

# *BLACK-WHITE BENCHMARKS REPORTS*

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BLACK-WHITE BENCHMARKS REPORTS

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## INTRODUCTION

In previous Benchmarks and Basic Living Cost reports (1994-1998) we analyzed quality of life and poverty conditions by race, gender, and age in the city of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County using 1990 census data. These reports showed that African Americans in the city and county were about the most disadvantaged in urban America.

Our earlier Benchmarks reports demonstrated that comparing urban areas by race provides a more accurate assessment of living conditions for majority as well as minority populations in the Pittsburgh area than comparing urban areas on overall averages. The main reason is that the Pittsburgh area's high percentage of non-Hispanic whites in the population makes the area's living conditions appear to be average or positive when actually many white conditions are below average and many African American conditions are far below average. These reports also demonstrated that there are often large differences in living conditions by race, gender, and age group and that analyzing data by each social group is necessary to determine which groups have the greatest needs and problems.

This Highlights Report summarizes findings from three new Black-White Benchmarks Reports: one on the city of Pittsburgh, one on Allegheny County, and one on the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). In these reports we use 2000 census data to assess the social and economic status of African Americans and non-Hispanic whites (hereafter called whites). Socioeconomic status is primarily determined by comparing conditions by race in the city of Pittsburgh to those of other large cities, conditions in Allegheny County to that of other large counties, and conditions in the Pittsburgh MSA to that of other large metro areas.

In addition, these reports compare African American to white conditions in 2000 in the Pittsburgh area and determine changes in African American and white conditions from 1990 to 2000 in the area. This report, the three new benchmarks reports, and prior reports are available at [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu) (publications). The Pittsburgh Foundation funded the new reports.

## SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN 2000

The findings of our new reports on the city, county, and metro area are similar to those of our reports in the 1990s on the city and county. The main conclusions of the new reports are:

**Comparisons of African American conditions in the 70 largest cities, 50 largest counties, and 50 largest metro areas show that African American children, working-age adults, and elderly in the Pittsburgh area are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Pittsburgh MSA had:

### A high proportion of single-adult households

- Second-fourth highest percentage of African American children who lived with their single mother (62-70%)
- Second-third highest percentage of African American elderly who lived alone (54-56%)

### Low education levels

- 23<sup>rd</sup> lowest percentage among cities and 12<sup>th</sup> lowest among counties and metro areas for African American children age 3-5 enrolled in nursery school or preschool (38-41%)
- 24<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage among cities and 12<sup>th</sup> lowest among counties and metro areas for African American men age 25+ with a bachelor's degree or higher (12-14%)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> lowest percentage among cities, 10<sup>th</sup> lowest among counties, and fourth lowest among metro areas for African American women age 25+ with a bachelor's degree or higher (13%)
- Third-seventh highest percentage of African American youth age 16-19 who were not in school or the labor force (16-18%)

### Low employment rates

- 17<sup>th</sup> lowest rate among cities, fourth lowest among counties, and second lowest among metro areas for employment of African American women with at least one child under age 6 (53-56%)
- 29<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage among cities and 12<sup>th</sup> lowest among counties and metro areas for employment of African American women with at least one child age 6-17 (64-65%)
- 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> lowest proportion of employed African American men who worked full-time (52-56%) and 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> lowest for African American women (47-50%)
- 24<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage among cities, 10<sup>th</sup> lowest among counties, and seventh lowest among metro areas for employment of African American disabled adults age 21-64 (46-48%)

### Low earnings and income

- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest median earnings among cities and ninth lowest among counties and metro areas for full-time African American male workers (\$27,000-29,000)
- Eighth-11<sup>th</sup> lowest median earnings for full-time African American female workers (\$23,000-24,000)
- Second-third lowest median earnings for part-time African American male workers (\$8,100-8,900) and lowest-seventh lowest for part-time African American female workers (\$7,900-8,000)
- Lowest-fifth lowest median household income (\$20,000-22,000), third-fifth lowest median family income (\$24,000-27,000), and fifth-13<sup>th</sup> lowest per capita income (\$12,000-13,000) for African Americans

### High poverty rates

- Third-seventh highest poverty rate for African Americans (31-34%), third-seventh highest poverty rate for African American children under age 18 (42-46%), fourth-sixth highest poverty rate for African Americans age 18-64 (26-30%), and 15<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate African Americans age 65 and over (21-23%)

- Second-ninth highest poverty rate among single African American female-headed families with children (49-50%), second-fifth highest poverty rate among single African American male-headed families with children (31-36%), and 10<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> highest poverty rate among African American married-couples with children (10-12%)

#### Disadvantaged transportation and housing conditions

- Second-sixth highest percentage of African American households with no vehicle available (39-49%)
- 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> lowest percentage of African American households that were homeowners (36-39%)
- 13<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> highest percentage (16-18%) of African American homeowners with mortgages who spent 50% or more of their income on housing costs
- Lowest-second lowest median value for African American owned homes (\$47,000-52,000)

#### Some positive conditions

- Below average dropout rates for African American youth age 16-19 (10-12%)
- Above average high school attainment for African American women age 25+ (78-80%)
- Lowest-10<sup>th</sup> lowest median monthly owner costs for African Americans with mortgaged homes (\$763-797)
- Lowest-third lowest median gross rent for African Americans (\$412-433)

**Comparisons of African American and white conditions in the Pittsburgh area show that African Americans are much more disadvantaged than whites.** In the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Pittsburgh MSA in 2000:

- African American child poverty rates (42-46%) were three-five times white rates (9-14%)
- Poverty rates for African American working-age adults (26-30%) were two-three times white rates (8-15%)
- African American rates for 16-19 year-olds who were neither in school nor in the labor force (16-18%) were about 3.5 times white rates (5%)
- The percentages of African American children who lived with their single mother (62-70%) were three-four times white percentages (16-22%)
- Rates for African American households without a vehicle (39-49%) were two-four times white rates (11-22%)
- Per capita incomes of African Americans (\$12,000-13,000) were 54-61% those of whites (\$22,000-24,000)
- African American homeownership rates (36-40%) were 54-60% of white rates (60-75%)
- Median values of homes owned by African Americans (\$47,000-52,000) were 60-75% those of whites (\$62,000-88,000)

**Comparisons of white conditions in the 70 largest cities, 50 largest counties, and 50 largest metro areas show that white children, working-age adults, and elderly in the Pittsburgh area are mostly disadvantaged.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Pittsburgh MSA had:

### A high proportion of single-adult households

- 12<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> highest percentage of white children living with their single mother (15-22%)
- Ninth-24<sup>th</sup> highest percentage of white elderly who lived alone (47-53%)

### Mostly low education levels

- Average rates of white children age 3-5 enrolled in nursery school or preschool (47-52%)
- 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> lowest rates for high school attainment for white men age 25+ (84-88%) and 9<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> lowest rates for white women (82-86%)
- 5<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> lowest rates for white men with a bachelor's degree or higher (27-33%) and 4<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> lowest rates for white women (22-26%)

### Mostly low employment rates

- 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage of white youth age 16-19 who were not in school or the labor force (5%)
- Average employment rates for white women with at least one child under age 6 (58-60%)
- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage among cities, an average percentage for counties, and 14<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage among metro areas for employment among white women with at least one child age 6-17 (68-69%)
- Fourth-19<sup>th</sup> lowest rate for full-time jobs among employed white men (59-68%)
- Sixth lowest rate among cities, an average rate among counties, and 12<sup>th</sup> lowest rate among metro areas for full-time jobs among employed white women (48-52%)
- Second-11<sup>th</sup> lowest percent employed among disabled white adults age 21-64 (52-57%)

### Low earnings and income

- Fifth-eighth lowest median earnings for full-time white male workers (\$34,000-40,000) and lowest-ninth lowest for full-time white female workers (\$26,000-28,000)
- Lowest-second lowest median earnings for part-time white male workers (\$8,700-11,000) and lowest median earnings for part-time white female workers (\$7,300-8,600)
- Lowest-fifth lowest median household income (\$33,000-41,000), second-eighth lowest median family income (\$46,000-53,000), and second-seventh lowest per capita income (\$22,000-24,000) for whites

### High poverty rates

- Fourth-11<sup>th</sup> highest white poverty rate (8-14%), fourth-17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate for white children under age 18 (9-14%), third-12<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate for whites age 18-64 (8-15%), and seventh-11<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate for whites age 65 and over (8-11%)
- Highest-eighth highest poverty rate for single white female-headed families with children (28-34%), second-10<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate for single white male-headed families with children (13-18%), and fourth-17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate for white married-couple families with children (3-5%)

### Disadvantaged transportation and positive and negative housing conditions

- Fourth-10<sup>th</sup> highest percentage of white households with no vehicle available (11-22%)
- 30<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage among cities, 19<sup>th</sup> highest among counties, and 14<sup>th</sup> highest among metro areas for white households who owned their own home (60-75%)

- An average to above average percentage of white homeowners with mortgages who spent 50% or more of their income on housing costs (9-10%)
- Lowest-10<sup>th</sup> lowest median monthly owner costs for whites with mortgaged homes (\$799-986)
- Lowest-second lowest median value for white-owned homes (\$62,000-88,000)

## **CHANGES IN CONDITIONS FROM 1990 TO 2000**

The main finding on trends in the new reports is:

**African American and white conditions in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Pittsburgh region improved from 1990 to 2000.** Major trends for the Pittsburgh area from 1990 to 2000 were (also see Figures 1-8):

- The number of African American residents age 16-19 who were high school dropouts declined by 18-30%; white dropouts declined 33-37%
- Rates for African Americans age 16-19 who were high school dropouts declined 1.2 to 2.7 percentage points; white rates declined 1.7 to 1.9 percentage points
- The number of African American men residents age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 12-28%; the white increase was 8-17%
- The proportion of African American men residents age 25 and over who had a bachelor's degree or higher increased 1.9-2.4 percentage points; the white increase was 4.1-5.7
- The number of African American women residents age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 42-43%; the white increase was 11-35%
- The proportion of African American women age 25 and over who had a bachelor's degree or higher increased 3.5-4.5 percentage points; the white increase was 6.0-6.9
- The number of African American residents employed full-time increased by 17-31%; the white change was -6 to +7.8%
- The proportion of African American residents employed full-time increased by about six percentage points; the white gain was 3-5 percentage points
- The real per capita income of African Americans increased by 16-26%; the white increase was 12-14%
- The number of African American residents in poverty declined by 10-23%; the white decline was 13-16%
- The poverty rate for African Americans declined by 5-7 percentage points; the white decline was 0-1
- The number of African American female-headed families with children in poverty declined by 11-24%; the white decline was 19-40%
- The poverty rate for African American female-headed families with children declined by 14-15 percentage points; the white decline was 9-11 percentage points
- The number of homes owned by African Americans increased by 2-12%; the white increase was -9 to +3%
- African American and white homeownership rates increased 1-2 percentage points
- The median value of homes owned by African Americans increased by 5-8%; the white increase was 9-11%

## CONCLUSION

One of the main findings of the new Benchmarks reports is that African American social and economic conditions improved in the Pittsburgh area from 1990 to 2000 but these conditions continue to be among the worst in urban America. Compared to African Americans in other urban areas, African Americans in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Pittsburgh MSA have some of the highest rates for: female single-parent families with children, elderly living alone, teen idleness, poverty, and households with no vehicle available. In addition, African Americans in the city, county, and metro area have some of the lowest rates for: children living with two parents, children enrolled in nursery school or preschool, employment among women with young children, full-time jobs among employed women and men, employment among disabled adults age 21-64, earnings for part-time and full-time workers, median household and family income, per capita income, and value of homes.

Further, the Pittsburgh area has large disparities between African American and white conditions. They are particularly high for: children living with two parents, elderly living alone, high school dropouts, youth age 16-19 not in school or in the labor force, employment among women with young children, full-time employment, median household and family income, per capita income, poverty among children and working-age adults, homeownership, and households with no vehicle available.

Another major finding is that whites in the Pittsburgh area are mostly disadvantaged compared to whites in other large urban areas. Whites in the Pittsburgh area have some of the highest rates for: female single-parent families with children, elderly living alone, poverty, and households with no vehicle available. In addition, whites in the city, county, and metro area have low rates for: children living with two parents, employment among women with young children, full-time jobs among employed women and men, employment among disabled adults age 21-64, earnings for part-time and full-time workers, median household and family income, per capita income, and value of homes.

African American and white conditions are poor in the Pittsburgh area in part because the region has had slower job, wage, and income growth than most other US regions in recent decades. However, it is not known why rankings for the Pittsburgh area on African American conditions are somewhat worse than rankings on white conditions. Some possible reasons are:

- The Pittsburgh area may have created a larger poor African American population through post-WWII public housing projects (historically one of the largest in America and one of the most mismanaged) and the major destruction of African American businesses and housing during urban renewal in the 1960s.
- The Pittsburgh area may have had and may continue to have higher levels of racial discrimination in housing, employment, and business contracting.
- The Pittsburgh area may be losing as well as not attracting educated and higher-income African Americans more than whites.

Besides increasing regional job growth and improving job quality, solutions to the problems of African Americans in the Pittsburgh area are likely to include<sup>1</sup>:

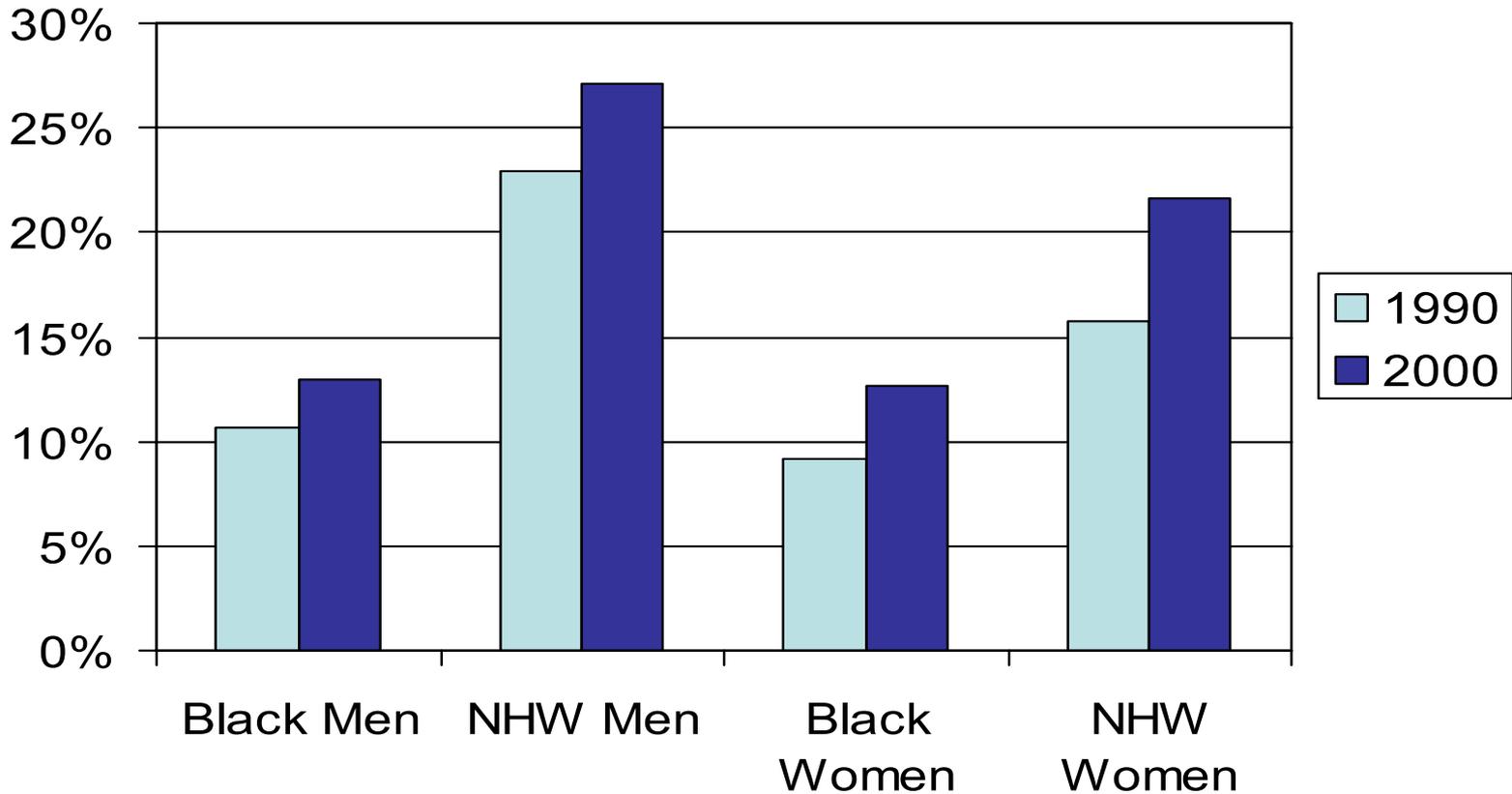
- Improving African American education at all levels
- Providing more job apprenticeship programs in public schools
- Reducing racial discrimination
- Reducing barriers to employment
- Expanding work experience and job training
- Increasing the rewards for work
- Providing better programs and follow-up services for prisoners

The findings also suggest that African Americans and whites have greater social service needs in the Pittsburgh area than in most regions. For example, high rates of female-headed families with children, elderly living alone, poverty, and households with no vehicle available and low rates for employment, earnings, and income indicate a high need for services. More public and private spending for social programs will be required here than in most regions to meet social service needs.

