


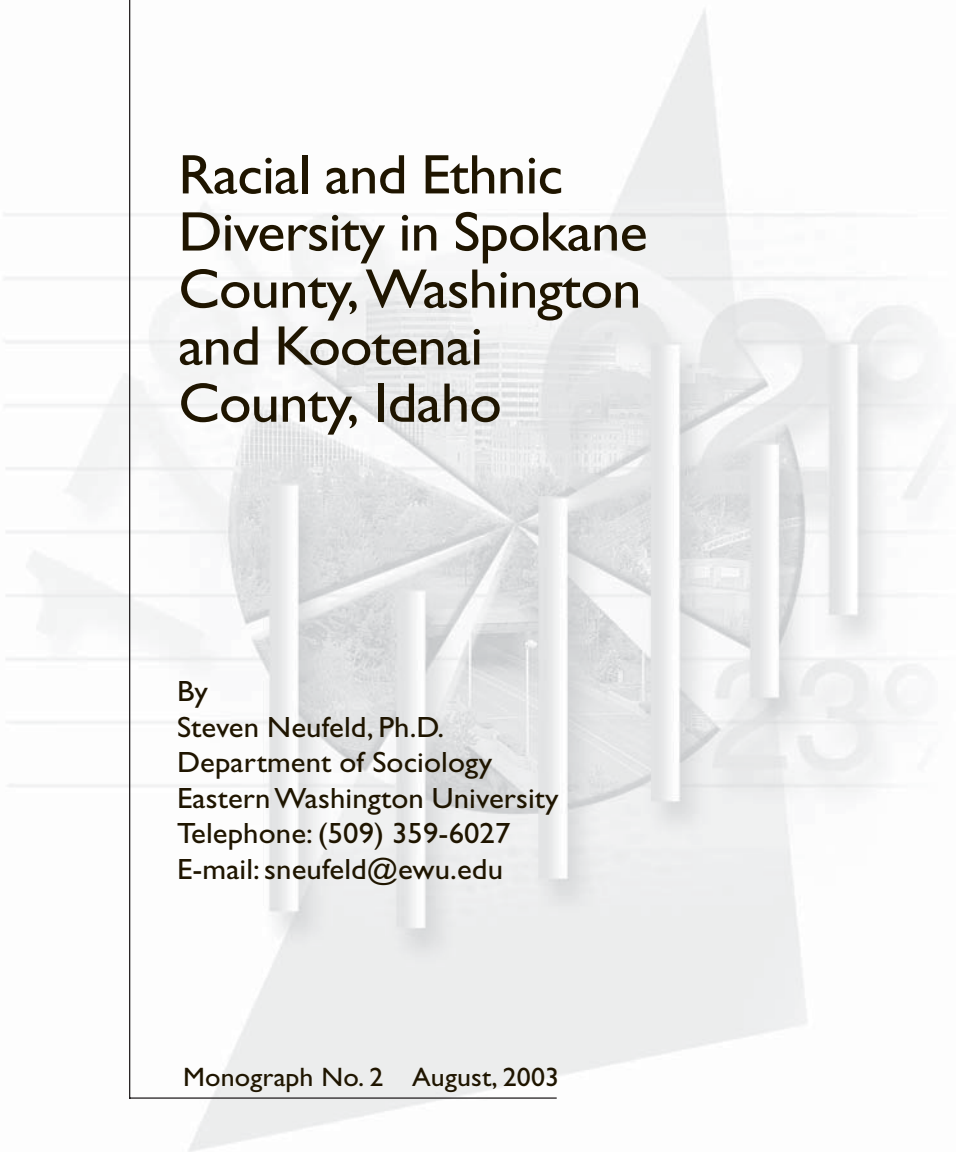
Institute for Public Policy
and Economic Analysis



*The Institute for Public Policy and Economic Analysis at Eastern
Washington University will convey university expertise and
sponsor research in social, economic and public policy questions to
the region it serves – the Inland Pacific Northwest*

D. Patrick Jones, Ph.D.

Executive Director
Institute for Public Policy & Economic Analysis
668 N. Riverpoint Blvd.
Suite A, Room 238
Spokane, WA 99202-1660
dpjones@mail.ewu.edu



Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Spokane County, Washington and Kootenai County, Idaho

By
Steven Neufeld, Ph.D.
Department of Sociology
Eastern Washington University
Telephone: (509) 359-6027
E-mail: sneufeld@ewu.edu

Monograph No. 2 August, 2003



It is with great pleasure that I introduce you to the monograph series of the Institute for Public Policy and Economic Analysis from Eastern Washington University. I hope this research from Eastern faculty sheds new light on a particular aspect of life in the Inland Northwest.

The goal of the Institute is for our highly-qualified faculty to provide analysis and data that are relevant to your lives. The vision of a regional university that our Board of Trustees has adopted speaks directly to the notion of relevance to the Inland Northwest. Without relevance to the communities that make up this dynamic and beautiful corner of our country, our university is not fully living up to its mission.

Of course, our main mission at Eastern Washington University is to educate students to the highest levels possible, for the sake of their own careers, the future of the communities in which they will reside, and ultimately their growth as individuals. An increasingly important mission of Eastern is also to encourage faculty research. Not only does this help keep our faculty professionally current, but makes them better teachers, through the sharing of research opportunities with their students.

However, not all faculty research at Eastern need be written for professional audiences. In this day of increasingly specialization and complexity, I see an imperative for an informed citizenry. What better source can our region find to translate this knowledge into jargon-free, accessible information than a university like Eastern?

