

# RELIEF STATUS OF ONE MILLION RECIPIENTS ACCEPTED FOR OLD-AGE ASSISTANCE

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The trend of public welfare in recent years has been toward the increasing specialization of welfare services. Both Federal and State legislation has been enacted to provide assistance for special groups of dependents, such as the able-bodied unemployed, the aged, the blind, dependent children, and youth. For purposes of welfare planning it is important to determine the extent to which special programs are displacing generalized services, thus representing a shift of the financial burden, and the extent to which they are tapping new reservoirs of need that have previously been unmet by public or private agencies.

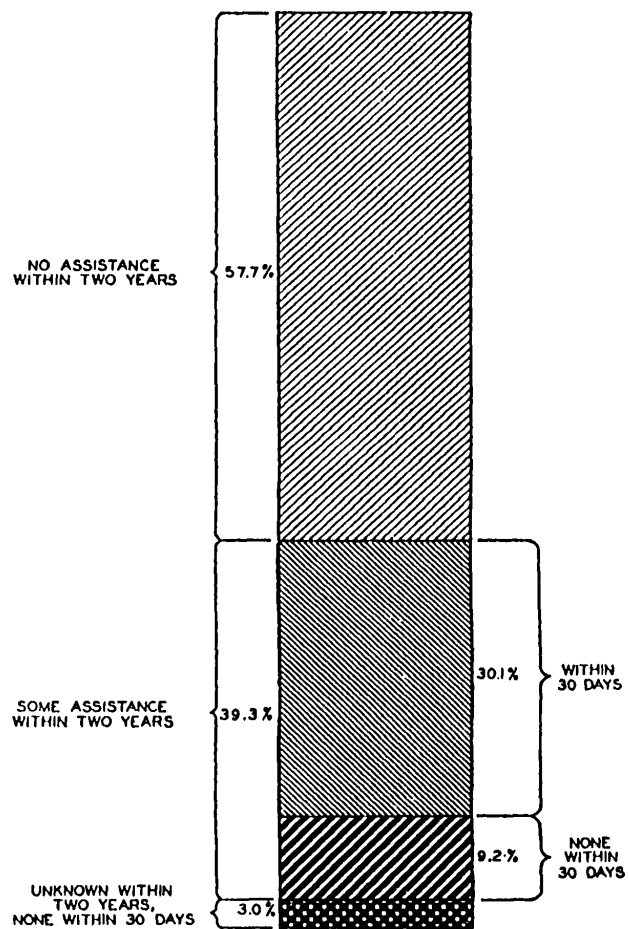
Some light is shed on this problem with respect to the old-age assistance program by annual reports made by State agencies to the Social Security Board for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1938, and for selected periods of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1937.<sup>1</sup> In 1936-37, 43 States<sup>2</sup> were operating old-age assistance programs under plans approved by the Social Security Board, and in 1937-38 the number was increased to 50. The annual reports of these agencies<sup>3</sup> supply information concerning the previous relief experience of more than 1 million old persons accepted for old-age assistance in these 2 years and also provide data on other relief to be received concurrently with old-age assistance.

## Majority of Recipients a New Group of Public Dependents

It is evident that the majority of old people who are being accepted for old-age assistance are not being transferred from other services and have not been benefiting from other types of aid, either directly or as members of relief households, for at least 2 years prior to the time of investigation to determine their eligibility for old-age assistance. With little doubt, a substantial portion of the aged

persons who are being added to the old-age assistance rolls comprise a new group of public dependents. This fact has far-reaching social significance. It should be pointed out that the fact that an applicant has not received relief at a prior date does not necessarily imply that he has not been previously in need, since in some localities and States public and private relief funds for meeting existing need have been either inadequate or wholly lacking.

Chart I.—Old-age assistance: Relief status within 30 days and within 2 years prior to investigation of recipients accepted during the fiscal year 1937-38, in all States with plans approved by the Social Security Board



\*Bureau of Research and Statistics, Division of Public Assistance Research.

<sup>1</sup> For period covered in different States, see *Second Annual Report of the Social Security Board*, fiscal year ended June 30, 1937, Washington, U. S. Government Printing Office, 1937, p. 142.

<sup>2</sup> The term "State" is used in this article to include the District of Columbia, and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii.

<sup>3</sup> In 1930-37 only 41 of the 43 States reporting supplied data on this subject.

The relief status at the time of investigation and in the 2 years prior to investigation of the 1 million individuals accepted for old-age assistance in selected periods of 1936-37 and in 1937-38 is summarized in table 1. The time of investigation was interpreted as any time within 30 days of the investigation date. Of 586,000 persons added to the old-age assistance rolls in the second period, about 338,000, or 58 percent, had neither received institutional care nor benefited from outdoor relief within 2 years of the time of investigation; 54,000, or 9 percent, had received no aid within 30 days but had benefited from some form of assistance within 2 years; and 176,000, or 30 percent, were being aided at the time of investigation. The relief status in the 2-year period prior to investigation is unknown for 17,000, or 3 percent, who are known to have received no assistance within 30 days. The distribution according to prior relief status of these 586,000 individuals is shown in chart I.

Since Federal funds for old-age assistance first became available early in 1936, in 1936-37 the old-age assistance programs in most States were in a comparatively early stage of development. Nevertheless, only 26 percent of the 471,000 individuals accepted for old-age assistance in selected periods of this year received aid within 30 days of the time of investigation. The corresponding percentage in 1937-38 was 30. Actually, the relief status of some of these persons dates back only to the time of application for old-age assistance. In some States applicants for old-age assistance may be placed on general relief pending investigation and approval.

