

PREVALENCE OF ILLNESS BY AGE GROUP AND SEX AT COMMENCEMENT OF SURVEY 1950-51

| Age Group | Estimated P.C. of Persons Reporting— | | | | | | Average Number of Illnesses Reported per 1,000 Persons— | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------|------|---------------------------|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|-------------------------|----|-----|
| | Any Illness(es) | | | Any Disabling Illness(es) | | | All Illnesses | | | All Disabling Illnesses | | |
| | M. | F. | T. | M. | F. | T. | M. | F. | T. | M. | F. | T. |
| ALL AGES..... | 7.3 | 9.3 | 8.3 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 86 | 111 | 93 | 32 | 36 | 34 |
| Under 15..... | 4.6 | 4.7 | 4.6 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 48 | 51 | 50 | 18 | 21 | 20 |
| 15-24..... | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.7 | | | | 49 | 52 | 50 | | | |
| 25-44..... | 6.9 | 10.9 | 8.9 | | | | 78 | 127 | 102 | | | |
| 45-64..... | 10.9 | 13.5 | 12.1 | | | | 127 | 168 | 147 | | | |
| 65 or over..... | 16.7 | 20.5 | 18.6 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 244 | 269 | 256 | 110 | 90 | 100 |

Permanent Physical Disabilities.—Each case of permanent disability disclosed by the Sickness Survey was assigned to one of four groups according to the extent to which performance of usual functions was affected. These groups, which include chronic disabilities, deformities and amputations, are as follows: (1) minor disabilities which did not interfere too much with day to day functioning of employment; (2) moderate disabilities having only a localized effect on conduct of daily employment; (3) severe disabilities which interfered considerably with work but as a result of which the individual was not totally disabled; (4) total disabilities which confined the individual to bed or where assistance was required in carrying out the functions of everyday living. The following statement shows the age distribution of the estimated number of permanently physically disabled persons for all severity groups and for the severely or totally disabled. It should be noted that the Survey, by design, excluded persons residing in institutions.

| Age Group | All Severity Groups | | Severely or Totally Disabled | |
|-----------------|---------------------|------|------------------------------|------|
| | No. | p.c. | No. | p.c. |
| ALL AGES..... | 957,000 | 100 | 423,000 | 100 |
| Under 25..... | 139,000 | 15 | 37,000 | 9 |
| 25-44..... | 238,000 | 25 | 88,000 | 21 |
| 45-64..... | 317,000 | 33 | 136,000 | 32 |
| 65 or over..... | 263,000 | 27 | 162,000 | 38 |

Six types of health conditions were responsible for 58 p.c. of all primary disabilities reported: heart disease, impairment resulting from accidents, arthritis and rheumatism, deafness, blindness, disorder of the nervous system.

Volume of Health Care.—The estimated percentage of persons receiving certain health services for the various age groups is given in the two tabular statements on p. 263 together with the average amount of services per 1,000 population. Physicians' calls include doctors' home and office calls and outpatient clinic visits by the patient but not doctors' calls at the hospital. School clinic visits and treatments are excluded. Examinations for spectacles exclude those by a physician, which are included in physicians' calls.

More than one-half the population—53.1 p.c.—reported some health care during the 1950-51 Sickness Survey year. Of those reporting, 57.7 p.c. were females, and in the 25-44 year age group the reporting percentage for females was 65.2 p.c. For males, the smallest proportion for all combined categories of health care was found in the 15-24 age group with 42.6 p.c. and the largest proportion in the "under 15" group, who accounted for 52.5 p.c. of the health care reported.