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ABSTRACT

As part of a larger study prepared to provide local leaders with information on socioeconomic characteristics and household attitudes in four Kentucky counties, this databook on Harlan County is compiled from 1961 (open country area) and 1973 (nonopen country area and open country area) surveys. The sampling procedure involved a random selection of small-area sample segments and then a random selection of households to be interviewed. Interpretive summaries are provided for the following survey components: (1) Residential Characteristics; (2) Household Characteristics; (3) Occupational Characteristics; (4) Level of Living; (5) Income Characteristics; (6) Social Participation; (7) Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in County, 1973; (8) Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in Own Family, 1973; and (9) Opinions of Change in Quality of Life in the U. S., 1973. Survey results indicated Harlan County differed from the other counties in the percentage who felt that change had occurred in a particular area. Compared to responses from other counties, principal differences in opinions occurred among Harlan open country residents with respect to land use and agriculture, medical care, job opportunities, and opportunities for the young and old. The consensus was that conditions had worsened in every case except for medical care.

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE QUALIFY OF LIFE
IN HARLAN, PERRY, WHITLEY, AND WOLFE
COUNTIES: SUMMARIES OF DATA FROM
SURVEYS OF HOUSEHOLDS IN
1961 AND 1973

Harlan County Databook



Compiled

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PREFACE

The purpose of preparing this databook is to provide local leaders and officials with information obtained from sample surveys of households in Harlan, Perry, Whitley and Wolfe counties. The data were compiled from surveys in 1961 and 1973--made for somewhat different but related purposes. Both surveys included information on selected social and economic characteristics and attitudes of the households and of family members thereby permitting comparisons of households at two points in time. The 1973 survey also obtained considerable information on attitudes about changes in aspects of the quality of life in each county since 1960.

Area sampling procedures were used in both instances to identify households from which information was obtained. In the 1961 survey only residents in open country areas of each county were interviewed, while the 1973 survey included residents of non-open country as well as open country areas. The sampling procedure involved a random selection of small-area sample segments and then a random selection of households to be interviewed in each segment. The sampling rate of open country households in each county was determined by dividing the number of open country households in each county by the total number of open country households in all four counties. Proportionate sampling rates also were used in non-open country areas. Consequently, the data obtained and summarized in the tables approximate those which would have been obtained if a simple random sample of households in all four counties had been drawn. In both surveys the person(s) interviewed were the household Head and/or Homemaker.

The survey in 1961 was made as part of an Agricultural Experiment Station research project on Factors in the Adjustment of Families and Individuals to Changing Conditions in Low Income Rural Areas. The 1973 survey is part of a research project on Rural Development and the Quality of Life in the Rural South. These studies--made in cooperation with Agricultural Experiment Stations in several southern states¹--reflect an interest in rural development, which has been maintained for more than a decade, by members of the Department of Sociology. Support of these research studies by the Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, is gratefully acknowledged.

¹Agricultural Experiment Stations in the following states are cooperating with Kentucky in the present study: Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

INTERPRETIVE SUMMARY

Residential characteristics. Most families in the 1973 Harlan County sample, like those in the combined sample for Harlan, Perry, Whitley and Wolfe counties, lived in single family houses which they owned (71 percent) and which were on a hard-surfaced road (86 percent). In the past decade the proportion of country households living on a hard-surfaced road has greatly increased but other characteristics remained about the same. The male heads' satisfaction with their present residence has also increased substantially.

More country than town people own their homes and residential satisfaction is greater in the country. Harlan County is not very different from the four counties combined, except that fewer people live on farms.

Household characteristics. In 1973 the typical household in Harlan County had 2 or 3 persons regardless of whether located in country or town.¹ However, there were more large households in the towns. Three out of four households had a married couple as nucleus, three-fifths had one or more children at home, and half were in a stage of the family life cycle in which at least one child was 10 years of age or older. A majority of household heads had had 8 or more years of schooling and were 50 years old or older, but those in the country had had less schooling and were a little older than those in the towns. In all these respects households in Harlan County were quite similar to those in Harlan, Perry, Whitley, and Wolfe counties combined.

Between 1961 and 1973 the principal changes in characteristics of open country households were in household size and stage of family life cycle. Compared with 12 years ago relatively fewer households in the open country now have five or more members, and fewer have children over 18 years of age living at home. The changes in all the counties were similar.

Occupational characteristics. Most household heads in Harlan County in 1973 were "fully able to work" (59 percent) and "employed full time" (57 percent), but far fewer were in these categories in the country than in the towns. Most of the male household heads were craftsmen and operatives, though there were substantial numbers of managerial and professional-technical persons as well as laborers. Those in the towns are in somewhat higher status occupations than those in the country. Overall, less than 1 in 5 homemakers were employed outside the home but in the towns 1 in 3 were employed, compared to 1 in 14 in the country.

With respect to their jobs, male heads of household are far more disposed to like various aspects of their work and work situation than to dislike those aspects. However, 37 percent were dissatisfied with their chances of getting ahead and one-fifth to one-fourth were dissatisfied with the number of hours worked, retirement and other benefits, and amount of money earned. There was a slight tendency for the country people to be more dissatisfied.

