



DSHS Opportunity Youth Data Project Findings

Presentation to the Road Map Project Opportunity Youth Advisory Group

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Thank you!



Our Agenda

- **DSHS data and population**
- **Description of Opportunity Youth population**
 - *How many Opportunity Youth are there?*
 - *Who are they? What are their characteristics?*
- **Risk factors**
 - *What sorts of risks are Opportunity Youth likely to have in their histories?*
 - *What systems might Opportunity Youth have interacted with?*
- **Q&A**
- **Discussion**



Framing Thoughts

- **Informing policy and practice**

- *What information about Opportunity Youth should be taken into account when designing programs and policies?*

- **Targeting for prevention**

- *What information is useful to prevent youth from becoming Opportunity Youth?*

- **Systems connections**

- *How can systems be better designed and/or aligned to serve Opportunity Youth?*



DSHS Data and Study Population

- Received a DSHS service at any point between SFY 2000 and SFY 2012

Opportunity Youth DEFINITION

- Limited to 16-24 year olds living in Washington in SFY 2012
- Identified as Opportunity Youth if neither working nor attending a public school (K-12 or post-secondary) in AY 2012

South King County Road Map Region

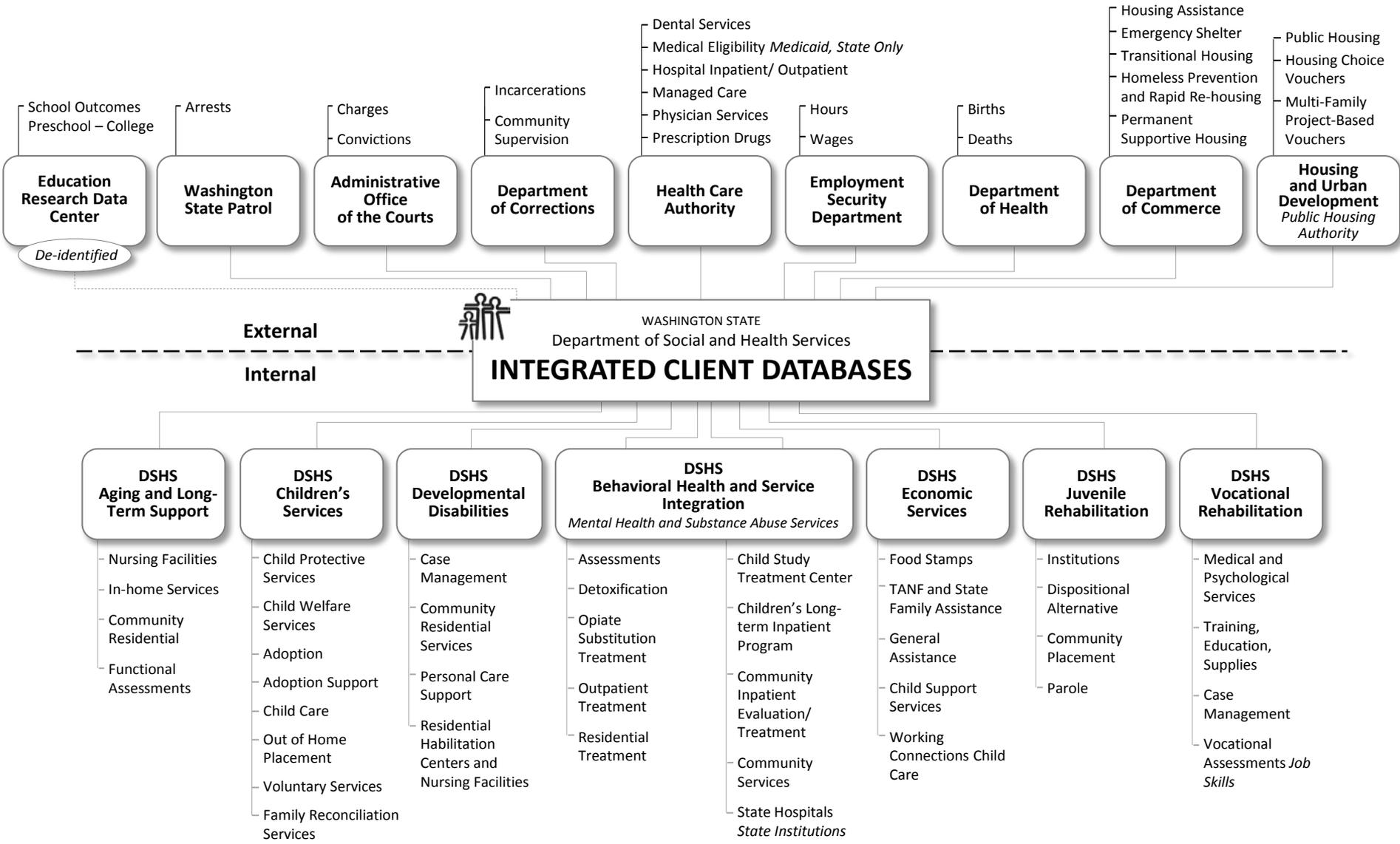


SOURCE:
Community Center
for Education Results
Seattle WA

- Two possible methods to identify Opportunity Youth in Road Map Region
 - *Zip code method*: Lived in a Road Map zip code any time between AY 2005 and AY 2012
 - *School district method*: Attended K-12 school in a Road Map district (including only South Seattle schools) any time between AY 2005 and AY 2012
- School district method selected for this analysis
 - Advantage is that education data is more complete with this method
 - However, the size of the identified Opportunity Youth population residing in the Road Map region is smaller with this method relative to the zip code method



Washington State DSHS Integrated Client Databases





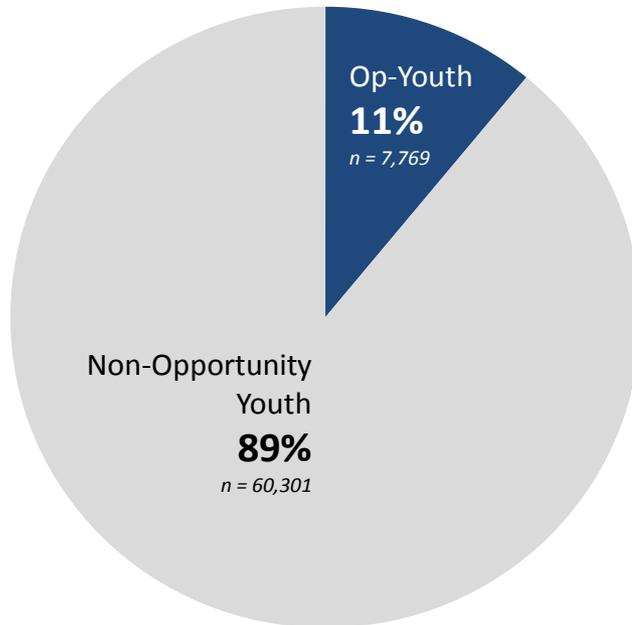
PART 1
**A Demographic Profile
of Opportunity Youth**



Opportunity Youth in the Road Map Region

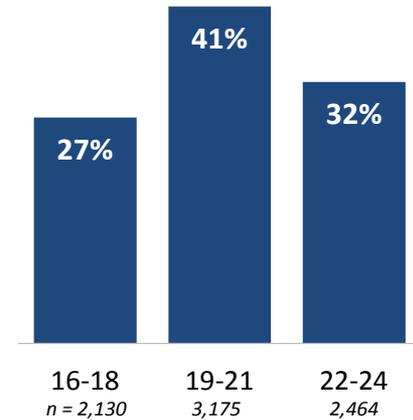
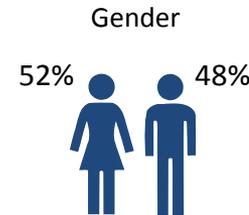
Age 16-24 and Served by DSHS

