

# THE MOYNIHAN REPORT – 2012 REVISITED

October 1, 2012

Presented by Open Society Foundation, Urban Institute and Fathers Incorporated

# OSF Funds Project to Revisit Moynihan Report

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- *Open Society Foundation, Urban Institute, and Fathers Incorporated are revisiting the Moynihan report to refocus political attention on the direction of African American Families.*
- *We are updating and expanding statistics in the Moynihan report, conducting interviews with scholars and community leaders, holding a conference, and developing a website to make this information available to the public.*

# Moynihan Report Says Black Family is Deteriorating

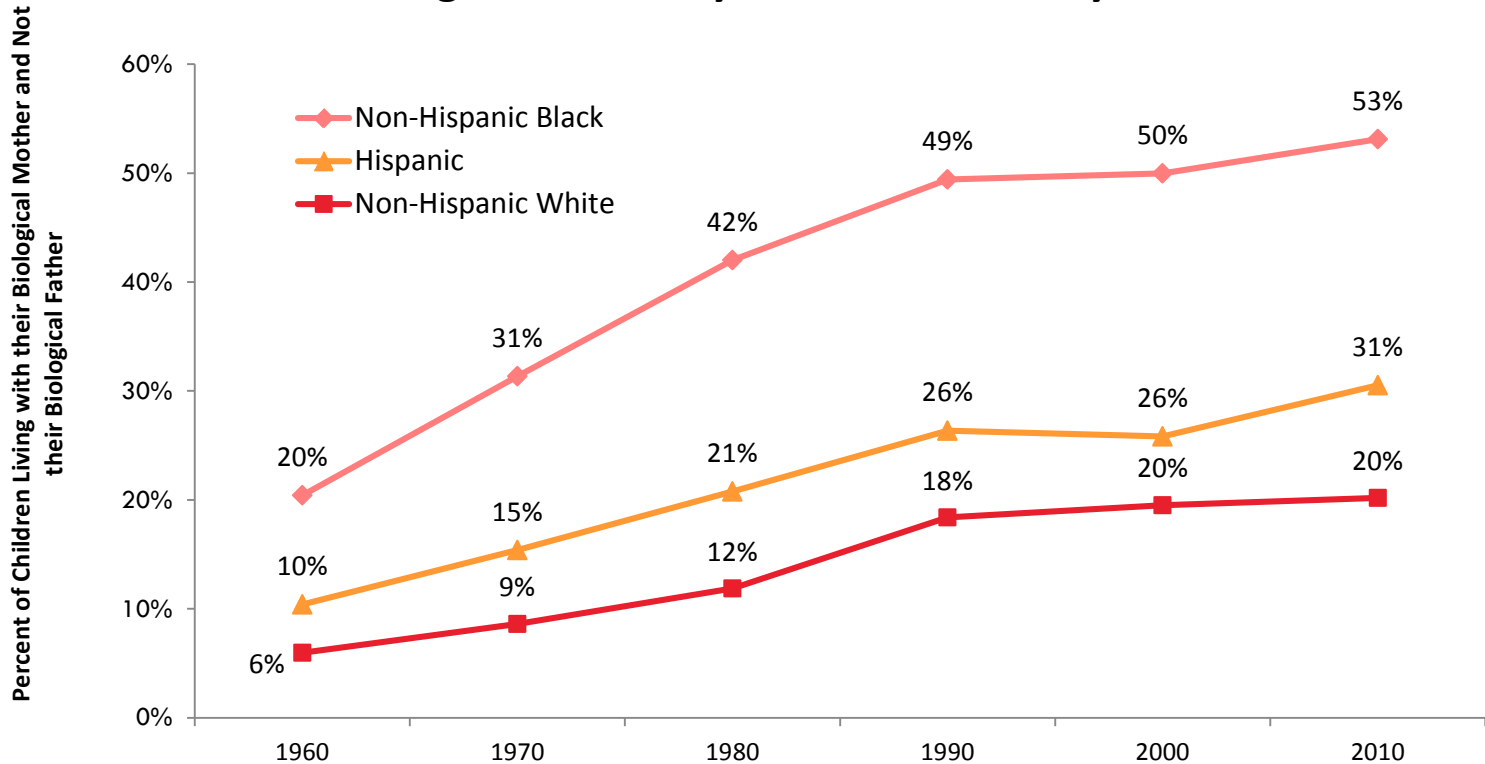
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- ❑ *The Moynihan Report argued that the black family, “battered and harassed by discrimination,” ... “is the fundamental source of the weakness of the Negro community”. Data used to substantiate this argument were:*
  - *the large percent of black female-headed families,*
  - *the large percent of children born to unwed black women, and*
  - *the large percent of black women who were not married, living with their spouse.*
  
- ❑ *The next three slides show that these characteristics of black families have increased since the Moynihan report was published in 1965, over 45 years ago. But, they also show that whites and Hispanics have experienced similar trends.*

