

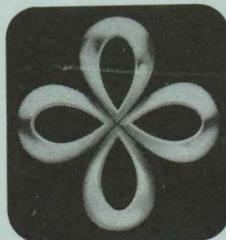
HQ  
1064  
.I6  
B37  
1971

THE STATE OF IOWA



GRIMES STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

# Social Indicators For The Aging



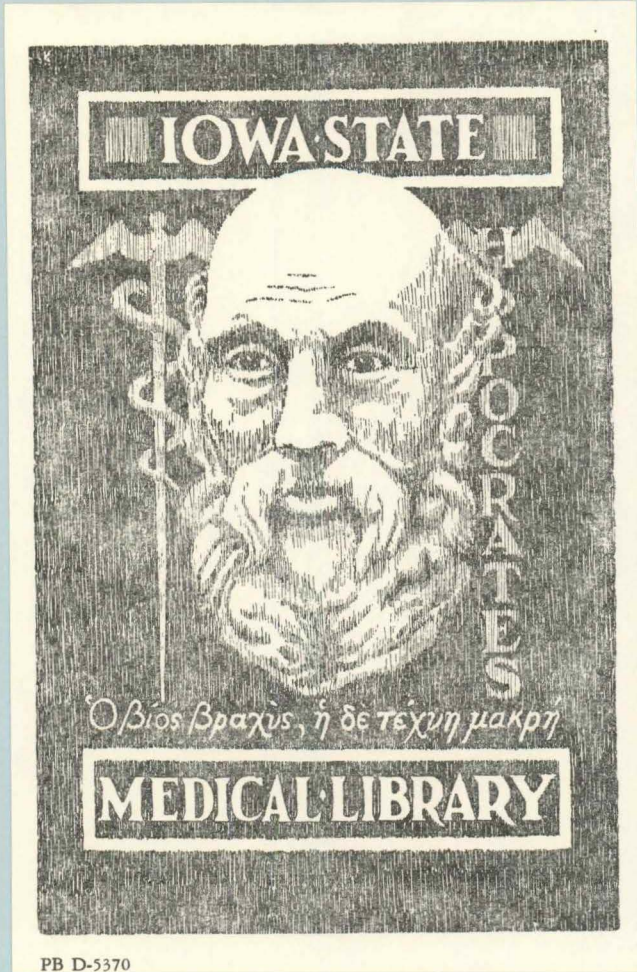
**Iowa**  
a place to grow

A STUDY OF THE IOWA POPULATION OVER AGE 65

Conducted By

Batten, Batten, Hudson and Swab, Inc.  
820 Keosauqua Way  
Des Moines, Iowa

State Library Of Iowa  
State Documents Center  
Miller Building  
Des Moines, Iowa



PB D-5370

THE STATE OF IOWA  
COMMISSION ON THE AGING

SOCIAL INDICATORS FOR THE AGING

A STUDY OF THE IOWA POPULATION OVER AGE 65  
NOVEMBER, 1971

CONDUCTED BY:

BATTEN, BATTEN, HUDSON AND SWAB, INC.  
820 KEOSAUQUA WAY  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	page 1
Definition of Indicators	page 2
RESEARCH PROCEDURE	page 6
Sample Design	page 6
Interviewing	page 8
Tabulation	page 9
Projection of Findings	page 9
Study Results	page 10
TABLES OF RESPONSE:	
Response by Question	page 11
Summary of Social Indicators	page 38
Dispersion of Social Indicator Response	page 39
EXHIBIT:	
Table of Tolerance Range	page 45

R.00

Iowa Commission on Aging

Feb. 25, 1972

## INTRODUCTION

This study was conducted for the Commission of the Aging for the State of Iowa. It was conducted in accordance with the procedures contained in the Social Indicators for the Aged Guide provided by the Administrator on Aging, Social and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The purpose of the study was to determine the status of the elderly in Iowa through the development of social indicators for the aged.

The social indicators are measures of the social conditions in which the elderly are living. The social indicators developed in this study measure the status and satisfaction of the elderly in regard to:

Housing Conditions

Social Relations and Activities

Life Satisfaction

Health Status

Economic Well-Being

Independence

The social indicators include, in most cases, both objective and subjective sub-indicators. The objective sub-indicator applies conventional standards to the schedule responses, and thus provides "objective" information concerning particular conditions. The subjective sub-indicator reflects the

person's attitudes toward a particular condition. For example, objective fact may be that an individual's housing condition is substantially substandard, but subjectively the person may be satisfied with it. The sub-indicators are combined into master indicators for each of the six areas.

The social indicators are defined in the Guide as follows:

### Housing Indicators

The housing indicators consist of objective and subjective measures of housing quality, housing privacy, and neighborhood quality.

#### --Housing Quality (Objective)

A range of objective housing items are covered, including: whether the family has a toilet, a tub or shower, hot running water, a kitchen with/without oven and/or refrigerator, heat in every room, an outside sitting area, and a private or readily available telephone.

#### --Housing Quality (Subjective)

Components of an individual's satisfaction with the quality of his dwelling unit are covered by this indicator, including satisfaction with interior temperature, both in winter and summer, the amount of natural and electrical lighting, insulation from outside noise, the size of the dwelling unit, safety from intruders, and whether enough electrical outlets exist.

#### --Housing Privacy (Objective)

Three aspects of privacy are covered: the amount of space available per person, expressed as persons per room, and whether or not the family has a private kitchen and a private toilet.

#### --Housing Privacy (Subjective)

This indicator is a single question asking whether the respondent feels that he has enough privacy.

--Neighborhood Quality (Objective)

Objective neighborhood quality is measured by the convenience to eight different services, and by whether the respondent has heard of anyone in the neighborhood being a victim of serious crime during the past year.

--Neighborhood Quality (Subjective)

Elements of neighborhood satisfaction are covered with this indicator; whether the neighborhood is felt to be improving or deteriorating, is a good place for older people to live, and how satisfied the respondent is with the cleanliness of the air, the amount of trees and open space, the level of traffic noise, the cleanliness of the neighborhood, and the safety of the area from law-breakers.

