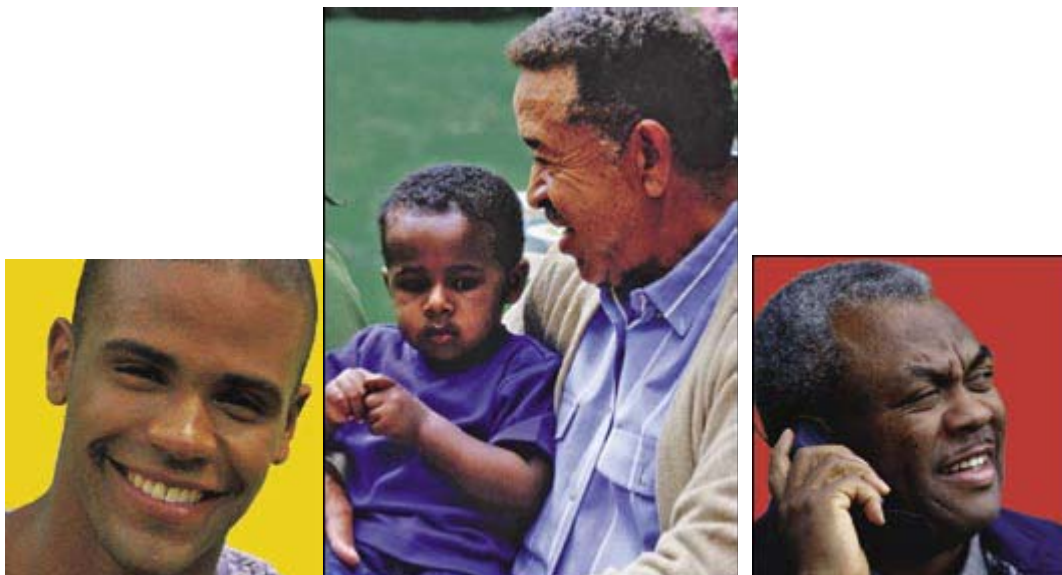
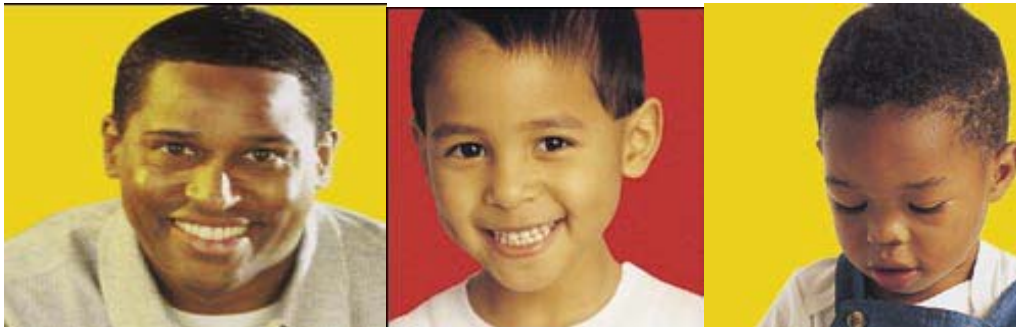


# Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males 2005-2006 Annual Report





2005 – 2006 Annual Report

The Indiana Commission on the  
Social Status of Black Males

2005-2006 Annual Report is submitted to  
the Indiana General Assembly and the  
Governor pursuant to P.L. 143-1993

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Greetings,

As Governor, it is a pleasure to recognize the work of the Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males and join with community leaders in presenting the annual report.

Since it was established in 1993, the Commission has focused attention on the economic, educational, health, criminal justice and social status of black males in our state. This report offers detailed information on trends in these areas and makes recommendations for improvement to enable everyone to better understand the problems and come together to seek solutions.

I commend the Commission for addressing these continuing challenges and for working to enhance the quality of life for African-American men and their families, as well as all Hoosiers. Thank you for your support of the Commission and their dedication to making our state an even better place to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in gold ink that reads "Mitch Daniels". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mitch Daniels



Greetings,

I am pleased to recognize the efforts of the Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males. This Commission works hard to effect positive change in Indiana. Since its creation in 1993, the Commission has been working to reverse trends that affect the African-American males in the State of Indiana.

The distinguished community and business leaders, educators, and state legislators who comprise this Commission play a vital role in improving the quality of life within the African-American families and our communities. This report addresses continued challenges faced in the community and is a good blueprint for making positive differences.

We are fortunate to be Hoosiers. We have charged our state to "Aim Higher" and move in a bold new direction. Therefore, I commend the Commission for working to ensure we are building a solid foundation for all communities.

I extend my thanks to the Commission members for their dedication and efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in gold ink that reads "Becky Skillman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Becky Skillman

Lieutenant Governor



Greetings,

I am honored to serve as a Commissioner and Chairperson of the Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males. We were involved in many endeavors during this 13<sup>th</sup> year.

This year, the Commission has worked with our local Commissions to nurture and sustain an "active" participatory relationship. This endeavor included the following local Commissions: Bloomington, Evansville, Gary, Jeffersonville, Indianapolis (ICAAM), and Michigan City. We are seeking to establish a Commission in Elkhart. There is still much work to be done as the ICSSBM expands its mission.

On June 1-2, 2006, we held our First Annual Local Commission Retreat. This Retreat was inspiring and powerful; a definite step in the right direction.

The Commission worked on updating and improving our Five-Year Plan for Indiana Black males. We have formed five sub-committees for each of our five focus areas which include Criminal Justice, Education, Employment, Health, and Social Factors. To make a step toward improving the Education focus area, we met with our State Superintendent, Dr. Suellen Reed, to discuss the new Full Day Kindergarten legislative item. We were all in one accord with the importance of working with our Black male student population as early as possible!

To strengthen the Commission, we must begin to collaborate with and form alliances with organizations such as Public Action in Correction Effort and Offender Aid & Restoration (PACE/OAR), United Northeast Second Chance Program, and our legislators and policymakers to address the ex-offender transition back to society and recidivism issues.

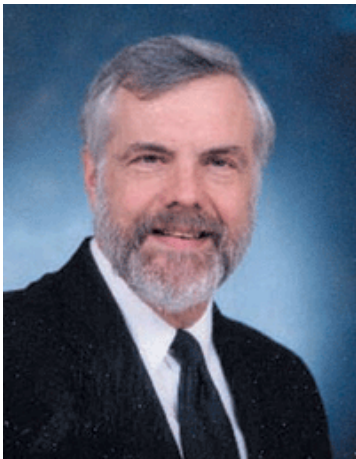
We convened a Statewide Community Crisis Forum on Violence in Indianapolis on September 28, 2006. This forum offered valuable input from the community. The input was reviewed and taken under advisement by the Commission. We used this collaborative input in the culmination of the Empowerment Symposium on December 15, 2006: "Investing in the Black Male". This important event focused on research-based solutions to disparities in the areas of education, employment, and social factors to reduce the Black-on-Black crime in Indiana.

I commend the Commission for its diligent work. On behalf of the Commission, I would also like to thank all of the volunteers who support our mission. I am encouraged by the energy and commitment of all those involved. The ICSSBM is a collective body made up of many members with diverse backgrounds and various gifts and skills. Let us move forward into this New Year knowing that we are many members working together for the common good of humanity, especially the Black Male.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne R. Wellington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne R. Wellington, Chairman, ICSSBM



In 1993, the Commission on the Social Status of Black Males was established by the General Assembly to consider strategies for the improvement of life for Black Males in Indiana. Five focus areas involving Black Males were considered: education, employment, criminal justice, health, and social factors. The Commission is committed to actively explore and diligently study all aspects of the focus areas in order to reverse the trends that adversely affect our state's African American male population.

