

INTRODUCTION

The data from Census 2000 were derived from a limited number of basic questions asked of the entire population, and from additional questions asked of a sample of the population. Households were asked to complete either a short-form questionnaire (consisting of 8 questions) or the long-form questionnaire (consisting of the same 8 questions from the short form plus an additional 45 questions). Approximately one in every six households were asked to complete the census long form questionnaire.

Detailed results of Census 2000 are contained in a series of summary files. Summary File 1 (SF1) presents counts and basic cross-tabulations of information from all people and housing units. The information includes age, sex, race and ethnicity, household relationship, and housing tenancy. Summary File 2 (SF2) presents data similar to the information included in SF1, iterated for a selected list of race and Hispanic categories. Summary File 3 (SF3) presents sample data derived from the long-form questionnaires, including but not limited to information on income, educational attainment, poverty status, nativity, ancestry, and transportation. Summary File 4 (SF4) includes tabulations of SF3 data iterated for a selected list of race and Hispanic categories.

The information presented in this paper is made available through the extrapolation of sample data from Summary File 3. Tables 1 through 6 present data from both the 1990 census and the 2000 census. Table 1 reports the number of persons "Employed by Place and Work" and Table 2 reports the number of persons "Employed by Place of Residence". Table 3 reports on the mode or transportation Rhode Islanders use in their commutes to and from work, Table 4 presents the mean (average) time (in minutes) it takes workers to get to work, and Table 5 reports on the number of vehicles available per household. Table 6 profiles the population by specified age groups.

It is important to note that the universe for data sets in Tables 1 and 2 is the *employed civilian population 16 years and over*. The universe for Table 5 is *occupied housing units* and the universe for Table 6 is *total population*. The universe for all other data sets presented in this paper is *workers 16 years and over*.

The following definitions may prove useful in understanding the universe of the various data sets:

Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Older: Employed includes all civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" -- those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

Employment Status Reference Week: The data on employment status and journey to work relate to the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.

Occupied Housing Unit: A housing unit that is the usual place of residence of the person or people living in it at the time of enumeration, even if the occupants are only temporarily absent; for example, away on vacation. Occupied rooms or suites of rooms in hotels, motels, and similar places are classified as housing units only when occupied by permanent residents; that is, individuals for whom the facility is their usual place of residence.

Total Population: All persons whose usual residence is the United States, without regard to legal status or citizenship.

Workers 16 Years and Older: This term appears in connection with several subjects: journey-to-work items, class of worker, work status in the past 12 months, weeks worked in the past 12 months, and number of workers in family in the past 12 months. Its meaning varies and, therefore, should be determined in each case by referring to the definition of the subject in which it appears.

Worked in the Past Twelve Months: People 16 years old and over who did any work for pay or profit (including paid vacation, sick leave, and military service) or worked without pay on a family farm or in a family business at any time during the past 12 months are classified as "worked in the past 12 months." All other people 16 years old and over are classified as "did not work in the past 12 months."