

# Attendance & Reengagement

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Attendance &  
Reengagement project  
funded through ESSER  
dollars from WA state

Support education leaders  
in addressing record high  
absenteeism rates

Focus on finding students  
who left since the  
pandemic and not  
returned

# MythBusters – starring students and families



**START WITH NUMBERS**



**CLARIFY WITH VOICES**



# What we know:

Absenteeism rates are still higher than what they were pre-Covid

If you had to guess...

What are some of the most common reasons students are absent?

# What we're hearing

Illness

Doctor appointments

Family obligations

Transportation

Having trouble getting ready on time

Bullying

Anxiety

# What we know:

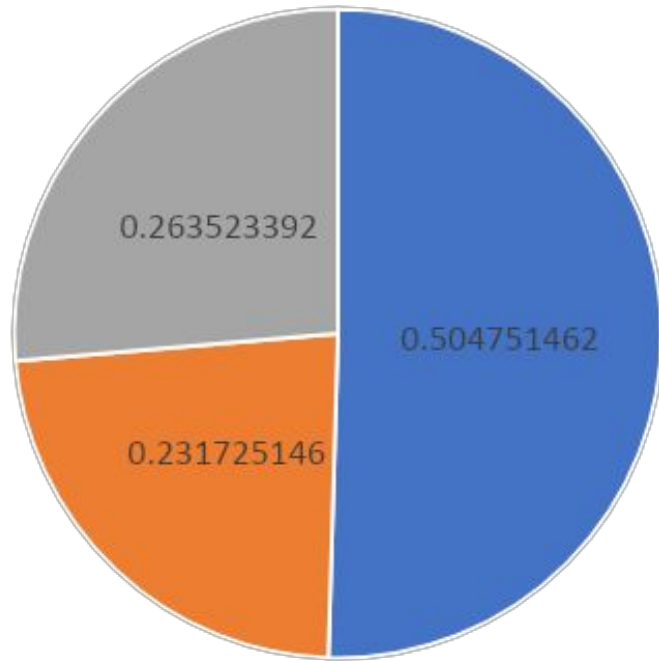
We are seeing drops in enrollment across all our districts

# If you had to guess...

What are the age and demographics of students that have left the K-12 system since the pandemic?

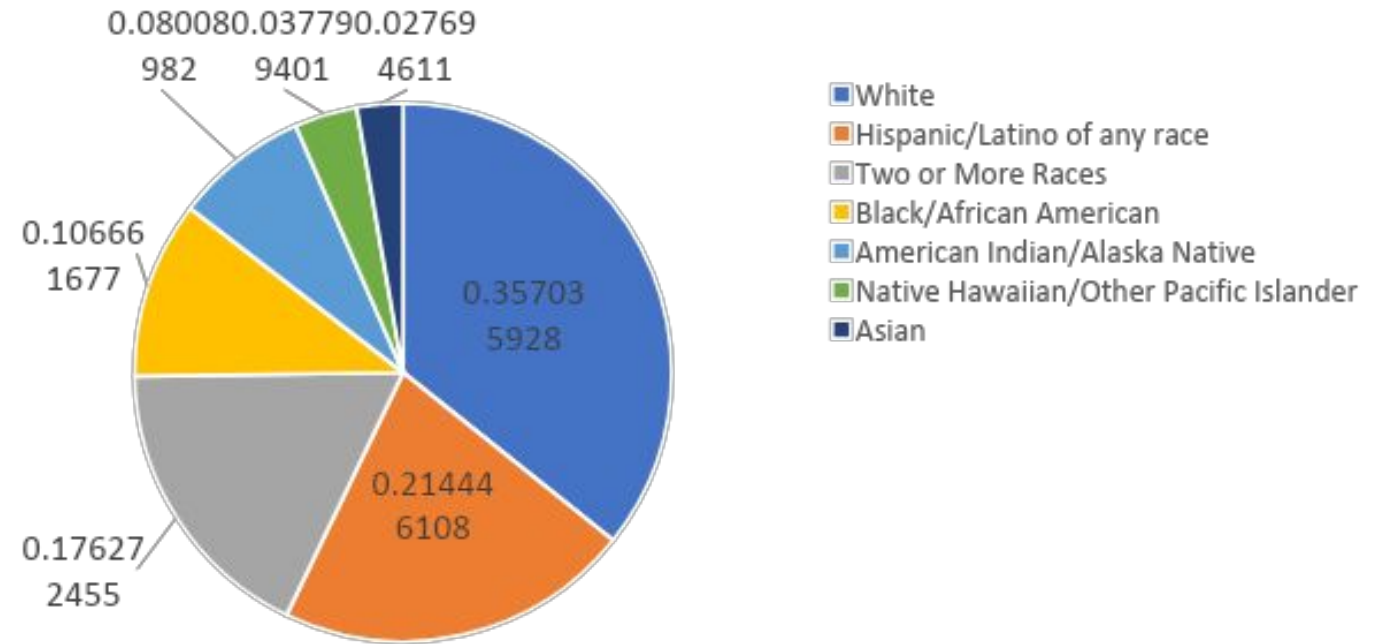
# Descriptive data for about 3,000 students identified as leaving school since the pandemic

