

SIZE OF PLACE CODES ON THE 1972 - 1977
GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEYS

Method
GSS ~~TECHNICAL~~ REPORT #4

Tom W. Smith
Associate Study Director

January, 1978

A general review of the size of place variables used on the General Social Surveys revealed three problems. First, it was found that for the first two surveys there was inadequate documentation about how variables were coded. This lack of documentation contributed to the second problem which was that changing standards were used for coding size of place across surveys (especially between 1972 and 1973 and between 1973 and 1974). The third problem was the discovery of a number of clerical errors in the data and a few misapplications of classification standards. In order to assess these problems and avoid similar occurrences in the future, a detailed set of classification standards were established for all size of place variables and these standards were applied to all surveys to insure that uniform standards were used across time and remove detected miscodes. These rules appear in Appendix 1: Classification Standards for the General Social Survey Size of Place Variables.

When each of the size of place variable was checked using these standards, the following revisions and reclassifications were made:

A. SRCBELT

SRCBELT has been coded on each GSS. For the 1972, 1973, and 1974 surveys the codes were independently coded each year without a written, explicit set of decision rules to guide coding. Starting in 1975 a detailed set of standards for coding were devised and documented and SRCBELT codes were assigned to a master list of NORC segments. Since then SRCBELT has been coded from this master list. Two steps were taken to revise SRCBELT. First, the code assignments on the master lists were checked. This revealed a few clerical errors and misapplications of standards in the master list which were corrected. Next, the standards established in

1975 were applied to the 1972, 1973, and 1974 surveys. This revealed a large number of variant classifications on these surveys. As Table 1 reveals 9 percent of the cases in 1972, 15 percent in 1973, and 15 percent in 1974 changed classification. For 1975 through 1977 the changes were much smaller, 2.5 percent of the cases per year. Since most of the changes were into adjacent categories, the old and revised variables are highly related with gammas of .95 and up (see Table 1).

B. NORCSIZE

NORCSIZE was first coded on GSS74. In 1977 it was added to GSS73. It has always been coded from a master list and has always had an explicit, written set of decisions rules for coding. Inspection of the master listing revealed a few clerical errors involving no cases in 1973 and 1974 and less than one-half percent of the cases in 1975-1977. The old and revised variables are associated at .998-1.000 (see Table 1).

c. XNORCSIZ

XNORCSIZ was derived from NORCSIZE in 1977 and added to the 1973-1977 surveys. It contains the same changes as NORCSIZE and in addition .004-.007 of the cases in 1973-76 were reclassified to match the handling of suburbs of SMSA's with multiple central cities on NORCSIZ. The gammas between the old and revised XNORCSIZ range from .998 to 1.000 (see Table 1).

D. NORCSIZ2

NORCSIZ2 was coded on GSS72 and GSS73. Because a detailed set of classification rules was never generated for this variable it was not possible to recode this variable according to current established standards. Solely for the purpose of this paper a set of rules were codified (see Appendix 1) and applied to the 1972 and 1973 surveys. Since it was known that these rules were not precisely the same that were used in 1972 and 1973, the reclassifications in this case cannot be strictly considered to be corrections. Likewise, because the standards were different, it is not surprising that there were a large number of reclassifications, 13 percent in 1972 and 25 percent in 1973 and that the gammas are lower in these instances (.94 and .89).

E. SIZE

SIZE has been coded on each GSS. In 1972 and 1973 SIZE was hand coded from the Census books. Starting in 1974 a master list of size of place codes was used to code this variable. Two conventions used in 1972-73 were changed for 1974-77. In 1972-73, the New York City segments were coded according to their borough population. Since then the total city population has been used. Also, in 1972-73 the total population of townships, section, divisions, etc. (i.e., minor civil divisions) was used for these area. In

TABLE 1

REVISIONS IN SIZE OF PLACE VARIABLES

Size of Place Variables	Year	Percent of Cases Reclassified	Association Between Old and Revised Variables (Gamma)
SRCBELT	1972	.089	.976
	1973	.152	.949
	1974	.149	.948
	1974	.026	.999
	1976	.026	.998
	1977	.025	.999
NORCSIZE	1973	0	1.000
	1974	0	1.000
	1975	.002	1.000
	1976	.005	1.000
	1977	.004	.998
XNORCSIZE	1973	.007	1.000
	1974	.007	1.000
	1975	.012	1.000
	1976	.009	1.000
	1977	.004	.988
NORCSIZ2	1972	.134	.936
	1973	.245	.885
SIZE (Grouped) ^a . . .	1972	.074	.993
	1973	.119	.946
	1974	.003	1.000
	1975	0	1.000
	1976	0	1.000
	1977	0	1.000
SIZE (Raw)	1972	.340	.742
	1973	.328	.757
	1974	.016	1.000
	1975	0	1.000
	1976	0	1.000
	1977	0	1.000

(Pearson's r)

^aSize groups: 0-9 - 1; 10-49 - 2; 50-249 = 3; 250-999 = 4; 1,000 and over = 5.

1974-77 the net population of these areas was used. The net population of a minor civil division is its total population minus the population of any incorporated place or unincorporated place listed by the Bureau of the Census (see sections on standards of classification for a further explanation of this). In addition a number of miscellaneous clerical errors and related miscodes were discovered. Looking at the raw SIZE variable in Table 1 shows that the application of the 1974-77 conventions and the correction of clerical miscodes resulted in a very large reclassification of 34 percent of the cases in 1972 and 33 percent of the cases in 1973. While most of the changes in the SIZE variable are quite small (in one-third of the instances off by only 1,000), the increase of approximately 5,000,000 in the population of all the New York City cases reduces Pearson's r to .74 - .76. Considering the grouped SIZE variable shows that only 7 percent of the reclassifications crossed the mapped groupings in 1972 and 12 percent did so in 1974. The gammas between these old and revised grouped variables are .99 and .95 (see Table 1).

