

ON-LINE APPENDIX FOR FIGURE 1.2.

This on-line appendix presents five charts that are alternatives to Figure 1.2 of *Labor's Love Lost*, along with the data points plotted in each chart. They show trends in the percentage of men in various occupational groups who were married in every census from 1880 to 2010.¹ The decennial census did not directly ask individuals whether they were married until 1880. The data are from the decennial census records in the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), a data archive maintained by the University of Minnesota. I excluded men with farm occupations in order to focus on the urban industrial labor force. I restricted the charts to men age 20 to 49 because few men were married before age 20 and because by age 49 men were growing too old to manage the often physically arduous task of factory work. In the book, *In the Shadow of the Mills: Working-Class Families in Pittsburgh, 1870 – 1907* (1989), S. J. Kleinberg argued that men tended to withdraw from industrial labor by age 50.

I have retained six occupational classifications for whites. These classifications were derived directly from the major categories of the IPUMS variable OCC1950. The top category combined “Professional and Technical” with “Managers, Official, and Proprietors.” Clerical work, sales work, and skilled blue-collar work, are the key middle-skill categories in the economic history literature – see Katz and Margo, “Technical Change and the Relative Demand for Skilled Labor” (2013); consequently I constructed categories for “Clerical and Kindred,” “Sales Workers” and a category that combined “Craftsmen” and “Operatives.” The lowest categories were “Service Workers” and “Laborers.” For blacks, smaller sample sizes necessitated collapsing clerical and sales into one category).

Charts A, B, C, and D exclude immigrants: men who were not born in the United States. Foreign born men constituted a substantial share of the industrial labor force in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. But because immigrants were predominantly male, foreign born men faced an

¹ Except for the Census of 1890, the records for which were destroyed by fire. Percentages for 1890 are linearly interpolated.

unfavorable sex ratio and had a more difficult time finding a spouse. Moreover, immigrants may have married prior to entering the United States; and they may have maintained values about marriage that were specific to their countries of origin. Chart E includes foreign-born men.

Charts A, B, and E display the percentage of men who were coded as married with spouse present, a category that includes men who were married at the time of the Census, with the exception of a few whose wives may have been institutionalized or otherwise absent for reasons other than marital discord. The percentage of men who were currently married is influenced not only by rates of marriage but also by rates of widowhood and divorce, which could vary by occupational category. I therefore compiled parallel charts in which the outcome was percent ever-married, which includes individuals classified as currently-married, married-spouse-absent, separated, divorced, or widowed. Charts C and D show this outcome.

Chart A shows that at every census men with professional, technical, and managerial occupations had the highest percentage currently married of all white, U.S.-born men. And at every census men with service occupations had the lowest, or close to the lowest, percentage married. Prior to World War II, the other groups with low percentages varied, in part because our modern occupational categories may apply differently in the past. For instance, we tend to think of sales as a white-collar category, and today it is. But in the late 1800s it included low-income workers such as hucksters and peddlers – which helps to explain why sales workers initially had low percentages married. After World War II the chart is more orderly. Sales workers (by then really a white-collar category) and craftsmen and operatives (electricians, machine operators) had the second highest percentage married. Three other groups were essentially tied for the lowest percentage: clerical workers (cashiers, shipping clerks), service workers (janitors, waiters), and common laborers.

In 1880, the difference between the highest and lowest line was 27 percentage points. The spread narrowed after 1910 and was at a minimum in the post-World War II period, following which it widened again. It did not again exceed 27 percentage points until 2010. The chart, therefore, shows that the current era is the second time that the nation has experienced a large marriage gap. The first instance

occurred in the late nineteenth century. What these two eras have in common is that inequality of incomes was rising during both of them.

To illustrate this point, I have inserted labels in the chart that characterize the amount of income inequality in the American economy in five periods since 1880. The periods are drawn from the work of the economists Claudia Goldin, Lawrence Katz, Robert Margo, and their associates, who have written widely about American economic history. Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz discuss income inequality since 1900 in *The Race Between Education and Technology* (2008). On the polarization of the labor market since about 1987 see David H. Autor, Lawrence F. Katz, and Melissa Kearney, "The Polarization of the U.S. Labor Market" (2006). On the nineteenth century, see Lawrence F. Katz and Robert A. Margo, "Technical Change and the Relative Demand for Skilled Labor: The United States in Historical Perspective" (2013).

Turning to the Chart B for currently-married African American, (and starting from 1900 rather than 1880 because so few African American men worked in higher occupations before then), one can see similarities with, and differences from, the trends among whites. As was the case for whites, the higher the occupation, the greater is the percentage married throughout most of the period, though there are exceptions in some years; and as with whites, the percentages married are highest in the post-World-War-II period. But prior to 1950, the spread of the lines was smaller for African Americans – in other words, there was less difference in the percent married among men with different occupations than there was among comparable whites. This smaller difference likely reflects the lack of opportunity for black men to attain truly middle class occupational status. In all likelihood, black men classified as professionals and managers were more likely to have been funeral directors – one of the few professions open to blacks living in segregated communities – than corporate executives; and those classified as craftsmen and operatives were more likely to have been locomotive firemen who shoveled coal into steam engines than electricians or plumbers. Moreover, the chart for African Americans differs from whites in that the percentage married did not rise as high during the 1950s and 1960s and has fallen further in the most

recent period, so that the proportions married among African Americans are now at historic twentieth- and twenty-first-century lows.

