

SRDG

June 1976

Number 24

NEWSLETTER

The Southern Regional Demographic Group is sponsored by Oak Ridge Associated Universities.

Annual Meeting

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Southern Regional Demographic Group will be held in New Orleans at the Braniff Place Hotel (1500 Canal Street) on October 27-29 (Wednesday-Friday). The program will feature sessions of invited papers, panel discussions, contributed papers, and the annual business meeting. A cash bar is planned for the evening of the 27th, so that we can meet friends and greet new members.

An excellent program, echoing the Bicentennial Year theme, has been arranged by Robert H. Weller of Florida State University. Local arrangements are being handled by Carl L. Harter of Tulane University.

A hotel reservation form will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee met on February 1-2 in Atlanta. Convened by the chairperson of SRDG, Dudley L. Poston, Jr., the meeting covered a broad range of subjects.

Philip L. Johnson, Executive Director of Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU), described the social science activities of ORAU, which include, in addition to sponsorship of SRDG, socioeconomic research, regional analyses, and environmental impact studies. ORAU is a private, nonprofit educational and research corporation chartered in the State of Tennessee. Its 43 member colleges and universities in the South have interest and programs in basic science research at the

Call for Contributed Papers

At the upcoming SRDG Annual Meeting in New Orleans, a number of sessions are planned for contributed papers, which may be on any topic of demographic interest. Persons wishing to submit a paper for consideration should send two copies of a one-page abstract to the 1976 Program Chairman:

Dr. Robert H. Weller
Center for the Study of Population
Institute for Social Research
The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306

No author may present more than one contributed paper, although he may be co-author of another paper presented by a different author. *Abstracts received by August 1, 1976, will be considered.*

Preliminary Program, 1976 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 27

5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Registration and cash bar

Thursday, October 28

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Registration

9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Session I. Plenary session. *The South, 1776-1976*. Omer R. Galle, University of Texas.

10:45 a.m.—12:00

Session II. Contributed Papers

Session III. Graduate Education in Demography: *Are We Meeting the Needs of the Marketplace?*

12:00—1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 p.m.—2:30 p.m.

Session IV. Panel: *Applicability of Theories of Economic Development to Social and Demographic Change in The South*. Susan H. Cochrane, University of South Carolina.

Session V. Contributed Papers

2:45 p.m.—3:45 p.m.

Session VI. Panel: *Demographic Needs in Health Planning*. Harry M. Rosenberg, University of North Carolina.

Session VII. Contributed Papers

4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Session VIII. Contributed Papers

Session IX. Contributed Papers

5:15 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Cash bar

Friday, October 29

9:00 a.m.—12:00

Registration

9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Session X. Contributed Papers

Session XI. Contributed Papers

10:45 a.m.—12:00

Business Meeting. Dudley L. Poston Jr. (Chairperson, SRDG), University of Texas at Austin, presiding.

12:00—1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 p.m.—3:15 p.m.

Session XII. *Population Estimates and Projections for Small Areas*. Richard Irwin, Bureau of the Census.

Session XIII. Contributed Papers

3:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Session XIV. Closing plenary session

Demographic Research, 1976-2076: Needs and Prospects. George C. Myers, Duke University.

graduate level. In SRDG, ORAU's current role includes participation on the Executive Committee, financial support for Executive Committee meetings, printing and editorial help for the *SRDG Newsletter*, and acting as the responsible agent for the financial and legal affairs of SRDG. Johnson identified a number of SRDG opportunities for inter-university research cooperation that could be facilitated by ORAU. He suggested, for example, that SRDG may wish

to explore the relation between energy and population, an area in which the federal government is expressing considerable interest.

Poston discussed the interest of SRDG in strengthening undergraduate population education and will coordinate SRDG's efforts with those of Parker G. Marden, who is working on the undergraduate problem for the Population Association of America (PAA).

George C. Myers of Duke University dis-

cussed possible SRDG sponsorship of a demographic journal, the *Demographic Review*. With a regional focus, the *Demographic Review* would feature professional articles, material related to population education, and identification of areas of needed demographic research. Johnson agreed to explore the costs of producing the *Journal*, which, it was agreed, would require financial support through subscription by SRDG members.

