

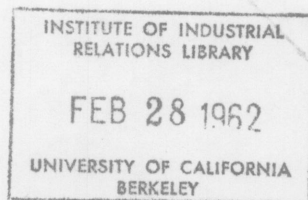
Negroes

NG(S)

THE
ECONOMIC
SITUATION
OF
NEGROES
IN THE
UNITED
STATES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Arthur J. Goldberg
SECRETARY OF LABOR



Washington, 1961

FOREWORD

On behalf of the Department of Labor, I wish to salute the National Urban League for its efforts over half a century to achieve in America what unquestionably is one of the most vital goals of our time, the establishing of equality of opportunity for all citizens. Notable and significant progress is being made; much more is needed.

Information on the economic conditions of the Negro is limited and much of the data on the following pages are up-dated from a previous report.

This review was prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics especially for the National Urban League's 1961 Annual Convention, Dayton, Ohio.

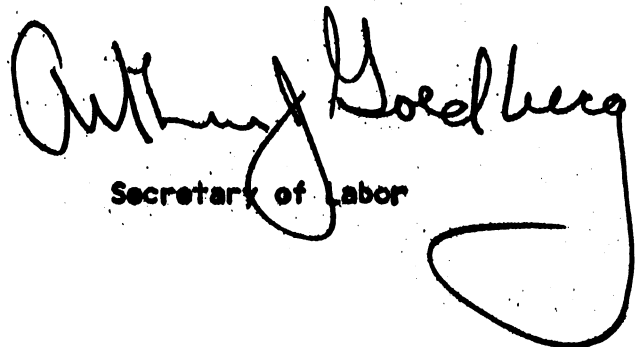

Secretary of Labor

Table 1.--Population, white and nonwhite, 1900-60

Year	Total population	White	Nonwhite	Nonwhite as percent of total population
	Number (in thousands)			
1960 ^{1/}	179,933	159,381	20,552	11.4
	Percent			
Percent increase:				
1900-60 ^{2/}	136.8	138.6	123.8	
1950-60 ^{3/}	18.7	17.7	26.8	

^{1/} Includes Alaska and Hawaii and Armed Forces overseas.

^{2/} Data for 1900 exclude Alaska and Hawaii.

^{3/} Data for 1950 used for comparison include Alaska and Hawaii and Armed Forces overseas.

Table 2.--Birth and death rates, white and nonwhite

Year	Birth rate			Death rate		
	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite
(Number per 1,000 population)						
1959.....	24.3	23.1	34.0	9.4	9.4	9.9

Note: Birth rates have been adjusted for underregistration.

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service.

Table 3.--Marital status of persons age 14 and over, March 1960

	Percent					
	Male			Female		
	Total	White	Nonwhite	Total	White	Nonwhite
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single.....	25.3	24.5	32.4	19.0	18.7	21.6
Married.....	69.3	70.3	60.9	65.9	66.6	59.8
Spouse present....	66.7	68.3	53.0	62.2	63.9	48.2
Spouse absent.....	2.6	2.0	7.9	3.7	2.8	11.6
In armed forces.	--	--	--	.3	.3	.5
Separated.....	1.5	1.0	5.5	2.0	1.3	8.3
Other.....	1.1	1.0	2.4	1.3	1.1	2.9
Widowed.....	3.5	3.4	4.8	12.5	12.3	14.3
Divorced.....	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.6	2.5	4.3

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Marital Status and Family Status, March 1960, pp. 8-10 (Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 105).

Table 1.--Mobility of the civilian population, April 1958 to April 1959

Place of residence	Total	White	Nonwhite
Total population.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
In same house.....	80.3	80.8	75.8
Moved to different house in U.S....	19.2	18.6	23.8
In same county.....	13.1	12.3	19.6
In different county.....	6.1	6.4	4.2
Within state.....	3.2	3.3	2.5
In different state.....	2.9	3.1	1.7
Abroad at beginning of period.....	0.5	0.5	0.4

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Mobility of the Population of the United States, April 1958 to 1959, (Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 104).

