
SECTION 2.

FAMILIES, YOUTH, AND ELDERLY

In this section we summarize recent data on demographic characteristics of the population in the Pittsburgh area and the United States. Specifically, we examine:

- Geographic distribution of African Americans
- Racial and ethnic distribution of the population
- Racial and ethnic distribution of the population, trends 1980-2000
- Age distribution
- Family types
- Marital status
- Multiracial children

America has become increasingly diverse in recent decades. In fact, over the past 30 years, the non-Hispanic White population has declined from more than 80 percent of the population to 67 percent, Hispanics have surpassed African Americans as the nation's largest racial/ethnic minority group, and Asians have become the nation's fastest growing racial/ethnic group. The racial and ethnic distribution of the 300 million people in America in 2006 is:

- 67% non-Hispanic White
- 15% Hispanic
- 12% African American, non-Hispanic
- 4% Asian American and Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic
- 2% Other

Further, it is projected that by 2059 people of color will outnumber non-Hispanic Whites in the nation (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

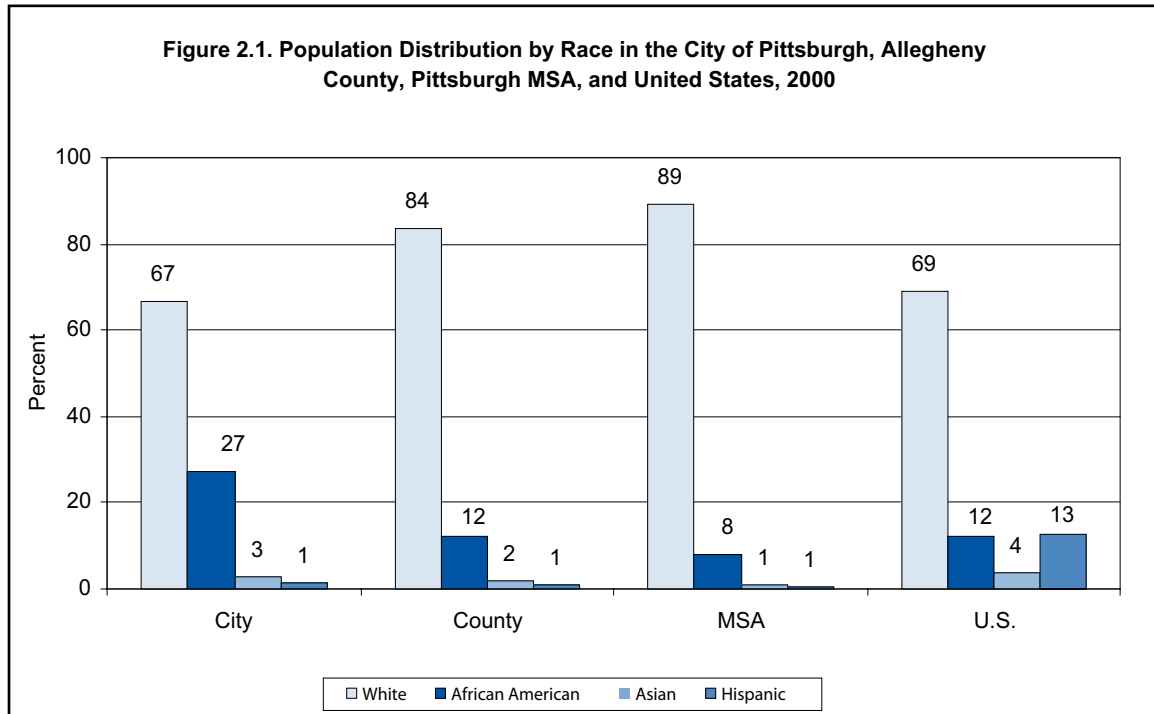
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF AFRICAN AMERICANS

In the Pittsburgh region as well as nationwide, Americans tend to live in racially segregated communities. Compared to predominantly White communities, the region's African American communities are often disadvantaged in many quality of life aspects including job and transportation access, schools, and public safety. Appendices 1.1-1.3 map the geographic distribution of African Americans in the city of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Pittsburgh MSA.

- Appendix 1.1 shows that African Americans are concentrated in six main areas of the city of Pittsburgh – the northeast belt from Garfield to Homewood and East Hills; the Hill district; the northwest belt from Manchester to Northview; Glen Hazel; Beltzhoover; and Fairywood.
- At the county level, African Americans are concentrated in just a few areas. The largest concentration is in Penn Hills (Appendix 1.2).
- Similarly in the Pittsburgh MSA, African Americans are not well dispersed. They are more heavily concentrated in Allegheny County than in any of the other counties which make up the MSA (Appendix 1.3).

