

The South, which had the highest employment also had the lowest hourly rate. Those working in the North and the West received significantly higher pay than those working in the other regions of the country. Better paying jobs were found in the larger metropolitan areas. In fact, the median pay rate for those working in non-metropolitan areas is no higher than the median pay rate for the part time employment of those who were in school.

The hourly rate tends to increase with age. There is little difference based on race or sex.

Observation: Compared with the previous study of graduates, the dropouts were working more before the Job Corps (56% to 45%), although their median hourly rate was lower (\$1.15/hr. to \$1.18/hr.) going to school more (12% to 10%) and were less unemployed (30% to 40%). These differences, however, are less significant than the changes that take place within each group between their pre-Job Corps status and their after Job Corps status. The dramatic differences that result after each group passes through the Job Corps will be discussed later in the report.

#### Pre-Job Corps Education

Overall, 7 percent had finished high school before they entered the Job Corps, and the median years of education was 8.8. This compares with a median of 10.3 years for the graduates.