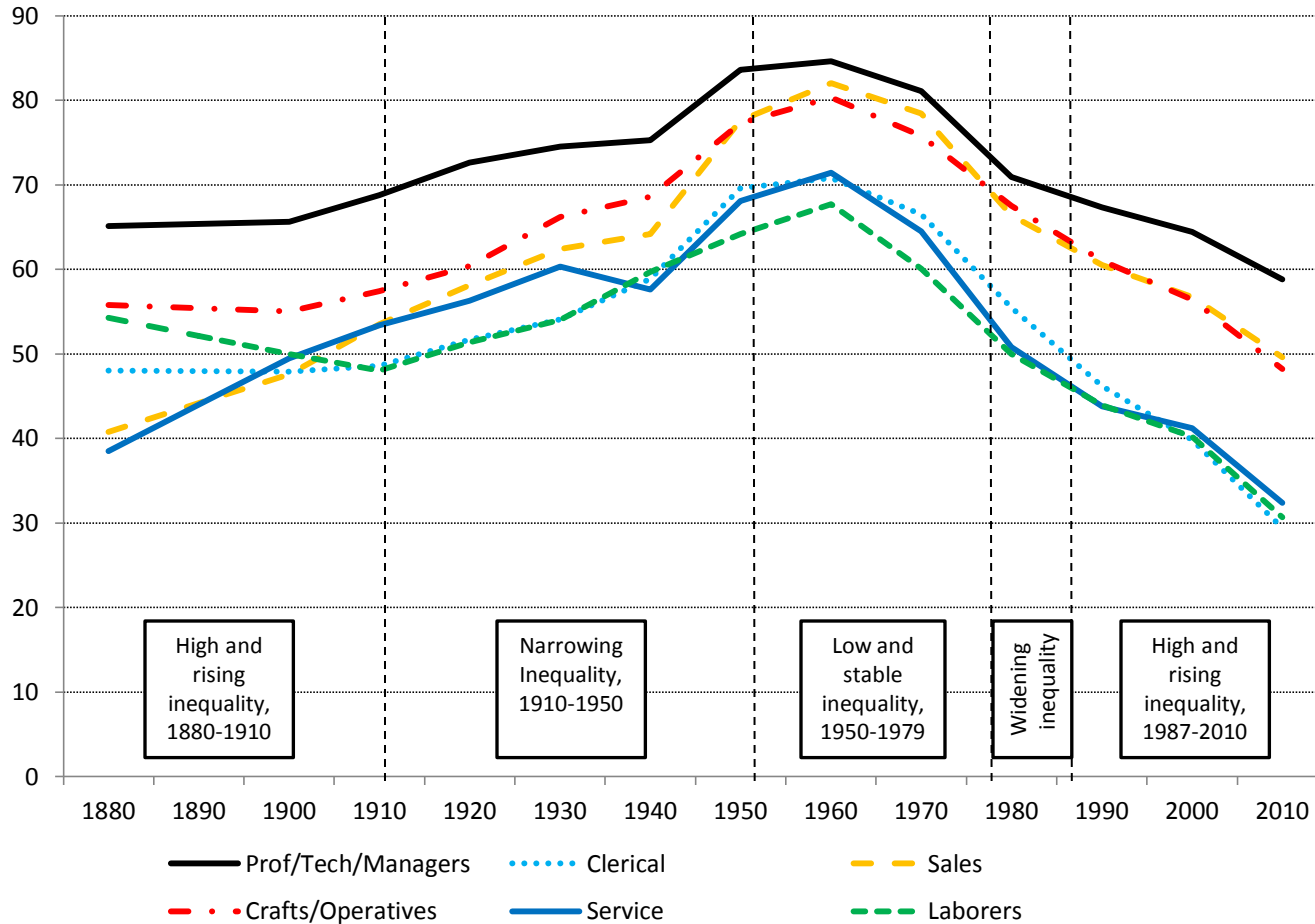
Charts C and D are identical to Charts A and B, respectively, except that the outcome is percent ever-married instead of currently married. Chart C shows that, once again, the spread between the lowest and highest occupational category narrowed after 1910, reached a minimum in the post-World War II period, and then widened. It did not exceed the 1880 value until 2010. Chart D shows that the trends for ever-married African-American men are similar to the trends for currently married.

Finally, Chart E displays the percentage currently-married for white men including the foreign born. (I did not prepare a comparable chart for African Americans because immigration from Africa was negligible from 1880 until the 1965 immigration reform act.) The inclusion of immigrants modifies the story in one respect: The greatest spread between the top and bottom occupational categories occurred in 1910, which likely reflects the surge of immigration at the turn of the twentieth. Otherwise, the pattern is the same as when the immigrants are excluded.

