# SURVEY OF FINANCİAL CHARACTERISTICS of CONSUMERS 

By

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Development and maintenance of statistical information regarding banking and monetary developments are important parts of the research program of the Federal Reserve System. parts of the research program of the Federal Reserve System.
These technical activities supply the factual basis for conThese technical activities supply the factual basis for con-
sideration of questions that arise in connection with policy sideration of questions that arise in connection with policy
determination. The emphasis of such work is many-sided. Partly, determination. The emphasis of such work is many-sided. Partly,
it requires planning methods of obtaining needed additional information about how our money economy functions; and partly, it entails the review and testing of established statistical series to determine their current usefulness in the light of series to determine their current usefulness
Technical studies prepared in conjunction with these activities are essential by-products of research directed toward under-
standing broader phases of economic developments. Where a particular study is likely to be of considerable interest to statistical workers outside the Federal Reserve System and to students of banking and money generally, the Board of Governors may authorize its publication as a special technical paper. The views in any published paper are entirely those of the author and there is no official endorsement of any of the opinions or conclusions expressed. In preparing the study for publication the author takes into account suggestions and criticisms offered by other members of the stafts of the Board and of the individual Reserve Banks but assumes final responsibility for the analysis and conclusions reached.

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## Preface

For many years sample surveys of consumer wealth and saving have provided valuable information about the distribution of wealth in our economy and about the factors influencing consumer saving behavior. At the same time the shortcomings of survey data have been widely recognized. Sug gestions for improving consumer financial data obtained through surveys have centered around two problems: (1) the appropriate sample design to measure economic magnitudes as highly concentrated as wealth and financial assets and (2) methods of collecting data designed to maximize accuracy of response.

In the mid-1950's a committee on saving statistics established by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System at the request of the Joint Committee on the Economic Report made many recommendations for improving cross-section saving data. In early 1960 the Board's staff began a program to implement two important recommendations of the committee. First, the Board contracted with the Bureau of the Census to design a sample that would include a large number of relatively wealthy
consumer units and at the same time be representative of all units in the United States. And secondly, a number of pilot surveys were made to determine whether or not wealthy consumers would cooperate in such an undertaking, assuming that an appropriate sample design could be developed.

The first pilot survey, carried out in the spring of 1960, used questionnaire forms developed jointly by the Board's staff and the staff of the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan. Enumeration was carried out by the Center's staff. That survey suggested various improvements in questionnaire design and field procedures that were incorporated in a second pilot survey conducted in the fall of 1960 by the Census Bureau.

The results of the pilot surveys were sufficiently encouraging that the Board authorized the Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers. The Survey was conducted in the spring of 1963 by using Census interviewers and the special sample design developed by the Census Bureau. The Survey covered in great detail the assets and debts of consumers as of December 31,

1962, and the income that they had received during 1962.

Respondents were interviewed again in the spring of 1964 to obtain data on their saving during 1963. The wealth data presented in this report incorporate corrections that respondents made when they were reinterviewed for the saving survey. The saving data from the Survey of Changes in Family Finances will be presented in a separate report.

The first stage of data processing was undertaken by the Census Bureau. The Consumer Credit and Finances Section of the Board's Division of Research and Statistics in collaboration with the Division of Data Processing completed the processing and tabulation of the data.

The basic results of the Survey are pre-
sented in tables of detailed data on asset holdings by various groupings of consumer units. As a result of the special sample design, it is possible to present data not heretofore available on the composition of wealth of consumer units in upper-income and upper-wealth classes and on holdings of certain types of financial assets.

The Board wishes to express its appreciation to respondents throughout the country who supplied the detailed information asked for in the Survey questionnaires, both in 1963 and in 1964. The Board also wishes to acknowledge the contribution of the Census Bureau. It is hoped that the detailed data on consumer financial characteristics available in this report will contribute to greater understanding of consumer behavior.

## Acknowledgments

This report is a group product. Erling T. Thoresen, Natalie C. Strader, and Judith K. Schoenberg each made contributions at every stage of the processing and analysis. Mr. Thoresen supervised estimation of the regressions and of the standard errors presented in the report and prepared the material on comparison of aggregates from the Survey with institutional aggregates. With Mrs. Strader, he was responsible for the transformation of the basic data tape into a tape with the variables necessary for the analysis. Mrs. Strader supervised the preparation of the basic tables, Tables A 1-A 43, and made many valuable suggestions on the organization and presentation of the report. Miss Schoenberg, who is primarily responsible for the processing of the saving data, supervised the revision of the wealth tape to incorporate corrections from the saving survey. She also prepared two sections of the Technical Note-"Definitions" and "Collec-
tion and Processing of Data." Penelope Johnson and Kathryn Ridgway prepared the extensive tabular material.

Several staff members of the Division of Data Processing made contributions to the processing. In particular, Daviette Stansbury wrote an extremely versatile tabulating program and several comprehensive computer edit programs. Louis Zeller was also responsible for several programs necessary to produce the final tabulating tape.

At the Census Bureau the Statistical Methods Division was responsible for the design and selection of the sample and the Population Division for the data collection and processing.

The authors wish to express special appreciation to Professor Dorothy S. Brady of the University of Pennsylvania for guidance in the asset preference analysis and for helpful suggestions in many other aspects of the work.

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## Introduction

This report presents data on the size and composition of wealth of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States on December 31, 1962. The analyses deal with the determinants of size of wealth, the components of wealth and debt and their diffusion throughout the population, the changes in composition of wealth as wealth increases, and the variation in patterns of ownership among consumer units of differing characteristics.

The Survey differed markedly from other consumer surveys as to sample design in that segments of the population expected to have sizable amounts of wealth were sampled at much higher rates than the remaining population. The importance of such differential sampling rates is illustrated as follows: the total of 2,557 consumer units covered in the Survey would have

[^0]included about 50 units with wealth of $\$ 100.000$ or more if uniform sampling rates had been used, and very few of these would have had as much as $\$ 500,000$. Actually, interviews were completed with 532 units with wealth of $\$ 100,000$ or more, and 245 of these had $\$ 500,000$ or more in wealth. As a result, the Survey supplies data not hitherto available about the size and composition of wealth of the upper income and wealth groups.

The Survey data, appropriately weighted, provide wealth estimates for the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States and for groups within the population. In Basic Tables A 1 through A 43, data are presented for consumer units classified by income, level of wealth, age, and employment status of head. The number of consumer units interviewed in each group is shown in Table A 35. For some groups the number of cases is small, but the data are shown so that they will be available for additional analyses. The distribution of the Survey population, which is shown in Table A 36 , provides the weights for combining groups.

The consumer units of this Survey are
the total of families and unrelated individuals as defined by the Census Bureau. Each group of two or more persons related by blood. marriage. or adoption. and residing together, as well as each individual not living with relatives, is counted as a consumer unit.

As in all sample surveys, the data are subject to errors arising from the fact that they were obtained from a sample rather than from the total population, from the refusal of some who were drawn in the sample to take part in the Survey, and from errors of response. Comparisons of aggregates that are based on survey means with aggregates from institutional sources have often been cited'as evidence of response bias in survey estimates. Such comparisons must, of course, be interpreted carefully. Even a finding that survey and institutional aggregates agree does not imply absence of error.

Comparison of aggregates based on this Survey with those from institutional sources as presented in the Federal Reserve flow of funds accounts indicates that the underreporting of liquid assets and instalment debt that has characterized other financial surveys is also a problem in this Survey. For the various types of marketable securities comparison of the aggregates is less conclusive with respect to response bias. It is possible that the combination of sample design, detailed questions on stock and other securities, and the valuation method resulted in estimates of greater reliability and with less bias than in past surveys. For a discussion of the sample design and evaluation of the data, readers are referred to the Technical Note on pages 45-62.

The definition of wealth used in this Survey is the broadest that seemed possible within the limits of the knowledge people
have or are willing to obtain about their holdings and of the hurden that could be placed on respondents. The weth and debts covered in the Survey were stouped into six major components of wealth. "hich are distinguished in the analysis: homes. automobiles. businesses or protesions. liquid assets (checking and saving accounts and U.S. savings bonds). invertment assets (mainly marketable securities. investment real estate, and mortgages ), and a miscellaneous group consisting largely of assets held in personal trusts. Absets were valued, for the most part. at market value. The extent to which this rule was not feasible for some assets and the problems encountered, as well as the definition of assets and debts, are discussed in the Technical Note.

An effort to obtain information about equity in life insurance, annuities, and retirement funds resulted in such unsatisfactory data that they were omitted from the wealth totals. Many participants could not make even approximate estimates. Moreover, review of the data that were supplied, and especially comparison of values reported in the first and follow-up Surveys, showed that estimates given were less reliable for these assets than for other forms of wealth. The limited information available is presented in Table A 31.

A listing of other items that students of wealth might wish to have included suggests how great the burden of supplying value estimates would have been, especially for respondents in the upper wealth groups. Some of these items are: household equipment, furniture, clothing, boats, sports equipment, jewelry, collections of art, coins, stamps, and the like.

The definition of wealth used in the Survey is an equity concept, in that debts
secured by assets included in the wealth estimate were deducted from the values of the assets. Three-quarters of the debt thus deducted represented mortgages on owned homes. Debts secured by automobiles, marketable securities, and investment real estate also were deducted where they occurred, but the aggregate amounts were much smaller than for home mortgages. The values for businesses and professions are equities, but debts of businesses are not included in the concept of debt of consumers used in this report. The remaining types of wealth-liquid assets and miscellaneous assets-did not serve as security for debt.

The value of assets covered in this Survey, minus the debts secured by these assets, when added together provide an estimate of total wealth for each consumer unit. Among units, 10 in 100 had either no equity in any of the assets covered in the Survey or negative equities," and 16 in 100 had equities ranging from $\$ 1$ to $\$ 999$. The chart on page 6 summarizes the distribution of consumer units by the amount of

[^1]their wealth. For example. using the vertical scale at the left, 26 per cent had "walth of less than $\$ 1,000$; using the seale at the right, 74 per cent had $\$ 1.000$ or more in wealth. The median or midpoint in the wealth-distribution was $\$ 6.721$.

Many consumers owed debts other than those secured by the assets that make up the wealth total for the Survey. For a measure of each consumer unit's net worth. these unsecured debts were deducted from the wealth estimate.

Examples of unsecured debts covered by the Survey are instalment debt for goods other than automobiles, home repair and modernization loans, debt on life insurance. revolving credit accounts, and personal noninstalment debt. Debt of this sort, though small in comparison with home mortgage debt and with total wealth. was reported fairly often. Instalment debt for purchases other than automobiles. for example, was owed by 4 in 10 units.

Because of the unsecured debts of a few units with little or no wealth, the distribution of consumer units by their net worth shows more in a negative position than does the distribution by the amount of their wealth (see Tables A 1 and A 2). Otherwise, conclusions drawn from distributions by net worth and by wealth are eenerally the same.

## Determinants of Size of Wealth

As may be seen from Chart 1 on page 6 , variation among consumer units in the size of their wealth is large. For most consumer units the amount of wealth owned at any point in time is the result of the size and composition of past saving. Only 1 in 20 units in the Survey reported that an inheritance accounted for a substantial portion of its present wealth. Thus the factors affecting the size of saving are relevant in a study of differences in size of wealth.

Available studies show that the most important factors explaining the size of current saving are income and age. While there are different formulations of the relation between size of saving and size of income and much controversy as to the interpretation of the relation, all empirical work has found that consumer units with larger-than-average current incomes also have larger-than-average amounts of current saving, and vice versa. That is to say, current saving and current income are positively correlated.

The relation between current saving and

[^2]age is more complicated, and the inclusion or exclusion of consumer durable goods makes a considerable difference in the relation. Nevertheless, empirical work has found the highest rates of saving-that is, proportions of income saved-among consumer units in the middle of the age range and a tendency toward lower rates as consumer units become older and draw down their reserves.

The size of wealth reflects not only the total amount of past accumulation but also the form in which saving was invested. For consumer units who over their lifetime had placed their entire savings in liquid assets, for example, wealth on December 31, 1962, was simply the sum of their past accumulation. For consumer units who had placed a substantial portion of their current saving in, say, corporate stock, wealth on December 31, 1962, might have varied considerably from the sum of past saving because corporate stock was valued at market prices prevailing on December 31, 1962.

Because of the relation between wealth and past saving-both size and composi-tion-factors such as income history, age of the head, and composition of past saving

## CHART 1 Distribution of Consumer Units by Amount of Wealth, December 31, 1962


of the consumer unit would be important in explaining differences in the size of wealth. The Survey provides information on age of head and on current income. The latter variable might be viewed as a proxy for past income on the assumption that one might expect those with larger-than-average current incomes to have had larger-thanaverage past incomes.

That there is a strong positive relation between size of wealth and size of current income may be seen in Table A 8. Average wealth is estimated to be about $\$ 7,600$ for consumer units with incomes less than $\$ 3,000$ and is larger for each successive income level, reaching well over $\$ 1,000,000$ for those with incomes of $\$ 100,000$ and over. The relation between wealth and age is also positive for units with head less than 65 years of age. The wealth of young
units-head under 35-for example, was about $\$ 6,300$ on the average, while that for units in the 55 to 64 age group was more than five times that amount. For units headed by persons 65 and over, the average wealth of about $\$ 31,000$ was smaller than the average for the 55 to 64 age group, but was still substantially larger than the average of $\$ 21,000$ for all units.

Table A 8 also shows the relation between wealth and income within broad age groups and within employment status groups. A strong positive relation between wealth and income may be seen in each age group and in each employment group. The use of employment status in an explanation of size of wealth may seem somewhat tautological because most selfemployed units have business wealth. The basic argument is that the concept of
wealth used in the Survey has probably resulted in differences between self-employed units and other units that would not exist if a more comprehensive measure had been possible. For example, many salaried persons have rights in retirement plans, which have not been included in total wealth.

A multiple regression was used to examine the relation between wealth and a group of variables consisting of income, age, employment status, and inheritance status. The $R^{2}$ statistic from the multiple regression is widely used as a summary measure of the success of the group of factors in accounting for differences in the dependent variable-in this case, wealth.

The function used to describe the relation between wealth and income is of the form

$$
w=a y^{b}
$$

Examination of graphs of group meansmean wealth plotted against mean income for each of the age and the employment groups shown in Table A 8-suggested that this function would describe the relation reasonably well. To express the relation between age and wealth, dummy variables, which have the value one if the respondent has a particular attribute and zero otherwise, were introduced into the multiple regression. The employment status variable required both a dummy variable to express the fact that at most income levels the wealth of the self-employed was greater than that of the salaried group and an interaction term to express the fact that the relation between wealth and income differed among employment status groups. Interaction terms for the age groups did not seem to be necessary. This was confirmed by the fact that, when they were introduced into the multiple
regression, they were found to have quite large standard errors.

The results of the multiple regression are shown in Table 1.* The combination of

Table 1
Multiple Linear Regression of Total Wealth (in logarithms) on Income, Age,
Employment Status, and Inheritance Status

| Independent <br> variable | Regression <br> coefficient | Standard error <br> of coefficient |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Constant term | -3.59 | n.a. |
| Income |  |  |
| $y_{1}=$ logarithm of income |  |  |

n.a. Not available.

1 The employment status group whose coefficients are omitted consists of units with head employed hy others. The group desigconsists of units, with head employed hy others. The group desig
nated as "other" consists of units with head retired, units with head under 65 reporting no work experience during 1962, and units whose occupation was not ascertained.
income, age, employment, and inheritance status account for 38 per cent of the variability in the size of wealth (the logarithms of wealth), as shown by the $R^{2}$ statistic in the table. All of the coefficients are many

[^3]
# Diffusion of Wealth and Debt Among Income and Age Groups 

A major difference among the several forms of consumer wealth-own homes, automobiles, businesses, and the various kinds of liquid and investment assets-is the extent to which ownership is general throughout the population. Some, such as liquid assets, homes, and automobiles, are owned by well over half of all consumer units, whereas others, such as publicly traded stock, investment real estate, and equities in businesses and professions, are owned by fewer than one-fifth. An asset such as a checking account. which is owned by 59 per cent of consumer units, is usually also widely held in each income and age group; for example, ownership ranges from 34 per cent in the lowest income class to 99 per cent in the top income class. Conversely, for an asset such as stock, which is owned by 16 per cent of all units, ownership varies more widely by income groups, from 7 per cent at the lower end of the income range to 97 per cent at the top (Tables A 8 and A 10).

The charts on page 10 and 11 present measures of the diffusion of wealth, debt, and their components that combine the fre-
quency with the value of each asset or debt. The measure is the share of the aggregate value of each asset or debt held by each segment of the income distribution." The diffusion of total wealth and total debt is shown on page 10 and of the components of wealth and debt on page 11 . In these charts, the lines least bent to the right-for example, home ownership equity -represent those assets that are most widely diffused among income groups. The lines most bent to the right-for example, marketable securities other than stock-represent the assets with ownership least widely diffused among income groups. In general, those assets that are most widely held in the population also tend to show the widest diffusion by this measure.

These charts permit comparisons among various kinds of assets and debts as to their diffusion, but not comparisons of

[^4]their size. For example, total wealth and total debt are in broad terms. imilar as to their diffusion over the income range. but total wealth in at least five time an large as total debt. Similarly, publicly traded stock and other marketable securition are much alike as to their income diffusion. but total equity in stocks is much larger than equity in other marketable securities. In this section each type of asset and debt that makes up the estimate of wealth is discussed in terms of both its relative importance as a share of total wealth and its diffusion throughout income and age groups in the population.

CHART 2 Income Diffusion of Weath and Debt - and of


## OWV HOME

For the population as a whole, equity in owned homes accounts for a larger share of total wealth than any other asset covered by the Survey. Of total wealth. 27 per cent was owners' equity in their homes (see page 21). Equity in owned homes was reported by 57 per cent of all consumer units. These equities represent the owners' estimates of the market value of their homes at the end of 1962 , minus the amounts of mortgage debt then owed. Included in these reports were values and mortgages for vacation homes as well as for principal residences. Mortgage debt was reported by 33 per cent of all consumer units (Table A 14). Or to put it another way, 57 per cent of all consumer units had equities in owned homes and 42 per cent of these owned homes free of mortgage debt.

Home ownership was widely diffused throughout the population, measured both by the proportion having some investment and by the diffusion of this investment among income groups. For example, the

30 per cent of the population of consumer units with the lowest incomes held 17 per cent of the total home ownership equity compared with 12 per cent of total wealth. This diffusion is explained in part by the relatively high home ownership rates in the lower income brackets.

The diffusion of mortgage debt among income groups also explains why the lower income groups hold a larger share of aggregate home ownership equity than of most other forms of wealth. Such mortgage debt is comparatively infrequent in the lower income groups, with 40 per cent of the units with incomes below $\$ 3,000$ owning homes but 10 per cent owing mortgage debt. As a result, the 30 per cent of the units with the lowest incomes owed 5 per cent of total mortgage debt.

Differences in the age composition of income groups contribute to the diffusion of home ownership equity throughout the income scale. The relatively high ownership rates and especially the low incidence of
the Components of Wealth and Debt

mortgage debt at the lower end of the income distribution are the result of the concentration of older consumer units
there. Older units are very likely to ownhomes and especially to own them free of debt, even in the low-income brackets.

## \I TOMOBILE

Of the total population covered in the Survey, 73 per cent owned one or more automobiles and 27 per cent reported automobile debt. In spite of widespread ownership, the value of equity in auto-mobiles-that is, market value less automobile debt-amounted to very little compared with the other forms of wealth. Of
the total wealth reported, 3 per cent was equity in automobiles. Only in the groups with small amounts of wealth would the estimate of total wealth have been much affected if automobiles had been omitted.

Wealth in the form of equity in automobiles is more widely diffused along the income distribution than are many forms of

Table 2
Percentage Distribution of Wealth Among Age Groups, December 31, 1962

| Age of head of consumer unit | Total wealth | Own home | Automobile | Business, profession (farm and nonfarm) | Liquid assets | Investment assets | Miscellaneous assets |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All units. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Under 35. |  | 6 | 15 | 4 | , | 3 | 40 |
| 35-44. | 16 | 18 | 23 | 20 | 12 | 10 | 28 |
| 45-54. | 22 | 27 | 29 | 28 | 20 | 17 | 12 |
| 55-64.... | 28 | 26 | 21 | 30 | 38 | 31 | 13 |
| 65 and over. | 28 | 23 | 10 | 18 | 35 | 39 | 7 |

Note.-Data from Table A 16. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.
wealth, but less so than home ownership equities. The wide diffusion results from high frequency of automobile ownership in all income groups and from the fact that amounts invested show less increase along the income scale than do most other forms of wealth. The difference in diffusion between home ownership and automobile equities is seen most particularly in the lower part of the income scale and is explained by the large proportion of units with older heads in the lower income groups. Consumer units with heads 65 years of age and over are much less likely than other age groups to own automobiles, and ownership rates are especially low among older units in the lowest income brackets.

Automobiles are characteristically the investment of young people. More than 8 out of 10 of the units with heads under 35 years of age owned them; and among young units with little wealth, automobiles accounted for a substantial share of what they had. With ownership rates among the young so much higher than among the old, the share of aggregate automobile equity in the hands of the young was greater than for other assets, except the miscellaneous group. For example, the 22 per cent of the consumer units whose heads were under 35 held 15 per cent of the aggregate automobile equity whereas they held only 7 per cent of the total wealth covered by the Survey (see Tables 2 and A 36).

## LIQCID ASSETS

Holdings of liquid assets are almost as widely diffused throughout the population as are home ownership equities; the 30 per cent of the population with the lowest incomes held 16 per cent of the liquid assets and 17 per cent of the home ownership equity. The proportion of consumer units having liquid assets was larger than the proportion owning homes. Liquid asset
holdings, however, were frequently small; 30 per cent had some liquid assets but less than $\$ 500,12$ per cent had at least $\$ 500$ but less than $\$ 1,000,10$ per cent had at least $\$ 1,000$ but 'ess than $\$ 2,000$, and 25 per cent had $\$ 2,000$ or more (Table A 4). Thus, despite widespread ownership, liquid assets accounted for only 13 per cent of the total wealth covered in the Survey-less
than the share in equities in owned homes, in investment assets, or in business.

Liquid assets of one kind or another are so generally held that only in the lowest income group is there an appreciable proportion reporting none of the kinds of liquid assets covered. At income levels above $\$ 7,500$ nearly all consumer units reported holdings of liquid assets. However, a decreasing proportion of wealth is held in liquid form as income increases. For example, in the lowest income group, $\$ 1$ of every $\$ 5$ of wealth was in liquid form; toward the middle of the income range, $\$ 1$ of every $\$ 7$; and at the upper end of the income range, $\$ 1$ of every $\$ 30$.

Liquid asset holdings are especially concentrated in the older age groups. Those 65 and older, comprising 19 per cent of all consumer units, owned 35 per cent of total liquid assets, compared with 28 per cent of total wealth. This concentration reflects
differences in size of holdings and not in frequency of ownership, which varied little among age groups.

About two-thirds of all liquid asset holdings were in savings accounts, with the re-mainder-divided about equally between checking accounts and U.S. savings bonds. Checking accounts were reported by 59 per cent of all consumer units, savings accounts by 59 per cent, and U.S. savings bonds by 28 per cent (Table A 10).
Funds in checking accounts were more concentrated in the upper income brackets than were deposits in savings accounts or wealth in the form of U.S. savings bonds. Most units at the upper end of the income scale had checking accounts, whereas ownership of U.S. savings bonds or of savings accounts was less frequent. At lower income levels, on the other hand, checking and savings accounts were owned with almost equal frequency.

## BUSINESS AND PROFESSION

Equities in family owned and operated businesses, professional practices, and farms accounted for 18 per cent of the total wealth covered by the Survey. Of all consumer units, 17 per cent had some such asset.

Respondents were asked to value their businesses on two bases-book and market. For the estimate of wealth the book value was generally used, with market value substituted when book value was not reported. For partnerships and incorporated businesses the share owned by the unit was ascertained and applied to the estimate of total business equity to derive the unit's share. A key question for partnerships and closely held corporations was whether a member of the consumer unit was active in the management of the business. The data
on equity in business or profession include only businesses (farm and nonfarm) or professions in which a member of the consumer unit was actively engaged. If no members of the unit were active in the management of the business, equities in closely held corporations and in partnerships were counted as investment assets.

Equity in business covered a variety of circumstances. Examples are: the equipment owned by a truck driver, painter, or carpenter who is in business for himself; the value of land, buildings, and equipment owned by a farmer; the office equipment owned by a physician, dentist, or lawyer who maintains his own office; the value of a manufacturing corporation operated by a respondent and owned by him and his wife;
the share of an investment firm owned by a respondent who is a partner and works in the business. This variety of businesses explains the wide diffusion of total equity in business among income groups. While less widely diffused than automobile equity, home ownership equity, or liquid assets, business equity is not so concentrated in the upper income classes as are such investment assets as publicly traded stocks and other marketable securities. The proportion of consumer units having businesses increased over the range of incomes, but was not so frequent in the upper income groups as was ownership of investment assets.

To have equity in their own businesses is more characteristic of those in the middle age groups than it is of those younger or older. Among consumer units with heads aged $35-54$, 19 per cent had business investment, and among those 55-64, the figure was 22 per cent; these compare with 10 per cent for the group under 35 and 13 per cent for those 65 and over. Holdings of wealth in the form of businesses were especially concentrated in the $45-54$ age group. This group, comprising 21 per cent of all consumer units, held 28 per cent of business equity, compared with 22 per cent of wealth.

## INVESTMENT ASSETS

The several forms of wealth grouped together as investment assets have in common the attributes of being less liquid than checking and savings accounts and U.S. savings bonds, which have been classified as liquid assets, and yet of being more readily available for investment shifts than are assets tied to ways of living or working. Whether to own homes and automobiles, being tied to consumption habits, and whether to engage in one's own business or profession, are presumably subject to different motivations than are decisions to hold such assets as securities, real estate, mortgages, and the like.

The forms of wealth grouped as investment assets are: publicly traded stock, marketable securities other than stock, mortgage assets, investment real estate, business investments not managed by the unit, and company savings plans. These assets were valued at market whenever feasible, and the process is described in the Technical Note. Debts secured by these assets have been deducted in deriving the
wealth components. Investment assets were held by 31 per cent of all consumer units, and they accounted for 33 per cent of the total of wealth covered by the Survey.

Investment assets differ from other major forms of wealth in that holdings are not widely diffused throughout the population. The lower half of the income distribution held 16 per cent of the investment assets compared with 29 per cent of liquid assets and of home equities. Investment assets were similar to businesses as to concentration of holdings in the upper income groups. The top tenth of the income distribution owned 56 per cent of the business equity and the same share of the investment assets.

The share of wealth devoted to investment assets increased across the income range from $\$ 17$ in $\$ 100$ in the lowest income group to $\$ 69$ in $\$ 100$ at the top. The combination of business and investment assets accounted for $\$ 85$ of every $\$ 100$ of wealth in the top income group. Breadth of ownership also varied widely. Only 15
per cent of all units in the lowest income group owned an investment asset, whereas virtually all units in the top group owned at least one investment asset.

Holdings of investment assets were concentrated also among older units. The 37 per cent with heads aged 55 and over owned 70 per cent of the total of investment assets compared with 56 per cent of total wealth.

The several kinds of investment assets differed considerably as to their diffusion throughout the population. Holdings of marketable securities other than stock were most concentrated in the upper income brackets. The top tenth of the income distribution of consumer units held more than 80 per cent of the total investment in such securities, compared with 45 per cent of total wealth. Ownership of these marketable securities was concentrated also among older units.

Although publicly traded stocks were
more generally owned than were other marketable securities, they ranked next after other marketable securities with respect to concentration of holdings. The top income tenth of consumer units owned 62 per cent of the equity in publicly traded stocks.

On the other hand, investment real estate, mortgages, and businesses not managed by the unit, although infrequently held, were not so concentrated at the top of the income scale as were security holdings. The variety of items included explains why this is so. Investment real estate, which is real estate owned by the unit other than owned homes and real estate connected with a business or profession, can be a small holding of land or a home no longer occupied and now rented, as well as a sizable real estate investment; mortgages can be security for interfamily loans, the mortgage on a family home that has been sold, or larger investments made primarily for income yield.

## MISCELLANEOLS ASSETS

The forms of wealth classified in the miscellaneous group were relatively unimportant in the total- 5 per cent of the aggregate of wealth covered by the Survey. Although occurring infrequently, beneficial interests in trusts were so large that they accounted for most of the wealth reported
in the miscellaneous category (Table A 9 ). Interests in trusts were especially concentrated in the youngest group of consumer units. Loans to individuals outside the consumer unit that were not secured by mortgages were somewhat more frequent, but small in average size.

## DEBT

Most ( 88 per cent) of the debt owed by consumer units was secured by assets that were counted in the wealth estimate for this Survey-homes, automobiles, securities, and investment real estate (Table A 14). Sixty-six per cent of the total debt consisted of balances on home mortgages. Loans secured by investment real estate
accounted for 11 per cent of the total debt, and automobile debt for 8 per cent. Debt secured by stocks and bonds accounted for 3 per cent of the total. For the estimates of wealth, these debts were deducted from the value of each asset that served as security. Hence, estimates of investment before deduction of debt may be obtained
from the Basic Tables by adding debts to equities.

Debt not secured by the assets covered in the Survey accounted for 12 per cent of the debt reported. The largest share of this unsecured debt was personal noninstalment debt, which includes a variety of kinds of debt, for example, informal debt arrangements as between relatives and friends, and the occasional unsecured debt of a consumer unit with substantial assets. Next largest in total amount was instalment debt for purchases other than automobiles, such as household goods, clothing, and services bought on the instalment plan. Debt on life insurance made up the remainder; like instalment debt on household durable goods, it has been treated as unsecured debt because the related assets were not counted in the wealth estimate for the Survey. All of these unsecured debts were dcducted in arriving at estimates of net worth, but were not deducted in deriving the wealth estimates.

To owe debt of some kind was a general practice; two-thirds of all consumer units reported debts of one kind or another. Debts of less than $\$ 1,000$ were reported by 22 per cent; of at least $\$ 1,000$ but less than $\$ 10,000$, by 32 per cent; and of $\$ 10,000$ or more, by 13 per cent (Table A 6).

Although debt and wealth were generally similar as to diffusion, debt was somewhat less concentrated in the lower portion of the income distribution than was wealth. The 30 per cent of the units at the lower end of the distribution owned 12 per cent of the wealth and owed 5 per cent of the debt.

The sparsity of debt among lower income units reflects the concentration of older units at the lower end of the income distribution. Debt, especially mortgage debt and personal debt, owed by older units is
much smaller than that owed by younger groups, as may be seen in Table A 14.

Debt was more concentrated than wealth in the 40 per cent of the units immediately above the midpoint in the income distribution. Those ranked between the fifth and ninth deciles of income owned 34 per cent of the wealth and owed 54 per cent of the debt. In the top tenth of the income distribution, on the other hand, the share of wealth owned was much larger than the share of debt owed. This concentration of debt in the upper middle income classes is illustrated by the debt situation for units in the $\$ 7,500-\$ 9,999$ income group. In this income bracket, 84 per cent had debt of some kind; 43 per cent owed at least $\$ 1,000$ but less than $\$ 10,000$; and 27 per cent owed $\$ 10,000$ or more.

Wealth and debt differed also as to their diffusion over age groups, with debt more concentrated in the younger groups and wealth more concentrated in the older groups. The 22 per cent of consumer units with heads under 35 years of age owned 7 per cent of the wealth and owed 24 per cent of the debt, whereas the 19 per cent with heads 65 or older owned 28 per cent of the wealth and owed 6 per cent of the debt (see Tables A 16 and A 17).

