

ESTIMATED COMPOSITION OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER MODIFIED TITLE II  
COVERAGE AS SET FORTH IN VARIOUS AC PLANS

With particular reference to wives  
widows, and dependent children

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ESTIMATED COMPOSITION OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER MODIFIED TITLE II COVERAGE

AS SET FORTH IN VARIOUS AC PLANS

In considering the extension of coverage of title II so as to include benefits to wives of male annuitants, widows of male annuitants, or covered individuals under age 65, or to surviving dependent children of covered individuals, it is necessary to make a great many estimates of the composition of the covered group according to marital condition, employment status, and coverage under title II. The purpose of this report is to summarize the estimates of the various categories.

These estimates were made in connection with the actuarial computations for the AC plans, and it is assumed that annuity and survivorship benefits will first become available in 1940 and further, that widows of men dying before 1940 will not be eligible for benefits as widows. In some of the AC plans the criterion was set up that wives and widows would be eligible at age 60, while in other AC plans age 65 was used as the boundary. In this report figures will be presented only for age 65 as the eligibility boundary for wives and widows, since estimates on this basis are relatively easier to present because the age boundary is the same for men as for women and because it reduces somewhat the administrative complexity.

Table A presents the distribution of the male and female populations of the United States according to marital status and age

Table A

## PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION

MARITAL CONDITION OF THE TOTAL POPULATION, 1930 a/

Age Group	Male			Female		
	Single <u>b/</u>	Married	Widowed	Single <u>b/</u>	Married	Widowed
20-29	55.4%	44.0%	0.6%	36.0%	62.5%	1.5%
30-39	19.7	78.6	1.7	13.8	81.9	4.3
40-49	14.2	82.2	3.6	11.0	79.3	9.7
50-59	12.3	80.4	7.3	10.5	69.7	19.8
60-64	11.3	76.3	12.4	9.9	56.9	33.2
65-69	10.6	71.6	17.8	9.2	46.7	44.1
70-74	9.7	64.8	25.5	9.0	35.0	56.0
75+	7.9	50.5	41.6	7.7	18.3	74.0
20-64	27.3	69.4	3.3	19.4	72.1	8.5
65+	9.6	63.8	26.6	8.7	34.7	56.6

a/ Source: 1930 census. Unknowns are excluded.b/ Including divorced.

for 1930. From this table much basic material was obtained for making cost estimates. It should be particularly noted in table A that 63.8% of all men, age 65 and over, were married in 1930. Furthermore, the proportion of men and women who are married decreases with age beginning with those in the middle and upper age groups.

In table B there is shown a percentage age distribution of wives for husbands aged 65 and over for England and Wales, 1901. No comprehensive American data of this sort is available at present. However, from a special tabulation of Pennsylvania and Georgia data made by the Bureau of the Census for the Committee on Economic Security it was possible, by projection, to obtain the desired material for calculation of illustrative survivorship benefits. The English results are set down since they are more complete and give indications of percentages at various ages, whereas the results obtained from the Pennsylvania and Georgia material merely give results for a few age boundaries of wife. From table B it can be seen that where the husband is age 65 and over, 90% have wives over 55, 79% have wives over 60, and 57% have wives over 65. The corresponding figures obtained from the projection of the Pennsylvania and Georgia data are 91%, 80%, and 56%. The agreement between these estimates and the English census material is remarkably close.

In tables C and D there are presented various census data in regard to women who are gainfully occupied. It should be noted that these data apply to women in all occupations rather than to those in

Table B

PERCENTAGE AGE DISTRIBUTION OF WIVES FOR HUSBANDS AGED 65 AND OVER,  
ENGLAND AND WALES, 1901

Age of Wife	Age of Husband				
	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 and Over	65 and Over
Percentage in Each Age Group					
Under 50	6%	4%	4%	-	5%
50-54	6	5	4	5%	5
55-59	15	8	6	5	11
60-64	30	17	10	5	22
65-69	34	30	20	14	29
70-74	7	29	28	23	18
75-79	1	6	24	25	7
80 and Over	1	1	4	23	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Cumulative Percentage					
Over 50	94%	96%	96%	100%	95%
" 55	88	91	92	95	90
" 60	73	83	86	90	79
" 65	43	66	76	85	57
" 70	9	36	56	71	28
" 75	2	7	28	48	10
" 80	1	1	4	23	3

