STATE OF NEW JERSEY

EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

S U R V E Y

of

19,000 RELIEF FAMILIES

in

N E W J E R S E Y

E X T E N D E D D E P E N D E N C Y

STATE REPORT NUMBER 3

(Preliminary)

June 24, 1935

I N T R O D U C T I O N

This report on the Survey of 10,000 Relief Families in New Jersey describes the desperate situation of those families in which the head is not available for reemployment. The families in this classification have a special significance because, under present government policy, the burden of their continued relief will fall largely on the State of New Jersey, whereas the care of most families having employable persons is to be assumed by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration through its works program.

Families in which the head is not available for employment constitute one-fifth of the relief load, or about 34,600 families. Over half of these families have no one available, and are called in this report the "extended dependency group". Each of the remaining families has at least one member available, other than the family head, and is in a class called the "quasi-security group".

A description of the characteristics of the most handicapped relief families, as given in this report, should aid in the solution of those problems associated with prolonged relief. This study also provides a basis for estimating the portions of the relief load that might be transferred to such agencies as the State Board of Children's Guardians, Old Age Pension system, and various institutions.

This is the third in the series of preliminary reports by the State of New Jersey Emergency Relief Administration on the findings in its Survey of 10,000 Relief Families in New Jersey. The first, in January, 1935, dealt with general composition and characteristics of the 10,000 families, and the second, in March, with reemployability of family heads.

D E F I N I T I O N S

The following definitions will aid in the interpretation of data in this report.

Eligibility for Relief

A person is eligible for relief when unable to maintain himself or those dependent upon him.* Inability to provide the necessities of life is the only qualification which entitles a family to receive public aid in New Jersey.

Family

The term family means people living under the same roof, eating at the same table and living together from choice and convenience rather than from causes due to the depression.

Family Head

A family head is a person responsible for carrying on a home. The husband usually is the family head. In the case of his death or separation, the wife generally becomes the family head. In a few instances a single person is the head of a home in which relatives or friends live. Lone persons also are considered as family heads.

Adults

Persons sixteen years and over are considered adults for the purpose of this study.

Children

Persons under sixteen years of age are considered as children, unable to work and dependent upon the head of their family for support. School attendance up to sixteen years is a legal requirement.

Marital Status

Couples include persons of either legal or common law marriage. Widowed includes both widowers and widows.

* Chapter 132 PL 1924

Education

In this study education is measured by the highest grade completed in school. Those persons who received all of their education in a foreign country are included in a separate group because of the difficulties in correlating foreign school systems with those of the United States.

Afflictions

A disease or disorder (reported as an unusual health condition by the relief family) which offers serious handicap to reemployment is considered as an affliction.

Availability for Work

In this survey, all persons between the ages of sixteen and seventy years who are not in institutions and not physically or mentally afflicted, are considered available for work. However, the following rules have been considered in classifying certain family heads "not available" for employment:

1. Female family heads with children under sixteen years of age, though able to work, are not considered "available".
2. Wives of male family heads in families with children under 16 years are not considered "available".
3. Homemakers in homes of widowers, separated, divorced, or deserted male family heads with children are not considered "available".
4. Unattached women living alone are considered "available" if not afflicted or too old.

S U M M A R Y

Extended Dependency Group

The tragedy of relief is greatest among those families that have become dependent through disease, old age, or the loss of breadwinners. These families, embracing one-eighth of the entire relief load, or nearly 20,000 families, have no one who is available for employment. The depression, with loss of means of support, is of secondary consideration in the present plight of such cases.

These families are expected to have "extended dependency" because in all probability most of them will remain as public charges for an indefinite number of years. A few of the male family heads may later regain sufficient health to support their families. Also, in a number of other cases there are children (less than 16 years old) who may, within a few years, be able to gain sufficient livelihood to carry the family responsibilities. It is to be kept in mind that none of the families in this group now has at home any children over 16 years of age who are able to work. In some cases where mothers are now considered as unavailable for employment on account of having children (under 16) to care for, provision may be made which will enable them to work for the support of the family.

These are developments that can not be counted on for the immediate future. At present it appears altogether unlikely that any considerable portion of these families now having no one available for employment will return to normal economic status with the end of the depression. In this respect they differ radically from most of the relief families, who need only the opportunities expected to come with recovery in business to become self-sustaining again.

