

TABLE 5.—*Living arrangements of persons aged 65 and over in the noninstitutional population, by sex and poverty status in 1965*

Family status	Number (in millions)			Percentage distribution		
	Total	In poor households ¹	In nonpoor households	Total	In poor households ¹	In nonpoor households
Persons aged 65 or over.....	17.6	5.3	12.4	100.0	100.0	100.0
Living alone ²	4.7	2.7	2.0	26.5	51.0	16.1
Living in family units.....	13.0	2.6	10.4	73.5	49.0	83.9
Head.....	6.9	1.5	5.4	39.1	28.8	43.5
Wife.....	3.5	.8	2.8	19.9	14.2	22.4
Other relative.....	2.6	.3	2.2	14.5	6.0	18.1
Poor by own income ³	2.0	.3	1.7	11.3	5.9	13.6
Not poor by own income.....	.6	(4)	.6	3.2	.1	4.5
Men.....	7.7	1.8	5.9	43.7	34.7	47.6
Living alone ²	1.3	.6	.7	7.2	11.0	5.7
Living in family units.....	6.4	1.3	5.2	36.5	23.7	41.9
Head.....	5.8	1.2	4.6	32.7	22.6	37.0
Other relative of head aged 65 or over.....	.1	(4)	.1	.8	.4	1.0
Other relative of head under age 65.....	.5	(4)	.5	2.9	.8	3.9
Women.....	9.9	3.4	6.5	56.3	65.3	52.4
Living alone ²	3.4	2.1	1.3	19.3	40.0	10.4
Living in family unit.....	6.5	1.3	5.2	37.0	25.3	42.0
Head.....	1.1	.3	.8	6.4	6.2	6.4
Wife, husband aged 65 or over.....	3.2	.7	2.5	18.3	13.0	20.5
Wife, husband under age 65.....	.3	.1	.2	1.6	1.2	1.8
Other relative of head aged 65 or over.....	.4	.1	.3	2.5	1.9	2.8
Other relative of head under age 65.....	1.5	.2	1.3	8.2	3.0	10.4
In household with head aged 65 or over:						
Male head.....	10.5	2.5	8.0	59.6	47.3	64.9
Female head.....	4.9	2.5	2.3	27.6	47.8	18.9
In household with head under age 65:						
Male head.....	1.8	.2	1.6	10.2	2.9	13.3
Female head.....	.5	.1	.4	2.6	2.0	2.8

¹ Income in 1965 of persons living alone or of family unit below the Social Security Administration poverty index.

² Includes those living with nonrelatives only.

³ Income of other relative aged 65 or over in 1965 less than \$1,500.

⁴ Less than 50,000.

Source: Derived from special tabulations by the Bureau of the Census from the Current Population Survey for March 1966.

USDA HOUSEHOLD FOOD CONSUMPTION SURVEYS AND THEIR USES

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The U.S. Department of Agriculture has a continuing long-term program of research on food consumption and dietary levels of households and individuals involving nutritionists, food economists, and statisticians. The Department began making studies of food consumption of population groups at the beginning of the century when Dr. W. O. Atwater became the first head of the Office of Experiment Stations. The first nationwide food consumption survey was made in 1936-37 as a part of the Consumer Purchases Study. Since then four large-scale studies have been made in 1942, 1948, 1955 and in 1965-66. In between the nationwide studies, a number of small-scale special-purpose surveys have been made.

1965-66 Nationwide Survey

The objectives of the 1965-66 survey were to obtain information on current food consumption and also to compare the results with those of the 1955 and earlier surveys. Hence the methodology was kept quite comparable to the 1955 survey and yet we did introduce many improvements. The sample was designed to be representative of housekeeping households of one or more persons in the United States. A household was defined as housekeeping if at least one person had at least 10 meals from home food supplies during the past seven days.