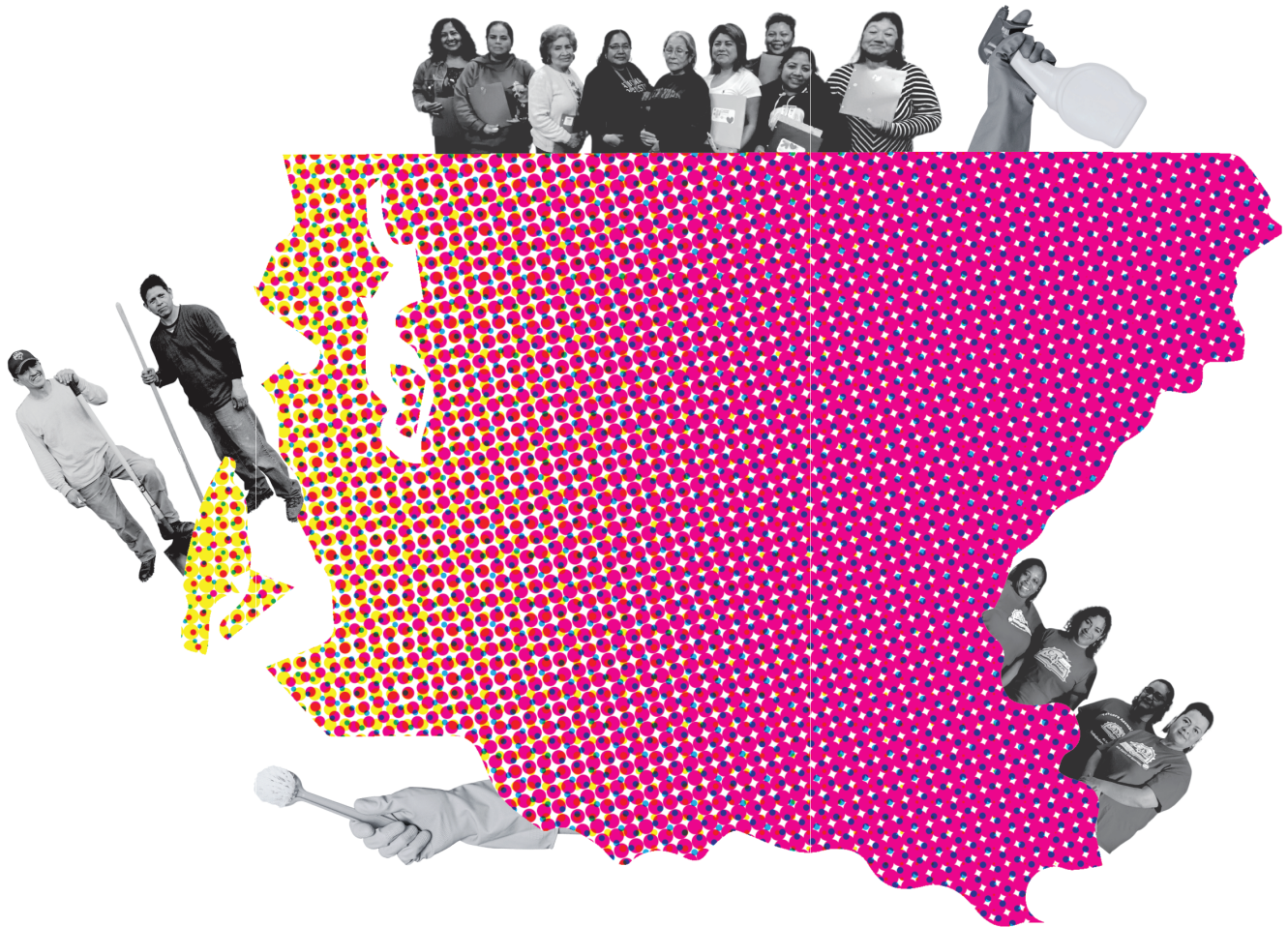


# PROFILE OF DOMESTIC WORKERS

in King County, Washington at a Glance

2015- 2019



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# Profile of Domestic Workers in King County, WA

