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BLACK
AMERICANS a chartbook
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
BULLETIN 1699
1971

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## CATALOGED

## BLACK AMERICANS <br> a chartbook

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
J. D. Hodgson, Secretary

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner
BULLETIN 1699
1971

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## PREFACE

This Chart Book was prepared in the Office of Economic and Social Research of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Sylvia S. Small had major responsibility for the preparation of the Chart Book, under the direction of Dr. Pamela Kacser, Advisor on SocioEconomic Research, Claudia Ellis, Susie Scandrett and Earl Mellor of BLS and Ann Brown of Trinity College contributed to the technical work.

Much of the material on which the charts are based was developed for the joint publication of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of the Census, The Social and Economic Status of Negroes in the United States, 1969, BLS Report 375, part of a series initiated by the previous Advisor on Socio-Economic Research, Mrs. Dorothy K. Newman.

The Bureau wishes to express appreciation for the assistance of other organizations, especially the Bureau of the Census and the National Center for Health Statistics.

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## INTRODUCTION

Blacks ${ }^{1}$ are America's largest and most visible minority, and they are on the move - physically, economically, and socially. The record of the past two decades shows that blacks have been migrating out of the rural South into the cities of the Nation's North and West. There, with greater choices, many have been progressing economically from unskilled low-paid jobs into whitecollar and skilled occupations. In search of better housing, and better jobs, many have been moving out, from their first place of urban settlement in city core centers into the surrounding suburban rings. Over a period of time, a migrant population has been giving way to a settled, urban, second generation, as increasing numbers are moving economically and socially from extreme poverty into middle-class status.

Others are left behind, both in the rural backwaters of the South and in the urban centers there and elsewhere. In many instances, white progress has been so much greater as to overshadow the blacks' real gains. In other instances, apparent black gains have been illusory, when measured against those of the rest of the population.

At the same time, many problems of urban interrelationship have been aggravated by the massive and swift movement of blacks in the past two decades. Whites and blacks alike have misconceptions about the facts which surround today's mobile population.

The charts that follow attempt to present visually some of the information about the progress and problems of blacks in recent years, as they advance toward full equality with the white majority.

Many subjects of concern have been given only scant treatment because the information now available is too old to provide a truly relevant analysis. After the 1970 census has been tabulated and analysed, we may be able to ascertain better the problems and progress of black Americans.

The tables accompanying each of the charts are very brief. For those interested in further detail, a list of the charts with sources of additional data is included in the appendices of sources and references at the back of this publication.

[^0]
## MIGRATION AND POPULATION

The percentage of blacks in the total population has changed little in this century. It was about 12 percent of the total in 1900, compared with 11 percent today.

During the large immigrations of Europeans to the United States before World War I, it dropped to 10 percent and remained close to that level during the depression of the 1930's and World War II.

However, since World War II, a massive migration from the rural South and concentration in the large central cities of the North and West have occurred.'

[^1]
## TABLE 1. TOTAL AND NEGRO POPULATION, 1890-1960, AND 1966-1969

| Year | Population in millions |  | Percent Negro |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Negro |  |
| 1890 | 62.9 | 7.5 | 12 |
| 19001. | 76.0 | 8.8 | 12 |
| $1910{ }^{1}$. | 92.0 | 9.8 | 11 |
| 1920 . | 105.7 | 10.5 | 10 |
| $1930{ }^{1}$. | 122.8 | 11.9 | 10 |
| 19401. | 131.7 | 12.9 | 10 |
| $1950{ }^{1}$. | 150.5 | 15.0 | 10 |
| 1960 | 178.5 | 18.8 | 11 |
| 1966 | 194.1 | 21.3 | 11 |
| 1967 | 196.1 | 21.7 | 11 |
| 1968 | 198.2 | 22.3 | 11 |
| 1969 | 199.8 | 22.3 | 11 |

Note: In this report population data exclude Armed Forces Overseas and in 1950, 1960, and 1966-69, Armed Forces living in Barracks.

## CHART 1.

THE PERCENT OF BLACKS IN THE TOTAL POPULATION HAS REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME SINCE THE TURN OF THE CENTURY


By 1940, a substantial black population was in the larger Northern cities. Blacks continued to migrate North and West in increasing numbers. The most rapid acceleration took place in the 1940's and 1950's when the wartime and the post-War booms in industrial activity opened jobs in these areas.

As a result, the black percent of the population has been declining in the South and rising elsewhere.

Nevertheless, today blacks are less than 10 percent of total population in the North and West, but nearly 20 percent in the South.

| Region | $1940{ }^{\prime}$ | $1950{ }^{\prime}$ | 1960 | 1966 | 1969 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| United States | . 10 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| South |  | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 |
| North |  | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Northeast | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| North Central | . 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| West |  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 |

## CHART 2.

blacks are less than 10 PERCENT OF the population IN THE NORTH AND WEST, BUT NEARLY 20 PERCENT IN THE SOUTH


Source: See appendix A.

The greatest change in the black population has taken place in its location rather than its proportion in the total population, as blacks migrated from the rural and urban South to cities in other regions.

Even with these substantial migrations, more than half of all blacks still lived in the South in 1969 compared with three-fourths in 1940.

## TABLE 3. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEGRO POPULATION, BY REGION, 1940, 1950, 1960, AND 1969

| Region | $1940{ }^{\prime}$ | $1950{ }^{1}$ | 1960 | 1969 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| United States | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| South | 77 | 68 | 60 | 52 |
| North | 22 | 28 | 34 | 41 |
| Northeast | 11 | 13 | 16 | 19 |
| North Central | 11 | 15 | 18 | 21 |
| West | 1 | 4 | 6 | 7 |

I Data exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

CHART 3.
DESPITE SUBSTANTIAL MIGRATION FROM THE SOUTH OVER HALF OF ALL BLACKS STILL LIVE THERE


The movement of blacks from the South to other places in the United States continued in the 1960's.

Between 1940 and 1966, a net total of 3.7 million had left the South for other regions.

By 1970, average annual black migration out of the South was 8 percent lower than it had been in the 1940's.

In spite of massive migration, 12 million blacks still lived in the South in 1969, an increase of about 2 million since 1940, because of natural population increases and the increasing life span of the
population.

TABLE 4. ESTIMATED NET MIGRATION,' BY REGION, 1940-66 (IN THOUSANDS)

| Region | Negro and other races | White |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| South | -3,704 | + 930 |
| All other regions | +3,722 | +5,084 |

TABLE 4A. NEGRO POPULATION, AND ESTIMATED NET OUT-MIGRATION OF "NEGROES AND OTHER RACES" FROM THE SOUTH, 1940-70 (IN THOUSANDS)


CHART 4.
blacks have continued to leave the south in recent years, BUT AT A SLOWER RATE THAN IN THE 1940's

Average annual net out-migration from the South


Source: See appendix A.

The great majority of blacks today are city dwellers.
Even in the South (where most rural blacks live) 3 out of every 5 were located in an urban area by
1970. In part, this is because most of the black population increase since World War II has taken place in central cities of metropolitan areas. - Most of the white increase, by contrast, has been in the suburbs or other places outside the central cities.

## TABLE 5. POPULATION BY LOCATION INSIDE AND OUTSIDE METROPOLITAN AREAS, 1950, 1960, AND 1969

|  | Total population (millions) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro |  |  | White |  |  |
| Location | 1950 | 1960 | 1969 | 1950 | 1960 | 1969 |
| United States total | . 15.0 | 18.8 | 22.3 | 135.2 | 158.1 | 175.3 |
| Metropolitan areas | 8.4 | 12.2 | 15.6 | 80.3 | 99.2 | 111.7 |
| Central cities | 6.5 | 9.7 | 12.3 | 45.5 | 47.5 | 45.3 |
| Outside central cities | 1.9 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 34.8 | 51.7 | 66.4 |
| Smaller cities, towns, and rural | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 54.8 | 58.9 | 63.6 |

CHART 5.

THE POPULATION INCREASE AMONG BLACKS HAS TAKEN PLACE IN CENTRAL CITIES AND AMONG WHITES OUTSIDE THE CITIES

## WHITES

IN CENTRAL CITIES STILL OUTNUMBER BLACKS
4 TO 1


Source: See appendix A.

Urban blacks have been segregated, residentially, and indications are that their segregation has been increasing through the mid-1960's.

By 1965 , only 1 city of the 15 in which there had been special Censuses since 1960, still had as much as half its black population in a "white" neighborhood (less than 25 percent Negro) - Sacramento, California.

By way of contrast, in 6 of these cities at least 2 out of every 3 blacks lived in predominantly black areas (where 75 percent or more of the population is black). In most, the proportion in such areas had increased.

Blacks were moving, however, into middle-class neighborhoods that had been vacated by whites who moved to the suburbs. No data are yet available to indicate whether the tendency toward increased segregation has been affected by the new Open Housing Laws.

TABLE 6. PERCENT OF ALL NEGROES IN SELECTED CITIES LIVING IN CENSUS TRACTS GROUPED ACCORDING TO PROPORTION NEGRO IN 1960 AND 1964-1968

|  |  | Proportion Negro in Census Tract |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| City and State | Year | All | 75 | 50 | 25 | Less |
|  |  | census | or | to | to | than |
|  |  | tracts | more | 74 | 49 | 25 |
|  |  | Percent of all Negroes in city |  |  |  |  |
| Cleveland, Ohio | 1960 | 100 | 72 | 16 | 8 | 4 |
|  | 1965 | 100 | 80 | 12 | 4 | 4 |
| Memphis, Tenn. . . | 1960 | 100 | 65 | 26 | 5 | 4 |
|  | 1967 | 100 | 78 | 14 | 4 | 4 |
| Phoenix, Ariz. . . . \{ | 1960 | 100 | 19 | 36 | 24 | 21 |
|  | 1965 | 100 | 18 | 23 | 42 | 17 |
| Buffalo, N.Y. . . . . | 1960 | 100 | 35 | 47 | 6 | 12 |
|  | 1966 | 100 | 69 | 10 | 13 | 8 |
| Louisville, Ky. . . . | 1960 | 100 | 57 | 13 | 17 | 13 |
|  | 1964 | 100 | 67 | 13 | 10 | 10 |
| New Haven, Conn. | 1960 | 100 | 0 | 33 | 19 | 48 |
|  | 1967 | 100 | 16 | 19 | 27 | 38 |
| Rochester, N.Y. | 1960 | 100 | 8 | 43 | 17 | 32 |
|  | 1964 | 100 | 16 | 45 | 24 | 15 |
| Sacramento, Calif. | 1960 | 100 | 9 | 0 | 14 | 77 |
|  | 1964 | 100 | 8 | 14 | 28 | 50 |
| Des Moines, lowa | 1960 | 100 | 0 | 28 | 31 | 41 |
|  | 1966 | 100 | 0 | 42 | 19 | 39 |
| Providence, R.I. | 1960 | 100 | 0 | 23 | 2 | 75 |
|  | 1965 | 100 | 0 | 16 | 46 | 38 |
| Shreveport, La | 1960 | 100 | 79 | 10 | 7 | 4 |
|  | 1966 | 100 | 90 | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Evansville, Ind | 1960 | 100 | 34 | 27 | 9 | 30 |
|  | 1966 | 100 | 59 | 14 | 0 | 27 |
| Little Rock, Ark | 1960 | 100 | 33 | 33 | 19 | 15 |
|  | 1964 | 100 | 41 | 18 | 22 | 19 |
| Raleigh, N.C. | 1960 | 100 | 86 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
|  | 1966 | 100 | 88 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Trenton, N.J. . . . | 1960 | 100 | 26 | 9 | 48 | 17 |
|  | 1968 | 100 | 24 | 55 | 13 | 8 |

Note: Selected cities of 100,000 or more in which a special census was taken in any of the years 1964-68. Ranked according to total population in latest Census.

