

Community Needs Assessment

An Assessment of Adams, Grant, and Yakima Counties

September, 2021



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Purpose of Assessment

This community needs assessment addresses requirements that Community Action Agencies conduct and issue a community needs assessment report once every three years. In addition to including required data specific to poverty and needs in the service area, this community needs assessment fulfills the requirement for incorporating customer input and reporting customer satisfaction data. Opportunities Industrialization Center of Washington (OIC) participates in the community needs assessment process to:

1. Support an overall focus on client, community, and organizational change.
2. Stay informed of trends and issues facing the eligible families and communities served.
3. Aid in strategic planning, including evaluating the success of OIC in achieving its mission.
4. Enable OIC to prioritize areas of concern and develop strategies tailored to address them.
5. Set the stage for enhanced community collaboration and partnerships.
6. Ensure OIC and its partners avoid duplication of services.
7. Meet requirements of funding sources.

Methodology

OIC identified the Community Needs Assessment service area and data collection priorities which included, needs by sector (poverty, nutrition, housing, income and employment, education, and special populations), population change, and community input. Added to this was an analysis of capacity by reviewing client satisfaction and service provider perceptions. The United States Census American Community Survey 2019 5-year estimate online tool was used to gather data to be included with additional data requested, which was accessed and compiled from various sources. Board members and staff provided input via the survey process.

Surveys were sent to the board, staff, clients, and community partners and stakeholders. The Board of Directors and clients had access to paper as well as online surveys, in English and Spanish. Data compilation, analysis and report writing followed the ROMA cycle, was compliant with CSBG policy, tied to National Performance Indicators, identified high areas of needs, and gaps in resources. Data analysis was presented to OIC leaders for prioritizing and a draft of the Community Needs Assessment Report was presented to the Board for approval prior to publication.

Acknowledgements

The data presented here are based on the work of many- those that prepare and analyze useful data, those who present it, and those who determine the strategies to use it effectively. The following is a list of those who provided their special expertise and/or agency data and perspectives:

- ❖ OIC of Washington Board of Directors
- ❖ OIC of Washington Staff
- ❖ OIC of Washington Clients
- ❖ Soap Lake Food Bank
- ❖ Yakima Valley Community College
- ❖ Othello High School
- ❖ Grant County
- ❖ Lind-Ritzville Cooperative Schools
- ❖ Guild Mortgage Company
- ❖ Big Bend Community College
- ❖ Sunnyside School District
- ❖ Asian Pacific Islander Coalition Yakima County
- ❖ Yakima Schools Foundation
- ❖ Mount Adams School District
- ❖ Richart Family Inc
- ❖ The Lighthouse
- ❖ HAHC
- ❖ City of Mattawa
- ❖ Blaine and Preciosa Tamaki Foundation
- ❖ Salvation Army Yakima
- ❖ Town of Coulee
- ❖ People for People
- ❖ United Healthcare
- ❖ City of Moses Lake
- ❖ Yakima Valley Community Foundation
- ❖ Homeless Network of Yakima County
- ❖ Yakima County Juvenile Court
- ❖ Yakima Valley Partners Habitat for Humanity
- ❖ Merit Resource Services
- ❖ Moses Lake High School
- ❖ Washington State University
- ❖ SkillSource
- ❖ Small Business Development Center
- ❖ DSHS-CSO
- ❖ PacifiCorp
- ❖ City of Othello
- ❖ EPIC
- ❖ Housing Authority of the City of Othello
- ❖ Othello Foodbank

Executive Summary

Opportunities Industrialization Center of Washington (OIC) serves five counties in Washington State and is a state-designated Community Action Agency in three of the counties, Yakima, Grant, and Adams. OIC provides community, nutritional and health, education and career, and housing and financial services to their service area's most at-risk and underserved population. In Yakima County, OIC will serve any eligible resident, however, its efforts are focused on the area of Yakima County north of Union Gap.

Yakima County has a population of 249,697, of which 49% are Hispanic/Latinx, 43% are White alone, 4% are American Indian and Alaska Native, and Black and Asian 1% each. Additionally, almost half of the county lives at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), with 17% of the total population living in poverty. Hispanic/Latinx residents have higher percentages of poverty, households who are SNAP recipients, and significantly higher percentage of those aged 25 and over without a high school diploma or equivalent. When comparing growth and decline in population across all 45 census tracts in Yakima County, the areas with highest rates of poverty and Hispanic/Latinx residents saw the greatest decline. The areas with the lowest rates of poverty and highest rates of White alone saw the greatest growth in population. The highest percentage of impoverished, disadvantaged residents live in Mid and Lower Yakima County.

Grant County has a population of 95,502, of which 42% are Hispanic/Latinx, 54% White alone, with American Indian and Alaska Native, Black, and Asian making up less than 5% of the total population. Additionally, 42% of the county lives at or below 200% of the FPL, with 15% of the total population living in poverty. Hispanic/Latinx residents have higher percentages of poverty and those aged 25 and over without a high school diploma or equivalent. White alone households have the highest percentage of those who are SNAP recipients at 58%, compared to 35% of Hispanic/Latinx. When comparing growth and decline in population across all census tracts in Grant County, Greater Grant County experienced growth and declines that varied greatly among census tracts, and Moses Lake experienced only growth.

Adams County has a population of 19,594, of which 64% are Hispanic/Latinx, 34% White alone, with American Indian and Alaska Native, Black, and Asian making up the other 6%. Additionally, 50% of the county lives at or below 200% of the FPL, with 26% of the total population living in poverty. American Indian and Alaska Native residents have the highest percentage of those living in poverty (65%), and White alone the lowest (12%). Hispanic/Latinx residents have the highest percentages of households who are SNAP recipients and those 25 and over without a high school diploma or equivalent. When comparing growth and decline in population across all census tracts in Adams County, Othello experienced the greatest increases while surrounding areas experienced little increase or significant decline.

The majority of OIC clients are Hispanic/Latinx (58%, followed by White alone at 34%) females of childbearing age. When surveyed, most clients feel it is easy to apply for services, that OIC programs have changed their lives for the better, and state that staff is helpful and courteous. Fifty-four percent of clients responded that staff helped them find additional programs for which they might qualify, thus listing several programs that OIC already offers as programs they would like to see added. Some programs requested, which OIC does not currently offer, includes- first time home buyer class in Spanish, transportation, help with car maintenance, and basic computer classes, along with several more. Clients were asked which barriers prevented them from accessing services, and while OIC cannot eliminate them all, they can work to reduce those such as transportation, program times, no internet, and calls not being returned.

The Board of Directors, OIC staff, and community partners/stakeholders were surveyed in order to determine if they felt OIC was making in a difference in the community, as well as to determine the top perceived needs in the community and what services are not meeting demand. While they feel OIC is making a difference in the community, there are still significant needs. The top three needs are 1) youth programs, 2) mental health services, and 3) adult education and literacy. The top three programs that do not meet the demand in the community are 1) safety and crime prevention, 2) mental

health services, and 3) safe and affordable housing. In addition the board and staff were asked for areas in which they would like additional training; the board responded with governance, communication, and use of technology; staff responded leadership training, communication, use of technology, Poverty and Trauma Informed Care, and race and inequality.

Regarding this assessment, it is important to note the source for all data, unless otherwise stated, is the United States Census American Community Survey, 2019 5-year estimate. Additionally, when available, data is presented at the census tract level. Due to the small percentage of Black and American Indian and Alaska Native residents in Yakima County, data for those demographics, at the census tract level, is mostly suppressed due to insufficient data, as such is only included at the county, state, and country level. Additionally, the percentage of those who are Asian or “mixed race” was very low, thus leaving data at most levels, suppressed, and as such not included.

Key Findings:

1. Based on client survey responses, there is a need for additional customer service training among front end staff, focusing on younger newer staff; as well as on additional training on perceived racism, racial bias awareness, and recognition of racial favoritism.
2. Three barriers listed by clients are significant barriers that can easily be addressed by OIC; program times, case managers not returning calls, and the phone system not directing clients to the appropriate person/program.
3. There is a significant gap in mental health services for low-income, underserved residents of Yakima, Grant, and Adams Counties. Very few organizations offer mental health services to low-income adults, and those that do have significant wait times. Additionally, some organizations that serve low-income people only have the capacity to see children. Poor mental health can lead to poor health and social outcomes. There are times a person will not be able to become self-sufficient without mental health services.
4. Housing continues to be a significant problem for Yakima County. There is a severe lack of safe and affordable housing, leaving many renters paying over 30% of their income in rent, or low-income families and individuals living in unsafe locations with the lack of basic amenities. The higher the percentage of poverty, the higher the need for safe and affordable housing.

Agency Overview

OIC of Washington is a federally-designated Community Action Agency supporting Yakima, Grant, and Adams Counties, Washington. While OIC is a state-designated Community Action Agency in three counties, they have locations in five counties. In 1971 OIC of America introduced its training model to Henry Beauchamp, Director of the Southeast Yakima Community Center; this led to the creation of Yakima Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center which evolved over time to become OIC of Washington.

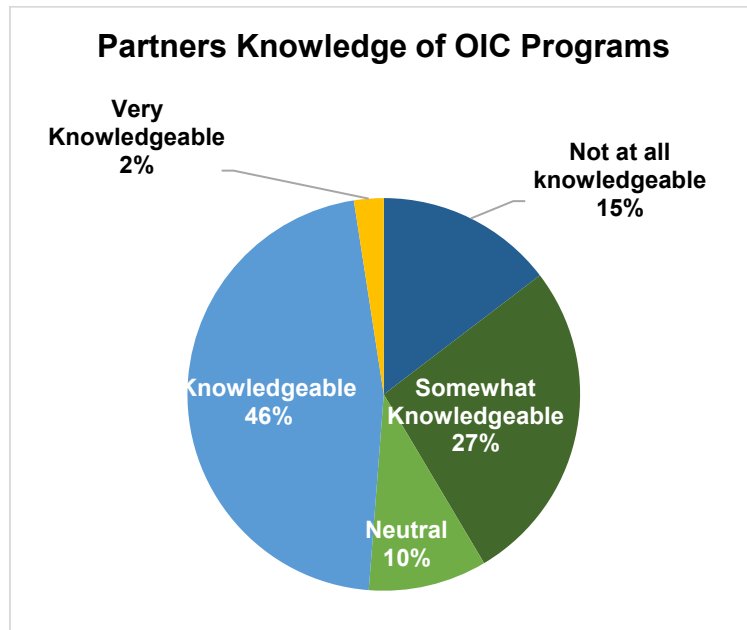
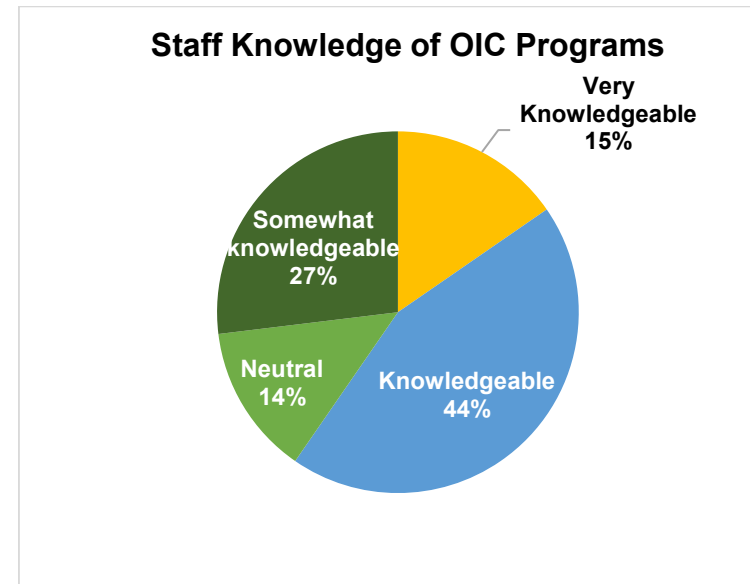
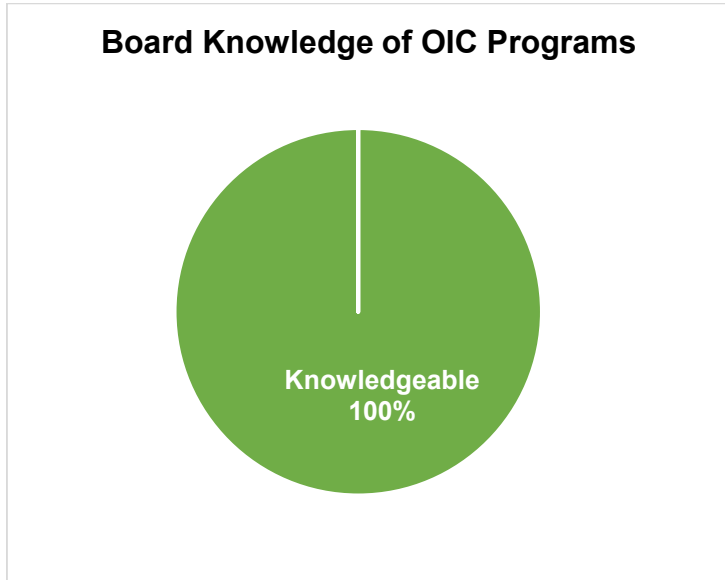
With the mission “To help in the elimination of unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, and racism so all people can live with greater human dignity,” OIC works diligently to afford a second chance to individuals and families with multiple life challenges- helping to increase their self-sufficiency. OIC provides services in five counties, and serves as the state-designated Community Action Agency to Yakima, Grant, and Adams Counties. In Yakima County, OIC provides the following programs; Association of Farmworkers Opportunity Program, Energy and Rental Assistance Program, Henry Beauchamp Community Center, YouthBuild, High School Equivalency Program, National Farmworker Job Program, and Weatherization to 4000 clients; moreover OIC’s Yakima County Food bank and food distribution center has served approximately 76,000 individuals. Many of these programs are offered in Adams and Grant County, and some Adams County clients are served in OIC’s Moses Lake location. Programs offered include Association of Farmworkers Opportunity Program, Energy and Rental Assistance Program, High School Equivalency Program, National Farmworker Job Program, Prosperity Center, and Weatherization; with over 1700 individuals served in Grant County and over 1,000 in Adams County.

OIC is governed by a tripartite board, consisting of seven-member Board of Directors, of which 29% are Hispanic/Latinx, 29% are White alone, and 43% Black. The majority of board members are over the age of 65, with one aged 25-34 and one 55-64; and 70% are male (five male, two female). During board meetings, directors examine program performance, results of internal and external program monitoring, and financial standing, among other activities.

Staff at OIC are fairly representative of their clients, and many have the same lived experiences as clients, allowing them to connect at a deeper level. OIC staffs 79 individuals, 64 in Yakima County, 2 in Adams County, and 13 in Grant County; of whom 84% are Hispanic/Latinx and 75% female. Over 70% of staff are under the age of 44 (14% aged 18-24; 31% aged 25-34; and 23% aged 35-44), with approximately 30% aged 45-64. Additionally, the majority of staff have been employed with OIC for 0-5 years (65%) and 15% 6-10. With 14% of staff employed with OIC for over 16 years.

Board of Directors, Staff, Partner Survey Results

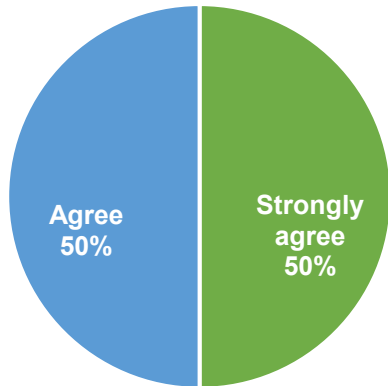
The Board of Directors, OIC staff, and partners were recently surveyed regarding their knowledge and opinion of OIC programming, as well as perceived needs in the community, and areas for growth.



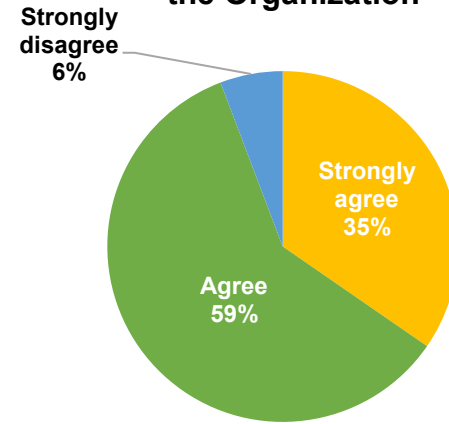
Based on survey results, the Board of Directors and Staff are fairly knowledgeable of the programs OIC offers. While the majority of staff members are at least knowledgeable of OIC's programs, 40% are only somewhat knowledgeable or neutral. OIC's service area is large, and not all programs are offered in every county, which could explain why some are not as knowledgeable. Providing opportunities for cross-training and job shadowing could help improve staff's knowledge of the programs. In regards to partners, increased outreach and networking in the community will help valued partners become more aware of OIC's programs. Additionally, surveys were sent to partners where the contact is new or the organization no longer partners with OIC, and as such did not have any knowledge of the programs. Compared to how many surveys were sent out, across all three counties, the return rate was low. Future surveys should be tailored more closely with each county in regards to questions asked and partners surveyed.

Board of Directors, Staff, Partner Survey Results Continued

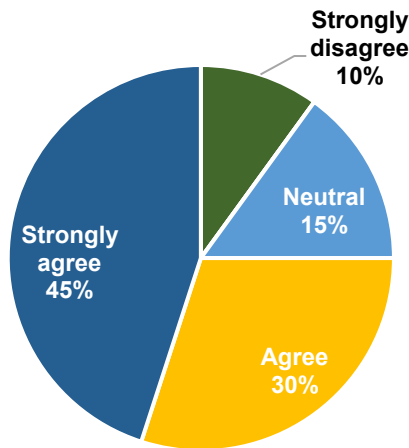
Board: OIC's Mission Represents the Work of the Organization



Staff: OIC's Mission Represents the Work of the Organization



Partners: OIC Makes a Difference in the Community



Overall, the Board and staff feel OIC's mission represents the work of the organization, however 6% of staff strongly disagree. As previously stated, OIC's service area is large, with staff working in three different counties. As such, some staff may not know of programs in other counties that fit the organization's mission better than the program they work with. Regarding whether partners feel OIC makes a difference in the community, 75% of them agree or strongly agree. The partners that do not feel OIC makes a difference may not have knowledge of all of the programs OIC offers, or possibly could be an organization OIC was not able to partner with and/or they had a negative experience, and their opinion is skewed. Regardless, OIC is overall seen as a great benefit to the community.

Board of Directors, Staff, Partner Survey Results: Perceived Needs of the Community

Top Pressing Needs:

BOARD	STAFF	PARTNERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Programs • Food Assistance • Adult Services • Mental Health Services • Homeless Support Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Skills/Employment • Youth Programs • Mental Health Services • Safety/Crime Prevention • Adult Education/Literacy • Homeless Support Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Affordable Housing • Mental Health Services • Job Skills/Employment • Youth Programs • Adult Education/Literacy

Services/programs that do not meet the demand of the community:

BOARD	STAFF	PARTNERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety/Crime Prevention • Mental Health Services • Job Skills/Employment • Youth Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Affordable Housing • Mental Health Services • Safety/Crime Prevention • Homeless Support Services • Affordable Childcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Skills/Employment • Affordable Childcare • Homeless Support Services • Safety/Crime Prevention • Mental Health Services • Safe Affordable Housing

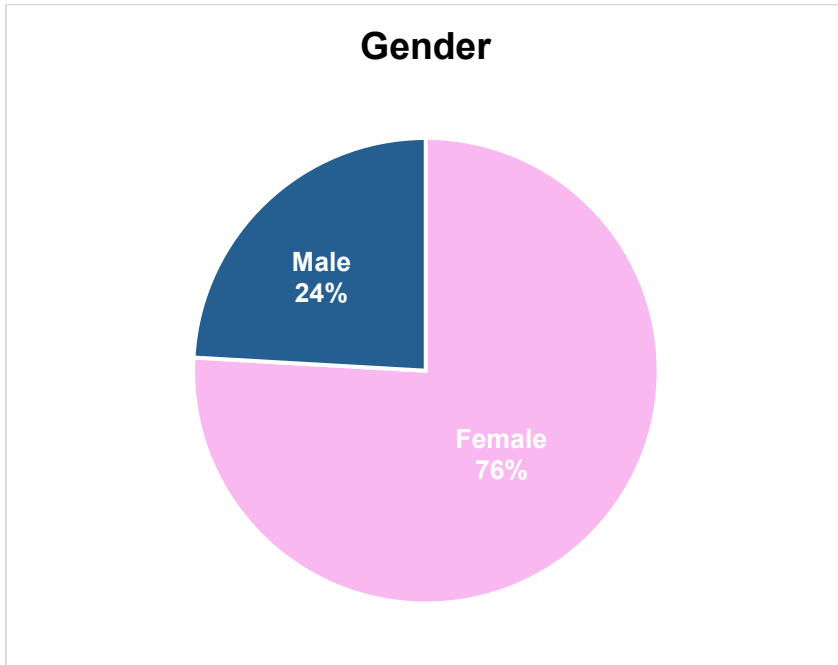
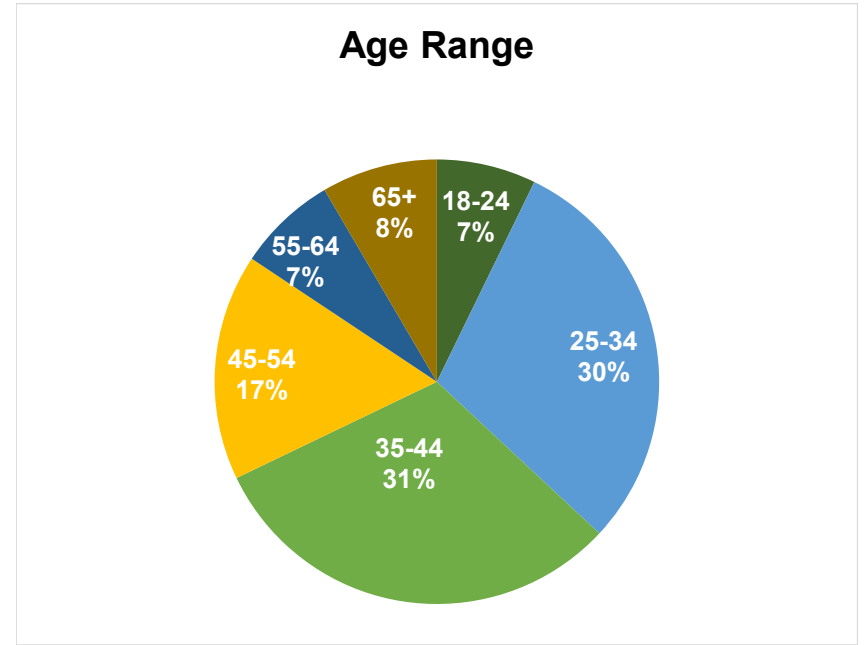
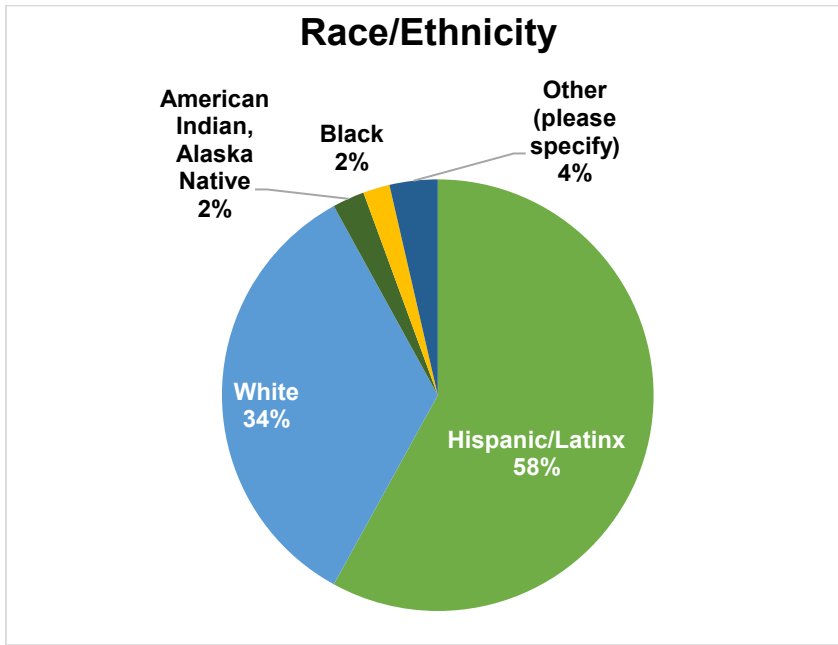
Top Three Needs:

-
- ❖ Youth Programs
 - ❖ Mental Health Services
 - ❖ Adult Education and Literacy

Top Three Services/Programs that do not meet the demand:

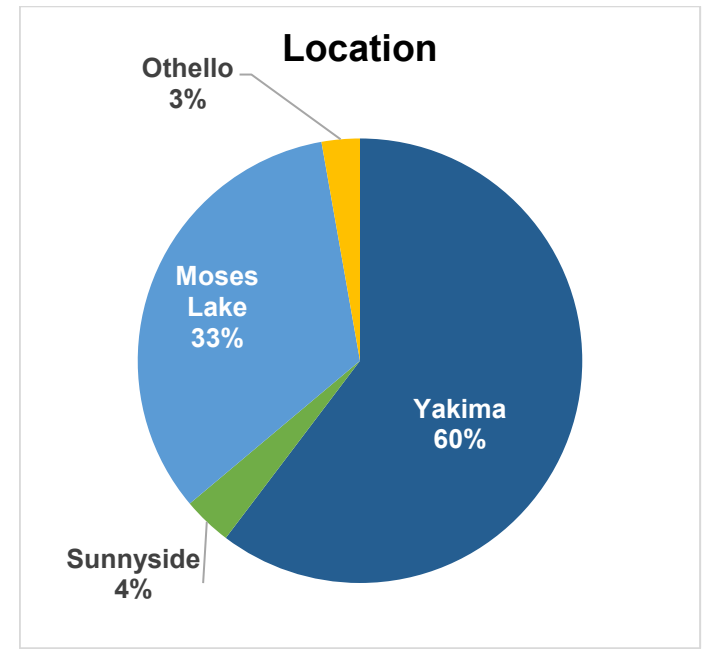
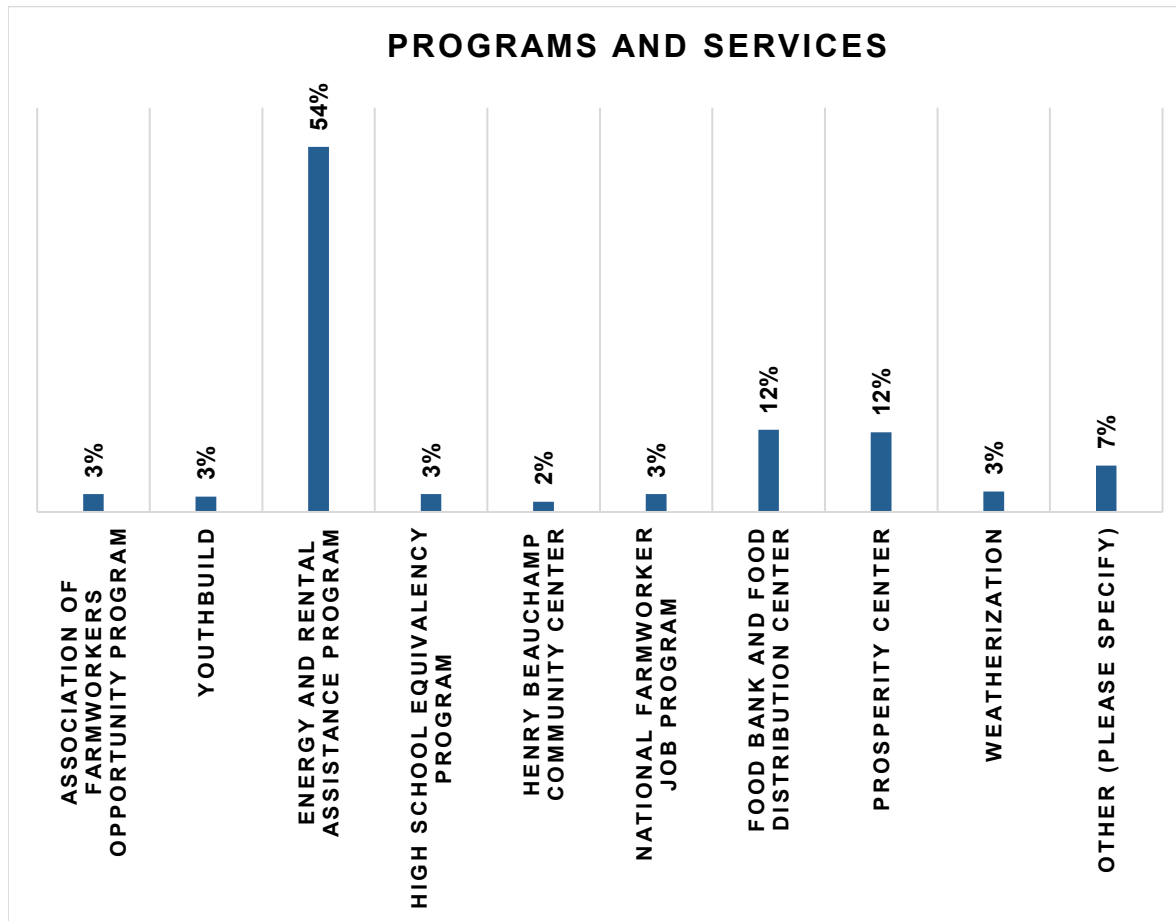
-
- ❖ Safety and Crime Prevention
 - ❖ Mental Health Services
 - ❖ Safe and Affordable Housing

OIC Client Survey Results



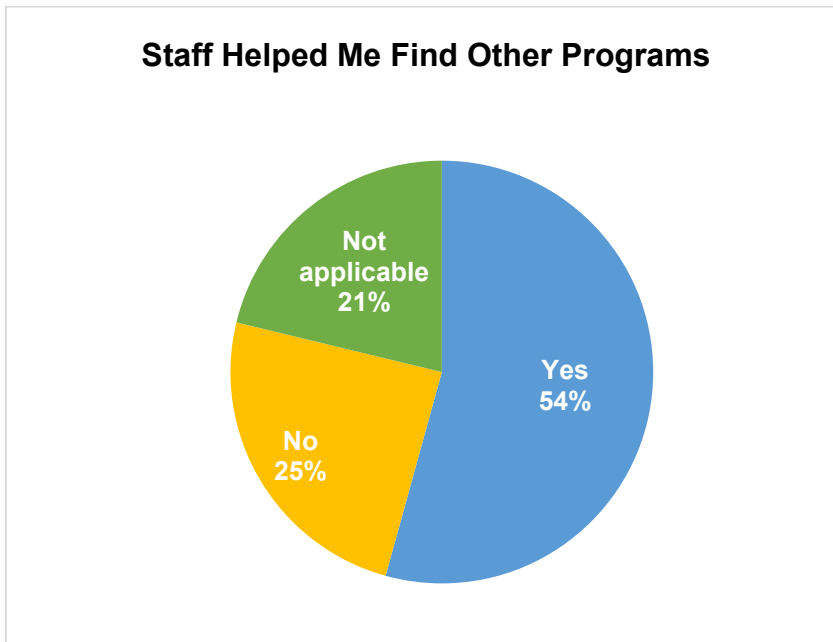
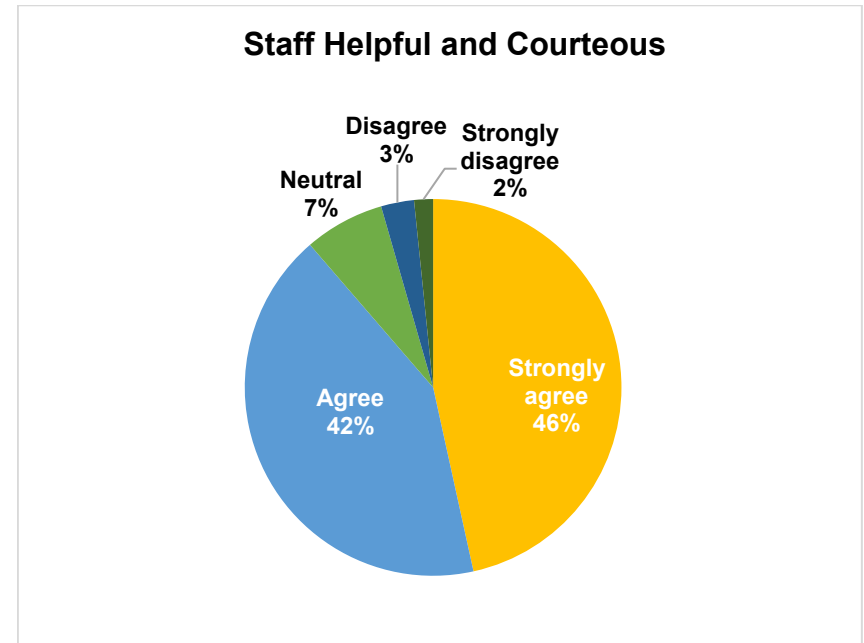
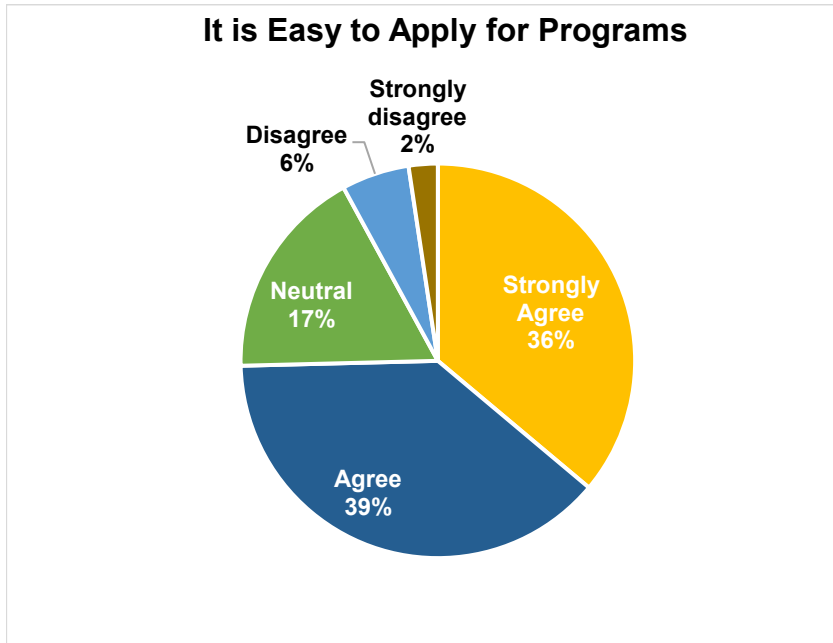
Over half of OIC clients are Hispanic/Latinx and over a third White alone. American Indian and Alaska Native and Black only make up 2% each. There was not an even collection of responses from all of OIC's programs, as such race and ethnicity breakdown could change if all programs were equally represented. Over two-thirds of clients surveyed fall in childbearing years, and 75% are female suggesting families are accessing services at a higher rate.

OIC Client Survey Results Continued



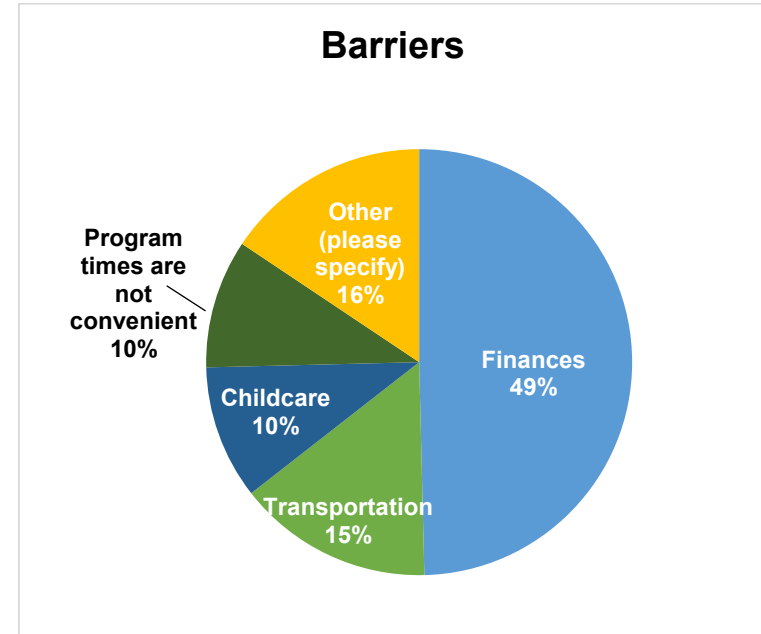
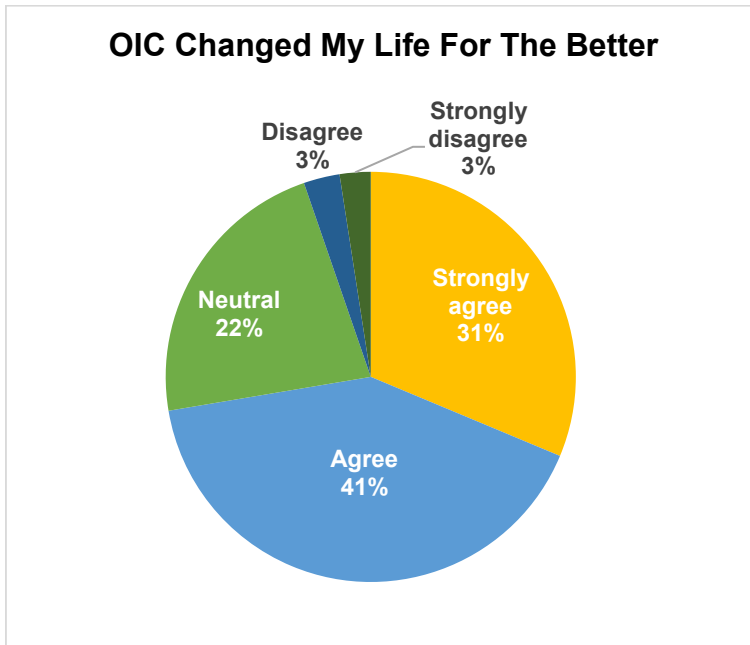
As previously stated, there was not an even representation of clients across all programs. Over 50% of respondents participate in the Energy and Rental Assistance Program; followed by 12% have utilized the Food Bank and Food Distribution Center and Prosperity Center. Of the four locations, the majority of clients surveyed access services in Yakima (60%), followed by Moses Lake at 33%.

OIC Client Survey Results Continued



Clients surveyed appear to be happy with OIC and its staff, overall. Most agree or strongly agree it is easy to apply for programs and state that staff is helpful and courteous. In regards to the clients who disagree and strongly disagree that it is easy to apply for programs and that staff is helpful and courteous, some reasons are out of OIC's hands, such as program requirements set by funders, however client comments regarding burdens of applying for programs and negative experiences with staff should be looked at further for ways to improve this perception down the road. Approximately half of clients have had staff help them find other programs, however a quarter say they have not. Increasing staff knowledge of programs could help staff connect clients with other services they may qualify for.

OIC Client Survey Results Continued



The majority of OIC clients agree or strongly agree that OIC has changed their lives for the better, showing OIC is making a difference in the community. The neutral and disagree/strongly disagree may be clients that received assistance for once struggle in their life, and while that helped in the moment (utility and rental assistance, for example), it did not change the overall quality of their life. Programs such as YouthBuild and High School Equivalency Program, gives clients the opportunity to learn skills and gain education that will allow them to become more self-sufficient, helping change the trajectory of their lives.

In an effort to ease barriers that prevent clients from accessing services, clients were asked what barriers existed for them. As expected, finances was the number one reason, followed by other and transportation. Other barriers that clients listed includes no internet, too long of a wait for services, and calls not being returned. While some barriers cannot be alleviated immediately, some, such as ensuring clients' call are being returned, extending program times, offering on-site childcare, and setting up partnerships with transportation agencies to help clients access services easier can be explored to begin to help more clients access more services.

OIC Client Survey Results Continued:

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS REQUESTED

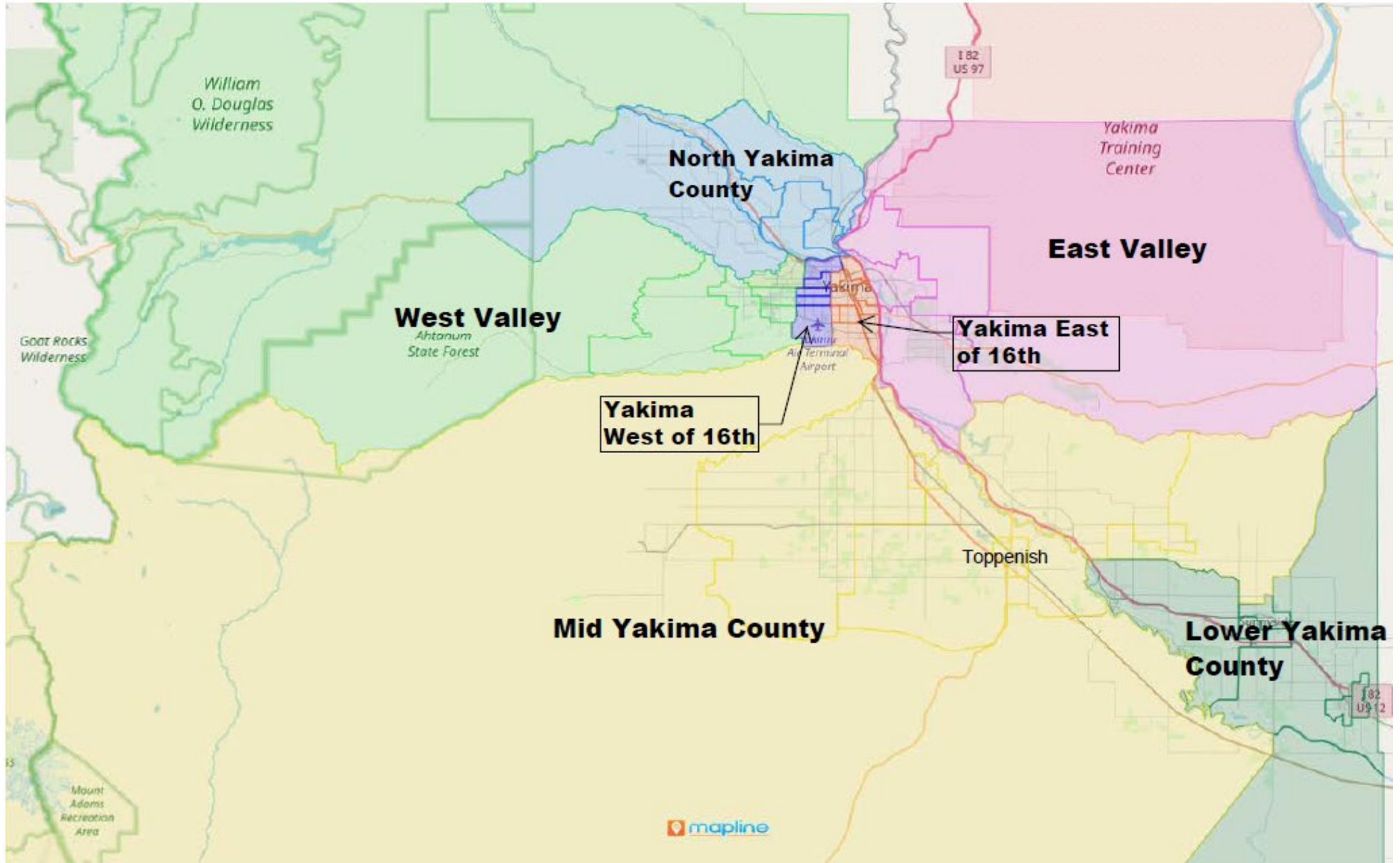
- ❖ Activities for youth
- ❖ Transportation assistance
- ❖ Legal help
- ❖ Basic computer classes
- ❖ GED for people who do not work in agriculture
- ❖ First time home buyer class in Spanish
- ❖ More help for older adults
- ❖ Clothing assistance

COMMENTS MADE ABOUT OIC

- ❖ Great staff.
- ❖ Helped me build my credit and buy my first home.
- ❖ They were a blessing
- ❖ Love the drive through food bank
- ❖ Program participation requirements are too strict
- ❖ Everyone treats me normal

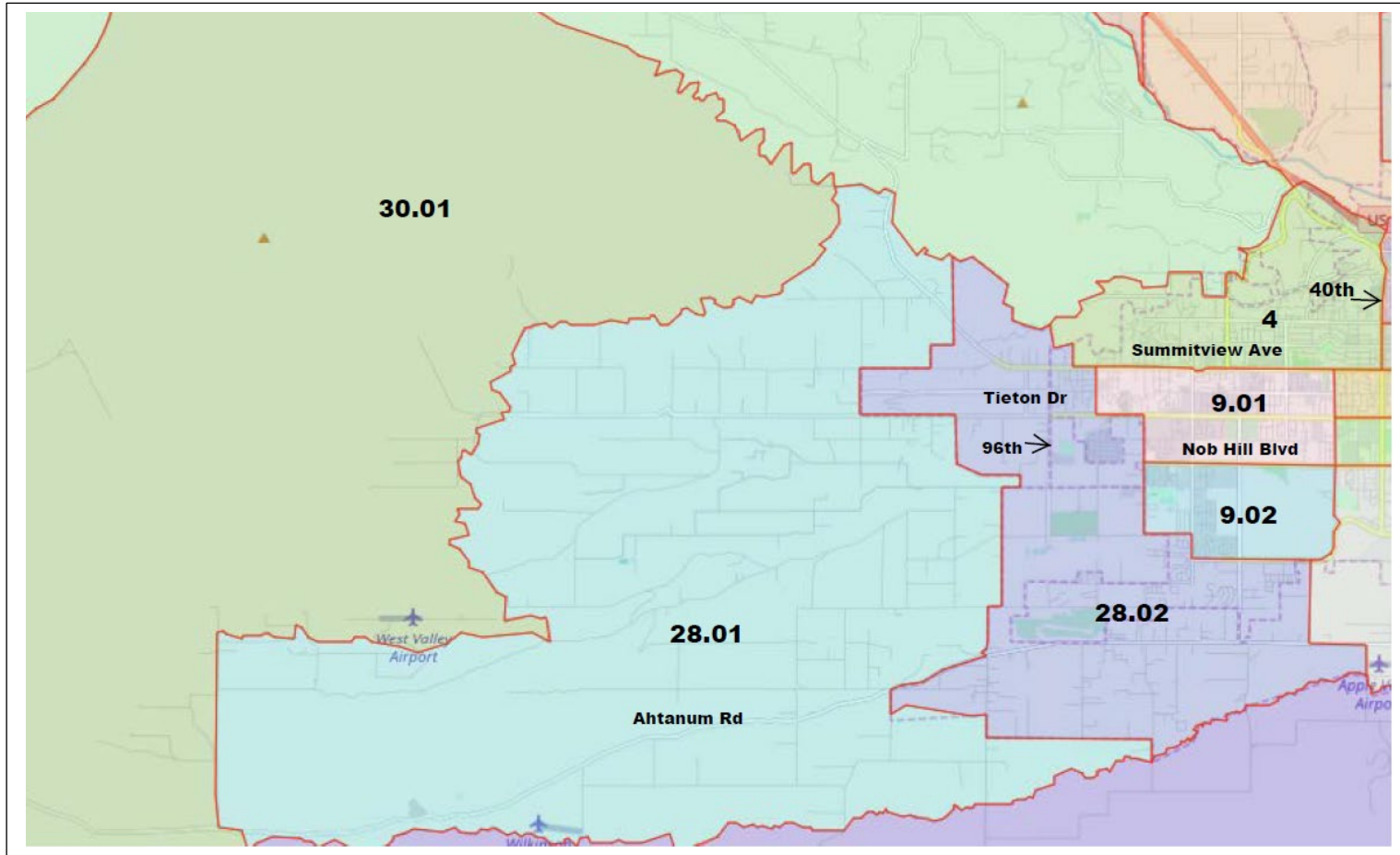
Yakima County

For the purpose of this assessment, Yakima County has been divided into seven areas- West Valley, North Yakima County, East Valley, Yakima East of 16th, Yakima West of 16th, Mid Yakima County, and Lower Yakima County.



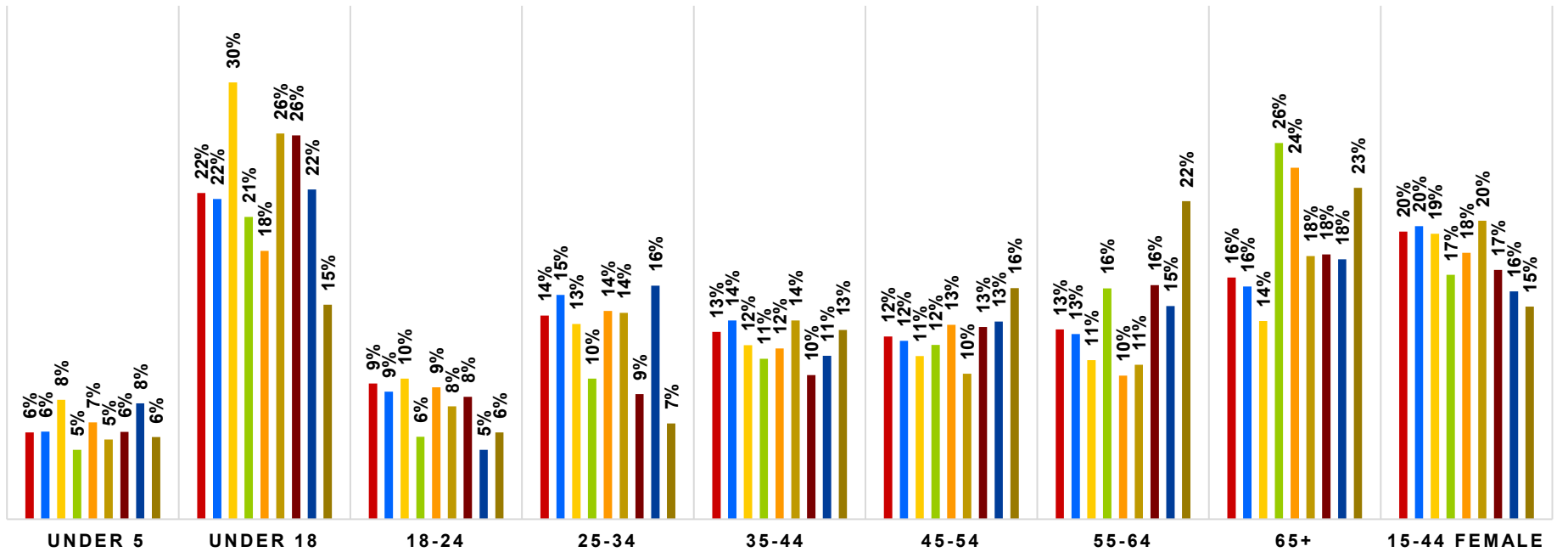
West Valley

West Valley includes six census tracts (4, 9.01, 9.02, 28.01, 28.02, and 30.01) and is located west of 40th Avenue. A large part of West Valley is rural and agriculturally rich (west of 96th Avenue). Rural West Valley is home to a variety of tree fruit orchards, hop fields, and vineyards. Of the 249,697 Yakima County residents, 15% live in West Valley.



WEST VALLEY AGE GROUPS

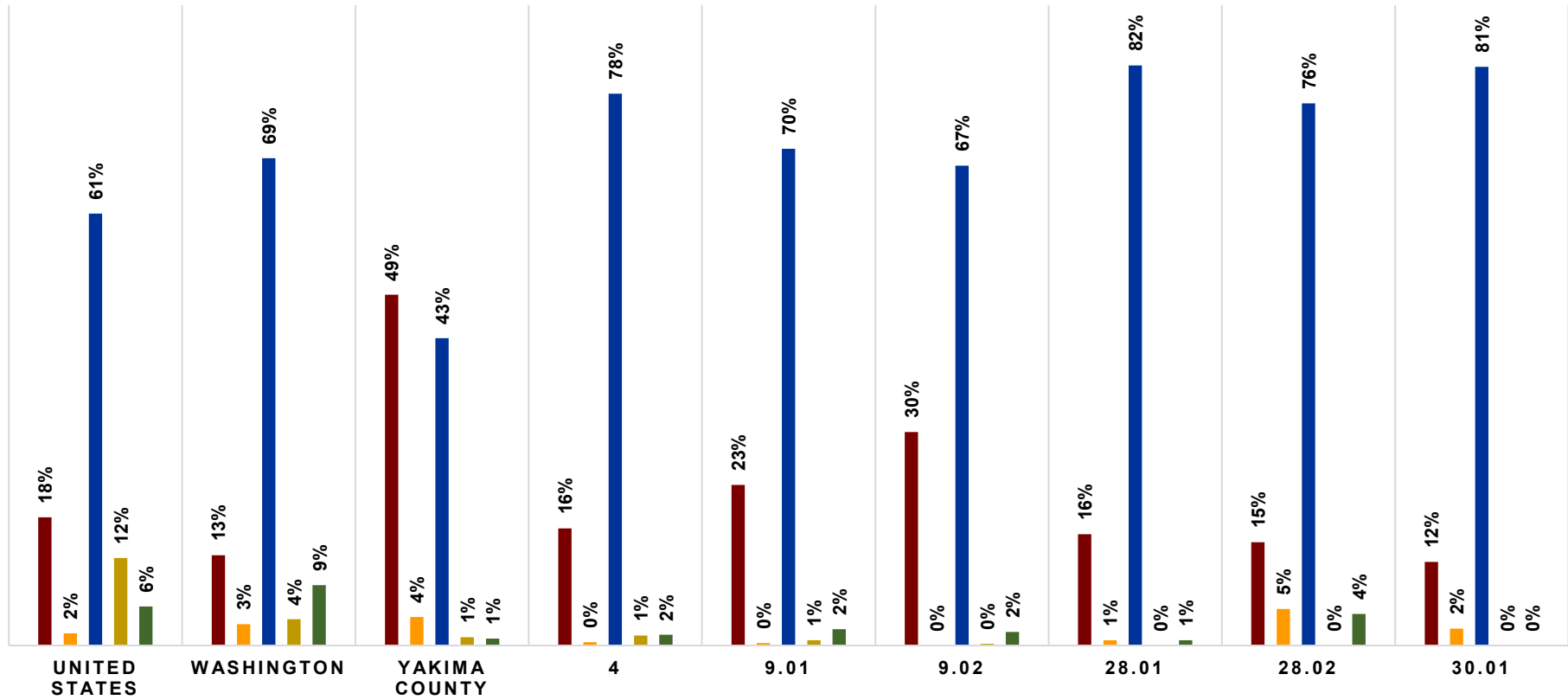
■ United States ■ Washington ■ Yakima County ■ 4 ■ 9.01 ■ 9.02 ■ 28.01 ■ 28.02 ■ 30.01



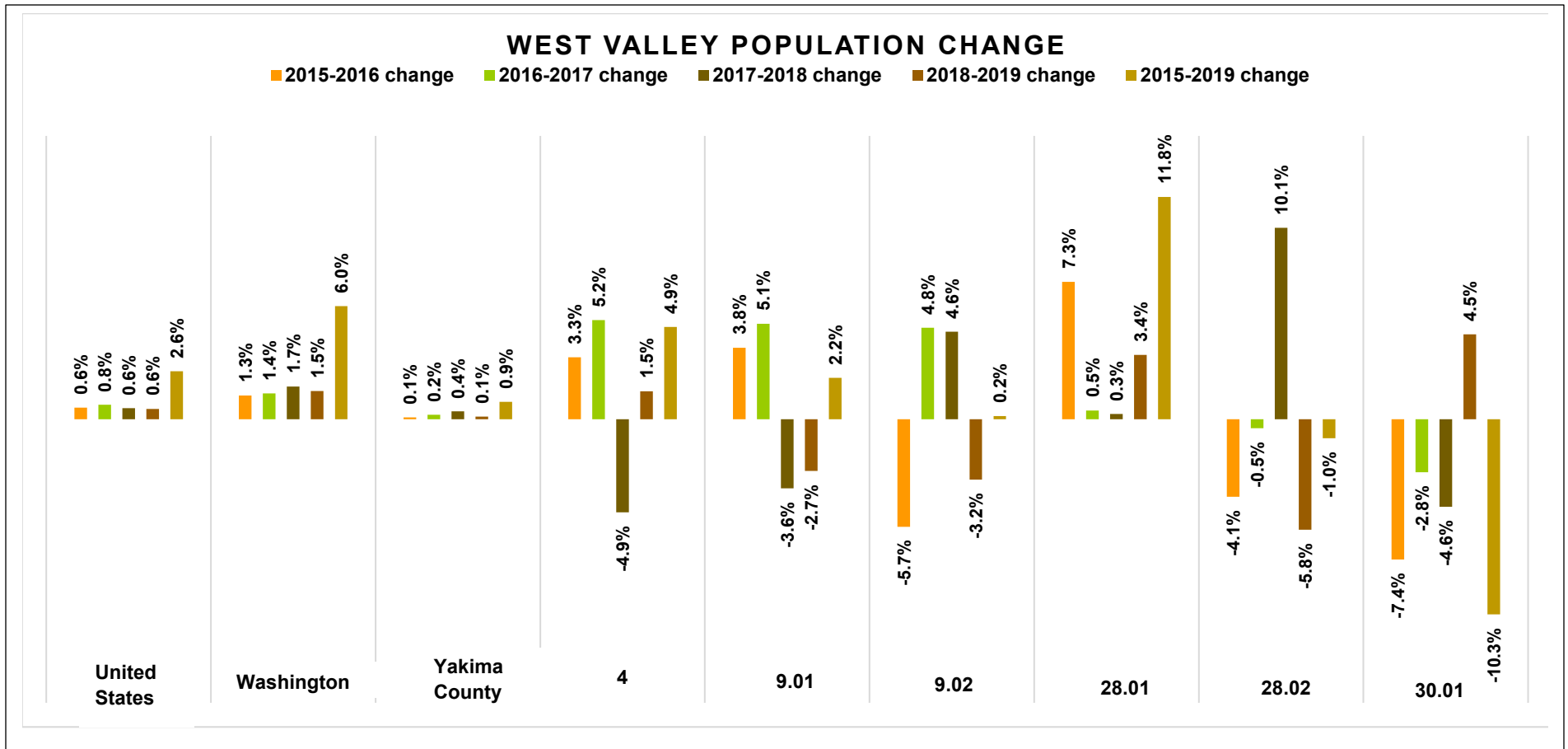
Yakima County and the West Valley census tracts are relatively equally dispersed among all age groups minus a few exceptions. When compared to the United States, Washington State, and the other census tracts, Yakima County has a higher percentage of those under the age of 18. Additionally, census tract 4 and 9.01 have a higher percentage of those aged 65 and over; this can likely be attributed to the fact that several retirement communities and assisted living facilities are located in those tracts.

WEST VALLEY RACE AND ETHNICITY

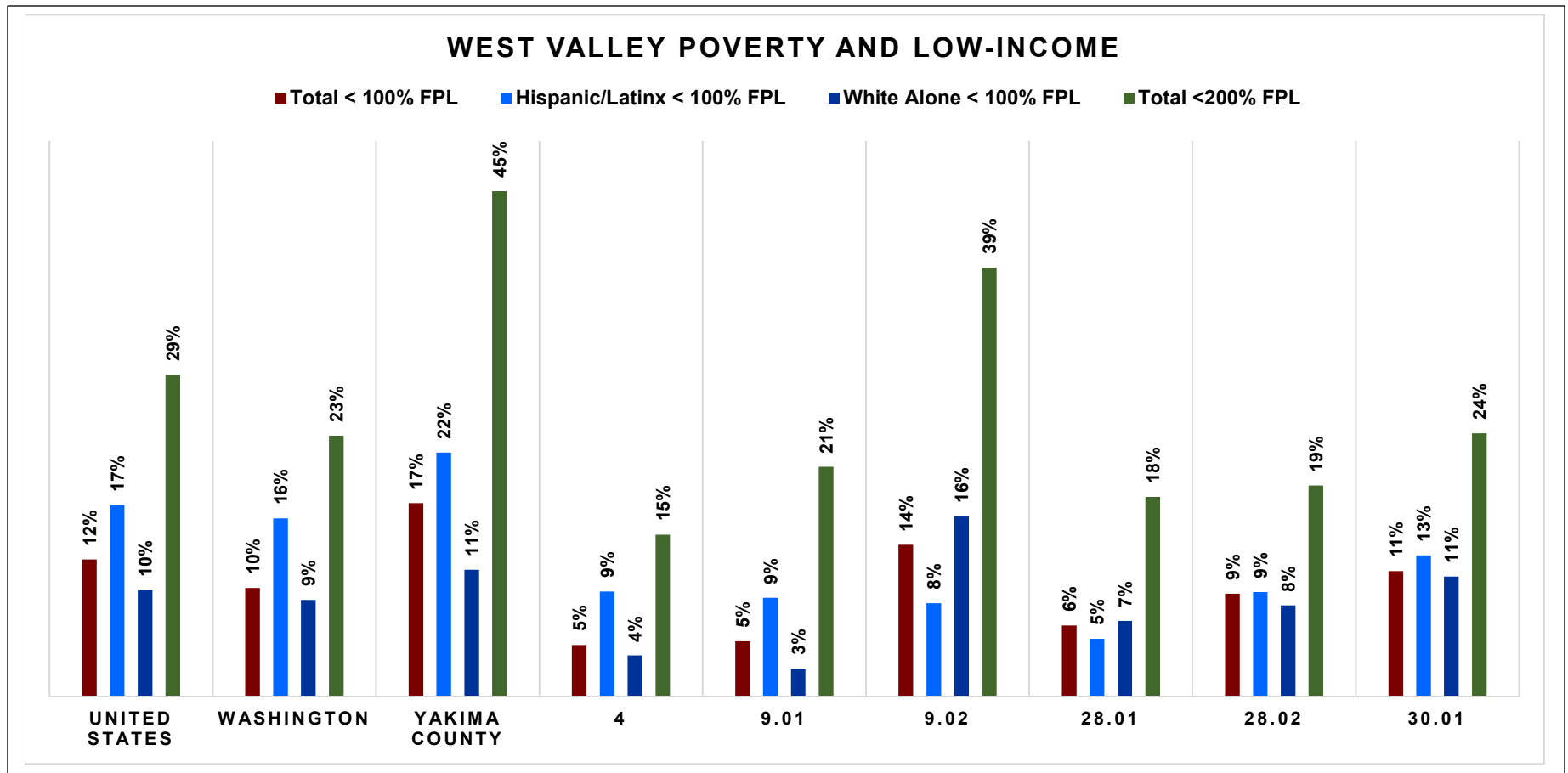
■ Hispanic/Latinx ■ American Indian, Alaska Native ■ White Alone ■ Black ■ Asian



Yakima County, when compared to the United States and Washington State, has a significantly higher percentage of residents who are Hispanic/Latinx and a significantly lower percentage of those who are White alone. West Valley census tracts are significantly different than the county as a whole, falling more in line with the country and state. The majority of residents are White alone (67% - 82%) with considerably less Hispanic/Latinx (12% - 30%).

