

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH IN THE ROAD MAP PROJECT REGION

DATA BRIEF

Released: July 19, 2016 v2

ABOUT THE ROAD MAP PROJECT

The Road Map Project is a collective impact initiative that began in 2010 to improve student achievement from cradle through college and career in seven King County, Washington school districts: Auburn, Federal Way, Highline, Kent, Renton, (South) Seattle, and Tukwila. Together, this region serves 92 percent of the county's high-poverty schools and has 125,000 students, of whom 70 percent are of color, 56 percent are low-income and 20 percent are English-language learners.

Through multisector collaboration with more than 200 partners and individuals, the Road Map Project aims to increase equitable policies and practices in education systems by 2020 and for 70 percent of its region's youth to earn a college degree credential by 2030.

About CCER and its Data Team

The Community Center for Education Results (CCER) is a nonprofit created to staff and support the Road Map Project. CCER works alongside partner organizations and individuals to provide research, communications, strategy and operations support.

The CCER Data Team manages the Education Data Warehouse and conducts analysis and research on behalf of community partners working for student success. The Data Team centralizes the wealth of information made available by educational institutions and governments to illuminate inequity, build systems and understand barriers to access across the seven Road Map Project region districts.



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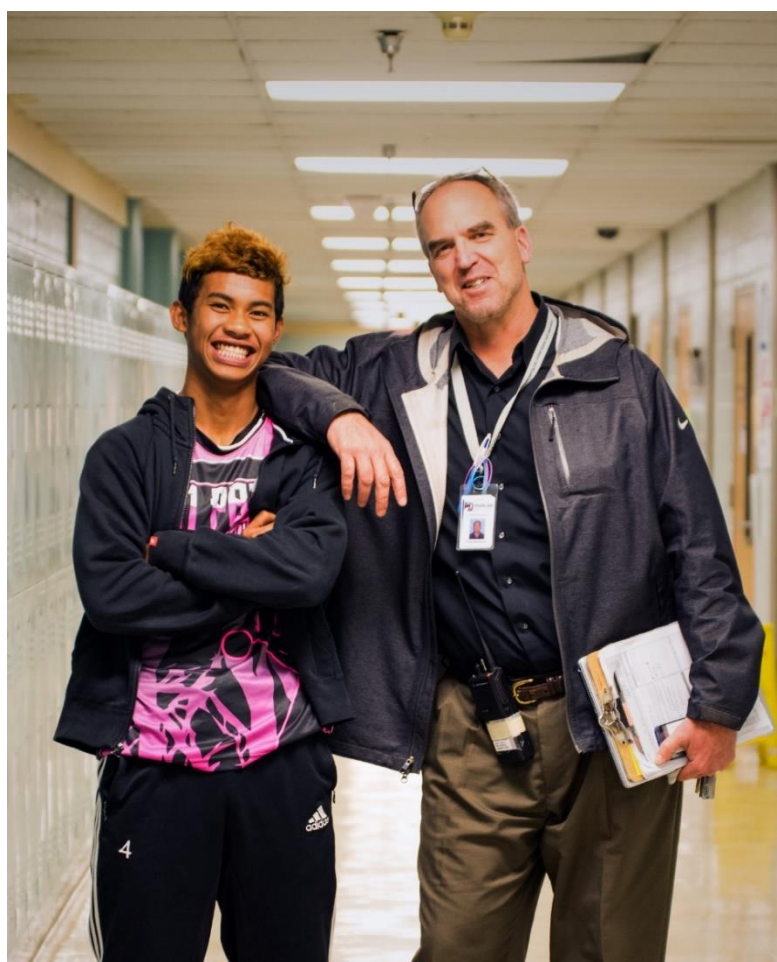
BACKGROUND

Measuring the successes and barriers faced by our most vulnerable youth is a challenge in our region. While there is a lot of information gathered from K12 districts and colleges about student outcomes, few data exists among youth disengaged from work and school. The Community Center for Education results and King County staff the King County Opportunity Youth Reengagement Network and Opportunity Youth Advisor Group, workgroups under the Road Map Project initiative. These groups focus on alignment, capacity, data and quality instruction for the region's 18,000+ youth who are out of school. The following brief was created for both workgroups. This data brief details findings from research, descriptive data and youth themselves and is intended to capture outcomes and contexts unique to opportunity youth in the Road Map Project Region.

Goal

The CCER Data Team fulfilled community and direct service provider requests from the King County Reengagement Network and Advisory Groups of the Road Map Project. The goal of this document is to provide a foundation of information from which indicators of system and youth success can be created and tracked over time. The Data Team used the CCER Education Data Warehouse, student enrollment records and postsecondary data to determine the prevalence of youth leaving school and education outcomes among opportunity youth in the Road Map Project region. The following questions in the table of contexts, guided the analyses presented in this brief.

Note. This brief provides information using the nationally known definition of opportunity youth (16- to 24-year-olds not in school and not working), as well as information on youth who are just disconnected from school and youth currently in reengagement programs. The definition of Opportunity Youth varies in these ways based on the data source.



