

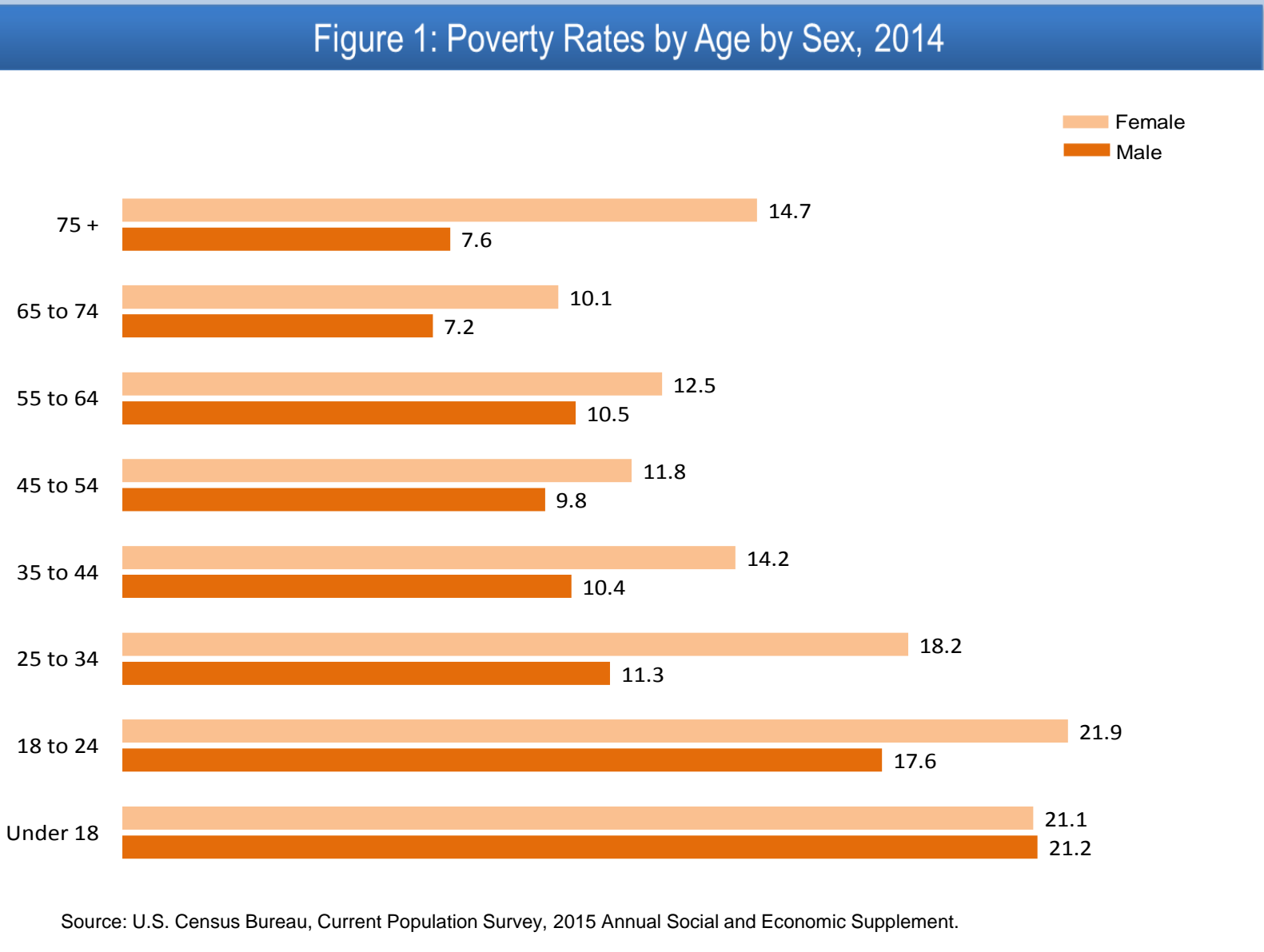
Poverty by Age and Sex: An Examination of the Distribution in Poverty between 1966 and 2014

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INTRODUCTION

Despite significant advancements over the past several decades, women’s economic status in the 21st century continues to lag behind their male counterparts, and women continue to face a disproportionately high risk of living in poverty compared to men. However, as Figure 1 shows, not all stages of the life cycle carry the same economic risk of impoverishment.



