

# Why Economists Model Race and Discrimination Incorrectly

William E. Spriggs

Department of Economics, Howard University

And

Chief Economist, AFL-CIO



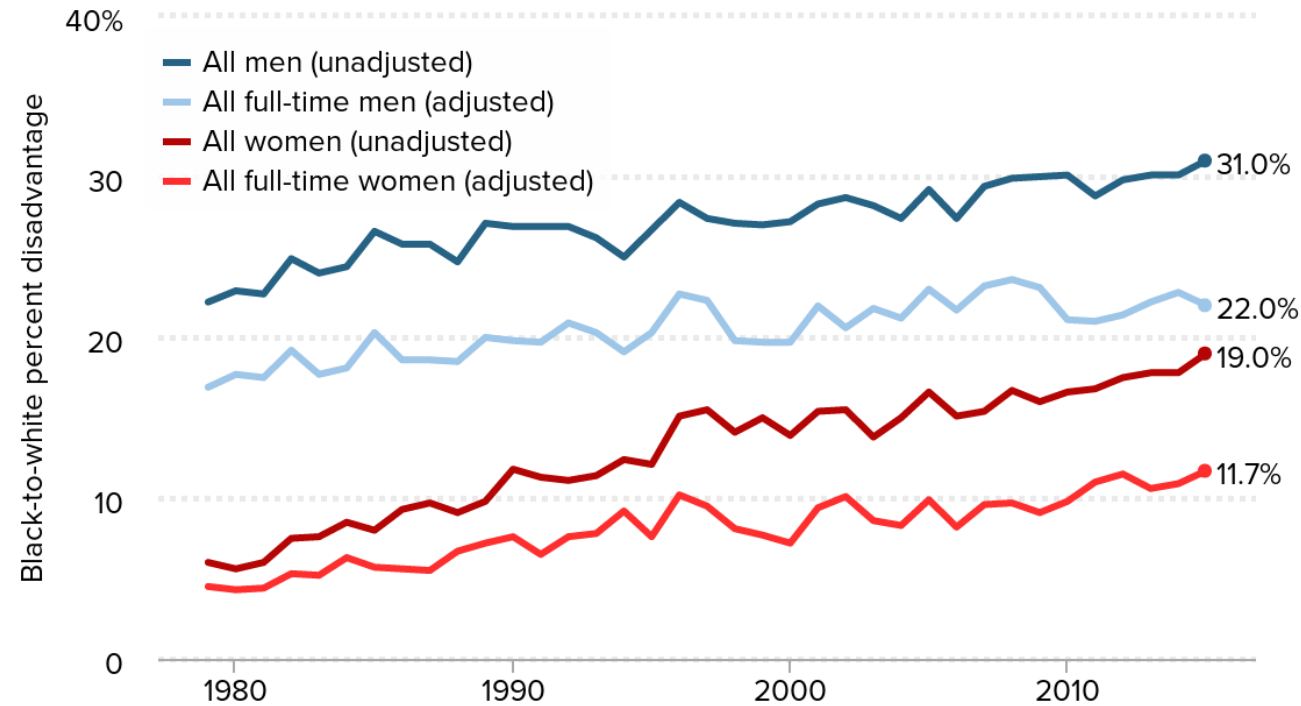
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Leadership for America and the Global Community

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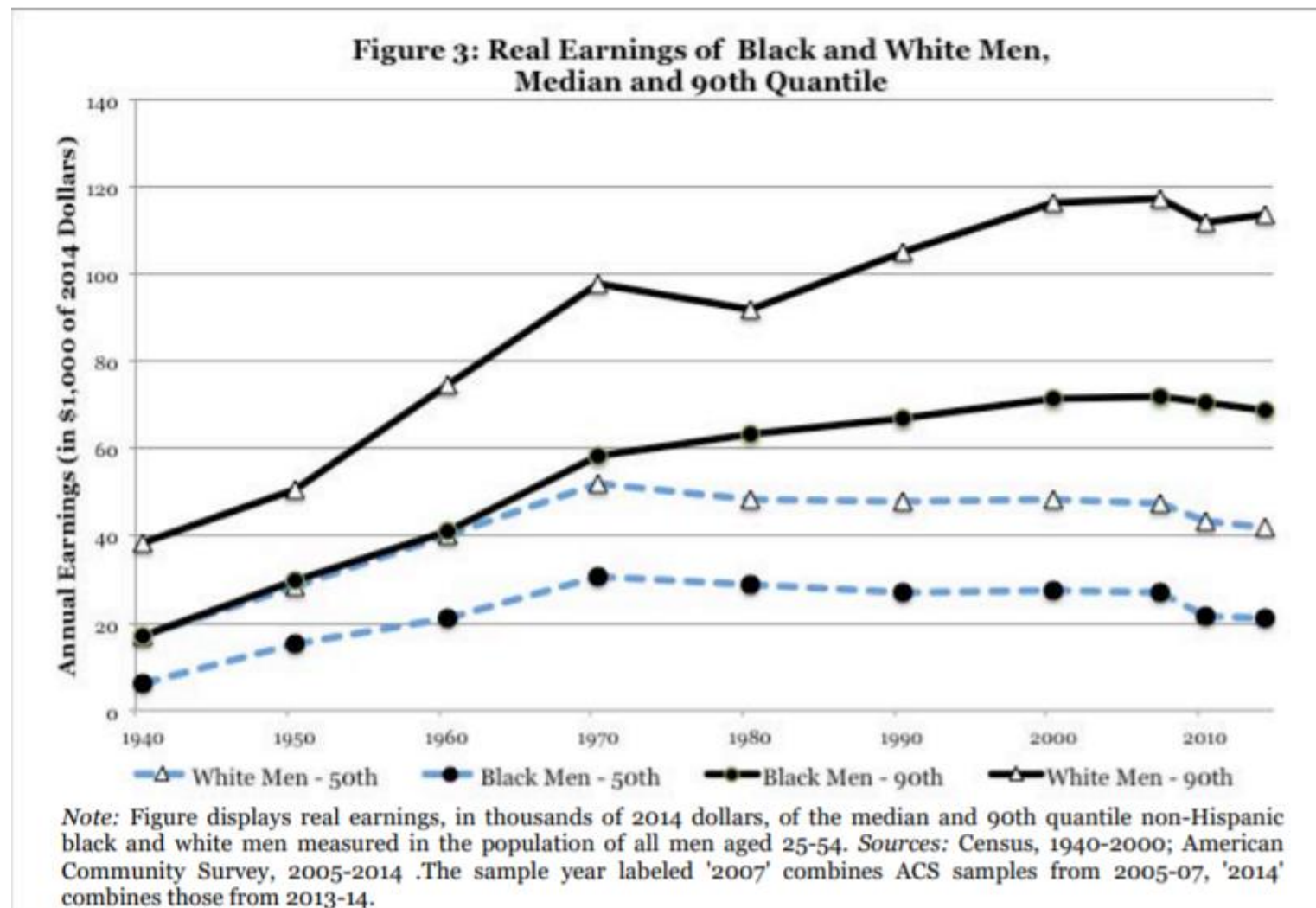
## Average hourly black-white wage gaps, by gender, 1979–2015 (adjusted and unadjusted)



**Note:** The adjusted wage gaps are for full-time workers and control for racial difference in education, potential experience, region of residence, and metro status.

**Source:** EPI analysis of Current Population Survey (CPS) Outgoing Rotation Group microdata

Economic Policy Institute



Source: Patrick Bayer and Kerwin Kofi Charles, “Divergent Paths: A New Perspective on Earnings Differences Between black and White Men Since 1940 , The Quarterly Journal of Economics, 133 (August 2018) 1459-1501

# The frame of early economists on race: A Key source of our current problems

- Robert Cherry, “Racial Thought and the Early Economics Profession,” *Review of Social Economy* (1976), 34 (2): 147-162
- Mark Aldrich, “Progressive Economists and Scientific Racism: Walter Wilcox and Black Americans, 1895-1910,” *Phylon* (1979), XL (Spring, 1): 1 – 14.
- William Darity, Jr., “Many Roads to Extinction Early AEA Economists and the Black Disappearance Hypothesis,” *History of Economics Review* (1994), 21 (1): 47-64.
- Thomas C. Leonard, “Retrospectives: Eugenics and Economics in the Progressive Era,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* (2005), 19 (Fall, 4): 207-224.

# The economists who founded the American Economics Association in their own words

# Edward Ross, Stanford University *founding member,* *American Economic Association and its Secretary in 1892*

- (1901) The coiner of the phrase “race suicide”:
  - **“The higher race quietly and unobtrusively eliminates itself rather than endure individually the bitter competition it has failed to ward off by collective action.”**
- (1907) “The theory that races are virtually equal in capacity leads to such monumental follies as lining the valleys of the South with the bones of half a million picked whites in order to improve conditions of four million unpicked blacks.”

# Francis A. Walker, MIT, *first president of the American Economic Association 1886-1892*

- On “race suicide”
- 1896 “peasants..(from) southern Italy, Hungary, Austria, and Russia..(are) beaten men from beaten races; representing the worst failures in the struggle for existence. Centuries are against them, as centuries were on the side of those who formerly came to us.”
- 1899 “The native element failed to maintain its previous rate of increase, because the foreigners came in such swarms...The American shrank from the industrial competition thrust upon him...He was unwilling himself to engage with the lowest kind of day labor with these new elements of the population; he was even more unwilling to bring sons and daughters into the world to enter that competition.”

# John R. Commons, Wisconsin

- 1907 “The competition has no respect for the superior races...the race with lowest necessities displaces others.”
- [African Americans] “[are]...indolent and fickle...The negro could not possibly have found a place in American industry had he come as a free man..[if] such races are to adopt that industrious life which is second nature to races of the temperate zones, it is only through some form of compulsion.”



# Emily Balch, Wellesley College

- 1907 “If you simply want to have more people...depraved people quite as well as any other class (then) feeding school children [is] a good thing; but if you believe it is important...to have more of the right kind of people, then any measure of encouragement should be most carefully selective in character.”

# Early principles texts

- Fisher, *Elementary Principles* (1907)
- “...if the vitality or vital capital is impaired by a breeding of the worst and a cessation of the breeding of the best, no greater calamity could be imagined.”
- Fetter, *Economic Principles* (1918)
- “Democracy and opportunity (are) increasing the mediocre and reducing the excellent strains of stock...Progress is threatened unless social institutions can be so adjusted as to reverse this process of multiplying the poorest, and of extinguishing the most capable families.”

# Real outcomes of eugenics in the US

- Price, Gregory and William Darity, 2010 “The economics of race and eugenic sterilization in North Carolina: 1958-1968,” *Economics & Human Biology*: 8 (261-272)

# Homer Adolph Plessy



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# *Plessy v. Ferguson 163 U.S. 537 (1896)*

That petitioner was a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Louisiana, of mixed descent, in the proportion of seven eighths Caucasian and one eighth African blood; that the mixture of colored blood was not discernible in him, and that he was entitled to every recognition, right, privilege and immunity secured to the citizens of the United States of the white race by its Constitution and laws; that on June 7, 1892, he engaged and paid for a first class passage on the East Louisiana Railway from New Orleans to Covington, in the same State, and thereupon entered a passenger train, and took possession of a vacant seat in a coach where passengers of the white race were accommodated; that such railroad company was incorporated by the laws of Louisiana as a common carrier, and was not authorized to distinguish between citizens according to their race. But, notwithstanding this, petitioner was required by the conductor, under penalty of ejection from said train and imprisonment, to vacate said coach and occupy another seat in a coach assigned by said company for persons not of the white race, and for no other reason than that petitioner was of the colored race; that

# “Jim Crow” and the Race Line

- Jim Crow laws required the definition of race:
  - "All marriages between a white person and a negro, or between a white person and a person of ***negro descent to the fourth generation inclusive***, are hereby forever prohibited."—Florida, anti-miscegenation law.
  - “Marriages are void when one party is a white person and the other is ***possessed of one-eighth or more negro***, Japanese, or Chinese blood.”—Nebraska, anti-miscegenation law.
  - “All marriages between a white person and a negro, or between a white person and ***a person of negro descent, to the third generation***, inclusive, or between a white person and a member of the Malay race; or between the negro and a member of the Malay race; or between a person of Negro descent, to the third generation, inclusive, and a member of the Malay race are forever prohibited, and shall be void.”—Maryland, anti-miscegenation law.

# “Jim Crow” and the Race Line

- Jim Crow laws had to punish opposition to the norm
  - “Any person...presenting for public acceptance or general information, arguments or suggestions in favor of social equality or of intermarriage between whites and negroes, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisonment not exceeding six months or both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.”  
—Mississippi, 1920
  - "That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of cotton textile manufacturing in this State to allow or permit operatives, help and labor of different races to labor and work together within the same room, or to use the same doors of entrance and exit at the same time, or to use and occupy the same pay ticket windows or doors for paying off its operatives and laborers at the same time, or to use the same stairway and windows at the same time, or to use at any time the same lavatories, toilets, drinking water buckets, pails, cups, dippers or glasses."  
--South Carolina, 1922
  - “Any white woman who shall suffer or permit herself to be got with child by a negro or mulatto...shall be sentenced to the penitentiary for not less than eighteen months.”  
—Maryland, 1924



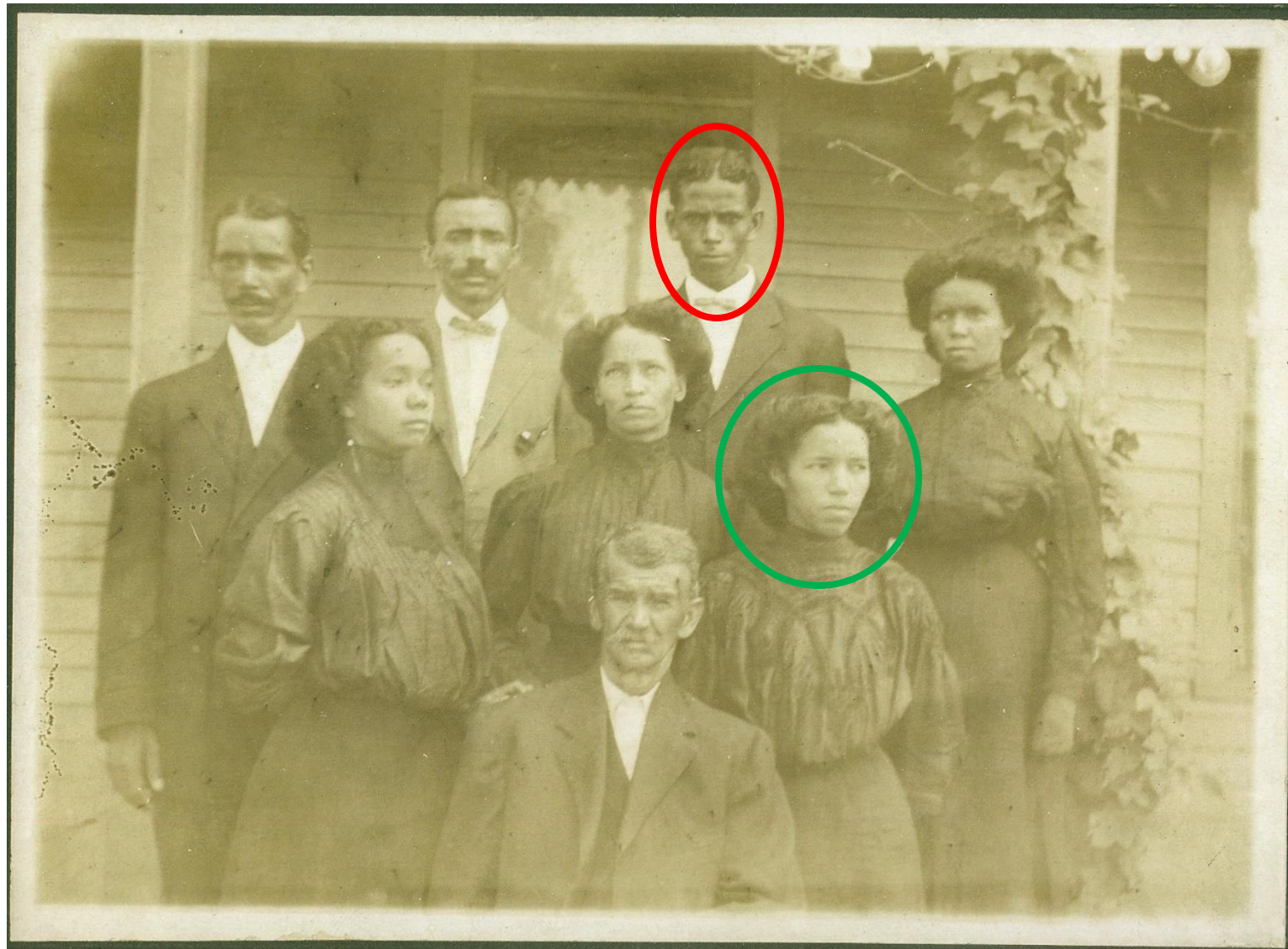
# 1955 Emmett Till





# 1957 Elizabeth Eckford, Little Rock Nine student



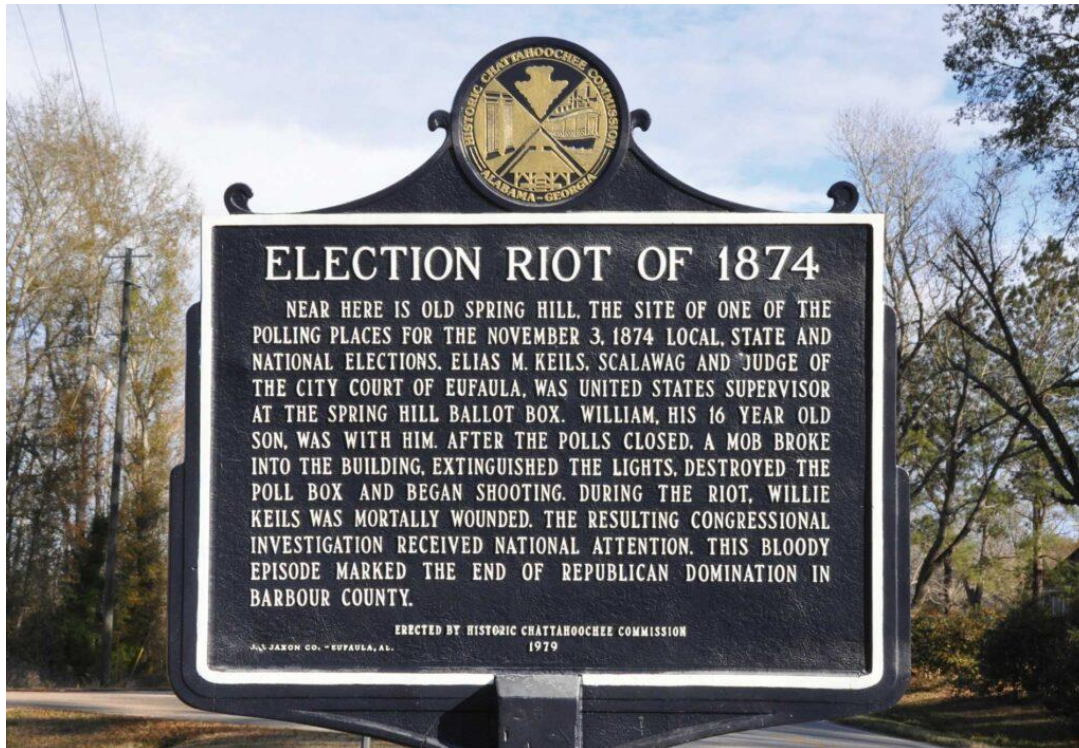


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# The stolen election of 1874 in Barbour County, Alabama through violence



