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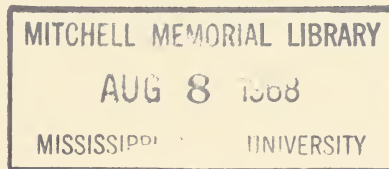
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Mississippi's Older Citizens

By

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STATE COLLEGE

MISSISSIPPI



SUMMARY

In recent years there has been a growing concern about the problems of the aged population. For communities to be prepared to meet the challenge they must be informed on population trends. This study analyzes such trends from 1950 to 1960 for Mississippi, its counties, and smaller areas, compiled from Census data. Where trends over a longer time span are elucidative, they are also included.

The State has gained steadily in number and proportion of older citizens. In 1950 the number was 152,964, or 7.0 per cent of the total population, while in 1960 the figure had increased to 187,543, or 8.6 per cent of the total population. In 1965 the estimated aged population of the State was 200,685 and is projected to increase more than 10 per cent by 1970, and 35 to 50 per cent by 1985.

From 1950 to 1960, the most striking increases were found in rural nonfarm areas, followed by urban areas. Rural farm areas experienced losses in number of senior citizens. Despite this numerical decline, however, there still was a gain of older citizens percentage-wise, due to the fact that the other age categories in these areas had also decreased. In rural nonfarm areas, on the other hand, changes were not consistent. In this category, changes ranged from an increase of 242 per cent in Jefferson Davis County to a decrease of 67 per cent in Hinds County. Urban places generally registered gains in aged population. These gains were most pronounced in places which in 1950 had a population of 10,000 or more. Among those, the city of Jackson gained the largest number of older citizens. In fact, the increase in Jackson, from

1950 to 1960, was greater in the aged category than for those below 65 years of age. This proportionately greater increase was observed not only in Jackson, but in all other places in the State which had populations of 10,000 or more in 1950.

On the whole, aged females not only outnumbered aged males, but there was also a continued tendency of the former to increase disproportionately. Only in rural farm areas was a high sex ratio found, that is, there was a greater number of males than females.

Inquiry into the marital status of the aged population of the State in 1960 indicated that approximately 40 per cent were widowed. Widows outnumbered widowers by about 40,000. Males were more likely to have been married more than once than were females. The proportion of aged persons who were widowed was considerably larger for the nonwhite population than for the white population. A larger proportion of urban and rural nonfarm aged persons were divorced than were older citizens classified as rural farm. The rural nonfarm category showed the greatest proportion of increase in aged divorced persons during the decade 1950-1960.

More than two-thirds of the State's aged population resided in owner-occupied dwellings.

With respect to employment, a downward trend was observed for the aged male and the reverse for the aged female.

Approximately three-fourths had an income of less than \$1,500 per year; many had to depend on other sources for support.

MISSISSIPPI'S OLDER CITIZENS

By

ELISABETH J. STOJANOVIC¹

The aged population² of the United States is increasing steadily in number and proportion and so is the public's awareness of this fact. While three decades ago the aged represented only 5.4 per cent of the total population, the 1960 Census reported that more than 16 million people in this country were 65 years of age or older, comprising approximately 9 per cent of the total population. The Census also revealed another interesting fact; namely, that during the ten-year period, 1950 to 1960, the percentage increase of the aged population in the United States was 0.9 per cent, while in Mississippi it was 1.6 per cent. Even though Mississippi's proportion of aged citizens has been consistently lower than that of the nation as a whole, it is gradually approaching the national level and, if present trends continue may exceed the national average within the next few years. This implies a need of planning for problems created by such changes.

The most common variables employed in the demography of aging are: age, sex, race, marital and family status, living arrangements, income, labor force status and occupation, and education. All these are significant in determining the needs of the aged population.

It is the purpose of this publication to revise an earlier bulletin³, and to consolidate demographic information on the aged population of Mississippi as furnished by the 1960 Census of Population and to establish trends, based on previous censuses.

Mississippi's Aged in Relation to the United States and Other Southern States

While Mississippi's aged population is proportionately slightly smaller than that of the country as a whole, in rela-

tion to other southern states she rates fifth from the top. Table 1 shows that only four of the southern states, namely Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, and Oklahoma, have a greater proportion of aged citizens than Mississippi, a fact which was also observed in the 1950 Census. When considering the rate of increase however, Mississippi exceeds Kentucky.

Race, Residence, and Sex

In order to observe the changes that have occurred in the State's aged population, with respect to race, residence, and sex, pertinent data are presented in Tables 2, 3, and 4.

It is evident that since 1940, the State's white and nonwhite aged populations have steadily increased. Both numerically and percentagewise, however, the increase was smaller for the nonwhite than for the white population. From 1950 to 1960 the white aged population increased by 30.9 per cent, while the increase of the nonwhite population in the aged category was 11.6 per cent.

The figures tabulated above become even more meaningful when compared with the growth trend of the other segment of the population, i.e. those below 65 years of age. Here a decrease was recorded as illustrated in Table 5.

The decline in number of people below the age of 65 can be attributed to the slightly descending trend of the nonwhite population in that age category. For the white population, the upward trend in the aged population from 1950 to 1960 was expected since the total white population of the State had also shown gains. The total nonwhite population of the State, however, showed a loss, which makes the increase of aged persons in that category even more conspicuous.

¹The author acknowledges the helpful suggestions given by Dr. Marion T. Loftin, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology. She also expresses her appreciation to Mrs. Ellen S. Bryant, Assistant Sociologist, for providing the unpublished population estimates.

²Throughout this paper "aged population" refers to the age category 65 years old and over. The term will be used interchangeably with "senior citizens" and "older citizens."

³Marion T. Loftin, *Mississippi's Older People*. State College, Mississippi AES Bulletin, 599 (June, 1960).

Table 1. Percent of the Population 65 Years Old and Over for the Southern States and the U. S., 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960.

State	1930	1940	1950	1960
United States	5.4	6.8	8.1	9.0
Mississippi	3.6	5.3	7.0	8.6
Alabama	3.8	3.8	6.5	7.9
Arkansas	4.1	5.5	7.8	10.6
Florida	4.9	6.9	8.6	11.0
Georgia	4.1	5.1	6.4	7.3
Kentucky	5.5	6.6	8.0	9.4
Louisiana	3.6	5.0	6.6	7.3
North Carolina	3.8	4.5	5.5	6.6
Oklahoma	4.1	6.1	8.7	10.5
South Carolina	3.4	4.2	5.4	6.2
Tennessee	4.7	5.9	7.1	8.4
Texas	4.1	5.4	6.7	7.6
Virginia	4.8	5.8	6.5	7.1

Sources: Halbert L. Dunn, *Health and Demography*, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Office of Vital Statistics, October 1956, p. 53; and Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Population, 1960, General Population Characteristics*, PC (1) 26D; Table 96.

Table 2. Number of Persons 65 Years Old and Over by Race, Residence, and Sex, Mississippi, 1940, 1950, 1960.

Residence and Race	Males			Females			Total		
	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960
Total Population:									
White	30,818	41,797	51,925	30,369	45,118	61,883	61,187	86,915	113,808
Nonwhite	28,311	33,087	35,382	25,920	32,962	38,353	54,231	66,049	73,735
Total	59,129	74,884	87,307	56,289	78,080	100,236	115,418	152,964	187,543
Rural Farm:									
White	18,330	19,851	13,332	15,274	17,417	12,603	33,604	37,268	25,935
Nonwhite	20,437	19,476	10,468	16,263	16,022	8,931	36,700	35,498	19,399
Total	38,767	39,327	23,800	31,537	33,439	21,534	70,304	72,766	45,334
Rural Nonfarm:									
White	6,268	11,333	21,668	6,867	12,975	24,363	13,135	24,308	46,031
Nonwhite	3,789	6,803	14,306	4,367	8,076	15,758	8,156	14,879	30,064
Total	10,057	18,136	35,974	11,234	21,051	40,121	21,291	39,187	76,095
Urban:									
White	6,220	10,613	16,925	8,222	14,726	24,917	14,448	25,339	41,842
Nonwhite	4,085	6,808	10,608	5,290	8,864	13,664	9,375	15,672	24,272
Total	10,305	17,421	27,533	13,518	23,590	38,581	23,823	41,011	66,114

Sources: Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Population, 1960, General Social Economic Characteristics*, PC (1) 26C Mississippi Table 37 (Note: figures for 1960 differ from those given in PC (1) 26B), and *U. S. Census of Population, 1950, Vol. II, Part 24, Table 53*.

