



Moving to Action:
Addressing
Homelessness through
Racial Equity



Our vision is that homelessness is **rare** in King County, **racial disparities are eliminated**, and if one becomes homeless, it is **brief** and only a **one-time** occurrence.

Why are we here?

- To understand how our history of racial inequity has contributed to disparities in homelessness
- To understand how we contribute to or breakdown racial injustice
- To make a commitment to lead with racial equity in our response to homelessness

HOMELESSNESS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS PEOPLE OF COLOR

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders:



African Americans:



Native American/Alaska Native:



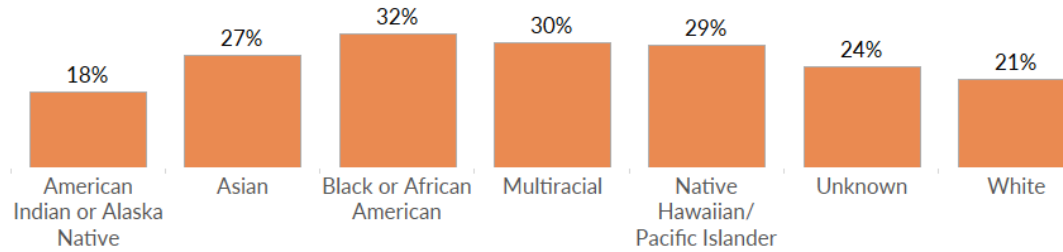
Coordinating Board Dashboard

Heads of Household by Race



RARE

Percent of Households Exiting to Permanent Housing



Select Sub-population
Heads of Household
by Race

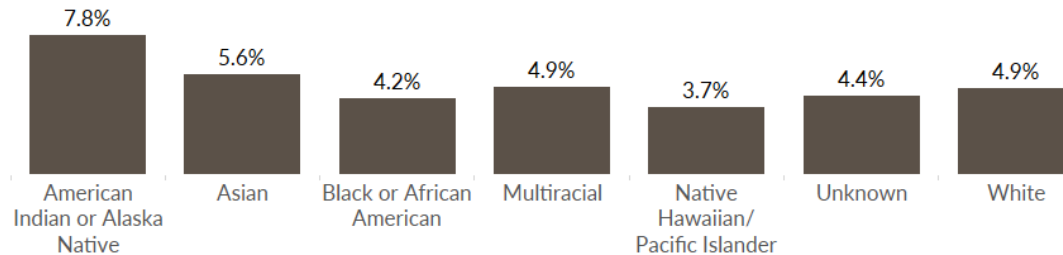
BRIEF

Days Spent in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing



ONE
TIME

Percent Returning after Exiting to Permanent Housing



Return Window
6 month

RARE

Making homelessness rare means finding permanent housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness. This graph uses data from our local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to show the total number of unique households who have moved to permanent housing each year since 2013.

Permanent housing placements are based on exits to permanent housing from Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing in HMIS (previous versions of this dashboard included exits from all project types). Permanent housing exit destinations include both subsidized and unsubsidized rentals, permanent supportive housing and other permanent housing for the formerly homeless, HOPWA permanent housing, subsidized and unsubsidized owned housing units, and permanently living with family or friends.

BRIEF

Making homelessness brief means helping people experiencing homelessness move quickly to housing. In the long term, our goal is to house people experiencing homelessness within an average of 30 days, consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) high performing community benchmarks.

This graph uses data from our local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to demonstrate how long households remain homeless in our current homeless housing system. This measure is cumulative at the client level. Time for clients who stay in multiple shelters and/or in both shelter and transitional housing is summed to create a total length of time for each client.

