



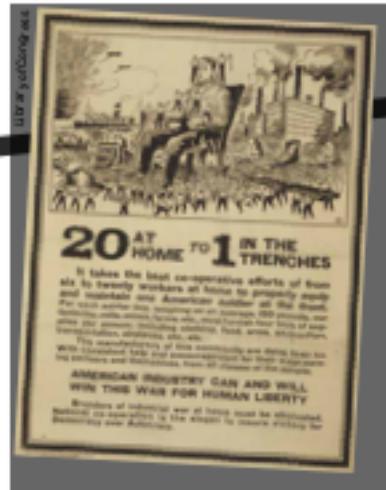
The Migration Series, 1940-41, Panel 40:  
The migrants arrived year numbers,  
by Jacob Lawrence

The Museum of Modern Art, gift of  
Mrs. David H. Levy. © 2017 The Jacob  
and Gwendolyn Knight Lawrence  
Foundation, Seattle / Artists Rights  
Society (ARS), New York.

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.



Munitions factory, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

National Archives and Records Administration



Library of Congress



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.



Library of Congress

### WORLD WAR I: LESSONS AND LEGACIES

This exhibition is organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the National Museum of American History, with funding from The United States World War I Centennial Commission and the Smithsonian Bicentennial Committee.

Images courtesy of the National Museum of American History unless otherwise indicated.

Smithsonian

THE UNITED STATES  
WORLD WAR ONE  
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION