# HEALTH STATISTICS FROM THE U.S. NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY 

# Duration of Limitation of Activity due to chronic conditions 

United States
July 1959 - June 1960
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE Public Health Service


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## HEALTH <br> STATISTICS  <br> from the u.s. national health survey

# Duration of Limitation of Activity due to chronic conditions 

## United States

July 1959-June 1960

Statistics on the number of persons with limitation of activity due to chronic conditions and duration of limitation of activity by sex, age, and usual activity status. Based on data collected in household interviews during the period July 1959-June 1960.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE Abraham Ribicoff, Secretary<br>PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE<br>Luther L. Terry, Surgeon General

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The U. S. National Health Survey is a continuing program under which the Public Health Service makes studies todetermine the extent of illness and disability in the population of the United States and to gather related information. It is authorized by Public Law 652, 84th Congress.

## CO-OPERATION OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Under the legislation establishing the National Health Survey, the Public Health Service is authorized to use, insofar as possible, the services or facilities of other Federal, State, or private agencies.

In accordance with specifications established by the National Health Survey, the Bureau of the Census, under a corfiractual arrangement, participates in most aspects of survey planning, selects the sample, collects the data, and carries out certain parts of the statistical processing.

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## SYMBOLS AND NOTES

Data not available (three dashes)---------- --
Category not applicable (three dots)-------- ...
Magnitude less than one-half of the unit used ------------------------------------ 0 or 0.0

Magnitude of the sampling error precludes showing separate estimates--------------

NOTE: Due to rounding detailed figures within tables may not add to totals

# DURATION OF CHRONIC ACTIVITY LIMITATION 

## SELECTED FINDINGS

Approximately 13.6 million persons in the United States, exclusive of those in institutions, have chronic activity limitations affecting their major activity, i. e., the ability to work, keep house, or go to school. This estimate, based on data collected in household interviews conducted during July 1959-June 1960 by the U. S. National Health Survey, National Center for Health Statistics, includes persons who are unable to carry on the customary major activity of persons of their age and sex group, or have some degree of limitation in amount or kind of major activity. About 42 percent, or 5.7 million of these persons, have had their present degree of limitation for 5 years or more (fig. 1), while approximately 5 million, 37 percent, have been limited from 1 to 4 years, and 2 million, 16 percent, have had their present limitation for less than a year. For the remaining 5 percent, information about the duration of limitation was not available.

Of those persons whose status immediately prior to limitation was reported, 55 percent were working at the time of becoming disabled to their present degree and 45 percent were not working. The latter percentage includes children, housewives, persons who were retired prior to the time the limitation began, and persons who had never been able to work.

About 3.8 million of the 13.6 million noninstitutionalized persons with limitations affecting their major activity reported that they were "usually working" during the 12 months prior to interview. Most of these workers were limited in the amount or kind of work performed. About 45 percent of them had had their present degree of limitation for 5 years or more. Approximately 30 percent had been limited for 1-4 years, while 21 percent had been limited less than 1 year, and 4 percent had limitation of unknown duration.

This report was prepared by Charles S. Wilder of the U.S. National Health Survey stalf.


Figure 1. Percent distribution of persons with chronic limitations affecting major activity by duration of limitation.

## SOURCE AND DESCRIPTION OF DATA

The measurement of the duration of limitation of activity due to chronic conditions is an indication of the long-term impact of chronic illness or impairment on the individual. This report is intended to show, in broad time intervals, the length of time the relatively severe forms of activity limitation affecting an individual's ability to work, keep house, or go to school have persisted. Duration of limitation has been tabulated in three time intervals: under 1 year, 1 to 4 years, and 5 years or more.

The information presented is derived from household interviews conducted by the U. S. National Health Survey, National Center for Health Statistics, during the year July 1959-June 1960. During the 12 -month period this continuous, nationwide, probability sample of the civilian noninstitutional population consisted of about 38,000 households with approximately 125,000 members living at the time of the interview. Data about health, social, and demographic characteristics of each household member were recorded on the questionnaire shown in Appendix III.

A brief description of the statistical design of the survey, the methods of estimation, and general qualifications of the data obtained from surveys is presented in Appendix I. Since data shown in this report are estimates based on a sample of the population rather than on the entire population, they are subject to sampling errors. While the sampling errors for most of the estimates are of relatively low magnitude, where an estimated number or the numerator or denominator of a rate or percentage is small, the sampling error may be high. Tables of sampling errors and instructions for their use are contained in the section, "Reliability of Estimates," in Appendix I.

Definitions of certain terms contained in this report are explained in Appendix II. Some of the terms have specialized meanings for the purpose of the survey. Familiarity with the definitions will assist the reader in interpretation of the data presented.

The sections of the survey questionnaire shown in Appendix III that apply to data presented in this report include the "illness-recall questions" (questions 11-17); the check lists of chronic conditions and impairments (Cards A and B) used with questions 16 and 17; columns ( $r$ ) and ( t$)$ with associated Cards C-G; and columns (u) and ( $v$ ) of table I of the questionnaire.

Each person who had reported the presence of a chronic condition was shown one of the four Cards, C-F (Appendix III) phrased in terms of the person's stated usual activity status during most of the 12 months prior to interview, and was asked to specify which statement as to limitation of activity fitted him best in terms of health. Card C is designed for workers and other persons (including retired persons) except housewives and children. The statements on the cards may be summarized as follows:

1. Unable to carry on major activity (preschool play, school, housework, or work, as appropriate).
2. Limited in amount or kind of major activity performed.
3. Not limited in major activity but otherwise limited (church, sports, shopping, etc.).
4. Not limited in activities.

The usual activity status of a person describes his actual activity status during most of the 12 months prior to interview (preschool, school age, working, keeping house, retired, and other). Limitation of major activity, on the other hand, refers to an expression of inability or reduced ability to work, to keep house, or go to school resulting from activity limitation.

Each person who reported limitation of activity was further questioned as to the degree of present limitation of mobility (Card G, Appendix III). However, no data on mobility limitation are shown in this report (see Series B, No. 11).

If the person had stated in answer to the question about limitation of activity that he was unable to carry on his major activity or that he was limited in amount or kind of major activity, he was asked how long he had been so limited. No information was collected as to the duration of lesser limitations in category 3, above. For example, in the case of a person unable to work, the duration of limitation specified the length of time he had been unable to work and did not include any time he may have been limited in the amount or kind of work. However, if a person was limited in amount or kind of work, but earlier in this period of limitation had been unable to work at all, the duration of the present limitation included the entire time he had been either partly or entirely limited.

If the person was aged 17 years or over and was unable to carry on his major activity or was limited in amount or kind of major activity, he was asked whether he was working at a job or business immediately prior to becoming limited. For example, if a retired person reported that he was unable to work as a result of one or more chronic conditions, he was asked whether he was working at a job or business at the time the limitation started.

The responses to these questions and summarized statements serve as the basis of the present report. Activity limitation has been considered (1) by age-sex groups in the population, and (2) by usual activity status groups according to sex and according to age. For each set of variables the detailed tables include information on the duration of limitation for persons limited in relation to the major activity (ability to work, keep house, or go to school) for their population group, and according to the employment status of such persons at the time the limitation started. While the report is primarily concerned with
the duration of chronic limitation affecting major activity, tables presenting estimates of the amount of activity limitation in the population (tables 1 , $2,7,8,9$, and 10) have been included to provide background material for data relating to duration of limitation. Data in these tables show relatively little change from estimates in an earlier U.S. National Health Survey report (Series B, No. 11).

## DURATION OF LIMITATION AFFECTING MAJOR ACTIVITY

## Age and Sex

During the 12 -month period ending June 1960 an estimated 72 million persons, or 41 percent of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States, were reported to have one or more chronic conditions at the time of the household interview (tables 1 and 2). About 18 million of these persons, or 10.5 percent of the population, had some degree of activity limitation due to chronic illness or impairment. An estimated 13.6 million had limitations affecting their major activity, and 4.9 million were limited to an extent not affecting their major activity.

About 3.9 million of the 13.6 million persons were unable to carry on a major activity and 9.7 million were limited in amount or kind of major activity performed (table 1). At the time of the household interview, many of these limitations had been present for a substantial period of time. It is estimated that 42 percent of the 13.6 million persons had been limited for 5 or more years, another 37 percent had been limited for 1-4 years, and 16 percent were limited for less than a year. The remaining 5 percent had been limited for an unknown length of time (table 3).

