

American Community Survey Reports

The Socioeconomic Status of Nebraska Black or African Americans



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Executive Summary

Black or African Americans are the second-largest minority group in Nebraska. The 2006 American Community Survey estimated the number of Nebraska Black or African American alone or in combination to be 83,454, or 4.7 percent of the Nebraska population. The number of individuals who reported Black or African American as their only race was 72,095, or 4.1 percent of the Nebraska population. 6,346 Nebraskans reported their race as Black or African American and White. The Black or African American alone population also included 1,048 Hispanics.

In 2006, about 84 percent of the Blacks or African Americans in Nebraska lived in Congressional District 2. Only 14.5 percent lived in Congressional District 1, and 1.6 percent lived in Congressional District 3.

The median age of the Black or African American population was about 10 years younger than that of the non-Hispanic White population. In 2006, Blacks had a median age of 29 years, and non-Hispanic Whites had a median age of 39 years.

The Black or African American population had a larger proportion of young people and a smaller proportion of older people than the non-Hispanic White population. About 33 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were children (under 18 years old), compared with 23 percent of non-Hispanic Whites. About seven percent of Blacks or African Americans were 65 and older, compared with about 15 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were less likely to be married than non-Hispanic Whites. In 2006, about 45 percent of Blacks aged 15 and older were never married, while about 31 percent were married. Non-Hispanic Whites aged 15 and older were more likely to be married (about 57 percent) and less likely never to have married (about 26 percent).

Nebraska Black or African American women were more likely to have given birth in the past 12 months than non-Hispanic White women. About 129 out of every 1,000 Black or African American women aged 15 to 50 had given birth in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about 61 out of every 1,000 non-Hispanic White women aged 15 to 50.

About 72 percent of Nebraska Black or African American mothers who had given birth were unmarried, in contrast with about 20 percent of non-Hispanic White mothers who had given birth.

A larger proportion of Nebraska Black or African American households were maintained by women. About 30 percent of Black households were families maintained by women with no husbands present, compared with about 8 percent of non-Hispanic White households.

Nebraska Black or African American households (27 percent) were less likely than non-Hispanic White households (54 percent) to be married couple households.

Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to live with grandchildren. About three percent of Blacks or African Americans aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their co-resident grandchildren younger than 18. In comparison, about two percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their co-resident grandchildren younger than 18.

Twice as many Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 15 to 64 had a disability, compared with non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 to 64 (20 percent versus 10 percent).

Approximately 90 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were native, compared with 99 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

About 12 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans spoke a language other than English; and five percent of Blacks spoke English less than “very well,” compared with only about one percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

About 19 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 25 and older had a bachelor’s degree or higher education. Among non-Hispanic Whites aged 25 and older, about 28 percent had a bachelor’s degree or higher education.

The percent of unemployed civilian labor force among Nebraska Blacks or African Americans was almost four times as high as that of non-Hispanic Whites. About 11 percent of Blacks were unemployed in the civilian labor force, compared with about three percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

In the age bracket 16 and over, smaller proportions of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans than non-Hispanic Whites were employed in managerial, professional and related occupations. About 25 percent of Blacks or African Americans and about 36 percent of non-Hispanic Whites worked in managerial, professional and related occupations.

Larger proportions of civilian employed Blacks or African Americans aged 16 and older (about 28 percent) than civilian employed non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 and older (about 15 percent) worked in service occupations.

The income gap between Black or African American and White families is significant. The median income of Nebraska Black or African American households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed was about \$28,400. This was less than two-thirds of the median income of non-Hispanic White households, which was about \$47,100.

Nebraska Black or African American had per capita income of \$15,077. In comparison, non-Hispanic Whites had per capita income of \$24,920.

About 30 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were living below the poverty level in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about nine percent of non-Hispanic Whites. The poverty rate was generally higher for children (under age 18). About 39 percent of Black or African American children and about 11 percent of non-Hispanic White children lived in poverty. Among those aged 65 and older, Blacks or African Americans had a poverty rate of about 16 percent, compared with about nine percent for non-Hispanic Whites.

A majority of Nebraska Black households, about 65 percent, lived in renter-occupied homes and about 35 percent lived in owner-occupied homes. In comparison, about 29 percent of non-Hispanic White households lived in renter-occupied homes and about 71 percent of non-Hispanic White households lived in owner-occupied homes.

For Nebraska Black or African American households, the median value of owner-occupied homes was \$102,500. This is lower than the median value of owner-occupied homes for non-Hispanic White households reported as \$121,300.

Nebraska Black or African American workers were more likely than non-Hispanic White workers to use public transportation. In 2006, about five percent of Black or African American workers aged 16 and older used public transportation compared with less than one percent (0.4 percent) non-Hispanic White workers.

Introduction

This report presents a portrait of the Black or African American population in Nebraska, and provides critical information on demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics for the Nebraska Black or African American community. These data represent a portrait of a population in time: while the population itself may experience statistically significant growth overall, often the various components of socioeconomic status do not. In examining health disparities that exist within a population, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Socioeconomic Status and Health,¹ used the metaphor of a ladder to describe not only access to health, but also whether or not “good health” was within reach of a population.

Rungs on the ladder depict the resources needed to have a life that is healthy, well and secure. Education, comfortable housing, social and familial networks, income and employment place many people in higher positions. Likewise others experience generational poverty, extended periods of unemployment, poor education, low wages and substandard housing. In using the data presented herein, rather than see health disparities solely as the result of a genetic determinant, socioeconomic determinants directly impact the health status of a population. Hopefully as inequities and inequalities are addressed through better social policies, and as more people experience greater access to education, improved income, access to employment and housing, etc, the ladder to better health outcomes will be less steep, and more rungs within grasp. Toward that end, a better understanding of codified and institutional racism and classism, the impact of tax law, definitions, and the relationship of the passage of various laws within the context of American history to generational poverty, familial and societal constructs, poverty and wealth, property ownership, education, etc., must result in changes to policies and laws that continue to the deconstruction of racial ethnic minority populations in the United States.

The Executive Summary provides a breakdown of the dispersion of the African American population of Nebraska throughout its 3 Congressional Districts. Restated, in 2006, about 84 percent of the Blacks or African Americans in Nebraska lived in Congressional District 2; 14.5 percent lived in Congressional District 1; and 1.6 percent lived in Congressional District 3. Unlike Hispanics (Latinos) or Asians living somewhat dispersed throughout Nebraska, about 82% of African Americans living in Nebraska reside in the metropolitan areas of Omaha (69%) and Lincoln (13%). Because of the concentrated population, the use of the entire state in making

¹

<http://www.macfound.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=1kLXJ8MQKrH&b=4201565&ct=1455593>

comparisons for various indicators or population characteristics such as poverty, income, and even life expectancy, in the consideration of the socioeconomic determinants of health for Nebraska's African American population yields skewed results. A more accurate way to measure this racial ethnic minority group, based upon the distribution of the African American or Black population, would be to redefine/restrict the total population analyses and comparisons to the urban communities of Omaha (Congressional District 2) and Lincoln (Congressional District 1).

This reconsideration is of great significance for several reasons. First, US Census and the American Community Survey summarize data to the total population based on the state. Comparisons to this total might give one the impression that the various indicators when measured, occur generally throughout the entire state of Nebraska, such as dispersion of racial ethnic minority populations, poverty rates, and levels of income. Examine the following three supporting illustrations: poverty, income, and life expectancy. Each of these socioeconomic indicators or characteristics has been cited in health literature as a determinant of a population's health.

In assessing poverty, this report looks at home ownership and the proportion of the African American population which rents or owns their home. While property taxes are paid by both renters and homeowners, the income tax structure as it is written and interpreted, allows for those who own land and property to the entitlement of reductions to federal income tax under the assumption that taxes are borne by the individual who owns the property. Yet many landlords, real estate investment trusts, and corporations in fact pass on the cost of this tax to those who rent their properties. Thereby these entities both claim the expense for taxes, reducing their tax liability, and charge the cost of the taxes as a part of the rental payment to their tenants, increasing their revenues, and ultimately their income, which is then reduced by their expenses, before reporting "income." A further disparity exists between urban and rural areas in the median value and cost of a home or of a rental home or apartment. Moreover, the effects of redlining from decades of discrimination in lending and in assessing property values of racial ethnic minorities further increases the growing rates of poverty of these communities, and among individuals.

Income is another indicator or characteristic documented within this report. Income reported by those who are employed in service and other industries varies greatly from income from farming or ranching. Income from a farm, ranch, or other home-based business, is reported "net" of expenses, expenses which often are related to the cost of owning a home where the business is located. Employees, by contrast, who typically incur expense related to employment, deduct those expenses, where allowable, from the adjusted "gross" income. So in essence,

“reported income” versus “revenue,” from farming or owning one’s own business may appear low, but this “revenue” does not reflect exclusions, allowances, and expenses. Income reported from urban dwellers who are employed outside the home typically refers to the money received as compensation for performance by an employer. Landowners and business owners are favored by our income tax structure. Disparities in income may be exacerbated by an unintentional discrepancy on which assumptions about the definitions of “income” are based. In other words, when most readers examine a table about average household incomes, these readers may not be immediately aware of the benefits which accrue to those whose family farms and ranches (a predominant number in Nebraska) where land, crops, housing, trucks, and other equipment receive different treatment through the income tax structure, and thereby different taxation. An annual household income of \$45,000 does not represent the same thing in every class of labor or employment.

