

We the People: Blacks in the United States

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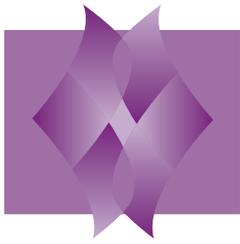
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We the People: Blacks in the United States

This report provides a portrait of the Black or African American population in the United States and discusses sex differences within this population at the national level. It is part of the Census 2000 Special Reports series that presents several demographic, social, and economic characteristics collected from Census 2000.

In Census 2000, 36.2 million people, or 12.9 percent of the total population reported that they were Black.¹ Of this number, 34.4 million people, or 12.2 percent of the total population, reported Black as their only race; and 1.9 million people, or 0.7 percent, reported Black and one or more other races.² Table 1 shows the number of people, by sex, who reported

Black as their only race and a tally of the number of times this race was reported.

Census 2000 reported on six major race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race. The category "Black or African American" refers to people having origins in any of the Black race groups of Africa. It includes people who reported Black, African American, or Negro or wrote in entries such as Afro American, Nigerian, or Haitian.

The data collected by Census 2000 on race can be divided into two broad categories: people who

reported only one race and people who reported more than 1 of the 6 major race categories. People who responded to the question on race by indicating only one race are referred to as the single-race population. For example, respondents who reported their race as Black and no other race would be included in the single-race Black population, which is identified as Black alone in tables in this report. Individuals who reported a specific race and one or more races from a different major race category are referred to as the race in-combination population. For example, respondents who reported they were White **and** Black or White **and** Black **and** Asian would be included in the Black in-combination population.³

¹ This report uses the term Black to refer to people who reported they were Black or African American.

² The data contained in this report are based on the people for whom data were collected using the Census 2000 long form. As

with all surveys, estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling variation or other factors. All comparisons made in this report have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

³ The race in-combination categories use the conjunction **and** in bold and italicized print to link the race groups that compose the combination.

Table 1.
Black Population by Sex: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

Sex	Black alone		Black alone or in combination with one or more other races	
	Number	Percent of U.S. population	Number	Percent of U.S. population
Both sexes	34,361,740	12.2	36,213,467	12.9
Male	16,284,366	5.8	17,183,425	6.1
Female	18,077,374	6.4	19,030,042	6.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

UNDERSTANDING DATA ON RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN FROM CENSUS 2000

Census 2000 incorporated the federal standards for collecting and presenting data on race and Hispanic origin issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in October 1997. The standards consider race and Hispanic origin to be two separate and distinct concepts. For Census 2000, the questions on race and Hispanic origin were asked of every individual living in the United States, and answers were based on self-identification.

Data on race have been collected since the first U.S. decennial census in 1790. The question on race on Census 2000 was different from the one on the 1990 census in several ways. For example, in 2000, respondents were asked to select one or more race categories to indicate their racial identities.* Because of the changes, the Census 2000 data on race are not directly comparable with data from the 1990 or earlier censuses. Caution must be used when interpreting changes in the racial composition of the U.S. population over time.

* A more detailed discussion of these changes is provided in Elizabeth M. Grieco and Rachel C. Cassidy, 2001, *Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Brief, C2KBR/01-1. This report is available on the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-1.pdf>.

The Census 2000 question on race included 15 separate response categories and three areas where respondents could write in a more specific race group. The response categories and write-in answers can be combined to create the five OMB race categories plus Some Other Race, as well as all combinations of two or more races. In addition to White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, and Some Other Race, 7 of the 15 response categories are Asian and 4 are Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.

Because Hispanics or Latinos may be any race, data in this report for Blacks overlap slightly with data for Hispanics. Among Blacks who reported only one race, approximately 2.0 percent were Hispanic. The question on Hispanic origin in Census 2000 was similar to the 1990 question, except for its placement on the questionnaire and a few wording changes. For Census 2000, the question on Hispanic origin was asked directly before the question on race, while in 1990, the question on race preceded questions on age and marital status, which were followed by the question on Hispanic origin. Additionally, in Census 2000, a note was included on the questionnaire asking respondents to complete both the question on Hispanic origin and the question on race.

In the text and figures of this report, population characteristics are shown for Blacks who reported only one race. This does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Table 2 summarizes characteristics for single-race Blacks, Blacks who reported two or more races, and people who reported they were Black, regardless of whether they also reported another race. Data for the Black single-race population and the

Black population, regardless of whether they reported any other races, are available in Summary File 4 on the Internet at <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf>.

Two companion reports provide more information on these concepts and populations. The Census 2000 Brief *The Black Population: 2000* analyzes population data collected from the short-form questions in Census 2000. It shows the distribution of the Black population at both the national and

subnational levels.⁴ In addition, the Census 2000 Brief *Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000* provides a complete explanation of the race categories used in Census 2000 and information on each of the six major race groups and the Hispanic-origin population at the national level.