## CHART 6.

THE PERCENT OF BLACKS LIVING IN SEGREGATED NEIGHBORHOODS HAS INCREASED SINCE 1960, ACCORDING TO SPECIAL CENSUSES IN 15 CITIES


Source: See appendix A

## EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The number of employed blacks rose by nearly one-fourth between 1960 and 1970, an increase of
1.5 million. White employment also rose sharply during the 1960's.

The number of unemployed was about the same for blacks in 1970 as in 1960, but higher for whites.

## TABLE 7. EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED, WHITE AND NEGRO AND OTHER RACES 1960-1970

|  | Employed <br> (millions) |  | Unemployed <br> Negro and <br> other races | White |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## CHART 7.

| EMPLOYMENT OF BLACKS |  | UNEMPLOYMENT IS |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ROSE 1.5 MILLION | AND | LOWER DESPITE RECENT |
| BETWEEN 1960 AND 1970 |  | INCREASES |



By 1970, the black unemployment rate - the proportion of the black labor force who were out of a job and looking for work was very high, over 8 percent.

This was an increase of 1.8 percentage points from 1969, which had been the year with least unemployment since the Korean War.

In most of the preceding 10 years, the black unemployment rate had been decreasing - from over 12 percent during the 1961 recession to 6.4 percent in 1969. Despite the 1970 increase, the ratio of black-to-white unemployment rates fell below the $2: 1$ relationship that had predominated for 15 years.

TABLE 8. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY RACE 1949-70

| Year | Negro and other races | White | Ratio: <br> Negro and other races to white |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1949. | 8.9 | 5.6 | 1.6 |
| 1950. | 9.0 | 4.9 | 1.8 |
| 1951. | 5.3 | 3.1 | 1.7 |
| 1952. | 5.4 | 2.8 | 1.9 |
| 1953. | 4.5 | 2.7 | 1.7 |
| 1954. | 9.9 | 5.0 | 2.0 |
| 1955. | 8.7 | 3.9 | 2.2 |
| 1956. | 8.3 | 3.6 | 2.3 |
| 1957. | 7.9 | 3.8 | 2.1 |
| 1958. | 12.6 | 6.1 | 2.1 |
| 1959. | 10.7 | 4.8 | 2.2 |
| 1960. | 10.2 | 4.9 | 2.1 |
| 1961. | 12.4 | 6.0 | 2.1 |
| 1962. | 10.9 | 4.9 | 2.2 |
| 1963. | 10.8 | 5.0 | 2.2 |
| 1964. | 9.6 | 4.6 | 2.1 |
| 1965. | 8.1 | 4.1 | 2.0 |
| 1966. | 7.3 | 3.3 | 2.2 |
| 1967. | 7.4 | 3.4 | 2.2 |
| 1968. | 6.7 | 3.2 | 2.1 |
| 1969. | 6.4 | 3.1 | 2.1 |
| 1970. | 8.2 | 4.5 | 1.8 |

CHART 8.
THE BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN 1970 WAS ABOUT 8 PERCENT - MUCH HIGHER THAN THE WHITE RATE

Percent of civilian labor force


Source: See appendix A.

In 1970, blacks made up 11 percent of the civilian labor force, about the same as their share of the total
population. However, their unemployment and involuntary part-time work was nearly double their share in the labor force. This reflects not only the kinds of jobs blacks hold, their lower educational attainment and the larger proportion in the black labor force of women and teenagers, the groups that have the highest unemployment rates but also, very likely, discrimination by employers.

## TABLE 9. THE LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT, 1970

|  | Number in thousands |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Item Total | Negro and other races | Percent Negro and other races | Negro and other races: rate in civilian labor force |
| Total civilian labor force . . . 82,715 | 9,197 | 11 |  |
| Unemployment .......... 4, 4,088 | 752 | 18 | 8.2 |
| Unemployed $31 / 2$ consecutive months, 15 weeks or more. | 124 | 19 | 1.3 |
| Working part-time involuntarily ........... 2,443 | 530 | 22 | 5.8 |
| MEN |  |  |  |
| Civilian labor force . . . . . . 51,195 | 5,182 | 10 |  |
| Unemployment . . . . . . . . 2,235 | 379 | 17 | 7.3 |
| Unemployed $31 / 2$ consecutive months, 15 weeks or more. 398 | 66 | 17 | 1.3 |
| Working part-time involuntarily ............ . 1,295 | 255 | 20 | 4.9 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |
| Civilian labor force . . . . . . . 31,520 | 4,015 | 13 |  |
| Unemployment . . . . . . . . 1,853 | 373 | 20 | 9.3 |
| Unemployed $31 / 2$ consecutive months, 15 weeks or more. $265$ | 58 | 22 | 1.4 |
| Working part-time involuntarily 1,147 | 274 | 24 | 6.8 |

## CHART 9.

IN 1970, BLACKS ACCOUNTED FOR 11 PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, 18 PERCENT OF THE UNEMPLOYED, AND 22 PERCENT OF THOSE WORKING PART TIME INVOLUNTARILY

$11 \%$ of the civilian labor force

$18 \%$ of the unemployed


19\% of those jobless for $31 / 2$ consecutive months or longer

$22 \%$ of those working part-time involuntarily

Despite recent sharp increases, unemployment rates were lowest and black-white differences smallest for married men.

Black married men had an unemployment rate of about 4 percent in 1970 compared with about 8 percent in 1962. Although the 1970 rate was well above the white rate ( 2.4 percent) it was lower than for either black or white women, or black adult men in general.

Unemployment rates for black teenagers rose very sharply in 1970, and were the highest in 7 years.

TABLE 10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY RACE AND SEX, 1960-1970

|  | Married men |  | Adult men |  | Adult women |  | Teenagers |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White |
| 1960. | (1) | (1) | 9.6 | 4.2 | 8.3 | 4.6 | 24.4 | 13.4 |
| 1961. | (1) | (1) | 11.7 | 5.1 | 10.6 | 5.7 | 27.6 | 15.3 |
| 1962. | 7.9 | 3.2 | 10.0 | 4.0 | 9.6 | 4.1 | 25.1 | 13.3 |
| 1963. | 6.8 | 3.0 | 9.2 | 3.9 | 9.4 | 4.8 | 30.4 | 15.5 |
| 1964. | 5.4 | 2.6 | 7.7 | 3.4 | 9.0 | 4.6 | 27.2 | 14.8 |
| 1965. | 4.4 | 2.2 | 6.0 | 2.9 | 7.4 | 4.0 | 26.2 | 13.4 |
| 1966. | . 3.6 | 1.7 | 4.9 | 2.2 | 6.6 | 3.3 | 25.4 | 11.2 |
| 1967. | 3.2 | 1.7 | 4.3 | 2.1 | 7.1 | 3.8 | 26.5 | 11.0 |
| 1968. | . 2.9 | 1.5 | 3.9 | 2.0 | 6.3 | 3.4 | 25.0 | 11.0 |
| 1969. | 2.5 | 1.4 | 3.7 | 1.9 | 5.8 | 3.4 | 24.0 | 10.7 |
| 1970. | 3.9 | 2.4 | 5.6 | 3.2 | 6.9 | 4.4 | 29.1 | 13.5 |

## CHART 10.

## MARRIED MEN HAD THE LOWEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, AMONG BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES



Unemployment rates are especially high for young people. The barriers to employment for young, inexperienced, black youth are formidable.

Yet, many persist in looking for jobs. The unemployment rate among black teenagers was 29 percent in 1970, more than double the white teenage rate.

By contrast among the adult unemployed, unemployment rates were lower, and whitenonwhite differences smaller especially, among married men who form a very large part of both the black and the white labor force.

## TABLE 11. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN 1970 WITH RATIO, NEGRO AND OTHER RACES TO WHITE

|  | Ratio: <br> Negro and <br> other races |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| to white |  |

CHART 11.

COMPARING TEENAGERS AND ADULT UNEMPLOYED ADULTS HAVE LOWER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES AND SMALLER BLACK-WHITE DIFFERENCES

Percent unemployment rate, 1970


About half of all black teenagers are in school, and most of these are not in the labor force. Of those not in school, nearly 2 in every 10 are unemployed and nearly another 4 in 10 are neither at work nor looking for work. The majority of the latter are keeping house, awaiting military service or working without pay in the family business or farm. The other 4 in 10 black teenagers who are not in school - about 436,000 - are employed.

TABLE 12. WORK AND SCHOOL STATUS OF TEENAGERS OF WHITE AND NEGRO AND OTHER RACES, 1970

| Status | Negro and other races |  | White |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number (in thousands) | Percent | Number (in thousands) | Percent |
| Out of school | 959 | 100 | 5,878 | 100 |
| Unemployed | 166 | 17 | 536 | 9 |
| Employed | 436 | 45 | 3,694 | 63 |
| Not in the labor force | 357 | 37 | 1,646 | 28 |
| Keeping house | 157 | 16 | 724 | 12 |
| Unable to work | 11 | 1 | 23 | 4 |
| Other reasons ${ }^{1}$ | 189 | 20 | 899 | 15 |
| In school | 1,034 | 100 | 6,639 | 100 |
| Unemployed | 69 | 7 | 335 | 5 |
| Employed . | 136 | 13 | 1,873 | 28 |
| Not in the labor force | 830 | 80 | 4,432 | 67 |

CHART 12.

ABOUT HALF OF
ALL BLACK TEENAGERS ARE IN SCHOOL;

OF THOSE OUT OF SCHOOL OVER ONE-THIRD ARE NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE

Number of persons in 1970


Source: See appendix A.