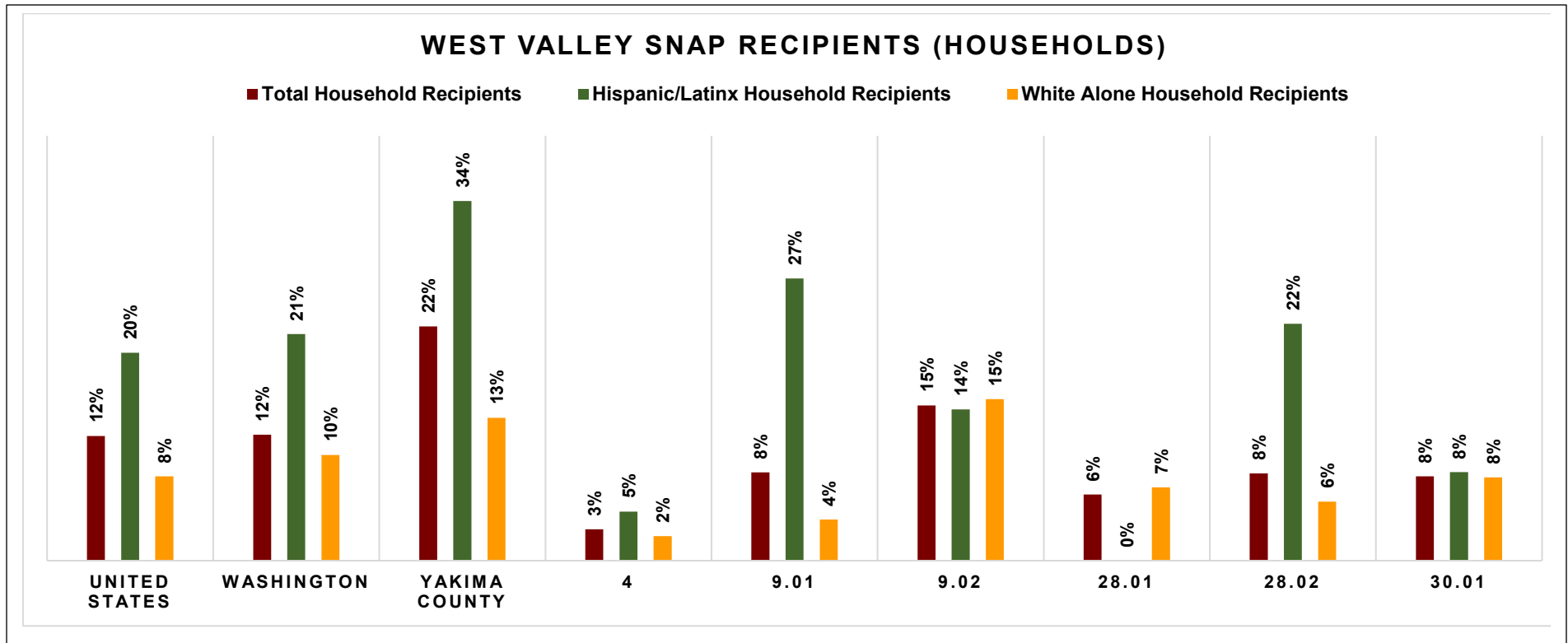


Yakima County saw very little population growth from 2015 – 2019, whereas the census tracts themselves saw a variety of significant growth and significant declines in population. Over the last several years there has been a lot of new housing developments in West Valley, many of which are located in census tract 28.01, which would explain the significant five-year increase of almost 12%.



When compared to the county, West Valley has significantly less people who live in poverty or are low-income and relatively aligns with Washington, except for census tract 9.02. There are significantly more residents who are low-income located in census tract 9.02 than the rest of West Valley. A reason for this discrepancy could be related to the fact that there is low-income housing within census tract 9.02.

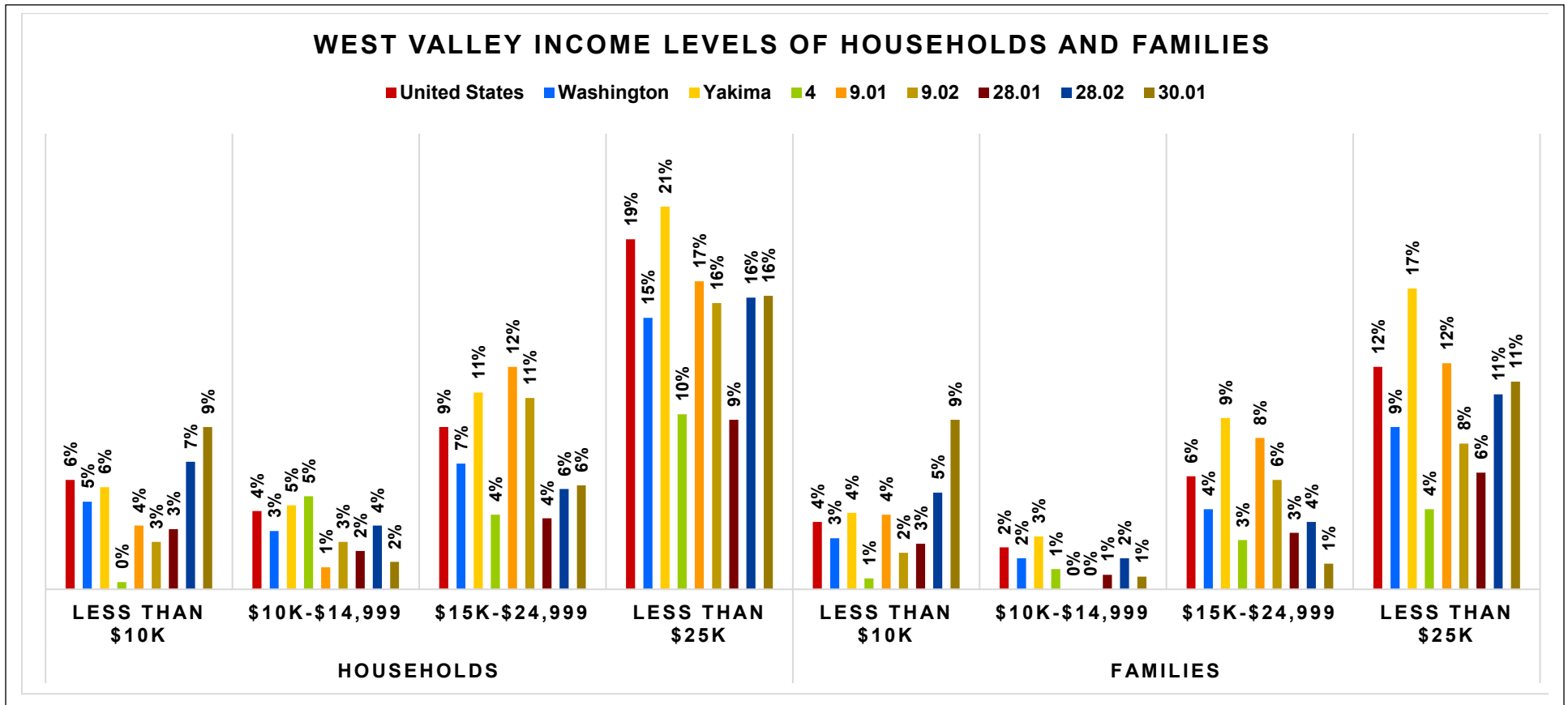
For this assessment, Black and American Indian and Alaska Native were not included at the census tract level because when broken down at smaller levels, there were many census tracts where data is insufficient and therefore not available. At the county level, 22% of the Black population lives in poverty, compared to 20% in Washington and 23% in the United States. There is a higher percentage of Low-income American Indian and Alaska Natives in Yakima County (31%) than the state (22%) and country (25%).



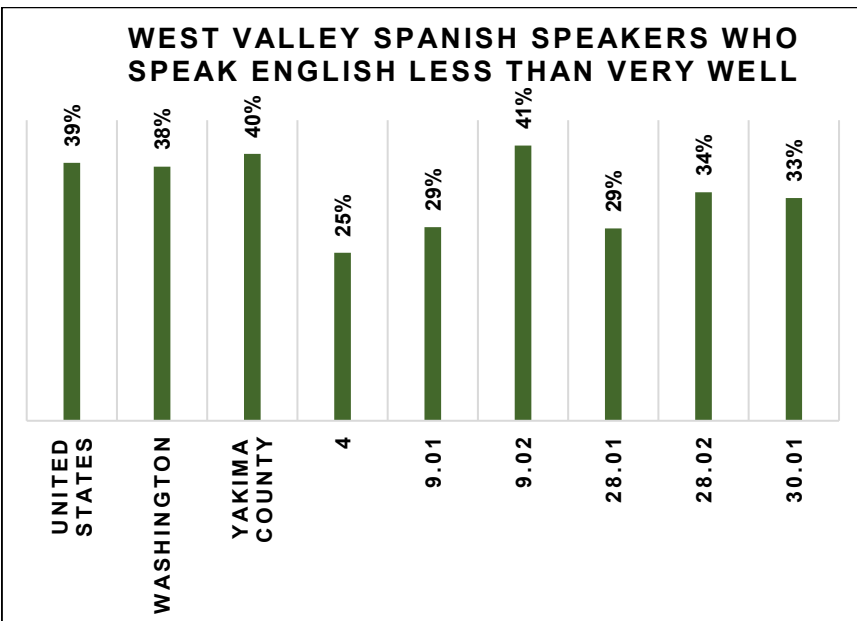
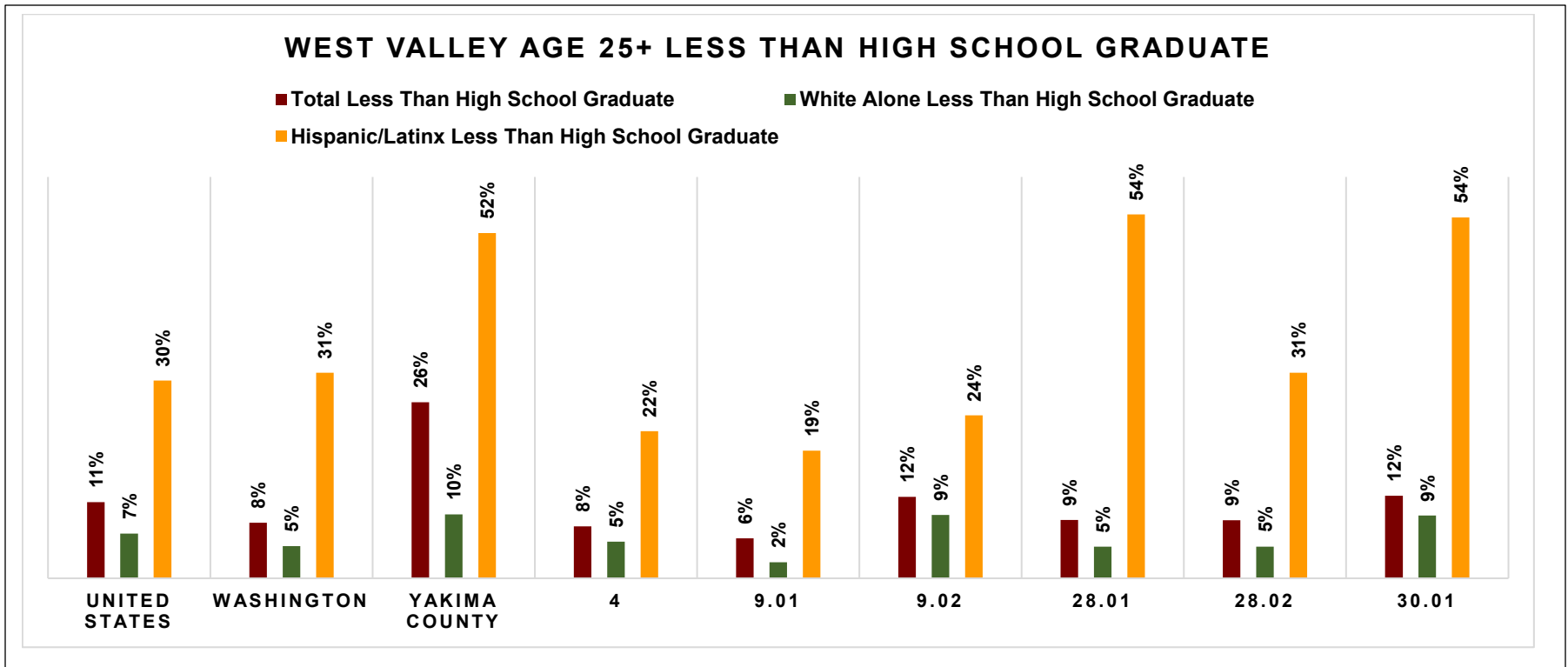
West Valley has significantly less households* that receive SNAP benefits when compared to the county across total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White Alone households, except for census tract 9.01 and 28.02’s Hispanic/Latinx households. As previously mentioned there is low-income housing in tract 9.01 which would contribute to the higher percentage of SNAP recipients. Tract 28.02 has low-income housing, as well as, mobile home communities where residents tend to be low-income.

As previously stated, Black and American Indian and Alaska Native were not included at the census tract level due to insufficient data. The percentage of Black households in Yakima County (1%) is significantly less than the state and country. Yakima County American Indian and Alaska Native households have a higher percentage of households who are SNAP recipients (5%) than the state (3%) and country (2%), but the total percentage is much lower than the other race/ethnicities.

* According to the U.S. census, the definition of a household is more than two generations, or unrelated people, living in the same house.

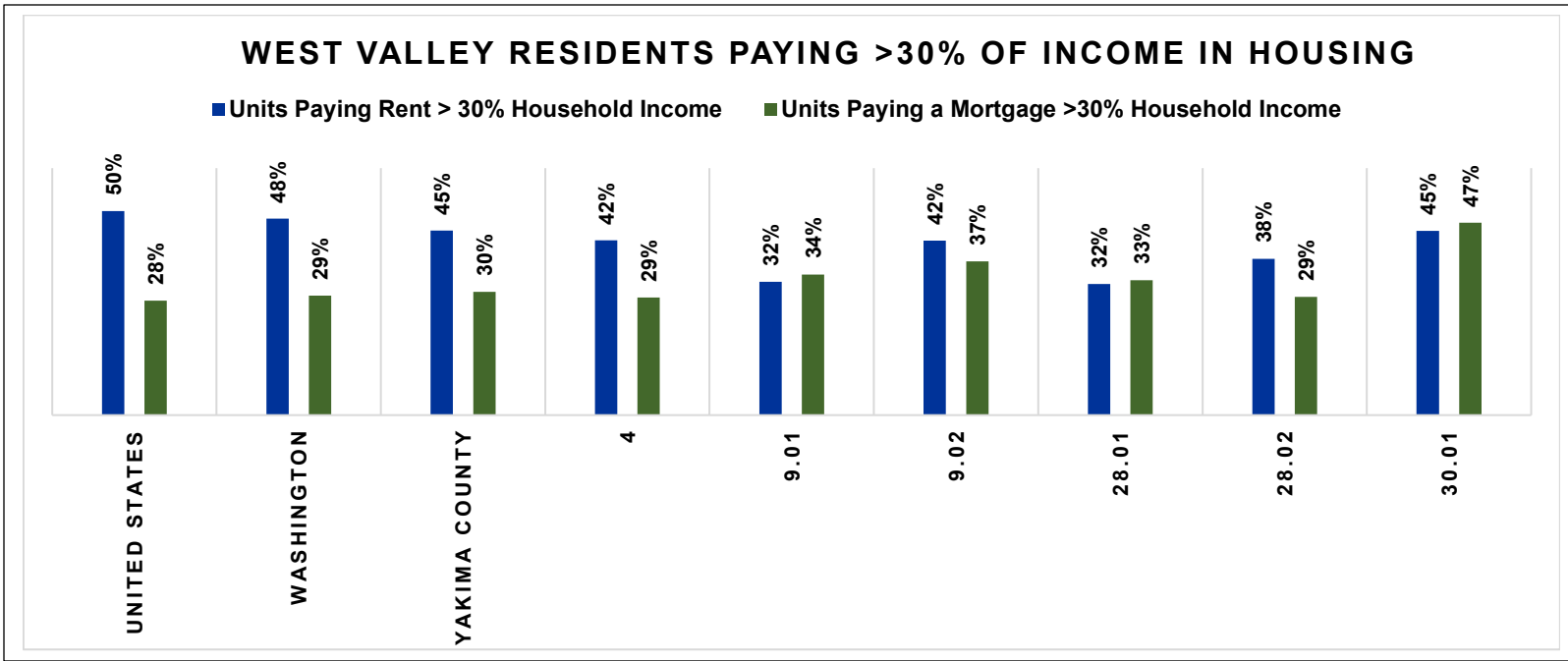


Yakima County has more households and families whose income is less than \$25,000 than the country, state, and West Valley as a whole. West Valley, overall, has less households at all three income levels, as well as total earning less than \$25,000. Additionally, across all areas households as a whole have higher rates at all income level.

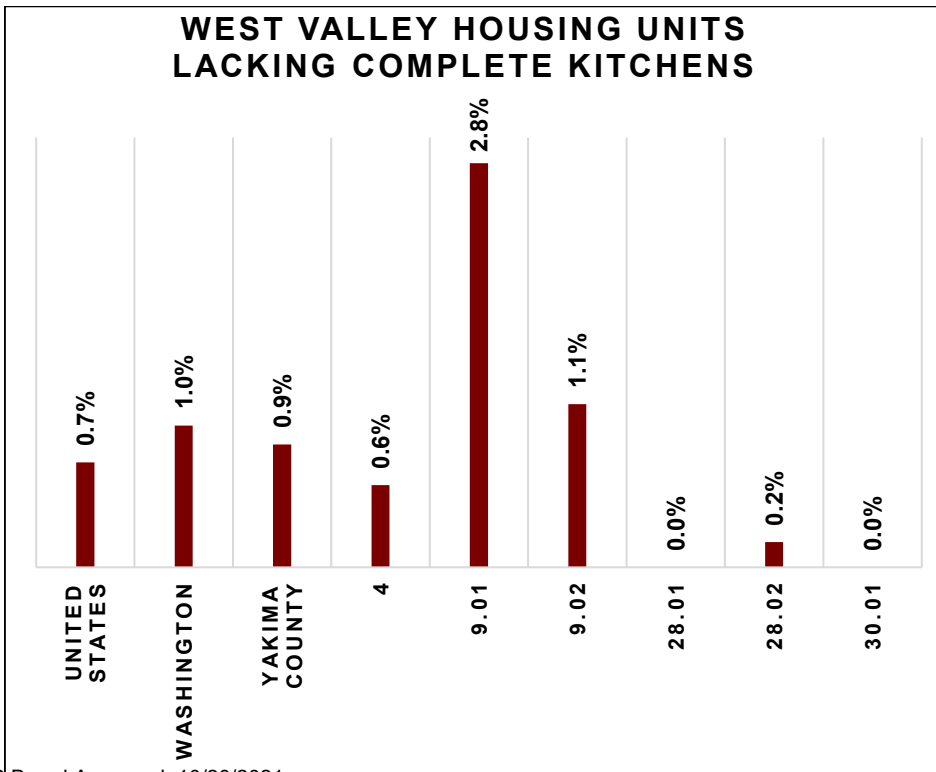


West Valley’s total and White alone percentages of residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent is lower than Yakima County and aligns more with Washington and the United States. Additionally, in all but two census tracts (28.01 and 30.01), the percentage of Hispanic/Latinx residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent is less than the county and the same or less than Washington and the United States. The percentage of Black residents over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent in Yakima County (13%) is higher than Washington (10%) but lower than the United States (14%). In addition, the percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native residents aged 25 and over without a high school diploma or equivalent is higher in Yakima County (21%) than the state (17%) and country (20%).

Across all Yakima County census tracts, Spanish was the only language other than English that had sufficient data to be reported. As such, only Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well is included. All except one census tract in West Valley has a lower percentage of Spanish Speakers who speak English less than very well compared to the county, state, and country. This is expected since West Valley has some of the lowest percentages of Hispanic/Latinx residents in the county.



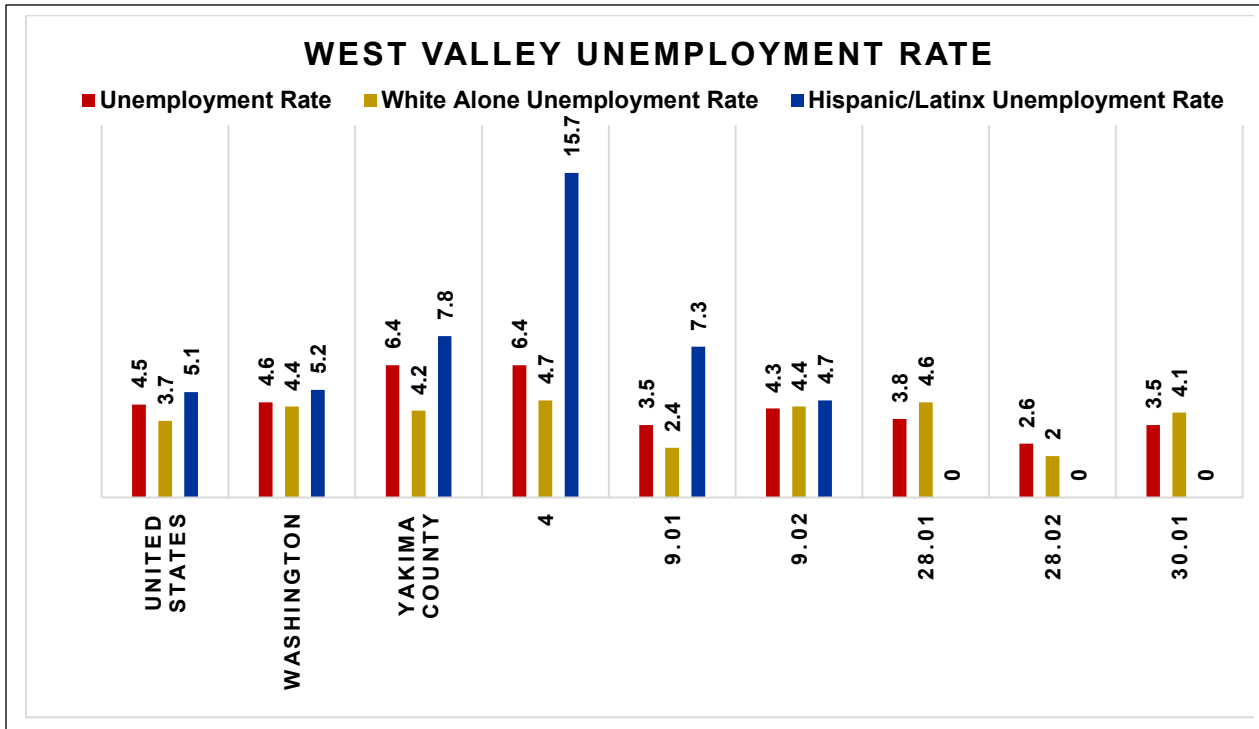
Yakima County Homeless 2020 PIT:
Individuals: 663
Households: 524



West Valley has a smaller percentage of residents who pay more than 30% of their income in rent than the county, state, and country. However, all but two census tracts' have a higher percentage of home owners paying more than 30% of their income on their mortgage compared to the county, state, and country. The other two census tracts only have a smaller percentage than Yakima County, it is the same or more when compared to the state and country.

While the percentages of housing units lacking complete kitchens is fairly small, those percentages represent people who may not have a way to prepare or store healthy food, or much food at all. The census tract with the highest percent, 9.01, is also the tract with low-income housing.

Yakima County homelessness has increased over the past few years, and increased significantly from 2019 to 2020. PIT 2019 stated there were 435 individuals experiencing homelessness, whereas PIT 2020 showed 663 individuals and 524 families experiencing homelessness.



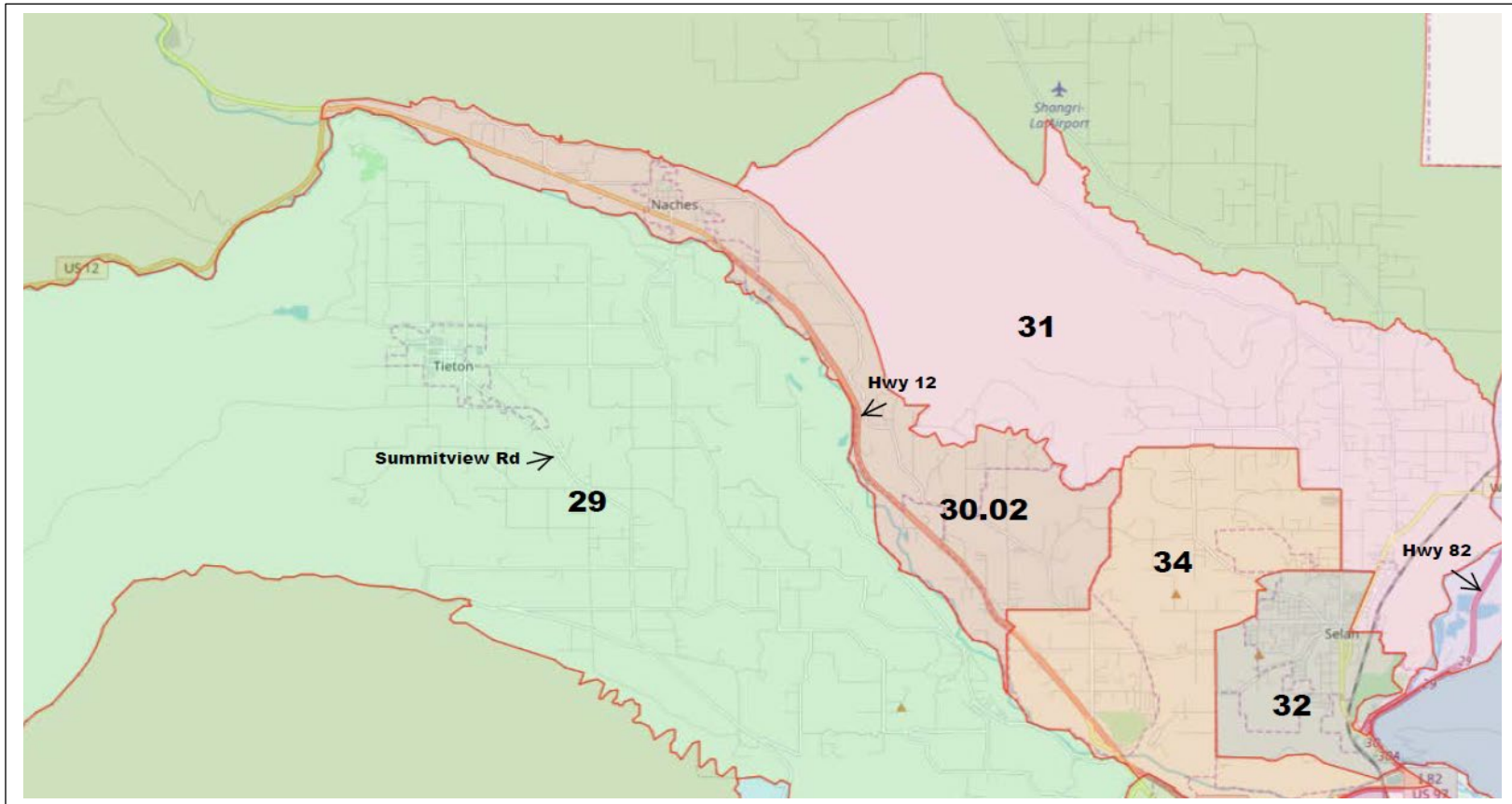
- Top 3 Industries in West Valley:
1. Educational services, health care and social assistance
 2. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 3. Arts, entertainment and recreation, and accommodation and food services

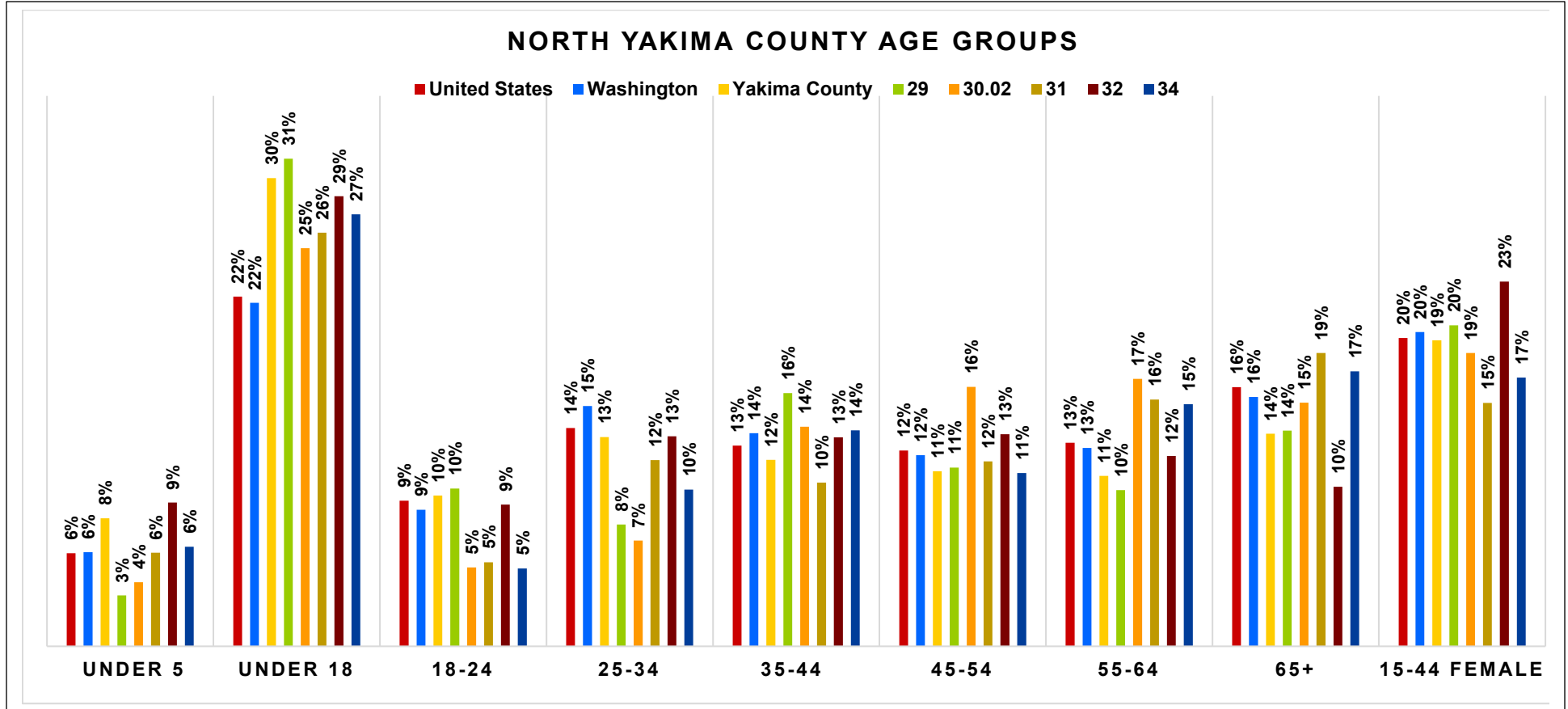
Yakima County has a higher general and Hispanic/Latinx unemployment rate than Washington and the United States. Yakima County's White alone rate is lower than Washington, but higher than the United States. Most of West Valley has lower unemployment rates across all demographics compared to the county, and they fall more in line with the state and country. The three census tracts where Hispanic/Latinx's unemployment rate is 0, this is due to suppressed numbers because of insufficient data. However, the other three census tracts, Hispanic/Latinx has higher unemployment rates than White alone and general, with census tract 4 significantly higher at 15.7. Unemployment rates for Black residents is lower for Yakima County (7) than the state (7.8) and country (9.5), and is higher than the general and White alone rates for the county, state, and country. The American Indian and Alaska Native unemployment rate in Yakima County (18.3) is significantly higher than Washington (10.5) and the United States (10.2). Additionally, American Indian and Alaska Native is significantly higher than all other demographics across Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. It should be noted unemployment rates skyrocketed in 2020 due to the pandemic. They have since leveled back out, however 2020 unemployment rates were not included here due to the lack of availability at the census tract level.

* Non-farm, not seasonally-adjusted.

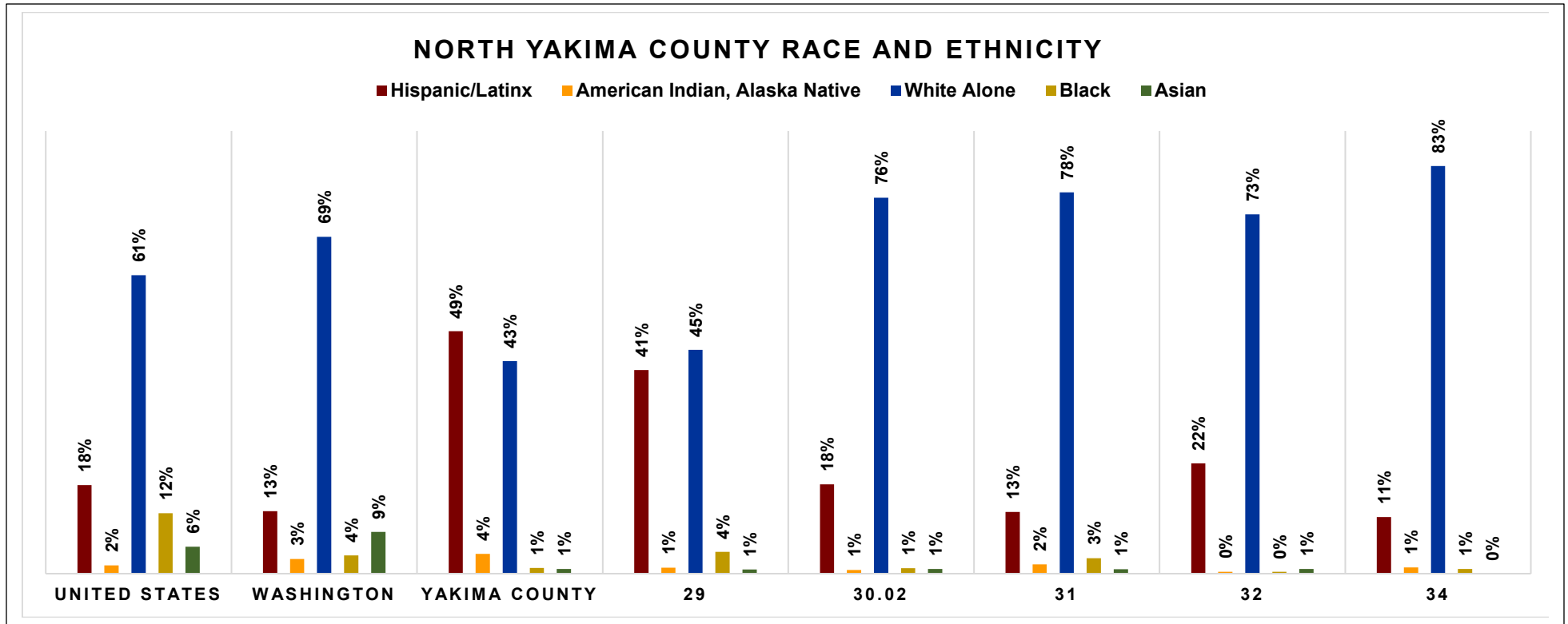
North Yakima County

North Yakima County encompasses the towns of Tieton, Naches, and Selah; and is comprised of five census tracts (29, 30.02, 31, 32, and 34). Tieton, Naches, and surrounding areas are relatively rural and agriculturally rich with fruit-tree orchards, hop fields, and vineyards. Of the 249,697 people who live in Yakima County, 11% live in North Yakima County.

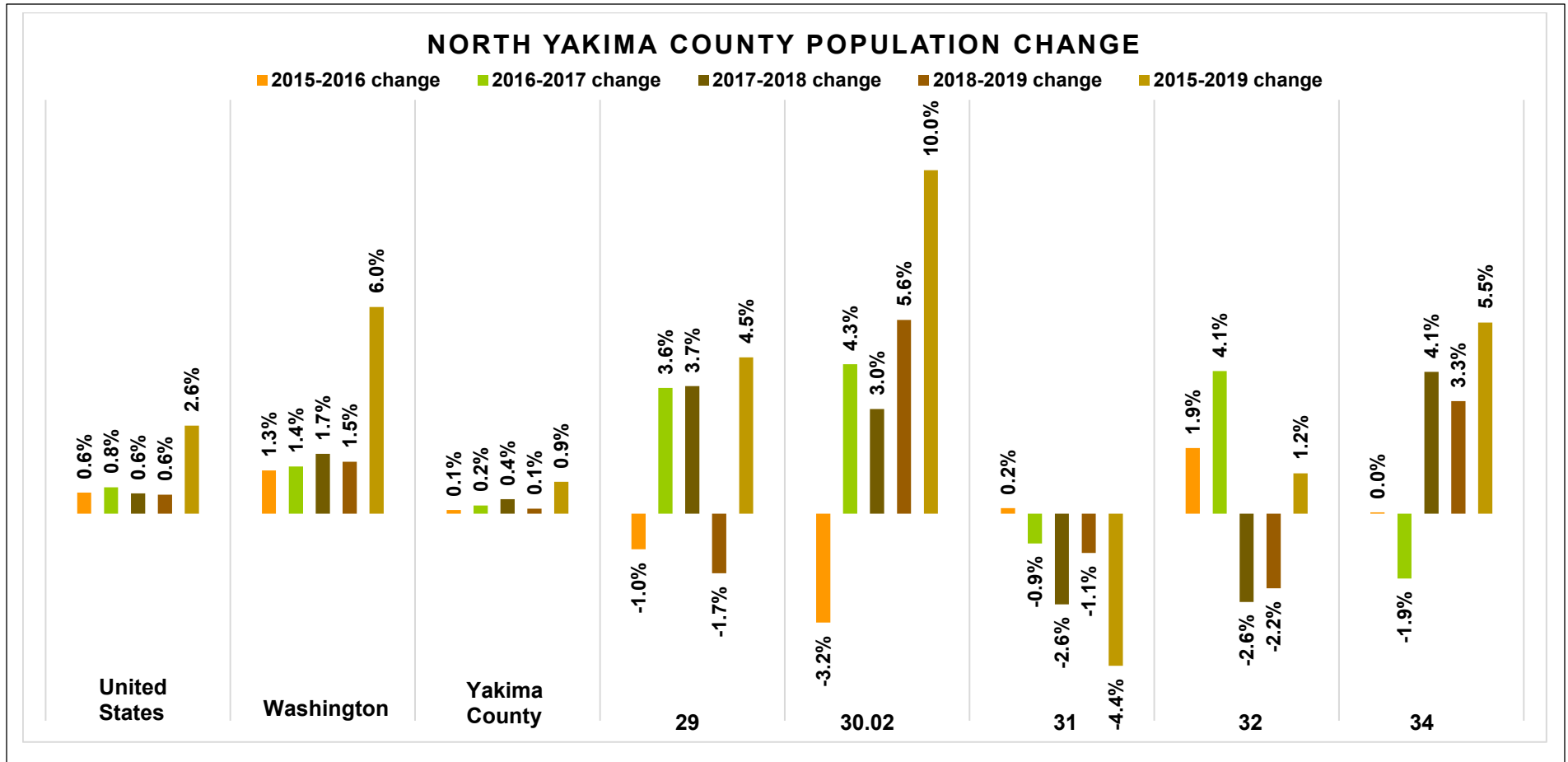




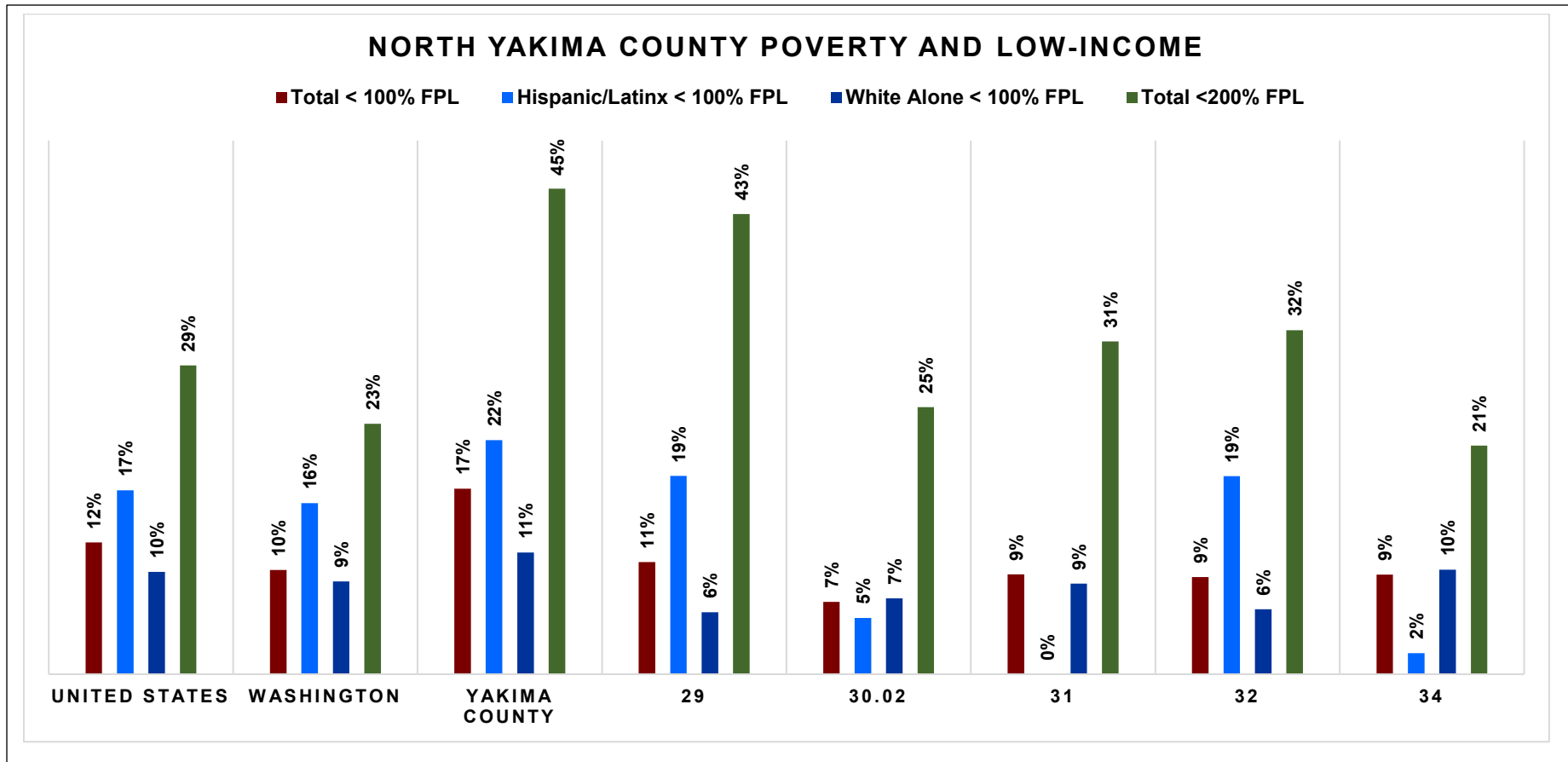
Much like the United States, Washington, and Yakima County, the North Yakima County population is spread fairly evenly across all age groups over the age of 18. North Yakima County has a higher percentage of residents under the age of 18 than the country and state.



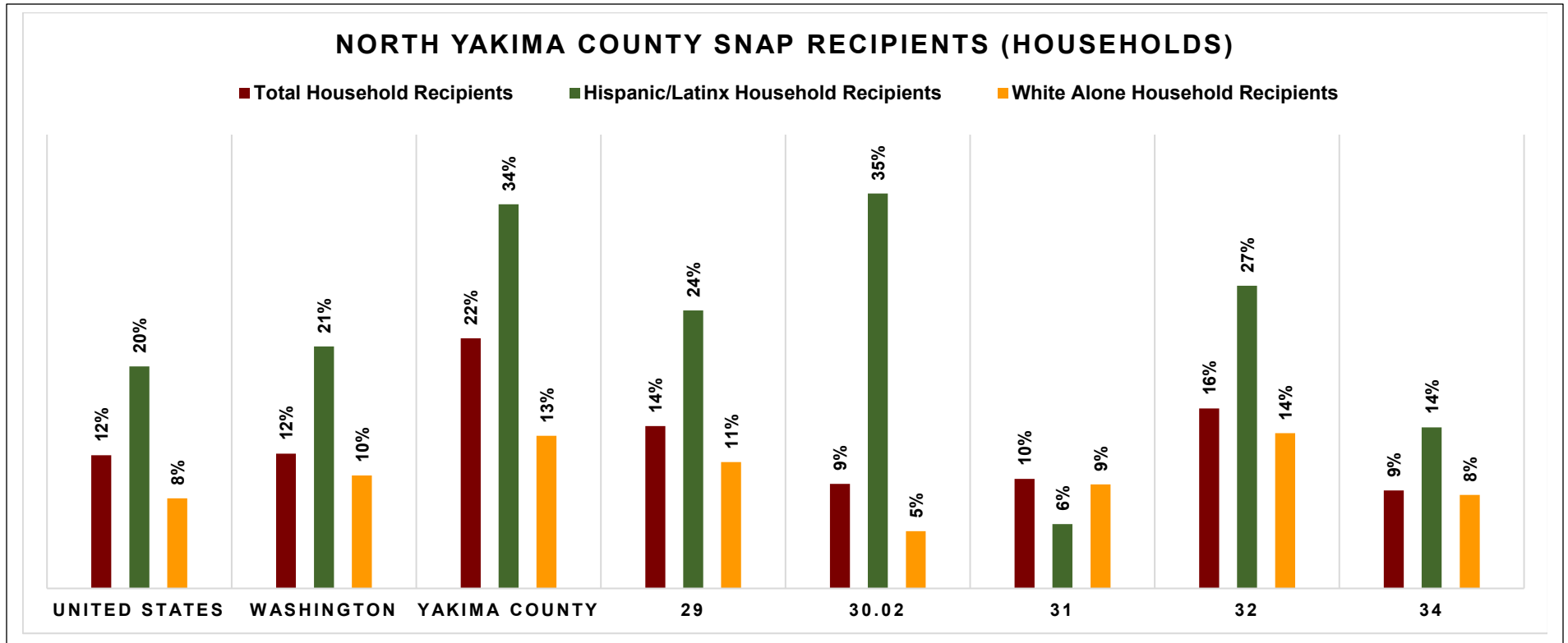
Similar to West Valley, North Yakima County has a higher percentage of White Alone residents than any other race/ethnicity, except for census tract 29 which is roughly half Hispanic/Latinx half White Alone. Census tract 29 is a large rural, farming area with agriculture one of the top three industries in the tract, which typically employs a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx people than White Alone, which could explain the difference between the other census tracts.



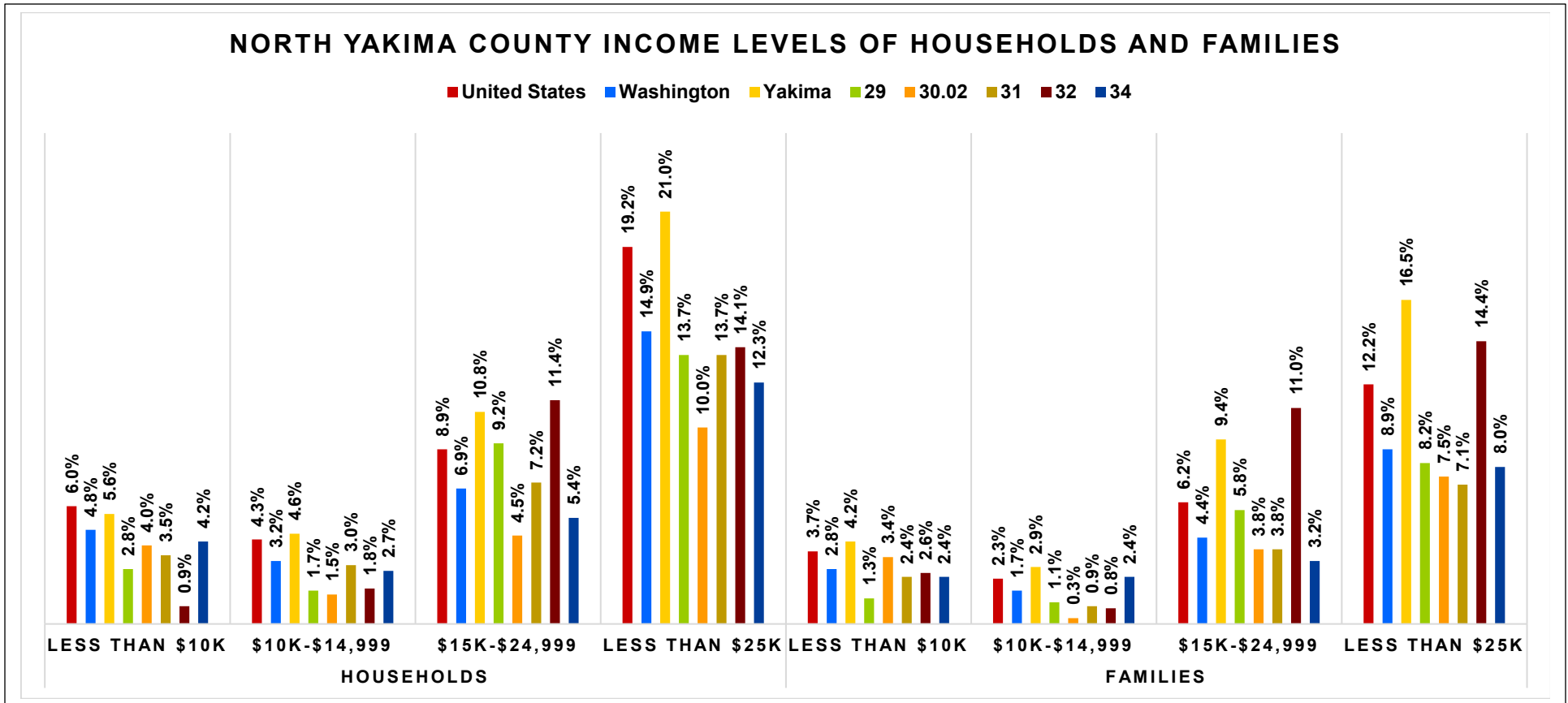
Yakima County experienced very little growth from 2015 – 2019 where as North Yakima County saw a variety of growth and declines. The area with most growth is census tract 30.02, which includes the town of Naches; whereas the most northern part of North Yakima County, census tract 31, saw the greatest decline.



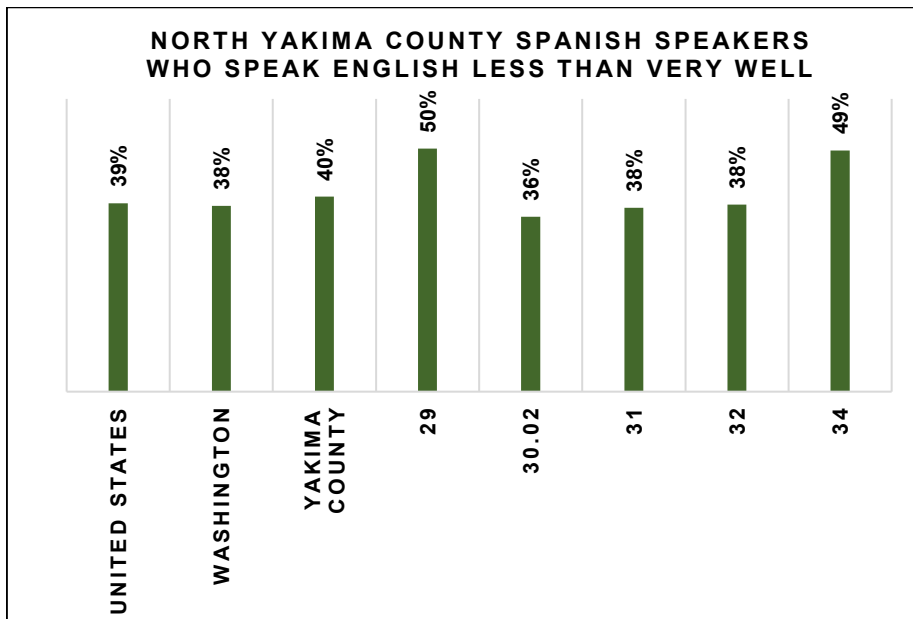
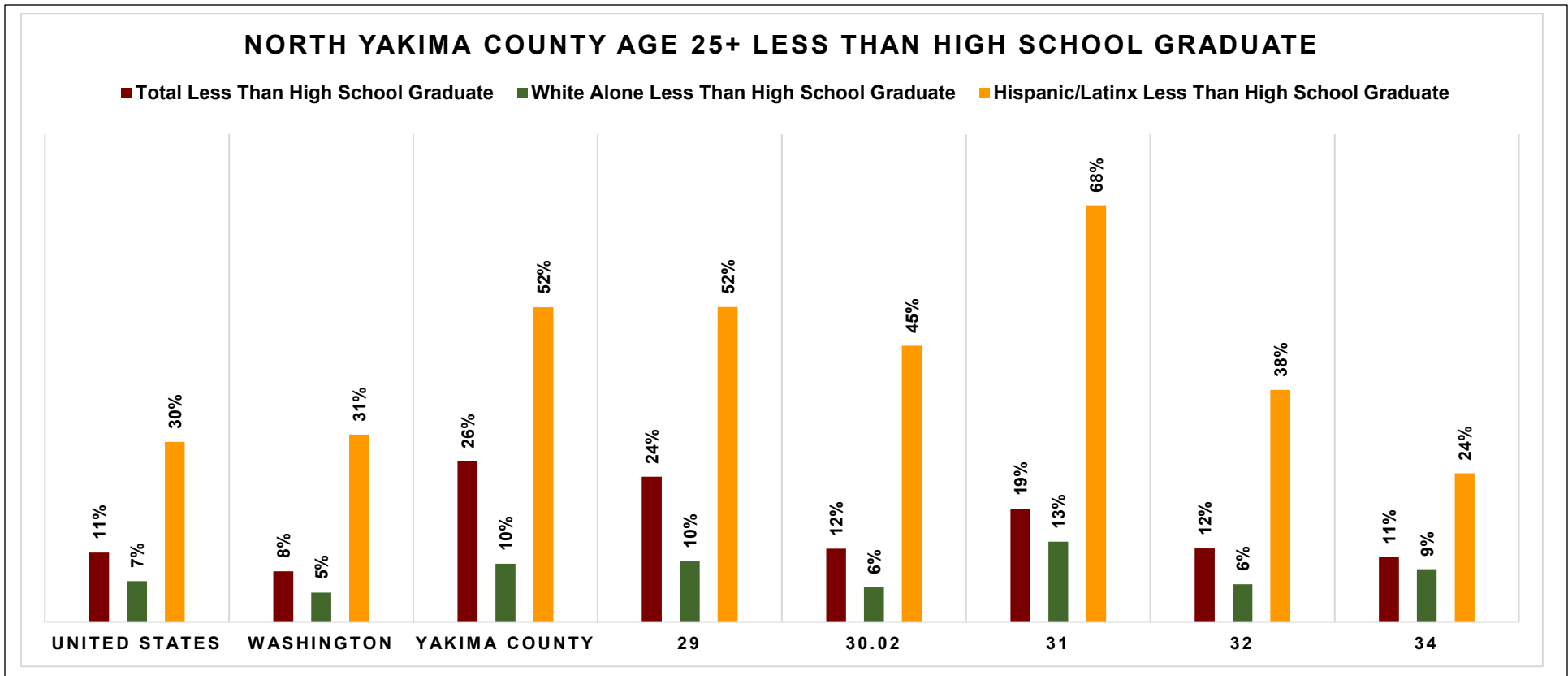
When compared to the county, North Yakima County has a lower percentage of those living in poverty and those who are low-income, except again for census tract 29. Census tract 29 has a lower cost of living than other North Yakima County census tracts, which could contribute to the higher percentages of those living in poverty and low-income.



Three out of the five have similar rates of Hispanic/Latinx SNAP household recipients compared to the county, with the other two less than the county, state, and country. For all but census tract 31, a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx households are SNAP recipients when compared to the total and White alone.

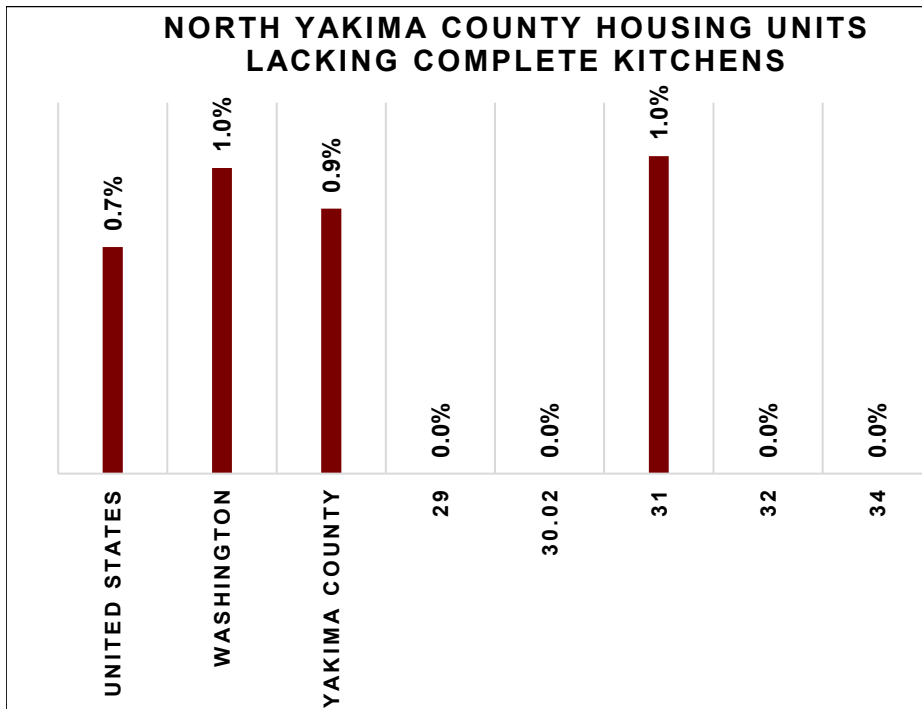
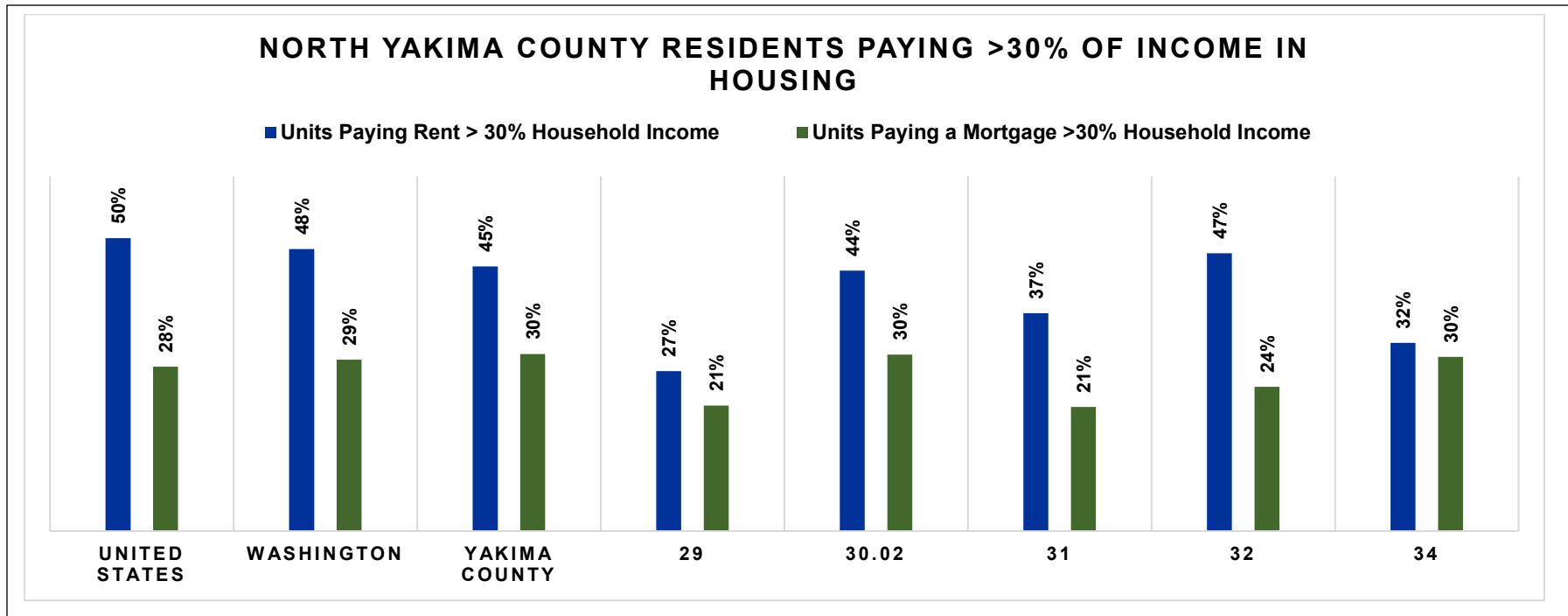


The percentages of North Yakima County households and families, across all income levels, is less than the county and less than or equal to the state and country. As with other areas of Yakima County, more North Yakima County households have an income of less than \$25,000 than families.



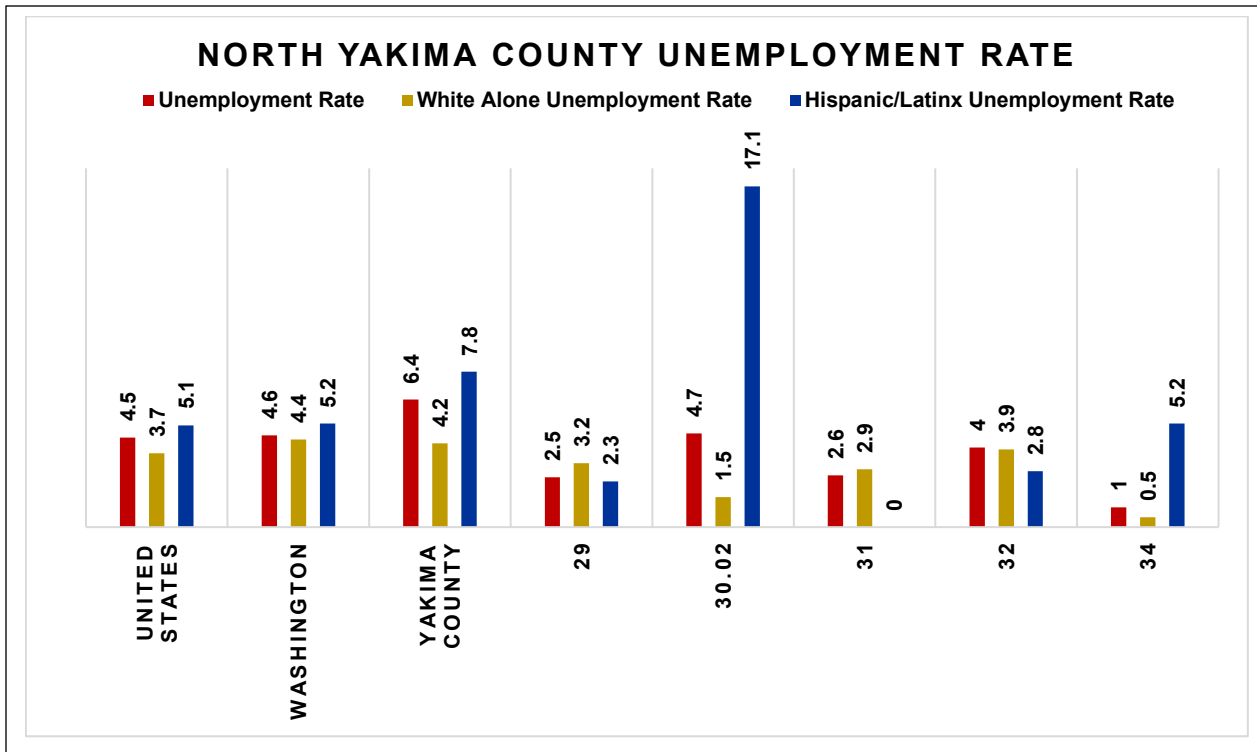
Percentages of total, White alone, and Hispanic/Latinx residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent is higher than Washington and the United States, except for tract 34 Hispanic/Latinx. Census tract 31 has a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx by at least 16%. The demographics for the additional census tracts is not very different than the county as a whole.

Census tract 29 and 34 have higher percentages of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well, otherwise the other tracts are the same or lower than the county, state, and country.



