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OCCUPATIONAL STATUS ORIENTATIONS OF RURAL YOUTH--STRUCTURED  
ANNOTATIONS AND EVALUATIONS OF THE RESEARCH LITERATURE.

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PRESENTED ARE ABSTRACTS AND EVALUATIVE COMMENTARIES OF  
47 PUBLISHED, EMPIRICAL RESEARCH FINDINGS ON OCCUPATIONAL  
STATUS ORIENTATIONS OF RURAL YOUTH. THE ANNOTATIONS ARE  
LIMITED TO ONLY THOSE ASPECTS OF THE FINDINGS BEARING  
DIRECTLY ON OCCUPATIONAL ASPIRATION, OCCUPATIONAL  
EXPECTATION, AND ANTICIPATORY DEFLECTION FROM OCCUPATIONAL  
GOALS. EACH ARTICLE IS LISTED WITH COMPLETE BIBLIOGRAPHIC  
CITATION, LOCATION AND DATES OF THE STUDY REPORTED,  
DESCRIPTIONS OF RESPONDENTS, RELEVANCE TO AN EXAMINATION OF  
OCCUPATIONAL STATUS ORIENTATION ELEMENTS, RESULTS OF THE  
FINDINGS, AND REMARKS FOCUSING ON METHODS AND SIGNIFICANCE OF  
THE STUDY. (SF)

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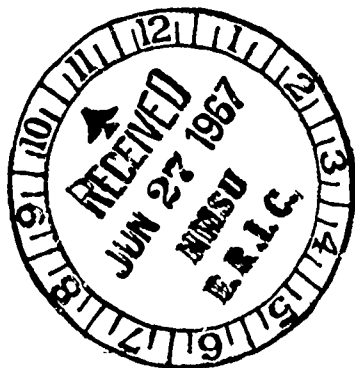
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**Occupational Status  
Orientations of Rural Youth:  
Structured Annotations and Evaluations  
of the Research Literature**



Department of Agricultural Economics and Sociology

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY / TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION / R. E. Patterson, Director, College Station, Texas

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OCCUPATIONAL STATUS ORIENTATIONS OF RURAL  
YOUTH: STRUCTURED ANNOTATIONS AND  
EVALUATIONS OF THE RESEARCH LITERATURE

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September, 1966

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Although there is widespread recognition of the need for codification and synthesis of findings in the social sciences, support for the considerable investment of time and money required is often difficult to find. Consequently, particular recognition is due the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station--particularly to Associate Director, Dr. H. O. Kunkel--for providing the support which made this effort possible.\* A number of fellow researchers across the country have given us encouragement and useful assistance in locating and obtaining relevant materials for this report and similar ones to follow. Although it would be impossible to acknowledge all of these men, several are due special recognition. Among these are Lawrence Drabick, Walter Slocum, Archie Haller, Robert Ellis, David Gottlieb, Donald E. Super, Richard Rehberg, William W. Cooley, David V. Tiedeman, and Kenneth Feldman.

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## INTRODUCTION

American youth are future oriented. Much of their normal daily existence is spent in thinking about and preparing for future adult roles.<sup>1</sup> The attainment of a job is of particular importance as an object of orientations, for it will have an important influence on the attainment of other status goals, social rank, and the over-all life satisfaction the individual will experience.<sup>2</sup> Future-oriented behavior toward occupations was of little concern in most societies in times past--for the most part an individual inherited his job as an ascribed feature of his family rank in the community. But in contemporary American society, a great amount of freedom is granted the individual in finding his way through a maze of job possibilities. The type of employment finally obtained is thought to be importantly

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<sup>1</sup>Ralph Turner has documented the "future-oriented" behavior of youth in a recent book, The Social Context of Ambition: A Study of High School Seniors in Los Angeles, San Francisco: Chandler Publishing Company, 1964, Chapters 1 and 8.

<sup>2</sup>For statements on the prime importance of the occupational role see, among others, Joseph A. Kahl, The American Class Structure, New York: Rinehart and Company, Inc., 1953, Chapter 4 and Seymour Lipset and Reinhard Bendix, Social Mobility in Industrial Society, Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1962, p. 97 and p. 228.

influenced by the motivation and direction provided by occupational aspirations, expectations, and interests formed in adolescence.<sup>3</sup>

These phenomena are thought to be particularly critical for the occupational attainment of rural youth, especially those that migrate to urban centers. It is thought that low level occupational aspirations explain to some extent the disadvantaged position of rural migrants in the urban occupational structure.<sup>4</sup> The importance attributed to the occupational orientations of youth as an explanatory variable for subsequent status attainment is evidenced by the extensive research literature on this subject and the increasing amount of attention being currently given to the study of these phenomena.

Several attempts have been made to develop partial theories of the occupational choice process; however, these are often superficial, extremely limited, lacking in empirical verification, or

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<sup>3</sup>Although only a few studies on the relationship of orientations to attainment have been reported, these demonstrate some measure of positive association: R. J. Porter, "Predicting Vocational Plans of High School Senior Boys," Personnel and Guidance Journal, 33 (December, 1954); A. O. Haller and I. W. Miller, The Occupational Aspiration Scale: Theory, Structure, and Correlates, East Lansing: Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, Technical Bulletin 695, June, 1962, pp. 34-38; and Vernon A. Kohout and John W. M. Rothney, "A Longitudinal Study of Consistency of Vocational Preference," American Educational Research Journal, (January, 1964), pp. 10-21.

<sup>4</sup>For a discussion of this proposition and a review of relevant research see, William H. Sewell and Alan M. Orenstein, "Community of Residence and Occupational Choice," American Journal of Sociology, 70 (March, 1965), pp. 551-563.

have some combination of all three of these weaknesses.<sup>5</sup> In evaluating the status of this problem area in a recent publication, Haller and Miller state, "We do not have a valid theory to explain and predict exactly what occupation a person will enter; we may never have."<sup>6</sup> While we are not nearly as pessimistic about this possibility as Haller and Miller, it is obvious that there is not a valid theory for either the development of occupational orientations or their significance for subsequent behavior. Perhaps, one of the reasons for this state of affairs is that little has been done to develop the accumulative power inherent in the mass of findings that already exist on occupational aspirations and expectations of youth. An inspection of any research report in this problem area reveals that much of the work done by one professional grouping goes unrecognized by investigators in other disciplines, and, what is worse, investigators in the same discipline often ignore each other's work. There is a definite need for attempts toward codification and synthesis of existing findings in this problem area. Such inductive efforts would contribute to the development of high level generalizations and conceptual frameworks for guiding the development of more efficient research programs. These achievements would contribute toward escalating

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<sup>5</sup>For examples of such "theories" see the following: Lee G. Burchinal, Career Choices of Rural Youth in a Changing Society, Minneapolis: Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, N.C.R.P. 142, 1962; Eli Ginzberg, et. al., Occupational Choice: An Approach to a General Theory, New York: Columbia University Press, 1951; and Peter Blau, et. al., "Occupational Choice: A Conceptual Framework," Industrial and Labor Relations Review, 9 (July, 1955).

<sup>6</sup>Haller and Miller, op. cit., p. 5.



the potential accumulative power of our research, and, eventually the development of useful and valid theories.

We have been attempting, through the support of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, to facilitate and stimulate action toward this end by developing relatively complete and comprehensive listings of research literature on status orientations of youth.<sup>7</sup> This report represents the first of a series of efforts in the logical second stage of our inductively oriented program of work--structured annotations of research reports involving the study of occupational status orientations.<sup>8</sup>

The abstracts to be presented are deemed useful in and of themselves--in pointing out areas of conflicting findings, indicating unresearched problems, pointing out weakness in methods, in making explicit points of conceptual confusion and ambiguity, and in demonstrating areas of agreement in past findings. At the same time, the annotations can serve as starting points in selectively grouping available research around specific problem contexts for the purpose

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<sup>7</sup>We have developed listings for occupational and educational orientations and are now in the process of completing one on other status orientations. Copies of these efforts are available on request.

<sup>8</sup>In addition to this report, we are currently developing annotations of research on females and Negro youth. For an example of similar efforts focusing on family variables associated with the occupational attainment process see. Jacobsen, et. al., The Family and Occupational Choice: An Annotated Bibliography, Eugene, Oregon: University of Oregon, Center for Research for Occupational Planning, 1966.

of more thorough and detailed comparative analysis of the original reports.<sup>9</sup> In order to facilitate this kind of effort, we have provided a section, CONTENT KEY OF ANNOTATIONS, to guide the reader in following his particular interests.

#### Selection of Research Reports

This report is limited to the research literature existing on occupational status orientations of rural youth. Our objective is to present a set of rather detailed structured abstracts of research reports in this area and to give short evaluative commentaries of them.

The annotations reported here are limited in scope by several other decisions pertaining to selection of reports. In the first place, the set of annotations reported here is limited to published reports of empirical research. Obviously, a number of unpublished papers and theses exist and are excluded. In addition, reports concerned with theory, conceptualization, secondary reports of findings, and action implications were not considered. We have included a listing of materials relevant to our focus, which we are aware of but did not annotate, in the last section of the report.

A total of forty-seven different reports of empirical research were annotated. The reports were obtained from nine different professional journals, eighteen state Experiment Station publications,

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<sup>9</sup>As an example of a limited beginning in this direction, see Murray A. Straus, "Societal Needs and Personal Characteristics in the Choice of Farm, Blue Collar and White Collar Occupations by Farmers' Sons"--annotated on page 22 of this report.

and nine bulletins and reports originating from a variety of other agencies. The diversity of population involved in these selected studies is indicated by the fact that they were done in eighteen different states, representing almost every region of the United States, and in Canada. The studies encompass a historical period ranging from 1927 to 1966. This diversity in time and space obviously provides a potential for the development of rather broad empirical generalizations.

#### Analytical Focus

The annotations presented here do not always reflect all research findings reported in each article considered or, even, the primary purpose of the report. Our focus was selective--limited to abstracting only those aspects of reported findings or data bearing directly on occupational status orientations (aspirations and expectations). Obviously, such a selective focus requires a guiding framework that directs attention, and gives importance, to particular elements. At this point it would be useful to briefly describe the conceptual tools we used in this regard and to explicitly define the key terminology involved.

In orienting themselves to potential or probable future roles, people visualize themselves as filling locational positions in a number of status areas. These projections we are labeling status

orientations.<sup>10</sup> Status orientations obviously can be differentiated on the basis of the status area involved--occupation, residence, education, etc. Those directed toward holding particular jobs at some time in the future are termed occupational status orientations.<sup>11</sup>

It should be pointed out that the term status, as used here, refers to a locational position and not to social rank or occupational prestige.

Occupational status orientations are composed of two major analytical elements that can vary independently of each other--the status element and the orientation element, i.e., the nature of the orientation toward the status projected.<sup>12</sup> Two major types of occupational status orientations can be differentiated on the basis of the nature of orientation involved.<sup>13</sup> If the orientation consists of a desire

<sup>10</sup>The term status orientation represents an idea developed by the senior author of this report in a previous paper. "The Socio-Psychological Dimensions of Occupational Mobility." Paper presented at the National Vocational-Technical Education Seminar on Occupational Mobility and Migration, North Carolina State University at Raleigh, April, 1966.