In 1967, for the first time, substantially more than half of all black workers held white-collar, craftsmen, or operative jobs. The proportion increased to 58 percent in 1969 and 60 percent in 1970.

Employment of blacks in these occupations was 70 percent larger in 1970 than in 1960, compared with a 25 percent gain for whites.

However, the proportion of white workers in these jobs was still higher than for blacks - 8 in every 10 whites compared with 6 in every 10 blacks.

TABLE 13. EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION IN 1970 AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT

| Occupation | Number (in thousands) |  | Percent |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White |
| All occupations | 8,445 | 70,182 | 100 | 100 |
| Professional and technical. | 766 | 10,374 | 9 | 15 |
| Managers, officials, and proprietors | 298 | 7,991 | 4 | 11 |
| Clerical . . . . . . . . . | . 1,113 | 12,601 | 13 | 18 |
| Sales | 179 | 4,675 | 2 | 7 |
| Craftsmen, foremen | 691 | 9,467 | 8 | 13 |
| Operatives . . . . . . . | . 2,004 | 11,904 | 24 | 17 |
| Private household workers. | 653 | 906 | 8 | 1 |
| Service workers | . 1,547 | 6,608 | 18 | 9 |
| Nonfarm laborers | 866 | 2,859 | 10 | 4 |
| Farmers, farm workers | 328 | 2,797 | 4 | 4 |

Source: See appendix A.
TABLE 13A. EMPLOYMENT BY BROAD OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS, 1960 AND 1966-70 (NUMBERS IN MILLIONS)

|  | Total |  | White-collar workers, craftsmen and operatives |  | All <br> other occupations |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White |
| 1960. | . 6.9 | 58.9 | 2.9 | 46.1 | 4.0 | 12.8 |
| 1966 | . 7.9 | 65.0 | 4.0 | 52.5 | 3.9 | 12.6 |
| 1967 | . 8.0 | 66.4 | 4.3 | 53.6 | 3.7 | 12.7 |
| 1968. | . 8.2 | 67.8 | 4.6 | 54.9 | 3.6 | 12.8 |
| 1969 | . 8.4 | 69.5 | 4.9 | 56.4 | 3.5 | 13.1 |
| 1970.. | . 8.4 | 70.2 | 5.1 | 57.0 | 3.4 | 13.2 |
| Change $1960-70$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (percent) | 22 | 19 | 72 | 24 | -14.8 | 3.2 |

## CHART 13.

IN 1970, 6 IN EVERY 10 BLACKS WERE IN WHITE-COLLAR, CRAFTSMEN, OR OPERATIVE JOBS COMPARED WITH 8 IN EVERY 10 WHITES


Source: See appendix A.

Breaking the major occupational groupings down into detailed classifications makes it clear that the largest gains for black men between 1963 and 1970 were as factory operatives, especially in durable goods manufacturing. About 185,000 new jobs were opened to black men in durable goods factories in the 7 year period - and another 94,000 in nondurable goods. Next largest were increases in clerical jobs, some of which pay fairly high wages In terms of future trends, increases in professional and technical occupations, salaried management positions, craft occupations, and police and other protective service occupations may prove to be more important.

TABLE 14. EMPLOYED MALES OF NEGRO AND OTHER RACES BY OCCUPATION, 1963 AND 1970

| Occupation | Employment (Numbers in thousands) |  | Change <br> in employment <br> 1963-70 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1963 | 1970 | Number (in thousands) | Percent |
| Total . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $\$ 114$ | 4,229 | 4,803 | 574 | 14 |
| Professional and technical . . . 174 | 208 | 374 | 166 | 80 |
| Medical and other health ... 148 | 28 | 40 | 12 | 43 |
| Teachers, except college . . . 188 | 45 | 62 | 17 | 38 |
| Other . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 172 | 135 | 271 | 136 | 101 |
| Managers, officials, and proprietors ................. . . 169 | 147 | 228 | 81 | 55 |
| Clerical workers . . . . . . . . . . . 123 | 222 | 354 | 132 | 59 |
| Steno, typists, and secretarial | 7 | 5 | -2 | (2) |
| Other . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 123 | 215 | 349 | 134 | 62 |
| Sales workers . . . . . . . . . . . . 125 | 72 | 88 | 16 | 22 |
| Retail trade . . . . . . . . . . . . 91 | 38 | 54 | 16 | 42 |
| Other . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 155 | 34 | 34 | 0 | (2) |
| Craftsmen and foremen . . . . . . 129 | 454 | 662 | 208 | 46 |
| Carpenters . . . . . . . . . . . . . 100 | 47 | 55 | 8 | 17 |
| Construction crafts, except carpentry | 125 | 149 | 24 | 19 |
| Mechanics and repairmen ... 122 | 144 | 218 | 74 | 51 |
| Metal crafts and machinists . . 137 Other crafts and kindred | 40 | 63 | 23 | 58 |
| Other crafts and kindred workers .................. . . 131 | 74 | 115 | 41 | 55 |
| Foremen . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 170 | 24 | 63 | 39 | 163 |
| Operatives .............. . 112 | 1,073 | 1,362 | 289 | 27 |
| Drivers and deliverymen .... 105 | 325 | - 339 | 14 | 4 |
| Durable goods manufacturing. 121 | 305 | 490 | 185 | 61 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing ........... 104 | 177 | 271 | 94 | 53 |
| Other industries . . . . . . . . 102 | 266 | 261 | -5 | -2 |
| Nonfarm laborers . . . . . . . . . . 98 | 896 | 839 | -57 | -6 |
| Construction . . . . . . . . . . . 100 | 203 | 203 | 0 | (2) |
| Manufacturing ............. . . 100 | 247 | 242 | -5 | -2 |
| Other . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 95 | 446 | 394 | -52 | $-12$ |
| Private household workers .... 52 | 19 | 14 | -5 | -26 |
| Service workers . . . . . . . . . . 95 | 674 | 615 | -59 | -9 |
| Protective service workers... 114 | 39 | 71 | 32 | 82 |
| Waiters, cooks, bartenders. . 110 | 126 | 103 | -23 | -18 |
| Other . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 89 | 509 | 441 | -68 | -13 |
| Farmers and farm managers. . . 54 | 145 | 82 | -63 | -43 |
| Farm laborers and foremen.... 55 | 321 | 185 | -136 | -42 |

## CHART 14.

THE LARGEST JOB GAINS AMONG BLACK MEN BETWEEN 1963 AND 1970 WERE IN WELL-PAID DURABLE GOODS OPERATIVE JOBS

Largest employment gains by occupation for males of Negro and other races (showing usual weekly earnings of full-time workers)
Increase 1963-70 (in thousands)


Medical and health workers

The unemployment rate is affected by the occupations of the labor force as well as by its composition.

Changes in the rate for black men can be explained in part by the shift in their occupational distribution, as well by general economic changes between 1970 and earlier years. Black men were more likely to be unemployed in 1970 if they were in laborer or operative or service jobs than if they worked in white-collar or craftsmen jobs. In all occupations except private household work, their 1970 unemployment rates were higher than those of white men, but the differences were smaller in the professional and managerial groups where the unemployment rates for both blacks and whites were very low. Black men's unemployment was much less than double the white rate in most occupations in 1970. However since more blacks worked in the high unemployment occupations, their total unemployment rate was nearly double the white rate.

## TABLE 15. 1970 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY RACE AND OCCUPATION

|  | Male |  | Female |  | Ratio: Male unemployment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races to White |
| All occupations | 7.3 | 4.0 | 9.3 | 5.4 | 1.8 |
| Experienced labor force | 6.6 | 3.6 | 7.7 | 4.6 | 1.8 |
| Professional, technical | 2.0 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 1.1 |
| Managers, officials, proprietors | 2.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 2.1 | 1.7 |
| Clerical . . . . . . . | 5.2 | 3.2 | 8.1 | 3.9 | 1.6 |
| Sales | 4.0 | 2.7 | 13.3 | 4.9 | 1.5 |
| Craftsmen, foremen | 5.2 | 3.7 | 2.5 | 4.1 | 1.4 |
| Operatives | 7.5 | 5.7 | 11.6 | 9.1 | 1.3 |
| Nonfarm laborers | 10.5 | 9.1 | 11.6 | 11.8 | 1.2 |
| Private household workers | * | 1.3 | 5.4 | 3.5 | - |
| Other service |  |  |  |  |  |
| workers | 6.8 | 4.7 | 8.1 | 5.1 | 1.4 |
| Farm workers | 4.5 | 2.1 | 11.0 | 2.8 | 2.1 |
| * Base too small to be shown separately |  |  | Source: See appendix A. |  |  |

## CHART 15.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES WERE LOWER FOR MEN IN WHITE-COLLAR AND CRAFTSMEN JOBS THAN FOR THOSE IN LABORER AND MOST SERVICE JOBS



Source: See appendix A.

## INCOME

The average (median) income that a black family receives has been lower than that of a white family throughout American history, reflecting the lower educational and occupational attainments of blacks as well as the effects of discrimination.

Despite sharp gains in the late 1960's, the average income of a black family was only 60 percent of the average income of a white family.

Information on the incomes of all races other than white - of which blacks are over 90 percent indicates that this was the highest ratio on record.

## TABLE 16. MEDIAN INCOME OF NEGRO AND OTHER RACES AND NEGRO FAMILIES AS A PERCENT OF WHITE FAMILY INCOME, 1950-69

| Year | Percent of White income |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro and other races ${ }^{1}$ | Negro ${ }^{2}$ |
| 1950. | 54 | (3) |
| 1951. | 53 | ${ }^{(3)}$ |
| 1952. | 57 | (3) |
| 1953. | 56 | (3) |
| 1954. | 56 | (3) |
| 1955. | 55 | (3) |
| 1956. | 53 | (3) |
| 1957. | 54 | (3) |
| 1958. | 51 | (3) |
| 1959. | 52 | (3) |
| 1960. | 55 | (3) |
| 1961. | 53 | (3) |
| 1962. | 53 | (3) |
| 1963. | 53 | (3) |
| 1964. | 56 | 54 |
| 1965. | 55 | 54 |
| 1966. | 60 | 58 |
| 1967. | 62 | 59 |
| 1968. | 63 | 60 |
| 1969. | 63 | 61 |
| I Include all races except white. <br> ${ }^{2}$ The annual figures shown are based on the Current Population |  |  |
| Survey. of the availab | white median other races $t$ for 1964 and la | (instead shown) is |

## CHART 16.

THE RATIO OF BLACK TO WHITE FAMILY INCOME ROSE IN THE LATE 1960'S TO THE HIGHEST ON RECORD, BLT THE LEVEL OF BLACK INCOME WAS STILL ONLY THREE-FIFTHS OF THE WHITE

Black median family income as a percent of White


In 1969, about one-quarter of all black families had incomes of $\$ 10,000$ or more, compared with 9 percent who had equivalent incomes in 1960, and 3 percent in 1947, adjusted for price changes.
(In order to purchase the same amount as \$10,000 bought in 1969, a family would have had to have $\$ 8,100$ income in 1960 and $\$ 6,100$ in 1947).

