MEMORANDUM FOR Michelle Cavataio
The President's Initiative on Race

From: Courtland Cox
Lee Price
Department of Commerce

Date: September 4, 1997

Subject: Information on the Social and Economic Status of Racial and Ethnic Populations of the United States

In response to your request for information on race in the United States, we have gathered data from Department of Commerce sources covering the following areas: demographic, economic status including wealth and assistance program information, poverty, health insurance status, civic behavior and attitudes, kinship relationships, and housing and residential patterns. The information in this package is a preliminary overview. The Census Bureau has hundreds of publications with separate information on racial and ethnic groups as part of larger tables, including annual reports on the state of Black Americans and Hispanic Americans. Please get back to us on specific issues for which you would like additional information.

Following are brief descriptions of our findings in each area; more detailed summaries follow this memo. We also have included the supporting data from which these findings were drawn.

A. Demographic Data. Generally speaking, the ethnic diversity of the U.S. population is increasing because the minority racial and ethnic groups are growing faster than the majority population. Rapid population growth is due to a combination of generally higher birth rates and in some cases higher immigration rates. Infant mortality rates (deaths/1,000 live births) vary significantly by race: Whites 7.1; Blacks 16.6; American Indians 11.3; Asian and Pacific Islanders 5.8; Hispanics 7.1; and White non-Hispanics 7.0. Information on recent immigrants should be obtained from the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The minority racial and ethnic groups including the foreign-born are more likely to be concentrated in selected states and are also more likely to live in urban areas, with the exception of American Indians, particularly in the central cities.

B. Economic Status. The minority racial and ethnic groups and the foreign-born have, for the most part, lower income and higher poverty rates than the majority population. Similarly, they have less wealth and tend to be more likely to receive government assistance than the majority population.

In 1995, median household income was $40,604 for Asian and Pacific Islanders, $35,766 for Whites, $22,860 for Hispanic households, and $22,393 for Blacks. There was similar disparity in per capita income between these racial groups.

C. Poverty. There is marked disparity in the poverty rate across racial groups. For Whites, the poverty rate in 1995 was 11.2% compared with 14.6% for Asians and Pacific Islanders, 29.3% for Blacks, and 30.3% for Hispanics.

This disparity is particularly pointed with regard to children: for White children, the rate in 1995 was 16.2% compared with 41.9% of Black children, 40% for children of Hispanic origin (who may be of any race), and 19.5% for Asian and Pacific Islander.

D. Health Insurance. Hispanics and Blacks generally are less likely to have access to health insurance than Whites, but poor Whites also do not have good access to health insurance.

E. Civic Behavior and Attitudes.

Political Behavior: Voting. Generally speaking, voter turn-out increases with age. Hispanics and Blacks are less likely to vote than are Whites.

Social Behavior: Computer Use. Hispanics and Blacks generally are less likely to have access to, or own, computers than Whites. The Census Bureau collects data on computers as a tool in education and work environments. These data focus on access to -- not attitudes about -- computers.

F. Kinship Relationships.

Two parent versus single parent: Black and Hispanic families with children under 18 years of age are more likely to be single-parent families and less likely to be married couple households than comparable White families.

Female-headed households: Black, and to a lesser extent Hispanic, households are more likely to be maintained by a woman alone than are White households.

G. Housing and Residential Patterns.

Home ownership: The minority racial and ethnic groups are less likely to own their home than the majority group. The home ownership rate among naturalized citizens, however, is about the same as for native-born citizens, but much lower for non-citizens.

Residential Stability: Black and Hispanic households are more likely to have moved recently than are White households.

Quality of Housing: The quality of housing, in general, for Black and Hispanic households is lower than for White households.

H. Other Racial/Ethnic Data from non-Census Bureau sources: 1. The Federal Reserve Board's Survey of Consumer Finances. Wealth data by race -- a comprehensive survey that includes a complete breakdown by asset and liability type; 2. Mel Oliver and Tom Shapiro's book, "Black Wealth/White Wealth", published by Rutledge, 1997; 3. "Top Heavy", by Dr. Ed Wolff. Includes some racial breakdowns for home ownership. Dr. Wolff also can be reached directly at New York University's Department of Economics; 4. "State of Working America", a biennial publication of the Economic Policy Institute that includes tables by race, income, wages, employment, and poverty.

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DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

The Bureau of the Census collects data on race and ethnicity in compliance with Statistical Policy Directive No.15, issued by the Office of Management and Budget. Directive No.15 requires the collection of information on at least four race groups--White, Black, Asian and Pacific Islander, American Indian and Alaska Native -- and one ethnic group-- Spanish/Hispanic origin. We provided a vast amount of data to Federal and state agencies for implementing programs, policies, and legislation relating to redistricting, affirmative action and voting rights.

