

# Introduction

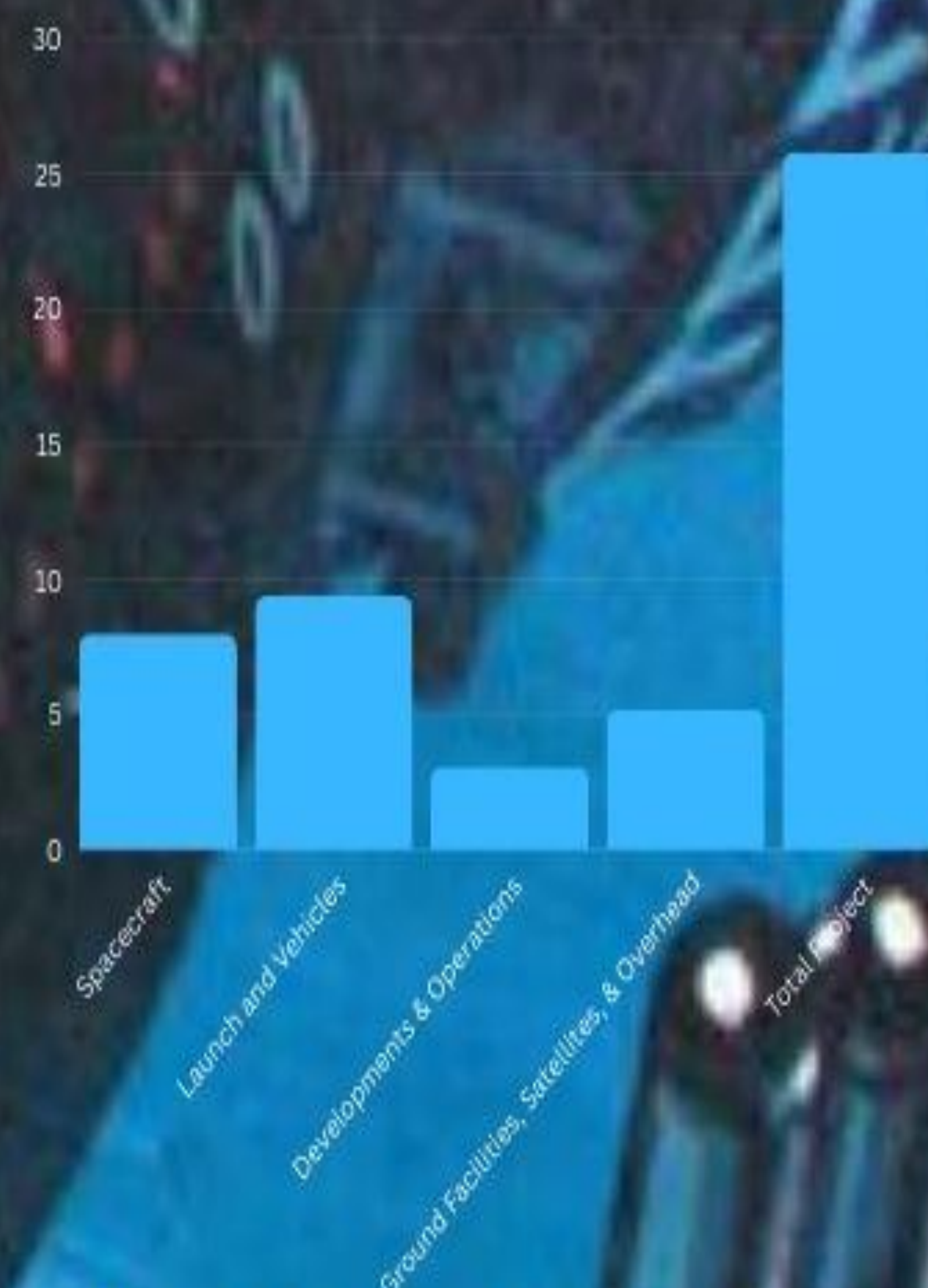
During the year 1970, just a year following the moon landing, musician Gil-Scott Heron used music as his vessel to call to the forefront America's hypocrisy and treatment of African American families with his song "Whitey on the Moon". Whitey on the moon is a story told through the use of poetry, accompanied by rhythmic drumming in which he paints a picture of life for inner city Black families. Expressing the shared frustration amongst the Black community at America's decision to be apathetic and choose to prioritize international image over political obligation. This poster will assess through the lens of this song the reality of Black families during the release of this song. Discussing the financial costs of the project, the cause of launching the Apollo project, and the various ways America could have spent their money to benefit inner city communities. Finally, I seek to answer if the reality for African American residing in inner city communities have changed since the moon landing.