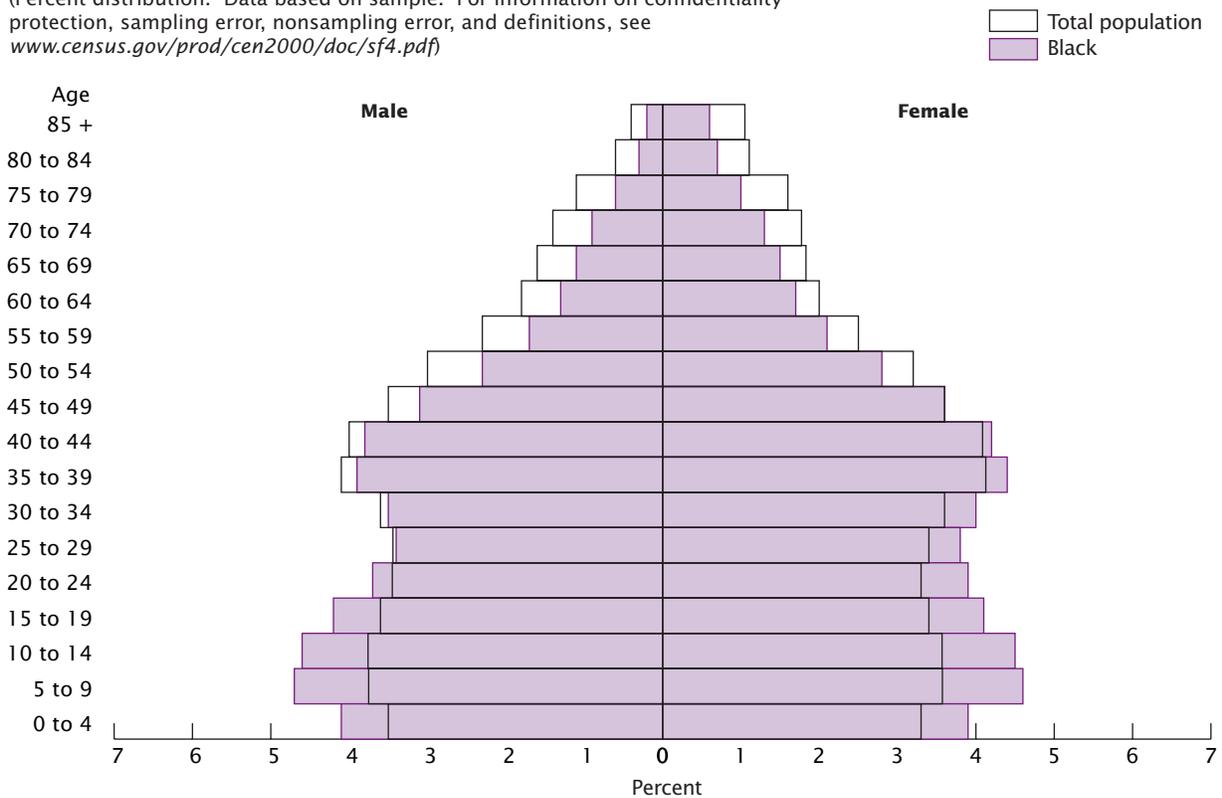
⁴ Jesse McKinnon, 2001, *The Black Population: 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Brief, C2KBR/01-5. This report is available on the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-5.pdf>.

In comparison with the total population, a higher proportion of the Black population was in the younger age groupings.

- For each of the age groups between 0 and 14 years, higher proportions of both males and females were found in the Black population than in the total population.
 - At the older ages (65 and over), women outnumbered men in both populations.
 - In the age categories 30 to 44, the proportion of Black men was lower than that of men in the total population.
- total population. In contrast, in this age range, the proportion of Black women was higher than that of women in the total population.

Figure 1.
Age and Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



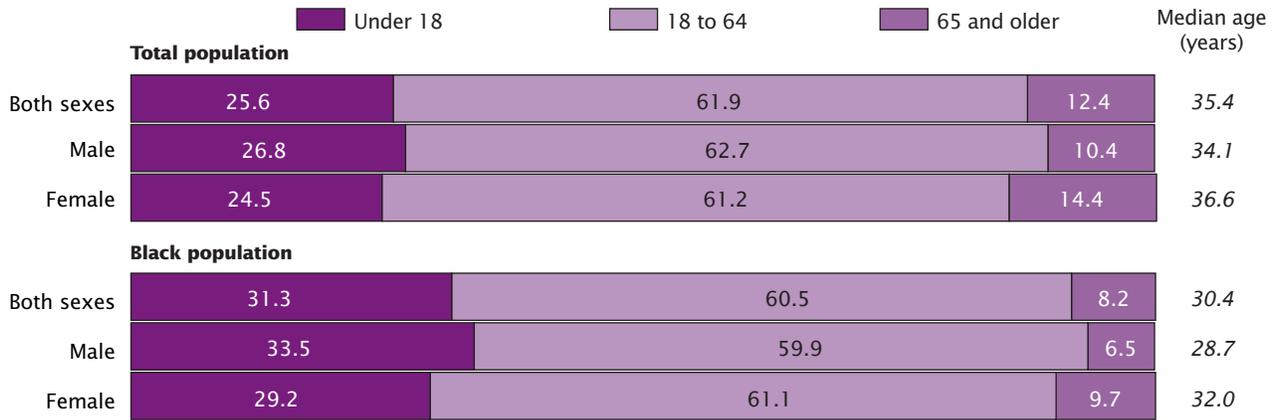
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

