

# THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND LABOR MARKET PROFILE OF PONTIAC CITY (MICHIGAN)

Combining U.S. Census Bureau's LEHD Origin-Destination  
Employment Statistics with  
other Bureau's Data to Profile Local Communities

Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Workshop  
September 11 – 12, 2017  
U. S. Bureau of Census

# Data Used

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- Population Census.
- Population Estimates.
- American Community Surveys, 5-Year Estimates.
- LEHD Origin-Destination (LODES).

# General Descriptives of Pontiac City

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**59,917**

Population

**20 mi<sup>2</sup>**

Size

**2,996**

Density  
(Population/Mi<sup>2</sup>)

**27,963**

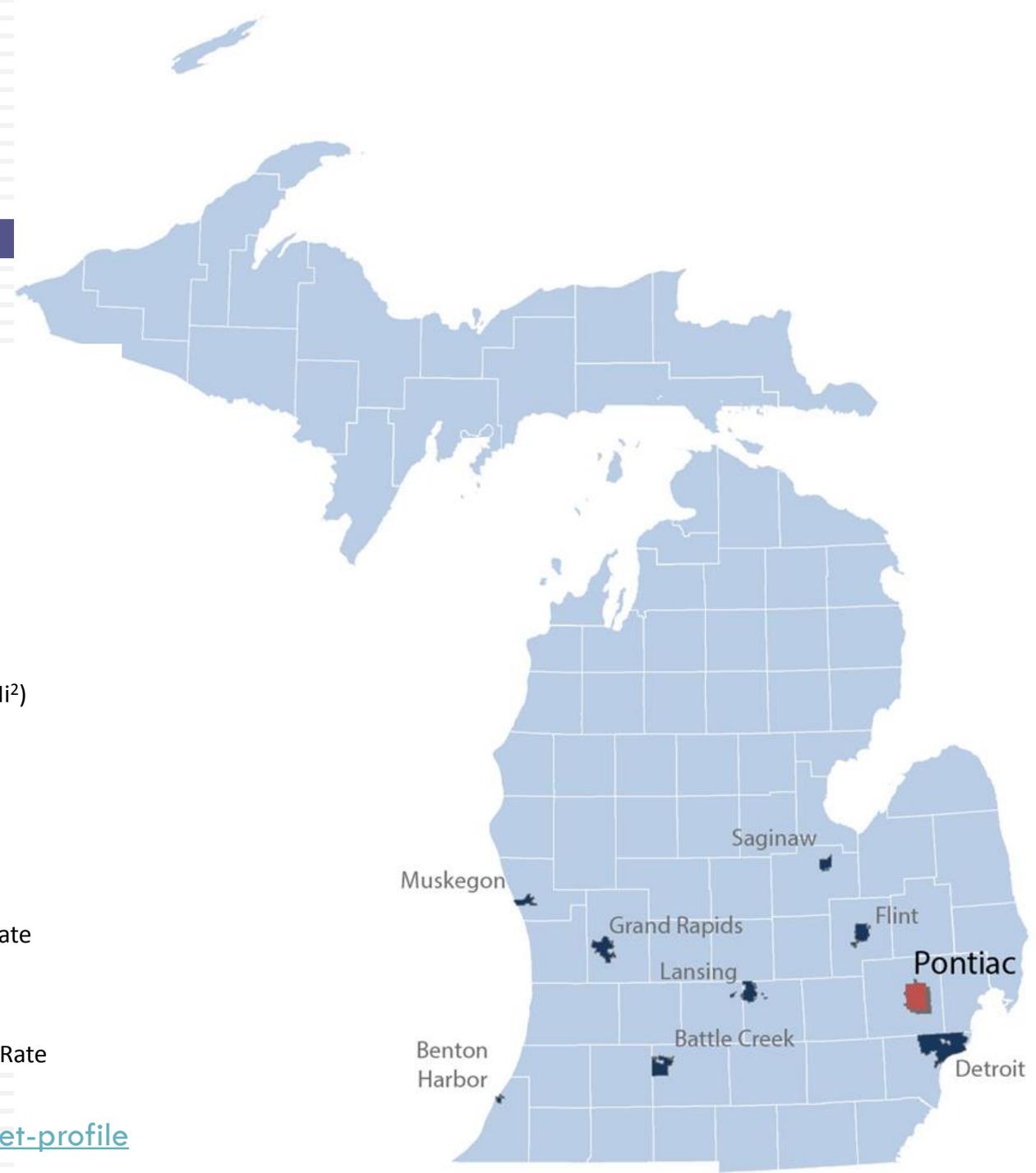
Labor Force

**61.3%**

Participation Rate

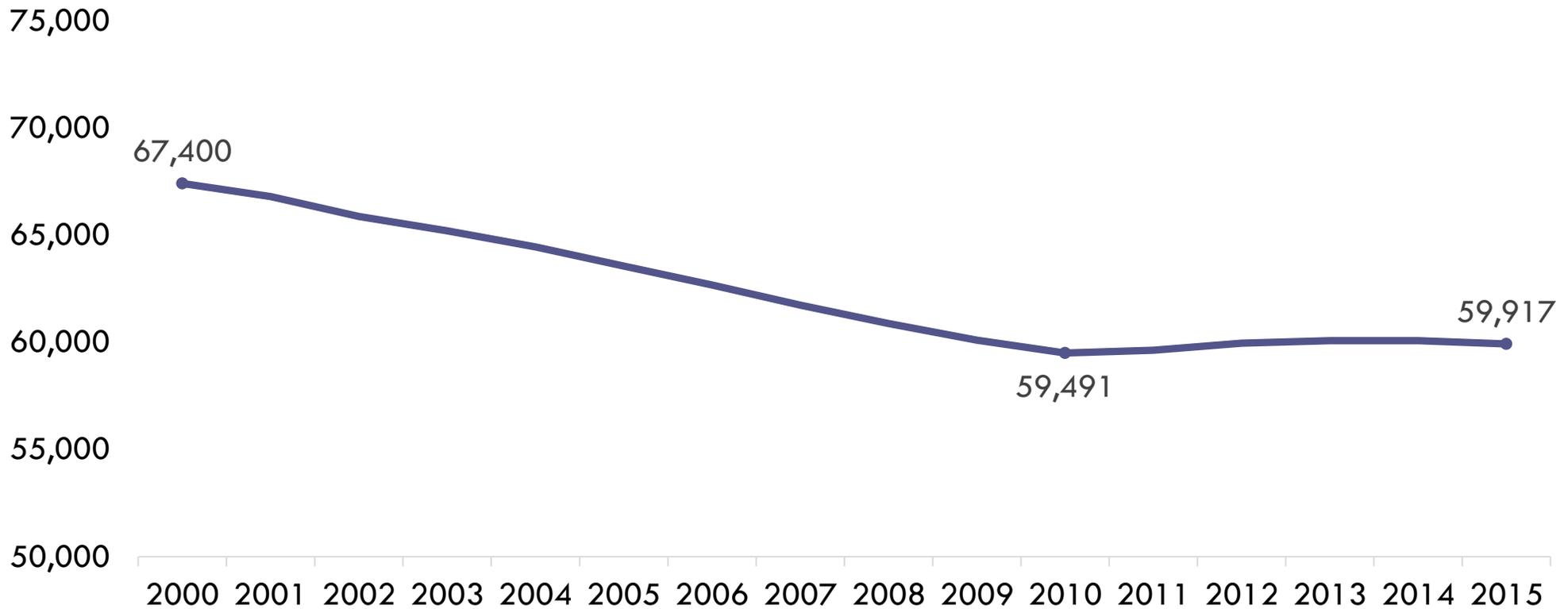
**11.6%**

Unemployment Rate



# Pontiac's Population Has Been Flat since the Great Recession

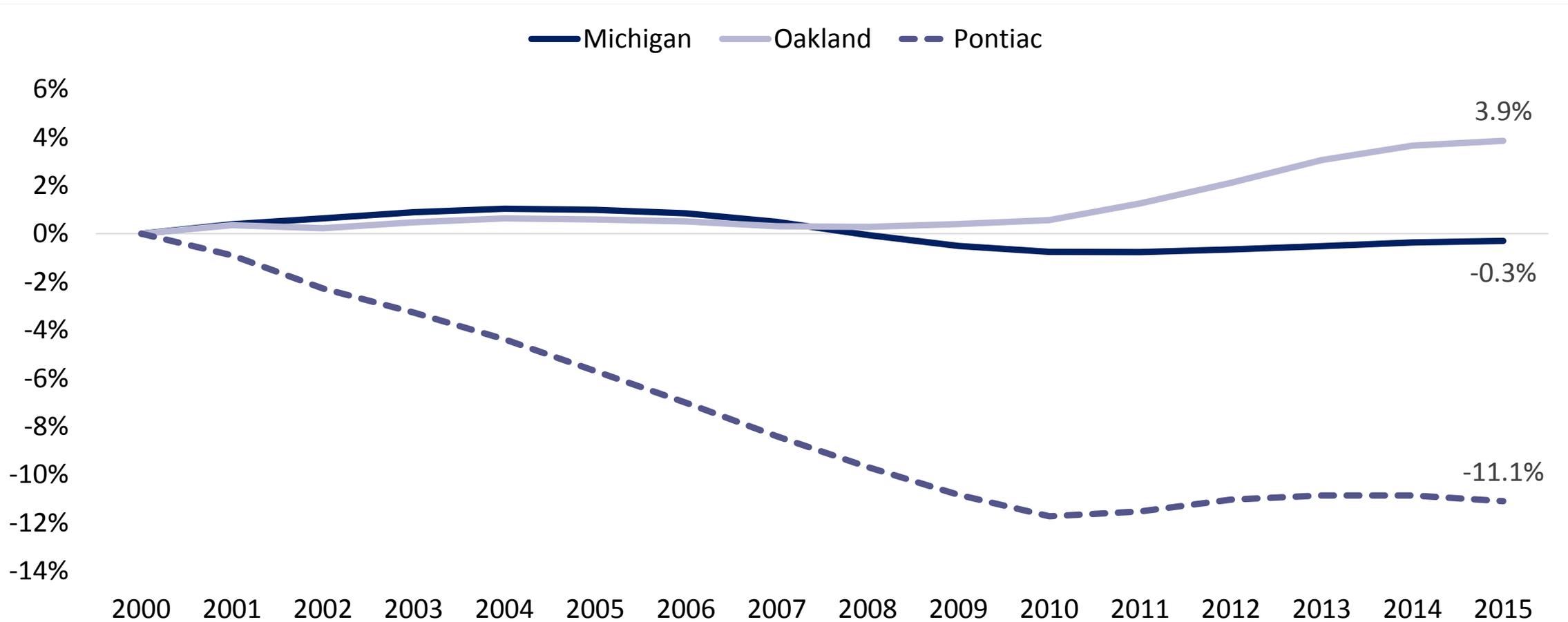
**Figure 1:** Total Population of Pontiac, 2000-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 Population Estimates and 2010 Intercensal Estimates

# Considerable Drop in the City's Population between 2000 and 2010

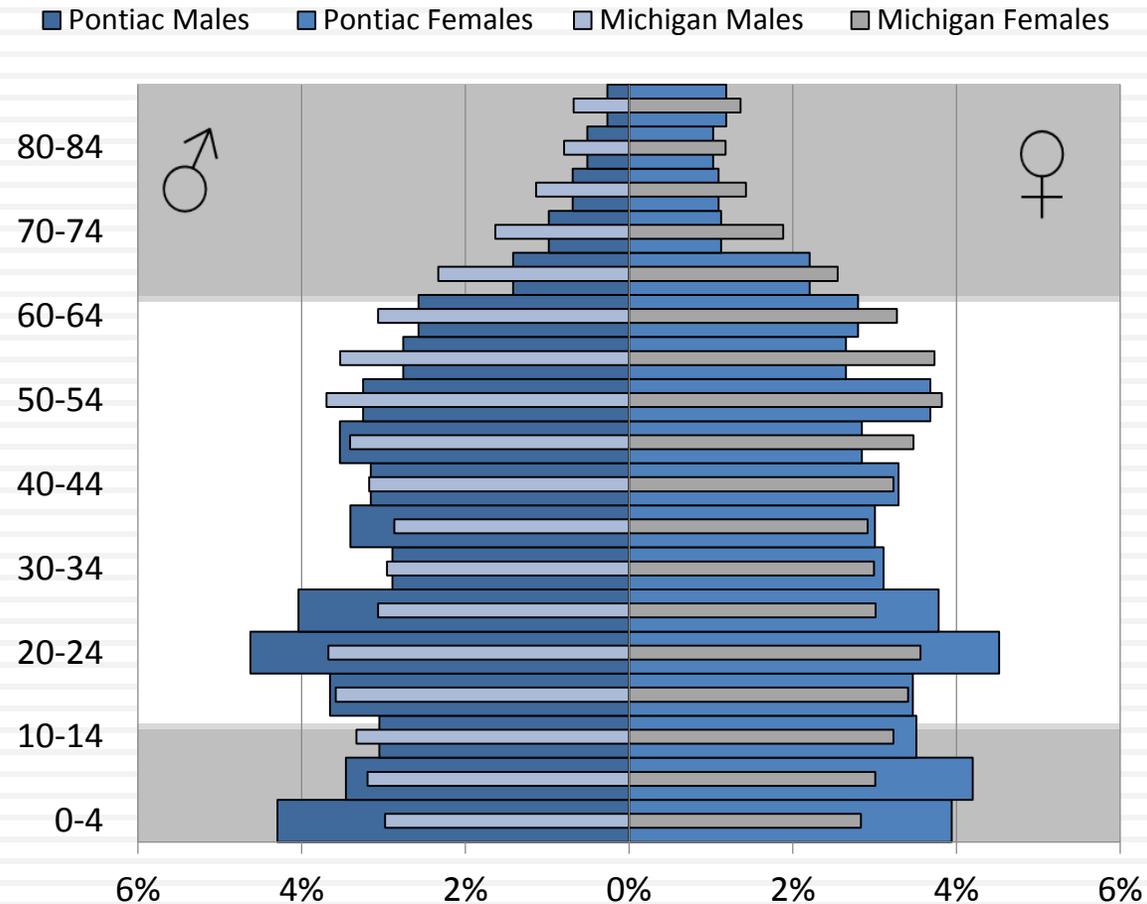
Figure 2: Population Change Indexed to 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 Population Estimates and 2010 Intercensal Estimates