The several kinds of debt differed as to diffusion over income groups, with instalment debt most widely diffused. Almost two-thirds of the instalment debt was on automobiles. Personal noninstalment debt was also fairly well distributed over the income range. The income diffusion of debts secured by owned homes and by investment assets was in part related to the diffusion of ownership of these assets. Homes were owned generally throughout the income distribution, but mortgaged homes were most numerous in the groups just
above the midpoint of the distribution, resulting in the concentration of home mortgage debt there. Debt secured by investment assets, being limited to those having these assets, was more concentrated in the upper income brackets than were other kinds of debts.

Because drawing on liquid assets is often considered an alternative to incurring debt, there is interest in the relationship of the amounts of personal debt and of liquid assets. The distribution of units by the amounts of their personal debt and their holdings of liquid assets shows that some consumer units in meeting their consumption requirements have apparently chosen

Table 3
Personal Debt in Relation to Liquid Assets, December 31, $1962^{1}$
(Percentage distribution of consumer units with personal debt)

| $\begin{gathered} 1962 \\ \text { income } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { units } \end{gathered}$ | Personal debt is- |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Smaller | About the same | Larger |
| All units with personal debt. | 100 | 24 | 13 | 63 |
| $0-52,999$. | 100 | 9 | 11 | 80 |
| \$3,000-4,999.. | 100 | 21 | 10 | 69 |
| \$5,000-7,499. | 100 | 24 | 12 | 64 |
| \$7,500-9,999.. | 100 | 29 | 15 | 56 |
| \$10,000 and over. . | 100 | 40 | 16 | 44 |

${ }^{1}$ Comparison based on the following classification of both personal debt and liquid assets: zero: \$1-199; \$200-499; \$500-999; \$1,000-1,999; \$2,000-4,999; $\$ 5,000-9,999$; and $\$ 10,000$ and over.
to go into debt rather than use up liquid assets (Table A 15). For example, of those who owed \$500-\$999 in personal debt, 20 per cent had liquid assets of $\$ 1,000$ or more. Summing up, however, as in Table 3, shows that the majority with personat debt owed amounts that exceeded their liquid assets. Debtors in low income groups were very likely to have personal debts exceeding their liquid assets, but even at higher income levels debts in excess of liquid assets were numerous.

Another consideration in evaluating the burden of personal debt is the ratio of instalment debt to income. For the Survey population as a whole, total personal instalment debt reported was 7 per cent of the year's income. This relation, of course, is affected both by the proportion of debtors in the population and by the size of their debts. For debtors only, fairly high ratios of instalment debt to income were frequent. In the group of consumer units with instalment debt, nearly half ( 45 per cent) had instalment debts that amounted to less than 10 per cent of their incomes; almost as many ( 39 per cent), however, had instalment debts that amounted to more than 10 per cent but less than 30 per cent of their incomes, and the remainder had even higher ratios. In short, a ratio of instalment debt to income of 10 per cent or more was more common among debtors than a ratio of less than 10 per cent. High ratios of instalment debt to income were especially frequent among the younger consumer units (Table A 26).

# Consumer Preferences for Holding Different Assets 

This section analyzes the effect of size of wealth on its composition. ${ }^{\top}$ The analysis is directed towards delineating the forms in which wealth is held as the total amount increases.

One way of expressing relations between total wealth and its components is in terms of shares, that is, the proportion of total wealth invested in the various components at different wealth levels. An increasing share devoted to a particular asset type as wealth increases is interpreted as indicating a preference for holding that asset; and conversely a decreasing share, a lack of preference.

Elasticities of the various components with respect to wealth are a useful way of

[^5]quantifying these relations. ${ }^{3}$ For example, an elasticity greater than one at any wealth level indicates that the share invested in that particular asset type is increasing at that particular wealth level. Conversely, an elasticity less than one indicates that the share is decreasing.

Elasticities also facilitate comparisons across asset types with respect to preference. For example, if the shares of wealth devoted to several types of assets increase with wealth-that is, if they all have elasticities greater than one-the asset with the largest elasticity will be the one of highest preference. Moreover, one of the functions that is used to estimate elasticities measures separately the effect of changes in ownership rates with wealth level, an important factor in explaining the changing composition of wealth.

In consumption analysis, elasticities are generally computed in relation to income.

[^6]Low elasticities are interpreted as indicating low preferences, and the goods involved are referred to as necessities; high elasticities delineate the preferred choices, consumed in greater amounts as income increases and. referred to as luxury goods. For determining consumer preferences for holding different forms of wealth, the analogous relationship is with total wealth rather than with income. While the distinction between necessities and luxuries does not seem as appropriate in the investment as in the consumption field, differences in elasticities are useful in detecting high or low order of preference for holding different types of investments.

The share-of-wealth data are summarized in this section for four age groups of
consumers. It was shown in Section 2 that amount of wealth and age are positively related. Moreover, as will be discussed in Section 5, composition of wealth differs by age group. Accordingly, for the analysis of composition of wealth in relation to size of wealth, a control on age is necessary in order to avoid introduction of structural changes caused by differences in the age composition of wealth groups.

In the first part of the section the analysis is concerned with the six major components of wealth: own homes, automobiles, businesses, liquid assets, investment assets, and miscellaneous assets. In the second part, the analysis is confined to assets in the portfolio of liquid and investment assets, as described in that part.

## COMPOSITION OF WEALTH

The share of wealth devoted to automobiles and liquid assets decreases with level of wealth; the share devoted to businesses and investment assets increases with wealth level; and the share devoted to homes first rises, and then declines, with level of wealth (see Table 4). The declining share of wealth invested in automobiles and liquid assets implies elasticities of less than one at all wealth levels, or low levels of preference, while the increasing share invested in businesses and investment assets implies elasticities greater than one at all wealth levels, or high levels of preference.

That elasticities greater than one for businesses and investment assets necessarily lead to larger shares of total wealth as wealth increases is evident from the definition of elasticity. For the elasticity of an assetsay, business-to exceed one at any wealth level, the proportion of a dollar of additional wealth invested in the asset-that is, the
marginal propensity to hold that asset type -must exceed the proportion invested in the asset before the dollar of wealth is added. This will necessarily increase the share of total wealth invested in the asset at the higher wealth level. A similar explanation holds for elasticities of less than one and declining shares such as those shown for automobiles and liquid assets.

Three different functions were used to describe the relation between consumer holdings of a particular asset and total wealth and to estimate elasticities. ${ }^{3}$ The first function was of the form

$$
y_{i}=a_{1 i} w^{b_{1 i}}
$$

where $y_{i}$ represents a particular asset type and $i$ can therefore range from 1 to 6 , and $w$ is total wealth. This function is usually de-

[^7]Table 4
Share of Wealth in Specified Form by Size of Wealth, December 31, 1962
(Percentage distribution of dollar aggregate)

| Characteristic of consumer unit | Total wealth | Own home | Automobile | Business, profession (farm and nonfarm) | Portfolio of liquid and investment assets |  |  | Miscellaneous assets |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | All | Liquid assets | Trivestment assets |  |
| All units.... | 100 | 27 | 3 | 18 | 46 | 13 | 33 | 5 |
| Size of wealth: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999... | 100 | 10 | 48 | 2 | 37 | 34 | 4 | 2 |
| \$1,000-4,999. | 100 | 48 | 16 | 3 | 32 | 26 | 6 | 1 |
| \$5,000-9,999 . | 100 | 59 | 8 | 9 | 23 | 17 | 6 | 1 |
| \$10,000-24,999 | 100 | 55 | 5 | 9 | 29 | 16 | 13 | 1 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 100 | 37 | 3 | 19 | 39 | 18 | 21 | 2 |
| \$50,000-99,999 | 100 | 21 | 2 | 24 | 51 | 16 | 36 | 2 |
| \$100,000-199,999 | 100 | 17 | 2 | 17 | 62 | 14 | 48 | 1 |
| \$200,000-499,999. | 100 | 9 | 1 | 24 | 63 | 7 | 56 | 3 |
| \$500,000 and over. | 100 | 4 | * | 23 | 53 | 4 | 50 | 18 |
| Head under 35. | 100 | 26 | 7 | 12 | 22 | 9 | 13 | 32 |
| Size of wealth: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999.... | 100 100 | 9 41 | 55 24 | 1 | 35 30 | 30 | 5 | * |
| $\$ 1,000-4,999$ $\$ 5,000-9,999$ | 100 | 41 | 24 | 5 9 | 30 | 26 | 4 | 1 |
| $\$ 5,000-9,999$. $\$ 10,000-24,999$ | 100 | 38 | 6 | 32 | 21 | 16 10 | 11 | 4 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 100 | 55 | 3 | 24 | 18 | 10 | 8 | * |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 100 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 87 | 1 | 85 | * |
| \$100,000-199,999. | 100 | 9 | 1 | 9 | 81 | 3 | 78 | * |
| \$200,000-499,999. | 100 | 6 | 1 | 20 | 38 | 4 | 34 | 35 |
| \$500,000 and over. | 100 | 1 | * | 2 | 5 | * | 5 | 91 |
| Head 35-54.......... | 100 | 32 | 4 | 23 | 35 | 11 | 24 | 6 |
| Size of wealth: 100 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999... | 100 | 10 | 49 | 4 | 34 | 31 | 3 | 3 |
| \$1,000-4,999. | 100 | 50 | 16 | 4 | 29 | 23 | 6 | 1 |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 100 | 57 | 11 | 11 | 20 | 15 | 5 | 1 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 100 | 59 | 6 | 7 | 27 | 14 | 14 | 1 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 100 | 34 | 5 | 27 | 32 | 13 | 18 | 2 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 100 | 23 | 2 | 31 | 42 | 11 | 32 | * |
| \$100,000-199,999. | 100 | 22 | 2 | 18 | 56 | 14 | 43 | 2 |
| \$200,000-499,999. | 100 | 13 | 1 | 31 | 48 | 6 | 42 | 7 |
| \$500,000 and over. . | 100 | 4 | * | 40 | 33 | 2 | 32 | 23 |
| Head 55-64. | 100 | 25 | 2 | 20 | 51 | 13 | 38 | 2 |
| Size of wealth: 30034 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999... | 100 | 21 | 34 | 3 | 35 | 35 | 15 | 8 |
| \$1,000-4,999. | 100 | 47 | 12 | $1{ }^{1}$ | 41 | 26 | 15 | * |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 100 | 61 | 7 | 10 | 22 | 18 | 5 | * |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 100 | 55 | 5 | 8 | 31 | 17 | 13 | 1 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 100 | 39 | 3 | 14 | 44 | 19 | 25 | 1 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 100 | 21 | 2 | 21 | 52 | 17 | 34 | 4 |
| \$100,000-199,999 | 100 | 14 | 1 | 17 | 67 | 12 | 54 | 1 |
| \$200,000-499,999. | 100 | 8 | 1 | 41 | 50 | 6 | 44 | * |
| \$500,000 and over. | 100 | 4 | * | 21 | 68 | 5 | 63 | 6 |
| Head 65 and over.... | 100 | 22 | 1 | 12 | 63 | 16 | 47 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999..... | 100 | 12 | 16 | 1 | 65 38 | 65 34 | 4 | 7 3 |
| \$1,000-4,999... | 100 | 55 | 5 | 1 | 38 30 | 34 | 4 | 3 |
| $\$ 5,000-9,999$. $\$ 10,000-24,999$. | 100 100 | 66 53 | 1 | 8 | 30 35 | 22 | 8 11 | 1 |
| \$25,000-49,999 . . | 100 | 36 | 2 | 11 | 50 | 25 | 24 | 2 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 100 | 17 | 1 | 19 | 62 | 24 | 39 | * |
| \$100,000-199,999. | 100 | 16 | 1 | 18 | 64 | 19 | 44 | 1 |
| \$200,000-499,999 . | 100 | 6 | * | 9 | 83 | 9 | 74 | 2 |
| \$500,000 and over. | 100 | 6 | * | 15 | 77 | 6 | 71 | 1 |

* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent.

Note.-Based on means in Table A 8. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.
scribed as the constant elasticity function because elasticities do not vary with wealth level. The estimated parameters are summarized in Table 20 on page 81. The estimated parameters $b_{1}$ are the elasticities of the various assets with respect to total wealth and are denoted by $E_{1}(y, w)$ in Table 25. For example, for consumer units with heads 65 years of age and over, holdings of liquid assets increase 0.79 per cent for every 1 per cent increase in wealth.

The second function used is of the form

$$
y_{i}=\frac{c a_{2 i} w^{b_{2 i}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{6} a_{2 i} w^{b_{2 i}}}
$$

This function has been described as the ". . . constant elasticity function adjusted for additivity . . " ${ }^{\prime \prime \prime}$ It has the property, not possessed by the constant elasticity function, that the sum of the various asset types add to total wealth at any wealth level. The elasticity is given by

$$
E_{2 i}(y, w)=b_{2 i}+1-\sum_{i=1}^{6} \frac{y_{i}}{w} b_{2 i}
$$

Thus the elasticities are a function of wealth level, since the term $\frac{y_{i}}{w}$-the share of wealth invested in a particular asset typewill vary with wealth level. The estimated parameters are shown in Table 21 and the elasticities in Tables 25 and 26.

The third function takes cognizance of the fact that ownership of some kinds of wealth-automobiles and own homes, for example-is widespread in the population, whereas other forms of wealth-such as businesses and investment assets-are less widely held and are owned more often by

[^8]those in the higher wealth groups. Hence, differences in the group means, which are the basis of the elasticity estimates, may reflect differences in the proportion of the group owning an asset as well as in the amounts owned by those who hold the asset. As a consequence, differences in elasticities may be the result of changes in proportions of consumer units owning, or changes in amounts owned, or both.

The third function may be expressed as

$$
y_{i j}=p_{i} y_{i j}(H)
$$

where $y_{i j}$ is the mean holding of the $i$ th asset type in the $j$ th wealth group, $p_{i}$ is the proportion of consumer units owning the $i$ th asset type in the $j$ th wealth group, and $y_{i j}(H)$ is the mean holding of the $i$ th asset type for those units in the $j$ th group who own the ith asset. This function has the property that the over-all elasticity $E_{0}(y, w)$ can be separated into two additive compo-nents- $E_{31}(p, w)$, which is the part of the overall elasticity arising from changes in the proportion of units owning the asset type, and $E_{38}(y(H), w(H))$, which is the wealth elasticity for consumer units holding a particular asset type.

The relation used to describe the proportion of units in various wealth groups holding a particular asset was of the form

$$
p=a_{31}+k\left(\mathbf{1}-e^{-c w}\right)
$$

When $w$ is very small, that is, at low wealth levels, the expression $\left(1-e^{-c w}\right)$ is close to zero and the value of $p$ is near $a_{31}$. As $w$ increases, the expression ( $1-e^{-c x}$ ) approaches one and the value of $p$ approaches $a_{31}+k$, the saturation level of ownership. The $E_{31}(p, w)$ component of the elasticity was obtained by differentiating the equation

$$
p=a_{31}+k\left(1-e^{-c u}\right)
$$

with respect to $w$ and multiplying the result by $\frac{w}{p}$. The resulting elasticity is given by:

$$
E_{3}(p, w)=\frac{u c h e^{-c w}}{p}
$$

and is a function of $w$. The parameters of the equations yielding the $E_{31}(\rho, w)$ component are summarized in Table 22.

The parameters of the equations yielding the $E_{5 z}\left(y(H), w^{( }(H)\right)$ component of elasticity for the third function are summarized in Table 23. The estimating equation was of the form

$$
y(H)=a_{3,2} u(H)^{b_{32}}
$$

and implies that the wealth elasticity for consumer units holding a particular asset type can be described as a constant.

Before considering the elasticities from these three functions it is of interest to make some assessment of their fit of the data. The criterion used was the sum of weighted squared deviations for the three forms (Table 24). The functions that yield elasticities that vary with wealth level yield smaller sums of squared residuals in virtually all cascs. The constant elasticity function seems to come off a poor third in most instances.

Elasticities at the point of mean wealth for each of the age groups are shown in Table 25. Rankings of elasticities from the first two functions, shown in Table 5, are the same for all age groups except the youngest. (By the nature of their derivation the elasticities from the second function will always have the same ranking as their counterparts from the first function.) Investment assets and businesses in that order are the preferred asset types for consumer units in the three older age groups with elasticities well above one. Liquid assets and automobiles rank fourth and fifth, respectively, with elasticities well below one for all age groups. The elasticity for homes is greater than one for the two younger age groups, indicating

Table 5
Ranking of Elasticities of Wealth Components

| Wealth component | Ranking based on- |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $E_{1}(y, w)$ | $E_{3}(y, w)$ |
|  | Head under 35 |  |
| Own home. | 2 | 3 |
| Automobile. | 5 | n.a. |
| Business, profession. | 1 | 1 |
| Liquid assets. . | 4 | 4 |
| Investment assets. | 3 | 2 |
|  | Head 35-54 |  |
| Own home. | 3 | 3 |
| Automobile | 5 | 5 |
| Business, profession | 2 | 1 |
| Liquid assets. | 4 | 4 |
| Investment assets | 1 | 2 |
|  | Head 55-64 |  |
| Own home. | 3 | 4 |
| Automobile . | 5 | 5 |
| Business, profession. | 2 | 1 |
| Liquid assets. | 4 | 3 |
| Investment assets | 1 | 2 |
|  | Head 65 and over |  |
| Own home. | 3 | 5 |
| Automobile. | 5 | 4 |
| Business, profession. | 2 | 2 |
| Liquid assets. . | 4 | 3 |
| Investment assets. | 1 | 1 |

n.a. Not available.

Note.-The rankings based on $E_{2}(y, w)$ are the same as those based on $E_{1}(y, w)$. The rankings based on $E_{3}(y, w)$ are at point of mean wealth. The elasticities are shown in Table 25.
that the share of wealth devoted to homes is still increasing at the point of mean wealth for the younger units. For the two older groups the housing share is declining at mean wealth.

The third estimating function indicates a somewhat less uniform pattern of preferences. Investment assets and businesses are the preferred asset types for all age groups
with elasticities well above one; business, however, ranks first for all groups except the oldest. A substantial part of the elasticities for investment assets and business is contributed by the $E_{31}(p, w)$ componentthat is, at the point of mean wealth, the proportion of consumer units owning business and investment assets is rising substantially, relative to the increase in wealth. Elasticities for the other asset types-that is, homes, automobiles, and liquid assets-are less than one with a single exception-homes in the youngest age group. Moreover, because ownership of these asset types is relatively widespread in all wealth groups, the portion of the elasticity contributed by the $E_{31}(p, w)$ component is small in comparison with that contributed by the $E_{32}(y(H), w(H))$ component.

Elasticities computed from the second and third functions vary with wealth level. As is shown in Table 26, the elasticities indicate the pattern that was noted earlier in the shares data (Table 4)-that is, elasticities for investment assets and businesses are above one at most wealth levels, and elasticities for liquid assets and automobiles are below one at most wealth levels. ${ }^{11}$ The importance of the $E_{31}(p, w)$ component of the elasticity for business and investment assets is evident at virtually all wealth levels. Conversely, for homes, automobiles, and liquid assets, the contribution is in general rather small, and it becomes close to zero at relatively low wealth levels.

[^9]
## COMPOSITION OF PORTFOLIO

Elasticities have also been estimated for a concept of wealth limited to portfolio of liquid and investment assets. While the ownership of a home and an automobile and investment in one's own business or profession are part of an individual's wealth, it is doubtful that decisions regarding these investments are governed by the same factors that govern the choice among such assets as savings accounts, stock, and other marketable securities, as mentioned earlier. A decision to shift wealth from one's own business to another form of wealth, for example, may require changes in living patterns or occupation. A decision to shift among portfolio items can presumably be made more freely in response to changes in interest rates and prices.

The share of total portfolio devoted to components of liquid and investment assets is shown in Table 6. For the portfolio analy-
sis, liquid and investment assets have been grouped into nine major components as follows: checking accounts; savings accounts in banks, in savings and loan associations, and in credit unions; U.S. savings bonds; stock (publicly traded stock and shares in mutual funds and other investment companies); other marketable securities (bills, certificates, notes, bonds, and debentures issued by the U.S. Government, by State and local governments, by foreign and domestic corporations, and by foreign governments); mortgage assets; investment real estate; businesses with no member of the consumer unit in a managerial role; and company savings plans. In addition, some information is provided separately for bank savings accounts and shares in savings and loan associations and for common stock and shares in mutual funds.

Some of the components are more ho-

Table 6
Share of Portfolio in Specified Form by Slze of Porifulio, December 31, 1962
(Percentage distribution of dollar aggregate)


* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent. Note.-Based on means in Table A 10 . Details may not add to totals because of rounding
mogeneous than others with respect to such characteristics as ability to produce a steady How of current income, marketability, and risk of fluctuation in dollar value of capital. While checking accounts at banks undoubtedly make up a relatively homogeneous grouping, the other components are combinations of more diverse elements. Even the U.S. savings bonds component, which at first might appear to be a homogeneous grouping, contains some bonds that pay interest currently as well as some of the discount variety, which pay interest only at time of redemption.

Among portfolio choices, most of the components of investment assets rank high in consumer preferences, while the various liquid assets rank low. The share of portfolio invested in U.S. savings bonds and held in checking accounts declines with portfolio level. implying elasticities of less than one at all levels. The share invested in stock, on the other hand, increases with portfolio level, implying elasticities greater than one at all levels. Other major components of investment assets-real estate, businesses not managed by the unit, and mortgage assetsabsorb an increasing share of portfolio across most of the portfolio range.

Two functions were used to describe the relation between portfolio components and total portfolio-the constant elasticity function and the constant elasticity function adjusted for additivity. Parameters of the two functions are shown in Table 27 and Table 28 , respectively. Table 30 contains a comparison of the sum of squared deviations for the two functions, and again the fit of the constant elasticity function seems poorer than that of the second function.

The over-all elasticities at the point of mean portfolio, presented in Table 31, quantify the trends shown by the shares table

Table 7
Ranking of Elasticities of Portfolio Components

| Portfolio component | Ranking based on $E_{1}(z, x)$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| , | Head under 35 |
| Checking accounts. | 11 |
| Savings accounts: |  |
| In banks.... | 7 |
| In savings and loan associations | 4 |
| U.S. savings bonds | 9 |
| Publicly traded stock: |  |
| Common. . . . . | 2 |
| Mutual funds and other investment companies. | 6 |
| Marketable securities other than stock | 10 |
| Mortgage assets. . | 3 |
| Investment real estate. | t |
| Business not managed by unit. | 5 |
| Company savings plans.. | 8 |
|  | Head 35-54 |
| Checking accounts. | 11 |
| Savings accounts: |  |
| In banks... | 9 |
| In savings and loan associations. | 7 |
| U.S. savings bonds... | 10 |
| Publicly traded stock: |  |
| Common.... . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 2 |
| Mutual funds and other investment companies. | 5 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. | 8 |
| Mortgage assets. . | 4 |
| Investment real estate. | 1 |
| Business not managed by unit | 3 |
| Company savings plans. | 6 |
|  | Head 55-64 |
| Checking accounts. | 11 |
| Savings accounts: |  |
| In banks...... | $y$ |
| In savings and loan associations. | 8 |
| U.S. savings bonds. | 10 |
| Publicly traded stock: |  |
| Common............................ | 1 |
| Mutual funds and other investment companies. | 2 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. | 5 |
| Mortgage assets...... | 4 |
| Investment real estate. | 3 |
| Business not managed by unit | 6 |
| Company savings plans. . | 7 |
|  | Head 65 and over |
| Clieciking accounts. | 11 |
| Savings accounts: |  |
| in banks.... | 9 |
| In savings and loan associations. | 7 |
| U.S. savings bonds... . . . . . . . . . | 8 |
| Publicly traded stock: |  |
| Common. . . . . . . . | 1 |
| Mutual funds and other investment companics. | 5 |
| Marketable securities other than stock | 6 |
| Mortgage assets. | 4 |
| Investment real estate. | 3 |
| Busincss not managed by unit. | 2 |
| Company savings plans. | 10 |

Note.-Based on data in Table 31.
(Table 6). Virtually all liquid asset components in all age groups have elasticities less
than one and most of the components of investment assets have elasticities greater than one. ${ }^{12}$

Common stock is the preferred asset for consumer units in the two older age groups, and for units in the two younger age groups it ranks second (see Table 7). Investment real estate also ranks high with all age groups-first with the two younger groups and third with the two older groups.

The over-all elasticities at various portfolio levels shown in Table 32 (estimated from the constant elasticity function adjusted for additivity) also bear out the trends seen in Table 6. For the major components of liquid assets-checking accounts, savings accounts, and U.S. savings bonds-elasticities are less than one at all but the lowest

[^10]portfolio levels. For stock, elasticities are greater than one at every portfolio level; and for investment real estate, at every portfolio level except the very top. Investment assets in the form of businesses not managed by the unit and mortgages also show elasticities greater than one up to relatively high portfelio levels.

As with the wealth elasticities, breadth of ownership of a portfolio item was of considerable importance in determining the overall elasticity. At the point of mean portfolio, for example, the elasticity attributable to the proportion of consumer units owning a portfolio item was small for liquid assets in all age groups. With few exceptions the elasticities for the liquid asset components did not exceed 0.16. (See Table 31. The parameters of the estimating equations from which the elasticities were derived are shown in Table 29.) For all components of investment assets other than company savings plans, elasticities ranged from a minimum of 0.16 to 1.05 .

# Differences Among Groups in Distribution and Composition of Wealth 

This section presents information about differences among groups as to the distribution and composition of wealth. Consumer units are grouped in three ways: first, by age of head; second, by employment status of head, distinguishing the self-employed, those
employed by others, and those who are retired; and, third, by the relation between the 1962 incomes of consumer units and poverty income levels as defined by the Social Security Administration of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

## AGE-OF-HEAD GROUPS

As discussed in Section 2, the size of wealth is related to the age of the head of the consumer unit, with a general tendency for wealth to increase with age, at least up to the oldest group. Within each age group, however, the size of wealth varies. Among consumer units with heads aged 35 to 54 , for example, 20 per cent had wealth of less than $\$ 1,000$ while 6 per cent had $\$ 50,000$ or more (Table A 2).

Granted that the general level of wealth differs among age groups and that in each age group consumer units vary markedly in the size of their wealth, the question arises whether age groups differ as to the shape of the distribution of units by size of wealth. Or, to state it differently, do some age
groups have greater relative concentration of units with either little wealth or large amounts so that the distribution of wealth is more unequal in some age groups than in others?

Two measures of the shape of the wealth distribution are presented in Table 8, namely, the quartile deviation and Gini's coefficient of concentration. They show that in the youngest and in the oldest age groups there is more variation as to size of wealth and greater inequality in its distribution than in other age groups. The distribution of units in each age group by the size of their wealth explains why this is so. The youngest group had the largest proportion with no wealth or with very small amounts. While

Table 8
Measures of Distribution of Wealth for Age and Employment Status Groups, December 31, 1962

| Group characteristic | Lower quartile <br> ( $\mathrm{Q}_{1}$ ) | Median <br> ( $\mathrm{Q}_{2}$ ) | Upper quartile <br> ( $\mathrm{Q}_{3}$ ) | Quartile deviation ${ }^{1}$ | Gini's coefficient of concentration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All consumer units. | \$ 973 | \$ 6,721 | \$17,971 | 2.53 | . 76 |
| Age of head: | 199 | 1,032 | 4,868 | 4.52 | . 83 |
| 35-44... | 1,542 | 6,931 | 15,149 | 1.96 | . 71 |
| 45-54. | 2,230 | 10,847 | 21,305 | 1.76 | . 70 |
| 55-64. | 4,245 | 13,129 | 28,666 | 1.86 | . 70 |
| 65 and over | 2,709 | 10,049 | 24,993 | 2.22 | . 76 |
| Employment status of head: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-employed.......... | 9,611 | 21,988 4,995 | 13,917 | 2.68 | . 72 |
| Retired. . . . . . . . . . | 2,572 | 8,197 | 21,785 | 2.34 | . 73 |

${ }^{1} \frac{Q_{2}-Q_{1}}{Q_{2}}$
the oldest group also had a substantial proportion of units at the low end of the wealth distribution, large holders were also relatively numerous.

The Gini coefficient measures the degree of inequality in a distribution. It is a mathematical expression of the relation between the Lorenz curve of actual distribution and the line of equal distribution. ${ }^{13}$ The closer the coefficient is to 1.0 , the greater the inequality of the distribution. According to this measure, the distribution of wealth is highly unequal. The Gini coefficient for wealth for this Survey population of consumer units is 0.76 compared with a coefficient of 0.43 for income for the same population. ${ }^{14}$ The wealth coefficient for the

[^11]youngest group, 0.83 , and for the oldest, 0.76 , show greater inequality than the coefficients of 0.71 for the 35-44 age group and 0.70 for the $45-54$ and 55-64 groups.

## HEAD UNDER 35 YEARS OF AGE

The youngest group has, on the whole, the least wealth so that the kinds of wealth that make up large holdings are relatively unimportant to it. Investment assets and businesses in which members were active are less frequently reported in this group, and together these assets account for a smaller share of its total wealth than for the older groups. This young group also ranks low in the proportion owning homes and high in the proportion of owned homes mortgaged, making home equities smaller than for other groups. The automobile, on the other hand, although a small share of the wealth accounted for in the Survey, is a larger share for the young than for other groups. The youngest group also ranked high as to the
proportion owning automobiles, and among young units with little wealth, equities in automobiles were a substantial share of what they had. Trust funds, although infrequent, were important to the youngest group, especially to the small proportion with large amounts of wealth. As a result, almost onethird of the total wealth held by units with heads under 35 was in the form of trusts (Tables A 8 and A 9).

To have personal debt was characteristic of the youngest group; 8 out of 10 owed personal debt, and for 7 out of 10 some of this was instalment debt. Even among groups of young units with above-average income and wealth, personal debt was frequently reported.

Some of these characteristics of the young as to the composition of wealth are clearly age differences, persisting even when comparisons are made with older units with equally small amounts of wealth. Young units rank first in automobile ownership and in the share of wealth in automobile equities. They also rank low in the proportions owning homes and owning them free of mortgage, and consequently in the share of their wealth that is in the form of home equities. Moreover, personal debt is more prevalent among young units than among older groups with similar wealth (Table A 14).

Portfolios of the youngest group, being of small size, are made up more of liquid assets than are the portfolios of older groups. Since comparison with older units whose portfolios are similarly small shows little difference, the liquidity of portfolios of the young is attributable more to the small amount of their assets than to age. Even though the sums invested are so small, however, the youngest group does show some tendency towards greater diversity of holdings. The
youngest group more often has checking accounts and U.S. savings bonds than older units with comparably small portfolios. ${ }^{15}$ They are also somewhat more likely to have savings accounts and publicly traded stock than older units with equally small portfolios, although the amounts are scant in all age groups when portfolios are small.

## HEAD AGED 35-54

In the age group 35-54 there is considerably more wealth than in the youngest group. Home ownership is more frequent, and even though a large proportion of the homes are mortgaged, equities in owned homes account for almost one-third of the wealth of the group. Business is also important to this age group; it accounts for nearly one-quarter of the group's total wealth.

Compared with older units, the 35-54 age group has less wealth, and considerably less liquid and investment assets. As a result, a smaller share of the wealth of the 35-54 age group than of the 55-64 age group was in liquid and investment assets, 35 per cent compared with 51 per cent. Homes and businesses, on the other hand, accounted for a relatively large share of wealth in the 35-54 age group (Table 9).

