

King County's Changing Demographics

Investigating our Increasing Diversity

Chandler Felt, Demographer

King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Regional Law, Safety & Justice Committee, February 23, 2017

King County Population Growth, 2000 - 2016

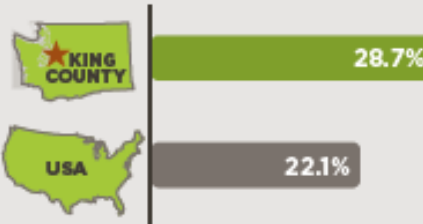
- King County now more than 2 million people
- Gained about 360,000 persons
- Gain is more than the population of Tacoma
- Half of this growth: foreign-born pop.
- Population grew 15%, while job numbers remained flat ... until 2013
- South King County: gain of 70,000 in ten years
- Data we're reporting are from 2010 Census and American Community Survey

Population diversity: compare King County to the U.S.

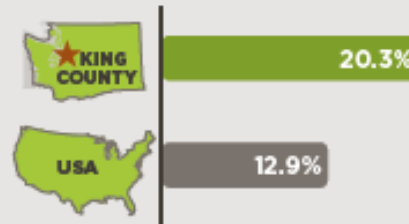


DIVERSE AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY

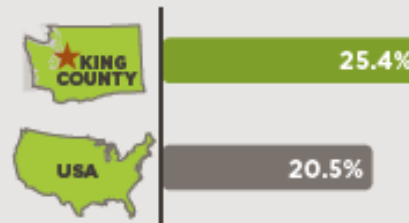
PEOPLE OF COLOR



FOREIGN BORN

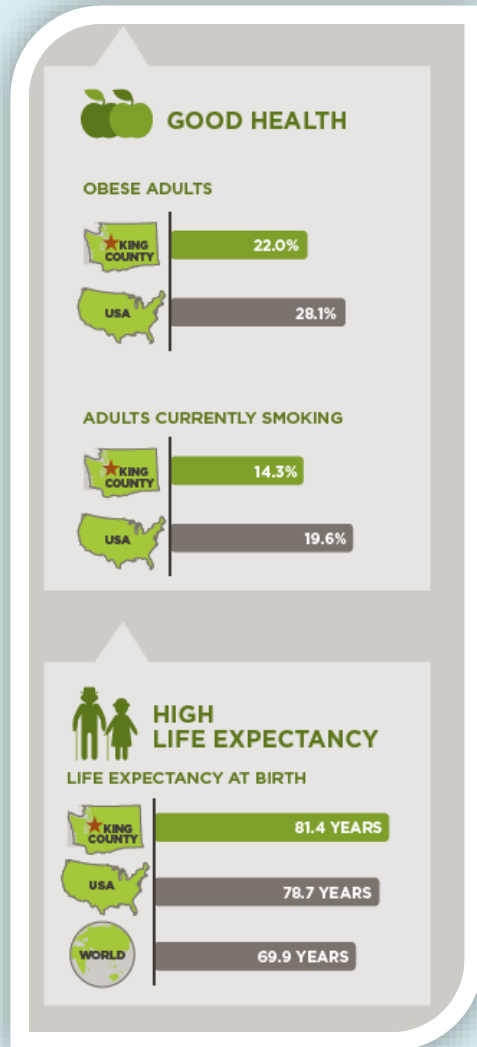


PEOPLE (5+ YEARS OLD) WHO SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME



Appearance of Equity

At a glance, King County outperforms the U.S. on socio-economic indicators

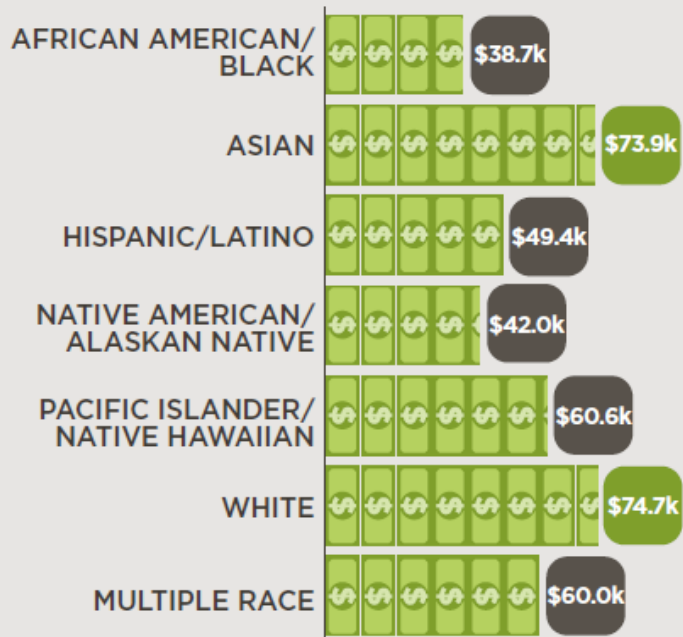


A Closer Look

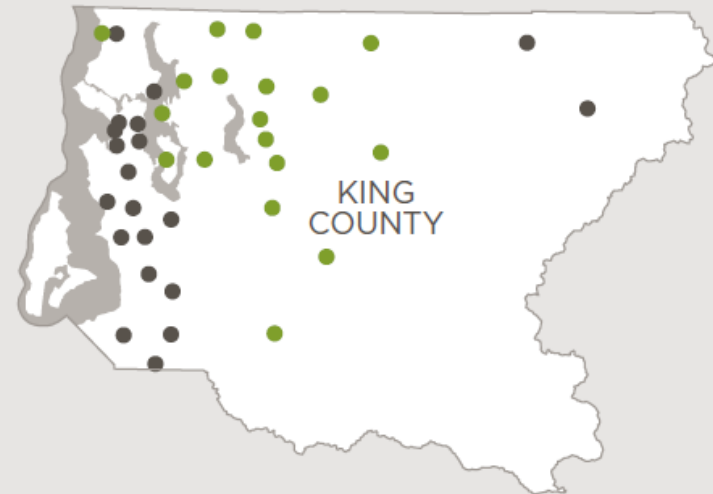
Income by Race & Place

BY RACE

- ABOVE KC AVERAGE
- KC AVERAGE: \$71,175
- BELOW KC AVERAGE



BY PLACE



A Closer Look

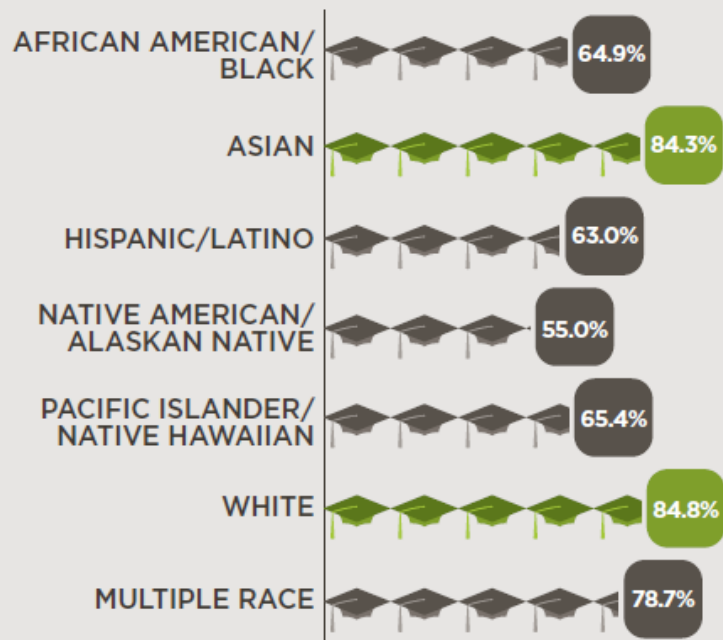
Graduation Rates by Race & Place

BY RACE

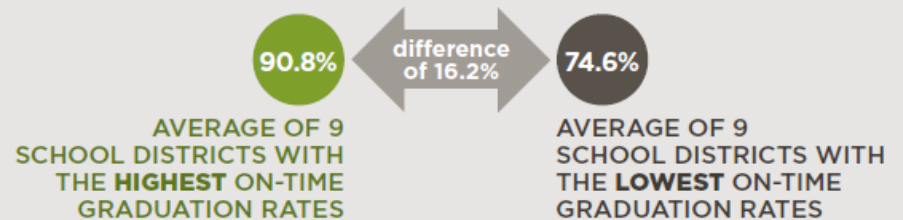
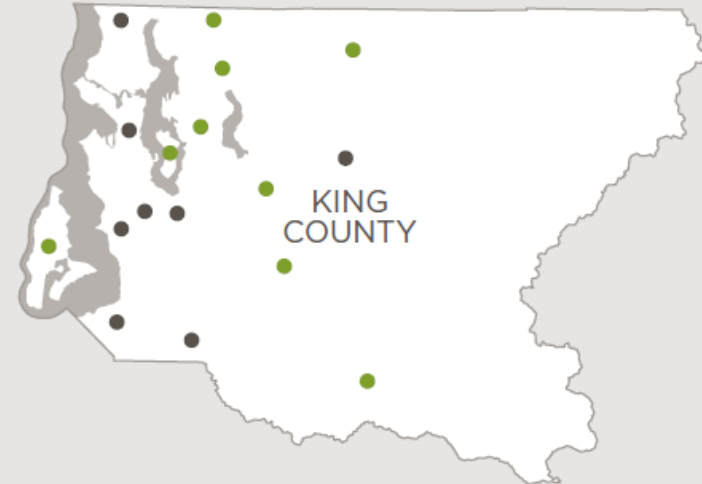
■ ABOVE KING COUNTY (KC) AVERAGE

-- KC AVERAGE: 79.4%

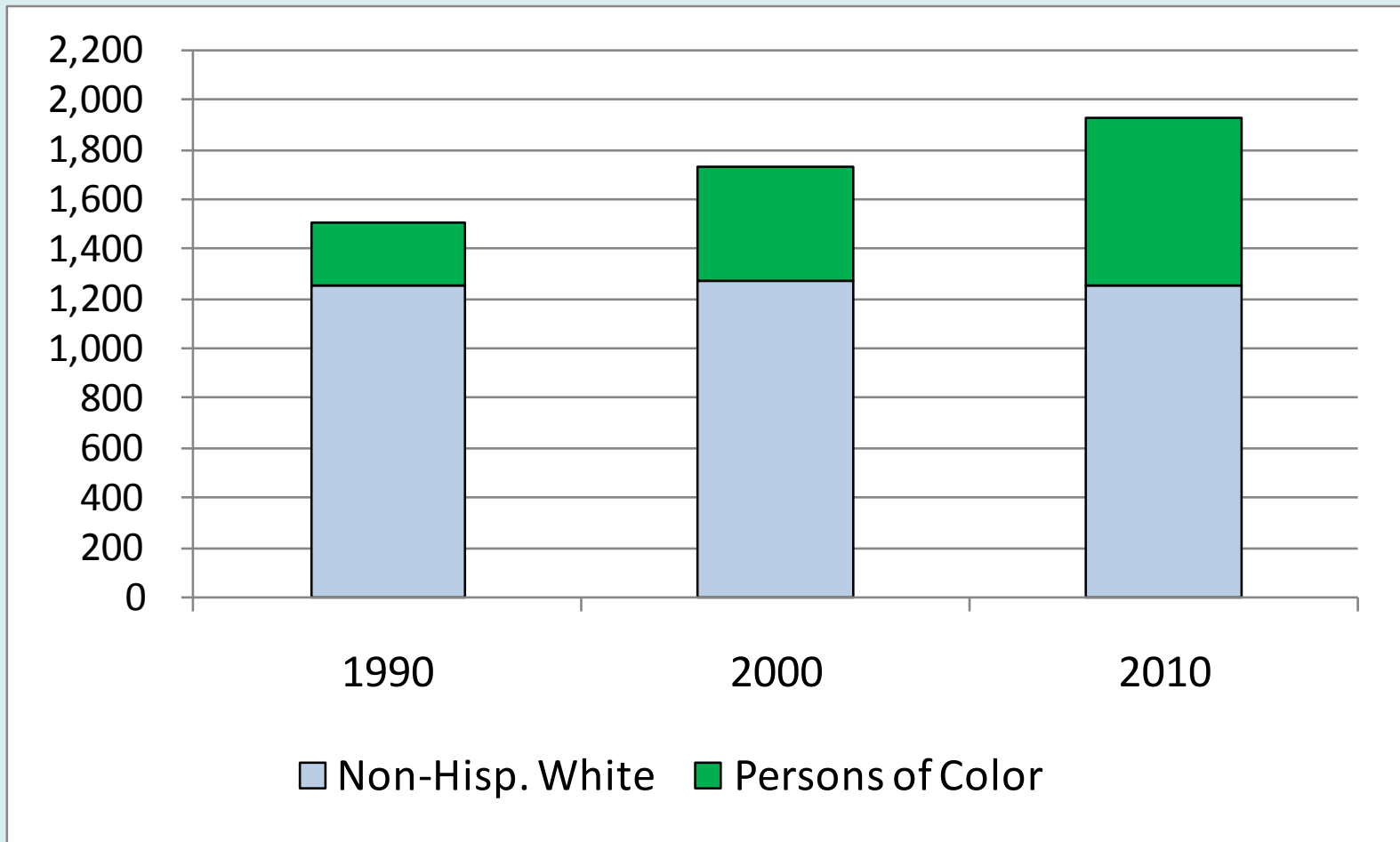
■ BELOW KC AVERAGE



BY PLACE



20 years of King County growth: increase is mostly persons of color



Where is our growth coming from?

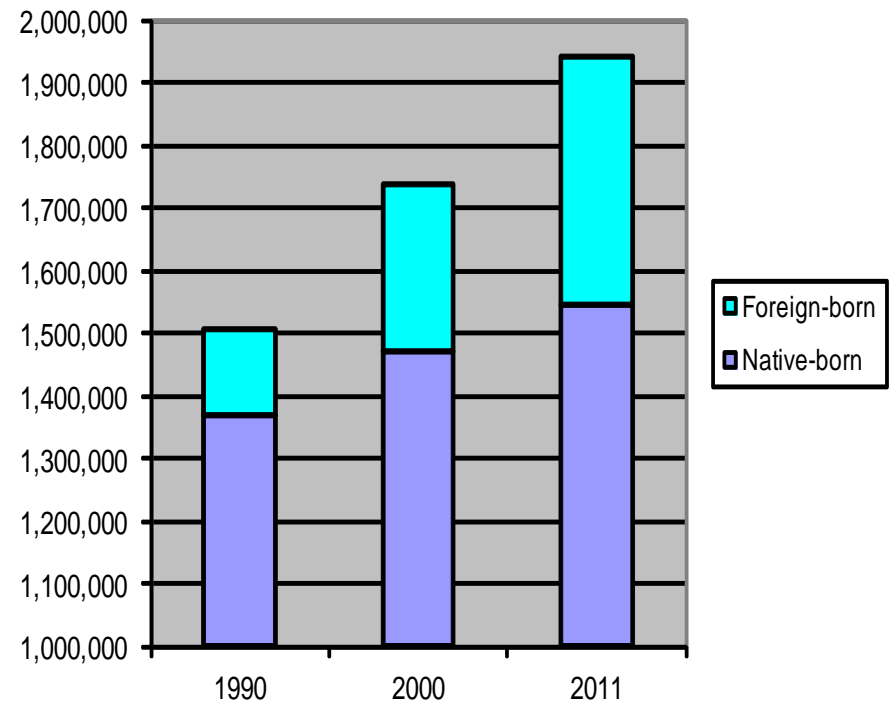
- Only half of population growth is from natural increase – our own children
- Before 1990, migration – e.g. California
- In recent years, **immigration** –
 - All parts of Asia
 - Latin America
 - Eastern Europe
 - Africa
 - Some from these regions, via US states