Looking over all of the size of place variables reveals that in a number of surveys and for several variables there has been a notable number of reclassifications. Despite the frequently large number of reclassifications during the early years the impact on crosstabulations with other variables is fortunately likely to be small. The association between the old and the revised size of place measures are sufficiently strong that the association of the revised size of place codes with other variables will be virtually the same as the association of the old size of place codes with these variables. The association between old and revised variables is lowest for NORCSIZ2 but as noted above the classification standards used to revise the variable were different from those used in 1972 and 1973. Thus, the changed codes do not reflect the misapplication of standards in those years but rather that the standard retrospectively applied here in order to insure that 1972 and 1973 were coded similarly are essentially new and different standards. Furthermore, since most of the changes involve changes between adjoining categories, the collapsing of the size of place variables into a smaller number of categories (e.g., grouping NORCSIZE big city versus other)

inevitably reduces the number of changes and thereby makes the association between the old and revised grouped variables higher than the association between the uncollapsed variables. The greatest difference between old and new variables occurs when size is used as an interval level measure. While the association between the old and revised SIZE variable is still strong ($r = .74 - .76$) in 1972-73, it is appreciably less than in the collapsed cases. Most of the drop in the magnitude of the association comes from the recoding of New York City segments according to the total population of the city rather than according to the boroughs. Since this change in convention increases the population of each segment by around 5,000,000 it has a large impact on the correlation between the old and revised SIZE variable.

Next, the impact of the reclassification on the distribution of the size of place variables is ^{considered?} considered. Table 2 shows the old and revised frequencies for all of the variables. As one would expect from the figures on the proportion of cases reclassified in Table 1, the distribution of size codes changes appreciably for NORCSIZ2, SRCBELT, and SIZE in 1972 and 1973 and shows negligible changes for the other years and other variables. These changes have a significant impact on comparing the distribution of the size of place variables across years. The old variables showed significant changes in the marginals for NORCSIZ2 and SRCBELT between 1972 and 1973 and for SRCBELT across all years. No significant changes were found for other variables across surveys (see Table 3). It was originally thought that the marginal shifts between 1972 and 1973 were the result of NORC's switch from its 1950/1960 sample frame (used for GSS72) to its new 1970 sample frame (used for GSS73 and later). The revised SRCBELT and NORCSIZ2

TABLE 2
 OLD AND REVISED SIZE OF PLACE MARGINALS, 1972-1977

Variables ^a	Old						Revised					
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
A. SRCSELT												
12 largest cities . . . . .	.132	.118	.118	.105	.107	.088	.132	.115	.114	.105	.107	.139
Remaining 100 largest cities . . . . .	.170	.203	.194	.154	.121	.140	.185	.164	.157	.151	.124	.140
Suburbs of 12 largest cities . . . . .	.146	.066	.065	.078	.089	.073	.135	.089	.089	.078	.089	.073
Suburbs of 100 remaining . . . . .	.094	.062	.064	.103	.120	.131	.089	.126	.125	.106	.117	.131
Urban county . . . . .	.314	.404	.408	.411	.392	.408	.293	.334	.339	.389	.370	.390
Rural county . . . . .	.144	.146	.150	.148	.171	.160	.166	.172	.177	.171	.193	.178
Clustered N ^b	201	303	303	301	301	295	201	303	303	301	301	295
B. NORCSIZE												
Large city	--	.225	.218	.214	.176	.171	--	.225	.218	.212	.173	.175
Medium city	--	.093	.094	.098	.119	.105	--	.093	.094	.100	.122	.105
Suburb of large city	--	.172	.170	.175	.171	.151	--	.172	.170	.175	.173	.147
Suburb of medium city	--	.053	.055	.050	.049	.088	--	.053	.055	.050	.047	.088
Other SMSA	--	.151	.149	.132	.157	.148	--	.151	.149	.132	.157	.148
Town	--	.070	.071	.063	.053	.065	--	.070	.071	.063	.053	.065
Small town	--	.076	.077	.055	.069	.065	--	.076	.077	.055	.069	.065
Village	--	.037	.037	.035	.041	.047	--	.037	.037	.035	.041	.047
Rural	--	.122	.129	.178	.165	.161	--	.122	.129	.178	.165	.161
Clustered N	--	303	303	301	301	295	--	303	303	301	301	295
C. XNORCSIZ												
Large city	--	.225	.218	.214	.176	.171	--	.225	.218	.212	.173	.175
Medium city	--	.093	.094	.098	.119	.105	--	.093	.094	.100	.122	.105
Suburb of large city	--	.172	.170	.175	.171	.151	--	.172	.170	.175	.173	.147
Suburb of medium city	--	.053	.055	.050	.049	.088	--	.053	.055	.050	.047	.088
Other SMSA, large city	--	.010	.010	.013	.015	.010	--	.003	.003	.003	.008	.010
Other SMSA, medium city	--	.141	.139	.119	.143	.137	--	.148	.146	.129	.149	.137
Town	--	.070	.071	.063	.053	.065	--	.070	.071	.063	.053	.065
Small town	--	.076	.077	.055	.069	.065	--	.076	.077	.055	.069	.065
Village	--	.037	.037	.035	.041	.047	--	.037	.037	.035	.041	.047
Rural	--	.122	.129	.178	.165	.161	--	.122	.129	.178	.165	.161
Clustered N	--	303	303	301	301	295	--	303	303	301	301	295
D. NORCSIZ2												
Large city . . . . .	.255	.249	--	--	--	--	.265	.225	--	--	--	--
Suburb of large city . . . . .	.251	.151	--	--	--	--	.241	.247	--	--	--	--
Medium city . . . . .	.143	.136	--	--	--	--	.121	.103	--	--	--	--
Town . . . . .	.251	.232	--	--	--	--	.237	.293	--	--	--	--
Rural . . . . .	.100	.232	--	--	--	--	.136	.132	--	--	--	--
Clustered N	201	303	--	--	--	--	201	303	--	--	--	--
E. SIZE (Grouped)												
Over 1,000,000 . . . . .	.089	.089	.088	.078	.079	.064	.094	.089	.088	.078	.079	.064
250,000 - 999,999 . . . . .	.177	.156	.130	.134	.094	.110	.171	.136	.130	.134	.094	.110
50,000 - 249,999 . . . . .	.197	.186	.148	.136	.173	.148	.176	.146	.148	.136	.173	.148
10,000 - 49,999 . . . . .	.238	.245	.279	.255	.268	.267	.249	.285	.282	.255	.268	.267
0 - 9,999 . . . . .	.299	.324	.356	.397	.387	.410	.310	.344	.352	.377	.387	.410
Clustered N	201	303	303	301	301	295	201	303	303	301	301	295

