



*We listen. We inform. We help solve problems.*

# OEO and Educational Equity

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CAPAA January 2016 Meeting



# What is the Office of the Education Ombuds?

The Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO) is an agency within the **Governor's Office** created in 2006 by the Washington State Legislature. OEO works to **promote equity in education** and support the ability of all students to fully participate in and benefit from public education in the State of Washington.



# What the Work Looks Like



- Work with individual families and schools to **resolve disputes that impact student achievement**;
  - **Provide information for families** regarding their rights and responsibilities in the public education system;
  - **Conduct trainings** for families and school communities on issues relating to student rights and family/school partnerships;
  - **Make annual recommendations** to policy makers to improve equity, fairness and access to public education for all students.
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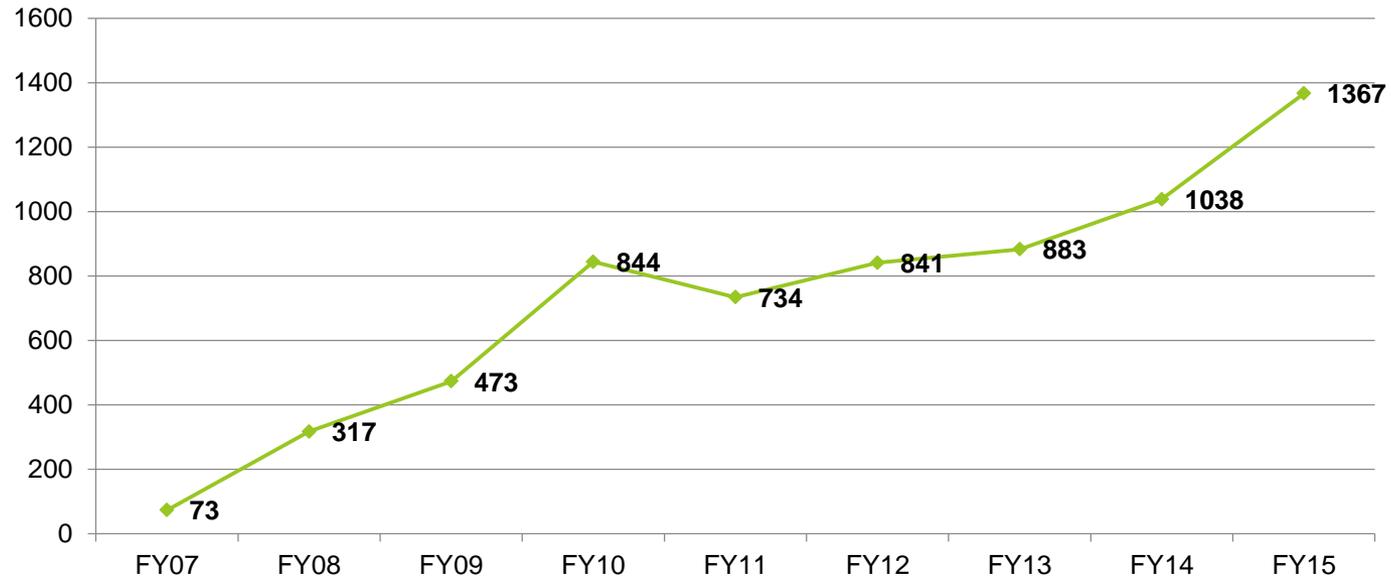
# Overview of the Office



