

Post-Reconstruction Race Relations

Political Rights After Reconstruction

ORIGINAL

POLL TAX RECEIPT

ROLL PAGE 52 LINE 21

1924

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF MILAM

No. 79

WARD DATE 10/14 1924

RECEIVED OF A. L. Caywood

ADDRESS Rockdale R. F. D. 3

PRECINCT No. 20	RESIDED IN	AGE	36	OCCUPATION	Farming
		STATE	33		
		COUNTY	33		
		CITY			

RACE: WHITE — COLORED
SEX: MALE — FEMALE

PAID BY _____ AGENT

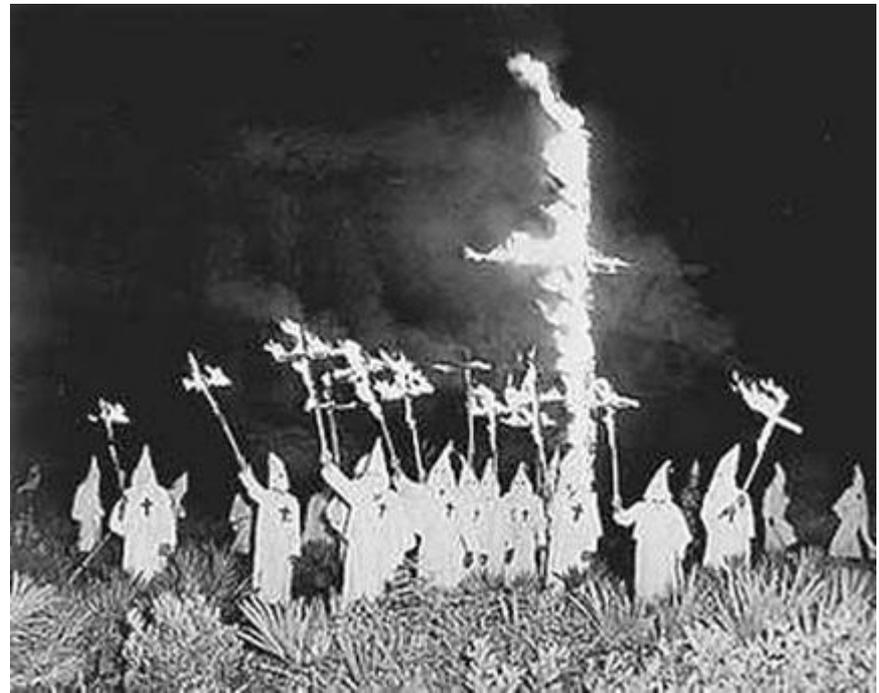
THE SUM OF ONE AND 75/100 DOLLARS IN PAYMENT OF POLL TAX FOR THE YEAR A. D. 1924
THE SAID TAX PAYER BEING DULY SWORN BY ME, SAYS THAT THE ABOVE IS CORRECT
ALL OF WHICH I CERTIFY.

BY: J. M. Deputy

W. A. Bonds
TAX COLLECTOR OF ABOVE SAID COUNTY

Poll taxes, literacy tests, and “Grandfather Clauses” were all used to *indirectly* deny black Americans the right to vote (while allowing poor, illiterate white men to be exempt)

The 15th amendment was being circumvented as well as threats/intimidation from the KKK



Plessy v. Ferguson

Issue:

-In 1890, Louisiana passed a law declaring that all train cars in LA must provide “separate but equal” accommodations for white and non-white passengers.

-The penalty for sitting in the wrong compartment was a fine of \$25 or 20 days in jail

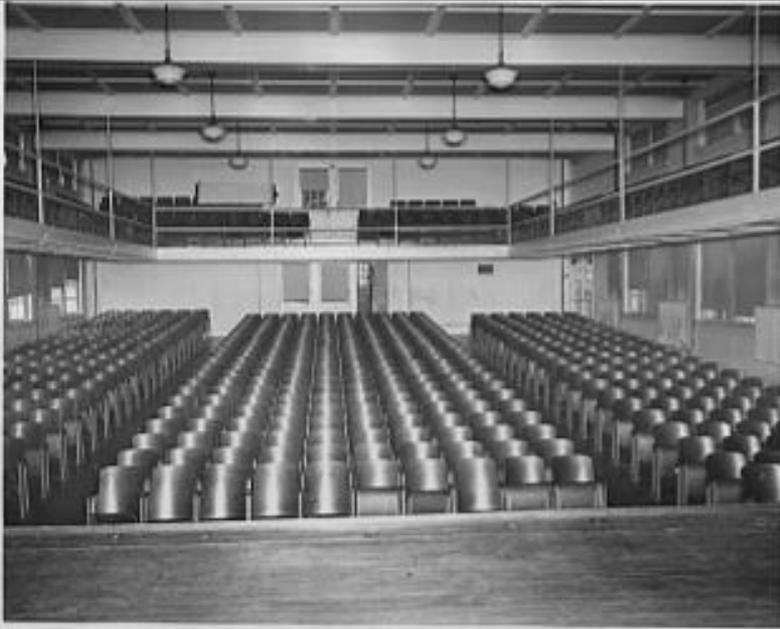
-In 1892, Homer Plessy, who was one-eighth black, purchased a first-class ticket and sat in the white-designated railroad car

