

CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

March 12, 1957

Washington 25, D. C.

Series P-20, No. 73

THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES

MOBILITY OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES: MARCH 1955 TO 1956

(Statistics on job mobility of workers in 1955 have been published in Current Population Reports, Series P-50, No. 70)

The number of movers in the United States reached its highest level since the period of economic reconversion and military demobilization shortly after World War II in the year ending March 1956. About 7 million men in the prime working ages both changed their place of residence, and made a major shift in their kind of work.

One out of every five of the 161,497,000 persons 1 year old and over in continental United States in March 1956 was living in a different house from the one in which he had lived a year earlier, according to the results of a sample survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Of the 33.1 million movers, that is, persons who had changed their place of residence in the United States during the year, 22.2 million were living in a different house in the same county and 10.9 million were living in a different county. Of the latter group, 5.1 million were living in a different State.

As shown in table 1 and the accompanying chart, there has been little variation in the mobility rates in the nine annual surveys conducted between 1948 and 1956. The increase in the number of movers has resulted from the gain in population. The overall annual mobility rates have varied from a low of 18.6 percent to a high of 21.0 percent. The percentage of intracounty movers has varied from 12.2 to 13.9 percent. The mobility rate in 1956 (20.5 percent) was not much different from the rate in 1951 (21.0 percent), another year in which business activity and residential construction were at high levels.

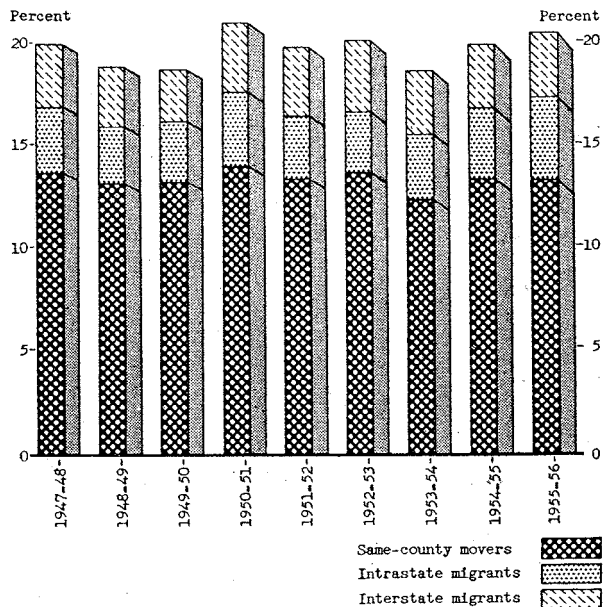
SIZE OF PLACE

As in most of the years since 1948, the population living in rural-farm areas in March 1956 was the least mobile (14.3 percent) and that in rural-

nonfarm areas the most mobile (23.8 percent) (table 2). The rate for the population living in urban territory was identical with that for the total population--20.5 percent. Among nonwhites, however, the largest proportion of movers--26.3 percent--was found in the urban population.

Over the nine successive years in which annual mobility data have been collected in the Current Population Survey, the rural-nonfarm population usually ranks first, for total mobility, intracounty

MOVERS BY TYPE OF MOBILITY AS A PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS 1 YEAR OLD AND OVER, FOR THE UNITED STATES: APRIL 1947 TO MARCH 1956



movement, and interstate migration; the urban population, second; and the rural-farm population, last. In terms of the intrastate migration rate, however, the urban population usually is lowest.

On the basis of average rates for the past five years, the highest proportions of migrants and short-distance (intracounty) movers are usually found among people living in middle-sized cities and in rural-nonfarm residences. The lowest proportions, on the other hand, are found among persons living on farms and in the largest urbanized areas.

Data on mobility status by metropolitan residence have been obtained in the past three surveys. As in the two previous surveys, the residents of the New York-Northeastern New Jersey Standard Metropolitan Area tended to be less mobile than those of the smaller standard metropolitan areas. There has not been much difference in the over-all mobility rate between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. There is some evidence that the metropolitan population contained a larger proportion of intracounty movers, but a smaller proportion of migrants, than the nonmetropolitan population. As in the previous survey, the rural-nonfarm residents in metropolitan areas, however, were more mobile than the rural-nonfarm residents of nonmetropolitan areas--in the year ending in March 1956, 25.4 percent of the nonfarm residents of standard metropolitan areas were movers as against 22.9 percent of those in nonmetropolitan areas.

