

# Demography and the Future of Pierce County

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# Intro

- United States is aging
- Aging is not evenly distributed
  - Rural versus urban
  - East, Midwest, West, North and South
- Aging varies at various geographic scales
  - Within cities and within communities
- Aging varies by race, ethnicity, and immigration

# Demography

- Urban areas attract particular demographic cohorts
- Population is arranged by race, ethnicity, age, income, etc. (driven by patterns of investment and disinvestment)
- Suburbs were built for families and the return to the city was focused on singles and married couples without children.
  - They work hard, play hard, and spend money.
  - COVID impacted that.
- As cities have become unaffordable, 30+ population with children seek suitable neighborhoods for their families (housing price and type are some of the key driving factors).
- It is typically the arrival of the second child that pushes younger families out of central cities.

# Demography

- Younger population move to economic centers where jobs are...and live in adjacent areas, when the the economic centers prove unaffordable and not child-friendly (as they form families).
- Within each city, an age segregation begins to happen.
- Creating multigenerational cities and neighborhoods should become a priority, particularly as we begin to gray more rapidly over the next couple of decades.

# What attracts younger families

- Younger families are attracted to particular areas:
  - They are diverse and hip.
  - They offer a good quality of life at a reasonable price.
  - Homeownership is still possible.
  - Schools are relatively good.
  - They offer quality childcare services.
  - They have access to quality healthcare.
  - Quality of life is considered to be good or at least reasonable.
  - They have access to employment.

# Changing Demography in the U.S.

- In addition to aging, we expect that by 2050:
  - U.S. population will grow to just under 400 million.
  - Our annual population growth rate will most likely fall below 0.5 percent.
  - White population will decline below 50%.
  - White population, with its lower fertility rates, will have less children.
  - Latinx population will be about a third of the U.S. population.
  - Children under the age of 17 will decline to about 20% of the population (we will most likely start noticing fewer children by 2030). Population 0-17 will grow by less than 10% between now and 2050.
  - Migration and immigration will become drivers of local and national demographic change.

# Pierce County Median Age

- 2009 = 35.2
- 2011 = 35.7
- 2013 = 35.8
- 2015 = 35.8
- 2017 = 36
- 2019 = 36.4

## Persons Under 18 – Percent of Total Population

- U.S. = 22.2%
- Washington = 21.7%
- King County = 19.8%
- Pierce County = 23.2%



### National Migration Patterns for Pierce County

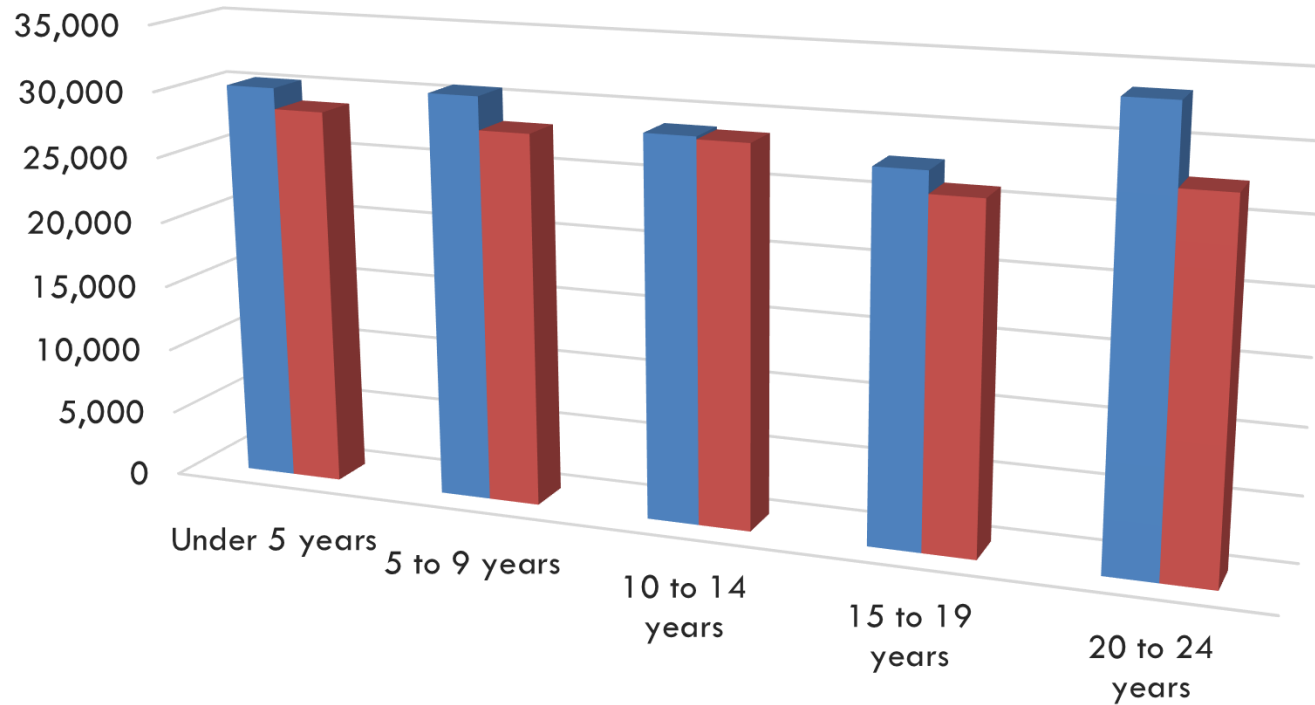
County	Inbound Migrations	Outbound Migrations	Net Migrations
King County, WA	17,956	10,669	7,287
Thurston County, WA	3,132	4,534	(1,403)
Kitsap County, WA	1,720	1,967	(247)
Snohomish County, WA	1,480	1,104	376
Honolulu County, HI	852	537	315
Los Angeles County, CA	782	406	375
Maricopa County, AZ	617	1,157	(540)
San Diego County, CA	484	373	111
Clark County, NV	459	505	(47)
El Paso County, TX	455	387	67
El Paso County, CO	444	441	4
Clark County, WA	425	433	(8)
Spokane County, WA	410	698	(288)