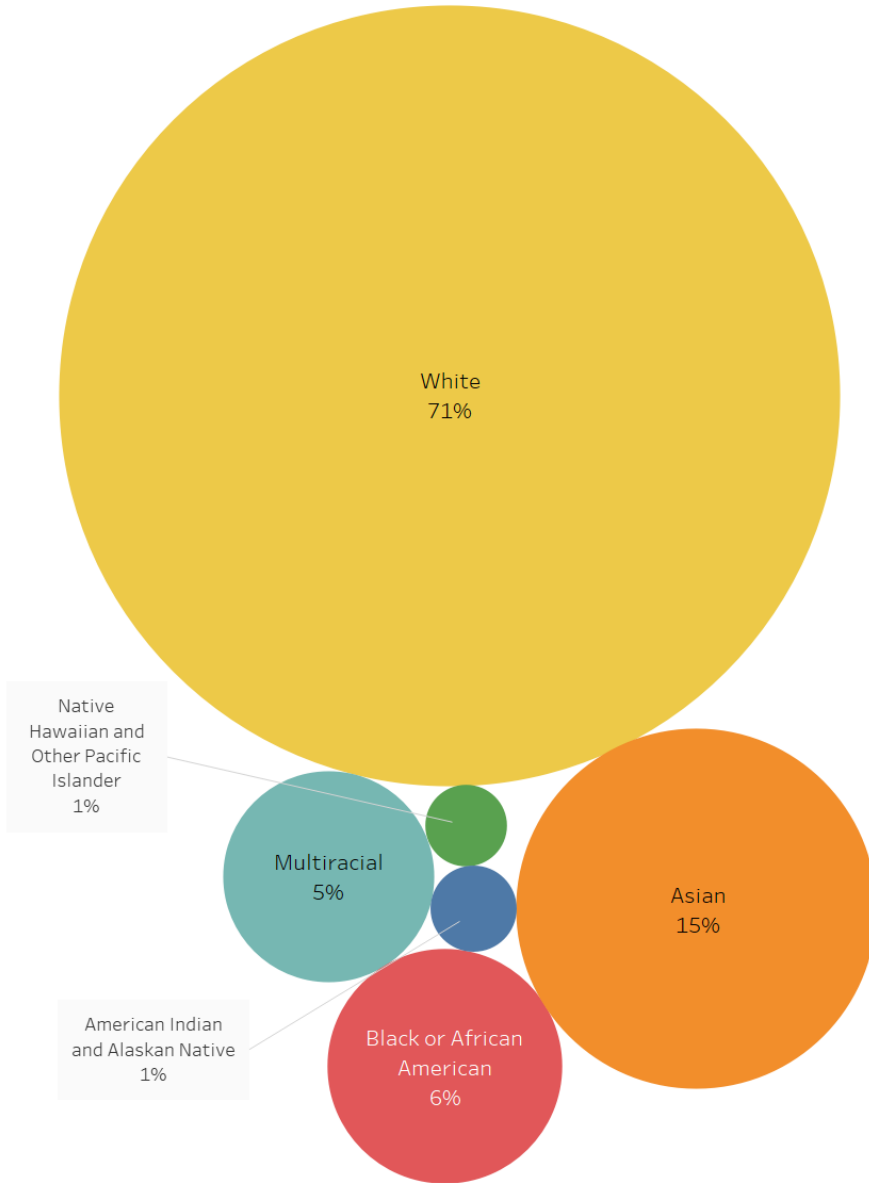
ONE-TIME

While it is important to house people experiencing homelessness quickly, it is equally important to ensure that housing option really works so that people don't become homeless again. In the long term, our goal is that no more than 5% of the people who exit to permanent housing return to homelessness, consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) high performing community benchmarks.