This year was a successful one for the Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males. One of the key goals that were set forth for 2006 was greater engagement with the Local Commissions and continued outreach to organizations serving Black Males. In early June, the first ever Local Commission Retreat was held in downtown Indianapolis. This retreat helped to facilitate a successful Violence Forum in late September and was followed by an Empowerment Symposium entitled, "Investing in the Black Male" held in December. All of these events helped to advance the goals of the Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males.

I would like to thank everyone that has committed time and effort to the work of the Commission. We must continue our efforts into the future to help overcome the challenges facing Black Males in our state. Our task is large, and our work is far from done. We sincerely appreciate the support of the General Assembly in this vital work.

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary P. Dillon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

State Senator

## Annual Report Executive Summary

This report examines the education, employment, health, criminal justice and social factors focus areas, by statistical data, and information relating to Black males in Indiana. Information and access to opportunities should be provided to Black males. The sharing of information must utilize all mediums and forms of technology. Black males must identify their gifts and talents, define their values and priorities, identify their career goals, and develop an action plan to accomplish their goals. The Commission will continue to be a catalyst for this to occur.

As long as disparities exist on issues of central importance to Black males, the Commission on the Social Status of Black Males will seek to address them. It is imperative that this annual report expose the disparities and challenges facing these men. Given the level of disparities, the report suggests that one segment of society cannot solve the problems plaguing the Black male. It will take the collective effort of government, non governmental service providers, the faith-based community, and grass roots organizations to ensure that Black males are not left behind socially, economically, and educationally.

Relating to **Education**, Black male students continue to lag behind in academic achievement compared to the majority population. The report illustrates that Black males continue to be retained, suspended and expelled at higher percentages than the majority population. High educational attainment and achievement must be the desired outcome for all students, especially Black males who are underserved in the current education process. The statistics and data bear witness that education is the best way to help Black males achieve their potential and improve their lives, as well as the lives of their families.

**Employment** continues to be a constant challenge for Black males. Black males, especially Black male youth are unemployed or underemployed in far greater numbers than other ethnic groups. Black males' inability to attain suitable employment affects their self worth and diminishes their responsibility to provide for their family.

The **Health** section of this report conveys the need for Black males to take greater responsibility for their health and to seek out information to lessen the health disparity and elevated mortality rates. For example the data suggest Black males between the ages of 25 and 44 are 20 times more likely to develop kidney failure than white males in the same age bracket. Prostate cancer kills Black males two and one half times more than white males (*Indiana Cancer Facts & Figures, 2006*).

In summary the data suggests cancer and heart disease occur at disproportionately higher rates in Black males. In fact, the incidence of death rates for many illnesses and diseases are much greater among black Americans (*Indiana State Department of Health Mortality Reports*). Additionally, the factors of poverty, lack of insurance and transportation, access to doctors, clinics, medical facilities, screenings, and preventative information all impact the health disparity of Black males. Data summarized would suggest that a blueprint needs to be developed to address the health disparity challenge. Additionally, greater outreach needs to occur to inform and provide preventative screenings for Black males.

The **Criminal Justice** section conveys the extent to which racial justice is leveled against Black males. Black males represent less than 10 percent of the population in the state of Indiana while representing over 35 percent of the individuals incarcerated (*Indiana Department of Corrections statistics*). However, once incarcerated, it is important to assess the education and skill level of the individual in order to rehabilitate and prepare Black males for reintegration into society, community, and their family.

Finally, the **Social Factors** section of the report touches on the importance of the family unit and the impact poverty has on Black males. Social factors tend to tie together the importance of education, employment, health, and avoidance of the criminal justice system in order to holistically benefit Black males. Family, community, and support among Black males will be necessary to improve the overall perspective for Black males.

As you read this annual report please note the statistical information and the disparities between Blacks and the majority population in the five focus areas. The Commission provides the report to emphasize the disparity and plight of the Black male in Indiana. The hope is that this annual report tugs at the hearts of decision makers, policymakers, and governmental leaders as well as grassroots organizers in a call to action.

## Census Data

We have included U.S. Census Bureau population figures to denote the number of Black males in Indiana and population figures by age range as well as the Indiana counties with the highest population of Black males to serve as a point of reference for the statistical data included in the report.

### Indiana Population by Race

Population Type	Total Population	Percent of Total Population
Total	6,226,537	
White	5,529,707	89%
Black	548,269	8.9%
Hispanic/Latino	269,267	4.3%
Asian	73,013	1.2%
2 or more Races	66,215	1.1%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	17,532	0.2%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	2,833	0.0005%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates, 2004*

### Population of Blacks by County, Indiana

Black Population	Rank
Marion 221,189	1
Madison 10,538	8
Elkhart 10,705	7
Vanderburgh 14,690	5
Allen 40,061	3
Lake 127,962	2
Hamilton 7,558	10
La Porte 11,234	6
Delaware 8,091	9
St. Joseph 31,884	4

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates, 2004 B. Identity*

### Indiana State Male Population

Total Population: Male	<u>Indiana</u> 2,982,474
People who are Black or African American alone: Male	244,085
People who are Black or African American alone: Male; under 5years	22,764
People who are Black or African American alone: Male; 5 to 9years	24,413
People who are Black or African American alone: Male; 10 to 14years	23,072
People who are Black or African American alone: Male; 15 to 17years	13,399
People who are Black or African American alone: Male; 18 years and older	160,437

*U.S. Census Bureau*



# Education

According to the data from the Indiana State Department of Education, Black males continue to be retained in far greater percentages than the majority population. The data suggests that Black males are three times more likely to be retained than the majority population.

**Enrollment and Retention by Race/Gender 2006-07**

Race	Male	Retained Males	Female	Retained Females
American Indian	1356	42	1376	29
Black	64670	3595	62611	2337
Asian	6604	63	6685	47
Hispanic	33063	1066	30840	721
White	413127	7453	389640	4686
Multiracial	18242	463	17488	336

*Indiana Department of Education*

*\*This data includes public and nonpublic*

The percentage for Black males retained is 5.56% compared to 1.80% for Whites.

The number of teachers increased or stayed the same from 2005-2006 to 2006-2007 in all race categories except for Black females, while the increase for Black male teachers was minimal. The number of Black teachers instructing Black male students is shown in the chart below along with the numbers of teachers from the other ethnic groups.

**Teachers by Race and Gender 2005-06 (preliminary 2006-07)**

Race	2005-06		( preliminary ) 2006-07	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
American Indian	8	12	11	24
Black	530	1858	534	1833
Asian	32	87	32	96
Hispanic	117	329	131	361
White	15073	42493	15224	42866
Multiracial	14	24	15	40

*Indiana Department of Education*

Black male teachers account for less than one percent of the total teachers in the State of Indiana. Preliminary data for the 2006-2007 school year indicates that the percentage will continue to dip slightly.

Suspension and Expulsions examined for the school years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 denotes the increase in both these categories incurred by Black male students.

### Suspensions/Expulsions Years 2005-06 and 2006-07; by Race and Gender

Race	Suspensions*				Expulsions			
	2005-06		2006-07		2005-06		2006-07	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	female
American Indian	175	82	162	87	12	5	13	10
Black	15629	8937	16251	9221	1202	552	1204	554
Asian	171	65	62	208	14	4	14	1
Hispanic	3254	1246	3578	1496	269	91	359	102
White	32429	12099	32172	12076	2692	1069	2787	1139
Multiracial	1770	775	1958	904	109	37	119	76

*Indiana Department of Education \* Out of School Suspensions \*This data includes public and nonpublic*

Black males suspensions increased over the two school years by 3.98% while the suspension rate for White males decreased by just less than one percent. The expulsion figures however illustrate Black males statistically unchanged over the two school years while White males increase by 3.5 %.