COLOR

In March 1956, as in other recent years, nonwhites were more mobile than whites, but whites tended to travel greater distances (table 1). One out of every four nonwhites was a mover in March 1956 in contrast to one out of every five whites. But 7.0 percent of the whites and 4.9 percent of the nonwhites were migrants (intercounty movers).

The higher intracounty mobility of nonwhites and their lower intercounty mobility (migration) have both been observed rather consistently in the last eight years. It is particularly in interstate migration that whites exceed nonwhites. There seems to have been an upward trend in the short-distance mobility of nonwhites. In the four most recent years, an average of 19 percent moved within a county, whereas in the four earlier years the average was only 15 percent.

In the rural-farm population, the short-distance mobility rate of nonwhites has averaged almost twice that of whites over the last three years, and nonwhites tended toward a higher intrastate migration rate as well. It seems unlikely that nonwhites were moving from nonfarm residences to farms at a higher rate than whites so there seems to be evidence here of a relatively high internal mobility within the nonwhite farm population. This difference would be consistent with the higher rate of mobility for

tenants and the higher tenancy rate of nonwhites on farms. The relatively low mobility of the nonwhites in the rural-nonfarm population probably stems from their greater concentration in villages and hamlets than the whites in rural-nonfarm residences, who are more likely to be living in the newly settled metropolitan fringe areas.

AGE AND SEX

In general, the mobility rates by age and sex followed the patterns of previous years. The rate for males (20.6 percent) was not significantly different from that for females (20.4 percent). Although the observed mobility rates for males are usually only slightly higher than for females, there have been only a very few cases in the past nine surveys when the observed rate for females was as high or higher than that for males. This relationship is true for total mobility and for each distance category separately.

Young adults were the most mobile (table 3). In the age group 20 to 24 years old, somewhat less than half were movers. Thereafter, there was a steady decline in mobility with age, with the rate for those 65 years old and over having been only 10 percent. The rates for children reflect the fact that members of the family tend to move with the head. (See Series P-20, No. 67, "Household and Family Characteristics: April 1955 and 1954.") The mobility rate for children 1 to 4 years old was high--28.5 percent. Thereafter, the rate declined with the age of the child and presumably also with the age of the head of the family to the group 18 and 19, the years when young people begin to leave their parental homes. Here, the mobility rate for girls was higher than for boys, reflecting the earlier average age at marriage of the former.

LABOR FORCE STATUS

As in previous years, persons in the labor force tended to be more mobile than those not in the labor force and the unemployed were more mobile than the employed (table 4). Among males, for example, those in the labor force in the ages 18 to 34 years were more mobile than those not in the labor force. In the age groups 35 and over, the reverse was true. Apparently, at these older ages, job attachments inhibit migration somewhat.

Data on the relationship between mobility and labor force status were also tabulated by age from the Current Population Survey of March 1950. From this survey and the present one, it appears that:

1. Members of the Armed Forces are more mobile than any of the male civilian groups of corresponding age. Relatively high proportions of members of the Armed Forces are interstate migrants or were stationed abroad a year earlier.
2. In the age range from 25 to 64, unemployed males have a higher mobility rate than civilian employed males.

In the March 1956 survey, the information on mobility status of women 18 years old and over was cross-classified by marital status, age, and labor force status (table 5). There was some evidence that women living with their husbands tended to be more mobile (20.1 percent) than other women (18.5 percent). The greater mobility of these women was attributable to their greater mobility in the age group 18 to 24 years, the years in which most women marry. In this age group, women living with their husbands were twice as mobile as other women of the same age (56.1 vs. 26.1 percent).

When both age and marital status are taken into account, differences in mobility between women in the labor force and women not in the labor force appear to be rather small. Furthermore, the direction of the difference varies. A larger sample or the results of several annual surveys might well reveal some significant relationships between mobility status and labor force status among women, of course. For example, the present data suggest that among single, widowed, divorced, and separated women in each age group, a larger proportion of those not in the labor force have recently migrated than of those in the labor force.

WORK EXPERIENCE IN 1955

The statistics in the foregoing section related to work status in the survey week in March 1956. For about half of the March sample, information on work experience in 1955 had been collected in the January 1956 survey (tables 6 to 9).

The highest migration rates for men 20 to 44 years old were found among those who worked in civilian jobs less than half the year or had not worked at all during 1955 (table 6). Men who worked at their jobs for the full year had the lowest migration rates. In this age group, school or college attendance, unemployment, or service in the Armed Forces are the main reasons why men do not work continuously at civilian jobs throughout the year. As has been indicated, the migration rates of men who are seeking work or who are in the Armed Forces tend to be above those of men who are regularly employed. In the age group 45 to 64 years, migration rates were highest for those who worked 26 weeks or less.

