Asset Ownership of Households: 1993

SIPP

The Survey of Income and Program Participation

by T.J. Eller and Wallace Fraser

Highlights

- Median net worth, as measured in the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), for households in 1993 was $37,587 (± $1,250), not significantly different from the 1991 median household net worth of $38,500 (± $1,387) (in 1993 dollars).

- Median home equity for households whose householders owned their own homes increased between 1991 and 1993 from $43,070 (± $1,738) in 1991 (in 1993 dollars) to $46,669 (± $1,153) in 1993.

- During the period 1991 to 1993, there were declines in the median values of interest-earning assets at financial institutions, other interest-earning assets, rental property, vehicles, and businesses or professions. These declines were offset by increases in the median values of stocks and mutual fund shares, home equity, and U.S. savings bonds. The median value of holdings in checking accounts, other real estate, IRA or Keogh accounts, and other financial investments did not change between 1991 and 1993.

- In 1993, median measured net worth varied from $5,786 (± $474) for the youngest households to $91,481 (± $3,736) for households in the 55-to-64-year-old category. It was $77,654 (± $4,510) for the oldest group (75 years and over). Median measured net worth fell significantly from 1991 to 1993 for households in 35-to-44-year-old and 65-to-69-year-old categories.

- In 1993, households with White householders had median measured net worth of $45,740 (± $1,307), households with Black householders had median measured net worth of $4,418 (± $697), and households with Hispanic-origin householders had a median measured net worth of $4,656 (± $681), which was not significantly different from that of Black households.

- Married-couple households had the largest median measured net worth, $61,905 (± $1,614) in 1993. Both male- and female-maintained households had median measured net worth approximately one-fifth that of married-couple households in 1993.

- Households headed by females experienced a decline in their median measured net worth, from $15,518 (± $1,506) (in 1993 dollars) in 1991 to $13,294 (± $1,112) in 1993. This decline was concentrated among female householders age 35 to 54.

Acknowledgments

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Contents

APPENDIX TABLES

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents data on the assets and liabilities held by U.S. households in 1993. The data are from the 1991 and 1992 panels of SIPP and represent information collected in February through May of 1993[1]. While SIPP was designed primarily to provide estimates of income and government program participation, its asset and liability data provide additional indicators of economic well-being. These data, collected on a regular basis in a supplement to the survey, are also useful for modeling eligibility for government assistance programs.

A household's economic well-being depends on both its income and its asset accumulation, often referred to as its wealth. While income is the flow of resources to a household, wealth is the level of resources at any point in time. Wealth, also called net worth, is a particularly important dimension of well-being for some subgroups of the population such as the elderly, who tend to have lower retirement incomes but higher asset holdings.[2]

This report looks at the value of interest-earning assets, of stocks and mutual fund shares, of real estate, of mortgages held by sellers, and of motor vehicles, as well as the self reported value of own businesses or professions, held by households in the contiguous United States. The report also examines the value of measured net worth, defined as the sum of measured assets less measured liabilities such as debts secured by any asset, credit card or store bills, bank loans, and other unsecured debts.

Measuring wealth is more complex than measuring income. The market value of some assets, such as that of a home, is difficult to determine precisely, on a regular basis. The market value of other assets, such as stocks and bonds, varies over time, making point-in-time estimates of their value difficult.

Some assets may be targeted for future consumption and are thus excluded from the analysis in this report. For example, while life insurance policies generally have

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[1]The reference point for the asset and liability questions was the last day of the 4-month reference period that preceded the interview. As a result, the 1993 data presented in this report are an average of balances held and owed at the end of the months of January, February, March, and April 1993 and the 1991 data are the average of balances held and owed for January, February, March, and April of 1991.

[2]See Daniel Radner, *Measured Worth and Financial Assets of Age Groups in 1984*, Social Security Bulletin, Volume 52, No. 3, March 1989, pp 2-15.

a cash surrender value, they are usually not sold. Other types of wealth, such as Social Security benefits or equities in pension plans, have a value to the perspective recipient, but are not saleable.

Finally, some assets, such as household durable goods are generally not considered subject to sale. Additionally, these assets are difficult to value and may have an intangible value not reflected in the market. Therefore, this analysis does not cover equities in pension plans, the cash surrender value of life insurance policies, or the value of jewelry and home furnishings.

Few household surveys provide information on asset accumulation and debt holdings. The only other ongoing survey that provides wealth information is the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF), conducted by the Federal Reserve Board (FRB).[3] The SCF, which is designed specifically to analyze the financial portfolios of U.S. families, is much more detailed in the classification of assets and liabilites than the SIPP.

Household surveys provide data on the asset and debt holdings of the population, but it should be noted that asset accumulation tends to be underreported in household surveys. Further, the distribution of asset accumulation is known to be highly concentrated among households with large asset holdings. The concentration of asset accumulation and the paucity of observations for high-income households may bias various asset accumulation statistics.

Specifically, we believe that SIPP provides biased estimates of the aggregate of asset holdings and of mean amounts. The SIPP sample frame contains few observations for high income households, while the SCF makes a special attempt to survey respondents who are likely to have high incomes or be wealthy. For example, the 1993 SIPP estimated total aggregate net worth of 9.6 trillion dollars was 44 percent of the 21.8 trillion dollars (in 1993 dollars) measured by the 1992 SCF. The 1993 measured mean net worth estimated by the SIPP was $99,772, while the 1992 measured mean net worth estimated from the SCF was $226,900 (in 1993 dollars).[4]

In the presence of this pattern of underreporting, median values are better indicators of the asset accumulation of typical households than are mean values. The distribution of measured wealth is skewed, with a concentration of households at the low end of the distribution and a tail of households with high values. In this case, the median is lower than the mean of the distribution, but less sensitive to outliers. Therefore, estimates of median measured net worth (measured assets less measured debts) from the two surveys are much closer than the estimates of mean measured net worth. The 1993 SIPP estimate of measured median net worth was $37,587, and the 1991 SIPP estimate of measured median net worth was $38,500 (in 1993 dollars), 71 percent of the 1992 SCF estimate of median net worth of $53,800 (in 1993 dollars).

All demographic surveys, including SIPP, suffer from undercoverage of the population. This undercoverage results from missed housing units and missed persons within sample households. Compared to the level of the 1990 decennial census, overall SIPP undercoverage is about 7 percent. Undercoverage varies with age, sex, and race. For some groups, such as 20 to 24 year old Black males, the undercoverage is as high as about 27 percent. It's important to note that the survey undercoverage is in addition to the decennial census undercoverage, which in 1990 was estimated to be about 1.5 percent overall and about 8.5 percent for Black males. The weighting procedures used by the Census Bureau partially correct for the bias due to undercoverage. However, its final impact on estimates is unknown. For details, see appendix B.

Data for 1991, 1988, and 1984 were previously published in Series P70-34, *Household Wealth and Asset Ownership: 1991*, Series P70-22, *Household Wealth and Asset Ownership: 1988*, and Series P70-7, *Household Wealth and Asset Ownership: 1984*, respectively. The 1991 estimates reported here differ slightly from the estimates reported in the previous P70 report in two respects:

1. There were minor changes in the processing system.

2. The 1991 estimates published here are in 1993 constant dollars.[5]

This report presents data for 1993 and compares those estimates to 1991 data for certain household characteristics. The medians of measured net worth by household income, age of householder, race and ethnicity, and type of household, are analyzed for 1993 and 1991.[6] The report also compares the 1993 and 1991 data on ownership rates by asset type. Table A presents historical data on ownership rates, the median value of asset holdings, and the distribution of measured net

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[3]The precursor to the Survey of Consumer Finances was the Survey of Financial Characteristics of Consumers conducted by the Federal Reserve System in 1963. The Survey of Consumer Finances was conducted in 1983, 1986, 1989, and 1992.

[4]See The Federal Reserve Bulletin, October 1994, *Changes in Family Finances From 1989 to 1992: Evidence From the Survey of Consumer Finances*, Arthur Kennickell and Martha Starr-McCluer.

[5]The consumer price index rose 6 percent from the period represented by the 1991 data to the period represented by the 1993 data. Therefore, the 1991 figures are converted to 1993 dollars by multiplying by 1.06.

[6]"Group quarters" are excluded from the results shown in this report. Group quarters are units which consist of unrelated individuals living together in housing units that have separate rooms but share common facilities such as dining halls. Individuals in group quarters would not normally share financial resources. The universe also excludes persons in institutions and persons living in military barracks.

Table A. **Ownership Rates, Median Value of Asset Holdings, and the Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Asset Type: 1993, 1991, 1988, and 1984**

[Excludes group quarters]

