

Facts About Families*

People and Families

Our Burgeoning Population

At the beginning of this century we were a Nation of 76 million people, nearly 31 million of whom were children under 18. A baby born then was expected to live only to the age of 49, although a person already 45 years old could expect to survive to age 70. Well over a third of the population then was living on farms, which provided most of their income and nearly all of their food.

By 1958, our population had increased 2¼ times to a total of 174 million, with more than 4 million babies born in each of the preceding 5 years. Although children under age 18 are twice as numerous as in 1900, they constitute but 35 percent rather than 40 percent of the population. Persons aged 65 or more, on the other hand, have increased nearly fivefold in number to nearly 9 percent of the total population as against 4 percent in 1900. Life expectancy for babies at birth is about 70 years, and persons 45 years old can expect to live to age 75, well above the age at which most persons now stop working.

Table 1.—Population of the United States, by age, selected years 1900-58 and projection for 1970

Year	Population (in millions)					Percent of population
	Total	Under age 18	Aged 18-64	Aged 65 and over	Under age 18	
1900.....	76.1	30.7	42.3	3.1	40.3	4.1
1940.....	132.0	40.4	82.6	9.0	30.6	6.8
1950.....	151.7	47.0	92.4	12.3	31.0	8.1
1958.....	174.1	61.3	97.8	15.0	35.2	8.6
1970 projection.....	213.8	79.0	115.3	19.5	37.0	9.1

We have become more and more concentrated in cities and their environs. The 21 million persons now living on farms represent only 12 per-

* Prepared in the Division of Program Research, Office of the Commissioner, for the biennial meeting of the Family Service Association of America, held in Washington April 1, 2, and 3, 1959.

cent of the total population, compared with nearly 40 percent in 1900 and 23 percent just before World War II. Of those people now living on farms and employed, nearly two-fifths are doing off-farm work.

The trend towards a larger, more urban population and longer life is expected to continue. By 1970, it is projected, there may be an additional 40 million persons, including 18 million under age 18 and 4½ million aged 65 or more.

More People Are Marrying

Today, fewer people remain single than ever before. Furthermore, an increasing proportion of divorced persons remarry. By 1958, more than 2 out of every 3 persons aged 14 and over, 82 million in all, were married, although about 4 million were living apart from their spouses.

As the Census counts families, there were 43.7 million in 1958, one-third more than in 1940. In addition to the 38 million husband-wife families, 1.3 million families had a male head with no wife and 4.3 million had a woman as head. There were also about 1.7 million subfamilies—that is, married couples or one-parent-child groups related to the head of the main family. Subfamilies were found in 4.0 percent of the families as counted by the Census in 1958, compared with 6.4 percent in 1940.

Counting stepchildren and adopted children as "own" children, we find

Table 2.—Number of families and single persons and average family size, 1940, 1950, and 1958 and projection for 1970

Year	Families				Persons living alone or with nonrelatives (in thousands)
	Total (in thousands)	Average number of persons per family			
		Total	Under age 18	Aged 18 and over	
1940.....	32,166	3.76	1.24	2.52	9,277
1950.....	39,303	3.54	1.17	2.37	9,136
1958.....	43,714	3.65	1.38	2.27	10,447
1970 projection..	52,100	3.78	1.51	2.27	12,600

that more than half the families (56 percent) in 1958 had at least one child of their own under 18 years; one-fifth had three or more. If the same proportion of families have children in 1970 as in 1958, there will be 30 million families with children in that year.

Table 3.—Number of families by type of head and number of children, and average number of children per family, 1958

[In thousands]

Number of own children under 18 years	Number of families			
	Total	Husband-wife	Female head, no husband	Male head, no wife
Total.....	43,714	38,112	4,310	1,292
None.....	19,163	15,677	2,487	999
1.....	8,129	7,157	833	139
2.....	7,882	7,321	477	84
3.....	4,563	4,312	213	38
4 or more.....	3,977	3,645	300	32
Average number per family.....	1.29	1.36	0.89	0.44
Average number per family with children.....	2.30	2.32	2.11	1.95

Most Children Live in Their Own Homes

Most children today live in a "normal" family—that is, one with both parents present. In early 1958, 87 percent of the 60.5 million unmarried children under 18 years in the United States were living with both their parents. About 1 in 10 (6.4 million) were living with only one parent, usually the mother. An additional 1.1 million lived with other relatives, leaving about 400,000 in institutions, foster family homes, or unrelated households.