For women, those who worked the year round had the lowest migration rates. Otherwise, there seems to be no direct relation between weeks worked during the year and mobility.

The relationship between short-distance mobility (intracounty movement) and work experience was not always the same as that between migration (intercounty movement) and work experience. For example, men 20 to 44 years old were more likely to have moved within a county if they had worked in 1955 than if they had not--14.5 and 4.8 percent, respectively.

Information on the mobility status of persons who worked in civilian employment in 1955 by weeks of unemployment reported appears in table 7. As shown in the following table, those who looked for work sometime in 1955 were more mobile and tended to travel longer distances than workers who had not been unemployed. There was no consistent pattern of increasing mobility with increase in the number of weeks of unemployment reported, however.

Table A.--WEEKS OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR PERSONS 20 TO 64 YEARS OLD WHO WORKED IN 1955, BY SEX AND TYPE OF MOBILITY: MARCH 1956
(Includes workers who were not in the civilian labor force part of the year)

Sex and weeks of unemployment	Estimated number (millions)	Percent who were--	
		Intracounty movers	Migrants
Male, total.....	35.2	11.5	5.6
No weeks.....	30.3	10.9	4.8
Some weeks.....	4.9	15.1	10.4
Female, total.....	19.9	11.1	5.1
No weeks.....	18.0	11.0	4.7
Some weeks.....	1.8	12.1	8.5

Information on the mobility status of persons who worked in 1955 by the number of jobs held during the year appears in table 8. As might be expected, persons who had more than one job were more mobile than those who had a single job. Among men, for example, 15.3 percent of those who held more than one job were intracounty movers and 12.3 percent were migrants; whereas, among those who had a single job, the corresponding percentages were 10.7 and 4.2.

In almost all of the statistics published by the Bureau of the Census relating population mobility to occupation or industry, these economic characteristics have related to the time of the survey; in other words, they have been characteristics of workers after their moves have taken place.¹ Mobility may be more closely associated with the type of job before movement than with the type of job after movement, however. Furthermore, there is interest in changes in job characteristics that take place as a result of migration and of short-distance moves. Some data that partially meet these analytical needs are available from the combining of the March 1956 data on mobility with the January 1956 data on work history in 1955, for the same persons. The move could have taken place at any time between March 1955 and March 1956. We do not have here a description of jobs in March 1955, or prior to moving; but we do have the longest job held in 1955. Since the mean date of moving is roughly September 1955, the longest job in 1955 for movers is probably, in a majority of cases, the job held before moving.

¹ One previous exception dealt with civilian employed both on V-J Day (August 14, 1945) and a year later and classified their jobs at each date as in agriculture or as in a nonagricultural industry. See U. S. Bureau of the Census, Population, Series P-S, No. 24, "Migration in the United States: August, 1945, to August, 1946," June 6, 1947, table 6.

As shown in table 9, males 20 to 64 years who where not employed in the same major occupation group in March 1956 as on the job at which they worked longest in 1955 were more mobile geographically than those who had not shifted occupation groups. This relationship was true among both those 20 to 44 and those 45 to 64 years old. More than one-fifth (21.6 percent) of an estimated 6.7 million who changed occupation groups were movers in contrast with 15.3 percent of the 26.4 million who stayed in the same group. The percentage of migrants in the two groups was 8.9 and 4.5, respectively. This general pattern was found in most of the major occupation groups. The exceptions were the professional, technical, and related workers group and salaried managers, officials, and proprietors. Workers who move out of these occupational groups are usually suffering a demotion in occupational status.

When the major occupation groups are ranked by their mobility rates of each type, one thing that stands out is the relatively high migration rates of farm laborers, both those who were still farm laborers in March 1956 and those who had shifted to some other occupation. One-fifth of farm laborers who changed their occupation also changed their county of residence. On the other hand, workers whose longest job in 1955 was farmer or farm manager had relatively low migration and short-distance mobility rates.

Sales workers also appear to have been relatively mobile. In previous surveys, professional, technical, and kindred workers were among the most mobile occupational groups, especially as measured by their migration rate. Here, however, their mobility does not seem to be outstandingly high, although the migration rates for some of their subgroups--in terms of age and presence or absence of occupational shift--are above the average for all workers in the corresponding subgroup.

