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ABSTRACT

Data from a 1% sample of households in the 1980 United States Census of Population and Housing were used to identify personal and social characteristics associated with being poor or marginally poor in Colorado. The general hypothesis examined was that the more limited an individual's access is to participation in the nontraditional aspects of the economic and social opportunity structure of the state and society, the more likely he/she is to be impoverished. Disproportional poverty is thus expected in remote, traditional areas and among people with traditional social identities that limit access to economic opportunities. The following variables were considered: area of the state, age, gender, minority status, English language skill, education completed, present school enrollment, disability status, marital status, responsibility for dependent children, rural and farm residence, recent migration history, whether employed, occupation type, and industry category according to traditionality or recency in Colorado. With some qualifications, the data supported the research hypothesis. Of the variables examined, location, marital, minority, and employment status made the greatest difference statewide. Education level was important in traditional rural areas, and current school enrollment was important in Colorado suburban, small SMSA (Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area), and nontraditional rural areas. Implications for programs and policies are discussed. (JHZ)

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# Patterns of Poverty in Colorado:

## Implications for Analysis and Action

Ed Knop and Sheila Knop

Colorado State University and the  
Colorado Commission on Higher Education

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# Population Dynamics for Colorado Educators

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Abstract:

Personal and social characteristics associated with being in poverty or being marginally poor are examined by Colorado regions using a one percent sample of households from the 1980 U. S. Census. The analysis considers the theme that changes in the state's economic opportunity structure disadvantage those persons with least access to new opportunities, whether by virtue of proximity or inhibiting social identities, leaving them disproportionately poor. The Colorado data generally support this hypothesis with some qualifications and additional considerations being important for understanding the state's patterns of poverty. Implications for programs and policies focus on countering regional and identity inequities, especially in support of the self-help tendencies shown by the majority of those in or near poverty due personal and social circumstances.

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according to a combination of considerations like family size, sex of family head, number of minor children, and farm-nonfarm residence. A rough rule of thumb is that poverty is set below a total income of about three times the family's basic food requirements, with certain other modifications. (See U.S. Census/Fendler, 1984: 179 ff.) Further, data enabled us to consider those who fell somewhat above the poverty line; we chose those within 50 percent above the poverty line as marginally-poor.

All variables relevant to consider were also intercorrelated to clarify patterns of second-order interdependences useful for interpretation of poverty status findings. As well, multiple correlation/regression (stepwise entry by highest remaining coefficient) was done for each region to examine the relative and combined explanatory power of major variables. The correlation and multiple regression analyses were done only for the adult sample to avoid substantial problems of missing and irrelevant data among the youth.

### Region Characteristics

The rationale for the choice of state regions for comparative analysis and interpretation needs comment. As a given, PUMS data are grouped into sixteen Colorado areas representing an approximate minimum of 100,000 persons in a region to preserve citizen privacy. Analysis of smaller units cannot be done. Fortunately, these sixteen areas were perceptively constructed to give relatively homogeneous socio-cultural and geographic natural areas that enabled their further grouping into fewer regions in terms of their proximity to new economic opportunity and their socio-economic similarity. We originally combined them into categories of: (A) Metropolitan: (1) Denver SMSA; (2) Other SMSAs; and (B) Non-metropolitan: (1) West; (2) East; and (3) South (each progressively more-traditional in socio-cultural and demographic characteristics. Preliminary analysis and literature review (e.g., Smith, 1976) convinced us this was a mistake in one important regard: like many major central cities, Denver, while at the core of a primate SMSA, is, in fact, not the location of much new economic activity that is easily accessible in several practical and socio-cultural regards for very many central city residents. On the other hand, the surrounding suburban SMSA is the location of most new development, followed by the other SMSAs and the western mountain non-metropolitan area. Thus the Denver central city was separated from the rest of the SMSA, giving us three metropolitan regions and three non-metropolitan ones as listed above. Figures 1, 2 and 3 map the boundaries of the sixteen PUMS areas, our six regions, and the metropolitan-nonmetropolitan boundaries.

Our interest is with exploring differences in poverty patterns not only between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas, but also regarding variations within them--particularly among the three non-metropolitan regions, where socio-cultural and economic characteristics vary considerably. Given our conceptual emphasis on the effects of remoteness and traditionality amidst change, we have been able to maintain conceptual criteria, non-metropolitan case numbers needed for analysis and have a selection of natural areas that approximate the range typical in the U.S.: (1) a large, old regional primate city; (2) its rapidly-developing clean-industry, commerce and science oriented suburbs; (3) adjacent small SMSAs with their adolescent-like transitional growth-adjustment challenges; (4) non-traditional non-metropolitan region (the western, north- and central mountains) which is

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Figure 2:  
Six Colorado Regions Used in This Analysis.

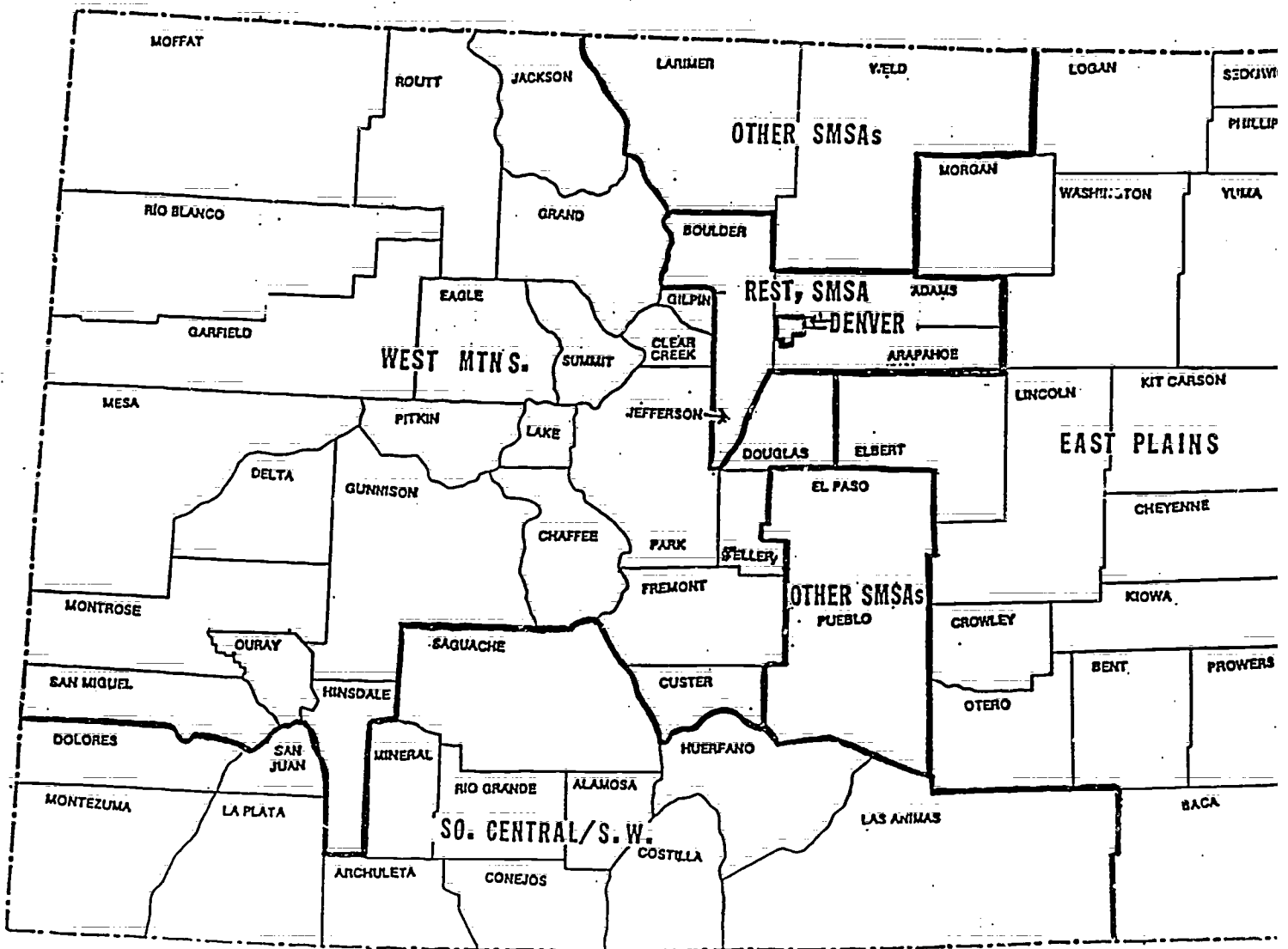
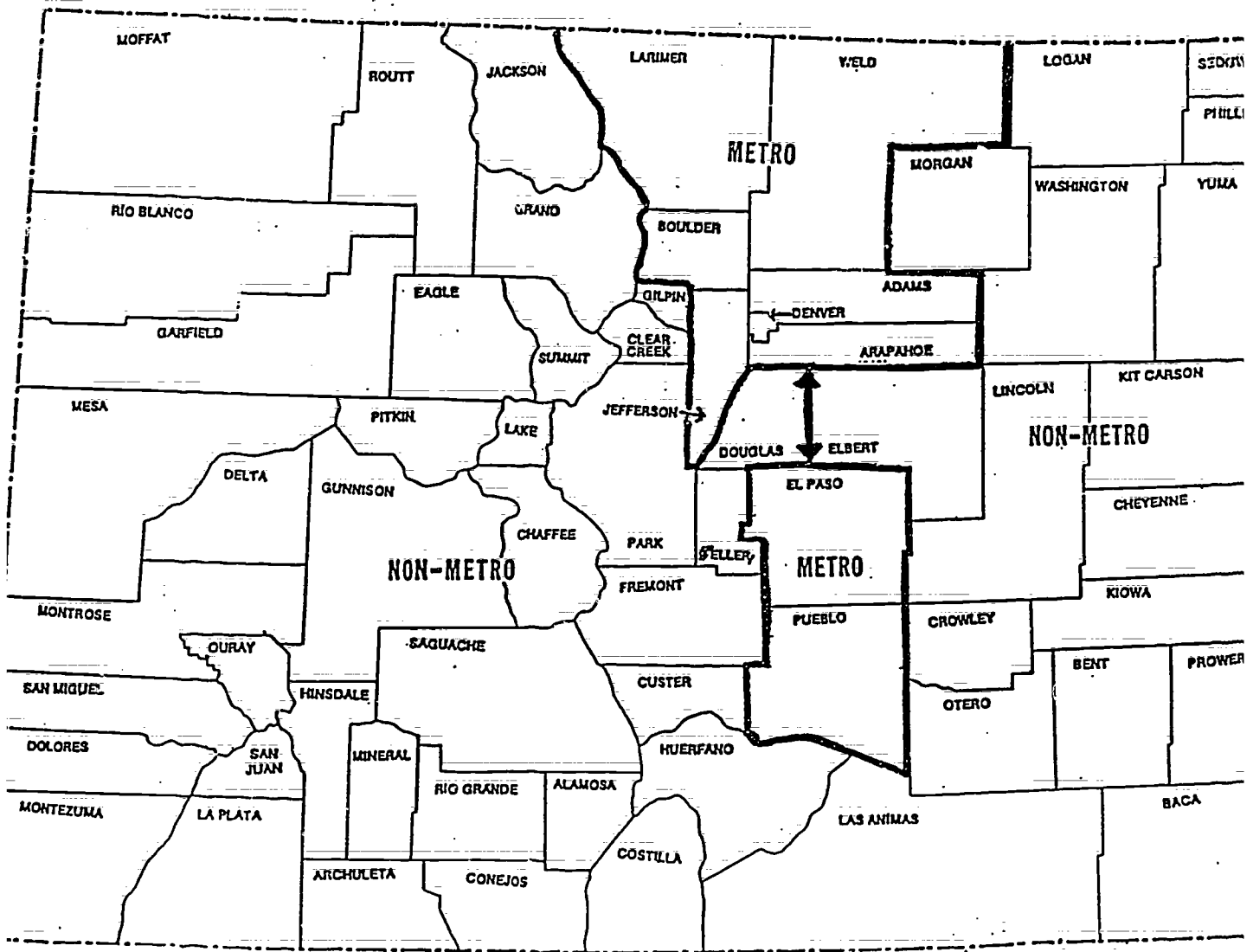