## ALABAMA INVESTIGATION.

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a shot was fired, but that was all. Just about that time a United States deputy marshal called on me and wanted to know in what way I could assist him. I showed him General Order No. 75, and asked him if he had any writs. He showed me his warrant, saying that he had no writs. He said he did not know but what he might want me as he was afraid that there might be a riot. He then went away. I had instructions from Colonel Daggett to assist sheriffs or their deputies as a *posse comitatus*. The sheriff or his deputy called on me and I informed him in what way I could assist him. He then went off. At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon I received a telegram from Colonel Daggett instructing me to keep away from the polls. It read as follows:

"EUPAULA, 3d day, 1874.

Keep your troops away from crowd, and have nothing whatever to do with the sheriff or any other State officers.

A. S. DAGGETT,

"Captain Second Infantry.

"Lieut. WILLIAM J. TURNER,

"United States Army, Spring Hill, Ala."

It seems that Spring Hill is about six miles from Old Spring Hill, the precinct, and there was a new telegraph station just established there. This telegram was among the first probably sent over the wires. It was sent in the condition that I now exhibit it, without envelope at all, written in lead pencil, and was sent in the hands of any person who happened to be coming up this way. Very probably the telegram on its way to me had been seen by a large number of people, for soon after its reception I noticed a considerable change in the tone of the crowd about the polls. Between 4 and 5 o'clock young Kiels came to me and told me that a man had leveled a double-barreled gun at his father's head; that he thought it was cocked, and he wanted me to come there to assist him. I had received this telegram at that time, and I explained to him how impossible it was for me to assist him. I told him how much I regretted it, and that I sympathized very much with him and begged that he would induce his father to come down and stay with my troops where I would protect him, but I could not go near the polls or interfere with the election in any way. He told me that his father would not do so, and I then persuaded him to come back after he had informed his father of my views. I told him that I thought it was an unsafe place for him to be; that I felt very much for him, and wanted him to be protected. Between 6 and 7 o'clock a riot took place, and I heard a great deal of noise, and probably thirty shots were fired. A short time afterward young Kiels was brought into my quarters. He had four wounds, three in his legs and one in his abdomen, and I believe a grazing shot wound in his side. Mr. Wallace Comer was also brought in shot through the legs about that time. It was said that Mr. Comer was shot while protecting Judge Kiels. I understood that when Judge Kiels rose up from behind the counter and begged that they would not kill him; three of the Comers joined in protecting him and prevented the murder of the judge.

Q. Did you hear any expressions of the people in relation to this transaction?—A. No, sir. All that I had understood that there was a large number of people who had

# Some of the newspaper accounts of the April 1902 Will Reynolds lynching in Tuscumbia



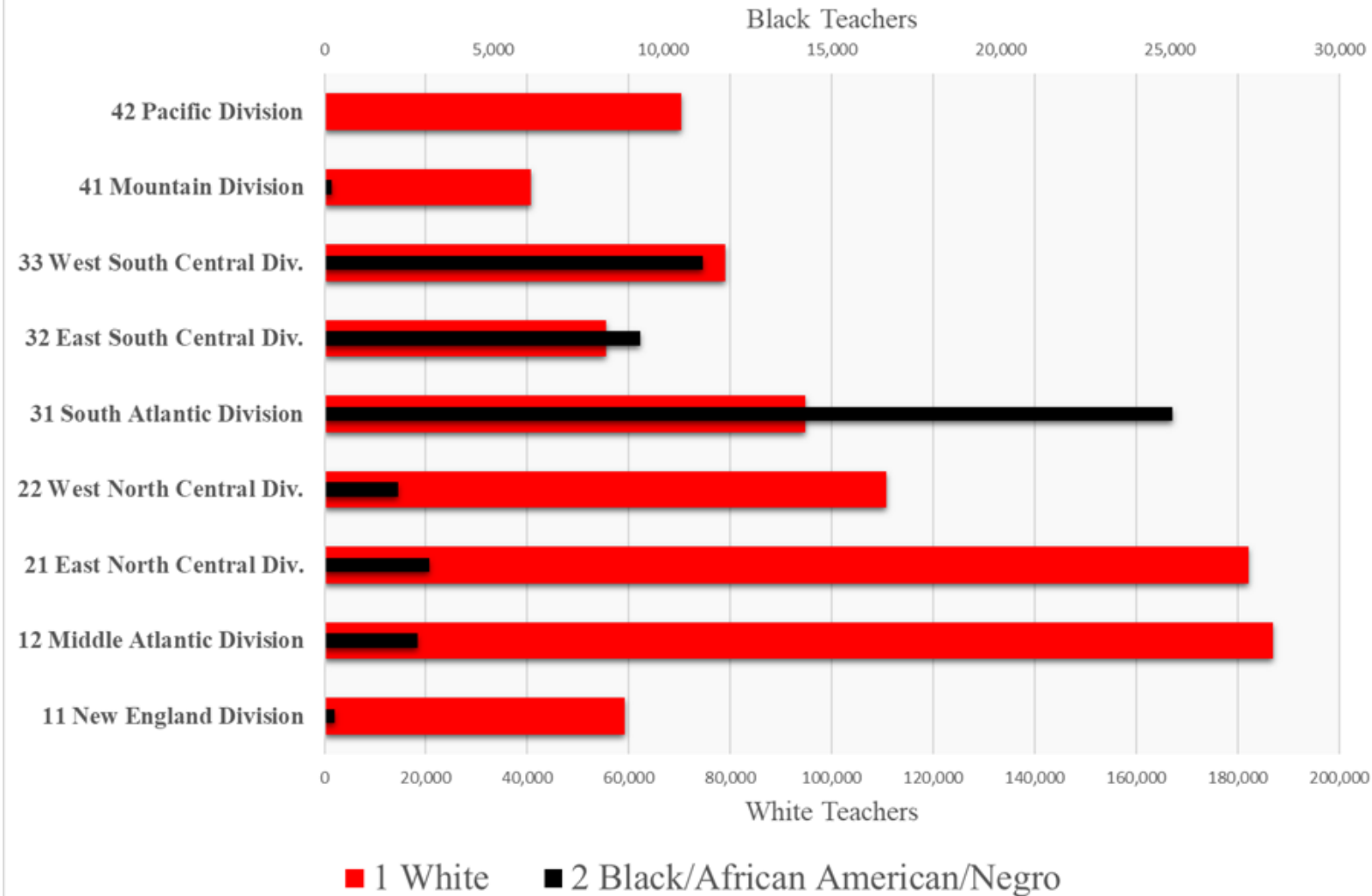
# The Concentration of Black teachers in the South

In 1940

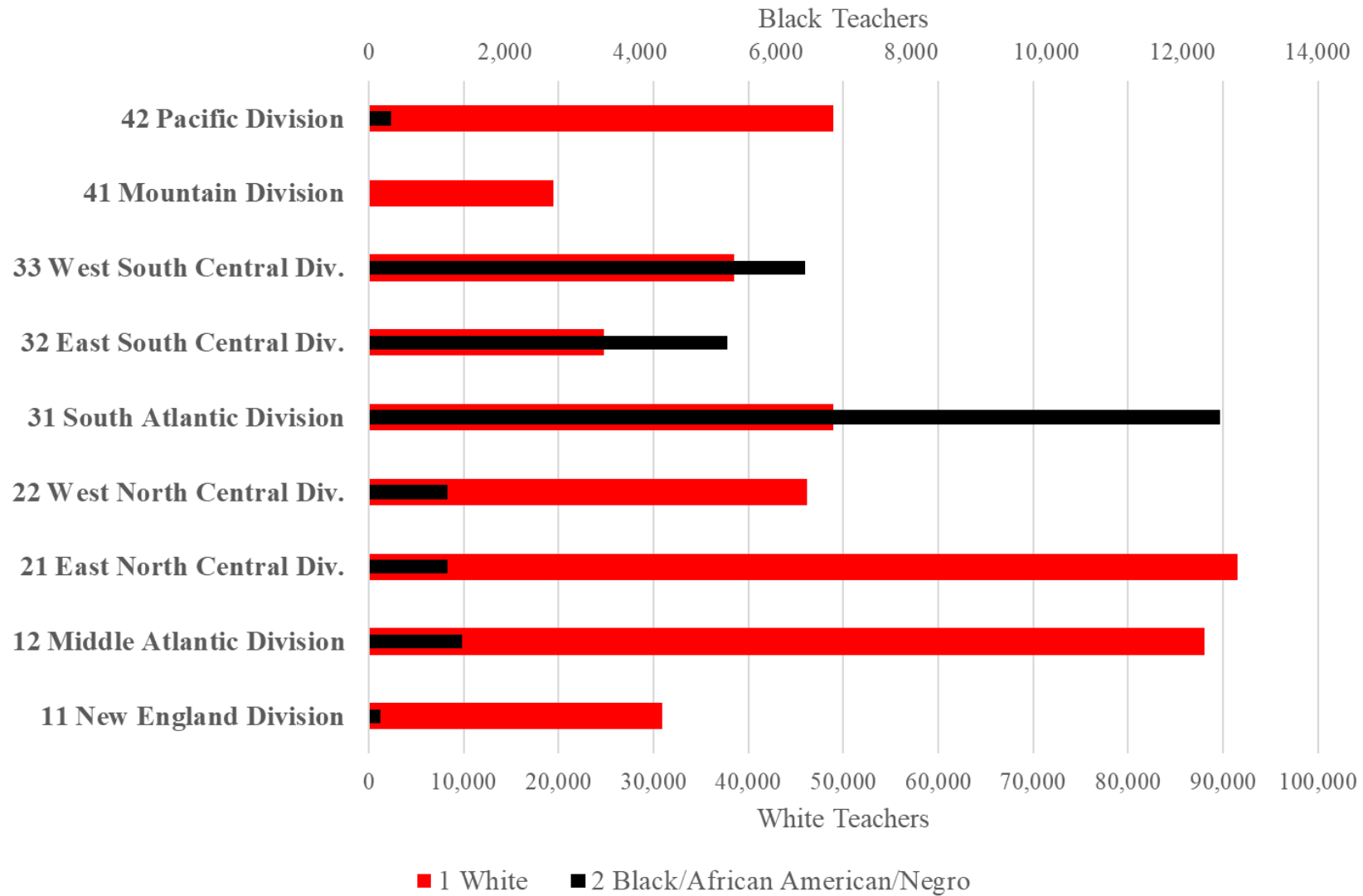
- 75.9% of Black teachers with a bachelor's degree taught in the South
- 28.3% of all Blacks with a bachelor's degree were teachers in the South



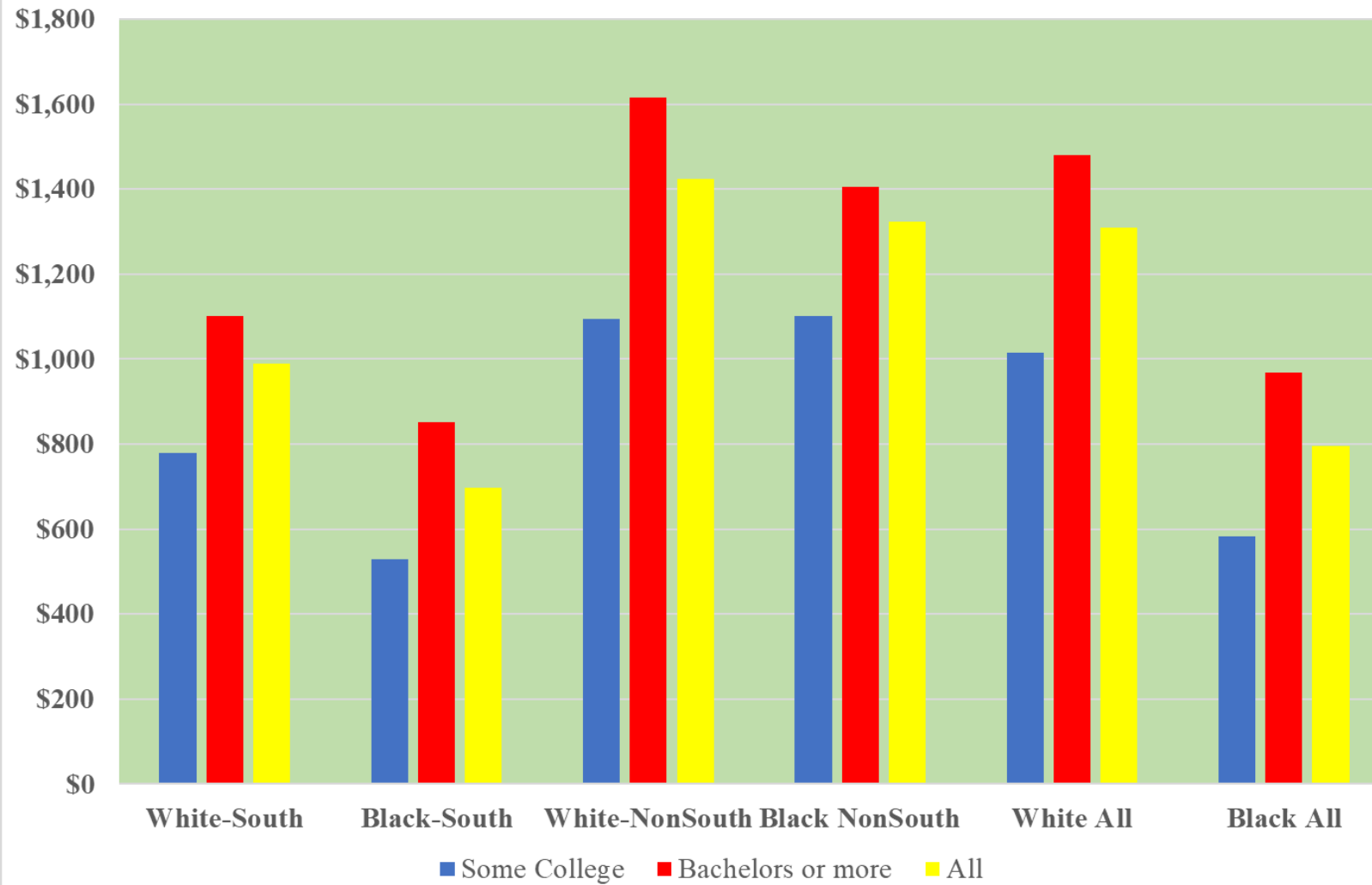
## 1940 Teachers (with at least some college)