On average, Blacks were about 5 years younger than the total population.

- In 2000, Blacks had a median age of 30.4 years, 5 years younger than the national median of 35.4 years.
- Black males had a lower median age (28.7 years) than Black females (32.0 years).
- Black women outnumbered Black men, especially in the older age groups.
- Ten percent of the Black female population and 7 percent of the Black male population were aged 65 and over.
- The proportions of the total population in the age groups 18 to 64 and 65 and older were higher than the corresponding proportions in the Black population; for the population under 18, the proportion of Blacks (31 percent) was higher than that of the total population (26 percent).

Figure 2.
Selected Age Groups and Median Age by Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

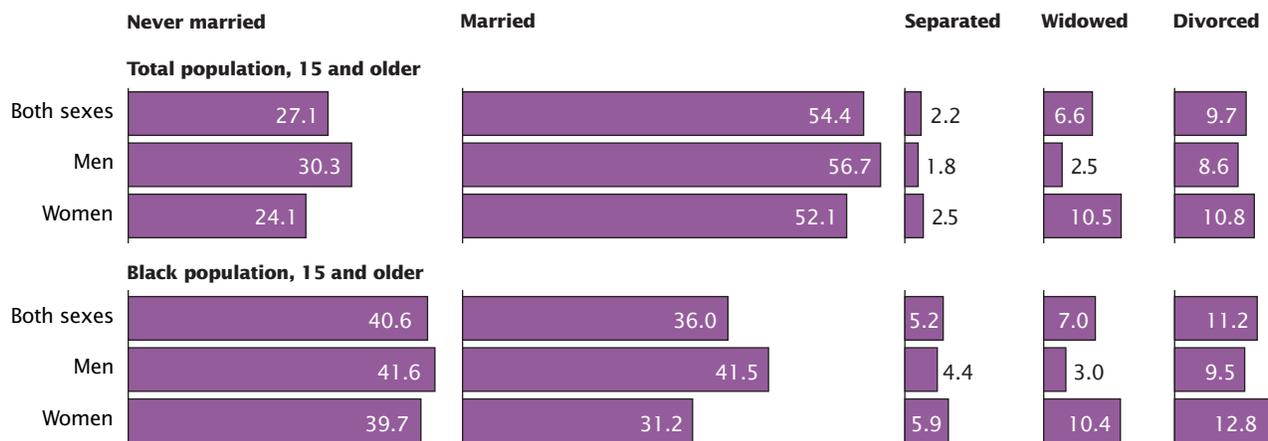
About 4 in 10 Blacks had never been married.

- While 27 percent of the U.S. population 15 and older had never been married, the corresponding percentage of Blacks was 41 percent. Thirty-six percent of Blacks were married, compared with 54 percent of the total population.
- Blacks were more likely than the total population to be separated, widowed, or divorced. Five percent of Blacks were separated; 7 percent were widowed; and 11 percent were divorced.
- At the time of the census, 42 percent of Black men were married, compared with 31 percent of Black women. In contrast, 10 percent of Black women were widowed, compared with 3 percent of Black men.

Figure 3.

Marital Status by Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution of population 15 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

The majority of Black households were family households.

- While about 68 percent of both Black and all households were family households, the type of family household differed.
- Thirty-two percent of Black households were maintained by married-couple families, compared with 53 percent of all households. The proportion of households that were family households maintained by Black women with no husband present was nearly 3 times the corresponding proportion for all households (30 percent compared with 12 percent).
- Less than 6 percent of both total households and Black households were family households maintained by men with no wife present.
- The average size of households maintained by a Black householder was 2.72 people.

Figure 4.

Household Type and Average Household Size: 2000

(Percent distribution of households. Households are classified by the race of the householder. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Blacks were more likely than the total population to be natives.

- A higher percentage of the Black population (94 percent) than the total population (89 percent) was native.
- Nearly 4 percent of Blacks and 7 percent of the total population were foreign born and not citizens.
- Similar proportions of Black males and females were foreign-born naturalized citizens (about 3 percent each).