# Pontiac's Population is Younger Compared to Oakland or the State

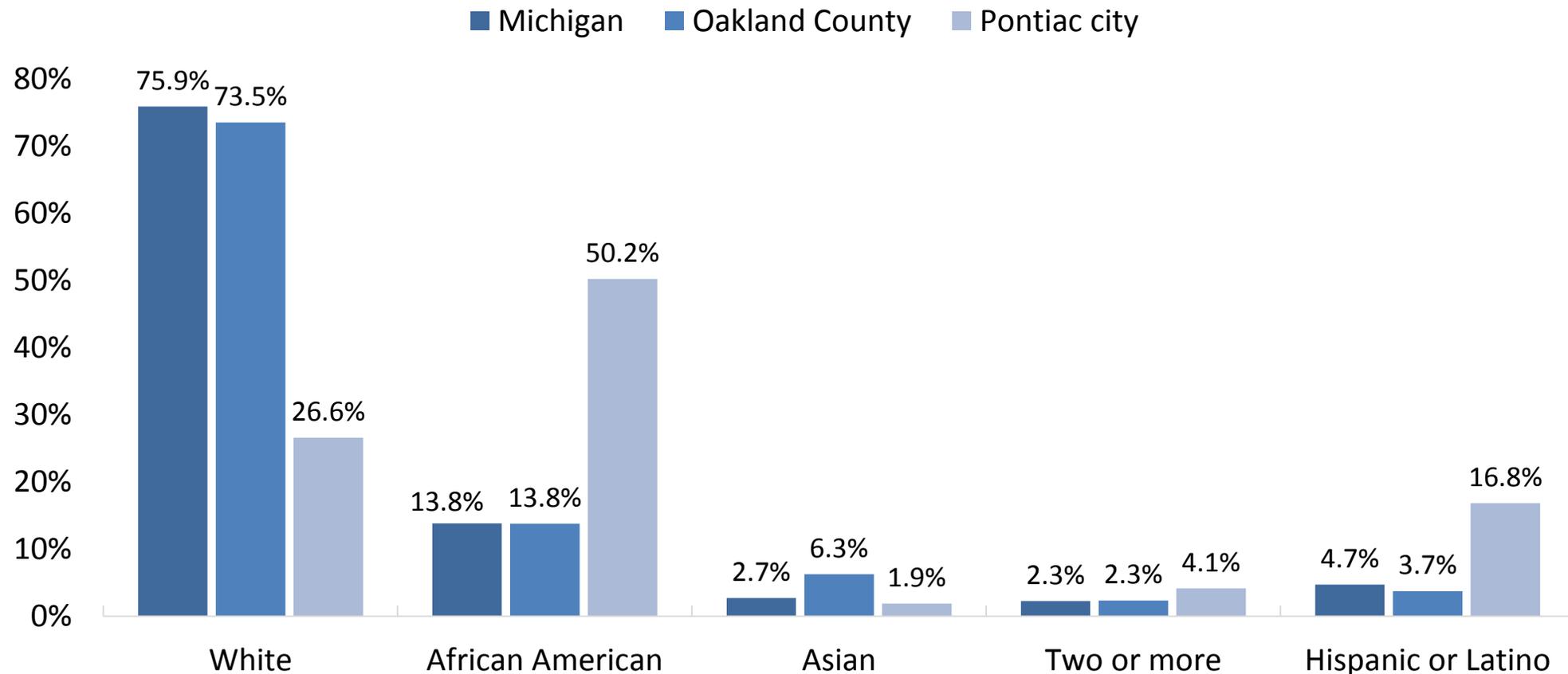
**Figure 3:** Pontiac and Michigan Population Structure, 2011-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

# Pontiac's Population Is Predominantly African American

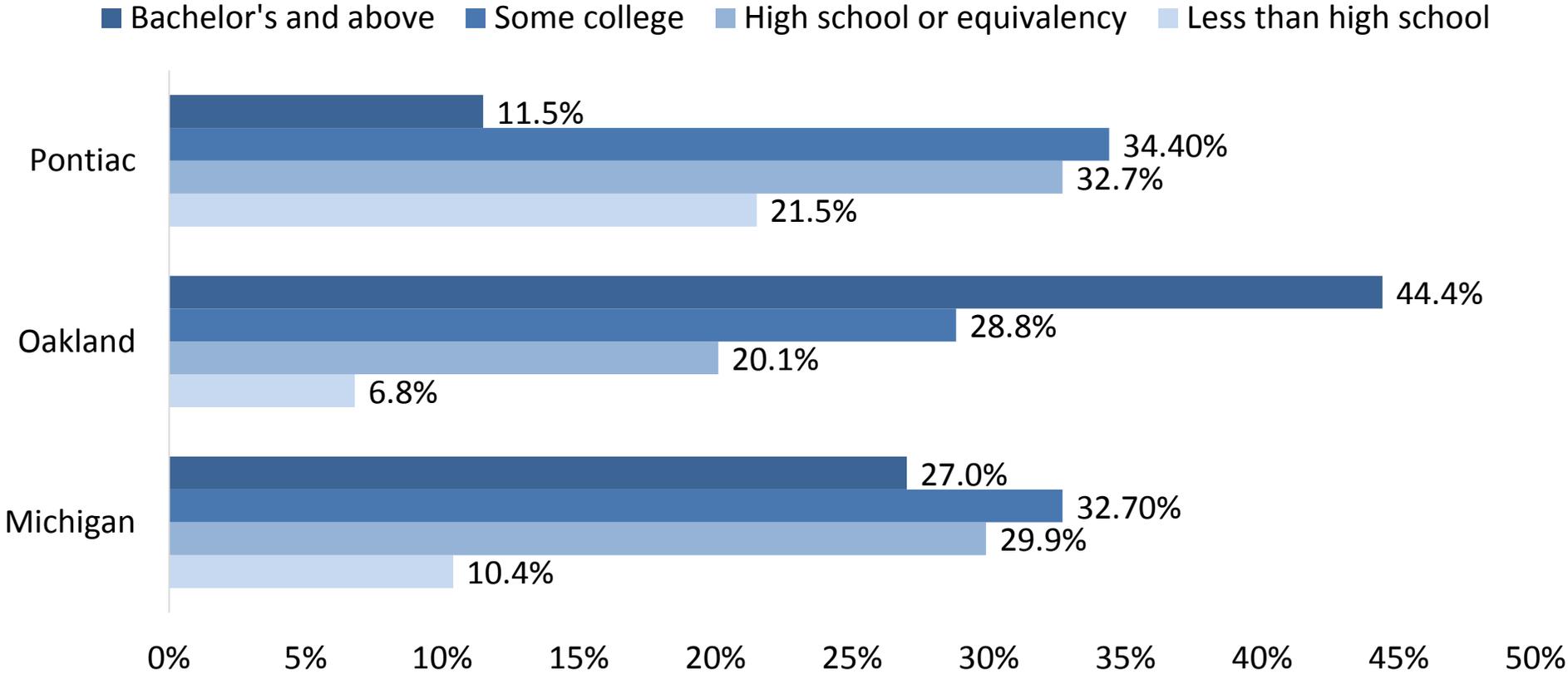
**Figure 4:** Racial/Ethnic Breakdown, 2011-2015