The Census Bureau has traditionally treated race and ethnicity as two separate concepts. This approach has provided the most complete set of data to meet a wide diversity of data needs. The Bureau does recognize, however, that concepts are not mutually exclusive and do overlap. The race question is used to divide the population into the following categories--White, Black, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian and Pacific Islander, and “Other race.” The Hispanic origin and ancestry questions, considered as the primary "ethnic" inquiries, provide information on groups with Spanish/Hispanic ancestry and on an extensive array of groups such as English, Polish, Lebanese, and Jamaican, respectively.

The Census Bureau collects race and ethnic data using three questions -- the race and Hispanic origin questions appeared on both the short and long forms of the 1990 census and provided information needed by Federal and state governments for very small geographic areas, for example, city blocks. The 1990 census long form included an ancestry question. The responses to the ancestry question have been weighted to reflect national totals, which gives us a portrait of the many ethnic groups in our country.

A. Racial and Ethnic Composition of the U.S. Population:

In 1990, about 250 million persons were counted, of those 12.1 percent were Black; 0.8 percent American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut; 2.9 percent Asian and Pacific Islander; 3.9 percent “Other race;” and 80.3 percent White. Persons of Hispanic origin, may be of any race. They made 9.0 percent of the total population. Non-Hispanic White were 75.6 percent of the total population.

Based on *estimates* produced by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, in 1997 the U.S. population was 12.7 percent Black; 0.9 percent American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut; 3.7 percent Asian and Pacific Islander; and 82.8 percent were White. Persons of Hispanic origin were 10.8 percent of the population, and non-Hispanic White made up 72.9 percent of the population.

Foreign-born persons were 7.9 percent of the total U.S. population in 1990. About 40 percent of the foreign-born were naturalized U.S. citizens and about 60 percent were not. In 1990, the 10 top countries of birth for the foreign-born population were Mexico, Philippines, Canada, Cuba, Germany, United Kingdom, Italy, Korea, Vietnam, and China.

Sources:

U. S. Bureau of the Census, General Population Characteristics: United States (1990 CP-1-1), pp. 3, Table 3, (table attached).

U. S. Bureau of the Census, U. S. Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 1996, (1990 PPL-57 Rev.), pp. 29, Table 3

U. S. Bureau of the Census, The Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 1990 (1990 CPH-L-98), pp. 100, Table 16

B. Geographic Distribution of Racial and Ethnic Groups:

Among the most important and immediately visible of the trends reflected in both the 1990 and 1980 censuses has been the increasing racial and ethnic diversity of the nation's population. This diversity is due in part to younger age structures and higher fertility rates, but most strikingly to increased immigration of Asian and Pacific Islanders and Hispanics.

Blacks:

In both 1990 and 1994, the top ten states with the largest number of Blacks were New York, California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina, Louisiana, Michigan, and Maryland. In 1990, nearly 58 percent of Blacks lived in large cities (central places), 21 percent in the suburbs (urban fringe), 9 percent in smaller urban areas, and 13 percent in rural areas.

American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut:

In both 1990 and 1994, the top ten states with the most American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts were California, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Washington, Alaska, North Carolina, Texas, New York, and Michigan. In 1990, 24 percent lived in large cities, 15 percent in the suburbs, 17 percent in smaller urban areas, and 44 percent in rural areas.

Asian and Pacific Islanders:

In both 1990 and 1994, the top ten states with the most Asian and Pacific Islanders were California, New York, Hawaii, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Washington, Florida, Virginia, and Massachusetts. In 1990, 47 percent lived in large cities, 42 percent in the suburbs, 6 percent in smaller urban areas, and 5 percent in rural areas.

Hispanics:

In both 1990 and 1994, the top ten states with the most Hispanics were California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Massachusetts. In 1990, 52 percent of Hispanics lived in large cities, 30 percent in the suburbs, 9 percent in smaller urban areas, and 9 percent in rural areas.

Sources:

U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census Profile, Race and Hispanic Origin, Number 2 - June 1991.

The racial and ethnic groups are concentrated regionally— the majority of the Black population continue to reside in the South, while the majority of the American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Hispanic populations are concentrated within the West region. The West region is the most racially diverse of all regions.

All of the major race and ethnic groups meet in substantial numbers in California, Texas, Florida, New York, New Jersey, and Illinois. American Indians combine with Blacks in Oklahoma and with Hispanics in Arizona and New Mexico to create a distinct diversity. Asian and Pacific islanders give Hawaii, and American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts give Alaska a bi-racial comparable to that of Blacks and Whites in several Southern and industrial Midwestern states.

Source:

Racial and Ethnic Diversity, in **State of the Union: America in the 1990s**, Volume 2: Social Trends, pages 141-210.

Foreign-born:

The ten states with the most foreign-born in 1990 were California, New York, Florida, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Washington. About 50 percent of the foreign born lived in large cities, 39 percent in the suburbs, 5 percent in smaller urban areas, and 6 percent in rural areas.