The unhopeful predicament of these families is shown not only in high percentages of disease and old age among the male heads, but in numerous other respects. Nearly half of the extended dependency family heads are females with children under 16, the husbands being dead, or absent on account of desertion, etc.

Foremost among other evidences of the abject situation of this group is the lack of education among their family heads. Nearly one-fifth have had no schooling and only one-eighth have completed grammar school. The majority of the extended dependency families

have poor bath and toilet facilities. Still larger proportions have debts, and no insurance. Even in 1925-29 the male family heads had average annual earnings of several hundred dollars a year less than earnings of male relief family heads who now are available for employment. The female family heads now in the extended dependency group, who worked at that time also had relatively low earnings.

Dependency has been of longer duration among families in this group than among relief families at large. Yet only 5 per cent of the group report public aid prior to 1930.

Quasi-security Group

Closely akin to this "extended dependency group" is the "quasi-security group", embracing about one-tenth of the relief load, or around 15,200 families. In this one-tenth the head is unavailable for employment, but one or more other members are available. These other members generally are sons or daughters, frequently young and as yet of meagre earning capacity. For that reason, this group is on the border line of extended dependency. Some of its families may shift into the extended dependency group, due to the possibility of young people leaving home to be married or for other reasons. Most of these families, however, probably will regain an uncertain security.

Over half of these families have 1 person each who is available for employment. The rest have two or more persons available, and so appear to have a greater certainty of self-support than the others.

A Community Aid to Mothers

In both the extended dependency group and the quasi-security group the female family heads are unavailable for employment mainly on account of the duties at home in the care of children. The same situation also applies to many mothers in families where the male head is unable to work. These families might be brought nearer to self-support if some way were found to free the able-bodied mothers from the care of children for at least part of the time.

This objective might be attained through the use of the day nursery and other arrangements for the care of children. Child-care agencies offer an opportunity for community interests to help in solving this phase of the relief problem.

EXTENDED DEPENDENCY GROUP

Color, Nativity and Sex

One-eighth of all families on relief have no member available for employment. For that reason these families appear to be in a group where dependency will be prolonged. The application of the above proportion to the May, 1935, State relief load indicates that about 19,350 families are expected to continue indefinitely as public charges.

Negroes constitute one-third of the families in this group, while native-born white families are somewhat more numerous than families with foreign-born heads. Negro families constitute a larger proportion and foreign-born a smaller proportion of the extended dependency group than of the entire relief load.

Three-fifths of the families in this group have female heads. Among the native-born families female heads are slightly in the majority and among foreign-born families they are slightly in the minority, while among the negroes, females constitute three-quarters of the family heads.

Five-eighths of the extended dependency families have children under 16, at home. This means that in the state over 12,000 relief families with children have no one available for employment. A little less than half of the families headed by males have children, and three-fourths of the families headed by females have children.