Asset type	1993			1991 (in 1993 dollars)			1988 (in 1993 dollars)			1984 (in 1993 dollars)		
	Percent of households that own asset type	Median values of holdings for asset owners (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth	Percent of households that own asset type	Median values of holdings for asset owners (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth	Percent of households that own asset type	Median values of holdings for asset owners (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth	Percent of households that own asset type	Median values of holdings for asset owners (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth
All assets..........	(X)	37,587	100.0	(X)	38,500	100.0	(X)	43,617	100.0	(X)	45,411	100.0
Interest-earning assets at financial institutions ..	71.1	2,999	11.4	73.2	3,709	14.3	72.9	4,263	14.1	71.8	4,262	14.5
Savings accounts	60.1	(NA)	(NA)	62.4	(NA)	(NA)	61.6	(NA)	(NA)	62.9	(NA)	(NA)
Money market deposit accounts	12.6	(NA)	(NA)	14.9	(NA)	(NA)	15.2	(NA)	(NA)	15.7	(NA)	(NA)
Certificates of deposit..	16.0	(NA)	(NA)	22.0	(NA)	(NA)	17.7	(NA)	(NA)	19.1	(NA)	(NA)
Interest-earning checking	36.9	(NA)	(NA)	37.8	(NA)	(NA)	34.3	(NA)	(NA)	24.8	(NA)	(NA)
Other interest-earning assets	8.6	12,998	4.0	9.0	16,058	5.0	9.4	13,311	4.2	8.5	13,165	3.2
Money market funds...	3.9	(NA)	(NA)	4.2	(NA)	(NA)	3.6	(NA)	(NA)	3.8	(NA)	(NA)
Government securities .	2.1	(NA)	(NA)	2.2	(NA)	(NA)	2.2	(NA)	(NA)	1.4	(NA)	(NA)
Corporate or municipal bonds..............	3.1	(NA)	(NA)	3.4	(NA)	(NA)	2.8	(NA)	(NA)	2.6	(NA)	(NA)
Other interest-earning assets	2.2	(NA)	(NA)	2.2	(NA)	(NA)	3.3	(NA)	(NA)	2.8	(NA)	(NA)
Checking accounts	45.9	499	0.5	46.0	529	0.5	48.3	594	0.6	53.9	624	0.6
Stocks and mutual fund shares	20.9	6,960	8.3	20.7	5,490	7.1	21.8	5,502	6.5	20.0	5,410	6.8
Own home	64.3	46,669	44.4	64.7	43,070	42.6	63.6	52,545	43.0	64.3	56,430	41.3
Rental property	8.4	29,300	6.7	9.0	31,270	6.5	9.0	45,676	7.9	9.8	48,033	9.0
Other real estate	9.3	19,415	4.6	10.7	20,140	5.4	10.5	22,038	4.3	10.0	20,559	4.4
Vehicles................	85.7	5,140	6.4	86.4	5,555	6.4	86.3	5,388	5.8	85.8	5,705	5.9
Business or profession...	10.8	7,000	6.4	11.7	10,203	7.3	12.5	12,744	8.8	12.9	8,754	10.3
U.S. savings bonds......	18.5	775	0.8	18.1	610	0.6	17.5	666	0.6	15.0	417	0.5
IRA or Keogh accounts ..	23.1	12,985	6.7	22.9	11,886	5.2	24.2	11,000	4.2	19.5	6,679	2.2
Other financial investments[1]	5.2	21,001	3.0	2.8	19,031	3.1	6.6	19,769	3.0	7.0	17,777	5.0

X Not applicable. NA Not available because separate questions were not asked about the amount held in these individual assets.

[1]Includes mortgages held from sale of real estate, amount due from sale of business, unit trusts, and other financial investments.

worth by asset type for 1993, 1991, 1988, and 1984. The standard errors associated with the data in this report are found in tables B–3 through B–9 of appendix B, which also describes statistical tests for comparison of estimates.

MEASURED NET WORTH OF HOUSEHOLDS

The median measured household net worth as measured in the SIPP in 1993 was $37,587; not statistically different from the 1991 median measured net worth of $38,500 (in 1993 dollars). Measured net worth is defined as the value of all assets covered in the survey less any debts about which information is

collected in the SIPP. Assets covered include interest-earning assets,[7] stocks and mutual fund shares, real estate (own home, rental property, vacation homes, and land holdings), own business or profession, mortgages held by sellers, and motor vehicles. Liabilities covered include debts secured by any asset, credit card or store bills, bank loans, and other unsecured debts. The survey did not cover equities in pension plans, cash surrender value of life insurance policies, or the value of jewelry and home furnishings. The distribution of asset ownership, the median value of holdings for asset owners, and

[7]Interest-earning assets include regular savings accounts, money market deposit accounts, certificates of deposit, interest-earning checking accounts, money market funds, corporate or municipal bonds, U.S. Government securities, and other interest-earning assets.

Figure 1.
Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Asset Type: 1993

Stocks and mutual fund shares 8.3%

Checking accounts 0.5%

Other interest-earning
assets 4.0%

Interest–earning assets at
financial institutions
11.4%

Own home 44.4%

Other 3.0%

IRA/Keogh accounts 6.7%

U.S. savings bonds 0.8%

Business 6.4%

Vehicles 6.4%

Rental property 6.7%

Other real estate 4.6%
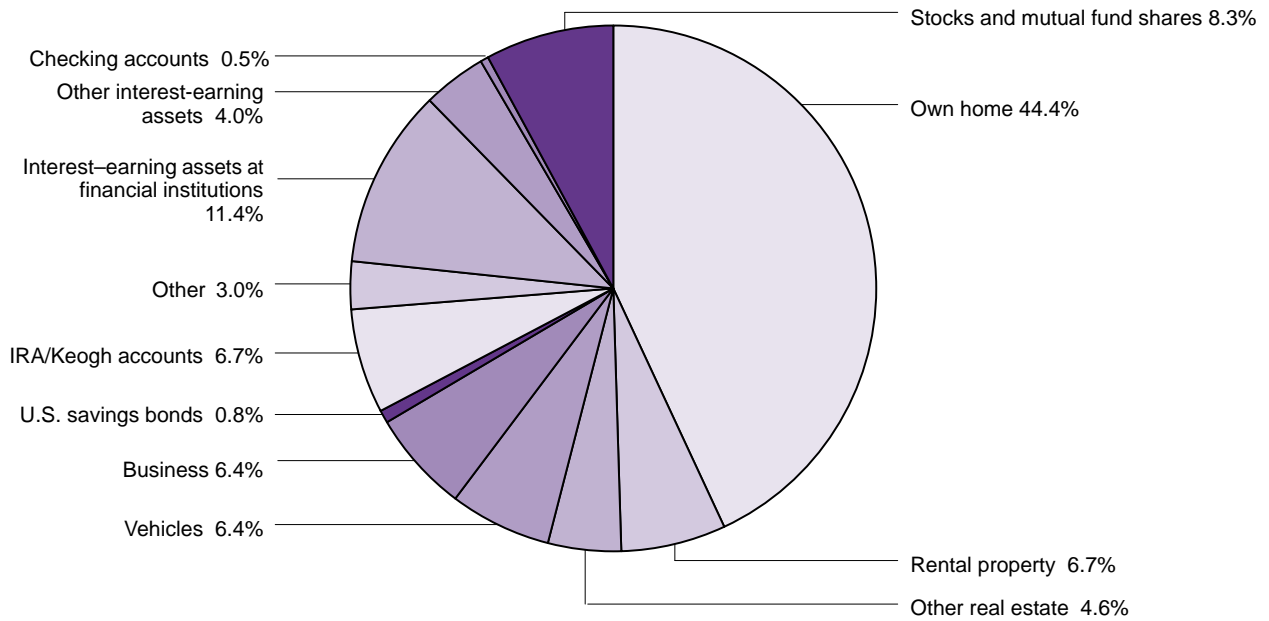
the percentage of total measured net worth held in each asset for 1993, 1991, 1988, and 1984 are shown in table A. The percentage of total measured net worth held in each asset in 1993 is shown graphically in figure 1.

Home equity constitutes the largest share of measured net worth. In 1993, home ownership was reported by 64 percent of all households and accounted for 44 percent of total measured net worth, with owners having a median equity of $46,669 in their homes. Median home equity increased from $43,070 in 1991 to $46,669 in 1993. In 1991, 65 percent of all households owned homes and home equity accounted for 43 percent of total measured net worth. There was no statistical difference between the ownership rates in 1991 and 1993. The percentage of total measured net worth in home equity also remained unchanged between 1991 and 1993.

Interest-earning assets at financial institutions constituted the next largest share of measured net worth in both 1993 and 1991. The share of measured net worth held in interest-earning assets at financial institutions fell from 14 percent of measured net worth in 1991 to 11 percent in 1993. Additionally, both the ownership rate and the median value of interest-earning assets at financial institutions fell between 1991 and 1993. Seventy-one percent of households had interest-earning assets at financial institutions compared to 73 percent in 1991. The median amount of deposits decreased from $3,709 in 1991 (in 1993 dollars) to $2,999 in 1993.

The ownership rates of all the components of the interest-earning assets at financial institutions (savings accounts, money market deposit accounts, certificates of deposits, and interest-earning checking accounts) declined between 1991 and 1993. In both years, savings accounts were the most prevalent interest-earning asset held at financial institutions by households, but the ownership rate of savings accounts dropped from 62 percent of households in 1991 to 60 percent in 1993.

Other interest-earning assets, such as money market funds and municipal bonds, made up 4 percent of measured net worth in 1993, a slight decrease from 5 percent in 1991. The median value of holdings in other interest-earning assets decreased from $16,058 in 1991 (in 1993 dollars) to $12,998 in 1993. The ownership rates of money market funds, government securities, corporate or municipal bonds, and other interest-earning assets did not significantly change from 1991 to 1993. The proportion of measured net worth in other real estate declined from 5.4 percent in 1991 to 4.6 percent in 1993. There was no significant change in the median value of holdings of other real estate between 1991 and 1993. However, the ownership rate of other real estate did decline between 1991 and 1993, from 10.7 percent to 9.3 percent. The median value of holdings in other real estate in 1993 was $19,415.

Assets held as stocks and mutual fund shares, IRA and Keogh accounts, and U.S. savings bonds accounted for a larger share of measured net worth in 1993 than in 1991. Specifically, the share of measured wealth held as stocks and mutual fund shares increased from 7.1 percent in 1991 to 8.3 percent in 1993. IRA and Keogh accounts made up 6.7 percent of measured net worth in

1993, an increase from 5.2 in 1991. The share held as U.S. savings bonds increased slightly from 0.6 to 0.8 percent between 1991 and 1993. The median values of stocks and mutual funds and of U.S. savings bonds increased between 1991 and 1993, while the median value of IRA and Keogh accounts did not change. There was no significant change in the ownership rates of stocks and mutual funds, U.S. savings bonds, or IRA and Keogh accounts between 1991 and 1993.

The proportion of measured net worth held as checking accounts, rental property, vehicles, businesses or professions, and other financial investments did not significantly change between 1991 and 1993. However, there were significant declines in the ownership rates of rental property, vehicles, and businesses and professions between 1991 and 1993. The declines in the median value of rental property, vehicles, and businesses or professions between 1991 and 1993 were also statistically significant.