-Arrested and argued in court that the act violated the 13th and 14th Amendments



Court Ruling: racial segregation does NOT violate the 14th Amendment as long as it follows the “Separate but Equal” doctrine

“Separate But Equal?”



Farmville High School
Auditorium

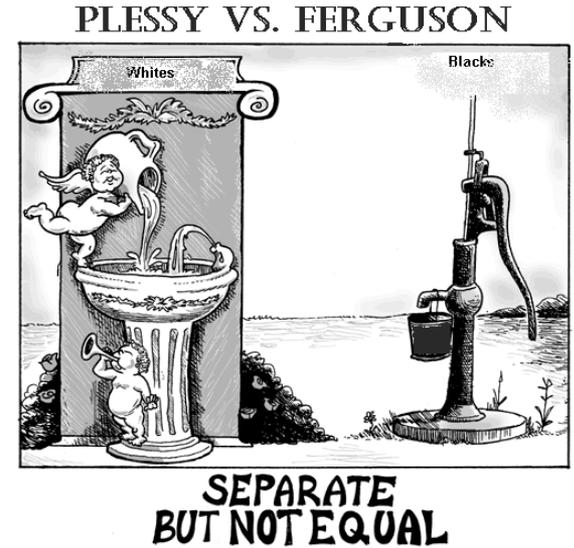


Moton High School Auditorium

The issue that would continue to be disputed was the term “equal”

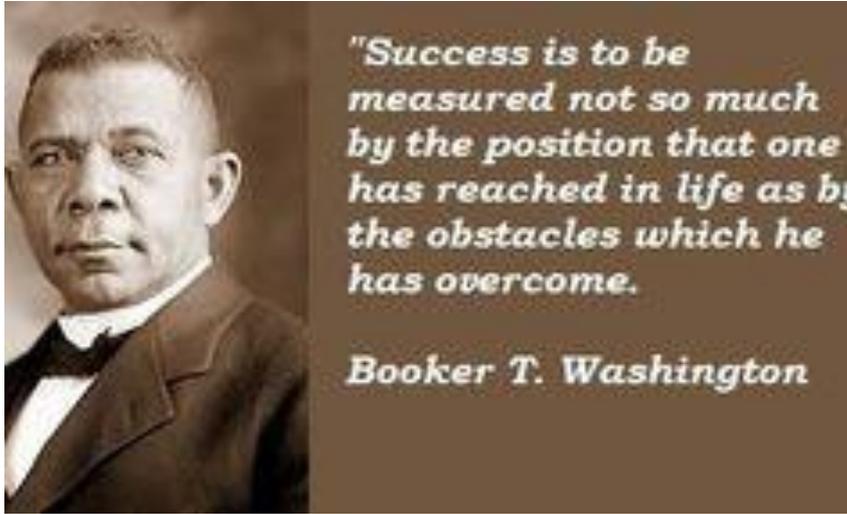
Jim Crow Laws & Society

De Jure Discrimination: laws passed in the South that set up a system of legal separation between the races in public places



De Facto Discrimination: the social practice of discrimination through custom or practice; not upheld by law and common in the North and South





Washington's Beliefs

- Philosophy of self-help, racial solidarity, and accommodation of whites
- Urged black Americans to accept discrimination for the time being and concentrate on elevating themselves through hard work and material prosperity (“Accommodation”)
- Believed in education in the crafts, industrial, farming skills
- Advocated the cultivation of the virtues of patience, enterprise and thrift
 - Believed these skills would win the respect of whites and lead to black Americans being fully accepted as citizens and integrated into all strata of society
- Work from the “bottom up”

