

Hispanics in the Archdiocese of Seattle

A Presentation to the Pastoral Leadership Network for Hispanic Ministry

Office of Pastoral Planning and Research
April 19, 2012

Data sources

- ▶ Detailed information, including education, national origin, income, education, etc., are no longer collected using the long-form decennial census. Instead, these data are collected through carefully designed sample surveys conducted annually.
- ▶ Data presented here is from U.S. Census Bureau American Community Surveys, 2005 to 2009
- ▶ U.S. Census cannot ask for religious affiliation or identification. Estimates of numbers and percent of Hispanic Catholics come from national and local surveys (e.g., Pew and Gallup surveys)

How many Hispanics are Catholic?

- ▶ US Census provides no information on religious self-identification or affiliation.
- ▶ National studies give wildly different estimates of the proportion of Hispanics who are active (affiliated) Catholics.
- ▶ Using the highest identification/affiliation rates from recent studies (83% for self-identification and 61% for percent affiliated with the Catholic Church through registration and/or attendance) , the result: approximately 52% of the total Hispanic origin population is affiliated in some way with the Roman Catholic Church.
- ▶ A very large majority of Hispanics who leave the Catholic Church do not affiliate with any other church or religion.

Reliability of data on Hispanics

- ▶ The US Census Bureau has been aggressive in its efforts to count populations that might be undercounted by mail surveys (e.g., migrant workers, Native Americans, non-English speaking immigrants).
- ▶ In 2010 the US Census worked with community groups, churches and others to assure people that census information was confidential and critical to their well-being.
- ▶ ACS interviews are conducted in a large number of different languages and everywhere from high rise apartments to migrant labor camps.

Information presented here is based on responses to the following ACS questions

Questions asked about every person in a surveyed household:

1. Is the person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin - *Print origin, for example, Argentinean, Colombian, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spaniard, and so on.*

2. What is the person's race (Hispanic/Latino is not a race. 15 options are listed, including "other" and "Some other race.")

3. Where was this person born?

- In the United States - Print name of state.
- Outside the United States - Print name of foreign country, or Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.

- 4. When did this person come to live in the United States?**

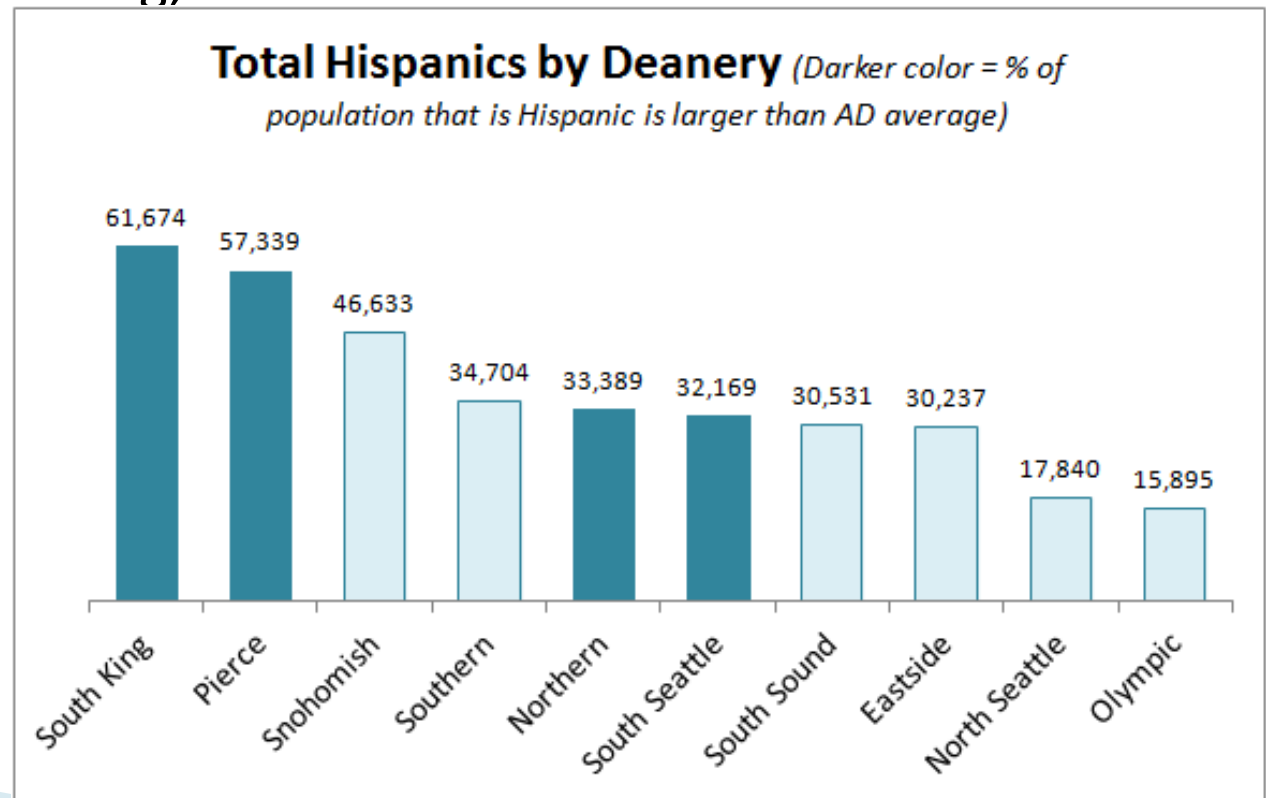
- 5. What is this person's ancestry or ethnic origin?** *(For example: Italian, Jamaican, African Am., Cambodian, Cape Verdean, Norwegian, Dominican, French Canadian, Haitian, Korean, Lebanese, Polish, Nigerian, Mexican, Taiwanese, Ukrainian, and so on.)*