Finally, comparisons of life expectancy have demonstrated a differential inclination for greater life expectancy among persons living in rural areas. This information, coupled with the widening disparity in life expectancy for those who are poor, and for racial ethnic minorities, suggests a compounding impact upon racial ethnic minorities living in urban areas, who are almost three times more likely to live in poverty than the total population. Nebraska has three congressional districts, but Congressional District 3 geographically is nearly 84% of the state’s land mass. While within this district, there are a number of small and larger towns, but Congressional District 3 is largely rural. Only 1.6% of African Americans reside in this congressional district.

These are not intended to be exhaustive but rather illustrative of how information collected and compiled by US Census or American Community Survey may not take into account the subtleties that contribute to the gaping disparities in health, education, income, poverty, life expectancy, employment, marital status, etc. of a population.

Snapshot of the Minority Population in Nebraska

Nebraska continues to become more racially and ethnically diverse. Based on U.S. Census Bureau’s estimates,² the population of Nebraska in 2007 was 1,774,571. Minorities represented 15.5 percent of the total population. Hispanics were the largest minority group at 7.5 percent of the state population. Black or African Americans were the second-largest minority group at four percent of the state

² Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Estimates of the Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States and States: July 1, 2007. Release Date: May 1, 2008.

population, followed by Asians at 1.7 percent, and American Indian or Alaska Natives at 1 percent.

In the mid-nineties, the United States Census projections for the state of Nebraska’s minority populations were expected to reach a high by the year 2025: 14.4 percent of the total population.³ In 2005, 20 years ahead of those projections, the racial ethnic minority population of Nebraska was estimated to be 14.6 percent.

The minority population in Nebraska has been increasing much more rapidly than the non-Hispanic (NH) White population. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, from 2000-2007, Nebraska’s racial ethnic minority population grew from 214,152 to 274,191, a 28 percent increase. The Black or African American population grew from 70,043 to 78,581, a 12 percent increase. During this same period the non-Hispanic White population increased by only 0.2 percent.⁴ A detailed recap is provided in the following table.

Table 1: Nebraska Population by Race and Ethnicity: 2000 and 2007

Race/Ethnicity	Population* Apr. 1, 2000	% Population (2000)	Population Jul. 1, 2007	% Population (2007)	Change (00-07)	% Change (00-07)
Nebraska total	1,711,265		1,774,571		63,306	3.7
White alone	1,585,619	92.7	1,625,144	91.6	39,525	2.5
African American alone	70,043	4.1	78,581	4.4	8,538	12.2
American Indian or Alaska Native alone	15,634	0.9	17,576	1.0	1,942	12.4
Asian alone	22,528	1.3	30,317	1.7	7,789	34.6
NHPI**alone	993	0.1	1,270	0.1	277	27.9
Hispanic or Latino	94,425	5.5	133,832	7.5	39,407	41.7
White non-Hispanic	1,497,113	87.5	1,500,380	84.5	3,267	0.2
Minority population	214,152	12.5	274,191	15.5	60,039	28.0

Notes: *2000 Population Estimates base reflects changes to the Census 2000 population from the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions.

** NHPI: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.

Minority Population = Total Population - White, Not Hispanic Population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 population estimates (Release date: May 1, 2008), 2000 census estimates base.

³ Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Projected State Populations by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1995-2025. Release Date: October 1996.

⁴ Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for Nebraska: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2007. Release Date: May 1, 2008.

Race and Ethnicity in the United States Census

Race and ethnicity in the United States Census as defined by the United States Census Bureau and the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB), are self-identification data items in which residents choose the race or races with which they most closely identify, and indicate whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin (ethnicity).

The racial classifications used by the Census Bureau adhere to the October 30, 1997, Federal Register Notice entitled "Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity" issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)⁵. The OMB requires five minimum categories (White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander) for race. The race categories are described below with a sixth category, "Some other race," added with OMB approval. In addition to the five race groups, the OMB also states that respondents should be offered the option of selecting one or more races. The following definitions are provided by OMB and the U.S. Census Bureau to identify race.⁶

White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "White" or report entries such as "Irish," "German," "Italian," "Lebanese," "Near Easterner," "Arab," or "Polish."

Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "Black," "African American" or "Negro," or provide written entries such as "African American," "Afro American," "Kenyan," "Nigerian," or "Haitian."

American Indian and Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam. It includes "Asian Indian," "Chinese," "Filipino," "Korean," "Japanese," "Vietnamese," and "Other Asian."

⁵ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/ombdir15.html>

⁶ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/ombdir15.html>

2000 Census of Population, Public Law 94-171 Redistricting Data File: Race. U.S. Census Bureau.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa or other Pacific Islands. It includes people who indicate their race as “Native Hawaiian,” “Guamanian” or “Chamorro,” “Samoaan,” and “Other Pacific Islander.”

Some other race. Includes all other responses not included in the “White,” “Black” or “African American,” “American Indian” and “Alaska Native,” “Asian” and “Native Hawaiian” or “Other Pacific Islander” race categories described above. Respondents providing write-in entries such as multi-racial, mixed, inter-racial, or a Hispanic/Latino group (for example, “Mexican,” “Puerto Rican,” or “Cuban”) in the “Some other race” write-in space are included in this category. Estimates for years after 2000 reflect an allocation of this category among the other categories.

Two or more races. People may have chosen to provide two or more races either by checking two or more race response check boxes, by providing multiple write-in responses, or by some combination of check boxes and write-in responses. Race and ethnicity were considered separate and distinct identities, with Hispanic origin asked as a separate question. Thus, in addition to their race or races, all respondents are categorized by membership in one of two ethnicities: Hispanic or Latino, and non-Hispanic or Latino. Percentages for the various race categories add up to 100 percent, and should not be combined with the Hispanic percent.

Hispanic or Latino. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, South or Central America or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. People who identify their origin as “Spanish,” “Hispanic,” or “Latino” may be of any race.

Data Source

The findings presented in this report are based on the American Community Survey (ACS) sample interviewed in 2006. The ACS is a large, continuous demographic survey conducted by the Census Bureau that provides up-to-date profiles of America's communities every year. The survey produces yearly demographic, social, economic and housing data that can be compared across states, communities and population groups. The 2006 ACS shifted from a demonstration program with a different sample design and sample size to the full sample size and design in 2005. It became the largest household survey in the United States, with an annual sample size of about three million addresses. Every year the ACS can support the release of single-year estimates for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 or more. The ACS will accumulate sample over three-year and five-year intervals to produce estimates for smaller geographic areas

including census tracts and block groups.⁷ 2006 data release marks the first time that group quarters population (such as prisons, college dorms, military barracks and nursing homes population) are included in the ACS data products. Prior to 2006, ACS data included estimates for the household population only.⁸

Every year between 2000 and 2004, the ACS collected information from a sample of over 700,000 addresses in the U. S. In 2005, the ACS collected information from approximately three million addresses in the United States and 36,000 addresses in Puerto Rico. In 2006, it also included approximately 200,000 people living in group quarters.⁹ Table 2 shows ACS sample sizes for Nebraska since 2000.¹⁰ The number of the initial addresses selected for housing unites and group quarters population is the 12 month sample for the American Community Survey. The number of the final interviews is the actual sample that is used to produce all weighted estimates for the survey year.

Table 2: ACS Sample Sizes for Nebraska, 2000-2006

Year	Housing Units		Group Quarters People	
	Initial Addresses Selected	Final Interviews	Initial Sample Selected	Final Interviews
2006	25,254	18,307	1,252	1,036
2005	25,458	18,002	N/A	N/A
2004	11,076	8,108	N/A	N/A
2003	10,993	8,210	N/A	N/A
2002	10,046	7,557	N/A	N/A
2001	14,931	11,357	N/A	N/A
2000	15,154	11,164	N/A	N/A

Notes:

Housing Units Initial Addresses Selected - The number of addresses in Nebraska and for the nation that were selected for the ACS sample for a particular year.

Housing Units Final Interviews - The final number of interviews across all three modes of data collection for the ACS in a given year for the nation and by state. This number includes occupied and vacant housing units that were interviewed by mail, telephone, or personal visit methods between January 1 and December 31.

Group Quarters People Initial Sample Selected - The number of people living in group quarters that could be contacted for ACS interviewing in a given year for the nation and by state.

Group Quarters People Final Interviews - The final number of person interviews for the ACS for those living in group quarters in a given year for the nation and by state.

