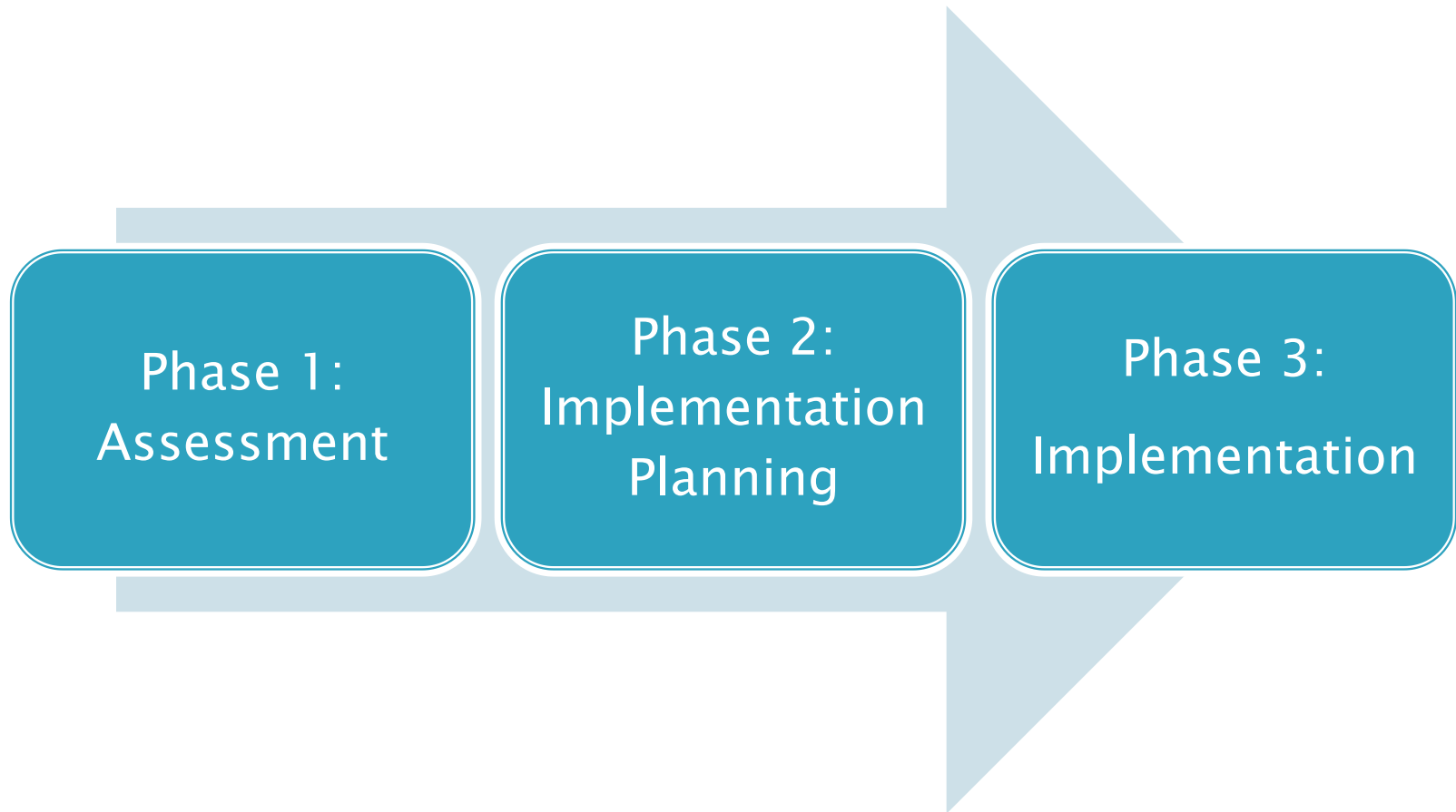


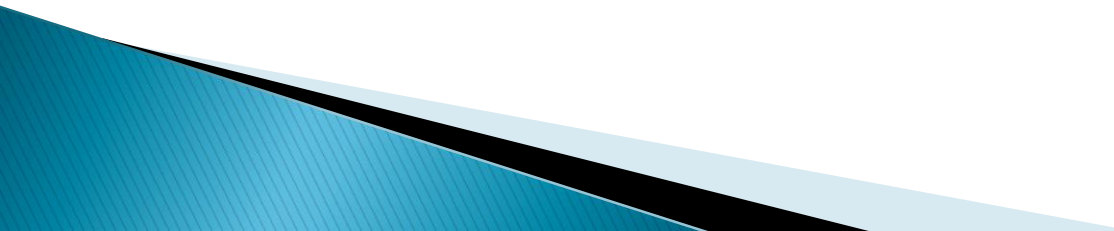
# Multnomah County Gang Assessment

Local Public Safety Coordinating Council  
July 8, 2014

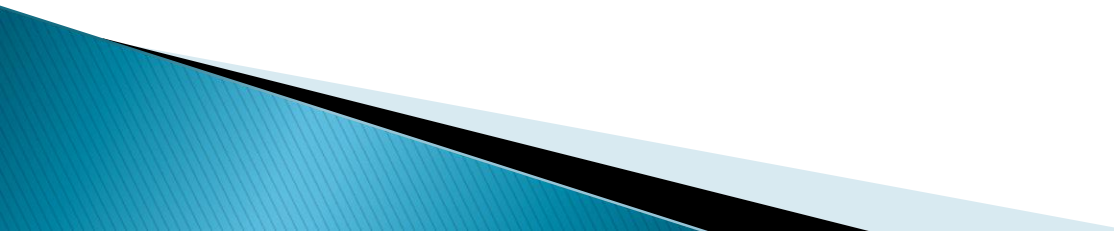
# OJDP Assessment Model



# OJJDP's Five Core Strategies

- ▶ Community mobilization
  - ▶ Providing Opportunities
  - ▶ Social Intervention
  - ▶ Suppression
  - ▶ Organizational change and development
- 

# Purpose

- ▶ Define the problem
  - ▶ Explore opportunities to increase the efficiency & effectiveness of service delivery
  - ▶ Build cross–agency & community understanding and collaboration
  - ▶ Expand upon existing efforts
  - ▶ Position the jurisdiction for federal & state funding opportunities
- 