Detailed figures for individual States for 1937-38 are given in table 2 and chart II. There is a wide variation in the several States in the percentage of individuals who were receiving aid at the time of investigation. In seven States—Washington, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, North

**Table 1.—Old-age assistance: Relief status and type of assistance received within 30 days prior to investigation, for recipients accepted during selected periods of the fiscal year 1936-37 and during the fiscal year 1937-38, in all States with plans approved by the Social Security Board**

| Relief status and type of assistance         | Recipients accepted                   |                   |                                       |                   |  |                   |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------|
|  | Number                                |                   | Percent of total accepted             |                   | Percent of those receiving assistance within 30 days |                   |
|  | Selected periods 1936-37 <sup>1</sup> | Full year 1937-38 | Selected periods 1936-37 <sup>1</sup> | Full year 1937-38 | Selected periods 1936-37 <sup>1</sup>                | Full year 1937-38 |
| Total recipients accepted.....               | 470,527                               | 585,877           | 100.0                                 | 100.0             |  |                   |
| No assistance within 30 days.....            | 347,000                               | 409,007           | 74.0                                  | 69.9              |  |                   |
| None within 2 years.....                     | ( <sup>2</sup> )                      | 337,649           | ( <sup>2</sup> )                      | 57.7              |  |                   |
| Some within 2 years.....                     | ( <sup>2</sup> )                      | 63,702            | ( <sup>2</sup> )                      | 9.2               |  |                   |
| Unknown whether received within 2 years..... | ( <sup>2</sup> )                      | 17,286            | ( <sup>2</sup> )                      | 3.0               |  |                   |
| Some assistance within 30 days.....          | 122,108                               | 176,301           | 26.0                                  | 30.1              | 100.0  | 100.0             |
| Public.....                                  | 117,512                               | 172,340           | 25.0                                  | 29.4              | 96.2   | 97.8              |
| General relief.....                          | 99,527                                | 120,816           | 21.2                                  | 22.2              | 81.4   | 73.7              |
| Other public assistance.....                 |                                       | 18,980            |                                       | 3.2               |  | 10.8              |
| Works Program earnings.....                  | 13,034                                | 16,005            | 2.8                                   | 2.7               | 10.7   | 9.1               |
| Institution.....                             | 4,951                                 | 7,449             | 1.0                                   | 1.3               | 4.1  | 4.2               |
| Home for the aged.....                       | 2,329                                 | 4,836             | 0.5                                   | 0.8               | 1.9  | 2.7               |
| General hospital.....                        | 631                                   | 865               | 0.1                                   | 0.2               | 0.5  | 0.5               |
| Other public hospital.....                   | 419                                   | 500               | 0.1                                   | 0.1               | 0.4  | 0.3               |
| Other public institution.....                | 1,572                                 | 1,179             | 0.3                                   | 0.2               | 1.3  | 0.7               |
| Private.....                                 | 5,004                                 | 7,000             | 1.1                                   | 1.2               | 4.1  | 4.0               |
| Home for the aged.....                       | 671                                   | 1,261             | 0.1                                   | 0.2               | 0.5  | 0.7               |
| Other private institution.....               | 347                                   | 700               | 0.1                                   | 0.1               | 0.3  | 0.4               |
| Assistance from a private agency.....        | 3,976                                 | 5,039             | 0.9                                   | 0.9               | 3.3  | 2.9               |

<sup>1</sup> For period covered in different States, see *Second Annual Report of the Social Security Board*, Washington, 1937, p. 142.

<sup>2</sup> Includes 429 recipients for whom information concerning assistance received within 30 days prior to investigation was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.

<sup>3</sup> Includes 900 recipients for whom information concerning assistance received within 30 days prior to investigation was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.

<sup>4</sup> Not reported.

<sup>5</sup> The number and percent receiving assistance does not equal the sum of those receiving each specified type of assistance since some recipients had more than 1 type. Distribution according to type of assistance was reported only for individuals receiving 1 type. It was assumed that the same distribution applied to the data for 2 or more types of assistance. The number of individuals receiving 2 or more types was very small.

Table 2.—Old-age assistance: Relief status within 30 days and within 2 years prior to investigation of recipients accepted during the fiscal year 1937-38, in each State with a plan approved by the Social Security Board