⁷ <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/tp67.pdf>

⁸ <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2006.pdf>

⁹ http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/sse/sam/sam_def.htm

¹⁰ http://www.census.gov/acs/www/acs-php/quality_measures_sample_2006.php

The ACS provides critical information about the characteristics of local communities, not designed to count the population. Other sources should be used for population counts, such as Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program. The Population Estimates Program produces the official estimates for population, age, sex, race and Hispanic origin for the nation, states and counties.

In this report, the term “Black” is used to refer to all individuals who reported they were Black or African American. The text of this report compares the population and housing characteristics for the Black or African American population with those of the White alone, not Hispanic population. The data for the Black population are based on responses to the 2006 ACS question on race, which asked all respondents to report one or more races. Information on demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics in the tables and figures are based on data from the 2006 ACS Detailed Tables and Selected Population Profiles.

Black or African American Population by Detailed Group

Table 3: Black or African American Population by Detailed Group: 2006

Race and Hispanic origin	Population	Percent of Nebraska population	Margin of error*
Nebraska total	1,768,331	100.0	(X)
White alone, not Hispanic	1,500,166	84.8	1,079
Black alone	72,095	4.1	2,333
Not Hispanic	71,047	4.0	2,235
Hispanic	1,048	0.1	579
Black alone or in combination	83,454	4.7	1,252
Not Hispanic	(X)	(X)	(X)
Hispanic	(X)	(X)	(X)
Black in combination	(X)	(X)	(X)
Not Hispanic	(X)	(X)	(X)
Hispanic	(X)	(X)	(X)
Black and White	6,346	0.4	1,467
Black and American Indian or Alaska Native	3,010	0.2	1,568

Notes: (X) Not applicable.

* This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90-percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables, C02003.

The 2006 American Community Survey estimated the number of Nebraska Black or African American alone or in combination to be 83,454, or 4.7 percent of the Nebraska population (Table 3). The number of individuals who reported Black or African American as their only race was 72,095, or 4.1 percent of the Nebraska population. Another 11,300 people reported their race as Black or African American and one or more other races. 6,346 Nebraskans reported their race as Black or African American and White. The Black or African American alone population also included 1,048 Hispanics.

Black or African American Population by Congressional Districts

In 2006, about 84 percent of the Black or African American population in Nebraska lived in Congressional District 2. Only 14.5 percent lived in Congressional District 1 and 1.6 percent lived in Congressional District 3 (Figure 1 and Table 4).

Figure 1: Black or African American Population by Congressional Districts: 2006

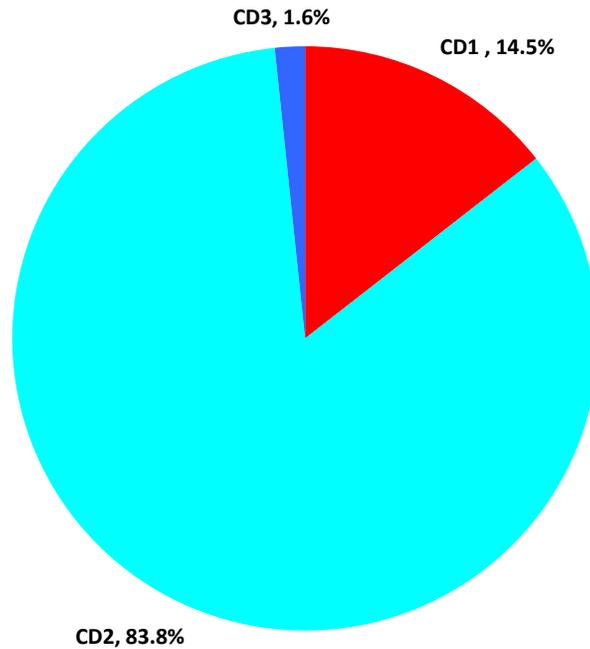


Table 4: Black or African American Population by Congressional Districts: 2006

	Congressional District 1		Congressional District 2		Congressional District 3		Total	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Black alone	10,480	14.5	60,445	83.8	1,170	1.6	72,095	100
Black and White	1,888	29.8	3,758	59.2	700	11	6,346	100
Black and American Indian or Alaska Native	104	3.5	2,900	96.3	6	0.2	3,010	100

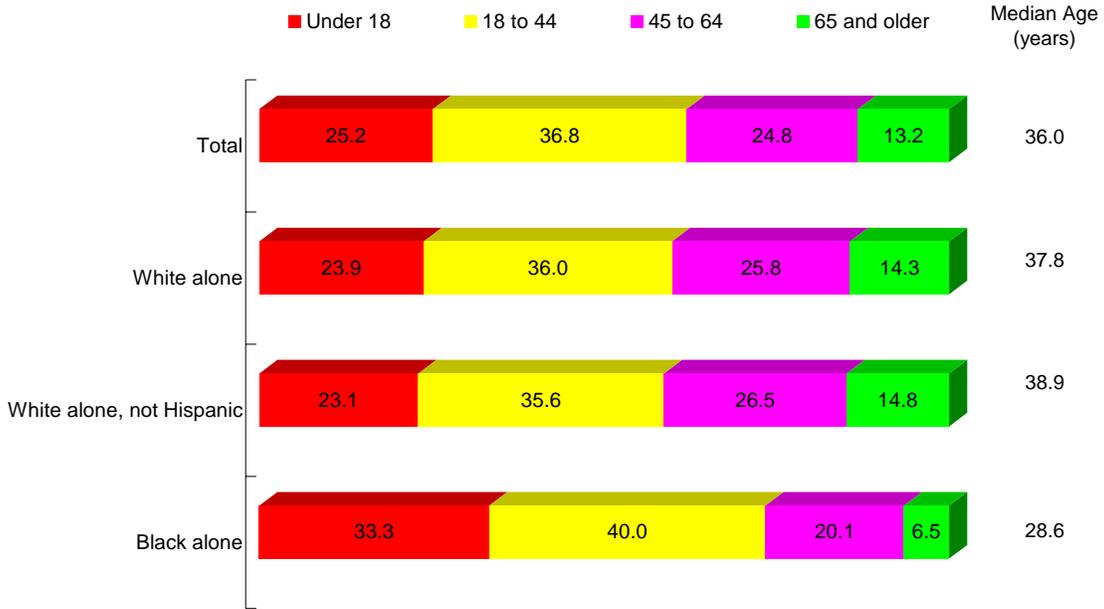
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables, C02003.

Median Age

The median age of the Black or African American population was about 10 years younger than that of the non-Hispanic White population. In 2006, Nebraska Blacks had a median age of 29 years, and non-Hispanic Whites had a median age of 39 years.

The Black or African American population had a larger proportion of young people and a smaller proportion of older people than the non-Hispanic White population. About 33 percent of Nebraska Blacks were children (under 18 years old), compared with 23 percent of non-Hispanic Whites. About seven percent of Blacks were 65 and older, compared with about 15 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

**Figure 2: Selected Age Groups and Median Age: 2006
(Percent distribution)**



Notes:

The term “Black or African American” refers to the Black or African American alone population, and the term “non-Hispanic White” refers to the White-alone, not Hispanic population. Some percentages do not sum up to 100.0 due to rounding.

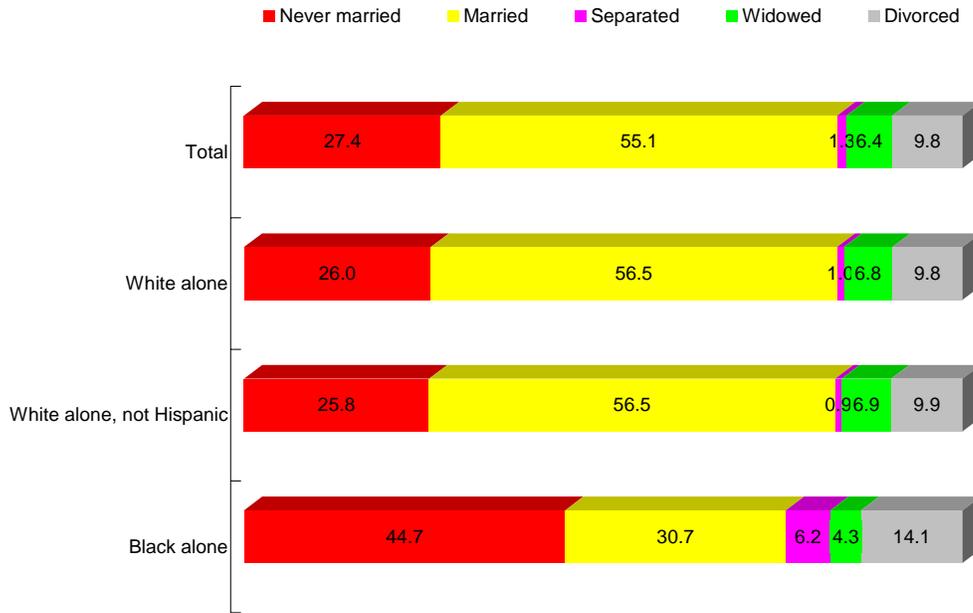
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Marital Status

Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were less likely to be married than non-Hispanic Whites. In 2006, about 45 percent of Blacks aged 15 and older were never married, while about 31 percent were married. Non-Hispanic Whites aged 15 and older were more likely to be married (about 57 percent) and less likely never to have married (about 26 percent).