Across all census tracts, the county, state, and country, more renters than homeowners are spending more than 30% of their income on housing. However, overall the percentages for both across all census tracts are similar or lower than the percentages for the county, state, and country.

Census tract 31 is the only census tract with housing units lacking complete kitchens.

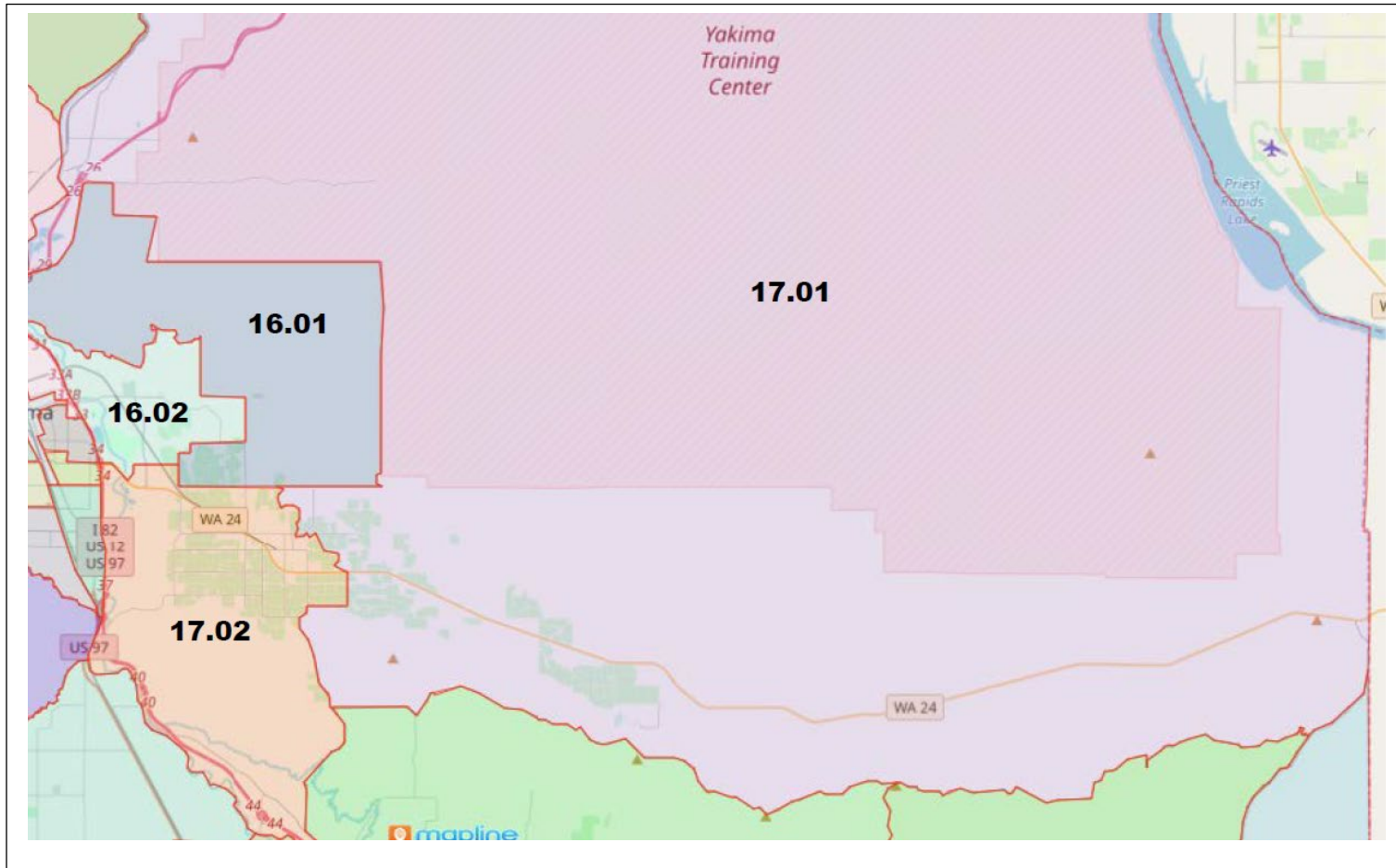


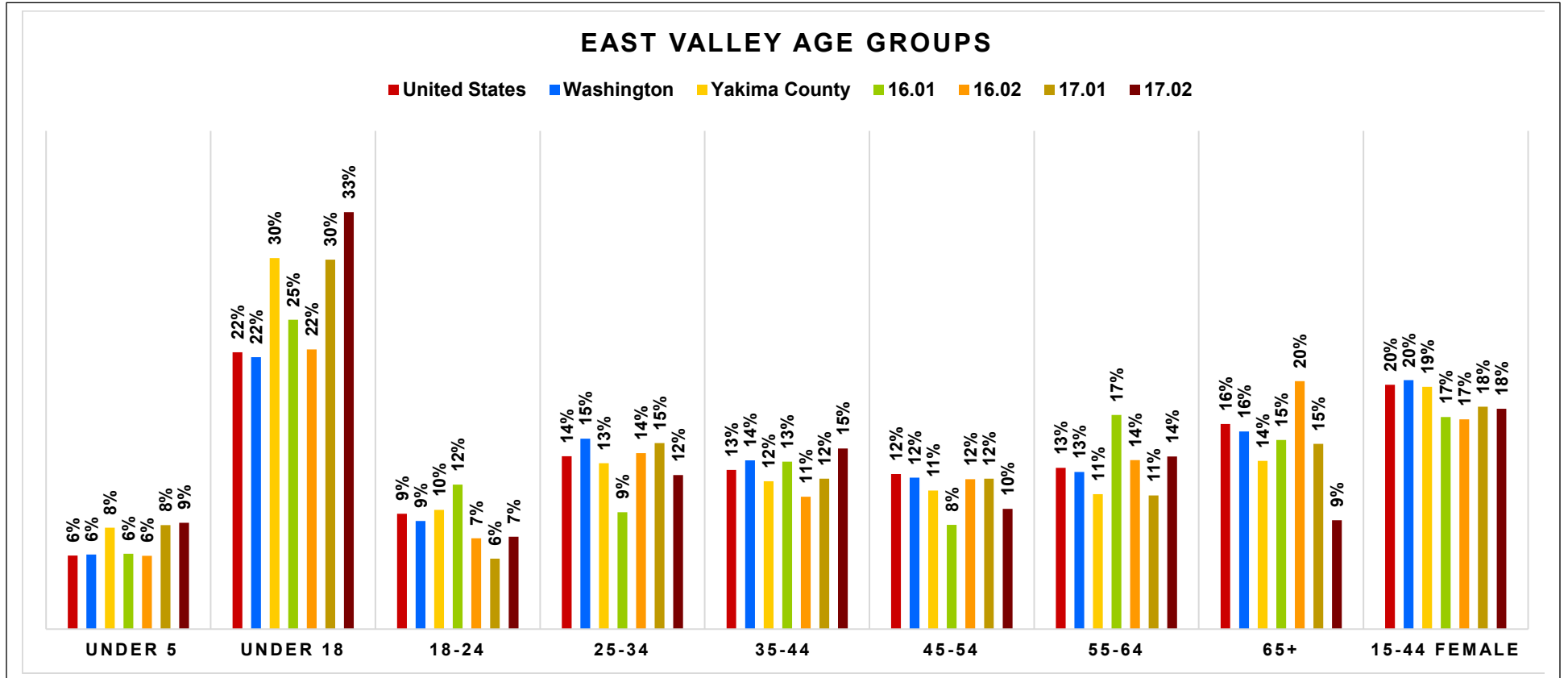
- Top 3 Industries in North Yakima County:
1. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 2. Educational services, and health care and social assistance
 3. Agriculture

Almost all of North Yakima census tracts' unemployment rate is lower than Yakima County, Washington, and the United States across all demographics. Census tract 30.02's Hispanic/Latinx unemployment rate is significantly higher than all areas at a high of 17.1. Where Hispanic/Latinx is 0 (Census tract 31), the number has been suppressed due to insufficient data.

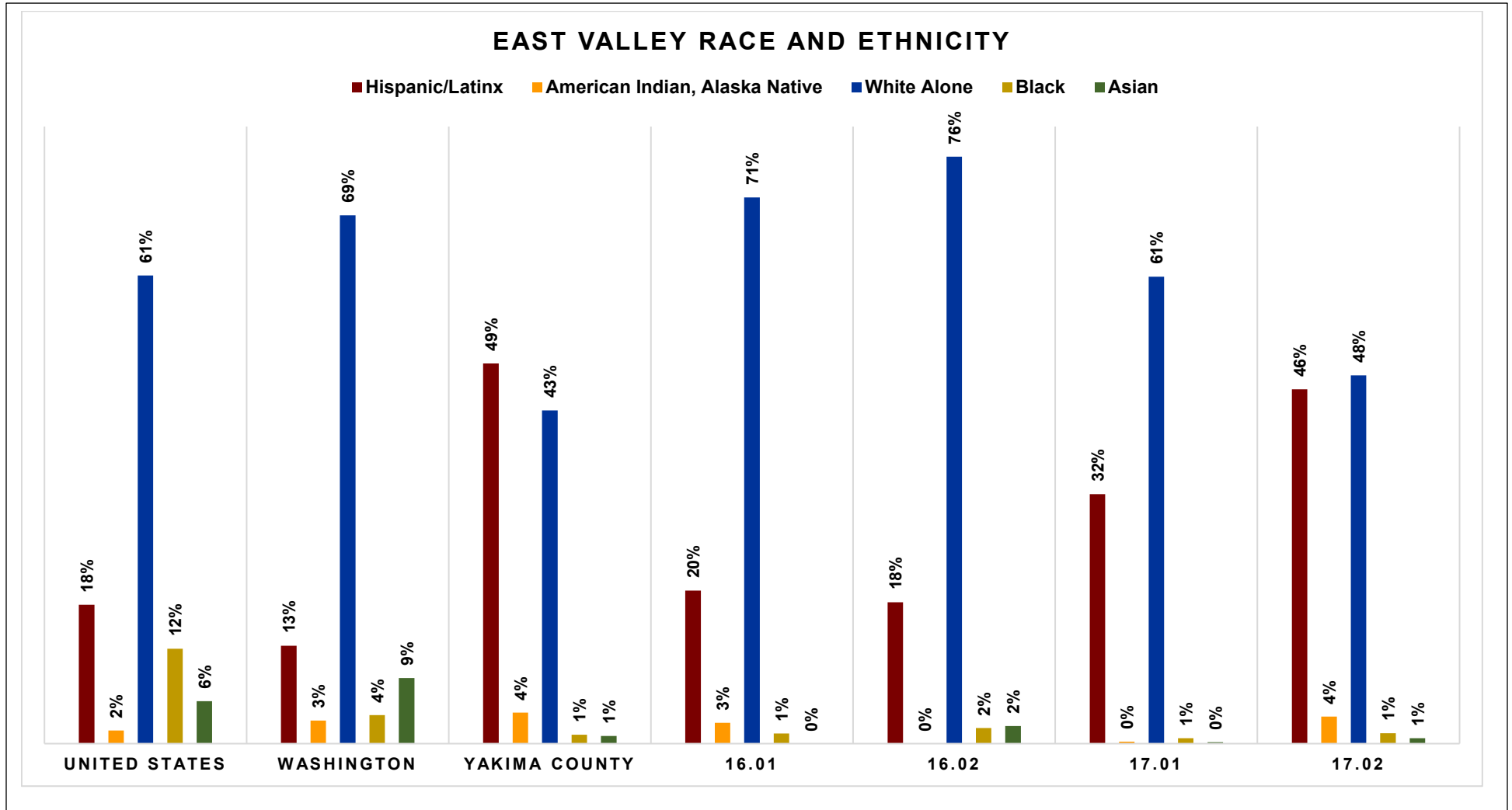
East Valley

East Valley includes Terrace Heights and the town of Moxee. It is made up of four census tracts (16.01, 16.02, 17.01, and 17.02) and is located east of Highway 82, extends north and east to county limits and slightly south of WA 24. Additionally, part of the Yakima Training Center is located in census tract 17.01. East Valley is the smallest area, in population, with 8% of Yakima County residing there.

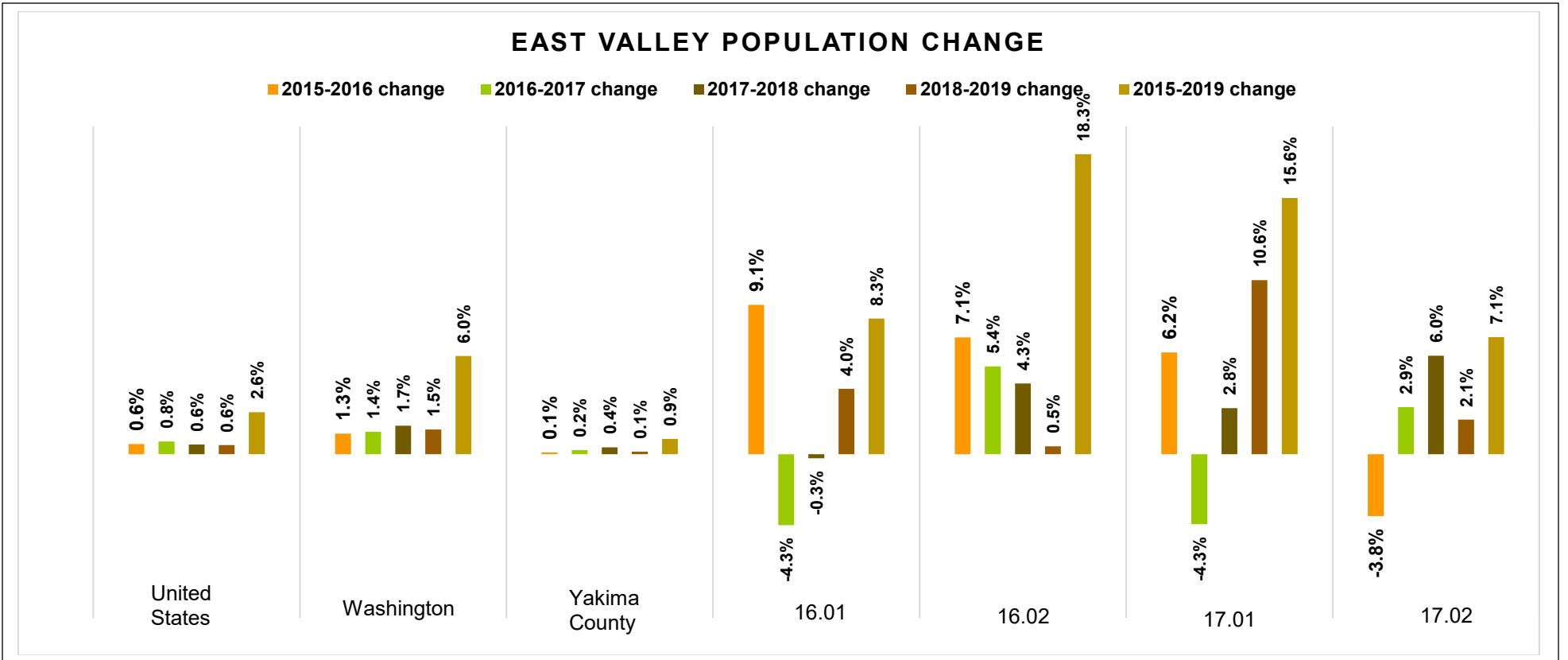




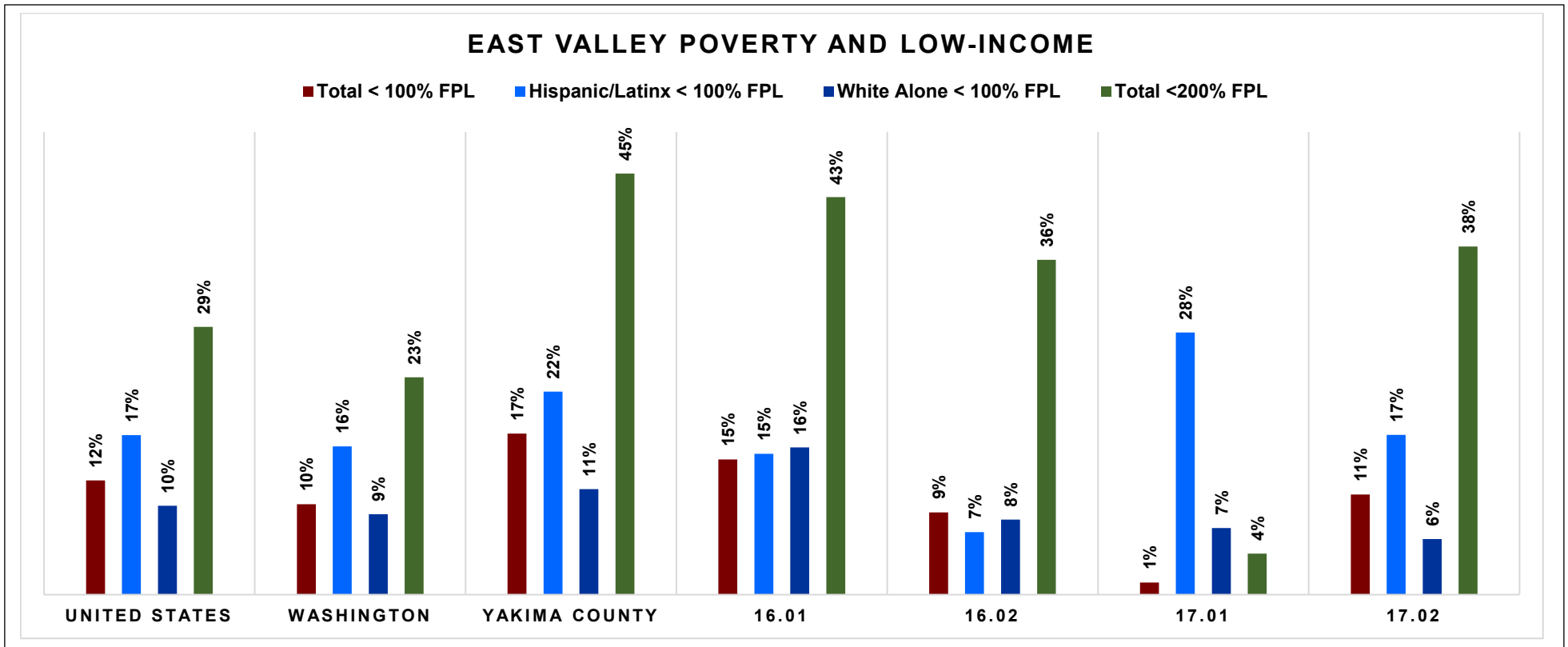
East Valley residents are spread relatively evenly among all age groups over the age of 18. Census tract 16.02 has a slightly higher percentage of those aged 65 and over; this may be because there are two 55+ communities located in that tract.



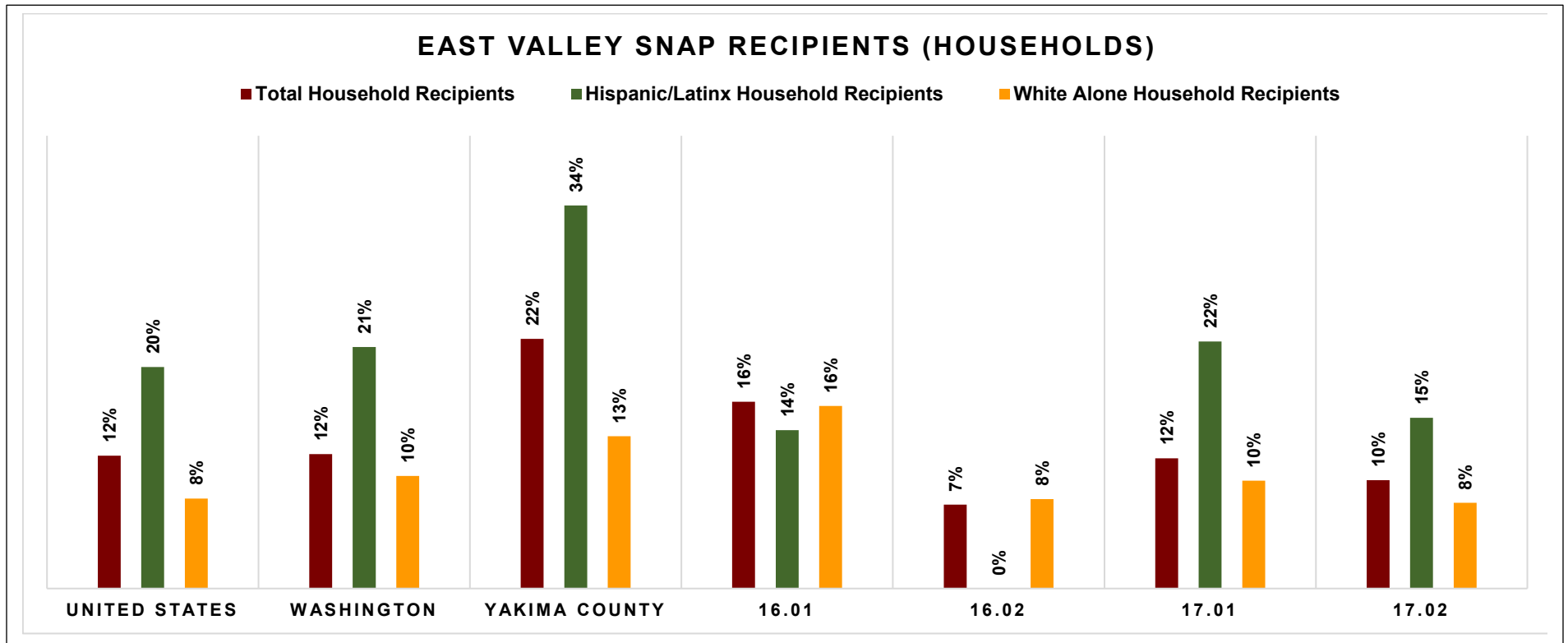
East Valley census tracts have a significantly higher White alone population than the county, and is more aligned with the state and country, except for census tract 17.02 where Hispanic/Latinx and White alone are roughly the same. The census tract 17.02 is located in the southern part of East Valley and starts to extend down towards Mid Yakima County, which has a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx residents.



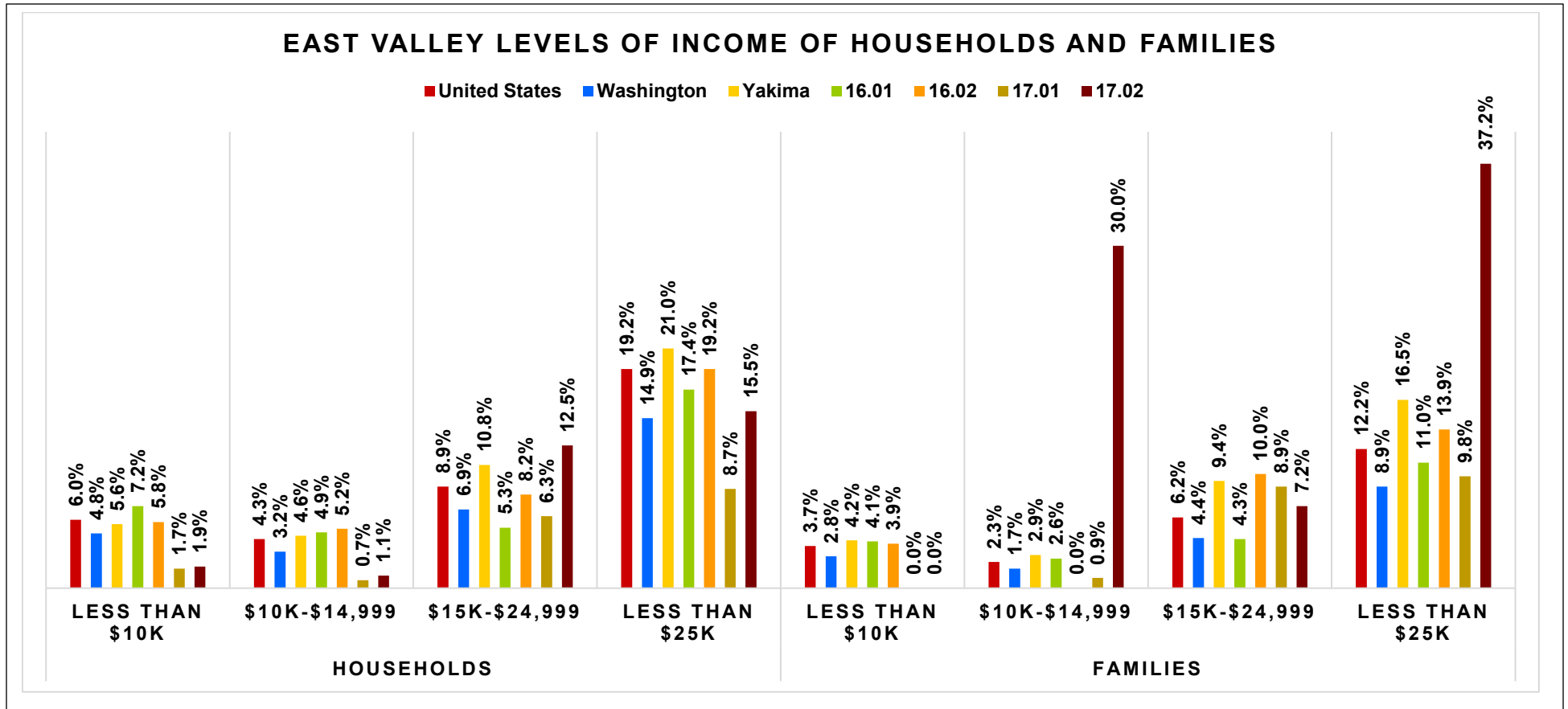
Yakima County saw very little growth from 2015 – 2019, where as all East Valley census tracts saw an increase of at least 7% in the same five-year period. Census tracts 16.02 and 17.01 saw significant growth (18.3% and 15.6% respectively) which can be attributed to the addition of several new housing developments.



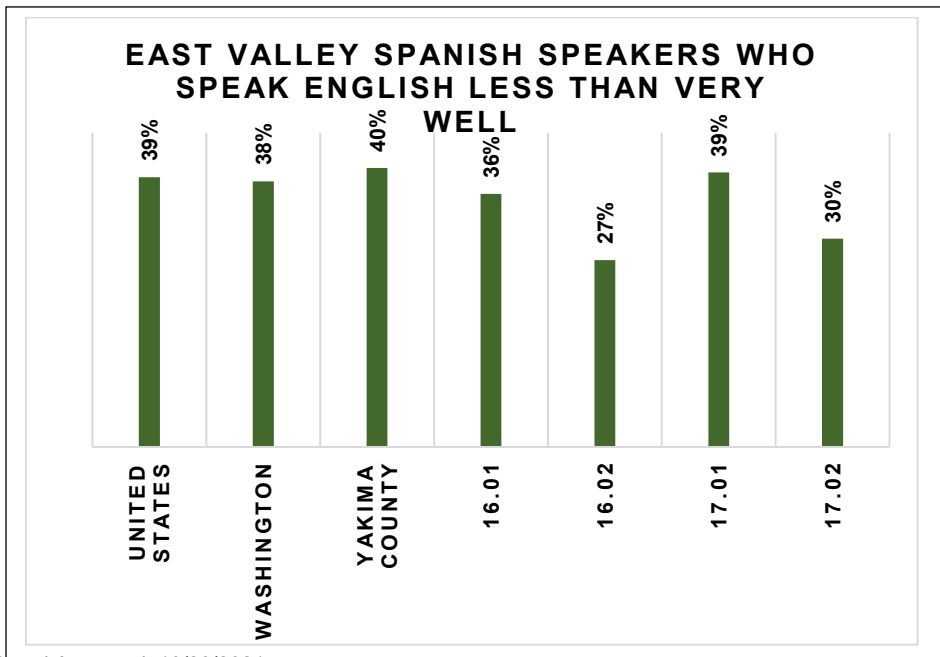
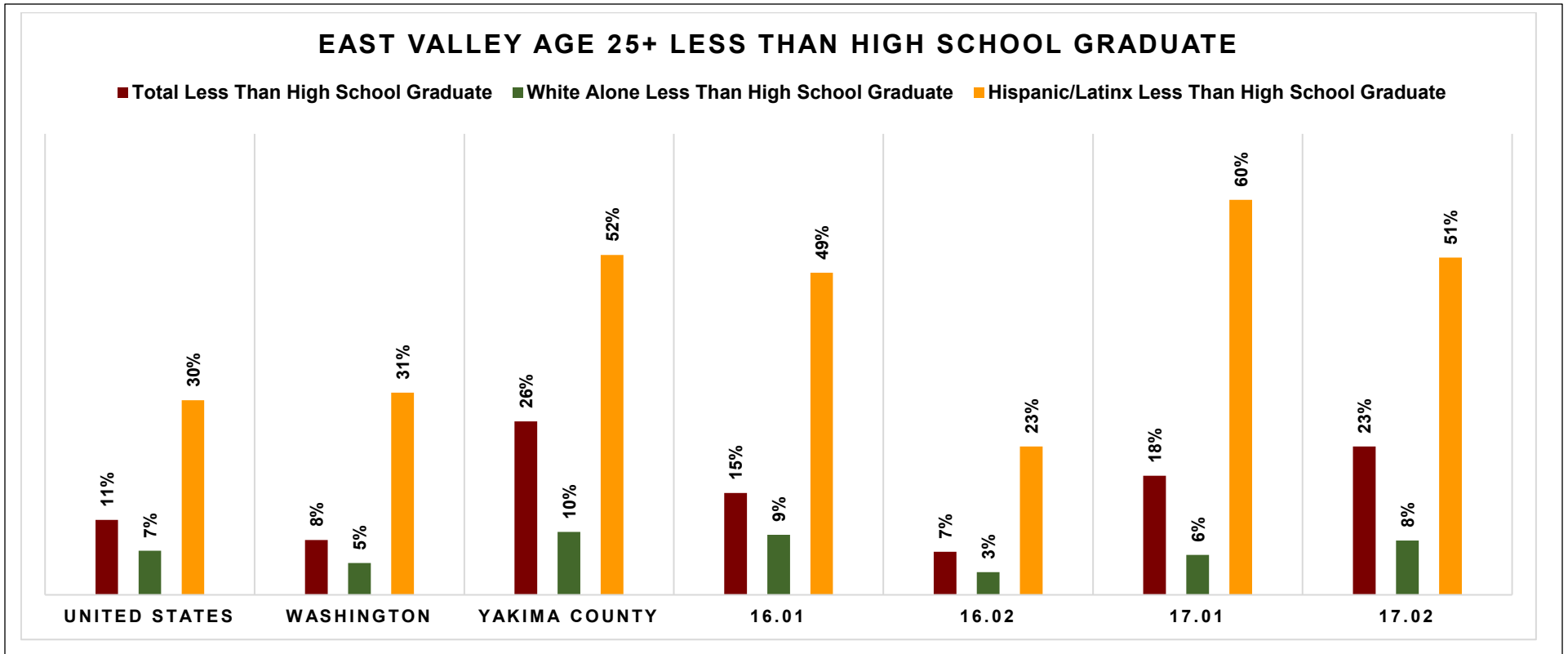
East Valley census tracts have higher percentages of those living in poverty and those who are low-income than the state and country; however all census tracts, except tract 17.01, align closely with Yakima County.



When compared to Yakima County, East Valley has lower percentages of SNAP recipients across all demographics. Three of the four census tracts align closer with Washington and the United States. Hispanic/Latinx recipients in census tract 16.02 is suppressed due to insufficient data.

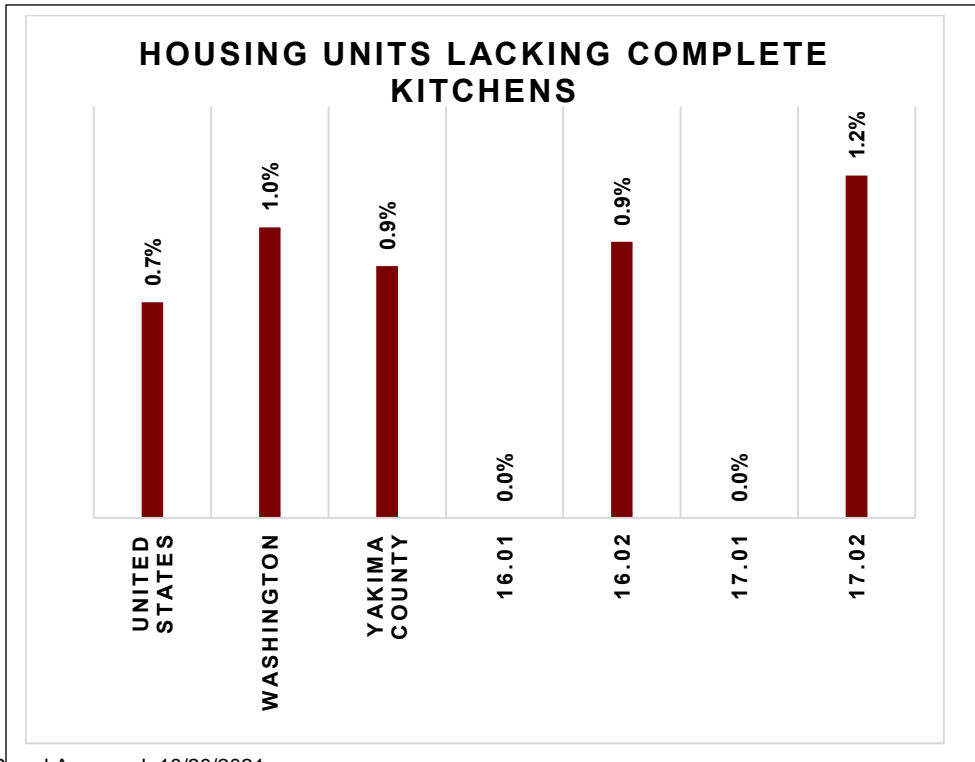
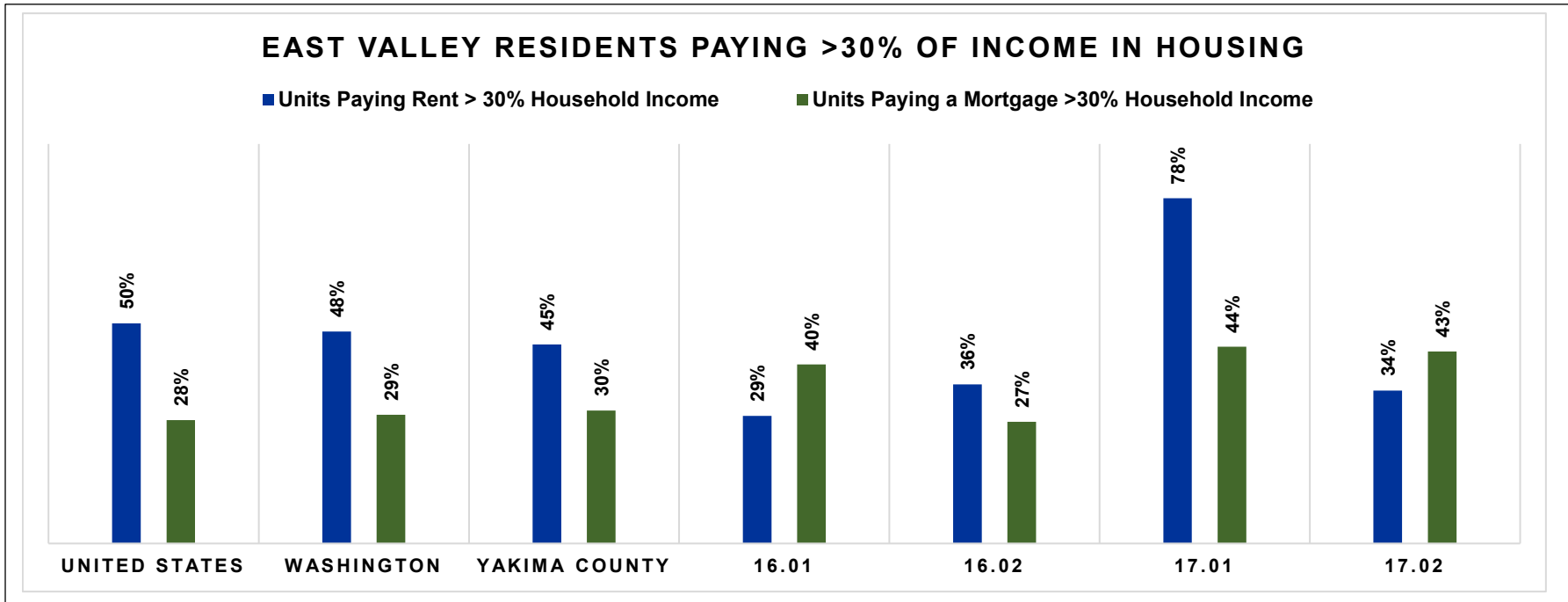


When compared to Yakima County, East Valley has a lower percentage of households and families with an income less than \$25,000. However when compared to the country and state, East Valley has a higher percentage of households and families across all levels of income.



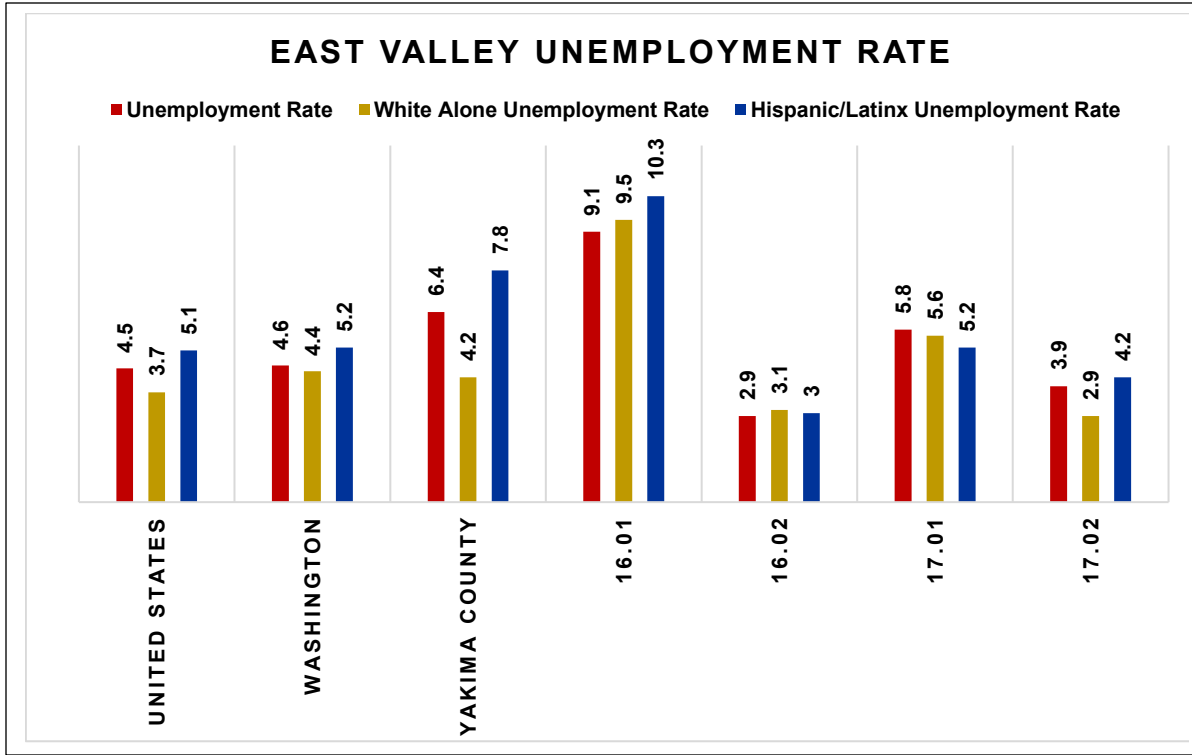
East Valley census tracts have lower percentages of total and White alone residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent than Yakima County. All but one census tract has a smaller percentage of Hispanic/Latinx residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma than the county, but only one is less than the state and country as well.

When compared to the county, all tracts have a smaller percentage of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well, with three smaller than the state and country as well.



Renters who pay more than 30% of their income on rent in all but one census tract (17.01) is less than Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. Census tract 17.01 has a significant amount of renters who are burdened by housing costs. In regards to homeowners who pay more than 30% of their income on their mortgage, all but one tract is higher than the county, state, and country.

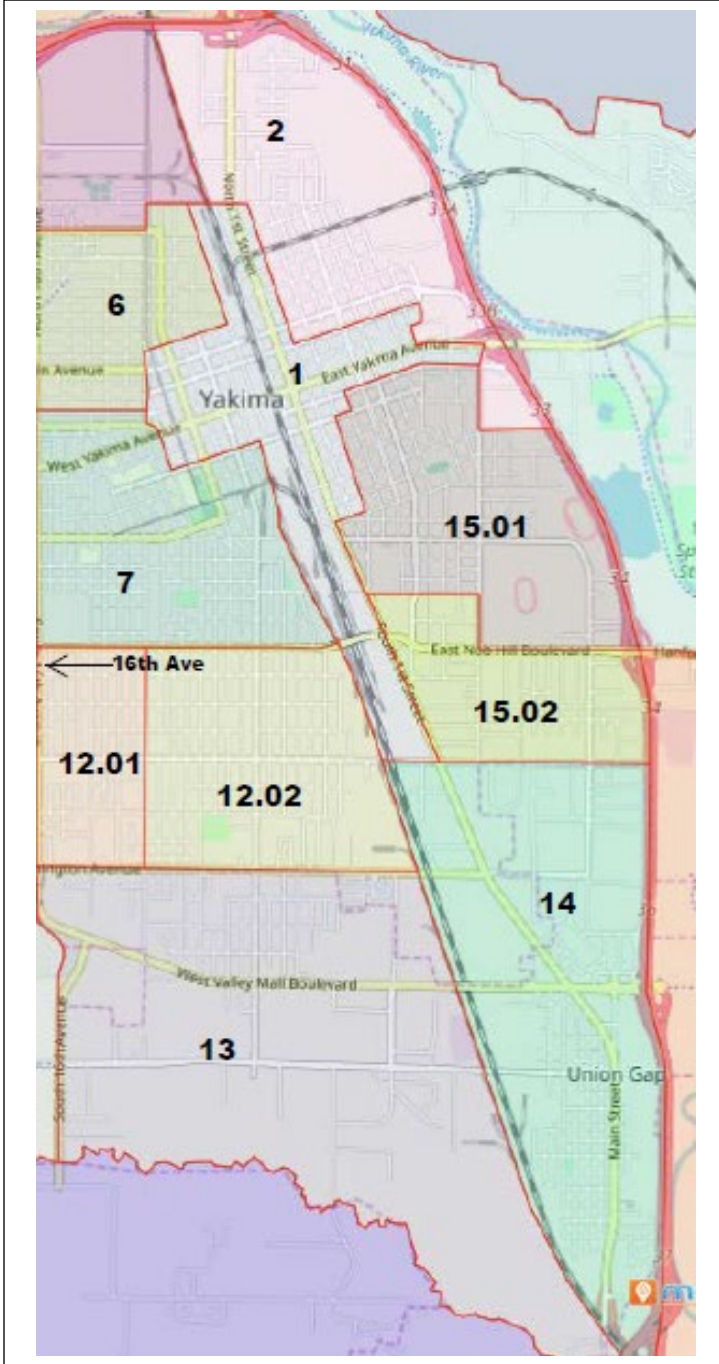
Census tract 17.02 has the highest percentage of housing units lacking complete kitchens (1.2%), with tract 16.02 close behind at 0.9%. Residents who do not have complete kitchens may not have a way to prepare or store healthier food, which just adds to their food insecurity.



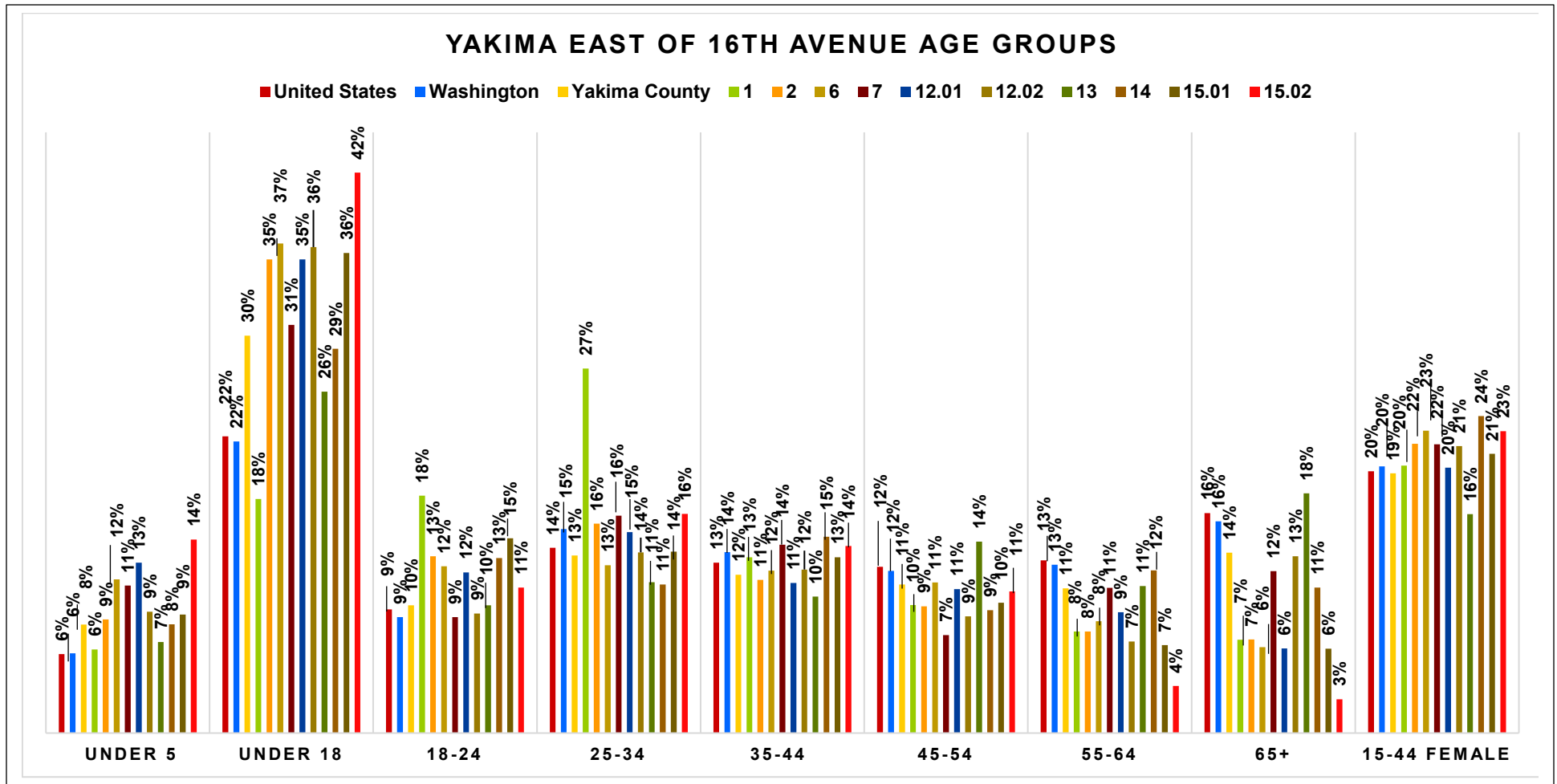
- Top 3 Industries in East Valley:
- Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 - Educational services, and health care and social assistance
 - Agriculture

East Valley unemployment rates vary greatly when compared to the county, state, country, and each other. Census tracts 16.01 and 17.01 have higher unemployment rates than all other areas, across all demographics, with 16.01 significantly higher. Census tracts 16.02 and 17.01 are lower than the county, state, and country.

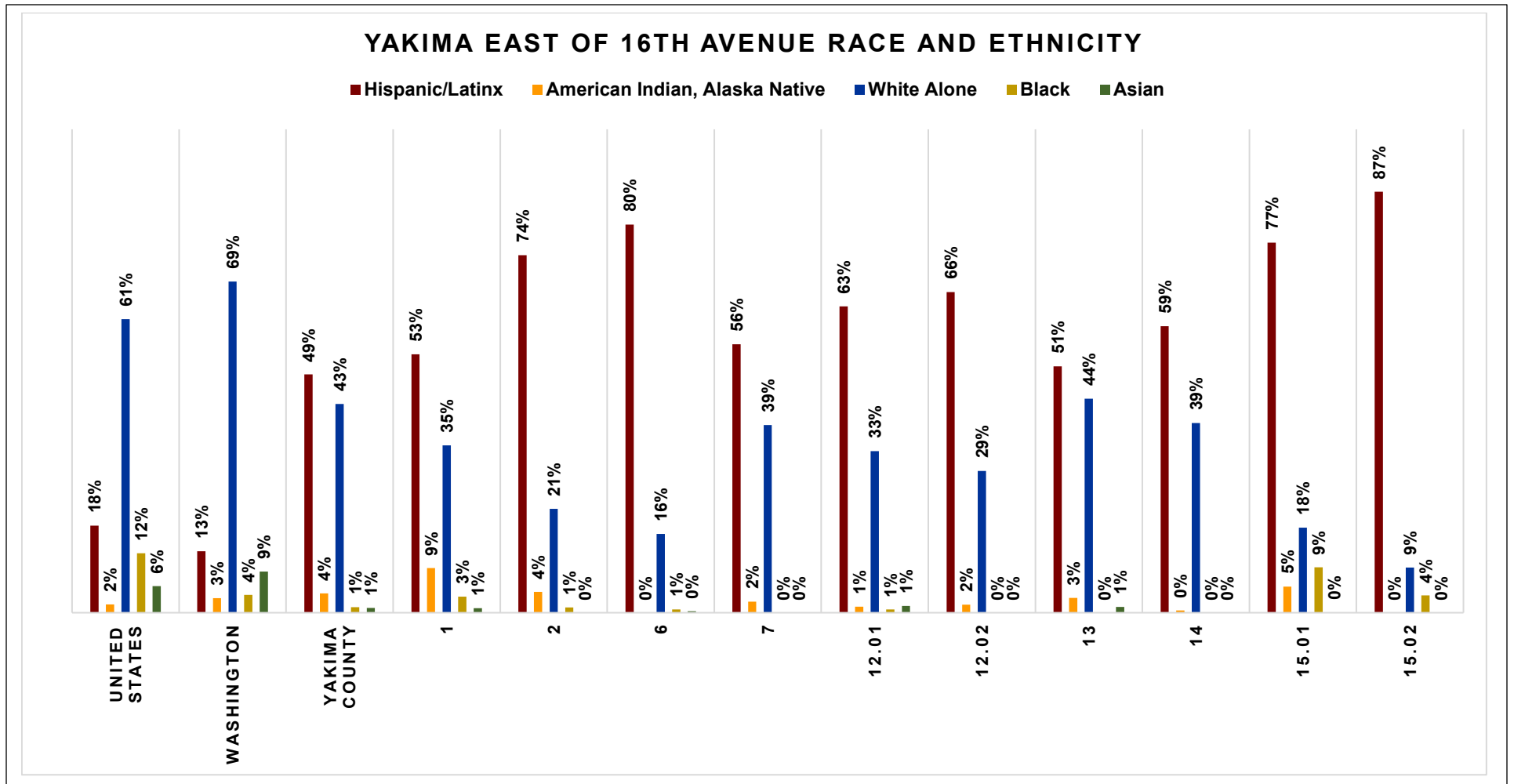
Yakima East of 16th Avenue



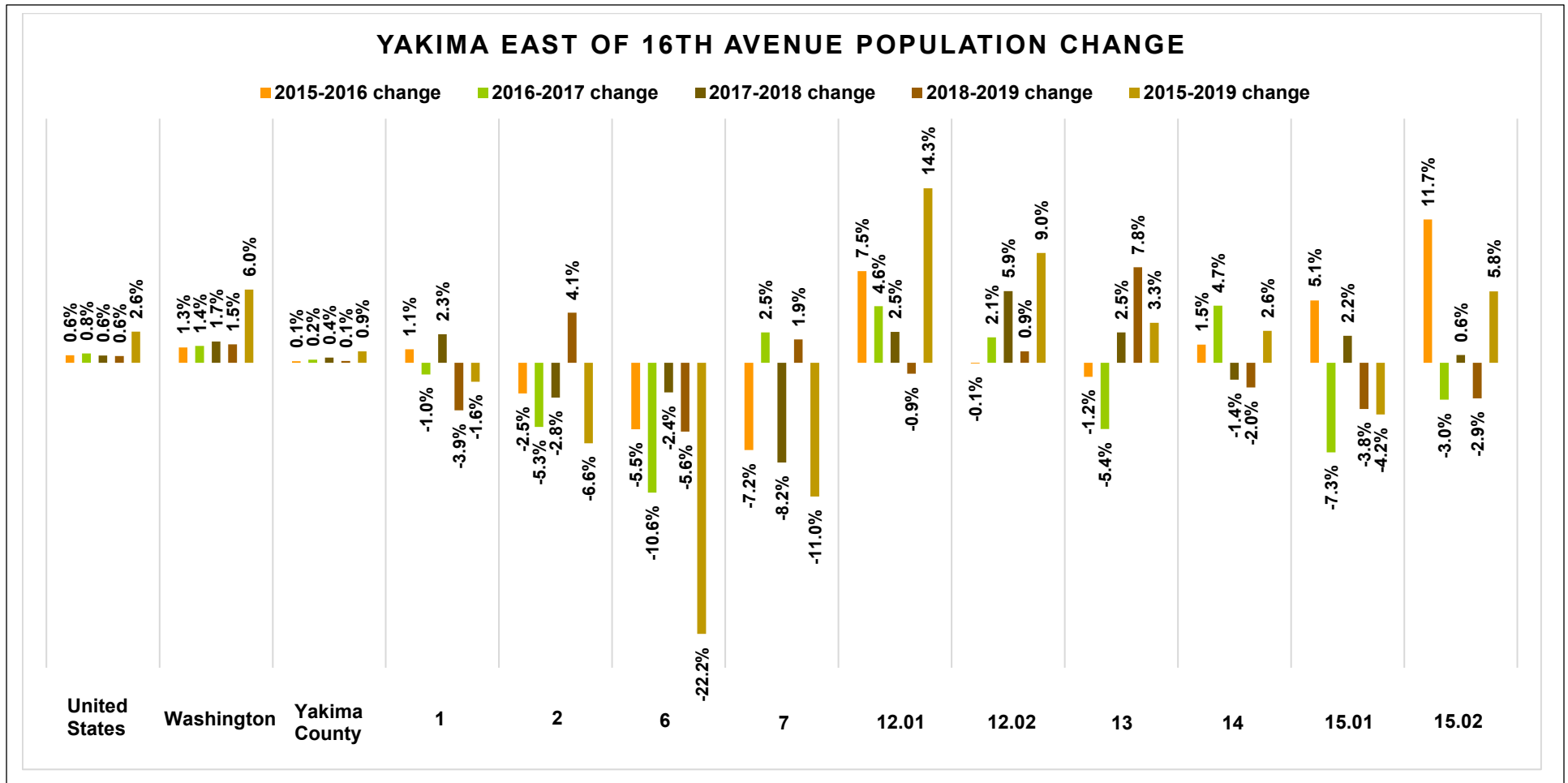
Yakima East of 16th Avenue includes ten census tracts (1, 2, 6, 7, 12.01, 12.02, 13, 14, 15.01, 15.02) and is located east of 16th Avenue, west of Highway 82, south of Highway 12, continuing south to a little past Ahtanum Road. This part of Yakima County is more densely populated and has a myriad of commercialized and industrialized areas. Of the 249,697 people living in Yakima County, 20% live within Yakima East of 16th Avenue.



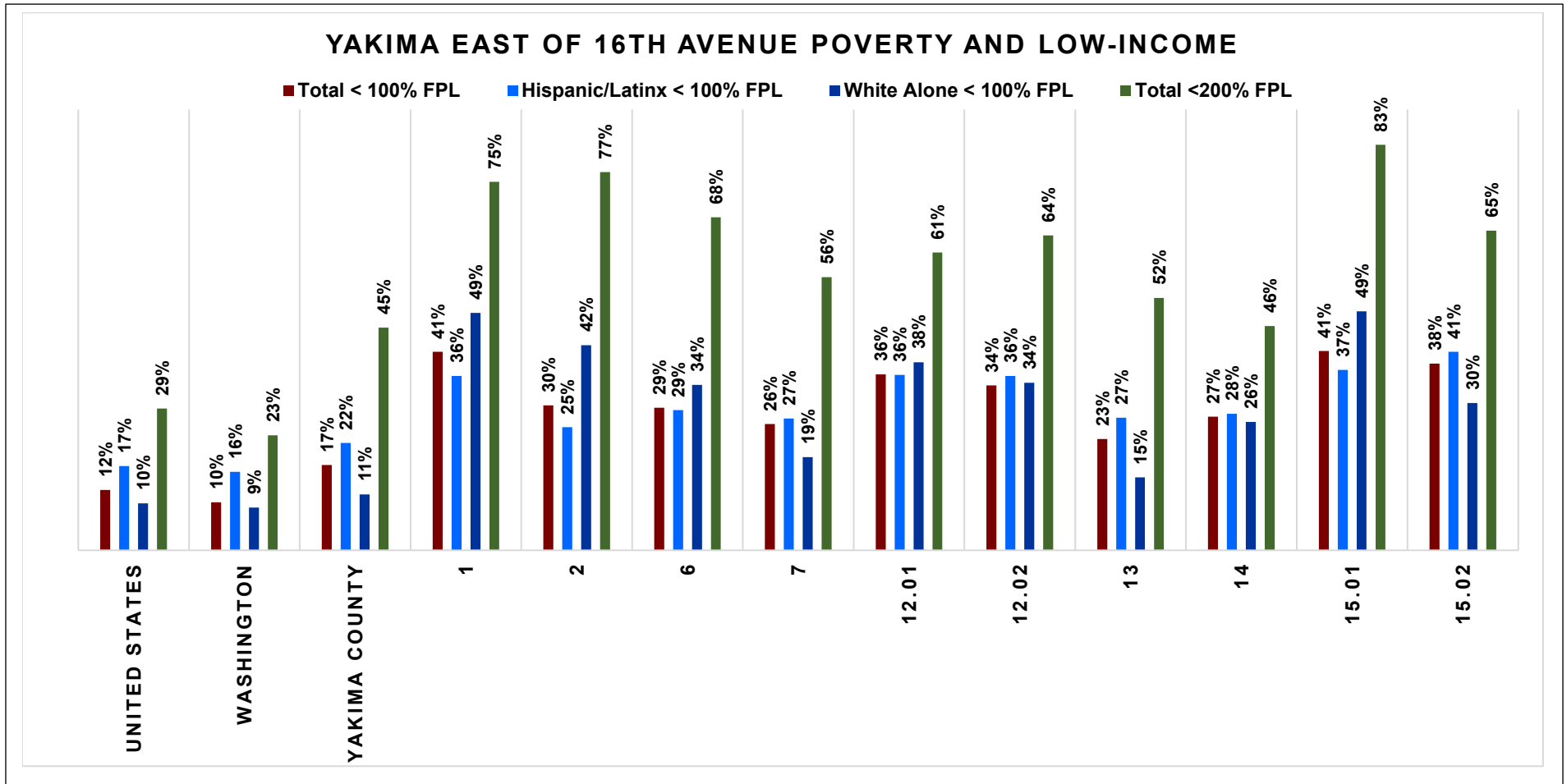
Yakima East of 16th Avenue census tracts have a higher percentage of residents under the age of 18 than the county, state, and country. Specifically, over 40% of residents in census tract 15.02 are under the age of 18. Moreover, census tract 1 has a higher percentage of 18-24 and 25-34 residents than the other census tracts, county, state, and country. Overall, Yakima East of 16th Avenue’s population is weighted on the younger side, more so than the United States, Washington, and Yakima County.



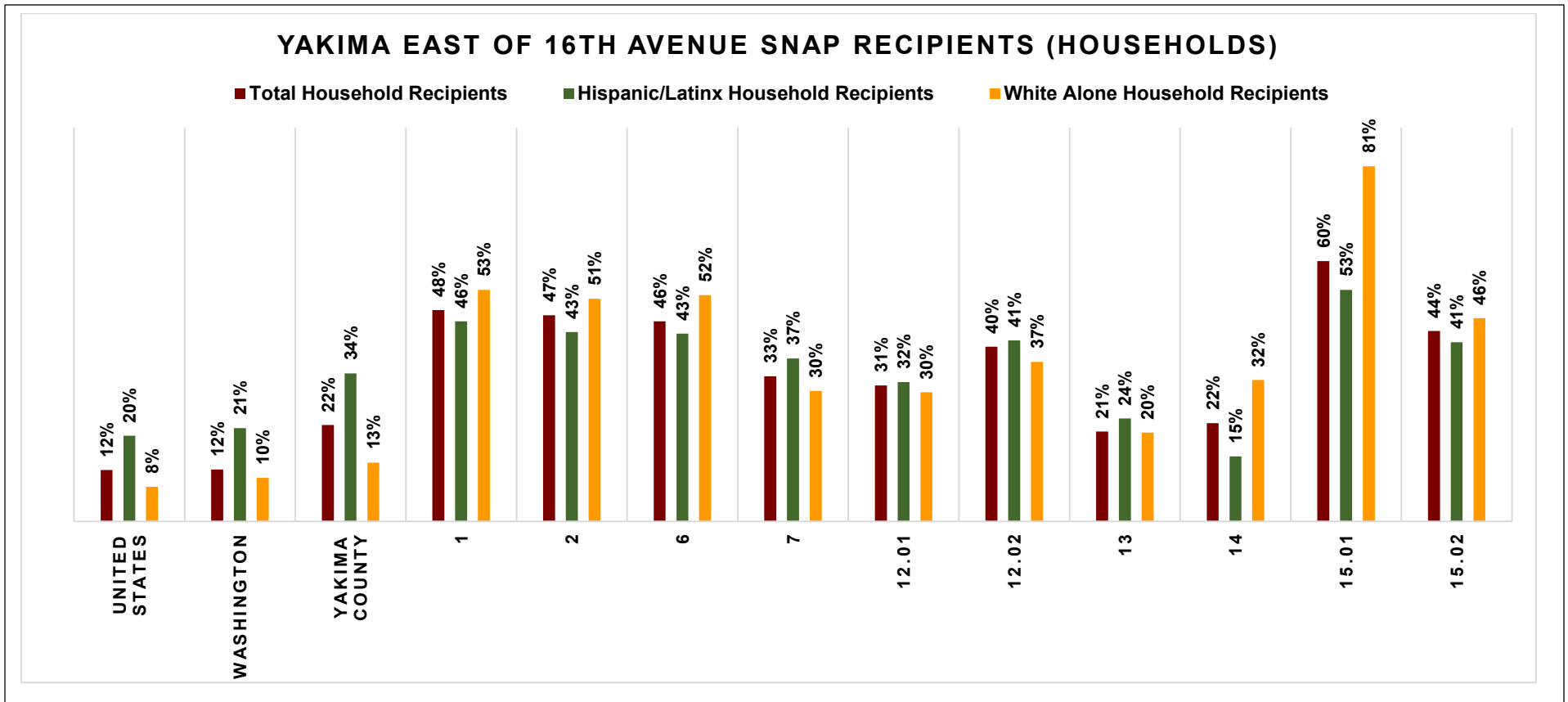
Yakima East of 16th Avenue residents are predominantly Hispanic/Latinx with all census tracts higher than Yakima County. Additionally, except for one census tract (13), the percentage of White alone is less than the county, state, and country.



