

SRDG NEWSLETTER

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Number 38

The Southern Regional Demographic Group is sponsored by Oak Ridge Associated Universities.
The *Newsletter* is compiled and edited by William J. Serow,
Tayloe Murphy Institute, University of Virginia.

SRDG News

SRDG Photo Album

As SRDG continues to expand its membership, interest is growing in preserving and maintaining the history of the organization. This concern is reflected in the appointment of Abbott Ferriss as SRDG archivist (see November 1979 *Newsletter*). In addition, SRDG's president, Gladys K. Bowles, has volunteered

to prepare a photo album of SRDG members.

Members are encouraged to send photographs of themselves and other members (please identify each person) to Gladys Bowles (161 Milledge Heights, Athens, Georgia 30606). There will be no cost to SRDG nor to any member who wishes to send a photo.

Barabba to Speak at Annual Meeting

The executive committee and Julie Martin, program chairwoman for the 1980 annual meeting, are pleased to announce that Vincent P. Barabba, director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, has accepted an invitation to speak at the meeting. The meeting will be held at the Tallahassee Hilton October 15-17.

Barabba's speech is tentatively scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 16. This annual meeting will, of course, be a most propitious time for SRDG members to hear from the director of the Census Bureau. Most members are interested in the results of the decennial census, which will begin to be available at the time of the meeting, and will want to learn how current developments might affect their research plans.

First Call for 1980 Contributed Papers

SRDG's 1980 annual meeting will feature papers contributed by members and other interested persons. Papers dealing with any topic of demographic interest will be considered. Persons wishing to submit a paper for consideration should send two copies of a one-page abstract, along with the author's name, mailing address, and telephone number to the 1980 program chairwoman: Julia H. Martin, Tayloe Murphy Institute, P.O. Box 6550, Charlottesville, Virginia 22906. Members are reminded of the SRDG policy limiting an individual to one formal presentation at the annual meeting.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS IS MAY 31, 1980.

Southern Population Monograph Scheduled for 1980 Publication

The SRDG executive committee is pleased to announce that a monograph on various facets of southern demography has been accepted for publication by the University of Texas Press. *The Population of the South: Structure and Change in Social Demographic Context*, which is the result of papers presented at previous SRDG annual meetings, is being edited by Dudley L. Poston (University of Texas, Austin) and Robert H. Weller (Florida State University).

Publication is presently scheduled for late 1980. The monograph will include an overview of southern demographic history, detailed chapters on each of the demographic processes, disciplinary perspectives on population change in the South, and a concluding chapter discussing research questions and approaches suitable to the future study of southern demography. Royalties from the sale of the volume will accrue to SRDG.

Members on The Move

Thomas J. Espenshade, formerly associate professor of economics and research associate in the Center for the Study of Population at Florida State University, is now a senior research associate at The Urban Institute in the Women and Family Policy Research program.

(Note from the editor: Members wishing to bring permanent or temporary changes in employment to the attention of their colleagues are invited to send brief notices to the editor.)

News Items

Farm Population Estimates for 1978

Based on a new definition of "farm residence," the nation's farm population for 1978 has been estimated at 6.5 million for the 12-month period centered on April 1978. About 3 percent of the nation's 218 million persons had a farm residence, according to the estimates prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of the Census and the Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under the newly adopted definition, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory that in the reporting year would have had sales of agricultural products in the value of at least \$1000. The previous definition included persons residing on 10+ acres with annual sales of at least \$50, or less than 10 acres with sales of at least \$250. The new definition reduced the farm population by 1.5 million persons who would have been included by the previous definition.

Copies of a full report on the farm population (*Farm Population of the United States: 1978*, Current Population Reports, Series P-27, No. 52) are available from the Government Printing Office for \$1.50.

Young Wives Combine Careers and Motherhood

In 1978, about a third of the nation's 2.5 million married women between 18 and 34 who had a child less than one year old were in the labor force, according to a survey by the Bureau of the Census.

About 710,000 (29 percent) were working and another 120,000 (5 percent) were seeking jobs. Forty-six percent of the 1.7 million married women between 18 and 34 whose youngest child was two years old were in the labor force; 41 percent were working and 5 percent were looking for work.

As the age of the youngest child increased, the percentage of working mothers also increased. About one-third of those whose youngest child was under five years old were working, compared with one-half of those whose youngest child had reached school age (five) and 57 percent of those whose youngest was six or older. Overall, 43 percent of the 12.8 million wives between 18 and 34 with children were working compared with 75 percent of childless wives in the same age group.

Copies of the report, *Fertility of American Women: June 1978*, Series P-20, No. 341, are available for \$3.50 each from the Government Printing Office.

