

cial insurance or a related program or whether they have no income from any of the sources listed. Some probably have income from investments. Some of the widows without children under age 18 have to rely on general assistance for support, and some on the support of their adult children, as do older widows.

## Age of the Population and Per Capita Income, by State, 1953 \*

For every 100 persons aged 18-64 years in the continental United States in 1953, there were 72 persons dependent or potentially dependent—

\* Prepared in the Division of Research and Statistics, Office of the Commissioner.

about four-fifths of them children under age 18, and the others aged 65 and over. In the 12 States with the lowest per capita incomes in 1953 there were 83 children and aged persons to every 100 adults of working age, or 25 percent more than in the 12 highest income States, where the ratio was 66 to 100.<sup>1</sup>

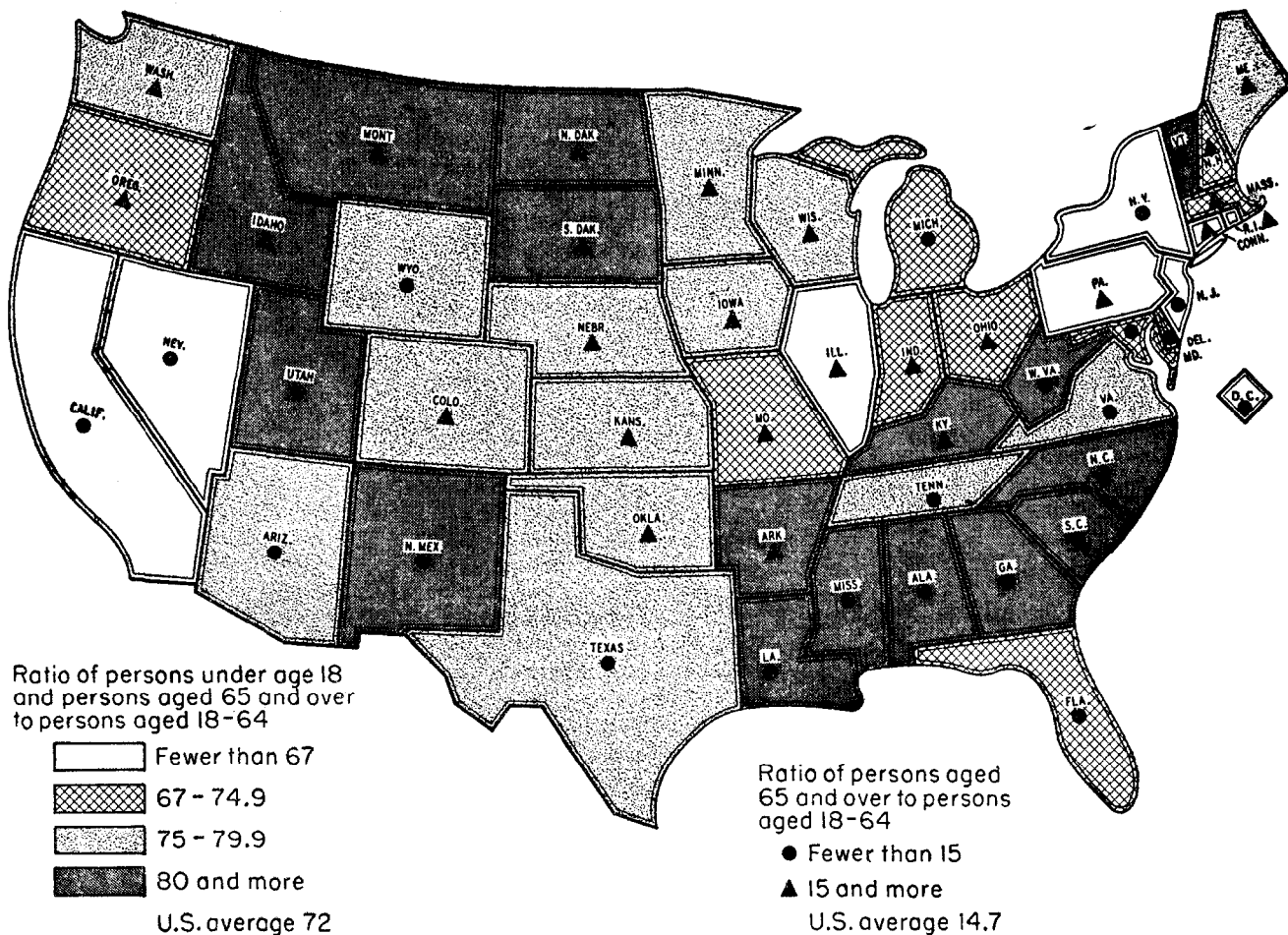
*Proportion of children and aged in the population.*—Children under age 18 were most numerous (41-43 percent) in relation to the total popu-