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

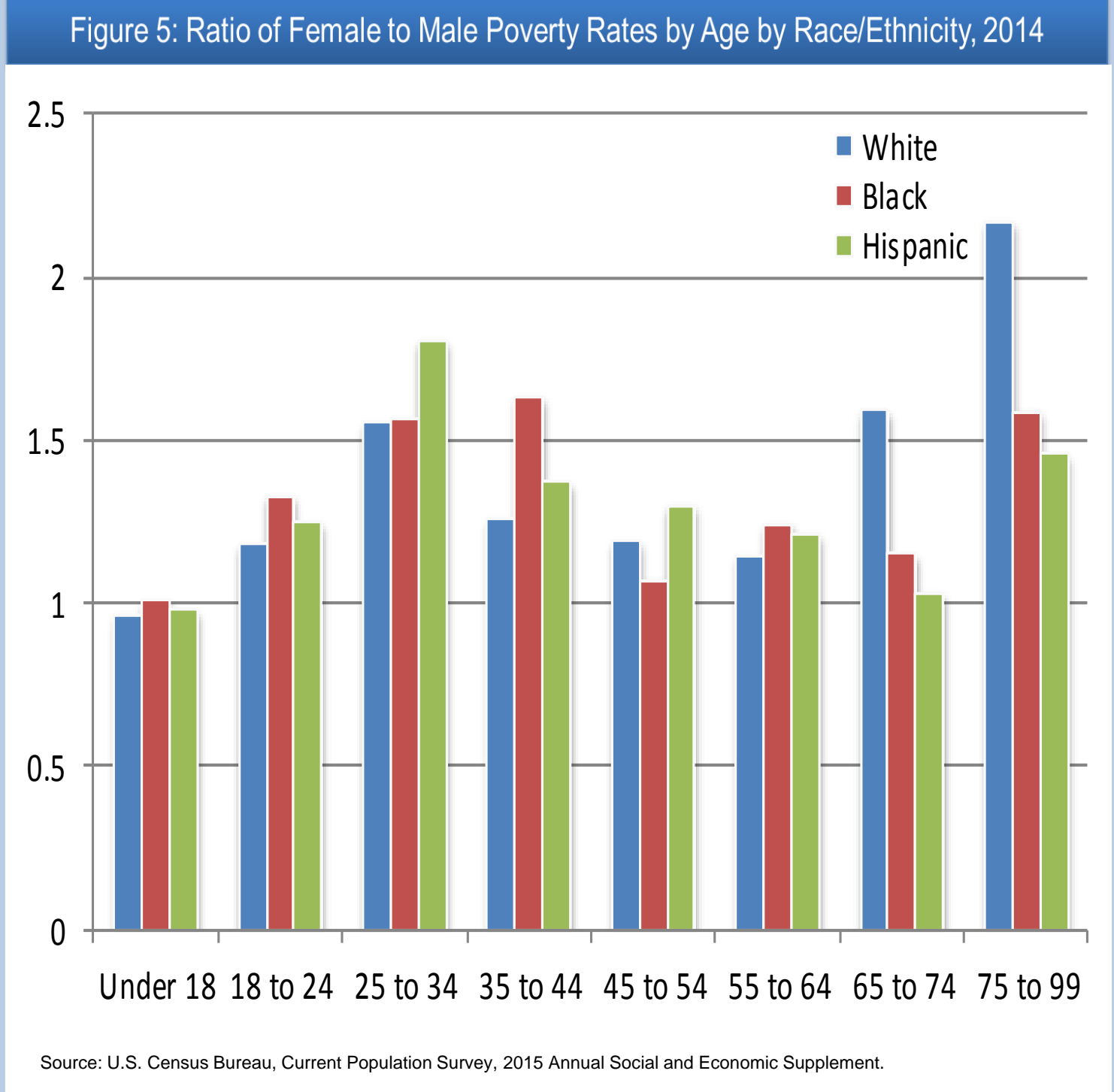
