

**1990 Census of Population & Housing Information  
District III**

**Aaron Harp  
Extension Rural Sociologist  
Department of Agricultural Economics & Rural Sociology  
University of Idaho  
Moscow, ID 83843**

**A. E. Extension Series No. 93-7  
May 1993**



## Discussion and Definitions for 1990 Census of Population & Housing

### Discussion:

1. Variables in this data set come from either sample counts of households or what is called a "100% count." Regardless of which method is used, the outcome is the official number for your county. This can present problems. Keep in mind that the samples come from the longer form of the Census questionnaire. All households are supposed to receive and return at least the shorter form. The method for distributing the long form is:
  - Urban areas: 1 out of every 6 households receive the long form.
  - Rural areas: 1 out of every 2 households receive the long form.

Because the use of samples can alter results, sometimes considerably, the Census Bureau's estimates of error for some variables are attached.

Variables that are 100% counts include:

1. population
2. ethnicity
3. marital status
4. age
5. household composition
6. residence

The remainder are from sample counts.

2. You will notice that Hispanics are broken out from other ethnic groups in the age breakdown by ethnicity. This is due to the fact that Hispanic ethnicity crosses into other ethnic groups. The **Hispanics Corrected** category indicates the number of respondents in each of the other major ethnic groups who referred to themselves as Hispanic also. Breaking Hispanics out of the general population is necessary to get an accurate count.
3. With respect to households, keep in mind that everyone lives in a household, but not all households are families. Strictly speaking, all respondents to the Census are from households, and this can include people living alone or collections of unrelated roommates. Families are in households as well and their make-up is reflected in the household composition numbers.
4. Residence is rather straightforward. If you live in an incorporated area, Census place, or other well defined area with a population of 2500 people or more, you live in an urban area. If you do not live in an urban area, you live in a rural area.



5. You will notice the absence of the Census counts for farm population. This is one of the variables that comes from a sample scheme and appears very difficult to verify. It appears that there is a significant undercount on farm populations. Thus, I omitted it.
6. These variables and most of the remainder of the data have specific definitions. These are provided below.
7. The first graph is a population pyramid. This is used to examine the age structure with respect to men vs. women. These can easily be reconstructed into more general categories by combining age groups. Similar pyramids can be constructed for ethnic groups as well.
8. The final two graphs are data from the Regional Economic Information System of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce. These graphs use interim population estimates and estimates of per capita income for the years between Censuses. The annual rate of growth is a simple logarithmic rate of continuous change. Per capita income is given in nominal dollars and in dollars adjusted by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This is why the final number, which is from the Census, is the same for both nominal and adjusted: there would be no adjustment as this is the most current year.

### **Definitions:**

**Children Ever Born** -- Ever-married women were instructed to include all children born to them before and during their most recent marriage, children no longer living, and children away from home, as well as children who are still living in the home. Never-married women were instructed to include all children born to them. Stillbirths, step-children, and adopted children were excluded.

**Educational Attainment** -- The highest level of school completed or the highest degree received. The category, "Associate degree" includes persons whose highest degree is an associate degree in (1) an occupational program that prepares them for a specific occupation, and the course work may or may not be creditable toward a bachelor's degree or (2) an academic program primarily in the arts and sciences, and the course work is transferable to a bachelor's degree. Some examples of professional degrees include medicine, dentistry, chiropractic, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, podiatry, veterinary medicine, law, and theology, but specifically exclude barber school, cosmetology, or other training for a specific trade.

**Employed** -- All civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" - those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" - those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from



which they were temporarily absent. The reference week is the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed the questionnaire or were interviewed by enumerators. (For more information, see "Labor Force Status" and "Unemployed.")

**Families (Family Households)** -- Includes a householder and one or more persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All persons in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may comprise a group of unrelated persons or one person living alone.

**Household** -- Includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit. Persons not living in households are classified as living in group quarters. In sample tabulations, the count of households may differ from the count of occupied housing units as a result of the weighting process.

**Income in 1989** -- Information on money income received in the calendar year 1989 was requested from persons 15 years and over. "Total income" is the algebraic sum of the amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net nonfarm self-employment income; net farm self-employment income; interest, dividend, net rental or royalty income; Social Security or railroad retirement income; public assistance or welfare income; retirement or disability income; and all other income. (For more information, see "Public Assistance Income," "Retirement Income," and "Social Security Income.")