- 6. Does this person speak a language other than English at home?**
 - **What is this language?** *For example: Korean, Italian, Spanish, Vietnamese.*

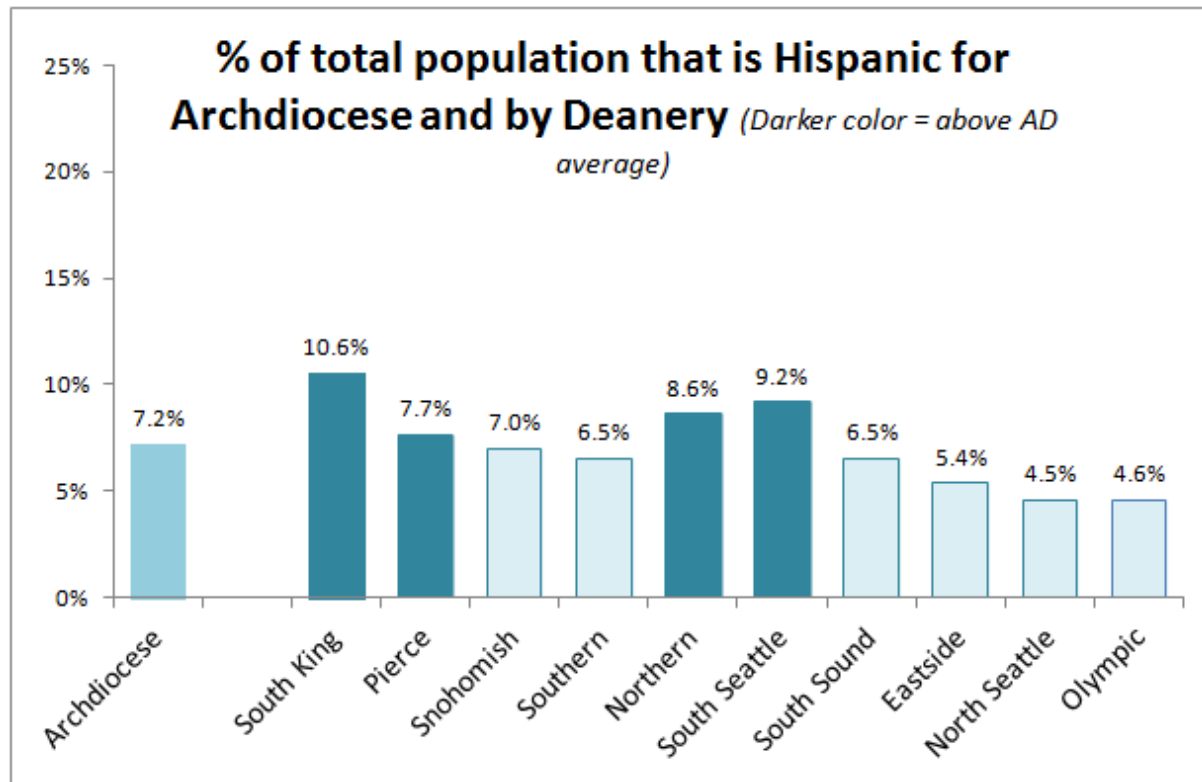
- 7. How well does this person speak English?**
 - Very well
 - Well
 - Not well
 - Not at all