## Origins Of The Space To Race

During the 20th century, being a global powerhouse exceeded obtaining high monetary standing or a large military force, but was evolving into a nation's ability to conduct successful conquests to outer space. This new level of what it meant to be a global power was one America was going to work tirelessly to reach in order to display to other nations that they too were a force to be reckoned with. In the year 1957, The Soviet Union launched Sputnik, which was "the world's first artificial satellite". The Soviet Union during this time was notorious for being a nation that practiced and subscribed to the political practice of Communism. This launch by America's political foe was the smoking gun needed for the race to space to begin.

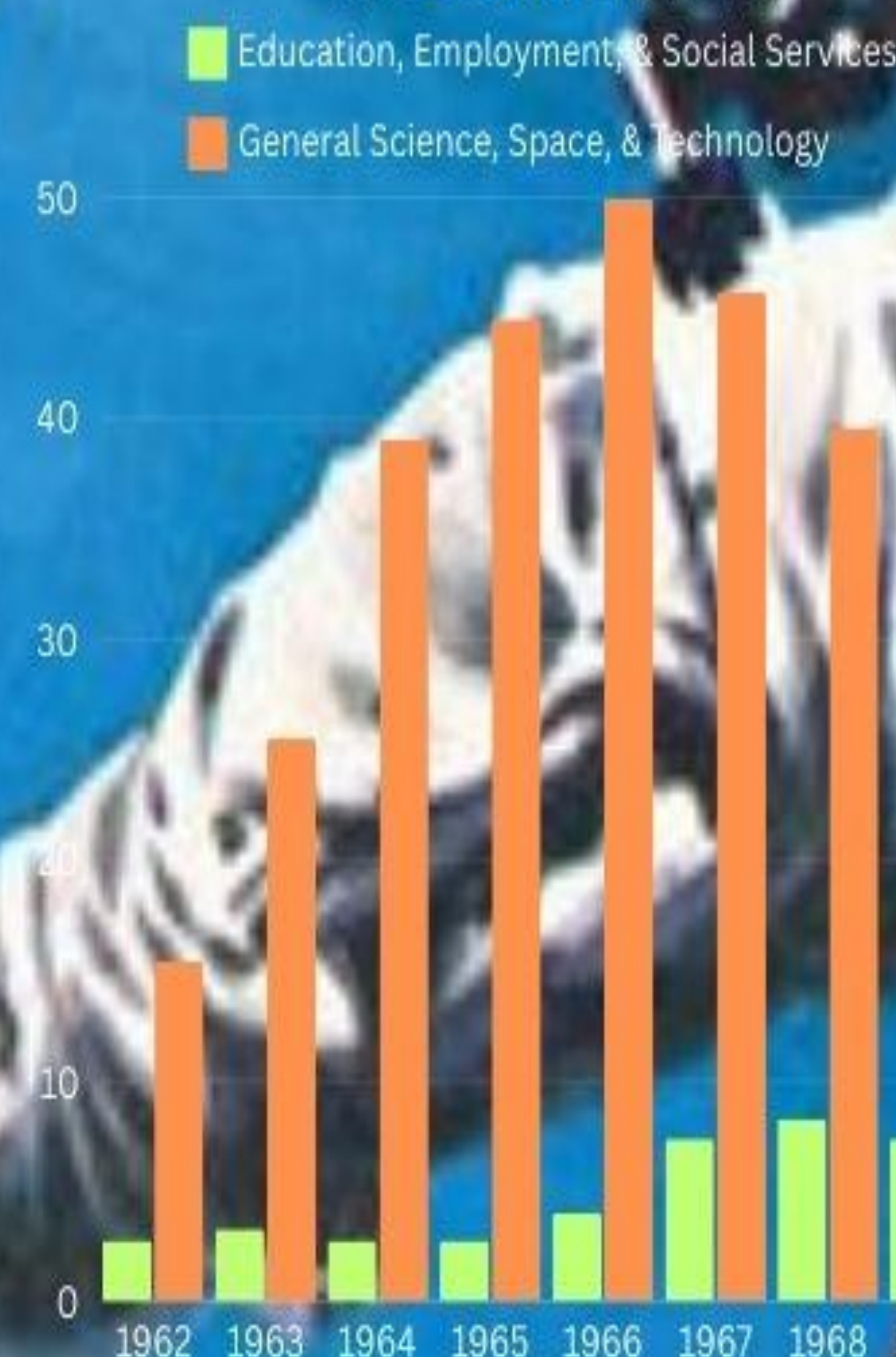
## Whitey On The Moon! By: Blaire Curley

COSTS OF THE TOTAL APOLLO PROJECT (IN \$BILLIONS \*)



Context: Amount of Money granted to schools to invest in infrastructure per student.

