



Consumer Income

Series P-60, No. 71
July 16, 1970

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

POVERTY CONTINUES TO DECLINE IN 1969

(Advance data from March 1970 Current Population Survey)

About 24.3 million persons were below the poverty level in 1969, according to the results of the Current Population Survey conducted in March 1970 by the Bureau of the Census. Between 1968 and 1969, the number of poor persons was reduced by 1.1 million, or by 4.3 percent. During this period there was a decline in the number of both white and Negro persons who were poor. Negroes comprised three-tenths of all poor persons in both 1968 and 1969. The number of poor persons who were either members of families with a male head or male unrelated individuals declined by 8 percent during this one-year period. However, there was no measurable change in the number of members of poor families with a female head and poor female unrelated individuals between 1968 and 1969. The decade of the 1960's has witnessed a sizable reduction in the proportion of persons living in poverty. The ratio of poor persons to the total population was 12 percent in 1969 as compared with 22 percent in 1959.

In 1969, family members under 18 years of age accounted for 35 percent of all white persons below the poverty level as compared with 54 percent of all Negroes who were poor. In contrast, persons 65 and over made up one-fourth of all poor white persons and only one-tenth of the Negro poor.

Persons in families with a female head and female unrelated individuals constituted 43 percent of all poor persons in 1969. Of these persons, 37 percent were Negro.

There was about the same number of families below the poverty level in both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas in 1969. Of the poor families living in metropolitan areas, about 60 percent were central city residents. Negroes accounted for 40 percent of all poor families living in central cities as compared to 15 percent of those residing in suburban rings.

In 1969, it would have taken 10.1 billion dollars to raise the income of all poor families and unrelated individuals above the poverty line, about the same amount as in 1968. Whites accounted for about 72 percent of the total income deficit in 1969.

The median income deficit for poor families was about \$1,000 in 1969. It was \$900 for white families and \$1,250 for families of Negro and other races. The difference in the median deficit between white families and those of Negro and other races is accounted for in part by the smaller size of the average poor white family. The deficit per family member was about \$320 for families of both racial groupings.

The incomes of poor families headed by men were closer to the poverty level than those of families headed by women. About 30 percent of the poor families headed by men had incomes within \$500 of their respective poverty lines as compared to 20 percent for those poor families headed by women. The deficit per family member for

families with a male head was \$300 as compared to about \$400 for families with a female head.

This report excludes inmates of institutions and unrelated individuals under 14 years. It includes only those members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post. The poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was \$3,743 in 1969 and \$2,973 in 1959. For more detailed definitions of the terms and concepts used in this

report, see Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 68. More detailed poverty data for families and persons will appear in a report in this series to be issued later this year.

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. Moreover, as in all field surveys of income, the figures are subject to errors of response and nonreporting.

Table 1. Persons Below the Poverty Level in 1959 to 1969, by Family Status and Sex and Race of Head

(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March of the following year)