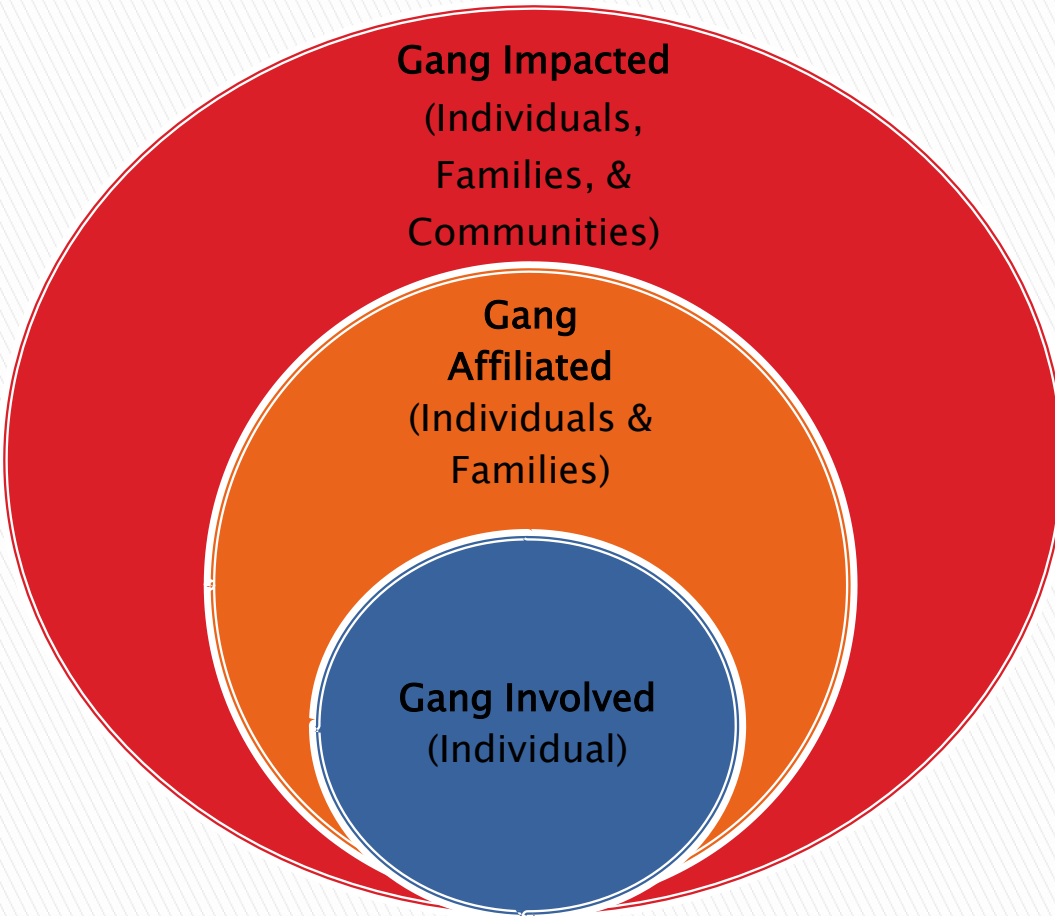
# The Model In Multnomah County

- ▶ A collaborative process
  - Sponsored by LPSCC
  - Resources provided by:
    - Multnomah County DCJ
    - Multnomah County Health Department
    - LPSCC
    - City of Portland
  - Data Sharing by many agencies
  - Community input from over 1,000 individuals



# Definitions

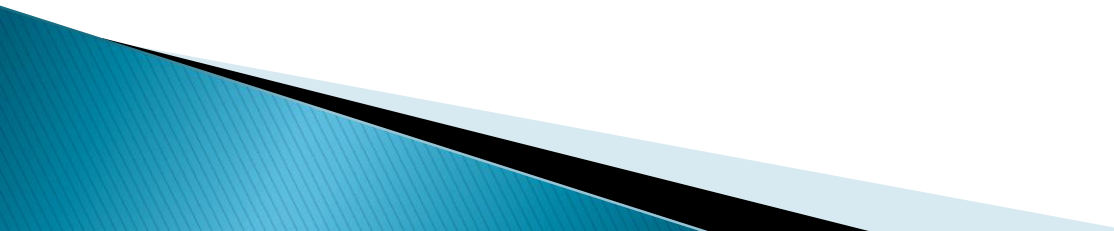
## Key TERMS



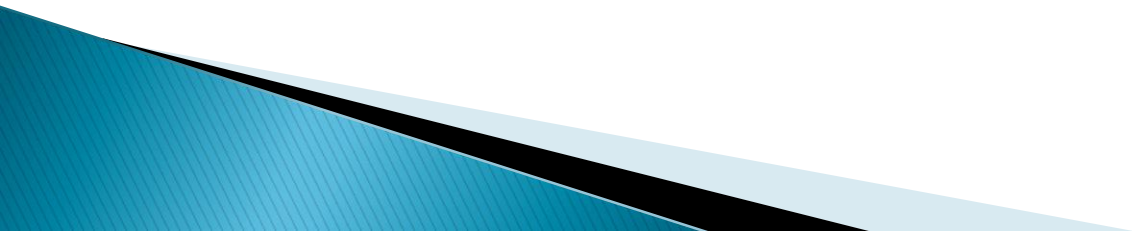
## Key STRATEGIES

- ▶ Primary prevention (community & system)
- ▶ Secondary prevention (individual & family)
- ▶ Intervention
- ▶ Suppression
- ▶ Reentry

# A Public Health Perspective

- ▶ Welcome environmental and contextual data from the community
  - ▶ Highlight the voices of those most affected by violence
  - ▶ Define the problem through a systematic collection of information
  - ▶ Establish WHY violence occurs and what works to PREVENT violence
  - ▶ Consider the effects of trauma & exposure to violence
- 

# Tailoring the Model

- ▶ Health Department led qualitative data collection
  - ▶ Increased focus on primary prevention
  - ▶ More strengths-based survey & interview tools
  - ▶ Protect the privacy of individuals sharing information
  - ▶ Expanded the focus group process
- 



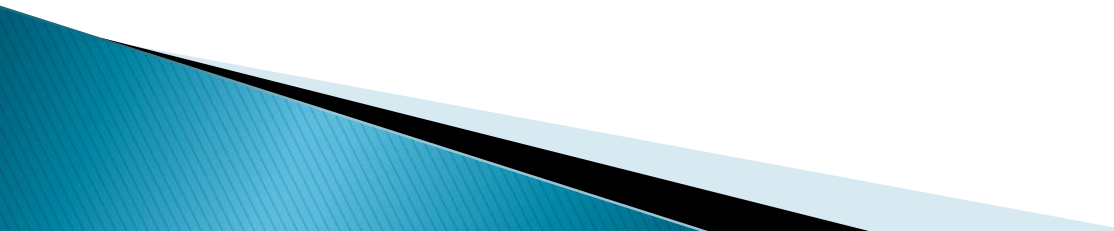
# Research Questions

- ▶ Community Demographic Data
  - Community characteristics, service needs, and school district characteristics
- ▶ Law Enforcement Data
  - Gangs, gang-related crimes, and victim data
- ▶ Community and School Perceptions Data
  - Surveys, interviews, and focus groups
- ▶ Community Resources Data
  - How has the community's service provision responded to gang activity?