Table 3. Percentage Change of Persons 65 Years Old and Over by Race, Residence, and Sex, Mississippi, 1950-1960.*

Residence and Race	Males		Females		Total	
	1950-1960	1950-1960	1950-1960	1950-1960	1950-1960	1950-1960
	Change	%	Change	%	Change	%
Total Population:						
White	10,128	24.2	16,765	37.2	26,893	30.9
Nonwhite	2,295	6.9	5,391	16.4	7,686	11.6
Total	12,423	16.6	22,156	28.4	34,579	22.6
Rural Farm:						
White	-6,519	-32.8	-4,814	-27.6	-11,333	-30.4
Nonwhite	-9,008	-46.3	-7,091	-44.3	-16,099	-45.4
Total	-15,527	-39.5	-11,905	-35.6	-27,432	-37.7
Rural Nonfarm:						
White	10,335	91.2	11,388	87.8	21,723	89.4
Nonwhite	7,503	110.3	7,682	95.1	15,185	102.1
Total	17,838	98.4	19,070	90.6	36,908	94.2
Urban:						
White	6,312	59.5	10,191	69.2	16,503	65.1
Nonwhite	3,800	55.8	4,800	54.2	8,600	54.9
Total	10,112	58.2	14,991	63.5	25,103	61.2

*Figures computed from Table 2.

Table 4. Percent of the Population 65 Years Old and Over by Race, Residence, and Sex, Mississippi, 1940, 1950, 1960.

Residence and Race	Male			Female			Total		
	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960
Total Population:									
White	5.5	7.0	8.3	5.5	7.6	9.8	5.5	7.3	9.1
Nonwhite	5.4	6.9	8.0	4.7	6.5	8.0	5.0	6.7	8.0
Total	5.5	6.9	8.2	5.1	7.1	9.0	5.3	7.0	8.6
Rural Farm:									
White	5.7	7.7	10.7	5.1	7.2	10.6	5.4	7.5	10.6
Nonwhite	5.2	6.6	7.0	4.2	5.4	6.0	4.7	6.0	6.5
Total	5.4	7.1	8.7	4.6	6.2	8.0	5.0	6.6	8.4
Rural Nonfarm:									
White	5.6	7.3	8.9	5.9	8.2	10.0	5.8	7.8	9.4
Nonwhite	6.5	8.8	9.1	6.7	9.5	9.3	6.6	9.2	9.2
Total	5.9	7.8	9.0	6.2	8.7	9.7	6.1	8.3	9.3
Urban:									
White	5.1	5.8	6.6	6.2	7.8	9.3	5.7	6.8	8.0
Nonwhite	5.1	6.4	7.8	5.4	6.0	8.6	5.3	6.7	8.2
Total	5.1	6.0	7.0	5.9	7.4	9.0	5.5	6.8	8.1

Sources: Bureau of the Census, **U. S. Census of Population, 1960**, PC (1) 26C, Table 37, and **U. S. Census of Population, 1950**, Vol. II, Part 24, Table 53.

Table 5. Number and Percentage of Population in Age Groupings Below 65 and Over 65, Mississippi, 1940, 1950, and 1960.

Year	Below 65 years of age		65 years of age and over		Total Population
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
1940	2,068,378	94.7	115,418	5.3	2,183,796
1950	2,025,950	93.0	152,964	7.0	2,178,914
1960	1,990,598	91.4	187,543	8.6	2,178,141

Sources: Bureau of the Census, **U. S. Census of Population, 1960**, PC (1) 26C and **U. S. Census of Population, 1950**, Vol. II, Part 24, Table 15.

Considering the total aged population of the State, an increase of 22.6 per cent was observed. Both numerically and percentagewise, however, this gain was smaller for the last decade than for the preceding decade.

Interesting information was also revealed with respect to the residence of the older citizens. Both racial groupings suffered considerable losses of aged persons in the rural farm areas, while the rural nonfarm and urban categories experienced increases.

It may be assumed that a large part of the loss in rural farm population was due not to deaths but either to migration to urban areas, to reclassification from rural farm to rural nonfarm as a result of retirement, or to a redefini-

tion of these terms by the Bureau of the Census.⁴ Aged white persons were more likely to remain in farming than their nonwhite counterparts. The latter gained a larger proportion of aged rural nonfarm people during the decade 1950 to 1960 than the white population. In the urban areas the reverse was apparent.

Despite the decline in the aged rural farm population, the proportion 65 years of age and over, classified as farm operators, was higher in the 1959 Census of Agriculture than it was ten years earlier (Table 6). The average age of the Mississippi farm operator gradually increased from 43.6 in 1940 to 46.2 in 1950 to 51.4 in 1959, and to 52.8 in 1964.

Rural areas usually have a larger

⁴The 1950 Census of Agriculture defined a farm as a place of 3 or more acres on which the value of agricultural products in 1949, exclusive of home garden, amounted to \$150 or more. The agricultural products could have been either for home use or for sale. Places of less than 3 acres were counted as farms only if the value of sales of agricultural products in 1949 amounted to \$150 or more.

The 1960 Census defined the farm population as consisting of persons living in rural territory on places of 10 or more acres from which the sale of farm products amounted to \$50 or more in 1959, or on places of less than 10 acres from which the sales of farm products amounted to \$250 or more in 1959.

male than female population. This was true for the aged in the rural farm areas of the State, where the sex ratio⁵ was 110.5. In the rural nonfarm areas, however, it was considerably lower, namely, 89.7, while for the urban areas the figures followed the expected trend, with a sex ratio of 86.8. Thus, aged males were more likely to be found in the rural areas than their female counterparts, while in the rural nonfarm and urban areas the reverse was true.

Data indicated generally larger numerical and proportional increases for aged females than for aged males. Both sexes, however, had experienced losses in the rural farm areas. These losses were higher among the male population.

Considering the changes on a county basis, Table 7 shows trends in the aged farm and nonfarm populations for each of Mississippi's 82 counties. Without exception the counties experienced a decrease in aged rural farm residents. These decreases were also greater than in the previous decade. With respect to the rural nonfarm category, 28 counties registered losses of aged population ranging from 0.9 to 66.8 per cent, while in the remaining counties the aged population increased, percentagewise. The most striking changes were observed in Issaquena and Jefferson Davis Counties, where the proportion of senior citizens more than tripled, while the total population of these two counties had actually decreased during the decade from 1950 to 1960.

⁵Sex ratio refers to the number of males per 100 females.

Table 6. Age of Mississippi Farm Operators 1940, 1950, 1954, 1959, 1964.

Age	1940		1950		1954		1959*		1964	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 25	24,626	9.0	16,136	6.6	6,747	3.2	2,517	1.8	1,684	1.5
25-34	62,397	22.8	49,846	20.5	28,158	13.4	12,451	9.1	8,690	8.0
35-44	62,194	22.7	54,485	23.3	49,458	23.6	27,573	20.2	20,164	18.5
45-54	55,281	20.2	49,866	20.5	53,842	25.7	38,671	28.2	28,528	26.1
55-64	40,476	14.8	37,541	15.5	38,487	18.4	30,541	22.3	28,174	25.8
65 +	28,834	10.5	32,854	13.6	32,947	15.7	25,181	18.4	21,901	20.1
Average Age	43.6		46.2		48.2		51.4		52.8	
Total	273,808	100.0	242,728	100.0	209,639	100.0	136,934	100.0	109,141	100.0

Sources: Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1954*, Vol. I, Part 22; and 1959, Vol. I, Part 33; and 1964, Vol. I, Part 33.

*The change in number may be attributed partly to a change in definition of farm operator from 1950 to 1959.

The overall distribution of persons 65 years of age and over and the relation of this distribution to the State's average of aged persons (8.7 per cent) in 1960 is illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, respectively.

Changes Within Age Groupings

Comparison of the 1950 and 1960 figures, based on broad age groupings within the aged population, revealed that across the board there was a decrease in the proportion of people 65 to 69 years of age in relation to the total aged population. However, only in the rural nonwhite segment did this proportional decrease coincide with a numerical decrease.

Appraised on the same basis, the next category, i.e., those 70 to 74 years of age, showed little or no change, percentagewise. There was one exception, however, the rural nonwhite male category did increase numerically.