In a "normal" family, children are favored in another respect, because they and the family are not nearly so likely to share the home of a relative as when one of the parents is absent. Of the family groups including children under age 18 and both a mother and father, only 3 percent made their home with a relative. Of the groups including children under

age 18 but only one parent, nearly 1 out of 4 shared a relative's home.

Table 4.—Number of families and subfamilies, by type, 1958

[In thousands]

Presence of children and marital status	Families (maintaining own household)	Sub-families (couples or parent-child groups sharing a relative's home)
Total.....	43,714	1,733
With children under 18.....	24,551	1,259
Both parents present.....	22,435	596
Mother only.....	1,823	589
Father only.....	293	74
Without children.....	19,163	474
Husband and wife present.....	15,677	474
Other.....	3,486	-----
Sharing household with an unrelated family.....	269	-----

Some Live Alone

Although most people live as part of a family, a number of people — especially older women — live some years of their lives by themselves.

Since 1940 the number of women lodging or maintaining their own home with no relative present has increased from 4.3 million to 6.2 million, while the number of men in this situation actually dropped from 4.9 million to 4.2 million. As a result, the total number of unattached individuals increased from 9.3 million to 10.4 million. Projections show that by 1970 the number of persons who live alone or with nonrelatives may increase to 12½ million.

Many of these older persons living outside a family group are now receiving social insurance benefits or other income-maintenance payments; in fact, income-maintenance programs often play a large part in making it possible for the older people to live by themselves rather than with relatives. As medical knowledge and other research increase life expectancy, however, there is also increasing need for homemaker services, "meals on wheels," and other services designed to make continued independence possible for aged persons who otherwise would no longer be able to live alone.

For every 2 men living alone or with nonrelatives (and not in the Armed Forces or an institution) there

are 3 women in this situation—a reflection of the fact that women tend to outlive their husbands. More than half of all these women are widowed, and almost 40 percent are 65 years or older.

Families Are on the Move

After the end of World War II, with improved economic conditions and easing of the housing shortage, a number of new families and some already established set up housekeeping for themselves. Others took advantage of the opportunity to move to more desirable quarters. Many families now still experience at least an occasional moving day. For example, 1 out of every 5 families in the country moved between April 1954 and April 1955. Families consisting only of a married couple and children under age 18 were more likely to move than families of other types, and families with a head under age 35 more likely to move than older families. A majority of those who moved stayed within the same county, perhaps seeking more space or dwellings better adapted to their needs. Others moved to a new locality, perhaps because of better job opportunities.

These are the most recent data published on the mobility of families. Current data for individuals show a fairly constant rate of mobility over the past 10 years. Young people consistently are more likely to move than older people, as they get a new job or marry and set up housekeeping on their own.

Table 5.—Number of persons living alone,¹ lodging, or living in institutions, by sex, age, and marital status, 1958

[In thousands]

Age and marital status	Total	Men	Women
Not in institutions, total.....	10,447	4,231	6,216
Under 25.....	964	433	531
25-64.....	6,064	2,725	3,339
65-74.....	2,064	621	1,443
75 and over.....	1,355	452	903
Never married.....	3,911	2,010	1,901
Married, spouse absent.....	1,231	743	488
Widowed.....	4,287	967	3,320
Divorced.....	1,018	511	507
In institutions, total.....	1,567	950	617
Under 18.....	205	121	84
18-64.....	977	654	323
65 and over.....	385	175	210

¹ Maintaining their own home with no relative present.

