



Data Summary Report

Community Data on Children Pregnancy through age 5 in Pierce County

October 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Background

In the fall of 2017, community leaders came together to brainstorm how to alleviate the child welfare crisis in Pierce County. Of the 6,200 children who entered out-of-home care in Washington State in 2017, 1,009 of these children were in Pierce County, making it the county with the highest number of children entering care. Community leaders agreed that a comprehensive system for connecting families to needed services in the community and normalizing support for all parents was a necessary strategy to have lasting impact, and to prevent child welfare involvement. The Help Me Grow national system framework was identified as a useful model for coordinating this system. Locally, First 5 FUNdamentals is the organizing entity convening community partners and families to adapt Help Me Grow to the needs of Pierce County families. The mission of First 5 FUNdamentals is to support community-based initiatives in achieving their collective goals for children and families.

About Help Me Grow (HMG)

HMG is a system model that promotes county-wide collaboration in order to build upon existing early childhood resources to promote protective factors among families and mitigate the impact of adversity. By connecting families to existing community services through a coordinated access point or call center, HMG provides timely access to resources and care coordination to reduce barriers to services. HMG is organized around four main components: the coordinated access point for resource connection, data collection and evaluation to systematically identify service gaps in the region, family and community outreach, and health provider outreach. By working closely with health providers, HMG seeks to be a resource to address the social determinants of health, providing holistic care to families and reducing the burden of finding and accessing community resources. In Washington State, Help Me Grow Washington has added two components seen as critical to supporting families with young children: equity and advocacy.

Focus Zip Codes

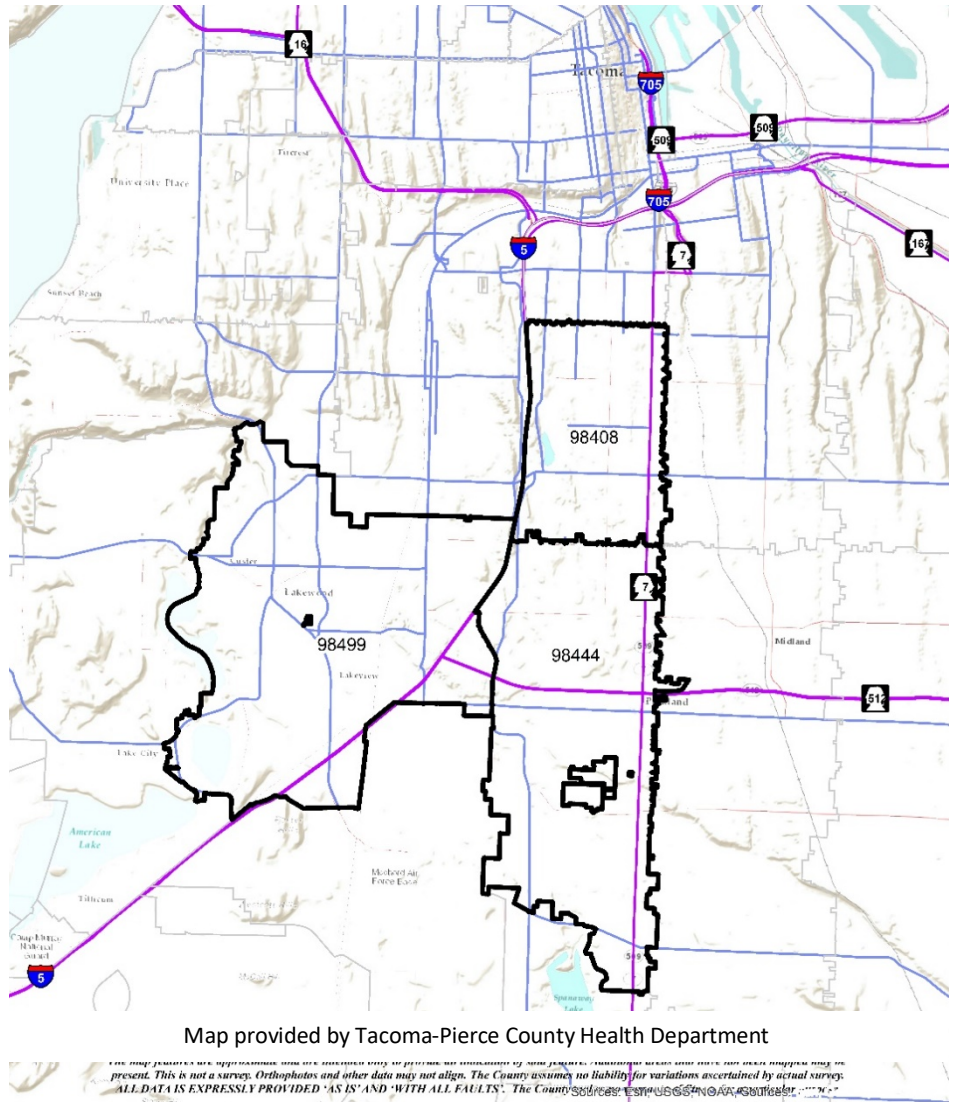
In order to ensure that needed resources are reaching families furthest from opportunity, Help Me Grow Pierce County’s five-year pilot that began in 2018 focuses on three zip codes covering three jurisdictions: 98499 (City of Lakewood, Springbrook), 98408 (City of Tacoma, south end), and 98444 (unincorporated Pierce County including Parkland, Spanaway, and Midland). When compared with Pierce County as a whole, these

three zip codes reflect higher poverty rates, lower life expectancy, and higher rates of children entering the child welfare system. While HMG services are available to all families in Pierce County, outreach and community engagement efforts are focused in these three zip codes.

Purpose of this Report

This community assessment is compiled annually to provide a comprehensive look at children from pregnancy to age five in Pierce County. It is intended to guide community efforts in reaching parents of young children and understanding their needs. This report provides measurements for the HMG Pierce County action teams to determine desired long-term population outcomes, as well as implementation strategies that will reach families and meet existing resource needs.

Wherever possible, the data in this report is provided for Pierce County in total, the three zip codes referenced above, and Washington State as a comparison. By coordinating services from pregnancy to age five under a coordinated access point, Help Me Grow provides a systematic way to gather ongoing data on family needs, available resources, and service gaps. Identifying service gaps can inform future advocacy and investment efforts.



DATA

Pierce County is the second most populous county in Washington State, and is home to over 71,000 children under the age of six. Supporting young children and their caregivers during this developmental stage is critical to a healthy society, when the development of a child’s brain in the first few years of life provides a foundation for all future learning, behavior, and health (Harvard Center on the Developing Child, 2018).