- 6.68 full-time employees, 6 out of Northgate/Seattle and 1 in Ellensburg
  - ½ staff bilingual
  - Backgrounds: teaching, law, mediation, social work, health, and community organizing
  - Budget of \$684,000
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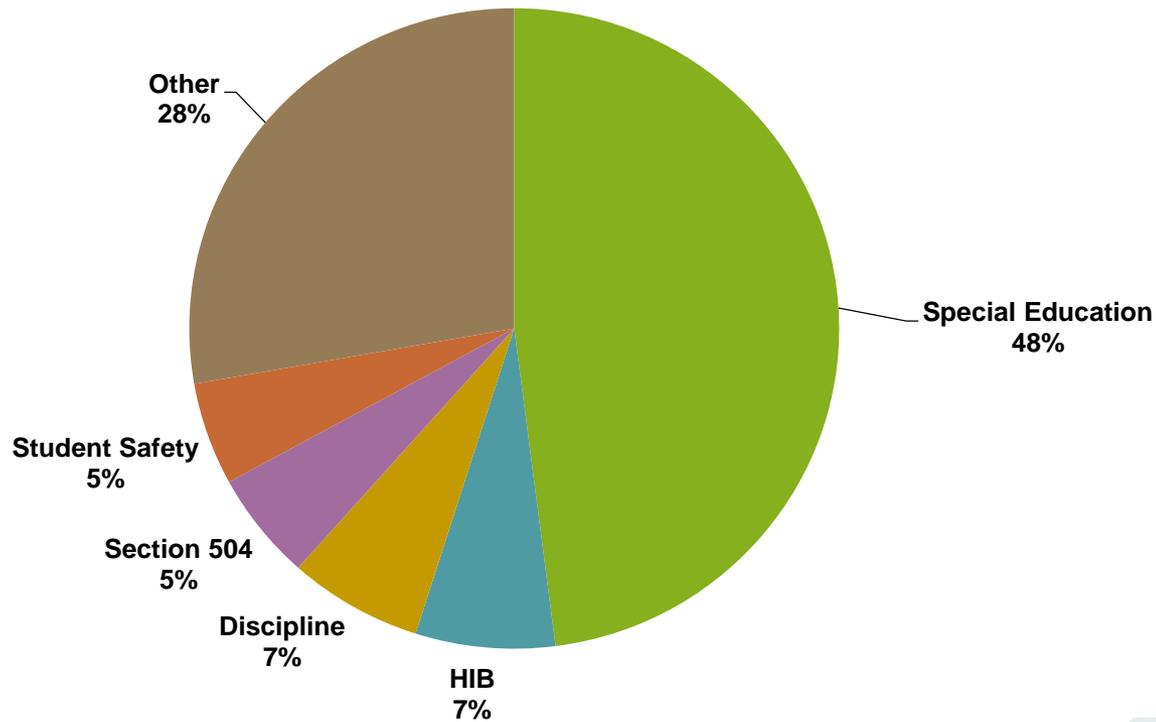
# Impact on Gap in 2014-2015