Another critical statistic the Commission examines is the data on school dropouts. Again, Black males had the highest percentage increase in dropping out of school of all the ethnic groups reported. From 2005 to 2006 the Black male dropout rate increased by 53%. This rate is three times the increase in the dropout rate for white males (17%) as illustrated by the chart below.

### Drop out figures for 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade by race and sex

Race	2005 Dropouts		2006 Dropouts	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
American Indian	18	20	11	14
Black	689	444	1056	732
Asian	31	11	36	25
Hispanic	311	210	397	248
White	3371	2328	3800	2595
Multiracial	69	60	85	74

*Indiana Department of Education*

Black males while being a considerable minority in the total number of students across the State currently represent over ten percent of the dropouts from the 2006 figures. Black males dropped out at 9.11% in 2005; however the rate jumped to 11.64% in 2006. The Indiana Department of Education utilizes a report to explain for unaccounted for students. The title of the report is **Dropout And Mobility Report (DOE-DM) Version 09.14.06** The purpose of this data collection is to gather information on student mobility and students who are considered dropouts.

The graduation percentage by race and gender is another vital component of interest to the Commission. Indiana students totaled 58,646 graduates from high school in 2006. Although 6% of Indiana students are Black males, a little over half at 3.89% graduated from high school in 2006.

**2006 Graduates by Race/Gender**

Race	12 <sup>th</sup> grade enrollment Males	# of Graduate Males	% of Graduates	# of Graduates Female	12 <sup>th</sup> grade enrollment Females	% of Graduates
American Indian	89	77	.13	61	68	.10
Black	3057	2282	3.89	2851	3394	4.86
Asian	471	406	.69	398	488	.68
Hispanic	1267	961	1.64	992	1200	1.69
White	28451	24763	42.22	25087	27567	42.78
Multiracial	465	385	.66	383	461	.65
Total		28874		29772		

*Indiana Department of Education*

The ISTEP test is the standardized test to measure proficiency for Indiana students. A total of 38,800 Black males took the test in 2006 and less than 50% of Black males passed both the Language section and the Mathematics section. Fewer Black males passed each section compared to Black females and the figures are 30 percentage points lower than White males in both Language and Mathematics.

**ISTEP Passing Percentages for Male and Female Students**

2006 Number of Black males taking ISTEP 38,800, number of females taking test 38,076.

% passing language 41.7 males  
 % passing mathematics 47 males  
 % passing language 55.6 females  
 % passing mathematics 49.9 females

*Indiana Department of Education*

2006 Number of White males taking ISTEP test 251,332, number of females taking test 238,997.

% passing language 70.4 males  
 % passing mathematics 77.8 males  
 % passing language 80.6 females  
 % passing mathematics 77.9 females

*Indiana Department of Education*

**Commission Education Conclusions**

Black males need tutoring and additional preparation in order to increase their passing percentages and less suspensions and expulsions that remove them from preparing for the ISTEP. Increased Black male and female teachers also may serve Black males in improving their passing percentages in Language and Mathematics. Compared to the increase in male teachers of White ethnicity, fewer Black male teachers are available to educate and enlighten our young black males.

# Employment

Blacks represent less than nine percent of the population in Indiana, yet Black youth unemployment is nearly twice as high as the unemployment levels for the total population in Indiana. Unemployment is a major contributor to the plight of the Black male.

## Unemployment figures for youth Age 16-19 Unemployment Rates

Year	Black		All Races	
	Indiana	U.S.	Indiana	U.S.
2000	38.4%	32.7%	15.5%	17.9%
2001	31.4%	34.7%	18.1%	19.3%
2002	36.8%	40.1%	22.1%	21.6%
2003	44.7%	40.8%	23.2%	22.6%
2004	49.6%	38.9%	21.3%	22.3%
2005	40.1%	39.6%	22.1%	22.6%

*U.S. Census Bureau*

According to the 2000 US Census Bureau and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development data, the percentage of Blacks in the labor force was equal to or slightly higher than the total population however the unemployment rate was more than double that of the total population. The total population unemployment rate was 4.7% while the rate for Blacks was 10.5%. Also Blacks were employed at a rate more than five percent less than the total population. (*U.S. Census Bureau Reports, Indiana Department of Workforce Development*)

## Employment Status Indiana

	Total pop.	Error rate	Black	Error rate
Population 16 years and over	4,675,844	+/-4,185	370,101	+/-3,759
In labor force	67.2%	+/-0.3	67.5%	+/-1.3
Civilian labor force	67.1%	+/-0.3	67.4%	+/-1.3
Employed	62.4%	+/-0.3	56.9%	+/-1.4
Unemployed	4.7%	+/-0.2	10.5%	+/-0.8
Percent of civilian labor force	6.9%	+/-0.2	15.6%	+/-1.2
Armed Forces	0.1%	+/-0.1	0.1%	+/-0.1
Not in labor force	32.8%	+/-0.3	32.5%	+/-1.3

*U.S. Census Bureau*

According to the 2000 Census report, Black males were represented in all occupations but were more likely than the majority population to hold jobs in service, transportation, and material moving occupations (*U.S. Census Bureau Reports*). Black males were also under-represented in management and professional occupations.

### Male civilian employed population 16 years and over, Indiana

	Total Pop.	Error rate	Blacks	Error rate
	1,559,307	+/-9,808	98,022	+/-4,009
Management, professional, and related occupations	26.4%	+/-0.5	18.8%	+/-3.0
Service occupations	11.7%	+/-0.4	19.9%	+/-2.7
Sales and office occupations	15.9%	+/-0.4	17.3%	+/-2.6
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.7%	+/-0.1	0.2%	+/-0.3
Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations	17.6%	+/-0.5	11.2%	+/-2.1
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	27.6%	+/-0.6	32.6%	+/-2.5

*U.S. Census Bureau*

The unemployment disparity as shown by the charts that follow illustrate Black unemployment rates double those of the white population.

### Indiana Employment Data

Total Pop	Indiana		
	All	White	Black
Both Sexes:	4,675,844	4,092,328	370,101
16 to 19 years:	315,023	264,745	31,948
Civilian Labor Force:	165,246	143,322	14,418
Employed	128,735	114,809	8,634
Unemployed	36,511	28,513	5,784
Not in labor force	149,599	121,279	17,530
Unemployment Rate	22%	20%	40%
Participation Rate	52%	54%	45%

*U.S. Census Bureau, the American Community Survey*

	All	White	Black
Male:	2,268,197	1,990,097	167,092
16 to 19 years:	163,798	137,808	16,963
Civilian Labor Force:	86,745	74,259	8,128
Employed	65,874	58,340	4,288
Unemployed	20,871	15,919	3,840
Not in labor force	76,921	63,417	8,835
Unemployment Rate	24%	21%	47%
Participation Rate	53%	54%	48%

*U.S. Census Bureau, the American Community Survey*

### **Commission Employment Conclusions**

The lack of economic security as well as employment security has served as the catalyst of many social ills among the black male population in Indiana. While the Commission has been unable to secure data affecting just Black males, previous research has indicated that Black males are adversely affected by unemployment similar to Black male youth.

Helping young Black males to become economically self-sufficient is a major, unmet challenge that demands urgent attention. The limited employment and business opportunities for many black males have been detrimental to their economic prosperity and social progress. Unemployed black males are often unable to participate in employment training programs because of lack of financial resources. Many black males have ceased applying for employment; they have lost hope. A college degree does not guarantee employment for the Black male. There is a generation of young Black males who have unemployed Black male adults as examples and the lack of employment stimulate frustration among young black males.

It is believed that unemployment among Black males has resulted in the rapid deterioration of the black family and the rise of crime and anti-social values among young Black males who see no shining or promising future. The end result, too often, is violence. The employment disparity among black males is an issue which requires a comprehensive, collective effort among all segments of the private and public sectors to implement an effective schedule of remedies.