Both numerical and proportional increases were most pronounced in the highest age categories (Table 8).

Examining the same figures on the basis of the total 1950 population in each of the old age categories, a striking pattern appears, indicating disproportionately large increases in the 75 to 84, and especially, the 85 and over age category. In the urban areas, the white population in the latter age bracket increased 145 per cent, while the nonwhite doubled. An identical pattern was observed in the rural areas, although increases were not as pronounced (Tables 9 and 10).

Table 7. Percent Change in Population 65 Years Old and Over, Rural Farm and Rural Nonfarm Residence, 1940-1950 and 1950-1960, Counties, Mississippi.

Counties	Rural Farm		Rural Nonfarm	
	Percent change 1940-1950	Percent change 1950-1960	Percent change 1940-1950	Percent change 1950-1960
Adams	-28.7	-62.0	45.0	-64.8
Alcorn	-1.3	-22.6	95.1	-49.8
Amite	-2.7	-48.2	92.3	137.2
Attala	1.9	-43.2	73.7	2.8
Benton	7.5	-33.8	62.7	145.9
Bolivar	0.8	-21.2	107.9	9.8
Calhoun	16.2	-47.4	74.4	146.0
Carroll	-5.6	-35.0	104.2	86.3
Chickasaw	12.4	-35.7	40.8	-1.0
Choctaw	4.1	-57.0	109.2	149.3
Claiborne	-26.0	-45.5	120.7	-19.7
Clarke	-5.2	-44.6	91.3	86.8
Clay	-4.1	-30.9	63.4	-31.5
Coahoma	21.9	-59.7	84.8	-17.6
Copiah	-11.0	-39.7	85.2	-2.5
Covington	4.1	-25.8	138.2	99.8
DeSoto	14.3	-39.0	66.2	193.4
Forrest	-2.2	-48.9	69.6	-55.7
Franklin	-9.2	-62.4	69.9	88.9
George	16.8	-22.7	105.6	68.9
Greene	-8.1	-34.7	66.3	128.8
Grenada	-6.6	-21.3	64.7	-33.4
Hancock	64.5	-46.6	26.9	-6.1
Harrison	-10.3	-68.2	49.5	-65.5
Hinds	-20.2	-47.4	88.0	-66.8
Holmes	6.7	-46.4	60.4	32.1
Humphreys	9.1	-53.0	97.4	50.7
Issaquena	-5.8	-69.4	53.2	220.8
Itawamba	2.1	-25.4	484.4	149.7
Jackson	22.5	-64.1	69.9	-36.6
Jasper	22.5	-37.6	140.2	161.3
Jefferson	-4.7	-61.1	113.3	109.5
Jefferson Davis	21.6	-43.0	149.4	242.1
Jones	14.8	-47.4	86.4	-29.0
Kemper	-9.1	-32.6	69.0	143.3
Lafayette	9.4	-38.3	72.1	-9.0
Lamar	36.2	-44.8	50.0	114.1
Lauderdale	-6.4	-63.3	76.2	-64.3
Lawrence	8.4	-45.3	71.1	157.7
Leake	28.0	-26.0	78.5	173.3
Lee	4.7	-37.9	86.4	-13.6
Leflore	14.1	-26.8	72.1	-44.7
Lincoln	-2.9	-48.4	83.5	-0.9
Lowndes	-6.8	-32.7	77.1	-50.3
Madison	4.9	-30.8	85.9	-14.5
Marion	18.5	-27.1	107.2	15.4
Marshall	9.0	-27.3	42.0	9.3
Monroe	-19.7	-30.0	32.0	-31.5
Montgomery	1.7	-48.9	73.2	6.8
Neshoba	4.7	-16.8	130.6	38.4
Newton	8.9	-35.1	66.8	82.7
Noxubee	-9.6	-26.2	72.5	68.3
Oktibbeha	-7.8	-37.5	98.7	7.6
Panola	13.8	-23.1	126.8	37.4
Pearl River	31.2	-46.6	42.9	42.9
Perry	4.9	-36.7	59.1	95.6
Pike	-4.9	-46.0	54.2	-12.2
Pontotoc	14.0	-26.2	94.8	121.9
Prentiss	-1.4	-9.7	113.5	20.1
Quitman	30.7	-25.8	95.5	51.6
Rankin	6.6	-38.2	93.3	50.7
Scott	8.5	-27.5	94.5	46.8
Sharkey	5.1	-31.9	124.1	18.8
Simpson	20.2	-42.0	97.3	143.6
Smith	25.9	-16.8	85.3	166.7
Stone	16.3	-39.5	38.9	98.5
Tallahatchie	-7.5	-47.1	116.5	45.7
Tate	7.8	-41.6	72.3	65.9
Tippah	5.4	-26.1	103.9	26.5
Tishomingo	-8.1	-9.9	122.5	5.8
Tunica	-6.3	-23.2	116.7	80.0
Union	24.2	-26.9	46.4	163.0
Walthall	15.3	-35.3	78.0	10.1
Warren	15.5	-16.9	105.2	192.9
Warren	-14.8	-96.6	53.2	-61.0
Washington	16.9	-73.7	77.3	-53.5

(Continued on page 12)

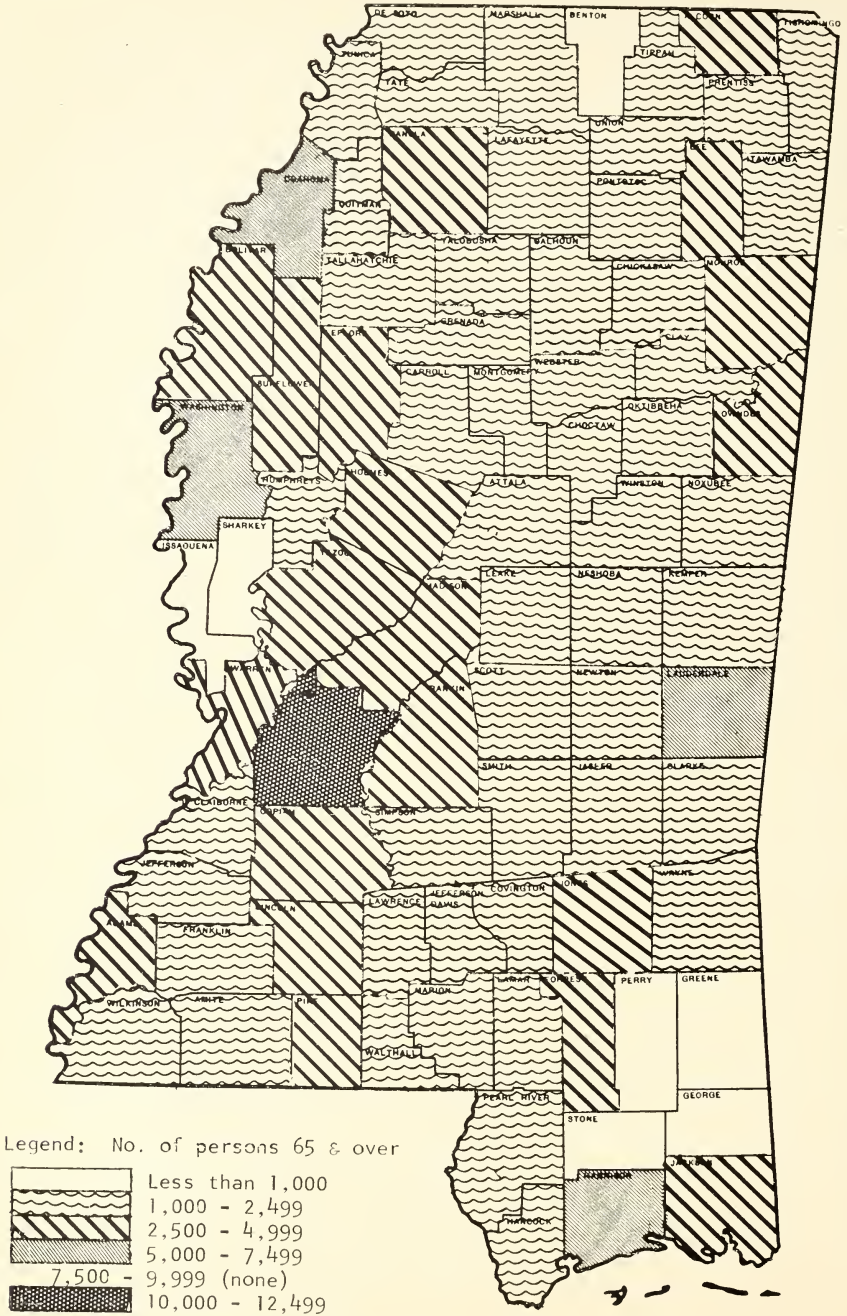


Figure 1. Number of aged persons in Mississippi counties, 1960.