### Daily Commute Patterns for Pierce County

County	Inbound Commuters	Outbound Commuters	Net Commuters
King County, WA	52,583	139,511	(86,928)
Snohomish County, WA	9,596	11,134	(1,538)

County	Inbound Commuters	Outbound Commuters	Net Commuters
Thurston County, WA	25,612	12,837	12,775
Kitsap County, WA	11,955	7,000	4,955
Mason County, WA	3,019	859	2,160
Lewis County, WA	3,670	1,531	2,139
Cowlitz County, WA	2,774	746	2,028
Grays Harbor County, WA	2,329	635	1,694
Clallam County, WA	1,926	394	1,532
Clark County, WA	4,134	2,873	1,261
Jefferson County, WA	824	177	647
Island County, WA	866	309	557

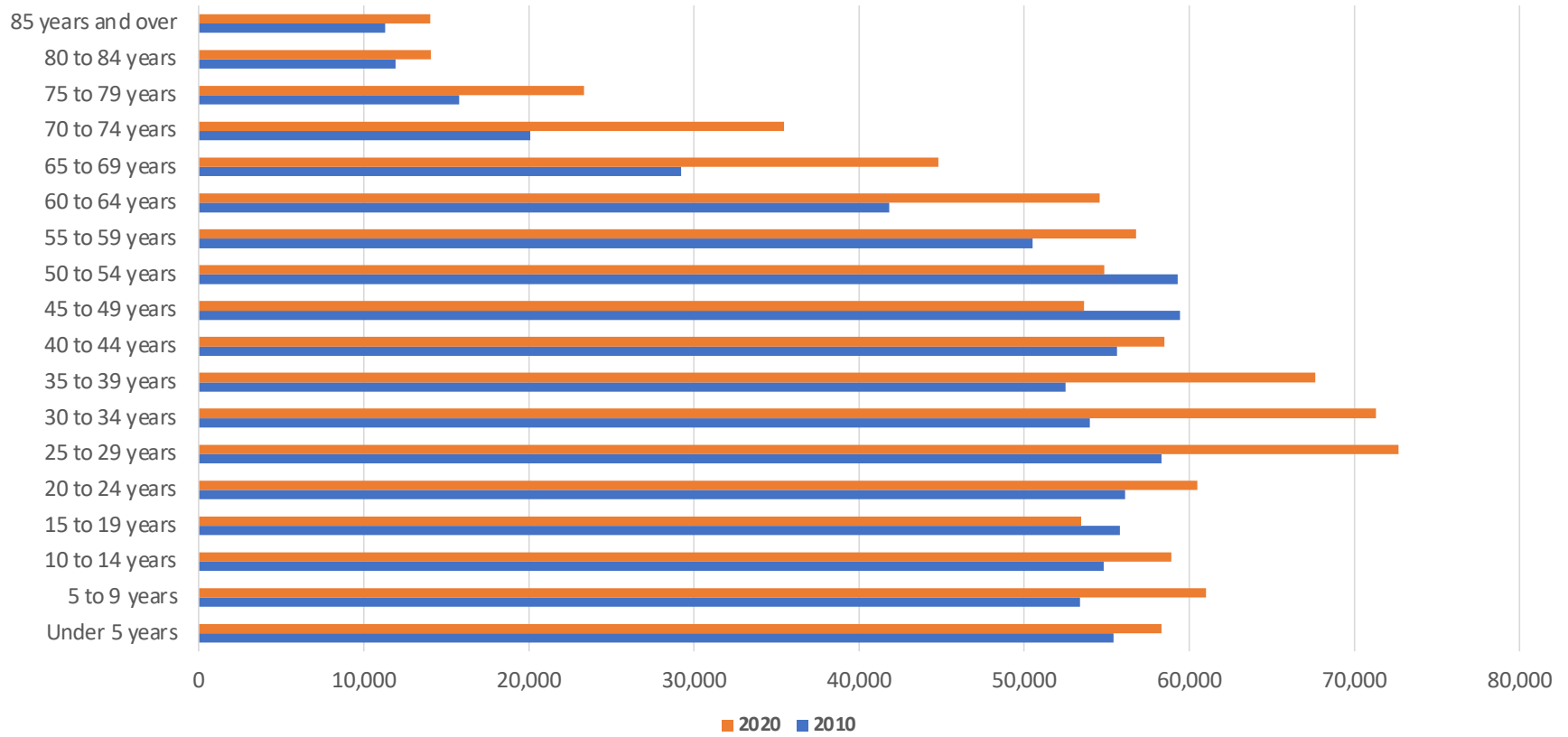
## Pierce County Youth by Age Cohorts



Source: 2020 ACS 5-Year  
Estimates Census.gov

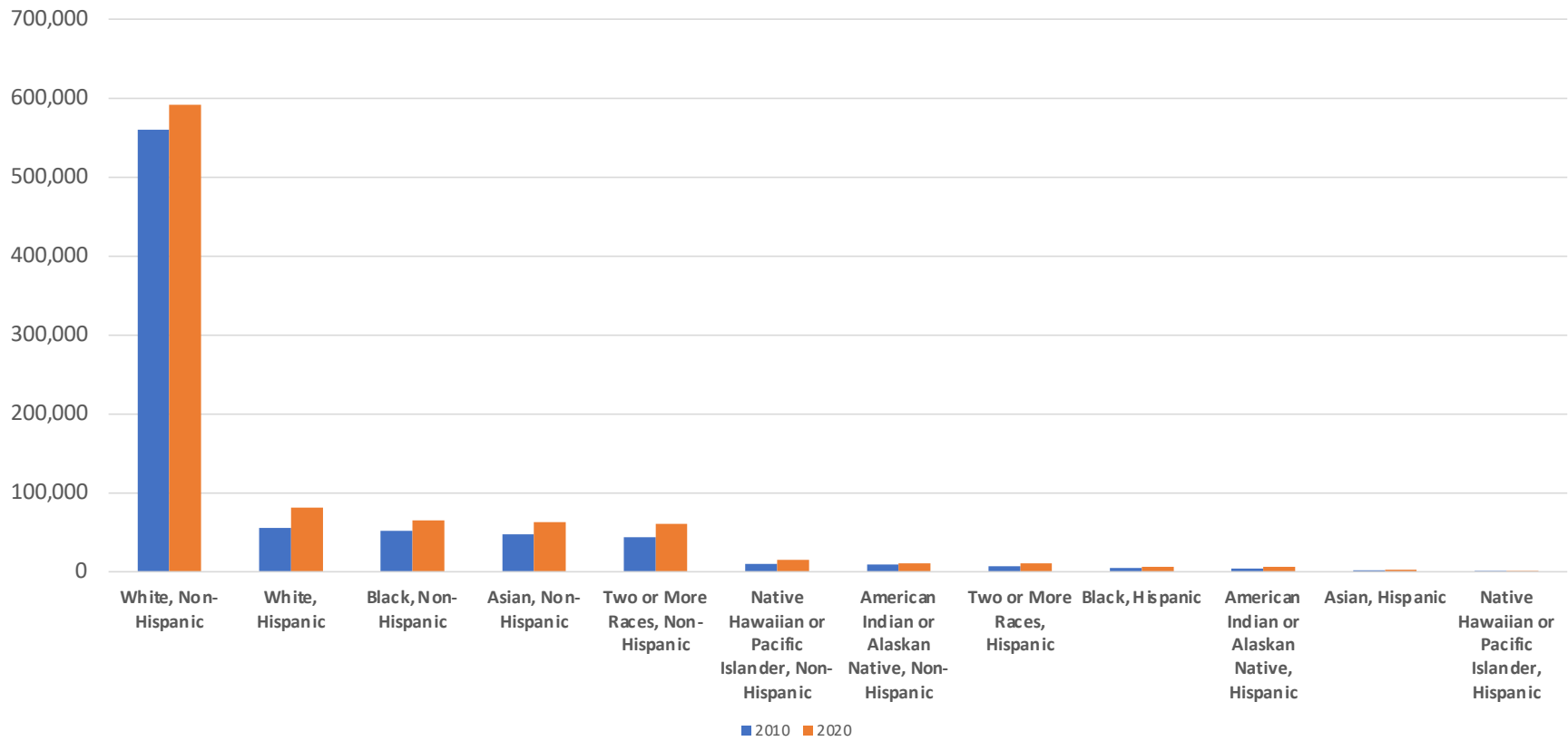
■ Male ■ Female

Pierce County Population Change by Age Cohorts, 2010-2020

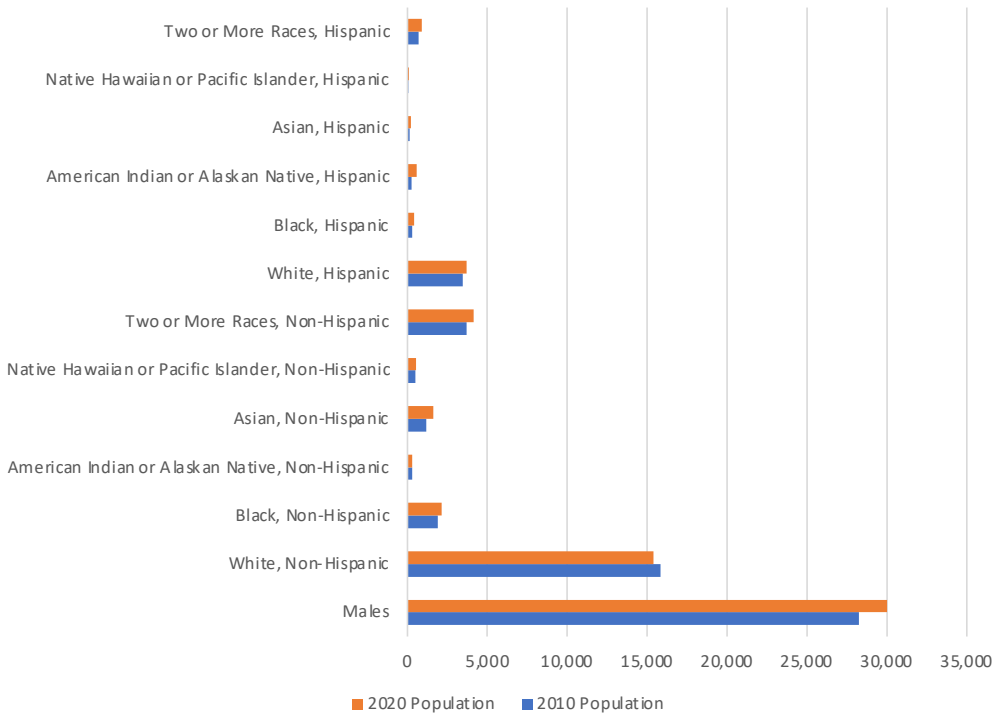


Between 2010 and 2020, Pierce County population grew by about 118,000. However, 15-19 and 45-54 population cohorts declined.