Figure 3:  
 Colorado Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Areas, 1980





characterized by energy and natural resource development, exurban residence, year-round recreation, tourism and related construction activities, strong remnants of the 1960-70s counterculture, a relatively young, highly educated population that is almost entirely non-minority, etc.; (5) a rural region of Great Plains type contemporary agriculture, produce processing and limited light manufacturing; and (6) a remote rural area mixing marginal large- and small-scale farming and grazing, regional commerce, seasonal "through tourism", a large hispanic population and strong residual Spanish traditions in general, several Indian reservations, etc.

### Findings

U.S. Census data show a national average of 13 percent in poverty. Some regional variation occurs, with the South having the highest percentage of poor (approaching 17 percent), and other regions being near the national average. In all U.S. regions, persons with the following characteristics are over-represented in poverty: minorities (often 30 - 40+ percent), those with minimal education (30 - 40+ percent), female householders (roughly 35 percent), unemployed persons (20+ percent), children and adolescents (20+ percent), and residents of central cities, non-metropolitan areas and farms (commonly 20+ percent). (Data from Census/Fenler, 1984, passim.) In U.S. areas where non-traditional economic activities are emerging, such as new natural resource development, poverty rates often decline substantially, but remain relatively high for persons in high-risk categories just noted (Elo and Beale, 1984?: passim).

Colorado sample data summarized in Table 1A - C show the state's 1980 average to be about 10 percent in poverty, with the adult average about 9 percent and the youth average between 11 and 12 percent. Variations in poverty among regions of the state are considerable, with: (1) the Denver SMSA, excluding the central city, being about 6 percent for adults and 8 percent for youth; (2) other SMSAs averaging 10 percent for adults and 11 percent for youth; (3) the least-traditional non-metropolitan area (West mountains) being slightly under 10 percent for adults and youth; (4) the Eastern agricultural region averaging about 12 percent for adults and almost 20 percent for youth; and (5) the remote Southern area averaging almost 18% for adults and 19% for youth. (6) Denver Central City shows adult rates of 10%, which are more typical of the outlying SMSAs and Western Mountain Region, and youth rates of 19%, which are most like those of the traditional rural regions. Mean total, wage, public assistance and Social Security incomes are noted for poverty categories and regions in Appendix 1A - D. Significance tests show the regions being focused on here (underlined in the stub of Table 1 - B) show differences beyond the .0001 level, as does the metropolitan-nonmetropolitan comparison which shows greater non-metropolitan poverty. Compared with the Denver suburban area, adults and children in remote, traditional areas of the state are two to three times as likely to be in poverty, other characteristics left unconsidered. Overall, these findings support our expectations that poverty increases as geographical access to non-traditional economic activity decreases, except that the incidence of poverty in Denver central city more resembles that of outlying areas than of its SMSA.

The Denver central city situation illustrates that differential access to economic opportunities is only partly a matter of geographical proximity, and

characterized by energy and natural resource development, exurban residence, year-round recreation, tourism and related construction activities, strong remnants of the 1960-70s counterculture, a relatively young, highly educated population that is almost entirely non-minority, etc.; (5) a rural region of Great Plains type contemporary agriculture, produce processing and limited light manufacturing; and (6) a remote rural area mixing marginal large- and small-scale farming and grazing, regional commerce, seasonal "through tourism", a large hispanic population and strong residual Spanish traditions in general, several Indian reservations, etc.

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Summary Tables 2 A - L, Continued

Personal/ Family Charac- teristic	Colorado Totals			Metropolitan Colorado Areas						Non-metropolitan Colorado Areas													
				Denver Central City		Rest Denver SMSA		Other State SMSA		West & North, Central Mountains		Eastern Plains		South Central & Southwest									
	In	%	Total	In	Subtot.	In	Subtot.	In	Subtot.	In	Subtot.	In	Subtot.	In	Subtot.								
	Pov	Mhr	Och	ToC	(Nx100)		(Nx100)		(Nx100)		(Nx100)		(Nx100)		(Nx100)								
<b>H2. SCH. ENROLLM (i)</b>																							
Adults:																							
Not Enrolled	8	8	84	100	(18444)	10	9	(3472)	5	5	(6902)	8	10	(4288)	9	9	(2046)	13	14	(897)	18	15	(839)
Enrolled	20	11	70	100	(1578) <sup>z</sup>	13	10	(297) <sup>ns</sup>	19	8	(635) <sup>z</sup>	26	13	(474) <sup>z</sup>	25	15	(108) <sup>z</sup>	7	11	(27) <sup>ns</sup>	16	27	(37) <sup>ns</sup>
<b>I. MIGRATION (j)</b>																							
Adults:																							
Non-migrant	8	8	84	100	(12501)	10	9	(2674)	5	5	(4261)	8	8	(3073)	9	9	(1227)	13	13	(712)	17	16	(654)
Migr., 75-80	11	9	81	100	(7421) <sup>z</sup>	12	9	(1095) <sup>x</sup>	8	6	(3276) <sup>z</sup>	13	13	(1699) <sup>z</sup>	11	8	(927) <sup>ns</sup>	10	14	(212) <sup>ns</sup>	21	14	(222) <sup>ns</sup>
<b>J. EMPLOYMENT (k)</b>																							
Adults:																							
Not in L.F.	16	13	72	100	(6132)	19	13	(1233)	12	8	(1914)	16	14	(1611)	15	14	(678)	18	20	(354)	28	22	(342)
Unemployed	14	13	73	100	(676) <sup>z</sup>	14	11	(118) <sup>z</sup>	11	9	(210) <sup>z</sup>	17	16	(200) <sup>z</sup>	11	14	(91) <sup>z</sup>	17	13	(24) <sup>z</sup>	18	27	(33) <sup>z</sup>
Employed	6	6	89	100	(13214)	6	7	(2418)	4	4	(5413)	6	8	(2951)	7	6	(1385)	9	9	(546)	10	11	(501)
<b>K. OCCUPATION (l)</b>																							
Adults:																							
Laborer	10	9	81	100	(2189)	13	8	(415)	7	7	(782)	9	11	(565)	9	11	(224)	16	9	(96)	17	19	(107)
Crafts, Farm Services	8	8	85	100	(2575)	8	8	(346)	6	4	(872)	8	9	(625)	8	8	(374)	14	10	(209)	12	15	(149)
Mgr., Prof.	8	8	84	100	(7603) <sup>z</sup>	8	9	(1472) <sup>z</sup>	6	5	(3007) <sup>z</sup>	10	10	(1814) <sup>z</sup>	10	7	(770) <sup>z</sup>	7	13	(269) <sup>z</sup>	16	11	(271) <sup>z</sup>
Totals	4	4	92	100	(4132)	5	5	(766)	3	2	(1842)	4	5	(835)	4	7	(439)	3	9	(136)	5	6	(123)
					(16499)			(2999)			(6503)			(3339)			(1798)			(710)			(650)
<b>L. INDUSTRY CAT. (m)</b>																							
Adults:																							
Traditional	12	8	80	100	(1771)	15	12	(234)	9	6	(475)	12	9	(387)	9	6	(363)	16	11	(169)	18	11	(143)
Intermed.	8	8	85	100	(8943) <sup>z</sup>	8	8	(1627) <sup>z</sup>	6	5	(3255) <sup>z</sup>	9	9	(2254) <sup>z</sup>	8	9	(1001) <sup>ns</sup>	7	11	(425) <sup>x</sup>	12	14	(381) <sup>ns</sup>
Recent	6	5	89	100	(5834)	6	5	(1142)	4	4	(2788)	7	7	(1221)	7	6	(436)	11	10	(117)	12	12	(130)
Totals					(16548)			(3003)			(6518)			(3862)			(1800)			(711)			(654)

