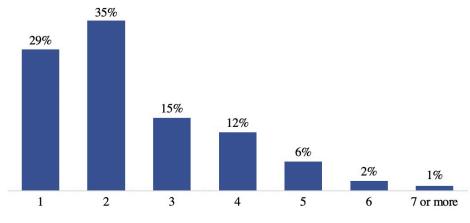
2024 Distribution of Household Size in the US



Number of Persons in the Household

From pages 42 to 44, Daniel Huff writes on the importance of how the average, which can already be of three different types (mean, median, and mode), can be misleading. Thus, it would then be helpful to also be clear on the range or the distribution of the population. He uses the example of the 1950s mean household size, which is 3.6 persons. However, this statistic is not particularly helpful to the American construction worker since not even the majority of households have 3 to 4 persons. Consequently, if he builds only of houses for the average size, many families would have houses that are either too small or too big. As such, what would be helpful to the construction worker is to know the specific distribution. My bar chart above then clarifies to the modern construction worker how many houses to build of a certain size (Korhonen, 2024). Thus, if the houses are built according to the distribution, then generally, families of different sizes can find a house that is suitable for their living situation.

My bar chart uses the modern practice of trying to minimize the data-ink ratio by removing unnecessary border and grid lines. By including precise percentages atop each bar, it removes the need for gridlines and border elements while also making it more clear to the reader what is the specific distribution and what are the most common and least common household size.

References

Korhonen, V. (2024, November). Distribution of U.S. households by size 1970-2024. Statista.

Retrieved January 15, 2025, from

https://www.statista.com/statistics/242189/disitribution-of-households-in-the-us-by-household-size/