More than half of our recent growth is immigration

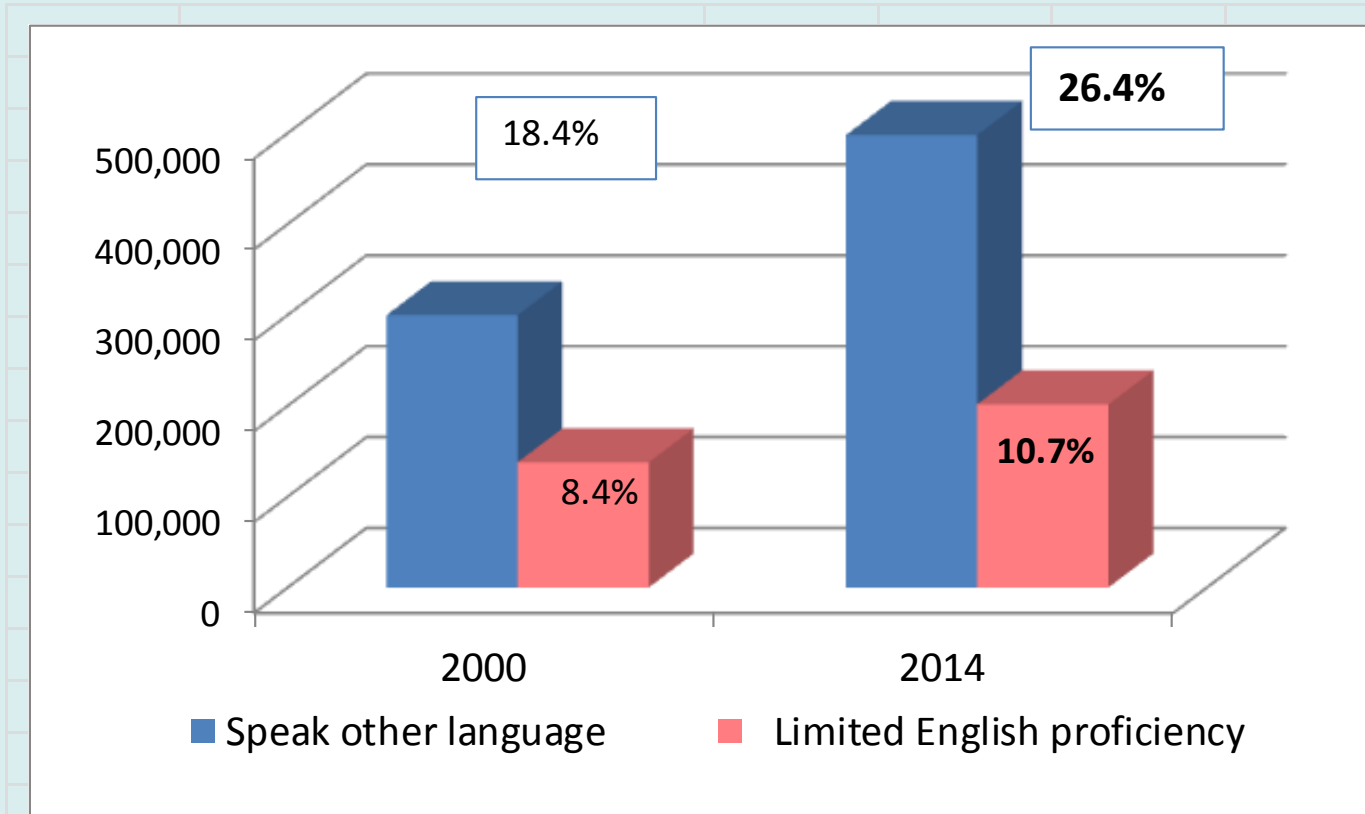
**King County Population Trend
by Place of Birth**

	1990	2000	2011
Native-born	1,366,700	1,468,700	1,544,500
Foreign-born	140,600	268,300	395,100
Total pop.	1,507,300	1,737,000	1,939,600

Immigrants Dominate Population Growth



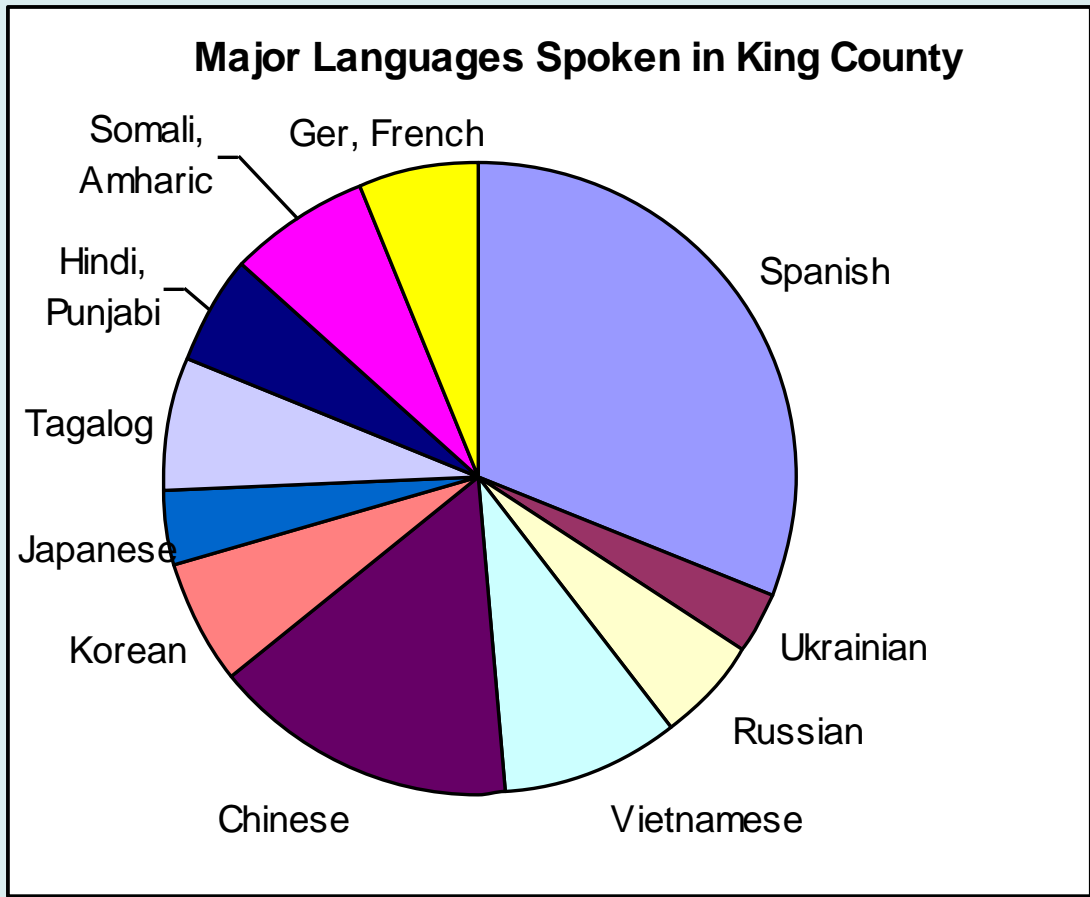
Increasing numbers speak other languages



King County Languages Other Than English

	2000	2014
Speak other language	299,600	497,700
Limited English proficiency	137,700	201,500

King County residents speak 170 different languages

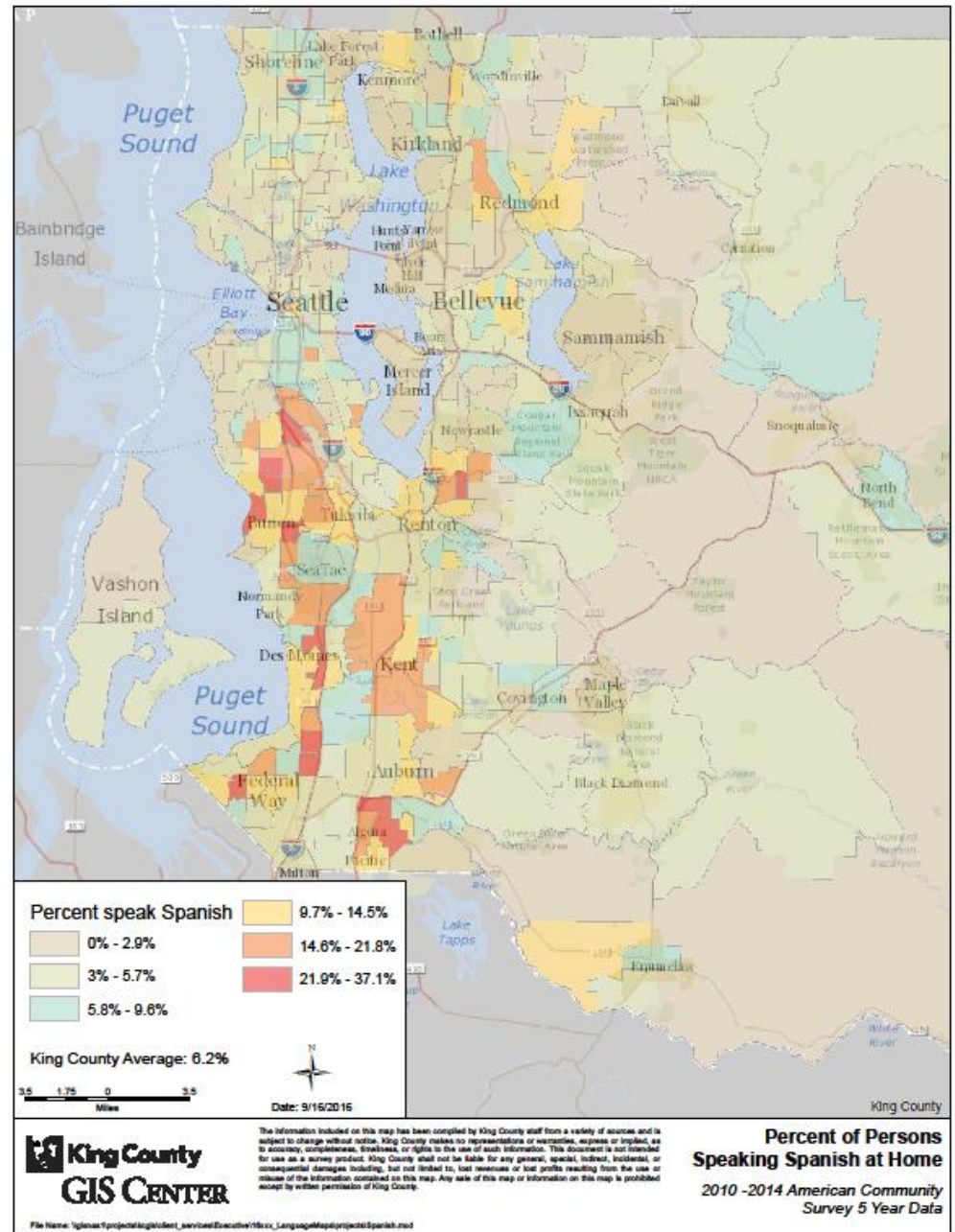


Spanish	102,000
Ukrainian	10,000
Russian	17,700
Vietnamese	30,200
Chinese	51,000
Korean	21,100
Japanese	11,300
Tagalog	22,900
Hindi, Punjabi	18,400
Somali, Amharic	23,400
Ger, French	20,400
Other	73,500
	<hr/>
	401,900

Spanish speakers in King County by census tract

- Highest category:
22% - 37%
speaking Spanish

Spanish speakers are widely distributed

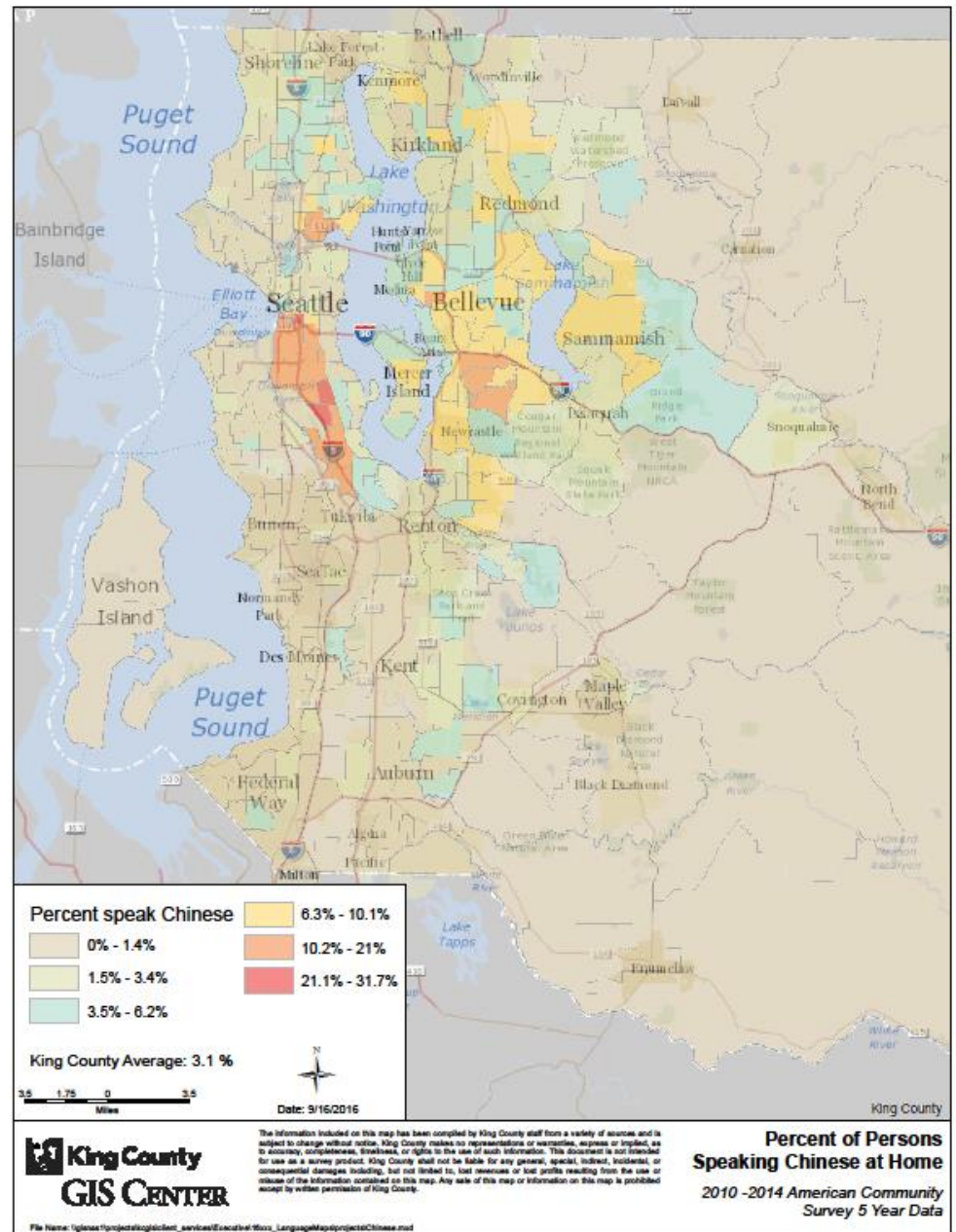


Chinese languages in King County

- Highest categories: 10% - 31% speaking Chinese.