Demographics

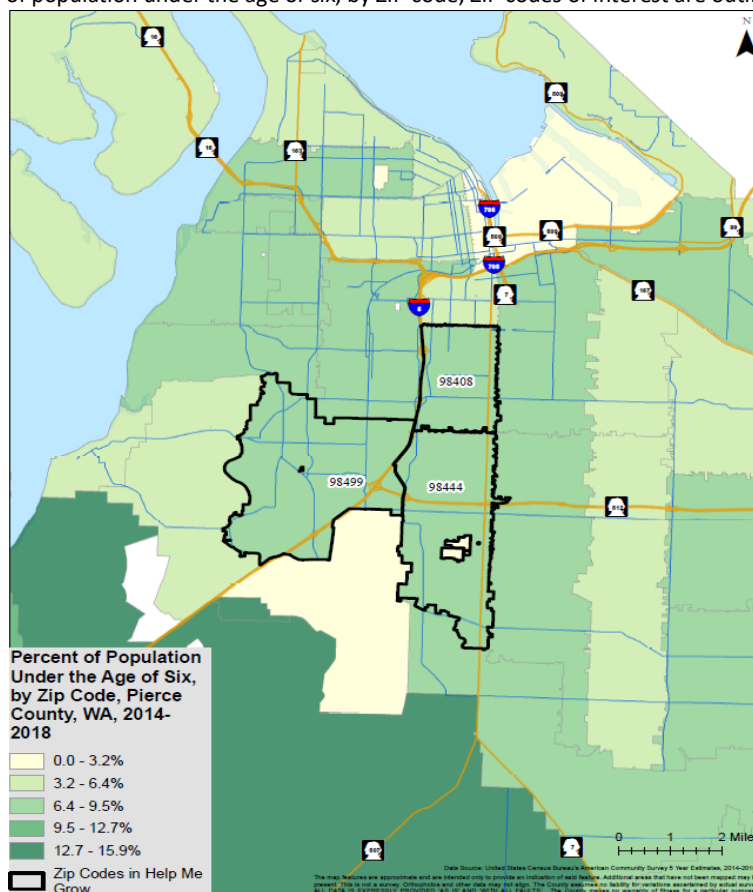
Age and Family Composition

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Total population	20,531	33,965	31,234	859,840	7,294,336
Number of children under age 5 (percent of total population)	1,535 (7.5%)	2,287 (6.7%)	2,566 (8.2%)	58,112 (6.8%)	453,008 (6.3%)
Civilian Veterans: individuals 18 and older	12.0%	13.1%	18.3%	13.5%	9.6%
% of Children < 6 living with a single parent (per total population < 6)	38.2%	31.8%	42.2%	31.6%	30.4%
Grandparents responsible for own grandchildren <18 years old	167 (36.9%)	246 (27.2%)	213 (42.9%)	5,773 (33.3%)	43,485 (32.0%)
Immigrants (Percent of total population born outside the United States)	12.7%	19.2%	18.4%	9.8%	14.0%

Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2014-2018.

Where Children Ages 0-5 Live

Percentage of population under the age of six, by ZIP code; ZIP codes of interest are outlined in black.



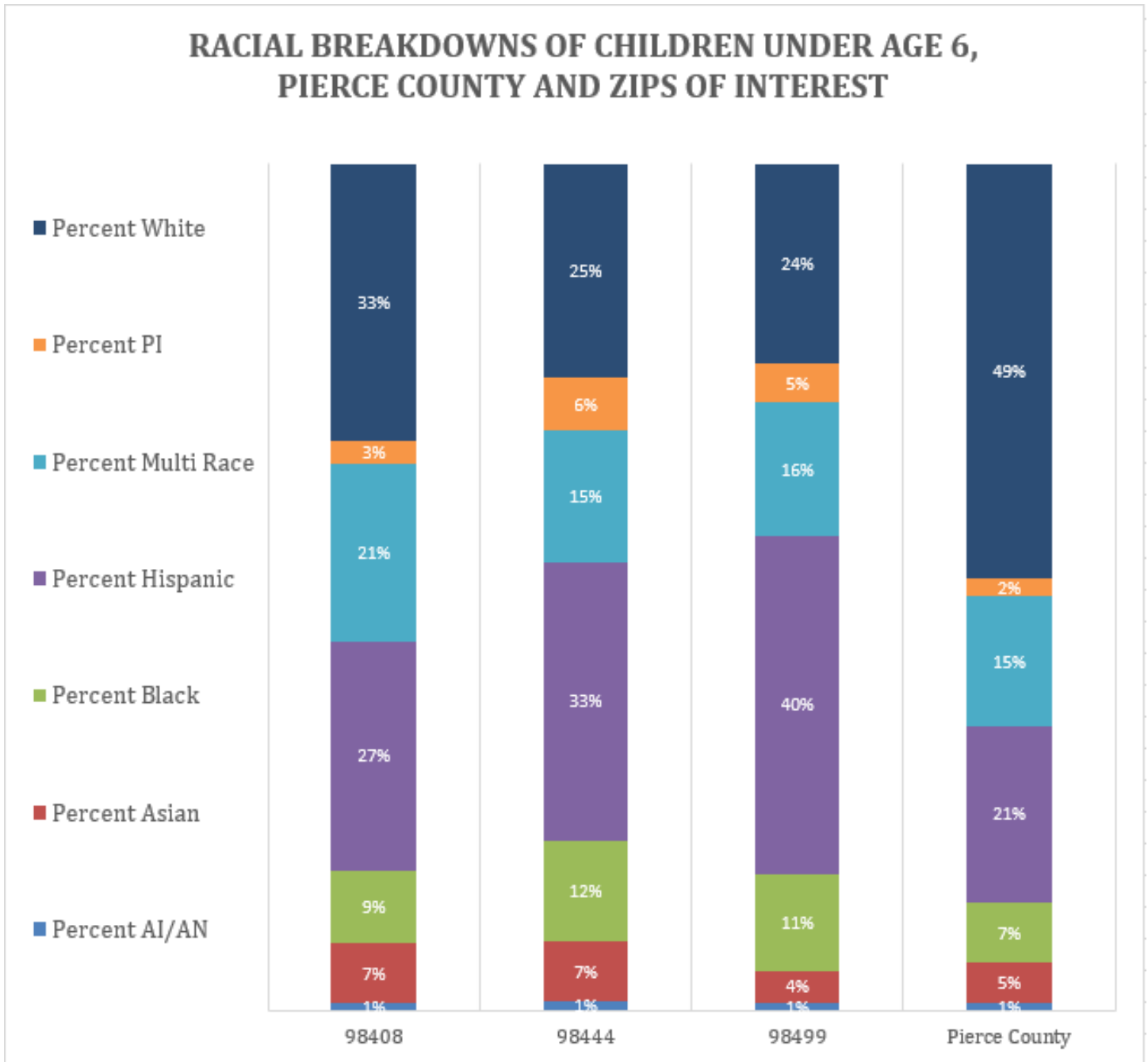
Map provided by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department with data from the United States Census Bureau’s American Community Survey 5 – year estimates, 2014-2018.

Percent of Children Age 0-5 By Race

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN)	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	1.0%	1.3%
Asian	7.1%	7.1%	3.9%	4.7%	7.9%
Black	8.6%	11.9%	11.5%	7.1%	4.3%
Hispanic/Latino	27.0%	32.9%	39.8%	20.8%	24.8%
Multi-Race	21.0%	15.5%	15.8%	15.3%	10.3%
Pacific Islander (PI)	2.6%	6.3%	4.6%	2.2%	0.9%
White	32.8%	25.3%	23.6%	48.9%	50.4%

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2019. Note: Hispanic/Latino as a race

Where Children Live by Race and Ethnicity



Source: Washington State Community Health Assessment Tool, 2019 population estimates