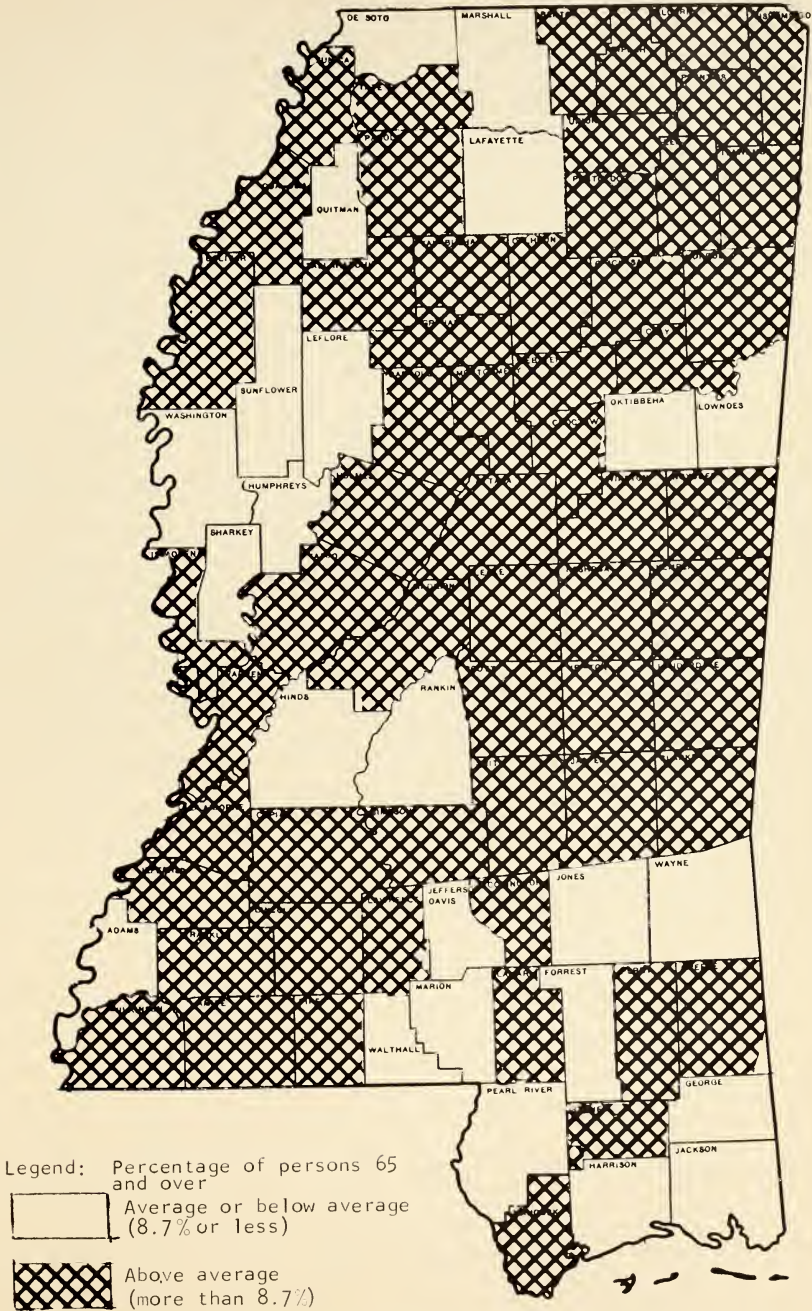


Figure 2. Percentage of aged persons in Mississippi counties, 1960, in relation to the State's average.

(Table 7 continued)

Counties	Fural Farm		Rural Nonfarm	
	Percent change		Percent change	
	1940-1950	1950-1960	1940-1950	1950-1960
Wayne	11.7	-44.0	55.6	70.1
Webster	8.6	-38.5	71.0	151.5
Wilkinson	-26.5	-64.4	99.2	96.1
Winston	18.7	-17.1	128.8	-4.1
Yalobusha	-7.1	-21.5	66.3	-35.7
Yazoo	-4.4	-40.7	81.4	-16.2
Mississippi	3.5	-37.7	77.8	94.2

Sources: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1950, Vol. II, Part 24, and U. S. Census of Population, 1960, PC (1) 26D.

Table 8. Percentage Distribution of Age Grouping: Within Aged Population, by Race, Residence, and Sex, Mississippi, 1950 and 1960.

Characteristic	RURAL POPULATION						URBAN POPULATION					
	Male		Female		Total		Male		Female		Total	
	1950	1960	1950	1960	1950	1960	1950	1960	1950	1960	1950	1960
Total Aged Population:												
65-69	42.9	38.2	43.7	37.9	43.3	38.0	43.8	39.9	42.4	36.9	43.0	38.1
70-74	27.6	27.7	26.3	27.0	27.0	27.4	27.5	28.0	26.6	27.4	27.0	27.7
75-84	25.6	28.3	24.8	28.7	25.2	28.5	25.1	26.8	26.1	29.1	25.6	28.1
85 and over	3.9	5.8	5.2	6.4	4.5	6.1	3.6	5.3	4.9	6.6	4.4	6.1
All 65 & over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White:												
65-69	41.7	37.0	41.9	36.2	41.8	36.6	42.5	38.9	39.7	34.7	40.9	36.4
70-74	28.8	28.8	27.9	27.8	28.4	28.3	28.7	29.0	28.2	28.1	28.4	28.5
75-84	26.1	29.0	26.0	30.0	26.0	29.5	25.5	27.1	27.6	30.7	26.7	29.2
85 and over	3.4	5.2	4.2	6.0	3.8	5.6	3.3	5.0	4.5	6.5	4.0	5.9
All 65 & over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nonwhite:												
65-69	44.3	39.7	46.1	40.5	45.1	40.1	45.9	41.4	46.8	40.8	46.4	41.0
70-74	26.3	26.3	24.2	25.9	25.3	26.1	25.5	26.3	24.1	26.2	24.7	26.3
75-84	24.9	27.4	23.3	26.7	24.1	27.1	24.4	26.3	23.5	26.1	23.8	26.2
85 and over	4.5	6.6	6.4	6.9	5.5	6.7	4.2	6.0	5.6	6.9	5.1	6.5
All 65 & over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1960, Mississippi: General Population Characteristics, PC (1) 26B, Table 16.

Percentages were calculated from figures given in the above source.

Table 9 Changes in Urban Population by Age Groupings Within Aged Population, by Race and Sex, Mississippi, 1950 to 1960.

Characteristic	U R B A N								
	Aged Male Population			Aged Female Population			Total Aged Population		
	1960	Change	1950-1960	1960	Change	1950-1960	1960	Change	1950-1960
	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%
Total Population:									
65-69	11,024	3,389	44.4	14,227	4,228	42.3	25,251	7,617	43.2
70-74	7,744	2,958	61.8	10,568	4,282	68.1	18,312	7,240	65.4
75-84	7,411	3,046	69.8	11,205	5,057	82.3	18,616	8,103	77.1
85 and over	1,478	843	132.8	2,568	1,411	122.0	4,046	2,254	125.8
All 65 & over	27,657	10,236	58.8	38,568	14,978	63.5	66,225	25,214	61.5
White:									
65-69	6,579	2,068	45.8	8,653	2,800	47.8	15,232	4,868	47.0
70-74	4,914	1,864	61.1	6,991	2,844	68.6	11,905	4,708	65.4
75-84	4,579	1,872	69.2	7,641	3,572	87.8	12,220	5,444	80.3
85 and over	838	493	142.9	1,621	964	146.7	2,459	1,457	145.4
All 65 & over	16,910	6,297	59.3	24,906	10,180	69.1	41,816	16,477	65.0
Nonwhite:									
65-69	4,445	1,321	42.3	5,574	1,428	34.4	10,019	2,749	37.8
70-74	2,830	1,094	63.0	3,577	1,438	67.2	6,407	2,532	65.3
75-84	2,832	1,174	70.8	3,564	1,485	71.4	6,396	2,659	71.2
85 and over	640	350	120.7	947	447	89.4	1,587	797	100.9
All 65 & over	10,747	3,939	57.9	13,662	4,798	54.1	24,409	8,737	55.7

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1960, Mississippi: General Population Characteristics, PC (1) 26B., Table 16.

