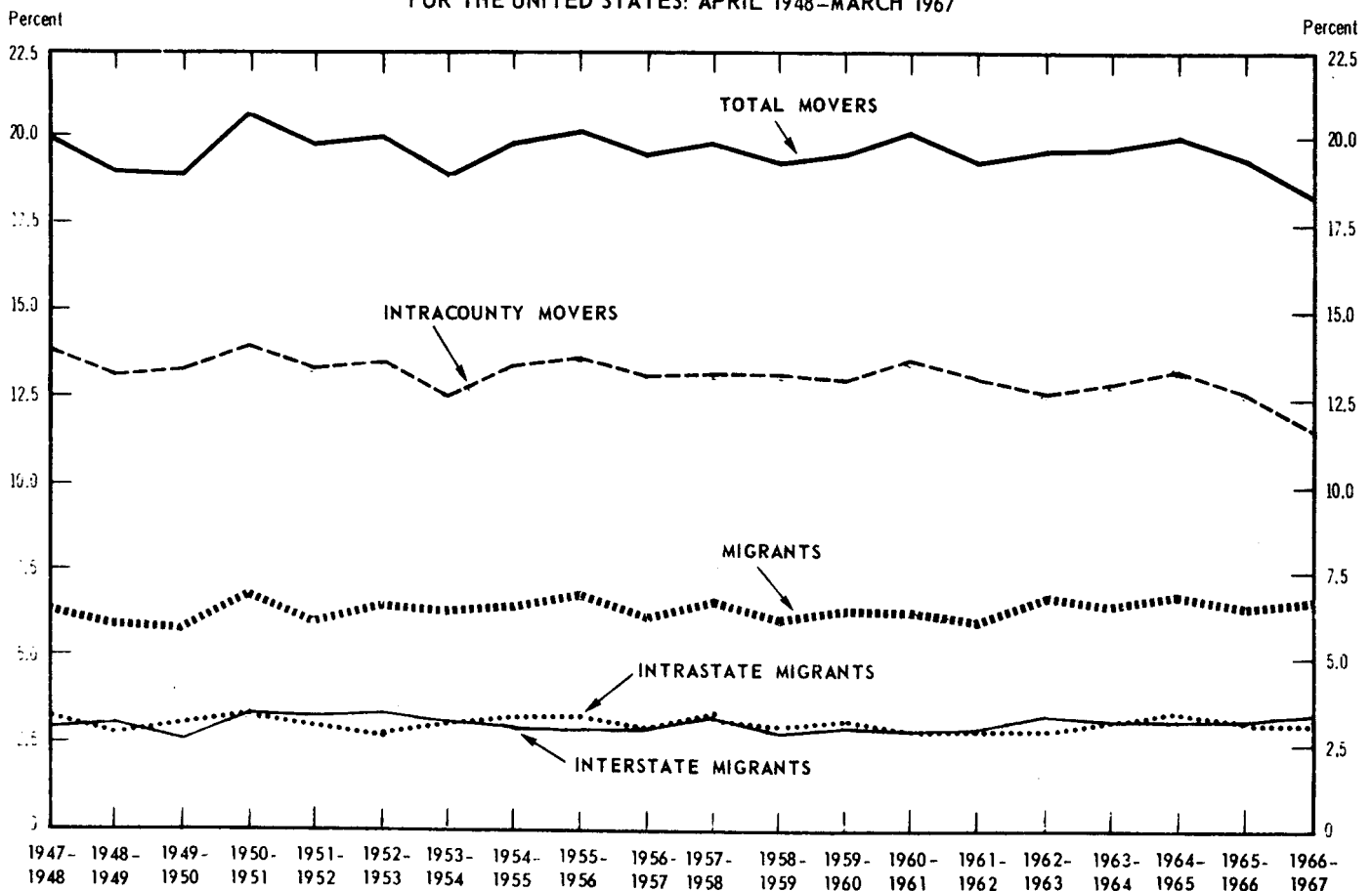


Population Characteristics

Series P-20, No. 171
April 30, 1968

MOBILITY OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES MARCH 1966 TO MARCH 1967

MOVERS BY TYPE OF MOBILITY AS PERCENT OF THE POPULATION 1 YEAR OLD AND OVER,
FOR THE UNITED STATES: APRIL 1948-MARCH 1967



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SUGGESTED CITATION

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 171,
"Mobility of the Population of the United States: March 1966 to March
1967," U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1968.