# 1950 Teachers (with some college)

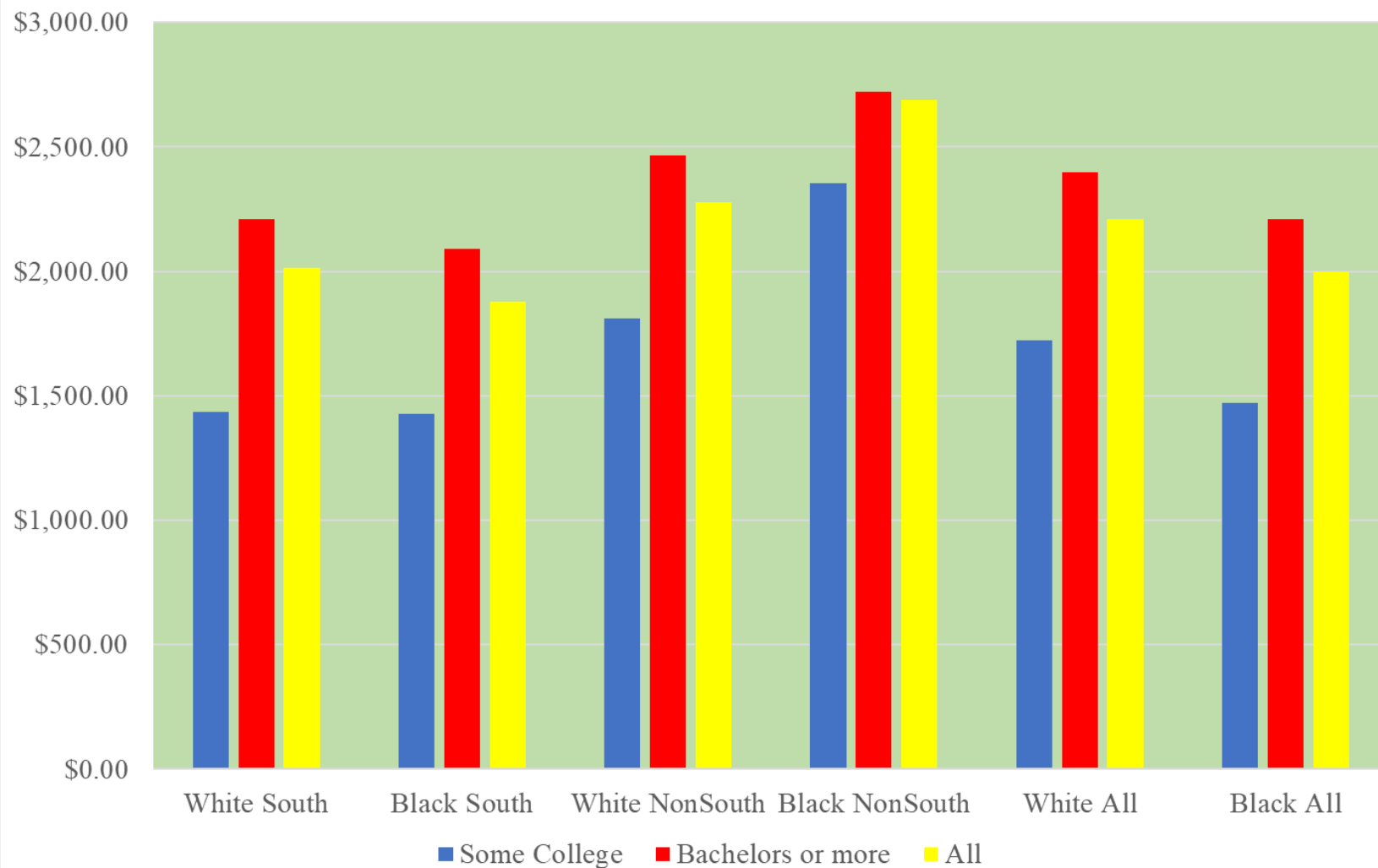


## 1940 Teacher Pay by Race, Region and Educational Attainment





## 1950 Teacher Pay by Race, Region and Educational Attainment



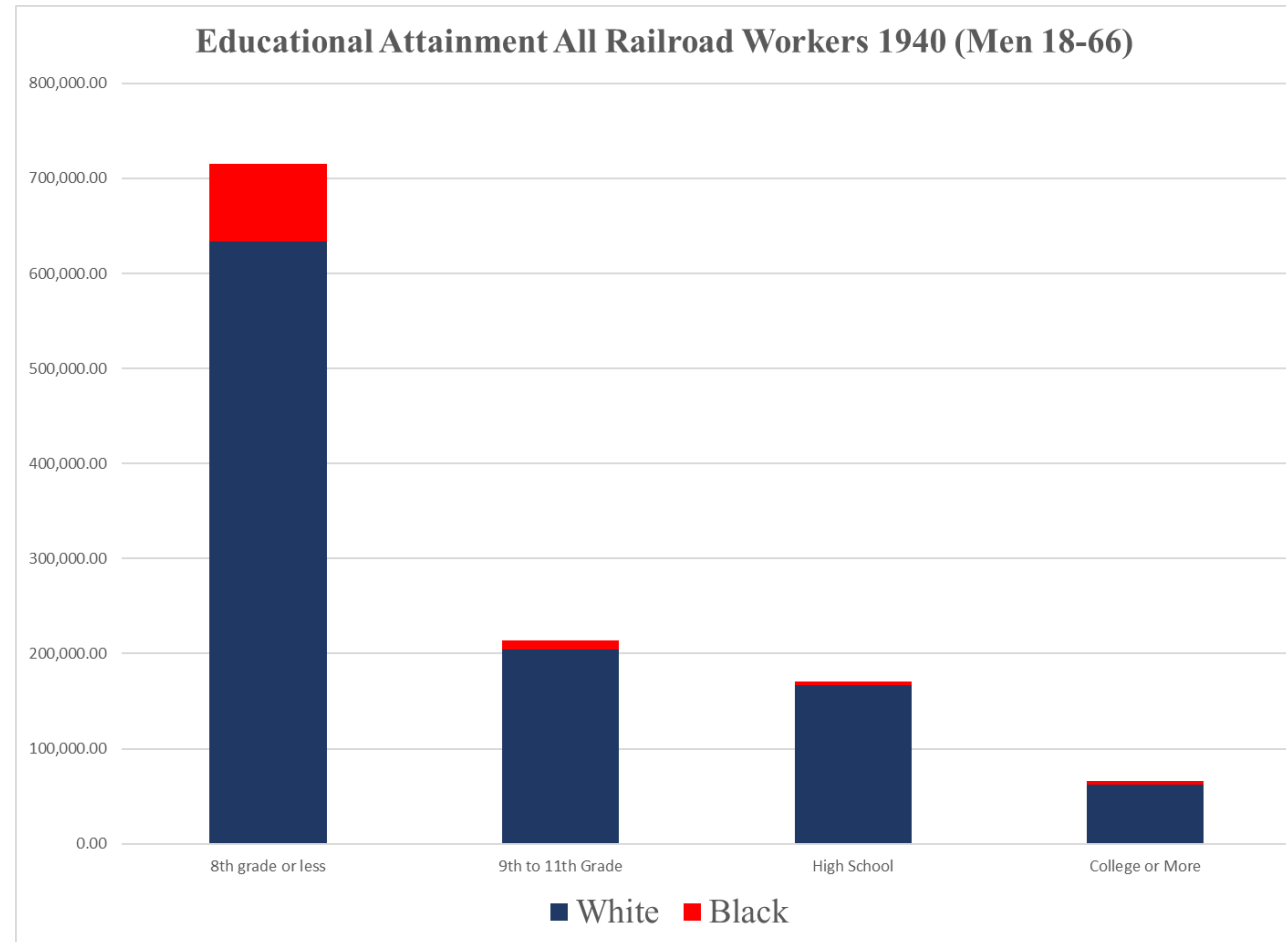
# Some of the scholarship on the history of Race and Unions in American Railroads

- Kelly, Joseph (2013) “Showing Agency on the Margins: African American Railway Workers in the South and Their Unions, 1917-1930,” *Labour* (Spring) 71: 123-148.
- Hill, Herbert (1995) “The Importance of Race in American Labor History,” *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society* (Winter) 9: 317-343.
- Arnesen, Eric (1994) “‘Like Banquo’s Ghost, It Will Not Down’: The Race Question and the American Railroad Brotherhoods, 1880-1920,” *The American Historical Review* (December) 99: 1601-1633.
- Matthews, John Michael (1974) “The Georgia ‘Race Strike’ of 1909,” *The Journal of Southern History* (November, Number 4) 40: 613-630

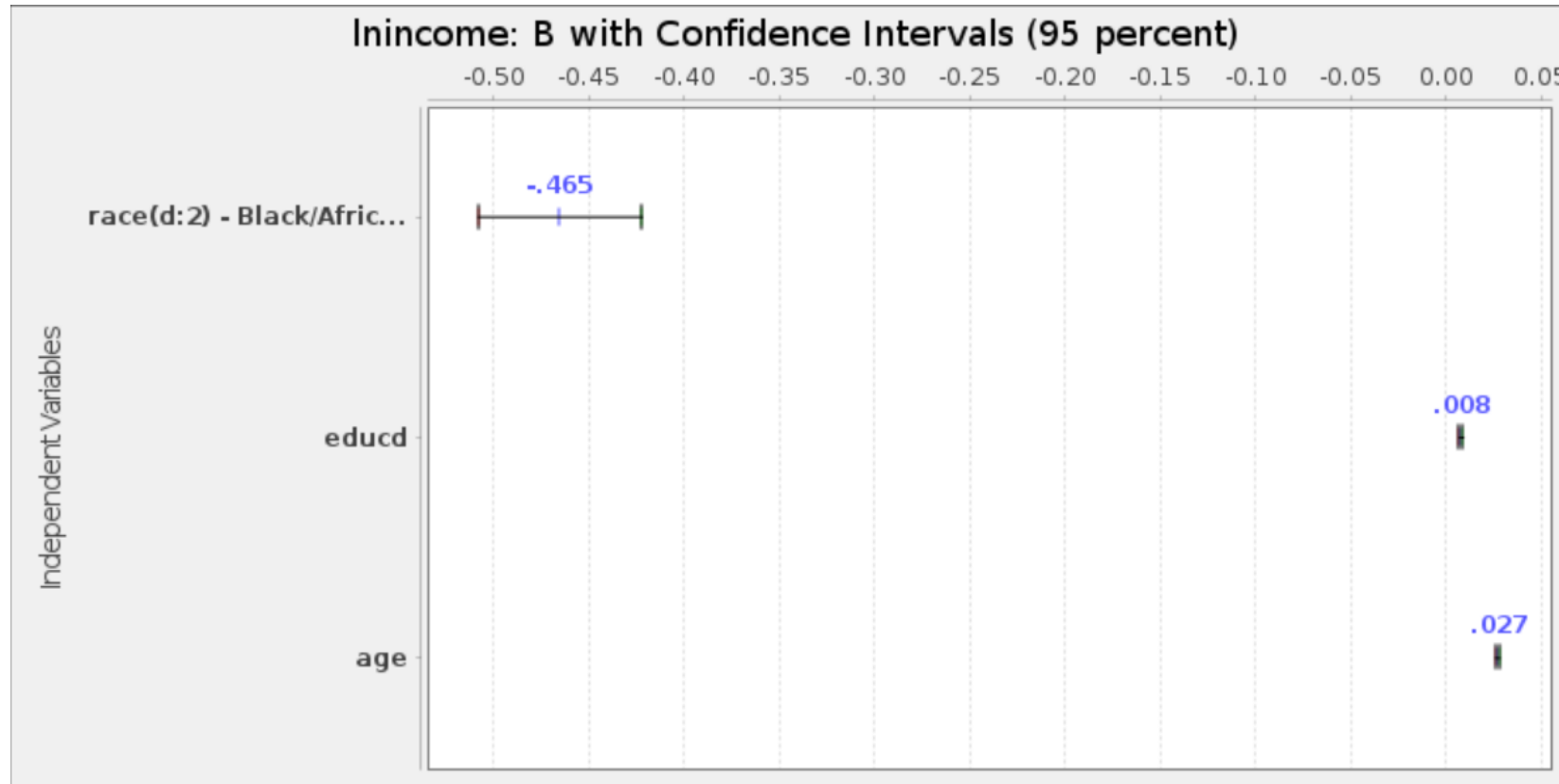
# Railroad earnings (highlighting firemen) by race for Men 18-60 in 1940

Cells contain: -Mean -Weighted N		occ1950		
		0 *_*	1 Locomotive firemen	<i>ROW TOTAL</i>
<b>race</b>	1: White	1,525.10 947,015.0	1,549.07 42,900.0	1,526.14 989,915.0
	2: Black/African American/Negro	782.33 92,106.0	1,249.53 1,988.0	792.20 94,094.0
	<b>COL TOTAL</b>	1,459.26 1,039,121.0	1,535.80 44,888.0	1,462.43 1,084,009.0

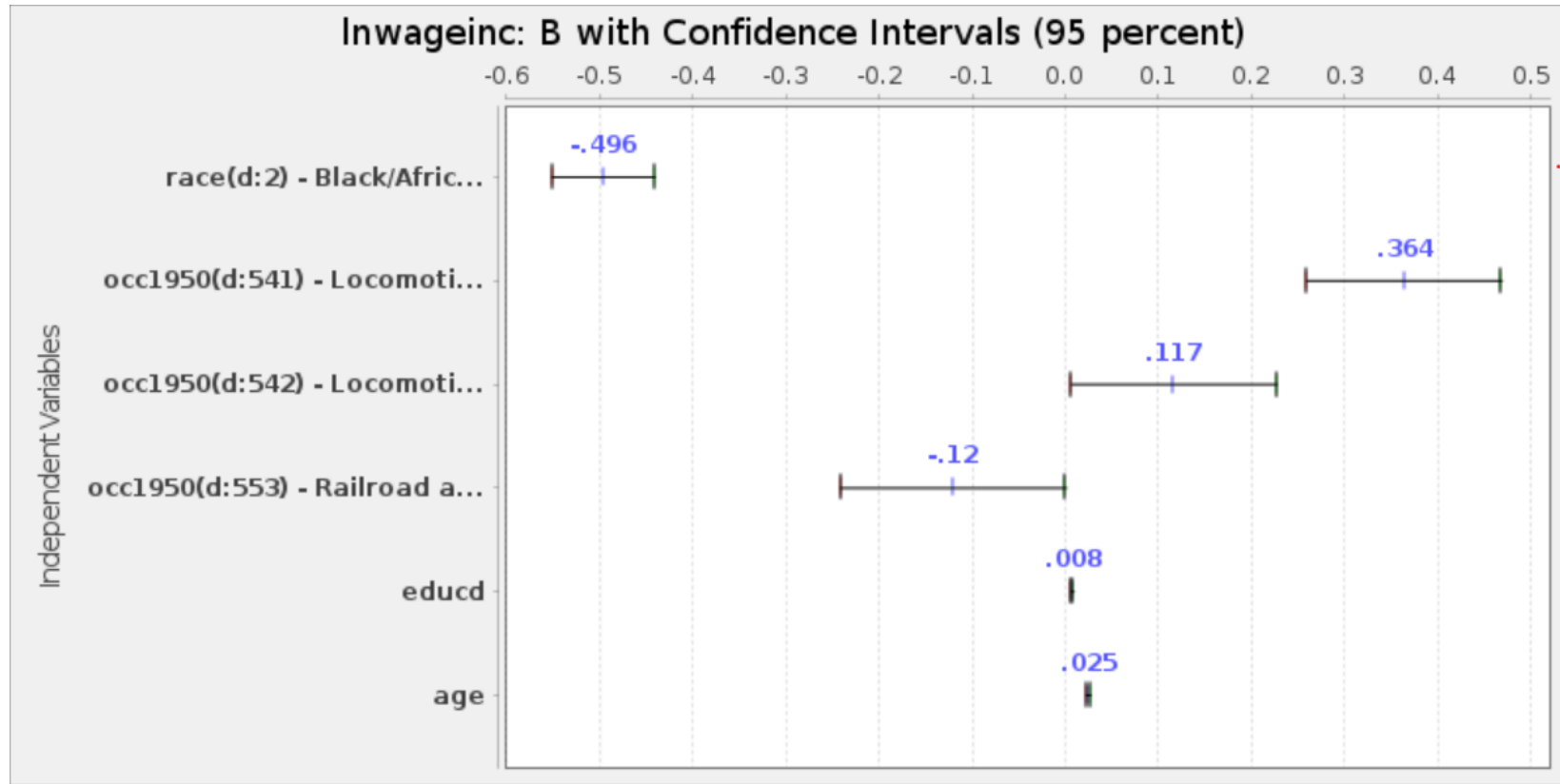
# Railroad workers as of 1940 Census



# Typical regression of log wage earnings on race, education and age for Men 18-60 in the Railroad Industry in the 1940 Census



# Income of male railroad workers(18-60 years old), 1940 in states with segregated schools



THE CONSTITUTION, ATLANTA, GA., FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1932.

## GEORGIA ROAD ASKS PROTECTION

Continued From Page One.

Representatives at points on the Macon-Augusta line.

Attorney Arthur Carr Tate of the northern division of Georgia, issued such a warning to the Georgia Road last week. He said that the federal grand jury which took in last November and that he would prosecute vigorously any one indicted for the offense.

The officials of the Georgia road, as well as those of the other railroads, are well aware of the danger of the federal grand jury which has taken leave from a political and economic standpoint to the Georgia road and that there is no intention whatsoever of the Georgia road to compete with the railroads. The Georgia road is a public utility and is not a competitor of the railroads.