- \* From a 1% sample of households (group quarters excluded) in the 1980 US Census of Colorado as provided on FIMS Series A tapes. Chi Square Goodness of Fit tests show the sample representative of the population on reported 100% count variables for all FIMS state regions at or beyond the .01 level. Poverty status is by official definition; marginal status is within 50% above the poverty line.
- a. Totals for columns remain constant throughout the table except as noted for subtables K and L; thus percent totals are not repeated to simplify presentation and interpretation. Likewise, once "others" are presented in the state total tables, they, and indication of 100% totals, are omitted from the presentation. Regional column data presented should be interpreted exactly as with comparable columns in the state totals. Approximate numbers and percentages omitted can be reconstructed from the implied 100% and total row numbers, which include the unrepresented "other" category. Percents are rounded to the nearest whole number to facilitate comparative visual interpretation. The letter codes ns, x, y and z indicate the level of significance of the subtable as noted below.
- b. Adults are those 19+. Youth data are presented only when the explanatory variable is meaningful for them and/or their presentation facilitates fuller interpretation of adult patterns (e.g., the adult gender bias).
- c. Minorities include all non-white persons and persons of hispanic origin.
- d. English only implies English as the principal language of regular domestic usage or the non-applicability of the item for children under 3 years; English plus other language implies another principal language, but with English speaking skill classified by Census as "well" or "very well"; little English indicates another principal language with poor or no verbal English ability.
- e. The FIMS A tapes do not include a rural-urban residence variable, but do provide an agricultural sales variable with a not-applicable code for "urban, city or suburban lot or place of less than 1 acre," a rural nonfarm category where 1979 agricultural sales were less than \$1000, and a farm category where agricultural sales were \$1000 or more. A note with the rural nonfarm category cautions "not all rural nonfarm is included," but does not indicate what is excluded; the vast majority of Colorado rural nonfarm households are included.
- f. Single includes widowed, divorced, separated and single; married means both spouses presently reside together.
- g. The married - child variable is a composite of two Census variables: (1) whether individual household residents are married or not, and (2) whether their household contains dependent children (but not necessarily those of each resident). Thus, single childless persons and elderly without children present but occupying a household with dependent children are classified as "single [in household] with dependent child." The majority of people so classified, however, are single parents.
- h. No disability; a disability not preventing ability to work; a disability which prevents the person from working.
- i. Enrolled means the individual was enrolled in some type of public, private or church educational program, not necessarily full-time, during February to April, 1980. Note that persons living in group quarters such as college dormitories, military barracks, rooming houses, prisons, nursing homes, etc. are not included in this sample, probably under-stating enrollment patterns in relation to poverty status.
- j. Migrants are those who lived in a different state or Colorado county in 1975 than in 1980; children born since 1975 are considered non-migrants.
- k. Not in labor force includes those not employed and not seeking work or unable to work; unemployed are those without jobs but able to work and seeking employment; employed include those with civilian or military jobs, whether or not they were working at the time of enumeration.
- l. Occupation categories combine Census' specific 1980 occupational codes as follows: laborer, 703 - 889; crafts/farm, 473 - 699; services, 203 - 469 and military personnel from the employment status variable; managerial/professional, 003 - 199. Excludes those not in the labor force.
- m. Industry codes were combined to produce categories of work in terms of their recency of prominence in the state's economic activity opportunity structure, as elaborated in the text: (1) traditional: very prominent in Colorado economic activity by 1900 (e.g., farming, mining, smelting, logging and milling, etc.); (2) intermediate: industries which emerged to established prominence by 1945 (e.g., construction, commercial food processing, mechanized transportation, wholesales and mass-marketing retail trade, military activities, general medical, educational and personal services, routine government services, etc.); (3) recent: economic activities assuming prominence since 1945 (e.g., chemical and petroleum industries, precision instruments and electronics, arts and entertainment, specialized finance, investment and insurance, advertising, leisure and tourism, specialized professional services like psychiatry, consulting engineering and social work, etc.) Excludes those not in the labor force.
- ns: not relevant; ns: not significant; x: significant between .10 and .015; y: significant between .01 and .015; z: significant at or beyond .001

is largely, as well, a matter of differential social proximity or accessibility. When social preference patterns of employers and others are combined with differential demographic composition of socio-economic units, we should expect unequal access to opportunities and clear patterns of differential socio-economic wellbeing along the lines of social identity categories like age, sex and minority status. The data in Table 2A - L show a variety of such patterns, including:

Age. In general, the 35 - 55 age category is the least likely to be in or near poverty. In understanding this finding, recall that this is a relatively small population cohort, minimizing internal employment competition, and that it came into economic activity during the rapid commercial and industrial expansion of the post-World War II period (Kennedy, 1986). All they have had to do to preserve their early advantage is remain active. The data further show that the age differentials in incidence of poverty is generally less in the suburban, small SMSA and non-traditional non-metropolitan areas; that youth are particularly over-represented in poverty in older, larger, more-industrial central cities (reference Denver and Pueblo in Table 1B); and that the young and old are disproportionately poor in the traditional non-metropolitan areas of the state (which was a clear national pattern until a substantial decline occurred in elderly poverty in recent years--Census, 1984).

Sex. Among youth, no gender differential occurs, but, by adulthood, females are somewhat over-represented among those in or near poverty in all state regions. Some of this is due responsibilities for dependent children and other considerations to be noted later, but, beyond these, some sex bias in access to employment seems to exist in Colorado, which, overall, is perhaps less traditional in defining women's roles than much of the rest of the nation.

Minority Status. Across Colorado, non-white and Hispanic adults are approximately twice as likely as majority persons to be in poverty, and, in most areas, minority youth are nearly three times as likely as their majority counterparts. Statewide, this means about 30 percent of minority adults and 40 percent of minority youth are in or near poverty. In traditional non-metropolitan areas, roughly half of all minority persons are officially or marginally poor. This clearly demonstrates the social preference patterns which limit access to economic opportunity for minority persons, even in a state that has a strong affirmative action emphasis and prides itself in fair treatment of everyone.

English Language Skills. Spoken English is even more strongly associated with poverty than is the related matter of ethnicity. This suggests conceptions of personal value are tied to popular notions of how prepared persons are to fit into the cultural and market mainstreams of the state more than on the basis of ethnicity *per se*. In general, Colorado adults with limited English skills are from three to four times as likely to be impoverished, and about twice as likely even when they have good English skills in addition to another language. The pattern among youth is even more pronounced, although the number speaking other languages is low. Expressed in absolute proportions, more than half of those with limited English are in or near poverty statewide, and, in traditional non-metropolitan and Denver central city areas, at least two-thirds of limited-English adults and youth

are in or near poverty.

Rural and Farm Residence. Although metropolitan residents are somewhat less likely to be in poverty than non-metropolitan residents, as noted above, rural nonfarm and farm residence does not seem to make much of a difference for adult poverty in Colorado. Presumably, the greater difference in regional opportunity structure reflected in the metropolitan-nonmetropolitan differences, coupled with the relative ease of local travel and the small number of rural Coloradans, makes this a relatively unimportant consideration for understanding state adult poverty patterns. Among the youth, the statistically significant differences that occur do not show a consistent pattern.

Marital Status and Dependent Children. For us, one of the surprises of this analysis was finding a strong relationship between being single and being impoverished. Statewide, single adults are between three and four times as likely as married persons to be in poverty, and about twice as likely to be near poverty. This means that, statewide, almost 30 percent of single adults are officially or marginally poor, a proportion that increases to about one-half of single adults in traditional non-metropolitan areas. Noting this, we created a new variable that came as close as we could to factoring in responsibilities for dependent children (Table 2F2). Although a problematic variable among the "single in household with dependent children" (note table footnote g), it is probable that a large number of unmarried parents in the state accounts for a great deal of the poverty among those who are single. Specifically, Table 2F2 data show that about one-third of single adults in households with dependent children are in or near poverty statewide, a proportion that increases to over one-half in the most traditional and remote of non-metropolitan areas. Table 3 data show women to more likely be the single parent with responsibility for dependent children, partly accounting for the higher percentage of women in poverty. As well, family or non-family group living arrangements contribute some single persons without their own dependent children to the high numbers in this household category (which probably more reflects than contributes to their poverty status). Beyond this, it seems likely that there is a social preference bias among some employers and others which characterize the single of either sex, particularly those in unorthodox living arrangements, as less reliable or responsible, and/or less fitted-in the socio-economic mainstream.

Disabilities. Not surprisingly, disabilities that prevent work made persons from two to three times as likely to be in poverty, and considerably more likely than the unimpaired, even when the disability does not prevent work. Statewide, more than 40 percent of those who cannot work due to disabilities are in or near poverty, and, in traditional non-metropolitan areas, the figure increases to over one-half. Those with disabilities permitting work still fall in the 25 to 35 percent range except for the suburban and small SMSA areas, where the percentages are a little lower.