Table 6.—Percentage distribution of families by residence change during year, by age of head, 1955

Age of family head	Total	House lived in, April 1955		
		Same as April 1954	Different house	
			Same county	Different county
Under 35.....	100.0	61.2	25.2	13.6
35-54.....	100.0	84.7	10.7	4.6
55 and over.....	100.0	92.5	5.6	1.9

The numbers moving from one county to another (which sometimes meant from one State to another), combined with population growth and other factors, created an imbalance between population and educational and other needed facilities—a situation calling for more and better community planning. In some instances families crossing county or State lines found themselves temporarily barred from needed services because of residence requirements for eligibility.

Couples Now Have More Years Together

Today the ups and downs of the family cycle from formation to dissolution not only affect more people — because more of them marry — but extend over a longer period of time, as people marry earlier and live longer.

In recent years about 1 out of every 2 brides marrying for the first time is under 20 years and her husband little more than 2 years older. Marriages of girls barely out of high school or boys still at college are common enough to be the subject for discussion among educators and family counsellors. Today, of the young men 20 or 21 years old who are full-time students at college, 1 in 10 is married and living with his wife. In 1958, the number of girls already married by their twenty-fifth birthday was more than one-third greater than would be expected if the marriage rate for this age group had remained the same as in 1940, and the number of men married by age 25 was actually three-fourths again as high as would have been expected.

The average married couple having children now have their first baby when the wife is about 22 and the last

baby some 5 or 6 years later. Fewer couples are living out their married life with no children at all, and a greater proportion, particularly among those where the wife had more years at school, are having three or more than was true in the forties. (It is still true, however, that families are smaller than early in our history.)

Because people now marry young and both men and women live longer than they used to, the average couple today can look forward to more than 40 years of married life. Furthermore, they can expect to share the last third of their time together after their youngest child has married and left home. This final phase of married life was beyond the reach of the average couple two generations ago, because there was a 50-50 chance that either the husband or wife would die at least 2 years before the last child was married.

Half the Divorces Today Involve Children

With longer life expectancy and earlier marriage, people who marry today can look forward to a longer married life than formerly, but not all of them will spend their lives with the original partner. For example, the divorce rate per 1,000 married women 15 years and over, which was 8.8 in 1940 and rose to a peak of 17.8 just after World War II, in 1957 was about 9.2 per 1,000. Divorce trends alone, of course, do not reflect the additional number of marriages

broken by separation or desertion. For example, in 1958 the number of married women who reported themselves separated from their husbands was nearly as great as the number reporting themselves divorced.

Marriages of young persons (women less than about 21 years of age) are less likely to be permanent than marriages of somewhat older persons. Divorce rates are lowest for women with 4 or more years of college and highest for women with 1-3 years of high school. The rates of separation for women vary inversely with education. In recent years, the proportion of divorces affecting children has increased. In fact, the most recent figures indicate that in 1956 about half the divorces granted during the year were to couples with at least one child under age 18. One in 9 divorcing couples had as many as three children.

Divorce has become a more important factor in family dissolution than death. Today, well over half the men under age 65 previously married but currently not are divorced rather than widowed, compared with a little over a third in 1940. For "once-married" women the difference, though less striking, is nevertheless considerable: 28 percent of those no longer married in 1958 had their marriage ended by divorce, compared with 20 percent in 1940. This means that there are today over a half million more divorcees in the population than in that year. Some of them are women with young children for whom they may have to assume some of the burden of support. A number of these mother-child groups, as well as those from marriages broken but not formally terminated, are found among the subfamilies who share a home with parents or other relatives.

Comparisons of the trends in the numbers currently divorced and currently widowed in the total population understate the relative increase in the number of divorces, since proportionately more persons ever-divorced are likely to have remarried than persons ever-widowed. It is estimated that about two-thirds of the women getting a divorce and close to three-fourths of the men eventually remarry—with 3 out of 4 of the remarriages taking place within 5

years. On the other hand, less than half those widowed can expect to remarry, and the odds are only half as great for women as for men. By and large, divorce affects families relatively early in marriage, when the likelihood of remarriage, particularly for the man, is still high. Death of a spouse, on the other hand, is likely to occur much later in marriage. It is usually the husband who dies first, and with our present survival rates his widow is more often than not past the age when remarriage is probable.