Social Relations and Activities Indicators--Social Relations (Objective)

An individual's social relations are measured by the number of neighbors and friends which the respondent feels able to call on, whether the respondent has a neighbor whom he could call on if suddenly he needed help, the frequency of telephone visitation, the frequency of personal visits, and the frequency of club or group activities.

--Social Relations (Subjective)

This indicator measures the respondent's satisfaction with his social relations. Included are his feelings about the frequency of visits in his neighborhood, whether the respondent has a confidant, how often the respondent feels lonely, and how much respect the respondent feels older persons enjoy in the community.

--Activities (Objective)

Eight items are asked of the respondent inquiring if he engaged in various activities during the previous week. Also included is whether the respondent works and, if so, full or part time.

--Activities (Subjective)

Three items are used to measure activity satisfaction. These are whether the respondent feels he has enough to do to keep busy, whether he gets to spend enough time doing things he would like to do, and whether he gets outside his home as often as he would like.

Life Satisfaction Indicators

Eight items are used to measure the individual's satisfaction with life in general. Included are optimism, extent of worry, a comparison of his general well-being with that of others, feelings of usefulness, feelings of excitement, general happiness, and a global question concerning life satisfaction.

Health Indicators--Health (Objective)

The objective measure of health is composed of three sub-indicators. The first is created by a multiplicative function of days in bed during the previous month and the level of incapacitation during the period. The second sub-indicator is based on the amount of difficulty which the respondent reports while performing ten different activities of daily living. The third asks if a respondent is troubled by any continuous or chronic health problems. These sub-indicators are combined into one indicator.

--Health (Subjective)

Three items are used to measure the level of satisfaction which the respondent has toward his state of health. These are a self-evaluation of health status, a comparison of health status with others his age, and the amount of health-related activity restriction.

Economic Well-Being Indicators--Economic Well-Being (Objective)

Four well-known measures of economic well-being are used:

1. Annual family gross money income.
2. Dollar value of current family assets.
3. Dollar amount of current family liabilities.
4. Welfare ratio: the amount of annual gross family money income as a fraction of family budget standard.



--Economic Well-Being (Subjective)

Items are combined which cover aspects of life satisfaction with the individual's finances. Included are satisfaction with present income and assets, expectation of future financial adequacy, felt sufficiency of resources to provide small luxuries (beyond "needs"), and a feeling of how well the respondent's family finances compare to others of the same age group.

Independence Indicators

--Independence Mobility (Objective)

Mobility is defined to be the ability to move about both personally and in the neighborhood. Included in the indicator is the ability of the person to perform physical activities, the convenience of his location with respect to various neighborhood services, and whether the person is able to get outside as much as he would like.

--Independence (Subjective)

The subjective measure of the individual's independence is his ability to do desired activities free from physical restriction, his satisfaction with his financial status, and whether he feels able to obtain new housing if he chooses to do so.

## RESEARCH PROCEDURE

Sample Design:

The universe or total group to be sampled was defined as all people residing in the State of Iowa who are 65 years of age or over, except those living in or confined to county, state or Federal institutions and hospitals at the time the interviews were conducted.

The sample design was based on the 1970 census data for the State of Iowa. A stratified probability sampling plan was used to allow the results to be used to predict, or make generalization about the entire elderly population of the state. The sample was stratified into three population classes: the metropolitan areas, urbanized areas, and rural areas, of which the latter class was sub-divided into farm and non-farm areas. The sample size was predetermined to be at least one thousand, this number was allocated between the above stratas by means of an optimal weighting method. The method for allocating the stratas and choosing the counties in which interviews were conducted is shown in the sample design submitted to the Commission on Aging at the beginning of the study.

Since there are no complete lists or sources of names of all people over age 65 in the state, an area probability sampling

method was used in selecting individual respondents within the selected counties. In metropolitan areas census tracts were randomly selected and from the selected tracts, blocks were randomly selected. Interviewers were instructed to canvas the selected blocks interviewing one person per household over age 65 in the block until a maximum of three block interviews were obtained. They then proceeded to the next block assigned to them. The same procedure was followed in the smaller urban and the rural areas, except town or county maps were used instead of census tracts.

The reliability of the sample data to make predictions about the total elderly population is termed the statistical confidence interval; that is, with a 95% confidence interval used in this survey design we are assured that any prediction based on the sample information will be an accurate estimate of the total elderly population 95% of the time.

The sample data has been reviewed with respect to the survey design. The results were better than would usually be anticipated. The general characteristics of the elderly population from the 1970 census shows that 41.89% are male, 58.11% female; the sample indicated 40.13% male and 59.87% female, less than a 2% error. The census indicates that 98.20% are white, while only 1.80% are non-white. The sample indicates 98.5% white (0.4% error), and 1.0% black, 0.2% American Indian,

0.1% Oriental and 0.2% Spanish-American (0.4% error). The sample indicated a good distribution of population race.

The age distribution from the 1970 census indicated that 57.25% of the total population over 65 was between the ages of 65 to 74, and 42.75% are 75 or older. The sample indicated that 26.69% between ages 65 to 69 and 30.97% between 70 to 74, which is an error of only 0.09%. Likewise it was shown that 22.80% were between 75 and 79, 11.85% between 80 and 84, and finally 8.10% age 85 or older. This was an error of only 2.06%.

As seen by the demographic information, no single category approached the 5% margin of error allowed for in the confidence interval. Therefore, significant confidence can be placed in the sample information when projecting the results to the total population over age 65 in Iowa.

#### Interviewing:

One thousand and two interviews were conducted with people age 65 or older in the seven selected counties. A total of forty-one interviewers were used. The actual interviewing time, excluding travel and locating respondents required approximately fifty minutes. The accuracy of any survey's results is dependent to a great extent on the efficiency and integrity of the interviewers who follow the sample design and do the actual questioning of respondents. Consequently interviewers were

selected and instructed very carefully and only experienced, competent interviewers were used in the survey. Each interviewer was personally instructed as well as being provided complete written instructions. A copy of the instructions has been provided the Iowa Commission of the Aging.

Fifteen per cent of the people interviewed were randomly selected and contact by mail or phone was made in order to validate the interviews and determine that the respondent had been treated courteously.