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION

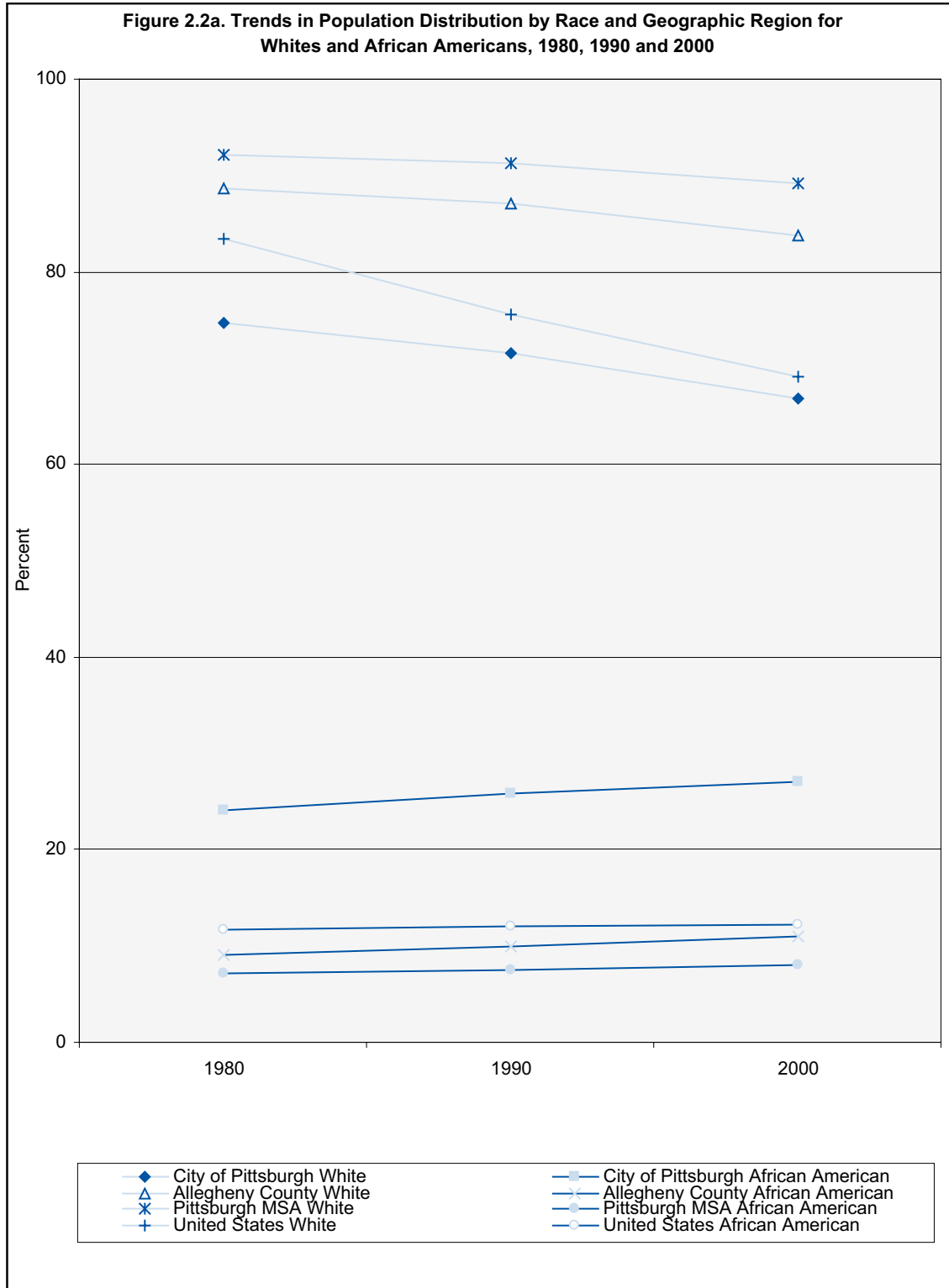
The Pittsburgh region is far less diverse than the nation, primarily because the region lacks a large Hispanic population. As shown in Figure 2.1, the region is comprised primarily of Whites and African Americans, with relatively small Hispanic and Asian populations.



Source: Appendix 2.1

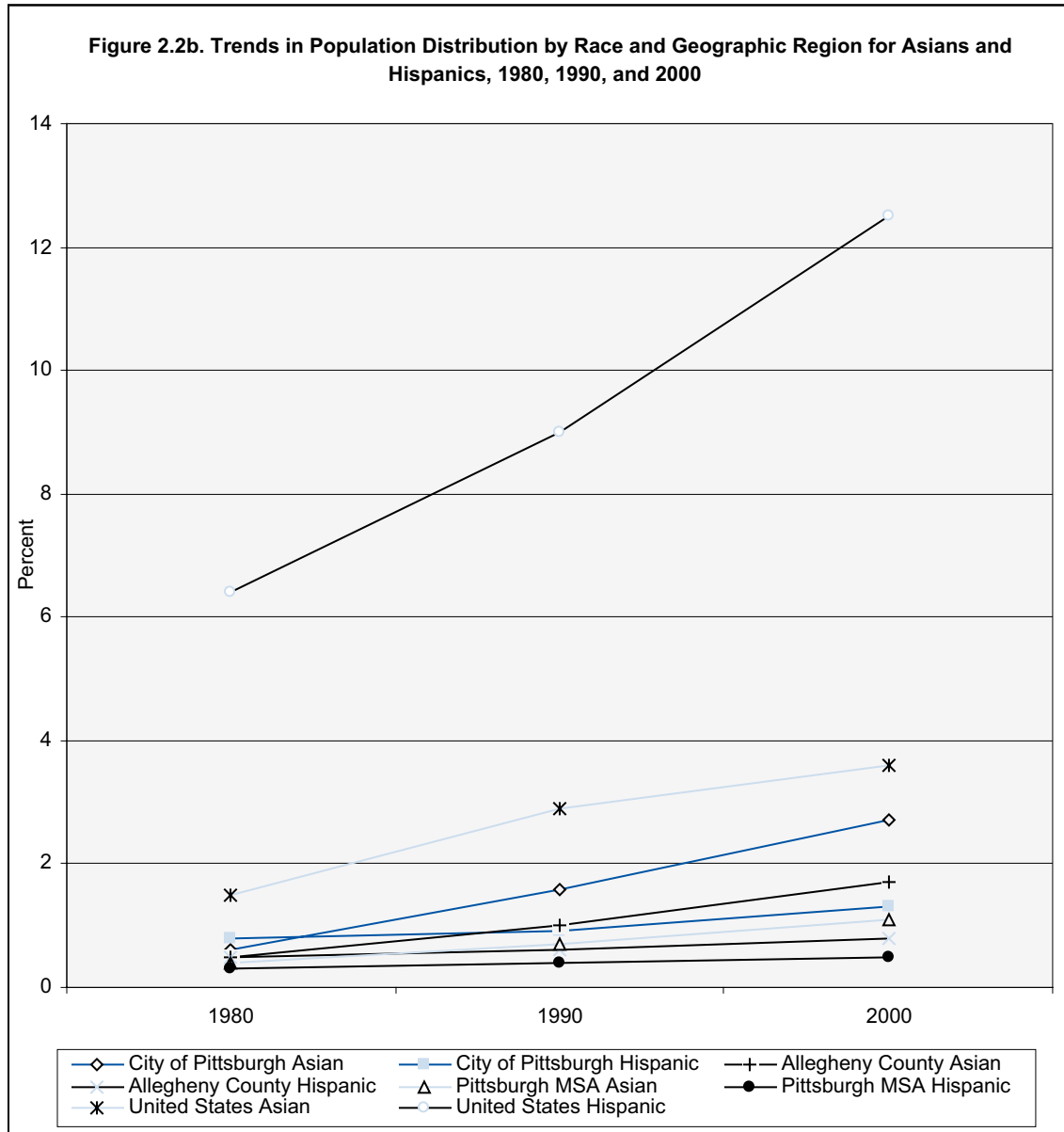
- Whites make up the majority of the population in the Pittsburgh area, followed by African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics. However, Hispanics outnumber both African Americans and Asians in the nation.
- The percentage of African Americans in the city is more than double the percentage in the county, the Pittsburgh MSA, and the nation.
- Because the Pittsburgh area has such small minority populations, it has an unusually large White population. In fact, among all United States’ counties with populations of one million or more, Allegheny County has the highest percentage (82.9%) of non-Hispanic Whites.(U,S, Census Bureau, 2005). Further, among all metropolitan areas with populations of one million or more, the Pittsburgh MSA has the highest percentage (89.5%) of non-Hispanic Whites (American Demographics, 2002).