¹In the Interpretive Summary the terms country and town will be used to refer to the tabular data labeled open country (O.C.) and non-open country (N.C.), respectively.

Compared with the heads of household living in towns in all four counties, those in Harlan County were more often "fully able to work" and more often employed full time. Harlan has fewer laborers and more operatives, craftsmen, and managerial people than the four counties combined. Fewer of Harlan's country homemakers are employed than in the four counties combined. Moreover, the male heads who had jobs, regardless of residence, were less often dissatisfied with retirement and other benefits, and amount of money earned than those in all four counties combined. In other respects, differences in occupational characteristics were small.

The percentage of household heads living in the open country who are fully able to work and of male heads employed full time has declined over the past 12 years in Harlan County and in all the counties studied. However, of those employed in 1973 proportionately more were satisfied than in 1961 with the steadiness of the work and their working conditions, and this was also true in lesser degree of employed males in all four counties. On the other hand, dissatisfaction with chances of getting ahead increased in the past 10 years among the open country residents in the four counties as a whole, but not in Harlan County. Dissatisfaction with retirement and benefits and with amount of earnings increased substantially in the four counties but not as much in Harlan.

Level of living. Except for central heating and air conditioning, half or more of the homes in Harlan County had each of the household conveniences asked about. Town homes more often had each facility, except for home freezers, refrigerators, and television. Country homes in Harlan somewhat more often have piped water and plumbing facilities but otherwise there is not much difference between Harlan and the other counties. The median-sized house in all counties has five rooms.

Compared to 12 years ago the level of living of country families in Harlan County (and in the four counties combined) has improved dramatically. For example, where only 5 out of 10 country homemakers formerly had an electric or gas range, 9 out of 10 have one now; and, where only 6 in 10 houses had piped water, now 8 have it. Home freezers, electric sewing machines, air conditioners, and vacuum cleaners have more than doubled in frequency. The changes have been similar in the four counties combined.

Telephones have more than doubled in Harlan and the combined counties. Magazines and newspapers increased in all but the rate of increase was greater in Harlan than in the four counties combined.

Income. While one family in six living in towns in Harlan County had an income below \$4,000 in 1972, this was true of nearly half the families living in the open country. Families in Harlan County, both town and country, were better off in this respect than those in the four counties combined. The most common main source of income for people in towns was wages, salaries or business (79 percent), while the most common main source for country residents was Social Security and pensions (47 percent). Only 40 percent of the country people got their main income from employment earnings and for 11 percent welfare was the main source. While 12 percent of male heads in towns regarded their income as insufficient, 45 percent of those in the open country felt this was so.

Compared with 12 years ago family incomes of country residents, of course, are higher; more are receiving some retirement income and it is a major source of income for a higher proportion of these families, but fewer regard their incomes as sufficient. The greater importance now of Social Security and pensions income is probably partially due to the higher proportion of country people with disabilities. But no doubt the major factor in dissatisfaction with income, despite its increase, is that wants increase as rapidly as incomes.

Social participation. About a fourth of the families in Harlan County do not participate in any formal organization, such as a church, civic club, union, or lodge, but an equal proportion participate extensively (high or very high) in such groups. The somewhat younger, better educated and higher income families in towns are more active in organizations than those in the open country, the proportion of "high" participators in towns is three times that in the country. In these respects organizational participation in Harlan County is much like that in the four counties. Somewhat surprising is the fact that organizational participation of open country families has declined slightly in the past 12 years, but this may be due to the fact that more have disabilities of one kind or another and are on pensions or retirement income.

The most popular forms of leisure pursuits are television, games, and other indoor activities, and out-door activities such as hunting and fishing. In most respects the leisure-time activities of Harlan countians are like those in all four counties, except that they participate more in spectator activities and neighborhood and community activities.

Opinion of change in quality of life in Harlan County. Three out of 5 household heads or homemakers surveyed in Harlan County think that "in general and on the average" the quality of life for most people in the county has improved during the past 10 years. Somewhat more town than open country people felt this way. A majority (over 50 percent) felt that improvement has occurred with respect to public schools, higher educational opportunities, medical care, welfare programs, the situation of the poor, transportation, incomes, public utilities, public housing, opportunities for Blacks, and the county as a place to live. Moreover, for 10 of these 11 aspects a majority felt that the current situation was "pretty good" or "very good," although only for medical care did a majority regard the current situation as being "very good." On the other hand, a majority felt that County Government had not changed for the better or worse, and this sentiment also applied to politics and political parties, obedience to laws, and opportunities for old people. The buying power of income was the only aspect checked that a majority thought had gotten worse, although 49 percent also thought that the agricultural and land use situation had worsened. A majority also rated current job opportunities and opportunities for youth and old people as poor.

Town and open country residents differed in their opinions as to the direction of change during the past 10 years only on job opportunities, religion, and the county as a place to live. A majority of the open country household heads and homemakers felt that job opportunities had worsened while those in towns were evenly divided on the matter. A majority of the town people felt that the quality of churches and religion and of the county

as a place to live had improved while open country residents were more evenly divided over whether it had improved or remained the same. There is a tendency for town people to see more improvement and to rate the present situation higher than country people, but this is not uniform for all aspects of life.