SEX, COLOR, AND NATIVITY OF FAMILY HEADS

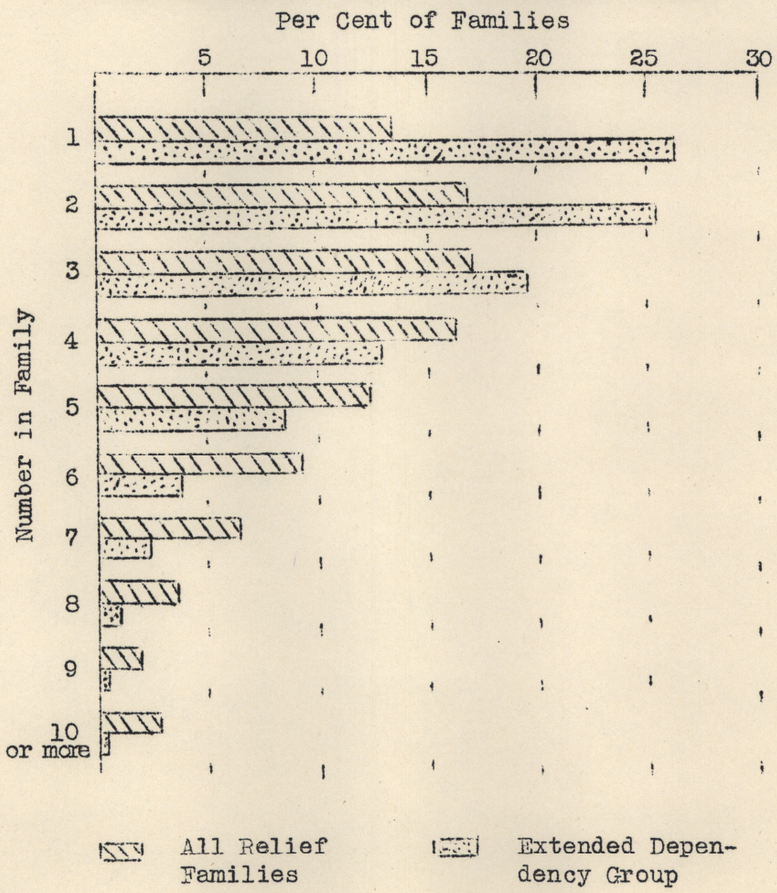
SEX OF 1254 FAMILY HEADS	DISTRIBUTION BY SEX	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY NATIVITY AND COLOR			
		Total	Native Born	Foreign Born	Negro
Total Families	100.0	100.0	37.3	29.7	33.0
Male	39.2	100.0	41.0	38.6	20.4
Female	60.8	100.0	34.8	24.0	41.2
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN (798)					
Total	100.0	100.0	36.7	26.2	37.1
Male	27.9	100.0	43.5	39.9	16.6
Female	72.1	100.0	34.1	20.8	45.1
FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN (456)					
Total	100.0	100.0	38.2	35.9	25.9
Male	59.0	100.0	39.1	37.5	23.4
Female	41.0	100.0	36.9	33.7	29.4

Size of Family

While relief families in general are somewhat larger than families throughout the state, families in the extended dependency group run only about three-quarters as large as those in the entire state. The difference is due to the high percentages of aged family heads, one-person families, and broken families.

The representative size of extended dependency families is only 2.5 persons. The largest single group is that of one-person families, embracing one-quarter of the extended dependency families. From this percentage the proportion of families in relation to size tapers off rapidly to 0.4 per cent for the families containing 10 or more persons.

Distribution of Families According to Size



Families headed by females with children, comprising nearly half of the families in the extended dependency group, have a representative size of only three members. These female family heads are distinctly young, being mostly in the age range of 20 to 40 years.

Male family heads with children have by far the largest families in the extended

dependency group, the representative size being about five and a half persons. These family heads are mostly in the age range of 30 to 50 years.

Over half of the male family heads without children are one-person families, while two-fifths are living with their wives. In only a negligible number of these families are there more than two persons.

Families of foreign-born and of native white heads are of about the same representative size, 2.6 members, while negro families have a representative size of only 2.3 members.

A number of families have added members on account of the depression, but in the data here presented these added members are not considered.

SIZE OF FAMILIES ACCORDING TO NATIVITY OF FAMILY HEAD

Percentage Distribution

SIZE OF 1254 FAMILIES	TOTAL FAMILIES	NATIVE BORN	FOREIGN BORN	NEGRO
Total	100.0	37.3	29.7	33.0
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1	26.0	26.9	30.1	21.2
2	25.2	20.9	19.1	35.5
3	19.5	22.9	14.0	20.5
4	12.9	13.5	14.2	11.1
5	8.5	8.5	11.3	6.1
6	3.7	4.1	4.6	2.7
7	2.4	1.9	4.0	1.4
8	1.0	1.1	1.4	.5
9	.4	.2	.5	.5
10 or more	.4	.0	.8	.5