Report on Older Americans Issued

In 1978 there were 24.1 million persons in the United States aged 65 and over, an increase of more than 25 percent from the 1970 Census. About two-thirds of these older Americans live in families, and an additional 30 percent live alone. Some 3.2 million older persons (14 percent of the total) had income below the poverty level in 1977. These and many other characteristics of the older population are presented in a recent Census Bureau report, *Social and Economic Characteristics of the Older Population: 1978* (Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 85) available through the Government Printing Office for \$2.25.

Nonfamily Households Increase

Nonfamily households have increased by 66 percent since 1970 compared with only a 12-percent growth in family households according to a recent report from the Bureau of the Census. A "nonfamily household" as defined by the Census Bureau consists of one person or two or more unrelated persons.

The rapid growth in nonfamily households, 87 percent of which are maintained by a person living alone, is a major reason for a sharp decline in average U.S. household size since 1970—from 3.14 to 2.78 persons. The report also cites the falling birth rate as contributing to smaller households.

The total number of households in March 1979 was estimated at 77.3 million, according to the report, an increase of 22 percent over 1970. Of the 1979 total, 57.5 million households contained families and 19.8 million did not. Thus, one out of every four households was maintained by a person or persons who did not share their quarters with any relatives compared with about one in five in 1970.

Copies of the advance report, *Households and Families by Type: March 1979*, Series P-20, No. 345, may be obtained for 75 cents each from the Government Printing Office.

Georgia Demographic Discussion Group Holds Meetings

A Demographic Discussion Group has been organized recently in Athens, Georgia, to promote intellectual exchanges

among persons in the area who are interested in research in population phenomena. The group is chaired by Gladys K. Bowles of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

At the first meeting, held in October, Bowles led a discussion of research on migration streams among state economic areas. Jack Tucker of Atlanta University and Alan Lizott of Emory University were the discussion leaders for the December meeting. They presented some of their research on homicide in Atlanta; they focused primarily on uses of various rates to measure homicide.

The group plans to hold informal seminars throughout the year. The seminars will focus on research interests of the participants, who hope to extend the group beyond the Athens/Atlanta communities to the entire state.

Accuracy of Hispanic Population Count Studied

Lack of a workable definition for "Hispanic" hampers efforts to determine how accurately the U.S. Hispanic population was counted in the 1970 Census, according to a study published by the Bureau of the Census.

The report is part of the continuing effort to measure the quality of census data. It describes in detail the problems encountered and methodology used in attempting to evaluate the census coverage of the Hispanic population in 1970.

The study, similar to an earlier one describing the census coverage of the white and black populations of the United States, is expected to be useful in improving coverage of the Hispanic population in the 1980 Census.

Single copies of the report, *Coverage of the Hispanic Population of the United States in the 1970 Census: A Methodological Analysis*, P-23, No. 82, are available for \$2.25 from the Government Printing Office or from Commerce District Offices in major U.S. cities.

Median Family Income Up

Median family income in 1978 increased 2.4 percent over 1977 after adjustment for inflation, according to a report released by the Bureau of the Census. The incomes of individuals not living in families rose 5.5 percent in constant dollars. There was virtually no change in the number of persons below the poverty line in 1978.

In the West, median family income in real terms increased over 1977 by 4 percent to \$18,410 and by 3 percent in the North Central states to \$18,600. Real

changes in the other two regions were not statistically significant. Median family income was \$18,190 in the Northeast and \$15,940 in the South—the latter averaging 87 percent of the median for families in the other three regions.

Single copies of the report, *Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States: 1978* (Advance Report), P-60, No. 120, may be obtained for \$2.00 from the Government Printing Office.

New SMSAs Announced

On October 15, 1979, then Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps announced the designation of three new Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, including one in the South. This brings the total number of SMSAs to 288; this is the final announcement of changes in SMSA designations and definitions prior to the 1980 Census. The following are the title and definition for each of the newly designated SMSAs:

Title	Definition
Enid, OK	Garfield County
Iowa City, IA	Johnson County
Las Cruces, NM	Dona Ana County

Education Statistics Available

Basic information on public elementary and secondary education for the 1977-78 school year is included in a new report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES): *Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary Day Schools, 1977-78*. The report presents data for the nation, states, and the 20 largest cities on the number of local education agencies, pupil membership, staff, schools by type, high school graduates, receipts and expenditures, and estimated staff salaries. Single copies of the report (NCES-78-133) may be obtained without charge by calling the NCES Statistical Information Office at (301) 472-6237.