<sup>11</sup>Preferences that do not directly relate to particular locational positions in the occupational structure are not considered status orientations. Examples of these are "working with people," "working outdoors," and "have a chance to travel." We prefer to refer to these orientations as "job preferences" to draw a clear distinction between them and the idea of status orientation. It should be noted that these phenomena have also been labeled "job values" in the literature.

<sup>12</sup>For a thorough discussion of this topic see William P. Kuvlesky and Robert C. Bealer, "A Clarification of the Concept 'Occupational Choice,'" Rural Sociology, 31 (September, 1966), pp. 265-276.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., p. 270.

to hold a particular status, the status orientation is called an occupational aspiration. On the other hand, if the orientation refers to anticipation of attainment--whether or not the attainment is desired--the status orientation is called an occupational expectation. Past research has clearly demonstrated that many youth can and do differentiate between these two ideas.<sup>14</sup> Furthermore, it has been empirically demonstrated that these phenomena are related in different ways to other important social and psychological variables.<sup>15</sup> However, this distinction is often not explicitly made or clearly and consistently maintained in research. As a consequence, one of our prime objectives was to determine whether instruments used in the reported research indicated occupational aspirations or expectations as we have defined these terms.

Most past research on occupational status orientations of youth have focused on discovering variables that influence variability in the status element. The projected statuses are commonly viewed in terms of a rank hierarchy of possible attainment.<sup>16</sup> Variation in

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<sup>14</sup>Ibid., pp. 273-276.

<sup>15</sup>Socio-economic class and rural-urban residence are prime examples in this respect. For an example of the differential influence of social class see Richard M. Stephenson, "Mobility Orientation and Stratification of 1,000 Ninth Graders," American Sociological Review, 22 (April, 1957), pp. 204-212. For an example of place of residence differentials see William P. Kuvlesky and George W. Ohlendorf, "Occupational Status Orientations of Negro Boys: A Rural-Urban Comparison." Paper presented at the annual Rural Sociological Society Meetings, Miami Beach, August, 1966.

<sup>16</sup>Haller and Miller, op. cit.

the orientation elements--i.e., degree of desire in reference to aspiration and degree of certainty in reference to expectation--has been ignored in past research for the most part.<sup>17</sup> Consequently, in these annotations we place particular emphasis in pointing out studies that have attempted to examine the orientation elements of both aspirations and expectations.

Increasingly, attention is being focused on the association of occupational aspirations to expectations. Most of this research has treated these as separate variables. However, we have recently suggested that this interrelationship could be viewed as an analytically separable element of occupational status orientation. When the status elements of aspirations and expectations are incongruent, we refer to this relational dimension as anticipatory deflection.<sup>18</sup>

In summary, our specific focus in selectively abstracting research reports revolved around the key ideas of occupational aspiration, occupational expectation, and anticipatory deflection from occupational goals. We pay particular attention to noting relationships reported between other variables and each of these three elements. In most cases, the status orientation variables are explicitly treated by researchers as dependent variables; however, in a few cases they have been utilized as dependent variables.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup>For a discussion of the paucity of such research and its significance see Kuvlesky and Bealer, op. cit., pp. 271-273.

<sup>18</sup>For the development of this idea see Kuvlesky and Ohlendorf, op. cit.

<sup>19</sup>For examples of studies using status orientations as independent variables see the annotations on page 24, page 37, page 39, and page 42 of this report.

### Content of Critical Abstracts

Each article is systematically annotated in reference to several categories of information given in the order that follows:

1. Complete bibliographic citation of the report.
2. Location and date of the study reported.
3. **RESPONDENTS:** Number and general characteristics of respondents, including sex, age, place of residence, and other descriptions when given. Also, a brief statement is given on methods used to select respondents.
4. **OBJECTIVES:** A statement of the relevance of the study to an examination of occupational status orientation elements.
5. **RESULTS:** A selective abstract of significant findings and conclusions pertaining to occupational status orientations. Included, in some cases, are important observations that could be derived from the data presented but which were not explicitly reported as findings.
6. **REMARKS:** A critical commentary on the report, focusing on methods used to indicate and measure orientation elements and an evaluation of the special significance, if any, of the findings.

Symbols are used in the annotations to indicate respondent characteristics. The meaning of these are deemed to be self-evident in reference to sex (M,F) and color or race (W,NW). In reference to place of residence the following symbols are used: R = rural, U = urban; also, the symbol NM was used for nonmetropolitan area. Age is either indicated in years or, more commonly, by school grade. The terms freshmen, seniors, etc. refer to high school grades.

### Organization of the Report

The annotations are grouped into several major sections on the basis of place of residence criteria as follows:

- (A) FARM YOUTH: includes all studies concerned solely with rural farm youth.
- (B) FARM-NONFARM COMPARISONS: includes all studies giving farm-nonfarm comparisons. In some cases the nonfarm grouping is rural and in others it is either a combination of rural and urban or only urban.
- (C) RURAL YOUTH: includes studies that indicate a focus on rural youth but do not treat farm-reared youth as a separate category. A number of studies in this section involve aggregate descriptions of youth from rural, collective units--schools, counties, or areas.
- (D) RURAL-URBAN COMPARISONS: includes all studies giving a comparison of rural and urban youth, except for farm-nonfarm comparisons (these were placed in (B) above).
- (E) RURAL ADULTS: includes the few studies that have been done on occupational status orientations of rural adults.

In addition to the annotations, the last section of the report presents a listing of other relevant materials that were not annotated.

To facilitate selective use of the annotations we have provided an author index of studies considered and, also, indexed the annotations by key characteristics of respondents involved and variables used.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>18</sup>The Author Index is located in the Appendix.  
The Content Index immediately follows this section.



## CONTENT INDEX OF ANNOTATIONS

In order to facilitate selective use of this bibliography, we have developed this itemized guide to the annotations. We have included in this index key - date and place of study, the occupational orientation elements or elements considered, and indication of any additional variables utilized.

Under the heading, "Status Orientations," columns exist to indicate whether aspiration (A), expectation (E), or anticipatory deflection (AD) were examined. A question mark in one of these columns indicates some doubt on our part about the meaning of the orientation indicator used.

We have grouped the commonly used additional variables under several general headings as follows: psychological (Psy), socio-economic status (SES), familial considerations (Fam), "Sex," Race, School and Academic (Sch), and a residual class labeled "Other." Terminal dates of longitudinal studies are given in this last column.

Entries in the "Psy" column include such psychological and/or social-psychological variables as intelligence, value orientations, and other status aspirations. Among the socio-economic status variables included in the "SES" category are father's occupation, level of living (LOL), and family income. Familial variables are indicated in the "Fam" column and include such items as parental influence, number of siblings, marital status of parents, and birth order. Variables mentioned in the "Other" category are those considered essential to the results reported but not classifiable under other headings.

CONTENT INDEX

Index No.	Page No.	Date	Place	Status Orientations			Additional Variables Considered												
				A	E	AD	Psy	SES	Fam	M	F	SEX	RACE	Sch	Other				
A-1	18	1957	Mich.	?	?		X		X		X								
A-2	19	1957	Mich.	?	?		X		X		X								
A-3	20	1959	Iowa	X	X		X		X		X								
A-4	21	1954	Wash.	X			X		X		X								Physical ability
A-5	22	1959	Wisc.	X			X		X		X								Occupational information
B-1	24	1947	Pa.	X							X								Subsequent education (1957)
B-2	25	1957	Iowa		X				X		X								
B-3	26	1958	Mich.			X					X								
B-4	27	1947	Wisc.		X				X		X								
B-5	28	1962	Ill.	X			X		X		X								
B-6	29	1962	Ill.	X			X		X		X								
B-7	30	1956	Tex.	X							X								
B-8	31	1959	Ky.	X	X						X								

CONTENT INDEX (Cont.)

Index No.	Page No.	Date	Place	Status Orientations			Additional Variables Considered													
				A	E	AD	Psy	SES	Fam	M	F	SEX	W	NW	Sch.	Other				
B-9	32	1954	Wash.			X		X				X								
B-10	33	1952	Wash.			X														Educational attainment
B-11	34	1959	N.C.			X		X			X									
B-12	35	?	Mich.		X						X									
C-1	37	1929	Pa.	X						X										Occupational attainment (1943)
C-2	38	1959	La.	X						X										
C-3	39	1960	Utah	X	X					X										Subsequent behavior (1961)
C-4	40	1960	Utah	X	X					X										
C-5	41	1963	N.C.	X	X				X					X						
C-6	42	1947	Pa.	X						X										Occupational attainment (1957)
C-7	43	1963	N.C.		X					X										
C-8	44	1957	Tex.	X	X					X										
C-9	45	1963	N.C.			X			X											



CONTENT INDEX (Cont.)

Index No.	Page No.	Date	Place	Status Orientations			Additional Variables Considered										
				A	E	AD	Psy	SES	Fam	M	F	W	NW	Sch	Other		
C-10	46	?	Colo.	X	X		X	X			X						Age
C-11	47	1959	Ky.	X	X		X	X			X						
C-12	48	1958	N.Y.	X	X		X	X									
C-13	49	1961	Can.			X				X							
C-14	50	1961	Calif.		X			X		X					X		
C-15	51	?	Md.	X			X	X		X				X			
C-16	52	1957	Ky.			X		X		X					X		
C-17	53	1962	Fla.	X						X				X			
D-1	55	1957	Wash.			X		X		X							
D-2	56	?	Fla.		X		X	X		X				X			
D-3	57	1966	Tex.			X		X		X					X		
D-4	58	1954	Fla.		X		X	X		X				X			

CONTENT INDEX (Cont.)

Index No.	Page No.	Date	Place	Status Orientations				Additional Variables Considered										
				A	E	AD	Psy	SES	Fam	M	F	SEX	W	NW	Sch	Other		
D-5	59	?	Md.	?	?		X	X			X						X	
D-6	60	1953	Ga.			X		X			X						X	
D-7	61	?	Tenn.	X			X	X			X							
D-8	62	1957	Wisc.		X		X	X			X							
D-9	63	1964	Can.	?	?			X		X								
D-10	64	?	Mich.	X	X			X		X								
E-1	66	1957	Pa.	X			X											
E-2	67	1961	South	X	X						X						X	
E-3	68	1960	Ky.	X							X							

Status attainment



## ANNOTATIONS AND EVALUATIONS

### PART A: FARM YOUTH

This section contains the annotations of five studies from four states, concerned solely with rural-farm youth. All of the studies involve farm-reared boys in late adolescence and were made between 1954 and 1959. Each of the studies attempts to determine differences between farm boys planning to farm and those intending to attain some other type of employment.

A-1

Haller, A. O. "Planning to Farm: A Social Psychological Interpretation," Social Forces, 37 (March, 1959), pp. 263-268.

MICHIGAN: Lenawee County (1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 109

Sex: M

Age: 17

Residence: Farm

Selection: All 17 year old farm boys in school.

OBJECTIVES: To ascertain whether or not farm-reared boys planning not to farm tend to have attitudes, values, and characteristics which would facilitate success in nonfarm occupations.

RESULTS: Farm-reared boys not planning to farm had significantly higher occupational aspirations, demonstrated more flexibility in their job aspirations, and valued change more highly than boys intending to farm. Intelligence and desire to stay in the community of origin were not associated with farm, nonfarm choice.