Education and Current Enrollment. Again, as one would expect, there is a general relationship between being less-educated and being more likely in or near poverty. Specifically, those adults with less than high school completion are three to four times as likely to be impoverished as are those with college completion. This translates, statewide, to about 30 percent of those with less than high school graduation being in or near poverty; regional

differences range from just over 20 percent in suburban areas to about 50 percent in the most remote traditional non-metropolitan area. Between the extremes of the less-than-high school to college-graduate categories, the patterns are more complicated. For the entire state, there is not much difference in poverty status between high school graduates and college graduates, but those with only some college are the most likely of the three to be in poverty. When comparing differences among state regions for the some-college category, part of the reason for this becomes apparent. Those areas where the some-college people are most over-represented in poverty are the same Colorado regions where the larger colleges and universities are located. Many of those in poverty in these areas can be assumed to be suffering the financial burden of college plus highly competitive local job markets. As well, there is probably some effect of non-enrolled "campus-edge fellow travelers" (as suggested by the high Boulder overall poverty percentages in Table 1B).

Table 2H2 demonstrates a strong relationship between being enrolled in an educational program and being in poverty. State totals show those adults enrolled (many, part-time) in all types of school programs are from two to three times as likely in poverty as non-enrolled persons, and the differences are even greater in the areas where college and other types of post-secondary educational offerings are most common and accessible. In absolute proportions, about 30 percent of enrolled adults are in or near poverty statewide, and, in areas of concentrated educational offerings, the figure approaches 40 percent. The fact that poverty-enrollment patterns in Table 2H2 are considerably stronger than the some-college patterns of Table 2H1 suggest much of the enrollment differential is due those attending non-baccalaureate programs. This prompts an interesting question of cause and effect: does being an adult student make one impoverished, or does being in poverty prompt one to escape it through further education? Doubtless both occur. Duncan's (1984) findings on the temporary nature of much poverty (several years is common) and these enrollment data suggests non-baccalaureate and part-time schooling in general is seen as a poverty-escape strategy or temporary sacrifice among many adults who have access to educational programs. Those Colorado areas where routine and special adult education programs are the least developed are the same areas in which the poverty-enrollment patterns noted are weakest or reversed.

Migration. Several different themes occur in the literature on migration-income relationships. Some scholars like Wardwell and Gilchrist (1984) show average increases in income of migrants, presumably because they are pulled toward better opportunities, taking skills where they are needed. Others (see Gardner's and other's papers in DeJong and Gardner, 1981) note the socio-economic refugee patterns, where the most-disadvantaged are often pushed into human dumping-grounds for survival. Both certainly occur to some degree, having a cancelling-out effect on aggregate migration-income/poverty data. Both also follow a relative opportunity structure theme, although of somewhat different forms. Using the imperfect Census definition of migration status (residing in a different county or state in 1975 and 1980), the Colorado data show migrants in general are somewhat more likely to be in poverty than non-migrants, lending support to the refugee proposition among the worst-off. Although the Colorado economic opportunity structure is generally considered a very open one, partly accounting for the heavy in-migration to the state throughout the 1970s and before, this opportunity structure doubtless gives

greater employment access to those who are more settled in the system. Table 3 data show the migrants, on average, to be younger adults with more education and a greater likelihood to be enrolled in school.

Employment. Across the state, the data show those who are not employed are from two to three times as likely to be in or near poverty as those who are employed. What is most impressive about Table 2J data is that those out of the labor force are consistently more likely in poverty than those who are unemployed. Overall, roughly one of three state residents who are either out of the labor force or unemployed are in or near poverty. Between regions the familiar pattern holds: the proportion of those in or near poverty in these categories tends to increase as we shift consideration from suburban areas through small SMSA, central city and non-traditional non-metropolitan areas to traditional non-metropolitan areas (where the most remote of these shows 50 percent of persons out of the labor force and 45 percent of those unemployed to be in or near poverty). Presumably many of those not in the labor force have given up looking for work, or are prevented from working by disabilities or circumstance like age, family responsibilities, etc. (as shown in Table 3). This doubtless partly accounts for the gender differential in poverty noted earlier.

Occupation and Industry. For those in the labor force, persons with the highest occupational status (managerial and professional) are from two to three times less likely in poverty than those with the lowest occupational status (laborers) in general. In most Colorado regions, those in the service occupations do not fare well, comparatively, despite these being touted as the post-industrial area of occupational opportunity.

To further explore types of employment activity in terms of their recentness, or non-traditionality, in the state opportunity structure, industries were categorized according to whether they were traditional by 1900, emergent to prominence between 1900 and 1945, or more recent. Table 2L data show that in metropolitan areas--those most benefitting from recent employment opportunities--persons in old-traditional industries are several times as likely in poverty than are those in recent industries. In non-metropolitan areas, the differences are not so great.

Table 3, a Pearson correlation matrix (including all variables considered to this point and some additional ones), is included for those who wish to further explore second-order relationships relevant to interpreting basic data patterns. As noted in comments to the tabular presentations, some variables like age do not show a clear linear relationship with poverty or other variables, reducing their explanatory utility in this correlation matrix. The reformulation of other variables, like employment status, to facilitate their linear interpretation tends to weaken their effects in statistical analysis. Never the less, additional insights on patterns noted above are available in these correlation data.

Taking this reasoning another step, multiple correlation/regression analysis of adult data was done for regions of the state as summarized in Table 4 (where the Denver SMSA, minus central city, and the other SMSAs were combined, given their highly-similar bivariate coefficients on regional tables like the state Table 3).



Overall, this analysis shows that roughly 40 percent of the total variance in poverty/marginal status is explained by the major variables (minus industry) used in the cross-tabulation summaries, assuming the appropriateness of linear interpretations, which is not always the case. In consideration of this modest level of explained variance, we should note that many relevant social-psychological variables like alienation from the marketplace and self-confidence were not available on the PUMS tapes even in the form of surrogate indicators. Similarly, many particularistic considerations like assertiveness, unique skill combinations, personal connections, or even numbers of children, were not available. Further, the relatively small percentage of the state's population in or near poverty makes this a variable where most cases fall into the residual "other" category, making it probable that the explanatory variable's variation also was concentrated in that single poverty category. Even so, some interpretations of these multiple correlation/regression summary results are informative.

In all cases, the marital status variable was among the most important ones considered in explaining poverty status, as was, in most regional cases, the employment status variable. In Denver central city and in the most-traditional non-metropolitan area, minority status also came high on the explanatory list, contributing from two to three percent of the remaining unexplained variance. In the state areas where most educational opportunities are concentrated (Tables 4 B and C), present enrollment also fell high on the list, but contributed little to the reduction of remaining unexplained variance. In the most-traditional non-metropolitan regions of the state (Tables 4 D and E), education completed showed relatively high bivariate correlation with poverty, and reasonable contributions to total variance explained, but, in areas with a higher proportion of minority persons, education level and minority status showed interactive overlap.

Some variables that showed clear patterns in the tabular presentations have minor overall effect in these regressions because they represent relatively few cases in the total Colorado population (e.g., disability status and English-other language). Other variables had relatively little overall effect, of course, because they produced low correlations (e.g., sex, rural-farm residence, age) and/or their effects were combined with those of other variables (e.g., language).

#### Summary and Concluding Comments

The persons more likely to be in or near poverty in Colorado in 1980 are: (1) residents of Denver central city or traditional non-metropolitan areas (in many regards, Denver city shows more similarities to these areas than the state's SMSAs); (2) young in Denver, and young and old in traditional rural non-metropolitan areas; (3) females; (4) minority persons; (5) those with limited English skills; and, among adults, (6) single, particularly in households with dependent children; (7) disabled; (8) less educated, and, in areas with extensive educational offerings, enrolled in school at least part-time; (9) migrants; (10) those out of the labor force and unemployed; (11) laborers, and, in smaller SMSAs and some non-metropolitan areas, service persons; and (12) those working in traditional (vs. recent) industries. Of these variables, location, marital, minority and employment status generally

Tables 3 and 4 Variable Abbreviations and Codes:

DISABI	- Disability: 0 no disability, 1 disabil. permitting work, 2 disabil. preventing work	VAR15	- Householder (old head of HH) status: 0 not head, 1 head
ENROLL	- Current school enrollment: 0 not enrol., 1 enrolled, 1980	VAR16	- Sex: 0 male, 1 female
FARM1	- Farm residence: 0 not farm, 1 farm (\$1000 ag. sales, 1979)	VAR47	- Social security income: (actual \$, 1979)
LANG1	- Language: 0 Engl. only or n.a., 1 good Engl + other, 2 limited Engl. + other	VAR48	- Public assistance income: (actual \$, 1979)
MIGRI	- Migration: 0 same county 1975-80, 1 diff. county 1975-80	VAR49	- Total income: (actual \$, 1979)
MINI	- Minority: 0 not minority, 1 non-white or Hispanic	XAGE1	- Age: 1 LT 19, 2 19-35, 3 36-55, 4 56+
POVI	- Poverty status: 1 in pov., 2 marginal, 3 above marginal	XDECHI	- Dependent child in household: 1 dep. child., 2 no dep. child.
OCCL	- Occupation categ.: 0 not in LF, 1 labor, 2 crafts/farm, 3 service, 4 professional/managerial	XEMPLST2	- Employment status: 0 out of LF or unemployed, 1 employed
REG1	- Colo. region: 1 Denv. SSA incl. cent. city, 2 other SSA, 3 west, 4 east, 5 south	XFAM3	- Single with dependent child(-ren) in household: 1 other than single w/ dep. child. in HH, 2 single w/ dep. child. in HH
RUI	- Rural residence: 0 not rural, 1 rural (farm & nonfarm)	XIND4	- Industry categ. for employed persons: 1 ind. estab. in Colo. 1900, 2 ind. estab. bwn. 1900 & 1945, 3 post-1945 ind. estab.
SCH3	- School completed: 1 LT HS, 2 HS grad., 3 some coll., 4 coll. grad +	XMARI	- Marital status: 0 not married (incl. separated, divorced, widowed, single), 1 married & living with spouse
		XOCC2	- Occupation categ. for employed persons: 1 labor, 2 craft/farm 3 service, 4 professional/managerial

Table 3. State of Colorado Pearson Correlation Matrix of All Variables Considered in 1980 Poverty Analysis of Adults.