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION, TRENDS 1980 – 2000



Source: Appendix 2.2

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION, TRENDS 1980 – 2000 continued

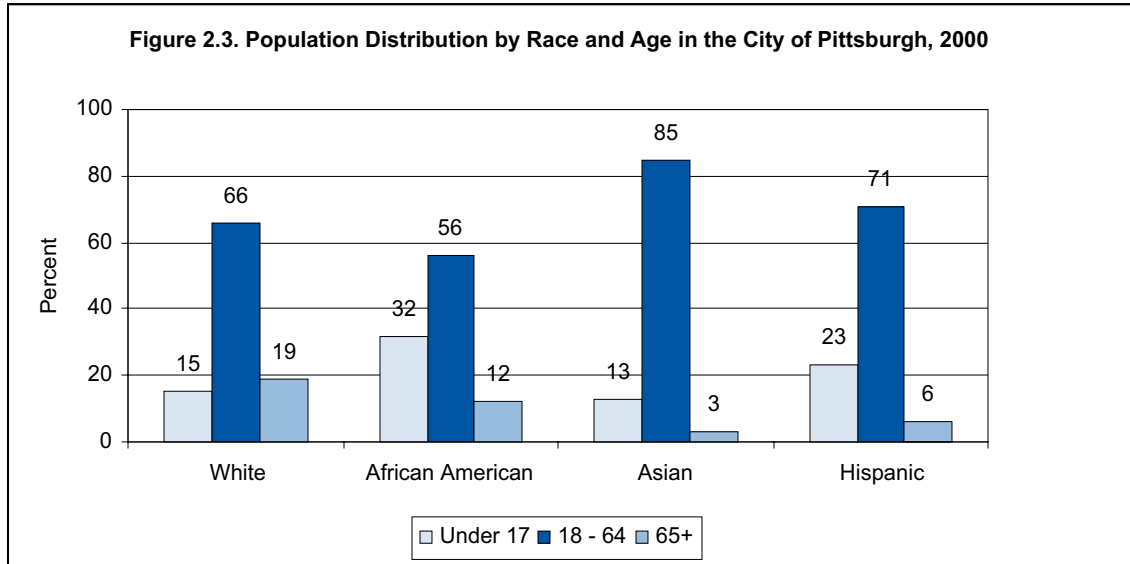


Source: Appendix 2.2

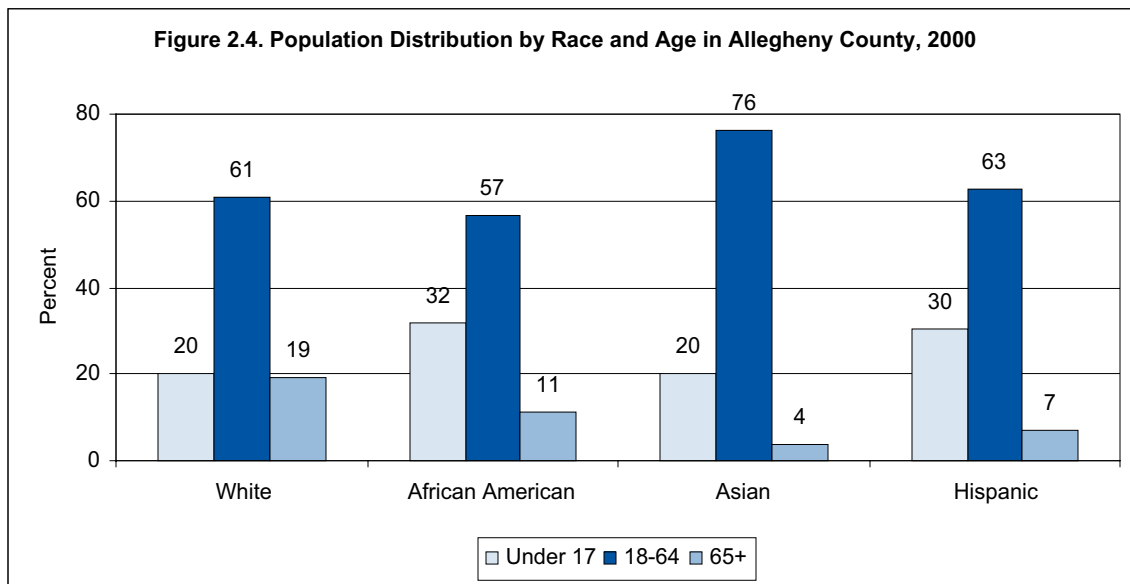
- The percentage of Whites in the population decreased whereas the percentages of African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics increased in each of the geographic areas from 1980 to 2000.
- The share of Hispanics in the nation’s population grew rapidly in the last two decades while the share of Whites declined rapidly.
- The Asian population in the city and the nation increased substantially while there were smaller increases in the county and region.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

The age distribution of a population can have immense implications for the types of education and other services needed. Age distribution tends to vary greatly by race/ethnicity and geographic area. Higher percentages of Whites, African Americans, and Hispanics are elderly in the region than in the nation.

