

Negro residents were not born there, although most have lived in the city more than 5 years.¹

Negro ghetto dwellers in the North originate chiefly from the South. The Southern distribution of Negroes by occupation for earlier decades suggests that Negro adults presently living in large cities were not overwhelmingly in agriculture.

In 1950, about one-fifth (23 percent) of Negro workers in the South were non-farm laborers and about one-fifth were farmers or farm managers (19 percent). Almost one-fifth (18 percent) were production workers (operatives or kindred) and 6 percent were craftsmen. Only 15 percent were farm laborers; 10 percent were service workers. From 1950 to 1960 the proportion of Negro farm managers and operators declined by more than half, and the ratio of farm laborers by only a little. The number working in industry in the South rose appreciably.²

Most studies of Negro migrants to cities conclude that although those migrating are lower in status than their counterparts already in the city, they are drawn from a segment that is higher in status than the general population in the place of origin.³

A study of *Hard-Core Unemployment and Poverty in Los Angeles*, issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1965 and prepared by staff of the Institute of Industrial Relations of the University of California at Los Angeles, provides information about unemployed migrants' last job before moving to California. About 15 percent of the Negro and Mexican-American men and women had been in agriculture before migrating. More than one-third had been in semi-skilled work. One-third had been in unskilled jobs outside of agriculture. The remainder had been in service work (12 percent) or skilled occupations (7 percent).

One may therefore conclude tentatively that given the distribution and change in the occupational structure among Negroes in the South, and the characteristics of migrants, a substantial number of the migrants to cities had nonfarm occupations.

A few special sample surveys have recently been made from which data may be derived later. The Federal Government's 1967 Survey of Economic Opportunity will show the origin and occupation of persons living in poverty areas, but the tabulations are not yet run.

A study of households in Detroit following last summer's riots was made under the direction of Professor Ferman of the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations at Ann Arbor. Questions about origin and previous occupations were asked and data might be obtained from this source. The study results have not yet been released.

A sample study now under way in Cleveland will provide data on the origin and characteristics of white and nonwhite migrants. This survey is being made by the Bureau of Social Science Research, Inc., located in Washington, D.C. Results will be available within the next several months.

Question 7. Given appropriate monetary and fiscal policies, what percentage of the labor force would be—

- (a) frictionally unemployed,
- (b) structurally unemployed but retrainable for employment in private industry,
- (c) structurally unemployed, retrainable, and capable of holding useful, but subsidized or government-provided employment,
- (d) employed full-time but earning less than \$3,000 a year?

Answer: There can be no precise indication of the percentage of the labor force that could be termed frictionally or structurally unemployed given appropriate monetary and fiscal policies. However, there have been some estimates that frictional unemployment—an irreducible minimum of unemployment covering normal labor turnover and seasonal fluctuations—might be reached in the range of 2 to 2.5 percent overall unemployment. Under present conditions of unemployment hovering around 3¼ percent, the balance of about 1½ percent might be termed structurally unemployed.

¹ Concluded from data on the mobility status of populations in lower-income neighborhoods of Cleveland and Los Angeles, 1960-65, and from annual reports on mobility of the population, by color. (See Census Bureau studies P-20, No. 156 and Series P-23, No. 18 and 21.)

² Table II-B-4 in *The Negroes in the United States*, BLS Bulletin No. 1511.

³ See Karl and Alma Taubers' study *Negroes in Cities*, Chicago, Aldine Publishing Company, 1965. (Chapter 6.)