Vis President Ball of the Southern Railway, who is a member of the Georgia road, said that he was not a competitor of the railroads and that he was not a competitor of the railroads. He said that he was not a competitor of the railroads and that he was not a competitor of the railroads.

While on the other hand the members of the Board of Directors of the Georgia road are working in that position which would require them to be in the position of the Georgia road and that they are not a competitor of the railroads.

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## WEST PEACHTREE ST.

9 Rooms East Front 104 48x17 1/2 ft.

Only one acre block from the end of the W. Peachtree near N. Ave. in a large city, beautiful view of the city and country. The property is well located for attractive home.

RENTED: \$100.00—Front porch, 20 feet long, living room, 20 feet long, dining room, large bathroom, parlor, kitchen and more.

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## A Hay, Grain and Feed

Many a wagon load of stock feed goes to the prosperous farmer on the edge of a big trade in this line.

We have several fine stores well well known; and would like to talk to a prospective long-time lease.

## Forrest & George

SAUCTION SA

Saturday, May 22d; West End,

J. T. KIMBROUGH & CO., 408-B C

Phone Main 716

## EDWIN P. ANS

\$27.50. Many a month ago, the first of the season's crop of hay, grain and feed is now being marketed. The price of hay, grain and feed is now being marketed. The price of hay, grain and feed is now being marketed.

J. H. EWING, Mgr. Sales

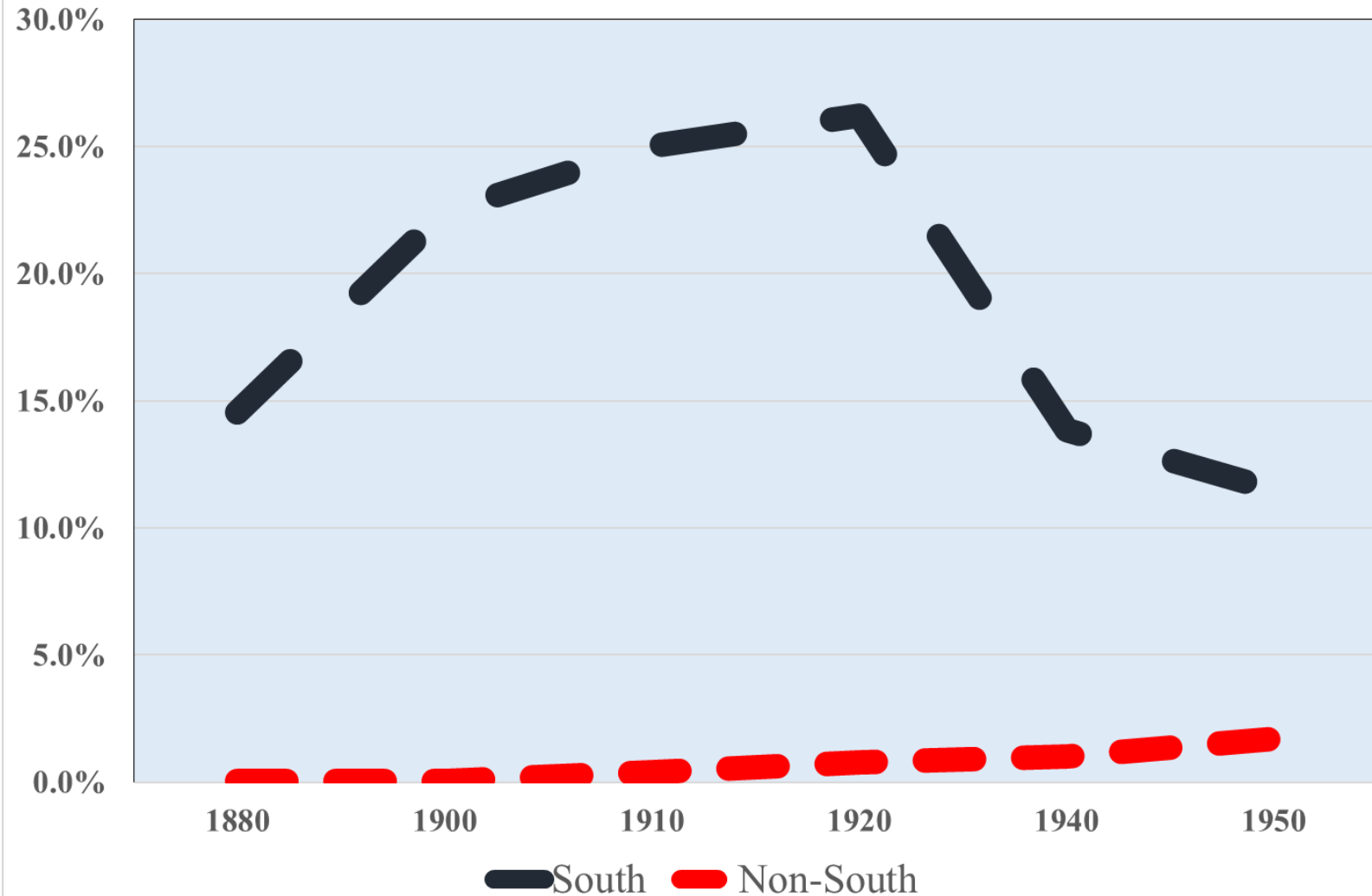
PAUL F. VOSE, Asst

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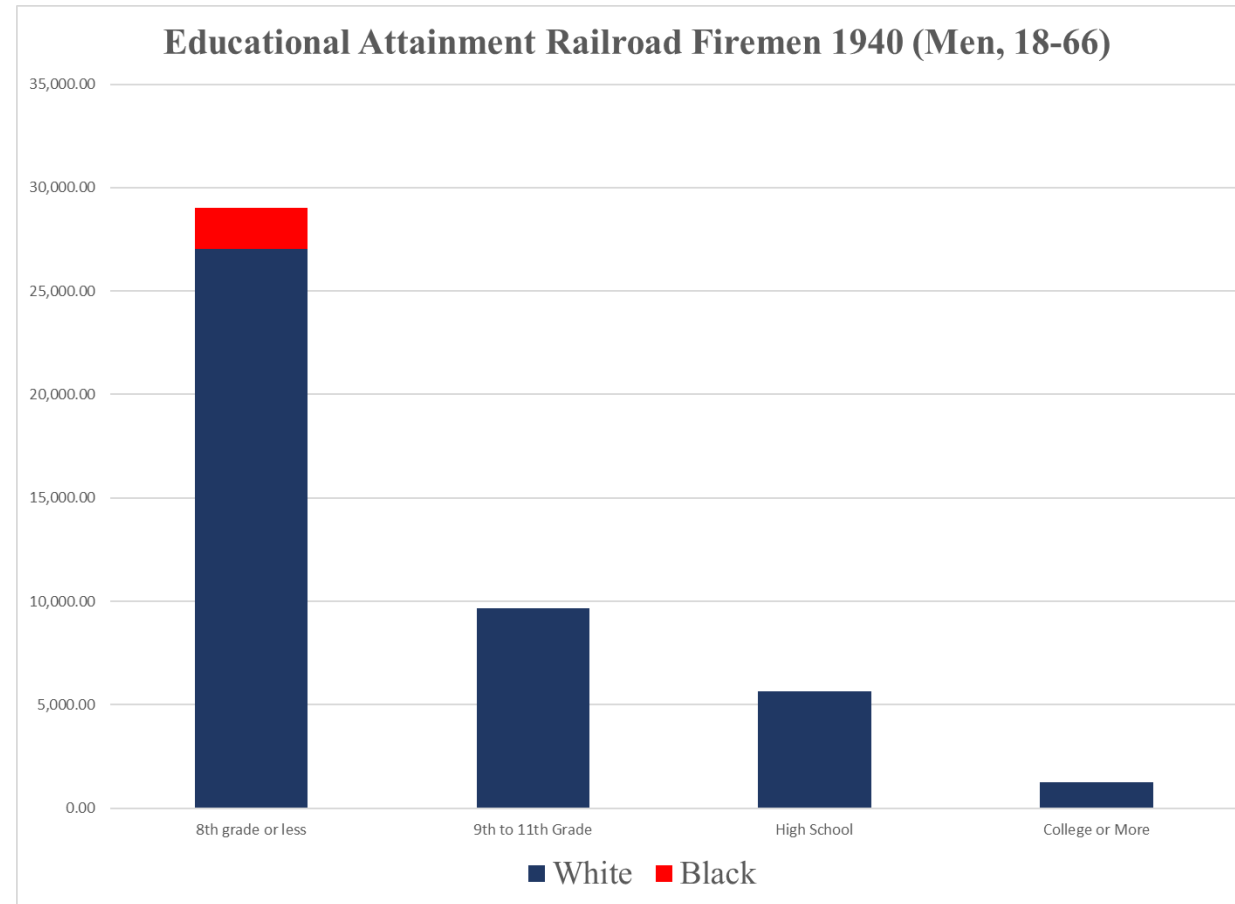


## Black share of Railroad Firemen

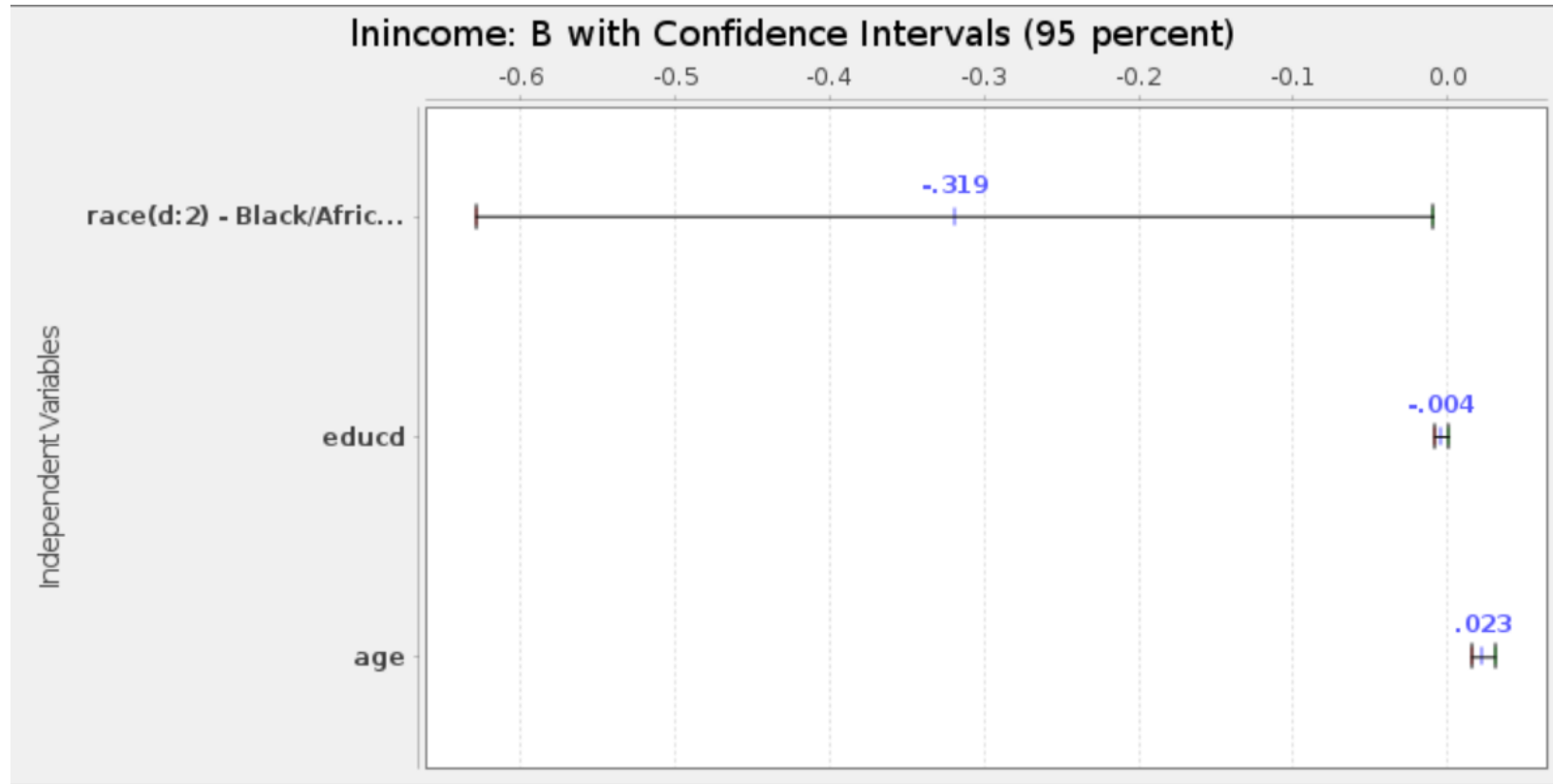




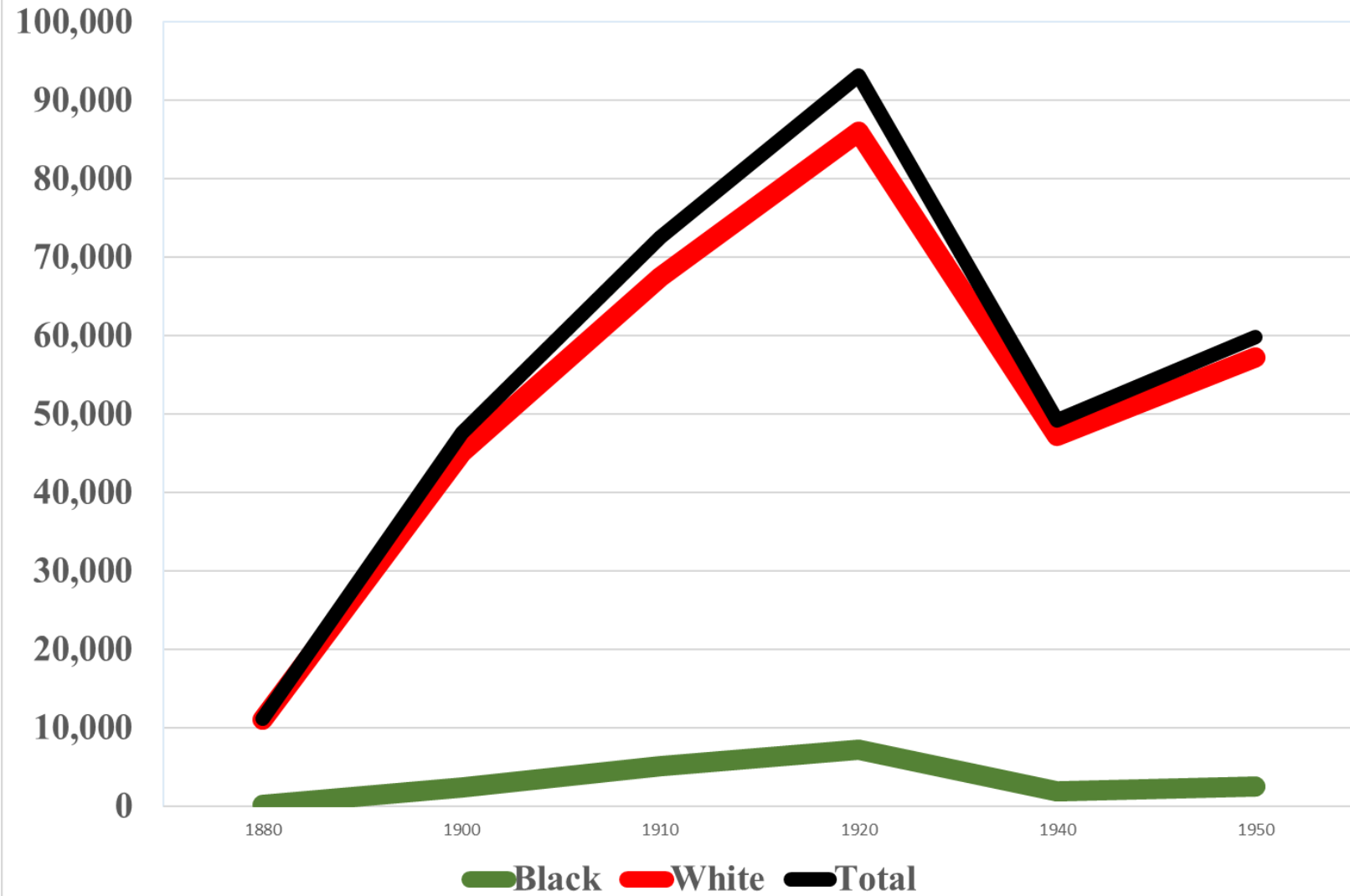
# Railroad Firemen 1940



# Typical regression of log wage earnings on race, education and age for Men 18-60 , Firemen in the Railroad Industry in the 1940 Census



## Railroad Firemen



# Technology and Violence

## COURT DENIES PHYSICIAN NEW TRIAL IN POISON CASE

PRICE 10 CENTS

THE **Chicago Defender**  
WORLD'S GREATEST WEEKLY

FIRST EDITION

Vol. XVI NO. 32

SATURDAY

CHICAGO, AUGUST 6, 1921

PRICE TEN CENTS

**DENY GOLF CLUB  
RIGHT TO ENTER  
CITY CONTEST**

South Park Conservators  
Block Jackson Park Off-  
cials in Jim Crow Order

White people, representing the White Club, have been excluded from Jackson Park in the effort to prevent the admission of the colored people to the city's largest golf course. The club officials, who are in the majority on the board of directors, have refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park.