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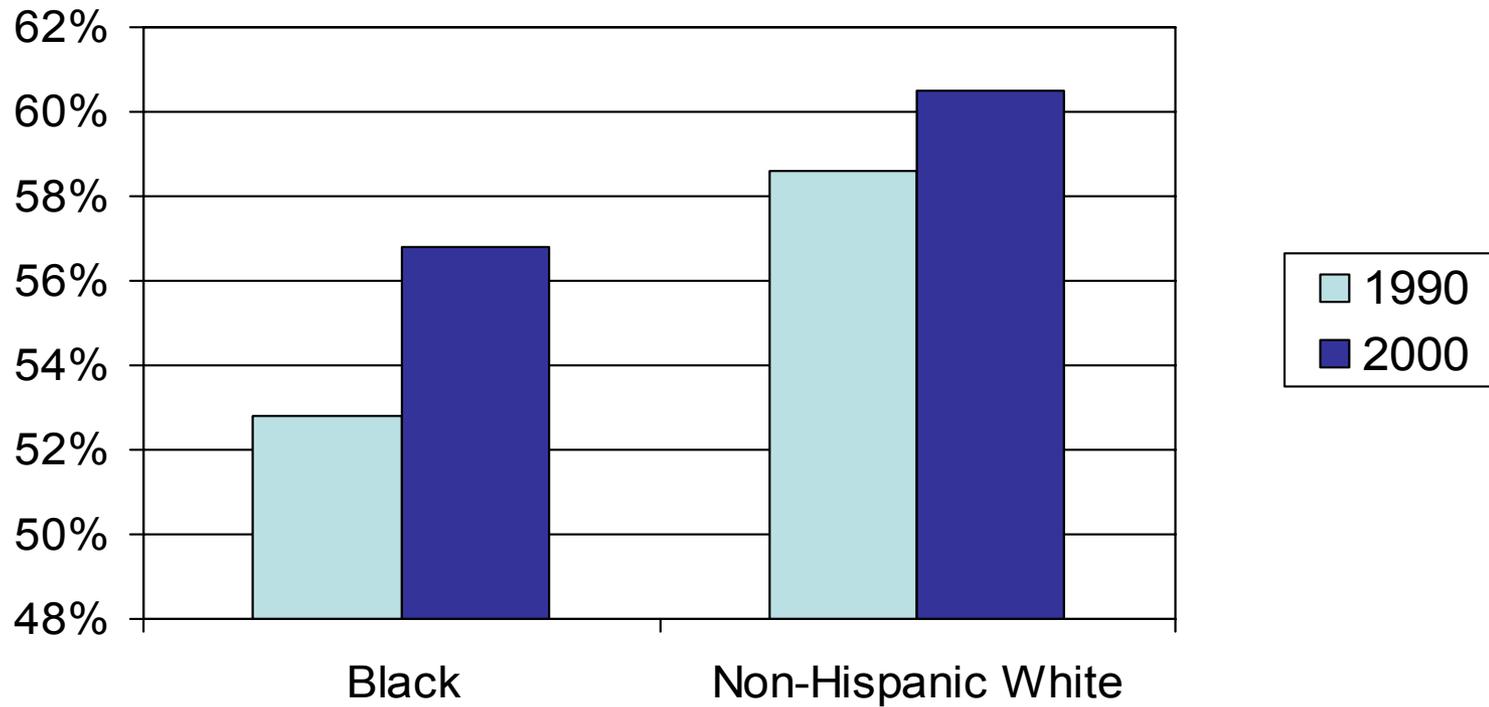
<sup>1</sup>For example, see Harry Holzer and Paul Offner, “The Puzzle of Black Unemployment”, *The Public Interest*, Winter 2004; and Sheldon Danziger, Deborah Reed, and Tony Brown, “Poverty and Prosperity: Prospects for Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities in the United States”, Conference Paper on Racism, Durban, South Africa, 2001.

**Figure 1. Percent of Men and Women Age 25 and Over with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher in the Pittsburgh MSA**



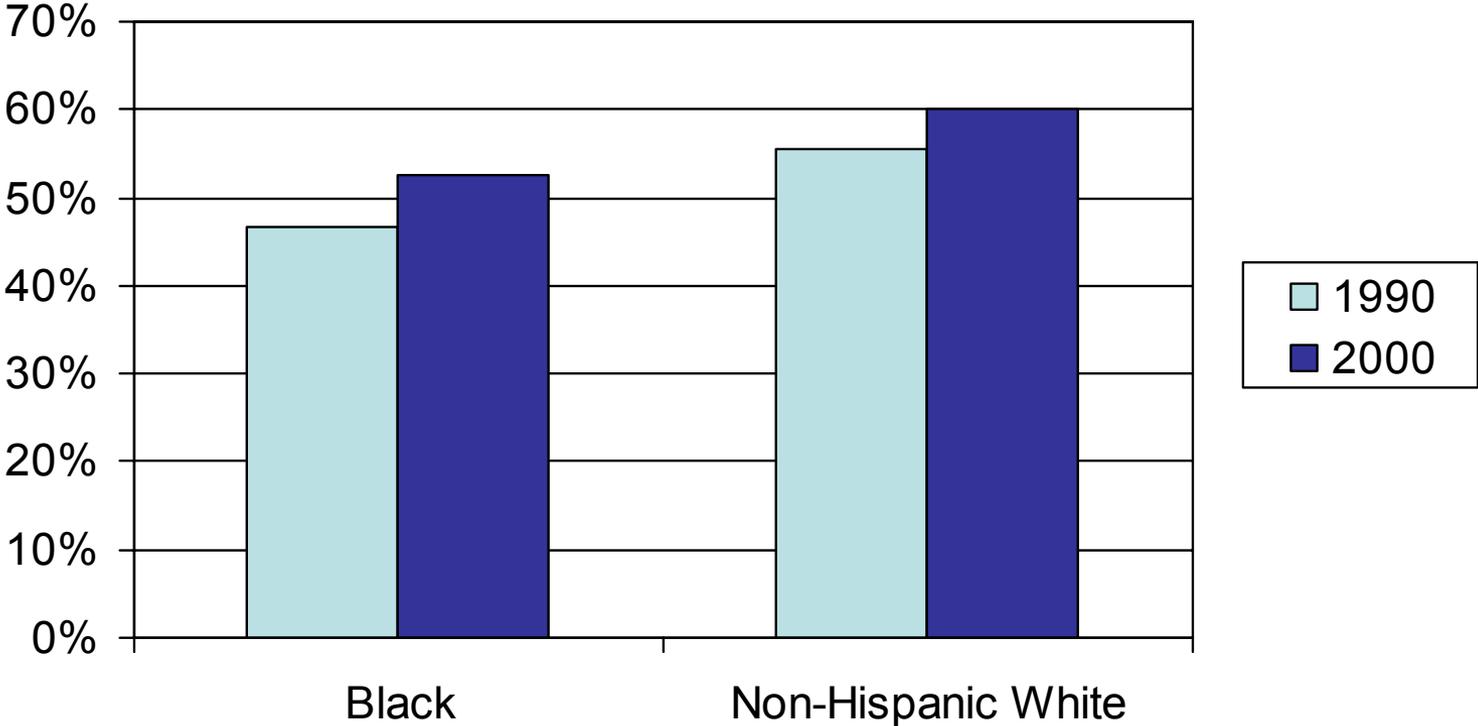
Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 2. Percent of African Americans and Whites Age 16 and Above in the Labor Force in the Pittsburgh MSA**



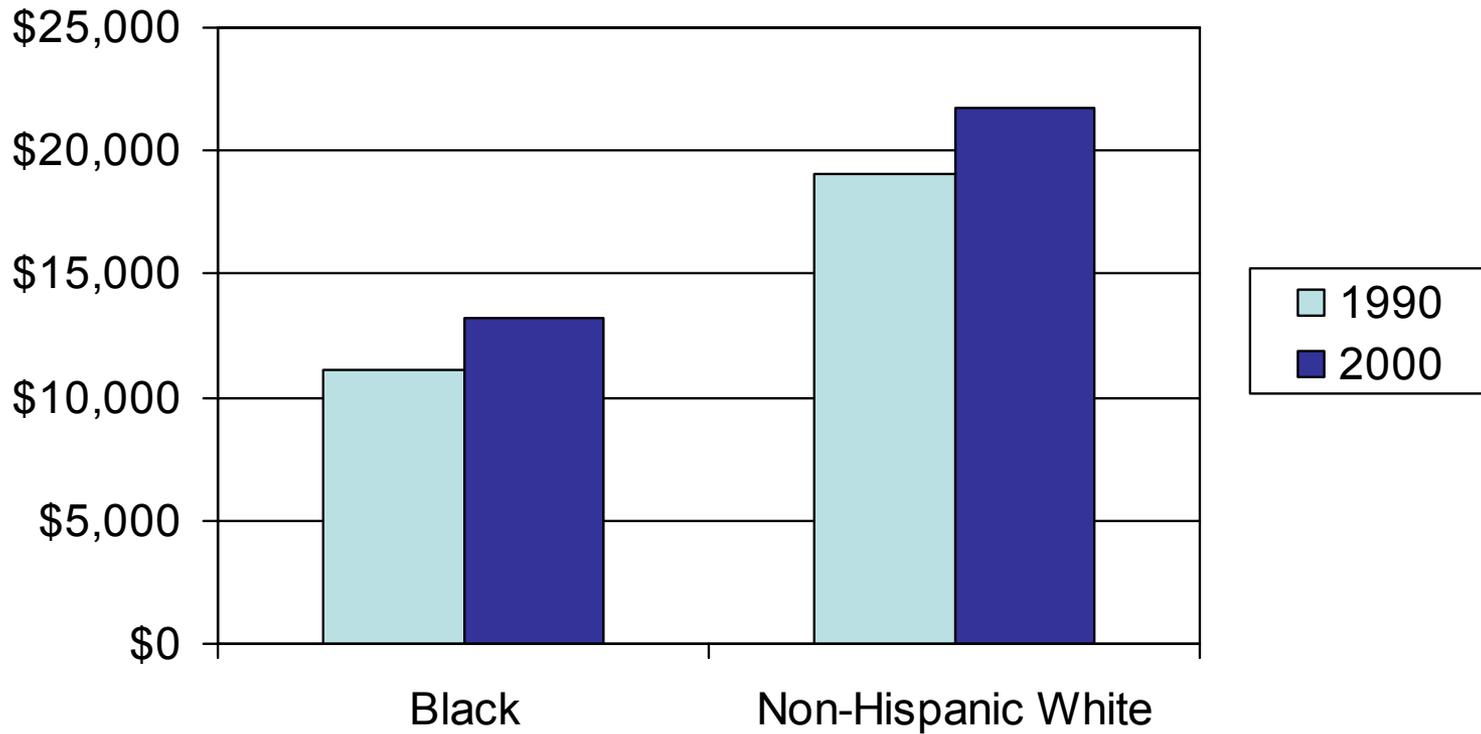
Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 3. Percent of African American and White Workers Employed Full-Time in the Pittsburgh MSA**



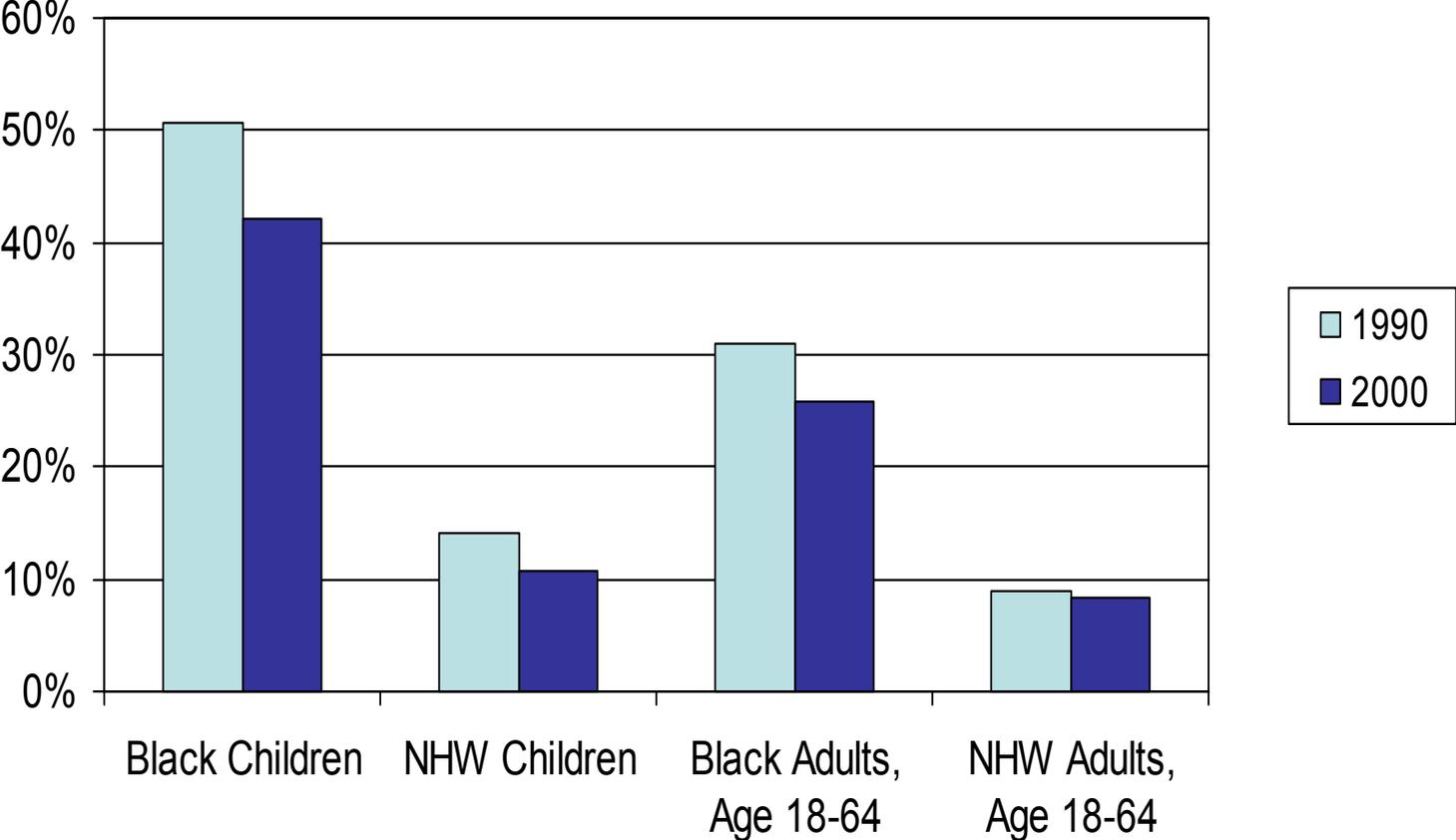
Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 4. Per Capita Income in the Pittsburgh MSA**  
(1999 dollars)



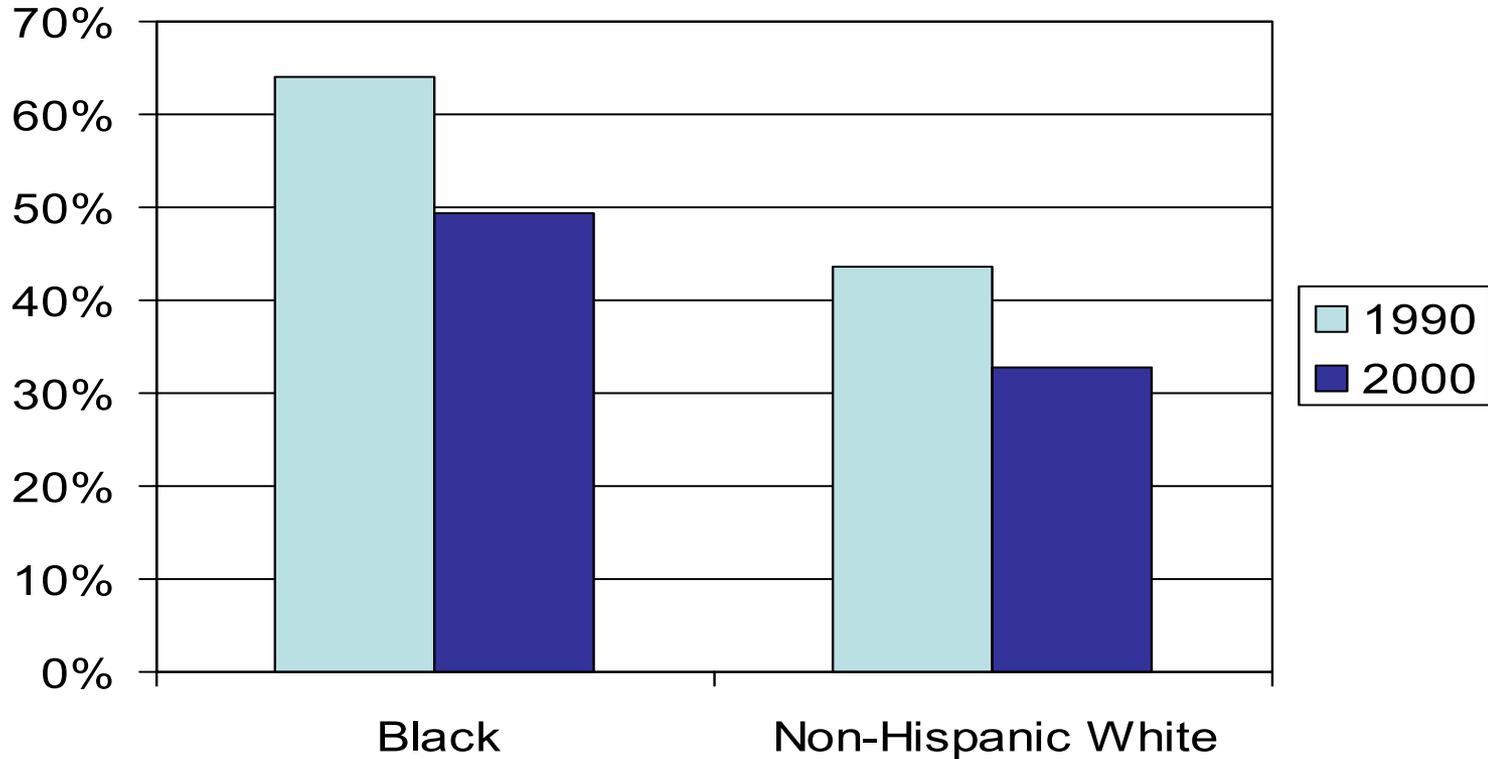
Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 5. Poverty Rates for African Americans and Whites in the Pittsburgh MSA**