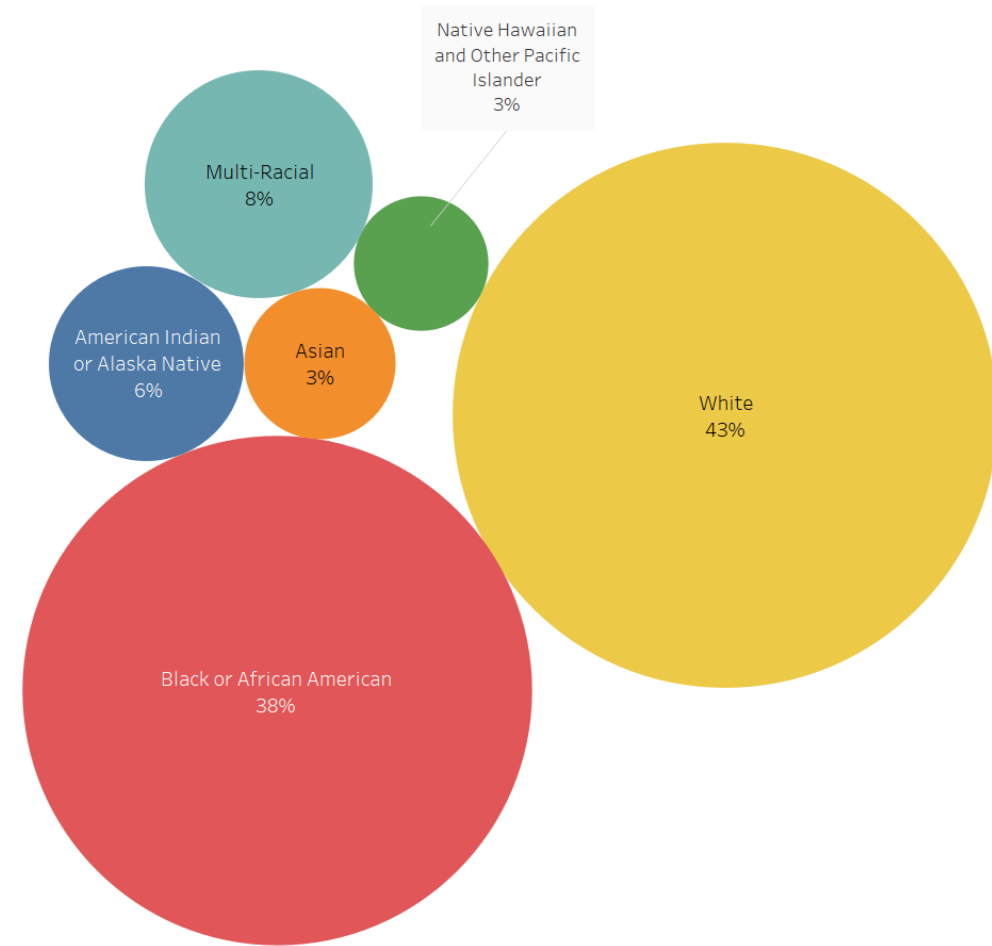
This graph uses data from our local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to show the percent of households who become homeless again within a given timeframe. It is calculated only for clients who consent to share identifying information in HMIS.

In King County, People of Color are overrepresented as a proportion of the homeless population when compared to the general population.