Tabulation:

The results of each questionnaire were transferred to punch cards for computer processing. Computer programs were written for both determining the social indicator scores and the tabulation of results by individual questions. The programs and the cards are available for further cross tabulation as desired. The results for either the social indicators or by question can be obtained for various sub-samples, such as age, sex, geographic location, income or other demographic characteristics.

Projection of Findings:

While the confidence level is quite high in projecting the results of the study to the total population over age 65, the confidence level will decrease as the size of the sample decreases.

The reliability that can be placed on the projection of a subsample is shown in the table of "Tolerance Range" at the end of this report.

Study Results:

The results of the study are presented in two formats. The first section of tables show percentages of response to each question asked for the total population studied. The second section shows the Social Indicator Scores computed as recommended by Social Indicators for the Aged Guide. Table I of the second section provides a summary of the average scores for each of the social indicators for the total population over age 65. The tables following the summary show the frequency distribution for each of the master indicators.

SECTION I

INDIVIDUAL QUESTION RESPONSE

## TABLES OF RESPONSE

## 1a. Respondent living alone or with others:

Respondent only	38.3 %
Respondent and spouse only	42.2
Respondent (with or without spouse) living with children	11.3
Respondent living with other related individuals	5.3
Respondent living with other unrelated individuals	3.0
No answer	-0-

## 1b. Total number of household members:

Respondent only	38.2 %
Two household members	51.8
Three household members	7.3
Four household members	1.0
Five household members	.3
Six household members	.1
Seven household members	-0-
Eight or more household members	1.3
No answer	-0-

## 1c. Total number of household members age 65 or over:

Respondent only	55.6 %
Two people 65 or over	42.2
Three people 65 or over	1.0
Four to seven people 65 or over	-0-
Eight or more people age 65 or over	1.2
No answer	-0-

## 2. How old were you on your last birthday?

65-69 years old	26.6 %
70-74 years old	30.5
75-79 years old	22.9
80-84 years old	11.9
85 or older	8.2



## 3. Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated or single?

Married	49.2 %
Widowed	43.7
Divorced	1.5
Separated	.3
Single (never married)	5.4
No answer	-0-

## 4. How many years of schooling have you completed?

0-8 (elementary school)	50.9 %
9-11 (some high school or vocational)	19.5
12 (high school graduate)	14.2
1-3 years college (some college)	10.1
4 or more years college (college graduate or more)	4.8
No answer	.5

## 5-6. What do you consider to be your race?

White	98.5 %
Black	1.0
American Indian	.2
Oriental	.1
White-Spanish American	.2

## 7. Sex of respondent:

Male	40.3 %
Female	59.7

## 8a. Type of dwelling in which respondent lives:

House	90.3 %
Apartment	5.5
Mobile Home	1.4
A room in a residential hotel or rooming house	.7
A room in the home of a relative, friend or other non-relative	.1
A home where at least partial physical care is routinely provided, as in a nursing home or hospital	1.8
Other	.2

8b. Do you own or rent this house (apartment) or is your rent provided free?

Own	82.7 %
Rent	10.8
Rent free	4.8
No answer	1.7

8c. Is this housing specially for older people?

Yes	6.1 %
No	93.6
No answer	.2

9. How many rooms do you have in your house (apartment), not counting bathrooms, halls, porches or half-rooms?

One room	2.5 %
Two rooms	2.0
Three rooms	5.7
Four rooms	20.8
Five rooms	27.6
Six rooms	18.0
Seven rooms	12.8
Eight or more rooms	9.3
No answer	1.4

10. Is there a toilet in this house (apartment) for the private use of only the people who live in this household, or do you share a toilet with others?

Private toilet	94.8 %
Shared toilet	1.9
No toilet	2.6
No answer	.7

10a. If a private toilet, how many toilets do you have in your house (apartment)?

Inapplicable/no private toilet	4.9 %
One toilet	76.9
Two toilets	16.3
Three toilets	1.4
Four or more toilets	.1
No answer	.4

- 10b. If a shared toilet, how many people use that toilet?
- |                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Inapplicable/has private toilet | 97.5 % |
| One other person                | .6     |
| Two other people                | .4     |
| Three other people              | .2     |
| Four or more other people       | .5     |
| No answer                       | .8     |
11. Do you have hot running water available in this house (apartment) at all times?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 95.0 % |
| No        | 4.9    |
| No answer | .1     |
12. Do you have a bathtub or shower in your house (apartment)?
- |                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Tub or shower    | 93.8 % |
| No tub or shower | 6.2    |
| No answer        | -0-    |
13. Is there a kitchen in this house (apartment) for the private use of only the people in this household, or do you share a kitchen with others? Do you have an oven and refrigerator?
- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| Private kitchen with both oven and refrigerator     | 95.7 % |
| Private kitchen lacking either oven or refrigerator | .7     |
| Shared kitchen with both oven and refrigerator      | 1.0    |
| Shared kitchen lacking either oven or refrigerator  | .2     |
| No kitchen  | 1.3    |
| No answer   | .9     |
14. Do you have heat in every room in this house (apartment)?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 86.1 % |
| No        | 13.9   |
| No answer | -0-    |
15. Is there an outside area next to your house (apartment house) where you can sit comfortably?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 97.5 % |
| No        | 2.4    |
| No answer | .1     |

16. Do you have a telephone here for the private use of the people in this household? Or if in a multiple dwelling, is there a telephone in this building which is readily available to you?