The importance of businesses to this age group is further emphasized by comparison with older units having similar amounts of wealth. At most wealth levels the 35-54 age group had a larger share of its wealth in businesses than did older units. It ranked low, on the other hand, as to the share in liquid and investment assets.

[^12]Table 9
Differences in Composition of Wealth among Age Groups, December 31, 1962
(Wealth form as percentage of total wealth; consumer units grouped by age of head)

| Size of wealth | Own home |  |  | Business, profession (farm and nonfarm) |  |  | Liquid assets |  |  | Investment assets |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head $35-54$ | 55-64 | 65 and over | Head $35-54$ | 55-64 | 65 and over | Head $35-54$ | 55-64 | 65 and over | Head $35-54$ | 55-64 | 65 and over |
| All units . | 32 | 25 | 22 | 23 | 20 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 16 | 24 | 38 | 47 |
| \$1-999. | 10 | 21 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 31 | 35 | 65 | 3 | * | * |
| \$1,000-4,999. | 50 | 47 | 55 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 23 | 26 | 34 | 6 | 15 | 4 |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 57 | 61 | 66 | 11 | 10 | 2 | 15 | 18 | 22 | 5 | 5 | 8 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 59 | 55 | 53 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 14 | 17 | 25 | 14 | 13 | 11 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 34 | 39 | 36 | 27 | 14 | 11 | 13 | 19 | 25 | 18 | 25 | 24 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 23 | 21 | 17 | 31 | 21 | 19 | 11 | 17 | 24 | 32 | 34 | 39 |
| \$100,000-199,999. | 22 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 14 | 12 | 19 | 43 | 54 | 44 |
| \$200,000 - 499,999. | 13 | 8 | 6 | 31 | 41 | 15 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 42 | 44 | 74 |
| \$500,000 and over . | 4 | 4 | 6 | 40 | 21 | 15 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 32 | 63 | 71 |

* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent.

Note.-Data from Table 4.

Despite smaller holdings of liquid and investment assets than older age groups, the 35-54 group was inclined towards greater diversity in its holdings. Members of this age group were a little more likely to have checking and savings accounts than were other groups. And, if the comparison is limited to units with portfolios of similar size, the inclination of this age group toward greater diversity also is evident. Over the range of portfolio-size groups, the 35-54 age group ranked above the older groups as to the proportion holding most kinds of liquid and of investment assets, notably checking accounts, savings accounts, common stock, mortgage assets, investment real estate, and company-sponsored savings plans (see Table A 10).

## HEAD AGED 55-64

Over the age span, wealth tends to increase up to the 55-64 group, which has more wealth than any other age group. The composition of the wealth of this group is, in general, what would be expected when wealth is large. Ownership of businesses and
of investment assets is more frequent than in other age groups. Home ownership is also more frequent and the incidence of mortgage debt-though more frequent than among those 65 and over-is less than among younger units. The total wealth of the group is divided about equally between home equities and businesses, on the one hand, and liquid and investment assets, on the other. For the younger groups the former outweighed the latter; for the older group the opposite was true.

Given a portfolio of similar size, the 5564 age group occupies a middle ground in the progression of behavior, from younger to older groups, regarding the proportion holding various investments. Diversity of holdings of the different types of liquid and investment assets was less than in the 35-54 age group, but greater than among older units with the same total amounts of such assets.

## HEAD AGED 65 AND OVER

Concentration of its wealth in liquid and investment assets is characteristic of the old-

Table 10
Differences in Composition of Portfolio among Age Groups, December 31, 1962
(Portfolio form as percentage of total portfolio; consumer units grouped by age of head)

| Size of portfolio | Savings accounts |  |  | Publicly traded stock |  |  | Investment real estate |  |  | Business not managed by unit |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underset{\substack{\text { Head } \\ 35-54}}{ }$ | 55-64 | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \text { and } \\ & \text { over } \end{aligned}$ | Head 3 - 54 | 55-64 | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \text { and } \\ & \text { over } \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{-}^{\mathrm{Head}} \mathbf{3 5 - 5 4}$ | 55-64 | $\begin{gathered} 65 \text { and } \\ \text { over } \end{gathered}$ | ${ }_{\text {Head }}^{\text {H5 }}$ | 55-64 | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \text { and } \\ & \text { over } \end{aligned}$ |
| All units. | 21 | 17 | 18 | 29 | 42 | 43 | 22 | 16 | 13 | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| \$1-499..... | 38 48 | 33 <br> 45 | 48 | $\frac{1}{5}$ | 6 | * |  | \% | 5 | - |  | : |
| - | 48 49 49 | 49 49 | 48 43 43 | 11 12 | ${ }_{17}^{4}$ | 4 | \% ${ }^{10}$ | 6 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| \$5,000-9,949.... | 30 | 27 <br> 25 | 50 | 19 | 18 | 7 | 24 | 22 | 16 19 | 8 | 11 | $\stackrel{9}{4}$ |
| \$25,000-49,999.... | 18 19 | 18 | 28 27 | 27 30 | ${ }_{51}^{21}$ | 33 <br> 26 | 33 20 20 | 29 | 19 | 11 |  | 4 |
| \$50,00- $\mathbf{\$ 1 5 0 0 0 0 0}-49999999 . .$. | 7 | 18 6 | 5 | 31 | 49 | ${ }_{56} 56$ | 33 | 16 | ${ }^{20}$ | 20 | 115 | 14 |
| \$500,000 and over.. |  |  | 3 |  |  | 65 |  |  | 9 |  |  | 2 |

* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent.

Note.-Data from Table 6.
est group. Six dollars in every 10 of the wealth of this group is in liquid and investment assets. The preference for these assets among older units is shown in other ways as well: approximately 2 units in 10 of those with heads 65 and over had 90 per cent or more of their wealth in liquid and investment assets compared with 1 unit in 10 of the younger consumer units (see Table A 22). The large share in these assets is achieved chiefly at the expense of investment in businesses or professions. Both the share of wealth accounted for by businesses and the proportion of units with a business were smaller than among the younger groups, except those under 35.

Home equities were substantial in the oldest group, largely because so many homes were owned free of debt. Among these units, 6 in 10 were home owners, and only 1 in

10 owed mortgage debt. For the oldest group as a whole, however, liquid and investment assets were so important that home equities accounted for a smaller share of their wealth than for the younger groups.

The major characteristics of the oldest group with respect to composition of wealth are clearly attributable to age differences, independent of the size of their holdings. At most wealth levels, older units are less likely to have their own businesses or to owe mortgage debt. Their wealth is also more concentrated in liquid and investment assets compared with younger groups with wealth of the same size. And, compared with younger age groups with portfolios of similar size, consumer units with heads 65 and over have more of their portfolios in savings accounts (Table 10).

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HEAD ${ }^{16}$

## SELF-EMPLOYED AND EMPLOYED BY OTHERS

The self-employed as a group were in better circumstances than the units whose heads were employed by others. Their incomes
were higher-with mean income for the self-employed group at $\$ 10,841$ and for the

[^13]group with heads employed by others, $\$ 6,990$. The self-employed were also much wealthier; the midpoint in their wealth distribution, $\$ 21,958$, compared with $\$ 4,895$ fot the units with heads employed by others. They were also somewhat older.

The employment classification is based on replies to questions about the head's employment rather than on the presence of business investment. Accordingly, units classified as in the employed-by-others group could, although they rarely did, have their own businesses arising from business activities of other members of the unit or from secondary activities of the head. And those in the self-employed group could, and oċcasionally did, report that they had no equity of any value connected with their self-employment.

The Survey showed that the greater wealth of the self-employed is not accounted for by their businesses alone. Their equities in owned homes were about twice and their holdings of liquid and investment assets about four times as much, on the average, as for the group employed by others. It is apparent, therefore, that the self-employed as a group are in very different financial circumstances from the group employed by others.

With so much disparity in the amount of their wealth, differences in the shape of the wealth distributions might be expected. The degree of inequality, however, as measured by the Gini coefficient is about the same for the two groups, with the coefficient for the self-employed only slightly higher (Table 8). A different conclusion as to dispersion is drawn from comparing the quartile deviation, which is smaller for the self-employed than for employees, but this measure does not take account of the entire range of the distribution. When Lorenz curves are drawn for the two distributions, the curve for the
self-employed is nearer to the line of equality below approximately the 7th decile, but at the upper end of the distribution the selfemployed show greater inequality than the employees as to the distribution of wealth. In view of the great differences between them as to the size of their holdings, the significant conclusion is that the two groups differ relatively little as to the way wealth is distributed within the groups.

To determine whether differences exist in the kinds of investments held that can be attributed to occupation, the composition of portfolios of similar size was examined. Because the employment groups differed in their age composition-the self-employed being older on the average-and because there were differences in portfolio preferences among age groups, the comparison was confined to units headed by persons 35 to 64. A comparison of units similar as to amount of wealth was not made because the self-employed would obviously have smaller shares in homes, liquid assets, and the like, because their businesses are a substantial share of their total wealth. For example, at most wealth levels, business is at least onethird of the wealth of the self-employed.

Given the same total amount of liquid and investment assets, the self-employed generally have more of it invested in real estate and businesses not managed by the unit head than do the units with heads employed by others. Possibly both types of investment are related to active participation in their own businesses, either currently or in the past. For example, an interest may be retained in a business in which a unit member was formerly active, or property owned by a member of the unit may be rented to a business conducted by a member. Those employed by others, and especially those with substantial portfolios, tend to have larger

Table 11
Share of Portfolio in Specified Form, Two Employment Status Groups, December 31, 1962
(Consumer units with head aged 35-64)

| Group characteristic | Portfolio (mean in dollars) | Total | Liquid assets |  |  |  | Investment assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All | Checking accounts | Savings accounts | U.S. savings bonds | All | Publicly traded stock | Mkt. sec. other than stock | Mortgage assets | Real estate | Business not managed by unit | Company savings plans |
|  |  | Percentage distribution of dollar aggregate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Head self-employed. . | 23,831 | 100 | 23 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 77 | 32 | 5 | 3 | 25 | 11 | 1 |
| Size of portfolio: $\$ 1-499$ | 170 | 100 | 99 | 46 | 42 | 11 | 1 | -1 | 2 | * | * | * | * |
| \$ $\$ 000-1,999 .$. | 882 | 100 | 80 | 28 | 39 | 13 | 20 |  |  | 5 | 9 | 5 | * |
| \$2,000 - 4,999. | 3,431 | 100 | 60 | 14 | 42 | 5 | 40 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 10 | * |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 7,302 | 100 | 42 | 13 | 27 | 2 | 58 | 27 | * | 1 | 28 | 1 | * |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 14,643 | 100 | 45 | 6 | 32 | 7 | 55 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 12 | * |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 32,825 | 100 | 31 | 6 | 19 | 6 | 69 | 16 | * | 3 | 49 | 1 | 1 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 69,052 | 100 | 37 | 3 | 27 | 7 | 63 | 21 | , | 10 | 10 | 20 | 1 |
| \$100,000-499,999. | + 186,875 | 100 | 13 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 87 | 28 | 14 | 3 | 35 | 17 | - |
| \$500,000 and over. | 1,233,720 | 100 | 9 | 2 | 6 | * | 91 | 58 | 14 | 2 | 10 | 7 | * |
| Head employed by others. | 7,273 | 100 | 32 | 4 | 23 | 5 | 68 | 37 | 2 | 4 | 18 | 4 | 3 |
| Size of portfolio: <br> \$1-499 | 178 | 100 | 97 | 43 | 39 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 1 | * | * | * | 2 |
| \$500-1,999 | 1,046 | 100 | 82 | 24 | 48 | 10 | 18 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | 3,252 | 100 | 70 | 12 | 49 | 9 | 30 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 8 | * | 6 |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 7,203 | 100 | 63 | 6 | 45 | 13 | 37 | 12 | * | 2 | 15 | 2 | 6 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 15,033 | 100 | 42 | 4 | 32 | 6 | 58 | 19 | 1 | 5 | 26 | 3 | 4 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 33,740 | 100 | 34 | 3 | 24 | 7 | 66 | 28 | , | 5 | 25 | 6 | 3 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 72,226 | 100 | 22 | 2 | 15 | 5 | 78 | 43 | 1 | 5 | 23 | 4 | 3 |
| \$100,000-499,999. | 170,700 | 100 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 90 | 61 | ${ }_{9}$ | 2 | 14 | 10 | 2 |
| \$500,000 and over.. | 1,925,126 | 100 | 3 | 1 | 2 | * | 97 | 77 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 2 | * |

* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent.

Note.-Details may not add to totals because of rounding
shares invested in publicly traded stock than do the self-employed (Table 11).

Even though there is no systematic difference between the two groups as to the share of portfolios of similar size held in liquid assets, holders of the various types of liquid assets are relatively more numerous in the group employed by others. Owners of checking accounts, of savings accounts, and of U.S. savings bonds are more frequent in the group employed by others than among the self-employed with portfolios of similar size (Table 12).

The smaller incidence of checking accounts among the self-employed may reflect the reporting method rather than a true difference between the groups in the extent to
which they use checking accounts. In measuring wealth, it is especially difficult to distinguish between business and personal holdings for the self-employed. Respondents were asked to report as checking accounts only those used wholly for personal purposes, and to report business accounts and those used for both business and personal transactions as part of investment in business. As a result, the self-employed are shown to be less likely to have checking accounts, especially when compared with employees having portfolios of similar size. This classification problem cannot be readily solved, however, because results from the opposite procedure would have been equally difficult to interpret.

Table 12
Percentage of Units Owning Specified Form of Portfolio, Two Employment Status Groups, December 31, 1962
(Consumer units with head aged 35-64)

| Group characteristic | Total portfolio | Liquid assets |  |  |  | Investment assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | All | Checking counts | Savings counts | $\begin{aligned} & \text { U.S. } \\ & \text { sav. } \\ & \text { ings } \\ & \text { bonds } \end{aligned}$ | All | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Public- } \\ & \text { ly } \\ & \text { traded } \\ & \text { stock } \end{aligned}$ | Mkt. sec. other than stock | Mort gage assets | Real estate | Business not manby unit | Company savings plans |
| Head self-employed. | 95 | 92 | 70 | 69 | 29 | 51 | 26 | 5 | 8 | 27 | 10 | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$500-1,999... | 100 | 95 | 70 | 61 | 29 | 23 | 2 | * | 7 | 10 | 5 | * |
| \$2,000-4,999. | 100 | 96 | 58 | 88 | 31 | 61 | 28 | 3 | 5 | 20 | 12 | * |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 100 | 100 | 76 | 94 | 11 | 76 | 43 | 9 | 6 | 40 | 7 | * |
| \$10,000-24,999 | 100 | 92 | 81 | 83 | 32 | 86 | 51 | 3 | 6 | 45 | 23 | * |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 79 | 70 | 100 | 34 | 11 | 23 | 77 | 4 | 10 |
| \$50,000-99,999 | 100 | 100 | 91 | 77 | 43 | 100 | 86 | 15 | 34 | 34 | 39 | 2 |
| \$100,000-499,999 | 100 | 100 | 98 | 81 | 59 | 100 | 75 | 18 | 23 | 74 | 43 | 14 |
| \$500,000 and over. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 77 | 64 | 100 | 99 | 69 | 13 | 55 | 32 | 15 |
| Head employed by others... | 82 | 81 | 63 | 66 | 32 | 34 | 18 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 3 | 7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499..... | 100 100 | 99 99 | 74 76 | 62 | 16 36 | 28 | $1{ }^{2}$ | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2 | $\stackrel{2}{9}$ |
| \$2,000-1,4,999.. | 100 | 99 | 71 | 92 | 49 | 52 | 25 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| \$5,000 - 9,999. | 100 | 99 | 80 | 96 | 66 | 68 | 43 | 3 | 4 | 25 | 4 | 10 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 100 | 99 | 86 | 90 | 49 | 80 | 35 | 5 | 15 | 38 | 8 | 13 |
| \$25,000-49,999 . | 100 | 100 | 93 | 90 | 46 | 88 | 54 | 8 | 15 | 42 | 6 | 7 |
| \$50,000-99,999... | 100 | 100 | 97 | 94 | 66 | +988 | 76 | ${ }^{8}$ | 13 33 | 53 | 17 | 28 |
| $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0 , 0 0 0 - 4 9 9 , 9 9 9}$ $\mathbf{\$ 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ and over. | 100 100 | 100 100 | 100 100 | 91 82 | 41 49 | 100 100 | 100 | 77 | 33 | 39 50 | 42 17 | 19 |

* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent.


## RETIRED

The retired group consisted of units with heads aged 65 and over who did not work during 1962. About 7 out of 10 of the unit heads of 65 and over were retired. Accordingly, the retired, being a subgroup of those 65 and over, have many of the characteristics of that group, as described above. The retired are older than the nonretired in this age group and have much less income. Average age was 74 for the retired and 70 for the nonretired. Average income was about $\$ 2,800$ and $\$ 7,300$ for the two groups. ${ }^{17}$

The wealth of the retired is best described in terms of their age-that is, as an extension of the characteristics noted for the en-

[^14]tire group aged 65 and over. Most of the ways in which the wealth holdings of units 65 and over differ from those of younger units are accentuated in the retired group. Median wealth for the retired was $\$ 8,197$; this is less than the median for the entire group 65 and over. As with all groups, the size of wealth varied a great deal, with 22 per cent of the retired having less than $\$ 1,000$ in wealth and 7 per cent having $\$ 50,000$ or more. The inequality of the distribution of wealth among the retired, as measured by the Gini coefficient, was virtually the same, however, as for other occupational groups (Table 8).

Although their holdings of most forms of wealth averaged less than those of the entire group aged 65 and over, the sharpest reduction was equity of the retired in busi-
nesses. The small share that units with retired heads had in their own businesses was to some extent compensated by investments in businesses in which no member of the unit was active. Doubtless these were retained interests in businesses from which the head of the unit had retired.

Liquid and investment assets made up a much larger share of the wealth of those who were retired than of units aged 65 and over whose heads were working. A shift into liquid and investment assets on the part of the retired would be expected on the basis
of the tendencies noted for all older units, but the shift is especially marked for the retired in this older group.

Home equities accounted for only a moderate share of the wealth of the retired because the group as a whole had so much in liquid and investment assets. For retired units with small amounts of wealth, however, home equities made up a large share of what they had, two-thirds when wealth was at least $\$ 1,000$ but less than $\$ 5,000$ and three-quarters when wealth was at least $\$ 5,000$ but less than $\$ 10,000$.

## UNITS GROUPED BY POVERTY INCOME STATUS

In order to meet requests for data on the size and composition of wealth of the population classified as poor by the Social Security Administration (SSA), the consumer units of the Survey have been classified by poverty income criteria supplied by that agency. ${ }^{18}$ This method of classification differs from the income classification used in the Survey in that it takes account of the size of the consumer unit as well as its money income.

The SSA has provided a choice of definitions of poverty income levels. The two definitions have been used to classify the consumer units of the Survey, and results are presented in Tables A 37-A 43, using the phrases "economy level" and "low-cost level" for the two definitions as is done by the SSA. ${ }^{19}$ The first, which is designated

[^15]Level 1 in the tables, corresponds roughly to a money income of $\$ 3,000$ for a family of four, and the second (Level 2) to about $\$ 4,000$ for a family of four. Income criteria are, of course, lower for smaller families and higher for larger ones. ${ }^{20}$ The brief discussion in this section makes use of the grouping of units by the first, or lower, level because it is the one generally used in discussions of the problem of poverty. ${ }^{21}$

Consumer units with little or no assets were frequent in the group classified under the SSA definition as poor on the basis of their incomes, but there were some in the upper portion of the wealth distribution. No wealth of the kinds covered in the Survey was reported by 28 per cent and 2 per cent had more debts than assets; another 21 per cent had some wealth but less than $\$ 1,000$. Wealth of at least $\$ 10,000$ but less than $\$ 25,000$, was reported by 12 per cent of those poor in income, and wealth of $\$ 25,000$ or more by 6 per cent. Among those with incomes at or above the poverty criteria lev-

[^16]els, wealth was greater, but there were as many as 19 per cent with no wealth or with less than $\$ 1,000$. Wealth of $\$ 25,000$ or more was reported by 20 per cent of those with incomes above the poverty level.

Unsecured debts were not exceptionally frequent in the group classified as poor on the basis of their incomes, but the debtors had such small amounts of assets to offset these debts that consideration of net worth shows a substantial number in an over-all negative financial position, or with no net worth. For example, 37 per cent of the units had either negative or zero net worth-that is, they were in debt or had no financial reserves after taking account of their debts. This compares with 11 per cent of the units with higher incomes.

Among those defined by the SSA as poor, families as a group had larger amounts of wealth than 1-person units- $\$ 6,167$ on the average compared with $\$ 5,846$. Among families, however, wealth was small for those with more than 2 persons. Mean wealth for families with 3 or 4 persons was $\$ 3,586$; for families of 5 or more persons, it was $\$ 2,595$ (see Table A 41).

Age also makes a difference among those classified as poor on the basis of their incomes. Families with heads aged 65 and over had more wealth, on the average, than those with younger heads. As a result, almost half of the total wealth reported by units with incomes below the povery criteria was in the hands of the oldest third of the group, namely 1 -person units aged 65 and over and families with heads 65 and over.

About 4 in 10 units in the group with incomes below the poverty level were home owners, a lower rate of home ownership than among those with higher incomes. Among the older people, however, the proportion owning homes in the group classified
as poor was close to the proportion among those with incomes at or above the poverty level. Frequencies of ownership of liquid assets and of investment assets, on the other hand, were low compared with the higher income group. Differences result between the two groups in composition of wealth. Thus, home equities were a larger share of wealth for the poor than for units with incomes at or above the poverty level (Table 13). This was especially true for older people among the poor, both 1 -person units and families. Among those classified as poor, as well as among those with higher incomes, older units also tended to have more of their wealth in liquid and investment assets than did younger ones.
Even though most of those classified as poor on the basis of these income criteria have little or no reserves of wealth, there are some with holdings large enough to raise the question as to how the count of those defined as poor would be modified if the criteria took account of wealth as well as current income. That is, how many of the units classified as poor on the basis of their incomes might be expected to have levels of consumption equal to or above poverty income standards if they used their assets to supplement their incomes? The answer to this question will depend on the types of assets considered and on the judgment as to the span of time over which these assets are assumed to be used.

A definition of wealth suitable for the general purposes of the Survey is not necessarily suitable for assessing resources that can be used to supplement income. Liquid and investment assets, consisting chiefly of bank accounts and marketable securities, are readily available. Investments in owned homes, automobiles, or businesses and professions, on the other hand, cannot be liqui-

Table 13
Share of Wealth in Specified Form, Poverty Income Status Groups, December 31, 1962
(Percentage distribution of dollar aggregate)


* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent

1 Level 1 is the economy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See also footnote 18, p. 37.
Note.-Based on means in Table A 41. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.
dated without drastic changes in ways of living and working. To take account of the use value of owned homes as a supplement to incomes, houses have been counted as yielding returns equal to 4 per cent per year on the equity. This is not the same as money income, but rather a way of recognizing that this equity would yield a return if invested elsewhere. The implied return is received not in cash, but in the use value of the dwelling.

Even though almost 2 out of 5 in the group classified as poor on the basis of their current incomes owned homes, relatively few had enough thus invested so that 4 per cent returns on their equities, when added to their incomes, would be sufficient to remove them from the count of the poor. Oneperson and family units were much alike in this respect; in other words, for 7 per cent of the former and 6 per cent of the latter, allowance for home equities was large
enough to compensate for the deficiency between their incomes and the poverty income level (sce Table 14).

Table 14
Assets in Relation to Income Deficiency for Units with Income below Poverty Level 1. December 31, $1962^{1}$
(Percentage distribution of consumer units with income below Level 1)

|  | All units | Unrelated individuals | Families of 2 or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Units with income below Level 1 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Deficiency compensated: <br> By allowance for home equity ${ }^{2}$ | 6 | 7 | 6 |
| By allowance for home plus liquid and investment assets ${ }^{3}$ - |  |  |  |
| Sufficient ${ }^{4}$ for: <br> 5 years or more. | 13 | 19 | 9 |
| 3 years but less than 5... | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 years but less than 3... | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 1 year but less than 2... | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| Deficiency not compensated: |  |  |  |
| Some liquid and investment assets ${ }^{3}$. | 13 | 14 | 12 |
| No liquid and investment assets ${ }^{3}$. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 61 | 49 | 70 |

${ }^{1}$ Level 1 is the cconomy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See also footnote 18, p. 37.

2 Allowance estimated at 4 per cent of equity.
${ }_{3}$ After deduction of personal noninstalment debt and instalment debt incurred for purposes other than purchases of durable goods and home repair and modernization.
4 Liquid and investment assets sufficient to meet gap between poverty income Level 1 and 1962 money income plus allowance for a 4 per cent return on home equity.
Note.-Details may not add to totals because of rounding.
Although liquid and investment assets are more readily available as income supplements than are some other forms of wealth, their use may be restricted by unsecured debt. Debts that represent outstanding obligations other than those incurred for purchase of automobiles, durable goods, and home repair and modernization have, therefore, been deducted from the total of liquid and investment assets in estimating the availability of these assets as supplements to current income.

The period over which liquid and investment assets are considered as being used up is critical to the assessment of the contribution these assets can make to bridging the
gap between incomes and the SSA poverty income level. One possibility is to assume that liquid and investment assets (net of unsecured debt) are to be used up over a period of 5 years or more. The amount thus becoming available, supplemented by the use value of owned homes, would make up the difference between income and the poverty criteria for 9 per cent of the families and 19 per cent of the 1 -person units classified by the SSA as poor on the basis of their current incomes (Table 14). When one considers also the units with sufficient return on their housing equities to bridge this gap, the conclusion is that 1 in 7 of the families classified as poor on the basis of their current incomes and 1 in 4 of the 1 -person units would not be so classified on the basis of using their wealth to supplement their incomes. This concept of bridging the gap is not intended to imply generous levels; rather these are sums that raise levels of living up to poverty income criteria as defined by the SSA.

Using liquid and investment assets over shorter periods might also be considered. It is apparent from Table 14, however, that the proportions added by decreasing the time span are small. ${ }^{22}$ Regardless of the time span chosen, 8 out of 10 of the families and 6 out of 10 of the 1 -person units classified as poor on the basis of their incomes had no equities in owned homes or no liquid and investment assets (after paying off unsecured debts), or had an insufficient amount of these assets to bring their potential consumption up to the poverty income level.

[^17]As a practicable program for raising consumption levels of units with incomes below poverty criteria, use of accumulated savings has limits. Young people might be expected to rely on their assets to tide them over temporary periods of low income, but young families with incomes below poverty levels have little wealth. Units with head aged 65 years and over comprise about half of those who, according to the analysis presented in Table 14, have implied returns on their
home equities and sufficient liquid and investment assets to bridge the gap between their incomes and the poverty income standard for at least 5 years. And if these older units used their assets, they would have difficulties in replacing them. Assuming that wealth accumulated over a lifetime is used to supplement retirement incomes, a program for such use of these assets would need to take into account individual uncertainties as to life expectancy and emergencies.

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## DEFINITIONS

## NET WORTH

For purposes of this Survey net worth consists of the asset components described below less all debts covered by the Survey

## WEALTH

For purposes of this Survey wealth consists of the asset components described below, less the debts secured by these assets. The few units who reported negative wealth are included in the data for all units, but are not shown separately in the tables.

## COMPONENTS OF WEALTH

The asset itself is defined here, and the debt secured by the asset, which is deducted to determine the equity value included in wealth, is defined under components of debt.

## Own home

Represents the respondent's estimate of the market value of his principal residence as well as any vacation homes owned, less debt secured by such properties. If a principal residence was used partly for business purposes, only the nonbusiness (personal) share of the value and of debt outstanding are included here; the business portion is included under business and profession. Owner-occupied farm residences are not included here; they are counted as part of the value of the farm and are included under business and profession.

## Automobile

Represents the respondent's estimate of the market value of his car in the majority of cases. In the remaining cases, where the respondent's estimate was lacking or inadequate, values from the Red Book of the National Market Reports, Inc., were used. Debts secured by automobiles were deducted. When an automobile was used for both business and personal purposes, the market value and the debt included here are only for that portion of the automobile representing its personal use as reported by the respondent. The portion representing business use, as well as the value of automobiles used wholly for business, is included in the equity in the business.

## Business, profession (farm and nonfarm)

Consists of the equity in farm and nonfarm sole
proprietorships, partnerships, and closely held corporations in which the respondent considered himself to be active in management. Closely held corporations are those whose shares are owned entirely by one individual, a family, or a small number of individuals usually associated by ties of business relationships or friendship. The shares of such corporations are not considered publicly traded because there is no public market for the stocks, and any sales are usually direct and privately negotiated. Equity in business by self-employed professionals is also included.

Respondents were asked to value their businesses on two bases-book and market. Book values rather than market values were incorporated in the wealth estimates because so many respondents were unable to provide any meaningful estimate of the price for which their business might be sold. Most respondents, on the other hand, were able to provide book values because they keep records, if for no other purpose than income taxes.

The book value figure included the full amount of any checking accounts used for both business and personal purposes, the business share of assets such as automobiles and residences that are used for both business and personal purposes, and the business share of associated debts. For farms, the entire value of the residence was included in the value of the farm.

## Liquid assets

Consists of checking accounts, savings accounts, and U.S. savings bonds at maturity or face value.

Checking accounts include regular and special checking accounts that are for personal use only. Checking accounts used solely for business purposes as well as accounts that are for both personal and business use are included as part of the equity in business.

Savings accounts are classified by type of institution-savings accounts in banks, shares in savings and loan and in building and loan associations, shares in credit unions, and accounts in any institution whose type was not ascertained. Savings accounts include time deposits, certificates of deposit, Christmas club accounts, and vacation accounts.

Savings accounts in banks were classified as being in mutual savings banks or in commercial
banks on the basis of the name of the bank provided by the respondent. Mutual savings banks were identified from the 1963-1964 Directory and Guide to the Mutual Savings Banks of the United States (published by the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks). The remaining bank accounts, including those in banks that could not be identified, were classified as in commercial banks. Savings and loan associations were identified in the Directory of American Savings and Loan Associations (published annually by the T. K. Sanderson Organization, Baltimore, Maryland).
U.S. savings bonds are nonmarketable bonds issued by the U.S. Government. Series E, F, and J bonds are purchased for a fixed amount, which is always less than the maturity value of the bond. When the bond is cashed, the owner receives the amount he paid for the bond plus interest, which varies with the length of time the bond has been held. The holders of income bonds (Series $\mathrm{G}, \mathrm{H}$, and K ) receive interest payments semiannually. Income bonds are redeemable at their face value, or slightly less, after being held for a short period of time. In this Survey, Series E, F, and $J$ bonds were reported at maturity rather than at current redemption value because it was felt that a request for current redemption values would place an unreasonable burden on respondents, especially those with large holdings. Income bonds were reported at face value.

## Investment assets

Is a term adopted by the Survey in order to group together certain assets that had some common characteristics as a form of wealth. They consist of publicly traded stock, marketable securities other than stock, mortgage assets, real estate, business investments not managed by a member of the unit, and company savings plans. Debts secured by these assets have been deducted in deriving the wealth components.
Publicly traded stock consists of common and preferred stock in corporations other than closely held corporations, shares in mutual funds and other investment companies, and share in investment clubs, plus credit balances at security dealers, less debit balances and less loans secured by these stocks.