| Region and State          | Total recipients accepted | Percent receiving some assistance within 30 days of investigation | Percent receiving no assistance within 80 days of investigation |                     |                     |   |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|---------------------|---------------------|---|
|                           |                           |   | Total   | None within 2 years | Some within 2 years | Unknown whether received within 2 years |
| Total.....                | 1 685, 877                | 30.1  | 69.9  | 57.7                | 9.2                 | 8.0                                     |
| Region I:                 |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Connecticut.....          | 2, 797                    | 27.0  | 73.0  | 69.6                | 3.4                 | .....                                   |
| Maine.....                | 10, 356                   | 30.3  | 69.7  | 48.8                | 20.7                | 0.2                                     |
| Massachusetts.....        | 10, 550                   | 18.5  | 81.5  | 66.3                | 7.0                 | 8.2                                     |
| New Hampshire.....        | 2, 987                    | 30.9  | 69.1  | 57.4                | 0.0                 | 5.7                                     |
| Rhode Island.....         | 2, 588                    | 45.1  | 54.9  | 47.4                | 6.8                 | .7                                      |
| Vermont.....              | 2, 052                    | 0.2   | 93.8  | 86.7                | 7.1                 | .....                                   |
| Region II:                |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| New York.....             | 23, 423                   | 40.5  | 59.5  | 55.2                | 4.0                 | .3                                      |
| Region III:               |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Delaware.....             | 147                       | 18.4  | 81.6  | 78.2                | 3.4                 | .....                                   |
| New Jersey.....           | 0, 928                    | 44.9  | 55.1  | 44.4                | 10.0                | .7                                      |
| Pennsylvania.....         | 20, 260                   | 30.4  | 69.6  | 59.9                | 6.1                 | 3.6                                     |
| Region IV:                |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| District of Columbia..... | 987                       | 33.8  | 66.2  | 49.1                | 17.1                | .....                                   |
| Maryland.....             | 4, 952                    | 14.9  | 85.1  | 71.8                | 12.2                | 1.1                                     |
| North Carolina.....       | 33, 060                   | 31.0  | 69.0  | 59.7                | 7.1                 | 2.2                                     |
| West Virginia.....        | 4, 498                    | 19.2  | 80.8  | 76.7                | 4.0                 | .1                                      |
| Region V:                 |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Kentucky.....             | 5, 757                    | 9.5   | 90.5  | 78.5                | 12.0                | .....                                   |
| Michigan.....             | 41, 323                   | 41.7  | 58.3  | 49.8                | 8.5                 | .....                                   |
| Ohio.....                 | 19, 020                   | 32.3  | 67.7  | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | 23.2                                    |
| Region VI:                |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Illinois.....             | 25, 133                   | 38.1  | 61.9  | 54.5                | 7.4                 | ( <sup>1</sup> )                        |
| Indiana.....              | 9, 166                    | 24.4  | 75.6  | 69.3                | 6.3                 | .....                                   |
| Wisconsin.....            | 9, 209                    | 21.1  | 78.9  | 66.4                | 12.5                | .....                                   |
| Region VII:               |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Alabama.....              | 0, 470                    | 6.3   | 93.7  | 82.1                | 9.2                 | 2.4                                     |
| Florida.....              | 21, 082                   | 26.3  | 73.7  | 62.1                | 10.5                | 1.1                                     |
| Georgia.....              | 30, 700                   | 37.8  | 62.2  | 53.2                | 8.1                 | .9                                      |
| Mississippi.....          | 1, 992                    | 6.1   | 93.9  | 73.2                | 15.4                | 5.8                                     |
| South Carolina.....       | 24, 415                   | 0.7   | 93.3  | 62.5                | 30.8                | .....                                   |
| Tennessee.....            | 24, 647                   | 41.0  | 59.0  | 45.3                | 11.7                | 1.0                                     |
| Region VIII:              |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Iowa.....                 | 14, 310                   | 27.1  | 72.9  | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | 38.2                                    |
| Minnesota.....            | 8, 855                    | 21.9  | 78.1  | 64.2                | 9.5                 | 4.4                                     |
| Nebraska.....             | 3, 510                    | 21.1  | 78.9  | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | 15.8                                    |
| North Dakota.....         | 1, 480                    | 57.3  | 42.7  | 29.0                | 13.6                | .1                                      |
| South Dakota.....         | 8, 988                    | 34.2  | 65.8  | 30.7                | 34.3                | .8                                      |
| Region IX:                |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Arkansas.....             | 0, 966                    | 10.2  | 89.8  | 76.8                | 3.6                 | .4                                      |
| Kansas.....               | 21, 516                   | 50.0  | 50.0  | 28.9                | 11.5                | .6                                      |
| Missouri.....             | 20, 012                   | 17.7  | 82.3  | 77.7                | 3.3                 | 1.3                                     |
| Oklahoma.....             | 7, 432                    | 22.3  | 77.7  | 61.3                | 14.2                | 2.2                                     |
| Region X:                 |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Louisiana.....            | 8, 470                    | 15.2  | 84.8  | 75.0                | 8.4                 | 1.4                                     |
| New Mexico.....           | 1, 002                    | 61.0  | 39.1  | 26.7                | 11.4                | .....                                   |
| Texas.....                | 16, 934                   | 17.3  | 82.7  | 67.6                | 15.1                | ( <sup>1</sup> )                        |
| Region XI:                |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Arizona.....              | 0, 540                    | 51.7  | 48.3  | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | ( <sup>1</sup> )    | 15.2                                    |
| Colorado.....             | 11, 833                   | 16.0  | 84.0  | 75.5                | 7.7                 | .8                                      |
| Idaho.....                | 1, 546                    | 27.9  | 72.1  | 52.2                | 18.8                | 1.1                                     |
| Montana.....              | 3, 210                    | 37.0  | 63.0  | 55.6                | 7.3                 | .1                                      |
| Utah.....                 | 7, 585                    | 22.5  | 77.5  | 68.6                | 8.9                 | ( <sup>1</sup> )                        |
| Wyoming.....              | 531                       | 35.2  | 64.8  | 50.9                | 13.9                | .....                                   |
| Region XII:               |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| California.....           | 47, 954                   | 18.4  | 81.6  | 77.4                | 4.2                 | .....                                   |
| Nevada.....               | 2, 145                    | 65.5  | 34.5  | 29.3                | 3.8                 | 1.4                                     |
| Oregon.....               | 7, 169                    | 48.0  | 52.0  | 43.9                | 8.0                 | .1                                      |
| Washington.....           | 9, 858                    | 77.5  | 22.5  | 19.3                | 2.7                 | .5                                      |
| Territories:              |                           |   |   |                     |                     |   |
| Alaska.....               | 554                       | 40.1  | 59.9  | 59.4                | .2                  | .3                                      |
| Hawaii.....               | 945                       | 66.8  | 33.2  | 27.8                | 1.6                 | 3.8                                     |

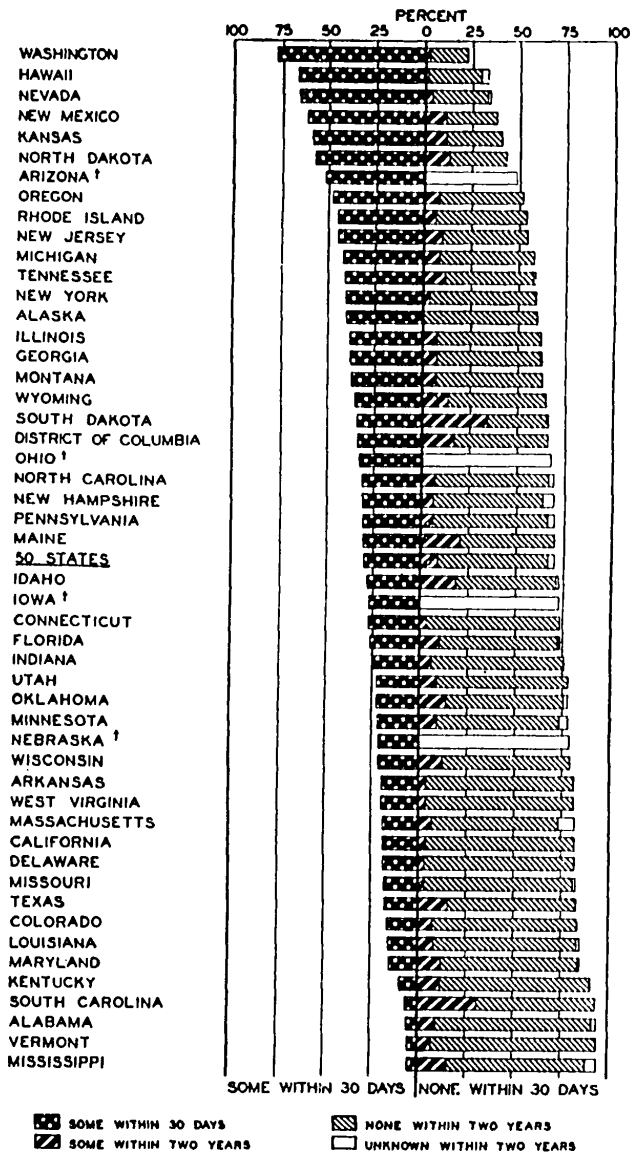
<sup>1</sup> Includes 969 recipients for whom information concerning assistance received within 30 days prior to investigation was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.