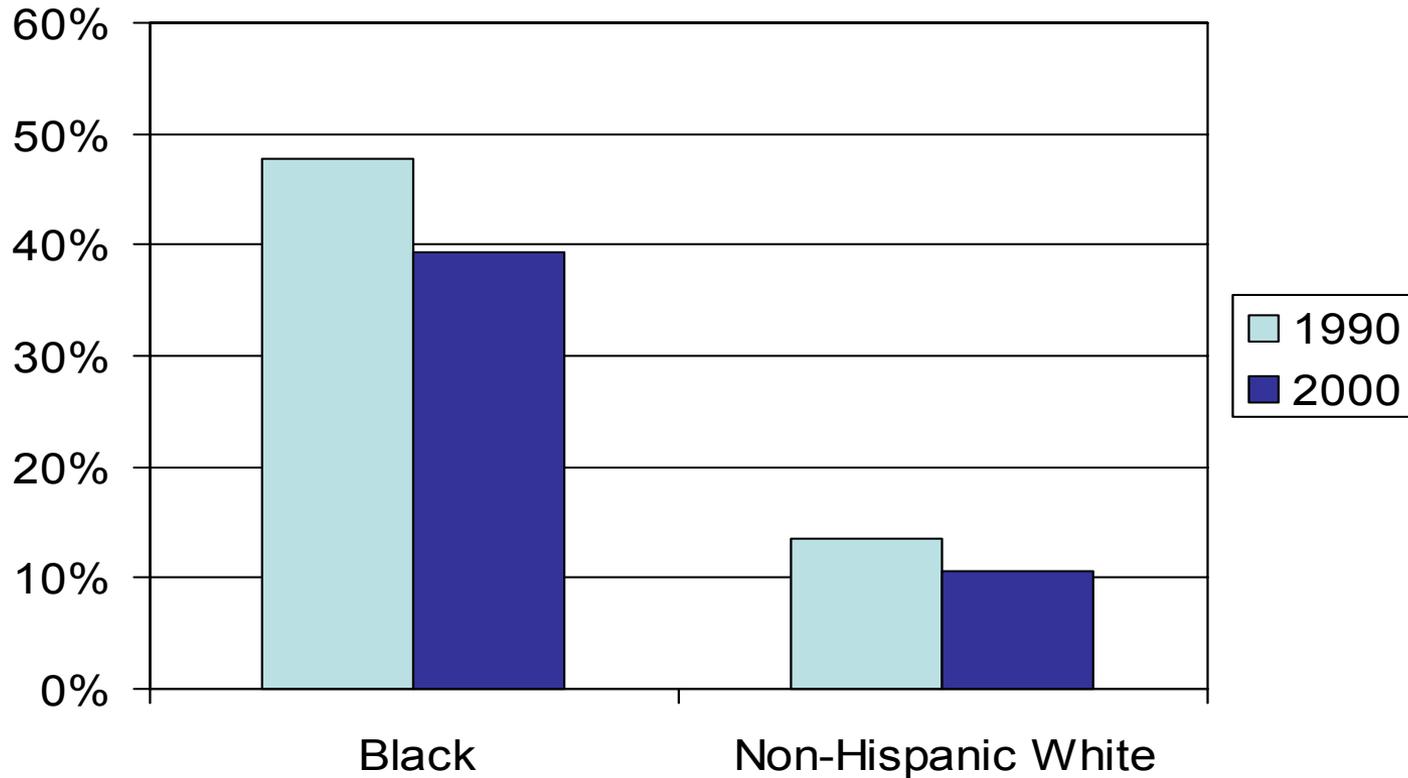
Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 6. Poverty Rate for African American and White Female Single-Parent Families with Children in the Pittsburgh MSA**



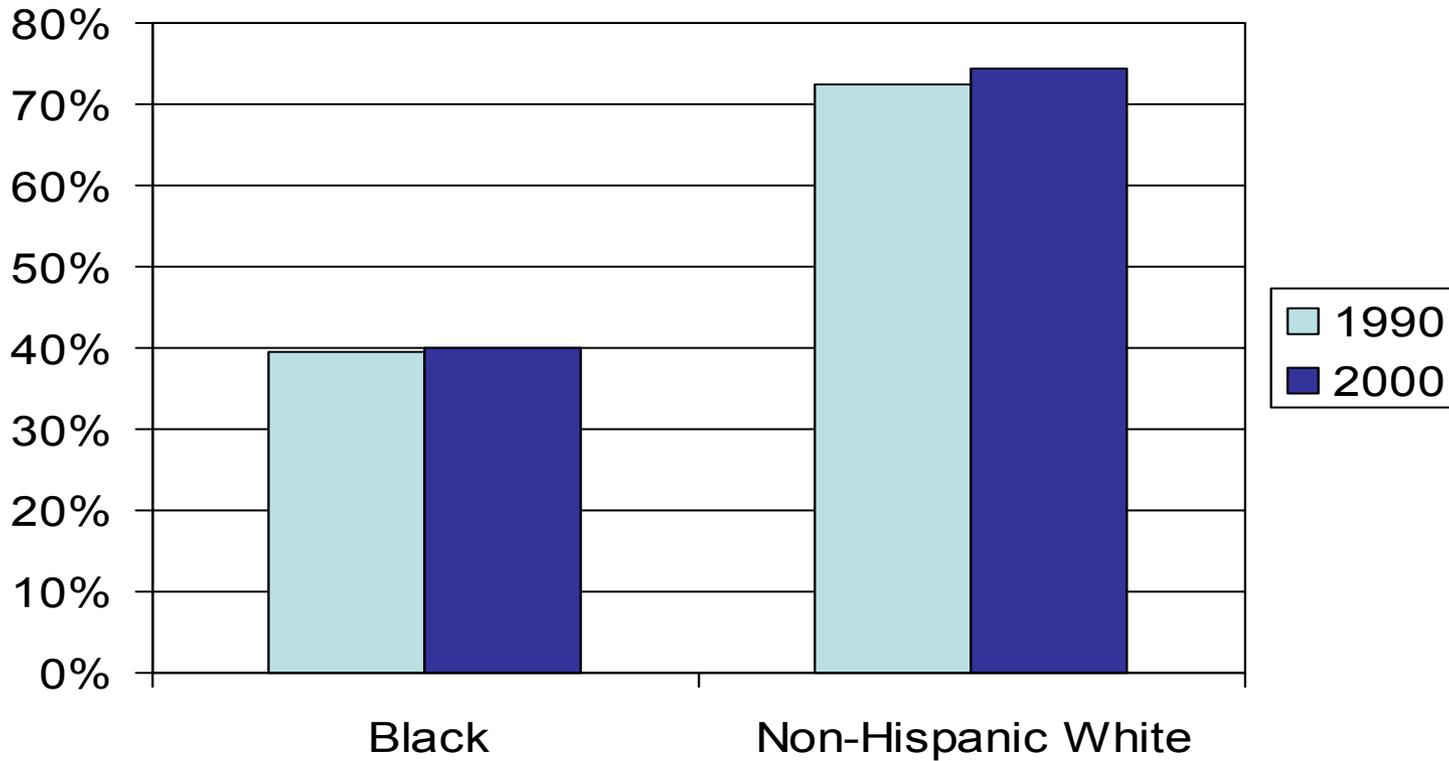
Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 7. Percent of Housing Units with No Vehicle Available in the Pittsburgh MSA**



Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

**Figure 8. Homeownership Rates in the Pittsburgh MSA**



Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

# BLACK-WHITE BENCHMARKS FOR THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH

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## INTRODUCTION

The African American (black alone) population in the city of Pittsburgh in 2000 was 90,750, and the non-Hispanic white (white alone) population was 223,982. These numbers are fairly typical of large cities in the US.

The purpose of this report is to assess the socioeconomic status of blacks and whites in the city of Pittsburgh based on 2000 census data. Current conditions in Pittsburgh are determined by comparing black conditions, white conditions, and black-white disparities in the 70 largest cities on more than 50 social and economic variables. The 70 largest cities are compared in order to include Pittsburgh, which had the 52<sup>nd</sup> largest population in 2000, and to compare Pittsburgh to a sizable number of other large cities.

In addition, this report contains data and findings on changes in black and white conditions in the city of Pittsburgh from 1990 to 2000. Complete data on all 70 cities and their rankings are in a separate databook.

This report and similar reports for Allegheny County and the Pittsburgh MSA are available online at [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu) (see publications). The Pittsburgh Foundation provided funding for these studies.

## AFRICAN AMERICAN AND WHITE CONDITIONS IN 2000 (Table 1)

Our comparison of the 70 largest cities in the US shows that:

- 1. The city of Pittsburgh has high percentages of African Americans and whites in the general population.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh had the:
  - 21<sup>st</sup> highest percentage (27.1%) of African Americans in the population
  - 14<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (66.9%) of non-Hispanic whites in the population
- 2. High percentages of African American and white children in the city of Pittsburgh live in single, female-headed households.** In 2000 the city had the:
  - Second highest percentage (69.9%) of black children living with a single mother
  - 12<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (22.2%) of white children living with a single mother
  - Second lowest percentage (22.3%) of black children living with two parents
  - 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (71.9%) of white children living with two parents

3. **High percentages of black and white families with children in the city of Pittsburgh are headed by single women.** In 2000 the city had the:
  - Fourth highest percentage (67.9%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
  - 14<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (23.2%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
  - Third lowest percentage (24.6%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
  - 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (70.7%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
  
4. **High percentages of African American and white elderly residents in the city of Pittsburgh live alone.** In 2000 the city had the:
  - Third highest percentage (55.9%) of African American elderly age 65 and over who were living alone
  - 24<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (52.9%) of white elderly age 65 and over living alone
  
5. **A low percentage of African American children but a high percentage of white children age 3-5 in the city of Pittsburgh are enrolled in nursery school or preschool.** In 2000 the city had the:
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> lowest percentage (38.5%) of black children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool
  - 27<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (47.3%) of white children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool
  
6. **African Americans age 16-19 in the city of Pittsburgh have an average dropout rate while whites have a low dropout rate.** In 2000 the city had the:
  - 32<sup>nd</sup> lowest percentage (11.7%) of blacks age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
  - 14<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.6%) of whites age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
  
7. **African American and white women in the city of Pittsburgh with children under age 18 have low employment rates.** In 2000 the city had the:
  - 17<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (53.2%) among black women with children under age 6
  - 24<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (58.4%) among white women with children under age 6
  - 29<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (64.0%) among black women with children age 6-17
  - 16<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (67.6%) among white women with children age 6-17

**8. Low percentages of African American and white female and male workers in the city of Pittsburgh are employed full-time.** In 2000 the city had the:

- 16th lowest rate (47.0%) for full-time employment among black female workers age 16 and over
- Sixth lowest rate (47.6%) for full-time employment among white female workers age 16 and over
- 13th lowest rate (51.9%) for full-time employment among black male workers age 16 and over
- Fourth lowest rate (59.1%) for full-time employment among white male workers age 16 and over

**9. A very high percentage of African Americans but a low percentage of whites age 16-19 in the city of Pittsburgh are neither in school nor in the labor force.** In 2000 the city had the:

- Seventh highest percentage (18.3%) of black youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- 13<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (5.3%) of white youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force

**10. Disabled African American and white adults of working age in the city of Pittsburgh have low rates of employment.** In 2000 the city had the:

- 24<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (46.2%) of employment among black disabled adults age 21-64
- Ninth lowest rate (51.6%) of employment among white disabled adults age 21-64

**11. African American and white full-time workers in the city of Pittsburgh have low median earnings.** In 1999 the city had the:

- 11<sup>th</sup> lowest median earnings (\$22,563) among black female full-time workers
- Ninth lowest median earnings (\$26,383) among white female full-time workers
- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest median earnings (\$27,432) among black male full-time workers
- Seventh lowest median earnings (\$33,926) among white male full-time workers

**12. African American and white part-time workers in the city of Pittsburgh have low median earnings.** In 1999 the city had the:

- Seventh lowest median earnings (\$8,022) among black female part-time workers
- Lowest median earnings (\$7,265) among white female part-time workers
- Third lowest median earnings (\$8,144) among black male part-time workers
- Lowest median earnings (\$8,699) among white male part-time workers

**13. African Americans and whites in the city of Pittsburgh have low median household and family incomes and low per capita income.** In 1999 the city had the:

- Fifth lowest median household income (\$20,075) for blacks
- Fourth lowest median household income (\$32,692) for whites
- Fifth lowest median family income (\$24,002) for blacks
- Eighth lowest median family income (\$45,656) for whites
- 13<sup>th</sup> lowest per capita income (\$12,356) for blacks
- Seventh lowest per capita income (\$21,849) for whites

**14. African American and white poverty rates in the city of Pittsburgh are among the highest in the nation.** In 1999 the city had the:

- Seventh highest poverty rate (34.1%) for African Americans and fifth highest poverty rate (14.3%) for whites
- Seventh highest poverty rate (46.0%) for African American children and 17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (13.6%) for white children under age 18
- Sixth highest poverty rate (29.8%) for African American adults age 18-64 and third highest poverty rate (15.4%) for whites age 18-64
- 24<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (22.6%) for African Americans age 65 and older and 11<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (11.0%) for whites age 65 and older
- Ninth highest poverty rate (50.3%) for African American female-headed families with children under age 18 and eighth highest poverty rate (34.0%) for white female-headed families with children under age 18
- Fifth highest poverty rate (35.5%) for African American male-headed families with children under age 18 and eighth highest poverty rate (18.3%) for white male-headed families with children under age 18
- 21<sup>st</sup> highest poverty rate (12.2%) for African American married-couple families with children under age 18 and 17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (4.8%) for white married-couple families with children under age 18

**15. Small percentages of African American and white households in the city of Pittsburgh are overcrowded or lack telephone service, but high percentages have no vehicle available.** In 2000 the city had the:

- Lowest rate (2.8%) for African American households and sixth lowest rate (1.1%) for white households with more than one person on average per room
- 11<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (2.3%) for African American households and 18<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (1.0%) for white households with no telephone service
- Second highest rate (48.6%) for African American households and 10<sup>th</sup> highest rate (22.5%) for white households with no vehicle available

**16. African American and white homeownership rates are slightly below average in the city of Pittsburgh, and median home values are among the lowest in the nation.** In 2000 the city had the:

- 21<sup>st</sup> lowest homeownership rate (35.9%) for African American households and 30<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (59.9%) for white households
- Second lowest value (\$46,600) for homes owned by African Americans and second lowest value (\$62,200) for homes owned by whites

**17. Monthly housing costs for African American and white homeowners and renters are among the lowest in the nation.** In 2000 the city had the:

- 10<sup>th</sup> lowest monthly costs (\$763) for African American homeowners with mortgages and fifth lowest monthly costs (\$799) for white homeowners with mortgages
- Third lowest monthly costs (\$412) for African American renters and 11<sup>th</sup> lowest monthly costs (\$533) for white renters

**FINDINGS ON BLACK-WHITE DISPARITIES IN 2000 (Table 1)**

Our comparison of black and white conditions in the city of Pittsburgh shows that:

- The percentage of black children living with their mother only (69.9%) is more than three times the rate for white children (22.2%)
- The high school dropout rate for African American 16-19 year-olds (11.7%) is 2.5 times the rate for whites (4.6%)
- The percent of African American 16-19 year-olds who are neither in school nor in the labor force (18.3%) is 3.5 times the white rate (5.3%)
- The per capita income of African Americans (\$12,356) is 57% that of whites (\$21,849)
- The poverty rate for African American children (46%) is 3.4 times the white rate (13.6%)
- The median value of homes owned by African Americans (\$46,600) is 75% that of whites (\$62,200)

**CHANGE IN CONDITIONS FROM 1990 TO 2000 (Table 2)**

The largest changes in African American and white conditions in the city of Pittsburgh in the past decade were:

- The number of African American high school dropouts age 16-19 living in the city declined by 30% and the number of white dropouts declined by 37%
- The number of African American women age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 42% and the number of white women age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 11%

- The number of African American men age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 12% and the number of white men age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 8%
- The number of African American residents employed full-time increased by 17% while the number of white residents employed full-time declined by 6%
- The real per capita income of African Americans increased by 26% while the white per capita income increased by 12%
- The number of African American residents in poverty declined by 23% while the number of whites in poverty declined by 16%
- The number of African American female-headed families with children in poverty declined by 24% while the number for whites declined by 40%
- The median value of homes owned by African Americans increased by 5% while the value of the homes owned by whites increased by 9%

## CONCLUSIONS

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 70 largest cities shows that African American children and youth in the city of Pittsburgh are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- Second highest percentage (69.9%) of black children living with a single mother
- Second lowest percentage (22.3%) of black children living with two parents
- Seventh highest percentage (18.3%) of black youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- Seventh highest poverty rate (46.0%) for African American children under age 18
- 23<sup>rd</sup> lowest percentage (38.5%) of black children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

On the other hand, African American youth in the city have an average high school dropout rate. The city in 2000 had the:

- 32<sup>nd</sup> lowest percentage (11.7%) of blacks age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 70 largest cities shows that African American working-age adults in the city of Pittsburgh are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- Third lowest median earnings (\$8,144) among black male part-time workers
- Third lowest percentage (24.6%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
- Fourth highest percentage (67.9%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- Fifth highest poverty rate (35.5%) for African American male-headed families with children under age 18
- Sixth highest poverty rate (29.8%) for African American adults age 18-64
- Seventh lowest median earnings (\$8,022) among black female part-time workers

- Ninth highest poverty rate (50.3%) for African American female-headed families with children under age 18
- 11<sup>th</sup> lowest median earnings (\$22,563) among black female full-time workers
- 13<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (51.9%) for full-time employment among black male workers age 16 and over
- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (47.0%) for full-time employment among black female workers age 16 and over
- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest median earnings (\$27,432) among black male full-time workers
- 17<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (53.2%) among black women with children under age 6
- 21<sup>st</sup> highest poverty rate (12.2%) for African American married-couple families with children under age 18
- 24<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (46.2%) of employment among black disabled adults age 21-64
- 29<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (64.0%) among black women with children age 6-17

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 70 largest cities shows that African American elderly in the city of Pittsburgh are disadvantaged.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- Third highest percentage (55.9%) of African American elderly living alone
- 24<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (22.6%) for African Americans age 65 and older

**The comparison of white conditions in the 70 largest cities shows that white children and youth in the city of Pittsburgh are in some ways disadvantaged and in other ways advantaged.** In 2000 white children and youth were disadvantaged in that the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- 12<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (22.2%) of white children living with a single mother
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (13.6%) for white children under age 18
- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (71.9%) of white children living with two parents

In 2000 white children and youth were advantaged in that the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- 13<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (5.3%) of white youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- 14<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.6%) of whites age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
- 27<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (47.3%) of white children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

**The comparison of white conditions in the 70 largest cities shows that white working-age adults in the city of Pittsburgh are among the most disadvantaged in urban America.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- Lowest median earnings (\$7,265) among white female part-time workers
- Lowest median earnings (\$8,699) among white male part-time workers
- Third highest poverty rate (15.4%) for whites age 18-64

- Fourth lowest rate (59.1%) for full-time employment among white male workers age 16 and over
- Sixth lowest rate (47.6%) for full-time employment among white female workers age 16 and over
- Seventh lowest median earnings (\$33,926) among white male full-time workers
- Eighth highest poverty rate (34.0%) for white female-headed families with children under age 18
- Eighth highest poverty rate (18.3%) for white male-headed families with children under age 18
- Ninth lowest median earnings (\$26,383) among white female full-time workers
- Ninth lowest rate (51.6%) of employment among white disabled adults age 21-64
- 14<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (23.2%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (67.6%) among white women with children age 6-17
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (4.8%) for white married-couple families with children under age 18
- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (70.7%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
- 24<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (58.4%) among white women with children age 0-5

**The comparison of white conditions in the 70 largest cities shows that white elderly in the city of Pittsburgh are disadvantaged.** In 2000 the city of Pittsburgh had the:

- 11<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (11.0%) for whites age 65 and older
- 24<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (52.9%) of white elderly age 65 and over living alone

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Leadership** The African American share (27%) of the city's population suggests that African Americans should have a substantial role to play in the community, such as in politics, government, business, and nonprofits. To the extent the African Americans are not well represented, reasons for lack of representation need to be studied and strategies for increasing representation need to be developed.