^a See Appendix 1 for an explanation of these variables.

^b The effective number of cases is not the number of respondents but rather the number of segments in which interviews took place. This consequently reduces the number of cases by 5/7 in 1972 and 4/5 in 1973-1977.

TABLE 3
 SIZE OF PLACE VARIABLES BY TIME
 (Probability of No Difference)

Size of Place Variables	1972-1977		1972-1973		1973-1977	
	Old	Revised	Old	Revised	Old	Revised
SRCBELT	.017	.731	.022	.395	.156	.992
NORCSIZE	--	--	--	--	.952	.939
XNORCSIZ	--	--	--	--	.950	.955
NORCSIZ2	--	--	.001	.395	---	--
SIZE (Group)	.280	.673	.959	.608	.534	.887

variables, however, showed no significant differences between these years (or across all years or from 1973 to 1977 for any size of place variable). It therefore appears that the suspected sample frame artifact does not exist for the size of place variables. (It is true, however, that although insignificant the differences between 1972 and 1973 are greater than the differences across other years.)

In sum, the review of the GSS size of place codes has resolved one old problem (the suspected sampling frame artifact) while uncovering one new problem (miscoded size of place variables). Fortunately, the magnitude of the discovered misclassifications are not sufficient to have caused serious distortion. To resolve the miscodes, corrected size of place variables will be created to replace the old variables. Plans are currently underway to make these adjustments on the 1978 release of the GSS cumulative data set.

APPENDIX 1

CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY SIZE
OF PLACE VARIABLES

All size of place codes are assigned on the basis of the smallest civil division in which the segment is located. If a segment overlapped two civil divisions the following rules were applied to determine which place the segment was assigned to.

If the predominance of the listings for any segment are in one of the localities, the rounded population of that locality is coded.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment, and the localities are all cities or towns, or villages, the rounded population of the larger city or town is coded. The same is true if the localities are all rural townships or divisions.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment and the localities include a town or village and a rural township or division, the rounded population of the town or village is coded.

After the segment has been assigned to the proper civil division, the next step is to correctly classify that civil division according to the size of place variables used on the General Social Surveys (i.e., SRCBELT, NORCSIZE, XNORCSIZ, NORCSIZ2, and SIZE). The rules by which places (i.e., civil divisions) are coded on the size of place variables follow.

A. SRCBELT - SRC (Survey Research Center, University of Michigan)
New Belt Code

- (1) Twelve largest Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas SMSA's
The place is in a central city of one of the 12 largest SMSA's according to Statistical Abstracts of the United States, 1972 (Table 20). SMSA's were ranked according to the total population of the SMSA not the population of the central city(ies).

(2) Remainder of the 100 largest SMSA's

The place is in a central city of one of the SMSA's ranked 13-100 in Statistical Abstracts, 1972 (Table 20). Note: While the creation of new SMSA's since 1970 has changed the rank of SMSA's for the purposes of this code these additions are not considered and the rank as of the 1970 census, as listed above, is used.

(3) Suburbs of 12 largest SMSA's

The place is not part of the central city(ies) of one of the 12 largest SMSA's and is listed in U.S. Bureau of the Census 1970 Census of Population, Number of Inhabitants, Series PC (1) - A (Table 11)^a as in the urbanized area for that SMSA. If Table 11 lists the place as partly in and partly out of the urbanized area, then the population of the urbanized part (from Table 11) is compared to the total population of the place (from Tables 6 or 10 depending on which lists it). If the urbanized part totals 50 percent of the population or more, then the place is considered to be a suburb.

(4) Suburb, of the remaining 100 largest SMSA's.

The same criteria applies as in code (3) except that the SMSA is among the 13-100 largest.

(5) Other urban (counties having towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside of the urbanized area on the 100 largest SMSA's (i.e., not in Table 11) and within a county with a town of 10,000 or more (from Table 10). To qualify as a "town" or urban place, as opposed to a division, section, town(ship), etc., that might have a population over 10,000, the place had to be listed in Table 6. Note that the place may or may not be within an SMSA.