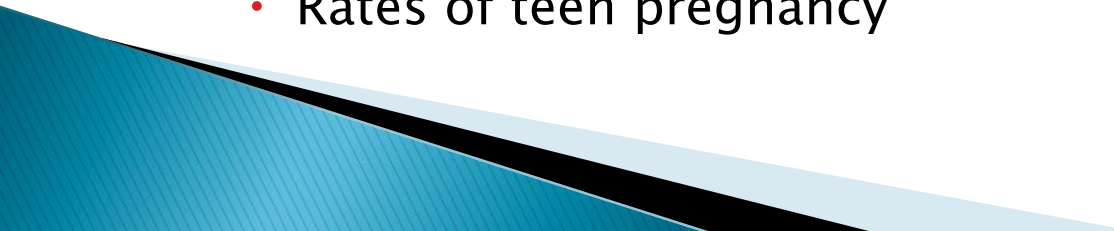
# The Quantitative Data



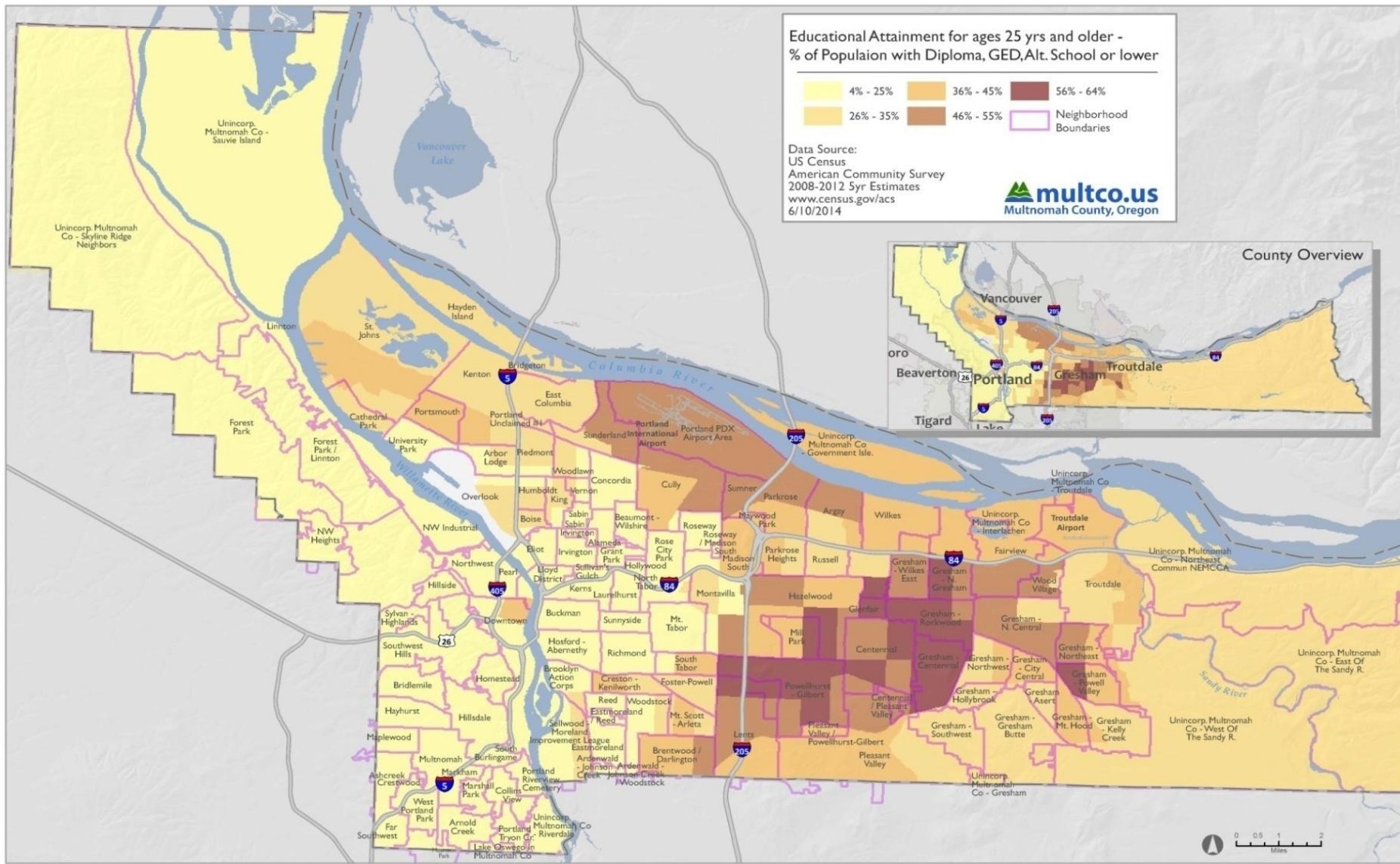
# Data Limitations

- ▶ Inconsistent definitions and flagging of gang-related crimes
  - ▶ Crime trends and the impact of policy changes
  - ▶ U.S. Census data race & ethnicity counts
- 

# County Demographic Data

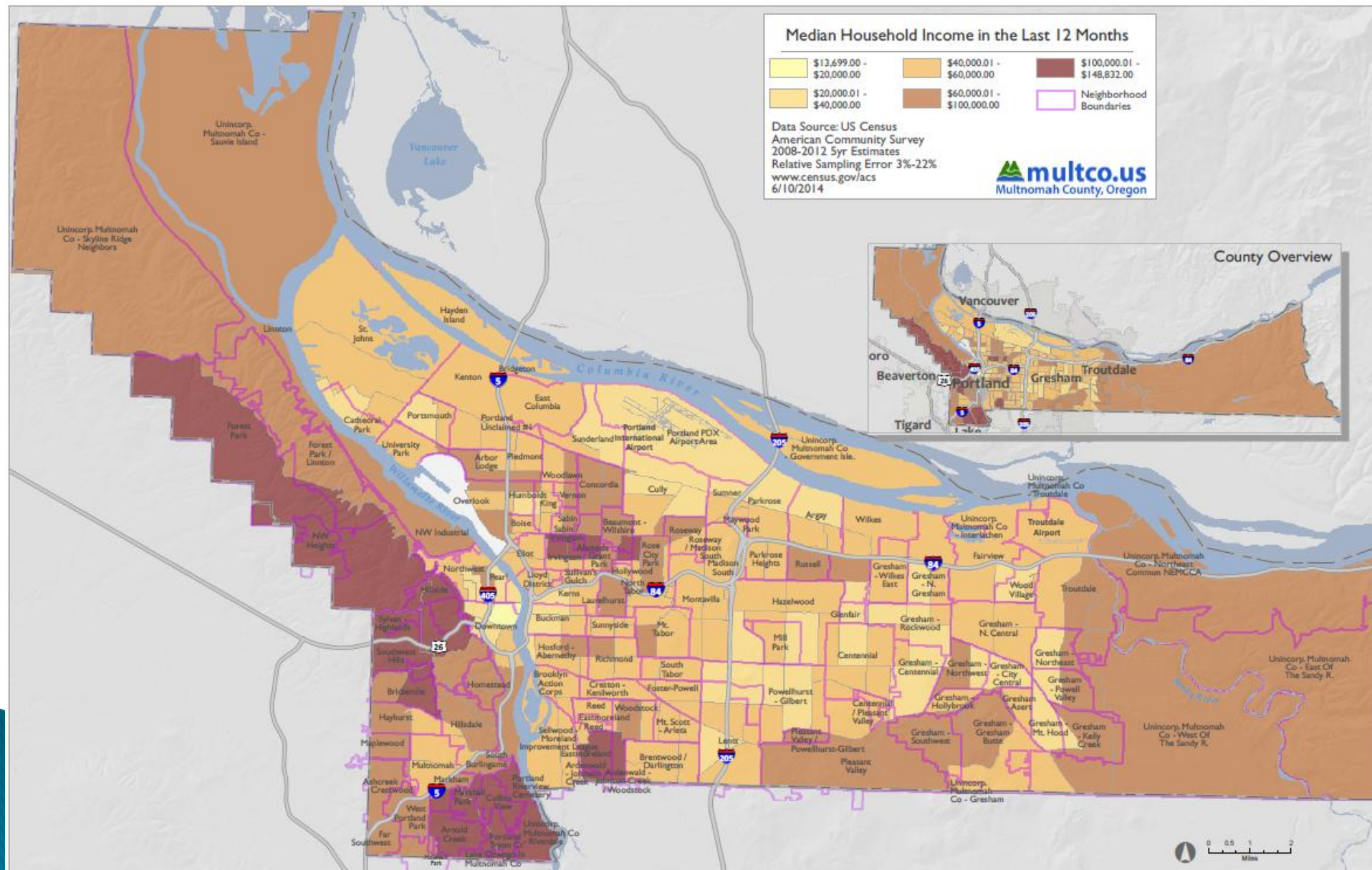
- ▶ Between 2005 & 2012, the County experienced:
    - Population growth of 15%
    - Increase in income and educational attainment
    - Increased unemployment
    - Shift in residency of people of color
  
  - ▶ Some communities are disproportionately experiencing:
    - Low income
    - Unemployment
    - Low voter registration
    - Low educational attainment
    - Use of public assistance
    - Rates of low birth weight
    - Rates of teen pregnancy
- 