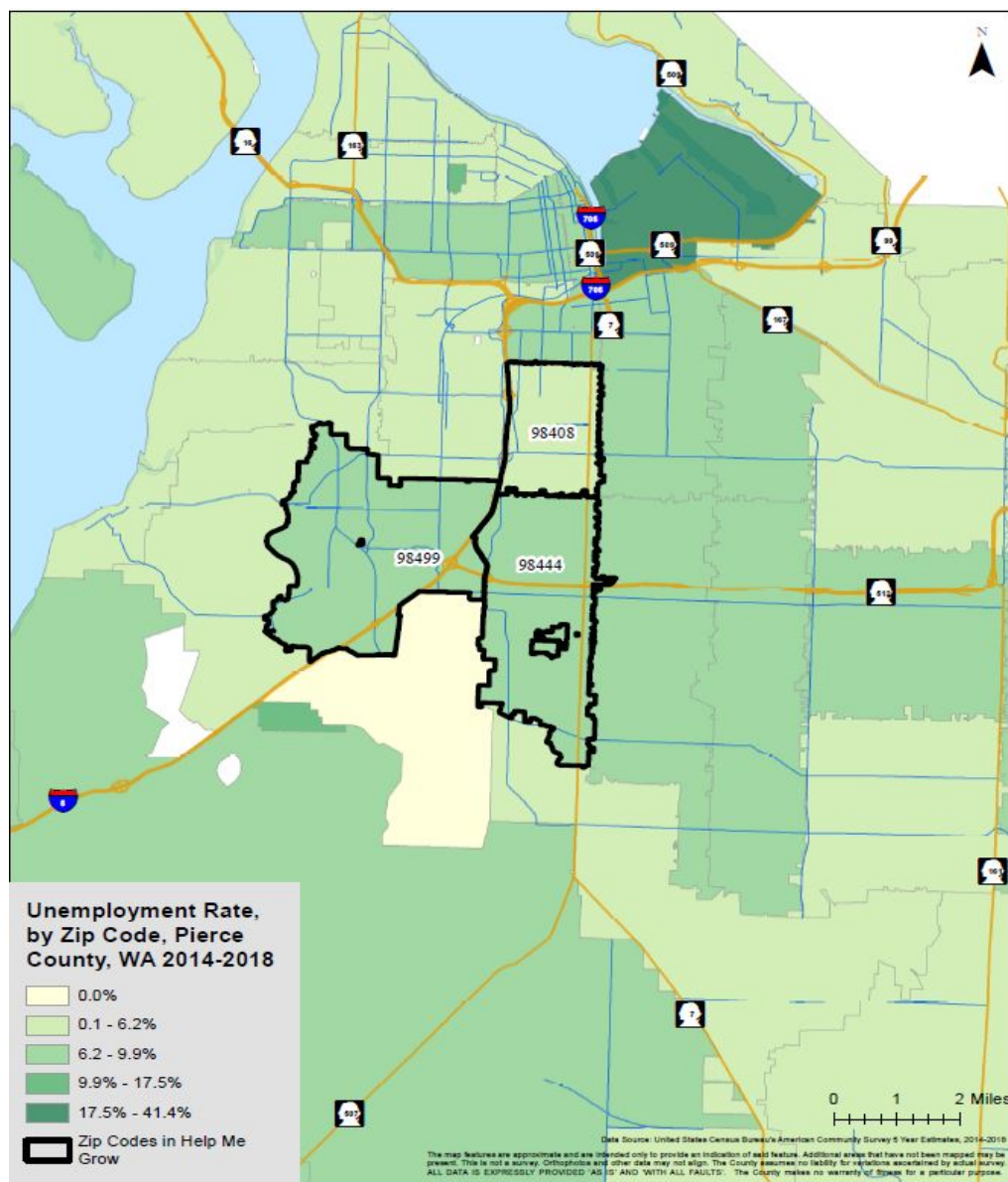
Economic Stability

Income and Employment

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Median Household Income (in the last 12 months)	\$55,902	\$44,942	\$41,178	\$67,868	\$70,116
Median Family Household Income (in the last 12 months) of households with children under age 18	\$63,045	\$50,051	\$47,457	\$80,328	\$84,182
Married couple family median income	\$82,138	\$56,691	\$51,088	\$92,290	\$102,460
Single Female Headed Household median income	\$16,940	\$29,464	\$18,936	\$31,792	\$30,810
Single Male Headed Household median income	\$39,934	\$38,859	\$26,389	\$51,847	\$49,524
Unemployment Rate, Civilian Labor Force (population 16 and older)	3.9%	8.6%	8.3%	5.8%	5.3%
% of families with all parents working (with children 0-5)	65.7%	61.4%	57.4%	57.7%	59.9%

Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2014-2018.

Unemployment Rate



Map provided by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department with data from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

Highest Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Older

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
8th grade or less	6.3%	4.8%	6.3%	2.9%	3.7%
9th grade - 12th grade (no diploma)	9.8%	10.5%	7.9%	5.9%	5.1%
GED or alternative credential	5.7%	6.0%	5.5%	4.6%	3.8%
High School Diploma	24.7%	29.0%	25.6%	22.9%	18.3%
Some College, no degree	26.7%	24.6%	26.1%	26.0%	23.7%
Associate's Degree	10.4%	10.6%	10.7%	11.5%	10.0%
Bachelor's Degree	11.8%	11.6%	12.1%	17.4%	22.1%
Master's Degree	3.6%	2.6%	4.0%	6.6%	9.4%
Professional school degree/PhD/Professor	0.9%	0.4%	1.9%	2.5%	3.7%

Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Table B15003, 2014-2018.

Poverty

The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) is a measure of income issued every year by the Department of Health and Human Services. FPLs are used to determine eligibility for certain programs and benefits, such as Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage.

The 2020 FPL income numbers are:

- \$12,760 for individuals
- \$17,240 for a family of 2
- \$21,720 for a family of 3
- \$26,200 for a family of 4

Individuals Living at or Near Poverty

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Individuals living below 50% of FPL	11.3%	8.0%	9.7%	5.4%	5.3%
Individuals living below 100% of FPL	17.7%	18.6%	22.6%	11.2%	11.5%
Individuals living below 150% of FPL	26.0%	29.8%	33.3%	17.8%	18.9%
Individuals living below 200% of FPL	39.8%	44.7%	47.8%	26.7%	26.9%

Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

Families with Children Ages 0-4 Living in Poverty

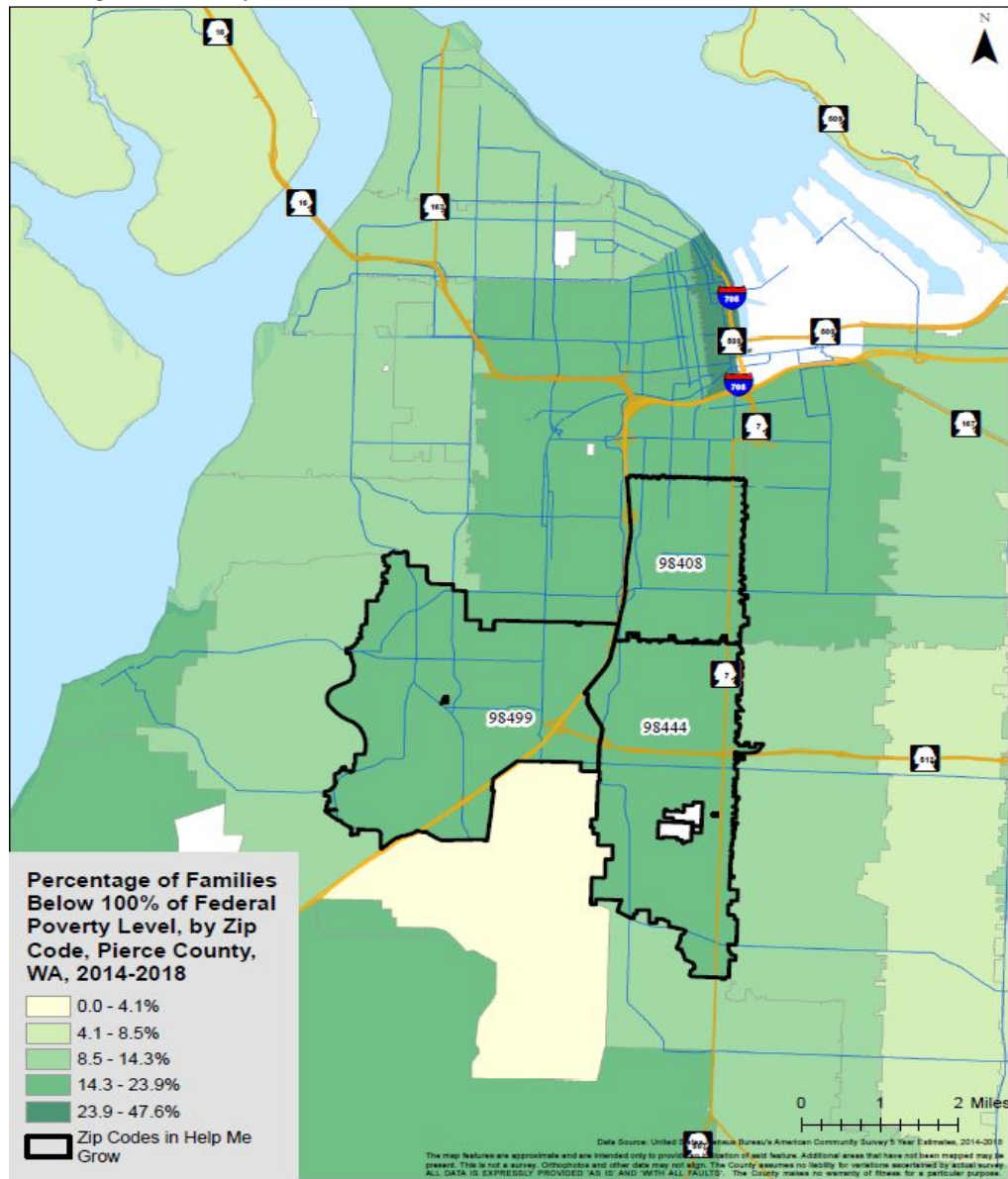
	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
% of Families with Children in household ages 0-4 who are under FPL	39.2%	6.6%*	23.6%	12.1%	11.3%

Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

*Data may not be reliable due to the large margin of error (±4.8%).

Families Below 100% of Federal Poverty Level

Percentage of families by census tract who are below the FPL; ZIP codes of interest are outlined in black



Map provided by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department with data from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5 year-estimates, 2014-2018.

Public Assistance Programs: % of Families Receiving Support

Type of Assistance	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Food and Nutrition Service: % of Infants Born and Served by WIC	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*
SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Food Stamps	22.5%	26.7%	25.3%	13.6%	12.5%
Medicaid (public health insurance coverage)	44.9%	47.3%	50.8%	35.5%	34.8%
TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Cash Public Assistance	3.8%	6.4%	5.6%	3.4%	3.2%

*Due to the novel coronavirus, this information has not been made available at the time of this report. We will update it in 2021 when the data becomes available.

SNAP, Medicaid, TANF Data Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

Housing and Homelessness

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Homeless families/individuals	544 (individuals reporting Tacoma as last residence)	126 (individuals reporting Parkland as last residence)	144 (individuals reporting Lakewood as last residence)	1,570 (households) 1,897 (individuals)	17,264 (households) 22,923 (individuals)
Housing cost burden: % of families paying more than 30% of income on housing	40.2%	47.7%	48.9%	35.7%	33.0%

Source for homeless families/individuals: Pierce County, Point in Time Count, January 2020.

Source for housing cost burden: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

Homelessness by Race (Pierce County, 2020)

	Count	Rate per 100,000 population
American Indian / Alaska Native	96	976.7
Asian	27	43.3
Black or African American	455	724.2
Hispanic / Latino	153	156.9
Multi-Race	227	384.8
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	61	434.2
White	1031	176.9

Source: Pierce County, Point in Time Count, January 2020.

Pregnancy and Birth

Births by Location in Pierce County, 2019

Hospital	Birthing Center	Home	Born on Arrival	Other	Total
11,254	227	187	7	2	11,680

Source: Washington State Department of Health birth files, 2019.

Hospital Births by Location, 2019

Tacoma General Hospital	Good Samaritan Hospital	St. Joseph Medical Center	St. Clare Hospital, Lakewood	Madigan Army Medical Center
2,883	2,218	4,315	2	1,840

Source: Washington State Department of Health birth files, 2019.

Birth Outcomes

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Number of births (2019)	253	582	482	11,051	84,918
% receiving adequate prenatal care*	64.1%	61.2%	65.0%	69.8%	72.0%
Preterm births (born before 37 weeks)	35 (13.5%)	67 (11.7%)	73 (13.3%)	1,198 (10.5%)	8,037 (9.4%)
Children born to women under 18 years old	1.2%	0.9%	1.1%	0.7%	0.8%
% of Infants breastfed from birth for any length of time**	97.0%	95.1%	94.7%	96.2%	93.0%
% of Infants breastfed at least 6 months (per all infants 6-12 months)***	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*

Source: Washington State Department of Health: Community Health Assessment Tool, 2019.

*Adequate prenatal care is defined using the Kotelchuck Index definition as having attended at least 80% of expected prenatal appointments

**Source: Washington State Department of Health birth files, 2019.

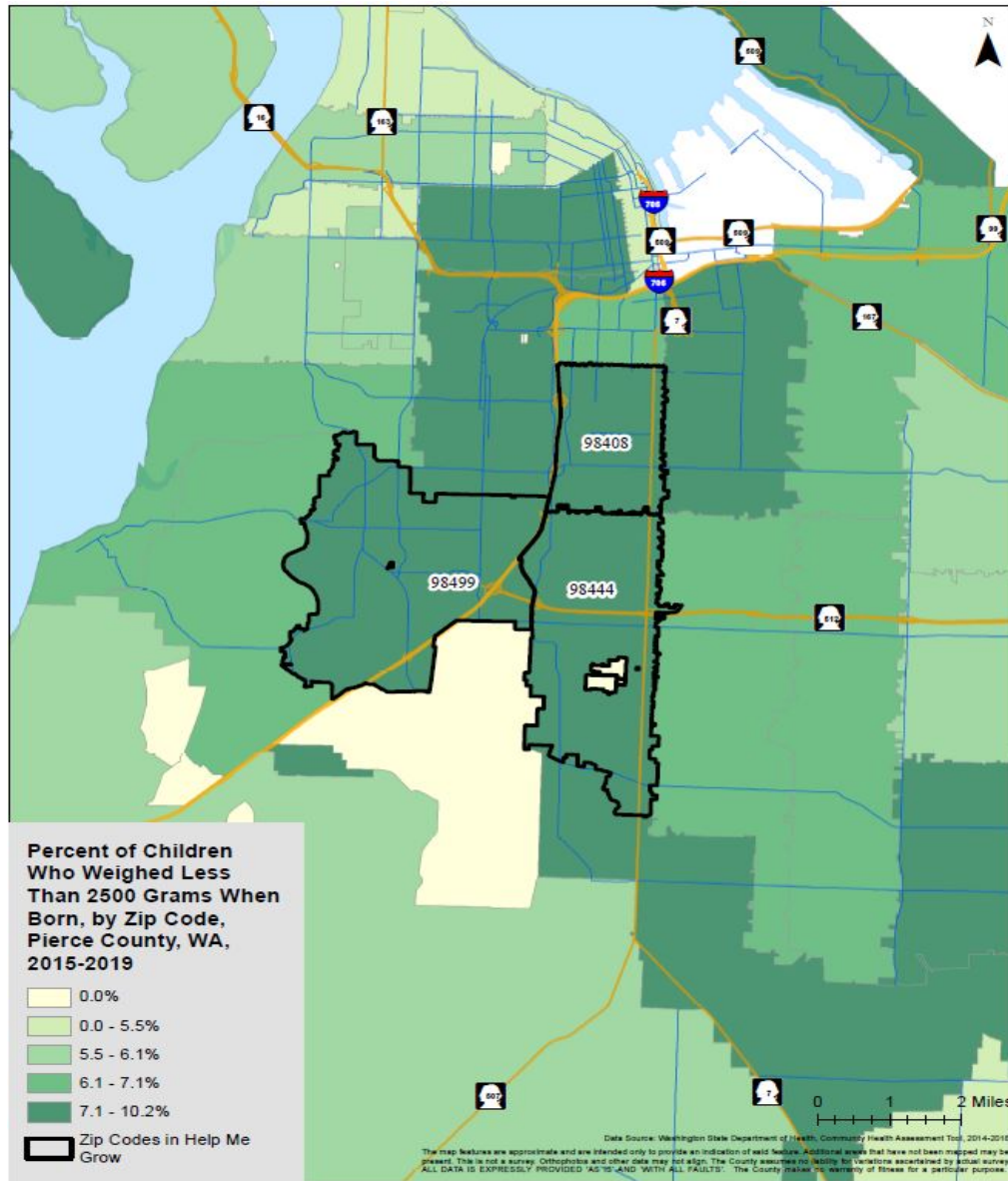
***Due to the novel coronavirus, this information has not been made available at the time of this report. We will update it in 2021 when the data becomes available.