More Babies Are Born Out of Wedlock

Another problem of some significance in family life is that the number of births to unmarried mothers has been rising at a faster rate than those to married mothers.

In 1956 there were 193,500 illegitimate babies born, a rate of 20.2 per 1,000 unmarried women aged 15-44 or nearly three times that in 1940. Furthermore, such births constituted 46.5 per 1,000 total live births, compared with 37.9 in the earlier year—so that illegitimate births more than kept pace with the tendency in recent years for more families to have children.

Illegitimacy is a problem no matter what the age of the mother, but it is particularly distressing if she is little more than a child herself. Teenagers had nearly half the illegitimate babies born in 1940, and 40 percent in 1956. In the latter year more illegitimate babies were born to mothers in the age group 15-19 years than any other. Despite the trend towards earlier marriage, 1 out of every 7 girls this young who bore a child was not married.

Juvenile Delinquency Is Increasing

A topic much-discussed in many cities today is the increasing number of children, from many different social and economic backgrounds, who are involved in delinquency. They represent, it is sometimes overlooked, only a small fraction of all children. By far the great majority of youngsters go through childhood without becoming involved in anything more than the usual pranks and scrapes. It is true, however, that the number

Table 7.—Number of persons widowed and divorced, by sex and age, 1940, 1950, and 1958

[In thousands]

Year	Men			Women		
	Total	Widowed	Divorced	Total	Widowed	Divorced
All ages						
1940..	2,768	2,144	624	6,523	5,700	823
1950..	3,213	2,296	917	8,198	6,967	1,231
1958..	3,300	2,272	1,028	9,505	8,047	1,458
Under age 65						
1940..	1,607	1,040	567	3,923	3,133	790
1950..	1,710	921	789	4,611	3,425	1,186
1958..	1,664	727	937	4,918	3,555	1,363

of delinquency cases handled by juvenile courts has been rising at a disturbing rate. Today there are more than 27 such cases a year per 1,000 children 10-17 years old, compared with 10.5 per 1,000 in 1940. Police arrests of children involved in delinquency likewise show a substantial increase in recent years.

Table 8.—Number of juvenile court delinquency cases, selected years, 1940-57

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 children aged 10-17
1940.....	200,000	10.5
1946.....	295,000	13.9
1948.....	254,000	14.7
1950.....	280,000	16.1
1957.....	603,000	27.2

Whether a child who commits an antisocial act is adjudged "delinquent" or not depends to some degree on the facilities and practices in his community for dealing with children in difficulty. Sometimes it depends upon the attitudes or resources of his parents. Delinquency is defined variously in different States, but in most States reported cases include children who have allegedly violated any public law or ordinance (by theft, truancy, etc.) or children who run away from home or whose habitual disobedience is beyond the control of their parents.

It is encouraging, on the other hand, that there has been a decline in the proportion of children coming before a juvenile court not as miscreants but as dependency and neglect cases—that is, because parents or guardians have allegedly failed to provide the care, education, or protection required by law (lack of adequate care or support, abandonment or desertion, abuse or cruel treat-

Table 9.—Number of juvenile court dependency and neglect cases, 1946, 1948, 1950, and 1957

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 children under age 18
1946.....	101,000	2.4
1948.....	103,000	2.3
1950.....	93,000	2.0
1957.....	114,000	1.9

ment, etc.). Between 1946 and 1957 the number of such cases reported dropped from 2.4 to 1.9 per 1,000 children under 18 years.

Family Income and Employment

Employment Determines the Level of Family Income

Most American families live on wages or salaries or income from self-employment, and the size of their income is closely related to the number of earners in the family, as the following tabulation shows.

Number of earners	Median money income of family, 1957	Number of families (in thousands)
All families.....	\$4,970	43,710
With no earner.....	1,460	2,720
With 1 earner.....	4,500	21,240
With 2 earners.....	5,780	15,320
With 3 or more earners.....	7,040	4,440

Likewise, persons living alone or with nonrelatives are much better off if they are earners than if they are not. In 1957, the median money income of "unrelated individuals" who were not earners (3.5 million) was just over \$700; while that of the earners (6.8 million) approached \$2,400.