**MORE THAN 18,000 OPPORTUNITY YOUTH
IN THE ROAD MAP PROJECT REGION**



OPPORTUNITY YOUTH DATA LANDSCAPE

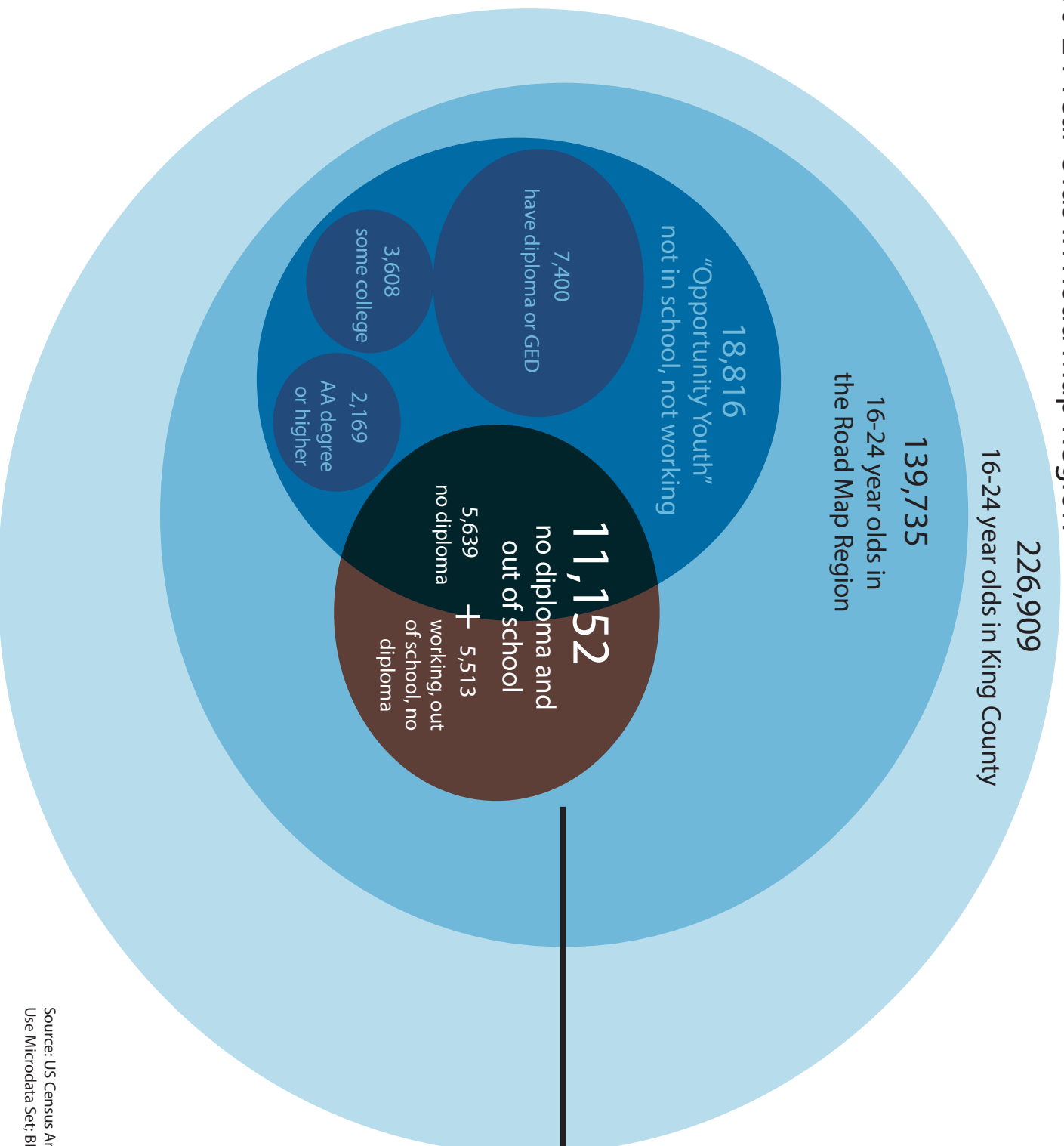
Data Provider	Measures	Data Type	Region	Years	Developmental milestones captured					Related Sources	Primary Contact	Goal/Function
					Barriers	K-12	Program	College	Work			
DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics DSHS Services K12 Enrollment Grade history Postsecondary 	One-time descriptive report	RMP	2005-12	✓	✓		✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K12 CEDARS P210 SBCTC PCHEES DSHS Integrated Databases 	Deleena Patton (DSHS)	Prevalence of barriers among DSHS and HCA-served OY
DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics DSHS Services K12 Enrollment Grade history Postsecondary 	One-time multi-cohort study	State	2000-12	✓	✓		✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K12 CEDARS P210 SBCTC PCHEES DSHS Integrated Databases 	Deleena Patton (DSHS)	Predictors of disengagement among DSHS and HCA-served OY
BERK Consulting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics K12 Enrollment Postsecondary Employment status 	Individual-level database	County & RMP	2010-14		✓		✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 	Vivien Savath (BERK)	OY prevalence
CCER Education Data Warehouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics K12 Enrollment Grade history Discipline Attendance Postsecondary 	Individual-level database	RMP	2005-15	✓	✓	✓	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K12 CEDARS SBCTC NSC 	CCER Data Team	OY prevalence and longitudinal education outcomes
OSPI Aggregated Open Doors Program Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headcount & AAFTE Measures of Academic Progress Credentials Earned 	Aggregated, program-level annual data	State	2013-15			✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No database 	Laurie Shannon (OSPI)	Annual program enrollment and aggregated performance
OSPI Student-level Open Doors program data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics Exit status Measures of Academic Progress Credentials Earned 	Individual-level de-identified, annual data	State	2016	✓		✓		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No database 	Laurie Shannon (OSPI)	Annual enrollment, demographics, performance
King County Quarterly Open Doors Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics Credentials Exit Status Measures of Academic Progress 	Aggregated Program-level, quarterly data	County	Winter 2016	✓		✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No database 7 programs participating 	CCER & Hanne Makhani (KC)	Quarterly enrollment, demographics, performance and retention

NOTES ON ITEMS WITH MINIMAL INFORMATION

- ✓ **Barriers.** These sources include student-level demographics on ELL services, FRPL, Homelessness (McKenny Vento status, not including housing instability). Barriers like adverse childhood experiences (ACES), parenting-status, health/well-being, TANIF, juvenile justice involvement are not included in CEDARS or requested by OSPI's student-level program data. Within the King County Quarterly Data some of these are requested but thus far have been reported with little fidelity.
- ✓ **K12.** The United States Census American Community Survey includes enrollment status and educational attainment and little on behaviors within the school (e.g., no information regarding absences, discipline, grades etc.)
- ✓ **Program (Reengagement Center).** CCER Education Data Warehouse includes student-level enrollment data on Road Map Project region students who have touched a reengagement program. This source can be helpful to track outcomes before and after enrollment in a program. Yet, only a few years of data on reengagement status exists and CEDARS does not include outcomes, supports or any information about students' performance *while enrolled* in a program. Starting in 2016 CCER received the first year of student-level OSPI data, so this source is improving over time.
- ✓ **Work.** OSPI's Student-level annual outcomes captures job-related measures of academic progress, allowing us to see how many students completed job training. Currently there is no region-wide data on dually employed and enrolled students in reengagement centers, or youth who obtained a job upon program completion.

Target Population Characteristics

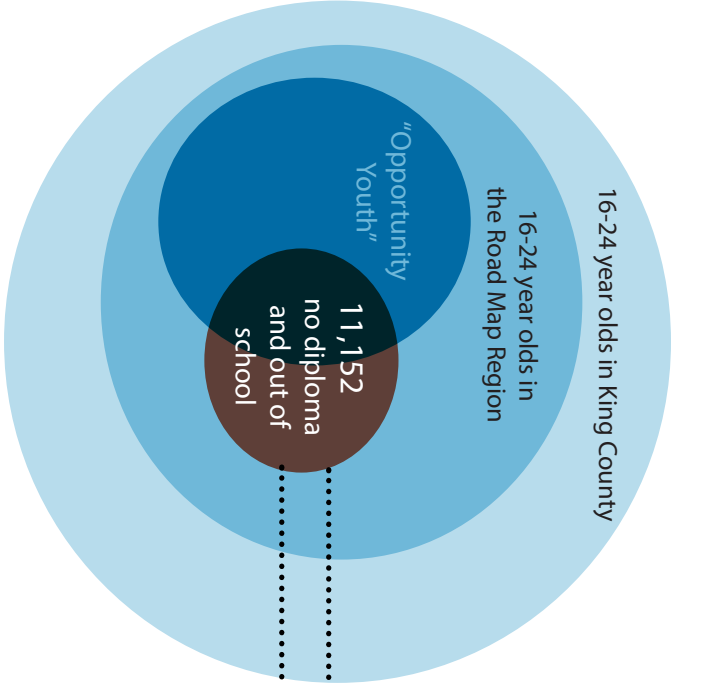
16-24 Year Olds in Road Map Region



11,152 Youth in the Road Map Region Can Benefit From the Dropout Re-engagement System →

Target Population Characteristics

16-24 Year Olds in Road Map Region, Out of School with No Diploma



By Age

Age	16-18	19-20	21	22-24	Total
Working	587	1,300	749	2,877	5,513
Not Working	1,610	1,172	876	1,981	5,639
Total	2,197	2,472	1,625	4,858	11,152

Open Doors eligible

High School 21 + eligible

By Race and Sex

Race	Male	Female	Total
Non-Hispanic White	2,117	1,284	3,401
	35%	25%	30%
Hispanic	1,436	1,030	2,466
	24%	20%	22%
Black or African American	430	775	1,205
	7%	15%	11%
Some Other Race	982	828	1,810
	16%	16%	16%
Two or More Races	442	557	999
	7%	11%	9%
Asian	370	331	701
	6%	7%	6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Island	88	208	296
	2%	4%	3%
American Indian and Alaska Native tribe	178	96	274
	3%	2%	3%
Total	6,043	5,109	11,152

HOW MANY YOUTH ARE OUT OF SCHOOL AND WORK?