# Health

Black males have higher mortality rates than White males in all the major health categories including all causes for death. The health disparity and age adjusted death statistics compiled by the Indiana State Department of Health conveys this dilemma. The Indiana State Department of Health incorporates an **age-adjusted death rate** when figuring death rates for ethnic populations.

The simplest form of death rate is the crude death rate, which is the number of deaths divided by the population. Although this gives us a general estimate of mortality, it is not useful for comparing populations because it does not account for different population compositions.

A population with an older age distribution will have more death from a given disease, so we compensate with the **age-adjusted death rate**. This is determined by dividing a population in small age groups, calculating the mortality rate for each group, and applying these rates to a standard population. The age-adjusted death rate allows us to compare death rates of different populations as though they had the same age structure. This is important when comparing death rates from specific health causes. (*Indiana State Department of Health*)

## Total Deaths and Age Adjusted Death Rates by Race

	2000		2001		2002	
	Deaths	Age Adj Rate	Deaths	Age Adj Rate	Deaths	Age Adj Rate
Total						
White Males	6,092	268.3	6,193	274.2	5,978	253.2
Black Males	509	358.0	514	360.0	535	353.1

	2003		2004	
	Deaths	Age Adj Rate	Deaths	Age Adj Rate
Total				
White Males	6,073	252.1	5,979	243.6
Black Males	556	357.8	490	315.1

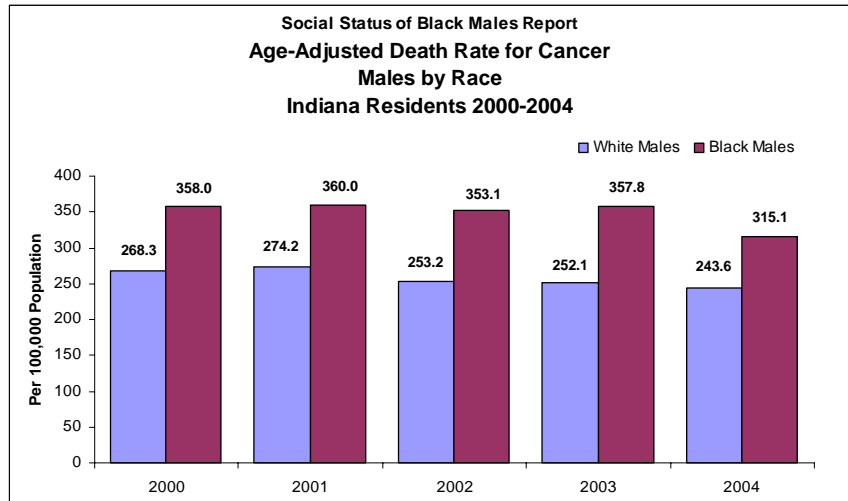
*Indiana State Department of Health Statistics*

The Health disparity impacting Black males as shown in the following charts for Cancer, Heart Disease, HIV Disease, Diabetes, Stroke, Homicide, and all causes. The age adjusted death rate for Black males is considerably and statistically higher than for White males.

## Death Rate by Cause of Death (Rate is the number of deaths per 100,000 population)

Black males disproportionately died from cancer at higher rates than White males consistently over the five year reporting period from the year 2000 through 2004. The cancer mortality rate for black males is 27% higher than the rate for white males.

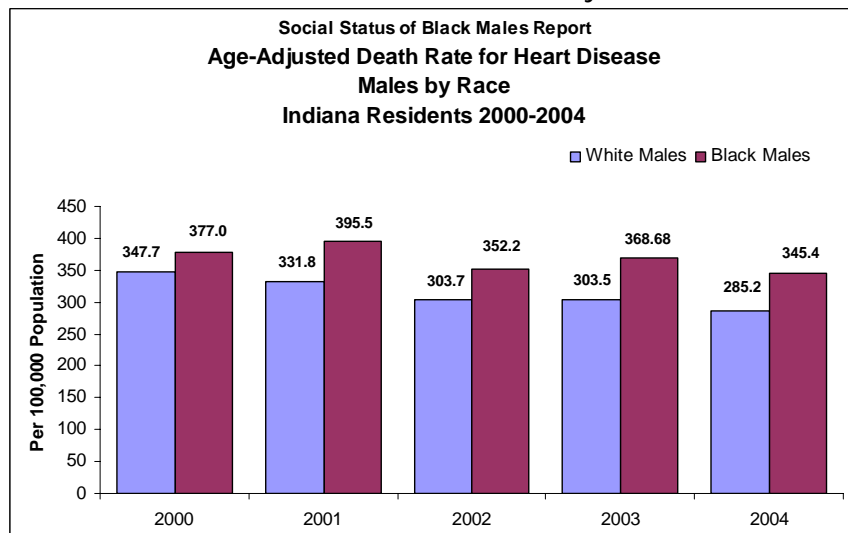
### Death Rate for Cancer by Race



*Indiana State Department of Health*

The disparity between the Black males and White males death rate due to Heart Disease for the five year period is evident in the chart below. Black males continue to die at elevated levels compared to White males. The heart disease mortality rate for black males is 21% higher than the rate for white males.

### Death Rate for Heart Disease by Race



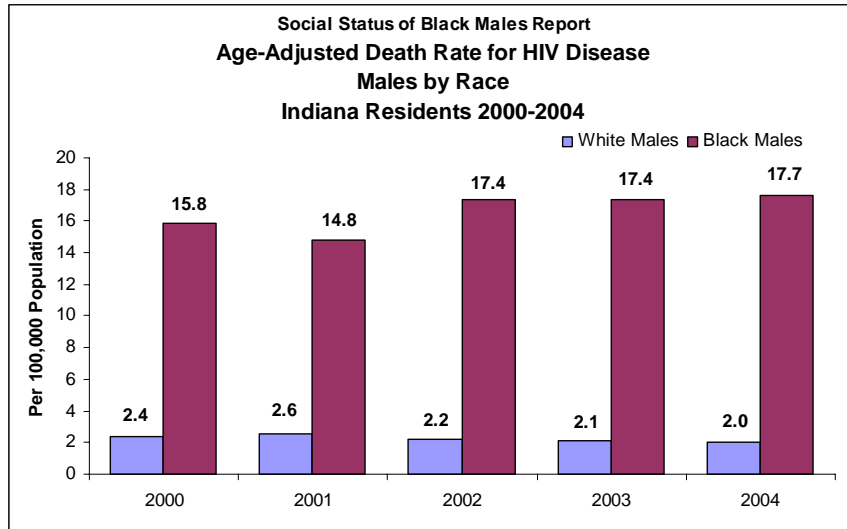
*Indiana State Department of Health*



The prevalence of HIV among Indiana's Black males is on the rise. In 2000, the HIV prevalence rate for Black males was 4.7 per 1,000 Black male population compared to White males at 1 per 1,000 White male population. In 2005, the HIV prevalence rate for Black males rose to 7.3 per 1,000 Black male population while White males increased to 1.4 per 1,000 White male population.\* The mortality rate from HIV disease for black males is 48.3% higher than the rate for white males.

\* Calculations were made based on Indiana's HIV/AIDS Surveillance System (HARS) and the use of 2000 Census data.