Since coming here five years ago, I am convinced there is a level of excellence at Eastern Washington University that is worthy of recognition and support. The university is a catalyst in the progress of the region – its economy, culture and way of life. The Board of Trustees and I regard the Institute for Public Policy and Economic Analysis as a striking example of our commitment to this region. My office and that of the Institute director welcome all comments on how we might better serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. M. Jordan'.

Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.



Table of Contents

I. Executive Summary	6
II. Background	8
III. Population and Demographic Characteristics	9
Ancestry	12
Foreign Born	13
Age Distribution	15
Households and Families	18
IV. Conclusion.....	21
References and Endnotes.....	22

I. Executive Summary

This study presents Census data on racial and ethnic diversity in Spokane and Kootenai counties, especially for the major racial and ethnic groupings as defined in the U.S. Census. It examines the racial and ethnic makeup of the population for the two counties, including data on ancestry and foreign-born populations in the two counties. It also analyzes age distributions and household characteristics for the major racial and ethnic groupings.

An upcoming monograph that focuses on racial and ethnic inequality using the same data sources complements this study. The second monograph analyzes racial and inequality in terms of various socio-economic indicators, including poverty, as well as the spatial distribution of racial and ethnic groups.

In terms of population and demographics, this monograph shows that both counties lack significant racial and ethnic diversity compared to their respective states and to the United States as a whole. Kootenai County is less diverse than Spokane County. In particular, the percentage of Blacks and Asians is considerably lower in Kootenai County than in Spokane

County. Countering this, racial and ethnic diversity increased from 1990 to 2000, with all major racial and ethnic groups increasing faster than Whites in both counties. Hispanics in particular grew significantly faster than Whites, and they continue to be the largest racial or ethnic group in both counties.

Ancestry patterns are similar across the two counties, with German ancestry most common, followed by British and Irish ancestry. However, Spokane County has a considerably higher share of foreign born persons than Kootenai County, and of foreign born who have arrived more recently. The foreign born of Spokane County are also linguistically and culturally more diverse. For example, Spokane in recent years has witnessed a sizable immigration of new groups such as Russians and Ukrainians, adding to the ethnic diversity of the city.

Age distributions and household characteristics vary across the major racial and ethnic groupings, with significant differences in median age, family type, and family size. Whites are oldest in both counties, especially in Spokane County, while Hispanics are youngest in Spokane County and Blacks are youngest in Kootenai County. In terms of household type, patterns vary considerably between Spokane and Kootenai counties, but Whites have the smallest households and families in both counties. These differences in age and household characteristics have implications for racial and ethnic inequality and racial and ethnic attitudes and relations.

II. Background

Historically, the Inland Northwest region has lacked significant racial and ethnic diversity. Despite several waves of ethnic and racial migration both to and within the country, racial and ethnic migration and settlement have largely bypassed the Inland Northwest. This relative lack of racial and ethnic diversity in the region continues to the present day, including its major metropolitan area, an area covering parts of Spokane County in Washington and Kootenai County in Idaho.

While not yet officially recognized as a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA) by the U.S. Census, this area contains over 525,000 persons and includes the medium-sized city of Spokane, Washington, and the smaller cities of Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene in Idaho. Despite its small size, however, the two-county area's racial and ethnic diversity is extremely rich in terms of the number of racial and ethnic groups present.

Perhaps because of the small numbers involved, little analysis of racial and ethnic diversity in these counties exists. However, knowledge of racial and ethnic diversity and the geographic distribution of racial and ethnic groups in the two counties is important for several reasons. First, knowledge of racial and ethnic diversity is important in helping policy makers promote racial and ethnic diversity

Historically, the Inland Northwest region has lacked significant racial and ethnic diversity. Despite several waves of ethnic and racial migration both to and within the country, racial and ethnic migration and settlement has largely bypassed the Inland Northwest region.

and improve racial and ethnic relations. Second, knowledge of racial and ethnic diversity is important to policy makers interested in attracting businesses to the region. Recent research indicates that progressive social and cultural climates are seen as necessary for attracting highly educated professionals, such as those required by high-tech businesses. Finally, an analysis of current racial and economic diversity can serve as a benchmark for assessing future change and progress in promoting racial and ethnic diversity.

This study analyzes racial and ethnic diversity in Spokane and Kootenai Counties using publicly available data from the 2000 Census. On the basis of SF1 and SF2 100% data files and the SF3 and SF4 sample files, data are presented on racial and ethnic diversity and on demographic characteristics of the major racial and ethnic groups defined by the Census. Overall, the study attempts to:

- describe the racial and ethnic composition of the population and changes since 1990;
- examine data on ancestry and foreign born residents; and
- analyze differences in age, household type, and household size for the major racial and ethnic groups.

This study serves as a prelude to an additional monograph on racial and ethnic inequality in Spokane and Kootenai Counties that uses the same data sources. This second monograph analyzes racial and ethnic inequality in terms of:

- various socio-economic indicators, such as education, labor force participation, full-time employment and earnings, income, and poverty; and
- the spatial distribution of the various racial and ethnic groups and their concentration in low-income neighborhoods;

It concludes with a short discussion of racial and ethnic poverty.

III. Population and Demographic Characteristics

The first step in understanding racial and ethnic diversity is to examine the racial and ethnic composition of a population and its recent changes. Table 1 shows the racial and ethnic composition of the population for Spokane and Kootenai counties in 2000 and 1990. The top figures show the percentage of residents who identified a single race

only, while the bottom figures for the year 2000 show the percentages of residents identifying with that race only or in combination with other races. Hispanics are treated by the Census as an ethnicity consisting of other races.¹ Table 2 shows the corresponding figures for Washington, Idaho, and the United States for 2000, for a comparison.

