Characteristics of the Omaha Metro’s Black/African American Population

David J. Drozd

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Characteristics of the Omaha Metro’s Black/African American Population

CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH

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OPPD African American Network Meeting/Black History Month Event
February 20, 2020

@UNOmahacpar  #Nebraskabythenumbers

@unocpar
The Importance of Data Collection

- Information comes from resident’s responses
  - Ongoing American Community Survey (ACS)
  - Decennial Census

The 2020 Census is less than 1 month away. See cpar.unomaha.edu/2020census

Census jobs actively being hired (apply NOW!): see 2020census.gov/jobs
Initial letters sent around March 15, 2020 | Respond by internet, paper, call-in
Do what you can to promote filling out the census (and ongoing ACS)

** Decennial Census and survey response data show the trends **
The Omaha metro’s Black population is not as concentrated in North Omaha today

*Percentage of 8-county Omaha metro Black population living in zip codes 68104, 68110, 68111*

"North Omaha" and "Omaha’s Black population" are not the same thing. Now 30% live in Douglas west of 72nd and 10% in Sarpy.
For Nebraska areas, Sarpy County and especially Douglas County were fairly diverse in 1990.

Nonwhite or Latino as a percent of total population in 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Sarpy County</th>
<th>Douglas County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 9</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 19</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Ages</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 1990 Census, U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by: David Drozd
New data show each county’s diversity has doubled since 1990, with higher levels among children Nonwhite or Latino as a percent of total population in 2018

Diversity will continue increasing as today’s children age into their reproductive years.

Source: 2018 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by: David Drozd
Black higher education levels in Omaha had trailed the U.S. average but now exceed it

Bachelor’s Degree or more for the age 25+ Black population: Omaha metro vs. U.S. 2000 to present

Sources: Table P148B, 2000 Census (SF3); Table C15002B, Various American Community Surveys, all U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by: David Drozd
Black unemployment rates in Omaha had been higher than the U.S. but have fallen greatly

Unemployment rates for the age 16+ Black population: Omaha metro vs. U.S. 2000 to present
Unemployment Changes by Age for the Black Population in the Omaha Metro Area:
2005-2011 vs. 2012-2018 Annual Averages

Source: Table B23002B, Annual American Community Surveys, U.S. Census Bureau
Compiled & Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 12-6-2019

Note: Annual data by race is based on a relatively small sample and can be highly variable.
Using 7-year averages minimizes this effect and makes the data more reliable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Number of Unemployed</th>
<th>Civilian Unemployment Rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2005-11 annual average</td>
<td>2012-18 annual average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19</td>
<td>1,118</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24</td>
<td>1,024</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 54</td>
<td>2,791</td>
<td>1,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 or older</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>5,399</td>
<td>3,083</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16 to 24 | 2,142                | 1,271               | -872 | -40.7%        | 34.2               | 19.2              | -15.0 | -43.9%        |
Black labor force participation fell after the recession but is starting to rebound

Percentage of Black age 16+ population in the labor force: Omaha metro vs. U.S. 2000 to present

Sources: Table P150B, 2000 Census (SF3); Table C23002B, Various American Community Surveys, all U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by: David Drozd
Nebraskans work! On most measures of employment the state and its metros rank highly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Omaha Metro (age 16-64) Category</th>
<th>Labor participation rate</th>
<th>Rank among 100 most populated metros in that specific racial/ethnic group</th>
<th>Rate in U.S. metros</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall/all races</td>
<td>80.9%</td>
<td>4th highest/best</td>
<td>74.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>4th highest/best</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
<td>11th highest/best</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
<td>63rd highest/best</td>
<td>73.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>77.0%</td>
<td>17th highest/best</td>
<td>73.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Black inflation-adjusted "real" incomes have started rising but are not back to 2000 highs

Median incomes in 2018 dollar terms for Black households: Omaha metro vs. U.S. 2000 to present

Sources: Tables P151B and P152B, 2000 Census (SF3); Table S1903, Various American Community Surveys, all U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd
Black poverty rates in Omaha remain elevated but have dropped and are close to the U.S.