In their opinions about change during the past 10 years people in Harlan County differed from those in the other counties primarily in the percentage who felt that change in a particular direction had occurred. They do not much differ on the direction of change, i.e., whether the quality of life aspect has been improving, getting worse or staying the same. Principal differences in opinions occurred among open country residents with respect to agriculture and land use, medical care, job opportunities, and opportunities for the old and the young. Compared to open country residents of the four counties combined those in Harlan County were much more inclined to say that the situation in each case has worsened or is poor, except in the case of medical care, which they more often see as improved and "very good."

Quality of life change in own family. Two-thirds of Harlan countians said that their family's situation is "much" or "somewhat" better off now than 10 years ago, and almost as many (three-fifths) rated their current situation as "very good" or "good." Only 8 percent said they are worse off and that their situation is "only fair" or "poor," while 27 percent said this about their family situation 5 years ago. Town and country people rated their situation 5 years ago similiarly, but fewer town people said they are worse off now or in a poor or fair situation. Harlan people are similar to those in the other counties in their assessments of their family situation, though more of the country people in Harlan than in the combined counties rate their situation as "good" or "very good."

Quality of life change in the U.S. There is no consensus, either in Harlan or the other counties, as to the direction of quality of life changes in the U.S. during the past 10 years. About a quarter of the people said life in the U.S. is better and a quarter said it is worse, with the rest seeing a mixed picture. But Harlan town people assessed the U.S. situation more favorably than did country people.

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II. TABLES

Table 1. Residential Characteristics

Item	Harlan County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Type of House								
Mobile home	--	3	0	2	--	8	4	7
House (single family)	--	97	97	97	--	92	92	92
Apartment (multi-family)	--	0	3	1	--	0	4	1
		(94)+	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Type of Road								
Hard surfaced	56	77	100	86	40	79	96	84
Other	44	23	0	14	60	21	4	16
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Farm Classification								
Farm	5	2	0	1	20	11	2	8
Nonfarm	95	98	100	99	80	89	98	92
	(61)	(93)	(61)	(154)	(266)	(319)	(144)	(463)
Home Tenure								
Own home	74	77	62	71	69	73	69	72
Pay cash rent	20	16	31	22	25	18	26	20
Other	6	7	7	7	6	9	5	8
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(265)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Residential Satisfaction of Male Heads								
Would not like to move	78	93	81	88	77	85	75	82
Would like to move	20	7	19	12	21	14	23	17
Undecided	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	1
	(49)	(42)	(26)	(69)	(212)	(158)	(61)	(219)
Residence Change in Past Five Years								
No change	--	87	87	87	--	82	82	82
One change	--	7	10	8	--	12	13	12
Two changes	--	4	3	4	--	4	4	4
Three or more changes	--	2	0	1	--	2	1	2
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(316)	(143)	(459)

*O.C. - Open country household

N.C. - Non-open country household

**4-County Total--all households surveyed in Harlan, Perry, Whitley, and Wolfe counties

+Number in parenthesis is the total respondents for the item

Table 2. Household Characteristics

Item	Harlan County				4-County Total**				
	1961	1973			1961	1973			
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	
		-percent-				-percent-			
Size of Household									
One	11	7	8	8	8	8	14	10	
Two	23	29	32	30	25	34	33	34	
Three	18	21	28	24	17	19	20	19	
Four	10	20	13	17	14	16	15	16	
Five	15	10	13	11	11	11	12	11	
Six	11	7	2	5	8	5	3	5	
Seven	2	4	2	3	6	5	1	3	
Eight	5	1	0	1	5	1	1	1	
Nine or more	5	1	2	1	6	1	1	1	
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)	
Race									
White	100	100	97	99	100	99	98	99	
Black	0	0	3	1	0	1	2	1	
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)	
Sex of Head									
Male	82	84	77	81	84	83	74	80	
Female	18	16	23	19	16	17	26	20	
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)	
Age of Head									
Less than 20 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
20-29	3	9	13	10	8	13	10	12	
30-39	20	13	10	1..	18	13	11	13	
40-44	3	4	16	9	12	7	13	9	
45-49	7	14	3	10	7	9	6	8	
50-54	12	20	18	19	12	13	15	13	
55-64	26	15	25	19	18	14	21	16	
65-74	21	20	13	17	16	21	18	20	
75 or more	3	5	2	4	9	10	6	9	
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)	
Education of Head									
No school	5	2	2	2	3	3	1	2	
1-3 years	16	17	0	10	14	11	4	9	
4	11	11	3	8	11	8	4	7	
5-7	25	18	8	14	25	19	8	15	
8	20	27	18	23	27	31	19	27	
9-11	12	13	13	13	9	11	16	13	
H.S. Diploma	8	8	26	16	7	10	21	14	
1-3 years college	0	1	12	5	1	4	15	7	
College graduate or more	3	3	18	9	3	3	12	6	
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(264)	(318)	(144)	(462)	

Table 2 (Continued)