Table 1

1990 and 2000 Racial and Ethnic Composition of Spokane and Kootenai Counties

Racial or Ethnic Group	Spokane County		Kootenai County	
	2000	1990	2000	1990
Total Population	417,939	361,364	108,685	69,795
% White only (not Hispanic)	89.8	93.4	94.4	97.0
% Black only (not Hispanic)	1.5	1.4	0.2	0.1
% American Indian or Alaskan Native only (not Hispanic)	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.9
% Asian only (not Hispanic)	1.9	1.8*	0.5	0.4*
% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander only (not Hispanic)	0.2	(see note)	0.1	(see note)
% Other Race only (not Hispanic)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
% 2 or more races (not Hispanic)	2.4		1.4	
% Hispanic or Latino	2.8	1.9	2.3	1.5
Percent of one or more races				
% White only or with other race(s)	92.0		95.7	
% Black only or with other race(s)	2.1		0.3	
% American Indian only or with other race(s)	2.3		2.0	
% Asian only or with other race(s)	2.6		0.8	
% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander only or with other race(s)	0.3		0.2	
% Other Race only or with other race(s)	0.5		0.2	

*In 1990, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders and Asians were grouped together. Although the data can be disaggregated (as will be done later) into Asians and NHPs, Hispanics cannot be excluded from the disaggregated data. As a result, the combined number for NHPs and Asians excluding Hispanics is used here.

2000 Racial and Ethnic Composition of United States, Washington, and Idaho

Racial or Ethnic Group	United States		Washington		Idaho	
	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990
Total Population	281,421,906		5,894,121		1,293,953	
	248,709,873		4,866,692		1,006,749	
% White only (not Hispanic)	69.1	75.6	78.9	86.7	88.0	92.2
% Black only (not Hispanic)	12.1	11.7	3.1	3.0	0.4	0.3
% American Indian or Alaskan Native only (not Hispanic)	0.7	0.7	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.2
% Asian only (not Hispanic)	3.6	2.8*	5.4	4.2*	0.9	0.9*
% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander only (not Hispanic)	0.1	(see note)	0.4	(see note)	0.0	(see note)
% Other Race only (not Hispanic)	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
% 2 or more races (not Hispanic)	1.6		3.0		1.4	
% Hispanic or Latino	12.5	9.0	7.5	4.4	7.9	5.3
Percent of one or more races						
% White only or with other race(s)	70.4		81.5		89.4	
% Black only or with other race(s)	12.6		3.9		0.6	
% American Indian only or with other race(s)	1.2		2.4		1.9	
% Asian only or with other race(s)	4.1		6.6		1.3	
% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander only or with other race(s)	0.3		0.7		0.2	
% Other Race only or with other race(s)	0.6		0.7		0.4	

*In 1990, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders and Asians were grouped together. Although the data can be disaggregated (as will be done later) into Asians and NHPs, Hispanics cannot be excluded from the disaggregated data. As a result, the combined number for NHPs and Asians excluding Hispanics is used here.

In both counties, Hispanics form the single largest ethnic or racial group, representing 2.8% of Spokane County (11,561 persons) and 2.3% of the Kootenai County (2,528 persons). They are also the largest racial or ethnic group in each state, constituting 7.5% of Washington's population and 7.9% of Idaho's population. In terms of their racial background, the vast majority of Hispanics identified themselves as White or other race. For Spokane County, 56.3% of Hispanics identified as White, 24.3% identified as some other race, and 13.0% identified as two or more races. The remaining 6.4% identified among the remaining racial groups. For Kootenai County,

63.2% of Hispanics identified as White, 22.7% identified as some other race, and 10.0% identified as two or more races. The remaining 4.1% identified among the other racial groups. Mexicans were by far the single largest nationality among Hispanics, accounting for 60.8% of all Hispanics in Spokane County and 60.7% of all Hispanics in Kootenai County.

Asians comprise the second largest group in Spokane County and the third largest group in Kootenai County. In Spokane County, the category Asian alone is 1.9% of the population (7,758 persons), while Asian only or in combination with

other race(s) is 2.6% of the population (10,662 persons). In Kootenai County, Asian alone is .5% of the population (527 persons), while Asian in combinations with other race(s) is .8% of the population (867 persons). Thus, Asians are a considerably smaller share in Kootenai County than in Spokane County. In Spokane County, the largest Asian nationalities are Japanese (21.4%), Vietnamese (19.1%), Filipino (13.2%), Chinese (12.7%), and Korean (12.0%). In Kootenai County, the largest Asian nationality is Filipino (28.2%) and Japanese (19.5%).¹

American Indians or Alaskan Natives (AIANs) in Spokane County are fourth in terms of persons who chose a single race (1.3% or 5,478 persons), but third among persons who identified one or more racial groups (2.3% or 9,431 persons). This is due to the fact that in both counties, the single largest category for persons choosing two or more races is White and American Indian or Alaskan native.² Of those who are Native American or Alaskan native alone, 73.4% are Native American alone. In Kootenai County, American Indian or Alaskan Natives (AIANs) are the second largest ethnic or racial group, representing 1.2% (1,260 persons) of the population identifying one race only and 2.0% (2,159 persons) of the population including multi-racial identifications. Of those who are Native American or Alaskan native alone, 82.6% are Native American alone.

The only group that shows significant gains relative to Whites are Hispanics, who increased from 1.9% to 2.8% in Spokane County and 1.5% to 2.3% in Kootenai County.

Blacks are the third largest group in Spokane County out of persons who chose a single race only (1.5% or 6,437 persons), but the fourth largest group including multi-racial identification (2.1% or 8,908 persons). Blacks in Kootenai County are fourth largest in terms of both single racial identification (.2% or 176 persons) and multi-racial identification (.3% or 340 persons). As with Asians, Blacks are a considerably smaller share in Kootenai County than in Spokane County.

Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) are an extremely small share of Spokane County's population, using either single race (.2% or 630 persons) or multi-racial identification (.3% or 1,329 persons). Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) in Kootenai County are smaller still, at .1% (64 persons) and .2% (174 persons) of the population..

Overall, both counties are slightly less white in 2000, although the decreases are somewhat less than the decreases in their respective states. In Spokane County, the percentage of Whites decreased from 93.4% to 92.0%, even including persons who identified as White and some other race in 2000. For Kootenai County, the corresponding figures are from 97.0% to 95.7%. This compares to decreases from 86.7% to 81.5% in Washington and 92.2% to 89.4% in Idaho.

The only group that shows significant gains relative to Whites are Hispanics, who increased from 1.9% to 2.8% in Spokane County and 1.5% to 2.3% in Kootenai County. Hispanics were the largest racial or ethnic group in both counties in 1990, and they also grew considerably faster than other groups between 1990 and 2000. Hispanics were also the fastest growing group in Washington and Idaho, increasing from 4.4% to 7.5% in Washington and from 5.3% to 7.9% in Idaho.

However, all racial and ethnic groups in both counties grew faster than the corresponding White population. This is particularly significant, since the White population in both counties grew during the decade, increasing by 11.2% in Spokane County and 51.5% in Kootenai County from 1990 to 2000.

Ancestry

Another way to examine racial and ethnic diversity, especially among Whites, is through data on ancestry. Table 3 presents data on ancestry for Spokane and Kootenai Counties for the year 2000 for all nationalities that are at least 1.0% of the population.

Table **3**

2000 Ancestry for Spokane and Kootenai Counties*

Ancestry	Spokane County		Kootenai County	
	Number	% of Population	Number	% of Population
Total Population	417,939	100.0	108,685	100.0
Ancestry Specified	321,215	76.9	82,847	76.2
Single Ancestry	187,670	44.9	47,035	43.3
Multiple Ancestry	133,545	32.0	35,812	33.0
Ancestry unclassified/not reported	96,724	23.1	25,838	23.8
Total Ancestries Reported	454,760	108.8	118,659	109.2
English	51,524	12.3	15,207	14.0
French	17,426	4.2	4,880	4.5
French Canadian	4,938	1.2	1,342	1.2
German	99,448	23.8	26,712	24.6
Irish	57,013	13.6	15,087	13.9
Italian	16,638	4.0	4,275	3.9
Norwegian	27,746	6.6	6,511	6.0
Polish	7,053	1.7	1,893	1.7
Russian	5,290	1.3	726	0.7
Scotch-Irish	10,103	2.4	2,330	2.1
Scottish	12,244	2.9	3,018	2.8
Swedish	15,243	3.6	4,385	4.0
U.S. or American	24,383	5.8	7,765	7.1
Welsh	4,902	1.2	1,245	1.1
Other Ancestries	64,363	15.4	13,477	12.4

*Only ancestries with more than 1% of the population for either county are listed; 94 ancestries are identified overall.

As Table 3 shows, 76.9% of the population in Spokane County specified their ancestry, with 44.9% specifying a single ancestry and 32.0% specifying multiple ancestry. In Kootenai County, 76.2% specified their ancestry, with 43.3% specifying one ancestry and 23.8 specifying multiple ancestries. All of these nationalities basically apply to Whites. By far, the single most common ancestry in both

counties is German, which is 23.8% in Spokane County and 24.6% in Kootenai County. This is followed by Irish (13.6%) and English (12.3%) in Spokane County, and English (14.0) and Irish (13.9%) in Kootenai County. These groups combined make up 49.7% of the population in Spokane County and 52.5% of the population in Kootenai County.

Foreign Born

Due to assimilation, differences in ancestry may have little meaningful relationship to subjective racial or ethnic identification, to racial or ethnic cultural differences, or to racial and ethnic inequality. One way to identify more current and salient racial and ethnic divisions is through data on

foreign born residents. These data can provide information about emergent immigrant groups and nationalities who are likely to be linguistically and culturally distinct. Table 4 presents data on the foreign born population for Spokane and Kootenai counties.

Table **4**

2000 Foreign Born Population for Spokane County and Kootenai County

	Number	% of Total Population	% of Foreign Born	% Entered 1990-2000	% Entered 1980-1989	% Entered Before 1980
Spokane County						
Total Foreign Born	18,711	4.5	100.0	48.8	16.9	34.3
European	7,836	1.9	41.9	59.3	9.6	31.0
Asian	6,075	1.5	32.5	53.1	24.5	22.4
African	232	0.0	1.2	40.9	26.7	32.3
Oceania	153	0.0	0.8	45.8	24.8	29.4
Latin America	1,555	0.4	8.3	38.7	29.2	32.1
North America	2,860	0.7	15.3	17.2	12.8	70.0
Kootenai County						
Total Foreign Born	2,598	2.4	100.00	23.7	18.2	58.1
European	1,023	0.9	39.4	18.2	17.2	64.6
Asian	385	0.4	14.8	25.2	31.4	43.4
African	17	0.0	0.7	29.4	0.0	70.6
Oceania	75	0.1	2.9	29.3	0.0	70.7
Latin America	320	0.3	12.3	39.1	20.9	40.0
North America	778	0.7	29.9	23.4	13.9	62.7

As Table 4 shows, the foreign-born population takes a considerably larger share in Spokane County, with foreign born persons representing 4.5% of the total population in Spokane County, compared to only 2.4% in Kootenai County. These figures are lower than the figures for the United States (11.1%) and Washington (10.4%), although they are higher than the 0.8% figure for Idaho. Spokane's foreign born population is also more recent, with almost half of

Spokane County's foreign born population (48.8%) arrived since 1990, compared to less than a quarter of Kootenai County's foreign born population (23.7%). This compares to 42.4% for the United States, 46.6% for Washington, and 47.7% for Idaho. Thus, Spokane County has a considerably larger population of recent immigrants as a percent of the population than Kootenai County, Washington State, or the United States.