(6) Other rural (counties having no towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside the urbanized area of the 100 largest SMSA's and within a county with no town of 10,000 or more. See code (5) for definition of "town." Note that the place may or may not be within an SMSA.

^aNote that unless explicitly stated otherwise all later references to tables refer to this source.

B. NORCSIZE - NORC Size of Place

- (1) Within an SMSA and a large central city (over 250,000)

The place is a central city of a SMSA and has a population greater than 250,000 (see Table 13). For those SMSA's with multiple central cities each central city is assigned according to its separate population, not their combined population.

- (2) Within an SMSA and a medium size central city (50,000 to 250,000)

The place is a central city of an SMSA and has a population less than 250,001. See code (1) for the population of central cities.

- (3) Within an SMSA and a suburb of a large central city

The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 6 and within an SMSA with a central city of greater than 250,000 (Table 13). If one central city of a multiple central city SMSA has a population over 250,000 then all suburbs (as defined here) are counted as suburbs of large central cities. If none of the central cities totaled over 250,000 (even if their combined population exceeded 250,000), then all suburbs are considered to be suburbs of medium size central cities.

- (4) Within an SMSA and a suburb of a medium size central city

The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 6 and within an SMSA with a central city of less than 250,001 (Table 13). See code (3) for the handling of multiple central cities.

- (5) Within an SMSA and an unincorporated area of the SMSA (division, township, tec.)

The place is an unincorporated area (not listed in Table 6) and within an SMSA (Table 13). Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

- (6) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and a small city (10,000 to 49,999)

The place is not within an SMSA, is listed in Table 6, and has a population of 10,000 or over. This would also include a place of 50,000 and over that was not part of a SMSA.

- (7) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and a town or village (2,500 to 9,999)

The place is not within a SMSA, is listed in Table 6, and has a population from 2,500 to 9,999.

- (8) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and an incorporated area less than 2,500 or an unincorporated area of 1,000 to 2,499

The place is not within an SMSA, is listed in Table 6, and has a population less than 2,500. Unincorporated areas listed in Table 6 of over 2,499 are treated as incorporated places of the same population. Unincorporated areas of under 1,000 are not listed by the Bureau of the Census. They are counted as part of the smallest civil division, usually the township, division, or section.

- (9) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and in open country within larger civil division, e.g., township, division

The place is not within an SMSA, and is not listed in Table 6. Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

C. XNORCSIZ - NORC Size of Place

This variable is identical to NORCSIZE except for one particular. Unincorporated areas within SMSA's were broken down into those near large central cities and those near medium sized central cities. The same criteria used to assign suburbs and handle multiple central cities on NORCSIZE were used to assign the unincorporated areas on XNORCSIZ.

D. NORCSIZ2 - NORC Size of Place Code

For the purposes of this paper NORCSIZ2 was defined as follows:

- (2) Rural: In open country, on a farm or in a small town under 2,500

The place is not within an SMSA with a central city over 250,000 (see NORCSIZE for the handling of SMSA's with multiple central cities) and has a population under 2,500 (see SIZE for the determination of the population of a place).

- (3) In a small city or town Under 50,000

The place is not within a SMSA with a central city over 250,000 (see above) and has a population of from 2,500 to 49,999.

- (4) In a medium size city, 50,000 - 250,000

The place is either 1) not within an SMSA with a central city over 250,000 and has a population of from 50,000 to 250,000 or 2) within an SMSA with a multiple central cities with the largest central city over 250,000 and the place was a central city with a population 50,000 to 250,000. For example, in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Portsmouth SMSA Norfolk with a population of 308,000 would be coded a (6) while Virginia Beach with a population of 172,000 would be coded (4).

(5) In a suburb near a large city

The place is within an SMSA with a central city over 250,000 but not a central city. In case of multiple central cities, the combined populations of the central cities were used to determine if there was a central city over 250,000. Note that this definition varies from that applied to suburbs on NORCSIZE.

(6) In a large city (over 250,000)

The place is the central city of an SMSA and has a population over 250,000.

E. SIZE - Size of Place

This codes the population of the place rounded to the nearest 1,000. For incorporated places and unincorporated places over 1,000 the population figures come from Table 6. For other unincorporated places the population figures come from Table 10. If an unincorporated place has an incorporated or an unincorporated places over 1,000 as listed in Table 6 within its borders the population of these sub-entities was subtracted from the population of encompassing unincorporated area and the net population was used. For example, Cumberland Township, Maine is not listed in Table 6 and is listed in Table 10. Since it has no subentities within its borders its gross population of 4,096 rounded to 4 was used. Sharon Township, Kansas is also not listed in Table 6 and is listed in Table 10. It has a gross population of 535 which includes an incorporated area of 265. Its net population of 270 (535-265) rounded to 0 was used.

APPENDIX 2

CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY
SIZE OF PLACE VARIABLE (1980 CENSUS)

All size of place codes are assigned on the basis of the smallest civil division in which the segment is located. If a segment overlapped two civil divisions the following rules were applied to determine which place the segment was assigned to.

If the predominance of the listings for any segment are in one of the localities, the rounded population of that locality is coded.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment, and the localities are all cities or towns, or villages, the rounded population of the larger city or town is coded. The same is true if the localities are all rural townships or divisions.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment and the localities include a town or village and a rural township or division, the rounded population of the town or village is coded.

After the segment has been assigned to the proper civil division, the next step is to correctly classify that civil division according to the size of place variables used on the General Social Surveys (i.e., SRCBELT, XNORCSIZ, and SIZE). The rules by which places (i.e., civil divisions) are coded on the size of place variables follow.