Figure 5.

Nativity and Citizenship Status by Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



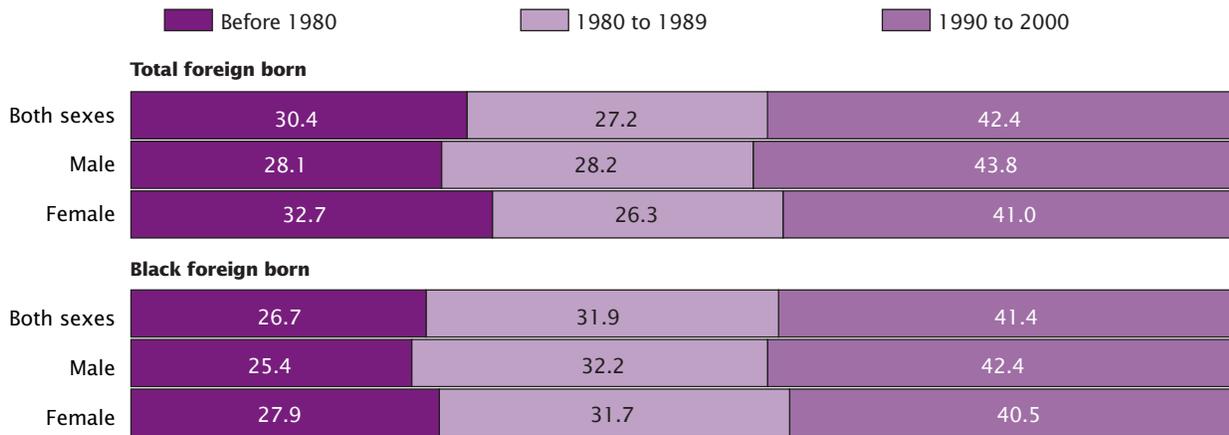
Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Forty-one percent of the foreign-born Black population arrived in the United States during the 1990s.

- Forty-one percent of foreign-born Blacks entered the United States between 1990 and 2000, close to the percentage for the total population (42 percent). Thirty-two percent of Blacks arrived between 1980 and 1989, and 27 percent before 1980. A higher proportion (73 percent) of foreign-born Blacks than the total foreign-born population (70 percent) came to the United States in the two decades before Census 2000.
- Between 1980 and 2000, a higher proportion of foreign-born Black males than foreign-born Black females entered the United States—75 percent compared with 72 percent.
- A higher proportion of the foreign-born Black population (32 percent) than the total foreign-born population (27 percent) came to the United States during the 1980–1989 decade.

Figure 6.
Foreign Born by Year of Entry and Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



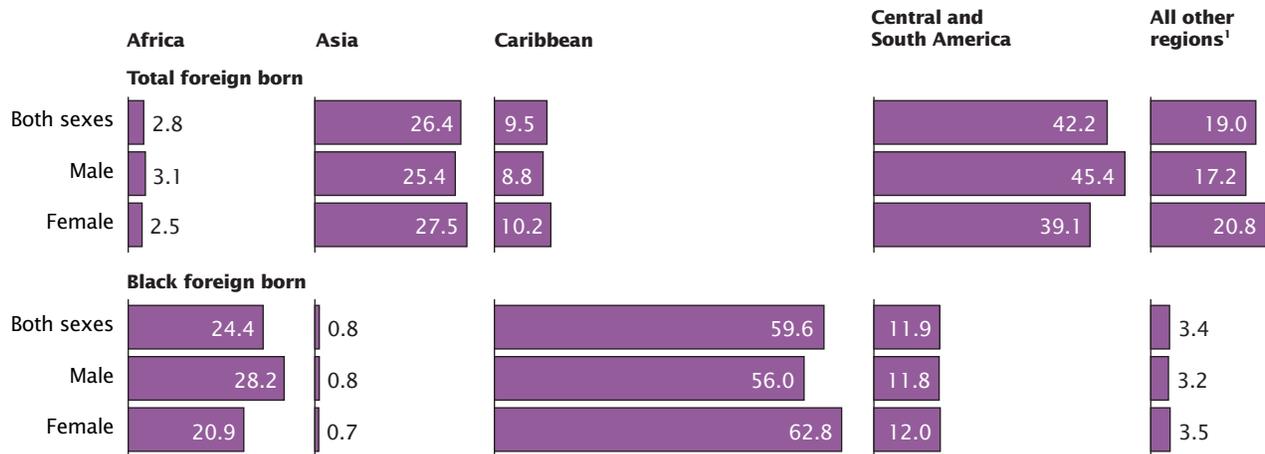
Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Over four-fifths of all foreign-born Blacks came from the Caribbean and Africa.

