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APPENDIX D

Tables on Consumer Debt

For all tables in this section showing a breakdown by income level, each income level is inclusive of the lower limit and exclusive of the upper limit; for example, an income of exactly \$1000 is included in the \$1000-1250 income group.

Unless otherwise noted, all tables have been computed from data on instalment debt, cash loan debt and charge account debt obtained from the Study of Consumer Purchases.

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Tables on Consumer Debt

TABLE D-1

Estimates of Percent of Non-Relief Families Having a Net Change in Consumer Debt and Percentage Distribution of Such Families and of All Non-Relief Families, 1935-36, by Income Level

INCOME LEVEL	(1) ASSUMING COMPLETE OVERLAPPING OF DEBT ^a	(2) ASSUMING NO OVERLAPPING OF DEBT ^b	(3) AVERAGE OF COLUMNS (1) AND (2)	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION	
				Non-Relief Families Having a Net Change ^c	All Non-Relief Families ^d
Under \$500	17.5	37.4	27.5	8.5	10.6
500 — 750	16.8	38.1	27.5	9.1	11.3
750 — 1000	21.3	42.9	32.1	12.6	13.4
1000 — 1250	24.9	44.1	34.5	13.2	13.2
1250 — 1500	27.6	47.8	37.7	11.9	10.8
1500 — 1750	29.0	50.2	39.6	10.5	9.1
1750 — 2000	31.9	51.4	41.7	8.9	7.3
2000 — 2500	30.2	50.1	40.2	11.2	9.5
2500 — 3000	29.3	50.2	39.8	6.1	5.2
3000 — 4000	23.8	41.2	32.5	4.5	4.8
4000 — 5000	21.5	39.5	30.5	1.4	1.6
5000 and over	15.0	30.1	22.6	2.1	3.2
ALL LEVELS	24.2	44.3	34.3	100.0	100.0

^a This column represents the minimum frequency of consumer debt, or the highest frequency of debt, whether instalment, cash loan or charge account, in any income level.

^b This column represents the maximum frequency of consumer debt, or the sum of the frequencies of instalment, cash loan and charge account debt.

^c The percentage distribution of families having a net change in consumer debt is based on the average of the minimum and maximum frequencies of debt (column 3).

^d National Resources Committee, *Consumer Incomes in the United States* (1938) Table 8, p. 25.

TABLE D-2

Percentage Distribution of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease
and Net Increase in Consumer Debt for Non-Relief
Families, 1935-36, by Income Level

INCOME LEVEL	GROSS INCREASE ^a	GROSS DECREASE ^b	NET INCREASE ^c	AGGREGATE INCOME ^d
Under \$500	7.5	1.4	10.9	1.9
500 — 750	8.0	3.0	10.8	4.0
750 — 1000	9.8	7.1	11.4	6.6
1000 — 1250	11.2	8.5	12.7	8.3
1250 — 1500	9.6	9.2	9.9	8.3
1500 — 1750	10.2	9.9	10.3	8.2
1750 — 2000	8.9	9.1	8.7	7.5
2000 — 2500	12.6	14.1	11.8	11.8
2500 — 3000	7.7	10.8	6.0	8.0
3000 — 4000	6.2	11.3	3.3	9.0
4000 — 5000	2.7	4.6	1.6	4.0
5000 and over	5.6	11.0	2.6	22.4
ALL LEVELS	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Estimated amount (in millions)	\$1,257.5	\$452.9	\$804.6	\$44,359.9

^a Gross increase equals the sum of the increases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net increase in one of these types of debt.

^b Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a decrease in one of these types of debt.

^c Net increase equals gross increase minus gross decrease.

^d Based on unpublished data obtained from the National Resources Committee on the distribution of aggregate income for non-relief families, 1935-36.

TABLE D-3

Ratio of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease and Net Increase in Consumer Debt for Non-Relief Families to Aggregate Income of Such Families, 1935-36, by Income Level

INCOME LEVEL	GROSS INCREASE ^a	GROSS DECREASE ^b	NET INCREASE ^c
Under \$500	11.33	.77	10.56
500 — 750	5.67	.77	4.90
750 — 1000	4.24	1.10	3.14
1000 — 1250	3.83	1.04	2.79
1250 — 1500	3.31	1.14	2.17
1500 — 1750	3.52	1.25	2.27
1750 — 2000	3.34	1.23	2.11
2000 — 2500	3.01	1.21	1.80
2500 — 3000	2.74	1.38	1.36
3000 — 4000	1.95	1.28	.67
4000 — 5000	1.92	1.16	.76
5000 and over	.71	.51	.20
ALL LEVELS	2.83	1.02	1.81

^a Gross increase equals the sum of the increases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net increase in one of these types of debt.