Sources:

U. S. Bureau of the Census, The Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 1990 (1990 CPH-L-98), pp. 15, Table 10.

C. Components of Change:

Births: Based on estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, the birth rate of the Hispanic population was 24.4 births per 1,000 population, compared with 18.1 for Blacks, 16.5 for American Indians, Eskimo, and Aleuts, 16.8 for Asian and Pacific Islanders, and 12.4 for non-Hispanic Whites. Blacks had 15.7 percent of the births, American Indians, Eskimo and Aleuts had 1.0 percent, Asian and Pacific Islander had 4.3 percent, Hispanics had 17.9 percent, and non-Hispanic Whites 79.0 percent.

Net international migration: The rate for Asian and Pacific Islanders was 21.8 per 1,000 population compared with 13.9 for Hispanics, 3.1 for Blacks, and 0.7 for non-Hispanic Whites.

Deaths: The rate for non-Hispanic Whites was 9.9 per 1,000 population compared with 8.6 for Blacks, 4.2 for American Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts, 3.7 for Hispanics, and 2.9 for Asian and Pacific Islanders.

Source:

U. S. Bureau of the Census, U. S. Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 1996, (1990 PPL-57 Rev.), pp. 29, Table 3.

D. Population Projections:

The non-Hispanic White share of the U.S. population is projected to fall steadily from 74 percent in 1995 to 72 percent in 2000, and to 64 percent in 2020.

The race-ethnic groups with the highest rates of increase would be the Hispanic and Asian and Pacific Islander populations with annual growth rates exceeding 2 percent per year through 2030.

According to the middle series projections the Black population may be nearly 35.5 million by 2000 and 45.1 million by 2020. The American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut population may reach 2.4 million in 2000 and 3.1 million by 2020. The Asian and Pacific Islander population may number 11.2 million by 2000 and 19.7 million by 2020. The Hispanic population may reach 31.4 by 2000 and 52.7 million by 2020. The non-Hispanic White population may reach 197.1 million by 2000 and 207.4 by 2020. The middle series projections assume that 820,000 net immigrants will be added to population each year.

Source:

U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey: Population Projections of the United States by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1995 to 2050, (P-25-1130), pp. 13, J; pp.1; pp. 12, I; pp. 2, A.

1. Economic status

c. Wealth/credit

Wealth

In 1993, households with White householders had a median measured net worth of $45,740, while households with Black householders had a median measured net worth of $4,418, and households with Hispanic-origin householders had a median measured net worth of $4,656, which was not significantly different from that of Black households.

Data Source: Eller, T. J. and Fraser, W. 1995. "Asset Ownership of Householders: 1993" Current Population Reports, Household Economic Studies, Series P70-47, Bureau of the Census.

AFDC/food stamps/other forms of assistance

In 1993, over one-third of Blacks (35.5 percent) participated in major means-tested assistance programs, compared with 10.6 percent of Whites. The proportion of Hispanics receiving this assistance was 28.9 percent.

The proportion of Blacks participating in AFDC or General Assistance in 1993 was 16.4 percent, significantly higher than the proportions of 3.2 percent and 10.9 percent for Whites and Hispanics, respectively.

Likewise, Blacks were more likely to receive food stamps than Whites in 1993. About a quarter (25.4 percent) of Blacks received food stamps, compared with only 6.2 percent of Whites. The corresponding proportion for Hispanics was 18.9 percent.

Data Source: Tin, Jan. 1995. "Dynamics of Economic Well-Being: Program Participation, 1992-1993, Who Gets Assistance," Current Population Reports, Household Economic Studies, Series P70-58, Bureau of the Census.

POVERTY

In 1995, 13.8 percent of the population was poor, a rate that was significantly lower than the 14.5 percent poverty rate in 1994." [a]

"Even though the poverty rate for Whites (11.2 percent) was lower than that of any other racial or ethnic group, the majority of the poor in 1995 were White (67 percent)." [a]

"Between 1994 and 1995, the poverty rate decreased significantly for Whites and Blacks. There was no significant change for people of Hispanic origin or Asians and Pacific Islanders." [a]

- The poverty rate for Whites decreased by 0.5 percentage points, from 11.7 percent in 1994 to 11.2 percent in 1995.[a]
- The poverty rate for Blacks decreased by 1.3 percentage points, from 30.6 in 1994 to 29.3 in 1995.[a]
- The poverty rate for Asians and Pacific Islanders was 14.6 percent in 1995, showing no change from 1994.
- The poverty rate for persons of Hispanic origin (who may be of any race) was 30.3 percent in 1995, showing no significant change from 1994. [a]

The poverty rate for foreign-born persons was 22.2 percent in 1995, while for natives it was 13.0 percent. ("Natives" are defined as people born in the U.S., Puerto Rico, or an outlying area of the U.S., and those born in a foreign country who had at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.) The 24.5 million foreign-born individuals represented only 9 percent of the total population but comprised 15 percent of the poor. [a]

The overall poverty rate for children in 1995 was 20.8 percent. [b]

- For White children, it was 16.2 percent.
- For Black children, it was 41.9 percent.
- For Asian and Pacific Islander children, it was 19.5 percent. [c]
- For children of Hispanic origin (who may be of any race), it was 40.0 percent.