Evenly split between Cantonese, Mandarin

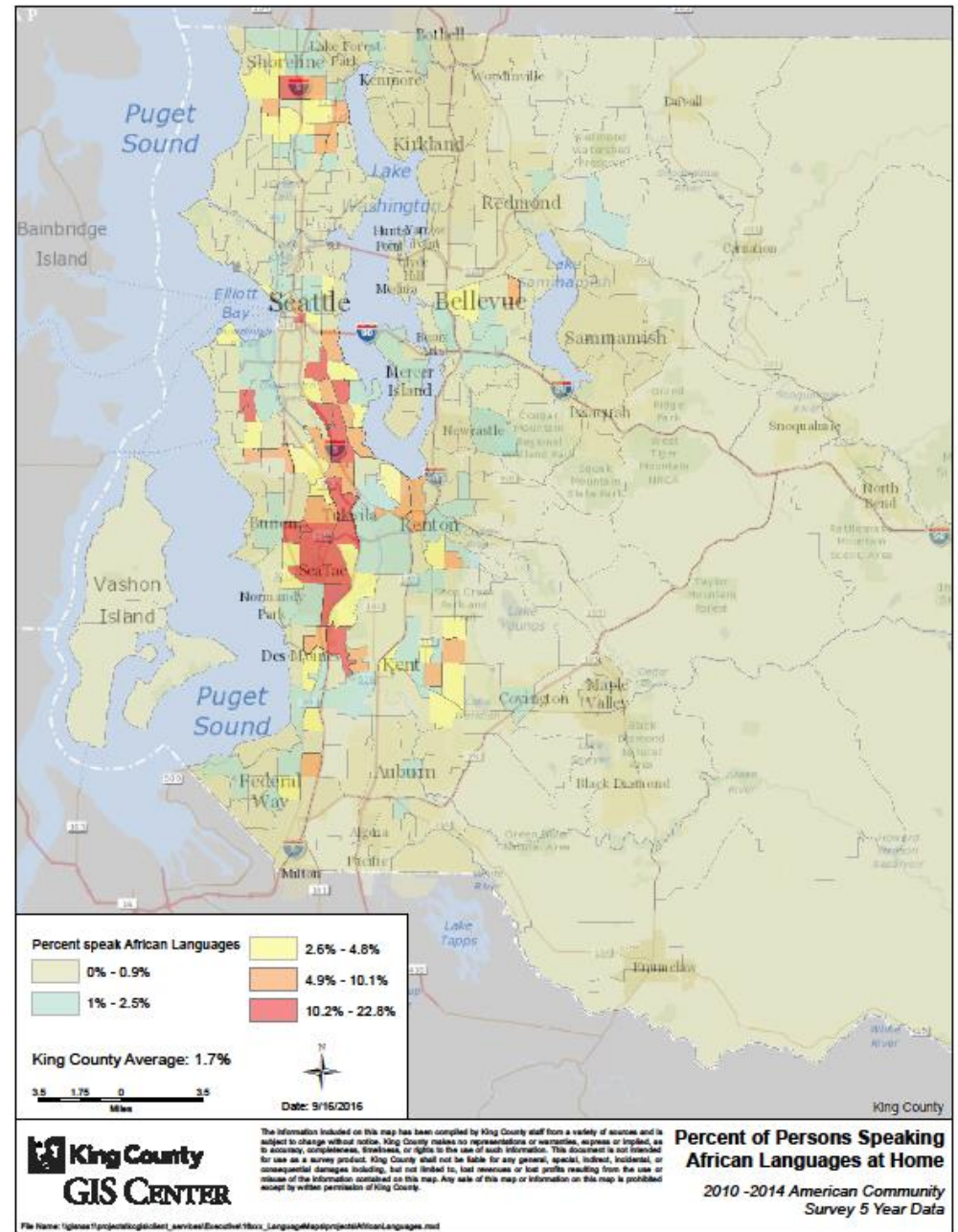
Also widely distributed, Seattle and Eastside



African languages in King County

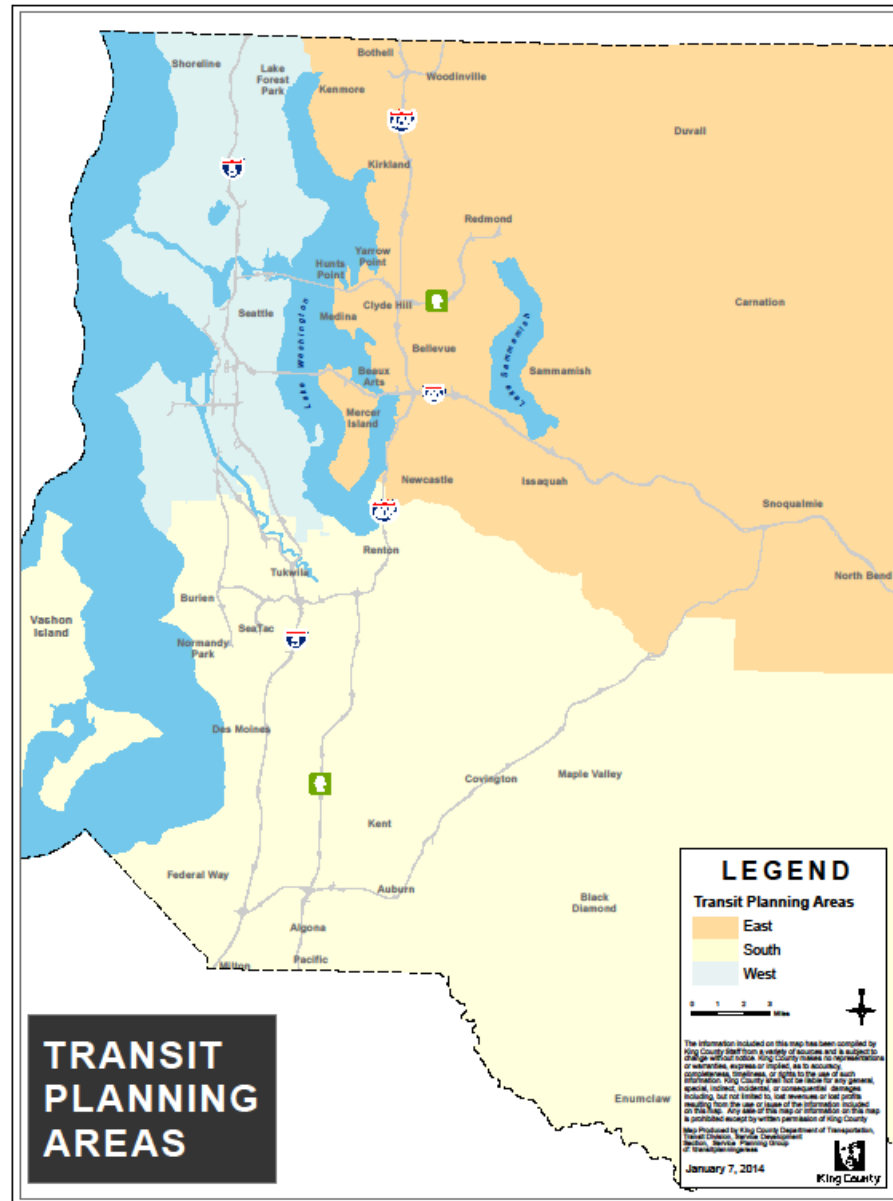
- Highest category: 10% - 23% speaking languages including Amharic, Tigrinya, Somali.

Clustered in Seattle and SW King County



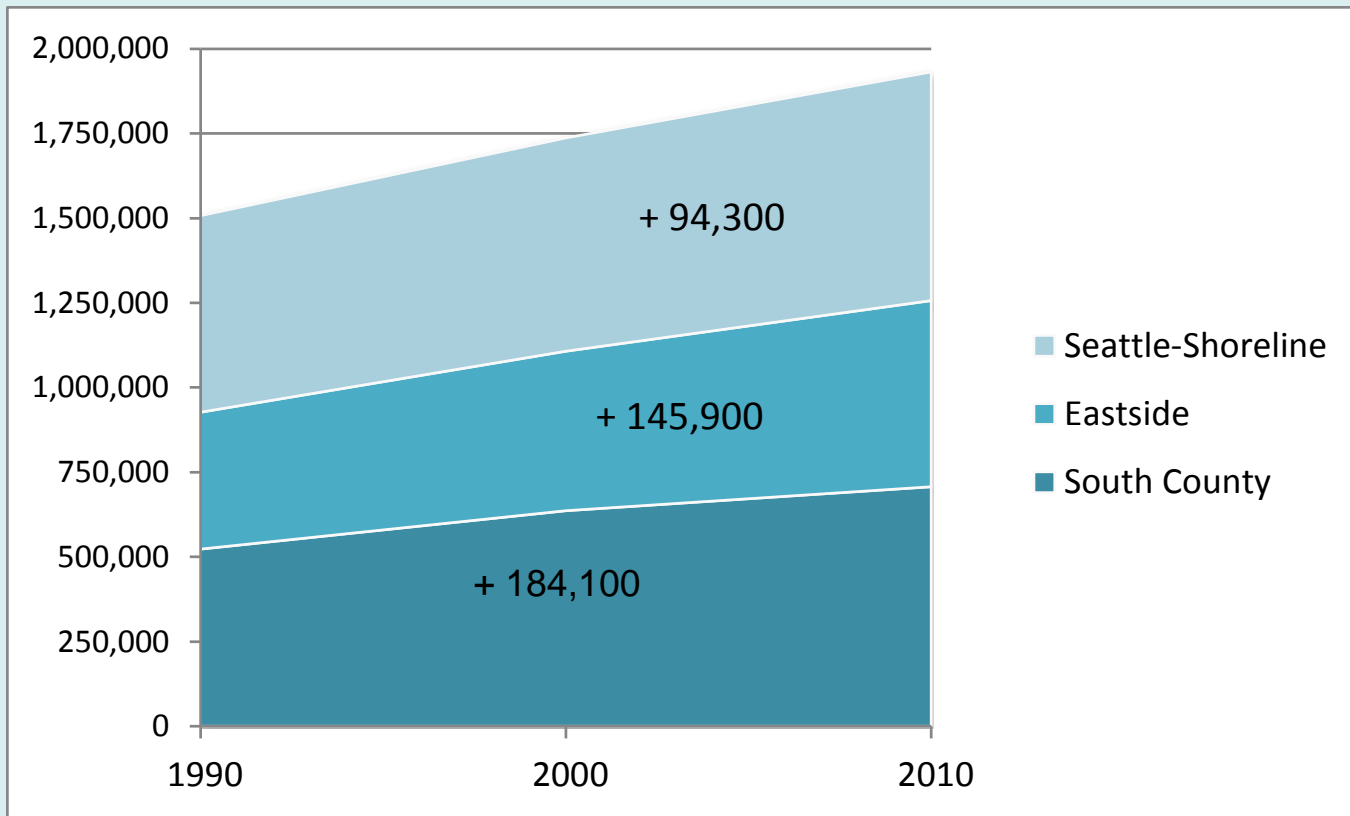
Three broad subareas of King County:

- Seattle-Shoreline
- Eastside
- South King County



Population growth: more than 400,000 in 20 years

Growth shifting from South King County to Seattle



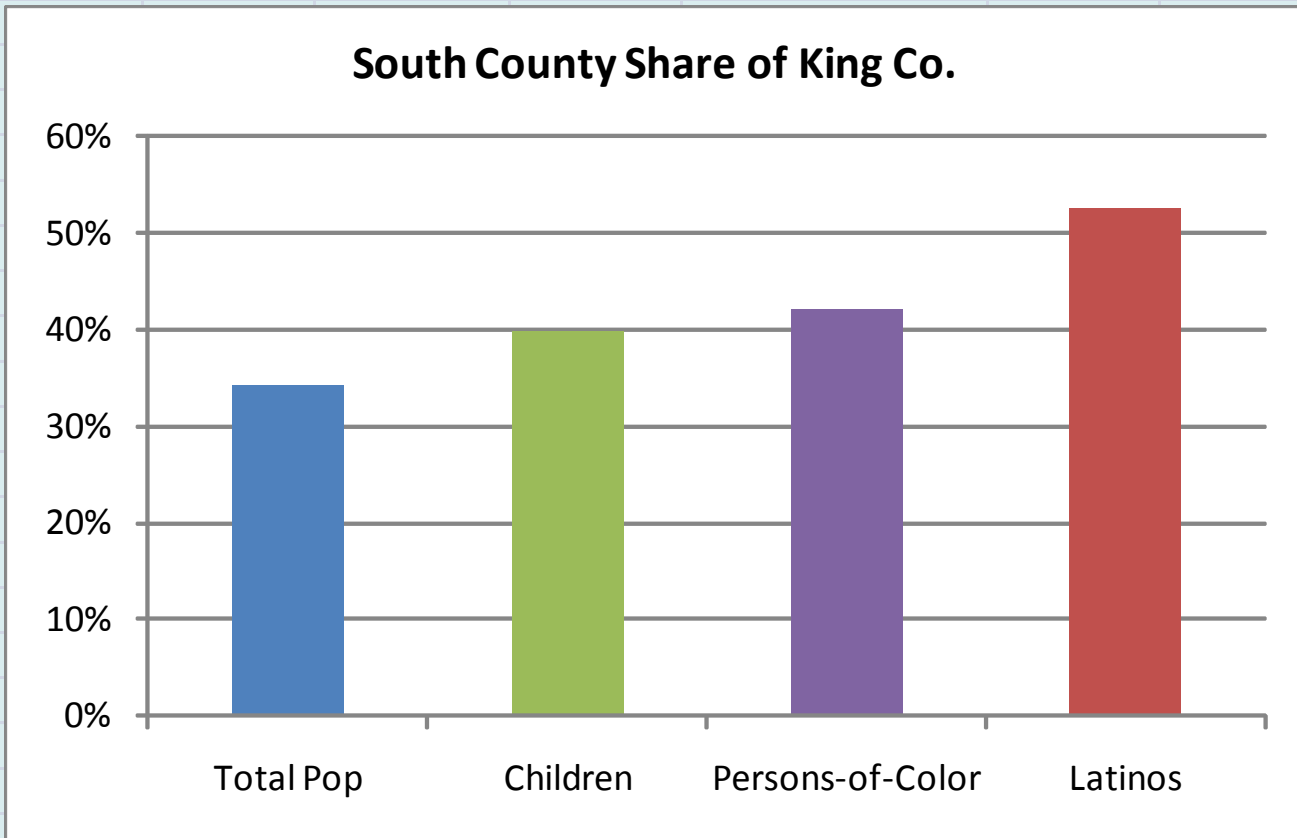
All 3 subareas are becoming more diverse

2015 population by race, in thousands



Population in thousands				
	Seattle-Shorln	East	South	King County
NH White	478	394	413	1,285
Black	50	9	65	124
Asian	100	115	102	317
2+ Race	37	22	40	99
Other	8	3	20	31
Hisp/Latino	48	36	106	190
Total	721	579	746	2,046

South King County Shares of King County Population, 2010



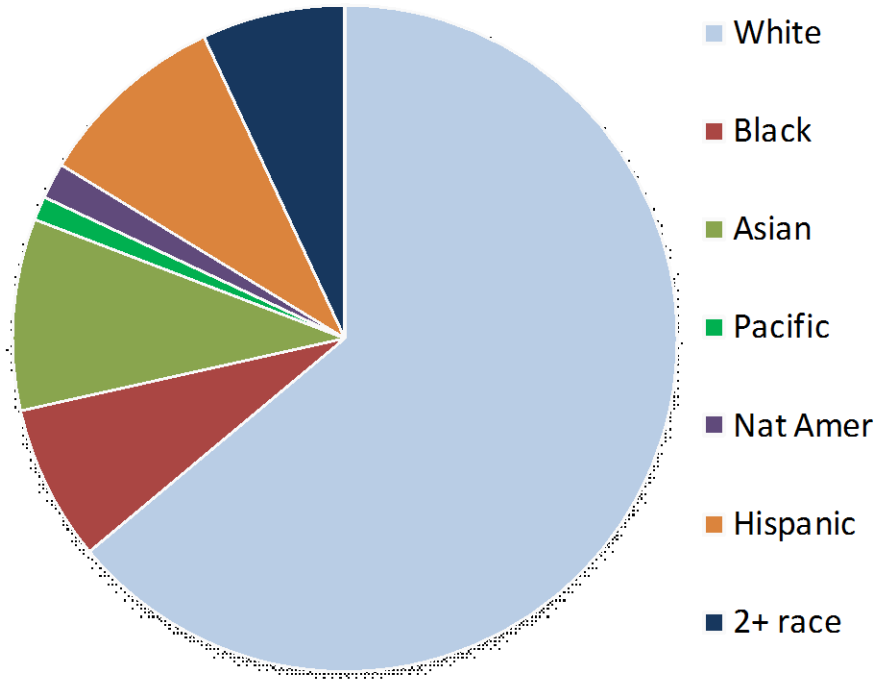
South King County Shares of Population

	Total Pop	Children	Persons-of-Color	Latinos
Pct of King Co.	34.3%	39.8%	42.1%	52.6%

A majority of South King County kids are kids of color

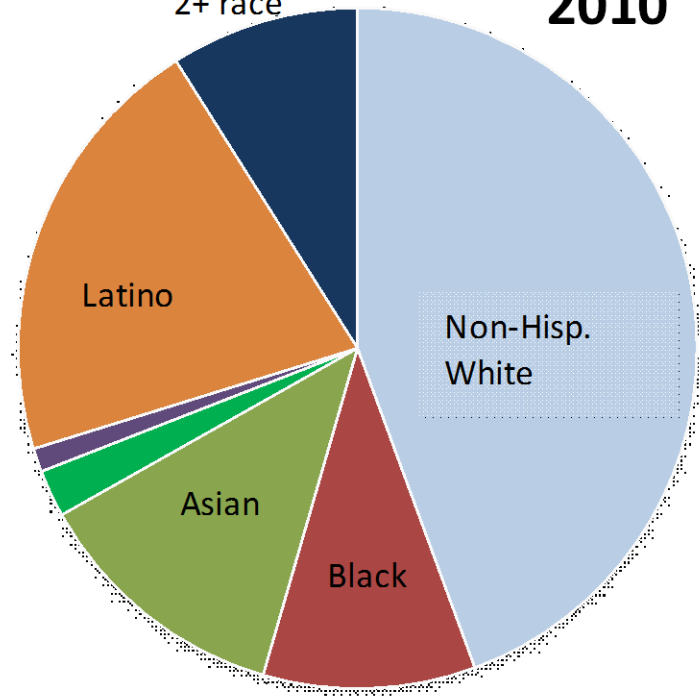
South King County Children by Race/Ethnicity