Size and distribution of Hispanic/Latino Population

- ▶ Total Hispanic/Latino population = 360,411 (7.2% of total population of 5,035,550 in Western Washington)
- ▶ Almost half (46%) of the Hispanic population lives in three deaneries: South King, Pierce and Snohomish.



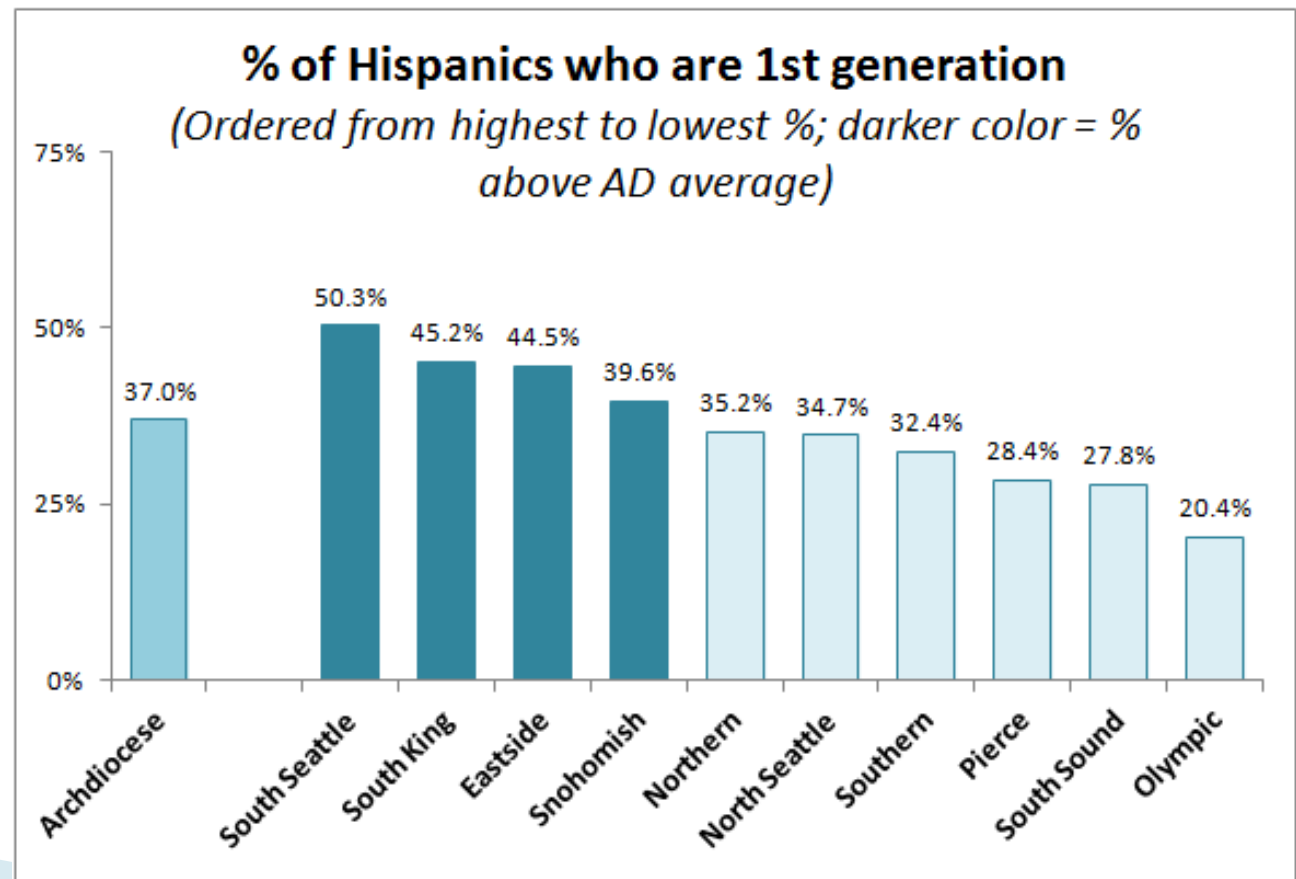
Percent of population that is Hispanic differs across Deaneries



- ▶ South King has both the largest number of Hispanics and the highest percentage of population that is Hispanic (10.6%)
- ▶ Olympic, Eastside and North Seattle Deaneries have both the lowest number and lowest percentage of Hispanic residents.