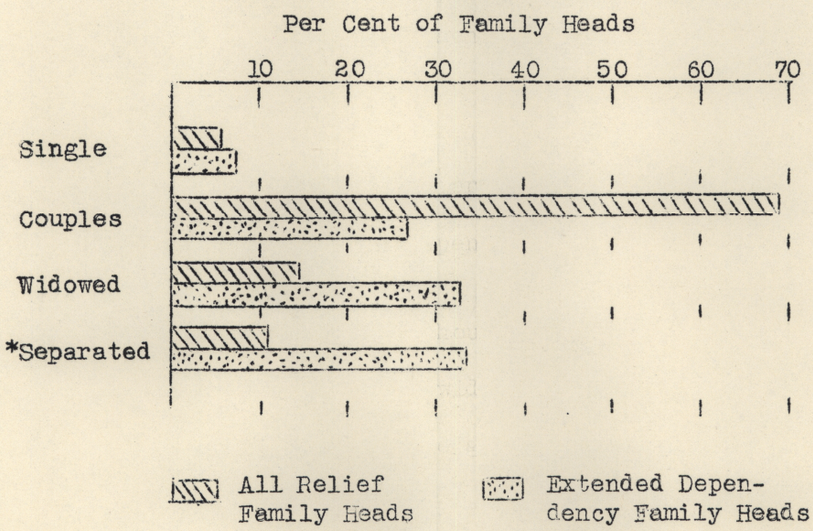
Marital Status

Only one-quarter of the families in the extended dependency group are normal families (couples with or without children), whereas more than two-thirds of all relief families are of this type. Another one-quarter of the families are headed by widows, while nearly all the others are headed by separated or deserted persons. Separations and desertions are especially high among the negroes.

Families headed by males with children are practically all normal families, and constitute less than one-fifth of the extended dependency group.

Among the families headed by males without children at home, less than half include a married couple; one-fourth of the heads are widowers, and the rest are separated or deserted. These families constitute over one-fifth of the group. Their heads are mostly aged, and more than half of them are one-person families.

Marital Status of Family Heads



* Includes divorced and deserted family heads.

The families headed by females, making up nearly two-thirds of the extended dependency group, are practically all broken families (father not living with family). Nearly half of

these female family heads are separated or deserted, and an equal proportion are widows. The rest are single or divorced.

Broken families, headed by females, constitute a majority of the families having children in the extended dependency group. Negroes are a large element in these broken families with children.

Families headed by females without children now at home, constitute only a little over one-eighth of the extended dependency group and are distinctly an old age group. They are now nearly all one-person families and mostly widows.

MARITAL STATUS OF FAMILY HEADS

Percentage Distribution

MARITAL STATUS OF 1254 FAMILY HEADS	TOTAL	NATIVE BORN	FOREIGN BORN	NEGRO
Total	100.0	37.3	29.7	33.0
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Couples	26.3	28.4	36.3	15.0
Single	7.3	8.6	6.7	6.5
Widows	26.8	21.6	29.8	30.0
Widowers	6.0	6.6	8.1	3.4
Divorced	1.8	3.6	.0	1.2
Separated	13.3	13.9	7.3	18.1
Deserted	18.5	17.3	11.8	25.8

Proportions of Children and Adults

Slightly more than half of the persons in the extended dependency group are children less than 16 years old. This percentage is somewhat larger than in relief families as a whole and nearly twice as large as the proportion of children in the entire state population.

This large proportion of children is due to the fact that this group is largely one of broken families, in which only one parent is living with the family. As previously indicated, families in this group are of smaller average size than relief families as a whole, and smaller even than the average of families throughout the state. The extended dependency

families average only 1.3 adults per family, or decidedly less than the general state average.

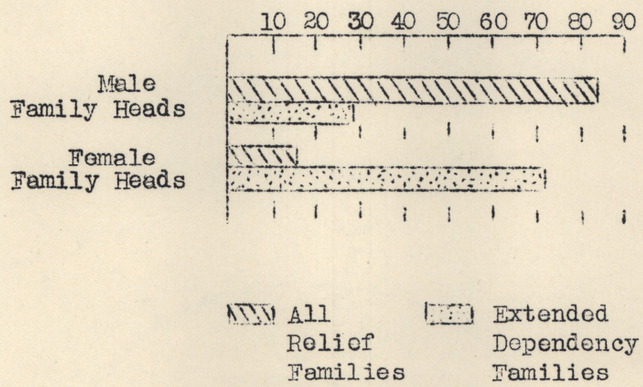
Nearly two-thirds of the families in this group have children, and this is about the same proportion as in relief families as a whole.

Families with children average 2.3 children per family.

Among the families headed by males, there is an average of 1.7 adults per family. Those with children have an average of 2.7 children per family. They generally have 2 adults per family. About two-fifths of the families headed by males, however, are without children and average less than 2 adults per family.

Families with Children under 16 Years

Per Cent of Families



Those headed by females, which constitute about five-eighths of the group, average 1.1 adults per family. Three-quarters of these families have children, averaging 2.1 children per family. Those without children are very largely one person families.