The relationship between earnings and level of family income is demonstrated also by the fact that about one-fourth of all families with total money incomes below \$2,000 in 1957 had no earnings at all, while only 1 in 100 of the families with \$4,000 or more had no income from earnings.

Many of the low-income families with no earnings, as one would expect, are older families who have retired and are living on social security and other pensions. For example, almost half of those couples living by themselves, with the husband 65 years or more, had total cash income of less than \$2,000. A considerable number of the low-income families with earnings are those where the major occupation of the family head is working on a farm — his own or someone else's: 42 percent of these families had less than \$2,000 in cash for the year, and the median income for the entire group was only \$2,400.

To be sure, such families, particularly if they work their own farm, get their housing and a substantial part of their food without any additional direct expense, but like all low-income families, old and young, they are restricted in those items of consumption that must be obtained with money outlay.

Income Varies Widely With Family Situation

Older people are likely to be working only part of the time, if at all, and women's earnings average less than men's. For these and other reasons, elderly families and those with a woman as head have incomes far below average, as illustrated below.

Type of family	Median family money income, 1957
All families.....	\$4,970
Male head.....	5,160
Married, wife present:	
Wife in labor force.....	6,140
Wife not in labor force.....	4,830
Other marital status.....	4,580
Female head.....	2,760
Head aged under 25 years.....	3,890
Head aged 35-54 years.....	5,560
Head aged 65 and over.....	2,490

On a per capita basis, money income tends to be lower the larger the family, particularly in families with more than three children, because they are likely to have only one paid earner. Large families also are more likely to live on farms or in rural nonfarm areas where money incomes are lower, on the average. Although there are certain "economies" in housing and feeding a large family compared with a small, the varying expenditures per person by families of different sizes are more often a function of difference in available income than of difference in actual needs.

Income-Maintenance Programs Play an Increasing Role

Families without earnings may be families broken by death or marital estrangement. They may also be families of workers retired because of age or forced out of the labor market because of disability.

The old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program provides protection to 9 in 10 mothers and chil-

dren in the event of the breadwinner's death. At the end of 1957 about 1¼ million orphaned children were receiving such benefits. More than 320,000 of the widowed mothers were themselves receiving benefits under this program, and another 70,000 could have done so if their earnings were reduced below the work-test limit. Taking account also of compensation and pensions from the Veterans Administration and payments under the railroad retirement and government employee programs, we find that more than half the widowed mothers and more than 7 in 10 of all paternal orphans received payments from one or more of the social insurance or related programs. In addition, about 1 in 10 of the widowed mothers and the orphans received assistance under aid to dependent children, more than one-third of them to supplement benefits under old-age, survivors, and disability insurance or another social insurance program.

In all, about three-fourths of a million families, with almost 2.2 million children, are now receiving payments under aid to dependent children, close to three-fifths of them because of absence of the father for reasons other than death and more than one-fourth because of the father's incapacity.

Of our people 65 years and over, more than 6 in 10 are now receiving old-age, survivors, and disability insurance benefits and another 1 in 10 will be eligible when they or their husbands retire. Some old people have retired under other social insurance programs, and a considerable number receive veterans' pensions or compensation. About 1 in 8 is primarily dependent on public assistance.

These sources yield only limited amounts of income. Benefits paid to retired workers under old-age, survivors, and disability insurance, for example, average something over \$71 a month now that the increase provided by the 1958 amendments has gone into effect. The average benefit is close to \$56 a month for a widowed mother and exceeds \$43 for a child. Many beneficiaries have some earnings or other sources of support. Nevertheless, according to a study conducted in 1957, old-age, survivors,

and disability insurance benefits provided practically all the money income of about one-fourth of the aged beneficiaries and one-eighth of the mother-child groups.

The Average Family Is Financially Better off Today Than 10 or 20 Years Ago

Earnings have gone up substantially since before World War II. Their rise is clearly reflected in figures on median wage and salary income in 1939 and 1957 for families of different types. Indeed, these income figures more than tripled while consumer prices doubled.