**Chicago Rules**  
Members of the White Club Association have been excluded from Jackson Park in the effort to prevent the admission of the colored people to the city's largest golf course. The club officials, who are in the majority on the board of directors, have refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park.

**Protesters Act**  
South Park Conservators have been excluded from Jackson Park in the effort to prevent the admission of the colored people to the city's largest golf course. The club officials, who are in the majority on the board of directors, have refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park.

**Civil Liberties Union  
Fights for Free Speech**  
The Civil Liberties Union has been excluded from Jackson Park in the effort to prevent the admission of the colored people to the city's largest golf course. The club officials, who are in the majority on the board of directors, have refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park.

# PAID \$500 TO KILL FIREMEN

**Chicago Boys Win Cherry Picking Championship**



Group of Walnut St. C. C. boys, winners of the Cherry Picking Championship, posing with their trophies and prizes.

**WOMEN IGNORE  
SENATOR'S PLEA;  
NOMINATE VANN**  
The Women's League has been excluded from Jackson Park in the effort to prevent the admission of the colored people to the city's largest golf course. The club officials, who are in the majority on the board of directors, have refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park.

**C. T. Walker,  
Noted Pastor,  
Dies in South**  
The Rev. C. T. Walker, a noted pastor and leader of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, has died in South. He was a prominent figure in the church and a leader of the community.

## DOCTOR MUST GO TO PRISON FOR MURDER

Accused of Giving Kin Anesthetic  
to Collect Large Insurance Payout

Dr. J. H. Smith, a physician, has been accused of giving his kin an anesthetic to collect a large insurance payout. The doctor is accused of giving his kin an anesthetic to collect a large insurance payout. The doctor is accused of giving his kin an anesthetic to collect a large insurance payout.

**Auto Driver  
Aids Woman;  
Is Stabbed**  
An auto driver has been accused of aiding a woman and being stabbed. The driver is accused of aiding a woman and being stabbed. The driver is accused of aiding a woman and being stabbed.

**LANDIS ACTS TO  
BLAST WAY FOR  
RACE LABORERS**  
The Landis family has been accused of acting to blast the way for race laborers. The family is accused of acting to blast the way for race laborers. The family is accused of acting to blast the way for race laborers.

**WOMEN  
IGNORE  
SENATOR'S PLEA;  
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The Women's League has been excluded from Jackson Park in the effort to prevent the admission of the colored people to the city's largest golf course. The club officials, who are in the majority on the board of directors, have refused to allow the colored people to enter the park. The club officials have also refused to allow the colored people to enter the park.

## Trainmen Shot to Death From Ambush When They Refuse to Leave Service of Mississippi Railroads

BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Trainmen shot to death from an ambush when they refused to leave service of the Mississippi Railroads. The trainmen were shot to death from an ambush when they refused to leave service of the Mississippi Railroads. The trainmen were shot to death from an ambush when they refused to leave service of the Mississippi Railroads.

**Another Details**  
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**LIBERIAN HEAD  
HONOR GUEST AT  
ANNIVERSARY**

Seventy-fifth Year of Independence  
of Republic of Liberia Celebrated

The head of the Liberian head was the honor guest at the anniversary of the seventy-fifth year of the independence of the Republic of Liberia. The head of the Liberian head was the honor guest at the anniversary of the seventy-fifth year of the independence of the Republic of Liberia. The head of the Liberian head was the honor guest at the anniversary of the seventy-fifth year of the independence of the Republic of Liberia.

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**Another Details**  
The head of the Liberian head was the honor guest at the anniversary of the seventy-fifth year of the independence of the Republic of Liberia. The head of the Liberian head was the honor guest at the anniversary of the seventy-fifth year of the independence of the Republic of Liberia. The head of the Liberian head was the honor guest at the anniversary of the seventy-fifth year of the independence of the Republic of Liberia.

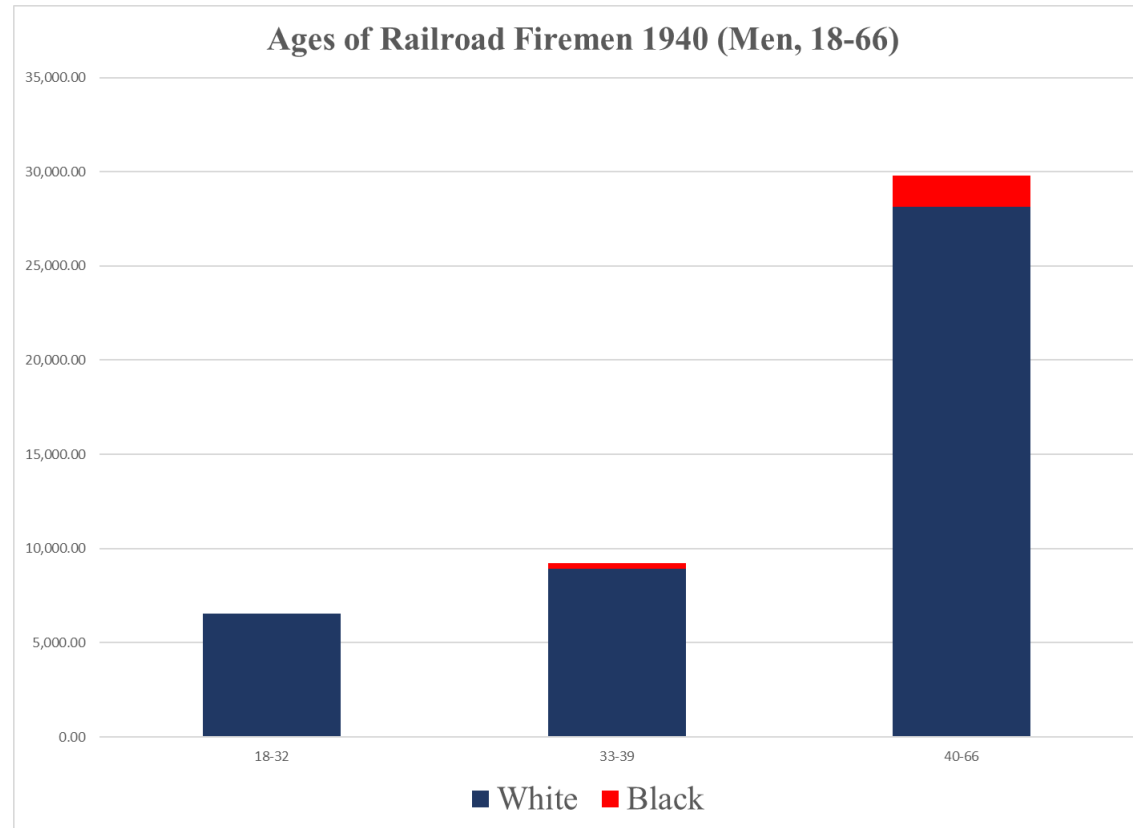
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### "Fire Zone" Urged by Real Estate Men Fails to Get Sanction of Local Judge

# Railroad Firemen by Race and Age 1940





TUNSTALL  
v.  
BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN et al.

No. 5125.

Circuit Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit.

April 9, 1945.

Charles H. Houston, of Washington, D. C. (Joseph C. Waddy, of Washington, D. C., on the brief), for appellant.

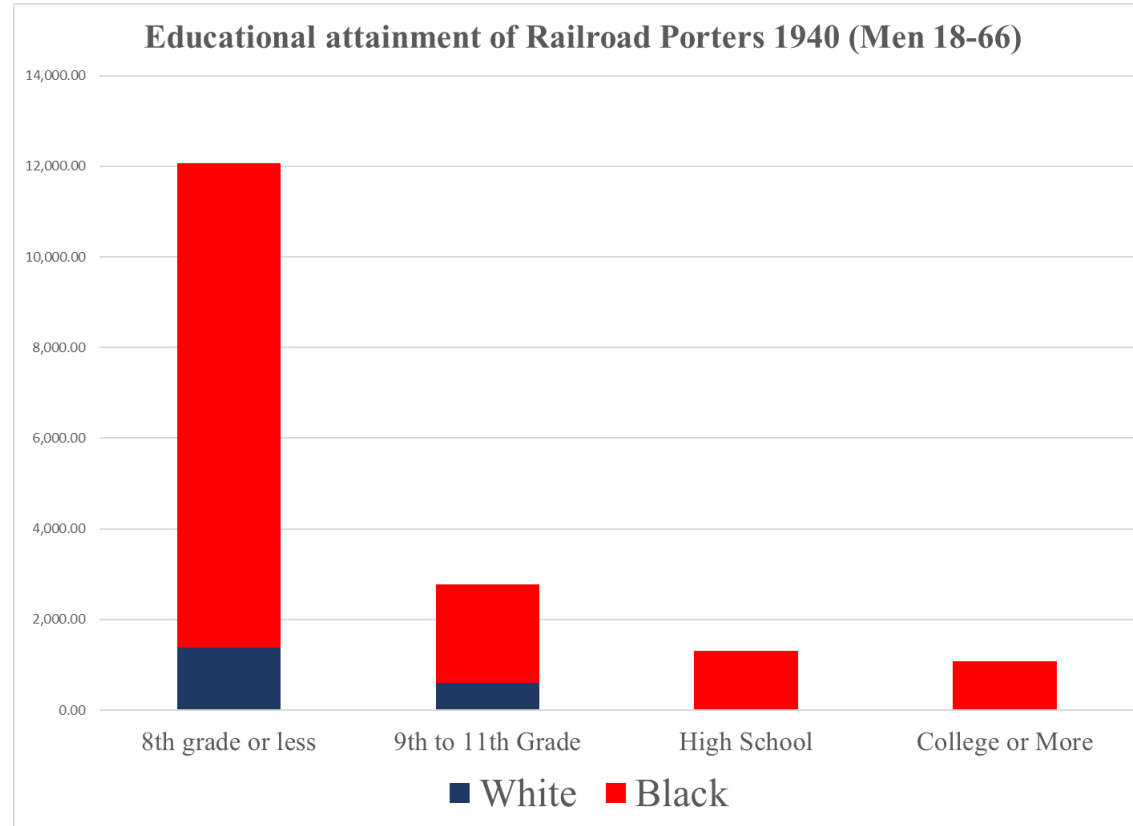
William G. Maupin and James G. Martin, both of Norfolk, Va. (Harold C. Heiss and Russell B. Day, both of Cleveland, Ohio, on the brief), for appellees.

\*404 Before PARKER, SOPER, and DOBIE, Circuit Judges.

PARKER, Circuit Judge.

This is a suit by a Negro fireman employed by the Norfolk-Southern Railway Company, who brings the suit in behalf of himself and other Negro firemen employed by that company. The defendants are the railway company, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, certain subordinate lodges of that brotherhood and one of the officers of a local lodge. The gravamen of the complaint is that the brotherhood has been selected as bargaining agent of the firemen of the defendant railway company; that it excludes Negro firemen from membership; that it has negotiated a trade agreement with the company discriminating against Negro firemen; and that as a result of this agreement plaintiff has suffered discrimination with respect to seniority rights and has been damaged thereby. The relief asked is a declaratory judgment to the effect that the brotherhood as bargaining representative is bound to represent fairly and without discrimination all members of the craft, an injunction restraining the defendants from giving effect to the trade agreement in so far as it discriminates against Negro firemen and restraining the brotherhood from acting as bargaining representative of Negro firemen so long as it refuses to represent them fairly and impartially, an award against the brotherhood for damages sustained by plaintiff, and an order that plaintiff be restored to the position to which he would be entitled by seniority in absence of the contract.

# Education and Race of Railroad Porters



# Is technology a force to enhance meritocracy? Was it ever?: 325<sup>th</sup> Field Signal Battalion



# 325<sup>th</sup> Field Signal Battalion

- Organized at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio
- June 10, 1918 embark for Europe from Hoboken, New Jersey
- 440 men
- Company A—radio company
- Company B—wire company
- Company C—outpost company

# Company B 325<sup>th</sup> Field Signal Battalion





# Dispatches were sent from Europe on the heroism of the Black troops

-----  
The first test of real courage given the men, and their first introduction into real fighting, in addition to stringing wires, and sending and receiving radio messages, came on the afternoon of September 27th, when a party of liaison men, including the Colonel and Lieut. Herbert, latter being Colored, advanced beyond the Battalion P.C. and at the suggestion of a French soldier, turned to the left. They soon found themselves beyond their lines, and directly in front of a German Machine gun nest. The Colonel divided his men into small groups and advanced on the enemy's position. This sortie resulted in the Signal boys capturing eight German prisoners and two machine guns, but the attack caused the loss of Corporal Charles E. Boykin, who did not return. Two days later, during general advance, Sergeant Henry E. Moody, of the Battalion, was mortally wounded while at his post. Boykin was killed outright, while Sergeant Moody died in the hospital from wounds received- these being the first two of the Signal Battalion to make the supreme sacrifice.



# William Gordon Herbert enlisted Jan. 19, 1918 in Washington, DC

2 1/4

Herbert William G  
(Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number) (Race: White or colored) Colored

Residence: 148 W 143 St N.Y.C. NEW YORK  
(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

\* Enlisted in R.A. Washington Bks D.C. Jan 19/18

† Born in New York City N.Y. Jan 6, 1897

Organizations: 325 Field Signal Bn (Co. B) to Disch.

Grades: None

Engagements: None

Wounds or other injuries received in action: None.

‡ Served overseas: None

§ Hon. disch. June 4/18 To Accept Comm.

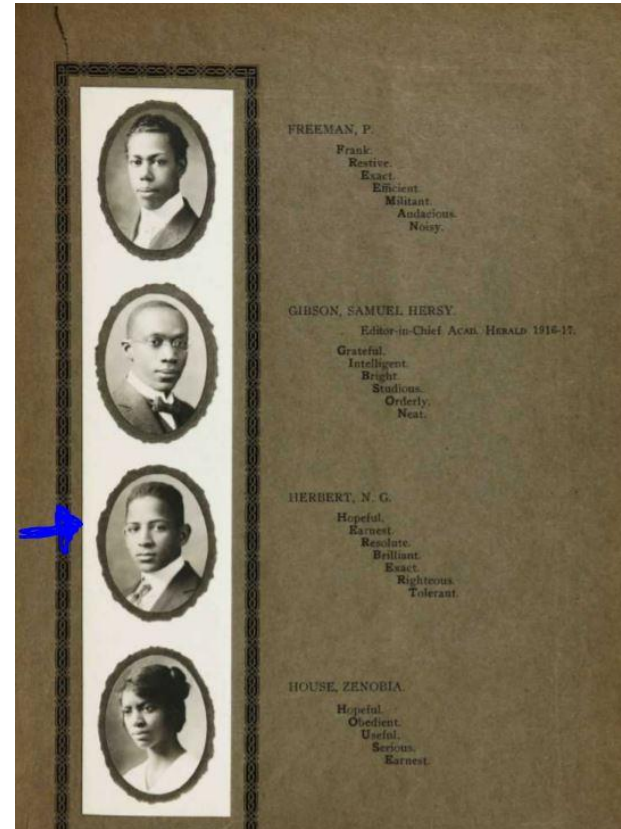
Was reported XX per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation.

Remarks: XX

Form No. 724-2 1/4 A. G. O. March 12, 1930. \*Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of enlistment. † Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment. ‡ Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States. § Give date and cause.

# William G Herbert

## Howard University Yearbook 1917



# Lt. William Gordon Herbert, New York State record of WWI military service

66 OFFICER—ORC  
Colored

Herbert William G  
(Surname) (Christian name)

Residence 148 W. 143 St. New York NEW YORK  
(Street and house number) (Town or city) (County) (State)

\* Born in New York City Jan 6, 1897

† Called into active service as 2nd Lt Sig C June 5/18 Fr R.A. Training Camp

‡ Promotions: None

Organizations and staff assignments: 325 Fld. Sig. Bn. to Mch. 5/19; 152 Dep. Brig. to Disch.

Principal stations: Cp Sherman Ohio; A.E.F.; Cp. Merritt, N.J.; Cp Upton N.Y.

Engagements: Meuse Argonne;

Wounds received in action: None.

§ Served overseas June 10/18 to Feb 27/19

|| Hon. disch. Apr 29/19 for convenience of the Government, services no longer required.

Was reported 0 per cent disabled on date of discharge in view of occupation.

Remarks: Enl Serv


Form No. 84c-1  
A. G. O.  
Mar. 17, 1921.

\* Give place and date. † Insert (a) grade; (b) arm or staff corps or department; (c) date; (d) source, civil life (CL), RA, NG, ORC, NA; and (e) designation of training camp attended, if any. ‡ Strike out if he did not attend a training camp. § Give dates of departure from and return to the United States. || Give date.