The number of children per family in the entire group runs up to 8.

When the foregoing data are applied to the State relief load, the extended dependency

group includes over 54,000 persons (in 19,350 families). Of this total, over 28,000 persons are children (in 12,000 families).

Only 5 per cent of the extended dependency families, as covered in the survey, are receiving payments from the State Board of Children's Guardians.

DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES ACCORDING TO CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS

SIZE OF * 1254 FAMILIES	PER CENT			AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FAMILIES WITH CHILD.
	Total Families	Families Without Children	Families With Children	
Total	100.0	36.4	63.6	
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.3
1	26.0	71.5	.0	.0
2	25.2	26.1	24.7	1.0
3	19.5	2.0	29.4	1.6
4	12.9	.2	20.2	2.5
5	8.5	.2	13.3	3.3
6	3.7	.0	5.9	4.3
7	2.4	.0	3.8	5.0
8	1.0	.0	1.5	6.0
9	.4	.0	.6	7.0
10 or more	.4	.0	.6	7.8

DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS IN FAMILIES AND PER CENT UNDER 16 YEARS

SIZE OF * 1254 FAMILIES	PER CENT	
	Persons in Families	Persons under 16
Total	100.0	51.9
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0
1	9.2	.0
2	17.8	10.7
3	20.6	21.0
4	18.2	21.9
5	15.0	19.3
6	7.9	11.0
7	5.9	8.2
8	2.7	3.9
9	1.3	1.9
10 or more	1.4	2.1

* The 1254 families in the extended dependency group contain 3556 persons, an average of 2.8 persons, of whom 1.3 persons are adults.

Health and Institutions

A variety of handicaps appear to prevent the family heads in the extended dependency group from being available for employment. Whether or not professional diagnosis would

classify all of these afflictions in the same way that family heads reported them to the survey, the statements of disease at least reflect the mental state of relief family heads.

Among the males the reason generally given for disability is disease or old age. Among the females disease is a minor factor. The presence of children under 16 generally is the reason that they are not available for employment.

Of the male family heads nearly five-eighths have diseases and injuries of various kinds; one-third are 70 years and over, and 5 per cent are in prison. Those in prison are nearly all under 40 years, and have children under 16 years.

Among the younger male family heads the most prevalent disorders are of the heart, respiratory, digestive, and nervous systems. The most common difficulties of the older male family heads are injuries, poisonings of various kinds, rheumatism, heart trouble, ruptures, and handicaps of eyes and ears.

Female family heads, who average much younger than the male family heads in this group, report less than half of their number afflicted. Most of the afflictions are among the older female family heads having no children at home. Afflictions of the female family heads are largely rheumatism and disorders of the heart and circulatory system.

Nearly half of the family heads report they have been afflicted at least five years. Generally, males have been afflicted somewhat longer than females. These data are in accord with the fact that one-quarter of the male family heads in the extended dependency group lost their last regular employment even prior to 1929.

In addition to heads of families, many other members are afflicted. A little over one-quarter of the total persons in the extended dependency group are afflicted at home, and represent nearly two-thirds of the families. Among the families affected, an average of 1.3 persons per family are afflicted. Diseases are more frequent among the families headed by males than by females, probably due to the older age and larger number of adults in the families headed by males.

Six per cent of the extended dependency families have members in institutions, the head

generally being the one affected. Most of these families are headed by males with children.

Among the native whites affected, the institutions are largely prisons, while among the foreign-born they are insane asylums. Among the negroes affected, half are in prison and the others scattered among various institutions.

TYPES OF DISORDERS AFFECTING FAMILY HEADS LIVING AT HOME

TYPES OF DISORDERS OF 1254 FAMILY HEADS	PER CENT OF FAMILY HEADS	
Total Family Heads	100.0	
Family heads not afflicted *	43.6	
Family heads afflicted	56.4	100.0
Body ∅		19.9
Heart and circulatory system		16.0
Musculo-skeletal system /		13.1
Injuries		9.6
Nervous system		8.9
Respiratory system		7.6
Digestive system		6.8
Eyes and ears		5.4
Uro-genital system		4.8
Ductless glands, skin, lymphatic system		2.4
Unknown and indefinite disorders		5.5

* Includes 60 family heads in prisons, asylums, sanitariums, etc.