Table C

GAINFULLY OCCUPIED a/ WOMEN AS A PERCENTAGE OF ALL WOMEN  
FOR SPECIFIED AGE AND MARITAL GROUPS, 1930 b/

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Single c/</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Widowed d/</u>	<u>Total</u>
15-19	28.5%	13.0%	48.0%	26.6%
20-24	70.6	16.3	64.7	42.4
25-44	75.4	13.1	68.1	25.4
45 and Over	48.3	7.8	24.0	16.2
15 and Over	50.6	11.7	34.4	24.8

Table D

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF GAINFULLY OCCUPIED a/ WOMEN  
BY MARITAL CONDITION AND AGE, 1930 b/

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Single c/</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Widowed d/</u>	<u>Total</u>
15-19	93.1%	6.1%	.8%	100.0%
20-24	76.8	19.9	3.3	100.0
25-44	42.0	41.0	17.0	100.0
45 and Over	26.6	29.4	44.0	100.0
15 and Over	53.9	28.9	17.2	100.0

a/ In all occupations.

b/ Source: 1930 census.

c/ Including unknown marital condition.

d/ Including divorced.

covered industries. Table C shows that nearly 25% of all women were gainfully occupied in 1930. A much greater proportion of unmarried women are gainfully occupied than married women (housewives are not considered by the census as being "gainfully employed"). Table D shows that nearly 54% of all gainfully occupied women were single, 29% were married, and 17% widowed or divorced.

Table 1 presents the estimated composition of the primary annuitants (i. e., individuals who are annuitants in their own right). There is a break-down of the total annuitants into male and female and married and unmarried. From this table it can be seen that the percentage of male annuitants decreases from about 88% in 1940 to 68% in 1980. This trend is due to the assumption that many women will be employed in their youth and thus receive monthly benefits when they reach old age. The percentage of female annuitants increases from about 12% in 1940 to 32% in 1980.

This can be seen more clearly from table 1a in which the estimated coverage is compared to the estimated total population by age groups. From this table it can be seen that the percentage of women employed in covered occupations in the younger age groups is about 25%, while for the older age groups it is only about 5%. Thus, 40 years from now this 25%, some of whom have not worked for many years, will nevertheless be eligible for monthly benefits, while amongst the present middle-aged women only 5% or 10% will be eligible. Among men the same situation prevails, although not nearly to the same degree.



Table 1

ESTIMATED COMPOSITION OF PRIMARY ANNUITANTS a/ UNDER AC PLANS

(All figures in thousands of persons)

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Total Annuitants</u>	<u>Male Annuitants</u>			<u>Female Annuitants</u>		
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Unmarried</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Unmarried</u>
Number of Persons							
1940	1006	882	529	353	124	25	99
1945	1561	1339	803	536	222	55	167
1950	2205	1863	1118	745	342	101	241
1955	2843	2326	1396	930	517	176	341
1960	3617	2879	1727	1152	738	286	452
1965	4151	3229	1937	1292	922	380	542
1970	4708	3578	2147	1431	1130	493	637
1975	5291	3862	2317	1545	1429	633	796
1980	5912	4026	2416	1610	1886	849	1037
Percentage Distribution							
1940	100.0%	87.7%	52.6%	35.1%	12.3%	2.5%	9.8%
1945	100.0	85.8	51.5	34.3	14.2	3.5	10.7
1950	100.0	84.5	50.7	33.8	15.5	4.6	10.9
1955	100.0	81.8	49.1	32.7	18.2	6.2	12.0
1960	100.0	79.6	47.8	31.8	20.4	7.9	12.5
1965	100.0	77.8	46.7	31.1	22.2	9.2	13.0
1970	100.0	76.0	45.6	30.4	24.0	10.5	13.5
1975	100.0	73.0	43.8	29.2	27.0	12.0	15.0
1980	100.0	68.1	40.9	27.2	31.9	14.4	17.5

a/ Includes only those who are annuitants in their own right.

NOTE: These estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. The figures shown are subject to wide fluctuations in absolute value, but attempt consistency among themselves and with earlier estimates of the Committee on Economic Security. Each such extension introduces more doubt as to the validity of fixing a single figure for each value. A range of values would be more correct, but would complicate the display.

