

Annotated Bibliography

Type: Primary Source

Link: [IPUMS USA](#)

Citations:

Steven Ruggles, Sarah Flood, Matthew Sobek, Daniel Backman, Grace Cooper, Julia A. Rivera Drew, Stephanie Richards, Renae Rodgers, Jonathan Schroeder, and Kari C.W. Williams. IPUMS USA: Version 16.0 [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS, 2025.

<https://doi.org/10.18128/D010.V16.0>

Steven Ruggles, Matt A. Nelson, Matthew Sobek, Catherine A. Fitch, Ronald Goeken, J. David Hacker, Evan Roberts, and J. Robert Warren. IPUMS Ancestry Full Count Data: Version 4.0 [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D014.V4.0>

Description: This resource is a governmental database that contains census data that already has been categorized and organized and can be processed in an easy way. Examples of variables available include OCCSCORE (based on 1950 income levels), YEAR, RACE, and SEI.

Type: Primary Source

Link: [Decennial Census Official Publications](#)

Citation: Bureau, US Census. n.d. "Decennial Census Official Publications." The United States Census Bureau.

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/decade/decennial-publications.1870.html>.

Description: This source is the data from each census conducted once every 10 years. The data from these censuses will be useful for my project because it will have a lot of data on US households including variables like demographic information, economic data, and household characteristics. In particular, the economic data will be very useful for me for insights surrounding social mobility.

Type: Primary Source

Link: <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/>

Citation: "Homepage | the HistoryMakers." 2019. Thehistorymakers.org. 2019.

<https://www.thehistorymakers.org/>.

Description: This source details the personal narratives and stories of successful African American people. This source will be useful for my project because I can look at the stories of successful business executives and other types of successful African Americans to gain insights for the aspect of social mobility in modern society.

Type: Primary Source

Link: [History of wages in the United States from Colonial times to 1928. - Duke University Libraries Catalog](#)

Citation: States., United. 1929. "History of Wages in the United States from Colonial Times to 1928 : Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, No. 604." Stlouisfed.org, October. <https://doi.org/02794726>.

Description: This source is the history of wages from the Colonial times to the early 20th century. This will be an important source because I can especially track income, a type of economic data that I can pair with the data from all the censuses to find insights about social mobility.

Type: Primary Source

Link: [Economic News Releases : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

Citation: "Economic News Releases : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics." n.d. [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov/bls/newsrels.htm#OCWC). <https://www.bls.gov/bls/newsrels.htm#OCWC>.

Description: This source gives all types of economic data from the modern age in US society. It will be particularly useful when I investigate social mobility and the different types of routes I can take when analyzing mobility, specifically in regards to modern US society.

Type: Primary Source (Read)

Link: [Upward Mobility Makes It Worse for Minorities - ProQuest](#)

Citation: "Upward Mobility Makes it Worse for Minorities." 2017., Dec 01USA Today, 11. <https://login.proxy.lib.duke.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/upward-mobility-makes-worse-minorities/docview/2264352265/se-2>.

Description: This source makes an intriguing point about upward mobility and how it may cause racial discrimination, affecting the health of minorities including African Americans. I could use this source to point out the nuances as well as the limitations when it comes to optimizing social mobility, as it is only one metric out of many and only one part of the story.

Type: Secondary Source (Read)

Link: [Not There Yet on Equal Opportunity; African-American social mobility climbed until 2000, then a troubling slide began. - ProQuest](#)

Citation: Galston, William A. 2015. Not there Yet on Equal Opportunity; African-American Social Mobility Climbed Until 2000, then a Troubling Slide BeganAnonymous Dow Jones & Company

Inchhttps://login.proxy.lib.duke.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/blogs-podcasts-websites/not-there-yet-on-equal-opportunity-african/docview/1724003318/se-2.

Description: This source talks about the history of social mobility among African Americans in the late 20th century, and how it started to climb before encountering trouble. I could use this source as both information about the history of social mobility among African Americans and also as an idea of what ways I could define social mobility and go about analyzing this idea.

Type: Secondary Source (Read)

Link: [Progressive Barriers to Equal Opportunity; If the African-American climb to social mobility ended in 2000 and then started to slide, what new barriers were put into place in 2000 that ended the climb? - ProQuest](#)

Citation: Progressive Barriers to Equal Opportunity; if the African-American Climb to Social Mobility Ended in 2000 and then Started to Slide, what New Barriers were Put into Place in 2000 that Ended the Climb? 2015. Anonymous Dow Jones & Company

Inchhttps://login.proxy.lib.duke.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/blogs-podcasts-websites/progressive-barriers-equal-opportunity-if-african/docview/1727458937/se-2.