Low Birth Weight

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Percent born under a normal weight (<2500-3999 grams)	8.7%	7.4%	8.1%	6.6%	6.4%

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2019.

Percentage of Children Born Who Weigh Less Than 2500 Grams, by ZIP Code



Map provided by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department with data from the Community Health Assessment Tool. 5-year estimates, 2015-2019

Low Birth Weight by Race and Ethnicity

Percent born under a normal weight (<2500-3999 grams)	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
American Indian / Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic	8.0%	3.0%	0%	7.9%	8.2%
Asian, Non-Hispanic	15.1%	9.2%	8.6%	8.3%	8.2%
Black or African American, Non-Hispanic	12.4%	13.3%	13.1%	12.1%	9.7%
Hispanic / Latino	7.3%	5.8%	6.5%	6.8%	6.5%
Multi-racial, Non-Hispanic	12.3%	6.8%	8.8%	8.4%	7.5%
Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	12.8%	11.6%	9.1%	7.0%	7.0%
White, Non-Hispanic	6.2%	7.3%	8.0%	5.6%	5.8%

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool 5-year averages, 2015-2019.

Infant Mortality Count, 2018

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Infant mortality count	0	3	2	73	400

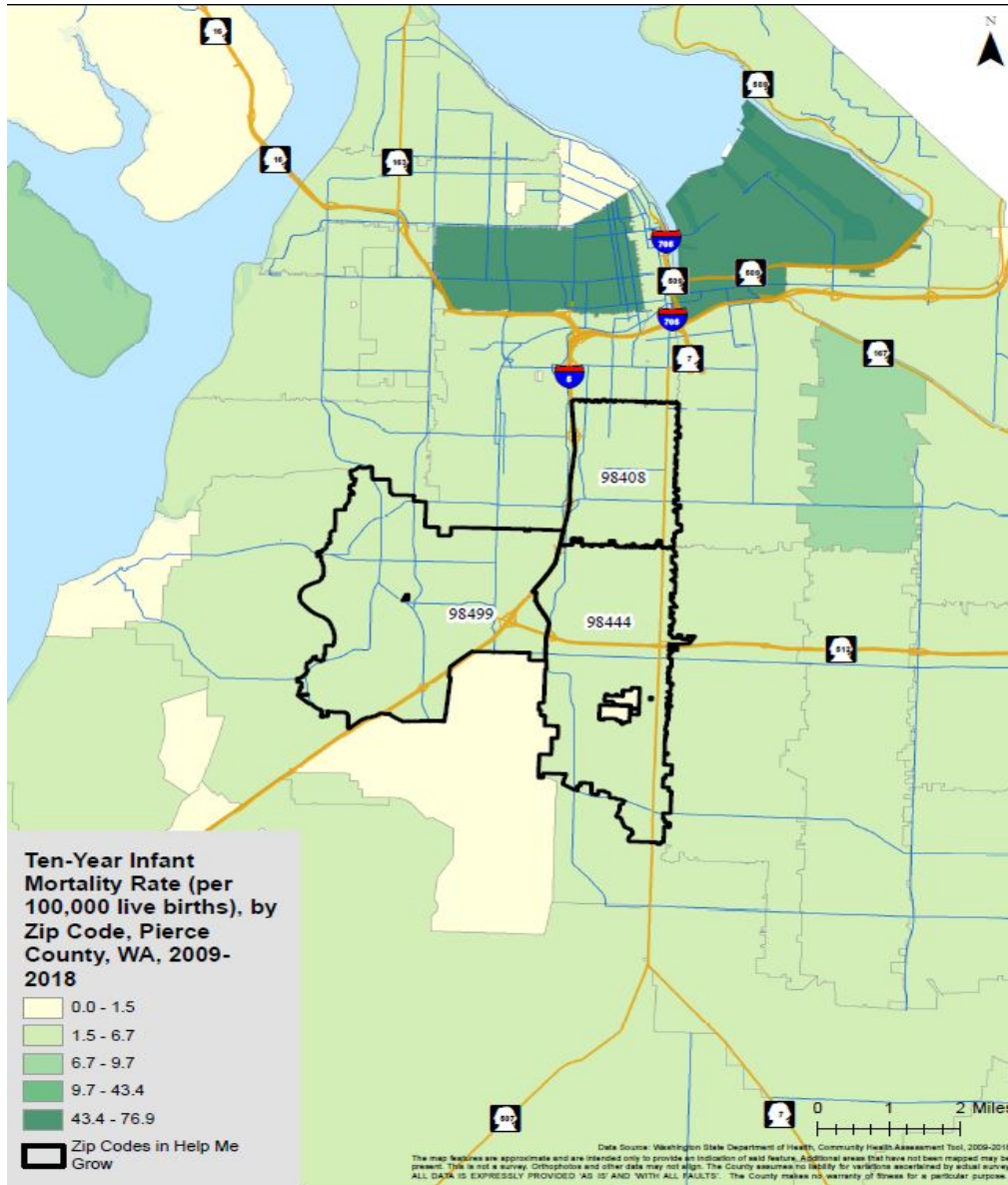
Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2018.

Infant Mortality Rates

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Ten-year rate (2009-2018) per 100,000 births	4.6	5.0	6.7	5.5	4.6

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2009-2018.

Ten-Year Infant Mortality Rates by ZIP Code



Map provided by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department with data from the Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool (CHAT), 2009-2018.

Note: Data for ZIP code 98421 (dark green) may not be reliable due to the very low number of births (between zero and two births per year).

Infant Mortality Rate by Race and Ethnicity

Number of Infant Deaths from Age 0-1 per 1,000 live births	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.0	11.2	0.0	8.4	8.5
Asian	4.4	8.4	3.2	5.4	3.2
Black	4.3	4.5	7.5	10.6	8.3
Hispanic	0.0	5.4	6.2	4.9	4.4
Multi-Race	0.0	2.1	0.0	7.7	6.4
Pacific Islander	12.4	6.7	3.2	8.4	6.3
White	6.2	4.3	8.6	4.5	4.1

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2009-2018.