Table 1a

INDIVIDUALS COVERED<sup>a/</sup> UNDER TITLE II COMPARED TO TOTAL POPULATION<sup>b/</sup> BY AGE GROUPS AND SEX, 1937

(All figures in thousands of persons)

Age Group	Men			Women			Men and Women		
	Total Population	Total Covered	Ratio	Total Population	Total Covered	Ratio	Total Population	Total Covered	Ratio
15-19	6,118	839	13.7%	5,994	568	9.5%	12,113	1,407	11.6%
20-24	5,788	2,874	49.7	5,766	1,725	29.9	11,555	4,599	39.8
25-29	5,389	3,036	56.3	5,518	1,353	24.5	10,907	4,389	40.2
30-34	4,919	2,750	55.9	5,061	925	18.3	9,980	3,675	36.8
35-39	4,527	2,339	51.7	4,579	697	15.2	9,106	3,036	33.3
40-44	4,437	2,062	46.5	4,374	540	12.3	8,810	2,602	29.5
45-49	4,108	1,771	43.1	3,931	393	10.0	8,039	2,164	26.9
50-54	3,566	1,368	38.4	3,341	251	7.5	6,907	1,619	23.4
55-59	2,999	975	32.5	2,789	162	5.8	5,787	1,137	19.6
60-64	2,302	623	27.1	2,159	86	4.0	4,461	709	15.9
15-64	44,153	18,637	42.2	43,512	6,700	15.4	87,665	25,337	28.9

<sup>a/</sup> The total coverage is assumed to be 25,337,000, which is the estimate of the Committee on Economic Security. This total is distributed into age groups according to the data in the 1% Sample, a random sample of about 1% of the first 26,500,000 SS-5's received.

<sup>b/</sup> Total population in the United States according to population estimates of the Committee on Economic Security.

At the younger ages about 55% of the total male population are covered individuals. This percentage decreases very gradually until at age 50 it is about 40%. Thereafter there is a more rapid drop until for the age group 60-64 it is about 27%. This indicates that of the men attaining age 65 in a given year, proportionately more will qualify for benefits in the later years than in the early years. However, this trend will be greatly magnified in the case of women.

Table 1 assumes that the proportion of male annuitants who are married will remain constant throughout the entire period at 60% (see table A). Due to the age 65 amendment the one million estimated annuitants in 1940 will include many individuals of all ages over 65 rather than those who have just attained age 65, as would be the case under the present title II. It is difficult to estimate whether average age of the annuitants in the early years would be relatively greater or less than the average age of those age 65 and over in the entire population. If the former were the case, a smaller percentage of men would be married and vice versa (see table A). It was therefore assumed that the proportion of male annuitants who were married would remain constant.

In 1940 it is estimated that the number of unmarried female annuitants will be about four times as great as the number married. However, by 1980 there are only slightly more unmarried female annuitants than married. This trend, as pointed out previously, is due to the women who obtain covered employment in their youth and subsequently marry and withdraw from covered employment. The great majority of the

middle-aged women who are in covered employment at present are unmarried (see table D).

Table 2 presents a further investigation into the composition of the married male annuitants according to age of wife and further, according to whether she is an annuitant in her own right. It was assumed throughout the entire period that 20% of the married men would have wives under 60, 25% would have wives 60-64, and the remaining 55% would have wives over 65. These percentages were obtained from the projection of the Pennsylvania and Georgia census material and agree quite closely with the British data shown in table B. A constant percentage was assumed throughout the entire period because of the doubt as to whether the annuitants in the early years would be relatively older or younger than the total aged population from which these percentages were derived. In subdividing the wives aged 65 and over into those who are annuitants in their own right, it was assumed that all married female annuitants are wives of covered individuals. This assumption is, of course, quite arbitrary but was made for lack of any better guess. In 1940 the number of wives over 65 who are annuitants in their own right is only about 8% of the wives aged 65 and over. However, by 1980 the wives who are annuitants in their own right are about 65% of the total wives 65 and over. This trend is due to the increasing proportion of married women attaining age 65 who were in covered employment in their youth. A large proportion of these women will not receive the wives' allowance benefits as proposed under many

Table 2

## ESTIMATED COMPOSITION OF MARRIED MALE ANNUITANTS UNDER AC PLANS

(All figures in thousands of persons)

Calendar Year	Total	With Wife Under 60	With Wife 60-64	With Wife 65 and Over		
				Total	Wife an Annuitant a/	Wife not Annuitant a/
1940	529	106	132	291	25	266
1945	803	161	200	442	55	387
1950	1118	224	279	615	101	514
1955	1396	279	349	768	176	592
1960	1727	345	432	950	286	664
1965	1937	387	485	1065	380	685
1970	2147	429	537	1181	493	688
1975	2317	463	580	1274	633	641
1980	2416	483	604	1329	849	480

a/ In her own right.