**Racial and Ethnic Diversity** While the percent of the city's population that is non-white increased from 28.5% in 1990 to 33.1% in 2000, the city continues to have one of the least diverse populations in urban America. This suggests that racial and ethnic understanding and tolerance are likely to be low in the city.

**Single-Parent Families and Poverty** The high rates of black (70%) and white (22%) children in the city living with their mothers makes it likely that many children will be disadvantaged. In fact, half (50%) of the black female-headed families with children and 34% of white female-headed families with children are in poverty in the city.

**Need for Services** The large numbers of African Americans and whites age 65 and over living alone suggest that more services for these groups are needed in this city than in

most large cities of the US. The extent to which the needs of these groups are being met should be examined.

**Preschool** Early education is critical to primary and secondary school success. African American children, who generally have education disadvantages, continue to participate at low levels in nursery school and preschool. Much more effort needs to be made to increase the percentage of poor children who receive quality early education.

**School Dropouts** The high rate of African American youth age 16-19 who are neither in school nor a high school graduate indicates continuing and serious education problems. However, the number of African American and white dropouts living in the city in 2000 was much smaller than the number there in 1990.

**Teen Idleness** About 1,000 African American youth in the city of Pittsburgh are neither in school nor employed. Many serious social problems can be avoided if these youth can get the help that will enable them to have greater success in school and in the labor force.

**Lack of Full-Time Jobs** African American and white female and male workers in the city of Pittsburgh have some of the lowest rates of full-time employment in urban America. Much more needs to be done to create full-time jobs.

**Low Wages** Full-time and part-time African American and white workers in the city of Pittsburgh have some of the lowest earnings in urban America. The quality of jobs needs to be greatly improved.

**Labor Supply** The low rate of full-time employment in the city of Pittsburgh and the low wages of full and part-time jobs suggest that there is a large pool of workers in the city who would like better jobs. Further, the increasing numbers of African Americans and whites in the city with a bachelor's degree or higher suggest that the quality of the workforce is improving. The supply of workers, quality of the workforce, and the low wages in the city should be locational advantages that are marketable to businesses.

**Poverty** Poverty rates for African American and white children, working-age adults, and elderly in the city of Pittsburgh are among the highest in urban America. This suggests that residents of the city have greater than average need for assistance with food, utilities, health care, and other basic needs. However, there was an absolute decline from 1990 to 2000 in the number of poor African Americans and whites living in the city.

**Transportation** High proportions of African American (49%) and white households (23%) in the city of Pittsburgh do not have a vehicle. This suggests that public transportation is more critical to the lives of people in Pittsburgh than in most other large cities.

**Home Values and Housing Costs** Home values and housing costs are not likely to be as low now as they were in 2000 because of the reassessment of property values that occurred after the census was taken.

TABLE 1. Socioeconomic Data for African Americans and Whites in the City of Pittsburgh, 2000

| Variable  | Black alone |           |            | Non-Hispanic White alone |           |            | Black/NHW Ratio |        |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|
|   | Value       | Median    | Ranking/70 | Value                    | Median    | Ranking/70 | Value           | Median | Ranking/70 |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Total Population  | 90,750      | 77,283    | 29         | 223,982                  | 223,939   | 35         | N/A             |        |            |
| Group as percent of total population  | 27.1%       | 16.8%     | 21         | 66.9%                    | 50.5%     | 14         |                 |        |            |
| Percent of children living with mother only                                 | 69.9%       | 57.4%     | 2          | 22.2%                    | 18.3%     | 12         | 3.2             | 3.0    | 28         |
| Percent of children living with two parents                                 | 22.3%       | 34.8%     | 69         | 71.9%                    | 75.1%     | 53         | 0.3             | 0.5    | 68         |
| Percent of children living with father only                                 | 7.9%        | 7.8%      | 34         | 5.9%                     | 6.3%      | 40         | 1.3             | 1.3    | 29         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is female only age 15-64    | 67.9%       | 54.8%     | 4          | 23.2%                    | 19.5%     | 14         | 2.9             | 2.6    | 18         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is married-couple age 15-64 | 24.6%       | 37.6%     | 68         | 70.7%                    | 73.6%     | 53         | 0.3             | 1.9    | 67         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is male only age 15-64      | 7.5%        | 8.1%      | 51         | 6.1%                     | 6.8%      | 41         | 1.2             | 1.3    | 39         |
| Percent disabled among population 5 to 20 years of age                      | 9.8%        | 10.0%     | 42         | 6.7%                     | 7.8%      | 57         | 1.5             | 1.3    | 16         |
| Percent veterans among civilian population 18 years of age and over         | 12.6%       | 11.9%     | 28         | 13.2%                    | 13.5%     | 42         | 1.0             | 1.1    | 25         |
| Percent living alone, age 65 and over                                       | 55.9%       | 46.3%     | 3          | 52.9%                    | 50.5%     | 24         | 1.1             | 0.9    | 8          |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent of children 3 to 5 years old enrolled in nursery school/preschool   | 38.5%       | 42.7%     | 48         | 47.3%                    | 46.2%     | 27         | 0.8             | 0.9    | 56         |
| H.S. dropout rate age 16-19 (percent neither in h.s. nor a h.s. grad)       | 11.7%       | 12.1%     | 39         | 4.6%                     | 7.6%      | 57         | 2.5             | 1.4    | 11         |
| Percent males age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher                            | 71.9%       | 75.5%     | 48         | 84.1%                    | 89.0%     | 60         | 1.1             | 1.2    | 46         |
| Percent males age ≥25 bachelor degree or higher                             | 11.7%       | 14.0%     | 47         | 31.7%                    | 36.0%     | 46         | 0.4             | 0.4    | 36         |
| Percent females age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher                          | 77.5%       | 76.3%     | 30         | 82.0%                    | 88.1%     | 62         | 1.2             | 1.1    | 27         |
| Percent females age ≥25 with bachelor degree or higher                      | 12.7%       | 14.5%     | 49         | 26.4%                    | 30.5%     | 49         | 0.5             | 0.5    | 32         |
| <b>WORK</b>   |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent employed among women age 16-64 with at least one child under age 6  | 53.2%       | 58.8%     | 54         | 58.4%                    | 60.3%     | 47         | 0.9             | 1.0    | 49         |
| Percent employed among women age 16-64 with at least one child age 6-17     | 64.0%       | 65.4%     | 42         | 67.6%                    | 70.4%     | 55         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 34         |
| Percent of female workers age 16 and above employed full-time in 1999       | 47.0%       | 51.4%     | 55         | 47.6%                    | 52.7%     | 65         | 1.0             | 1.0    | 28         |
| Percent of male workers age 16 and above employed full-time in 1999         | 51.9%       | 56.2%     | 58         | 59.1%                    | 66.3%     | 67         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 22         |
| Percent idle, age 16-19: not in school, armed forces, or labor force        | 18.3%       | 14.1%     | 7          | 5.3%                     | 7.7%      | 58         | 3.5             | 1.7    | 6          |
| Percent employed among disabled age 21-64                                   | 46.2%       | 50.6%     | 47         | 51.6%                    | 60.7%     | 62         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 18         |
| <b>EARNINGS AND INCOME</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Median earnings for pop. ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999      | \$ 24,787   | \$ 26,918 | 59         | \$ 30,506                | \$ 35,367 | 65         | 0.81            | 0.8    | 22         |
| Median earnings for males ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999     | \$ 27,432   | \$ 29,198 | 55         | \$ 33,926                | \$ 40,097 | 64         | 0.81            | 0.7    | 16         |
| Median earnings for fem. ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999      | \$ 22,563   | \$ 25,263 | 60         | \$ 26,383                | \$ 30,367 | 62         | 0.86            | 0.8    | 25         |
| Median earnings for pop. ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999      | \$ 8,072    | \$ 10,199 | 68         | \$ 7,829                 | \$ 11,202 | 70         | 1.0             | 0.9    | 7          |
| Median earnings for males ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999     | \$ 8,144    | \$ 10,508 | 68         | \$ 8,699                 | \$ 12,358 | 70         | 0.94            | 0.8    | 15         |
| Median earnings for fem. ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999      | \$ 8,022    | \$ 9,637  | 64         | \$ 7,265                 | \$ 10,388 | 70         | 1.1             | 0.9    | 5          |
| Median household income in 1999   | \$ 20,075   | \$ 28,301 | 66         | \$ 32,692                | \$ 44,205 | 67         | 0.61            | 0.6    | 46         |
| Median family income in 1999  | \$ 24,002   | \$ 32,299 | 66         | \$ 45,656                | \$ 57,035 | 63         | 0.53            | 0.6    | 45         |
| Median nonfamily household income in 1999                                   | \$ 13,138   | \$ 20,028 | 66         | \$ 21,290                | \$ 30,189 | 67         | 0.62            | 0.7    | 44         |
| Per capita income in 1999   | \$ 12,356   | \$ 14,235 | 58         | \$ 21,849                | \$ 26,290 | 64         | 0.57            | 0.5    | 29         |

Note: A ranking of 1 represents the highest value; a ranking of 70 represents the lowest value.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

TABLE 1. Socioeconomic Data for African Americans and Whites in the City of Pittsburgh, 2000

| Variable  | Black alone |           |            | Non-Hispanic White alone |            |            | Black/NHW Ratio |        |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|
|   | Value       | Median    | Ranking/70 | Value                    | Median     | Ranking/70 | Value           | Median | Ranking/70 |
| <b>POVERTY</b>  |             |           |            |                          |            |            |                 |        |            |
| Poverty rate  | 34.1%       | 25.4%     | 7          | 14.3%                    | 8.7%       | 5          | 2.4             | 2.8    | 52         |
| Poverty rate for children <18 for whom poverty status was determined        | 46.0%       | 34.0%     | 7          | 13.6%                    | 8.9%       | 17         | 3.4             | 3.4    | 38         |
| Poverty rate for pop. 18-64 for whom poverty status was determined          | 29.8%       | 21.7%     | 6          | 15.4%                    | 8.9%       | 3          | 1.9             | 2.3    | 58         |
| Poverty rate for pop. ≥65 for whom poverty status was determined            | 22.6%       | 20.8%     | 24         | 11.0%                    | 7.3%       | 11         | 2.1             | 2.7    | 54         |
| Poverty rate for married-couple families with related children under 18     | 12.2%       | 10.4%     | 21         | 4.8%                     | 3.4%       | 17         | 2.5             | 2.6    | 37         |
| Poverty rate for male-headed families with related children under 18        | 35.5%       | 26.5%     | 5          | 18.3%                    | 11.5%      | 8          | 1.9             | 2.1    | 41         |
| Poverty rate for female-headed families with related children under 18      | 50.3%       | 40.2%     | 9          | 34.0%                    | 21.6%      | 8          | 1.5             | 1.8    | 51         |
| <b>HOUSING</b>  |             |           |            |                          |            |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent housing units with >1 occupant per room                             | 2.8%        | 9.5%      | 70         | 1.1%                     | 2.0%       | 65         | 2.5             | 3.9    | 66         |
| Percent housing units with no vehicle available                             | 48.6%       | 20.7%     | 2          | 22.5%                    | 8.5%       | 10         | 2.2             | 2.4    | 43         |
| Percent housing units with no telephone service available                   | 2.3%        | 4.0%      | 60         | 1.0%                     | 1.3%       | 53         | 2.3             | 2.9    | 53         |
| Percent of housing units owned by householder                               | 35.9%       | 38.5%     | 50         | 59.9%                    | 61.2%      | 41         | 0.60            | 0.6    | 52         |
| Percent of owned housing units with a mortgage                              | 66.8%       | 78.5%     | 63         | 55.8%                    | 70.5%      | 67         | 1.2             | 1.1    | 16         |
| Pct. owned hhs with mort. spending ≥30% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs  | 36.5%       | 36.4%     | 35         | 23.6%                    | 25.1%      | 43         | 1.5             | 1.4    | 13         |
| Pct. owned hhs with mort. spending ≥50% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs  | 17.6%       | 15.8%     | 22         | 9.7%                     | 8.3%       | 25         | 1.8             | 1.8    | 37         |
| Pct. owned hhs w/out mort. spending ≥30% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs | 16.9%       | 17.3%     | 39         | 14.1%                    | 9.2%       | 9          | 1.2             | 1.8    | 57         |
| Pct. owned hhs w/out mort. spending ≥50% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs | 7.4%        | 7.9%      | 42         | 5.5%                     | 3.5%       | 9          | 1.3             | 2.0    | 59         |
| Med. monthly owner costs for mort. housing units as % of hh inc. (1999)     | 23.9%       | 24.4%     | 44         | 19.9%                    | 21.3%      | 52         | 1.2             | 1.1    | 13         |
| Med. monthly owner costs for non-mort. housing units as % of hh inc. (1999) | 14.4%       | 12.6%     | 10         | 13.3%                    | 10.0%      | 5          | 1.1             | 1.2    | 49         |
| Median monthly owner costs for mortgaged housing units                      | \$ 763      | \$ 921    | 61         | \$ 799                   | \$ 1,096   | 66         | 1.0             | 0.9    | 18         |
| Median monthly owner costs for non-mortgaged housing units                  | \$ 313      | \$ 279    | 15         | \$ 308                   | \$ 303     | 32         | 1.0             | 0.9    | 16         |
| Median value of owned housing units   | \$ 46,600   | \$ 87,450 | 69         | \$ 62,200                | \$ 123,050 | 69         | 0.75            | 0.7    | 28         |
| Median gross rent   | \$ 412      | \$ 536    | 68         | \$ 533                   | \$ 638     | 60         | 0.77            | 0.9    | 58         |
| Pct. rented hhs spending ≥30% of hh income (1999) on gross rent             | 41.7%       | 42.3%     | 42         | 40.2%                    | 36.6%      | 15         | 1.0             | 1.2    | 61         |
| Pct. rented hhs spending ≥50% of hh income (1999) on gross rent             | 20.6%       | 22.0%     | 42         | 22.4%                    | 16.5%      | 6          | 0.92            | 1.3    | 68         |

Note: A ranking of 1 represents the highest value; a ranking of 70 represents the lowest value.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Table 2. Trend Analysis for Blacks and Non-Hispanic Whites in the City of Pittsburgh

| Variable  | Black Alone*** |         |           |         |                          |                         | Non-Hispanic White alone*** |         |           |         |                          |                         | Black/NHW Ratio |       |
|---|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|
|   | 1990           |         | 2000      |         | Percent Change in Number | Percentage Point Change | 1990                        |         | 2000      |         | Percent Change in Number | Percentage Point Change | 1990            | 2000  |
|   | Number         | Percent | Number    | Percent |                          |                         | Number                      | Percent | Number    | Percent |                          |                         |                 |       |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b>                                      |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                             |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |       |
| Total Population  | 95,635         | 25.9%   | 90,750    | 27.1%   | -5.1%                    | 1.3%                    | 264,594                     | 71.5%   | 223,982   | 66.9%   | -15.3%                   | -4.6%                   | 0.4             | 0.4   |
| Single female families with own children under age 18*                  | 8,362          | 69.1%   | 8,203     | 67.5%   | -1.9%                    | -1.6%                   | 4,428                       | 19.5%   | 4,291     | 23.1%   | -3.1%                    | 3.6%                    | 3.5             | 2.9   |
| Married couple families with own children under age 18*                 | 3,201          | 26.5%   | 3,011     | 24.8%   | -5.9%                    | -1.7%                   | 17,458                      | 77.0%   | 13,132    | 70.7%   | -24.8%                   | -6.3%                   | 0.3             | 0.4   |
| Single male families with own children under age 18*                    | 531            | 4.4%    | 933       | 7.7%    | 75.7%                    | 3.3%                    | 777                         | 3.4%    | 1,139     | 6.1%    | 46.6%                    | 2.7%                    | 1.3             | 1.3   |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                             |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |       |
| H.S. dropout rate age 16-19 (percent neither in h.s. nor a h.s. grad)   | 939            | 14.4%   | 655       | 11.7%   | -30.2%                   | -2.7%                   | 1,026                       | 6.5%    | 647       | 4.6%    | -36.9%                   | -1.9%                   | 2.2             | 2.5   |
| Percent males age ≥25 with high school degree or higher                 | 15,460         | 65.0%   | 15,870    | 71.9%   | 2.7%                     | 6.9%                    | 62,296                      | 75.3%   | 61,561    | 84.1%   | -1.2%                    | 8.8%                    | 0.9             | 0.9   |
| Percent males age ≥25 bachelor degree or higher                         | 2,307          | 9.7%    | 2,576     | 11.7%   | 11.7%                    | 2.0%                    | 21,479                      | 26.0%   | 23,227    | 31.7%   | 8.1%                     | 5.7%                    | 0.4             | 0.4   |
| Percent females age ≥25 with high school degree or higher               | 22,054         | 67.2%   | 23,524    | 77.5%   | 6.7%                     | 10.3%                   | 73,355                      | 72.7%   | 67,809    | 82.0%   | -7.6%                    | 9.3%                    | 0.9             | 0.9   |
| Percent females age ≥25 with bachelor degree or higher                  | 2,697          | 8.2%    | 3,840     | 12.7%   | 42.4%                    | 4.5%                    | 19,695                      | 19.5%   | 21,881    | 26.4%   | 11.1%                    | 6.9%                    | 0.4             | 0.5   |
| <b>WORK</b>   |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                             |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |       |
| Labor Force Participation 16+   | 35,862         | 50.7%   | 34,856    | 54.2%   | -2.8%                    | 3.5%                    | 129,725                     | 57.4%   | 116,219   | 59.80%  | -10.4%                   | 2.4%                    | 0.9             | 0.9   |
| Workers age 16+ working full-time (prior year)                          | 16,289         | 43.3%   | 19,005    | 49.2%   | 16.7%                    | 5.9%                    | 73,596                      | 50.8%   | 69,165    | 53.6%   | -6.0%                    | 2.8%                    | 0.9             | 0.9   |
| <b>INCOME (previous year)**</b>   |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                             |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |       |
| Median household income   | \$ 16,360      |         | \$ 20,075 |         | 22.7%                    |                         | \$ 31,719                   |         | \$ 32,692 |         | 3.1%                     |                         | 51.6%           | 61.4% |
| Median family income  | \$ 20,239      |         | \$ 24,002 |         | 18.6%                    |                         | \$ 42,694                   |         | \$ 45,656 |         | 6.9%                     |                         | 47.4%           | 52.6% |
| Median nonfamily household income                                       | \$ 11,528      |         | \$ 13,138 |         | 14.0%                    |                         | \$ 18,638                   |         | \$ 21,290 |         | 14.2%                    |                         | 61.9%           | 61.7% |
| Per capita income   | \$ 9,797       |         | \$ 12,356 |         | 26.1%                    |                         | \$ 19,502                   |         | \$ 21,849 |         | 12.0%                    |                         | 50.2%           | 56.6% |
| <b>POVERTY</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                             |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |       |
| Poverty rate  | 37,295         | 40.9%   | 28,831    | 34.1%   | -22.7%                   | -6.8%                   | 35,917                      | 14.3%   | 30,111    | 14.3%   | -16.2%                   | 0.0%                    | 2.9             | 2.4   |
| Poverty rate for children under age 18                                  | 15,416         | 56.7%   | 12,523    | 46.0%   | -18.8%                   | -10.7%                  | 7,094                       | 16.5%   | 4,569     | 13.6%   | -35.6%                   | -2.9%                   | 3.4             | 3.4   |
| Poverty rate for pop. age 18-64   | 18,410         | 35.2%   | 13,941    | 29.8%   | -24.3%                   | -5.4%                   | 22,906                      | 14.5%   | 21,060    | 15.4%   | -8.1%                    | 0.9%                    | 2.4             | 1.9   |
| Poverty rate for pop. age 65 and over                                   | 3,281          | 28.5%   | 2,367     | 22.6%   | -27.9%                   | -5.9%                   | 5,700                       | 11.4%   | 4,482     | 11.0%   | -21.4%                   | -0.4%                   | 2.5             | 2.1   |
| Poverty rate for married-couple families with related children under 18 | 673            | 17.6%   | 416       | 12.2%   | -38.2%                   | -5.4%                   | 1,411                       | 7.5%    | 654       | 4.8%    | -53.6%                   | -2.7%                   | 2.3             | 2.5   |
| Poverty rate for male-headed families with related children under 18    | 315            | 42.2%   | 736       | 35.5%   | 133.7%                   | -6.7%                   | 260                         | 24.7%   | 228       | 18.3%   | -12.3%                   | -6.4%                   | 1.7             | 1.9   |
| Poverty rate for female-headed families with related children under 18  | 6,422          | 65.4%   | 4,864     | 50.3%   | -24.3%                   | -15.1%                  | 2,817                       | 43.1%   | 1,704     | 34.0%   | -39.5%                   | -9.1%                   | 1.5             | 1.5   |
| <b>HOUSING</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                             |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |       |
| Percent housing units with >1 occupant per room                         | 1,382          | 3.80%   | 980       | 2.8%    | -29.1%                   | -1.0%                   | 1250                        | 1.1%    | 1,122     | 1.1%    | -10.2%                   | 0.0%                    | 3.5             | 2.5   |
| Percent housing units with no vehicle available                         | 20,786         | 57.2%   | 16,987    | 48.6%   | -18.3%                   | -8.7%                   | 31,543                      | 27.7%   | 22,807    | 22.5%   | -27.7%                   | -5.2%                   | 2.1             | 2.2   |
| Percent of housing units owned by householder                           | 12,325         | 33.9%   | 12,551    | 35.9%   | 1.8%                     | 2.0%                    | 66,919                      | 58.8%   | 60657     | 59.9%   | -9.4%                    | 1.1%                    | 0.6             | 0.6   |
| Percent of owned housing units with a mortgage                          | 6261           | 56.0%   | 7,658     | 66.8%   | 22.3%                    | 10.7%                   | 25,813                      | 44.4%   | 29,946    | 55.8%   | 16.0%                    | 11.4%                   | 1.3             | 1.2   |
| Median value of owned housing units**                                   | \$ 44,354      |         | \$ 46,600 |         | 5.1%                     |                         | \$ 57,084                   |         | \$ 62,200 |         | 9.0%                     |                         | 77.7%           | 74.9% |