- In 2000, 84 percent of all foreign-born Blacks were from two regions—the Caribbean (60 percent) and Africa (24 percent), compared with 9 percent and 3 percent, respectively, of the total population.
- In contrast, 42 percent of the total foreign-born population and about 12 percent of the Black foreign-born population came from Central and South America.
- Among the foreign-born population, a higher proportion of Black males (28 percent) than Black females (21 percent) came from Africa, while a higher proportion of Black females (63 percent) than Black males (56 percent) came from the Caribbean.

Figure 7.
Foreign Born by Region of Birth: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



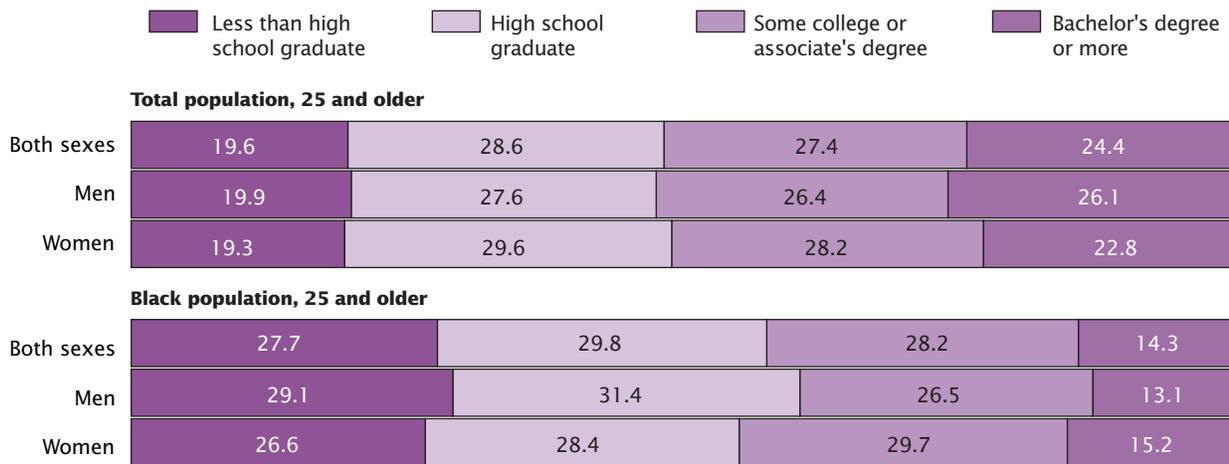
¹ All other regions includes people from Europe, Northern America, Oceania, and those born at sea.
Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Overall, Black women had higher educational attainment levels than Black men.

- In the Black population, 14 percent of individuals 25 and older had a bachelor's degree or more education, compared with 24 percent of the total U.S. population. A slightly larger proportion of Black individuals than of the total population had some college experience or an associate's degree (28 percent compared with 27 percent).
- The educational attainment levels among Blacks varied by sex. About 15 percent of Black women had earned at least a bachelor's degree, higher than the 13 percent of Black men.
- The proportion of Black men (13 percent) with a bachelor's degree was one-half that of men in the total population (26 percent). The proportion of Black women (15 percent) with a bachelor's degree was two-thirds that of women in the total population (23 percent).

Figure 8.
Educational Attainment by Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution of population 25 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Black men and women had similar labor force participation rates.

- In 2000, 60 percent of Blacks and 64 percent of the total population 16 and older were in the labor force.
- A higher percentage of Black women (60 percent) than of all women (58 percent) was in the labor force.
- The percentage of Black men in the labor force was about 10 percentage points lower than for all men, 61 percent compared with 71 percent.

Figure 9.

Labor Force Participation Rate by Sex: 2000

(Percent of specified population 16 and older that is in the labor force. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

A higher proportion of Black women than Black men was in managerial and professional occupations.

- Blacks were represented in all occupations but were more likely than the total civilian employed population to hold jobs in the service and production, transportation, and material moving occupations. Twenty-two percent of all Blacks and 15 percent of all workers were in service jobs. Nineteen percent of Blacks were in production, transportation, and material moving jobs, compared with 15 percent of all workers. These proportions varied by sex.
 - Twenty-five percent of Blacks and 34 percent of all workers were in management, professional, and related occupations.
 - Approximately 27 percent of both Blacks and all workers were in sales and office occupations.
- In 2000, a higher proportion of Black women (30 percent) than Black men (20 percent) was in management, professional, and related occupations. A higher proportion of Black men (28 percent) than Black women (10 percent) was in production, transportation, and material moving jobs. The highest concentrations of employed Black men were in these two occupation groups.

Figure 10.
Occupation by Sex: 2000

(Percent distribution of employed civilian population 16 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/docs/sf4.pdf)



Note: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Black men who worked year-round, full-time earned more than comparable Black women.