Examination of tables 1 and 2 reveals that the volume of chronic limitations affecting major activity varies considerably according to age and sex. The rate of chronic activity limitation increased with age. About 1 in each 100 persons under 17 years of age was limited in major activity. As age increased, the limitation rate also increased steadily until, for persons aged 65 years and over, about 37 percent were limited in major activity (fig. 2). The percentage of limitation of major activity was about the same for males and for females in all ages and for each age group under 65 years. However, for persons 65 years and over, the limitation rate was substantially greater for males than for females. For persons who were unable to carry on their major activity, the limitation rate was greater for males in nearly all of the age groups.

In most of the data presented on duration of limitation, the two degrees of limitation affecting


Figure 2. Percent distribution of persons with chronic limitations affecting major activity by degree of limitation accarding to age.
major activity have been combined into a single category of limitation. This combination was necessary to avoid presenting estimates of low magnitude that would have been subject to high sampling error. However, in tables 5 and 6 the data on persons unable to carry on their major activity and those limited in amount or kind of major activity are presented separately by duration of limitation.

The duration of limitations affecting major activity was influenced slightly by age and to a greater extent by sex (table 3). It should be remembered that no information as to duration of limitations affecting nonmajor activities has been obtained. Among persons with limitations affecting major activity, younger persons had a higher proportion of limitations which had been present for less than a year than did older persons (fig. 3 ). Beyond age 17 the proportion of persons who were limited for 5 or more years did not differ substantially in the several age groups. It should again be noted that these figures refer to people residing at home. The total duration of limitation among older persons in institutions is undoubtedly quite high.

There was little difference by sex in duration of limitations existing for less than 5 years. However, the percentage of males with limitations


Figure 3. Percent distribution of persons with chronic limitations affecting major activity (ability to work, keep house, or go to school) by duration of limitation according to age.
present for 5 years or more was somewhat greater than the corresponding percentage for females. The greatest sex differential was noted among persons aged 17-44; about one half of the males reported limitations existing for 5 or more years compared with about one third of the females.

The percentage distribution by duration of limitation of all persons who were working at the time their limitations started is no different from that for persons who were not working prior to limitation (table 4). However, when agesex groups within the two employment status groups are examined separately, the distribution by duration of limitation varies considerably. It should be emphasized that a limitation affecting major activity was reported in terms of the individual's usual activity status during most of the 12 months prior to interview and may be quite different from his usual activity status at the time the limitation started.

For persons 17-44 years of age who were not working at the time the limitation started, the percentage of persons with limitations existing for 5 years or more was substantially higher than that for persons who had worked up to the time of disability. The reverse was true for persons aged 65 and over. The younger group is probably composed in large part of persons who had never been able to work, whereas the older group contains many persons who stopped working because of their limitation.

The distribution of persons with limitations affecting major activity (ability to work, keep
house, or go to school) according to employment status immediately prior to limitation is shown in table A. In total, slightly more than half of these persons were working at the time the limitation started, although the proportion who had been working varied considerably with age, sex, and other population characteristics.

## Usual Activity Status, Sex, and Age

In the survey a person's usual activity status was determined in terms of what his or her usual activity had been during the year prior to the interview. It is to be expected that the presence of chronic illness, degree of chronic limitation of activity, and duration of limitation are factors in the determination of usual activity in the preceding year. Tables 7 to 14 show the degree and duration of limitations for persons whose usual activity status during the year was working, keeping house, retired, or other, and for preschool and school-age children.

Among usual activity status groups the percentage of the total number of persons in each group who reported one or more chronic conditions varied from 17 percent for the preschool and school-age children to 81 percent for the retired group (tables 7 and 8). About 50 percent of the 61 million persons who reported working as their usual activity status during the past 12 months and approximately 60 percent of the 36 million women reported as keeping house had one or more chronic conditions.

Limitation of activity affecting major activity associated with chronic conditions was reported most frequently, as might be expected, for the retirees (fig. 4). In the household interview the retired persons were asked to select their activity limitation status from the card used for the "usually working" group; thus ability to work was the criterion for determination of limitation of activity. About 54 percent of the retired group had some degree of limitation of major activity, including about 34 percent who stated that they would be unable to work at a job or business.

Of the 61 million persons who were "usually working" during the past year, about 6 percent, or 3.8 million, had some degree of activity limitation affecting their major activity. About 3.4 million of these persons ( 5.6 percent of the "usually working" population) were limited in amount or kind of work; this figure may be considered as a gross estimate of the number of workers in the United States who for the most part are handicapped in some degree by a chronic condition. The remainder of the group consisted of persons who had been working for most of the past 12 months, but were unable to work at time of interview.

Table A. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting major activity ${ }^{1}$ by employment status when limitation started according to selected characteristics: United States, July 1959-June 1960

| Characteristic | All persons <br> with <br> Imitations <br> of major <br> activity | Working <br> at time <br> limitation <br> of major <br> activity <br> started | Not working <br> at time <br> limitation <br> of major <br> activity <br> started | Unknown |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Number of persons in thousands


[^0]

Figure 4. Percent distribution of persons with chronic limitations affecting mojor activity by degree of limitation occording to type of usual activity status.

Of the estimated 36.5 million women whose usual activity status was 'keeping house," 4 million, or about 11 percent, had some degree of activity limitation affecting major activity, the largest portion of which was limitation in amount or kind of housekeeping.

Text table B shows, by age, the proportion of people in each usual activity status who have a
chronic limitation affecting major activity. Detailed tables 9 and 10 show the age data according to each of the several degrees of limitation.

In general, as age increased the percentage of persons having any degree of activity limitation affecting major activity increased. The sole exception noted was for the retired; 68 percent had limitation of major activity for the age group 45-64 while only 53 percent had limitations at ages 65 and over. This reduction in rate for older retired persons does not result from any decrease in the number of limited persons. It results from a large increase in the size of the retired population at age 65 and over by persons who reached retirement status because of age rather than because of disability.

It should be pointed out that in the interview some respondents who became limited at or near normal retirement age may state that they are "retired" whereas others may state that they are 'not retired" (although they are neither working nor keeping house). The latter are classified as "other" usual activity status. It is therefore not surprising to find that among older persons classified as "other," a high proportion have limitations which prevent work, or prevent fulltime work, at a job or housekeeping. It is difficult to draw a distinction between older disabled persons who are retired and older disabled persons in the "other" usual activity status group, because the classification depends somewhat upon the respondent's concept of what he would be doing were he not limited.

Table 11 indicates that with few exceptions the duration of limitations affecting major activity did not differ significantly among the several usual activity status groups. The "usually working" group had a higher percentage of limitations

Table B. Percentages of the population in each usual activity status group who have limitations affecting major activity ${ }^{1}$ by age: United States, July 1959-June 1960

| Usual activity status | $\begin{array}{r} \text { All } \\ \text { ages } \end{array}$ | Under 17 | 17-44 | 45-64 | $65+$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A11 persons------- | 7.7 | 0.8 | 4.6 | 12.9 | 36.6 |
| Preschool and school age | 0.8 | 0.8 |  |  |  |
| Usually working--------- | 6.1 |  | 3.8 | 8.3 | 18.4 |
| Keeping house <br> (female only) | 11.0 | . . . | 4.6 | 13.4 | 26.3 |
| Retired---------------- | 54.4 |  |  | 68.3 | 52.6 |
| Other------------------- | 19.9 | $\ldots$ | 8.4 | 57.3 | 72.5 |

[^1]of short duration than was noted for the other activity groups, whereas retired persons had the lowest percentage of limitations present for less than a year. The working group and retirees had about the same percentage of limitations existing for 5 years or more. The proportion of limited persons in each activity group within each interval of time limited is shown in table 11 by sex, and in table 13 by age.

Tables 12 and 14 show the duration of limitations affecting major activity for each usual activity status group according to whether or not the individuals were working at the time the limitation started. It should be pointed out that
usual activity status (shown in the stub of the tables) refers to activity status during the year prior to interview, while employment status (in the table headings) refers to the point in time when the limitation started. This difference in reference period explains apparent discrepancies in the tables. For instance, the 239,000 limited persons aged 17-44 whose usual activity was working during the past year, but who were not working when the limitation started, include many persons whose limitation started before they were old enough to be included in the working population.