The relation between SRDG and PAA was discussed by Myers, who has discussed this matter with members of the PAA Board. The PAA President, Sidney Goldstein, has asked Parker W. Mauldin to examine PAA relations with other organizations and associations. Myers was asked by the Executive Committee to continue his work on the relation between SRDG and PAA and to prepare a report for the SRDG annual meeting.

A major focus of the Executive Committee meeting was discussion of the SRDG By-Laws revision, as recommended by the By-Laws Revision Committee. Myers, who presented the recommended revisions, commended the By-Laws Revision Committee for its efforts.

Other reports presented to the Executive Committee meeting included one by Jeanne C. Biggar on SRDG concerns about plans for the 1980 Census of Population, as well as a report by Harry M. Rosenberg on the status of the SRDG Secretariat.

Attending the two-day Atlanta meeting of the SRDG Executive Committee were Jeanne C. Biggar of the University of Virginia, Philip L. Johnson of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Anne Lee of the University of Georgia, George C. Myers of Duke University, Dudley L. Poston Jr. of the University of Texas, and Harry M. Rosenberg of the University of North Carolina. The meeting is one of two annual meetings of the Executive Committee required by the current By-Laws of the Association.

By-Laws Revision

Proposed revisions of the SRDG By-Laws were presented by George C. Myers of Duke University to the February meeting of the SRDG Executive Committee. The members of the By-Laws Revision Committee, which is chaired by Myers, are William

J. Serow of the University of Virginia and David F. Sly of Florida State University. Among the proposed revisions are the following:

- o Maintaining affiliation with and sponsorship by the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). SRDG would become organizationally dis-affiliated from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, but would continue to carry relevant news of ORNL, as it does of other demographic research and training organizations in the Southeast.
- o Extending full SRDG membership to individuals and organizations outside the Southern Region.
- o Modifying officer selection, including Executive Committee appointment of the SRDG Secretary-Treasurer.
- o Election of the Executive Committee by mail ballot.

The proposed revision of the SRDG By-Laws, after incorporating changes recommended by the Executive Committee, will be submitted to the membership for consideration. The new By-Laws would be adopted by SRDG if approved by a majority vote of the membership.

1980 Census

SRDG's concerns about the 1980 Census questionnaire were transmitted to Vincent Barabba, Director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. In a letter co-signed by Jeanne C. Biggar, chairperson of the SRDG Census Committee, and by Dudley L. Poston, Jr., chairperson of SRDG, three major areas of concern were expressed:

The first emphasized the need for detailed census information for areas as small as census tracts. Should certain sample items be reduced or eliminated entirely from the 1980 questionnaire as proposed by the Bureau, detailed information for small geographic areas would no longer be available. The committee stressed that "the need for reliable small area estimates cannot be overemphasized. Information requests from policy makers and social agencies at the local level demand reliable data with which to identify problems and derive workable solutions for specific areas within urban and rural communities."

A second area identified in the letter to the Director of the Census Bureau was SRDG's reaction to the Bureau's proposal to eliminate a num-

ber of specific questions from the Census questionnaire. These include information on (1) previous occupation, (2) previous residence, (3) parents' country of birth, and (4) mother tongue. The Committee not only urged the Bureau's retention of these items, but asked that the questions be based on a 100 percent enumeration rather than on a sample of the Census. They noted that "The loss of this information for one decade would bring the analysis of occupational and geographic mobility to a standstill for most researchers in this area."

The third recommendation called for addition or modification of certain questions, specifically (1) addition of previous year's residence, (2) expansion of ethnic categories for persons of Spanish heritage, (3) addition of county of birth, and (4) change of the household concept. The committee noted that addition of county of birth would facilitate understanding migration flows from such areas as Appalachia. Changes suggested for the household concept would permit identification of non-resident IRS dependents; that is, persons "who are either partly or fully supported by the income of the household," but who do not live there.