(2) Remainder of the 100 largest SMSA's

The place is in a central city of one of the SMSA's ranked 13-100 in Statistical Abstracts, 1972 (Table 20). Note: While the creation of new SMSA's since 1970 has changed the rank of SMSA's for the purposes of this code these additions are not considered and the rank as of the 1970 census, as listed above, is used.

(3) Suburbs of 12 largest SMSA's

The place is not part of the central city(ies) of one of the 12 largest SMSA's and is listed in U.S. Bureau of the Census 1970 Census of Population, Number of Inhabitants, Series PC (1) - A (Table 11)^a as in the urbanized area for that SMSA. If Table 11 lists the place as partly in and partly out of the urbanized area, then the population of the urbanized part (from Table 11) is compared to the total population of the place (from Tables 6 or 10 depending on which lists it). If the urbanized part totals 50 percent of the population or more, then the place is considered to be a suburb.

(4) Suburb, of the remaining 100 largest SMSA's.

The same criteria applies as in code (3) except that the SMSA is among the 13-100 largest.

(5) Other urban (counties having towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside of the urbanized area on the 100 largest SMSA's (i.e., not in Table 11) and within a county with a town of 10,000 or more (from Table 10). To qualify as a "town" or urban place, as opposed to a division, section, town(ship), etc., that might have a population over 10,000, the place had to be listed in Table 6. Note that the place may or may not be within an SMSA.

(6) Other rural (counties having no towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside the urbanized area of the 100 largest SMSA's and within a county with no town of 10,000 or more. See code (5) for definition of "town." Note that the place may or may not be within an SMSA.

^aNote that unless explicitly stated otherwise all later references to tables refer to this source.

B. NORCSIZE - NORC Size of Place

- (1) Within an SMSA and a large central city (over 250,000)

The place is a central city of a SMSA and has a population greater than 250,000 (see Table 13). For those SMSA's with multiple central cities each central city is assigned according to its separate population, not their combined population.

- (2) Within an SMSA and a medium size central city (50,000 to 250,000)

The place is a central city of an SMSA and has a population less than 250,001. See code (1) for the population of central cities.

- (3) Within an SMSA and a suburb of a large central city

The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 6 and within an SMSA with a central city of greater than 250,000 (Table 13). If one central city of a multiple central city SMSA has a population over 250,000 then all suburbs (as defined here) are counted as suburbs of large central cities. If none of the central cities totaled over 250,000 (even if their combined population exceeded 250,000), then all suburbs are considered to be suburbs of medium size central cities.

- (4) Within an SMSA and a suburb of a medium size central city

The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 6 and within an SMSA with a central city of less than 250,001 (Table 13). See code (3) for the handling of multiple central cities.

- (5) Within an SMSA and an unincorporated area of the SMSA (division, township, tec.)

The place is an unincorporated area (not listed in Table 6) and within an SMSA (Table 13). Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

- (6) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and a small city (10,000 to 49,999)

The place is not within an SMSA, is listed in Table 6, and has a population of 10,000 or over. This would also include a place of 50,000 and over that was not part of a SMSA.

- (7) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and a town or village (2,500 to 9,999)

The place is not within a SMSA, is listed in Table 6, and has a population from 2,500 to 9,999.

- (8) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and an incorporated area less than 2,500 or an unincorporated area of 1,000 to 2,499

The place is not within an SMSA, is listed in Table 6, and has a population less than 2,500. Unincorporated areas listed in Table 6 of over 2,499 are treated as incorporated places of the same population. Unincorporated areas of under 1,000 are not listed by the Bureau of the Census. They are counted as part of the smallest civil division, usually the township, division, or section.

- (9) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and in open country within larger civil division, e.g., township, division

The place is not within an SMSA, and is not listed in Table 6. Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

C. XNORCSIZ - NORC Size of Place

This variable is identical to NORCSIZE except for one particular. Unincorporated areas within SMSA's were broken down into those near large central cities and those near medium sized central cities. The same criteria used to assign suburbs and handle multiple central cities on NORCSIZE were used to assign the unincorporated areas on XNORCSIZ.

D. NORCSIZ2 - NORC Size of Place Code

For the purposes of this paper NORCSIZ2 was defined as follows:

- (2) Rural: In open country, on a farm or in a small town under 2,500

The place is not within an SMSA with a central city over 250,000 (see NORCSIZE for the handling of SMSA's with multiple central cities) and has a population under 2,500 (see SIZE for the determination of the population of a place).

- (3) In a small city or town Under 50,000

The place is not within a SMSA with a central city over 250,000 (see above) and has a population of from 2,500 to 49,999.

- (4) In a medium size city, 50,000 - 250,000

The place is either 1) not within an SMSA with a central city over 250,000 and has a population of from 50,000 to 250,000 or 2) within an SMSA with a multiple central cities with the largest central city over 250,000 and the place was a central city with a population 50,000 to 250,000. For example, in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Portsmouth SMSA Norfolk with a population of 308,000 would be coded a (6) while Virginia Beach with a population of 172,000 would be coded (4).

(5) In a suburb near a large city

The place is within an SMSA with a central city over 250,000 but not a central city. In case of multiple central cities, the combined populations of the central cities were used to determine if there was a central city over 250,000. Note that this definition varies from that applied to suburbs on NORCSIZE.

(6) In a large city (over 250,000)

The place is the central city of an SMSA and has a population over 250,000.