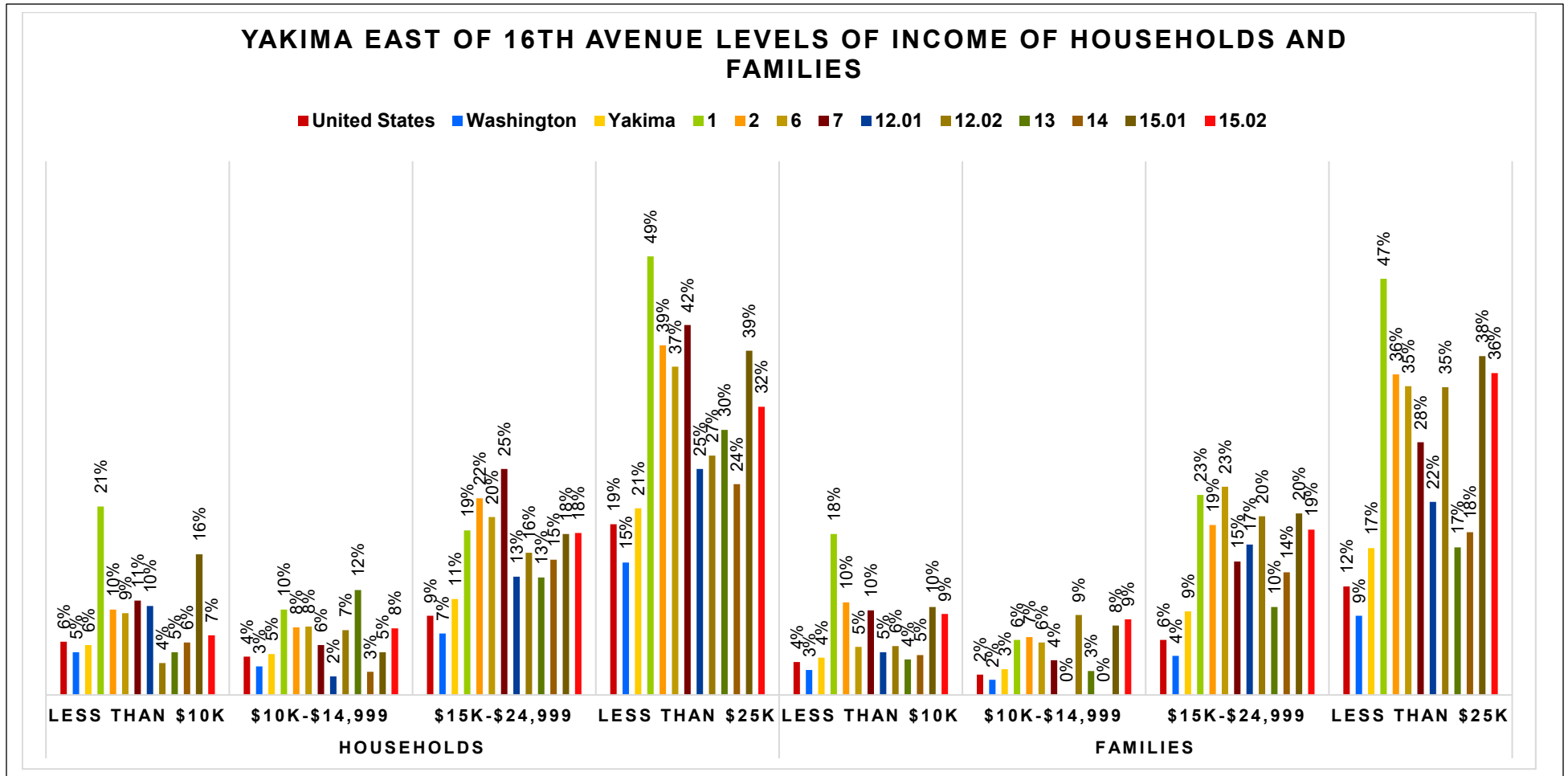
While Yakima County saw very little growth over a five-year period, Yakima East of 16th Avenue saw an overall decline over the same period. From 2015 to 2019 five census tracts had a population decline anywhere from 1.6% to a high of 22.2%; where as the other five census tracts' growth ranged from 2.6% to a high of 14.3%. These high increases and decreases could be attributed to the fact that there is temporary housing located in this area.



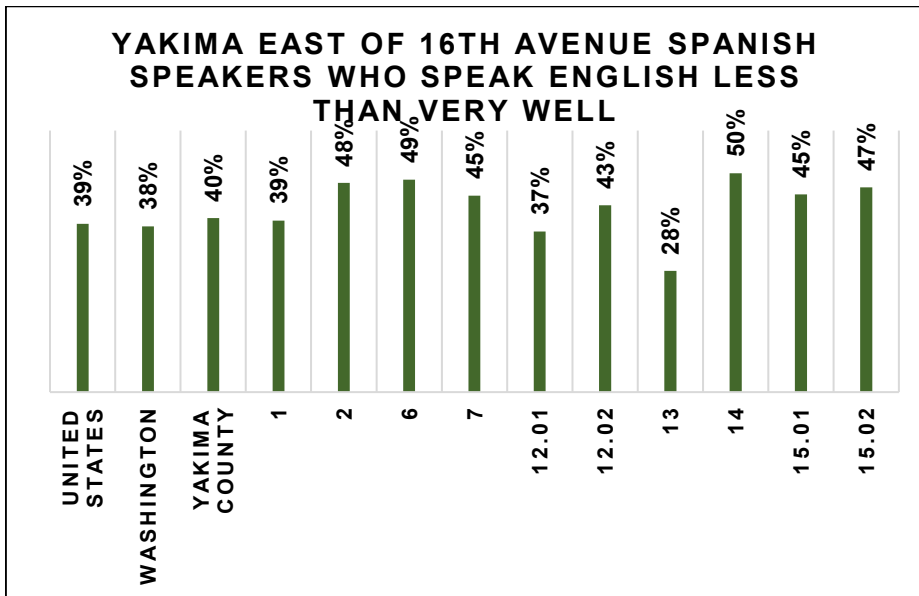
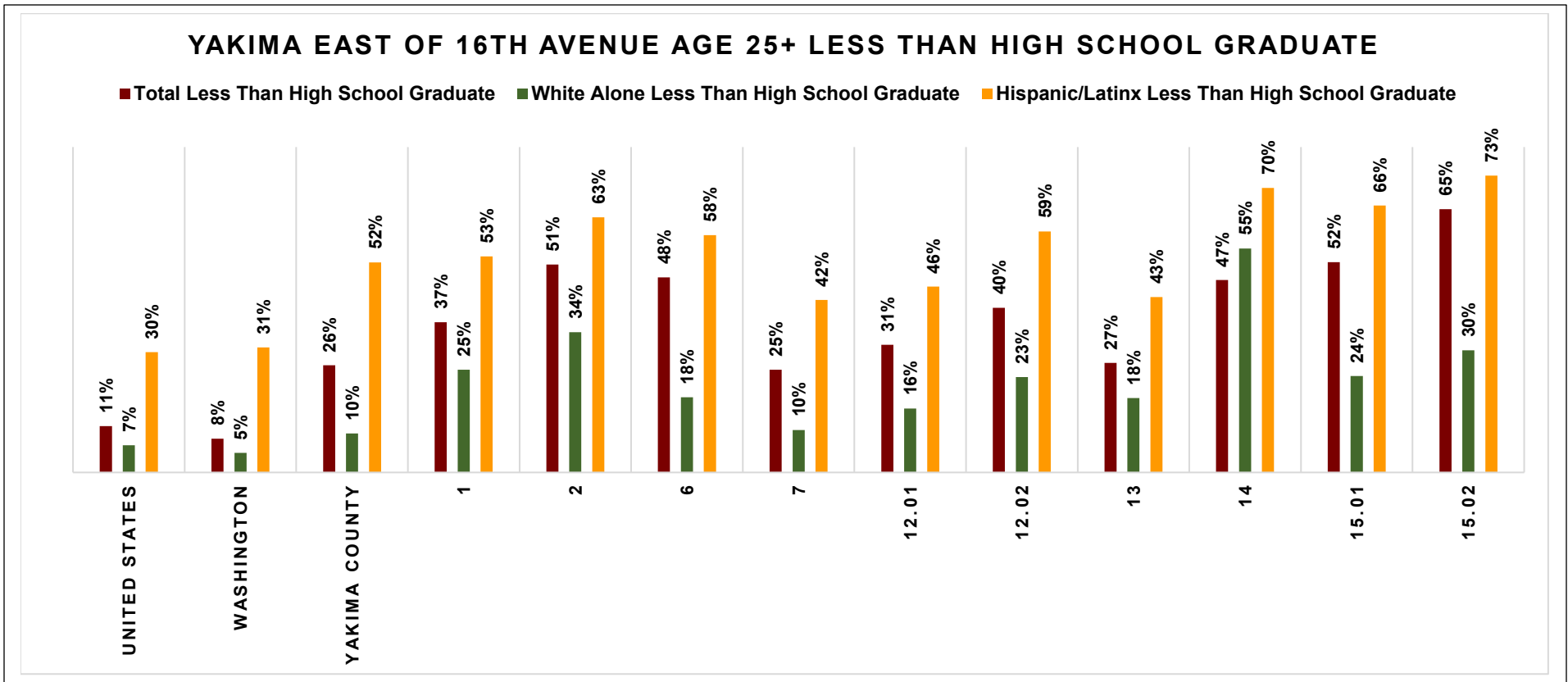
For most census tracts total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone residents living in poverty are fairly similar with all under 50%. Total residents who are low-income varies widely from 46% to 83%, with census tracts 13 and 14 the lowest and only ones under 50%.



Most of Yakima East of 16th Avenue has higher percentages of households who are SNAP recipients than Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. For total and Hispanic/Latinx recipients census tract 13 and 14 are lower than the county with Hispanic/Latinx more in line with the state and country. Percentage of White alone household recipients is higher across all census tracts than the county, state, and country.

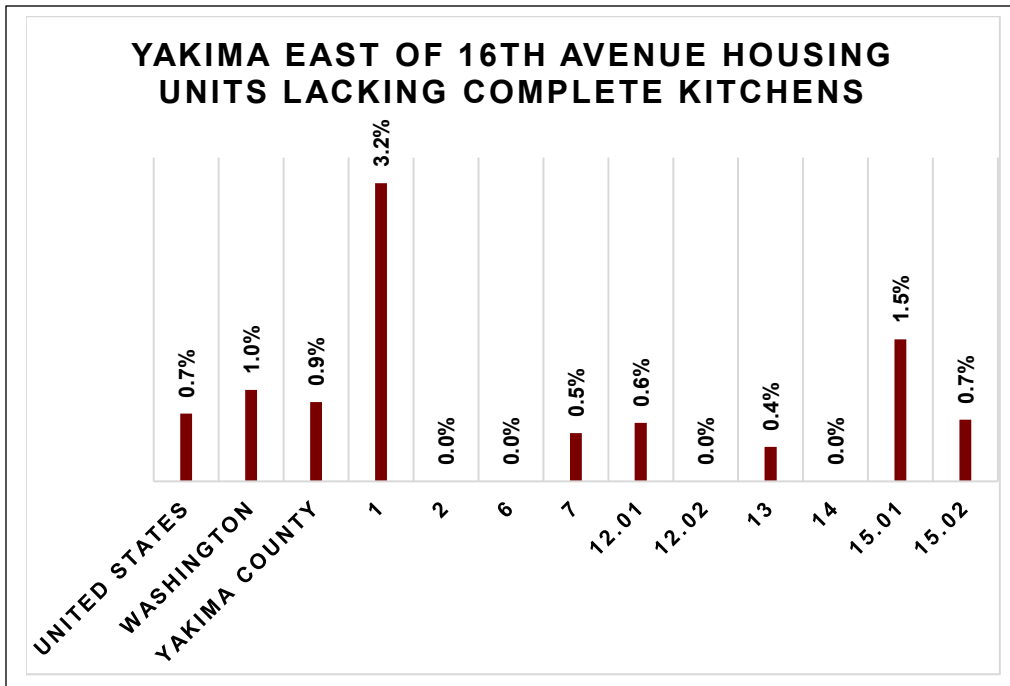
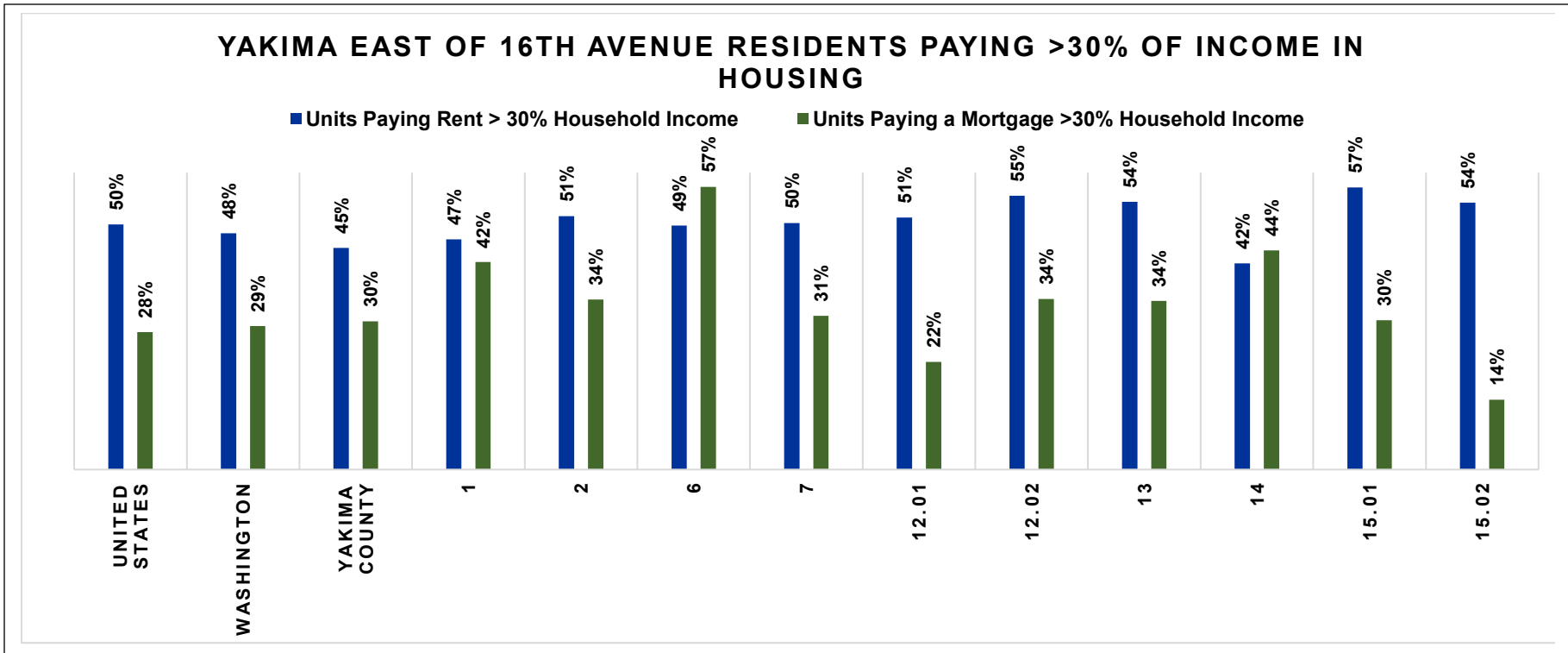


Yakima East of 16th Avenue, especially census tract 1, has a higher rate of households and families whose income is less than \$25,000. Census tract 1 has a significantly higher percentage of households and families whose income is less than \$10,000- this anomaly could be attributed to the fact that census tract 1 houses several homeless shelters as well as, temporary and transitional housing. As a whole, Yakima East of 16th Avenue is more economically depressed than the county.



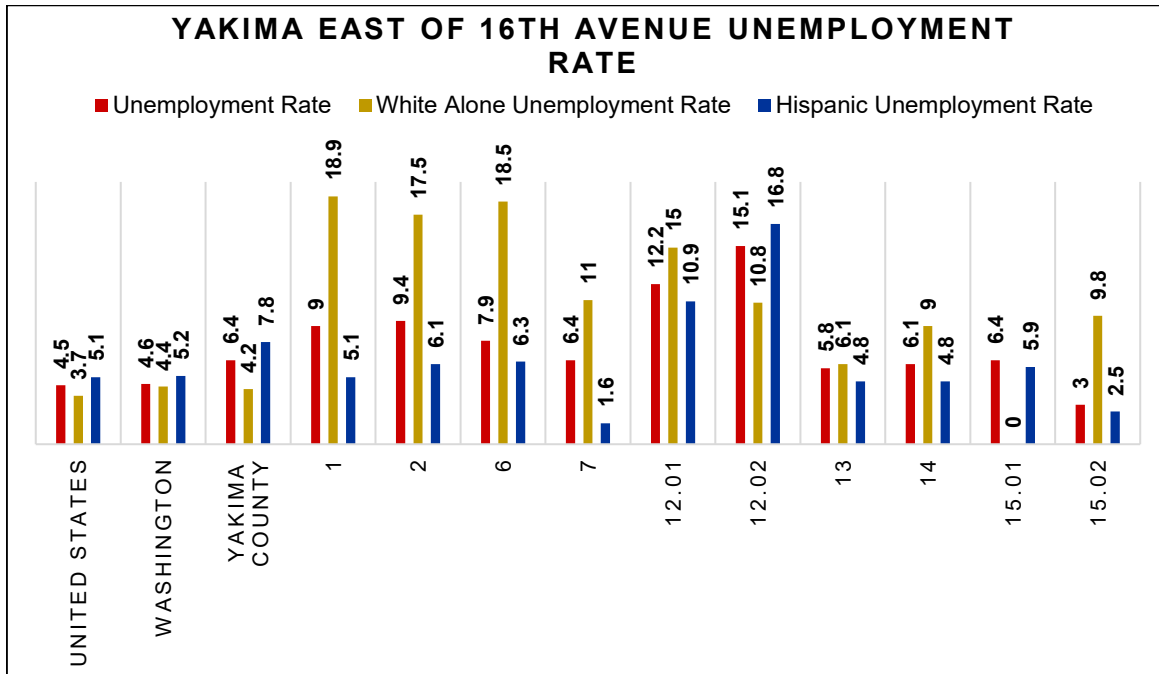
When compared to Washington and the United States all census tracts in Yakima East of 16th Avenue have higher percentage of total, White alone, and Hispanic/Latinx residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent. Only two of the ten census tracts have lower percentages across all demographics than Yakima County (tracts 7 and 13).

All, except two census tracts, have a higher percentage of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well compared to Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. Census tracts 12.01 and 13 have lower percentages across all areas, and are also tracts with two of the lowest percentages of Hispanic/Latinx residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent.



Almost half of Yakima East of 16th Avenue’s renters are paying more than 30% of their income on rent (42% - 57%), whereas less homeowners are paying more than 30% of their income on their mortgage (14% - 57%, all but one under 44%). The percentages of house poor owners falls in line with the county, state, and country; where as the percentages of burdened renters is mostly higher.

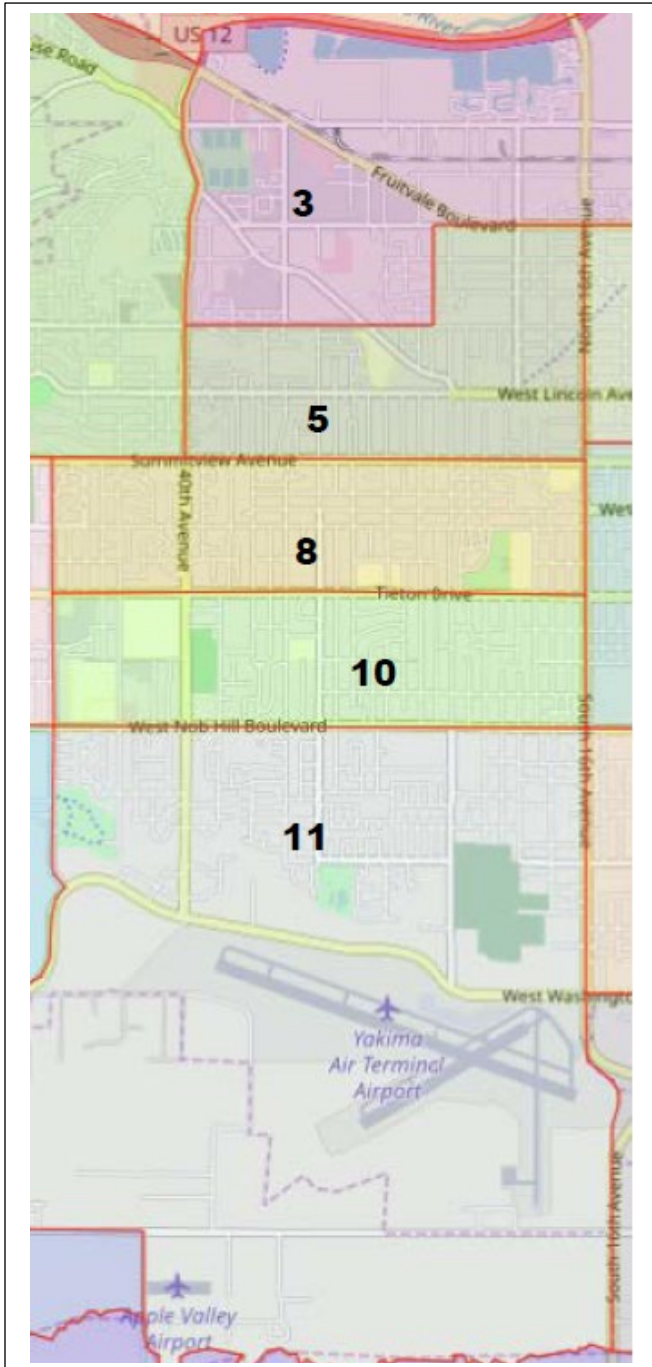
Census tract 1 has a significantly higher percentage of housing units without a complete kitchen than the other tracts, county, state, and country. This area of Yakima has a lot of motel housing, RV parks, and studios, which may lack parts of a complete kitchen.



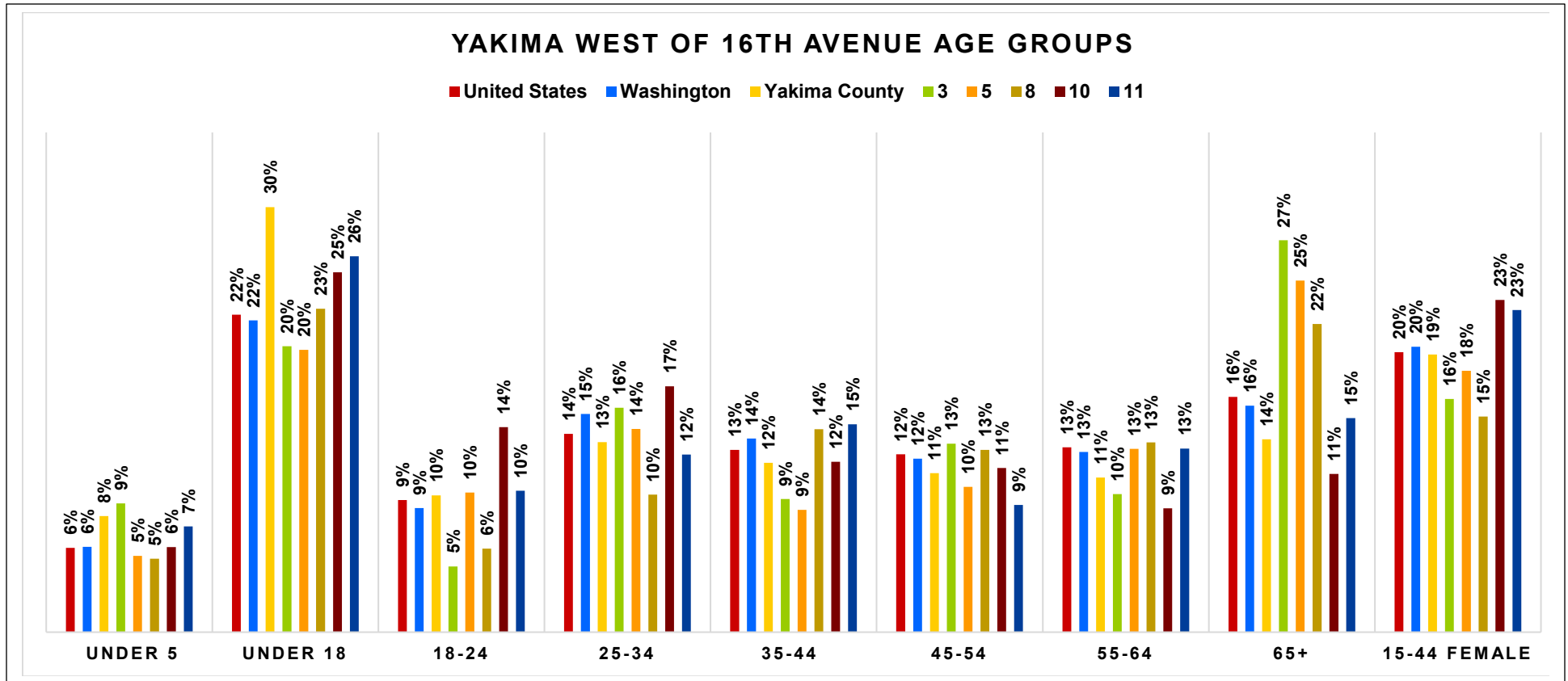
- Top 3 Industries in Yakima East of 16th Avenue:
1. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 2. Agriculture
 3. Educational services, and health care and social assistance

Yakima East of 16th Avenue unemployment rates are mostly higher than the county, state, and country, with some significantly higher. White alone in census tracts 1, 2, 6, and 12.01 all have unemployment rates over 15. Additionally census tracts 12.01 and 12.02 have the highest rates overall, across all demographics. These census tracts (1, 2, 6, 12.01, and 12.02) are located in a more economically depressed area, where there is temporary and low-income housing. Census tracts 13, 14, and 15.01 are more commercialized areas with less housing, especially low-income housing, which could contribute to the lower unemployment rates.

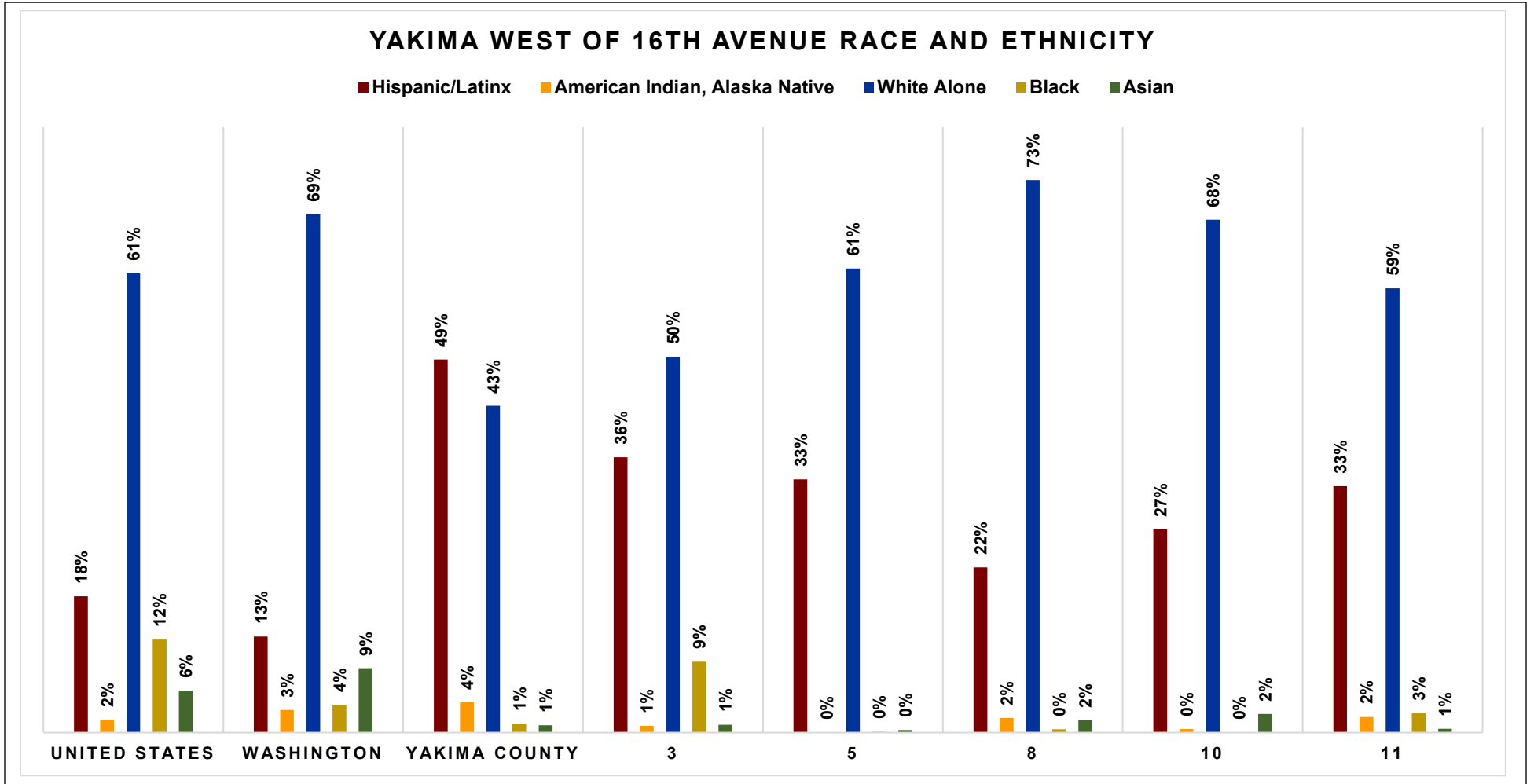
Yakima West of 16th Avenue



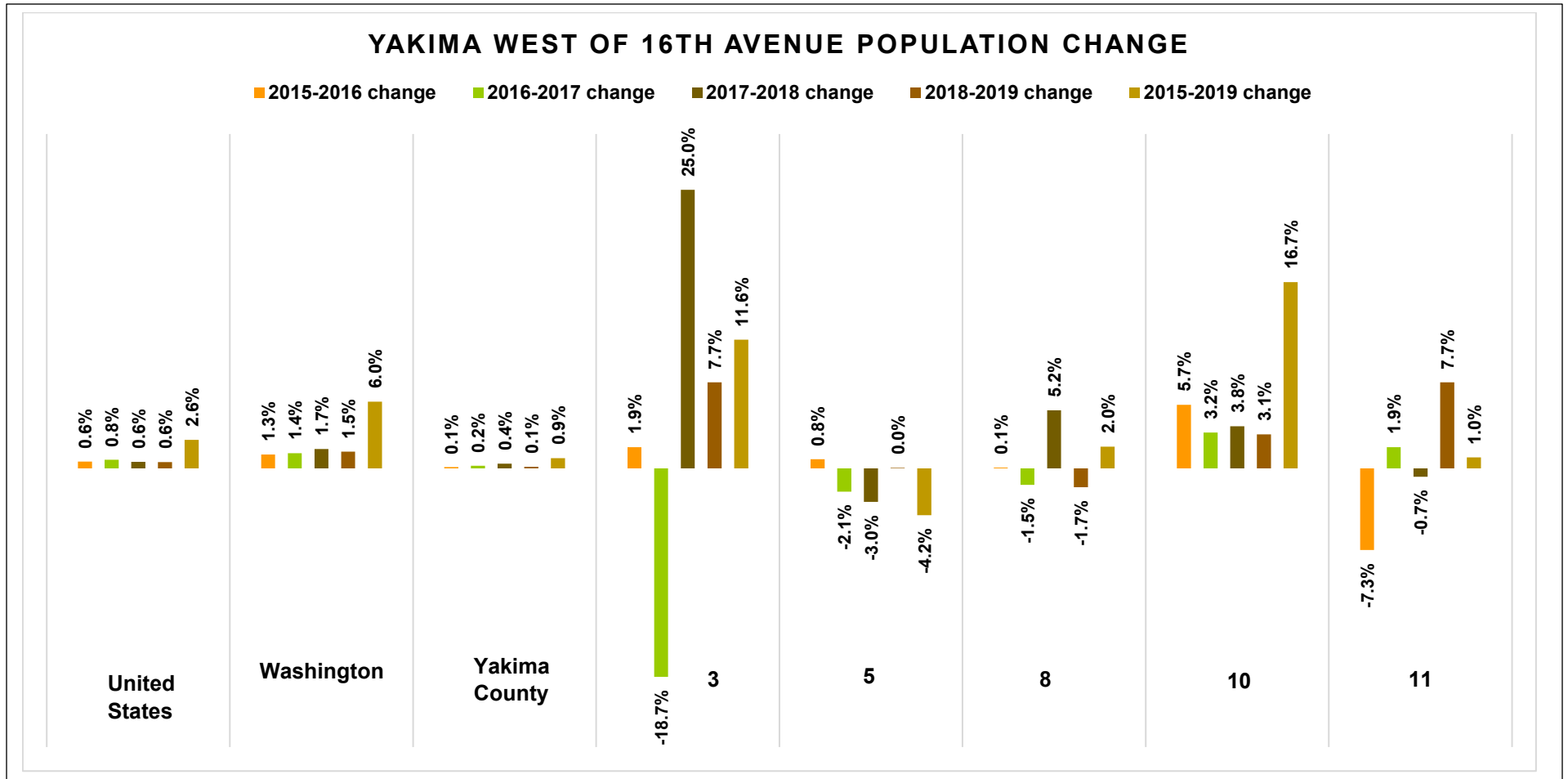
Yakima West of 16th Avenue includes five census tracts (3, 5, 8, 10, and 11) located west of 16th Avenue, south of Highway 12, with census tracts 3 and 5 extending west to 40th Avenue and census tracts 8, 10, and 11 extending west to 64th Avenue, and continuing south past Ahtanum Road. This area of the city of Yakima is more densely populated, and includes some commercialized and industrialized areas, as well as the local airport. Of the 249,697 people in Yakima County, 11% live within Yakima West of 16th Avenue.



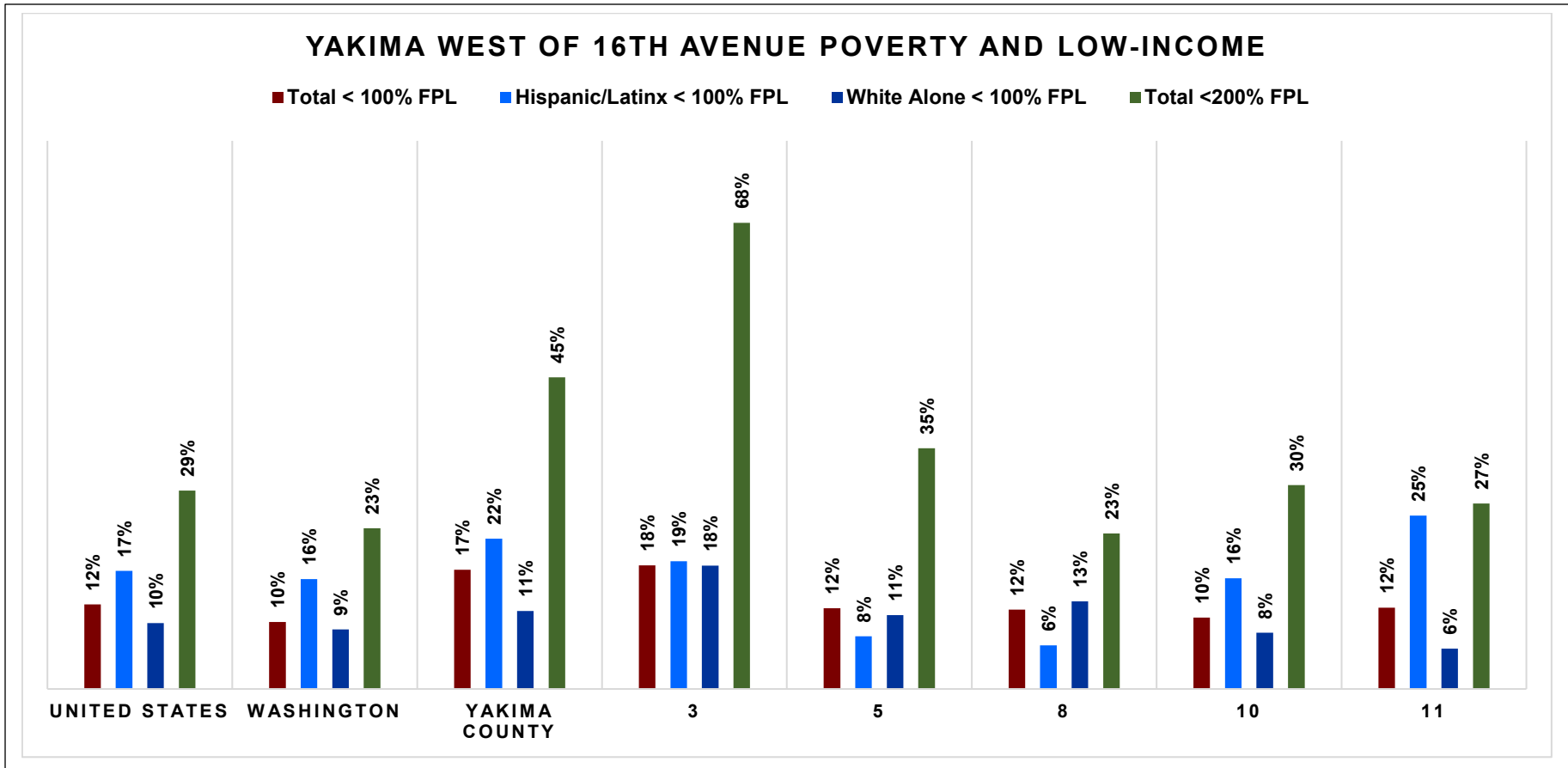
The percentage breakdown of Yakima West of 16th Avenue age groups are more aligned with the United States and Washington except for the 65+ age group. The census tracts with the highest percentage of those aged 65+ have several assisted living facilities and retirement communities which could explain the significant increase.



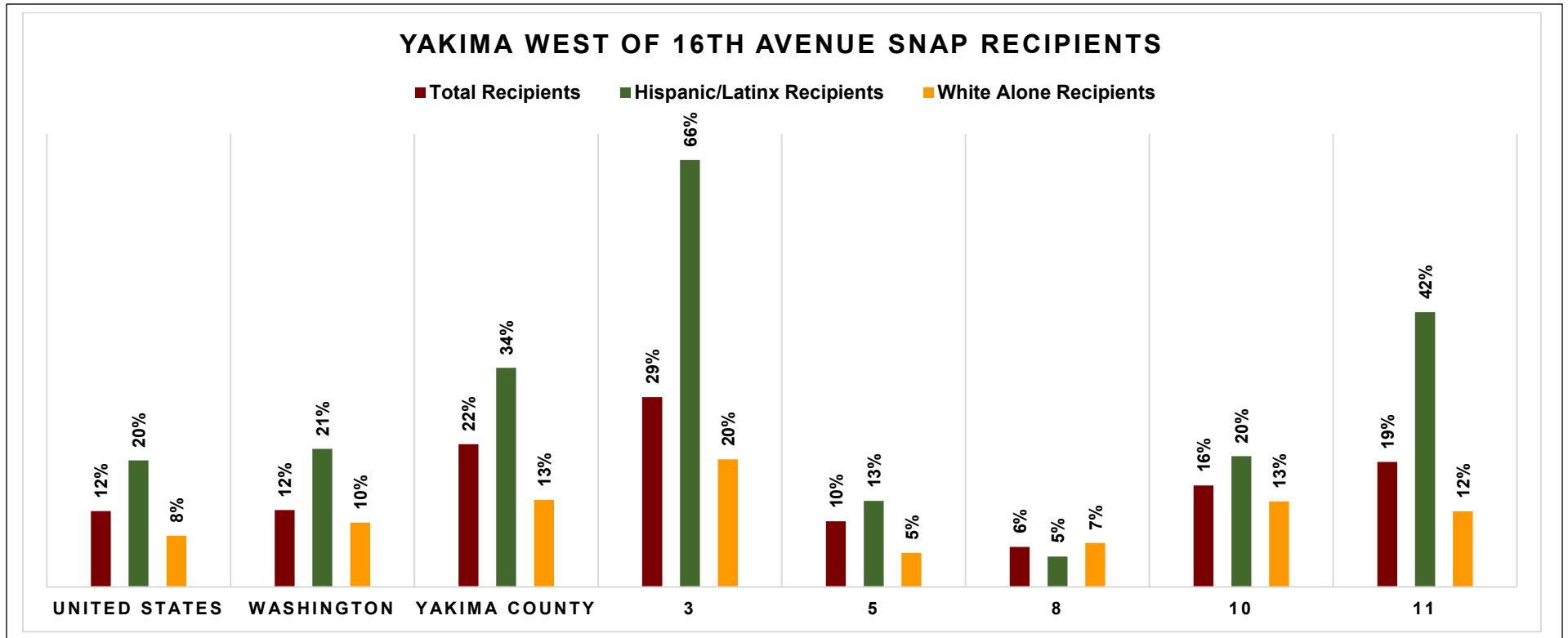
Much like West Valley, Yakima West of 16th Avenue is predominantly White alone (50%-73%) with a quarter to one-third Hispanic/Latinx. All census tracts' percentage of White alone is higher than the county and Hispanic/Latinx is lower.



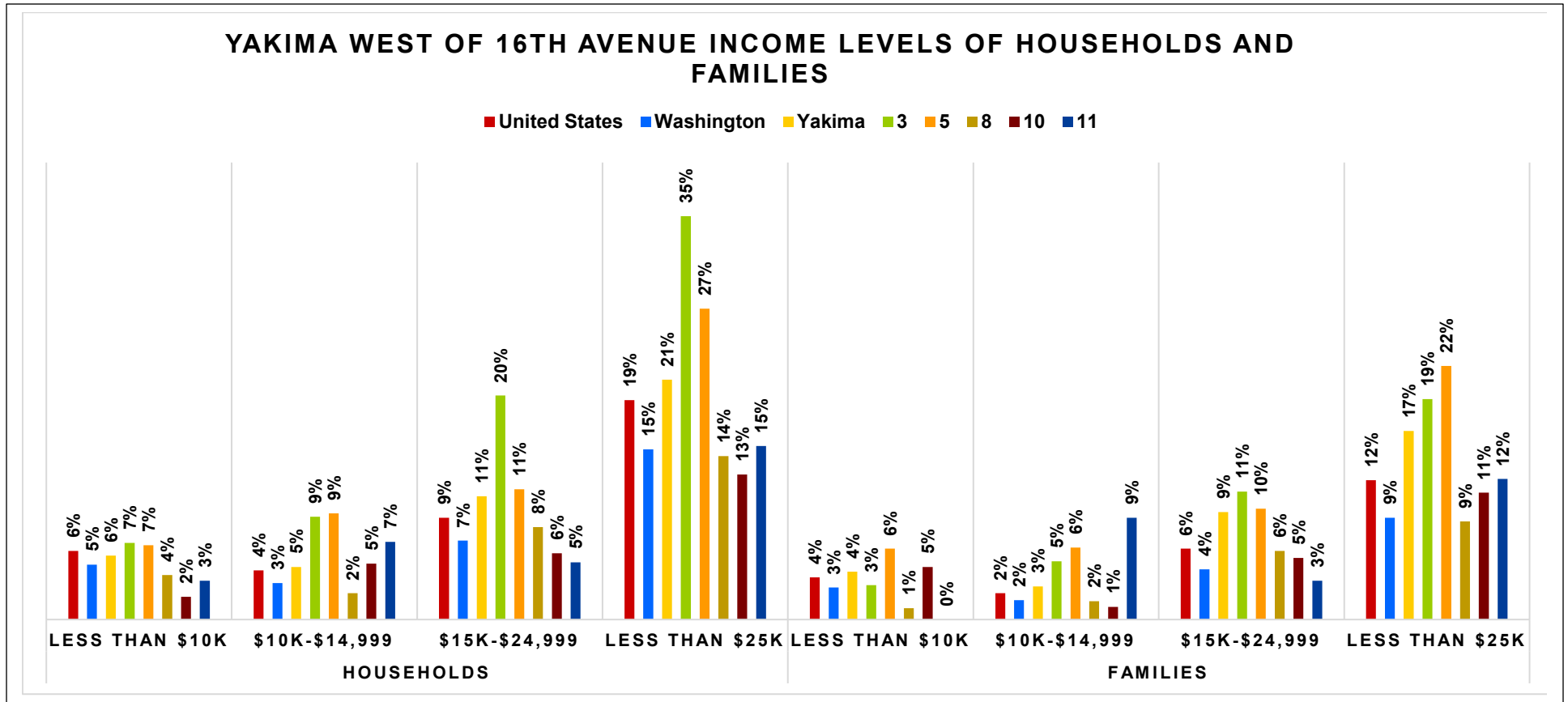
Yakima West of 16th Avenue saw overall growth over the five-year period of 2015 – 2019; with the most growth in census tract 10 (16.7%). Four of the five census tracts saw growth, even if only by 1-2%; census tract 5 was the only one with a decline in population.



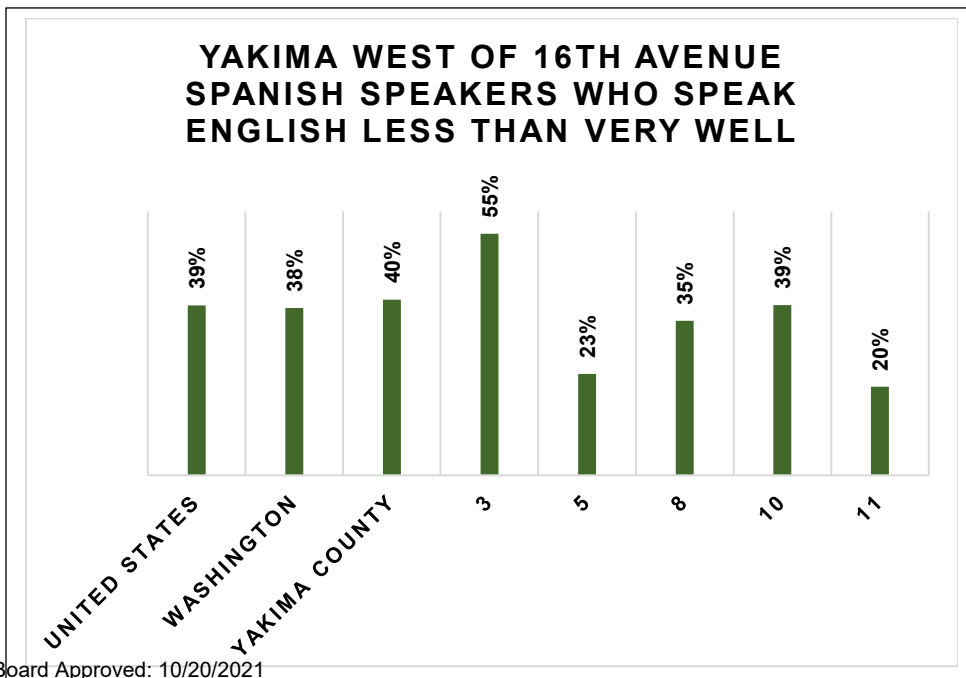
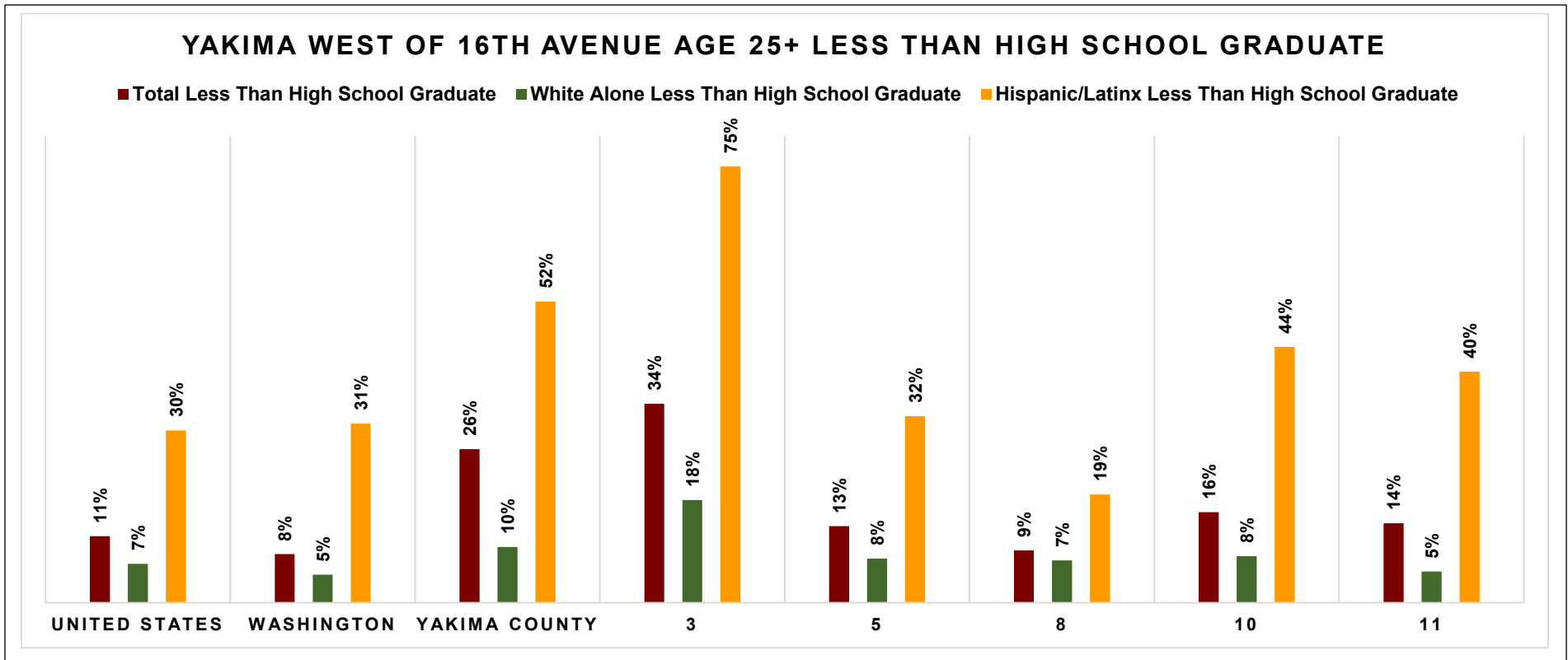
With the exception of census tract 3, Yakima West of 16th Avenue has lower percentages of residents living in poverty or are low-income. As with race and ethnicity, these percentages align closely with West Valley.



The three census tracts in the middle of the Yakima West of 16th Avenue area (5, 8, and 10) have much smaller percentages of total and Hispanic/Latinx households who are SNAP recipients compared to the other two census tracts and Yakima County. Census tracts 5 and 8 have smaller percentages of White alone households who are SNAP recipients compared to all other census tracts, Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. Tracts 3 and 11 have higher rates of those living in poverty or are low-income, which would explain the significant difference between those two and the other tracts.

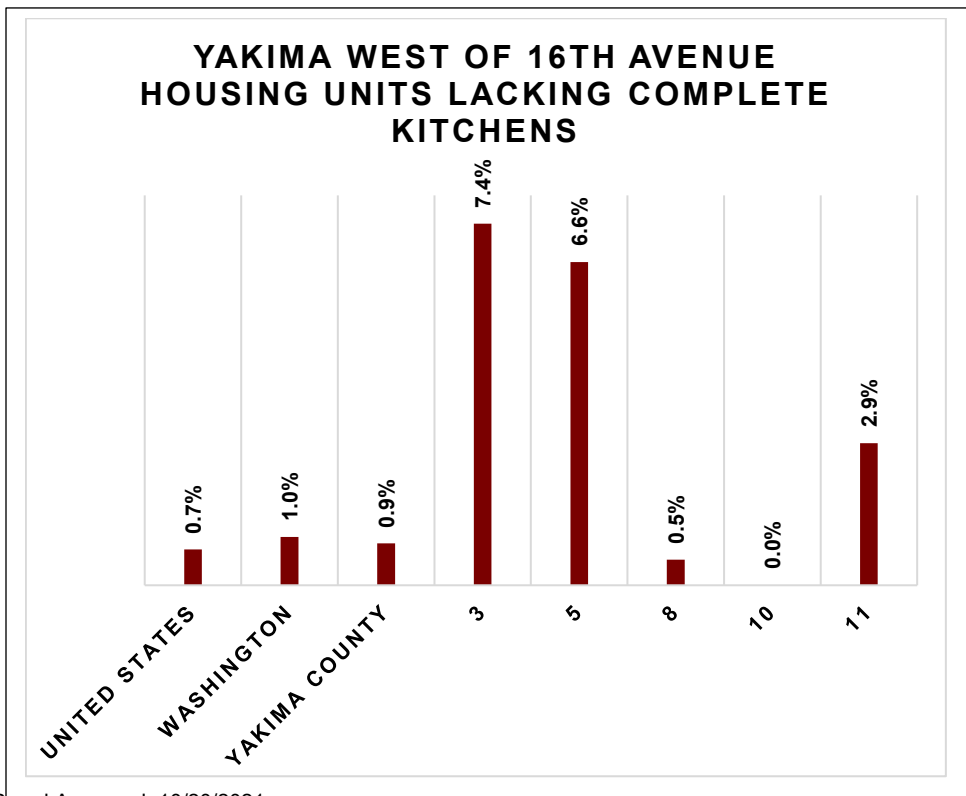
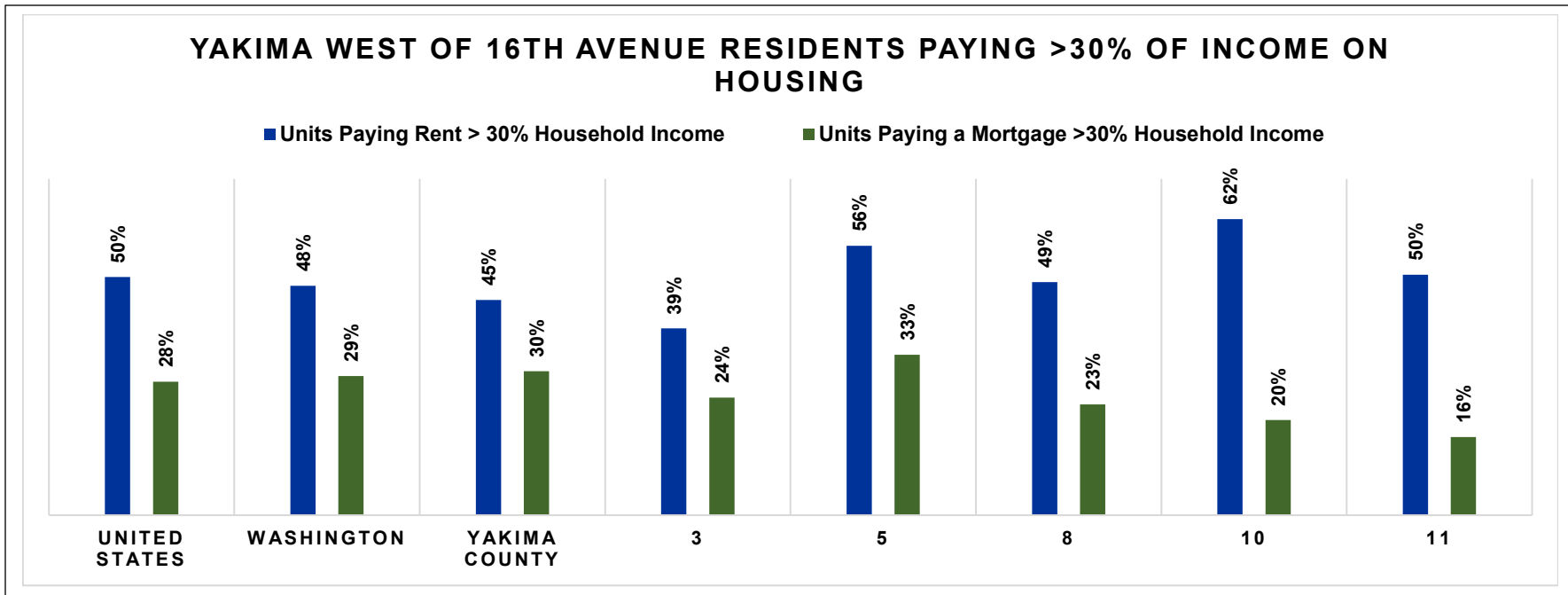


Much like the other areas of Yakima County, Yakima West of 16th Avenue has a higher percentage of households than families whose income is less than \$25,000, especially census tracts 3 and 5. Census tracts 3 and 5 have more households and families with an income of less than \$25,000 than the other census tracts, county, state, and country.



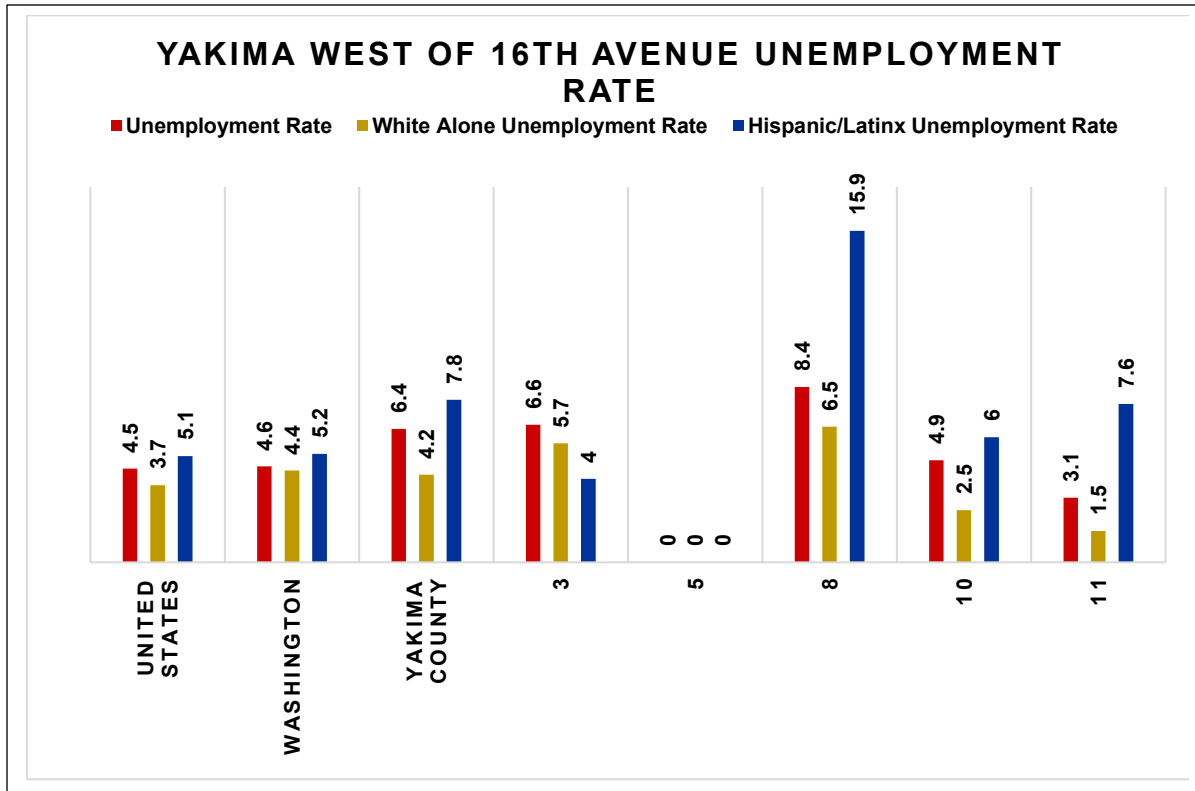
The total and White alone percentages of those over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent are significantly lower than Hispanic/Latinx. All demographics across four of the five census tracts have lower percentages of those over 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent than Yakima County. Those same census tracts have similar percentages for total and White alone when compared to Washington and the United States.

Census tract 3 has the highest percentage of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well by at least 15%. The other census tracts are either half that or the same as the county, state, and country.



The percentage of homeowners who pay more than 30% of their income in housing is 15% - 42% less than renters. Approximately half of renters in Yakima West of 16th Avenue pay more than 30% of their income on rent; showing renters in this area are more likely to be burdened by housing costs when compared to the county, state, and country.

Census tracts 3 and 5 have significantly more housing units that lack complete kitchens than all other census tracts in Yakima County, Yakima County as a whole, Washington, and the United States. These census tracts contain motels where residents live, as well as mobile home parks which could explain the increase in housing units lacking complete kitchens.

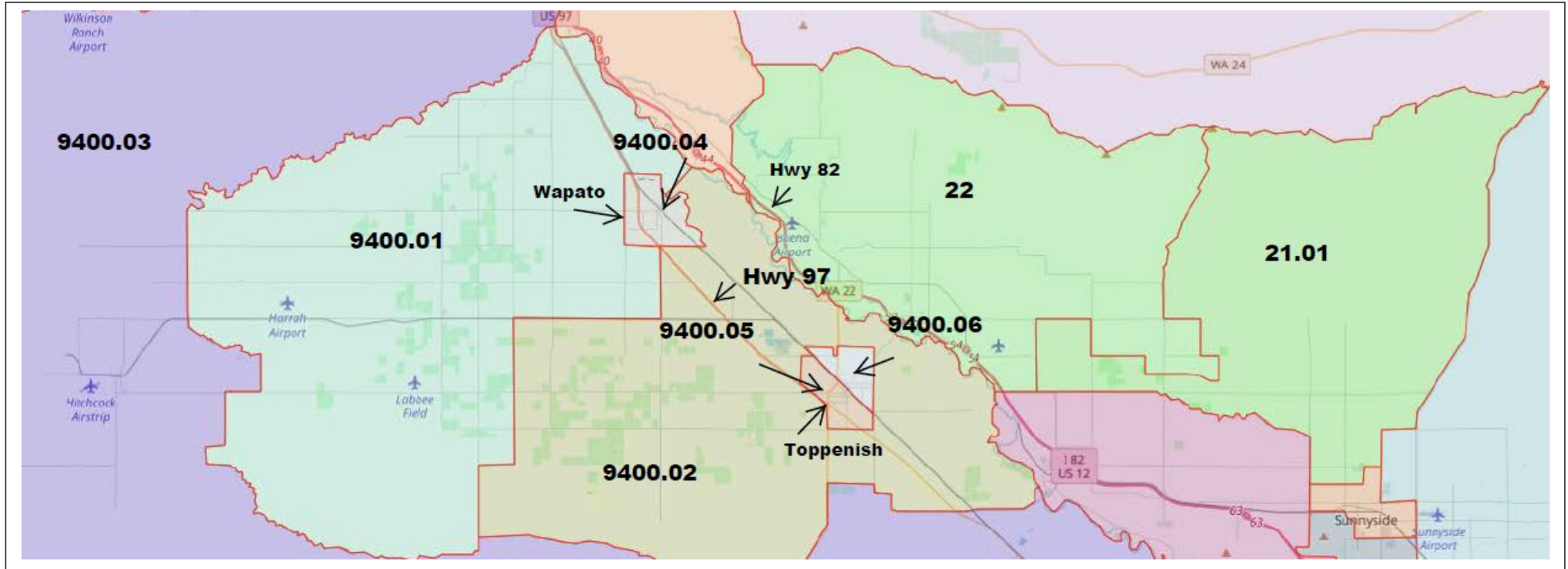


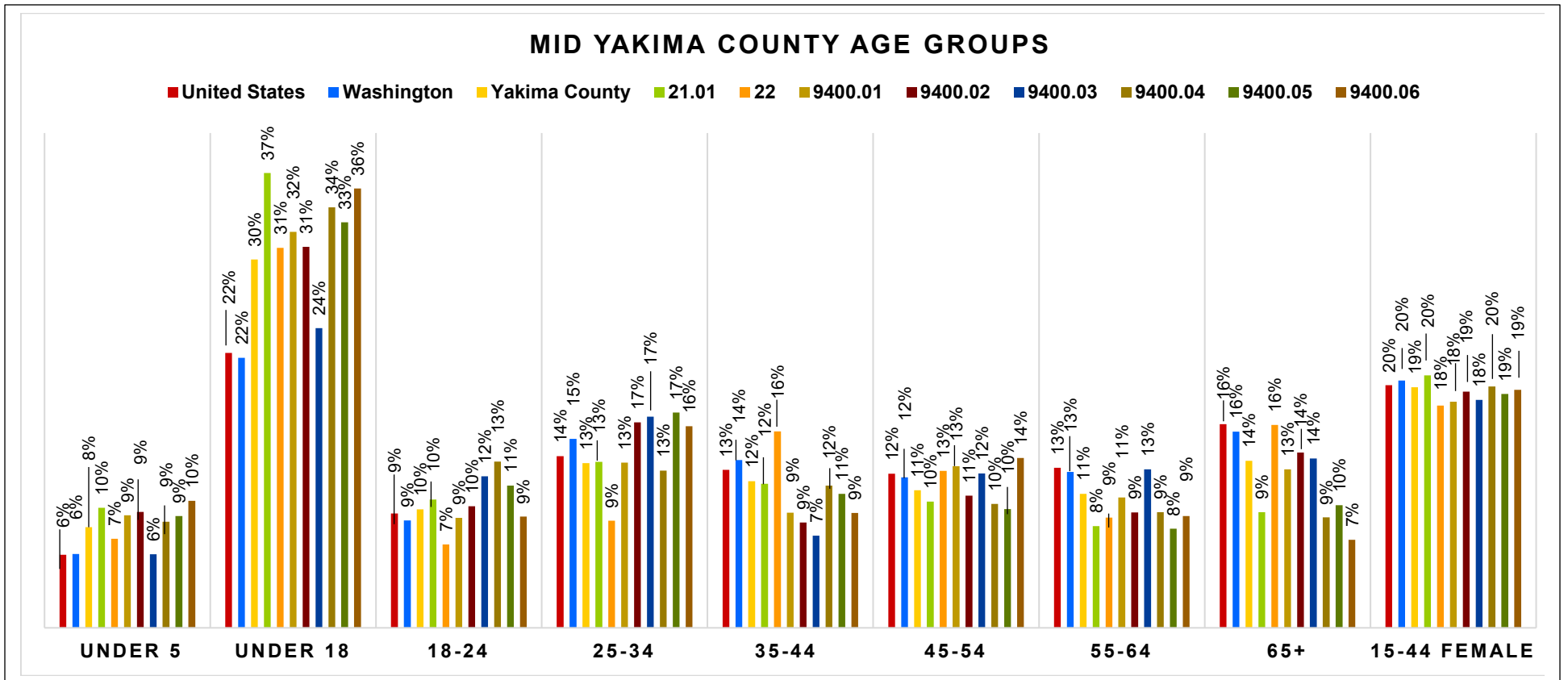
- Top 3 Industries in Yakima West of 16th Avenue:
1. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 2. Educational services, and health care and social assistance
 3. Agriculture

Yakima West of 16th Avenue’s unemployment rates, across all demographics, is overall lower than the county, except for census tract 8. Hispanic/Latinx unemployment rate in census tract 8 is significantly higher than all others, by at least 7.5 point. Census tract 5 unemployment rates were suppressed due to insufficient data.

