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BLACK EMPLOYMENT IN 1973

Report By

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From time to time, I have attempted to keep abreast of economic trends and developments affecting the black community along with other major groups in the national economy. Statistics on employment for 1973 as a whole have recently become available. On the basis of these data, I have just completed an assessment of the broad experience of blacks in the labor market last year. The following conclusions emerged:

- The demand for labor remained strong throughout most of 1973; and (despite the reduced growth of output after the first quarter), labor markets tightened as total employment expanded rapidly and unemployment declined moderately.
- In this environment, the employment situation among blacks improved markedly in 1973--after several years of disappointing performance. Employment rose substantially during the year, at a faster pace than job growth in the economy as a whole.
- On the other hand, the black civilian labor force also expanded rapidly. The labor force participation rate for blacks edged up in 1973

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I am grateful to Ms. Diane W. Sower of the Board's staff for assistance in the preparation of this report. However, the views expressed are my own and should not be attributed to the staff. Nor should they be attributed to my colleagues on the Board.

(after remaining unchanged throughout 1972). The gain last year reflected an increased willingness on the part of blacks to enter the labor market as a result of the improved employment prospects.

- This expansion of the black labor force moderated declines in unemployment. After dropping sharply early in the winter, the jobless rate for black workers was little changed during the remainder of the year.
- Black workers also raised their share of jobs in higher skilled occupations and in high-wage industries in 1973. There was also some decline in their participation in low wage sectors.

These conclusions are amplified in the following discussion.

#### Civilian labor force

The black civilian labor force expanded rapidly in 1973 due to an increase in participation as well as continued large increases in the working age population. (See Table 1, attached). As one would expect, adults accounted for the great bulk of the labor force growth as participation rates edged up slightly and population expanded rapidly. However, teenagers continued to enter the market in large numbers, and their labor force increased significantly. Their white counterparts also recorded substantial growth.

Last year was the first year the overall participation rate for blacks has increased since the mid-1960's. Most of the advance was attributable to an increase in participation among black women and young workers. Among adult men twenty years or older, the rate was basically unchanged. Yet, this represented a departure from the sharp drops that have been evident in recent years.

Participation was up for young black men 18-24, but it continued to edge down among men 25-44 years old (Table 2). Among white men, participation rates rose in the younger age groups (16-24) and for men 25-34 years but edged down in the older age groups. The rapid rise in labor force participation among white women continued in 1973 with all of the gain accounted for by younger women and those in the 25-44 age groups. Participation of black women also increased, particularly in the younger age range.

In 1973, there were 10 million black workers holding jobs or looking for employment (Table 3). They represented 11.4 per cent of the labor force--a slightly larger fraction than in the previous year. Over the four quarters of 1973, the total civilian labor force rose by 2.7 million (to 88.7 million). This gain was composed of an increase of 330 thousand for blacks and 2.4 million for whites. Thus, blacks--accounted about 12 per cent of the total expansion.<sup>1/</sup>

#### Employment

Overall employment rose substantially in 1973, increasing 3.7 per cent over the year after posting a healthy 2.9 per cent gain the previous year (Table 4). Jobs among blacks increased by 400 thousand to a total of 9.3 million, an increase of 4.6 per cent. Gains occurred among both adults and teenagers, who had recorded an employment decline the year before. Black men registered large job gains which probably

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<sup>1/</sup> The changes noted throughout the text cannot be derived directly from the data in Tables 3 and 4. The changes indicated for 1973 have been adjusted to reflect the change in population control made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and introduced in March 1973. For an explanation of the adjustments see Employment and Earnings, April 1973.

reflected the strong performance of the manufacturing sector in 1973. Factory employment (hard hit by the 1970 recession) did not start to recover until late 1971, after which it rose steadily in the subsequent two years. The 1973 rise was more than twice that registered the year before. Much of the gain was concentrated in the metal and metal using industries where black adult men are heavily represented. Employment also expanded considerably among adult white men, but their 2.2 per cent rate of increase was well below the 3.8 per cent gain of their black counterparts.