Types of stock were valued at market prices prevailing on December 31, 1962. On the basis of
information supplied by the respondents, issues were identified in one of the following manuals or newspapers (publishers are given in parentheses):
(1) Security Owner's Stock Guide, January 1963 (Standard \& Poor's Corporation, 345 Hudson Street, New York 14, N.Y.); (2) Bank and Quotation Record, January 1963 (William B. Dana Company, 25 Park Place, New York 8, N.Y.);
(3) The National Monthly Stock Summary, October 1, 1962-April 1, 1963 (The National Quotation Bureau, Inc., 46 Front Street, New York 4, N.Y.); (4) Investment Companies 1963, Mutual Funds and Other Types (Arthur Wiesenberger \& Company, 61 Broadway, New York 6, N.Y.); (5) Moody's Industrial Manual, Moody's Bank \& Finance Manual, Moody's Public Utility Manual, and Moody's Transportation Manual (Moody's Investors Service Inc., 99 Church Street, New York 7, N.Y.); (6) The Wall Street Journal (Dow Jones \& Company, Inc., 30 Broad Street, New York 4, N.Y.); and (7) The New York Times (The New York Times Company, Times Square, New York 36, N.Y.).

Generally the closing sale price was used; in other cases, the bid price. Respondents were asked to supply December 31, 1962, market values for stocks that they believed were not listed in most newspapers. These values were used if the stock could not be located in one of the newspapers or manuals used in the valuation process. A few stocks that could not be identified and for which respondents did not give values were valued at zero. In a number of instances involving preferred stock, the information supplied by the respondent was insufficient for positive identification because there was more than one preferred issue outstanding. The value used was generally that for the preferred issue with the largest number of shares outstanding, on the assumption that this issue was the most widely held.

To derive equity for types of stock-common stock, preferred stock, and stock for which type was not ascertained-the total debt secured by stock (debit balances at security dealers and loans secured by stock) was apportioned among these types on the basis of size of holdings. In all cases equity in investment clubs equals market value of share holdings of investment clubs. Equity in mutual funds is equal to the market value of the
respondent's holdings of mutual funds except in the few cases where the process of netting total debt secured by stock against common stock, preferred stock, and stock of type not ascertained resulted in a negative equity in one or more of the components. In these cases the debt was apportioned among mutual funds and common stock, preferred stock, and stock of type not ascertained.

Credit balances at security dealers are the net amounts the brokerage concern owes the customer. Consumer units are classified as having either a credit balance or a debit balance on the basis of the netting of all balances for all members of the unit.

Marketable securities other than stock consist of bills, certificates, notes, bonds, and debentures issued by the U.S. Government, by State and local governments, by foreign and domestic corporations, and by foreign governments, less debt secured by such securities. These securities were reported at par rather than market value because it was felt that respondents were unlikely to know current market values, especially for the many issues that are infrequently traded, and because it would be difficult to obtain the information needed for valuing these securities.

Mortgage assets are amounts outstanding on December 31, 1962, on loans owed to the consumer unit that were secured by mortgages.

Investment real estate consists of real estate owned by the unit, other than owned homes and real estate connected with a business or profession. Included are houses owned for investment purposes, properties put to commercial use, structures used for industrial purposes, and undeveloped land held for investment or building purposes. Market values on December 31, 1962, as reported by respondents, less outstanding debt secured by this real estate were used.

Business investments not managed by unit consist of equity in farm and nonfarm partnerships and closely held corporations in which no member of the unit was active in management. These business investments were valued at market, as reported by the respondents.

Company savings plans consist of the amounts that members of the unit could have withdrawn from company savings plans, profit-sharing plans, and other deferred income plans (but not retire-
ment plans), had they left their jobs on December $31,1962$.

## Miscellaneous assets

Consists of beneficial interests in assets held in trust, nonmortgage loans to individuals, and other assets, which consist of oil royalties, patents, and commodity contracts. Trusts in which a member of the unit had rights only to income were not included.

## TOTAL DEBT

For purposes of this Survey, total debt consists of debts secured by own home and by investment assets, personal debt, and debt on life insurance as described below. Included are all debts owed by members of the unit on December 31, 1962, except debts owed in the name of a business.

## COMPONENTS OF DEBT

## Debt secured by own home

Consists of mortgage debt on principal residences and vacation homes outstanding on December 31, 1962. This debt was deducted from market value of own home to derive the equity included in the measure of wealth.

## Debt secured by investment assets

Consists of debts secured by stock, other marketable'securities, and investment real estate. The amounts of these debts outstanding on December 31, 1962, were deducted from the appropriate components of wealth.

Debt secured by stock consists of debit balances at security dealers and loans secured by stock.

Debit balances at security dealers are the net amounts customers owe to the broker. Consumer units are classified as having either a credit balance or a debit balance on the basis of the netting of all balances for all members of the unit.

Loans secured by stock are loans with stocks used as collateral, regardless of type of lender and purpose of the loan.

Debt secured by marketable securities other than stock consists of loans with marketable securities other than stock used as collateral, regardless of type of lender and purpose of loan.

Debt secured by investment real estate
is debt outstanding on December 31, 1962, that was secured by mortgages on investment real estate holdings.

## Personal debt

Consists of instalment and unsecured noninstalment debts outstanding on December 31, 1962.

Instalment debt consists of amounts owed for the purchase of automobiles and for other purposes on which regular instalment payments are made. The debt may be owed to a bank, to some other financial institution (such as a sales finance company or a credit union), to a retailer (such as a department store), or to an individual.

Automobile instalment debt is secured by the automobile and has been deducted from the market value to derive the equity included in the measure of total wealth.

Other instalment debt is the part of instalment debt that is not secured by the assets included in the wealth concept of this Survey. It includes debt incurred for the purchase of household durable goods, for home repair and modernization (unless the expenditure is financed by a mortgage loan on own home), and for other personal expenses. Budget accounts, 60 - or 90 -day accounts, even though the payments involved are uneven or irregular, and revolving credit plans are included, but 30 -day charge accounts are not counted.

Noninstalment debt includes unsecured debts to doctors, hospitals, banks, other financial institutions, and private individuals in which there is agreement to repay in one lump sum or at irregular intervals over the term of the loan.

## Debt on life insurance policies

Consists of debt secured by life insurance. For purposes of this Survey, such debts are counted as unsecured because the cash surrender value of life insurance policies is not included in the wealth estimate.

## ASSETS COVERED BY SURVEY AND EXCLUDED FROM WEALTH CONCEPT

## Investment in life insurance

Consists of cash surrender value of life insurance policies less debt outstanding on insurance policies. Accumulated dividends were not covered.

In the financial section of the Survey questionnaire, the respondent was asked directly for the
cash surrender value of his life insurance policies. (See question 11.b.(2) on page 3 of the Family Balance Sheet and Income Statement, Questionnaire Form, page 67.) If the respondent was unable to provide this information, he was asked the type of policy, face value of the policy, name of issuing company, premium, and age of insured at purchase. This information was recorded on a supplemental form not shown in this report. These data were used in estimating cash surrender value on an individual policy basis, but it became obvious that the descriptions furnished by the respondent were often insufficient and were generally inconsistent with the life insurance data supplied when respondents were interviewed again for the Survey of Changes in Family Finances in order to obtain data on saving. Accordingly, investment in life insurance was not included in the wealth estimates. The data obtained are shown in Table A 31.

The figures in Table A 31 on percentage of consumer units reporting equity in life insurance and on the mean amount of life insurance equity were based on the values estimated by the process described below, in addition to the cash surrender values supplied by the respondents. For those recorded as "not reporting," values could not be estimated. The estimated values were not revised to take account of corrections introduced by the respondent in the reinterview.

The following material summarizes the valuation procedure that was developed. The information necessary for determining cash surrender value is type of policy (ordinary life, limited payment life, endowment, etc.), face value of policy, age of insured at time policy was purchased, and number of years policy has been in force (present age as given in the demographic information in the Survey minus age of insured at purchase). For National Service Life Insurance policies (also described as U.S. Government, GI, or veterans' insurance) the date of conversion was accepted as the purchase date for determining age at purchase and number of years in force. The basic references are: (1) Actuarial Tables, American Experience Mortality Table, 3 per cent; (2) Actuarial Tables, Commissioners' 1941 Standard Ordinary Mortality Table, $21 / 2$ per cent (published by the Society of Actuaries in 1946); and (3) Flitcraft Compend (published by Flitcraft, Inc., 75 Fulton Street, New York 38, New York). The
first reference should be used for all policies issued before 1948, the second for policies issued in 1948 or later. Many problem cases were resolved by studying the various plans offered by the issuing company; for this purpose the third reference was useful.

The appropriate reference and information on type of policy, age at date of issue, and number of years in force were used to find the cash surrender value per $\$ 1,000$ of face amount. This was multiplied by the face value of the policy (in thousands) to obtain the estimate of cash surrender value. The valuation procedure for paid-up insurance was simpler: once a policy is paid up, the cash value depends only on the attained age of the insured and could be found in a table in the second reference.

One problem concerns policies with term riders. If the reported face value includes the value of the term insurance, the above procedures result in an overstatement of cash surrender value. Such problem cases can be handled by a comparison of the reported premium with the premium shown in the actuarial tables for the particular type of basic insurance concerned. If the reported premium per $\$ 1,000$ is substantially smaller than the premium in the tables, such cases should receive a professional review to determine whether or not a rider is involved.

## Equities in annuities and in retirement plans

Consists of amounts that had been paid for annuities as of December 31, 1962, and amounts that members of the unit could have withdrawn from retirement plans had they left their jobs on December 31, 1962. Because one-fourth of those who had investments in retirement plans did not report their equities, and examination suggested that the reports were of poor quality, the data were omitted from the wealth estimates. They are presented in Table A 31. Failure to report values was less serious for annuities than for retirement plans, but aggregate equity values were small compared with those in life insurance and in retirement plans.

## INCOME

The total money income received in 1962 by all members of the consumer unit before any payroll or income tax deductions is the income concept used in this Survey. The following components
are included: wages, salaries, commissions; net income from unincorporated businesses or professions (farm and nonfarm) -both sole proprietorships and partnerships: dividends: interest; net income from rents; pensions and social security payments; and any other periodic payments received by members of the unit. The few units who reported negative incomes during 1962 arc included in the data for all units, but are not shown separately in the tables.

## CONSUMER UNITS

For purposes of this Survey consumer units consist of families and unrelated individuals as defined by the Bureau of the Census. The Census definition of the term "family" is a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together. The term "unrelated individuals," as defined by the Census Bureau, refers to persons (other than inmates of institutions) who are not living with any relatives. An "unrelated individual" may constitute a.1person household by himself, or he may be part of a household including one or more other families or unrelated individuals, or he may reside in group quarters such as a rooming house.

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Groupings by employment status are modifications of Census Bureau occupation and class-of-worker classifications. The self-employed group consists of units whose heads were active in the management of a nonfarm family business, including closely held corporations and partnerships as well as sole proprietorships, and units whose heads were professional persons reporting themselves as self-employed. Whether they had an investment of any value in their business was not a consideration in this classification.
The employed-by-others group consists of units in which the main occupation of the head was as an employee of someone else; farm laborers are not included. Thus this group includes units with members other than the head active in the management of family businesses and units in which active management of a business was a secondary occupation of the head.
The retired group consists of units whose head was 65 years or older in 1962 and who did not work during that year.

Farm operators, farm laborers, units with head under 65 reporting no work experience during 1962, and units who did not report occupation are
included in the data for all units. but are not shown as separate groups in the tables of data classified by employment status.

## SAMPLE DESIGN *

The sample for the Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers was designed to be representative of all consumer units and at the same time to yield a sizable number of consumer units in the upper income and wealth groups. To obtain a large number of units with substantial amounts of wealth requires either a very large sample size or a heavy oversampling of units expected to have above-average amounts of wealth. The latter procedure was chosen for this sample.

The oversampling of wealthier consumer units was intended both to improve the reliability of estimates of financial assets, which are concentrated among a relatively small proportion of the population, and to provide a sufficient number of consumer units to permit analysis of investment behavior.

The Survey was based on results of field interviews obtained from a sample of consumer units (families of two or more plus unrelated individuals) in the United States. The sample was designed to yield approximately 400 cases in each of 9 strata, the strata being based on 1960 income. In order to obtain the desired 400 cases, the original sample selection in strata 1 through 7 was in excess of 400 units in each stratum. The excess was necessary because some dwelling units which had a probability of selection were vacant during the survey period or were otherwise "out-ofscope." As may be seen in Table 15 on page 52, the actual number of cases "in scope" on December 31, 1962, varied from stratum to stratum and totaled 3,551 for all 9 strata.

The sample was selected from three basic frames:
(a) Housing units enumerated in the 1960 Census of Housing. Military installations and institutions such as nursing homes, penitentiaries, and hospitals were not included in the sampling frame; thus, persons residing in such places are not represented in the sample.
(b) Housing units built since the 1960 Census.

[^18](c) Persons who filed an income tax return with an adjusted gross income (AGI) of $\$ 50.000$ or more with the Internal Revenue Service for Tax Year 1960.

The consumer units designated for interview, that is, the units on which the results of the Survey are based, were associated with the sample selected from the frames as follows:
(1) For the sample drawn from frame (a) or (b), the consumer unit residing in the selected housing unit on the interview date was interviewed. The interview data collected were for the consumer unit as it was composed on December 31, 1962, regardless of its residence on that date.
(2) For the sample drawn from frame (c), the consumer unit which on December 31, 1962, included the selected person was interviewed.

The process of sampling involved the use of the 1960 Census questionnaires and individual income tax returns for Tax Year 1960 filed with the Internal Revenue Service. The survey process was carefully controlled to insure that the data furnished the Census interviewers by the respondents in this Survey and in the 1960 Decennial Census were not disclosed to the Internal Revenue Service. Conversely, data on the income tax returns were not disclosed to anyone other than Census central office personnel involved in the selection of the sample. The interviewers were not told the sources of the names and addresses given them to interview. Tabulations made from the sample cases were prepared so as not to disclose the identity of individuals selected either from the income tax returns or from the Census.

The nine income strata are:

1. Under $\$ 3,000$
2. $\$ 3,000-\$ 4,999$
3. $\$ 5,000-\$ 7,499$
4. $\$ 7,500-\$ 9,999$
5. $\$ 10,000-\$ 14,999$
6. $\$ 15,000-\$ 24,999$
7. $\$ 25,000-\$ 49,999$
8. $\$ 50,000-\$ 99,999$
9. $\$ 100,000$ and over

The sample for the first seven was drawn from the groups described under (a) and (b) above. For sampling purposes, a housing unit occupied in 1960 was assigned the income of the consumer unit residing there in 1960. A housing unit vacant in 1960 was assigned to an income stratum based on the income of a neighboring household. A housing unit constructed since the 1960 Census was assigned an income stratum based on its value. The sample to represent the last two income strata was drawn from group (c).

The sample cases for strata 1 through 7 were selected within a restricted set of sample areas (counties or groups of counties) throughout the country. For cases selected for strata 8 and 9 the sample was taken throughout the United States -although persons residing in the set of sample areas were given a greater probability of selection than those not residing in these areas. The procedure of concentrating sample cases in a restricted set of areas where possible was adopted in order to reduce the cost of the field interview.

The sample for strata 1 through 7 was selected in the following way: As the first step, a systematic sample of housing units and persons from, the 1960 Census 25 per cent sample was selected at a rate, varying for each of the income strata, established so as to yield somewhat more than the desired 400 sample cases in each stratum; the sample units, were next subsampled in conjunction with units :own to be vacant in 1960 and units which were reported as built since the 1960 Census. The sample of units constructed since the 1960 Census was selected from a sample of the building permits issued by permit-issuing jurisdictions during the period January 1960 through December 1962. Jurisdictions that did not require building permits were represented by a sample of newly constructed units in these areas drawn from a list prepared by the Census Bureau with the
assistance of local sources. This final stage of sampling was done in such a way as to yield the required 400 sample cases in each stratum.

The sample for strata 8 and 9 was selected from the Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income sample and resulted in the selection of a set of individuals. ${ }^{24}$ The interviewing process, however, included all members of the consumer unit to which the sample individuals belonged as of December 31, 1962. Thus, the probability of a consumer unit appearing in the sample was proportional to the number of members who filed an individual income tax return with an AGI of $\$ 50,000$ or more for Tax Year 1960. The probability of selection for each consumer unit in the sample was used to adjust the weights for the preparation of the estimates from the sample cases.

The Census records do not ordinarily show detail beyond the category " $\$ 25,000$ and over." Therefore, a housing unit sampled from the Census files with income reported as $\$ 25,000$ or more (income stratum 7) may have included an individual who had reported an AGI of $\$ 50,000$ or more on his tax return for Tax Year 1960. Such a person would also have a probability of selection in income stratum 9 or 9 . This possible duplication in the sampling frame was removed by determining the 1960 income reported to the Internal Revenue Service for consumer units living in the housing units selected from the Census file for income stratum 7. Those consumer units, a member of which reported $\$ 50,000$ or more of AGI to the Internal Revenue Service, were removed from the sample selected from stratum 7 since such units would have their proper chance of being selected from the Internal Revenue sample.
${ }^{24}$ For a description of the Internal Revenue Statistics of Income sample, see Statistics of Income, Individual Income Tax Returns for 1960, U.S. Treasury Department, pp. 19-21.

## COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF DATA

## QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS AND FIELD OPERATION

The Survey of Financial Characteristics was conducted for the Board of Governors by the Census Bureau in the spring and summer of 1963. After considerable experimentation with methods for obtaining the balance sheet data, two methods were
adopted for the 1963 survey: self-enumeration for the upper income 40 per cent of the sample and personal interviews for the remainder. A separate form was developed for each.

The interviewers were employees of the Census Bureau who were given 3 days of special training in using the questionnaire forms for collection of
the financial data and the demographic information. In the first contact with the sample consumer unit, the interviewer obtained the demographic information for the unit as it existed on December 31, 1962. This included the following for each member of the unit: age, sex, marital status, education (for head and wife only), number of months worked for pay in 1962, whether part-time or full-time work, and the occupation and industry of the job held the longest by the individual during the year. For each member of the unit other than the head, it also included the individual's relationship to the head.

The procedure varied after this point, depending on the type of interview that had been designated and the type that was in fact conducted to obtain the financial data. Self-enumeration had been designated for the consumer units in the upper income classes. Experience in the pilot surveys indicated that this method was preferred by respondents with complicated financial affairs and often resulted in the use of records, thereby improving the quality of the data. However, if the respondent expressed a definite preference for a personal interview, the interviewer was instructed to change forms and proceed.

If the financial data were to be supplied by selfenumeration, the next series of questions related to the respondent's reasons for saving, the objectives he tried to achieve in his investment program, the type of asset he thought would best meet the requirements, and the type of assets that would represent the best compromise in meeting the objectives. Questions were then asked regarding inheritances and trusts, including trusts established by members of the unit and those established by someone outside the unit which named a member of the consumer unit as the beneficiary. At this
point the interviewer left the Family Balance Sheet and Income Statement questionnaire to be completed by the respondent and arranged either to pick up the completed questionnaire or to have it mailed. ${ }^{25}$ If the form was picked up, the interviewer was instructed to review it and to ask questions about responses that had not been properly completed earlier.

If the financial data were to be supplied by a personal interview, the interviewer asked the questions regarding reasons for saving, inheritances, and trusts, and then asked the specific questions relating to the respondent's assets and liabilities. These questions were completely spelled out in the questionnaire form for a personal interview, along with introductory and explanatory paragraphs designed to make the questions understandable and to lead the respondents from one topic to the next. In concluding, the interviewer asked the attitudinal questions regarding investment objectives and the type of asset that met these objectives.

The Survey yiclded 2,557 respondents who gave data sufficiently complete to tabulate. The proportion of those drawn in the sample who responded was 72 per cent, with smaller proportions in the upper income strata. When the number of responses in each stratum is weighted by the relative importance of the stratum in the total popula-tion-a procedure necessary in order to compare results with other consumer surveys-the over-all response rate was 85 per cent.

The 994 nonrespondents can be classified in three ways as shown in Table 15: (1) those whom the interviewers were unable to trace; (2) those whom the interviewers were unable to contact be-
$\because$ The questionnaire form is reprinted on pp. 65-77.

Table 15
Number of Respondents and Nonrespondents by Income Stratum

|  | All | Income stratum ${ }^{\text {l }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Total in scope . | 3,551 | 327 | 376 | 401 | 404 | 421 | 409 | 461 | 380 | 372 |
| Respondents. | 2,557 | 284 | 335 | 341 | 335 | 333 | 298 | 302 | 191 | 138 |
| Nonrespondents. | 994 | 43 | 41 | 60 | 69 | 88 | 111 | 159 | 189 | 234 |
| Unable to trace. | 54 | ${ }^{8}$ | 9 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 9 |
| Noncontact............ | 120 | 11 | 8 | 53 | ${ }^{6}$ | 79 | 14 | 20 | 21 | 35 |
| Refusal of financial data | 820 | 24 | 24 | 54 | 58 | 79 | 92 | 137 | 162 | 190 |

${ }^{1}$ For definition of income strata, see page 50.
cause they were unavailable during the survey period or were temporarily absent, etc.; and (3) those who refused to give any financial information whatever or who gave so little that it could not be used.

## EDITING AND PROCESSING

The completed questionnaires were returned to the Census Bureau for some initial editing and for transfer of the basic data to magnetic tape.

The basic data tape was subjected to 2 series of computer edits: the first included checks for completeness and for valid codes in only a technical sense, while the second was designed to check for consistency. The general nature of the consistency checks was as follows: (1) if the data showed ownership of a particular asset, there should also be income from this asset; (2) if the data showed income from a particular type of asset, ownership of such an income-yielding asset should also be reported; (3) if a member of the unit were reported as having worked, wage and salary income should be reported unless this member were reported as active in a business, in which case there should be a report of income from a sole proprietorship, partnership, or farm; (4) if a member of the unit reported that he did not work, he should not have received any wage and salary income or business income; (5) data should not be reported for a type of member whose presence was not indicated in the demographic information; (6) a variety of checks for consistency within the demographic information. These checks revealed numerous inconsistencies in the data. Many of these were due to errors that had been introduced during the coding and processing, and these errors were corrected. In numerous other instances the data as reported in the questionnaire were indeed inconsistent but were left as reported.

Of the 2,557 respondents in the Survey, 1,859 answered all the questions necessary for the wealth and income concepts used-that is, they reported whether or not they owned each asset or owed each debt item, whether or not they received income, and the dollar amounts where appropriate. Of the 698 respondents who did not answer all the questions, 426 did report whether or not they had each asset, debt, or income item, but one or more dollar amounts were not reported. The procedures followed in estimating the missing items are discussed later.

In the remaining 272 cases there were one or more questions that were not answered by the respondent or were not completed by the interviewer. Although the problem was not confined to the self-enumeration questionnaires, it was especially prevalent in these forms because some of them were mailed back to the Census Bureau office, and because in many instances where the interviewers picked up the completed forms they failed to review them. Approximately 80 per cent of the questionnaires reviewed because some questions were not answered were self-enumeration questionnaires.

The review of the unanswered questions in the self-enumeration questionnaire revealed two patterns: (1) the respondent filled in dollar amounts on those asset, debt, and income items for which he had amounts to report, but left all the other questions blank-that is, he failed to make use of the NONE boxes provided in the questionnaire; (2) the respondent answered all but one or two questions, which were left blank, while he had generally supplied a dollar amount or checked the NONE box. In the first pattern of incompleteness, the blanks were generally assumed to be NONE and were treated as such in further processing. In the second pattern, if the blank was an income entry for an asset for which the respondent had reported ownership, the blank was assumed to be present because the respondent knew he had a dollar amount but did not know the exact amount. These blanks were coded as "amount not ascertained," and during a later stage in the processing they were assigned a dollar amount. The majority of unanswered questions were income items.

In the self-enumeration questionnaire, certain blanks appeared frequently, apparently because of specific features of the questionnaire design. These blanks were in the following questions: (1) U.S. savings bonds (Sec. 1, Part A, No. 2); (2) U.S. Government bonds (other than savings bonds) by maturity date (Sec. 1, Part A, No. 6); (3) vacation homes and other residences owned (Sec. 1, Part F, No. 18b) ; and (4) the personal debt section, where blanks also appeared to be an outgrowth of the questionnaire design because they occurred frequently in the second, third, and fourth parts of the instalment and noninstalment sections after NONE had been checked for the first part. The blanks in the U.S. Government bonds (other
than savings bonds) by maturity date, in vacation homes and other residences, and in the personal debt section have in common the fact that the questionnaire design makes the series of questions relating to these items appear to be a subgroup of the preceding question. Thus it seemed understandable that the respondent left them blank when he did not own the particular asset in question or owe the specific type of debt. Accordingly, these blanks were processed as NONE if the respondent made no additions when given the opportunity in the reinterview.

The blanks in the U.S. savings bonds question are of a slightly different nature. This is the one question that seemingly was just overlooked and accordingly where holdings may have been underestimated by processing the blanks as NONE. Some of the gaps were filled by the addition of data in the reinterview. Assuming that all of the remaining blanks should have been dollar amounts, which is highly unlikely, the percentage owning is understated by less than 2 per cent.

The review of the personal interview questionnaires showed less pattern among the unanswered questions. However, there were several questions that the interviewers seemingly failed to ask in many instances. With a few exceptions the code "not ascertained whether" was used for a blank in a personal interview form when it was uncertain that the interviewer had asked the question. One exception was dividends from publicly traded stock where, in a number of cases, the questionnaire design apparently led to failure to ask the question. In this case, the "not answered" code was changed to an "amount not ascertained" for respondents with publicly traded stock holdings, and to NONE for those not reporting ownership. Another exception was debt on life insurance, where again the questionnaire design led to failure to ask the question. In view of the general inadequacy of the life insurance data, it was felt that estimates of debts would not be satisfactory, so all such cases were considered NONE.

Some of the missing information on wealth was supplied when respondents in this Survey were interviewed again in the spring and summer of 1964 for the Survey of Changes in Family Finances. The questionnaire for the 1964 survey provided for returning to the respondent a large
portion of the wealth data that he had supplied in the Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers, thus giving him the opportunity to correct this information.

Of the changes made as a result of the reinterview, the following were generally incorporated in the record: the addition or deletion of a checking account, savings account, issue of stock, or holding of other marketable securities; the correction of a rounded number to an exact figure for an account halance or a debt item; a change in the number of shares of a particular issue of publicly traded stock; the addition of information regarding the family's share of the book value of an active business interest; the addition of a specific debt figure or the deletion of a debt that had been double counted; the reclassification of assets and debts among major categories. Many changes from "not answered" to NONE were also accepted. However, a change in the estimate of the December 31, 1962, market value of a business, principal residence, or other real estate was not accepted.

After the review described above and the incorporation of corrections from the reinterview, there remained 556 cases for which some information was missing on wealth and/or income. These cases were reviewed and were accepted as respondents because in most cases the missing amounts were judged to constitute a negligible portion of the consumer unit's wealth and income. In a few cases, in which the missing information could have constituted a substantial share of wealth or income, information for a year later obtained in the reinterview questionnaire was used.

Of the 556 cases with missing information, 297 were missing income items only, and nearly onehalf of these were limited to savings account interest. Of the remaining 259 cases, about 1 in 5 involved businesses for which book value figures were not reported; in most of these cases market values were reported and were used in the wealth estimates. About 1 case in 8 involved missing balances in checking accounts; and another 1 in 8 , missing balances in savings accounts. Together, these three components of wealth accounted for about one-fifth of the total number of cases with missing information.

There were approximately 900 items of missing
information in these 556 units. For approximately 5 per cent of these, it was not known whether or not respondents had the item. The remainder reported having the item but did not report the amount.

Where it was not known whether the respondent had the item. the first step was to determine whether a dollar amount should be assigned or whether the respondent should be counted as not having the particular asset, debt, or income. To do this, the respondents were arrayed by age within stratum, and information for the last preceding respondent having the same set of characteristics was used. In some cases the respondent selected was the immediately preceding respondent while in others it was necessary to review a number of preceding respondents before one was found having the appropriate set of characteristics. For example, in handling a "not ascertained whether" item for net credit and/or debit balance at security dealers. it was necessary to find a respondent reporting ownership of publicly traded stock. When such a respondent was found, if he had a dollar amount for the specific entry in question (net credit or debit balance in the example), the "not ascertained whether" code was converted to an "amount not ascertained" and then an amount was assigned in accordance with the procedure that is described below. If the respondent having the same characteristics for the related entries had NONE for the specific entry in question, the "not ascertained whether" code was handled as a NONE in the further processing.

The procedures for estimating missing dollar amounts were designed to make maximum use of the information reported by the respondent. Many items-checking accounts, for example-were reported for head, wife, and other family members separately. In some cases, the missing information was the checking account of the wife or the other family member, and the head's account was reported. In such cases the value estimated was based on the universe of checking accounts of wives or other family members as appropriate.

The procedures for estimating the missing dollar amounts differed for the various wealth, debt, and income items as described below.

1. Income items, with the exception of dividends from publicly traded stock, interest on sav-
ings accounts, and interest on U.S. Government securities, were assigned as follows: (a) the 1963 income figure if it was supplied in the 1964 reinterview survey and if there had been no change in the related work experience or asset holdings; or (b) the mean within age and stratum or a computed rate of return on the dollar value of the related asset-whichever was appropriate-for the universe of respondents reporting dollar amounts.

The assignments for dividends on publicly traded stock were derived, where feasible, by applying yield figures to the individual stock issues held on December 31, 1962. Where only "global" data on holdings were available, a computed rate was applied to the respondent's holdings: the computed rate was derived from the universe of Survey cases reporting publicly traded stock holdings and publicly traded stock dividend income.

Interest on savings accounts was assigned by applying rates obtained from institutional sources to the December 31, 1962, balances in the individual accounts.

Interest on U.S. Government securities was computed by using the midpoint of the range of rates appropriate for the type of securities held by the respondent.
2. For mortgage debt on principal residence, vacation homes, and investment real estate, the following procedure was used for assigning amounts. (a) If December 31, 1963, mortgage debt was reported in the reinterview and there were no purchases or sales during 1963, an estimate of the December 31, 1962, mortgage debt was made by applying a factor to the report for 1963. This factor was the ratio of the December 31, 1962, debt to December 31, 1963, debt for the last preceding respondent on the tape arrayed by age within stratum who had the same charac-teristics-that is, he reported mortgage debt for both dates and no purchases or sales during the year. (b) If the amount of December 31, 1963, mortgage debt was not reported, the estimate of December 31, 1962, mortgage debt was made by applying to the reported market value of the real estate securing the debt, a ratio of debt to market value for respondents within the age and stratum cell reporting both December 31, 1962 debt and market value.
3. Value of automobiles was assigned using the
mean within age and stratum for the universe of owners.
4. Book value of business or profession was assigned as (a) the December 31, 1962, market value or (b) the December 31, 1963, book value.
5. Market value of businesses not managed by unit in almost all instances was assigned as "zero" on the grounds that no meaningful figure could be assigned.
6. Balances in liquid asset components and personal debt components were assigned as (a) the December 31, 1963, balance if given, or (b) the mean within age and stratum for the universe of holders.
7. Value of publicly traded stock was assigned: (a) by capitalizing the dividend income reported for 1962 , using the computed ratio of mean holdings of publicly traded stock on December 31, 1962, to mean dividend income for 1962 (both means within age and stratum for the universe of stockholders reporting publicly traded stock dividend income) ; or (b) the mean amount of publicly traded stock within age and stratum for the universe of those reporting holdings of such stock.
8. Credit or debit balances at security dealers were assigned by calculating the December 31, 1962 , credit (or debit) balance mean as a percentage of the December 31, 1962, publicly traded stock mean (both means for universe with known amounts of credit (or debit) balances and publicly traded stock), and applying this percentage to the December 31, 1962, publicly traded stock holdings for the respondent missing the amount of credit (or debit) balance.
9. Mortgage assets were assigned (a) by capitalizing 1962 interest income, if reported, using a computed rate derived from the Survey cases reporting both the asset and the income from the asset: or (b) the mean within age and stratum for the universe of holders.
A few special cases that did not lend themselves to this general pattern were assigned using a modification of the same ground rules. If the age stratum cell was too small, either age or income stratum data were used as seemed most appropriate for the item in question. In some instances where the number of cases was still too small, it became necessary to use the data for all cases. In a few instances the over-all mean for holders
seemed to be the most appropriate figure and was the first choice. For a few respondents lacking information on the value of principal residence. mean value for homes in respondent's block or neighborhood as supplied by the Census was used.