| Family status | 1969 ^r | 1968 ^r | 1967 ^{r1} | 1966 ^r | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| All Persons in Families and Unrelated Individuals | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 24,289 | 25,389 | 27,769 | 28,510 | 30,424 | 33,185 | 36,055 | 36,436 | 38,625 | 39,628 | 39,851 | 39,490 |
| In families..... | 19,438 | 20,695 | 22,771 | 23,809 | 25,614 | 28,358 | 30,912 | 31,498 | 33,623 | 34,509 | 34,925 | 34,562 |
| Head..... | 4,950 | 5,047 | 5,667 | 5,784 | 6,200 | 6,721 | 7,160 | 7,554 | 8,077 | 8,391 | 8,243 | 8,320 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 9,821 | 10,739 | 11,427 | 12,146 | 12,876 | 14,388 | 15,736 | 15,691 | 16,630 | 16,577 | 17,288 | 17,208 |
| Other family members..... | 4,667 | 4,909 | 5,677 | 5,879 | 6,538 | 7,249 | 8,016 | 8,253 | 8,916 | 9,541 | 9,394 | 9,034 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 4,851 | 4,694 | 4,998 | 4,701 | 4,810 | 4,827 | 5,143 | 4,938 | 5,002 | 5,119 | 4,926 | 4,928 |
| White..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 16,671 | 17,395 | 18,983 | 19,290 | 20,751 | 22,496 | 24,957 | 25,238 | 26,672 | 27,890 | 28,309 | 28,484 |
| In families..... | 12,709 | 13,546 | 14,851 | 15,430 | 16,731 | 18,508 | 20,716 | 21,149 | 22,613 | 23,747 | 24,262 | 24,443 |
| Head..... | 3,555 | 3,616 | 4,026 | 4,106 | 4,481 | 4,824 | 5,258 | 5,466 | 5,887 | 6,205 | 6,115 | 6,185 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 5,777 | 6,373 | 6,729 | 7,204 | 7,649 | 8,595 | 9,573 | 9,749 | 10,382 | 10,614 | 11,229 | 11,386 |
| Other family members..... | 3,377 | 3,557 | 4,066 | 4,120 | 4,601 | 5,089 | 5,885 | 5,934 | 6,344 | 6,928 | 6,918 | 6,872 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 3,962 | 3,849 | 4,132 | 3,860 | 4,019 | 3,988 | 4,241 | 4,089 | 4,059 | 4,143 | 4,047 | 4,041 |
| Negro and other races..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 6,729 | 7,149 | 7,920 | 8,379 | 8,882 | 9,850 | 10,196 | 10,349 | 11,010 | 10,762 | 10,663 | 10,119 |
| In families..... | 1,395 | 1,431 | 1,611 | 1,678 | 1,719 | 1,897 | 1,902 | 2,088 | 2,190 | 2,186 | 2,128 | 2,135 |
| Head..... | 4,044 | 4,366 | 4,698 | 4,942 | 5,227 | 5,793 | 6,163 | 5,942 | 6,248 | 5,963 | 6,059 | 5,822 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 1,290 | 1,352 | 1,611 | 1,759 | 1,936 | 2,160 | 2,131 | 2,319 | 2,572 | 2,613 | 2,476 | 2,162 |
| Other family members..... | 889 | 845 | 866 | 841 | 791 | 839 | 902 | 849 | 943 | 976 | 879 | 887 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Persons in Families With Male Head and Male Unrelated Individuals | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 13,819 | 15,025 | 17,178 | 18,260 | 19,579 | 22,127 | 25,084 | 25,339 | 27,394 | 28,830 | 29,188 | 29,100 |
| In families..... | 12,440 | 13,705 | 15,873 | 16,948 | 18,314 | 20,834 | 23,615 | 23,852 | 25,842 | 27,257 | 27,678 | 27,548 |
| Head..... | 3,146 | 3,292 | 3,893 | 4,063 | 4,384 | 4,805 | 5,338 | 5,582 | 6,043 | 6,437 | 6,288 | 6,404 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 5,444 | 6,330 | 7,181 | 7,884 | 8,374 | 9,826 | 11,314 | 11,137 | 12,124 | 12,533 | 13,193 | 13,063 |
| Other family members..... | 3,850 | 4,083 | 4,799 | 5,001 | 5,556 | 6,203 | 6,963 | 7,133 | 7,675 | 8,287 | 8,197 | 8,081 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 1,379 | 1,320 | 1,305 | 1,312 | 1,265 | 1,293 | 1,469 | 1,487 | 1,552 | 1,573 | 1,510 | 1,552 |
| Persons in Families With Female Head and Female Unrelated Individuals | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 10,470 | 10,364 | 10,591 | 10,250 | 10,845 | 11,058 | 10,971 | 11,097 | 11,231 | 10,798 | 10,663 | 10,390 |
| In families..... | 6,998 | 6,990 | 6,898 | 6,861 | 7,300 | 7,524 | 7,297 | 7,646 | 7,781 | 7,252 | 7,247 | 7,014 |
| Head..... | 1,804 | 1,755 | 1,774 | 1,721 | 1,816 | 1,916 | 1,822 | 1,972 | 2,034 | 1,954 | 1,955 | 1,916 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 4,377 | 4,409 | 4,246 | 4,262 | 4,502 | 4,562 | 4,422 | 4,554 | 4,506 | 4,044 | 4,095 | 4,145 |
| Other family members..... | 817 | 826 | 878 | 878 | 982 | 1,046 | 1,053 | 1,120 | 1,241 | 1,254 | 1,197 | 953 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 3,472 | 3,374 | 3,693 | 3,389 | 3,545 | 3,534 | 3,674 | 3,451 | 3,450 | 3,546 | 3,416 | 3,376 |
| PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LEVEL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Persons in Families and Unrelated Individuals | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 12.2 | 12.8 | 14.2 | 14.7 | 15.7 | 17.3 | 19.0 | 19.5 | 21.0 | 21.9 | 22.2 | 22.4 |
| In families..... | 10.5 | 11.3 | 12.5 | 13.1 | 14.2 | 15.8 | 17.4 | 17.9 | 19.4 | 20.3 | 20.7 | 20.8 |
| Head..... | 9.7 | 10.0 | 11.4 | 11.8 | 12.7 | 13.9 | 15.0 | 15.9 | 17.2 | 18.1 | 18.1 | 18.5 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 14.1 | 15.3 | 16.3 | 17.4 | 18.4 | 20.7 | 22.7 | 22.8 | 24.7 | 25.2 | 26.5 | 26.9 |
| Other family members..... | 7.3 | 7.8 | 9.1 | 9.5 | 10.5 | 11.8 | 13.3 | 13.8 | 15.1 | 16.5 | 16.2 | 15.9 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 33.6 | 34.0 | 38.1 | 38.3 | 38.9 | 39.8 | 42.7 | 44.2 | 45.4 | 45.9 | 45.2 | 46.1 |
| White..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 9.5 | 10.0 | 11.0 | 11.3 | 12.2 | 13.3 | 14.9 | 15.3 | 16.4 | 17.4 | 17.8 | 18.1 |
| In families..... | 7.8 | 8.4 | 9.2 | 9.7 | 10.5 | 11.7 | 13.2 | 13.6 | 14.7 | 15.8 | 16.2 | 16.5 |
| Head..... | 7.7 | 8.0 | 9.0 | 9.3 | 10.2 | 11.1 | 12.2 | 12.8 | 13.9 | 14.8 | 14.9 | 15.2 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 9.8 | 10.7 | 11.3 | 12.1 | 12.8 | 14.4 | 16.1 | 16.5 | 17.9 | 18.7 | 20.0 | 20.6 |
| Other family members..... | 5.8 | 6.3 | 7.2 | 7.4 | 8.2 | 9.2 | 10.8 | 11.0 | 12.0 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.3 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 31.8 | 32.2 | 36.5 | 36.1 | 37.3 | 38.1 | 40.7 | 42.0 | 42.7 | 43.2 | 43.0 | 44.1 |
| Negro and other races..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 31.1 | 33.5 | 37.2 | 39.8 | 41.7 | 47.1 | 49.6 | 51.0 | 55.8 | 56.1 | 55.9 | 56.2 |
| In families..... | 29.9 | 32.4 | 36.3 | 38.9 | 41.1 | 46.8 | 49.1 | 50.5 | 55.3 | 55.6 | 55.7 | 56.0 |
| Head..... | 26.7 | 28.2 | 32.1 | 33.9 | 35.0 | 39.7 | 40.0 | 43.7 | 48.0 | 49.0 | 49.0 | 50.4 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 38.0 | 41.6 | 44.9 | 48.2 | 50.7 | 57.3 | 61.5 | 60.9 | 66.4 | 65.7 | 66.6 | 66.7 |
| Other family members..... | 19.4 | 20.9 | 25.3 | 27.7 | 30.2 | 35.3 | 35.7 | 38.9 | 43.2 | 44.8 | 43.3 | 42.5 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 44.9 | 45.7 | 48.2 | 53.1 | 50.0 | 50.7 | 55.0 | 58.3 | 62.1 | 62.7 | 59.3 | 57.4 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Persons Below the Poverty Level in 1959 to 1969, by Family Status and Sex and Race of Head--Continued
(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March of the following year)