# Educational Attainment



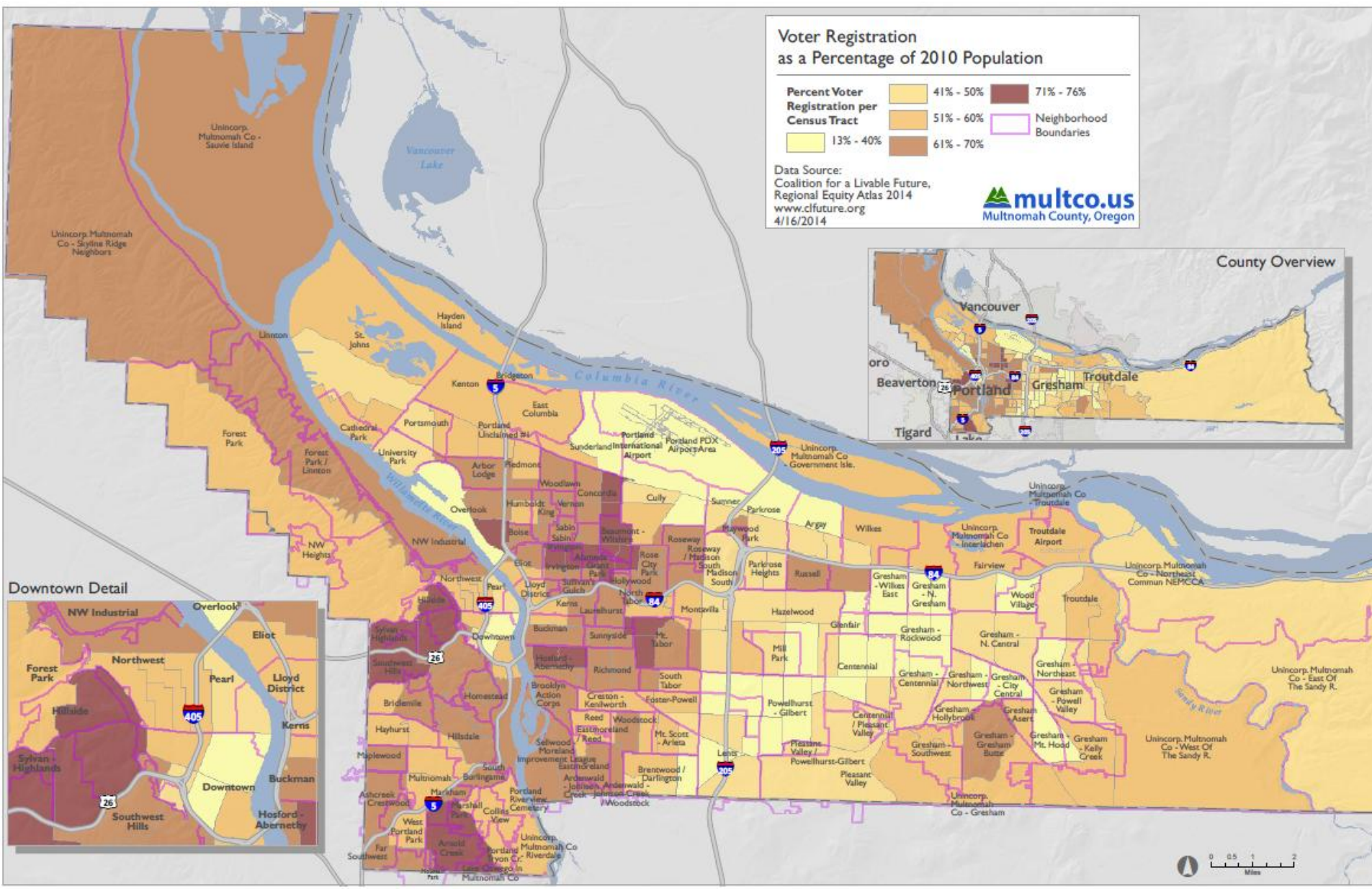


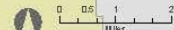
# Income





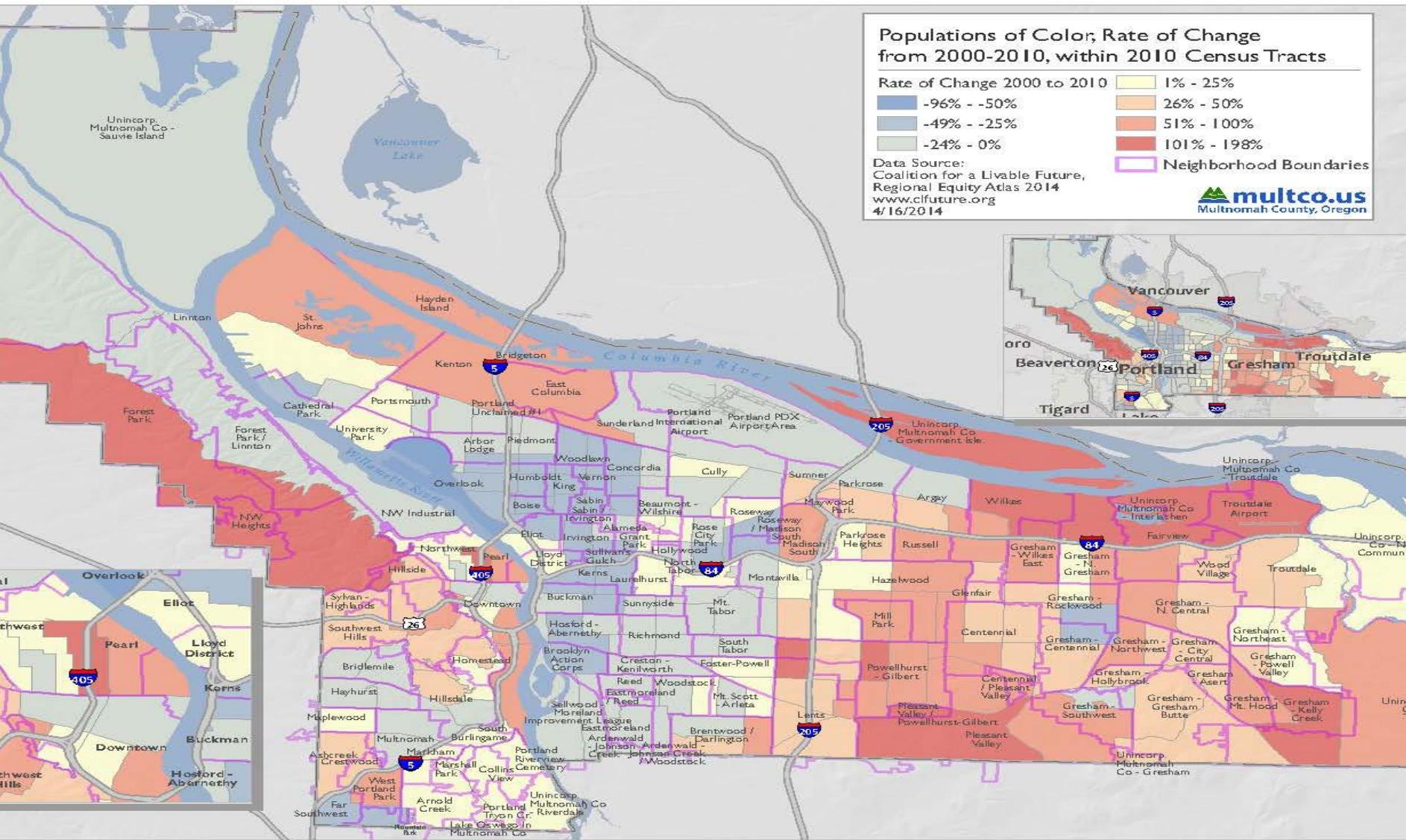
# Voter Registration



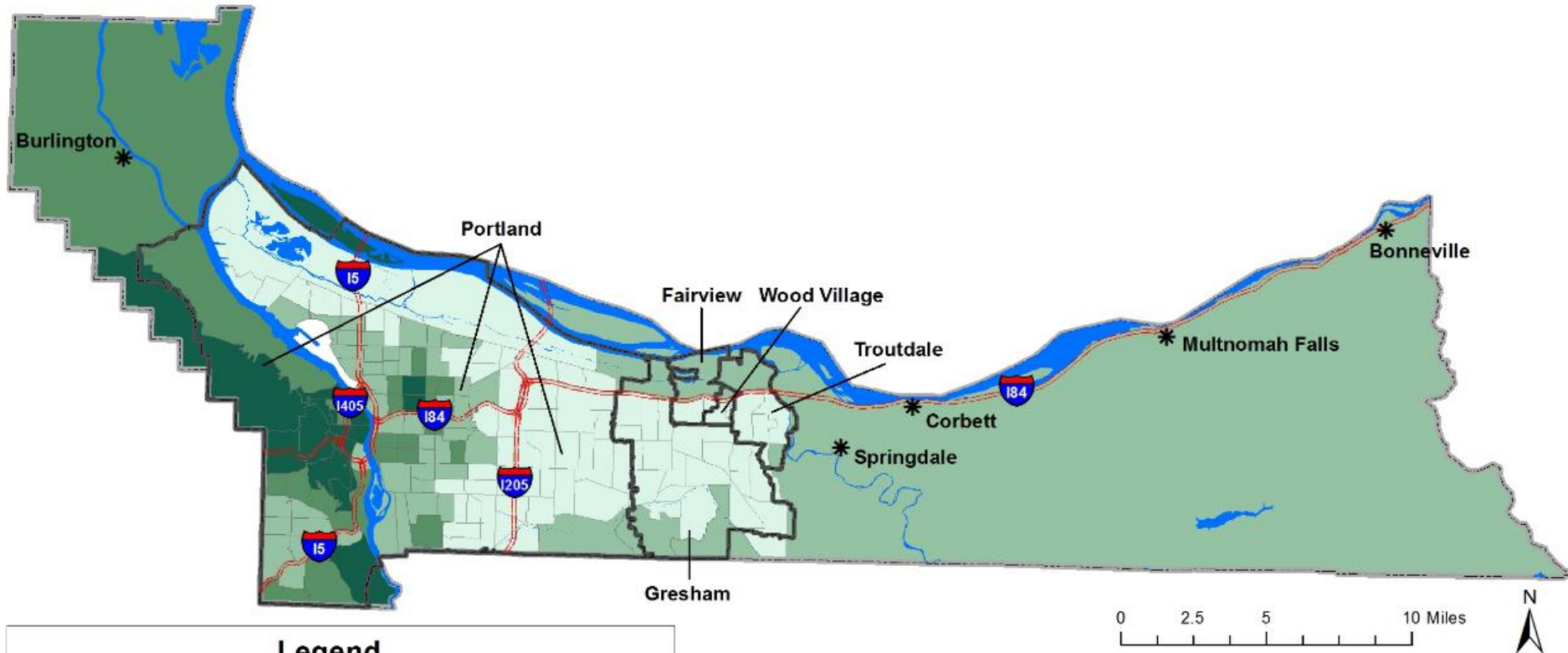
[illegible]