Tuskegee Institute, AL



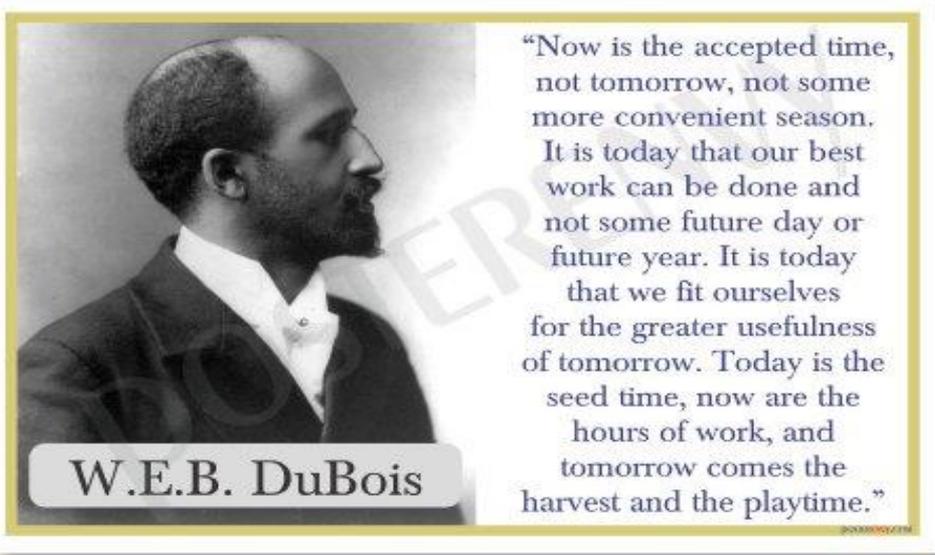
**Booker T. Washington's
formula:**

Economic success
+ Vocational Education
= **Equality**

Washington opened
what would become
Tuskegee Institute in
1881 to train black
vocational teachers



W.E.B. Du Bois



- Black Americans should be free to pursue a college education in advanced liberal arts education; argued education without equality is pointless
- Black Americans should openly strive for their rights
- College-educated black Americans would have the best opportunity to turn the “flood of discrimination” & advocated Pan-Africanism (held a convention in 1919)
- Washington's strategy would serve only to perpetuate white oppression
- Work from the “top down”
- When his “Niagara Movement” failed → NAACP
- Argued that social change could be accomplished by developing the small group of college-educated black Americans he called "the Talented Tenth:"

"The Negro Race, like all races, is going to be saved by its exceptional men. The problem of education then, among Negroes, must first of all deal with the "Talented Tenth." It is the problem of developing the best of this race that they may guide the Mass away from the contamination and death of the worst."



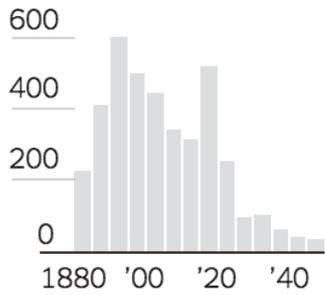
The way to right wrongs is to turn
the light of truth upon them.

— *Ida B. Wells* —

AZ QUOTES

- 1880 - Memphis, TN attended Fisk University
- "I will not begin at this late day by doing what my soul abhors; sugaring men, weak deceitful creatures, with flattery to retain them as escorts or to gratify a revenge."
- Led a campaign against segregation on the local railway; after being forcibly removed from a "whites only" carriage she successfully sued the Chesapeake, Ohio & South Western Railroad Company. However, this was overturned three years later by a ruling from the Tennessee Supreme Court
- 1884 Wells began teaching in Memphis; also wrote articles on civil rights for local newspapers and when she criticized the Memphis Board of Education for underfunding black schools, she lost her job as a teacher
- Used her savings to become part owner of *Free Speech*, a small newspaper in Memphis; concentrated on writing about individual cases where black people had suffered at the hands of white racists; included an investigation into lynching and discovered during a short period 728 black men and women had been lynched by white mobs
 - Of these deaths, two-thirds were for small offences such as public drunkenness and shoplifting