	1961		1973		1961		1973	
	O.C.*	OC.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	OC.*	N.C.*	Total
Marital Status of Head								
Married	75	79	75	77	80	79	72	76
Never Married	0	2	3	3	1	2	3	2
Divorced	2	3	7	5	2	3	4	4
Separated	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1
Widowed	23	14	15	14	17	15	21	17
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(454)
Type of Family								
Head and spouse	64	71	69	70	67	73	66	71
Head only	18	14	21	17	14	15	25	18
Head and spouse plus other single adult(s)	11	8	7	7	11	5	5	5
Other types	7	7	3	0	8	7	4	0
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(454)
Stage in Family Cycle								
Head less than 35 years (no children)	0	2	6	4	2	5	6	5
Children under 4 yrs.	2	5	3	4	4	5	3	5
Children 4-9	6	5	10	7	10	10	8	10
Children 10-17	20	26	18	23	21	21	21	21
Children 18+	39	25	33	28	32	20	24	21
Head (and/or spouse) only, aged 35-59 (neither less than 35)	13	20	15	18	10	12	17	14
Head (and/or spouse) only, both 60+	20	17	15	16	21	26	21	24
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)

Table 3. Occupational Characteristics

Item	Harlan County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973		1961	1973		Total	
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	
	-percent-				-percent-			
Ability of Head to Work								
Fully able	62	49	51	59	63	52	64	56
Limited	16	18	5	13	11	11	5	9
Disabled	12 ¹	7	2	5	20 ¹	3	2	3
Retired (disabled)		15	8	12		18	11	16
Retired	10	11	11	11	6	16	18	16
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Employment Status of Male Heads								
Employed full time	61 ²	44	79	57	65 ²	50	65	54
Employed part time		8	4	6		6	3	5
Unemployed--looking for work	8	4	2	3	5	5	6	5
Unemployed--not looking for work	31	44	15	34	30	39	26	36
	(49)	(79)	(47)	(125)	(219)	(264)	(107)	(371)
Occupation of Male Heads								
Farm Operator or manager	0	0	0	0	16	7	1	5
Farm laborer, Foreman	0	2	0	1	9	1	0	1
Manager, proprietor, professional, technical	17	12	27	19	9	6	29	14
Sales, clerical	3	0	10	5	3	4	9	6
Craftsman, foreman	6	23	30	27	9	20	27	22
Domestic or service	3	5	8	6	5	5	9	6
Operative	62	39	17	29	40	29	17	25
Laborer	9	19	8	13	9	28	8	21
	(34)	(43)	(40)	(83)	(153)	(153)	(78)	(231)
Employment Status of Homemaker								
Not employed outside home	--	92	59	79	--	80	61	74
Employed full time	--	5	33	16	--	13	26	17
Employed part time	--	2	2	2	--	3	3	3
Unemployed--looking for work	--	1	3	2	--	2	4	2
Unemployed--not looking for work	--	0	3	1	--	2	6	4
		(90)	(60)	(150)		(307)	(140)	(447)

¹In 1961 the categories "disabled" and "retired (disabled)" were combined.

²In 1961 the categories "employed full time" and "employed part time" were combined.

Table 3. (Continued)

	1961		1973		1961		1973	
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Occupation of Homemaker								
Not employed	98	94	65	82	94	84	70	80
Manager, proprietor, professional, technical	0	2	17	8	2	3	13	6
Sales, clerical	0	2	5	3	1	3	6	4
Domestic, service	2	1	10	5	2	4	8	5
Operative	0	1	3	2	1	6	3	5
	(57)	(90)	(60)	(150)	(254)	(307)	(140)	(447)
Occupational Satisfaction of Male Heads								
No. hours must work:								
Dislikes	15	19	21	20	10	18	19	18
Likes	85	81	79	80	88	82	81	82
Don't know	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(124)	(73)	(37)	(110)
Steadiness of Work:								
Dislikes	33	13	0	6	20	12	5	10
Likes	67	97	100	94	80	88	95	90
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(124)	(73)	(37)	(110)
Doing same job:								
Dislikes	15	6	12	9	9	13	12	13
Likes	85	94	88	91	91	85	88	86
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
	(27)	(16)	(17)	(33)	(122)	(63)	(33)	(96)
Way boss treats him:								
Dislikes	4	7	0	3	1	3	7	4
Likes	96	93	100	97	99	94	93	94
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2
	(27)	(15)	(16)	(31)	(102)	(60)	(30)	(90)
Working conditions :								
Dislikes	26	0	0	0	16	9	3	7
Likes	74	100	95	97	84	90	94	91
Don't know	0	0	5	3	0	1	3	2
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(124)	(69)	(37)	(106)
Amount of responsibility :								
Dislikes	11	13	0	6	10	8	6	6
Likes	85	81	100	91	88	84	94	88
Don't know	4	6	0	3	2	8	0	6
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(123)	(70)	(36)	(106)
Importance of job to others :								
Dislikes	4	6	0	3	2	6	0	4
Likes	85	94	100	97	88	85	100	90
Don't know	11	0	0	0	10	9	0	8
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(123)	(68)	(37)	(105)

Table 3. (Continued)