*For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, 35 cents.
Annual subscription (Series P-20, P-23, P-25, P-27, P-28 summaries, P-60, and P-65, combined), \$5.00;
foreign mailing, \$6.50.*

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MOBILITY OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES MARCH 1966 TO MARCH 1967

In the year ending in March 1967, 22.3 million persons had moved within counties--a drop of about 1.9 million from the 24.2 million who had moved locally in the previous year, according to estimates from the Current Population Survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census. Of the 35.2 million persons who had moved between March 1966 and March 1967, 22.3 million had moved within their counties and 12.9 million had moved between counties, of whom 6.6 million persons had moved between States. An additional 1.3 million had been living abroad in March 1966. The annual variation in the percentage of movers has been small. In the 20 annual surveys conducted since 1948, the proportion of movers has ranged from 21.0 percent to 18.3 percent, with the latter figure being that for the latest year.

Although the local mobility rate declined from 12.7 percent in 1966 to 11.6 percent in 1967, the migration rate remained about the same--6.6 percent in 1966 and 6.7 percent in 1967. The decline in local mobility was evident for both the white and the nonwhite population, and there was some evidence that this decline was concentrated in metropolitan areas. A recent survey has indicated that a majority of intracounty movers cite reasons relating to housing as an explanation for their moves (Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 154). To the extent that this is true, it seems likely that the decline in local mobility was related to the difficulties in financing real estate transactions incident to the tight money market which was characteristic of the period under consideration.

Since the local mobility rate declined between 1965-66 and 1966-67 and the migration rate remained relatively constant, it follows that local movers constituted a smaller percentage of all movers in 1966-67 than in 1965-66 (63.5 percent vs. 65.8 percent). Likewise, the usually observed excess of the nonwhite local mobility rate was lower than the average for the preceding 5 years (1961-62 to 1965-66). This change suggests that the decline in the local mobility rate relative to the migration rate was greater for the nonwhite population than for the white population.

The estimates from the annual surveys show men to be slightly more mobile than women and nonwhites to be more mobile than whites. Between March 1966 and March 1967, the total mobility

rate for men was 18.7 percent and that for women 17.9 percent. The total rate for nonwhites in this period was 20.9 percent and that for whites 18.0 percent. The results of previous surveys show the same kind of differences, and like the 1967 data, show that although the total rate is higher for nonwhites, the difference is largely a matter of greater local mobility. As in other years, the peak mobility rate in 1967 occurred in the age group 22 to 24 years, and thereafter the rate tended to decrease as age increased. Below age 35, married persons had higher mobility rates than single persons; but, above this age, married and single persons together had about the same mobility rates, at a level somewhat below those for persons of other marital status, that is, those who were widowed, divorced, or separated.

Mobility rates by age tend to reflect the several phases of the family cycle. They are high at the ages at which children leave home to find jobs, marry, and set up their own households. Additional mobility occurs in response to increased family size and increased income. Mobility rates decline with age because of the now strengthened ties of the household head to his residence, his job, and his community. Changes in marital status upset this equilibrium and contribute to additional mobility since the event of divorce or separation involves a change of residence of one of the marriage partners. Widowhood may also lead to a change of residence, especially if the previous living arrangements now become unsatisfactory.