<sup>1</sup> Population estimates relate to July 1, 1953. They exclude persons in the Armed Forces, since State population estimates by age group are available only for the civilian population. Estimates of income payments by State are for the calendar year 1953 (*Survey of Current Business*, August 1954).

lation in the Southern agricultural States and the sparsely populated Mountain States, and they were relatively least numerous (28-30 percent) in the District of Columbia and in the densely populated, industrial States of New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Connecticut (table 1).

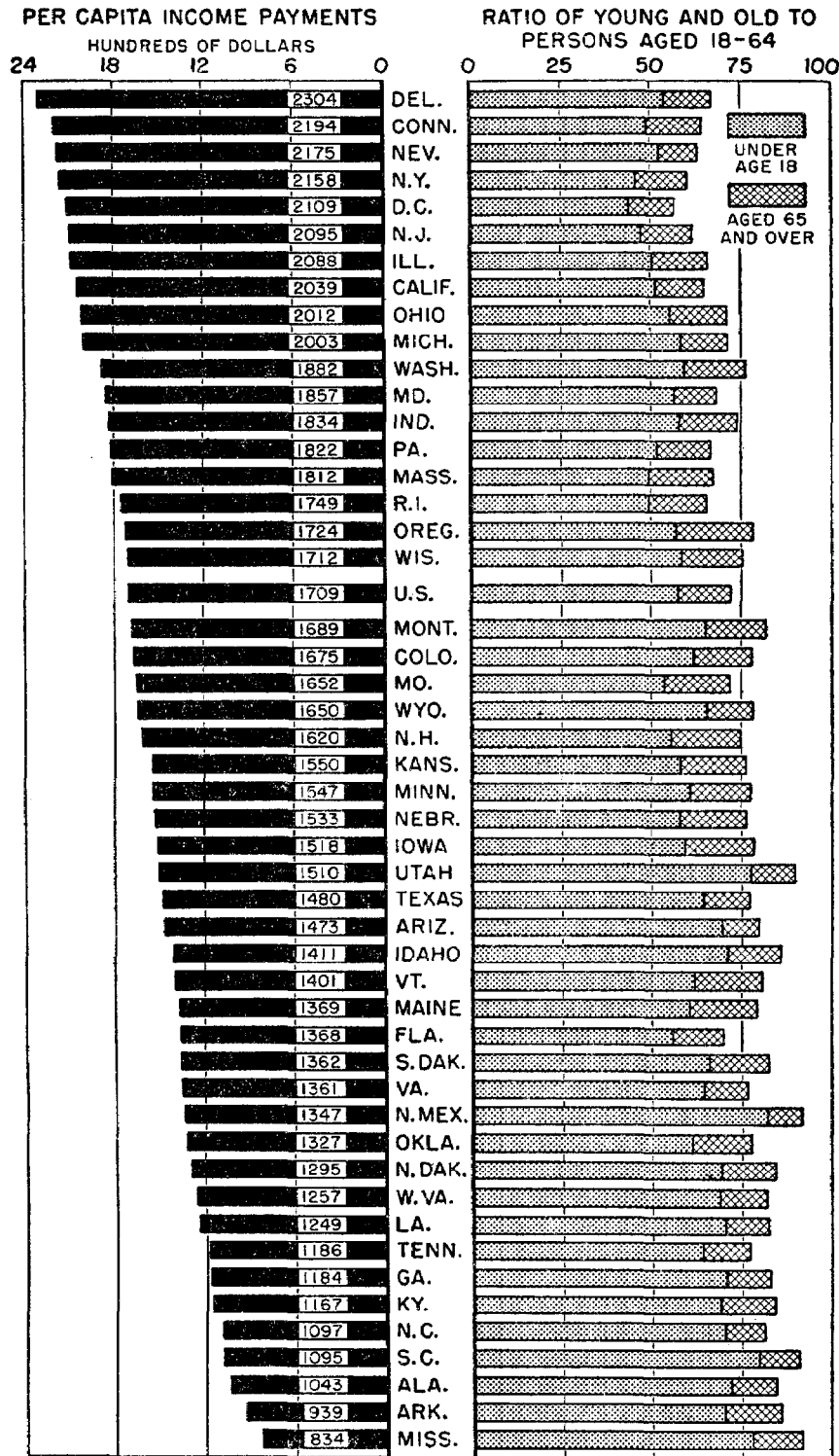
The proportion of the population aged 65 and over was largest (10-11 percent) in New England and the West North Central States, and smallest (5-6 percent) in those States where the child population was relatively large. As shown in chart 1, in the majority of the Northern and Middle Western States, the ratio of the population aged 65 and over to persons aged 18-64 exceeded the United States average.

