

WASHINGTON STATE
Department of Social and Health Services

2008 Diversity Counts

REGIONAL TRENDS IN THE USE OF SOCIAL SERVICES BY MINORITY RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUPS



ONE DEPARTMENT, ONE VISION, ONE MISSION, ONE CORE SET OF VALUES

September 2010 | Report 11.152

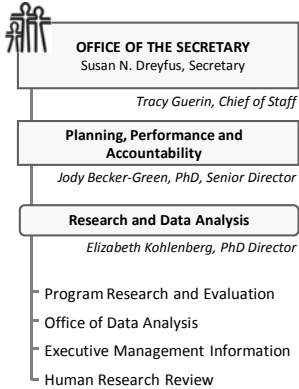


RDA Research & Data
Analysis Division

DSHS

WASHINGTON STATE
Department of Social and Health Services

Headquarters located at:
14th and Jefferson Street
Olympia, WA 98504



RDA

DSHS
Planning, Performance and Accountability Administration
Research and Data Analysis Division (RDA)

Director: Elizabeth Kohlenberg, PhD
e-mail: kohleer@dshs.wa.gov

14th and Jefferson Street
PO Box 45204
Olympia, WA 98504-5204
360.902.0707

Order Publication:
360.902.0701

RDA's Online Library:
www.dshs.wa.gov/rda/

Information About this Publication

Title: 2008 Diversity Counts

Abstract: Regional/ethnic diversity among clients receiving services from Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services are examined across six regional areas of Washington State. The percent of clients who were members of racial/ethnic groups in each of the six regions and the change in use rates over time are both presented.

Keywords: Social and Health Services, Social Service Clients, Welfare, Washington State Social and Health Services, Welfare Diversity, Racial Minority, Racial Ethnicity, Hispanic, Black, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, Non-Hispanic.

Category: Washington State Social and Health Service Diversity among Clients

Geography: Washington State

Regions: All

Research Time Period: July 2000 to June 2008

Publication Date: September 2010

Publication Number: 11.152

Project Name: DSHS

Authors: Barbara Felver, MES, MPA, Maija Sandberg, MSW, Liz Kohlenberg, PhD, Rebecca Yette, Nancy Raiha, PhD, and Laura Killian.

Cover Design by: DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division

Contents

Presenting statewide and regional trends in this order:

- 1 Regional Comparisons
- 2 Statewide
- 3 Region 1
- 4 Region 2
- 5 Region 3
- 6 Region 4
- 7 Region 5
- 8 Region 6



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority or Racial Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

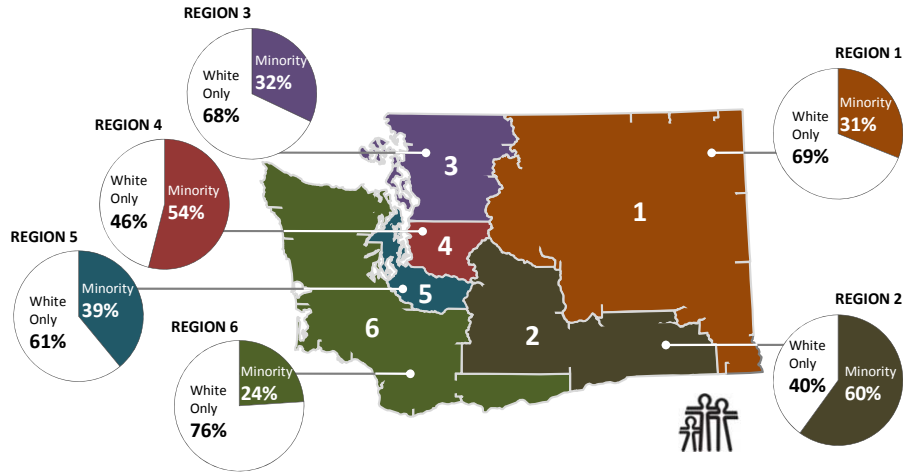
REGIONAL COMPARISONS

Racial/ethnic diversity among clients receiving services from Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services was examined across six regional areas of Washington State. We examined the percent of clients who were members of racial/ethnic groups in each of the six regions and the change in "use rates" over time. Highlights:

- For Washington State, about six out of ten DSHS clients are white and not-Hispanic (61 percent). DSHS regions vary in their diversity. In Regions 4 and 2, White non-Hispanics are less than half of the DSHS caseload. In Region 6, White only clients are over three-quarters of the DSHS caseload.
- Hispanics are the fastest growing group in the caseload, increasing from 16 to 20 percent of the caseload statewide. Hispanics are also increasing in the population as a whole.
- In most regions and many age groups, Hispanics are also **using** DSHS services at a higher rate than they did eight years ago. DSHS service use has increased for some other groups; decreased for some groups, and stayed the same for other groups. Detailed statewide and regional percentages are provided on the pages that follow.

Distribution of minorities across the DSHS caseload

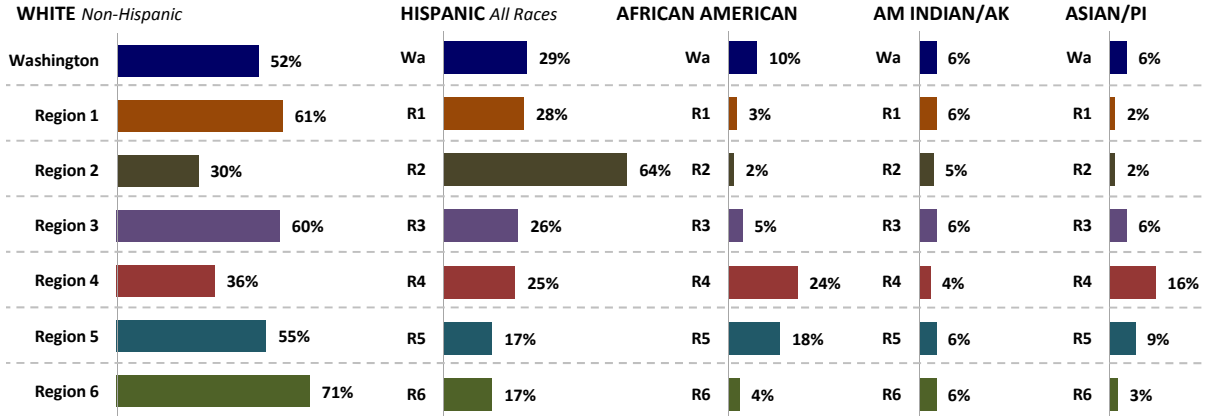
A REGIONAL COMPARISON, SFY 2008



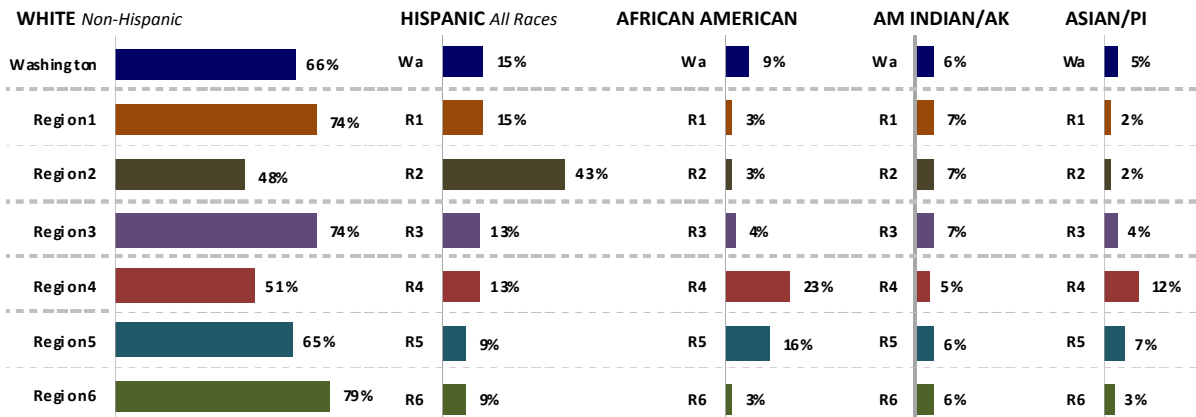
Clients of all ages (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 1,747,106)

	WHITE Non-Hispanic	HISPANIC All Races	AFRICAN AMERICAN	AM INDIAN/AK	ASIAN/PI
Washington	61%	20%	9%	6%	6%
Region 1	69%	20%	3%	7%	2%
Region 2	40%	52%	2%	6%	2%
Region 3	68%	17%	5%	6%	6%
Region 4	46%	17%	22%	4%	15%
Region 5	61%	12%	16%	6%	9%
Region 6	77%	12%	4%	6%	4%