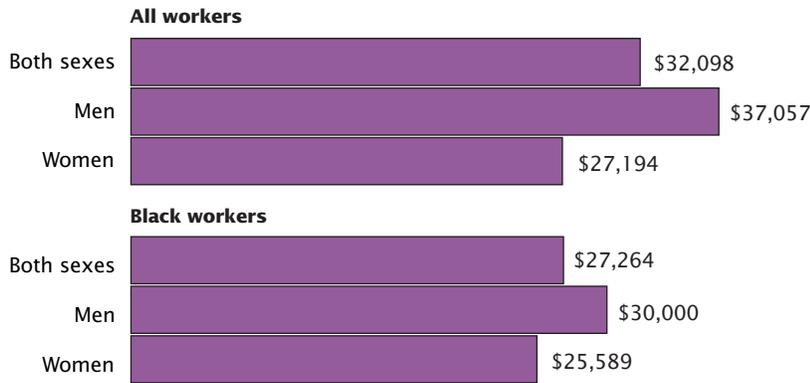
- In 1999, the median earnings of Blacks 16 and older who worked year-round, full-time were \$27,300, about \$85 for every \$100 earned by all workers.

- The median earnings of Black men were \$30,000, compared with \$37,100 for all men. Black women’s earnings were \$25,600, compared with \$27,200 for all women.
- The earnings of Black male and female workers were more comparable than those of all male and female workers. Black women who worked year-round, full-time earned \$85 for every \$100 earned by comparable Black men; in contrast, all women earned \$73 for every \$100 earned by all men.
- The median earnings of Black women who worked year-round, full-time approached parity with their counterparts in the total population in 1999.

Figure 11.

Median Earnings by Sex: 1999

(For employed, full-time, year-round workers 16 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

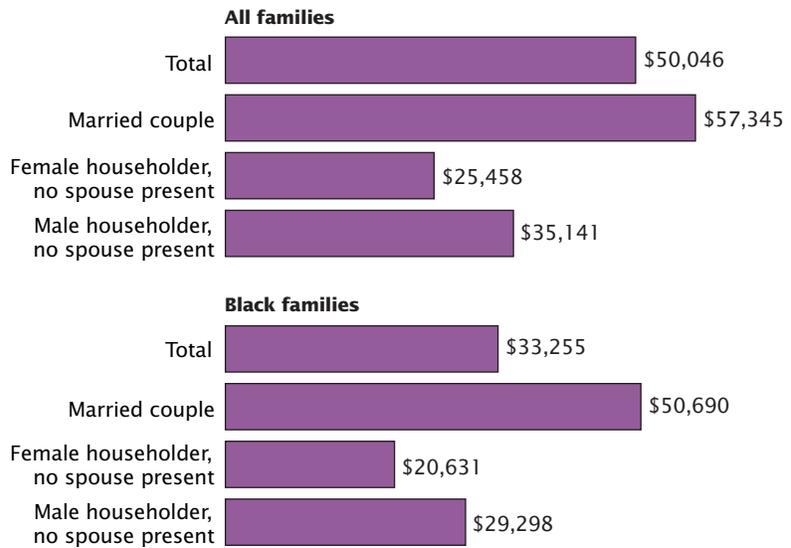
The median income for Black married-couple families was the highest of all Black family types.

- The median income of Black families (\$33,300) was lower than that of all families (\$50,000).
- Black married-couple families had an annual median income of \$50,700, more than double the median income of Black families maintained by women with no husband present and 73 percent higher than the median income of Black families maintained by men with no wife present.
- In 1999, the median income for Black married-couple families (\$50,700) was nearly \$7,000 less than the median income for all married-couple families (\$57,300).

Figure 12.

Median Family Income by Family Type: 1999

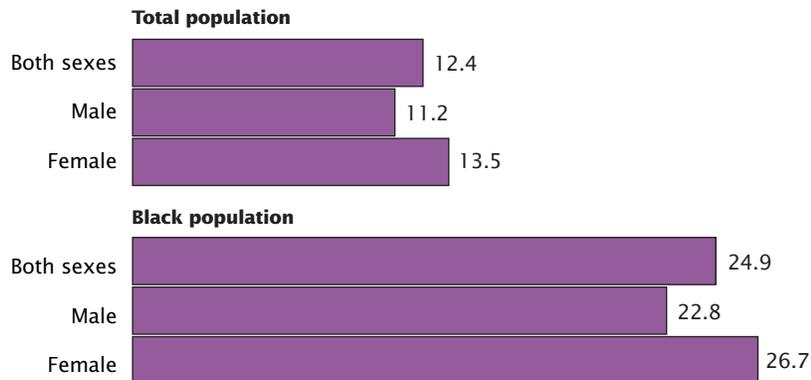
(Families classified by race of householder. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Figure 13.
Poverty Rates: 1999