Student Grade Band



■ High ■ Middle ■ Elementary

Student Race/Ethnicity



■ White  
 ■ Hispanic/Latino of any race  
 ■ Two or More Races  
 ■ Black/African American  
 ■ American Indian/Alaska Native  
 ■ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  
 ■ Asian

Source: Direct service data reported by priority/grantee district and ESD staff on students served through January 2023.

# What we know:

Many students are leaving our education system permanently

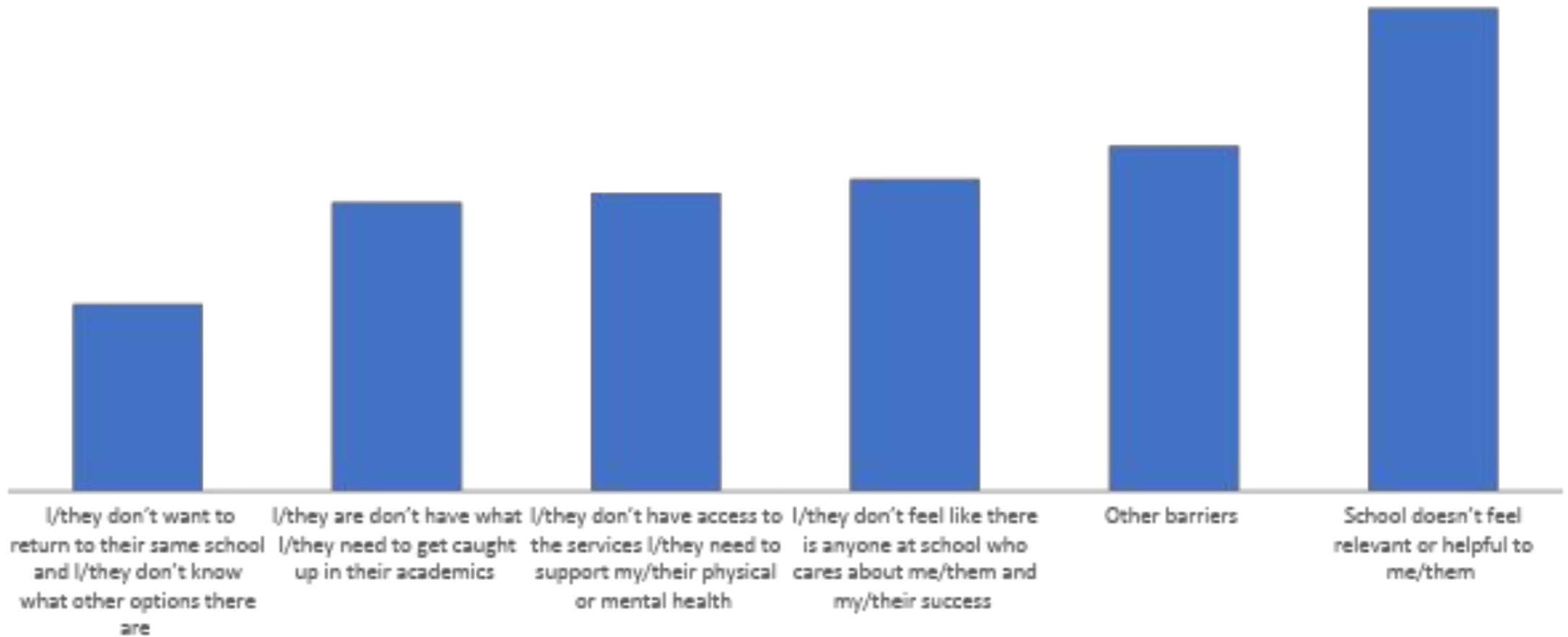
## If you had to guess...

Why are students leaving and not wanting to return?





# School not feeling helpful or relevant is students' most common barrier to reengagement



Source: Direct service data reported by priority/grantee district and ESD staff on students served through January 2023.

Lingering  
consideration:

What academic  
onramps are provided  
after missing school?

What policies exist to address what we are hearing?

Do we have realistic expectations of our students?

Do we have realistic expectations of our teachers?

Is our system able to be nimble enough to address what we hear?