

PART I. Anticipatory Set: What large scale migrations and population movements have we learned about this year in U.S. History?



PART II. Every 10 years the U.S. Constitution requires a nationwide population count known as the census. This data is then used for a variety of purposes, from allocating seats in Congress to distributing government benefits to the states. The maps, graphs and charts in this activity were derived from national census data, and they reflect three key population shifts in post-World War II United States that affected California:

- A. **The Second Great Migration** of African Americans from the South during and after WWII (1940-1970)
- B. **Suburbanization** and shifting populations to the South and Southwest
- C. **Changing Patterns of Immigration** after the 1965 Immigration Act

A. The Second Great Migration: 1940-1970

Historical Context: Every census prior to 1910 showed over 90% of the nation's Black population living in the American South. Southern Blacks experienced Jim Crow segregation and were concentrated in low wage agricultural and domestic work. During World War I (1914-1919) a growing demand for industrial labor in Northern and Midwestern cities led to the migration of hundreds of thousands of African Americans out of the South. During World War II (1941-1945) a Second Great Migration occurred, and this trend continued during the Cold War (1945-1991), with jobs in the military and defense-related industries attracting millions of African Americans (and whites) to Western States. By 1970 only 53% of U.S. Blacks lived in the South, and California's Black population increased significantly. Use the following Census maps and Census data to answer the questions that follow.