Parents of those planning nonfarm jobs had higher aspirations for their sons than parents of farm-plan boys.

REMARKS: Level of occupational aspiration was measured using the author's "OAS" instrument. This device includes indicators of both aspiration and expectation. The combination of these two ideas into a single index score precludes comparison with other studies focusing on these ideas separately.

Occupational flexibility was measured using responses to an open-end question regarding occupational "choice" (aspirations) and a question pertaining to certainty of choice. The use of this idea is relatively unique; however, the concept is not adequately developed.

A-2

Haller, A. O. "The Occupational Achievement Process of Farm-Reared Youth in Urban-Industrial Society," Rural Sociology, 25 (September, 1960), pp. 321-333.

MICHIGAN: Lenawee County (1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 109

Sex: M

Age: 17

Residence: Farm

Selection: All 17 year old farm boys in school.

OBJECTIVES: To explore differences between farm-reared boys who plan to farm and those who do not in reference to parents' aspirations for respondents, educational aspirations of respondents, and selected personal characteristics.

RESULTS: Boys planning to farm tended to have lower levels of educational and occupational aspirations and to be more firmly committed to their occupational choice than those not planning to farm. Also, they tended to lack ego strength, to be emotionally unstable, to be withdrawn or timid, and to view change as undesirable to a greater extent than those with nonfarm plans.

Socio-economic status of family, father's occupational prestige status, and tenure status of the family farm were found to be unrelated to plans to farm. These findings appear to contradict those reported by Kaldor, et. al. (see page 20) and Straus (see page 21).

Parents of boys planning to farm have lower educational and occupational aspirations for their sons than parents of those not planning to farm.

REMARKS: See Haller, page 18 of this report.



A-3

Kaldor, D. R.; E. Eldridge; L. G. Burchinal; and I. W. Arthur. Occupational Plans of Iowa Farm Boys. Ames: Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 508, September, 1962.

IOWA (Spring, 1959)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	870	Selection:	A 16.6 percent random sample of twelfth grade Iowa farm boys.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	Farm		

OBJECTIVES: To describe the occupational expectations of twelfth grade Iowa farm boys and determine the factors influencing plans to farm or not to farm.

RESULTS: Thirty-eight percent of the boys gave farming as their occupational plan. Very few boys planned to combine farm and nonfarm occupations. Almost half of those not planning to farm expected to enter one of the professions and twenty percent were planning to be craftsmen.

Farm-plan boys were found to value the nonincome characteristics associated with farming more highly than those associated with nonfarm occupations, opposite valuations were held by the boys planning on non-farm occupations.

Intelligence and academic achievement were found to be positively associated with choice of nonfarm occupations. Plans to continue education beyond high school were made by only one-fourth of the farm-plan boys as compared with over two-thirds of the boys expecting non-farm jobs. Family financial status had a significant effect on occupational plans. The average family net worth of the boys planning to farm was \$11,000 higher than for other boys. Similar relationships were found between plans to farm and acreage owned, acreage operated, and acres harvested.

Responses to a question eliciting desires following graduation were remarkably similar to the question utilized to determine plans.

REMARKS. It would be impossible to summarize the many factors found to influence occupational expectations in this study. A wealth of valuable information is presented that should provide a fertile field for obtaining hypotheses for future research. Of particular significance is the support offered by this study for Straus' earlier findings that the nature of the farm enterprise seems to importantly influence whether or not a boy intends to farm.

The marked similarity of aspirations and expectations observed may, in part, be explained by the fact that "short run" aspirations were elicited.

A-4

Straus, M. A. "Personal Characteristics and Functional Needs in the Choice of Farming as an Occupation," Rural Sociology, 21 (September-December, 1956), pp. 257-266.

WASHINGTON (1954)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	148	Selection:	The respondents were drawn from a 10 percent stratified random sample of high schools in Washington. Size of community and size of school were the stratification criteria. This report is based on all the twelfth grade farmers' sons in the original sample.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	Farm		

OBJECTIVES: To explore differences between farmers' sons who choose farming and those who choose nonfarm occupations in terms of socio-economic, family and personal value factors.

RESULTS: Farmers' sons choosing farming, compared to those choosing nonfarm occupations, were more likely to be from families with high incomes, who are full-time owner-operator farmers, with mothers not employed outside the home.

Boys choosing to farm tend to spend more time at work on the home farm and valued working with "things" more than with "people or ideas" to a greater extent than the group preferring nonfarm occupations.

The author concludes that little or no differences were found between the physical and intellectual ability of those choosing the two alternatives and that the major differences lie in socio-economic and value orientation comparisons.

REMARKS: The term "choice," refers to occupational aspirations. This study is of particular significance in that it demonstrates that socio-economic conditions of the family farm and boy's value orientations appear to be more influential than personal abilities in desiring farming as an occupation.

A-5

Straus, M. A. "Societal Needs and Personal Characteristics in the Choice of Farm, Blue Collar and White Collar Occupations by Farmers' Sons," Rural Sociology, 29 (December, 1964), pp. 408-425.

WISCONSIN: Washington County (Spring, 1959)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 98	Selection: All farmers' sons who
Sex: M	were juniors and seniors
Age: Grades 11, 12	in one rich agricultural-industrial
Residence: Farm	country.

OBJECTIVES: To determine social psychological differences between farm youth choosing farming and other occupations. Reports findings of a 1959 study and compares these with the findings of three other studies. Conclusions are based on all four studies.

RESULTS: Three of ten socio-economic class variables were found to be significantly associated with choice of farming. They were (with direction of influence on choice of farming in parentheses): mother's employment (negative); father's off farm employment (negative); family income (positive but not statistically significant).

Family structure; work role, values, and fiscal responsibility; educational information and reference groups were all found to influence, in varying degrees, the choice of farming as an occupation.

REMARKS: This report represents one of the few attempts to codify research findings on occupational choices of rural youth. While this is certainly useful, the comparison suffers because of the author's lack of concern with what was being indicated by "choice." Throughout the text the word "choice" is used without an explanation or a mention of the indicator of this phenomenon. While the author implies that his two studies refer to aspirations, the Kaldor, et. al. report explicitly involves plans and the Haller study uses a scale that includes measures of both plans and aspirations. Taking this fact into consideration, the findings would seem to indicate that both aspirations and plans are influenced in the same way by most of the host of variables considered. However, the question remains, are they influenced to the same extent by all these variables.

## PART B: FARM-NONFARM COMPARISONS

Annotations of 12 reports of studies making farm-nonfarm comparisons are included in this part of the report. The findings describing the farm segments of the populations studied can be utilized in conjunction with those studies included in PART A of this report for the purpose of comparative analysis. The studies considered in this section were done between 1947 and 1962 and nine of them give male-female comparisons.

B-1

Buck, R. C. and B. L. Bible. Educational Attainment Among Pennsylvania Rural Youth. University Park: Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 686, November, 1961.

PENNSYLVANIA (1947 and 1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	2344 (1957)	Selection:	A sample of 2810 was
Sex:	M, F		obtained from high school
Age:	Sophomores (1947)		sophomores in 74 fourth
Residence (1947):	R-Farm, R-Nonfarm		class school districts
			in 1947. The 1957 follow-
			up study yielded results
			from 83 percent of the
			original sample.

OBJECTIVES: To study the association of adolescent occupational aspirations to subsequent educational attainment (1957) and residence of origin (1947).

RESULTS: Except for a greater interest in farming on the part of farm-reared boys, no meaningful relationship was noted between place of residence and aspiration level.

Levels of occupational aspiration were found to be closely associated with subsequent education. Boys who eventually went to college were most likely to have aspired to professional or business occupations as sophomores. Aspirations tended to cluster around the blue-collar occupations for those who subsequently failed to finish high school. Similar findings were reported for girls; however, they aspired to professional and business employment in greater proportions than the boys at all levels of subsequent educational attainment.

REMARKS: This report is of particular significance because it is one of very few that attempts to establish, through longitudinal design, an association between occupational aspiration and subsequent behavior. The demonstrated association between aspiration and educational attainment is an important finding. Also, the study indicated no significant differences in occupational aspirations between farm and rural nonfarm boys, which contradicts what has been found in other studies. This unusual finding is not explained, and cannot be, using data provided in the report.

B-2

Burchinal, L. G. "Differences in Educational and Occupational Aspirations of Farm, Small-Town and City Boys," Rural Sociology, 26 (June, 1961), pp. 107-121.

IOWA: Green County and Des Moines (March, 1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 312

Sex: M

Age: Grades 10, 12

Residence: Farm, Small-Town, U

Selection: The population of tenth and twelfth grade students in Green County and one-tenth and one-twelfth grade class in each of four nonspecialized public high schools in Des Moines.

OBJECTIVES: To examine differences in occupational aspiration levels by type of residence and between farm-reared boys planning to farm and those who do not. Also, to examine influence of parental involvement on occupational plans.

RESULTS: The findings indicated that farm boys had the lowest frequency of high occupational aspiration (prestige scores greater than 79) and that urban youth had the highest. Farm-reared boys not intending to farm were judged to have higher occupational aspirations than those who did plan to farm. Both farm-reared groups were judged to have lower aspirations than urban youth.

Parental involvement in plans was highest for urban and lowest for farm youth. For all classes of respondents it was discovered that fathers were more frequently indicated as not involved than the mother.

REMARKS: Several things should be noted about the indicator of "occupational aspirations" used in this study. First of all the question used to elicit a response--the occupation they thought they would most likely follow after completion of high school--probably indicate expectations. Secondly, high aspirations were considered to be those with a NH rating over 79. This is an unusually high standard--excluding public school teacher, other professional and technical jobs, as well as many managers, officials, and proprietors. These facts should be considered when comparing the reported findings of this study with others.

B-3

Cowhig, J. D.; J. Artis; J. A. Beegle; and H. Goldsmith. Orientations Toward Occupation and Residence: A Study of High School Seniors in Four Rural Counties of Michigan. East Lansing: Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, Special Bulletin 428, 1960.

MICHIGAN (Spring, 1958)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	545	Selection:	Seniors in 14 of 15 high schools in four contiguous and completely rural Michigan counties.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R (Farm, Open Country, Village)		

OBJECTIVES: To compare occupational aspirations and expectations of rural youth by place of residence.

RESULTS: Findings indicate a general tendency for students of both sexes, and in all residence categories, to aspire to and actually expect to enter white-collar occupations. For the entire sample, white-collar aspirations and expectations were held by 64 percent and 55 percent of the youth, respectively. The deflection from white-collar goals was especially pronounced among open-country, nonfarm girls. For all residence categories, females were consistently higher than males in both aspirations and expectations.

In aspirations, farm residents were lowest, open-country residents highest, and village residents were intermediate for both sexes.

REMARKS: The bulletin provides tabulations of the occupational aspirations and expectations held by rural youth by place of residence. However, the inclusion of the clerical-sales occupations in the white-collar (high) category contributes to ambiguity of "level" measures and probably explains the higher orientations of females.

B-4

Haller, A. O. and W. H. Sewell. "Farm Residence and Levels of Educational and Occupational Aspiration," The American Journal of Sociology, 62 (January, 1957), pp. 407-411.