# Rate of Change of People of Color



# Median Home Value



## Legend

### Median Home Value (Sales Price)

	\$139,283 - 257,149		Multnomah County
	\$257,150 - 370,789		City Boundaries
	\$370,790 - 535,467		Cities (outside Metro region)
	\$535,468 - 806,160		Freeways

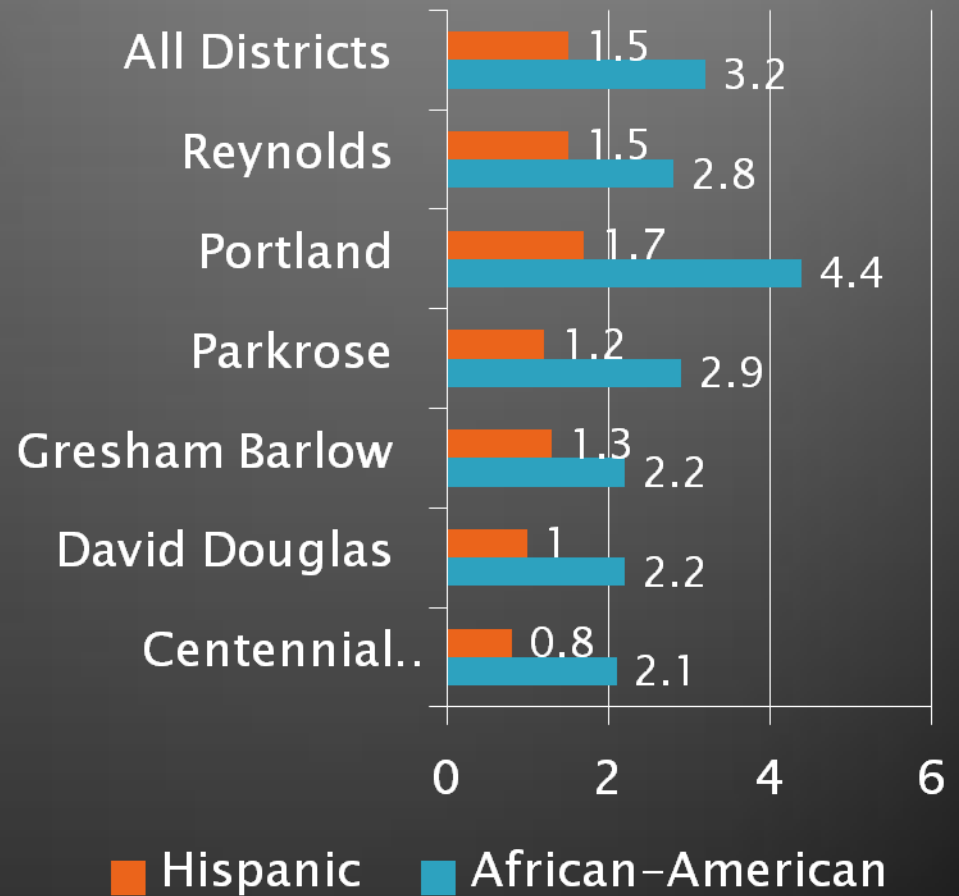
Source: 2010 Tax Assessor Database (Metro)

Note: Values are calculated and displayed using census tracts.

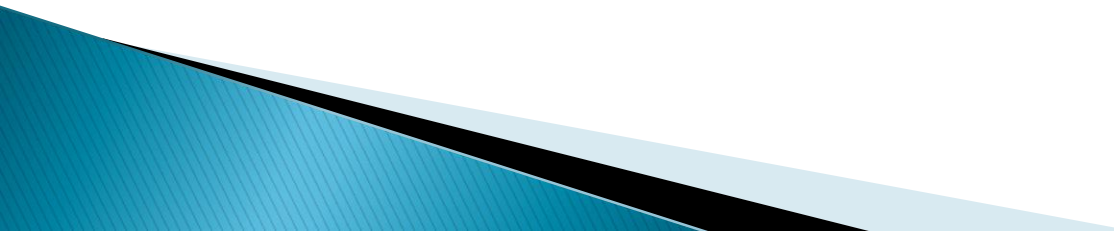


# Schools: Exclusionary Discipline

- ▶ African-American students are expelled at triple the rate of white students.
- ▶ Since 2009–2010, the rate of exclusionary discipline for students of color has increased.
- ▶ The racial group with the lowest rate of disciplinary actions is Asian-American students.



# Law Enforcement Data

- ▶ Multnomah County lacks a centralized method for identifying and tracking gang-related events and individuals.
  - ▶ Agencies are working to improve this
  - ▶ Recommendations for continued work include:
    - Interagency Collaboration for Data Consistency
    - Consistent Data Collection and Reporting Tools
    - Training and Quality Assurance
- 



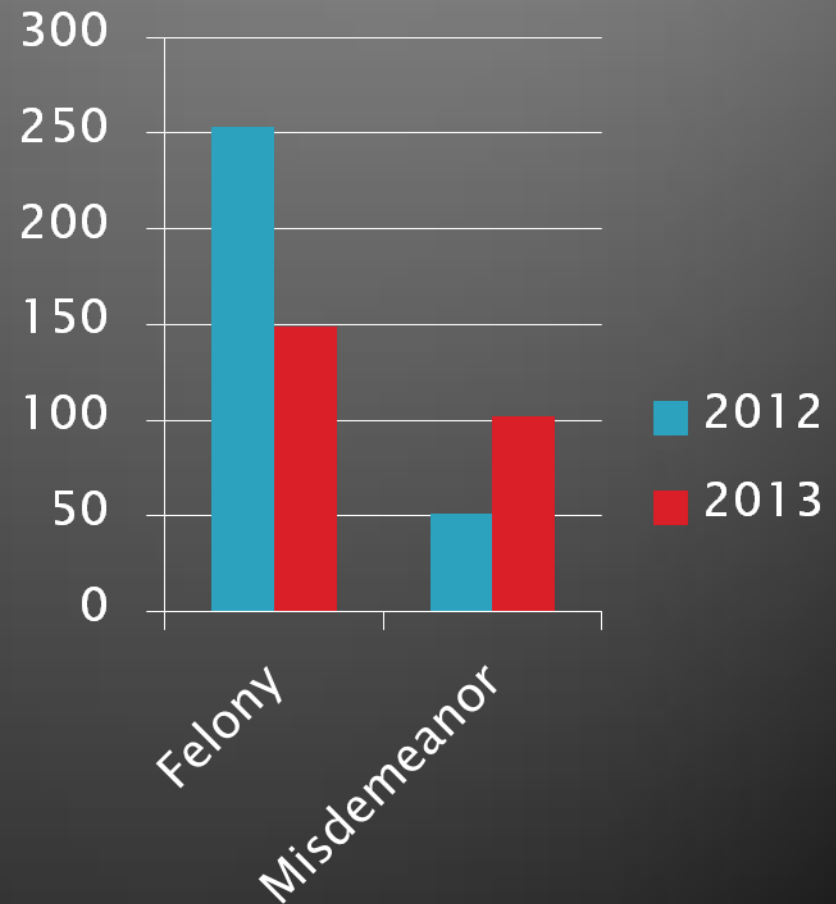
# Gangs in Multnomah County

- ▶ At least 133 gangs are known to be active in Multnomah County.
- ▶ This includes smaller sets or splinter groups of larger gangs.