TOTAL = 68,070



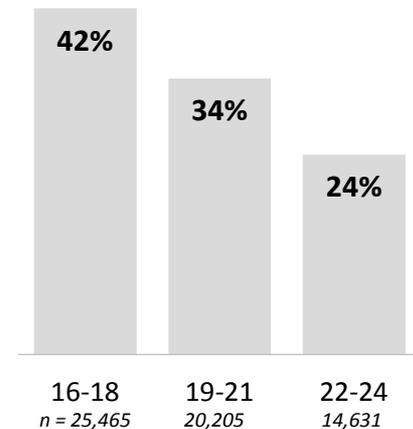
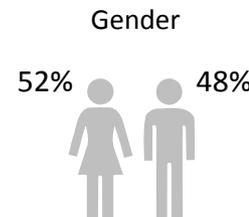
Opportunity Youth

Age Distribution



Non-Opportunity Youth

Age Distribution



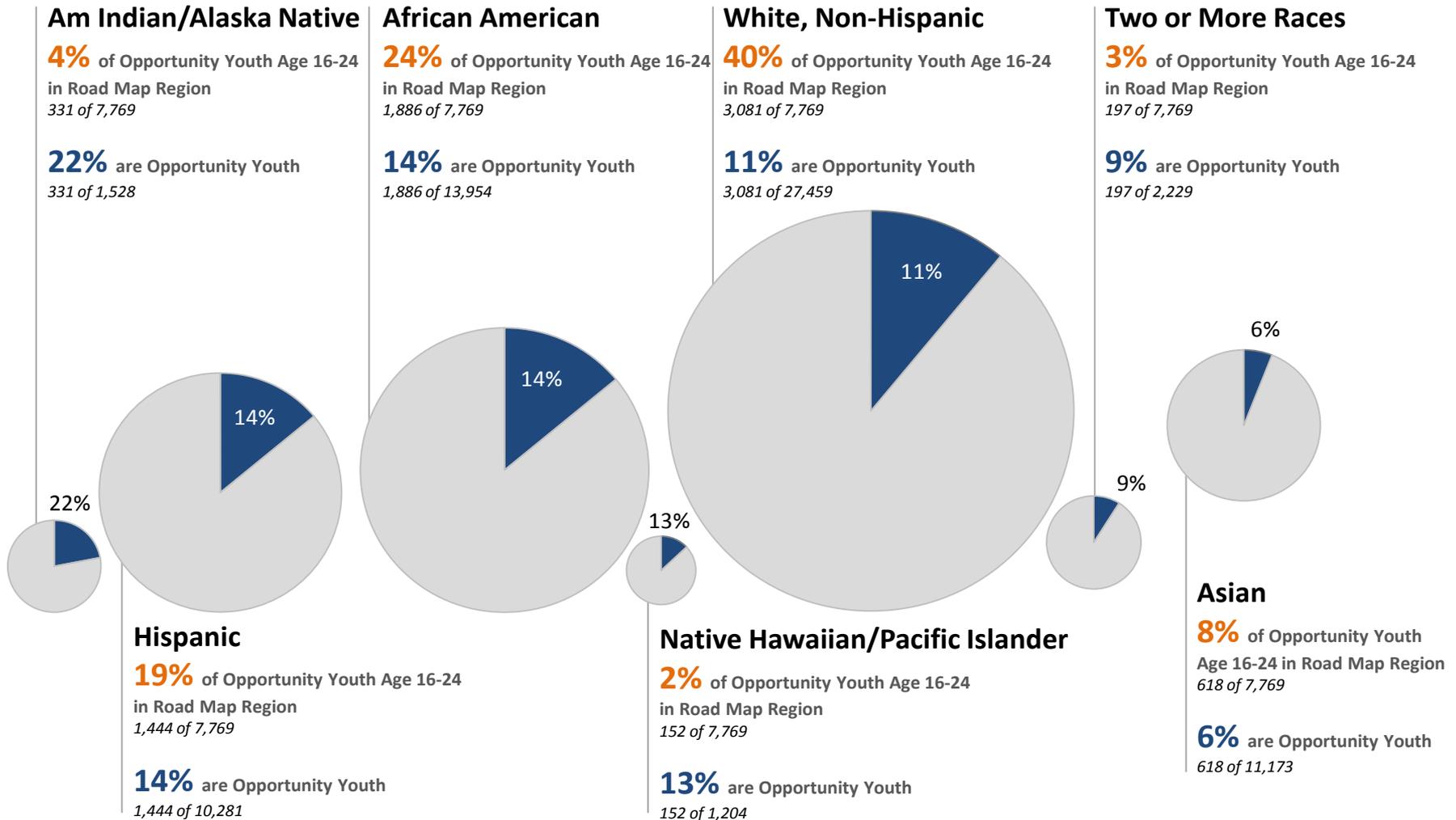
Who is included in the Road Map Region Opportunity Youth population identified here?

- ▶ **Among youth served by DSHS between 2000 and 2012:** We find nearly 8,000 who met the definition of “Opportunity Youth” in Academic Year 2012 who previously attended a K-12 school in the Road Map region
- ▶ **Not represented:** Youth who only attended K-12 school outside of the Road Map region and those who last attended a K-12 school in the region prior to AY 2005



Race/Ethnicity of Road Map Youth with DSHS Service Histories

► *White, black, and Hispanic young people are the largest race/ethnic groups in the Opportunity Youth population. Native American, Hispanic, and African American youth have the highest risk of being OY.*

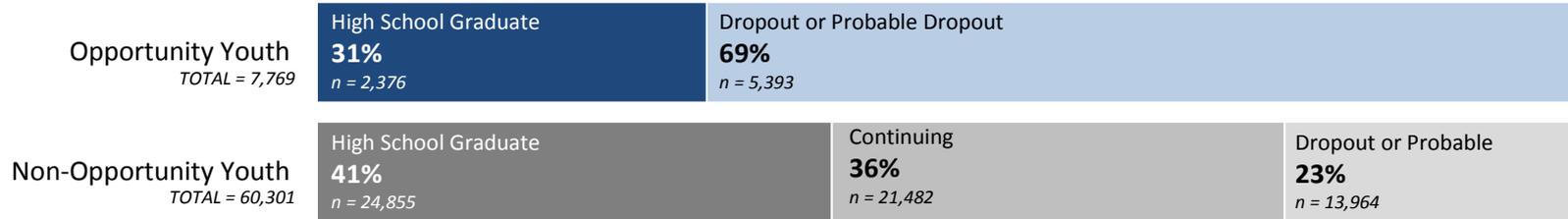


High School Graduation Status: Framing Differences Between Groups

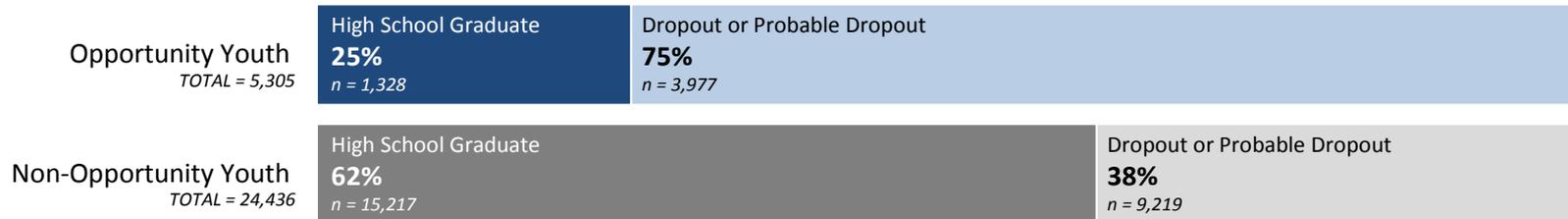
► For the rest of the presentation, we will use the frames of age group and graduation status to understand the experiences of Opportunity Youth