WISCONSIN (1947-48)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	5170	Selection:	A random sample of one-six of the seniors enrolled in Wisconsin high schools--1947-48.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R-Farm, Nonfarm (R-U)		

OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this study is to test Lipset's proposition that farm youth have low occupational and educational aspirations.

RESULTS: The reported findings are interpreted as indicating no significant differences between levels of nonfarm occupational aspirations of farm and nonfarm youth, boys or girls. The authors conclude that Lipset's hypothesis regarding educational aspirations are supported, but that his proposition pertaining to occupational aspirations are not.

REMARKS: This study is very important because it is the only one that has produced evidence contradicting Lipset's proposition about rural-urban differences in occupational goals as it pertains to white boys. Possible explanations for the unusual character of the findings may be found in the combination of the method used to measure aspiration levels, the exclusion of certain respondents, and the ambiguity of the implicit residence distinction. In the first place, the stimulus question used asked for "intended" choice-expectation rather than aspiration. In addition, the authors indicate that farm aspirants (NORC score of 76) were eliminated from the analysis. This fact, taken into consideration with the measure used for high aspirations (NORC score of 78) probably contributes to an overly high estimate of the proportion of high "Orientations" existing for farm youth. It is likely that a comparatively high proportion of farm boys had indicated an expectation to farm. In all probability, if all farm youth had been utilized in the comparison, a significant difference between them and nonfarm youth would have been observed--given the use of the measure of high aspiration indicated above. It should also be noted that farm boys were compared with a nonfarm grouping that included rural and urban residents--the inclusion of the rural boys would tend to reduce the magnitude of differences that could be expected from a farm-urban comparison. It is interesting to note that Lipset's hypothesis was supported in reference to educational orientations, in which case farm aspirants were not excluded.



B-5

Lindstrom, D. E. Differences in Academic Capability Between Rural Youth Planning and Not Planning to Go to College. Urbana: Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station RSM-40, December, 1964. (Mimeographed).

ILLINOIS (1962)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	2326	Selection:	Sample was taken from schools in eight widely separated Illinois counties. The counties were considered representative of rural counties in the state.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Grades 11, 12		
Residence:	R-Farm, R-Nonfarm		

OBJECTIVES: Compares the occupational aspirations of farm and rural-nonfarm youth planning and not planning to attend college.

RESULTS: The findings indicate a clear and significant relationship between occupational aspirations and educational expectations. For all residence-sex categories, plans to attend college were associated with higher occupational aspirations. About four-fifths of all youth planning to go to college hoped to attain professional or managerial type jobs, except farm-reared boys, of whom more than half had such hopes. Much less than a third of any residence-sex grouping not planning college had similar desires. Farm-reared males not planning to go to college indicated high occupational aspirations least often. A vast majority of the girls without college plans were judged to have moderately high level aspirations (clerical, sales, service, homemaking).

REMARKS: One may question the judgment of including the "occupation" of homemaking in the clerical and sales category. We have no way of knowing how many of these females actually have job aspirations.

B-6

Lindstrom, D. E. "Educational and Vocational Needs of Rural Youth: A Pilot Study," Illinois Agricultural Economics, 4 (July, 1964), pp. 11-17.

ILLINOIS (1962)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	2326	Selection:	See Lindstrom, page 28
Sex:	M, F		of this report.
Age:	Grades 11, 12		
Residence:	R-Farm, R-Nonfarm		

OBJECTIVES: This report includes an analysis of job values (what the respondent wants to attain from his job) and preferences for self-employment by plans of college attendance.

RESULTS: Significant differences were noted in what was expected from an occupation between youth planning and not planning to attend college. Boys who were making college plans attached greater importance to occupations offering "status and prestige" and the "opportunity to be boss" than did boys not planning to attend college.

A large majority of male respondents desired self-employment, however, less than half of the females had this desire.

REMARKS: Although this report does not give detailed information about occupational status orientations, it does provide a source of some hypotheses for future research in reference to the possible reasons college-bound youth have higher level occupational goals than those not intending to go to college.

B-7

Nelson, B. H. Attitudes of Youth Toward Occupational Opportunities and Social Services in Cherokee County. College Station: Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 859, May, 1957.

TEXAS: Cherokee County (1956)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	234	Selection:	All of the white senior boys and girls in the county.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R-Farm, R-Nonfarm, U		
Race:	W		

OBJECTIVES: To study residence differences in occupational preferences of white high school seniors in Cherokee County, Texas.

RESULTS: Almost three-fourths of the 47 rural farm boys indicated a preference for an average job in town as opposed to farming. Ten farm boys qualified their desires to farm by indicating a lack of complete devotion to farming. Of the 31 rural farm girls, only two desired their future husbands to be farmers. Very few of the 72 rural-nonfarm and 84 urban seniors indicated a preference for farming. These findings indicate that relatively few youth, even farm youth, prefer farming to an "average job" in town.

REMARKS: It is difficult to interpret the meaning of these findings. The respondents were forced to choose between the alternative of farming and a nebulous category of town jobs--What constitutes an "average job in town" most likely varies with socio-economic background, exposure to jobs, and occupational knowledge of the respondent. However, one thing is clear, most of the respondents indicated a preference to do something other than farm.

B-8

Schwarzweiller, H. K. Sociocultural Factors and the Career Aspirations and Plans of Rural Kentucky High School Seniors. Lexington: Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, Progress Report 94, September, 1960. (Mimeographed).

KENTUCKY (Spring, 1959)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	451	Selection:	Four schools were selected in the Central Bluegrass and Eastern Mountain areas of Kentucky. The schools were in counties which were fairly representative, culturally and topographically, of their regions.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R-Farm, R-Nonfarm		

OBJECTIVES: To study the association of residence, sex, socio-economic background, and social status in school with occupational aspirations and expectations.

RESULTS: Residence was found to be significantly associated with the occupational aspirations and plans of boys, but not girls. Over half of the nonfarm boys aspire to high status occupations, as compared with a third of the farm boys. A similar pattern was observed in reference to plans, which were lower than aspirations for all groupings. Similar findings were observed for girls; however, differences were not statistically significant. The present findings indicate that girls fall below boys in both aspirations and plans.

All three indices of socio economic level (father's education and occupation and family level of living) were found to be positively associated with both occupational aspirations and plans of boys. Among the girls, no relationship existed between aspirations and socio-economic level and only one index (father's occupation) exhibited any relationship to occupational plans.

Social status in school was found to be positively associated with occupational aspirations and plans of boys. Uniform and consistent patterns existed between school grade average, participation in formal school organizations, prestige among peers, and academic achievement. A similar, but less consistent, pattern was noted for girls.

REMARKS: A somewhat ambiguous measure of level of occupational orientation was used. Professional, semiprofessional and managerial type jobs were classified as high status and all other jobs, including farm operator, as low status occupations. While the content of the high status category seems reasonable, the use of such an inclusive residual category for low level orientations is questionable.

B-9

Slocum, W. L. Occupational and Educational Plans of High School Seniors From Farm and Non-Farm Homes. Pullman: Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 564, February, 1956.

WASHINGTON (1954)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	1981	Selection:	A stratified random sample of 35 schools from the 265 public high schools in Washington. Stratified with reference to size of community and school.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R-Farm, Nonfarm (R-U)		

OBJECTIVES: To compare the occupational plans of farm and nonfarm seniors in Washington.

RESULTS: No marked tendency was observed for youth to follow the occupations of their fathers, except in the case of farming. However, more farmers' sons planned to enter nonfarm occupations than farm. Almost all those students who planned to farm were sons of farmers. The occupational plans of farm and nonfarm girls were very similar. It was concluded that farm youth were at a more advanced stage of occupational choice than nonfarm youth.

In 37 percent of the cases, a discrepancy was noted between preferred and expected occupations. In most of these cases the expected occupation was of a lower prestige rank than the one preferred.

REMARKS: This study is of particular importance because it is one of very few that examines the relationship of aspiration and expectations using the individual as the unit of analysis. Rural-urban comparisons of occupational plans are not given. Only those students residing on farms are included in the farm category. It must be assumed that the nonfarm group includes all rural nonfarm and urban residents.

B-10

Slocum, W. L. and L. T. Empey. Occupational Planning By Young Women.  
 Pullman: Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin  
 568, August, 1956.

WASHINGTON (1952 and 1954)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 1194                      Selection: 190 college students and  
 Sex: F    1004 high school seniors.  
 Age: Seniors, College Students  
 Residence: Farm, Nonfarm (R-U)

OBJECTIVES: Explores associations between occupational aspirations and place of residence, socio-economic class, and educational attainment.

RESULTS: Differences in levels of occupational aspirations between farm and nonfarm girls were found to be too slight to warrant comment. Socio-economic status, however, did exert a significant influence on aspirations—a positive relationship was found to exist.

A comparison of anticipated and preferred occupations at each of ten socio-economic levels demonstrated a positive relationship between occupational orientations and social class, and that negative anticipatory deflection was experienced at all levels of social class. When aspirations were compared with the socio economic levels of the girls' families, a negative relationship was observed between socio-economic status and occupational "mobility orientations."

REMARKS: The study is of particular importance because it is unique in examining the occurrence and direction of anticipatory goal deflection for girls. In a broader conceptual sense the study was also unique in exploring degree of deflection, but due to the authors' failure to include the specific meaning of an occupational prestige scale used, we have no way of interpreting the exact degree of deflection indicated.

Of particular interest is the finding that mobility orientation (aspiration compared to parent's occupation) was negatively associated with family socio-economic status. It can be inferred from this observation that the lower the social rank of the girls the higher was her desire for mobility.

B-11

Speery, I. V. and V. R. Kivett. Educational and Vocational Goals of Rural Youth in North Carolina. Greensboro: North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, Technical Bulletin No. 163, November, 1964.

NORTH CAROLINA (1959-1961)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	281	Selection:	Students from 46 rural schools having FFA or FHA chapters.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Grades 9, 10		
Residence:	R-Farm, R-Nonfarm		

OBJECTIVES: To determine the relationship of level of living (LOL) to the occupational aspirations and expectations of rural youth, parental aspirations and availability of financial assistance.

RESULTS: Level of living (LOL) as determined by a short-form socio-economic scale for farm families, was found to be significantly associated with the occupational aspirations and expectations of boys, but not girls. Over half of the high and middle LOL boys preferred professional jobs, as compared with about a fifth of the low LOL boys. In addition, a fifth of the latter aspired to farming, as compared to slightly lower proportions of boys from higher LOL families. Data reported on occupational expectations indicated a similar relationship to LOL levels. However, while high LOL boys usually expected to attain their desired goals, considerable deflection from goals were noted for the two lower LOL classes. It is important to note that more youth, at all LOL levels, expected to farm than desired to.

The report also indicates findings in reference to the relationship of LOL to parents' aspirations and expectations for youth (similar to patterns observed for youth), availability of financial help for entering an occupation, and Kuder Preference scores.

REMARKS: The report includes a wealth of potentially useful and significant information that could be abstracted from a confusing amount of detail and wordy description of data.

The researchers use LOL as an indicator of socio-economic status; however, since most similar studies use other indicators (usually father's job), caution is called for in making comparisons.

B-12

Youmans, E. G. "Social Factors in the Work Attitudes and Interests of 12th Grade Michigan Boys," The Journal of Educational Sociology, 28 (September, 1954), pp. 35-48.