<sup>2</sup> Percentage not significant because of large number of recipients for whom information concerning assistance within 2 years was unknown.

<sup>3</sup> Less than 0.1 percent.

Dakota, Kansas, and Arizona—more than half of the individuals accepted for old-age assistance were being aided. In some States the high proportion is accounted for by the fact that applicants on relief rolls were given priority over other applicants. On the other hand, the low proportions in some States reflect a practice of giving precedence to applicants receiving no other type

**Chart II.—Old-age assistance: Relief status within 30 days and within 2 years prior to investigation of recipients accepted during the fiscal year 1937-38, in each State with a plan approved by the Social Security Board**



†No information concerning relief within 2 years is shown because of high proportion of cases for which information is unknown.

of relief over those already benefiting from some other type of aid. In five States—Kentucky, South Carolina, Alabama, Vermont, and Mississippi—less than 10 percent of the persons added to the old-age assistance rolls were recruited from relief agencies or institutions.

### Types of Aid Received at Time of Investigation

The agencies which were aiding the aged at the time of investigation include general relief agencies, the Works Progress Administration, other unspecified public agencies, private relief agencies, public and private homes for the aged, hospitals, and other institutions. Among the public agencies which were not specified in the reports are agencies administering statutory aid to veterans, subsistence payments to farmers, aid to dependent children, and aid to the blind. An applicant for old-age assistance was considered to be receiving aid whenever he was granted assistance directly or shared in assistance provided for some other member of the household.

In both years a large proportion of the persons being aided were receiving public relief in their homes, either directly or as members of relief households. In 1937-38, about 74 percent of the persons with relief status, comprising 22 percent of all persons accepted for old-age assistance, were receiving general relief. Those benefiting from Works Program earnings comprised 9 percent of the individuals being aided at the time of investigation and 3 percent of the total number accepted; but only half of the old persons benefiting from Works Program earnings were themselves employed on work projects. Relatively few persons were being aided by private relief agencies or were in homes for the aged or other types of institutions.

### Few Recipients From Almshouses

Approximately 1 percent of the persons accepted in the 2 years came from public and private homes for the aged and less than 1 percent from hospitals and other institutions. In 1937-38, Connecticut had the largest proportion of aged persons who were drawn from public homes for the aged—2.9 percent. Some of these old people are known to have been unable to adjust to an unprotected environment and to have returned later to the institutions from which they were drawn. In six States none of the individuals

who were accepted came from homes for the aged.

In order to determine the effect of the old-age assistance program on the almshouses and other public homes for the aged it would be necessary to relate the number of persons selected for old-age assistance from such institutions to the aged population of these institutions. Unfortunately no census of the inmates of almshouses and other homes for the aged in the United States has been taken since 1923-24.<sup>4</sup> In 1937-38 about 6,000 persons accepted for old-age assistance were living in public institutions other than hospitals at the time of investigation; thus the number of persons drawn from almshouses was somewhat less than 6,000.

Table 3 shows, for individual States, the percentages of persons added to the old-age assistance rolls for 1937-38 who were benefiting from different types of aid at the time of investigation.

Although only about one-fifth of all persons accepted in the 50 States were on general relief when investigated, more than half of the persons accepted in four States—Washington, New Mexico, Hawaii, and Kansas—were benefiting from general relief; in 11 States the proportion was more than one-third. Less than one-tenth of the persons added in 10 States were on general relief.

In most States relatively few old people were benefiting from Works Program earnings, but in Nevada nearly one-sixth were reported to be employed on the Works Program or to be sharing in earnings of another member of the household. Five percent or more of all persons added were benefiting from Works Program earnings in eight States. But such earnings contributed to the support of less than 1 percent of the aged individuals accepted in nine States.

#### Assistance Received Simultaneously With Old-Age Assistance

Information on other relief to be received in the household simultaneously with the old-age assistance grants to these individuals is summarized in table 4; detailed State data for 1937-38 appear in table 5. Prior relief experience, discussed above, includes both institutional care and assistance in the home and is confined to aid granted directly to the aged individual or aid in which he shares. The following data on relief received simultane-

<sup>4</sup> U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Care of Aged Persons in the United States*, Bull. No. 480, 1929.

Chart III.—Old-age assistance: Recipients who were living in households receiving simultaneously another grant of old-age assistance, some other type of assistance, or no other assistance, accepted during the fiscal year 1937-38, in each State with a plan approved by the Social Security Board



ANOTHER GRANT OF OLD-AGE ASSISTANCE  
 ANOTHER TYPE OF ASSISTANCE  
 NO OTHER ASSISTANCE

ously with old-age assistance include all relief received in the household of which the aged person is a member, whether or not he benefits.

In 1936-37 and in 1937-38, 27 and 24 percent, respectively, of the persons accepted for old-age assistance were in households in which other aid was to be received concurrently with old-age assistance. This other aid was another grant of old-age assistance in four-fifths of the cases in the first year

