

# Monthly

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF  
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## VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

### *Resident Places Survey-3- Data*

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FROM THE  
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## Selected Characteristics of Administrators for Nursing and Personal Care Homes: United States, June-August 1969

### INTRODUCTION

#### Background

During June-August 1969 the Division of Health Resources Statistics conducted Resident Places Survey-3 (RPS-3). The purpose of this survey was to

update the statistics from the 1964 Resident Places Survey-2 and to show changes which have occurred in the 5-year period and since the beginning of medicare. RPS-3 was a sample survey of establishments in the United States (excluding Alaska and Hawaii) which provide nursing and personal care to the aged

Table 1. Number of nursing and personal care homes and average number of beds and residents, by type of service, type of ownership, size of home, and geographic region: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Characteristic	Nursing and personal care homes	Average number of beds	Average number of residents
All homes-----	18,390	49	44
TYPE OF SERVICE			
Nursing care-----	11,580	61	55
Personal care with nursing-----	3,770	40	37
Personal care-----	3,040	14	12
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP			
Proprietary-----	14,160	44	40
Nonprofit-----	2,850	69	63
Government-----	1,380	60	53
SIZE OF HOME			
Under 25 beds-----	6,740	13	11
25-49 beds-----	4,930	35	33
50-99 beds-----	4,570	68	62
100-299 beds-----	2,050	138	125
300 beds and over-----	100	434	383
GEOGRAPHIC REGION			
Northeast-----	3,830	52	48
North Central-----	6,160	50	46
South-----	4,750	52	47
West-----	3,650	38	35

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and chronically ill. Data collected in this survey were about the sample establishment itself, the health characteristics of a sample of the patients or residents, the administrator of the establishment, and a sample of the employees. For further discussion of RPS-3, see Source of Data.

This report, on characteristics of nursing and personal care home administrators, presents estimates based on information obtained by questionnaire from the person who was designated as administrator by the owner or operator of each sample establishment. The survey was designed so that *only one* administrator was designated for each establishment. Assistant administrators were requested to complete a different questionnaire and are not included in this report.

## Highlights

For the estimated 18,390 nursing and personal care home administrators in the United States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii, in June-August 1969:

- The median age, based on reported year of birth, was 53.2 years.
- 47 percent were employees of the facility, 44 percent were self-employed, and 9 percent were both.
- 91 percent were administrators of only one establishment.
- The median years of experience as an administrator of a nursing home, hospital, or related

Table 2. Number and percent distribution of administrators for nursing and personal care homes by age, according to type of service, type of ownership, size of home, and geographic region: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Characteristic	Number of administrators	Age					
		All ages	Under 35 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65+ years
		Percent distribution					
All administrators-----	18,390	100.0	8.4	17.0	29.9	33.2	11.4
TYPE OF SERVICE							
Nursing care-----	11,580	100.0	10.0	21.5	32.5	27.6	8.4
Personal care with nursing-----	3,770	100.0	6.4	7.9	21.4	45.8	18.5
Personal care-----	3,040	100.0	5.1	11.3	30.5	38.9	14.2
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP							
Proprietary-----	14,160	100.0	9.4	18.1	32.6	30.0	9.8
Nonprofit-----	2,850	100.0	3.6	14.4	20.4	41.3	20.2
Government-----	1,380	100.0	8.3	10.8	21.6	49.4	10.0
SIZE OF HOME							
Under 25 beds-----	6,740	100.0	3.7	9.6	28.8	42.5	15.3
25-49 beds-----	4,930	100.0	10.8	17.6	29.9	29.8	12.0
50-99 beds-----	4,570	100.0	12.3	24.4	29.6	26.4	7.4
100-299 beds-----	2,050	100.0	10.1	23.1	33.9	26.3	6.6
300 beds and over-----	100	100.0	2.1	24.2	36.5	33.0	4.2
GEOGRAPHIC REGION							
Northeast-----	3,830	100.0	5.7	14.6	32.8	34.4	12.5
North Central-----	6,160	100.0	8.3	16.5	29.6	33.3	12.2
South-----	4,750	100.0	11.1	18.6	26.4	32.2	11.7
West-----	3,650	100.0	8.0	18.2	32.0	33.2	8.6

facility were 8.0 years. The median years of experience as an administrator in the current nursing or personal care home were 5.3 years.

- 79 percent had completed at least 12th grade. About 51 percent had some formal training beyond high school.
- 72 percent had no undergraduate or graduate degree.
- 65 percent had never taken a course in nursing home administration.

#### Establishment Information

To place the statistics on administrators in perspective, table 1 presents the estimated number of nursing and personal care homes, average number of beds and residents by type of service provided, type

of ownership, size of home, and geographic region for the United States, June-August 1969.

Nursing care homes comprised the majority of the three types of homes and were the largest. On the average, nursing care homes maintained 61 beds as opposed to 40 beds for personal-care-with-nursing homes and 14 beds for personal care homes. The estimated average size for all types of homes for the aged was about 49 beds. Almost 37 percent of the homes maintained less than 25 beds. Only about 12 percent had 100 beds or more.

About 7 out of every 9 homes were operated under proprietary auspices. For the remainder there were about two nonprofit homes for each government operated facility. The largest proportion of homes were located in the North Central Region (34 percent) followed by the South (26 percent), Northeast (21 percent), and West (20 percent).

Table 3. Number and percent distribution of administrators for nursing and personal care homes by length of total work experience, according to type of service, type of ownership, size of home, and geographic region: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Characteristic	Number of administrators	Length of total work experience <sup>1</sup>					
		Total	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
All administrators-----	18,390	100.0	8.6	26.8	24.6	26.7	13.3
Percent distribution							
<b>TYPE OF SERVICE</b>							
Nursing care-----	11,580	100.0	8.9	29.1	24.3	24.3	13.2
Personal care with nursing-----	3,770	100.0	6.1	24.5	20.4	30.6	18.4
Personal care-----	3,040	100.0	10.4	20.5	31.0	30.7	7.4
<b>TYPE OF OWNERSHIP</b>							
Proprietary-----	14,160	100.0	8.6	26.4	24.4	26.6	13.9
Nonprofit-----	2,850	100.0	7.8	31.0	21.7	28.7	10.8
Government-----	1,380	100.0	9.8	21.5	33.0	22.8	12.8
<b>SIZE OF HOME</b>							
Under 25 beds-----	6,740	100.0	6.2	17.6	26.4	32.7	17.1
25-49 beds-----	4,930	100.0	8.8	31.6	21.0	25.7	12.9
50-99 beds-----	4,570	100.0	10.9	32.5	26.1	20.9	9.5
100-299 beds-----	2,050	100.0	11.0	32.7	24.1	21.8	10.4
300 beds and over-----	100	100.0	3.3	20.3	28.5	29.8	18.1
<b>GEOGRAPHIC REGION</b>							
Northeast-----	3,830	100.0	10.9	20.1	19.8	28.5	20.8
North Central-----	6,160	100.0	5.7	23.3	27.7	28.4	14.9
South-----	4,750	100.0	9.0	32.7	25.7	24.1	8.5
West-----	3,650	100.0	10.6	31.9	23.3	25.2	9.0

<sup>1</sup>Limited to experience as an administrator in nursing homes, hospitals, and related facilities.

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Table 4. Number and percent distribution of administrators for nursing and personal care homes by length of current employment, according to type of service, type of ownership, size of home, and geographic region: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Characteristic	Number of administrators	Length of current employment				
		Total	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10+ years
All administrators-----	18,390	100.0	12.7	36.0	25.5	25.8
Percent distribution						
TYPE OF SERVICE						
Nursing care-----	11,580	100.0	14.4	39.4	23.5	22.6
Personal care with nursing-----	3,770	100.0	8.5	32.8	26.4	32.3
Personal care-----	3,040	100.0	11.2	26.9	32.1	29.9
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP						
Proprietary-----	14,160	100.0	12.9	35.4	25.3	26.4
Nonprofit-----	2,850	100.0	12.1	43.4	22.2	22.3
Government-----	1,380	100.0	11.6	26.3	34.9	27.2
SIZE OF HOME						
Under 25 beds-----	6,740	100.0	8.4	22.4	32.6	36.6
25-49 beds-----	4,930	100.0	11.0	42.3	20.8	26.0
50-99 beds-----	4,570	100.0	17.3	44.3	22.0	16.4
100-299 beds-----	2,050	100.0	20.6	47.2	21.3	10.9
300 beds and over-----	100	100.0	6.4	37.3	31.1	25.2
GEOGRAPHIC REGION						
Northeast-----	3,830	100.0	15.1	27.1	24.5	33.3
North Central-----	6,160	100.0	9.6	34.6	28.4	27.3
South-----	4,750	100.0	13.0	40.3	24.3	22.4
West-----	3,650	100.0	14.8	42.2	23.3	19.8

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF ADMINISTRATORS

##### Age

The majority of administrators were in the age group 45-64 years with 25 percent under 45 and 11 percent, 65 and over. An estimated 8 percent were less than 35 years of age (table 2).