## Number of Cases



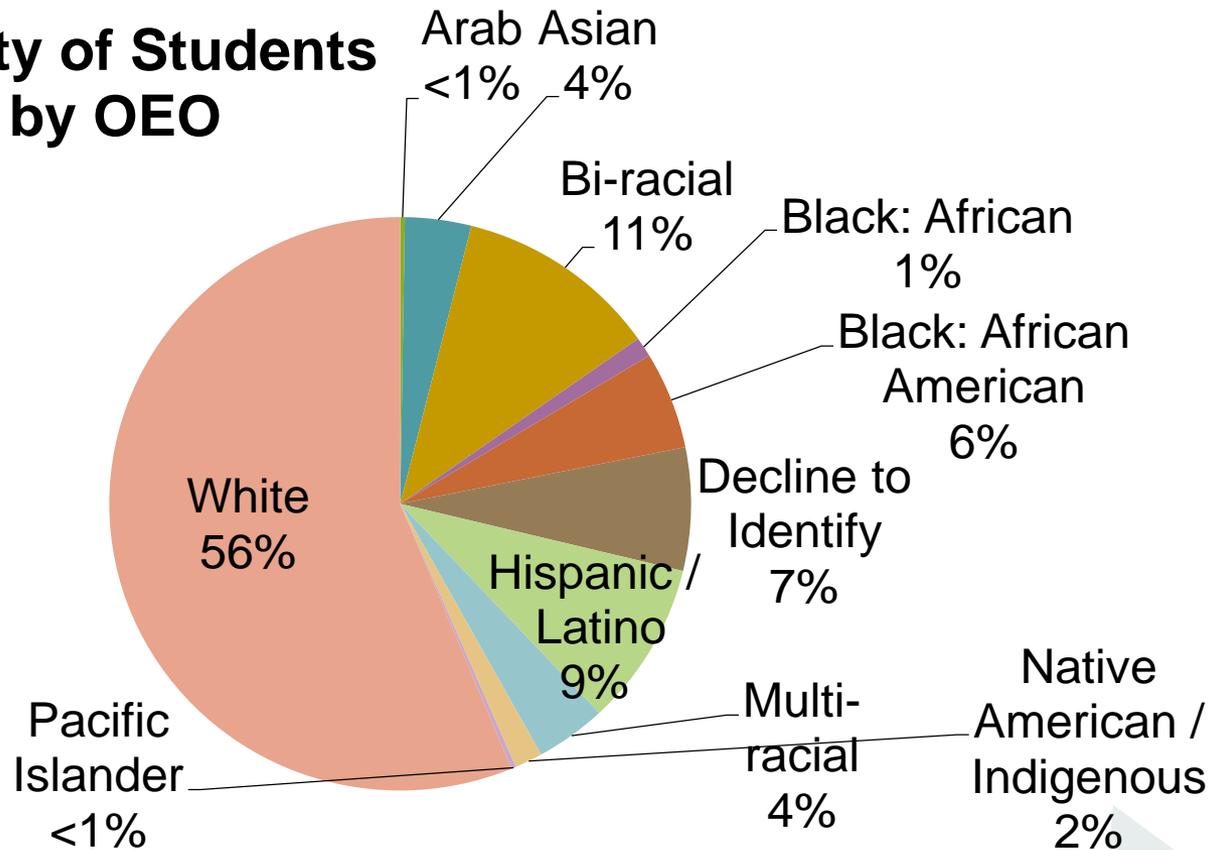
# What Were the Issues Addressed?