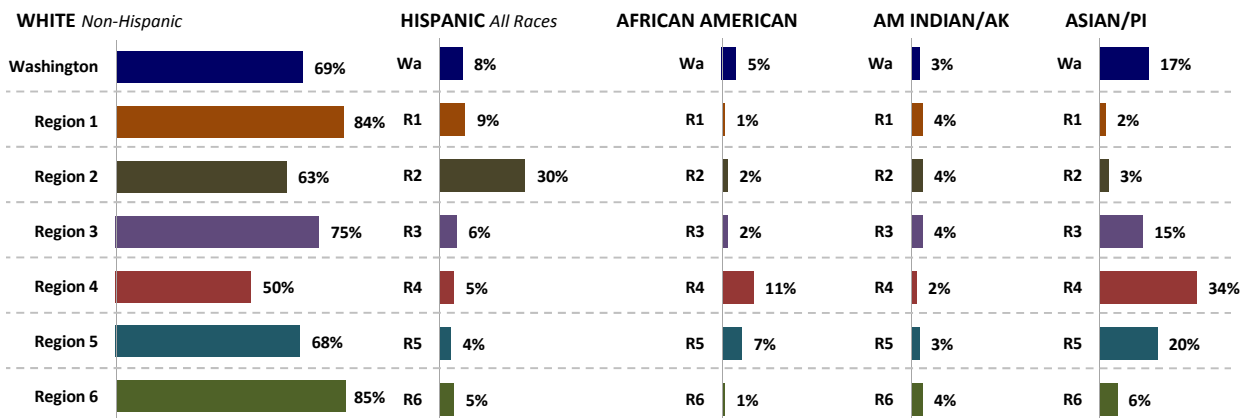
Youth, Ages 0-17 (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 684,348)



Working Age Adults, Ages 18-64 (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 965,205)



Seniors, Ages 65+ (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 97,553)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for "any minority." "White only" and "any minority" sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

STATEWIDE

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in the DSHS caseload changed since SFY 2001?

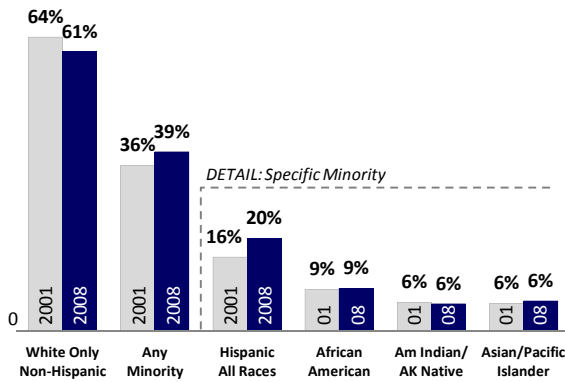
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 16 percent in SFY 2001 to 20 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 64 percent of the total to 61 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic youth increased from 22 percent in SFY 2001 to 29 percent in SFY 2008.
- Seniors have the highest percent of white only clients. Almost three of four seniors are white only.



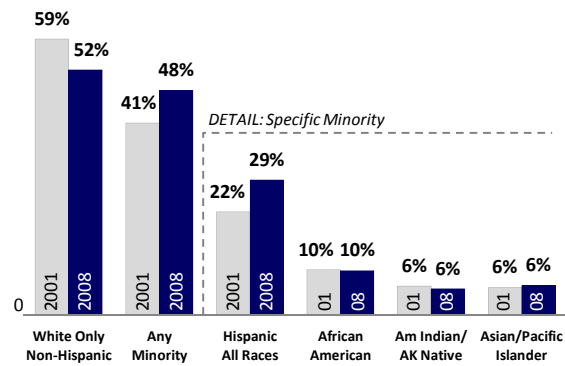
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, STATEWIDE

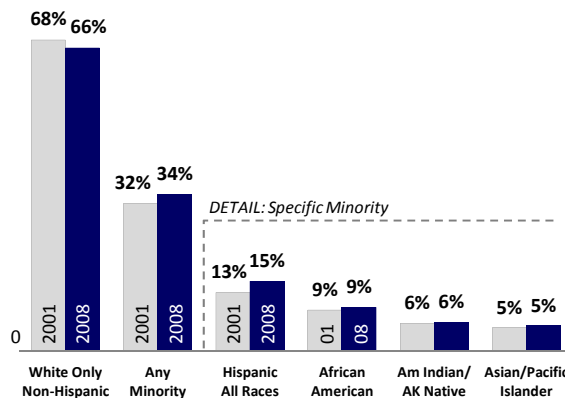
ALL AGES



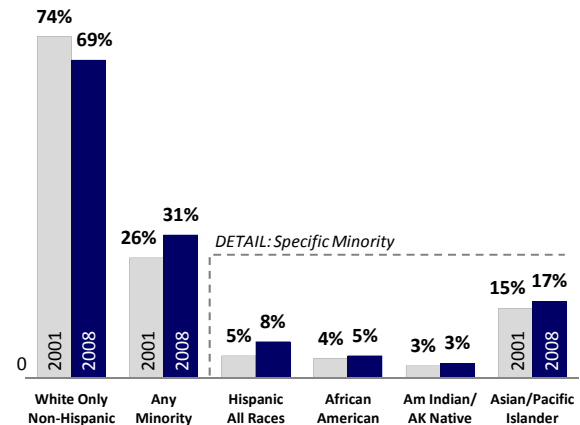
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

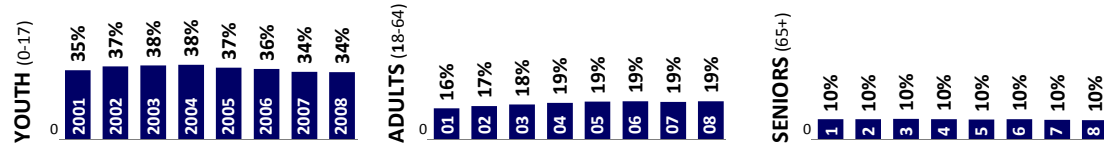


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

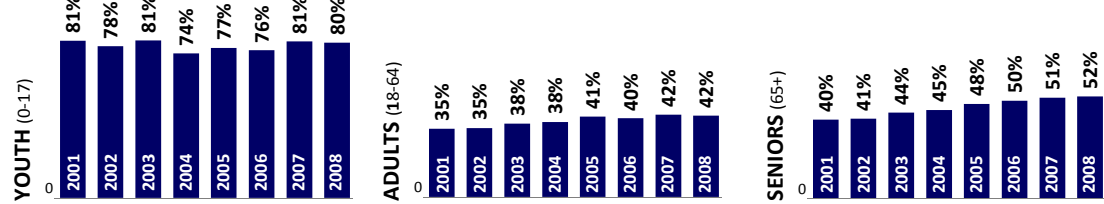
- **Yes.** Statewide, during the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have decreased among American Indians, African Americans and slightly among Asian-Pacific Islanders. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics, African Americans and American Indians. Among seniors, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity

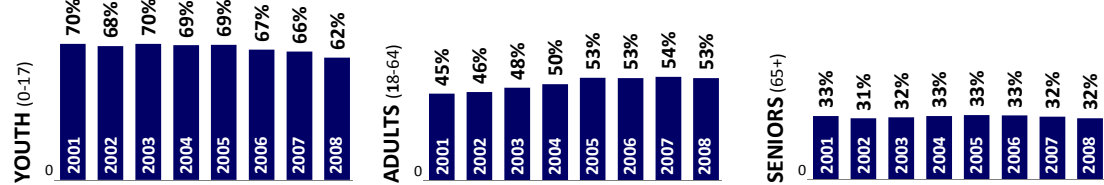
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 1,061,197)



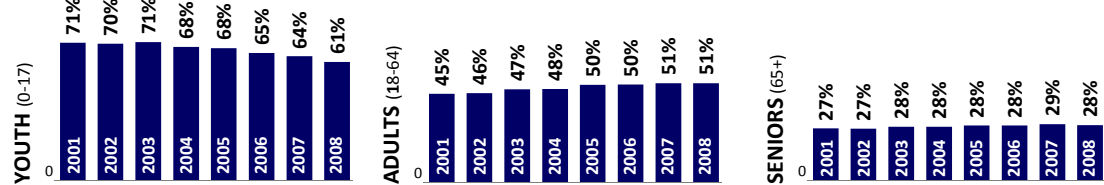
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 351,952)



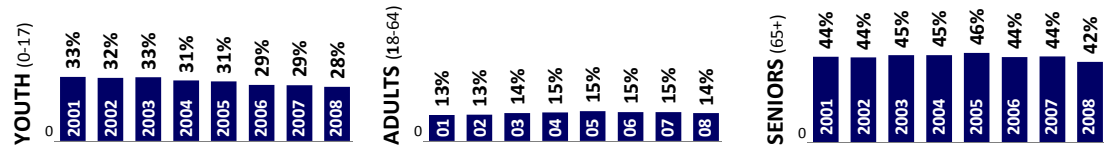
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 161,218)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 101,589)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 112,287)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

DSHS Region 1

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in Region 1's caseload changed since SFY 2001?