The distribution of administrators by age groups varied by type of service, size of home, type of ownership, and geographic region. In general administrators in nursing care homes were younger than those in personal-care-with-nursing homes or personal care homes. Likewise administrators in proprietary homes were in general slightly younger than those in nonprofit or government operated homes.

Table 2 does not show a consistent relationship between age and size of home since information on the interrelationship between age, size of home, and other factors (i.e. employment status, etc.) is not presented here. Administrators in the Northeast were

generally older as compared with administrators in other regions.

##### Work Experience

Data on length of total work experience refer only to the experience of the respondent as an administrator and are limited to experience in hospitals, nursing homes, homes for the aged, and similar facilities. About 9 percent had worked less than 1 year as administrators. At the other extreme, about 13 percent had worked as administrators 20 years or more. Nearly 25 percent of the administrators were in the total work experience class of 5-9 years (table 3).

Length of current employment is defined as the time interval between the date the administrator began working in the home as an administrator and the date of the survey in that home. Survey results indicate that about 1 out of every 2 administrators in nursing and personal care homes had been in their present job less than 5 years. About 13 percent had

Table 5. Number and percent distribution of administrators for nursing and personal care homes by employment status, according to type of service, type of ownership, size of home, and geographic region: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Characteristic	Number of administrators	Employment status			
		All statuses	Self-employed	Employed	Both
All administrators-----	18,390	100.0	44.0	47.0	9.0
Percent distribution					
TYPE OF SERVICE					
Nursing care-----	11,580	100.0	33.6	54.4	12.0
Personal care with nursing-----	3,770	100.0	53.5	42.1	4.4
Personal care-----	3,040	100.0	71.9	24.7	3.4
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP					
Proprietary-----	14,160	100.0	55.6	33.3	11.0
Nonprofit-----	2,850	100.0	7.5	89.6	*
Government-----	1,380	100.0	...	99.1	*
SIZE OF HOME					
Under 25 beds-----	6,740	100.0	72.2	25.2	2.6
25-49 beds-----	4,930	100.0	41.5	47.1	11.4
50-99 beds-----	4,570	100.0	20.4	64.8	14.8
100-299 beds-----	2,050	100.0	11.8	76.5	11.7
300 beds and over-----	100	100.0	2.8	92.3	4.9
GEOGRAPHIC REGION					
Northeast-----	3,830	100.0	40.5	51.3	8.2
North Central-----	6,160	100.0	45.4	44.9	9.6
South-----	4,750	100.0	35.4	54.3	10.3
West-----	3,650	100.0	56.4	36.4	7.2

been employed in their current position less than 1 year. At the other extreme, about 26 percent had worked 10 years or more in their present position (table 4).

#### Employment Status

Administrators surveyed for RPS-3 were asked, "As an administrator, are you self-employed or a salaried employee?" The possible responses were: Self-employed, employee, and both. The majority of the administrators in personal care homes were self-employed as were the majority of those in proprietary homes. About 72 percent of the administrators in homes that maintained under 25 beds were self-employed whereas only 3 percent in homes that maintained 300 beds and over were self-employed. The West had a larger percent of self-employed administrators than any other region (table 5).

#### Education

Table 6 and figures 1, 2, and 3 summarize the data collected on educational attainment, degrees and licenses held, and courses taken in nursing home administration. Slightly more than 20 percent of all administrators had less than 12 years of education. About 51 percent had some advanced education, that is, either in nursing school or college (table 6). Only about 28 percent had an associate or bachelor's degree and less than 5 percent, a master's or doctor's degree. An estimated 23 percent were registered nurses or licensed practical or vocational nurses (fig. 1). About 91 percent of the nursing and personal care home administrators who worked in homes participating in the medicare program during June-August 1969 had completed at least 12th grade compared with 75 percent of those in nonparticipating homes (fig. 2).