There is no similar information on changes since 1939 in the total money income of families, but we do know for all families the change in total income since 1944. In that year the median money income from all sources for United States families was \$2,530. From that point, the average rose steadily practically every year so that by 1957 it had risen to \$4,970, almost twice as much as in 1944. Even after allowing for the higher tax rates in recent years, the increase in disposable income is still considerable.

Insurance beneficiaries and assistance recipients have shared to some extent with active workers in the rising productivity of our economy. Average payments under most income-maintenance programs have not, however, kept pace with wage increases. The increase since 1940 in the number drawing benefits under the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program, on the other hand, has been spectacular. Monthly

benefits, first payable in that year, now go to 12½ million persons each month.

Among other indicators of improved financial status are the fact that all but 3 percent of all married couples today maintain their own household. In 1940, the proportion of married couples without a home of their own was over twice as great, or 7 percent. In fact, well over half (56 percent) of all nonfarm families were homeowners in early 1958, and among families with a head aged 35 or more, the proportion owning their home was nearly 2 out of 3.

On the other hand, those living on fixed low incomes were sometimes at an especial disadvantage because the prevailing level of prices made some necessary consumer's goods and services a strain on the budget if not totally beyond their reach. It is true that a number of families achieved an increased income in part through the entry into the labor force of an additional earner, often the wife. Her employment accentuates the need for increasing attention on the part of both the community and the family to the adjustments required when a woman assumes the dual role of homemaker and paid worker, especially as it affects young children.

More Mothers Are Working

There were 7½ million working mothers in the United States in the spring of 1958 — 30 of every 100 women with 1 or more children under 18 in her care.

The total included almost 1.4 million mothers who were widowed, divorced, or married but not living with their husbands, of whom about one-third had children under age 6. Of the working mothers living with their husbands, nearly 40 percent had preschool children.

In 1957 nearly 1 in 4 of all the working mothers of preschool children had 2 children under age 6, and about 1 in 14 had 3 or more. There were thus at least 3.6 million preschool children whose mothers were in the labor force in that year.

The employment of women with children is part of a general trend for married women to combine homemaking with a full- or part-time job outside the home. For example, since

Table 10.—Median wage or salary income of primary families with wage or salary income, by family type, and consumer price index, 1939, 1951, and 1957

Family head and number of children	1939	1951	1957
Male head:			
Married, wife present...	\$1,320	\$3,770	\$5,030
Other marital status...	1,160	3,410	4,240
Female head.....	910	2,410	2,900
No children.....	1,370	3,660	4,700
1 child.....	1,320	3,660	4,860
2 children.....	1,290	3,760	5,050
3 or more children.....	960	3,540	4,780
Consumer price index (1947-49=100)	59.4	111.0	120.2

Table 11.—Labor-force status of ever-married women, by current marital status and presence of children, 1948 and 1958

Presence of children and marital status	Ever-married women in labor force			
	Number (in thousands)		Percent of total	
	April 1948	March 1958	April 1948	March 1958
Total.....	11,205	16,636	25.6	32.6
With children under age 18.....	4,163	7,494	20.2	29.5
Husband present.....	3,151	6,113	16.7	26.5
Other.....	1,012	1,381	56.4	57.3
Children under age 6.....	1,557	2,847	12.8	20.1
Husband present.....	1,222	2,399	10.7	18.2
Other.....	335	448	45.3	45.1
Children aged 6-17 only.....	2,606	4,617	30.7	41.1
Husband present.....	1,929	3,714	26.0	37.6
Other.....	677	933	64.1	65.8
With no children under age 18.....	7,042	9,142	30.5	35.8
Husband present.....	4,394	5,713	28.4	35.4
Other.....	2,648	3,429	34.6	36.6

1940, when 15 percent of married women living with their husbands were in the labor force, this proportion has risen steadily until today it is just about twice as high. The manpower shortages that developed during World War II drew large numbers into many types of employment previously closed to them. Substantial numbers of women left the labor force after V-J day, yet the number in the labor force has increased steadily since 1947.