Child Health Indicators

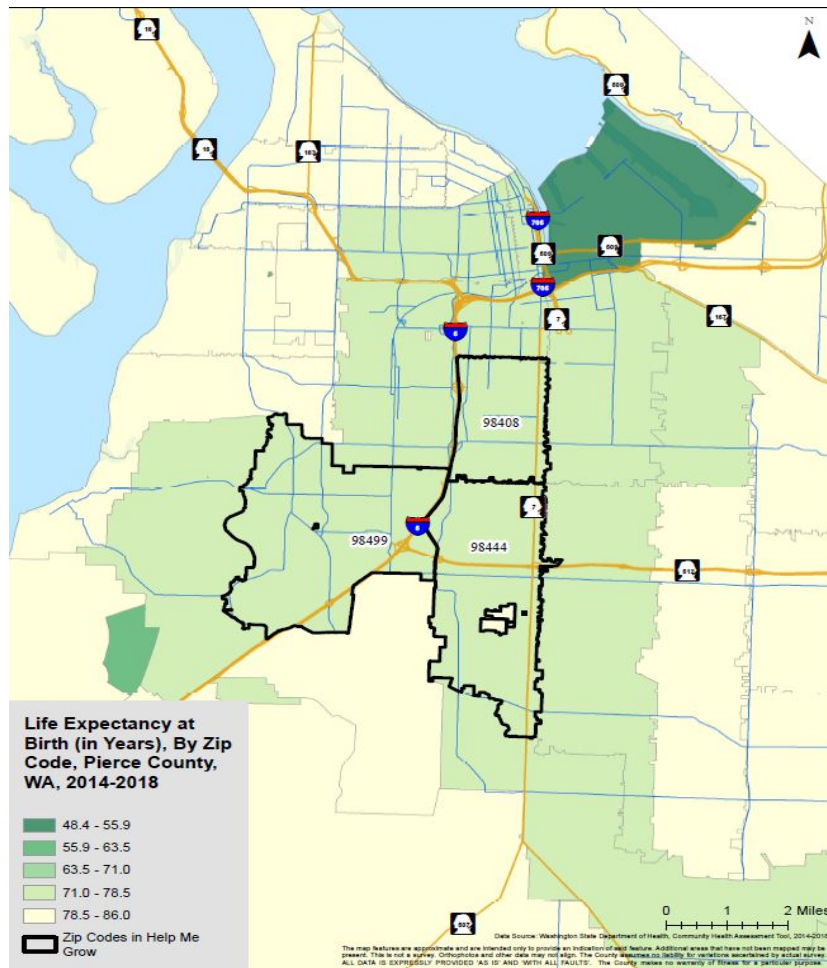
Life Expectancy at Birth

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA	U.S.*
Life expectancy at birth	77.8	74.2	76.6	78.9	80.5	78.5

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2018.

*Source for national data: The World Bank, Life Expectancy at Birth, 2018.

Life Expectancy at Birth by ZIP Code



Map provided by Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department with data from Washington State Community Health Assessment Tool, 5-Year Averages from 2014-2018.

Health Care

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA	U.S.
% of children <18 without health insurance (civilian)	1.4%	2.0%	2.9%	3.0%	3.1%	5.2%
% of children <18 with special health care needs	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*
% of children <18 with any disability	5.7%	5.3%	4.5%	4.1%	4.0%	4.2%
All immunizations received by kindergarten**	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*	Not available for 2019*

Source for health insurance: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

*Due to the novel coronavirus, this information has not been made available at the time of this report. We will update it in 2021 when the data becomes available.

**Note: Immunizations include 5 doses diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis, 2 doses measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), and 2 doses of varicella vaccine.

Well Child Visits and Developmental Screening

Developmental disabilities are the most common disorders among children. Studies indicate that 16% to 18% of all children aged 0 to 18 have developmental disabilities. In the 0 to 2-year age range alone, incidence reaches 13%. The American Academy of Pediatrics encourages routine developmental-behavioral surveillance during health supervision visits, as disabilities can be ameliorated through early intervention and sometimes prevented. Only an estimated 25% of those eligible for Early Intervention services are detected and enrolled. Prevention and intervention depend on the use of accurate screening tools and actions to ensure that the results are used to direct families to needed referral resources (Bright Futures Handbook, 2010).

A medical home is a consistent location from which children receive routine medical care. The American Academy of Pediatrics specifies seven qualities essential to medical home care: accessible, family-centered, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate and culturally effective care. Ideally, medical home care is delivered within the context of a trusting and collaborative relationship between the child's family and a competent health professional who is familiar with the child and family and the child's health history (National Survey of Children's Health, 2018-2019).

	WA	U.S.
% of children ages 0 to 5 with a preventive medical visit in the past year (2018 only)	66.7%	78.8%
% of children receiving developmental screening, ages 9-35 months	36.2%	36.4%
% of children ages 0 to 5 (without special health care needs) who receive care within a medical home	52.6%	51.3%
% of children ages 0 to 5 whose health care provider asked about the child's learning, development, or behavior in the past year (2018 only)	28.8%	30.0%

Note: This data is currently only available by state, from the National Survey of Children's Health, 2018-2019.

Early Intervention Services

A child is eligible for Early Intervention services if he or she demonstrates a developmental delay with a 1.5 standard deviation or 25% of chronological age delay, or a diagnosed physical or mental condition with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay. A developmental delay must be diagnosed in one or more of the following developmental areas: Cognitive, Physical (fine or gross motor), Communication (receptive or expressive language), Social or Emotional, or Adaptive. If a child does not have a qualifying diagnosis nor a qualifying score, they can still sometimes qualify for services based on informed clinical opinion.

2019	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County
# of children referred to Early Intervention/Part C services for evaluation	34	84	78	1,695
# of children identified as eligible for needing services	Not available	Not available	Not available	1,230
# of children receiving Early Intervention services	66	91	83	2,199

Source: Pierce County Human Services, Developmental Disabilities, reported September 2020.

Early Intervention by Race and Ethnicity (Pierce County, 2019)

Ethnicity	Birth to One		One to Two		Two to Three		Total	
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	<1%	4	<1%	15	1%	20	<1%
Asian	8	4%	15	3%	68	5%	91	4%
Black or African American	18	9%	50	10%	126	8%	194	9%
Hispanic or Latino	49	23%	117	23%	324	22%	490	22%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3	1%	11	2%	29	2%	43	2%
White	103	49%	425	49%	712	48%	1240	48%
Two or More races	28	13%	60	12%	213	14%	301	14%
TOTAL	210	9%*	682	23%*	1,487	68%*	2,379	100%

Source: Pierce County Human Services, Developmental Disabilities, September 2020.

*% of children receiving services in each age bracket

Child Care and Preschool

Child Care Capacity

	Pierce County	WA
# of licensed center-based childcare providers	171	1,716
# of Family Child Care providers	236	3,109
School age only providers (Licensed & Exempt)	82	559
Total providers	489	5,384
Total capacity (slots for children in all types of facilities, including both filled and vacant)	20,933	186,149
Total capacity by subsidy acceptance	13,635	121,446
Number of licensed centers that accept the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) Subsidy (all types of care)*	323 (66% of total)	3,644 (68% of total)

Source: Child Care Aware of Washington, 2019 Data Report: Trends, Child Care Supply, Cost of Care, & Demand for Referrals, 2020.

*Reported by Child Care Aware of Washington, August 2020.

Note: Total capacity does not reflect the allowable number of children in care. For instance, a facility may be licensed for 6 slots under 2, but state law requires that if there is one person on staff, they can't accept more than 2 under 2.

The number of child care providers in Pierce County has steadily declined over the past six years, with a 26% reduction in total providers since 2013.

Year	Number of Licensed Child Care Centers	Number of Licensed Family Child Care Homes	Total
2020	171	236	407
2019	177	254	431
2018	181	268	449
2017	182	276	458
2016	186	288	474
2015	184	328	512
2014	191	346	537
2013	183	368	551

Source: Child Care Aware of Washington, 2013 – 2020 Data Reports: Trends, Childcare Supply, Cost of Care, & Demand for Referrals.

Child Care Center Rates: Monthly Average (Median)

Age Group	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA*
Year	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
Infant	\$835 (n<5)	\$1,184 (n<5)	\$1,100 (n=5)	\$1,100 (n=64)	\$1,211
Toddler	\$836 (n<5)	\$835 (n<5)	\$975 (n=8)	\$953 (n=105)	\$1,040
Preschool	\$598 (n<5)	\$703 (n=6)	\$863 (n=8)	\$867 (n=123)	\$923

Note: These numbers are mid-year reports. Final numbers for 2020 will come out with Child Care Aware of Washington's annual report. Rates by zip code have a wide margin of error due to small sample sizes.

Source: Child Care Aware of Washington, August 2020. Median average as self-reported by providers. Lower numbers from previous years are largely expected with such low sample numbers.

*Washington State source: Child Care Aware of America, The U.S. and the High Cost of Child Care: 2019 Report, 2019.