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affecting major activity by duration of limitation according to usual activity
status and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[^2]Table 1. Number of persons with limitation of activity due to chronic conditions by sex and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilinn, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and infornation on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Sex and age | All persons | Persons with no chronic conditions | Persons with $1+$ chronic conditions |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | With no 1imitation of activity | With limitation, but not In major activity ${ }^{1}$ | With limitation in amount or kind of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Unable to carry on major activity ${ }^{1}$ |
| Both sexes $\quad$ Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages---------- | 174,621 | 102,796 | 71,826 | 53,386 | 4,868 | 9,654 | 3,919 |
| Under 17 | 61,138 | 50,544 | 10,594 | 9,523 | 533 | 397 | 141 |
| 17-44 | 62,642 | 34,824 | 27,818 | 23,359 | 1,572 | 2,441 | 447 |
| 17-24 | 17,232 | 11,460 | 5,772 | 5,063 | 261 | 358 | 90 |
| 25-44 | 45,410 | 23,364 | 22,046 | 18,296 | 1,311 | 2,082 | 357 |
| 45-64- | 35,679 | 14,018 | 21,661 | 15,332 | 1,732 | 3,579 | 1,019 |
| 45-54 | 20,408 | 8,674 | 11,734 | 8,927 | 890 | 1,591 | 326 |
| 55-64 | 15,271 | 5,344 | 9,928 | 6,405 | 842 | 1,988 | 693 |
| 65+- | 15,161 | 3,410 | 11,752 | 5,172 | 1,031 | 3,237 | 2,311 |
| 65-74 | 9,935 | 2,566 | 7,368 | 3,699 | 635 | 1,979 | 1,055 |
| 75+- | 5,227 | 843 | 4,383 | 1,473 | 396 | 1,258 | 1,257 |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages----------- | 84,979 | 51,109 | 33,871 | 24,852 | 1,838 | 4,581 | 2,601 |
| Under 17 | 31,170 | 25,282 | 5,888 | 5,286 | 288 | 225 | 89 |
| 17-44- | 29,731 | 17,207 | 12,524 | 10,445 | 587 | 1,216 | 276 |
| 17-24- | 7,982 | 5,518 | 2,464 | 2,118 | 118 | 182 | 46 |
| 25-44- | 21,749 | 11,689 | 10,060 | 8,327 | 469 | 1,034 | 230 |
| 45-64- | 17,234 | 7,005 | 10,229 | 7,129 | 672 | 1,694 | 734 |
| 45-54 | 9,919 | 4,360 | 5,559 | 4,241 | 333 | 755 | 230 |
| 55-64- | 7,316 | 2,646 | 4,670 | 2,887 | 339 | 939 | 504 |
| 65+- | 6,845 | 1,615 | 5,230 | 1,992 | 291 | 1,446 | 1,501 |
| 65-74 | 4,602 | 1,235 | 3,366 | 1,421 | 181 | 981 | 783 |
| 75+- | 2,243 | 379 | 1,864 | 571 | 110 | 465 | 718 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages-- | 89,642 | 51,687 | 37,955 | 28,534 | 3,030 | 5,073 | 1,318 |
| Under 17- | 29,969 | 25,262 | 4,706 | 4,237 | 245 | 172 | 52 |
| 17-44- | 32,912 | 17,617 | 15,294 | 12,914 | 985 | 1,225 | 171 |
| 17-24 | 9,250 | 5,943 | 3,308 | 2,945 | 143 | 176 | 44 |
| 25-44- | 23,661 | 11,675 | 11,986 | 9,969 | 842 | 1,049 | 127 |
| 45-64 | 18,445 | 7,013 | 11,433 | 8,203 | 1,060 | 1,885 | 285 |
| 45-54 | 10,490 | 4,315 | 6,175 | 4,686 | 557 | , 836 | $\begin{array}{r}96 \\ \hline 189\end{array}$ |
| 55-64- | 7,956 | 2,698 | 5,258 | 3,517 | 502 | 1,049 | 189 |
| 65+- | 8,317 | 1,795 | 6,522 | 3,181 | 740 | 1,791 | 810 |
| 65-74 | 5,333 | 1,331 | 4,002 | 2,279 | 454 | 998 | 271 |
| $75+$ | 2,984 | 464 | 2,520 | 902 | 286 | 793 | 539 |

[^3]Table 2. Percent distribution of persons by limitation of activity due to chronic conditions according to sex and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data aro based on houschold interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. Tho survoy design, general qualifications, and information on the reliahility of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appondix II]

| Sex and age | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { per sons } \end{gathered}$ | Persons with no chronic conditions | Persons with lt chronic conditions |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | With no limitation of activity ${ }^{1}$ | With 11mitation, but not in major activity ${ }^{1}$ | With limitation in amount or kind of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Unable to carry on major activity ${ }^{1}$ |
| Both sexes | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages | 100.0 | 58.9 | 41.1 |  | 2.8 | 5.5 | 2.2 |
| Under 17- | 100.0 | 82.7 | 17.3 | 15.6 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| 17-44-------------- | 100.0 | 55.6 | 44.4 | 37.3 | 2.5 | 3.9 | 0.7 |
| 17-24 | 100.0 | 66.5 | 33.5 | 29.4 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 0.5 |
| 25-44- | 100.0 | 51.5 | 48.5 | 40.3 | 2.9 | 4.6 | 0.8 |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 39.3 \\ & 42.5 \\ & 35.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 60.7 \\ & 57.5 \\ & 65.0 \end{aligned}$ | $43.7$ | 4.9 | 10.07.8 | 2.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 4.9 4.4 |  | 1.6 |
|  |  |  |  | 41.9 | 5.5 | 13.0 | 4.5 |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 22.5 \\ & 25.8 \\ & 16.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 77.5 \\ & 74.2 \\ & 83.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 34.1 \\ & 37.2 \\ & 28.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6.8 \\ & 6.4 \\ & 7.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.4 \\ & 19.9 \\ & 24.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15.2 \\ & 10.6 \\ & 24.0 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages$100.0$ |  |  | 60.1 | 39.9 | 29.2 | 2.2 | 5.4 | 3.1 |
| Under 17-------------- | 100.0 | 81.1 | 18.9 | 17.0 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| 17-44---------------------- | 100.0 | 57.9 | 42.1 | 35.1 | 2.0 | 4.1 | 0.9 |
| 17-24------------- | 100.0 | 69.1 | 30.9 | 26.5 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 0.6 |
| 25-44------------ | 100.0 | 53.7 | 46.3 | 38.3 | 2.2 | 4.8 | 1.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 45-54 | 100.0100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 44.0 \\ & 36.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 59.4 \\ & 56.0 \\ & 63.8 \end{aligned}$ | 42.839.5 | 3.44.6 | $\begin{array}{r} 7.6 \\ 12.8 \end{array}$ | 2.36.9 |
| 55-64- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $65+$ <br> 75+------------------------ <br> Female <br> All ages----------- | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 23.6 \\ & 26.8 \\ & 16.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 76.4 \\ & 73.1 \\ & 83.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 29.1 \\ & 30.9 \\ & 25.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.3 \\ & 3.9 \\ & 4.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.1 \\ & 21.3 \\ & 20.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.9 \\ & 17.0 \\ & 32.0 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100.0 | 57.7 | 42.3 | 31.8 | 3.4 | 5.7 | 1.5 |
| Under 17------------------ | 100.0 | 84.3 | 15.7 | 14.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| 17-44------------------------------ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 53.5 \\ & 64.2 \\ & 49.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 46.5 \\ & 35.8 \\ & 50.7 \end{aligned}$ | 39.231.842.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.0 \\ & 1.5 \\ & 3.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.7 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 4.4 \end{aligned}$ | 0.50.50.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25-44- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 38.0 \\ & 41.1 \\ & 33.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 62.0 \\ & 58.9 \\ & 66.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 44.5 \\ & 44.7 \\ & 44.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.7 \\ & 5.3 \\ & 6.3 \end{aligned}$ | 10.2 | 1.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 8.0 | 0.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 13.2 | 2.4 |
| 65+- | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.6 \\ & 25.0 \\ & 15.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 78.4 \\ & 75.0 \\ & 84.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 38.2 \\ & 42.7 \\ & 30.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8.9 \\ & 8.5 \\ & 9.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.5 \\ & 18.7 \\ & 26.6 \end{aligned}$ | 9.75.118.1 |
| 65-74 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 75+------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^4]Table 3. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting major activity by duration of limitation according to sex and age: United States, July 1959June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]


[^5]Table 4. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting major activity by duration of limitation according to employment status when limitation started, sex, and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]


[^6]Table 5. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting major activity ${ }^{1}$ by duration of limitation according to degree of limitation and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general gualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix 1. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix 11]