18,817 youth aged 16-24 in the Road Map Project region are out of school and out of work. Opportunity Youth are disproportionately students of color.

Opportunity Youth Status by Race

	Latino/Hispanic		Black/African American		Other non-White		White		Totals	
Total Population	100%	20,864	100%	13,997	100%	35,824	100%	69,050	100%	139,735
Opportunity Youth	17%	3,552	20%	2,747	11%	3,971	12%	8,547	13%	18,817
Working without diploma ¹	14%	2,841	3%	355	2%	809	2%	1,508	4%	5,513
Not an Opportunity Youth	69%	14,471	78%	10,895	87%	31,044	85%	58,995	83%	115,405

¹ These youth are also out-of-school

Opportunity Youth Status by Age

	Age Groups						Totals	
	16-18		19-21		22-24			
Total Population	100%	50,053	100%	41,651	100%	48,031	100%	139,735
Opportunity Youth	6%	2,805	17%	7,284	18%	8,728	13%	18,817
Working without diploma	1%	587	5%	2,049	6%	2,877	4%	5,513
Not an Opportunity Youth	93%	46,661	78%	32,318	76%	36,426	83%	115,405

	16-18		19-21		22-24		Totals	
Opportunity Youth	100%	2,805	100%	7,284	100%	8,728	100%	18,817
No diploma	57%	1,610	28%	2,048	23%	1,981	30%	5,639
HS diploma or GED	35%	985	46%	3,349	35%	3,067	39%	7,401
Some college, no degree	6%	179	23%	1,666	20%	1,763	19%	3,608
Degree (Associate or higher)	1%	31	3%	221	22%	1,917	12%	2,169

Prevalence by Race

	Rate of OY	Population Total	Proportion of OY	OY Total
Road Map Project Region	100%	139,735	100%	18,817
American Indian/Alaska Native	31%	1,242	2%	387
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	23%	1,884	2%	439
Black/African American	19%	14,339	15%	2,791
Hispanic	17%	11,490	11%	2,008
Some Other Race alone	17%	6,473	6%	1,112
Two or More Races	12%	12,368	8%	1,534
White	12%	69,050	45%	8,547
Asian	9%	22,889	11%	1,999

30% of all American Indian 16-24 year olds are Opportunity Youth. This group makes up 2% of the OY population in the Road Map Project Region

Data Source(s): US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010-14. Data Prepared by BERK Group.

WHO ARE THE REGION'S OPPORTUNITY YOUTH?

Each year there are over 1,500 students (aged 14 years and up) who leave school in the Road Map Project Region. These are youth who have an enrollment code as “Dropout” (D or U code). While this is a large group, these rates may be an underestimate, as youth can disengage without having been formally unenrolled from school. Students-of-color are overrepresented in this group.

High School Dropout Rates

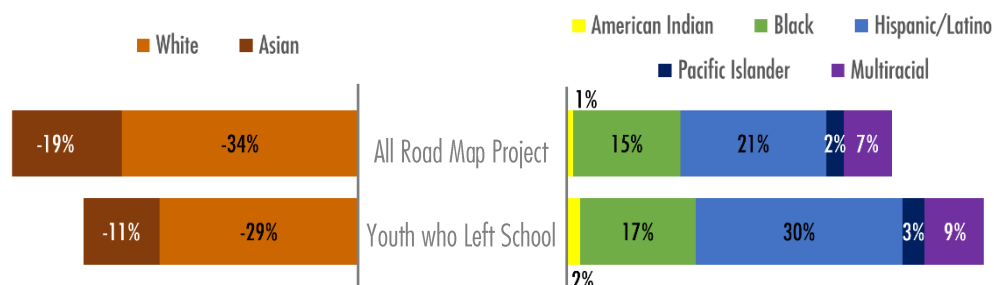
	Academic Year									
	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	Percent	Number who left	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count
Road Map Project Region	7%	2,312	6%	1,907	5%	1,721	5%	1,630	4%	1,551
American Indian/Alaskan Native	16%	60	10%	34	11%	37	10%	33	10%	28
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s)	10%	585	8%	513	7%	477	8%	530	6%	462
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	9%	68	8%	58	8%	58	6%	51	6%	49
Black/African American	9%	490	7%	385	7%	342	5%	248	5%	259
Two or More Races	7%	115	5%	109	5%	105	5%	112	6%	137
White	5%	717	4%	561	4%	510	4%	486	4%	446
Asian	4%	277	4%	247	3%	192	3%	170	2%	170
Males	7%	1321	6%	1134	5%	1026	5%	959	5%	928
Females	6%	992	4%	773	4%	695	4%	671	4%	623
Boys and Men of Color ¹	9%	669	8%	594	8%	572	7%	501	6%	471
Low Income ²	8%	957	7%	965	7%	927	7%	867	6%	807
Non Low Income	4%	421	3%	304	3%	284	4%	331	3%	277
Special Education	8%	353	7%	302	8%	320	6%	256	6%	274
Not Special Education	6%	1,960	5%	1,605	4%	1,401	4%	1,374	4%	1,277
Homeless	17%	131	18%	141	16%	134	11%	95	11%	110
Not Homeless	6%	2,182	5%	1,766	5%	1,587	4%	1,535	4%	1,441
Non-English at Home	7%	775	6%	647	5%	564	5%	607	5%	546
English at Home	6%	1,538	5%	1,260	5%	1,157	4%	1,023	4%	1,005
ELL	10%	386	9%	269	7%	219	8%	266	8%	301
NonELL	6%	1,927	5%	1,638	5%	1,502	4%	1,364	4%	1,250

10% of American Indian adolescents left school in 2015

High rates and a large gap among homeless youth and their stable peers.

