

Diverse Population Growth in East King County

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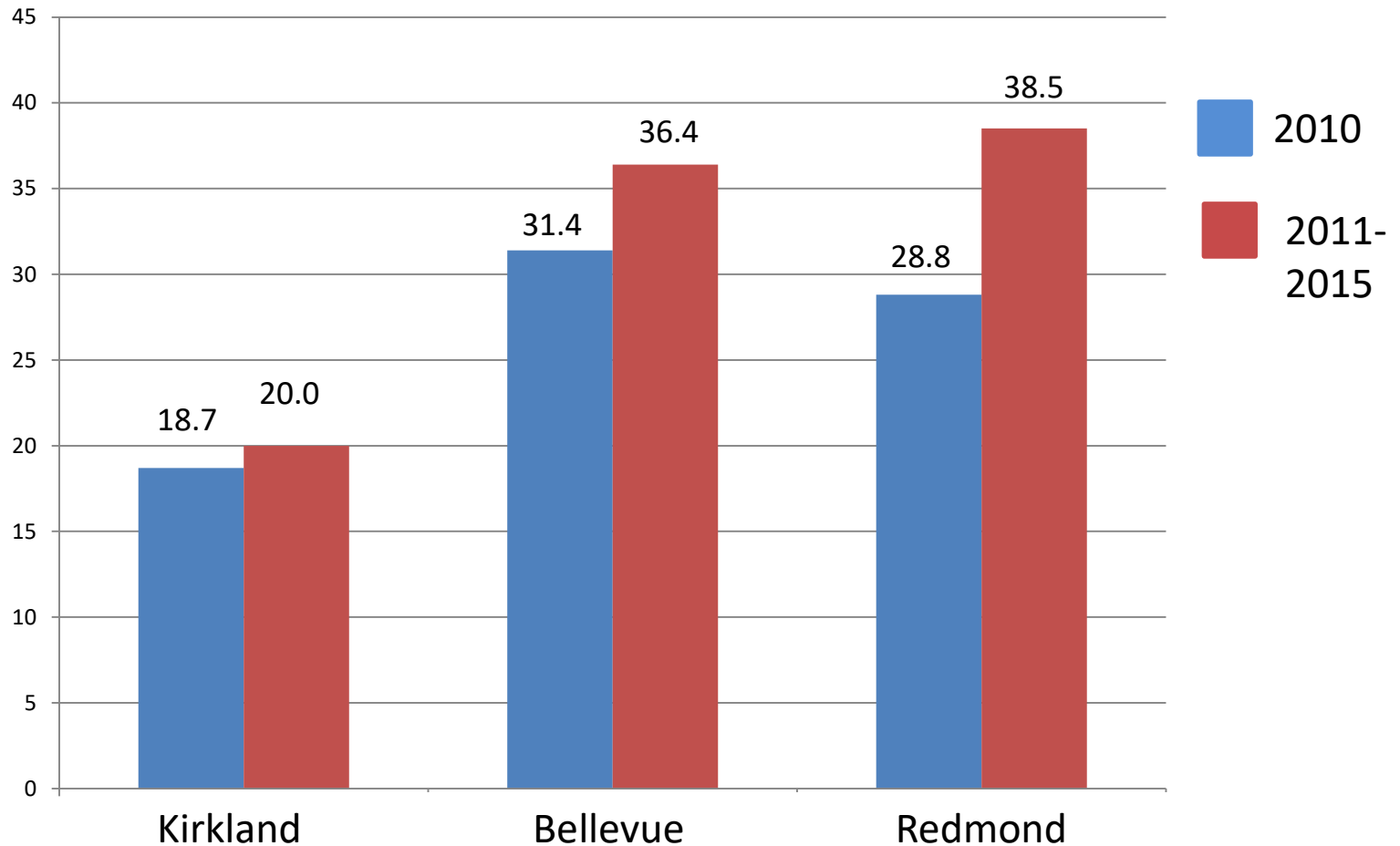
Immigrant Contributions to a Healthy Economy

