

to be very much higher Negro than white unemployment—why does this situation seem to prevail? I will appreciate any figures you give us.

Secretary WIRTZ. Very well, sir.

The most recent data available are from the 1960 decennial census. According to the census, there were 824,000 waiters and waitresses employed in the United States, of whom 8 percent (66,000) were Negro. In the District of Columbia in 1960, there were 7,570 waiters and waitresses, of whom 59.6 percent (4,510) were nonwhite. There are no more current or more detailed area data available.

Representative WIDNALL. Thank you.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Congressman Moorhead.

Representative MOORHEAD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Secretary, in your statement you refer to the uncounted number of additional people who ought to be working but who are not looking for work.

Granted that you have not counted them, would you be able to estimate the size of that group?

Secretary WIRTZ. It is pretty hard, Mr. Moorhead.

The thing we are talking about is suggested—if you look at table 1 in this information that has come out today—we put in here for the first time, so far as I have seen it, the current labor force participation rate in large metropolitan areas.

The participation rate subtracted from 100 gives the proportion of the population not in the labor force (that is, neither working nor seeking work). It is hard to estimate how many of these persons not in the labor force want to and should be working. I am going to give you, though, the rule that I have been working on in my own mind, and then ask Mr. Ross if he can give us a better one.

I am assuming that there is in the society today a group which ought to be working and which is not working, which is roughly the same size as the group that we are talking about as unemployed. So I think there is about that much additional potential.

Would you like to have Mr. Ross comment?

Representative MOORHEAD. Yes.

Mr. Ross. Well, as the Secretary says, Mr. Moorhead, it is very difficult to know how many ought to be working. We know how many people are not working, we know how many of them say they would like to work—but who are not even looking.

A lot of them say they would like to work. “Why are you not looking, if you want a job?” We do have statistics which I would like to supply—I do not have them with me—the number who say they need some help with their health, the number who say they just do not have the basic training, the number who say that they have a transportation problem, they are too far from work, the number who say that they used to look but got discouraged and just gave up the search.

In the case of women, a great many say, “Well, I have young children, but I would like to work, even so.” This is true, I think, of a great number of women on relief. “I have young children, but I would need child care, and I would need some training.”

Now, the problem is—we know how many people are not working. To make a judgment how many of them ought to be working is more