Both the local mobility rate and the migration rate tend to vary inversely with economic status. The unemployed generally have a higher local mobility rate than the employed; in the period 1966-67 the data indicate local mobility rates of 12.2 percent for the employed, and 17.5 percent for the unemployed. The migration rates in this same period were 6.2 percent for the employed and 11.2 percent for the unemployed. Men who worked less than 50 weeks had a higher local mobility rate than those who worked 50 weeks or more (14.6 percent vs. 11.6 percent), and the rate for men with incomes of less than \$5,000 exceeded that for men with incomes of \$5,000 or more (12.6 percent vs. 10.7 percent). The migration rates for men who worked less than 50 weeks in comparison to those who worked 50 weeks or more were 11.0 percent and 5.2 percent, respectively; and the rates for men with incomes of less than \$5,000 in

comparison to those whose income exceeded \$5,000 were 7.2 percent and 5.6 percent. In the 1967 survey, operatives, other service workers, and laborers, the major occupation groups with the lowest income, had a higher local mobility rate (14.6 percent) than the other nonfarm occupation groups combined (11.3 percent).

RELATED REPORTS

Figures for 1965-1966 on the mobility status of the population were issued in Series P-20, No. 156, and similar statistics have been published in this series each year beginning with the 1947-48 period. In connection with the 1963 migration supplement, the Bureau of Labor Statistics sponsored additional questions on labor force status at the beginning of the migration period and on reasons for moving. The data relating to reasons for moving have been analyzed by the Bureau of the Census, and the results appear in Series P-20, No. 154. Additional data appear in Special Labor Force Report No. 144 of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Statistics on the mobility of the population for cities, counties, SMSA's, urbanized areas, State economic areas, States, divisions, regions, and the United States appear in Volume I of the 1960 Census of Population. Detailed statistics on mobility status by color and sex for State economic areas, SMSA's, States, divisions, and regions appear in Volume II, Subject Reports: 2A, State of Birth; 2B, Mobility for States and State Economic Areas; 2C, Mobility for Metropolitan Areas; and 2D, Lifetime and Recent Migration. Some other subject reports of the 1960 Census present statistics on mobility status in relation to the main subject of the report.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Population coverage.--The data for 1967 (covering the period March 1966 to March 1967) shown in this report relate primarily to the population of the United States 1 year old and over. Approximately 1,003,000 members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post are included, but all other members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The coverage of the population for the earlier survey years was essentially the same.

Farm-nonfarm residence.--The farm population refers to rural residents living on farms. The method of determining farm-nonfarm residence in the present survey is the same as that used in the 1960 Census and in the Current Population Surveys since 1960, but differs from that used in earlier surveys and censuses. According to the current

definition, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory on places of less than 10 acres yielding agricultural products which sold for \$250 or more in the previous year, or on places of 10 acres or more yielding agricultural products which sold for \$50 or more in the previous year. Rural persons in institutions, motels, and tourist camps, and those living on rented places where no land is used for farming are not classified as farm population.

Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence.--The population residing in standard metropolitan statistical areas constitute the metropolitan population. Except in New England a standard metropolitan statistical 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 statistical 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 statistical areas have been defined on a town rather than county basis. Standard metropolitan statistical areas of this report are identical with the standard metropolitan statistical areas of the 1960 Census and do not include any subsequent additions or other changes.

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

The information on mobility status was obtained from the responses to a 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. 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.
2. 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.

3. Persons abroad.--This group consists of persons, either citizens or aliens, whose place of residence was outside the United States at the beginning of the period, that is, in an outlying area under the jurisdiction of the United States or in a foreign country. These persons are distinguished from "movers" who are defined here as persons who moved from one place to another within the United States.

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

1. Same county (intracounty).--Those 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.

1. Migrants within a State (intrastate migrants), excludes intracounty movers.

2. Migrants between States (interstate migrants).

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

Median age.--Median age is that which divides the population into two equal parts, one-half of the population being older than the median and one-half younger.