In 1993, 57.3 percent of households reported unsecured liabilities, slightly lower than the 59.0 percent of households that reported unsecured liabilities in 1991. The median value of these liabilities was –$2,210 in 1993, not significantly different from the median value of –$2,290 in 1991. In both years, unsecured liabilities represented –3.4 percent of net worth.

In summary, there was no significant difference between measured net worth from 1991 to 1993. However, there were declines in the median values of interest-earning assets at financial institutions, other interest-earning assets, rental property, vehicles, and businesses or professions. These declines were offset by increases in the median values of stocks and mutual fund shares, home equity, and U.S. savings bonds. The median values of holdings in checking accounts, other real estate, IRA or Keogh accounts, and other financial investments did not change between 1991 and 1993.

MEASURED NET WORTH BY INCOME

The distributions of measured net worth by income quintile for 1993 and 1991 are shown in table B. Income is defined as the average monthly income received from all sources by all members of the household during the 4-month period prior to the interview. Households are categorized by income quintile in 1993 and in 1991.

The table shows a systematic relationship between measured net worth and income quintile. Median measured net worth in 1993 increased significantly with income, from $4,249 for households in the lowest quintile to $118,996 for households in the highest quintile. The distribution of measured net worth was highly skewed; the highest quintile owned 44.1 percent of total measured net worth in 1993, while the lowest quintile owned 7.2 percent. The distribution of measured net worth in 1993 by income quintile was not statistically different from the 1991 distribution of measured net worth by income quintile.[8]

Asset ownership patterns and median asset values also vary by income quintile, as shown in table C. Home ownership is a good example of this phenomena. In 1993, home ownership rate increased significantly with income from 42 percent for the lowest income group to 86 percent for the highest group. In 1991, the home ownership rate was 44 percent for the lowest income group and 86 percent for the highest income group. Only the lowest quintile had a significant decrease in its home ownership rate between 1991 and 1993.

In 1993, median home equity increased between the lowest and the highest income groups. Home equity for

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[8]These figures are biased by significant underreporting by high-income households. The 1989 Survey of Consumer Finances, which employed a sample designed to capture wealthy households, estimated that the highest income quintile owned 64.9 percent of total measured worth in 1989, while the lowest quintile owed 3.4 percent. The measured worth and income concepts were similar in the two surveys, but not exactly equivalent.

Table B. **Median Measured Net Worth and Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Monthly Household Income Quintiles: 1993 and 1991**

[Number of households in thousands]

Monthly household income quintiles[1]	1993			1991 (in 1993 dollars)		
	Number of households	Median measured net worth (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth	Number of households	Median measured net worth (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth
Total	96,468	37,587	100.0	94,692	38,500	100.0
Lowest quintile	19,327	4,249	7.2	18,977	5,406	7.0
Second quintile	19,306	20,230	12.2	18,912	20,315	12.2
Third quintile..............................	19,279	30,788	15.9	18,969	30,263	15.8
Fourth quintile	19,304	50,000	20.6	18,928	51,779	20.4
Highest quintile	19,251	118,996	44.1	18,905	121,423	44.6

[1]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.

Table C. **Percent of Households Owning Assets and Median Value of Holdings by Monthly Household Income Quintile for Selected Asset Types: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Monthly household income quintiles[1]	Interest-earning assets at financial institutions[2]	Other interest-earning assets[3]	Stocks and mutual fund shares	Equity in own home	Equity in motor vehicles	Equity in own business or profession	IRA or Keogh accounts
PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS OWNING ASSETS							
1993							
Total	**71.1**	**8.6**	**20.9**	**64.3**	**85.7**	**10.8**	**23.1**
Lowest quintile	42.2	2.6	4.4	41.5	58.2	6.1	5.4
Second quintile	62.9	5.1	11.6	55.9	85.1	7.5	14.0
Third quintile	73.7	7.3	18.1	63.4	93.1	9.6	20.5
Fourth quintile	84.6	9.1	26.0	74.8	95.8	11.6	28.3
Highest quintile	92.2	19.1	44.3	86.0	96.4	19.4	47.1
1991							
Total	**73.2**	**9.0**	**20.7**	**64.7**	**86.4**	**11.7**	**22.9**
Lowest quintile	43.2	2.3	5.8	43.8	58.4	6.6	5.1
Second quintile	65.8	5.1	11.5	55.7	87.0	8.7	12.2
Third quintile	77.4	7.5	16.2	64.3	93.0	10.0	19.9
Fourth quintile	86.2	8.8	25.4	74.0	96.3	12.8	29.4
Highest quintile	93.4	21.3	44.8	86.0	97.4	20.5	48.1
MEDIAN VALUE OF HOLDINGS FOR ASSET OWNERS							
1993 (dollars)							
Total	**2,999**	**12,998**	**6,960**	**46,669**	**5,140**	**7,000**	**12,985**
Lowest quintile	1,594	9,999	3,300	38,940	1,657	946	10,000
Second quintile	1,999	12,999	4,916	40,973	3,348	1,980	11,000
Third quintile	1,998	12,499	4,650	42,984	4,625	4,800	9,500
Fourth quintile	2,747	9,999	5,900	41,850	6,491	9,500	11,800
Highest quintile	5,999	14,999	9,992	66,068	9,898	17,075	16,100
1991 (in 1993 dollars)							
Total	**3,709**	**16,058**	**5,490**	**43,070**	**5,555**	**10,203**	**11,886**
Lowest quintile	2,468	6,571	4,081	36,040	1,555	6,360	8,372
Second quintile	2,624	15,900	3,988	41,340	3,533	5,088	8,904
Third quintile	2,384	14,205	5,062	37,100	4,872	4,770	10,562
Fourth quintile	3,179	15,899	3,816	41,870	6,935	10,176	10,388
Highest quintile	7,738	20,140	9,010	63,494	10,017	15,928	15,370

[1]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.
[2]Includes passbook savings accounts, money market deposit accounts, certificates of deposits, and interest-earning checking accounts.
[3]Includes money market funds, U.S. Government securities, municipal and corporate bonds, and other interest-earning assets.

the lowest income group in 1994 was $38,940, while that of the highest income group was $66,068 in 1993. Median home equity values increased significantly from 991 for the low- and middle-income quintiles. The second, fourth, and fifth quintiles did not have significant changes in the median home equity values between 1991 and 1993.

Other assets with large differences in ownership rates between the lowest and highest income groups in 1993 were stocks and mutual fund shares (4 to 44 percent), IRA or Keogh accounts (5 to 47 percent), and business equity (6 to 19 percent). Within quintiles, the proportion of households owning various assets remained fairly stable between 1991 and 1993. In the highest quintile, between 1991 and 1993, the proportion of households owning interest-earning assets at financial institutions, other interest-earning assets, and vehicles declined slightly.

MEASURED NET WORTH BY AGE

Age is correlated with measured net worth because increasing age offers an increasing opportunity to accumulate wealth. Median values of measured net worth by household income quintile and age of the householder are shown in table D and graphically in figure 2. The
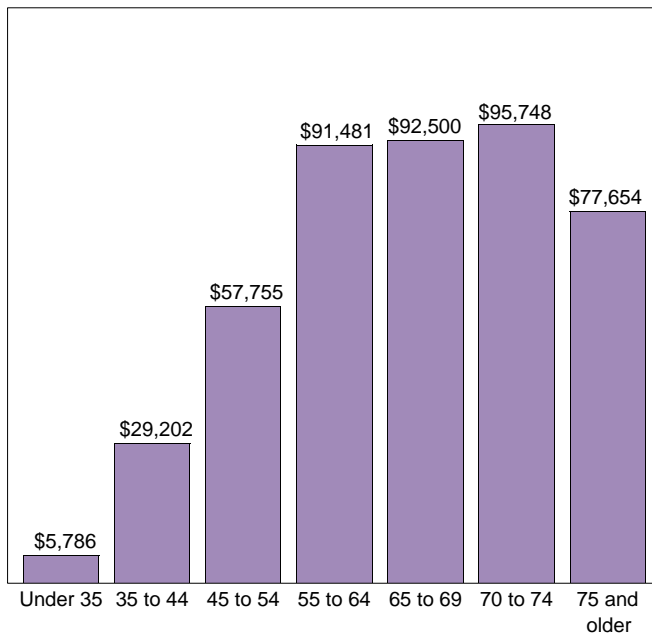
Table D.   **Median Measured Net Worth by Age of Householder and Monthly Household Income Quintile: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Monthly household income	Total	Less than 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over			
						Total	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 years and over
1993									
All households (thousands)	96,468	24,361	22,790	16,258	12,291	20,768	6,132	5,504	9,131
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	37,587	5,786	29,202	57,755	91,481	86,324	92,500	95,748	77,654
Excluding home equity	9,505	3,297	8,219	14,499	25,108	20,642	23,650	23,054	18,125
Measured Net Worth by Income Quintile[1]									
Lowest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	19,327	5,154	2,911	1,972	2,231	7,059	1,560	1,600	3,899
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	4,249	478	970	3,875	16,900	30,400	34,413	24,373	32,149
Excluding home equity	949	100	499	550	1,900	2,993	2,499	2,142	3,499
Second quintile:									
Households (thousands)	19,306	5,201	3,516	2,272	2,310	6,006	1,692	1,674	2,641
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	20,230	2,837	4,742	15,524	57,075	80,975	72,587	83,848	84,633
Excluding home equity	4,999	1,595	1,975	3,100	11,805	20,624	16,742	20,691	22,883
Third quintile:									
Households (thousands)	19,279	5,659	4,795	2,847	2,306	3,672	1,244	1,076	1,352
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	30,788	6,993	17,315	37,413	86,405	138,554	116,589	147,230	156,499
Excluding home equity	8,283	4,057	5,325	7,475	23,099	53,870	44,410	53,675	67,049
Fourth quintile:									
Households (thousands)	19,304	5,096	5,723	3,686	2,429	2,370	934	682	754
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	50,000	15,872	40,857	62,031	122,278	199,581	182,861	173,664	232,105
Excluding home equity	15,088	7,700	12,305	16,732	38,800	93,196	85,633	83,755	106,650
Highest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	19,252	3,251	5,846	5,480	3,014	1,660	702	472	486
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	118,996	38,449	91,349	133,525	210,741	354,781	316,751	351,739	475,498
Excluding home equity	45,392	17,467	35,200	51,162	101,389	215,335	184,760	213,863	273,500
1991 (in 1993 dollars)									
All households (thousands)	94,692	25,031	21,514	14,934	12,575	20,638	6,435	5,439	8,764
Median measured worth (dollars)	38,500	5,893	33,027	61,532	88,073	94,074	107,473	97,863	80,636
Excluding home equity	10,858	3,427	9,938	16,697	27,221	27,400	35,270	27,285	24,380
Measured Net Worth by Income Quintile[1]									
Lowest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	18,977	5,256	2,271	1,901	2,323	7,226	1,657	1,630	3,939
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	5,406	504	1,028	5,459	17,782	33,523	31,800	33,230	33,601
Excluding home equity	1,059	159	529	735	1,272	3,710	2,649	3,101	4,823
Second quintile:									
Households (thousands)	18,912	5,432	3,231	1,958	2,431	5,860	1,760	1,526	2,574
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	20,315	3,087	6,518	20,654	56,275	95,718	97,492	94,392	94,139
Excluding home equity	5,934	1,819	2,364	4,783	10,945	30,711	26,543	27,216	36,226
Third quintile:									
Households (thousands)	18,971	5,809	4,474	2,629	2,536	3,523	1,306	1,141	1,075
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	30,263	7,080	19,398	37,643	80,949	154,732	150,831	143,694	166,689
Excluding home equity	9,204	4,055	6,016	10,083	25,330	72,663	68,052	66,081	85,490
Fourth quintile:									
Households (thousands)	18,927	5,105	5,607	3,432	2,504	2,279	968	657	654
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	51,779	17,023	40,834	60,381	129,850	219,043	190,059	205,958	294,203
Excluding home equity	17,135	8,114	12,990	16,423	46,019	118,719	86,229	110,187	195,746
Highest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	18,905	3,429	5,931	5,014	2,780	1,751	744	485	522
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	121,423	45,509	96,450	142,279	206,226	454,599	362,124	423,627	525,312
Excluding home equity	51,702	19,991	38,086	56,180	98,289	317,893	235,365	316,580	420,986