Description: This source talks about the observation that the African-American climb to social mobility ended in 2000 and the factors that may have prevented it continuing. I could use this source to think about the potential barriers to the climb of African American social mobility, and how they are present and can be addressed in modern society.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [The Lasting Effects of Early-Childhood Education on Promoting the Skills and Social Mobility of Disadvantaged African Americans and Their Children | Journal of Political Economy: Vol 131, No 6](#)

Citation: Garcia, Jorge Luis, James Heckman, and Victor Ronda. 2022. "The Lasting Effects of Early Childhood Education on Promoting the Skills and Social Mobility of Disadvantaged African Americans and Their Children." *Journal of Political Economy* 131 (6).

<https://doi.org/10.1086/722936>.

Description: This source talks about long-term intra- and intergenerational benefits of the HighScope Perry Preschool Project, which benefited black children. I could use this source as a case study for what solutions there could potentially be to mitigate the issue of barriers to upward social mobility.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [You Moved Up, Did You Forget Us?: The Influence of African American Intra-familial Social Mobility on Extended Family Relationships - Document - Gale Academic OneFile Select](#)

Citation: Stewart, Pearl E. "You Moved Up, Did You Forget Us?: The Influence of African American Intra-familial Social Mobility on Extended Family Relationships." *Journal of African*

American Studies 19, no. 2 (2015): 214+. Gale Academic OneFile Select (accessed November 5, 2025). <http://dx.doi.org.proxy.lib.duke.edu/10.1007/s12111-015-9300-6>.

Description: This source analyzed the extent to which changes in socioeconomic status influenced the ability of extended family members to share resources. This source could be used to explain the differences among different social classes in society.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [Race, Intergenerational Social Mobility and Stressful Life Events - ProQuest](#)

Citation: Assari, Shervin. , "Race, Intergenerational Social Mobility and Stressful Life Events," Behavioral Sciences 8, no. 10 (2018), doi:<https://doi.org/10.3390/bs8100086>.

<https://login.proxy.lib.duke.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/race-intergenerational-social-mobility-stressful/docview/2125247058/se-2>.

Description: This source analyzed the variable of race to the association of upward and downward social mobility and stress. This source could be used to explain the significance of social mobility and the potential limitations even if it was improved.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [African Americans and the American political system - Duke University Libraries Catalog](#)

Citation: Lucius J. Barker, and Mack H. Jones. *African Americans and the American political system*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1994.

Description: This book talks about how the black experience has shaped US politics. This could potentially give insight to social mobility in the specific avenue of power for my project.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [The Black middle class : social mobility--and vulnerability - Duke University Libraries Catalog](#)

Citation: Bowser, Benjamin P. *The Black Middle Class: social mobility--and vulnerability*. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner, 2007.

Description: This book talks about the Black Middle Class and that the Black and White middle classes are completely different fields, as argued by the author. This source could give insight on the role that race plays in regard to social mobility.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [ProQuest Ebook Central - Book Details](#)

Citation: Taplin-Kaguru, Nora E.. *Grasping for the American Dream: Racial Segregation, Social Mobility, and Homeownership*. Taylor & Francis Group, 2021.

Description: This book talks about how black homebuyers continue to pay more for and get less from homeownership. This source could be used to give a case study on social mobility in relation to the American dream and home ownership.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [The death of Reconstruction : race, labor, and politics in the post-Civil War North, 1865-1901 - Duke University Libraries Catalog](#)

Citation: Heather Cox Richardson. 2004. *The Death of Reconstruction*. Harvard University Press.

Description: This book examines issues during reconstruction such as taxation, lynching, and civil rights and the trajectory of Northern disenchantment with Reconstruction. This is a source that I could use to tie my project surrounding social mobility back to slavery and reconstruction era.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [I saw death coming : a history of terror and survival in the war against Reconstruction - Duke University Libraries Catalog](#)

Citation: Williams, K. E. (2023). *I Saw Death Coming*. Bloomsbury Publishing USA.

Description: This book has detailed narratives of black people during the reconstruction period and talks about how reconstruction was not necessarily a failure but it was deliberately prevented from succeeding. I could use this source as a way to tie my project surrounding social mobility back to slavery, the reconstruction period right after slavery, and the stories of the individuals.

Type: Secondary Source

Link: [Capital in the Twenty-First Century - Duke University Libraries Catalog](#)

Citation: Piketty, Thomas. 2014. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*. Harvard University Press.

Description: This book uses a lot of data and numbers to analyze social mobility and inequality in the world. I could use this source as an example of how to analyze data and derive meaning from data.