Employment opportunities for black women also picked up during the year as the number of jobs held by them rose to 3.8 million--for an increase of 3.7 per cent. The number of white women holding jobs expanded by 4.7 per cent over the year. Teenage employment also rose substantially. Among young black workers a 18 per cent gain pushed teenage employment above levels recorded in 1969. The number of jobs held by them had remained substantially below these peak levels for three years. Young white workers also fared well in the tightening labor market as their employment increased by about 8 per cent. This strong employment picture probably reflected the continued expansion of the service-producing industries where many women and young workers are concentrated--many in part-time jobs. These industries added nearly 1.8 million workers to their payrolls in 1973 with the largest gains occurring in the trade and the service industry.

### Unemployment

Joblessness among blacks declined moderately during 1973-- after rising in the two previous years. At the end of 1973, about 884 thousand blacks were unemployed--compared with 957 thousand a year earlier (Table 5). This represented a decline in joblessness by roughly 7-1/2 per cent for blacks as a group. Among black men, the decline was 5 per cent; it was 3-1/2 per cent among black women, and 15 per cent among black teenagers. These decreases in joblessness were smaller than the decreases experienced by whites overall. For the latter group as a whole, the drop was 8-1/2 per cent; it was 17 per cent for white men; 5-1/2 per cent for white women; but there was about a 10 per cent increase for white teenagers.

The unemployment rates among blacks declined moderately during 1973 after rising in the three previous years. The largest relative improvement occurred among black teenagers whose unemployment rate dropped to about 30 per cent after averaging over 33 per cent in 1972 (Table 6). At the same time, unemployment increased over the four quarters of 1973 among white teenagers as their labor force growth outstripped employment expansion. However, their unemployment rate (at about 12.6 for the year as a whole) was less than half the jobless rate of black youth. After averaging about 6.8 per cent in 1972, the unemployment rate for adult black men edged down during 1973 to about 5.7 per cent--the lowest since the 1970 recession. Unemployment

among adult white men also declined significantly, and their jobless rate decreased from the 3.6 per cent level of 1972 to about 2.9 per cent in 1973. Joblessness among adult women of both races declined moderately; the unemployment rate for black women averaged 8.2 per cent and for white women, about 4.3 per cent in 1973.

The total black unemployment rate (at 8.9 per cent) was about twice the aggregate white rate in 1973. This was a slightly higher ratio than in the four previous years.

There was a decline in discouraged workers in 1973. The number who wanted a job but did not think they could get one declined by about 44,000. Blacks accounted for 80 per cent of the decline. At the end of 1973, they comprised less than one-fifth of the discouraged workers compared with the one-fourth average over the previous two years.

#### Industry Employment

The industry distribution of black employment in 1973 can be traced in Table 7. The largest proportion (excluding government) of black jobholders were employed in manufacturing with the heaviest concentrations in metals, machinery, transportation equipment (all sectors where demand was strong in 1973) and in food and apparel. Their share of factory employment climbed to 10.7 per cent. This fraction was in line with their representation in the work

force, and represented an improvement from the 10 per cent share in 1972. Outside manufacturing, the proportion of black workers employed in services was high--although slightly lower than in 1972. This was mainly a reflection of movement out of private household employment; although black jobholders were still over-represented in both household and other service fields. In trade, blacks were under-represented. Moreover, for them, job growth in this sector was primarily in the low wage field of retail trade.

One way of looking at the changing structure of black employment is to group the industries into "high-wage," "mid-wage," and "low-wage" industries, defining the groups by the industry's average weekly earnings. Table 8 shows these groupings together with black workers' share of the industry's employment over time. This is an approximate measure of upward job mobility among black workers. Overall, black workers increased their share of employment in high-wage industries in 1973 to 9.3 per cent from 8.9 per cent in 1972. Moreover, as the total number of workers employed in high-wage industries increased 5 per cent in 1973, the number of high wage jobs held by blacks jumped about 10 per cent. In the mid-wage industries, blacks increased their share from 8.9 per cent to 9.6 per cent--reflecting a 15 per cent gain in employment in 1973. In low-wage industries, the black share--at 10.6 per cent--was essentially unchanged from 1972.