**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

# Pontiac's Population Is Less Educated Compared to County and State

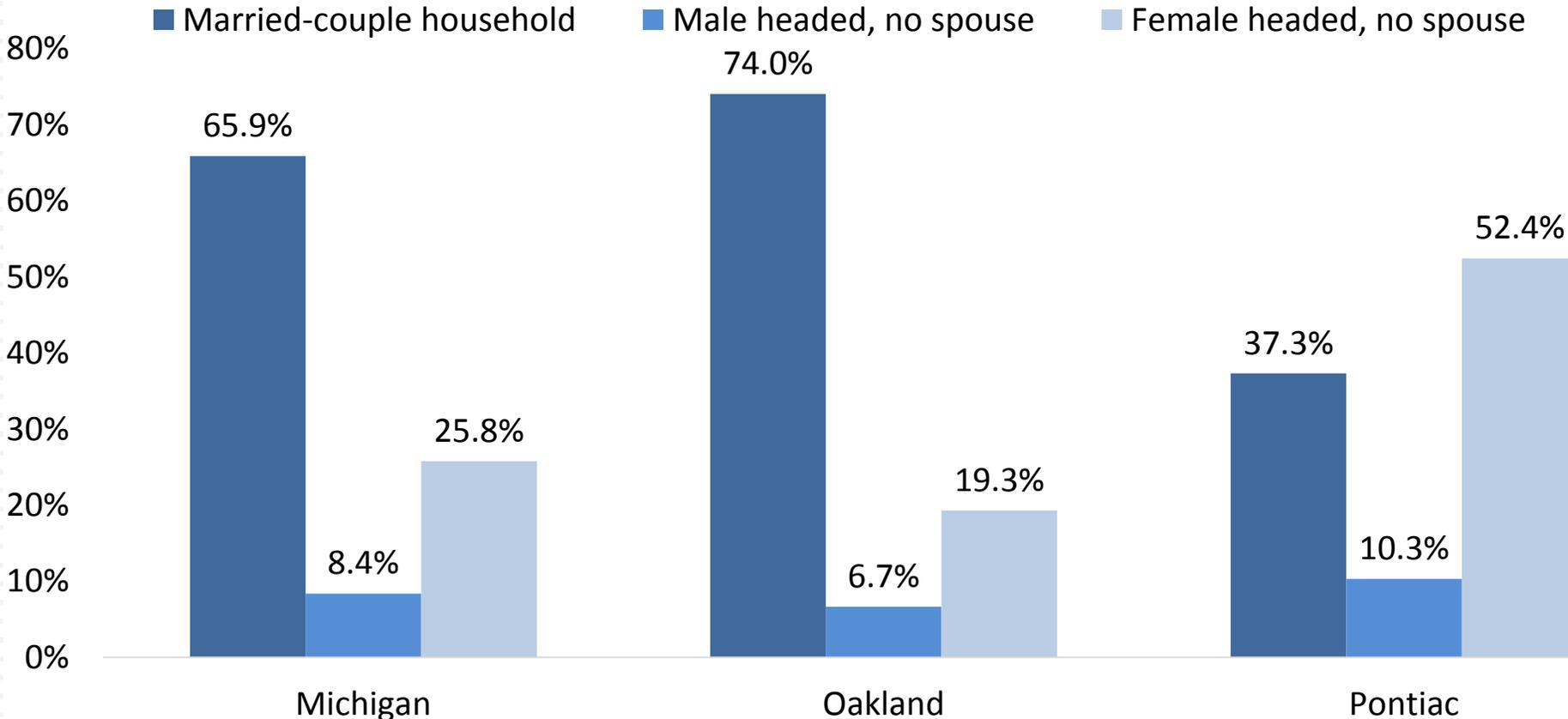
**Figure 5:** Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over, 2011-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