Graduation Status

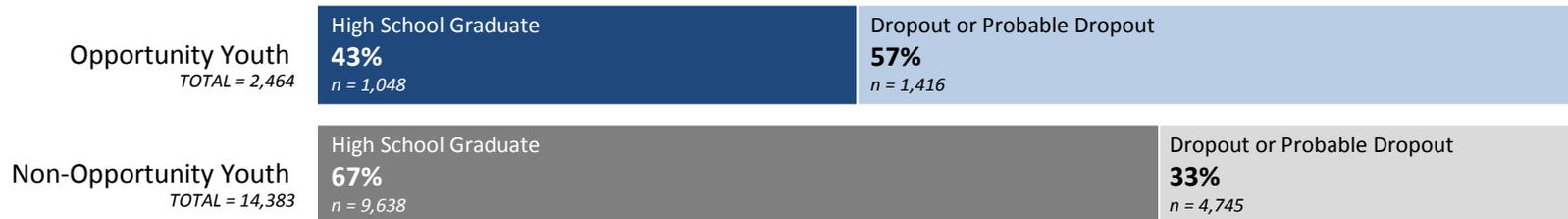
ALL AGES (Age 16-24)



YOUNGER YOUTH (Age 16-21)



OLDER YOUTH (Age 22-24)





PART 2
**Key Segments and Strengths
of the Opportunity Youth
Population**

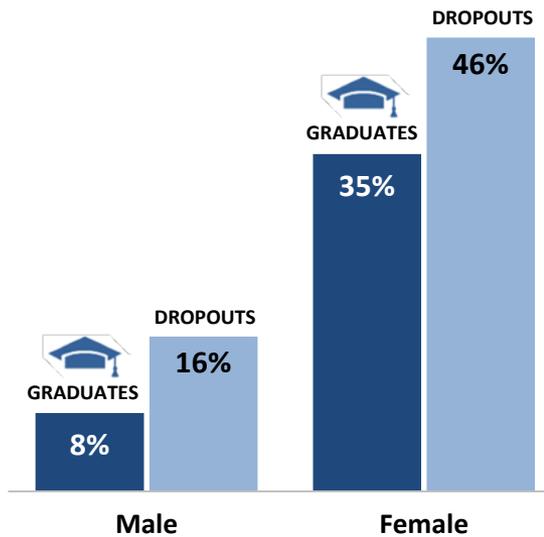


Parents

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Ever had a child

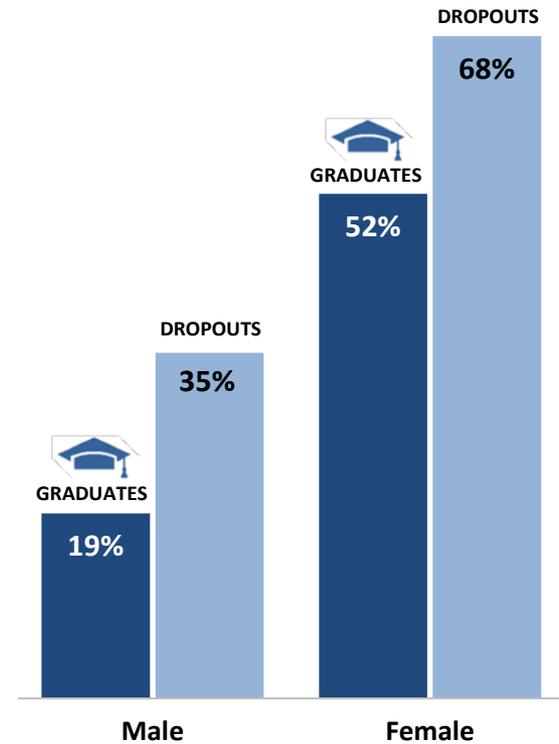
► Many Opportunity Youth are parents, especially women and those at the older ages

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 46 of 572 n = 322 of 2,033 n = 261 of 756 n = 903 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



n = 76 of 401 n = 255 of 721 n = 334 of 647 n = 471 of 695

Overall percentage, youth who are parents = 34%

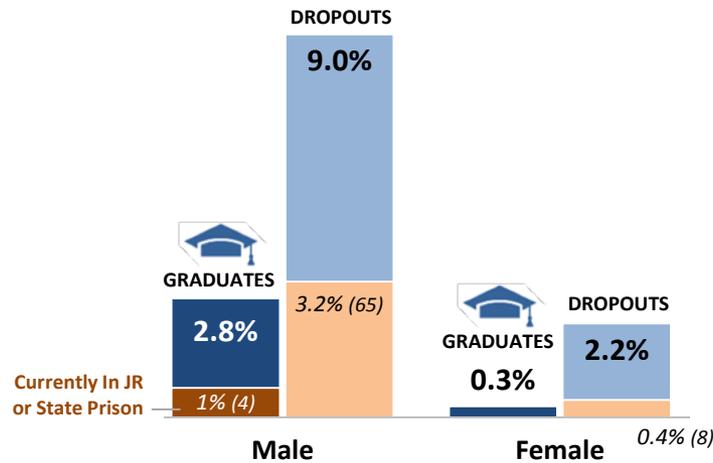
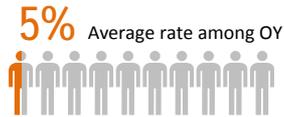


Youth with Current or Past Incarceration

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Ever incarcerated and currently incarcerated (in Academic Year 2012)

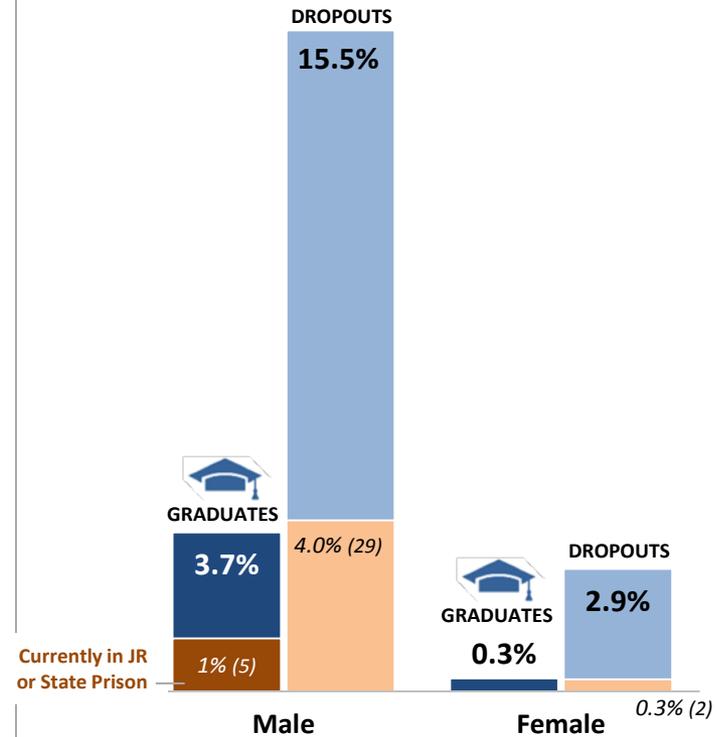
▶ A history of incarceration may be a barrier for male Opportunity Youth and in particular male dropouts