Poverty rates for the Black population: Omaha metro vs. U.S. 2000 to present

The 2005-09 data includes the 2005 figure of 40.4% which has been shown to be an outlier/bad sample.

Both of the last two years have the smallest gaps (below 2 points)

Sources: Table P159B, 2000 Census (SF3); Table S1701, Various American Community Surveys, U.S. Census Bureau;
Prepared by: David Drozd
Who has a higher poverty rate...

A Black married couple with kids

OR

A non-Hispanic White “single mom”

Omaha metro: 9% vs. 23%
...but for Black “single moms” it’s: 45%

Source: Table B17010 race series, 2014-18 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by: David Drozd
Hispanic poverty rates are higher for both major family types. How is it that Black family poverty rates are higher overall?

Answer: A higher portion of Black families are “single moms”, for whom poverty rates are much higher. The distribution matters!
There is a definite relationship between Black family types and Black poverty rates

Scatterplot of percent of Black families that are married couples vs. Black family poverty rates for the 100 metro areas with the most Black families

Note: correlation’s R-value = -0.72
The portion of Black households where one person lives alone has been rising

*U.S. and Omaha metro percentage of Black households with one resident: 2000 to present*

Stats on Omaha-area Black households living alone:
- 59% never married; 38% divorced or widowed
- 40% are age 55+ (vs. 21% for other household types)
- 21% have a disability (vs. 10%); 26% no insurance
- 34% moved to residence in last 2 years (vs. 28%)
- 31% no vehicle (vs. 11%); only 25% home owners

Sources: Table P146B, 2000 Census (SF3); Table B11001B, Various American Community Surveys: 2011-2015 ACS PUMS; all U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by: David Drozd
The Black home ownership rate has been falling nationally and locally

**U.S. and Omaha metro percent of Black households that are owned: 2000 to present**

- **Homeowner rates:**
  - 63% for married couples
  - 27% for “single moms”
  - 25% for those living alone

Sources: Table H106B, 2000 Census (SF1); Table B25003B, Various American Community Surveys; 2011-2015 ACS PUMS; all U.S. Census Bureau Prepared by: David Drozd
As the minority portion of the population rises, these types of variables are influenced, so for analyzing change over time it is important to compare the totals along with each race separately.
Nebraskans have kids!
On most measures of fertility
the state and its metros rank highly.
Note: fertility data from this survey source are prone to sampling error.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Age 15-50 fertility rate</th>
<th>Rank among 100 most populated metros in that specific racial/ethnic group</th>
<th>Rate in U.S. metros</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall/all races</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>6th highest/best</td>
<td>51.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic</td>
<td>58.2</td>
<td>7th highest/best</td>
<td>48.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>81.0</td>
<td>2nd highest/best</td>
<td>53.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>71.2</td>
<td>11th highest/best</td>
<td>51.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>13th highest/best</td>
<td>57.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Table B13002 and race series, 2014-2018
American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by David Drozd
In Review: most key stats are improving for Omaha’s Black population

Rankings for the Black/African American population in the Omaha metro area among the 100 largest metros in Black population on each metric: 2006-2010 vs. 2014-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2006-2010</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>2014-2018</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 25+ with Bachelor’s Degree+</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>53rd best</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>28th best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 16+ unemployment rate</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>82nd best</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>11th best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate for individuals</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
<td>85th best</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>63rd best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married couples as % of all families</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>85th best</td>
<td>41.5%</td>
<td>73rd best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 person living alone as % of households</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
<td>38th highest</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>16th highest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home ownership rate</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>79th best</td>
<td>33.1%*</td>
<td>86th best*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The Omaha metro Black homeownership rate in the 2017 annual data (28.3%) is an apparent outlier, being nearly 5% below the lowest value of any year between 2005 and 2016. This pulls the 2014-2018 five year estimate lower – excluding it would make the 2014-2018 value be 35.1% using a simple average, which would rank 76th best.
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Comments, Q & A

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