# A Higher Share of One-parent Family Households in Pontiac

Figure 6: Distribution of Families with Children, 2011-2015

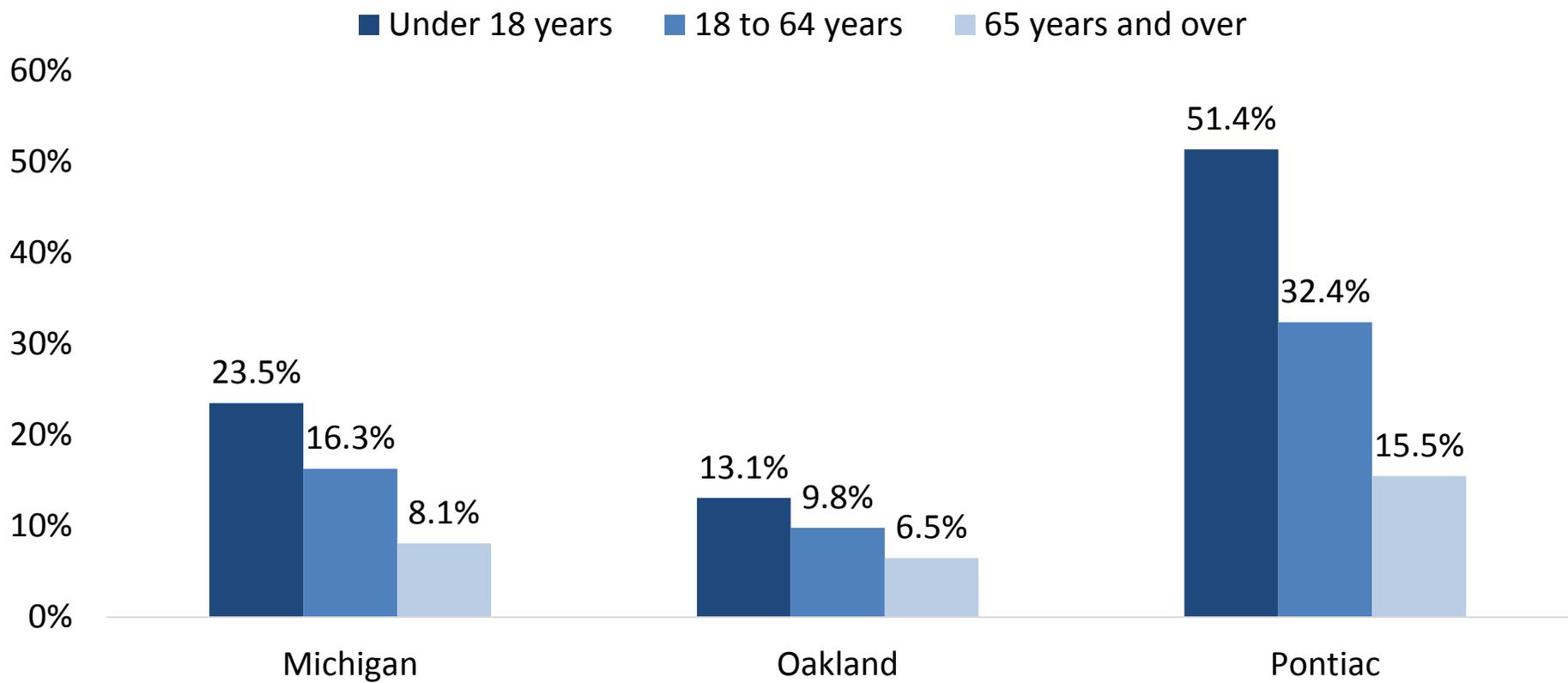


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates



# Children Are at the Highest Risk for Poverty Anywhere in the U.S. but More so in Inner Cities Like Pontiac

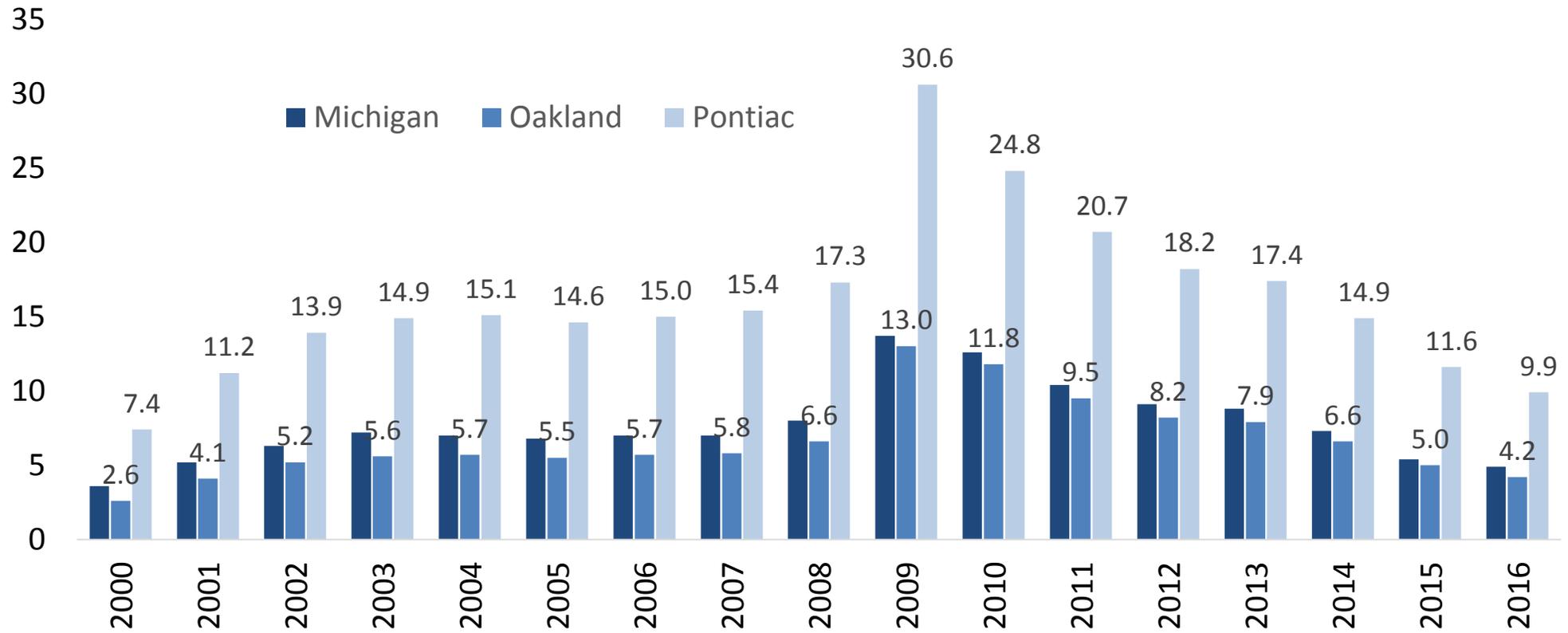
Figure 8: Poverty by Age Group, 2011-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

# Higher Unemployment Rates in Pontiac but Similar Trend as County & State

**Figure 9: Annual Unemployment Rates: 2000 - 2016**



**Source:** Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

# Labor Participation Flat in Pontiac Before, During, & After Recession

**Table 1:** Labor Force Participation, Civilian Labor Force, & Employment of the Population 16 Years of Age and Older

<b><u>Labor Force Participation</u></b>				
	<u>2006-2010</u>	<u>2011-2015</u>	<u>Change</u>	
City of Pontiac	61.2%	61.3%	+0.1	
Oakland County	67.6%	66.4%	-1.2	
Michigan	63.1%	61.3%	-1.8	
<b><u>Civilian Labor Force</u></b>				
	<u>2006-2010</u>	<u>2011-2015</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
City of Pontiac	27,825	27,963	137	0.5%
Oakland County	642,020	656,139	14,119	2.2%
Michigan	4,944,714	4,858,631	-86,083	-1.7%
<b><u>Employment</u></b>				
	<u>2006-2010</u>	<u>2011-2015</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
City of Pontiac	22,142	22,671	529	1.9%
Oakland County	583,136	606,731	23,595	3.7%
Michigan	4,372,663	4,375,145	2,482	0.1%