	1961		1973		1961		1973	
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Chances of getting ahead:								
Dislikes	44	39	35	37	29	49	32	44
Likes	56	61	65	63	64	49	68	55
Don't know	0	0	0	0	7	2	0	1
	(27)	(13)	(17)	(30)	(124)	(67)	(34)	(101)
Retirement and other benefits:								
Dislikes	33	44	7	22	34	46	16	35
Likes	67	56	79	69	61	43	72	53
Don't know	0	0	14	9	5	11	12	12
	(27)	(9)	(14)	(23)	(110)	(44)	(25)	(69)
A Amount of money earned:								
Dislikes	26	31	21	26	27	48	24	40
Likes	74	69	79	74	73	51	76	59
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(124)	(69)	(37)	(106)
Kind of work done:								
Dislikes	4	6	0	3	5	6	3	5
Likes	96	94	100	97	95	93	97	94
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	(27)	(16)	(19)	(35)	(124)	(73)	(37)	(110)
People worked with:								
Dislikes	4	7	5	6	1	3	6	4
Likes	96	93	95	94	99	97	94	96
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(27)	(14)	(19)	(33)	(118)	(62)	(36)	(98)

Table 4. Level of Living

Item	Harlan County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973		1961	1973		Total	
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
-percent-								
Number of rooms in house	-percent-				-percent-			
One-two	3	0	0	0	3	1	0	1
Three	5	0	5	2	5	3	4	3
Four	23	30	15	24	29	28	17	25
Five	26	33	23	29	26	33	24	31
Six	28	29	29	29	21	24	31	26
Seven	8	5	8	6	9	7	9	7
Eight	5	0	15	6	4	2	9	4
Nine+	2	3	5	4	3	2	6	3
	(61)	(90)	(61)	(151)	(266)	(312)	(144)	(456)
Material Possessions								
(percent possessing each item ¹)								
Automobile	56	63	84	71	47	64	78	68
Truck	21	33	18	27	22	30	13	25
Gas or Elect. range	53	89	98	93	64	94	99	96
Piped water	59	82	100	89	41	74	99	82
Hot water heater	31	64	100	78	23	60	96	71
Mechanical								
refrigerator	92	100	100	100	91	99	100	100
Home Freezer	23	49	23	39	17	42	31	39
Elect. sewing machine	13	49	69	57	12	45	58	49
Inside flush toilet	26	69	100	81	15	61	99	73
Bath or shower	30	65	100	79	21	60	98	72
Air conditioner	3	10	33	19	2	12	36	20
Kitchen sink	57	90	100	94	58	87	99	91
Vacuum cleaner	25	61	90	72	27	60	87	69
Telephone	30	66	90	76	26	65	85	72
Central heating	21	34	69	48	13	33	75	46
Radio	85	90	98	94	85	95	97	96
Television	61	98	97	97	58	93	99	95
Weekly newspaper	3	15	38	24	11	20	38	25
Farm or Trade								
magazine	8	31	41	35	14	24	29	25
Magazine for women	2	20	48	31	7	19	47	28
Other Week or month								
magazine	3	38	75	53	3	30	65	41
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)

¹Percentages based on same n for each item.

Table 5. Income Characteristics

Item	Harlan County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973			1961	1973		
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-				-percent-			
Total Family Income								
None	7	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
\$1 - 999	21	4	2	3	31	4	1	3
1000 - 1999	18	14	0	9	22	16	6	13
2000 - 3999	33	28	16	23	25	31	20	28
4000+	21	54	82	65	18	49	73	56
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(264)	(312)	(138)	(450)
Sources of Income¹								
Salary,wages,business	52	45	79	58	44	49	67	55
Farm income	5	1	0	1	22	11	1	8
Investments	0	7	15	10	2	11	17	13
Retirement, pensions (social security)	30	52	41	48	29	50	44	48
Welfare	11	31	5	21	17 ²	23	5	17
Unemployment compensation	8	1	3	2	8	1	3	2
Miscellaneous	3	4	10	7	7	4	8	5
	(61)	(61)	(94)	(155)	(263)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Major Source of Income								
Salary,wages,business	55	40	79	55	48	45	68	52
Farm profits	2	0	0	0	10	3	1	2
Investments	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Retirement, pensions (social security)	28	47	21	37	25	44	27	39
Welfare	9	11	0	6	12	7	1	5
Unemployment compensation	4	1	0	1	3	0	1	1
Miscellaneous	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
	(57)	(92)	(61)	(153)	(227)	(315)	(141)	(456)
Income Satisfaction of male heads								
Very satisfactory	12	7	8	7	7	6	10	7
Satisfactory	55	64	69	66	60	60	67	62
Unsatisfactory	33	29	23	27	33	34	23	31
	(49)	(42)	(26)	(68)	(211)	(158)	(61)	(219)
Income Sufficiency (Opinions of Male Heads Only)								
Judged insufficient	39	45	12	32	47	43	20	36
	(49)	(42)	(26)	(68)	(202)	(158)	(61)	(219)

¹Percenta listed indicate those receiving some income from each source.

²Total n upon which 1961 percents are based in the welfare category is 241. County n is 56.