## WEIGHTING DIAGRAM -

Because of the sample design, it was necessary to use weights in preparing estimates of proportions and means. As noted earlier, the sample was designed to yield about 400 respondents in each of 9 income strata. This meant that the probability of selection and its reciprocal, the weight, varied from stratum to stratum. Consumer units with higher incomes had a greater probability of selection than other units because there are many fewer consumer units in the upper income groups. Each of the 400 units selected in stratum 6, for example, represented 3,952 consumer units; that is, each unit had a weight of 3,952 , while each of the 400 units selected in stratum 1 represented 43,155 consumer units.

If all consumer units in the sample had provided sufficient information to tabulate, the appropriate weights for preparing the estimates would have been the reciprocals of the probabilities of selection. Because some consumer units did not participate in the Survey or provided so little information that they could not be counted as respondents, a necessary final step in the data processing was to adjust the weights; to do this, the weight of the 994 consumer units classified as nonrespondents in Table 15 was distributed among the respondents. Respondents and nonrespondents were sorted by age of head within stratum within region. The total weight for nonrespondents within each such cell was distributed to the respondents in that cell. For example, in stratum 6 there were 298 respondents and 111 nonrespondents. The weight for each respondent was increased by about 30 per cent, the exact adjustment depending on the particular age and region cell. When age of the nonrespondent was not known, the weight was distributed to respondents within a stratum-region group in accordance with the distribution of units with known ages.

[^19]
## EVALUATION OF SURVEY ESTIMATES

## SAMPLING VARIABILITY ${ }^{2:}$

Since the estimates in this Survey 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 interviewers. 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. The standard error does not measure any systematic biases in the collection or processing of 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 difference would be less than twice the standard error.

Standard errors for a survey based on a sample may be estimated from the sample data. The procedure adopted to estimate standard errors for this Survey required separate estimation of variances (the square of the standard error) for each of the strata which were combined to yield estimates of the standard error for the total sample estimate. The variances for each of the strata were estimated to reflect as much as possible the sampling procedure used in the stratum.

The estimation of variances for aggregates and means was carried out by a different process for each of the following two groups of strata:

1. Variances for the units in the strata described below were estimated as though the units had been selected using stratified simple random sampling. ${ }^{28}$ Strictly speaking, a variance estimation procedure to reflect stratified systematic sampling would have been more appropriate, but the rather slight difference in the estimated

[^20]standard errors would not have justified the additional complication in procedure. The strata in this group are:
a. Units selected from stratum 8;
b. Units selected from stratum 9; and
c. Units selected in each of strata 1 through 7 within self-representing primary sampling units (PSU's). Note that self-representing PSU's are those sample areas that were included with certainty in the set of areas from which sample cases were selected.
2. The remaining units in the Survey were those selected from strata 1 through 7 in non-selfrepresenting PSU's. The procedure for estimating variances for these units required the pooling of data from pairs of PSU's. ${ }^{2 n}$ This technique produces estimates of standard errors that are expected to be slightly higher than the true standard errors. This technique, however, represents the only process available for the sample selection process employed.

Standard errors for selected items tabulated in this report are presented in Table 16. The table

Table 16


1 Before deduction of debt secured by asset
Note.-Details of means may not add to totals because of rounding.

20 Ibid., p. 399.
shows, for example, that the mean checking account for all consumer units is $\$ 409$. The standard error of this mean is given as $\$ 31$, which means that the chances are about 68 out of 100 that a complete census would have shown a figure differing from the estimate by less than $\$ 31$. The chances are 95 out of 100 that a census would have shown a figure differing from the estimate by less than $\$ 62$ (twice the standard error).

## RESPONSE AND NONRESPONSE ERROR

## Response error ${ }^{3 \prime}$

As just discussed, estimates based on samples will, in general. differ from the values that would be obtained by a complete enumeration of all consumer units. Because of response error, however, even a complete census will not necessarily yield true values.

A few studies, most of them using rather small samples, have attempted to measure response errors and to relate them to certain other variables. ${ }^{31}$ These studies confirmed the existence of substantial response errors in financial surveys. Although the size of the errors varies greatly with the particular asset or debt item being reported and with certain characteristics of the respondent. the interviewer, and the interview situation, the general tendency is for survey responses to understate individual true values, and thus to understate means. aggregates. and measures of variability. Several of the studies cited were sponsored by the Inter-University Committee for Research on Consumer Behavior (Robert Ferber, Project Director).

Because of its interest in this subject, the Committee sought and obtained funds from the Na tional Science Foundation to undertake a similar

[^21]study in connection with the Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Bureau of the Census cooperated in the study. This evaluation study was essentially a matching of information reported by individual respondents with that based on institutional records of savings accounts and stockholdings. By and large, the procedures used in collecting the data for matching were the same as those used for the Survey of Financial Characteristics. However, because the evaluation study used a nonprobability sample that was in'dependent of the Survey of Financial Characteristics sample and because of some procedural differences, the results may be regarded as shedding some light on the main aspects of the methodology of the Survey of Financial Characteristics rather than on the statistics produced by it. Analysis of the results of this study is nearing completion.

## Nonresponse error

In the Survey nonrespondents were more concentrated in the upper income sample strata than were respondents. The adjustment for nonresponse described on page 56 was designed to minimize the bias that differences between respondents and nonrespondents might introduce by using all the information available about nonrespondents-age of head when available, income stratum, and region. Some of the effects of the adjustment for nonresponse on size and composition of wealth may be seen by comparing Tables 17 and 18 , which were prepared using the weights prior to adjustment for nonresponse, with Tables A 2 and A 8.

As to the distribution of consumer units by size of wealth, the only differences resulting from the nonresponse adjustment occur at income levels of $\$ 50,000$ and above. The general effect is to increase the proportion of consumer units in these upper income groups estimated to have wealth of $\$ 1,000,000$ or more. The distribution of all units by size of wealth is not affected, and the distributions within age groups are generally the same.

As to the incidence of equity in specified assets, again the differences are minor. The differences, which are in both directions, are confined to own home, automobile, business, and miscellaneous assets in the highest wealth and income groups. Because virtually all consumer units in the higher wealth and income groups reported ownership of liquid and investment assets, the nonresponse ad-
Tabli: 17
She of Whalth blfore: Adjustafenf for Nonresponsi:

| Group characteristic | $\stackrel{\text { All }}{\text { Anits }}$ | Negative | Zero | S1, | ${ }_{\substack{\text { a }}}^{51.000-}$ | 5s,400)- | 边 | \$25,100- |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 1,000,000 \\ & \text { and wier } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11 units | 100 | 2 | 8 | 16 | 19 | 16 | 23 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 1 | * | * |
| 1962 income: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $0-82,999.999$ $83,000-4,999$. | 100 100 | ${ }_{3}^{1}$ | 27 | 188 | 210 | 11 | 17 | 7 | $\frac{1}{5}$ | * | * | * | * |
| \$5,000-7,499. | 100 100 | $\frac{2}{2}$ | 1 | 10 | 26 | $\stackrel{21}{18}$ | $\frac{27}{37}$ | 14 | 5 | * | * | * | * |
| \$ $\$ 1000000$ - 14.999. | 100 | $i$ | * |  | 13 | 10 | $3+$ | 20 | 10 | 3 | 1 | * | * |
| \$15,000-24,999 | 100 | * | * | * | + | $1!$ | 21 | 29 | 2+ | 27 | 5 | ; | 4 |
| $\$ 25,000-49,999$. $\$ 50,000-99999$. | 100 100 | * | - | * | * | * | * |  | 8 | - | 54 | 18 | 14 |
| s100,000 and over. | 100 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | 1 | 4 | 67 | 28 |
| Age of head: | 100 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35-44. | 100 | 2 |  | 14 | 20 | 21 | 24 | $\overline{8}$ | 3 | ; | * | * |  |
| 45-54. | 100 |  | 7 | 10 | 21 | 117 | 31 | 14 | 4 | ! | 1 | , |  |
| $55-64, \ldots$ 65 and over | 100 | ! | $1{ }_{18}^{8}$ | 7 | 17 | 18 | 25 | 15 | $\stackrel{8}{5}$ | $i$ | 2 |  | * |

* Less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent.
Note.--Details may not add to totals because of rounding.
Table 18

| Group characteristic | $\begin{gathered} \text { Own } \\ \text { home } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Auto- } \\ & \text { mobile } \end{aligned}$ | Business (farm and nonfarm) | Portfolio of liquid and investment assets |  |  | Miscel laneouassets | Totalwealth | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Own } \\ & \text { home } \end{aligned}$ | Auto-mobile | $\underset{\substack{\text { Business, } \\ \text { profession } \\ \text { (farm and } \\ \text { nonfarm) }}}{ }$ | Portfolio of <br> liquid and investment assets |  |  | $\underset{\substack{\text { Miscel- } \\ \text { lineous } \\ \text { issets }}}{\substack{\text {. } \\ \text {. }}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | All | $\underset{\text { assets }}{\substack{\text { aiquid }}}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Investment } \\ \text { assets } \end{gathered}\right.$ |  |  |  |  |  | All | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Liyuid } \\ & \text { assects } \end{aligned}$ | Investment assets |  |
|  | a. Percentage of group having equity in specified assetsconsumer units grouped by various characteristics |  |  |  |  |  |  | b. Mean amount (in dollary) of equity in specified assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All units. | 56 | 73 | 16 | 79 | 78 | 30 | 8 | 18,664 | 5,417 | 626 | 3,315 | 8.418 | 2,518 | 5,\% $\%$ | 888 |
| Size of wealth: \$1-999....99. | ${ }_{55}^{9}$ | 74 | ${ }_{8}$ | 70 | 70 | ${ }_{14}^{4}$ |  | 2722 | 42 1.309 | 192 441 | ${ }_{86}^{9}$ | 148 862 | 134 691 | 14 170 | ${ }^{8} 8$ |
| \$1,000-4,999. | ${ }_{78} 5$ | 76 | ${ }_{16}^{8}$ | 79 87 | 77 85 | 14 30 | ${ }_{7}$ | 2,722 | $\begin{array}{r}1,309 \\ 4,244 \\ \hline 12,\end{array}$ | ${ }_{6}^{441}$ | 86 644 | 862 1,662 | 1, 221 | 170 440 | 24 104 |
| \$ $\$ 10,000-24,999$ | 84 | 82 | 19 | 97 | 96 | 42 | 11 | 7, 76.268 |  | ${ }_{8}^{617}$ | 1,544 1,508 | -1,662 | 2, 2,613 |  | 104 169 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 79 | 88 | 38 | 98 | 96 | 63 | 15 | 35, 128 | 12,913 | 1.123 | 6,746 | 13,799 | 6,419 | 7,380 | 546 |
| $\$ 50,000-99,999$. <br> $\$ 10000009$ <br> 199999 | 71 86 | 89 93 | S5 | 98 100 | 98 100 | 89 93 | 16 | -69,053 | 13,869 $\mathbf{2 2 , 4 3 1}$ | 1,486 | 16.990 21,633 | 35,503 83,913 | 10.765 <br> 18.985 | 24.738 <br> 64.928 | 1.205 |
| \$200,000-499,999 | 84 | 82 | 56 | ¢9 | 97 | 99 | 11 |  | 24, 277 | 2,189 |  | 190,041 | 19,489 | 64,928 $\quad 170,552$ |  |
| \$500,000 and over. . . | 78 | 83 | 64 | 100 | 100 |  | 53 | 1,158,460 | 53,952 | 2,634 | 254,666 | 603,781 | 42,092 | 561,690 | 243,428 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$3,000-4,999 | ${ }^{45}$ | 76 88 | 17 | 75 87 | 74 86 | 20 | $\stackrel{4}{4}$ | - 9 9,725 | 3,343 4,437 | 396 626 | 1. 1.149 | 4.678 4.465 | 1,679 | 2,999 | -1088 |
| \$57,500-7,499 | ${ }_{73}$ | ${ }_{92}^{88}$ | 18 | ${ }_{96}$ | ${ }_{96}$ | 41 | 10 | -19,046 | 7,020 | ${ }_{854} 68$ | $\frac{2}{2,214}$ | 4.465 8,656 | - | 6, 649 | 1,303 |
| \$10,000-14,999 | 80 | 96 | 22 | -988 | 96 | 55 | 11 | 27,507 |  |  | 4,319 | 11.989 | 4,160 | 7,629 | 34.5 |
| \$15,000-24,999 | 85 | 95 | 25 | 100 | 100 | 72 | 20 | 58,365 | 14,493 | 2,059 | 9,011 | 29,323 | 8,383 | 20,939 | 3,480 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 91 | 96 |  | 100 100 | -99 | 93 | 18 | 271,968 | 31,937 | 2,849 | 57,675 | 135.331 |  | 114,907 | 44,177 |
| \$50,000-99,999. $\mathbf{S 1 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ and over. | 97 | 87 | 7127 | 100 | 100 | 97100 | 18 | - $\begin{array}{r}\text { 568,808 } \\ \hline 1,393,158 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 89.714 | 4,232 | 213,703 | 1,016,341 | 49,646 | 966, 696 | 13,87260,167 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age of head: ${ }^{\text {a }}$ ( ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 34566867 | 84 | 19 | 82 | 879 | 303638 | 10 | $\begin{aligned} & 4,818 \\ & 99,8,88 \\ & 29,288 \end{aligned}$ |  | 897 | 3,3864,3665,300 | 4,61774.05714,384 |  | ${ }^{749}$ | 1,414 |
| 45-54. |  | ${ }_{70}^{80}$ | ${ }_{22}^{19}$ | 79 |  |  |  |  | 7,030 |  |  |  | ( 2.4058 | 3.6854.65210.36612.272 | 1,54$\begin{gathered}550 \\ 300 \\ 307\end{gathered}$ |
| S5-64.... |  | 70 45 | 22 14 | 79 | 77 | 38 30 | ${ }_{7}^{8}$ | 29,238 27,352 | 7,834 6,697 | 740 351 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 65 and over | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 27,352 | 6,697 | 331 | 3,086 | 16.910 |  | 12,272 | 307 |

Note--Details of means may not add to totals because of rounding.
justment had little effect on the ownership rates of these components.

With the nonrespondents concentrated in the higher wealth groups, one would expect the nonresponse adjustment to increase the mean for total wealth. In fact, the mean for all units increased by approximately $\$ 2,300$. Each of the major components of wealth was larger as a result of the adjustment for nonresponse, with the largest differences in the components where higher wealth units have much of their wealth-business and investment assets. Differences in the means for these components were especially pronounced for upper income and wealth groups.

## COMPARISON OF INSTITUTIONAL AND SURVEY AGGREGATES FOR THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR

Table 19 presents a comparison of financial aggregates derived from this Survey with aggregates from institutional sources as used in the flow of funds accounts published by the Federal Reserve. Typically, estimates of national totals based on reports from consumer financial surveys fall short of estimates computed from other sources.

Some of the discrepancies between Survey estimates and the aggregates used for comparison result from differences in concepts and coverage. In most of the flow of funds statistics, estimates of levels for the household sector are derived as residuals rather than made directly; that is, the amounts attributed to households are what is left after subtracting estimates for all other sectors from totals for the entire economy. Moreover, in the flow of funds accounts the household sector includes holdings of personal trusts and of nonprofit organizations, which are excluded from the Survey of Financial Characteristics aggregates shown in Table 19.

Conceptual differences, such as the basis of valuation for various types of securities, raise difficulties in making comparisons between flow of funds (FF) and Survey of Financial Characteristics (SFC) data. For marketable U.S. Government securities and State and local government bonds, both FF and SFC estimates are based on face value. In the case of the bonds of domestic corporations and of foreign governments and corporations, the FF estimate for the entire economy is at par value, but some of the sector totals, which

Table 19
Comparison of Institutional and Survey Aggregates for the Household Sector, December 31, 1962
(In billions of dollars)

| Item | Flow of funds |  | Survey |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | As reported | Adjusted 1 |  |
| Savings accounts. . . . . . | 206.0 | 204.2 | 104.8 |
| U.S. Government securities. | 70.3 | 61.1 | 33.3 |
| Savings bonds . | 46.9 | n.a. | 26.6 |
| Marketable securities. | 23.4 | ก.a. | 6.7 |
| State and local government securities. | 32.4 | 21.5 | 12.7 |
| Corporate and foreign govt. securities other than stock. . . . . . . . . | 5.5 | 1.0 | 5.9 |
| Corporate stock. | 435.9 | 384.1 | 2304.7 |
| Mortgage debt on residences. | 157.3 |  | 146.5 |
| Instalment debt. | 48.0 |  | 27.7 |
| Noninstalment debt | 15.1 |  | 13.5 |

n.a. Not available.

1 Adjusted to omit bank-administered personal trusts.
2 Components (in billions of dollars) are: publicly traded stock (market value), 222.3 ; closely held corporations, member of unit active in management (book value), 71.9 ; closely held corporations member of unit not active in management (market value), 10.5 .
are subtracted in reaching the household sector, are valued at market; the SFC estimate is at par value. With respect to both corporate bonds and State and local government securities, there is considerable uncertainty about the total amount outstanding and hence about the level of the residual attributed to the household sector in the FF accounts. For SFC data, U.S. savings bonds are shown at maturity value (Series E, F, and J) or face value (Series G, H, and K), while the FF total is current redemption value.

The corporate stock figure in FF accounts is an estimate of total market value of all stock, including stock not traded on exchanges and stock in closely held corporations. An estimate from SFC data that corresponds to this concept would include the market value of all publicly traded stock and of the stock of all other businesses that are legally organized as corporations. However, the SFC data do not yield a good estimate of market value for closely held corporate businesses in which a member of the consumer unit was active in the management, and book value has been used for the comparison.

No comparison was made of SFC and FF estimates for checking accounts, because the FF figure combines demand deposits and currency, and holdings of the latter were not reported in the SFC.

To bring the coverage of FF estimates more
nearly into line with that of the SFC, adjustments were made to exclude estimated holdings of personal trusts. No data were available on aggregate assets held in personal trusts on December 31, 1962, but estimates for bank-administered trusts for the year-end 1963 were published by the Comptroller of the Currency. ${ }^{32}$ Estimates for the year-end 1962 were derived from trust department assets (excluding employee benefit accounts) of all commercial banks for 1963 by deflating common stock to year-end 1962 prices and by allowing for 4 per cent annual growth in all categories. Since these estimates cover only personal trust accounnts administered by banks, the adjusted FF aggregates shown in Table 19 still include assets of nonprofit organizations and of personal trust assets not administered by banks.

The Survey aggregates are less than institutional data, even after removal of bank-administered trusts, for all asset and debt types compared except

[^22]domestic corporate and foreign bonds. For some items the sampling variability is substantial and could account for a considerable part of the difference. For example, the estimated standard error of the Survey aggregate for State and local government bonds is $\$ 2.5$ billion, so it is quite probable that the true aggregate would be as low as $\$ 10.2$ billion or as high as $\$ 15.2$ billion. Moreover, as was noted above, the. FF estimates for corporate bonds and State and local government securities are subject to greater question than are estimates for the other components in the comparison.

The largest remaining discrepancies between Survey and institutional aggregates are for saving accounts, instalment debt, and U.S. Government securities. The various response error studies cited earlier have consistently found that underreporting resulted in a downward bias for the first two of these items. While no studies have been made of response error in relation to Government securities, a similar downward bias in survey estimates of this item seems likely.

## Questionnaire Form



This self-enumeration form is designed to cover all family assets and debts as of December 31, 1962, and family income received during 1962. By family we mean those persons selated to the head of the household who were living with the head on December 31, 1962.

This form allows for a wide variety of situations, not all of which will be relevant for any one family. On the other hand, it may not be adequate to cover certain special situations. If it is not clear where a particular asset or debt is to be reported, we would appreciate your giving a brief explanation either to the interviewer or in written notes.

For families with their own business or profession, some assets such as residences, automobiles, and checking accounts may be used for both personal and business purposes. When a checking account is used for borh business and personal purposes, the entire balance should be teported as a business asser in Question 14. For assets other than checking accounts, please report the business share of the asset value and any associated debts under Question 14 and the personal share under the appropriate nonbusiness category.

For any asset held by a member of the family on December 31, 1962, enter the total value of his holdings on that date in the column designated for that family member, i.e., Head, Wife, or All Other Family Members. If a particular asset was not held in the family on December 31, 1962, check the box labeled "None" for that item.

When assets are jointly held, report the total value only once - in the column for the principal person holding the asset. For example, if an asset was held jointly by head and wife, enter the total value in the space for the head; do not double count the same asset by entering it also in the column for the wife. If assers are held jointly with someone outside this family, please report only this family's share.

Assets held by family members other than the head and wife should be combined, and the total value entered in the column "All Other Family Members.'

Please consult records in providing this information because we are anxious to have these data as accurate as possible. If you have consulted records in answering a particular item, please check the box marked "Yes." If you did nor, please check the box marked "No."

The following example may be of help to you in completing the balance sheet. Suppose that you, as the head, held jointly with your wife two U.S. Savings Bonds on December 31 with a face value of $\$ 1,000$ each. You should enter $\$ 2,000$ in the column labeled "Head.' Each of your two sons also held a U.S. Savings Bond with a face value of $\$ 1,000$. You should also enter $\$ 2,000$ in the column marked "All Other Family Members.' Thus, assuming that you consulted records in answering this question, the proper entries would be:

| Item |  | Head |  | Wife |  | Al! other family members |  | Records Consuited |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Dollars | Cents | Dollars | Cents | Dollars | Cents | Yes | No |
| 2. U.S. Savings Bonds - rotal face value | $\square$ | -2,000 | 00 | 5 | 00 | :2,000 | 00 | 181 | $2 \square$ |


| CENSUS USE ONLY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interview I (date) | Interview II (appointment date) | Sample Control No. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interviewer (name) | Telephone No. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Section 1－ASSETS AND LIABILITIES，December 31， 1962 <br> （Please provide the information as of December 31，1962） |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Port $A$ | Item <br> （a） | （b） | Head <br> （c） |  | Wife <br> （d） |  | All other family members （e） |  | $\qquad$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Yes | No |  |  |
| 1. <br> Checking accounts in banks | a．Number of accounts | $\square$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1－ | $2 \square$ |
|  |  |  | Dollars | Cents | nollerx | Cont | Dollars | TConts |  |  |
|  | on December 31， |  | 3 |  | \＄ |  | 5 |  |  |  |
| 2．U．S．Savings Bonds－total face value |  | $\square$ | 1 | 00 | 1 | 00 | 3 | 00 | ， | $2 \square$ |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MARKETABLE SECURITIES， INCLUDING THOSE OF FEDERAL CORPORATIONS AŃD AGENCIES |  |  | （Report TOTAL PAR VALUE as of December 31，1962） |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3．U．S．Government bills |  | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | －■ | $2 \square$ |
| 4．U．S．Government notes |  | $\square$ | 3 | 00 | s | 00 | 3 | 00 | ＇ص | $2 \square$ |
| S．U．S．Goveroment certificates |  | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | 3 | 00 | $1 \square$ | 12 |
| 6. <br> U．s． <br> Government <br> Bonds <br> （Other <br> than <br> Savings <br> Bonds） | a．1963－1967 maturity date | $\square$ | 3 | 00 | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | b．1968－1972 maturity date | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | \％ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | ＇ | 12 |
|  | c．1973－1982 maturity date | $\square$ | s | 00 | ＊ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | 1 $\square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | d． 1983 or later maturity date | $\square$ | 3 | 00 | 3 | 00 | s | 00 | $1-$ | 2 |
|  | －．Do not know maturity date | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | 3 | 00 | \＄ | 00 | 1口 | 1－3 |
| OTHER MARKETABLE debt obligations |  | （Report TOTAL PAR VALUE as of December 31，1962） |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. <br> Bonds， <br> notes， <br> or <br> debentures | a．State and local governments | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | 3 | 00 | $1 \square$ | ${ }^{2} \square$ |
|  | b．Foreign corporations and governments | $\square$ | 3 | 00 | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | ＇［7］ | $2 \square$ |
|  | c．Domestic corporations | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | 5 | 00 | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| OTHER ASSETS |  | （Report TOTAL AMOUNT as of December 31，1962） |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Money OWED TO your family | a．Mortgage assers | $\square$ | 3 |  | \＄ |  | s |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | b．Outstanding loans to businesses （Do not inctude here losns to businesses in which you hava an equity interest） | $\square$ | \＄ |  | 3 |  | \＄ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | c．Other loan assets | $\square$ | \＄ |  | \＄ |  | $s$ |  | ＇口 | 仁 |
| 9．Individual annuities（total amount paid in as of December 31，1962） <br> （Do not inctude annuities currently paying income． regular tife insurance policies with an annuity feature，or annuities connected with your employment．） |  |  | \＄ |  | \＄ |  | \＄ |  | ：$\square$ | $\square \square$ |
| 10．Benefic Decemb （Your be roceived | 1 interest in estates in probate on 31， 1962. <br> estimate of amount that will be | $\square$ | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | \＄ | 00 | $\square$ | $1{ }^{2} \square$ |




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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 4 | $\sim$ | $\cdots$ | $\infty$ | $\cdots$ | $\stackrel{ }{*}$ | $\cdots$ | * | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | * | $\cdots$ | * | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| [ ${ }_{\sim}$ | $\cdots$ | $\square$ | $\stackrel{\square}{\sim}$ | $\square_{\sim}$ |  | $\square_{\mathrm{N}}$ | $\square_{\sim}^{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square_{N}^{\square}$ | $\square_{N}$ | $\underset{\sim}{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\xrightarrow[\sim]{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\stackrel{\square}{\text { a }}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square_{\sim}^{\square}$ | $\square_{N}$ | $\stackrel{\square}{\square}$ | $\square_{\sim}$ |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |  | $\square$ | $\square$ | - | $\square$ | $\square$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\square_{m}$ | $\square \square_{m}^{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square_{\square}^{\square}$ | $\square \square_{\square}^{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\left[{ }_{\square}\right.$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\underset{\sim}{\square}$ | $\square$ | - | $\underset{\sim}{\square}$ | $\square_{N}$ | $\square_{\sim}^{\square}$ | $\cdots$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square{ }_{\sim}^{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square_{\sim}^{\square}$ | $\stackrel{\square}{\sim}$ | $\cdots$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square \square_{\text {n }}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\cdots$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\underline{\square}$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
|  | . |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | 8 | $\cdots$ | N | $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$ | ~ | $\approx$ | N | $\underset{\sim}{N}$ | ¢ | 8 | \% | $\cdots$ | $\underset{\sim}{\sim}$ | m | 出 | $\sim$ | 2 | - | 0 | in | \% | F | $\underset{\sim}{*}$ | $\underset{\sim}{*}$ | $\stackrel{7}{*}$ | $\underset{\sim}{*}$ |




| Part $F$ <br> Item <br> (a) | $\begin{aligned} & \hline= \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \\ & \text { (b) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Head <br> (c) |  | Wife <br> (d) |  | All orher family members e! |  | Records Consulied (f) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Dollars | Centa | Doltars | Cens | Dolides | Cens | Yes | No |
| PROFIT SHARING PLANS | (Report TOTAL AMOUNT os of December 31, 1962) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. TOTAL amount family member could have withdrawn from profic sharing plans, employer sponsored savings plans, and deferred income plans if he had left company on December 31, 1962, or on last valuation date. | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | \$ |  | 1:乙 | $2 \square$ |
| RETIREMENT PLANS CONNECTED WITH EMPLOYMENT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. TOTAL amount family member could have withdrawn from retirement plans (ocher than Social Security) if he had left the company on December 31, 1962, or on last valuation date. | $\square$ | \$ |  | 1 |  | S |  | $\square$ | $2 \square$ |

REAL ESTATE (If fomily hos own business or profession, refer to third paragraph of instructions on Page l.)


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| Section II - FAMILY INCOME FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1962 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 24. Provide the requested information for calendar year 1962 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Type of income <br> (a) | $\square$ | Head and Wife (c) |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { All other } \\ & \text { family } \\ & \text { members } \\ & \text { (d) } \end{aligned}$ |  | Records Consulted <br> (e) |  |
|  |  |  | Doller: | Cent: | Dollar: | Centa | Yes | No |
| o. Wages, salaries, com* missions, and bonuses (before deductions) | Head <br> Wife | $\square$ | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{-}---- \\ & s \end{aligned}$ |  | 3 |  | , $\square$ | $2 \square$ |
| b. Income of sole proprietorship or profession | $\qquad$ | $\square$ | $\$$ |  | \$ |  | 11 | $2 \square$ |
| c. Income of partnership (family's share) | $\qquad$ | $\square$ | $3$ $1$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| d. Farm Income | Profit OR Loss | $\square$ | $5$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | (1) Publicly traded stocks, mutual funds, and investment clubs | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| -. Dividend Income | (2) Closely held corporations with family member active in management | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | (3) Other closely held corporations | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| f. Incerest Income | (1) U.S. Government securities (include Savings Bonds) | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | , 口 | $2 \square$ |
|  | (2) State and local bonds | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $\square \square$ |
|  | (3) Corporate and foreign bonds | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | (4) Savings accounts | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
|  | (5) Loans, mortgages, and other sources | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| g. Income from rents and royalties (net of expense) |  | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| h. Income from oid-age pensions, Social Security, and regular payments from insurance policies, annuities, and retirement plans |  | $\square$ | \$ |  | \$ |  | $\square \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| i. Income from trusts and estates |  | $\square$ | 1 |  | 5 |  | $\square$ | $2 \square$ |
| i. Other income (e.g., alimony, regular contributions for support from persons outside the household, veteran's payments, etc.) Spectify eurce: |  | $\square$ | 4 |  |  |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |
| k. Capital gain or loss from sale of securities (Full amount) | Short-term <br> Long-term | $\square$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \square \text { Gain } 2 \square \\ & \$ \\ & 1 \square \text { Gain 2 } \square \\ & \$ \\ & \$ \end{aligned}$ |  | $1 \square$ | $\square \square$ |
| 1. Capital gain or loss from sale of assets orher than securities |  | $\square$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \square \text { Gain 2 } \square \\ & s \end{aligned}$ |  | $\square \square^{\text {Gain }}{ }^{2}$ $13$ |  | $1 \square$ | $2 \square$ |


| OMIT THIS SECTION IF CHECKED HERE $\longrightarrow$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Section III. ASSETS HELD IN FORMAL TRUSTS |  |  |  |  |  |
| You have indicated that your family has the right to the principal or corpus of one or more trusts. To find out something about how these assets are invested, we are asking you to complete the special section below. Be sure that you do not record the same asset in both this section and other portions of this questionnaire. The formal trusts covered here refer only to those where some present or future tight ro the trust principal exists. Do not include the assets of any trust where only an income right exists. |  |  |  |  |  |
| Item <br> (1) |  |  | Method of valuation <br> (3) | Value on Dec. 31, 1962, of family's share of crust assers held in this form. <br> (Vafue ar indtcnted in Column (3)) <br> (4) |  |
|  |  | Doluart |  | Cent |
| Trust ossefs | a. Cash on hand or checking accounts in banks |  | $\square$ | Cash | 3 |  |
|  | b. Savings accounts in banks and savings and loan associations | $\square$ | Cash | \$ |  |
|  | c. U.S. Savings Bonds | $\square$ | Face | \$ | 00 |
|  | d. U.S. Government marketable securities including those of Federal corporations and agencies. | $\square$ | Par | \$ | 00 |
|  | -. State and local honds, notes or debentures | $\square$ | Par | 3 | 00 |
|  | f. Bonds, notes or debentures of foreign corporations and goveraments | $\square$ | Par | \% | 00 |
|  | 9. Domestic corporate bonds, notes or debentures | $\square$ | Par | \$ | 00 |
|  | h. Publicly traded common stocks and shares in mutual funds | $\square$ | Market | \$ |  |
|  | i. Equity in unincorporated businesses, partnerships and closely held corporations | $\square$ | Book net of debt | 4 |  |
|  | i. Real estate | $\square$ | Market | $\$$ | 00 |
|  | k. Orher trust assets Specify type: | $\square$ | Market | \$ | 00 |
| Records Consulted . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $\square \square$ Yes $2 \square$ No |  |  |  |  |  |
| NOTES |  |  |  |  |  |

## Tables and Notes for Section 4

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8832 Elasticities of portfolio components at point of mean portfolio within portfolio groups

## Notes

90 Methods used in estimating parameters for regressions

Table 20
Regression of Wealth Components on Total Wealth within Age Groups


NoTE.-Standard errors of coefficients are shown in parentheses.