Private telephone	94.4 %
No private telephone, but telephone readily available	3.3
No telephone readily available	2.3
No answer	-0-

17. Is the temperature usually comfortable in your home during the winter?

Yes	96.1 %
No	2.2
Don't know, haven't lived here during the winter	1.5
No answer	.2

18. How about in the summer?

Yes	94.3 %
No	5.5
Don't know, haven't lived here during the summer	.1
No answer	.1

19. Do you usually get as much daylight as you would like in your house (apartment)?

Yes	98.7 %
No	1.3
No answer	-0-

20. Do you have enough electrical lighting in all the rooms of your house (apartment) to do the things you like to do?

Yes	97.0 %
No	3.0

21. Does sound or noise from outside your home (apartment) bother you?

Yes	26.7 %
No	72.8
No answer	.5

22. Would you say that the size of your house (apartment) is too large, too small, or just about right for your needs?
- |                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Too large        | 18.5 % |
| Too small        | 3.1    |
| Just about right | 78.2   |
| No answer        | .2     |
23. Do you feel that you have the amount of privacy you need?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 97.5 % |
| No        | 2.3    |
| No answer | .2     |
24. Do you feel that your house (apartment) is safe from burglars or other intruders?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 85.6 % |
| No        | 12.2   |
| No answer | 2.2    |
25. Do you feel you have enough electrical outlets in your house (apartment)?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 93.2 % |
| No        | 6.5    |
| No answer | .3     |
26. Taking everything into consideration, would you say you are very satisfied with your housing situation, fairly satisfied, or not satisfied?
- |                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Very satisfied   | 75.8 % |
| Fairly satisfied | 20.5   |
| Not satisfied    | 2.9    |
| No answer        | .8     |
27. Suppose that you had to move from the place you are living now. Do you think it would be very easy to find a new place to live, fairly easy, fairly difficult, or very difficult?
- |                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Very easy        | 10.8 % |
| Fairly easy      | 18.5   |
| Fairly difficult | 26.4   |
| Very difficult   | 37.1   |
| No answer        | 7.2    |

28. Imagine for a moment that you could live in any kind of place you wanted. I will read a list of places, and would you please tell me which you would like best?

A single family house	65.9 %
An apartment	13.0
A trailer or mobile home	2.7
A retirement hotel or boarding home	1.8
A home where older people live together and receive some care	8.4
Don't know	5.7
No answer	2.5

28a. (Asked only if a single family house, apartment or trailer was chosen in question #28, for a base of 815.) Would you prefer to live in a (house)(apartment)(mobile home) specially intended for older people?

Yes	19.5 %
No	74.0
Don't know	6.5
No answer	-0-

29. During the time you have lived here, would you say that this neighborhood has changed for the better, for the worse, or stayed about the same?

Changed for the better	17.4 %
For the worse	11.3
About the same	69.7
No answer	1.6

30. Is your neighborhood a good place for older people to live, about average, or a poor place?

Good place	66.4 %
Average place	28.5
Poor place	3.3
No answer	1.8

31. Have you heard of anyone in this neighborhood being a victim of a serious crime, such as robbery, attack or major theft within the past year?

Yes	10.7 %
No	88.8
No answer	.5

32. I will next read a list of things that have to do with the neighborhood or area in which you live. Will you please tell me if you are satisfied or not satisfied with each:

32a. How clean the air is:

Satisfied	93.4 %
Not satisfied	6.0
No answer	.6

32b. How many trees or how much open space there is:

Satisfied	94.3 %
Not satisfied	5.3
No answer	.4

32c. How much noise there is from traffic and other things?

Satisfied	84.8 %
Not satisfied	14.3
No answer	.9

32d. How clean the neighborhood is:

Satisfied	93.3 %
Not satisfied	5.9
No answer	.8

32e. How safe the area is from lawbreakers:

Satisfied	92.8 %
Not satisfied	4.6
No answer	2.5

33. I'm going to read a list of places which people frequently visit. Would you please tell me if each place is convenient for you to travel to, or not convenient for any reason.

33a. A public library:

Convenient	78.6 %
Not convenient	16.3
Don't know	2.8
No answer	2.3

33b.	Places to shop:	
	Convenient	88.3 %
	Not convenient	10.8
	Don't know	.5
	No answer	.4
33c.	Your bank:	
	Convenient	89.6 %
	Not convenient	9.6
	Don't know	.6
	No answer	.2
33d.	Your doctor or clinic:	
	Convenient	81.7 %
	Not convenient	16.8
	Don't know	1.0
	No answer	.5
33e.	A public park:	
	Convenient	77.9 %
	Not convenient	16.1
	Don't know	3.7
	No answer	2.3
33f.	Restaurants:	
	Convenient	85.6 %
	Not convenient	11.1
	Don't know	2.2
	No answer	1.1
33g.	Post office:	
	Convenient	87.7 %
	Not convenient	11.6
	Don't know	.4
	No answer	.3
33h.	Church or synagogue:	
	Convenient	86.4 %
	Not convenient	12.0
	Don't know	.5
	No answer	1.1



34. Do the people who live around here often visit with one another, or do they keep mostly to themselves?
- |                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Often visit        | 55.0 % |
| Keep to themselves | 42.9   |
| Don't know         | 1.4    |
| No answer          | .7     |
35. About how many of your neighbors do you know well enough to visit with?
- |               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| None          | 3.2 % |
| One to two    | 8.9   |
| Three to four | 18.2  |
| Five or more  | 69.4  |
| No answer     | .3    |
36. Do you have a neighbor on whom you could call if you suddenly needed help?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 97.4 % |
| No        | 2.3    |
| No answer | .3     |
37. I am going to read a list of activities. Would you tell me if you did any of them during the last week?
- 37a. Watched television:
- |                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Watched TV during the week      | 89.4 % |
| Didn't watch TV during the week | 10.5   |
| No answer                       | .1     |
- 37b. Read newspapers or magazines:
- |                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Did read newspapers or magazines     | 89.9 % |
| Did not read newspapers or magazines | 9.9    |
| No answer                            | .2     |
- 37c. Read books:
- |                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Did read books    | 35.7 % |
| Didn't read books | 64.1   |
| No answer         | .2     |

37d.	Worked on a hobby:	
	Did work on a hobby	49.3 %
	Didn't work on a hobby	50.0
	No answer	.7
37e.	Went to a movie:	
	Did go to a movie	2.8 %
	Didn't go to a movie	97.1
	No answer	.1
37f.	Went to a play or concert:	
	Did go to a play or concert	4.6 %
	Didn't go to a play or concert	95.3
	No answer	.1
37g.	Went to a meeting of any sort:	
	Did go to a meeting	34.4 %
	Didn't go to a meeting	65.3
	No answer	.3
37h.	Went for a walk:	
	Did go for a walk	67.1 %
	Didn't go for a walk	32.5
	No answer	.4
37i.	Worked on the house (apartment), garden, etc.:	
	Did work on the house, garden, etc.	77.5 %
	Didn't work on the house, garden, etc.	21.8
	No answer	.7
38.	Are you working at a job for pay at the present time? If so, is this full or part time? And if not, would you like a job?	
	At work full time	3.2 %
	At work part time	10.2
	Not at work but would like a job	8.4
	Not at work and would not like a job	78.0
	No answer	.2

39. Do you usually have enough to do to keep you busy?

Yes	92.5 %
No	7.0
No answer	.5

40. About how many times did you talk to someone -- friends, relatives, or others on the telephone last week?

One a day or more	51.9 %
2-6 times a week	28.8
Once during the week	7.9
Not at all	11.1
No answer	.3

41. How many times during the last week did you visit in person with friends, relatives or neighbors who do not live here?