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of the AC plans but will receive annuities in their own right. In the cost estimates it is assumed that all such wives would receive larger annuities in their own right than they would receive as wives' allowances.

In table 3 there is presented the estimated composition of widows of annuitants. These figures are used in the estimates of survivorship benefits. It should be noted that these figures include not only widows of individuals who were receiving annuities at the time of their death, but also widows of those individuals who were eligible for benefits but who were engaged in "regular employment" at the time of their death. In the early years there are relatively more widows under 60 and 60-64 than in the later years. This is due to the fact that the women are widowed at relatively young ages. However, these widows continue to live for a long time and thus attain the older ages. As a result the total number of widows increases greatly over the entire period, reaching almost 2,500,000 by 1980, of whom more than half are over 65. In the early years only a small proportion of those aged 65 and over are annuitants in their own right, while ultimately about one-third are. This trend is explained by the increasing number of married women who are annuitants in their own right because of employment in their youth.

Table 4 presents the estimated composition of widows of covered individuals dying before age 65. The total number of such widows increases to about 3,000,000 by 1980. In the early years the great

Table 3

ESTIMATED COMPOSITION OF WIDOWS OF ANNUITANTS <sup>a/</sup> UNDER AC PLANS

(All figures in thousands of persons)

Calendar Year	Total Widows	Under 60	60-64	65 and Over		
				Total	Annuitants In Own Right	Eligible Widows
1940	20	6	6	8	1	7
1945	242	36	54	152	20	132
1950	534	62	95	377	56	321
1955	873	86	138	649	110	539
1960	1246	110	251	885	187	698
1965	1587	131	388	1068	243	825
1970	1876	149	531	1196	283	913
1975	2147	164	677	1306	341	965
1980	2359	175	810	1374	425	949

<sup>a/</sup> Including those eligible for annuities, but who have not retired (i.e., are still in "regular employment").

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Table 4

ESTIMATED COMPOSITION OF WIDOWS OF COVERED INDIVIDUALS a/ UNDER AC PLANS

(All figures in thousands of persons)

Calendar Year	Total Widows	Widows Under Age 65 <u>b/</u>			Widows Aged 65 and Over <u>b/</u>		
		Total	With Children <u>c/</u>	Without Children <u>c/</u>	Total	Annuitants In Own Right	Eligible widows
1940	68	67	36	31	1	0	1
1945	736	710	320	390	26	3	23
1950	1378	1266	486	780	112	27	85
1955	1978	1729	552	1177	249	57	192
1960	2518	2068	557	1511	450	135	315
1965	2832	2193	553	1640	639	207	432
1970	2992	2196	549	1647	796	276	520
1975	3092	2169	546	1623	923	375	548
1980	3114	2098	535	1563	1016	508	508

a/ Includes only widows of men dying before age 65 and after 1939. Does not include widows of annuitants or widows of men dying before 1940.

b/ No attempt is made to differentiate between those widows who are in covered employment and those who are not.

c/ Children are under 18 years of age.

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majority are under age 65 but due to survivorship, relatively more and more are over 65 in future years; in 1980 about one-third of these widows are over 65. Of the widows under 65 about half in the early years have children. Ultimately the proportion of such widows that have children decreases due to the survivorship of the widows to the older ages. However, the actual number of widows under 65 with children remains fairly constant. The number without children increases not only because of those who never had children, but also because of those whose children have all passed the age of 18. Among the widows aged 65 and over very few are annuitants in their own right in the early years. However, ultimately about half of these widows are annuitants in their own right. This trend is explained by the increasing proportion of women who will be annuitants.

In table 5 there is presented an analysis of the total men 65 and over in the United States for various years into the future subdivided into the two categories of those who are receiving annuities under title II and those who would be eligible to receive annuities except that they are in "regular employment." From this table it can be seen that the total aged men in the United States increase from 4,000,000 in 1940 to almost 8,000,000 in 1980, a twofold increase. On the other hand, the number of male annuitants under title II increases from slightly under 1,000,000 in 1940 to 4,000,000 in 1980, a fourfold increase. The number of men who are eligible for annuities but who are still in "regular employment" is estimated to increase from 700,000

Table 5

MEN AGED 65 AND OVER IN THE UNITED STATES, 1940-80  
ESTIMATED COMPOSITION BY MARITAL CONDITION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS,  
AND MODIFIED TITLE II COVERAGE

(All figures in thousands of persons)

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Total Men</u>	<u>Male Annuitants</u>	<u>Employed Men a/</u>	<u>As Percent of Total Men</u>	
				<u>Annuitants</u>	<u>Employed</u>
1940	4164	882	700	21	17
1945	4771	1339	750	28	16
1950	5397	1863	800	35	15
1955	5990	2326	849	39	14
1960	6591	2879	898	44	14
1965	6837	3229	947	47	14
1970	7064	3578	997	51	14
1975	7419	3862	1046	52	14
1980	7877	4026	1097	51	14

a/ These men are qualified for annuities but are engaged in "regular employment."