| Family status | 1969 ^r | 1968 ^r | 1967 ^{r1} | 1966 ^r | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LEVEL--Continued | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Persons in Families With Male Head and Male Unrelated Individuals | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 8.0 | 8.8 | 10.1 | 10.8 | 11.6 | 13.2 | 15.1 | 15.4 | 16.9 | 18.1 | 18.5 | 18.7 |
| In families..... | 7.4 | 8.3 | 9.6 | 10.3 | 11.2 | 12.8 | 14.6 | 14.9 | 16.4 | 17.6 | 18.0 | 18.2 |
| Head..... | 6.9 | 7.3 | 8.7 | 9.3 | 10.0 | 11.1 | 12.5 | 13.1 | 14.3 | 15.4 | 15.4 | 15.8 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 8.8 | 10.2 | 11.5 | 12.6 | 13.4 | 15.7 | 18.2 | 18.0 | 19.9 | 21.0 | 22.3 | 22.4 |
| Other family members..... | 6.5 | 7.0 | 8.3 | 8.7 | 9.6 | 10.9 | 12.4 | 12.9 | 14.1 | 15.4 | 15.3 | 15.3 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 25.3 | 25.4 | 26.9 | 29.3 | 27.7 | 28.9 | 32.0 | 34.8 | 36.5 | 36.0 | 36.1 | 36.8 |
| Persons in Families With Female Head and Female Unrelated Individuals | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 38.3 | 38.9 | 40.6 | 41.0 | 43.8 | 46.0 | 45.9 | 48.4 | 50.5 | 49.5 | 49.5 | 50.2 |
| In families..... | 38.1 | 38.7 | 38.8 | 39.8 | 43.1 | 46.0 | 44.4 | 47.7 | 50.3 | 48.1 | 48.9 | 49.4 |
| Head..... | 32.3 | 32.3 | 33.3 | 33.1 | 35.1 | 38.4 | 36.4 | 40.4 | 42.9 | 42.1 | 42.4 | 42.6 |
| Family members under 18 years ² | 54.4 | 55.2 | 54.3 | 58.2 | 61.3 | 64.2 | 62.3 | 66.6 | 70.2 | 65.1 | 68.4 | 72.2 |
| Other family members..... | 17.3 | 17.8 | 18.9 | 18.6 | 22.2 | 24.5 | 24.3 | 26.0 | 28.8 | 29.8 | 28.3 | 24.0 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 38.5 | 39.2 | 44.7 | 43.5 | 45.4 | 46.2 | 49.3 | 50.0 | 51.0 | 52.4 | 50.9 | 52.1 |

^rBased on revised methodology for processing income data; see Series P-60, No. 68, for explanation.

¹Due to coding errors, data for 1967 are not strictly comparable with those shown for 1966, 1968, and 1969. It is estimated that this error may have overstated the number of poor families in 1967 by about 175,000 and the number of poor persons by approximately 450,000.

²Other than head or wife.