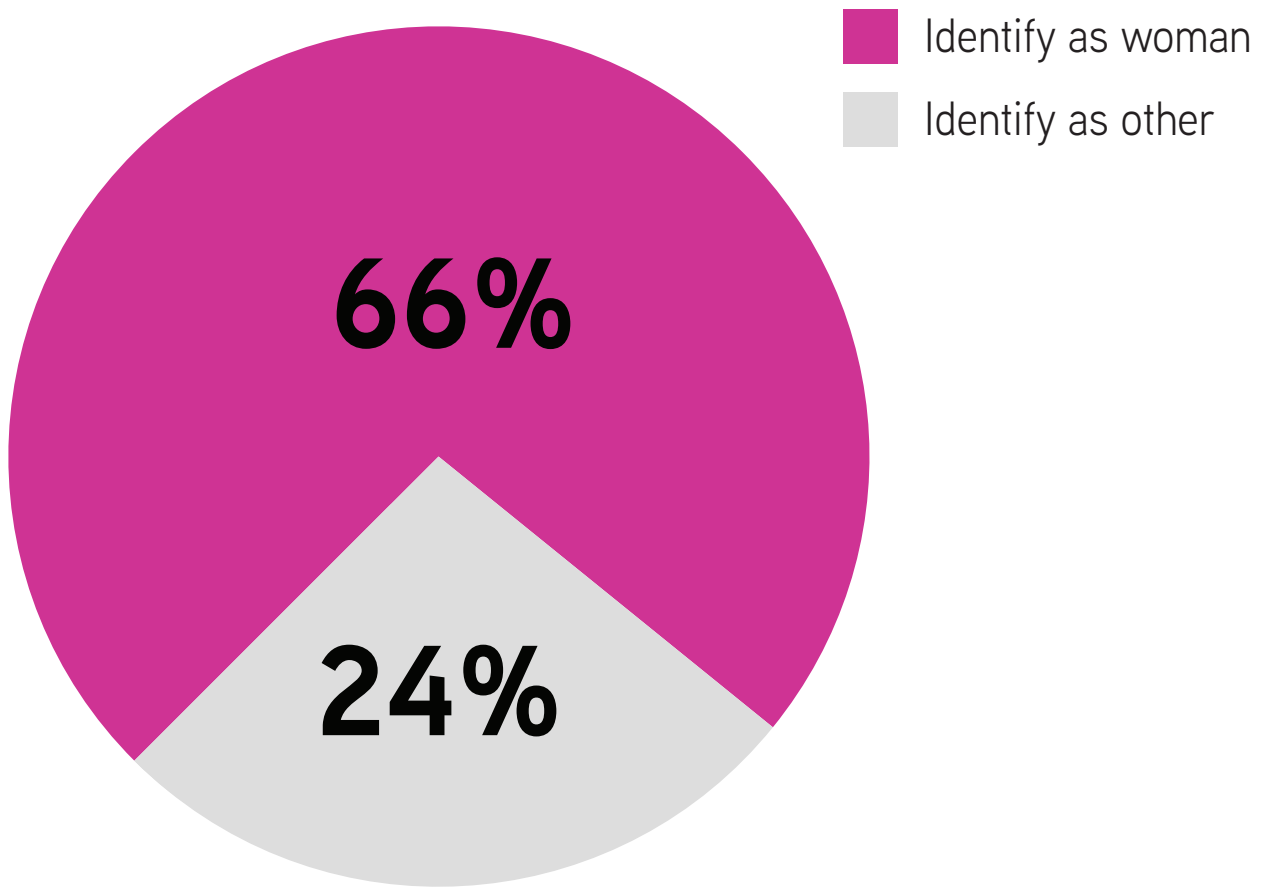
The work that domestic workers do is all too often invisible. One way to make their work visible is by using statistics. However, reliable statistics on the numbers of domestic workers in the US are elusive. Domestic workers and their allies have produced their own data, often through surveys. In addition to these surveys, several studies have used 'official' statistics, such as the US Census, to build demographic profiles of domestic workers.