INCOME BY RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN BY FAMILY TYPE

Black married couple families are doing much better in terms of their median family incomes relative to Whites than are similar families of Hispanic origin, or families with a female householder, no spouse present. The median family income of black married couple families is 87% that of similar white households, while the median family income of Hispanic married couple families is but 63%. For families headed by a female householder, no spouse present, the comparison to similar White families shows much less of a difference between Blacks and Hispanics, at 68 and 61 percent, respectively (note: this has not been tested statistically). [See Table 4.]

INCOME INEQUALITY BY RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN

The incomes of Black and Hispanic origin households are more unequally distributed within their racial/ethnic group than those for White households. One measure of income inequality, the Gini coefficient, shows that the incomes of Black households were the most unequally distributed -- at 0.468 in 1995 (the index ranges from 0 to 1), with Hispanics close though 3% lower (0.455) and Whites 6% lower (0.422). [Table B-3.]

INCOME DEFICIT BY RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN

The income deficit for families in poverty (the difference in dollars between a family's income and its poverty threshold) averaged $6,038 in 1995. This amounts to a deficit per family member of $1,654. For Whites, the family deficit was $5,650 or $1,593 per family member; for Blacks, $6,852 or $1,794 per family member, and for Hispanics, $6,468 or $1,500 per family member.

For unrelated individuals, the average income deficit was $3,762 in 1995. For Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics, this was $3,674, $3,814, and $4,329, respectively.

POVERTY AREAS

In 1989, of all persons for whom poverty status is determined, 21.5 percent lived in census tracts with poverty rates of 20 percent or more. The corresponding figures for Whites, Blacks, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and persons of Hispanic origin (who may be of any race) are 14.9 percent, 55.2 percent, 18.8 percent, and 45.2 percent, respectively.[e]

SOURCES

a. Baugher, Eleanor and Leatha Lamison-White, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P60-194, *Poverty in the United States:1995*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1996.

b. Ibid., Table 2

c. Ibid., Table C-2

d. Bennefield, Robert L., U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P60-195, *Health Insurance Coverage: 1995*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1996.

e. Census of Population and Housing, 1990: Summary Tape File (SSTF) 17 on CD-ROM, Poverty Areas of the United States [machine-readable data files] / prepared by the Bureau of the Census. -- Washington: The Bureau [producer and distributor], 1994.
Percentages calculated using poverty universes from: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of Population, CP-2-1, *Social and Economic Characteristics: United States.* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1993. Table 49.

VOTER TURNOUT

Regardless of race or Spanish Origin, voter turnout peaks around age 65. Voter turnout can be significantly influenced by the proportion of the population who are not US citizens, reaching a high of 40 percent for Hispanics. Taking this into consideration, overall turnout in the 1992 election for the population of voting was highest for Whites (67 percent), followed by Blacks (57 percent) and then Hispanics (48 percent). Voter turnout for young persons was reported by less than 4 out of every 10 persons 18 to 20 years old.

Source: "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1992" CPR P20-466, table 2.

Computer Access and Use of People 18 Years and Older by Race and Ethnicity (1993)

Access at Home

- White adults (26.9 percent) were more likely to have a computer at home than were Black adults (13.8 percent).
- Hispanic adults were less likely to have a computer at home than non-Hispanic adults (12.9 vs. 26.7 percent).

Computer Use at Home, School, or Work

- Whites adults (37.5 percent) were more likely than Black adults (25.0) to use a computer in the home, school, or workplace.
- Hispanic adults (22.0 percent) were less likely to use a computer anywhere than non-Hispanic adults (37.2).

TWO-PARENT VS. SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLDS

About one-half of the 70 million family households in the United States in 1996 had children under 18 present. Over one-quarter of these families with children under 18 were single-parent households. For White families with children under 18, 78 percent were married couples and 22 percent were single parents, compared to 41 percent and 59 percent for Black families and 67 percent and 33 percent for Hispanic families, respectively.

Source: "Household and Family Characteristics: March 1996 (Update)" CPR P20-495, table 1.

FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

There were 54 million married-couple households in 1996 where spouses shared the responsibility for maintaining the household. There were 30 million households where the woman either maintained a family household (13 million) or maintained a household alone or with nonrelatives only (17 million). These non-married couple households maintained by women were more prevalent among Blacks, accounting for 50 percent of all their households, than by either Whites (27 percent) or Hispanics (30 percent).

Source: "Household and Family Characteristics: March 1996 (Update)" CPR P20-495, table A.