Table 2. Negro Persons Below the Poverty Level in 1967 to 1969, by Family Status and Sex of Head
(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March of the following year)

| Family status | Persons in families and unrelated individuals | | | In families with male head ¹ | | | In families with female head ¹ | | |
|--|---|-------|-------------------|---|-------|-------------------|---|-------|-------------------|
| | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 ² | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 ² | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 ² |
| Total..... | 7,215 | 7,616 | 8,476 | 3,380 | 3,809 | 4,594 | 3,837 | 3,807 | 3,892 |
| In families..... | 6,409 | 6,839 | 7,677 | 3,093 | 3,527 | 4,315 | 3,317 | 3,312 | 3,362 |
| Head..... | 1,326 | 1,366 | 1,555 | 609 | 660 | 839 | 718 | 706 | 716 |
| Family members under 18 years ³ | 3,879 | 4,188 | 4,558 | 1,640 | 1,947 | 2,293 | 2,239 | 2,241 | 2,265 |
| Other family members..... | 1,204 | 1,285 | 1,564 | 844 | 920 | 1,183 | 360 | 365 | 381 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 806 | 777 | 809 | 287 | 282 | 279 | 520 | 495 | 530 |
| PERCENT BELOW POVERTY LEVEL | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 32.3 | 34.7 | 39.3 | 21.5 | 24.7 | 30.0 | 57.9 | 58.6 | 61.6 |
| In families..... | 31.2 | 33.7 | 38.4 | 20.8 | 24.1 | 29.7 | 58.3 | 58.9 | 61.6 |
| Head..... | 27.8 | 29.4 | 33.9 | 17.8 | 19.9 | 25.3 | 53.2 | 53.2 | 56.3 |
| Family members under 18 years ³ | 39.7 | 43.1 | 47.4 | 25.3 | 29.8 | 35.3 | 68.1 | 70.5 | 72.4 |
| Other family members..... | 20.0 | 21.7 | 27.1 | 17.0 | 19.2 | 25.1 | 34.1 | 32.6 | 36.1 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.. | 46.0 | 46.3 | 49.3 | 35.3 | 35.1 | 36.0 | 55.4 | 56.6 | 61.3 |

¹For unrelated individuals, sex of individual.

²Due to coding errors, data for 1967 are not strictly comparable with those shown for 1968 and 1969.

³Other than head or wife.

Table 3. Selected Characteristics of Families Below the Poverty Level in 1969

(Numbers in thousands, Families as of March 1970)

| Selected characteristics | All races | | | White | | | Negro | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|---------|
| | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | |
| | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent |
| All families..... | 51,237 | 4,950 | 9.7 | 46,022 | 3,555 | 7.7 | 4,774 | 1,326 | 27.8 |
| AGE OF HEAD | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 to 24 years..... | 3,524 | 528 | 15.0 | 3,056 | 373 | 12.2 | 443 | 151 | 34.1 |
| 25 to 54 years..... | 32,321 | 2,522 | 7.8 | 28,936 | 1,702 | 5.9 | 3,096 | 782 | 25.3 |
| 55 to 64 years..... | 8,314 | 658 | 7.9 | 7,516 | 465 | 6.2 | 729 | 182 | 24.9 |
| 65 years and over..... | 7,078 | 1,243 | 17.6 | 6,515 | 1,014 | 15.6 | 507 | 211 | 41.7 |
| EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF HEAD ¹ | | | | | | | | | |
| Elementary school, total..... | 12,840 | 2,371 | 18.5 | 10,852 | 1,666 | 15.4 | 1,866 | 675 | 36.2 |
| Less than 8 years..... | 6,693 | 1,685 | 25.2 | 5,207 | 1,098 | 21.1 | 1,405 | 564 | 40.1 |
| 8 years..... | 6,147 | 686 | 11.2 | 5,645 | 568 | 10.1 | 461 | 111 | 24.1 |
| High school, total..... | 23,162 | 1,687 | 7.3 | 20,984 | 1,190 | 5.7 | 2,025 | 475 | 23.5 |
| 1 to 3 years..... | 8,104 | 871 | 10.7 | 7,026 | 554 | 7.9 | 1,034 | 308 | 29.8 |
| 4 years..... | 15,058 | 816 | 5.4 | 13,958 | 636 | 4.6 | 991 | 167 | 16.9 |
| College, total..... | 11,711 | 360 | 3.1 | 11,130 | 322 | 2.9 | 440 | 25 | 5.7 |
| 1 to 3 years..... | 5,220 | 228 | 4.4 | 4,914 | 197 | 4.0 | 257 | 23 | 8.9 |
| 4 years or more..... | 6,491 | 132 | 2.0 | 6,216 | 125 | 2.0 | 183 | 2 | 1.1 |
| NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS UNDER 18 ² | | | | | | | | | |
| No members..... | 21,410 | 1,745 | 8.2 | 19,821 | 1,462 | 7.4 | 1,457 | 259 | 17.8 |
| 1 and 2 members..... | 18,973 | 1,499 | 7.9 | 17,032 | 1,082 | 6.4 | 1,763 | 402 | 22.8 |
| 3 and 4 members..... | 8,433 | 1,045 | 12.4 | 7,372 | 677 | 9.2 | 967 | 350 | 36.2 |
| 5 members or more..... | 2,421 | 662 | 27.3 | 1,798 | 334 | 18.6 | 588 | 315 | 53.6 |
| NUMBER OF EARNERS | | | | | | | | | |
| No earners..... | 4,337 | 1,755 | 40.5 | 3,799 | 1,336 | 35.2 | 503 | 395 | 78.6 |
| 1 earner..... | 19,251 | 2,131 | 11.1 | 17,568 | 1,572 | 8.9 | 1,540 | 530 | 34.4 |
| 2 earners..... | 20,125 | 816 | 4.1 | 17,953 | 522 | 2.9 | 1,990 | 282 | 14.2 |
| 3 earners or more..... | 7,524 | 248 | 3.3 | 6,702 | 125 | 1.9 | 742 | 119 | 16.0 |
| EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HEAD | | | | | | | | | |
| Employed..... | 40,294 | 2,147 | 5.3 | 36,571 | 1,549 | 4.2 | 3,415 | 575 | 16.8 |
| Unemployed..... | 1,169 | 210 | 17.9 | 987 | 128 | 13.0 | 164 | 76 | 46.2 |
| In Armed Forces or not in labor force..... | 9,774 | 2,593 | 34.9 | 8,465 | 1,878 | 30.1 | 1,195 | 676 | 62.2 |
| WORK EXPERIENCE AND OCCUPATION GROUP OF LONGEST JOB OF HEAD | | | | | | | | | |
| Worked..... | 43,114 | 2,702 | 6.3 | 38,943 | 1,882 | 4.8 | 3,821 | 785 | 20.5 |
| Professional and managerial workers..... | 14,173 | 659 | 4.6 | 13,637 | 577 | 4.2 | 396 | 68 | 17.2 |
| Clerical and sales workers..... | 5,921 | 216 | 3.6 | 5,472 | 169 | 3.1 | 405 | 43 | 10.6 |
| Craftsmen and foremen..... | 8,948 | 311 | 3.5 | 8,414 | 257 | 3.1 | 494 | 49 | 10.0 |
| Operatives and kindred workers..... | 8,337 | 499 | 6.0 | 7,175 | 314 | 4.4 | 1,112 | 181 | 16.3 |
| Service workers incl. private household.. | 3,088 | 510 | 16.5 | 2,277 | 257 | 11.3 | 777 | 251 | 32.3 |
| Nonfarm laborers..... | 2,105 | 285 | 13.5 | 1,565 | 175 | 11.2 | 519 | 109 | 21.0 |
| Farmers and farm laborers..... | 543 | 222 | 40.9 | 404 | 132 | 32.6 | 118 | 83 | 70.6 |
| Did not work..... | 7,112 | 2,188 | 30.8 | 6,163 | 1,619 | 26.3 | 881 | 540 | 61.3 |
| In Armed Forces..... | 1,011 | 60 | 6.0 | 916 | 55 | 6.0 | 73 | 2 | (B) |