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 16 of 572 n = 183 of 2,033 n = 2 of 756 n = 43 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



n = 15 of 401 n = 112 of 721 n = 2 of 647 n = 20 of 695

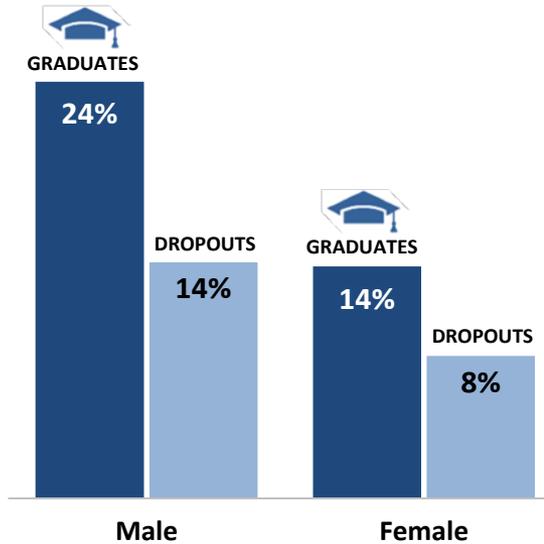


Disabled Youth

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Academic Year 2012

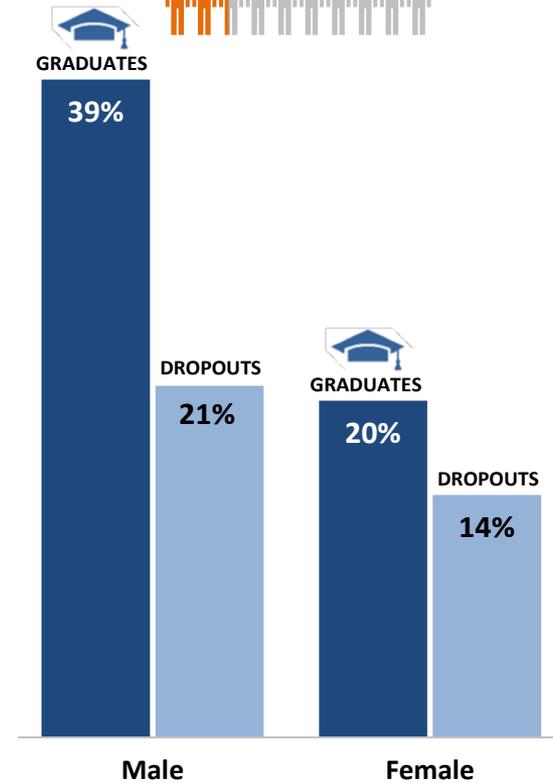
► *Disability may present a barrier to work and schooling for Opportunity Youth*

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 140 of 572 n = 282 of 2,033 n = 103 of 756 n = 163 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



n = 155 of 401 n = 149 of 721 n = 128 of 647 n = 99 of 695

Overall percentage, with disability = 16%



Transforming lives

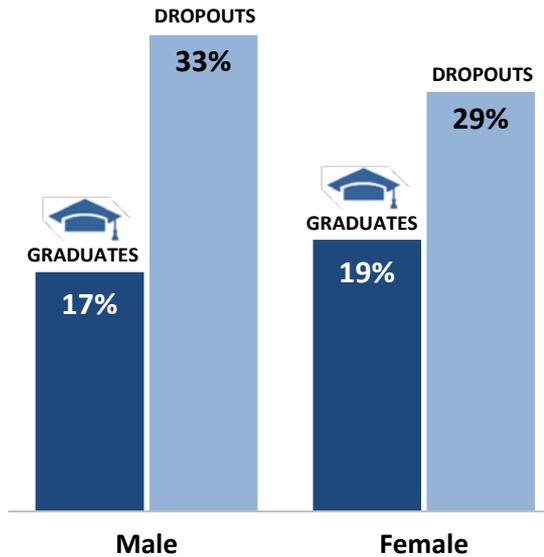
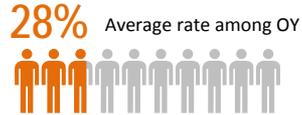
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Currently Homeless Youth

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Academic Year 2012

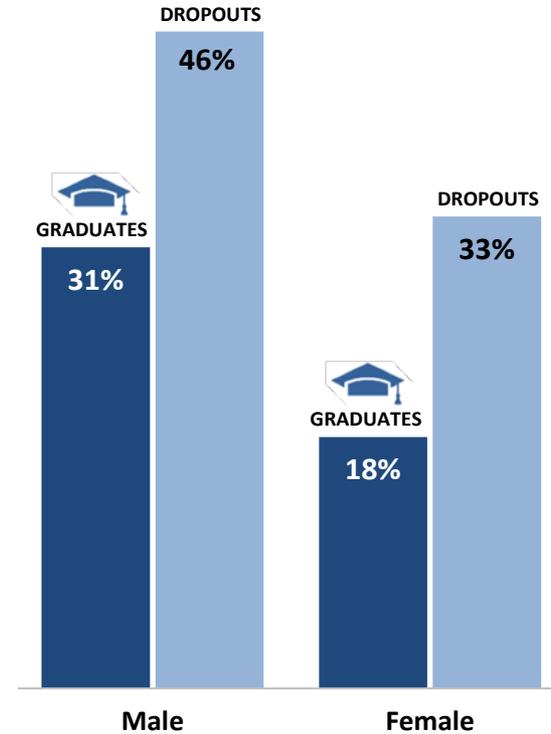
► Homelessness is a barrier for about 1 in 3 Opportunity Youth

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 96 of 572 n = 679 of 2,033 n = 144 of 756 n = 572 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