The 2,100,000 male workers in 1955 who were unemployed or not in the labor force in March 1956 were relatively mobile, age for age, when compared with workers who stayed in the same major occupation group. As an example of the contrast, table 9 shows that, among workers 20 to 44 years old who stayed in the same major group, only 13.9 percent were intracounty movers and only 6.1 percent were migrants.

Table B.--PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY MOBILITY STATUS OF MALES 20 TO 64 YEARS OLD WITH WORK EXPERIENCE IN 1955 WHO WERE UNEMPLOYED OR NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE, BY AGE: MARCH 1956

Age	All classes	Same house (non-movers)	Different house, same county	Different county (mi-grants)
Total.....	100.0	75.8	15.8	8.5
20 to 44 years.....	100.0	71.1	18.7	10.3
45 to 64 years.....	100.0	81.8	12.0	6.2

REGIONS

As in the two previous surveys, the population of the West was the most mobile and that of the Northeast the least (table 10). In March 1956, the proportion of mobile persons and migrants in the West was about double that among the residents of the Northeast. In the past three years, the mobility rate of nonwhites has been appreciably higher than that of whites in the North; whereas, in the South and West, racial differences in mobility status have been slight.

The estimated number of in-migrants and out-migrants by region for April 1949 to April 1950 and the annual average for the period April 1953 to March 1956 appear in the following table. Over this later period, the South lost about 280,000 persons a year through net migration, whereas the West gained about 170,000. In the year ending in April 1950, both the South and the West had had net gains through migration. In the recent period, about 500,000 persons a year--or a total of 1,500,000--have moved from the South to the North Central States (table 11).

Table C.--IN-MIGRANTS AND OUT-MIGRANTS, BY REGION: ANNUAL AVERAGES, APRIL 1953 TO MARCH 1956 AND APRIL 1949 TO APRIL 1950 (1949-1950 DATA FROM 1950 CENSUS; OTHERS FROM CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY)

Region	In-migrants		Out-migrants	
	Average, 1953-1956	April 1949-1950	Average, 1953-1956	April 1949-1950
Northeast.....	398,000	255,860	418,000	391,155
North Central.....	777,000	515,245	651,000	569,165
South.....	812,000	688,380	1,091,000	574,110
West.....	687,000	470,095	514,000	395,150

RELATED REPORTS

Statistics on the mobility status of the population 1 year old and over for recent years appear in the following reports in Series P-20:

- No. 61, "Mobility of the Population of the United States: April 1954 to April 1955."
- No. 57, "Mobility of the Population of the United States: April 1953 to April 1954."
- No. 49, "Mobility of the Population of the United States: April 1952 to April 1953."
- No. 47, "Mobility of the Population of the United States: April 1952."
- No. 39, "Mobility of the Population of the United States: April 1950 to April 1951."
- No. 36, "Internal Migration and Mobility in the United States: March 1949 to March 1950."

1950 Census.--Statistics on the mobility of the population for cities, counties, standard metropolitan areas, urbanized areas, States, divisions, regions, and the United States appear in Volume II of the 1950 Census of Population. Detailed statistics on mobility status by color and sex for States, divisions, regions, and the United States appear in 1950 Census of Population, Vol. IV, Special Reports, No. 4B. Other special reports of the 1950 Census

entitled "Characteristics by Size of Place," "Education," and "Institutional Population" present statistics on mobility status in relation to the main subject of the report.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Population coverage.--The data for 1956 (covering the period March 1955 to March 1956) shown in this report relate primarily to the civilian population of the United States 1 year old and over. Approximately 872,000 members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post were also included, but all other members of the Armed Forces were excluded. For simplicity, the group covered is called the "population" or the "civilian population" in this report. The coverage of the population for the earlier survey years was essentially the same. The data from the 1950 Census relate to the total population 1 year old and over.

Urban and rural residence.--The definition of urban and rural areas which was used in the March 1956 survey was the same as that used in the 1950 Census, but it differed substantially from that used in surveys and censuses before 1950. The territory classified as urban is the same as that in the 1950 Census.