2000



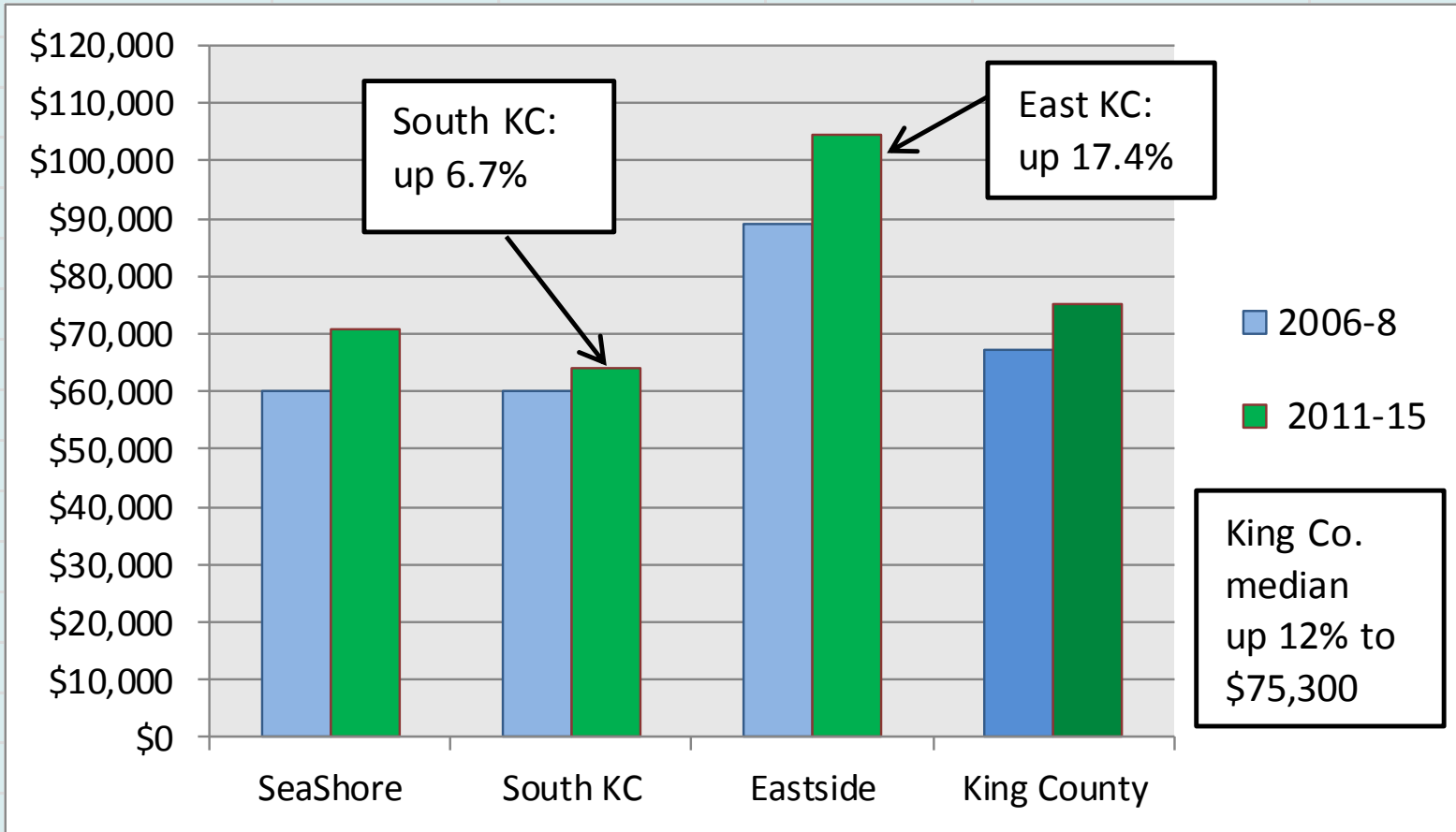
2+ race

2010

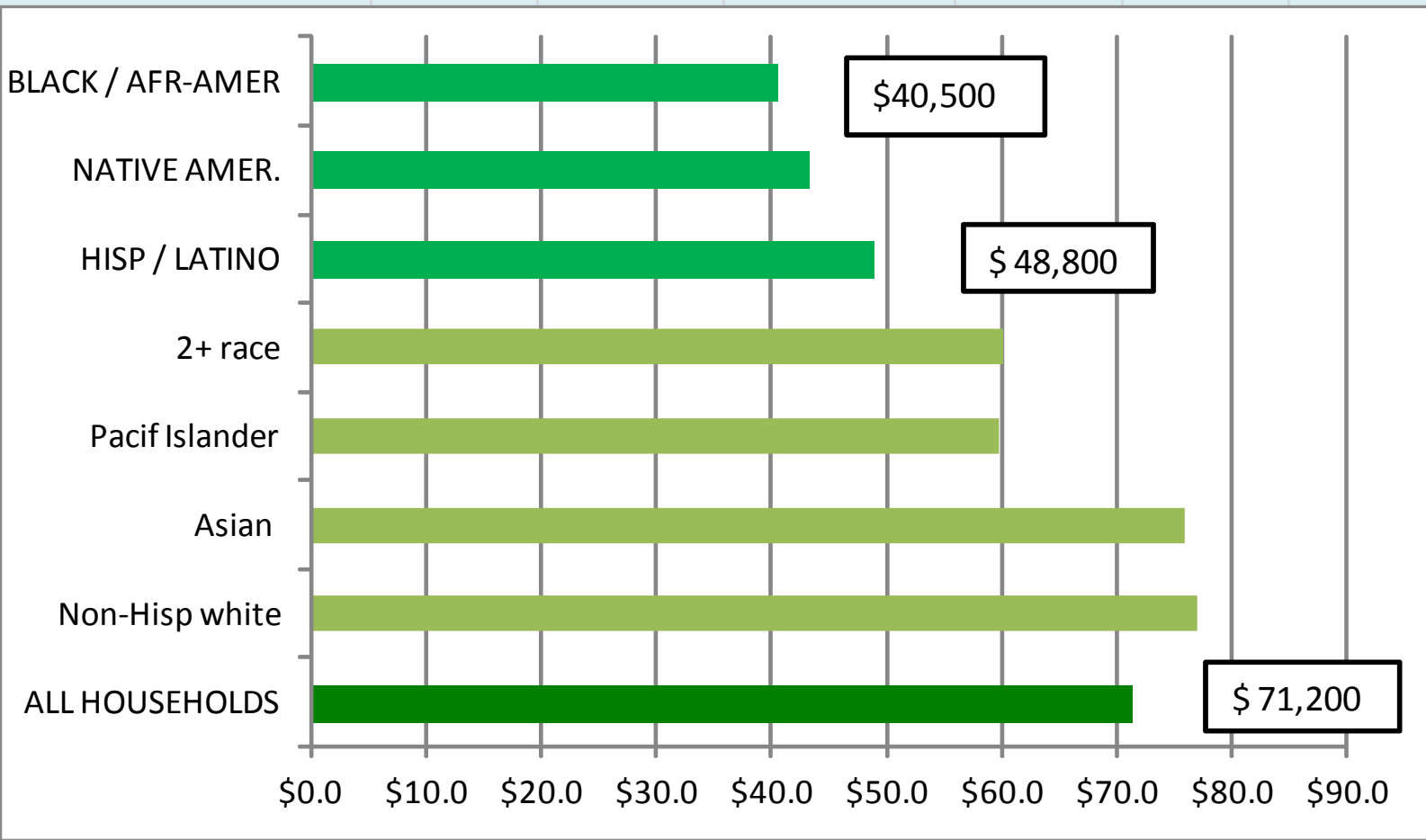


Median income varies substantially by subarea; increasing disparity by subarea

Median Household Income by Subarea, 2006-8; 2011-15

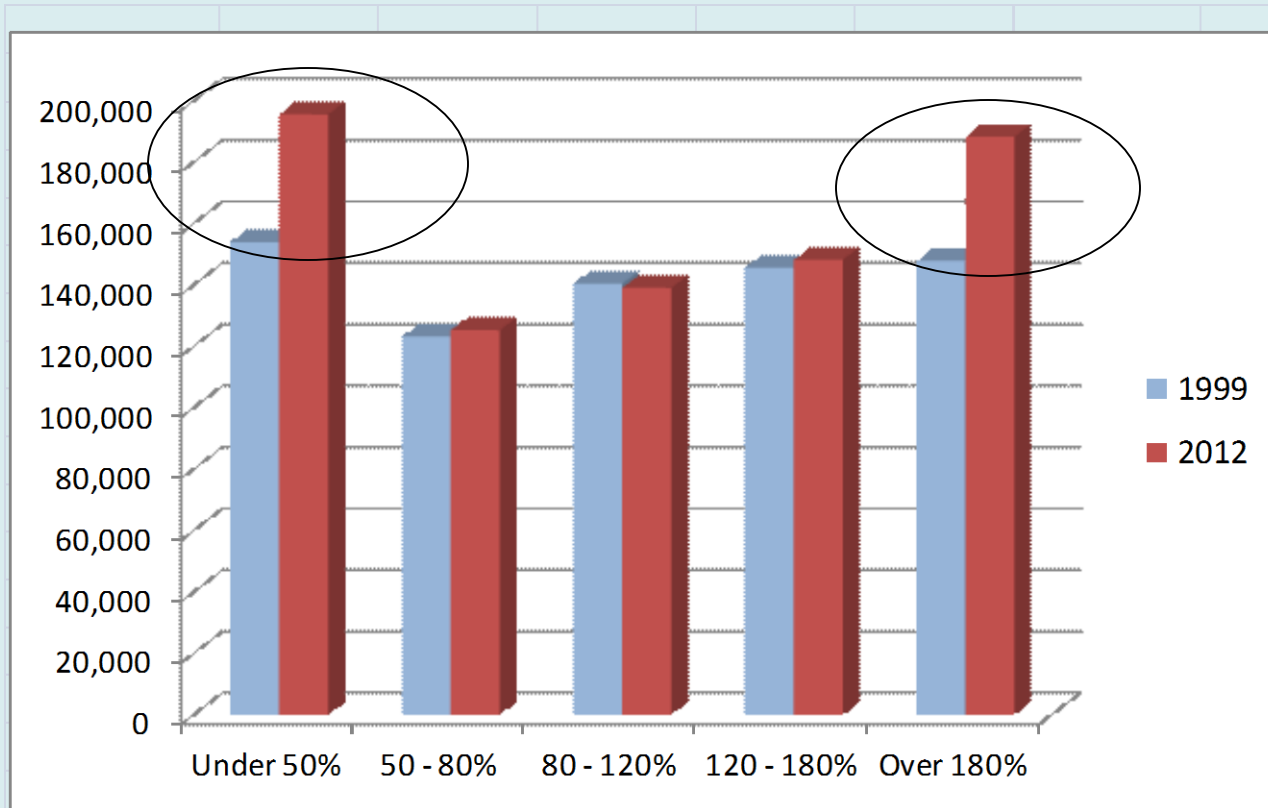


King County Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity



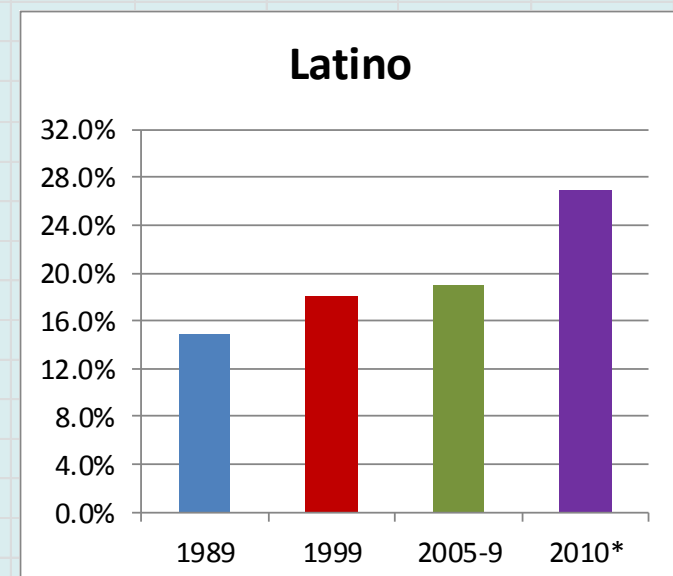
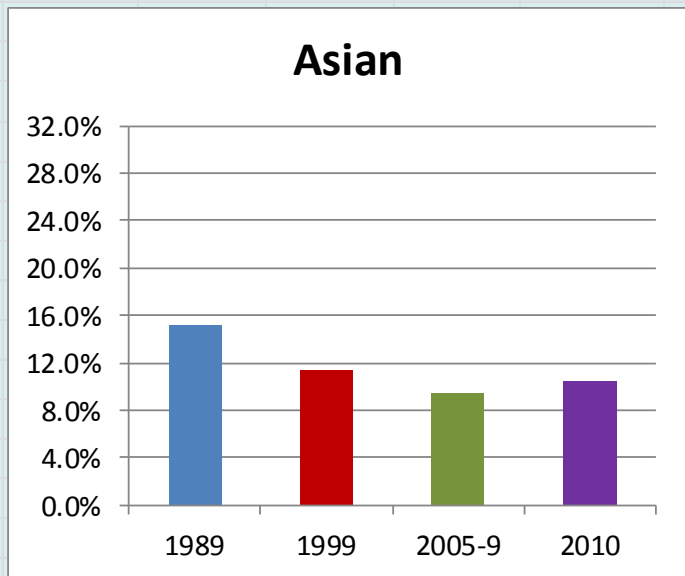
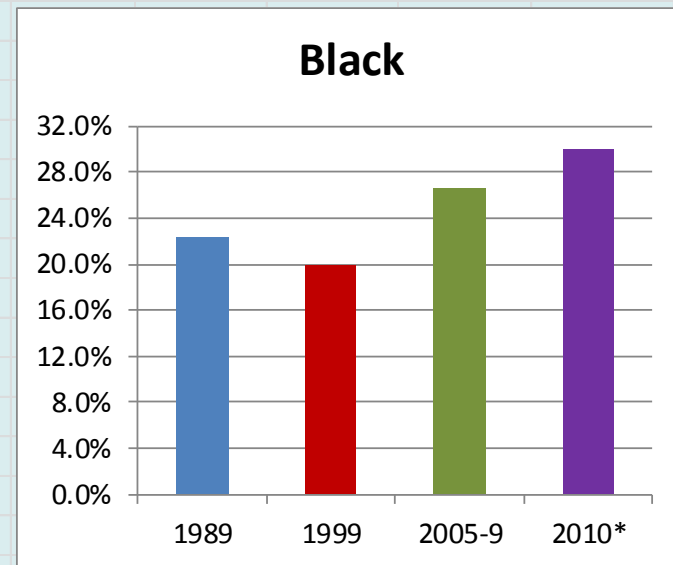
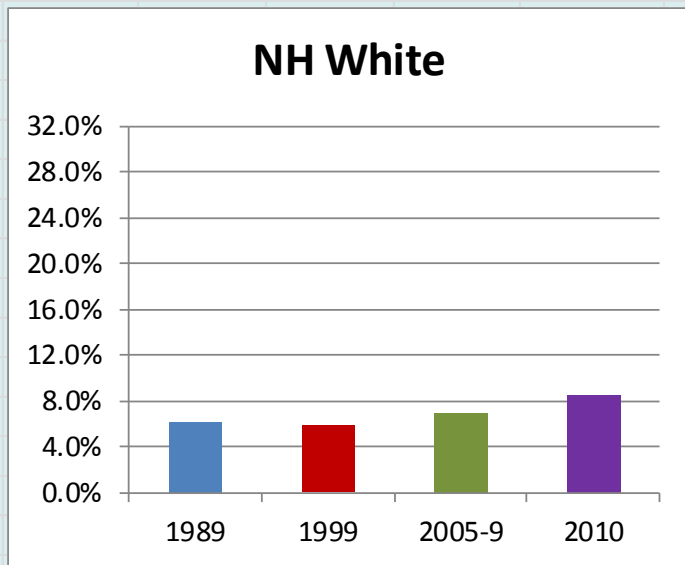
Income in thousands of 2012 dollars

Updated Income Distribution: where's the middle class now?