MICHIGAN (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	1279	Selection:	Male twelfth grade portion of a larger sample of 6789 tenth and twelfth grade boys and girls in 56 high schools in Michigan.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R-Farm, Nonfarm (R-U)		

OBJECTIVES: Examines the relationship of work attitude and interest to school environment, type of community or orientation, work experience, home situation, and social strata value orientations.

RESULTS: The author has utilized three levels of father's occupation as indices of social stratification: farmer, manual worker, and white-collar. All boys aspired in large numbers to the professions with the single exception of farmers' sons; who were more likely to hold aspirations to enter farming or some form of skilled labor. White-collar sons were more likely to select a professional job and much more likely to have managerial goals than either of the other two groupings.

The findings indicate a tendency for boys to expect to obtain jobs similar to their fathers'. About one-half of the white-collar and farmers' sons expected to attain jobs similar to their fathers' as compared with approximately one-third of the blue-collar sons. Four variables had a positive correlation of 30 or above to occupational expectations. Listed in order of magnitude of association these are: social stratification, father's formal education, the school curriculum, and type of community.

REMARKS: One can question whether the categories of fathers' jobs used as indicators of social strata are valid measures of rank-ordered strata. However, the findings do appear to indicate that father's job is more highly associated with occupational orientations of youth than a large number of other variables usually considered as important determinants of occupational expectations.



### PART C: RURAL YOUTH

Included in this section of the report are 17 studies concerned with youth from rural areas (excluding studies treating farm youth separately) in twelve different states and Canada. Collectively these studies cover a wide range of time, from 1929 through 1963. Most of these include male-female comparisons, several make racial comparisons, and a substantial number of the total universe of studies exploring the relationship of occupational aspirations to subsequent behavior are annotated here.

C-1

Anderson, C. S. Young Men Ten Years After Leaving Pennsylvania Rural High Schools. University Park: Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 468, September, 1944.

PENNSYLVANIA (1929-1943)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	586	Selection:	Freshmen in 41 rural high schools deemed representative of rural high schools in the state.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Freshmen (1929)		
Residence:	R		

OBJECTIVES: A longitudinal study of the permanence of vocational choice and the relationship of adolescent preferences to adult occupational attainment over a 14-year period.

RESULTS: The findings indicated a high level of consistency of vocational choice over the respondents' high school careers (1929-1933). Two types of occupations were chosen much more frequently (by 20% of the respondents) than others--agriculture and mechanic. The findings indicated little association between choice and subsequent attainment; however, the association was observed to increase with the age at which choice was indicated--ranging from 10 percent congruence between freshman choices and 1943 job and 18 percent congruence between senior choices and 1943 job. Data was also presented from which it was possible to observe that, although a sizeable proportion of respondents desired professional type jobs in 1929, very few had attained any professional job. On the other hand, considerably higher proportions attained certain types of jobs than desired these as freshmen--common laborer, military (war influence probably), miner, business, public service and transportation and communications.

The report also indicated that a weak association existed between father's occupation and both adolescent choices and subsequent attainment.

REMARKS: This study is particularly valuable for two reasons: (1) it provides us with an early bench-mark of specific occupational choice to utilize in historical comparisons, and (2) it is one of very few studies that provides time lapse data on consistency of choice over time and congruence of choice and subsequent attainment.

A limitation of the report is the lack of an explicit mention of the instrument used to indicate "vocational choice" or "vocational interest." It appears that goals were indicated, but we cannot be positive of this. The low level association of vocational choice to subsequent attainment is undoubtedly influenced by the large number of specific occupational categories used--22 in all.

C-2

Bertrand, A. L. and M. B. Smith. Environmental Factors and School Attendance: A Study in Rural Louisiana. Baton Rouge: Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 533, May, 1960.

LOUISIANA (1959)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	437	Selection:	All eleventh and twelfth grade students from four white, rural high schools in each of two parishes (high percentage R-farm). A substantial number of drop-outs from the sample schools were also interviewed.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Grades 11, 12		
	Drop-outs ages 16-19		
Residence:	R		

OBJECTIVES: This report includes an examination of the relationship between school attendance (drop-outs vs. others) and occupational aspirations.

RESULTS: School attendance was found to be significantly associated with occupational aspirations for both boys and girls. Of the boys still in school, over a third "desired" occupations in the professional, technical, and kindred occupational goal level, as compared with only 10 percent of the drop-outs. Craftsman was the desired goal for a near majority of male drop-outs, but for very few of those in school. A very marked difference was observed between female drop-outs and girls still in school. Almost all of the former and very few of those still in school were planning to be housewives.

REMARKS: This study is unusual, and important, in that it includes drop-outs. The findings indicate that failure (dropping out of school) appears to be associated with a negative effect on goal levels.

Although the authors use both "desire" and "plan" (implying aspirations and expectations, respectively) in describing findings, the indicator utilized asked the students to give what they "hoped" to make their lifetime occupation.

C-3

Christiansen, J. R.; J. D. Cowhig; and J. W. Payne. Educational and Occupational Aspirations of High School Seniors in Three Central Utah Counties. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, Social Science Bulletin 2, August, 1962.

UTAH: (August - September, 1960)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	287	Selection:	All 1960 graduates still living in the three-county area in August and September of 1960. Sample counties range from 44 percent to 100 percent rural.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors (1959-60)		
Residence:	NM		

OBJECTIVES: To determine the occupational plans and desires of recent high school graduates in three predominantly rural Utah counties. Also, the relationship between occupational and educational plans and desires is examined.

RESULTS: The analysis includes information on short-run (immediate) and long run aspirations and expectations. In the short-run almost twice as many respondents expected to be employed than desired to be. Slightly over half of the graduates wanted to enter college in the fall and most of these expected to do so. Although very high proportions of those expecting to be employed after leaving high school desired manual and service jobs, even more expected to fill these positions. Few of these respondents either desired or expected white-collar jobs.

When asked about future (five years) plans and desires, the majority of both boys and girls desiring employment named white-collar occupations as their aspiration. Farming was named by only five percent of the boys and none of the girls. Fewer students expected to be employed in 1965 than aspired to be.

REMARKS: Errors in tabular presentation of the data impedes interpretation of findings. The researcher who desires to utilize the findings for comparisons with others must be prepared to search out and correct inconsistencies and errors in statistics and statements-- these inadequacies severely limit the utility of this report.

The major significance of the report is that it does indicate that short-run and long-run aspirations differ.

C-4

Christiansen, J. R.; J. D. Cowhig; and J. W. Payne. Educational and Occupational Progress of Rural Youth in Utah: A Follow-Up Study. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, Social Science Bulletin 2, August, 1962.

UTAH: (August, 1960 and April, 1961)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 243 (1960-1961)	Selection: 1961 data represents 85 per-
Sex: M, F	cent of 289 respondents con-
Age: Seniors (1960)	tacted in 1960. See Christian-
Residence: NM	sen, <u>et. al.</u> , page 39 of this
	report for more details.

OBJECTIVES: Relates occupational plans of students to their subsequent occupational attainments and preparations for future employment.

RESULTS: Findings of this longitudinal study indicated little change in occupational aspirations over time. Preferences for white-collar jobs predominated at both times for those students originally expecting to attend college in 1960 and those who were in college in 1961.

Over half of the males employed in 1961 were manual or service workers. Whereas nine percent of boys expecting employment in the fall of 1960 expected to obtain white-collar jobs, there were no such employees in April, 1961.

REMARKS: Certain limitations of this report should be recognized. Inconsistencies are noted in some instances between data reported in the earlier work by Christiansen, et. al. (see page 39 of this report) and comparable data in the present study. Also, typographical (or transposing) errors exist in some comparisons. In some cases the authors have failed to point out whether males, females, or the total sample is being described by particular statistics.

The apparent stability in occupational aspirations observed between the two contacts can probably be explained to a large extent by the short time lapse covered.

C-5

Drabick, L. W. The Vocational Agriculture Student and His Peers.  
 Raleigh: North Carolina State, Departments of Agricultural  
 Education and Rural Sociology, Educational Research Series  
 No. 1, August, 1963. (Mimeographed).

NORTH CAROLINA (Spring, 1963)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	425	Selection:	Twelve white and eleven Negro schools were selected as representative of the nonmetropolitan Economic Areas of the state. Each school was selected because it was nearest the average enrollment of all schools in the area.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	NM		
Race:	W, NW		
Curriculum:	Vo-Ag., "other"		

OBJECTIVES: To determine what differences exist between occupational aspiration and expectation levels of vocational agriculture students as compared with "other" students. Negroes and whites are not compared.

RESULTS: The findings clearly indicate, for both Negro and white students, that (1) "other" students had higher levels of both job aspiration and expectation than vo-ag students and (2) that for all students fewer mentioned high prestige occupational (70+) as expectations than as aspirations. A very large proportion of both races (whites-50% and Negroes 80%) named expected first jobs that had higher prestige scores than their father's job.

The report also indicates that most of the respondents thought that their "occupational plans" were determined by themselves. The findings indicated that no particular type of person was perceived by the students to have a great influence on this decision; however, parents were viewed by the students to be in agreement with their decisions.

REMARKS: Adequate data for a racial comparison exists but is not used. Inspection of the tables indicate that significant and meaningful differences may exist between the white and Negro students. For instance, in reference to both aspirations and expectations the Negro-"other student" class had a larger proportion of high prestige (70+) responses and fewer low prestige responses than the corresponding white grouping. Also a much higher proportion of Negroes aspired to jobs having higher prestige scores than their father's current one. To the researcher willing to manipulate the data presented, a wealth of information on racial comparison could be obtained.

C-6

Kuvlesky, W. P. "Occupational Aspirations and Subsequent Attainment: A Longitudinal Study of Young Adults." Paper presented at the Southwestern Sociological Association meetings, New Orleans, April, 1966.\*

## PENNSYLVANIA (1947-1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 1001	Selection: In 1947 data was collected
Sex: M	from 1327 male sophomores
Age: Sophomores (1947)	involved in a sample of 74
Residence (1947): R	rural high schools in Penn-
	sylvania...complete data ex-
	isted for 1001 of these
	through 1957.

OBJECTIVES: To examine the relationship of adolescents' occupational aspirations (goals) to their long-run (10 years) subsequent job attainments.

RESULTS: It was found that a weak positive relationship existed between occupational aspirations and occupational attainment--about one-fourth attained their goals. However, this relationship was highly variable--the rate of congruence between adolescent goals and attainment ranged from almost half of those having a desire for unskilled labor to absolute 0 for those aspiring to glamorous jobs. About one out of five boys desiring to become farmers attained this goal ten years later.

The findings also indicated that adolescents aspiring to blue-collar jobs were disproportionately deflected to unskilled blue-collar jobs--almost half of those aspiring to both skilled and unskilled work. It was observed that approximately two-thirds of the respondents who were either farmers or professionals in 1957 had aspired to these jobs ten years earlier.

REMARKS: This report is of significance because it constitutes one of only two studies reporting detailed findings on the relationship of occupational goals of rural youth to long-run subsequent attainment. The weak relationship observed may be due, in part, to weaknesses in the indicator used for goals, and the fact that the respondents were still in the early phase of their occupational career at the time of the terminal contact.

\*Copies of this paper are available and can be obtained by writing to the senior author of this report.