Other members of the 1980 Census Review Committee are Everett S. Lee of the University of Georgia, Joel Smith of Duke University, and Thomas Evans of the State of South Carolina.

SRDG Demographic Survey

Results of an SRDG-sponsored survey of demographic activities in the South were presented at the 1976 meeting of the Population Association of America in Montreal. The survey by Harry M. Rosenberg of the University of North Carolina and George C. Myers of Duke University examined the nature of demographic work done by state governments in the 16 Southern states and the District of Columbia.

The survey revealed that in every state government in the Southern Region one can identify at least one 'state demographic center,' which is a repository of census information and a central source of demographic expertise for other state agencies. In the South, about half of the state

demographic centers are found in state agencies and half are in state universities. All are supported mainly from state revenues, rather than from Federal grants.

Rosenberg and Myers also examined the nature of technical assistance provided, research undertaken, personnel characteristics, budgets, and inter-governmental relations. Their analysis showed the important role in strengthening state demographic capabilities played by the U.S. Bureau of the Census through its Federal-State Cooperative Program for Local Population Estimates.

Results of the SRDG survey have been presented in seminars at the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the National Center for Health Statistics. Other presentations are planned for the 1976 annual meetings of the American Statistical Association and the American Public Health Association.

An Invitation to Membership

The Southern Regional Demographic Group (SRDG) is an organization of university faculty and other specialists in demography and related fields. It was organized in 1970 under the auspices of Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). Members of SRDG are interested in promoting demographic research and training. To be a voting member, one must reside in the Southern region, which is defined as states or territories with at least one ORAU sponsoring institution. Associate membership is available for those outside the region. Application to become a member or associate member is made by sending a letter to the secretary, Southern Regional Demographic Group, c/o Carolina Population Center, University Square, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 (Attention: Dr. Harry M. Rosenberg). There currently are no dues or membership fees; members receive the *Newsletter*, as well as notification of the SRDG annual meeting and other conferences, seminars and workshops.

NEWS ITEMS

Mid-Decade Census Bill

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 11337 on April 7, 1976. It provides for a Mid-decade Census of Population beginning in 1985, and it also strengthens the confidentiality of census records.

However, the proposed legislation has raised serious questions among many concerned with the quality of demographic information in the United States. Speaking at the open business session of the recent Population Association of America annual meeting, Conrad Taeuber, Director of the Center for Population Research at the Georgetown University, indicated that the present bill removes the fine for refusal to respond to census questions, *thus making the censuses voluntary*.

According to a recent legislative report prepared by the Federal Statistics Users' Conference, the effect of the present bill on all censuses—mid-decade and decennial—would be to "make the task of conducting a good and complete census impossible." That report states that the bill is *unacceptable* to the Census Bureau, unless provisions making responses to the Census mandatory are restored.

Interested persons should contact their senators or representatives as soon as possible stating their views, so that viewpoints will be received prior to the Senate vote. Copies of the bill and other information may be obtained by writing to the Subcommittee on Census and Population of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, 601 House Office Bldg. Annex, Washington, D.C. 20515, or by calling the subcommittee staff at (202) 225-6741.

Demographic Centers in the South: Johns Hopkins University

This is the second in a series of featured reports on demographic training and research centers in the South. The previous issue of the Newsletter described the Center for Demographic Studies at Duke University.

The program in population studies at Johns Hopkins is a cooperative endeavor of several university departments. It covers studies in demography, family planning administration and reproductive biology. Instruction in demography is centered in the Department of Population Dynamics of the School of Hygiene and Public Health. Degree students in demography are expected to prepare themselves in cognate areas such as sociology, economics or biostatistics. This requirement is facilitated by close contacts among the relevant departments.

Research in population is fostered by the Hopkins Population Center. The Center, a university-wide organization, provides special library and archival services, computational assistance and mathematical and statistical consultation. Dr. W. H. Mosley is director of the Center, as well as chairman of the Department of Population Dynamics.