Size of place.--The urban population is classified as living in urbanized areas or in urban places outside urbanized areas. According to the definition used in the 1950 Census and in the March 1956 Current Population Survey, the population in urbanized areas comprises all persons living in (a) cities of 50,000 inhabitants or more in 1940 or according to a special census taken between 1940 and 1950; and (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, surrounding these cities. Residents of urbanized areas were classified according to the size of the entire area rather than by the size of the place in which they lived. The remaining urban population is classified as living in the smaller urban places not in the urbanized areas.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. The method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the March 1956 survey is the same as that used in the 1950 Census and in the April 1951 through 1955 and March 1950 Current Population Surveys but differs from that used in earlier surveys and censuses. Persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, "motels," and tourist camps were classified as nonfarm.

Standard metropolitan area.--Except in New England, a standard metropolitan area is a county or group of contiguous counties which contains at least

one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more. In addition to the county, or counties, containing such a city, or cities, contiguous counties are included in a standard metropolitan area if according to certain criteria they are essentially metropolitan in character and socially and economically integrated with the central city. In New England, standard metropolitan areas have been defined on a town rather than county basis.

Mobility status.--The civilian population of the United States has been classified according to mobility status on the date of the survey on the basis of a comparison between the place of residence of each individual at the survey date and the place of residence one year earlier. This comparison restricts the classification in terms of mobility status to the population to persons 1 year old and over at the survey date.

The information on mobility status was obtained from the response to the following series of inquiries. The first of these was: "Was ... living in this house March 1 a year ago?" If the answer was "No," the enumerator asked, "Was ... living in this same county on March 1 a year ago?" If the response was "No" again, the enumerator asked, "What State (or foreign country) was ... living in on March 1 a year ago?"

In the classification three main categories are distinguished:

1. Mobile persons or movers.--This group consists of all persons who were living in a different house in the United States at the end of the period than at the beginning of the period.

2. Nonmobile persons or nonmovers.--This group consists of persons who were living in the same house at the end of the period as at the beginning of the period.

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

Mobile persons are subdivided in terms of type of mobility into the following two groups:

1. Same-county (intracounty) movers.--These are persons living in a different house but in the same county at the beginning and end of the specified period.

2. Migrants, or different-county (inter-county) movers.--This group consists of persons living in a different county in the United States at the beginning and end of the period. Migrants are further classified by type of migration on the basis of a comparison of the State of residence at the end of the period with the State of residence at the beginning of the period:

- a. Migrants within a State.
- b. Migrants between States.

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

Color.--The term "color" refers to the division of population into two groups, White and non-white. The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races.

Employment status

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

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

Labor force.--This category comprises (a) the total of all civilians classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described above, and (b) persons serving in the Armed Forces who, at the time of the survey, were living off post or with their families on post. Members of the Armed Forces living on post, apart from their families, are not included.

Not in labor force.--This category includes those persons 14 years old and over, not classified as employed, unemployed, or in the Armed Forces. Persons who were engaged in "own home" housework, in school, inmates of institutions, retired, permanently unable or too old to work, seasonal workers for whom the survey fell in an "off" season, and the voluntarily idle are considered as "not in the labor force." Persons doing only incidental unpaid work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not being in the labor force.

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 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 a vacation, visiting, etc., at the time of the enumeration.

For the purposes of this report the group "married, spouse present" is shown separately and the remaining groups are consolidated into "other marital status."

Work experience in 1955.--In the Current Population Survey for January 1956, information was obtained on the work experience in calendar 1955 of civilians 14 years old and over. Included in the information obtained were such items as number of weeks worked in civilian employment, amount of working time lost because of unemployment, and major occupation group of longest job held in 1955. For the purposes of this survey, service in the Armed Forces in 1955 was not considered as part of a person's work experience.

Approximately one-half of the households included in the January survey were also in the March 1956 survey, when information was obtained on mobility status and current labor force status. Information on those persons 20 to 64 years old who were reported as living in the same house in both January and March was matched to obtain cross-classifications of mobility status and current labor force status with work experience in 1955. The relatively small number of persons in this age group who were reported as abroad in March 1955, however, was excluded from the match.

Major occupation group.--The data on occupation for March 1956 relate to job held during the survey week. Persons employed in two jobs or more were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. The data on occupation shown in table 9 relate to the civilian job at which the person worked the greatest number of weeks during 1955. The occupational categories shown are largely the major occupation groups used in the 1950 Census of Population. The composition of these major groups in terms of detailed occupations is shown in Volume II of the reports of the 1950 Census. One major occupation group--managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm--is subdivided into salaried workers and self-employed workers. The category "Service workers" represents a combination of the two categories "Private household workers" and "Service workers, except private household."