C-7

Matthews, R. G. and L. W. Drabick. Reasons for Selection of Expected Occupations: By Race and Sex. Raleigh: North Carolina State, Departments of Agricultural Education and Rural Sociology, Educational Research Series No. 7, November, 1965. (Mimeographed).

NORTH CAROLINA (Spring, 1963)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 985

Sex: M, F

Age: Seniors

Residence: NM

Race: W, NW

Selection: See Drabick, page 41 of this report.

OBJECTIVES: To discover whether reasons given for selection of expected occupations differ by race and sex.

RESULTS: Significant differences were reported to exist in reference to reasons for selection of expected occupations between males and females and between Negroes and whites. Negroes and females had higher proportions of responses indicating "altruism" and fewer indicating "reward."

The authors conclude that there are "significant differences" between the reasons Negroes and whites have for selecting their occupations and reach a similar conclusion for males and females.

REMARKS: The reported findings and conclusions are misleading--they overlook the fact that a clear majority of all sex-race types indicate "general interest" as their reason for selection. While there are clear differences in the proportions indicating other reasons, these involved a minority of respondents in each case. What is striking and significant is that there are not greater differences.



C-8

Nelson, B. H. Attitudes of Youth Toward Occupational Opportunities and Social Services in a Six-County Area of the Blacklands.  
College Station: Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 953, April, 1960.

CENTRAL TEXAS (1957-1958)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 318  
Sex: M, F  
Age: Seniors  
Residence: R

Selection: Six counties in the Blackland area of Central Texas were studied. Only those schools classified as rural according to census terminology were chosen.

OBJECTIVES: To determine the job preferences and attitudes toward farming of rural high school seniors in six counties located in the Blackland region of Central Texas.

RESULTS: Business or secretarial work was the job most frequently selected by farm and nonfarm girls, while engineering had the greatest appeal to the boys in the sample. Only 12 of the 318 respondents named farming as their first choice job preference--all were rural farm boys. By comparison, one-third of the total sample chose farming in answer to a question asking which of three alternatives they would choose if they were ready to begin their life's work--owning their own farm, average job in town, or other.

REMARKS: The large discrepancy in those choosing to farm using two different instruments may be explained by an examination of the other alternatives available in the forced-choice question. The largest proportion of the respondents chose to work at an "average job in town." To the lower class rural youth, this undoubtedly brings to mind manual and service type jobs that offer very little appeal to these youth. Therefore, they may have indicated farming only because it was the lesser of the two unattractive alternatives. On the other hand, it is also possible that in answering the free choice question, the respondents never considered owning their own farm as a realistic possibility.

C-9

Nunalee, T. H., III and L. W. Drabick. Occupational Desires and Expectations of North Carolina High School Seniors., Raleigh: North Carolina State, Departments of Agricultural Education and Rural Sociology, Educational Research Series No. 3, June, 1965.

NORTH CAROLINA (Spring, 1963)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	949	Selection:	See Drabick, page 41 of this report.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	NM ("town," "country")		
Race:	W, NW		

OBJECTIVES: To examine occupational goal and expectation levels (using NH prestige scores) of youth by sex, race, intelligence, father's occupational prestige, parents' educational levels, number of siblings, and place of residence.

RESULTS: Approximately half of the respondents of both sexes were judged to have indicated occupations of similar prestige for aspirations and expectations. The bulk of the remainder indicated goals to be higher than expectations. Slightly more females than males had expectations of higher prestige than aspirations. Whites, of both sexes, demonstrated less congruence between aspirations and expectations and had larger proportions with higher aspirations than expectations--these differences were more marked for females than males.

Because of the number of variables involved, it is impossible to report all or even most of the specific findings. It should be noted that respondents living in town more often indicated no difference or least difference between goal and expectation levels than did country residents. The author concludes in reference to "background" factors that, "In many cases the differences were not statistically significant. However, in most cases the differences seemed to have direction and meaning."

REMARKS: This report is of particular value because it is one of the few that examines the relationship of occupational aspiration and expectation levels for individual cases. The report is lacking in that it does not give an indication of aspiration and expectation levels-- simply the difference between levels. It should also be noted that in many cases, even when differences were evaluated to be significantly different, they were rather slight.

C-10

Robin, E. P. and J. Sardo. Attitudes and Plans of High School Students in Sedgwick County, Colorado. Fort Collins: Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Technical Bulletin 85, September, 1965.

COLORADO (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 93

Sex: M, F

Age: Juniors, Seniors

Residence: R

Selection: Sedgwick County high schools.

OBJECTIVES: To examine relationships of occupational preferences and expectations to sex, age, and father's occupation.

RESULTS: It was observed that frequency of choice of white-collar and farm jobs decreases with age in reference to both aspirations and expectations. Although few respondents indicated uncertainty about occupational expectations, more juniors than seniors were uncertain.

A majority of both boys and girls preferred to have white-collar jobs. However, the data in the report indicates that the number expecting such jobs decreases for girls and increases for boys.

The findings indicate that many of the youth expect to attain jobs of a higher prestige rank than their father's job. The findings also indicate that plans for education beyond high school are strongly associated with lifetime white-collar job expectations.

REMARKS: The indicators used for both status orientations are unambiguous. However, comparative findings are somewhat tenuous because of the small number involved. The study does have significance for researchers interested in the relationship of aspirations and expectations--particularly in reference to age differences.

C-11

Schwarzweiler, H. K. "Values and Occupational Choice," Social Forces, 39 (December, 1960), pp. 126-140.

KENTUCKY: Central Bluegrass and Eastern Mountain Regions (1959)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 440	Selection: A sample was drawn from eight rural high schools in two culturally, economically, and geographically different regions in Kentucky.
Sex: M, F	
Age: Seniors	
Residence: R	

OBJECTIVES: To examine the relationships between value orientation and choice of occupation. The values studied are: achievement, material comfort, security, hard work, mental work, creative work, work with people, service to society, individualism, familism, external conformity, and friendship.

RESULTS: With the exception of a tendency for Bluegrass boys to value achievement and creative work more highly than their mountain counterparts, no significant differences were found in the value orientation patterns of boys from the two regions. Likewise, with few exceptions, girls from the two regions varied only slightly in their value orientations.

For both sexes, values on working with people, mental work and service to society were related in a positive manner to level of occupational choice. Values on material comfort, security, familism, and hard work were negatively related to the status dimensions of occupational choice.

REMARKS: In this report the term "choice" refers to expectations. A simple dichotomy (high, low) was used to measure level of expectation. Professional-technical and managerial jobs made up the high category and all others were termed low. The ambiguity and inclusive nature of the "level" measures may account for the lack of regional differences observed.

C-12

Schwarzweiller, H. K. "Value Orientations in Educational and Occupational Choices," Rural Sociology, 24 (September, 1959), pp. 246-256.

NEW YORK (1958)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	240	Selection:	Junior and Senior classes
Age:	Juniors, Seniors		of four high schools in pre-
Residence:	R		dominantly agricultural areas.

OBJECTIVES: To explore the association between selected values and aspirations and expectations for high status occupation among rural youth. Sex, I.Q., and father's occupation were controlled in the analysis.

RESULTS: High levels of occupational aspirations and plans were found to be positively related to the values of "service to society" and "mental work" and negatively related to the values of "hard work" and "security." The strength of the relationships were generally lower for plans than for aspirations.

REMARKS: This study is particularly significant in that it offers evidence to indicate that value orientations may offer a fruitful dimension for explaining anticipatory deflection. The findings appear to indicate that certain value variables have differing levels of influence on aspiration and expectation. There is a need to expand this type of research in the future to include low-level aspirants and a wider range of values.

C-13

Scott, H. K. and J. G. Lussier. Background Studies for Resource Development In the Tweed Forest District, Ontario. Study No. 4, "Plans and Attitudes of High School Students." Guelph, Ont.: Ontario Agricultural College, Department of Agricultural Economics, 1963.

ONTARIO: Hastings County (1961)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 5080	Selection: Students from ten high schools in Hastings County. This county is considered representative of the Tweed Forest District.
Sex: M, F	
Age: Grades 9-13	
Residence: R	

OBJECTIVES: To study the "ideal" and "probable" occupational goals of high school males and females in a predominantly rural area of Ontario.

RESULTS: Greater proportions of boys than of girls (33 and 17 percent, respectively) had professions as their "ideal" occupational goals. Similar, but slightly smaller, proportions of both sexes expected to attain a professional job.

Except for the "undecided" and "housewife" categories, no other large percentage differences were noticed between "ideal" and "probable" goals. Almost three times as many boys and girls were undecided about their expected occupations as were undecided about their ideal goals. Among the girls, very few aspired to be housewives, while 14 percent listed this as their probable occupations.

REMARKS: The relatively small proportions holding professional positions as ideal and probable goals should not be interpreted as indicating that these respondents had low aspiration levels. Obviously, there are other goals (managerial, proprietor, and etc.) that can be labeled as high. Likewise, the small proportion of cases demonstrating differences between ideal and probable goals is unusual when compared with most other studies noting differences in goal and expectation levels--it may be that the term "probable goal" has a different meaning for youth than the word "expectation." Of course, it is also possible that a cultural difference can account for the unusual character of this Canadian study as compared to studies done in the U. S.

C-14

Thompson, O. E. "What Are the Plans of Vocational Agriculture Students?" The Agricultural Education Magazine, 34 (June, 1962), pp. 276-278.

CALIFORNIA (Spring, 1961)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	824	Selection:	All freshmen, junior, and senior vocational agriculture students in 27 California high schools representing all of the six major geographic regions in the state.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Freshmen, Juniors, Seniors		
Residence:	Not given		

OBJECTIVES: To investigate the relationship of school grade and father's job to the occupational plans of vocational agriculture students.

RESULTS: With two exceptions, only a slight association was found between fathers' occupation and plans to enter or not to enter the field of agriculture. A greater proportion of boys whose fathers were engaged in agriculture were planning on a career in agriculture. Sons of fathers in professional and/or managerial positions also had a tendency to prefer their father's type of job.

A great deal of similarity is found between the occupational plans of the grade groupings. However, more freshman boys planned to farm than juniors and seniors. Also, a tendency was noted for freshmen to choose professional jobs more frequently than the upper grades.

REMARKS: The occupational classification system utilized by the author precludes detailed comparisons with other studies. In some instances specific occupational categories are used (skilled trade, teaching, engineering, etc.). However, broad industrial categories embodying a wide-range of jobs (agricultural industry, military service, lumber industry) were used also. Comparisons made between these two sets of categories, that are not mutually exclusive, makes it difficult to interpret the meaning of the findings in some cases.

The findings appear to indicate that aspirations to farm decrease with age.

C-15

Waters, E. W. "Vocational Aspirations, Intelligence, Problems and Socio-Economic Status of Rural Negro High School Seniors on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Their Implications For Vocational Guidance," Journal of Negro Education, 23 (1954), pp. 502-505.

MARYLAND (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	288	Selection:	Approximately 50 percent of
Sex:	M, F		all seniors in nine high
Age:	Seniors		schools on the "Eastern
Race:	NW		Shore."
Residence:	R		

OBJECTIVES: To examine how interests, abilities, SES, problems, and available guidance were related to vocational aspirations.