(Regions Combined: Variable Abbreviations and Codes Follow Table)

DISAB1	SCH3	ENFDL1	NICR1	XEMPLST2	XOCC2	XIN04	VAR46	VAR47	VAR48	POV1
.0478 (.2022) P=.001	-.0998 (.2022) P=.001	-.0492 (.2022) P=.001	-.0587 (.2022) P=.001	-.0737 (.2022) P=.001	-.0821 (.16499) P=.001	-.1991 (.16348) P=.001	-.0823 (.17832) P=.001	-.0356 (.2618) P=.034	-.0018 (.651) P=.482	-.1074 (.2022) P=.001
.3108 (.2022) P=.001	-.2303 (.2022) P=.001	-.2020 (.2022) P=.001	-.3396 (.2022) P=.001	-.3077 (.2022) P=.001	-.0602 (.16499) P=.001	-.0121 (.16348) P=.060	.0718 (.17832) P=.001	.2158 (.2618) P=.001	-.0557 (.651) P=.078	-.0027 (.2022) P=.350
.0307 (.2022) P=.001	-.0949 (.2022) P=.001	-.0317 (.2022) P=.001	-.0331 (.2022) P=.001	-.2707 (.2022) P=.001	-.1942 (.16499) P=.001	.0126 (.16348) P=.053	-.3892 (.17832) P=.001	-.2854 (.2618) P=.001	-.0368 (.651) P=.174	-.0668 (.2022) P=.001
.0072 (.2022) P=.156	-.2007 (.2022) P=.001	-.0029 (.2022) P=.341	-.0489 (.2022) P=.001	-.0264 (.2022) P=.001	-.1173 (.16499) P=.001	-.0336 (.16348) P=.001	-.1021 (.17832) P=.001	-.0923 (.2618) P=.001	.0047 (.651) P=.008	-.1366 (.2022) P=.001
.0490 (.2022) P=.001	-.1819 (.2022) P=.001	-.0066 (.2022) P=.174	-.0185 (.2022) P=.001	-.0803 (.2022) P=.001	-.0896 (.16499) P=.001	-.0406 (.16348) P=.001	-.0799 (.17832) P=.001	-.0618 (.2618) P=.001	.0245 (.651) P=.266	-.1488 (.2022) P=.001
-.0062 (.2022) P=.169	-.0048 (.2022) P=.247	-.0571 (.2022) P=.001	-.0549 (.2022) P=.001	-.0163 (.2022) P=.011	-.0250 (.16499) P=.001	-.1207 (.16348) P=.001	.0439 (.17832) P=.001	.0130 (.2618) P=.253	-.0274 (.651) P=.243	-.0010 (.2022) P=.443
-.0039 (.2022) P=.263	-.0194 (.2022) P=.003	-.0310 (.2022) P=.001	-.0665 (.2022) P=.001	-.0051 (.2022) P=.237	-.0673 (.16499) P=.001	-.1446 (.16348) P=.001	.0100 (.17832) P=.090	-.0264 (.2618) P=.088	.0232 (.651) P=.277	-.0081 (.2022) P=.125
-.0444 (.2022) P=.001	.0006 (.2022) P=.468	-.1712 (.2022) P=.001	-.0633 (.2022) P=.001	-.0078 (.2022) P=.134	.0409 (.16499) P=.001	.0137 (.16348) P=.039	.1797 (.17832) P=.001	.0084 (.2618) P=.334	-.0069 (.651) P=.430	.2314 (.2022) P=.001
.0355 (.2022) P=.001	.0723 (.2022) P=.001	-.0458 (.2022) P=.001	-.0036 (.2022) P=.304	.2329 (.2022) P=.001	-.0495 (.16499) P=.001	.0131 (.16348) P=.046	.3602 (.17832) P=.001	.3041 (.2618) P=.001	.0654 (.651) P=.048	-.0598 (.2022) P=.001
.1515 (.2022) P=.001	-.0434 (.2022) P=.001	.0405 (.2022) P=.001	-.0445 (.2022) P=.001	-.0863 (.2022) P=.001	.0154 (.16499) P=.024	-.0018 (.16348) P=.407	-.0865 (.17832) P=.001	.0534 (.2618) P=.001	-.1083 (.651) P=.001	-.0284 (.2022) P=.001
.0181 (.2022) P=.005	.0360 (.2022) P=.001	.1522 (.2022) P=.001	-.1018 (.2022) P=.001	.0250 (.2022) P=.001	-.0102 (.16499) P=.094	.0020 (.16348) P=.357	.1228 (.17832) P=.001	.0208 (.2618) P=.143	.0351 (.651) P=.166	-.2672 (.2022) P=.001
1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	-.2013 (.2022) P=.001	-.0526 (.2022) P=.001	-.1139 (.2022) P=.001	-.3277 (.2022) P=.001	-.0447 (.16499) P=.001	-.0247 (.16348) P=.001	-.1475 (.17832) P=.001	-.036 (.2618) P=.036	-.0600 (.651) P=.063	-.1543 (.2022) P=.001
-.2013 (.2022) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	-.1846 (.2022) P=.001	-.1765 (.2022) P=.001	-.2356 (.2022) P=.001	-.0064 (.16499) P=.001	-.0984 (.16348) P=.001	-.2733 (.17832) P=.001	.0081 (.2618) P=.339	.0259 (.651) P=.255	-.1593 (.2022) P=.001
-.0626 (.2022) P=.001	.1866 (.2022) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	-.1083 (.2022) P=.001	-.0127 (.2022) P=.036	.0464 (.16499) P=.001	-.0092 (.16348) P=.118	-.0936 (.17832) P=.001	-.0719 (.2618) P=.001	.0193 (.651) P=.311	-.1166 (.2022) P=.001
-.1139 (.2022) P=.001	-.1765 (.2022) P=.001	-.1083 (.2022) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.0000 (.2022) P=.001	.0464 (.16499) P=.001	.0119 (.16348) P=.064	-.0269 (.17832) P=.001	-.0448 (.2618) P=.011	-.0118 (.651) P=.382	-.0513 (.2022) P=.001
-.3277 (.2022) P=.001	-.2156 (.2022) P=.001	-.0127 (.2022) P=.036	.0994 (.2022) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.0531 (.16499) P=.001	.0578 (.16348) P=.001	.3068 (.17832) P=.001	-.1048 (.2618) P=.001	-.0736 (.651) P=.030	-.2089 (.2022) P=.001
-.0447 (.16499) P=.001	-.0664 (.16499) P=.001	-.0487 (.16499) P=.001	-.0464 (.16499) P=.001	-.0331 (.16499) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.0714 (.16499) P=.001	.1503 (.16669) P=.001	-.0205 (.997) P=.259	.0233 (.320) P=.339	.0690 (.16499) P=.001
-.0247 (.16348) P=.001	-.0984 (.16348) P=.001	-.0092 (.16348) P=.118	-.0116 (.16348) P=.064	-.0578 (.16348) P=.001	.0714 (.16499) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.1073 (.15700) P=.001	.0599 (.1003) P=.029	-.1223 (.322) P=.014	.0512 (.16348) P=.001
-.1475 (.17832) P=.001	-.2733 (.17832) P=.001	-.0936 (.17832) P=.001	-.0269 (.17832) P=.001	-.3068 (.17832) P=.001	.1503 (.15669) P=.001	.1073 (.15700) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.2343 (.2618) P=.001	.2026 (.651) P=.001	.1255 (.17832) P=.001
.0152 (.2618) P=.036	.0081 (.2518) P=.339	-.0719 (.2618) P=.001	-.0448 (.2618) P=.011	-.1048 (.2618) P=.001	-.0205 (.997) P=.259	.0599 (.1003) P=.029	.2343 (.2618) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.1074 (.166) P=.064	.1940 (.2618) P=.001
-.0600 (.651) P=.063	.0259 (.631) P=.255	.0193 (.631) P=.311	-.0118 (.631) P=.382	-.0736 (.631) P=.030	.0233 (.322) P=.339	.1223 (.322) P=.014	.2026 (.651) P=.001	.1074 (.166) P=.064	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****	.1162 (.651) P=.001
-.1343 (.2022) P=.001	.1593 (.2022) P=.001	-.1166 (.2022) P=.001	-.0513 (.2022) P=.001	-.2089 (.2022) P=.001	.0690 (.16499) P=.001	.0832 (.16348) P=.001	.3255 (.17832) P=.001	.1940 (.2618) P=.001	.1162 (.651) P=.001	1.0000 (.2022) P=*****



Table 3: State of Colorado Pearson Correlation Matrix of All Variables Considered in 1980 Poverty Analysis of Adults (Regions Combined: Variable Abbreviations and Codes Follow Table)