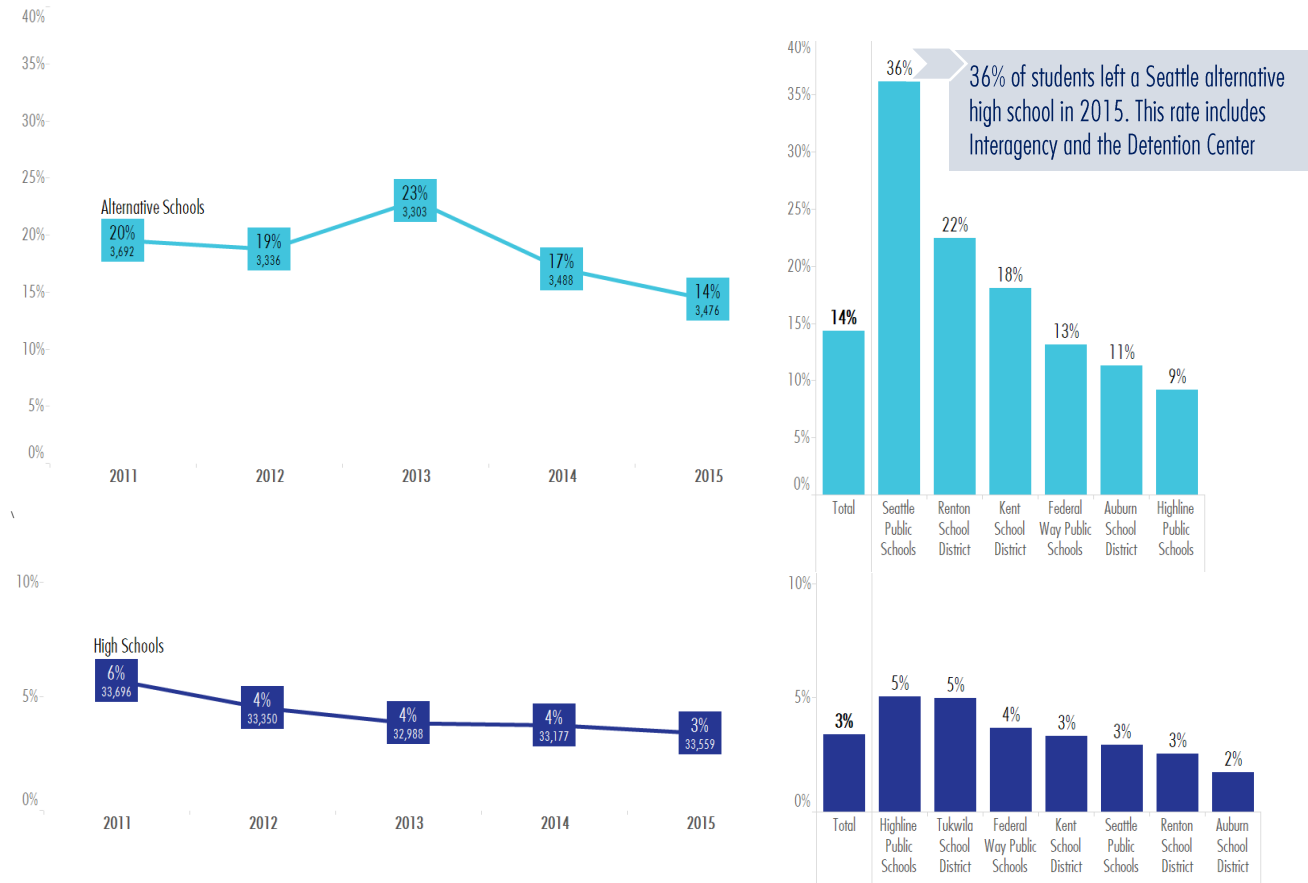
¹ Males who are American Indian, Hispanic, Black & Pacific Islander ² Excludes Seattle Public Schools and Kent School districts, for whom we do not have Student level FRPL data.

Racial Disproportionality in Youth Who Leave School

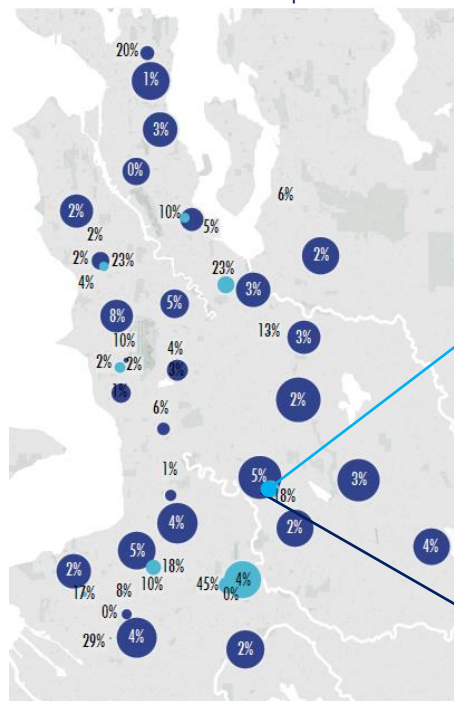


WHERE ARE OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH COMING FROM?

Regional and district rates of students leaving school are relatively low (between 3%-5%) and decreasing over time. However, when disaggregating by school type we see that students leave alternative schools at much higher rates than traditional high schools. These are small, often neighboring schools. Continued work will explore high school feeder patterns to examine enrollment trajectories prior to leaving school.



2015 School-level Dropout Rates



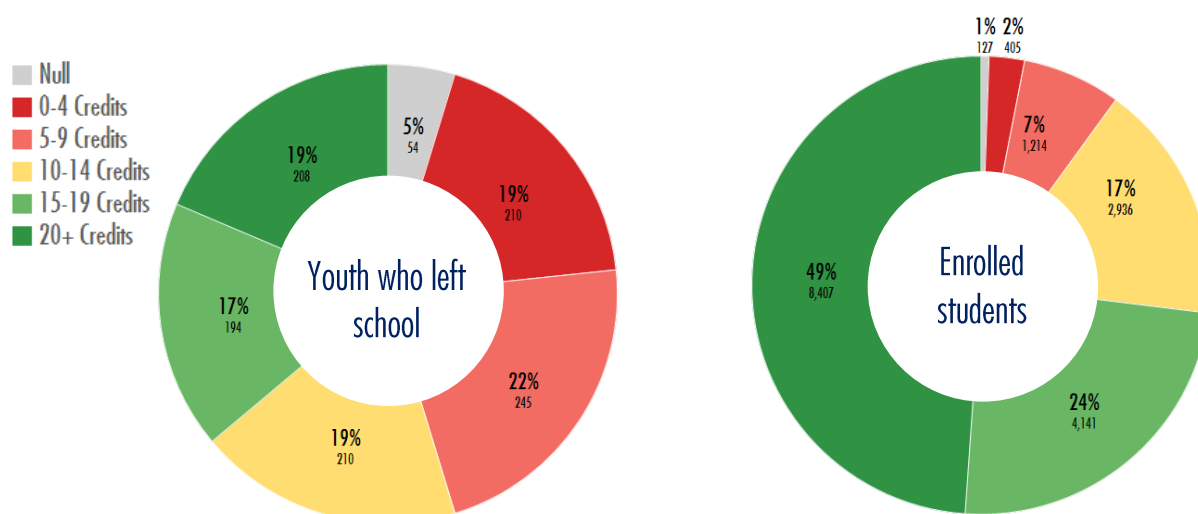
Griffin Home	Renton School District	67%	6
Interagency Detention School	Seattle Public Schools	59%	41
West Auburn Senior High School	Auburn School District	44%	310
Secondary Learning Center	Renton School District	23%	349
New Start	Highline Public Schools	23%	102
Seattle World School	Seattle Public Schools	18%	292
Employment Transition Program	Federal Way Public Schools	17%	35
Kent Phoenix Academy	Kent School District	17%	348
Merit School	Federal Way Public Schools	17%	12
Career Academy at Truman High School	Federal Way Public Schools	16%	163
Support School	Federal Way Public Schools	11%	94
Puget Sound High School	Highline Public Schools	10%	31
South Lake High School	Seattle Public Schools	10%	114
Renton Academy	Renton School District	9%	45
Highline High School	Highline Public Schools	8%	1,184
Internet Academy	Federal Way Public Schools	8%	381
Mount Rainier High School	Highline Public Schools	6%	1,558
Rainier Beach High School	Seattle Public Schools	5%	591
Federal Way High School	Federal Way Public Schools	5%	1,573
Kent-Meridian High School	Kent School District	5%	2,053
Foster Senior High School	Tukwila School District	5%	908

WHAT ELSE DO WE KNOW ABOUT OPPORUNITY YOUTH?

