



The Migration Series, 1940-41, Panel 40: The migrants arrive at great numbers, by Jacob Lawrence.

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Some are coming on the passenger,
Some are coming on the freight,
Others will be found walking,
For none have time to wait.

-Excerpt from the poem "They're Leaving Memphis," published in The Chicago Defender, 1917

OVER HERE

On the home front, as industrial production expanded to satisfy the growing needs of the Great War, American industry mobilized to produce weapons, equipment, munitions, and supplies.



African Americans were among the hundreds of thousands who migrated from rural areas to work in cities and factories. There they joined a massive influx of immigrants from eastern and southern Europe.

The economy transitioned from one rooted in small farms and businesses to one based on large-scale industry. By the end of the war, half the population of the United States lived in urban areas and 25% of Americans worked in factories.

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WORLD WAR I: LESSONS AND LEGACIES

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