# DA's Gang Unit Issued Cases

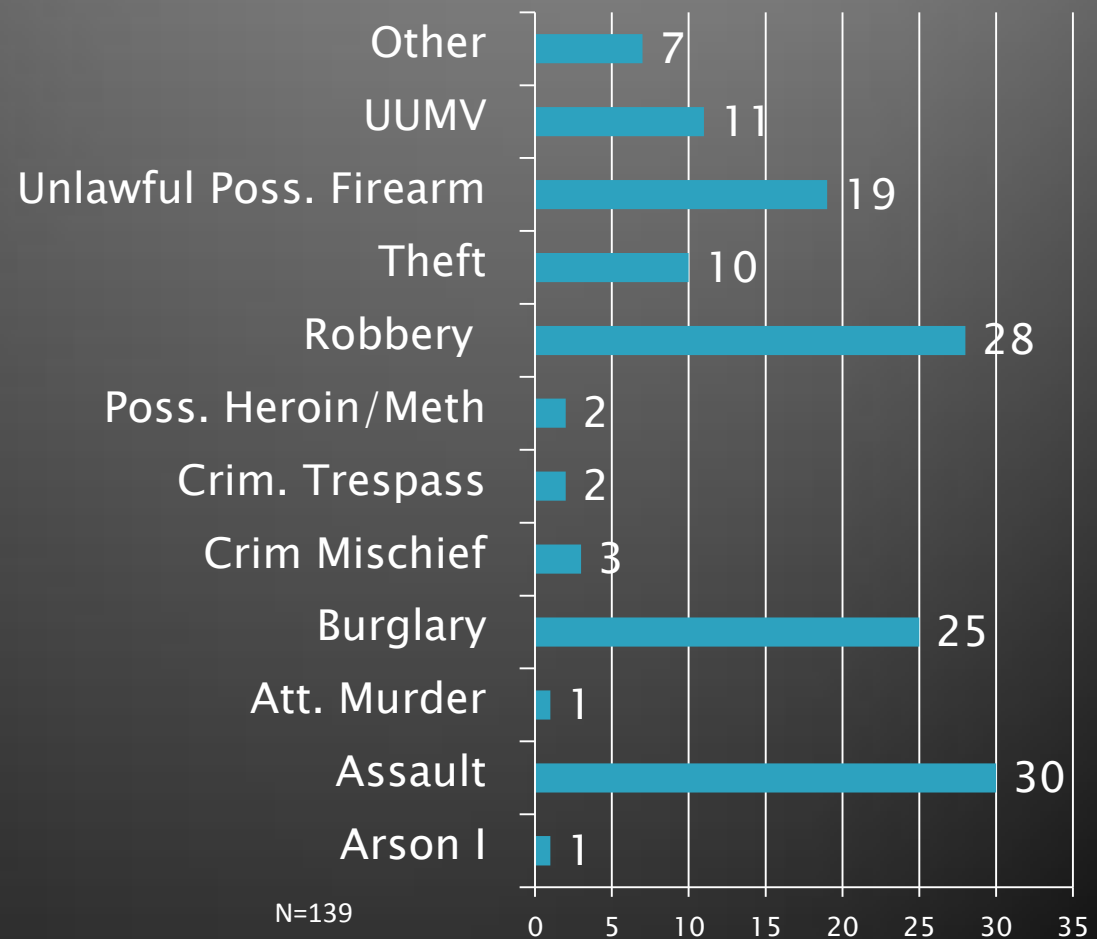
- ▶ 41% fewer gang-related felony cases issued
- ▶ 100% increase in gang-related misdemeanor cases issued



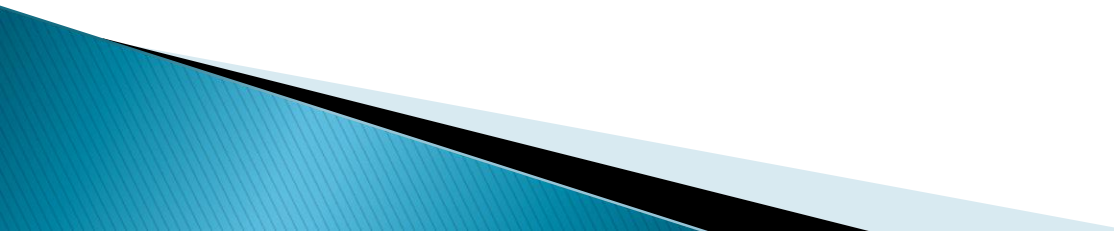
# Safe Street Youth

- ▶ Average age = 16.9 yrs
- ▶ Average age of first referral = 13.3 yrs
- ▶ Average of 5.5 referrals
- ▶ 85% male
- ▶ 77% youth of color

## Safe Streets Youth: Charges



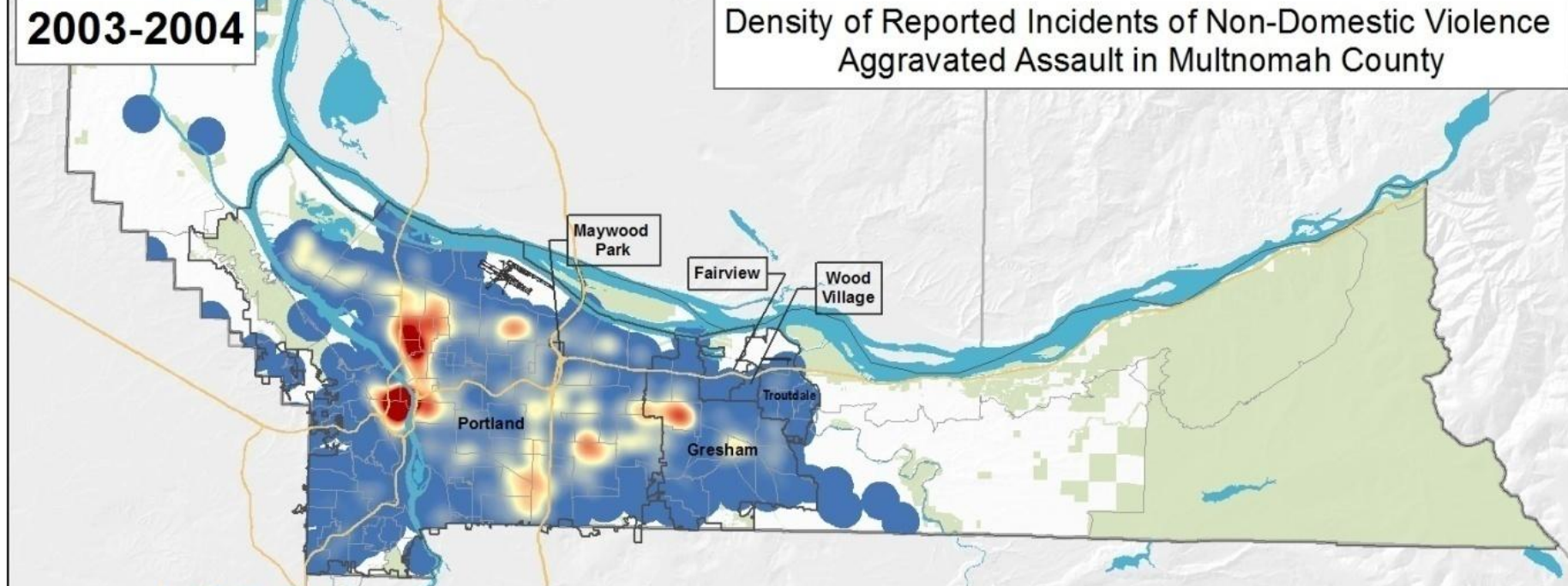
# Where are Crimes Occurring

- ▶ Due to lack of consistent tracking of gang-related, we used aggravated assaults and shooting calls as proxy measures for gang violence.
  - ▶ Crime maps show a shift of these crimes from N & NE Portland to a more distributed pattern across the county.
- 