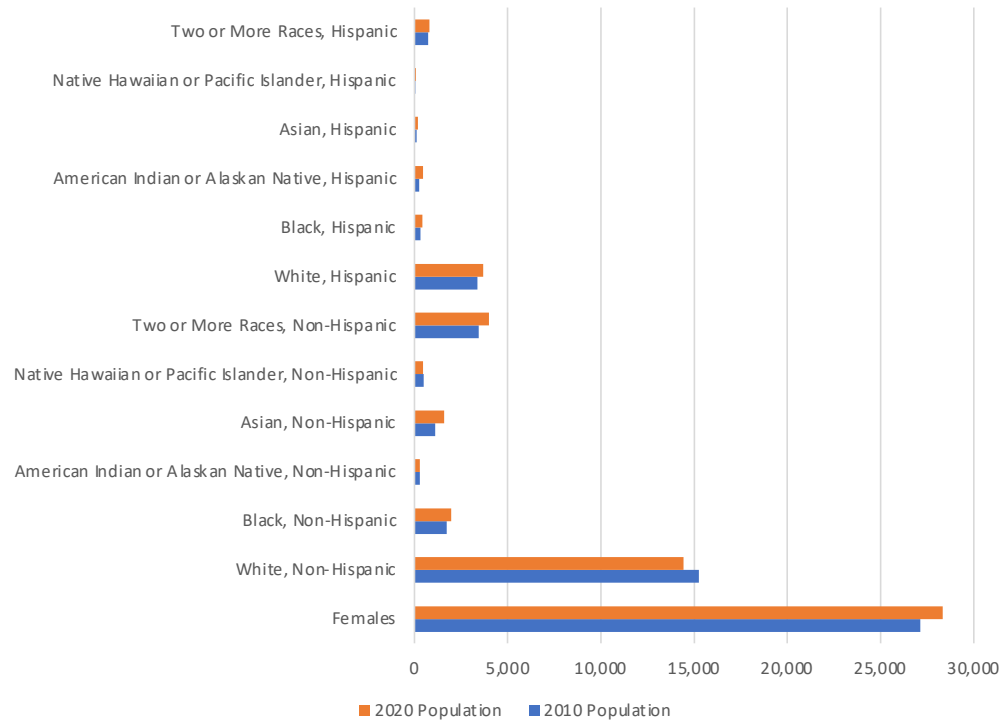
## Demographic Shifts in Pierce County by Race and Ethnicity