# Data Show Trends have Continued

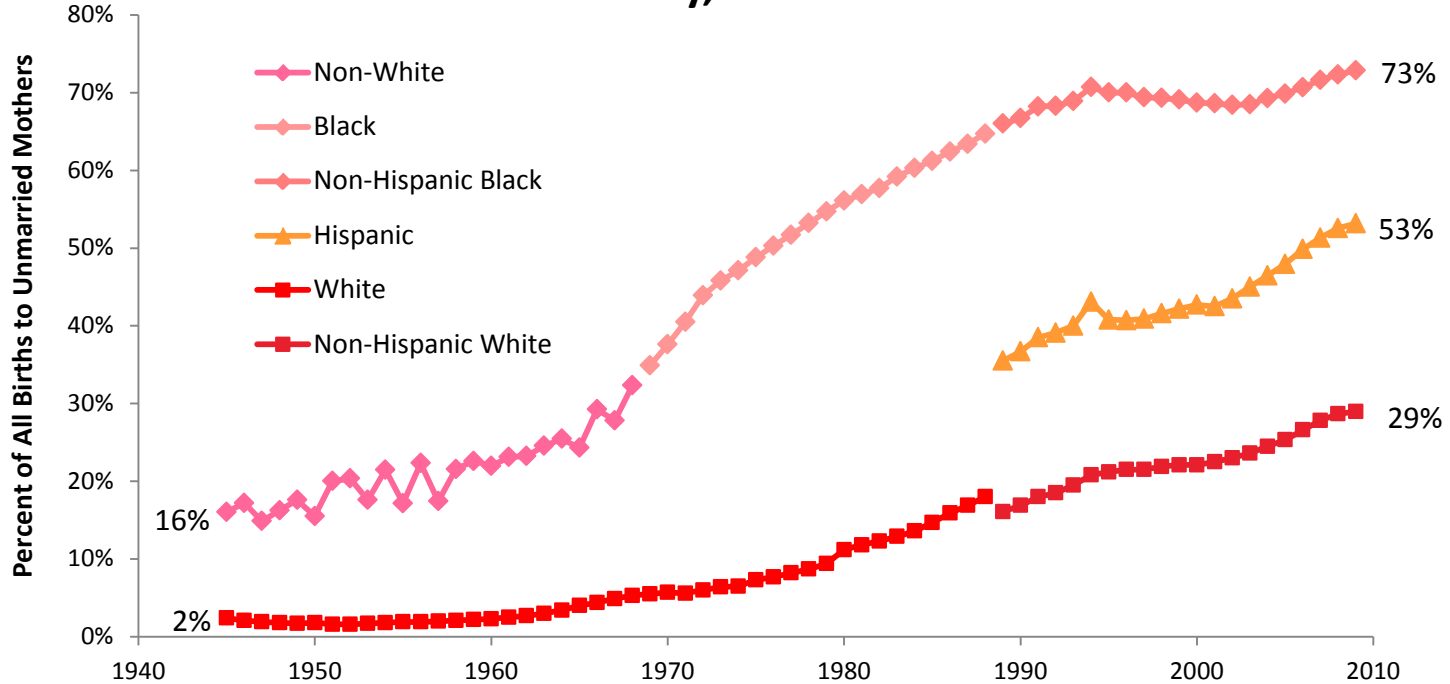
- ❑ *In 2010, half of all black (non-Hispanic) children lived with their mother and not their biological father, up from 17% in 1950. This represents about a 300% increase, but white and Hispanic children also experienced the same percentage increase.*
- ❑ *Nonmarital childbearing, while uncommon in 1965, is quite common today. In 2010, 41% of all births were to unmarried women, up from 8% in 1965. While nonmarital childbearing is still highest among black women (73% in 2010), racial and ethnic disparities in nonmarital childbearing have declined considerably over time.*
- ❑ *The percent of black women who are married and living with their spouse has been declining since 1950. At that time, 53% of black women were married and living with their spouse. In 2010, that figure was 25%, a 54% decline. However, marriage rates have also been declining for white and Hispanic women since 1960.*

## Percent of Children Living with their Biological Mother and Not their Biological Father, by Race and Ethnicity, 1960-2010



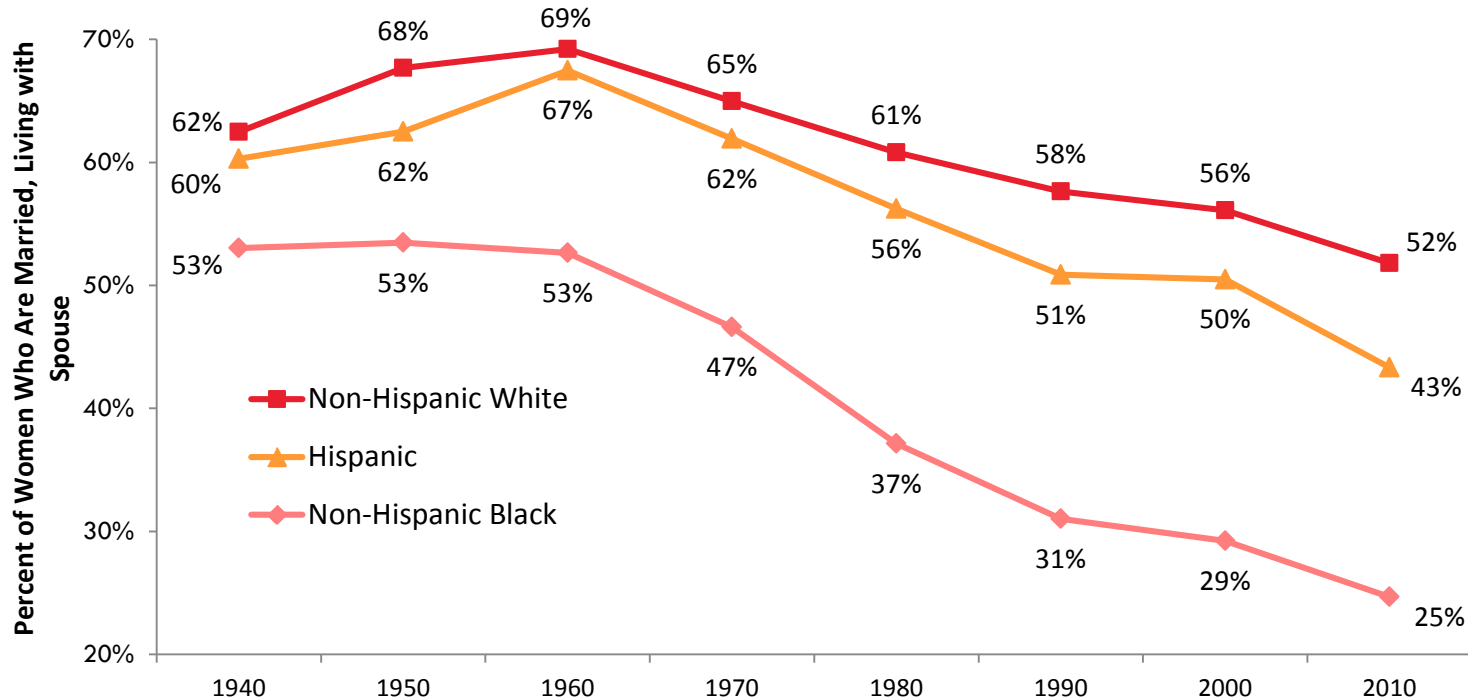
Source: Urban Institute analysis of data compiled by Steven Ruggles, J. Trent Alexander, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Matthew B. Schroeder, and Matthew Sobek. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 5.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2010.

## Percent of Births to Unmarried Mothers, by Race and Ethnicity, 1945-2009



Source: Vital Statistics of the United States. Race of child presented prior to 1980, race of mother from 1980 forward. Marital status estimated prior to 1980.

## Percent Of Women Who Are Married, Living with their Spouse, by Race and Ethnicity, 1940-2010



Note: Women are 18 years old or older.

Source: Urban Institute analysis of data compiled by Steven Ruggles, J. Trent Alexander, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Matthew B. Schroeder, and Matthew Sobek. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 5.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2010.

# What Has Contributed to These Changes?

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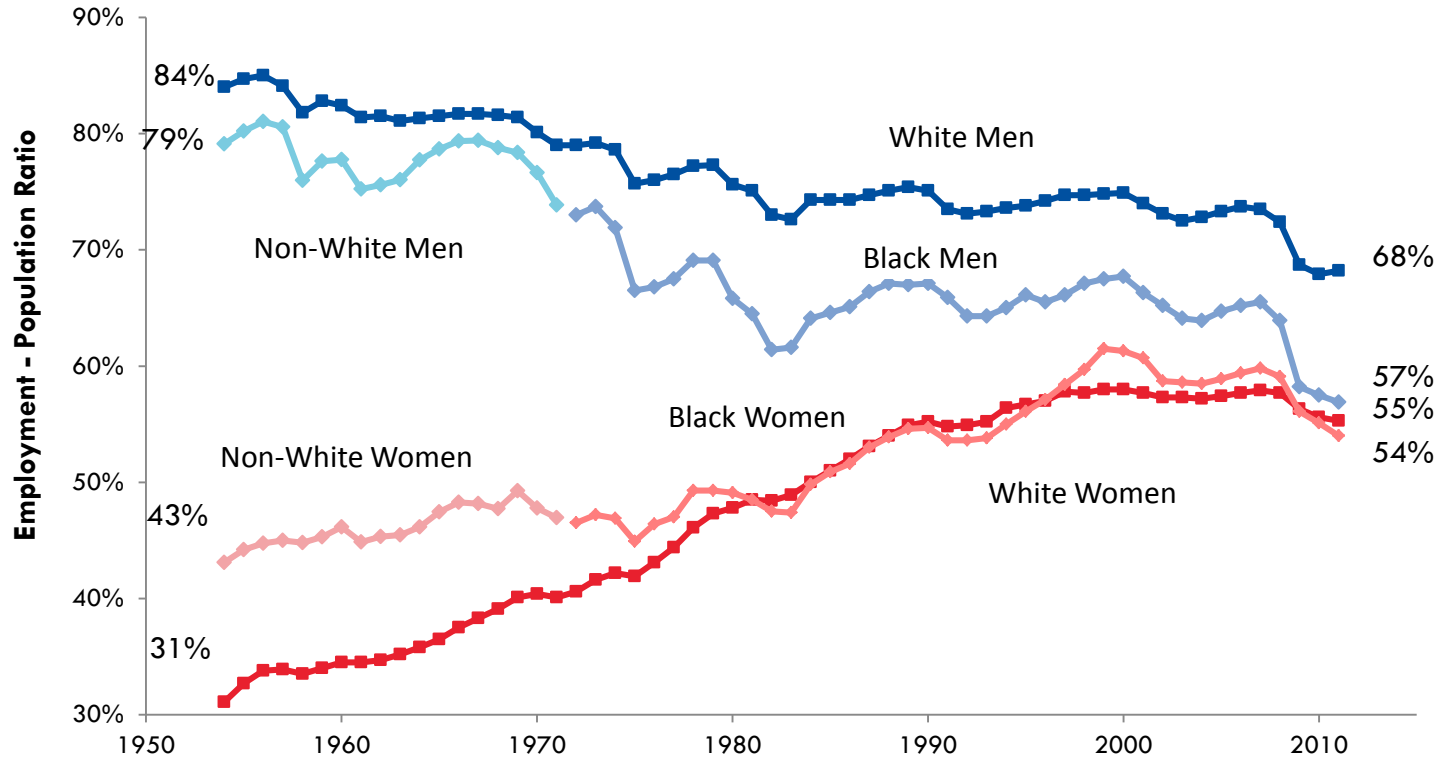
- ❑ Changes in the labor market?
- ❑ Changes in educational attainment?
- ❑ Changes in incarceration rates?
- ❑ Racism (and sexism) which permeates these and other institutions?



# Black Male Employment Rates Have Been Declining

- *The employment rates of black and white men have been declining since the 1950s, but they have declined more for black men. In contrast, the employment rates of black and white women were increasing until 2000. Since then, they too have stagnated or declined.*
- *The last recession has been particularly hard on black male employment, which dropped nearly 9 percentage points between 2007 and 2011. In 2011, 57% of black men were working, on average, in a given month, down from 66% in 2007. White male employment declined by 5 percentage points during this period.*
- *As a result of these trends, black men were only five percent more likely to be working than black women in 2011. In 1950, non-white men were almost twice as likely to be working as non-white women.*