\*Non-Hispanic white data are not available for 1990, so white only data were used for 1990 and 2000.

\*\*Income data and median value of owned occupied housing units is adjusted for inflation (34%) to match 1999 dollars, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*\*\*In the 2000 census respondents could select single or multiple racial categories, whereas in 1990 respondents with multiple racial identities could select only one race.

Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

# BLACK-WHITE BENCHMARKS FOR ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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## INTRODUCTION

The African American (black alone) population in Allegheny County in 2000 was 158,002, and the non-Hispanic white (white alone) population was 1,074,037. The purpose of this report is to assess the socioeconomic status of blacks and whites in Allegheny County based on 2000 census data. Current conditions in the county are determined by comparing black conditions, white conditions, and black-white disparities in the 50 largest counties on more than 50 social and economic variables. The 50 largest counties are compared in order to include Allegheny County, which had the 28<sup>th</sup> largest population in 2000, and to compare the county to a sizable number of other large counties.

In addition, this report contains data and findings on changes in black and white conditions in Allegheny County from 1990 to 2000. Complete data on all 50 counties and their rankings are in a separate databook.

This report and similar reports for the city of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh MSA are available online at [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu) (see publications). The Pittsburgh Foundation provided funding for these studies.

## AFRICAN AMERICAN AND WHITE CONDITIONS IN 2000 (Table 1)

Our comparison of the 50 largest counties in the US shows that:

- 1. Allegheny County has an average percentage of African Americans and a high percentage of whites in the general population.** In 2000 Allegheny County had the:
  - 26<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (12.3%) of African Americans in the population
  - Highest percentage (83.8%) of non-Hispanic whites in the population
- 2. High percentages of African American and white children in Allegheny County live in single, female-headed households.** In 2000 the county had the:
  - 4<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (65.0%) of black children living with a single mother
  - 21<sup>st</sup> highest percentage (15.5%) of white children living with a single mother
  - 5<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (27.8%) of black children living with two parents
  - 24<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (80.0%) of white children living with two parents

3. **High percentages of black and white families with children in Allegheny County are headed by single women.** In 2000 the county had the:
  - Fourth highest percentage (62.6%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
  - 19<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (16.7%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
  - Fourth lowest percentage (30.0%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
  - 25<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (78.6%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
  
4. **High percentages of African American and white elderly residents in Allegheny County live alone.** In 2000 the county had the:
  - Second highest percentage (53.6%) of African American elderly age 65 and over who were living alone
  - 17<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (47.5%) of white elderly age 65 and over living alone
  
5. **A low percentage of African American children but a high percentage of white children age 3-5 in Allegheny County are enrolled in nursery school or preschool.** In 2000 the county had the:
  - 12<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (40.2%) of black children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> highest percentage (51.7%) of white children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool
  
6. **African Americans and whites age 16-19 in Allegheny County have low dropout rates.** In 2000 the county had the:
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> lowest percentage (9.9%) of blacks age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
  - 17<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.2%) of whites age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
  
7. **African American women in Allegheny County with children under age 18 have low employment rates while white women with children have high rates.** In 2000 the county had the:
  - Fourth lowest employment rate (55.4%) among black women with children under age 6
  - 16<sup>th</sup> highest employment rate (60.2%) among white women with children under age 6
  - 12<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (65.3%) among black women with children age 6-17
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> highest employment rate (69.5%) for white women with children age 6-17

- 8. Low percentages of African American female and male and white male workers in Allegheny County are employed full-time.** In 2000 the county had the:
- 10th lowest rate (50.3%) for full-time employment among black female workers age 16 and over
  - 25<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (52.3%) for full-time employment among white female workers age 16 and over
  - 11th lowest rate (56.2%) for full-time employment among black male workers age 16 and over
  - 19<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (68.3%) for full-time employment among white male workers age 16 and over
- 9. A high percentage of African Americans but a low percentage of whites age 16-19 in Allegheny County are neither in school nor in the labor force.** In 2000 the county had the:
- Fourth highest percentage (16.4%) of black youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
  - 17<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.5%) of white youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- 10. Disabled African American and white adults of working age in Allegheny County have low rates of employment.** In 2000 the county had the:
- 10<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (47.7%) of employment among black disabled adults age 21-64
  - 11<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (57.2%) of employment among white disabled adults age 21-64
- 11. African American and white full-time workers in Allegheny County have low median earnings.** In 1999 the county had the:
- Eighth lowest median earnings (\$23,928) among black female full-time workers
  - Fifth lowest median earnings (\$28,243) among white female full-time workers
  - Ninth lowest median earnings (\$28,380) among black male full-time workers
  - Eighth lowest median earnings (\$39,803) among white male full-time workers
- 12. African American and white part-time workers in Allegheny County have very low median earnings.** In 1999 the county had the:
- Lowest median earnings (\$8,020) among black female part-time workers
  - Lowest median earnings (\$8,613) among white female part-time workers
  - Second lowest median earnings (\$8,469) among black male part-time workers
  - Second lowest median earnings (\$10,517) among white male part-time workers
- 13. African Americans and whites in Allegheny County have low median household and family incomes and low per capita income.** In 1999 the county had the:

- Second lowest median household income (\$22,130) for blacks
- Fifth lowest median household income (\$40,880) for whites
- Third lowest median family income (\$26,417) for blacks
- Fourth lowest median family income (\$52,630) for whites
- Sixth lowest per capita income (\$13,093) for blacks
- Sixth lowest per capita income (\$24,034) for whites

**14. African American and white poverty rates in Allegheny County are among the highest in the nation.** In 1999 the county had the:

- Fourth highest poverty rate (30.9%) for African Americans and 11<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (8.0%) for whites
- Third highest poverty rate (42.3%) for African American children and 14<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (8.6%) for white children under age 18
- Fourth highest poverty rate (26.1%) for African American adults age 18-64 and 12<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (7.8%) for whites age 18-64
- 16<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (21.4%) for African Americans age 65 and older and seventh highest poverty rate (7.9%) for whites age 65 and older
- Second highest poverty rate (49.1%) for African American female-headed families with children under age 18 and sixth highest poverty rate (28.1%) for white female-headed families with children under age 18
- Second highest poverty rate (32.4%) for African American male-headed families with children under age 18 and 10<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (12.9%) for white male-headed families with children under age 18
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (9.7%) for African American married-couple families with children under age 18 and 13<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (3.1%) for white married-couple families with children under age 18

**15. Small percentages of African American and white households in Allegheny County are overcrowded or lack telephone service, but high percentages have no vehicle available.** In 2000 the county had the:

- Lowest rate (2.8%) for African American households and lowest rate (0.7%) for white households with more than one person on average per room
- 13<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (2.1%) for African American households and 19<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (0.7%) for white households with no telephone service
- Sixth highest rate (41.3%) for African American households and seventh highest rate (12.7%) for white households with no vehicle available

**16. African American homeownership is low and white homeownership is high in Allegheny County, and median home values are among the lowest in the nation.** In 2000 the county had the:

- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest homeownership rate (39.1%) for African American households and 19<sup>th</sup> highest rate (71.8%) for white households

- Second lowest value (\$52,000) for homes owned by African Americans and second lowest value (\$86,400) for homes owned by whites

**17. Monthly housing costs for African American and white homeowners and renters are among the lowest in the nation.** In 2000 the county had the:

- Fourth lowest monthly costs (\$797) for African American homeowners with mortgages and fourth lowest monthly costs (\$986) for white homeowners with mortgages
- Lowest monthly costs (\$433) for African American renters and lowest monthly costs (\$533) for white renters

**FINDINGS ON BLACK-WHITE DISPARITIES IN 2000 (Table 1)**

Our comparison of black and white conditions in Allegheny County shows that:

- The poverty rate for African American children (42.3%) is about five times the white rate (8.6%)
- The percentage of black children living with their mother only (65.0%) is more than four times the rate for white children (15.5%)
- The percent of African American 16-19 year-olds who are neither in school nor in the labor force (16.4%) is 3.6 times the white rate (4.5%)
- The poverty rate for African American working-age adults (26.1%) is 3.3 times the white rate (7.8%)
- The percent of African American households without a vehicle (41.3%) is 3.3 times the rate for whites (12.7%)
- The per capita income of African Americans (\$13,093) is 54% of that of whites (\$24,034)
- The median value of homes owned by African Americans (\$52,000) is 60% of that of whites (\$86,400)

**CHANGE IN CONDITIONS FROM 1990 TO 2000 (Table 2)**

The most important changes in Allegheny County in the past decade were:

- The African American population increased by 8,000 (5.6%) while the white population declined by 91,000 (-7.8%)
- The number of African American high school dropouts age 16-19 living in the county declined by 24% and the number of white dropouts declined by 35%
- The number of African American women age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 2,000 (42%) and the number of white women age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 22,000 (26%)
- The number of African American men age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 900 (21%) and the number of white men age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 11,000 (10%)

- The number of African American residents employed full-time increased by 8,000 (28%) while the number of white residents employed full-time declined by 1,000 (-0.3%)
- The real per capita income of African Americans increased by \$1,900 (17%) while the white per capita income increased by \$2,600 (12%)
- The number of African American residents in poverty declined by 5,000 (-9.5%) while the number of whites in poverty declined by 12,500 (-13%)
- The number of African American female-headed families with children in poverty declined by 1,000 (-11%) while the number for whites declined by 2,400 (-28%)
- The median value of homes owned by African Americans increased by \$4,000 (8.2%) while the value of the homes owned by whites increased by \$9,000 (11%)
- The number of homes owned by African Americans increased by 2,500 (12.0%) while the number of homes owned by whites declined by 4,000 (-1.1%)

## CONCLUSIONS

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 50 largest counties shows that African American children and youth in Allegheny County are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 Allegheny County had the:

- Third highest poverty rate (42.3%) for African American children under age 18
- Fourth highest percentage (16.4%) of black youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- Fourth highest percentage (65.0%) of black children living with a single mother
- Fifth lowest percentage (27.8%) of black children living with two parents
- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (40.2%) of black children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

On the other hand, the county had an average rate for African American high school dropouts in that the county in 2000 had the:

- 22<sup>nd</sup> lowest percentage (9.9%) of African Americans age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 50 largest counties shows that African American working-age adults in Allegheny County are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 the county had the:

- Lowest median earnings (\$8,020) among black female part-time workers
- Second lowest median earnings (\$8,469) among black male part-time workers
- Second highest poverty rate (49.1%) for African American female-headed families with children under age 18
- Second highest poverty rate (32.4%) for African American male-headed families with children under age 18
- Fourth lowest employment rate (55.4%) among black women with children under age 6
- Fourth highest poverty rate (26.1%) for African American adults age 18-64

- Fourth lowest percentage (30.0%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
- Fourth highest percentage (62.6%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- Eighth lowest median earnings (\$23,928) among black female full-time workers
- Ninth lowest median earnings (\$28,380) among black male full-time workers
- 10th lowest rate (50.3%) for full-time employment among black female workers age 16 and over
- 10<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (47.7%) of employment among black disabled adults age 21-64
- 11th lowest rate (56.2%) for full-time employment among black male workers age 16 and over
- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (65.3%) among black women with children age 6-17
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (9.7%) for African American married-couple families with children under age 18

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 50 largest counties shows that African American elderly in Allegheny County are disadvantaged.** In 2000 the county had the:

- Second highest percentage (53.6%) of African American elderly age 65 and over who were living alone
- 16<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (21.4%) for African Americans age 65 and older

**The comparison of white conditions in the 50 largest counties shows that white children and youth in Allegheny County are in some ways disadvantaged and in other ways advantaged.** In 2000 white children and youth were disadvantaged in that the county had the:

- 14<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (8.6%) for white children under age 18
- 21<sup>st</sup> highest percentage (15.5%) of white children living with a single mother

In 2000 white children and youth were advantaged in that the county had the:

- 17<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.5%) of white youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- 17<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.2%) of whites age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
- 22<sup>nd</sup> highest percentage (51.7%) of white children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

**The comparison of white conditions in the 50 largest counties shows that white working-age adults in Allegheny County are among the most disadvantaged in urban America.** In 2000 the county had the:

- Lowest median earnings (\$8,613) among white female part-time workers
- Second lowest median earnings (\$10,517) among white male part-time workers
- 12<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (7.8%) for whites age 18-64

- 19<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (68.3%) for full-time employment among white male workers age 16 and over
- Eighth lowest median earnings (\$39,803) among white male full-time workers
- Sixth highest poverty rate (28.1%) for white female-headed families with children under age 18
- 10<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (12.9%) for white male-headed families with children under age 18
- Fifth lowest median earnings (\$28,243) among white female full-time workers
- 11<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (57.2%) of employment among white disabled adults age 21-64
- 19<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (16.7%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- 13<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (3.1%) for white married-couple families with children under age 18

On the other hand, the county had average or better than average white conditions in that the county had the:

- 16<sup>th</sup> highest employment rate (60.2%) among white women with children age 0-5
- 23<sup>rd</sup> highest employment rate (69.5%) for white women with children age 6-17
- 25<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (78.6%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
- 25<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (52.3%) for full-time employment among white female workers age 16 and over

**The comparison of white conditions in the 50 largest counties shows that white elderly in Allegheny County are disadvantaged.** In 2000 the county had the:

- Seventh highest poverty rate (7.9%) for whites age 65 and older
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (47.5%) of white elderly age 65 and over living alone

## **IMPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS**

**Leadership** The African American share (12%) of the county's population suggests that African Americans should have a substantial role to play in the community, such as in politics, government, business, and nonprofits. To the extent the African Americans are not well represented, reasons for lack of representation need to be studied and strategies for increasing representation need to be developed.

**Racial and Ethnic Diversity** While the percent of the county's population that is non-white increased from 13% in 1990 to 16% in 2000, Allegheny County continues to be the least racially and ethnically diverse large county in America. This suggests that racial and ethnic understanding and tolerance are likely to be low in the county.

**Single-Parent Families and Poverty** The high percentages of black (65%) and white (16%) children in the county living with their mothers make it likely that many children will be disadvantaged. In fact, half (49%) of the African American and 28% of white female-headed families with children are in poverty in the county.

**Need for Services** The large numbers of African Americans and whites age 65 and over living alone suggest that more services for these groups are needed in this county than in most large cities of the US. The extent to which the needs of these groups are being met should be examined.

**Preschool** Early education is critical to primary and secondary school success. African American children, who generally have education disadvantages, continue to participate at low levels in nursery school and preschool. Much more effort needs to be made to increase the percentage of poor children who receive quality early education.

**Teen Idleness** A high percentage (16%) of African American youth age 16-19 in Allegheny County are neither in school nor employed. Many serious social problems can be avoided if these youth can get the help that will enable them to have greater success in school and in the labor force.

**Lack of Full-Time Jobs** African American female and male workers and white male workers in Allegheny County have some of the lowest rates of full-time employment in urban America. Much more needs to be done to create full-time jobs and connect these workers to better jobs.

**Low Wages** Full-time and part-time, African American and white, female and male workers in Allegheny County have some of the lowest earnings in urban America. The quality of jobs needs to be greatly improved.