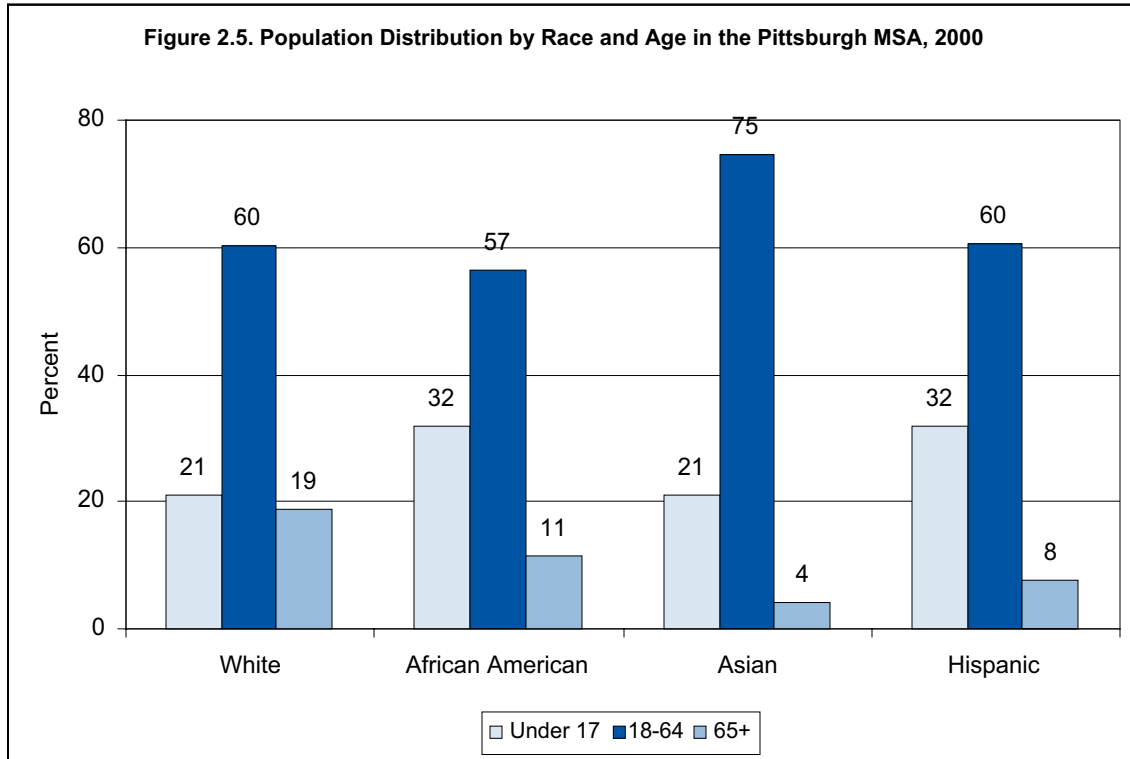


Source: Appendix 2.1

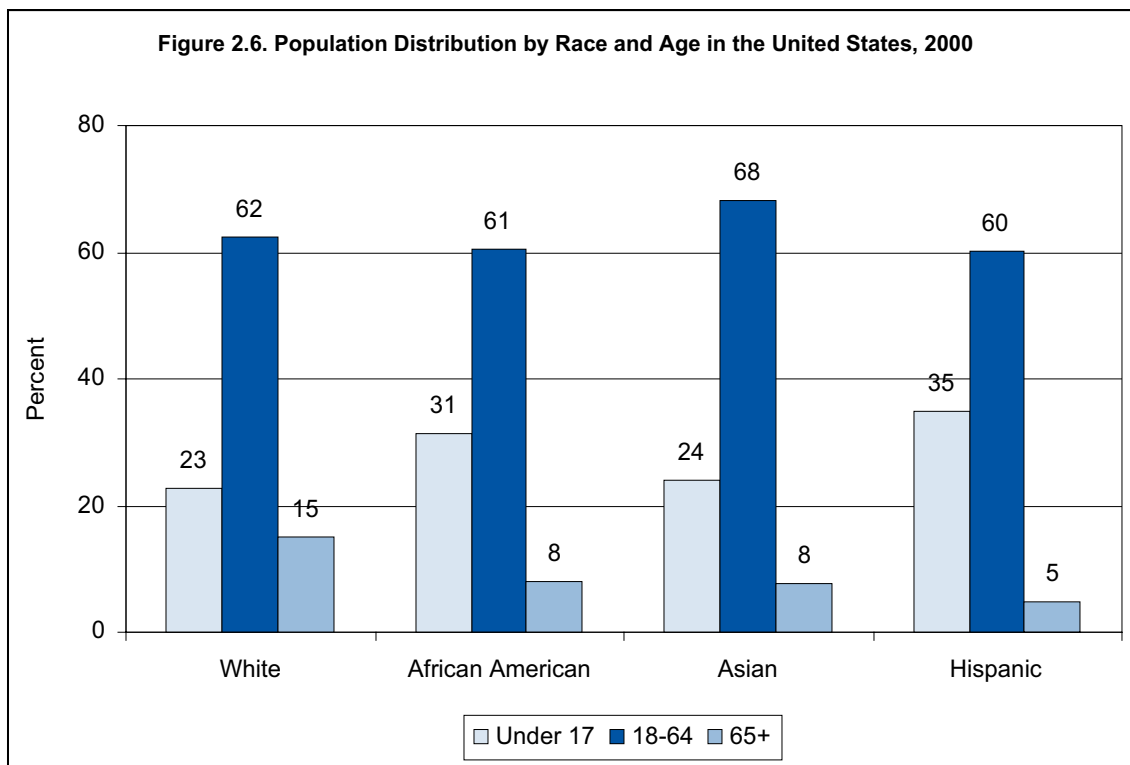


Source: Appendix 2.1

AGE DISTRIBUTION continued



Source: Appendix 2.1



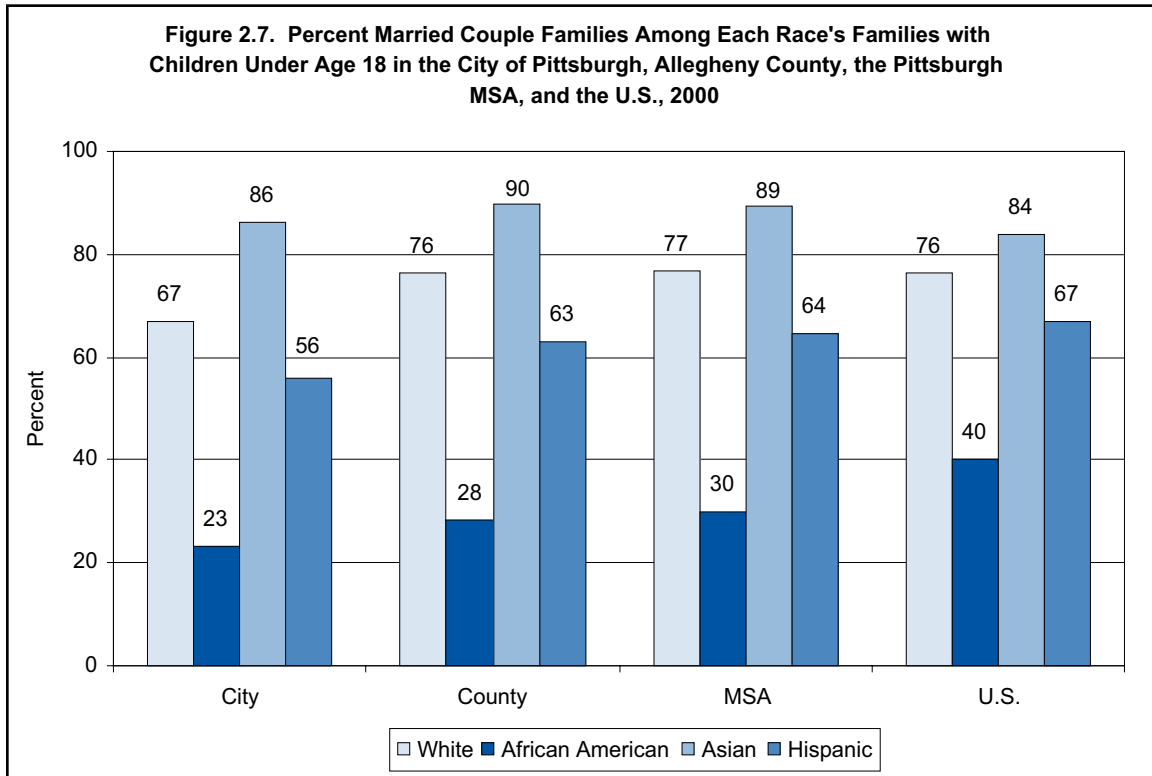
Source: Appendix 2.1

AGE DISTRIBUTION continued

- In the city of Pittsburgh about one-third of the African American population is under age 18, whereas in the county, Pittsburgh region, and the nation about one-third of the African American population and one-third of the Hispanic population are under age 18. The relative youthfulness of the African American and Hispanic populations has important implications for educational, recreational, and other youth-related programs and services.
- As a share of their total population, Asians in the city, county, region, and nation have the largest working-age population of any of the racial/ethnic groups. College students are counted in this age group, which could account for part of the high share.
- As a share of their total population, Whites in the city, county, region, and nation have the largest elderly population of any of the racial/ethnic groups. In fact, the White elderly population in the city is larger than the White youth population. The relatively large number of White elderly suggests that aging-related social programs might be an important area for consideration among policy makers and service providers.