MULTI-GENERATIONAL HOUSEHOLDS

The proportion of children living in a multigenerational household, usually with their parents and grandparents, differs by race and Hispanic origin. About one out of every 10 Black children or Hispanic children live in a multigenerational household compared with 5 percent of White children .

Source: "The Diverse Living Arrangements of Children: Summer 1991" CPR P70-38, table 11.

FAMILY SIZE

The average family size in the U.S. in 1996 was 3.20. For White families, the average size was 3.13 compared to 3.56 for Black and 3.95 for Hispanic families. The average number of children in married-couple families who have children under 18 living with them in 1996 was 1.89 for White families, 1.96 for Black families and 2.26 for Hispanic families.

Source: "Household and Family Characteristics: March 1996 (Update)" CPR P20-495, tables B and 1.

ADOPTED CHILDREN

An estimated 1.1 million children lived with at least one adoptive parent in 1991. One half of all adopted children lived with two adoptive parents, and one-third lived with one biological and one adoptive parent. Another 12 percent of all adopted children lived with single parents.

Caution: We do not recommend the use of SIPP data to study adopted children because of small sample size.

Source: "The Diverse Living Arrangements of Children: Summer 1991" CPR P70-38, table 6.

CHILD CARE PATTERNS

About one-third of White and Black preschoolers whose mothers were employed in 1993 were using organized child care facilities compared to 21 percent of Hispanic preschoolers as the single most often used type of child care arrangement. Both Hispanic and Black families tend to use grandparents as the next more frequently mentioned type of care arrangement for preschoolers (about 20 percent each) compared to White families (15 percent).

Source: "Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?" CPR P70-53, table 2.

- The homeownership rate in 1996 was about the same for native-born citizens (67.4 percent +/-0.2) and foreign-born citizens (66.9 percent +/-1.0). The homeownership rate for non-citizens in 1996 was only 33.1 (+/-0.8) percent.

- Foreign-born citizens who entered this country before 1970 had a higher rate of homeownership, 77.1 percent (+/- 1.1), compared with foreign-born citizens who entered in 1970 or later, 56.9 percent (+/- 1.3).

- Among non-citizens, those who entered this country before 1970 also had a higher rate of homeownership 61.1 percent (+/- 2.4), compared with non-citizens who entered in 1970 or later, 29.4 percent (+/- 0.8).

- Native-born White citizens had a higher homeownership rate than foreign-born White citizens (70.9 percent +/- 0.2 versus 68.8 percent +/- 1.1).

- Foreign-born Hispanic citizens were more likely to own a home than native-born Hispanic citizens (57.1 percent +/- 1.9 versus 48.1 percent +/- 1.0).

- For Black citizens, there was no significant difference between native-born (44.9 percent +/-0.5)and foreign-born citizens (47.7 percent +/-3.0). However, both rates were higher that the rate for Black non-citizens (24.8 percent +/-2.1).

Source: Current Population Survey, Bureau of the Census, H121/97-2, Moving to America--Moving to Homeownership (to be issued in late September)

Table 1. Homeownership Rates by Citizenship Status of Householder, for the United States and Regions: 1994 to 1996

	Citizenship Status of Householder											
	All householders			Native-born citizen\1			Foreign-born, naturalized citizen			Non-citizen		
Region	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994
United States, total............................	65.4	64.7	64.0	67.4	66.6	65.7	66.9	67.6	66.8	33.1	33.2	32.9
Northeast..	62.2	62.0	61.5	65.2	64.6	64.2	60.4	62.3	61.9	26.2	25.7	25.2
Midwest..	70.6	69.2	67.7	71.1	69.5	68.1	76.8	77.8	74.6	42.0	43.9	42.7
South...	67.5	66.7	65.6	68.7	67.7	66.7	70.2	72.5	69.1	37.7	39.5	37.3
West...	59.2	59.2	59.4	62.4	62.6	62.5	66.6	65.1	66.7	32.1	31.2	32.4

\1 Includes those born in Puerto Rico or outlying areas and those born abroad to American parents.

Table 2 . Homeownership Rates by Citizenship Status of Householder and Year of Entry into the United States: 1994 to 1996

	Citizenship Status of Householder					
Immigrants Year of Entry\1	Foreign-born naturalized citizen			Non-citizen		
	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994
Total	66.9	67.6	66.8	33.1	33.2	32.9
1990 or later	36.1	36.8	34.2	14.7	12.3	11.1
1985 to 1989	46.3	43.1	40.1	27.0	23.2	21.8
1980 to 1984	53.1	54.0	50.7	36.7	34.0	31.2
1970 to 1979	63.8	63.4	63.8	47.2	47.4	45.0
1960 to 1969	75.4	74.1	70.2	58.7	58.7	60.0
1950 to 1959	80.0	78.8	80.0	67.9	63.1	68.6
1949 or earlier	76.6	73.8	72.6	60.3	68.9	69.6
1970 or later	56.9	57.4	57.3	29.4	28.6	27.6
1969 or earlier	77.1	75.3	73.8	61.1	61.2	63.4

\1 Data reflects latest year of entry in the United States.