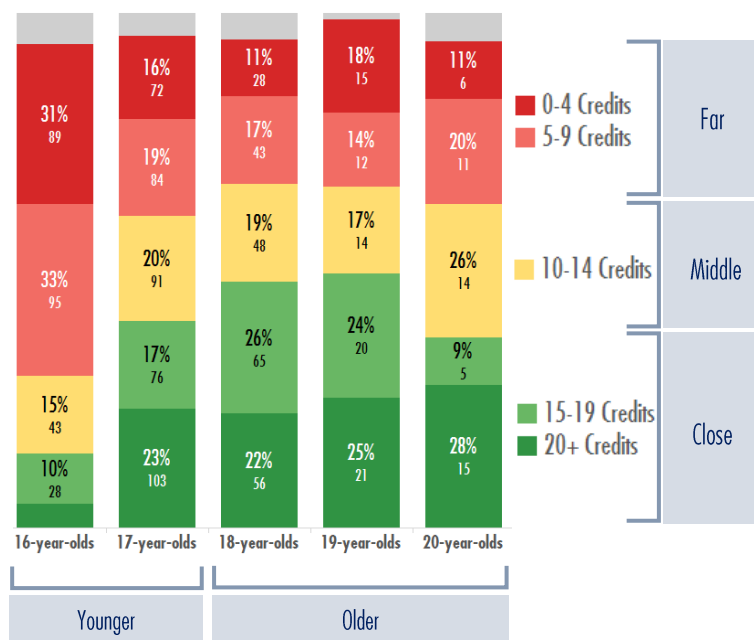
Credits Earned Segmentation

Most youth who leave school have fewer credits compared to their same-aged peers who stayed enrolled. Yet, among youth who left school in the 2014-15 school year, **19%** met or passed the WA state 20-credit minimum required for graduation.

2015 Total Credits Earned Road Map Region Students, aged 16 and up

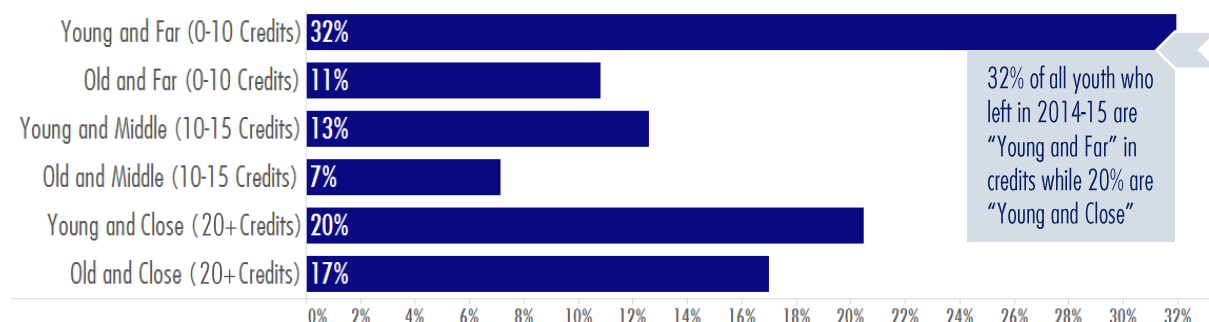


2015 Proportion of Credits Earned among Youth who Left School by Age



Proportion of Opportunity Youth in each age-by-credit segment

Most Road Map Project Region youth 16 years old and up who have left school are younger, 16- to 17-years-old. Examining student age by credit “distance” is another way to understand needs of youth who disengage. Using the credit and age groupings described above, here are the proportions of Opportunity Youth in each segment.



Data Source(s): OSPI CEDARS StudentLevel database via ERDC. Data Prepared by CCER Data Team, July 2016

Barriers Faced by Opportunity Youth

Findings below are of DSHS-served youth in the Road Map Project region, aged 16 to 24, who were not engaged in school or work in Academic Year 2012. In that year, of the total population of 16- to 24-year-olds, 11% had no connection to school or work. Below are barriers and challenges faced by youth people prior to disengagement as well as positive factors and supports among our resilient youth.

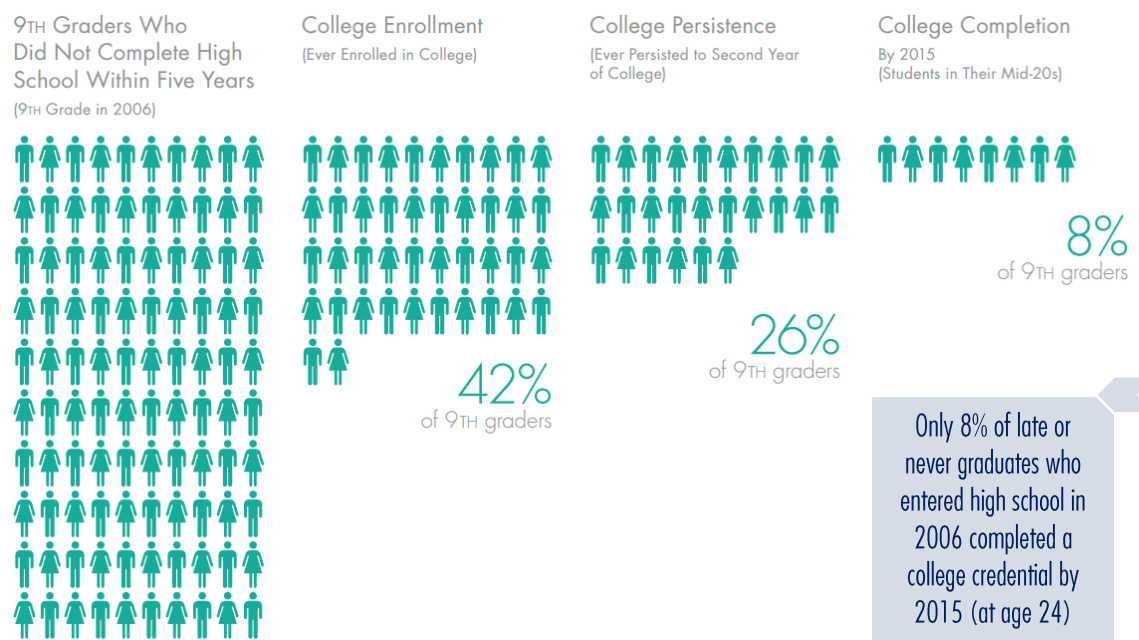


Data Source(s): DSHS Integrated Databases. Data Prepared by DSHS Research and Data Division.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE DISENGAGE?

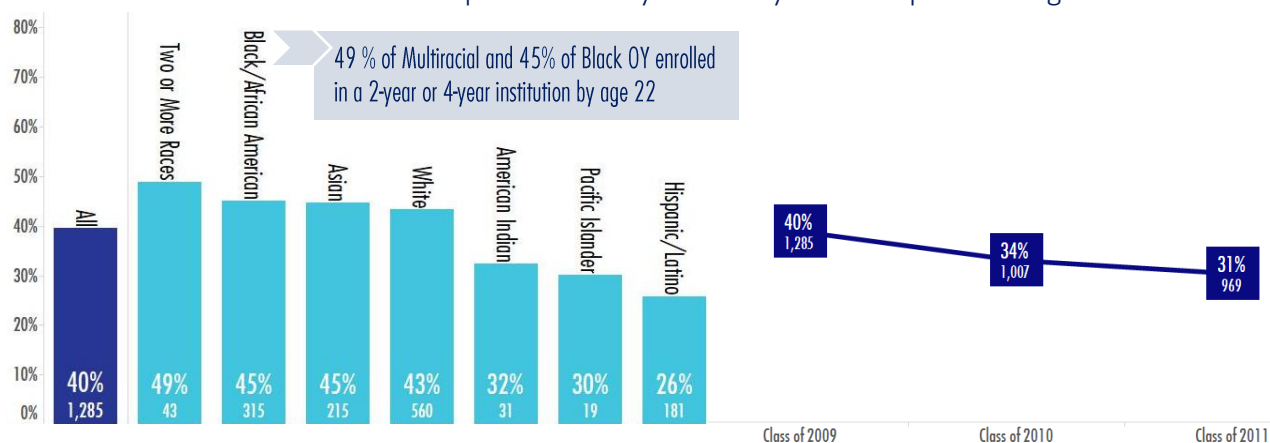
Indicators can help us understand how well we re-engage students who have left traditional education within the first few years after they disengage. Additional measures examining groups of same-aged students over longer periods of time can tell us how the education system continues to serve (or limit) our youth. The following are outcomes for different measures examined over the last two years.