Among high-wage industries, black workers increased their representation in 1973 in transportation equipment, chemicals, fabricated metals, and in stone, clay and glass industries. Ground was lost in construction, in petroleum, and mining. Outside of manufacturing, black workers increased their share of employment in transportation and public utilities and in some of the mid-wage industries--especially food and rubber.

Among the low-wage industries blacks moved out of the service industries, reducing their job share somewhat. However, there was some counter-tendency to increase their share of industry employment in tobacco, retail trade, and textiles. Thus, in summary, while the extent to which black workers were better off in their employment gains cannot be ascertained, the analysis does indicate that blacks did make significant employment gains in the relatively high-wage industry jobs during 1973.

#### Occupational Distribution

The distribution of blacks among occupations in 1973 is shown in Table 9. Comparison with data for 1972 indicated that there was a noticeable advancement in the range of jobs held by blacks. Over the year, black workers' share of white collar jobs increased to 7.0 per cent--still well short of their representation in all occupations--but an improvement over the 6.6 per cent they registered in 1972. The gain was attributable to a relative increase in the number of blacks in all of the white collar occupations. Yet,

the movement into professional and technical jobs and managerial positions was particularly noticeable.

Among the blue collar occupations, black workers were still disproportionately represented in the lowest paying laborer jobs, and the proportion did not change over the year. However, blacks did increase their share of the relatively higher paying jobs as craftsman and operatives. Black workers remained heavily over-represented in the low paying service occupations. On the other hand, during 1973 there was a strong movement out of private household employment and a consequent decline in their share of service jobs. In 1973, black workers continued to leave the lower paying agricultural jobs, but there was a slight increase in their share of farm proprietor occupations.

In summary, while blacks made real progress during 1973 in obtaining higher paying jobs, their occupational concentration remained in the relatively low-skill, low paying jobs.

#### Outlook

Although 1973 showed a substantially improved employment picture for black workers, the outlook for 1974 is far from optimistic. Slowdowns in production growth combined with the onset of energy shortages have resulted in layoffs in a number of industries and a rise in joblessness since November. The unemployment rate for black workers has increased by 1.2 percentage points since the recent low in October to 9.6 per cent in January. Much of the increase has occurred among

adult black men. As cutbacks continue in manufacturing, trade, and services industries--sectors where black workers are heavily represented--the employment situation is likely to worsen.

Therefore, it appears that remedial steps will become necessary for a large group of workers in 1974. Higher funding of the public employment program, extension of unemployment insurance benefits, and special retaining programs are under consideration by Congress. If enacted in time, these measures would undoubtedly be helpful in easing the impact of employment reductions.

Table 1. Participation Rates, by Age and Race, 1963-1973  
Seasonally Adjusted

	Black <sup>1/</sup>			White			Black as Percentage of White					
	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19
1963	63.0	83.9	49.9	41.7	58.2	84.4	37.0	45.7	108.2	99.4	134.9	91.2
1964	63.1	84.1	50.6	40.4	58.2	84.2	37.5	45.0	108.4	99.9	134.9	89.8
1965	62.9	83.7	51.1	40.1	58.4	83.9	38.0	46.5	107.7	99.8	134.5	86.2
1966	63.0	83.3	51.6	42.2	58.7	83.6	38.8	49.1	107.3	99.6	133.0	85.9
1967	62.8	82.9	51.6	42.9	59.2	83.5	39.8	49.2	106.1	99.3	129.6	87.2
1968	62.2	82.2	51.4	41.9	59.3	83.2	40.4	49.3	104.9	98.8	127.2	85.0
1969	62.1	81.4	51.9	41.9	59.9	83.0	41.5	50.6	103.7	98.1	125.1	82.8
1970	61.8	81.4	51.7	40.5	60.2	82.8	42.2	51.4	102.7	98.3	122.5	78.8
1971	60.9	79.9	51.8	37.5	60.1	82.3	42.3	51.6	101.3	97.1	122.4	72.6
1972	60.0	78.4	51.1	39.0	60.4	82.0	42.7	54.3	99.3	95.6	119.7	71.6
1973	60.3	78.5	51.3	40.2	60.9	81.7	43.5	56.2	99.0	96.1	117.9	71.5