E. SIZE - Size of Place

This codes the population of the place rounded to the nearest 1,000. For incorporated places and unincorporated places over 1,000 the population figures come from Table 6. For other unincorporated places the population figures come from Table 10. If an unincorporated place has an incorporated or an unincorporated places over 1,000 as listed in Table 6 within its borders the population of these sub-entities was subtracted from the population of encompassing unincorporated area and the net population was used. For example, Cumberland Township, Maine is not listed in Table 6 and is listed in Table 10. Since it has no subentities within its borders its gross population of 4,096 rounded to 4 was used. Sharon Township, Kansas is also not listed in Table 6 and is listed in Table 10. It has a gross population of 535 which includes an incorporated area of 265. Its net population of 270 (535-265) rounded to 0 was used.

APPENDIX 2

CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY
SIZE OF PLACE VARIABLE (1980 CENSUS)

All size of place codes are assigned on the basis of the smallest civil division in which the segment is located. If a segment overlapped two civil divisions the following rules were applied to determine which place the segment was assigned to.

If the predominance of the listings for any segment are in one of the localities, the rounded population of that locality is coded.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment, and the localities are all cities or towns, or villages, the rounded population of the larger city or town is coded. The same is true if the localities are all rural townships or divisions.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment and the localities include a town or village and a rural township or division, the rounded population of the town or village is coded.

After the segment has been assigned to the proper civil division, the next step is to correctly classify that civil division according to the size of place variables used on the General Social Surveys (i.e., SRCBELT, XNORCSIZ, and SIZE). The rules by which places (i.e., civil divisions) are coded on the size of place variables follow.

A. SRCBELT--SRC (Survey Research Center, University of Michigan) New Belt Code.

(1) Twelve largest Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's).

The place is in a central city of one of the 12 largest SMSA's according to Statistical Abstracts of the United States, 1981 (Table 23). SMSA's were ranked according to the total population of the SMSA not the population of the central city(ies).

(2) Remainder of the 100 largest SMSA's

The place is in a central city of one of the SMSAs ranked 13-100 in Statistical Abstracts, 1981 (Table 23). Note: While the creation of new SMSA's since 1980 has changed the rank of SMSA's for the purposes of this code these additions are not considered and the rank as of the 1980 census, as listed above, is used.

(3) Suburbs of 12 largest SMSA's

The place is not part of the central city(ies) of one of the 12 largest SMSA's and is listed in U.S. Bureau of the Census 1980 Census of Population, Characteristics of the Population, Series PC 80-1-A (Table 13)^a as in the urbanized area for that SMSA. If Table 13 lists the place as partly in and partly out of the urbanized area, then the population of the urbanized part (from Table 13) is compared to the total population of the place (from Tables 4 or 5 depending on which lists it). If the urbanized part totals 50 percent of the population or more, then the place is considered to be a suburb.

(4) Suburb, of the remaining 100 largest SMSA's.

The same criteria applies as in code (3) except that the SMSA is among the 13-100 largest.

(5) Other urban (counties having towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside of the urbanized area of the 100 largest SMSA's (i.e., not in Table 13) and within a county with a town of 10,000 or more (from Table 4). To qualify as a "town" or urban place, as opposed to a division, section, town(ship), etc., that might have a population over 10,000, the place had to be listed in Table 5. Note that the place may or may not be within an SMSA.

(6) Other rural (counties having no towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside the urbanized area of the 100 largest SMSA's and within a county without a town of 10,000 or more. See code (5) for definition of "town." Note that the place may or may not be within an SMSA.

^aNote that unless explicitly stated otherwise all later references to tables refer to this source.

B. XNORCSIZ--NORC Size of Place

- (1) Within an SMSA and a large central city (over 250,000)
The place is a central city of an SMSA and has a population greater than 250,000 (see Table 13). For those SMSA's with multiple central cities each central city is assigned according to its separate population, not their combined population.
- (2) Within an SMSA and a medium size central city (50,000 to 250,000)
The place is a central city of an SMSA and has a population less than 250,001. See code (1) for the population of central cities.
- (3) Within an SMSA and a suburb of a large central city
The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 5 and within an SMSA with a central city of greater than 250,000 (Table 13). If one central city of a multiple central city SMSA has a population over 250,000 then all suburbs (as defined here) are counted as suburbs of large central cities. If none of the central cities totaled over 250,000 (even if their combined population exceeded 250,000), then all suburbs are considered to be suburbs of medium size central cities.
- (4) Within an SMSA and a suburb of a medium size central city
The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 5 and within an SMSA with a central city of less than 250,001 (Table 13). See code (3) for the handling of multiple central cities.
- (5) Within an SMSA with a large central city (over 250,000) and an unincorporated area of the SMSA (division, township, etc.)
The place is an unincorporated area (not listed in Table 5) and within an SMSA with a large central city (Table 13). Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.
- (6) Within an SMSA with a medium size central city (50,000 to 250,000)
As in 5, but with medium size central city.
- (7) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and a small city (10,000 to 49,999)
The place is not within an SMSA, is listed in Table 5, and has a population of 10,000 or over. This would also include a place of 50,000 and over that was not part of a SMSA.
- (8) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and a town or village (2,500 to 9,999)
The place is not within a SMSA, is listed in Table 5, and has a population from 2,500 to 9,999.

- (9) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and an incorporated area less than 2,500 or an unincorporated area of 1,000 to 2,499

The place is not within an SMSA, is listed in Table 5, and has a population less than 2,500. Unincorporated areas listed in Table 5 of over 2,499 are treated as incorporated places of the same population. Unincorporated areas of under 1,000 are not listed by the Bureau of the Census. They are counted as part of the smallest civil division, usually the township, division, or section.