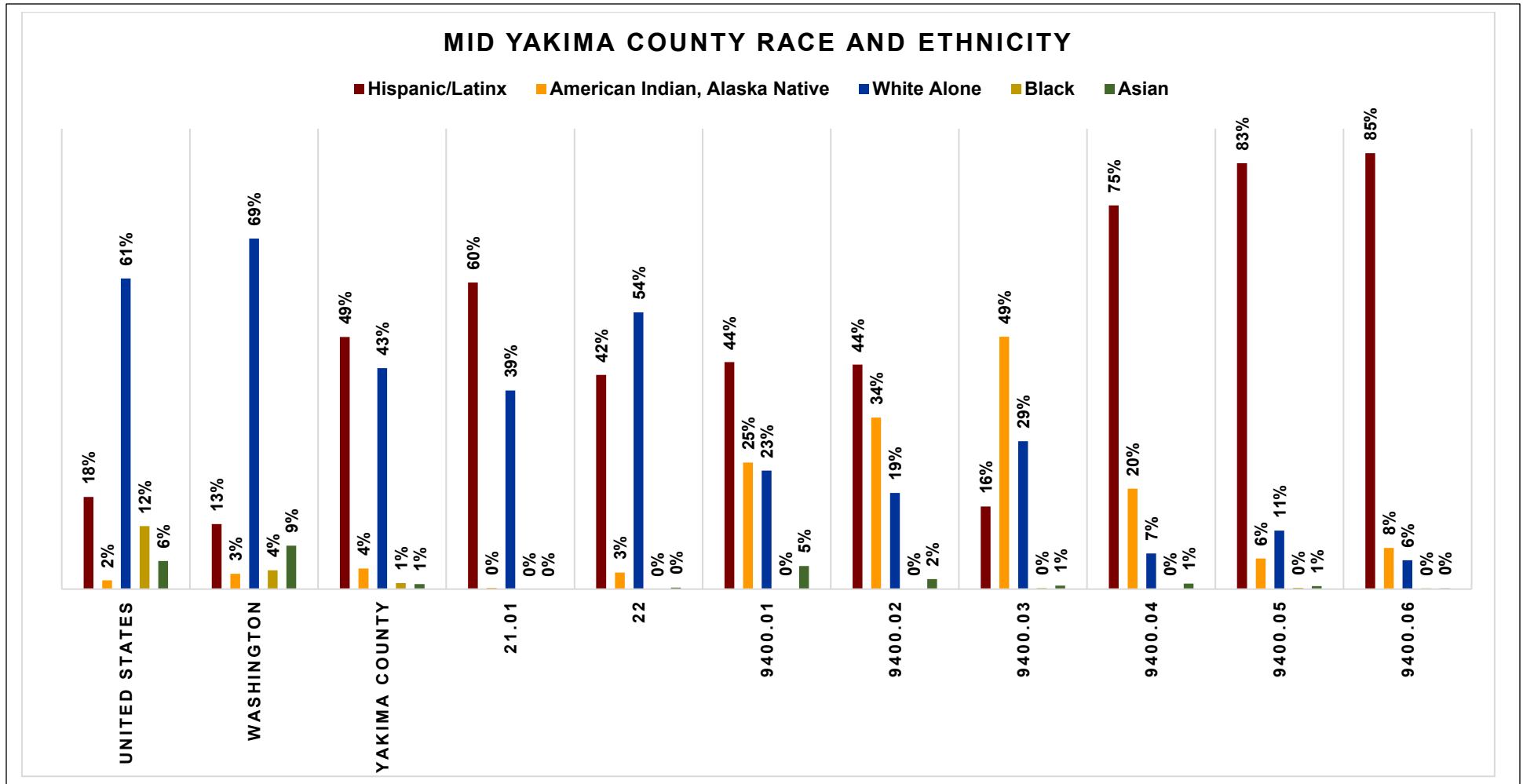
Mid Yakima County

Mid Yakima County includes the cities of Wapato, Buena, White Swan, Harrah, Toppenish, and Zillah and is comprised of eight census tracts (21.01, 22, 9400.01, 9400.02, 9400.03, 9400.04, 9400.05, 9400.06), the majority of which are part of the Yakama Indian Reservation. While Mid Yakima County is sparsely populated and rural, it is very agriculturally rich with a myriad of orchards, hop fields, vineyards, and more. Of the 249,697 Yakima County residents, 16% live in Mid Yakima County.

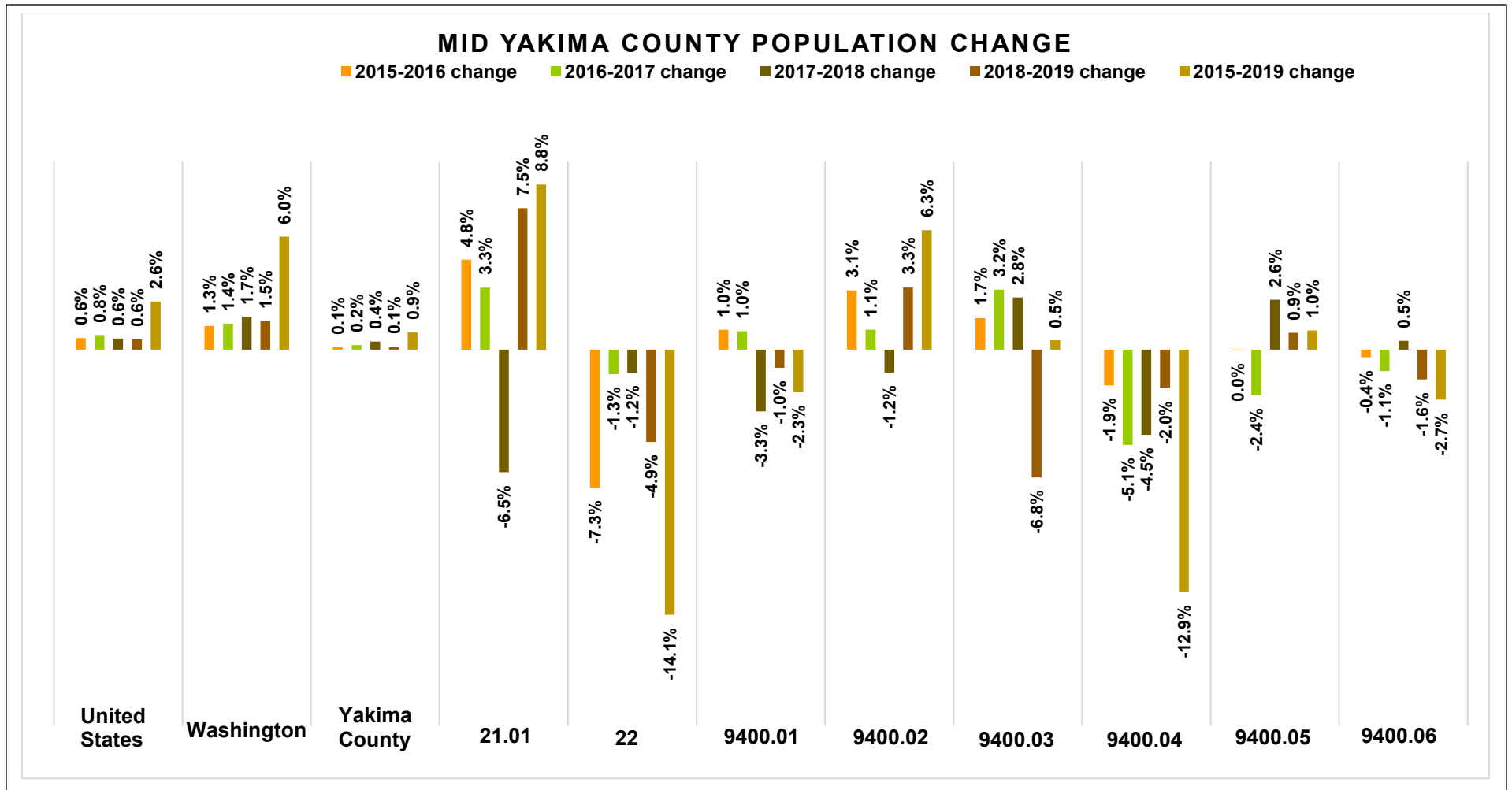




Mid Yakima County has a higher percentage of residents under the age of 18 compared to the United States, Washington, and Yakima County. Otherwise, the population over the age of 18 is relatively equally dispersed among the rest of the age groups.



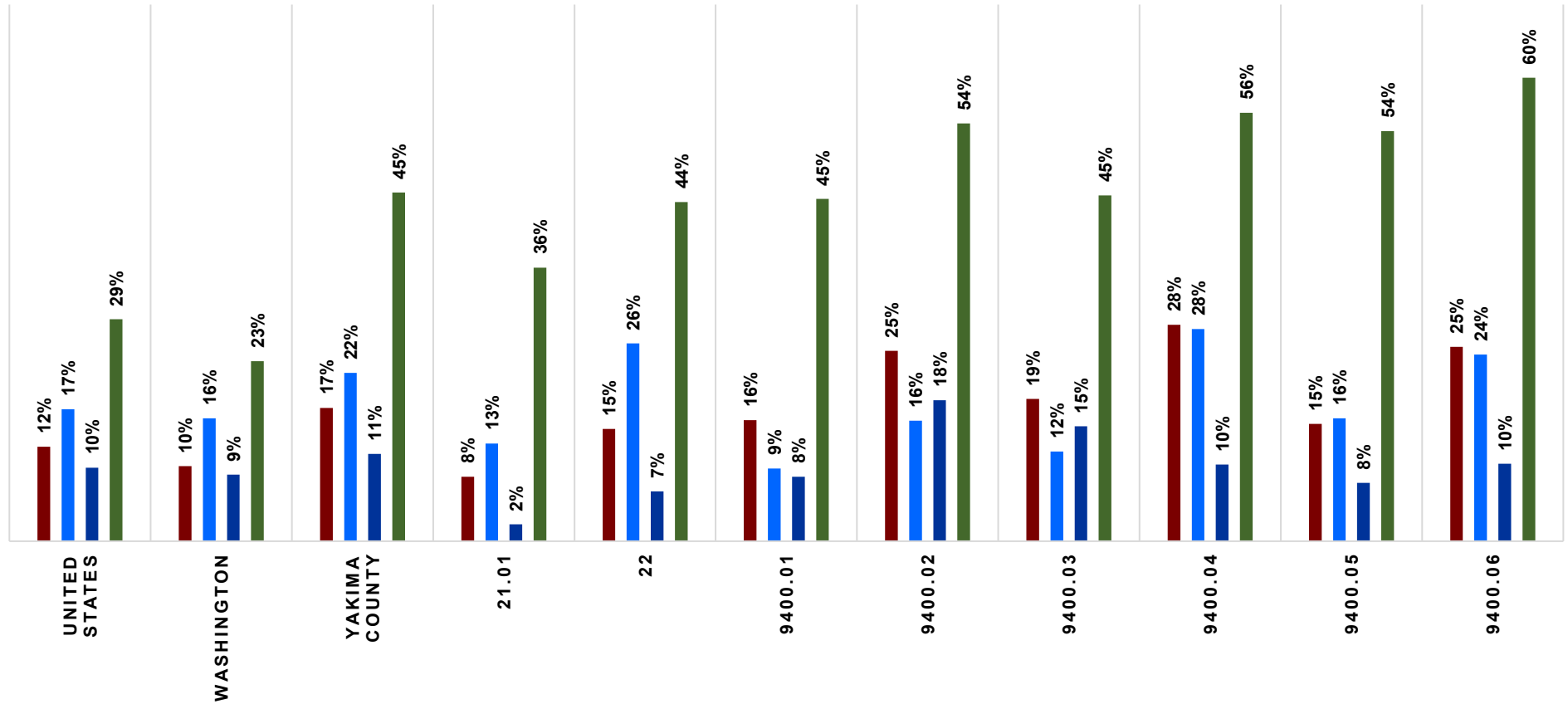
The race and ethnicity breakdown is vastly different in Mid Yakima County compared to the previously mentioned areas. Census tracts 9400.01 through 9400.06 are located on the Yakama Indian Reservation, as such the percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native is significantly higher than the tracts not on the reservation, county, state, and country. Even though the percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native is higher, it is only higher than the other races in census tract 9400.03, which is the furthest west census tract. The two census tracts not on the reservation (21.01 and 22) have higher percentages of White alone than all other census tracts.



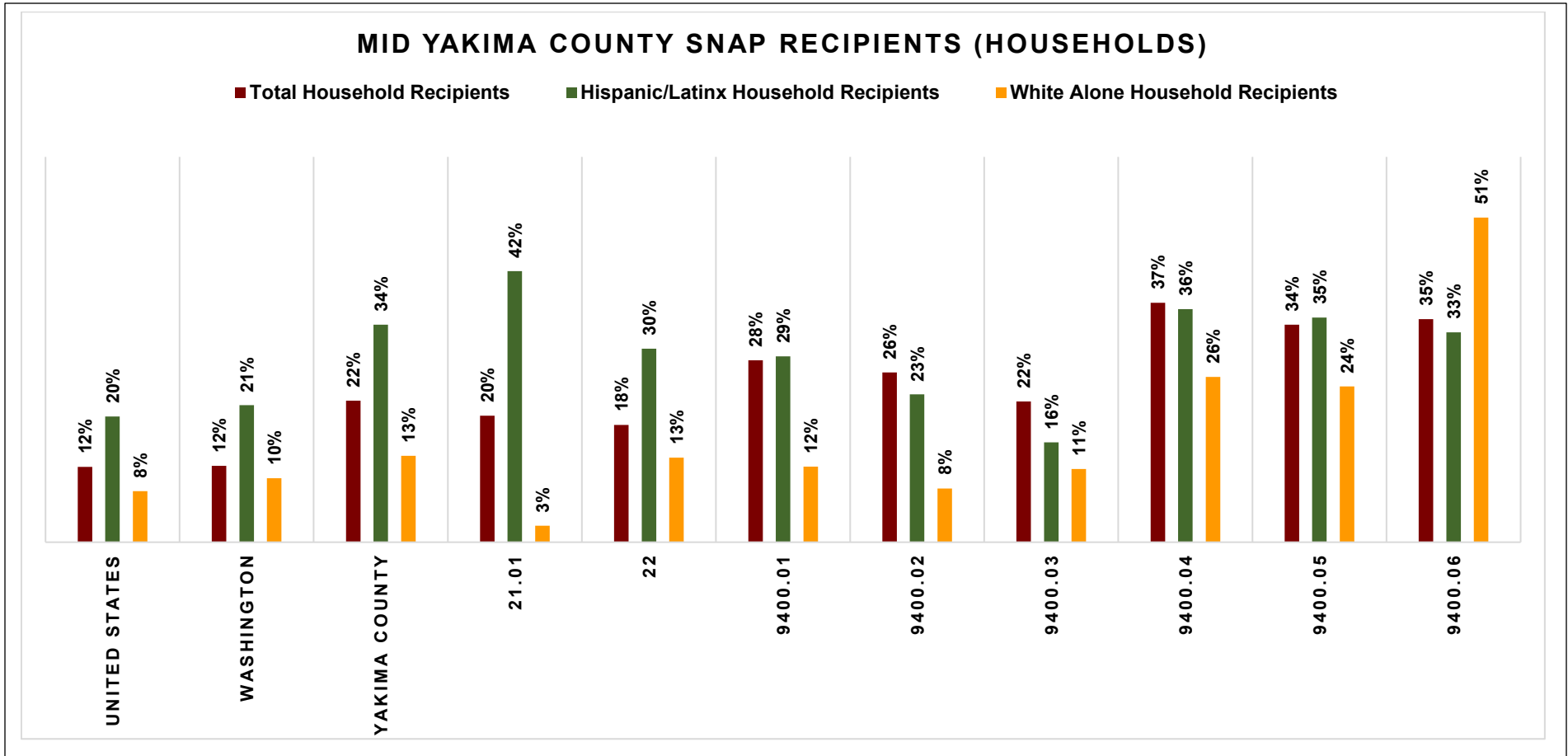
Mid Yakima County saw an overall population decline from 2015 – 2019, with census tract 22 having the greatest decline at 14.1% and tract 9400.04 not far behind with a decline of 12.9%. These percentages may be skewed due to the fact that these areas are rural and have a low number of residents, thus making any decline in population seem more drastic.

MID YAKIMA COUNTY POVERTY AND LOW-INCOME

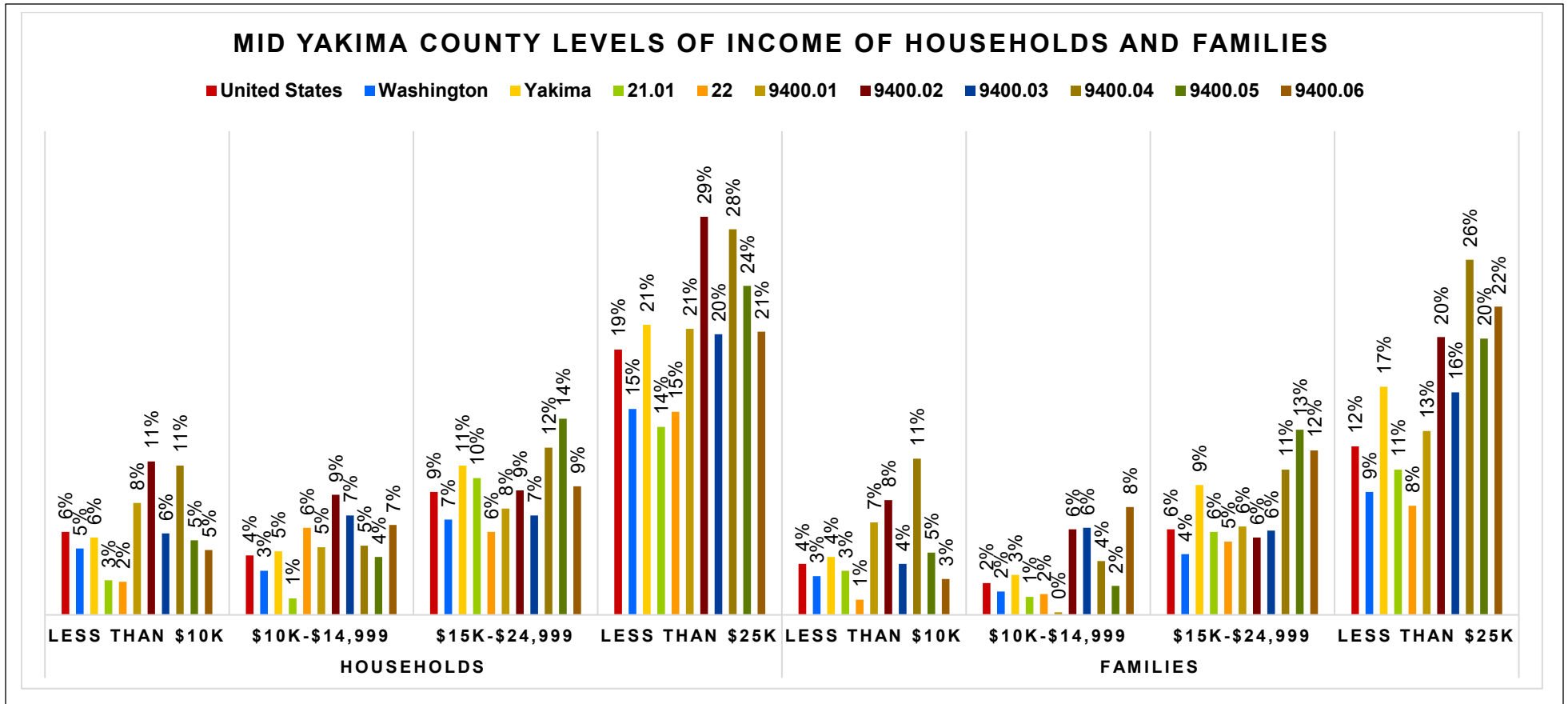
■ Total < 100% FPL ■ Hispanic/Latinx < 100% FPL ■ White Alone < 100% FPL ■ Total <200% FPL



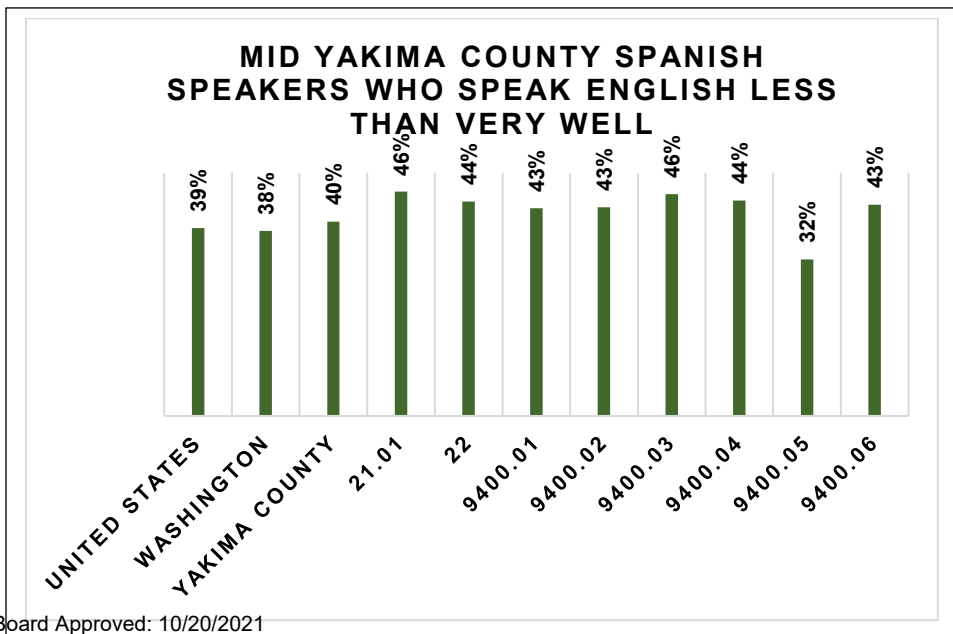
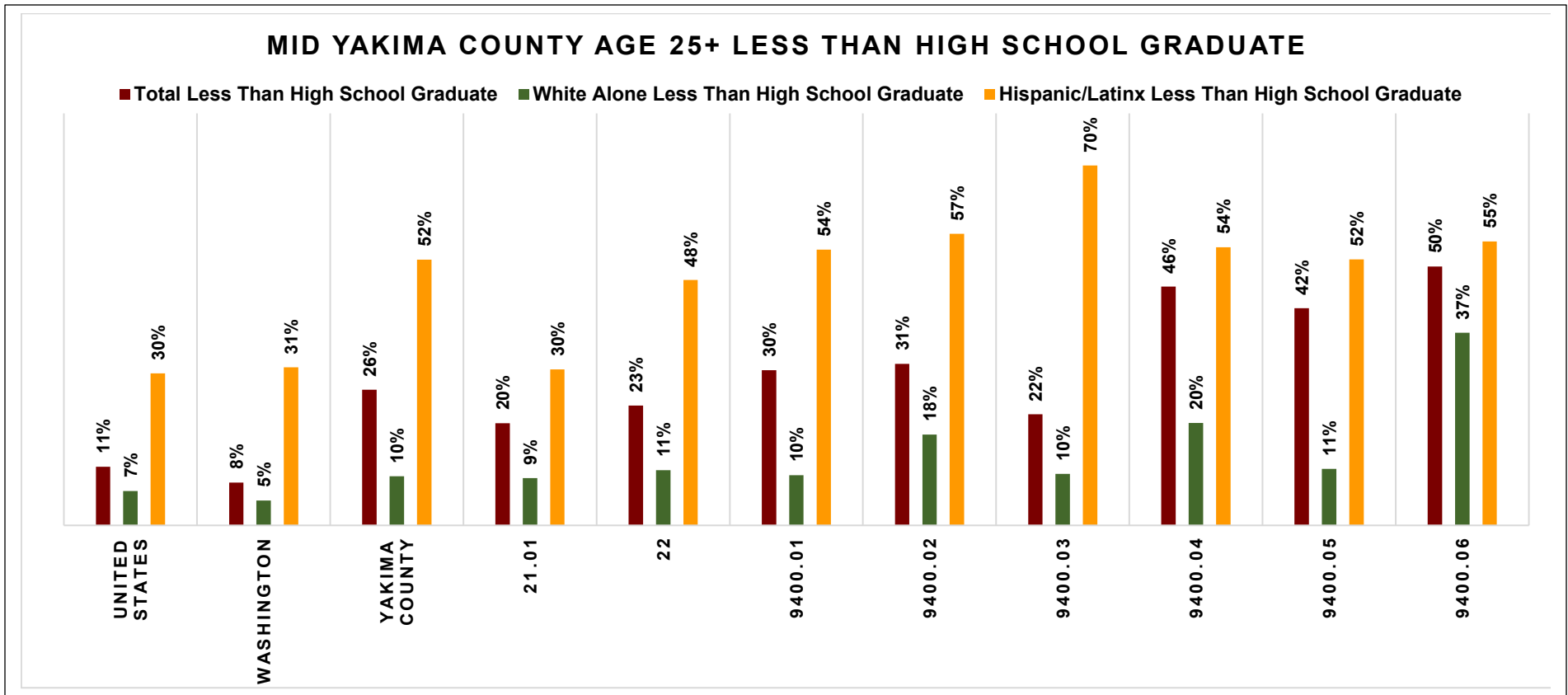
The census tracts located on the Yakama Indian Reservation have mostly higher percentages of those living in poverty or who are low-income. Census tracts 21.01 and 22 have the two lowest percentages of low-income residents when compared to the other census tracts and county.



Overall total and Hispanic/Latinx households have higher percentages of SNAP recipients than White alone, however five of the eight census tracts have a lower percentage of Hispanic/Latinx households who are SNAP recipients than the county. Census tract 9400.06, which is the east side of Toppenish, has the highest percentage of White alone households who are SNAP recipients, significantly higher than the county, state, and country.

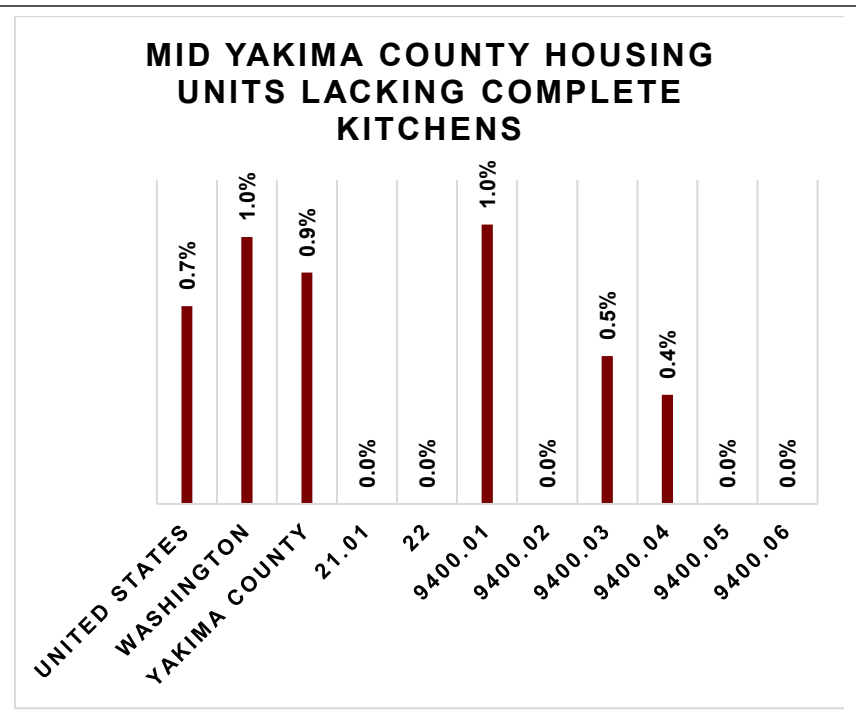
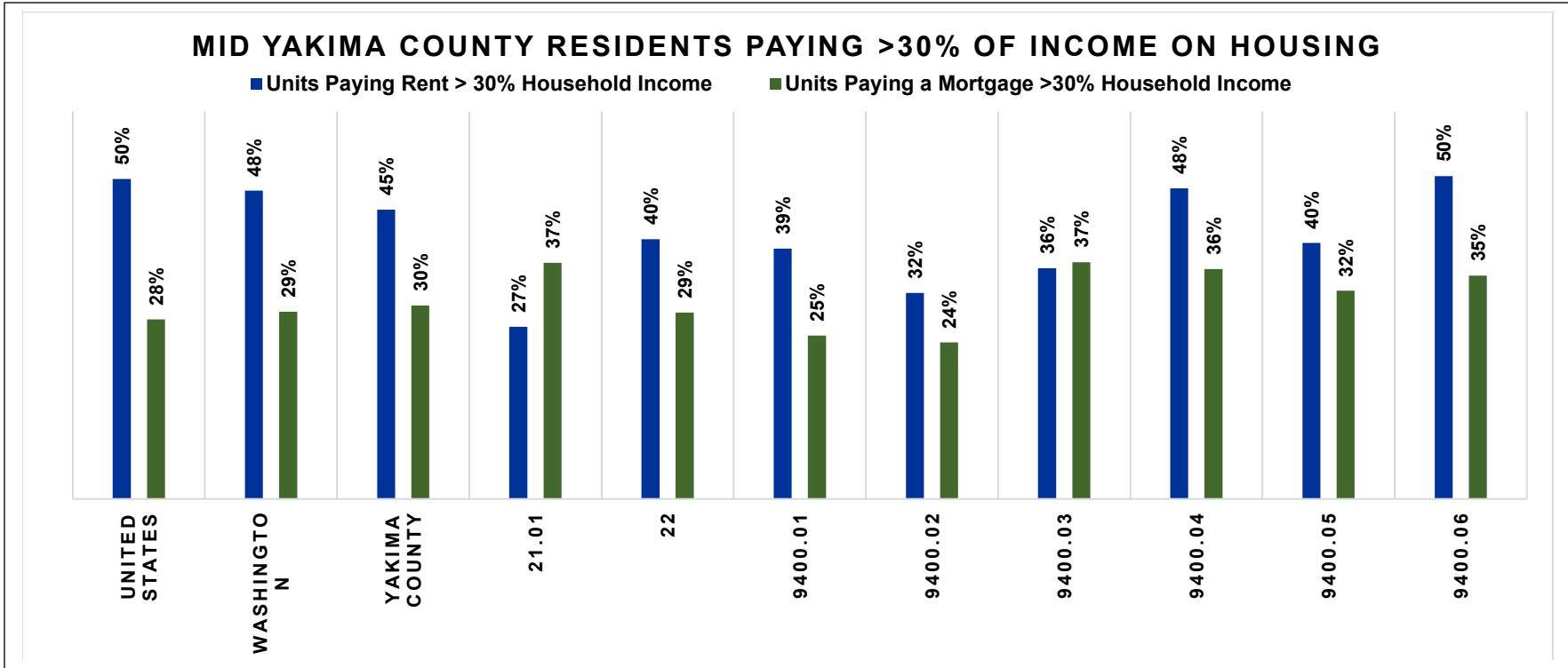


Mid Yakima County has higher percentages of households and families whose income is less than \$25,000 than the country, state, and county. There is a significant difference in the percentage of households and families whose income is less than \$25,000 between the six census tracts (9400.01, 9400.02, 9400.03, 9400.04, 9400.05, 9400.06) located on the Yakama Indian Reservation and the two (21.01 and 22) that are not; 20%-28% of households and 13%-26% of families on the Yakama Indian Reservation, as well as 14%-15% of households and 8% - 11% of families who do not live on the Reservation have an income of less than \$25,000.



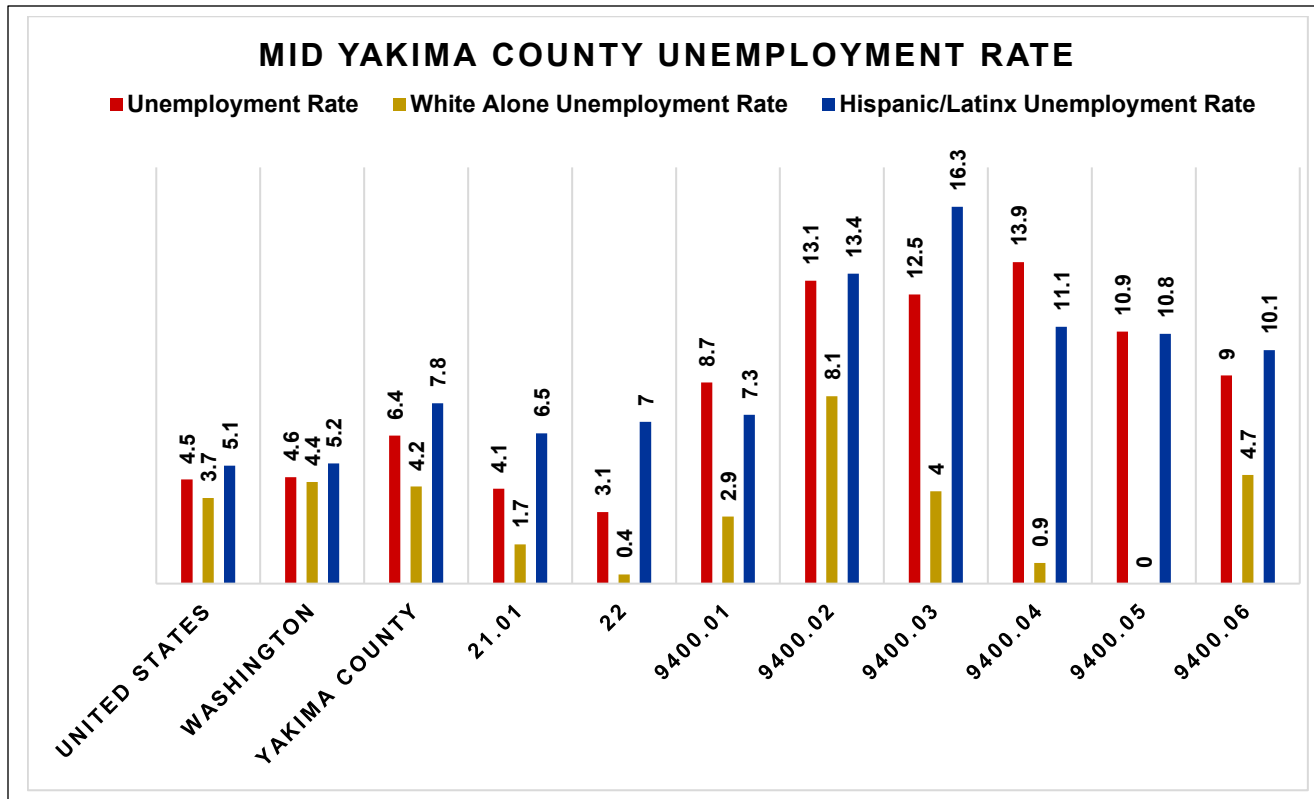
Census tracts located on the Yakama Indian Reservation have higher percentages across all demographics of residents over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent. The percentage of White alone over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent is significantly less than Hispanic/Latinx, a range of 18% - 60% less.

All census tracts, except 9400.05, have a higher percentage of Spanish speakers who do not speak English very well than the county, state, and country. All other census tracts fall in the 40% range.



Overall, a smaller percentage of Mid Yakima County residents pay more than 30% of their income on rent (except tract 9400.05 and 9400.06) than Yakima County, Washington, and United States. The percentage of homeowners who spend more than 30% of their income on their mortgage is fairly similar to the county, state, and country, with all percentages between 24% and 37%.

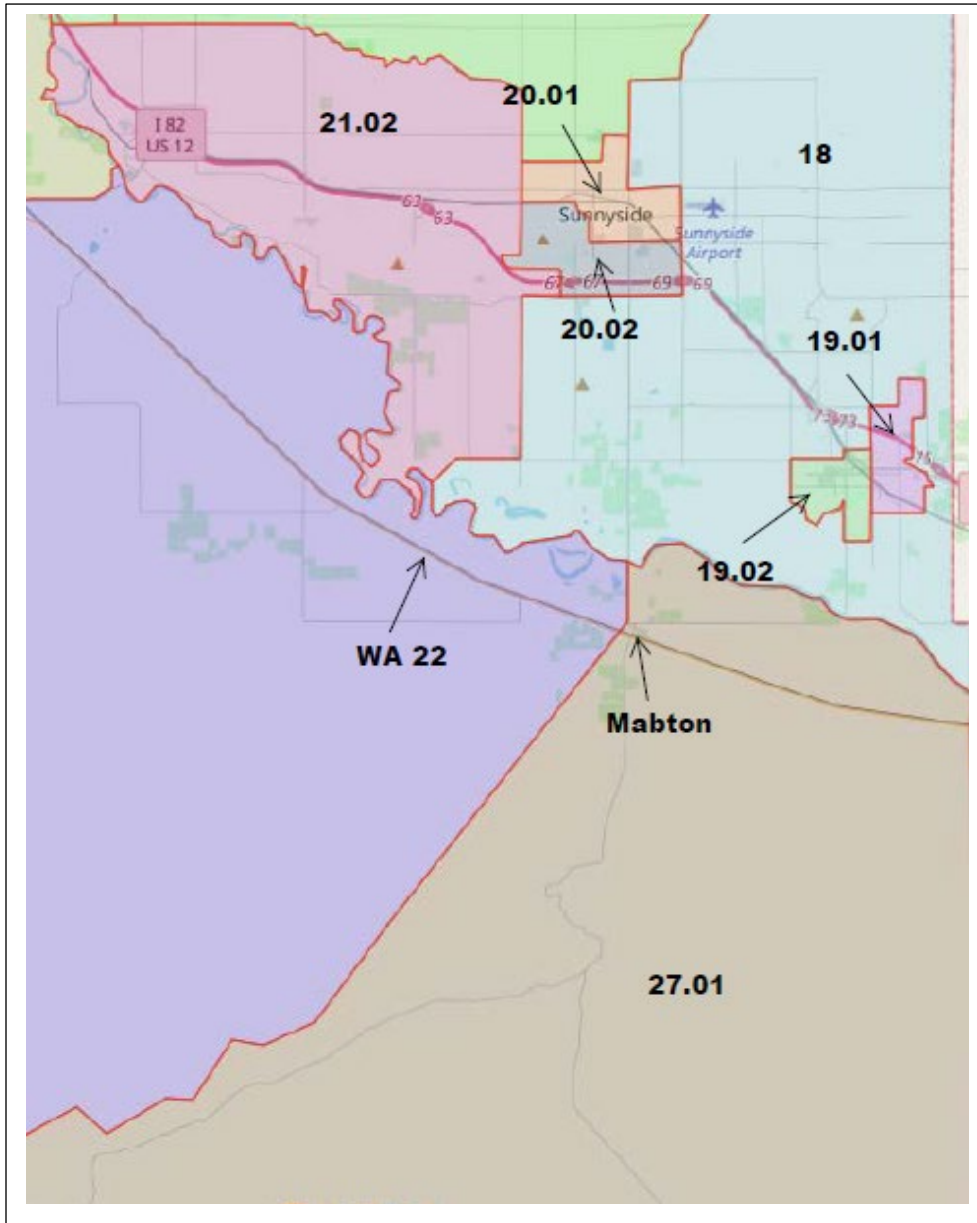
The percentage of housing units lacking complete kitchens is lower or the same as the county, state, and country.



- Top 3 Industries in Mid Yakima County:
1. Agriculture
 2. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 3. Educational services, and health care and social assistance

The two census tracts not located on the Yakama Indian Reservation (21.01 and 22) overall have the lowest unemployment rates when compared to the other census tracts and county. White alone unemployment rates across all census tracts is significantly lower than general and Hispanic/Latinx, this could be due to the small percentage of White alone residents within those census tracts.

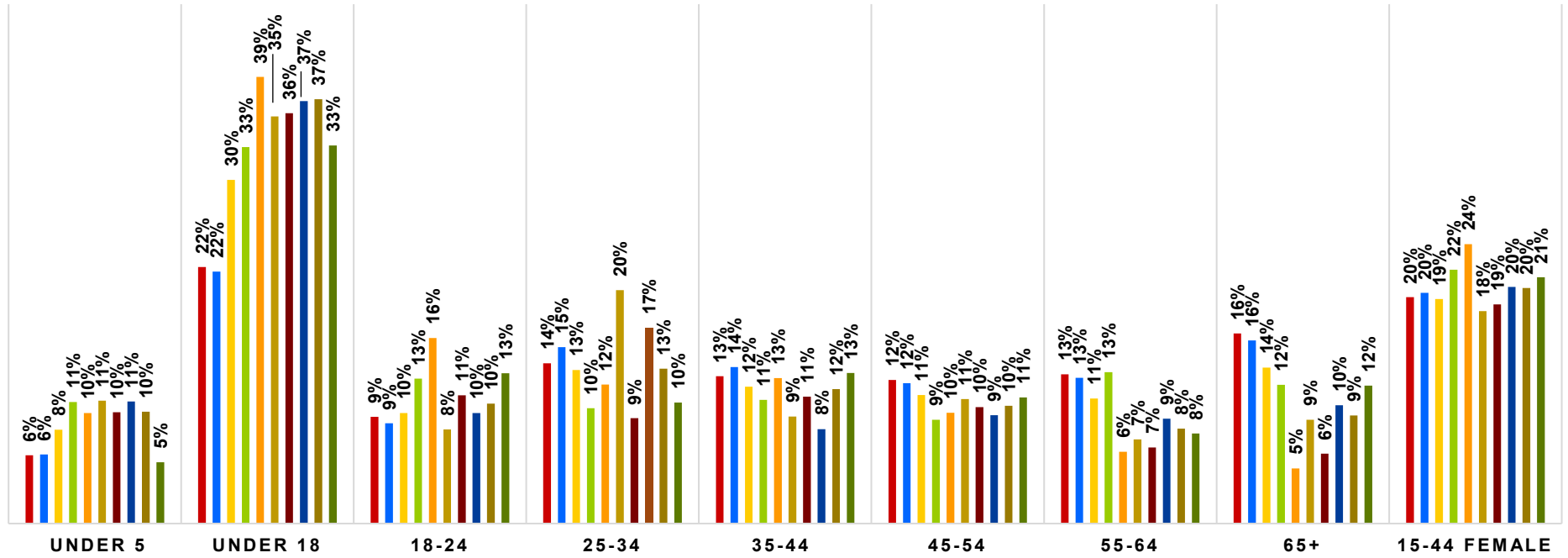
Lower Yakima County



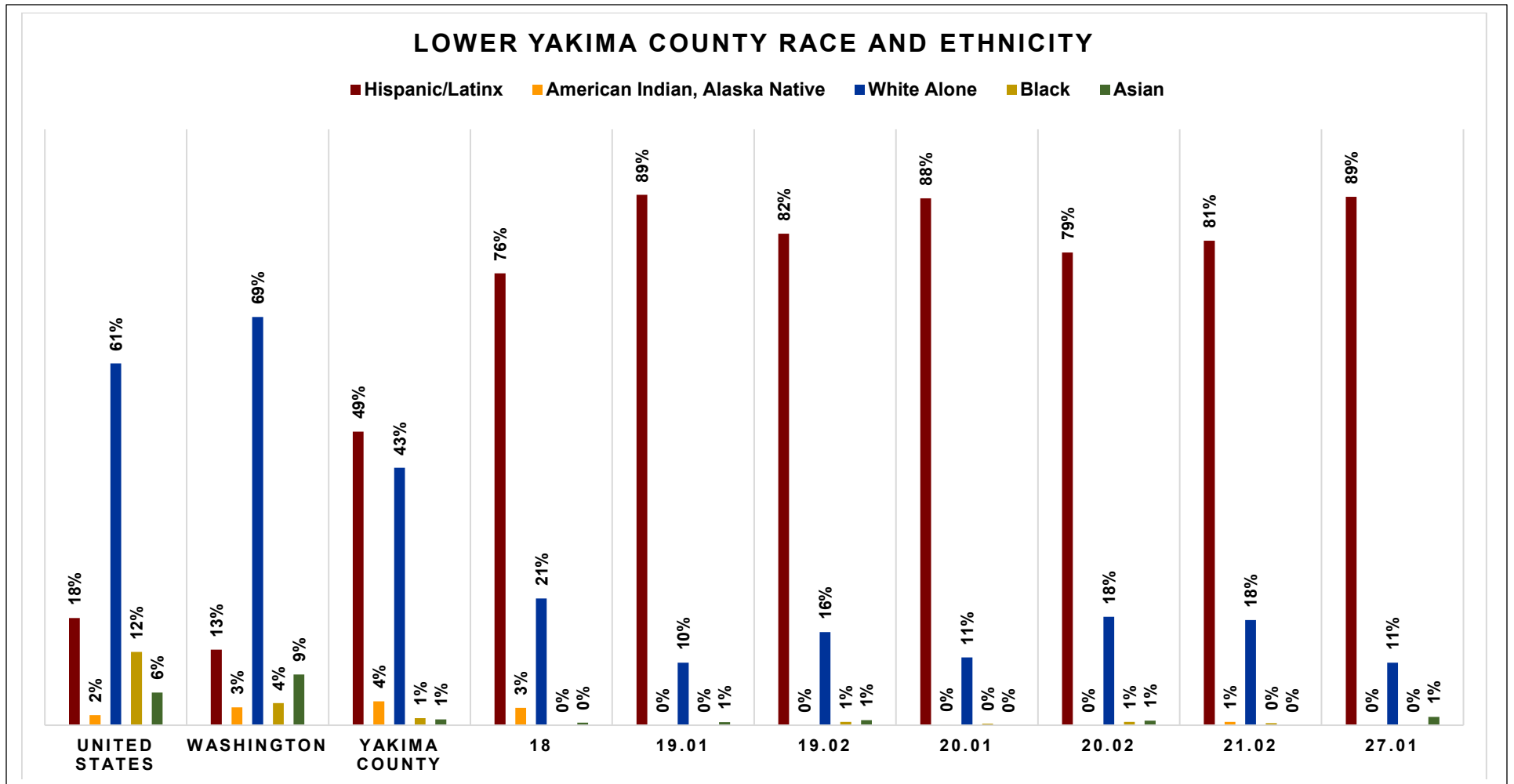
Lower Yakima County encompasses the towns of Granger, Sunnyside, Grandview, and Mabton and includes seven census tracts (18, 19.01, 19.02, 20.01, 20.02, 21.02). Much of Lower Yakima County is rural and agriculturally rich with a myriad of orchards and crops. Of the 249,697 people living in Yakima County, 20% live in Lower Yakima County.

LOWER YAKIMA COUNTY AGE GROUPS

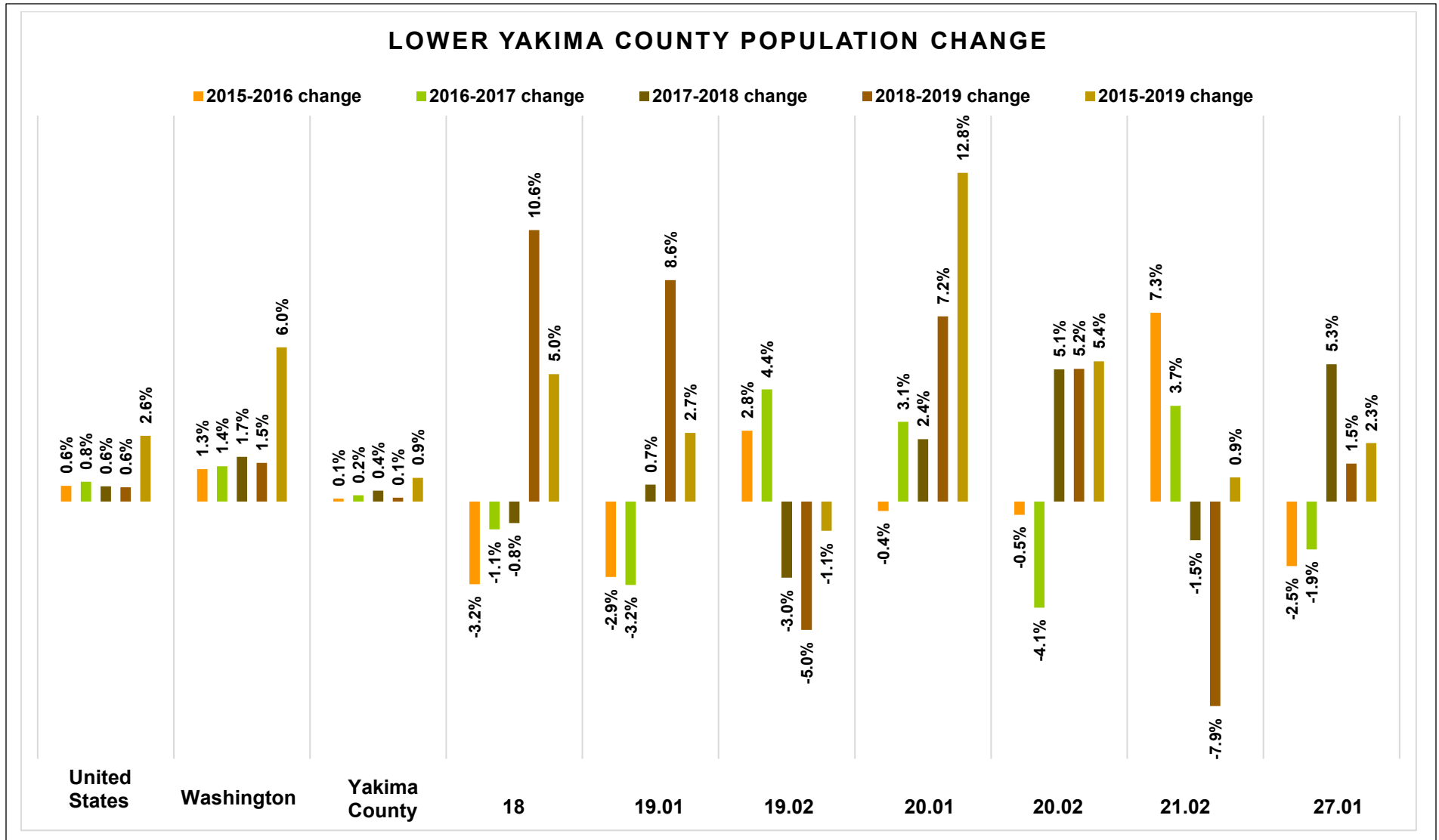
■ United States ■ Washington ■ Yakima County ■ 18 ■ 19.01 ■ 19.02 ■ 20.01 ■ 20.02 ■ 21.02 ■ 27.01



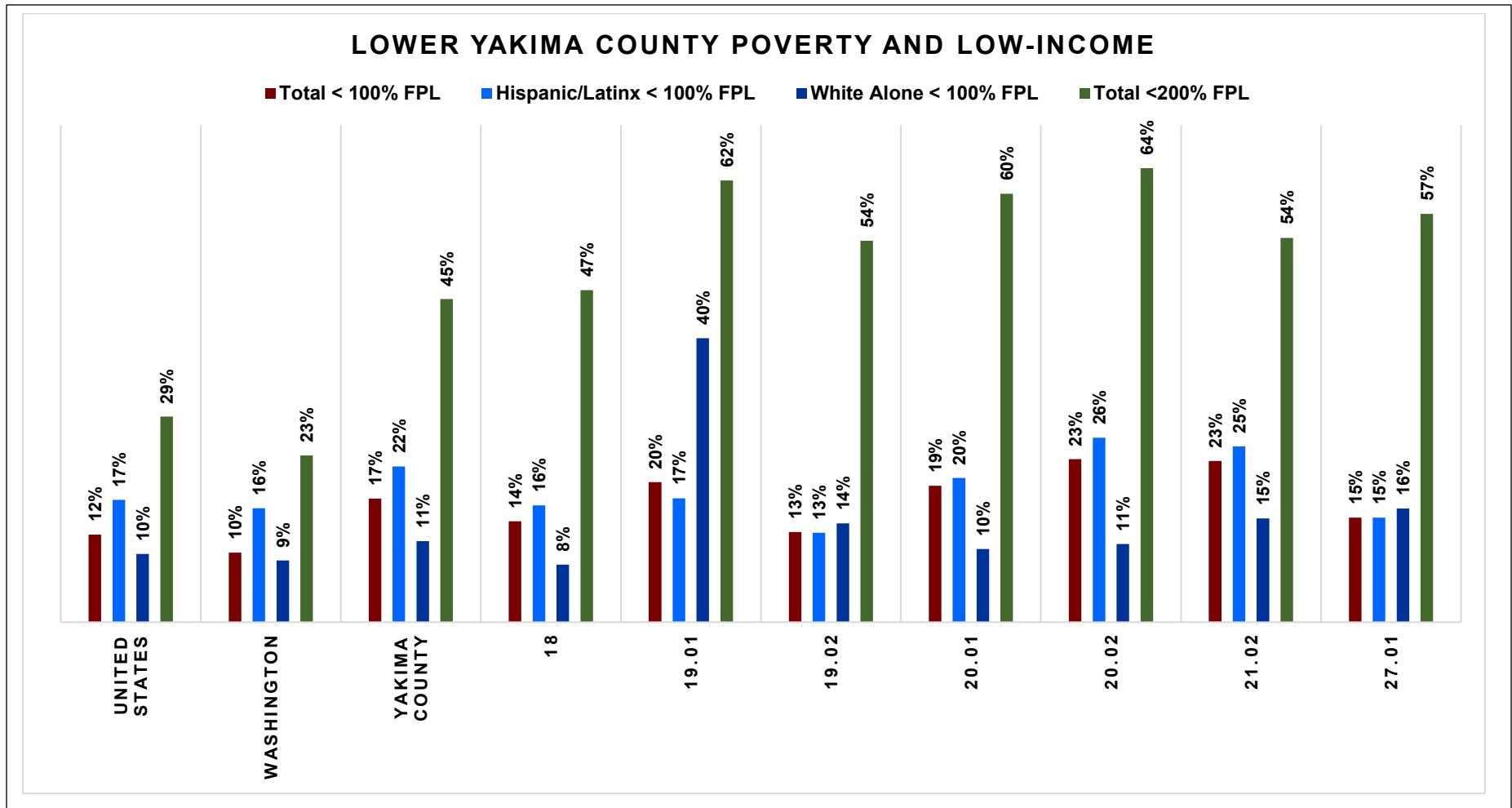
Lower Yakima County has a much higher percentage of those under the age of 18 and 5 when compared to Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. The population over the age of 18 is spread out among those aged 18-54, with ages 55-65+ lower than the other age groups and county, state, and country.



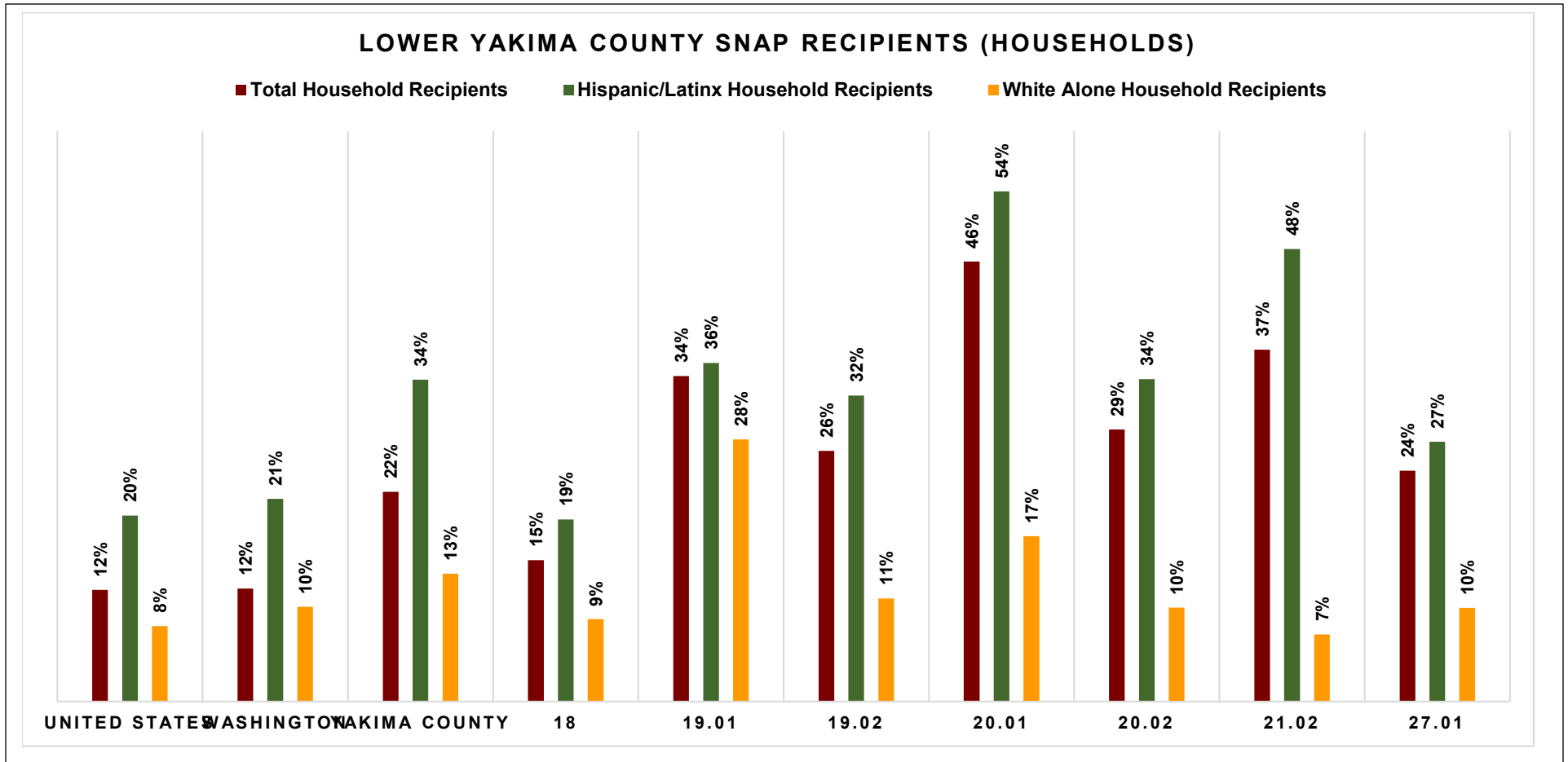
Lower Yakima County, overall, has the highest percentage of Hispanic/Latinx residents when compared to the previously mentioned areas, Yakima County, Washington, and the United States.



Lower Yakima County saw significant growth from 2015 to 2019. Northeast Sunnyside (census tract 20.01) saw the most growth at 12.8%. The only census tract that saw a decline was 19.01, which is southwest Grandview.



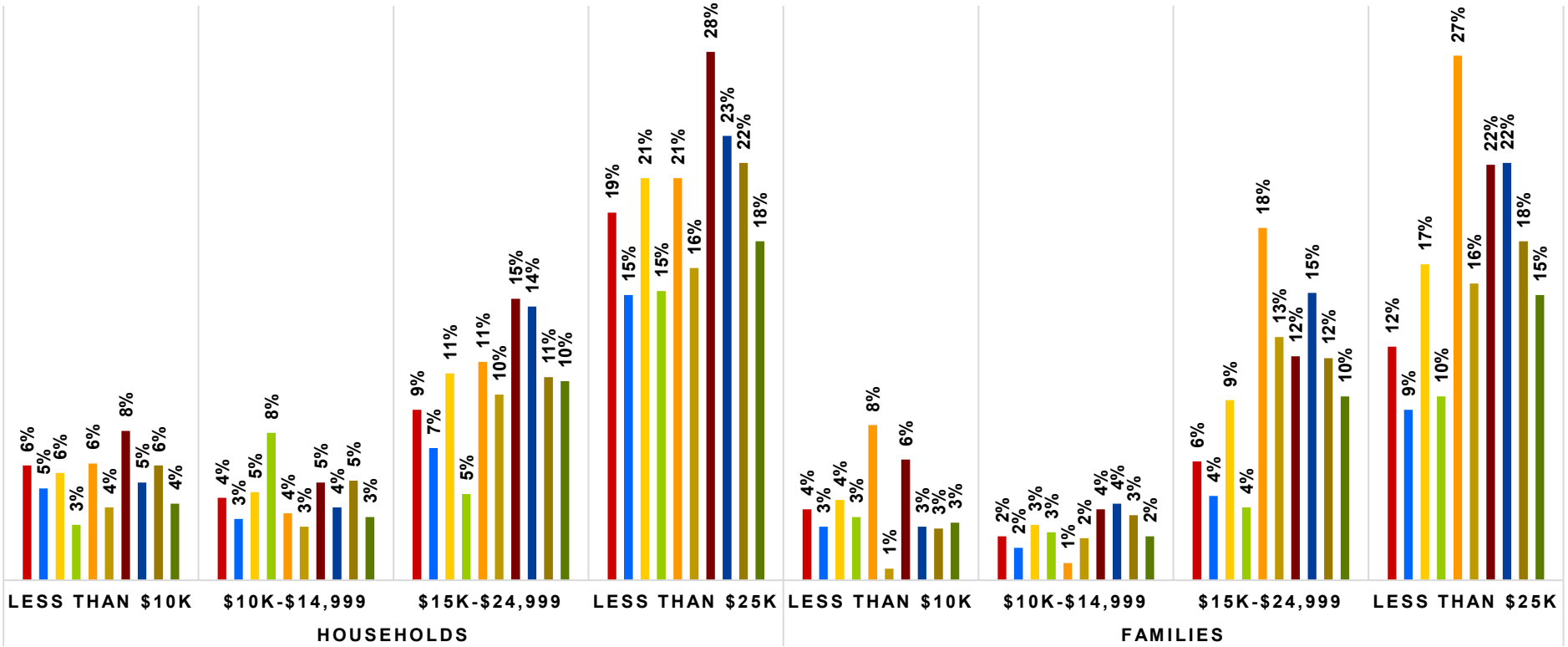
The percentages of total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone who live in poverty is not significantly different than Yakima County, except for census tract 19.01 where White alone is 40%. However, the percentages of those who live at or below 200% of FPL is higher than Yakima County, Washington, and the United States.