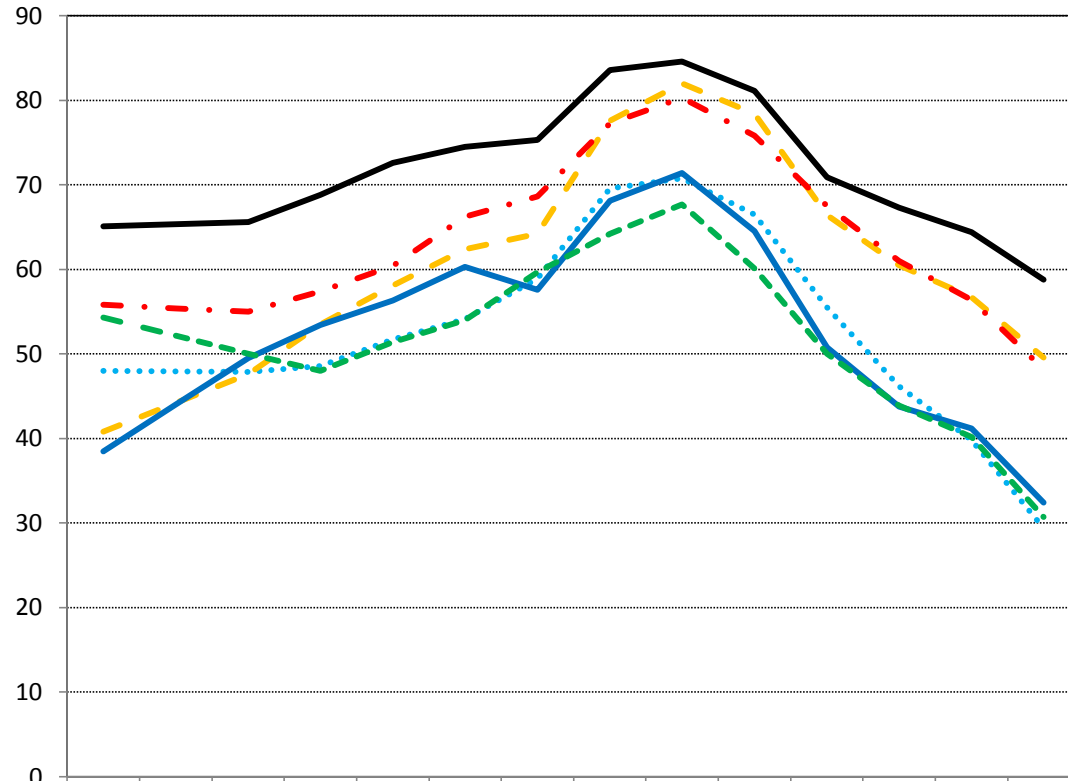
References

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- Goldin, Claudia, and Lawrence F. Katz. 2008. *The Race Between Education and Technology*. Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press.
- Katz, Lawrence F., and Robert A. Margo. 2013. Technical Change and the Relative Demand for Skilled Labor: The United States in Historical Perspective. In *NBER Working Paper Series, no. 18752*. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.
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A. Percent Married, Spouse Present, among Non-Farm Men, Aged 20-49, U.S.-Born Whites Only

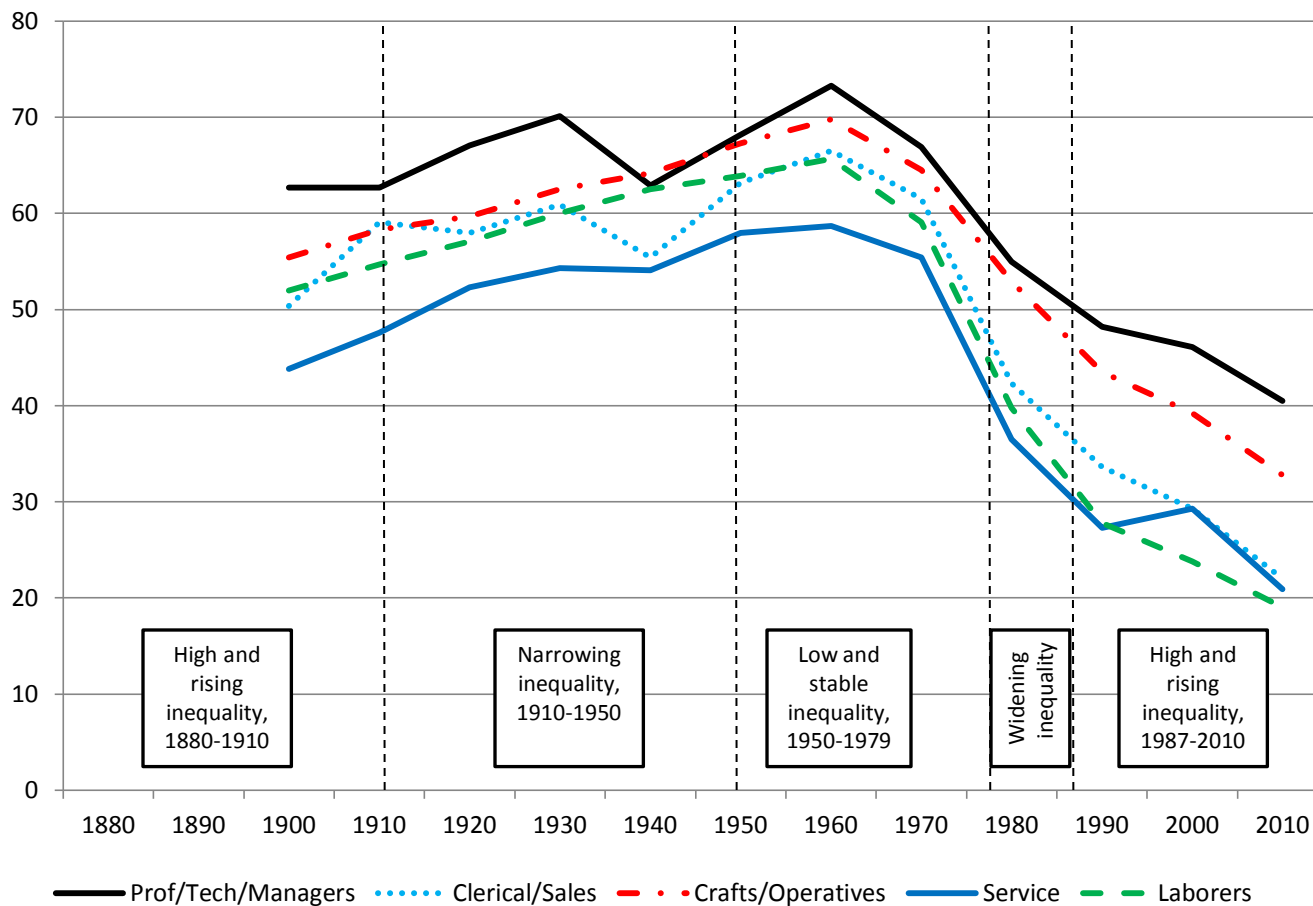


Data Table
for Chart A.