[1]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Quintile upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.significantly from

Figure 2.
**Median Measured Net Worth by
Age of Householder: 1993**

			$91,481	$92,500	$95,748	
Under 35	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 69	70 to 74	75 and older
$5,786	$29,202	$57,755				$77,654

results show the expected relationship between age and measured net worth. Median measured net worth increased significantly from $5,786 for the youngest households to $91,481 for households with householders in the 55-to-64-year-old category and then declined to $77,654 for the oldest group (75 years and over).[9] Median measured net worth fell significantly from 1991 to 1993 for households in 35-to-44-year-old and the 65-to-69-year-old categories.

Median measured net worth excluding home equity is considered an important indicator of well-being for some subgroups of the population, such as the elderly, who tend to have larger proportions of measured net worth in their homes than do younger people. Median measured net worth excluding home equity increased with age for all age groups under 65 and declined for households with householders age 65 and over. Among households with householders age 65 and over, households with householders age 75 and over had the lowest measured net worth. In 1993, the median measured net worth of households with householders age 75 years and older was $18,125 compared with the median measured net

worth of $23,642 for all households with a householder age 65 or older. (There was no significant difference in median measured net worth excluding home equity between households with householders age 65 to 69 and those age 70 to 74.)

Median measured net worth excluding home equity fell from $10,858 in 1991 (in 1993 dollars) to $9,505 in 1993. During the period 1991 to 1993, median measured net worth excluding home equity fell for all householder age categories, except for householders less than 35 years of age, those 55-to-64-years of age, and those 70-to-74-years of age.

The distribution of measured net worth by age for 1991 and 1993 is shown in table E. In both years, home equity was the major asset holding for all age groups. It is evident that the composition of measured net worth differs by the age of the householder. The share of measured net worth held as equity in motor vehicles declined with increasing age for both years, from 18 percent of measured net worth for the youngest group to 4 percent for the 65 or older group in 1993. The share of measured net worth held as assets in businesses or professions also declined in both years for householders age 55 or more.

The share of measured net worth from some asset types, however, increased between the youngest and oldest groups. For example, the proportion of measured net worth in interest-earning assets at financial institutions increased significantly from 11 percent of measured net worth for the youngest group to 17 percent for households with householders 65 or older in 1993. In 1991, the proportion of measured net worth in interest-earning assets at financial institutions varied from 12 percent for households with householders less than 35 years of age to 21 percent for households with householders 65 years of age or more. Between 1991 and 1993, the proportion of measured net worth in interest-earning assets at financial institutions declined for households headed by householders 35 years old and older.

MEASURED NET WORTH BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN

Measured net worth holdings also differed by race and ethnicity of the householder.[10] Table F shows median measured net worth by race and Hispanic origin. There were large differences in wealth holdings between White households and other groups. In 1993, White households had a median measured net worth of $45,740, while the figure for Black households was $4,418. Hispanic households had median holdings of $4,656. (The median measured net worth of Black households and those of Hispanic origin were not significantly different.)

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[9]Cross-sectional evidence of the life-cycle relationship between measured worth and age, however, does not imply the same behavior for an individual over a lifetime. Such evidence is based on average measured worth holdings for different age cohorts at a point in time. If the cohorts have different lifetime measured worth profiles, it is possible to observe cross-sectional evidence of a life-cycle relationship between measured worth and age when, in fact, measured worth increases over the lifetime of each cohort.

[10]Information on the Hispanic population shown in this report was collected in the 50 States and the District of Columbia and, therefore, does not include residents of Puerto Rico.

Table E. **Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Age of Householder and Asset Type: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Asset type	1993						1991					
	Total	Less than 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	Total	Less than 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
Total measured net worth	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Interest-earning assets at financial institutions	11.4	10.9	7.9	7.7	9.6	16.7	14.3	12.3	9.6	9.5	12.2	21.1
Other interest-earning assets	4.0	2.1	2.5	2.6	4.1	6.1	5.0	1.9	3.0	3.7	5.1	7.3
Checking accounts	0.5	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.2	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4
Stocks and mutual fund shares	8.3	8.9	6.4	8.1	8.8	9.1	7.1	4.7	5.9	5.4	6.7	9.4
Own home	44.4	43.8	47.7	45.3	42.4	43.6	42.1	42.1	45.3	41.0	41.2	41.6
Rental property	6.7	5.3	6.4	7.2	9.1	5.2	6.5	6.0	7.7	9.1	6.6	4.4
Other real estate	4.6	5.1	5.0	5.5	4.9	3.6	5.4	6.2	5.4	6.8	6.3	4.0
Vehicles	6.4	18.2	8.8	6.5	4.9	3.7	6.4	18.1	8.8	6.4	5.2	3.5
Business or profession.	6.4	10.6	9.5	9.0	6.1	2.4	7.3	13.5	11.6	10.8	6.8	2.1
U.S. savings bonds.	0.8	1.0	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6
IRA or Keogh accounts	6.7	3.9	6.3	7.4	8.8	5.7	5.2	3.2	5.7	5.8	7.1	3.8
Other financial investments[1]	3.0	3.6	2.9	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.5	1.7	4.1	4.3	2.4
Unsecured liabilities[2]	–3.4	–14.5	–5.3	–3.3	–2.8	–0.6	–3.4	–13.6	–5.8	–3.7	–2.6	–0.5

[1]Includes mortgages held from sale of real estate, amount due from sale of business, unit trusts, and other financial investments.
[2]Since net worth is the value of assets less liabilities, unsecured liabilities are subtracted from the distribution of net worth and are shown as negative.

Table F. **Median Measured Net Worth by Race and Hispanic Origin of Householder and Monthly Household Income Quintile: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Monthly household income quintile	Total		White		Black		Hispanic origin[1]	
	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)
All households (thousands)	96,468	94,692	82,190	81,409	11,248	10,768	7,403	6,407
Median measured net worth (dollars). . . .	37,587	38,500	45,740	47,075	4,418	4,844	4,656	5,557
Measured Net Worth by Income Quintile[2]								
Lowest quintile:								
Households (thousands)	19,327	18,977	14,662	14,480	4,066	4,041	2,272	1,835
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	4,249	5,406	7,605	10,743	250	0	499	529
Second quintile:								
Households (thousands)	19,306	18,912	16,162	16,006	2,663	2,436	1,760	1,557
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	20,230	20,315	27,057	26,665	3,406	3,446	2,900	3,214
Third quintile:								
Households (thousands)	19,279	18,969	16,591	16,388	2,126	2,124	1,437	1,312
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	30,788	30,263	36,341	35,510	8,480	8,302	6,313	7,501
Fourth quintile:								
Households (thousands)	19,304	18,928	17,218	17,043	1,454	1,353	1,115	1,009
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	50,000	51,779	54,040	55,950	20,745	21,852	20,100	20,564
Highest quintile:								
Households (thousands)	19,252	18,905	17,558	17,492	937	814	819	694
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	118,996	121,423	123,350	128,298	45,023	56,922	55,923	72,168

[1]Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.
[2]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.