Table 6. Social Participation

Item	Harlan County				4-County Total**			
	1961	1973		1961	1973		Total	
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*		
		-percent-			-percent-			
Participation in formal organizations								
Membership and Participation in Organizations								
None	26	32	16	26	34	31	18	27
Low	24	28	11	21	25	30	17	26
Medium	33	24	25	25	29	22	26	23
High	15	11	25	16	10	13	18	15
Very high	2	5	23	12	2	4	21	9
	(61)	(94)	(61)	(155)	(266)	(320)	(144)	(464)
Participation in Leisure Time Activities¹								
Hunting and/or fishing:								
Never	--	39	39	40	--	44	42	43
Sometimes	--	29	33	30	--	29	35	31
Often	--	32	28	30	--	27	23	26
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Camping, boating, etc.:								
Never	--	72	62	67	--	74	67	72
Sometimes	--	12	26	17	--	15	22	17
Often	--	18	13	16	--	11	11	11
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
In-door Activities:								
Never	--	3	0	2	--	4	1	3
Sometimes	--	10	12	10	--	17	16	16
Often	--	87	88	88	--	79	83	81
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Out-door Activities:								
Never	--	17	31	23	--	18	30	22
Sometimes	--	18	13	16	--	24	25	25
Often	--	65	56	61	--	58	45	53
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Participant Activities:								
Never	--	65	43	56	--	68	53	63
Sometimes	--	28	24	14	--	14	22	17
Often	--	7	33	30	--	18	25	20
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Spectator Activities:								
Never	--	52	33	44	--	64	44	58
Sometimes	--	14	16	15	--	12	19	14
Often	--	34	51	41	--	24	37	28
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)

Table 6. (Continued)

	1961		1973		1961		1973	
	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Neighborhood and Community Activities:								
Never	--	40	16	31	--	60	33	52
Sometimes	--	33	39	35	--	25	38	29
Often	--	27	45	34	--	15	29	19
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Informal Social Activities:								
Never	--	90	69	81	--	76	69	74
Sometimes	--	5	16	10	--	16	17	17
Often	--	5	15	9	--	8	14	9
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)
Formal Associations:								
Never	--	85	56	74	--	90	64	82
Sometimes	--	5	20	11	--	4	19	8
Often	--	10	24	15	--	6	17	10
		(94)	(61)	(155)		(320)	(144)	(464)

¹No data was collected on this item or any of the remaining items in 1961.

Table 7. Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in County, 1973

Item	Harlan County			4-County Total**		
	1973			1973		
	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-			-percent-		
General Quality of Life						
Quality of Life for Most People :						
Improved	56	71	62	63	77	68
Gotten worse	23	14	19	20	9	17
Remained same	21	15	19	17	14	15
	(87)	(58)	(145)	(274)	(125)	(399)
County Government						
Change in:						
Improved	22	36	29	27	42	32
Gotten worse	20	8	14	21	11	18
Remained same	58	56	57	52	47	50
	(67)	(52)	(119)	(211)	(108)	(319)
Current situation:						
Very good	8	6	7	7	6	6
Pretty good	31	37	34	28	36	31
Fair	40	39	40	41	40	41
Poor	21	18	19	24	18	22
	(67)	(51)	(118)	(214)	(110)	(324)
Politics and political parties						
Change in:						
Improved	18	20	19	16	16	16
Gotten worse	18	13	16	25	19	23
Remained same	64	67	65	59	65	61
	(66)	(45)	(111)	(208)	(99)	(307)
Current situation:						
Very good	8	2	6	5	1	4
Pretty good	24	41	31	22	28	24
Fair	44	23	35	45	43	44
Poor	24	34	28	28	28	28
	(66)	(44)	(110)	(206)	(100)	(303)
Public Schools						
Change in:						
Improved	72	64	68	77	78	77
Gotten Worse	15	22	18	12	12	12
Remained same	13	14	14	11	10	11
	(81)	(55)	(136)	(259)	(121)	(380)
Current situation :						
Very good	44	38	42	29	31	30
Pretty good	25	33	28	48	48	48
Fair	20	11	16	16	13	15
Poor	11	18	14	7	8	7
	(81)	(55)	(136)	(258)	(120)	(378)