n = 124 of 401 n = 332 of 721 n = 114 of 647 n = 230 of 695

Overall percentage, currently homeless = 29%

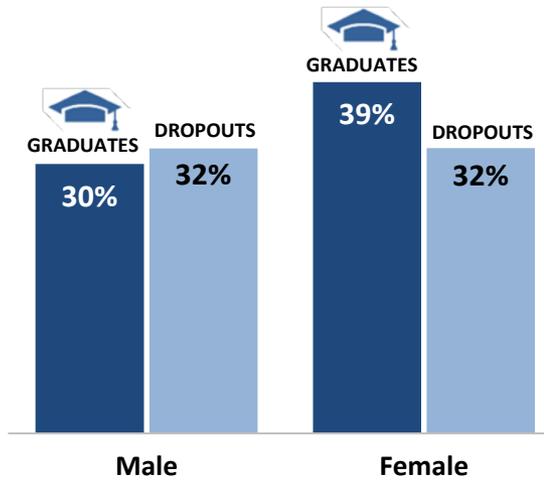


Youth with Work Experience

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Academic Year 2005 to 2011

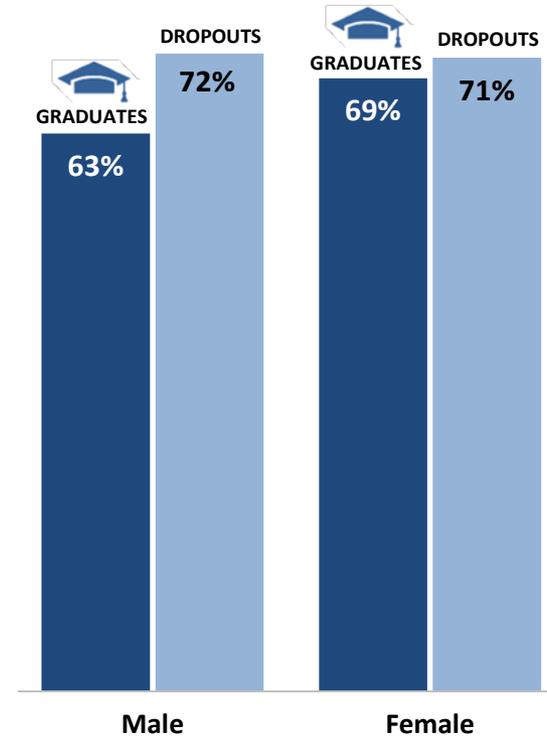
▶ Opportunity Youth have work experience, especially those at the older ages

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 173 of 572 n = 650 of 2,033 n = 298 of 756 n = 622 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



n = 251 of 401 n = 516 of 721 n = 445 of 647 n = 494 of 695

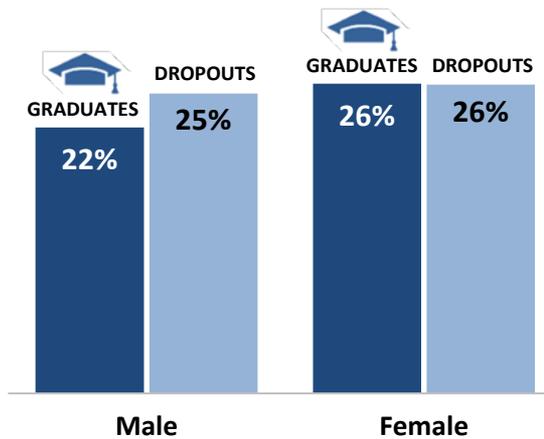


Youth with a Past Higher Education Connection

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Academic Year 2005 to 2011

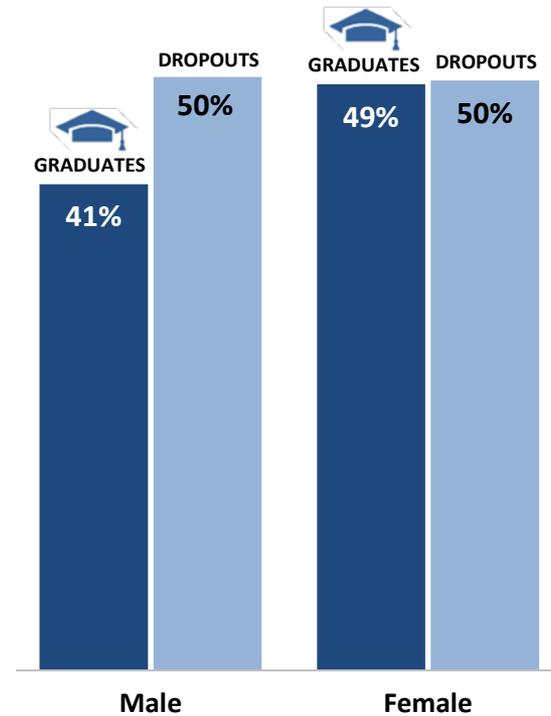
▶ Many Opportunity Youth have engaged at state CTCs and colleges in the past (including Basic Education)

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 128 of 572 n = 513 of 2,033 n = 197 of 756 n = 505 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



n = 164 of 401 n = 360 of 721 n = 319 of 647 n = 345 of 695

Overall percentage, with connection to higher education = 33%

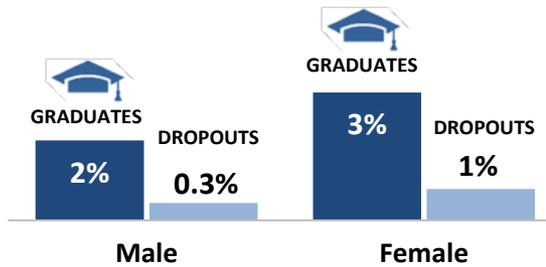
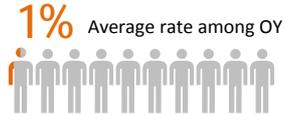


Youth with a College Degree, Certificate, or Apprenticeship

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Academic Year 2005 to 2011

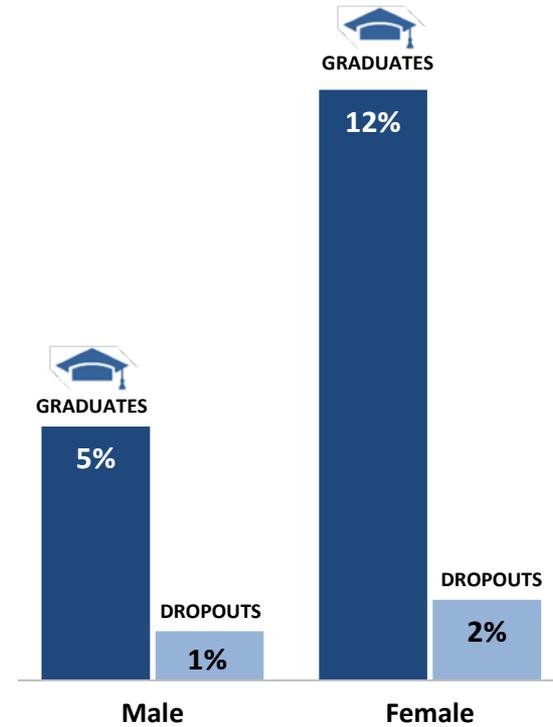
► Few Opportunity Youth have attained a college degree or certificate

Younger Opportunity Youth



<i>n</i> = 9	<i>n</i> = 7	<i>n</i> = 19	<i>n</i> = 12
of 572	of 2,033	of 756	of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



<i>n</i> = 20	<i>n</i> = 7	<i>n</i> = 75	<i>n</i> = 11
of 401	of 721	of 647	of 695

Overall percentage, with college degree or certificate = 2%



Transforming lives

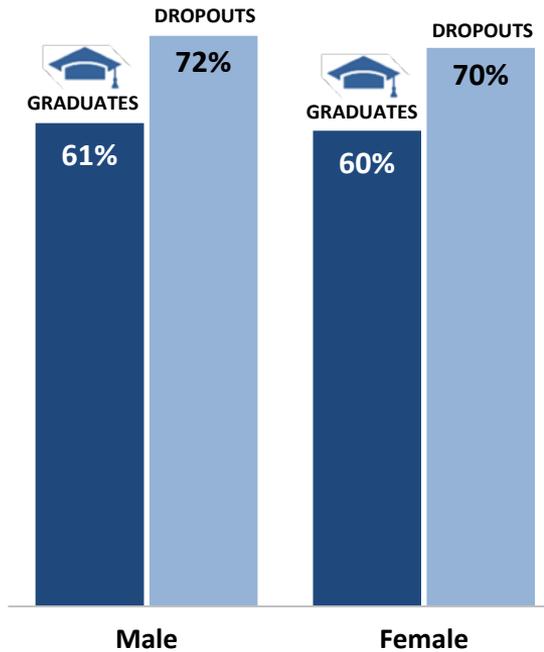
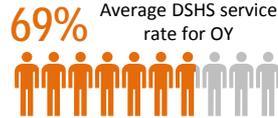
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Youth Receiving Basic Food Assistance