Table 21
Regressipn of Wealth Components on Total Wealth within Age Groups

| Second function: parameters of $y=\frac{w a_{3} w^{b_{2}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{\sum} a_{2 i} w^{b_{2 i}}}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wealth component | $a_{2}$ | $b_{2}$ |
|  | Head under 35 |  |
| Own home. | $315 k_{t}$ | $1.06+k_{2}$ |
| Automobile. | $10{ }^{6} k_{1}$ | $0+k_{2}$ |
| Business, profession. | $12 k_{1}$ | $1.26+k_{2}$ |
| Liquid assets. . . . . | 86,337k | $.31+k_{2}$ |
| Investment assets. | $700 k_{1}$ | $.77+k_{2}$ |
| Miscellaneous assets | $3 k_{\mathrm{l}}$ | $1.21+k_{2}$ |
|  | Head 35-54 |  |
| Own home. | $56 k_{3}$ | $.74+k_{4}$ |
| Automobile. | $104 k_{3}$ | $0+k_{4}$ |
| Business, profession. | $2 k_{3}$ | $.95+k_{4}$ |
| Liquid assets...... | $880 k_{3}$ | $.33+k_{4}$ |
| Investment assets | $1 k_{3}$ | $.99+k_{4}$ |
| Miscellaneous assets. | $12 k_{3}$ | $.50+k_{4}$ |
|  | Head 55-64 |  |
| Own home. | 12,042k | . $44+k_{4}$ |
| Automobile. | 105ks | $0+{ }^{0}$ |
| Business, profession. | $6 k^{6}$ | $1.06+k_{1}$ |
| Liquid assets. . . . . . | $11,895 k_{s}$ | . $36+k_{1}$ |
| Investment assets. | $2 k_{5}$ | $1.23+k_{1}$ |
| Miscellaneous assets. | 7 kb | . $76+k^{\prime}$ |
|  | Head 65 and over |  |
| Own home. | 34, 148k7 | $.41+k g$ |
| Automobile. | $105 k_{7}$ | 0+ks |
| Business, profession. | $9 k_{7}$ | $1.06+k_{s}$ |
| Liquid assets...... . | $123,220 k_{7}$ | $.23+k=$ |
| Investment assets. | $3 k_{7}$ | $1.26+k_{s}$ |
| Miscellaneous assets. | $37,349 k_{7}$ | $\cdots+k_{s}$ |

* Value between -.005 and +.005 .

Table 22
Regression of Proportion of Consumer Units Owning Specified Wealth Components on Total Wealth Within Age Groups

Third function: parameters of $p=a_{31}+k\left(1-e^{-c w}\right)$

| Wealch component | $a_{31}$ | $k$ | $c$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head under 35 |  |  |
| Own home | -. 04 | . 77 | . 45 |
| Automobile. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| Business, profession. | -. 02 | . 64 (.01) | . 07 |
| Liquid assets.... | . 71 | . 25 | $\begin{array}{r} 44 \\ .13 \end{array}$ |
| Investment assets.... | . ${ }^{3}$ | . 19 | $.13$ |
|  | Head 35-54 |  |  |
| Own home. | -. 05 | . 88 | 45 |
| Automobile | . 73 | . 22 | 19 |
| Business, profession | . 04 | . 88 | 01 |
| Liquid assets.... | . 58 | . 38 |  |
| Investment assets.... Miscellaneous assets. | . 04 | . 82 | . 03 |
|  | Head 55-64 |  |  |
| Own home. | . 05 | . 78 | . 33 |
| Automobile. | . 46 | . 47 | . 08 |
| Business, profession | . 03 | . 62 | . 02 |
| Liquid assets. . | . 48 | . 47 | . 17 |
| Investment assets. | . 06 | . 90 | . 03 |
| Miscellaneous assets. | . 02 | . 19 | . 03 |
|  | Head 65 and over |  |  |
| Own home. | -. 09 | . 88 | 48 |
| Automobile. | . 27 | . 51 | 04 |
| Business, profession. | . 02 | . 39 | 03 |
| Liquid assets. . . | . 73 |  |  |
| Investment assets.... Miscellaneous assets | . 01 | 1.00 .05 | . $102(.01)$ |

- Value between -.005 and +.005
n.a. Not available.

Note.-Standard errors of coefficients are shown in parentheses. Errors of less than .005 are omitted from the table. The $w$ variable, wealth, is in thousands of dollars.

Table 23
Regression of Wealth Components on Total Wealth for Asset Holders within Age Grovps

Third function: parameters of $y(H)=a_{32} w(H)^{b_{32}}$

| Wealth component | $\log a_{32}$ | $b_{x 2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head under 35 |  |
| Own home. | 26 ( . 20) | 88(.05) |
| Automobile | 1.48 (.11) | . 37 (.03) |
| Business, profession. | . 11 ( .47) | . 90 (.12) |
| Liquid assets . . . . . | . 50 ( .24) | .67 (.07) |
| Investment assets | -. 26 ( . 44 ) | . 90 ( .12) |
|  | Head $35-54$ |  |
| Own home. | . 83 ( .23) | . 75 (.06) |
| Automobile | 1.41 ( . 07 ) | . 39 (.02) |
| Business, profession | -. 34 ( .25) | $1.00(.06)$ |
| Liquid assets.. | $.51(.13)$ | . 68 (.03) |
| Investment assets | -.90 (.32) | 1.08 ( .07) |
|  | Head 55-64 |  |
| Own home. | 1.31 ( .23) | . 63 (.05) |
| Automobile. | 1.50 (.10) | . 35 ( . 02 ) |
| Business, profession | -.47 (.38) | 1.02 (.08) |
| Liquid assets.... | . 46 ( .16) | . 73 (.04) |
| Investment assets. . . . . . . . | -.80 ( .29) | 1.08 ( .06) |
|  | Head 65 and over |  |
| Own home. | 1.64 ( .22) | . 55 (.05) |
| Automobile | 1.21 (.19) | . 38 (.04) |
| Business, profession. | -1.16 ${ }^{\text {( }} .26$ ) | 1.17 ( .06) |
| Liquid assets. | . 54 (.11) | . 74 (.03) |
| Investment assets. | -1.32 ( . 30 ) | 1.20(.07) |

Note.-Standard errors of coefficients are shown in parentheses.

Table 24
Comparison of Fit of Three Regressions of Wealth Components on Total Wealth: Sum of weighted squared deviations divided by sum of weights
(In thousands)

| Wealth component | $\begin{gathered} \text { First } \\ \text { function } \end{gathered}$ | Second function | Third function |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head under 35 |  |  |
| Own home. | 985,706, 151 | 2,683,006 | 542,893 |
| Automobile. |  |  | n.a. |
| Business, profession... | 790,149,300 | 2,038,471 | 378,305 |
| Liquid assets......... | 457,380 | 46,227 | 37,498 |
| Miscellaneous assets. . | 214,458 | 8,535,805 | n.a. |
|  | Head 35-54 |  |  |
| Own home. | 4,292,445 | 740,410 | 114,799 |
| Automobile. |  |  |  |
| Business, profession.. | 127,450 | 137,431 | 12,163 |
| Liquid assets........ | 974,243 | 23,111 | 13,814 |
| Miscellaneous assets. | 222,968 | 239,574 | n.a. |
|  | Head 55-64 |  |  |
| Own home. | 576,869 | 28,960 | 35,294 |
| Automobile......... |  |  |  |
| Business, profession... | 3,647,408 | 65,388 | 117,960 |
| Liquid assets........ | 48,297,750 | 79,299 | 182,020 |
| Miscellaneous assets. | 21,003 | 32,115 | n.a. |
|  | Head 65 and over |  |  |
| Own home. | 943,007 | 37,500 | 9,426 |
| Automobile. |  |  | 127.071 |
| Business, profession.. | 2,423,755 | 11,884 | 127,071 |
| Liquid assets......... | 77,055,650 | 57,504 | 61,775 |
| Miscellaneous assets | 2,408 | 2,757 | п.a. |

n.a. Not available.

Table 25
Elasticities of Wealth Components at Point of Mean Wealth


Table 26
Elasticities of Wealth Components at Point of Mfan Wealth within Wealth Groups

| Size of wealth | $E_{2}(y, w)$ |  |  |  | $E_{3}(y, w)=E_{31}(p, w)+E_{30}(\mu(H), w(H))$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head under 35 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 35-5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 55-64 \end{gathered}$ | Head 65 and over | Head under 35 | Head 35-54 | Head | 55-64 | Head | 5 and over |
|  | Own home |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 51-999. | 1.81 | 1.44 | 1.13 | 1.13 | $2.26=1.38+.88$ | $2.11=1.36+.75$ | 1.22= | . $59+.63$ | 2.95 | $2.40+.55$ |
| \$1,000-4,999 | 1.47 | 1.23 | 1.02 | 1.06 | $1.46=1.58+1$ | 1.28= $68.53+$ | $1.17=$ |  | $1.10=$ |  |
| $\$ 5,000-9,999$. $\$ 10,000-24,999$ | 1.26 1.14 | 1.13 | . 95 | 1.00 .91 | $1.02=$ .89 | .88= $6.73+$ | . $85=$ | . $22+$ | . $69.5=$ | . $14+$ |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 1.07 | 1.01 | . 75 | 78 | 88= + | $.75=\quad+$ | . $63=$ | - + | . $55=$ | + + |
| \$50,000-99,999 | 1.00 | . 97 | . 65 | . 65 | 88= + | .75= * | . $63=$ | - + | . $55=$ | + |
| \$100,000-199,999 | . 98 | . 94 | . 54 | . 54 | .88= + | .75= * + | .63] | - + | . $55 \times$ | $\cdots$ |
| \$500,000 and over. | . 96 | . 82 | . 44 | . 27 | .88= $88=$ * + 6 . 88 | .75= $75=+.75$ | .63= | *+ . 63 | . $555=$ | - + +.55 |
|  | Automobile |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | . 75 | 71 | . 69 | . 72 | n.a. п.a. . 37 | $.41=.02+.39$ | . $38=$ | . $03+.35$ | . $41=$ | . $03+.38$ |
| \$1,000-4,999 | . 41 | 49 | . 58 | . 65 |  | .47 = . $08+1$ |  |  | . $55=$ | $.17+1$ |
| \$5,000-9,999 | . 20 | . 39 | . 51 | . 59 |  | $.48=.09+$ | . $58=$ | . $23+$ | . $76=$ | . 28 + |
| \$10,000-24,999 | . 08 | . 37 | . 41 | . 50 |  | .43= $0.04+$ | . $53=$ | . $20+$ | .72= | . $34+$ |
| \$25,000-49,999 | . 01 | . 27 | . 31 | . 24 |  | . $39=1$ \% | . $36=$ | .08+ | . $477=$ | . $09+$ |
| \$100,000-199,999. | -. 08 | . 21 | . 10 | . 13 |  | . $39=$ + | . $35=$ | * + | . $40=$ | . $02+$ |
| $\$ 200,000-499,999$$\$ 000,000$ and over. | -. 10 | . 18 |  | -. 02 |  | . $39=\quad+$ | . $35=$ |  | . $38=$ |  |
|  | -. 15 | . 14 | -. 12 | -. 14 | n.a. n.a. . 37 | $.39=\quad+$. 39 | . $35=$ | *+.35 | . $38=$ | * + . 38 |
|  | Business, profession |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999. | 2.01 | 1.66 | 1.75 | 1.78 | $15.14=14.24+.90$ | $1.11=.11+1.00$ | 1.14= | . $12+1.02$ | 1.32= | . $15+1.17$ |
| \$1,000-4,999 | 1.68 | 1.44 | 1.64 | 1.71 | $1.99=1.09+$ | $1.45=.45+$ | $1.53=$ | . $51+1$ | $1.71=$ | . $54+$ |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 1.46 | 1.34 | 1.57 | 1.64 | $1.73=0.83+$ | $1.65=.65+$ | $1.69=$ | . $71+$ | $1.84=$ | . $67+$ |
| \$10,000-24,999 | 1.34 | 1.28 | 1.37 | 1.55 | $1.49=.39+$ | $1.72=.69+$ | $1.62=$ | . $60+$ | $1.66=$ | . $49+$ |
| \$50,000-99,999 | 1.21 | 1.19 | 1.27 | 1.29 | 1.93= $.03+$ | $1.55=. .55+$ | $1.43=$ | . 41 + | $1.41=$ | . $24+$ |
| \$100,000-199,999 | 1.19 | 1.16 | 1.16 | 1.19 | . $90=*+$ | $1.32=.32+$ | 1.17= | .15+ | 1.24= | . $07+$ |
| \$200,000-499,999 | 1.16 | 1.13 | 1.06 | 1.04 | .90= + | $1.06=.06+$ | $1.03=$ | . $01+$ | $1.17=$ |  |
| \$500,000 and over. | 1.11 | 1.09 | . 94 | . 91 | . $90=\quad+$. 90 | $1.00=\quad+1.00$ | $1.02=$ | - +1.02 | 1.17= | $\bullet+1.17$ |
|  | Liquid assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999. | 1.06 | 1.04 | 1.05 | 95 | $.72=.05+.67$ | . $73=.05+.68$ | .78= | . $05+.73$ | $.75=$ | . $01+.74$ |
| \$1,000-4,999 | . 73 | . 82 | . 94 | 88 | $.78=.11+$ | .85= .17+ | .94= | $.21+1$ | .79= | . $05+1$ |
| \$5,000-9,999 | . 51 | . 72 | . 87 | 82 | .71= $67+$ | $.82=.14+$ | .94= | . $21+$ | .83= | . $09+$ |
| \$10,000-24,999 | . 39 | . 60 | . 77 | 73 60 | .67= 67 | . $68=0.04+$ | . $717=$ | . $01+$ | .86= | . $08+$ |
| \$ $\mathbf{\$ 5 0 , 0 0 0 - 9 9 , 9 9 9}$ | 26 | . 57 | . 57 | 47 | . $67=$ | $.68=$ + | .73= | * | . $76=$ | . $02+$ |
| \$100,000-199,999 | . 24 | . 54 | . 46 | 36 | .67= + | .68= | .73= | * + | .74= | - + |
| \$200,000-499,999 | . 21 | . 51 | . 36 | . 22 | .67= + | . $68=\quad$ + | . $73=$ |  | .74= | + |
| \$500,000 and over. | . 16 | . 47 | . 24 | . 09 | .67= * . 67 | . $68=\quad+.68$ | .73= | . +.73 | .74= | * + . 74 |
|  | Investment assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1.52 | 1.70 | 1.92 | 1.98 | $1.43=.53+.90$ | $1.36=.28+1.08$ | 1.20= | . $12+1.08$ | $1.57=$ | $.37+1.20$ |
| \$1,000-4,999 | 1.19 | 1.48 | 1.81 | 1.91 | $1.63=.73+\uparrow$ | $1.77=.69+\uparrow$ | $1.57=$ |  | $1.99=$ | .79+ 1 |
| \$5,000-9,999 | . 97 | 1.38 | 1.74 | 1.84 | $1.46=.56+$ | $1.82=.74+$ | $1.73=$ | . $65+$ | 2.04= | . $79+$ |
| \$10,000-24,999 | . 85 | 1.32 | 1.64 | 1.76 | $1.19=0.29+$ | $1.72=.64+$ | $1.74=$ $160=$ | . $66+$ | $1.99=$ $1.82=$ | . 79 + |
| \$25,000-49,999 | . 78 | 1.26 | 1.54 | 1.63 | .97= 0 . $07+$ | $1.49=.41+$ | $1.60=$ | . $32+$ |  | . $36+$ |
| \$ $\$ 100000-99,999$. | . 72 | 1.20 | 1.34 | 1.39 | $.90=\quad \pm$ | $1.24=10=.02+$ | $1.15=$ | . $07+$ | $1.35=$ | . $15+$ |
| \$200,000-499,999 | . 67 | 1.17 | 1.23 | 1.24 | $.90=+$ | $1.08=$ | $1.08=$ |  | $1.20=$ |  |
| $\$ 500,000 ~ a n d ~ o v e r . ~$$\$ 1-999 . . . . . . .$. | . 62 | 1.13 | 1.11 | 1.11 | $.90=\quad+.90$ | $1.08=\quad+1.08$ | $1.08=$ | *+1.08 | 1.20= | * +1.20 |
|  | Miscellaneous assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1.96 | 1.21 | 1.43 | . 73 | n.a. 1.11 | n.a. $\quad .08$ n.a. |  | .09 n.a. |  |  |
| \$1,000-4,999 | 1.63 | . 99 | 1.35 | . 65 | . 77 | . 35 |  | . 42 |  | . 19 |
| \$5,000-9,999 | 1.41 | 89 | 1.27 | . 59 | . 37 |  |  | . 59 |  | . 25 |
| \$10,000-24,999 | 1.29 | . 87 | 1.17 | . 50 | . 09 | . 36 |  | . 51 |  | . 05 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 1.22 | . 77 | 1.07 | . 37 | : | . 25 |  | . 31 |  |  |
| $\mathbf{\$ 5 0 , 0 0 0 - 9 9 , 9 9 9 .}$ $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0 , 0 0 0 - 1 9 9 , 9 9 9}$ | 1.16 1.14 | . 71 | . 976 | . 13 | * | . 06 |  | . 08 |  | * |
| \$200,000-499,999 | 1.11 | . 68 | . 76 | -. 01 | - | * |  |  |  |  |
| \$500,000 and over. | 1.06 | . 65 | . 64 | -. 14 | п.a. * n.a. | n.a. * n.a. | п.a. | - n.a. | n.a. | - a.a. |

. Value between -. 005 and +.005 .
n.a. Not available.

Table 27
Regression of Portfolio Components on Total Portfolio within Age Groups


Value between -. 005 and +.005 .
Note.-Standard errors of coefficients are shown in parentheses.

Table 28
Regression of Portfolio Components on Total Portfolio within Age Groups


Table 29
Regression of Proportion of Consumer Units Owning Specified Portfolio Components on Total Portfolio within Age Groups

Third function : parameters of $p=a_{31}+k\left(1-e^{-c x}\right)$

| Portfolio component | ${ }^{3} 1$ | $k$ | $c$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head under 35 |  |  |
| Checking accounts. Savings accounts. In banks. <br> In savings and loan associations | . 57 (.02) | 31 (.02) | 4.16 (.39) |
|  | . 51 | 33 | 1.26 (.03) |
|  | . 33 | 25 | 1.34 (.03) |
|  | 05 | . 35 | . 51 (.01) |
| U.S. savings bonds... | . 15 | . 49 | . 71 (.01) |
|  | . 02 | . 69 | . 22 |
| Common stock....... | . 03 | . 86 (.01) | . 10 |
|  | . 01 | . 23 | . 24 (.01) |
| Marketable securities other than stock. Mortgage assets. Investment real estate. Business not managed by unit. <br> Company savings plans. | . 01 | 1.87 (.26) |  |
|  |  | . 14 | . 18 (.01) |
|  | -. 02 | . 22 | . 60 (.02) |
|  | . 02 | 1.16 (.06) |  |
|  | $-.01$ | . 11 | . 95 (.04) |
| Company savings plans | Head 35-54 |  |  |
|  | . 71 | . 30 | 05 |
|  | . 50 | . 41 | 1.08 (.01) |
| In banks. | . 37 | . 29 | 1.52 (.02) |
| In savings and loan associations. . . . | . 09 | . 42 | 28 |
| U.S. savings bonds. Publicly traded stock. | . 05 | . 46 | 1.07 (.01) |
|  |  | . 55 | . 20 |
| Publicly traded stock.... Common stock | . 01 | . 56 | . 11 |
| Mutual funds, etc. <br> Marketable securities other than stock. Mortgage assets. Investment real estate. Business not managed by unit. | . 01 | . 32 | . 04 |
|  | . 02 | . 68 (.02) |  |
|  | . 01 | . 22 | . 07 |
|  | * | . 54 | . 11 |
|  | . 01 | . 34 | . 03 |
|  | * | . 13 | . 89 (.01) |
| Company savings plans. . | Head 55-64 |  |  |
| Checking accounts. | 64 | . 28 | . 06 |
| Savings accounts.... | . 53 | . 32 | . 46 (.01) |
| In banks. <br> In savings and loan associations | . 32 | . 39 |  |
|  | . 05 | . 28 | 1.35 (.03) |
| U.S. savings bonds Publicly traded stock | . 22 | . 33 |  |
|  | . 06 | . 79 (.01) | . 03 |
| Publicly traded stock.... Common stock. | . 03 | . 64 | . 04 |
| Mutual funds, etc..... Marketable securities other than stock. . . . | . 01 | . 48 | . 02 |
|  | . 03 | . 52 (.01) | . 01 |
| Mortgage assets...... | . 02 | . 35 (.01) | . 01 |
| Investment real estate. Business not managed by unit. | . 02 | . 46 | . 07 |
|  | . 02 | . 51 (.01) | . 01 |
| Company savings plans.. | Head 65 and over |  |  |
| Checking accounts. | . 59 | . 45 |  |
| Savings accounts. In banks | . 44 | . 38 | . 79 (.02) |
|  | . 26 | . 32 | 1.08 (.03) |
| In savings and loan | . 11 |  |  |
| U.S. assocings bonds... | .15 | . 23 | . 42 (.01) |
| Publicly traded stock | . 01 | . 78 | . 03 |
| Common stock. . | . 01 | . 79 | . 03 |
| Mutual funds, etc..... | . 01 | . 19 | . 06 |
| Marker than stock. | -. 01 | . 75 |  |
| Mortgage assets. | * | . 24 | . 03 |
| Investment real estate.... | . 03 | . 45 | . 05 |
| Business not managed by unit. | . 02 | . 17 | . 04 |
| Company savings plans.. | * | . 05 | * |

- Value between -.005 and +.005 .

Note.-Standard errors of coefficients are shown in parentheses. Errors of less than .005 are omitted from the table. The $x$ variable, portfolio, is in thousands of dollars.

Table 30
Comparison of Fit of Two Regressions of Portfolio Components on Total Portfolio: Sum of weighted squared deviations divided by sum of weights
(In thousands)

| Portfolio component | First function | Second function |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Head under 35 |  |
| Checking accounts. | 11 | 15 |
| Savings accounts. | 13,193 | 4,018 |
| U.S. savings bonds. | 81 | 41 |
| Publicly traded stock. . . . . . . . | 141,530 | 15,408 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. | 5,269 | 5,280 |
| Mortgage assets | 2,328 | 398 |
| Investment real estate | 26,313 | 4,505 |
| Business not managed by unit . | 6,200 | 6,303 |
| Company savings plans...... . | 46 | 45 |
|  | Head 35-54 |  |
| Checking accounts. | 299 | 667 |
| Savings accounts. | 68,036 | 519 |
| U.S. savings bonds. | 710 | 163 |
| Publicly traded stock. | 49,463,827 | 159,108 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. | 8,551 | 10.712 |
| Mortgage assets | 152,469 | 410 |
| Investment real estate | 119,029,725 | 346,677 |
| Business not managed by unit. | 63,536 | 9,995 |
| Company savings plans...... . | 10,320 | 27 |
|  | Head 55-64 |  |
| Checking accounts. | 763 | 1.865 |
| Savings accounts. | 106,623 | 5,396 |
| U.S. savings bonds. | 7,211 | , 563 |
| Publicly traded stock . . . . . . . . | 50,705,915 | 33,877 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. | 71,485 | 95,876 |
| Mortgage assets. . . . . . . . . . . . | 273,615 | 12,292 |
| Investment real estate. . . . . . . | 20,302,068 | 378,788 |
| Business not managed by unit. | 6,255 | 20,495 |
| Company savings plans....... | 1,113 | 87 |
|  | Head 65 and over |  |
| Checking accounts . . . . . . . . . | $6,330$ | $8,582$ |
| Savings accounts..... . . . . . . . | $297,835$ | $18,152$ |
| U.S. savings bonds. . . . . . . . . . | 16,896 | 939 |
| Publicly traded stock. . . . . . . . | 11,735,086 | 336,901 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. | 187,253 | 208,007 |
| Mortgage assets. | 189,159 | 9,912 |
| Investment real estate. . . . . . . | 15,473,61t | 741,811 |
| Business not managed by unit. Company savings plans...... | 443,691 83 | 11,621 87 |

Table 31
Elasticities of Portfolio Components at Point of Mean Portfolio

| Portfolio component | Over-all |  | Attributable to proportion owning $E_{31}(p, x)$ | Over-all |  | Attributable to proportion owning $E_{31}(p, x)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $E_{1}(z, x)$ | $E_{2}(z, x)$ |  | $E_{1}(z, x)$ | $E_{2}(z, x)$ |  |
|  | Head under 35 |  |  | Head 55-64 |  |  |
| Checking accounts. | . 50 | . 56 | * | . 52 | . 31 | . 12 |
| Savings accounts.. | . 97 | 1.03 | . 10 | . 87 | . 66 |  |
| In banks.... In . . . . . . . . . . . . | .95 1.25 | n.a. | . 49 | . 87 | n.a. | . 03 |
| U.S. savings bonds ............ | . 1.75 | n. 81 | . 34 | . 81 | . 60 | . 07 |
| Publicly traded stock. | 1.48 | 1.53 | . 74 | 1.67 | 1.46 | . 62 |
| Common stock.... | 1.39 | n.a. | . 73 | 1.62 | п.a. | . 58 |
| Mutual funds and other investment companies | 1.05 | ก.a. | . 90 | 1.59 | n.a. | . 76 |
| Marketable securities other than stock.... | .64 1.34 | . 70 | . 83 |  | 1.05 | . 63 |
| Mortgage assets...... | 1.34 1.46 | 1.40 1.52 | . 83 | 1.47 | 1.26 1.35 | . 68 |
| Investment real estate. . .....i. Business not managed by unit. | 1.46 | 1.20 | . 24 | 1.18 | . 97 | . 67 |
| Company savings plans....................... | . 87 | . 92 | . 40 | 1.02 | . 82 | . 18 |
|  | Head 35-54 |  |  | Head 65 and over |  |  |
| Checking accounts. | . 49 | . 28 | . 10 | . 48 | . 30 | . 16 |
| Savings accounts.. | . 82 | . 70 | * | . 87 | - 70 | * |
|  | 1.05 | n.a. | . 20 | . 93 | n.a. | . 07 |
| U.S. savings bonds............ | . 78 | . 57 | - | . 90 | . 72 | * |
| Publicly traded stock | 1.75 | 1.53 | . 40 | 1.67 | 1.50 | . 64 |
| Common stock. | 1.68 | n.a. | . 60 | 1.60 | n.a. | . 70 |
| Mutual funds and other investment companies | 1.41 | n.a. | . 73 | 1.31 | n.a. | . 48 |
| Marketable securities other than stock. <br> Mortgage assets | 1.43 | 1.22 | . 68 | 1.46 | 1.28 | . 72 |
| Investment real estate. | 1.78 | 1.56 | . 62 | 1.52 | 1.35 | . 46 |
| Business not managed by unit. | 1.44 | 1.22 | . 82 | 1.56 | 1.38 | . 48 |
| Company savings plans............... | 1.14 | . 92 |  | . 61 | . 43 | . 27 |