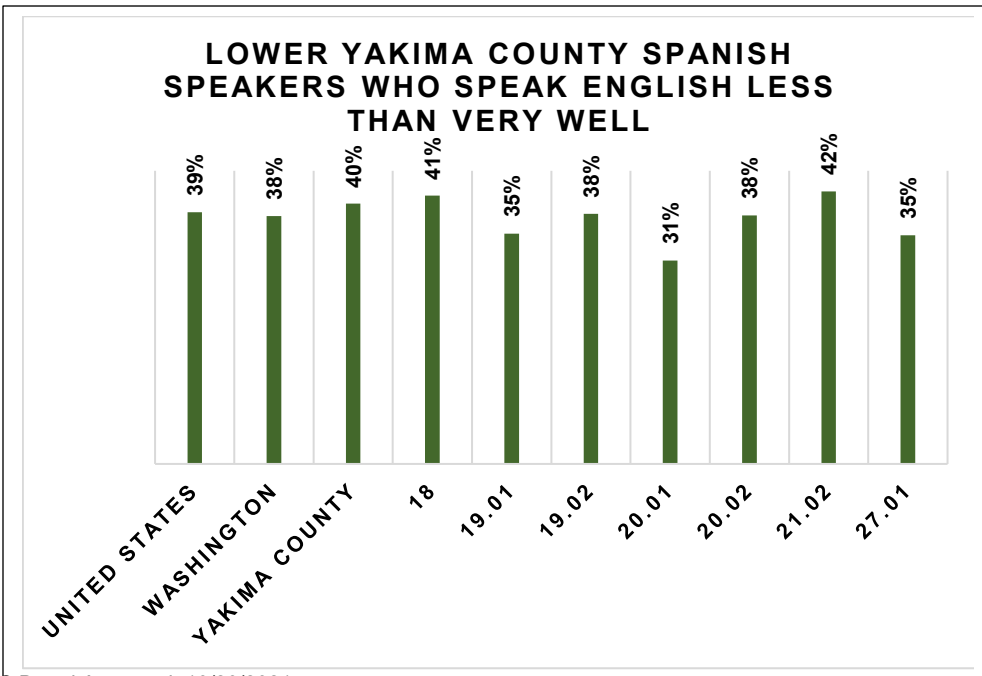
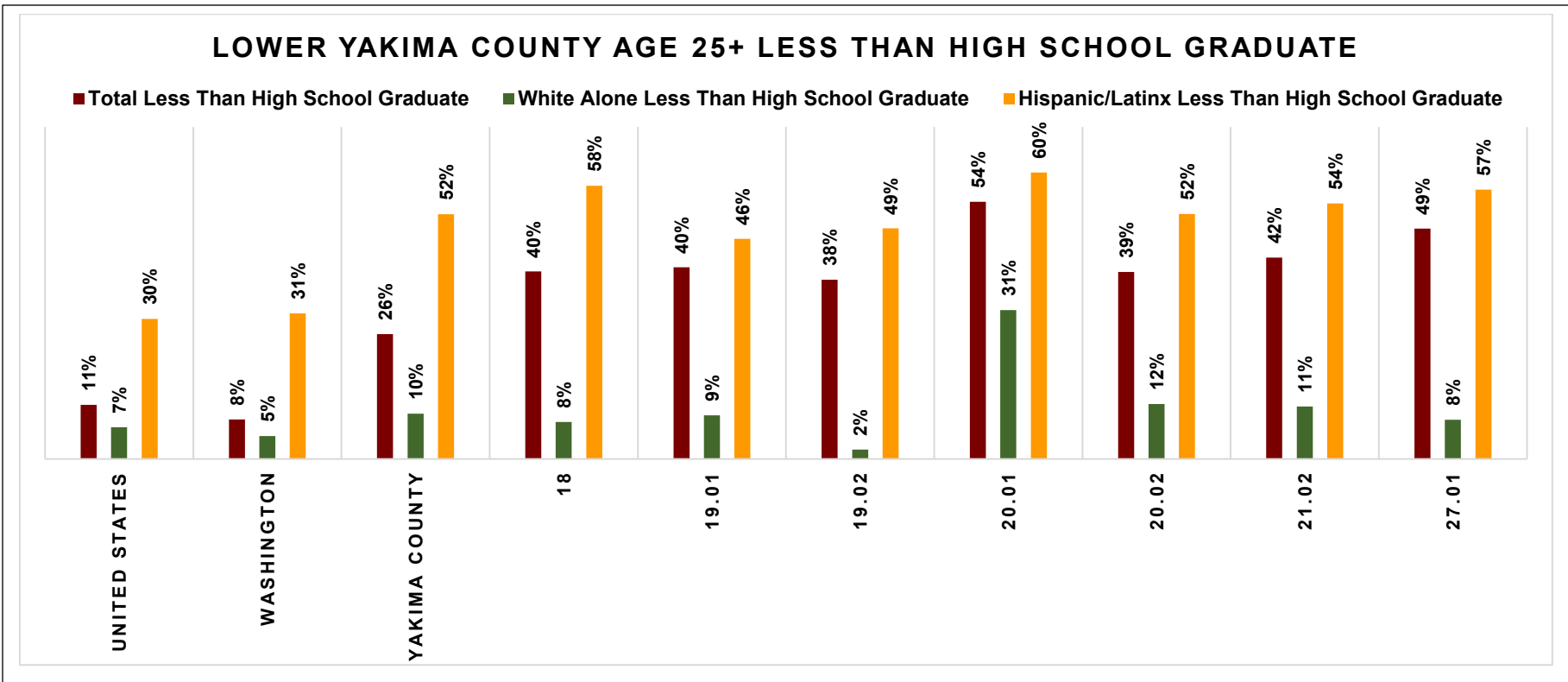
Of the six census tracts only one has a lower percentage of total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone SNAP household recipients, tract 18. Census tract 20.01 has the highest percentage of total and Hispanic/Latinx households who are SNAP recipients, 9% and 6% higher, respectively, than the next highest tract.

LOWER YAKIMA COUNTY INCOME LEVELS OF HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

■ United States ■ Washington ■ Yakima ■ 18 ■ 19.01 ■ 19.02 ■ 20.01 ■ 20.02 ■ 21.02 ■ 27.01

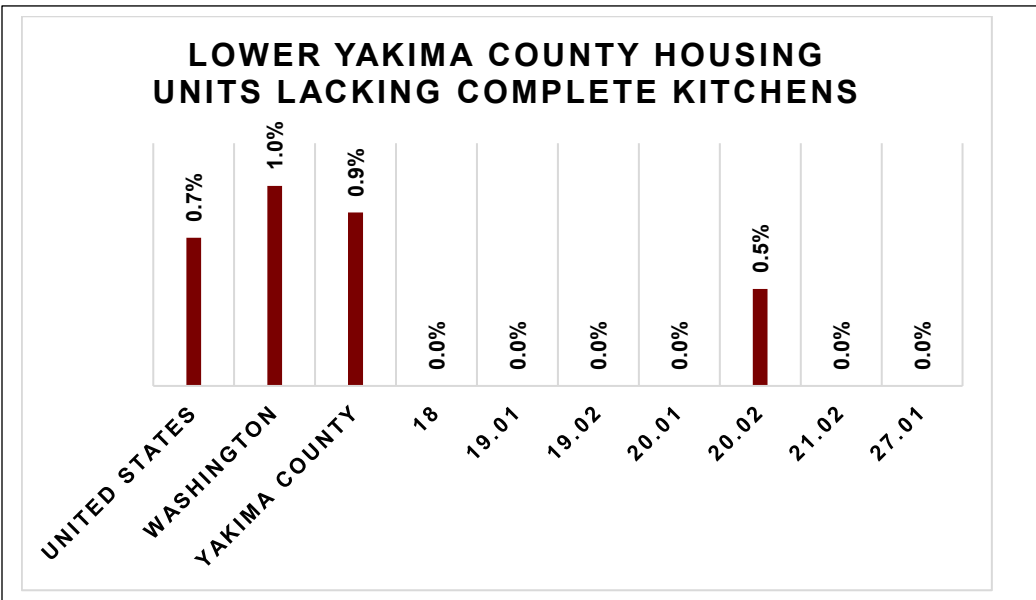
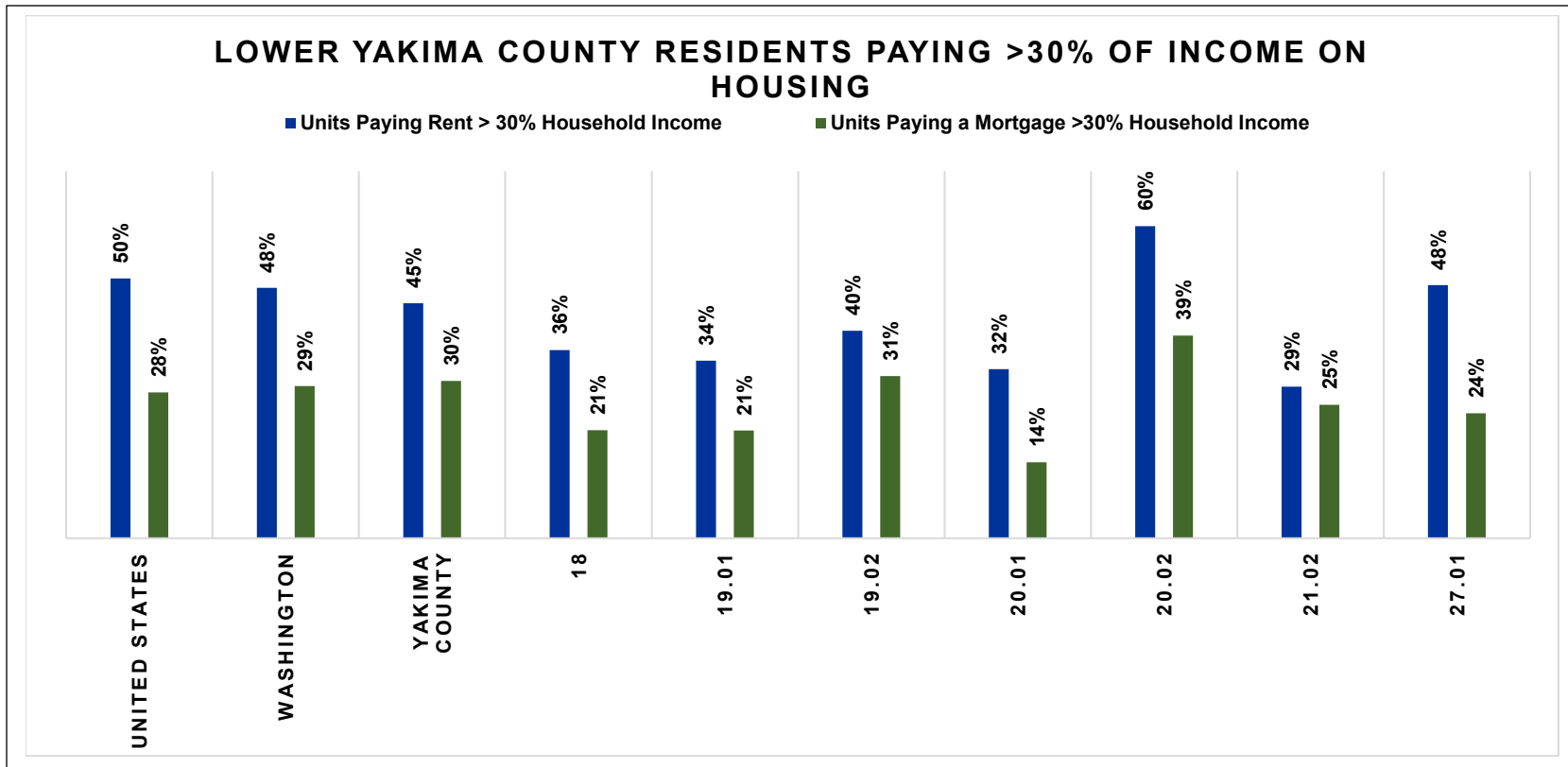


As with previous areas of Yakima County, households whose income is less than \$25,000 is higher than families, except for tract 19.01. Approximately half of the census tracts in Lower Yakima County have higher percentages of households and families than Yakima County, across all income levels.



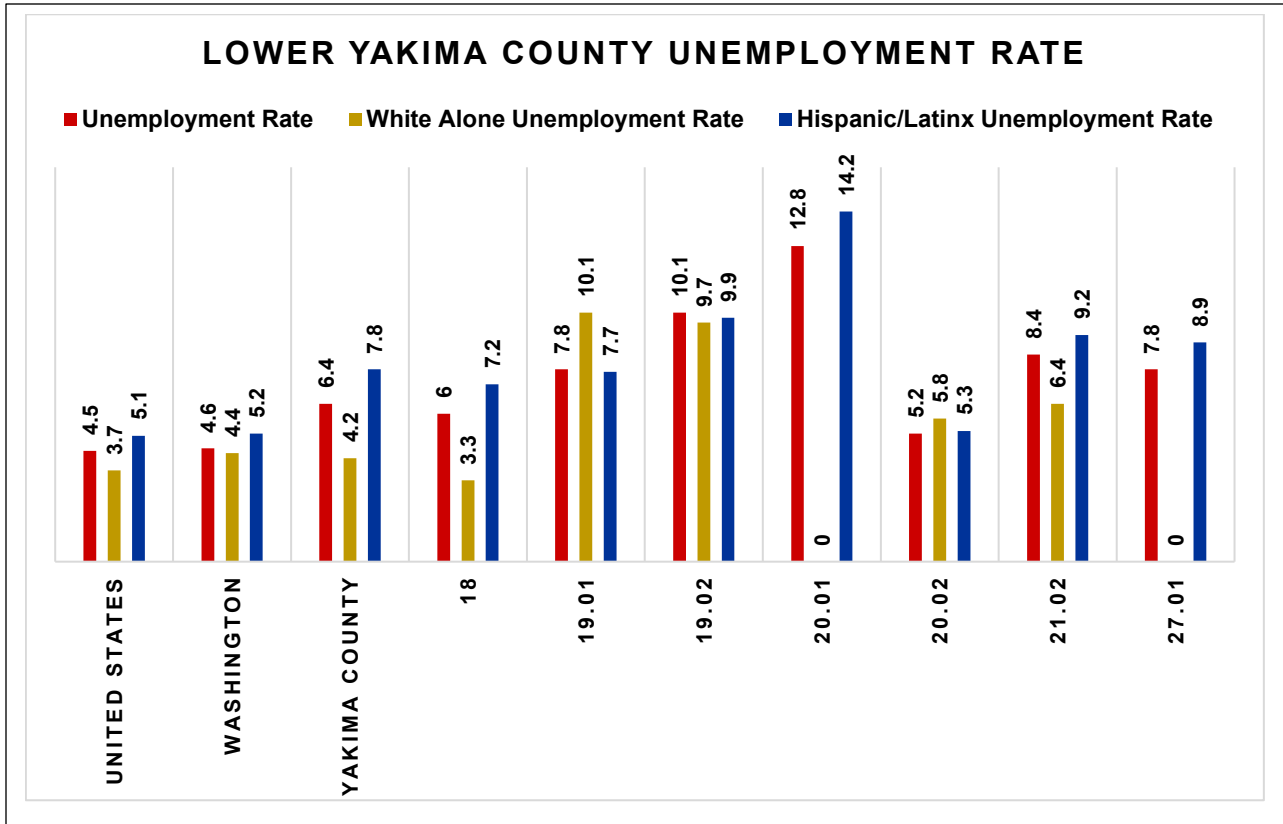
Approximately half of Hispanic/Latinx residents in Lower Yakima County aged 25 and over do not have a high school diploma or equivalent, where as White alone is more in line with the county, state, and country, with the exception of 20.01. Census tract 20.01 has the highest percentage, across all demographics, of those over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent.

Two of the seven census tracks have a lower percentage of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well than the county, state, and country. The two census tracts with higher percentages, are only higher by 1%-2%.



Lower Yakima County residents, as a whole, have lower percentages of renters and homeowners who spend over 30% of their income on housing compared to Yakima County, Washington, and the United States. Census tract 20.02, southwest Sunnyside, has the highest percentage of renters and homeowners spending more than 30% of their income on housing.

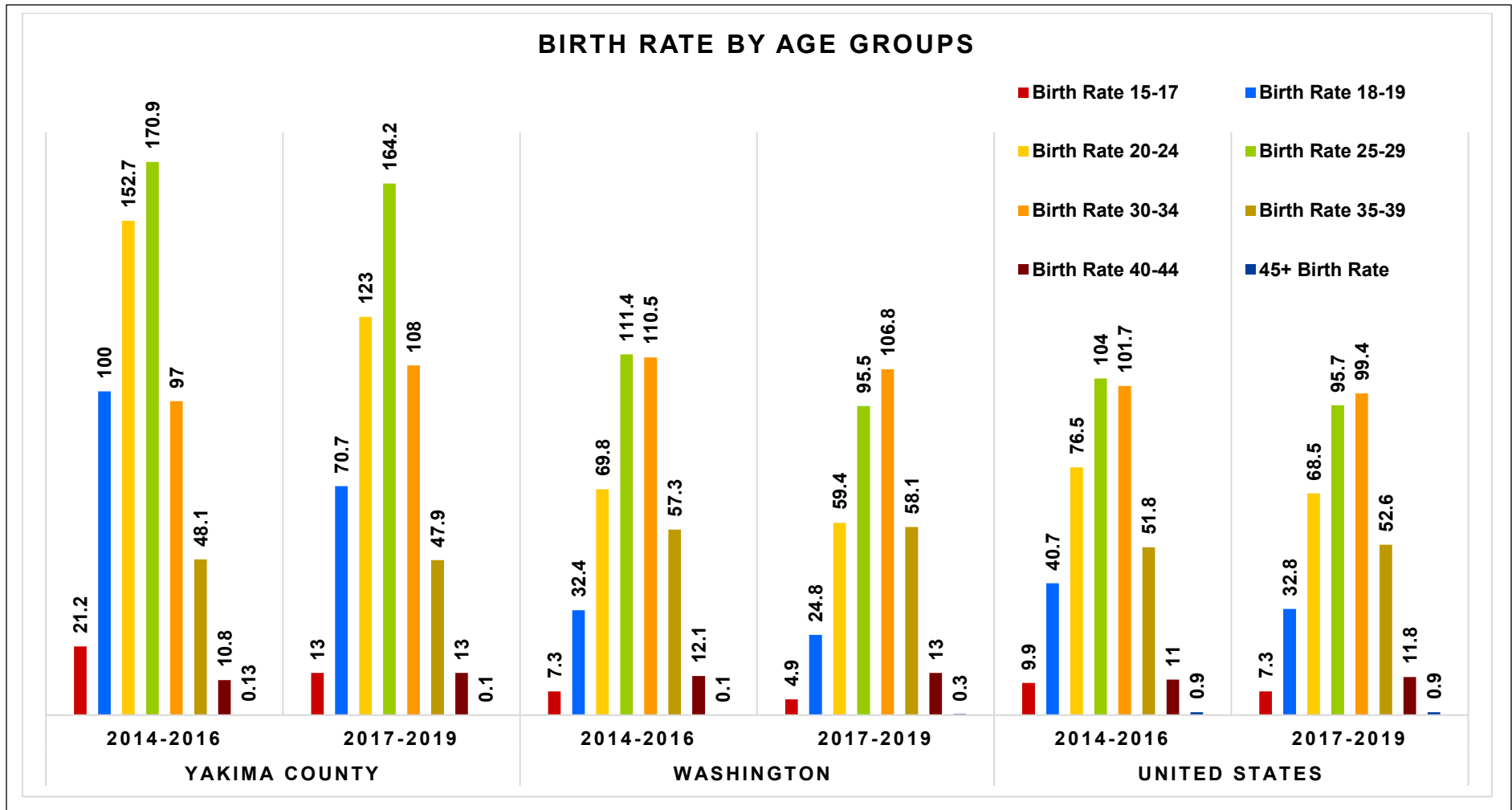
Only census tract 20.02 has housing units lacking complete kitchens, at 0.5%.



- Top 3 Industries in Lower Yakima County:
1. Agriculture
 2. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 3. Educational services, and health care and social assistance

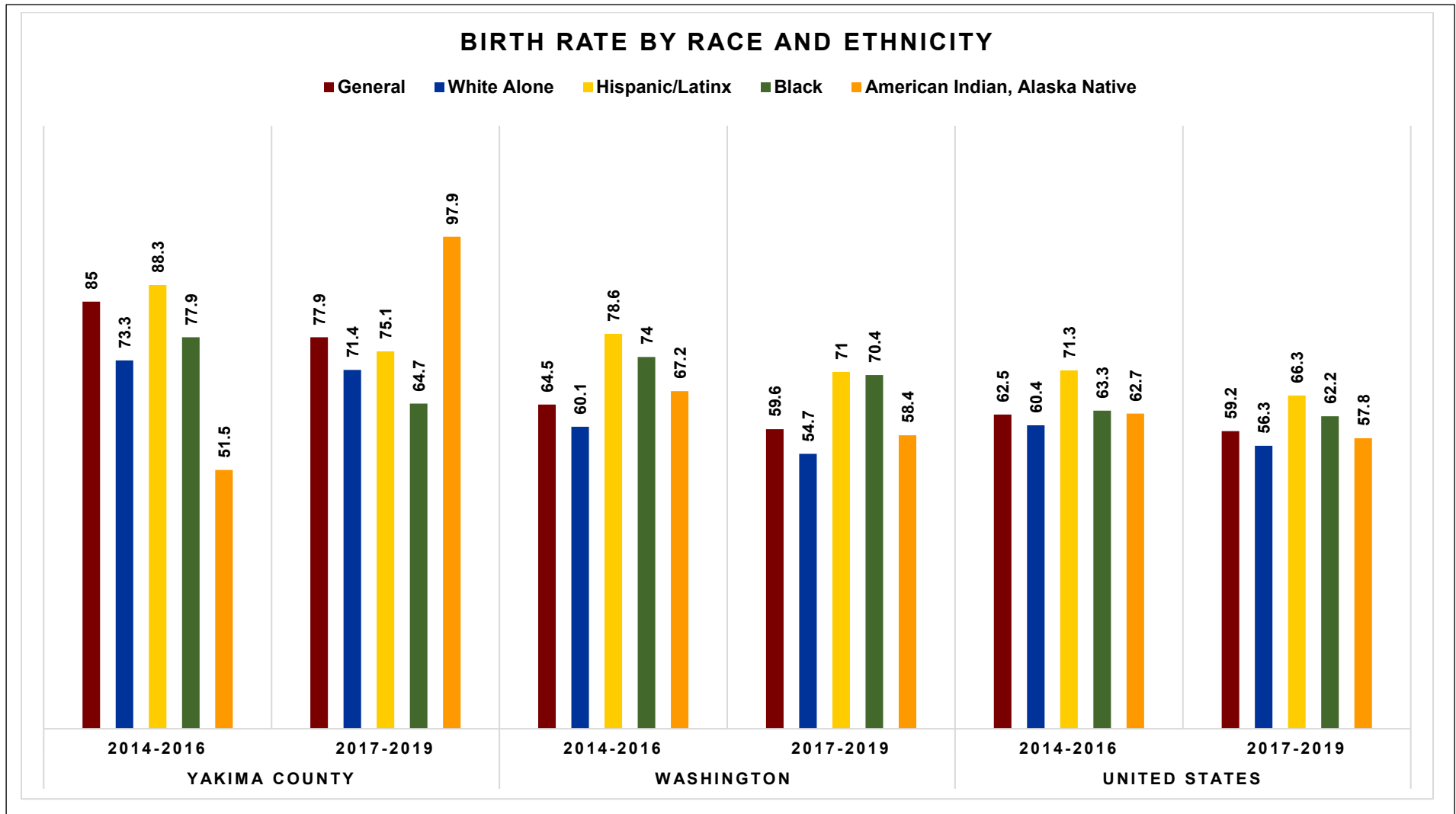
Lower Yakima County, overall, has higher unemployment rates across all demographics, when compared to the county, state, and country. Where White alone unemployment rates are 0- these are in census tracts with a very small White alone population, as such, the numbers are suppressed due to insufficient data.

Yakima County Birth Rates



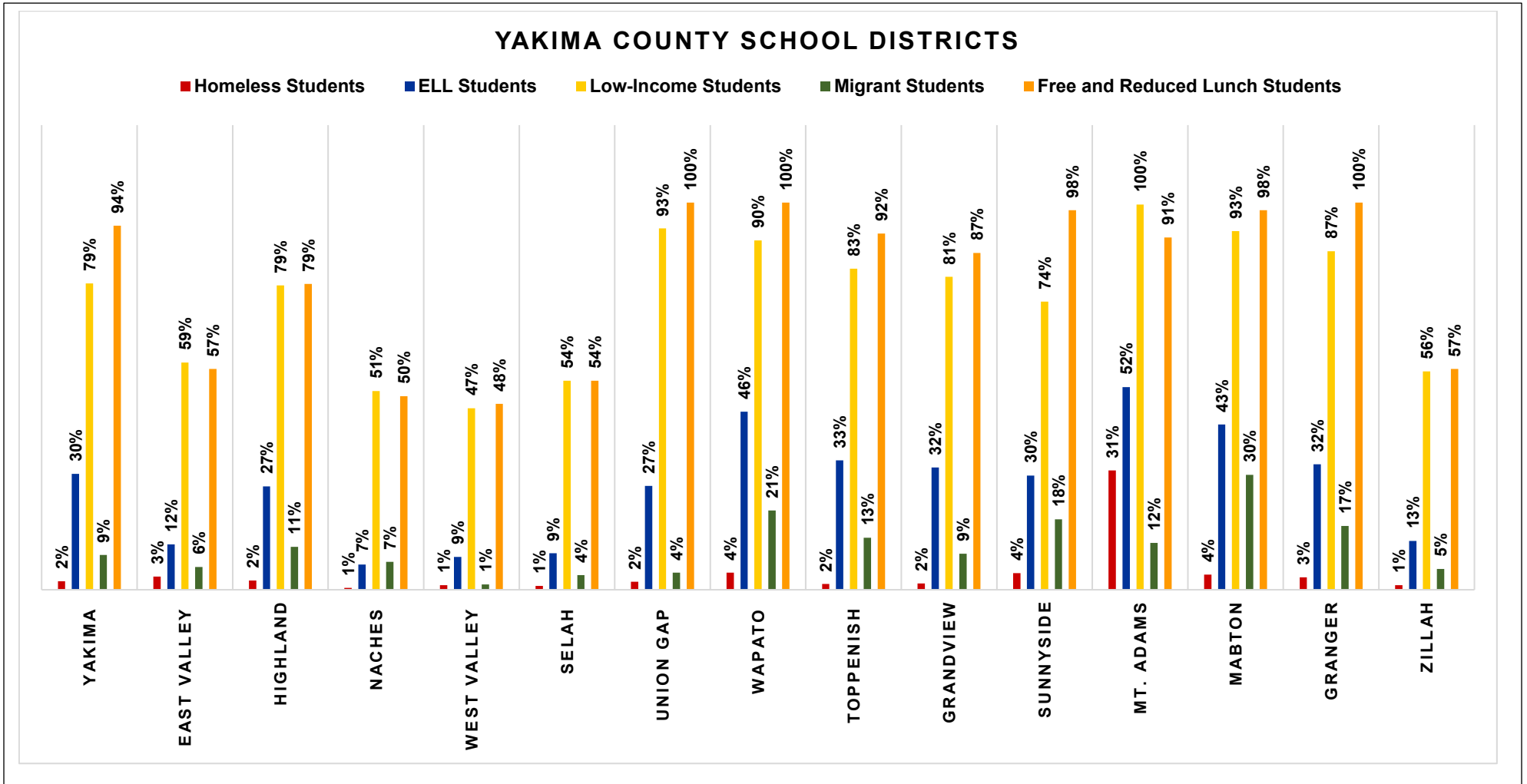
Yakima County births have dropped for most age groups from the time period 2014-2016 to 2017-2019, with the greatest declines in the 18-19 and 20-24 age groups. The age groups 30-34 and 40-44 increased slightly between the two time periods. Washington and the United States follow this trend as well. The trend of younger age groups' birth rates declining, and older age groups' birth rates increasing, would suggest women are waiting until later in life to start families. Efforts to reduce teen pregnancies appears to have had a significant impact in Yakima County, more so than Washington and the United States.

Yakima County Birth Rates Continued



Yakima County birth rates across all demographics are higher than Washington and the United States. Additionally, the general, White alone, Hispanic/Latinx, and Black birth rates dropped from the time period 2014-2016 and 2017-2019, with American Indian and Alaska Native increasing significantly by 46.4. Across all demographics and areas, Yakima County American Indian and Alaska Native was the only rate to increase.

Yakima County School Districts



There are 15 school districts in Yakima County. Mt. Adams is the only district with a substantial percentage of homeless students (31%), as well as the only district where 100% of its students are low-income. School districts located in Mid and Lower Yakima County have higher percentages of English Language Learners, low-income, migrant, and free and reduced lunch students than those in all other areas. The school district with the lowest percentages of low-income and free and reduced lunch students is West Valley. Graduation rates for Yakima county range from 75% - 95% (Naches the highest, Mt. Adams the lowest). School districts with high percentages of low-income and free and reduced lunch students statistically have lower graduation rates. Within Yakima County, all school districts (except for Mt. Adams) have a graduation rate in the 80s to mid-90s; the rate for schools with higher percentages of low-income and free and reduced lunch students is roughly the same as those with lower rates; this could suggest programs to help improve graduation rates over the years has worked.

Yakima County Health Care Access

Yakima County is a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) designated primary care and mental health care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) for the entire county, and a dental HPSA for Yakima County's low-income population. A HPSA designation is given to an area or population when there is a significant shortage of primary, dental, or mental health care providers. According to the 2019 County Health Rankings, Yakima County's ratio of patients to providers (medical, dental, and mental health) is worse when compared to Washington, with medical providers at 1480:1 compared to 1180:1, dental providers at 1360:1 compared to 1200:1, and mental health at 300:1 compared to 250:1. The lack of providers has impacted the health of Yakima County, as such Yakima is ranked among the least healthy counties in Washington; with 26% of adults in poor or fair health, 34% obese, 32% with high blood pressure, and 12% have diabetes.^{1,2}

There are three Community Health Centers (CHCs) in Yakima County, including YVFWC (dominant health center), Community Health of Central Washington, and Yakima Neighborhood Health Services, who work tirelessly to increase access and overall health of the community. Even with their work, 18% of adults have delayed or not sought care due to cost, 31% have no usual source of care, and 40% have not had a dental visit in the past year.³ Additionally, while there are three CHCs helping reduce health inequality and increase access, residents still have a hard time finding care as clinics struggle with provider retention. The reality is the need outweighs their capacity. In addition to limited access for primary and dental health, there is a significant shortage of mental health professionals, especially those that will accept low-income, underinsured, and/or Medicaid individuals. The mental health providers that do exist, often are not taking new patients or wait times to be seen are months out.

A person's health has a great impact on the quality and self-sufficiency of their life. It affects their ability to do things such as maintain gainful employment or continue their education, which in turn will affect their housing situation. It is important OIC continues its work with CHCs, as appropriate, to help ensure clients are receiving necessary health care so they can begin/continue on their path to self-sufficiency.

¹ County Health Rankings, 2019

² UDS Mapper, 2020

³ Ibid

Summary of Yakima County Data

Yakima County is located in South Central Washington and has a population of 249,697. Since Yakima County is comprised of 45 census tracts, the county was divided into seven different areas for the purpose of this assessment. Yakima County's population is spread relatively evenly across all age groups over the age of 18. Yakima East of 16th Avenue has the highest percentages of those under the age of 18, and the lowest of those aged 65 and over; conversely, Yakima West of 16th Avenue has the lowest percentages of those under the age of 18, and highest of those aged 65 and over. Minus a few exceptions, all other areas follow Yakima County with their population spread relatively evenly across all age groups above 18 as well.

The population in Yakima County is 49% Hispanic/Latinx, 43% White alone, 4% American Indian and Alaska Native, 1% Black, and 1% Asian. Four of the seven areas are predominantly White alone, where none of the census tracts have a percentage of Hispanic/Latinx higher than the county (West Valley, North Yakima County, East Valley, and Yakima West of 16th Avenue). The other three (Yakima East of 16th, Mid Yakima County, and Lower Yakima County) have the same, or significantly higher, percentage of Hispanic/Latinx as the county. While the county is only 4% American Indian and Alaska Native, census tracts located on the Yakama Indian Reservation have an American Indian and Alaska Native population as high as 49%; which is also where the smallest percentages of White alone reside.

Overall, Yakima County is an economically depressed area where the percentages of total population, Hispanic/Latinx, White alone, and American Indian and Alaska Native residents living in poverty are higher than Washington and the United States. The percentage of Black residents living in poverty is more than Washington, but less than the United States. While American Indian and Alaska Natives make up only 4% of the total population, they have a higher percentage of those in poverty than all other races/ethnicities. In regards to residents living at or below 200% of the FPL, areas with higher percentages of poverty and higher percentages of Hispanic/Latinx residents, saw higher percentages of those who are low-income.

When compared to Washington and the United States, a higher percentage of Yakima County residents over the age of 25 do not have a high school diploma or equivalent. Additionally, there is a significantly higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx without a high school diploma or equivalent than any other demographic (52%), which is at least 21 percent higher than Washington and the United States; followed by American Indian and Alaska Native at 21% which is also higher than the state and country (17% and 20% respectively). The lowest percentage of those without a high school diploma is White alone, which is still at least 3% higher than the state and country; with Black next at 13% in Yakima County, which is less than the country, but higher than the state (by only 1-2% each way).

Yakima County only saw 0.9% growth in population over the five-year period of 2015-2019; where as individual census tracts saw a wide variety of significant growth and declines. When the seven areas in Yakima County are compared, the ones with lower percentages of those living in poverty, as well as lower percentages of those over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent, have greater overall growth; where the areas with the highest percentages of poverty and those over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent saw the most decline.

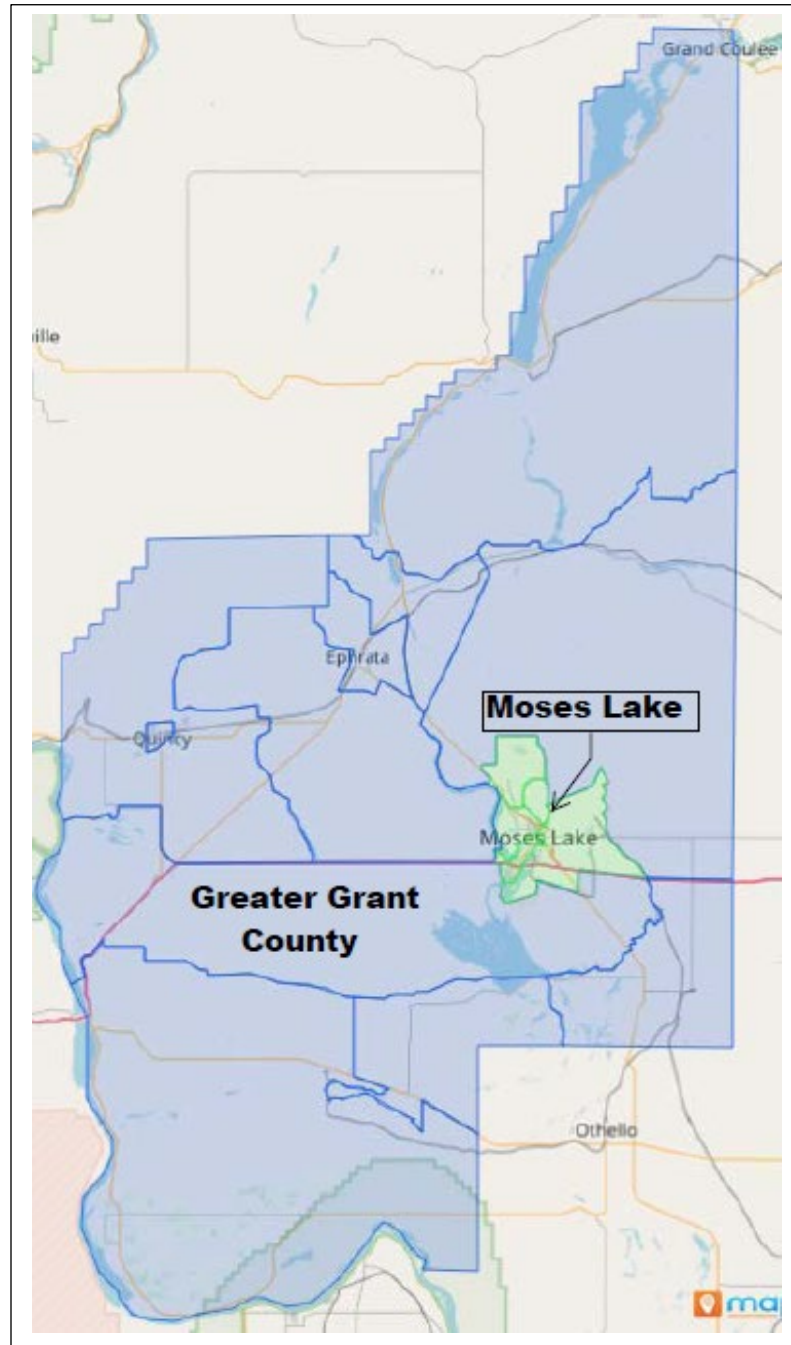
Yakima County continues to have higher birth rates than Washington and the United States, by age groups and race/ethnicity. While the rates are higher, the trends are similar. During the three-year time periods of 2014-2016 and 2017-2019 teen birth rates decreased in Yakima County, Washington, and the United States; however, rates in Yakima County dropped much more significantly. Across all age groups over the age of 30, birth rates increased slightly. The drop in teen and younger adult birth rates and increase in others could be attributed to increased teen pregnancy prevention programs, more access to birth control, and women waiting longer to start families.

Unemployment rates (2019) in Yakima County vary greatly between demographics and census tracts. For most of census tracts, Hispanic/Latinx has higher rates of unemployment, with a few census tracts in Yakima East of 16th Avenue and Mid Yakima County having the highest rates for White alone. Total, Hispanic/Latinx, and American Indian and Alaska Native Yakima County unemployment rates are higher than Washington and the United States, with American Indian and Alaska Native the highest at 18.3. Whereas Black is lower than both the state and country (7 compared to 7.8 and 9.5 respectively), and White alone is fairly in line with the state and country, with only .2 and .5 difference.

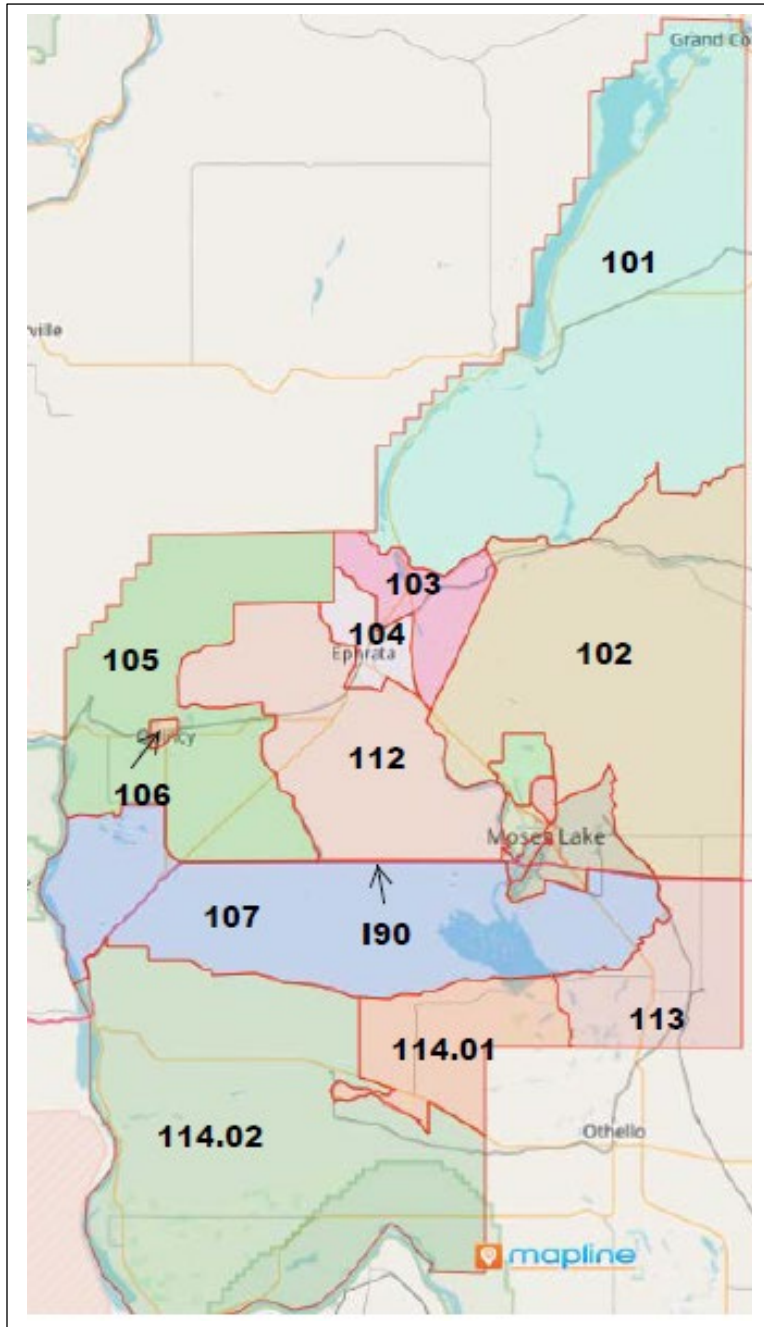
As stated by the US Census, the top three industries in Yakima County are 1) construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, 2) educational services, and health care and social assistance, and 3) Agriculture. This is evident in the top employers in Yakima County; which includes medical facilities, fruit and produce processing and distribution centers, school districts, large retail stores, and government agencies.

Grant County

For the purpose of this assessment, Grant County has been divided into two areas- Greater Grant County and Moses Lake.



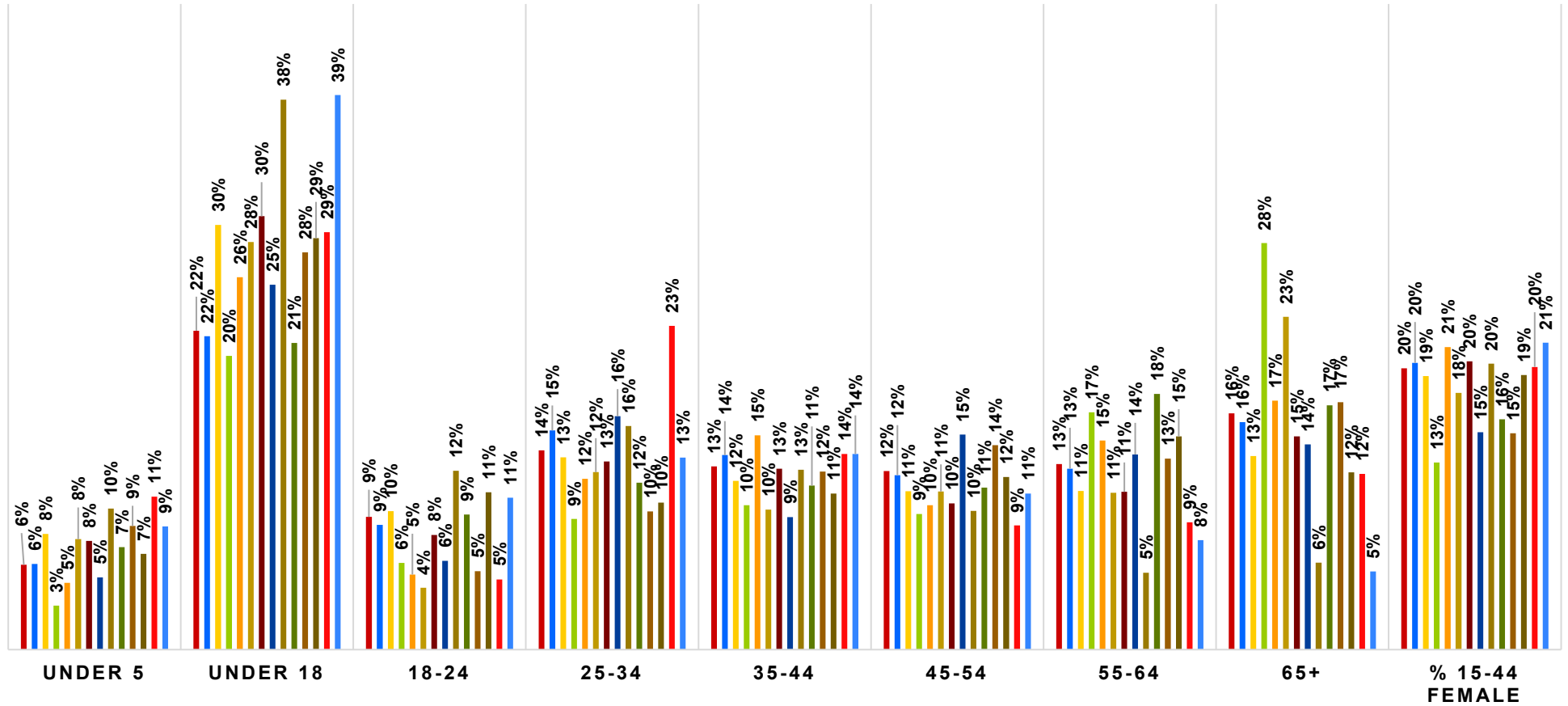
Greater Grant County



Greater Grant County encompasses the towns of Quincy, Ephrata, Grand Coulee, and Mattawa (among others) and includes twelve census tracts (101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 106, 107, 112, 113, 114.01, and 114.02). The area is rural and agriculturally rich with a myriad of orchards and crops, such as potatoes, apples, wheat, barely, peaches, and more. Grant County's population is 95,502, of which 61% live in Greater Grant County.

GREATER GRANT COUNTY AGE GROUPS

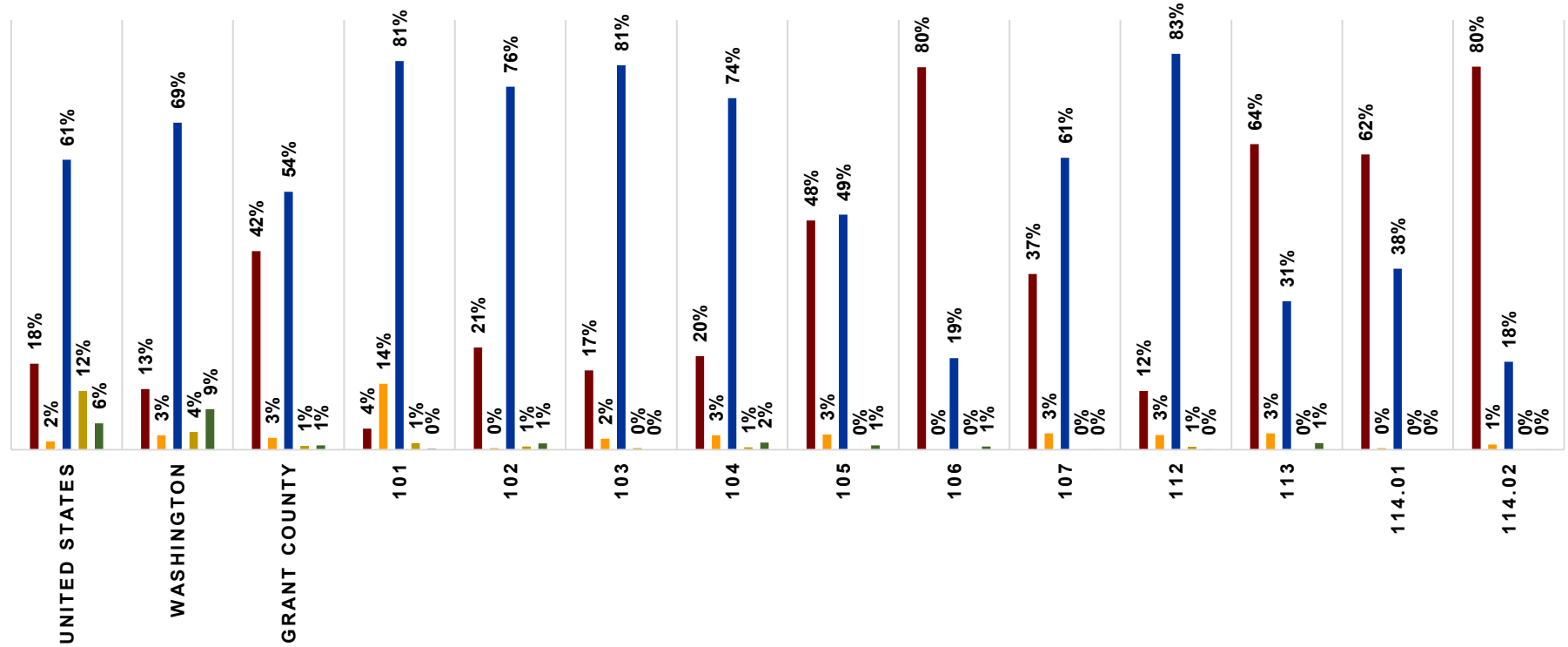
■ United States ■ Washington ■ Grant County ■ 101 ■ 102 ■ 103 ■ 104 ■ 105 ■ 106 ■ 107 ■ 112 ■ 113 ■ 114.01 ■ 114.02



Greater Grant County residents are roughly spread evenly across all age groups, with a few exceptions. Census tract 114.01 has a higher percentage of 25-34 year old’s and tract 101 has a higher percentage of those aged 65 and over. In addition, tract 106 and 114.02 the highest percentage of those under the age of 18 and the lowest percentage of those aged 65 and over when compared to the other census tracts, Yakima County, Washington, and the United States.

GREATER GRANT COUNTY RACE/ETHNICITY

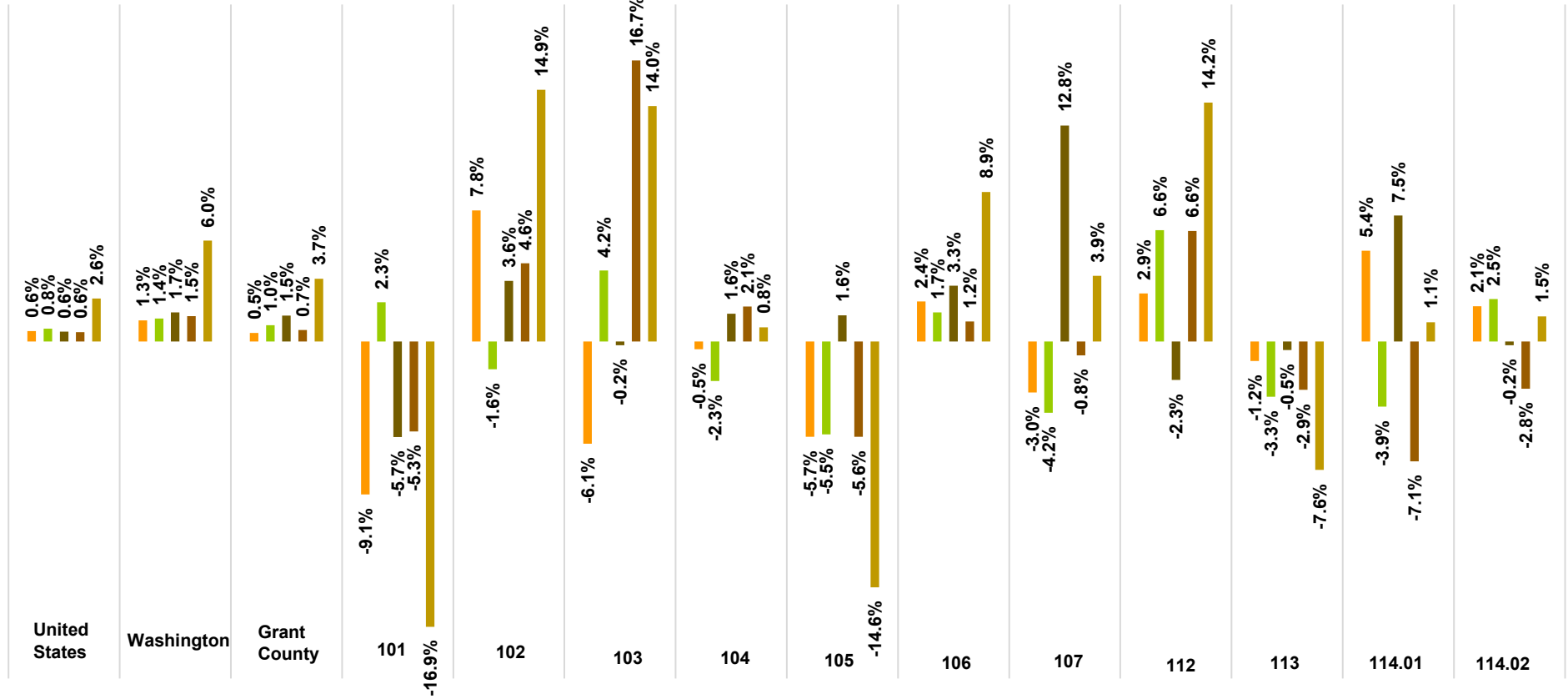
■ Hispanic/Latinx ■ American Indian, Alaska Native ■ White Alone ■ Black ■ Asian



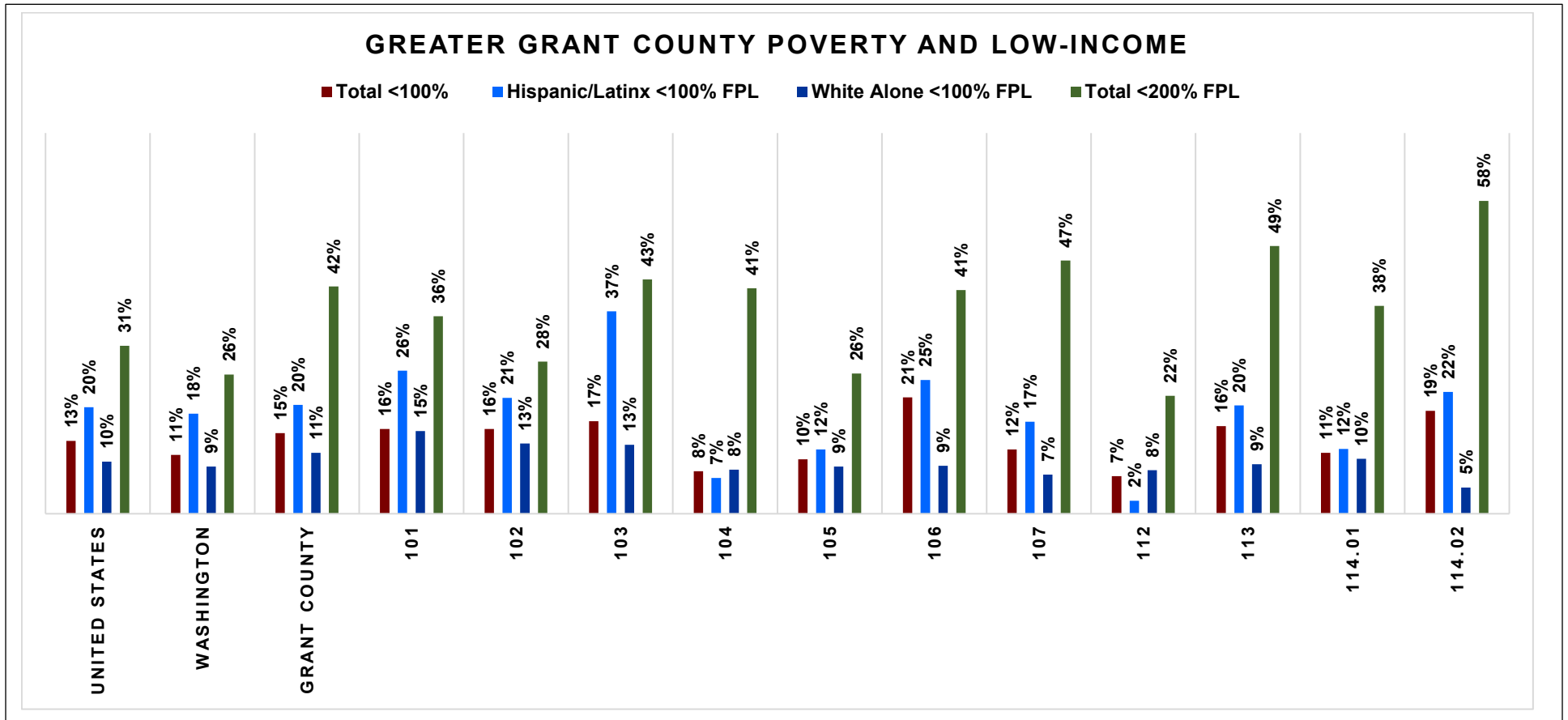
Greater Grant County has five census tracts in which 75% or more of the population is White alone, where as there are two tracts in which more than 75% of the population is Hispanic/Latinx. When compared to Grant County, most of Greater Grant County has a higher percentage of White alone, and smaller percentage of Hispanic/Latinx. While many census tracts have a higher percentage of White alone and Hispanic/Latinx, Grant County as a whole is close to 50/50.

GREATER GRANT COUNTY POPULATION CHANGE

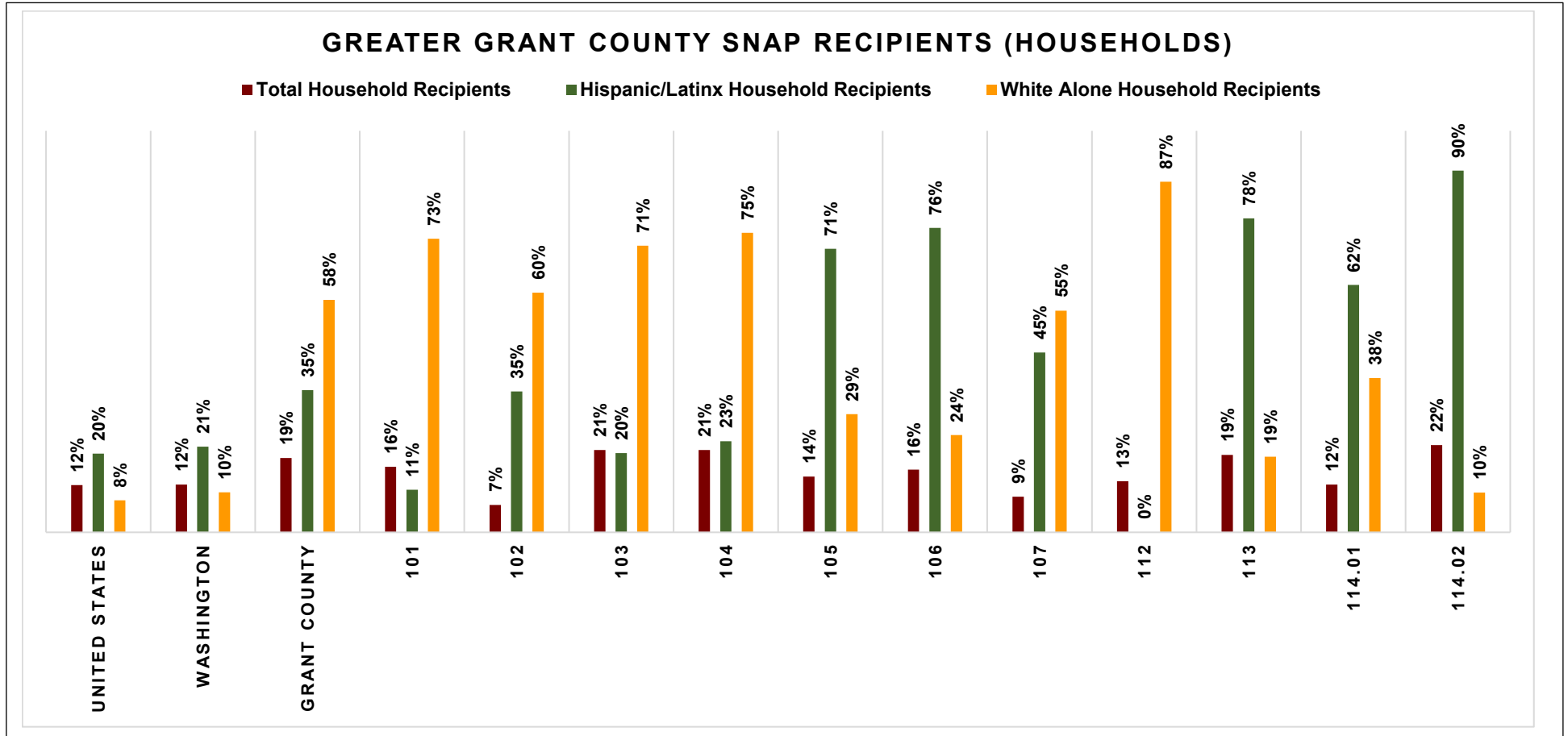
2015-2016 change 2016-2017 change 2017-2018 change 2018-2019 change 2015-2019 change



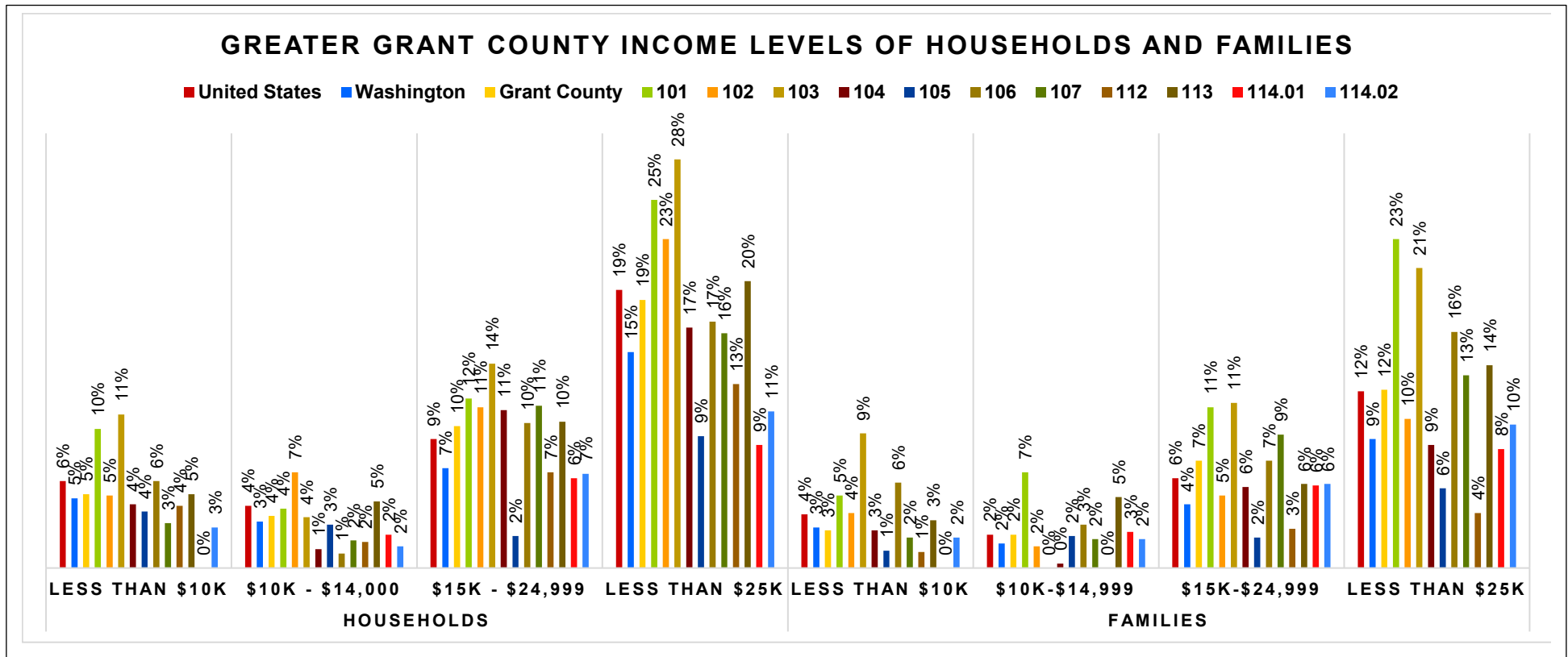
Grant County saw very little growth over the five year period 2015-2019, 3.7%. However, almost half of the census tracts in Greater Grant County saw significant increases and decreases. Five of the census tracts (101, 102, 103, 105, 112) saw an increase or decrease over 10%. Moreover, even though two of the decreases were significant, Greater Grant County only had a decrease in population in three of the eleven census tracts. The significant declines in population could be skewed due to small population sizes, therefore small changes in population numbers result in larger percentages.