**% Cases (Issues Addressed)**



# Whom Did We Serve?

## Race/Ethnicity of Students Served by OEO



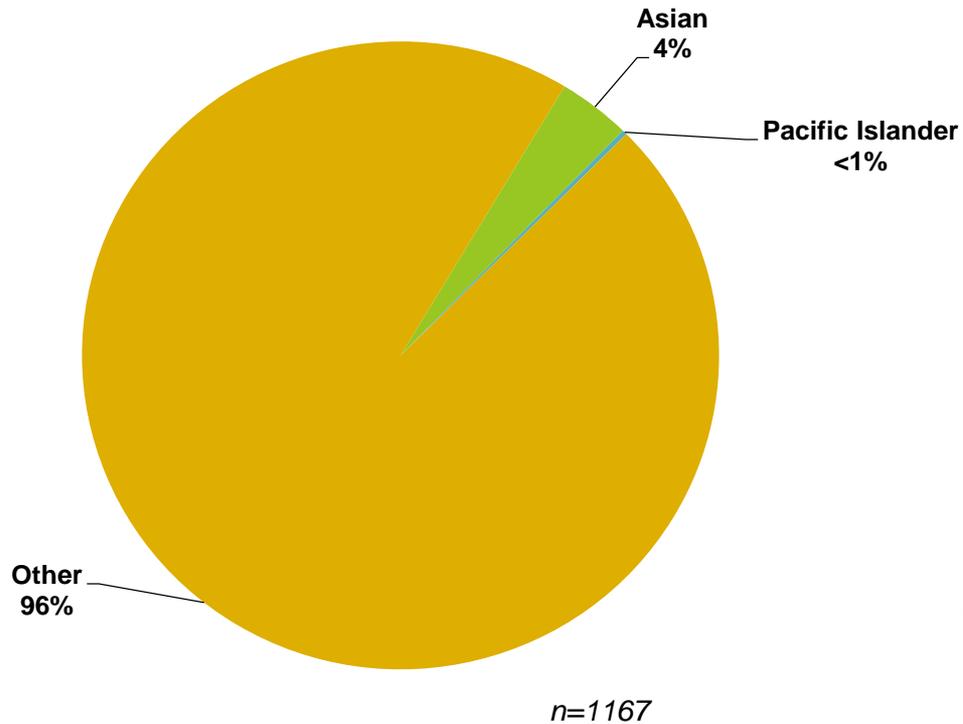
# Some Gaps in Outreach and Impact



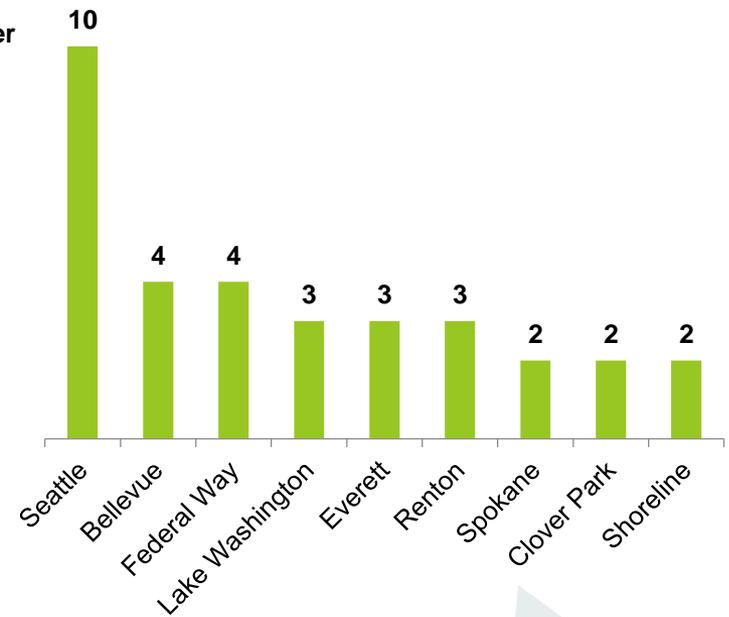
- Asian Americans
  - African Americans
  - Pacific Islanders
  - Latinos
  - Multiracial students
  - LEP families
  - Students at risk of not graduating
  - Homeless students
  - Students in foster care
  - LGBT students
- 