Table 5.--Negroes in the South and in remainder of the United States,
urban and rural areas, 1960

Area	1960
United States	<u>100.0</u>
South.....	59.9
Urban.....	35.0
Rural.....	24.9
Nonfarm.....	(1)
Farm.....	(1)
Remainder of the United States.....	40.1
Urban.....	38.2
Rural.....	1.9
Nonfarm.....	(1)
Farm.....	(1)

1) Not available.

Note: Definitions of rural and urban are only roughly comparable at the two periods.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 6.--Civilian labor force participation rates,^{1/} by color, age and sex, 1960

Age and sex	White	Nonwhite
Male	80.5	79.4
14 to 19 years.....	43.6	45.0
20 to 24 years.....	87.8	90.4
25 to 34 years.....	97.7	96.2
35 to 44 years.....	97.9	95.5
45 to 54 years.....	96.1	92.3
55 to 64 years.....	87.2	82.5
65 years and over.....	33.3	31.2
Female	35.5	46.3
14 to 19 years.....	30.7	25.8
14 and 15 years.....	12.5	13.2
16 and 17 years.....	30.0	22.1
18 and 19 years.....	51.9	44.3
20 to 24 years.....	45.7	48.8
25 to 34 years.....	34.1	49.7
35 to 44 years.....	41.5	59.8
45 to 54 years.....	48.6	60.5
55 to 64 years.....	36.2	47.3
65 years and over.....	10.6	12.8

^{1/} Percent of civilian noninstitutional population in civilian labor force.

Table 7.--Employment status of the civilian population age 14 and over, by color and sex, annual averages, 1960

Employment status	White	Nonwhite
	<u>Number (in thousands)</u>	
	<u>Men</u>	
Civilian population.....	52,567	5,952
Civilian labor force.....	42,297	4,728
Employed.....	40,265	4,220
Agriculture.....	4,020	657
Nonagricultural industries.....	36,244	3,563
Unemployed.....	2,032	508
	<u>Women</u>	
Civilian population.....	57,610	6,726
Civilian labor force.....	20,471	3,116
Employed.....	19,376	2,821
Agriculture.....	768	277
Nonagricultural industries.....	18,608	2,544
Unemployed.....	1,095	295
	<u>Percent</u>	
Labor force as percent of civilian population:		
Men.....	80.5	79.4
Women.....	35.5	46.3
Unemployed as percent of labor force:		
Men.....	4.8	10.7
Women.....	5.3	9.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 8.--Unemployment by age, by color and sex, annual average, 1960
 (Number unemployed as percent of civilian labor force of the category)

Age	White	Nonwhite
Both sexes, age 14 and over.....	5.0	10.2
Male.....	4.8	10.7
14 to 17.....	12.5	19.3
18 and 19.....	13.5	25.1
20 to 24.....	8.3	13.1
25 to 34.....	4.1	10.7
35 to 44.....	3.3	8.2
45 to 64.....	3.8	8.9
65 and over.....	4.0	6.3
Female.....	5.3	9.5
14 to 17.....	12.2	20.7
18 and 19.....	11.5	24.5
20 to 24.....	7.2	15.3
25 to 34.....	5.7	9.1
35 to 44.....	4.2	8.6
45 to 64.....	3.7	5.4
65 and over.....	2.8	4.1

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

Table 9.--Persons at work in nonagricultural industries by full- or part-time status, by color and sex, annual average, 1960

(Percent distribution)

Hours worked, usual status, and sex	White	Nonwhite
<u>Men</u>		
Total at work.....	100.0	100.0
35 hours or more.....	86.2	80.0
1-34 hours.....	13.7	20.1
Usually worked full time at present job.....	7.2	10.5
Worked part time for economic reasons.....	2.0	4.3
Worked part time for other reasons.....	5.2	6.2
Usually worked part time at present job.....	6.5	9.6
Worked part time for economic reasons.....	1.3	4.9
Worked part time for other reasons.....	5.2	4.7
Average hours.....	42.7	39.2
<u>Women</u>		
Total at work.....	100.0	100.0
35 hours or more.....	70.5	62.6
1-34 hours.....	29.4	37.3
Usually worked full time at present job.....	7.7	7.7
Worked part time for economic reasons.....	1.9	2.7
Worked part time for other reasons.....	5.8	5.0
Usually worked part time at present job.....	21.7	29.6
Worked part time for economic reasons.....	2.4	10.9
Worked part time for other reasons.....	19.3	18.7
Average hours.....	35.9	33.8