LYNCHINGS EVERY FIVE YEARS

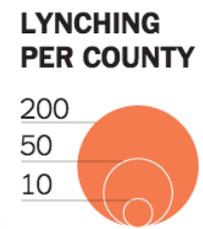
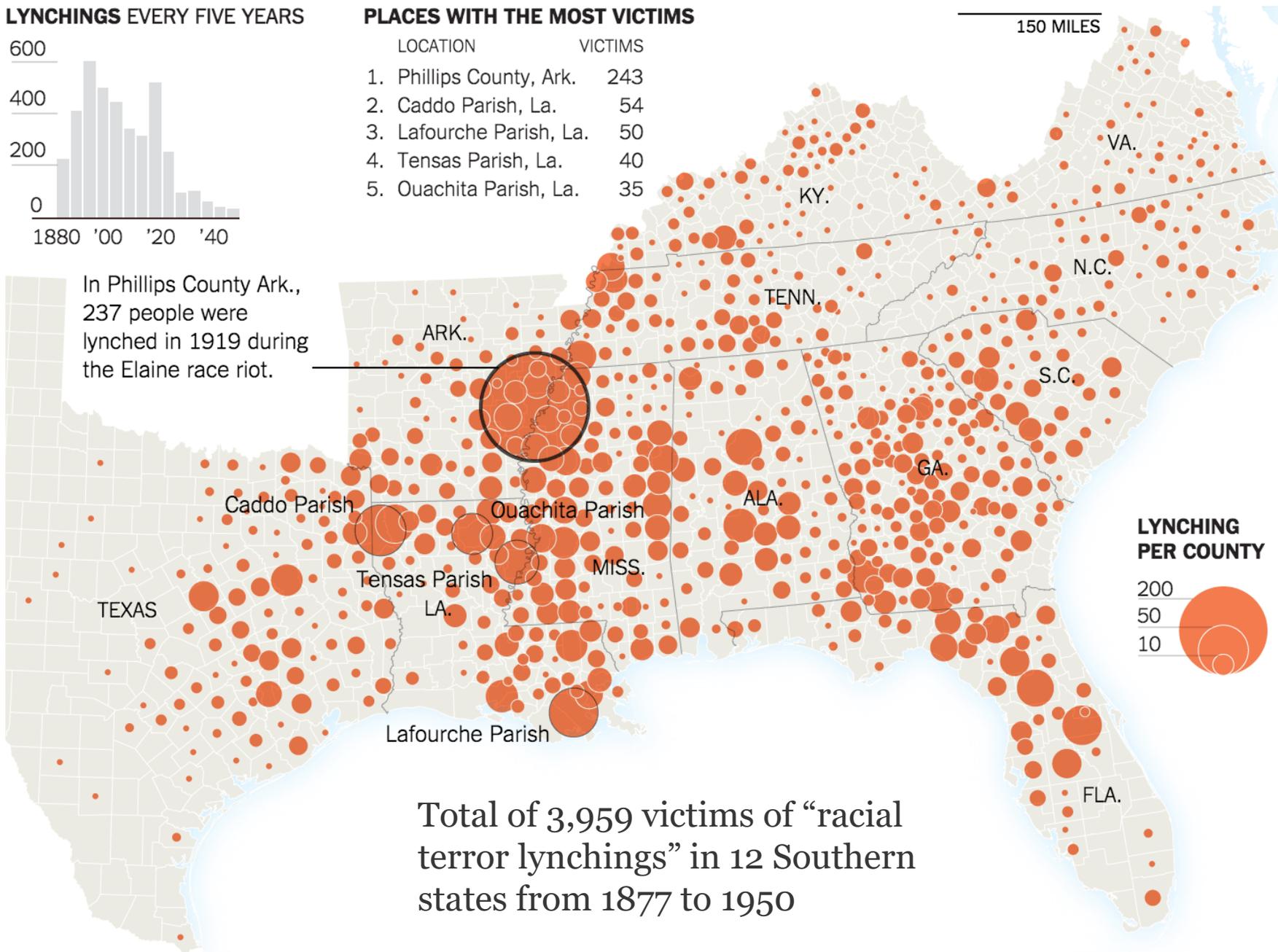


PLACES WITH THE MOST VICTIMS

LOCATION	VICTIMS
1. Phillips County, Ark.	243
2. Caddo Parish, La.	54
3. Lafourche Parish, La.	50
4. Tensas Parish, La.	40
5. Ouachita Parish, La.	35

150 MILES

In Phillips County Ark., 237 people were lynched in 1919 during the Elaine race riot.