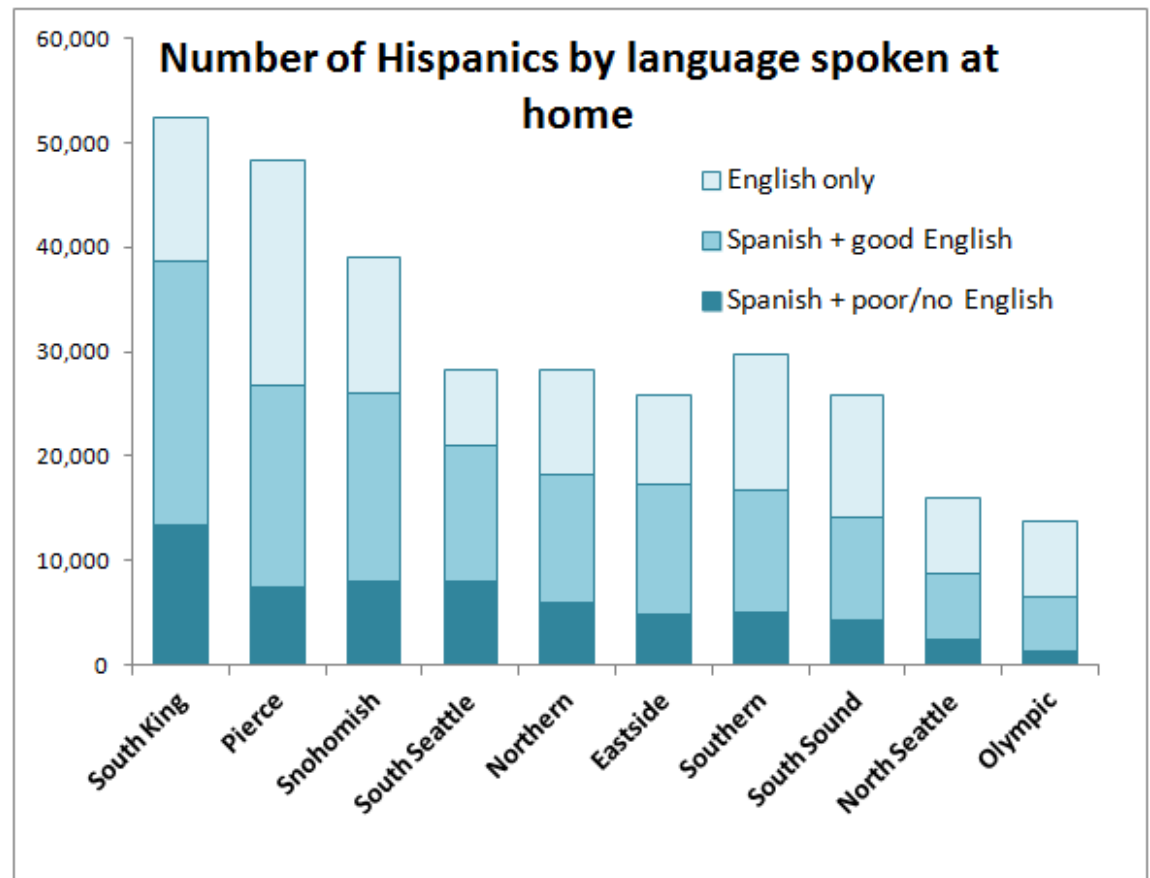
1st generation Hispanics in Western Washington

- ▶ 37% of Hispanics in Western Washington are 1st generation, but the proportion differs significantly across Deaneries



