# 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.











# Suggested Citation

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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



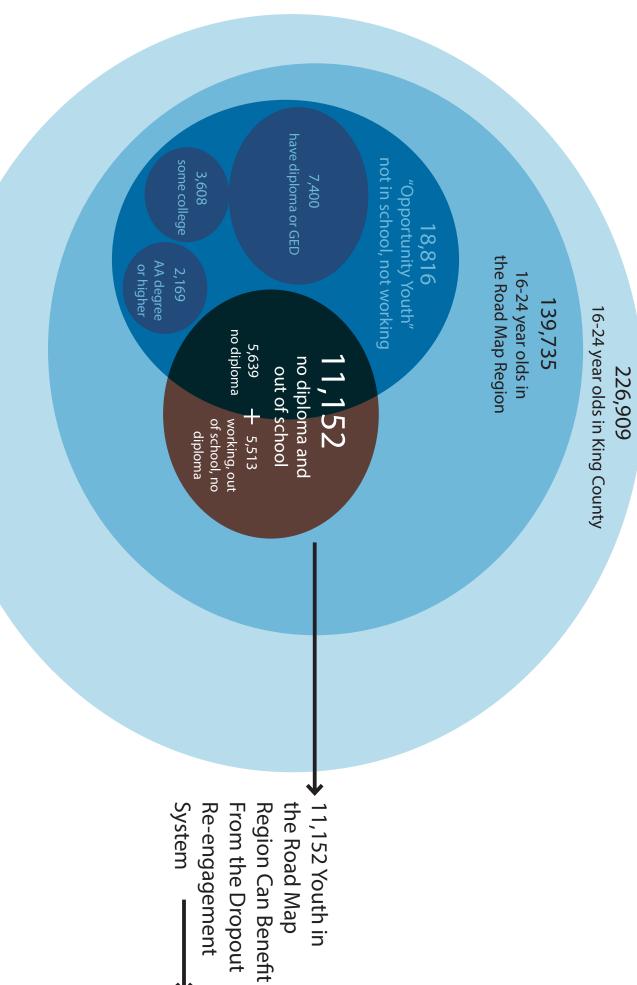
# OPPORTUNITY YOUTH DATA LANDSCAPE

	Developmental milestones captured							tured		Primary		
Data Provider	Measures	Data Type	Region	Years	Barriers	K-12	Program	College	Work	Related Sources	Contact	Goal/Function
	<ul><li>Demographics</li><li>DSHS Services</li><li>K12 Enrollment</li><li>Grade history</li><li>Postsecondary</li></ul>	One-time descriptive report	RMP	2005-12	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>		<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<ul><li>K12 CEDARS P210</li><li>SBCTC</li><li>PCHEES</li><li>DSHS Integrated Databases</li></ul>	Deleena Patton (DSHS)	Prevalence of barriers among DSHS and HCA-served OY
	<ul><li>Demographics</li><li>DSHS Services</li><li>K12 Enrollment</li><li>Grade history</li><li>Postsecondary</li></ul>	One-time mulit- cohort study	State	2000-12	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>		<b>✓</b>	<b>~</b>	<ul><li>K12 CEDARS P210</li><li>SBCTC</li><li>PCHEES</li><li>DSHS Integrated Databases</li></ul>	Deleena Patton (DSHS)	Predictors of disengagement among DSHS and HCA-served OY
BERK Consulting	<ul><li>Demographics</li><li>K12 Enrollment</li><li>Postsecondary</li><li>Employment status</li></ul>	Individual- level database	County & RMP	2010-14		<b>~</b>		<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	U.S. Census     Bureau, American     Community     Survey	Vivien Savath (BERK)	OY prevalence
CCER Education Data Warehouse	<ul><li>Demographics</li><li>K12 Enrollment</li><li>Grade history</li><li>Discipline</li><li>Attendance</li><li>Postsecondary</li></ul>	Individual- level database	RMP	2005-15	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>/</b>		<ul><li>K12 CEDARS</li><li>SBCTC</li><li>NSC</li></ul>	CCER Data Team	OY prevalence and longitudinal education outcomes
OSPI Aggregated Open Doors Program Data	<ul> <li>Measures of Academic Progress</li> </ul>	Aggregated, program-level annual data	State	2013-15			<b>~</b>			No database	Laurie Shannon (OSPI)	Annual program enrollment and aggregated performance
	• LAIL Status	Individual-level de-identified, annual data	State	2016	<b>~</b>		~		<b>~</b>	No database	Laurie Shannon (OSPI)	Annual enrollment, demographics, performance
Quarterly Open	_	Aggregated Program-level, quarterly data	County	Winter 2016	<b>~</b>		~			<ul><li>No database</li><li>7 programs participating</li></ul>	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