**Labor Supply** The low rate of full-time employment in Allegheny County and the low wages of full and part-time jobs suggest that there is a large pool of workers in the county who would like better jobs. Further, the increasing numbers of African Americans and whites in the county with a bachelor's degree or higher suggest that the quality of the workforce is improving. The supply of workers, quality of the workforce, and the low wages in the county should be locational advantages that are marketable to businesses.

**Poverty** Poverty rates for African American and white children, working-age adults, and elderly in Allegheny County are among the highest in urban America. This suggests that residents of the county have greater than average need for assistance with food, utilities, health care, and other basic needs. However, there was an absolute decline from 1990 to 2000 in the number of poor African Americans and whites living in the county.

**Transportation** The shares of African American (41%) and white (13%) households in the county without a vehicle is high. This suggests that public transportation is more critical to the lives of people in the county than in most other large counties.

**Home Values and Housing Costs** Home values and housing costs are not likely to be as low now as they were in 2000 because of the reassessment of property values that occurred after the census was taken.

Table 1. Socioeconomic Conditions of African Americans and Whites in Allegheny County, 2000

| Variable  | Black alone |           |            | Non-Hispanic White alone |           |            | Black/NHW Ratio |        |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|
|   | Value       | Median    | Ranking/50 | Value                    | Median    | Ranking/50 | Value           | Median | Ranking/50 |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Total Population  | 158,002     | 149,923   | 23         | 1,074,037                | 765,650   | 10         | N/A             |        |            |
| Group as percent of total population  | 12.3%       | 12.5%     | 26         | 83.8%                    | 59.8%     | 1          |                 |        |            |
| Percent of children living with two parents                                   | 27.8%       | 41.6%     | 46         | 80.0%                    | 80.3%     | 27         | 0.3             | 0.5    | 47         |
| Percent of children living with father only                                   | 7.3%        | 7.8%      | 38         | 4.5%                     | 5.4%      | 32         | 1.6             | 1.5    | 20         |
| Percent of children living with mother only                                   | 65.0%       | 50.9%     | 4          | 15.5%                    | 14.6%     | 21         | 4.2             | 3.5    | 12         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is married-couple age 15-64   | 30.0%       | 46.0%     | 47         | 78.6%                    | 78.7%     | 26         | 0.4             | 0.6    | 48         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is male only age 15-64        | 7.4%        | 7.7%      | 31         | 4.7%                     | 5.2%      | 30         | 1.6             | 1.6    | 25         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is female only age 15-64      | 62.6%       | 46.5%     | 4          | 16.7%                    | 15.8%     | 19         | 3.7             | 3.0    | 9          |
| Percent disabled among population 5 to 20 years of age                        | 9.4%        | 9.6%      | 29         | 5.7%                     | 6.9%      | 45         | 1.6             | 1.4    | 11         |
| Percent veterans among civilian population 18 years of age and over           | 13.3%       | 11.3%     | 13         | 14.7%                    | 13.4%     | 16         | 0.9             | 0.8    | 16         |
| Percent of householders living alone, age 65 and over                         | 53.6%       | 42.2%     | 2          | 47.5%                    | 45.2%     | 17         | 1.1             | 0.9    | 5          |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent of children 3 to 5 years old enrolled in nursery school/preschool     | 40.2%       | 44.2%     | 39         | 51.7%                    | 50.6%     | 22         | 0.8             | 0.9    | 42         |
| H.S. dropout rate age 16-19 (percent neither in h.s. nor a h.s. grad)         | 9.9%        | 10.2%     | 29         | 4.2%                     | 5.3%      | 34         | 2.4             | 1.8    | 11         |
| Percent males age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher                              | 76.5%       | 78.5%     | 29         | 88.1%                    | 89.8%     | 34         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 29         |
| Percent males age ≥25 with bachelor's degree or higher                        | 13.5%       | 15.8%     | 39         | 33.3%                    | 34.1%     | 26         | 2.5             | 2.2    | 14         |
| Percent females age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher                            | 80.4%       | 78.7%     | 22         | 86.4%                    | 86.5%     | 26         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 25         |
| Percent females age ≥25 with bachelor's degree or higher                      | 13.3%       | 17.2%     | 41         | 25.9%                    | 32.0%     | 38         | 0.5             | 0.6    | 33         |
| <b>WORK</b>   |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Pct. females ≥16 years employed or in armed forces with at least one child <6 | 55.4%       | 62.3%     | 47         | 60.2%                    | 58.9%     | 16         | 0.9             | 1.1    | 46         |
| Pct. fem. ≥16 employed or in armed forces with at least one child 6-17 years  | 65.3%       | 69.2%     | 39         | 69.5%                    | 68.9%     | 23         | 0.9             | 1.0    | 41         |
| Pct. female workers age 16+ working full-time in 1999                         | 50.3%       | 54.3%     | 41         | 52.3%                    | 52.4%     | 26         | 1.0             | 1.0    | 41         |
| Pct. male workers age 16+ working full-time in 1999                           | 56.2%       | 59.7%     | 40         | 68.3%                    | 70.0%     | 32         | 0.8             | 0.9    | 41         |
| Percent idle, age 16-19, not in school, armed forces or in labor force        | 16.4%       | 12.9%     | 4          | 4.5%                     | 5.9%      | 34         | 3.6             | 2.1    | 4          |
| Percent employed of disabled age 21-64  | 47.7%       | 55.1%     | 41         | 57.2%                    | 62.7%     | 40         | 0.8             | 0.9    | 40         |
| <b>EARNINGS AND INCOME</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Median earnings for pop. ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999        | \$ 25,886   | \$ 29,643 | 43         | \$ 34,166                | \$ 40,147 | 44         | 0.76            | 0.75   | 16         |
| Median earnings for fem. ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999        | \$ 23,928   | \$ 27,360 | 43         | \$ 28,243                | \$ 33,651 | 46         | 0.85            | 0.84   | 20         |
| Median earnings for males ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999       | \$ 28,380   | \$ 31,380 | 42         | \$ 39,803                | \$ 45,354 | 43         | 0.71            | 0.71   | 24         |
| Median earnings for pop. ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999        | \$ 8,204    | \$ 11,163 | 50         | \$ 9,335                 | \$ 12,369 | 50         | 0.88            | 0.90   | 30         |
| Median earnings for fem. ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999        | \$ 8,020    | \$ 10,800 | 50         | \$ 8,613                 | \$ 11,466 | 50         | 0.93            | 0.94   | 25         |
| Median earnings for males ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999       | \$ 8,469    | \$ 11,437 | 49         | \$ 10,517                | \$ 14,453 | 49         | 0.81            | 0.81   | 26         |
| Median household income in 1999   | \$ 22,130   | \$ 33,339 | 49         | \$ 40,880                | \$ 51,717 | 46         | 0.54            | 0.65   | 44         |
| Median family income in 1999  | \$ 26,417   | \$ 37,276 | 48         | \$ 52,630                | \$ 63,331 | 47         | 0.50            | 0.58   | 40         |
| Median nonfamily household income in 1999                                     | \$ 14,766   | \$ 23,573 | 49         | \$ 23,391                | \$ 31,757 | 48         | 0.63            | 0.73   | 40         |
| Per capita income in 1999   | \$ 13,093   | \$ 15,969 | 45         | \$ 24,034                | \$ 29,761 | 45         | 0.54            | 0.57   | 30         |

Note: A ranking of 1 represents the highest value; a ranking of 50 represents the lowest value.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Table 1. Socioeconomic Conditions of African Americans and Whites in Allegheny County, 2000

| Variable  | Black alone |            |            | Non-Hispanic White alone |            |            | Black/NHW Ratio |        |            |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|
|   | Value       | Median     | Ranking/50 | Value                    | Median     | Ranking/50 | Value           | Median | Ranking/50 |
| <b>POVERTY</b>  |             |            |            |                          |            |            |                 |        |            |
| Poverty rate  | 30.9%       | 20.9%      | 4          | 8.0%                     | 6.5%       | 11         | 3.9             | 3.3    | 15         |
| Poverty rate for children <18 for whom poverty status was determined          | 42.3%       | 28.7%      | 3          | 8.6%                     | 6.2%       | 14         | 4.9             | 4.1    | 16         |
| Poverty rate for pop. 18-64 for whom poverty status was determined            | 26.1%       | 17.1%      | 4          | 7.8%                     | 6.4%       | 12         | 3.3             | 2.8    | 15         |
| Poverty rate for pop. ≥65 for whom poverty status was determined              | 21.4%       | 18.2%      | 16         | 7.9%                     | 6.2%       | 7          | 2.7             | 2.8    | 29         |
| Poverty rate for female-headed families (income below poverty level in 1999)  | 49.1%       | 36.8%      | 2          | 28.1%                    | 18.0%      | 6          | 1.7             | 2.0    | 33         |
| Poverty rate for male-headed families (income below poverty level in 1999)    | 32.4%       | 22.4%      | 2          | 12.9%                    | 9.1%       | 10         | 2.5             | 2.2    | 14         |
| Poverty rate for married-couple families (income below poverty level in 1999) | 9.7%        | 7.7%       | 17         | 3.1%                     | 2.5%       | 13         | 3.1             | 2.9    | 23         |
| <b>HOUSING</b>  |             |            |            |                          |            |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent housing units with >1 occupant per room                               | 2.8%        | 9.6%       | 50         | 0.7%                     | 2.1%       | 50         | 4.0             | 4.3    | 29         |
| Percent housing units with no telephone service available                     | 2.1%        | 3.1%       | 38         | 0.7%                     | 0.9%       | 32         | 3.0             | 3.3    | 33         |
| Percent housing units with no vehicle available                               | 41.3%       | 17.8%      | 6          | 12.7%                    | 6.8%       | 7          | 3.3             | 2.6    | 9          |
| Percent of housing units owned by householder                                 | 39.1%       | 43.0%      | 33         | 71.8%                    | 70.2%      | 19         | 0.54            | 0.6    | 39         |
| Percent of owned housing units with a mortgage                                | 69.4%       | 83.2%      | 46         | 60.1%                    | 73.0%      | 45         | 1.2             | 1.1    | 23         |
| Pct. owned hhs with mort. spending ≥30% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs    | 34.6%       | 38.3%      | 30         | 24.3%                    | 28.6%      | 35         | 1.4             | 1.4    | 16         |
| Pct. owned hhs with mort. spending ≥50% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs    | 15.8%       | 15.1%      | 21         | 8.8%                     | 9.1%       | 27         | 1.8             | 1.5    | 12         |
| Pct. owned hhs w/out mort. spending ≥30% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs   | 18.3%       | 17.6%      | 23         | 12.3%                    | 9.7%       | 15         | 1.5             | 1.6    | 30         |
| Pct. owned hhs w/out mort. spending ≥50% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs   | 8.2%        | 8.0%       | 21         | 4.4%                     | 4.1%       | 17         | 1.9             | 1.9    | 25         |
| Med. monthly owner costs for mort. housing units as % of hh inc. (1999)       | 23.5%       | 25.0%      | 34         | 20.7                     | 22.3       | 36         | 1.1             | 1.1    | 27         |
| Med. monthly owner costs for non-mort. housing units as % of hh inc. (1999)   | 14.3%       | 12.7%      | 6          | 12.9%                    | 10.6%      | 11         | 1.1             | 1.1    | 28         |
| Median monthly owner costs for mortgaged housing units                        | \$ 797      | \$ 1,198   | 47         | \$ 986                   | \$ 1,311   | 47         | 0.81            | 0.85   | 34         |
| Median monthly owner costs for non-mortgaged housing units                    | \$ 314      | \$ 307     | 22         | \$ 344                   | \$ 355     | 28         | 0.91            | 0.90   | 24         |
| Median value of owned housing units   | \$ 52,000   | \$ 129,050 | 49         | \$ 86,400                | \$ 156,850 | 49         | 0.60            | 0.69   | 38         |
| Median gross rent   | \$ 433      | \$ 632     | 50         | \$ 533                   | \$ 735     | 50         | 0.81            | 0.86   | 37         |
| Pct. rented hhs spending ≥30% of hh income (1999) on gross rent               | 41.3%       | 42.9%      | 33         | 35.7%                    | 36.7%      | 28         | 1.2             | 1.2    | 35         |
| Pct. rented hhs spending ≥50% of hh income (1999) on gross rent               | 20.5%       | 21.3%      | 30         | 17.5%                    | 16.7%      | 19         | 1.2             | 1.3    | 36         |

Note: A ranking of 1 represents the highest value; a ranking of 50 represents the lowest value.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

**Table 2. Socioeconomic Trends for African Americans and Whites in Allegheny County, 1990 to 2000**

| Variable  | Black Alone*** |         |           |         |                          |                         | Non-Hispanic White*** |         |           |         |                          |                         | Black/NHW Ratio |      |
|---|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------|
|   | 1990           |         | 2000      |         | Percent Change in Number | Percentage Point Change | 1990                  |         | 2000      |         | Percent Change in Number | Percentage Point Change | 1990            | 2000 |
|   | Number         | Percent | Number    | Percent |                          |                         | Number                | Percent | Number    | Percent |                          |                         |                 |      |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b>                                      |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                       |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |      |
| Total population  | 149,641        | 11.2%   | 158,002   | 12.3%   | 5.6%                     | 1.1%                    | 1,164,707             | 87.1%   | 1,074,037 | 83.8%   | -7.8%                    | -3.3%                   | 0.13            | 0.15 |
| Single female families with own children under age 18*                  | 12,142         | 60.7%   | 13,913    | 62.3%   | 14.6%                    | 1.6%                    | 17,432                | 14.1%   | 19,489    | 16.7%   | 11.8%                    | 2.6%                    | 4.30            | 3.74 |
| Married couple families with own children under age 18*                 | 6,934          | 34.7%   | 6,736     | 30.2%   | -2.9%                    | -4.5%                   | 103,170               | 83.4%   | 91,823    | 78.5%   | -11.0%                   | -4.9%                   | 0.42            | 0.38 |
| Single male families with own children under age 18*                    | 914            | 4.6%    | 1,680     | 7.5%    | 83.8%                    | 2.9%                    | 3,141                 | 2.5%    | 5,596     | 4.8%    | 78.2%                    | 2.3%                    | 1.84            | 1.57 |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                       |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |      |
| H.S. dropout rate age 16-19 (percent neither in h.s. nor a h.s. grad)   | 1,250          | 12.4%   | 948       | 9.9%    | -24.2%                   | -2.5%                   | 3,306                 | 6.0%    | 2,161     | 4.2%    | -34.6%                   | -1.8%                   | 2.07            | 2.33 |
| Percent males with h.s. degree or higher                                | 25,535         | 68%     | 29,903    | 76.5%   | 17.1%                    | 8.7%                    | 306,260               | 81.6%   | 313,263   | 88.1%   | 2.3%                     | 6.5%                    | 0.83            | 0.87 |
| Percent males with bachelor degree or higher                            | 4,369          | 11.6%   | 5,265     | 13.5%   | 20.5%                    | 1.9%                    | 107,649               | 28.7%   | 118,234   | 33.3%   | 9.8%                     | 4.6%                    | 0.40            | 0.41 |
| Percent females with h.s. degree or higher                              | 35,678         | 70.0%   | 42,623    | 80.4%   | 19.5%                    | 10.3%                   | 354,183               | 78.7%   | 360,232   | 86.4%   | 1.7%                     | 7.7%                    | 0.89            | 0.93 |
| Percent females with bachelor degree or higher                          | 4,972          | 9.8%    | 7,080     | 13.3%   | 42.4%                    | 3.6%                    | 85,886                | 19.1%   | 107,940   | 25.9%   | 25.7%                    | 6.8%                    | 0.51            | 0.52 |
| <b>WORK</b>   |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                       |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |      |
| Labor force participation 16+   | 59,244         | 54.0%   | 64,383    | 57.4%   | 8.7%                     | 3.4%                    | 577,506               | 60.3%   | 543,219   | 61.5%   | -5.9%                    | 1.2%                    | 0.90            | 0.93 |
| Workers age 16+ working full-time (prior year)                          | 28,991         | 47.0%   | 36,963    | 52.9%   | 27.5%                    | 5.9%                    | 354,983               | 57.0%   | 353,900   | 60.7%   | -0.3%                    | 3.7%                    | 0.82            | 0.87 |
| <b>INCOME (previous year)**</b>   |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                       |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |      |
| Median household income   | \$ 19,837      |         | \$ 22,130 |         | 11.6%                    |                         | \$ 40,051             |         | \$ 40,880 |         | 2.1%                     |                         | 0.50            | 0.54 |
| Median family income  | \$ 24,138      |         | \$ 26,417 |         | 9.4%                     |                         | \$ 49,698             |         | \$ 52,630 |         | 5.9%                     |                         | 0.49            | 0.50 |
| Median nonfamily household income                                       | \$ 12,526      |         | \$ 14,766 |         | 17.9%                    |                         | \$ 21,098             |         | \$ 23,391 |         | 10.9%                    |                         | 0.59            | 0.63 |
| Per capita income   | \$ 11,239      |         | \$ 13,093 |         | 16.5%                    |                         | \$ 21,477             |         | \$ 24,034 |         | 11.9%                    |                         | 0.52            | 0.54 |
| <b>POVERTY</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                       |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |      |
| Poverty rate  | 51,712         | 35.8%   | 46,793    | 30.9%   | -9.5%                    | -4.9%                   | 96,401                | 8.5%    | 83,882    | 8.0%    | -13.0%                   | -0.5%                   | 4.24            | 3.86 |
| Poverty rate for children under age 18                                  | 21,621         | 49.7%   | 20,917    | 42.3%   | -3.3%                    | -7.4%                   | 24,030                | 10.5%   | 18,386    | 8.6%    | -23.5%                   | -1.9%                   | 4.75            | 4.92 |
| Poverty rate for pop. age 18-64   | 25,469         | 30.4%   | 22,273    | 26.1%   | -12.5%                   | -4.3%                   | 53,960                | 7.6%    | 49,942    | 7.8%    | -7.4%                    | 0.2%                    | 4.00            | 3.35 |
| Poverty rate for pop. age 65 and over                                   | 4,379          | 26.2%   | 3,603     | 21.4%   | -17.7%                   | -4.8%                   | 17,668                | 8.8%    | 15,554    | 7.9%    | -12.0%                   | -0.9%                   | 2.97            | 2.71 |
| Poverty rate for married-couple families with related children under 18 | 1,062          | 13.2%   | 728       | 9.7%    | -31.5%                   | -3.5%                   | 4,757                 | 4.4%    | 2,958     | 3.1%    | -37.8%                   | -1.3%                   | 3.00            | 3.13 |
| Poverty rate for male-headed families with related children under 18    | 454            | 36.4%   | 647       | 32.4%   | 42.5%                    | -4.0%                   | 724                   | 17.8%   | 795       | 12.9%   | 9.8%                     | -4.9%                   | 2.05            | 2.51 |
| Poverty rate for female-headed families with related children under 18  | 8,880          | 63.0%   | 7,898     | 49.1%   | -11.1%                   | -13.9%                  | 8,509                 | 37.6%   | 6,123     | 28.1%   | -28.0%                   | -9.5%                   | 1.67            | 1.75 |
| <b>HOUSING</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                       |         |           |         |                          |                         |                 |      |
| Percent housing units with >1 occupant per room                         | 1985           | 3.5%    | 1,721     | 2.8%    | -13.3%                   | -0.7%                   | 3338                  | 0.7%    | 3,324     | 0.7%    | -0.4%                    | 0.0%                    | 5.00            | 4.00 |
| Percent housing units with no vehicle available                         | 28116          | 49.7%   | 25,312    | 41.3%   | -10.0%                   | -8.4%                   | 75364                 | 15.8%   | 58,220    | 12.7%   | -22.7%                   | -3.1%                   | 3.15            | 3.25 |
| Percent of housing units owned by householder                           | 21,463         | 38.0%   | 23,950    | 39.1%   | 11.6%                    | 1.1%                    | 333,399               | 69.8%   | 329,692   | 71.8%   | -1.1%                    | 2.0%                    | 0.54            | 0.54 |
| Percent of owned housing units with a mortgage                          | 11784          | 60.1%   | 15,348    | 69.4%   | 30.2%                    | 9.3%                    | 158761                | 52.8%   | 182,526   | 60.1%   | 15.0%                    | 7.3%                    | 1.14            | 1.15 |
| Median value of owned housing units**                                   | \$ 48,910      |         | \$ 52,900 |         | 8.2%                     |                         | \$ 77,586             |         | \$ 86,400 |         | 11.4%                    |                         | 0.63            | 0.61 |

\*Non-Hispanic white data are not available for 1990, so white only data were used for 1990 and 2000.