3--5091

# February 7, 2019 the 325<sup>th</sup> leave on the USS ULUA for home

SUBJECT:	NUMBER
(C) West. News. U.	AU
165-WW 189 140 451	
2-7-19	
REC'D	TAKEN
DESCRIPTION:	
TRANSPORT "ULUA" BRINGS BACK COLORED TROOPS FROM FRANCE.	
Colored fighters of 325th. Field Signal Battalion, back on "Ulua", leaving for Camp Merritt to be demobilized.	
ISSUED: Mc	NOTES:





Herbert continued to serve in the National Guard  
into 1924 (with the 369<sup>th</sup> Infantry)  
*But note his schooling and occupation*

<b>Hq Co—New York</b> -----	4 Sept 24
HERBERT, WILLIAM G 1 Lt-----	[F—Pvt sgt sgt1cl Sig C 19 Jan 18 to 4 June 18]
[In lieu of Capt]	
B—NY 6 Jan 97 AB & DDS Howard	[F—2 Lt SigC 5 June 18 to 29 Apr 19] 11t Inf 6 Sept 26
Univ DC 18 & 24	
FOSTER, EUGENE J 2 Lt-----	Pvt pvt1cl corp sgt Inf 30 July 25 to 17 Mar 2
B—La 14 Sept 95	2 Lt Inf 18 Mar 27
[ORC Inf 2 lt 28 June 27 O243397]	

# Obituary for Dr. William G. Herbert 1956

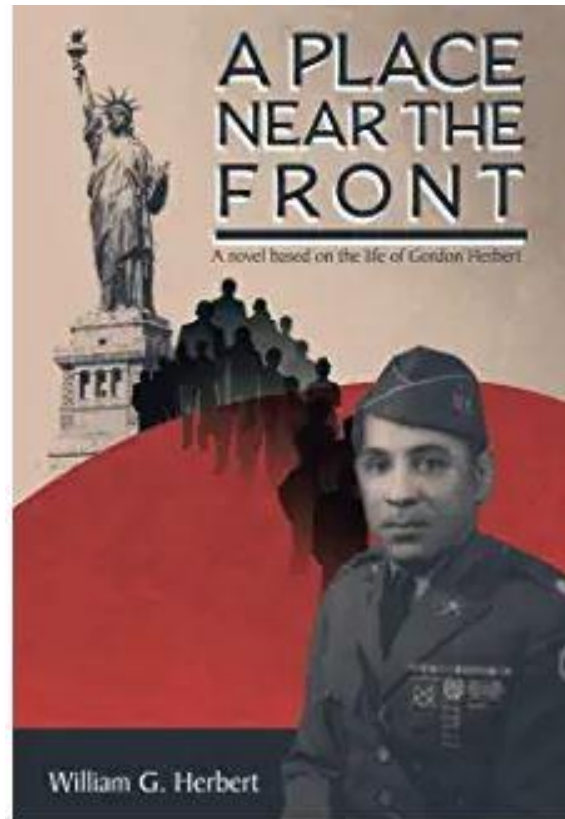
## **DR. WILLIAM G. HERBERT**

Dr. William G. Herbert, 59, of 107-50 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens, a dentist, died on Tuesday. He served as a captain in the Army Signal Corps during World War I, and at one time was personnel supervisor at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, where he also had taught classes in the science of electricity.

Dr. Herbert, a native of Trinidad, B.W.I., received his dental degree and also an LL.B. at Howard University. He is survived by two sons, William G. Jr., and Solomon J. Herbert; also a daughter, Margaret.



A novel based on his father, written by his son, William G. Herbert



Department of Economics

HOWARD  
UNIVERSITY

# Another dispatch of the heroism of the 325<sup>th</sup> under fire

In writing the "finis" to this brief mention of this umportant army unit made up of young Colored men it is fitting that I tell of the particular work done by the boys of the 1st. Platoon on the first day of the Metz battle. Shortly after the barrage was lifted, the big guns of the enemy began shelling Pont-a-Mousson. The first shells, as I vividly recall, hit on the edge of the city, and then gradually they began peppering the Signal Battalion's station. Sergeant Rufus B. Atwood, of the 1st. Platoon, was seated in the cellar near the switchboard; Private Edgar White was operating the swetchboard, and Private Clark the buzzerphone. Several officers and men were standing in the "dugout" cellar. Suddenly a German shell struck the top, passed through the ceiling and wall, and exploded, making havoc of the cellar. Lieut. Walker, Colored, who arrived just at this time, displayed admirable courage. He took immediate charge, and directed things. Sergeant Atwood tried out the switchboard, and found all lines broken. He found, on trying it, the buzzerphone out. Private White then received orders to stay on the switchboard, and Corporal Adolphus Johnson on the buzzarphone. The 12 drop monocord board was nailed up by White, and then began the connecting up of the lines from the outside to the monocord board. All this time the shelling, around this point, by the Germans was fierce and deadly- shells hitting all around the boys; struck a nearby ammunition dump causing the explosion of thousands of rounds of amunition, which caused a terrific shock and all lights to be extinguished. But still these men worked on, and would not leave this dangerous post, a veritable target for the enemy's big guns, until the Lieutenant of the Military Police arrived and ordered them out.

What these boys of the 325th Signal Battalion have not learned respecting radio, telephonic and telegraphic work is of little advantage to any one. What they have learned about it will be of great advantage to them when they return in making a living. The 325th Field Signal Battalion, whose rank and file is made up of young Colored men, has been a marvelous success.



# Lt. Richard Walker's draft card showing him as a student at Fisk University

Form 1 1788 REGISTRATION CARD No. 90

1	Name in full	Richard Hill Walker	Age, in yrs.	27
2	Home address	2008 3rd Street S.W. Nashville Tenn		
3	Date of birth	November 6 1894		
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)?	Natural Born		
5	Where were you born?	Nashville Tenn		
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?			
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office?	Student		
8	By whom employed?	Fisk University		
9	Where employed?	Nashville Tenn		
10	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)?	No		
11	Married or single (which)?	Single		
12	What military service have you had? Rank	No		
13	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?	No		

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Richard Hill Walker

REGISTRAR'S REPORT 41-3-28.A

1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)?	Medium	Slender, medium, or stout (which)?	Stout
2	Color of eyes?	Brown	Color of hair?	Black
3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)?	No		

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

6/26/17 J. W. Dashiell City Clerk  
Nashville Tenn  
Precinct 8  
City or County Nashville  
State Tenn  
June 5 - 1917 (Date of registration)

# Richard Walker's father was a Railroad Postal Clerk, a high paying civil service position

1, 1901.] RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE. 1049

**Railway Postal Clerks.**

Name.	Where born.	Whence appointed.			Where employed.	Compensation.
		State.	County.	Cong. dist.		
Samuel S. Hoop .....	Pennsylvania ..	Alabama .....	Morgan .....	9th .....	Nashville, Tenn., and Montgomery, Ala .....	\$1,000.00
William S. Hite .....	Tennessee .....	Tennessee .....	Davidson .....	6th .....	do .....	1,000.00
Edward G. Johnson .....	Ohio .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	900.00
Neal G. Lowe .....	Alabama .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,000.00
Walter C. Leuseur .....	Tennessee .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	900.00
George F. Lindsey .....	Alabama .....	Alabama .....	Jefferson .....	9th .....	do .....	900.00
William H. Randle .....	Tennessee .....	Tennessee .....	Davidson .....	6th .....	do .....	1,000.00
Ike W. Starr .....	Kentucky .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,000.00
William W. Shear .....	Tennessee .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,000.00
Jesse B. Templeton .....	do .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	900.00
<u>Robert A. Walker .....</u>	do .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	<u>1,400.00</u>
Charles J. West .....	do .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,400.00
J. T. Asbury .....	Illinois .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	Nashville, Tenn., and St. Louis, Mo .....	1,200.00
J. W. Brooks .....	Arkansas .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,400.00
J. C. Brown .....	Tennessee .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,400.00
Wm. Bradford .....	do .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,200.00
M. M. Hamilton .....	Illinois .....	do .....	do .....	6th .....	do .....	1,200.00
George Kirsch .....	Indiana .....	Indiana .....	Warrick .....	1st .....	do .....	1,200.00
Oscar J. Knoll .....	Kentucky .....	do .....	Vanderburg .....	1st .....	do .....	1,200.00
Wm. E. Love .....	Tennessee .....	Tennessee .....	Davidson .....	6th .....	do .....	1,400.00



## Retired Negro Mail Clerk Dies

Funeral services for Robert A. Walker, 81, retired Negro railway mail clerk, who died yesterday at Hubbard Hospital, will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence, 2005 Jo Johnston Avenue. The Rev. Richard Ewing, of the Howard Congregational Church, will officiate, and burial will be in Mt. Ararat Cemetery.

A native of Nashville, he was one of four men who took the first federal civil service examination ever held in Nashville, and served with the Railway Mail Service for 43 years before his retirement. His run was between Nashville and Montgomery, Ala.

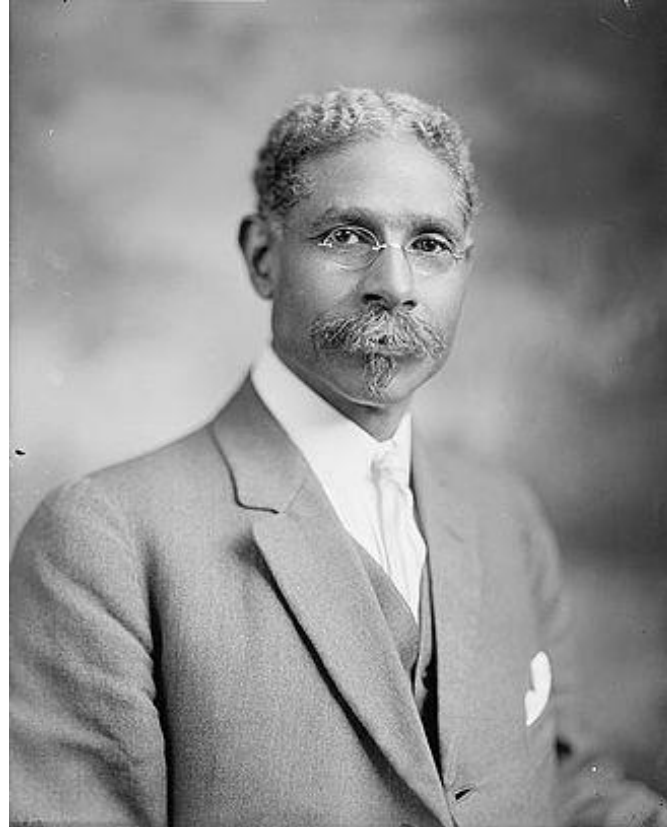
In addition to his widow, Mrs. Gertrude Dungey Walker, he is survived by the following children: Mrs. Louis L. Watson, Washington, D. C., Roberta P. Walker, teacher, Cincinnati, Richard H. Walker, with the U. S. Department of Labor, John C. Walker, attorney, Louisville, Ky., William H. Walker, public accountant, Philadelphia, Joseph A. Walker, Detroit, Robert A. Walker, II, accountant and tax consultant, Nashville, and Mrs. Robert H. Montgomery, foreign language teacher, Detroit; a brother, Rufus A. Walker, Nashville; and six grandchildren.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church, a Mason, and a member of the Railway Mail Association.

**NO. 24**



# Richard Walker's father-in-law, Dr. George W. Buckner, US Ambassador to Liberia, 1913-1915



# November 1940 Walker named to U.S. Employment Service for Negro Placement Service

ed States **Employment Service** by the appointment of additional personnel to the staff of Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley, Supervisor of the Negro Placement **Service**. The major responsibility of this group will be to stimulate the placement and effective integration of all available Negro workers with skills essential to the defense industries.

The new appointees are Roy A. Ellis, from the District of Columbia **Employment Security Agency**; Alvin M. Rucker, from the Illinois **Employment Security Agency**, and Richard H. Walker, from the Massachusetts **Employment Security Agency**.

\* \* \*

# In 1945 Walker is listed as “Minority Placement Specialist” for Region I of the War Manpower Commission

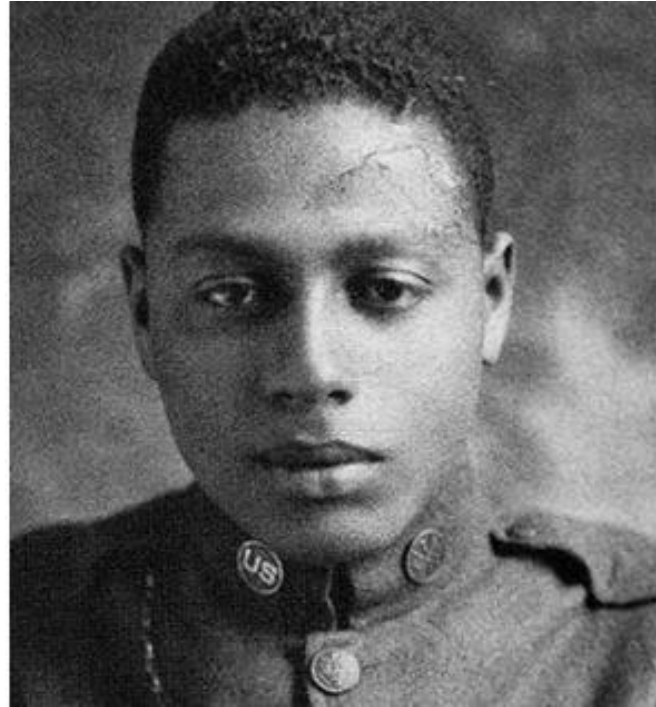
## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT Continued

NAME	OFFICIAL TITLE AND STATION (Station is Washington, D. C., unless otherwise indicated)	Legal residence		Com- pen- sation
		State	Cong. Dist.	
War Manpower Commission—Continued				
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR BUSINESS MANAGEMENT— Continued.				
Bureau of Placement—Con.				
George A. Works.....	Director, National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel.	N. J.....	7th.....	\$22.22
William T. Read.....	Chief, Professional Evaluation and Utilization Section, National Roster.	N. J.....	3d.....	6,500
Benjamin Wermiel.....	Chief, Professional Placement Section, Na- tional Roster.	N. Y.....	15th.....	5,600
Benjamin F. Wilson.....	Chief, Minority Group Service.....	Ind.....	1st.....	6,500
Veterans Employment Service				
Perry Faulkner.....	Executive Secretary, Veterans' Placement Board and Chief of Veterans' Employment Service.	Ohio.....	.....	8,000
Oscar D. Hollenbeck.....	Assistant Chief.....	Ohio.....	14th.....	6,500
WAR MANPOWER COM- MISSION—REGION I				
Boston, Mass.				
Arthur C. Gernes.....	Regional Director, Boston.....	Mass.....	10th.....	8,000
David G. Nagle.....	Deputy Director, Boston.....	Mass.....	12th.....	6,500
George W. Forrester.....	Field Supervisor, Boston.....	Mass.....	7th.....	5,600
Bernard L. Gorfinkle.....	do.....	Mass.....	9th.....	5,600
James H. Sullivan.....	do.....	Mass.....	7th.....	5,600
Arthur L. Hinchey.....	Business Manager, Boston.....	Mass.....	4th.....	5,600
Frederick L. Lash.....	Budget and Finance Officer, Boston.....	Mass.....	13th.....	4,600
Leonard W. Gould.....	Personnel Officer, Boston.....	Mass.....	7th.....	4,600
Joseph Fisher.....	Attorney, Boston.....	Mass.....	10th.....	5,600
Joseph W. O'Loughlin.....	Chief of Manpower Utilization, Boston.....	Mass.....	7th.....	6,500
Lawrence J. Bresnahan.....	Chief of Placement, Boston.....	Mass.....	14th.....	6,500
George E. Shrigley.....	Assistant Chief of Placement, Boston.....	Mass.....	14th.....	5,600
Richard H. Walker.....	Minorities Placement Specialist, Boston.....	Mass.....	10th.....	4,600
Alexander F. Glines.....	Placement Specialist, Boston.....	Mass.....	10th.....	4,600
Wm F. Conley.....	do.....	Mass.....	10th.....	4,600

# The obituary for Richard H. Walker does not mention his World War I record

**WALKER** — Suddenly in Roxbury, Feb. 3, Richard H. Father of Richard H. Walker, Jr., Indianapolis, Ind. Beloved brother of Mrs. Beatrice Watson, Washington, D.C., Mrs. Margaret Montgomery, Detroit, Mich., Mr. John Walker, Nashville, Tenn. He is survived by a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Concelebrated Mass Saturday, Feb. 5, at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church, Circuit and Regent sts., Roxbury. Visiting at the Davis Funeral Home, 89 Walnut av., Roxbury, Friday, 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. Family present 7-9 p.m. Relatives and friends invited. Prayers at 8:30 p.m. Late member of St. Matthew's Retreat League. In lieu of flowers, make donations to the Richard H. Walker Scholarship Fund, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

# Bronze Star recipient Sgt. Rufus Ballard Atwood





# Kentucky State University's 6<sup>th</sup> President, (1929-1962) Rufus B. Atwood



Department of Economics


HOWARD  
UNIVERSITY



Pvt. Adolphus Burrell Johnson, ended up as a presser in a tailor show in Washington, DC

Edward K. Bachschmidt 2nd V-Pres, Howard J. Riordan V-Pres,  
G. Pitt V-Pres, General Insurance Ed-  
monds Bldg 917 15th nw, Tel NATIONAL 8-0112