Table 3. Homeownership Rates by Citizenship Status of Householder and Family Type, for the United States: 1994-1996

	Citizenship Status of Householder											
	All householders			Native-born citizen\1			Foreign-born, naturalized citizen			Non-citizen		
Family type	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994
United States, total	65.4	64.7	64.0	67.4	66.6	65.7	66.9	67.6	66.8	33.1	33.2	32.9
Family Households	72.9	72.3	71.4	75.5	74.6	73.7	72.7	74.8	73.4	37.0	36.9	37.0
Married-couple families	80.2	79.6	78.8	83.0	82.1	81.2	78.3	78.6	77.4	41.9	42.4	42.7
Other families-no spouse present	48.3	47.3	46.0	50.3	49.0	47.6	50.8	59.6	57.7	23.5	21.3	22.0
Nonfamily households	48.6	47.7	47.0	49.9	48.9	48.2	50.0	47.9	48.4	18.8	20.3	18.1
One-person households	51.4	50.5	49.8	52.6	51.6	50.8	51.3	49.4	50.5	19.8	22.6	21.2
Two-or-more person households	35.6	33.8	33.9	36.9	35.2	35.5	39.8	34.3	32.1	16.0	14.2	10.2

\1 Includes those born in Puerto Rico or outlying areas and those born abroad to American parents.

Table 4. Homeownership Rates by Citizenship Status and Age of Householder, for the United States: 1994-1996

	Citizenship Status of Householder											
	All householders			Native-born citizen\1			Foreign-born, naturalized citizen			Non-citizen		
Age of Householder	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994
United States, total.............................	65.4	64.7	64.0	67.4	66.6	65.7	66.9	67.6	66.8	33.1	33.2	32.9
Less than 35 years old..................	39.1	38.6	37.3	41.1	40.5	39.1	38.5	40.8	42.2	19.8	18.8	17.6
35 to 44 years...............................	65.5	65.2	64.5	67.9	67.3	66.6	64.1	67.2	65.2	35.6	35.4	35.9
45 to 54 years...............................	75.6	75.2	75.2	77.1	76.6	76.6	75.4	76.0	75.1	48.3	48.4	48.8
55 to 64 years...............................	80.0	79.5	79.3	81.5	81.0	80.6	78.5	77.6	78.3	49.3	49.1	48.7
65 years and over..........................	78.9	78.1	77.4	80.2	79.3	78.5	72.3	69.9	68.8	43.5	47.0	47.8

\1 Includes those born in Puerto Rico or outlying areas and those born abroad to American parents.

Table 5. Homeownership Rates by Citizenship Status and Race and Ethnicity of Householder, for the United States: 1994 to 1996

Race and Ethnicity of Householder	Citizenship Status of Householder											
	All householders			Native-born citizen\1			Foreign-born, naturalized citizen			Non-citizen		
	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994	1996	1995	1994
United States, total	65.4	64.7	64.0	67.4	66.6	65.7	66.9	67.6	66.8	33.1	33.2	32.9
White	69.1	68.7	67.7	70.9	70.3	69.3	68.8	69.9	68.3	34.3	35.7	35.0
Black	44.1	42.7	42.3	44.9	43.2	42.9	47.7	51.7	50.8	24.8	25.1	23.2
Other Race	51.0	47.2	47.7	55.4	52.8	51.8	67.8	65.5	67.0	32.1	28.5	30.0
Hispanic Origin\2	42.8	42.0	41.2	48.1	47.0	46.3	57.1	58.4	55.8	30.2	30.1	29.4
Not of Hispanic Origin\2	67.4	66.7	65.9	68.4	67.5	66.6	70.3	70.9	70.7	36.0	36.7	36.6

\1 Includes those born in Puerto Rico or outlying areas and those born abroad to American parents.

\2 Hispanics can be of any race.

Homeownership Rates by Race and Ethnicity of Householder: 1996

Race	1996
U.S. total	65.4
White, total	69.1
White, nonhispanic	71.7
Black, total	44.1
Other race, total	51.0
American Indian, Aleut, Eskimo	51.6
Asian or Pacific Islander	50.8
Hispanic	42.8
Non-Hispanic	67.4

Residental Stability

In 1995:

- 18 percent of all householders had moved into their current home during the last 12 months; 25 percent had moved in before 1980.
- 22 percent of Black householders had moved into their current home during the last 12 months; 23 percent had moved in before 1980. (22 and 23 percent are not statistically different.)
- 26 percent of Hispanic householders had moved into their current home during the last 12 months; 14 percent had moved in before 1980.