	REG1	XAGE1	VAR16	MIN1	LANG1	RUI	FARM1	XMAR1	VAR15	XOEPCH1	XFAM3
REG1	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	.0619 { 20022} P. .001	-.0043 { 20022} P. .271	-.0105 { 20022} P. .670	.0425 { 20022} P. .001	.3259 { 20022} P. .001	.1957 { 20022} P. .001	.0601 { 20022} P. .001	-.0022 { 20022} P. .380	-.0190 { 20022} P. .004	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
XAGE1	.0619 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	.0466 { 20022} P. .001	-.0663 { 20022} P. .001	-.0321 { 20022} P. .001	.0340 { 20022} P. .001	.0479 { 20022} P. .001	.1295 { 20022} P. .001	.1424 { 20022} P. .001	.2976 { 20022} P. .001	-.0100 { 20022} P. .000
VAR16	-.0043 { 20022} P. .271	.0466 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	-.0000 { 20022} P. .498	-.0190 { 20022} P. .004	-.0137 { 20022} P. .026	-.0073 { 20022} P. .149	-.0486 { 20022} P. .001	-.5568 { 20022} P. .001	-.0151 { 20022} P. .016	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
MIN1	-.0105 { 20022} P. .070	-.0663 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .498	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	.0032 { 20022} P. .001	-.0748 { 20022} P. .001	-.0353 { 20022} P. .001	-.0413 { 20022} P. .001	-.0225 { 20022} P. .001	-.1055 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
LANG1	.0425 { 20022} P. .001	-.0321 { 20022} P. .001	-.0190 { 20022} P. .004	.0032 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	-.0387 { 20022} P. .001	-.0202 { 20022} P. .002	-.0069 { 20022} P. .164	-.0267 { 20022} P. .001	-.0488 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
RUI	.3259 { 20022} P. .001	.0340 { 20022} P. .001	-.0137 { 20022} P. .026	-.0748 { 20022} P. .001	-.0387 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	.4388 { 20022} P. .001	.1057 { 20022} P. .001	-.0269 { 20022} P. .001	-.0743 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
FARM1	.1957 { 20022} P. .001	.0479 { 20022} P. .001	-.0073 { 20022} P. .149	-.0353 { 20022} P. .001	-.0202 { 20022} P. .002	.4388 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	.0487 { 20022} P. .001	-.0142 { 20022} P. .022	-.0207 { 20022} P. .002	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
XMAR1	.0601 { 20022} P. .001	.1295 { 20022} P. .001	-.0486 { 20022} P. .001	-.0413 { 20022} P. .001	-.0069 { 20022} P. .164	.1057 { 20022} P. .001	.0487 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	-.1183 { 20022} P. .001	-.3187 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
VAR15	-.0022 { 20022} P. .380	.1424 { 20022} P. .001	-.5568 { 20022} P. .001	-.0226 { 20022} P. .001	-.0267 { 20022} P. .001	-.0269 { 20022} P. .001	-.0142 { 20022} P. .022	-.1183 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	.0699 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
XOEPCH1	-.0190 { 20022} P. .004	.2976 { 20022} P. .001	-.0151 { 20022} P. .016	-.1055 { 20022} P. .001	-.0488 { 20022} P. .001	-.0743 { 20022} P. .001	-.0207 { 20022} P. .002	-.3187 { 20022} P. .001	.0699 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
XFAM3	-.0517 { 20022} P. .001	-.1099 { 20022} P. .001	-.0459 { 20022} P. .001	.0146 { 20022} P. .019	-.0081 { 20022} P. .126	-.0974 { 20022} P. .001	-.0533 { 20022} P. .001	-.8356 { 20022} P. .001	.2157 { 20022} P. .001	.2001 { 20022} P. .001	1.0000 { 20022} P.*****
OISAR1	-.0478 { 20022} P. .001	-.3188 { 20022} P. .001	-.0107 { 20022} P. .001	-.0072 { 20022} P. .154	.0490 { 20022} P. .001	-.0062 { 20022} P. .169	-.0039 { 20022} P. .293	-.0444 { 20022} P. .001	.0355 { 20022} P. .001	.1515 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
SCH3	-.0998 { 20022} P. .001	-.2303 { 20022} P. .001	-.0949 { 20022} P. .001	-.2007 { 20022} P. .001	-.1819 { 20022} P. .001	-.0048 { 20022} P. .247	-.0194 { 20022} P. .003	-.0036 { 20022} P. .468	.0723 { 20022} P. .001	-.0434 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
ENROL1	-.0492 { 20022} P. .001	-.2020 { 20022} P. .001	-.0317 { 20022} P. .001	-.0029 { 20022} P. .341	.0066 { 20022} P. .174	-.0571 { 20022} P. .001	-.0310 { 20022} P. .001	-.1712 { 20022} P. .001	-.0458 { 20022} P. .001	-.0405 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
MIGR1	-.0587 { 20022} P. .001	-.3396 { 20022} P. .001	-.0331 { 20022} P. .001	-.0489 { 20022} P. .001	-.0185 { 20022} P. .004	-.0545 { 20022} P. .001	-.0665 { 20022} P. .001	-.0631 { 20022} P. .001	-.0036 { 20022} P. .304	-.0445 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
XEMPLST2	-.0737 { 20022} P. .001	-.3077 { 20022} P. .001	-.2797 { 20022} P. .001	-.0264 { 20022} P. .001	-.0803 { 20022} P. .001	-.0163 { 20022} P. .011	-.0051 { 20022} P. .237	-.0078 { 20022} P. .134	.2329 { 20022} P. .001	-.0883 { 20022} P. .001	-.0000 { 20022} P. .000
XOCC2	-.0821 { 16499} P. .001	-.0602 { 16499} P. .001	-.1442 { 16499} P. .001	-.1173 { 16499} P. .001	-.0896 { 16499} P. .001	-.0250 { 16499} P. .001	-.0673 { 16499} P. .001	.0400 { 16499} P. .001	-.0495 { 16499} P. .001	.0154 { 16499} P. .001	-.0000 { 16499} P. .000
XIND4	-.1991 { 16548} P. .001	-.0121 { 16548} P. .060	-.0126 { 16548} P. .053	-.0316 { 16548} P. .001	-.0406 { 16548} P. .001	-.1207 { 16548} P. .001	-.1445 { 16548} P. .001	.0137 { 16548} P. .039	.0131 { 16548} P. .046	-.0018 { 16548} P. .407	-.0000 { 16548} P. .000
VAR49	-.0823 { 17832} P. .001	-.0718 { 17832} P. .001	-.3892 { 17832} P. .001	-.1021 { 17832} P. .001	-.0799 { 17832} P. .001	.0439 { 17832} P. .001	.0100 { 17832} P. .000	.1797 { 17832} P. .001	.3602 { 17832} P. .001	-.0665 { 17832} P. .001	-.1200 { 17832} P. .000
VAR47	-.0356 { 2618} P. .034	.2158 { 2618} P. .001	-.2854 { 2618} P. .001	-.0923 { 2618} P. .001	-.0618 { 2618} P. .001	.0130 { 2618} P. .253	-.0264 { 2618} P. .088	.0084 { 2618} P. .334	.3041 { 2618} P. .001	-.0834 { 2618} P. .001	-.0200 { 2618} P. .000
VAR48	.0014 { 6511} P. .482	-.0557 { 6511} P. .078	-.0368 { 6511} P. .174	.0947 { 6511} P. .006	.0245 { 6511} P. .266	-.0274 { 6511} P. .243	.0232 { 6511} P. .777	-.0060 { 6511} P. .430	.0654 { 6511} P. .946	-.1983 { 6511} P. .001	-.0000 { 6511} P. .000
POV1	-.1074 { 20022} P. .001	.0927 { 20022} P. .350	-.0668 { 20022} P. .001	-.1386 { 20022} P. .001	-.1498 { 20022} P. .001	-.0010 { 20022} P. .443	-.0081 { 20022} P. .125	-.2316 { 20022} P. .001	-.0598 { 20022} P. .001	-.0284 { 20022} P. .001	-.2600 { 20022} P. .000

Tables 4 A - E. Multiple Regression Summary of Major Variables on Poverty/Marginal Status of Adults by Colorado Regions, 1980

SUMMARY TABLE 4 A. Denver Central City

STEP	VARIABLE	F/R	F	MULT-R	R-SQ	CHANGE	R	OVERALL F	SIG.
1	XMAR1		204.012	.227	.051	.051	.227	204.012	.000
2	XFMPLST2		223.210	.325	.104	.053	.224	219.628	.000
3	MIN1		135.915	.368	.136	.031	.184	196.069	.000
4	LANG1		51.574	.384	.147	.012	.188	162.605	.000
5	XDEPCH1		40.095	.395	.156	.009	.057	139.454	.000
6	SCH3		28.944	.403	.163	.006	.192	121.899	.000
7	MIGR1		26.158	.411	.169	.006	.035	108.020	.000
8	DISAB1		23.187	.417	.174	.005	.143	98.766	.000
9	OCC1		5.175	.418	.175	.001	.198	88.464	.000
10	VAR16		2.168	.419	.175	.000	.086	79.862	.000
11	ENRDL1		2.113	.419	.176	.000	.027	72.815	.000
12	XAGE1		1.274	.420	.176	.000	.010	66.858	.000

SUMMARY TABLE 4 B. Remainder Denver SMSA Plus Other State SMSAs

STEP	VARIABLE	F/R	F	MULT-R	R-SQ	CHANGE	R	OVERALL F	SIG.
1	XMAR1		749.306	.240	.057	.057	.240	749.306	.000
2	XFMPLST2		510.152	.309	.096	.038	.193	650.016	.000
3	ENRDL1		207.208	.333	.111	.015	.173	509.680	.000
4	SCH3		177.776	.351	.123	.012	.124	430.785	.000
5	MIGR1		114.428	.362	.131	.008	.089	370.701	.000
6	LANG1		89.087	.371	.137	.006	.112	325.079	.000
7	DISAB1		66.396	.377	.142	.005	.131	290.383	.000
8	XDFPCM1		30.433	.380	.144	.002	.051	258.497	.000
9	MIN1		18.767	.383	.145	.001	.095	232.193	.000
10	XAGE1		11.607	.383	.146	.001	.040	210.315	.000
11	OCC1		1.726	.383	.146	.000	.133	191.364	.000
12	RUFHST1		.697	.383	.146	.000	.024	175.470	.000
13	VAR16		.592	.383	.146	.000	.057	162.013	.000