<sup>1/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE  
PARTICIPATION RATES BY DETAILED AGE AND RACE

	16-17	18-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
<b><u>Black Male</u><sup>1/</sup></b>								
1960	45.6	71.2	90.4	96.2	95.5	92.3	82.5	31.2
1961	42.5	70.5	89.7	95.9	94.8	92.3	81.6	29.4
1962	40.2	68.8	89.3	95.3	94.5	92.2	81.5	27.2
1963	37.2	69.1	88.6	94.9	94.9	91.1	82.5	27.6
1964	37.3	67.2	89.4	95.9	94.4	91.6	80.6	29.6
1965	39.3	66.7	89.8	95.7	94.2	92.0	78.8	27.9
1966	41.1	63.7	89.9	95.5	91.1	90.7	81.1	25.6
1967	41.2	62.7	87.2	95.5	93.6	91.3	79.3	27.2
1968	37.9	63.3	85.0	95.0	93.4	90.1	79.6	26.6
1969	37.7	63.2	84.4	94.0	92.7	89.5	77.9	26.1
1970	34.8	61.8	83.5	93.7	93.2	88.2	79.2	27.4
1971	32.4	58.9	81.5	92.9	92.0	86.9	77.8	24.5
1972	34.1	60.1	81.5	92.7	91.4	86.1	73.6	23.6
1973	32.4	61.1	83.6	91.8	90.9	87.5	69.4	22.4
<b><u>Black Female</u></b>								
1960	22.1	44.3	48.8	49.7	59.8	60.5	47.3	12.8
1961	21.6	44.6	47.7	51.2	60.5	61.1	45.2	13.1
1962	21.0	45.5	48.6	52.0	59.7	60.5	46.1	12.2
1963	21.5	44.9	49.2	53.3	59.4	60.6	47.3	11.8
1964	19.5	46.5	53.6	52.8	58.4	62.3	48.4	12.7
1965	20.5	40.0	55.2	54.0	59.9	60.2	48.9	12.9
1966	23.6	44.0	54.5	54.9	60.9	61.0	49.1	13.0
1967	22.8	48.7	54.9	57.5	60.8	59.6	47.1	13.0
1968	23.3	46.9	58.4	56.6	59.3	59.8	47.0	11.9
1969	24.4	45.4	58.6	57.8	59.5	60.8	47.5	11.9
1970	24.3	44.7	57.7	57.6	59.9	60.2	47.1	12.2
1971	21.9	41.4	56.0	59.2	61.0	59.4	47.1	11.5
1972	21.4	43.9	56.7	60.1	60.7	57.3	43.9	12.8
1973	23.9	45.1	58.0	62.7	61.6	56.1	44.7	11.4

Table 2 (cont'd)