The Hopkins faculty most directly concerned with graduate training in demography include:

W. H. Mosley (epidemiologist), Helen Abbey (statistician), John F. Kantner (sociologist), Young Kim (statistician), Rowland Rider (statistician), Ismail Sirageldin (economist), Zenas Sykes (statistician), Lois Vergrugge (sociologist), and Melvin Zelnik (sociologist).

Further information about the program is available from the Department of Population Dynamics, Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, 615 N. Wolfe, Baltimore, Md. 21205.

Southern Growth Policies Board (SGPB)

SGPB is a public, interstate agency governed and supported by the following state governments: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Board works with organizations and governments in these states to facilitate developing ways to manage urban growth and rural change.

A newsletter called *Southern Growth: Problems and Promise* is available on request from William L. Bowden, Executive Director, SGPB, Box 12293, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709.

Recognition of the need for social statistical indicators to complement the numerous quantitative indices of economic status and performance led to the creation of the Center for Coordination of Research on Social Indicators as a branch of the Social Science Research Council. The center can be a useful statistical resource to those engaged in social research of the Southern Region.

The center publishes *Social Indicators Newsletter*, distributed free on request. It also maintains a research library and facilitates standardization and coordination of social indicators work. Supported with a grant from the National Science Foundation, the center has also published a number of reports of interest to regional scientists and administrators in the South.

The Center for Coordination of Research on Social Indicators is located at 1755 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Robert Parke is the director.

Federal Statistics Users' Conference

Reports and conferences sponsored by the Federal Statistics Users' Conference (FSUC) may be among the best single sources of statistical information in the United States. SRDG members should be aware of the organization and its resources for research and planning in the South, and they are encouraged to become members as well.

FSUC was founded in 1953 to improve the quality and the effectiveness of federal statistics through publications, newsletters, and conferences. These are directed toward the interests of demographers, economists, and other social scientists, as well as to persons engaged in corporate planning, in government planning and administration, and in university research.

Institutional membership is \$225 annually. For nonmembers, the valuable *FSUC Newsletter* is available at an annual subscription fee of \$25. Additional information about the Federal Statistics Users' Conference is available from John H. Aiken, Executive Director, FSUC, 1523 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

Survey Methods Information

The Census Bureau now offers a research system to collect, analyze, store and retrieve published and unpublished material about survey research. The Survey Methodology Information Systems (SMIS) has been established to support bureau programs related to survey research and applications. Topics included within the system include Survey Design, Survey Personnel Training, Procedures for Interviewing and Coding, Validation, Evaluation, Data Collection Instruments, Bibliographies, and Indices to the Survey Research Literature. Further information about SMIS is available from the Statistical Research Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

Poverty Data For States and Local Areas, 1959 and 1969

The Census Bureau has issued a census supplementary report presenting selected data on the financial status of persons and families in the U.S. and for each state, county, SMSA, and the central city of large SMSA's. The report presents frequently requested data as well as unpublished 1970 census information on school-age children and the elderly poor. The report is available as PC(S1)-105, 1970 Census of Population Supplementary Report from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, D.C. 20402, for \$2.20.

Detailed Racial Data For Counties

Detailed information on the ethnic composition of U.S. counties from the 1970 Census is available by county. Racial classifications include American Indian, Black, Chinese, Filipino and Japanese. For selected states information is also available on the Hawaiian, Korean, Aleut and Eskimo populations. The report is available as No. C3.223/12:970/PC (S1)-104 from the U.S.GPO for \$1.70.



State Demographers in the South

Each state in the South has at least one person in the state agency or a state university who is a key contact point for state demographic information, for publications, and for technical assistance. These persons are also the key technical personnel at the state level who work with the Census Bureau's Federal-State Cooperative Program for Local Population Estimates. They are identified below, by state:

ALABAMA

Ms. Carolyn Sawyer
Center for Business and Economic Research
University of Alabama
P. O. Box AK
University, Alabama 35486

Mr. R. C. Bamberg
Director
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508 State Office Building
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

ARKANSAS

Dr. Forrest Pollard
Head of Population and Manpower Studies
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P. O. Box 3017
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