Younger (Ages 16-21) and Older (Ages 22-24) Opportunity Youth • Academic Year 2012

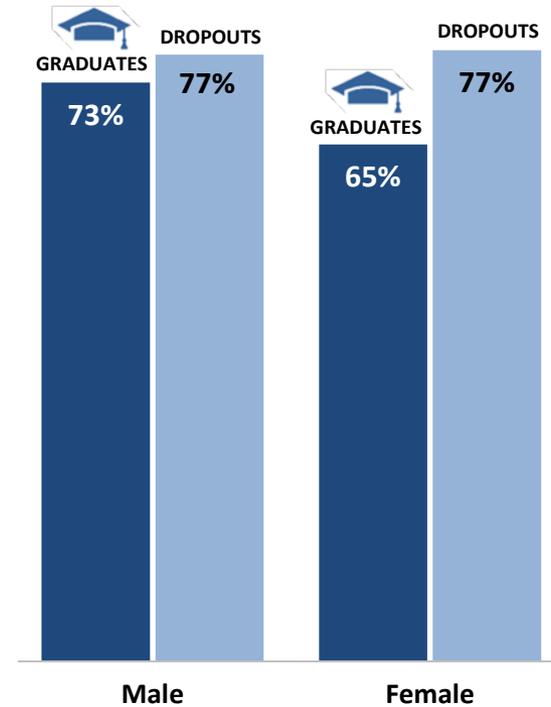
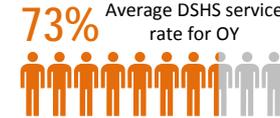
▶ A majority of Opportunity Youth are connected to Basic Food, pointing to opportunities to leverage BFET

Younger Opportunity Youth



n = 349 of 572 n = 1,464 of 2,033 n = 454 of 756 n = 1,370 of 1,944

Older Opportunity Youth



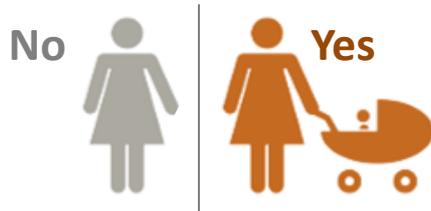
n = 293 of 401 n = 552 of 721 n = 422 of 647 n = 536 of 695



In Summary: Gender Matters

Many Female Opportunity Youth May Have Childcare Responsibilities

- ▶ 1 out of 2 **younger** female dropouts have children

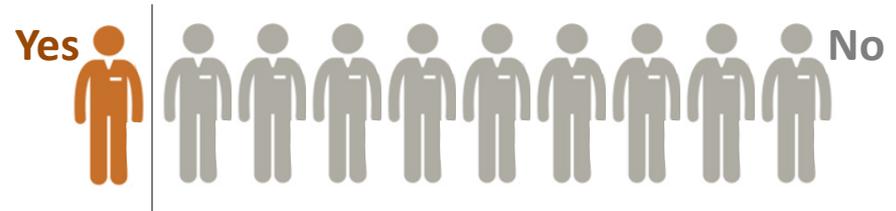


- ▶ 2 out of 3 **older** female dropouts have children

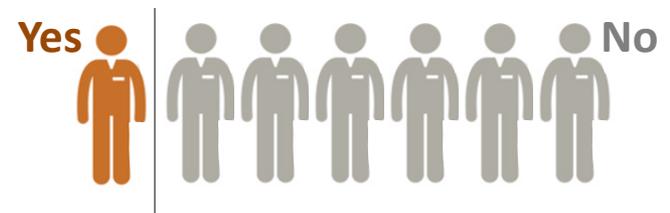


A Sizable Proportion of Male Opportunity Youth Have Served Time

- ▶ 1 out of 10 **younger** male dropouts have been incarcerated



- ▶ 1 out of 6 **older** male dropouts have been incarcerated



In Summary: Barriers and Strengths

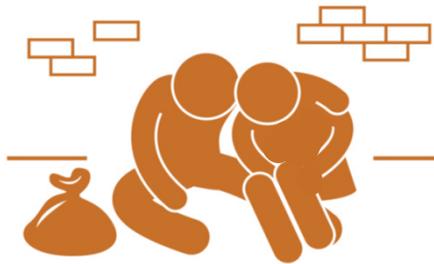
Barriers

▶ Disabilities

- *A sizable share of Opportunity Youth who have graduated may be out of work or school because of disabilities—which is especially true of men*

▶ Homelessness

- *About 1 out of 3 Opportunity Youth within both younger and older age groups are experiencing homelessness, with the highest rates among dropouts*



Strengths

▶ Employment and Higher Education

- *Many Opportunity Youth have engaged in work or higher education in prior years, though few have completed degrees*

▶ Basic Food Participation

- *High rates of Basic Food use can be leveraged to connect Opportunity Youth to education and training through BFET*





PART 3
**Risk factors in Opportunity
Youth Histories**



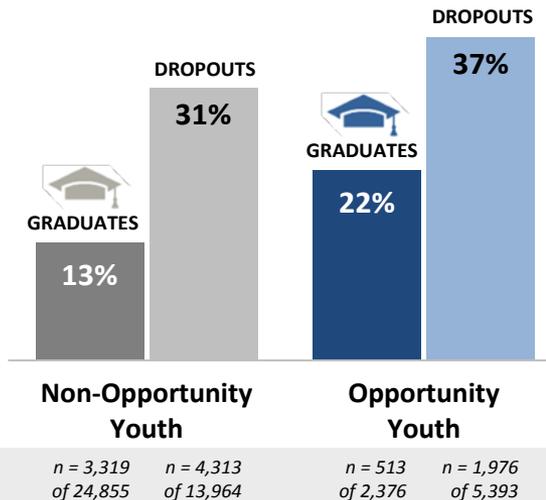
TANF and Basic Food

Youth Ages 16-24

▶ Opportunity Youth received DSHS economic services at somewhat higher rates than their peers

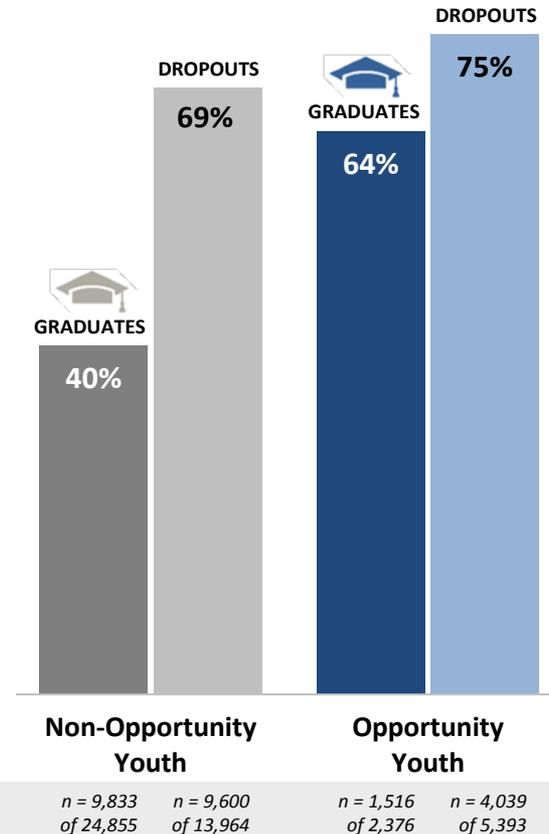
TANF Services

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



Receipt of Basic Food

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



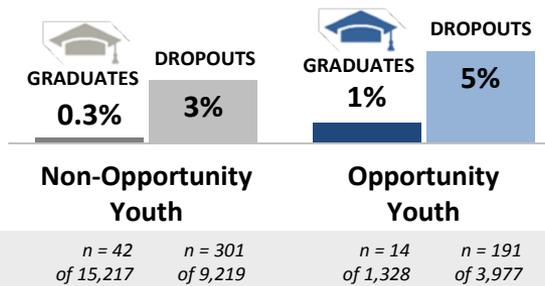
Juvenile Rehabilitation, Foster Care, and Child Welfare