- (10) Not within an SMSA (within a county) and in open country within larger civil division, e.g., township, division. The place is not within an SMSA, and is not listed in Table 5. Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

C. SIZE--Size of Place

This codes the population of the place rounded to the nearest 1,000. For incorporated places and unincorporated places over 1,000 classed as designated places the population figures come from Table 5. For other unincorporated places the population figures come from Table 4. If an unincorporated place has an incorporated or an unincorporated place over 1,000 as listed in Table 5, within its borders, the population of these subentities was subtracted from the population of the encompassing unincorporated area and the net population was used. For example, Seneca Township, LaSalle Co., IL is not listed in Table 5 and is listed in Table 4. Since it has no subentities within its borders its gross population of 862 rounded to 1 was used. South Ottawa Township, LaSalle Co., IL is also not listed in Table 5 and is listed in Table 4. It has a gross population of 7,698 which includes an incorporated area of 6,775. Its net population of 923 (7,698-6,775) rounded to 1 was used.

APPENDIX 2

CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY SIZE OF PLACE VARIABLES (1990 CENSUS)

All size of place codes are assigned on the basis of the smallest civil division in which the segment is located. If a segment overlapped two civil divisions the following rules were applied to determine which place the segment was assigned to.

If the predominance of the listings for any segment is in one of the localities, the rounded population of that locality is coded.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment, and the localities are all cities, or towns, or villages, the rounded population of the larger city or town is coded. The same is true if the localities are all rural townships or divisions.

If the listings are distributed equally over localities in the segment and the localities include a town or village and a rural township or division, the rounded population of the town or village is coded.

After the segment has been assigned to the proper civil division, the next step is to correctly classify that civil division according to the size of place variables used on the General Social Surveys (i.e., SRCBELT, XNORCSIZ and SIZE). The rules by which places (i.e., civil divisions) are coded on the size of place variables follow.

A. SRCBELT--SRC (Survey Research Center, University of Michigan)
New Belt Code.

- (1) Twelve largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)¹.

The place is in a central city of one of the 12 largest MSAs according to Statistical Abstracts of the United States, 1991 (Table 36). MSAs were ranked according to the total population of the MSA not the population of the central city(ies).

- (2) Remainder of the 100 largest MSAs.

The place is in a central city of one of the MSAs ranked 13-100 in Statistical Abstracts, 1991 (Table 36). Note: While the creation of new MSAs since 1990 has changed the rank of MSAs, for the purposes of this code these additions are not considered. The rank, drawn from the 1990 census, as listed above, is used.

- (3) Suburb of 12 largest MSAs

The place is not part of the central city(ies) of one of the 12 largest MSAs and is listed in U.S. Bureau of Census 1990 Census of Population and Housing, Population and Housing Unit Counts, Series CPH-2 (Table 23) as in the urbanized area for that SMSA. An urbanized area is the continuously developed area around a city. On SRCBELT areas outside the central city, but within the urbanized area, are considered suburbs.

If Table 23 lists the place as partly in and partly out of the urbanized area, then the population of the urbanized part (from Table 23)² is compared to the total population of the place (from Table 8). If the urbanized part totals 50 percent of the population or more, then the place is considered to be a suburb.

- (4) Suburb of the remaining of 100 largest MSAs.

The same criteria applies as in code (3) except that

¹Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs) and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), not Central Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs) are used as the germane metropolitan areas. Thus the rank of metropolitan area on SRCBELT and the size of central cities on XNORCSIZ are based on PMSAs or MSAs, not CMSAs.

²Note that unless explicitly stated otherwise all later references to tables refer to this source.

the MSA is among the 13-100 largest.

(5) Other urban (counties having towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside of the urbanized area of the 100 largest MSAs (i.e., not in Table 23) and within a county with a "town" of 10,000 or more (from Table 8).

(Note that two types of areas are outside the urbanized area of the 100 largest MSAs: 1) all areas that are not in the 100 largest MSAs (i.e. all parts of smaller MSAs and non-metropolitan counties) and 2) areas within the top 100 MSAs that are not listed as within the urbanized areas of those MSAs. Segments in these two categories will be coded as 5 or 6 (but not 1-4).)

To qualify as a "town" or urban place, as opposed to a "non-town" or unincorporated place/county subdivision that might have a population over 10,000, the "town" had to be listed in Table 9 (as a town).

If a town straddles county boundaries and its total population is greater than 10,000, it counts as a town of 10,000+ if the majority of its population falls in the same county as the segment being classified.

a) The closest 1980 analogues to Tables 8 and 9 listed only "towns" in Table 9 and only "non-towns" in Table 8. This clear and simple separation does not occur in 1990. In SOME states Table 9 lists only towns, but in SOME states non-towns are also listed. In ALL states Table 8 lists towns and non-towns. Non-towns (unincorporated, county sub-divisions) are usually called townships or divisions. Other names used are sections, wards (Louisiana), towns (e.g. NY and CT), and unorganized. Towns are most frequently called cities and CDPs (census designated places). Other names are boroughs, villages, and towns (e.g. UT and TX). As you can see at least one term, "town", is used both ways - but not in the same state. Be sure which usage applies to each state. Inspection of Tables 8 and 9 will make clear in which way the terms are being used. Also, be aware that some terms appear as part of the formal place name and this is not the same as its type name. Thus, you can get Salem Village town or Morristown village. Keep formal place names and types straight and separate.

b) Note that the place may or may not be within a MSA.

c) Note that outside the top 100 metropolitan areas codes 5 and 6 are county-wide. That is, all segments in those counties will have the same codes.