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2006-2010 & 2011-2015

# Six in Ten Pontiac's Employed Residents Are Paid Below Regional Average

**Table 2:** City of Pontiac: Occupational Employment of the Population 16 Years of Age and Older, 2011-2015

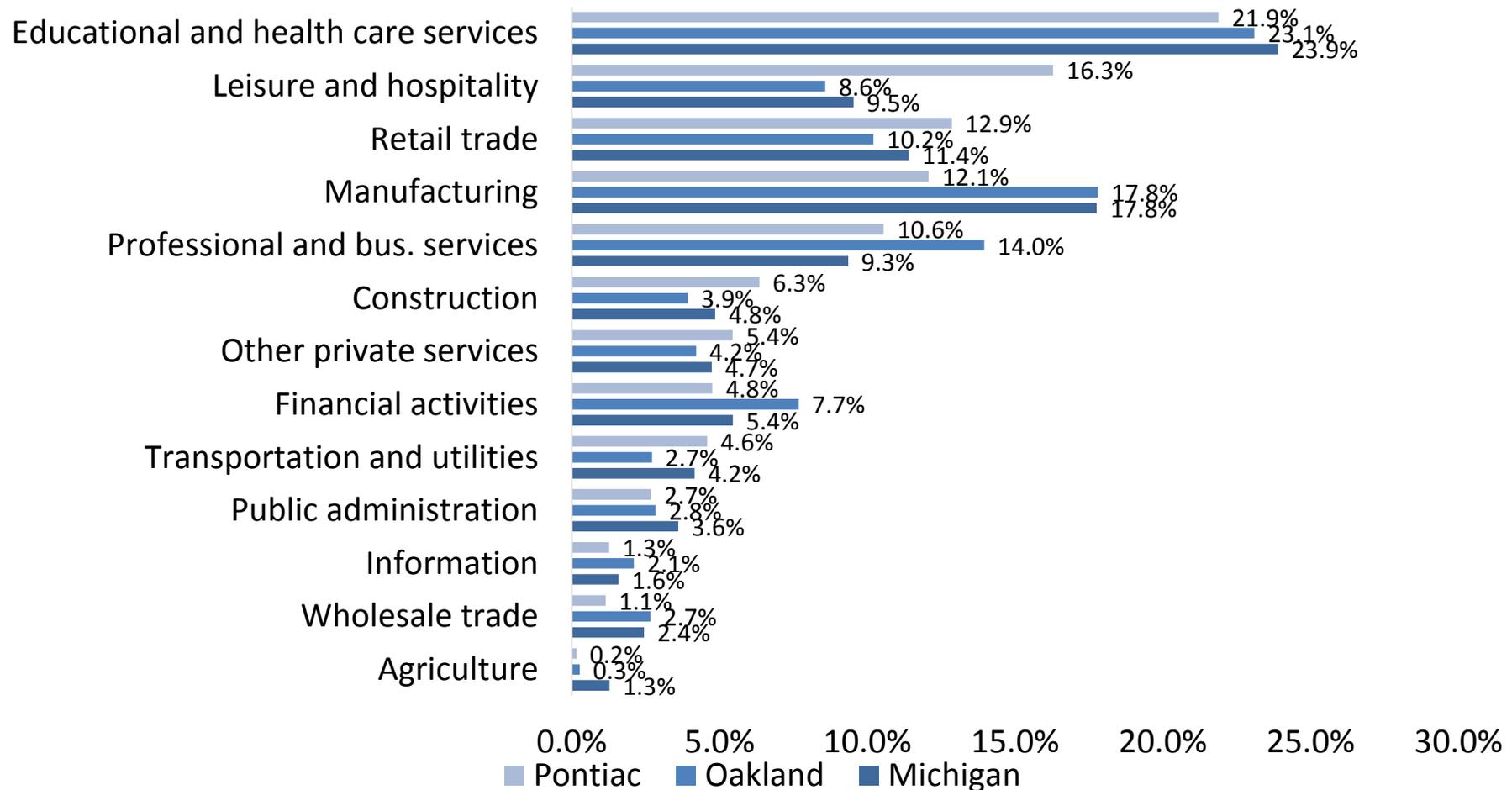
<b>Occupational Employment Distribution (Population 16 Years and Over)</b>				
<b>Occupational Groups</b>	<b>Percent of Total Employment</b>			<b>Median Wage*</b>
	<b>Pontiac</b>	<b>Oakland</b>	<b>Michigan</b>	
<b>Civilian employed population 16 years and over</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$19.12</b>
Office and administrative support	14%	12%	13%	\$12.58
Food preparation and serving	12%	5%	6%	\$18.50
Production	11%	5%	9%	\$22.18
Sales	10%	12%	10%	\$9.92
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	7%	3%	4%	\$9.48
Management, business, and financial	7%	19%	13%	\$51.14
Personal care and service	6%	3%	4%	\$11.23
Construction and extraction	6%	3%	4%	\$10.11
Healthcare support	4%	2%	3%	\$31.48
Healthcare practitioner and technical	4%	7%	6%	\$22.58
Material moving	4%	1%	3%	\$16.34

\*2016 Median Hourly Wage in the Detroit Metropolitan Statistical Area

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2011-2015

## About a Third of Pontiac's Working Residents are in Low-paying Industries of Leisure and Hospitality and Retail Trade

**Figure 10:** City of Pontiac: Share of Employed Residents by Major Industry, 2011-2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 2011-2015

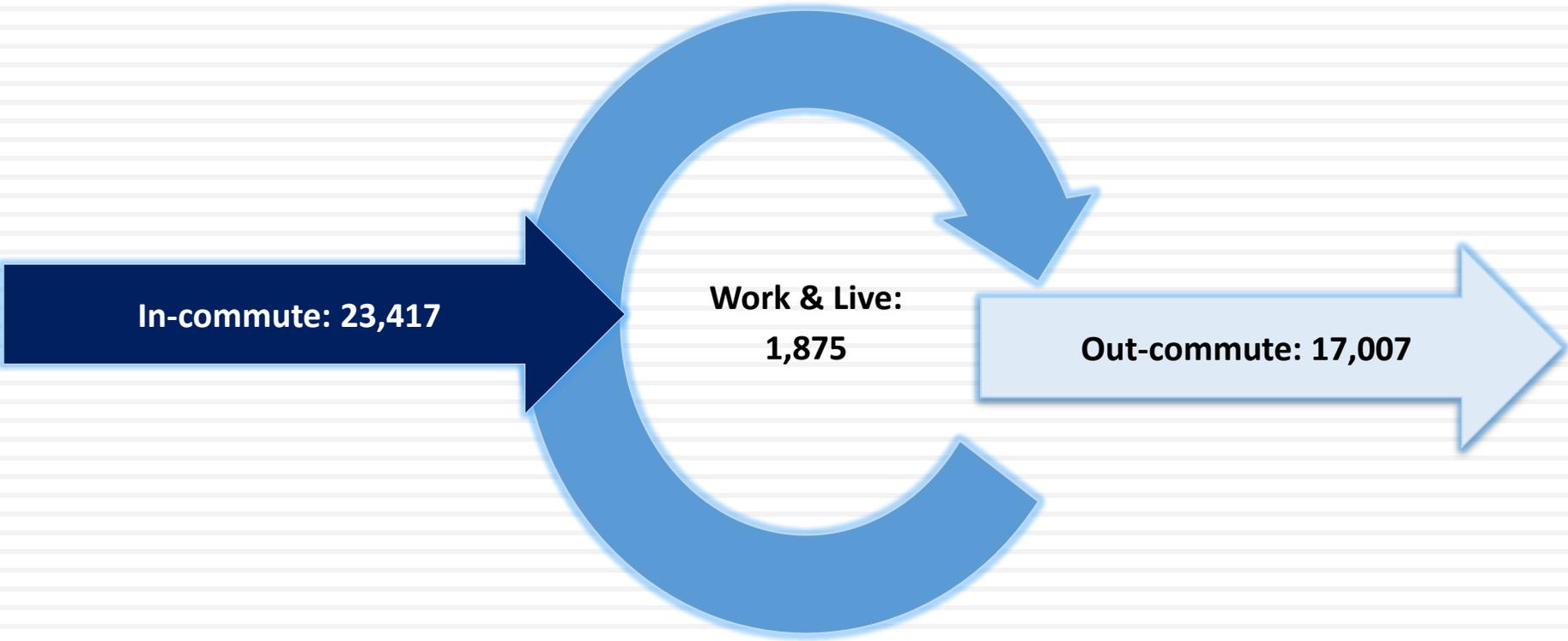
# Workers' Commuting Patterns and Characteristics

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- Where do Residents of Pontiac Work?
- Where Workers in Pontiac Reside?
- What Are the Characteristics of Pontiac's Working Residents in Comparison to Individuals Who Commute into the City to Work?