Family Child Care Rates: Monthly Average (Median)

Age Group	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA*
Year	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
Infant	\$1,066 (n=10)	\$780 (n=6)	\$1,191 (n<5)	\$867 (n=154)	\$1,178
Toddler	\$867 (n=11)	\$650 (n=6)	\$1,191 (n<5)	\$823 (n=175)	\$982
Preschool	\$850 (n=11)	\$650 (n=6)	\$1,083 (n<5)	\$750 (n=179)	\$886

Note: These numbers are mid-year reports. Final numbers for 2020 will come out with Child Care Aware of Washington's annual report. Rates by zip code have a wide margin of error due to small sample sizes.

Source: Child Care Aware of Washington, August 2020. Median average as self-reported by providers.

*Washington state source: Child Care Aware of America, The U.S. and the High Cost of Child Care: 2019 Report, 2019.

Child Care Affordability

% of Median Income Spent on Child Care	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
With one infant in center-based care					
Married couple family	12.2%	25.1%	25.8%	13.4%	13.8%
Single mother	59.1%	48.2%	69.7%	41.5%	45.9%
Single father	25.1%	36.6%	50.0%	25.5%	28.5%
With two children in center-based care (one toddler, one preschool)					
Married couple family	21.0%	32.6%	43.2%	22.2%	23.0%
Single mother	101.6%	62.6%	116.5%	68.7%	76.5%
Single father	43.1%	47.5%	83.6%	42.1%	47.6%

Source: Calculated by dividing average 2019 rates (above) by median income in the past 12 months for households with children under 18 years old (in 2018 inflation-adjusted dollars) from the United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

Subsidy Reimbursement Rates

The Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program pays for child care subsidies to eligible households with parents who are working or are participating in a Department of Social and Health Services' approved work activity at the time of application and whose children meet residency requirements. Eligibility is determined by the number of people in the household with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, and co-payments are determined on a sliding scale. For example, a three-person household with countable monthly income of \$995 would have a \$15 per month co-pay. Child care providers are not required to accept the WCCC subsidy.

Centers	Median Cost	75 th Percentile Cost	State Subsidy Rate	Median Cost as a % of Median Income
Infant	\$1040	\$1200	\$1059	17%
Toddler	\$888	\$1027	\$921	15%
Preschool	\$775	\$918	\$821	13%
School Age	\$546	\$690	\$566	9%
Family Child Care	Median Cost	75 th Percentile Cost	State Subsidy Rate	Median Cost as a % of Median Income
Infant	\$823	\$910	\$803	14%
Toddler	\$758	\$867	\$803	13%
Preschool	\$700	\$800	\$677	12%
School Age	\$542	\$650	\$580	9%

Source: Child Care Aware of Washington, Pierce County data, 2019.

Early Head Start (2019-2020)

Early Head Start is a comprehensive program that serves income-eligible children birth to three years of age, pregnant women and their families through home-based or quality licensed childcare settings.

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County
Number of children served by home-based Early Head Start	12	24	33	233

Source: Reported by Puget Sound Educational Service District, September 2020. Reflects any child enrolled during the 2019-2020 program year.

Head Start and ECEAP

ECEAP is the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program funded by Washington State for children 3 and 4, providing free preschool for families who qualify based on income. Head Start is funded by the federal government for children ages 3 and 4. Both Head Start and ECEAP provide comprehensive school readiness including family-centered programs that combine education, social services, family support, family engagement, and health and nutrition services. Statewide, the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) estimated that as of December 2019 there were 42,797 children eligible for ECEAP or Head Start in the 2019-2020 school year, with only 22,970 total slots funded (DCYF, 2020).

Child Care Centers with Head Start and ECEAP

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County
Number of centers that provide ECEAP slots	0	2	2	40
Number of centers that provide Head Start slots	2	3	1	41

Source: Reported by Child Care Aware of Washington, August 2020.

Head Start and ECEAP Availability in Pierce County

	Available Slots	Estimated # of Eligible Children	% of Eligible Served
Pierce County – total of all school districts	2,486	5,483	45%

Source: Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families, ECEAP and Head Start Saturation Study, 2020.

Education

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Number of children enrolled in kindergarten (full-time)	166	311	454	10,745	82,908
% of children ready for kindergarten*	59.4%	38.7%	33.5%	53.2%	51.5%
% meeting 3 rd Grade ELA standards (English Language Arts/Literacy: reading, writing, speaking and listening)**	44.8%	42.6%	29.5%	59.5%	55.4%

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 2019-2020.

*Note: Percent of students who demonstrate characteristics of entering Kindergarten in all 6 domains: social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and math. Zip code percentages were calculated by averaging the scores from each elementary school in that zip code.

**Due to the novel coronavirus, this data was not collected this year. Numbers provided are 2018-2019 data.

Substance Abuse

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Alcohol related deaths (age-adjusted rate: deaths per 100,000 population)	33.7	22.9	13.5	16.9	13.4
Drug related deaths (age-adjusted rate: deaths per 100,000 population)	23.5	36.1	28.2	20.1	17.3

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Community Health Assessment Tool, 2018.

Mental Health and Trauma

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
% of births where mothers reported symptoms of Postpartum depression*	Not available	Not available	Not available	13.4%	11.4%
% of children <18 who have experienced 1 or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	39.8%
Percent of individuals who reported poor mental health in the last 30 days***	18.1%	21.7%	18.5%	14.0%	Not available

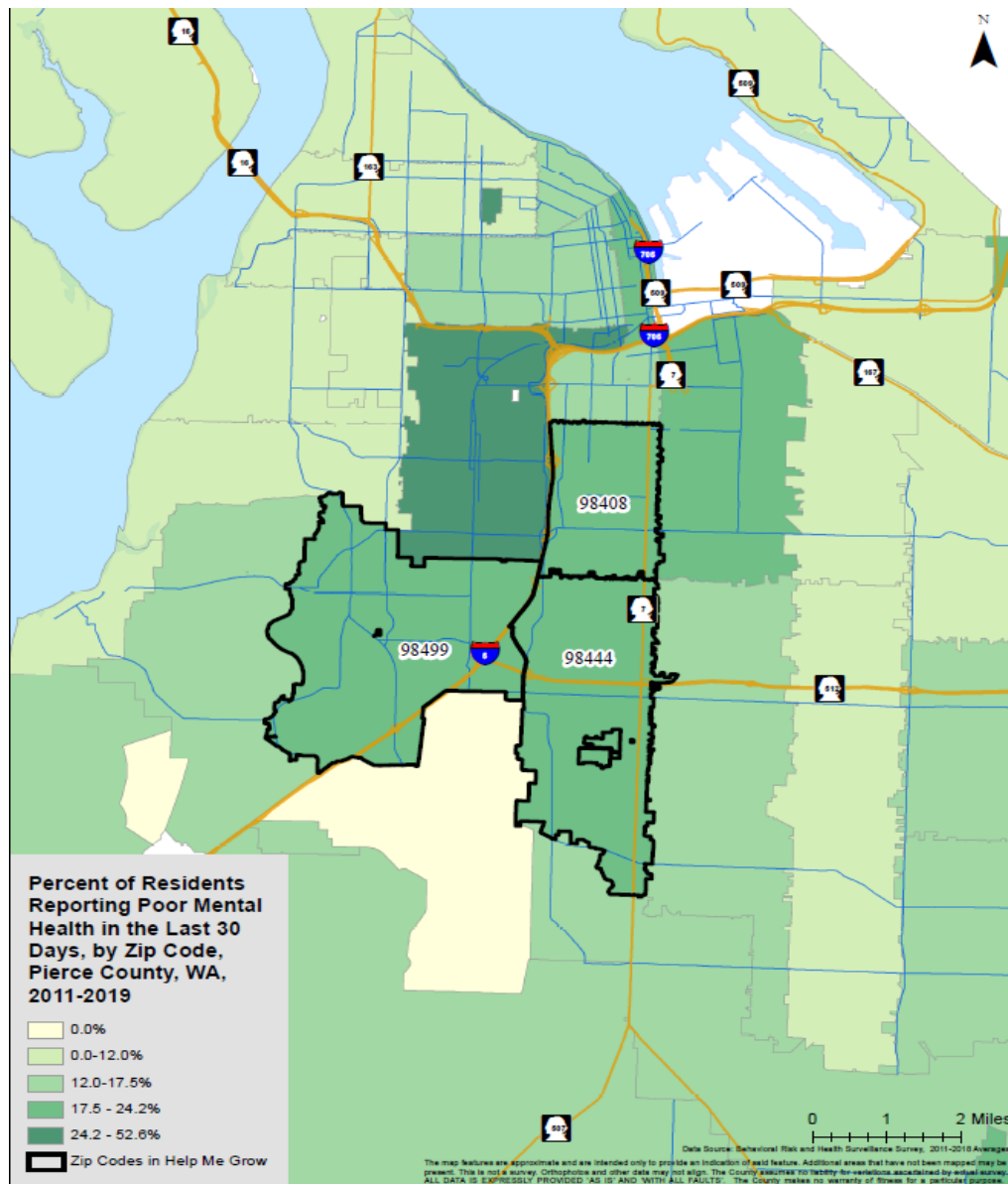
*Postpartum depression symptoms were defined by the frequency of feeling down, depressed, or sad; feeling hopeless; and feeling slowed down.