Quailty of Housing

In 1995:

- 3 percent of all households had more than one person per room.
- 4 percent of Black households had more than one person per room.
- 14 percent of Hispanic households had more than one person per room.

- 45 percent of all households live in homes with one or fewer complete bathrooms.
- 61 percent of Black households live in homes with one or fewer complete bathrooms.
- 61 percent of Hispanic households live in homes with one or fewer complete bathrooms.

- 1 percent of all households live in homes that lack complete kitchen facilities.
- 2 percent of Black households live in homes that lack complete kitchen facilities.
- 2 percent of Hispanic households live in homes that lack complete kitchen facilities.

- 85 percent of all households live in homes with central heating.
- 80 percent of Black households live in homes with central heating.
- 67 percent of Hispanic households live in homes with central heating.

- 6 percent of all households were uncomfortably cold for 24 hours or more last winter.

- 10 percent of Black households were uncomfortably cold for 24 hours or more last winter.

- 8 percent of Hispanic households were uncomfortably cold for 24 hours or more last winter.

- 2 percent of all households lived in homes that had severe physical problems; 4 percent lived in homes with moderate physical problems. These terms are defined by HUD.

- 4 percent of Black households lived in homes that had severe physical problems; 10 percent lived in homes with moderate physical problems.

- 3 percent of Hispanic households lived in homes that had severe physical problems; 8 percent lived in homes with moderate physical problems.

- On a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best), 75 percent of all households gave a rating of 8, 9, or 10 for their house or apartment as a place to live.

- On a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best), 66 percent of Black households gave a rating of 8, 9, or 10 for their house or apartment as a place to live.

- On a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best), 68 percent of Hispanic households gave a rating of 8, 9, or 10 for their house or apartment as a place to live. (68 percent for Hispanic households is not statistically different than 66 percent for Black households.)

- On a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best), 71 percent of all households gave a rating of 8, 9, or 10 for their neighborhoods.

- On a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best), 60 percent of Black households gave a rating of 8, 9, or 10 for their neighborhoods.

- On a scale of 1 (worst) to 10 (best), 64 percent of Hispanic households gave a rating of 8, 9, or 10 for their neighborhoods.

Data are not available separately for White, American Indian, or Asian and Pacific Islander households.

Source: Amercian Housing Survey for the United States in 1995 (H150/95RV)

HEALTH INSURANCE

Eleven million poor persons, or 30.2 percent of the poor population, did not have health insurance of any kind during 1995.

- 33.3 percent of poor Whites did not have health insurance.
- 23.5 percent of poor Blacks did not have health insurance.
- 40.8 of all poor persons of Hispanic origin (who may be of any race) did not have health insurance.

The comparable figures for all races, Whites, Blacks, and persons of Hispanic origin for all income levels were 15.4 percent, 14.2 percent, 21.0 percent, and 33.3 percent respectively. [d]

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC POLICY
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

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FAX TO: Michele Cavataio
Race Initiative

ADDRESSEE'S FAX NUMBER: 395-1020

ADDRESSEE'S CONFIRMATION NUMBER: 395-1010

FROM: Valerie Personick

SENDER'S FAX NUMBER: (202) 622-2563

SENDER'S CONFIRMATION NUMBER: (202) 622-1686

COMMENTS/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Department of the Treasury
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy
Office of Financial Analysis

Date: September 3, 1997

To: Michele Cavataio

Room: New EOB

Subject: Race Initiative

Attached are data for nonwhite and white families on income, net worth, financial and nonfinancial assets, and debt from the Fed's Survey of Consumer Finances. The data were published in the January 1997 issue of the Federal Reserve Bulletin.

Please note that the income measures from the Fed survey differ in both level and in some cases trend from the more well-known annual family income figures based on the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, which Census should be providing to you. Coverage and methodological differences account for most of the discrepancies.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Valerie Personick

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Economist
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INCOME AND NET WORTH

Thousands of 1995 Dollars

	Family income (for prior year, before taxes)		Family net worth	
	Median	Mean	Median	Mean
1989				
White non-Hispanic	37.3	56.9	84.7	261.4
Nonwhite or Hispanic	18.0	28.5	6.8	82.1
Ratio, Nonwhite or Hispanic to White non-Hispanic	48.3	50.1	8.0	31.4
1992				
White non-Hispanic	33.4	47.8	71.7	237.8
Nonwhite or Hispanic	20.1	30.3	16.9	87.9
Ratio, Nonwhite or Hispanic to White non-Hispanic	60.2	63.4	23.6	37.0
1995				
White non-Hispanic	33.3	48.6	73.9	244.0
Nonwhite or Hispanic	21.0	29.5	16.5	74.4
Ratio, Nonwhite or Hispanic to White non-Hispanic	63.1	60.7	22.3	30.5