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

															school	and out of	no diploma	"Opportunity Youth"	16-24 year olds in the Road Map Region		16-24 year olds in King County		•••
Total		American Indian		Native Hawaiian		Asian		Two or More Races		Some Other Race		Black or African American		Hispanic		Non-Hispanic White	Race	… <b>▶</b> By Race and Sex	Total	Not Working	Working	Age	····▼ By Age
		American Indian and Alaska Native tribe		Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Island				es		æ		American				hite		×	2,197 2,472	1,610 1,172	587 1,300	16-18 19-20	Oper
6,043	3%	e 178	2%	д 88	6%	370	7%	442	16%	982	7%	430	24%	1,436	35%	2,117	Male		1,625	876	749	) 21	High School 21+ eligible Open Doors eligible
5,109	2%	96	4%	208	7%	331	11%	557	16%	828	15%	775	20%	1,030	25%	1,284	Female		4,858	1,981	2,877	22-24	21+ eligible
11,152	3%	274	3%	296	6%	701	9%	999	16%	1,810	11%	1,205	22%	2,466	30%	3,401	Total		11,152	5,639	5,513	Total	

Source: US Census American Community Survey 2010-2014 Public Use Microdata Set, BERK, 2016

# 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										
	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 <sup>1</sup>	14%	2,841	3%	355	2%	809	2%	1,508	4%	5,513
Not an Opportunity Youth	69%	14,471	<b>78</b> %	10,895	87%	31,044	85%	58,995	83%	115,405

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These youth are also out-of-school

# Opportunity Youth Status by Age

,				Totals				
	1	16-18 19-21 22-24				22-24		
Total Population	100%	50,053	100%	41,651	100%	48,031	1 100% 139	
Opportunity Youth	6%	2,016	17%	7,284	18%	8,728	13%	18,817
Working without diploma	1%	1,547	5%	2,049	<b>6</b> %	2,877	4%	5,513
Not an Opportunity Youth	93%	29,360	<b>78</b> %	32,318	76%	36,426	83%	115,405
	1	6-18	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	30% of all American
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	23%	1,884	2%	439	Indian 16-24 year
Black/African American	19%	14,339	15%	2,791	olds are Opportunity
Hispanic	17%	11,490	11%	2,008	Youth. This group
Some Other Race alone	17%	6,473	6%	1,112	makes up 2% of the
Two or More Races	12%	12,368	8%	1,534	OY population in the
White	12%	69,050	45%	8,547	Road Map Project
Asian	<b>9</b> %	22,889	11%	1,999	Region

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

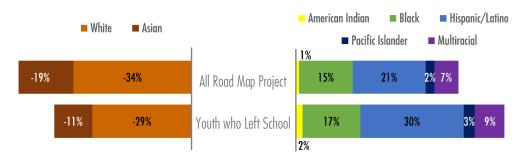
# WHO ARE THE REGION'S OPPORUNITY YOUTH?