- Value between -.005 and +.005 .
- Value between

Table 32
Elasticities of Portfolio Components at Point of Mean Portfolio within Portfolio Groups

| Size of portfolio | Over-all ( $E_{2}(7, x)$ ) |  |  |  | Attributable to proportion owning ( $E_{1}(p, x)$ ) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Head } \\ & \text { under } 35 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 35-54 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 55-64 \end{gathered}$ | Head 65 and over | Head under 35 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 35-54 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \end{gathered}$ $55-64$ | Head 65 and over |
|  | Checking accounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499.. | . 75 | . 75 | . 78 | . 76 | . 14 |  | 02 | 01 |
| \$500-1,999. | . 62 | . 61 | . 69 | . 66 | . 02 | . 02 | . 02 | . 01 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | . 51 | . 30 | . 48 | . 47 | * | .10 | . 10 | . 07 |
| \$5,000-9,999... | .48 | .16 | . 35 | . 37 | * | . 12 | .13 | . 12 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | .30 | . 01 | 24 | . 25 | * | . 09 | . 09 | . 18 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | . 23 | -. 09 | . 14 | . 16 | * | . 03 | . 02 | . 19 |
| \$100,000-499,999 | . 18 | -.17 -.24 | -. 07 | -. 07 | * | * | * | . |
|  | Savings accounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499... | 1.22 | 1.18 | 1.13 | 1.16 | . 09 | . 11 | . 05 | . 09 |
| \$500-1,999. | 1.08 | 1.03 | 1.04 | 1.05 | . 16 | . 19 | . 14 | . 21 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | . 98 | . 87 | . 83 | . 87 | . 03 | . 05 | .04 | . 01 |
| \$5,000-9,999... | . 81 | . 73 | . 82 | . 87 | * | * | . 04 | . ${ }^{1}$ |
| \$10,000-24,999 $\mathbf{\$ 2 5 , 0 0 0}-49,999$ | . 77 | . 48 | . 59 | . 65 | * | * | * | * |
| \$50,000-99,999 | . 69 | . 33 | . 49 | . 55 | * | * | * | * |
| \$500,000 and over. . . | . 65 | . 26 | . 28 | . 31 | * | * | * | * |
|  | . 57 |  |  |  |  | * | * |  |
|  | U.S. savings bonds |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499. | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.07 | 1.18 | . 24 | . 54 | . 04 | . 09 |
| \$500-1,999.. | . 86 | . 90 | . 98 | 1.08 | . 21 | . 10 | . 27 | 27 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | . 76 | . 74 | . 87 | . 89 | . 03 | . 10 | . 27 | .10 |
| \$5,000-9,999. | . 69 | . 60 | . 64 | .79 | . | * | . 12 | . 01 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | . 55 | . 31 | . 53 | . 67 | * | * | . 02 | * |
| \$50,000-99,999. | . 48 | . 20 | . 43 | . 58 | * | * | * | * |
| \$ $\$ 500,000$ and over.... | . 43 | . 12 | . 22 | . 34 | * | * | * | * |
|  | Publicly traded stock |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499. | 1.73 | 2.01 | 1.93 | 1.96 | . 48 | 1.19 | .07 .26 | . 22 |
| \$500-1,999.. | 1.59 | 1.86 | 1.84 1.73 | 1.85 | . 76 | . 72 | . 26 | . 80 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | 1.49 1.41 | 1.70 1.56 | 1.73 | 1.76 | . 42 | . 46 | . 64 | . 82 |
| \$5,000-9,999.. | 1.35 | 1.41 | 1.50 | 1.56 | .16 | . 16 | . 65 | . 74 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 1.27 | 1.27 | 1.39 | 1.45 | . 01 | . 01 | . 53 | . 53 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 1.20 | 1.16 | 1.29 | 1.35 | * | * | . 28 | . ${ }^{\text {¢ }}$ |
| \$ $\$ 00,000$ and over. . . | 1.16 | 1.08 1.01 | 1.18 | 1.21 | * | * | * | * |
|  | 1.07 | 1.01 |  |  | * | * | * | * |
|  | Marketable securities other than stock |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499. | . 89 | 1.30 | 1.51 | 1.55 | . 02 | . 01 | . 02 | -. 08 |
| \$500-1,999. | . 75 | 1.15 | 1.42 | 1.44 | . 29 | . 15 | . 29 | $-.74$ |
| \$2,000-4,999. | . 65 | . 89 | 1.31 | 1.35 1.26 | . 25 | . 28 | 41 | 4.76 1.47 |
| \$5,000-9,999... | . 58 | . 85 | 1.09 | 1.15 | . 57 | . 46 | . 58 | 1.14 |
| 510,000-24,999. | . 44 | . 56 | . 97 | 1.04 | . 75 | . 65 | . 69 | . 99 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | . 37 | .46 | . 87 | . 94 | . 85 | . 77 | . 71 | . 89 |
| \$100,000-499,999 | . 32 | . 38 | . 77 | . 80 | . 68 | . 88 | . 55 |  |
| \$ $\$ 00,000$ and over . . . | . 24 | . 30 | . 66 | . 71 |  | . 28 | * |  |
|  | Mortgage assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-499. | 1.59 | 1.70 | 1.73 | 1.74 | . 76 | . 24 | .03 .15 | . 44 |
| \$500-1,999... | 1.45 | 1.55 1.39 | 1.64 | 1.63 | . 88 | . 75 | . 37 | . 80 |
| \$2,000-4,999...... | 1.35 1.28 | 1.39 1.25 | 1.42 | 1.45 | . 52 | . 70 | . 54 | . 89 |
| $\mathbf{5 5 , 0 0 0}-9,999$. $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 , 0 0 0 - 2 4 , 9 9 9 .}$ | 1.28 1.21 | 1.25 | 1.30 | 1.44 | . 25 | .53 | . 67 | . 81 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 1.21 1.14 | 1.10 .96 | 1.19 | 1.23 | . 03 | . 24 | . 69 | . 62 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 1.07 | . 85 | 1.08 | 1.13 | * | . 03 | . 28 | . 36 |
| \$100,000-499,999. | 1.02 | . 77 | . 98 | . 99 | * | * | . 25 | . 1 |
| \$500,000 and over. . . | . 94 | . 70 | . 88 | . 90 | * | * | - | * |

Table 32 (Continued)
Elasticities of Portfolio Components at Point of Mean Portfolio within Portfolio Groups (Continued)

| Size of portfolio | Over-all ( $E_{2}(2, x)$ ) |  |  |  | Attributable to proportion owning ( $F_{1}(\underline{p}, \mathbf{x})$ ) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Head } \\ & \text { under } 35 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 35-54 \end{gathered}$ | Head $55-64$ | Head 65 and over | $\underset{\text { Head }}{\text { under } 35}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Head } \\ 35-54 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Head } \\ & 55-64 \end{aligned}$ | Head 65 and over |
|  | Investment real estate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| S1-499. | 1.71 | 2.04 | 1.82 | 1.81 | -7.32 | 1.04 | . 26 | . 10 |
| \$500-1,999. | 1.57 | 1.89 | 1.72 | 1.70 | . 94 | . 95 | . 62 | . 39 |
| \$2,000-4,999 | 1.47 | 1.73 | 1.62 | 1.62 | . 409 | . 86 | . 71 | . 67 |
| \$5,000-9,999.9 | 1.33 | 1.44 | 1.39 | 1.41 | . 0 | . 40 | . 33 | . 58 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 1.26 | 1.30 | 1.28 | 1.30 | * | . 10 | . 26 | . 33 |
| \$50,000-99,999 | 1.18 | 1.20 | 1.17 | 1.20 | * | * | . 04 | . 10 |
| \$100,000-499,999. | 1.14 | 1.12 | 1.07 | 1.06 | * | * | * | * |
| \$500,000 and over. . | 1.06 | 1.04 | . 97 | . 97 | * | - | - |  |
|  | Business not managed by unit |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| S1-499... | 1.40 | 1.70 | 1.43 | 1.84 | . 03 | . 27 | . 02 | . 06 |
| S500-1,999... | 1.26 | 1.35 | 1.34 | 1.83 1.65 | . 35 | . 83 | . 29 | . 48 |
| \$2,000-4,999.. | 1.08 | 1.25 | 1.13 | 1.55 | . 53 | . 83 | . 47 | . 60 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 1.02 | 1.10 | 1.01 | 1.44 | . 68 | . 74 | . 63 | . 57 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | . 94 | . 96 | . 89 | 1.33 | . 79 | . 54 | . 72 | . 37 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | . 87 | . 85 | . 79 | 1.23 | . 81 | . 24 | . 70 | . 14 |
| \$100,000-499,999 | . 83 | . 78 | . 69 | 1.09 1.00 | . 74 | . 02 | . 49 | * |
|  | Company savings plans |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| S1-499. | 1.12 | 1.40 | 1.28 | . 89 | 1.45 | 1.06 |  | 0 |
| \$ $\$ 500-1,999$. | . 98 | 1.25 | 1.19 | . 70 | . 66 | . 17 | . 01 | . 01 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | . 88 | 1.10 | 1.08 .98 | . 70 | . 18 | . 17 | . 04 | . 04 |
| \$5,000-9,999.. | . 74 | . 81 | . 85 | . 50 | . 0 | . | . 15 | . 19 |
| \$25,000 - 49,999. | . 66 | . 66 | . 74 | . 38 | * | * | . 26 | . 34 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | . 59 | . 56 | . 64 | . 29 | * | * | . 38 | . 48 |
| \$100,000-499,999. | . 55 | .48 | . 53 | . 14 | * | * | . 48 | . 64 |
| \$500,000 and over. . . | . 46 | . 41 | . 43 | . 06 | * | * | . 05 | . 32 |

* Value between -.005 and +.005 .


## Notes-Methods Used in Estimating Parameters for Regressions

Methods used in estimating parameters for regressions of wealth components on total wealth are described below. Similar methods were used for regressions of portfolio components on total portfolio.
First function- $y=a_{1} w^{b}{ }^{b}$
Least squares estimating procedures were applied to the logarithmic transformation:

$$
\log y=\log a_{1}+b_{1} \log w
$$

Group data were used for fitting the equations. Consumer units were grouped by the amount of their wealth and mean amounts of the various asset types were computed. The basic data used for the wealth equations are shown in Table A 8. Thus for the equation relating liquid assets to wealth, the $w$ values were mean amounts of total wealth for all units in the various wealth groups; for example, $\$ 2,552$ for young units in the $\$ 1,000-$ $\$ 4.999$ wealth group. The $y$ values were mean amounts of liquid assets for all units in the various groups; for example, $\$ 653$ for units in the group just mentioned.

The regressions were weighted with the population weights (number of consumer units) shown in Table A 36. The standard errors are also weighted estimates and were estimated in accordance with the model described by L. R. Klein, Econometrics (Row, Peterson and Co., 1956), p. 308.

$$
\text { Second function-y=} \frac{w a_{2} w^{b_{2}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{6} a_{2 i} w^{b_{2 i}}}
$$

The form of the function does not lend itself to linearization which would facilitate estimation of the parameters. The usual procedure is to write a new function which is a ratio of one commodity-here one asset type-to another. Taking logarithms of both sides of the ratio yields:

$$
\log y_{i}-\log y_{i}=\left(\log a_{2 i}-\log a_{2 i}\right)+\left(b_{2 i}-b_{2 j}\right) \log w
$$

The parameters $\left(\log a_{2 i}-\log a_{2 i}\right)$ and ( $b_{2 i}-b_{2 i}$ ) may be estimated using least squares procedures with the difference of the logarithms as the dependent variable.

The function for the $i$ th asset may be written as follows:

$$
y_{i}=\frac{w \frac{a_{2 i}}{a_{22}} w^{\left(b_{2 i}-b_{22}\right)}}{\sum_{i=1}^{6} \frac{a_{2 i}}{a_{22}} w^{\left(b_{2 i}-b_{22}\right)}}
$$

Thus the parameters are of the form

$$
\left(b_{24}-b_{22}\right) \text { and } \frac{a_{2 i}}{a_{22}}
$$

and may be estimated by the method just discussed with a common asset type-in this case asset number two-in the denominator of the dependent variable.

Because the addition of an arbitrary number to the $b_{2}$ parameters of the function for the $i$ th asset, or the multiplication of the $a_{2}$ parameters by an arbitrary number, does not affect the value of the function, the parameters are ordinarily written with arbitrary elements, say $k_{1}$ and $k_{2}$. The values of the dependent variable-the $y_{i}$ 's-are, however, completely determinate, as are the elasticities.

Actually, as Houthakker notes, it is not necessary to estimate the parameters using the difference of the logarithms. The estimates for the ordinary double log equations can be used, that is, $\left(b_{1 i}-b_{1 i}\right)$ from the first function is equal to $\left(b_{2 i}-b_{2 i}\right)$ for this function and $\frac{a_{1 i}}{a_{1 j}}$ from the first function is equal to $\frac{a_{2 i}}{a_{2 i}}$ for this function. The estimated parameters shown in Tables 21 and 28 were derived using the estimated parameters for the ordinary double log form. The common asset type for the wealth equations was automobiles and for the portfolio equations, checking accounts.
Third function- $y=p y(H)$, where $p$ and $y(H)$ are functions of total wealth
The over-all elasticity $E_{3}(y, w)$ can be separated into the $E_{31}(p, w)$ and $E_{32}(y(H), w(H))$ components as follows.

Assume that there are $N$ consumer units classified into $k$ groups, $N_{1}, \ldots, N_{k}$, on the basis of their total wealth, $w$. Assume that there are $r$ asset types. Let $H_{i j}$ be the number of units in the $j$ th wealth group holding asset type $i$, and let the
aggregate amount be $Y_{i j}$. Then $\frac{Y_{i j}}{N_{j}}=y_{i j}$ is the mean amount of asset $i$ held by consumer units in the $j$ th wealth group; $\frac{Y_{i j}}{H_{i j}}=y_{i j}(H)$ is the mean amount of asset $i$ held by units in the $j$ th wealth group who own asset $i$; and $\frac{H_{i j}}{N_{j}}=p_{i i}$ is the proportion of units in the $j$ th wealth group who own asset $i$. It follows that:

$$
y_{i j}=y_{i j}(H) p_{i j}, j=1, \ldots, k
$$

Differentiating this function with respect to $w$ and multiplying through by $\frac{w}{y_{i j}}$ yields:

$$
\frac{w}{y_{i j}} \frac{d\left(y_{i j}\right)}{d(w)}=\frac{w}{y_{i j}} y_{i j}(H) \frac{d\left(p_{i j}\right)}{d(w)}+\frac{w}{y_{i j}} p_{i j} \frac{d\left(y_{i i}(H)\right)}{d(w)}
$$

But, $\quad y_{i j}(H)=\frac{y_{i j}}{p_{i j}}$ and $p_{i i}=\frac{y_{i j}}{y_{i i}(H)}$
Therefore,

$$
\frac{w}{y_{i j}} \frac{d\left(y_{i j}\right)}{d(w)}=\frac{w}{p_{i j}} \frac{d\left(p_{i j}\right)}{d(w)}+\frac{w}{y_{i j}(H)} \frac{d\left(y_{i j}(H)\right)}{d(w)}
$$

Or, $\quad E_{3}(y, w)=E_{31}(p, w)+E_{32}(y(H), w(H))$
The parameters $a_{31}, k$, and $c$ of the function yielding the $E_{31}(p, w)$ component of the over-all elasticity were estimated by the least squares method for functions nonlinear in the parameters which was developed by Gauss and Newton and modified by H. O. Hartley. The basic procedures and the modification are described in "The Modified Gauss-Newton Method for the Fitting of Non-Linear Regression Functions by Least Squares," Technometrics, May 1961, pp. 269-80.

In summary, the procedures are as follows. At every value of $w, p$ will be a function of unknown parameters and an error term, that is:

$$
p=a+k\left(1-e^{-c w}\right)+u=f(a, k, c)+u
$$

The objective is to minimize

$$
\sum(p-f(a, k, c))^{2}=\sum u^{2}
$$

The minimization procedure involves evaluating $\sum u^{2}$ using a truncated Taylor series expansion for $f(a, k, c)$ with approximate values of the parameters. The first approximations may not yield a minimum for $\sum u^{2}$, but the method yields a new set of approximations which, under certain conditions, will provide a smaller $\sum u^{-}$. The usual procedure is to repeat the process until the estimated set of parameters is changing by a very small amount compared to the preceding set of estimators. For the parameters shown in Tables 22 and 29, the largest absolute change between the estimates shown and the immediately preceding estimates were as follows for $a, k$, and $c$, respectively: . 0005 ; .00209 ; and .00017.

The standard errors are approximations, and the method of estimation is described in an article by Henry Schultz, "The Standard Error of a Forecast from a Curve," Journal of the American Statistical Association, June 1930, pp. 139-86.

The $w$ values are mean amounts of total wealth for all units in the various wealth groups as shown in Table A 8 and the $p$ values are the proportions shown in the same table. The regressions are weighted with the population weights (number of consumer units) shown in Table A 36.

The authors are grateful to Franklin V. Walker of the Board of Governors' research staff for suggesting this procedure and for providing the expertise to carry out the estimation of the parameters.

The procedures followed in estimating the parameters of the function yielding the

$$
E_{32}(y(H), w(H))
$$

component of the over-all elasticity were the same as for the equations shown in Table 20 except that the $w$ and $y$ values were confined to the group of consumer units holding the particular asset.

## Basic Tables

## Basic Tables for the Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers, December 31, 1962

These tables provide data for a complete classification scheme without regard to the number of cases in each cell, except that data are omitted for cells with only one case. Even though counts are small for some cells, so that data must be used carefully, they are shown so that combinations and analyses can be made. Table A 35 shows the num-
ber of cases in each cell; Table A 36, the weights to be used in combining cells.

The symbol * indicates amounts insignificant in terms of the particular unit (for example, less than $1 / 2$ of 1 per cent, or less than $1 / 2$ of $\$ 1$ ).

Details do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Table
Title
Size of
net worth
wealth
equity in portfolio of liquid and investment assets
liquid assets
equity in publicly traded stock
debt
personal debt
Composition of-
wealth
a. Percentage
b. Mean

Wealth, income, age, employment status
miscellaneous assets
a. Percentage
b. Mean
portfolio of liquid and investment assets a. Percentage
b. Mean
savings accounts
a. Percentage
b. Mean
marketable securities other than stock
a. Percentage
publicly traded stock
a. Percentage
debt Wealth, income, age, employment status
a. Percentage

Wealth, income, age, employment status 126
b. Mean

Classifying variable
Page

| Income, age, employment status | 96 |
| :---: | ---: |
| $" "$ | 98 |
| $"$ | 100 |
| $"$ | 102 |
| $"$ | 104 |
| $"$ | 106 |
|  | 108 |

Wealth, income, age
113
Wealth, portfolio, income, age, employment
status 114
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { status } & 114 \\ 118\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Wealth, portfolio, income, age } & 122 \\ & 122\end{array}$
123

A 15 Liquid assets of personal debt groups
Personal debt, income, age
134

Distribution of-
A 16 wealth

A 17 debt
Diversity of-
Wealth, income, age 136

| A 18 | wealth |
| :--- | :--- |
| A 19 | portfolio of liquid and investment assets |

$\begin{array}{llll}\text { A } 18 & \text { portfolio of liquid and investment assets } & \text { " } & 138 \\ \text { A } 19 & \text { liquid assets } & \text { " } & 138 \\ \text { A } 20 & " & 139\end{array}$
A 21 marketable securities
139

## Table

Title

A 22 Equity in portfolio of liquid and investment assets as a percentage of wealth
A 23 Liquid assets as a percentage of wealth
A 24 Equity in publicly traded stock as a percentage of equity in portfolio of liquid and investment assets
A 25 Liquid assets as a percentage of 1962 income
A 26 Instalment debt as a percentage of 1962 income
A 27 Chief investment objective
A 28 Investment objectives
A 29 Assets associated with investment objectives
A 30 Saving objectives
A 31 Investment in life insurance, retirement plans, and individual annuities
a. Percentage
b. Mean

A 32 Inherited assets in relation to total assets
A 33 Characteristics of consumer units
A 34 Mean income of age and employment status groups

Classifying variable
Page

A 1-SIZE OF NET WORTH, DECEMBER 31, 1962


| ＊＊＊＊＊＊烒茅 | －＊＊＊＊＊ぐへ | －•＊＊＊${ }^{\text {c＊＊}}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| －＊＊＊かprn | －＊＊＊＊吻家 | ＊＊＊＊＊N゙ | ＊＊＊＊＊M $\mathrm{S}_{\text {－}}$ |
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A 2-SIZE OF WEALTH, DECEMBER 31, 1962


A 3-SIZE OF EQUITY IN PORTFOLIO OF LIQUID AND INVESTMENT ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1962


A 4－SIZE OF LIQUID ASSETS，DECEMBER 31， 1962

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A 5－SIze OF Equity in publicly traded stock，december 31， 1962

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A 6-SIZE OF DEBT, DECEMBER 31, 1962




A 8 －COMPOSITION OF WEALTH，DECEMBER 31， 1962

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A IO-COMPOSITION OF PORTFOLIO OF LIQUID AND INVESTMENT ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1962


A 10-COMPOSITION OF PORTFOLIO OR LIQULD AND INVESTMENT ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1962 (Continued)



A 10 －COMPOSITION OF PORTFOLIO OF LIQUID AND INVESTMENT ASSETS，DECEMBER 31， 1962 （Continued）

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A 10－COMPOSITION OF PORTFOLIO OF LIQUID AND INVESTMENT ASSETS，DECEMBER 31， 1962 （Continued）






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A 11-COMPOSITION OF SAVINGS ACCOUNTS. DECEMBER 31, 1962

A 12 -COMPOSITION OF MARKETABLE SECURITIES OTHER THAN STOCK, DECEMBER 31, 1962

1 The sum of the assets in this table minus the debt secured by marketable securities other than stock (Table A 14) is equal to the equity shown in Table A 10 .
A 13-COMPOSIfion of publicly traded stock, december 31, 1962


1 The sum of the assets minus the debt is equal to the equity shown in Table A 10 .
A 14-COMPOSITION OF DEBT, DECEMBER 31, 1962


A 14-COMPOSITION OF DEBT, DECEMBER 31, 1962 (Continued)


A 14-COMPOSITION OF DEBT, DECEMBER 31, 1962 (Continued)


A 14-COMPOSITION OF DEBT, DECEMBER 31, 1962 (Continued)



A 16 -distribution of wealth, december 31, 1962




A 23 -LIQUID ASSETS ASA PERGENGGE OF WEALTH,





A 28 -INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES, DECEMBER 31, 1962

A 29-ASSETS ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTMENT ObjeC TIVES, DECEMBER 31, 1962

| Investment objective | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { units } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Cush } \\ \text { and } \\ \text { savink } \\ \text { decounts } \end{gathered}$ | Sccuritics |  |  | Investnient estate | Other assets | $\begin{aligned} & \text { No } \\ & \text { nsed } \\ & \text { ment } \\ & \text { fioned } \end{aligned}$ | Mcilla: number of unis. iil sample |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Stock | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Other } \\ & \text { than } \\ & \text { stock } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Not } \\ \text { specified } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Units mentioning maximum current cash return..............Units mentioning liquidity, ready availability, or marketability. . | 100 | 6 | 49 | - | 3 | 27 | 7 | 6 | 191 |
|  | 100 | 20 | 41 | 12 | 2 | 12 | 9 | 5 | 234 |
| Units mentioning minimizing income taxes.. | 100 | 9 | 24 | 14 | * | 39 | 5 | 9 | 151 |
| Units mentioning sate, steady return................. | 100 | 11 | 39 | 11 | 4 | 18 | 11 | 5 | 579 |
| Size of uealth: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-409... | 100 100 | 11 | 58 | 42 | * | 15 | - | * | 2 |
| \$ \$5,000-9,949.... | 100 100 | 11 | 93 | 12 | * | 15 | 12 | 14 | 13 |
| \$ $\$ 10,000-24,999 . .$. | 100 100 | 15 | 38 | 11 | 4 | 8 14 | 16 | 14 | 31 <br> 94 <br> 1 |
| \$50.000- 99.9999. | 100 100 | 8 | 319 | 12 | 3 | 31 | 7 | - | 111 |
| \$100, (000-199, 999 | 100 | 17 | 41 | 13 | 7 | 18 | ${ }^{9}$ | 8 | 4 |
| \$200,000-499,999. | 100 | 11 | 31) | 8 | 18 | 11 | 27 | 4 | 66 |
| \$500,000 and over. | 100 | 1 | 35 | 19 | 7 | 10 | 27 | 1 | 96 |
| 1962 incoume |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100 | * | 18 | 16 | 12 | 37 | 3 | 14 | 20 |
| \$5,000-7,494)... | 100 100 | 18 | 17 | 10 | 4 | 17 | 19 | 6 | is |
| \$7.500-9.999... $\$ 10.000-14.999$. | $1(0)$ | 18 | 29 49 | 12 | $\underline{5}$ | 19 | 14 | 8 | 51 |
|  | $1(0)$ $1(0)$ | 18 | 53 | 8 |  | 14 | 11 | ${ }^{6}$ | 66 109 109 |
|  | $1(0)$ 100 |  | 38 | 16 | ${ }_{7}$ | 14 | 8 | 1 | 111 |
| ( ${ }^{\text {S }}$ \$0,000-99'999... | 100 100 | $\begin{array}{r}18 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 30 | 11 | 7 40 | 10 |  | . | \% |
| \$100,000 and over . . | 100 | * |  | 26 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 4 | 68 27 |
| Age of head:Under $35 \ldots . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ~$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 35. | $1(\mathrm{~K})$ | 10 | 34 | 23 | 1 | 18 | 14 | - | 15 |
| 45-54... $55-64$ | 1100 100 | 15 16 | 45 45 | 13 | 1 | y | 15 | 7 | 111 |
| $55-64$ 65 and over. | 100 | 7 | 33 | 7 | ${ }_{9}^{4}$ | 30 | 11 | $\frac{2}{1}$ | 1161 |
| 65 and over. | 100 | 8 | 37 | 12 | 2 | 21 | 5 | 14 |  |
| Units mentioning growth of capital through apprectiation in value | 100 | 1 | 51 | 1 | 2 | 24 | 5 | 15 | (ッ) |
| Size of wealth: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\$ 1$ - $9990.3,999$. | 100 100 | * | 45 | : | * | - | - |  |  |
| \$5,000-9,9499....... | $1(x)$ $1(1)$ |  | 73 | 1 | * | 11 | ¢ | 6 | 211 |
|  | 1190) | 4 | 64 49 | 1 | 2 | 17 24 | ; | 18 | 311 |
| \$50,0060-999, 949. | 1100 1100 | * | 41 | * | * | 18 | 3 | 17 | 98 |
| \$100,000-199,999. | 100 100 | - | 57 | $\stackrel{7}{*}$ | 16 | 19 | 4 | 11 | 89 |
| \$200,000-499,999... | 100 | * | 51 43 | i | 10 | 17 | 16 | $\because$ | 75 |
| \$500,000 and over.... | 100 | - | 53 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 24 | 8 | 180 |


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A 30-Saving objectives, dectaber 31, 1962

a 31-investment in life insurance, retirement plans, and individual annuities, december 31, 1962


[^23]A 32-INHERITED ASSETS IN RELATION TO TOTAL ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1962 (Percentage distribution of consumer units)

| Group characteristic | $\underset{\text { All }}{\text { Anits }}$ | Inherited assets |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | None | Some | Portion of total assets |  | Nut ascertained |
|  |  |  |  | Small | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sub- } \\ & \text { stantial } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| All units. | 100 | 83 | 16 | 12 | 5 | - |
| Size of wealth : | 100 | 95 | 5 | 5 | * | * |
| \$1,000-4,999. | 100 | 87 | 12 | 9 | 4 | * |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 100 | 82 | 18 | 12 | 6 | * |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 100 | 77 | 23 | 17 | 6 | * |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 100 100 | 75 74 | 24 24 | 16 | ${ }_{12}$ | ; |
| $\$ 50,000-99,999 \ldots$ $\mathbf{1 0 0 , 0 0 0}-199,999$ | 100 100 | 74 46 | 54 | 32 | 22 | - |
| \$200,000-499,999 | 100 | 59 | 41 | 28 | 13 | * |
| \$ $\$ 00,000$ and over. | 100 | 39 | 59 | 24 | 34 | 2 |
| 1962 income: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $0-\$ 2,999$. $\$ 3,000-4,999$ | 100 100 | 84 88 | 16 | 10 | 6 3 | : |
| \$5,000-7,499 | 100 | 84 | 16 | 12 | 4 | * |
| \$7,500-9,999 | 100 | 80 | 20 | 14 | 5 | * |
| \$10,000-14,999. | 100 | 84 | 16 | 11 | 5 | * |
| \$15,000-24,999. | 100 | 73 | 27 | 21 | 6 | * |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 100 | 58 | 42 | 34 | 8 | 3 |
| $\mathbf{\$ 5 0 , 0 0 0 - 9 9 , 9 9 9 .}$ $\$ 100,000$ and over. | 100 100 | 71 31 | 26 66 | 12 | 14 57 | 3 2 |
| Age of head: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\text { Under } 35 \text {.. }$ | 100 100 | 91 87 | ${ }_{13}^{9}$ | ${ }_{9}^{8}$ | 1 | * |
| $35-44 \ldots$ $45-54$. | 100 | 83 | 17 | 12 | 4 | * |
| 55-64.. | 100 | 75 | 24 | 17 | 7 | ! |
| 65 and over. | 100 | 79 | 21 | 12 | 9 | - |


| Group characteristic | 1962income (mean in dollars) | Age ofhead(mean inyears) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Education } \\ & \text { of head } \\ & \text { (mean in in } \\ & \text { years) } \end{aligned}$ | Size of unit (mean number of persons) | Percentage of units |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | In urbani | arcas |
|  |  |  |  |  | wite working | Population 1,OCO, (OOK) and over | Other |
| All units . | 6,378 | 49 | 10 | 3.2 | 27 | 11 | 45 |
| Size of weath : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$1-999... | 4,121 | 39 45 | 10 | 3.4 | 24 34 | 13 | 44 |
| \$5,000-9,999. | 5,970 | 50 | 10 | 3.4 | 30 | 8 | 47 |
| \$10,000-24,999 | 6,849 | 52 | 10 | 3.3 | 27 | 10 | 49 |
| \$25,000 - 49, 949 | 8,014 | 96 | 11 | 2.8 | 31 | 12 | 43 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 11,302 | 56 | 12 | 3.0 | 28 19 | 10 | 42 |
| $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0 , 0 0 0}-199,999$. $\mathbf{\$ 2 0 0}$ | 17,138 24,258 | 56 61 | 13 | 3.3 2.6 | 19 9 | 10 6 | ${ }_{38}^{44}$ |
| \$500,000 and over. | 63,508 | 58 | 15 | 3.0 | 17 | 7 | 53 |


| Size of portfolio: | 5.528 | 42 | 11 | 3.7 | 33 | 8 | 46 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$1-499.999 | 6,409 | 47 | 11 | 3.3 | 32 | 12 | 43 |
| \$2,000-4,999. | 6,820 | 51 | 11 | 3.0 | 33 | 10 | 46 |
| \$5,000-9.999 | 7,338 | 55 | 10 | 2.8 | 20 | 10 | 54 |
| \$10,000-24,999. | 8,163 | 56 | 11 | 2.9 | 29 | 11 | 41 |
| \$25,000-49,999 | 11.128 | 60 | 11 | 2.5 | 29 | 18 | 47 |
| \$50,000-99,999 | 12.632 | 56 | 12 | 2.5 | 15 | 14 | 44 |
| \$150,000-499,999 | 26,095 | 61 | 13 | 2.9 | 5 | ${ }^{9}$ | 50 |
| \$500,000 and over. | 73,084 | 62 | 15 | 2.6 | 5 | 13 | 72 |
| 1962 income: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| O- \$2, 949. | 1,576 | 57 | 8 | 2.2 | 8 | 12 | 34 |
| \$3,000-4,999. | 3,970 | 47 | ${ }^{9}$ | 3.3 | 20 | 12 | 43 |
|  | 6,219 | 44 | 4 | 3.8 | 36 | 9 | 49 |
| \$7,500-9,999 | 8,630 | 44 | 11 | 3.8 | 42 | 11 | 51 |
| \$10,000-14,999. | 11,960 | 47 | 12 | 3.8 | 50 | 14 | 55 |
| \$15,000-24,999. | 17,758 | 49 | 14 | 3.7 | 42 | 13 | 66 |
| \$25,000-49,999. | 34,534 | 52 | 15 | 3.5 | 19 | 13 | 58 |
| \$50,000-99,999. | 61,207 | 57 | 14 | 2.9 | 6 | 7 | 43 |
| \$100,000 and over. | 158,166 | 66 | 16 | 2.6 | 3 | 6 | 39 |
| Age of head: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 35. | 5.707 | 28 | 12 | 3.8 | 33 | 11 | 46 |
| 35-44. | 7,531 | 40 | 11 | 4.4 | 30 | 9 | 49 |
| 45 - 54. | 7,845 | 49 | 11 | 3.4 | 38 | 12 | 47 |
| 55-64. | 6,577 | 60 | 9 | 2.4 | 25 | 14 | 42 |
| 65 and over. | 4,105 | 73 | 8 | 2.0 | 8 | 11 | 40 |
| Employment status of head: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-employed. | 10,841 | 49 | 11 | 3.5 | 44 | 12 | 42 |
| Employed by others. | 6,990 | 43 | 11 | 3.5 | 33 | 11 | 51 |
| Retired. | 2,820 | 74 | 7 | 1.9 | 4 | 14 | 37 |

: Average reported years were used for those not reporting. Less than 2 per cent of all units did not report number of years in school.

