of the standard error tables. It is possible to approximate the standard error of certain ratios where the denominator,  $y$ , represents a count of families or households of a certain class and the numerator,  $x$ , represents a count of persons with a particular characteristic who are members of these families or households.

Example: The number of persons having the characteristics in a given household may be 0, 1, 2, 3 or more, as, for example, the average number of own children under 18 per family or the average number of persons aged 65 and over per family. For ratios of this kind, the standard error is approximated by the following formula:

$$\sigma_{(x/y)} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2 \left[ \left(\frac{\sigma_y}{y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_x}{x}\right)^2 \right]}$$

In this case, the standard error of the estimated number of families or households,  $\sigma_y$ , should be calculated from table A-3 and the standard error of the estimated number of persons with the characteristic,  $\sigma_x$ , should be obtained from table A-1.

**Standard error of a fertility rate.** Table D shows that in 1974, there were 2,448 children ever born per 1,000 ever-married farm women aged 25 to 34. Table A-10 shows that there were about 326,000 women in this group. Table A-9 shows the standard error of a rate of 2,448 children on a base of 326,000 women to be approximately 184. Multiplying the standard error of 184 by 1.38 (the factor for fertility standard errors of the farm population), the standard error becomes 254. Consequently, the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 254. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 508 (twice the standard error), i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be between 1,940 and 2,956 children ever born per 1,000 ever-married farm women aged 25 to 34.

Table A-7. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Farm Families for Household and Family Characteristics

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of estimated percentages (thousands)	Estimated percentages					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25.....	3.2	4.6	7.1	9.8	14.1	16.3
50.....	2.3	3.2	5.0	6.9	10.0	11.5
100.....	1.6	2.3	3.5	4.9	7.1	8.1
250.....	1.0	1.4	2.2	3.1	4.5	5.2
500.....	0.7	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.2	3.6
1,000.....	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.5	2.2	2.6
2,500.....	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.6
5,000.....	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.2
10,000.....	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8
15,000.....	0.13	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7

Note: For estimated percentages of farm families with income or low-income characteristics, multiply the above standard errors by 0.87. For estimated percentages of farm families with metropolitan or nonmetropolitan characteristics, multiply the above standard errors by 1.4.

Table A-8. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Nonfarm Families for Household and Family Characteristics Total or White Population

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percentages (thousands)	Estimated percentages					
	1 or 99	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
25.....	2.3	3.3	5.1	7.1	10.2	11.8
50.....	1.7	2.3	3.6	5.0	7.2	8.3
100.....	1.2	1.6	2.6	3.5	5.1	5.9
250.....	0.7	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.2	3.7
500.....	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.6	2.3	2.6
1,000.....	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.6	1.9
2,500.....	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.1
5,000.....	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8
10,000.....	0.12	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
15,000.....	0.10	0.13	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
25,000.....	0.07	0.10	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
50,000.....	0.05	0.07	0.11	0.2	0.2	0.3
100,000.....	0.04	0.05	0.08	0.11	0.2	0.2

Note: For income and low-income characteristics for total or white nonfarm families multiply the above standard errors by 0.88; for Negro and other races nonfarm families multiply by 0.86. For estimated standard errors of percentages of Negro and other races for household and family characteristics, multiply the above standard errors by 0.95.

Table A-9. Standard Errors of Estimated Fertility Rates for the Nonfarm Population

(68 chances out of 100)

Number of women	Children ever born per 1,000 women							
	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0
250,000.....	0.05	0.09	0.13	0.16	0.20	0.24	0.27	0.31
500,000.....	0.04	0.06	0.09	0.12	0.14	0.17	0.19	0.22
750,000.....	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.09	0.12	0.14	0.16	0.18
1,000,000.....	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.16
2,000,000.....	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.11
5,000,000.....	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.07
10,000,000.....	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.05
15,000,000.....	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04
20,000,000.....	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03
25,000,000.....	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03

Note: For standard errors of fertility rates for the farm population, multiply above standard errors by 1.38.

Table A-10. Estimates of the Number of Ever-Married Women and Number of Currently-Married Women Reporting Birth Expectations, by Age, Race, and Farm-Nonfarm Residence: June 1974 CPS

(Numbers in thousands)

Women by age	Total			White			Negro and other races		
	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm	Total	Farm	Nonfarm
<b>WOMEN EVER MARRIED</b>									
Total, 15 to 44 years....	31,493	1,016	30,476	27,652	976	26,677	3,841	40	3,799
15 to 24 years.....	7,027	182	6,845	6,204	169	6,036	823	13	809
25 to 34 years.....	13,425	326	13,099	11,830	320	11,511	1,595	6	1,588
35 to 44 years.....	11,041	508	10,532	9,618	487	9,130	1,423	21	1,402
<b>WOMEN CURRENTLY MARRIED</b>									
14 to 39 years old, reporting birth expectations.....	19,020	630	18,389	17,221	609	16,612	2,799	21	1,777

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 277, Fertility Expectations of American Women: 1974, tables 7, 16, 17.