B Base less than 75,000.

¹Head 25 years old and over.²Other than head or wife.

Table 4. Families and Unrelated Individuals Below the Poverty Level in 1969, by Type of Residence and Race
(Numbers in thousands. Families and unrelated individuals as of March 1970)

| Residence | All races | | | White | | | Negro | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|---------|
| | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | |
| | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent |
| FAMILIES | | | | | | | | | |
| United States..... | 51,239 | 4,950 | 9.7 | 46,024 | 3,555 | 7.7 | 4,774 | 1,326 | 27.8 |
| Metropolitan areas..... | 33,150 | 2,416 | 7.3 | 29,335 | 1,651 | 5.6 | 3,466 | 720 | 20.8 |
| Central cities..... | 14,704 | 1,484 | 10.1 | 11,759 | 872 | 7.4 | 2,740 | 582 | 21.2 |
| Suburban rings..... | 18,446 | 932 | 5.1 | 17,576 | 779 | 4.4 | 726 | 138 | 19.0 |
| Metropolitan areas of 1,000,000 or more.. | 17,823 | 1,164 | 6.5 | 15,542 | 737 | 4.7 | 2,096 | 408 | 19.5 |
| Central cities..... | 7,472 | 751 | 10.1 | 5,666 | 398 | 7.0 | 1,693 | 337 | 19.9 |
| Suburban rings..... | 10,351 | 413 | 4.0 | 9,876 | 339 | 3.4 | 402 | 71 | 17.7 |
| Metropolitan areas of under 1,000,000.... | 15,327 | 1,252 | 8.2 | 13,793 | 914 | 6.6 | 1,371 | 312 | 22.8 |
| Central cities..... | 8,095 | 519 | 6.4 | 7,700 | 440 | 5.7 | 324 | 68 | 21.0 |
| Suburban rings..... | 7,232 | 733 | 10.1 | 6,093 | 474 | 7.8 | 1,047 | 244 | 23.3 |
| Outside metropolitan areas..... | 18,089 | 2,535 | 14.0 | 16,689 | 1,905 | 11.4 | 1,308 | 606 | 46.3 |
| UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS | | | | | | | | | |
| United States..... | 14,452 | 4,851 | 33.6 | 12,473 | 3,962 | 31.8 | 1,752 | 806 | 46.0 |
| Metropolitan areas..... | 10,175 | 2,907 | 28.6 | 8,664 | 2,337 | 27.0 | 1,325 | 508 | 38.3 |
| Central cities..... | 6,378 | 1,872 | 29.4 | 5,096 | 1,400 | 27.5 | 1,166 | 428 | 36.7 |
| Suburban rings..... | 3,797 | 1,035 | 27.3 | 3,568 | 937 | 26.3 | 159 | 80 | 50.3 |
| Metropolitan areas of 1,000,000 or more.. | 6,076 | 1,561 | 25.7 | 5,154 | 1,251 | 24.3 | 840 | 279 | 33.2 |
| Central cities..... | 3,729 | 1,001 | 26.8 | 2,911 | 729 | 25.0 | 754 | 245 | 32.5 |
| Suburban rings..... | 2,347 | 560 | 23.9 | 2,243 | 523 | 23.3 | 86 | 34 | 39.5 |
| Metropolitan areas of under 1,000,000.... | 4,099 | 1,346 | 32.8 | 3,510 | 1,085 | 30.9 | 485 | 229 | 47.2 |
| Central cities..... | 1,450 | 474 | 32.7 | 1,326 | 414 | 31.2 | 73 | 46 | (B) |
| Suburban rings..... | 2,649 | 871 | 32.9 | 2,184 | 671 | 30.7 | 412 | 183 | 44.4 |
| Outside metropolitan areas..... | 4,277 | 1,944 | 45.5 | 3,809 | 1,625 | 42.7 | 427 | 299 | 70.0 |