Once a day or more	30.8 %
2-6 times during the week	44.2
Once during the week	11.6
Not at all	12.8
No answer	.7

42. In the period of a month, about how often do you go to meetings or activities of clubs or informal groups that you belong to?

4 or more times during the month	21.1 %
2-3 times during the month	18.9
Once	11.5
Never	48.1
No answer	.5

43. Do you get to spend enough time doing the things which you like to do?

Yes	87.4 %
No	11.3
No answer	1.3

44. Do you have as much contact as you would like with a person that you feel close to -- somebody that you can trust and confide in?

Yes	89.2 %
No	9.5
No answer	1.3

45. Do you find yourself feeling lonely quite often, sometimes or almost never?
- |              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Quite often  | 10.7 % |
| Sometimes    | 26.5   |
| Almost never | 62.1   |
| No answer    | .7     |
46. How much respect do older people receive in your community? Would you say a lot of respect, some respect, or not very much?
- |                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Not very much    | 10.6 % |
| Some             | 24.4   |
| A lot of respect | 61.5   |
| No answer        | 3.5    |
47. When weather permits, do you get outside of your home as often as you would like?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 90.4 % |
| No        | 9.5    |
| No answer | .1     |
48. Compared to your life today, do you think that one year from now your life will be better, about the same as now, or worse than now? Just your best idea.
- |                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Better         | 8.0 % |
| About the same | 78.7  |
| Worse          | 5.6   |
| No answer      | 7.7   |
49. Do you usually expect that things will turn out well for you?
- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes       | 90.6 % |
| No        | 5.5    |
| No answer | 3.9    |
50. How often would you say you worry about things: very often, fairly often or hardly ever?
- |              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Very often   | 17.1 % |
| Fairly often | 31.1   |
| Hardly ever  | 51.0   |
| No answer    | .8     |

51. Taking all things into consideration, do you think that other people are better off, about the same, or worse off than yourself? Just your opinion.

Better off	14.3 %
About the same	56.4
Worse off	22.5
No answer	6.8

52. Do you sometimes feel unhappy because you think you are not useful?

Yes	25.3 %
No	73.2
No answer	1.5

53. In general, do you find life exciting, pretty routine, or dull?

Exciting	28.4 %
Pretty routine	64.4
Dull	6.3
No answer	.9

54. In general, how happy would you say you are -- very happy, fairly happy, or not happy?

Very happy	42.4 %
Fairly happy	54.1
Not happy	3.0
No answer	.5

55. Taking everything into consideration, how would you describe your satisfaction with life in general at the present time -- good, fair or poor?

Good	72.0 %
Fair	25.5
Poor	2.2
No answer	.3

56. During the last month, about how many days were you sick to the point of having to give up some of your regular activities like visiting, going shopping, or cooking for yourself?

No days	81.6 %
1-7 days during the month	10.4
8-14 days during the month	1.5
15-21 days during the month	1.5
22 days or more during the month	4.5
No answer	.5

57. (Asked only of those who were sick some part of the last month, for a base of 182 responses.) When you were sick, for the most part, were you at home in bed, at home but up and around, at the home of a friend or relative, or in a hospital or nursing home?

At home in bed	14.3 %
At home but up and around	63.7
At the home of a friend or relative	1.6
At a hospital or nursing home	20.3

58. Now I'm going to read a list of activities that many people have difficulty with as they grow older. After I read each one, please tell me if you have some difficulty with it, don't have any difficulty, or whether you cannot do it at all.

58a. Getting about the house:

No difficulty	89.2 %
Some difficulty	10.0
Cannot do it	.6
No answer	.2

58b. Going up and down the stairs:

No difficulty	69.7 %
Some difficulty	24.4
Cannot do it	5.6
No answer	.3

58c. Washing and bathing:

No difficulty	88.9 %
Some difficulty	9.8
Cannot do it	1.2
No answer	.1

58d. Dressing and putting on shoes:

No difficulty	92.1 %
Some difficulty	6.6
Cannot do it	1.3
No answer	-0-

## 58e. Cutting your toenails:

No difficulty	79.5 %
Some difficulty	13.9
Cannot do it	6.5
No answer	.1

## 58f. Getting out of the house:

No difficulty	89.9 %
Some difficulty	8.1
Cannot do it	1.8
No answer	.2

## 58g. Feeding yourself:

No difficulty	98.6 %
Some difficulty	1.2
Cannot do it	.1
No answer	.1

## 58h. Watching television:

No difficulty	94.1 %
Some difficulty	3.3
Cannot do it	1.2
No answer	1.4

## 58i. Eating solid foods:

No difficulty	93.4 %
Some difficulty	6.1
Cannot do it	.4
No answer	.1

## 58j. Hearing over the telephone:

No difficulty	87.0 %
Some difficulty	11.1
Cannot do it	1.0
No answer	.9

59. Taking everything into consideration, how difficult is it for you to get the medical services you need? Would you say it is very difficult, somewhat difficult, or not difficult?

Very difficult	2.3 %
Somewhat difficult	9.5
Not difficult	85.7
No answer	2.5

59a. (Response based upon only those who in answering question #59, indicated they found it very difficult or somewhat difficult to get medical services - for a base of 117 who answered this question.) Why have you found it difficult? Is it because you can't afford to see a doctor or dentist as much as you need to?

Yes	25.6 %
No	74.4

59b. (Response based upon only those who answered question #59 as very difficult or somewhat difficult - for a base of 118 who answered this question.) Is it because you find it hard to get to the doctor or dentist?