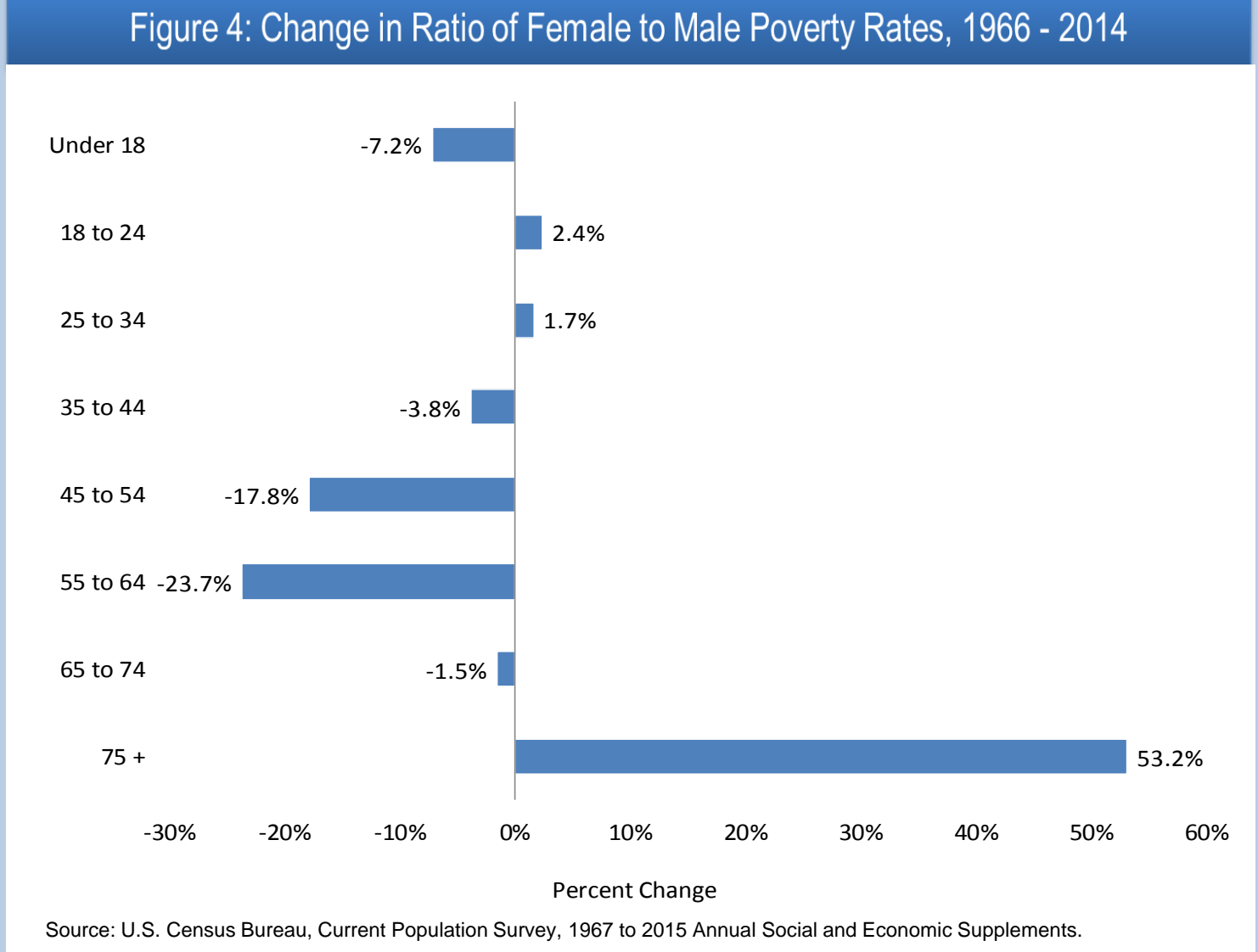
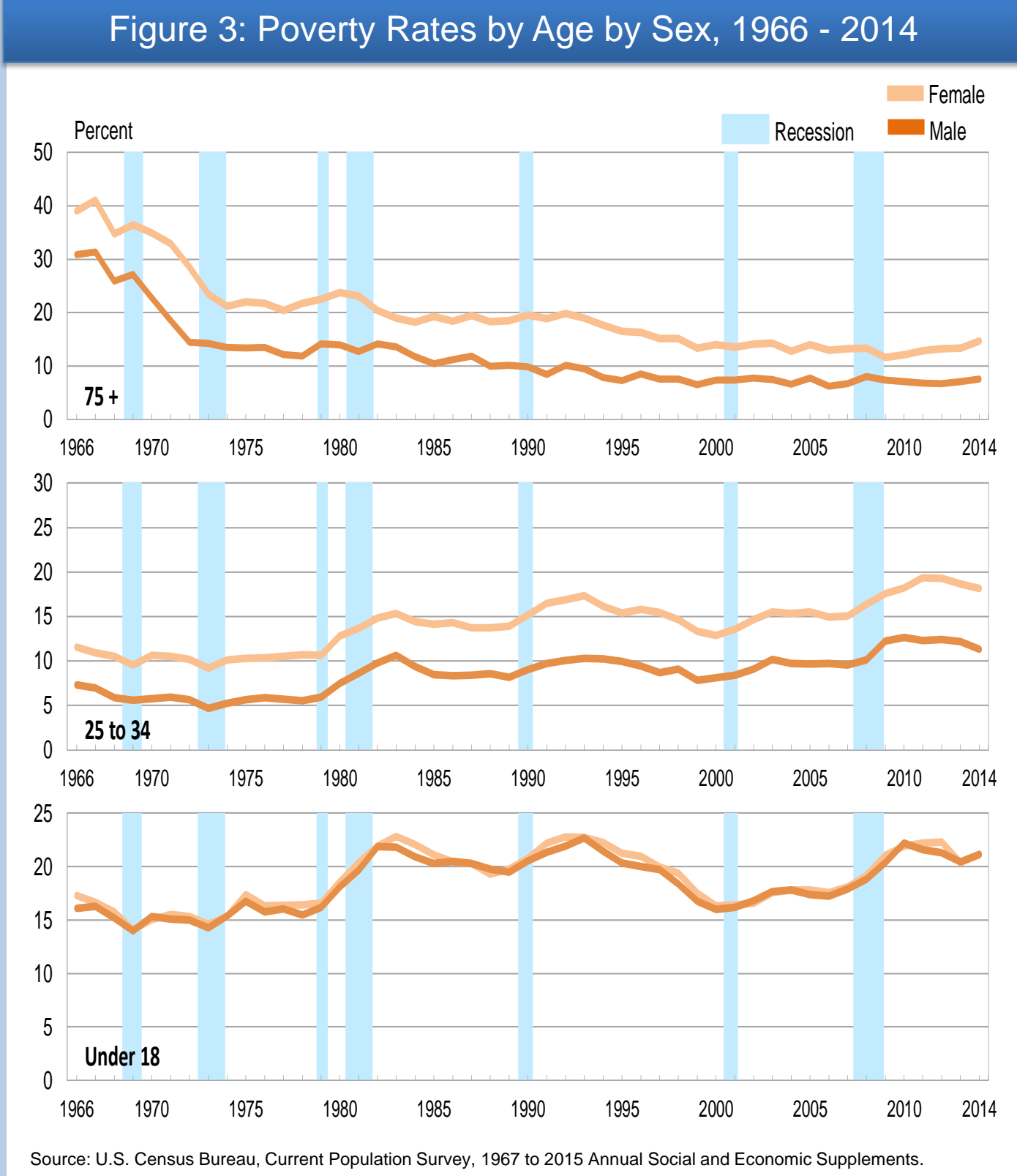
