

WHERE ARE THE POOR?

The location of the poor by degree of urbanization is sharply defined in table 1 and chart 1. About half live in metropolitan areas of 50,000 or more and about half live in smaller cities and in rural areas.

It is significant, in terms of policy design and execution, that the poor are not scattered evenly relative to the total population. The large metropolitan areas containing 64 percent of the total population comprise only 47 percent of the poor. The other 53 percent is in areas likely to be less prepared in staff and resources to carry out specialized poverty programs.

TABLE 1.—*Location of the poor in terms of population density based on March 1965 survey of 1964 annual cash incomes*

	Total population		Poor population	
	Millions	Percent	Millions	Percent
Total.....	189.9	100.0	34.3	100.0
Nonfarm.....	176.6	93.0	29.9	87.2
Inside standard metropolitan statistical areas:				
Central city.....	58.6	30.9	10.1	29.2
Outside central city.....	62.6	33.0	6.3	18.1
Outside such areas, nonfarm.....	55.4	29.1	13.5	39.9
Farm (almost entirely outside such areas).....	13.3	7.0	4.4	12.8

Source: Special tabulations by U.S. Census Bureau.