The composition of the foreign born in each county differs as well. In Spokane, most foreign born persons are from Europe (41.9%), with the next largest source from Asia (32.5%). These two represent even larger percentages of the foreign born arriving since 1990. Overall, 50.9% of all foreign born persons who arrived after 1990 were from Europe, followed by 35.3% from Asia, 6.6% from Latin America, 5.4% from North America (Canada), and negligible amounts from Africa and Oceania (figures not in table).

In Kootenai County, most foreign born persons are also European (39.4%), followed by North American (29.9%). However, Europeans are only 30.1% of the foreign born arriving since 1990, followed by 29.5% from North America (Canada), 20.3% from Latin America, 15.7% from Asia, and negligible amounts from Africa and Oceania (figures not in table). Thus, in addition to differences in the amount of recent immigration, Spokane and Kootenai counties are experiencing different patterns of immigration as well.

For comparison purposes, Table 5 shows the corresponding figures regarding the origins of the foreign born population since 1990 for the United States, Washington, and Idaho. As the table shows, the percent of the foreign born population from Europe since 1990 is much lower in the United States, Washington, and Idaho than in Spokane and Kootenai counties, and the percent from Latin America is much larger, especially in Idaho and the United States. Although the two counties' share of the foreign born population from Asia is roughly equal to their corresponding state percentages, recent immigrants to Spokane and Kootenai county are overall more White than recent immigrants to the United States, Washington, and Idaho.

Table **5**

Percent of Foreign Born Population Since 1990 by Region for United States, Washington, and Idaho

Region	United States	Washington	Idaho
Europe	12.3	20.4	15.3
Asia	26.8	36.3	12.4
Africa	3.8	4.3	1.1
Oceania	0.6	1.3	0.7
Latin American	54.7	33.1	66.2
North America	1.9	4.6	4.4

Data on the specific nationality of foreign born persons are also available, although not classified by date of entry. In Spokane County, nationalities that are 4.0% or more among foreign born persons are Canadian (2,860 or 15.3% of foreign born), Ukrainian (1,725 or 9.2% of foreign born), Russian (1,577 or 8.4% of foreign born), Vietnamese (1,192 or 6.4% of the population), German (1,141 or 6.1% of foreign born), English (917 or 4.9% of foreign born) and Mexican (870 or 4.6% of foreign born).

In Kootenai County, nationalities more than or equal to 4% of foreign born are Canadian (778 or 29.9% of all foreign born), the United Kingdom (327 or 12.6% of all foreign born), German (224 or 8.6% of all foreign born) and Mexican (129 or 5.0% of all foreign born). Thus, foreign born persons in Spokane County are more likely to be linguistically and culturally distinct than in Kootenai County.

Recent immigrants to Spokane and Kootenai county are overall more White than recent immigrants to the United States, Washington, and Idaho.

Age Distribution

In addition to the racial and ethnic composition of the population, an important demographic characteristic is age. The age distribution of the different racial and ethnic groups is important in several respects. Many important stages and events are based on the life cycle—graduating from high school, going to college, entering the labor market, starting a family, purchasing a first home, etc. Age distributions help identify where different groups are in terms of these stages and events, and whether or not different groups are likely to be experiencing the same stages and events at the same time. Age distributions may also help identify or target social services and programs, such as programs for pre-schoolers or the elderly. Age distributions may also affect racial and ethnic stereotyping.

In general, younger ages are correlated with crime, non-marital births, female-headed households, and welfare dependence, all of which can fuel racial and ethnic stereotypes (Wilson, 1987). Finally, age differences may affect labor force participation rates and employment rates, since older persons are more likely to be employed. They may also affect wages and incomes, since older persons are more likely to have higher educational degrees and are more likely to be in higher paying jobs.

Whites are considerably older than all groups in both counties, although the difference with Asians in Kootenai County is somewhat less. Hispanics form the youngest overall category in Spokane County and second youngest in Kootenai County behind Blacks.

Tables 6a and 6b show the age distributions and median ages for males and females for each racial and ethnic group. For comparison purposes, they also provide median ages for each racial and ethnic group for the United States and the respective state. The term median refers to the value that divides the number of cases into equal halves. Median age is frequently used instead of mean (or average) age, because means are more susceptible to being skewed by extremely high values.

As the tables show, Whites are considerably older than all groups in both counties, although the difference with Asians in Kootenai County is somewhat less. Hispanics form the youngest overall category in Spokane County and second youngest in Kootenai County behind Blacks. Indeed, the median age of Whites is more than 13 years older than the median age of Hispanics in Spokane County and more than 12 years older in Kootenai County. These differences in median age are reflected in the age group distributions. In Spokane County overall, 38.5% of all Hispanics are under 18 years of age, compared to only 24.8% of all Whites. In Kootenai County overall, 39.7% of all Hispanics are under 18 years of age, compared to 26.7% of all Whites. Conversely, White males and females in both counties are much more likely to be 65 and over.