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE  
PARTICIPATION RATES BY DETAILED AGE AND RACE

	16-17	18-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
<u>White Male</u>								
1960	46.0	69.0	87.8	97.7	97.9	96.1	87.2	33.3
1961	44.3	66.2	87.6	97.7	97.9	95.9	87.8	31.9
1962	42.9	66.4	86.5	97.4	97.9	96.0	86.7	30.6
1963	42.4	67.8	85.8	97.4	97.8	96.2	86.6	28.4
1964	43.5	66.6	85.7	97.5	97.6	96.1	86.1	27.9
1965	44.6	65.8	85.3	97.4	97.7	95.9	85.2	27.9
1966	47.1	65.4	84.4	97.5	97.6	95.8	84.9	27.2
1967	47.9	66.1	84.0	97.5	97.7	95.6	84.9	27.1
1968	47.7	65.7	82.4	97.2	97.6	95.4	84.7	27.3
1969	48.8	66.3	82.6	97.0	97.4	95.1	83.9	27.3
1970	48.9	67.4	83.3	96.7	97.3	94.9	83.3	26.7
1971	49.2	67.8	83.2	96.3	97.0	94.7	82.6	25.6
1972	50.2	71.1	84.3	96.0	97.0	94.0	81.2	24.4
1973	52.7	72.3	85.8	96.3	96.8	93.5	79.0	22.8
<u>White Female</u>								
1960	30.0	51.9	45.7	34.1	41.5	48.6	36.2	10.6
1961	29.4	51.9	46.9	34.3	41.8	48.9	37.2	10.5
1962	27.9	51.6	47.1	34.1	42.2	48.9	38.0	9.8
1963	27.9	51.3	47.3	34.8	43.1	49.5	38.9	9.4
1964	28.5	49.6	48.8	35.0	43.3	50.2	39.4	9.9
1965	28.7	50.6	49.2	36.3	44.3	49.9	40.3	9.7
1966	31.8	53.1	51.0	37.7	45.0	50.6	41.1	9.4
1967	32.3	52.7	53.1	39.7	46.4	50.9	41.9	9.3
1968	33.0	53.3	54.0	40.6	47.5	51.5	42.0	9.4
1969	35.2	54.6	56.4	41.7	48.6	53.0	42.6	9.7
1970	36.6	55.0	57.7	43.2	49.9	53.7	42.6	9.5
1971	36.4	55.0	57.9	43.6	50.2	53.7	42.5	9.3
1972	39.3	57.4	59.4	45.8	50.7	53.4	42.0	9.0
1973	41.7	58.9	61.6	48.5	52.2	53.4	40.8	8.7

1/ Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 3  
 CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE,<sup>1/</sup> 1963-1973  
 Seasonally Adjusted

	Black <sup>2/</sup>				White			
	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19
1963	8,003	4,381	3,042	580	63,830	39,841	19,430	4,559
1964	8,170	4,427	3,138	605	64,621	40,178	19,959	4,784
1965	8,321	4,457	3,219	645	66,137	40,401	20,469	5,267
1966	8,499	4,467	3,301	731	67,276	40,319	21,130	5,827
1967	8,649	4,503	3,375	771	68,699	40,850	22,100	5,749
1968	8,759	4,535	3,446	778	69,976	41,317	22,820	5,839
1969	8,955	4,579	3,574	802	71,778	41,772	23,838	6,168
1970	9,198	4,726	3,664	808	73,520	42,564	24,616	6,440
1971	9,322	4,773	3,769	781	74,790	43,088	25,030	6,672
1972	9,584	4,847	3,888	849	76,958	43,961	25,822	7,175
1973	10,075	5,049	4,066	909	78,689	44,490	26,647	7,552
1972: Q1	9,500	4,789	3,875	836	76,316	43,635	25,577	7,104
Q2	9,545	4,847	3,867	836	76,759	43,871	25,767	7,121
Q3	9,587	4,868	3,862	857	77,276	44,090	26,023	7,163
Q4	9,690	4,879	3,950	861	77,459	44,213	25,920	7,326
1973: Q1	9,820	4,927	4,019	874	77,792	44,265	26,132	7,395
Q2	9,946	5,035	3,990	921	78,510	44,352	26,632	7,526
Q3	10,105	5,076	4,105	924	78,856	44,511	26,879	7,466
Q4	10,232	5,158	4,154	920	79,648	44,815	26,959	78,74

<sup>1/</sup> Thousands of persons age 16 and over.