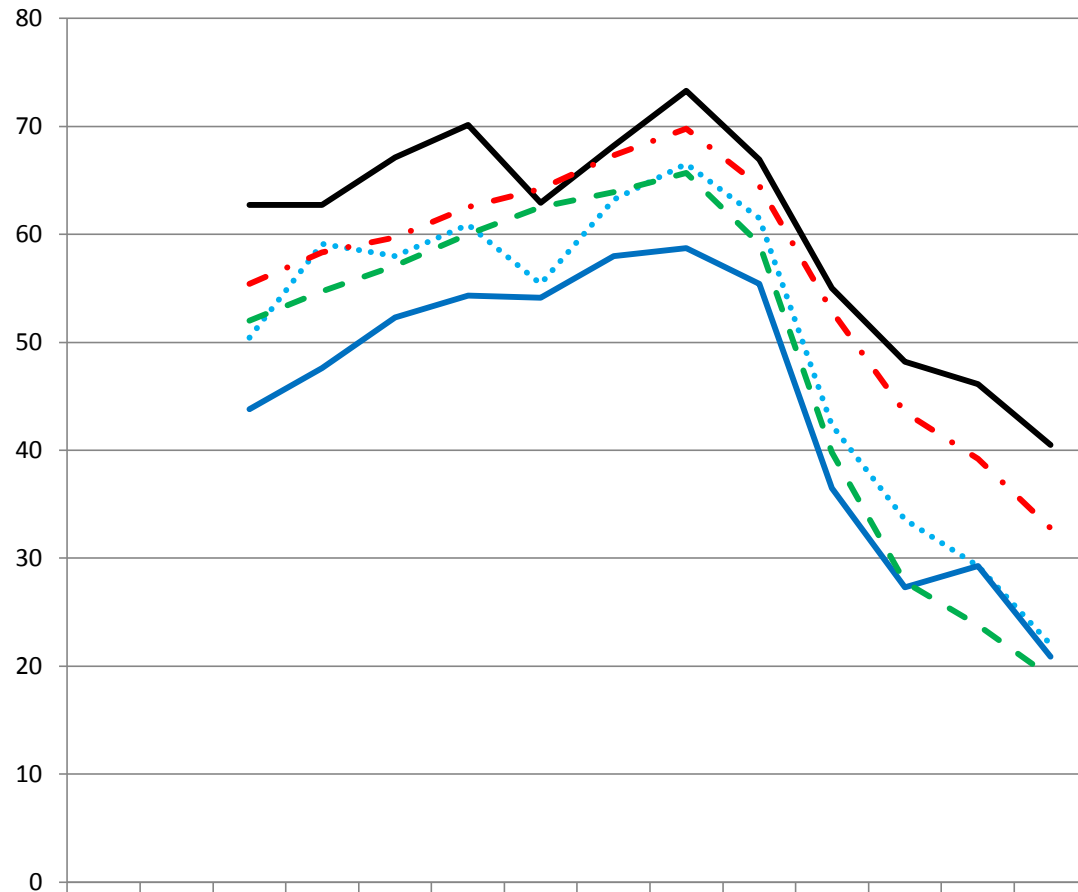


	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
— Prof/Tech/Managers	65.1	65.35	65.6	68.8	72.6	74.5	75.3	83.6	84.6	81.1	70.9	67.3	64.4	58.8
..... Clerical	48	47.95	47.9	48.6	51.7	54.1	58.9	69.6	70.8	66.5	55.5	46.2	39.8	29.4
- - - Sales	40.8	44.2	47.6	53.5	58.1	62.4	64.2	77.6	82	78.4	66.4	60.5	56.7	49.6
- . - Crafts/Operatives	55.8	55.4	55	57.4	60.4	66.2	68.6	77.3	80.3	75.8	67.5	61	56.4	48.2
— Service	38.5	44	49.5	53.4	56.3	60.3	57.6	68.1	71.4	64.5	50.8	43.8	41.2	32.4
- - - Laborers	54.3	52.15	50	48	51.4	54	59.7	64.2	67.7	60.1	50	43.9	40.2	30.7