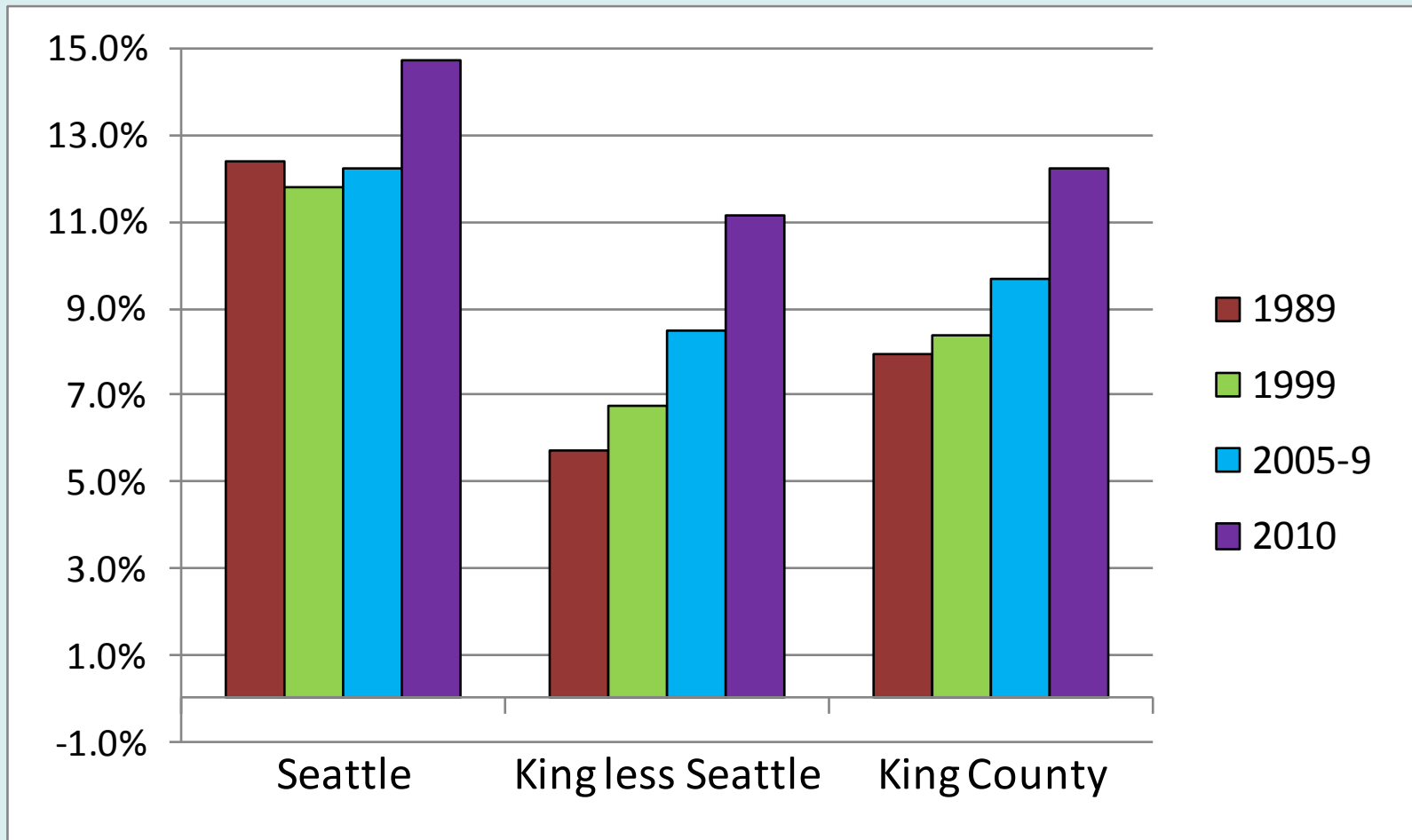


	1999	2012	Households in 5 Income Categories		
Under 50%	154,000	195,600			
50 - 80%	123,200	125,300			
80 - 120%	140,500	139,100			
120 - 180%	145,700	148,250	Median household income:		
Over 180%	147,900	188,350	<u>1999, ('99\$)</u>	<u>'99, ('07\$)</u>	<u>2010-12, ('12\$)</u>
Total H'holds	711,300	796,600	\$53,200	\$66,300	\$69,346

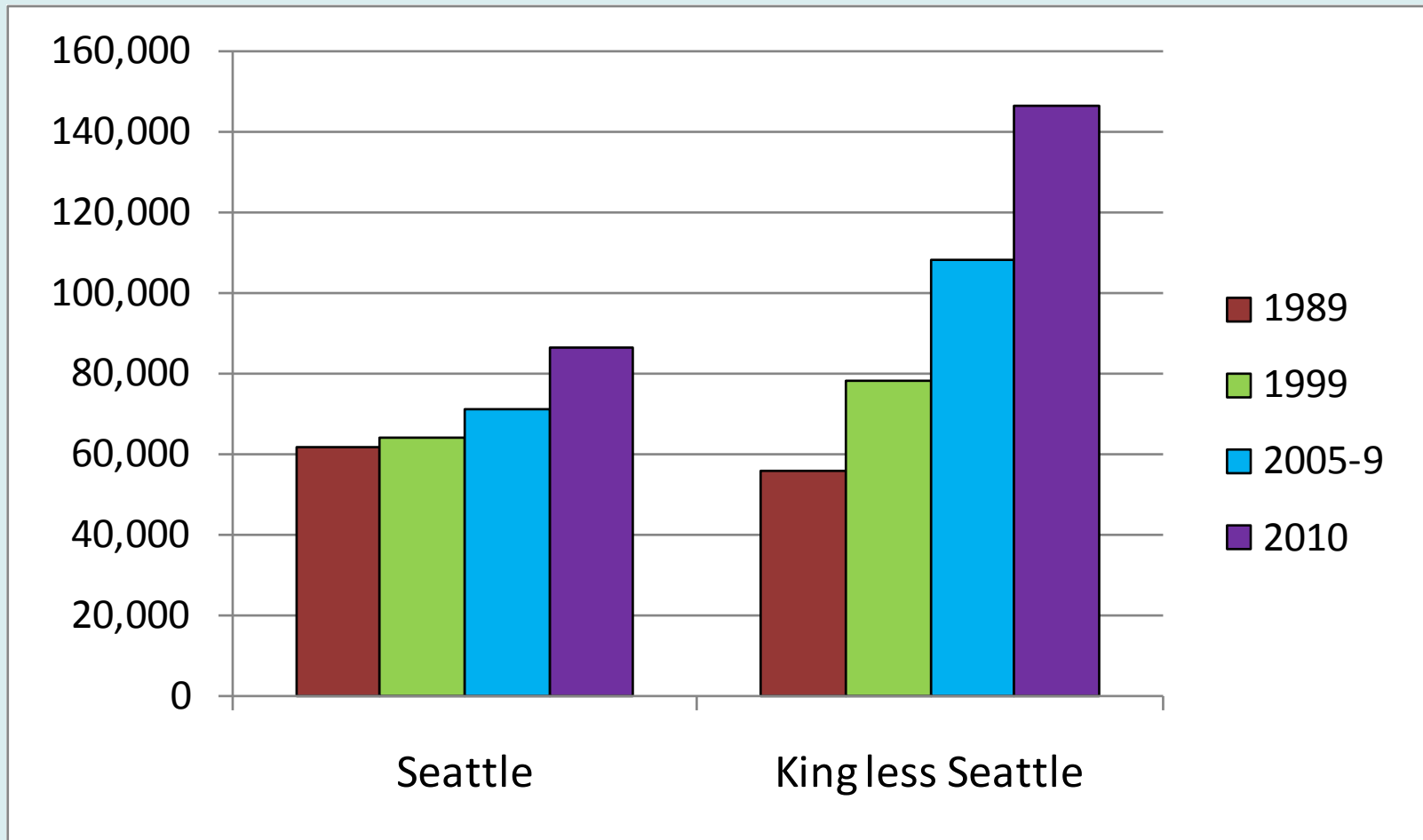
Poverty rates – and trends – vary by race



Poverty rates have jumped up with the recession

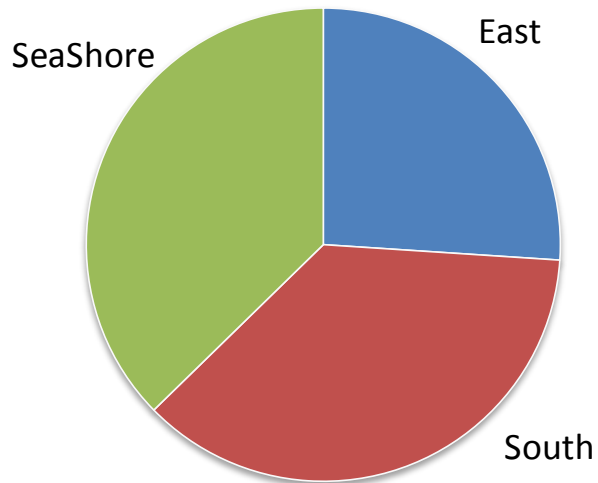


Numbers of persons below poverty: now primarily in the suburbs

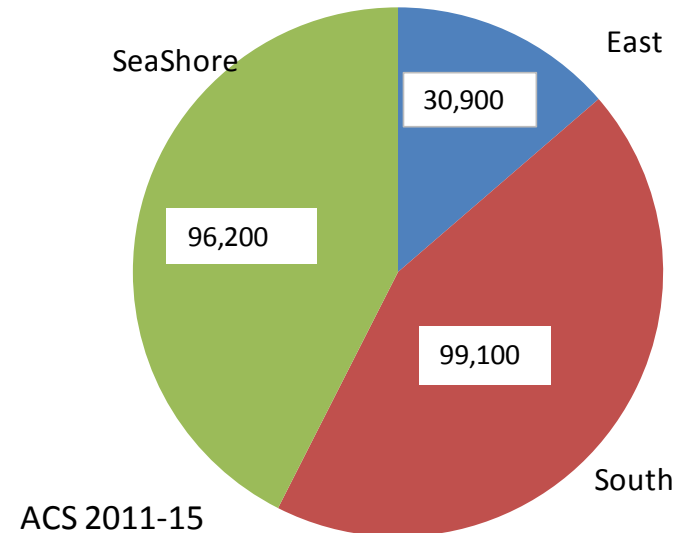


Poverty by Subarea, King County 2011-15

Population by Subarea



Population Below Poverty



	Population	Below Pov.	% below Pov.
East	525,200	30,900	5.9%
South	738,900	99,100	13.4%
SeaShore	752,600	96,200	12.8%
King County	2,016,700	226,200	11.2%

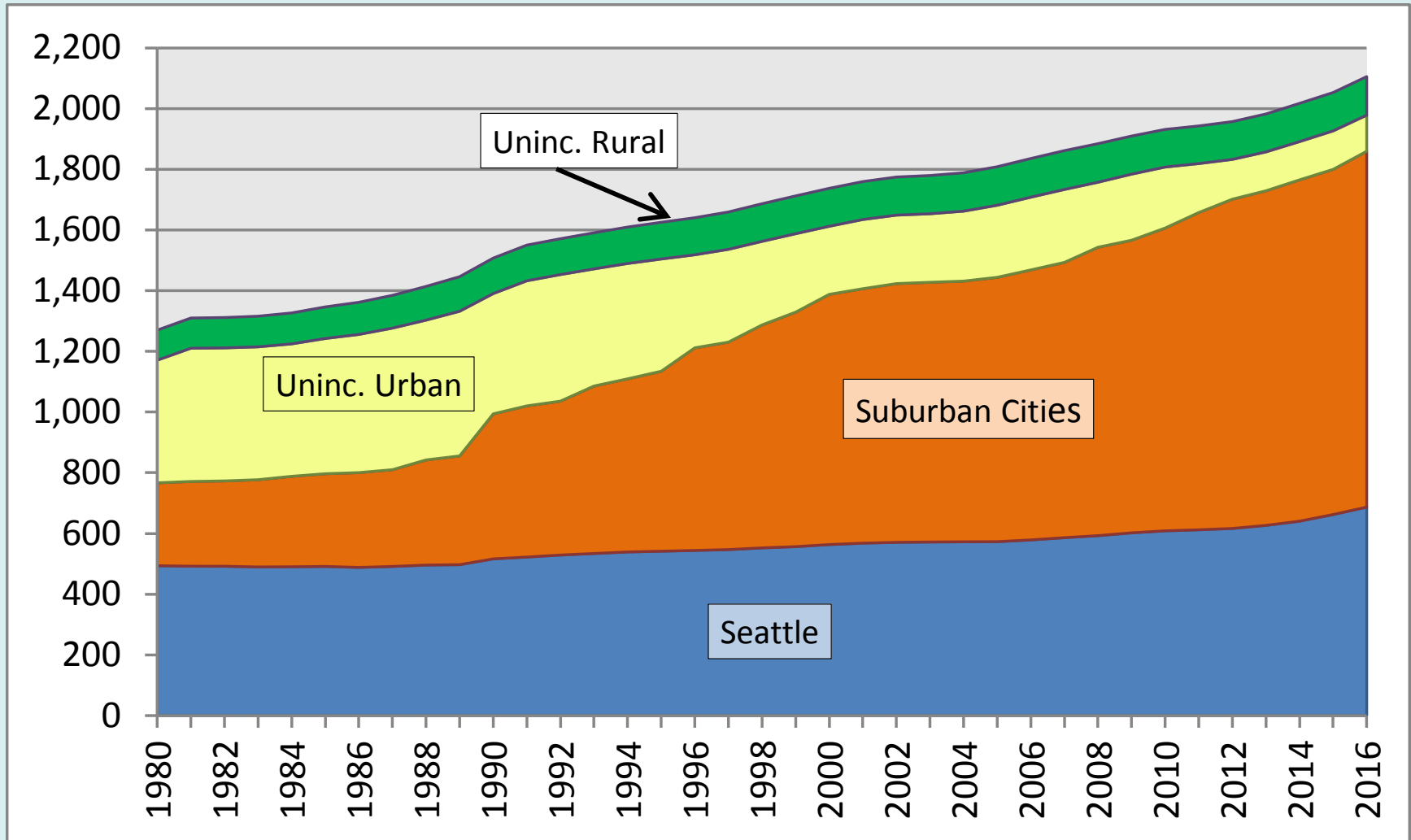
POVERTY RATES, 2011-15:

- King Co: 11.2%
- South KC: ~ 13%
- Latinos, countywide: ~ 22%
- Latinos, South KC: ~ 25%

Unincorporated King County: dwindling share of population

Change in Jurisdictions, 1980 – 2016

(Population in thousands)



What future trends can we expect?

- Continuing population growth in Puget Sound.
- Continuing increase in diversity of cultures.
- Perhaps increasing disparity between communities.
- Growth in Seattle and the suburban cities - less growth on the fringe.
- Continuing shift from unincorporated into cities

really

What future trends can we  expect?

- Continuing population growth in Puget Sound.
- Continuing increase in diversity of cultures...??
- ~~Perhaps~~ **Probably** increasing disparity between communities.
- Growth in Seattle and the suburban cities - less growth on the fringe.
- **Housing price increase: slowing soon?**
- Continuing shift from unincorporated into cities – **or not**

Data Sources

- US Census and American Community Survey
 - www.census.gov click on “American FactFinder” at page bottom
- Washington state Office of Fin. Mgmt (OFM)
 - www.ofm.wa.gov click on “population...”
- WA state Employment Security Dept (ESD)
 - www.esd.wa.gov look for “data and reports”
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
 - www.psrc.org various data including forecasts

FORECASTS:

www.ofm.wa.gov click on www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/forecasts.asp

www.psrc.org click on www.psrc.org/data/forecasts/

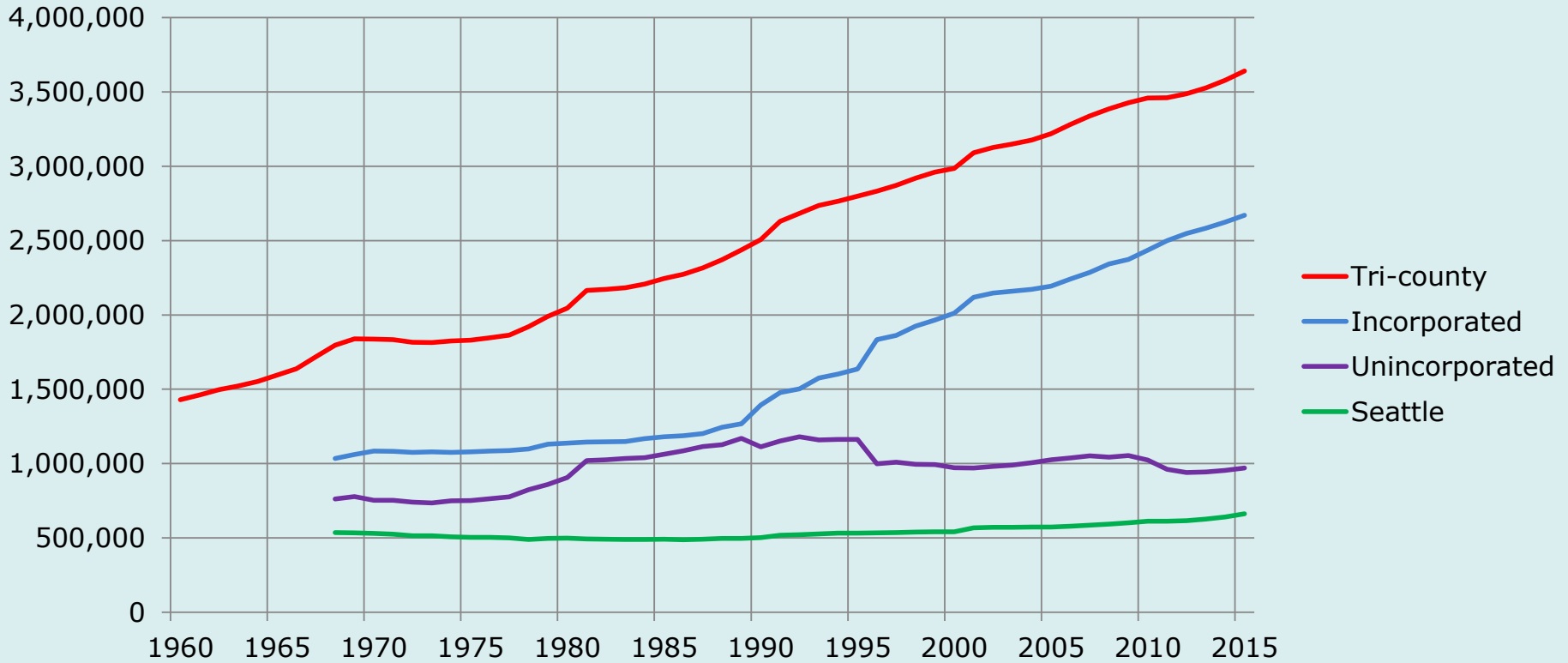
Thank you !