RESULTS: It was found that: (1) there was a wide discrepancy between stated and measured (Kuder Preference Record) interests for boys and girls; (2) measured abilities (IQ and Reading) were associated in a positive manner to occupational "aspirations"; (3) pupils occupational choices indicated that schools are not providing guidance, type of training, or courses needed by students.

REMARKS: The report is totally lacking in data or even references to general statistics to substantiate reported findings. Although relationships were reported to exist, no evidence is given of the magnitude of associations or statistical significance. The indicator of "aspiration" or "choice" is not made explicit. A number of findings are reported (see #3 above) that could not easily have evolved from the limited number of variables considered.



C-16

Youmans, E. G. The Educational Attainment and Future Plans of Rural Youths. Lexington: Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 664, January, 1959.

KENTUCKY (1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 439  
Sex: M, F  
Age: 16-17  
Residence: R

Selection: An area sample was taken in three low-income rural counties.

OBJECTIVES: Examines the relationships of socio-economic background, experiences, and personal characteristics to the future plans of rural youth.

RESULTS: The findings indicate that about one-fourth of the youth would like to be employed in "public work" and very few hoped to be employed in business and professional occupations. What is more, even smaller proportions expected to enter these fields of work.

Socio-economic status was found to be significantly associated with occupational aspirations. A tendency was noted for lower status youth to choose public work, factory work, and farming, while the higher status youth more often chose clerical work.

It was found that school attendance is related to future goals. The first four choices of those youths who had dropped out of high school were, in order of preference: public work, factory work, farming, and housework. Those still enrolled in school chose, in order: school or school work, office work, public work, and farming. It should be noted that farming was not highly desired in either case.

REMARKS: It is significant to note the extremely low proportion of these youth with aspirations to upper level occupations. Seventy percent of those still in school give college plans, whereas only four percent of them aspired to the professional and business occupations. This unusual observation may be explained by the time dimension for goal attainment that was part of the question eliciting responses used as indicators--a three-year period was used.

C-17

Youmans, E. G.; S. E. Grigsby; and H. C. King. After High School  
What: Highlights of a Study of Career Plans of Negro and White  
Rural Youth in Three Florida Counties. Gainesville: University  
of Florida, Cooperative Extension Service, (1965).

FLORIDA: Three northern counties (1962)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 411	Selection: Students attending five Negro
Sex: M, F	and six white schools in
Age: Seniors	three low-income rural coun-
Residence: R	ties.
Race: W, NW	

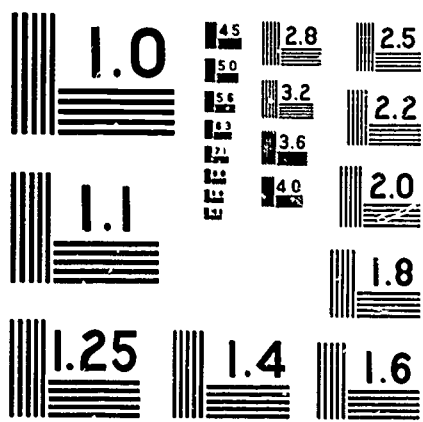
OBJECTIVES: To determine white-Negro differences by sex in occupa-  
tional aspirations, persons influencing "plans for life work," and  
maternal influence on occupational goals.

RESULTS: A majority of Negroes and whites of both sexes wanted to  
become professionals. Racial differences noted for males were: more  
Negroes than whites wanted to be skilled workers (18%-8%), more whites  
than Negroes wanted to become professionals (61%-52%), and farmers  
(14%-2%). More Negro girls wanted to become professionals and fewer  
wanted clerical jobs as compared with white females.

Well over half of each race-sex type indicated that their parents  
had the greatest influence on their "plans" for "life work" and all  
but white males considered the mother to be more influential than the  
father. Teachers and ministers were indicated to have the "greatest  
influence" for only a minor portion of all types except Negro males  
(20% indicated teachers had greatest influence). The report also in-  
dicates a marked correlation between the youth's goals and their mother's  
aspirations for them for every race-sex type. Most youth considered  
high school education of occupational value.

REMARKS: This publication is aimed at action agents and, unfortunately,  
does not report statistical evaluation of differences. However, the  
wealth of information provided on rural youth could be useful to re-  
searchers willing to carry out additional operations on the data.

20 OF 22  
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MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS - 1963

D-1

Edlefsen, J. B. and M. J. Crowe. Teen-Agers' Occupational Aspirations.  
 Pullman: Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin  
 #18, July, 1960.

WASHINGTON (March, 1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 3751  
 Sex: M, F  
 Age: Grades 7-12  
 Residence: R, U

Selection: All students present at the  
 time of the interview in  
 grades 7-12 in four towns.

OBJECTIVES: To compare the preferred and probable occupations of boys and girls in four school districts in Washington.

RESULTS: The responses are analyzed separately for each town. For the boys, distinct differences between community of residence and degree of discrepancy between preferred and probable occupations are reported. A similar, though less distinct, relationship was noticed for females. Smaller proportions of both boys and girls in the Dayton sample expected to enter high status occupations than was found for the other three towns. A larger proportion of the respondents lived on farms in Dayton than in any of the other three sample areas.

REMARKS: The usefulness of this report is severely limited because the authors simply make aggregate comparisons of orientation profiles among the four samples. The bulletin's primary contribution to the study of occupational choice is the comparison of occupational goals (preferences) and expectations (probable occupations). The authors, however, have stopped short of a major contribution because the report fails to sufficiently describe the occupational status scale utilized in the aspiration and expectation comparisons. This makes it difficult to evaluate the meaning of differences in rank scores given and, consequently, makes it impossible to examine degree of goal deflection.

D-1

Edlefsen, J. B. and M. J. Crowe. Teen-Agers' Occupational Aspirations.  
 Pullman: Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin  
 618, July, 1960.

WASHINGTON (March, 1957)

RESPONDENTS

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Sex: M, F

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Residence: R, U

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D-2

Grigg, C. M. and R. Middleton. "Community of Orientation and Occupational Aspirations of Ninth Grade Students," Social Forces, 38 (May, 1960), pp. 303-308.

FLORIDA (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 13,250  
 Sex: M, F  
 Age: Grade 9  
 Residence: R, U  
 Race: W

Selection: A random sample was taken from a larger group of participants in a state-wide testing program. Students who were undecided, aspired to be housewives, or didn't complete the questionnaire were eliminated.

OBJECTIVES: To determine the relationship between size of community and occupational aspirations of ninth graders, when intelligence and father's occupation are controlled.

RESULTS: For both sexes, a significant positive relationship was observed between size of community and high occupational aspirations. The positive relationship remains relatively consistent when intelligence and father's occupation are partialled out among males, but not for females.

A positive relationship was found to exist between intelligence and occupational aspirations. A similar relationship was observed in reference to father's occupation.

REMARKS: Two criticisms might be made of this study: the indicator utilized to determine "aspirations" actually obtains "expectations"; and the use of a gross dichotomy to classify occupations into "relatively low or nonprofessional aspirations" and "relatively high or professional" ones possibly obscures meaningful differences between intermediate and important goal levels.

D-3

Kuvlesky, W. P. and G. W. Ohlendorf. "Occupational Status Orientations of Negro Boys." Paper presented at the Rural Sociological Society annual meetings, Miami Beach, August, 1966.\*

TEXAS (Spring, 1966)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	205	Selection:	Sophomores in all high schools located in three all-rural, low-income counties and a 50 percent sample of sophomores from a low-income Negro high school in a large city.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Sophomores		
Residence:	R, U		
Race:	NW		

OBJECTIVES: To explore rural and urban differences among Negro boys on the following aspects of occupational status orientations: goals, expectations, anticipatory deflection, and intensity (strength of desire) of aspiration.

RESULTS: Urban boys had higher occupational goal and expectation levels than their rural counterparts; however, it was found that rural-urban differences were greater in reference to goals than for expectations. The findings indicated that rural and urban Negro boys experienced similar rates of anticipatory deflection--about one-third of the respondents in each case. But, in reference to high aspirants, rural boys were more likely to be deflected to blue-collar job expectations than urban boys.

Urban boys were judged to have stronger desires for their occupational goals than rural Negroes. Intensity of aspiration was not found to be associated with rate or nature of anticipatory deflection.

REMARKS: The findings of this study lend evidence to indicate that Lipset's hypotheses--that urban youth have higher goals than rural youth--may be valid for Negro boys. Furthermore, the findings that rural and urban youth differ more in their goals than expectations would seem to indicate that goal levels may be more highly variable than expectation levels--a finding that contradicts the widely held supposition that the opposite is true,

The study is unique in examining the intensity of desire associated with occupational goals and is the first to demonstrate rural-urban differences in this respect. At the same time, the instrument used to measure the "intensity" element of aspiration is judged to have serious limitations.

\*Copies of this paper are available and can be obtained from the senior author of this report.

D-4

Middleton, R. and C. M. Grigg. "Rural-Urban Differences in Aspirations," Rural Sociology, 24 (December, 1959), pp. 347-354.

FLORIDA (1954-1955)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 2183

Sex: M, F

Age: Seniors

Residence: R, U

Race: W, NW

Selection: Twenty percent sample of public high school seniors in Florida. Sample was stratified by geographic region and size of high school.

OBJECTIVES: To examine rural and urban differences in occupational "aspirations" controlling on sex, race, and intelligence.

RESULTS: Approximately two-thirds of the rural youth and three-fourths of the urban youth aspired to white-collar occupations. The author concludes that significant rural-urban differences in occupational aspirations exist for only white males. He proposes that explanation for the lack of expected differences between rural and urban Negro males may be their assumed high number of drop-outs (not included in the study).

REMARKS: This study is of particular importance because it is one of only two that have tested the applicability of Lipset's hypothesis for Negro youth. The finding that rural-urban differences do not exist for Negro boys has particular significance in that it constitutes one of two cases contradicting Lipset's proposition as it applies to males. The report is judged to be misleading because: the stimulus question used for "aspirations" actually indicated expectations and the gross dichotomy ("white-collar," "blue-collar") used to indicate level of aspiration does not clearly indicate meaningful "levels" of aspiration. The inclusive nature of the two categories used also probably hides a number of differences that might have been observed by the use of a greater number of "level" categories.



D-5

Nelson, R. C. "Knowledge and Interests Concerning Sixteen Occupations Among Elementary and Secondary School Students," Educational and Psychological Measurement, 23 (Winter, 1963), pp. 741-754.

MARYLAND: Baltimore County (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	595	Selection:	Baltimore County school system classroom groups from grades 3, 5, 7, 9, 11.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Grades 3, 5, 7, 9, 11		
Residence:	R, U		
I.Q.:	Average and slightly higher		

OBJECTIVES: To determine the relationships of residence, grade level, sex, socio-economic level (father's occupation), and measured intelligence to youth's occupational knowledge about and interests in 16 occupations.

RESULTS: Findings indicate that urban children exceed rural children in occupational knowledge. With two exceptions, urban students scored significantly higher than rural in those cases in which residence subgroup titling and description differences were found. It was found that rural students reacted positively to the 16 occupations significantly more often than did the urban students.

Socio-economic status, intelligence, and grade level were found to be related in a positive manner to occupational knowledge and negatively to interest in the occupations considered. Sex was not significantly related to occupational knowledge, but was found to be of prime importance in the determination of reactions to particular occupations.