- In the nation, Hispanics have the highest share of youth and smallest share of elderly.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

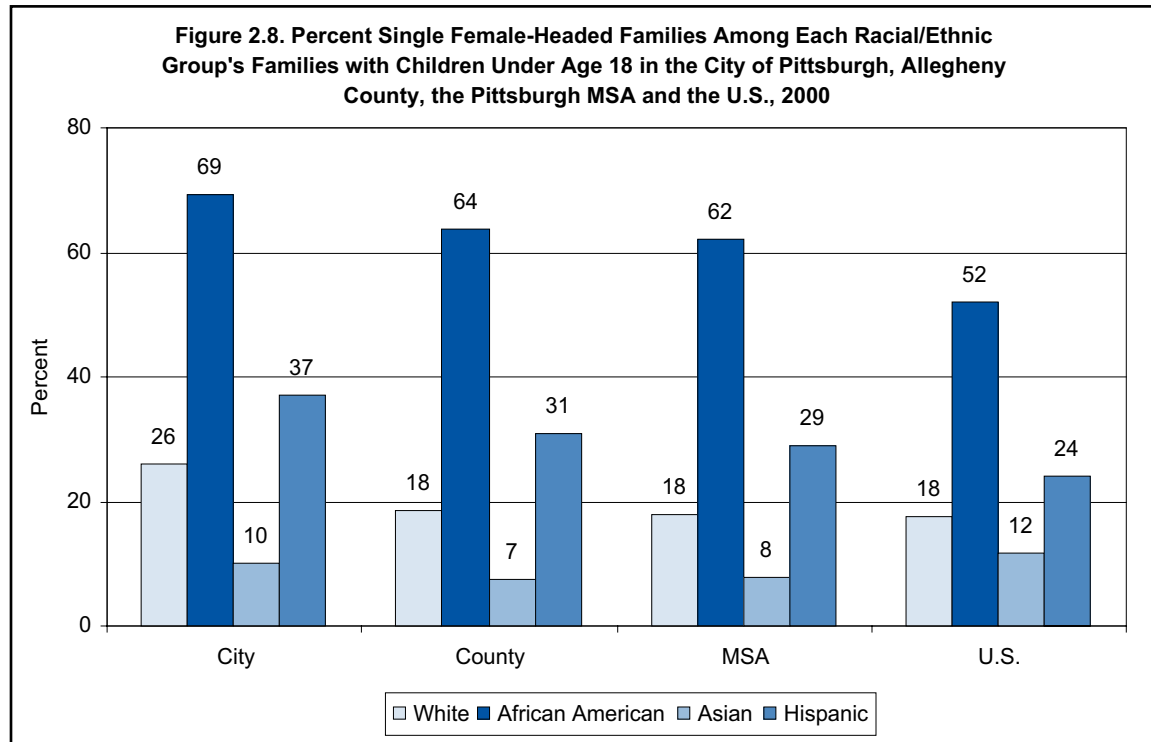
Family type can have a large effect on children. Specifically, two-parent families tend to have more economic and non-economic resources to care for children than single-parent families. The distribution of family types among families with children under age 18 varies greatly among racial and ethnic groups in the U.S.



Source: Appendix 2.3

- In the city, county, and region, less than a third of African American families with children are married couple families compared to more than half of Hispanic families, two-thirds of White families, and more than four out of five Asian families with children.
- In the Pittsburgh area as well as in the nation, Asians consistently have the highest percentage of married couple families among families with children under age 18, and African Americans have the lowest percentage.
- The percentage of White two-parent families is about the same in the county (76%), MSA (77%), and the U.S. (76%). However, the percentage of White two-parent families in the city (67%) is noticeably lower.
- The percentage of African American two-parent families in the Pittsburgh area is much lower than in the nation.