World Fertility Surveys Available

Summary findings from the country surveys of 14 nations that participated in the World Fertility Survey are now available without charge. Summaries for Fiji, Dominican Republic, Pakistan, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Korea, Colombia, Panama, Indonesia, Netherlands, Bangladesh, and Japan may be obtained from the Publications Office, International Statistical Institute, P.O. Box 950, 2270 AZ Voorburg, Netherlands. More detailed reports are available for \$10.00 from the Institute as well.

NIMH Initiates Research Grants

The Division of Biometry and Epidemiology of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is initiating a research grant program in Mental Health Service System Research. The program has been designed to enhance understanding of the resources, structure, and functions of the U.S. mental health service system, its utilization patterns, its costs and financing, its interaction with the general health care system, and its capacity to respond to the mental health service needs of the nation.

Initially, five research areas will be emphasized: assessment of costs and financing, assessment of supply and utilization of facilities, interactions within health service systems influencing care, needs assessment, and application of information systems technology. In the initial years of the program, special priority will be given to studies in the cost and financing area.

Further information may be obtained by calling NIMH at (301) 443-3648 or writing Division of Biometry and Epidemiology, NIMH, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Employment Commission Report Available

The final report of the President's National Commission on Employment and Unemployment Statistics is now available through the Government Printing Office (\$5.50 paperback). The report presents major recommendations de-

signed to make the labor force data system more accurate and reflective of changes in the national economy.

Among the specific recommendations are several that might be of interest to SRDG members: (1) expansion of the Current Population Survey to obtain more reliable monthly employment data for states, large metropolitan areas, members of minority groups, and rural residents; (2) publication of data linking employment status with earnings and family income; (3) collection of labor force data on the quinquennial census; (4) more objective identification of "discouraged workers"; (5) compilation of data pertaining to movements into and out of the work force.

Oklahoma Demographics Group Holds Initial Meeting

On November 20, 1979, the Oklahoma Demographics Group held its initial meeting in conjunction with the regular meeting of the Oklahoma State Data Center. This organizational meeting covered such points as the importance of the group and its function, structure and committee organization, and the need to provide mechanisms to exchange information on data and ongoing research. The current mailing list includes some 60 persons. For additional information about the Oklahoma Demographics Group, write George Dailey, Associate Planner, Oklahoma City Office of Research & Economic Development, 315 N. Hudson, 3rd Floor, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102.

Demographic Research in the South

QUESTIONNAIRE

We would like to have information on demographic research in which you and your colleagues are involved. This information will be carried in future issues of the *Newsletter* as part of SRDG's goal to provide a communications vehicle for exchanging demographic information about the South. Please describe the research using the following format:

Key Topics, e.g., fertility, migration, spatial distribution, education.

Area Focus, e.g., national, the South, specific state, county, subcounty.

Title

Author or Principal Investigator

Institution. Provide detailed address.

Sources of Support

Study Period. Specify beginning and ending dates of project or publication date of report.

Brief Description. Specific objectives of study, major analytic techniques, specific data sources.

ASTI Short Courses

Date	Course Title	Location
April 14-18	Health Status Indicators	Denver
April 21-25	Management of Health Data	San Francisco
May 5-9	Multiple Regression and the Analysis of Health Data	St. Louis
May 12-16	Health Survey Methods	Denver
May 19-23	Fundamentals of Data Management	Orlando
June 2-6	Vital Statistics Records	Minneapolis
June 9-13	Evaluation of Health Systems	Orlando
June 23-27	Statistical Methods in Health Services Delivery	Hartford

For additional information, write Applied Statistics Training Institute, Room 2-63, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

Job Mart

State Demographer

The State of Florida is seeking a state demographer. Salary range is \$25,014—\$34,514. Experience necessary, Ph.D. preferred. This person will assist the Office of the Governor in formulating population interim census estimations and projections and will assist in planning program structures implied by changing state demographic patterns.

Interested persons should make application to Tony Huggins, State Economist, Revenue and Economic Analysis, Office of the Governor, The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, telephone (904) 487-2814.

An Invitation to Join the Southern Regional Demographic Group

The Southern Regional Demographic Group (SRDG) is an organization of university faculty and other specialists in demography and related fields. It was organized in 1970 under the auspices of Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Members of SRDG are interested in promoting demographic research and training. To be a voting member, one must indicate interest to the SRDG secretary-treasurer (W. J. Serow, P.O. Box 6550, Charlottesville, Virginia 22906) with a remittance of annual dues (\$6 for regular members and \$2 for student members). Members receive the *Newsletter*, discounts on other SRDG publications, as well as notice of the SRDG annual meeting and other related conferences, seminars, and workshops.

Questions, comments, and suggestions about the *Newsletter* should be addressed to William J. Serow, Editor, *SRDG Newsletter*, Tayloe Murphy Institute, University of Virginia, P.O. Box 6550, Charlottesville, Virginia 22906.

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