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

Years of school completed.--Data on years of school completed in this report were derived from the combination of answers to questions concerning the highest grade of school attended by the person and whether or not that grade was finished. The questions on educational attainment apply only to progress in "regular" schools. Such schools include graded public, private, and parochial elementary and high schools (both junior and senior high), colleges, universities, and professional schools, whether day schools or night schools. Thus, regular schooling is that which may advance a person toward an elementary school certificate

or high school diploma, or a college, university, or professional school degree. Schooling in other than regular schools was counted only if the credits obtained were regarded as transferable to a school in the regular school system.

Marital status.--The marital status 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 vacation, visiting, in a hospital, etc., at the time of the enumeration. Persons reported as separated included those with legal separations, those living apart with intentions of obtaining a divorce, and other persons permanently or temporarily estranged from their spouses because of marital discord. The group "other married, spouse absent" includes married persons employed and living for several months at a considerable distance from their homes, those whose spouses were absent in the Armed Forces, in-migrants whose spouses remained in other areas, husbands or wives of inmates of institutions, and all other married persons (except those reported as separated) whose places of residence was not the same as that of their spouses.

For the purpose of this report the group "other marital status" includes "widowed and divorced," "separated," and "other married, spouse absent."

Household.--A household includes all of the persons who occupy a house, an apartment, or other group of rooms, or a room which constitutes a housing unit under the 1960 Census rules. A group of rooms or a single room is regarded as a housing unit only when it is occupied as separate living quarters, that is, when the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure, and when there is either (1) direct access from the outside or through a common hall, or (2) a kitchen or cooking equipment for the exclusive use of the occupants.

Household relationship.

Head.--One person in each household is designated the "head." The head is usually the person regarded as the head by the members of the group. The number of heads, therefore, is equal to the number of households.

A relative of the head is any household member who is related to the head by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Primary families and individuals.--The term "primary family" refers to the head of a household and all other persons in the household related to the head by blood, marriage, or adoption. If nobody in the household is related to the head, then the head himself constitutes a "primary individual." A household can contain one and only one primary family or primary individual. The number of "primary" families and individuals is identical with the number of households.

Employment status.--The civilian labor force comprises the total of all civilians classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described below.

Employed persons comprise those 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, or bad weather, or because they were taking time off for various other reasons. Also included in this report as a third element in the labor force are members of the Armed Forces who at the time of the Survey were living off post or were living on post with their families.

Unemployed persons include those who did not work at all during the survey week and were looking for work. Also included as unemployed are those who did not work at all during the survey week and (a) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, (b) were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the survey week), or (c) would have been looking for work except that they were temporarily ill or believed no work was available in their line of work or in the community.

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.

Not in the labor force.--All civilians 14 years of age and over who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force." Included are persons "engaged in own home housework," "in school," "unable to work"

because of long-term physical or mental illness, retired persons, those reported as too old to work, the voluntarily idle, and seasonal workers for whom the survey week fell in an "off" season and who were not reported as unemployed. Persons doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not in the labor force.

Occupation.--Data on occupation are shown for the employed and relate to the job held during the survey week. Persons employed at two or more jobs were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. The major groups used here are mainly the major groups used in the 1960 Census of Population. The composition of these groups is shown in Volume I, Characteristics of the Population, Part 1, United States Summary.

Data are also shown for four broad occupational groups (white-collar workers, manual workers, service workers, and farm workers), which represent combinations of the 11 major groups.

All persons engaged directly in agricultural production are classified as farm workers in this report. This included farm proprietors, managers, foremen, and laborers.

The nonagricultural group is subdivided into three groups. The white-collar group includes professional workers, proprietors, managers, and sales and clerical workers. The manual group includes craftsmen, machine operatives, and laborers (other than farm); and the service category includes private household workers and other service workers.

Weeks worked in previous year.--Persons are classified according to the number of different weeks during the previous year in which they did any civilian work for pay or profit (including paid vacations and sick leave) or worked without pay on a family-operated farm or business.