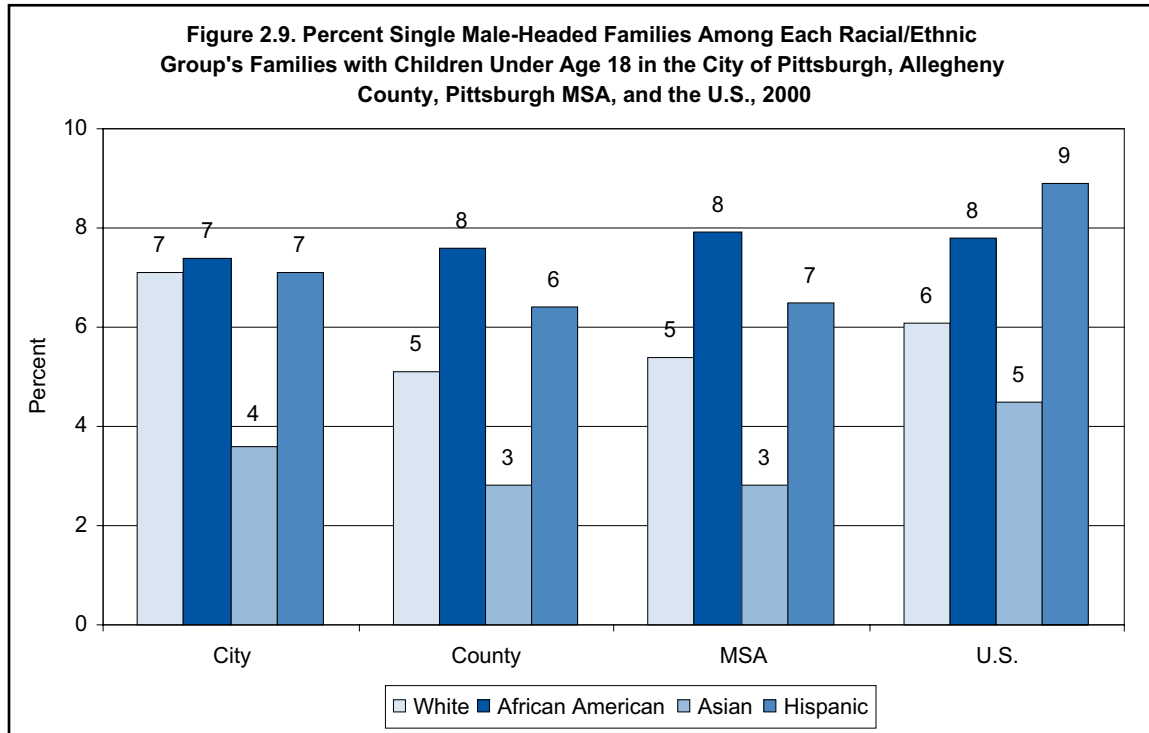
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN continued



Source: Appendix 2.3

- The majority of African American families with children under age 18 are single female-headed in the Pittsburgh area and the nation.
- Asian families with children under age 18 have the lowest rates of single female-headed families in the Pittsburgh area and the nation.
- The percentages of single female-headed White, African American, and Hispanic families with children under age 18 are higher in the city than in the county, region, and nation.
- The nation has a higher percentage of Asian single female-headed families than the Pittsburgh area.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN continued

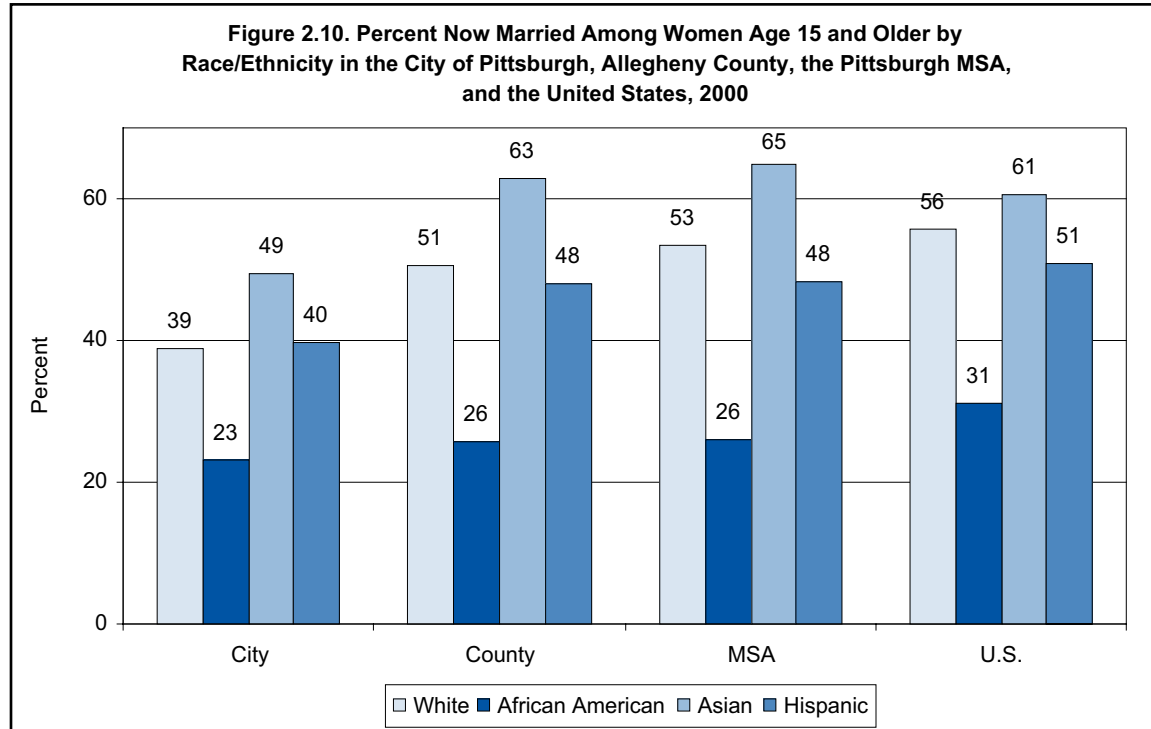


Source: Appendix 2.3

- In each geographic area, only a small percentage of White, African American, Asian and Hispanic families with children under age 18 are single male-headed.
- African Americans and Hispanics in the Pittsburgh area and the nation have a higher percentage of single male-headed families among families with children under age 18 than do Whites and Asians. Asians have the smallest percentage of single male-headed families.
- The percentages of White, African American, Asian, and Hispanic single male-headed families in the Pittsburgh area are similar to those in the nation.