**Table 3.—Old-age assistance: Type of assistance received within 30 days prior to investigation, for recipients accepted during the fiscal year 1937-38, in each State with a plan approved by the Social Security Board**

| Region and State          | Total recipients accepted | Percent of recipients who at time of investigation received— |                              | Percent of recipients who received specified type of assistance at time of investigation |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------|
|                           |                           | No assistance  | Some assistance <sup>1</sup> | General relief   | Other public assistance    | Works Program earnings | Public           |                  |                            | Private          |       |
|                           |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        | Total            | Home for aged    | Care in public institution | Home for aged    | Other |
|                           |                           |  |                              |  | Care in public institution |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b> .....        | 1 585,877                 | 69.9   | 30.1                         | 22.2   | 3.2                        | 2.7                    | 1.3              | 0.8              | 0.5                        | 0.2              | 1.0   |
| <b>Region I:</b>          |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Connecticut.....          | 2,797                     | 73.0   | 27.0                         | 19.1   | .1                         | 2.7                    | 3.5              | 2.0              | ( <sup>2</sup> ) .6        | .4               | 1.4   |
| Maine.....                | 10,356                    | 69.7   | 30.3                         | 26.6   | 1.0                        | 1.7                    | .2               | .2               | ( <sup>2</sup> )           | .1               | 2.3   |
| Massachusetts.....        | 19,650                    | 81.5   | 18.5                         | 13.5   | .6                         | 2.2                    | 1.5              | .3               | 1.2                        | .1               | .8    |
| New Hampshire.....        | 987                       | 69.1   | 30.9                         | 28.3   | .2                         | 1.0                    | .5               | .1               | .4                         | .2               | .7    |
| Rhode Island.....         | 2,688                     | 64.9   | 35.1                         | 37.5   | 1.6                        | 5.3                    | .7               | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .7                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.7   |
| Vermont.....              | 2,052                     | 93.8   | 6.2                          | 5.1  |                            | .7                     | .2               | .1               | .1                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .3    |
| <b>Region II:</b>         |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| New York.....             | 23,423                    | 50.5   | 49.5                         | 34.4   | .9                         | 2.0                    | 2.0              | 1.3              | .7                         | .4               | 1.2   |
| <b>Region III:</b>        |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Delaware.....             | 147                       | 81.6   | 18.4                         |  | 18.4                       |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| New Jersey.....           | 6,928                     | 65.1   | 34.9                         | 38.0   | 2.3                        | 2.8                    | 1.6              | .3               | 1.3                        | .1               | 1.4   |
| Pennsylvania.....         | 20,266                    | 60.6   | 39.4                         | 28.5   | .5                         | 3.3                    | 2.0              | 1.6              | .4                         | .8               | .6    |
| <b>Region IV:</b>         |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| District of Columbia..... | 987                       | 66.2   | 33.8                         | 29.2   | .2                         | 1.0                    | 1.4              | 1.4              |                            | .2               | 1.0   |
| Maryland.....             | 4,952                     | 85.1   | 14.9                         | 10.5   | 2.4                        | 1.1                    | .7               | .1               | .6                         | .1               | .3    |
| North Carolina.....       | 33,060                    | 69.0   | 31.0                         | 26.1   | .4                         | 2.1                    | .5               | .4               | .1                         | .1               | 2.2   |
| West Virginia.....        | 4,498                     | 80.8   | 19.2                         | 10.8   | 5.1                        | 3.0                    | .3               |                  | .3                         |                  | .1    |
| <b>Region V:</b>          |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Kentucky.....             | 5,757                     | 90.5   | 9.5                          | 5.4  | .3                         | 1.0                    | .4               | .4               | ( <sup>2</sup> )           | .1               | 2.4   |
| Michigan.....             | 41,323                    | 58.3   | 41.7                         | 37.8   | .6                         | 2.0                    | .9               | .6               | .3                         | .1               | .5    |
| Ohio.....                 | 10,020                    | 67.7   | 32.3                         | 20.7   | 3.9                        | 5.5                    | 1.1              | .7               | .4                         | .1               | 1.4   |
| <b>Region VI:</b>         |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Illinois.....             | 25,133                    | 61.0   | 39.1                         | 30.8   | .1                         | 4.5                    | 2.1              | 2.0              | .1                         | .6               | .5    |
| Indiana.....              | 9,166                     | 75.6   | 24.4                         | 17.1   |                            | 3.0                    | 1.4              | 1.3              | .1                         | 1.5              | 2.1   |
| Wisconsin.....            | 9,209                     | 78.9   | 21.1                         | 16.6   | .8                         | 2.6                    | .8               | .6               | .2                         | .1               | .3    |
| <b>Region VII:</b>        |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Alabama.....              | 6,470                     | 93.7   | 6.3                          | 2.6  | 1.9                        | .7                     | .8               | .6               | .2                         | .1               | .2    |
| Florida.....              | 21,082                    | 73.7   | 26.3                         | 7.0  | 11.9                       | 7.1                    | .6               | .3               | .3                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.3   |
| Georgia.....              | 36,790                    | 62.2   | 37.8                         | 31.4   | 2.4                        | 1.8                    | 1.5              | 1.0              | .6                         | .1               | 1.0   |
| Mississippi.....          | 1,992                     | 93.9   | 6.1                          | 4.3  |                            | .7                     | .1               | .1               | ( <sup>2</sup> )           | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.0   |
| South Carolina.....       | 24,415                    | 93.3   | 6.7                          | 3.3  | .4                         | 1.1                    | .7               | .6               | .9                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.2   |
| Tennessee.....            | 24,647                    | 59.0   | 41.0                         | 25.1   | 7.4                        | 3.4                    | 1.6              | .7               | .1                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 3.6   |
| <b>Region VIII:</b>       |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Iowa.....                 | 14,316                    | 72.0   | 27.1                         | 21.2   | .6                         | 3.3                    | 1.4              | .7               | .7                         | .3               | .4    |
| Minnesota.....            | 8,855                     | 78.1   | 21.9                         | 16.3   | .7                         | 2.7                    | 1.9              | 1.2              | .7                         | .4               | .3    |
| Nebraska.....             | 3,510                     | 78.0   | 21.1                         | 13.4   | 3.3                        | 2.3                    | 1.5              | .7               | .8                         | .1               | .6    |
| North Dakota.....         | 1,486                     | 42.7   | 57.3                         | 30.0   | 11.1                       | 6.9                    | 1.0              | .2               | .8                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .3    |
| South Dakota.....         | 8,988                     | 65.8   | 34.2                         | 10.9   | 17.6                       | 5.0                    | .6               | .2               | .4                         | .4               | .3    |
| <b>Region IX:</b>         |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Arkansas.....             | 6,066                     | 80.8   | 19.2                         | 10.3   | 2.3                        | .3                     | ( <sup>2</sup> ) |                  | ( <sup>2</sup> )           |                  | .3    |
| Kansas.....               | 21,516                    | 41.0   | 59.0                         | 61.3   | 3.2                        | 3.2                    | 1.3              | 1.0              | .3                         | .1               | .1    |
| Missouri.....             | 20,012                    | 82.3   | 17.7                         | 6.5  | 7.0                        | 1.4                    | 1.8              | 1.5              | .3                         | .1               | .9    |
| Oklahoma.....             | 7,432                     | 77.7   | 22.3                         | 12.7   | 2.9                        | 5.2                    | 1.2              | 1.0              | .2                         | .1               | .2    |
| <b>Region X:</b>          |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Louisiana.....            | 8,479                     | 84.8   | 15.2                         | 5.9  | 7.9                        | .4                     | .1               | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .1                         | .4               | .4    |
| New Mexico.....           | 1,002                     | 38.1   | 61.9                         | 58.3   | 1.9                        | .9                     |                  |                  |                            |                  | .8    |
| Texas.....                | 16,934                    | 82.7   | 17.3                         | 10.8   | 1.8                        | 3.7                    | .4               | .2               | .2                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .8    |
| <b>Region XI:</b>         |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Arizona.....              | 6,540                     | 48.3   | 51.7                         | 11.2   | 35.3                       | 3.3                    | 1.3              | .2               | 1.1                        | .1               | .5    |
| Colorado.....             | 11,833                    | 84.0   | 16.0                         | 10.6   | 1.8                        | 2.9                    | .4               | .1               | .3                         | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .3    |
| Idaho.....                | 1,546                     | 72.1   | 27.9                         | 14.0   | 10.3                       | 2.8                    | 1.3              | .3               | 1.0                        | .1               | .2    |
| Montana.....              | 3,216                     | 63.0   | 37.0                         | 14.4   | 16.0                       | 5.1                    | .7               | .2               | .5                         | .3               | .6    |
| Utah.....                 | 7,585                     | 77.5   | 22.5                         | 9.9  | 9.9                        | 1.8                    | .1               | .1               | ( <sup>2</sup> )           | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.3   |
| Wyoming.....              | 531                       | 64.8   | 35.2                         | 25.4   | 7.3                        | 2.6                    | .6               | .6               |                            |                  |       |
| <b>Region XII:</b>        |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| California.....           | 47,954                    | 81.6   | 18.4                         | 11.6   | 1.1                        | 2.0                    | 3.0              | 1.0              | 1.1                        | .3               | .5    |
| Nevada.....               | 2,145                     | 34.5   | 65.5                         | 32.3   | 18.6                       | 15.4                   | .7               |                  | .7                         |                  | .1    |
| Oregon.....               | 7,169                     | 52.0   | 48.0                         | 43.5   | 2.5                        | 1.6                    | .3               | .1               | .2                         | .1               | .1    |
| Washington.....           | 9,868                     | 22.5   | 77.5                         | 72.9   | .2                         | 2.6                    | 1.0              | .6               | .4                         | .3               | .5    |
| <b>Territories:</b>       |                           |  |                              |  |                            |                        |                  |                  |                            |                  |       |
| Alaska.....               | 554                       | 50.9   | 49.1                         | 37.5   | .9                         |                        | 1.3              | 1.3              |                            | .2               | .2    |
| Hawaii.....               | 945                       | 33.2   | 66.8                         | 64.0   | .6                         | .7                     | .4               |                  | .4                         | 0.4              | 1.0   |