<sup>2/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 4  
 EMPLOYMENT, <sup>1/</sup> 1963-1973  
 Seasonally Adjusted

	Black <sup>2/</sup>				White			
	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19
1963	7,140	3,979	2,757	404	60,622	38,272	18,499	3,850
1964	7,383	4,088	2,855	440	61,922	38,799	19,047	4,076
1965	7,643	4,190	2,979	474	63,446	39,232	19,652	4,562
1966	7,877	4,249	3,083	545	65,021	39,418	20,427	5,176
1967	8,011	4,309	3,134	568	66,361	39,984	21,263	5,113
1968	8,169	4,356	3,229	584	67,750	40,503	22,052	5,195
1969	8,384	4,410	3,365	609	69,518	40,978	23,032	5,508
1970	8,446	4,461	3,412	573	70,183	41,093	23,521	5,569
1971	8,403	4,428	3,442	533	70,716	41,347	23,707	5,662
1972	8,628	4,518	3,546	564	73,074	42,362	24,554	6,158
1973	9,131	4,762	3,734	634	75,278	43,183	25,494	6,602
1972: Q 1	8,484	4,438	3,524	522	72,309	41,962	24,332	6,015
Q 2	8,624	4,507	3,544	573	72,772	42,212	24,439	6,121
Q 3	8,646	4,533	3,525	588	73,399	42,542	24,721	6,136
Q 4	8,733	4,590	3,588	555	73,810	42,720	24,725	6,365
1973: Q 1	8,940	4,649	3,680	611	74,270	42,873	24,945	6,452
Q 2	9,047	4,729	3,680	638	75,062	43,015	25,490	6,557
Q 3	9,191	4,786	3,773	632	75,559	43,281	25,727	6,551
Q 4	9,348	4,884	3,805	659	76,287	43,582	25,828	6,877

<sup>1/</sup> Thousands age 16 and over.

<sup>2/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 5. UNEMPLOYMENT,<sup>1/</sup> 1973-1973  
Seasonally Adjusted

	Black <sup>2/</sup>				White				Black as Percentage of Total		
	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Civilian Labor Force	Unemployment	Ratio Per Cent Unemployment to Per Cent Labor Force
1963	863	402	285	176	3,208	1,569	931	708	11.1	21.2	1.91
1964	787	339	283	165	2,999	1,379	912	708	11.2	20.8	1.86
1965	678	267	240	171	2,691	1,169	817	705	11.2	20.1	1.80
1966	622	218	218	186	2,255	901	703	651	11.2	21.6	1.93
1967	638	194	241	203	2,338	866	837	635	11.2	21.4	1.91
1968	596	179	217	194	2,226	814	768	644	11.1	21.0	1.89
1969	571	169	209	193	2,260	794	806	660	11.1	20.2	1.82
1970	752	265	252	235	3,337	1,371	1,095	871	11.1	18.4	1.66
1971	919	345	326	248	4,074	1,741	1,324	1,010	11.1	18.4	1.66
1972	956	329	342	284	3,884	1,599	1,268	1,017	11.1	19.8	1.78
1973	894	287	332	275	3,411	1,307	1,153	950	11.3	20.8	1.84
1972: Q1	1,016	351	351	314	4,007	1,673	1,245	1,089	11.1	20.2	1.82
Q2	921	335	323	263	3,987	1,659	1,328	1,000	11.1	18.8	1.69
Q3	941	335	337	269	3,877	1,548	1,302	1,028	11.0	19.5	1.77
Q4	957	289	362	306	3,649	1,493	1,195	961	11.1	20.8	1.87
1973: Q1	880	278	339	263	3,522	1,392	1,187	943	11.2	20.0	1.79
Q2	899	306	310	283	3,448	1,337	1,142	969	11.2	20.7	1.85
Q3	914	290	332	292	3,297	1,230	1,152	915	11.4	21.7	1.90
Q4	884	274	349	261	3,361	1,233	1,131	997	11.4	20.8	1.82

<sup>1/</sup> Thousands age 16 and over.