King County General Population



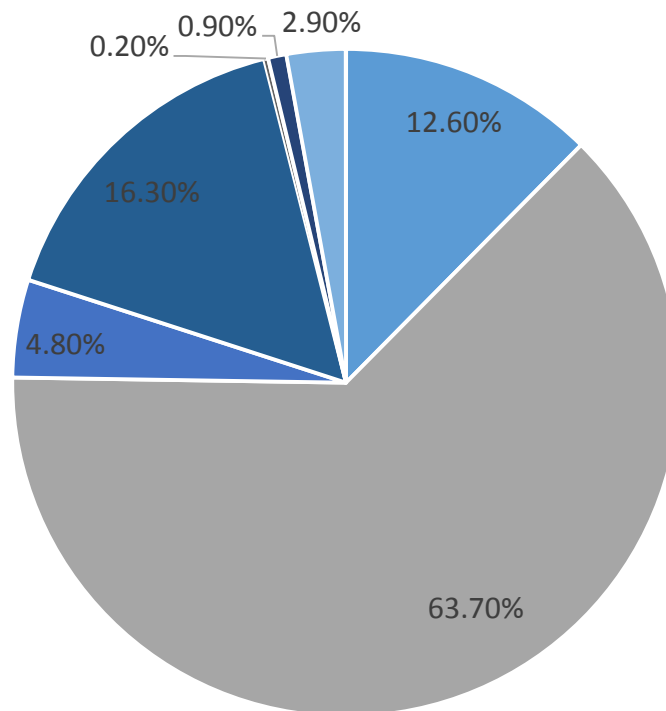
King County Homeless Population



Population of the United States

Racial Demographics*

*Data gathered from 2010 US Census

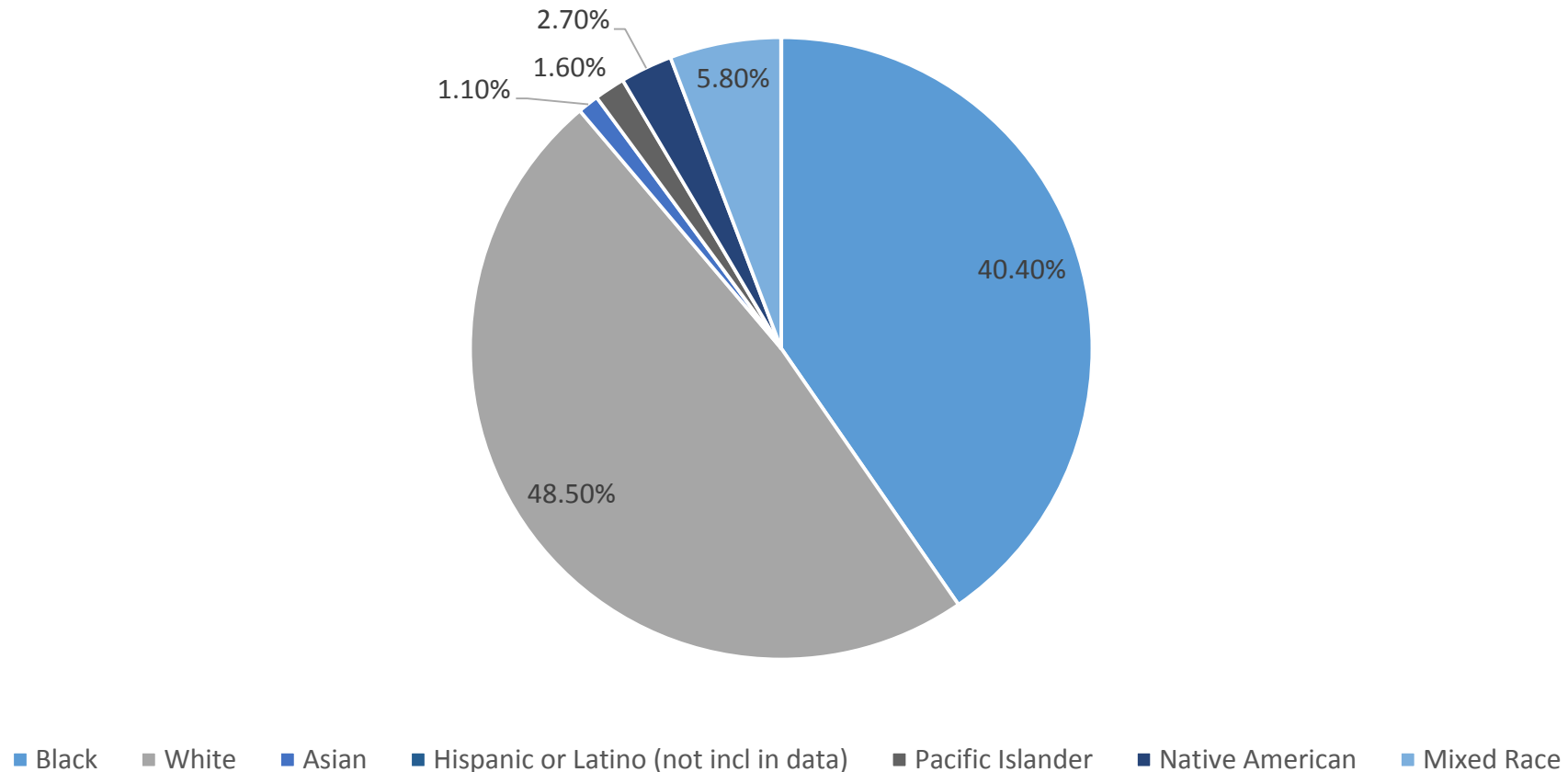


■ Black ■ White ■ Asian ■ Hispanic or Latino ■ Pacific Islander ■ Native American ■ Mixed Race