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in 1940 to slightly over 1,000,000 in 1980. The annuitants as a percentage of the total aged male population increase from about 20% in 1940 to about 51% in 1970 and thereafter. The men who are qualified for benefits but who are still in "regular employment" represent 17% of the aged male population in 1940, decreasing to about 14% in 1955 and thereafter. Adding together the annuitants and the employed, it can be seen that ultimately about 65% of the aged male population are receiving annuities under title II or else are eligible. From table la it can be seen that the proportion of men covered under title II at the younger ages is about 56%. The 65% figure shown for the proportion of men who are either annuitants or eligible for annuities thus takes account of some "in and out" movement.

In table 6 data is presented for women aged 65 and over similar to that for men in table 5. However, in this table a more complete break-down is shown according to marital status and possible eligibility under a modified title II such as in some of the AC plans. The total women aged 65 and over increase from 4,000,000 in 1940 to 9,000,000 in 1980, a twofold increase. The number of female annuitants under title II increases from about 125,000 in 1940 to almost 2,000,000 in 1980, a fifteenfold increase. The wives of annuitants who are not annuitants in their own right show an increase from about 250,000 in 1940 to 690,000 in 1970 and then a decrease to about 500,000 in 1980. This latter trend is due to the increasing proportion of married women who are annuitants in their own right, as explained in the discussion in regard to table 2.

Table 6

## WOMEN AGED 65 AND OVER IN THE UNITED STATES, 1940-80

## ESTIMATED COMPOSITION BY MARITAL CONDITION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, AND MODIFIED TITLE II COVERAGE

(All figures in thousands of persons)

Calendar Year	Total Women	Female Annuitants <sup>a/</sup>	Wives of Annuitants <sup>b/</sup>	Widows of Annuitants <sup>b/</sup>	Widows of Covered Individuals <sup>c/</sup>	Total Participating Beneficiaries <sup>d/</sup>	Prospective Beneficiaries		
							Employed Women <sup>e/</sup>	Wives of Employed Men Under 65 <sup>f/</sup>	Over 65 <sup>f/</sup>
Number of Persons									
1940	4147	124	266	7	1	398	100	89	130
1945	4775	222	387	132	23	764	107	129	137
1950	5466	342	514	321	85	1262	114	171	143
1955	6176	517	592	539	192	1840	121	197	149
1960	6998	738	664	698	315	2415	129	221	155
1965	7502	922	685	825	432	2864	137	228	161
1970	7991	1130	688	913	520	3251	144	229	168
1975	8582	1429	641	965	548	3583	151	214	174
1980	9113	1886	480	949	508	3823	157	160	174
As Percentage of Total Women in the United States									
1940	100%	3%	7%	*	*	10%	2%	2%	3%
1945	100	5	8	3%	*	16	2	3	3
1950	100	6	9	6	2%	23	2	3	3
1955	100	8	10	9	3	30	2	3	2
1960	100	11	9	10	5	35	2	3	2
1965	100	12	9	11	6	38	2	3	2
1970	100	14	9	11	7	41	2	3	2
1975	100	17	7	12	6	42	2	2	2
1980	100	21	5	10	6	42	2	2	2

\* Less than 0.5%.

<sup>a/</sup> Annuitants in own right.<sup>b/</sup> For whom allowance is paid.<sup>c/</sup> Widows of men dying before age 65 and after 1939 for whom allowance is paid.<sup>d/</sup> Individuals who are receiving benefits. Sum of columns 2, 3, 4, and 5.<sup>e/</sup> Women eligible for annuities in own right who are in "regular employment".<sup>f/</sup> These women are not annuitants in own right and are not receiving allowance for wife because husband is in "regular employment".<sup>g/</sup> These women are not annuitants in own right. They will receive annuities when husband reaches age 65 or dies, whichever is first.