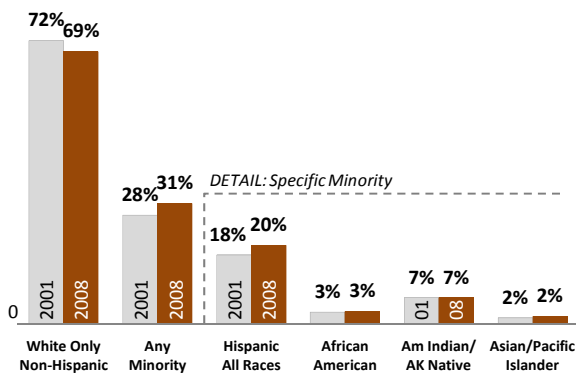
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 18 percent in SFY 2001 to 20 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 72 percent of the total to 69 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic youth and seniors both increased from 24 percent in SFY 2001 to 28 percent in SFY 2008.
- Seniors have the highest percent of white only clients. More than one in five seniors is white only.



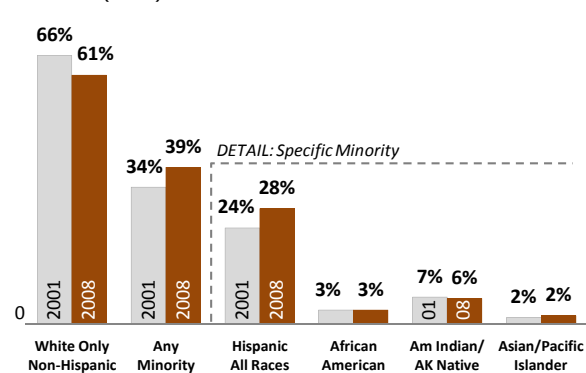
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, REGION 1

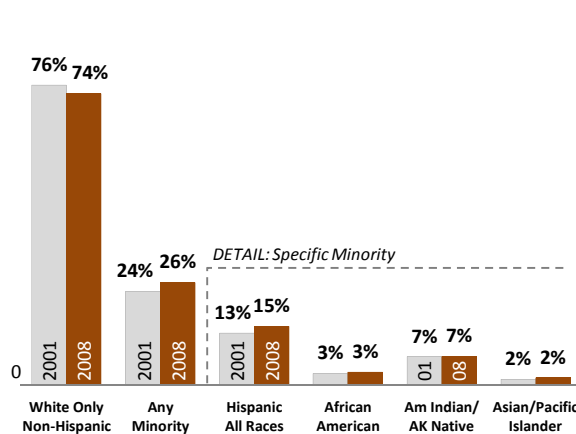
ALL AGES



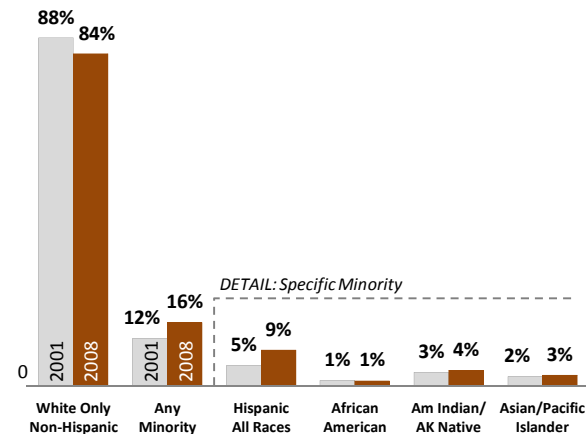
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

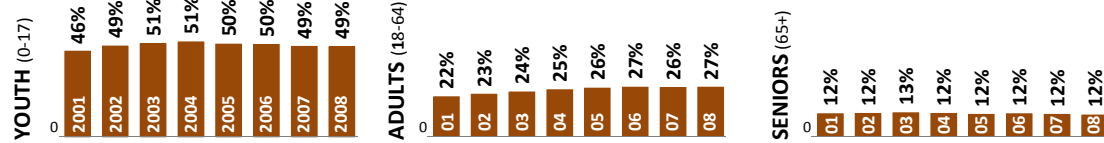


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

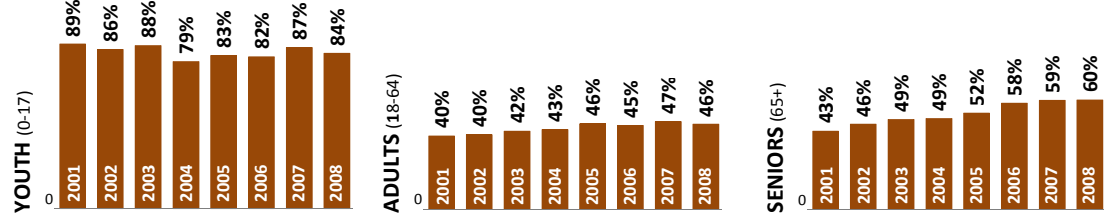
- **Yes.** In Region 1, during the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have decreased among Hispanics, African Americans, and American Indians and increased slightly among the other groups. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased for all groups. Among seniors, use rates have increased among Hispanics, and decreased among African-Americans. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity, Region 1

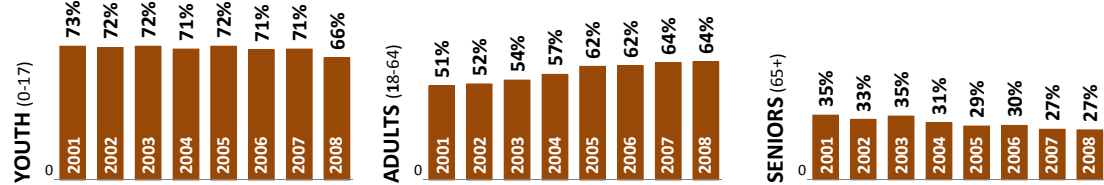
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 202,925)



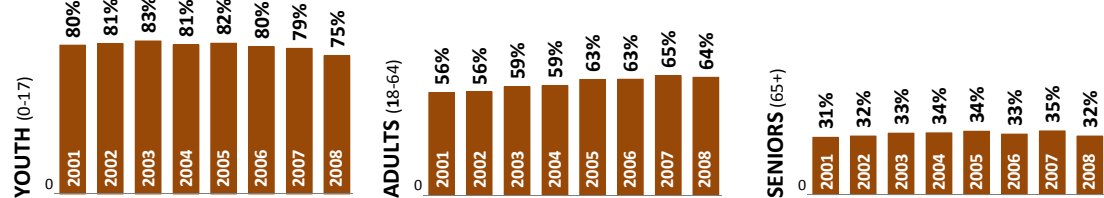
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 58,858)



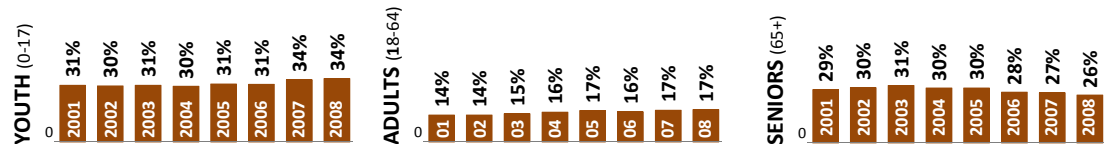
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 9,449)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 19,537)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 5,655)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

DSHS Region 2

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in Region 2's caseload changed since SFY 2001?

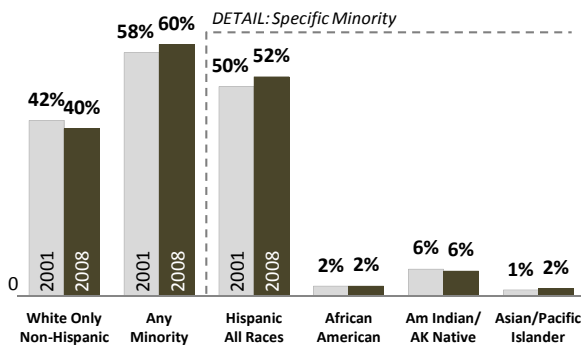
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 50 percent in SFY 2001 to 52 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 42 percent of the total to 40 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic seniors increased from 22 percent in SFY 2001 to 30 percent in SFY 2008, while youth increased from 59 percent to 64 percent.
- Seniors have the highest percent of white only clients. One in three seniors is white only.



