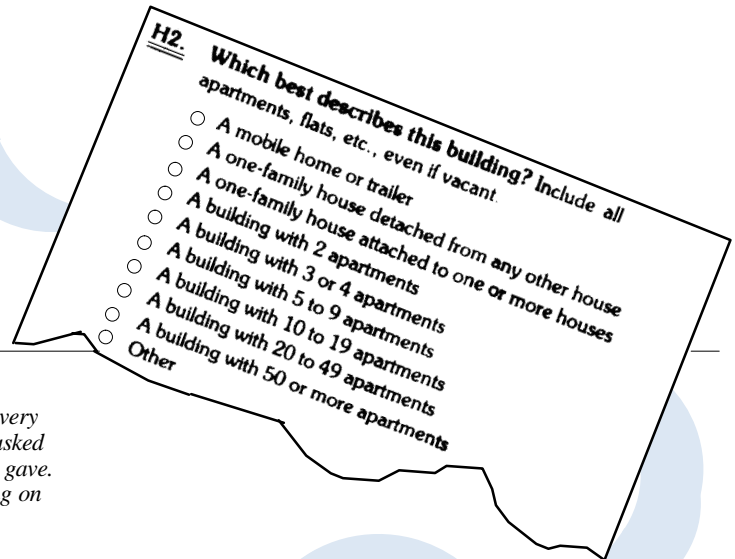


We asked... You told us

Type of Housing and Tenure



The Census Bureau conducts a census of population and housing every 10 years. This bulletin is one of a series that shows the questions asked in the 1990 census and the answers that you, the American people, gave. Each bulletin focuses on a question or group of questions appearing on the 1990 census questionnaires.

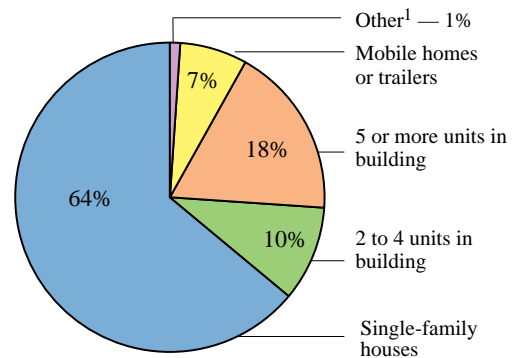
Type of Housing

In question **H2** on the 1990 census forms, we asked people to describe the type of building in which they lived. The pie chart shows what you told us in replying to this question.

- In 1990, single-family houses were the most common living arrangement, making up about 64 percent of the total number of all housing units in the United States. Dwellings such as row houses and townhouses accounted for 8 percent of all single-family homes.
- Nearly 30 percent of all housing units were in apartment buildings—10 percent were in buildings with 2 to 4 apartments, and 18 percent were in buildings with 5 or more apartments.
- Although mobile homes made up only 7 percent of all housing units, this group was the fastest growing type of housing and increased nearly 60 percent between 1980 and 1990.

What Kind of Housing Do You Live In?

Type of Housing: 1990



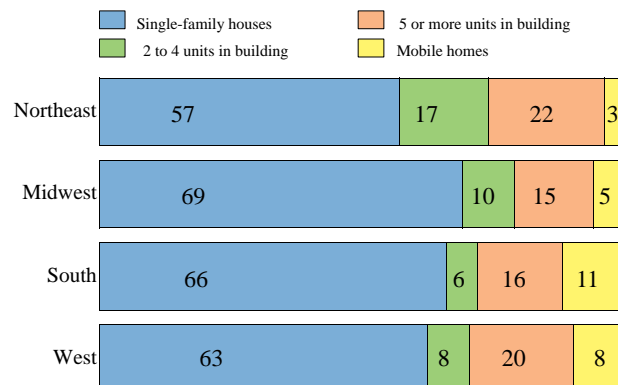
¹ The category "other" includes houseboats, railroad cars, campers, vans, and so forth that are occupied as someone's usual residence.

How Do Different Geographic Areas Compare?

- Housing types varied by region, as illustrated in the bar chart. The Midwest had the highest percentage of single-family homes (69 percent).
- The Northeast had the lowest percentage of single-family homes, but led in the percentage of dwellings in multiunit buildings: 17 percent of its housing units were in buildings with 2 to 4 apartments, and 22 percent were in buildings with 5 or more apartments.
- The South had the highest percentage of mobile homes (11 percent), more than three times the percentage in the Northeast (3 percent).
- Among the States, New York had the highest number (over 1 million) of housing units in large buildings of 50 or more apartments, nearly one-fourth of the Nation's total. This figure reflects the large proportion of dwellings in multi-unit buildings in New York City.
- On the other hand, New York had the lowest percentage of single-family homes (45 percent) of any State. Iowa had the highest percentage (76 percent).

Regional Differences in Type of Housing: 1990

(Percent)



Note: Figures do not add to 100 percent. "Other" housing units account for 1 percent of each region's total number of units.