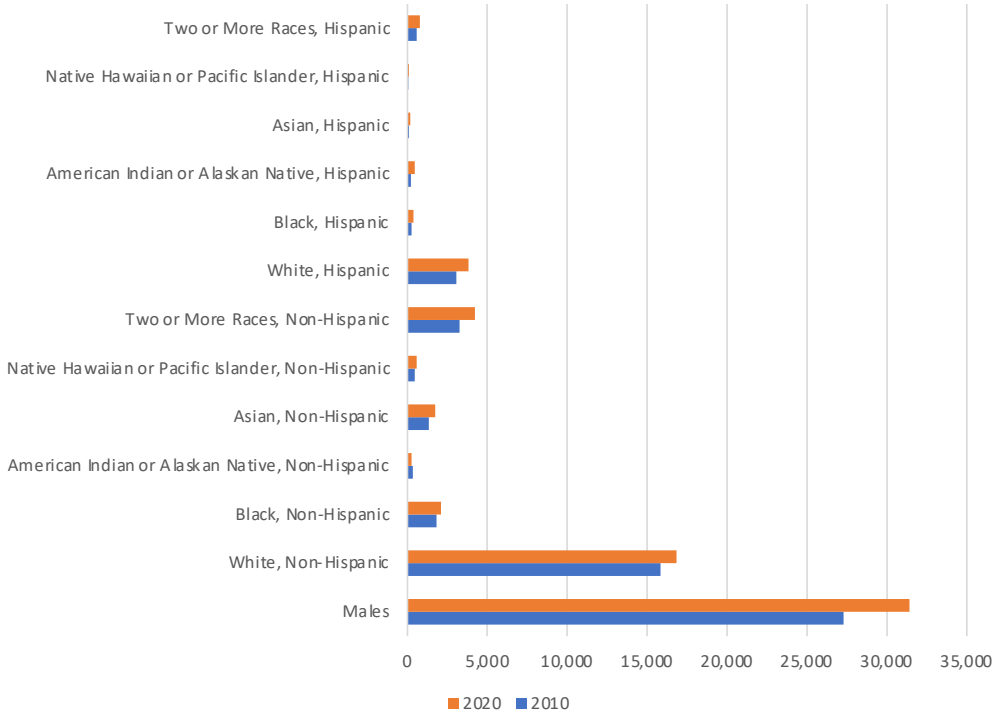
**Under 5 - Male**



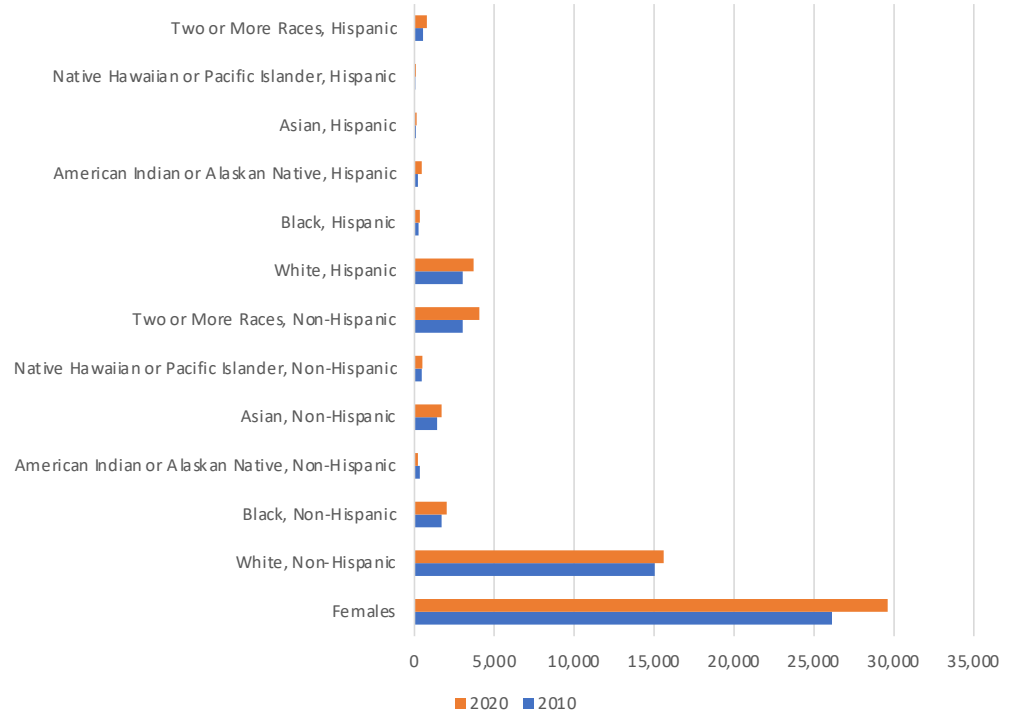
**Under 5 - Female**



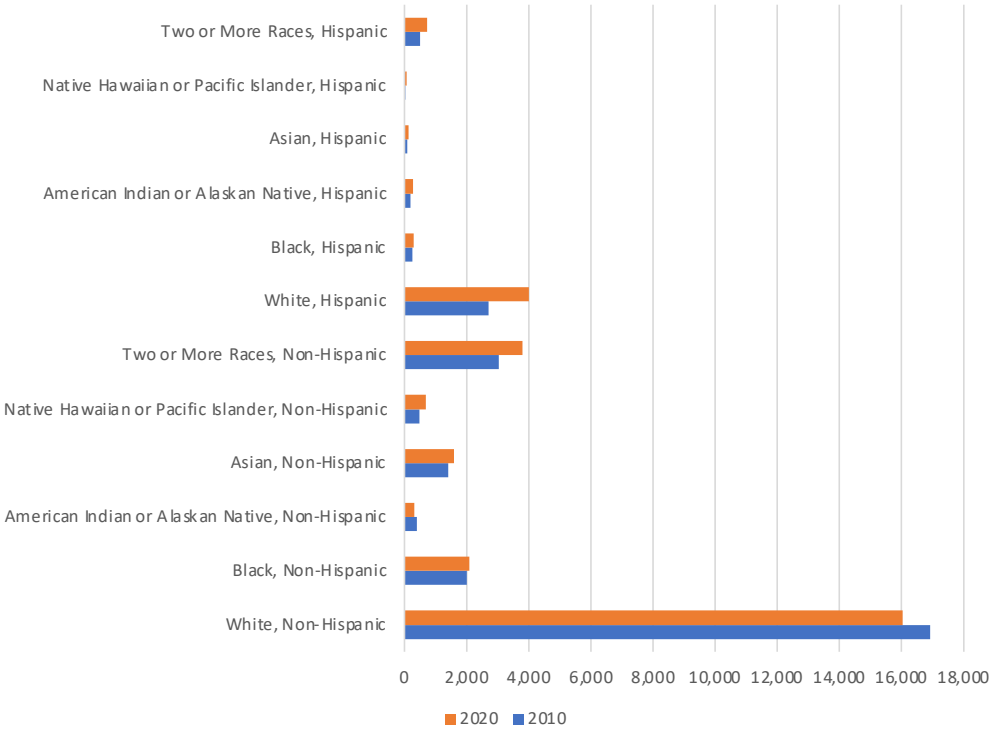
5 to 9 - Male



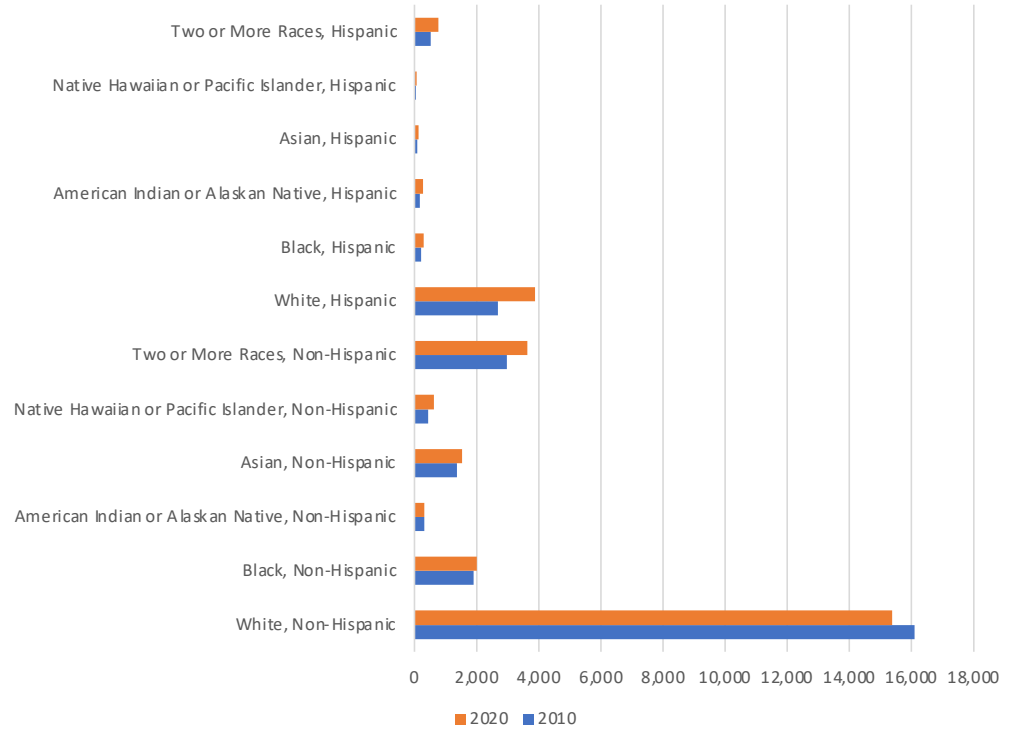
5 to 9 - Female



10 to 14 - Male

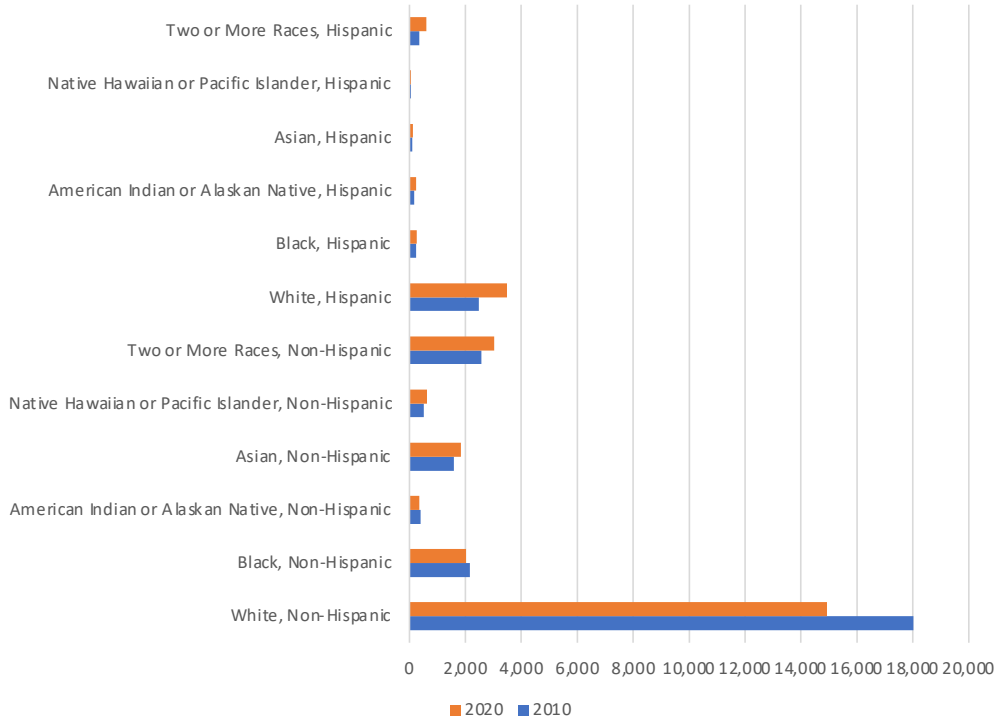


10 to 14 - Female

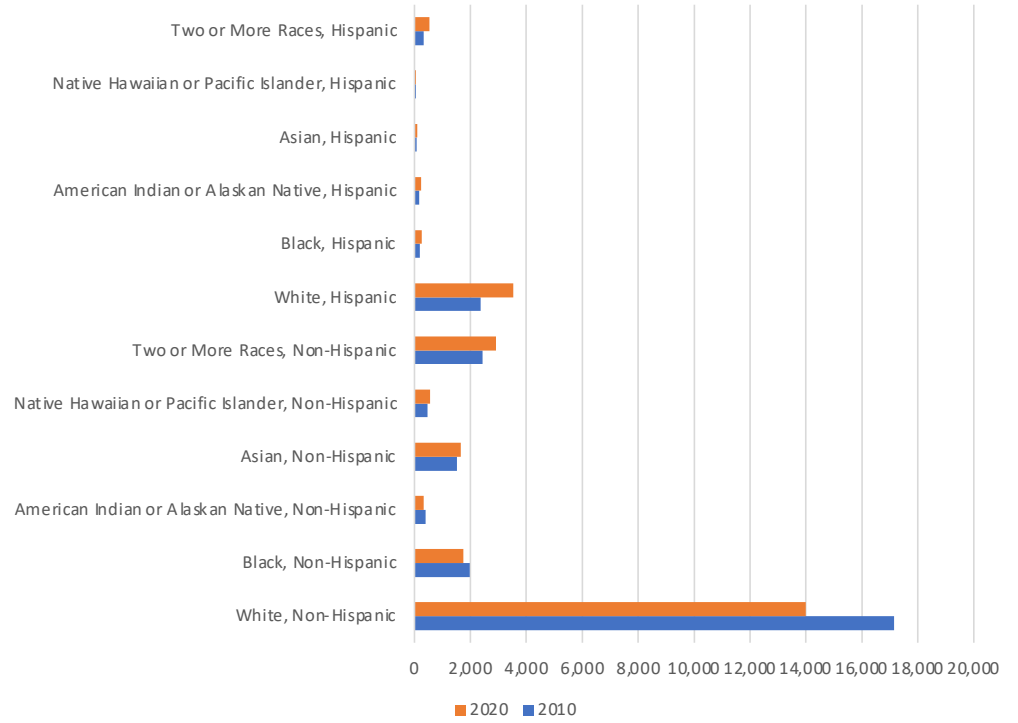




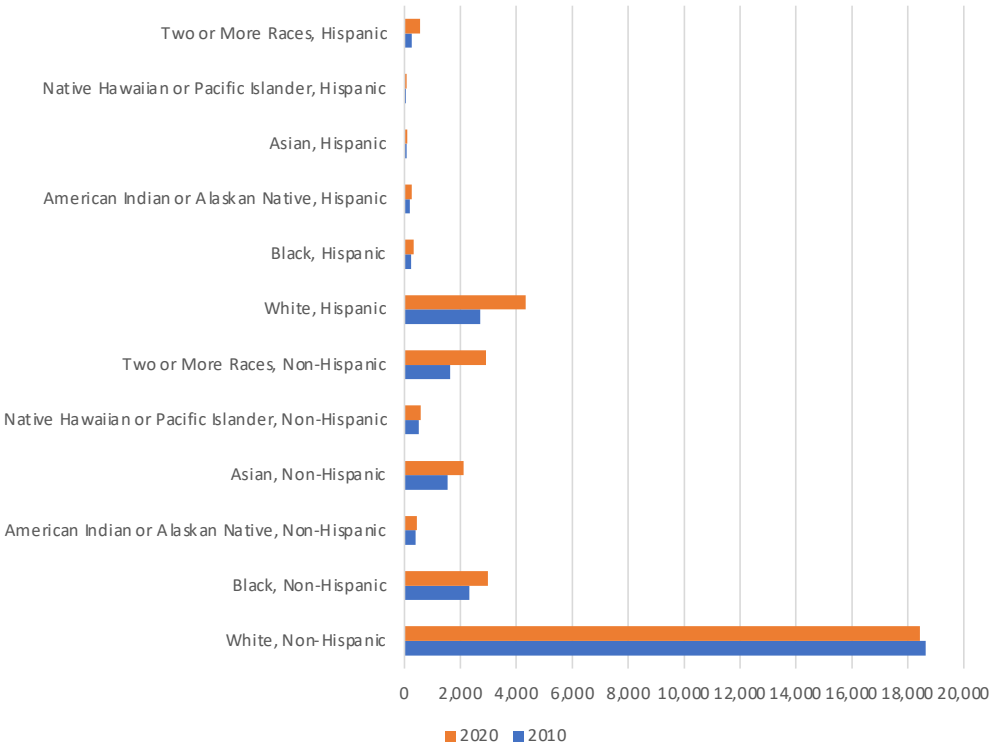
15 to 19 - Male



