

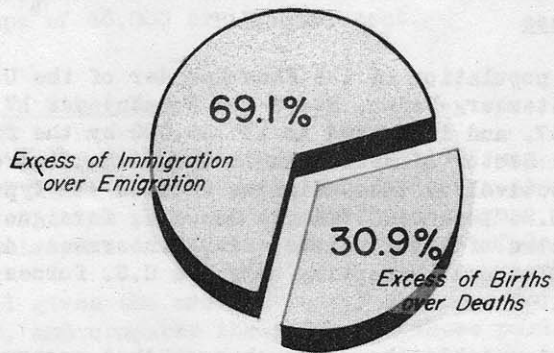
INTRODUCTION

In normal times, current intercensal population estimates for a territory like the U. S. Zone of Germany can be prepared rather easily and with a relatively small margin of error on the basis of vital statistics and a knowledge of migration. Under present conditions in Germany, however, the simple but fundamental question of how many people are living within the U.S. Zone can be answered only by estimates involving a number of problems and a relatively high margin of error. Vital statistics are as reliable as they were formerly; on the other hand, reliable migration statistics covering the postwar period are still unavailable. The urgent requirement for population data to meet the needs of the cumulating economic, social, and political problems in the U.S. Zone of Germany has made it imperative that demographic investigation be pursued in spite of the numerous gaps existing in the sources of information. In many areas it has been necessary to employ new approaches and unusual techniques in the development of significant data.^{1/}

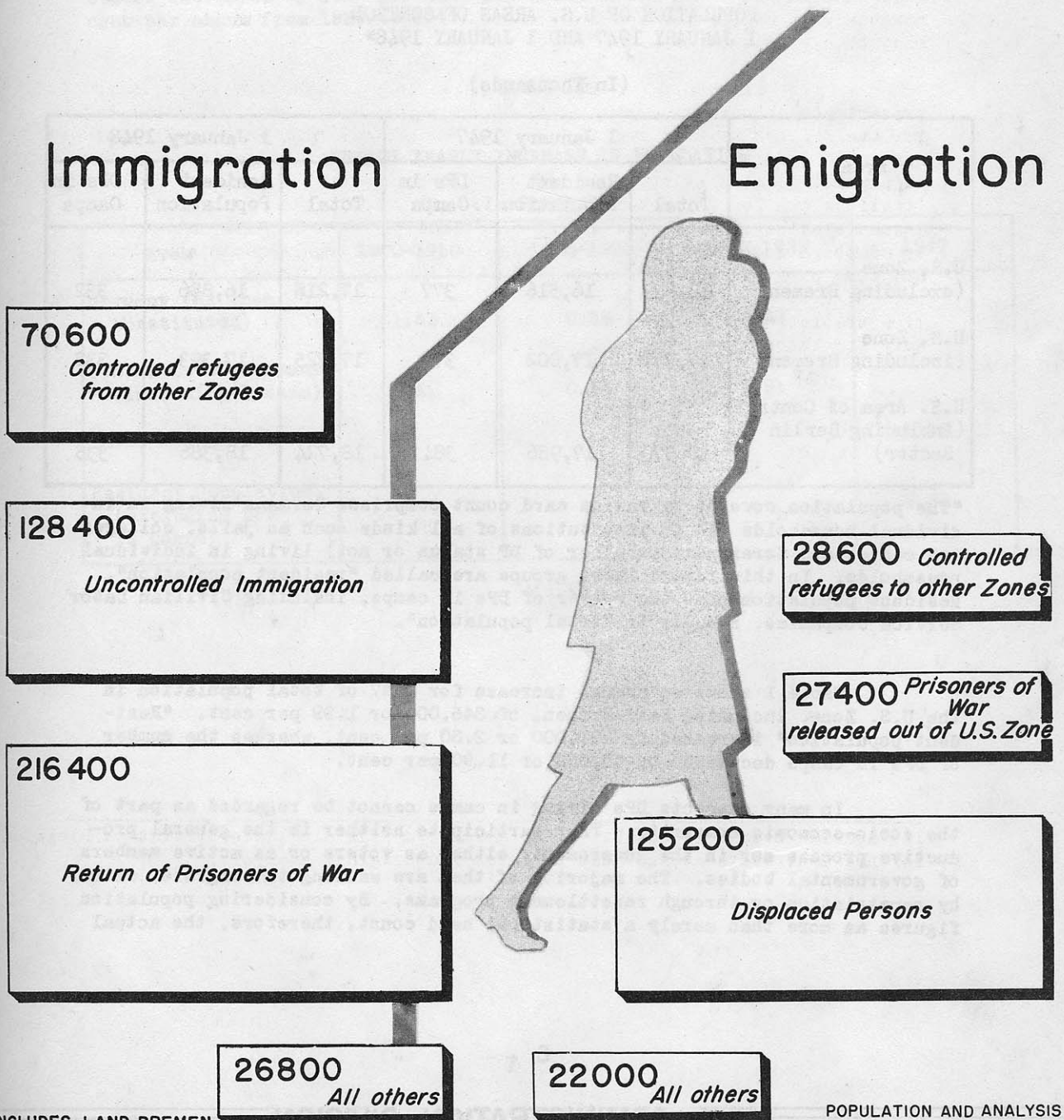
The only source of current population estimates available under present conditions in Germany is the ration card count, the principal basis for the figures of this report. It must be kept in mind that the ration card count, derived from ration card distribution is not a primary source of population statistics. The ration card count is the basis for food allocations and for estimates of future demand. During the last two years, German statistical agencies of the U.S. Zone have persistently attempted to adapt ration card count to the requirements of population statistics, and some progress has been made in this field; nevertheless, the ration card figures furnish only a head count and are not as reliable as population statistics normally are. No breakdown by sex and age groups, necessary for thorough demographic investigation, is available.

^{1/} Special credit is due Dr. Wilhelm Bauer of the Civil Administration Division for his contributions in basic research and original analysis.

U.S. Zone ANALYSIS OF INCREASE 1947



THE LARGE EXCESS OF IMMIGRATION OVER EMIGRATION IS ACCOUNTED FOR AS FOLLOWS:



INCLUDES LAND BREMEN
EXCLUDES U.S. SECTOR BERLIN

POPULATION AND ANALYSIS
CAD OMGUS