Table G.   **Median Measured Net Worth by Type of Household and Age of Householder: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Type of household by age of householder	1993			1991		
		Median measured net worth (dollars)			Median measured net worth (in 1993 dollars)	
	Number of households (thousands)	Total	Excluding equity in own home	Number of households (thousands)	Total	Excluding equity in own home
Married-couple households	52,891	61,905	17,051	52,616	63,599	19,557
Less than 35 years	12,141	12,941	5,677	12,247	12,702	5,548
35 to 54 years	23,983	61,874	17,436	23,080	64,047	19,801
55 to 64 years	7,568	127,752	43,543	7,849	123,138	47,158
65 years and over	9,199	129,790	44,410	9,040	142,517	59,200
Male householders	15,397	13,500	5,157	15,297	12,698	5,963
Less than 35 years	5,285	4,300	2,890	5,746	5,027	3,668
35 to 54 years	6,157	18,426	6,156	5,409	18,391	7,420
55 to 64 years	1,437	44,670	10,905	1,514	32,330	5,988
65 years and over	2,518	60,741	12,927	2,627	69,157	17,489
Female householders	28,180	13,294	3,363	27,179	15,518	3,762
Less than 35 years	6,935	1,342	790	7,038	1,383	953
35 to 54 years	8,908	8,405	2,652	7,959	11,294	3,308
55 to 64 years	3,286	44,762	6,475	3,211	41,635	6,229
65 years and over	9,050	57,679	9,560	8,972	62,746	13,015

Table F also shows median measured net worth by income quintile, race, and Hispanic origin. White households in every income quintile had significantly higher levels of median measured net worth than Black households in the same income quintile in 1993 and in 1991. In the lowest quintile in 1993, the median measured net worth for White households was $7,605 while that of Black households in this quintile was significantly lower ($250). In the highest quintile in 1993, the median measured net worth for White households was $123,350, significantly higher than the median for Black households in the highest quintile ($45,023).

The median measured net worth of each racial group did not change between 1991 and 1993, except for White householders and Black householders in the lowest income quintile. The median measured net worth of White households in the first income quintile declined from $10,743 (in 1993 dollars) in 1991 to $7,605 in 1993. The measured net worth of Black householders in the lowest income quintile increased from $0 in 1991 to $250 in 1993.[11] Other apparent differences in the estimates of measured net worth over time for the other race and ethnicity categories were not statistically significant.

The median measured net worth of Hispanic households was lower than that of White households in every income quintile in both 1991 and 1993. The median

measured net worth of Hispanic households was not significantly different from that of Black households in every income quintile in both 1991 and 1993, except for the first income quintile in 1991.

MEASURED NET WORTH BY TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD

The measured net worth of married-couple, female- and male-maintained households by age of the householder for 1991 and 1993 is shown in table G. Married-couple households were the largest category of households and, overall, had the largest median measured net worth in both years ($61,905 in 1993 and $63,599 in 1991). Households headed by married couples age 65 and over experienced a statistically significant decline in their median measured net worth, from $142,517 (in 1993 dollars) in 1991 to $129,790 in 1993. However, there was no change between 1991 and 1993 in the median measured net worth of all married-couple households.

Households headed by females experienced a decline in their median measured net worth, from $15,518 (in 1993 dollars) in 1991 to $13,294 in 1993. This decline was concentrated among female householders age 35 to 54 as this was the only age group of female-headed householders that showed a statistically significant decline in median net worth between 1991 and 1993. The median net worth of male-headed households was $13,500 in 1993, not significantly different from the 1991 estimate of $12,698 (in 1993 dollars). There was no

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[11]The 1991 estimate of measured net worth for Black households in the first income quintile median is the result of half (or more) of Black households in the lowest quintile having measured net worth that is either negative or essentially zero; some Black households in this lowest income quintile have positive measured net worth.

statistically significant difference between male-maintained and female-maintained household median measured net worth in 1993, though they were significantly different in 1991. Both male- and female-maintained households had median measured net worth approximately one-fifth that of married-couple households in 1993.

When measured net worth levels are compared within age groups, households maintained by women less than 55 years of age had a lower median measured net worth than their male-maintained counterparts in 1993. There was no statistically significant difference between the median measured net worth of households maintained by females age 55 to 64 and males age 55 to 64 in 1993. However, in 1991, there was a significant difference. Overall, the age and household group with the lowest measured net worth in 1993 was that of female householders under 35 years of age ($1,342).

USER COMMENTS

We are interested in your reaction to the usefulness and content of this report. We welcome your recommendations. If you have any suggestions or comments, please send them to:

Dr. Daniel H. Weinberg
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Appendix A.
Definitions and Explanations

Population coverage. The estimates in this report are restricted to the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States and members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post. The estimates exclude group quarters.

Householder. Survey procedures call for listing first the person (or one of the persons) in whose name the home is owned or rented as of the interview date. If the house is owned jointly by a married couple, either the husband or the wife may be listed first, thereby becoming the reference person, or householder, to whom the relationship of the other household members is recorded. One person in each household is designated as the ''householder.'' The number of householders, therefore, is equal to the number of households.

Household. A household consists of all persons who occupy a housing unit. A house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a single room is regarded as a housing unit when it is occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters; that is, when the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and there is either (1) direct access from the outside or through a common hall or (2) a kitchen or cooking equipment for the exclusive use of the occupants. For this report, the household composition was determined as of the interview date. A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated persons, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit or a group of unrelated persons sharing a housing unit as partners is also counted as a household. The count of households excludes group quarters. Examples of group quarters include rooming and boarding houses, college dormitories, and convents and monasteries.

Race. The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race: White, Black, and ''other races.'' The last category includes American Indians, Asian/Pacific Islanders, and any other race except White and Black. Persons of Hispanic origin were determined on the basis of a question that asked for self-identification of the person's origin or descent. Respondents were asked to select their origin (or the origin of some other household member) from a ''flash card'' listing ethnic origins. Persons of Hispanic origin, in particular, were those who indicated that their origin was Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Hispanic origin. It should be noted that persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Monthly income. The monthly income estimates shown in this report for households are based on the sum of the monthly income received by each member of the household age 15 years old or over at the date of interview. The figures represent the average monthly amounts received by households during the appropriate 4-month reference period for each rotation group. To calculate the monthly income figures, the composition of the household was fixed at the date of the interview and the total cash income of household members 15 years and older for the 4-month reference period was divided by four. The cash income concept used in this report includes the sum of all income received from any of the sources listed under Income Sources Included in Monthly Cash Income. Rebates, refunds, loans, and capital gain or loss amounts from the sale of assets, and interhousehold transfers of cash such as allowances are not included. Accrued interest on individual retirement accounts (IRA's), Keogh retirement plans, and U.S. savings bonds are also excluded. This definition differs somewhat from that used in the annual income reports based on the March CPS income supplement questionnaire. The data in those reports, published in the Consumer Income Series, P60, are based only on income received in a regular or periodic manner and, therefore, exclude lump-sum or one-time payments, such as inheritances, or insurance settlements. The March CPS income definition also excludes those same income sources excluded by SIPP. The income amounts represent amounts actually received during the 4-month reference period, before deductions for income and payroll taxes, union dues, Part B medicare premiums, etc.

Measured net worth. The household measured net worth estimates shown in this report are based on the sum of the market value of assets owned by every member of the household minus liabilities (secured or unsecured) owed by household members. The estimates represent the net worth of households as of the end of the appropriate reference period. The measured net worth concept is based on the value of all assets minus all liabilities listed under Assets and Liabilities Included in Net Worth. The major assets not covered in

this report are equities in pension plans, cash value of life insurance policies, and value of homefurnishings and jewelry. These items were not covered because it is particularly difficult to obtain reliable estimates of the value of these assets in a household survey.

Median net worth. The median net worth is the amount which divides the net worth distribution into two equal groups, one having household net worth less than that amount and the other having net worth above that amount.

INCOME SOURCES INCLUDED IN MONTHLY CASH INCOME

Earnings From Employment
  Wages and salary
  Nonfarm self-employment income
  Farm self-employment income

Income From Assets (Property Income)
  Regular/passbook savings accounts in a bank, savings and loan, or credit union
  Money market deposit accounts
  Certificates of deposit
  NOW, Super NOW, or other interest-earning checking accounts
  Money market funds
  U.S. Government securities
  Municipal or corporate bonds
  Other interest-earning assets
  Stocks or mutual fund shares
  Rental property
  Mortgages
  Royalties
  Other financial investments

Other Income Sources
  Social security
  U.S. Government railroad retirement
  Federal supplemental security
  State administered supplemental security income
  State unemployment compensation
  Supplemental unemployment benefits
  Black lung payments
  Workers' compensation
  State temporary sickness or disability benefits
  Employer or union temporary sickness policy
  Payments from a sickness, accident, or disability insurance policy purchased by individual
  Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), (ADC) General assistance or general relief
  Indian, Cuban, or refugee assistance
  Foster child care payments
  Other welfare
  Child support payments
  Alimony payments
  Pensions from a company or union

  Federal civil service or other Federal civilian employee pension
  U.S. military retirement
  National Guard or Reserve Forces retirement
  State government pensions
  Local government pensions
  Income from paid-up life insurance policies or annuities
  Estates and trusts
  Other payments for retirement, disability or survivors, and G.I. Bill/VEAP education benefits
  Income assistance from a charitable group
  Other unemployment compensation (e.g., Trade Adjustment Act benefits, strike pay, other)
  Veterans' compensation or pensions
  Money from relatives or friends
  Lump sum payments
  Income from roomers or boarders
  National Guard or Reserve pay
  Incidental or casual earnings
  Other cash income not included elsewhere

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES INCLUDED IN NET WORTH

Assets
  Interest-earning assets held at financial institutions
  Passbook savings account
  Money market deposit accounts
  Certificates of deposit
  Interest-earning checking accounts
  Other interest-earning assets
  Money market funds
  U.S. Government securities
  Municipal or corporate bonds
  Other interest-earning assets
  Stocks and mutual fund shares
  Rental property
  Mortgages held for sale of real estate
  Amount due from sale of businesses or property
  Regular checking accounts
  U.S. savings bonds
  Home ownership
  Vacation homes and other real estate
  IRA and Keogh accounts
  Motor vehicles
  Other financial assets

Liabilities
  Secured liabilities
    Margin and broker accounts
    Mortgages on own home
    Mortgages on rental property
    Mortgages on other homes or real estate
    Debt on businesses or professions
    Vehicle loans

Unsecured liabilities

Credit card and store bills
Doctor, dentist, hospital, and nursing home bills
Loans from individuals

Loans from financial institutions
Educational loans
Other unsecured liabilities

Appendix B.
Source and Accuracy of the Estimates

SOURCE OF DATA

The SIPP universe is the noninstitutional resident population living in the United States. This population includes persons living in group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings. Crew members of merchant vessels, Armed Forces personnel living in military barracks, and institutionalized persons, such as correctional facility inmates and nursing home residents are not eligible to be in the survey. Also, U.S. citizens residing abroad are not eligible to be in the survey. Foreign visitors who work or attend school in this country and their families are eligible; all others are not eligible. With the exceptions noted above, field representatives interview eligible persons who are at least 15 years of age at the time of the interview.