" Adda r4115 Win av nw apt 404  
" Addie Mrs h907 Euclid nw  
" Addie F (wid Jas) h503a 23d nw  
" Addie M Mrs r1501 27th se apt 209  
" Addie M Mrs slawn Woodward & Lothrop r2819  
Woodley pl nw  
" Adna K jr h4000 Cathedral av nw apt 631  
" Adock (Kath E) driver Coastline Cab h858 G no  
" Adolph h7614 16th nw  
" Adolphus lab DC Genl Hosp r208 E no  
" Adolphus B (Marie) prsr Kann's Dept Store h1774  
U nw apt 5  
" Adrene I maid StAnn's Infant Asylum r1847  
Kalorama rd nw



**AVON REALTY C**

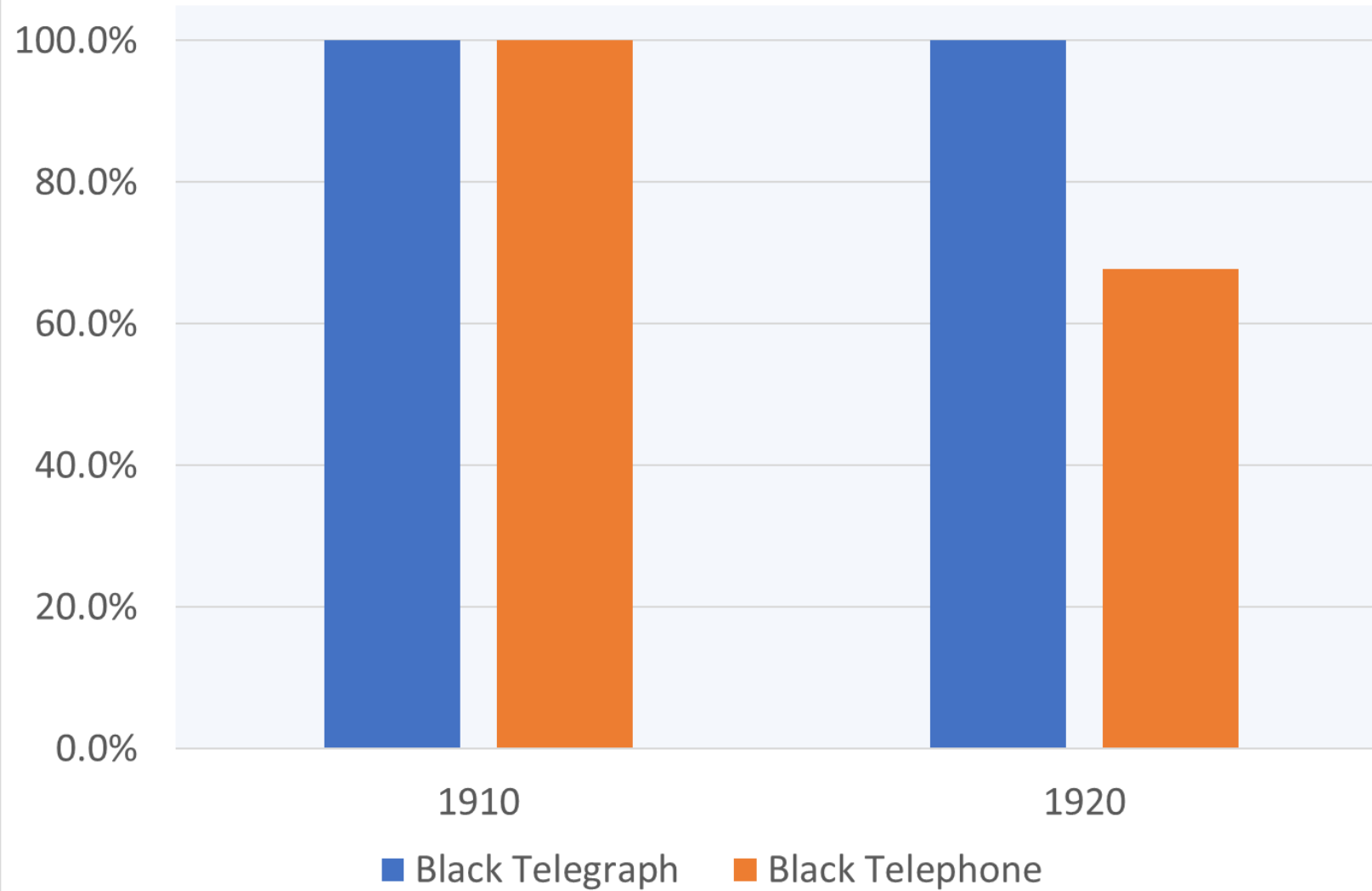
SALES — RENTALS  
INSURANCE — LOANS

727 11th N. W.  
Tels. Office AD 4-6802, Res. TU 2-

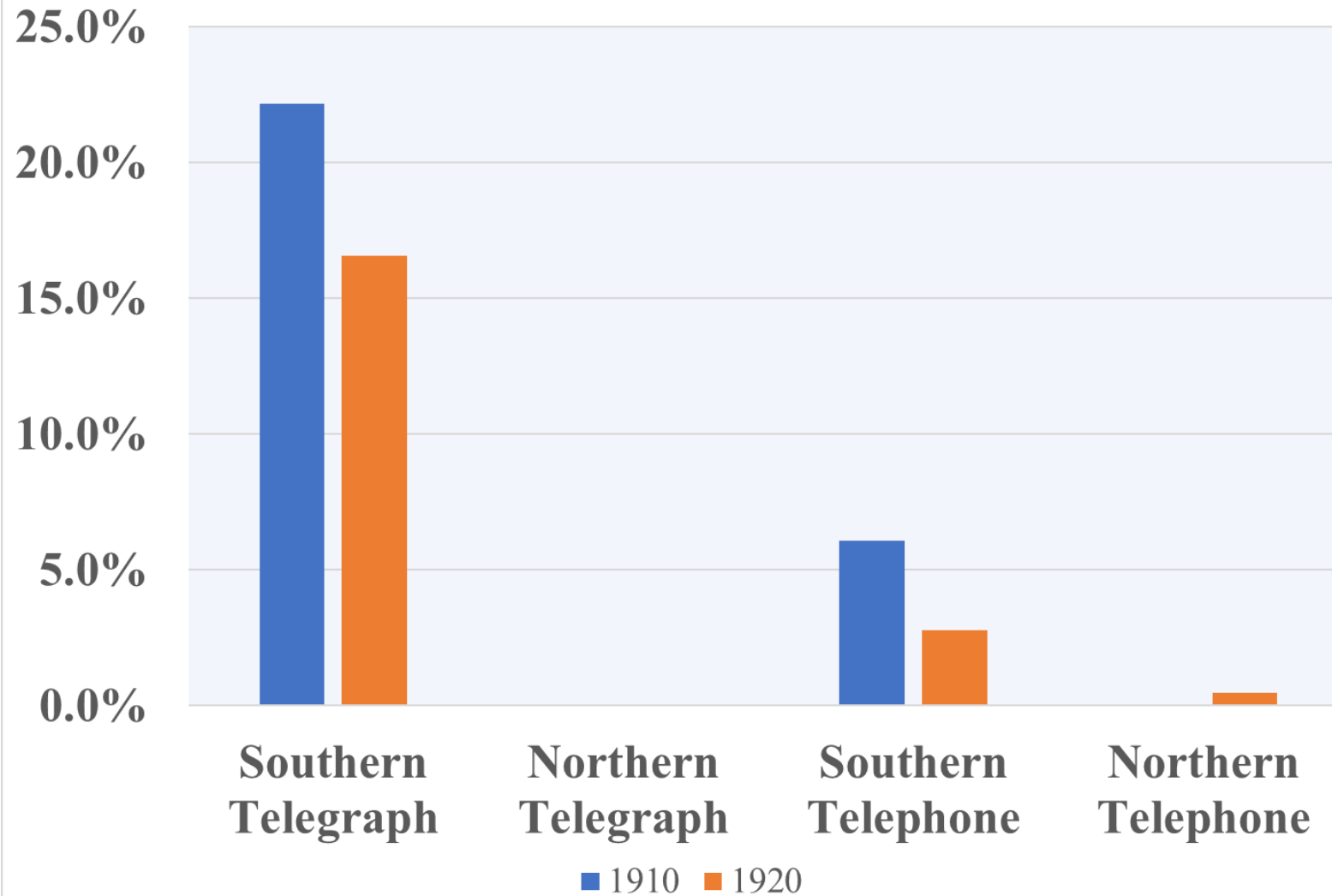
Pvt. Edgar White, ended up a chauffeur in  
Chicago, IL

37	744	45	13	allie dora	Head	19	35	19	Mo	3	Nov	52	Wd	Mo	yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	80	Yes	Housework	Private Family	9596	W	Yes	37
38				<u>White Edgar</u>	son				Mo	Nov	36	Mo	36	Mo	yes	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	80	Yes	Chapman	Private Family	3996	W	Yes	38
39				<u>Martine</u>	Wife				Mo	Nov	32	Mo	32	Mo	yes	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	61	Yes	Servant	Private Family	9596	W	Yes	39

Percent of Black Linemen who lived in the South



**Percent of Linemen who were Black by Industry and Region**





## Share of Black Telephone and Telegraph Linemen who Migrated to Region in 1920 Workforce



Cells contain:		Telephone Industry 1940 Men (18-60) by race and educational attainment					
-Column percent		Count					
-Weighted N		1	2	3	4	8	ROW
		Less than 8th Grade	Some High School	High School	Some College	College or more	TOTAL
race	1: White	97.1	99.7	100	100	100	99.1
		34,900.00	24,558.00	38,981.00	14,753.00	12,975.00	126,167.00
	2: Black/A	2.9	0.3	0	0	0	0.9
		1,058.00	78	0	0	0	1,136.00
	COL TOTA	100	100	100	100	100	100
		35,958.00	24,636.00	38,981.00	14,753.00	12,975.00	127,303.00

Black occupations in the Telephone Industry 1940		
Cells contain:		Distribution
-Column percent		
-Weighted N		
occ1950	690: Operative and kindred workers (nec)	6.2
		70
	753: Charwomen and cleaners	6.9
		78
	754: Cooks, except private household	8.8
		100
	770: Janitors and sextons	34.2
		388
	970: Laborers (nec)	44
		500
	<b>COL TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>
		1,136.00
Source: Author's calculations 25 September 2020 using Steven Ruggles, Sarah Flood, Ronald Goeken, Josiah Grover, Erin Meyer, Jose Pacas and Matthew Sobek. IPUMS USA: Version 10.0 [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS, 2020.		

# Is technology a force to enhance meritocracy? Was it ever? Two high school classmates, Des Moines East High School 1939



# Is technology a force to enhance meritocracy? Was it ever?: Tuskegee 1945





# Is technology a force to enhance meritocracy? Was it ever?: Kentucky 1945



B-25 Mitchell Bomber Crew 7-6. 617th Bombardment Squadron of the 477th Medium Bombardment Group. Godman Field, KY, May 1945. Left to Right: Sgt. Cleveland Albritten, Engineer-Gunner; Cpl. Clifton V. Nichols, Armorer-Gunner; 2nd Lt. Edward T. Dixon, Pilot; Cpl. Arnold F. Bowen, Radio-Gunner; 2nd Lt. Ivan J. McRae, Co-pilot; First Officer Wendell R. Smith, Navigator-Bombardier.

1953 Perry Young signs as the first African American pilot for an American commercial flyer (only Tuskegee Airman hired as a pilot)

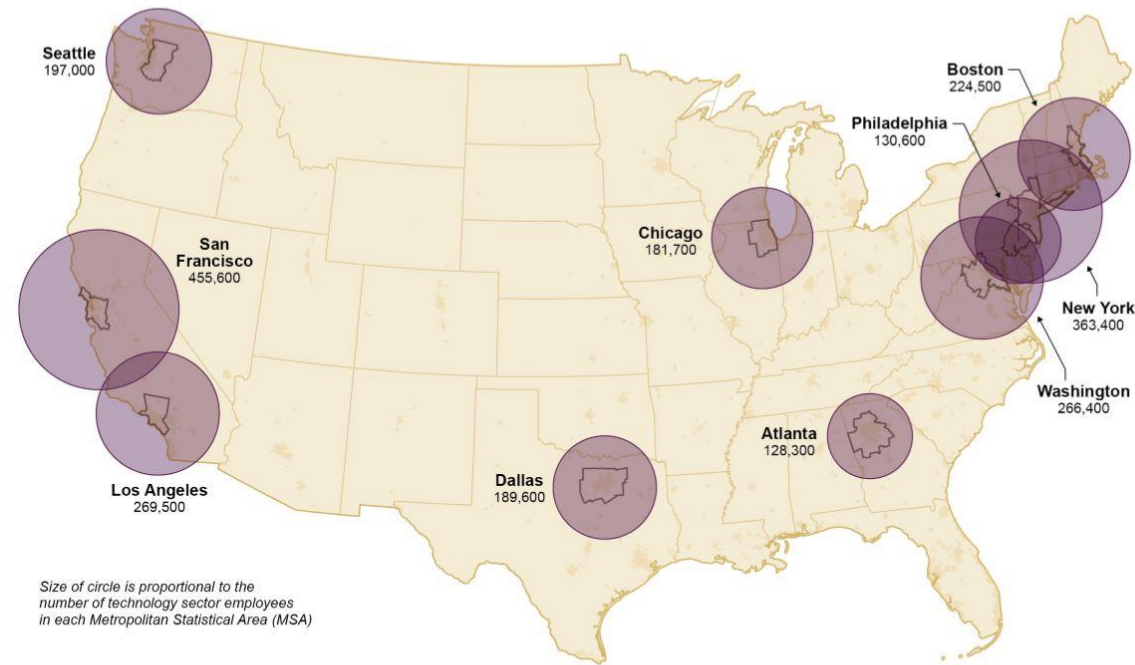


# Technology and the meritocracy myth to explain the rising inequality

- What search engines cannot find
- Exploring the lack of Black IT workers in the leading Silicon Valley Firms

# The GAO identifies these as the top 10 Tech Sector Employment Centers in the U.S.

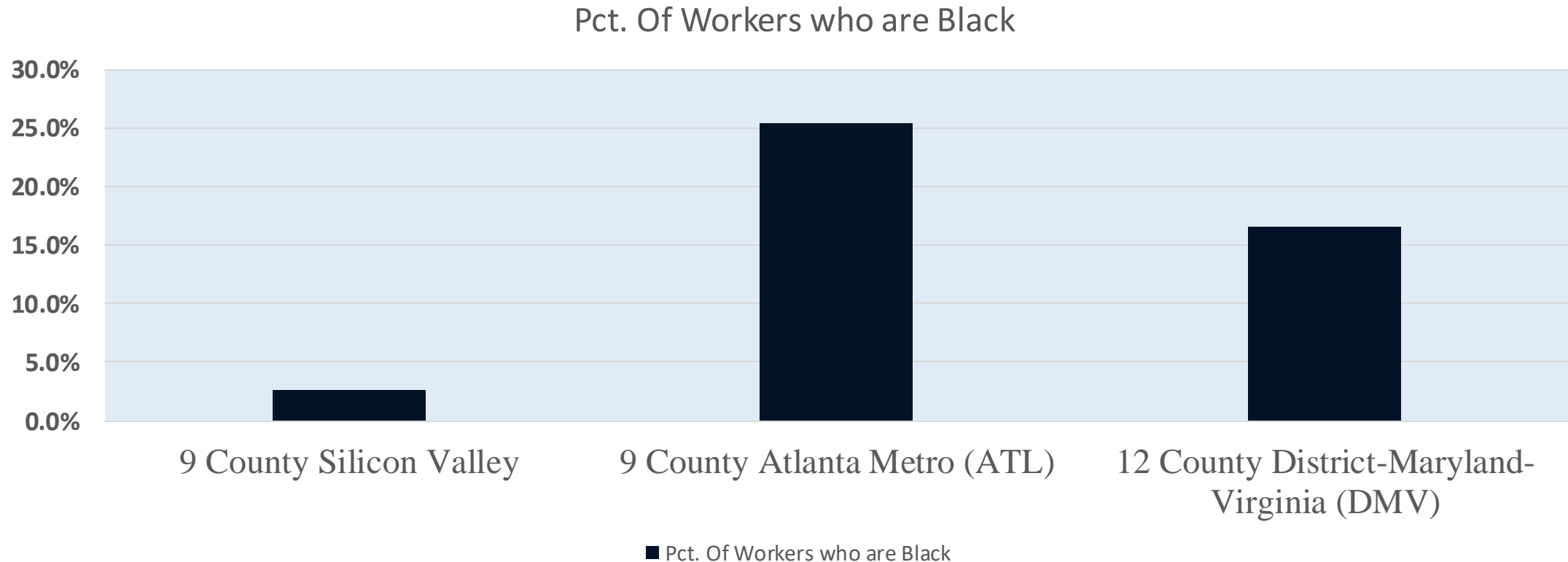
Figure 1: Top 10 Geographic Areas for Technology Sector Employment in the United States, 2014



Source: Data from May 2016 report published by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) entitled Diversity in High Tech; U.S. Census Bureau (map). | GAO-18-69