SUMMARY TABLE 4 C. Western/Mountain Non-Metropolitan Area

STEP	VARIABLE	F/R	F	MULT-R	R-SQ	CHANGE	R	OVERALL F	SIG.
1	XMAR1		155.543	.260	.067	.067	.260	155.543	.000
2	XFMPLST2		34.392	.329	.103	.035	.185	122.081	.000
3	DISAB1		35.157	.342	.117	.014	.177	95.009	.000
4	ENRDL1		20.794	.354	.126	.008	.135	77.111	.000
5	MIN1		11.557	.361	.130	.005	.084	64.303	.000
6	SCH3		7.569	.365	.133	.003	.130	55.011	.000
7	XDEPCH1		5.977	.368	.136	.002	.088	43.116	.000
8	OCC1		4.030	.371	.137	.002	.142	42.665	.000
9	MIGR1		2.383	.372	.138	.001	.030	38.213	.000
10	VAR16		2.446	.373	.139	.001	.071	34.660	.000
11	LANG1		1.229	.374	.140	.000	.072	31.624	.000
12	RUFHST1		.759	.374	.140	.000	.032	29.048	.000
13	XAGE1		.631	.375	.140	.000	.07	26.858	.000

SUMMARY TABLE 4 D. Eastern Plains Non-Metropolitan Area

STEP	VARIABLE	F/R	F	MULT-R	R-SQ	CHANGE	R	OVERALL F	SIG.
1	SCH3		61.116	.249	.062	.062	.249	61.116	.000
2	OCC1		20.994	.288	.083	.021	.235	41.713	.000
3	XMAR1		22.259	.324	.105	.022	.166	35.873	.000
4	MIN1		21.258	.354	.125	.020	.180	32.612	.000
5	XDEPCH1		6.571	.362	.131	.006	.093	27.723	.000
6	DISAB1		4.080	.373	.137	.005	.153	24.627	.000
7	LANG1		2.306	.375	.141	.002	.178	21.469	.000
8	VAR16		2.140	.375	.143	.002	.066	19.105	.000
9	XAGE1		.889	.379	.144	.001	.075	17.079	.000
10	ENRDL1		.777	.380	.145	.001	.030	15.445	.000
11	MIGR1		.592	.381	.145	.001	.020	14.088	.000
12	XFMPLST2		.435	.382	.146	.000	.193	12.943	.000
13	RUFHST1		.420	.382	.146	.000	.016	11.972	.000

SUMMARY TABLE 4 E. South-central and Southwest Non-Metropolitan Area

STEP	VARIABLE	F/R	F	MULT-R	R-SQ	CHANGE	R	OVERALL F	SIG.
1	XFMPLST2		82.866	.294	.087	.087	.294	82.866	.000
2	XMAP1		46.109	.364	.132	.046	.220	65.626	.000
3	MIN1		41.706	.415	.172	.046	.227	60.301	.000
4	SCH3		19.085	.435	.190	.018	.267	51.134	.000
5	MIGR1		13.301	.452	.204	.014	.039	44.631	.000
6	XDEPCH1		11.387	.464	.215	.011	.022	39.744	.000
7	XAGE1		9.509	.477	.227	.012	.124	36.486	.000
8	DISAB1		8.105	.485	.235	.005	.244	33.362	.000
9	LANG1		7.368	.489	.239	.004	.233	30.255	.000
10	ENRDL1		4.396	.490	.240	.001	.024	27.932	.000
11	OCC1		.813	.491	.241	.001	.276	24.962	.000
12	RUFHST1		.369	.491	.241	.000	.057	22.943	.000
13	VAR16		.071	.491	.242	.000	.092	21.117	.000

make the greatest difference state-wide. Education level is also important in traditional rural areas, and current enrollment is also important in Colorado suburban, small SMSA and non-traditional rural areas, where offerings are concentrated.

Although in most regards the metropolitan and non-metropolitan patterns of Colorado poverty show similarities among themselves and with national data, there are some differences which have largely to do with: (A) proximity to new economic opportunities concentrated in suburban SMSAs and (B) the effect of social identities which carry traditional access-inhibiting implications. Overall, we find social stereotypes playing a strong role in Denver central city (where physical proximity is no major problem, but the costs and time of travel to work may be), and a combination of geographical inaccessibility and imposed social barriers having a compound effect in more traditional, remote non-metropolitan areas. In most regards, patterns among adults, when relevant to youth, are even stronger among the youngsters, presumably because of a higher birth rate of lower-SES people as well as the costs of child-rearing.

These findings prompt several general observations regarding Coloradans in or near poverty. First, there is support for the general hypothesis that relative access to non-traditional opportunities in the economic system of the state explains much of the poverty differential. This assumes that access is considered in two contexts: (1) the geographical, relative to where people live and new opportunities are concentrated; and (2) socio-cultural, wherein prevailing social preference patterns disadvantage the access to opportunity of many within geographical range due common images of their being less able to reliably and productively serve in the marketplace. The latter involves a combination of (a) presumed preparation to "fit in" by virtue of education, culture or subculture of socialization (including ethnicity, origin of migrants, and, probably to some extent, gender), as well as skill type and level, etc. and (b) the practical circumstances of a person which influence impressions of their ability to reliably serve over time, including their disability status, responsibility for dependent children, school enrollment, age, and, probably to some extent, simply being single or migratory. In either case, these social preference patterns seem to very many--perhaps most--Coloradans as understandable and acceptable reasons for why many state citizens are in or near poverty, even if temporarily. As such, these identity-holders are subject to traditional role expectations under circumstances where economic activities are shifting increasingly toward the non-traditional. This social and economic system disjuncture leaves many poor persons in a bind where they are not in a position to easily manage an escape from poverty, but they also cannot afford to worsen identity problems by long permitting a stigma of impoverishment (commonly implying character flaws) on top of other identity liabilities.

Presumably, the greater the combined number of geographic and social identity disadvantages persons are subject to (short of some possible "charity threshold"), the greater is the likelihood they will become and stay impoverished, often leaving the labor force in resignation. When, however, social identity liabilities can be made to appear temporary (as with students, mothers whose childrens' ages will soon permit work, those with work skills likely to soon be in demand, etc.), the stigma of being in or near poverty is lessened because others assume the individual will overcome the conditions of their hardship. Further, in social identity assignment processes, it

probably does make a difference whether the individual is somehow thought at fault in their hardship or not: unearned disabilities, having responsibilities for children, being a student, becoming old, the closing of a dominant industry doubtless does not burden people with the stigma of poverty that dropping out of school, not learning a demanded trade or having trouble understanding normal ways and values do. In the cases of "innocents", however, individuals cannot do a great deal on their own to shake poverty; that calls for collective action.

As with most matters of the marketplace, the cultural doctrine of individual responsibility to capitalize on available opportunity runs strong in Colorado, as elsewhere; there is not a very developed conception of differentials in the opportunity structure and thus not much pressure to change it or the traditional role definitions that keep it operative to the impoverishment of many. As a result, some persons get trapped in poverty, and, if blame can be assessed, imprisoned there through social labeling processes (Ryan's "blaming the victim"). Others are helped out of the trap when their "attitude" seems right and/or they were victimized by undeserved personal or social circumstances. The "social construction/reconstruction of reality" processes work clearly in these cases, although most citizens who make them happen cling to conceptions of individual fault, initiative and/or responsibility for most cases of poverty. After all, most citizens are unwilling to accept the blame, thus much of the problem due common prejudice and discrimination, poor public planning and intervention and the like is attributed to vulnerable individuals, especially the powerless poor. Until a such higher level of public awareness and understanding occur, there is not much hope for sociocultural system revision to compensate for changes in business and industry.

These thoughts are over-generalized, of course, but they characterize the plight perhaps of the majority who are trapped in poverty--who are not in a position to liberate themselves, and so they must depend on the system for hope while in large part realistically sensing it is basically hopeless to do so. (Note, not only do we impose the self-fulfilling prophecy on them, but they also succumb to its self-exercise.) There are others in poverty, however, whose situation is somewhat different. To conclude this comparison of patterns of Colorado poverty, we have reflected on both the foregoing data and impressions that have emerged in case-context analysis with an eye to generalizing about both its causes and remedies. That has led us to several distinctions introduced above.

I. Some poverty is, in fact, at least partly attributable to personal actions that can potentially be remedied by those individual's effort. Such cases fall into several categories:

(A) Semi-voluntary, minimally stigmatic impoverishment that is probably temporary, largely rational and usually even honorable (as with school enrollment, migration, devoting oneself to the needs of young children, struggling to establish oneself as artist or author, experimenting with "naturalistic" and altruistic alternative lifestyles, etc.). Probably most of these persons can and will depart poverty without extraordinary or sustained effort when they choose to do so. Since there is a rational and honorable dimension to their situation, they deserve kind consideration from the rest of us when in and choosing to leave poverty.

(E) Poverty resulting from significant but unintended stigmatizing actions, implying personal fault or flaw in the average citizen's view (like dropping out of high school, earning a police record, being an unwed mother, having an alcohol or drug problem, etc.). Although our data say almost nothing about this category of person, they certainly contribute to the poverty pool. Their escape from poverty implies sustained personal effort (legitimate or illegitimate). The safer legitimate route requires of them sufficient compensating achievements along with evidence of "repentance" and a "good attitude" so that others "destigmatize" their identities. Individuals weakened or soured by impoverishing stigma cannot often manage this course alone, and so require sustained professional and peer support plus patience and forgiveness by others. Although the special programs for such people are not often associated with poverty alleviation, it would be rational to do so, considering the direct and indirect costs of poverty and the causal contribution poverty in turn makes to these other problems.

