

Appendix A. Definitions and Explanations

Population coverage. The figures shown are for the civilian noninstitutional population.

Symbols. A dash (—) represents zero or rounds to zero, and the symbol "B" means that the base for the derived figure is less than 75,000. An "X" means not applicable and "NA" means not available.

College enrollment. The college enrollment statistics are based on replies to the enumerator's inquiry as to whether the person was attending or enrolled in college. Enumerators were instructed to count as enrolled anyone who had been enrolled at any time during the current term or school year, except those who have left for the remainder of the term. Thus, regular college enrollment includes those persons attending a 4-year or 2-year college, university or professional school (such as medical or law school), in courses that may advance the student toward a recognized college or university degree (e.g. BA or MA). Attendance may be either full time or part time, during the day or night.

Persons enrolled in classes which do not require physical presence in school, such as correspondence courses or other courses of independent study, and in training courses given directly on the job, are excluded from the count of those enrolled in school, unless such courses are being counted for credit at a college.

Students enrolled in the first through fourth year of college are referred to as undergraduates. Those enrolled in the fifth year of college or higher are graduate students.

Public or private college. In this report, a public college is defined as any educational institution operated by publicly elected or appointed school officials and supported by public funds. Private colleges include educational institutions established and operated by religious bodies, as well as those which are under other private control. In cases where enrollment was in a college which was both publicly and privately controlled or supported, enrollment was counted according to whether it was primarily public or private.

Two-year and four-year college. Students enrolled in the first 3 years of college were asked to report whether the college in which they were enrolled was a 2-year college (junior or community college) or a 4-year college or university. Students in the fourth academic year of college or higher were assumed to be in a 4-year college or university.

Age. The age classification is based on the age of the person at the time of the survey.

Race. The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race: White, Black, and "other races." The last category includes Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and any other race except White and Black.

Marital status. The marital status category shown in this report, "married, spouse present," includes persons who are currently married and living with their spouse. Persons referred to as unmarried in this report are never married, separated, divorced, or widowed.

Family. The term "family," as used here, refers to a group of two persons or more related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of one family.

Head of family. One person in each family residing together 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.

Dependent family members. For the purpose of this report, a dependent family member is a relative of the family head, excluding the head's wife. Such persons are generally sons and daughters of the family head. Family members who are living away from home while attending college are also counted as dependent family members.

Family income. Income as defined in this report represents the combined total money income of the family before deductions for personal taxes, Social Security, bonds, etc. It is the algebraic sum of money wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, and income other than earnings received by all family members during the 12 months prior to the surveys. It should be noted that although the family income statistics refer to receipts during the previous 12 months, the characteristics of the person, such as age, marital status, etc., and the composition of families refer to the date of the survey.

The income tables include in the lowest income group those who were classified as having no income in the previous 12 months and those reporting a loss in net income from farm and nonfarm self-employment or in rental income.

The income table in this report include a separate category for families for which no income information was obtained. In most of the other Current Population Survey Reports showing income data, the missing income data have been allocated.

The money income level of families shown in this report may be somewhat understated. Income data from the October control card are based on the respondent's estimate of total family money income for the preceding 12 months coded in broad, fixed income intervals. Income data collected in the March supplement to the Current Population Survey are based on responses to 11 direct questions asked of all persons 14 years old and over identifying 23 different sources of income and cover the preceding calendar year.

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

Residence of college students. In the Current Population Survey, persons living away from home while attending college who are not married and living with their spouse are counted as members of their parental households. However, the data on living arrangements of college students in this report are based on special questions asked in the October 1976, 1971, 1966, and 1958 CPS and relate to the actual place where the students were staying at the time of the survey.

Information on place of residence of persons enrolled in college was obtained from the following direct questions:

39. While attending college does . . . live:	
Here	<input type="radio"/> (Fill 40)
In college housing	<input type="radio"/> (Skip to 41)
Someplace else . . .	<input type="radio"/> (Ask 40) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
40. With whom does . . . live while attending school? (Mark one circle only)	
With parents	<input type="radio"/> With other relatives <input type="radio"/>
With husband, wife or own children	<input type="radio"/> With persons not related to — <input type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/> By himself/herself <input type="radio"/>
(Skip to 47)	
41. What type of living quarters does . . . live in while attending school?	
House or apartment owned or operated by the school	<input type="radio"/> Fraternity or Sorority house <input type="radio"/>
Dormitory	<input type="radio"/> Other <input type="radio"/>
(Skip to 47) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Interviewers were instructed to mark "here" in question 39 if the person was residing in the sample unit being enumerated; to mark "in college housing" if the person lived in a dormitory, fraternity, or sorority house affiliated with the college or university; and to mark "someplace else" if the person lived in any other type of quarters. If the person lived "here," the interviewers were instructed to fill question 40 in accordance with the response to the question on relationship to the head of the households. For persons who lived "someplace else," the interviewer asked question 40.

The following types of living arrangements were identified.

- For persons living at home ("here" in item 39): *Maintaining own household* includes (1) *with own family* consisting of household heads or wives who live with spouse and/or their own children and (2) *with nonrelatives or alone* consisting of persons who were household heads but had no relatives present; they could be living alone or with roommates. *In household of parents or other relatives* includes persons who were not household heads or wives but were classified as "other relative of head" in the household relationship item and lived "with parents" or "with other relatives" in item 40. *With nonrelatives* includes persons who were not household heads or wives and were classified as living "with persons not related to him/her" in item 40.
- For persons living away at college ("in college housing" or "someplace else" in item 39): *In college housing* comprises students living away from home in college dormitories, or in fraternity or sorority houses, or in other buildings owned and operated by the school. *With relatives, with nonrelatives, or alone* include students who live away from their parental home in off campus housing such as a house, an apartment, a rooming house or any other type of housing unit.

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