

Secretary WIRTZ. I think the undercount figure, Mr. Moorhead, in the 1960 census, which bears on this same problem, was almost six million. In percentage terms, the undercount was greatest for Negro males, especially those in the 16-44 age groups.

We will supply those figures specifically. But it is in that range. And that suggests to you how difficult it is, both for us—it suggests both how difficult it is to get at this, and that it is probably a figure of significant size. Because those people just do not show up in any statistics. I think Mr. Ross feels they show up in some of ours better than they do in the census. But there is a large undercount factor there.

I make two points. First, the undercount is hard to compile specifically. Second, it is large.

The Census Bureau estimates an undercount in 1960 census of 5.8 million—2.9 percent of the estimated “true” population figure. The undercount estimate is much larger for the nonwhite population—9.7 percent for males and 7.3 percent for females. The proportion was highest for nonwhite men aged 25 to 34 (18.9 percent). The percentages undercounted were also high for nonwhite men 16-24 and 35-44 years of age—14.9 percent and 13.6 percent, respectively.

The attached table shows the extent of the population and labor force undercount in 1966. The above data are only estimates because it is difficult to get at this problem exactly, but it is clear that the problem of population undercount is large, especially for Negro men.