The 1990 and 1991 panel SIPP samples are located in 230 Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) and the 1992 SIPP sample is located in 284 PSU's, each consisting of a county or a group of contiguous counties. Within these PSU's, we systematically selected expected clusters of two living quarters (LQ's) from lists of addresses prepared for the 1980 decennial census to form the bulk of the sample. To account for LQ's built within each of the sample areas after the 1980 census, we selected a sample containing clusters of four LQ's from permits issued for construction of residential LQ's up until shortly before the beginning of the panel.

In jurisdictions that have incomplete addresses or don't issue building permits, we sampled small land areas, listed expected clusters of four LQ's, and then subsampled. In addition, we selected a sample of LQ's from a supplemental frame that included LQ's identified as missed in the 1980 census.

The 1990 panel differs from other panels as a result of oversampling for low income households. The panel contains an oversample of Black-headed households, Hispanic-headed households, and female-headed family households with no spouse present and living with relatives.

The first interview occurred during February, March, April, or May of the panel year. Interviews for approximately one-fourth of the sample took place in each of these months. For the remainder of the panel, interviews for each person occurred every 4 months. At each interview, the reference period was the 4 months preceding the interview month.

Occupants of about 93 percent of all eligible living quarters participated in the first interview of the panel. For later interviews, field representatives interviewed only original sample persons (those in wave 1 sample households and interviewed in wave 1) and persons living with them. The Census Bureau automatically designated all first wave noninterviewed households as noninterviews for all subsequent interviews.

For the 1990 panel, field representatives conducted personal interviews in the first through sixth wave. For the 1991 panel, field representatives conducted personal interviews in the first through third wave. For the 1992 panel, field representatives conducted personal interviews in the first and second wave. The remaining interviews for both panels were designated telephone interviews. Even though headquarters designated an interview as personal or telephone, the field representative may have conducted either type of interview depending on the circumstances of a case.

For personal interviews, we followed original sample persons if they moved to a new address, unless the new address was more than 100 miles from a SIPP sample area. If the original sample persons moved farther than 100 miles from a SIPP sample area, we attempted telephone interviews. When original sample persons moved to remote parts of the country and were unreachable by telephone, moved without leaving a forwarding address, or refused the interview, additional noninterviews resulted.

As a part of most waves, we cover subjects that are important to meet SIPP goals and don't require repeated measurement during the panel. The data on these subjects are of particular interest to data users and policymakers. We cover these subjects once during the panel or annually. By collecting data once for the panel or annually, we reduce respondent burden. We call a specific set of questions on a subject a topical module. For this report, the topical modules analyzed include questions on assets and liabilities. We implemented them in wave 4 of the 1990 panel, wave 7 of the 1991 panel, and wave 4 of the 1992 panel.

Since wave 7 of the 1991 panel and wave 4 of the 1992 panel are concurrent and contain the same relevant topical modules on 1992 assets and liabilities, we combined the data and analyzed it as a single data set. The primary motivation for combining this data is to obtain an increase in sample size and reduce effects of nonresponse over the life of the panel.

Noninterviews. Tabulations in this report were drawn from interviews conducted from February through May of 1991 and February through May of 1993. Table B–1 summarizes information on nonresponse for the interview months in which we collected the data used to produce this report.

Table B–1. **Household Sample Size by Month and Interview Status**

Month	Eligible	Inter-viewed	Non-inter-viewed	Non-response rate (percent)[1]
February 1991	5300	4400	900	16
March 1991	5400	4500	900	16
April 1991	5200	4300	900	17
May 1991	5200	4300	900	17
February 1993	9500	8000	1500	16
March 1993	9200	7900	1400	15
April 1993	9500	8200	1400	15
May 1993	9300	8000	1300	14

[1]Because of rounding of all numbers to the nearest 100, there are some inconsistencies. We calculated the percentage using unrounded numbers.

Some respondents do not respond to some of the questions. Therefore, the overall nonresponse rate for some items, such as income and money related items is higher than the nonresponse rates in table B-1. For more discussion of nonresponse see the *Quality Profile for the Survey of Income and Program Participation*, May 1990, by T. Jabine, K. King, and R. Petroni, available from Customer Services, Data Users Services Division, of the U.S. Census Bureau (301-457-4100).

WEIGHTING PROCEDURE

We derived SIPP person weights in each panel from several stages of weight adjustments. In the first wave, we gave each person a base weight equal to the inverse of his/her probability of selection. For each subsequent interview, the Census Bureau gave each person a base weight that accounted for following movers.

We applied a factor to each interviewed person's weight to account for the SIPP sample areas not having the same population distribution as the strata they are from.

We applied a noninterview adjustment factor to the weight of every occupant of interviewed households to account for persons in noninterviewed occupied households which were eligible for the sample. (The Census Bureau treated individual nonresponse within partially interviewed households with imputation. We made no special adjustment for noninterviews in group quarters.)

The Census Bureau used complex techniques to adjust the weights for nonresponse. For a further explanation of the techniques used, see the *Nonresponse*

Adjustment Methods for Demographic Surveys at the U.S. Bureau of the Census, November 1988, Working paper 8823, by R. Singh and R. Petroni. The success of these techniques in avoiding bias is unknown. An example of successfully avoiding bias is in *Current Nonresponse Research for the Survey of Income and Participation* (paper by Petroni, presented at the Second International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, October 1991).

We performed an additional stage of adjustment to persons' weights to reduce the mean square errors of the survey estimates. We accomplished this by ratio adjusting the sample estimates to agree with monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) type estimates of the civilian (and some military) noninstitutional population of the United States by demographic characteristics including age, sex, and race as of the specified date. For the 1990 panel, the Census Bureau brought CPS estimates by age, sex, and race into agreement with adjusted estimates from the 1980 decennial census. Adjustments to the 1980 decennial census estimates reflect births, deaths, immigration, emigration, and changes in the Armed Forces since 1980. For the 1991 panel and the 1992 panel, the Census Bureau brought CPS estimates by age, sex, and race into agreement with adjusted estimates from the 1990 decennial census. Adjustments to the 1990 decennial census estimates include an adjustment for undercount[1] and also reflect births, deaths, immigration, emigration, and changes in the Armed Forces since 1990. In addition, we controlled SIPP estimates to independent Hispanic controls and made an adjustment to assign equal weights to husbands and wives within the same household. We implemented all of the above adjustments for each reference month and the interview month.

ACCURACY OF ESTIMATES

We base SIPP estimates on a sample. The sample estimates may differ somewhat from the values obtained from administering a complete census using the same questionnaire, instructions, and enumerators. The difference occurs because with an estimate based on a sample survey two types of errors are possible: nonsampling and sampling. We can provide estimates of the magnitude of the SIPP sampling error, but this is not true of nonsampling error. The next few sections describe SIPP nonsampling error sources, followed by a discussion of sampling error, its estimation, and its use in data analysis.

[1]See "The 1990 Post-Enumeration Survey: Operations and Results" by Howard Hogan in the *1993 Proceedings of the Undercount in the 1990 Census Section,* American Statistical Association.

Nonsampling variability. We attribute nonsampling errors to many sources, they include:

- Inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample

- Definitional difficulties

- Differences in the interpretation of questions

- Inability or unwillingness on the part of the respondents to provide correct information

- Inability to recall information

- Errors made in collection (e.g., recording or coding the data)

- Errors made in processing the data

- Errors made in estimating values for missing data

- Biases resulting from the differing recall periods caused by the interviewing pattern used

- Undercoverage

We used quality control and edit procedures to reduce errors made by respondents, coders, and interviewers. More detailed discussions of the existence and control of nonsampling errors in the SIPP are in the *SIPP Quality Profile*.

Undercoverage in SIPP resulted from missed living quarters and missed persons within sample households. It is known that undercoverage varies with age, race, and sex. Generally, undercoverage is larger for males than for females and larger for Blacks than for non-Blacks. Ratio estimation to independent age-race-sex population controls partially corrects for the bias due to survey undercoverage. However, biases exist in the estimates when persons in missed households or missed persons in interviewed households have characteristics different from those of interviewed persons in the same age-race-sex group.

A common measure of survey coverage is the coverage ratio: the estimated population before ratio adjustment divided by the independent population control. Table B–2 shows CPS coverage ratios for age-sex-race groups for 1992. The CPS coverage ratios can exhibit some variability from month to month, but these are a typical set of coverage ratios. Other Census Bureau household surveys like the SIPP experience similar coverage.

Comparability with other estimates. Exercise caution when comparing data from this report with data from other SIPP publications or with data from other surveys. Comparability problems are from varying seasonal patterns for many characteristics, different non-sampling errors, and different concepts and procedures. Refer to the *SIPP Quality Profile* for known differences with data from other sources and further discussion.