B Base less than 75,000.

Table 5. Persons Below the Poverty Level in 1969, by Family Status, Type of Residence, and Race
(Numbers in thousands. Persons as of March 1970)

| Residence and family status | All races | | | White | | | Negro | | |
|--|-----------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------------|---------|
| | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | |
| | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent |
| METROPOLITAN AREAS, TOTAL | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 130,017 | 12,320 | 9.5 | 112,440 | 8,200 | 7.3 | 15,824 | 3,855 | 24.4 |
| In families..... | 119,842 | 9,413 | 7.9 | 103,776 | 5,863 | 5.6 | 14,499 | 3,347 | 23.1 |
| Head..... | 33,150 | 2,416 | 7.3 | 29,335 | 1,651 | 5.6 | 3,466 | 720 | 20.8 |
| Family members under 18 years ¹ | 44,733 | 5,032 | 11.2 | 37,238 | 2,786 | 7.5 | 6,805 | 2,142 | 31.5 |
| Family members under 6 years..... | 13,942 | 1,769 | 12.7 | 11,357 | 945 | 8.3 | 2,369 | 795 | 33.6 |
| Other family members..... | 41,959 | 1,965 | 4.7 | 37,204 | 1,426 | 3.8 | 4,227 | 484 | 11.5 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.... | 10,175 | 2,907 | 28.6 | 8,664 | 2,337 | 27.0 | 1,325 | 508 | 38.3 |
| Persons under 65 years..... | 118,477 | 9,984 | 8.4 | 101,827 | 6,204 | 6.1 | 15,022 | 3,542 | 23.6 |
| Persons 65 years and over..... | 11,539 | 2,336 | 20.2 | 10,613 | 1,996 | 18.8 | 802 | 312 | 38.9 |

See footnote at end of table.

Table 5. Persons Below the Poverty Level in 1969, by Family Status, Type of Residence, and Race--Continued

(Numbers in thousands, Persons as of March 1970)

| Residence and family status | All races | | | White | | | Negro | | |
|--|-----------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------------|---------|
| | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | | Total | Below poverty level | |
| | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent |
| CENTRAL CITIES | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 57,781 | 7,760 | 13.4 | 44,392 | 4,527 | 10.2 | 12,439 | 3,068 | 24.7 |
| In families..... | 51,403 | 5,888 | 11.5 | 39,296 | 3,127 | 8.0 | 11,273 | 2,640 | 23.4 |
| Head..... | 14,704 | 1,484 | 10.1 | 11,759 | 872 | 7.4 | 2,740 | 582 | 21.2 |
| Family members under 18 years ¹ | 18,313 | 3,229 | 17.6 | 12,740 | 1,490 | 11.7 | 5,237 | 1,685 | 32.2 |
| Family members under 6 years..... | 5,857 | 1,147 | 19.6 | 3,965 | 522 | 13.2 | 1,781 | 608 | 34.1 |
| Other family members..... | 18,387 | 1,175 | 6.4 | 14,797 | 765 | 5.2 | 3,296 | 374 | 11.3 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.... | 6,378 | 1,872 | 29.4 | 5,096 | 1,400 | 27.5 | 1,166 | 428 | 36.7 |
| Persons under 65 years..... | 51,530 | 6,330 | 12.3 | 38,861 | 3,370 | 8.7 | 11,793 | 2,818 | 23.9 |
| Persons 65 years and over..... | 6,251 | 1,430 | 22.9 | 5,531 | 1,157 | 20.9 | 647 | 250 | 38.6 |
| OUTSIDE METROPOLITAN AREAS | | | | | | | | | |
| Total..... | 69,831 | 11,969 | 17.1 | 62,791 | 8,468 | 13.5 | 6,525 | 3,359 | 51.5 |
| In families..... | 65,554 | 10,025 | 15.3 | 58,982 | 6,843 | 11.6 | 6,098 | 3,060 | 50.2 |
| Head..... | 18,089 | 2,535 | 14.0 | 16,689 | 1,905 | 11.4 | 1,308 | 606 | 46.3 |
| Family members under 18 years ¹ | 25,055 | 4,789 | 19.1 | 21,804 | 2,983 | 13.7 | 3,012 | 1,741 | 57.8 |
| Family members under 6 years..... | 7,636 | 1,530 | 20.0 | 6,537 | 925 | 14.2 | 980 | 577 | 58.9 |
| Other family members..... | 22,410 | 2,701 | 12.1 | 20,490 | 1,955 | 9.5 | 1,778 | 712 | 40.0 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over.... | 4,277 | 1,944 | 45.5 | 3,809 | 1,625 | 42.7 | 427 | 299 | 70.0 |
| Persons under 65 years..... | 62,471 | 9,509 | 15.2 | 56,034 | 6,404 | 11.4 | 5,953 | 2,983 | 50.1 |
| Persons 65 years and over..... | 7,359 | 2,459 | 33.4 | 6,757 | 2,065 | 30.6 | 572 | 376 | 65.7 |