Table 7. Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in County, 1973 (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Higher Educational Cportunities						
Change in:						
Improved	79	86	82	79	87	82
Gotten worse	6	3	5	5	2	4
Remained same	15	10	13	16	11	14
	(79)	(59)	(138)	(244)	(122)	(366)
Current situation :						
Very good	43	51	46	23	35	27
Pretty good	32	30	31	52	47	50
Fair	11	12	12	17	13	16
Poor	14	7	11	8	5	7
	(79)	(59)	(138)	(243)	(121)	(364)
Agriculture						
Change in:						
Improved	18	19	18	40	37	39
Gotten worse	49	49	49	33	39	35
Remained same	33	32	33	27	24	26
	(69)	(37)	(106)	(231)	(91)	(322)
Current situation :						
Very good	9	10	9	5	7	5
Pretty good	25	24	24	36	34	36
Fair	36	32	35	33	33	33
Poor	30	34	32	26	26	26
	(69)	(38)	(107)	(230)	(93)	(323)
Medical care and Health service						
Change in:						
Improved	78	80	78	62	65	63
Gotten worse	14	8	12	19	17	18
Remained same	8	12	10	19	18	19
	(86)	(59)	(145)	(264)	(126)	(390)
Current situation:						
Very good	55	50	53	25	30	27
Pretty good	19	31	24	34	21	33
Fair	15	10	13	23	21	22
Poor	11	9	10	18	18	18
	(86)	(58)	(144)	(268)	(125)	(393)
Welfare Programs						
Change in:						
Improved	66	62	64	62	65	63
Gotten worse	16	24	19	17	15	16
Remained same	18	14	17	21	20	21
	(70)	(50)	(120)	(226)	(103)	(329)
Current situation:						
Very good	17	28	22	11	20	14
Pretty good	41	38	39	46	45	45
Fair	29	14	23	28	23	27
Poor	13	20	16	15	12	14
	(69)	(50)	(119)	(226)	(103)	(329)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Situation for Poor People						
Change in:						
Improved	62	68	65	74	77	75
Gotten worse	13	4	9	8	3	6
Remained same	25	28	26	18	20	19
	(81)	(57)	(138)	(256)	(122)	(378)
Current situation:						
Very good	17	21	19	9	11	10
Pretty good	38	31	35	45	46	45
Fair	31	34	32	35	32	34
Poor	14	14	14	11	11	11
	(81)	(58)	(139)	(253)	(123)	(376)
Law enforcement						
Change in:						
Improved	8	35	19	20	43	27
Gotten worse	45	28	38	38	24	34
Remained same	47	37	43	42	33	39
	(86)	(57)	(143)	(259)	(120)	(379)
Current situation:						
Very good	2	7	4	2	9	4
Pretty good	25	25	25	27	33	29
Fair	30	40	34	31	37	33
Poor	43	28	37	40	21	34
	(86)	(57)	(143)	(258)	(121)	(379)
Obedience to Laws						
Change in:						
Improved	8	20	13	20	27	22
Gotten worse	38	27	33	38	31	36
Remained same	54	53	54	42	42	42
	(85)	(59)	(144)	(258)	(124)	(382)
Current situation:						
Very good	5	7	6	4	5	4
Pretty good	35	30	33	33	36	34
Fair	33	41	36	37	41	38
Poor	27	22	25	26	18	24
	(85)	(59)	(144)	(257)	(124)	(381)
Transportation (Roads)						
Change in:						
Improved	66	66	66	71	75	73
Gotten worse	18	22	20	18	16	17
Remained same	16	12	14	11	9	10
	(87)	(59)	(146)	(274)	(124)	(398)
Current situation:						
Very good	12	10	11	6	11	8
Pretty good	40	34	37	49	43	47
Fair	25	24	25	26	22	25
Poor	23	32	27	19	24	20
	(87)	(59)	(146)	(274)	(124)	(398)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Income						
Change in:						
Improved	74	77	75	79	81	79
Gotten worse	5	9	7	3	5	4
Remained same	21	14	18	18	14	17
	(81)	(56)	(137)	(251)	(119)	(370)
Current situation:						
Very good	15	29	20	8	17	11
Pretty good	53	46	50	50	52	51
Fair	23	14	20	34	22	30
Poor	9	11	10	8	9	8
	(81)	(56)	(137)	(252)	(119)	(371)
Job Opportunities						
Change in:						
Improved	22	31	25	47	45	47
Gotten worse	52	33	44	26	22	24
Remained same	26	36	31	27	33	29
	(83)	(58)	(141)	(260)	(122)	(382)
Current situation:						
Very good	3	5	4	3	4	3
Pretty good	16	17	16	26	24	26
Fair	18	35	25	26	31	27
Poor	63	43	55	45	41	44
	(83)	(58)	(141)	(261)	(121)	(382)
Buying Power of Income						
Change in:						
Improved	17	20	18	26	23	26
Gotten worse	60	47	55	42	50	44
Remained same	23	33	27	35	27	30
	(83)	(55)	(138)	(259)	(118)	(377)
Current situation:						
Very good	2	0	2	1	0	1
Pretty good	19	28	23	24	25	24
Fair	28	37	31	43	43	43
Poor	51	35	44	32	32	32
	(83)	(54)	(137)	(259)	(116)	(375)
Religion						
Change in:						
Improved	38	56	45	36	61	44
Gotten worse	16	5	12	16	7	14
Remained same	46	39	43	48	32	42
	(83)	(56)	(139)	(248)	(122)	(370)
Current situation:						
Very good	32	47	38	22	40	28
Pretty good	41	39	41	48	44	47
Fair	23	9	17	22	12	18
Poor	4	5	4	8	4	7
	(82)	(56)	(138)	(246)	(122)	(368)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Recreational Opportunities						
Change in:						
Improved	37	46	41	45	52	48
Gotten worse	13	20	16	7	11	8
Remained same	50	34	43	48	37	44
	(83)	(59)	(142)	(236)	(120)	(356)
Current situation:						
Very good	12	12	12	6	13	8
Pretty good	24	18	22	30	21	27
Fair	18	29	22	29	33	30
Poor	46	41	44	35	33	35
	(83)	(59)	(142)	(236)	(120)	(356)
Public Utilities						
Change in:						
Improved	67	73	69	79	79	79
Gotten worse	7	3	6	4	4	4
Remained same	26	24	25	17	17	17
	(84)	(59)	(143)	(263)	(125)	(388)
Current situation:						
Very good	17	34	24	14	23	17
Pretty good	43	46	44	57	57	57
Fair	22	13	19	22	14	19
Poor	18	7	13	7	6	7
	(84)	(59)	(143)	(264)	(126)	(390)
Physical Environment						
Change in:						
Improved	15	30	22	19	25	21
Gotten worse	33	41	36	31	34	32
Remained same	52	29	42	50	41	47
	(85)	(59)	(144)	(254)	(122)	(376)
Current situation:						
Very good	33	24	29	15	16	15
Pretty good	21	31	25	37	36	37
Fair	22	20	22	29	25	28
Poor	24	25	24	19	23	20
	(85)	(59)	(144)	(254)	(122)	(376)
Public Housing						
Change in:						
Improved	75	81	77	71	82	75
Gotten worse	2	9	5	8	9	8
Remained same	23	10	18	21	9	17
	(79)	(58)	(137)	(244)	(124)	(368)
Current situation:						
Very good	14	35	23	8	18	11
Pretty good	51	29	42	49	49	49
Fair	29	22	26	29	19	26
Poor	6	14	9	14	14	14
	(79)	(58)	(137)	(243)	(123)	(366)

