

Welcome to the Online Archives
of

Slavery and Emancipation in the Mountain South

Sources, Evidence, and Methods

for

Slavery in the American Mountain South

and

The African-American Family in Slavery and Emancipation

Wilma A. Dunaway (Cambridge University Press, 2002)

=====

**All material on this site is Copyrighted by Wilma A. Dunaway.
All rights reserved**

=====

Tables 8.1 to 8.5

Instructions for Using This File:

- 1. To print the entire file**, click the **Printer** symbol on the Acrobat Reader menu above.
- 2. To locate a specific table**, click the **Bookmarks** symbol to the right of the **Printer** symbol of the Acrobat Reader menu. Select the table from the list and click.

[Return to Home Page](#)

Table 8.1

Appalachian Slave Marriages

Part A. How Was the Marriage Formalized?

Method to Recognize Marriage	%
Religious ceremony	9.9
Stepping over broomstick	77.7
No ritual except master's permission	12.4

Part B. Who Selected the Slave's Spouse?

Decisionmakers	%
The slave spouses alone	58.1
Masters alone	7.7
Slave spouses and Masters jointly	15.3
Masters jointly with family members of slave spouses	14.0
Overseers	4.9

Sources: Part A derived from analysis of 121 Appalachian slave narratives; Part B derived from analysis of 105 Appalachian slave narratives.

Table 8.2

Evidence of Maximization of Slave Reproduction for Market, 1860

Southern Zone	Ratio of Slave Women to Men, Aged 15 to 39	No. Infants Under 1 per 1,000 Women of Childbearing Age	Ratio of Children (0-14) to Adults (15-39)
Slave-selling states	1.01	177	1.19
Slave-buying states	0.99	153	0.95
Entire South	0.99	169	1.07
<u>Appalachian Counties of:</u>			
Alabama	1.06	206	1.26
Georgia	1.04	200	1.33
Kentucky	1.07	215	1.31
Maryland	1.11	104	1.02
North Carolina	1.10	196	1.40
South Carolina	1.18	192	1.49
Tennessee	1.04	196	1.30
Virginia	0.95	187	1.25
West Virginia	1.05	143	1.14
Southern Appalachia	1.02	189	1.27

Source: Estimates were calculated from the aggregated county totals in the published 1860 Census of Population. The slave-selling states were: Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia; the slave-buying states were: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas. Southern ratios in the first two columns are from Sutch, "Breeding of Slaves," Tables 6 and 11. Childbearing women included all females between the ages of 20 and 39 and one-half of the females between 15 and 19.

Table 8.3

Number of Live Births to Mothers of Appalachian Ex-Slaves

Childhood Tie to Mother	% Respondents	Average Number Children Reported by Ex-slave	Accurate Count?
Ex-slave raised by mother	47.2	13.2	yes
Mother died when ex-slave was a child	10.2	2.7	yes
Ex-slave's mother in poor health	5.1	2.3	yes
Mother had no more children after her husband died	1.9	4.0	yes
Mother/child separated when ex-slave was young	17.1	4.0	no
Ex-slave uncertain how many siblings had died or been sold away	8.3	6.8	no
Ex-slave uncertain about siblings who did not live with mother	5.1	7.0	no
Ex-slave uncertain how many children the mother bore by males other than their fathers	5.1	5.0	no
Average number children reported by all ex-slaves		8.1	
Average number children when inaccurate estimates are omitted		10.4	

Source: Analysis of 216 Appalachian slave narratives

Table 8.4

Female Slave's Risk of Death as Ratio of Male Mortality, 1850

Geographical Zone	White Males	Slave Males
U.S. South	1.08	0.82
Appalachian Counties of:		
Georgia	2.29	1.07
North Carolina	1.78	1.07
South Carolina	1.46	1.00
Tennessee	1.60	0.94
Virginia	1.56	1.08
West Virginia	2.10	1.31
Region	1.78	1.07

Source: Calculated from Mortality Statistics of the Seventh Census, pp. 191-93, 249-51, 255-57, 259-61, 285-87, 289-91. Mortality data were not published for the Appalachian counties of Alabama, Kentucky or Maryland.

Table 8.5

Profitability of Mules and Slave Children

Age	<u>Average Market Price in 1860 Dollars</u>		
	Mule	Male Slave	Female Slave
1 year	75	100	90
2 years	130	125	112
3 years	120	135	121
5 years	170	150	130

Sources: Lamb, "Mule in Southern Agriculture," pp. 19, 24; Tadman, Speculators and Slaves, pp. 287-88