## Employment-Population Ratios, by Race and Gender, 1954-2011



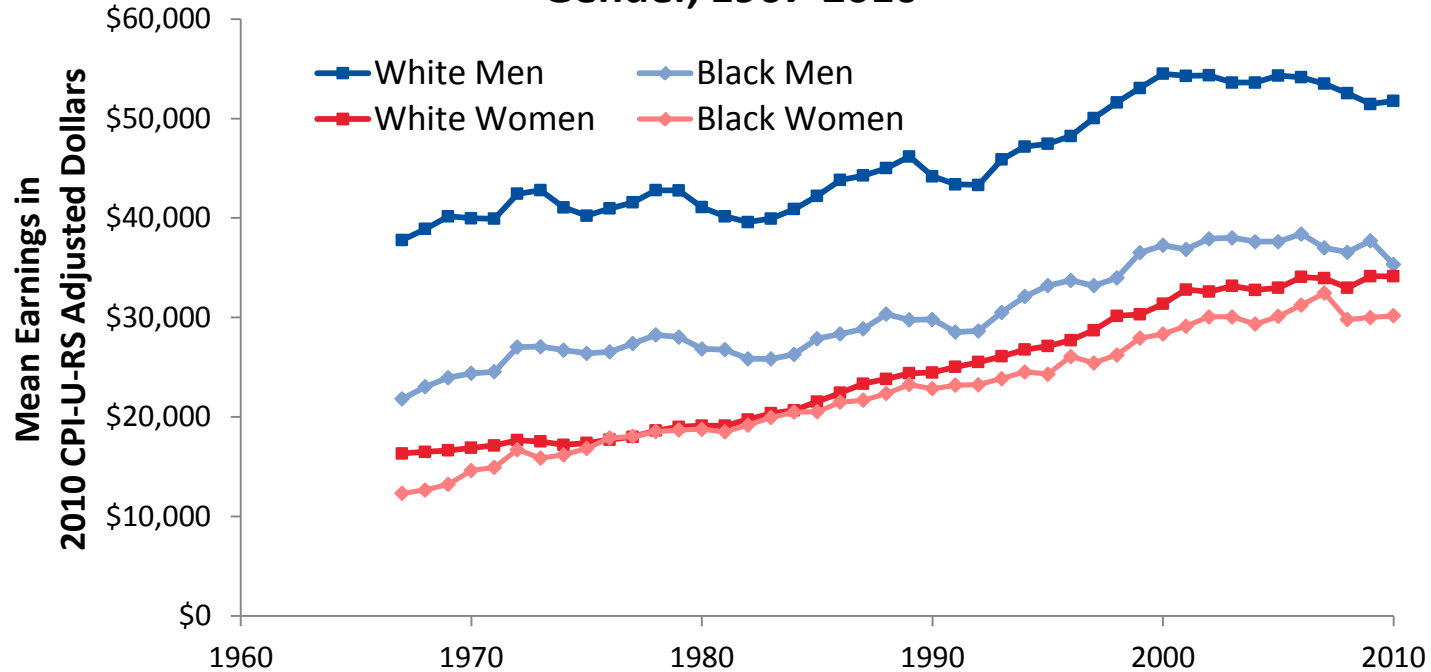
Note: Employment-Population Ratios are calculated for persons 20 years old and older.

Source: Current Population Survey. Retrieved from the Bureau of Labor Statistics On-line Data Retrieval System.

# Earnings Have Stagnated

- *Average real earnings increased at times for black and white workers until 2000. Since 2000, average real earnings have stagnated or declined for black and white workers.*
- *The earnings gap between black and white male workers has narrowed slightly since 1960s – black male workers earn about 70% as much as white male workers, up from 60% in the 1960s.*
- *However, the earnings gap between black men and black women has narrowed even more. In 2011, black female workers earned 85% as much as black male workers.*

## Mean Annual Real Earnings among Workers by Race and Gender, 1967-2010



Note: Includes workers 15 and older beginning in 1980, and 14 and older for previous years. Estimates prior to 1989 are civilian workers only. Estimates in 2002 and later exclude individuals reporting more than one race.

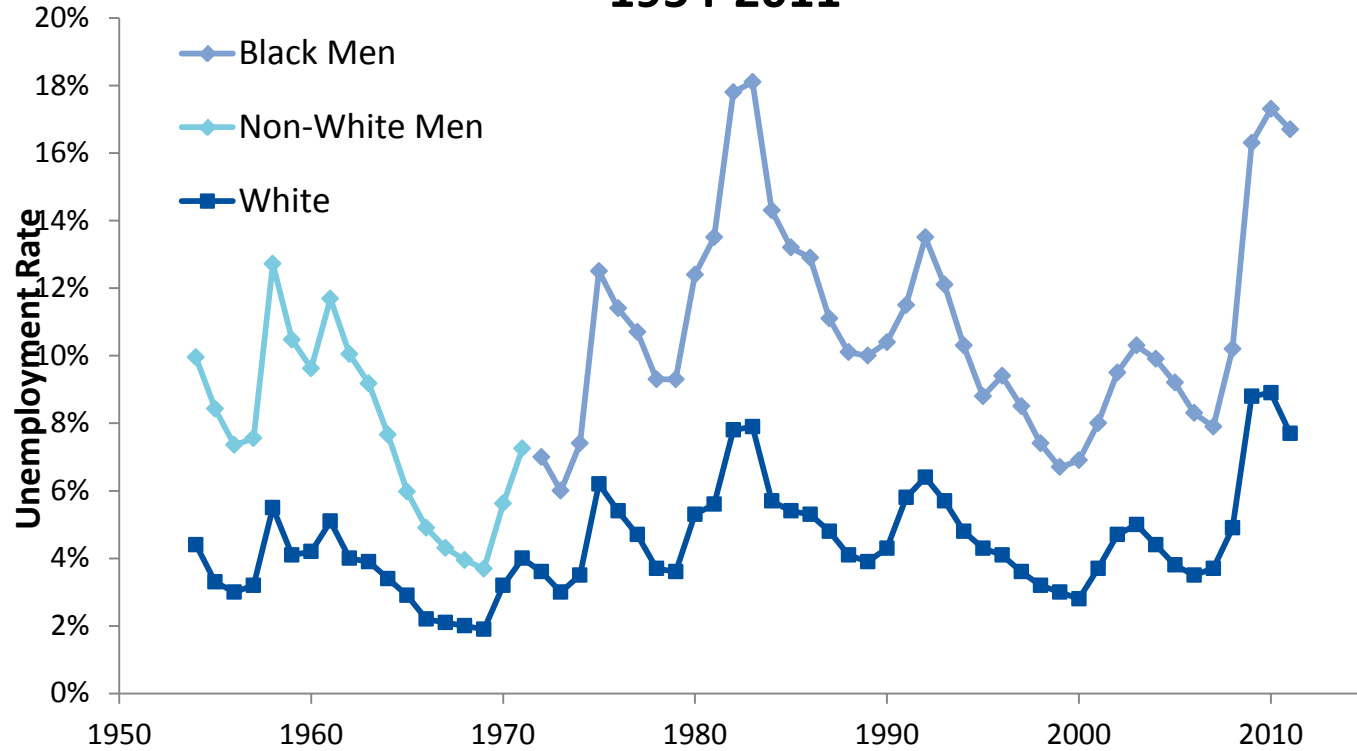
Source: Current Population Survey. Retrieved from the Bureau of Labor Statistics On-line Data Retrieval System.