a. Long-term postsecondary outcomes

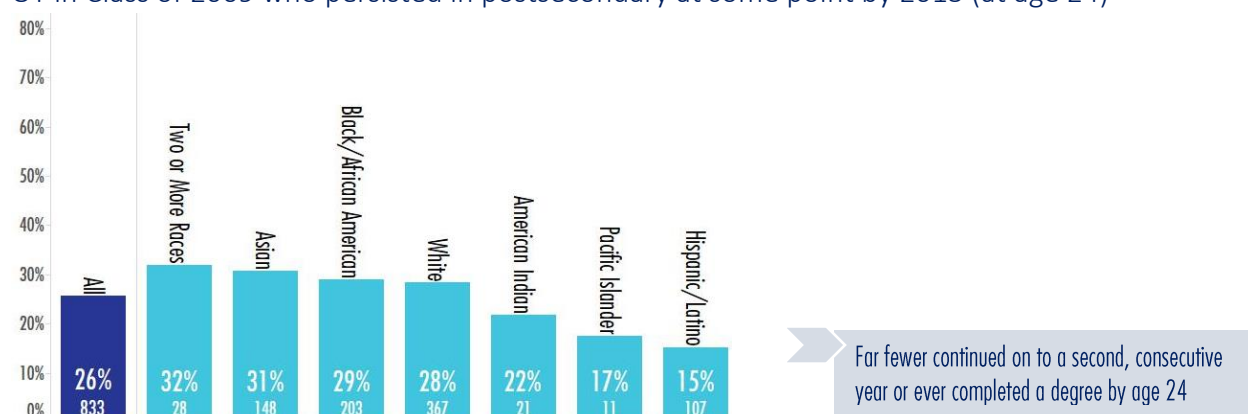


Of the **9,674** entering 9th graders in 2005-6 (Expected Graduating class of 2009) there were **3,250** students who did not graduate high school within 5 years. Some of these students never graduated others took more than 6 years to do so. Postsecondary enrollments among our Opportunity Youth occurred 2-4 years after their expected graduation. Of this cohort, **40% (1,285 students)** enrolled within 4-years of expected HS graduation.

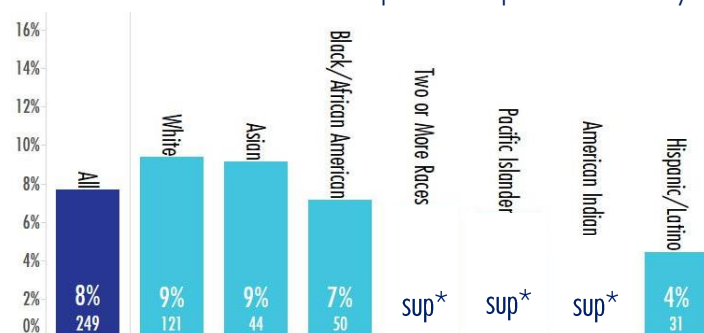
OY in Class of 2009 who enrolled in postsecondary within 4 years of expected HS graduation



OY in Class of 2009 who persisted in postsecondary at some point by 2015 (at age 24)



OY in Class of 2009 who completed in postsecondary degree by 2015 (at age 24)



Note: "sup*" is for suppression. Outcomes for groups smaller than 10 students are suppressed. Data Source(s): OSPI CEDARS Student-level database via ERDC and National Student Clearing House (NSC). Data Prepared by CCER Data Team, April 2016

b. Short-term reengagement outcomes

In 2011-12, 1,905 youth ages 14 and up left school without graduating. Within two years of disengaging 44% (or 842) of the 1,905 youth had reengaged in the existing K12, reengagement system, or at a local Community and Technical Colleges (CTCs). Additionally, about 9% of the 1,905 students who left completed a high school credential (including GED) in the K12 or CTC system within 2 years of leaving.

Note. CEDARS Data System does not include GEDs earned at stand-alone or private testing centers.

Adding those GEDs could increase the proportion of students attaining a high school credential. Rates are similar among youth who left school in the 2012-13 school year.

Indicator	Baseline
Youth aged 14+ who disengaged in 2011-12	1,905
Youth aged 14+ who reenrolled in high school or college within two years of leaving	44% or 842 youth
Youth who disengaged and earned a high school credential within two years of leaving	9% of all youth who disengaged 19% of youth who had reenrolled within two years

Reengaged youth who completed high school within 2 years

Academic Year	Number who reengaged	Percent Completed
2010	1,210	23%
2011	1,112	19%
2012	842	19%
2013	710	18%

Baseline Year, above

Rates of reengaging and completing a high school credential within 2 years of leaving school

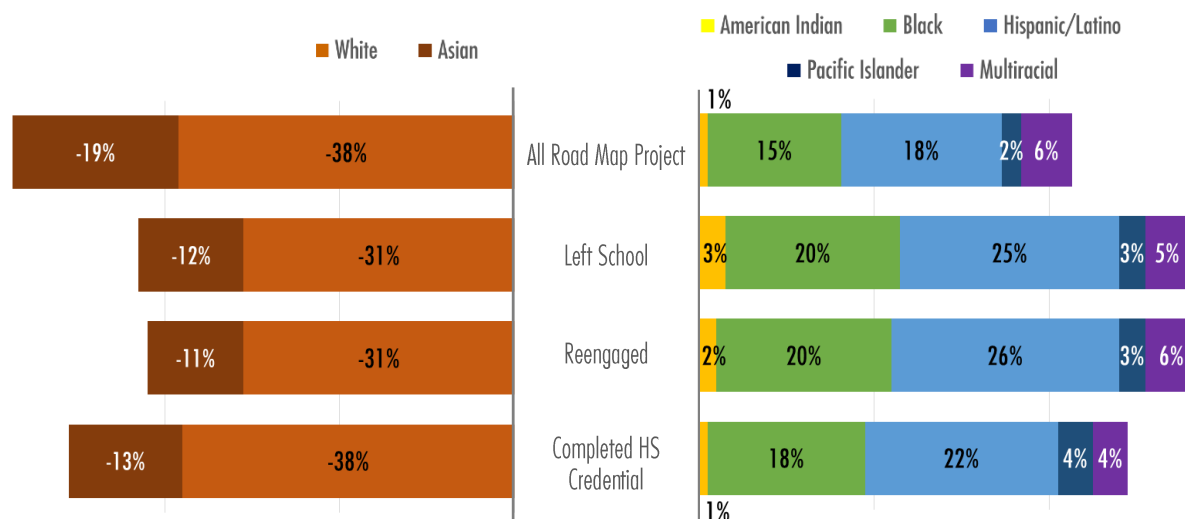
Academic Year	Number of youth who left	Counts of Reengagement Types			Total Reengaged		Counts of Completion Types			Total Completed	
		CTC only	CTC & K12	K12 only	Number	Percent	CTC only	CTC & K12	K12 only	Number	Percent
2010	2,387	175	899	136	1,210	51%	28	246	10	284	12%
2011	2,367	178	828	106	1,112	47%	23	172	12	207	9%
2012	1,905	105	687	50	842	44%	15	143	5	163	9%
2013	1,726	30	637	43	710	41%	2	125	2	129	7%

Data Source(s): OSPI CEDARS StudentLevel database via ERDC and SBCTC Enrollment Files. Findings prepared by CCER Data Team.

Racial disproportionality in student outcomes

We see fewer White and Asian students leaving school, compared to proportions in the overall populations. Yet, White and Asian students who did leave school had higher rates of completion than their American Indian, Black, Hispanic, Pacific Islander and Multiracial peers.