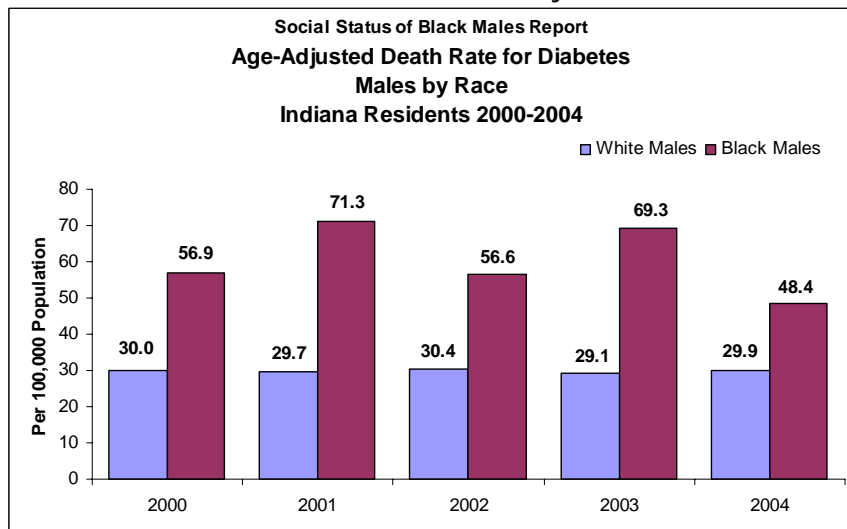
### Death Rate for HIV Disease by Race



Indiana State Department of Health

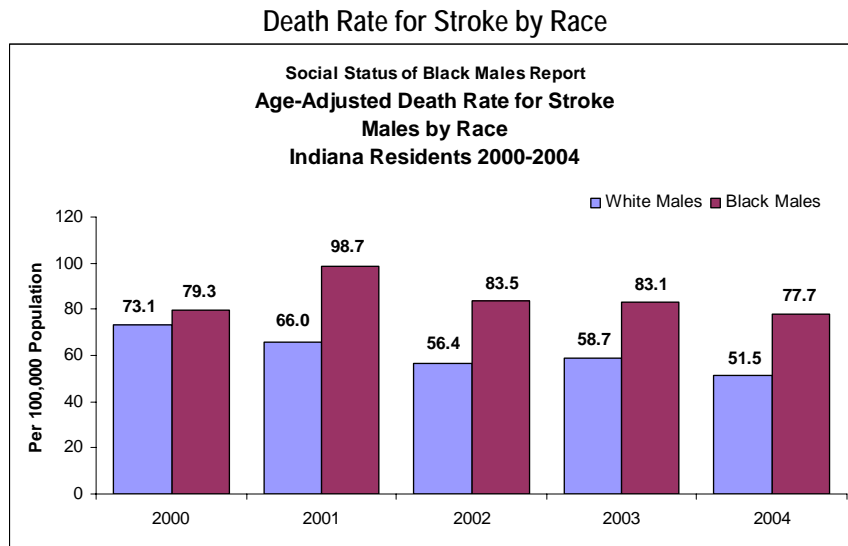
Blacks are at higher risk to be diagnosed with diabetes than Whites. The diabetes mortality rate for black males is also higher, 61.8% than the rate for white males.

### Death Rate for Diabetes by Race



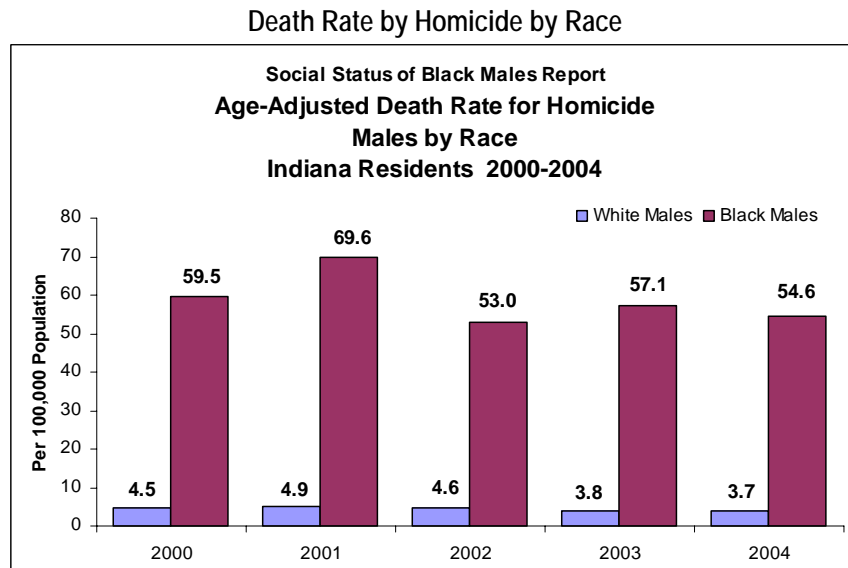
Indiana State Department of Health

The stroke mortality rate for black males is 50.9% higher than the rate for white males.



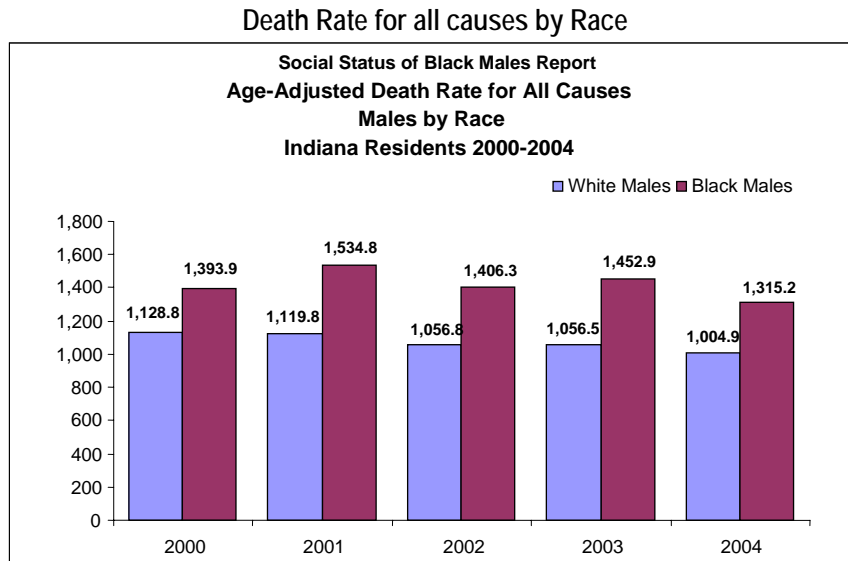
*Indiana State Department of Health*

Deaths of Black males caused by homicide occur at the phenomenal rate of more that thirteen times the rate for White males.



*Indiana State Department of Health*

The mortality rate from all causes for black males is 30.9% higher than the rate for white males.



*Indiana State Department of Health*

### Commission Health Conclusions

There are many contributing factors to the overall health concerns faced by Black Males. Some of those factors are stress uncertainty, a lack of medical insurance or inadequate insurance, poor diet, being uninformed, sexual promiscuity, and genetics.

It is also believed that there is a lack of emphasis on the special needs of mental health and developmental disabilities in the Black community. Violence and homicides severely impact Black males and take Black males out of the community in dramatically higher numbers than the White population.

The disparities conveyed in the previous charts signal a dire need for strategies and interventions to close the gap and reduce the number of Black male deaths. Specific emphasis should be placed on Diabetes, HIV disease and Homicides. Greater awareness, attention to cultural diversity, health support and counseling networks and prevention plans should be developed to help Black males live longer and lessen the statistical figures contained in the age adjusted death rates.

# Criminal Justice

Black males represent only 8.29% of the total male population in the state of Indiana. However, they represent a dramatically disproportionate population in the Indiana Department of Correction – 37.78% (Indiana Department of Correction, 2007, and Indiana Business Research Center, 2001). The State of Indiana statistics, as of July 1, 2006 revealed that Black males under the age of eighteen (18) represented 31.7 percent of the male population incarcerated within institutions under the auspices of the Juvenile Services Division, Indiana Department of Correction (*Indiana Department of Correction's Statistics*). Black males age 18 and over are 8½ times as likely as white males to be incarcerated in Indiana and nearly 75% of incarcerated adult Black males do not have a high school diploma (*Indiana Department of Correction's Statistics*).