Table B–2. **1992 CPS Coverage Ratios**

Age	Non-Black		Black		All persons		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
0-14...	0.963	0.965	0.927	0.926	0.957	0.959	0.958
15	0.962	0.949	0.899	0.919	0.952	0.944	0.948
16	0.969	0.936	0.923	0.907	0.962	0.932	0.947
17	0.981	0.975	0.945	0.862	0.975	0.957	0.966
18	0.939	0.926	0.883	0.846	0.930	0.913	0.922
19	0.860	0.872	0.754	0.801	0.844	0.861	0.853
20-24 .	0.913	0.927	0.734	0.832	0.889	0.913	0.901
25-26 .	0.927	0.940	0.688	0.877	0.897	0.931	0.914
27-29 .	0.910	0.954	0.707	0.864	0.885	0.941	0.914
30-34 .	0.893	0.948	0.691	0.883	0.870	0.939	0.905
35-39 .	0.910	0.949	0.763	0.899	0.895	0.942	0.919
40-44 .	0.929	0.951	0.824	0.906	0.919	0.946	0.933
45-49 .	0.956	0.966	0.903	0.956	0.951	0.965	0.958
50-54 .	0.940	0.961	0.807	0.877	0.927	0.951	0.940
55-59 .	0.944	0.941	0.826	0.825	0.932	0.928	0.930
60-62 .	0.965	0.956	0.792	0.850	0.948	0.944	0.946
63-64 .	0.905	0.907	0.669	0.872	0.884	0.903	0.894
65-67 .	0.935	0.979	0.783	0.875	0.921	0.969	0.947
68-69 .	0.925	0.942	0.789	0.831	0.913	0.931	0.923
70-74 .	0.926	0.993	0.856	1.014	0.920	0.995	0.962
75-99 .	0.977	0.989	0.764	0.912	0.961	0.983	0.975
15+ ...	0.928	0.953	0.782	0.883	0.912	0.944	0.929
0+	0.936	0.955	0.827	0.895	0.923	0.947	0.935

Sampling variability. Standard errors indicate the magnitude of the sampling error. They also partially measure the effect of some nonsampling errors in response and enumeration, but do not measure any systematic biases in the data. The standard errors primarily measure the variations that occurred by chance because we surveyed a sample rather than the entire population.

USE OF STANDARD ERRORS

The standard errors are in tables B–3 through B–9 of this report.

Confidence intervals. The sample estimate and its standard error enable one to construct confidence intervals, ranges that would include the average result of all possible samples with a known probability. For example, if we selected all possible samples and surveyed each of these under essentially the same conditions and with the same sample design, and if we calculated an estimate and its standard error from each sample, then:

1. Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.6 standard errors below the estimate to 1.6 standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples

2. Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from two standard errors below the estimate to two standard errors above the estimate would include the average result of all possible samples

The average estimate derived from all possible samples is or is not contained in any particular computed interval. However, for a particular sample, one can say with a specified confidence that the confidence interval includes the average estimate derived from all possible samples.

Hypothesis testing. One may also use standard errors for hypothesis testing. Hypothesis testing is a procedure for distinguishing between population characteristics using sample estimates. The most common type of hypothesis tested is (1) the population characteristics are identical versus (2) they are different. One can perform tests at various levels of significance, where a level of significance is the probability of concluding that the characteristics are different when, in fact, they are identical.

Unless noted otherwise, all statements of comparison in the report passed a hypothesis test at the 0.10 level of significance or better. This means that, for differences cited in the report, the estimated absolute difference between parameters is greater than 1.6 times the standard error of the difference.

To perform the most common test, compute the difference $X_A − X_B$, where X_A and X_B are sample estimates of the characteristics of interest. A later section explains how to derive an estimate of the standard error of the difference $X_A − X_B$. Let that standard error be s_{DIFF}. If $X_A − X_B$ is between −1.6 times s_{DIFF} and +1.6 times s_{DIFF}, no conclusion about the characteristics is justified at the 10 percent significance level. If, on the other hand, $X_A − X_B$ is smaller than −1.6 times s_{DIFF} or larger than +1.6 times s_{DIFF}, the observed difference is significant at the 10 percent level. In this event, it is commonly accepted practice to say that the characteristics are different. Of course, sometimes this conclusion will be wrong. When the characteristics are, in fact, the same, there is a 10 percent chance of concluding that they are different.

Note that as we perform more tests, more erroneous significant differences will occur. For example, at the 10 percent significance level, if we perform 100 independent hypothesis tests in which there are no real differences, it is likely that about 10 erroneous differences will occur. Therefore, interpret the significance of any single test cautiously.

Note concerning small estimates and small differences. We show summary measures in the report only when the base is 200,000 or greater. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that estimates will reveal useful information when computed on a base smaller than 200,000. Also, nonsampling error in one or more of the small number of cases providing the estimate can cause large relative error in that particular estimate. We show estimated numbers, however, even though the relative standard errors of these numbers are larger than those for the corresponding percentages. We provide smaller estimates primarily to permit such combinations of the categories as serve each user's needs. Therefore, be careful in the interpretation of small differences since even a small amount of nonsampling error can cause a borderline difference to appear significant or not, thus distorting a seemingly valid hypothesis test.

Standard error of a difference. The standard error of a difference between two sample estimates, x and y, is approximately equal to

$$s_{(x-y)} = \sqrt{s_x^2 + s_y^2 - 2rs_xs_y}$$

where s_x and s_y are the standard errors of the estimates x and y, and r is the correlation coefficient between the characteristics estimated by x and y. The estimates can be numbers, averages, percentages, ratios, etc. Underestimates or overestimates of standard error of differences result if the estimated correlation coefficient is overestimated or underestimated, respectively. In this report, we assume r is 0.

Illustration. SIPP estimates show that in 1991 the percentages of households owning assets was 73.2 and in 1993 the percentage of households owning assets was 71.1. The standard errors for these estimates are given in table B–3. They are 0.4 and 0.3, respectively. Assuming that these two estimates are not correlated, the standard error of the estimated difference of 2.1 percent is

$$s_{(x-y)} = \sqrt{(0.4)^2 + (0.3)^2} = 0.5$$

The 90 percent confidence interval for the difference is from 1.3 percent to 2.9 percent.

Table B–3. **Standard Errors of Ownership Rates, Median Value of Asset Holdings, and the Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Asset Type: 1993, 1991, 1988, and 1984**

[Excludes group quarters]

Asset type	1993			1991 (in 1993 dollars)			1988 (in 1993 dollars)			1984 (in 1993 dollars)		
	Percent of house-holds that own asset type	Median values of hold-ings for asset owners (dollars)	Distri-bution of mea-sured net worth	Percent of house-holds that own asset type	Median values of hold-ings for asset owners (dollars)	Distri-bution of mea-sured net worth	Percent of house-holds that own asset type	Median values of hold-ings for asset owners (dollars)	Distri-bution of mea-sured net worth	Percent of house-holds that own asset type	Median values of hold-ings for asset owners (dollars)	Distribu-tion of mea-sured net worth
All assets..........	(X)	762	2.00	(X)	846	2.20	(X)	950	2.80	(X)	949	3.50
Interest-earning assets at financial institutions ..	0.31	1	0.32	0.35	107	0.44	0.37	122	0.47	0.40	128	0.56
Savings accounts	0.33	(NA)	(NA)	0.39	(NA)	(NA)	0.40	(NA)	(NA)	0.43	(NA)	(NA)
Money market deposit accounts	0.22	(NA)	(NA)	0.28	(NA)	(NA)	0.30	(NA)	(NA)	0.32	(NA)	(NA)
Certificates of deposit..	0.25	(NA)	(NA)	0.33	(NA)	(NA)	0.32	(NA)	(NA)	0.35	(NA)	(NA)
Interest-earning check-ing	0.33	(NA)	(NA)	0.39	(NA)	(NA)	0.39	(NA)	(NA)	0.38	(NA)	(NA)
Other interest-earning assets	0.19	1,000	0.23	0.23	981	0.34	0.24	706	0.31	0.25	1,213	0.27
Money market funds...	0.13	(NA)	(NA)	0.16	(NA)	(NA)	0.15	(NA)	(NA)	0.17	(NA)	(NA)
Government securities .	0.10	(NA)	(NA)	0.12	(NA)	(NA)	0.12	(NA)	(NA)	0.10	(NA)	(NA)
Corporate or municipal bonds...............	0.12	(NA)	(NA)	0.14	(NA)	(NA)	0.14	(NA)	(NA)	0.14	(NA)	(NA)
Other interest-earning assets	0.10	(NA)	(NA)	0.12	(NA)	(NA)	0.15	(NA)	(NA)	0.15	(NA)	(NA)
Checking accounts	0.34	–	0.02	0.40	–	0.02	0.41	12	0.02	0.44	13	0.03
Stocks and mutual fund shares	0.27	338	0.47	0.32	445	0.39	0.34	282	0.66	0.35	292	0.76
Own home	0.32	703	0.81	0.38	1,060	0.90	0.40	571	1.06	0.42	613	1.17
Rental property	0.19	600	0.37	0.23	901	0.37	0.24	2,601	0.60	0.26	2,460	0.59
Other real estate	0.20	–	0.21	0.25	572	0.29	0.25	894	0.25	0.26	1,629	0.30
Vehicles................	0.24	49	0.11	0.27	37	0.13	0.28	66	0.13	0.31	70	0.16
Business or profession...	0.21	998	0.59	0.26	331	0.49	0.27	479	0.73	0.30	1,426	0.99
U.S. savings bonds......	0.26	4	0.07	0.31	27	0.04	0.31	46	0.04	0.32	22	0.06
IRA or Keogh accounts ..	0.29	399	0.22	0.34	556	0.19	0.35	310	0.18	0.35	153	0.13
Other financial invest-ments[1]................	0.15	1,493	0.21	0.13	1,409	0.17	0.21	1,466	0.42	0.23	1,637	1.04

– Represents zero. X Not applicable. NA Not available because separate questions were not asked about the amount held in these individual assets.

[1]Includes mortgages held from sale of real estate, amount due from sale of business, unit trusts, and other financial investments.