Income.--For each person 14 years old and over in the sample, questions were asked on the amount of money income received in the previous 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, veterans' payments, or other government or private pensions; (5) interest (on bonds or savings), dividends, and income from annuities, estates, or trusts; (6) net income from boarders or lodgers, or from renting property to others; (7) all other sources such as unemployment benefits, public assistance, alimony, etc.

The amounts received represent income before deductions for personal taxes, Social Security, bonds, etc. If any amount was \$10,000 or more, it was recorded as a specific amount wherever possible. It should be noted that although the income statistics refer to receipts during the previous year the characteristics of the person, such as age, labor force status, etc., and the composition of families refer to the survey date.

Total income is the sum of amounts reported separately for wage or salary income, self-employment income, and other income. Wage or salary income is defined as the total money earnings received for work performed as an employee. It represents the amount received before deducting for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, etc. Self-employment income is defined as net money income (gross receipts minus operating expenses) from a business, farm, or professional enterprise in which the person was engaged on his own account.

Class of worker.--The data on class of worker are for persons who worked in the previous year and refer to the job held longest during the year. Persons employed at two or more jobs were reported in the job at which they worked the greatest number of weeks. The class-of-worker classification specifies "wage and salary workers" and "self-employed workers." Wage and salary workers receive wages, salary, commissions, tips, pay in kind, or piece rates from a private employer or from a government unit. Self-employed workers have their own business, profession, or trade, or operate a farm for profit or fees.

Rounding of estimates.--Individual figures are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded. Percentages are based on the rounded absolute numbers.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Source of data.--The estimates are based on data obtained monthly in the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census. The sample is spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities, with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 52,500 occupied households are designated for interview each month. Of this number, 2,500 occupied units, on the average, are visited but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or

are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 52,500 there are also about 7,500 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be enumerated.

The estimating procedure used in this survey involved the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, color, and sex. The independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1960 Census of Population; statistics of births, deaths, immigration, and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces. To these figures were added the members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post and the institutional population. The estimated numbers of inmates of institutions shown in this report were obtained by assuming that the percent of the population who were inmates in each age and sex group in 1967 was the same as in the 1960 Census.

Reliability of the estimates.--Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figure that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting as well as being subject to sampling variability.

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

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

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. Table B contains the standard errors of estimated percentages.

Table A.--STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS
(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
25,000.....	12,000	2,500,000.....	121,000
50,000.....	17,000	5,000,000.....	170,000
100,000.....	24,000	10,000,000.....	236,000
250,000.....	38,000	25,000,000.....	357,000
500,000.....	54,000	50,000,000.....	462,000
1,000,000.....	77,000	100,000,000.....	513,000

Illustration of the use of table of standard errors.--Table 8 of this report shows that 12,032,000 males age 14 and over moved to a different house in the United States between March 1966 and March 1967. Table A shows the standard error on an estimate of this size to be approximately 252,000. The chances are 68 out of 100 that a complete census would have shown a figure differing from the estimate by less than 252,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that a census would have shown a figure differing from the estimate by less than 504,000 (twice the standard error).

Of these 12,032,000 movers, 4,493,000 or 37.3 percent, moved to a different county. Table B shows the standard error of 37.3 percent on a base of 12,032,000 to be approximately 1.0 percent. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that a complete census would have disclosed the figure to be between 36.3 and 38.3 percent, and 95 chances out of 100 that the figure shown would have been between 35.3 and 39.3 percent.

Table B.--STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES
(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)								
	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000
2 or 98.....	2.2	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
5 or 95.....	3.4	2.4	1.7	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
10 or 90.....	4.6	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2
25 or 75.....	6.7	4.7	3.3	2.1	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3
50.....	7.7	5.4	3.8	2.4	1.7	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.4

Note.--Standard errors for 1966 estimates may be obtained by multiplying 1967 standard errors by 1.22.