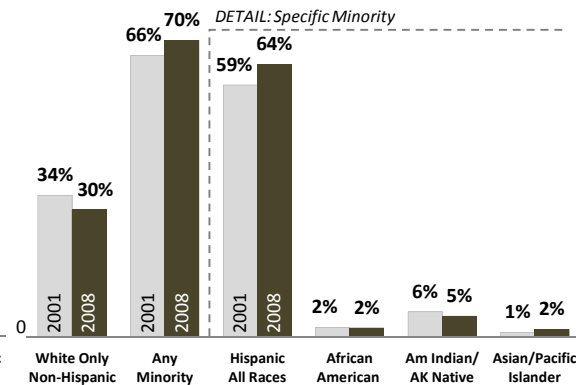
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, REGION 2

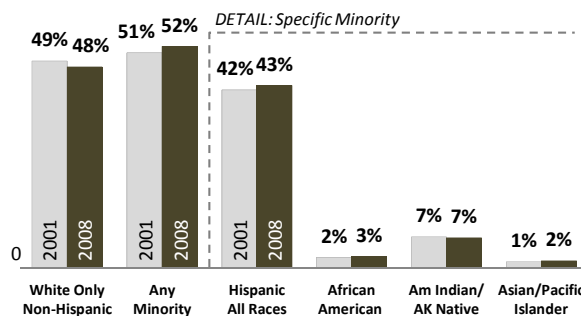
ALL AGES



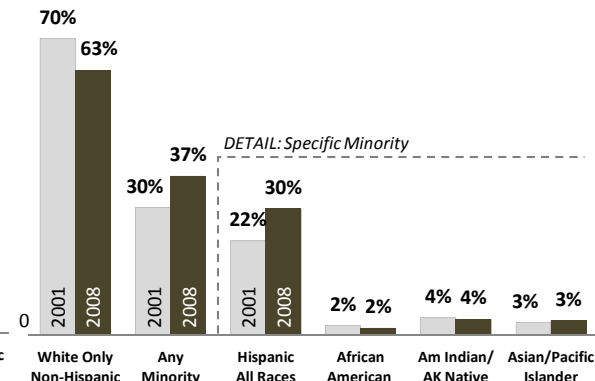
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

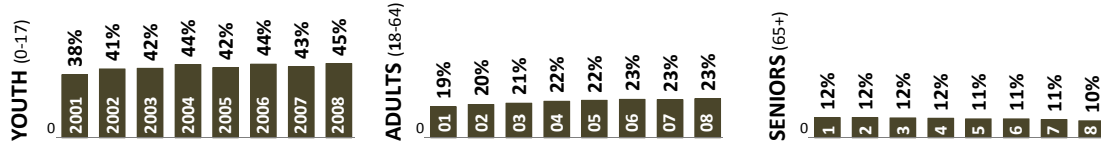


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

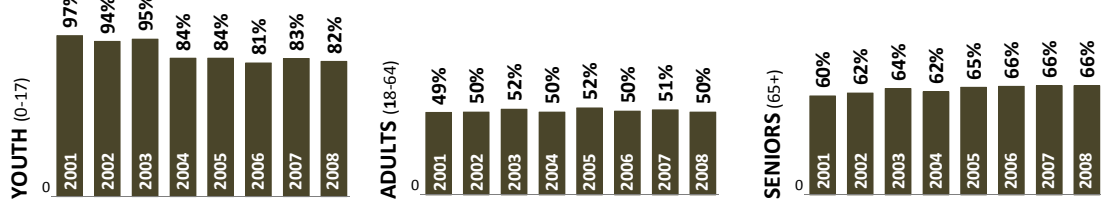
- **Yes.** In Region 2, during the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have decreased among Hispanics, African Americans, and American Indians and increased slightly among the other groups. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased for all groups except Hispanics. Among seniors, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics, and decreased among African-Americans. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity, Region 2

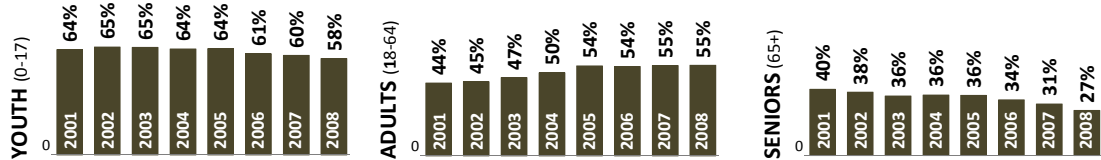
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 90,119)



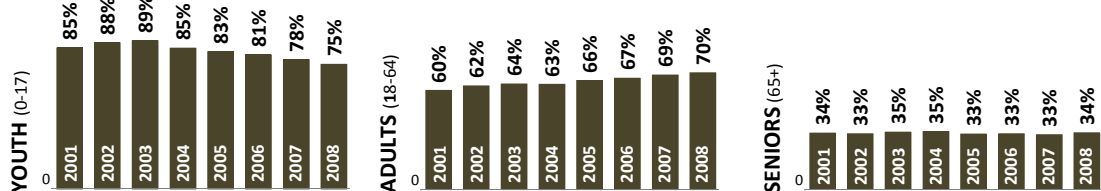
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 117,973)



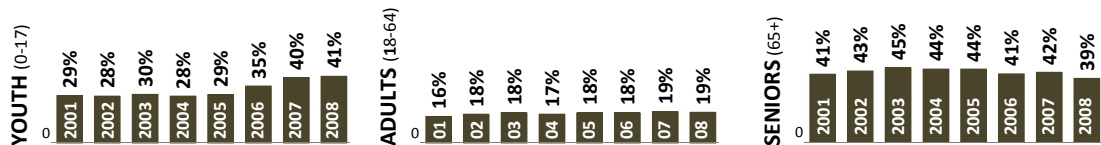
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 5,299)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 13,412)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 3,996)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).

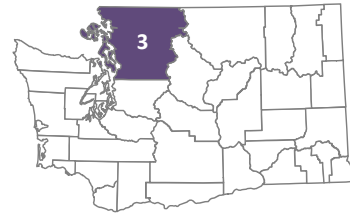


Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

DSHS Region 3

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in Region 3's caseload changed since SFY 2001?

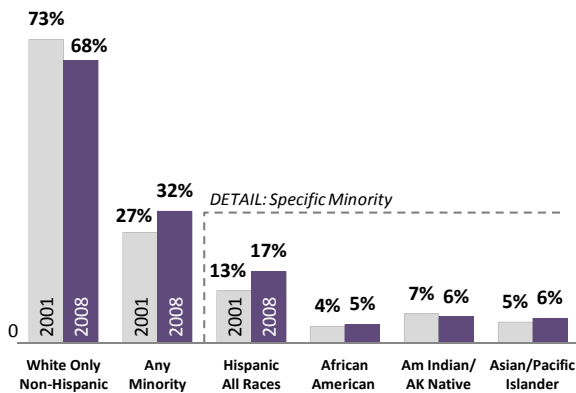
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 13 percent in SFY 2001 to 17 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 73 percent of the total to 68 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic youth increased from 17 percent in SFY 2001 to 26 percent in SFY 2008.
- Seniors have the highest percent of white only clients. One in four seniors is white only.