Number of different jobs held in 1955.--The information on number of jobs held in 1955 relates to the number of full-time or part-time jobs held in civilian employment during the year. It was not possible to distinguish between those persons who held two jobs or more simultaneously and those who held two jobs or more in sequence. A person who had a full-time job throughout 1955, for example, and

also did some part-time work during the year was classified as having two jobs or more. The extent to which this prevailed in 1955 is not known; however, in 1955 about 3 million persons held two jobs or more simultaneously at least part of the year.

Percentages.--Percentages are shown as calculated; therefore, they do not always add to exactly 100.0 percent. The totals, however, are always shown as 100.0 percent.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

The estimates presented in this report are based on data obtained in connection with the monthly population sample survey of the Bureau of the Census. The statistics for March 1956, April 1955, and April 1954 are based on a sample design instituted in January 1954. This sample was spread over 230 sample areas comprising 453 counties and independent cities. A total of 24,000 to 26,000 dwelling units and other living quarters were designated for the sample at any time, and completed interviews were obtained each month from about 20,000 to 22,000 households. Of the remainder, about 500 to 1,000 were households for which information should have been obtained but was not, and the rest were vacant households or those otherwise not to be enumerated for the survey. The data for all previous periods for which similar information was obtained from the Current Population Survey were based on a different sample, which consisted of about the same number of units but which covered only 68 sample areas in 42 States and the District of Columbia.

The estimating procedure used in this survey involved the inflation of weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, color, and sex. For the March 1956, April 1955, 1954, and 1953 figures shown in this report, the independent estimates used were based on statistics from the 1950 Census of Population; statistics of births, deaths, immigration, and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces and separation records. For April 1952 and earlier years, the independent estimates were based on data

of the 1940 Census of Population similarly adjusted to take account of the aging of the population, births, deaths, net immigration, and changes in the size of the Armed Forces.

Since the estimates are based on a sample they are subject to sampling variability. The following illustration indicates the order of magnitude of the sampling errors for some typical statistics in March 1956. An estimated 3,046,000 employed males 25 to 34 years of age were living in different homes from the ones they had lived in a year ago. This number is 29.5 percent of the total number of employed males in this age group. The relative sampling error is about 6 percent of the estimate of 3,046,000. The sampling error of the estimate of 29.5 percent is about 2 percentage points. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that the estimates from the sample differ from the results which would be obtained from a complete census by the sampling errors indicated for the above items. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the differences would be less than twice the specified sampling errors and about 99 out of 100 that they would be less than 2½ times the errors indicated.

The data presented in tables 6, 7, 8, and 9 come from those households which were interviewed in January 1956 for work experience information and again in March 1956 for information relating to the mobility of the population of the United States. Since only 50 percent of the sample of households in January were scheduled for interview in March, these data are subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than those in tables 1 to 5 and 10 to 11. In addition, since some of the households scheduled for interview in both months were not interviewed in either January or March, the matched data are subject to somewhat greater bias due to noninterview than those based on one month's enumeration.

The following illustration indicates the order of magnitude of the sampling errors from estimates made from the matched data. An estimated 12.4 percent of the men in the age group 20 to 44 who did not work at all in 1955 were classified as migrants. The sampling error of the estimate of 12.4 percent is about 2 percentage points.

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1.--Mobility status and type of mobility of the civilian population 1 year old and over, for the United States: April 1948 to March 1956.....	9
2.--Place of residence and color of the civilian population 1 year old and over, by mobility status and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	10
3.--Age and sex of the civilian population 1 year old and over, by mobility status and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	11
4.--Employment status, age, and sex of the civilian population 14 years old and over, by mobility status and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	12

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
5.--Labor force status, marital status, and age of the civilian female population 18 years old and over, by mobility status and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	15
6.--Work status in 1955 of the civilian population 20 to 64 years old, by age, sex, mobility status, and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	16
7.--Weeks of unemployment in 1955 reported by persons 20 to 64 years old who worked in 1955, by age, sex, mobility status, and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	16
8.--Number of different jobs held in 1955 by persons 20 to 64 years old who worked in 1955, by age, sex, mobility status, and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	16
9.--Males 20 to 64 years old employed in March 1956 who worked in 1955, by major occupation group of longest job held in 1955, age, mobility status, and type of mobility, for the United States: March 1956.....	17
10.--Mobility status and type of mobility of the civilian population 1 year old and over, by color and sex, for regions: March 1956.....	18
11.--Average annual number of migrants, by region of residence at beginning and end of year: April 1953 to March 1956.....	18