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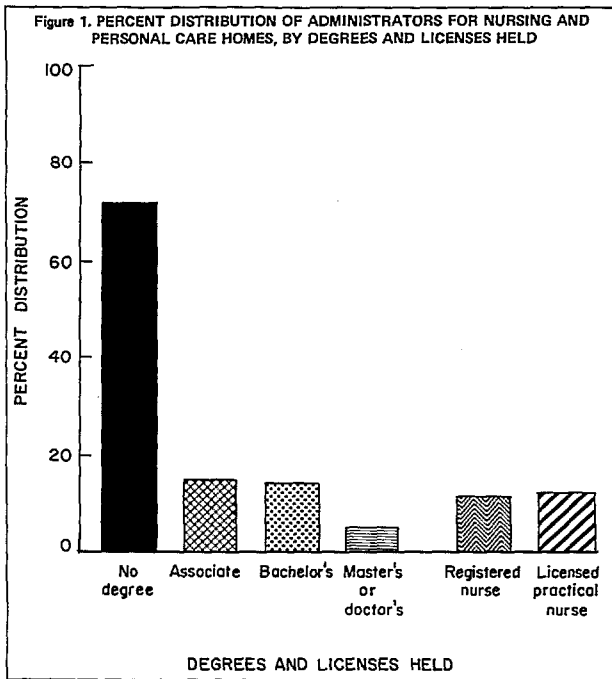
Table 6. Number and percent distribution of administrators for nursing and personal care homes by educational attainment, according to type of service, type of ownership, size of home, and geographic region: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Characteristic	Number of administrators	Educational attainment				
		All levels	Less than 12th grade	12th grade	Nursing school <sup>1</sup>	College <sup>2</sup>
All administrators-----	18,390	100.0	20.9	28.5	12.9	37.7
TYPE OF SERVICE						
Nursing care-----	11,580	100.0	11.1	29.4	13.4	46.1
Personal care with nursing-----	3,770	100.0	33.0	23.2	15.5	28.3
Personal care-----	3,040	100.0	43.1	31.7	7.9	17.3
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP						
Proprietary-----	14,160	100.0	20.9	29.1	14.6	35.4
Nonprofit-----	2,850	100.0	12.5	24.2	8.1	55.2
Government-----	1,380	100.0	37.3	31.8	*	24.7
SIZE OF HOME						
Under 25 beds-----	6,740	100.0	37.9	27.4	15.0	19.7
25-49 beds-----	4,930	100.0	17.2	33.5	14.9	34.4
50-99 beds-----	4,570	100.0	7.7	27.7	10.5	54.2
100-299 beds-----	2,050	100.0	*	22.9	7.4	65.6
300 beds and over-----	100	100.0	3.3	10.9	1.3	84.5
GEOGRAPHIC REGION						
Northeast-----	3,830	100.0	13.8	26.1	19.7	40.4
North Central-----	6,160	100.0	23.2	28.6	14.3	33.9
South-----	4,750	100.0	19.3	31.7	9.1	39.9
West-----	3,650	100.0	26.3	26.9	8.5	38.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes administrators who have completed 1 year or more of nursing school.