About one in five Blacks or African Americans were either separated (six percent) or divorced (14 percent). In comparison, about one in nine non-Hispanic Whites were either separated (one percent) or divorced (ten percent).

Figure 3: Marital Status: 2006
(Percent distribution of population 15 and older)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Table 5: Marital Status by Gender
(Percent distribution of population 15 and older)

	African American Population Total	African American Male	African American Female
Never married	44.7	47.6	41.9
Married	30.7	33.9	27.6
Separated	6.2	3.9	8.5
Widowed	4.3	1.7	6.8
Divorced	14.1	12.9	15.3

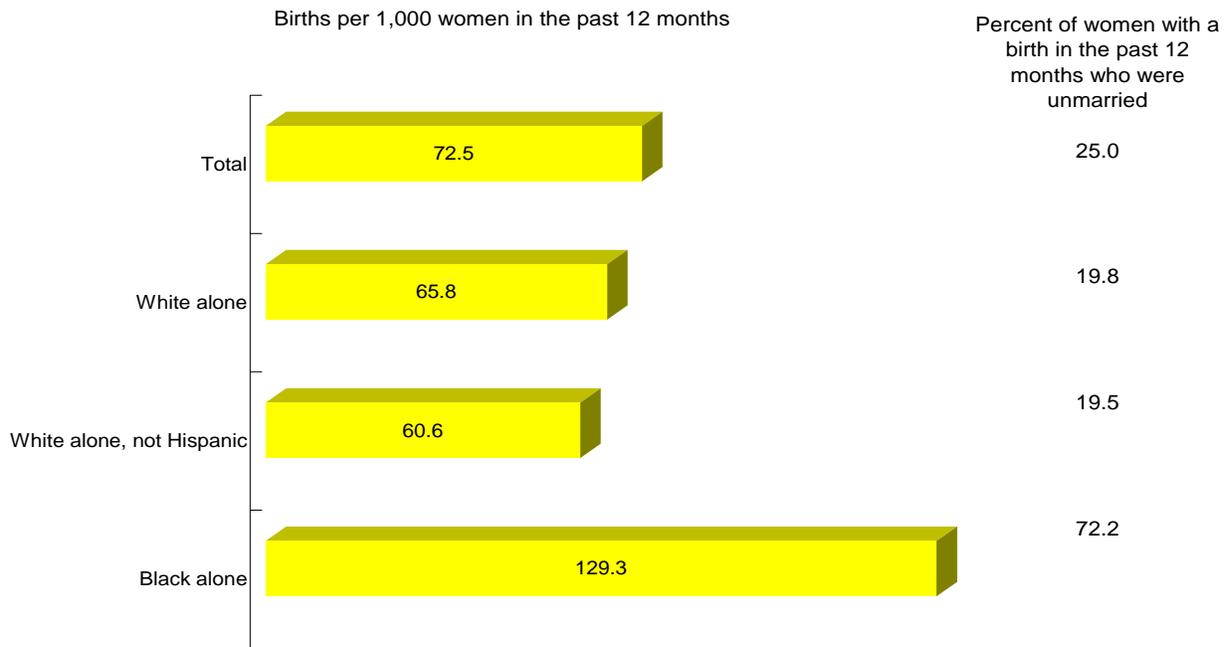
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201

Fertility

Nebraska Black or African American women’s fertility rate was more than twice as high as that of non-Hispanic White women. About 129 out of every 1,000 Black women aged 15 to 50 had given birth in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about 61 out of every 1,000 non-Hispanic White women aged 15 to 50.

About 72 percent of Black or African American mothers who had given birth were unmarried, in contrast with about 20 percent of non-Hispanic White mothers who had given birth.

Figure 4: Fertility: 2006



Notes: Of every 1,000 women aged 15 to 50, the number who had given birth in the 12 months preceding the survey, based on the race and Hispanic origin of the mother.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

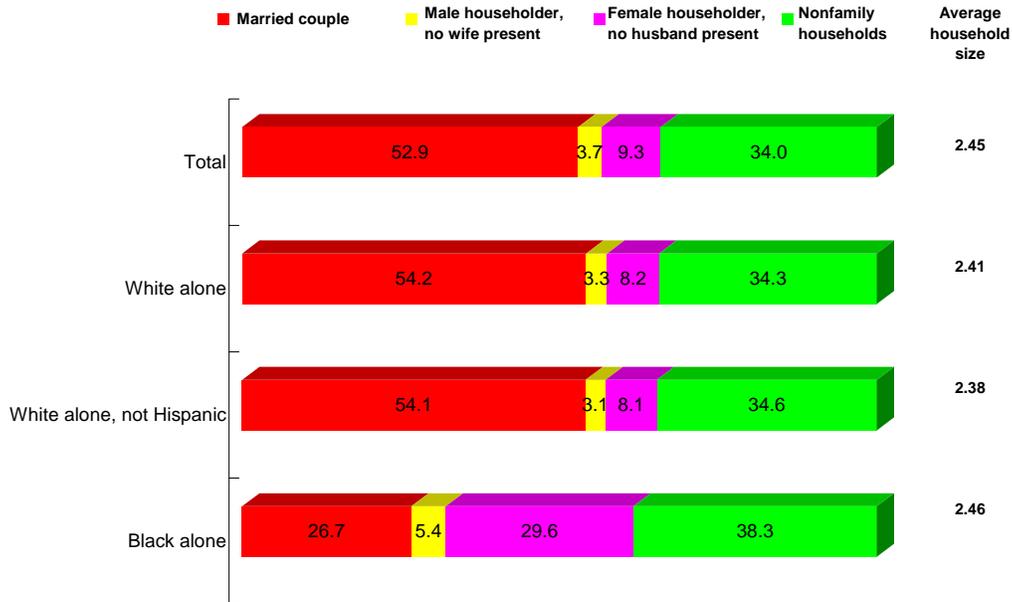
Household Type

Nebraska Black or African American households (27 percent) were less likely than non-Hispanic White households (54 percent) to be married couple households.

A larger proportion of Black or African American households were maintained by women. About 30 percent of Black households were families maintained by a woman with no husband present, compared with about eight percent of non-Hispanic White households.

Nebraska Black or African American households consisted of 2.5 people on average, compared with 2.4 people on average for non-Hispanic White households.

**Figure 5: Household Type: 2006
(Percent distribution)**



Notes: Household type is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder. A household is a person or a group of people who occupy a housing unit as their current residence. A family household consists of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. It may also include people unrelated to the householder. There are three types of family households in the survey data: married couple, female householders with no husband present, and male householders with no wife present. In addition, there are non-family households, such as a person living alone or with unrelated individuals.

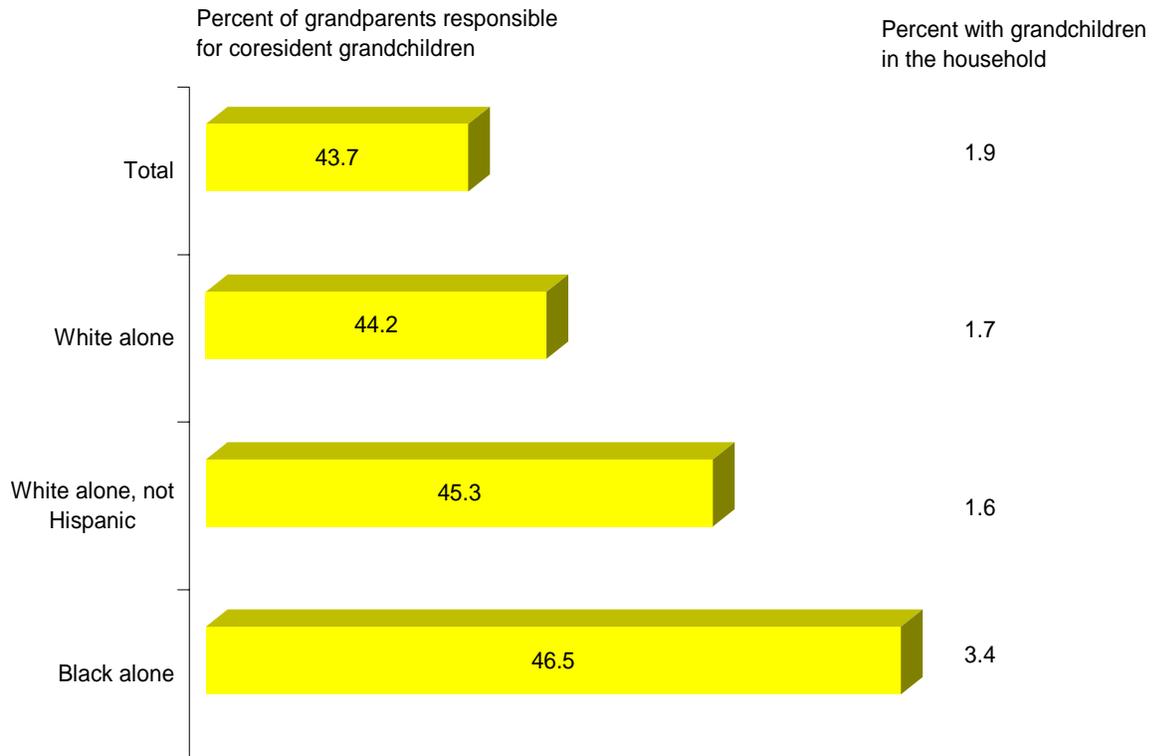
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201, and Detailed Tables, B11001.