MARITAL STATUS

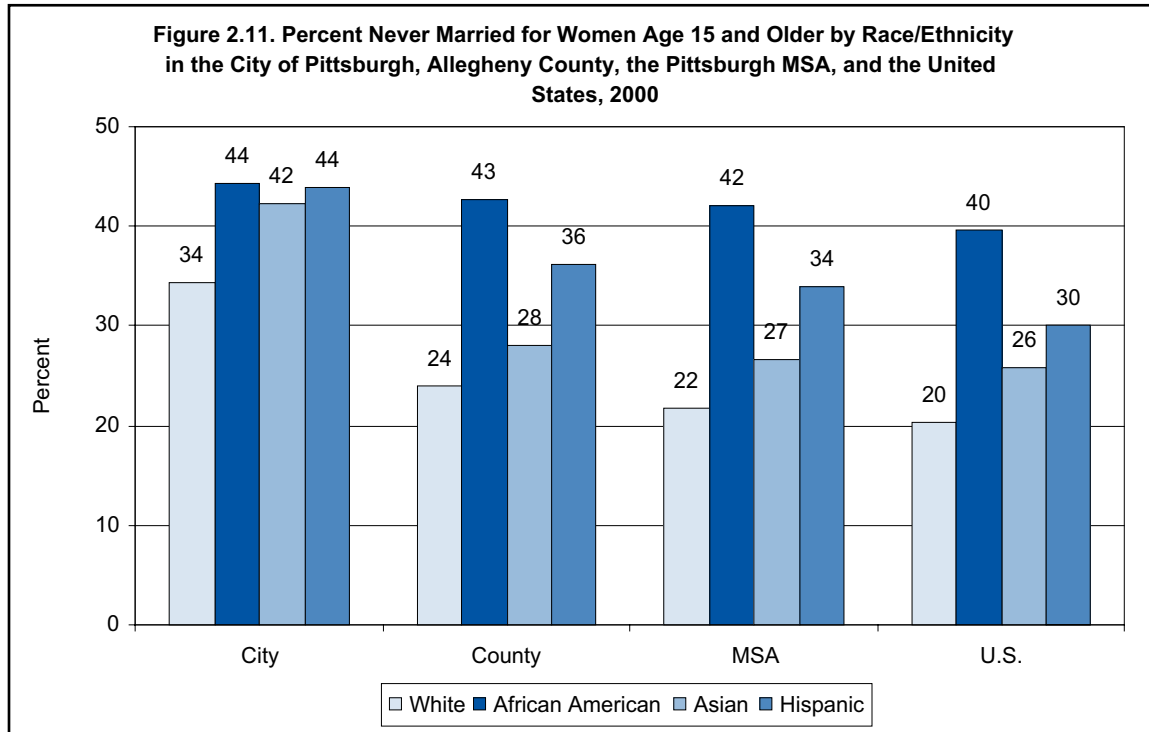
Marital status can affect an individual’s emotional and economic well-being. It can also have an impact on the health of and educational outcomes for children and can be used to determine eligibility for some social services. In the nation as well as the Pittsburgh area, the percentage of married people varies among different racial and ethnic groups.



Source: Appendix 2.4-2.7

- Asian females in each geographic area are married at higher rates than women in other racial and ethnic groups. About two-thirds of Asian women age 15 and over in the Pittsburgh MSA are married.
- African American women have the lowest marriage rate in the Pittsburgh area and the nation. Less than one-quarter of African American women age 15 and over in the city of Pittsburgh are married.
- Whites, African Americans, and Hispanics have lower marriage rates in the Pittsburgh area than in the nation.

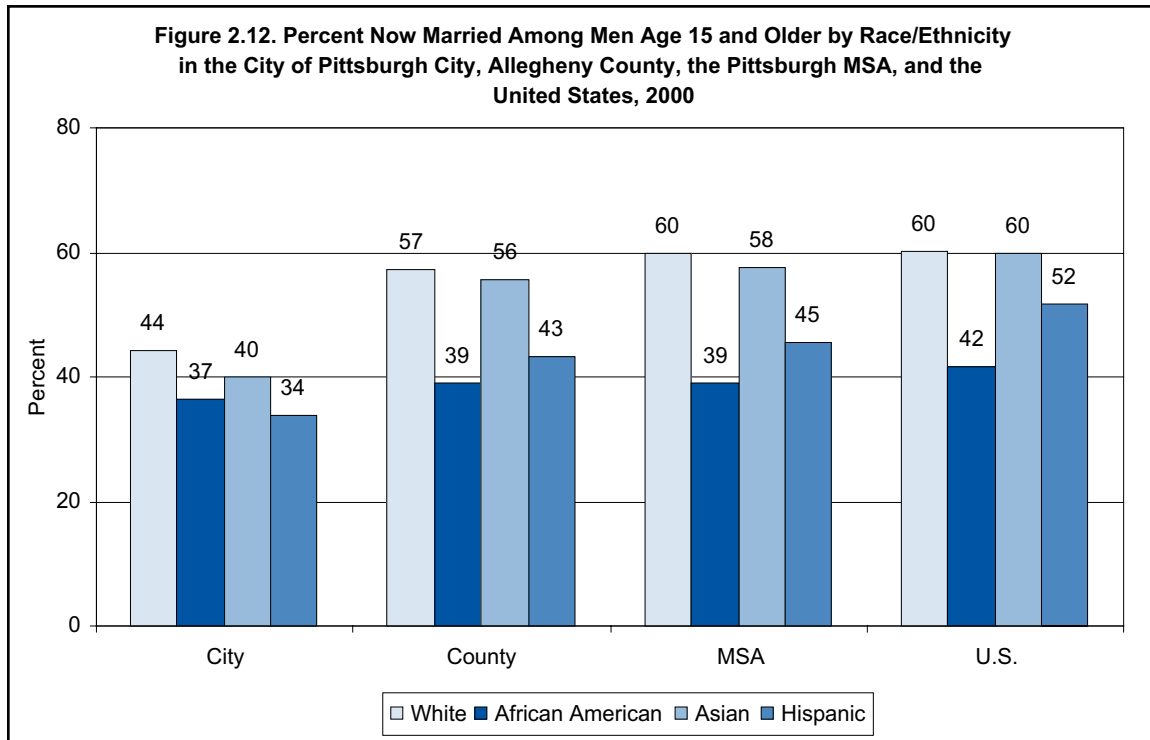
MARITAL STATUS continued



Source: Appendix 2.4-2.7

- White females have lower ‘never married’ percentages than other racial and ethnic groups in each of the four geographic areas.
- Of all the racial and ethnic groups in the county, the Pittsburgh MSA and the U.S., African Americans have the highest percentage of women who have ‘never married.’ However in the city, African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics have similar percentages of women who were never married.
- The percentage of White women in the city who were never married is noticeably higher than in the county, the Pittsburgh MSA, and the U.S.
- The Pittsburgh area has higher shares of White, African American, Asian and Hispanic women who were never married than does the nation.