∅ Includes mainly senility and ruptures, but also some cases of diabetes and poisonings.

/ Mostly rheumatism.

TIME SINCE ONSET OF DISORDERS AFFECTING FAMILY HEADS LIVING AT HOME

DURATION OF DISORDERS OF 1254 FAMILY HEADS	PER CENT OF FAMILY HEADS					
	Total		Male		Female	
Total Family Heads	100.0		39.2		60.8	
Comparative Distribution	100.0		100.0		100.0	
Family Heads Not Afflicted	43.6		22.8		57.1	
Family Heads Afflicted	56.4	100.0	77.2	100.0	42.9	100.0
Three months or less		5.5		5.3		5.8
Four to 11 months		4.4		3.9		4.9
1 year		13.9		14.4		13.2
2 years		10.8		9.7		11.9
3 years		8.6		6.6		11.0
4 years		6.6		8.2		4.9
5 to 9 years		22.2		24.0		20.2
10 to 14 years		9.3		7.9		11.0
15 years and over		11.3		12.4		10.1
Unknown duration		7.4		7.6		7.0

Extended Dependency Group

Education

Nearly one-fifth of the family heads in the extended dependency group never have attended school. Nearly one-quarter have had four years or less and nearly one-half have had 5 to 8 years in school. Only one-twelfth have had 9 or more years.

The native whites make the best showing and the foreign-born whites the poorest, with the negroes in an intermediate position. The lack of schooling is more noticeable among the male family heads than among the females. Family heads without children, which are distinctly an old age group, are especially lacking in education.

EDUCATION OF FAMILY HEADS BY NATIVITY

Percentage Distribution

NUMBER OF YEARS IN SCHOOL OF 1254 FAMILY HEADS	TOTAL	NATIVE BORN	FOREIGN BORN	NEGRO
Total	100.0	37.3	29.7	33.0
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0	18.3	6.4	35.9	15.9
1 to 4	23.8	18.4	20.1	32.8
5 to 8	45.4	60.4	32.1	40.6
9 to 12	7.7	10.9	4.4	7.1
13 and over	.7	1.1	.5	.5
Educated in foreign country	2.1	.0	7.0	.0
Unknown	2.0	2.8	.0	3.1

Ages

Family heads in the extended dependency group are characterized by unusually large proportions of relatively young and very old persons. Nearly one-third of the family heads are under 35 and almost one-fifth are 70 or over. The latter figure is especially heavy in comparison both with the population at large and the entire relief load.

The older family heads are largely males and the younger family heads are largely females. Both among the males and the females foreign-born family heads average a little older than the native white family heads.

The younger family heads are very largely those with children. The majority of male family heads with children are within the range from 30 to 49 years, while the majority of

females with children are within the range of 25 to 39 years. The disability of relatively young male family heads for employment generally is disease. In a few instances the male family head is in prison. These conditions have been explained in the section on health.

Family heads without children are distinctly an old age group, nearly one-half of them being 70 years or older. Only a little more than one-eighth are under 50 years.

AGES OF FAMILY HEADS

Percentage Distribution

AGE OF 1254 FAMILY HEADS	TOTAL	MALE			FEMALE		
		Native Born	Foreign Born	Negro	Native Born	Foreign Born	Negro
Total	100.0	16.1	15.2	8.0	21.2	14.5	25.0
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15 to 19	.6	.0	.0	.0	1.1	.0	1.3
20 to 24	4.4	3.0	.0	10.0	6.0	1.1	9.6
25 to 29	9.3	4.9	1.1	4.0	16.2	4.4	15.6
30 to 34	14.7	8.4	2.6	8.0	21.1	14.8	22.6
35 to 39	14.0	12.4	10.5	10.0	15.0	18.1	15.0
40 to 44	9.6	8.9	13.2	6.0	6.8	13.2	9.2
45 to 49	8.0	5.9	11.6	7.0	5.3	10.5	8.3
50 to 54	5.8	3.0	5.3	11.0	6.4	7.2	5.1
55 to 59	4.0	6.9	4.7	5.0	2.6	4.9	2.2
60 to 64	5.1	5.5	7.9	5.0	6.8	4.9	1.9
65 to 69	6.1	6.9	6.8	11.0	6.4	6.6	3.2
70 to 74	11.4	22.8	21.6	20.0	4.1	8.2	3.2
75 to 79	5.0	9.4	11.0	8.0	1.5	3.9	1.3
80	1.8	2.0	3.7	4.0	.7	2.2	.6
Unknown	.2	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.9

Less than 5 per cent of the family heads who are 70 years or older report that they have received old-age pensions.