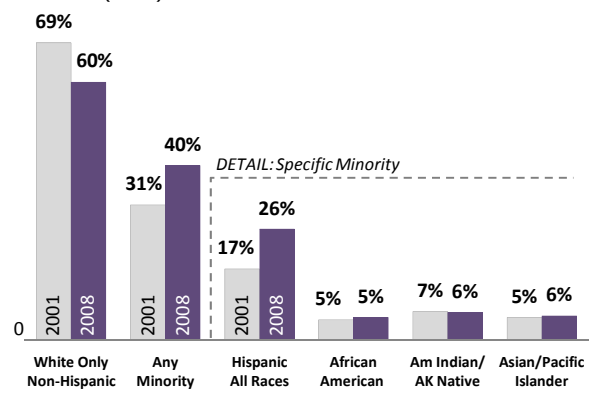
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, REGION 3

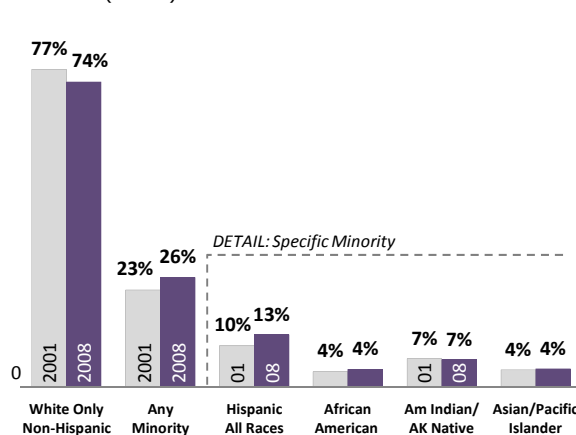
ALL AGES



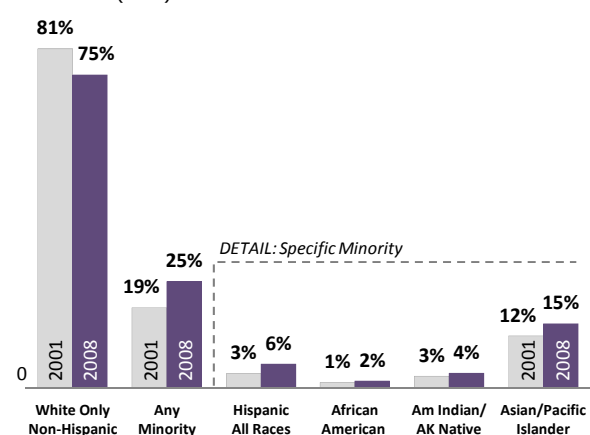
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

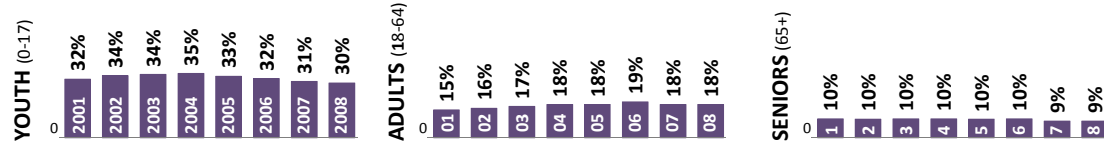


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

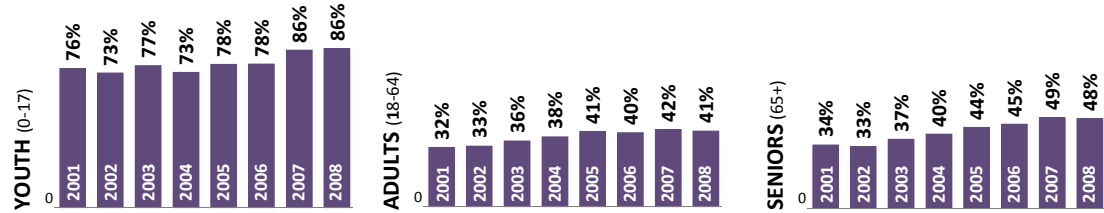
- **Yes.** In Region 3, during the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have increased among Hispanics, and decreased among American Indians and Asian Pacific-Islanders. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased for all groups. Among seniors, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics and American Indians. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity, Region 3

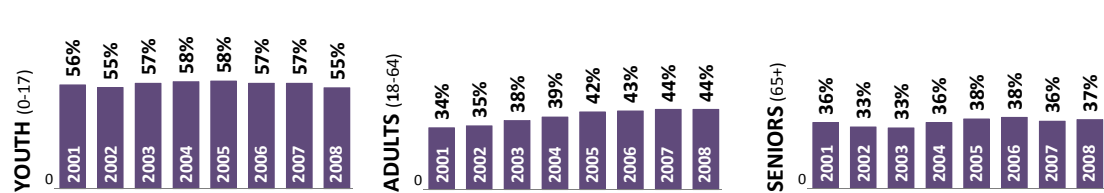
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 175,821)



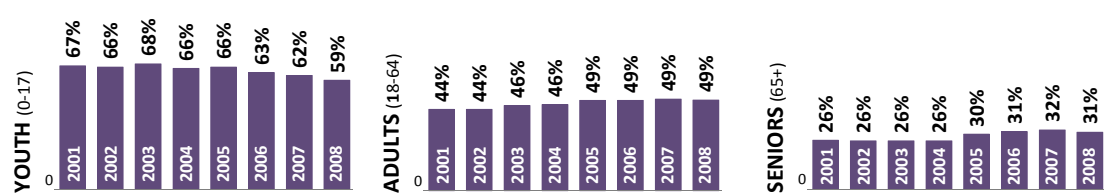
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 44,554)



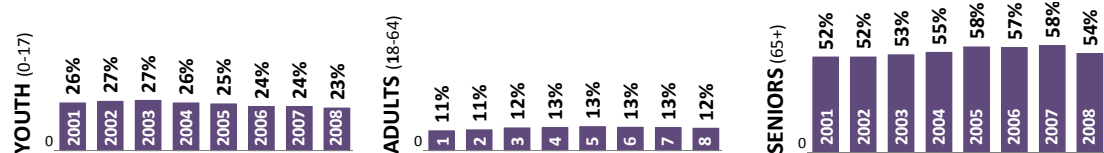
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 11,667)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 16,278)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 14,167)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

DSHS Region 4

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in Region 4's caseload changed since SFY 2001?

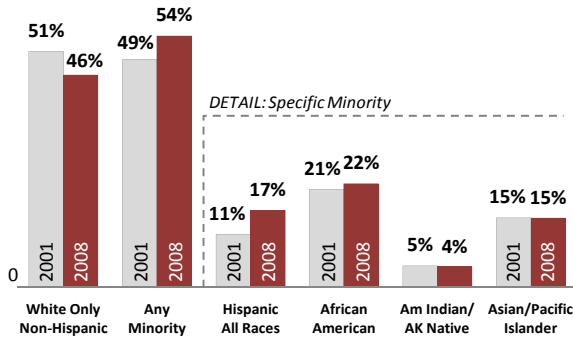
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 11 percent in SFY 2001 to 17 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 51 percent of the total to 46 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic youth increased from 11 percent in SFY 2001 to 17 percent in SFY 2008.
- Seniors and adults share in having the highest percent of white only clients—half are white only.



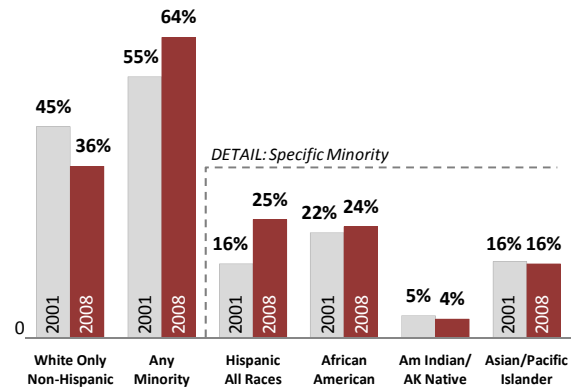
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, REGION 4

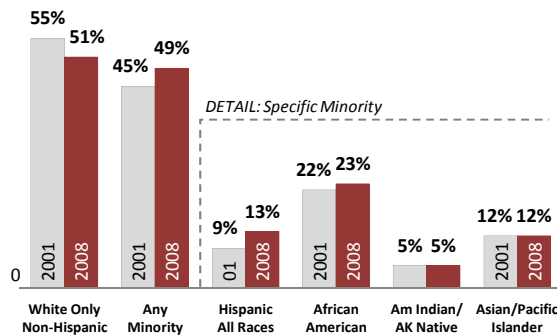
ALL AGES



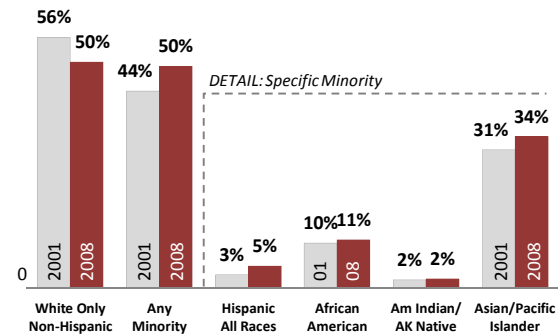
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