<sup>2/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 6. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, 1963-1973  
Seasonally Adjusted

	Black <sup>1/</sup>				White				Black as Percentage of White			
	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19	Total	Male 20 & over	Female 20 & over	Both 16-19
1963	10.8	9.2	9.4	30.3	5.0	3.9	4.8	15.5	2.04	2.29	1.80	1.80
1964	9.6	7.7	9.0	27.3	4.6	3.4	4.6	14.8	2.09	2.26	1.96	1.84
1965	8.1	6.0	7.5	26.5	4.1	2.9	4.0	13.4	1.98	2.07	1.88	1.98
1966	7.3	4.9	6.6	25.4	3.4	2.2	3.3	11.2	2.15	2.23	2.00	2.27
1967	7.4	4.3	7.1	26.3	3.4	2.1	3.8	11.0	2.18	2.05	1.89	2.39
1968	6.7	3.9	6.3	24.9	3.2	2.0	3.4	11.0	2.09	1.95	1.85	2.26
1969	6.4	3.7	5.8	24.1	3.1	1.9	3.4	10.7	2.06	1.95	1.70	2.25
1970	8.2	5.6	6.9	29.1	4.5	3.2	4.4	13.5	1.82	1.75	1.57	2.16
1971	9.9	7.2	8.7	31.7	5.4	4.0	5.3	15.1	1.83	1.80	1.64	2.10
1972	10.0	6.8	8.8	33.5	5.0	3.6	4.9	14.2	1.96	1.88	1.80	2.38
1973	8.9	5.7	8.2	30.2	4.3	2.9	4.3	12.6	2.09	1.97	1.91	2.39
1972: Q1	10.7	7.3	9.1	37.6	5.3	3.8	4.9	15.3	2.02	1.92	1.86	2.46
Q2	9.6	6.9	8.4	31.5	5.2	3.8	5.2	14.0	1.85	1.82	1.62	2.25
Q3	9.8	6.9	8.7	31.4	5.0	3.5	5.0	14.3	1.96	1.97	1.74	2.20
Q4	9.9	5.9	9.2	35.5	4.7	3.4	4.6	13.1	2.11	1.74	2.00	2.71
1973: Q1	9.0	5.6	8.4	30.1	4.5	3.1	4.5	12.8	2.00	1.81	1.87	2.35
Q2	9.0	6.1	7.8	30.7	4.4	3.0	4.3	12.9	2.05	2.03	1.81	2.38
Q3	9.0	5.7	8.1	31.6	4.2	2.8	4.3	12.3	2.14	2.04	1.88	2.57
Q4	8.6	5.3	8.4	28.4	4.2	2.8	4.2	12.7	2.05	1.89	2.00	2.24

<sup>1/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 7

**EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY AND RACE, 1973**  
(In thousands)

	Percentage Distribution		Black Employment by Industry Per Cent
	Total Per Cent	Black <sup>1/</sup> Per Cent	
Total number			
Total per cent	100.0	100.0	10.8
Agriculture	4.1	3.4	8.9
Mining	0.7	0.3	4.0
Construction	5.9	4.8	8.8
Manufacturing	24.6	24.3	10.7
Durable	14.6	13.8	10.2
Ordnance	0.2	0.2	10.4
Lumber	0.8	1.4	18.0
Furniture	0.6	0.6	11.0
Stone, clay and glass	0.8	0.9	12.8
Primary metals	1.6	2.0	13.9
Fabricated metals	1.7	1.5	9.5
Machinery	2.6	1.4	5.6
Electrical machinery	2.6	1.9	8.2
Transportation equipment	2.6	3.1	13.0
Instruments	0.6	0.3	6.4
Miscellaneous	0.6	0.5	8.4
Nondurable	10.0	10.5	11.3
Food	2.1	2.5	13.0
Tobacco	0.1	0.4	44.6
Textiles	1.1	1.6	15.2
Apparel	1.6	2.1	13.8
Paper	0.9	0.7	8.6
Printing	1.5	0.7	5.2
Chemicals	1.3	1.3	10.7
Petroleum	0.3	0.2	8.7
Rubber	0.8	0.8	10.9
Leather	0.4	0.3	7.9
Transportation & pub. util.	5.7	5.2	9.9
Trade	19.8	13.9	7.6
Wholesale	3.8	2.5	7.1
Retail	16.0	11.4	7.7
Finance, insur. & real estate	5.3	3.2	6.7
Services	17.8	22.7	13.8
Private household	1.9	6.4	36.8
Miscellaneous	15.9	16.3	11.1
Government	21.4	29.4	14.8
Federal	2.7	4.5	18.1
State and local	2.6	2.6	10.7
Other government (not specified)	16.1	22.3	15.0

<sup>1/</sup> Negro and other races.