Chart 1.—Ratio of young and old to persons aged 18-64, by State, 1953 <sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Number of persons under age 18 and number of persons aged 65 and over per 100 persons in the population aged 18-64.

Chart 2.—Per capita income payments and ratio of young and old to persons aged 18-64, by State, 1953



State variation in the proportions in the different age groups was greatest for the group aged 65 and over. New Hampshire and Iowa had relatively twice as many aged persons as did New Mexico and Arkansas. Children under age 18 were about 50 percent more numerous in relation to the total State population in New Mexico and South Carolina than in the District of Columbia and New York. The relative frequency of persons aged 18-64 was, of course, the converse of the relative frequency of children plus the aged; and the percentage variation by State was smaller because the numbers involved were larger.

Although the population aged 65 and over has been growing rapidly, in mid-1953 children under age 18 outnumbered the older persons 4 to 1, compared with a ratio of 4.5 to 1 in mid-1940, when persons aged 65 and over were only about two-thirds as numerous. In 1953 the spread was at a maximum in New Mexico with 8 children to every aged person. Even where the spread was smallest, in Massachusetts, it was almost 3 to 1. Consequently, when the dependency burden is measured in rough terms by the proportion of the population under age 18 plus those aged 65 and over, it is in fact largely a function of the relative numbers of children. Indeed, three of the four States having the largest proportion of the population in the dependent age groups (South Carolina, New Mexico, and Utah with 47-48 percent) were among the five states where the aged comprised the smallest proportion of the population.

*Population dependency burden and per capita income.*—In 1953 there were more than 90 children and aged persons to every 100 civilians aged 18-64 in Mississippi, South Carolina, New Mexico, and Utah, in contrast to about 60 "dependents" to every 100 adults in the most productive age group in the District of Columbia, New York, New Jersey, and Nevada.

Per capita income and the burden of the dependent age groups were inversely correlated by State (chart 2). The six States with the smallest proportion of their population under age 18 and aged 65 and over were among the eight with the highest per

<sup>1</sup> Number of persons under age 18 and number of persons aged 65 and over per 100 persons in the population aged 18-64.

capita incomes. Conversely, the Southern and Mountain States, with a heavy population dependency burden, were all among the lowest third of the States ranked by per capita income.

The share of national income payments in 1953 and the proportion of all persons under age 18 and aged 65 and over in high- and low-income States are shown in the following tabulation.

| States ranked by per capita income | Percent of total                          |                 |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
|                                    | Persons under age 18 and aged 65 and over | Income payments |
| 12 highest.....                    | 39  | 50              |
| 12 lowest.....                     | 21  | 13              |

The 12 low-income States, with an aggregate income only about one-fourth that of the 12 high-income States, had more than half as many persons in the dependent age groups—13.9 million compared with 25.5 million.

## Workmen's Compensation Payments and Costs, 1953

A total of \$846 million was paid in compensation for wage loss and in medical benefits under workmen's compensation programs in 1953. Although payments have continued to mount, the rate of increase has slowed down considerably; the 1953 total was only 7 percent greater than that in 1952, in contrast to increases of 11 percent and 15 percent for the preceding years.