II. Most poverty seems to result from the workings of differential opportunity structure of socio-economic units, requiring collective actions leading to structural systems reform if poverty is to be reduced. This has been the focus of our research concern here, which has suggested two dimensions:

(A) Imposed circumstantial disadvantage which carries minimal personal stigma but involves limited realistic opportunity for personal avoidance or resolution (like costs of industrial obsolescence, changed preferences for goods and services, limited rural employment options, intense population cohort competition, etc.). It is probably not realistic to envision total socio-economic system restructuring to correct these problems (even massive socialist restructuring seems to have had little effect on overall poverty levels where this has been tried in recent times). On the other hand, more piecemeal implementation of programs and policies targeted at poor areas or subpopulations have become our most common collective approach and have focused on this type of poverty: job retraining, expanding or developing new economic opportunities, increasing the flexibility of working conditions, taxation policy to encourage and direct investments, etc. are typical, require large public investments and take time to work but help make poverty a temporary experience for many (note Bould, 1977). Some criticize, however, that such efforts commonly miss the hard-core poor who suffer another kind of system problem (Brenner, 1964; Harrington, 1963).

(B) Poverty due inherited categorical identity--particularly traditional role conceptions and stereotypes--that are commonly thought to imply employer and broader societal risk. Opening the opportunity structure to them in turn implies complicated industry and societal realignments: ideological conceptions basic to business should change; special, particularistic integration conditions and provisions would be called for; some persons would doubtless be cost their present advantage; consumer goods and services may snift in cost or quality; uncertainty and nuisance would accompany changes; etc. Such changes will likely be very slow in coming, and awkward to implement when tried. In the meantime, persons as minorities, women (especially with dependent children), the disabled and those with language and/or cultural limitations will remain severely disadvantaged by the social labeling processes of the economic as well as social opportunity structure. Broad, long-term efforts to promote social sensitivity and understanding, organized



political pressure, and revised governmental standards and incentives seem the paths to reducing this category of poverty. These matters of public responsibility imply public guilt. As long as conceptions of personal flaws and practical liability can be imposed on these victims of past circumstances, tradition will reinforce their poverty, making them more superfluous and obsolete, obviating socio-cultural change in the midst of popularly acknowledged and valued economic and technological system change. (Note Walinsky, 1964; Owens, 1977; Grinstead and Scholtz, 1976; Hamelian and Karl, 1976.) Such seems particularly problematic in more traditional areas like large central cities and remote rural areas.

The consequences of assigning individual responsibility and labeling by category are particularly intriguing when we consider the economic conditions preceding and during 1980. The nation had just undergone a major recession and was in the midst of recovery. The recession in Colorado was not as severe as elsewhere, and the recovery was even stronger than elsewhere. National media coverage of economic conditions put these considerations on the minds of most state citizens: comments about "modest unemployment but major underemployment" were becoming clichés. Even in the midst of these circumstances, the negative effect of imposing highly traditional role conceptions on persons in changing economic circumstances are apparent in the data considered here. The processes of systematic bias remain subtle, of course. Most of us would not acknowledge we harbor prejudices, but consider it our right, particularly in matters of the marketplace, to exercise personal preferences (often we say good, practical, common sense) in our daily dealings with other individuals. Thus the cycle of differential geographic and social access to economic opportunity is perpetuated at the expense of those who, for the most part, inherited traditional identities that make little sense in contemporary context and cost all of us both pride and practical benefits of comfortable living.

In brief postscript, concerns prompted by 1980 Colorado data doubtless understate the state situation in 1985 in several regards. Farm markets for state produce were stronger in 1980 than now, and farm indebtedness problems have since become more severe. Doubtless a lack of significant farm-nonfarm differential in poverty in 1980 would not apply in rural areas now. Further, the state's rural Western region energy boom was strong then, but has since gone sour, producing substantial unemployment and business losses. Even much of the promise riding on new Front Range suburban electronic and other specialized-industry developments have proved false hope as a number of them closed their doors or substantially scaled-down operations. As well, much of the federal government's current emphasis on passing its accustomed social well-being responsibilities to states and localities has adversely impacted both poor and middle-class citizens of the state. Thus we would expect Colorado has paralleled the nation in enduring alarming increases in poverty percentages during recent years: U.S. data show increases in poverty from 5 to 10% yearly from 1979 to the mid-1980's, according to the the latest of available detailed data (Census/Fendler, 1984). As these trends have influenced state conditions of impoverishment, Denver (central city and traditional rural residents have doubtless been affected the most, but, to a lesser extent, so has everyone who lives with the liability of traditionally-oriented identities and/or locations that limit access to economic opportunities. Such is the nature of a traditional opportunity structure amidst non-traditional economic changes.

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Appendix 1 A - D. Mean Incomes of Adults in Poverty and Marginally Poor by Colorado Regions

VARIABLE .. VAR40	A. INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES IN 1979			
FACTOR	CODE	MEAN	STD. DEV.	N (x 100)
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	DEN CENT IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2466.391 4537.117 13184.393	1560.991 2496.194 11982.432	345 326 2973
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	REMAIN DEN SMSA IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2374.403 4692.137 14635.766	2078.725 2573.022 12882.995	419 372 6461
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	4 OTHER SMSA IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2295.233 4854.678 12342.969	1912.330 3026.957 11110.420	366 435 3642
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	EAST IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2442.551 4522.702 11851.535	2040.980 2822.639 10093.048	98 111 635
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	WEST IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2329.262 4466.542 13664.834	1447.919 2292.835 12872.522	183 188 1691
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	SOUTH IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2328.576 4709.285 11983.815	1694.910 3178.761 11517.284	130 126 536
FOR ENTIRE SAMPLE		11897.980	11823.000	19057

19057 CASES ACCEPTED.  
 0 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF OUT-OF-RANGE FACTOR VALUES.  
 9672 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF MISSING DATA.

VARIABLE .. VAR45	B. WAGE OR SALARY INCOME IN 1979			
FACTOR	CODE	MEAN	STD. DEV.	N (x 100)
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	DEN CENT IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2073.531 4669.709 12962.711	1565.808 2718.197 11243.335	177 206 2388
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	REMAIN IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2269.778 4441.038 14162.784	1732.927 2770.043 11713.066	293 265 5571
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	4 OTHER IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2348.512 5142.358 11758.165	2127.707 3315.851 9982.643	242 265 2906
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	EAST IN MARGINAL ABOVE	3265.625 4756.818 10597.633	2741.795 3616.136 8317.552	48 55 467
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	WEST IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2258.302 4291.504 12678.581	1401.041 2595.668 11328.500	109 123 1378
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	SOUTH IN MARGINAL ABOVE	2143.529 4608.150 11244.795	1749.974 3544.168 9159.743	68 73 415
FOR ENTIRE SAMPLE		11820.607	10882.523	15049

15049 CASES ACCEPTED.  
 0 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF OUT-OF-RANGE FACTOR VALUES.  
 13680 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF MISSING DATA.

VARIABLE .. VAR48	FACTOR	CODE	MEAN	STD. DEV.	N (x 100)
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	DEN CENT	IN	2293.737	1609.001	95
		MARGINAL	1792.857	1278.478	28
		ABOVE	2502.681	2097.565	69
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	REMAIN	IN	1695.370	1154.115	54
		MARGINAL	1605.417	1139.632	24
		ABOVE	1923.202	1670.209	89
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	4 OTHER	IN	1620.892	1285.237	56
		MARGINAL	1829.074	1354.250	27
		ABOVE	2636.562	2238.374	64
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	EAST	IN	2103.823	1664.128	17
		MARGINAL	1480.000	914.294	17
		ABOVE	2530.000	2295.684	14
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	WEST	IN	1836.481	1033.380	27
		MARGINAL	1166.578	1269.518	19
		ABOVE	2878.000	2059.482	30
REG1 POV1 POV1 POV1	SOUTH	IN	2047.666	1510.889	30
		MARGINAL	1773.888	1632.010	18
		ABOVE	2753.750	1131.893	8
FOR ENTIRE SAMPLE			2073.667	1681.533	683

683 CASES ACCEPTED.  
 0 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF OUT-OF-RANGE FACTOR VALUES.  
 28046 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF MISSING DATA.

VARIABLE .. VAR47	FACTOR	CODE	MEAN	STD. DEV.	N (x 100)
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	DEN CENT	IN	2234.518	978.456	83
		MARGINAL	2663.710	1216.577	100
		ABOVE	3247.729	1624.057	469
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	REMAIN	IN	2269.118	836.882	68
		MARGINAL	2970.882	1299.010	85
		ABOVE	3127.491	1655.905	538
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	OTHER	IN	2143.415	963.023	82
		MARGINAL	2848.664	1108.521	114
		ABOVE	3135.860	1568.070	523
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	WEST	IN	2001.389	937.584	36
		MARGINAL	3135.000	1421.164	62
		ABOVE	3022.647	1600.256	204
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	EAST	IN	2446.923	888.032	26
		MARGINAL	2953.864	1264.781	44
		ABOVE	3285.833	1721.827	84
XREG3 POV1 POV1 POV1	SOUTH	IN	2157.647	928.506	34
		MARGINAL	2859.792	1560.259	48
		ABOVE	3076.375	1620.401	80
FOR ENTIRE SAMPLE			3001.675	1527.335	2680

2680 CASES ACCEPTED.  
 0 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF OUT-OF-RANGE FACTOR VALUES.  
 26049 CASES REJECTED BECAUSE OF MISSING DATA.