Debbie Lacy, Director

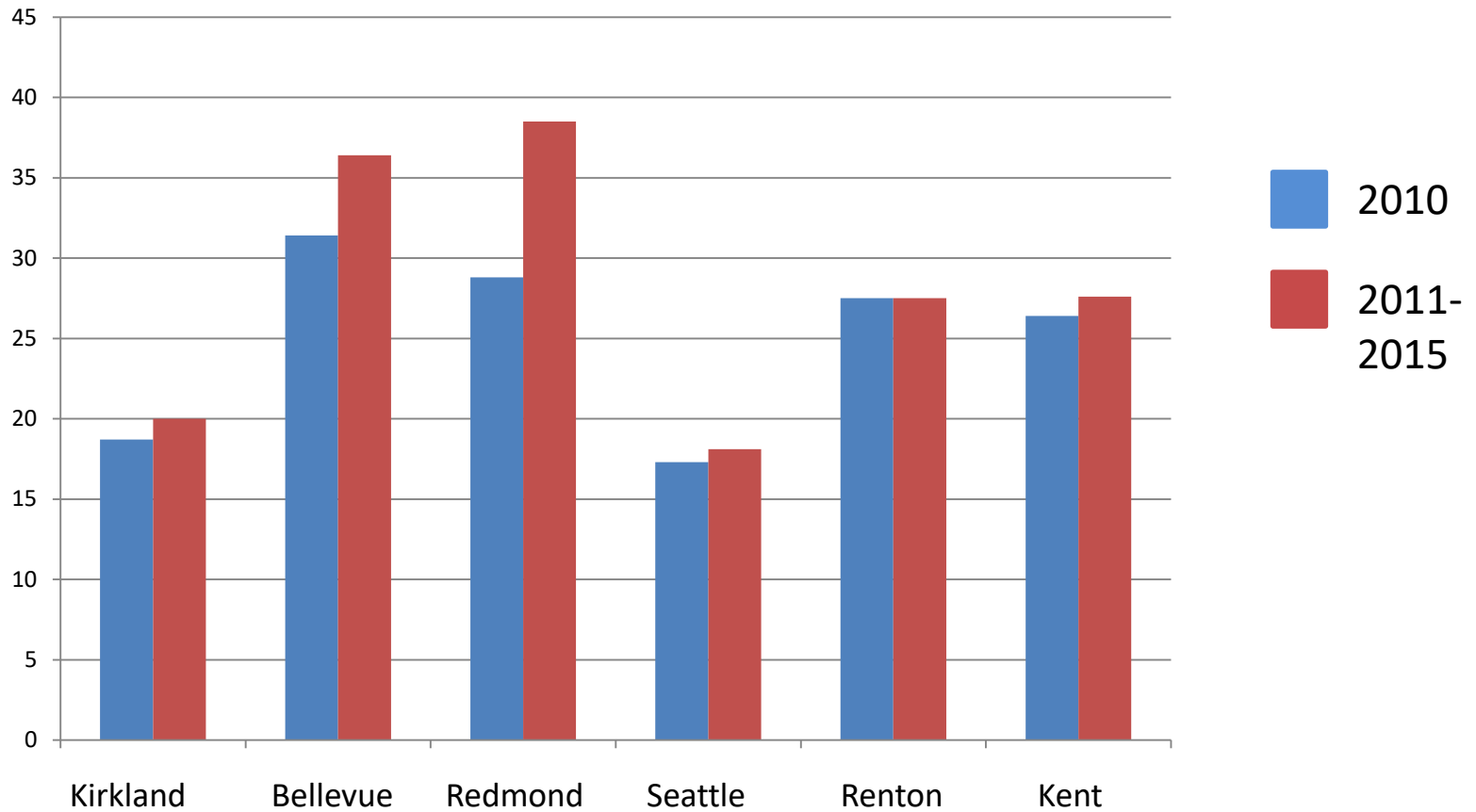
ERIC
Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition

Percent of Population Born Outside of U.S.