As large a percent of black families had such incomes in 1969 as white families about 10 years before.

In the North and West, about one-third of black families had incomes of $\$ 10,000$ or more in 1969.

TABLE 17. PERCENT OF FAMILIES WITH INCOME OF \$10,000 OR MORE, 1947-69 ADJUSTED FOR PRICE CHANGES (IN 1969 DOLLARS)

|  Negro <br> and <br> other <br> Year  <br> races  | White |  Negro <br> and <br> other <br> Year  <br> races  | White |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| United States |  | South: |  |
| 1947.... 3 | 12 | 1966... 8 | 32 |
| 1948.... 2 | 11 | 1968... 13 | 38 |
| 1949.... 2 | 11 | 1969... . 14 | 41 |
| 1950.... 3 | 12 |  |  |
| 1951.... 1 | 12 |  |  |
| 1952.... 2 | 13 |  |  |
| 1953... . 5 | 16 | Northeast |  |
| 1954.... 4 | 16 | 1966. . . 19 | 43 |
| 1955... 3 | 19 | 1968. . . . 27 | 49 |
| 1956... 5 | 22 | 1969... . 30 | 52 |
| 1957.... 5 | 21 |  |  |
| 1958.... 5 | 21 |  |  |
| 1959.... 7 | 25 |  |  |
| 1960.... 9 | 27 | $\text { 1966... . } 25$ | 43 |
| 1961... . 10 | 28 | 1968 . 32 | 48 |
| 1962.... 9 | 30 | 1969... 33 | 52 |
| 1963 . . . 10 | 33 |  |  |
| 1964... . 13 | 35 |  |  |
| 1965... . 14 | 37 |  |  |
| 1966. . . 17 | 40 | West |  |
| 1967. . . . 21 | 43 | 1966. . . . 33 | 44 |
| 1968. . . 24 | 46 | 1968. . . 42 | 50 |
| 1969.. 24 | 49 | 1969... . 39 | 51 |

## CHART 17.

BLACK FAMILIES ARE MOVING INTO THE MIDDLE-INCOME GROUPS.
THE PROPORTION WITH INCOMES OF $\$ 10,000$ OR MORE WAS 8 TIMES GREATER IN 1969 THAN IN 1947

## United States

By regions
Percent of families of Negro and other races with incomes of $\$ 10,000^{1}$ or more (in constant 1969 dollars).

${ }^{1} 1969$ dollars (a $\$ 10,000$ income in 1969 bought as much as $\$ 8,100$ in 1960 and $\$ 6,100$ in 1947)

Source: See appendix A

Incomes have increased since World War II for both black and white families, and the percent of black families with less than \$3,000 in purchasing power (income adjusted for changes in prices) has been reduced from nearly 60 percent of all black families in 1947 to 20 percent in 1969.

In addition, the rate of increase in incomes has been much sharper for black than for white families, as fulltime work replaced part-time jobs and occupational and educational advancement was reflected in incomes.

However, black incomes were so low in 1947, that even with this sharper rate of gain, the actual difference in dollars between black family incomes and white (adjusted for price changes) widened between 1947 and 1968.

In 1969, the average black family had about $\$ 6,200$ to spend, $\$ 3,600$ less than a white family. In 1947,
a black family had $\$ 2,500$ less than a white family (using constant 1969 dollars, adjusted for price changes).

The decrease in the number of poor families, although impressive, still leaves a large number with low incomes. In 1969, despite 20 years of progress,
1 in every 5 black families had income of less than $\$ 3,000$ compared with 1 in every 10 white families.

TABLE 18. DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY INCOME IN 1947, 1960, AND 1969 (IN CONSTANT 1969 DOLLARS)

| Income group | Negro and other races |  |  | White |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1947 | 1960 | 1969 | 1947 | 1960 | 1969 |
| Number of families (in millions) | .3,119 | 4,333 | 5,215 | 34,120 | 41,123 | 46,022 |
| Percent | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Under \$3,000 | 57 | 38 | 20 | 21 | 14 | 8 |
| \$3,000 to \$4,999. | 25 | 22 | 19 | 26 | 14 | 10 |
| \$5,000 to \$6,999. | 9 | 16 | 17 | 24 | 19 | 12 |
| \$7,000 to \$9,999.. | 6 | 14 | 20 | 18 | 26 | 22 |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999 |  | \{ 7 | 16 |  | 18 | 28 |
| \$15,000 and over. | . 3 | 2 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 21 |
| Median income | . \$2,660 | \$4,001 | \$6,191 | \$5,194 | \$7,252 | \$9,794 |
| Net change, 1947-69 Percent. |  |  | \$3,531 |  |  | \$4,600 |
|  |  |  | 133 |  |  | 89 |



In recent years, the median income of black families has ranged from a little over half of the white median
in the South to about three-fourths or more of the white median in the North Central and Western
regions.
Low incomes of blacks in the South, and the great disparity between black and white family income there, is explained in part, by the fact that much more of the black population there is rural than in other regions. In 1969, median income of blacks not on farms was more than double that of
blacks living on farms.

TABLE 19. MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME IN 1969 AND COMPARISON OF NEGRO AND WHITE FAMILY INCOME, 1967, AND 1969, BY REGION

|  | Median family income, 1969 |  | Negro income as a percent of white |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Region | Negro | White | 1967 | 1969 |
| Total United States. | . \$5,999 | \$9,794 | 59 | 61 |
| Northeast | 6,911 | 10,265 | 66 | 67 |
| North Central | . 7,726 | 10,194 | 78 | 76 |
| South | . 4,987 | 8,764 | 54 | 57 |
| West . . . | 7,682 | 10,197 | 74 | 75 |

## CHART 19.

THE GREATEST DISPARITY BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE FAMILY INCOME IS IN THE SOUTH

Negro as percent of white income in 1969


Source: See appendix A.

Whether they were black or white, men earned more than women. White men earned most, but black men earned more than either black or white women. The relationships were such that a black man working full time, all year, earned about two-thirds as much as a white man working the same amount of time, but $11 / 2$ times as much as a black woman, and 16 percent more than a white woman working fulltime, all year in 1969.

The largest differences in the incomes of black men and women were in the West, where black incomes were highest, and the smallest differences in the South where incomes were lowest.

TABLE 20. MEDIAN EARNINGS OF WORKERS BY COLOR AND SEX, 1969

| Group | Negro |  | White |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men | Women | Men | Women |
| All workers | \$4,375 | \$1,991 | \$7,200 | \$2,688 |
| Full-time, all year workers . . . . 5,880 |  | 4,009 | 8,737 | 4,977 |
| Ratio, women's earnings to men's (Men's earnings = 1.00): |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| All workers |  | . 46 |  | . 37 |
| Full-time, all year workers |  | . 68 |  | . 57 |

TABLE 20A. MEDIAN INCOME I OF NEGRO MEN AND WOMEN WORKERS, AND RATIO BY REGION FOR NEGRO AND WHITE WOMEN, 1969

|  | Median income of Negro workers |  | Ratio: women's to men's income |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Region | Men | Women | Negro | White |
| Year-round, full-time workers | \$5,917 | \$4,094 | . 69 | . 58 |
| Northeast | 6,686 | 4,618 | . 69 | . 60 |
| North Central | 7,485 | 4,774 | . 64 | . 56 |
| South | 4,655 | 3,536 | . 76 | . 59 |
| West | 7,836 | 5,494 | . 70 | . 59 |

${ }^{1}$ Refers to total income rather than to earnings alone as in the preceding table.

CHART 20.
the Earnings of black men are higher than those of EITHER BLACK WOMEN OR WHITE WOMEN, BUT LESS THAN WHITE MEN'S

Annual earnings of full-time year round workers in 1969
\$10,000




Source: See appendix A.

Families with a man and wife at the head are more likely to have high incomes, whether they are black or white, especially if the wife works - and under these circumstances the percent difference in income between black families and white is smallest.

On the other hand, families headed by a woman alone have the smallest incomes regardless of age.

However, black families headed by younger men have higher incomes than the average for all black male-headed families. Their incomes are closer to those of whites.

TABLE 21. MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME BY RACE, AND BY SEX AND AGE OF HEAD, 1969

|  | All age groups |  | Head aged 25-34 |  | Ratio: Negro to White income |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family type | Negro | White | Negro | White | All ages | Age $25-34$ |
| All families . . . . | \$5,999 | \$9,794 | \$6,454 | \$9,819 | 61 \% | 66\% |
| Male family head married, wife presen |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| married, wife presen Wife in labor force $\qquad$ | $9,134$ | 11,886 | 9,174 | 11,275 | 76 | 81 |
| Wife not in labor force | 5,612 | 9,111 | 6,641 | 9,488 | 62 | 70 |
| Other status ${ }^{2}$. . | 6,223 | 8,818 | (1) | 9,489 | 71 | (1) |
| Female family head ${ }^{2}$ | 2 2,341 | 5,500 | 3,373 | 3,804 | 61 | 89 |

## CHART 21.

FAMILY INCOME IS HIGHEST WHEN BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE WORK AND LOWEST FOR FEMALE-HEADED FAMILIES, FOR BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES

Family income in 1969 (median)


Source: See appendix A.

About half of all black women at paid work in 1968 were married and living with their husbands. In most families, their earnings provided less than one-third of total family income, about the same as the white working wife's contribution to family income.

Only about 11 percent of the wives of either race contributed more than half of their family's total income.

Two in every 10 black women working for wages or salaries were single in 1968 and 3 in every 10 were widowed, divorced, or separated - and 5 were married and living with their husbands. Among whites, 6 in every 10 working women were married and living with husbands, 2 were single, and the remaining 2 were widowed, divorced, or separated.