Homeless Population of the United States

Racial Demographics*

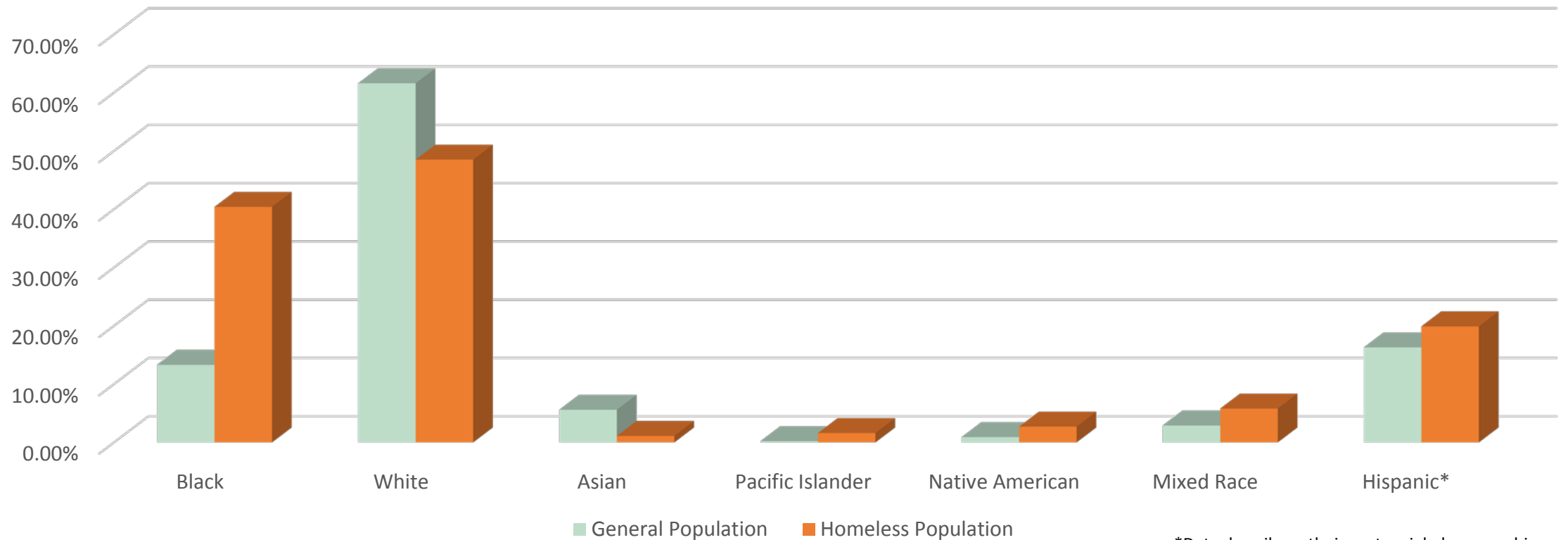
*The 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress
The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)



Population of the United States

Racial Demographics*

*Comparison represents the US Census Bureau's 2015 population estimate and the HUD 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress

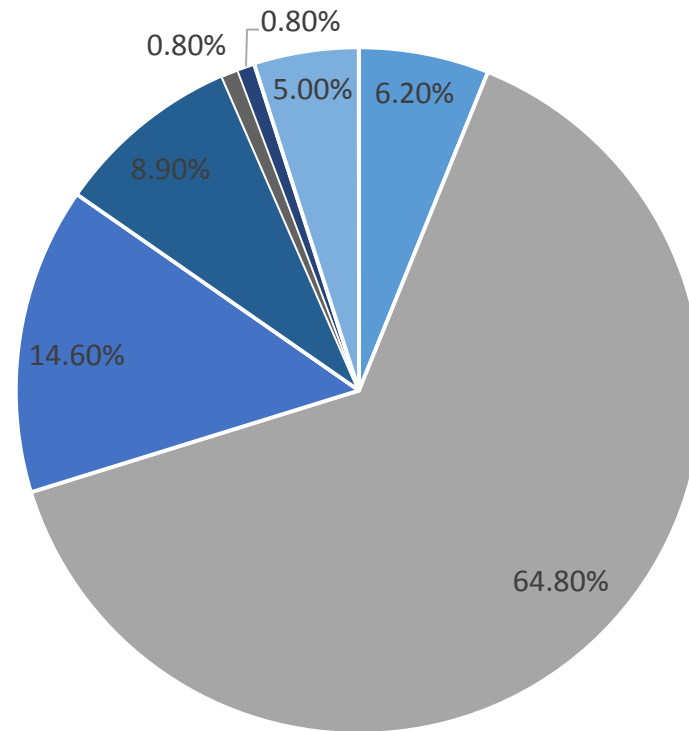


*Data describes ethnic, not racial, demographics.