[^7]Table 6. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting major activity ${ }^{1}$ by duration of limitation according to employment status when limitation started, degree of limitation, and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, gencral qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix 1. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Degree of limitation and age | All persons with limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Not working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Unknown as to work status and/or duration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Under 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |  | Under <br> 1 year | $\begin{aligned} & 1-4 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { year } 8 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| $\frac{\text { Unable to carry }}{\frac{\text { on major }}{\text { activity }}}$ | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages----- | 3,919 | 2,176 | 429 | 768 | 979 | 1,490 | 313 | 579 | 598 | 252 |
| Under 17-------- | 141 | $\ldots$ | . ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | . . | $\ldots$ | 136 | 45 | 45 | 46 | (*) |
| 17-44------------ | 447 | 255 | 130 | 60 | 65 | 167 | (*) | (*) | 120 | (*) |
| 45-64------------ | 1,019 | 754 | 209 | 313 | 231 | 215 | 59 | 75 | 80 | 51 |
| 65t--------------- | 2,311 | 1,168 | 90 | 394 | 683 | 973 | 179 | 443 | 351 | 171 |
| Limited in amount or kind |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\frac{\text { of major }}{\text { activity }^{1}}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages----- | 9,654 | 4,933 | 705 | 1,946 | 2,281 | 4,234 | 667 | 1,745 | 1,822 | 487 |
| Under 17-------- | 397 |  | . . | ... | ... | 382 | 85 | 168 | 129 | (*) |
| 17-44------------ | 2,441 | 1,283 | 264 | 482 | 537 | 1,036 | 199 | 366 | 471 | 122 |
| 45-64------------ | 3,579 | 2,251 | 338 | 852 | 1,060 | 1,198 | 172 | 462 | 564 | 129 |
| 654-------------- | 3,237 | 1,399 | 103 | 612 | 684 | 1,618 | 211 | 750 | 657 | 220 |

## Percent distribution



[^8]Table 7. Number of persons with limitation of activity due to chronic conditions by usual activity status and sex: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Usual activity status and sex | Al1 persons | Persons with no chronic conditions | Persons with $1+$ chronic conditions |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | With no limitation of activity | With limitation, but not in major activity ${ }^{1}$ | With limitation in amount or kind of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Unable to carry on major activity ${ }^{1}$ |
| All activities Number of persons in thousand |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-- | 174,621 | 102,796 | 71,826 | 53,386 | 4,868 | 9,654 | 3,919 |
| Male <br> Female------------- | $\begin{aligned} & 84,979 \\ & 89,642 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 51,109 \\ & 51,687 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 33,871 \\ & 37,955 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24,852 \\ & 28,534 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1,838 \\ & 3,030 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4,581 \\ & 5,073 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2,601 \\ & 1,318 \end{aligned}$ |
| Preschool and school age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-- | 61,138 | 50,544 | 10,594 | 9,523 | 533 | 397 | 141 |
| Male-------------- | 31,170 | 25,282 | 5,888 | 5,286 | 288 | 225 | 89 |
| Female----------- | 29,969 | 25,262 | 4,706 | 4,237 | 245 | 172 | 52 |
| Usually working |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-- | 61,311 | 31,171 | 30,140 | 24,660 | 1,719 | 3,429 | 331 |
| Male-------------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female------------ | $18,624$ | $9,535$ | $9,089$ | $7,687$ | 515 | 801 | 86 |
| Keeping house |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female----- | 36,456 | 14,762 | 21,694 | 15,529 | 2,142 | 3,700 | 324 |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-- | 6,128 | 1,178 | 4,951 | 1,364 | 252 | 1,281 | 2,053 |
| Male |  |  | $4,058$ | $1,164$ |  | $1,089$ | $1,611$ |
| Female----------- | 1,086 | $194$ | $892$ | $200$ | 58 | 192 | $442$ |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-- | 9,588 | 5,141 | 4,447 | 2,310 | 221 | 846 | 1,069 |
| Male-------------- | 6,080 | 3,207 | 2,874 | 1,428 | 150 | 639 | 656 |
| Female----------- | 3,508 | 1,934 | 1,573 | 882 | 71 | 207 | 414 |

[^9]Table 8. Percent distribution of persons by limitation of activity due to chronic conditions according to usual activity status and sex: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Usual activity status and sex | All persons | Persons with no chronic conditions | Persons with $1+$ chronic conditions |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | With no limitation of activity | With limitation, but not in major activity ${ }^{1}$ | With limitation in amount or kind of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Unable to carry on major activity ${ }^{1}$ |
| All activities $\quad$ Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both 'sexes-- | 100.0 | 58.9 | 41.1 | 30.6 | 2.8 | 5.5 | 2.2 |
| Male------------- | 100.0 | 60.1 | 39.9 | 29.2 | 2.2 | 5.4 | 3.1 |
| Female------------ | 100.0 | 57.7 | 42.3 | 31.8 | 3.4 | 5.7 | 1.5 |
| Preschool and school age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes----- | 100.0 | 82.7 | 17.3 | 15.6 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| Male-------------- | 100.0 | 81.1 | 18.9 | 17.0 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| Female----------- | 100.0 | 84.3 | 15.7 | 14.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| Usually working |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes----- | 100.0 | 50.8 | 49.2 | 40.2 | 2.8 | 5.6 | 0.5 |
| Male-------------- | 100.0 | 50.7 | 49.3 | 39.8 | 2.8 | 6.2 | 0.6 |
| Female------------ | 100.0 | 51.2 | 48.8 | 41.3 | 2.8 | 4.3 | 0.5 |
| Keeping house |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female <br> Retired | 100.0 | 40.5 | 59.5 | 42.6 | 5.9 | 10.1 | 0.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes--.-- | 100.0 | 19.2 | 80.8 | 22.3 | 4.1 | 20.9 | 33.5 |
| Male-------------- | 100.0 | 19.5 | 80.5 | 23.1 | 3.9 | 21.6 | 32.0 |
| Female------------ | 100.0 | 17.9 | 82.1 | 18.4 | 5.3 | 17.7 | 40.7 |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes--.-- | 100.0 | 53.6 | 46.4 | 24.1 | 2.3 | 8.8 | 11.1 |
| Male------------- | 100.0 | 52.7 | 47.3 | 23.5 | 2.5 | 10.5 | 10.8 |
| Female-----.-.-.-- | 100.0 | 55.1 | 44.8 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 5.9 | 11.8 |

${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

Table 9. Number of persons with limitation of activity due to chronic conditions by usual activity status and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix 11]

| Usual activity status and age | All persons | Persons with no chronic conditions | Persons with l+ chronic conditions |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | With no <br> limitation of activity | With <br> limitation but not in major activity ${ }^{1}$ | With <br> imitation <br> in amount or kind of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Unable to carry on major activity ${ }^{1}$ |
| All activities | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages----- | 174,621 | 102,796 | 71,826 | 53,386 | 4,868 | 9,654 | 3,919 |
| Under 17------------ | 61,138 | 50,544 | 10,594 | 9,523 | 533 | 397 | 141 |
| 17-44---------------- | 62,642 | 34,824 | 27,818 | 23,359 | 1,572 | 2,441 | 447 |
| 45-64---------------- | 35,679 | 14,018 | 21,661 | 15,332 | 1,732 | 3,579 | 1,019 |
| 65+------------------ | 15,161 | 3,410 | 11,752 | 5,172 | 1,031 | 3,237 | 2,311 |
| $\frac{\text { Preschool and }}{\text { school age }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{r}\text { Under 17-2.- } \\ \text { Usually working } \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 61,138 | 50,544 | 10,594 | 9,523 | 533 | 397 | 141 |
|  | 61,311 | 31,171 | 30,140 | 24,660 | 1,719 | 3,429 | 331 |
| All ages-17+-- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17-44---------------- | 36,091 | 20,558 | 15,533 | 13,431 | 720 | 1,264 | 117 |
| 45-64---------------- | 22,497 | 9,721 | 12,776 | 10,029 | 869 | 1,714 | 164 |
| 65+------------------- | 2,723 | 892 | 1,832 | 1,200 | 131 | 451 | 50 |
| Keeping house (female only) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages-17+-- | 36,456 | 14,762 | 21,694 | 15,529 | 2,142 | 3,700 | 324 |
| 17-44---------------- | 19,004 | 9,480 | 9,524 | 7,943 | 709 | 833 | 40 |
| 45-64--------------- | 11,198 | 3,939 | 7,259 | 4,963 | 789 | 1,402 | 105 |
| 65+------------------- | 6,254 | 1,343 | 4,911 | 2,623 | 644 | 1,465 | 179 |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages-45+-- | 6,128 | 1,178 | 4,951 | 1,364 | 252 | 1,281 | 2,053 |
| 45-64 <br> 65+------------------ <br> Other <br> All ages-17+-- | $\begin{array}{r} 694 \\ 5,434 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 99 \\ 1,078 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 595 \\ 4,355 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 103 \\ 1,261 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 18 \\ 234 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 144 \\ 1,138 \end{array}$ | 3301,723 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 9,588 | 5,141 | 4,447 | 2,310 | 221 | 846 | 1,069 |
|  | 7,548 | $\begin{array}{r} 4,786 \\ 259 \\ 96 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2,762 \\ 1,031 \\ 654 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,985 \\ 236 \\ 89 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 143 \\ 56 \\ 22 \end{array}$ | 344 | 290 |
|  | 1,290 |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 319 \\ & 184 \end{aligned}$ | 420 |
| 65+------------------ | 750 |  |  |  |  |  | 360 |