Table 10. Changes in Rural Population by Age Groupings Within Aged Population, by Race and Sex, Mississippi, 1950 to 1960.

Characteristic	R U R A L									
	Aged Male Population			Aged Female Population			Total Aged Population			
	1960	Change	1950-1960	1960	Change	1950-1960	1960	Change	1950-1960	
	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%	
Total Population:										
65-69	23,179	-1,470	-6.0	23,885	44	0.2	47,064	-1,426	-2.9	
70-74	16,866	994	6.3	17,031	2,715	19.0	33,897	3,709	12.3	
75-84	17,228	2,526	17.2	18,072	4,574	33.9	35,300	7,100	25.2	
85 and over	3,539	1,299	58.0	4,004	1,169	41.2	7,543	2,458	48.6	
All 65 & over	60,812	3,349	5.8	62,992	8,502	15.6	123,804	11,851	10.6	
White:										
65-69	13,254	237	1.8	13,828	1,098	8.6	27,082	1,335	5.2	
70-74	10,300	1,334	14.9	10,612	2,118	24.9	20,912	3,452	19.8	
75-84	10,374	2,226	27.3	11,437	3,543	44.9	21,811	5,769	57.4	
85 and over	1,881	828	78.6	2,296	1,022	80.2	4,177	1,850	79.5	
All 65 & over	35,809	4,625	14.8	38,173	7,781	25.6	73,982	12,406	20.1	
Nonwhite:										
65-69	9,925	-1,707	-14.7	10,057	-1,054	-9.5	19,982	-2,761	-12.1	
70-74	6,566	-340	-4.9	6,419	597	10.3	12,985	257	2.0	
75-84	6,854	300	4.6	6,635	1,031	18.4	13,489	1,331	10.9	
85 and over	1,658	471	39.7	1,708	147	9.4	3,366	618	22.5	
All 65 & over	25,003	-1,276	-4.9	24,819	721	3.0	49,822	-555	-1.1	

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1960, Mississippi: General Population Characteristics, PC (1) 26B, Table 16.

Size of Community

When rural and urban areas were arranged according to size, it was found that in 1960, 58.5 per cent of the rural aged population in Mississippi lived in places with less than 1,000 population, while 6.4 per cent resided in rural places with 1,000 to 2,500 inhabitants. Of those senior citizens who lived in urban areas, the majority lived in towns with a population of 10,000 or more (Table 11).

A comparison of the changes in distribution of the aged and of the total population from 1950 to 1960 in places

of different size is made in Tables 12, 13, and 14.

It can be readily observed that with few exceptions the aged population increased. Not only did it increase but even in cases where the total population showed losses, a gain was found in the aged category. The extremes in losses and gains were most often evident in places with a population of 1,000 to 2,500, followed by those with 2,500 to 10,000 inhabitants. None of the larger places, i. e. those 10,000 and over, registered a loss of population; but, the proportion gain in these towns

Table 11. Number and Percent in the Population 65 Years Old and Over, by Size of Place, Urban and Rural Residence, Sex, Mississippi, 1960.

Type of Residence	Males		Females		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Rural						
Under 1,000	55,560	62.8	56,160	55.3	111,720	58.8
1,000 - 2,500	5,252	5.9	6,832	6.7	12,084	6.4
Total	60,812	68.7	62,992	62.0	123,804	65.2
Urban						
Central cities and	3,505	4.0	5,152	5.2	8,657	4.6
Urban fringe	48	—	72	—	120	—
2,500-10,000	9,600	10.9	13,292	13.1	22,892	12.0
10,000 or more	14,504	16.4	20,052	19.7	34,556	18.2
Total	27,657	31.3	38,568	38.0	66,225	34.8
Total, 65+*	88,469	100.0	101,560	100.0	190,029	100.0

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1960, General Population Characteristics, 26B, Table 16.

*The figures given differ from those listed in Vol. 26C, Table 37.

Table 12. Number and Percent Change in Population 65 Years of Age and Over, 1950-1960, by Sex, and in Total Population of Places in Mississippi with 1,000 to 2,500 Inhabitants in 1950.

Town	Aged population 1960		Changes in						
	Males	Females	Aged males 1950-1960		Aged females 1950-1960		Total Aged 1950-1960		Total All Ages 1950-1960
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	%
Ackerman	103	112	23	28.8	31	38.3	54	33.5	-5.5
Baldwin	111	162	33	42.3	74	84.1	107	64.4	29.0
Batesville*	106	181	47	79.7	93	105.7	140	95.2	33.0
Bay Springs	56	79	1	1.8	24	43.6	25	22.7	18.6
Bear Town	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Brandon	72	72	22	44.0	23	46.9	45	45.4	17.1
Bruce	86	79	46	115.0	35	79.5	81	96.4	-1.2
Bude	62	63	25	67.6	26	70.3	51		-0.8
Calhoun City	101	103	61	152.5	46	80.7	107	110.3	29.9
Carthage	99	122	19	23.8	46	60.5	65	41.7	26.9
Centerville**	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Clinton*	99	143	55	125.0	51	55.4	106	77.9	52.5
Coldwater	69	90	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.2
Collins	64	94	8	14.3	37	64.9	45	39.8	18.9
Crenshaw	81	83	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	86.8
Crosby	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Decatur	56	67	21	60.0	28	71.8	49	66.2	9.4
D'Iberville*	69	77	39	13.0	50	185.2	89	156.1	110.3
Drew	90	153	27	42.8	87	131.8	114	88.4	27.5
Durant*	154	233	41	36.3	79	51.3	120	44.9	13.2
East Side *	95	86	68	251.8	55	177.4	123	212.1	255.4
Edwards	64	98	14	28.0	7	7.7	21	14.9	20.4
Escatampa	43	58	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Eupora	85	111	20	30.8	37	50.0	57	41.0	9.7
Fayette	72	126	6	9.1	25	24.8	31	18.6	8.5
Friars Point	88	96	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Fulton	71	94	18	34.0	41	77.4	59	55.7	27.0
Gloster*	75	94	5	7.1	5	5.6	10	6.3	-6.7
Handsboro	64	44	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Heidelberg	32	55	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hernando	82	117	25	43.1	45	62.5	70	53.8	57.4
Hollandale*	138	186	44	46.8	74	66.1	118	57.3	12.8
Houston*	116	168	49	73.1	92	121.0	141	98.6	54.9
Inverness	48	84	10	26.3	48	133.3	58	78.4	2.9
Itta Bena	132	164	34	34.7	40	32.2	74	33.3	11.0
Iuka	114	140	34	42.5	38	37.2	72	39.6	31.6
Kreole	36	35	14	63.6	15	75.0	29	69.0	69.1
Lambert	68	106	0	0	47	79.7	47	37.0	15.5
London-West									
Gulfport	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leakesville	57	66	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lucedale	63	81	18	40.0	28	52.8	46	46.9	21.2
Lumberton	95	108	23	31.9	21	24.1	44	27.7	16.9
McComb (Smith)	80	96	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Macon	112	188	31	38.3	48	34.3	79	35.7	8.5
Magee	78	105	14	21.9	41	64.1	55	43.0	17.3
Magnolia	102	136	22	27.5	48	54.5	70	41.7	5.0
Marks*	135	161	57	73.1	53	49.1	110	59.1	16.4
Mendenhall	86	103	22	34.4	43	71.7	65	52.4	26.4
Mill/Morris Town	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Monticello	52	66	9	20.9	28	73.7	37	45.7	3.6
Moorhead	129	143	39	43.3	67	88.2	106	63.8	0.3
Morton	74	111	29	64.4	47	73.4	76	69.7	35.8
Mound Bayou	95	99	33	53.2	23	30.3	56	40.6	2.0
Nettleton	66	94	14	26.9	26	38.2	40	33.3	15.4
Okolona*	141	211	28	24.8	78	58.6	106	43.1	21.0
Pelahatchie	49	59	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Petal*	105	142	52	98.1	80	129.0	132	114.8	186.5
Pontotoc	118	185	36	43.9	86	86.9	122	67.4	32.1
Poplarville	90	112	11	13.9	23	25.8	34	20.2	15.3
Prentiss	42	69	17	68.0	36	109.1	53	91.4	9.0
Purvis	66	92	24	57.1	48	109.1	72	83.7	27.1
Quitman	90	100	22	32.4	38	61.3	60	46.2	11.7
Raymond	25	56	-17	-40.5	13	30.2	-4	-4.7	9.7
Richton	52	63	1	2.0	16	34.0	17	17.3	-6.0
Riley*	168	200	52	44.8	78	63.9	130	54.6	12.0
Rolling Fork	46	51	-2	-4.2	3	6.2	1	1.0	31.7
Rosedale	133	176	49	58.3	51	40.8	100	47.8	6.5
Ruleville	114	147	37	48.0	85	137.1	122	87.8	25.0
Sardis	119	136	45	60.8	22	19.3	67	35.6	9.7
Senatobia*	131	211	52	65.8	84	66.1	136	66.0	54.6
Shaw	138	200	23	20.0	44	28.2	67	24.7	9.0
Shelby	140	203	45	47.4	58	40.0	103	42.9	11.0