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 le		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	<b>16%</b> 60	<b>10%</b> 34	11% 37	10% 33	10% 28	10% of American Indian adolescents			
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s)	<b>10%</b> 585	<b>8</b> % 513	<b>7</b> % 477	<b>8</b> % 530	<b>6</b> % 462	left school in 2015			
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<b>9</b> % 68	<b>8</b> % 58	<b>8</b> % 58	<b>6</b> % 51	<b>6</b> % 49	1011 0011001 111 20 10			
Black/African American	<b>9</b> % 490	<b>7</b> % 385	<b>7</b> % 342	<b>5</b> % 248	<b>5</b> % 259				
Two or More Races	<b>7%</b> 115	<b>5%</b> 109	<b>5%</b> 105	<b>5</b> % 112	<b>6</b> % 137				
White	<b>5%</b> 717	<b>4%</b> 561	<b>4%</b> 510	<b>4</b> % 486	<b>4</b> % 446				
Asian	<b>4</b> % 277	<b>4</b> % 247	<b>3</b> % 192	<b>3</b> % 170	<b>2</b> % 170				
Males	7% 132	6% 1134	5% 1026	<b>5</b> % 959	5% 928				
Females	<b>6</b> % 992	4% 773	4% 695	4% 671	4% 623				
Boys and Men of Color <sup>1</sup>	<b>9</b> % 669	<b>8</b> % 594	<b>8</b> % 572	<b>7</b> % 501	<b>6</b> % 471				
Low Income <sup>2</sup>	<b>8</b> % 957	<b>7</b> % 965	<b>7</b> % 927	<b>7</b> % 867	<b>6</b> % 807				
Non Low Income	<b>4</b> % 421	<b>3</b> % 304	<b>3</b> % 284	<b>4%</b> 331	<b>3</b> % 277				
Special Education	<b>8</b> % 353	<b>7</b> % 302	<b>8</b> % 320	<b>6</b> % 256	<b>6</b> % 274				
Not Special Education	<b>6</b> % 1,96	0 <b>5</b> % 1,605	<b>4%</b> 1,401	<b>4</b> % 1,374	<b>4%</b> 1,277				
Homeless	<b>17</b> % 131	<b>18</b> % 141	<b>16</b> % 134	11% 95	11% 110	High rates and a			
Not Homeless	<b>6</b> % 2,18			<b>4</b> % 1,535		large gap among homeless youth and			
Non-English at Home	<b>7</b> % 775	<b>6</b> % 647	<b>5</b> % 564	<b>5</b> % 607	<b>5</b> % 546	their stable peers.			
English at Home	<b>6</b> % 1,53	8 <b>5</b> % 1,260	<b>5</b> % 1,157	<b>4</b> % 1,023	<b>4%</b> 1,005				
ELL	<b>10%</b> 386	<b>9</b> % 269	<b>7</b> % 219	<b>8</b> % 266	<b>8</b> % 301				
NonELL	<b>6</b> % 1,92	7 <b>5%</b> 1,638	<b>5</b> % 1,502	<b>4</b> % 1,364	<b>4</b> % 1,250				

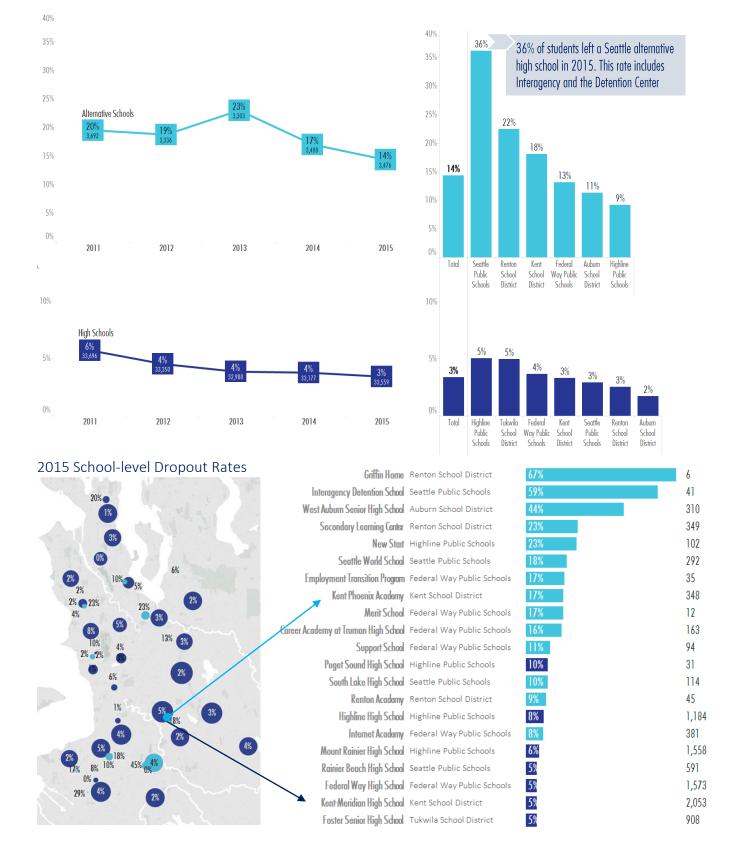
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Males who are American Indian, Hispanic, Black & Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> Excludes Seattle Public Schools and Kent School districts, for whom we do not have Student level FRPL data.