**Labor Force (Employment) Status** -- All persons classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (persons on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). (For more information, see "Employed" and "Unemployed.")

**Native** -- Includes persons born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or an outlying area of the United States. The small number of persons who were born in a foreign country but have at least one American parent also are included in this category.

**Own Children** -- A never-married child under 18 years who is a son or daughter by birth, a stepchild, or an adopted child of the householder.

**Per Capita Income** -- The mean income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. It is derived by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population.

**Poverty Status in 1989** -- Poverty status was determined for all persons except institutionalized persons, persons in military group quarters and in college dormitories and unrelated individuals under 15 years old. These groups were excluded from the denominator when calculating poverty rates.



Poverty statistics were based on a definition originated by the Social Security Administration in 1964 and modified by Federal interagency committees in 1969 and 1980 and prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget. The income cutoffs used by the Census bureau to determine the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals included a set of 48 thresholds arranged in a two-dimensional matrix consisting of family size cross-classified by presence and number of family members under 18 years old. The average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$12,674 in 1989.

**School Enrollment** -- Persons were classified as enrolled in school if they reported attending a "regular" public or private school or college at anytime between February 1, 1990 and the time of enumeration. The question includes instructions to "include only nursery school, kindergarten, elementary school, and schooling which would lead to a high school diploma or college degree" as regular school. Schools supported and controlled by religious organizations or other private groups are defined as private.

Persons who were enrolled and reported completing nursery school or less were classified as enrolled in "preprimary school" which includes kindergarten. Similarly, enrolled persons who had completed at least kindergarten, but not high school, were classified as enrolled in "elementary or high school." Enrolled persons who reported completing high school or some college or having received a post-secondary degree were classified as enrolled in "college."

**Urban and Rural Population** -- As defined for the 1990 census, the urban population comprises all persons living in urbanized areas and in places of 2,500 or more persons outside urbanized areas. The population not classified as urban constitutes the rural population. In this product, rural population is subdivided to include rural farm population which comprises all rural households on farms.



**Table C. Standard Error Design Factors—Idaho**

[Percent of persons or housing units in sample]

Characteristic	Less than 15 percent	15 to 30 percent	30 to 45 percent	45 percent or more
<b>POPULATION</b>				
Age.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Sex.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Race.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Hispanic origin (of any race).....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Marital status.....	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.4
Household type and relationship.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Children ever born.....	2.5	2.3	1.6	1.2
Work disability and mobility limitation status.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Ancestry.....	1.9	1.7	1.1	0.8
Place of birth.....	1.8	1.6	1.1	0.8
Citizenship.....	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.7
Residence in 1985.....	2.1	1.8	1.2	0.9
Year of entry.....	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.5
Language spoken at home and ability to speak English.....	1.6	1.4	0.9	0.7
Educational attainment.....	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.5
School enrollment.....	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.7
Type of residence (urban/rural).....	2.9	2.4	2.0	1.4
Household type.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Family type.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Group quarters.....	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8
Subfamily type and presence of children.....	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.5
Employment status.....	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5
Industry.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Occupation.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Class of worker.....	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.5
Hours per week and weeks worked in 1989.....	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5
Number of workers in family.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Place of work.....	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.6
Means of transportation to work.....	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.6
Travel time to work.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Private vehicle occupancy.....	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.6
Time leaving home to go to work.....	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.5
Type of income in 1989.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Household income in 1989.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Family income in 1989.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Poverty status in 1989 (persons).....	1.6	1.4	0.9	0.7
Poverty status in 1989 (families).....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Armed Forces and veteran status.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
<b>HOUSING</b>				
Age of householder.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Race of householder.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Hispanic origin of householder.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Type of residence (urban/rural).....	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.5
Condominium status.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Units in structure.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Tenure.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Occupancy status.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Value.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Gross rent.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Household income in 1989.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Year structure built.....	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5
Rooms, bedrooms.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Kitchen facilities.....	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.5
Source of water, plumbing facilities.....	1.4	1.1	0.6	0.5
Sewage disposal.....	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.4
House heating fuel.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Telephone in housing unit.....	1.2	1.1	0.6	0.5
Vehicles available.....	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Year householder moved into structure.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Mortgage status and monthly mortgage costs.....	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5
Mortgage status and selected monthly owner costs.....	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5
Gross rent as a percentage of household income in 1989.....	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.5
Household income in 1989 by selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of income.....	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5

