Seventy-Fourth Edition

# Statistical Abstract of the United States

Bureau of the Census Library

Prepared under the Direction of Morris B. Ullman in the Office of the Assistant Director for Statistical Standards



1953

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Sinclair Weeks, Secretary

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#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Statistical Abstract of the United States has been published annually for the past 74 years, and its present content and form are the result of the work of many persons during that period. Revisions are made each year to adapt it to meet current needs and uses, and to bring the various statistical series up to date.

The Statistical Abstract is prepared in the office of Morris H. Hansen, Assistant Director for Statistical Standards. This issue was compiled by William Lerner under the direction of Morris B. Ullman, Chief, Statistical Reports Section. Elma D. Beynon is editorial supervisor and Robert L. Rowland assisted in planning.

The cooperation of many persons acting in either their official positions or as individuals, who contributed to the preparation of this volume, is gratefully acknowledged. The list of tables by source (pp. XII-XV), as well as the source note following each table, indicates the various government and private agencies cooperating in furnishing information, assisting in the selection and preparation of the material, or otherwise contributing to the preparation of the *Statistical Abstract*.

September 1953.

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# PREFACE

The Statistical Abstract of the United States, published annually since 1878, is the standard summary of statistics on the industrial, social, political, and economic organization of the United States. It includes a representative selection of data from most of the important statistical publications, both governmental and private. It is limited, of necessity, primarily to national data, and, to a much lesser extent, to data for regions and individual States. Data for cities or other small geographic units are shown only in a small number of instances.

This book is designed to fulfill two functions: First, to serve as a convenient volume for statistical reference; and second, to serve as a guide to other statistical publications and sources. The source of each table presented is given at the foot of the table. The publications cited usually contain additional statistical detail relating to the subject matter shown, and a more complete discussion of relevant definitions and concepts than can be presented here. Also, they may supply data for smaller geographic units. Where contributing agencies are cited as sources, without mention of publications, more detailed information frequently is available from their unpublished tabulations and records.

1953 edition.—This edition is the seventy-fourth annual issue. The statistics shown are the latest which were available in the early part of the 1953 calendar year. The year, 1953, used to designate this edition, represents both the year during which compilation was made and the year of publication.

Each year several sections are subjected to intensive review. This review introduces new subject material of current interest and eliminates data that are less timely or appear in greater detail than seems warranted.

Worthy of special mention in this edition is the presentation of new data from the 1950 Censuses of Population, Housing, and Agriculture. Availability of these data afforded an opportunity for important additions to several sections. Particularly involved were section 1, Area and Population; section 4, Education; section 8, Labor Force, Employment, and Earnings; section 24, Agriculture—General Statistics; section 25, Agriculture—Production and Related Subjects; and section 29, Construction and Housing. As a result, the presentation in these sections is not only more current but also more complete both in terms of subject coverage and area coverage.

A section which has undergone a significant change in this edition is section 33, Territories, Possessions, and Other Areas Under the Jurisdiction of the United States. This section, which previously included only data on commerce of the Territories and possessions, has been considerably expanded by shifting to it material which was scattered in a number of sections and adding new material from the 1950 Censuses, particularly on population and housing.

Other changes in this edition involve particularly the recent study, Share Ownership in the United States, made by the Brookings Institution, from which five tables have been excerpted and added to the Banking and Finance section. The Business Enterprise section provides three new tables dealing with the survival experience of business firms, and two new tables on industrial research and development expenditures. Several new tables on individual and family income have been added to the Income and Expenditures section. New material in other sections includes: Tables showing first marriage and remarriage by age of bride and groom, and divorces and annulments by duration of marriage; Federal prisoners with previous commitments; estimated State distribution of selected Federal expenditures for veterans; number of civilian employees with veteran preference in the executive branch of the Federal Government; value in constant dollars for raw materials production, imports, exports, and apparent consumption; votes cast for Governor by States; expenditures by organizations attempting to influence national legislation; indexes of production, employment, prices, retail trade, and income for selected foreign countries; and a number of other subjects.

With respect to content other than tabular, efforts to expand and improve the general notes preceding each section were continued, notably in section 18, Communications, and section 23, Irrigation, Drainage, and Soil Conservation. On the first page of text in each section, a note has been added giving the date on which the material for the section as a whole was organized and sent to the printer. This date serves as a reference point both for those statistics which are subject to revision by the issuing agencies and also to indicate the approximate date on which the section was organized from the latest material available. There are a total of 45 maps and charts presented in this edition, as compared to 31 in the last issue. In addition, the "Bibliography of Sources" has been expanded and revised.

Historical appendix.—As a result of integrating the annual Statistical Abstract with Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789–1945, most of the historical series which have previously been shown in the historical appendix are now presented in other tables in the Abstract. In order to facilitate the location of these tables, the present version of the historical appendix relates each historical series for which comparable current data are available to the number of the Abstract table in which the series appears.