Overall, the age group distributions of the racial and ethnic groups are fairly similar across the two counties, with some exceptions. First, the median age of Blacks is 5.7 years younger in Kootenai County, where Blacks are the youngest group. Second, the median age for Asian females is 10.8 years higher than the median age for Asian males in Kootenai County, and 6.2 years higher than the median age for Asian females in Spokane County.

As a result, the median age of Asians in Kootenai County is 4.4 years higher than in Spokane County. In general, median ages in Spokane County tend to reflect median ages in Washington, although they tend to be somewhat younger, with the slight exception of Hispanics. Median ages in Kootenai County are less comparable to those in Idaho. The county's median ages for Whites, Asians, and Hispanics are somewhat higher than in Idaho, while the median age for Blacks is somewhat lower.

2000 Age Group Distribution by Sex for Spokane County

Table **6a**

	White	Black	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic
Males						
Total Population	183,539	4,009	2,905	3,413	316	5,978
Under 5 years	6.4	7.6	7.8	5.9	4.7	11.5
Under 18 years	25.9	26.3	32.2	21.8	21.8	37.1
18 to 24 years	10.2	13.9	12.8	17.2	24.1	16.8
25 to 44 years	29.5	38.1	32.2	32.0	32.9	31.3
—25 to 34 years	13.2	18.6	16.1	18.3	20.9	18.0
—35 to 44 years	16.3	19.5	16.1	13.6	12.0	13.3
45 to 64 years	23.4	16.9	18.2	20.4	17.1	11.8
—45 to 54 years	14.9	12.8	11.8	13.5	12.3	8.9
—55 to 64 years	8.5	4.1	6.4	6.9	4.7	2.9
65 years and over	11.0	4.8	4.6	8.6	4.1	2.9
Females						
Total Population	191,888	2,650	2,942	4,457	350	5,583
Under 5 years	5.8	11.2	8.9	4.6	8.0	12.7
Under 18 years	23.5	37.8	33.3	24.7	28.9	40.0
18 to 24 years	9.9	14.1	13.0	16.9	24.6	15.5
25 to 44 years	28.1	28.2	31.1	32.9	25.4	29.0
—25 to 34 years	12.4	13.3	16.2	20.6	14.3	15.8
—35 to 44 years	15.8	14.9	14.9	12.3	11.1	13.2
45 to 64 years	23.1	13.1	18.3	18.1	17.1	11.9
—45 to 54 years	14.5	8.5	12.1	11.3	11.4	8.4
—55 to 64 years	8.6	4.6	6.2	6.8	5.7	3.5
65 years and over	15.4	6.7	4.2	7.4	4.0	3.6
Median Age All	36.7	28.1	28.2	30.1	25.1	22.8
Median Age Males	35.5	30.3	27.5	28.3	27.5	23.2
Median Age Females	37.9	24.1	29.1	32.1	23.7	22.3
Median Age United States	37.7	30.2	28.0	32.7	27.5	25.8
Median Age Washington	37.4	29.7	28.6	32.8	26.0	22.7

2000 Age Group Distribution by Sex for Kootenai County

Table **6b**

	White	Black	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic
Males						
Total Population	50,937	102	652	204	N/A	1,175
Under 5 years	7.0	12.7	11.2	5.9		9.6
Under 18 years	27.7	33.3	36.7	29.9		40.9
18 to 24 years	8.7	21.6	12.4	14.2		12.7
25 to 44 years	27.9	27.5	29.4	38.7		28.3
—25 to 34 years	12.6	16.7	14.9	21.1		14.9
—35 to 44 years	15.3	10.8	14.6	17.6		13.4
45 to 64 years	24.4	16.7	17.0	14.7		15.1
—45 to 54 years	14.6	10.8	12.3	8.8		9.6
—55 to 64 years	9.8	5.9	4.8	5.9		5.4
65 years and over	11.3	1.0	4.4	2.5		3.1
Females						
Total Population	51,633	81	682	335	N/A	1,353
Under 5 years	6.3	21.0	9.8	5.7		9.5
Under 18 years	25.3	45.7	34.5	20.3		38.7
18 to 24 years	8.3	13.6	9.7	5.7		10.2
25 to 44 years	28.1	29.6	33.1	35.5		30.5
—25 to 34 years	12.3	14.8	17.0	16.7		15.7
—35 to 44 years	15.8	14.8	16.1	18.8		14.9
45 to 64 years	24.1	9.9	17.6	31.9		16.3
—45 to 54 years	14.8	3.7	11.1	21.5		10.6
—55 to 64 years	9.3	6.2	6.5	10.4		5.6
65 years and over	14.2	1.2	5.1	6.6		4.4
Median Age All	36.8	22.4	27.5	34.4		24.0
Median Age Males	35.7	24.0	25.7	27.5		22.3
Median Age Females	37.8	20.6	29.2	38.3		26.2
Median Age United States	37.7	30.2	28.0	32.7	27.5	25.8
Median Age Idaho	34.5	24.1	27.6	31.9	24.2	21.8

Households and Families

A final important demographic characteristic is how persons are organized into households and families. Families are particularly important as a source of social and economic support. However, single parent families, especially female-headed families, are more likely to have lower incomes and live in poverty than two-parent families. They may also

have less ability to supervise their children, resulting in higher rates of juvenile delinquency and worse academic performance. A high degree of single parent families may also be seen as a violation of social norms, which may promote racial and ethnic stereotyping.