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

Table 10.--Major occupation group of employed persons by color and sex, annual average, 1960

Major occupation group and sex	White	Nonwhite
	1960	1960
	<u>Number (in thousands)</u>	
Total employed men.....	40,265	4,220
Professional, technical, and kindred workers..	4,609	159
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm.....	5,842	126
Clerical and kindred workers.....	2,908	246
Sales workers.....	2,636	70
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	7,938	401
Operatives and kindred workers.....	7,633	1,019
Laborers except farm and mine.....	2,629	953
Service workers, except private household.....	2,245	627
Private household.....	30	15
Farmers and farm managers.....	2,469	201
Farm laborers and foremen.....	1,325	403
Total employed women.....	19,376	2,821
Professional, technical, and kindred workers..	2,536	170
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm.....	1,048	52
Clerical and kindred workers.....	6,367	262
Sales workers.....	1,652	43
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	207	15
Operatives and kindred workers.....	2,935	398
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	67	16
Service workers except private household.....	2,656	604
Private household workers.....	1,182	989
Farmers and farm managers.....	92	18
Farm laborers and foremen.....	633	254

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 11.--Percent distribution of employed persons by major occupation group, color, and sex, April 1961

Major occupation group and sex	White	Nonwhite
Total employed men.....	100.0	100.0
Professional, technical, and kindred workers.....	12.2	4.1
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm.....	15.3	3.0
Clerical and kindred workers.....	7.1	6.6
Sales workers.....	6.8	1.5
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	19.7	9.5
Operatives and kindred workers.....	18.1	24.1
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	5.9	20.8
Service workers, except private household.....	5.9	15.3
Private household workers1	.5
Farmers and farm managers.....	6.1	4.9
Farm laborers and foremen.....	2.8	9.7
Occupation not reported.....	--	--
Total employed women.....	100.0	100.0
Professional, technical, and kindred workers.....	13.9	5.9
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm.....	5.4	1.2
Clerical and kindred workers.....	33.5	9.5
Sales workers.....	8.3	1.3
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred workers.....	.9	.8
Operatives and kindred workers.....	14.7	14.7
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	.3	.8
Service workers, except private household.....	13.7	24.9
Private household workers.....	6.4	37.2
Farmers and farm managers.....	.6	.5
Farm laborers and foremen.....	2.3	3.1
Occupation not reported.....	--	--

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 12.--Nonwhite employment as percent of total employment in each major occupation group, by sex, April 1961

Major occupation group	Nonwhite men as percent of all men	Nonwhite women as percent of all women
Total employed	9.2	11.8
Professional, technical, and kindred workers..	3.3	5.4
Managers, officials, and proprietors, except farm	2.0	2.9
Clerical and kindred workers.....	8.6	3.7
Sales workers.....	2.1	2.1
Craftsmen, foremen and kindred workers.....	4.7	10.6
Operatives and kindred workers.....	11.9	11.9
Laborers, except farm and mine.....	26.4	1/
Service workers, except private household.....	20.8	19.6
Private household workers	1/	43.8
Farmers and farm managers.....	7.7	10.0
Farm laborers and foremen.....	26.3	15.0

1/ Figures not shown where base is less than 100,000

Table 13.--Median wage and salary incomes of white and nonwhite persons, 1959

Year	Male		Female		Nonwhite as percent of white	
	White	Nonwhite	White	Nonwhite	Male	Female
All persons with wage or salary income:						
1959.....	\$4,902	\$2,844	\$2,422	\$1,289	58.0	53.2
Year-round full-time workers with wage or salary income:						
1959.....	\$5,456	\$3,339	\$3,306	\$2,196	61.2	66.4

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.