[^10]Table 10. Percent distribution of persons by limitation of activity due to chronic conditions according to usual activity status and age: United States, July 1959-June 1960
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Ippendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]


$1_{\text {Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school. }}$

Table 11. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting States, July
[Data are based on houschold interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifica-

| Usual activity status and sex | All persons with limitations of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Duration of limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Under <br> 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | Unknown |
| All activities | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes---------------- | 13,573 | 2,115 | 5,039 | 5,680 | 739 |
| Male <br> Female | 7,182 6,391 | 1,047 1,068 | 2,526 2,513 | 3,262 2,418 | 347 392 |
| Preschool and school age |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-------------- | 539 | 130 | 213 | 175 | (*) |
| Male---------------------------- | 314 | 83 | 120 | 99 | (*) |
| Female------------------------ | 224 | 47 | 93 | 76 | (*) |
| Usually working |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes---------------- | 3,760 | 797 | 1,140 | 1,674 | 150 |
| Male <br> Female | 2,873 887 | 572 225 | 835 304 | 1,354 320 | (*) |
| Keeping house |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female------------------ | 4,024 | 648 | 1,632 | 1,494 | 250 |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes---------------- | 3,334 | 230 | 1,340 | 1,563 | 201 |
| Male----------------------------- | 2,699 | 174 | 1,091 | 1,271 | 164 |
| Female------------------------- | 635 | 56 | 249 | 292 | (*) |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes-------------- | 1,916 | 310 | 715 | 774 | 117 |
| Male----------------------------- | 1,295 | 218 | 480 | 538 | 59 |
| Female------------------------- | 621 | 92 | 235 | 236 | 58 |

[^11]major activity ${ }^{1}$ by duration of limitation according to usual activity status and sex: United 1959-June 1960
tions, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]


Table 12. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting usual activity status, and sex:
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifica-

| Usual activity status and sex | All persons with limitations of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Not working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Unknown as to employment status and/or duration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  | Total | Duration of ilmitation |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Under <br> 1 year | $\begin{aligned} & 1-4 \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ | $5+$ years |  | Under 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { year } 8 \end{gathered}$ | $5+$ years |  |
| All activities $\quad$ Number of persons in thousands | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes--- | 13,573 | 7,109 | 1,134 | 2,714 | 3,261 | 5,724 | 980 | 2,325 | 2,419 | 739 |
| Male <br> Female | $\begin{aligned} & 7,182 \\ & 6,391 \end{aligned}$ | 5,449 1,660 | 821 313 | 2,008 706 | 2,620 641 | 1,386 4,339 | 226 | 518 1,807 | $\begin{array}{r} 642 \\ 1,777 \end{array}$ | 347 392 |
| Preschool and school age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes--- | 539 | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | . | 518 | 130 | 213 | 175 | (*) |
| Male------------ | 314 | ... | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | 302 | 83 | 120 | 99 | (*) |
| Female---------- | 224 | ... | . . | ... | $\ldots$ | 216 | 47 | 93 | 76 | (*) |
| Usually working |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes--- | 3,760 | 3,190 | 770 | 1,047 | 1,373 | 421 | (*) | 93 | 301 | 150 |
| Male------------ | 2,873 | 2,496 | 557 | 785 | 1,153 | 265 | (*) | 50 | 200 | 112 |
| Female--------- | 887 | 694 | 213 | 262 | 219 | 155 | (*) | (*) | 101 | (*) |
| Keeping house |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female------- | 4,024 | 695 | 67 | 332 | 295 | 3,079 | 581 | 1,300 | 1,198 | 250 |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes--- | 3,334 | 2,138 | 93 | 858 | 1,187 | 995 | 137 | 482 | 376 | 201 |
| Male------------ | 2,699 | $1,983$ | 87 | 801 | 1,095 | 553 | 87 | 290 | 176 | 164 |
| Female---------- | 635 | $155$ | (*) | 57 | 92 | 442 | 50 | 191 | 200 | (*) |
| Both sexes--- | 1,916 | 1,087 | 204 | 478 | 406 | 712 | 106 | 237 | 368 | 117 |
| Male----------- | 1,295 | 970 | 177 | 422 | 371 | 266 | 42 | 57 | 167 | 59 |
| Female---------- | 621 | 117 | (*) | 55 | (*) | 446 | 65 | 180 | 201 | 58 |

[^12]major activity ${ }^{1}$ by duration of limitation according to employment status when limitation started, United States, July 1959-June 1960
tions, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Usual activity status and sex | Working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Not working at time ilmitation of major activity started |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  |
|  |  | Under <br> 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |  | Under <br> 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes----- | 100.0 | 16.0 | 38.2 | 45.9 | 100.0 | 17.1 | 40.6 | 42.3 |
| Male-------------- | 100.0 | 15.1 | 36.9 | 48.1 | 100.0 | 16.3 | 37.4 | 46.3 |
| Female------------ | 100.0 | 18.9 | 42.5 | 38.6 | 100.0 | 17.4 | 41.6 | 41.0 |
| Preschool and school age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes---.- | 100.0 | ... | . . . | $\ldots$ | 100.0 | 25.1 | 41.1 | 33.8 |
| Male-------------- | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\ldots$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27.5 \\ & 21.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 39.7 \\ & 43.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 32.8 \\ & 35.2 \end{aligned}$ |
| Female------------ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Usually working |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes----- |  | 100.0 | 24.1 | 32.8 | 43.0 | 100.0 | (*) | 22.1 | 71.5 |
| Male- | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22.3 \\ & 30.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 31.5 \\ & 37.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 46.2 \\ & 31.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (*) \\ & (*) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 18.9 \\ (*) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75.5 \\ & 65.2 \end{aligned}$ |
| Female----------- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Keeping house |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female-------- | 100.0 | 9.6 | 47.8 | 42.4 | 100.0 | 18.9 | 42.2 | 38.9 |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes----- | 100.0 | 4.3 | 40.1 | 55.5 | 100.0 | 13.8 | 48.4 | 37.8 |
| Male-------------- | 100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 4.4 \\ & (*) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 40.4 \\ & 36.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 55.2 \\ & 59.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15.7 \\ & 11.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 52.4 \\ & 43.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 31.8 \\ & 45.2 \end{aligned}$ |
| Female------------- | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both sexes---- | 100.0 | 18.8 | 44.0 | 37.4 | 100.0 | 14.9 | 33.3 | 51.7 |
| Male------------- | 100.0 | $\begin{gathered} 18.2 \\ (*) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 43.5 \\ & 47.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 38.2 \\ (*) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15.8 \\ & 14.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.4 \\ & 40.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 62.8 \\ & 45.1 \end{aligned}$ |
| Female------------ | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 13. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting States, July
[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifica-

${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.
major activity ${ }^{1}$ by duration of limitation according to usual activity status and age: United 1959-June 1960
tions, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix 1. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Usual activity status and age | All persons with limitations of major activity | Duration of limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Under <br> 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | Unknown |

## All activities



Percent distribution

| 100.0 | 15.6 | 37.1 | 41.8 | 5.4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 100.0 | 24.1 | 39.5 | 32.5 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 21.5 | 32.0 | 41.3 | 5.1 |
| 100.0 | 16.9 | 37.0 | 42.1 | 3.9 |
| 100.0 | 10.5 | 39.6 | 42.8 | 7.0 |
| 100.0 | 24.1 | 39.5 | 32.5 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 21.2 | 30.3 | 44.5 | 4.0 |
| 100.0 | 22.6 | 27.7 | 45.3 | 4.5 |
| 100.0 | 20.6 | 30.6 | 45.3 | 3.5 |
| 100.0 | 19.6 | 36.1 | 39.7 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 16.1 | 40.6 | 37.1 | 6.2 |
| 100.0 | 24.4 | 41.4 | 29.2 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 14.1 | 40.8 | 40.6 | 4.4 |
| 100.0 | 13.6 | 39.8 | 38.1 | 8.6 |
| 100.0 | 6.9 | 40.2 | 46.9 | 6.0 |
| 100.0 | 8.6 | 43.9 | 44.1 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 6.6 | 39.6 | 47.3 | 6.5 |
| 100.0 | 16.2 | 37.3 | 40.4 | 6.1 |
| 100.0 | 15.3 | 28.4 | 49.6 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 18.8 | 41.0 | 35.7 | (*) |
| 100.0 | 13.4 | 42.6 | 36.2 | (*) |