American Community Survey

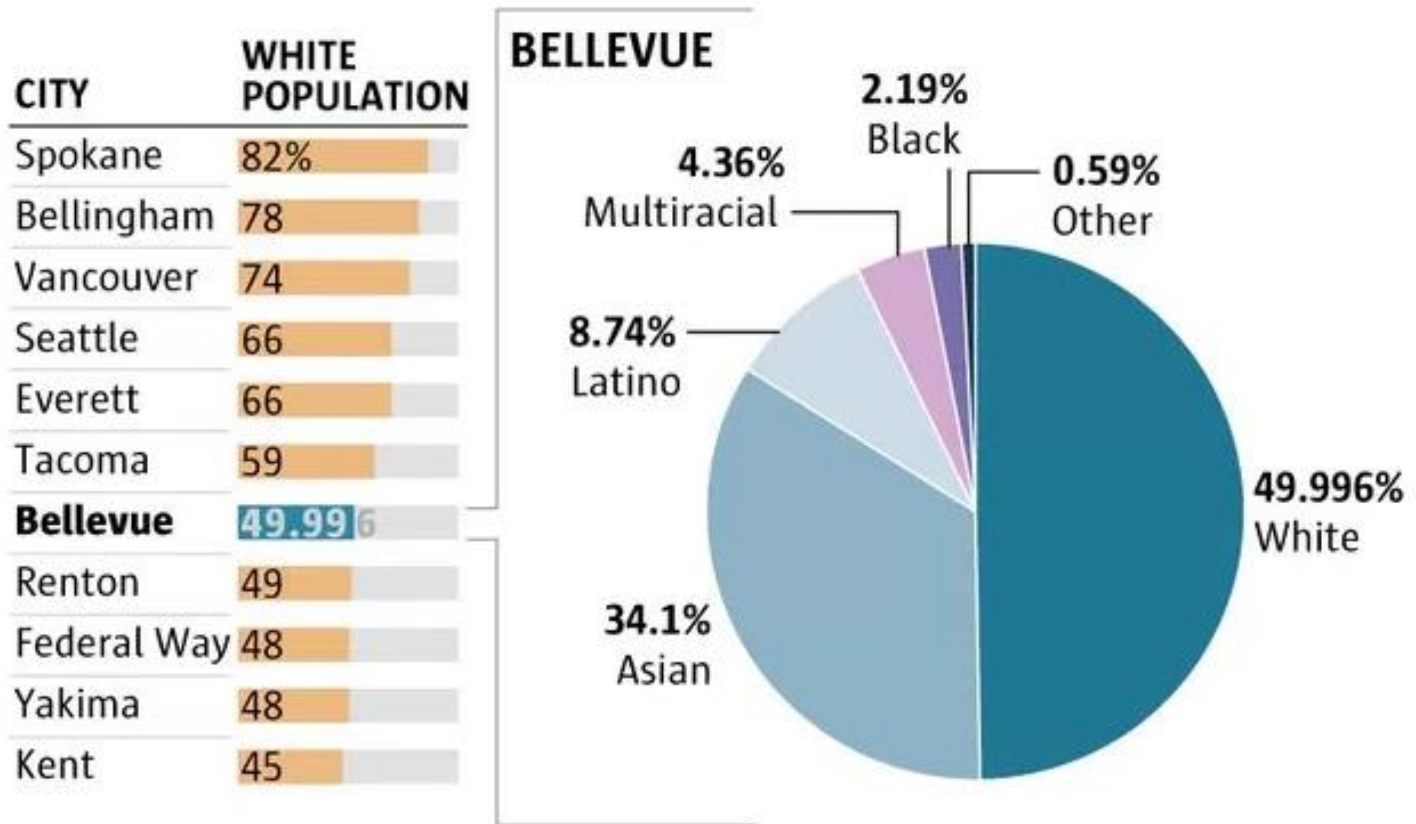


Percent of Population Born Outside of U.S.



American Community Survey

“Majority-Minority”



Source: U.S. Census 2015, as seen in Seattle Times

2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Immigrants are Entrepreneurs

They own...