^b Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net decrease in one of these types of debt.

^c Net increase equals gross increase minus gross decrease.

TABLE D-4

Ratio of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease and Net Increase in Consumer Debt to Aggregate Income of Non-Relief Families Having a Net Change in Such Debt, 1935-36, by Income Level ^a

INCOME LEVEL	GROSS INCREASE	GROSS DECREASE	NET INCREASE
Under \$500	40.79	2.77	38.02
500 - 750	20.41	2.77	17.64
750 - 1000	13.14	3.41	9.73
1000 - 1250	11.11	3.02	8.09
1250 - 1500	8.94	3.08	5.86
1500 - 1750	8.80	3.13	5.67
1750 - 2000	8.02	2.95	5.07
2000 - 2500	7.53	3.03	4.50
2500 - 3000	6.85	3.45	3.40
3000 - 4000	5.44	2.30	3.14
4000 - 5000	6.34	3.83	2.51
5000 and over	3.12	2.24	.88
ALL LEVELS	8.21	2.96	5.25

^a These figures were computed on the basis of a frequency of consumer debt which is an average of the minimum and maximum frequencies.

TABLE D-5

Percent of Non-Relief Families Having a Net Change in Consumer Debt, 1935-36,^a in Six Types of Community,^b by Income Level

INCOME LEVEL	METROPOLISES	LARGE CITIES	MIDDLE-SIZED CITIES	SMALL CITIES	VILLAGES	ALL NON-FARM COMMUNITIES		ALL COMMUNITIES
						FARMS	TIES	
Under \$500	9.4	28.6	21.9	30.7	28.7	25.9	29.7	27.5
500—1000	17.6	39.8	31.3	37.6	33.3	34.0	24.2	30.0
1000—1500	25.8	44.1	39.7	46.1	36.8	39.5	24.9	35.9
1500—2000	28.9	51.1	45.1	48.6	41.8	43.8	26.0	40.5
2000—2500	26.8	52.1	41.2	42.8	41.2	41.8	30.6	40.2
2500—3000	29.7	51.7	38.4	41.9	38.4	41.2	31.0	39.8
3000—4000	27.0	41.4	33.5	30.7	29.8	33.5	28.4	32.5
4000—5000	23.1	32.7	32.9	28.9	36.1	30.7	30.3	30.5
5000 and over	18.8	22.4	19.0	24.3	25.5	21.7	31.1	22.6
ALL LEVELS	24.6	43.7	36.4	41.0	35.6	37.1	26.3	34.3

^a These figures represent the average of the minimum and maximum frequencies of consumer debt. For each type of community the minimum frequency is the highest frequency of debt, whether instalment, cash loan or charge account, in any income level. The maximum frequency of consumer debt is the sum of the frequencies of instalment, cash loan and charge account debt.

^b Metropolises, 1,500,000 population and over; large cities, 100,000 to 1,500,000; middle-sized cities, 25,000 to 100,000; small cities, 2,500 to 25,000; villages, less than 2,500.

TABLE D-6

Percentage Distribution of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease and Net Increase in Consumer Debt for Non-Relief Families, and of the Aggregate Income of All Non-Relief Families, 1935-36, by Type of Community^a

TYPE OF COMMUNITY	GROSS INCREASE ^b	GROSS DECREASE ^c	NET INCREASE ^d	AGGREGATE INCOME ^e
Metropolises	7.5	6.7	7.9	17.1
Large cities	21.2	17.7	23.1	22.9
Middle-sized cities	8.4	7.6	8.9	10.7
Small cities	15.8	15.7	15.9	15.2
Villages	18.5	17.4	19.2	16.6
Farms	28.6	34.9	25.0	17.5
ALL COMMUNITIES	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

^a Metropolises, 1,500,000 population and over; large cities, 100,000 to 1,500,000; middle-sized cities, 25,000 to 100,000; small cities, 2,500 to 25,000; villages, less than 2,500.

^b Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net increase in one of these types of debt.

^c Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net decrease in one of these types of debt.

^d Net increase equals gross increase minus gross decrease.

^e National Resources Committee, *Consumer Incomes in the United States* (1938) Table 7, p. 23.

TABLE D-7

Ratio of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease and Net Increase in Consumer Debt for Non-Relief Families to Aggregate Income of Such Families, 1935-36, by Type of Community^a

TYPE OF COMMUNITY	GROSS INCREASE ^b	GROSS DECREASE ^c	NET INCREASE ^d
Metropolises	1.24	.41	.83
Large cities	2.61	.79	1.82
Middle-sized cities	2.21	.74	1.47
Small cities	2.94	1.06	1.88
Villages	3.16	1.07	2.09
Farms	4.64	2.03	2.61
ALL COMMUNITIES	2.83	1.02	1.81

^a Metropolises, 1,500,000 population and over; large cities, 100,000 to 1,500,000; middle-sized cities, 25,000 to 100,000; small cities, 2,500 to 25,000; villages, less than 2,500.