# Black Male Unemployment Rates Remain High

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- *The black male unemployment rate still remains twice as high as that of white men.*
- *In 2011, the black male unemployment rate was 16.7% compared to 7.7% for white men.*

# Male Unemployment Rates (Aged 20+) by Race, 1954-2011

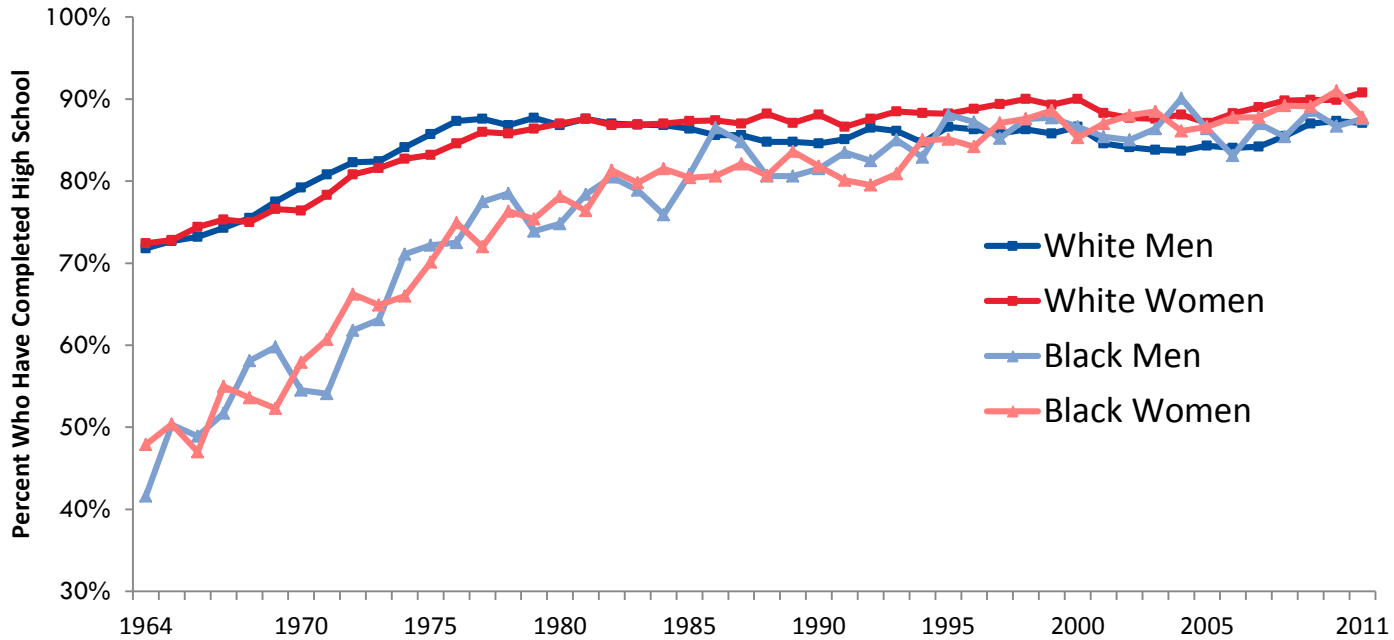


Source: Current Population Survey. Retrieved from the Bureau of Labor Statistics On-line Data Retrieval System.

# Black High School Completion Rates Have Improved but that Masks Important Differences

- *Black high school completion rates have increased dramatically since 1964. During the past 15 years, the average high school completion rates have been above 85% for young black and white adults, regardless of gender.*
- *These improvements mask important differences, however, particularly for black boys. In 2007, one quarter of all black boys in public schools had ever repeated a grade and one half of all black boys in grades 6 through 12 in public schools had been suspended.*

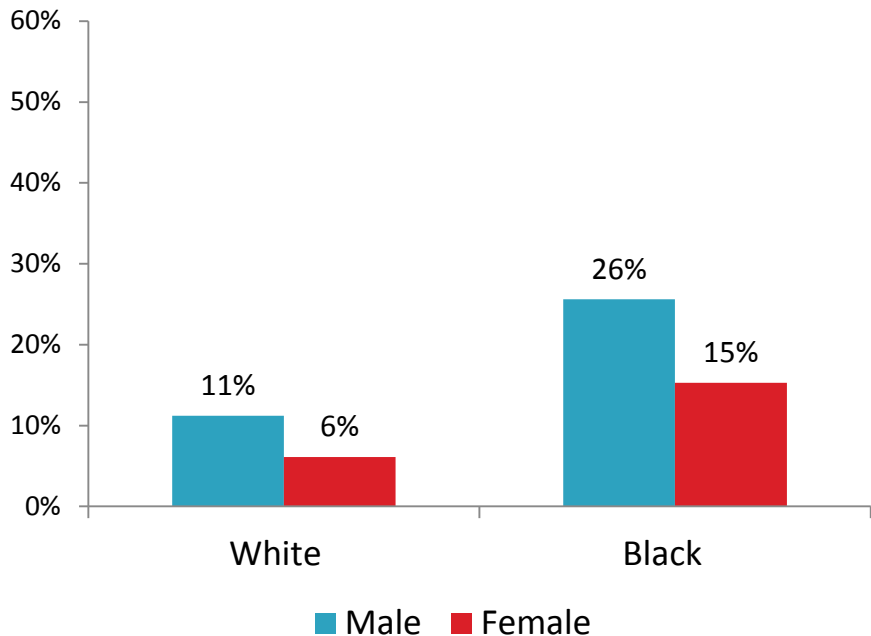
## Percent of People aged 25 to 29 Who Have Completed High School, by Race and Gender, 1964-2011