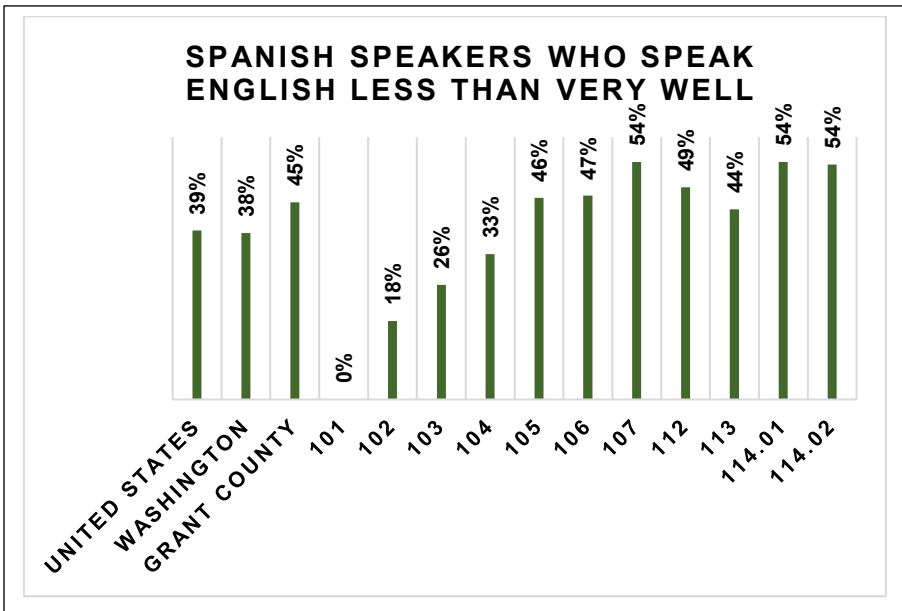
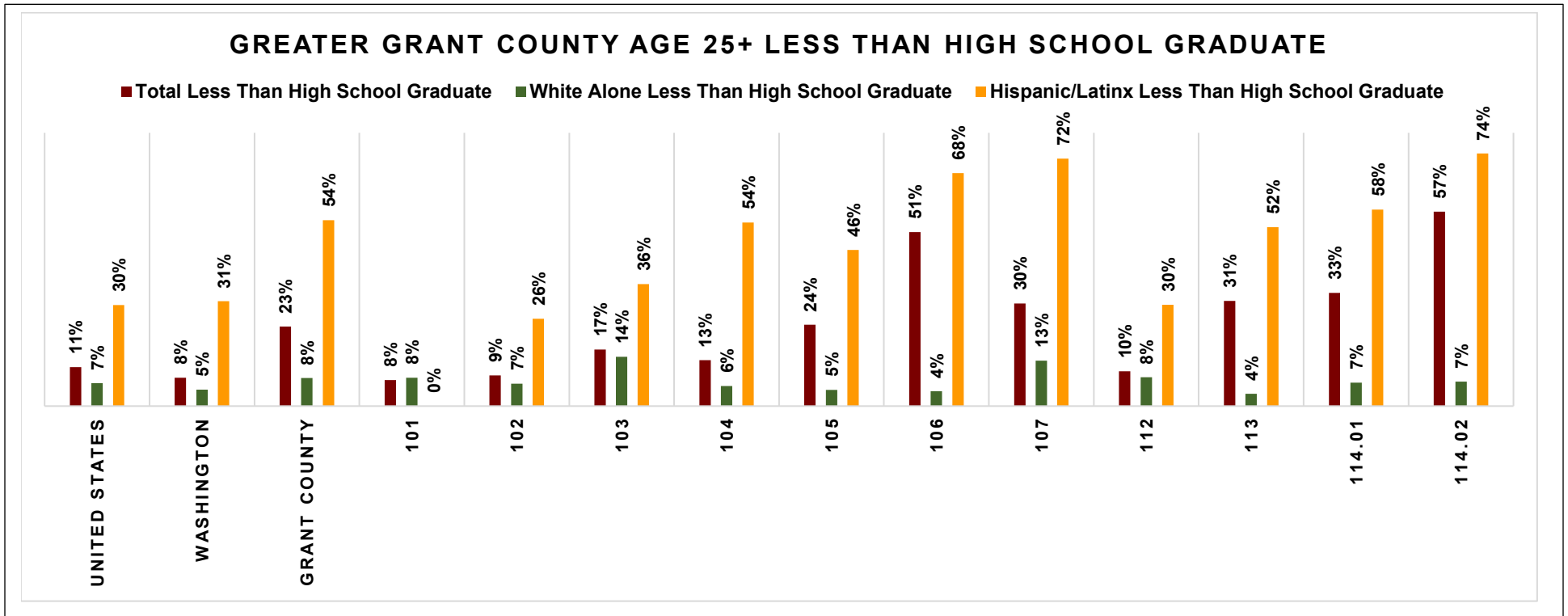
Grant County’s percentage of total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone residents living in poverty aligns with Washington and the United States. With the exception of three census tracts (101, 103, and 106), the percentage living in poverty, across all demographics, is the same or lower than Washington and the United States. Over half of the census tracts have a smaller percentage of those living at or below 200% of the FPL when compared to Grant County; with a few lower than Washington and/or the United States. More Black residents in Grant County live in poverty than White alone (12%), but is less than total and Hispanic/Latinx; American Indian and Alaska Native residents have a lower percentage of those living in poverty, in Grant County, when compared to all other demographics (8%).



The total percentage of households receiving SNAP benefits is not significantly different among the census tracts, Grant County, Washington, and the United States. The census tracts in which White alone is a higher percentage than Hispanic/Latinx, and visa versa, are the same tracts in which that demographic is dominant. In ten of the eleven census tracts, the dominant race/ethnicity's percentage is higher than the county. The percentage of Black and American Indian and Alaska Native households who are SNAP recipients is significantly lower than all demographics, across all areas (3% and 2% respectively).



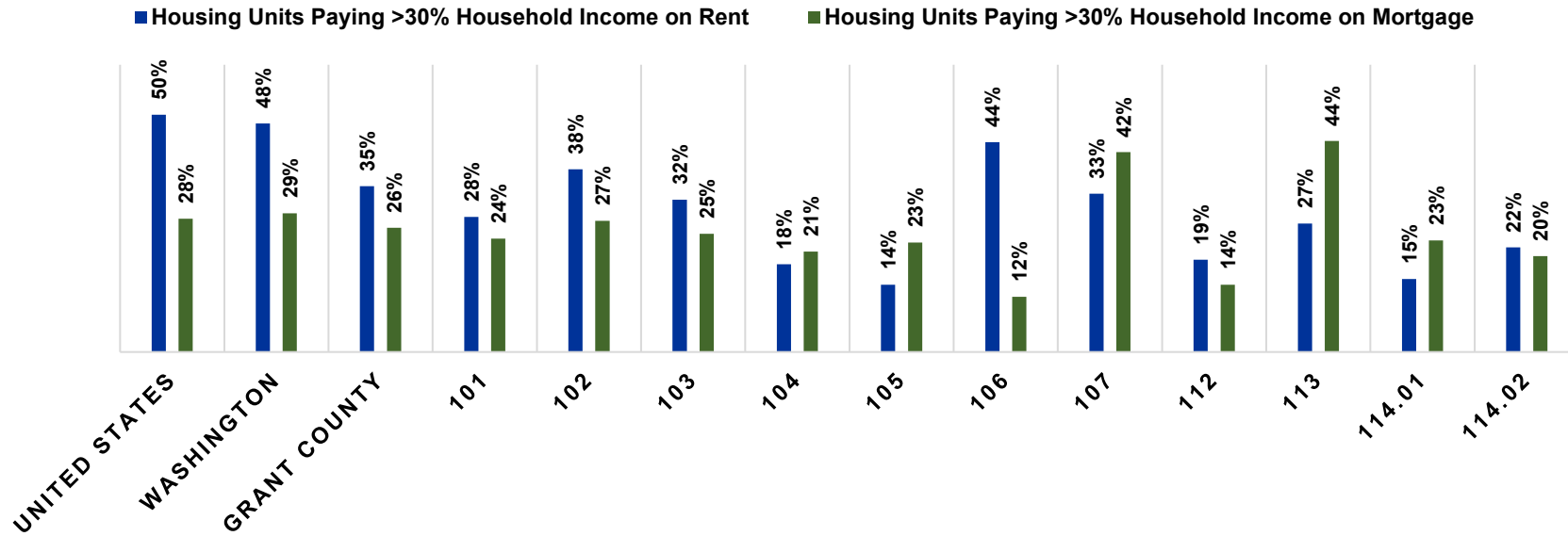
As has been the trend, Greater Grant County has a higher percentage of households whose income is less than \$25,000 than families. While most census tracts' percentages are approximately the same or lower than the county, state, and country, census tracts 101, 102, and 103 are overall higher. This is possibly due to the fact that these three census tracts have two of the highest percentages of Hispanic/Latinx living in poverty when compared to the other census tracts.



Most census tracts' White alone over the age of 25 who does not have a high school diploma or equivalent percentage is the same or only slightly higher than Grant County, Washington, and the United States. Where as Hispanic/Latinx and total mostly have higher percentages than the county, state, and country. The percentage of Black (18%) in Grant County over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent is higher than White alone, but lower than total and Hispanic/Latinx. American Indian and Alaska Natives (28%) in Grant County has a lower percentage than Hispanic/Latinx, but higher than total, Black, and Hispanic/Latinx.

In regards to Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well, four of the eleven census tracts (101, 102, 103, and 104) have a smaller percentage than all other census tracts, the county, state, and country. These four census tracts also have some of the smaller percentages of those over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent across all demographics.

GREATER GRANT COUNTY RESIDENTS PAYING >30% OF INCOME IN HOUSING

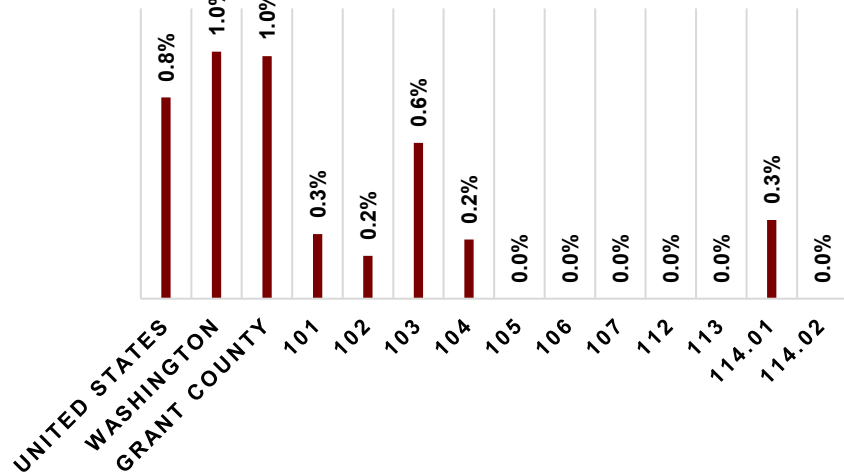


**Grant County
2020 Homeless
PIT Count:**

Persons: 180

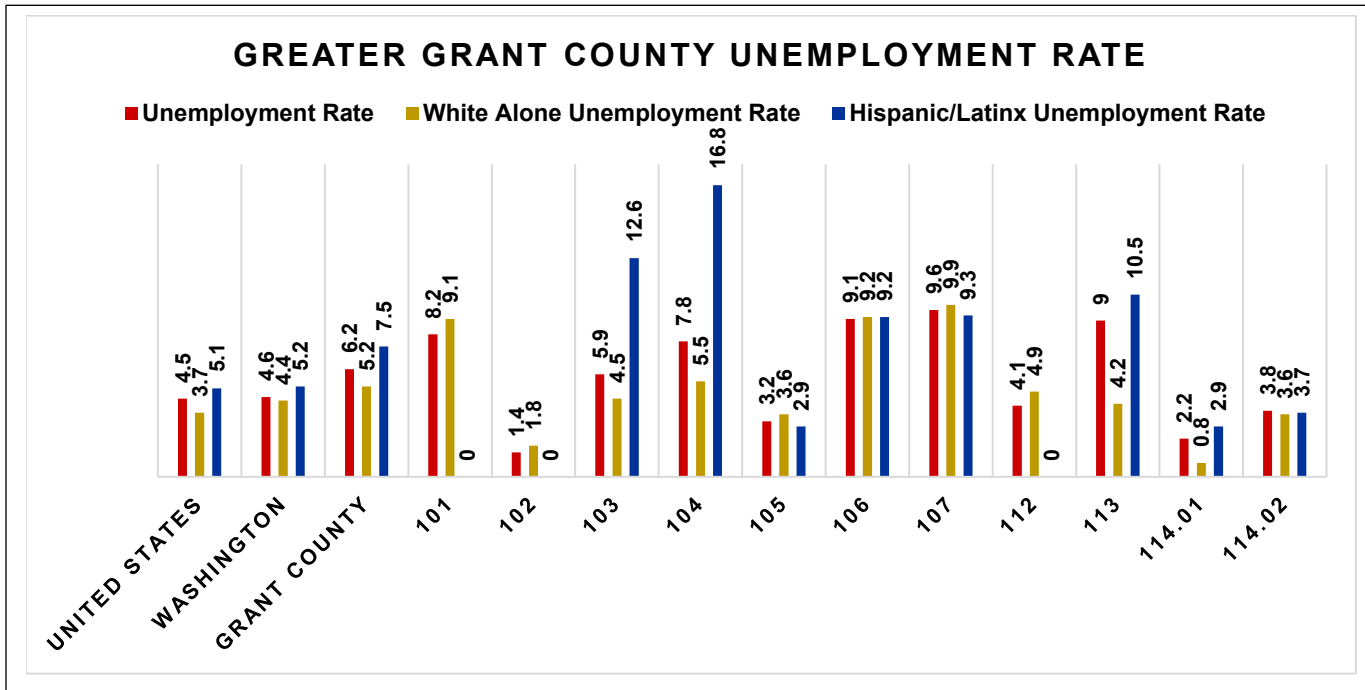
Households: 117

HOUSING UNITS LACKING COMPLETE KITCHEN FACILITIES



Grant County has a smaller percentage of both renters and homeowners paying more than 30% of their income on housing. The only census tracts that are above Washington and the United States are tracts 107 and 113's percentages of homeowners paying more than 30% of their income on housing.

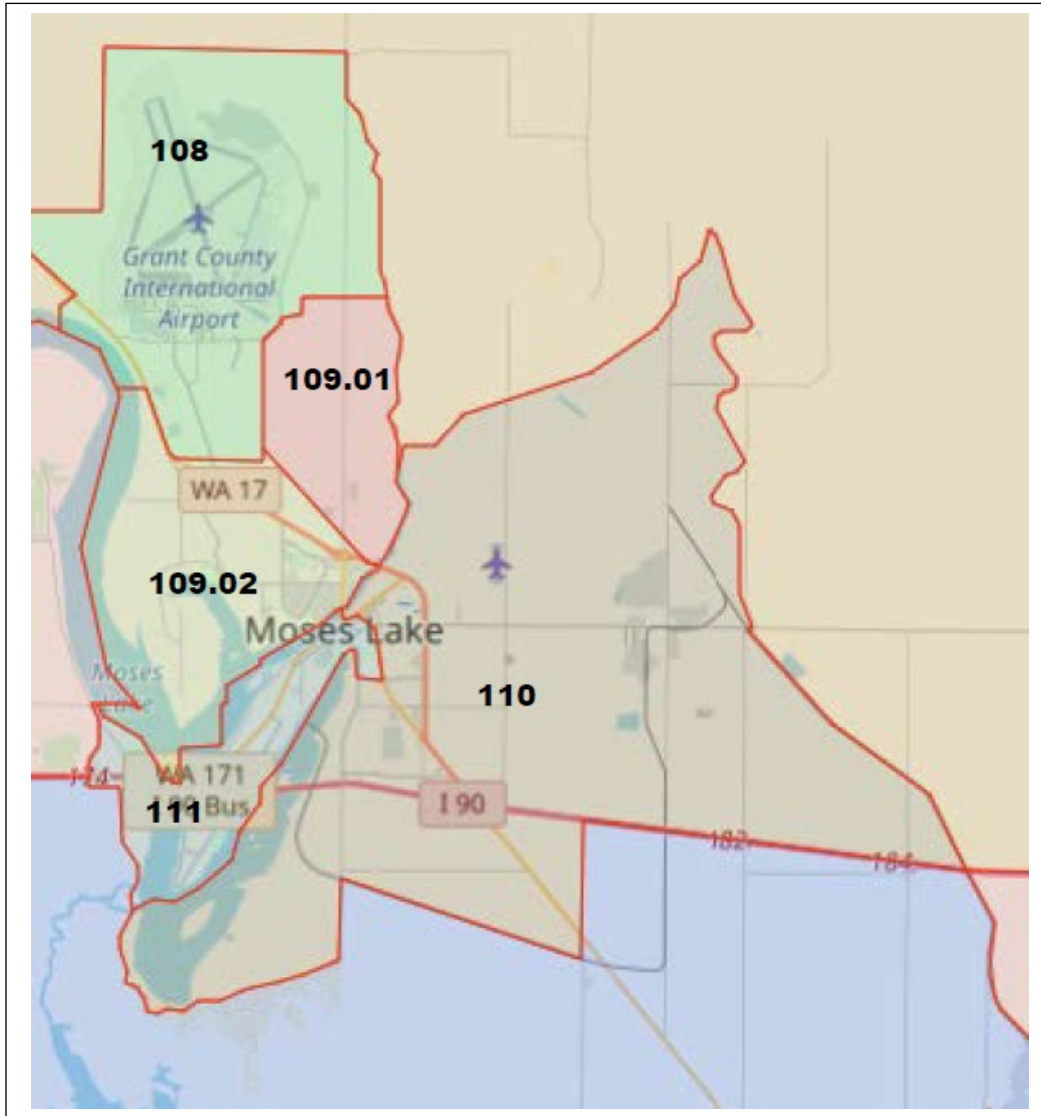
The percentages of housing units lacking complete kitchen facilities is much lower than that of the county, state, and country.



- Top 3 industries in Greater Grant County:
1. Agriculture
 2. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 3. Educational services, and health care and social assistance

Unemployment rates in Greater Grant County vary greatly compared to Grant County, Washington, and the United States. General and White alone unemployment rates are fairly close together, many of which are lower than the county, state, and country, with the biggest discrepancy in census tract 113. The majority of census tracts' Hispanic/Latinx unemployment rates are higher than Grant County, Washington, and the United States. Where the Hispanic/Latinx unemployment rate (census tracts 101, 102, and 112) is 0, it is due to suppressed rates because of insufficient data. These also are census tracts with significantly less Hispanic/Latinx residents compared to other tracts. The Grant County Black unemployment rate is 0 as rates has been suppressed because of insufficient data. The American Indian and Alaska Native Grant County unemployment rate is 13.4, significantly higher than the country, state, and country, as well as most census tracts, across all demographics.

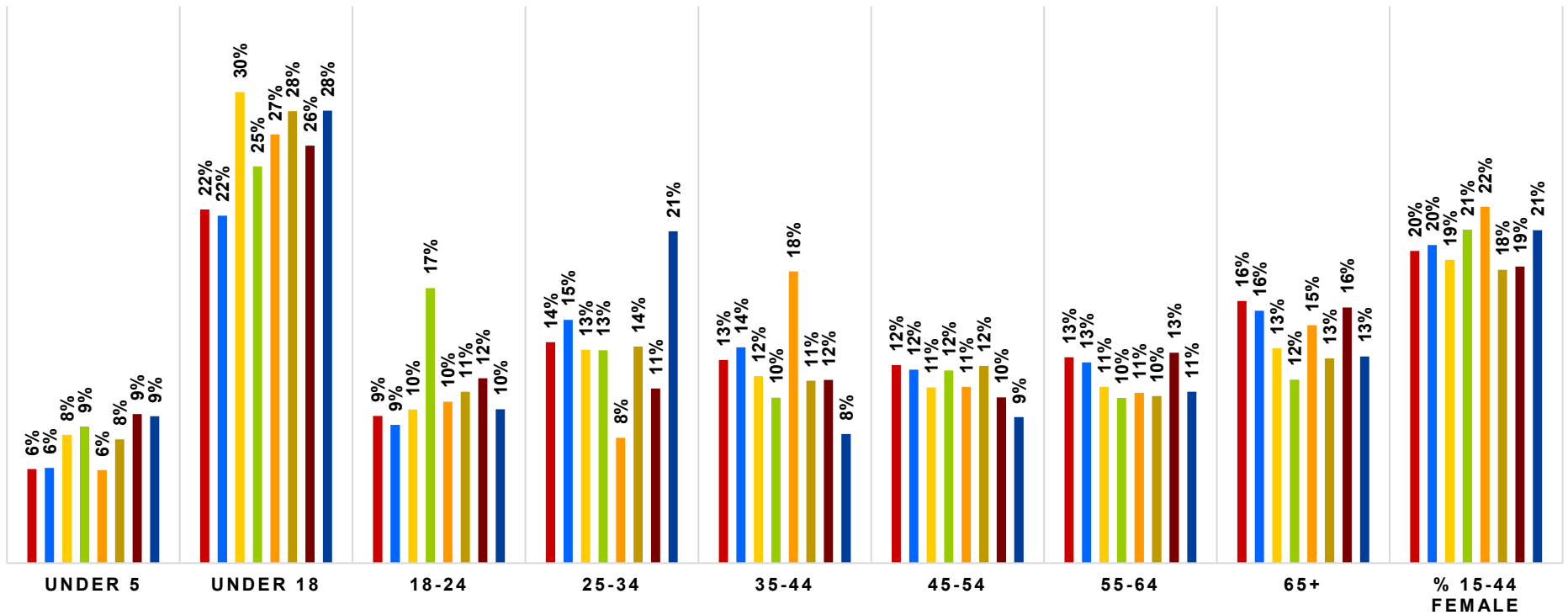
Moses Lake



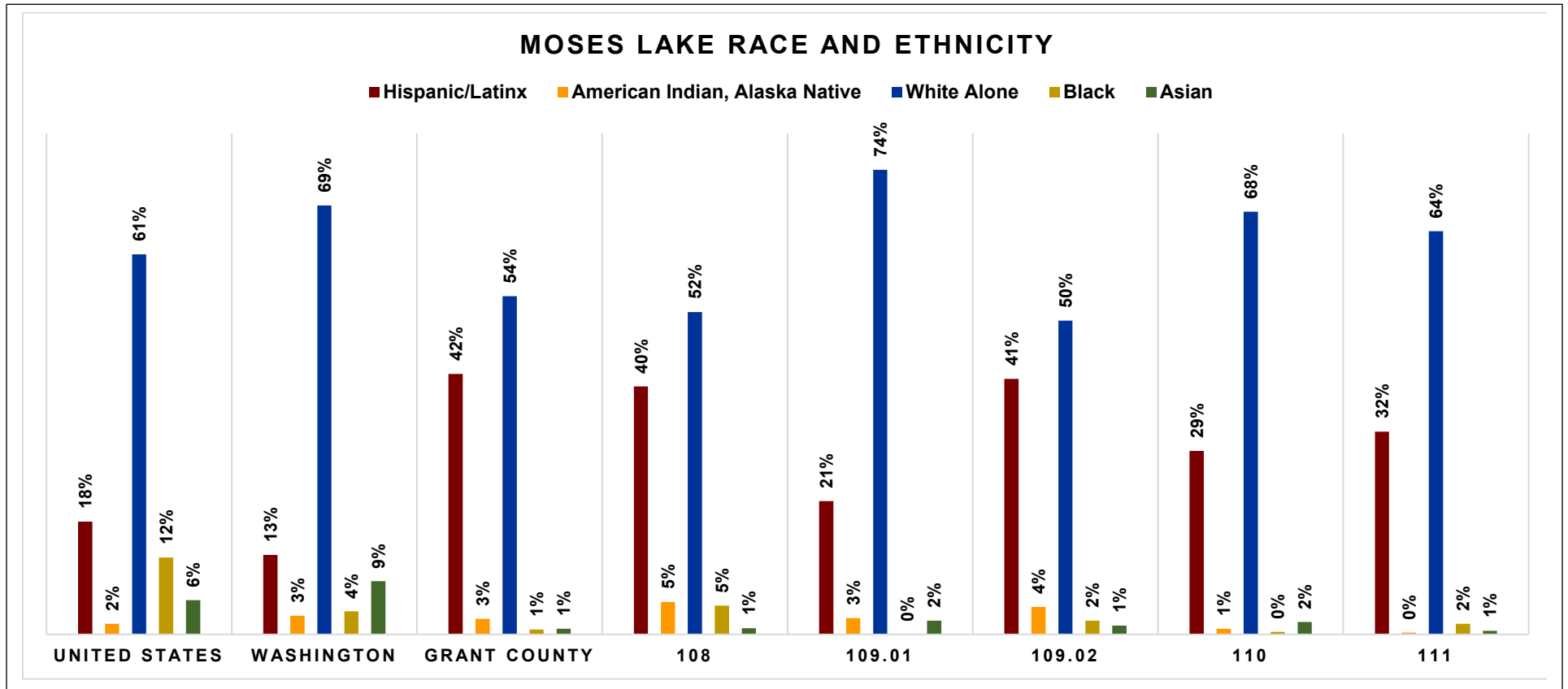
Moses Lake, the largest city in Grant County, includes five census tracts (108, 109.01, 109.02, 110, and 111). While Moses Lake started as an agricultural community, considerable manufacturing and technology companies have moved their businesses to the area over the years.

MOSES LAKE AGE GROUPS

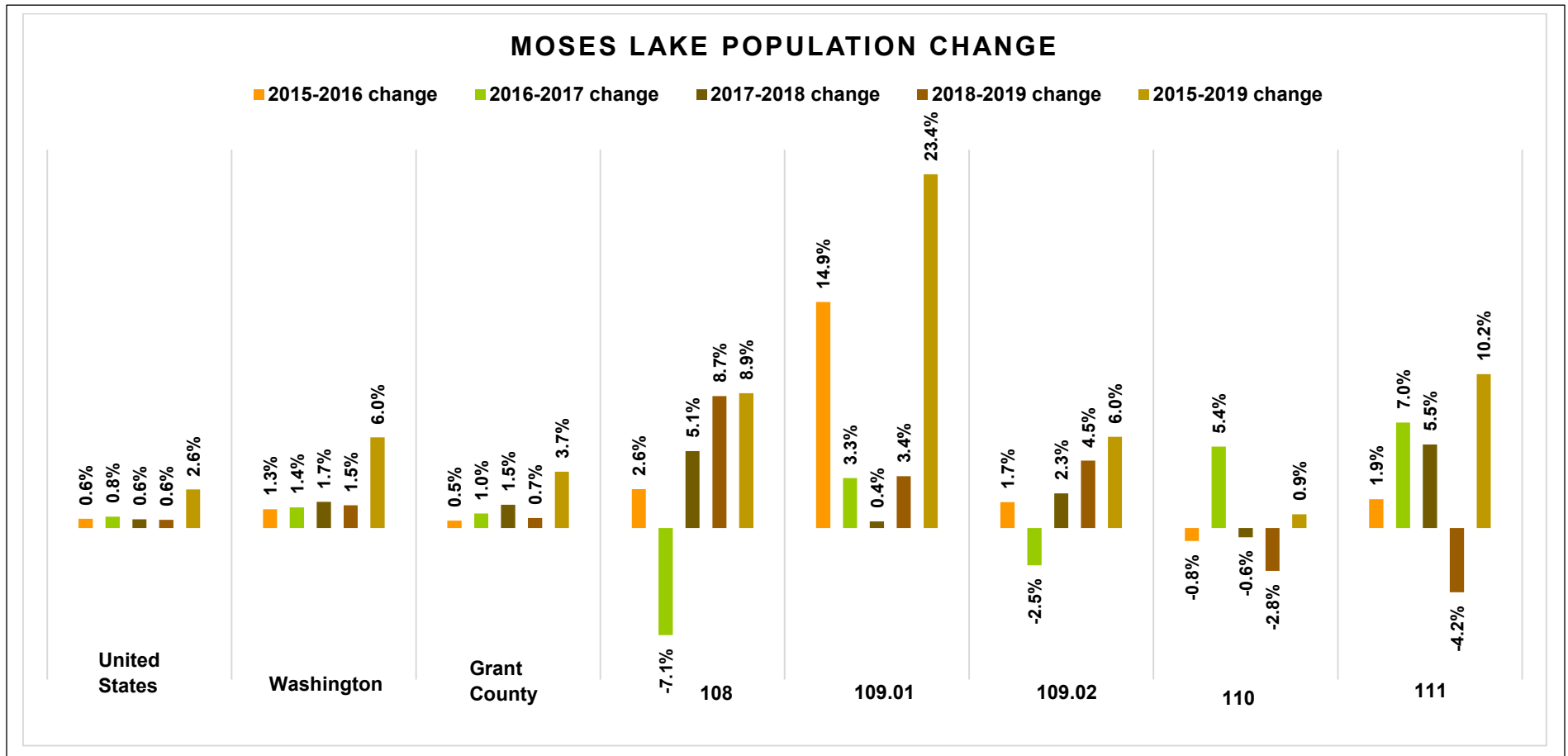
■ United States ■ Washington ■ Grant County ■ 108 ■ 109.01 ■ 109.02 ■ 110 ■ 111



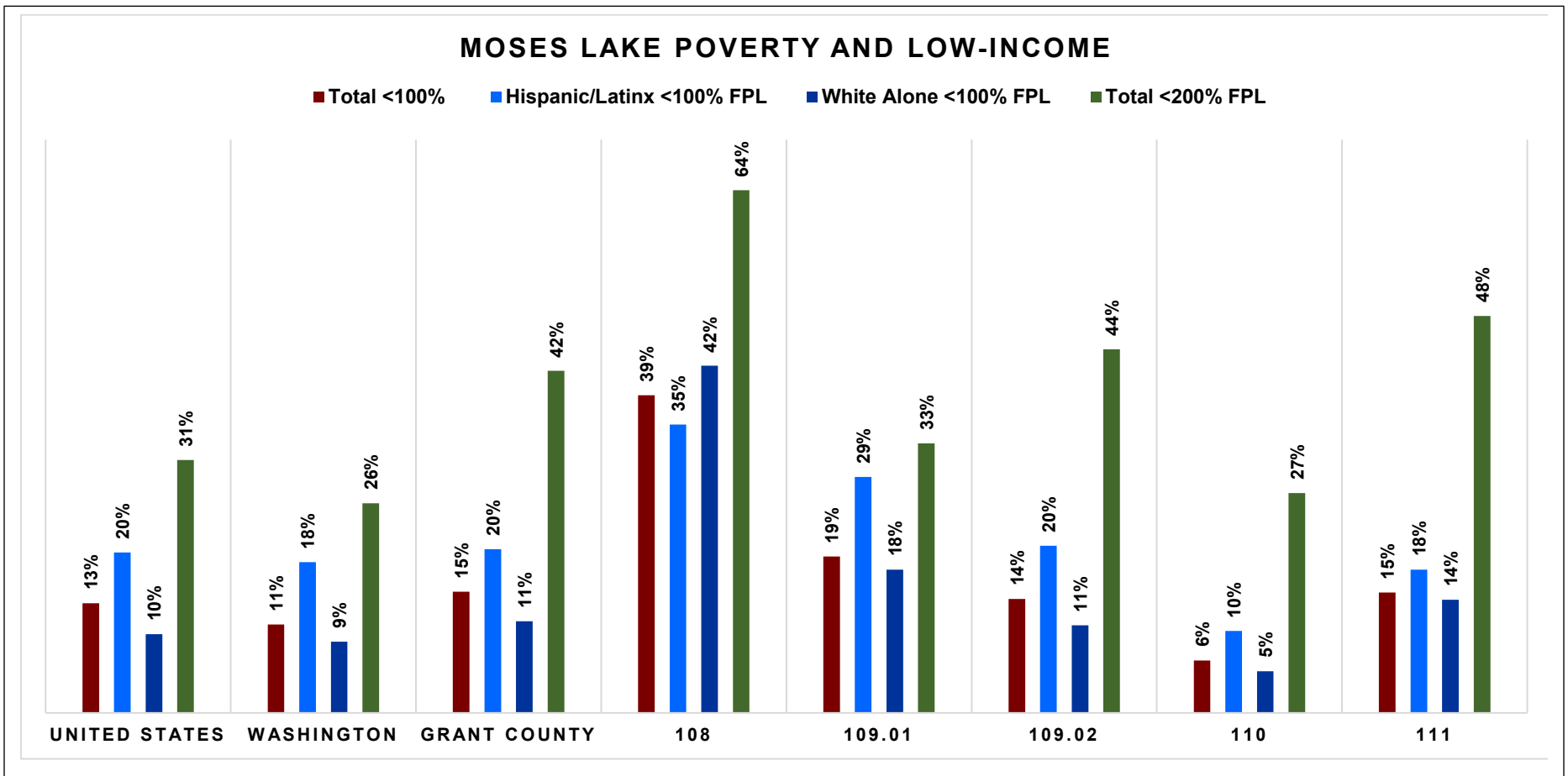
Moses Lake’s population is relatively equally spread out over all age groups 18 and over, with three tracts significantly higher. Big Bend Community College is located in census tract 108, which could explain the higher percentage of 18-24 year old’s. In regards to those under the age of 18, Grant County and all census tracts have an equal or higher percentage than Washington and the United States.



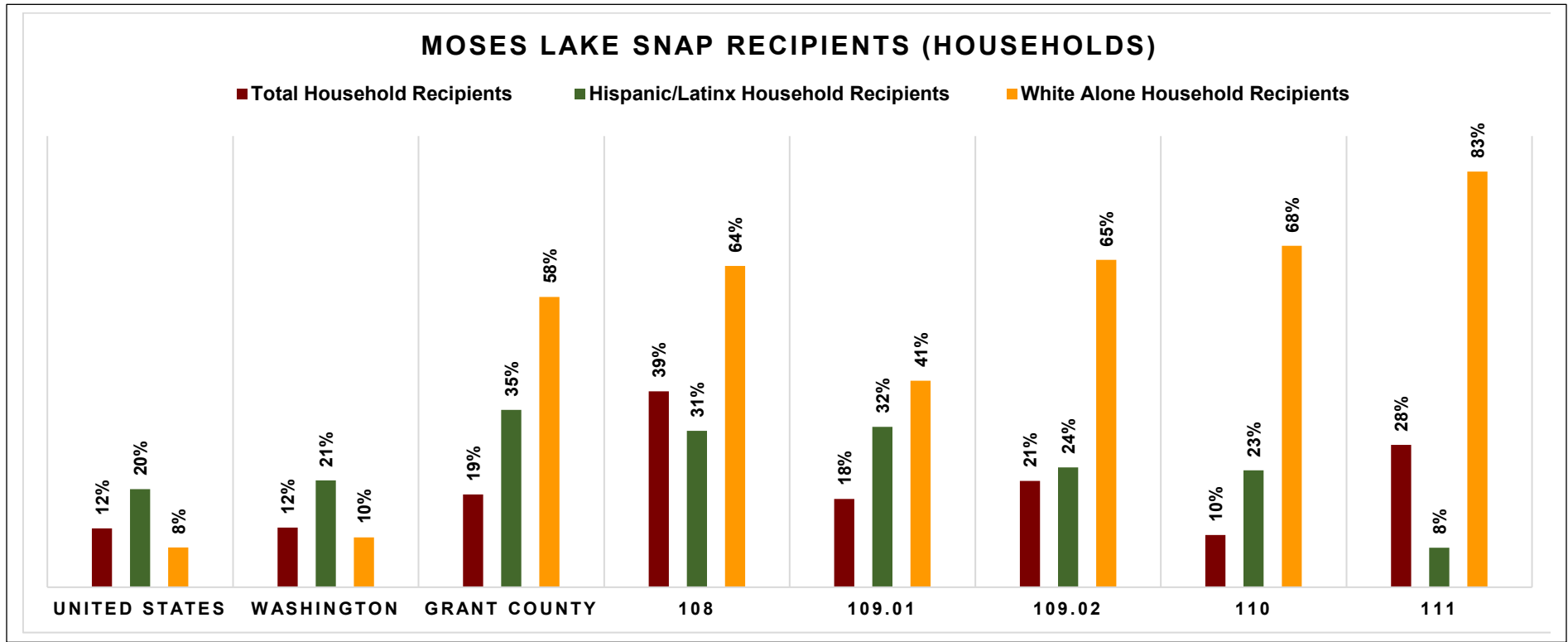
Moses Lake is a predominantly White alone community where all census tracts have approximately the same, or higher, percentage of White alone residents. The percentages of Hispanic/Latinx, across all census tracts, is lower than Grant County. Additionally, while a small increase, two Moses Lake census tracts have a higher percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native residents than the county, state, and country.



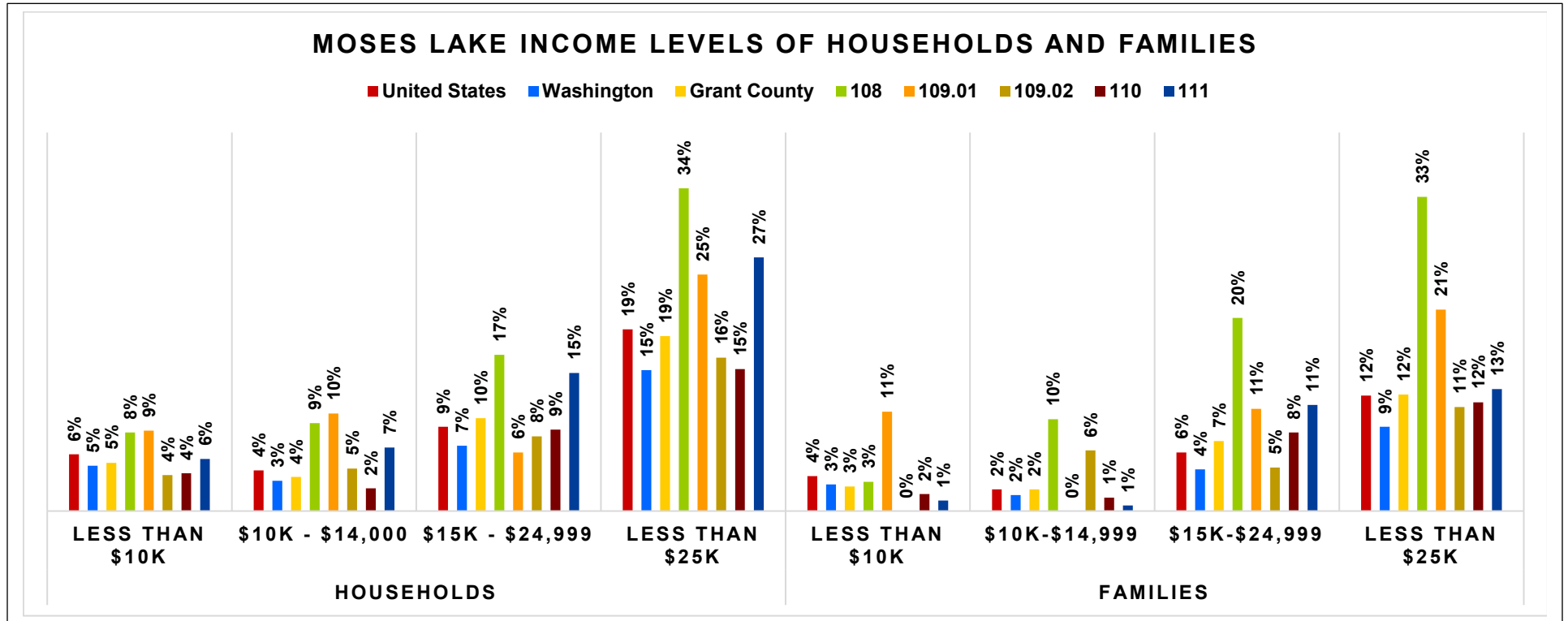
All Moses Lake census tracts saw an increase in population over the five year period 2015-2019 (0.9% - 23.4%). All but one of the census tracts (110) grew more than Grant County as a whole. The influx of manufacturing and technology companies opening facilities, as well as new housing developments, in Moses Lake could possibly be an explanation for the influx in population growth for Moses Lake.



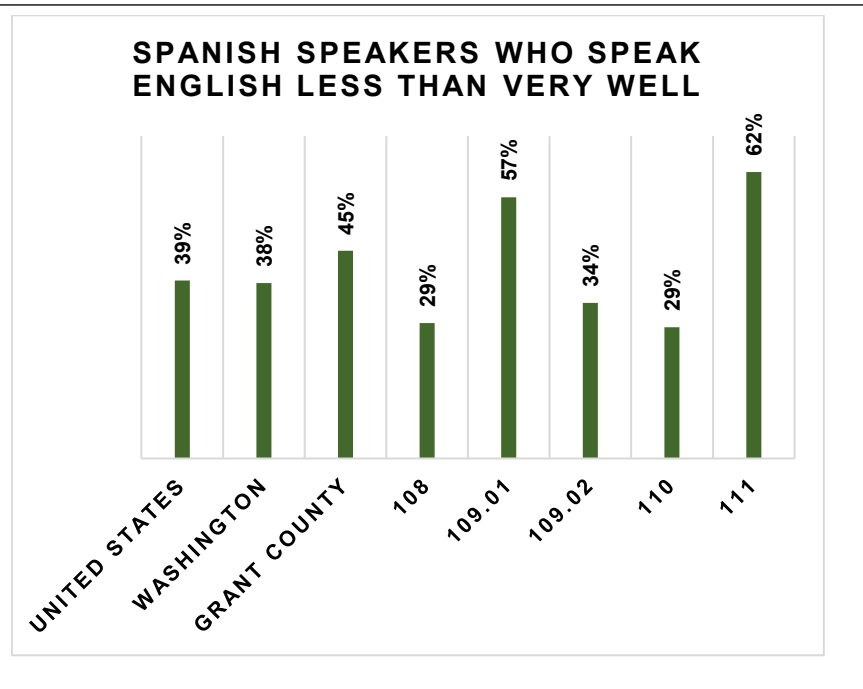
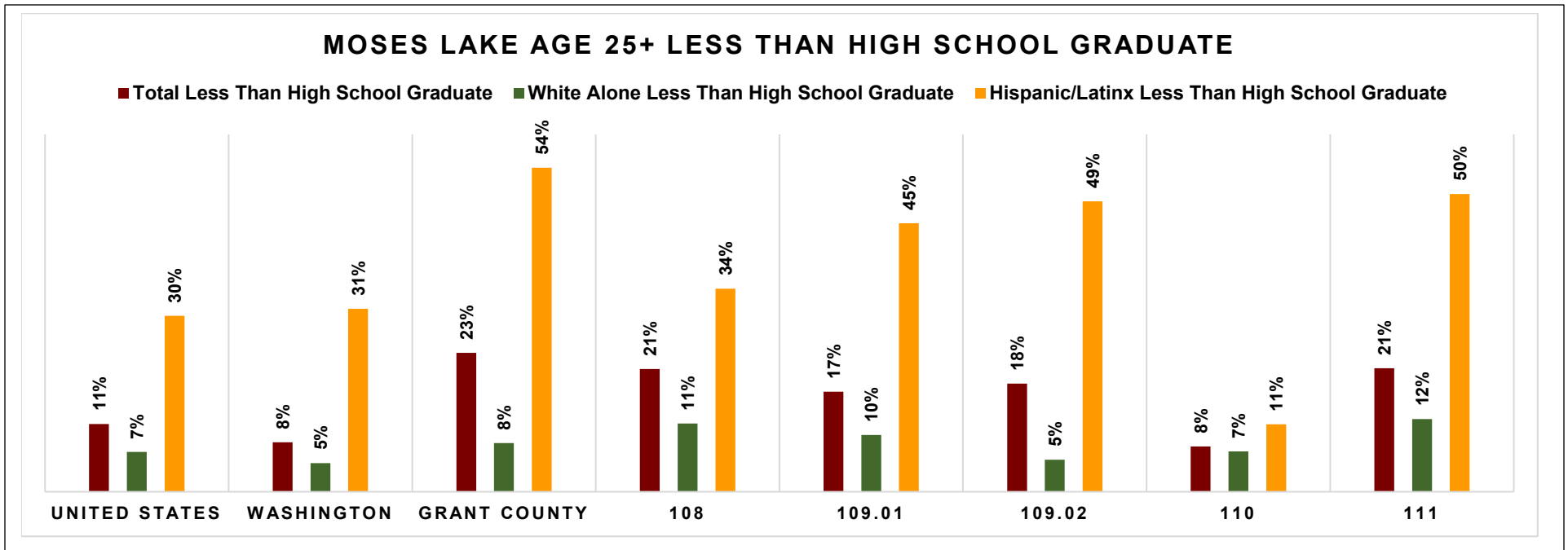
Moses Lake, on average, is aligned with Grant County in regards to those living in poverty and living at or below 200% of the FPL. Census tract 108 has the highest percentages of all demographics living in poverty as well as those living at or below 200% of the FPL. As previously mentioned, census tract 108 has a much higher percentage of 18-24 year old's and younger people tend to have lower levels of income, which would explain this increase.



When compared to Grant County, all except census tract 109.01 has a higher percentage of White alone households receiving SNAP; where as total and Hispanic/Latinx households are more varied. All census tracts and Grant County have a significantly higher percentage of White alone households receiving SNAP benefits compared to Hispanic/Latinx and total households. The census tract with the highest White alone percentage (83%) is also the one with the lowest Hispanic/Latinx percentage (8%).

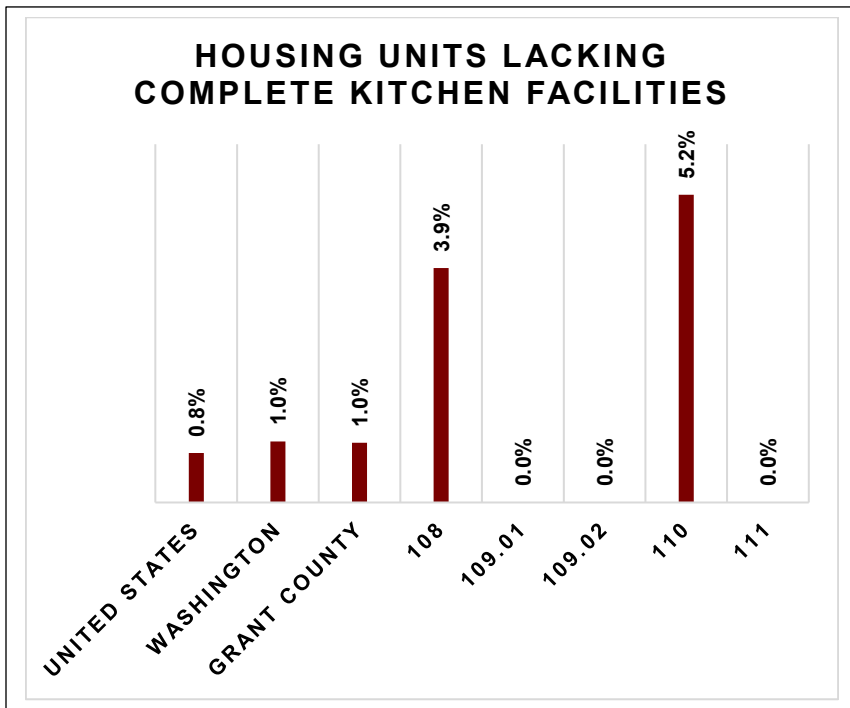
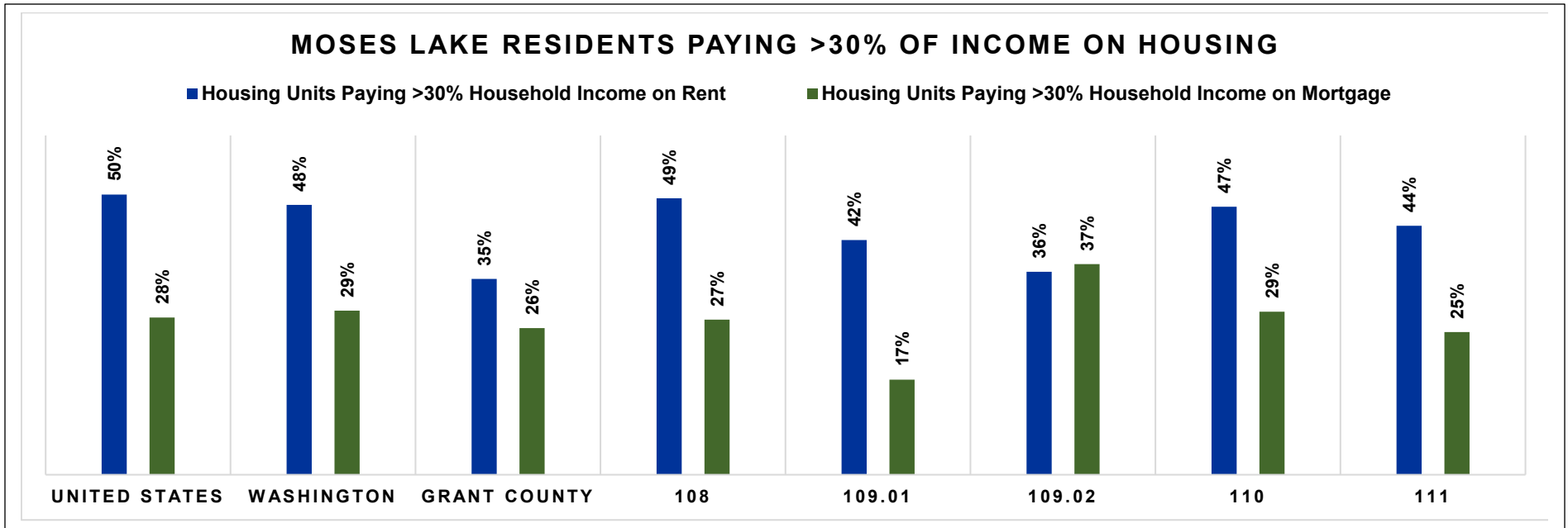


The census tracts with a higher percentage of households and families with an income less than \$25,000 are the same as the ones with a higher percentage of younger residents (108 and 109.01). For both households and families, across the majority of income levels, census tracts 108 and 109.01 have the highest percentages.



The total and Hispanic/Latinx percentages of those aged 25 and over without a high school diploma or equivalent, across all census tracts, is less than Grant County. White alone has three census tracts where the percentage of those over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent is higher than Grant County, however they are only 3% - 4% higher.

In regards to Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well, three of the five census tracts' percentages are less than the county, state, and country. The two census tracts with higher percentages have significantly higher percentages (12% - 17%) than Grant County. The census tract with the community college (108) and tract with lowest percentages of those aged 25 and over without a high school diploma or equivalent are the two tracts with the smallest percentage of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well.

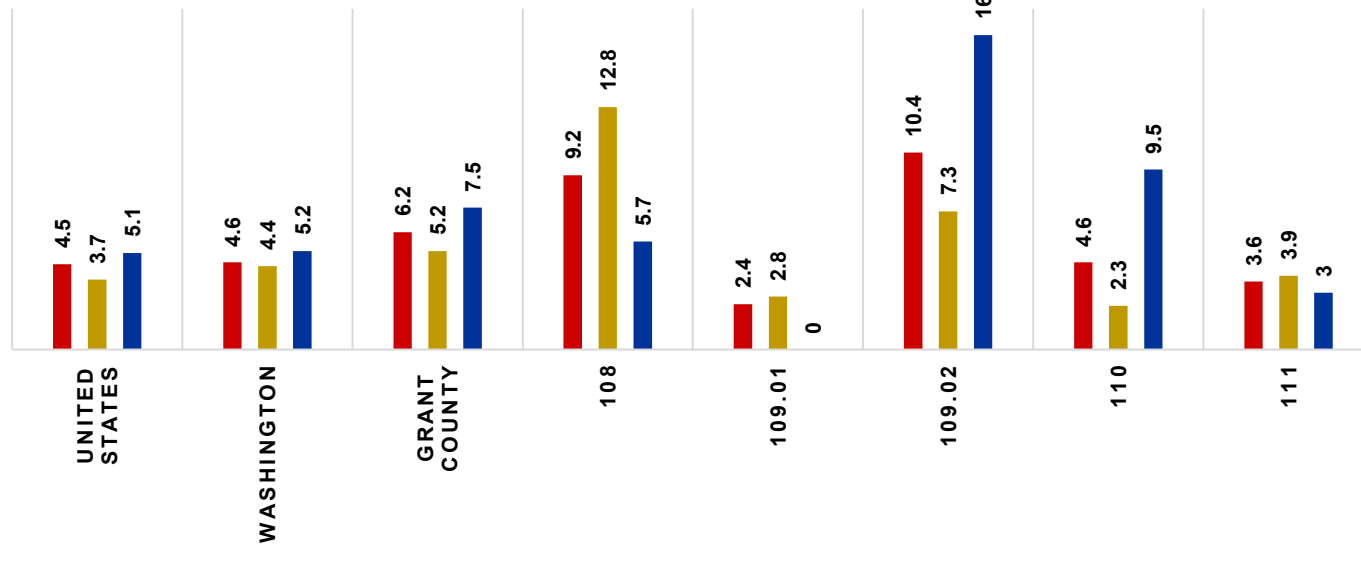


Grant County has a lower percentage of renters and homeowners paying more than 30% of their income in housing than Washington and the United States. Almost all Moses Lake census tracts have a higher percentage of renters paying over 30% of their income on housing than Grant County, but lower than Washington and the United States.

In regards to housing units lacking complete kitchen facilities, census tracts 108 and 110 have a significantly higher percentage than all other tracts, the county, state, and country (3.9% and 5.2% respectively).

MOSES LAKE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

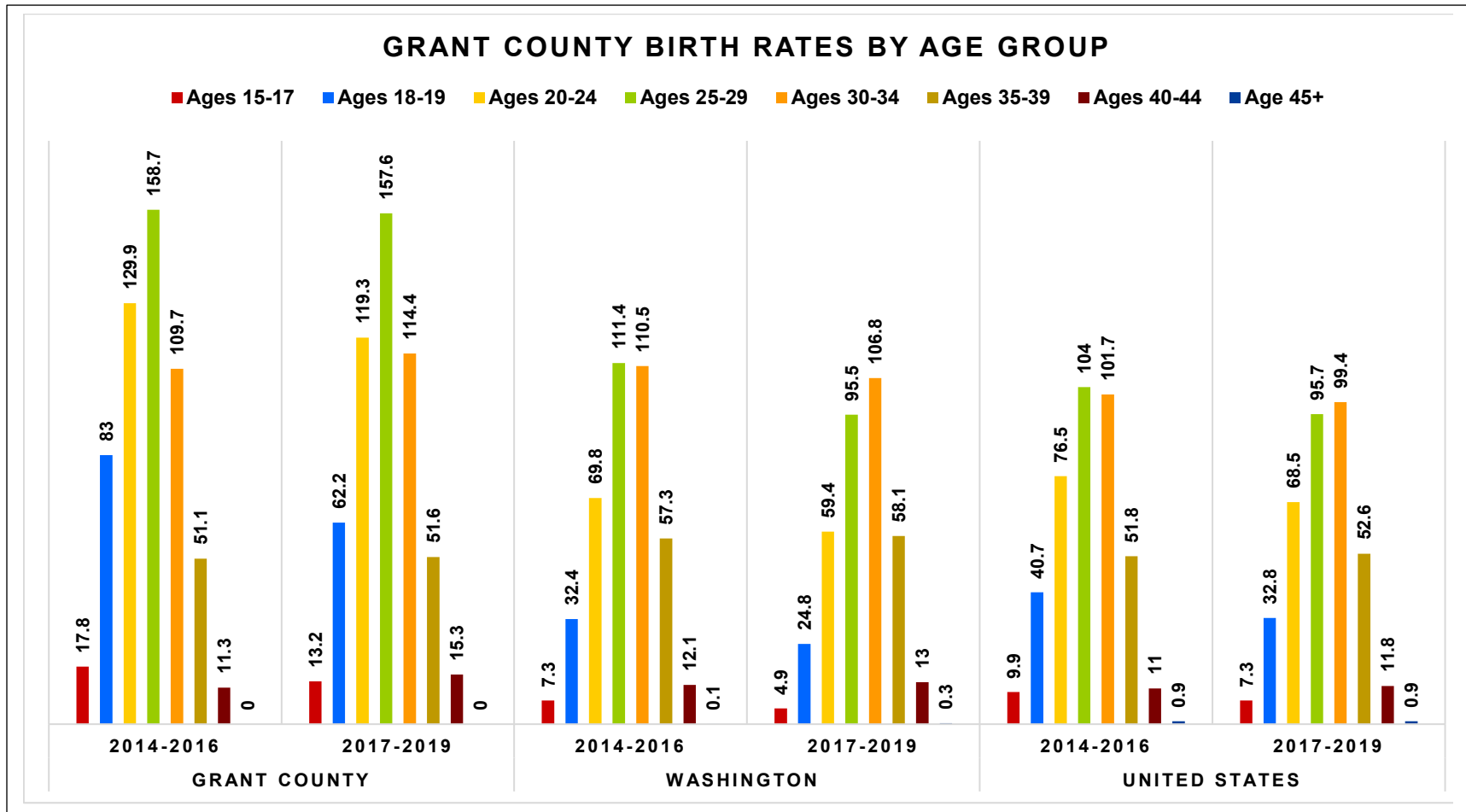
■ Unemployment Rate ■ White Alone Unemployment Rate ■ Hispanic/Latinx Unemployment Rate



- Top 3 industries in Moses Lake:
1. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 2. Educational services, and health care and social assistance
 3. Agriculture

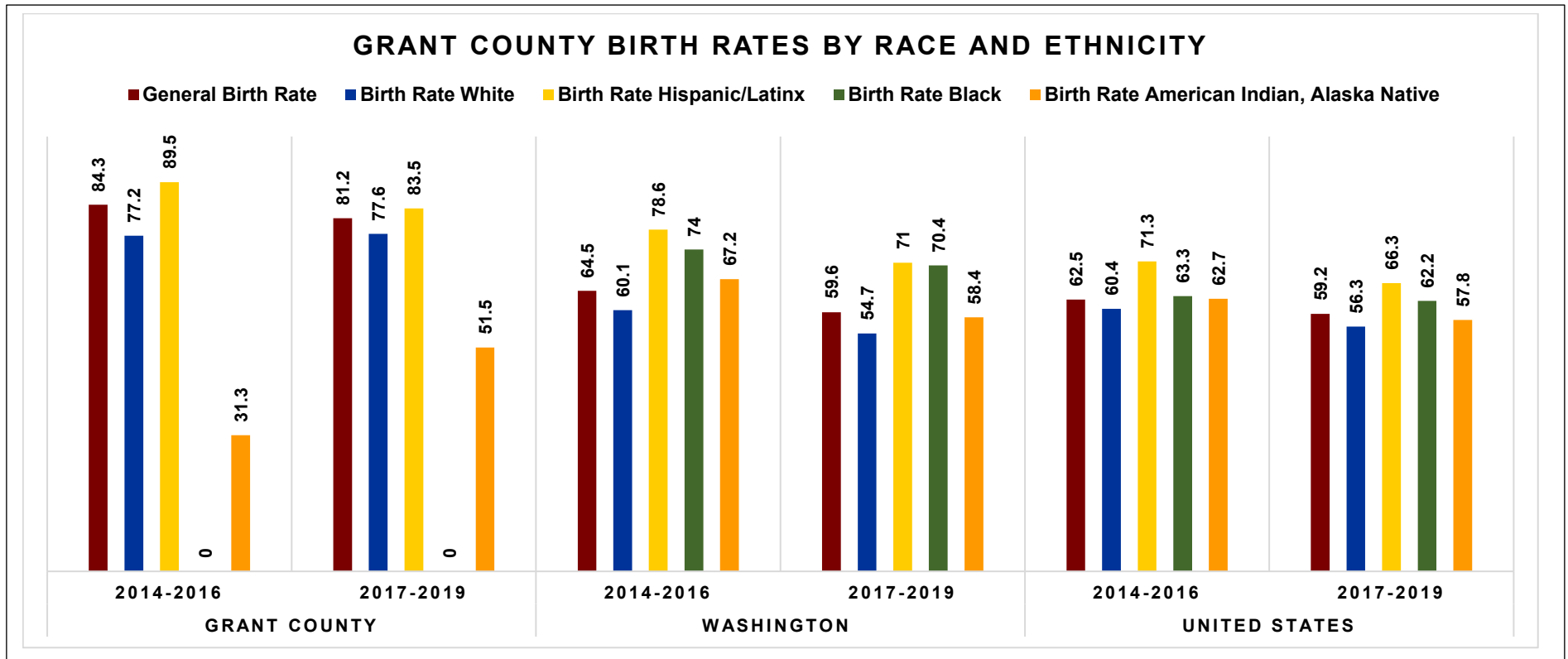
Moses Lake unemployment rates vary greatly throughout the census tracts. Three census tracts (109.01, 110, and 111) have lower unemployment rates for general and White alone, with two tracts higher (108 and 109.02) when compared to the county, state, and country. In regards to Hispanic/Latinx unemployment rates, two census tracts (108 and 111) have a lower unemployment rate than Grant County, and two tracts (109.02 and 110) have significantly higher rates when compared to the county, state, and country. Census tract 109.01's Hispanic/Latinx rate was suppressed due to insufficient data.