# A Very Minute Portion of Pontiac's Residents Live and Work in the City

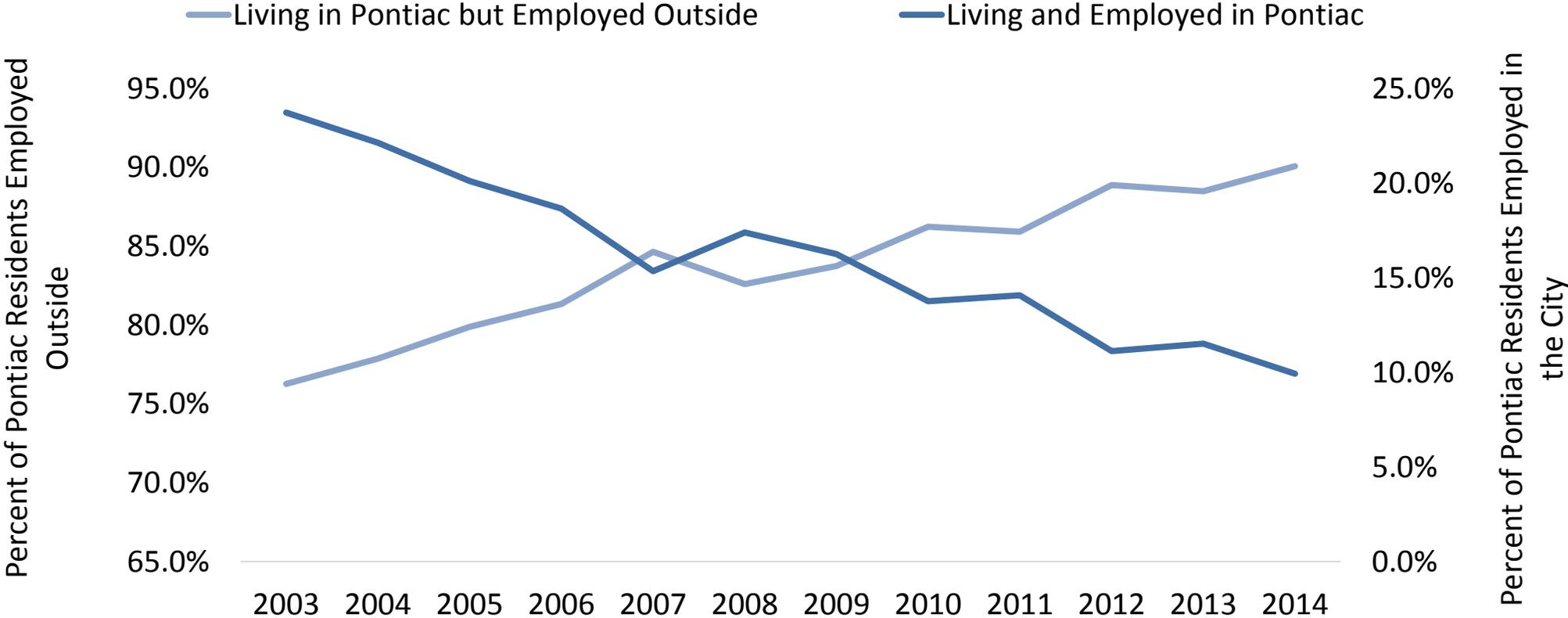
**Figure 11:** Pontiac City: Workers Commuting Patterns, 2014



**Source:** U. S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics (LED), 2014

# An Increasing Share of Pontiac's Residents Work Outside the City

**Figure 12:** Pontiac City: Change in Worker Commuting Patterns, 2003-2014



Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics (LED), Origin-Destination Statistics, 2014

# Pontiac's Employed Residents Are Younger & Earn Less than In-commuters

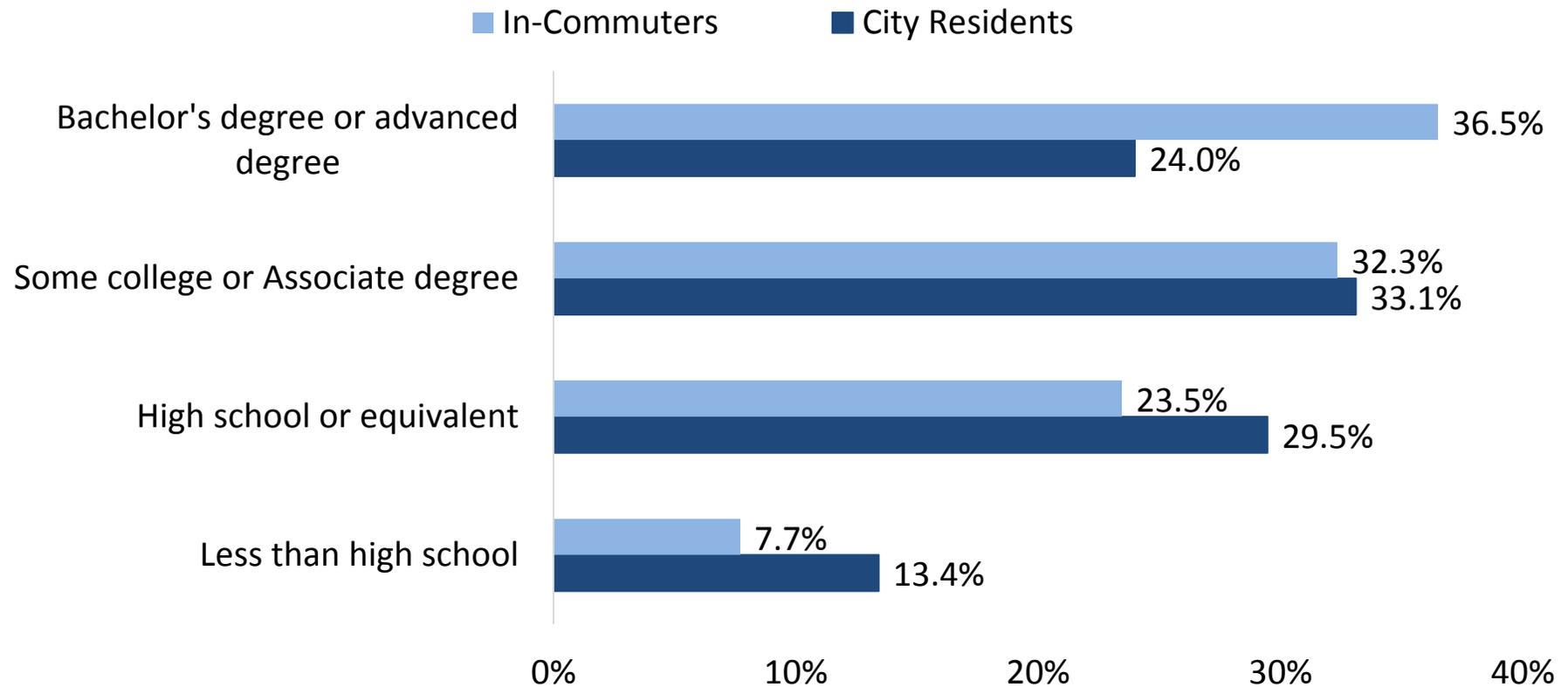
**Table 3:** Pontiac City: Workers by Age and Earnings, 2014