<sup>1</sup> The percent receiving assistance may not equal the sum of percents receiving specified type of assistance, since some recipients received more than 1 type. Distribution according to type of assistance was reported only for individuals receiving 1 type. It was assumed that the same distribution applied to the data for 2 or more types of assistance.

<sup>2</sup> Includes 969 recipients for whom information concerning type of assistance received within 30 days prior to investigation was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.

<sup>3</sup> Less than 0.1 percent.

and in three-fourths of the cases in the second. In each year very small numbers of the persons accepted for old-age assistance were living in households which were also to receive other types of assistance, such as general relief from public funds, Works Program earnings, aid to dependent children, aid to the blind, and private relief. Not all the persons accepted for old-age assistance, of course, were to live in household groups; in each year about one-fifth of the old people taken on the rolls were living alone and thus could not benefit from relief granted to other persons.

The proportion of individuals accepted for old-age assistance who were living in households in which other assistance was to be received concurrently with old-age assistance varied from 44 percent to less than 1 percent, as shown in chart III, which ranks the States according to the percentage of such persons.

State practices vary with respect to granting old-age assistance to more than one individual in a household. To some extent the differences are explained by the fact that in certain States joint grants rather than separate grants are made to related individuals in the same household. In 1937-38 some joint grants were made in 21 States;

but such grants represented only 4 percent of the total approved for old persons added to the rolls.

In 1937-38 the proportion of individuals accepted for old-age assistance who were living in households in which there were one or more additional grants of old-age assistance varied from 34 percent to less than 1 percent. In 20 States, from 20 to 30 percent were in households with another recipient of old-age assistance. In North Dakota, Utah, South Dakota, and Michigan about one-third of the individuals accepted for old-age assistance were living in such households.

In 40 States, less than 5 percent of the persons accepted for old-age assistance were in households represented on the general relief rolls; but in 4 States—New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, and Kansas—from 10 to 15 percent of the aged recipients were members of households with concurrent grants of general relief.

A previous Bulletin article gives information concerning the amounts granted to the 586,000 individuals accepted for old-age assistance in 1937-38.<sup>5</sup> Later articles will deal with the living

<sup>5</sup> "Analysis of Grants to 586,000 Recipients of Old-Age Assistance," *Social Security Bulletin*, Vol. 1, No. 11 (November 1938), pp. 12-19.