2012 Youth aged 14 and up who left school, Reengaged and Completed by Race



Data Source(s): OSPI CEDARS StudentLevel database via ERDC and SBCTC Enrollment Files. Findings prepared by CCER Data Team.

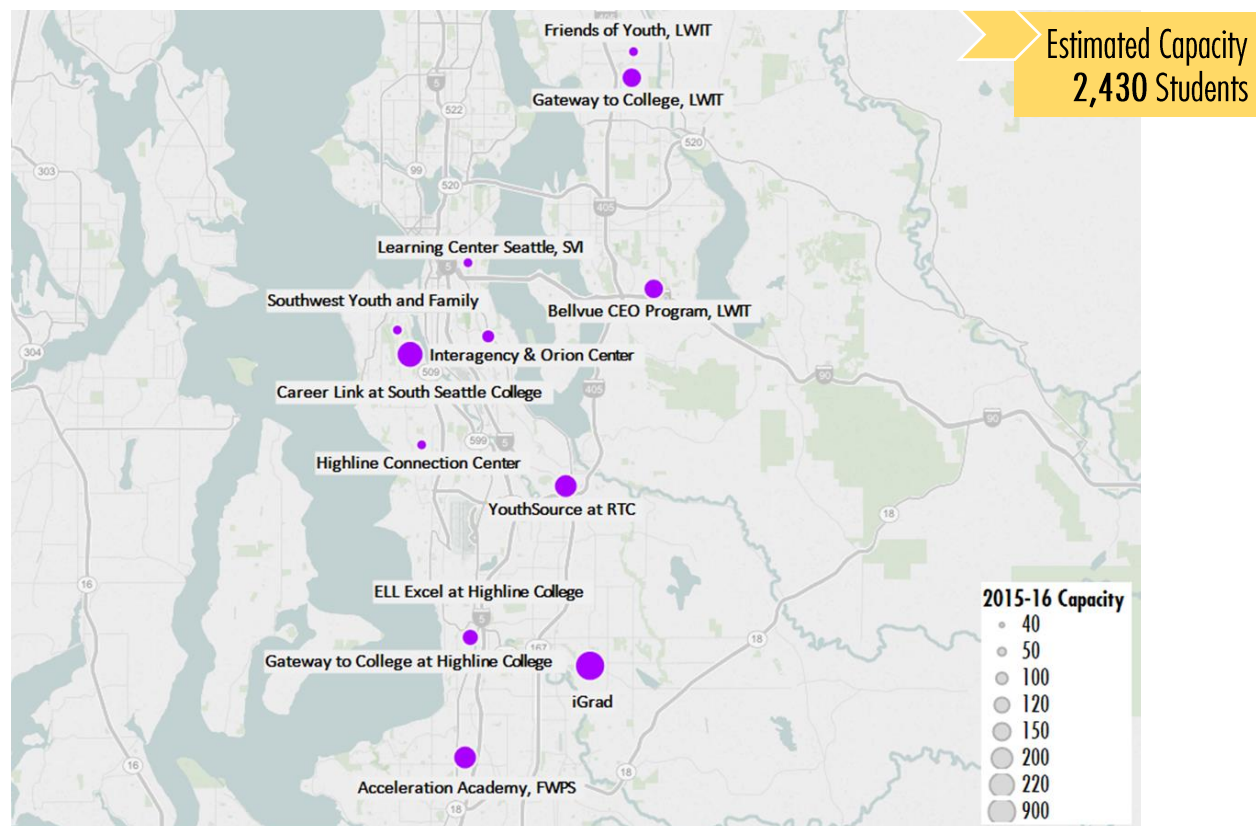
WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT REENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS?

King County Open Doors Capacity

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Est. Capacity	800	2,000	2,430
Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iGrad Gateway to College, LWIT YouthSource/RTC Learning Center North ¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iGrad Gateway to College, LWIT YouthSource/RTC Learning Center North ¹ Interagency & Orion Center Highline Connection Center Career Link, South Seattle ELL E.X.C.E.L. Southwest Youth & Family Gateway to College, Highline Acceleration Academy, FWPS Bellevue CEO Program/LWIT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iGrad Gateway to College, LWIT YouthSource/RTC Learning Center North ¹ Interagency & Orion Center Highline Connection Center Career Link, South Seattle ELL E.X.C.E.L. Southwest Youth & Family Gateway to College, Highline Acceleration Academy, FWPS Bellevue CEO Program/LWIT Friends of Youth/LWIT Learning Center Seattle at SVI

¹ Learning Center North is not technically an Open Doors Program but operates within a similar K12 funding framework

2015-16 King County Open Doors Programs and Estimated Program Capacity



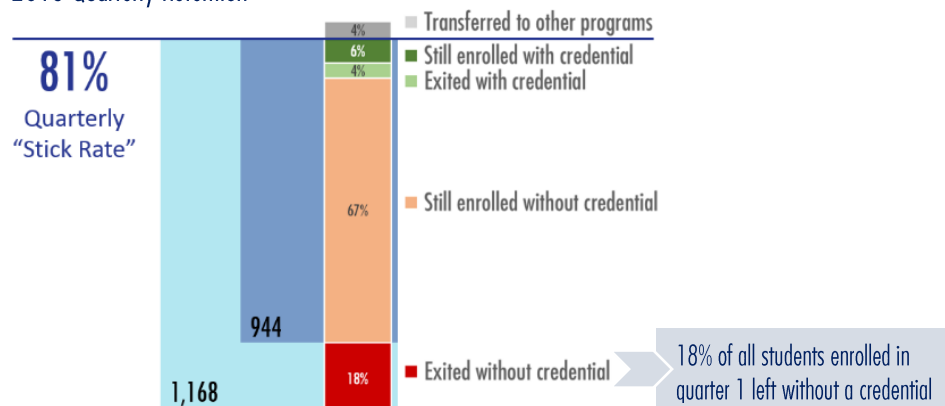
2014-15 Annual Open Doors Data		Number of Students Enrolled	College Credits Earned	High School Credits Earned	High school Credential Type		Percent Earned Credential	Total Credentials Earned
Program Name	District				Diploma	GED		
King County System Total		2,493	9,578	7,090	96	105	12%	270
Interagency	Seattle	71	152	84	NA	20	28%	20
Career Link	Highline	187	160	1,548	40	NA	21%	40
Gateway to College	LWIT	246	2,823	906	NA	NA	20%	48
Southwest Youth & Family	Highline	71	0	131	9	2	15%	11
iGrad	Kent	1,125	2,745	1,144	40	64	11%	125
Gateway to College	Highline	74	544	851	7	NA	9%	7
Bellevue College CEO	LWIT	366	3,089	2,232		18	5%	18
ELL Excel	Highline	45	65	173	NA	1	2%	1
Grad Alliance	Highline	74	NA	21	0	0	0%	0
Youth Source	Renton & Tukwila	234	NA	NA	NA	0	0%	0

Data Source(s): OSPI Annual Aggregated Program Data. Findings prepared by CCER Data Team, February 2016

King County Quarterly Reengagement Program Data

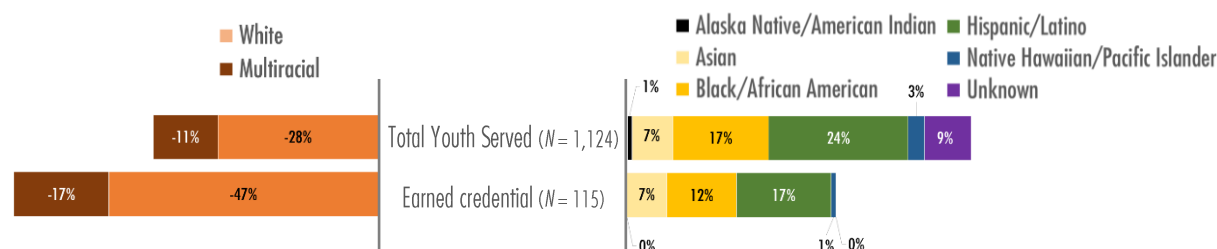
Aggregated data from 7 Open Doors programs in King County (1,337 students) was collected beginning in March, 2016. Information is being used for collaborative learning and informing system-wide progress. While quarterly retention rates are high, we see racial disproportionality in credential earning.