Total of 3,959 victims of “racial terror lynchings” in 12 Southern states from 1877 to 1950

Great Migration: 1910-1920



AFRICAN AMERICAN MIGRATION NORTHWARD, 1910-1920

Cities like New York, Chicago, and Detroit greatly increased their black population

-Some black Americans “voted with their feet”, leaving the South for mainly Northeastern cities (although other states and cities in the U.S. saw an increase in the black population

-While there was still racial intolerance in the North, there were more job opportunities and increased diversity as well

THE GREAT MIGRATION

About six million African Americans moved from the South to the North and West between 1916 and 1970, particularly during World Wars I and II. Most of the migrants moved from rural communities to large cities.



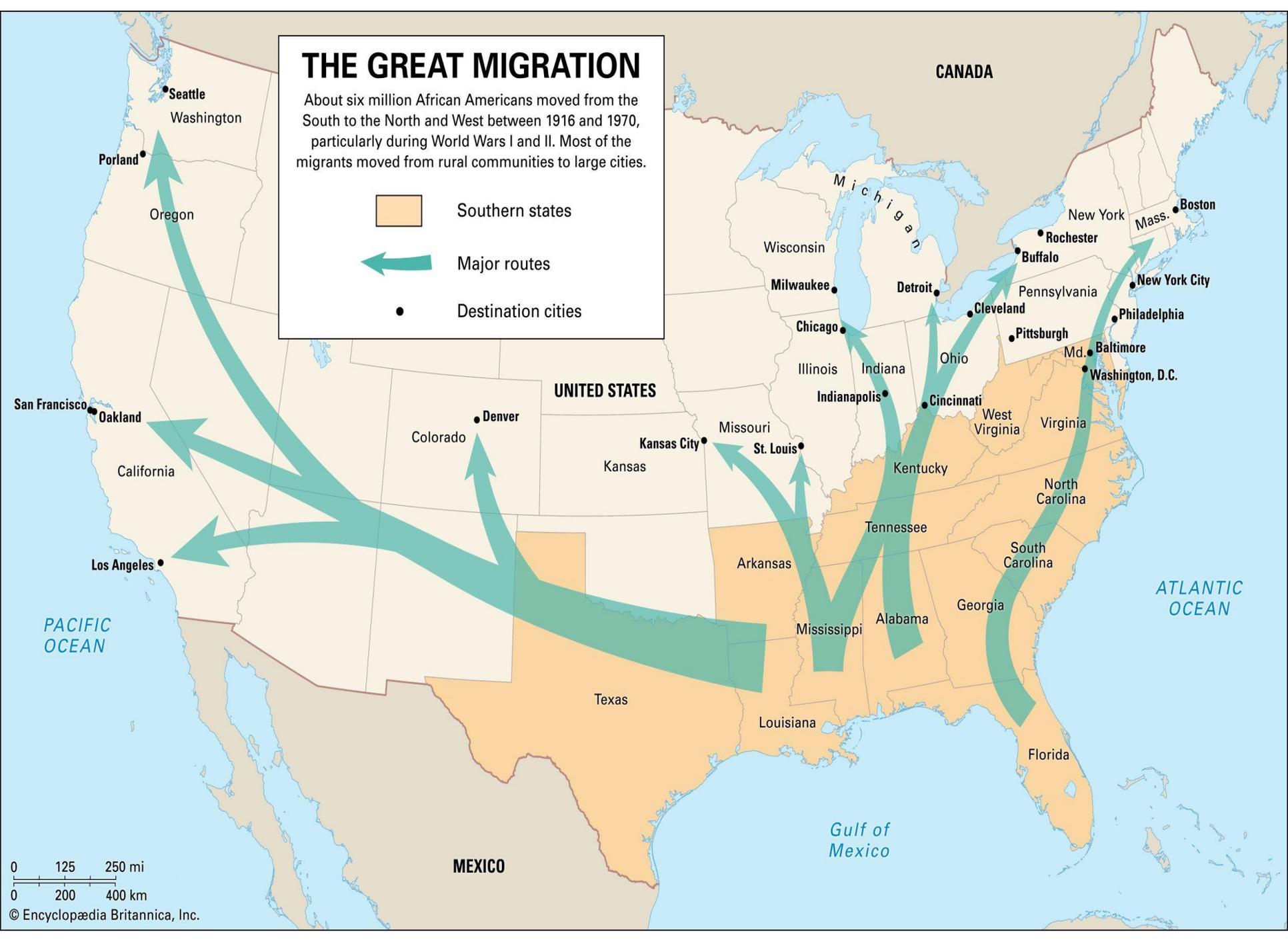
Southern states



Major routes



Destination cities



0 125 250 mi
0 200 400 km