B. Percent Married, Spouse Present, among Non-Farm Men, Aged 20-49, U.S.-Born Blacks Only

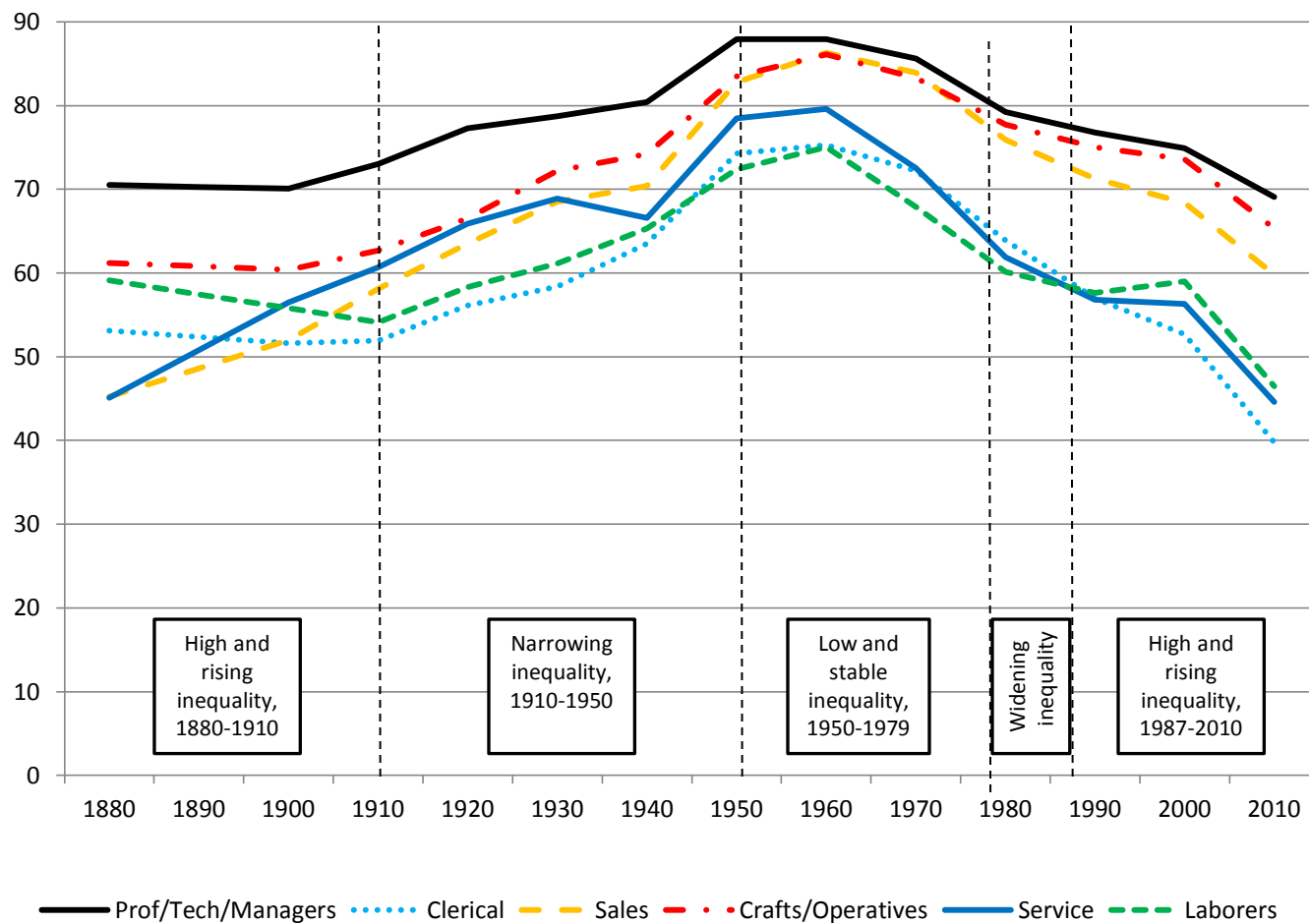


Data Table
for Chart B.

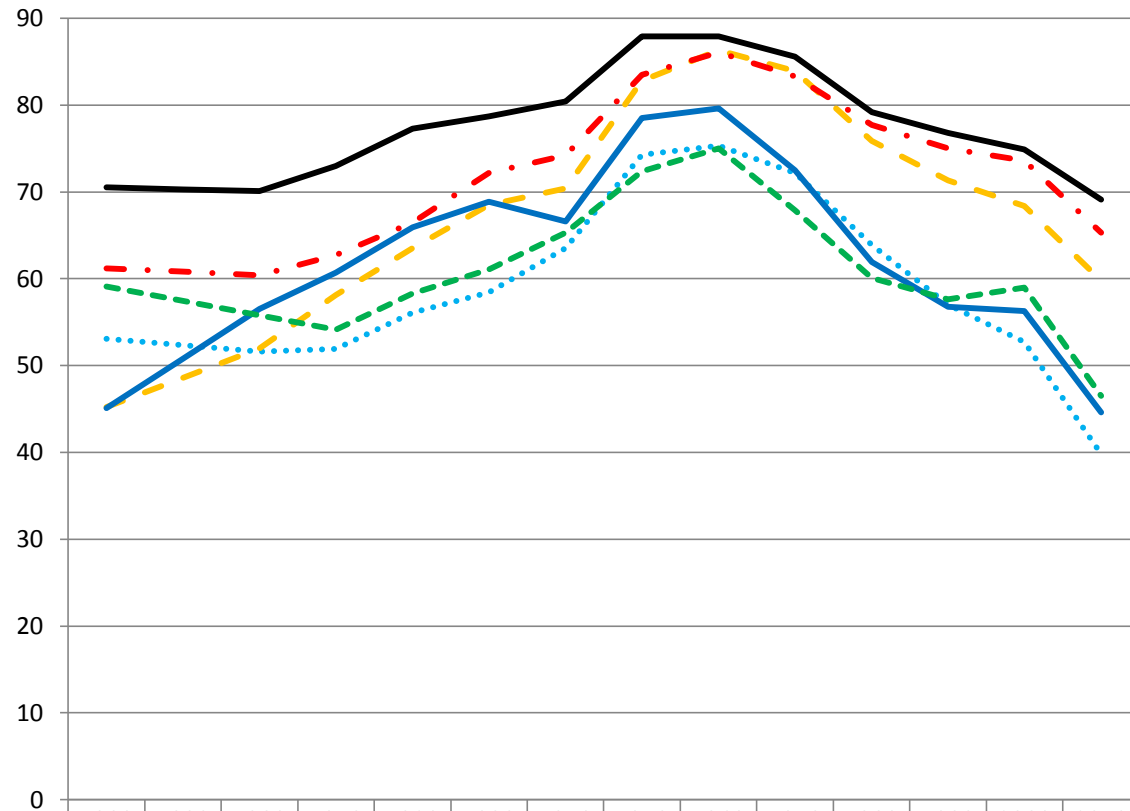


	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
— Prof/Tech/Managers			62.7	62.7	67.1	70.1	62.9	68.2	73.3	66.9	55	48.2	46.1	40.5
..... Clerical/Sales			50.4	59.1	58	60.9	55.4	63.2	66.5	61.5	42.3	33.6	29.3	22
- . - Crafts/Operatives			55.4	58.3	59.7	62.5	64.2	67.3	69.8	64.5	52.9	43.5	39.2	32.8
— Service			43.8	47.6	52.3	54.3	54.1	58	58.7	55.4	36.5	27.3	29.3	20.9
- - Laborers			52	54.7	57.1	60	62.5	63.9	65.7	59.1	39.8	27.8	23.8	19