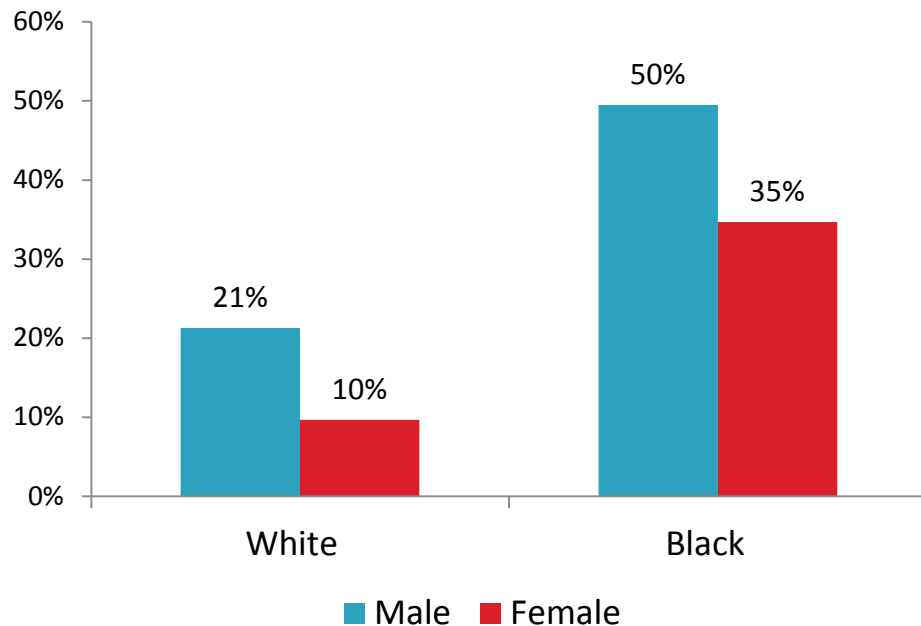
Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Educational Attainment Current Population Survey Historical Time Series Tables. Table A-2. Percent of People 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School or College, by Race, Hispanic Origin and Sex: Selected Years 1940 to 2011



**Percent of Public School Students Who Have Ever Repeated a Grade, by Race and Gender: 2007**



**Percent of Public School Students in Grades 6 to 12 Who Have Been Suspended, by Race and Gender: 2007**

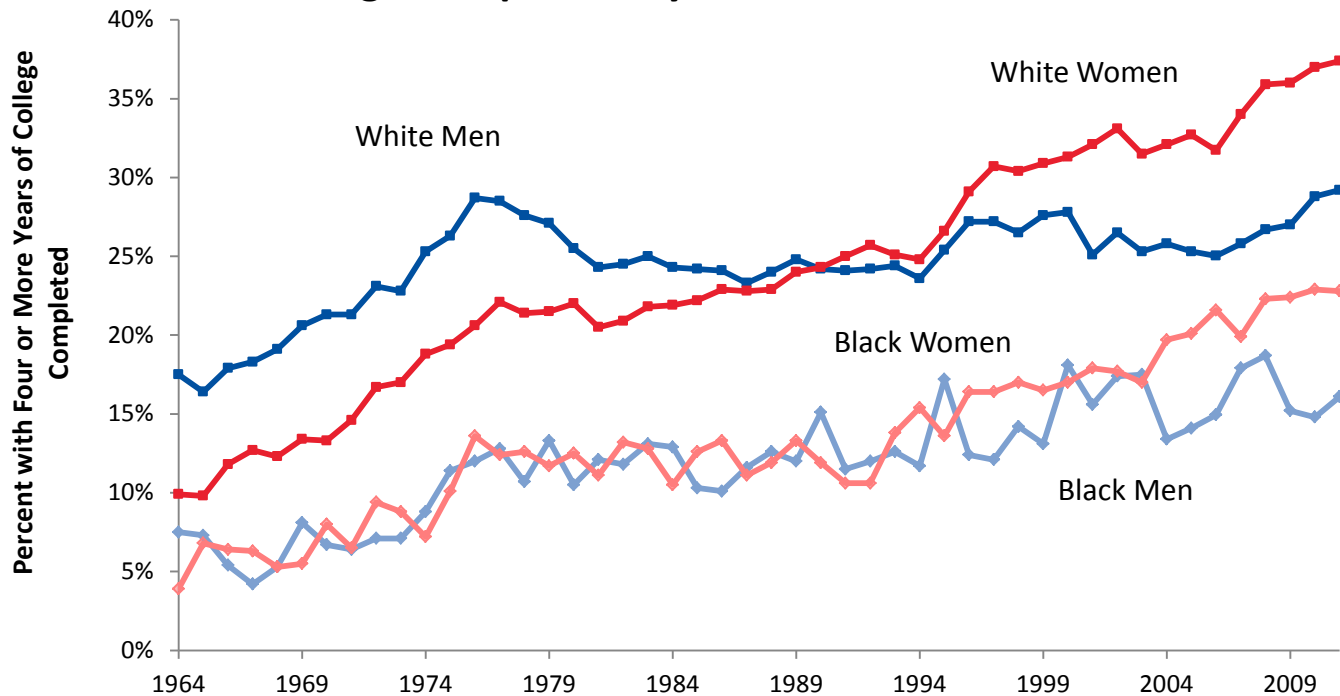


Source: Susan Aud, Mary Ann Fox, and Angelina Kewal Ramani. *Status and Trends in the Education of Racial and Ethnic Groups*. U.S. Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics. NCES 2010-015 July 2010. Tables 17a and b.

# Black Males Lag Behind Black Females in Completing College

- ❑ *Blacks are much more likely to complete college today than 40 years ago and the gap in college completion rates between young black men and young white men has narrowed slightly during that period.*
- ❑ *However, in the past 15 years, young black men have been completing college at lower rates than young black women. This trend is also occurring among whites.*