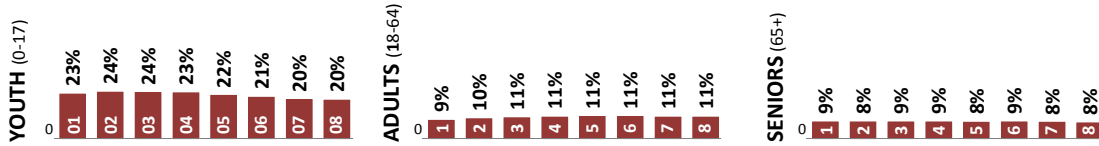


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

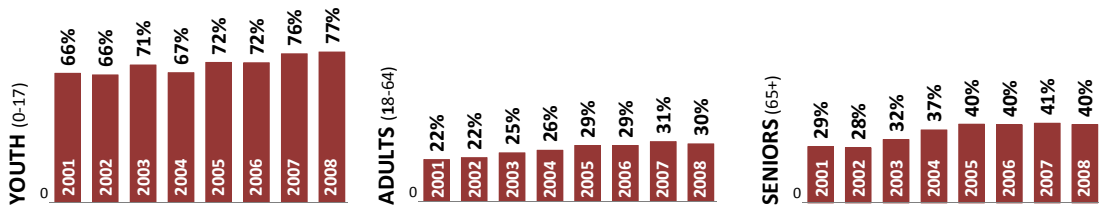
- **Yes.** In Region 4, in the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have increased among Hispanics, and decreased among all other groups. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics, African-Americans and American Indians. Among seniors, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity, Region 4

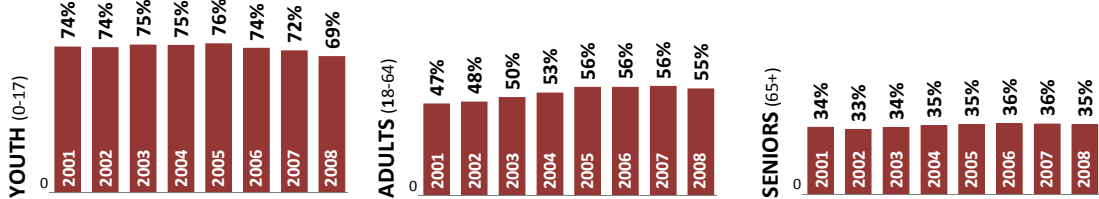
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 160,503)



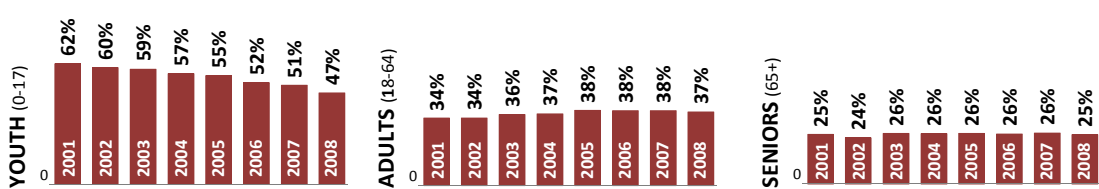
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 57,924)



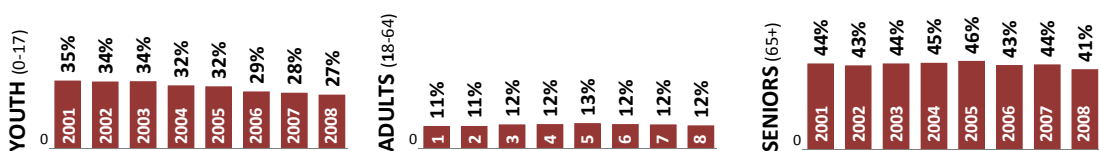
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 78,376)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 15,520)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 52,169)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

DSHS Region 5

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in Region 5's caseload changed since SFY 2001?

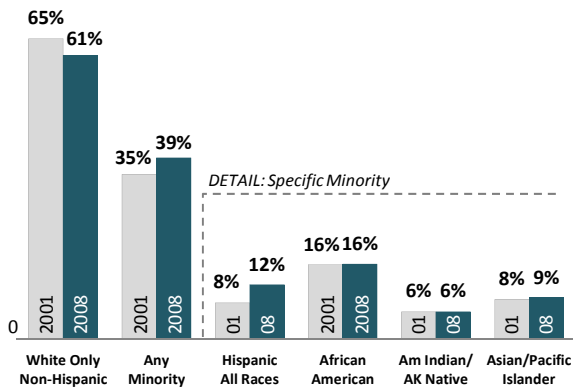
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 8 percent in SFY 2001 to 12 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 65 percent of the total to 61 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic youth increased from 10 percent in SFY 2001 to 17 percent in SFY 2008.
- Seniors have the highest percent of white only clients. More than two in three seniors are white only.



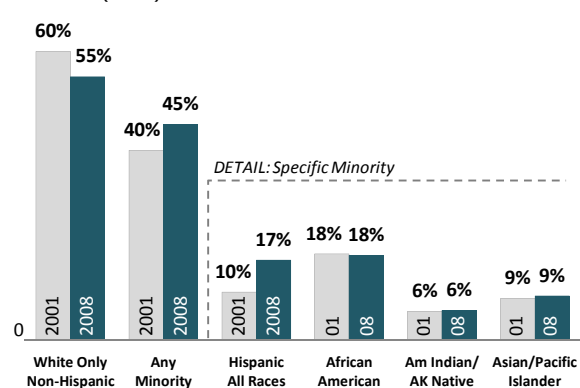
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, REGION 5

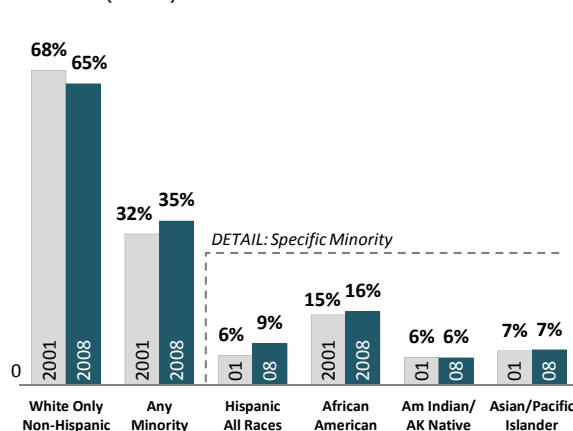
ALL AGES



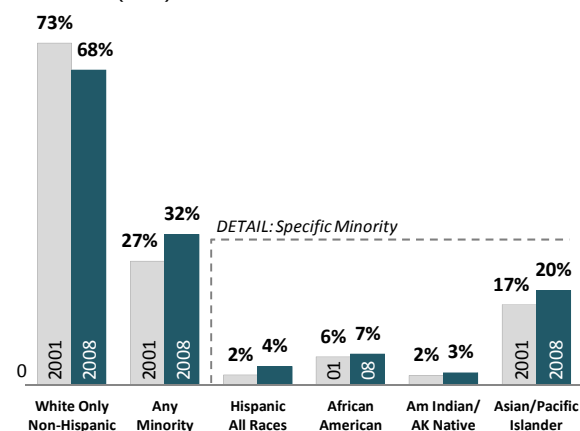
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

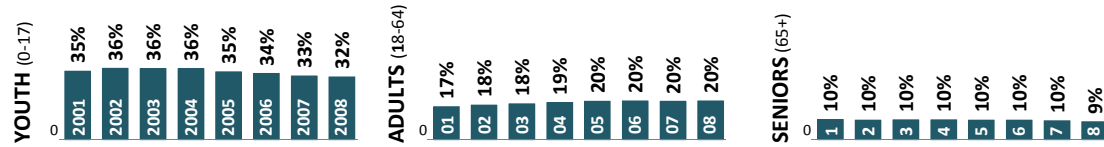


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

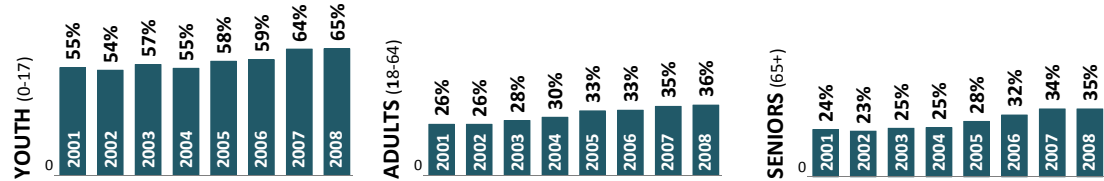
- **Yes.** In Region 5, during the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have increased among Hispanics, and decreased among all other groups. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics, African-Americans and American Indians. Among seniors, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics and slightly among American Indians, and decreased among African-Americans and Asian Pacific-Islanders. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity, Region 5