TABLE 8

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT, BY WAGE LEVEL AND RACE, 1968, 1972, and 1973

Industry	Earnings Index <sup>1/</sup>	Black <sup>2/</sup> Share of Employ.		
		1968	1972	1973
High wage		8.8	8.9	9.3
Construction	166.07	10.0	9.2	8.8
Petroleum	152.63	7.4	11.1	8.7
Primary metals	147.78	14.0	13.9	13.9
Transportation equipment	147.19	10.4	11.6	13.0
Transportation & pub. u.	142.14	7.9	9.1	9.9
Mining	137.79	3.0	4.5	4.0
Machinery	134.01	4.4	5.6	5.6
Chemicals	129.79	8.1	8.8	10.7
Paper	123.96	7.9	8.6	8.6
Printing	122.90	6.2	5.0	5.2
Fabricated metals	122.21	8.3	8.2	9.5
Stone	121.65	11.3	11.0	12.8
Mid wage		9.8	8.9	9.6
Wholesale trade	112.49	7.7	6.6	7.1
Instruments	109.42	5.0	4.8	6.4
Electrical equipment	108.05	7.7	7.7	8.2
Food	107.21	12.2	11.2	13.0
Rubber	107.95	8.7	9.0	10.9
Lumber	100.96	21.9	19.4	18.0
Low wage		11.3	10.5	10.6
Tobacco	97.44	26.3	33.8	44.6
Finance	92.80	6.5	6.6	6.7
Furniture	90.13	10.7	10.2	11.0
Miscellaneous durables	88.37	9.4	8.4	8.4
Textiles	83.11	9.5	13.4	15.2
Services	79.39	16.0	14.1	13.8
Leather	73.79	8.6	8.3	7.9
Apparel	68.96	10.9	11.5	11.4
Retail trade	65.79	7.7	7.4	7.7

<sup>1/</sup> Average Weekly earnings of production workers in the indicated industry as a percentage of production worker weekly earnings for total private nonfarm economy, 1973.

<sup>2/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (Black employment shares based on unpublished data.)

Table 9

## EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR OCCUPATION AND RACE, 1972 and 1973

	1972			1973		
	<u>Total</u> Per Cent Distribution	<u>Black</u> <sup>1/</sup> Per Cent Distribution	<u>Black</u> As a Per Cent of Total	<u>Total</u> Per Cent Distribution	<u>Black</u> Per Cent Distribution	<u>Black</u> As a Per Cent of Total
Total employed	81,702	8,628	10.6	84,409	9,131	10.8
Total per cent	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	
White collar	47.8	29.8	6.6	47.8	31.1	7.0
Prof. & tech.	14.0	9.5	7.2	14.0	9.9	7.7
Managers, Off. & Prop.	9.8	3.7	4.0	10.2	4.1	4.3
Clerical	17.4	14.4	8.7	17.2	14.9	9.3
Sales	6.6	2.2	3.6	6.4	2.3	3.9
Blue collar	35.0	39.9	12.0	35.4	40.8	12.5
Craftsmen and foremen	13.2	8.7	6.9	13.4	8.9	7.2
Operatives	16.6	21.3	13.6	16.9	22.2	14.2
Laborers	5.2	9.8	20.2	5.1	9.7	20.5
Service	13.4	27.2	21.4	13.2	25.3	20.8
Private household	1.7	6.8	40.6	1.6	5.7	38.4
Other Service workers	11.7	20.5	18.5	11.6	19.6	18.4
Farm	3.8	3.0	8.6	3.6	2.8	8.4
Farmers & Farm Managers	2.1	0.6	3.3	1.9	0.7	3.7
Laborers & Foremen	1.7	2.4	15.1	1.6	2.1	14.2

<sup>1/</sup> Negro and other races.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.