Yes	67.8 %
No	32.2

59c. Is it because medical facilities are not available to you? (Response based upon only those who answered question #59 as very difficult or somewhat difficult - for a base of 115 who answered this question.)

Yes	25.2 %
No	74.8

60. Is there anything else about your health that you feel is not being taken care of properly for any reason?

Yes	7.8 %
No	91.4
No answer	.8

61. Have you had a medical checkup in the last year?

Yes	65.2 %
No	34.7
No answer	.1



62. In general, would you say that your health recently has been very good, good, about average, or poor?

Very good	24.1 %
Good	27.6
Average	40.9
Poor	6.9
No answer	.5

63. Would you say that your health is better or worse than the health of other people your age? Just your opinion.

Better	74.8 %
Worse	9.2
No answer	16.0

64. How often would you say that bad health prevents you from doing things you'd like to be doing: most of the time, about half of the time, once in a while or never?

Most of the time	9.4 %
About half of the time	8.2
Once in a while	46.7
Never	35.2
No answer	.5

65. If money were no problem, would you visit the doctor or dentist more often?

Yes	14.7 %
No	84.5
No answer	.8

66. Are you now troubled by any continuing or chronic health problems, physical problems or handicaps? If so, is this most of the time, about half of the time, or only once in awhile?

Yes, most of the time	25.9 %
Yes, about half of the time	5.7
Yes, once in awhile	18.1
No	47.3
No answer	2.9

67. Now I will read a list of different foods. Would you please tell me whether or not you ate each kind yesterday?

67a. Milk, cheese, or other dairy products:

Yes	94.2 %
No	5.7
No answer	.1

67b. Any kind of meat (including fish):

Yes	96.7 %
No	3.3
No answer	-0-

67c. Eggs:

Yes	64.8 %
No	34.7
No answer	.5

67d. Green vegetables, such as green beans, spinach, lettuce:

Yes	78.9 %
No	21.0
No answer	.1

67e. Any other vegetable, such as beets, carrots, or squash:

Yes	72.4 %
No	27.5
No answer	.1

67f. Fruits or fruit juice:

Yes	91.9 %
No	7.9
No answer	.2

67g. Bread or any other kind of food made of cereal:

Yes	97.4 %
No	2.5
No answer	.1

68. In general, do you feel you eat a good diet of food?

Yes	96.0 %
No	3.7
No answer	.3

69. By any chance do you use food stamps? If not, why not?

Yes, use food stamps	5.0 %
No, not eligible	62.9
No, don't know where to get them	2.2
No, don't like welfare or charity	11.1
No, embarrassed to use them	1.5
No, shopkeepers don't like me to use them	-0-
No, don't know what they are	4.4
No, don't have transportation to get them	.6
No, they are not available	1.8
No answer	10.5

70. Please tell me the total amount of income you, your wife (husband), and your dependents received last year.

Less than \$500	1.3 %
\$500-\$999	4.3
\$1,000-\$1,999	20.8
\$2,000-\$2,999	18.0
\$3,000-\$3,999	15.7
\$4,000-\$4,999	7.1
\$5,000-\$5,999	7.5
\$6,000-\$9,999	6.8
\$10,000 or more	3.4
No answer	15.2

71. Please tell me if this money came from any of the following:

71a. Wages or salaries:

Received money	17.1 %
Did not receive money	81.0
No answer	1.9

71b. Self-employment:

Received money	13.9 %
Did not receive money	84.3
No answer	1.8

71c.	Social Security:	
	Received money	90.3 %
	Did not receive money	8.2
	No answer	1.5
71d.	Employee or union pension:	
	Received money	22.9 %
	Did not receive money	75.4
	No answer	1.7
71e.	Annuities:	
	Received money	10.7 %
	Did not receive money	86.7
	No answer	2.6
71f.	Investments, interest or dividends:	
	Received money	53.9 %
	Did not receive money	42.8
	No answer	3.3
71g.	Public welfare:	
	Received money	4.5 %
	Did not receive money	94.0
	No answer	1.5
71h.	Any other source:	
	Received money	23.8 %
	Did not receive money	74.3
	No answer	1.9
72.	Do you own any of the following things:	
7a.	House:	
	Yes	83.3 %
	No	16.6
	No answer	.1

## 72b. Car:

Yes	64.2 %
No	35.6
No answer	.2

## 72c. Any stocks, bonds, savings accounts, etc.:

Yes	65.7 %
No	31.9
No answer	2.4

## 73. Please tell me about how much your major possessions, such as property, stocks and bonds, and savings are worth altogether.

Less than \$500	7.0 %
\$500-\$999	1.6
\$1,000-\$2,999	3.8
\$3,000-\$4,999	4.8
\$5,000-\$9,999	12.6
\$10,000-\$19,999	17.1
\$20,000 or more	31.5
No answer	21.5

## 74. Please tell me about how much money you owe to other people.

Less than \$500	77.0 %
\$500-\$999	2.3
\$1,000-\$2,999	2.5
\$3,000-\$4,999	1.1
\$5,000-\$9,999	1.2
\$10,000-\$19,999	1.0
\$20,000 or more	.8
No answer	14.1

## 75. Please tell me how well you think you and your family are now doing financially, as compared to other people your age; better, about the same, or worse?

Better	23.9 %
About the same	65.0
Worse	4.6
No answer	6.5

## 76. How well do you think your income and assets satisfy your needs: very well, fairly well or poorly?

Very well	39.3 %
Fairly well	49.7
Poorly	9.7
No answer	1.4

77.	Do you feel that you will have enough for your needs in the future?	
	Yes	67.4 %
	No	16.4
	No answer	16.2
78.	Do you have any of the following types of insurance?	
78a.	Medicare:	
	Yes	95.6 %
	No	4.3
	No answer	.1
78b.	Other hospital insurance:	
	Yes	70.2 %
	No	29.7
	No answer	.1
78c.	Other insurance for doctor bills:	
	Yes	48.2 %
	No	51.3
	No answer	.5
78d.	Life insurance:	
	Yes	48.5 %
	No	51.2
	No answer	.3
78e.	Property insurance:	
	Yes	82.4 %
	No	17.1
	No answer	.5
78f.	Burial insurance or other arrangements:	
	Yes	30.9 %
	No	68.0
	No answer	1.1

79. Do you usually have enough to buy those little "extras", that is, those small luxuries?

Yes	79.8 %
No	19.1
No answer	1.1

80. Would you like to have help with any of the following:

80a. Getting insurance of any kind:

Yes	5.7 %
No	93.5
No answer	.8

80b. Getting better housing:

Yes	5.4 %
No	94.0
No answer	.6

80c. Getting better medical care:

Yes	10.7 %
No	88.6
No answer	.7

80d. Getting better dental care?