Younger Opportunity Youth Only • Ages 16-21

▶ Opportunity Youth are more likely than their peers to have received JR, foster care, or child welfare services

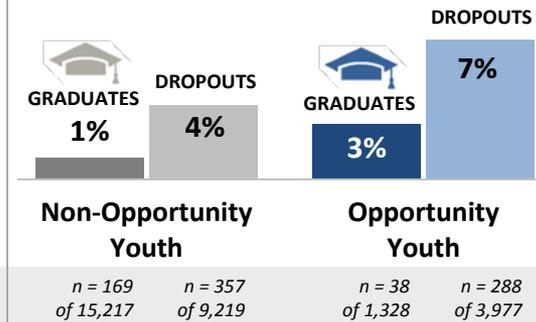
JR Involvement

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



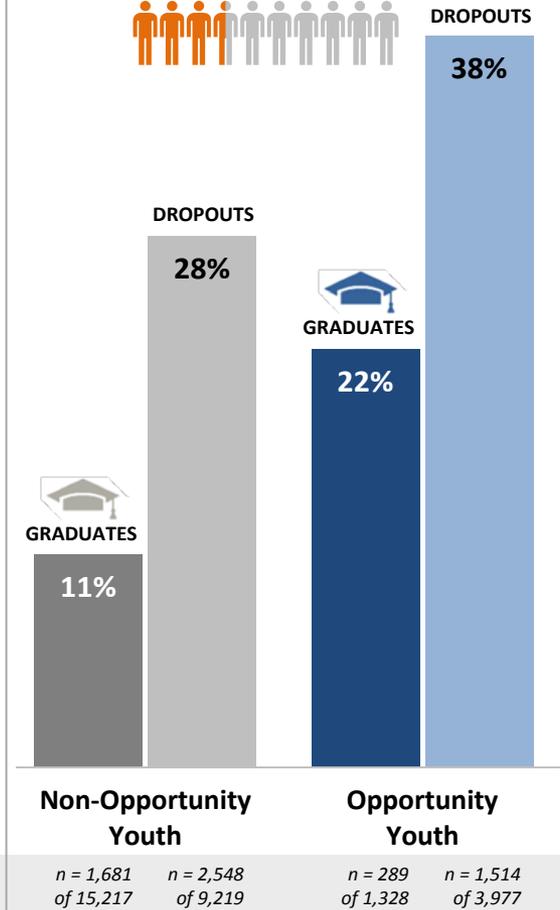
Foster Care Placement

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



Child Welfare Services

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



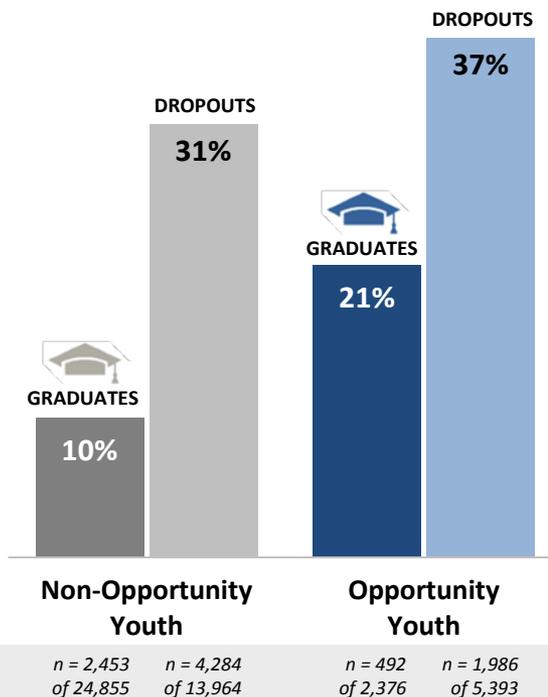
Risky Situations and Behaviors

Youth Ages 16-24

▶ Opportunity Youth are more likely than their peers to have a history of homelessness, arrest or conviction

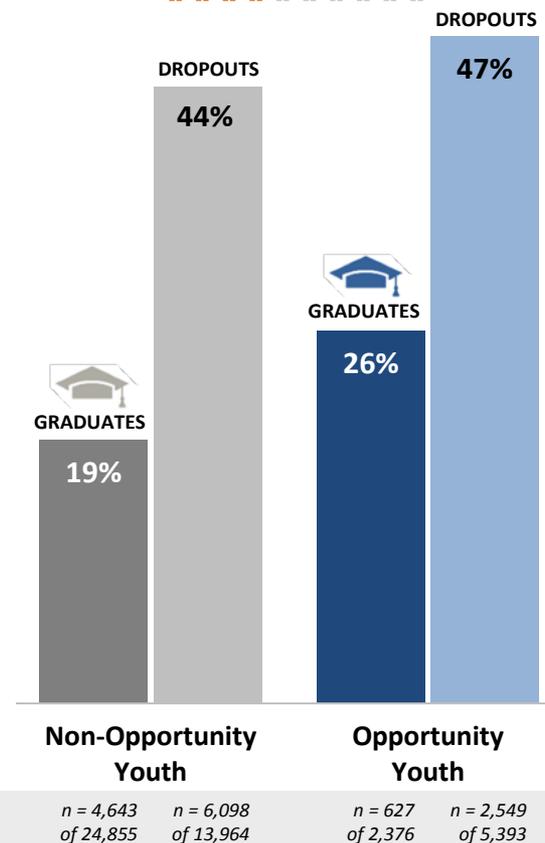
History of Homelessness

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



Arrest or Conviction

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



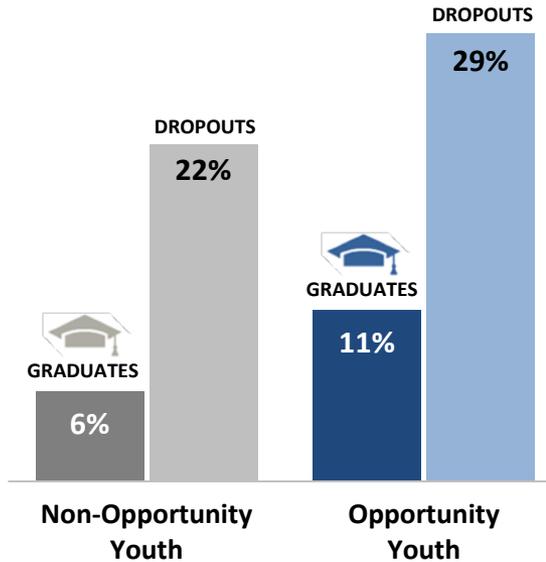
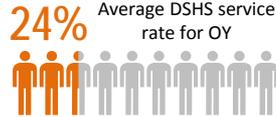
Behavioral Health Risk