## TABLE 22. DISTRIBUTION OF NONFARM FAMILIES BY PERCENT OF TOTAL FAMILY INCOME CONTRIBUTED BY WORKING WIFE LIVING WITH HUSBAND, 1968

|  | Percent distribution |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent wife's earnings are of total family income | Negro and other races | White |
| All earnings groups | 100 | 100 |
| Less than 20 percent |  | 37 |
| 20-30 percent | 18 | 19 |
| 30-40 percent | 19 | 19 |
| 40-50 percent |  | 13 |
| 50 percent and over | 11 | 11 |

## CHART 22.

MOST WIVES WHO WORK FOR PAY CONTRIBUTE LESS THAN ONE-THIRD OF FAMILY INCOME, WHETHER THE FAMILY IS BLACK OR WHITE


## POVERTY

While the incomes of many people increased during the 1960's, and the number of poor persons decreased sharply, by 1969, nearly 25 million persons in over 5 million families were still poor. Of these, 3 in every 10 persons were black - a total of over 7 million poor blacks and a total of nearly 17 million poor whites in the 200 million American population. As a result of better education, widening job opportunities, and general economic growth, the proportion of the black population who were poor fell sharply from over half in 1959 to less than one-third in 1969; for the white population, the proportion of poor fell from 18 percent in 1959 to 10 percent in 1969.

In 1969, a nonfarm family of four headed by a man was considered in poverty if income was at or below $\$ 3,745$. In 1959 prices, the comparable poverty standard would have been $\$ 2,973$.

The poverty standard varies by size, composition, and location of families.

Between 1959 and 1969, the number of black persons who were poor dropped a little more than one-fourth compared with a drop of over two-fifths for whites.

## TABLE 23. PERSONS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL', 1959-69 (NUMBERS IN MILLIONS)

|  | Million |  |  | Percent |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Negro and other races | Negro | White |  | Negro | White |
| 1959. | 11.0 | 9.9 | 28.5 | 56 | 55 | 18 |
| 1960. | 11.5 | (2) | 28.3 | 56 | (2) | 18 |
| 1961. | 11.7 | (2) | 27.9 | 56 | (2) | 17 |
| 1962. | 12.0 | (2) | 26.7 | 56 | (2) | 16 |
| 1963. | 11.2 | (2) | 25.2 | 51 | (2) | 15 |
| 1964. | 11.1 | (2) | 25.0 | 50 | (2) | 15 |
| 1965. | 10.7 | (2) | 22.5 | 47 | (2) | 13 |
| 1966. | 9.7 | (2) | 20.8 | 42 | (2) | 12 |
| Based on revised method ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1966. | 9.2 | 8.9 | 19.3 | 40 | 42 | 11 |
| 19674 | 8.8 | 8.5 | 19.0 | 37 | 39 | 11 |
| 1968. | 8.0 | 7.6 | 17.4 | 33 | 34 | 10 |
| 1969. | 7.6 | 7.2 | 16.7 | 31 | 32 | 10 |

[^2]
## CHART 23.

THE NUMBER OF POOR HAS DECREASED SHARPLY SINCE 1959

- BUT NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF THE BLACKS AND ONE-TENTH OF THE WHITES WERE STILL POOR IN 1969



Note: Revision in methodology made in 1966 caused break in the series.

Source: See appendix A.

Only a small fraction of the population and of the poor, whether black or white, receive welfare assistance. Since blacks are much more likely to be poor, they are also proportionately more likely to receive welfare than whites. In 1969, 18 percent of all black persons (mainly small children and the aged) received welfare, compared with 4 percent of all whites. The number of welfare recipients has increased considerably between 1966 and 1969.

TABLE 24. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL AND OF PERSONS RECEIVING WELFARE, BY RACE, 1966-69 (NUMBERS IN MILLIONS)

|  | Negro and other races |  |  |  | White |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
| Total population | . 23.2 | 23.7 | 24.5 | 24.5 | 170.2 | 172.0 | 175.6 | 175.4 |
| Below poverty level | 9.3 | 8.4 | 8.0 | 7.6 | 19.5 | 17.8 | 17.4 | 16.7 |
| Percent of total population | 40 | 35 | 32 | 31 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Receiving welfare | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 5.6 | 6.7 |
| Percent of total population | 14 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |

## CHART 24.

MOST OF THE POOR DO NOT RECEIVE WELFARE ASSISTANCE


20

Source: See appendix A.

More of the black poor families than the white have young children under age 18 to support, and fewer are headed by elderly people over 65 years of age.

In 1969, there were children under age 18 in
8 out of every 10 poor families that were black compared with 6 in every 10 that were white. Also, the proportion of poor black families headed by an elderly person (age 65) was about half as high as the white's.

A large majority of poor families had at least one earner, in most cases the head of the family.

TABLE 25. CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL, 1969

| Family type | Negro (Percent) | White (Percent) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 100 | 100 |
| Male family heads | 47 | 70 |
| Female family heads | 53 | 30 |
| Aged family head ${ }^{1}$ | 16 | 29 |
| Families with children ${ }^{2}$ | 80 | 59 |
| Families with at least one earner | 70 | 62 |
| Families with heads who worked during 1969 . |  | 53 |

CHART 25.
BLACK FAMILIES IN POVERTY ARE MORE LIKELY THAN WHITE TO BE EARNERS, AND WITH CHILDREN TO SUPPORT

Percent of poor ${ }^{1}$ families 1969

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{array}{c}\text { Poor families } \\ \text { with at least } \\ \text { one earner }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Aged } \\ \text { poor family } \\ \text { heads }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Poor families } \\ \text { with } \\ \text { children }\end{array}$ |


${ }^{1}$ As defined by Social Security Administration.

Source: See appendix A.

Poverty is most visible in cities, where many poor blacks live close together. It is less visible, but much
more prevalent, among blacks outside the central cities of metropolitan areas. In 1969, a black family living on a farm was more than $21 / 2$ times as likely to be poor as one living in a metropolitan area, since only 21 percent of city families were poor compared with 57 percent of farm families.

However, because so large a proportion of all black families live in large cities, a large proportion also, of black poor live there. In 1969, 6 in every 10 black families lived in the central cities of metropolitan areas, but less than 5 in every 10 poor
black families lived there.
table 26. LOCATION OF ALL NEGRO FAMILIES AND OF NEGRO FAMILIES BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL, 1969

|  | Percent distribution of Negro families |  | Negro families below the poverty level in each location |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Location | Total | Below the poverty level | Number (thousands) | Percent |
| United States | . 100 | 100 | 1,326 | 28 |
| Inside metropolitan areas | 73 | 54 | 720 | 21 |
| Central cities | 57 | 44 | 582 | 21 |
| Suburban fringe | 15 | 10 | 138 | 19 |
| Small towns and rural area | . 27 | 46 | 606 | 46 |
| Farm | 3 | 6 | 79 | 57 |
| Nonfarm | 23 | 40 | 527 | 45 |

CHART 26.

MOST OF THE BLACK POOR DO NOT LIVE IN LARGE CITIES


Source: See appendix A.

## FAMILY

Most black families, like most white families, are headed by a husband and his wife (especially those in the middle and higher-income groups). However, an increasing proportion of black families have a woman at the head. In 1969, more than one-fourth of all black families were headed by a woman. Many of these were very low-income families. More than half the black families with income under \$3,000 were headed by a woman, but only 10 percent of those with income over \$7,000.

TABLE 27. COMPOSITION OF FAMILIES, 1950, 1955, 1960, AND 1966-70 (PERCENT DISTRIBUTION)

|  | Husband-wife |  | Other male head |  | Female head ${ }^{\text {1 }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White |
| 1950. | 77.7 | 88.0 | 4.7 | 3.5 | 17.6 | 8.5 |
| 1955. | . 75.3 | 87.9 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 20.7 | 9.0 |
| 1960. | 73.6 | 88.7 | 4.0 | 2.6 | 22.4 | 8.7 |
| 1966. | 72.7 | 88.8 | 3.7 | 2.3 | 23.7 | 8.9 |
| 1967. | 72.6 | 88.7 | 3.9 | 2.1 | 23.6 | 9.1 |
| 1968. | 69.1 | 88.9 | 4.5 | 2.2 | 26.4 | 8.9 |
| 1969. | 68.7 | 88.8 | 3.9 | 2.3 | 27.3 | 8.9 |
| 1970. | 69.7 | 88.7 | 3.5 | 2.3 | 26.8 | 9.0 |

${ }^{1}$ Female heads of families include widowed and single women, and women separated from husbands in the armed services or otherwise away from home involuntarily, as well as those separated from their husbands through divorce or marital discord. In 1968, divorce and marital discord accounted for 50 percent of the black female family heads and 31 percent of the white.

Source: See appendix A.

TABLE 27A. FAMILIES BY SEX OF HEAD, BY INCOME GROUP, 1968 (PERCENT)

| Income Group | Negro |  |  | White |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Female | Male | Total | Female | Male |
| All families | 100 | 29 | 72 | 100 | 9 | 91 |
| Under \$3,000 | . 100 | 56 | 44 | 100 | 27 | 73 |
| \$3,000 to \$4,999 | . 100 | 36 | 64 | 100 | 17 | 83 |
| \$5,000 to \$6,999. | . 100 | 22 | 78 | 100 | 12 | 88 |
| \$7,000 to \$9,999. | . 100 | 11 | 89 | 100 | 6 | 94 |
| \$10,000 to \$14,000 | . 100 | 9 | 91 | 100 | 4 | 96 |
| \$15,000 and over. | . 100 | 7 | 93 | 100 | 3 | 98 |

[^3]

Source: See appendix A.

Not long ago, most women who had their own households were widows. Now, an increasing proportion of women heads of families - both black and white - are separated or divorced. Although the percent separated or divorced is greater among black heads of families, the increase among them since 1960 has been less than among whites. The percent widowed is declining in both groups but remains greater among whites than blacks.

TABLE 28. MARITAL STATUS OF FEMALE HEADS OF FAMILIES, 1960 AND 1970 (PERCENT DISTRIBUTION)

|  | Negro |  | White |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Marital status | $1960{ }^{1}$ | 1970 | 1960 | 1970 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Single (never married). | 4 | 16 | 10 | 9 |
| Separated or divorced. . | 42 | 47 | 25 | 36 |
| Separated | 29 | 33 | 9 | 11 |
| Divorced | 14 | 14 | 16 | 25 |
| Married, husband absent | 15 | 7 | 10 | 8 |
| In Armed Forces. | - 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Other reasons | . 13 | 4 | 8 | 5 |
| Widowed | . 40 | 30 | 55 | 47 |

CHART 28.
AN INCREASING PROPORTION OF WOMEN HEADS OF FAMILIES BOTH BLACK AND WHITE - ARE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

Percent


Source: See appendix A.

About 70 percent of black children and 90 percent of white children live with both parents. At a family income level of $\$ 7,000$ and above, about 90 percent of black children are living with both parents. At the other end of the economic scale, only about one-fourth of black children in families with incomes below $\$ 3,000$ are living with both parents.

## TABLE 29. PERCENT OF CHILDREN ${ }^{1}$ LIVING WITH BOTH PARENTS, 1960-69



CHART 29.