Present plans are to issue a separate publication which will bring to date, under a single cover, all current series in *Historical Statistics*, together with all known revisions in figures published earlier, thus consolidating and supplementing all data which have been included in the historical appendix of the 1949–1952 editions of the *Statistical Abstract*.

Supplements to the Abstract.—The Statistical Abstract, as an annual one-volume publication, is of necessity limited in amount of detail shown. Businessmen, teachers, librarians, public officials, professional workers, and others often require data for individual cities, counties, metropolitan areas, and other small areas as well as for States. Economists, teachers, students, and others frequently need more historical information. To meet such requests for more detail, a series of supplements to the Abstract has been issued.

The most recent supplement, the County and City Data Book, 1952, issued in May 1953, brings together 128 items of information for each county, standard metropolitan area, and State; and 133 items for each of 484 cities with 25,000 or more inhabitants in 1950. Most of the statistics in this volume were obtained from the results of the 1950 Censuses of Agriculture, Population, and Housing. Other subjects covered include 1950 data for births, deaths, and marriages; bank deposits and E Bond sales; city government finances and employment; city school systems; farm-operator family levelof-living index; and other items of social and economic importance. Final figures for a number of items from the 1948 Census of Business and the 1947 Census of Manufactures are also shown. This volume is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for \$4.25.

Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789-1945, a historical supplement, was published in July 1949. This volume brings together 3,000 statistical series which extend back through time. Data are shown for each year back to 1789 or to the earliest data available for the series. In the preparation of this supplement the Bureau had the cooperation of a special committee of the Social Science Research Council set up to advise the Director of the Census on a source book of historical statistics and of the Committee on Research in Economic History under the auspices of the Social Science Research Council. This volume is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., for \$2.75.

#### PREFACE

**Responsibility.**—As implied in the title, the contents of this volume are taken from a large number of sources, as indicated in the list of agencies furnishing material. (See pages XII–XV.) The Bureau of the Census cannot accept the responsibility for the accuracy or limitations of the data presented here, other than for those which it collects. However, the responsibility for selection of the material for the general user and for proper presentation rests with the Bureau, even though carried out with the cooperation of many technicians who have given unselfishly of their time and knowledge in order to assist the Bureau's staff in making the presentation as meaningful and useful as possible.

The cooperation of the users must also be acknowledged. Many persons have written offering suggestions for improving the presentation of the material. These letters have been most helpful and users are urged to continue to make their needs known. All suggestions will be carefully considered in planning future editions.

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON DATA PRESENTED

write to the agency indicated in the source note to the table which covers the desired subject.

## SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

should be sent to The Director Bureau of the Census Washington 25, D. C.

## STATISTICAL ABSTRACT SUPPLEMENTS

- County and City Data Book, 1952. A compact presentation of 128 items of statistical data for each county and standard metropolitan area in the United States, and 133 items of statistical data for each of 484 cities having 25,000 or more inhabitants in 1950. Items included based largely on results of 1950 Censuses of Agriculture, Population and Housing. Includes 51 maps, explanatory and definitive text, and source notes. 608 pages. Issued 1953. Price \$4.25 (Buckram).
- Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789–1945. A supplement to the Statistical Abstract, prepared with the cooperation of the Social Science Research Council. A compilation of about 3,000 statistical time series, largely annual, extending back through time to the earliest year for which figures are available. Includes definitions of terms and descriptive text. Specific source notes provide a basic guide to original published sources for further reference and additional data. Detailed alphabetical subject index. 363 pages. Issued 1949. Fourth printing. Price \$2.75 (Buckram).

Purchase orders should be addressed to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

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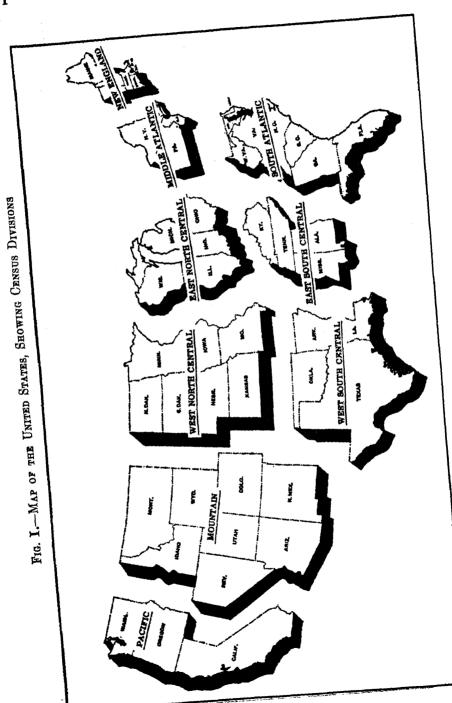
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Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

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