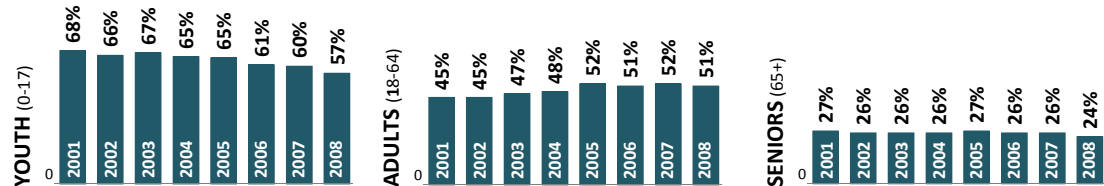
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 167,471)



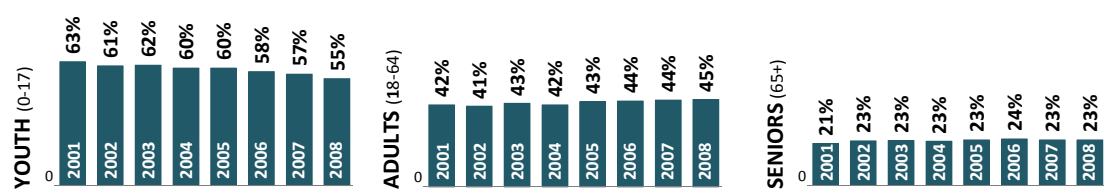
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 31,770)



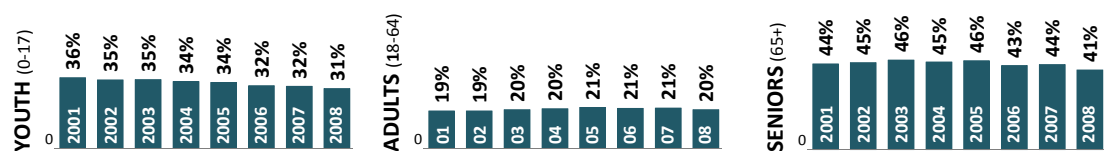
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 43,990)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 15,922)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 24,135)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).



Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups in Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services

DSHS Region 6

Q. Has the distribution of racial/ethnic minorities in Region 6's caseload changed since SFY 2001?

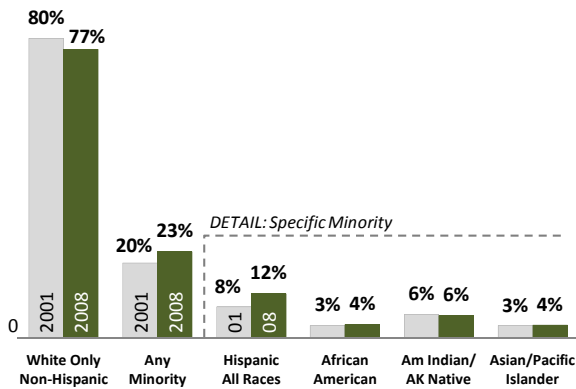
- **Yes.** Overall, Hispanics were the fastest growing racial/ethnic category, increasing from 8 percent in SFY 2001 to 12 percent in SFY 2008.ⁱ
- The white only population decreased during this time from 80 percent of the total to 76 percent.
- Most notably, the percent of Hispanic youth increased from 11 percent in SFY 2001 to 17 percent in SFY 2008.
- Seniors have the highest percent of white only clients. More than four in five seniors are white only.



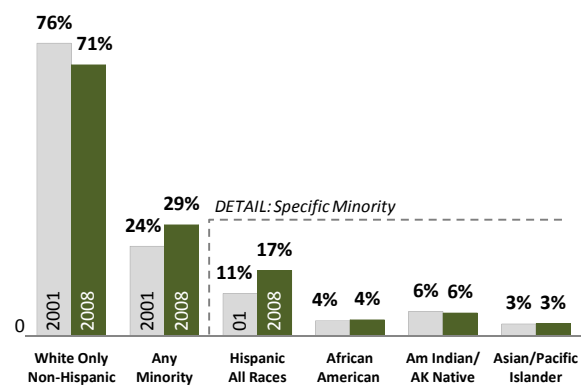
DSHS clients as a percent of the caseload by racial/ethnic group, SFY 2001 compared to SFY 2008

ALL DSHS PROGRAMS, REGION 6

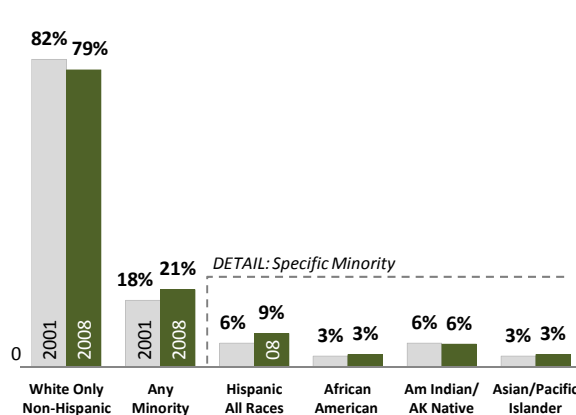
ALL AGES



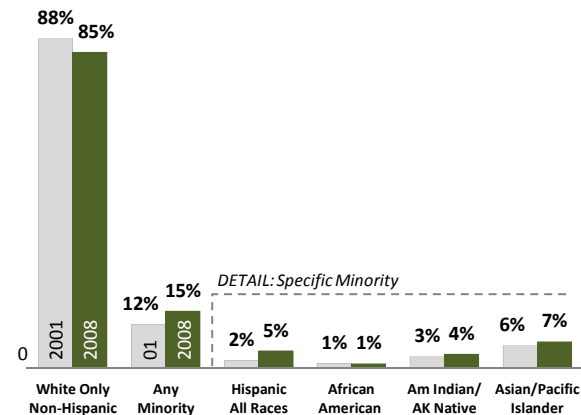
YOUTH (0-17)



ADULTS (18-64)



SENIORS (65+)

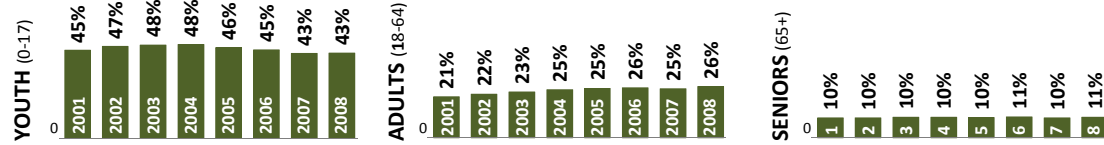


Q. Have “use rates”ⁱⁱ within various ethnic, racial and age groups changed notably over time?

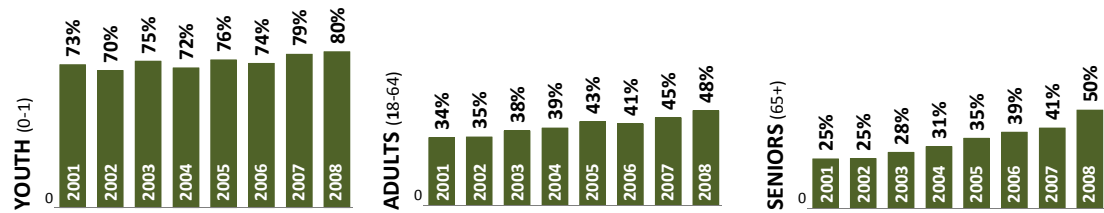
- **Yes.** In Region 6, during the past eight years: DSHS use rates for youth have increased among Hispanics, and decreased among all other groups. Among working-age adults, DSHS use rates have increased among all groups. Among seniors, DSHS use rates have increased among Hispanics and slightly among American Indians, and decreased among African-Americans and Asian Pacific-Islanders. All other groups have remained fairly stable in their use of DSHS.