¹Other than head or wife.
Table 6. Weighted Average Thresholds at the Poverty Level in 1969, by Size of Family and Sex of Head, by Farm-Nonfarm Residence

| Number of family members | Total | Nonfarm | | | Farm | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| | | Total | Male head | Female head | Total | Male head | Female head |
| 1 member..... | \$1,834 | \$1,840 | \$1,923 | \$1,792 | \$1,569 | \$1,607 | \$1,512 |
| Under 65 years..... | 1,888 | 1,893 | 1,974 | 1,826 | 1,641 | 1,678 | 1,552 |
| 65 years and over..... | 1,749 | 1,757 | 1,773 | 1,751 | 1,498 | 1,508 | 1,487 |
| 2 members..... | 2,364 | 2,383 | 2,394 | 2,320 | 2,012 | 2,017 | 1,931 |
| Head under 65 years..... | 2,441 | 2,458 | 2,473 | 2,373 | 2,093 | 2,100 | 1,984 |
| Head 65 years and over..... | 2,194 | 2,215 | 2,217 | 2,202 | 1,882 | 1,883 | 1,861 |
| 3 members..... | 2,905 | 2,924 | 2,937 | 2,830 | 2,480 | 2,485 | 2,395 |
| 4 members..... | 3,721 | 3,743 | 3,745 | 3,725 | 3,195 | 3,197 | 3,159 |
| 5 members..... | 4,386 | 4,415 | 4,418 | 4,377 | 3,769 | 3,770 | 3,761 |
| 6 members..... | 4,921 | 4,958 | 4,962 | 4,917 | 4,244 | 4,245 | 4,205 |
| 7 or more members..... | 6,034 | 6,101 | 6,116 | 5,952 | 5,182 | 5,185 | 5,129 |

Table 7. Size of Income Deficit for Families Below the Poverty Level in 1969, 1968, and 1959, by Sex and Race of Head

(Families as of March of the following year)