Table B–4. **Standard Errors for the Median Measured Net Worth and Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Monthly Household Income Quintiles: 1993 and 1991**

[Number of households in thousands]

Monthly household income quintiles[1]	1993			1991 (in 1993 dollars)		
	Number of households	Median measured net worth (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth	Number of households	Median measured net worth (dollars)	Distribution of measured net worth
Total	51	762	2.0	41	846	2.2
Lowest quintile.............................	258	426	0.3	303	651	0.3
Second quintile	258	1,214	0.4	302	1,766	0.5
Third quintile..............................	258	1,236	0.5	303	1,405	0.6
Fourth quintile	258	1,305	0.6	302	2,436	0.7
Highest quintile	258	2,723	1.4	302	4,645	1.6

[1]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.

Table B–5. **Standard Errors for Percent of Households Owning Assets and Median Value of Holdings by Monthly Household Income Quintile for Selected Asset Types: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Monthly household income quintiles[1]	Interest-earning assets at financial institutions[2]	Other interest-earning assets[3]	Stocks and mutual fund shares	Equity in own home	Equity in motor vehicles	Equity in own business or profession	IRA or Keogh accounts
PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS OWNING ASSETS							
1993							
Total	**0.3**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.3**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.3**
Lowest quintile	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.3
Second quintile	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.5
Third quintile	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6
Fourth quintile	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.7
Highest quintile	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.8
1991							
Total	**0.4**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.3**	**0.3**
Lowest quintile	0.9	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.4
Second quintile	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.6
Third quintile	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.7
Fourth quintile	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.8
Highest quintile	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.9
MEDIAN VALUE OF HOLDINGS FOR ASSET OWNERS							
1993							
Total	**1**	**1,000**	**338**	**703**	**49**	**998**	**399**
Lowest quintile	125	2,250	–	1,460	223	453	1,343
Second quintile	3	2,251	396	1,674	–	550	799
Third quintile	85	2,150	571	1,197	147	800	600
Fourth quintile	200	825	434	1,161	104	1,000	500
Highest quintile	126	500	479	1,526	151	2,563	510
1991 (in 1993 dollars)							
Total	**107**	**981**	**445**	**1,060**	**37**	**331**	**556**
Lowest quintile	264	2,506	610	742	17	1,855	1,559
Second quintile	181	3,020	537	742	–	2,279	1,276
Third quintile	188	2,041	424	1,643	129	1,671	196
Fourth quintile	159	3,126	390	371	140	1,590	437
Highest quintile	305	1,060	795	583	186	3,631	553

– Represents zero.

[1]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.

[2]Includes passbook savings accounts, money market deposit accounts, certificates of deposits, and interest-earning checking accounts.

[3]Includes money market funds, U.S. Government securities, municipal and corporate bonds, and other interest-earning assets.

Table B–6. **Standard Errors for the Median Measured Net Worth by Age of Householder and Monthly Household Income Quintile: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Monthly household income	Total	Less than 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over			
						Total	65 to 69 years	70 to 74 years	75 years and over
1993									
All households (thousands)	51	279	273	242	216	265	159	151	190
Median measured net worth (dollars). . . .	762	289	1,023	1,772	2,278	2,193	3,673	4,267	2,750
Excluding home equity	189	109	319	562	1,788	741	2,350	1,726	1,310
Measured Net Worth by Income Quintiles[1]									
Lowest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	258	146	111	92	98	169	82	83	128
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	426	64	245	1,175	3,048	1,991	5,210	3,428	2,576
Excluding home equity	86	85	75	209	550	321	675	376	475
Second quintile:									
Households (thousands)	258	147	122	99	100	157	86	85	106
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	1,214	263	469	3,267	3,111	2,159	3,582	4,250	3,742
Excluding home equity	175	136	275	475	1,315	1,092	1,579	2,442	2,100
Third quintile:									
Households (thousands)	258	153	141	110	100	125	74	68	77
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	1,236	400	1,530	2,758	4,232	6,537	10,041	12,359	13,386
Excluding home equity	356	251	401	656	3,338	3,285	3,763	5,320	9,035
Fourth quintile:									
Households (thousands)	258	146	154	125	102	101	64	55	57
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	1,305	861	1,855	3,316	7,491	11,400	19,149	13,056	12,537
Excluding home equity	492	436	784	1,602	3,135	6,864	11,277	13,447	15,176
Highest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	258	118	155	151	113	85	55	46	46
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	2,723	2,586	4,640	4,383	7,420	27,805	39,524	33,108	62,835
Excluding home equity	1,365	1,497	1,318	2,503	8,230	17,586	29,645	38,201	69,377
1991 (in 1993 dollars)									
All households (thousands)	41	281	268	234	218	264	162	150	187
Median measured net worth (dollars). . . .	897	341	1,234	2,634	3,547	1,727	4,062	3,624	3,559
Excluding home equity	289	143	411	776	1,470	1,287	3,008	2,036	1,823
Measured Net Worth by Income Quintiles[1]									
Lowest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	256	148	99	91	100	171	85	84	129
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	652	93	434	1,421	3,540	2,090	3,788	6,398	3,049
Excluding home equity	46	182	30	212	293	458	410	573	530
Second quintile:									
Households (thousands)	256	150	117	92	102	155	87	81	105
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	1,766	194	1,093	2,519	3,933	2,047	5,033	6,639	4,058
Excluding home equity	363	262	444	734	1,886	1,981	4,291	1,463	3,975
Third quintile:									
Households (thousands)	256	155	137	106	104	122	75	70	68
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	1,405	585	2,222	2,296	6,966	6,289	8,878	12,985	14,979
Excluding home equity	359	292	538	1,144	2,690	3,579	4,346	11,824	8,385
Fourth quintile:									
Households (thousands)	256	146	152	121	104	99	65	54	54
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	2,436	1,166	1,921	3,617	7,180	13,551	23,930	19,578	28,619
Excluding home equity	747	814	803	888	5,883	12,452	11,036	15,125	13,586
Highest quintile:									
Households (thousands)	256	121	156	144	109	87	57	46	48
Median measured net worth (dollars). .	4,646	3,724	3,896	6,129	16,887	32,486	47,670	43,858	40,338
Excluding home equity	1,936	1,612	1,869	3,098	7,286	32,179	20,779	48,180	33,895

[1]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Quintile upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.

Table B–7. **Standard Errors for Distribution of Measured Net Worth by Age of Householder and Asset Type: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Asset type	1993						1991					
	Total	Less than 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over	Total	Less than 35 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
Total measured net worth	**2.0**	**5.3**	**4.8**	**4.8**	**4.1**	**3.1**	**2.2**	**6.4**	**4.7**	**5.3**	**5.2**	**3.6**
Interest-earning assets at financial institutions	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.9	0.9
Other interest-earning assets	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.6
Checking accounts	–	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	0.1	0.1	–	–	–
Stocks and mutual fund shares	0.5	1.4	0.6	1.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.9	1.9	1.4
Own home	0.8	2.3	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.2	0.9	2.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.4
Rental property	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.4	1.3	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.5
Other real estate	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7
Vehicles	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1
Business or profession.....	0.6	1.3	2.3	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.1	0.3
U.S. savings bonds........	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	–	0.1	–	0.1	0.1	0.1
IRA or Keogh accounts	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3
Other financial investments[1]..................	0.2	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	1.4	0.2	1.1	0.9	0.3
Unsecured liabilities[2]	–0.1	–0.7	–0.3	–0.2	–0.4	–0.1	–0.1	–0.8	–0.4	–0.4	–0.4	–

– Represents zero.

[1]Includes mortgages held from sale of real estate, amount due from sale of business, unit trusts, and other financial investments.

[2]Since net worth is the value of assets less liabilities, unsecured liabilities are subtracted from the distribution of net worth and are shown as negative.

Table B–8. **Standard Errors for the Median Measured Net Worth by Race and Hispanic Origin of Householder and Monthly Household Income Quintile: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Monthly household income quintile	Total		White		Black		Hispanic origin[1]	
	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)	1993	1991 (in 1993 dollars)
Median measured net worth (dollars)....	762	846	797	1,178	425	442	415	623
Measured Net Worth by Income Quintile[2]								
Lowest quintile: Median measured net worth (dollars)..	426	652	781	1,330	158	32	53	–
Second quintile: Median measured net worth (dollars)..	1,214	1,766	1,413	2,127	446	348	563	481
Third quintile: Median measured net worth (dollars)..	1,236	1,405	1,900	1,579	1,110	782	1,168	817
Fourth quintile: Median measured net worth (dollars)..	1,305	2,436	1,500	2,068	1,754	2,237	2,919	4,348
Highest quintile: Median measured net worth (dollars)..	2,723	4,645	3,111	5,108	6,405	4,035	10,129	15,446

– Represents zero.

[1]Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

[2]Quintile upper limits for 1993 were: lowest quintile – $1,071; second quintile – $1,963; third quintile – $2,995; fourth quintile – $4,635. Upper limits for 1991 were: lowest quintile – $1,135; second quintile – $2,027; third quintile – $3,089; fourth quintile – $4,721.

Table B–9. **Standard Errors for the Median Measured Net Worth by Type of Household and Age of Householder: 1993 and 1991**

[Excludes group quarters]

Type of household by age of householder	1993 median measured net worth (dollars)		1991 median measured net worth (in 1993 dollars)	
	Total	Excluding equity in own home	Total	Excluding equity in own home
Married-couple households	984	446	1,314	502
Less than 35 years	602	288	730	297
35 to 54 years	1,230	519	1,656	603
55 to 64 years	4,075	2,046	7,312	3,583
65 years and over	3,253	1,960	4,202	4,412
Male householders	999	228	1,114	329
Less than 35 years	351	300	552	262
35 to 54 years	1,811	514	2,597	623
55 to 64 years	7,380	1,425	4,426	1,590
65 years and over	4,779	1,757	8,436	3,208
Female householders	678	116	918	240
Less than 35 years	207	155	235	145
35 to 54 years	777	188	1,206	212
55 to 64 years	3,213	736	3,302	984
65 years and over	2,350	810	3,473	1,321