53% of grocery stores

38% of restaurants

58% of dry cleaners

61% of gas stations

45% of nail salons

43% of liquor stores

32% of both jewelry and clothing stores

Immigrants Have Buying Power

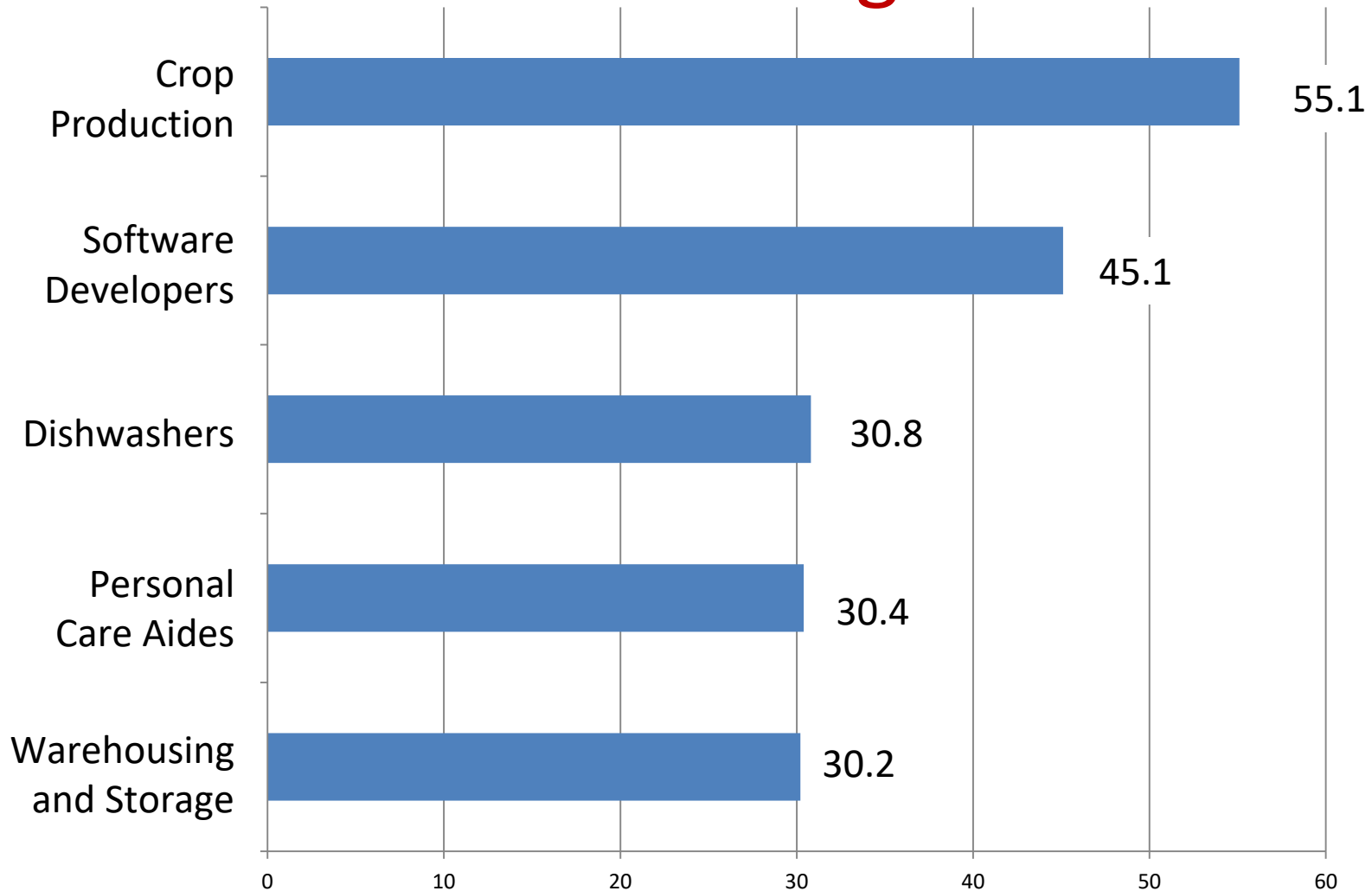
Latino-American Market:
\$1.5 Trillion

Asian-American Market is
expected to reach \$1.1 Trillion
by 2020.

Our Workforce Depends on Immigrants

In WA, **51%** of the native-born population is of working age, compared to **71.6%** of the foreign-born population.

