

**The Shifting Patterns of Black Migration From and Into the Nonmetropolitan South, 1965-95.** By Glenn V. Fuguitt and John A. Fulton, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Calvin L. Beale, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Rural Development Research Report No. 93.

## **Abstract**

In the period 1965-95, Black migration from the nonmetropolitan (rural and small-town) South to places in the North and West declined significantly, shifting instead mostly to the metropolitan South. This outmovement, in turn, became offset by migration of Blacks into (or back to) rural districts from metropolitan areas. Net population loss is still evident in areas of the western nonmetropolitan South that have significant proportions of Blacks, but not in the eastern South. Migration lowered the education level of the nonmetropolitan Black population somewhat by a net loss of college graduates and a net inflow of persons who had not finished high school. Poverty rates of Blacks coming into the nonmetropolitan South were as high as those of the nonmigrant population, indicating no general income benefit from the urban inflow.

**Keywords:** Black migration, nonmetropolitan population, rural South, education, poverty

## **Acknowledgments**

Support for this research was provided through a cooperative agreement between the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the Food and Rural Economics Division, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and also by the Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, through a grant from the Center for Population Research of the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development. The authors are grateful to Kathleen Kassel of the Economic Research Service and Deborah Brauer of the University of Wisconsin-Madison for technical assistance, as well as to John Cromartie and Leslie Whitener of the Economic Research Service and Franklin Wilson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison for helpful comments on the manuscript.