- (6) Other rural (counties having no towns of 10,000 or more)

The place is outside the urbanized area of the 100 largest MSAs and within a county without a town of 10,000 or more.

- a) See code (5) for definition of "town."
- b) Note that the place may or may not be within a MSA.
- c) Note that outside the top 100 metropolitan areas codes 5 and 6 are county-wide. That is, all segments in those counties will have the same codes.

B. XNORCSIZ--NORC Size of Place

- (1) Within a MSA and a large central city (over 250,000)

The place is a central city of a MSA and has a population greater than 250,000 (see Table 23). For those MSAs with multiple central cities each central city is assigned according to its separate population, not the cities' combined population.

- (2) Within a MSA and a medium-sized central city (50,000 to 250,000)

The place is a central city of a MSA and has a population less than 250,001. See code (1) for the population of central cities.

- (3) Within a MSA and a suburb of a large central city

The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 9 and within a MSA with a central city of greater than 250,000 (Table 23).

a) If one central city of a multiple central city MSA has a population over 250,000, then all suburbs (as defined here) are counted as suburbs of large central cities. If none of the central cities totaled over 250,000 (even if their combined population exceeded 250,000), then all suburbs are considered to be suburbs of medium-sized central cities.

- (4) Within a MSA and a suburb of a medium-sized central city

The place is an incorporated area or unincorporated area of 1,000 or more as listed in Table 9 and within a MSA with a central city of less than 250,001 (Table 23). See code (3) for the handling of multiple central cities.

- (5) Within a MSA with a large central city (over 250,000) and an unincorporated area of the MSA (division, township, etc.)

The place is an unincorporated area (not listed in Table 9 as a town) and within a MSA with a large central city (Table 23). Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

- (6) Within a MSA with a medium-sized central city (50,000 to 250,000)

As in (5), but with medium-sized central city.

- (7) Not within a MSA (within a county) and a small city (10,000 to 49,999)

The place is not within a MSA, is listed in Table 9 (as a town), and has a population of 10,000 or more. This would also include a place of 50,000 and more that was not part of a MSA.

(Note: for codes 7-9, if a town straddles two counties, use its total population, not just the population that falls in the same county as the segment being classified.)

- (8) Not within a MSA (within a county) and a town (2,500 to 9,999)

The place is not within a MSA, is listed in Table 9 as a town, and has a population from 2,500 to 9,999.

(Note: for codes 7-9, if a town straddles two counties, use its total population, not just the population that falls in the same county as the segment being classified.)

- (9) Not within a MSA (within a county) and an incorporated area less than 2,500 or an unincorporated area of 1,000 to 2,499

The place is not within a MSA, is listed in Table 9, and has a population less than 2,500. Unincorporated areas listed in Table 9 as a town of over 2,499 are treated as incorporated places of the same population. Unincorporated areas of under 1,000 are not listed by the Bureau of the Census. They are counted as part of the smallest civil division, usually the township, division, or section.

(Note: for codes 7-9, if a town straddles two counties, use its total population, not just the population that falls in the same county as the segment being classified.)

- (10) Not within a MSA (within a county) and in open country within larger civil division, e.g., township, division. The place is not within a MSA, and is not listed in Table 9 (as a town). Note that this code has no fixed population parameters.

C. SIZE--Size of Place

This codes the population of the place rounded to the nearest 1,000. For incorporated places and unincorporated places over 1,000 classed as designated places, the population figures come from Table 9. For other unincorporated places the population figures come from Table 8. If an unincorporated place has an incorporated or an unincorporated place over 1,000 as listed in Table 9, within its borders, the population of these sub-entities was subtracted from the population of the encompassing unincorporated area and the net population was used.

(Note: If a town straddles two counties, use its total population, not just the population that falls in the same county as the segment being classified.)

General Notes

1. Be aware that many places have similar names. Camden village and Camden township may be in the same county and there may be a North Camden village and Camden Estates CDP as well. The NORC place names are usually precise, but you may find some that are unclear.
2. Maps near the end of each volume are sometimes helpful in understanding what each place is. They come in different types. Some list counties, county sub-divisions, and towns. Others shade in the urbanized area. Looking at these are clarify where and what places are.
3. Keep in mind that SRCBELT and XNORCSIZ use two very different definitions of what suburbs are, but do use the same Census definitions of central cities and metropolitan areas.
4. Pay attention to what state and county codes the segment is in. State of course determines REGION and county is used by SRCBELT and XNORCSIZ. In general, state and county can be ascertained from the NORC list of PSUs. Remember that some of the bigger PSUs cover two or more states and most metropolitan PSUs (1-69,100) cover more than one county. Among the non-metropolitan PSUs (70-99) almost all cover only one county (and naturally state), but at least one non-metropolitan PSU includes two counties (e.g. PSU 080). To be sure of what state and county you are in by looking up the FIPS codes in the printout in the FIPS index.
5. Determine ahead of time what PSUs are in the top 12 and next 13-100 MSAs. Be aware that NORC uses CMSAs so among the larger PSUs (e.g. New York, 001) some parts of a PSU could be in the top 12, others in the 13-100 group, and others in 101+ group. For example, in the New York PSU segment 001 is in the New York City PMSA and is in the top 12 metropolitan areas, but segment 090 is in Bridgeport (CT) PMSA and is not in the top 12 metropolitan areas. ~~When a NORC PSU is based on a CMSA, it is likely that segments will fall in more than one PMSA and these have to be treated distinctly and the separate PMSAs will likely be coded differently on SRCBELT and XNORCSIZ.~~ Of course, it is possible that two PMSAs have both be in the top 12 or 13-100 or both be above 250,000 in population.