(continued next page)

(Table 12. continued)

Town	Aged population 1960		Aged males 1950-1960		Aged females 1950-1960		Total Aged 1950-1960		Total All Ages 1950-1960	
	Males	Females	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Stonewall	21	43	6	40.0	21	95.4	27	73.0	10.9	
Summit	68	109	—9	—11.7	27	32.9	18	11.3	6.7	
Taylorville	53	61	19	55.9	22	56.4	41	56.2	1.4	
Tie Plant	54	56	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Tunica	67	83	32	91.4	20	31.7	52	53.1	6.7	
Tunica North	44	56	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Tylertown	82	117	21	34.4	52	80.0	73	57.9	15.1	
Union	91	124	38	71.7	49	65.3	87	68.0	10.7	
Waveland	100	76	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Wesson	57	89	—1	—1.7	20	29.0	19	15.0	—6.3	
Wiggins	69	96	16	30.2	36	60.0	52	46.0	10.8	
Woodville	63	98	18	40.0	27	38.0	45	38.8	15.4	

*Had more than 2,500 inhabitants in 1960, but not in 1950.

**The revised population total for Centerville in 1960 was 508 more than the number quoted in the Census. Among those are a number of aged people. Actual corrected figures by age breakdown are not available at this time.

NA Not available.

Sources: Bureau of Census, *U. S. Census of Population, 1950*, Part 24, p. 58, Table 40; *U. S. Census of Population, 1960*, PC 26B, pp. 47-48, Table 24. George L. Wilber and Ellen Bryant, *Growth of Mississippi Counties and Cities, 1950-1960*, AES Bulletin 608, December, 1960, Table 3.

was larger in the aged category than in the age groupings below 65. This, with few exceptions, was true for Mississippi as a whole, in that generally places which gained population had larger increases in the aged than in the other age categories.

This observation should be of profound interest to those who are engaged in action programs designed to meet the needs of a changing population.

It is also interesting to note, that according to the 1960 Census a large proportion of the State's aged population, 84 per cent, were native Mississippians.⁶ The majority of the non-native aged residents were born in another southern state.

Ninety-seven per cent of the aged residents also lived in Mississippi five years ago, and almost three-fourths reported they lived in the same house at that time.⁷ Only a slightly larger proportion of the white than nonwhite senior citizens reported out-of-state residence in 1955.⁸

Marital Status

Despite the numerical increase of aged persons in the State from 1950 to 1960, the proportion in each of the marital status groupings was remarkably similar to that of a decade ago: 55.1 per cent were married; 39 per cent widowed; 4.7 per cent single, and 1.2 per cent divorced.

Where changes did occur, they were most pronounced in the rural non-farm population. The latter showed the greatest proportional decrease in the widowed category, and the largest proportional increases in both the married and divorced segments of the population.

In the rural farm category, even though there were fewer widowers in 1960 than in 1950, the proportion of widowers in relation to all males 65 and over had increased over the decade.

Housing

In 1960, the Bureau of the Census realized the importance of the housing of this country's senior citizens, and, therefore, published a volume devoted solely to this subject.⁹ It included

⁶Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Population, 1960, State of Birth*, PC (2), 2A, Table 25.

⁷Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Population, 1960, Detailed Characteristics*, PC (1), 26D, Table 100.

⁸Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Population, 1960, Lifetime and Recent Migration*, PC (2), 2D, Table 6.

⁹Bureau of the Census, *U. S. Census of Housing, 1960, Housing of Senior Citizens*, Vol. VII.

persons 60 years of age and over¹⁰ and subdivided them into categories as follows:

1. Under 60 years of age
2. 60 to 64 years of age
3. 65 to 74 years of age, and
4. 75 years of age and over.¹¹

¹⁰This in itself may be a significant factor in that usually a person 65 years of age or over was included in the "old age" category. Inclusion of the 60-64 age grouping may well be considered as a reclassification of the aged.

¹¹Inasmuch as the age limit employed up until this point was 65 and over, only the latter two groupings will be included for discussion.

The housing arrangements of the latter two groupings are presented in Table 15.

Seventy per cent of the aged population in Mississippi resided in owner-occupied units, while the remainder lived in renter-occupied units. Two-thirds of the former were occupied by couples who had no nonrelatives living

Table 13. Number and Percent Change in Population 65 Years of Age and Over, 1950-1960 by Sex, and in Total Population of Places in Mississippi, with 2,500 to 10,000 Inhabitants in 1950.

Town	Aged Population 1960		Changes in						
			Aged Males		Aged Females		Total Aged		Total All Ages
	Males	Females	1950-1960		1950-1960		1950-1960		1950-1960
No.	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	%	
Aberdeen	275	399	51	22.8	92	30.0	143	26.9	22.0
Amory	300	401	111	58.7	157	64.3	268	61.9	30.0
Bay St. Louis	274	345	90	48.9	113	48.7	203	48.8	9.8
Belzoni	184	230	41	28.7	87	60.8	128	44.8	1.7
Booneville	157	253	41	35.3	92	57.1	133	48.0	5.6
Brookhaven	364	557	119	48.6	239	75.2	358	63.6	26.7
Canton	405	597	142	54.0	238	66.3	380	61.1	37.7
Charleston	145	238	42	40.8	93	64.1	135	54.4	-3.9
Cleveland*	309	412	142	85.0	172	71.7	314	77.1	50.8
Columbia	291	363	114	64.4	152	72.0	266	68.6	16.2
Corinth*	585	820	148	33.9	306	59.5	454	47.7	17.0
Crystal Springs	209	286	72	52.6	81	39.5	153	44.7	22.3
Ellisville	135	194	55	68.8	80	70.2	135	69.6	28.3
Forest	154	198	58	60.4	77	63.6	135	62.2	36.3
Greenville									
North	49	57	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Grenada	325	484	122	60.1	176	57.1	298	58.3	7.1
Hazlehurst	157	247	45	40.2	61	32.8	106	35.6	0.1
Holly Springs	216	311	116	116.0	142	84.0	258	95.9	71.6
Indianola	305	407	148	94.3	178	77.7	326	84.4	53.4
Kosciusko	340	441	111	48.5	112	34.0	223	40.0	0.7
Leland	240	340	105	77.8	156	84.8	261	81.8	32.9
Lexington	156	224	21	15.6	44	24.4	65	20.6	-11.2
Long Beach	211	237	114	117.5	109	85.2	223	99.1	76.5
Louisville	223	274	66	42.0	55	25.1	121	32.2	-4.1
Miss. City	102	132	-9	-8.1	2	1.5	-7	-2.9	22.6
Moss Point	158	190	24	17.9	43	29.2	67	23.8	75.3
New Albany	272	377	137	101.5	162	75.3	299	85.4	40.0
Newton	133	177	52	64.2	69	63.9	121	64.0	9.1
Ocean Springs	182	240	68	59.6	68	49.6	171	68.1	64.3
Oxford	204	324	65	46.8	114	54.3	179	51.3	33.5
Pass Christian	173	246	33	23.6	75	43.8	108	34.7	14.7
Pearl	40	62	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Philadelphia	222	262	78	54.2	112	74.7	190	64.6	12.2
Picayune	278	293	119	74.8	137	87.8	256	81.3	16.8
Port Gibson	124	188	3	2.5	16	9.3	19	6.5	-2.0
Starkville	227	387	74	48.4	136	54.2	210	52.0	27.3
University	6	15	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Water Valley	233	354	45	23.9	113	46.9	158	36.8	-0.2
Waynesboro	119	146	11	10.2	20	15.9	31	13.2	13.1
West Gulfport	69	67	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Point	281	472	65	30.1	98	26.2	163	27.6	32.9
Winona	205	278	68	49.6	74	36.3	142	41.6	24.4
Yazoo City	459	738	156	51.5	251	51.5	407	51.5	15.3

Sources: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1950, Characteristics of the Population, Vol. II, Part 24, pp. 52-54, Table 38.

Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1960, General Population Characteristics, PC (1) 26B, pp. 43-46, Table 22.

George L. Wilber and Ellen Bryant, Youth of Mississippi Counties and Cities, 1950 to 1960, Mississippi AES Bulletin 608, December 1960, pp. 6-7.

*Indicates total population more than 10,000 in 1960.

NA — Not available.

Table 14. Changes in Population 65 Years Old and Over, 1950-1960, of Places with 10,000 or More Inhabitants in 1950, by Sex and Race, Mississippi.

Town	Aged Population 1960		Changes from 1950-1960					
	Males	Females	Aged Males		Aged Females		Total	
			No.	%	No.	%	Aged	All Ages
Biloxi								
White	1,044	810	438	72.3	179	28.4		
Nonwhite	116	134	26	28.9	5	3.9		
Total	1,160	944	464	66.7	184	24.2	44.5	17.7
Clarksdale								
White	353	513	144	68.9	227	79.4		
Nonwhite	555	626	238	75.1	251	66.9		
Total	908	1,139	382	72.6	478	72.3	72.4	27.6
Columbus								
White	405	680	148	57.6	261	62.3		
Nonwhite	336	452	111	49.3	140	44.9		
Total	741	1,132	159	53.7	401	54.8	54.4	44.3
Greenville								
White	450	702	139	44.7	291	70.8		
Nonwhite	785	1,066	238	43.5	354	49.7		
Total	1,235	1,768	377	43.9	645	57.4	51.6	38.9
Greenwood								
White	302	528	97	47.3	182	52.6		
Nonwhite	487	580	185	61.2	204	54.2		
Total	789	1,108	282	55.6	386	53.5	54.4	13.1
Gulfport								
White	824	903	299	57.0	353	64.2		
Nonwhite	161	193	29	22.0	66	52.0		
Total	985	1,096	328	49.9	419	61.9	56.0	33.3
Hattiesburg								
White	745	1,204	232	45.2	517	75.2		
Nonwhite	415	447	169	68.7	160	55.7		
Total	1,160	1,651	401	52.8	677	69.5	62.2	18.7
Jackson								
White	2,169	3,584	894	70.1	1,562	77.2		
Nonwhite	1,336	1,568	489	57.7	503	47.2		
Total	3,505	5,152	1,383	65.2	2,065	66.9	66.2	47.0
Laurel								
White	594	829	187	45.9	301	57.0		
Nonwhite	318	364	69	27.7	128	54.2		
Total	912	1,193	256	39.0	429	56.2	48.2	11.4
McComb								
White	430	622	109	34.0	194	45.3		
Nonwhite	104	136	35	50.7	53	63.8		
Total	534	758	144	36.9	247	48.3	43.4	15.6
Meridian								
White	1,329	2,161	382	40.3	799	58.7		
Nonwhite	561	839	160	39.9	291	53.1		
Total	1,890	3,000	542	40.2	1,090	57.1	50.1	17.9
Natchez								
White	301	518	38	14.4	109	26.6		
Nonwhite	401	618	91	29.4	75	13.8		
Total	702	1,136	129	22.5	184	19.3	20.5	4.6
Pascagoula								
White	292	367	113	63.1	154	72.3		
Nonwhite	69	82	28	68.3	29	54.7		
Total	361	449	141	64.1	183	68.8	66.7	58.6
Tupelo								
White	373	627	121	48.0	280	80.7		
Nonwhite	189	185	59	45.4	28	17.8		
Total	562	812	180	47.1	308	61.1	55.1	49.4
Vicksburg								
White	557	953	125	28.9	266	38.7		
Nonwhite	655	943	138	26.7	242	34.5		
Total	1,212	1,896	263	27.7	507	36.6	33.0	4.2

Sources: Bureau of the Census. U. S. Census of Population, 1960, General Population Characteristics, PC (1) 26B, pp. 36-40, Table 20.

U. S. Census of Population, 1950, Characteristics of the Population, Vol. II, Part 24, pp. 40-42, Table 33.

George L. Wilber and Ellen Bryant, Growth of Mississippi Counties and Cities, 1950-1960, Mississippi AES Bulletin 608, December, 1960, pp. 6-7.

with them, one-fourth had a family head, while the remainder had other arrangements.

A slightly different pattern was found for the renter-occupied units, where 58 per cent were occupied by an aged male head with wife present and no nonrelatives; 27 per cent were households with an aged female head, and 15 percent had other arrangements.

¹²The employment data refer to the calendar week prior to the date on which the responses were received. Employed persons comprise those who did any work for pay or profit, or worked without pay for 15 hours or more on a family farm or in a family business, or were "with a job but not at work."

Table 15. Heads of Household 65 Years Old and Over by Owner or Renter—Occupied Units, Mississippi, 1960.

Age of head and household composition	Owner-occupied units		Renter-occupied units		All occupied units	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
With head 65-74	77,293		33,222		110,515	
Male head, wife present, no nonrelatives	53,300	69.0	19,660	59.2	72,960	66.0
Other male head	6,171	8.0	4,848	14.6	11,019	10.0
Female head	17,822	23.0	8,714	26.2	26,536	24.0
With head 75 and over	37,632		16,101		53,733	
Male head, wife present, no nonrelatives	22,445	59.6	8,917	55.4	31,362	58.4
Other male head	4,717	12.5	2,658	16.5	7,375	13.7
Female head	10,470	27.9	4,526	28.1	14,996	27.9
TOTALS	114,925		49,323		164,248	

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Housing, 1960, Housing of Senior Citizens, Vol. VII, Table A-1.

Table 16. Employed Persons, 65 Years of Age and Over, by Occupation* and Sex, Mississippi, 1950 and 1960.

Occupation	1950				1960			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Professional, technical and kindred workers	1,498	4.0	467	7.9	1,380	5.1	877	10.2
Farmers and farm managers	22,361	59.2	1,249	21.1	10,435	38.8	486	5.6
Managers, officials, and proprietors, exc. farmers	2,604	5.9	346	5.8	2,676	9.9	622	7.2
Clerical and kindred workers	652	1.7	231	3.9	1,034	3.9	641	7.4
Sales workers	1,130	3.0	288	4.9	1,316	4.9	628	7.3
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers	1,874	5.0	26	0.4	1,865	6.9	22	0.3
Operatives, kindred workers	1,024	2.7	353	6.0	1,321	4.9	661	7.7
Private household workers	117	0.3	1,495	25.2	90	0.3	2,701	31.4
Service workers exc. private household...	1,180	3.1	473	8.0	1,487	5.5	871	10.1
Farm laborers and foremen	2,823	7.5	742	12.5	2,949	11.0	544	6.3
Laborers, exc. farm and mine	2,061	5.4	33	0.5	1,923	7.2	45	0.5
Occupation not reported	460	1.2	223	3.8	441	1.6	513	6.0
Total Employed	37,784	100.0	5,926	100.0	26,917	100.0	8,611	100.0
Total Aged	74,884		78,080		87,307		100,236	

Sources: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Population, 1950, Characteristics of the Population, Vol. II, Part 24, Mississippi, Table 76, and U. S. Census of Population, 1960, Detailed Characteristics, PC (1), 26D, Mississippi, Table 123.

*Persons with two or more jobs during a survey week are classified as employed in the industry and at the occupation in which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. Consequently, some of these shown as engaged in agricultural activities also engaged in nonagricultural activities, and vice versa.

The 1960 Census also reported that 2,742 aged residents of Mississippi (less than 2 per cent) lived in nursing homes. Three-fifths of these inhabitants were males and the remainder females.