## Percent of People aged 25-29 with Four or More Years of College Completed, by Race and Gender, 1964-2011

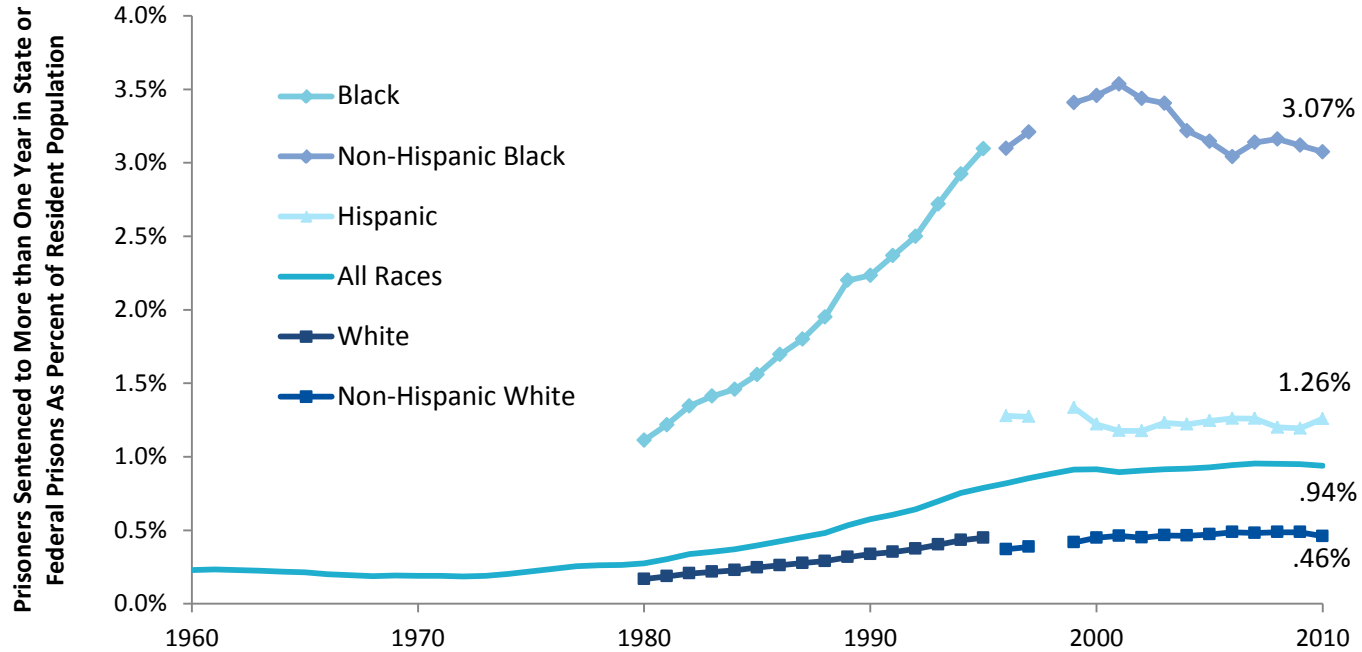


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Educational Attainment Current Population Survey Historical Time Series Tables. Table A-2. Percent of People 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School or College, by Race, Hispanic Origin and Sex: Selected Years 1940 to 2011

# Black Male Imprisonment Rates Have Skyrocketed

- *Imprisonment rates rose at unprecedented rates among black men in the 1980s and 1990s. This trend has finally tapered off, but in 2010, 3 percent of black (non-Hispanic) men were in state or federal prisons compared to 1 percent of Hispanic men, and .5 percent of white (non-Hispanic) men.*
- *We estimate that, in 2010, 16% of black men have spent time in prison, down slightly from a high of 17% in 2001. An estimated 7 percent of Hispanic men and 3 percent of white (non-Hispanic) men have spent time in prison.*
- *While it was true in 2000 that more black men were in prison or jail than in college, by 2010 that was no longer the case.*

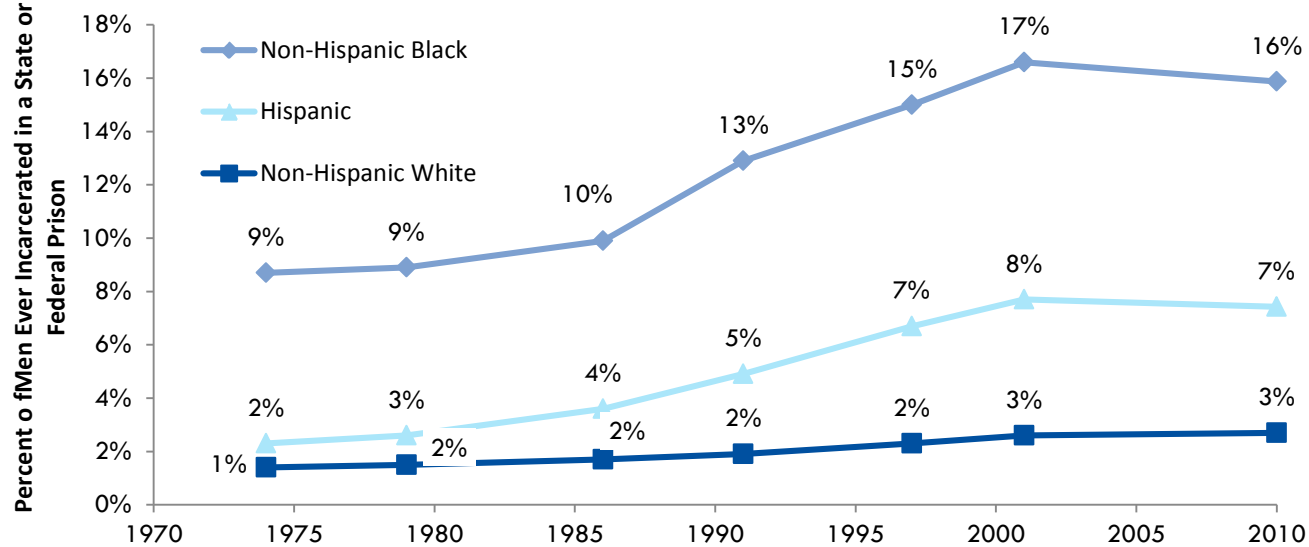
## Percent of Men Sentenced to More than One Year in Prison, by Race and Ethnicity, 1960-2010



Note: Prior to 1971, data were for men serving a felony sentence in a State or Federal correctional institution.

Source: Figures by race from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Correctional Populations in the United States* (1993, 1997) and *Prisoners series* (1997-99, 2010). The “all race” data are from Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics Online.