Table 14. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting usual activity status, and age:
[Data are hased on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifica-

| Usual activity status and age | Al1 persons with 1imitations of major activity ${ }^{1}$ | Working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Not working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Unknown as to work status and/or duration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  | Total | Duration of 1imitation |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Under 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5+ \\ & \text { years } \end{aligned}$ |  | Under 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | 5+ years |  |
| All activities |  | Number of persons in thousands |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages------- | 13,573 | 7,109 | 1,134 | 2,714 | 3,261 | 5,724 | 980 | 2,325 | 2,419 | 739 |
| Under 17---.-.-.-.-...- | 539 |  | . | ... | ... | 518 | 130 | 213 | 175 | (*) |
| 17-44- | 2,887 | 1,539 | 393 | 543 | 602 | 1,202 | 229 | 382 | 591 | 147 |
|  | 4,598 | 3,005 | 548 | 1,166 | 1,292 | 1,413 | 231 | 537 | 644 | 180 |
| 65+- | 5,549 | 2,566 | 193 | 1,006 | 1,367 | 2,592 | 390 | 1,193 | 1,008 | 391 |
| Preschool and school age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 17 <br> Usually working | 539 | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | ... | 518 | 130 | 213 | 175 | (*) |
| All ages -17+--- | 3,760 | 3,190 | 770 | 1,047 | 1,373 | 421 | (*) | 93 | 301 | 150 |
| 17-44---------------- | 1,381 | 1,080 | 306 | 341 | 433 | 239 | (*) | (*) | 192 | 62 |
| 45-64------------------ | 1,878 | 1,673 | 371 | 546 | 756 | 139 | (*) | (*) | 94 | 66 |
| 65+-------------------- | 501 | 436 | 93 | 159 | 183 | (*) | (*) | (*) | (*) | (*) |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Keeping house } \\ & \text { (female only) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages-17+--- | 4,024 | 695 | 67 | 332 | 295 | 3,079 | 581 | 1,300 | 1,198 | 250 |
|  | 873 | 145 | (*) | 75 | 55 | 685 | 198 | 287 | 200 | (*) |
| 45-64------------------ | 1,508 | 364 | (*) | 178 | 142 | 1,078 | 168 | 438 | 471 | 66 |
| 65+--------------------- | 1,644 | 186 | (*) | 79 | 99 | 1,317 | 214 | 575 | 528 | 141 |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages-45+--- | 3,334 | 2,138 | 93 | 858 | 1,187 | 995 | 137 | 482 | 376 | 201 |
| 45-64----------------- | 474 | 404 | (*) | 188 | 191 | 54 | (*) | (*) | (*) | (*) |
| 65+------------ | 2,860 | 1,734 | 67 | 670 | 996 | 941 | 122 | 462 | 357 | 186 |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages-17+--- | 1,916 | 1,087 | 204 | 478 | 406 | 712 | 106 | 237 | 368 | 117 |
| 17-44----------------- | 633 | 312 | 72 | 126 | 114 | 278 | (*) | 54 | 200 | (*) |
|  | 739 | 564 | 107 | 254 | 203 | 142 | (*) | 49 | 61 | (*) |
| 65+------------------- | 544 | 211 | (*) | 97 | 89 | 291 | 49 | 135 | 107 | (*) |

[^13]major activity ${ }^{1}$ by duration of limitation according to employment status when limitation started, United States, July 1959-June 1960
tions, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

| Usual activity status and age | Working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  | Not working at time limitation of major activity ${ }^{1}$ started |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  | Total | Duration of limitation |  |  |
|  |  | Under 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |  | Under 1 year | $\begin{gathered} 1-4 \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5+ \\ \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |
| All activities $\quad$ Percent distribution | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All ages------- | 100.0 | 16.0 | 38.2 | 45.9 | 100.0 | 17.1 | 40.6 | 42.3 |
| Under 17------------- | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |  | $\ldots$ | 100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 25.1 \\ & 19.1 \\ & 16.3 \\ & 15.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41.1 \\ & 31.8 \\ & 38.0 \\ & 46.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 33.8 \\ & 49.2 \\ & 45.6 \\ & 38.9 \end{aligned}$ |
| 17-44------------------ | 100.0 | 25.5 | 35.3 | 39.1 | 100.0 |  |  |  |
| 45-64 | 100.0 | 18.2 | 38.8 | 43.0 | 100.0 |  |  |  |
| 65+-------------------- | 100.0 | 7.5 | 39.2 | 53.3 | 100.0 |  |  |  |
| $\frac{\text { Preschool and }}{\text { school age }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 17 Usually working | ... | ... | . . | . . | 100.0 | 25.1 | 41.1 | 33.8 |
| All ages -17+--- | 100.0 | 24.1 | 32.8 | 43.0 | 100.0 | (*) | 22.1 | 71.5 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 17-44--6-- } \\ & \frac{\text { Keeping house }}{\text { (female only) }} \\ & \text { All ages-17+--- } \end{aligned}$ | 100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 28.3 \\ & 22.2 \\ & 21.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 31.6 \\ & 32.6 \\ & 36.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 40.1 \\ & 45.2 \\ & 42.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 100.0 \\ 100.0 \\ (\star) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (*) \\ & (*) \\ & (*) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (\star) \\ & (\star) \\ & (\star) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 80.3 \\ 67.6 \\ (*) \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100.0 | 9.6 | 47.8 | 42.4 | 100.0 | 18.9 | 42.2 | 38.9 |
|  | 100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & (*) \\ & (*) \\ & (*) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 51.7 \\ & 48.9 \\ & 42.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 37.9 \\ & 39.0 \\ & 53.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 28.9 \\ & 15.6 \\ & 16.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41.9 \\ & 40.6 \\ & 43.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 29.2 \\ & 43.7 \\ & 40.1 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Retired |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages $-45+-$ - | 100.0 | 4.3 | 40.1 | 55.5 | 100.0 | 13.8 | 48.4 | 37.8 |
| 45-64---------------- | 100.0 | $\begin{aligned} & (*) \\ & 3.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 46.5 \\ & 38.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 47.3 \\ & 57.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (*) \\ 13.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (*) \\ 49.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} (*) \\ 37.9 \end{gathered}$ |
| 65+------------------- | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A11 ages-17+--- | 100.0 | 18.8 | 44.0 | 37.4 | 100.0 | 14.9 | 33.3 | 51.7 |
| 17-44-2---------------- | 100.0 | $\begin{array}{r} 23.1 \\ 19.0 \\ (\star) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 40.4 \\ & 45.0 \\ & 46.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 36.5 \\ & 36.0 \\ & 42.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \\ & 100.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (*) \\ & (*) \end{aligned}$$16.8$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.4 \\ & 34.5 \\ & 46.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71.9 \\ & 43.0 \\ & 36.8 \end{aligned}$ |
| 45-64----------------- | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 65+------------------ | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## APPENDIX I

## TECHNICAL NOTES ON METHODS

## Background of This Report

This report on Duration of Chronic Activity Limitation is one of a series of statistical reports prepared by the U. S. National Health Survey. It is based on information collected in a continuing nationwide sample of households in the Health Interview Survey, which is one of the major parts of the program.

The Health Interview Survey utilizes a questionnaire which, in addition to personal and demographic characteristics, obtains information on illnesses, injuries, chronic conditions and impairments, health insurance coverage, and other health topics. As data relating to each of these various broad topics are tabulated and analyzed, separate reports are issued which cover one or more of the specific topics. The present report is based on the consolidated sample for 52 weeks of interviewing during the period July 1959-June 1960.

The population covered by the sample for the Health Interview Survey is the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States living at the time of the interview. The sample does not include members of the Armed Forces, U. S. nationals living in foreign countries, or crews of vessels.

## Statistical Design of the Health Interview Survey

General plan.-The sampling plan of the survey follows a multistage probability design which permits a continuous sampling of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States. The first stage of this design consists of drawing a sample of 500 from the 1,900 geographically defined Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) into which the United States has been divided. A PSU is a county, a group of contiguous counties, or a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area.