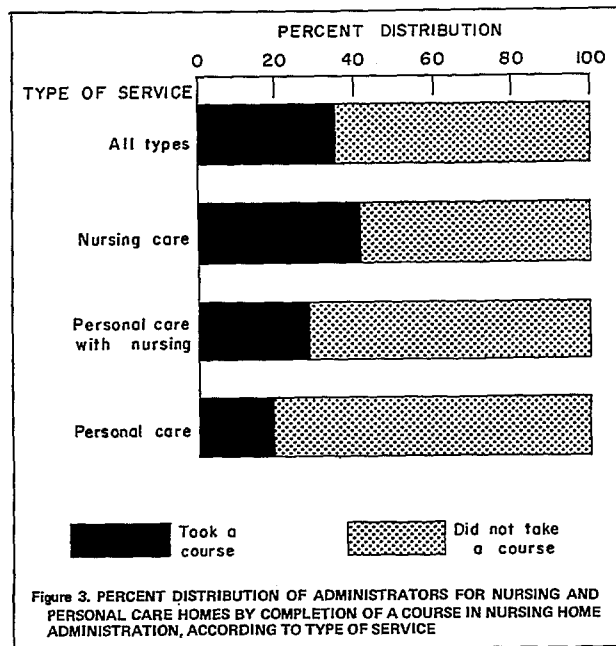
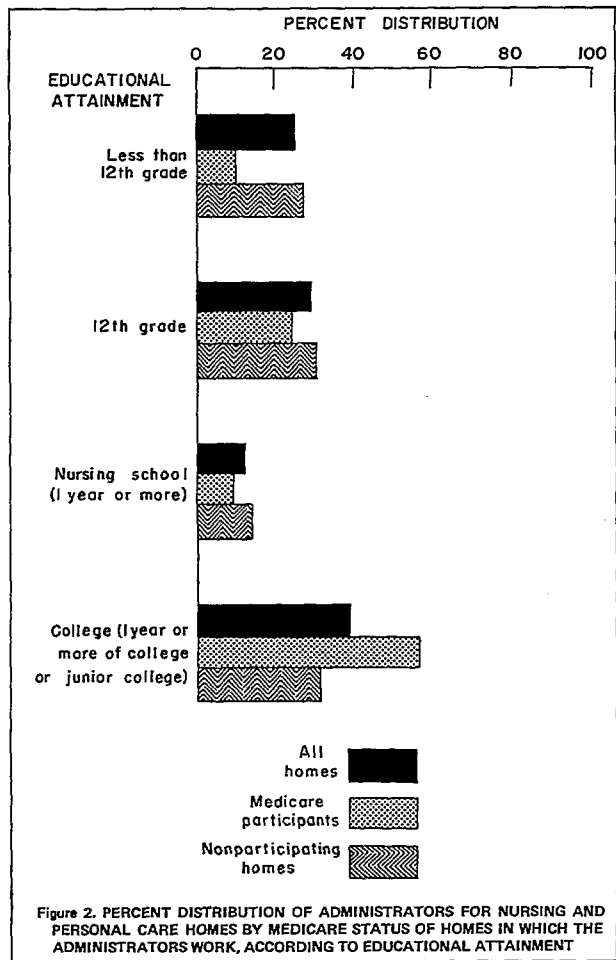
<sup>2</sup>Includes administrators who have completed 1 year or more of college or junior college.



Since courses as varied in length and quality as a 1-day workshop and a credited college course may have been reported, care must be exercised in interpretation of responses to the question, "Have you ever taken any courses in nursing home administration?" Nevertheless, an estimated 65 percent of all administrators reported that they had never taken a course in nursing home administration. Those administrators who worked in nursing care homes were more likely to have taken a course than those who worked in any other type of home (fig. 3).

Services Performed

In RPS-3 administrators were asked how many hours they spent during the week prior to the survey performing the following services in the facility: Administration, nursing care, medical and dental care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, recreational therapy, speech and hearing therapy, social work, clerical work, kitchen/dietary work, house-keeping services, and other services not listed above. Since about 4 percent of the administrators reported that during the week prior to the survey they spent no time in administration, there is some evidence that the definition of an administrator may have been misinterpreted or that what constitutes administrative activities was misunderstood. A considerable proportion of administrators reported they spent some time performing clerical work, kitchen and dietary work, housekeeping services, and nursing care. Lesser proportions performed other services (table 7).



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Table 7. Number and percent of administrators for nursing and personal care homes and percent of time spent performing services by services performed: United States, June-August 1969

[Excludes Alaska and Hawaii]

Services performed	Administrators <sup>1</sup>		Percent of time <sup>2</sup>
	Number	Percent	
One or more services-----	18,390	100.0	100.0
Administration of the facility-----	17,630	95.9	58.8
Nursing care-----	5,080	27.6	7.5
Medical and dental care-----	980	5.3	0.5
Physical therapy-----	1,110	6.0	0.4
Occupational therapy-----	1,250	6.8	0.6
Recreational therapy-----	2,810	15.3	1.5
Speech and hearing therapy-----	590	3.2	0.3
Social work-----	3,460	18.8	2.0
Clerical work-----	7,590	41.3	6.5
Kitchen/dietary work-----	9,010	49.0	12.5
Housekeeping services-----	5,690	30.9	6.3
Other-----	3,210	17.5	3.3

<sup>1</sup>Since categories are not mutually exclusive, percents for services do not add to total.