These data mean that in the entire State relief load, 19,350 extended dependency families contain over 3500 family heads who are 70 or older.

Citizenship

A little over half of the foreign-born family heads in the extended dependency group are non-citizens. This is equivalent to one-eighth of all extended dependency family heads. Three

fourths of the non-citizens are from southern and eastern Europe. These two groups run lower in citizenship than immigrants from northern and central Europe. Two-thirds of all the foreign-born family heads in the extended dependency group are from southern and eastern Europe.

One-eighth of the families with children in the extended dependency group have non-citizen heads. One-half of the non-citizen families have children and are headed largely by females.

QUASI-SECURITY GROUP

Color, Nativity and Sex

In about one-tenth of the relief families the head is unavailable for employment but at least one other member is available. With recovery in business the employable members in these families generally should be able to find work. However, since a family usually cannot rely on support by other family members with the same degree of certainty as when supported by the family head, these families are termed the "quasi-security group".

The proportion of quasi-security families shown by this survey indicates that there are over 15,200 of these families in the State relief load.

In color and nativity these families are divided approximately in the same way as all relief families: Three-quarters white, one-quarter negro.

Nearly two-thirds of the families in this group are headed by females. Among the negroes alone, the fraction is nearly three-quarters.

About two-thirds of the quasi-security families have children under 16, or around 9500 families in the State relief load.

SEX, COLOR, AND NATIVITY OF FAMILY HEADS

SEX OF 986 FAMILY HEADS	DISTRIBUTION BY SEX	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY NATIVITY AND COLOR			
		Total	Native Born	Foreign Born	Negro
Total Families	100.0	100.0	34.2	41.7	24.1
Male	41.0	100.0	35.6	47.8	16.6
Female	59.0	100.0	33.2	37.5	29.3
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN (614)					
Total	100.0	100.0	30.3	43.8	25.9
Male	29.5	100.0	30.3	59.7	10.0
Female	70.5	100.0	30.2	37.2	32.6
FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN (372)					
Total	100.0	100.0	40.5	38.2	21.3
Male	59.9	100.0	40.0	38.1	21.9
Female	40.1	100.0	41.6	38.3	20.1

Quasi-security Group

Size of Families

Families in the quasi-security group have a representative size of four members, about the same as relief families in general. For the purpose of this comparison, the one-person families are not counted in the general relief group, due to the fact that they are by definition eliminated from the quasi-security group.

The largest single number of families is that with three members, while the range extends up to 12 members.

Among families with children, those headed by females have a representative size of about 5 persons, and those headed by males, at least 6. Three-quarters of the female family heads have children, while less than half of the male family heads have children.

SIZE OF FAMILIES ACCORDING TO NATIVITY OF FAMILY HEAD

Percentage Distribution

SIZE OF 986 FAMILIES	TOTAL FAMILIES	NATIVE BORN	FOREIGN BORN	NEGRO
Total	100.0	34.2	41.7	24.1
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2	18.6	25.8	11.7	20.6
3	19.8	17.5	17.5	26.9
4	18.1	18.4	18.5	16.8
5	14.9	13.9	17.0	12.6
6	11.5	12.2	12.7	8.4
7	7.9	4.5	10.7	8.0
8	3.7	2.9	4.9	2.5
9	2.5	1.2	3.4	2.5
10 or more	3.0	3.6	3.6	1.7

Marital Status

Families in the quasi-security group are equally divided between two predominant types, normal families (couples with or without children), and those headed by widows. Each type contains a little over one-third of the families in this group.

Negro families are distinct in that the proportion of deserted family heads is much larger than among the whites. Nearly three-quarters of the families with children are

broken families (widowed, divorced, separated, and deserted).