- Questions...?
 - Chandler Felt, Demographer
 - King County Office of Performance Strategy and Budget
 - Seattle, WA 98104
 - (206) 263 – 9693
 - Chandler.felt@kingcounty.gov

Leftovers

- Not included in presentation

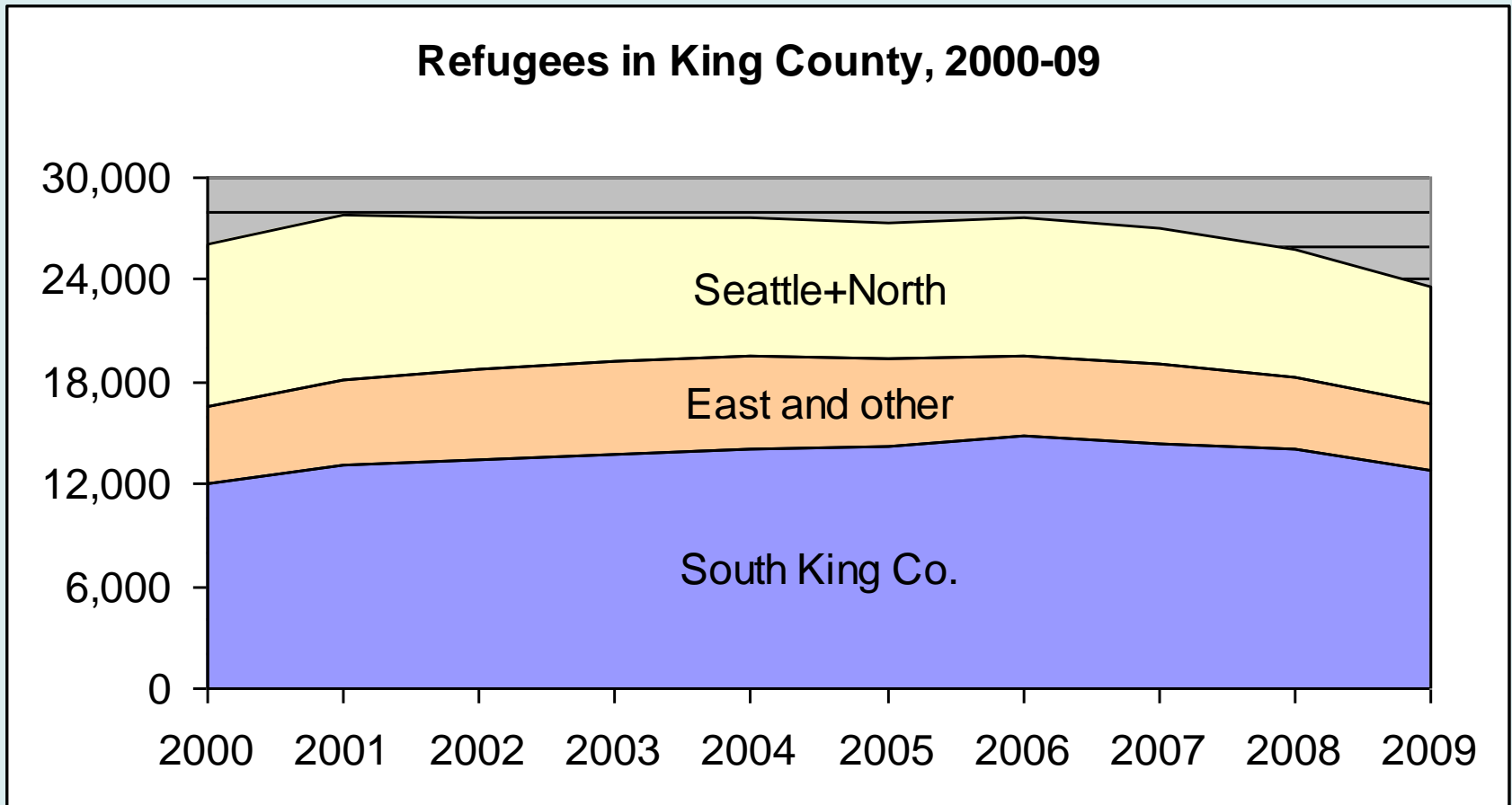
Population growth shifts from unincorporated areas to cities



Source: WA OFM

Refugee population in King County

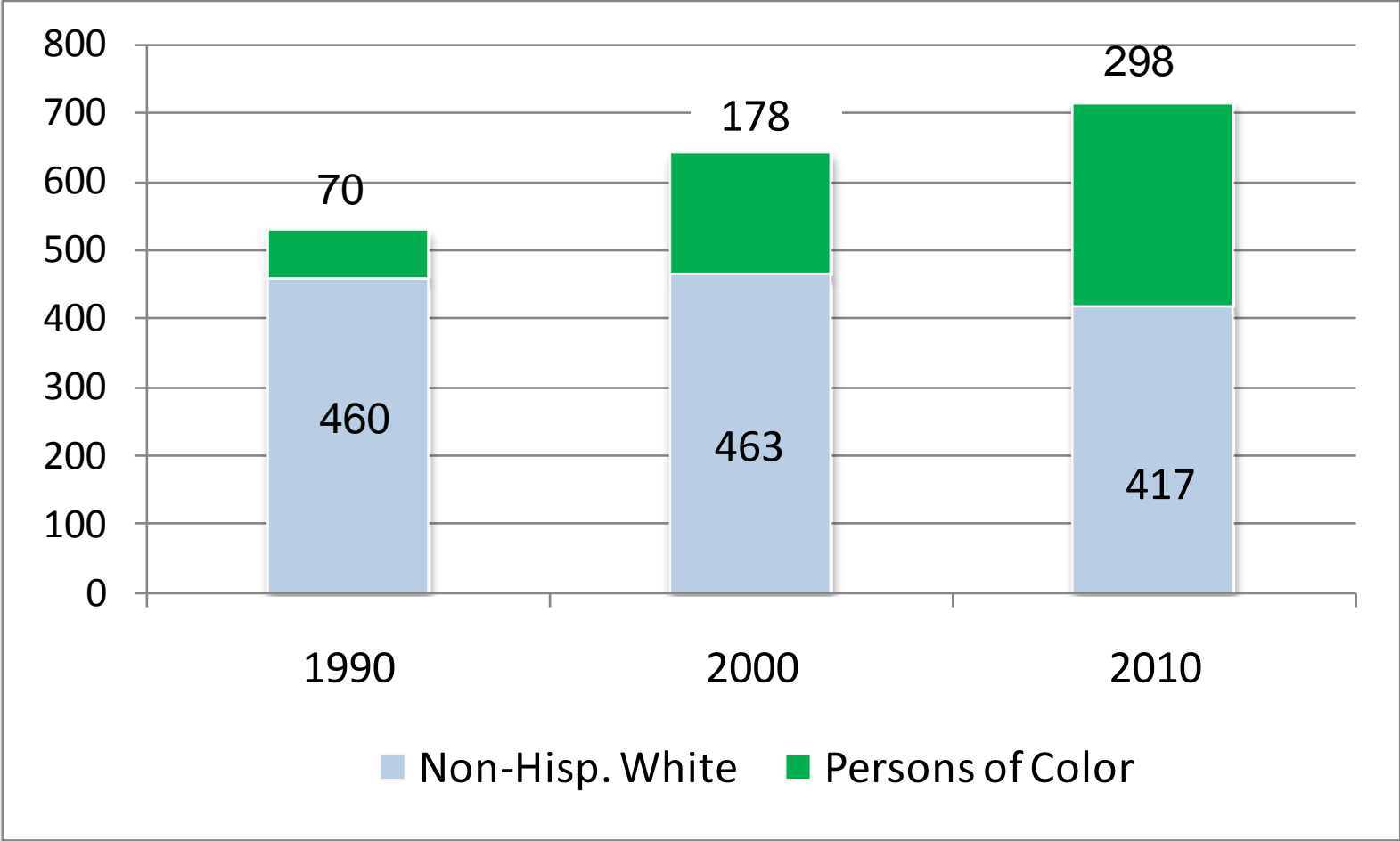
Numbers steady until recently
South King has majority



The Near-Term Future: the end of our decade growth cycles?

- For decades, King County population has grown about 1% per year, with 10-yr boom/bust cycle.
- Since 2012, growth at 2% per year.
- In three years, + 120,000 people, + 120,000 jobs
- Will rapid growth continue? Indefinitely?
- Expert observers have differing views!

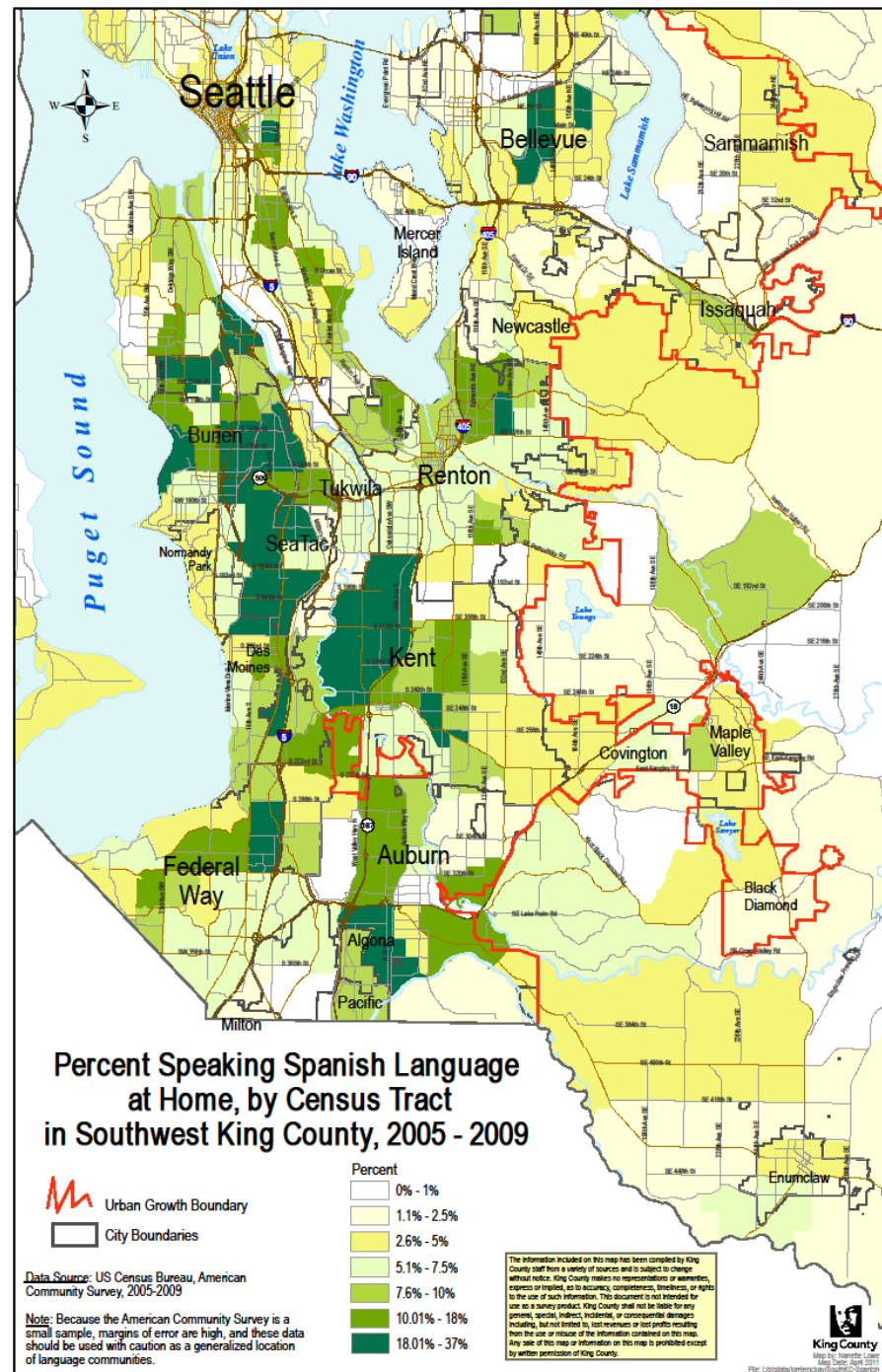
20 years of South King County growth: entirely persons of color