2016 Quarterly Retention



2016 Racial Disproportionality in Quarterly Credential Earning

10% of students completed a credential in Quarter 1. Yet, when examining a subset of 5 programs who entered data by race, we see that the group of credential earners were more likely to be White or Multiracial than any other race.



Data Source(s): King County Quarterly Aggregated Data. Findings prepared by CCER Data Team, May 2016

HIGH SCHOOL 21+

All King County “High School 21+” Enrollments and Diplomas by Program
Ages 21- to 24-years

Enrollments Over Time

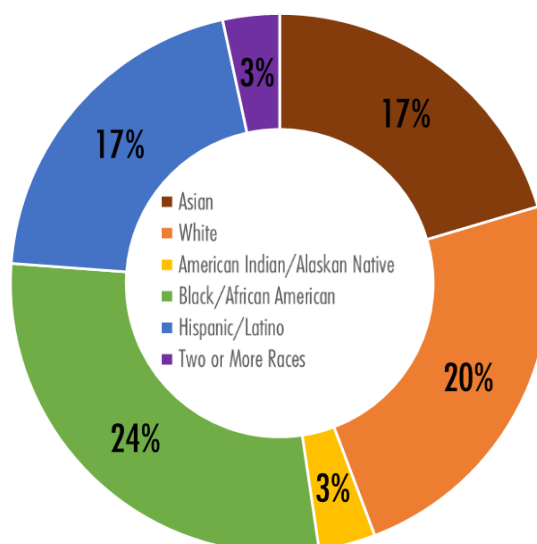
2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		Program Total
King County Total	20	King County Total	76	King County Total	180	276
Lake Washington IT	18	Lake Washington IT	8	Lake Washington IT	16	42
Renton Tech	1	Renton Tech	58	Renton Tech	108	167
Seattle Central	1	Seattle Central	1	Seattle Central	12	14
		Shoreline	5	Shoreline	7	12
		South Seattle	4	South Seattle	21	25
				Green River	2	2
				North Seattle	12	12
				Highline	2	2

Diplomas Awarded Over Time

						Total
King County Total	9	King County Total	101	King County Total	131	241
Seattle Central	6	Seattle Central	3	Seattle Central	2	11
Renton Tech	3	Renton Tech	96	Renton Tech	122	221
		Shoreline	2	Lake Washington IT	7	9

All King County “High School 21+” Enrollments by Race and Ethnicity
Ages 21- to 24-years

	%	Count
Program Total	100%	276
Black/African American	24%	67
White	20%	56
Asian	17%	48
Hispanic/Latino	17%	48
American Indian/Alaskan Native	3%	8
Two or More Races	3%	8



WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE TELL US?

The Road Map Project has partnered with SOAR's King County Youth Advisory Council since late 2013 to ensure youth input informs and influences opportunity youth system-building efforts and to elevate the voices of young people from the region.ⁱ

Through a range of focus groups over the course of the last 3 years, we have learned a lot from young people. This is a summary of key findings that has and should continue to inform our work:



On Barriers:

1. Lack of trust and support at school
2. Some students feel “tracked;” some groups of youth seem to get more resources even in the same school
3. When students don’t feel they are valued or welcome, they drop out
4. Awareness of and access to alternative education pathways are limited; information is vague and out-of-date when it exists
5. Youth have competing priorities and need individualized pathways
6. Money is needed to survive; sometimes youth have to decide between school and work
7. Undocumented youth face more barriers, even if they follow all the “rules”

On Solutions:

1. Improve student-teacher relationships and teacher cultural competence
2. Provide youth more support – academic and emotional – to keep them in school
3. Connect youth with existing opportunities
4. Create pathways that are individualized
5. Create pathways that are connected to careers
6. Offer more community supports & mentors
7. Address transportation and other barriers to participation

On Outreach to Opportunity Youth:

1. Messages should not imply you’re already failing
2. Don’t use the word dropout
3. Images should be colorful
4. Pictures should be groups, co-ed, racially diverse, smiling
5. Messages should be positive, empowering and future-oriented



On Effective Alternative Pathwaysⁱⁱ

1. Warm, helpful teachers
2. A lot of one-on-one support; accessible counselors, case managers, social workers
3. Students treated with respect
4. Flexibility and freedom (e.g., students can attend class at night if that works better, students can work at home, students can work at their own pace)
5. Fewer distractions, easier to focus on school
6. Older students more comfortable than in a traditional high school

NEXT STEPS

These data are just the start of understanding opportunity youth in the Road Map Project region. Already findings have been used to support the King County Opportunity Youth Reengagement Provider Network, United Way, King County's Reconnect to Opportunity and The Road Map Project Opportunity Youth Advisors. Additional analytic work will examine potential causal factors of student disengagement, impact of Open Doors on student outcomes and, the academic outcomes and with the help of partners we can begin to understand the compounding barriers faced by opportunity youth such as poverty, homelessness and early parenthood and how programs are reducing student barriers while promoting academic success.

Opportunity Youth Data Requests

As of the circulation of these findings in July 2016 and the February the following partners have requested CCER's opportunity youth data.

Partner/Organization

King County Opportunity Youth Reengagement Provider Network

King County's Reconnect to Opportunity

Road Map Project Opportunity Youth Advisors

United Way

Raikes Foundation

RESOURCES

Resource/Definition	Source and URL
Opportunity Youth Reengagement Provider Network	Road Map Project http://www.roadmapproject.org/collective-action/project-hub/opportunity-youth/regional-re-engagement-network/
Reconnect to Opportunity	King County http://reopp.org/
Opportunity Youth Advisors	Road Map Project http://www.roadmapproject.org/collective-action/project-hub/opportunity-youth/



Was this helpful? Let us know how you've used data in this brief! info@ccedresults.org

END NOTES

ⁱ Partnership activities have included:

- Two Youth Council representatives participated in the opportunity youth work group during year one, as the plan was developed. The linkage between the Council and the work group was intentional, to ensure broader youth voice into the work and to provide youth with support outside of the work group.
- Road Map Project staff attend monthly Youth Advisory Council meetings in order to solicit broader youth input on specific issues that arise in the course of the work of the collaborative.
- The Road Map Project and SOAR work together to identify youth-led projects. For example, youth have conducted focus groups at re-engagement programs, presented at Road Map Project meetings, created videos featuring youth sharing their stories of re-engagement onto educational pathways, and are serving on the S. King County Discipline Coalition.
- The Youth Advisory Council held a Results Roundtable in March 2015 to share new Road Map Project data on school discipline, graduation rates, and college enrollment and persistence and to solicit youth input on data, root causes of youth outcomes, and other data-related questions.
- Youth have participated in advocacy activities focused on increasing funding for the state's College Bound Scholarship and State Need Grant and collaborated with SOAR staff to co-lead trainings on racial equity.

ⁱⁱ Based on exit feedback from iGrad graduates in particular