## Funding Throughout The Years (FY 2017, IN BILLIONS)

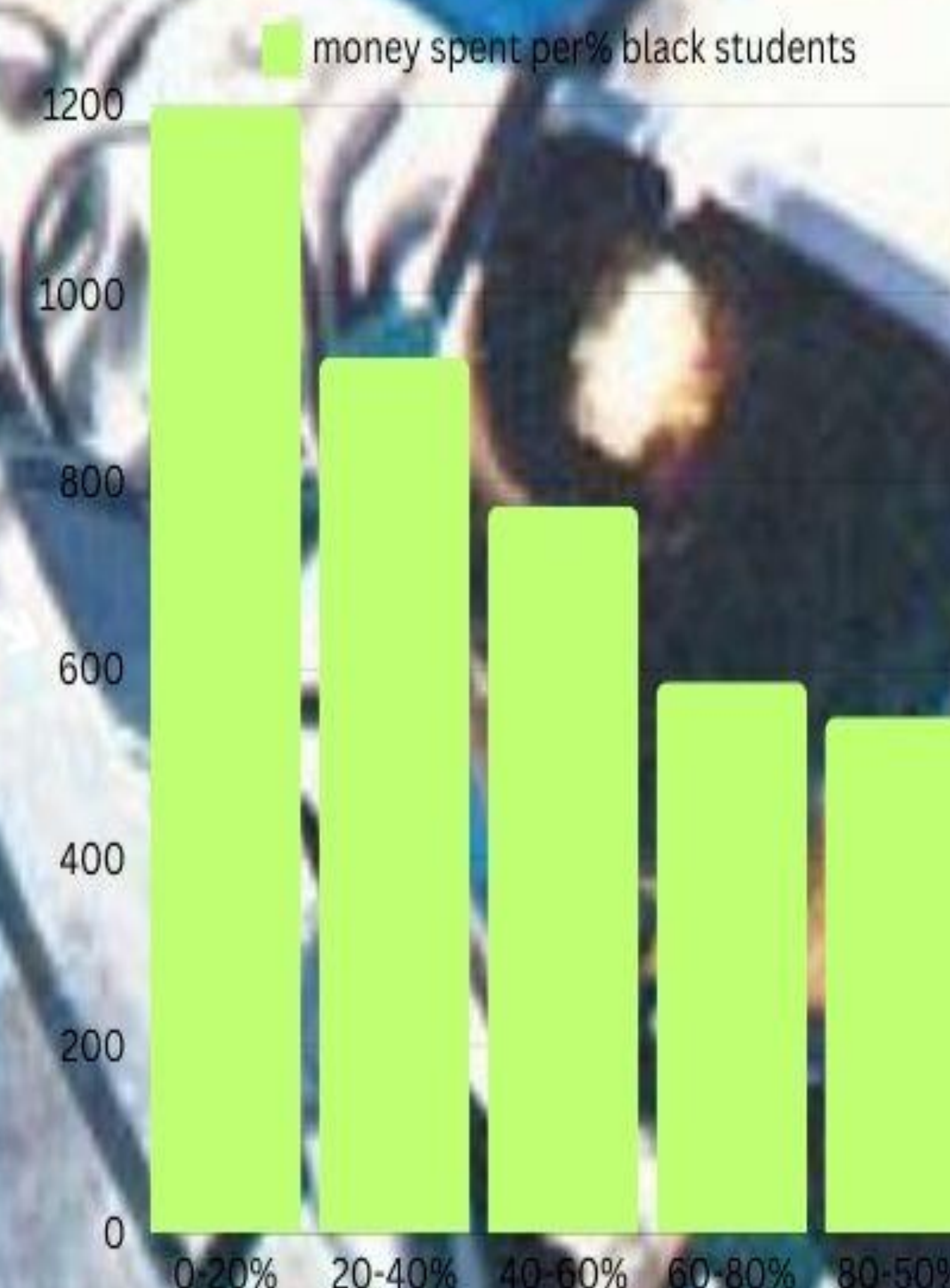


## 2015 Comparison I In Money Granted To NASA and Title 1 From The Government



## 55 Years After Apollo

It has been 55 years since the Apollo project proved itself successful and man placed foot on the moon. Since the year 1969, the world has witnessed and experienced a multitude of changes in many aspects of how we live our daily lives and interact with the world around us. However, what about the conditions of those who Heron so infamously called attention to through the use of his song "Whitey on The Moon". Have Black families residing in inner city communities seen a change in the way their government provides for them through the allocation of funds? Let's analyze this through the educational funding and resources granted to inner city schools. This data is a result of a study conducted on public schools within the state of Georgia



## CONCLUSION

The issues once brought to the attention of the American Public through Heron's song still exist today. The lack of attention and regard by the American government, still permeate and affect the lives of Black Americans. The minimal change in the funding made apparent by the data presented here, demonstrate that Black communities have been severely disadvantaged and continue to be by continuous government action.

## Bibliography