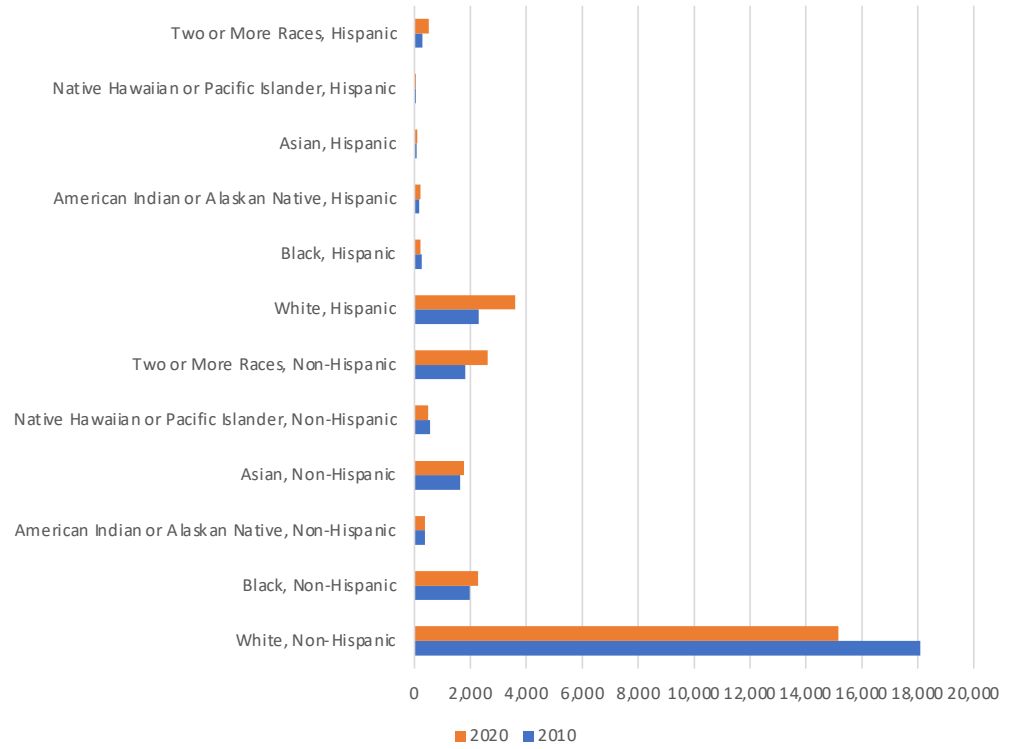
15 to 19 - Female



20 to 24 - Male



20 to 24 - Female

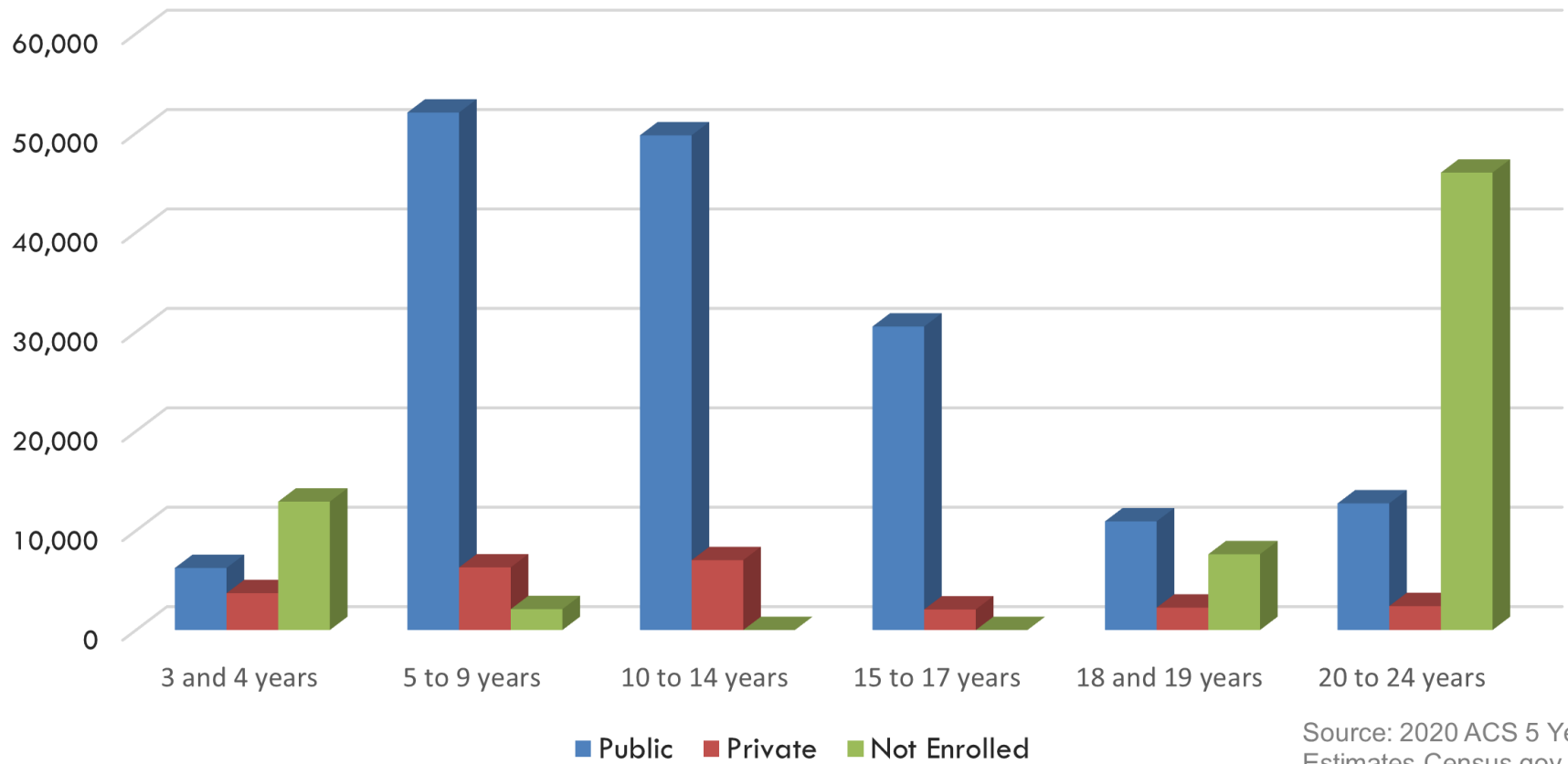


### Pierce County Household Structure

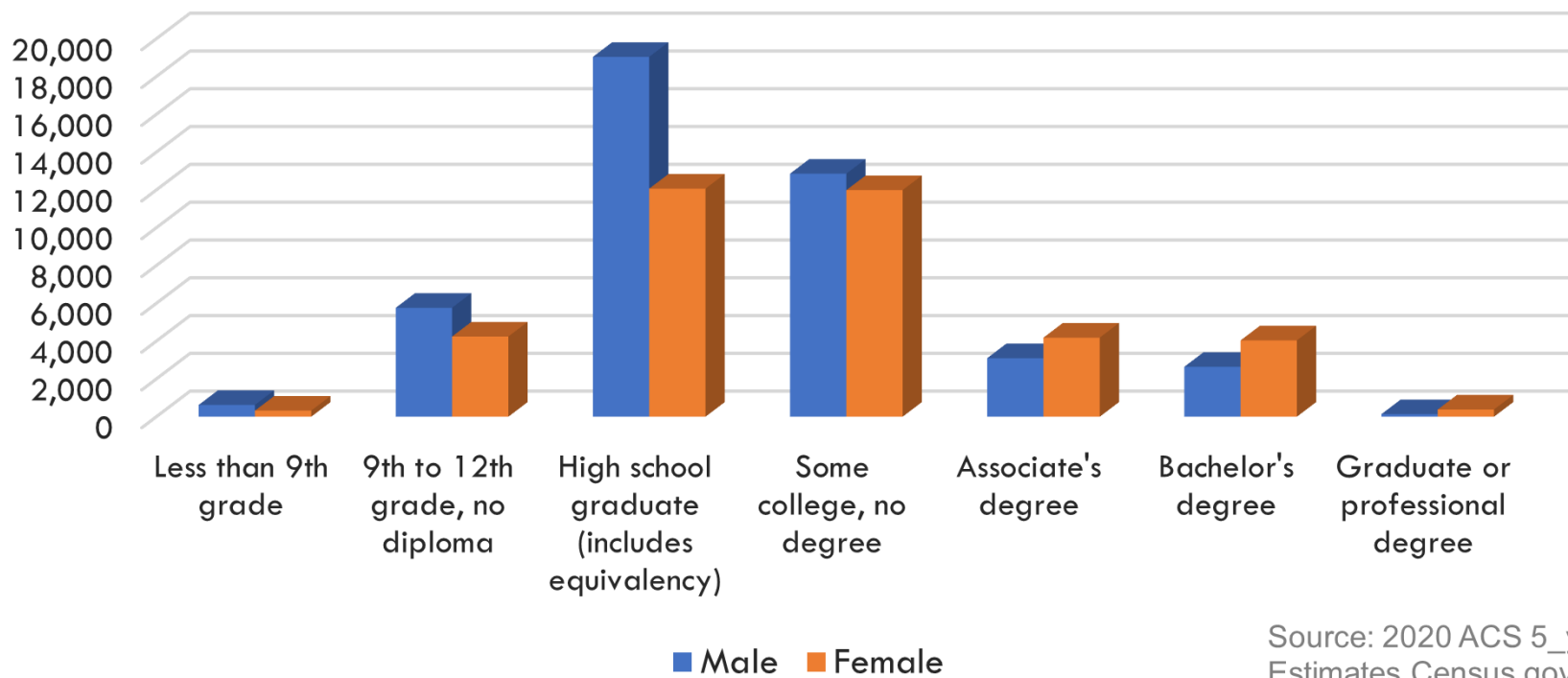
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Married-couple</b>	<b>Male household, no spouse present</b>	<b>Female household, no spouse present</b>
<b>Total households</b>	<b>330,999</b>	<b>168,239</b>	<b>16,470</b>	<b>37,458</b>
<b>Average family size</b>	<b>3.16</b>	<b>3.21</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>3.08</b>
<b>Households with children under 18</b>	<b>98,153</b>	<b>69,293</b>	<b>8,488</b>	<b>20,372</b>
<b>Under 6 years only</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>24.6%</b>	<b>25.4%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>
<b>6 to 17 years only</b>	<b>54.2%</b>	<b>52.2%</b>	<b>55.2%</b>	<b>60.4%</b>
<b>Under 6 years &amp; 6 to 17 years</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>23.2%</b>	<b>19.4%</b>	<b>17.9%</b>

Source: 2020 ACS 5-Year Estimates Census

## Pierce County School Enrollment for Population 0-25



## Pierce County Education Completion for Ages 18-25



Source: 2020 ACS 5\_year Estimates Census.gov

# Pierce County Household Family Poverty Percentages