MOST BLACK CHILDREN LIVE WITH BOTH PARENTS - BUT MOST POOR BLACK CHILDREN ARE IN BROKEN HOMES

Percent living with both parents, by family income



Source: See appendix A.

## VITAL STATISTICS AND HEALTH

Birth rates are higher for blacks than for whites, but they have decreased for both groups in recent years. Analysis of birth rates among black women shows that they are higher for the poor than for the middle-income groups, for the less educated than for those with higher education, and for rural than for urban populations.

TABLE 30. FERTILITY RATES, 1955-68 (LIVE BIRTHS PER 1,000 WOMEN, AGE 15 TO 44)
$\left.\begin{array}{ll}\text { Year } \\ \text { Negro and } \\ \text { other races }\end{array}\right)$ White
${ }^{1}$ Excludes data for New Jersey.
NOTE: Births 1955-59 adjusted for under-registration of births.

## CHART 30.

BIRTH RATES FOR BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES HAVE DROPPED

Live births per 1000 women, age $15-44$


Source: See appendix A.

Infant and maternal mortality rates have dropped sharply during the past $21 / 2$ decades. However, the mortality rate for black mothers was about 3 times that of white mothers in 1967. Infant mortality rates for blacks were also much higher than for whites.

TABLE 31. MATERNAL AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1940, 1950, AND 1960-68 (PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

${ }^{1}$ Figures are for infants less than 28 days old.
${ }^{2}$ Figures are for infants 28 days to 1 year old.

CHART 31.
INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY ARE MUCH HIGHER FOR BLACKS THAN FOR WHITES, ALTHOUGH ALL ARE DECREASING.

MOTHERS
Deaths per 1,000 live births


BABIES
Deaths per 1,000 live births (less than 1 month old)


NOTE: Influenza epidemics are known to affect non-white infants more seriously than white infants.

Source: See appendix A.

Length of life is a most significant indicator of the health of the population. During the 1960's, the life expectancy of blacks was about 10 percent lower than that of whites in all age groups from 25 to 55 years of age, the prime working years.

TABLE 32. LIFE EXPECTANCY IN PRIME WORKING YEARS, 1960 AND
1967 (ADDITIONAL YEARS OF LIFE EXPECTED AT EACH AGE)

|  | 1960 |  |  | 1969 1 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro and other races | White | Difference | Negro and other races | White | Difference |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 years. | . 43.1 | 48.3 | -5.2 | 43.2 | 48.8 | $-5.6$ |
| 35 years. | . 34.3 | 38.8 | -4.5 | 34.6 | 39.4 | -4.8 |
| 45 years. | 26.2 | 29.7 | $-3.5$ | 26.7 | 30.3 | -3.6 |
| 55 years. | 19.3 | 21.5 | -2.2 | 19.7 | 22.0 | $-2.3$ |

## CHART 32.

THE NUMBER OF YEARS OF LIFE REMAINING AT ANY AGE IS CONSISTENTLY LOWER FOR BLACKS THAN FOR WHITES

Average number of years of life remaining at given ages.


Source: See appendix A.

The incidence of disabling illnesses and chronic conditions that limit activities is about the same for blacks and whites, but days of bed disability and lost work days affect blacks slightly more.

# TABLE 33. DAYS OF DISABILITY PER PERSON PER YEAR, JULY 1965JUNE 1967, AND PERCENT OF POPULATION WITH ACTIVITY LIMITATIONS RESULTING FROM CHRONIC ILLNESS 



CHART 33.

DISABLING ILLNESSES AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS THAT LIMIT ACTIVITY ARE ABOUT THE SAME FOR BLACKS AND WHITES


Education has had a most important effect on the entire life style of the American population, as well as on its occupational achievement. The educational attainment of both blacks and whites has been increasing. Today, black men in all age groups have more education than in 1960.

TABLE 34. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF PERSONS 25-29 YEARS OLD, BY SEX AND RACE, 1960 AND 1966-69

| Year | Median years of school completed |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male |  | Female |  |
|  | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White |
| 1960. | . 10.5 | 12.4 | 11.1 | 12.3 |
| 1966. | . 12.1 | 12.6 | 11.9 | 12.5 |
| 1967. | 12.2 | 12.6 | 12.1 | 12.5 |
| 1968. | . 12.2 | 12.6 | 12.2 | 12.5 |
| 1969. | . 12.3 | 12.7 | 12.1 | 12.5 |

Percent completing 4 years of high school or more

| $1960 \ldots \ldots \ldots .63$ | 63 | 41 | 65 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1966 \ldots \ldots \ldots .56$ | 73 | 49 | 74 |
| $1967 \ldots \ldots \ldots .60$ | 74 | 55 | 75 |
| $1968 \ldots \ldots . .60$ | 76 | 56 | 75 |
| $1969 \ldots \ldots .6$ |  |  |  |

## CHART 34.

THE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF YOUNG BLACK MEN HAS ALMOST CAUGHT UP WITH THAT OF WHITES

Median years of school completed 15

MALES - AGE 25-29


Source: See appendix A.

At each educational level, black men have less income than white men. The disparity is greatest at the college level. The dollar disparity is least among the less educated because their jobs and their age distributions are much more similar than among better educated white and black men.

TABLE 35. MEDIAN INCOME OF MEN 25 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, 1969

| Level of education | Median income 1969 |  | Negro income as a percent of white |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro | White |  |
| Elementary: |  |  |  |
| Less than 8 years. | \$2,973 | \$3,613 | 82 |
| 8 years | 4,293 | 5,460 | 79 |
| High school: |  |  |  |
| 1 to 3 years. | 5,222 | 7,309 | 71 |
| 4 years | 6,144 | 8,631 | 71 |
| College: |  |  |  |
| 4 or more years. . | 8,567 | 12,437 | 69 |

## CHART 35.

HIGHER EDUCATION HAS MEANT HIGHER EARNING-POWER FOR BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES, BUT AT EACH EDUCATIONAL LEVEL, black men have less income than white

Educational attainment in 1969 of men, 25 years old and over
Median income, 1969
\$15,000


Except among pre-schoolers and those in the compulsory school attendance ages of $6 \cdot 15$, enrollment of black students continued to lag behind white despite steady increases. Nearly all 6-15 year olds are enrolled in school, and a very large proportion of those 16-17, both black and white. However, only 1 in every 8 blacks age $20-24$ years compared with over 1 in every 5 whites of this age, go to school. (Most of these are in college.) An interesting change is the sharp rise in enrollment of 3 -and-4-year-olds, where black enrollments were higher than white in 1968, especially in programs like "Head-Start."
table 36. PERCENT ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, BY AGE, 1960, 1966, AND 1969

| Students enrolled | Negro |  |  | White |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 19601 | 1966 | 1969 | 1960 | 1966 | 1969 |
| 3 and 4 years. | 0 | $14^{1}$ | 21 | 0 | 12 | 15 |
| 5 years.... | 51 | 65 | 70 | 66 | 74 | 80 |
| 6 to 15 years. | 98 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 |
| 16 and 17 years. | 77 | 85 | 86 | 83 | 89 | 90 |
| 18 and 19 years. | 35 | 38 | 45 | 39 | 46 | 51 |
| 20 to 24 years. . | 8 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 21 | 24 |

CHART 36.
MOST BLACK YOUTH OF SCHOOL AGE ATTEND SCHOOL. A LARGER PROPORTION OF WHITES ABOVE THE COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGES ATTEND, BUT AMONG 3-AND-4-YEAR-OLDS, A LARGER PROPORTION OF BLACKS ARE IN SCHOOL PROGRAMS LIKE "HEAD START"


Source: See appendix $A$.

Test scores on national standardized tests of reading and other school subjects, in the Fall of 1965, showed that at that time the average performance of black youth in the final year of high school was at a ninth-grade level, reflecting varied adverse factors, including environmental. The gap in achievement level between Negro and white students widened between the sixth and twelfth grades. Recent changes in educational techniques, supplementary programs like Headstart and other special efforts, as well as school desegration, may have effected gains in student achievement. However, there has been no recent nationwide study to indicate current comparative achievement.

TABLE 37. ACHIEVEMENT ON NATIONAL STANDARDIZED TESTS OF READING AND OTHER SCHOOL SUBJECTS, FALL 1965

|  | Test level grade |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grade in school | Negro | White |
| Sixth | 4.4 | 6.8 |
| Ninth | 7.0 | 9.9 |
| Twelfth | 9.2 | 12.7 |

## CHART 37.

IN 1965, THE AVERAGE PERFORMANCE OF BLACK YOUTH IN THE FINAL YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL WAS AT A NINTH GRADE LEVEL... THE GAP WITH WHITE PERFORMANCE WIDENED BETWEEN SIXTH GRADE AND TWELFTH (No recent studies have been made)

Grade levels of achievement on national standardized tests


Many managerial jobs, as well as most professional positions, require a college education. Negroes have made substantial gains since 1960 in completing college. By 1969, 6.6 percent of all blacks age 25-34 had completed at least 4 years of college, compared with about 16 percent of all whites in this age group.

However, the difference between the percent of blacks and whites finishing college was wider in 1969 than in 1960, as white college attendance increases outpaced those of blacks.

TABLE 38. PERCENT OF POPULATION 25 TO 34 YEARS OLD WHO COMPLETED 4 YEARS OF COLLEGE OR MORE, BY SEX, 1960, 1966, AND 1969

| Year | Negro |  |  | White |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female |
| 1960. | . 4.3 | 3.9 | 4.6 | 11.7 | 15.7 | 7.8 |
| 1966. | . 5.7 | 5.2 | 6.1 | 14.6 | 18.9 | 10.4 |
| 1969. | 6.6 | 7.6 | 5.6 | 16.2 | 20.2 | 12.3 |

## CHART 38.

THE PERCENT COMPLETING COLLEGE HAS INCREASED FOR BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES, BUT WHITE GAINS HAVE BEEN LARGER

Percentage who completed college, age 25-34



## HOUSING

The condition of housing for blacks has improved since 1960. Nevertheless, the proportion living in housing that either is dilapidated or lacks basic plumbing facilities has decreased sharply since 1960 in all areas, especially in large cities. Yet about one-fourth of black households still live in such dwellings, compared with one-sixteenth of the whites.

TABLE 39. PERCENT OCCUPYING HOUSING NOT MEETING
SPECIFIED CRITERIA $1, ~ B Y$ LOCATION, 1960 AND 1968

|  | Negro and <br> other races |  |  | White |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

'Housing is classified as "not meeting specified criteria" if it either is dilapidated or lacks one or more of the following basic plumbing facilities: hot running water in the structure, flush toilet for private use of members of the household, and bathtub or shower for private use of members of the household.