Tables 7a and 7b show data on household type by presence of children, as well as by average

2000 Household Type by Presence of Children and Household Size, Spokane County

Table **7a**

	White	Black	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic
Total:	151,230	2,110	1,885	2,353	188	3,025
Non-Family Households (%)	35.2	36.1	35.4	35.0	30.9	32.8
1-person households	28.3	29.4	25.0	27.1	21.3	22.7
—Male householder	43.0	65.6	55.3	44.9	45.0	56.0
—Female householder	57.0	34.4	44.7	55.1	55.0	44.0
Family households (%)	64.8	63.9	64.6	65.0	69.1	67.2
1) Married-couple family:	50.5	37.9	35.7	51.0	50.0	45.7
—With own children under 18 years	44.2	58.8	54.7	55.5	58.5	61.2
—No own children under 18 years	55.8	41.2	45.3	44.5	41.5	38.8
2) Other family:	14.3	26.0	28.9	14.0	19.1	21.5
Male householder, no wife present:	3.7	8.6	5.9	4.7	5.9	6.2
—With own children under 18 years	64.1	70.7	73.2	36.4	54.5	68.4
—No own children under 18 years	35.9	29.3	26.8	63.6	45.5	31.6
Female householder, no husband present:	10.6	17.4	23.0	9.3	13.3	15.3
—With own children under 18 years	66.1	79.3	73.0	59.8	44.0	79.7
—No own children under 18 years	33.9	20.7	27.0	40.2	56.0	20.3
Average household size	2.44	2.63	2.78	2.75	2.91	2.79
Average family size	3.00	3.25	3.31	3.47	3.51	3.29

household and family size. The Census defines a *household* as all of the people who occupy a housing unit. This may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated people who share living quarters. A *family* includes a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family.

As Table 7a shows, for Spokane County the different racial and ethnic groups are roughly equal in terms of the percentages of non-family and family households. The percent of family households is slightly higher among NHPIs and Hispanics and lowest among Blacks. In all cases, the vast majority of non-family households are also one-person households (ranging from 68.9% for NHPIs to 81.4% for Blacks), although the extent to which they are male versus female householders varies somewhat across the different groups.

2000 Household Type by Presence of Children and Household Size, Kootenai County

Table **7b**

	White	Black	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic
Total:	39,637	45	420	132	N/A*	633
Non-Family Households (%)	28.2	42.2	21.4	33.3		27.8
1-person households:	22.0	26.6	15.0	22.7		18.3
—Male householder	43.6	41.7	50.8	53.3		55.2
—Female householder	56.4	58.3	49.2	46.7		44.8
Family households (%) :	71.8	57.8	78.6	66.7		72.5
1) Married-couple family:	59.0	44.4	49.8	46.2		49.4
—With own children under 18 years	43.9	50.0	56.5	59.0		58.1
—No own children under 18 years	56.1	50.0	43.5	41.0		41.9
2) Other family:	12.8	13.3	28.8	20.5		23.1
Male householder, no wife present:	3.9	4.4	8.8	6.1		7.1
—With own children under 18 years	66.3	100.0	67.6	50.0		66.7
—No own children under 18 years	33.7	0.0	32.4	50.0		33.3
Female householder, no husband present:	8.9	8.9	20.0	14.4		16.0
—With own children under 18 years	67.5	50.0	71.4	68.4		75.2
—No own children under 18 years	32.5	50.0	28.6	31.6		24.8
Average household size	2.58	2.60	3.20	2.73		2.96
Average family size	3.02	3.27	3.43	3.31		

*Data on NHPIs is not available, presumably due to the small number of cases.

Where the racial and ethnic groups differ is in the *composition* of family households. Table 7a shows differences among Spokane County groups in the percentage of married couple families, male householder families, and female householder families as a percent of total households. For Whites, 50.5% of all households are married couple families, compared to 45.7% for Hispanics, 37.9% for Blacks, and 35.7% for AIANs. Only 10.6% of all White households are female-headed, compared to 15.3% of Hispanic households, 17.4% of Black households, and 32.0% of AIAN households. NHPIs have a slightly lower percent of married couple families (50.0%) and a slightly higher percent of female-headed households (13.3%) than Whites, while Asians have a slightly higher percent of married couple families (51.0%) and a slightly lower percent of female-headed households (9.3%) than Whites.

Whether headed by a male or a female, Black, AIAN, and Hispanic single parent families are also more likely to have children than single parent White families. However, NHPIs and Asian single parent families are less likely to have children than White single parent families. As a result, Spokane County Asians have a higher percent of families, a smaller percent of single parent families, and a smaller percent of single parent families with children than Whites. While having a slightly higher percent of single-parent families, NHPIs have a higher percent of families and a lower percent of single parent families with children than Whites. In general, then, these latter two groups are approximately equivalent to Whites in terms of family structure.

For Kootenai County, the percentages of non-family households and family households are more variable among the various racial and ethnic groups. AIANs have the highest percent of family households (78.6%), followed by Hispanics (72.5%), Whites (71.8%), Asians (66.7%), and Blacks (57.8%). The percent of households that are married couple families also varies, with Whites being highest (59.0%), followed by AIANs (49.8%), Hispanics (49.4%), Asians (46.2%), and Blacks (44.4%). In contrast, the percent of female-headed households is highest among AIANs (20.0%), followed by

Hispanics (16.0%), Asians (14.4%), and Blacks and Whites (8.9%).

Although AIANs have the highest percentage of family households, they also show the lowest share of married couple families and the highest share of family households that are female-headed households. Blacks have the lowest percentage of family households and married couple families, but they are second behind Whites in the percent of family households that are married couples.³ Except for Blacks, the percentage of female-headed households with children varies only modestly between the different groupings. In general, the small number of Black households (45) should be kept in mind when interpreting the percentages.

In terms of household and family size, Whites in Spokane County have the smallest average household and family sizes, with Blacks being second. NHPIs have the largest households and families on average, although Asian families are almost as large. In Kootenai County, White households and families are again smallest, with Blacks again second. AIAN households and families are largest, especially AIAN households, while data on NHPIs are not available.