Employment¹² and Occupation

Census figures reveal that fewer people 65 years of age and over were employed in 1960 than a decade ago. With

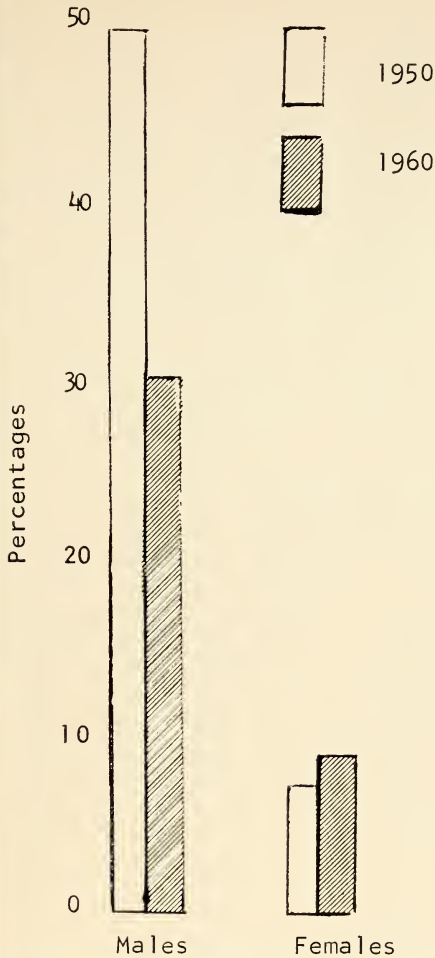


Figure 3. Percent of Aged Population in the Labor Force, 1950 and 1960, by Sex.

respect to the aged males, for example, 50 per cent were employed in 1950, while in 1960, 34 per cent were employed. Despite a numerical increase in the aged males, also the number employed was smaller. The data for the aged female population showed a different pattern. A small proportion of the latter was employed. However, changes over the decade went in the opposite direction from those of the males. In 1960 a larger proportion was employed than in 1950, the percentages

being 8.6 and 7.6, respectively (Figure 3). One may conclude that, with the increased independence of women, changes in this direction may be expected to continue for the next few decades. Starting out in a career when young may give women a strong incentive, and once momentum is gained, they may continue to work after retirement age.

In 1960, a very small proportion (4 per cent) of Mississippi's aged male and female population was unemployed, that is, was reported interested in a job but could not locate one. Table 16 illustrates the types of occupations in which these people were engaged, together with the trends of the past decade.

Of the total employed population in Mississippi in 1960, including all ages, the highest median age was reported in the following occupations:

	Median Age
Railroads and railway express service	50.3
Farm and farm managers	51.3
Barbers	51.6
Locomotive engineers	54.8
Guard and watchmen	56.4
Blacksmiths, forgemen, hammermen	61.8

Some of the above occupations are obviously becoming outmoded, especially the latter.

Income

Of the 110,296 heads of households, 65 years old and over, 5,102 or about 5 per cent, had no income at all in 1959; almost 33 per cent made from one to 499 dollars or registered a loss, and 28 per cent made from 500 to 999 dollars. These three categories thus included almost two-thirds of the State's aged heads of households (Table 17).

This low-income aged population, thus must depend for support on sources such as friends, relatives, and/or private or public agencies. This problem is expected to continue for at least a number of years to come. In 1961, the Federal Government spent, or administered, \$15 billion for the economic welfare of persons 65 years of age and over¹³ of which the Mississippi aged population received its share.

¹³Federal Council on Aging, 1962 Report to the President: How the Government Works for Older People (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1962), p. 1.

Table 17. Income of Heads of Households, Age 65 and Over, Mississippi, 1960.

Income in 1959	Household heads age 65 and over	
	Number	Percent
None	5,102	4.6
\$1 to 499 or a loss	35,506	32.2
\$500 to 999	30,830	28.0
\$1,000 to 1,499	13,476	12.2
\$1,500 to 1,999	8,254	7.5
\$2,000 to 2,499	5,000	4.5
\$2,500 to 2,999	2,505	2.3
\$3,000 to 4,999	5,003	4.5
\$5,000 or more	4,620	4.2

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Census of Housing, 1960, Housing of Senior Citizens, Vol. VII, Table A-4, p. 189.

CONCLUSION

The changing conditions in the many facets of social life profoundly affect not only youth but also the aged. To meet their respective needs, one must plan. One way in which such planning may be facilitated is by estimating

changes in population between Census years. Table 18 shows provisional estimates of the aged population for the year 1965. Another aid may be found in the projection of changes for the near and more distant future. George L. Wilber and Ellen S. Bryant have projected that by the year 1975 the aged population of the State will have increased to the effect that it will comprise 10 per cent of the total population. Their calculations show a possible increase of between 35 and 50 per cent in aged persons per se from 1960 to 1985. The increases are expected to continue to be considerably higher for the white than from the nonwhite population.¹⁴ These figures suggest a need for community planning to meet the problems of the aged.

¹⁴George L. Wilber and Ellen S. Bryant, *Illustrative Projections of Mississippi Population, 1960-1985*, State College, Miss.; Sociology and Rural Life Series No. 14, September, 1964.

Table 18. 1965 Estimates of Population 65 Years of Age and Over, for Mississippi, by County and Race.

County	Total	White	Nonwhite	County	Total	White	Nonwhite
Adams	2,894	1,327	1,567	Lincoln	2,770	2,065	705
Alcorn	2,992	2,657	335	Lowndes	3,634	2,234	1,400
Amite	1,386	855	531	Madison	2,922	1,172	1,750
Attala	2,444	1,792	652	Marion	2,099	1,400	699
Benton	755	601	154	Marshall	2,032	800	1,232
Bolivar	4,893	1,483	3,410	Monroe	3,368	2,319	1,049
Calhoun	1,451	1,276	175	Montgomery	1,704	1,217	487
Carroll	1,181	686	495	Neshoba	2,533	2,194	339
Chickasaw	2,035	1,330	705	Newton	2,402	1,695	707
Choctaw	1,114	943	171	Noxubee	1,490	471	1,019
Claiborne	866	246	620	Oktibeha	2,148	1,233	915
Clarke	1,887	1,250	637	Panola	2,745	1,396	1,349
Clay	1,757	819	938	Pearl River	1,968	1,588	380
Coahoma	4,329	1,585	2,744	Perry	897	637	260
Copiah	3,036	1,790	1,246	Pike	3,489	2,350	1,139
Covington	1,316	874	442	Pontotoc	2,151	1,918	233
DeSoto	1,992	877	1,115	Prentiss	1,900	1,700	200
Forrest	4,213	3,051	1,162	Quitman	1,897	702	1,177
Franklin	898	553	345	Rankin	4,380	3,240	1,140
George	809	695	114	Scott	2,118	1,417	701
Greene	1,016	846	170	Sharkey	820	286	534
Grenada	1,670	880	790	Simpson	2,120	1,600	520
Hancock	1,724	1,499	225	Smith	1,416	1,234	182
Harrison	8,049	6,625	1,424	Stone	776	648	128
Hinds	13,073	7,768	5,305	Sunflower	3,749	1,355	2,394
Holmes	3,246	1,004	2,242	Tallahatchie	2,393	972	1,421
Humphreys	1,802	531	1,271	Tate	1,848	905	943
Issaquena	267	79	188	Tippah	1,921	1,610	311
Itawamba	1,652	1,592	60	Tishomingo	1,814	1,741	73
Jackson	3,056	2,597	459	Tunica	1,421	270	1,151
Jasper	1,979	1,324	655	Union	2,009	1,742	267
Jefferson	1,369	527	842	Walthall	1,139	814	325
Jefferson Davis	1,233	580	653	Warren	4,446	2,144	2,302
Jones	4,469	3,400	1,069	Washington	6,414	2,439	3,975
Kemper	1,451	944	507	Wayne	1,473	1,073	400
Lafayette	1,613	1,203	410	Webster	1,339	1,140	199
Lamar	1,230	859	371	Wilkinson	1,170	464	706
Lauderdale	7,255	5,391	1,864	Winston	1,750	1,213	537
Lawrence	1,091	722	369	Yalobusha	1,725	1,152	573
Leake	2,104	1,504	600	Yazoo	3,186	1,460	1,726
Lee	3,643	2,795	848				
Leflore	3,887	1,652	2,235	TOTALS	200,685	124,022	75,663

Source: These provisional estimates were computed by Mrs. Ellen S. Bryant, Division of Sociology and Rural Life, Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station. The figures are subject to revision.