Housing is reported as "dilapidated" if defects are so critical or so widespread that the structure would require extensive repairs, rebuilding, or razing, or was of inadequate original construction. Information is collected also on housing condition rated as "deteriorating," that is, having one or more defects of an intermediate nature that require correction if the unit is to continue to provide safe and adequate shelter.

## CHART 39.

THE PROPORTION OF BLACKS LIVING IN HOUSING EITHER DILAPIDATED OR LACKING BASIC PLUMBING IS STILL MUCH LARGER THAN AMONG WHITES


Source: See appendix A.

In the South, over one-third of all black households live in dwellings that either are dilapidated or lack basic plumbing facilities, compared with about one-tenth in the North and West.

In all regions, housing is far worse in smaller cities, towns, and rural areas than in the metropolitan
centers.

TABLE 40. PERCENT OCCUPYING HOUSING NOT MEETING SPECIFIED CRITERIA,' BY REGION AND LOCATION, 1968

| Region and Location | North and West |  | South |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro and other races | White | Negro and other races | White |
| All housing units. | 11 | 5 | 36 | 9 |
| Metropolitan areas: |  |  |  |  |
| Central cities | 9 | 4 | 9 | 3 |
| Suburbs | 12 | 3 | 22 | 3 |
| Nonmetropolitan area | . 22 | 7 | 61 | 16 |

${ }^{1}$ Housing is classified as "not meeting specified criteria" if it either is dilapidated or lacks one or more of the following basic plumbing facilities: hot running water in the structure, flush toilet for private use of members of the household, and bathtub or shower for private use.

## CHART 40.

IN ALL REGIONS, HOUSING OF BLACKS IS FAR WORSE IN SMALLER CITIES, TOWNS, AND RURAL AREAS THAN IN METROPOLITAN CENTERS


Source: See appendix A.

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## CRIME

Blacks are far more likely than whites to be the victims of serious crimes of violence such as murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, whether they are male or female. However, black females are the most vulnerable group of all.

Burglary and larceny (over \$50) are also greater threats to black than white women, but there is no significant difference between black and white men. On the other hand, black men and women are somewhat more likely to be the victims of auto theft than are whites.

TABLE 41. VICTIMS OF SERIOUS CRIMES, BY SEX AND RACE, 1965-66 (RATES PER 100 POPULATION)

| Crimes | Negro and other races |  | White |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Crimes of violence (Homicide, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault) | . 5 | . 8 | . 4 | . 2 |
| Burglary and larceny (over \$50) | 2.4 | 1.2 | 2.4 | . 6 |
| Vehicle theft | . 3 | . 2 | . 2 | . 1 |

CHART 41.
BLACK MEN AND WOMEN ARE FAR MORE LIKELY THAN WHITE TO BE VICTIMS OF CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

Number of victims per 100 population
(Homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault)


Female


Source: See appendix A.

Blacks are more likely to be the victims of serious crimes than whites, no matter what their income group. Crimes of violence against the person including murder and other homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault - are most likely to affect the poorest blacks. However, even blacks in the higher income groups are much more likely than whites to suffer such crimes. Crimes against property are also more likely to victimize a black than a white at every income level. However, the incidence of such crimes is much greater against higher-income blacks, and the black-white differences are larger in the high income than the lower-income groups.

## TABLE 42. NUMBER OF VICTIMS (PER 100 POPULATION) OF SERIOUS CRIMES BY RACE AND INCOME GROUP, 1966

| Crimes |  | Whit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Violent crimes ${ }^{1}$ : |  |  |
| Against those with income under \$3,000. | . 8 | . 3 |
| \$3,000-\$5,999 | . 7 | . 4 |
| \$6,000-\$9,999 | . 4 | \{ . 2 |
| \$10,000 and over | . 4 | . 3 |
| Property crimes ${ }^{2}$ : |  |  |
| Against those with income under \$3,000. | 2.1 | 1.8 |
| \$3,000-\$5,999 | 1.9 | 1.8 |
| \$6,000-\$9,999 |  | $\{1.5$ |
| \$10,000 and over | 3.0 | \{ 1.9 |

[^4]
## CHART 42.

AT EVERY INCOME LEVEL, BLACKS ARE MORE LIKELY THAN WHITES TO BE VICTIMS OF SERIOUS CRIMES


Source: See appendix A.

More blacks than whites are arrested for serious crimes of violence, but arrests for crimes against property take place mainly among whites.

Even in cities, where most blacks live, they are not the major group responsible for serious property crimes, such as burglary, larceny (over $\$ 50$ ), and auto theft. In the suburbs, a greater proportion of arrests for serious crimes involves whites, whether violent crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) or property crimes. However, arrest data alone are not necessarily good measures of criminality, since an arrest may not result in conviction in court, and some groups are more subject to arrest than others.

TABLE 43. ARRESTS FOR SERIOUS CRIMES, 1969


## CHART 43.

blacks are more likely to be arrested for crimes of VIOLENCE. WHITES PREDOMINATE IN ARRESTS FOR PROPERTY CRIMES.

Percent


Source: See appendix A.

## CITIZENSHIP

On March 31, 1970, blacks made up 10 percent of the Armed Forces and 10 percent of those serving in Southeast Asia, but 13 percent of those who died in Vietnam combat.

TABLE 44. MEN IN THE ARMED FORCES, 1970 (IN THOUSANDS)

| Area | Total | Negro | Percent <br> Negro |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 3,074 | 293 | 10 |
| Outside Southeast Asia. . | . 2,555 | 241 | 9 |
| In Southeast Asia. . | 519 | 52 | 10 |
| Deaths in Southeast Asia | 41 | 5 | 13 |

## CHART 44.

IN 1970, BLACK MEN IN THE ARMED FORCES ACCOUNTED FOR 10 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL

Percent



Source: See appendix A.

The number of blacks serving in the Armed Forces are roughly proportionate to their share of the population. In 1969 and 1970 blacks equalled about 10 percent of all enlisted men, and 11 percent of those in Southeast Asia. This amounted to 65,000
in Southeast Asia out of a total of nearly 315,000 black enlisted men in 1969. By contrast, a very small proportion of black soldiers were officers -2 percent in the Armed Forces and 3 percent in Southeast Asia.
TABLE 45. NEGRO OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN IN THE ARMED
FORCES, 1969 AND 1970 (IN THOUSANDS)

|  | Total |  | Negro |  | Percent Negro |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rank and area | 1969 | 1970 | 1969 | 1970 | 1969 | 1970 |
| Total | 3,439 | 3,074 | 323 | 293 | 9 | 10 |
| Officers | 419 | 366 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 2 |
| Outside Southeast Asia . | 354 | (1) | 7 | (1) | 2 | (1) |
| In Southeast Asia.... | 65 | (1) | 2 | (1) | 3 | (1) |
| Enlisted men . . . . . . | 3,020 | 2,708 | 314 | 284 | 10 | 11 |
| Outside Southeast Asia . | 2,447 | (1) | 249 | (1) | 10 | (1) |
| In Southeast Asia.... | 573 | (1) | 65 | (1) | 11 | (1) |

CHART 45.
BLACKS CONSTITUTED 2 PERCENT OF ALL OFFICERS IN THE ARMED FORCES AND 3 PERCENT OF THOSE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA


Source: See appendix A.

In 1970, 14 percent of all blacks drafted into the Armed Forces who were eligible reenlisted after their first tour of duty, compared with 9 percent of eligible
white draftees. The reenlistment rate for young servicemen who had enlisted into the regular armed services was also much higher for blacks than for whites.

## TABLE 46. REENLISTMENT RATES OF SERVICEMEN ${ }_{1}$ 1968-1970 (EXCLUDES REENLISTMENTS OF CAREER SERVICEMEN AFTER FIRST TERM REENLISTMENT)

| Year | Inductees |  | Enlistees |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Negro | White | Negro | White |
| 1968 | 15 | 9 | (2) | (2) |
| 1969 | 14 | 11 | 21 | 14 |
| 1970 | 14 | 9 | 18 | 11 |

${ }^{1}$ Servicemen who have earned honorable status and otherwise demonstrated the qualities necessary for career service in the Armed Forces. Only first-term servicemen are included.
${ }^{2}$ Data not available.

CHART 46.
THE REENLISTMENT RATE OF ELIGIBLE BLACK MEN WAS MUCH HIGHER THAN THE RATE FOR ELIGIBLE WHITE MEN IN 1970


Unemployment rates were higher for young Vietnam war veterans 20-24 years old than for veterans in the next higher age group - 25-29 years old - whether they were black or white. However, Vietnam war veterans who were black had much higher unemployment rates than those who were white. In 1969 and 1970, 10 percent or more of the younger black veterans were unemployed compared with 8 percent or less of the white veterans.

Part of the difference between black and white veterans' unemployment rates may result from the higher participation of the white veterans in Veterans Administration Benefit Programs. Of enlisted men who had been discharged from the Armed Forces in the preceding year, 18 percent of the black and 24 percent of the white veterans were in Veterans Administration supported programs in 1969. Most of these men were attending college. Of other blacks in the programs, one-third were in schools below the college level, and under 10 percent in on-the-job training.

## TABLE 47. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF MEN 20-29 YEARS OLD, BY VETERAN-NONVETERAN STATUS

| Age | Period | Negro and other races |  | White |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Vietnam veterans | Nonveterans | Vietnam veterans | Nonveterans |
| 20-24 years . | 1969 | 10.0 | 8.1 | 5.1 | 4.5 |
|  | 11970 | 14.0 | 11.3 | 8.2 | 7.1 |
| 25-29 years. | 1969 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 1.7 |
|  | 11970 | 6.2 | 6.7 | 3.8 | 3.2 |



CHART 47.
YOUNG BLACK VIETNAM WAR VETERANS HAD HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES THAN WHITE VIETNAM VETERANS

Percent


Source: See appendix A.

In recent elections, blacks have been exercising their right to vote in proportions nearly as high as those of whites. In the North and West, nearly 2 out of every. 3 eligible blacks voted in the 1968 presidential election, compared with 3 out of every 4 eligible whites. In the South, 5 in every 10 eligible blacks voted, compared with 6 in every 10 eligible whites.
table 48. percent of persons of voting age who REPORTED THAT THEY HAD VOTED IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS OF 1964 AND 1968, BY REGION

| Group and region | Negro |  | White |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1964 | 1968 | 1964 | 1968 |
| Persons of voting age (thousands) | $10,340$ | 10,935 | 99,353 | 104,521 |
| Percent reporting that they had voted: |  |  |  |  |
| United States . . . | 59 | 58 | 71 | 69 |
| North and West | 72 | 65 | 75 | 72 |
| South | 44 | 52 | 60 | 62 |

CHART 48.
SIX IN EVERY 10 BLACKS IN THE UNITED STATES VOTED IN THE 1968 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, COMPARED WITH 7 IN EVERY 10 WHITES

THE PROPORTION VOTING
WAS HIGHER
IN THE NORTH AND WEST

Percent 100

NORTH AND WEST

WHITE



Source: See appendix A.