2003-2004

# Density of Reported Incidents of Non-Domestic Violence Aggravated Assault in Multnomah County

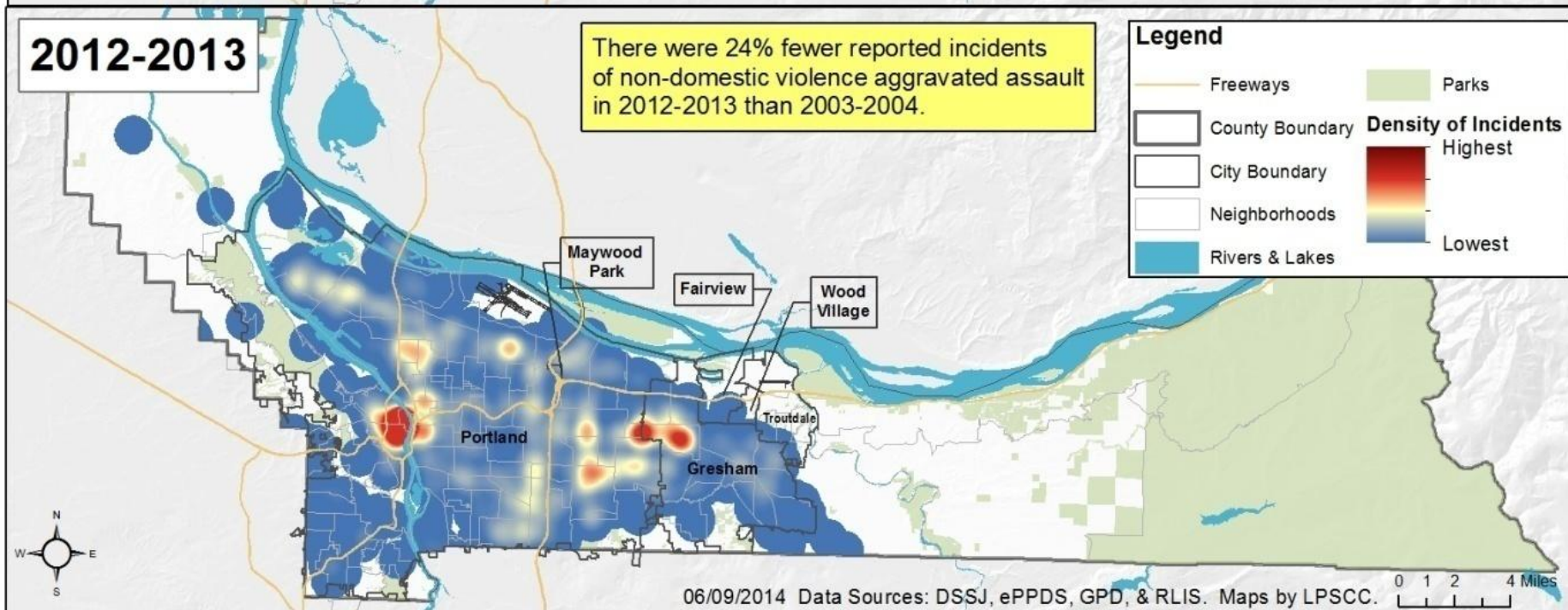


2012-2013

There were 24% fewer reported incidents of non-domestic violence aggravated assault in 2012-2013 than 2003-2004.

## Legend

- Freeways
- County Boundary
- City Boundary
- Neighborhoods
- Rivers & Lakes
- Parks
- Density of Incidents**
  - Highest
  - Lowest

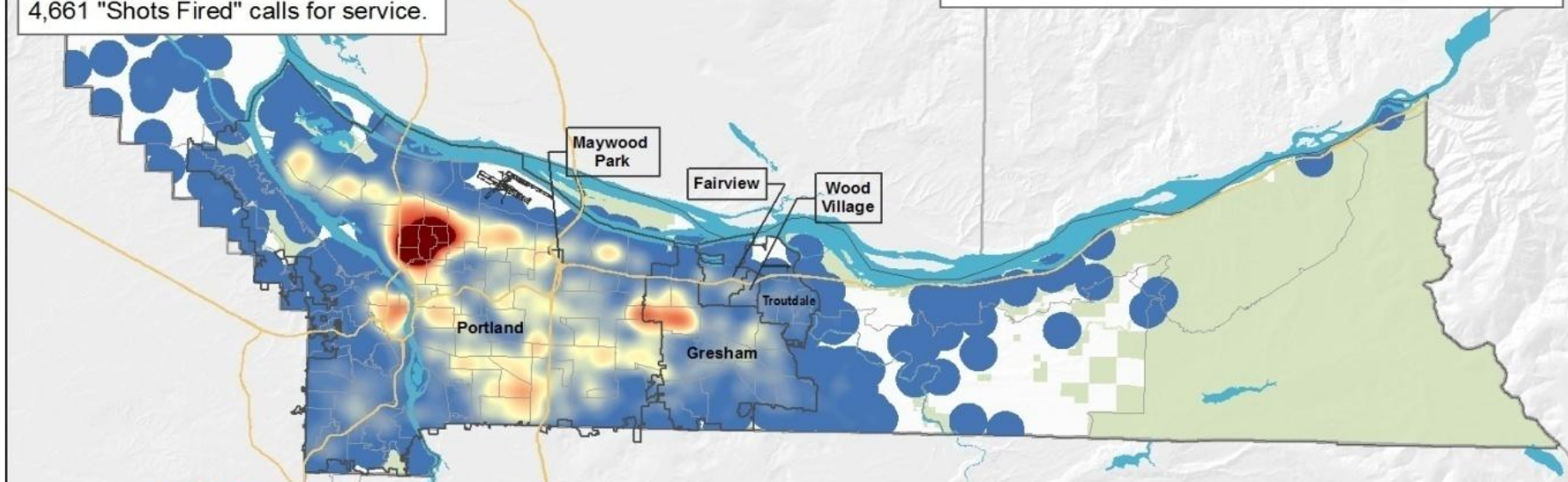




**2003-2004**

4,661 "Shots Fired" calls for service.