\*\*Income data and median value of owned occupied housing units is adjusted for inflation (34%) to match 1999 dollars, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*\*\*In the 2000 census respondents could select single or multiple racial categories, whereas in 1990 respondents with multiple racial identities could select only one race.

Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census

# BLACK-WHITE BENCHMARKS FOR THE PITTSBURGH MSA

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## INTRODUCTION

The African American (black alone) population in the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in 2000 was 188,471, and the non-Hispanic white (white alone) population was 2,101,036. The Pittsburgh MSA consists of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland counties.

The purpose of this report is to assess the socioeconomic status of blacks and whites in the Pittsburgh MSA based on 2000 census data. Current conditions in the region are determined by comparing black conditions, white conditions, and black-white disparities in the 50 largest metro areas on more than 50 social and economic variables. The 50 largest metro areas are compared in order to include the Pittsburgh MSA, which had the 22<sup>nd</sup> largest population in 2000, and to compare the region to a sizable number of other large metro areas.

In addition, this report contains data and findings on changes in black and white conditions in the Pittsburgh MSA from 1990 to 2000. Complete data on all 50 metro areas and their rankings are in a separate databook.

This report and similar reports for the city of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are available online at [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu) (see publications). The Pittsburgh Foundation provided funding for these studies.

## AFRICAN AMERICAN AND WHITE CONDITIONS IN 2000 (Table 1)

Our comparison of the 50 largest metro areas in the US shows that:

- 1. The Pittsburgh MSA has a below average percentage of African Americans and a high percentage of whites in the general population.** In 2000 the Pittsburgh MSA had the:
  - 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (8.0%) of African Americans in the population
  - Highest percentage (89.1%) of non-Hispanic whites in the population
- 2. High percentages of African American and white children in the Pittsburgh MSA live in single, female-headed households.** In 2000 the region had the:
  - Second highest percentage (61.8%) of black children living with a single mother
  - 17<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (15.9%) of white children living with a single mother

- Second lowest percentage (30.6%) of black children living with two parents
- 20<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (79.1%) of white children living with two parents

**3. High percentages of black and white families with children in the Pittsburgh MSA are headed by single women.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Second highest percentage (64.8%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (15.3%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- Second lowest percentage (28.0%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (80.0%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents

**4. High percentages of African American and white elderly residents in the Pittsburgh MSA live alone.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Second highest percentage (53.7%) of African American elderly living alone
- Ninth highest percentage (46.7%) of white elderly age 65 and over living alone

**5. A low percentage of African American children but an average percentage of white children age 3-5 in the Pittsburgh MSA are enrolled in nursery school or preschool.** In 2000 the region had the:

- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (40.6%) of black children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool
- 25<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (47.8%) of white children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

**6. African Americans and whites age 16-19 in the Pittsburgh MSA have low dropout rates.** In 2000 the region had the:

- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (10.0%) of blacks age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
- 16<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.6%) of whites age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate

**7. African American and white women in the Pittsburgh MSA with children under age 18 have low employment rates.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Second lowest employment rate (55.6%) for black women with children age 0-5
- 20<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (59.0%) among white women with children age 0-5
- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (65.5%) among black women with children age 6-17
- 14<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (68.4%) for white women with children age 6-17

- 8. Low percentages of African American and white, female and male workers in the Pittsburgh MSA are employed full-time.** In 2000 the region had the:
- 10th lowest rate (50.2%) for full-time employment among black female workers age 16 and over
  - 12<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (50.8%) for full-time employment among white female workers age 16 and over
  - 12th lowest rate (55.8%) for full-time employment among black male workers age 16 and over
  - 15<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (68.5%) for full-time employment among white male workers age 16 and over
- 9. A high percentage of African Americans but a low percentage of whites age 16-19 in the Pittsburgh MSA are neither in school nor in the labor force.** In 2000 the region had the:
- Third highest percentage (16.8%) of black youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
  - 16<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (5.0%) of white youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- 10. Disabled African American and white adults of working age in the Pittsburgh MSA have low rates of employment.** In 2000 the region had the:
- Seventh lowest rate (47.2%) of employment among black disabled adults age 21-64
  - Second lowest rate (53.9%) of employment among white disabled adults age 21-64
- 11. African American and white full-time workers in the Pittsburgh MSA have low median earnings.** In 1999 the region had the:
- Eighth lowest median earnings (\$23,764) among black female full-time workers
  - Lowest median earnings (\$26,319) among white female full-time workers
  - Ninth lowest median earnings (\$28,631) among black male full-time workers
  - Fifth lowest median earnings (\$37,975) among white male full-time workers
- 12. African American and white part-time workers in the Pittsburgh MSA have low median earnings.** In 1999 the region had the:
- Second lowest median earnings (\$7,918) among black female part-time workers
  - Lowest median earnings (\$8,186) among white female part-time workers
  - Second lowest median earnings (\$8,929) among black male part-time workers
  - Second lowest median earnings (\$10,713) among white male part-time workers

**13. African Americans and whites in the Pittsburgh MSA have low median household and family incomes and low per capita income.** In 1999 the region had the:

- Lowest median household income (\$22,271) for blacks
- Lowest median household income (\$39,025) for whites
- Third lowest median family income (\$26,707) for blacks
- Second lowest median family income (\$49,277) for whites
- Fifth lowest per capita income (\$13,176) for blacks
- Second lowest per capita income (\$21,721) for whites

**14. African American and white poverty rates in the Pittsburgh MSA are among the highest in the nation.** In 1999 the region had the:

- Third highest poverty rate (30.6%) for African Americans and fourth highest poverty rate (8.8%) for whites
- Third highest poverty rate (42.1%) for African American children and fourth highest poverty rate (10.7%) for white children under age 18
- Fourth highest poverty rate (25.9%) for African American adults age 18-64 and sixth highest poverty rate (8.3%) for whites age 18-64
- 15<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (21.4%) for African Americans age 65 and older and eighth highest poverty rate (8.3%) for whites age 65 and older
- Third highest poverty rate (49.4%) for African American female-headed families with children under age 18 and highest poverty rate (32.6%) for white female-headed families with children under age 18
- Fourth highest poverty rate (31.3%) for African American male-headed families with children under age 18 and second highest poverty rate (15.5%) for white male-headed families with children under age 18
- 10<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (10.0%) for African American married-couple families with children under age 18 and fourth highest poverty rate (4.2%) for white married-couple families with children under age 18

**15. Small percentages of African American and white households in the Pittsburgh MSA are overcrowded or lack telephone service, but high percentages have no vehicle available.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Lowest rate (2.9%) for African American households and lowest rate (0.8%) for white households with more than one person on average per room
- 10<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (2.4%) for African American households and 15<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (0.8%) for white households with no telephone service
- Second highest rate (39.2%) for African American households and fourth highest rate (10.6%) for white households with no vehicle available

**16. African American homeownership is low and white homeownership is high in the Pittsburgh MSA, and median home values are the lowest in the nation.** In 2000 the region had the:

- 17<sup>th</sup> lowest homeownership rate (40.0%) for African American households and 14<sup>th</sup> highest rate (74.6%) for white households
- Lowest value (\$52,400) for homes owned by African Americans and lowest value (\$87,600) for homes owned by whites

**17. Monthly housing costs for African American and white homeowners and renters are among the lowest in the nation.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Lowest monthly costs (\$794) for African American homeowners with mortgages and lowest monthly costs (\$945) for white homeowners with mortgages
- Second lowest monthly costs (\$428) for African American renters and lowest monthly costs (\$488) for white renters

### **FINDINGS ON BLACK-WHITE DISPARITIES IN 2000 (Table 1)**

Our comparison of black and white conditions in the Pittsburgh MSA shows that:

- The percentage of black children living with their mother only (61.8%) is 3.9 times the rate for white children (15.9%)
- The poverty rate for African American children (42.1%) is 3.9 times the white rate (10.7%)
- The percent of African American households without a vehicle (39.2%) is 3.7 times the rate for whites (10.6%)
- The percent of African American 16-19 year-olds who are neither in school nor in the labor force (16.8%) is 3.4 times the white rate (5.0%)
- The poverty rate for African American working-age adults (25.9%) is 3.1 times the white rate (8.3%)
- The per capita income of African Americans (\$13,176) is 61% of that of whites (\$21,721)
- The median value of homes owned by African Americans (\$52,400) is 60% of that of whites (\$87,600)

### **CHANGE IN CONDITIONS FROM 1990 TO 2000 (Table 2)**

The most important changes in African American and white conditions in the Pittsburgh MSA in the past decade were:

- The African American population increased by about 10,000 (5.5%) while the white population declined by more than 83,000 (-3.8%)
- The number of African American high school dropouts age 16-19 living in the region declined by 18% and the number of white dropouts declined by 33%

- The number of African American women age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 2,400 (43%) and the number of white women age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 45,000 (35%)
- The number of African American men age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 1,400 (28%) and the number of white men age 25 and over with a bachelor's degree or higher increased by 28,000 (17%)
- The number of African American residents employed full-time increased by 10,000 (31%) and the number of white residents employed full-time increased by 48,000 (7.8%)
- The number of African American residents in poverty declined by 7,500 (-12%) while the number of whites in poverty declined by 33,000 (-16%)
- The number of African American female-headed families with children in poverty declined by 1,200 (-12%) while the number for whites declined by 3,400 (-19%)
- The number of homes owned by African Americans increased by 2,600 (10%) and the number of homes owned by whites increased by 18,000 (3%)

## CONCLUSIONS

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 50 largest metro areas shows that African American children and youth in the Pittsburgh MSA are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 the Pittsburgh MSA had the:

- Second highest percentage (61.8%) of black children living with a single mother
- Second lowest percentage (30.6%) of black children living with two parents
- Third highest poverty rate (42.1%) for African American children under age 18
- Third highest percentage (16.8%) of black youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (40.6%) of black children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

On the other hand, the region had a slightly below average rate for African American high school dropouts. In 2000 the region had the:

- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (10.0%) of African Americans age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 50 largest metro areas shows that African American working-age adults in the Pittsburgh MSA are among the most disadvantaged in America.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Second lowest median earnings (\$7,918) among black female part-time workers
- Second lowest median earnings (\$8,929) among black male part-time workers
- Second lowest employment rate (55.6%) among black women with children under age 6
- Second lowest percentage (28.0%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents

- Second highest percentage (64.8%) of black families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women
- Third highest poverty rate (49.4%) for African American female-headed families with children under age 18
- Fourth highest poverty rate (25.9%) for African American adults age 18-64
- Fourth highest poverty rate (31.3%) for African American male-headed families with children under age 18
- Seventh lowest rate (47.2%) of employment among black disabled adults age 21-64
- Eighth lowest median earnings (\$23,764) among black female full-time workers
- Ninth lowest median earnings (\$28,631) among black male full-time workers
- 10th lowest rate (50.2%) for full-time employment among black female workers age 16 and over
- 10<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (10.0%) for African American married-couple families with children under age 18
- 12th lowest rate (55.8%) for full-time employment among black male workers age 16 and over
- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (65.5%) among black women with children age 6-17

**The comparison of African American conditions in the 50 largest metro areas shows that African American elderly in the Pittsburgh MSA are disadvantaged.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Second highest percentage (53.7%) of African American elderly age 65 and over who were living alone
- 15<sup>th</sup> highest poverty rate (21.4%) for African Americans age 65 and older

**The comparison of white conditions in the 50 largest metro areas shows that white children and youth in the Pittsburgh MSA are in some ways disadvantaged and in other ways advantaged.** In 2000 white children and youth were disadvantaged in that the region had the:

- Fourth highest poverty rate (10.7%) for white children under age 18
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (15.9%) of white children living with a single mother

In 2000 white children and youth were advantaged or at least average in that the region had:

- the 16<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (5.0%) of white youth age 16-19 who were neither in school nor in the labor force
- the 16<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.6%) of whites age 16-19 who were neither in school nor a high school graduate
- an average percentage (47.8%) of white children age 3-5 who were enrolled in nursery school or preschool

**The comparison of white conditions in the 50 largest metro areas shows that white working-age adults in the Pittsburgh MSA are among the most disadvantaged in urban America.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Lowest median earnings (\$26,319) among white female full-time workers
- Lowest median earnings (\$8,186) among white female part-time workers
- Highest poverty rate (32.6%) for white female-headed families with children under age 18
- Second highest poverty rate (15.5%) for white male-headed families with children under age 18
- Second lowest median earnings (\$10,713) among white male part-time workers
- Second lowest rate (53.9%) of employment for white disabled adults age 21-64
- Fourth highest poverty rate (4.2%) for white married-couple families with children under age 18
- Fifth lowest median earnings (\$37,975) among white male full-time workers
- Sixth highest poverty rate (8.3%) for whites age 18-64
- 12<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (50.8%) for full-time employment among white female workers age 16 and over
- 14<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (68.4%) among white women with children age 6-17
- 15<sup>th</sup> lowest rate (68.5%) for full-time employment among white male workers age 16 and over
- 17<sup>th</sup> highest percentage (15.3%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by single women

On the other hand, the region had average white conditions in that the region had the:

- 18<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (80.0%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by two parents
- 20<sup>th</sup> lowest percentage (4.8%) of white families with children under age 18 that were headed by a single male parent
- 20<sup>th</sup> lowest employment rate (59.0%) among white women with children age 0-5

**The comparison of white conditions in the 50 largest metro areas shows that white elderly in the Pittsburgh MSA are disadvantaged.** In 2000 the region had the:

- Eighth highest poverty rate (8.3%) for whites age 65 and older
- Ninth highest percentage (46.7%) of white elderly age 65 and over living alone

## **IMPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS**

**Racial and Ethnic Diversity** While the percent of the region's population that is non-white increased from 9% in 1990 to 11% in 2000, the Pittsburgh MSA continues to be the least racially and ethnically diverse large region in America. This suggests that racial and ethnic understanding and tolerance are likely to be low in the region.

**Single-Parent Families and Poverty** The high percentages of black (62%) and white (16%) children in the region living with their mothers make it likely that many children

will be disadvantaged. In fact, half (49%) of the African American and 33% of white female-headed families with children are in poverty in the region.

**Need for Services** The large numbers of African Americans (54%) and whites (47%) age 65 and over living alone suggest that more services for these groups are needed in this region than in most large cities of the US. The extent to which the needs of these groups are being met should be examined.

**Preschool** Early education is critical to primary and secondary school success. African American children, who generally have education disadvantages, continue to participate at low levels in nursery school and preschool. Much more effort needs to be made to increase the percentage of poor children who receive quality early education.

**Teen Idleness** A high percentage (17%) of African American youth age 16-19 in the Pittsburgh MSA are neither in school nor employed. Many serious social problems can be avoided if these youth can get the help that will enable them to have greater success in school and in the labor force.

**Lack of Full-Time Jobs** African American and white, female and male workers in the Pittsburgh MSA have low rates of full-time employment. Much more needs to be done to create full-time jobs and connect these workers to better jobs.

**Low Wages** Full-time and part-time, African American and white, female and male workers in the Pittsburgh MSA have some of the lowest earnings in urban America. The quality of jobs needs to be greatly improved.

**Labor Supply** The low rate of full-time employment in the Pittsburgh MSA and the low wages of full and part-time jobs suggest that there is a large pool of workers in the region who would like better jobs. Further, the increasing numbers of African Americans and whites in the region with a bachelor's degree or higher suggest that the quality of the workforce is improving. The supply of workers, quality of the workforce, and the low wages in the region should be locational advantages that are marketable to businesses.

**Poverty** Poverty rates for African American and white children, working-age adults, and elderly in the Pittsburgh MSA are among the highest in urban America. This suggests that residents of the region have greater than average need for assistance with food, utilities, health care, and other basic needs. However, there was an absolute decline from 1990 to 2000 in the number of poor African Americans and whites living in the region.

**Transportation** Rates of African American (39%) and white (11%) households in the Pittsburgh MSA without a vehicle are high. This suggests that public transportation is more critical to the lives of people in the region than in most other large metro areas.

**Home Values and Housing Costs** Home values and housing costs are not likely to be as low now as they were in 2000 because of the reassessment of property values that occurred after the census was taken.