This report uses the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates for 2015-2019 to make a profile of domestic workers in King County, Washington. As is the case elsewhere in the country, domestic workers in King County are in a precarious position. Domestic workers endure many hardships including more contingent work schedules and lower pay than other workers in King County.

## Demographics

**24,000**

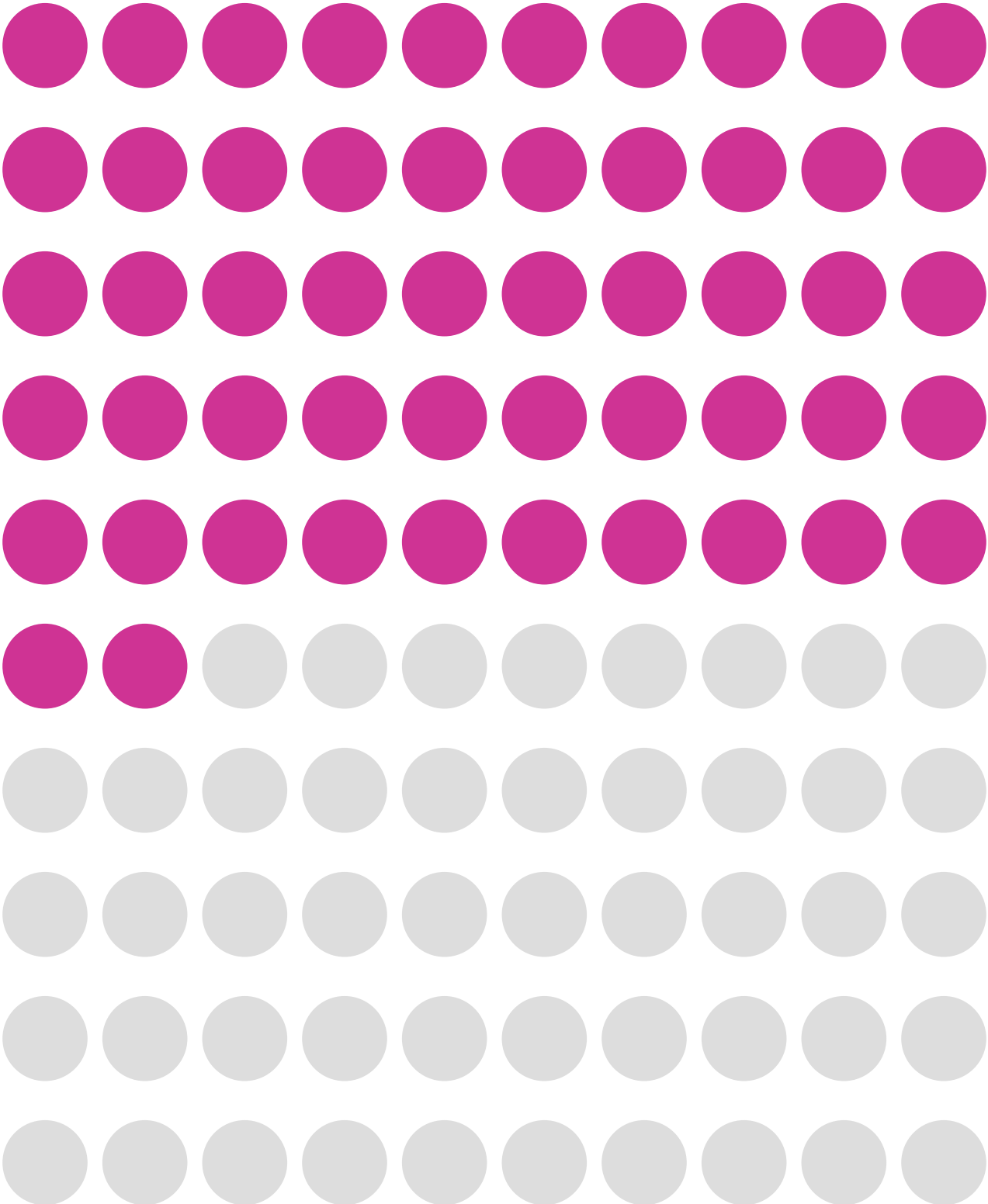
The number of **domestic workers** who are **living in King County**. This number of workers makes up about one-quarter of all domestic workers in the state.