Table 4.—Old-age assistance: Recipients in households receiving each type of assistance simultaneously with old-age assistance, for recipients accepted during selected periods of the fiscal year 1936-37 and during the fiscal year 1937-38, in all States with plans approved by the Social Security Board

| Other assistance in household             | Recipients accepted                   |                   |                                       |                   |  |                   |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------|
|   | Number                                |                   | Percent of total accepted             |                   | Percent of those receiving other assistance simultaneously |                   |
|   | Selected periods 1936-37 <sup>1</sup> | Full year 1937-38 | Selected periods 1936-37 <sup>1</sup> | Full year 1937-38 | Selected periods 1936-37 <sup>1</sup>                      | Full year 1937-38 |
| Total recipients accepted .....           | 470,527                               | 585,877           | 100.0                                 | 100.0             |  |                   |
| No other assistance in household .....    | 334,170                               | 442,242           | 73.4                                  | 75.6              |  |                   |
| Some other assistance in household .....  | 121,391                               | 142,622           | 26.6                                  | 24.4              | 100.0  | 100.0             |
| Another grant of old-age assistance ..... | 60,709                                | 105,021           | 21.2                                  | 18.0              | 79.7   | 73.6              |
| General relief .....                      | 15,430                                | 20,031            | 3.4                                   | 3.4               | 12.7   | 14.0              |
| Works Program earnings .....              | 10,388                                | 10,780            | 2.3                                   | 1.8               | 8.6  | 7.6               |
| Other public assistance .....             | 1,104                                 | 4,368             | .2                                    | .7                | .9   | 3.1               |
| Aid to dependent children .....           | 898                                   | 2,002             | .2                                    | .5                | .9   | 2.0               |
| Aid to the blind .....                    | (*)                                   | 1,504             | .2                                    | .3                | .7   | 1.1               |
| Assistance from a private agency .....    |                                       | 901               | (*)                                   | .2                | (*)  | .6                |

<sup>1</sup> For period covered in different States, see *Second Annual Report of the Social Security Board*, Washington, 1937, p. 142.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes 14,966 recipients for whom information concerning other assistance received simultaneously was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes 1,013 recipients for whom information concerning other assistance received simultaneously was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.  
<sup>4</sup> The number and percent receiving some other assistance does not equal the sum of those receiving each specified type of assistance since some recipients lived in households receiving more than 1 additional type. Distribution according to type of assistance was reported only for individuals in households receiving 1 additional type. It was assumed that the same distribution applied to the data for 2 or more additional types of assistance. The number receiving 2 or more types was very small.  
<sup>5</sup> Not reported.

arrangements, physical condition, and medical care or supervision of the old persons accepted

for old-age assistance, and also with their age, sex, color, and nativity.

**Table 5.—Old-age assistance: Recipients in households receiving each type of assistance simultaneously with old-age assistance, for recipients accepted during the fiscal year 1937-38, in each State with a plan approved by the Social Security Board**