Source: Federal Reserve Board, *Survey of Consumer Finances*

- **The financial condition of nonwhites and Hispanics improved relative to white non-Hispanics between the 1989 and 1992 *Surveys of Consumer Finances*, then held about steady through the 1995 survey.** These surveys are conducted by the Federal Reserve Board every three years to provide information on changes in the income, net worth, assets, and liabilities of U.S. families.
- Between the 1989 and 1992 surveys, measures of income and net worth (adjusted for inflation) **declined** for white non-Hispanic families, as finances were affected by the economic recession as well as by longer-term trends. Income and net worth for non-white and Hispanic families, in contrast, **improved slightly over that period**, resulting in sharp increases in the ratios between non-white and white income and net worth. **Despite the relative improvement, both income and net worth of non-whites and Hispanics remained appreciably below those of other families.**
- The 1995 survey indicated that the median and mean income and median net worth of nonwhite and Hispanic families **changed little from 1992**, while mean net worth fell below the level of 1989. For other families, income was also little changed between 1992 and 1995 while net worth increased but remained below the 1989 level.

Office of Economic Policy
Department of the Treasury
September 3, 1997

FAMILY HOLDINGS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Percentage of families holding asset				Median value of holdings for families with asset (1995 dollars)					
	1992		1995		1992			1995		
	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	Ratio*	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	Ratio*
Any financial asset	95.4	74.8	94.7	77.4	$16,300	$3,400	20.9	$16,900	$5,200	30.8
Transactions accounts	92.9	69.1	92.4	69.1	3,000	1,100	36.7	2,500	1,500	60.0
CDs	19.6	7.8	16.5	5.9	11,900	8,700	73.1	10,000	10,000	100.0
Savings bonds	25.8	11.7	26.2	11.3	700	600	85.7	1,000	500	50.0
Bonds	5.2	1.3	3.7	0.6	32,600	32,000	98.2	26,200	27,000	103.1
Stocks	20.4	6.3	18.2	5.5	8,700	6,500	74.7	8,600	5,000	58.1
Mutual funds	12.7	3.4	14.5	3.5	17,400	18,400	105.7	20,000	7,800	39.0
Retirement accounts	43.3	21.6	47.0	29.2	16,300	10,900	66.9	17,500	9,600	54.9
Life insurance	38.3	24.3	33.5	24.4	3,300	3,500	106.1	5,000	5,000	100.0
Other managed	4.9	1.2	4.7	1.0	24,100	9,800	40.7	30,000	1,800	6.0
Other financial	11.8	7.8	11.7	8.5	3,100	1,400	45.2	4,000	1,500	37.5

*Ratio of non-white or Hispanic to white non-Hispanic.

Source: Federal Reserve Board, Survey of Consumer Finances

FAMILY HOLDINGS OF NONFINANCIAL ASSETS

	Percentage of families holding asset				Median value of holdings for families with asset (1995 dollars)					
	1992		1995		1992			1995		
	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	Ratio*	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	Ratio*
Any nonfinancial asset	94.8	79.7	94.9	78.1	$85,500	$40,400	47.3	$93,000	$42,100	45.3
Vehicles	90.7	72.7	88.1	71.1	7,800	5,300	67.9	10,800	7,700	71.3
Primary residence	68.9	48.8	69.4	48.2	92,200	54,200	58.8	92,000	70,000	76.1
Investment real estate	21.9	11.2	19.7	10.2	48,800	48,800	100.0	50,000	33,500	67.0
Business	13.5	7.1	12.6	5.4	70,500	48,800	69.2	45,000	26,300	58.4
Other nonfinancial	9.7	4.2	10.5	3.5	7,600	9,200	121.1	10,000	8,000	80.0

*Ratio of non-white or Hispanic to white non-Hispanic.

Source: Federal Reserve Board, Survey of Consumer Finances

FAMILY HOLDINGS OF DEBT

	Percentage of families holding debt				Median value of holdings for families with debt (1995 dollars)					
	1992		1995		1992			1995		
	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	Ratio*	White non-Hispanic	Nonwhite or Hispanic	Ratio*
Any debt	74.4	71.4	75.8	73.1	$23,900	$9,700	40.6	$27,200	$12,200	44.9
Mortgage and home equity	41.9	30.6	43.5	32.7	48,800	33,800	69.3	54,000	36,500	67.6
Installment	46.4	45.5	46.4	46.9	5,500	3,500	63.6	6,400	5,000	78.1
Other lines of credit	2.7	1.6	2.1	1.3	2,200	2,400	109.1	3,500	800	22.9
Credit card	44.1	42.9	47.5	48.8	1,100	900	81.8	1,500	1,200	80.0
Investment real estate	8.9	4.3	6.9	4.4	26,600	19,500	73.3	29,000	25,000	86.2
Other debt	8.4	9.8	9.1	8.5	3,300	2,200	66.7	2,000	1,500	75.0

*Ratio of non-white or Hispanic to white non-Hispanic.

Source: Federal Reserve Board, Survey of Consumer Finances