Grant County Birth Rates



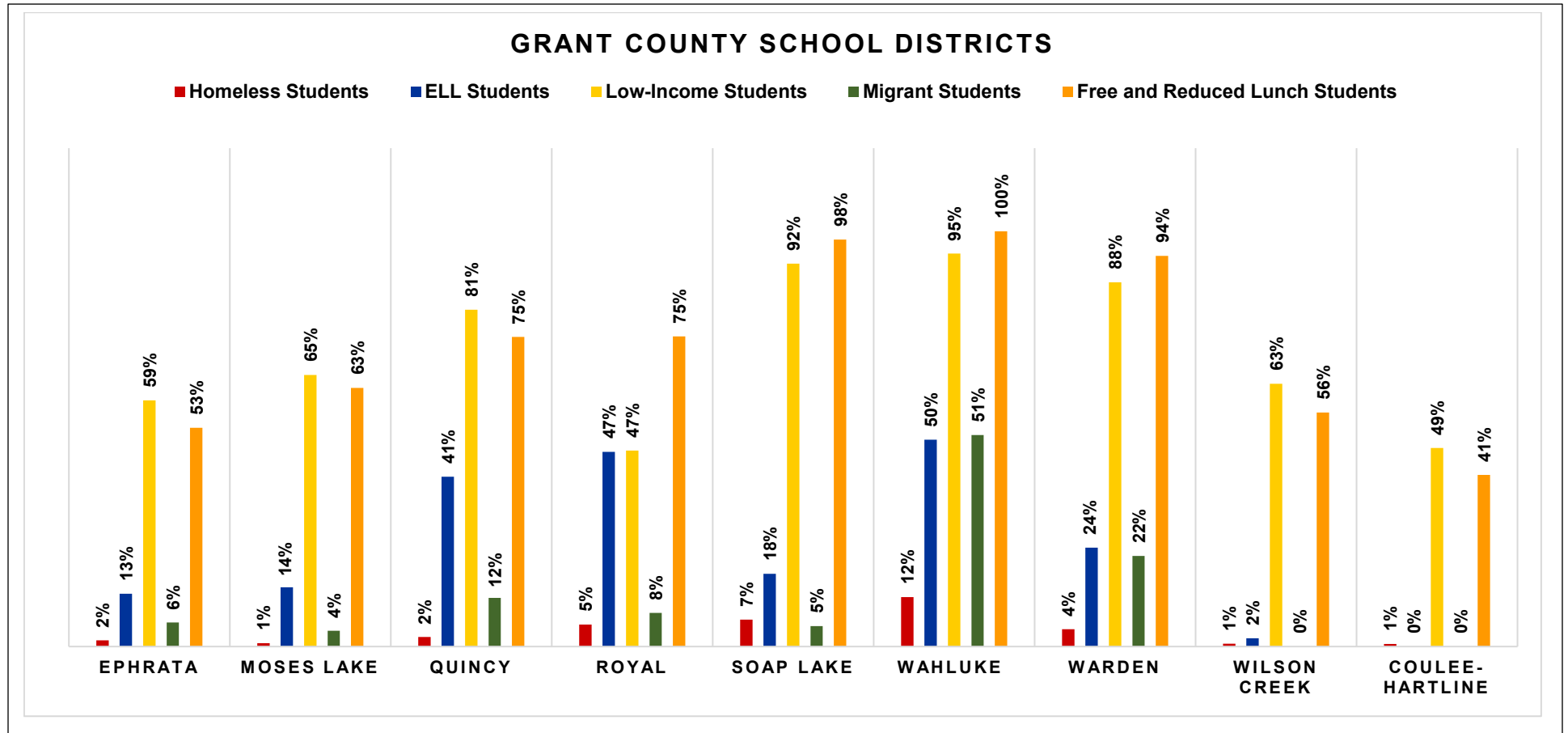
Grant County birth rates dropped from the three year periods of 2014-2016 to 2017-2019 for age groups 15-17, 18-19, 20-24, and 25-29. Ages 30 and up birth rates increased, indicating women are waiting to have children until later in life. These trends are similar to Washington and the United States, however Grant County birth rates, on average, are higher. Additionally, the declines in teen pregnancy rates could show teen pregnancy programs are working.

Grant County Birth Rates Continued



Grant County’s general, White alone, and Hispanic/Latinx dropped only slightly from the three year time period of 2014-2016 to 2017-2019. Grant County American Indian and Alaska Native birth rates is the only one among county, Washington, and United States that increased. All demographics for Washington and the United States declined slightly. Grant County Black births was suppressed due to insufficient data.

Grant County School Districts



There are nine school districts in Grant County and demographics between each district vary. Wahluke School District has the highest percentage across all demographics when compared to all other districts. Coulee-Hartline School District has the lowest percentage across all demographics, with only 1% of students identified as Homeless and no English Language Learners or Migrant students. Grant County graduation rates range from 78% - 96% with Soap Lake School District the lowest and Ephrata School District the highest. Despite Wahluke having the highest percentages across all demographics, they have one of better graduation rates at 85%.

Grant County Health Care Access

Grant County is a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) in primary care for lower Grant County, dental care for low-income and migrant residents, and mental health for the whole county. According to County Health Rankings, Grant County's ratio of patients to providers (primary, dental, and mental health) is worse when compared to Washington; with primary care providers at 2430:1 compared to 1180:1, dental providers 1920:1 compared to 1200:1, and mental health professionals at 450:1 compared to 250:1. The lack of providers has impacted the health of Grant County, as such 23% of Grant County adults are in poor or fair health, 33% are obese, 10% have diabetes, and 30% have high blood pressure.^{4,5}

There are two Community Health Centers (CHCs) in Grant County- Moses Lake Community Health Center and Columbia Basin Health Association, who work tirelessly to increase access and overall health of the community. Even with their work 16% have delayed or not sought care due to cost, 31% have no usual source of care, and 43% have not had a dental visit in the past year. Additionally, while there are two CHCs helping reduce health inequality and increase access, residents still have difficulty finding care as clinics struggle with provider retention, the need outweighing their capacity. In addition to limited access for primary and dental health, there is a significant shortage of mental health professionals, especially those that will accept low-income, underinsured, and Medicaid individuals. The mental health providers that do exist, often are not taking new patients or wait times to be seen are months out.

⁴ County Health Rankings, 2019; countyhealthrankings.org

⁵ UDS Mapper, 2020; udsmapper.org

Summary of Grant County Data

Grant County is located in Central Washington and has a population of 95,502. Due to the number of census tracts, Grant County was broken into two areas, Greater Grant County and Moses Lake. Moses Lake's population is spread rather evenly among all age groups 18 and older, with a few exceptions; whereas Greater Grant County's population is more varied among individual census tracts, with approximately half of which are evenly dispersed among all age groups over 18, and the other half varies widely. Where a census tract has a high percentage of those under the age of 18, they have a low percentage of those aged 65 and over.

The population in Grant County is 42% Hispanic/Latinx, 54% White alone, with American Indian and Alaska Native, Black, and Asian making up less than 5% of the total population. Moses Lake is predominantly White alone, all census tracts have a higher percentage of White alone than Hispanic/Latinx; however, Greater Grant County has four census tracts where there is a higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx. Census tract 101 had the highest percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native at 14%, and census tract 108 the highest percentage of Black at 5%.

Overall, Grant County is economically depressed where 42% of the county lives at or below 200% of the FPL. The total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone percentages of those living poverty were all higher than that of the state and country. However, the percentages of Black (12%) and American Indian and Alaska Native (8%) residents living in poverty is significantly lower than the state and country (Black 20% and 23% respectively; American Indian and Alaska Native 22% and 25% respectively).

When compared to Washington and the United States, a higher percentage of Grant County residents over the age of 25 do not have a high school diploma or equivalent, across all demographics. Hispanic/Latinx has the highest percentage at 54%, followed by American Indian and Alaska Native at 28%. Black and White alone have smaller percentages than the total population (23%) at 18% and 8% respectively. Greater Grant County has the highest percentages of each demographic of those aged 25 and up without a high school diploma or equivalent- where total population's high is 51%, Hispanic/Latinx's high is 74%, and White alone's high is 14%.

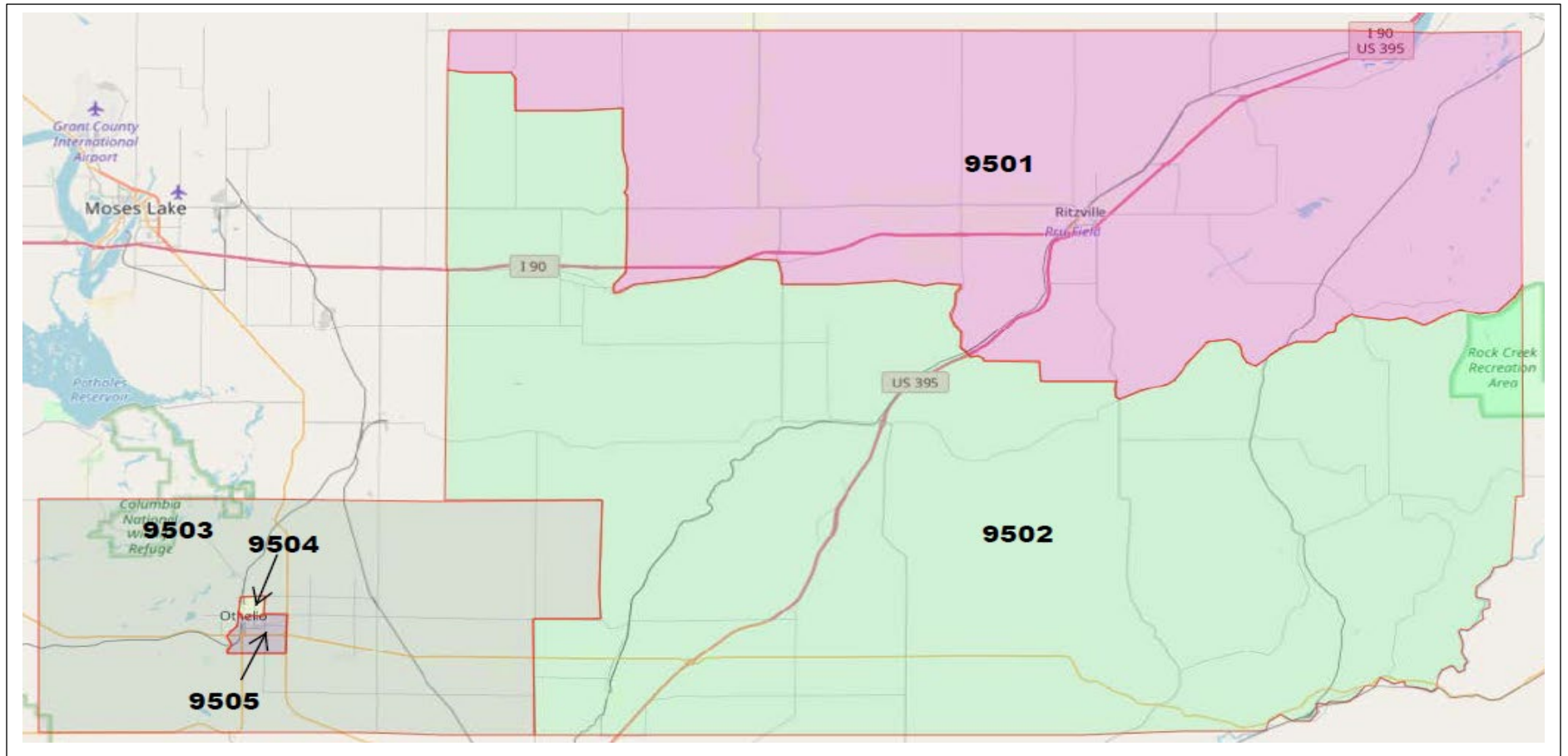
Over the five-year time period of 2015 – 2019, Grant County saw less population growth than the state at 3.7%, however rates varied when analyzed at the census tract level. While Greater Grant County saw growth and declines that varied greatly among census tracts (growth as high as 14.9%, decline as much as much as 16.9%), Moses Lake saw only growth (0.9% - 23.4%).

Grant County unemployment rates are higher than the state and country across all demographics, and vary greatly among census tracts. American Indian and Alaska Native unemployment is the highest at 13.4, followed by Hispanic/Latinx at 7.5. The Black unemployment rate was suppressed due insufficient data. Greater Grant County has the highest unemployment rate for Hispanic/Latinx (16.8), as well as the highest rates overall. Moses Lake has the highest unemployment rate for White alone at 12.8.

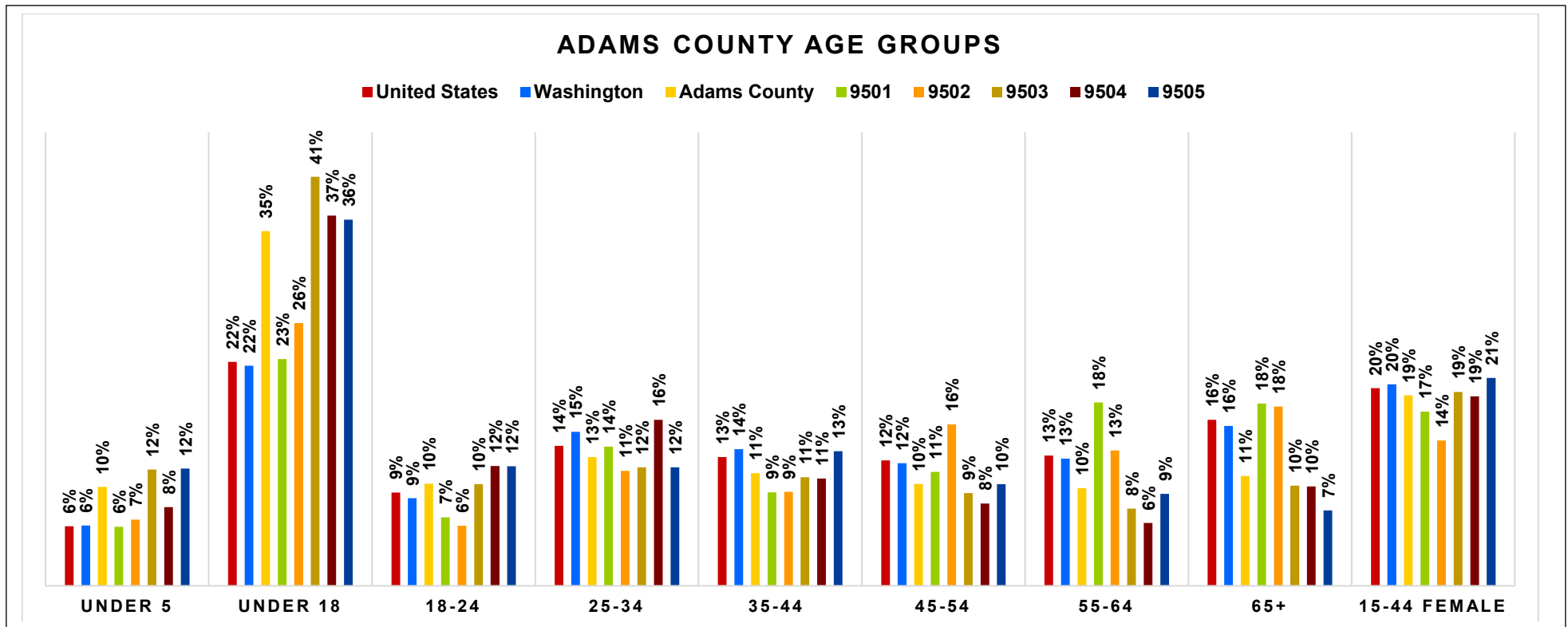
Grant County continues to have higher birth rates than Washington and the United States across all age groups, general, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone, but lower American Indian and Alaska Native. Teen and young adult birth rates dropped significantly from the three-year time period 2014-2016 to 2017-2019, where women over the age of 30 increased. Birth rates by race and ethnicity stayed relatively the same over the same time periods, except for American Indian and Alaska Native, which increased by 20 points. Black birth rates were suppressed due to insufficient data.

According to the US Census, the top three industries in Grant County are 1) construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, 2) educational services, and health care and social assistance, and 3) Agriculture. This is evident in the top employers in Grant County; they include medical facilities, fruit and produce processing and distribution centers, school districts, manufacturing plants, and government agencies.

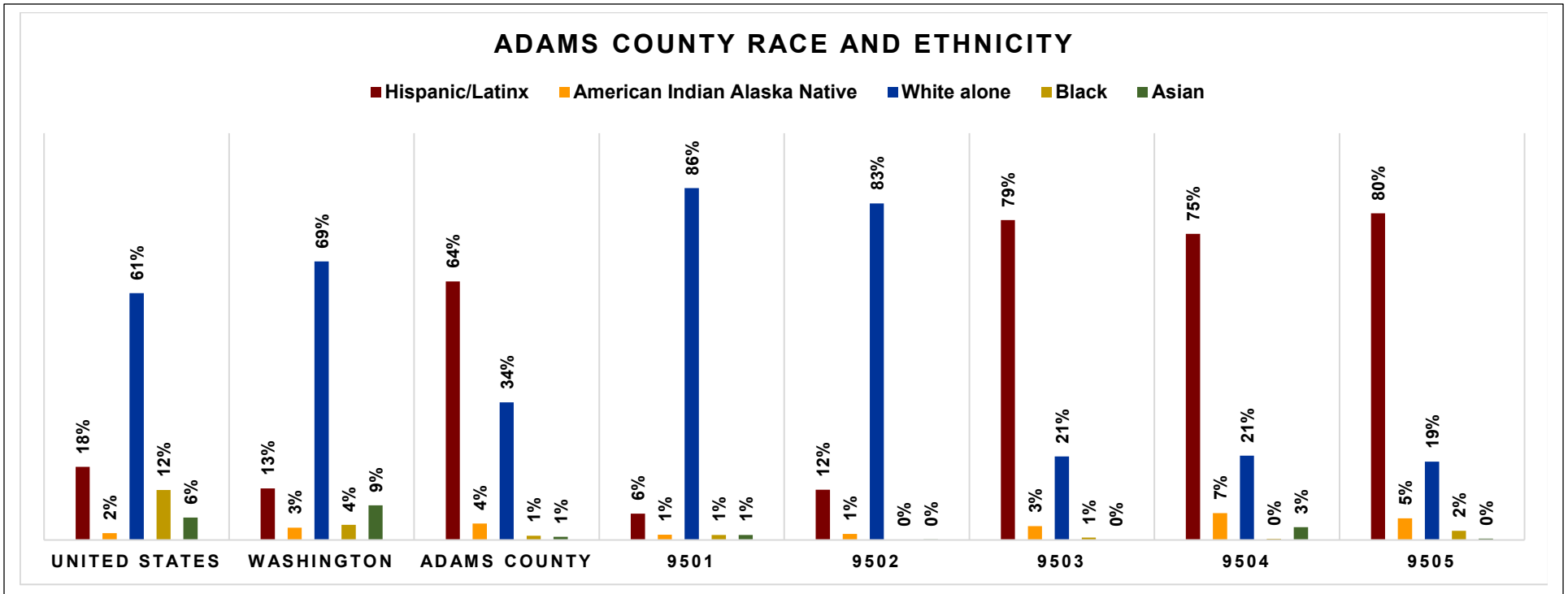
Adams County



Adams County encompasses the cities of Othello, Ritzville, Lind, Washtucna, and Hatton and includes five census tracts (9501, 9502, 9503, 9504, 9505). Adams County is very rural and agriculturally rich with orchards and crops of apples, potatoes, wheat, and corn. Adams County's population is 19,594 with 45% of the population living in Othello and 55% living in the other three census tracts (9501, 9502, 9503).



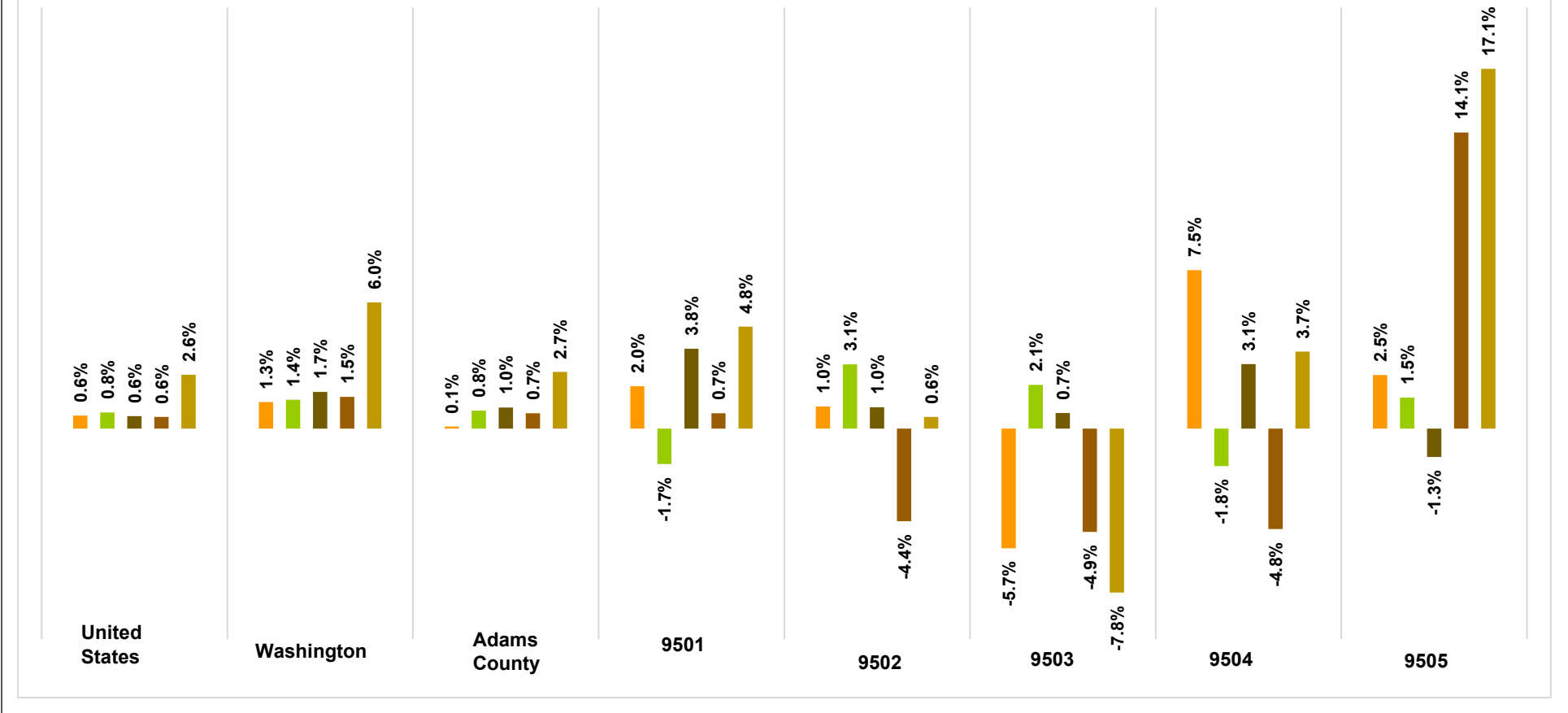
Adams County and three census tracts (9503, 9504, and 9505) have significantly higher percentages of those under the age of 18 when compared to the other census tracts (9501 and 9502), Washington, and the United States. The census tracts with the lowest percentages of those under the age of 18 are also the ones with the highest percentage of those aged 65 and over. Additionally Adams County and census tracts 9503 and 9505 have a higher percentage of those under the age of 5 than the other areas, some as much as twice as high.



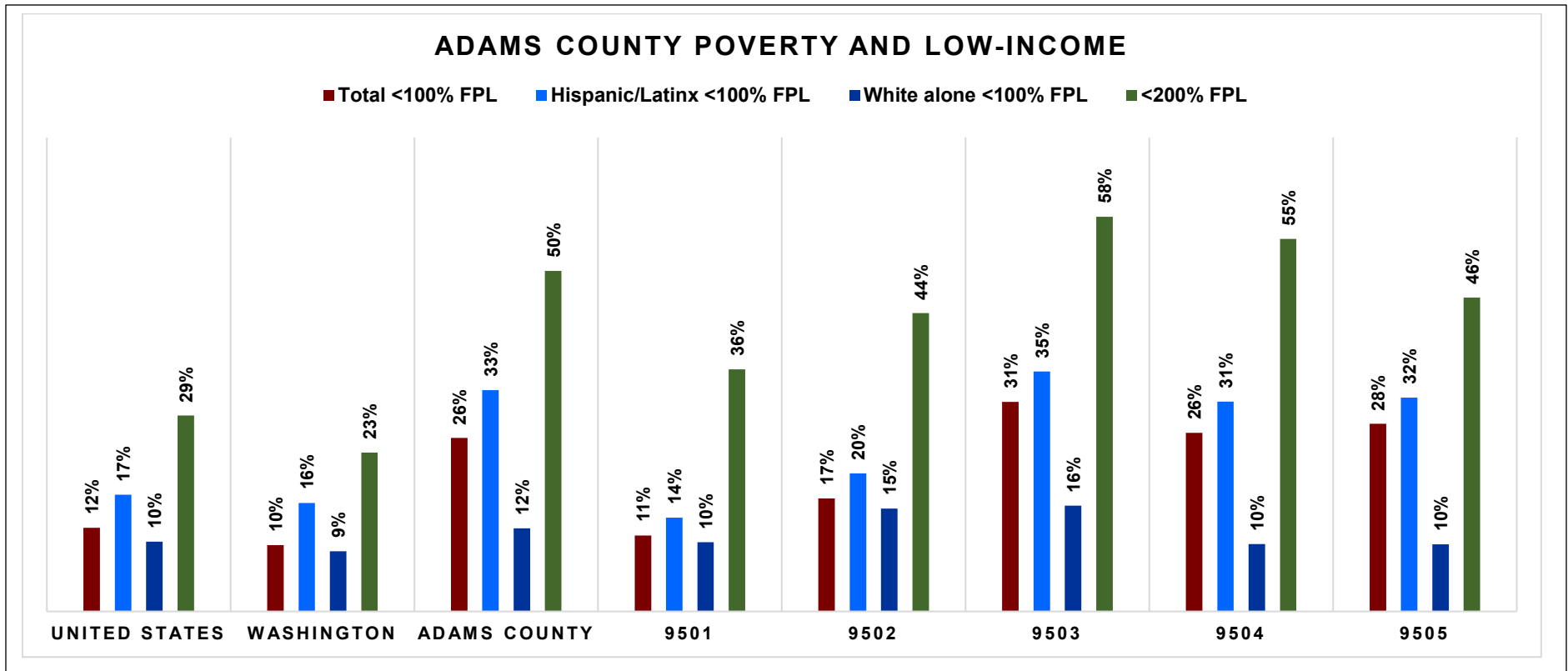
Adams County has a significantly higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx residents than White alone. Census tracts 9501 and 9502 are mostly White alone (86% and 83% respectively), where as tracts 9503, 9504, and 9505 are mostly Hispanic/Latinx (79%, 75%, and 80% respectively).

ADAMS COUNTY POPULATION CHANGE

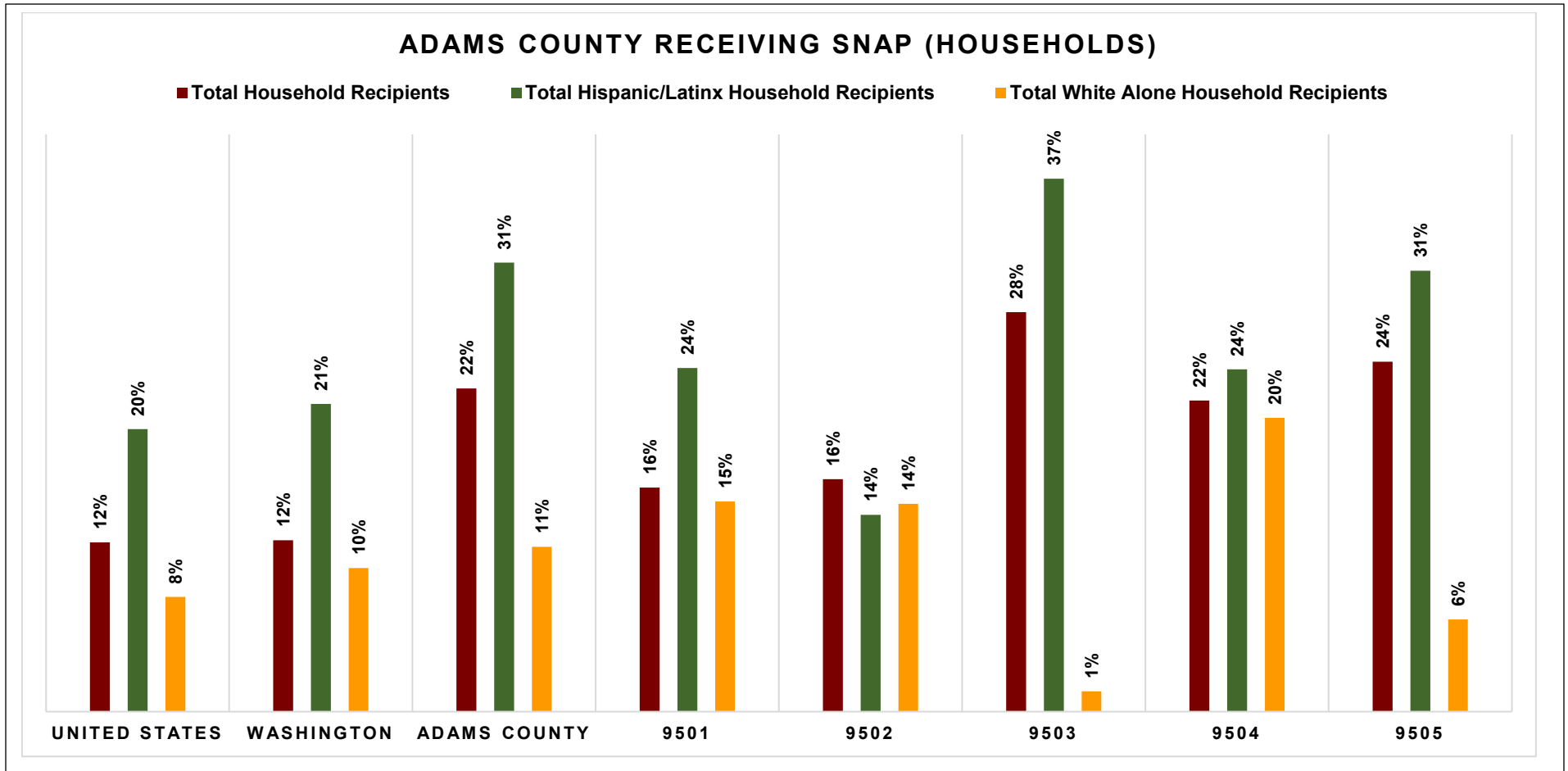
2015-2016 change 2016-2017 change 2017-2018 change 2018-2019 change 2015-2019 change



Adams County had little growth, similar to the United States but less than Washington. Census tract 9505 had the most growth, 17.1%, which is southern Othello. The census tract that surrounds Othello had the only decline, 7.8%, possibly suggesting people are choosing to move closer into town. Additionally, there have been new housing developments built over the past several years which could attribute to the increases.



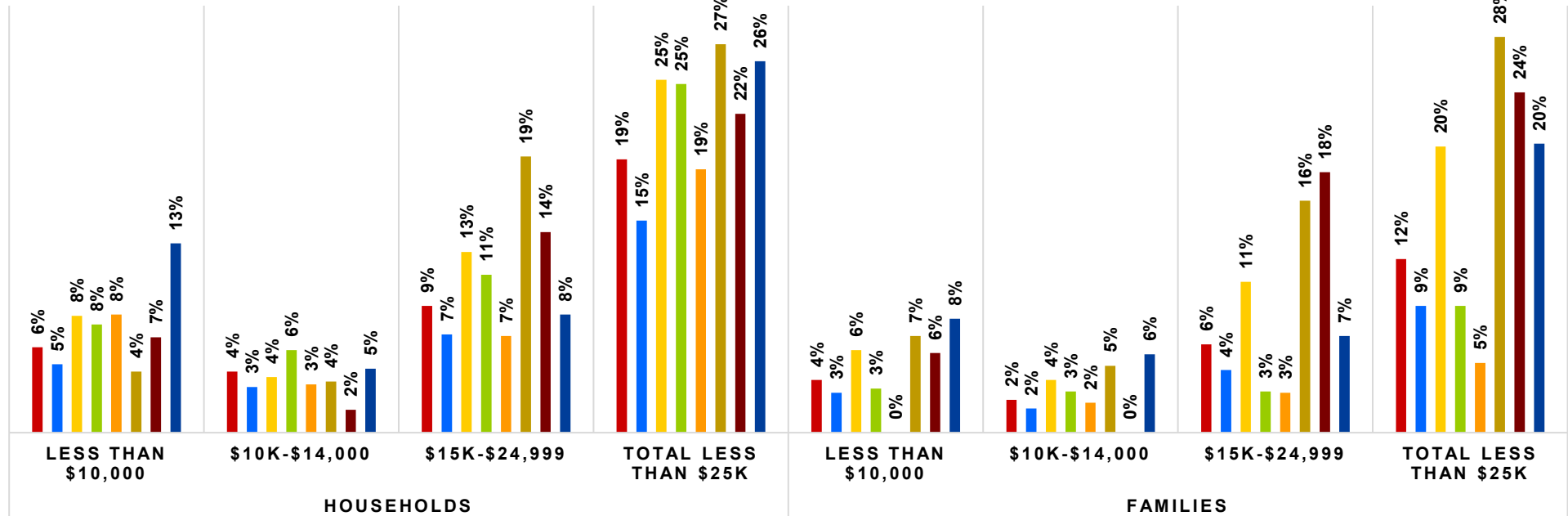
Adams County has higher percentages of total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone residents living in poverty; as well as a higher percentage of those living at or below 200% of the FPL. The greater Adams County area that encompasses Othello (census tract 9503) has the highest rates of all demographics living in poverty as well as those who are low-income. The census tract that includes Ritzville (9501) has the lowest percentages of all demographics living in poverty, which are also the same or lower than Washington and the United States. Census tract 9501 also has a smaller percentage of low-income residents than all other census tracts. The percentage of Black residents living in poverty (28%) in Adams County is higher than total and White alone but lower than Hispanic/Latinx; American Indian and Alaska Natives have a much higher percentage of those living in poverty than all other demographics at 65%.



Adams County has higher percentage of total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone households who are SNAP recipients than Washington and the United States. Census tracts 9503 and 9505 have the lowest percentages of White alone households compared to all other areas; however these are also the census tracts with the highest percentages of total and Hispanic/Latinx households across all census tracts. Black Adams County residents have the lowest percentage (3%) of households who are SNAP recipients when compared to total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone. Additionally, American Indian and Alaska Native residents in Adams County have a much smaller percentage (8%) of households receiving SNAP compared to total, Hispanic/Latinx, and White alone.

ADAMS COUNTY INCOME LEVELS OF HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

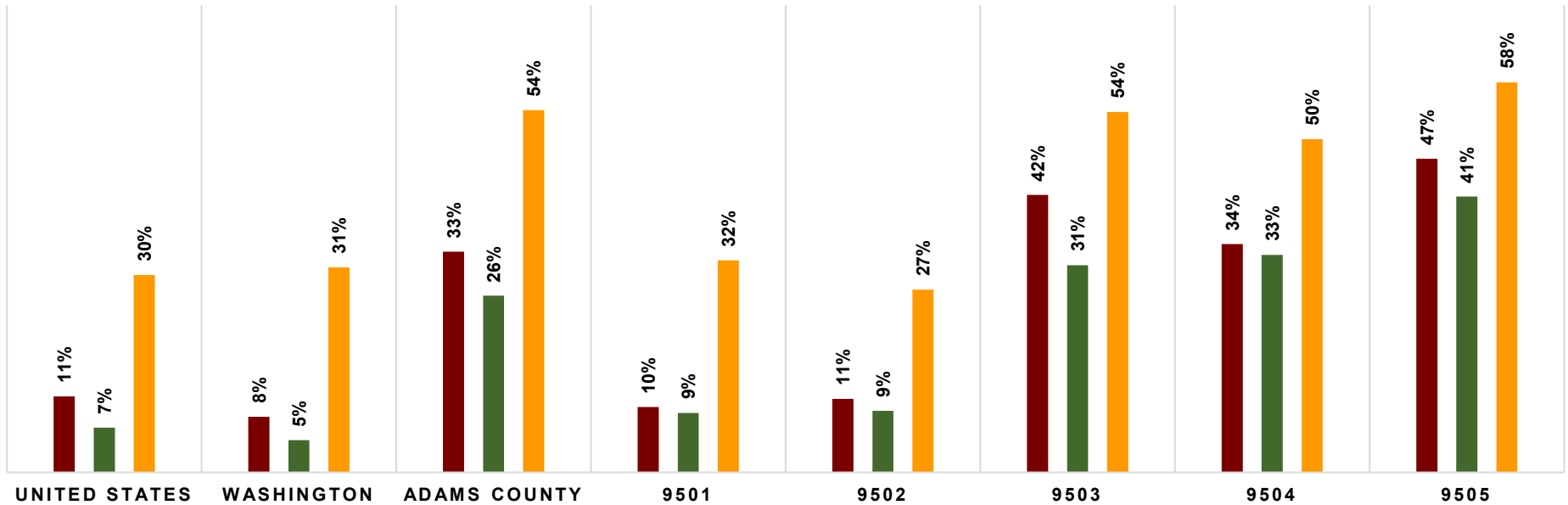
■ United States ■ Washington ■ Adams County ■ 9501 ■ 9502 ■ 9503 ■ 9504 ■ 9505



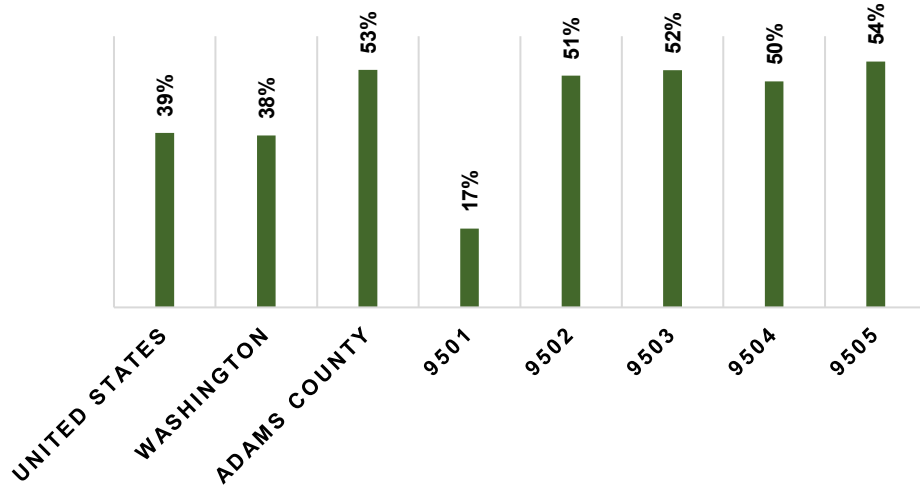
Adams County has a higher percentage of households and families at all income levels than Washington and the United States. Census tract 9505 (southern Othello) has the highest percentage of households and families (13% and 8% respectively) with an income of less than \$10,000; and one of the highest of households whose income is less than \$25,000. A much more significant percentage of families that have a household income less than \$25,000 in the census tracts located in the city of Othello and the surrounding area than the other two census tracts, Washington, and the United States.

ADAMS COUNTY AGE 25+ LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

■ Total ■ White Alone ■ Hispanic/Latinx

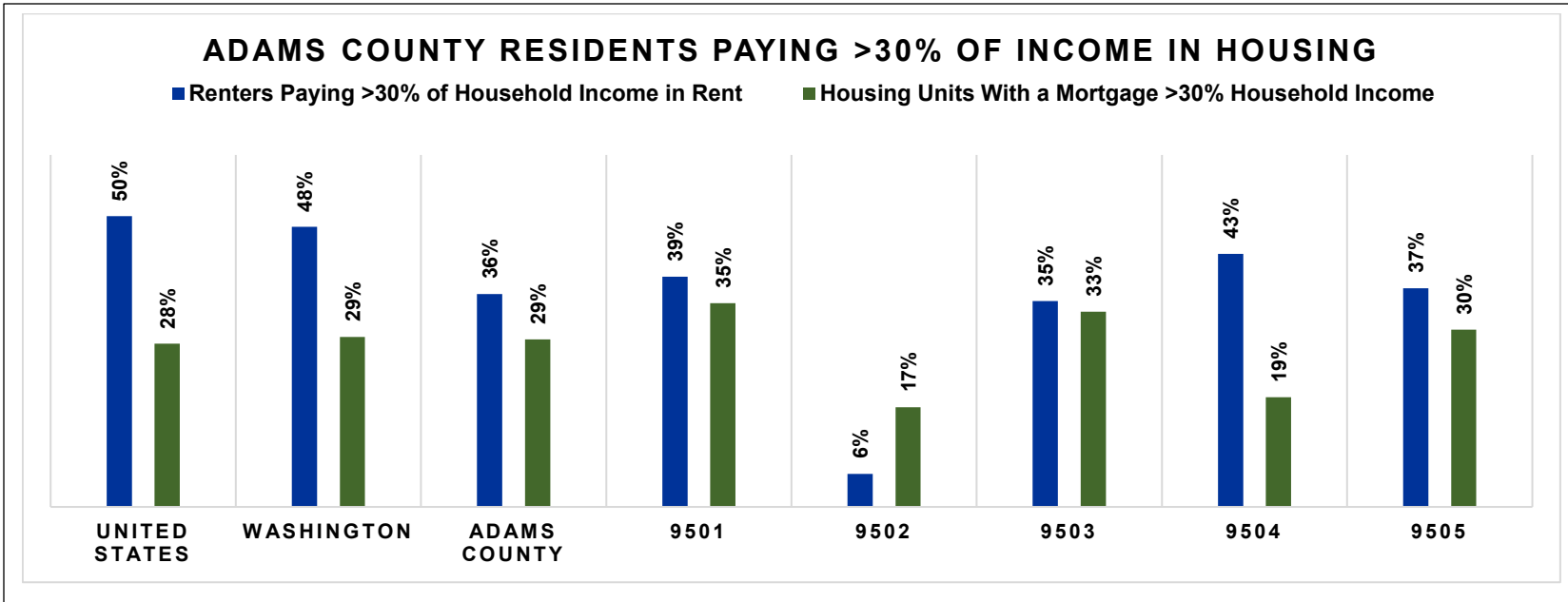


SPANISH SPEAKERS WHO SPEAK ENGLISH LESS THAN VERY WELL



Adams County has a higher percentage of those over the age of 25 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent than Washington and the United States. Census tracts 9501 and 9502's percentages are aligned with Washington and the United States, and significantly lower than Adams County as a whole. Census tracts 9503, 9504, and 9505 have approximately the same percentages of those over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent, and are almost all higher than the county as a whole. The percentage of Black residents over the age of 25 without a high school diploma or equivalent (34%) is higher than White alone and total, but 20% less than Hispanic/Latinx. Whereas the percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native is higher than all demographics (59%).

Adams County has a higher percentage of Spanish speakers who speak English less than very well than Washington and United States. Four of the five census tracts' percentages are in line with the county, with tract 9501 significantly lower.

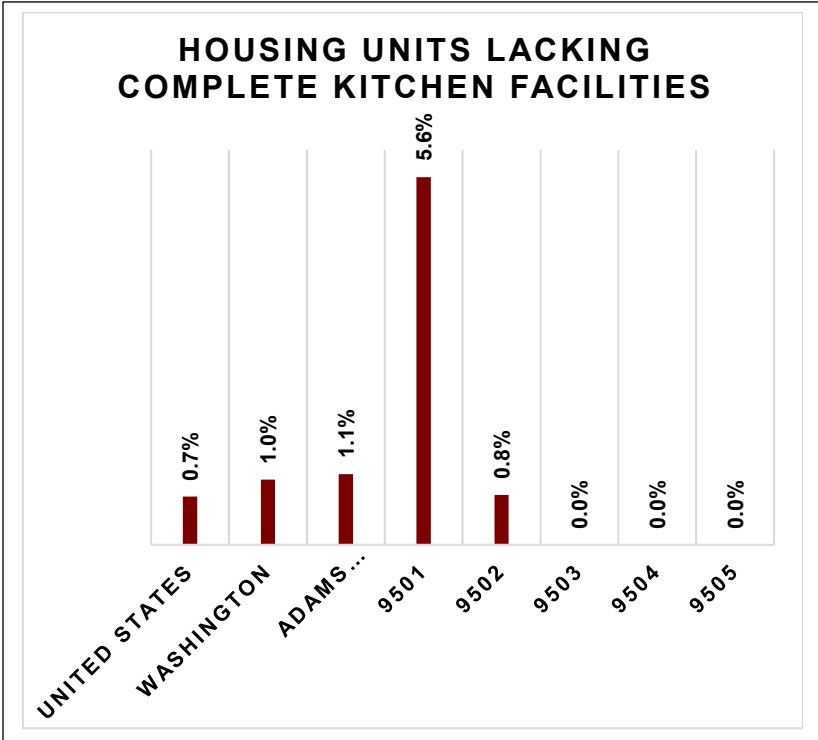


**Adams County
2020 Homeless PIT
Count:**

Numbers too low,
data was not
reported.

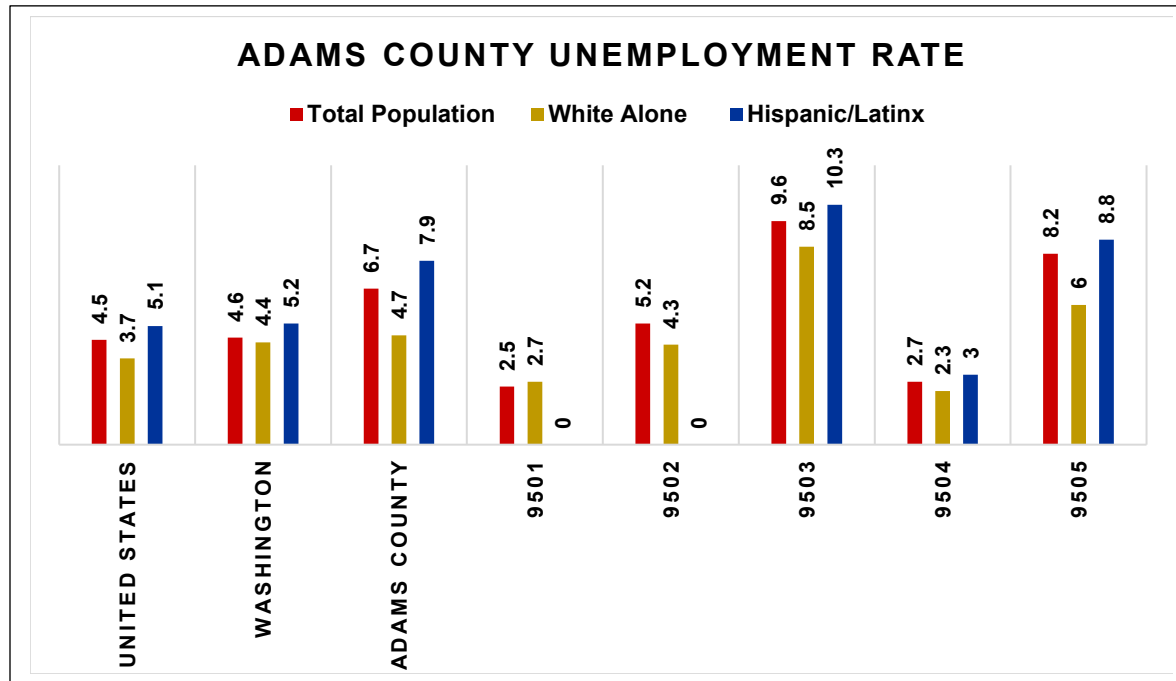
**2019 Homeless PIT
Count:**

Individuals: 20



Adams County has a smaller percentage of renters paying more than 30% of their income in rent and the same percentage of homeowners paying more than 30% of their income on their mortgage as Washington and the United States. Census tract 9502 has the lowest percentage of both renters and homeowners who pay more than 30% of their income in housing (6% and 17% respectively); it is also the only census tract where more homeowners pay over 30% of their income than renters for housing.

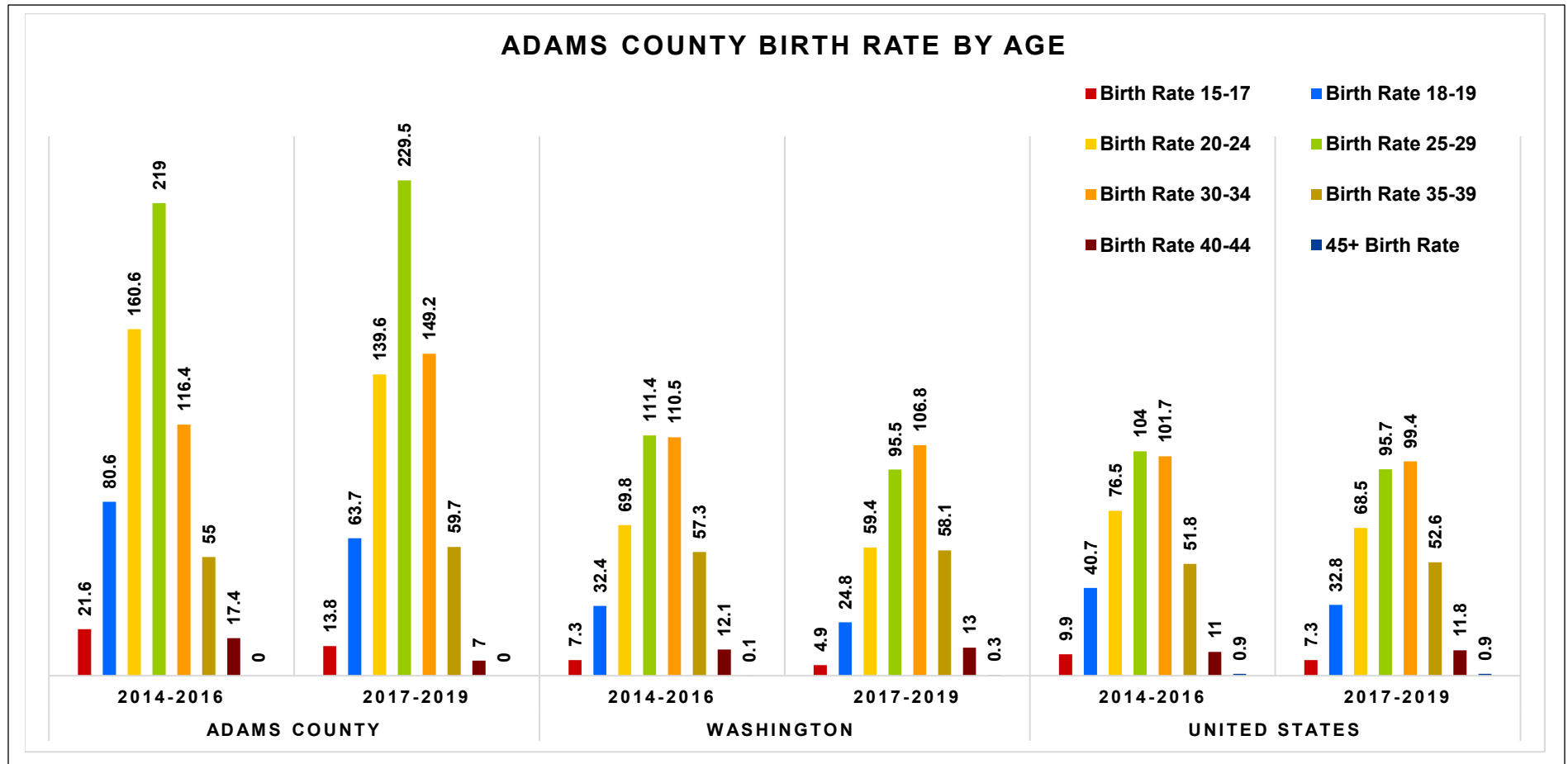
In regards to housing units lacking complete kitchen facilities, census tract 9501 has a significantly higher percentage at 5.6%. This is most likely due to the number of motel, RV, and studio housing in this area.



- Top 3 Industries in Adams County:
1. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade
 2. Educational services, and health care and social assistance
 3. Agriculture

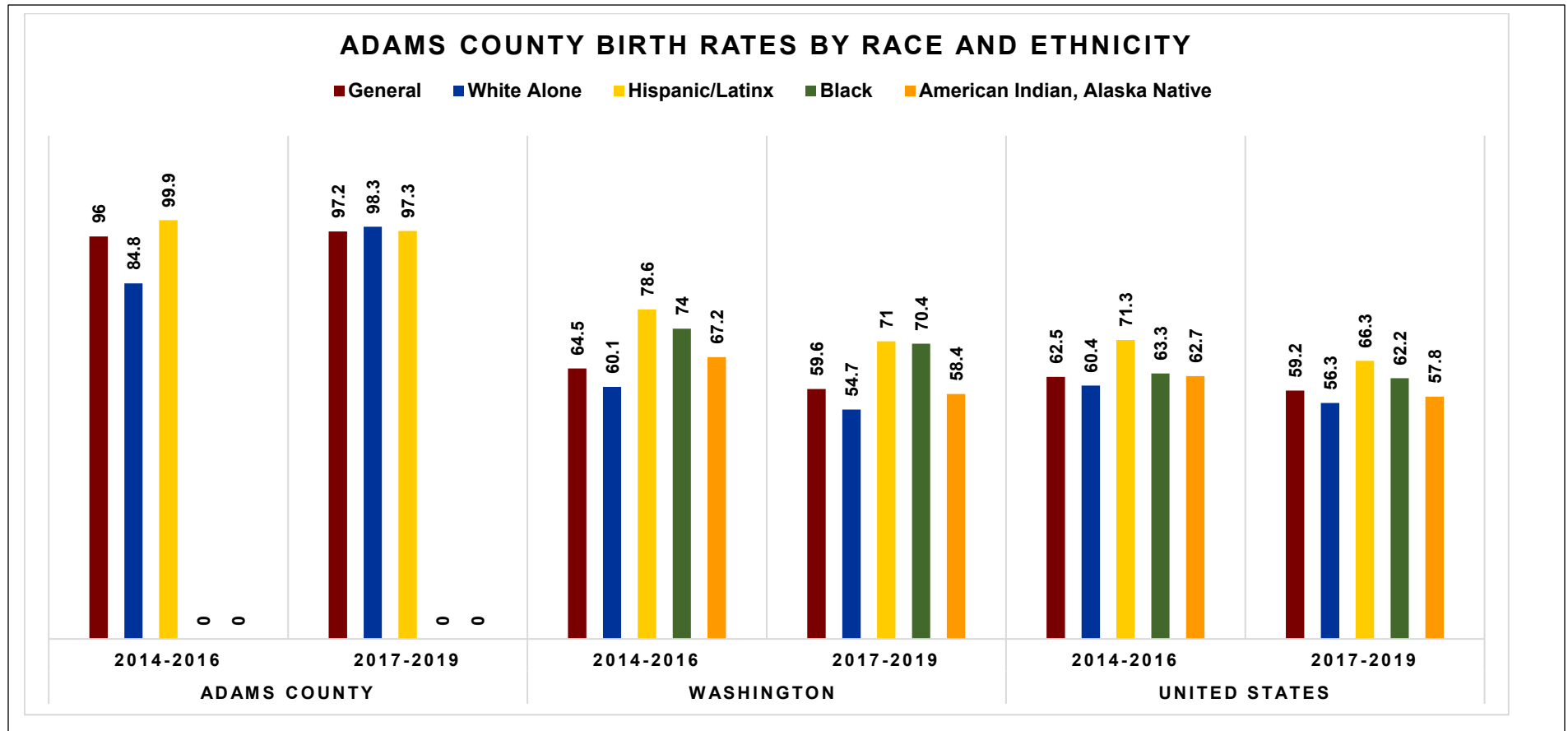
Adams County unemployment rates are higher than Washington and the United States. At the census tract level, two tracts (9501 and 9504) have lower unemployment rates than the county, state, and country, and census tract 9502 is lower than Adams County. Tracts 9503 and 9505 are higher than the county, state, and country, as well as significantly higher than the other three census tracts. Black and American Indian and Alaska Native unemployment rates, at the county level, were suppressed due to insufficient data.

Adams County Birth Rates



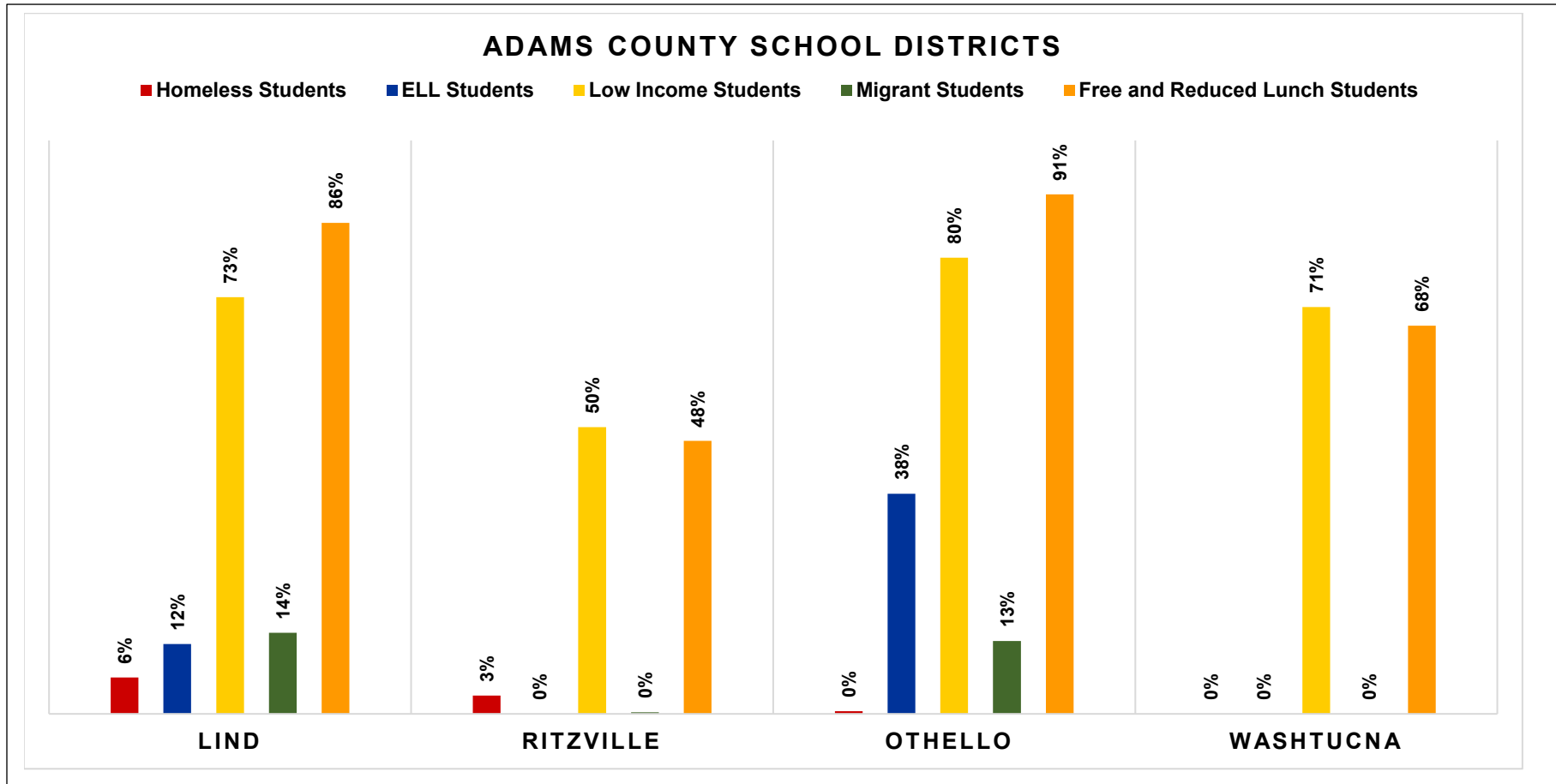
Adams County birth rates, among most age groups, is significantly higher than Washington and the United States. Birth rates for age groups 15-17, 18-19, 20-24, and 40-44 all dropped, with the other age groups increasing. The reduction of teen births, and increase of births in older women, would suggest women are having babies later in life and programs to reduce teen pregnancy are working.

Adams County Birth Rates Continued



Adams County general, White alone, and Hispanic/Latinx birth rates are significantly higher than Washington and the United States. While all demographics in Washington and the United States saw a decline in birth rates from the three year period of 2014-2016 and 2017-2019, Adams County had an increase. Black and American Indian and Alaska Native birth rates are suppressed due to insufficient data.

Adams County School Districts



Adams County has four school districts, all of which have a very small (or no) percentage of homeless students; and two school districts do not have English language learners or migrant students. Othello School District has the highest percentage of English language learners, low-income, migrant, and free and reduced lunch students; however it has the second highest graduation rate. Grant County school districts' graduation rates range from 64% - 77%, with Washtucna's rate suppressed because of insufficient data.

Adams County Health Care Access

Adams County is a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) designated primary care and mental health care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), and a dental HPSA for low-income residents of Adams County. According to County Health Rankings 2019, Adams County's ratio of patients to providers for primary care and mental health are worse than the state; with primary care providers at 1980:1 compared to 1180:1 and mental health providers at 590:1 compared to 250:1. The lack of providers has impacted the health of Adams County. Adams County is ranked among one of the least healthy counties in Washington where 29% are in poor or fair health, 34% are obese, 12% have diabetes, 31% have high blood pressure.^{6,7}

While there is only one Community Health Center (CHC) located in Adams County, Columbia Basin Health Association (CBHA), UDS Mapper shows CHCs in surrounding counties serve Adams County residents as well. Although CBHA and other CHCs in the area work tirelessly to improve health care equity and increase access, 17% of adults in Adams County have delayed or not sought care due to cost, 32% have no usual source of care, and 46% have not had a dental visit in the past year.⁸ As clinics across the country struggle to retain providers, rural locations struggle even more. Residents are still having a hard time finding care as the need outweighs the capacity of clinics. In addition to limited access for primary health, there is a significant shortage of mental health professionals, especially those that will see low-income, underinsured, and Medicaid individuals. The mental health providers in the county are often not accepting new patients or the wait time to be seen is months out.

⁶ County Health Rankings, 2019; countyhealthrankings.org

⁷ UDS Mapper, 2020; udsmapper.org

⁸ Ibid

Summary of Adams County Data

Adams County is located in central Washington and has a population of 19,594. Adams County has a higher percentage of those under the age of 18, and lower percentage of those aged 65 and over when compared to the state and country.

The population in Adams County is 64% Hispanic/Latinx, 34% White alone, with American Indian and Alaska Native, Black, and Asian making up the other 6%. The two easternmost census tracts have the highest percentages of White alone (86% and 83%), whereas census tracts located in Othello and the area directly surrounding Othello, have the highest percentages of Hispanic/Latinx (75%-80%). There is a significant difference in percentages of White alone and Hispanic/Latinx in each census tract.

Overall, Adams County is economically depressed where 50% of the county lives at or below 200% of the FPL. The percentages of total population (26%), Hispanic/Latinx (33%), White alone (12%), Black (28%), and American Indian and Alaska Native (65%) living in poverty are all higher than Washington and the United States. When looking at individual census tracts, Othello, and the area surrounding it, have the highest percentages of those living in poverty and low-income when compared to the two easternmost tracts.

When compared to Washington and the United States, a higher percentage of Adams County residents over the age of 25 do not have a high school diploma or equivalent, across all demographics. American Indian and Alaska Native has the highest percentage at 59%, followed by Hispanic/Latinx at 54%. Black (34%) is only slightly higher than total population (33%), with White alone the lowest at 26%. Similarly to the trend of those living in poverty, Othello and the surrounding census tract have the highest percentages of those over the age of 25 without a high school degree or equivalent, than the other two census tracts in eastern Adams County.

Over the five-year time period of 2015-2019, Adams County experienced less population growth than the state at 2.7%, however rates varied when analyzed at the census tract level. All but one census tract saw increases in population; tract 9503 (area surrounding Othello) saw a decrease of 7.8%, whereas tract 9505 (southern Othello) saw an increase of 17.1%.

Adams County unemployment rates are higher than the state and country across all demographics (White alone only 0.3 higher). Black and American Indian and Alaska Native rates were suppressed across all areas due to insufficient data; Hispanic/Latinx was suppressed in census tracts 9501 and 9502. Rates vary across census tracts, with the highest rates the area surrounding Othello, and lowest the northeast census tract, 9501.

Adams County continues to have higher birth rates than Washington and the United States across all age groups and demographics. Teen and young adult birth rates dropped significantly from the three-year time period of 2014-2016 to 2017-2019, where as women aged 25-39 increased. The overall and White alone birth rates increased, while Hispanic/Latinx slightly decreased across the same time period. Black and American Indian and Alaska Native were suppressed due to insufficient data.

According to the US Census, the top three industries in Adams County are 1) construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, 2) agriculture, 3) educational services, and health care and social assistance. This is evident in the top employers in Adams County; they include medical facilities, school districts, manufacturing plants, processing and distribution centers, and government agencies.