## Percentage of Population who were Admitted to the Indiana Department of Correction in 2006

Black Males – 37.52%

White Males – 57.04%

*(Indiana Department of Correction, 2007)*

Equally disturbing, adult Black males comprised 37.7 percent of the Indiana Department of Correction prison population as of July 1, 2006, while only comprising approximately 8.6 percent of the state's total population. (*Indiana Department of Correction's Statistics*). Black males make up less than 9% of the State's population, yet they make up over 37% of the adult incarcerated population in Indiana.

## Indiana Department of Correction Population Figures

Total adult Department of Correction population:

Male – 24,297

Total – 26,567

Black adult Department of Correction population:

Male – 9437 (38.84% of male offenders)

Adult and Juvenile Department of Correction offenders combined:

Male – 25,194

Total – 27,636

Black adult and juvenile Department of Correction offenders combined:

Male – 9,730 (38.62% of male adult and juvenile offenders)

***Indiana Department of Correction (2007). OIS0402.07. Indiana Division of Research and Planning***

## Juvenile Department of Correction Data

Total juvenile Department of Correction population:

Male – 897

Total – 1,069

Black juvenile Department of Correction population:

Male – 293 (32.66% of juvenile male offenders)

**Indiana Department of Correction (2007). OIS0402.07. Indiana Division of Research and Planning**

Almost 98 percent of the juvenile male offenders being held were charged with non-status offenses, with 14.3 percent of these juveniles being charged with a violent offense (*Indiana Department of Correction's Statistics*). The average age of all juvenile offenders at intake is 15.5 years and the average current age of those within facilities is 16.6 (*Indiana Department of Correction's Statistics*).

The Indiana Department of Correction Division of Research and Planning indicated that as of April 2, 2007, Black males under the age of eighteen (18) represented 31.13% of the male population incarcerated within institutions (*Indiana Department of Correction, 2007*).

Over 28% of the juvenile offenders incarcerated for Controlled Substances are Black males (*Indiana Department of Correction, 2007*). Of the male juveniles currently incarcerated for a Weapons charge, 41.67% of those individuals are black males (*Indiana Department of Correction, 2007*).

**Top 5 Most Serious Criminal Offense Categories for Juvenile Offenders**

Category	White	Black	Other
Property	286	124	1
Person	189	114	1
Public Administration	55	34	1
Public Order	36	23	0
Controlled Substance	42	16	0

*(Indiana Department of Correction, 2007)*

**6 Indiana Counties with the Most Incarcerated Black Males**

Adult Black Males	County	County	Juvenile Black Males
4,291	Marion	Marion	126
873	Lake	St. Joseph	122
826	Allen	Elkhart	67
629	St. Joseph	Vanderburgh	52
504	Elkhart	Lake	50
406	Vanderburgh	Allen	39

*(Indiana Department of Correction, 2007)*

The high numbers of Black males incarcerated in these six counties convey the need for reintegration programs and post-incarceration services along with access support for employment, social service and housing assistance.

**Top 5 Most Serious Criminal Offense Categories for Adult Offenders**

Category	White	Black	Other
Person	5,343	3,924	477
Controlled Substance	2,991	3,013	401
Property	3,750	1,634	186
Substantive Criminal*	874	714	71
Weapon	211	439	30

\*Substantive Criminal = attempt, conspiracy, aiding (*Indiana Department of Correction, 2007*)

While Blacks represent less than ten percent of the total Indiana state population however, in the category of Controlled Substance criminal offense, Blacks exceed the majority population by 18.46%.

The chart below conveys the number of Correction Department admissions (intakes) and releases for 2006 for both adults and juveniles by race.

#### Indiana Department of Corrections Admissions/Releases in 2006

Race	Adult Admits	Juvenile Admits	Adult Releases	Juvenile Releases
White	8265	625	10220	662
Black	5016	330	5468	343
Other	808	99	691	93

*(Indiana Department of Correction, 2007)*

#### Commission Criminal Justice Conclusions

The Justice Policy Institute Study notes that the chances of a Black male going to prison are greater today than the chances of a Black male going to college. The study also analyzed government spending on colleges versus corrections, which illustrated the impact of such spending decisions on Black males. Subsequently, colleges and universities are forced to raise tuition and housing while precious resources are being allocated to additional jail cells and the building of correctional institutions.

Nationwide, the number of Black men in jail or prison has grown five fold over the past two decades – to the point where more Black men are behind bars than are enrolled in colleges or universities, this according to a Justice Policy Institute study published in the New York Times (*Justice Policy Institute Study*).

With the Black male population of Indiana comprising approximately 8.6 percent of the state's total population, the disproportional incarceration rate of Black males is a reflection of deep community and social problems.

According to 2005 data collected by the Bureau of Justice Statistics on victimization rates across the nation the following were indicated:

Teens and young adults (under the age of 25) experience the highest rates of violent crime. Beginning with the 25-34 age categories, the rate at which persons were victims declined significantly as the age category increased (*Bureau of Justice Statistics*).

Per every 1,000 persons in that racial group, 27 Blacks, 20 Whites, and 14 persons of other races sustained violent crime victimization (*Bureau of Justice Statistics*).

In 2005 approximately 49 percent of murder victims were White, 49 percent were Black, and 2 percent were Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native American. These statistics demonstrate that racial differences exist, with Blacks disproportionately represented among homicide victims (*Bureau of Justice Statistics*).

Black males 18-24 years old have the highest homicide offender and victim rates. Compared to the next highest rates, their rates are 3 times the rates of Black males 14-17 years old, 5 times the rates of Black males 25 and older, and 8 times the rates of white males 18-24 years old (*Bureau of Justice Statistics*). Within urban areas, Black males living in suburban inner cities with populations greater than 100,000 experienced violent crimes at higher rates than White males who resided in the same areas (*Bureau of Justice Statistics*).

Clearly, to enhance positive social nurturing of Black male youths in order to reduce the web of criminal activities, joint efforts mobilizing all components of the community must take effect. And, in order to establish an agenda to

combat the social decay of Black males, the moral and attitudinal factors of the community must also be addressed. The social nurturance of Black male youths will require returning to a tradition of virtue to stimulate a unified, warm, community environment; thus developing a spirit of volunteerism within the community. In particular, Black male adults are needed as examples and must be more connected strategically with Black male youths to mold positive ways of thinking to prevent criminal behavior. Additionally, the entire community must become actively involved in reclaiming our Black male youths through the process of crime prevention, intervention, public safety, and knowledge of the criminal justice system. Diversity must be part of community policing and citizen advisory boards. The voice and input of the Black male along with recruitment efforts has to be integrated in the community policing strategy. Based upon the African adage, "It takes a whole village to raise a child", there is a primary need to create community unity and additional positive social options for Black male juveniles.

There may be a need to create a commission or board whose sole purpose is to examine and make recommendations on mandatory sentencing disparities, reintegration, and post-incarceration services. Grass roots groups and social service agencies should help to determine whether Black male offenders are appropriately represented. Offices of prosecuting attorneys could develop diversion/restitution programs for nonviolent offenders as an alternative to incarceration. The following chart conveys the Indiana counties with the highest number of incarcerated Black males. Subsequent charts identify the most serious offenses committed by Blacks and the majority population and law enforcement data report offenses for the five largest cities in Indiana.