Responsibility for Grandchildren

Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to live with grandchildren. About three percent of Blacks aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their co-resident grandchildren younger than 18. In comparison, about two percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 30 and older were grandparents living in the same household with their co-resident grandchildren younger than 18.

Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to care for their grandchildren. About 47 percent of Black grandparents who lived with their co-resident grandchildren were also responsible for their care, compared with about 45 percent of non-Hispanic White grandparents who lived with their co-resident grandchildren.

**Figure 6: Responsibility for Grandchildren under 18 years: 2006
(Percent of people 30 and older)**



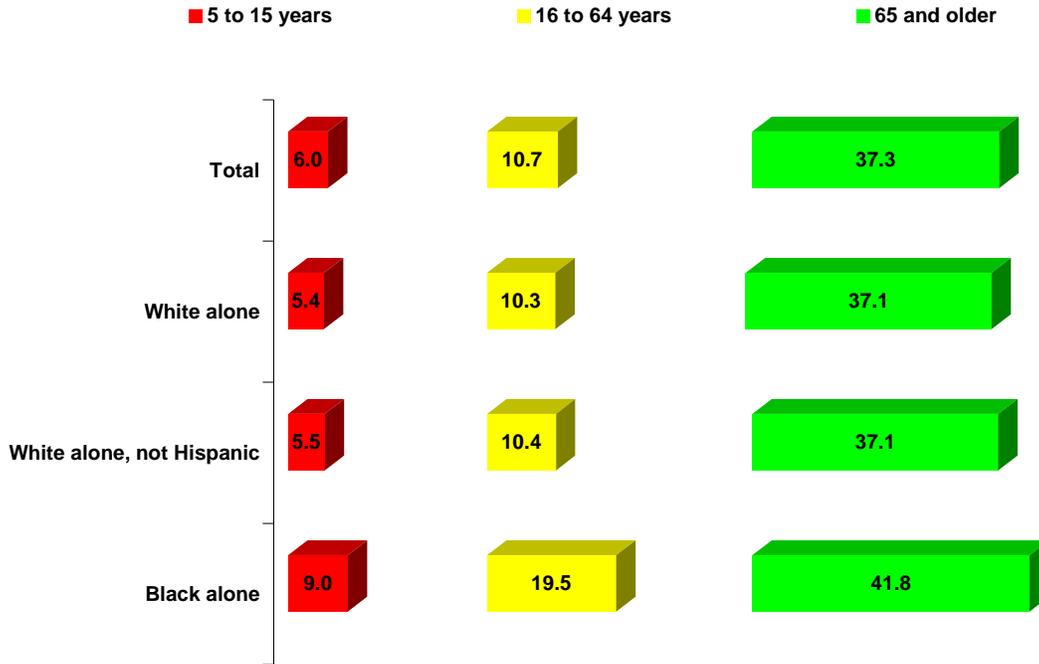
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Disability Status

Twice as many Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 15 to 64 had a disability, compared with non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 to 64, (20 percent versus 10 percent).

About 42 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 65 and older had a disability, compared with about 37 percent of non-Hispanic Whites aged 65 and older.

**Figure 7: Black Population with Any Disability
(Percent of specific group)**



Notes: The Census Bureau introduced a new skip pattern for the disability questions in the 2003 ACS questionnaire. This change mainly affected two individual items -- go-outside-home disability and employment disability -- and the re-code for disability status which includes the two items. Accordingly, comparisons of data from 2003 or later with data from prior years are not recommended for the relevant questions.

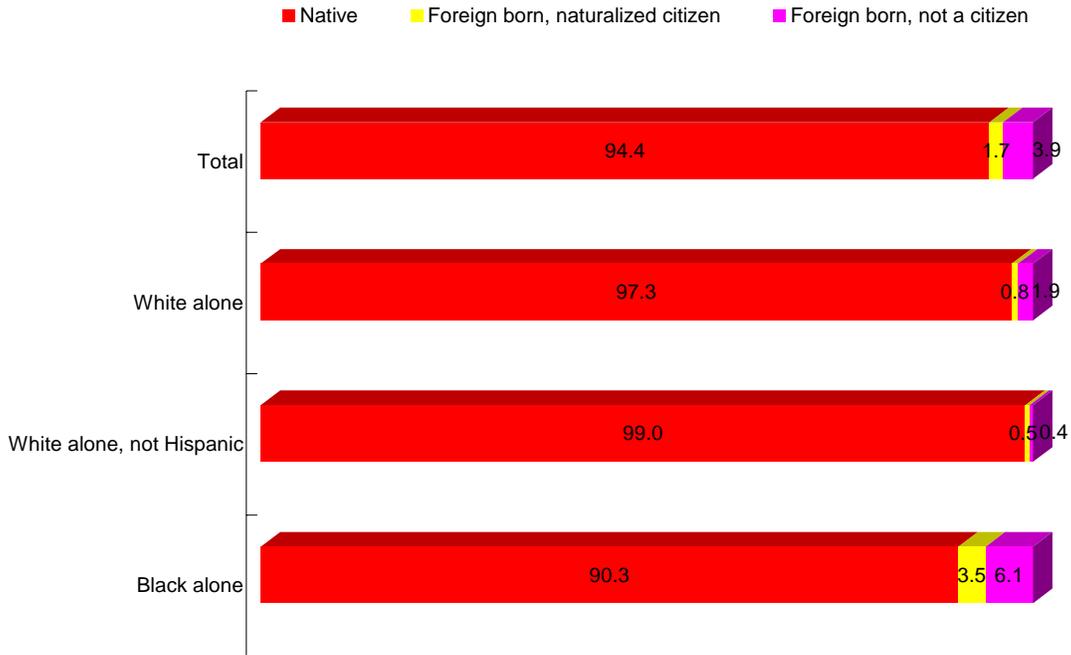
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Nativity and Citizenship Status

Approximately 90 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were native, compared with 99 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

In addition, about four percent of Blacks or African Americans were U.S. citizens through naturalization, compared with about 0.5 percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

**Figure 8: Nativity and Citizenship Status: 2006
(Percent distribution)**



Notes: Nativity is determined by U.S. citizenship status and place of birth. Natives are those born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. island area (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or born abroad of a U.S. citizen parent. All other individuals are considered foreign born.

Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

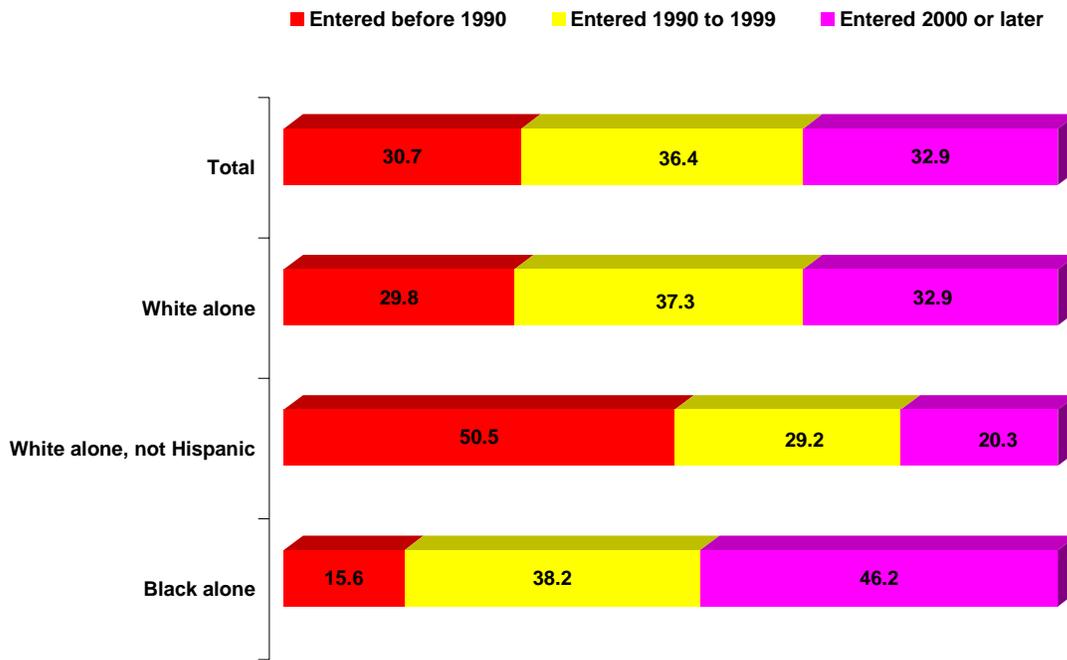
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Foreign Born

About 46 percent foreign-born Nebraska Blacks or American Americans entered the United States in 2000 or later, 38 percent entered between 1990 and 1999 and about 16 percent arrived before 1990.