	Live & Work	Out-commute	In-commute
<b><u>Age Distribution</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>
Workers Aged 29 or younger	21.0%	30.4%	17.9%
Workers Aged 30 to 54	55.3%	55.0%	58.6%
Workers Aged 55 or older	23.7%	14.6%	23.5%
<b><u>Earnings</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>
Workers Earning \$15,000 per year or less	22.9%	28.5%	14.5%
Workers Earning \$15,001 to \$40,000 per year	50.2%	42.8%	27.2%
Workers Earning More than \$40,000 per year	26.9%	28.7%	58.3%

**Source:** U. S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics (LED), Origin-Destination Statistics, 2014

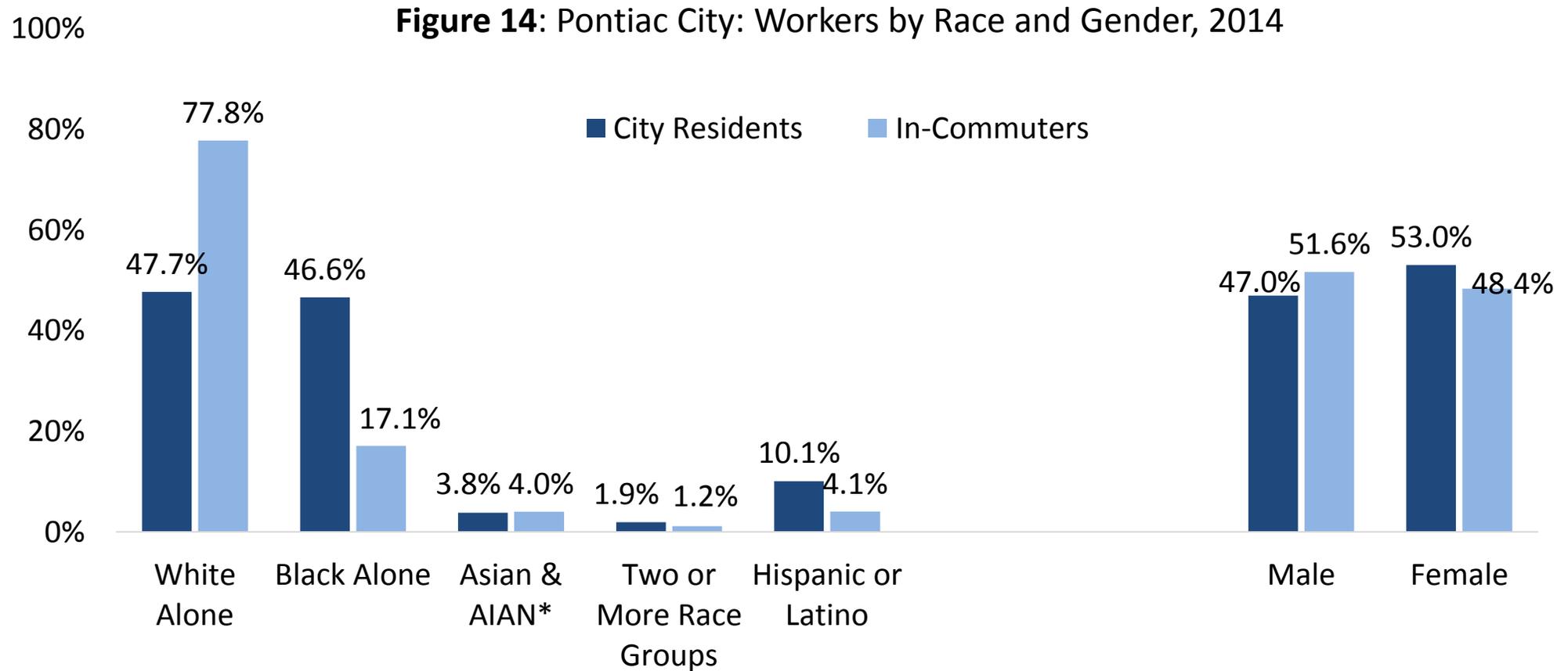
# Pontiac's Employed Residents Are Less Educated than In-commuters

**Figure 13:** Pontiac City: Educational Attainment of Employed, 2014



**Source:** U. S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics (LED), Origin-Destination Statistics, 2014

# Equal Distribution of Pontiac's Employed Residents Between Blacks & Whites; In-commuters Are Majority White



\*AIAN: American Indians and Alaska Natives

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics (LED), Origin-Destination Statistics, 2014

# Workers' Destination and Origin

**Table 5:** Top 10 Cities of Workers' Origin and Destination, 2014

<u>Where Pontiac Residents Work, 2014</u>			<u>Where Workers in Pontiac Live, 2014</u>		
	Count	Share		Count	Share
Pontiac	1,875	9.9%	Pontiac	1,875	7.4%
Auburn Hills	1,864	9.9%	Detroit	877	3.5%
Troy	1,154	6.1%	Rochester Hills	847	3.3%
Rochester Hills	934	4.9%	Sterling Heights	746	2.9%
Detroit	925	4.9%	Troy	736	2.9%
Southfield	818	4.3%	Farmington Hills	444	1.8%
Farmington Hills	454	2.4%	Southfield	417	1.6%
Livonia	442	2.3%	Royal Oak	416	1.6%
Warren	425	2.3%	Warren	402	1.6%
Birmingham	335	1.8%	Auburn Hills	360	1.4%
All Other Locations	9,656	51.1%	All Other Locations	18,226	71.9%

**Source:** U. S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics (LED), Origin-Destination Statistics, 2014

# Conclusions and Future Research

- ❑ Population of Pontiac has been on a steady decline over several decades. The city's population is younger and less educated than statewide average.
- ❑ There is a predominance of single-parent households (no spouse present) in Pontiac. Earnings are lower in the city and poverty higher.
- ❑ Over 90 percent of working residents of Pontiac City commute out for employment, mostly in low-paying industries and occupations.
- ❑ Access to microdata would allow to extend this research by looking at the reasons workers in the city commute outside to find employment for example. With microdata, we could answer some pressing questions from the city's managers, such as: the proportion of single-parent households receiving social assistance and with children under 6 years old and many more.

# Questions



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