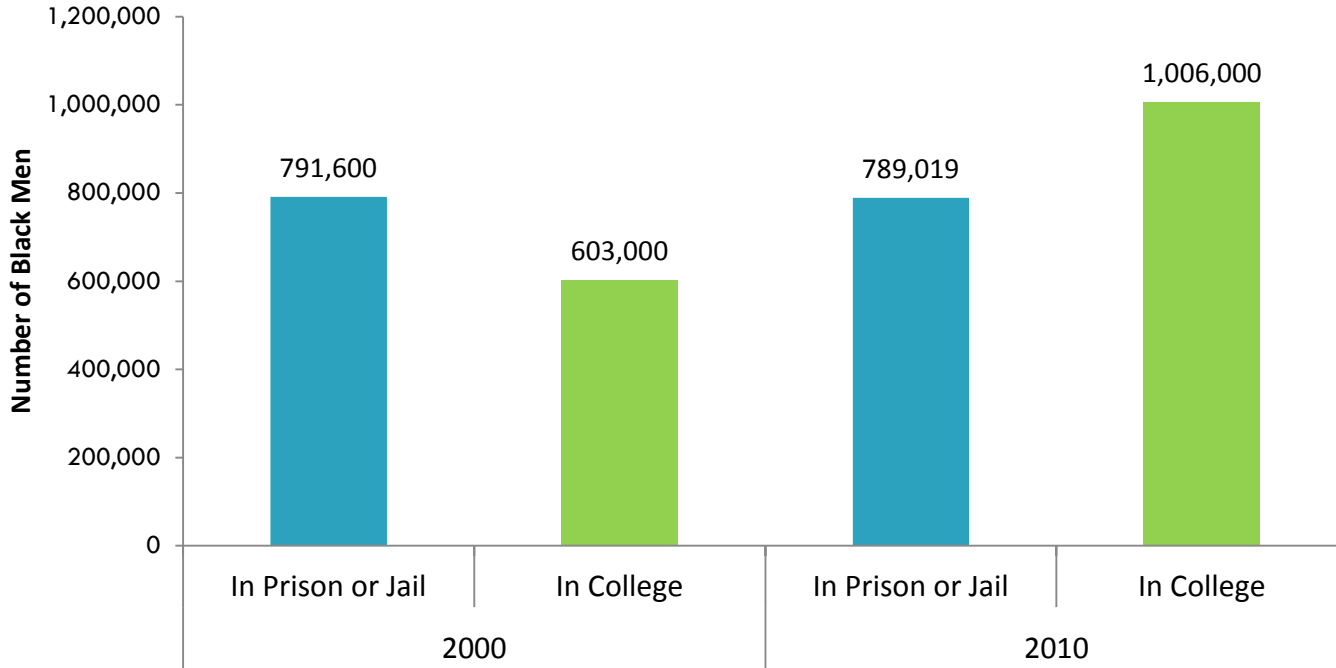
## Percent of Men Ever In Prison, by Race and Ethnicity, 1974-2010



Note: Data for 2010 are estimated using data on incarceration prevalence and incarceration rates.

Source for earlier years: Thomas Bonczar. *Prevalence of Imprisonment in the U.S. Population, 1974-2001*. Bureau of Justice Statistics. 2003. NCJ 197976. Table 5.

## Number of Black Men in Prison or Jail vs. in College, 2000 and 2010



Note: Incarceration data are for Non-Hispanic Blacks; College data are for Blacks.

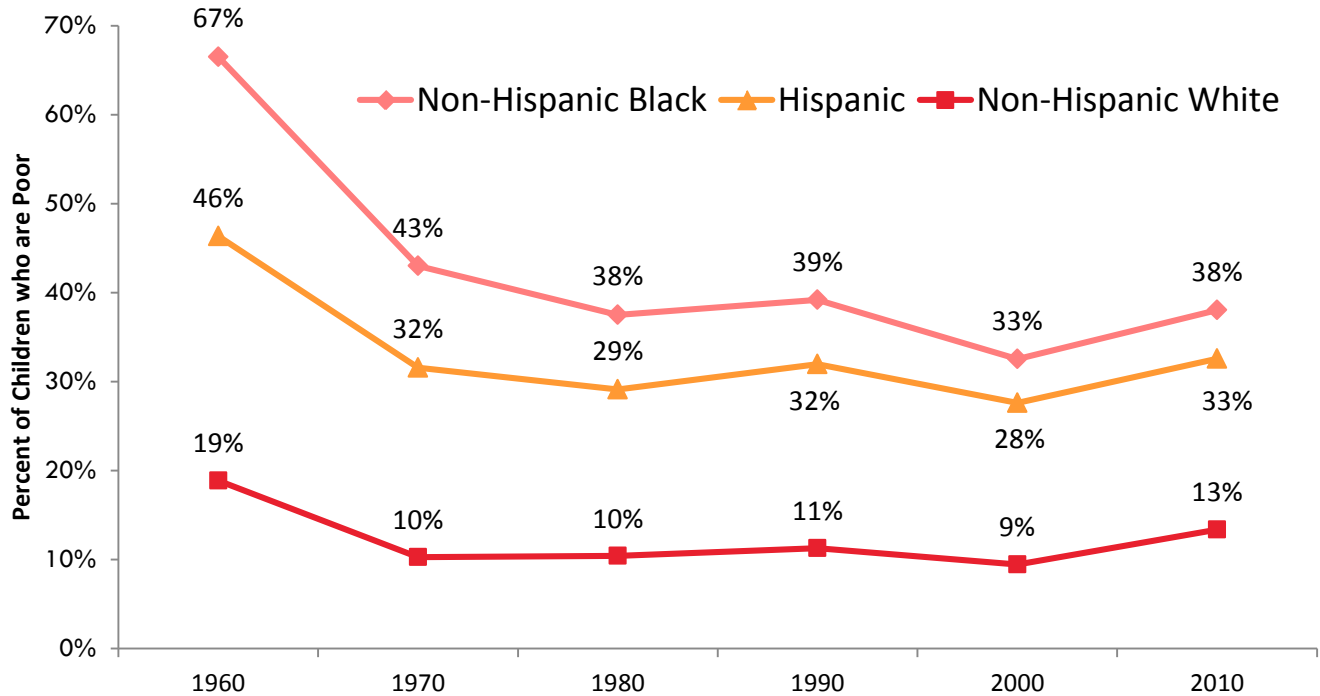
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2000* NCJ 185989; *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2010* NCJ236319; Census Bureau, *School Enrollment in the United States: 2000 and 2010*. Tables 9 and 5, respectively.

# Black Child Poverty Declined Despite These Changes

- *Despite all of these changes, the poverty rate of black children has declined since 1960.*
- *Nonetheless, black children are still about three times as likely to live in poverty as white children.*



## Child Poverty Rate, by Race and Ethnicity, 1960-2010



Source: Urban Institute analysis of data compiled by Steven Ruggles, J. Trent Alexander, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Matthew B. Schroeder, and Matthew Sobek. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 5.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2010.

# Save the Date

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Research Findings Forum

## *Moynihan Report Revisited*

Urban Institute | 2100 M Street, N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20037

February 22, 2013 (10am to 12:30pm)



Featured Speaker

**Michelle  
Alexander**

New York Times Best-  
Selling Author of *The New  
Jim Crow: Mass  
Incarceration in the Age of  
Colorblindness*

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