C. Percent Ever-Married, among Non-farm Men, Age 20-49, by Occupational Group, U.S.-Born Whites Only.

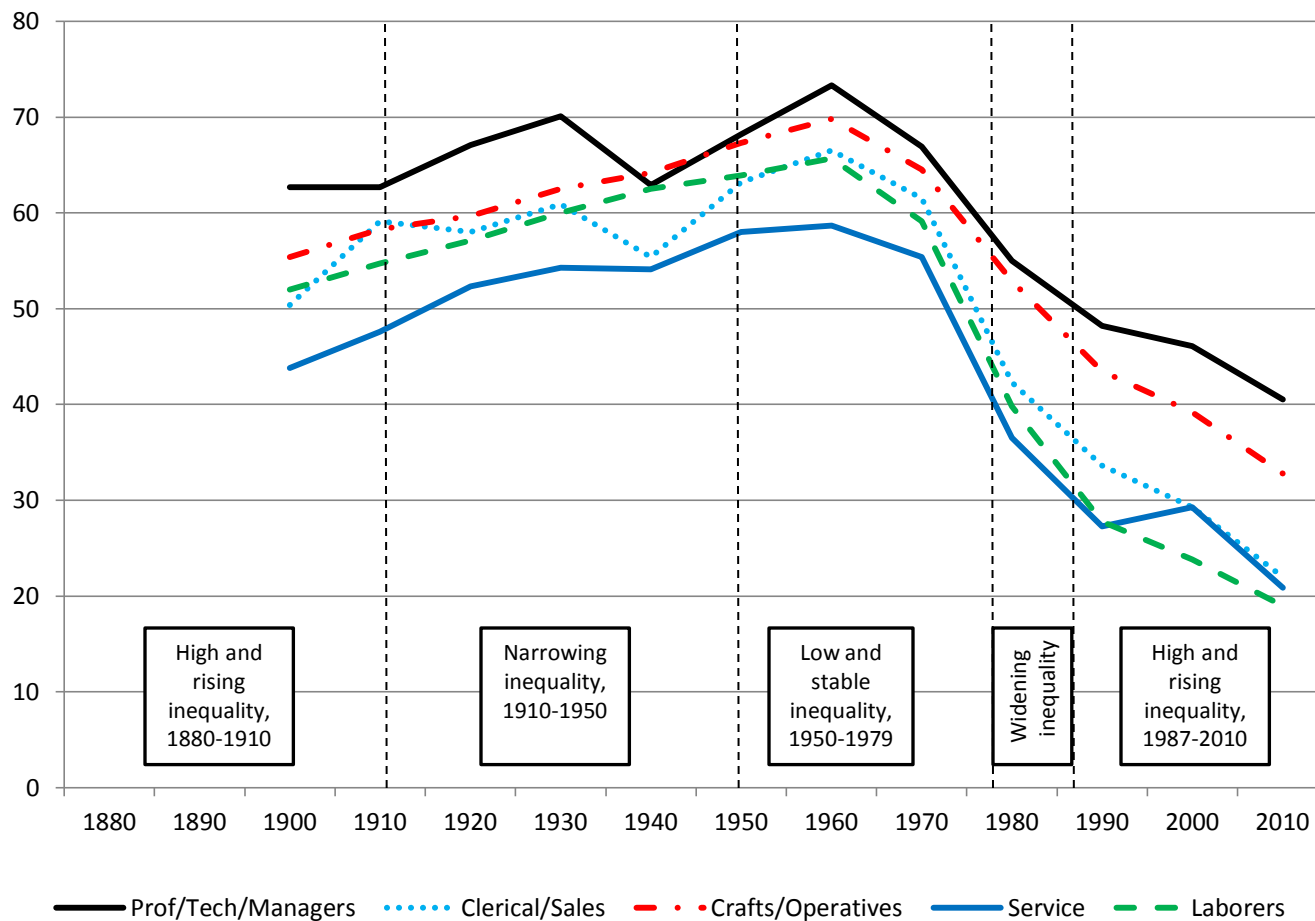


Data Table
for Chart C.