In comparison, about 20 percent of foreign-born non-Hispanic Whites entered the United States in 2000 or later, 29 percent entered between 1990 and 1999 and about half arrived prior to 1990.

**Figure 9: Foreign Born by Year of Entry: 2006
(Percent Distribution)**



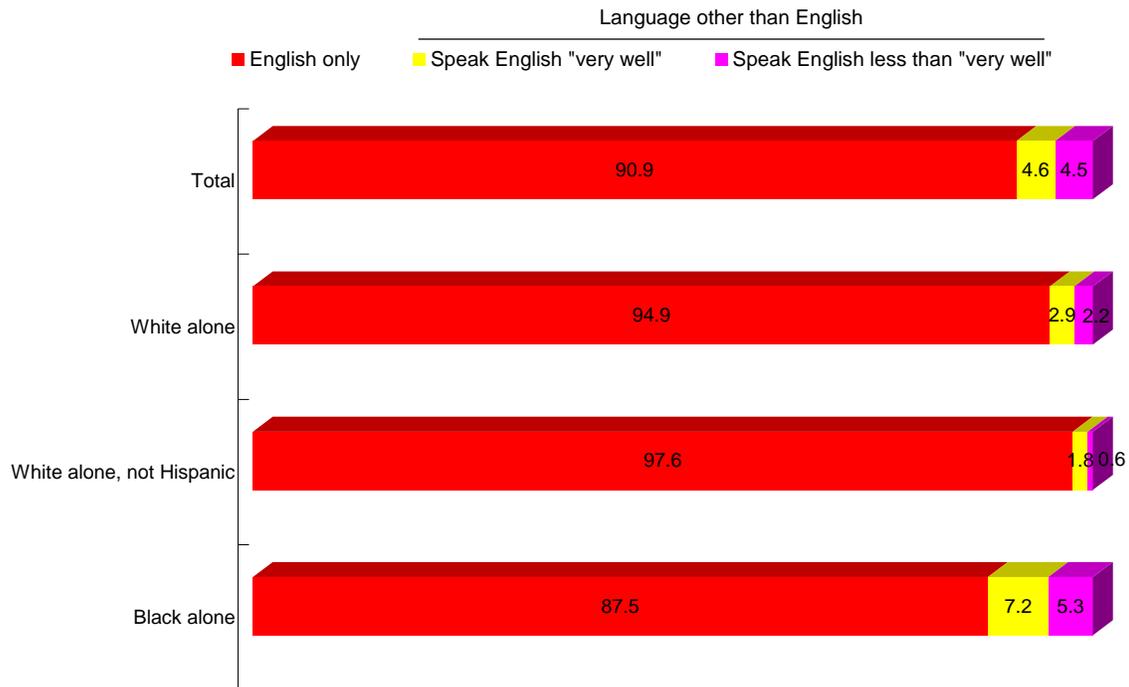
Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Language Spoken

About 88 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 5 and older only spoke English at home, which was about 10 percent less than non-Hispanic Whites.

About 12 percent of Nebraska Blacks spoke a language other than English at home; and five percent of Blacks spoke English less than “very well,” compared with only about one percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

**Figure 10: Language Spoken at Home* and English-Speaking Ability: 2006
(Percent distribution of population 5 or older)**



Notes: *The language currently used by respondents at home, either "English only" or a non-English language which is used in addition to English or in place of English. Most respondents who reported speaking a language other than English also spoke English. The questions did not permit a determination of the primary language of persons who spoke both English and another language. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

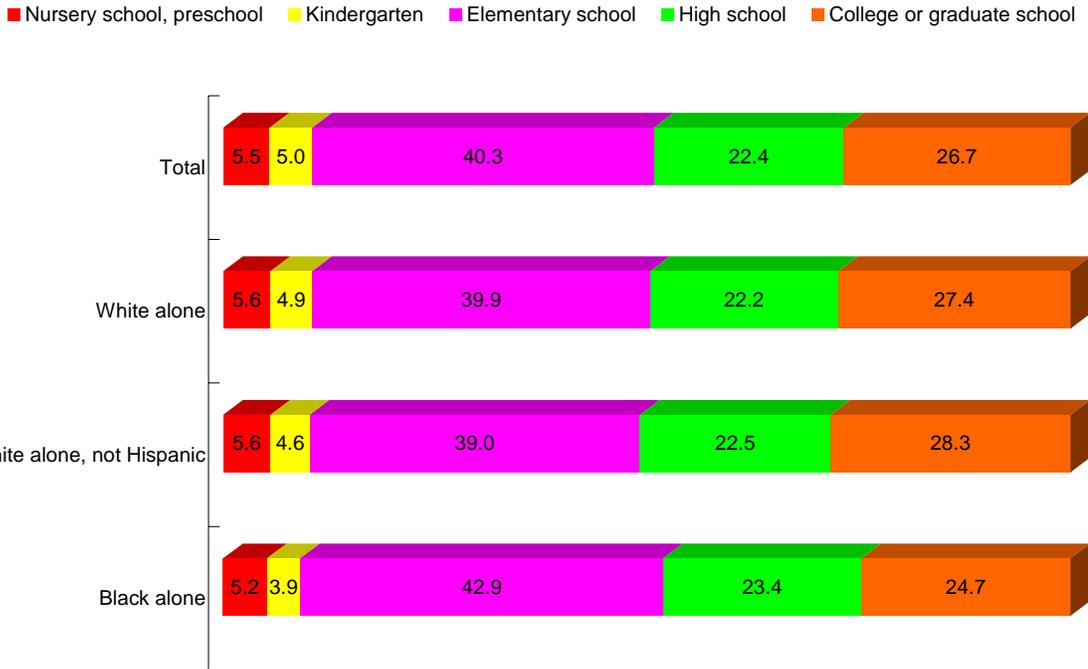
School Enrollment

Among Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged three years and over enrolled in school, about 23 percent were enrolled in high school and about 25 percent were in college or graduate school. Among non-Hispanic Whites, about 23 percent were in high school and 28 percent were in college or graduate school.

Among Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged three years and over, about 43 percent were enrolled in elementary school, which was slightly higher than non-Hispanic Whites (39 percent).

Among Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged three years and over, around nine percent of Blacks and non-Hispanic Whites were enrolled in nursery school, preschool and kindergarten.

Figure 11: School Enrollment: 2006
(Percent distribution of population 3 years and over enrolled in school)



Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

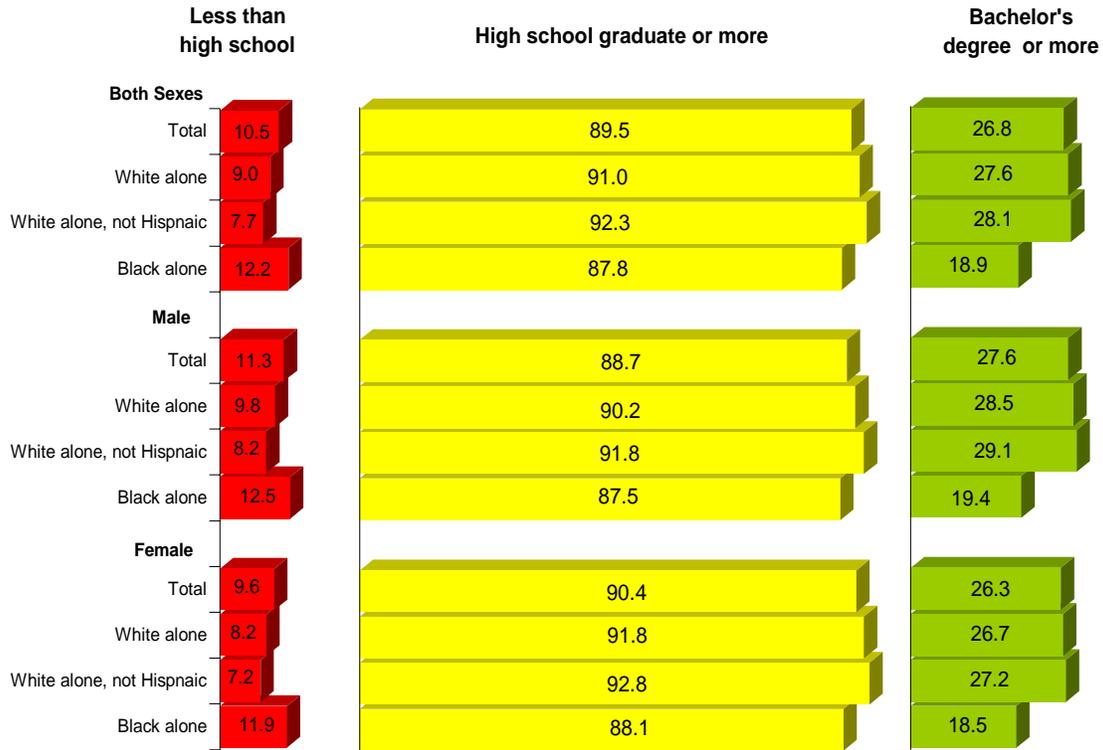
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Educational Attainment

About 19 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 25 and older had a bachelor's degree or higher level of education. Among non-Hispanic Whites aged 25 and older, about 28 percent had a Bachelor's Degree or higher education.