Population of King County

Racial Demographics*

*Data gathered from 2010 US Census

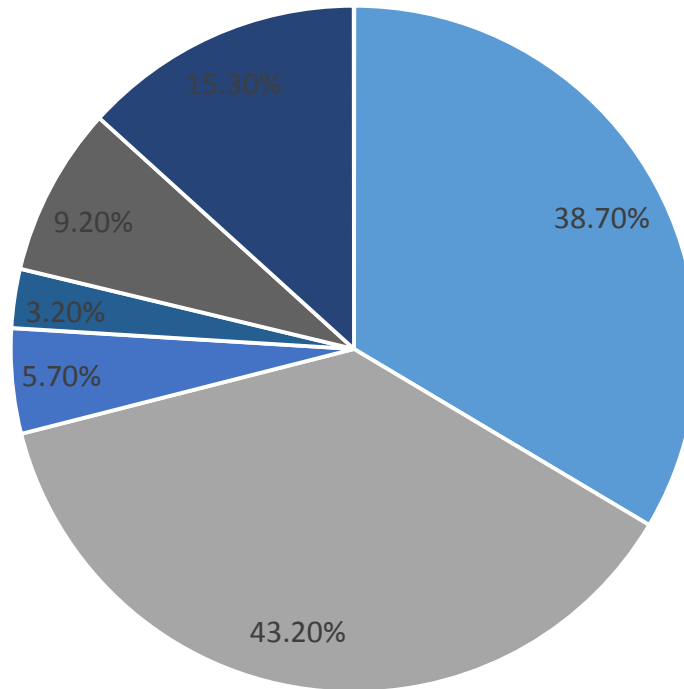


■ Black ■ White ■ Asian ■ Hispanic or Latino ■ Pacific Islander ■ Native American ■ Mixed Race

Homeless Population of King County

Racial Demographics*

*All-Home King County One-Night Count 2016



■ Black ■ White ■ Asian/Pacific Islander ■ Native American ■ Mixed Race ■ Hispanic

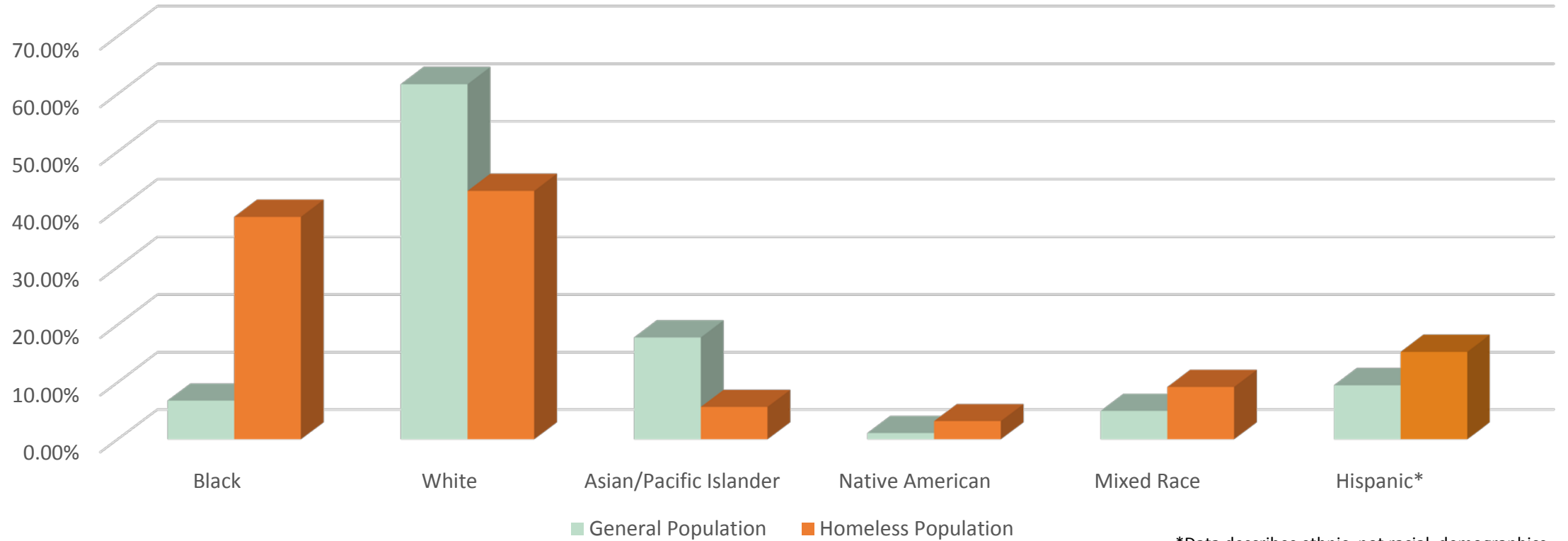
Data includes those unsheltered as well as those in emergency shelters and transitional housing.