# API Students and Families

## Race/Ethnicity of Students served by OEO during 2014-2015

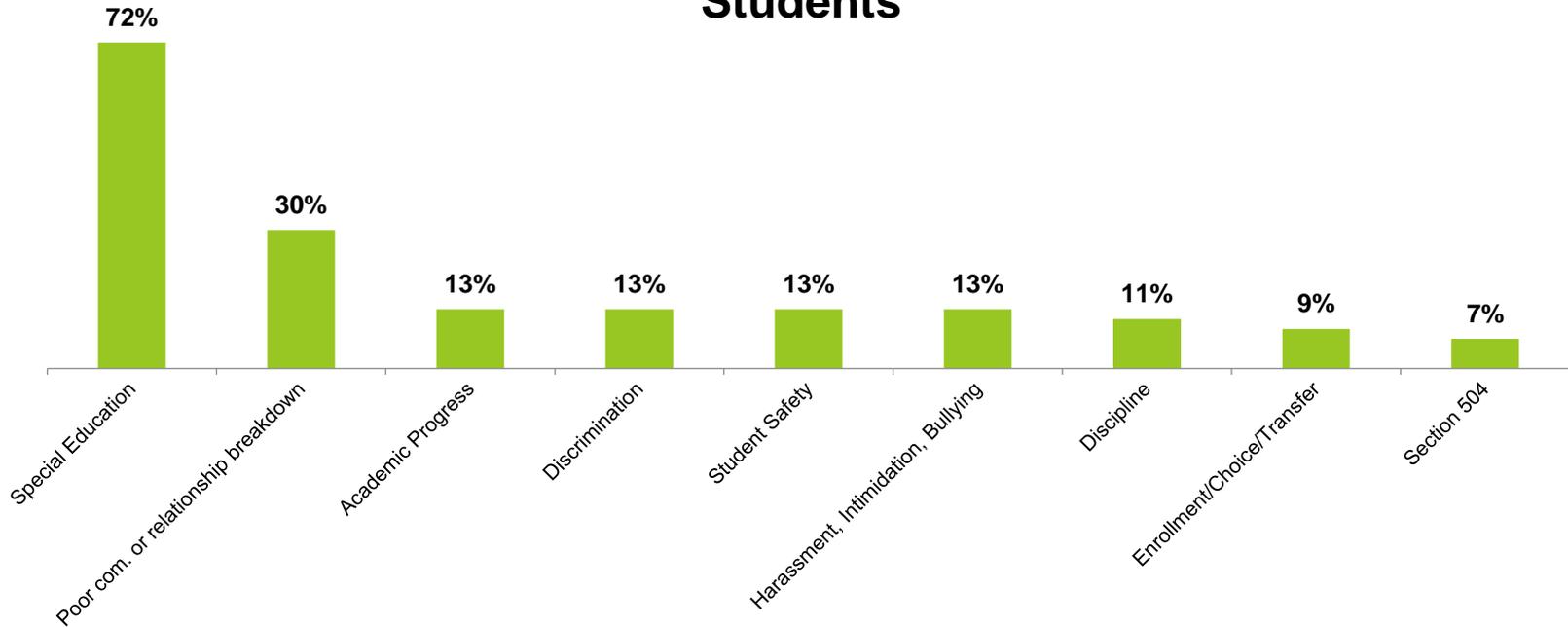


## Top School Districts



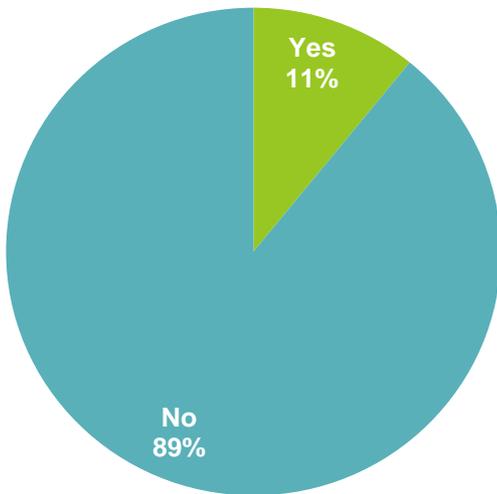
# Barriers Faced: API Students

## Top Issues for Asian-American and Pacific Islander Students

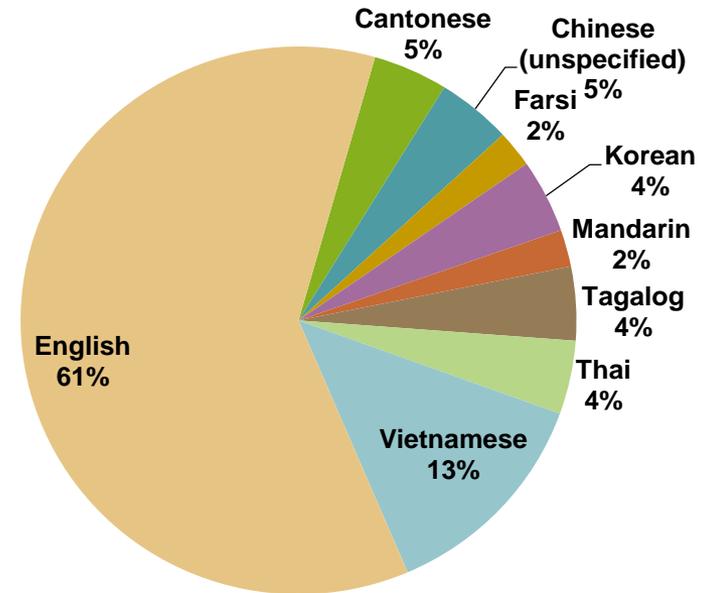


# API Language Access

## Interpreter Needed by Client?



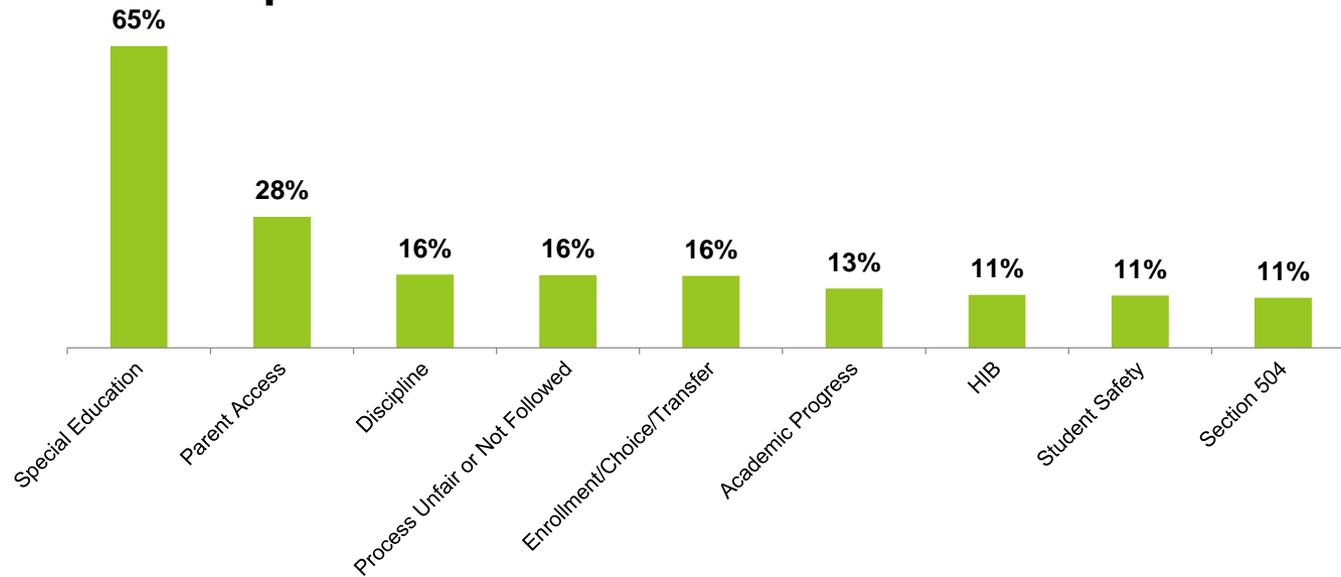
## Client Primary Language



# Quick Comparison: White Students

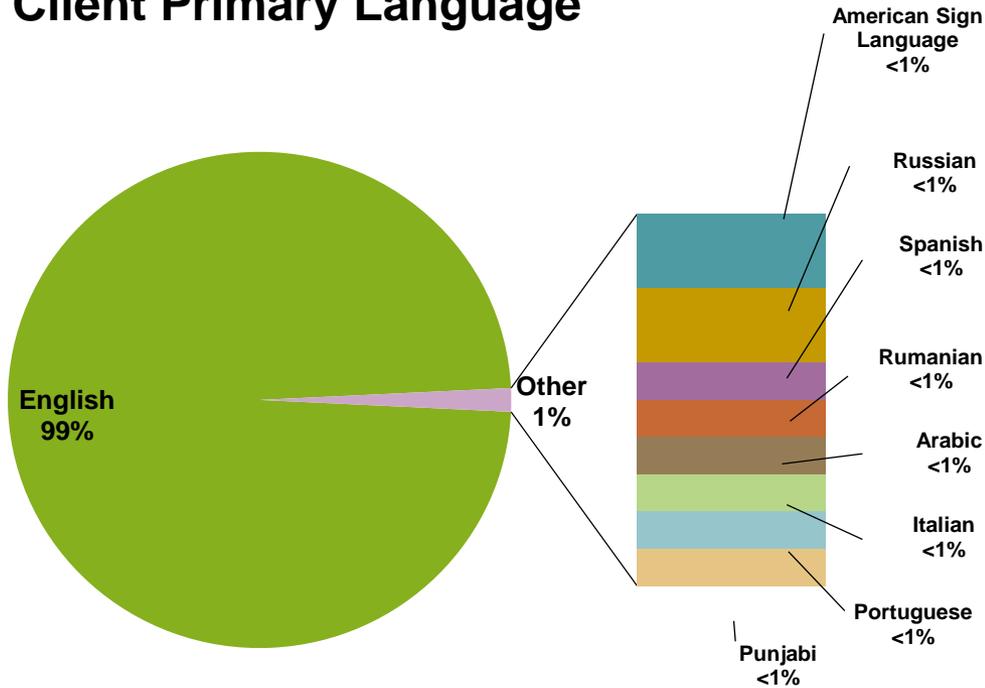