About 19 percent of both Black men and Black women had a Bachelor's Degree or higher education, compared with about 29 percent of non-Hispanic White men and about 27 percent of non-Hispanic White women.

Figure 12: Educational Attainment by Sex: 2006
(Percent of population 25 and older)



Notes:

Refers to the highest level of education completed in terms of the highest degree or the highest level of schooling completed.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Employment Status

The percent of unemployed civilian labor force among Nebraska Blacks or African Americans was almost four times as high as that of non-Hispanic Whites. About 11 percent of Blacks were unemployed in the civilian labor force, compared with about three percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

Over one-half (59 percent) of Blacks or African Americans were employed in the civilian labor force, compared with about two-thirds of non-Hispanic Whites. About three out of every ten Blacks and non-Hispanic Whites were not in the labor force.

**Figure 13: Employment Status: 2006
(Percent distribution of population 16 and older)**



Notes: The category of “Employed” includes all civilians 16 years old and over who either (1) were “at work” – those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were “with a job but not at work” -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are all institutionalized people and people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

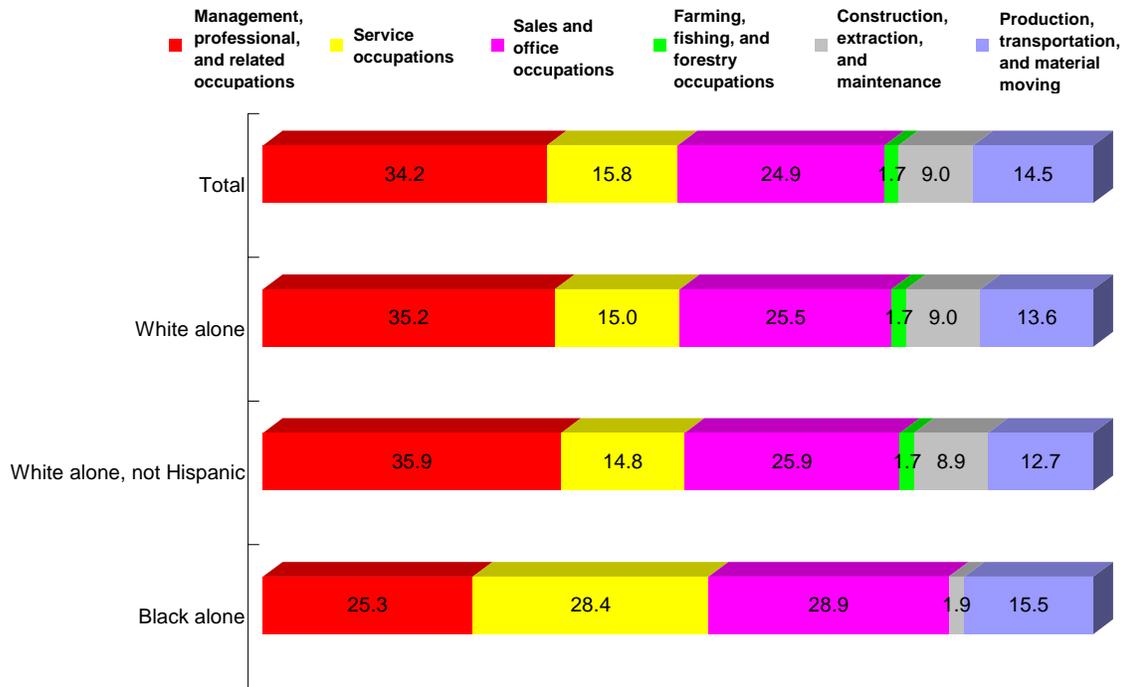
Occupation

Smaller proportions of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans aged 16 and older than non-Hispanic Whites were employed in managerial, professional and related occupations. About 25 percent of Blacks and about 36 percent of non-Hispanic Whites worked in managerial, professional and related occupations.

Larger proportions of civilian employed Blacks or African Americans aged 16 and older (about 28 percent) than civilian employed non-Hispanic Whites aged 16 and older (about 15 percent) worked service occupations.

About 16 percent of Black or African Americans workers aged 16 and older were in production, transportation and material moving occupations. In comparison, 13 percent of non-Hispanic White workers were in production, transportation and material moving occupations.

Figure 14: Occupation: 2006
(Percent distribution of civilian employed population 16 and older)



Notes: Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Income

The income gap between Nebraska Black or African American and White families is significant. The median income of Black households in the 12 months prior to being surveyed was about \$28,400. This was less than two-thirds of the median income of non-Hispanic White households, which was about \$47,100.

Black or African American had per capita income of \$15,077. In comparison, non-Hispanic Whites had per capita income of \$24,920 (Table 6).

Figure 15: Median Household Income: 2006



Notes: Household income in the past 12 months in 2006 inflation-adjusted dollars. Housing units are classified by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Table 6: Per capita income in the Past 12 Months*

	Per capita income	Margin of Error**
Nebraska total	\$23,248	308
White alone	\$24,389	329
White alone, not Hispanic	\$24,920	335
Black or African American alone	\$15,077	994

Notes:

*In 2006 inflation-adjusted dollars.

** This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, produces the 90-percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables.

Poverty

About 30 percent of Nebraska Blacks or African Americans were living below the poverty level in the 12 months prior to being surveyed, compared with about nine percent of non-Hispanic Whites.

The poverty rate was generally higher for children (under age 18). About 39 percent of Black children and about 11 percent of non-Hispanic White children lived in poverty.

Among those aged 65 and older, Blacks had a poverty rate of about 16 percent, compared with about nine percent for non-Hispanic Whites.

Figure 16: Poverty Rate by Age Group: 2006
(Percent of specific group in poverty in the past 12 months)

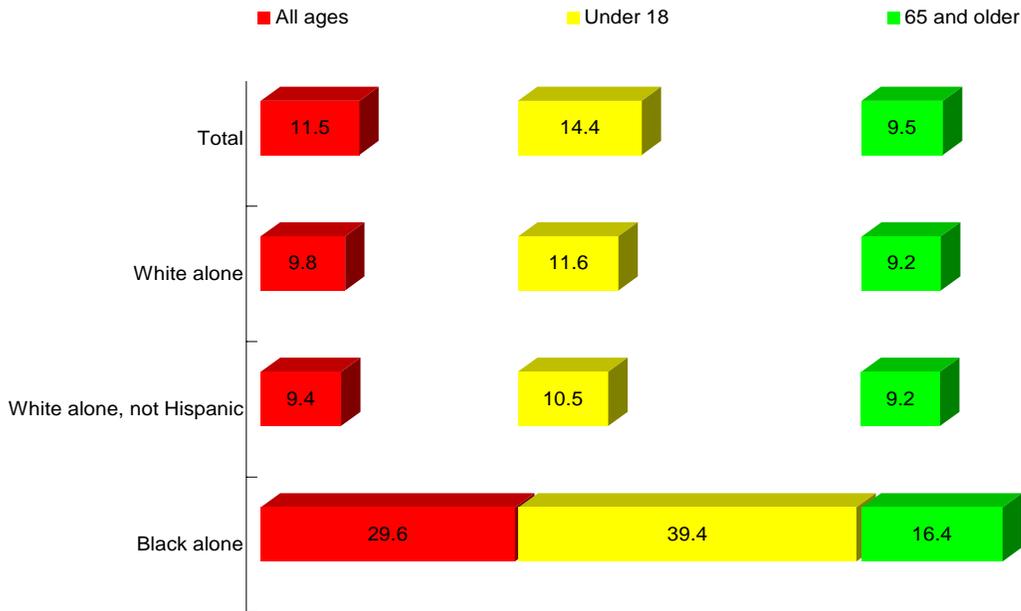


Table 7: Poverty Rate by Family Type (Percent in poverty in the past 12 months)