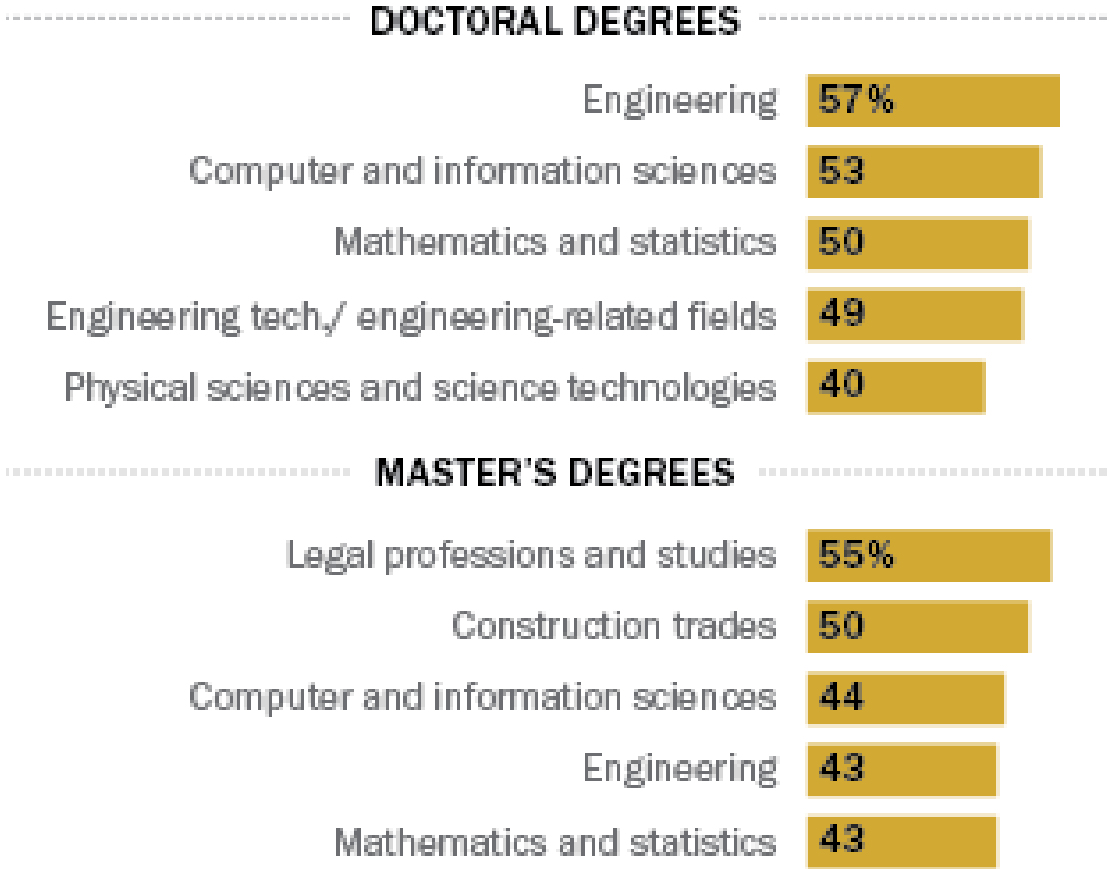
% of WA Employees Who Are Foreign-Born



Source: *The Contributions of New Americans in WA, an Aug 2016 Report by the New American Economy*

Foreign Students Earn Large Share of Advanced Degrees in Many STEM Fields

Top fields of study by share of degrees earned by foreign students, 2012-13



Source: National Center for Education Statistics; PEW Research Center

**In 2016, there were
236,000 petitions by
employers for H-1B visas.**

**H-1B visas are capped at
85,000 per year.**

**In 2017, we hit the
cap in 4 days.**

Cities whose employers faced large numbers of denials in the H-1B visa lotteries experienced considerably less job creation and wage growth for **American-born** computer workers in the two years that followed.

Source: study published in 2014 by Partnership for a New American Economy

Advocating for welcoming, culturally competent practices across all sectors so that **policies, investments, services, and initiatives** reflect the unique needs and strengths of our multicultural community.