### 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.

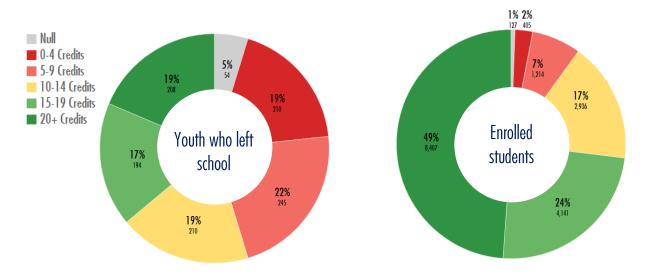


# WHAT ELSE DO WE KNOW ABOUT OPPORUNITY YOUTH?

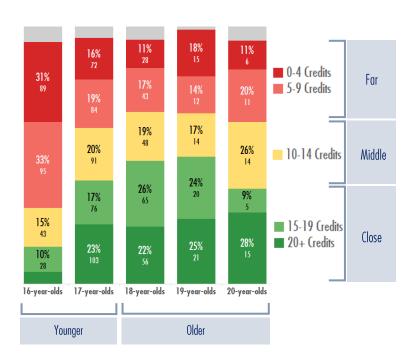
# **Credits Earned Segmentation**

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



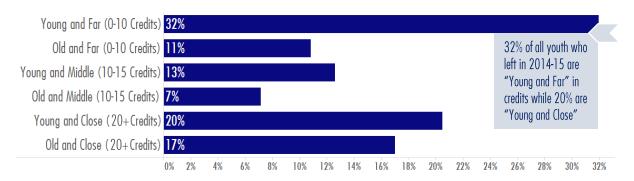
### 2015 Proportion of Credits Earned among Youth who Left School by Age



Data Source(s): OSPI CEDARS Student-level database via ERDC. Findings prepared by CCER Data Team, July 2016

### 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.

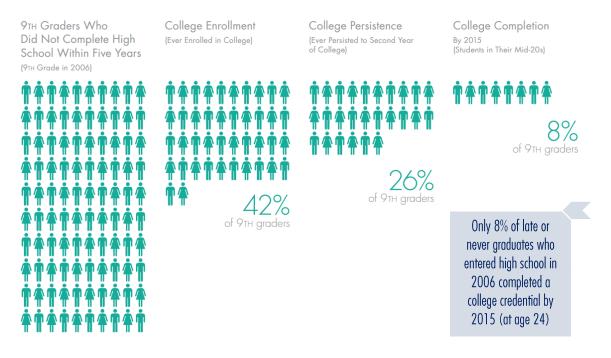


Data Source(s): DSHS Integrated Databases. Data Prepared by DSHS Research and Data Division.

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE DISENGAGE?

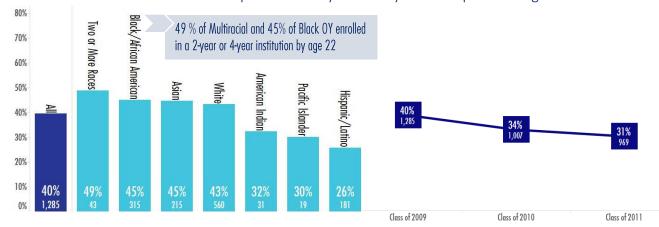
Indicators can help us understand how well we re-engage students who have left traditional education within the first few years after they disengage. Additional measures examining groups of same-aged students over longer periods of time can tell us how the education system continues to serve (or limit) 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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

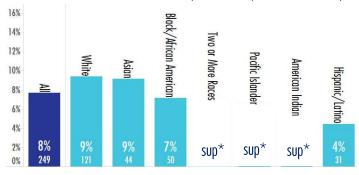


## OY in Class of 2009 who persisted in postsecondary at some point by 2015 (at age 24)



Far fewer continued on to a second, consecutive year or ever completed a degree by 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%	Baseline Year, above
2013	710	18%	

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

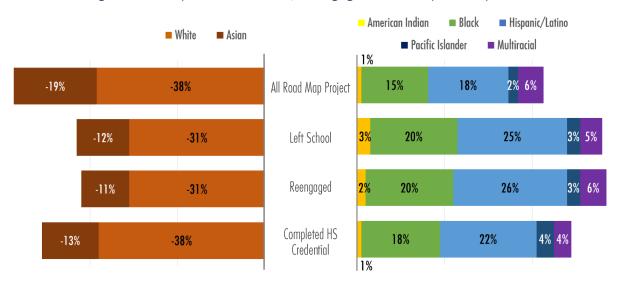
Academic	Number	Counts	of Reengaç Types	Total Ree	Со	Counts of mpletion Ty	pes	Total Completed			
Year	of youth who left	CTC only	CTC & K12	K12 only	Number	Percent	CTC only	CTC & K12	K12 only	Number	Percent
2010	2,387	175	899	136	1,210	51%	28	246	10	284	12%
2011	2,367	178	828	106	1,112	47%	23	172	12	207	<b>9</b> %
2012	1,905	105	687	50	842	44%	15	143	5	163	<b>9</b> %
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.