No racial demographics available for unsheltered population. Comparison reflects percentages for those in emergency shelters and temporary housing only. The 2016 One-Night Count estimated an additional 4500 people unsheltered in King County.

Population of the King County

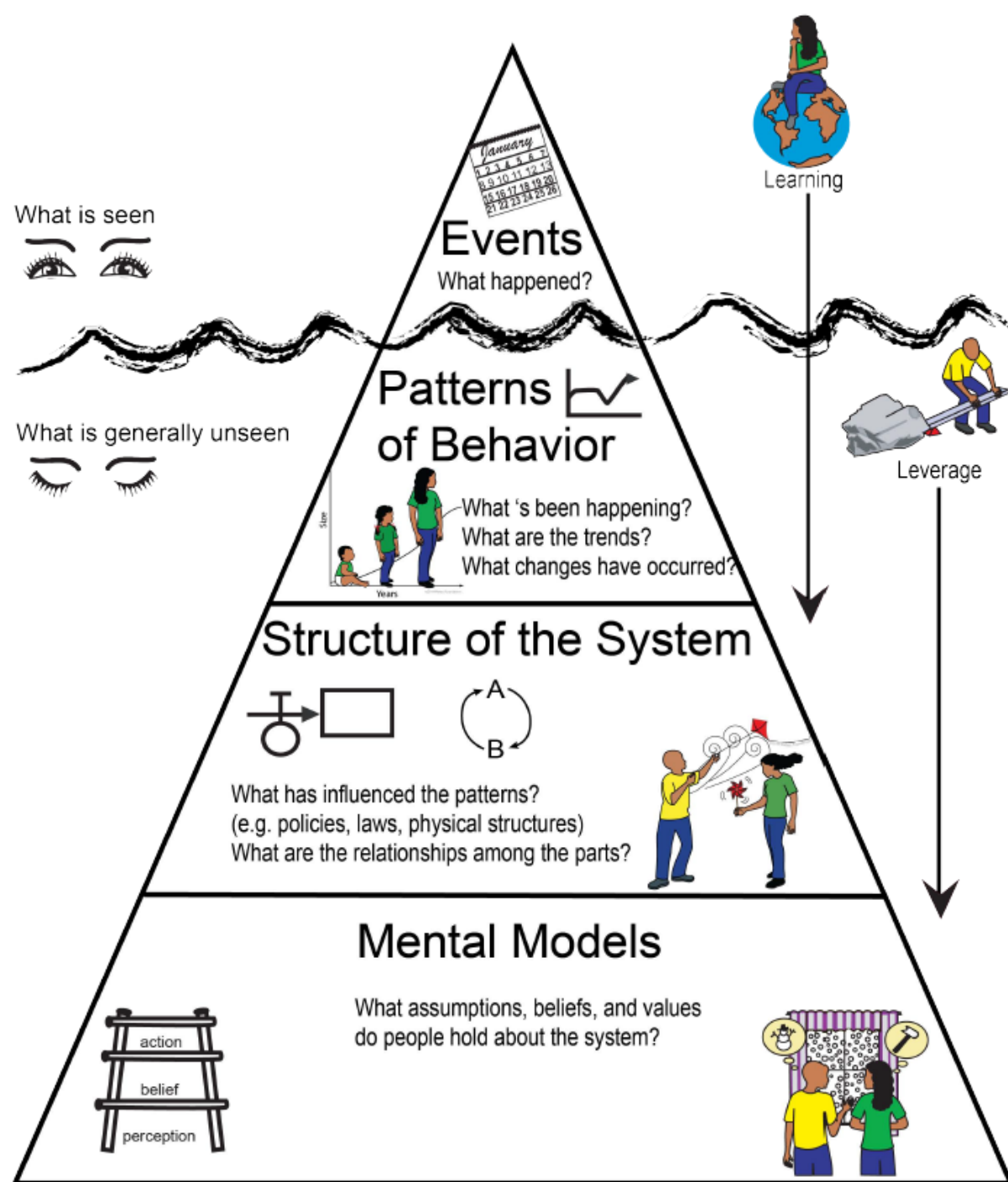
Racial Demographics*

Comparison represents the US Census Bureau's 2015 population estimate and the All-Home 2016 One-Night Count