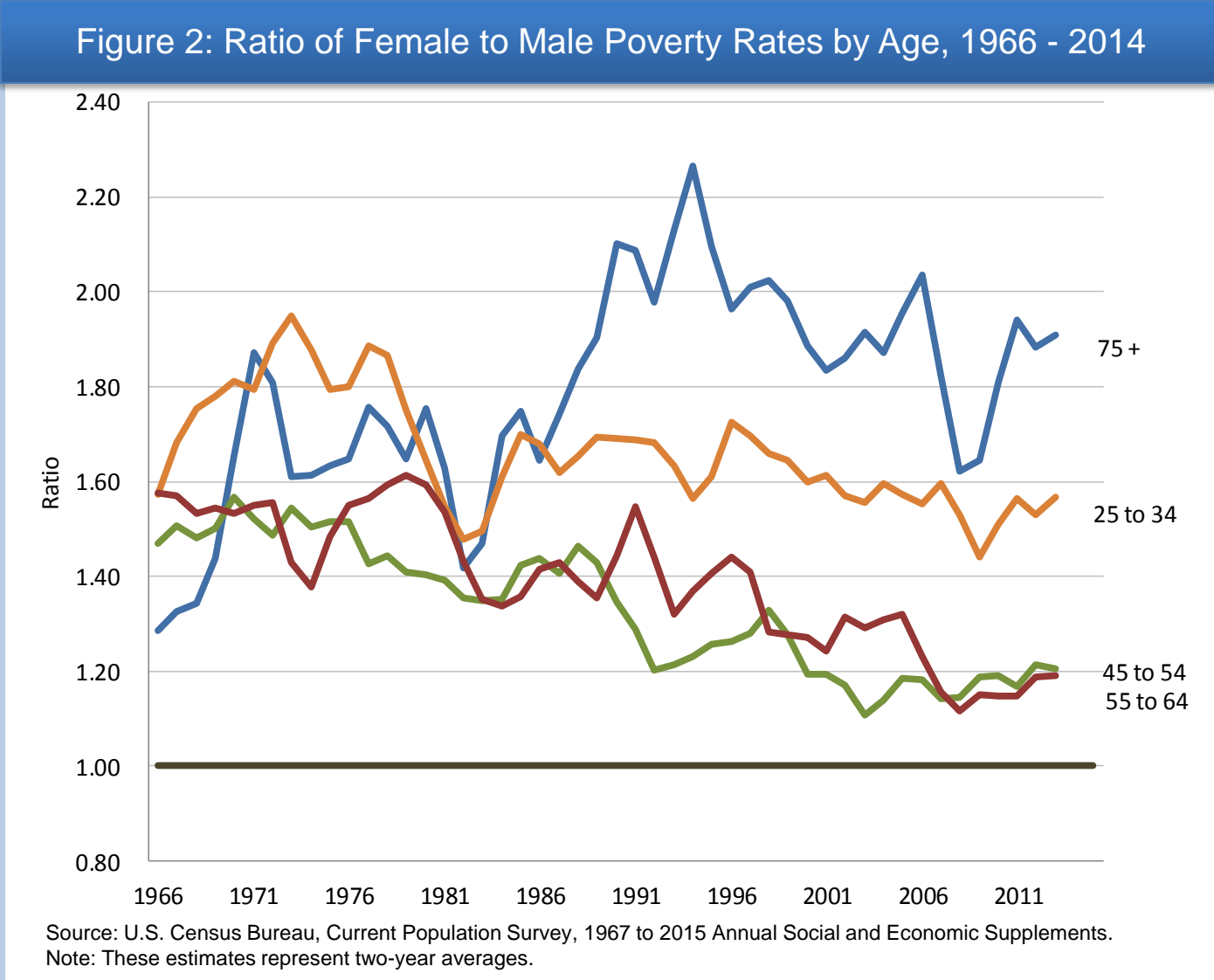
- How does the poverty sex differential vary across the life course?
- Has the poverty sex differential changed over time?