Table 1. Socioeconomic Conditions of African Americans and Whites in the Pittsburgh MSA, 2000

| Variable  | Black alone |           |            | Non-Hispanic White alone |           |            | Black/NHW Ratio |        |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|
|   | Value       | Median    | Ranking/50 | Value                    | Median    | Ranking/50 | Value           | Median | Ranking/50 |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Total Population  | 188,471     | 231,569   | 33         | 2,101,036                | 1,383,538 | 12         | N/A             |        |            |
| Group as percent of total population  | 8.0%        | 12.7%     | 33         | 89.1%                    | 65.7%     | 1          | N/A             |        |            |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is married-couple age 15-64   | 28.0%       | 40.4%     | 49         | 80.0%                    | 80.6%     | 33         | 0.4             | 0.5    | 49         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is male only age 15-64        | 7.2%        | 7.9%      | 38         | 4.8%                     | 5.0%      | 31         | 1.5             | 1.6    | 30         |
| Percent of hhs with own children <18 whose hher is female only age 15-64      | 64.8%       | 51.5%     | 2          | 15.3%                    | 14.3%     | 17         | 4.2             | 3.6    | 9          |
| Percent of children living with two parents                                   | 30.6%       | 44.1%     | 49         | 79.1%                    | 79.4%     | 31         | 0.4             | 0.6    | 49         |
| Percent of children living with father only                                   | 7.6%        | 7.7%      | 27         | 5.0%                     | 5.3%      | 32         | 1.5             | 1.5    | 23         |
| Percent of children living with mother only                                   | 61.8%       | 47.4%     | 2          | 15.9%                    | 15.0%     | 17         | 3.9             | 3.3    | 7          |
| Percent disabled among population 5 to 20 years of age                        | 9.4%        | 9.9%      | 33         | 6.3%                     | 6.9%      | 41         | 1.5             | 1.4    | 19         |
| Percent veterans among civilian population 18 years of age and over           | 13.5%       | 12.2%     | 14         | 15.0%                    | 13.5%     | 12         | 0.9             | 0.8    | 16         |
| Percent of householders living alone, age 65 and over                         | 53.7%       | 44.0%     | 2          | 46.7%                    | 44.7%     | 9          | 1.1             | 1.0    | 3          |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent of children 3 to 5 years old enrolled in nursery school/preschool     | 40.6%       | 43.6%     | 39         | 47.8%                    | 48.1%     | 26         | 0.8             | 0.9    | 37         |
| H.S. dropout rate age 16-19 (percent neither in h.s. nor a h.s. grad)         | 10.0%       | 10.8%     | 33         | 4.6%                     | 6.5%      | 35         | 2.2             | 1.7    | 12         |
| Percent males age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher                              | 76.4%       | 76.2%     | 25         | 86.3%                    | 89.2%     | 38         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 18         |
| Percent males age ≥25 with bachelor's degree or higher                        | 13.0%       | 15.8%     | 39         | 27.0%                    | 34.2%     | 45         | 0.5             | 0.5    | 21         |
| Percent females age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher                            | 79.5%       | 78.3%     | 18         | 84.9%                    | 88.3%     | 41         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 5          |
| Percent females age ≥25 with bachelor's degree or higher                      | 12.7%       | 17.3%     | 47         | 21.6%                    | 28.5%     | 47         | 0.6             | 0.6    | 22         |
| <b>WORK</b>   |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Pct. females ≥16 years employed or in armed forces with at least one child <6 | 55.6%       | 61.7%     | 49         | 59.0%                    | 59.9%     | 31         | 0.9             | 1.1    | 44         |
| Pct. fem. ≥16 employed or in armed forces with at least one child 6-17 years  | 65.5%       | 68.7%     | 39         | 68.4%                    | 70.4%     | 37         | 1.0             | 1.0    | 34         |
| Pct. male workers age 16+ working full-time in 1999                           | 55.8%       | 59.0%     | 39         | 68.5%                    | 70.8%     | 36         | 0.8             | 0.8    | 36         |
| Pct. female workers age 16+ working full-time in 1999                         | 50.2%       | 53.7%     | 41         | 50.8%                    | 52.6%     | 39         | 1.0             | 1.0    | 30         |
| Percent employed of disabled, age 21-64                                       | 47.2%       | 54.2%     | 44         | 53.9%                    | 62.9%     | 49         | 0.9             | 0.9    | 22         |
| Percent idle, age 16-19, not in school, armed forces, or labor force          | 16.8%       | 13.4%     | 3          | 5.0%                     | 6.2%      | 35         | 3.4             | 2.2    | 7          |
| <b>EARNINGS AND INCOME</b>  |             |           |            |                          |           |            |                 |        |            |
| Median earnings for pop. ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999        | \$ 25,967   | \$ 28,452 | 42         | \$ 32,153                | \$ 38,642 | 46         | 0.81            | 0.7    | 7          |
| Median earnings for males ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999       | \$ 28,631   | \$ 31,011 | 42         | \$ 37,975                | \$ 44,120 | 46         | 0.75            | 0.7    | 9          |
| Median earnings for fem. ≥16 years of age who worked full-time in 1999        | \$ 23,764   | \$ 26,506 | 43         | \$ 26,319                | \$ 31,722 | 50         | 0.90            | 0.9    | 5          |
| Median earnings for pop. ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999        | \$ 8,325    | \$ 10,594 | 50         | \$ 9,113                 | \$ 11,501 | 50         | 0.91            | 0.9    | 26         |
| Median earnings for males ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999       | \$ 8,929    | \$ 10,942 | 49         | \$ 10,713                | \$ 13,475 | 49         | 0.83            | 0.8    | 19         |
| Median earnings for fem. ≥16 years of age who worked part-time in 1999        | \$ 7,918    | \$ 10,322 | 49         | \$ 8,186                 | \$ 10,840 | 50         | 0.97            | 1.0    | 24         |
| Median household income in 1999   | \$ 22,271   | \$ 32,455 | 50         | \$ 39,025                | \$ 50,755 | 50         | 0.57            | 0.6    | 36         |
| Median family income in 1999  | \$ 26,707   | \$ 37,029 | 48         | \$ 49,277                | \$ 63,266 | 49         | 0.54            | 0.6    | 33         |
| Median nonfamily household income in 1999                                     | \$ 14,689   | \$ 22,252 | 49         | \$ 21,269                | \$ 31,266 | 50         | 0.69            | 0.7    | 27         |
| Per capita income in 1999   | \$ 13,176   | \$ 15,758 | 46         | \$ 21,721                | \$ 27,624 | 49         | 0.61            | 0.6    | 11         |

Note: A ranking of 1 represents the highest value; a ranking of 50 represents the lowest value.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Table 1. Socioeconomic Conditions of African Americans and Whites in the Pittsburgh MSA, 2000

| Variable  | Black alone |           |            | Non-Hispanic White alone |            |            | Black/NHW Ratio |        |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------|------------|
|   | Value       | Median    | Ranking/50 | Value                    | Median     | Ranking/50 | Value           | Median | Ranking/50 |
| <b>POVERTY</b>  |             |           |            |                          |            |            |                 |        |            |
| Poverty rate  | 30.6%       | 21.0%     | 3          | 8.8%                     | 6.0%       | 4          | 3.5             | 3.4    | 21         |
| Poverty rate for children <18 for whom poverty status was determined          | 42.1%       | 28.6%     | 3          | 10.7%                    | 6.5%       | 4          | 3.9             | 4.3    | 33         |
| Poverty rate for pop. 18-64 for whom poverty status was determined            | 25.9%       | 17.7%     | 4          | 8.3%                     | 5.8%       | 6          | 3.1             | 2.9    | 20         |
| Poverty rate for pop. ≥65 for whom poverty status was determined              | 21.4%       | 19.9%     | 15         | 8.3%                     | 6.3%       | 8          | 2.6             | 2.9    | 38         |
| Poverty rate for married-couple families (income below poverty level in 1999) | 10.0%       | 7.5%      | 10         | 4.2%                     | 2.5%       | 4          | 2.4             | 3.0    | 38         |
| Poverty rate for male-headed families (income below poverty level in 1999)    | 31.3%       | 22.4%     | 4          | 15.5%                    | 9.5%       | 2          | 2.0             | 2.3    | 32         |
| Poverty rate for female-headed families (income below poverty level in 1999)  | 49.4%       | 36.8%     | 3          | 32.6%                    | 20.0%      | 1          | 1.5             | 1.9    | 48         |
| <b>HOUSING</b>  |             |           |            |                          |            |            |                 |        |            |
| Percent housing units with >1 occupant per room                               | 2.9%        | 9.1%      | 50         | 0.8%                     | 1.7%       | 50         | 3.6             | 4.5    | 39         |
| Percent housing units with no vehicle available                               | 39.2%       | 18.4%     | 2          | 10.6%                    | 6.2%       | 4          | 3.7             | 3.1    | 11         |
| Percent housing units with no telephone service available                     | 2.4%        | 3.6%      | 41         | 0.8%                     | 1.0%       | 36         | 3.0             | 3.5    | 32         |
| Percent of housing units owned by householder                                 | 40.0%       | 44.5%     | 34         | 74.6%                    | 71.8%      | 14         | 0.54            | 0.6    | 41         |
| Percent of owned housing units with a mortgage                                | 68.3%       | 82.8%     | 48         | 58.6%                    | 74.2%      | 50         | 1.2             | 1.1    | 11         |
| Pct. owned hhs with mort. spending ≥30% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs    | 34.8%       | 35.0%     | 26         | 24.5%                    | 25.7%      | 29         | 1.4             | 1.4    | 19         |
| Pct. owned hhs with mort. spending ≥50% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs    | 15.7%       | 14.0%     | 13         | 8.8%                     | 7.9%       | 18         | 1.8             | 1.7    | 21         |
| Pct. owned hhs w/out mort. spending ≥30% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs   | 18.1%       | 17.2%     | 19         | 11.3%                    | 9.0%       | 12         | 1.6             | 1.8    | 32         |
| Pct. owned hhs w/out mort. spending ≥50% of hh inc. (1999) on housing costs   | 7.8%        | 7.3%      | 21         | 4.1%                     | 3.4%       | 15         | 1.9             | 2.0    | 30         |
| Med. monthly owner costs for mort. housing units as % of hh inc. (1999)       | 23.5%       | 24.4%     | 36         | 20.7%                    | 21.8%      | 36         | 1.1             | 1.1    | 22         |
| Med. monthly owner costs for non-mort. housing units as % of hh inc. (1999)   | 14.2%       | 12.6%     | 5          | 12.2%                    | 9.9%       | 10         | 1.2             | 1.2    | 26         |
| Median monthly owner costs for mortgaged housing units                        | \$ 794      | \$ 1,033  | 50         | \$ 945                   | \$ 1,224   | 50         | 0.84            | 0.9    | 31         |
| Median monthly owner costs for non-mortgaged housing units                    | \$ 305      | \$ 295    | 19         | \$ 314                   | \$ 322     | 30         | 0.97            | 0.9    | 9          |
| Median value of owned housing units   | \$ 52,400   | \$ 97,200 | 50         | \$ 87,600                | \$ 141,450 | 50         | 0.60            | 0.7    | 41         |
| Median gross rent   | \$ 428      | \$ 603    | 49         | \$ 488                   | \$ 702     | 50         | 0.88            | 0.9    | 18         |
| Pct. rented hhs spending ≥30% of hh income (1999) on gross rent               | 40.8%       | 42.0%     | 31         | 34.2%                    | 35.0%      | 31         | 1.2             | 1.2    | 28         |
| Pct. rented hhs spending ≥50% of hh income (1999) on gross rent               | 20.4%       | 20.7%     | 27         | 16.4%                    | 15.8%      | 20         | 1.2             | 1.3    | 36         |

Note: A ranking of 1 represents the highest value; a ranking of 50 represents the lowest value.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Table 2. Trend Analysis for African Americans and Whites in the Pittsburgh MSA, 1990 to 2000

| Variable  | Black Alone*** |         |           |         |                          |                         | White Alone*** |         |           |         |                          |                         | Black/White Ratio |      |
|---|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------|
|   | 1990           |         | 2000      |         | Percent Change in Number | Percentage Point Change | 1990           |         | 2000      |         | Percent Change in Number | Percentage Point Change | 1990              | 2000 |
|   | Number         | Percent | Number    | Percent |                          |                         | Number         | Percent | Number    | Percent |                          |                         |                   |      |
| <b>DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b>                                      |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                   |      |
| Total population*   | 178,690        | 7.5%    | 188,471   | 8.0%    | 5.5%                     | 0.5%                    | 2,184,209      | 91.2%   | 2,101,036 | 89.1%   | -3.8%                    | -2.1%                   | 0.08              | 0.09 |
| Single female families with own children under age 18                   | 14,117         | 59.5%   | 16,362    | 61.8%   | 15.9%                    | 2.3%                    | 34,807         | 14.0%   | 37,949    | 15.9%   | 9.0%                     | 1.9%                    | 4.25              | 3.88 |
| Married couple families with own children under age 18                  | 8,550          | 36.0%   | 8,109     | 30.6%   | -5.2%                    | -5.4%                   | 207,211        | 83.3%   | 188,174   | 79.1%   | -9.2%                    | -4.2%                   | 0.43              | 0.39 |
| Single male families with own children under age 18                     | 1,053          | 4.4%    | 2,047     | 7.6%    | 94.4%                    | 3.2%                    | 6,798          | 2.7%    | 11,984    | 5.0%    | 76.3%                    | 2.3%                    | 1.63              | 1.51 |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                   |      |
| H.S. dropout rate age 16-19 (parent neither in h.s. nor a h.s. grad)    | 1,393          | 11.2%   | 1,137     | 10.0%   | -18.4%                   | -1.2%                   | 7,068          | 6.3%    | 4,737     | 4.6%    | -33.0%                   | -1.7%                   | 1.8               | 2.2  |
| Percent males age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher**                      | 30,679         | 67.4%   | 36,554    | 76.4%   | 19.1%                    | 9.0%                    | 554,389        | 79.1%   | 601,728   | 86.3%   | 8.5%                     | 7.2%                    | 0.85              | 0.89 |
| Percent males age ≥25 bachelor degree or higher**                       | 4,855          | 10.7%   | 6,235     | 13.0%   | 28.4%                    | 2.4%                    | 160,760        | 22.9%   | 188,653   | 27.1%   | 17.4%                    | 4.1%                    | 0.47              | 0.48 |
| Percent females age ≥25 with h.s. degree or higher**                    | 41,860         | 69.3%   | 49,831    | 79.5%   | 19.0%                    | 10.2%                   | 633,965        | 76.8%   | 683,616   | 84.9%   | 7.8%                     | 8.1%                    | 0.90              | 0.94 |
| Percent females age ≥25 with bachelor degree or higher**                | 5,562          | 9.2%    | 7,950     | 12.7%   | 42.9%                    | 3.5%                    | 129,533        | 15.7%   | 174,305   | 21.6%   | 34.6%                    | 6.0%                    | 0.59              | 0.59 |
| <b>WORK</b>   |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                   |      |
| Labor force participation 16+   | 69,519         | 52.8%   | 76,393    | 56.8%   | 9.9%                     | 4.0%                    | 1,041,983      | 58.6%   | 1,039,720 | 60.5%   | -0.2%                    | 1.9%                    | 0.90              | 0.94 |
| Workers age 16+ working full-time (prior year)**                        | 33,444         | 46.6%   | 43,723    | 52.7%   | 30.7%                    | 6.1%                    | 621,057        | 55.5%   | 669,257   | 60.1%   | 7.8%                     | 4.6%                    | 0.84              | 0.88 |
| <b>INCOME</b>   |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                   |      |
| Per capita income (2000 dollars)  | \$ 11,099      |         | \$ 13,176 |         | 19.7%                    |                         | \$ 19,076      |         | \$ 21,701 |         | 13.8%                    |                         | 0.58              | 0.61 |
| <b>POVERTY</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                   |      |
| Poverty rate  | 62,455         | 36.2%   | 55,086    | 30.6%   | -11.8%                   | -5.5%                   | 216,018        | 10.1%   | 182,607   | 8.8%    | -15.5%                   | -1.2%                   | 3.6               | 3.5  |
| Poverty rate for children under age 18                                  | 26,513         | 50.5%   | 24,463    | 42.1%   | -7.7%                    | -8.4%                   | 64,364         | 13.9%   | 47,386    | 10.7%   | -26.4%                   | -3.2%                   | 3.6               | 3.9  |
| Poverty rate for pop. age 18-64   | 30,676         | 30.8%   | 26,190    | 25.9%   | -14.6%                   | -4.9%                   | 116,490        | 8.9%    | 104,245   | 8.3%    | -10.5%                   | -0.6%                   | 3.5               | 3.1  |
| Poverty rate for pop. age 65 and over                                   | 5,266          | 25.7%   | 4,433     | 21.4%   | -15.8%                   | -4.2%                   | 35,164         | 9.5%    | 30,976    | 8.3%    | -11.9%                   | -1.2%                   | 2.7               | 2.6  |
| Poverty rate for married-couple families with related children under 18 | 1,435          | 12.7%   | 917       | 10.0%   | -36.1%                   | -2.7%                   | 14,027         | 6.1%    | 8,292     | 4.3%    | -40.9%                   | -1.9%                   | 2.1               | 2.3  |
| Poverty rate for male-headed families with related children under 18    | 518            | 36.2%   | 761       | 31.3%   | 46.9%                    | -4.9%                   | 1,611          | 17.6%   | 2,045     | 15.5%   | 26.9%                    | -2.1%                   | 2.1               | 2.0  |
| Poverty rate for female-headed families with related children under 18  | 10,538         | 63.9%   | 9,310     | 49.4%   | -11.7%                   | -14.5%                  | 17,438         | 43.7%   | 14,073    | 32.7%   | -19.3%                   | -11.0%                  | 1.5               | 1.5  |
| <b>HOUSING</b>  |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                |         |           |         |                          |                         |                   |      |
| Percent housing units with >1 occupant per room**                       | 2,366          | 3.5%    | 2,109     | 2.9%    | -10.9%                   | -0.6%                   | 7,865          | 0.9%    | 6,407     | 0.8%    | -18.5%                   | -0.1%                   | 3.9               | 3.6  |
| Percent housing units with no vehicle available                         | 31,942         | 47.6%   | 28,574    | 39.2%   | -10.5%                   | -8.3%                   | 118,341        | 13.6%   | 92,639    | 10.6%   | -21.7%                   | -3.0%                   | 3.5               | 3.7  |
| Percent of housing units owned by householder                           | 26,550         | 39.5%   | 29,149    | 40.0%   | 9.8%                     | 0.5%                    | 633,562        | 72.5%   | 652,012   | 74.5%   | 2.9%                     | 1.9%                    | 0.55              | 0.54 |
| Percent of owned housing units with a mortgage                          | 13,882         | 57.6%   | 18,209    | 68.3%   | 31.2%                    | 10.7%                   | 269,799        | 50.2%   | 333,315   | 58.7%   | 23.5%                    | 8.5%                    | 1.1               | 1.2  |

\*Non-Hispanic white data are available for total population in the 1990 U.S. Census, therefore this variable is calculated for NHW for 1990 and 2000

\*\*Black data for Butler County were not available for 1990 for these variables, so 1990 and 2000 data for African Americans are provided for the Pittsburgh MSA without Butler County.

\*\*\*In the 2000 census respondents could select single or multiple racial categories, whereas in 1990 respondents with multiple racial identities could select only one race.

Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census