^b Gross increase equals the sum of the increases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net increase in one of these types of debt.

^c Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net decrease in one of these types of debt.

^d Net increase equals gross increase minus gross decrease.

TABLE D-8

Percent of Non-Relief Families Having a Net Change in Consumer Debt, 1935-36,^a in Five Regions,^b by Income Level

INCOME LEVEL	NEW ENGLAND	NORTH CENTRAL	SOUTH	MOUNTAIN AND PLAIN	PACIFIC	ALL REGIONS
Under \$500	17.3	21.6	27.6	62.9	29.9	27.5
500 — 1000	33.9	26.2	30.8	42.1	38.4	30.0
1000 — 1500	35.5	31.3	42.1	42.7	45.8	35.9
1500 — 2000	36.5	34.5	49.6	49.6	53.1	40.5
2000 — 2500	32.2	30.6	54.3	45.4	53.5	40.2
2500 — 3000	33.9	32.5	53.5	47.0	48.9	39.8
3000 — 4000	23.1	27.7	39.4	44.2	40.8	32.5
4000 — 5000	19.1	25.8	40.3	36.2	33.7	30.5
5000 and over	19.9	18.6	31.5	27.5	23.8	22.6
ALL LEVELS	32.7	29.4	37.5	46.3	44.8	34.3

^a These figures represent the average of the minimum and maximum frequencies of net change in consumer debt. For each region the minimum frequency is the highest frequency of change in debt, whether instalment, cash loan or charge account, in any income level. The maximum frequency of change in consumer debt is the sum of the frequencies of changes in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt.

^b New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.

North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin.

South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

Mountain and Plain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming.

Pacific: California, Oregon, Washington.

TABLE D-9

Percentage Distribution of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease and Net Increase in Consumer Debt for Non-Relief Families, and of the Aggregate Income of All Non-Relief Families, 1935-36, by Region ^a

REGION	GROSS INCREASE ^b	GROSS DECREASE ^c	NET INCREASE ^d	AGGREGATE INCOME ^e
New England	5.3	4.6	5.7	7.3
North Central	44.7	47.2	43.3	54.9
South	27.1	28.2	26.5	24.6
Mountain and Plain	12.4	11.0	13.1	5.2
Pacific	10.5	9.0	11.4	8.0
ALL REGIONS	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

^a For basis of regional classification, see Table D-8.

^b Gross increase equals the sum of the increases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net increase in one of these types of debt.

^c Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net decrease in one of these types of debt.

^d Net increase equals gross increase minus gross decrease.

^e Computed from National Resources Committee, *Consumer Incomes in the United States* (1938) Tables 6 and 24B.

TABLE D-10

Ratio of Gross Increase, Gross Decrease and Net Increase in Consumer Debt for Non-Relief Families to Aggregate Income of Such Families, 1935-36, by Region ^a

REGION	GROSS INCREASE ^b	GROSS DECREASE ^c	NET INCREASE ^d
New England	2.05	.64	1.41
North Central	2.31	.88	1.43
South	3.12	1.17	1.95
Mountain and Plain	6.67	2.15	4.52
Pacific	3.72	1.15	2.57
ALL REGIONS	2.83	1.02	1.81

^a For basis of regional classification, see Table D-8.

^b Gross increase equals the sum of the increases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net increase in one of these types of debt.

^c Gross decrease equals the sum of the decreases in instalment, cash loan and charge account debt for families having a net decrease in one of these types of debt.

^d Net increase equals gross increase minus gross decrease.

TABLE D-11

Percentage Distribution of Non-Relief, Non-Farm Families Having a Net Change in Instalment Debt or Cash Loan Debt, 1935-36, by Income Level

INCOME LEVEL	INSTALMENT DEBT	CASH LOAN DEBT
Under \$500	4.3	4.6
500 — 750	7.1	6.7
750 — 1000	11.7	11.3
1000 — 1250	14.1	12.3
1250 — 1500	12.8	12.1
1500 — 1750	11.5	11.7
1750 — 2000	10.5	9.4
2000 — 2500	12.7	12.6
2500 — 3000	6.8	8.0
3000 — 4000	5.0	5.7
4000 — 5000	1.5	2.3
5000 and over	2.0	3.3
ALL LEVELS	100.0	100.0