(Percent in poverty. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



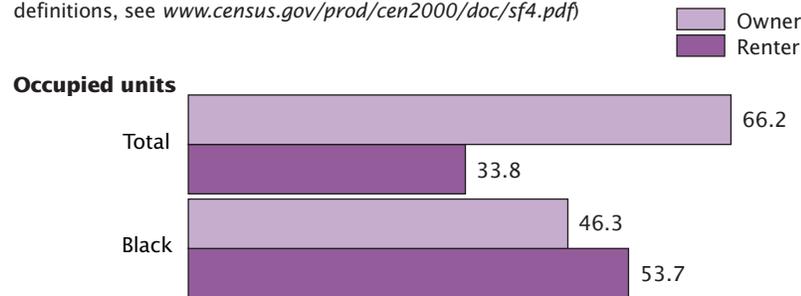
Note: Poverty status was determined for everyone except those in institutions, military group quarters, or college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

A lower proportion of Black men was in poverty than Black women.

- The percentage of Blacks in poverty (25 percent) was twice that of the total population (12 percent).
- Twenty-three percent of the Black male population and 11 percent of all males lived below the poverty thresholds in 1999.
- A higher proportion of the Black female population than the total female population was in poverty in 1999: 27 percent compared with 14 percent.

Figure 14.
Housing Tenure: 2000

(Percent distribution of occupied housing units. Black occupied units are based on the race of the householder. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.

Nearly half of Black occupied housing units were owner occupied.

- In 2000, 54 percent of housing units occupied by Black householders were rental units, compared with 34 percent of all occupied housing units.

ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

The data contained in this report are based on people in the sample of households that responded to the Census 2000 long form. Nationally, approximately 1 out of every 6 housing units was included in this sample. As a result, the sample estimates may differ somewhat from the 100-percent figures that would have been obtained if all housing units, people within those housing units, and people living in group quarters had been enumerated using the same questionnaires, instructions, enumerators, and so forth. The sample estimates also differ from the values that would have been obtained from different samples of housing units, and hence of people living in those housing units, and people living in group quarters. The deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples is called the sampling error.

In addition to the variability that arises from sampling, both sample data and 100-percent data are subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the various complex operations used to collect and process data. Such errors may include: not enumerating every household or every person in the population universe, failing to obtain all required information from the respondents, obtaining incorrect or inconsistent information, and recording information incorrectly. In addition, errors can occur during the field review of the enumerators' work, during clerical handling of the census questionnaires, or during the electronic processing of the questionnaires.

While it is impossible to completely eliminate error from an operation as large and complex as the decennial census, the Census Bureau attempts to control the sources of such error during the data collection and processing operations. The primary sources of error and the programs instituted to control error in Census 2000 are described in detail in *Summary File 4 Technical Documentation* under Chapter 8, "Accuracy of the Data," located at <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf>.

Nonsampling error may affect the data in two ways: first, errors that are introduced randomly will increase the variability of the data and, therefore, should be reflected in the standard errors; and second, errors that tend to be consistent in one direction will bias both sample and 100-percent data in that direction. For example, if respondents consistently tend to underreport their incomes, then the resulting estimates of households or families by income category will tend to be understated for the higher-income categories and overstated for the lower-income categories. Such biases are not reflected in the standard errors.

All statements in this Census 2000 Special Report have undergone statistical testing, and all comparisons are significant at the 90-percent confidence level, unless otherwise noted. The estimates in the figures and tables may vary from actual values due to sampling and nonsampling errors. As a result, the estimates used to summarize statistics for one population group may not be statistically different from estimates for another population group. Further information on

the accuracy of the data is located at <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf>. For further information on the computation and use of standard errors, contact the Decennial Statistical Studies Division at 301-763-4242.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Census 2000 Summary File 3 and Summary File 4 data are available from American FactFinder on the Census Bureau's Web site <factfinder.census.gov>. For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, sampling error, and definitions, also see <www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf> or contact the Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636).

Information on population and housing topics is presented in the Census 2000 Brief series and the Census 2000 Special Report series, located on the Census Bureau's Web site at <www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html>. These series present information on race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and social, economic, and housing characteristics, such as ancestry, income, and housing costs.

For more information on race in the United States, visit the U.S. Census Bureau's Internet site at <www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race.html>.

To find information about other data products, including reports, CD-ROMs, and DVDs, call the Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636).

Table 2.