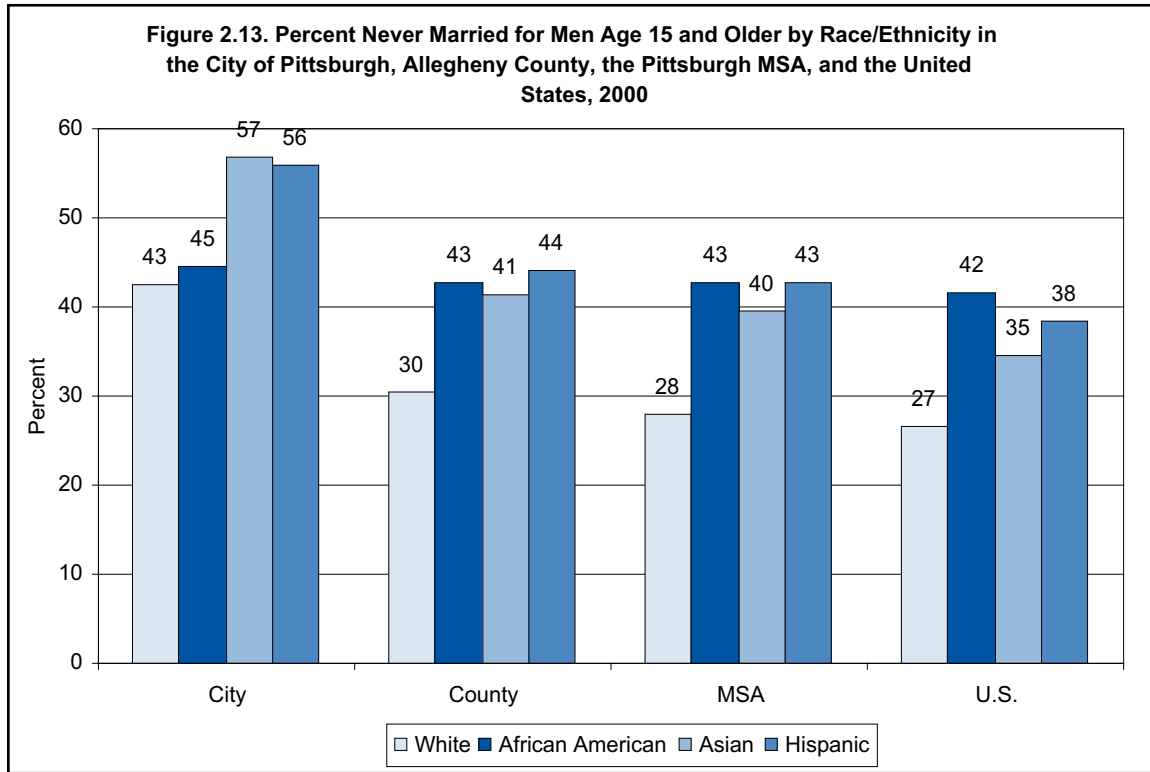
MARITAL STATUS continued



Source: Appendix 2.4-2.7

- White men are more likely to be married than African American, Asian, and Hispanic men in the city, county, the Pittsburgh MSA, and the U.S.
- The majority of White men in the county, the Pittsburgh MSA, and the nation are married. However, White men in the city are married at noticeably lower rates than those in the county, the Pittsburgh MSA, and the U.S.
- The majority of African American men in all four geographic areas are not married.
- Although only about one-third of Hispanic men in the city are married, in the nation over half of them are married.

MARITAL STATUS continued

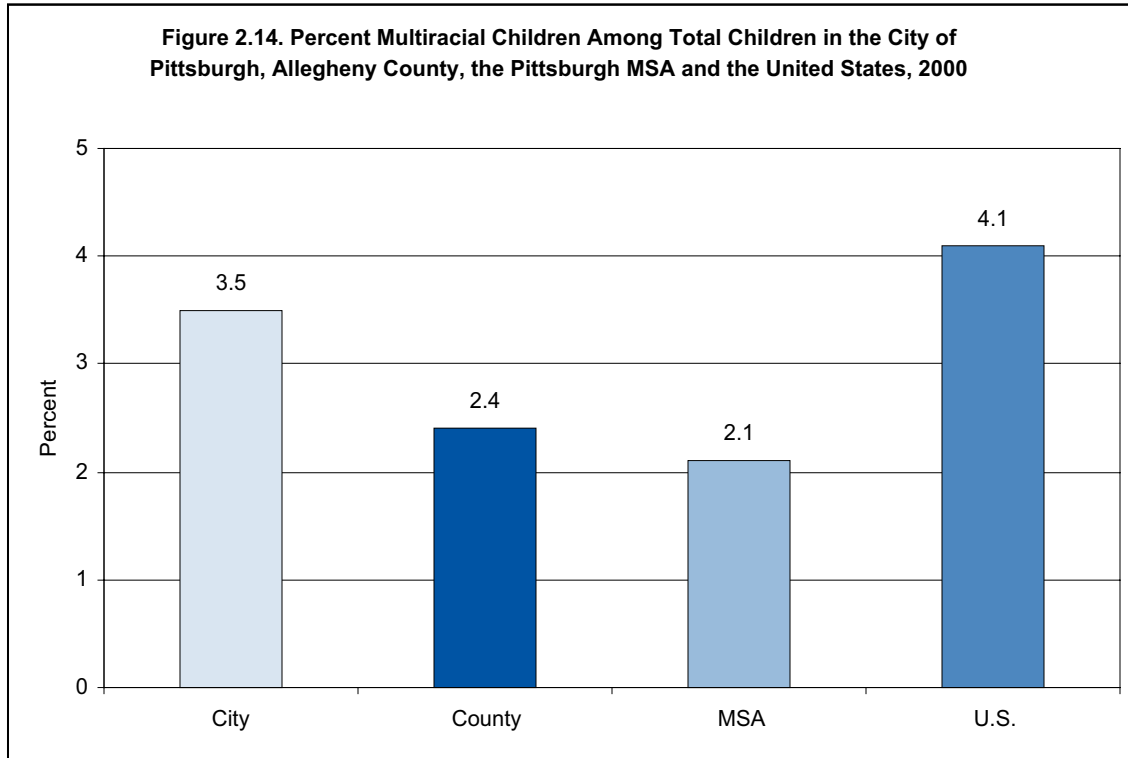


Source: Appendix 2.4-2.7

- White males have lower ‘never married’ rates than African American, Asian, and Hispanic males in the city, county, Pittsburgh MSA, and nation.
- White men in the city of Pittsburgh are more likely to be never married than White men in the county, Pittsburgh MSA, and nation.
- The percentage of African American men who have never been married is roughly comparable across the geographic areas.
- Asians and Hispanics in the city have the highest percentages of never married men while African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics have the highest rates in the county, Pittsburgh MSA and nation.

MULTIRACIAL CHILDREN

Although we have no data on interracial marriage for the Pittsburgh area, a proxy indicator is multiracial children as a percent of all children. The percentage of multiracial children in the population can be viewed as an indicator of its racial and ethnic diversity. It may also suggest how tolerant people of different races are of each other and the prevalence of interracial marriage. In the U.S., multiracial children make up about 4% of the child population.



Source: Appendix 2.8

- Multiracial children make up 3.5% of all children in the city of Pittsburgh, 2.4% in Allegheny County, and 2.1% in the Pittsburgh MSA.
- The share of multiracial children in the nation (4.1%) is higher than in the region. This is to be expected as Whites are a much higher share and non-Whites are a much smaller share of the total population in the Pittsburgh area than in the U.S.