Population in thousands

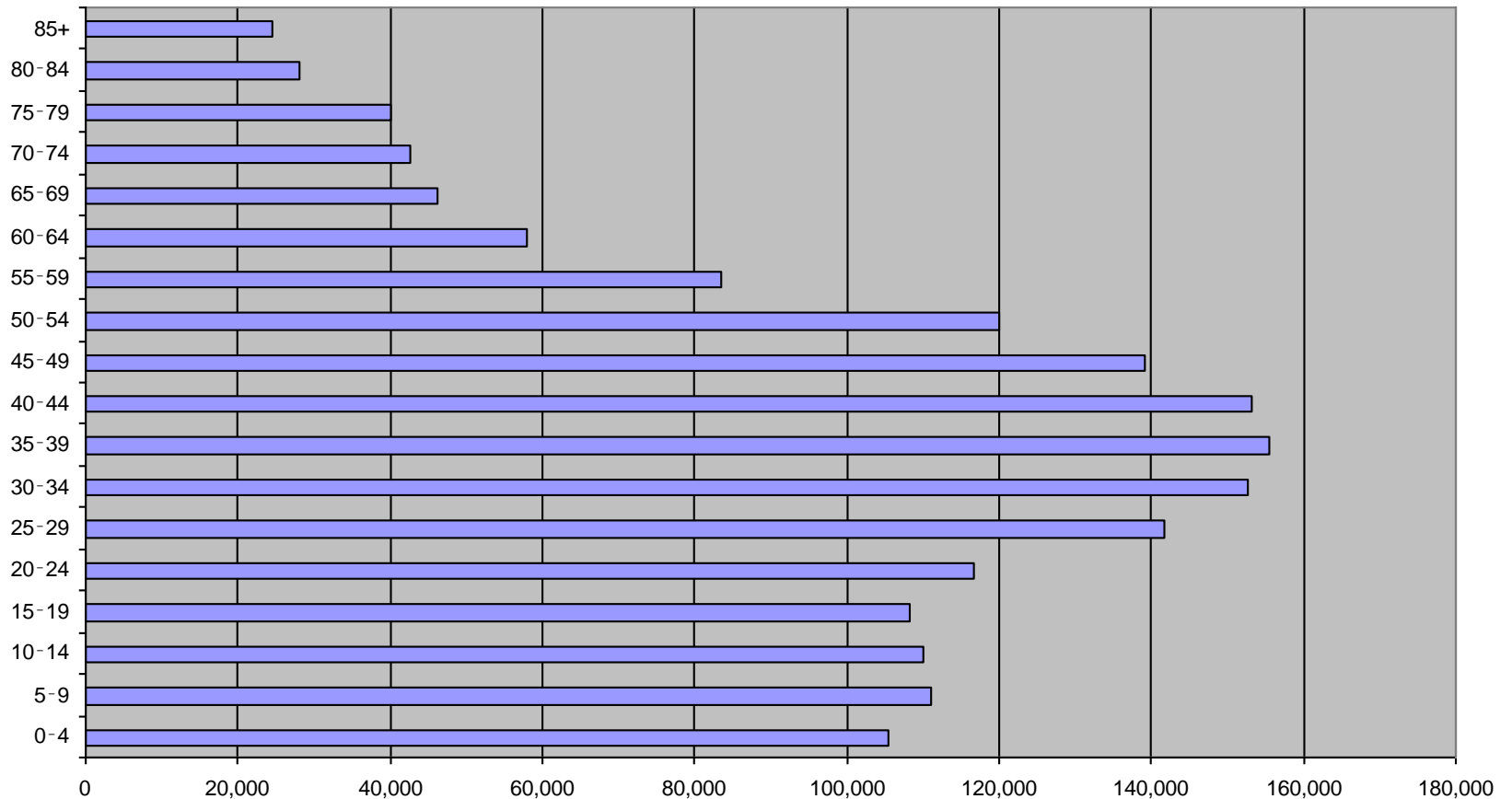
Spanish speakers in South King County

- Highest category:
18% - 37%
speaking Spanish



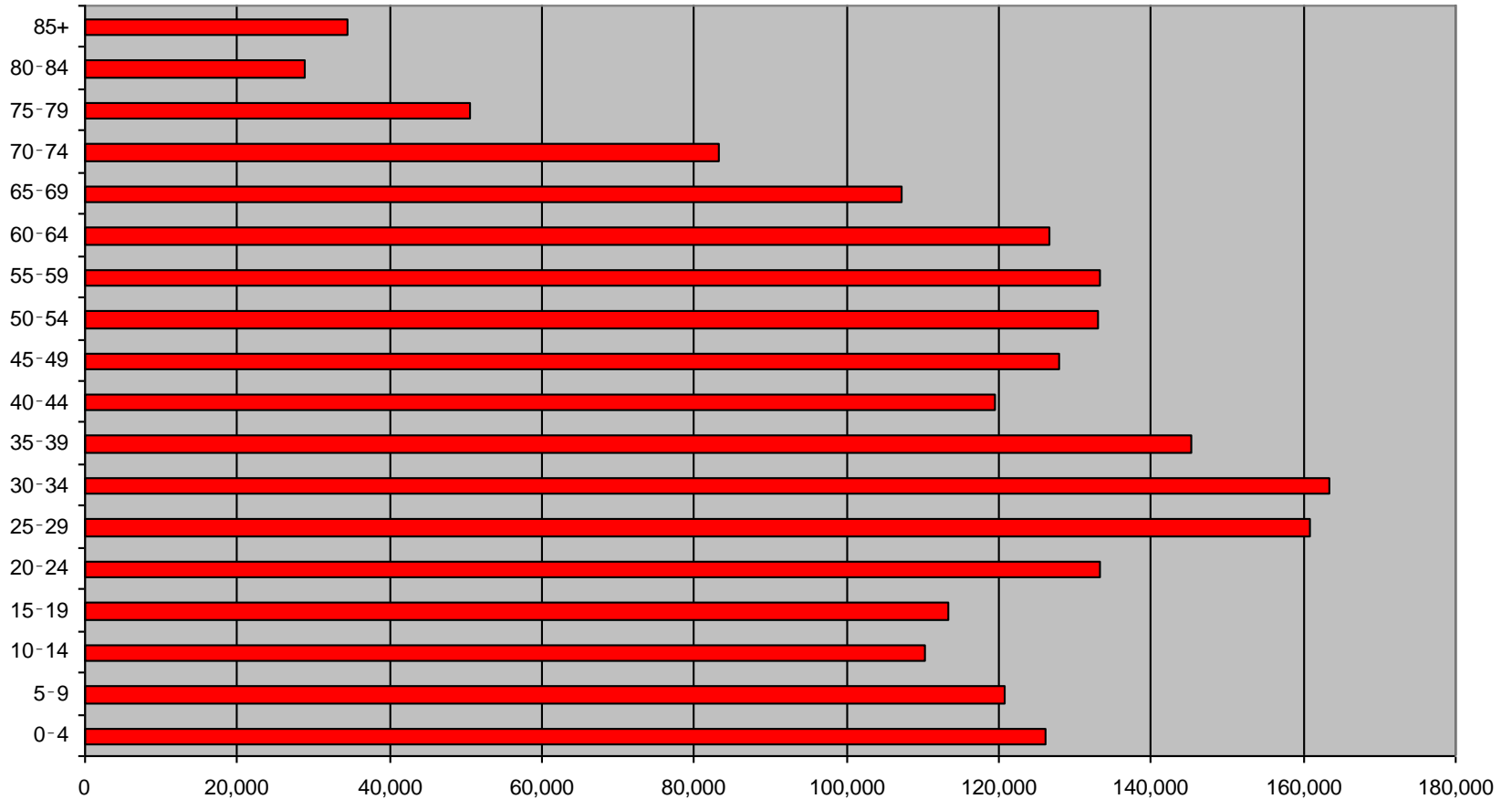
King County age distribution in 2000

King County Age Distribution, 2000



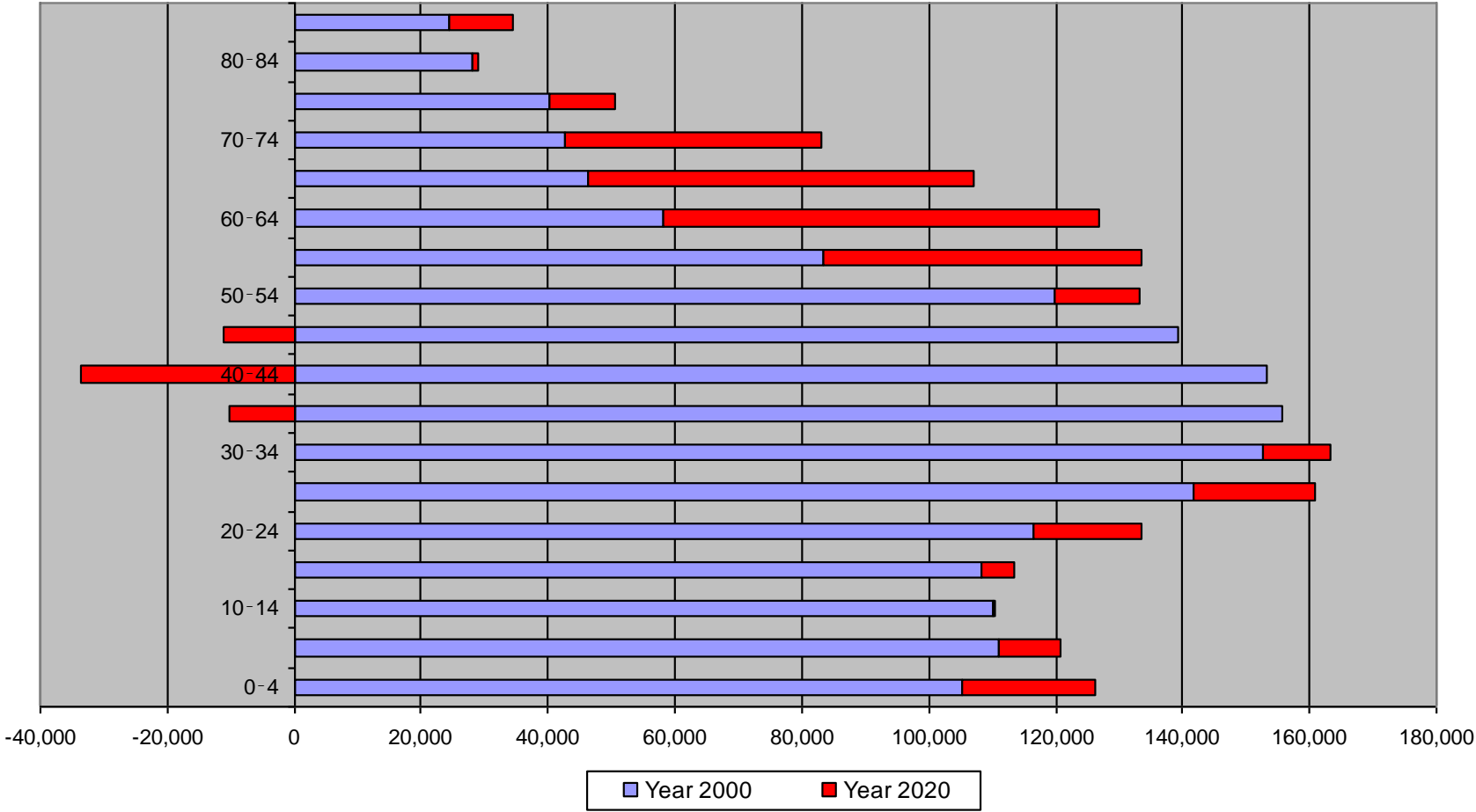
King County age distribution in 2020

King County Age Distribution, 2020

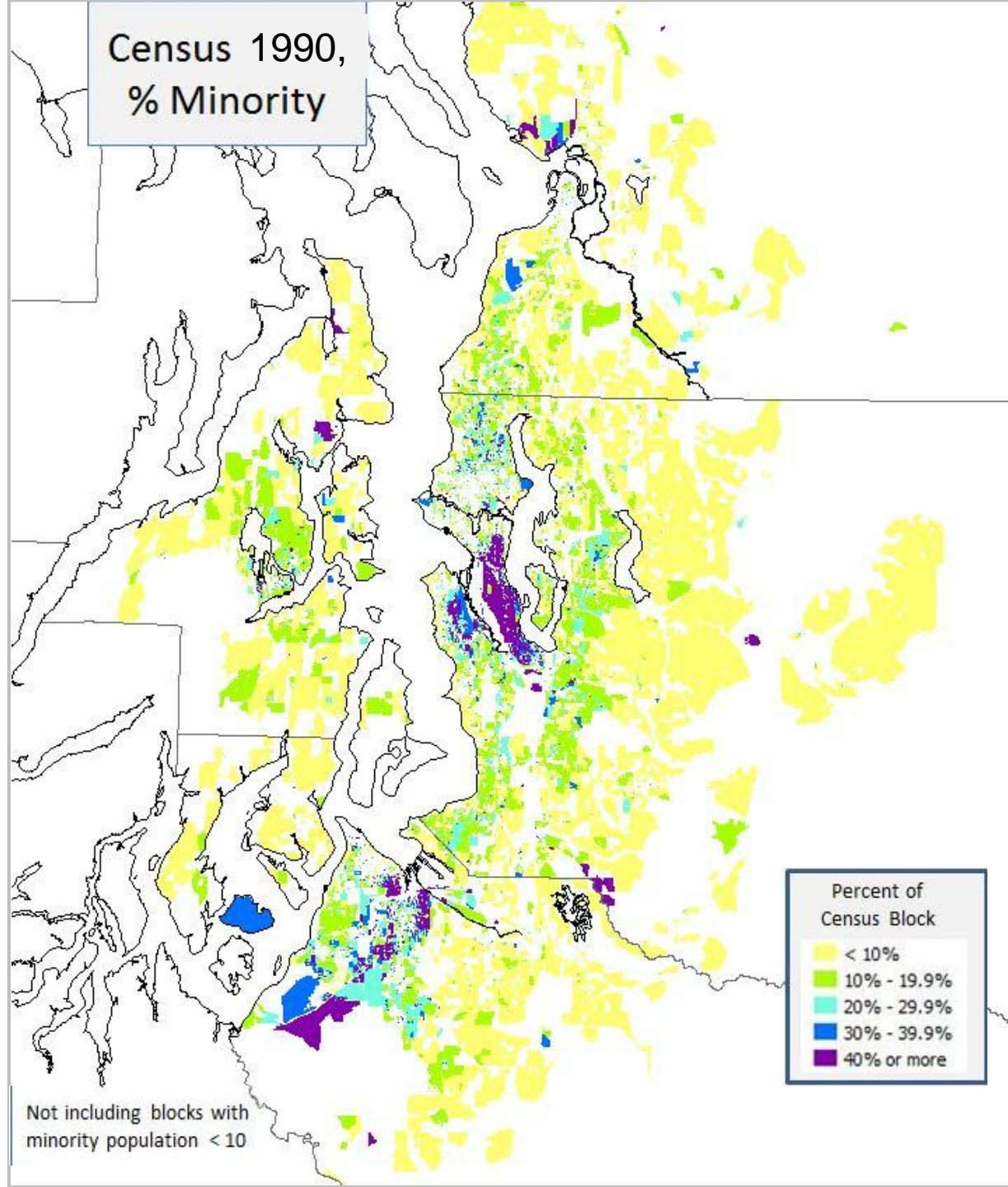


20-year change: boomers, young adults, pre-schoolers

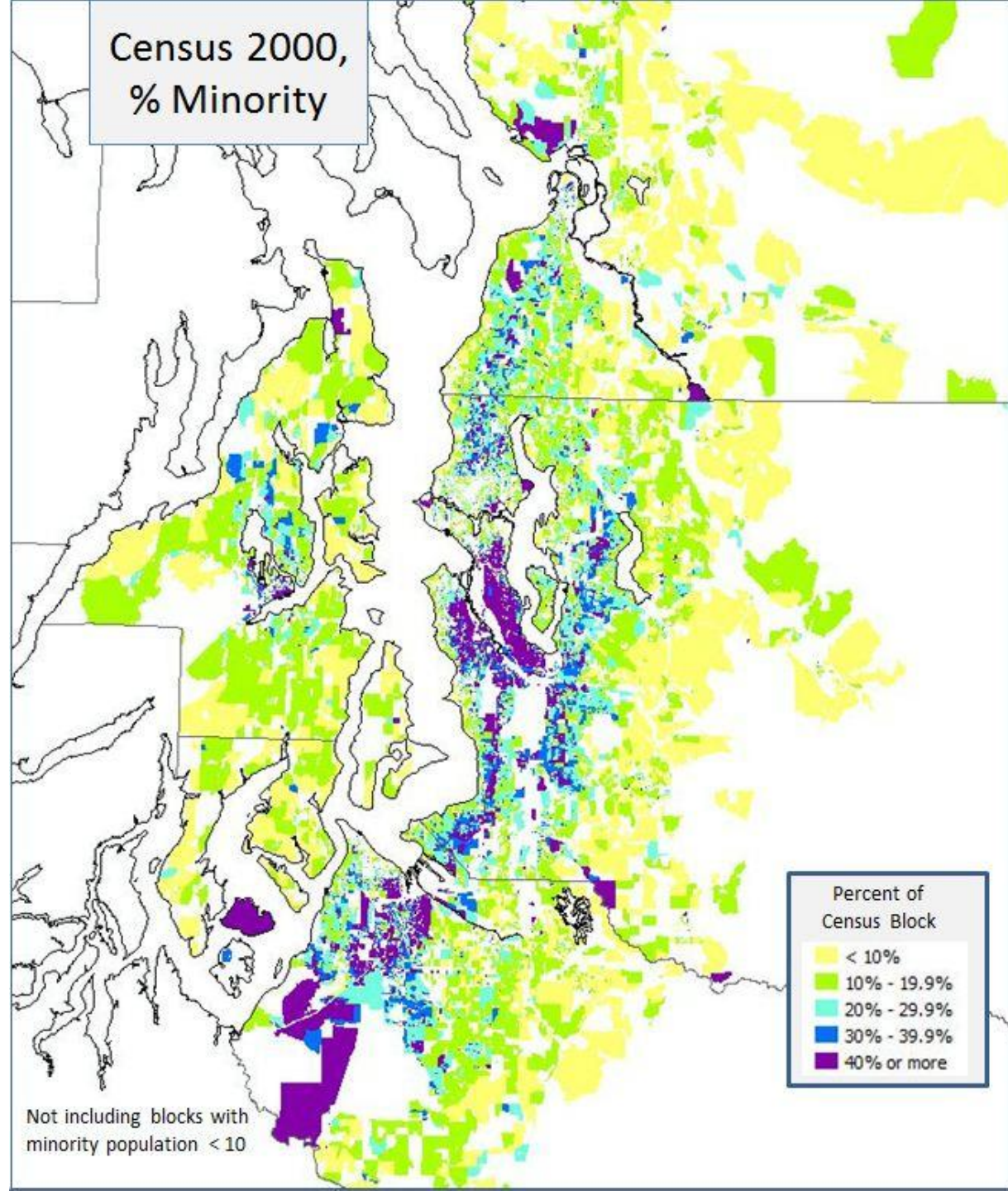
Change in Population by Age



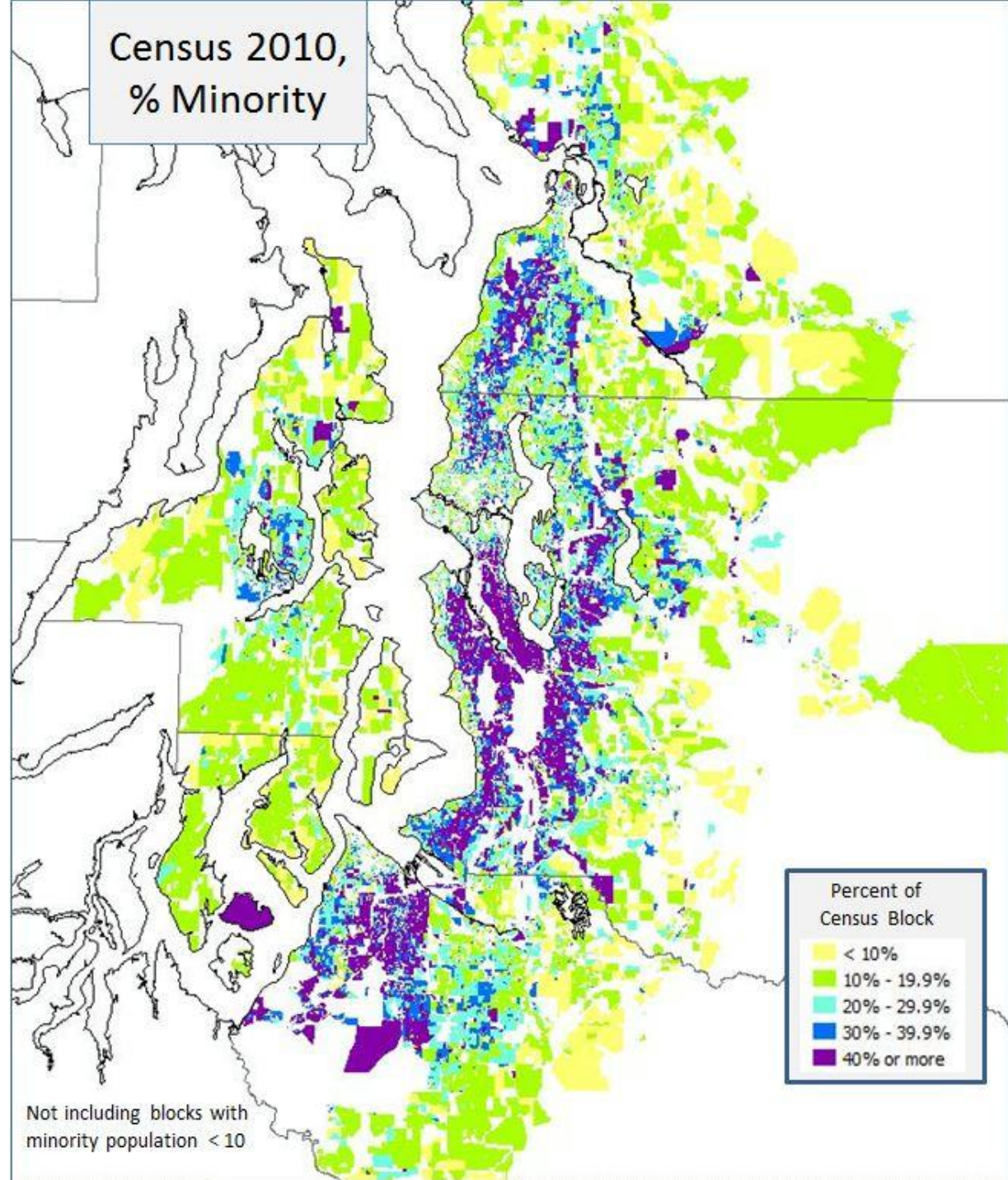
The region's population is becoming increasingly diverse:
1990



The region's population is becoming increasingly diverse:
2000



The region's population is becoming increasingly diverse:
2010



Census data show diversity – and need – in Renton

- 33% of Renton residents speak other language.
- Among county's most diverse cities, with 51% persons-of-color, and 25% foreign-born.
- Median income 15% below countywide median.
- 11% of residents are below poverty level, '05-09.
- 53% of Renton residents & 49% of youth received DSHS assistance in 2009-10.
- 80+ languages spoken in Renton schools, and 57%+ eligible for free/reduced price meals.

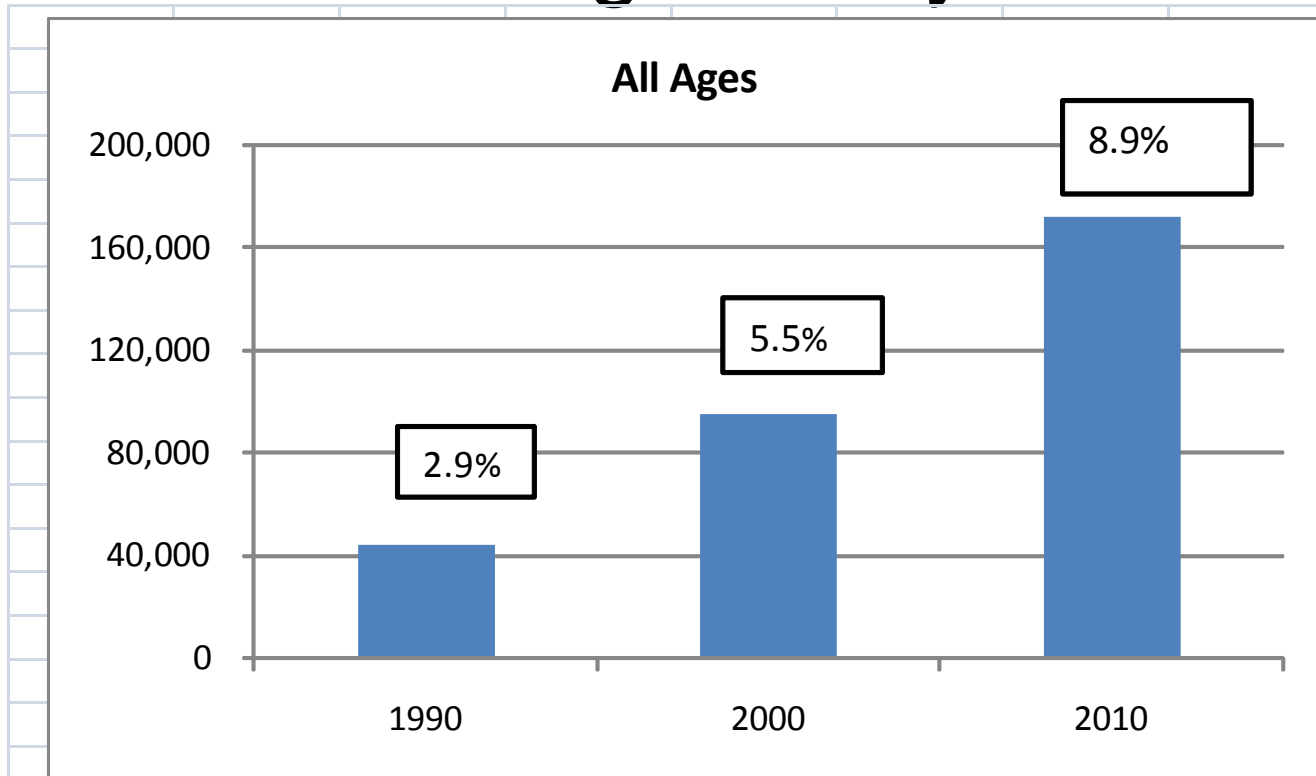
And similar Census stats in SeaTac