Selected Characteristics of the Black Population—Alone, in Combination With Non-Black Races, and Total: 2000

(Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

Characteristic	Number			Percent		
	Alone	In combination	Total	Alone	In combination	Total
Total Black	34,361,740	1,851,727	36,213,467	100.0	100.0	100.0
AGE						
Under 18 years	10,750,131	984,635	11,734,766	31.3	53.2	32.4
18 to 64 years	20,796,550	807,204	21,603,754	60.5	43.6	59.7
65 years and over	2,815,059	59,888	2,874,947	8.2	3.2	7.9
Median age (years)	30.4	16.3	29.7	(X)	(X)	(X)
MARITAL STATUS						
Population 15 years and over	25,317,533	971,741	26,289,274	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never married	10,275,071	460,636	10,735,707	40.6	47.4	40.8
Married	9,103,511	334,956	9,438,467	36.0	34.5	35.9
Separated	1,322,824	42,023	1,364,847	5.2	4.3	5.2
Widowed	1,768,666	37,638	1,806,304	7.0	3.9	6.9
Divorced	2,847,461	96,488	2,943,949	11.2	9.9	11.2
HOUSEHOLD TYPE						
Households with a Black householder	12,023,966	410,560	12,434,526	100.0	100.0	100.0
Family households	8,209,432	276,968	8,486,400	68.3	67.5	68.2
Married couple	3,859,545	140,542	4,000,087	32.1	34.2	32.2
Male householder, no spouse present	685,229	29,408	714,637	5.7	7.2	5.7
Female householder, no spouse present	3,664,658	107,018	3,771,676	30.5	26.1	30.3
Nonfamily households	3,814,534	133,592	3,948,126	31.7	32.5	31.8
NATIVITY AND CITIZENSHIP						
Total population	34,361,740	1,851,727	36,213,467	100.0	100.0	100.0
Native	32,261,875	1,530,326	33,792,201	93.9	82.6	93.3
Foreign born	2,099,865	321,401	2,421,266	6.1	17.4	6.7
Naturalized	934,367	123,883	1,058,250	2.7	6.7	2.9
Not a citizen	1,165,498	197,518	1,363,016	3.4	10.7	3.8
FOREIGN BORN BY YEAR OF ENTRY						
Foreign-born population	2,099,865	321,401	2,421,266	100.0	100.0	100.0
Before 1980	560,992	69,802	630,794	26.7	21.7	26.1
1980 to 1989	670,039	100,707	770,746	31.9	31.3	31.8
1990 to 2000	868,834	150,892	1,019,726	41.4	46.9	42.1
FOREIGN BORN BY REGION OF BIRTH						
Total	2,099,865	321,401	2,421,266	100.0	100.0	100.0
Africa	512,628	58,393	571,021	24.4	18.2	23.6
Asia	16,067	15,958	32,025	0.8	5.0	1.3
Caribbean	1,250,611	170,382	1,420,993	59.6	53.0	58.7
Central and South America	249,909	62,640	312,549	11.9	19.5	12.9
All other regions (Europe, North America, Oceania, and born at sea)	70,650	14,028	84,678	3.4	4.4	3.5
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						
Population 25 years and over	19,858,095	659,271	20,517,366	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than high school graduate	5,507,694	150,870	5,658,564	27.7	22.9	27.6
High school graduate	5,909,783	157,292	6,067,075	29.8	23.9	29.6
Some college or associate's degree	5,609,349	215,291	5,824,640	28.2	32.7	28.4
Bachelor's degree or more	2,831,269	135,818	2,967,087	14.3	20.6	14.5
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION						
Population 16 years and over	24,744,502	935,816	25,680,318	100.0	100.0	100.0
In civilian labor force	14,905,895	720,383	15,626,278	60.2	77.0	60.8
OCCUPATION						
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	13,001,795	545,678	13,547,473	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations	3,281,151	147,519	3,428,670	25.2	27.0	25.3
Service occupations	2,861,041	123,631	2,984,672	22.0	22.7	22.0
Sales and office occupations	3,544,677	157,655	3,702,332	27.3	28.9	27.3
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	48,995	2,526	51,521	0.4	0.5	0.4
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	849,144	37,377	886,521	6.5	6.8	6.5
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	2,416,787	76,970	2,493,757	18.6	14.1	18.4
EARNINGS AND INCOME (in 1999)						
Median earnings (dollars) for both sexes ¹	27,264	27,353	27,267	(X)	(X)	(X)
Median income (dollars) for families	33,255	35,309	33,323	(X)	(X)	(X)
POVERTY (in 1999)						
Individuals for whom poverty status was determined²	32,714,224	1,791,734	34,505,958	100.0	100.0	100.0
Individuals below the poverty level	8,146,146	389,031	8,535,177	24.9	21.7	24.7
HOUSING TENURE						
Occupied housing units	11,977,309	405,535	12,382,844	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owner occupied	5,549,286	146,907	5,696,193	46.3	36.2	46.0
Renter occupied	6,428,023	258,628	6,686,651	53.7	63.8	54.0

(X) Not applicable.

¹Based on full-time, year-round workers.

²Poverty status was determined for everyone except individuals in institutions, military group quarters, or college dormitories, and individuals under age 15 unrelated to the householder.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 4.