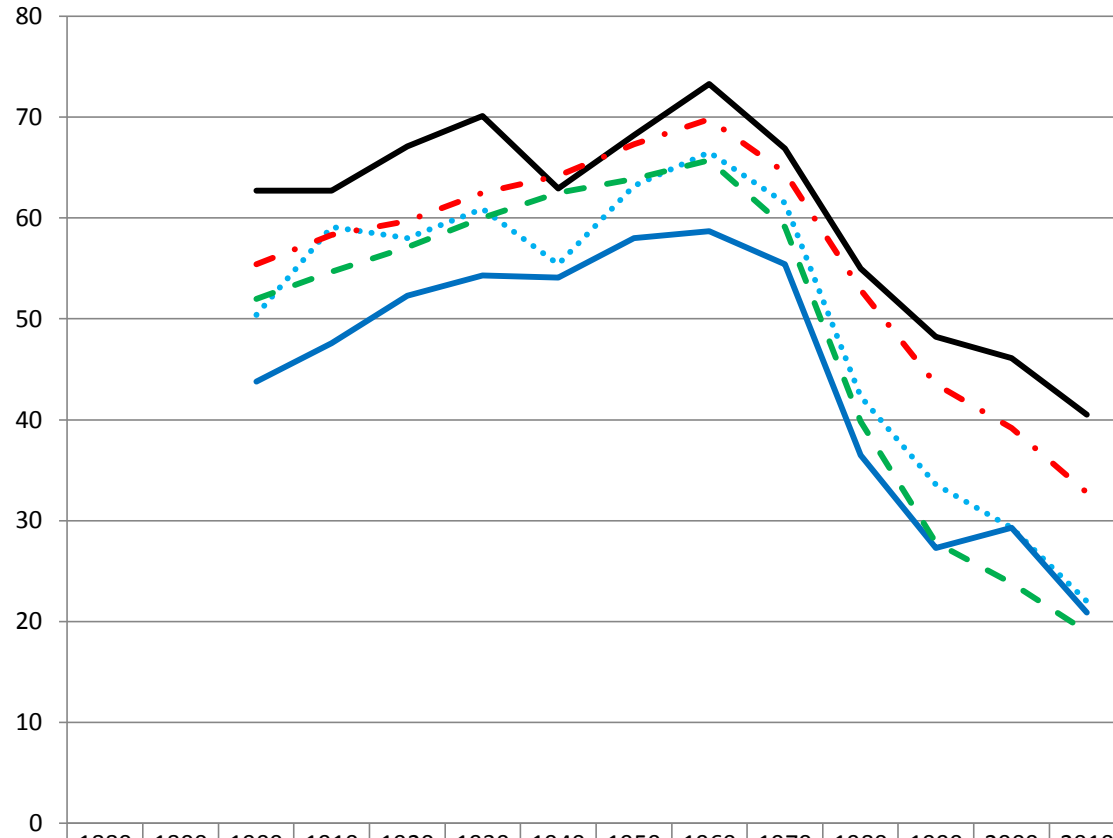


	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
— Prof/Tech/Managers	70.5	70.3	70.1	73	77.3	78.7	80.4	87.9	87.9	85.6	79.2	76.8	74.9	69.1
..... Clerical	53.1	52.35	51.6	51.9	56.1	58.4	63.5	74.3	75.3	72.2	63.9	57	52.7	39.8
- - - Sales	45.2	48.6	52	58.1	63.5	68.5	70.4	82.8	86.3	83.9	75.9	71.3	68.4	59.8
- . - Crafts/Operatives	61.2	60.8	60.4	62.7	66.5	72.2	74.2	83.5	86.1	83.3	77.7	75	73.6	65.3
— Service	45.1	50.8	56.5	60.7	65.9	68.9	66.6	78.5	79.6	72.5	61.9	56.8	56.3	44.6
- - - Laborers	59.1	57.45	55.8	54.1	58.3	61.1	65.3	72.4	75	67.9	60.1	57.6	59	46.5