Table 7. (Continued)

	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
Opportunities for the Young People						
Change in:						
Improved	26	18	23	42	33	39
Gotten worse	37	36	36	20	21	20
Remained same	37	46	41	38	46	41
	(84)	(56)	(140)	(255)	(121)	(376)
Current situation:						
Very good	4	9	6	3	6	4
Pretty good	15	11	13	26	15	22
Fair	18	25	21	23	35	27
Poor	63	55	60	48	44	47
	(84)	(56)	(140)	(256)	(121)	(377)
Opportunities for Old People						
Change in:						
Improved	32	35	33	46	45	46
Gotten worse	15	18	16	12	12	12
Remained same	53	47	51	42	43	42
	(85)	(57)	(142)	(263)	(122)	(385)
Current situation:						
Very good	6	13	9	7	10	8
Pretty good	27	21	25	33	31	32
Fair	20	23	21	29	31	30
Poor	47	43	45	31	28	30
	(85)	(56)	(141)	(263)	(121)	(384)
Opportunities for the Blacks						
Change in:						
Improved	56	71	63	64	74	68
Gotten worse	11	5	8	5	3	4
Remained same	33	24	29	31	23	28
	(66)	(59)	(125)	(133)	(93)	(226)
Current situation:						
Very good	20	22	21	13	19	16
Pretty good	29	34	31	49	46	47
Fair	27	30	29	23	25	24
Poor	24	14	19	15	10	13
	(66)	(59)	(125)	(132)	(94)	(226)
County As Place to Live						
Change in:						
Improved	48	73	58	58	76	63
Gotten worse	13	5	10	9	4	8
Remained same	39	22	32	33	20	29
	(87)	(59)	(146)	(274)	(127)	(401)
Current Situation:						
Very good	28	31	29	23	33	26
Pretty good	40	44	42	47	43	46
Fair	22	22	22	24	22	23
Poor	10	3	7	6	2	5
	(87)	(59)	(146)	(274)	(127)	(401)

Table 8. Opinion of Change in Quality of Life in own Family, 1973

Item	Harlan County			4-County Total**		
	1973			1973		
	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-			-percent-		
Rating of Family Situation						
Five years ago :						
Very poor	11	13	12	9	10	10
Fair	15	14	15	21	14	18
Pretty good	29	25	28	28	26	27
Good	26	24	25	27	26	27
Very good	19	24	20	15	24	18
	(92)	(59)	(151)	(305)	(139)	(444)
At present :						
Very poor	5	0	3	5	2	4
Fair	8	2	5	11	3	8
Pretty good	26	36	30	39	29	36
Good	32	36	34	25	36	29
Very good	29	26	28	20	30	23
	(93)	(61)	(154)	(310)	(141)	(451)
Changes in Family Situation						
Over Past 10 Years :						
Much better off	26	35	30	16	26	19
Somewhat better off	36	36	36	41	41	41
About the same	25	27	26	30	27	29
Somewhat worse off	5	2	3	8	6	8
Much worse off	8	0	5	5	0	3
	(86)	(59)	(145)	(273)	(127)	(400)

Table 9. Opinions of Change in Quality of Life in the United States, 1973

Item	Harlan County			4-County Total**		
	1973			1973		
	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total	O.C.*	N.C.*	Total
	-percent-			-percent-		
Life in the United States						
Getting better	25	37	30	27	34	29
Getting worse	27	13	21	28	20	26
Staying about same	28	27	28	22	21	21
Some better, some worse	20	23	21	23	25	24
	(89)	(56)	(145)	(304)	(136)	(440)

50-12-73

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