### **Indiana Department of Correction Workforce**

It is equally important for the workforce who oversees the rehabilitation of incarcerated Black males to be somewhat similar to that of the comprised population of the institution. The Commission recognizes and values the Department of Correction's efforts to assist the state in minority recruitment and finds merit in the notion that a larger minority workforce should assist in the overall rehabilitation of incarcerated minorities. The Department presently employs 7,200 staff, of which 559 Black males employed by the Department of Correction. This equals 7.8%. The Department is making an aggressive commitment to developing a community of employees whose composition mirrors the diversity of the population throughout the state. Moreover, the Department is committed to developing and promoting a climate that is supportive of ethnic and racial diversity. As articulated by J. David Donahue, Commissioner of Indiana Department of Correction, minority recruitment efforts are an overarching goal in filling agency vacancies throughout the Department. Included in the Department's commitment to diversity are more specific goals and objectives related to the recruitment of employees who are African-Americans and Hispanic Americans. Although the Department is making a concerted effort at attracting a larger minority workforce, which includes the hiring of more Black male employees it needs the assistance of local communities, grassroots organizations, non-governmental organizations and you the reader to make a collaborative effort in assisting the Department in achieving this goal.

## Social Factors

According to the 2000 US Census Bureau, Blacks in all categories and age levels experienced poverty in greater percentages than the total population. Black families (23.8%) are more than two and one have times more likely to live in poverty than the majority population (9.0%). (*U.S. Census Bureau Reports*).

### Poverty rates for families and people for whom poverty status is determined in Indiana

	Total	Error	Blacks	Error
All families	9.0%	+/-0.4	23.8%	+/-2.6
With related children under 18 years	14.4%	+/-0.7	33.2%	+/-3.5
With related children under 5 years only	18.4%	+/-2.0	39.6%	+/-9.7
Married-couple families	4.0%	+/-0.3	7.7%	+/-2.0
With related children under 18 years	5.3%	+/-0.6	9.9%	+/-3.4
With related children under 5 years only	5.9%	+/-1.7	13.7%	+/-12.5
Families with female householder, no husband present	30.3%	+/-1.6	39.7%	+/-4.2
With related children under 18 years	39.2%	+/-2.0	48.2%	+/-4.6
With related children under 5 years only	51.2%	+/-4.6	57.3%	+/-12.1
All people	12.2%	+/-0.4	27.9%	+/-2.2
Under 18 years	16.7%	+/-0.8	42.1%	+/-4.5
Related children under 18 years	16.3%	+/-0.8	41.7%	+/-4.4
Related children under 5 years	20.1%	+/-1.3	47.9%	+/-6.5
Related children 5 to 17 years	14.9%	+/-0.9	39.4%	+/-4.7
18 years and over	10.7%	+/-0.3	21.3%	+/-1.5
18 to 64 years	11.2%	+/-0.4	22.6%	+/-1.6
65 years and over	8.0%	+/-0.5	11.5%	+/-2.2
People in families	9.8%	+/-0.4	27.5%	+/-2.8
Unrelated individuals 15 years and over	23.4%	+/-0.8	29.6%	+/-3.1

*U.S. Census Bureau Report*



Blacks experienced less income within the household including Social Security income and retirement income than the total population within the state. The categories where Blacks exceeded the total population in income were Supplemental Income and Food Stamps benefits.

### Income in the past 12 months

<u>Households</u>	<u>Total pop.</u>	<u>Error Margin</u>	<u>Blacks</u>	<u>Error Margin</u>
	2,443,010	+/-11,121	209,897	+/-4,511
Median household income (dollars)	43,993	+/-503	28,760	+/-1,296
With earnings	80.5%	+/-0.3	79.5%	+/-1.3
Mean earnings (dollars)	56,988	+/-603	40,390	+/-1,811
With Social Security income	26.8%	+/-0.3	21.4%	+/-1.4
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	13,984	+/-102	11,766	+/-491
With Supplemental Security Income	3.3%	+/-0.2	6.5%	+/-0.8
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	7,284	+/-238	7,316	+/-600
With cash public assistance income	2.6%	+/-0.2	7.3%	+/-1.1
Mean cash public assistance income (dollars)	2,179	+/-166	1,783	+/-317
With retirement income	18.2%	+/-0.3	14.7%	+/-1.3
Mean retirement income (dollars)	14,378	+/-318	12,986	+/-884
With Food Stamp benefits	8.7%	+/-0.3	24.1%	+/-2.0

*U.S. Census Bureau Report*

Blacks have less education and fewer bachelor and advanced degrees than the majority population. One instance where Blacks exceed the total population is in the percentage of some college or Associates degrees, 34.1% to 27% for the total population. Black males also lag slightly behind Black females in both high school graduate percentages and bachelor degrees or advanced degrees.

### Educational Attainment Indiana

	<u>Total Pop.</u>	<u>Error Margin</u>	<u>Blacks</u>	<u>Error Margin</u>
<b>Population 25 years and over</b>	<b>3,956,723</b>	<b>+/-3,837</b>	<b>302,411</b>	<b>+/-3,525</b>
Less than high school diploma	14.7%	+/-0.2	17.8%	+/-1.1
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	37.1%	+/-0.4	33.7%	+/-1.5
Some college or associate's degree	27.0%	+/-0.3	34.1%	+/-1.7
Bachelor's degree	13.5%	+/-0.3	9.5%	+/-1.0
Graduate or professional degree	7.7%	+/-0.2	4.8%	+/-0.9
High school graduate or higher	85.3%	+/-0.2	82.2%	+/-1.1
Male, high school graduate or higher	85.3%	+/-0.3	82.1%	+/-1.7
Female, high school graduate or higher	85.4%	+/-0.3	82.3%	+/-1.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	21.3%	+/-0.4	14.4%	+/-1.4
Male, bachelor's degree or higher	22.4%	+/-0.4	13.8%	+/-1.9
Female, bachelor's degree or higher	20.2%	+/-0.4	14.8%	+/-1.6

*U.S. Census Bureau Report*

According to the 2000 United States Census report, Blacks have a smaller percentage of family households and nearly half the percentage of married couple households thereby validating the notion of more female headed households and fewer two adult wage earner households (*U.S. Census Bureau Report*). Only 27.5% of Black households were maintained by married-couple families, compared with 51.6% of all Indiana households (*U.S. Census Bureau Report*). The proportion of households that were family households maintained by Black women with no husband present was two and one half times the corresponding proportion for all households (28.5% compared with 11.4%) (*U.S. Census Bureau Report*).

### Households by type in Indiana

	Total Population	Error Margin	Blacks	Error Margin
<b>Households</b>	<b>2,443,010</b>	<b>+/-11,121</b>	<b>209,897</b>	<b>+/-4,511</b>
Family households	67.1%	+/-0.5	60.5%	+/-2.2
With own children under 18 years	31.3%	+/-0.4	34.0%	+/-1.9
Married-couple families	51.6%	+/-0.6	27.5%	+/-1.9
With own children under 18 years	21.6%	+/-0.4	11.8%	+/-1.5
Female householder, no husband present	11.4%	+/-0.3	28.5%	+/-1.8
With own children under 18 years	7.3%	+/-0.3	19.4%	+/-1.6
Non-family households	32.9%	+/-0.5	39.5%	+/-2.2
Male householder	15.1%	+/-0.4	18.8%	+/-1.5
Living alone	11.7%	+/-0.3	15.0%	+/-1.4
Not living alone	3.4%	+/-0.2	3.8%	+/-0.8
Female householder	17.7%	+/-0.3	20.7%	+/-1.5
Living alone	15.3%	+/-0.3	18.6%	+/-1.4
Not living alone	2.4%	+/-0.1	2.0%	+/-0.5
Average household size	2.49	+/-0.01	2.45	+/-0.05
Average family size	3.04	+/-0.02	3.17	+/-0.08

*U.S. Census Bureau Report*

### Commission Social Factors Conclusions

Personal destruction along with the disintegration of the family is a compelling symptom in the plight of the Black male. Poverty, lack of employment opportunities and disenfranchisement from the American dream affect the Black male socially.