D. Percent Ever-Married, among Non-farm Men, Age 20-49, by Occupational Group, US-Born Blacks Only.

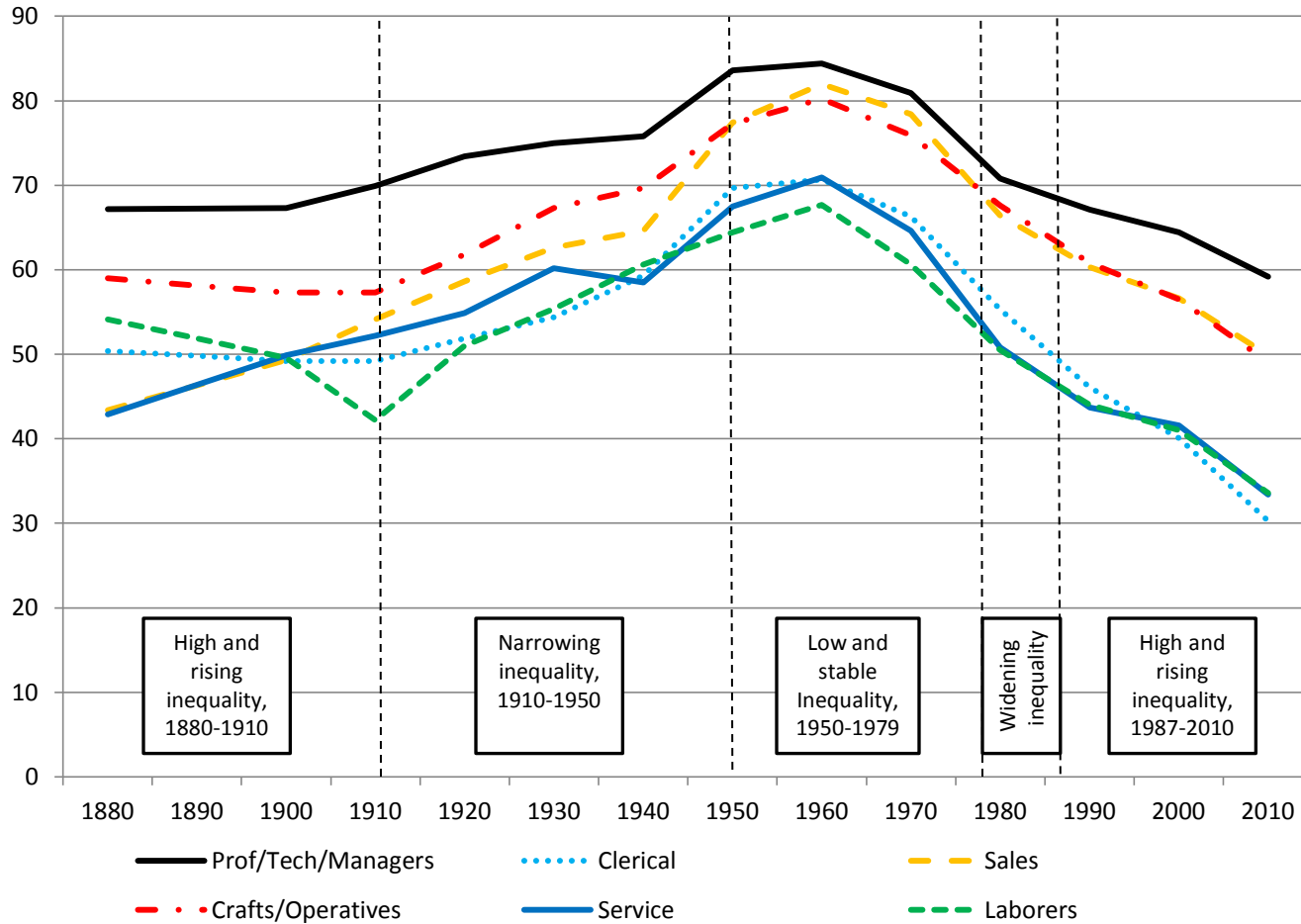


Data Table
for Chart D.

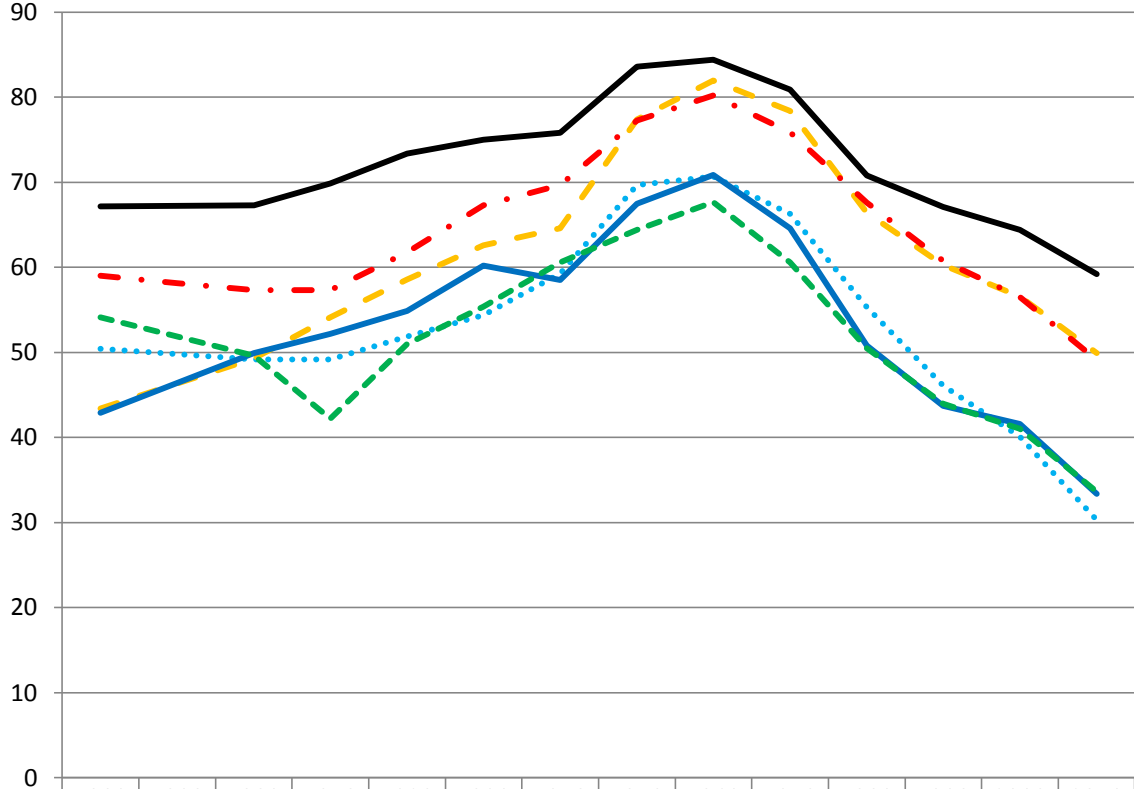


	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
— Prof/Tech/Managers			62.7	62.7	67.1	70.1	62.9	68.2	73.3	66.9	55	48.2	46.1	40.5
..... Clerical/Sales			50.4	59.1	58	60.9	55.4	63.2	66.5	61.5	42.3	33.6	29.3	22
- - - Crafts/Operatives			55.4	58.3	59.7	62.5	64.2	67.3	69.8	64.5	52.9	43.5	39.2	32.8
— Service			43.8	47.6	52.3	54.3	54.1	58	58.7	55.4	36.5	27.3	29.3	20.9
- - Laborers			52	54.7	57.1	60	62.5	63.9	65.7	59.1	39.8	27.8	23.8	19

E. Percent Married, Spouse Present, among Non-Farm Men, Age 20-49, by Occupational Group, Whites Only, Including Foreign Born.



Data Table
for Chart E.



	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
— Prof/Tech/Managers	67.2	67.25	67.3	69.9	73.4	75	75.8	83.6	84.4	80.9	70.8	67.1	64.4	59.2
..... Clerical	50.4	49.8	49.2	49.2	51.9	54.4	59.3	69.7	70.7	66.3	55.3	46.1	40.1	30.3
- - - Sales	43.4	46.35	49.3	54.1	58.6	62.6	64.6	77.4	82	78.4	66.4	60.3	56.6	49.9
- . - Crafts/Operatives	59	58.15	57.3	57.3	61.8	67.3	69.7	77.3	80.2	75.9	67.6	60.8	56.5	49.1
— Service	42.9	46.4	49.9	52.2	54.9	60.2	58.5	67.5	70.9	64.6	50.8	43.7	41.6	33.4
- - - Laborers	54.1	51.85	49.6	42.2	51	55.4	60.6	64.4	67.7	60.6	50.5	44	41	33.6