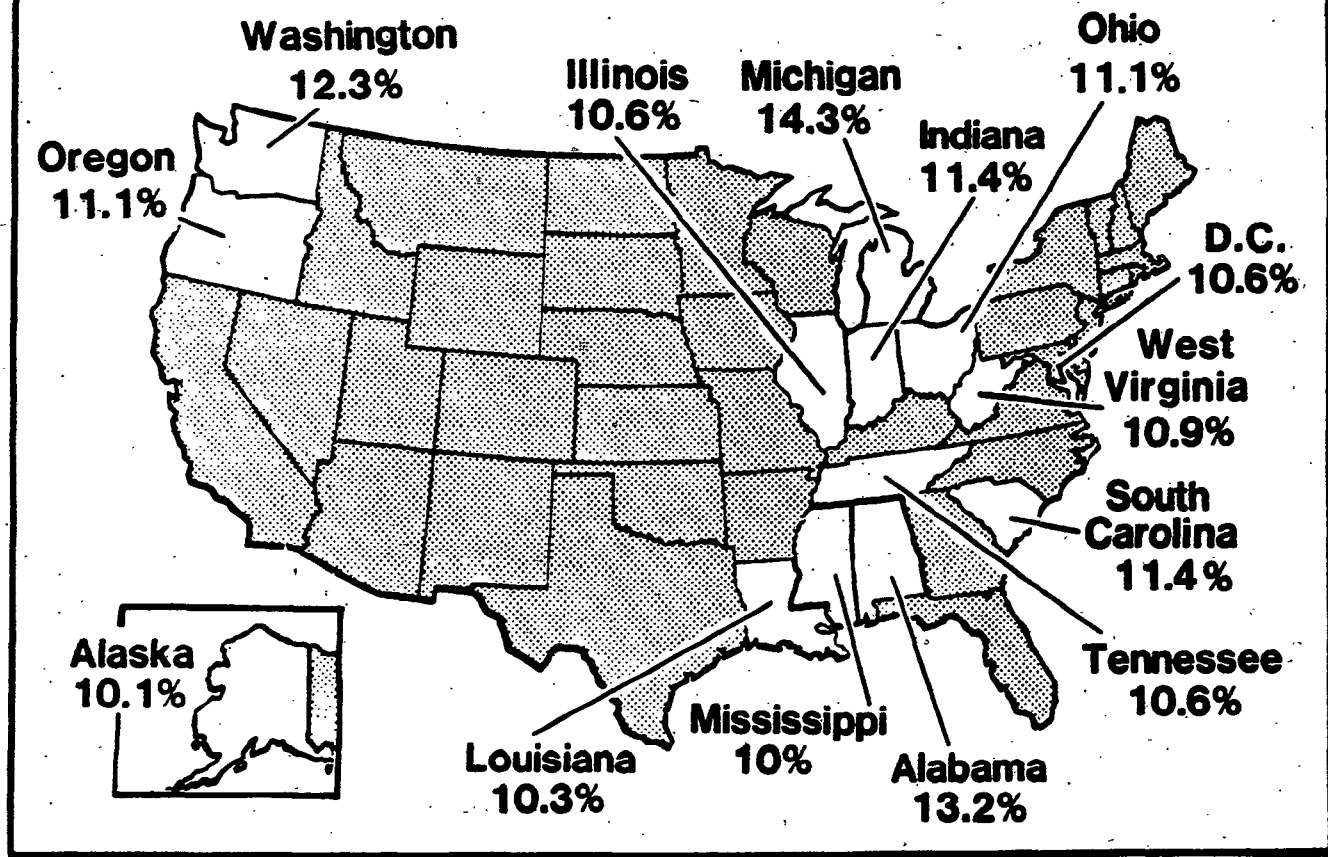


# JOBLESS RATES

## The Nation's Hardest Hit Job Markets



The Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said May figures reveal that 13 states and the District of Columbia had statewide jobless rates of more than 10 percent. Michigan continues to lead the unemployed list with a rate of 14.3 percent. (NC Map from UPI)

# REPORT

## Why Private Schools Make It In Inner City

Milwaukee (NC) — Inner city private schools succeed not by taking the cream of the student crop but by creating a distinctive educational environment, according to a study conducted by the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Liberties.

Nearly 4,000 parents of students in 54 elementary schools completed a questionnaire that sought to measure the reasons why they had chosen to send their children to private schools.

The four-year research project included schools with at least 70 percent minority enrollment in eight cities: New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Milwaukee, Detroit, Washington and Newark, N.J.

Jesuit Father Virgil Blum, designer and supervisor of the project, called the schools "islands of hope in the poorest areas of the nation's urban landscape."

Researchers said their findings help disprove one of the most pervasive myths about Catholic schools — that they are elitist.

According to the report, 80 percent of the sample schools accept academically weak public school transfer students frequently or sometimes and 56 percent reported accepting public school transfers with disciplinary problems frequently or sometimes.

In a typical year, 61 percent of the schools ex-

cluded not a single student, and no school in the sample expelled more than two students in any year.

"Perhaps the most striking finding of our survey was the degree to which the inner city private schools opened their doors to public school transfers, even in cases where the transfers were clearly not the most desirable or ideal students," according to the study.

"Our study of inner city private schools found that background factors do not overwhelm the effects of the schools themselves. In other words, even when family backgrounds are considered, the individual schools were found to make a difference.

"The data indicate that school factors appear to actually compensate for family background defects," the study continued. For example, it showed that the school has the greatest impact on improving behavior for children from poor homes.

"Also it was found that teacher attitudes and experience at a school are important factors in determining whether a school performs well or poorly.

There exists in the private schools a broad and powerful consensus over goals and policies between the schools and the parents, according to the survey, and a strong element of parental involvement and commitment.

## Little Rock's Scripture Study To Start Here

A Bible study program from the Diocese of Little Rock, Ark., will be offered for ten weeks this Fall at St. Paul's Church in Webster.

Since its introduction to the Little Rock diocese, the program has spread to 41 states and six foreign countries, according to Georgette Ermatinger who is heading its introduction here.

She characterized the program as aiming to "facilitate the application of God's living word in the daily life of each person. Thus it is an opportunity for both educational and spiritual growth."

The local pilot program opens 7:30-9:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 16 at the church, 783 Hard Road, Webster, and will continue for ten weeks concluding Nov. 19.

Persons who enroll must commit themselves to regular attendance, and the completion of daily homework of reading scripture assignments and writing answers to three questions Mrs. Ermatinger said. Persons wishing to register are asked to send \$3.50 to cover the cost of materials to Mrs. Georgette Ermatinger, 224 Shorewood Dr., Webster, N.Y. 14580 before Sept. 9. Further information is available by calling (716) 872-6591.



## Anniversary of Icon

Tomorrow, Aug. 26, marks the 600th anniversary of the arrival of the icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Poland's most prized treasure, at the Jasna Gora monastery. Known as the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, the painting has been adorned with precious jewels since the 17th century, but recently it has been displayed without the jewels, left, to allow spectators to view its genuine colors. According to legend, the scars on the face were left by robbers and shed blood. (NC photo)



## Friendship Fair

Some of the more than 3,500 people who attended last year's Friendship Fair for the residents at Newark Developmental Center enjoy a variety of rides and attractions. This Year's fair is slated Sunday, Sept. 12, and persons wishing to volunteer their services are asked to call (315) 331-1700, extension 235 for further information.

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