

PARTICIPATION RATE OF BLACK YOUTHS IN THIS SUMMER'S LABOR FORCE IN- CREASES OVER YEAR'S TIME

The labor force participation rate for black youths was up nearly 2.5 percentage points this summer over a year ago, and the employment ratio for blacks showed particularly strong improvement over the year, rising 3.5 percentage points.

These are some of the highlights reported by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in its report of 16-to-24 year olds in the labor force in July--the peak month for summer work activity.

The rate of joblessness for young black workers of 22.8 percent in July 1989 was at its lowest mark since 1972, the earliest year for which separate statistics for blacks are available. Nonetheless, black youths were still two-and-a-half times more likely than white youths to be unemployed, according to the report. The jobless rate for whites was 8.9 percent.

For the nation as a whole, BLS reported that for the second consecutive summer, record proportions of youths were in the labor force and employed in July.

The proportion of 16-to-24 year olds in the labor force in July--the peak month for summer work activity--was 77.5 percent, and the proportion actually employed was 69.2 percent. The youth unemployment rate was 10.7 percent, about the same as a year earlier.

The July unemployment rates were lower in 1988 and 1989 than at any time in the prior two decades.

Labor Force

Between April and July each year, the number of 16-to-24 year olds in the labor force grows rapidly, as large numbers of high school and college students search for temporary summer jobs and recent graduates took for permanent employment. This summer, the youth labor force expanded by nearly 3.7 million, about the same magnitude as last year and slightly more than in 1986 and 1987. These seasonal increases have been very strong, particularly in light of the fact that the size of the youth population has been declining.

The proportion of youths working or looking for work--the labor force participation rate--reached a record high of 77.5 percent in July, exceeding the previous high attained last summer. However, due to the continuous decline of the youth population, the actual number of young workers in the labor force, 25.0 million, was 390,000 lower in July 1988. Over this 1-year period, the population of 16-to-24-year olds fell by three-quarters of a million.

Once again this summer, as has been the case in most previous summers, the labor force participation rate for young women was at a new high, rising to 72.4 percent in July. Black youths also increased their labor force activity, as their participation rate was up nearly 2.5 percentage points over the year to 68.1 percent, matching the previous high set in 1986. Participation rates for young men (82.8 percent) and for white youths (79.6 percent) edged up marginally this July relative to the year before.

Employment

Youth employment increased by 3.1 million between April and July of 1989 to a level of 22.3 million. The increase was about in line with those of recent summers.

The proportion of young people employed--69.2 percent--was 0.7 percentage point higher than previous record set last July. The employment-population ratios for young women, whites, and blacks were all at new highs. The employment ratio for blacks showed particularly strong improvement over the year--rising 3.5 percentage points to 52.6 percent. Even at this higher level, however, their ratio was still 20 points less than that for whites.

The distributions of youths in terms of the industry and class of worker (wage and salary, self-employment, etc.) of their summer jobs have shown little change in recent years. Black youths continue to be much more likely than whites to work in government jobs and are less likely to work in agriculture.

Unemployment

The number of unemployed 16-to-24 year olds was 2.7 million in July 1989, little different from July 1988.

GEORGE CLINTON

September 1st 1989 George Clinton and the P-Funk All-Stars came to town to entertain an enthusiastic audience at the Starry Night night club. Albeit the show started approximately an hour late. And the fact that volume was enough to deafen an individual temporarily. The show itself was lively entertainment indeed. George Clinton was in fine form and gave an exuberant performance. The band play such P-Funk classics such as "Flash Light", "She's A Freak" and "Atomic Dog".

For those unfamiliar with the George Clinton his influence has been reflected in such acts as Parliament, Funkadelic, and Prince. Clinton started out as a do-wop vocalist with Eddie Lyman and the Teenagers in the mid 1950's. From there he progressed through various stage acts such as Parliament and Funkadelic. Coinciding with his maturity Clinton also branched out into writing lyrics.

George Clinton appears not take himself too seriously and he gives everyone in his band a chance to showcase their respective talents.

He as popular today if not more so as he was 30 plus years ago. And though he has endured through a career that eclipses 34 years and a recent hiatus of 5 years he still retains an air of down to earth modesty and emits an ability to stay in touch with the fans who have supported him through the years.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS HOLDS MINORITY WOMEN CANDIDATE TRAINING PROGRAM

PHILIP MORRIS SPONSORS WORKSHOP

St. Paul, MN — The National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) recently conducted a Minority Women Candidate Training Program at its biennial national convention held here. The workshop, sponsored by Philip Morris Companies Inc., provides women with skills needed to seek elective offices.

More than 30 women attended the intensive two-day training session. Topics such as fund raising, developing a campaign plan and structure, improving the candidate's media performance and targeting constituency outreach were covered.

A highlight of the NWPC convention was the release of the 1989 *National Directory of Women Elected Officials*. The

directory, compiled by the NWPC and published by Philip Morris Companies Inc., was unveiled at a reception hosted by Texas State Treasurer and gubernatorial candidate Ann Richards.

The directory includes detailed biographies of women in Congress and statistical data on former Congresswomen and women who are members of state legislatures, mayors of cities with a population of more than 30,000, county officials in counties with a population of more than 300,000 and members of the Democratic and Republican national committees. The directory is available, at no charge, from Philip Morris.



IRENE NATIVIDAD, center, former chair of the National Women's Political Caucus, is congratulated by Francis D. Gomez, director of public affairs programs for Philip Morris Companies Inc., and Theodora Chann, manager of public affairs programs for Philip Morris.



ATTENDEES OF THE Minority Women Candidate Training Program included: (from left to right) Evelyn Wells, Mayor of the city of Lynwood, California; Jean L. Harris, M.D., president of Ramsey Foundation in St. Paul, Minnesota; Lupe Rivera-Eggemeyer, Court Master from El Paso, Texas, and Annie Cho, administrative assistant to California State Assemblyman Michael Roos. The program was sponsored by Philip Morris Companies Inc.

25 Years Ago Civil Rights for All Americans Became Law

On July 2, 1964 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law these simple words to enforce the Civil Rights Act:

An Act

To enforce the constitutional right to vote, to confer jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, to authorize the Attorney General to institute suits to protect constitutional rights in public facilities and public education, to extend the Commission on Civil Rights, to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that this Act may be cited as the "Civil Rights Act of 1964"

On this 25th Anniversary, let us all strive to reaffirm the spirit and the letter of the Act.



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