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Similarly, the widows of annuitants who are not annuitants in their own right tend to level off in about 1970, as explained in the discussion of table 3. Likewise, the widows of covered individuals show the same trend, as explained in the discussion of table 4. The total participating female beneficiaries (i. e., those who are either receiving annuities in their own right or as wives or widows of annuitants or covered individuals) increase from about 400,000 in 1940 to almost 4,000,000 in 1980, a tenfold increase. The estimated number of women who are eligible for benefits but who are in "regular employment" increases from about 100,000 in 1940 to 150,000 in 1980. Other women 65 and over who are not receiving benefits are those whose husbands are still in "regular employment" and who, themselves, are not annuitants in their own right. This includes aged wives of men both under 65 and over 65. These two categories account for about 300,000 additional aged women.

The number of female annuitants represents only about 3% of the aged female population in 1940, increasing to about 21% in 1980. The wives of annuitants for whom allowance is paid represent about 9% of the total aged female population from 1940 to 1970. Thereafter, this percentage declines because of the increasing proportion of the women who are annuitants in their own right. The widows of annuitants are only a negligible proportion of the total aged women in the early years, increasing to about 10% in 1955 and thereafter. In the early years most of the widows created by deaths of annuitants will be under

65 and it will be a number of years before a sizable proportion are 65 and over. Similarly, with widows of covered individuals only a small number are over 65 in the early years. In 1965 and thereafter this group (including only those who are not annuitants in their own right) represent 6% of the total aged female population. The total participating female beneficiaries represent 10% of the aged female population in 1940, increasing to about 42% in 1970 and thereafter. The prospective beneficiaries, including the employed women and the wives of employed men, represent about 6% of the aged female population so that about 50% of the aged female population are receiving benefits or are eligible to receive benefits under a modified title II coverage. It might be noted that this percentage is appreciably less than the percentage of aged men ultimately covered, as shown in table 5 to be 65%. This difference arises from several possible causes; first, a larger percentage of men would be covered under title II; second, the male coverage will reach an ultimate condition far sooner than the female coverage (the proportion of women who are annuitants in their own right will probably continue to increase after 1980 to about 30%); and third, the possible errors in the method of estimation. In regard to the latter point the continual subdivision of the population into various categories according to marital condition, employment status, and modified title II coverage is apt to produce anomalies and paradoxes since there is a steady increase in the necessary assumptions. However, the attempt has been made to keep all figures consistent and logical.

In table 7 there is presented data on the number of dependent children created by deaths among covered individuals after 1939. This data is valuable in making estimates of survivorship benefits, since in many plans the benefits are payable in respect to the children rather than the widow. Children are defined to be those under age 18, although a lower age might be contemplated with extension to age 18 during school attendance. This table seems to indicate that the number of children who are beneficiaries reaches an ultimate level of about 1 1/3 millions after a few years. This may be explained by the fact that children will, on the average, enter into benefits at about age 8 and will thus be on the pension roll for only about 9 years (the maximum period is, of course, 17 years). This contrasts greatly with the situation for old-age annuitants for whom the ultimate condition is not reached for many years. Since the total children in the United States are estimated to remain fairly constant at about 37,000,000, the children who would receive benefits under a modified title II coverage represent about 4% of the total children in the country throughout the entire period.

In such estimates as these the reader should remember that the figures are by no means as accurate as they seem to be. Obviously, in any long-time estimates involving marital and dependency conditions, there are apt to be great errors involved due to the empirical assumptions made. However, it has been attempted to make the best possible guesses and to have the figures consistent both among themselves and with previous estimates of the Committee on Economic Security.

Table 7

ESTIMATED DEPENDENT CHILDREN a/ BENEFITED UNDER MODIFIED TITLE II COVERAGE

(All figures in thousands of persons or families)

Calendar Year	Total Children <u>a/</u>	Beneficiaries Under Modified Title II		Beneficiaries As % of Total Children
		Children <u>a/</u>	Families <u>b/</u>	
1940	37,800	89	40	.2%
1945	36,800	800	356	2.2
1950	36,700	1,214	540	3.3
1955	36,700	1,381	614	3.8
1960	37,100	1,393	619	3.8
1965	37,000	1,382	614	3.7
1970	37,000	1,373	610	3.7
1975	36,400	1,365	607	3.8
1980	35,900	1,338	595	3.7

a/ Children are defined as those under 18.b/ It is assumed that there are  $2\frac{1}{4}$  children per family.

NOTE: These estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. The figures shown are subject to wide fluctuations in absolute value, but attempt consistency among themselves and with earlier estimates of the Committee on Economic Security. Each such extension introduces more doubt as to the validity of fixing a single figure for each value. A range of values would be more correct, but would complicate the display.