<sup>2</sup>Time spent performing each service as a percent of total hours worked the week prior to the survey.

## Technical Notes

SOURCE OF DATA. The list of nursing and personal care homes included in the Master Facility Inventory (MFI)<sup>1</sup> was the primary sampling frame (universe) for Resident Places Survey-3 (RPS-3). The MFI was supplemented by a list of new homes not listed on the MFI but reported in the Agency Reporting System<sup>1</sup> as being in operation at the time of the survey. To be included in the universe, establishments must have maintained at least three beds and routinely provided some level of nursing or personal care. Thus, a home providing only room and board or domiciliary care to its residents was not eligible for RPS-3 even if it were a home for the aged.

The scope of the survey included a probability sample of facilities classified into three broad groups: Nursing homes, personal-care-with-nursing homes, and personal care homes. The classification scheme for homes has been published.<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Bureau of the Census collected and edited the data according to specifications of the Division of Health Resources Statistics.

The data collection procedure was primarily by self-enumeration. Information on administrators was

obtained by questionnaire, mailed prior to a personal visit to each sample facility, which requested the administrator (as designated by the owner or manager of the facility) to record information about himself. The forms were collected by an interviewer during the personal visit to the facility and were edited for completeness and consistency at that time. The estimates presented in this report are based on a probability sample of 1,854 establishments found to be in

Table I. PROVISIONAL APPROXIMATE STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF ADMINISTRATORS FOR NURSING AND PERSONAL CARE HOMES

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
100-----	38.0	2,000----	170.4
200-----	56.3	3,000----	207.7
300-----	66.2	4,000----	240.4
400-----	77.6	5,000----	270.1
500-----	87.5	6,000----	283.0
600-----	95.1	7,000----	314.2
700-----	104.2	8,000----	322.5
800-----	108.0	9,000----	349.2
900-----	115.6	10,000---	380.4
1,000-----	119.4	18,000---	492.9

<sup>1</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Design and Methodology of the 1967 Master Facility Inventory Survey. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 1-No. 9. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Jan. 1971.



Table II. PROVISIONAL APPROXIMATE STANDARD ERRORS, EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGE POINTS, OF PERCENTAGES FOR ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF ADMINISTRATORS FOR NURSING AND PERSONAL CARE HOMES

Base of percentage (number of adminis- trators)	Estimated percentage					
	1 or 99	5 or 95	10 or 90	20 or 80	30 or 70	50
100-----	5.5	9.1	12.1	16.7	18.8	20.7
250-----	3.2	5.8	7.6	10.4	12.0	12.9
500-----	2.1	3.9	5.5	7.2	8.3	8.8
750-----	1.7	3.3	4.5	5.9	6.6	7.2
1,000-----	1.4	2.8	3.8	4.9	5.5	6.1
1,750-----	1.1	2.1	2.8	3.7	4.2	4.6
2,500-----	0.8	1.8	2.4	3.1	3.6	3.9
5,000-----	0.6	1.2	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.7
7,500-----	0.4	1.0	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.2
10,000-----	0.4	0.8	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0
15,000-----	0.3	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.6
18,000-----	0.3	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.5

operation at the time of the survey, and of 1,793 of the administrators in these facilities who completed an administrator questionnaire.

Since the estimates for RPS-3 are based on a sample of administrators in nursing and personal care homes rather than all such administrators, they are subject to sampling variability. One measure of sampling variability is the standard error. Shown in tables I and II are provisional approximate standard errors appropriate for the estimates and percentages of numbers of nursing and personal care home administrators in this report.

DEFINITION OF TERMS. Definitions of terms used in this report have been published.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>National Center for Health Statistics: Employees in Nursing and Personal Care Homes: Number, Work Experience, Special Training, and Wages, United States, May-June 1964. *Vital and Health Statistics*. PHS Pub. No. 1000-Series 12-No. 6. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office, Jan. 1967.



*if such as*

<del>EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS USED IN TABLES</del>	
Category not applicable	-----
Quantity zero	-----
Figure does not meet standards of reliability or precision	----- * 4.1 *

*etc*

*Quantity more than 0 but less than 0.05 - - - - - 0.0*

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
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