Yes	8.5 %
No	90.2
No answer	1.2

80e. Getting work:

Yes	4.7 %
No	95.1
No answer	.2

80f. Getting to and from places around town (transportation):

Yes	11.3 %
No	88.4
No answer	.3

80g.	Housework, including fixing meals:	
	Yes	6.5 %
	No	92.7
	No answer	.8
80h.	Having enjoyable things to do (recreation):	
	Yes	9.5 %
	No	90.2
	No answer	.3
80i.	Meeting people:	
	Yes	6.5 %
	No	93.3
	No answer	.2
80j.	Legal matters:	
	Yes	3.6 %
	No	96.0
	No answer	.4
81.	How many persons are financially dependent upon you and your spouse (not counting your spouse)?	
	No others	95.5 %
	One other	4.2
	Two others	.3
	No answer	-0-
82.	Who do you consider to be the head of this household?	
	Respondent	77.5 %
	Respondent's spouse	16.6
	Respondent's son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law	2.9
	Other relative of respondent	1.1
	Other unrelated person	1.1
	No answer	.8

Supplementary Questions:

1. Are you retired?

Yes	84.6 %
No	14.3
No answer	1.1



## 2. At what age did you retire?

Not retired	12.8 %
Before age 60	9.2
Age 60-61	3.8
Age 62	8.6
Age 63-65	22.1
Over 65	37.3
No answer	6.3

## 3. Do you believe in forced retirement?

Yes	17.8 %
No	65.7
Undecided	14.0
No answer	2.5

## 4. When do you feel most people should retire?

55-59 years of age	1.4 %
60-64 years	4.5
65 years	15.6
66-69 years	2.3
Age 70	2.9
Over 70	2.2
When financially able	20.5
When disabled	30.1
When forced to	4.5
No opinion or don't know	16.1

## 5. Are you a member of a church?

Yes	83.3 %
No	16.4
No answer	.3

## 6. How often do you attend church?

Regularly	46.1 %
Often but irregularly	19.6
Seldom	19.2
Never	14.1
No answer	1.0

## 7. Is a church adequately serving you and fulfilling your spiritual needs?

Yes	83.0 %
No	12.5
No answer	4.5

8. When was the last time someone from a church visited you?

Today	4.5 %
During last two weeks	26.4
3-4 weeks ago	13.7
6 months ago	14.8
1 year ago	11.7
Can't recall	21.4
Never	6.2
No answer	1.4

9. Are churches adequately serving our older citizens?

Yes	74.4 %
No	14.6
No answer	11.0

10. Do you feel that churches should become more actively involved in community activities and social services?

Yes	42.2 %
No	32.4
Undecided	21.7
No answer	3.8

Breakdown by Counties:

Black Hawk	5.8 %
Bremer	12.4
Clay	11.0
Harrison	12.4
Jones	11.1
Keokuk	11.7
Polk	16.7
Warren	11.3
Woodbury	7.7

Breakdown by Area:

Metropolitan (Des Moines, Sioux City, and Waterloo)	30.2 %
Urban (towns over 2,500 population)	21.7
Rural (towns under 2,500 or farms)	48.2

Breakdown of Rural:

Rural farm	42.5 %
Rural non-farm (towns under 2,500)	57.5

SECTION II

SOCIAL INDICATOR SCORES

TABLE 1  
 AVERAGE INDICATOR SCORES  
 TOTAL POPULATION

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Subjective</u>	<u>Master</u>
HOUSING	.925	.907	.916
Sub components			
Quality	.946	.892	.919
Privacy	.962	.974	.968
Neighborhood Quality	.867	.855	.861
SOCIAL RELATIONS AND ACTIVITIES	.572	.825	.698
Sub components			
Social Relations	.717	.745	.731
Activities	.426	.905	.665
LIFE SATISFACTION	--	.905	.905
HEALTH	.825	.740	.783
ECONOMIC	1.052	.707	.880
INDEPENDENCE	.897	.633	.765

TABLE 2

Indicator: Housing Master

Indicator Score		Frequency Distribution			Percentage Distribution		
Class	Mid-Point	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master
.00-.14	.070	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0
.15-.24	.195	1	0	.5	0.1	.0	.0
.25-.34	.295	2	2	2	0.2	0.2	0.2
.35-.44	.395	7	1	4	0.7	0.1	0.4
.45-.54	.495	8	10	9	0.8	01.0	0.9
.55-.64	.595	27	21	24	02.7	02.1	02.4
.65-.74	.695	79	20	49.5	07.9	02.0	04.9
.75-.84	.795	44	118	81	04.4	11.8	08.1
.85-1.00	.930	833	829	831	83.2	82.8	83.0
Total		1001	1001	1001	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Indicator Score		92.5	90.7				

Data Tabulated On: Total Population

TABLE 3

Indicator: Social Relations  
And Activities

Indicator Score		Frequency Distribution			Percentage Distribution		
Class	Mid-Point	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master
.00-.14	.070	3	1	2	0.3	0.1	0.2
.15-.24	.195	10	6	8	1.0	0.6	0.8
.25-.34	.295	45	16	30.5	4.5	1.6	3.0
.35-.44	.395	128	15	71.5	12.8	1.5	7.1
.45-.54	.495	258	26	142	25.8	2.6	14.2
.55-.64	.595	264	82	173	26.4	8.2	17.3
.65-.74	.695	200	71	135.5	20.0	07.1	13.5
.75-.84	.795	84	247	165.5	8.4	24.7	16.5
.85-1.00	.930	9	537	273	0.9	53.6	27.3
Total		1001	1001	1001	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Indicator Score		57.2	82.5				