DATA

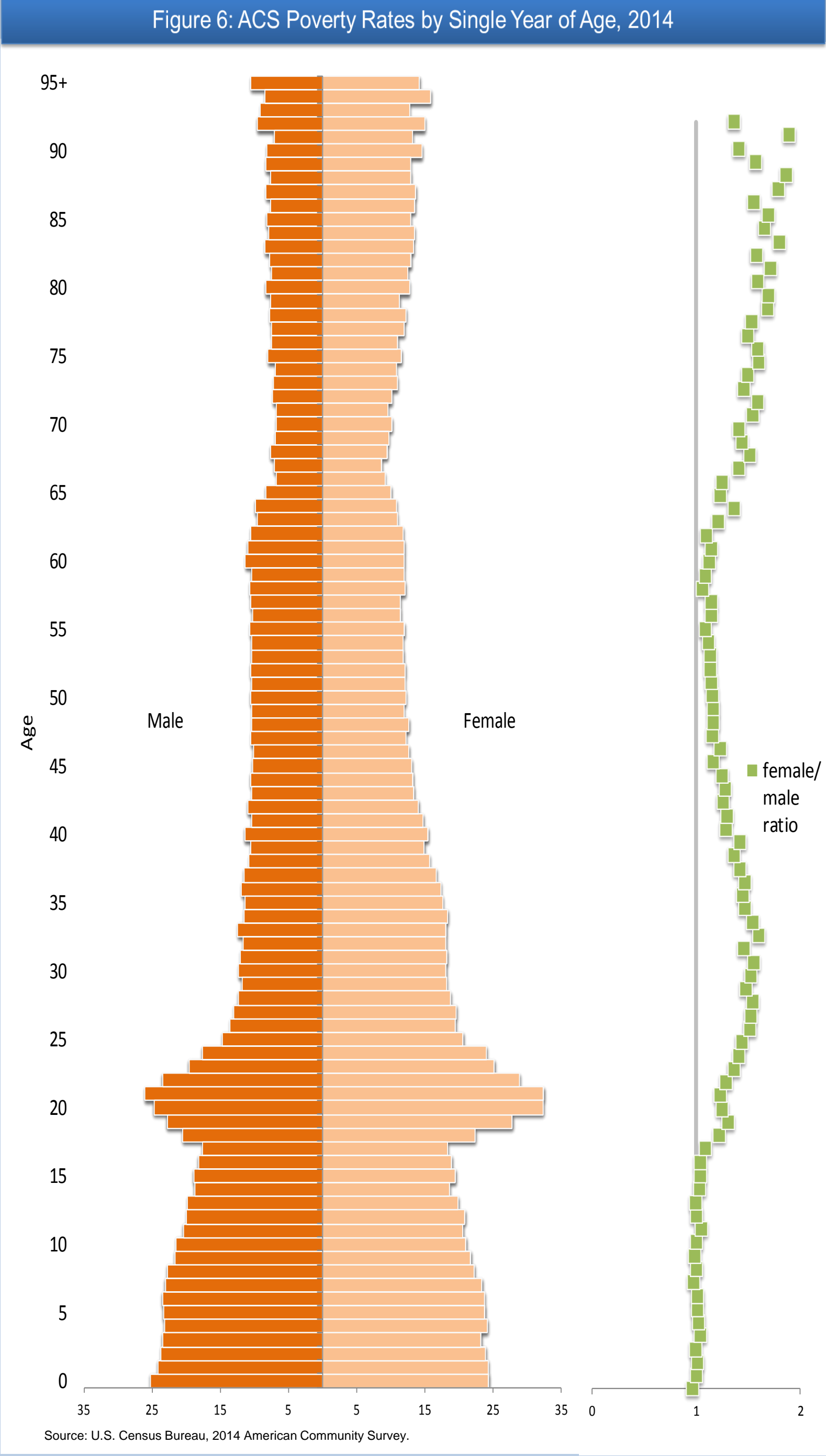
1967-2015 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC) and 2014 American Community Survey (ACS)

Note: For more details on the CPS, including its sample size and questions, see <<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.htm/>>. Further information on the ACS is available at <<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>>.

CPS ASEC



ACS



CPS Results

- In 2014, the poverty sex differential was greatest for individuals aged 75 and over, followed by individuals aged 25 to 34 (Figure 2).
- The poverty sex differential was significantly higher in 2014 than in 1966 for individuals aged 75 and older, and significantly lower among individuals under the age of 18, aged 45 to 54, and aged 55 to 64 (Figure 4).
- Comparing the poverty sex differential by race/ethnicity, we find no significant differences among individuals under the age of 18 and individuals aged 55 to 64 (Figure 5).
- Among individuals aged 65 to 74 and aged 75 and older, the non-Hispanic White poverty sex differential was higher than the differential for Blacks and Hispanics (Figure 5).
- Among non-Hispanic Whites, individuals aged 75 and older had the largest poverty sex differential, and individuals under the age of 18 had the lowest (Figure 5).

ACS Results

- Comparing the poverty differential by single year of age, we find significant differences between males and females for the majority of the age categories examined (82 of the 96).
- At each single year of age from 16 to 94, the differences between the poverty rate for males and the poverty rate for females were statistically significant.
- In 2014, males less than one year of age and aged 21 had among the highest poverty rates.
- Females aged 20 and 21 had among the highest poverty rates in 2014.
- In general, the poverty differential between males and females appears to be greatest in early adulthood and in older age.