For Kootenai County, the percentages of non-family households and family households are more variable among the various racial and ethnic groups.

IV. Conclusion

On one hand, Spokane and Kootenai counties have relatively limited racial and ethnic diversity compared to their respective states and the United States. The percent of White persons is extremely high in both counties, especially Kootenai County. And it is declining more slowly than each county's respective state or the United States as a whole. Foreign born residents are a smaller share of total population in Spokane County than Washington State, although they are higher in Kootenai County than in Idaho. Recent foreign born residents in each county are also more likely to be White compared to recent foreign born residents in their respective states and in the United States.

On the other hand, the racial and ethnic diversity that exists in the two counties seems worthy of further study. Despite limited numbers, both counties contain a wide variety of racial and ethnic groups and nationalities. Moreover, diversity is increasing in both counties, in the face of significant population growth during the past decade,

especially in Kootenai County. Hispanics in particular grew significantly faster than Whites, and they continue to be the largest racial or ethnic group in both counties. Spokane County has also attracted a sizable number of foreign immigrants during the past decade, largely from Europe and Asia, which has given rise to new immigrant groups of Russians, Ukrainians, and Vietnamese.

The major racial and ethnic groups also vary widely by age distributions and household type and size. These are differences which may contribute to racial and ethnic inequality and may affect racial and ethnic attitudes and relations. At a minimum, this study provides a benchmark for assessing future changes in racial and ethnic populations and demographic characteristics. It is our hope that it will spur further research into the existing mosaic of races, ethnic groups, and nationalities in Spokane and Kootenai Counties. Information on racial and ethnic inequality in the two counties, including the issue of poverty, is available in an additional monograph.

REFERENCES

Liebertson, Stanley. (1980) *A Piece of The Pie: Blacks and White Immigrants Since 1880*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

Wilson, William Julius. (1987) *The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Endnotes

¹ The 2000 census identifies 5 major races, White, Black, American Indian/Alaskan Native (AIAN), Asian, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (NHPI), with Hispanic being treated as an ethnicity rather than a race. This means that respondents were asked to choose a race first, and then specify if they were Hispanic or not. This is because different racial groups, especially Blacks and Whites, can be Hispanic. However, this also means that racial categories include Hispanics unless they are specifically excluded. I have chosen to exclude Hispanics from other races in order to make them a distinct group, but the SF3 and SF4 data only exclude Hispanics from Whites and not from the other groups. Since Hispanics choosing a race usually choose White, however, this does not pose a significant problem.

The major change in the 2000 census is that for the first time respondents were allowed to identify themselves as one or more races, or multi-racial, rather than just one race. At an abstract level, this is a positive change that reflects societal changes in the meaning and definition of race which have been ushered in by the Civil Rights movement and the transition to a system of formal racial equality. However, at a practical level, it makes comparisons with previous data difficult. One smaller change is that Asians and Pacific Islanders (including Hawaiians) were reported as a single category in 1990. These data can be disaggregated into two groups in 1990, although Hispanics cannot be excluded from the disaggregated data.

² Data on the nationalities that comprise the various racial and ethnic groups is provided by American Factfinder only if the nationality numbers more than 100. Filipino and Japanese were the only two nationalities that met this threshold for Kootenai County. The data on nationalities also includes persons identifying as Hispanic. As a result, these numbers were divided by the number of Asians alone including Hispanics (n=7,780 for Spokane County and n=539 for Kootenai County).

³ As previously shown, persons choosing multi-racial identifications in 2000 account for 2.4% of the population in Spokane County and 1.4% of the population in Kootenai County. In both counties, the single largest category for persons choosing two or more races is White and Native American or Alaskan Native. In Spokane County, there are 3,521 such persons, which is 30.5% of all persons who identified two or more races. In Kootenai County, there are 868 persons like this, which is 49.8% of all persons who identified two or more races.



Photo by Z. artist, Ms. Claudia Borroskin



Our Mission

Eastern Washington University's mission is to prepare broadly educated, technologically proficient and highly productive citizens to obtain meaningful careers, to enjoy enriched lives and to make contributions to a culturally diverse society. The University's foundation is based on career preparation, underpinned by a strong liberal arts education.

Our Students

Eastern is emerging with fresh, dynamic leadership and campus-wide enthusiasm for its future. As of fall quarter 2002, Eastern's enrollment numbers were 9,093 full-time equivalent students.

Accreditations

The university is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and many discipline-specific associations, such as the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, the National Association of Schools of Music, the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board, the National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education, the Planning Accreditation Board and many more.

Exceptional Faculty and Academic Programs

Eastern provides a student-centered learning environment. Students have access to more than 130 undergraduate majors, nine master's degrees, four graduate certificates, 76 graduate programs of study and a doctor of physical therapy. The University consists of six colleges – Business and Public Administration; Education and Human Development; Arts and Letters; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Science, Mathematics and Technology; and School of Social Work and Human Services.

Eastern enhances its strong commitment to teaching and learning by vigorously pursuing grants, extramural funding and student-faculty research collaborations. For the most recent fiscal year, the university secured a total of over \$11.2 million in grants and extramural funding. This success placed Eastern at the second-highest ranking university in its class (Carnegie Masters I) in the country. In addition, university faculty often win awards such as Fulbright scholarships to deepen their mastery of their fields.

Several Institutes or Centers of Excellence add focus to faculty research and performance. They are: creative writing, music and honors. Student-faculty research projects are a priority of the institution. Every spring, the Research and Creative Works Symposium showcases undergraduate and graduate students' collaborative efforts with their professors.