With no loss in general understanding, the remaining stages can be telescoped and treated in this discussion as an ultimate stage. Within PSU's then, ultimate stage units called segments are defined, also geographically, in such a manner that each segment contains an expected six households in the sample. Each week a random sample of about 120 segments is drawn. In the approximately 700 households in those segments, household members are interviewed concerning factors related to health.

Since the household members interviewed each week are a representative sample of the population, samples for successive weeks can be combined into larger samples. Thus, the design permits both continuous measurement of characteristics of high in-
cidence or prevalence in the population, and through the larger consolidated samples, more detailed analysis of less common characteristics and smaller categories. The continuous collection has administrative and operational advantages as well as technical assets, since it permits field work to be handled with an experienced, stable staff.

Sample size and geographic detail. -Over the 12 -month period ending June 1960, the sample included approximately 125,000 persons from 38,000 households in 6,400 segments. The over-all sample was designed in such a fashion that tabulations can be provided for each of the major geographic regions and for urban and rural sectors of the United States.

Collection of data. - The field operations for the household survey are performed by the Bureau of the Census under specifications established by the Public Health Service. In accordance with these specifications the Bureau of the Census designs and selects the sample; conducts the field interviewing, acting as the collecting agent for the Public Health Service; and edits and codes the questionnaires. Tabulations are prepared by the Public Health Service using the Bureau of the Census electronic computers.

Estimating methods.-Each statistic produced by the survey-for example, the number of persons who are unable to carry on major activity-is the result of two stages of ratio estimation. In the first of these, the factor is the ratio of the 1950 decennial population count to the 1950 estimated population in the U. S. National Health Survey's first-stage sample of PSU's. These factors are applied for some 50 color-residence classes.

Later, ratios of sample-produced estimates of the population to official Bureau of the Census figures for current population in about 60 age-sex-color classes are computed, and serve as second-stage factors for ratio estimating.

The effect of the ratio estimating process is to make the sample closely representative of the population by age, sex, color, and residence, thus reducing sampling variance.

As noted, each week's sample represents the population living during that week as well as characteristics of the population. Consolidation of samples over a time period, say a calendar quarter, produces estimates of average characteristics of the U. S. population for that calendar quarter.

For prevalence statistics, such as number of persons with one or more chronic conditions, figures are first calculated for each calendar quarter by averaging estimates for all weeks of interviewing in that quarter. Prevalence data for a year are then obtained by averaging the four quarterly figures.

## General Qualifications

Nonresponse.-Data were adjusted for nonresponse by a procedure which imputes to persons in a household which was not interviewed the characteristics of persons in households in the same segment which were interviewed. The total noninterview rate was 5 percent; 1 percent was refusal, and the remainder was primarily due to the failure to find any eligible household respondent after repeated trials.

The interview process. - The statistics presented in this report are based on replies secured in interviews of persons in the sampled households. Each person 18 years and over, available at the time of interview, was interviewed individually. Proxy respondents within the household were employed for children and for adults not available at the time of the interview, provided the respondent was closely related to the person about whom information was being obtained.

There are limitations to the accuracy of diagnostic and other information collected in household interviews. For diagnostic information, the household respondent can, at best, pass on to the interviewer only the information the physician has given to the family. For conditions not medically attended, diagnostic information is often no more than a description of symptoms. However, other types of facts such as those concerning the circumstances and consequences of illness or injury and the resulting action taken or sought by the individual can be obtained more accurately from household members than from any other source, since only the persons concerned are in a position to report all of this type of information.

Rounding of numbers. - The original tabulations on which the data in this report are based show all estimates to the nearest whole unit. All consolidations were made from the original tabulations using the estimates to the nearest unit. In the final published tables the figures are rounded to the nearest thousand, although they are not necessarily accurate to that detail. Derived statistics such as rates and percent distributions are computed after the estimates on which they are based have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

Population figures. -Some of the published tables include population figures for specified categories. Except for certain over-all totals by age and sex, which are adjusted to independent estimates, these figures are based on the sample of households in the U. S. National Health Survey. They are given primarily for the purpose of providing denominators for rate computation, and for this purpose are more appropriate for use with the accompanying measures of health characteristics than other population data that may be available. In some instances they will permit users to recombine published data into classes more suitable to their specific needs. With the exception of the over-all totals by age and sex, mentioned above, the population figures may in some cases differ from corresponding figures (which are derived from different sources) published in reports of the Bureau of the Census. For population data for general use, see the official estimates presented in Bu reau of the Census reports in the $\mathrm{P}-20, \mathrm{P}-25, \mathrm{P}-50$, $P-57$, and $P-60$ series.

## Reliability of Estimates

Since the estimates are based on a sample, they will differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and interviewing personnel and procedures. As in any survey, the results are also subject to measurement error.

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, the variations that might occur by chance because only a sample of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also reflects part of the variation which arises in the measurement process. It does not include estimates of any biases which might lie in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error and about 99 out of 100 that it would be less than $21 / 2$ times as large.

In order to derive standard errors which would be applicable to a wide variety of health statistics and which could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result, the tables of standard errors shown in this Appendix should be interpreted as providing an estimate of approximate standard error rather than as the precise standard error for any specific statistic.

The following rules will enable the reader to determine the sampling errors for the data contained in this report.

1. Estimates of aggregates: Approximate standard errors of the number of persons with specific health or demographic characteristics, such as the number of persons with one or more chronic conditions, and the number of persons with a type of chronic limitation of activity, are obtained from table I.

Example:
The number of males with $1+$ chronic conditions and no limitation of activity was $24,852,000$ (table 1). Since the standard error for this estimate is not shown in table $I$, it is necessary to interpolate between the standard error for $20,000,000$ which is 300,000 and the standard error for $30,000,000$ which is 330,000 . Interpolation between these values gives 315,000 as the approximate standard error for $24,852,000$ males with $1+$ chronic conditions and no limitation of activity. 2. Estimates of percentages in a percent distribution: Approximate standard errors of percentages in percent distributions of persons are given in table II. Example:

Of the $18,624,000$ females who are usually working (table 7) 41.3 percent have one or more chronic conditions but have no limitation of activity (table 8). Since neither the base nor the percentage is shown in table II, it is necessary to interpolate between 25 percent and 50 percent to obtain 1.20 as the standard error of 41.3 percent with a base of $10,000,000$ and 0.83 as the standard error of 41.3 percent with a base of $20,000,000$. A final interpolation between these results yields 0.88 , rounded to 0.9 , as the standard error for a statistic of 41.3 percent with a base of $18,624,000$.

Table I. Standard errors of estimates of aggregates

| (All numbers shown in thousands) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{array}{c}\text { Size of } \\ \text { estimate }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c}\text { For estimates of the } \\ \text { number of: }\end{array}$ |
|  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Persons by health or other } \\ \text { demographic characteristic }\end{array}$ |
|  | The approximate standard |
| error is: |  |$\}$

[^14]Table II. Standard errors of percentage distribution of persons

| When the base of the percentage is number of: | For estimated percentages of: |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Persons by health or other demographic characteristics <br> (in thousands) | $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \text { or } \\ 98 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \text { or } \\ 95 \end{array}$ | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
|  | The approximate standard error (expressed in percentage points) is: |  |  |  |  |
| 100 | 3.6 | 5.6 | 6.8 | 9.8 | 2.9 |
| 500 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 5.8 |
| 1,000 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 4.1 |
| 2,000---.---------- | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 2.9 |
| 3,000 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| 5,000 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.8 |
| 10,000 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| 20,000-----------.-- | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.9 |
| 30,000-.-.----.-.-. | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| 50,000-------------- | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| 100,000------------- | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 |

## APPENDIX II

## DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

## Terms Relating to Chronic Conditions

Condition.-A morbidity condition, or simply a condition, is any entry on the questionnaire which describes a departure from a state of physical or mental well-being. It results from a positive response to one of a series of "illness-recall" questions. In the coding and tabulating process, conditions are selectedor classified according to a number of different criteria, such as, whether they were medically attended; whether they resulted in disability; whether they were acute or chronic; or according to the type of disease, injury, impairment, or symptom reported. For the purposes of each published report or set of tables, only those conditions recorded on the questionnaire which satisfy certain stated criteria are included.

Chronic condition.-A condition is considered to be chronic if (1) it is described by the respondent in terms of one of the chronic diseases on the "Check List of Chronic Conditions" or in terms of one of the types of impairments on the "Check List of Impairments," or (2) the condition is described by the respondent as having been first noticed more than 3 months before the week of the interview.

Persons with chronic conditions.-The estimated number of persons with chronic conditions is based on the number of persons who at the time of the interview were reported to have one or more chronic conditions.