Source: Pregnancy Risk Monitoring System (PRAMS), 2018.

**Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Survey of Children’s Health, 2018.

***Source: Washington State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2011-2019 averages.

Percent of Pierce County residents reporting poor mental health in the last 30 days, by ZIP code



Source: Washington State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2011-2019 averages.

Child Welfare

In 2019, there were 128,697 calls made to the child abuse and neglect hotline in Washington State. The Department of Children, Youth, and Families within local communities is responsible for receiving and investigating reports of suspected child abuse and neglect. Reports are received and assessed to determine whether the report meets the legal definition of abuse or neglect, and how dangerous the situation is. Family Assessment Response (FAR) is an alternative response to Child Protective Services (CPS) for an investigation of a screened-in allegation of child abuse or neglect. FAR focuses on child safety along with the integrity and preservation of the family when lower risk allegations of child maltreatment have been screened in for intervention (Department of Children, Youth, and Families, 2020).

Investigations and Children in Care

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA
Total children entering out-of-home care in 2019	29	59	39	635	5,450
Number of children entering care under age 1	11	<10	<10	185 (29%)	1,302 (15%)
Number of children entering care in first month of life	<10	<10	<10	123 (19%)	820 (9.3%)
Number of children in the child welfare system as of 1/01/2019	58	142	83	1,268	8,829
Number of children in care under age 6	24	60	41	583 (46%)	4,577 (48%)
Number of intakes screened in for investigation	70	144	181	2,243	16,427
Number of intakes screened in for Family Assessment and Response (Risk Only)	112	248	206	3,689	27,704
Total child protection intakes screened in for response	182	392	387	5,932	44,131
Total child protection intakes screened in for children 0-5	92	191	193	2,611	19,783
Total child protection intakes screened in (number of children)	222	562	510	8,165	64,469
Median length of stay in out-of-home care	488	532	556	506 days	588 days

Note: Pierce County data reflects children for whom their initial placement took place in Pierce County.

Source: Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families, *infoFamLink Report*, 2020.

Number of Children Entering Out-of-Home Care in 2019 by Race and Ethnicity

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce	WA	U.S. (2019)
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	<10	<10	22	178 (3.3%)	5,596 (2%)
American Indian/Alaska Native - Multiracial	<10	<10	10	85	506 (9.3%)	Included above
Black	<10	<10	<10	29	165 (3.0%)	53,089 (21%)
Black-Multiracial	<10	13	10	80	442 (8.1%)	Included above
Asian or Pacific Islander	14	12	22	94	464 (8.5%)	2,391 (1%)
Hispanic (of any race)	<10	<10	0	49	905 (16.6%)	51,780 (21%)
White	0	<10	<10	17	114 (2.1%)	114,462 (46%)
Other - Multiracial	10	22	12	259	2,655	18,055 (7%)
Unknown or Unable to determine	0	<10	<10	17	21 (0.4%)	4,730 (2%)
Total	43	74`	60	635	5,450	251,359

Source for local data: Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families, *infoFamLink Report*, 2020.

Source for national estimates: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, AFCARs, estimates as of 6/23/2020.

Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care by Race and Ethnicity (as of 1/01/2020)

	98408	98444	98499	Pierce County	WA	U.S. (as of 9/30/2019)
American Indian or Alaska Native	No data	<10	<10	34	299 (3.4%)	10,152 (2%)
American Indian/Alaska Native - Multiracial	13	<10	12	184	972 (11.0%)	Included above
Black	<10	<10	<10	46	192 (2.2%)	97,142 (23%)
Black-Multiracial	<10	31	13	165	739 (8.4%)	Included above
Asian or Pacific Islander	15	27	18	194	785 (8.9%)	3,314 (1%)
Hispanic (of any race)	<10	17	<10	103	1,341 (15.6%)	87,625 (21%)
White	0	<10	<10	46	228 (2.6%)	185,825 (44%)
Other - Multiracial	14	46	24	495	4,236 (50.2%)	32,284 (8%)
Unknown or Unable to determine	0	0	0	<10	37 (.4%)	6,148 (1%)
Total	58	142	83	1268	8,829	423,997

Source for local data: Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families, *infoFamLink Report*, 2020.

Source for national estimates: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, AFCARs, estimates as of 6/23/2020.

Circumstances Association with Child’s Removal (Pierce County, 2019)

During calendar year 2019, there were 635 removals with an *identified reason for removal*. Age is the child’s age at removal. Note that the “Total by Age” is not equal to the column total, as more than one reason for removal can be identified for each child. Inadequate housing alone is not a valid reason for removal.

Identified Reason for Removal	Birth to 5 Years	6-12 Years	13-17 Years	Total
Neglect	235	166	90	491
Physical Abuse	95	84	62	241
Sexual Abuse	19	37	30	86
Abandonment	<10	11	21	40
Caregiver Alcohol Abuse	<10	18	11	35
Caregiver Drug Abuse	152	57	10	219
Caregiver Death	0	<10	<10	<10
Caregiver Incarceration	15	14	<10	32
Caregiver Inability to Cope	54	29	18	101
Inadequate Housing	39	19	<10	63
Relinquishment	0	0	0	0
Child Alcohol Abuse	<10	0	<10	<10
Child Drug Abuse	<10	0	<10	<10
Child Behavior	<10	<10	24	33
Child Disability	0	<10	<10	<10
Total by Age:	377	265	162	804

Source: Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families. (2020). *infoFamLink Report*.

Conclusion

Understanding the needs of children and families in our community is crucial to determine appropriate interventions to address the most pressing local inequities and improve outcomes for children and families. Help Me Grow Pierce County aims to address the most common struggles for parents of young children to ensure that resource investment will be timely, accessible, and helpful to those who need it most.

Reducing inequity begins by building upon the existing strengths and resources in a community. Through better coordination among services, consistent data tracking, and targeted efforts to address resource gaps, a local Help Me Grow system aims to strengthen the support system for all parents and improve early childhood outcomes. These efforts have become more crucial than ever in 2020, as many families faced increased health and economic hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. How the pandemic will impact the data indicators for children in our community remains to be seen in the coming years.

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*Due to the novel coronavirus, several metrics (school immunization information, the percentage of Infants breastfed at least 6 months and the percentage of children under 18 with special needs) have not been made available at the time of this report. We will update these metrics in 2021 when this data is made available.