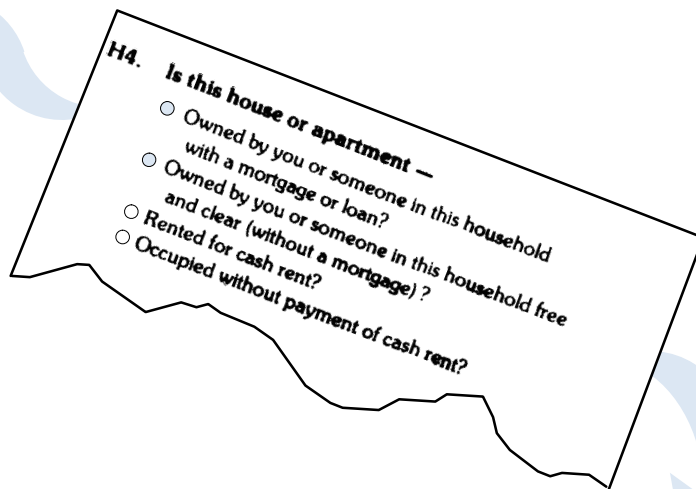
Census Trivia: According to the 1990 census, which State had the largest number of mobile homes? Which State had the highest percentage? (Answer on reverse.)

Tenure— Own or Rent?

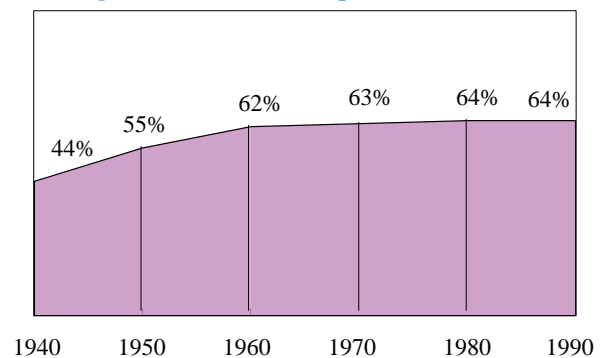
In question **H4**, we asked persons to tell us if they owned or rented their house or apartment.

You told us that:

- Of the Nation's 102 million housing units in 1990, homeowners occupied 59 million units and renters, 33 million. The remaining 10 million housing units were vacant.
- The graph shows that in 1990, the majority of housing units were owned. However, 50 years ago, the reverse was true, and the majority of housing units were rented. The homeownership rate increased substantially between 1940 and 1960 but has remained nearly unchanged since then.
- Every State had more homeowners than renters. The State with the highest homeownership rate was West Virginia (74 percent). New York had the lowest rate with 52 percent.
- About 35 percent of single-family houses in the United States were owned without a mortgage or debt in 1990.
- About 4 percent of rental units were occupied without payment of cash rent.



Changes in Homeownership: 1940-90

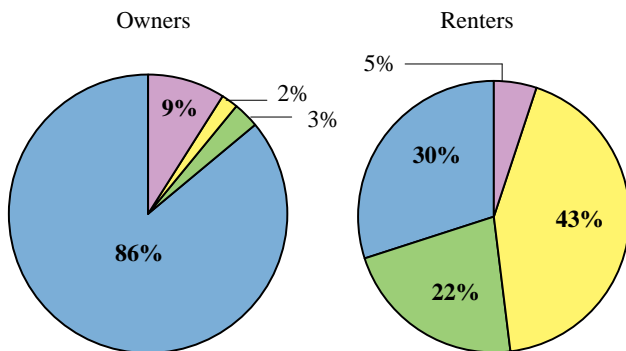


Owners Are More Likely Than Renters to Live in Single-Family Homes

The pie charts show that most homeowners (86 percent) lived in single-family homes. By comparison, only 30 percent of renters lived in single-family homes. The majority of the renters lived in multiunit buildings— 22 percent in buildings with 2 to 4 apartments and 43 percent in buildings with 5 or more apartments.

Type of Housing by Tenure: 1990

- Single-family houses
- 2 to 4 units in building
- 5 or more units in building
- Mobile homes/other



Who Uses This Information?

Just a few examples: G Builders and contractors to develop their business plans G Federal, State, and local governments to identify communities eligible for housing development programs G Government agencies to determine the need for schools, highways, and police and fire protection

Trivia Answer: Florida had the largest number of mobile homes (750,000), and South Carolina had the highest percentage (17 percent).

Want to Know More?

Consult the series of 1990 census reports, CPH-1, *Summary Population and Housing Characteristics*, and CH-1, *General Housing Characteristics*, at a large public or university library. Also for sale by Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office. For ordering information, call Customer Services at the Census Bureau, 301-763-4100.

For copies of CQC bulletins, call Customer Services. For more information on CQC bulletins, contact Kim Giesbrecht or Karen Mills, 301-763-4263.

For further information on housing data, contact the Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, 301-763-8553.



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