Prevalence of conditions.-In general, prevalence of conditions is the estimated number of conditions of a specified type existing at a specified time or the average number existing during a specified interval of time. The prevalence of chronic conditions is defined as the number of chronic cases reported to be present or assumed to be present at the time of the interview; those assumed to be present at the time of the interview are cases described by the respondent in terms of one of the chronic diseases on the "Check List of Chronic Conditions" and reported to have been present at some time during the 12 -month period prior to the interview.

## Terms Relating to Disability

Chronic activity limitation.-Persons with chronic conditions are classified into 4 categories according to the extent to which their activities are limited at present as a result of these conditions. Since the usual activities of preschool children, school-age children, housewives, and workers and other persons differ, a different set of criteria is used for each group. There is a general similarity between them, however, as will be seen in the descriptions of the 4 categories below:

1. Persons unable to carry on major activity for their group (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school)
Preschool children: inability to take part in ordinary play with other children.
School-age children: inability to go to school. Housewives: inability to do any housework.
Workers and all other persons:
inability to work at a job or business.
2. Persons limited in the amount or kind of major activity performed (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school)
Preschool children: limited in the amount or kind of play with other children, e.g., need special rest periods, cannot play strenuous games, cannot play for long periods at a time.
School-age children: limited to certain types of schools or in school attendance, e.g., need special schools or special teaching, cannot go to school full time or for long periods at a time. Housewives: limited in amount or kind of housework, i.e., cannot lift children, wash or iron, or do housework for long periods at a time.
Workers and all
other persons: limited in amount or kind of work, e.g., need special working aids or special rest periods at work, cannot work full time or for long periods at a time, cannot do strenuous work.
3. Persons not limited in major activity but otherwise limited (major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school)
Preschool children: not classified in this category.
School-age children: not limited in going to school but limited in participation in athletics or other extracurricular activities.
Housewives: not limited in housework but limited in other activities, such as church, clubs, hobbies, civic projects, or shopping.

Workers and all
other persons:
not limited in regular work activities but limited in other activities, such as church, clubs, hobbies, civic projects, sports, or games.
4. Persons not limited in activities Includes persons with chronic conditions whose activities are not limited in any of the ways described above.
Chronic mobility limitation.-Persons with chronic activity limitation of some degree as a result of one or more chronic conditions are classified according to the extent to which their mobility is limited at present. There are 4 categories as follows:

1. Confined to the house-confined to the house all the time except in emergencies.
2. Cannot get around alone-able to go outside but needs the help of another person in getting around outside.
3. Has trouble getting around alone-able to go outside alone but has trouble in getting around freely.
4. Not limited in mobility-not limited in any of the ways described above.

## Demographic, Social, and Economic Terms

Age. - The age recorded for each person is the age at last birthday. Age is recorded in single years and grouped in a variety of distributions depending upon the purpose of the table.

Usual activity status. - All persons in the population are classified according to their usual activity status during the $12-$ month period prior to the week of interview. The "usual" activity status, in case more than one is reported, is the one at which the person spent the most time during the 12 -month period. Children under 6 years of age are classified as "preschool." All persons aged 6-16 years are classified as "school age."

The categories of usual activity status used in this report for persons aged 17 years and over are: usually
working, usually keeping house, retired, and other. For several reasons these categories are not comparable with somewhat similarly named categories in official Federal labor force statistics. First, the responses concerning usual activity status are accepted without detailed questioning, since the objective of the question is not to estimate the numbers of persons in labor force categories but to identify crudely certain population groups which may have differing health problems. Second, the figures represent the usual activity status over the period of an entire year, whereas official labor force statistics relate to a much shorter period, usually one week. Third, the minimum age for usually working persons is age 17 in the U.S. National Health Survey and the official labor force categories include all persons age 14 or older. Finally in the definitions of specific categories which follow, certain marginal groups are classified differently to simplify procedures.

Usually working includes persons 17 years of age or older who are paid employees; self employed in their own business, profession, or in farming; or unpaid employees in a family business or farm. Work around the house, or volunteer or unpaid work, such as for a church, etc., is not counted as working.

Usually keeping house includes female persons 17 years of age or older whose major activity is described as "keeping house" and who cannot be classified as "working."

Retired includes persons 45 years old or over who consider themselves to be retired. In case of doubt, a person 45 years of age or older is counted as retired if he, or she, has either voluntarily or involuntarily stopped working, is not looking for work, and is not described as "keeping house." A retired person may or may not be unable to work.

Other in this report includes males 17 years of age or older not classified as "working," or "retired" and females 17 years of age or older not classified as "working," 'rkeeping house," or "retired." Persons aged 17 years and over who are going to school are included in this group.

## APPENDIX III

## QUESTIONNAIRE

The items below show the exact content and wording of the basic questionnaire used in the nationwide household survey of the U. S. National Health Survey. The actual questionnaire 18 deslgned for a houschold as a unit and includes additional spaces for reports on more than one person, condition, accident or hospitalization. Such repetitive spaces are omitted in this illustration.





| 18, (a) Thove same quastions absut haolith Inoufanee Wo don't want te Inclufe inausence thet pere ONLY for oceldents, but we ate Intare afted In all ethat kinde. Oe yeut reut .... heve | 1. Yob | L. No | 1.30x |
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| Ineurance thot paye oll ar pert ol the bille when yeu ge to the haspleal? | Namenol |  |  |
| (b) Whot is the nome of the plon (er plans)) Any other plons? <br> (e) Who is eavared by thit plon (eoch plon)? <br> (C.hecy "Yes," in $18(a)$ for esch person coveres') <br> (d) Ousi the plen (elther plan) poy any patt ol the surgeen'e bill fer on operotien? |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |
|  | [] rro | [ jNo | []ok |
| 19. (o) Agoln eecluding insuronce that pey ONLY lor occidenis, do you, your . . . heve insurence that pays all ar part of the bill far doctorn' vister ot hame el at hie elitice? If "Yes," <br> (b) What is the name of the plan (ar plens)? Any ather plens? <br> (c) Wha le covered ty thie plan (eoch plen)? <br> (Cbeek "Yea," io IV(a) for each person eovered) | [] Yes | 「INo | $\square \mathrm{DK}$ |
|  | Nsme(o) |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | L.] Keaponded tor silf Col. No. was respandent C. Form Nass-1 (0) lofi |  |  |
| 20.(a) OURING TNE PAST 12 MONTNS has anyane In the lamily been a pallent in a hoseltol overnight or langer? <br> 1f "Yes," <br> (b) Haw mony Ilme were you In the hasplial? |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 21. (a) Ouring the poet 12 manthe hos anyone in the famiky been a potient in a nuraing hame or sanltarlum? <br> If "Yes," <br> (b) Naw many timea wati you in a nursing home or conliosilum? | LYen (rabie 11) |  |  |
|  | N-No. of umeos |  |  |
| 22. Ouring the paet 12 monthe in which group did the total ineome of youe fomily foll, that is, your's, <br>  trom proparty, pensions, holp fram iclotive a, ote. | Group No. |  |  |



| Toble Il - NOSPITALIZATION DURING PAST 12 MONTHS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| What lo the name and address al the hasplial you were in? <br> Enter neme, cary and State: if eity not knawn, enrer County) | For completed haspitalizarions only ("No" in Col. (k)) : |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Was any of the hatplial bill poid la by any kind of Inturonce? | ```1f "No" ro col. (k), ask: Or, by any kind al plan thot poys for houpltal caub?``` | If "No" to both cole. (k) 3nd (1), ask: <br> Oo you axpet any al the ho aplial bith to be pald for by inaurance or ony plan ol this kind? | What patt of the hospital bill wou (will be) taken ears of by Insurone:? | Whe corries the cast pay, the premlum? | Is Insuronce - - that is. who |
|  | (t) | (1) | (m) | (n) | (a) |  |
| -------- | Yes (Skio racol. $n$ ) No | Yes (Skip rocol. n) No |  | $\square$ Uoder $1 / 2$ <br> $\square 1 / 3$ up ro $\%$ <br> $\square 1 / 4$ or more | Fomily memberi(n) Employer <br> [] Unian, clube, erc. | $\qquad$ |




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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keen house, or go to school

[^2]:    14. Number and percent distribution of persons with chronic activity limitation affecting major activity by duration of limitation according to employment status when limitation started, usual activity status, and age: United States,
    
[^3]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

[^5]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

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[^10]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

[^11]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

[^12]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

[^13]:    ${ }^{1}$ Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or go to school.

[^14]:    ${ }^{1}$ The total U.S. population by age, sex, and residence has been adjusted to official Bureau of the Census figures and therefore is not subject to sampling error.