Domestic workers in King County who **identify as a women**.

**52%**

of domestic workers in King County **are BIPOC.**





**36%**

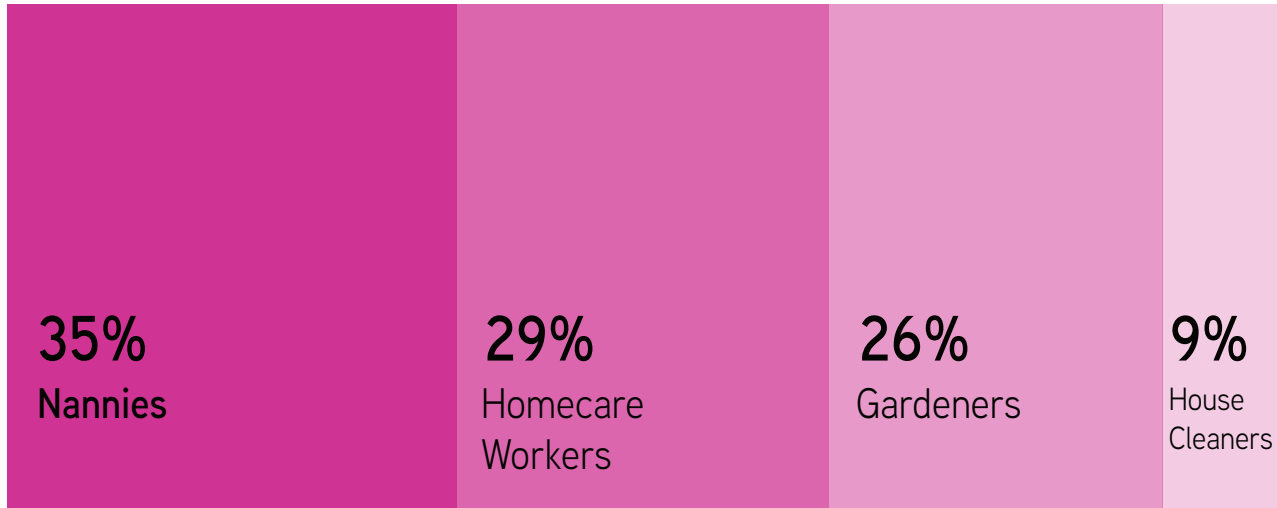
of domestic workers in King County were **born outside of the United States.**



