

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

General statement.—The results of the count of the population covered by the Sixteenth Census, taken as of April 1, 1940, were first published in a series of State bulletins, each entitled "Population, First Series, Number of Inhabitants." These bulletins gave the population by counties and minor civil divisions (townships, districts, precincts, etc.), with separate figures for cities, towns, villages, and other incorporated places, for wards of incorporated places of 5,000 or more, and for metropolitan districts and census tracts. Similar bulletins were issued for the territories and possessions, except the Philippine Islands, for which statistics are provided by a census taken by the Commonwealth of the Philippines in 1939. There was also issued a United States Summary Bulletin, in which the population data for the several States were brought together, with comparative figures for earlier censuses. After a careful editing, resulting in minor changes, all of these bulletins were assembled and bound together as sections of the present volume. The volume begins with the United States Summary, followed by sections for each State and the District of Columbia. Sections for the territories and possessions appear at the end of the volume.

The tables thus brought together give the 1940 population of all geographic areas and subdivisions for which official figures are available. The statistics are limited, however, to the total population of the various areas, without classification by race, sex, age, or any other characteristics, such classification being reserved for other volumes of the census reports.

The text presented in connection with the tables has been limited for the most part to such explanations and definitions of terms as are necessary to an understanding of the statistical tables, and no attempt has been made to analyze or interpret the statistics. This course has been adopted because it seemed to be more important to get the results in this complete form into the hands of the public without the delay that would accompany even a limited amount of interpretation and analysis of the data. Some explanatory paragraphs of general interest are presented in the introduction to the United States Summary, especially on pages 5 to 8.

Areas covered by the census.—The Sixteenth Census enumeration covered continental United States (that is, the 48 States and the District of Columbia), together with Alaska, American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, the Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, the military and consular services abroad, and the naval services abroad or in American waters but not on fixed station. Persons in the military service in the United States were enumerated as residents of the States, counties, and minor civil divisions in which their posts of duty were located, and members of their families were enumerated where they actually resided. The crews of vessels in the American merchant marine were enumerated as such and counted as part of the population of the port from which the vessel operated. As was indicated above, the Sixteenth Census did not cover the Philippine Islands.

MAP OF THE UNITED STATES SHOWING POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN 1940