Although they are still a very small proportion of all legislators, the number of blacks in the U.S. House of Representatives and in State legislatures has increased sharply in recent years.

At local levels, several cities now have black mayors, mostly in the South.


CHART 49.
THE NUMBER OF BLACKS ELECTED TO STATE OFFICE HAS RISEN SHARPLY, ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTH


1 Includes border states.

Source: See appendix A.

## PROJECTIONS

To determine the Nation's future manpower needs, BLS has been making economic projections for the past three decades. The latest of these indicate that the Nation's working age population, 16 years old and over, will have increased by over 25 million between 1969 and 1980. Nearly 4 million of this increase will be men and women of races other than white - primarily blacks. Between 1969 and 1980,
the black population 16 years old and over will increase about 29 percent, while the white population is increasing about 18 percent. In 1980, blacks are expected to be 12 percent of the 16 and over population compared with 11 percent in 1969.

TABLE 50. POPULATION 16 YEARS OLD AND OVER, 1960-80 (PROJECTED) (IN MILLIONS)

| Group | 1960 | 1965 | 1969 | Projected |  | 1969-80 Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 19751 | 19801 | Number | Percent |
| All persons 16 years old and over | 121.8 | $\ddagger 33.3$ | 140.0 | 154.3 | 166.6 | 26.6 | +19 |
| Negro and other races | 12.5 | 14.1 | 15.2 | 17.4 | 19.6 | 4.4 | +29 |
| Men | 6.0 | 6.7 | 7.2 | 8.3 | 9.3 | 2.1 | +29 |
| Women | 6.5 | 7.4 | 8.0 | 9.1 | 10.3 | 2.3 | +29 |
| White | 107.3 | 119.2 | 124.8 | 136.9 | 146.9 | 22.1 | +18 |
| Men | 53.4 | 57.7 | 60.4 | 66.2 | 71.0 | 10.6 | +18 |
| Women | 55.0 | 61.3 | 64.4 | 70.7 | 75.9 | 11.5 | +18 |

## CHART 50.

THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES 16 YEARS OLD AND OVER WILL INCREASE MORE THAN 25 MILLION BETWEEN 1969 AND 1980 + 4.5 MILLION OF THE INCREASE WILL BE BLACKS


As population in working ages increases, so does the labor force. The size of the labor force increase depends on the share of the population who decide to work. By 1980, the black labor force is expected to total 12 million - 2.8 million more than in 1969 because of the rapid increase of working-age blacks in the population. The black labor force will increase by almost one-third between 1970 and 1980, compared with almost one-fifth increase in the white labor force, according to BLS projections.

TABLE 51. LABOR FORCE BY RACE AND SEX, ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1960, 1969, 19751, AND 19801

| Race and sex | Number (millions) |  |  |  | Change 1969-80 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1960 | 1969 | 19751 | 19801 | Number | Percent |
| Negro and |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| other races | . 7.9 | 9.5 | 10.7 | 12.1 | 2.8 | 30.7 |
| Male | 4.8 | 5.4 | 6.4 | 7.2 | 1.8 | 33.3 |
| Female | 3.1 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 4.9 | 1.0 | 25.6 |
| White | 64.2 | 74.9 | 82.1 | 88.6 | 13.7 | 18.3 |
| Male | 44.1 | 48.3 | 52.5 | 56.4 | 8.1 | 16.8 |
| Female | 20.1 | 26.6 | 29.6 | 32.3 | 5.7 | 21.4 |

## CHART 51.

BETWEEN 1969 AND 1980, 2.8 MILLION BLACKS WILL BE ADDED TO THE LABOR FORCE


Source: See appendix A.

In the next 10 years, the proportions of men and of women in the black population who are in the labor force - working or looking for work are expected to become more like the white. About 77 percent of black men over 16 years of age were in the labor force in 1969. By 1980, this labor force participation rate will have edged up to 80 percent, the same as for white men. However, among black women - who have been more likely than white women to work outside their homes - the rate will edge downward. In 1969, half of all black women were in the labor force. By 1980, about 48 percent will be in the labor force, compared with 43 percent of all white women.

## TABLE 52. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

| Sex and race | 1969 | 1980 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All Persons |  | 61 |
| Men: |  |  |
| Negro and other | . 77 | 80 |
| White | . 80 | 80 |
| Women: |  |  |
| Negro and other | . 50 | 48 |
| White . . . | . 42 | 43 |

CHART 52.
THE PERCENT OF bLACK MEN IN THE LABOR FORCE IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE, AND OF BLACK WOMEN, TO DECREASE, BY 1980, becoming closer to the white rates

Civilian labor force participation rate


Source: See appendix A.

In contrast with 1968, when one-third of the black labor force was 45 years old or over, only about one-fourth will be that old in 1980. More than half will be under 35 years of age, born after World War II, and educated in the era of atomic advance, urban migration, and social change that followed. Their increasing proportion will contribute to an increasingly sophisticated labor force in the future.
table 53. distribution of the labor force by age, 1960, 1968, AND $1980{ }^{1}$

| Group | Negro and other races |  |  | White |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1960 | 1968 | 1980 | 1960 | 1968 | 1980 |
| Number | 7,894 | 9,106 | 12,093 | 64,210 | 73,166 | 88,634 |
| Percent |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 years old and over. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 16-19 years | 7 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| 20-24 years | 12 | 15 | 17 | 10 | 13 | 14 |
| 25-34 years | 24 | 23 | 28 | 21 | 20 | 26 |
| $35-44$ years | 24 | 21 | 18 | 23 | 21 | 19 |
| 45-54 years | 19 | 18 | 15 | 21 | 20 | 16 |
| 55.64 years | 11 | 11 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 13 |
| 65 years and over... | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 |

## CHART 53.

BY 1980, NEARLY HALF THE WHITE LABOR FORCE AND 60 PERCENT OF THE BLACK LABOR FORCE WILL BE UNDER 35 YEARS OLD


Source: See appendix A.

Differences between the educational qualifications of the black and the white labor force will continue into 1980. However, disparities will be much smaller, especially among young workers. By 1980, 74 percent of the blacks in the 25-34-year age group who are working or looking for work will have at least 4 years of high school education, compared with 84 percent of the whites in this age group, a difference of only 10 percentage points. In 1969, the difference was about 20 percentage points -57 percent for blacks, compared with 76 percent for whites.

TABLE 54. PERCENT WITH FOUR YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL OR MORE, 1969 AND PROJECTED 1980, BY AGE AND RACE

|  | All ages 25 years old and over |  | Age 25-34 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Race | 1969 | 1980 | 1969 | 1980 |
| Negro and other races | . 40.8 | 56.1 | 57.1 | 73.6 |
| White | 63.5 | 73.4 | 76.4 | 83.5 |

## CHART 54.

EDUCATIONAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE`BLACK AND WHITE LABOR FORCE WILL BE MUCH SMALLER BY 1980

Percent of high school graduates in the labor force
100


## APPENDIX A

Sources of Data

## Chart and <br> table

1: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), The Social and Economic Status of Negroes in the United States, 1969, BLS Report 375, p. 2, published jointly with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as Current PopuIation Survey (CPS), Series P-23, No. 29, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1970.
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3: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 3.
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8: U.S. Department of Labor, Manpower Administration, Manpower Report of the President, 1971, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., table A-12, p. 219, and unpublished tabulations from the current Population Survey.
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10: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 31. Manpower Report of the President, 1971, table A-5, p. 209 and A-17, p. 224.

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11: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, pp. 30-31 and 31 .
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12: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 33.
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13: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 20, p. 40. Employment and Earnings, January 1971, p. 127
BLS Bulletin 1511, tables IIB1-IIB5, pp. 107-115.
14: U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, December 1969, table 8, p. 36.
15: BLS Bulletin 1511, p. 88.
16: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 14.
BLS Bulletin 1511, table IIIA-1, p. 138.
17: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 17.
BLS Bulletin 1511, table IIIA-6, pp. 139-141.
18: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 16.
19: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 15.
BLS Bulletin 1511, pp. 140-141.
20: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 20.
21: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, Consumer Income, Series P-60, No. 75. (See also Series P-60, No. 66, table 12.)
22: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Marital and Family Characteristics of Workers, March 1968, Special Labor Force Report 120, table U, p. A-25.
23: BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 24. Newman, D. K. et al, "Perspectives on Poverty," Monthly Labor Review, February 1969, pp. 33-62. Orshansky, Mollie, "The Shape of Poverty in 1966," Social Security Bulletin, March 1968; Progressing Against Poverty, Research and Statistics Note No. 24, Social Security Administration, December 10, 1968; "Recounting the Poor - A Five-Year Review," Social Security Bulletin, April 1966.
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[^5]35: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, Income in 1969 of Families and Persons in the United States, Series P-60, No. 75, pp. 104 and 108.
BLS Report 375, CPS Series P-23, No. 29, p. 21, for men 25-54 years old.
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[^6]
## APPENDIX B


#### Abstract

Appendix B. Selected List of Bibliographies and References on Black Americans (The selection process was aided immensely by the Library of Congress bibliography, The Negroes in the United States: A Selected Bibliography, listed below.)


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[^0]:    'The standard government terminology to distinguish between "white" and "Negro and other races" is used in the tables in this bulletin. Where data are available for Negroes or blacks alone, that is stated explicitly. Since about 91 percent of "Negro and other races" is black, the use of the entire category of Negro and other races in tabulations where that terminology is used may be related to blacks in the text.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Except where noted, where data for regions are shown in this and succeeding tables, the standard Census definition for each region is used. The South includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West

    Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

[^2]:    1 The poverty concept used throughout this report is based on a revised definition adopted in 1969. A detailed explanation of the revised poverty definition appears in Census Bureau Special Studies, Series P-23, No. 28. The poverty threshold for a non-farm family of four was $\$ 3,745$ in 1969 and $\$ 2,973$ in 1959.
    ${ }^{2}$ Not available.
    ${ }^{3}$ Reflects improvements in statistical procedures used in processing the income data.
    ${ }^{4}$ Due to a processing difference, data for 1967 are not strictly comparable with those shown for 1966 and 1968.

[^3]:    Source: See appendix A.

[^4]:    1 Murder and other homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.
    ${ }^{2}$ Burglary, larceny over $\$ 50$ and vehicle theft.

[^5]:    Population and Retirement Income Programs, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1967, pp. 177-231; "The Aged Negro and His Income," Social Security Bulletin, February 1964, p. 3.

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