- 40% of SeaTac residents speak other language.
- Among county's most diverse cities, with 61% persons-of-color, and 31% foreign-born.
- Median income 29% below countywide median.
- 13% of residents are below poverty level, '06-10.
- 70+ languages spoken in Highline schools, and 69%+ eligible for free/reduced price meals.
- Unemployment rate remains about 10%.

Diversity in Tukwila

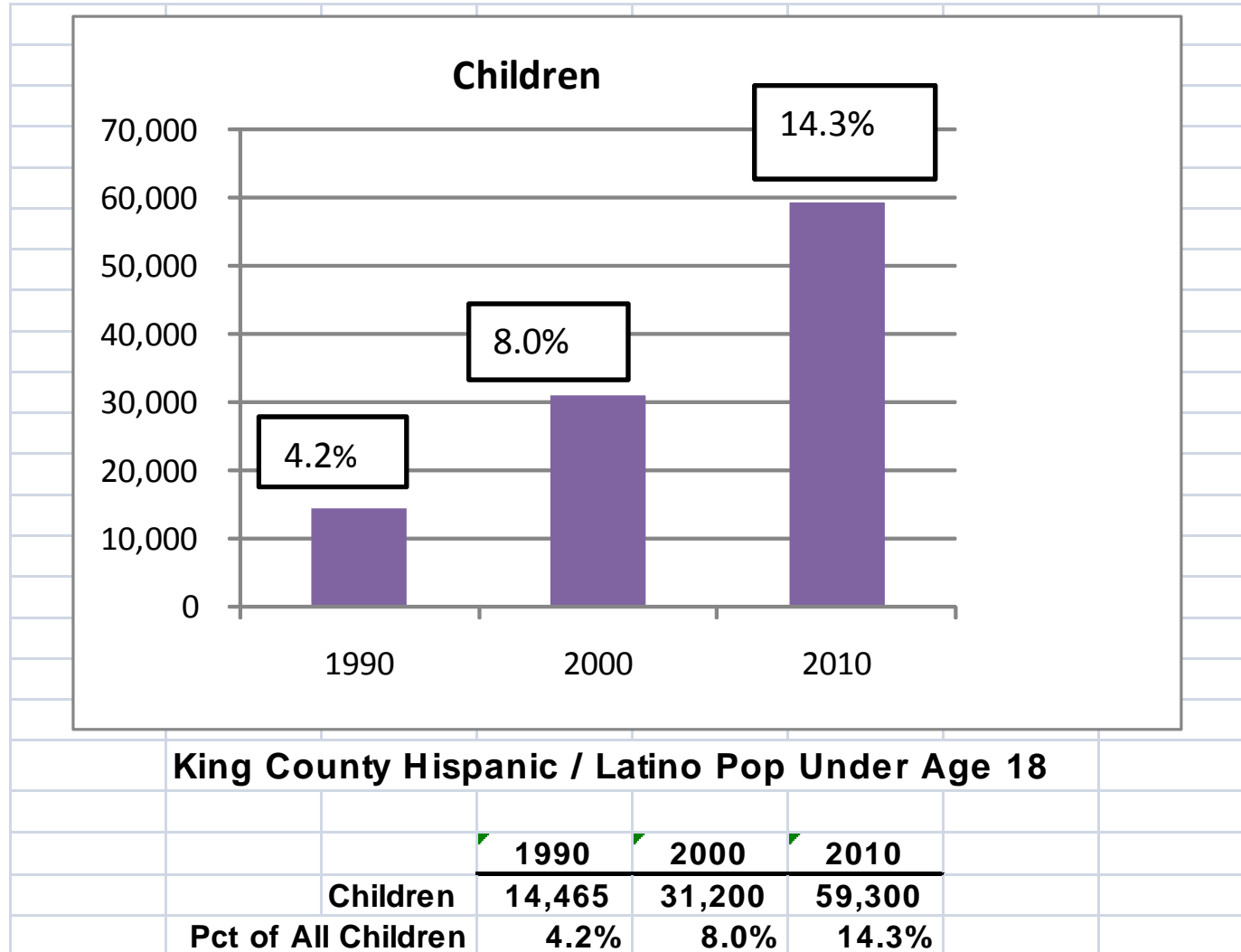
- 43% of Tukwila residents speak other language.
- County's most diverse city with 62% persons-of-color, and 34% foreign-born.
- Median income 34% below countywide median.
- 24% of residents are below poverty level, '05-09.
- 47% of Tukwila residents & 87% of youth received DSHS assistance in 2007-8.
- 60+ languages spoken in Tukwila schools, and 70%+ eligible for free/reduced price meals.
- Note: these stats are from 2011.

Hispanic/Latino Population Growth in King County



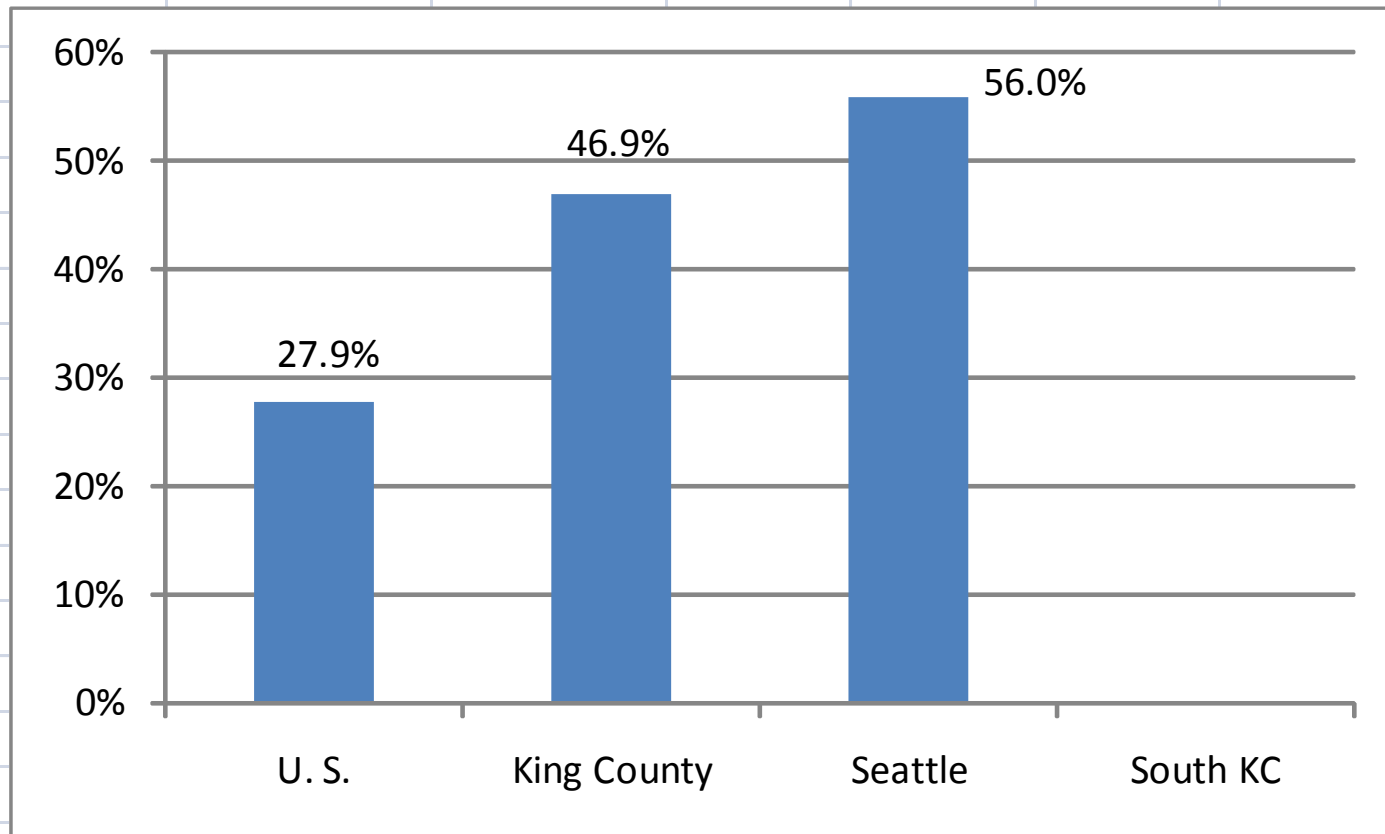
King County Hispanic / Latino Population				
	1990	2000	2010	
All Ages	44,337	95,242	172,378	
Pct of Total Pop	2.9%	5.5%	8.9%	

Number of Latino Kids is Growing Faster



Our Region has High Educational Levels

Percent of Adult Population with a Bachelor's Degree



But South King County has not fully shared in that educational attainment

Percent of Adult Population with a Bachelor's Degree