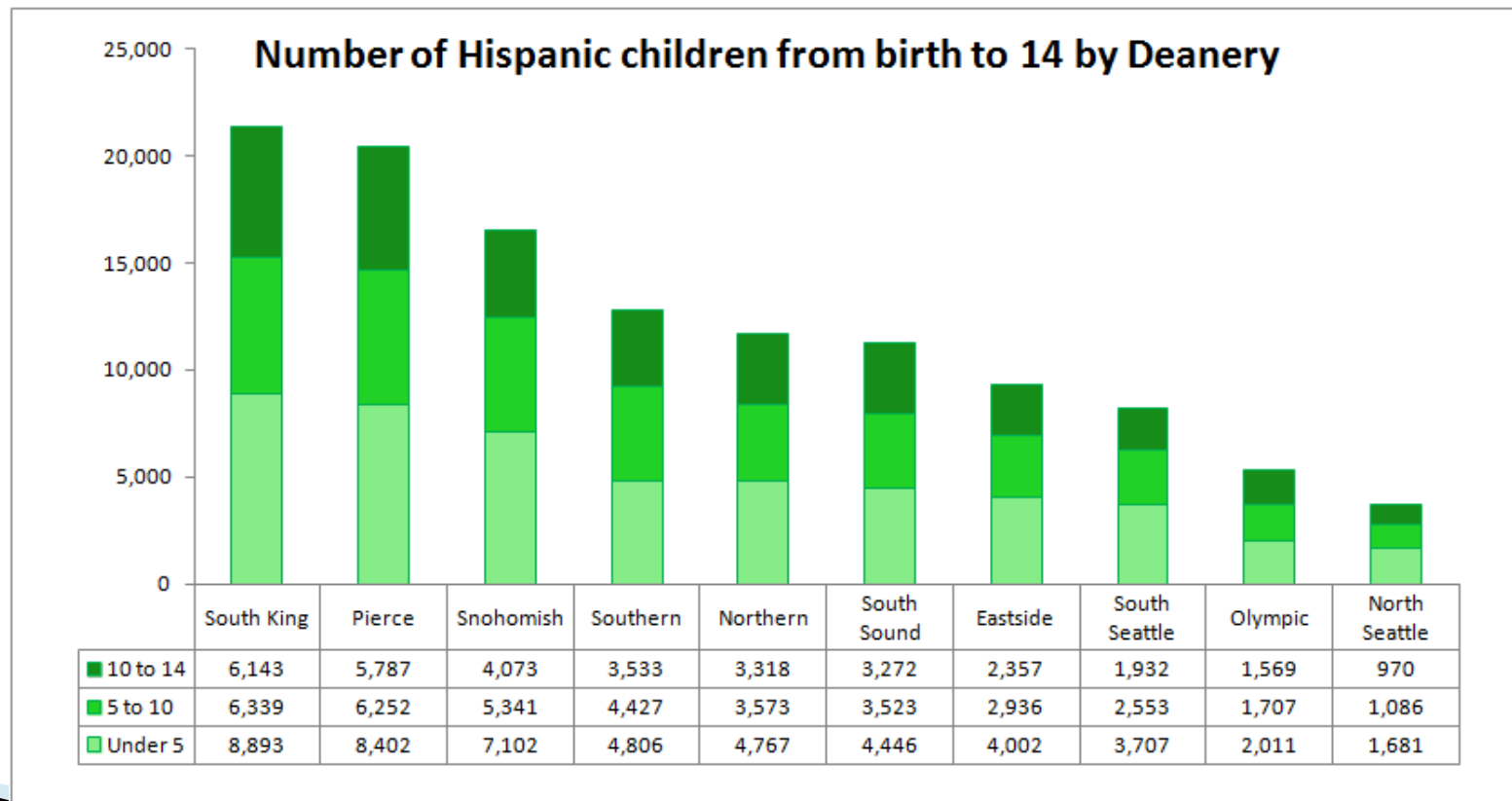
Language facility: # and % who speak Spanish and English

- ▶ Two thirds of Hispanics in the Archdiocese speak Spanish at home.
- ▶ Of those who speak Spanish at home, two-thirds speak English well or very well.
- ▶ 20% of all Hispanics speak little or no English.



School-aged Hispanic Children

- ▶ One-third of all Hispanics are under 14 years old. In contrast, only 18% of the non-Hispanic population is under 14.
- ▶ Currently there are 70,000 Hispanic children from 5 to 14; there are another 49,000 who are under 5.



Graphic: School-aged Hispanic children in the Archdiocese of Seattle

- ▶ Each light green dot = 1 Hispanic child 5 to 14 years old.
- ▶ Each dark green dot=1 Hispanic child 5 to 14 living in a household where English is not spoken or not spoken well.