Use Rate among Washington State Residents by Age Group and Race/Ethnicity, Region 6

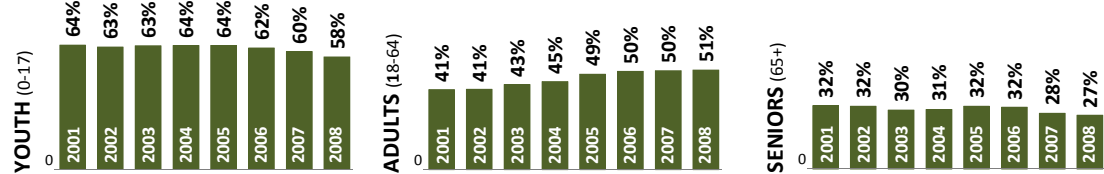
WHITE ONLY, Non-Hispanic (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 264,358)



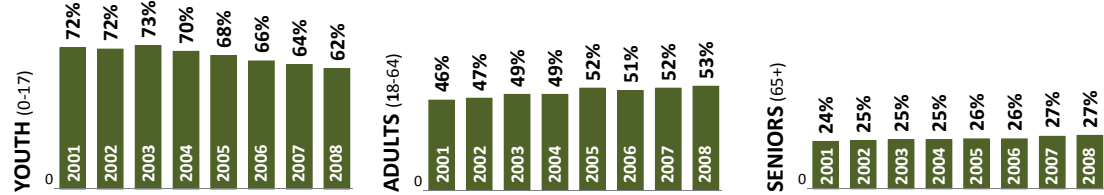
HISPANIC, All Races (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 40,873)



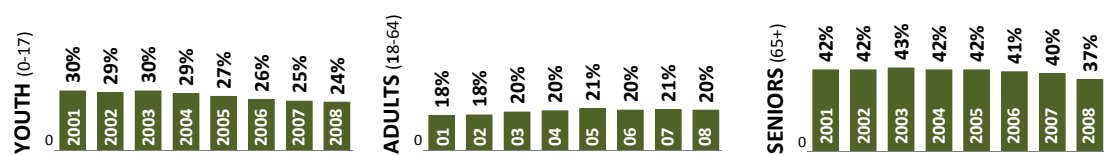
AFRICAN AMERICAN (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 12,437)



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 20,920)



ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER (SFY 2008 TOTAL = 12,165)



CONTACT: Rebecca Yette, 360.902.0753

DATA SOURCE: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performing and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division, Client Services Database, August 9, 2010. Population use rates were calculated based on categories provided by the Department of Health.

NOTE: We have used percentages for clients only when race is known. Counts include Support Enforcement only clients for all years provided. Since a person can be a member of more than one minority group, the percents for individual racial categories will sum more than percent shown for “any minority.” “White only” and “any minority” sum to 100 percent.

ⁱ The DSHS population mirrors the shift toward increasing diversity in the state over time. Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations are the largest and fastest growing minority groups, projected to grow 132 and 150 percent respectively from 2000 to 2030. One in three of the state’s residents is expected to be a member of a minority group by 2030. See Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, March 22, 2006 (press release).

ⁱⁱ USE RATES are defined as the percentage of persons within a particular subgroup and living in a particular place who use DSHS services (DSHS clients over resident population, within subgroups).

Much of the data for these program descriptions came from DSHS' Integrated Client Database (ICDB). The ICDB is a longitudinal client database containing 10 or more years of detailed service risks, history, costs, and outcomes. ICDB is used to support cost-benefit and cost offset analyses, program evaluations, operational program decisions, geographical analyses and in-depth research.

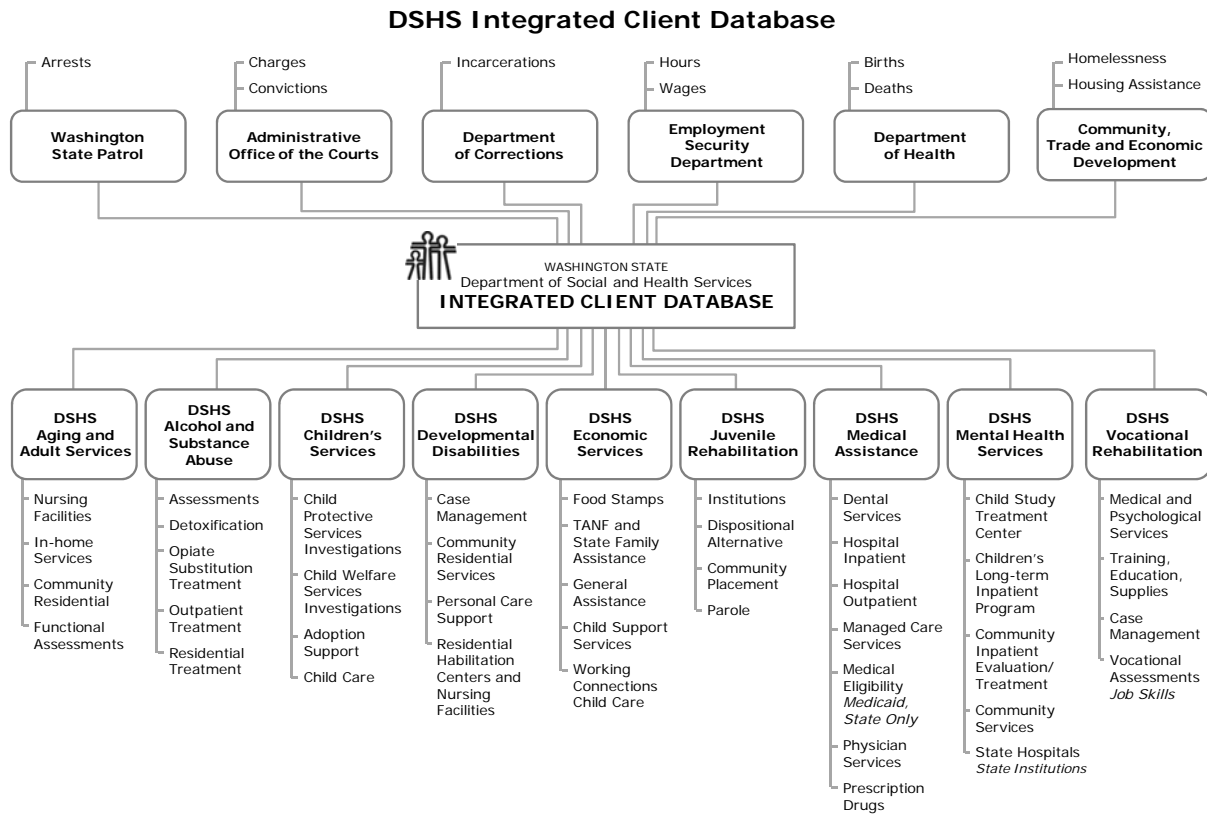
DSHS serves over 2.1 million clients a year. *The ICDB is the only place where all the client information comes together.* From this central DSHS client database, we get a current and historical look into the life experiences of residents who encounter the state's social service system.

The ICDB draws information from over 30 data systems across and outside of DSHS. It is created by extracting and matching client records for DSHS clients from administrative data collected by DSHS and other state agencies in their ongoing work with Washington residents.

The ICDB includes the following for each client, by date: identifiers, service history and service cost across DSHS, demography, geography of residence and service, risk indicators, outcomes, birth and death records, medical diagnoses, medical costs, prescription drug use, alcohol and drug problems, mental illness indicators, homelessness, functional disability status, chronic health conditions, criminal justice encounters, incarcerations, employment status, and wages. ICDB information is monitored for consistency and accuracy.

Strict client confidentiality. Strict confidentiality standards are in place to ensure protection of personal client information. Strict adherence to human subjects review applies to all research conducted from this central client database. Data management is HIPAA compliant.

Population estimates and geography. Population estimates are available at many different levels of geography, including state, county, cities, legislative districts, school districts, and census tracts. Our integrated database includes boundary files for each of these geographic areas and assigns geographic parameters to each client's service, cost, and outcome data. As a result, we are able to use this information to generate use rates by age, race, gender, and poverty levels for multiple geographic areas, enhancing our ability to make regional and local comparisons for policy purposes.

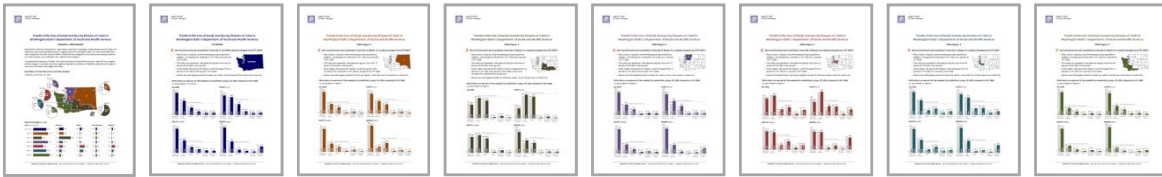


For more information, please contact:

Liz Kohlenberg, PhD,
 Director, Research and Data Analysis Division
 Olympia Washington
 360.902.0707 or kohleer@dshs.wa.gov

2008 Diversity Counts

Regional Trends in the Use of Social Services by Minority Racial or Ethnic Groups



Annually, the Department of Social and Health Services provides services for 2.1 million people—one-third of the state's population. Diversity counts by region are provided here.

REPORT NUMBER 11.152