DELAWARE

Ms. Hellen Gelof
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Thomas Collins Building
530 South Dupont Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. Gangu Ahuja
Office of Planning and Management
Executive Office of the Mayor
Room 113—District Building
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Washington, D.C. 20004

FLORIDA

Dr. Madelyn Lockhart
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Gainesville, Florida 32611

GEORGIA

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Dr. Michael Spar
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Alta Vista Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40205

LOUISIANA

Ms. Barbara Denton
Research Division
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Mr. Luther Frantz, Jr.
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O'Connor Building
201 West Preston Street
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Columbia, South Carolina 29211

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Mr. John Perrin
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Taylor Murphy Institute
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P. O. Box 3430
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

WEST VIRGINIA

Dr. Leonard Sizer
Office of Research and Development
Center for Continuing Education
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505

PUBLICATIONS

Demographic Reports From the State of Alabama, 1970-1975

This is the first report on state-sponsored demographic publications, based on the recent SRDG survey. Subsequent issues of the *Newsletter* will cover other states in the Southern Region.

—A Comparison of Selected Aspects of Poverty in Alabama, the South, and the Nation.

—An Evaluation of Population Estimating Activity in Alabama.

—Socio-economic Characteristics of Alabama Migrants.

Copies of these reports are available from R. C. Bamberg, Director, Alabama Development Office, 508 State Office Building, Montgomery, Alabama 36104.

Demographic Reports From the State of Arkansas, 1970-1975

—A Changing Arkansas as Reflected by Population and Related Data, 1960-1970.

—Arkansas Population Projections, by County, 1970-1980.

—Arkansas Population Migration Estimates, 1960-1970: A Demographic Review of a Changing Population.

Copies of these reports are available from Dr. Forrest Pollard, Head of Population and Manpower Studies, Industrial Research and Extension Center, University of Arkansas, P. O. Box 3017, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

County Migration Patterns

A major report on county migration has just been issued by the Department of Agriculture, the University of Georgia, and the National Science Foundation. *Estimates of Net Migration, 1960-1970, by Age, Sex, and Color*, which was co-authored by Gladys K. Bowles, Calvin L. Beale, and Everett S. Lee, is available in six parts

organized by region—Northeast, North Central, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, and West. Copies may be obtained from the Population Studies Group, Economic Development Division, Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Specify which regional volume you wish to receive.

Economy of the South

A report on *The Economy of the South, 1970-1975; An Analysis of Regional Economic Growth* has just been released by the Southern Growth Policies Board (SGPB). The report is particularly interesting because it compares recent economic performance in this Region with other regions in the U.S. The report is available, on request, from William L. Bowden, Executive Director, SGPB, P. O. Box 12293, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709.

Manpower Report

A report on manpower, prepared for the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), was recently issued by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). The report, entitled *An*

Overview of Manpower Data on Scientists, Engineers and Technicians: Sources, Summary and Recommendations, was prepared by Gary H. deMik and Beve Lea Michaels. Containing an analysis of recurring technical and scientific manpower data, the report includes abstracts of about 60 source documents and an occupation document matrix that enables readers to determine the kinds of data available for selected occupations. Copies of the 70-page report are available on request from the Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Manpower Development Division, P. O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830.

Questions about subscriptions or membership in the Southern Regional Demographic Group should be addressed to Dr. Harry M. Rosenberg, Editor, SRDG Newsletter, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina, University Square East, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 (919-966-2155).

North Carolina Population Trends

(Erratum) For the three volumes comprising the publication *North Carolina Population Trends* noted in the previous issue of the *SRDG Newsletter*, credit should have been given to the author, C. Horace Hamilton.

DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH IN THE SOUTH

Questionnaire

We would like to have information on demographic research in which you and your colleagues are involved. This information will be carried in future issues of the *Newsletter*, as part of SRDG's goal to provide a communications vehicle for exchanging demographic information about the South.

Describe briefly the research on population under way, recently completed, or to begin soon at your institution. We have a particular interest in research on the South. The following information would be useful: principal institution where research is being conducted, data files used, description of the study, sources of support, when the study began, and when it is to end.

SRDG NEWSLETTER

Oak Ridge Associated Universities

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