Regardless of race, single parenthood is strongly associated with poverty. Poverty has many negative effects on Black males, ranging from poor school achievement, emotional and behavioral problems and impaired overall health (*U.S. Census Bureau Report*). Family status, household standing and low wage earning contribute to too many Black children possibly living at or below the poverty level.

Education remains a key to unlock the full potential and provide access for Black males. Inadequate education is a prime factor leading to negative social issues encountered by Black males. Education directly affects skills, opportunity, social connections, earning ability and more for Black males.

In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of Black households headed by females, thus reducing the interaction and identification of young males with a strong male presence. The disintegration of the Black family unit is a symptom of a larger tragedy, the plight of the Black male. It is believed key components in reversing the critical condition of the young Black male must focus on assisting and supporting parents. It is thought that Black parents need employment, resources, motivation, and reinforcement to create a successful, healthy family environment for their sons. Significant pro-family resources must be directed toward the training, development, and support of parents, particularly teenage and/or single parents in order to make a positive difference in the life of a Black male youth.

Too many young Black males are not sharing in the positive progression of the American society. An action plan is vital due to fewer Black males earning high school diplomas and advancing to colleges and universities. Also Black males experience higher poverty rates, higher unemployment rates, and an increasing incarceration rate. Assigning blame will not advance Black males; however, devising a plan and action agenda to uplift the family, embrace education, and ultimately changing culture will positively impact Black males.

Whether through mentoring, training, or some other means, Black males must embrace leadership to serve as role models for the next generation. The community is dependent upon Black men fulfilling their rightful place in society, specifically in regard to Black women and children. The Creator made Black men to be providers, protectors, cultivators, and leaders. Black men also must be visionary and have the ability to discern situations and act accordingly – versus simply reacting.

The characteristics of manhood also are important and include self improvement and continual knowledge attainment, goal setting and investing for a better future, having a sense of personal value and appreciation for others. The Black male must respect their community and supporting its growth, embracing family and the role of the family in society, and stepping up to be a leader within his family and the community.

## Local Commission Representation within Indiana

Anderson Commission on African American Males	Indianapolis Commission on African American Males
Bloomington Commission on the Status of Black Males	Jeffersonville Comm. On the Social Status Black Males
Evansville Social Status of African American Males	Michigan City Comm. Social Status African Americans
Fort Wayne Commission on African American Males	Muncie Commission on African American Males
Gary Comm. On the Social Status of Black Males	South Bend Comm. On the Social Status Black Males*

\*The South Bend Commission plans to be reactivated in 2007, currently dormant.

## Local Commission Attention

### *Bloomington Commission on the Status of Black Males Report on 2006 Activities*

The City of Bloomington's Commission on the Status of Black Males was created to address the problems faced by African-American males in the areas of health, employment, criminal justice, and education. The purposes and duties of the group include, in part, to serve as a catalyst to promote positive public and private remedies to address the multi-faceted problems confronting Black males in the community, to organize and convene community forums and focus groups to discuss the status of Black males, and to network with like-minded groups in the community and the state. The seven members of the Commission during 2006 included Commission Chair David Hummons (appointed by the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission), William Knox (Common Council), Larry Brown (Human Rights Commission), Cedric Harris (Mayor), Paulette Patterson Dilworth (Mayor), George W. Tardy, Jr. (Mayor), and Bev Smith (Common Council). Staff support is provided by City of Bloomington Liaison Craig Brenner.

The Commission has completed its sixth year. We began 2006 by presenting a new award during Black History Month that recognized and affirmed young African American males. The award will be presented annually, and we are currently soliciting nominations for the second presentation during February, 2007.

During 2006, in the area of criminal justice, we continued to support the goals of the community's Racial Justice Task Force, in particular the recommendation that all law enforcement vehicles be equipped with digital video cameras. To this end, we established a committee consisting of representatives from law enforcement who attended a Commission meeting.

We addressed the area of health during 2006 by co-sponsoring a Town Hall Meeting on Health Care at the Monroe County Public Library during October. The meeting included a panel, with Indian Senator Vi Simpson, doctors and others discussing and addressing the needs of un- and under-insured in our community, and public comment. The meeting was a resounding success, with a standing room only crowd in attendance. The Indiana State Health Commissioner attended this meeting as a very interested party.

In education, we continued to support conflict resolution training by the Community Justice and Mediation Center, with one commission member participating as a trainer. New Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) Superintendent Jim Harvey met with the Commission in December, and MCCSC Human Resources Associate Beverly Smith was appointed to serve as a member of the Commission. Subsequent to our meeting with MCCSC superintendent Harvey we agreed to continue the MCCSC Human Understanding and Diversity Forum which addresses suspension and expulsion issues and school climate issues in the high schools. The Commission is an integral part of these ongoing discussions and Beverly Smith convenes this forum.

Also during 2006 we took part in our local Juneteenth Celebration and Soul Food Festival and participated in a planning retreat. We concluded 2006 by attending the last meeting of the City of Bloomington Common Council at which the Commission was reauthorized by the Common Council in Ordinance 06-25, which the sunset provision was abolished,

making the Commission on the Status of Black males a permanent commission. We are now actively planning for participation in the upcoming Men of Color Leadership Conference to be held at Indiana University-Bloomington in February, 2007. We will host an entire day of the Conference by involving 50 to 80 Monroe County Community School Corporation high school students from underrepresented groups in leadership workshops.

Many guests and representatives of community and governmental organizations attended Commission meetings during 2006, including representatives from the Monroe County Council, Monroe County Community School Corporation, Monroe County Racial Justice Task Force, I.U. School of Education, Community Justice and Mediation Center, and Safe and Civil City Program.

For detailed information on the activities of the Commission, please refer to the City's Web site at [www.bloomington.in.gov/cfrd](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/cfrd).

### **Jeffersonville Commission on the Social Status of Black Males**

The City of Jeffersonville's Commission on the Status of Black Males was created to address the problems faced by African-American males in the areas of health, employment, criminal justice, social factors and education. The Commission was coordinated in 2005 and has implemented education initiatives that addressed educational disparities affecting Black males related to suspensions, expulsions, graduation rates and standardized test scores. The Commission has also sought to be a participant in remedies to address the multi-faceted problems confronting Black males in the community, to organize and convene community forums and focus groups to discuss the status of Black males, and to network with grass roots organizations and other social service providers.

Other activities of the Commission over the past year have included: Established and began the implementation of an Educational Vision and Action Plan; including the goal of 100% graduation of all black males! Established a Youth Commission on the High School Level, coordinated a college visit to Kentucky State University (HBCU). And lastly we implemented biweekly meetings with the Youth Commission within Jeffersonville High School, discussing career objectives, the importance of education, struggles of black students in their current environment, and other topics of interest to the students.



The Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males

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Commission Membership

Elected Officials



Senator  
Gary Dillon



Senator  
Samuel Smith



Representative  
Dr. Tim Brown



Representative  
Dr. Vernon G. Smith



Superintendent  
Dr. Suellen Reed

Wayne R. Wellington  
Chairman  
Indianapolis Public Schools

Senator Gary Dillon  
Vice Chairperson  
Columbia City, Indiana

Senator  
Samuel Smith  
East Chicago, Indiana

Representative  
Dr. Tim Brown  
Crawfordsville, Indiana

Representative  
Dr. Vernon G. Smith  
Gary, Indiana

Dr. Suellen Reed  
Superintendent, Indiana  
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Earle Goode  
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**Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males**

**The Eighth African-American Male National Conference**

**October 18-19, 2007**



**at the Adam's Mark Hotel near Indianapolis International Airport**