A 35--SAMPLE SIZE FOR SPECIFIED GROUPS, DECEMBER 31, 1962

A 36-CONSUMER UNITS IN SURVEY POPULATION, DECEMBER 31, 1962

A 37-POVERTY INCOME STATUS--SIZE OF NET WORTH, DECEMBER 31, 1962

1 Level 1 is the economy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a brief explanation and references.
2 Level 2 is the low-cost level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See fext for a brief explanation and references.
A 38 - poverty income status size of wealth, december 31, 1962

| Group characteristic | $\underset{\text { units }}{\text { All }}$ | Negative | Zero | \$1- 999 | $\begin{array}{r} 51.000 \\ 4.999 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathbf{5 5 , 0 0 0 -} \\ 9.999 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 10,000- \\ & 24.949 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathbf{\$ 2 5 , 0 0 0} \\ 49.999 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{S} 50,000 \\ & y 9, y y y \\ & \hline, y y y \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 100.006) \\ & \text { and over } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All units (total population). | 100 | 2 | 8 | 16 | 19 | 16 | 23 | 11 | 4 | 2 |
| Unrelated individuals Families of 2 or more | 100 100 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | ${ }_{6}^{19}$ | 20 14 | 16 19 | 13 16 | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \\ & 24 \end{aligned}$ | 11 | 3 | 1 |
| CLASSIFICATION BY ECONOMY LEVEL (Level 1) 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Units with income below Level 1 . | 100 | 2 | 28 | 21 | 15 | 16 | 12 | 5 | 1 | - |
| Unrelated individuals. | 100 | - | 32 | 18 | 13 | 15 | 18 | 4 | - | - |
| Under age $65 .$. Age 65 and over. | 100 100 | : | 37 27 | ${ }_{13}^{22}$ | 11 16 | 15 23 | 20 10 | ${ }_{5}^{2}$ | ! | : |
| Families of 2 or more. | 100 | 4 | 25 | 24 | 17 | 17 | 7 | 5 | 1 | - |
| Size of family: 2 persons 5 or mo or more. | 100 100 100 | ${ }_{8}^{2}$ | 22 34 20 | 4 41 41 | 20 21 11 | 25 15 13 | 14 3 5 | 12 4 2 | $\stackrel{?}{ }$ | $!$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Age of head: } \\ & \text { Under } 35 \ldots \\ & 35-44 \ldots \\ & 45-64 \ldots \\ & 65 \text { and over } \end{aligned}$ | 100 100 100 100 | 8 3 4 | 38 24 24 7 | 37 32 16 13 | 13 16 20 16 | 3 16 9 46 | \% 71 | 1 111 7 | ? | 2 |
| Employment status of head: Self-employed Employed by others. Retired. | 100 100 100 | 9 | 25 | ${ }_{13} 37$ | 23 15 17 | 24 11 46 | 23 3 7 | 21 3 8 | : | 2 |
| All other units. | 100 | 2 | 3 | 14 | 19 | 16 | 26 | 12 | 5 | 3 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 100 | 2 | 7 | 23 | $1{ }^{19}$ | 12 | 20 | 10 | 6 | 2 |
| Under age 65 Age 65 and over. | 100 100 | 3 | 7 | 30 6 | 20 17 | 12 | 2910 | 888 | $11^{3}$ | 1 |
| Families of 2 or more. | 100 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 20 | 16 | 27 | 13 | 5 | 3 |
| Size of family: 2 persons 3 or 4. 5 or more. | 100 100 100 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 | 17 12 | 18 19 23 | 11 18 20 | 27 25 30 | 20 11 6 | 4 5 | 5 3 2 |
| Age of head Under 35 $35-44$ $45-64$ 45-64 5 and over | 100 100 100 100 | $\stackrel{4}{1}$ | 2 2 2 2 4 | 33 9 5 5 | 31 21 15 10 | 17 22 14 9 | 10 30 34 34 | 2 10 17 23 | 1 4 7 | 2 4 4 |
| Employment status of head: Self-employed Fmployed by others Retired. | 100 100 100 | ? | 3 | 3 15 5 | 7 24 9 | 12 18 9 | 2 k 2 37 | 20 4 26 | 18 3 6 | 13 6 |








| CLASSIFICATION BY LOW-COST LEVEL (Level 2) ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Units with income below Level 2.... | 100 | 2 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 100 | - |
| Under age 65.... Age 65 and over. | 100 100 | - |
| Families of 2 or more. | 100 | 3 |
| Size of family: |  |  |
| 2 persons... 3 or $4 .$. | 100 100 | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 5 or more | 100 | 6 |
| Age of head: |  |  |
| Under 35. | 100 100 | 7 3 |
| 45-64. | 100 | 3 |
| 65 and over. | 100 | - |
| Employment status of head: |  |  |
| Self-employed..... | 100 | 5 |
| Employed by others. Retired. | 100 100 | ${ }^{5}$ |
| All other units. | 100 | 1 |
| Unrelated individuals | 100 | 2 |
| Under age $65 .$. Age 65 and over | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & 100 \end{aligned}$ | ${ }^{3}$ |
| Familics of 2 or more. | 100 | 1 |
| Size of family: |  |  |
| ${ }^{2}$ persons. | 100 100 | 1 |
| 5 or more | 100 | 2 |
| Age of head: |  |  |
| Under 35. | 100 | 4 |
| 35-44... | 100 100 | 1 |
| 65 and over | 100 | - |
| Employment status of head: |  |  |
| Selfemployed..... | 100 | * |
| Employed by others Retired. | 100 100 | ? |

A 39-POVERTY INCOME STATUS-SIZE OF EQUITY IN PORTFOLIO OF LLQUID AND INVESTMENT ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1962

| Group characteristic | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { units } \end{gathered}$ | Negative | Zero | $\begin{aligned} & 51- \\ & 199 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 200 \\ 499 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 500 \\ 999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 51,000 \\ 1,999 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 52,000 \\ 4,994 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathbf{5 5}, 000- \\ 9,999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 10,000- \\ & 14,999 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 15,000 \\ 24,999 \end{array}$ | $\$ 25.060$ and over |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All units (total population). | 100 | - | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| Unrelated individuals. . <br> Families of 2 or more. | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & 100 \end{aligned}$ | - | $\begin{aligned} & 31 \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 11 \\ & 16 \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{10}^{8}$ | 7 10 | 5 | -14 | 11 | 3 5 | 3 | 7 |
| CLASSIFICATION BY ECONOMY LEVEL (Level 1)1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Units with income below Level 1. . . . . . . | 100 | * | 54 | 13 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 |  |
| Unrelated individuals. | 100 | - | 48 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Under age 65... Age 65 and over. | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & 100 \end{aligned}$ | * | $\begin{aligned} & 55 \\ & 41 \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{10}{-8}$ | 4 10 | 4 | 6 | 12 9 | 18 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Families of 2 or more. | 100 | - | 59 | 17 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Size of family: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 persons.. | 100 | * | 49 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 9 | - | 9 | 4 |
| 3 or $4 \ldots . .$. 5 or more. . | 100 100 | * | 61 66 | 23 16 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | * | * |
| Age of head: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35-44... | 100 | * | 60 | 23 | 8 | 2 | * | 3 | 2 | 1 | * | $\bullet$ |
| $45-64$. | 100 100 | * | 65 38 | 9 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 4 | : | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 65 and over. | 100 | * | 38 | 15 | * | 7 | 2 | 10 | 16 | - | 10 | 2 |
| Employment status of head: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Selfermployed . | 100 100 |  | 25 64 | 43 19 | 8 9 | ${ }_{3}^{6}$ | 5 | 4 | 9 | i | * | i |
| Retired........... | 100 | * | 41 | 17 | * | 7 | 3 | 11 | 10 | $\stackrel{ }{*}$ | 10 | 2 |
| All other units. | 100 | * | 11 | 16 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 100 | - | 16 | 13 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 17 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 11 |
| Under age 65.... Age 65 and over. | 100 100 | * | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \\ & 10 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ 6 \end{array}$ | 11 | $\begin{aligned} & 9 \\ & 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | 17 | 10 16 | $\stackrel{2}{9}$ | $\stackrel{2}{9}$ | $8_{8}^{8}$ |
| Families of 2 or more. | 100 | * | 10 | 16 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| Size of family: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 persons.. | 100 | * | 11 | 8 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 14 | 9 |  |  |  |
| 3 or $4 \ldots . .$. 5 or more. | 100 100 |  | 10 | 19 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 14 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 5 |
| 5 or more. | 100 | * | 10 | 22 | 16 | 12 | 9 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 45-64.... | 100 | * | 11 | 17 | 13 8 | 12 10 | 13 10 | 14 16 | ${ }^{9}$ | 7 | 2 | 4 |
| 65 and over. | 100 | * | 8 | 6 | 7 | 11 | 6 | 13 | 13 | 10 |  | 11 |
| Employment status of head: 100 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-employed. . . . . . . . . | 100 100 |  | 113 | 12 | 12 | 11 | ${ }_{1}^{6}$ | 16 | 9 | ${ }_{5}$ | 4 | 22 |
| Retired............ | 100 | * | 10 | 19 4 | 12 | 12 | 115 | 14 12 | 8 14 | 13 | 4 | 17 |

CLASSIFICATION BY LOW-COST LEVEL
(Level 2) ${ }^{2}$
Units with income



1 Level 1 is the economy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a brief explanation and references.
2 Level 2 is the low-cost level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a brief explanation and references,
A 40-POVERTY income status size of liquid assets, december 31, 1962




[^24]A 41-POVERTY inCOME STATUS-COMPOSItION OF WEALTH, DECEMBER 31, 1962

| Group characteristic | Own home | Automobile | Business, profession (farm and nonfarm) | Portfolio of liquid and investment assets |  |  |  |  |  | Miscellantous assets |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | All | Liquid assets | Investment assets |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | All | Publicly traded stock | Marketable securities other than stock | Other |  |
|  | a. Percentage of group having equity in specified assets--consumer units grouped by various characteristics |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All units (total population) . . . . | 57 | 73 | 17 | 80 | 79 | 31 | 16 | 3 | 20 | 8 |
| Unrelated individuals. Families of 2 or more. | 34 62 | $\begin{aligned} & 34 \\ & 83 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ 19 \end{array}$ | 69 82 | $\begin{aligned} & 68 \\ & 81 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22 \\ & 33 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13 \\ & 17 \end{aligned}$ | $\frac{2}{3}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13 \\ & 22 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \\ & 8 \end{aligned}$ |
| CLASSIFICATION BY ECONOMY LEVEL (Level 1) ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Units with income below Level 1. . | 38 | 38 | 12 | 46 | 44 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 5 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 38 | 15 | 4 | 52 | 51 | 12 | 6 | * | 6 | 4 |
| Under age 65.... . Age 65 and over. | 27 48 | 24 7 | 9 | 45 59 | $\begin{aligned} & 45 \\ & 57 \end{aligned}$ | 16 9 | 10 2 | * | 5 | ${ }_{3}^{5}$ |
| Families of 2 or more. | 38 | 55 | 17 | 41 | 39 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 6 |
|  | 60 33 26 | 48 42 70 | 17 13 21 | 51 39 34 | 50 36 32 | 19 6 5 | 10 | 5 | 10 6 5 | 8 7 9 |
| Age of head: Under $35 \ldots$ $35-44 \ldots \ldots$ $45-64 . \ldots$ 65 and over. | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \\ & 29 \\ & 45 \\ & 69 \end{aligned}$ | 57 62 50 51 | 6 22 24 12 | 30 40 35 62 | $\begin{aligned} & 30 \\ & 38 \\ & 35 \\ & 54 \end{aligned}$ | 5 10 26 | 6 6 | : | 4 4 21 | 3 7 9 7 |
| All other units | 62 | 83 | 18 | 89 | 88 | 36 | 19 | 3 | 23 | 9 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 30 | 51 | 6 | 84 | 83 | 31 | 20 | 3 | 19 | 7 |
| Under age 65 Age 65 and over. | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \\ & 44 \end{aligned}$ | 59 32 | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \\ & 8 \end{aligned}$ | 81 90 | $\begin{aligned} & 80 \\ & 89 \end{aligned}$ | 25 46 | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \\ & 32 \end{aligned}$ | $\frac{2}{6}$ | 16 25 | 8 |
| Families of 2 or more. | 67 | 88 | 20 | 90 | 89 | 37 | 19 | 3 | 24 | 9 |
| Size of family: 2 persons. 3 or 4 . 5 or more | 68 65 69 | $\begin{aligned} & 80 \\ & 89 \\ & 95 \end{aligned}$ | 20 17 22 | 89 90 90 | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \\ & 89 \\ & 89 \end{aligned}$ | 40 36 35 | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \\ & 19 \\ & 18 \end{aligned}$ | 4 3 3 | 27 22 24 | 9 8 9 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 43 \\ & 67 \\ & 80 \\ & 72 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 94 \\ & 91 \\ & 88 \\ & 68 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \\ & 20 \\ & 23 \\ & 23 \end{aligned}$ | 86 $\mathbf{9 2}$ 89 $\mathbf{9 2}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 85 \\ & 91 \\ & 88 \\ & 92 \end{aligned}$ | 24 37 45 38 | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \\ & 16 \\ & 24 \\ & 21 \end{aligned}$ | 2 3 4 6 | 12 24 31 26 | 6 10 10 11 |


| Units with income below Level $2 \ldots . . . . . . . . . . .$. | 41 | 47 | 13 | 54 | 52 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unrelated individuals. | 37 | 17 | 4 | 54 | 53 | 11 | 5 | * | 6 | 4 |
| Under age 65 Age 65 and over. | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \\ & 46 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \\ & 10 \end{aligned}$ | 8 | $\begin{aligned} & 45 \\ & 61 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 45 \\ & 59 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ 8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ 2 \end{array}$ | * | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \\ & 6 \end{aligned}$ | 4 |
| Families of 2 or more... | 44 | 62 | 18 | 54 | 52 | 13 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 6 |
| Size of family: 2 persons. 3 or 4 <br> 5 or more. | 61 36 38 | 50 53 77 | 16 15 22 | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \\ & 49 \\ & 51 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 62 \\ & 47 \\ & 49 \end{aligned}$ | 17 8 12 | 8 2 2 | 3 | 10 6 11 | 11 5 4 |
| Age of head: Under 35. 35-44. 45-64. 65 and over. | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \\ & 37 \\ & 53 \\ & 69 \end{aligned}$ | 72 70 55 50 | 8 23 28 12 | 44 53 49 71 | 44 52 48 67 | 3 11 14 24 | 2 2 6 5 | 2 | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 7 \\ 10 \\ 19 \end{array}$ | 3 5 7 11 |
| All other units. . | 63 | 84 | 18 | 90 | 89 | 38 | 21 | 3 | 25 | 9 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 30 | 52 | 6 | 85 | 84 | 34 | 21 | 3 | 20 | 7 |
| Under age 65 Age 65 and over. | 25 45 | 61 30 | 5 9 | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \\ & 91 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \\ & 90 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \\ & 54 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \\ & 37 \end{aligned}$ | 2 | $\begin{aligned} & 16 \\ & 30 \end{aligned}$ | 8 5 |
| Families of 2 or more. | 68 | 89 | 20 | 91 | 90 | 39 | 21 | 3 | 25 | 9 |
| Size of family: 2 persons 3 or 4 . 5 or more. | 68 67 71 | 82 91 96 | 21 17 22 | 89 92 93 | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \\ & 91 \\ & 91 \end{aligned}$ | 42 38 38 | 22 20 20 | 4 3 4 | 28 24 24 | 9 9 10 |
| Age of head: Under 35. 35-44. 45-64. 65 and over. | 45 68 80 74 | 94 92 89 73 | 12 19 23 26 | 90 93 90 95 | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \\ & 92 \\ & 89 \\ & 95 \end{aligned}$ | 26 38 46 43 | 15 17 25 26 | 2 3 4 7 | 13 26 31 29 | 6 11 10 9 |


A 41-POVERTY INCOME STATUS-COMPOSITION OF WEALTII, DECEMBER 31, 1962 (Continued)



Classification by low-cost level.

Unrelared individuals...
Under 65 and over.
Amilies of 2 or more.
Size of family:
2
2
Age of head:
Under $35 \ldots$
$35-44 \ldots$
$45-64 \ldots \ldots$
atate mex
nrelated individuals.
Under age $65 \ldots$
Age 65 and over.

1 Level 1 is the economy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a brief explanation and references.
2 Level 2 is the low-cosi devel as defined by the Social Security Administration. Sec text for a brief explanation and references.
A 42-POVERTY INCOME STATUS-COMPOSITION OF DEBT, DECEMBER 31, 1962


[^25]a 43-poverty income status-Characteristics of consumer units and sample size for specified groups, december 31, 1962

| Group | $\begin{gathered} 1962 \\ \begin{array}{c} 1960 \\ \text { incone } \\ \text { (ment in } \\ \text { doltarss) } \end{array} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age of } \\ \text { head } \\ \text { (nean in } \\ \text { years) } \end{gathered}$ | Consumer units |  | Group |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age of } \\ \text { head } \\ \text { (mean in } \\ \text { years) } \end{gathered}$ | Consumer units |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Percent age distribution | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number } \\ \text { in in } \\ \text { sample } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | Percent age dis- tribution fribution | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Number } \\ & \text { in } \\ & \text { sunple } \end{aligned}$ |
| All units (total population). | 6,378 | 49 | 100 | 2,557 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unrelated individuals. Families of 2 or more | 2, 285 7.206 | 58 47 | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \\ & 81 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 349 \\ 2,208 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| CLASSIFICATION BY ECONOMY LEVEL (Level 1) ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  | Classification by low-cost level (Level 2) ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Units with income below Level 1. | 1,444 | 54 | 100 | 320 | Units with income below Level 2. | 1,966 | 53 | 100 | 447 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 809 | 62 | 42 | 128 | Unrelated individuals | 882 | 62 | 33 | 139 |
| Under age 65 Age 65 and over | 783 834 | $\begin{aligned} & 49 \\ & 75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \\ & 22 \end{aligned}$ | 65 63 | Under age $65 \ldots$ Age 65 and over | ${ }_{902}^{862}$ | 78 | 16 | 71 $6 \times$ |
| Families of $\mathbf{2}$ or more. | 1,903 | 49 | 58 | 192 | Families of 2 or more | 2,509 | 48 | 67 | 308 |
| Size of family: 2 persons. |  |  |  |  | Size of family: $\substack{\text { persons. }}$ | 1,438 | 64 | 18 |  |
| ${ }^{3} 3$ or $4 . \ldots .$. | 1,642 | ${ }_{4}^{44}$ | 18 | 54 59 | , ${ }^{2}$ 3 person... | 2, | $4{ }^{43}$ | 20 28 | 198 134 |
| 5 or more. | 2,688 | 43 | 23 | 79 | S or more | 3,453 | 42 | 28 |  |
| Age of head: |  |  |  |  | Age of head: Under 35. |  | 28 | 17 |  |
| 35-44... | 2, 260 | 28 45 5 | 15 | 51 | 35 -44... | - 2,912 | 40 | 16 | 79 |
| $45-64 \ldots$ 65 and over. | 1,758 | 55 75 | 18 11 | 60 34 | $45-64 \ldots$ 65 and over. | -1,862 | 54 74 | 15 | 86 60 |
| Employnuent status of head: |  |  |  |  | Employment status of head. |  |  |  |  |
| Sell-employed....... | 1,518 2,429 | 45 40 | ${ }^{5}$ | 20 91 | Selli-cmployed...... | 2,757 | ${ }^{47}$ | $3_{3}^{7}$ | 15 157 |
| Retired. ${ }^{\text {Empot. }}$ | 1,443 | 76 | 11 | 31 | Refired. | 1,762 | 76 | 12 | S0 |
| All other units. | 7,708 | 47 | 100 | 2,237 | All other units. | 8,179 | 47 | 100 | 2,110 |
| Unrelated individuals. | 4,655 | 54 | 13 | 221 | Unrelated individuals | 4,897 | 54 | 13 | 210 |
| Under age 65. Age 65 and over | 5,144 | ${ }_{72} 7$ | 4 | 160 61 | Under age 65. Age 65 and over | 5,314 3,867 | 46 | 4 | ${ }_{\substack{154 \\ 50}}$ |
| Families of 2 or more. | 8.157 | 46 | 87 | 2,016 | Families of 2 or more. | 8,675 | 46 | 87 | 1,500 |
| Size of family: |  |  |  |  | Size of family: $\substack{\text { persomis }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 2 persuns... 3 or $4 \ldots$ | 8,211 | ${ }_{4}^{56}$ | 36 | ${ }_{8}^{672}$ |  | 8,6, 87 | 43 | 37 | ${ }_{7} 745$ |
| 5 or more. | 8,778 | 40 | 24 | 510 | 5 or more. | 9,597 | 40 | 22 | 455 |
| Age of head: |  |  |  |  | Age of head: |  |  |  |  |
| 35-44... | 8,759 | 39 | ${ }_{21}^{21}$ | 444 | 35-44... | 9, 9,94 | 39 | 21 | 411 |
| ${ }^{45}$-64... | ¢ 9 9,786 | ${ }_{71}$ | 34 | 957 271 | $45-64 \ldots$ 65 and 0 er | 9.404 8.029 | ${ }_{71}$ | 36 9 | 931 245 |
| Empluyment status of head: |  |  |  |  | Employment status of head: |  |  |  |  |
| Sell-employed.i.... | 12,284 8,097 | ${ }_{43}^{49}$ | ${ }_{63}^{10}$ |  |  | 13,446 8.455 | ${ }_{4}^{49}$ | 10 64 | -488 |
|  | - ${ }^{8,926}$ | 73 | ${ }_{6}^{63}$ | +112 | Employed by other | $\stackrel{8}{5,848}$ | 72 | ${ }_{5}^{64}$ | 1,197 ${ }_{93}$ |

[^26]
[^0]:    A brief report, published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin for March 1964, FP. 285-93, presented some highlights from the Survey based on preliminary data that had not been subjected to statistical review. The review has now been completed, and corrections that were supplied by respondents inlerviewed again in the spring of 1964 for the Survey of Changes in Family Finances have been incorporated in the data. The tables in this report supersede those published in March 1964.
    The preliminary data were also used in Dorothy S. Projector, "Consumer Asset Preferences," The American Economic Review, May 1965, pp. 227-51. Section 4 of this report presents revised and expanded data on this subject.

[^1]:    - In a few instances a debt against an asset was larger than the value the respondent put on that asset. resulting in negative equity for that asset and, except when positive equities in oher assets compensated, negative wealth. For 2 per cent of ill units the wealth estimate was negative. The proportions of consumer units shown in the tables as having equities are the proportions ouning each of the assets. including those with negative equilies

[^2]:    $\because$ A review of the pertinent literature is given in Robert Ferber. "Rescarch on Household Behavior," American EcoHomis Review. March 1962. pp. 19.63.

[^3]:    : The regression is weighted and the standard errors have been computed in accordance with the model described by L. R. Klein. Econometrics (Evanston, Ill.: Ruw, Peterson and Co., 1956), p. 308. The estimation procedure does not take into account the sample design so that the sampling errors of the regression coefficients should be viewed as rough approxiof the regression coefficients should
    mations of the rue standard errors.

    Cases with negative wealth and negative income have been omitted from the regression. Cases with zero wealth were considered to have $\$ 1$ of wealth-that is, the logarithms of wealth for these cases entered the regression as zero. To avoid proLiferation of dummy variables, self-employed farmers have been included with nonfarm self-employed and farm laborers ween included with nonfarm self-emplarm salaried group. Hence, the employment with the nonfarm salaried group. Hence, the employment
    groups of the regression differ from those shown in Table A 8 , groups of the regression differ from those shown in Table A 8,
    because the groups shown in that table are confined to nonfarm units.

[^4]:    For these charts consumer units have been arrayed by income, rather than by holdings of each asset type, as in the usual form of the Lorenz curve. Such curves have been described as "hybrid Lorenz curves" by Hainsworth. See G. B. Hainsworth, "The Lorenz Curve as a General Tool of Economic Analysis.: The Economic Record, Melbourne, Australia: Melbourne University Press. Seprember 1964, pp. 426-41.
    Also see M. O. Lorenz, "Methods of Measuring the Concentration of Wealth," Quarterly Publication of the American Statistical Association, June 1905.

[^5]:    - A preliminary version of this material, based on incomoletely edited data. was presented at the December 1964 meetings of the American Economic Association. See "Consumer Asset Preferences." The American Economic Review, May 1965, pp. 227.51.
    Mr. Lawrence E. Thumpson in discussing the paper noted that ${ }^{.}$. . . it should be recognized that these specific elasticity estimates have little explanatory or predictive power where in erest is centered on investment flows" (p. 281). In particular he notes that the finding of high elasticities for stock is at tributable in some unknown degree to capital gains. This observation seems entirely proper. Mr. Thompson also notes, however, that "It may be argued that this is not important for a preference interpretation of elasticity estimates, since the decision to continue to hold an appreciating asset is prima facie evidence of a continuing. strong preference for that asset" ( $p$. 231). It is in this sense that the preference concept as used in his section should be interpreted-that is. as preferences for holding various asset types.

[^6]:    For example. John Spraos describes "An Engie-Type Curve for Cash." The Manchester School of Economic and Social Stitites, May 1957. pp. 183-89, and J. S. Cramer describes "Ownership Elasticities of Durable Consumer Goods," Review of Economic Studies, February 1958, pp. 87-96. Some theoretical aspects of expressing preferences in terms of stocks instead of flows are discussed by Cramer in "A Dynamic Approach to of fows are discussed by Cramer in A Dynamic Approach to the Theory of Consumer Demand
    Stucites, February 1957, pp. 73-86.

[^7]:    - The estimated parameters of the three functions and estimated elasticities based on the functions are shown in the Tables and Notes for Section 4, p. 79. The Tables and Notes also contain a comparison of the functions with respect to goodness-of-fit and a brief discussion of methods of estimation.

[^8]:    ${ }^{10}$ C. E. V. Leser, "Forms of Engel Functions." Econometrica, October 1963, p. 695. Leser's equation (3) is equivalent to the function just described. See also Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics. Statistical Studies, No. 10, July 1960, and H. S. Houthakker, "Additive Preferences," Econometrica, April 1960, pp. 244-57.

[^9]:    ${ }^{11}$ As may be seen in Table A 35, the sample for the youngest age group becomes extremely thin above the $\$ 10,000-\$ 24,999$ wealth level. Results have been presented for completeness, but the small sample size should be borne in mind.

[^10]:    ${ }^{12}$ It is of interest that the constant elasticity function indicates that one of the subcomponents of liquid assets-shares in savings and loan associations-has elasticities greater than one in the two younger age groups. Comparable elasticities have not been prepared for the second function because the estimation procedures depend on the grouping of assets and would have required estimation of a different set of elasticities.

[^11]:    ${ }^{13}$ The Gini coefficient is equal to twice the area between the curves of actual and equal distribution; see M. G. Kendall and Alan Stuart, The Advanced Theory of Statistics, (New York: Hafner Publishing Co., 1958), Vol. I, pp. 47-49.

    14 This measure was used by Morgan with income data. The coefficients obtained were of the same general magnitude as the one from this Survey, that is, between 0.38 and 0.40 for the 5 years between 1953 and 1959. James Morgan, "The Anatomy of the Income Distribution," Review of Economics and Statistics, August 1962, pp. 271-72 and 281-82.

[^12]:    ${ }^{15}$ Some of the difference in frequency of ownership of checking accounts is probably attributable to the manner in which checking accounts were reported by entrepreneurial units. This problem is discpssed below in connection with employment status differences. The main resuit is that mixed personalbusiness accounts were counted as business assets rather than as checking accounts. Because the youngest age group has relatively fewer entrepreneurial units than the 35-64 group, some atively fewer entrepreneurial units than the $35-64$ group, some
    of the difference in proportion owning may reflect the differences in composition of the group with respect to employment status.

[^13]:    ${ }^{16}$ Groups too small for separate analysis and too diverse to be combined have been omitted from this analysis. These are units headed by farm operators, farm laborers, persons under 65 years of age with no work experience during 1962, and those whose occupation was not reported.

[^14]:    ${ }_{17}$ These means have been derived from Table A 33 showing data for the age group 65 and over and for the retired. Data for the nonretired aged 65 and over are not shown separately.

[^15]:    ${ }^{1 s}$ Mollie Orshansky, "Counting the Poor: Another Look at the Poverty Profile," and "Who's Who among the Poor: a Demographic View of Poverty," Social Security Bulletin, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, January 1965, and July 1965.
    ${ }^{19}$ Because the Survey sample was designed for efficiency in producing data on the size and composition of wealth, the number of cases with high incomes is larger and the numbers number of cases with high incomes is larger and the numbers
    in the poverty groups smaller than would be provided by a in the poverty groups smaller than would be provided by a
    sample of the same size that employed uniform sampling rates. Hence the data on the wealth of units with incomes below poverty levels are based on small numbers. These are shown in Table A 43. In spite of differences in sample size and design, this Survey yields the same general conclusions as to the number and characteristics of units having incomes below poverty levels as do the much larger Census samples used by the SSA as a source of income data.

[^16]:    ${ }^{20}$ Mollie Orshansky, "Counting the Poor: Another Look at the Poverty Profile,"'Social Security Bulletin, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, January 1965, p. 28.
    ${ }^{2}$ For example, Economic Report of the President, January 1966, p. 111, and January 1965, pp. 162-66.

[^17]:    ${ }^{22}$ Another possibility would be to convert wealth into income on the basis of annuity yields, but this does not seem appropriate for the wide age range covered by this survey. The income stream from a given sum would be small for young units and large for older units, reffecting differences in life expectancy. Moreover, the annuity approach does not correspond with the way wealth is actually used. Outright purchases of annuities are unusual, especially by those with low incomes or small amounts of wealth.

[^18]:    ${ }^{23}$ This discussion was prepared by the Statistical Methods Division of the Bureau of the Census.

[^19]:    2: The method of adjustment for complete nonresponse was developed by the Board's staff and was reviewed by the Census Bureau. The adjustment of the weights was carried out by the Board's staff.

[^20]:    ${ }^{27}$ The Statistical Methods Division of the Census Bureau outlined the method of computing the standard errors and prepared this description; the Board's staff made the computations.
    ${ }^{2}$ Morris H. Hansen and others, Sample Survey Methods and Theory (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1953), Vol. 1 p. 129.

[^21]:    ${ }^{20}$ This discussion of response error was prepared by the Statistical Research Division of the Census Bureau.
    :1 See, for example:
    Arthur L. Broida. "Consumer Surveys as a Source of Information for Social Accounting: the Problems," in The Flow. of-Funds Approach to Social Accounting: Appraisal, Analysis, and Applications (National Bureau of Economic Research, Princeron University Press, 1962), pp. 335-81.

    Robert Ferber, Collecting Financial Data by Constaner Panel Techniques (Urbana; Bureau of Economic and Business Research. University of Illinois, 1999).

    Robert Ferber, "The Reliability of Consumer Surveys of Financial Holdings: Time Deposits," Journal of the American Statisrical Association, March 1965, pp. 148-63.
    W. Horn, "Reliability Survey. A Survey on the Reliability of Responses to an Interview Survey," Het PTT-bedrijf. October 1960. pp. 105-56.

    Iohn B. Lansing and others, An In'estigarion of Response Error (Urbana: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Illinois, 1961).

[^22]:    ${ }^{32}$ See Stanley Silverberg, "Bank Trust Investments: Their Size and Significance," National Banking Review, June 1964, pp. 577-98.

[^23]:    1 Includes values estimated in the editing process.
    ${ }_{2}^{\text {Average ree Technical Noted }}$ Natues were used for those not
    reporting value.

[^24]:    

[^25]:    1 Level 1 is the economy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a brief explanation and references.
    2 Level 2 is the low-cost level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a brief explanation and relerences.

[^26]:    ${ }^{1}$ Level 1 is the economy level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text fior a brief explanation and references.
    2
    Level 2 is the low-cost level as defined by the Social Security Administration. See text for a bricf explanation and references.