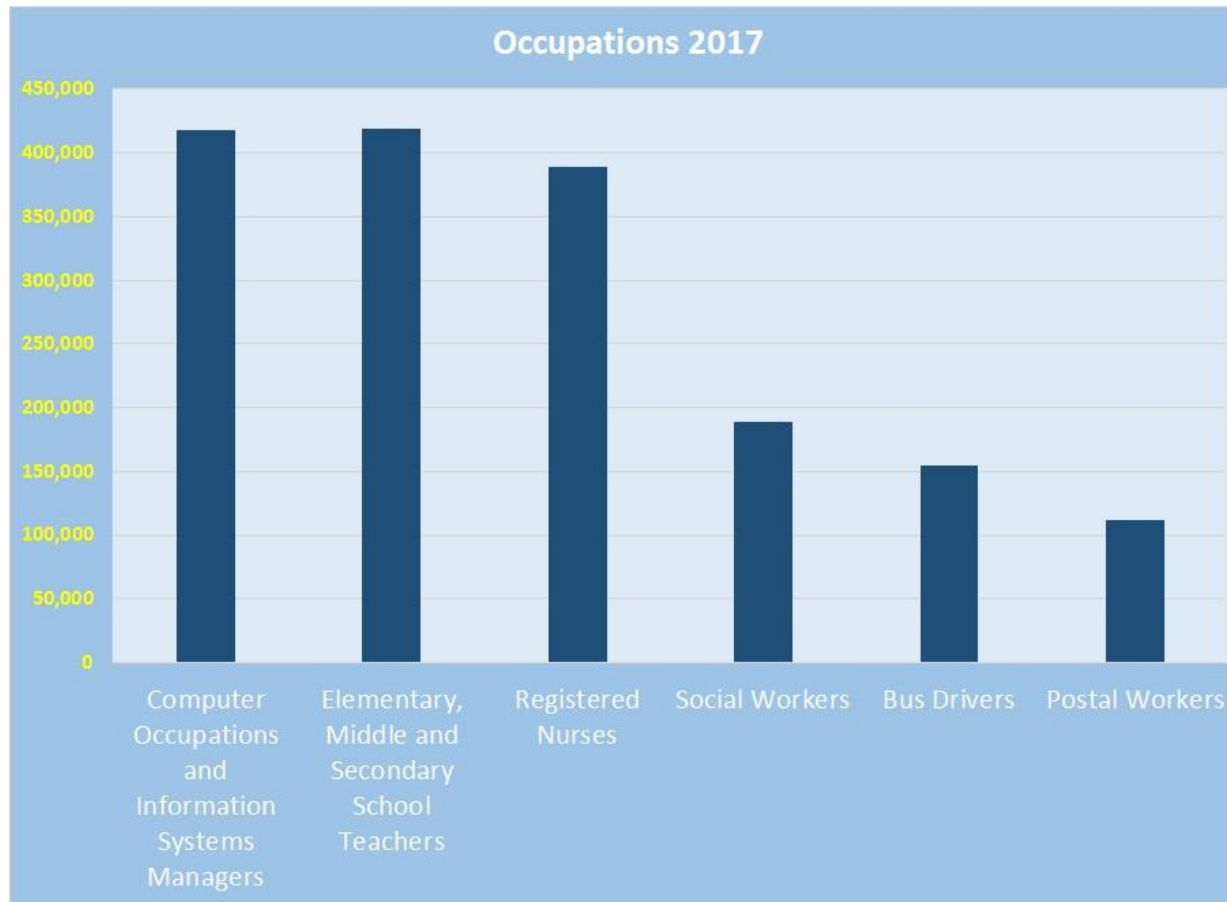
Note: For the graphic, we rounded to the nearest hundred. According to EEOC, EEO-1 Single, Headquarters, and Establishment Reports were used for this analysis.

# Why does Silicon Valley have such a low Black share of computer workers?





# Black IT workers are a significant group in the Black middle class



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat11.htm>

ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE  
BEST PICTURE

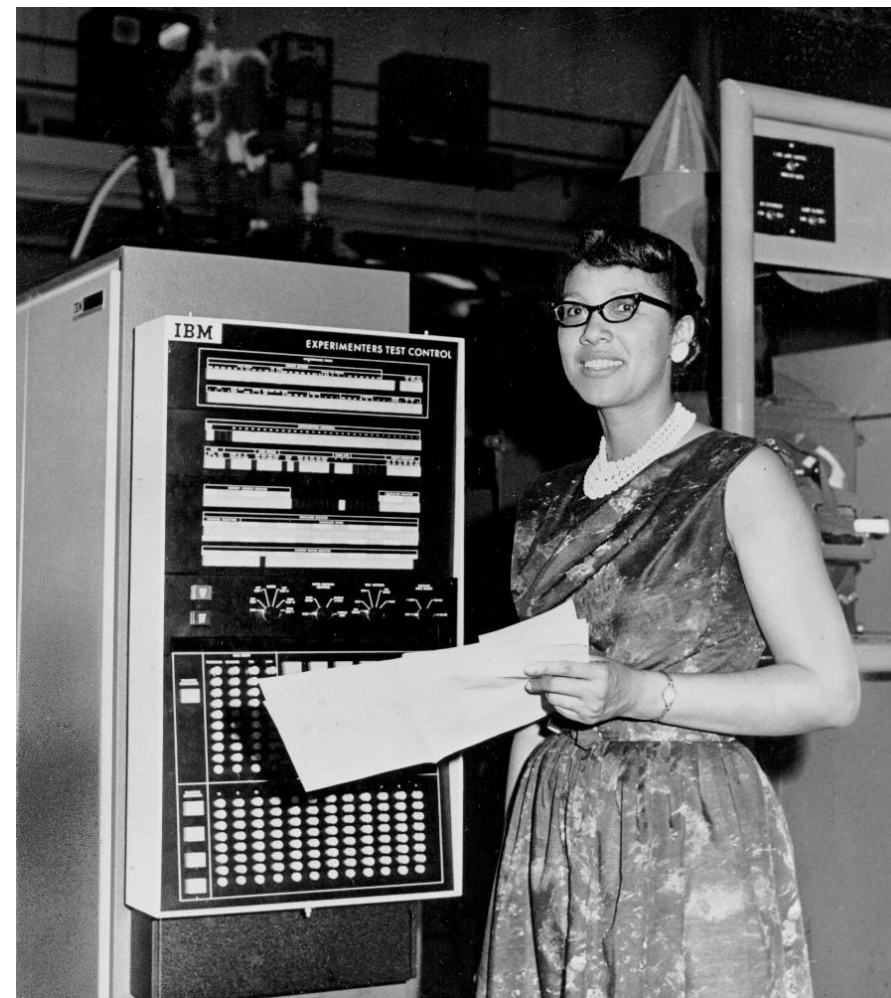
BASED ON THE UNTOLD TRUE STORY

# HIDDEN FIGURES



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# In 1989 Five of the 20 largest Black-owned businesses were computer or systems integrators

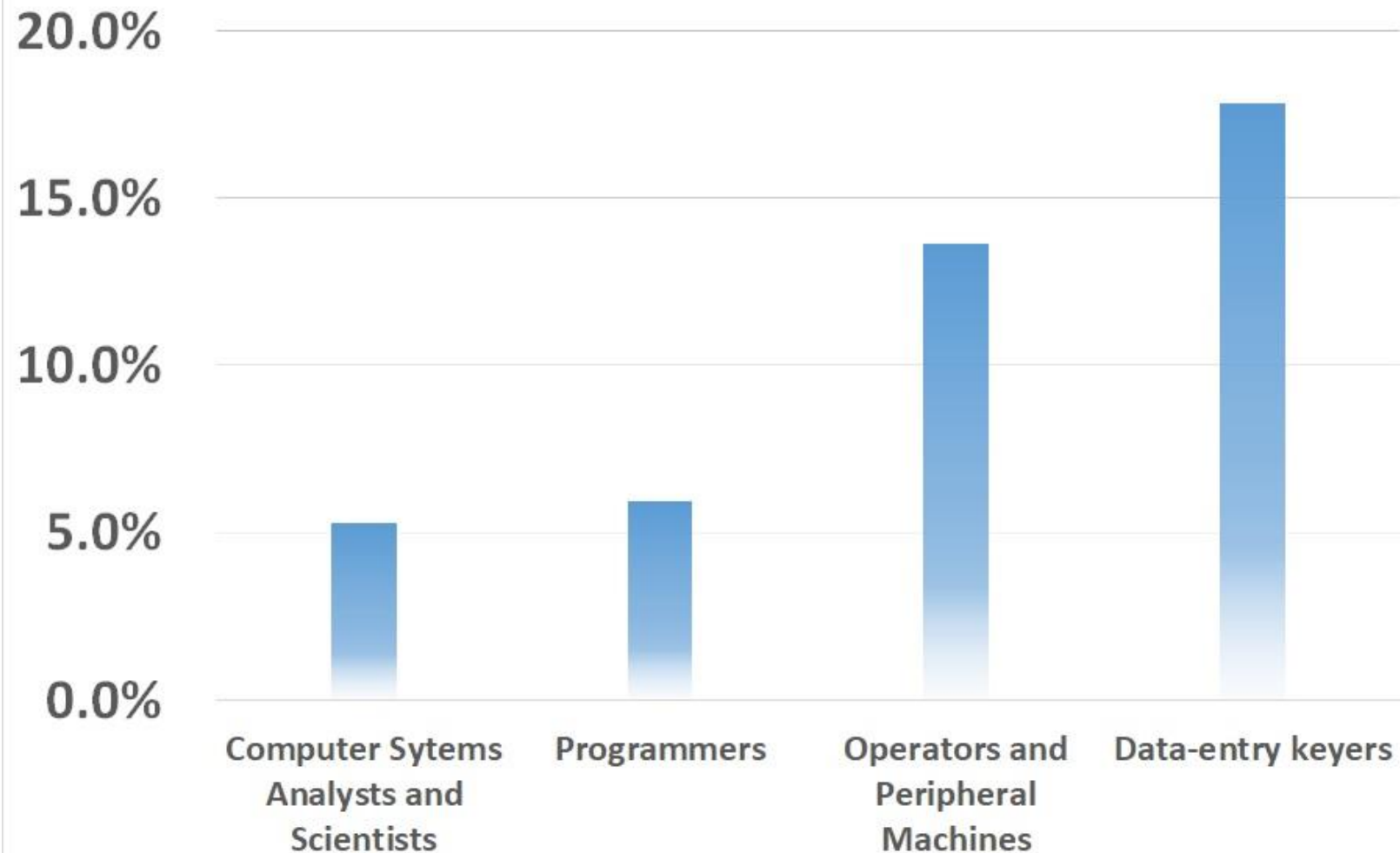


THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	COMPANY	LOCATION	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	YEAR STARTED	STAFF	TYPE OF BUSINESS	1989 SALES*
1	1	TLC BEATRICE INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS INC.	New York, New York	Reginald F. Lewis	1983	6,300	Processing & distribution of food products	1,514,000
2	2	JOHNSON PUBLISHING CO. INC.	Chicago, Illinois	John H. Johnson	1942	2,370	Publishing; broadcasting; cosmetics; hair care	241,327
3	3	PHILADELPHIA COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO. INC.	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	J. Bruce Llewellyn	1985	985	Salt-drink bottling	240,900
4	4	H.J. RUSSELL & CO.	Atlanta, Georgia	Herman J. Russell	1958	668	Construction; communications; food & beverages	132,876
5	5	THE GORDY CO.	Los Angeles, California	Berry Gordy	1958	70	Entertainment	100,000
6	6	SOFT SHEEN PRODUCTS INC.	Chicago, Illinois	Edward G. Gardner	1984	585	Hair-care products manufacturer	87,200
7	7	TRANS JONES INC./JONES TRANSFER CO.	Monroe, Michigan	Gary L. White	1986	1,264	Transportation services	78,555
8	10	THE BING GROUP <sup>1</sup>	Detroit, Michigan	David Bing	1980	170	Steel processing & distribution	73,883
9	9	THE MAXIMA CORP.	Rockville, Maryland	Joshua I. Smith	1978	918	Systems engineering & computer management	58,363
10	11	DICK GRIFFY PRODUCTIONS	Hollywood, California	Dick Griffey	1975	86	Entertainment	50,182
11	—	NETWORK SOLUTIONS INC.	Hamden, Virginia	Emmet J. McHenry	1979	480	Systems integration	48,800
12	14	INTEGRATED SYSTEMS ANALYSTS INC.	Arlington, Virginia	C. Michael Gooden	1980	640	Engineering & technical support services	48,710
13	25	ADVANCED CONSUMER MARKETING CORP.	Burlingame, California	Harry W. Brooks, Jr.	1984	427	Systems integration; mail-order products	47,800
14	12	COMMUNITY FOODS INC.	Baltimore, Maryland	Oscar A. Smith, Jr.	1970	450	Retail foods	47,200
15	—	YANCY MINERALS	Woodbridge, Connecticut	Earl J. Yancy	1977	8	Industrial metals, minerals, and coal distributor	45,980
16	12	CRESCENT DISTRIBUTING CO. INC.	Harahan, Louisiana	Stanley S. Scott	1988	165	Beer distributor	45,000
17	20	THE THACKER ORGANIZATION	Decatur, Georgia	Floyd G. Thacker	1970	98	Construction & engineering	42,100
18	—	GRANITE BROADCASTING CORP.	New York, New York	W. Don Cornwell	1988	350	TV broadcasting	38,811
19	16	ESSENCE COMMUNICATIONS INC.	New York, New York	Edward Lewis	1989	85	Publishing; TV production; direct-mail catalog sales	38,027
20	8	SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AMERICAN CORP.	Norfolk, Virginia	Herman E. Valentine	1970	390	Computer systems integration	38,000

\* In millions of dollars, to nearest thousand. As of Dec. 31, 1989. Prepared by RE Research. Reviewed by Mitchell/Thor & Co. Formerly Bing Steel Inc.

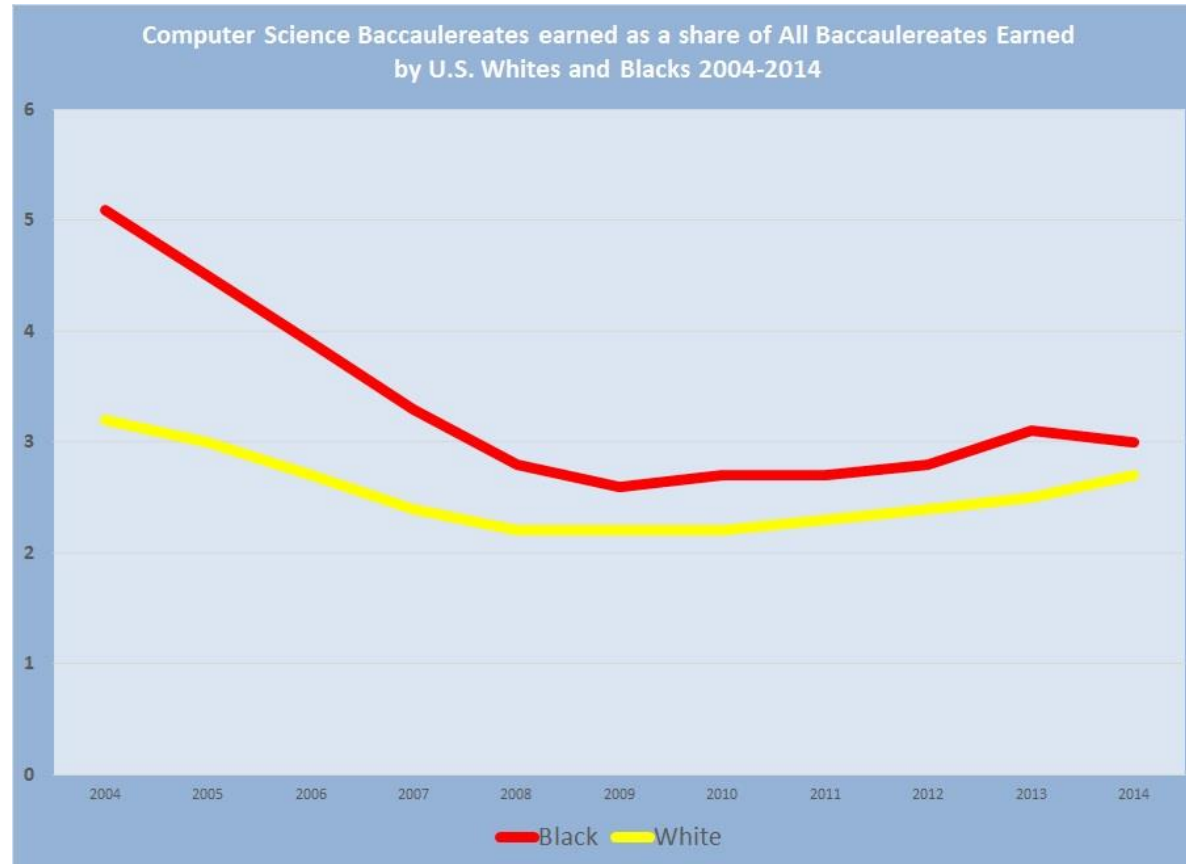
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## PCT. BLACK OF THE 1990 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE





Most importantly, Blacks are more likely to major in Computer Science than whites (2004-2014)



Source: Table 5-3 <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2017/nsf17310/data.cfm> (acc: 18 Jul 2018)