Data Tabulated On: Total Population

TABLE 4

Indicator: Life Satisfaction

Indicator Score		Frequency Distribution			Percentage Distribution		
Class	Mid-Point	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master
.00-.14	.070	0	7	3.5	.0	.7	.3
.15-.24	.195	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0
.25-.34	.295	0	39	19.5	.0	3.9	1.9
.35-.44	.395	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0
.45-.54	.495	0	6	3	.0	.6	.3
.55-.64	.595	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0
.65-.74	.695	0	177	88.5	.0	17.7	8.8
.75-.84	.795	0	0	0	.0	.0	.0
.85-1.00	.930	0	772	386	.0	77.1	38.6
Total		0	1001	500.5	.0	100.0	50.0
Average Indicator Score		0	90.5				

Data Tabulated On: Total Population

TABLE 5

Indicator: Health

Indicator Score		Frequency Distribution			Percentage Distribution		
Class	Mid-Point	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master
.00-.14	.070	1	42	21.5	.1	4.2	2.1
.15-.24	.195	7	14	10.5	.7	1.4	1.0
.25-.34	.295	21	37	29	2.1	3.7	2.9
.35-.44	.395	20	47	33.5	2.0	4.7	3.3
.45-.54	.495	31	37	34	3.1	3.7	3.4
.55-.64	.595	103	92	97.5	10.3	9.2	9.7
.65-.74	.695	142	10	76	14.2	1.0	7.6
.75-.84	.795	90	368	229	9.0	36.8	22.9
.85-1.00	.930	586	354	470	58.5	35.4	47.0
Total		1001	1001	1001	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Indicator Score		82.5	74.0				

Data Tabulated On: Total Population



TABLE 6

Indicator: Economic Well-being

Indicator Score		Frequency Distribution			Percentage Distribution		
Class	Mid-Point	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master
.00-.14	.070	165	63	114	16.5	6.3	11.4
.15-.24	.195	4	9	6.5	0.4	0.9	0.6
.25-.34	.295	9	71	40	0.9	7.1	4.0
.35-.44	.395	54	20	37	5.4	2.0	3.7
.45-.54	.495	36	82	69.6	4.7	9.2	6.9
.55-.64	.595	80	28	54	8.0	2.8	5.4
.65-.74	.695	51	62	56.5	5.1	6.2	5.6
.75-.84	.795	133	275	204	13.3	27.5	20.4
.85-1.00	.930	469	392	430.5	46.9	39.2	43.0
Total		1001	1001	1001	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Indicator Score		105.2	70.7				

Data Tabulated On: Total Population

TABLE 7

Indicator: Independence

Indicator Score		Frequency Distribution			Percentage Distribution		
Class	Mid-Point	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master	Objective (1)	Subjective (2)	Master
.00-.14	.070	3	0	1.5	.3	0.0	.1
.15-.24	.195	13	0	6.5	1.3	0.0	.6
.25-.34	.295	14	3	8.5	1.4	.3	.8
.35-.44	.395	12	40	26	1.2	4.0	2.6
.45-.54	.495	20	88	54	2.0	8.8	5.4
.55-.64	.595	43	486	264.5	4.3	48.6	26.4
.65-.74	.695	49	223	136	4.9	22.3	13.6
.75-.84	.795	48	143	95.5	4.8	14.3	9.5
.85-1.00	.930	799	18	408.5	79.8	1.8	40.8
Total		1001	1001	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Average Indicator Score		89.7	63.3				

Data Tabulated On: Total Population

SAMPLE ERROR OR TOLERANCE RANGE

In sample surveys, the reported results are subject to certain variability. However, it is possible to state with a certain degree of confidence a range that would encompass the actual figure if a complete census had been taken.

The following table shows the per cent of variability that is possible in the samples used in the study. This table is for a 95 per cent confidence interval; that is, chances are 95 out of 100 that the sample figures reported would not differ by an amount greater than the percentages shown below if a complete census were taken.

<u>Sample Size</u>	<u>5%</u> <u>95%</u>	<u>10%</u> <u>90%</u>	<u>15%</u> <u>85%</u>	<u>20%</u> <u>80%</u>	<u>25%</u> <u>75%</u>	<u>30%</u> <u>70%</u>	<u>35%</u> <u>65%</u>	<u>40%</u> <u>60%</u>	<u>45%</u> <u>55%</u>	<u>50%</u> <u>50%</u>
600	1.8	2.5	2.9	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1
550	1.9	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3
500	2.0	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.5
450	2.1	2.8	3.4	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.7
400	2.2	3.1	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0
350	2.3	3.2	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.3
300	2.4	3.5	4.2	4.6	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.8
250	2.8	3.8	4.5	5.1	5.5	5.8	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.3
200	3.1	4.2	5.0	5.7	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1
150	3.5	4.9	5.8	6.6	7.1	7.6	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.2
100	4.4	6.0	7.1	8.0	8.7	9.2	9.5	9.8	9.9	10.0
50	6.2	8.5	10.1	11.3	12.2	13.0	13.5	13.9	14.1	14.1

This table is read as follows: Find the approximate sample size in the left hand column that corresponds to the sample base shown in the table. Locate the vertical column with the percentage closest to the results. The figure shown where the sample size and percentage column intersect will indicate the possible tolerance error.

DATE DUE

Mar 29 '73

**JUL 9 1973**

**OCT 10 1973**

**JUN 13 1978**

3-1-~~48~~ 84

STATE OF IOWA

73696

Social Indicators for the Aging

13

Po

St. Ia.

1971

**Iowa State Medical Library**

**HISTORICAL BUILDING**

DES MOINES, IOWA

We hope you obtain pleasure and profit from the use of the Iowa State Medical Library. You can increase its usefulness by returning your books promptly.

**Borrower.** Adults are entitled to draw books by filling out an application card.

**Number of Volumes.** Students may borrow 3 volumes at a time, which are not renewable.

**Time Kept.** The period of loan is two weeks; older books may be once renewed. New books and Journals are not renewable.

**Forfeiture of Privilege.** Loss of books or journals without paying for same, defacing or mutilating materials, three requests for return of material without results, or necessity of asking Attorney General's aid to have material returned, bars from future loans.

**Transients** and those at hotels may borrow books by depositing the cost of the book, or \$5.00 which is returned when the book is returned.

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



3 1723 02067 8769