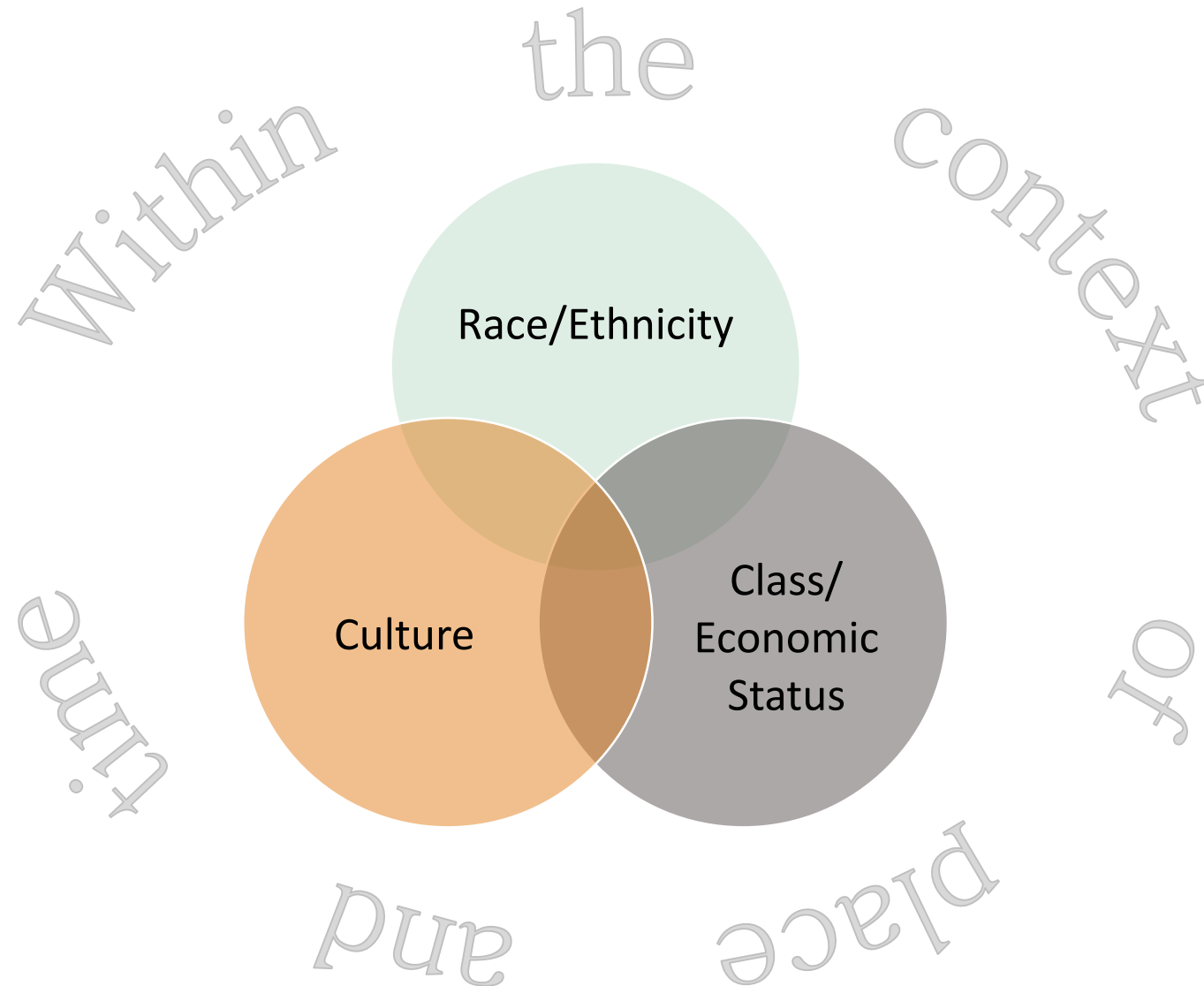


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Iceberg... Seeing What's Below the Surface



Factors Contributing to Population Disparities



Structural Causes to Population Disparities in Homelessness

- Poverty
- Increased demand and decreased supply of affordable housing
- Housing discrimination & residential segregation
- Discrimination in employment and housing
- Lack of access to behavioral health care
- Racial bias in criminal justice
- White privilege

(Carter, 2011; Power, 2006)

Homelessness is tied to disparities in income and wealth, availability of housing and jobs, education level, and healthcare access

Among African Americans...

National Population 12.8%

Poverty Population 27%

Homeless Population 41%
(56% for families)