The slower rate of increase is associated with an improvement in accident rates. Despite somewhat higher levels of employment during most of 1953, the total number of work injuries in that year and the resulting time loss were no higher than in 1952, according to estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. If it is assumed that compensable injuries followed the pattern for all injuries (including those of workers not covered by the programs and the noncompensable accidents of covered workers), the increase in workmen's compensation payments reflects the higher wages

Table 1.—Civilian population by age group and by State, July 1, 1953

| State               | Number (in thousands)     |                  | Percent of total population       |              |                  |            | Number of young and old per 100 persons aged 18-64 |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|--|
|                     | Under age 18 <sup>1</sup> | Aged 65 and over | Under age 18 and aged 65 and over |              |                  | Aged 18-64 |  |
|                     |                           |                  | Total                             | Under age 18 | Aged 65 and over |            |  |
| Total.....          | 51,971                    | 13,324           | 41.8                              | 33.3         | 8.5              | 58.2       | 72.0   |
| Alabama.....        | 1,200                     | 208              | 45.8                              | 39.0         | 6.8              | 54.2       | 84.5   |
| Arizona.....        | 353                       | 51               | 44.3                              | 38.7         | 5.6              | 55.6       | 79.7   |
| Arkansas.....       | 714                       | 159              | 46.2                              | 37.8         | 8.4              | 53.8       | 85.8   |
| California.....     | 3,660                     | 973              | 39.4                              | 31.1         | 8.3              | 60.6       | 64.9   |
| Colorado.....       | 479                       | 126              | 43.8                              | 34.7         | 9.1              | 56.2       | 78.1   |
| Connecticut.....    | 641                       | 202              | 39.2                              | 29.8         | 9.4              | 60.8       | 64.4   |
| Delaware.....       | 114                       | 28               | 40.1                              | 32.2         | 7.9              | 59.9       | 67.0   |
| Dist. of Col.....   | 225                       | 64               | 36.1                              | 28.1         | 8.0              | 63.9       | 56.6   |
| Florida.....        | 1,067                     | 271              | 41.1                              | 32.8         | 8.3              | 58.9       | 69.8   |
| Georgia.....        | 1,354                     | 236              | 45.4                              | 38.6         | 6.7              | 54.6       | 83.0   |
| Idaho.....          | 239                       | 48               | 46.3                              | 38.3         | 8.0              | 53.8       | 96.0   |
| Illinois.....       | 2,718                     | 835              | 39.7                              | 30.4         | 9.3              | 60.3       | 65.8   |
| Indiana.....        | 1,367                     | 383              | 42.6                              | 33.3         | 9.3              | 57.4       | 74.2   |
| Iowa.....           | 865                       | 280              | 44.0                              | 33.2         | 10.8             | 56.0       | 78.5   |
| Kansas.....         | 644                       | 205              | 43.3                              | 32.8         | 10.4             | 56.7       | 76.3   |
| Kentucky.....       | 1,081                     | 239              | 45.7                              | 37.4         | 8.3              | 54.3       | 84.2   |
| Louisiana.....      | 1,092                     | 193              | 45.3                              | 38.5         | 6.8              | 54.8       | 82.6   |
| Maine.....          | 305                       | 94               | 44.2                              | 33.8         | 10.4             | 55.8       | 79.3   |
| Maryland.....       | 824                       | 175              | 40.5                              | 33.4         | 7.1              | 59.4       | 68.2   |
| Massachusetts.....  | 1,438                     | 513              | 40.3                              | 29.7         | 10.6             | 59.7       | 67.5   |
| Michigan.....       | 2,329                     | 523              | 41.7                              | 34.1         | 7.6              | 58.3       | 71.6   |
| Minnesota.....      | 1,042                     | 291              | 43.7                              | 34.2         | 9.5              | 56.2       | 77.7   |
| Mississippi.....    | 879                       | 154              | 47.9                              | 40.7         | 7.1              | 52.1       | 91.8   |
| Missouri.....       | 1,262                     | 433              | 41.8                              | 31.1         | 10.7             | 58.2       | 71.8   |