REMARKS: This study is important because of the attempt to understand some of the basic factors leading to the development of occupational orientations. It has pointed out the need for studies designed to learn more about choice processes in the early years. A rather ambiguous rural-urban distinction limits the ability to evaluate the validity of differences observed in this respect.

D-6

Payne, R. "Development of Occupational and Migration Expectations and Choices Among Urban, Small Town, and Rural Adolescent Boys," Rural Sociology, 21 (June, 1956), pp. 117-125.

GEORGIA: Hall County (1953)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	413	Selection:	Sample includes all eighth and twelfth grade students in all county schools present on the day the questionnaire was administered. Hall is one of the state's larger and more prosperous counties and is located in a diversified agricultural area.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Grades 8, 12		
Residence:	R, U		
Race:	W, NW		

OBJECTIVES: To study the relationship between levels of occupational expectations and place of residence and socio-economic status.

RESULTS: Occupational expectations were named by a greater proportion of urban than rural boys (69 and 57 percent, respectively). Within the upper socio-economic group, urban boys were much more likely than rural boys to expect occupations at levels above their fathers' occupations. Findings indicate only a slight association between socio-economic level and the presence of occupational expectations.

When expectations were compared with "choices," it was found that only one in eight students named different occupations--in these cases, expectations were of higher average rank than choices.

REMARKS: The frequency of indication of expectation reported in this study is much lower than those observed in other similar efforts. Also, the low proportion of cases demonstrating differences between the two orientation phenomena and the finding that expectations tended to be higher when a difference existed is highly unusual. The validity of these observations is impossible to determine because no information was given on the indicators used for "choice" and "expectations."

D-7

Rhodes, L. "Anomia, Aspiration, and Status," Social Forces, 42  
(May, 1964), pp. 434-440.

TENNESSEE (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	960	Selection:	Approximately 75 percent of all seniors in three public schools and one parochial high school in a small SMSA in Tennessee, almost 80 percent of all seniors in one town (10,000 population) high school, and seniors in three county high schools which serve both village and open-country communities.
Sex:	M, F		
Age:	Seniors		
Residence:	R, U		
Race:	W		

OBJECTIVES: To study the relationships between occupational aspiration, anomia, father's occupation, and size of community of orientation.

RESULTS: It was found that level of occupational aspiration varied directly with parental occupational level and rural-urban school context. For example, three-fourths of the sons of white-collar workers enrolled in urban white-collar schools aspired to the professions. In contrast, only 16 percent of farmers' sons enrolled in rural schools had such occupational aspirations.

The relationship between anomia and occupational aspiration is found to be negative and statistically significant. It was also found that anomia is maximized in those subgroups with high aspirations and low life-chances for successful attainment of these high goals.

REMARKS: This study is of particular importance because it indicates that high levels of anomia may be influenced by a combination of high occupational goals and the perception of limited opportunity to attain these goals. A weakness of the study is its failure to establish to what extent relationships exist between lower goal levels and the other variables, including anomia.

D-8

Sewell, W. H. and A. M. Orenstein. "Community of Residence and Occupational Choice," The American Journal of Sociology, 70 (March, 1965), pp. 551-563.

WISCONSIN (1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	9986	Selection:	A one-third random sample
Sex:	M, F		was taken of graduating
Age:	Seniors		seniors in all public, pri-
Residence:	R, Small City, Large City		ivate, and parochial schools in Wisconsin.

OBJECTIVES: To study the relationship between size of community of residence and occupational choice with sex, intelligence, and socio-economic status controlled.

RESULTS: A positive relationship was observed between size of community and the proportion of respondents indicating high occupational choices. When controls for intelligence and socio-economic status were introduced, differences by size of community were not observed for girls but persisted for males.

The study also indicated that differences in "occupational plans" by size of community were greatest for those with high socio-economic status even when intelligence was controlled.

REMARKS: The report gives considerable detail on methods and procedures, relates the findings of the reported investigation to those of others, and considers theoretical implications. The measure of occupational choice indicates "fairly realistic occupational choices" according to the authors. High choices consist of those who indicated a professional or executive job only if they intended to pursue formal education beyond high school and those who indicated they intended to go to college but did not give an occupational choice. The unique nature of the indicator for "aspiration" limits the utility of the findings for comparative purposes.

D-9

Siemens, L. B. The Influence of Selected Family Factors on the Educational and Occupational Aspiration Levels of High School Boys and Girls. Winnipeg, Can.: University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agriculture and Home Economics, June, 1965.

MANITOBA (1964)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 1844	Selection: Students were selected from
Sex: M, F	28 schools in two rural sam-
Age: Juniors, Seniors	ple areas and from two large
Residence: R, Suburban	suburban collegiates in Metro-
	politan Winnipeg.

OBJECTIVES: To study the relationship between occupational aspiration level and ten family variables, including size of community of orientation.

RESULTS: The relationship between occupational aspiration level and size of community of orientation was found to be positive and statistically significant for boys and girls. However, some inconsistencies were observed in both cases.

Other variables found to be significantly associated with the occupational aspiration levels of both sexes were: socio-economic status, father's occupational status, father's educational level, and strength of parental encouragement for continuing education. Ethnic background and marital relationship of parents were not found to be associated with occupational aspiration for either sex. Mother's educational level and religious background were found to be related to the aspirations of boys but not girls.

REMARKS: The author has utilized the total scores on Haller's "Occupational Aspiration Scale" in measuring occupational aspirations. This score includes measures of both aspiration and expectation level-- a fact that should be considered in making comparisons with other studies.

Of particular significance, the results indicated a lack of association between ethnic background and the measure of occupational status orientation and that religion was related to occupational aspirations of boys but not girls.

D-10

Youmans, E. G. "Occupational Expectations of Twelfth Grade Michigan Boys," The Journal of Experimental Education, 24 (June, 1956), pp. 259-271.

MICHIGAN (date not given)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	1279	Selection:	A representative sample from
Sex:	M		56 public and private high
Age:	Grade 12		schools in Michigan.
Residence:	R, U		

OBJECTIVES: Attempts to evaluate the relative significance of "social stratification" (father's occupation) upon occupational expectations as compared with the influence of selected aspects of the home, place of residence, and school. Also examines the relationship of aspirations to expectations by father's job.

RESULTS: It is reported as a conclusion of this study that social stratification had a greater influence on occupational expectation than any other factor considered--including place of residence, work experiences, and school curriculum. However, relatively high coefficients of contingency (corrected) were observed in reference to rural-urban residence, education of the father, curriculum, and types of full-time jobs held--all were significant at the .01 level.

A consistent downward adjustment was observed between aspiration and expectation levels for each type of father's occupation--this tendency was most pronounced for sons of manual workers and farmers.

REMARKS: A question can be raised about the measurement of social stratification--three classes of father's occupation as follows: white-collar workers, manual workers, and farmers. It would appear that the study indicated only that qualitative types of father's occupations are markedly associated with difference in occupational expectation levels.

#### PART E: RURAL ADULTS

These few studies are included, even though they do not pertain to youth, because they point to an area of research that has been largely ignored--the study of the occupational aspirations and expectations of adults. The findings evolving from these few studies are provocative and provide a number of hypotheses deserving consideration in future research.

E-1

Fleigel, F. C. "Aspirations of Low-Income Farmers and Their Performance and Potential For Change," Rural Sociology, 24 (September, 1959), pp. 205-214.

PENNSYLVANIA: Fayette County (June, 1957)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 189	Selection: All commercial farmers in a random sample of noncontiguous townships drawn from the county.
Age: Adults	
Residence: Farm	Fayette is a low-income county characterized by a high dependency upon agriculture for income.
Job: Commercial Farmers	

OBJECTIVES: To determine the relationship between "level of aspiration" (strength of desire to improve income) and "occupational orientation to the farm."

RESULTS: It was concluded that strength of aspiration (income) was negatively correlated with a desire to remain in farming. About one-fourth of the respondents expressed doubts about remaining in farming. These farmers had higher "levels" of income aspiration than the remainder. Also, over half the respondents indicated that they would not go into farming if they "had the choice to make over," and, these tended to have higher income aspirations than their opposites--the difference was highly significant.

REMARKS: This study is of major significance for two reasons. First, it is the only study that attempts to ascertain how the strength of desire for income goals relates to occupational preferences. Secondly, it is one of very few studies that has examined the role of aspirations in decisions to remain in or get out of farming.



E-2

Taylor, L. and C. W. Glasgow. Occupations and Low-Income Rural People: A Southern Regional Study. Baton Rouge: Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Southern Cooperative Series Bulletin 90, December, 1963.

ALABAMA, FLORIDA, NORTH CAROLINA, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, TENNESSEE, TEXAS (1961)

RESPONDENTS

No.:	1074	Selection:	A stratified probability sample of the employed male household heads in low-income rural areas of the South.
Sex:	M		
Age:	Adults		
Residence:	R		
Race:	W, NW		

OBJECTIVES: Studies the occupational aspirations and expectations of men, for themselves and their children, by their present jobs.

RESULTS: In all instances, except for clerical-sales workers, the men listed their present job as the type of work most liked. Those indicating most satisfaction were craftsmen--more than two-thirds giving this as the kind of work liked most. Much the same trend is noted when the men were asked what type of job they expected in five years. However, more clerical and sales workers expected to be engaged in this type of position than had expressed a desire for it. For those men in the lower status jobs, mobility out of their low positions was neither desired nor expected.

An overwhelming tendency was observed for the men to want their sons to have higher prestige occupations than their own present job.

REMARKS: This study is valuable because it is one of the few that have investigated the occupational aspirations and expectations of adults. Of particular significance is the finding that men filling low prestige positions indicated no desire or expectation for higher level jobs.

E-3

Youmans, E. G. The Rural School Drop-Out: A Ten-Year Follow-Up Study of Eastern Kentucky Youth. Lexington: University of Kentucky, College of Education, Bulletin of the Bureau of School Service, Vol. 36, No. 1, September, 1963.

## EASTERN KENTUCKY (1960)

RESPONDENTS

No.: 307	Selection: A sample of 41 percent of the men who were enrolled in the eighth grade in 11 Eastern Kentucky counties in 1950.
Sex: M	
Age: Adults	
Residence (1950): R	

OBJECTIVES: To examine the associations of educational attainment, occupational attainment, and place of residence with occupational aspirations of young men originating in rural areas.

RESULTS: Level of educational attainment was found to be positively associated with the level of occupational aspirations of young men still living in the rural areas. One-third of the high school graduates had high status white-collar goals, and only 11 percent of the drop-outs. The same trend was noted for those who had migrated to urban areas; but differences were not statistically significant.

Significant differences existed between present job and occupational aspirations. Those men employed in low prestige jobs indicated the greatest desire for upward occupational mobility and the least desire for mobility was exhibited by skilled and semiskilled workers. A somewhat unexpected finding revealed that almost one-fifth of the white-collar workers had aspirations at lower levels than their present occupations.

REMARKS: The fact that a sizable proportion of the men in white-collar occupations desired lower status jobs requires more elaboration. The white-collar category utilized by the author includes clerical and sales workers. Jobs in both of these classes are rated below some of the skilled trades on the NH scale. A desire for a "lower status" occupation may not actually indicate a negative mobility orientation.

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