MARITAL STATUS OF FAMILY HEADS

Percentage Distribution

MARITAL STATUS OF 986 FAMILY HEADS	TOTAL	NATIVE BORN	FOREIGN BORN	NEGRO
Total	100.0	34.2	41.7	24.1
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Couples	37.2	36.8	44.0	26.0
Single *	2.5	3.2	.5	4.6
Widows	36.1	35.9	35.5	37.4
Widowers	2.6	4.2	2.2	1.3
Divorced	.9	2.1	.0	.9
Separated	7.3	7.1	6.1	9.7
Deserted	13.4	10.7	11.7	20.1

* Includes only single persons who are heads of families.

Proportions of Children and Adults

Whereas, 42 per cent of all persons on relief are children under 16, only 31.7 per cent of the persons in this quasi-security group are under 16. This is about the same percentage as in the state population at large.

Families in this special group average 1.4 children and 3.1 adults. This makes a general average of 4.5 persons per family. However, only five-eighths of the families in this group have children, and in these families the average is 2.3 children per family.

In families headed by females with children the average is about 2 children and 3 adults.

In families headed by males with children the representative size is 2 or 3 children and 3 or 4 adults.

Families without children generally have 2 or 3 adults.

Dependents

More than half of the families in the quasi-security group have only one person available for employment, other than the family head.

These families average nearly three dependents to each available worker. The average

family consists of four members, of whom one is an available worker, two are adults unavailable for work, and one a child.

The rest of the quasi-security families are considerably better situated in the relationship of available workers to dependents.

The greatest proportion of children to adults is in families with one available worker. Families with children have nearly three times as many dependents in relation to available workers as families without children.

DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES, PERSONS AND DEPENDENTS ACCORDING TO PERSONS AVAILABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT

Percentage Distribution

PERSONS AVAILABLE FOR WORK IN 986 FAMILIES	FAMILIES	PERSONS	DEPENDENTS		ADULTS AVAILABLE	DEPENDENTS PER WORKER
			Children	Adults Unavailable		
Totals	100.0 *	100.0*	31.7	30.6	37.7	
Comparative Distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	1.7
One person	55.2	44.9	51.0	54.1	32.4	2.7
Two persons	27.0	28.4	26.0	26.8	31.7	1.3
Three persons	12.3	17.1	15.1	13.6	21.6	1.1
Four or more persons	5.5	9.6	7.9	5.5	14.3	.7

* Based on 4458 persons in 986 families.

Health and Institutions

One-fifth of the persons in the quasi-security group are afflicted at home. One-half of those afflicted are family heads.

Two-thirds of the families are affected, and in the families affected an average of 1.4 persons are afflicted. Nearly all of the male family heads under 70 years are the victims of of diseases or injuries. A few are in prisons. These situations account for their inability to work, although many of them are comparatively young.

Disorders of the male family heads include injuries, ruptures, rheumatism, heart trouble, disorders of the digestive system, and numerous other but less frequent troubles.

The representative length of affliction among the male family heads is 4 years; among

female family heads at least 5 years. A smaller proportion of the females are afflicted, however, than of the males. The care of children generally is the reason that female family heads are not available for employment.

Approximately 7 per cent of the families in the quasi-security group have members in institutions. More than half of the family members in institutions are family heads, largely with children. The institutions to which family heads have been committed are chiefly prisons, secondly insane asylums, and next, tuberculosis sanitariums.

Education

Nearly one-quarter of the family heads in the quasi-security group have had no schooling at all, and another quarter have had only one to four years. Two fifths have had five to eight years in school. Less than 7 per cent have had more than eight years.

Ages

Family heads in the quasi-security group show a trend toward older ages than either family heads in the population at large, or relief family heads in general.

Most of the quasi-security family heads with children are between 35 and 50 years. Those without children are distinctly an old-age group, one-third being above 70 years.

AGES OF FAMILY HEADS
Percentage Distribution

AGES	ALL RELIEF FAMILIES	QUASI-SECURITY FAMILIES		
		Total	With Children	Without Children
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 40	39.4	15.8	23.1	3.9
40 to 69	56.8	68.5	72.3	62.2
70 and over	3.8	15.7	4.6	33.9

Male family heads in this group range distinctly older than females. More than half of the males are over 60 years. Foreign male family heads show a much larger proportion under 60 than do the native white.

Citizenship

Over three-quarters of the family heads in the quasi-security group are citizens. Over half of the foreign-born family heads in the group are non-citizens. One-quarter of the quasi-security family heads are foreign-born. Three-quarters of the immigrant family heads are from southern and eastern Europe.