In the past 10 years, from 1948 to 1958, the number of mothers in the labor force has gone up by 80 percent and the proportion of all mothers who work by almost 50 percent.

The differences in labor-force participation of mothers who share family responsibilities with a husband and those who are themselves the family head are growing less. Mothers of children under age 6, however, are still less than half as likely to be working as other mothers, whatever the mother's age, race, place of residence, financial status, or educational background. When they do work, they are also less likely to have a full-time job.

Of the working wives whose children were not yet of school age, only

16 percent held full-time jobs during the entire year 1956 (the latest year for which we have such information), and two-thirds were restricted either to part-time jobs or to work for half the year or less. About one-third of the working wives with older children and more than two-fifths of those without children worked full time during 1956.

Financial pressure appears to be a major factor in a mother's decision to work. For married women, the lower the husband's income the more likely the wife is to work. Thus, in 1957, wives aged 20-44 with children at home were about three times as likely to be in the labor force when the husband's income in 1956 fell below \$4,000 as when it exceeded \$10,000. When women are responsible for supporting the family, as is generally true of those widowed, divorced, or living apart from their husbands, they are much more likely to work.

The physical and psychological effects of maternal employment on both the mother and her family are of interest, but there is little information on the subject. Fragmentary studies have shown that the mother often fulfills her dual responsibility only at the cost of a longer working day for herself and that a sizable share of her earnings may be used up in expenses incident to employment rather than in augmenting family income.

With respect to the children, however, a recent nationwide survey conducted by the Census for the Children's Bureau on arrangements made by working mothers (during May 1958) shows that nearly 400,000 children under age 12 have to care for themselves while their mothers work, and 138,000 of these children are less than 10 years old. Among children under 12 years of age, 1 child in 13 whose mother works must look out for himself for varying periods. In the age group of 10 and 11 alone, 1 child in 5 is without any care while his mother is at work.

Though most of the children for whom day-care arrangements were made were cared for by fathers or

other relatives while their mothers worked, over a million were looked after by nonrelatives who either came into the children's homes or cared for them in their own homes. About 24,000 children under age 3 and 67,000 children aged 3-5 were in group care.

Sources

People and Families

Population estimates and projections from the Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, "Population Estimates," Series P-25, Nos. 114, 146, 187, and 193. Data include Armed Forces overseas. Projections shown (Census Series II) imply that the 1955-57 fertility level continues to 1980.

Data on characteristics of persons and families are from the Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, "Population Characteristics," Series P-20, Nos. 67, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, and 93; and from P. C. Glick, *American Families*, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, 1957. Data relate to civilian population. The projections for families (Census Series B) represent an intermediate level as to family formation, based on Series II population projections.

Data on births, life expectancy, illegitimacy, and divorce rates from the National Office of Vital Statistics, *Vital Statistics, Special Reports*, "National Summaries," Vol. 48, Nos. 2, 3, 6, 14, and 17; "Selected Studies," Vol. 33, No. 5, and mimeographed release on illegitimate births, dated May 5, 1958; and *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, "Annual Summary for 1958," Vol. 7, No. 13.

Data on juvenile delinquency from the Children's Bureau.

See also William F. Pratt, "Profile of American Families, 1940-57," *Public Health Reports*, March 1959, pp. 189-194.

Family Income and Employment

Income data for the general population from the Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, "Consumer Income," Series P-60, No. 30. See "Population Characteristics," Series P-20, No. 86, for couples without own home.

Data on income-maintenance programs from the Social Security Administration.

Data on home ownership from "Survey of Consumer Finances," *Federal Reserve Bulletin*, July 1958.

Data on working mothers from the Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, "Labor Force," Series P-50, Nos. 11, 73, 81, and 87, estimates developed by the Social Security Administration, and advance release on special study by the Children's Bureau dated January 1959. See also Emma G. Holmes, "Job-Related Expenditures of Working Wives," speech at 36th Annual National Agricultural Outlook Conference, Nov. 19, 1958, Washington 25, D. C.