- 56% of OEO clients

## Top Issues for White/Caucasian Students

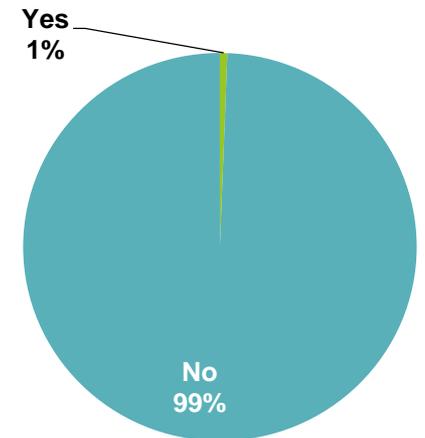


# Language Access: White Students

## Client Primary Language



## Interpreter Needed by Client?



# Strategic Plan Shifts



- Greater outreach to communities of color, particularly families where English not primary
  - More time with families that have fewer economic resources and experience more racism, disenfranchisement, and multiple forms of oppression
  - Outreach to homeless and foster students
  - Training trainers
  - Thinking preventatively— how do we reach educators to help them improve classrooms?
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# Re-engaging Communities



## Strategy

Community Clinics

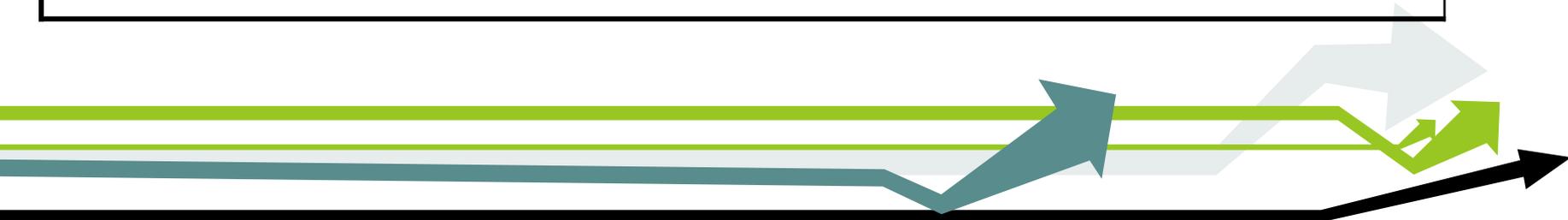
Listening Sessions

“Upstream” (e.g., ESD, teachers)

Community Advocates (e.g., Title I/Part D, API)

Increased Translation- **\*\*Poster for your Feedback\*\***

Toolkits



# Moving Forward



- Questions?
- Feedback?

Washington State  
Governor's Office of the

**O**mbuds  
Education

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