

IV. COMPOSITION of FAMILIES.

The budgets referred to families of different sizes, but the average or "standard" family consisted of husband and wife in the prime of life (under 30 years) and one or two children, corresponding to a mathematical average of 3.54 persons, (i. e. 100 families consist of 354 members). In ten cases dependents, mostly sisters living with the family, were considered as members.

Table 2. Composition of Families.

Number of members per family	Number of families	Total number of persons
(1)	(2)	(3) = (1) × (2)
Less than 2	—	—
2	11	22
3	46	138
4	28	112
5	11	55
6	2	12
7	1	7
8	1	8
total	100	354

standard family = $\frac{354}{100} = 3.54$ persons

V. UNIT OF CONSUMPTION.

In order to compare the consumption of food by men, women and children the consumption of a typical family (3.54 members) has been expressed in units of consumption by adult men. It is a well known fact that a man needs more food than a woman, and that a woman needs more than a child. This comparison refers not only to actual food, but also to expenses on tobacco, membership fees, personal and social expenses. In respect to medical aid, the reverse is to be stated. In the expenses for clothing and lighting men and women are on equal footing, whilst the expenditure for children are smaller.

In general the proportional expenditure of men, women and children has not yet been definitely ascertained. Various coefficients have been fixed by certain reliable authorities, and there are also different equivalent figures referring to the various branches of work (heavy physical work, light work and sedentary work) to age and to sex. But for the purposes of this investigation the round figures fixed by the Interallied Food Commission have been considered sufficient. They are :

Males over 14 years	1.00
Females " 14 "	0.83
Children from 10 to 13 years incl.	0.83
" " 6 to 9 " "	0.70
" under 6 years	0.50