**37%**

of domestic workers in King County **are parents.**

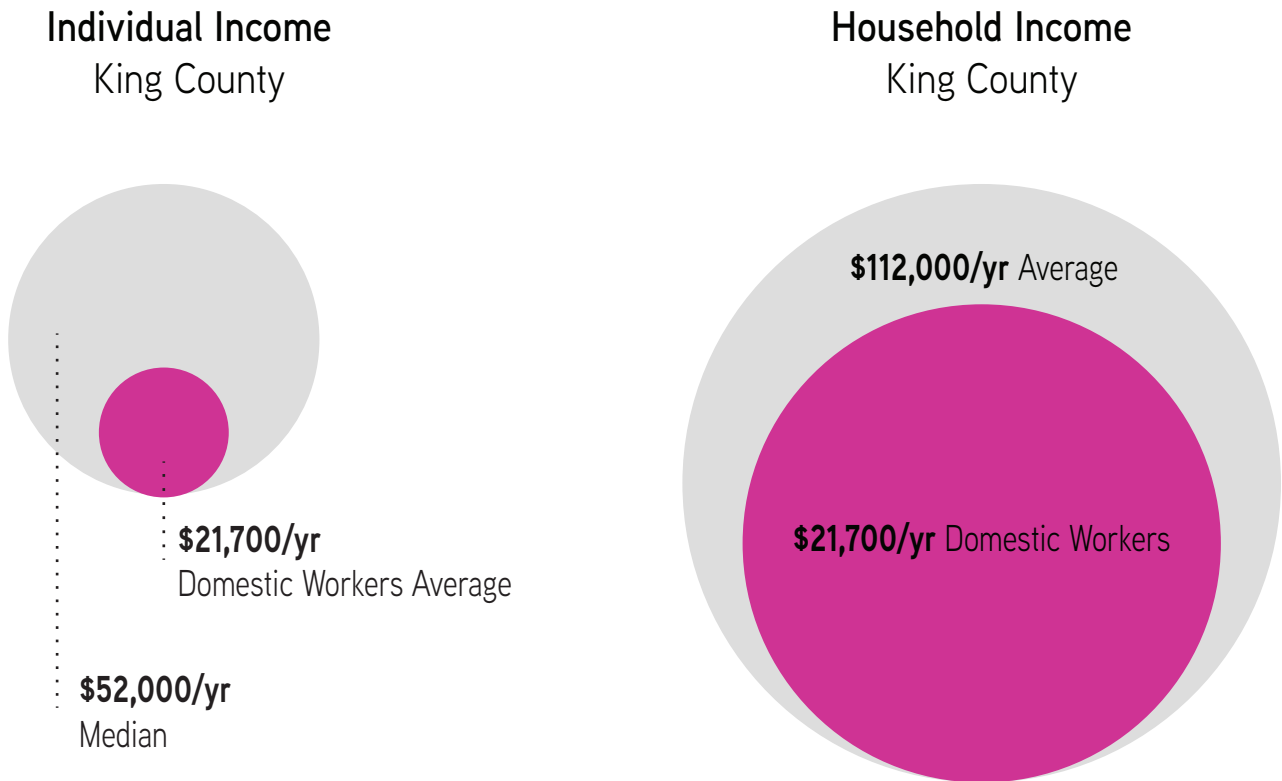
## Occupations and Hours Worked



About **60%** of domestic workers in King County work a full-time schedule (35 hours or more a week). By comparison, **80%** of all workers in King County work full-time. Gardeners are more likely to work full-time (**60%**). Slightly more than half of nannies and home care aides work full-time.

A little more than one-third of nannies also part-time (20 or fewer hours a week). House cleaners, by comparison, are much less likely to work full-time and more of them work either 20-35 hours or less than 20 hours a week (about a third are in each of these categories).

# Income



Domestic workers are making less income than is typical in King County. Domestic workers average less than half of the median income in King County. It is a similar story for households where King County households make, on average \$112,000 annually, and households of domestic workers make just \$79,900.

Statistical testing found little income differences across demographic groups: race and ethnicity, sex, citizenship, and parenthood. This means that domestic workers are experiencing similar work-related hardships across intersectional groups.



## Additional Measures of Precarity

Domestic workers are facing insecurity in King County. They are more likely to receive SNAP, have no health insurance, and be housing cost burdened.

**16%**

receive SNAP benefits, which is about double the rate of workers in King County.

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**23%**

have no health insurance coverage, four times the rate of workers in King County.

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**23%**

are housing cost burdened (when monthly household costs like rent and utilities exceed 30% of household income). For King County domestic workers, housing costs factored into this figure are about \$1,425 a month.

## Conclusions

King County domestic workers are in a precarious position. Relative to other workers in King County, they are more likely to make lower wages, have less healthcare coverage, have a higher housing cost burden, and are more likely to receive SNAP. Domestic workers are lagging behind in key livelihood metrics in King County