| Size of income deficit and sex of head | All races | | | White | | | Negro and other races | | |
|--|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| | 1969 | 1968 | 1959 | 1969 | 1968 | 1959 | 1969 | 1968 | 1959 |
| ALL FAMILIES | | | | | | | | | |
| Number.....thousands.. | 4,950 | 5,047 | 8,320 | 3,555 | 3,616 | 6,185 | 1,395 | 1,431 | 2,135 |
| Percent..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| \$1 to \$499..... | 26.8 | 26.8 | 27.0 | 30.0 | 29.7 | 30.1 | 18.4 | 19.6 | 18.4 |
| \$500 to \$999..... | 23.8 | 23.5 | 25.3 | 24.1 | 24.7 | 26.8 | 22.9 | 20.5 | 20.7 |
| \$1,000 to \$1,999..... | 27.2 | 28.0 | 30.7 | 25.5 | 26.2 | 29.4 | 31.3 | 32.7 | 34.3 |
| \$2,000 to \$2,999..... | 14.9 | 13.5 | 11.6 | 14.2 | 12.3 | 9.7 | 16.5 | 16.9 | 17.2 |
| \$3,000 and over..... | 7.4 | 8.1 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 7.2 | 4.0 | 10.8 | 10.2 | 9.4 |
| Median income deficit..... | \$987 | \$993 | \$956 | \$906 | \$907 | \$868 | \$1,246 | \$1,260 | \$1,280 |
| Mean income deficit..... | 1,283 | 1,278 | 1,179 | 1,200 | 1,195 | 1,080 | 1,494 | 1,487 | 1,465 |
| Deficit per family member..... | 327 | 312 | 284 | 336 | 319 | 273 | 310 | 298 | 309 |
| FAMILIES WITH MALE HEAD | | | | | | | | | |
| Number.....thousands.. | 3,148 | 3,292 | 6,404 | 2,492 | 2,595 | 4,952 | 656 | 697 | 1,452 |
| Percent..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| \$1 to \$499..... | 30.5 | 30.7 | 29.5 | 32.3 | 32.4 | 32.3 | 23.2 | 24.2 | 20.2 |
| \$500 to \$999..... | 24.8 | 25.0 | 25.7 | 24.8 | 26.1 | 27.2 | 24.7 | 20.6 | 20.5 |
| \$1,000 to \$1,999..... | 25.4 | 26.7 | 29.3 | 24.5 | 25.4 | 28.5 | 29.0 | 31.4 | 32.0 |
| \$2,000 to \$2,999..... | 13.0 | 11.1 | 10.7 | 12.8 | 10.1 | 8.8 | 13.7 | 14.8 | 17.3 |
| \$3,000 and over..... | 6.3 | 6.6 | 4.8 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 3.3 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 10.0 |
| Median income deficit..... | \$885 | \$875 | \$895 | \$842 | \$818 | \$815 | \$1,063 | \$1,112 | \$1,259 |
| Mean income deficit..... | 1,174 | 1,154 | 1,117 | 1,130 | 1,096 | 1,019 | 1,342 | 1,369 | 1,449 |
| Deficit per family member..... | 297 | 277 | 260 | 309 | 285 | 250 | 264 | 257 | 287 |
| FAMILIES WITH FEMALE HEAD | | | | | | | | | |
| Number.....thousands.. | 1,803 | 1,755 | 1,916 | 1,063 | 1,021 | 1,233 | 739 | 734 | 683 |
| Percent..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| \$1 to \$499..... | 20.3 | 19.6 | 18.9 | 24.6 | 22.9 | 21.3 | 14.2 | 15.2 | 14.3 |
| \$500 to \$999..... | 22.0 | 20.6 | 23.4 | 22.4 | 20.8 | 24.7 | 21.4 | 20.2 | 20.7 |
| \$1,000 to \$1,999..... | 30.1 | 30.5 | 35.7 | 28.0 | 27.9 | 33.5 | 33.2 | 34.2 | 39.1 |
| \$2,000 to \$2,999..... | 18.1 | 18.2 | 14.6 | 17.6 | 17.8 | 13.3 | 18.9 | 18.8 | 16.9 |
| \$3,000 and over..... | 9.4 | 11.0 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 10.7 | 7.0 | 12.4 | 11.6 | 8.5 |
| Median income deficit..... | \$1,240 | \$1,290 | \$1,165 | \$1,110 | \$1,176 | \$1,085 | \$1,385 | \$1,445 | \$1,330 |
| Mean income deficit..... | 1,473 | 1,511 | 1,386 | 1,364 | 1,447 | 1,325 | 1,629 | 1,600 | 1,497 |
| Deficit per family member..... | 380 | 379 | 379 | 403 | 416 | 386 | 354 | 341 | 368 |

Table 8. Distribution of Poor Families and Unrelated Individuals and Aggregate Income Deficit in 1969, by Family Status, Number of Family Members Under 18, and Sex and Race of Head

(Families and unrelated individuals as of March 1970)

| Number of family members ¹ and sex of head | Number below poverty level (thousands) | | | Aggregate income deficit (millions) | | |
|---|--|-------|-------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | All races | White | Negro | All races | White | Negro |
| Total..... | 9,801 | 7,517 | 2,132 | \$10,120 | \$7,273 | \$2,687 |
| All families..... | 4,950 | 3,555 | 1,326 | \$6,351 | \$4,266 | \$1,994 |
| Male head..... | 3,148 | 2,492 | 609 | 3,696 | 2,816 | 822 |
| No family members under 18..... | 1,438 | 1,236 | 190 | 1,166 | .995 | 160 |
| With family members under 18..... | 1,708 | 1,256 | 419 | 2,530 | 1,821 | 661 |
| 1 and 2 under 18..... | 745 | 591 | 143 | 956 | 765 | 177 |
| 3 and 4 under 18..... | 563 | 417 | 132 | 861 | 627 | 214 |
| 5 or more under 18..... | 400 | 248 | 144 | 710 | 430 | 270 |
| Female head..... | 1,803 | 1,063 | 718 | 2,656 | 1,450 | 1,175 |
| No family members under 18..... | 307 | 226 | 69 | 239 | 165 | 60 |
| With family members under 18..... | 1,497 | 837 | 649 | 2,417 | 1,284 | 1,115 |
| 1 and 2 under 18..... | 753 | 491 | 258 | 932 | 626 | 299 |
| 3 and 4 under 18..... | 482 | 260 | 218 | 864 | 455 | 404 |
| 5 or more under 18..... | 262 | 86 | 172 | 622 | 202 | 411 |
| Unrelated individuals 14 years and over..... | 4,851 | 3,962 | 806 | \$3,769 | \$3,007 | \$692 |
| Male..... | 1,379 | 1,048 | 287 | 1,162 | 852 | 270 |
| Female..... | 3,472 | 2,914 | 520 | 2,607 | 2,153 | 423 |

¹Other than head or wife.