| Montana.....        | 218                       | 57               | 45.2                              | 35.8         | 9.4              | 55.0       | 82.1   |
| Nebraska.....       | 440                       | 141              | 43.3                              | 32.8         | 10.5             | 56.7       | 76.3   |
| Nevada.....         | 64                        | 13               | 38.7                              | 32.2         | 6.5              | 61.3       | 63.1   |
| New Hampshire.....  | 166                       | 58               | 42.8                              | 31.7         | 11.1             | 57.2       | 74.9   |
| New Jersey.....     | 1,484                     | 445              | 38.1                              | 29.3         | 8.8              | 61.9       | 61.5   |
| New Mexico.....     | 312                       | 37               | 47.7                              | 42.7         | 5.1              | 52.1       | 91.6   |
| New York.....       | 4,325                     | 1,392            | 37.7                              | 28.5         | 9.2              | 62.3       | 60.5   |
| North Carolina..... | 1,594                     | 244              | 44.9                              | 38.9         | 6.0              | 55.2       | 81.3   |
| North Dakota.....   | 233                       | 51               | 45.8                              | 37.6         | 8.2              | 54.2       | 84.5   |
| Ohio.....           | 2,697                     | 775              | 41.6                              | 32.3         | 9.3              | 58.4       | 71.2   |
| Oklahoma.....       | 765                       | 204              | 43.7                              | 34.5         | 9.2              | 56.3       | 77.6   |
| Oregon.....         | 596                       | 149              | 42.3                              | 32.9         | 9.3              | 57.7       | 73.2   |
| Pennsylvania.....   | 3,293                     | 954              | 40.0                              | 31.0         | 9.0              | 60.0       | 66.7   |
| Rhode Island.....   | 234                       | 75               | 39.6                              | 30.0         | 9.6              | 60.4       | 65.6   |
| South Carolina..... | 892                       | 123              | 47.6                              | 41.8         | 5.8              | 52.4       | 90.8   |
| South Dakota.....   | 235                       | 59               | 45.2                              | 36.2         | 9.1              | 54.8       | 82.6   |
| Tennessee.....      | 1,196                     | 245              | 43.6                              | 36.2         | 7.4              | 56.5       | 77.2   |
| Texas.....          | 2,942                     | 577              | 43.5                              | 36.4         | 7.1              | 56.4       | 77.2   |
| Utah.....           | 299                       | 47               | 47.3                              | 40.9         | 6.4              | 52.7       | 89.9   |
| Vermont.....        | 129                       | 39               | 44.8                              | 34.4         | 10.4             | 55.5       | 80.8   |
| Virginia.....       | 1,222                     | 229              | 43.4                              | 36.5         | 6.8              | 56.6       | 76.6   |
| Washington.....     | 807                       | 232              | 43.3                              | 33.6         | 9.7              | 56.7       | 76.3   |
| West Virginia.....  | 732                       | 140              | 45.0                              | 37.8         | 7.2              | 54.9       | 82.0   |
| Wisconsin.....      | 1,175                     | 334              | 42.9                              | 33.4         | 9.5              | 57.1       | 75.2   |
| Wyoming.....        | 108                       | 21               | 43.7                              | 36.6         | 7.1              | 55.9       | 78.2   |

<sup>1</sup> Not adjusted for underenumeration of children under age 5.  
Source: U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Current*

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on which cash benefits are based, as well as the higher costs of hospitalization and medical services.

As a rough indication of the higher wages to be compensated, payrolls covered by workmen's compensation programs were 8 percent higher in 1953 than in 1952. The payroll increase from \$137.5 billion to \$148.5 billion accompanied an increase of less than 3 percent in the number of covered workers in an average week, estimated to be somewhere between 38½ and 39½ million in 1952 and between 39½ and 40½ million in 1953.

Of the total payments of \$846 million in 1953, private carriers were responsible for 62 percent, State funds for 25 percent, and self-insurers for 13 percent. State fund disbursements, including payments to Federal Government employees, increased at a somewhat faster rate than private carrier payments—9.2 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively.

It is estimated that almost \$1.5 billion or 1.0 percent of covered payroll was spent by employers in 1953 to insure or self-insure their risks under workmen's compensation programs. This total consists of \$1,074