| Region and State          | Total recipients accepted | Percent of recipients in households receiving— |                                    | Percent of recipients in households receiving specified type of assistance |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                           |                           | No other assistance                            | Some other assistance <sup>1</sup> | Another grant of old-age assistance  | General relief   | Works Program earnings | Aid to dependent children | Aid to the blind | Other public assistance | Assistance from a voluntary agency |
| Total.....                | 1 585,877                 | 75.6   | 24.4                               | 18.0   | 3.4              | 1.8                    | 0.5                       | 0.3              | 0.7                     | 0.2                                |
| <b>Region I:</b>          |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Connecticut.....          | 2,797                     | 70.3   | 29.7                               | 20.0   | 0.2              | 2.6                    | .2                        | .1               | .3                      | .7                                 |
| Maine.....                | 10,356                    | 91.2   | 8.8                                | 2.3  | 2.3              | 2.2                    | .5                        | .9               | .5                      | .2                                 |
| Massachusetts.....        | 10,550                    | 74.3   | 25.7                               | 20.3   | 2.7              | 2.4                    | .3                        | .1               | .3                      | .2                                 |
| New Hampshire.....        | 987                       | 83.4   | 16.6                               | 9.0  | 4.4              | 1.2                    | .5                        | .5               | .4                      | .3                                 |
| Rhode Island.....         | 2,588                     | 60.0   | 40.0                               | 26.0   | 9.6              | 4.8                    | .7                        | .1               | .3                      | 1.1                                |
| Vermont.....              | 2,052                     | 74.9   | 25.1                               | 21.2   | 1.2              | 2.0                    | .3                        | .2               | .5                      | .1                                 |
| <b>Region II:</b>         |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| New York.....             | 23,423                    | 62.0   | 38.0                               | 23.3   | 13.0             | 1.8                    | .5                        | .2               | .5                      | .2                                 |
| <b>Region III:</b>        |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Delaware.....             | 147                       | 72.1   | 27.9                               | 20.4   | .....            | 1.4                    | .....                     | .....            | 6.1                     | .....                              |
| New Jersey.....           | 6,928                     | 56.4   | 43.6                               | 25.4   | 14.4             | 3.2                    | 1.3                       | .2               | 1.3                     | .9                                 |
| Pennsylvania.....         | 20,266                    | 73.4   | 26.6                               | 15.2   | 0.2              | 3.5                    | .8                        | .9               | .4                      | .4                                 |
| <b>Region IV:</b>         |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| District of Columbia..... | 987                       | 81.2   | 18.8                               | 9.6  | 4.1              | 2.7                    | 1.9                       | .5               | .2                      | .2                                 |
| Maryland.....             | 4,952                     | 78.2   | 21.8                               | 17.7   | .9               | 1.8                    | 1.7                       | .2               | ( <sup>2</sup> )        | .1                                 |
| North Carolina.....       | 33,060                    | 87.4   | 12.6                               | 7.6  | 1.8              | 2.3                    | .5                        | .3               | .2                      | .1                                 |
| West Virginia.....        | 4,498                     | 96.4   | 3.6                                | .6   | 1.4              | .6                     | .1                        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .8                      | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| <b>Region V:</b>          |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Kentucky.....             | 5,757                     | 75.3   | 24.7                               | 22.5   | .2               | 1.3                    | ( <sup>2</sup> )          | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .7                      | .1                                 |
| Michigan.....             | 41,323                    | 61.9   | 38.1                               | 30.8   | 5.3              | 1.4                    | .8                        | .1               | .1                      | .1                                 |
| Ohio.....                 | 19,020                    | 68.8   | 33.2                               | 20.3   | 4.6              | 1.4                    | .3                        | .2               | .8                      | .1                                 |
| <b>Region VI:</b>         |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Illinois.....             | 25,133                    | 68.5   | 31.5                               | 22.7   | 6.2              | 2.5                    | .1                        | .4               | .4                      | .1                                 |
| Indiana.....              | 9,166                     | 75.0   | 25.0                               | 18.7   | 4.0              | 1.8                    | 1.0                       | .4               | ( <sup>2</sup> )        | .1                                 |
| Wisconsin.....            | 9,209                     | 64.5   | 35.5                               | 29.1   | 3.4              | 1.9                    | .9                        | .4               | .1                      | .1                                 |
| <b>Region VII:</b>        |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Alabama.....              | 6,470                     | 98.7   | 1.3                                | .1   | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .6                     | .1                        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .4                      | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| Florida.....              | 21,082                    | 75.4   | 24.6                               | 19.5   | .5               | 4.5                    | ( <sup>2</sup> )          | .1               | .3                      | .1                                 |
| Georgia.....              | 30,700                    | 79.1   | 20.9                               | 16.9   | .8               | 1.9                    | .9                        | .2               | .7                      | .1                                 |
| Mississippi.....          | 1,992                     | 95.4   | 4.6                                | .4   | 2.1              | 1.9                    | .....                     | .....            | .2                      | .2                                 |
| South Carolina.....       | 24,415                    | 96.3   | 3.7                                | 2.1  | .1               | 1.3                    | .2                        | .1               | .1                      | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| Tennessee.....            | 24,047                    | 95.0   | 4.1                                | .5   | .3               | 1.3                    | .5                        | .1               | .6                      | .8                                 |
| <b>Region VIII:</b>       |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Iowa.....                 | 14,316                    | 67.4   | 32.6                               | 26.3   | 4.0              | .9                     | .3                        | .4               | .3                      | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| Minnesota.....            | 8,855                     | 65.6   | 34.4                               | 26.5   | 4.2              | 2.8                    | .5                        | .2               | 1.1                     | .2                                 |
| Nebraska.....             | 3,510                     | 63.3   | 36.7                               | 29.0   | 2.5              | 2.4                    | 1.4                       | .5               | 1.7                     | .1                                 |
| North Dakota.....         | 1,486                     | 56.2   | 42.8                               | 34.4   | 4.7              | 3.0                    | .3                        | .3               | 1.7                     | .1                                 |
| South Dakota.....         | 8,988                     | 68.8   | 31.2                               | 31.3   | 1.2              | 2.6                    | .3                        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | 7.0                     | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| <b>Region IX:</b>         |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Arkansas.....             | 9,066                     | 99.4   | .6                                 | .1   | .1               | .1                     | .1                        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .1                      | .1                                 |
| Kansas.....               | 21,516                    | 82.1   | 17.9                               | 3.2  | 10.3             | 1.6                    | .6                        | .1               | 3.3                     | .1                                 |
| Missouri.....             | 29,012                    | 76.0   | 24.0                               | 19.6   | 2.1              | .8                     | .1                        | .6               | 1.1                     | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| Oklahoma.....             | 7,432                     | 75.1   | 24.9                               | 20.6   | .8               | 2.3                    | 1.0                       | .2               | .5                      | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| <b>Region X:</b>          |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Louisiana.....            | 8,479                     | 79.9   | 20.1                               | 16.8   | .3               | .8                     | .9                        | .1               | 1.1                     | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| New Mexico.....           | 1,002                     | 85.6   | 14.4                               | .3   | 11.6             | .6                     | .3                        | .....            | 1.6                     | .....                              |
| Texas.....                | 16,934                    | 71.5   | 28.5                               | 26.1   | .4               | 1.2                    | .1                        | ( <sup>2</sup> ) | .6                      | .1                                 |
| <b>Region XI:</b>         |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Arizona.....              | 6,540                     | 83.3   | 16.7                               | 10.7   | .3               | .7                     | .5                        | .3               | 4.0                     | .1                                 |
| Colorado.....             | 11,833                    | 72.7   | 27.3                               | 24.8   | .4               | 1.1                    | .4                        | .2               | .6                      | ( <sup>2</sup> )                   |
| Idaho.....                | 1,546                     | 88.3   | 11.7                               | 7.8  | .4               | 1.4                    | 1.9                       | .3               | .6                      | .....                              |
| Montana.....              | 3,216                     | 73.0   | 27.0                               | 20.1   | 1.8              | 2.3                    | 1.0                       | .....            | 2.1                     | .1                                 |
| Utah.....                 | 7,585                     | 63.3   | 36.7                               | 34.3   | .3               | 1.0                    | .8                        | .3               | ( <sup>2</sup> )        | .1                                 |
| Wyoming.....              | 531                       | 92.8   | 7.2                                | 3.0  | 1.5              | 1.3                    | .8                        | .....            | .6                      | .2                                 |
| <b>Region XII:</b>        |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| California.....           | 47,954                    | 72.1   | 27.9                               | 21.2   | 3.3              | 1.9                    | .4                        | .4               | .8                      | .1                                 |
| Nevada.....               | 2,145                     | 84.9   | 15.1                               | 14.0   | .1               | .7                     | .1                        | .....            | .2                      | .....                              |
| Oregon.....               | 7,169                     | 77.0   | 23.0                               | 18.2   | 2.4              | 1.7                    | .3                        | .2               | .2                      | .1                                 |
| Washington.....           | 9,858                     | 68.7   | 31.3                               | 22.6   | 6.1              | 1.6                    | 1.3                       | .3               | .2                      | .2                                 |
| <b>Territories:</b>       |                           |  |                                    |  |                  |                        |                           |                  |                         |                                    |
| Alaska.....               | 554                       | 92.8   | 7.2                                | 6.1  | .....            | .....                  | .....                     | .....            | 1.1                     | .....                              |
| Hawaii.....               | 945                       | 94.7   | 5.3                                | 1.2  | 1.8              | .7                     | 1.6                       | .....            | .1                      | .1                                 |

<sup>1</sup> The percent receiving some other assistance may not equal the sum of percents receiving each specified type of assistance, since some recipients lived in households receiving more than 1 additional type. Distribution according to type of assistance was reported only for individuals in households receiving 1 additional type. It was assumed that the same distribution applied to the data for 2 or more additional types of assistance.

<sup>2</sup> Includes 1,013 recipients for whom information concerning other assistance received simultaneously was unknown. These cases were omitted in computing percentages.

<sup>3</sup> Less than 0.1 percent.