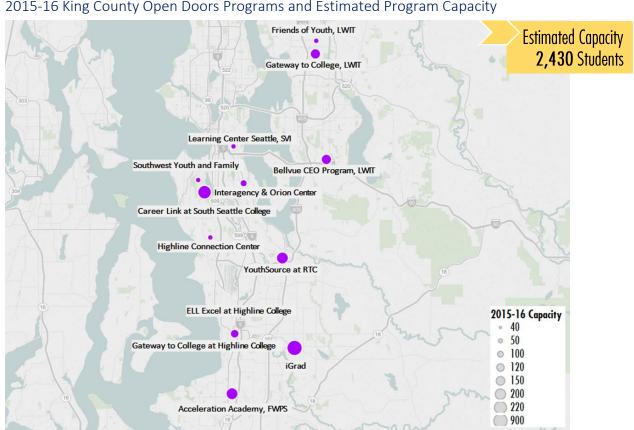
# WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT REENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS?

King County Open Doors Capacity

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Est. Capacity	800	2,000	2,430
Programs	4	12	14
	• iGrad	• iGrad	<ul><li>iGrad</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Gateway to College, LWIT</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gateway to College, LWIT</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gateway to College, LWIT</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>YouthSource/RTC</li> </ul>	<ul><li>YouthSource/RTC</li></ul>	<ul><li>YouthSource/RTC</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Learning Center North <sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Learning Center North <sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Learning Center North <sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Interagency &amp; Orion Center</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Interagency &amp; Orion Center</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Highline Connection Center</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Highline Connection Center</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Career Link, South Seattle</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Career Link, South Seattle</li> </ul>
		• ELL E.X.C.E.L.	• ELL E.X.C.E.L.
		<ul> <li>Southwest Youth &amp; Family</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Southwest Youth &amp; Family</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Gateway to College, Highline</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gateway to College, Highline</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Acceleration Academy, FWPS</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Acceleration Academy, FWPS</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Bellevue CEO Program/LWIT</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Bellevue CEO Program/LWIT</li> </ul>
			<ul><li>Friends of Youth/LWIT</li></ul>
			• Learning Center Seattle at SVI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Learning Center North is not technically an Open Doors Program put operates within a similar K12 funding framework

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



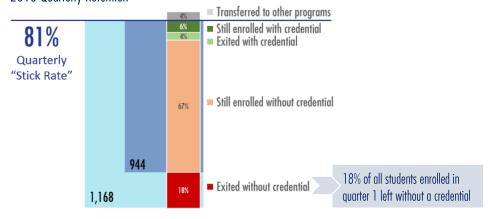
2014-15 Annual Open D	oors Data	Number of Students	College Credits	High School Credits	High s Credent		Percent Earned	Total Credentials Earned	
Program Name	District	Enrolled	Earned	Earned	Diploma	GED	Credential		
King County System Total		2,493	9,578	7,090	96	105	12%	270	
Interagency	Seattle	71	152	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

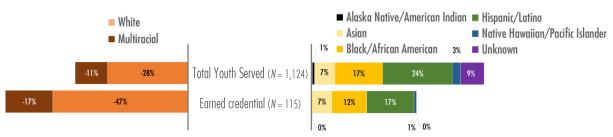
Aggregated data from 7 Open Doors programs in King County (1,337 students) was collected beginning in March, 2016. Information is being used for collaborative learning and informing system-wide progress. While quarterly retention rates are high, we see racial disproportionality in credential earning.

### 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	2013-14		2014-15			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

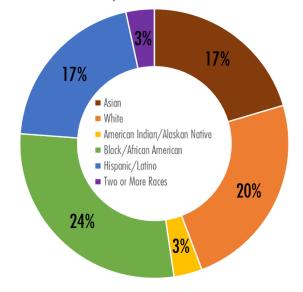
### Diplomas Awarded Over Time

•						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.<sup>1</sup>

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 Pathways<sup>ii</sup>

- 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/		



# **END NOTES**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Based on exit feedback from iGrad graduates in particular