	Nebraska total	White alone, not Hispanic	Black alone
All families	7.8	6.0	25.4
Married-couple families	3.8	3.1	3.9
Families with female householder, no husband present	29.6	24.7	47.2

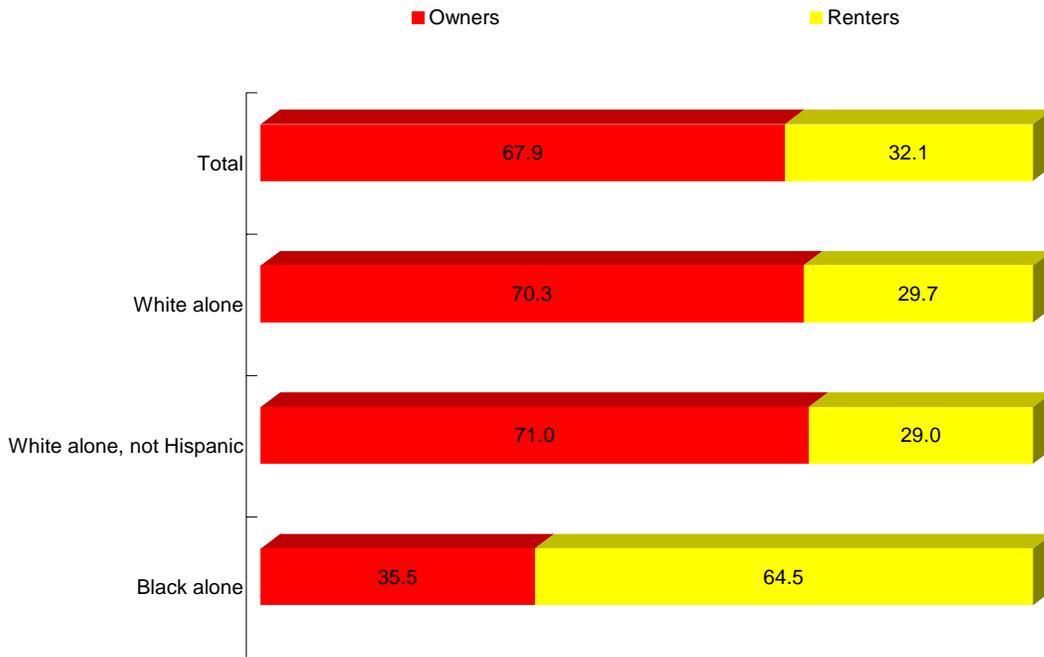
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Housing Tenure

A majority of Nebraska Black or African American households, about 65 percent, lived in renter-occupied homes and about 35 percent lived in owner-occupied homes.

In comparison, about 29 percent of non-Hispanic White households lived in renter-occupied homes and about 71 percent of non-Hispanic White households lived in owner-occupied homes.

**Figure 17: Housing Tenure: 2006
(Percent of occupied housing units)**



Notes: Housing tenure is shown by the race and Hispanic origin of the householder.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Selected Housing Characteristics

For Nebraska Black or African American households, the median value of owner-occupied homes was \$102,500, lower than the median value (\$121,300) of owner-occupied homes for non-Hispanic White households.

The median monthly rental payment by Black or African American households in renter-occupied homes was about \$615, similar to the median rental payment \$595 for non-Hispanic White households.

Figure 18: Selected Housing Characteristics: 2006



Notes: Housing units are classified by the race of the householder.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles.

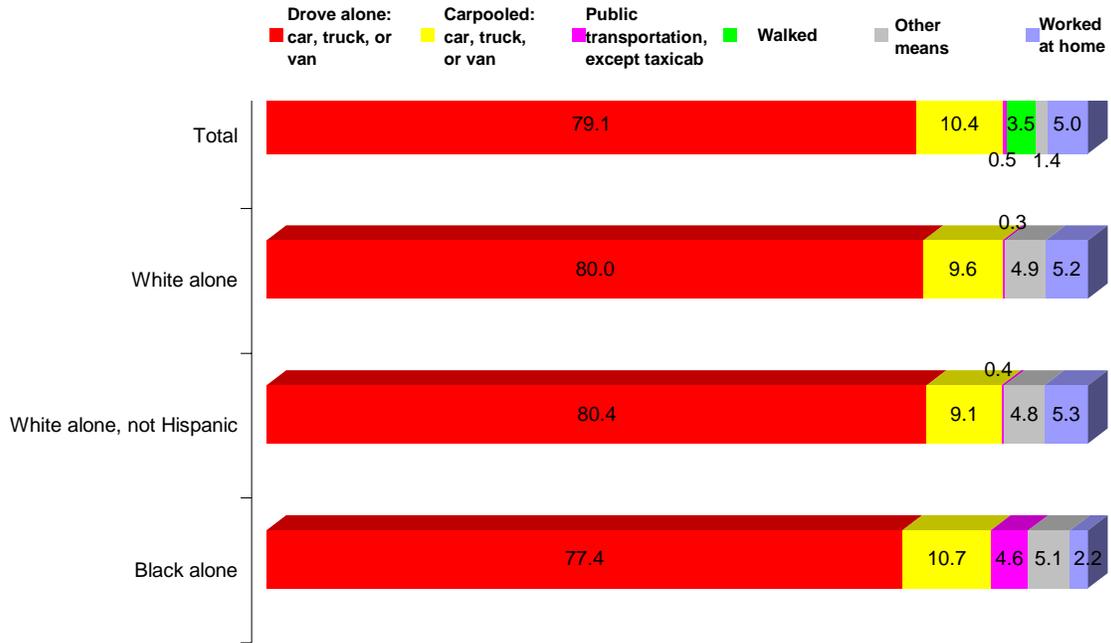
Commuting to Work

Nebraska Black or African American workers were more likely than non-Hispanic White workers to use public transportation. In 2006, about five percent of Black workers aged 16 and older used public transportation compared with less than one percent (0.4 percent) non-Hispanic White workers.

In 2006, about 77 percent of Black or African American workers aged 16 and older drove alone and about 11 percent carpooled to work. Among non-Hispanic White workers aged 16 and older, about 80 percent drove alone and about nine percent carpooled to work.

Non-Hispanic White workers (about five percent) were more likely than Black workers (about two percent) to work at home.

**Figure 19: Commuting to Work*: 2006
(Percent of workers 16 and older)**



Notes: * Includes data on where people work, how they get to work, how long it takes to get from their home to their usual workplace, when they leave home to go to their usual workplace, and carpooling.

Some percentages do not sum to 100.0 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey, Selected Population Profiles, S0201.

Glossary of Terms

Group Quarters (GQ): A group quarters is a place where people live or stay that is normally owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. These services may include custodial or medical care as well as other types of assistance, and residency is commonly restricted to those receiving these services. People living in group quarters are usually not related to each other. Group quarters include such places as college residence halls, residential treatment centers, skilled nursing facilities, group homes, military barracks, correctional facilities and workers' dormitories.

Fertility: Data are most frequently presented in terms of the aggregate number of women aged 15 to 50, who had a birth in the past 12 months in the specified category, and in terms of the rate per 1,000 women.

Foreign-Born Population: The foreign-born population includes anyone who was not a U.S. citizen or a U.S. national at birth. This includes respondents who indicated they were a U.S. citizen by naturalization or not a U.S. citizen.

Unemployment Rate: The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the civilian labor force. For example, if the civilian labor force equals 100 people and seven people are unemployed, then the unemployment rate would be seven percent.

Labor Force: All people classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard).

Labor Force Participation Rate: The labor force participation rate represents the proportion of the population that is in the labor force. For example, if there are 100 people in the population 16 years and over, and 64 of them are in the labor force, then the labor force participation rate for the population 16 years and over would be 64 percent.

Not in Labor Force: All people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This category consists mainly of students, housewives, retired workers, seasonal workers interviewed in an off season who were not looking for work, institutionalized people and people doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the reference week).

Household: A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit. (People not living in households are classified as living in group quarters.) A family household consists of a householder and one or more people living together

in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. It may also include people unrelated to the householder. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated people who share living arrangements.

Average Household Size: A measure obtained by dividing the number of people in households by the number of households. In cases where people in households are cross-classified by race or Hispanic origin, people in the household are classified by the race or Hispanic origin of the householder rather than the race or Hispanic origin of each individual. Average household size is rounded to the nearest hundredth.

Housing Unit : A housing unit may be a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms or a single room that is occupied (or, if vacant, intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access are applied to the intended occupants whenever possible. If that information cannot be obtained, the criteria are applied to the previous occupants.

Poverty: Following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level".

Disability Status: The Census Bureau defines disability as a long-lasting sensory, physical, mental, or emotional condition or conditions that make it difficult for a person to do functional or participatory activities such as seeing, hearing, walking, climbing stairs, learning, remembering, concentrating, dressing, bathing, going outside the home, or working at a job.