Youth Ages 16-24 Enrolled in Medical Assistance

▶ Opportunity Youth are more likely than their peers to have substance use or mental health needs

Substance Use Disorder

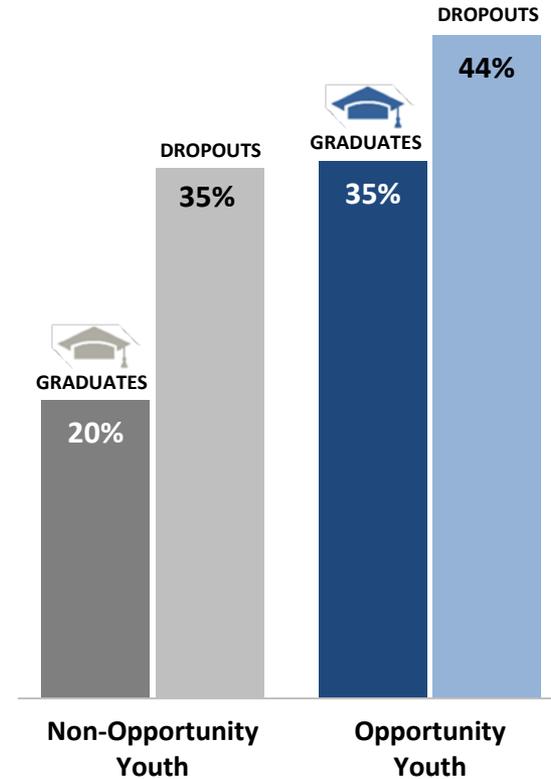
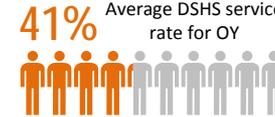
In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



<i>n</i> = 762 of 12,840	<i>n</i> = 2,171 of 9,800	<i>n</i> = 207 of 1,843	<i>n</i> = 1,335 of 4,537
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Mental Health Treatment Need

In the prior 5 years (2007-2011)



<i>n</i> = 2,517 of 12,840	<i>n</i> = 3,414 of 9,800	<i>n</i> = 651 of 1,843	<i>n</i> = 1,978 of 4,537
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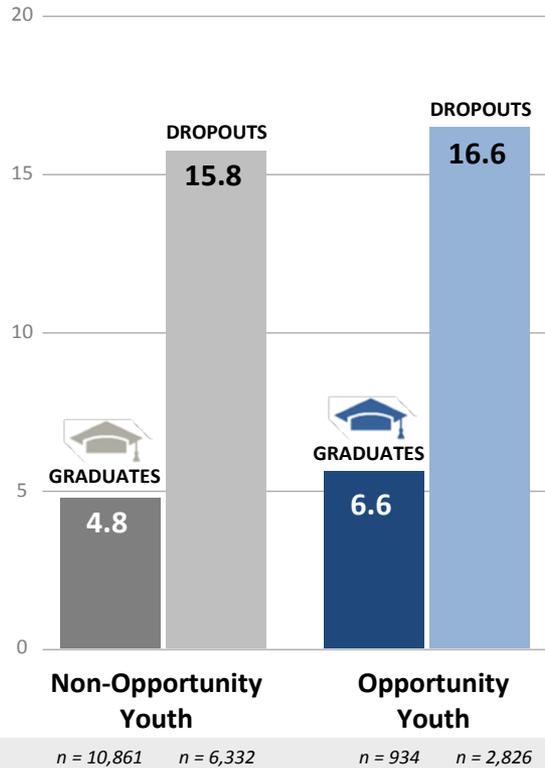
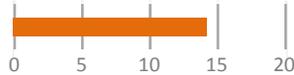
Unexcused Absences and Mobility

Youth Ages 16-24

► Opportunity Youth are very similar to their non-OY peers in terms of unexcused absences and mobility

Unexcused Absences in 9th

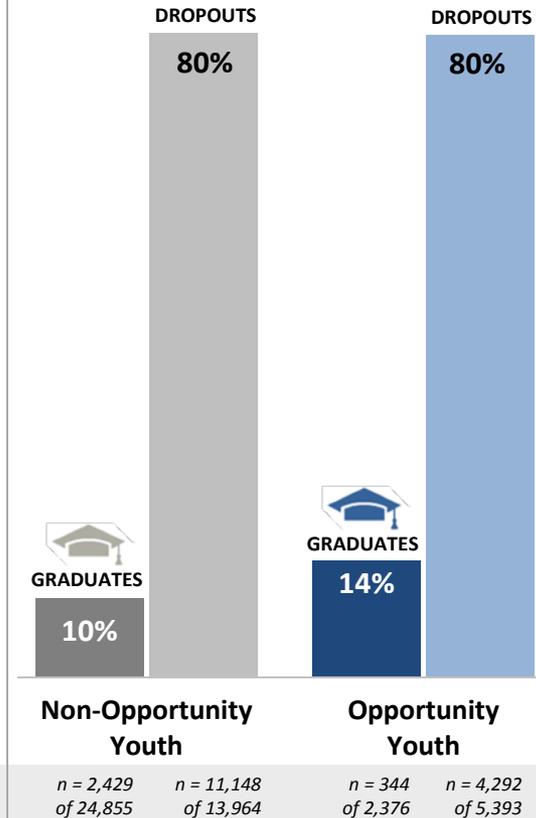
First time 9th graders
Average days unexcused for OY
14.1 days



1 or More Moves

In final enrollment year

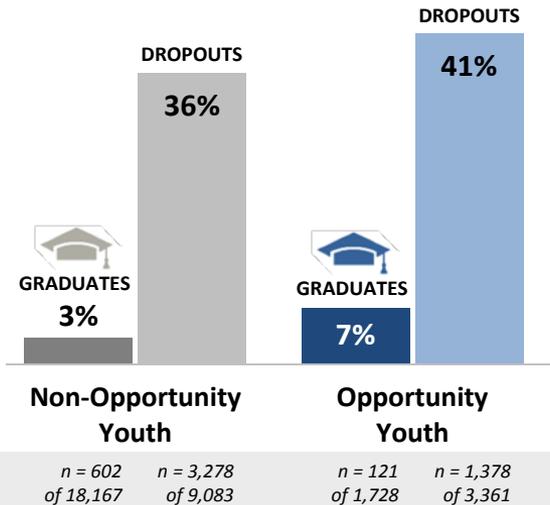
60% Percent of OY with at least 1 move



3 or More Moves

In final 3 enrollment years

30% Percent of OY with at least 3 moves



Summary of Risk Factors

Opportunity Youth Dropouts

- ▶ **Nearly 1 in 2:**
 - *Had an arrest or conviction*
 - *Had a mental health need*
- ▶ **Nearly 1 in 3:**
 - *Had a substance use disorder*
 - *Had homelessness history*
 - *Had contact with child welfare*
 - *Received TANF*



Opportunity Youth Graduates

- ▶ **Have risk levels similar to non-Opportunity Youth dropouts in terms of:**
 - *BF receipt*
 - *Foster care placement*
 - *Child welfare involvement*
 - *Homelessness history*
 - *Mental health need*
- ▶ **Have experienced more challenges and face more barriers than non-Opportunity Youth graduates**



Questions?





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