Density of "Shots Fired" Calls for Service  
in Multnomah County

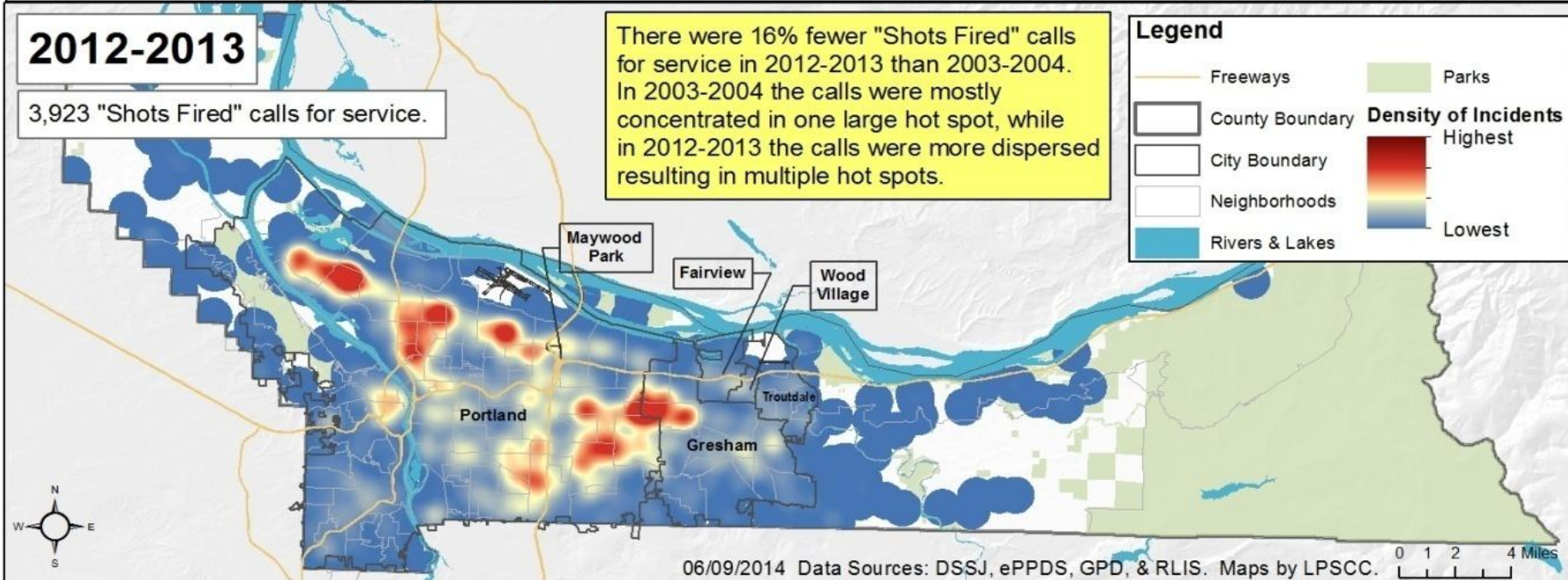
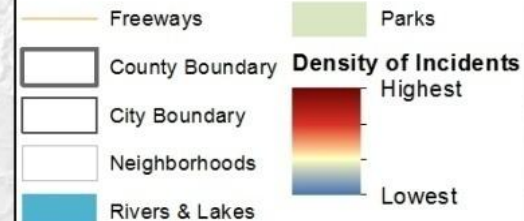


**2012-2013**

3,923 "Shots Fired" calls for service.

There were 16% fewer "Shots Fired" calls for service in 2012-2013 than 2003-2004. In 2003-2004 the calls were mostly concentrated in one large hot spot, while in 2012-2013 the calls were more dispersed resulting in multiple hot spots.

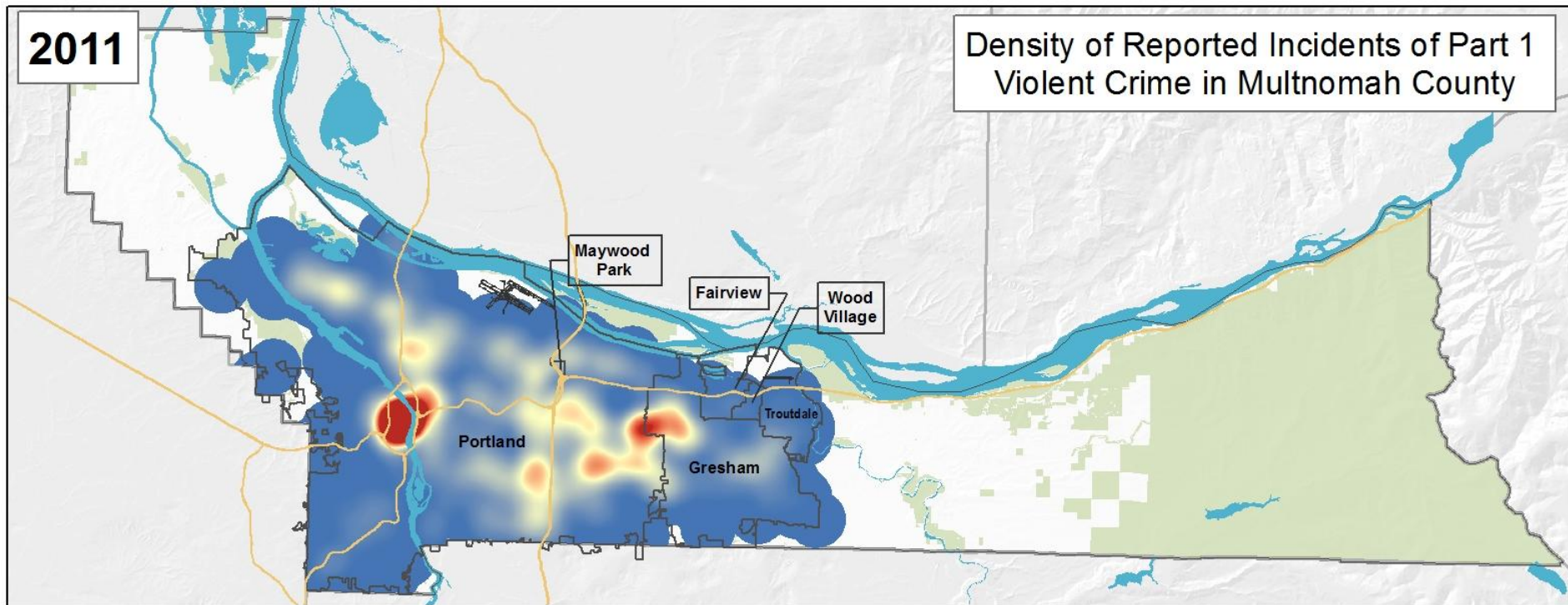
**Legend**





2011

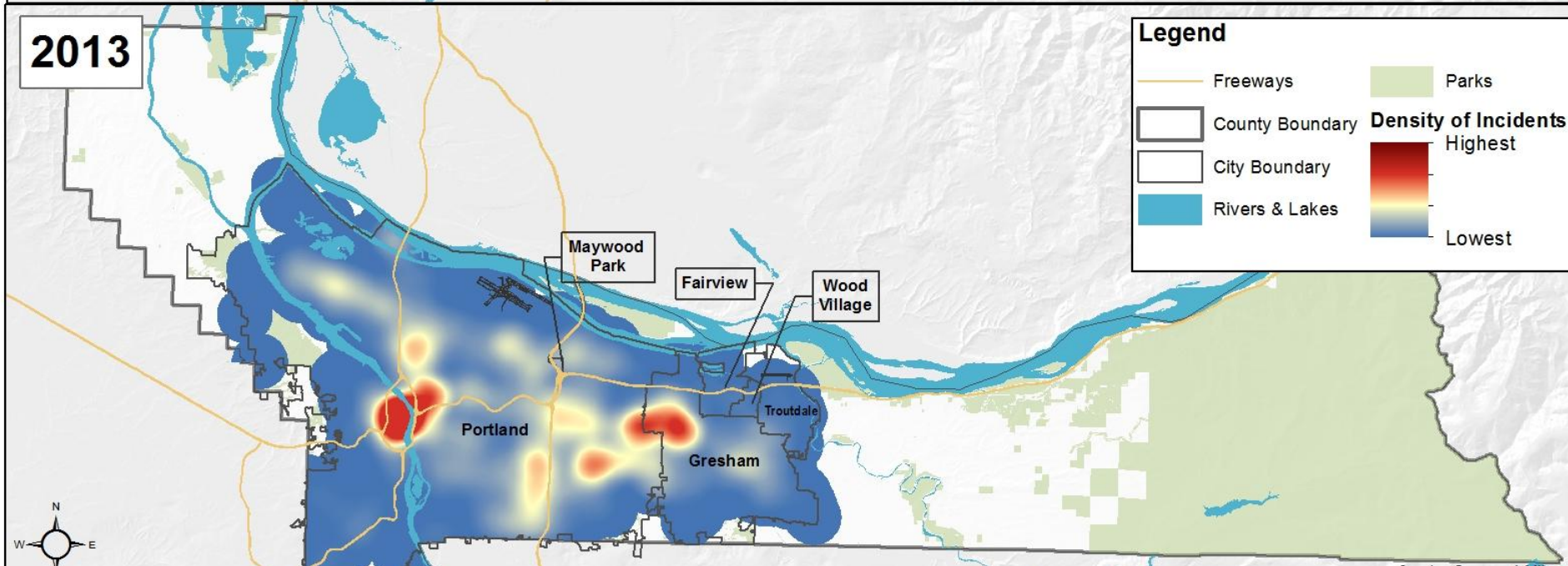
# Density of Reported Incidents of Part 1 Violent Crime in Multnomah County



2013

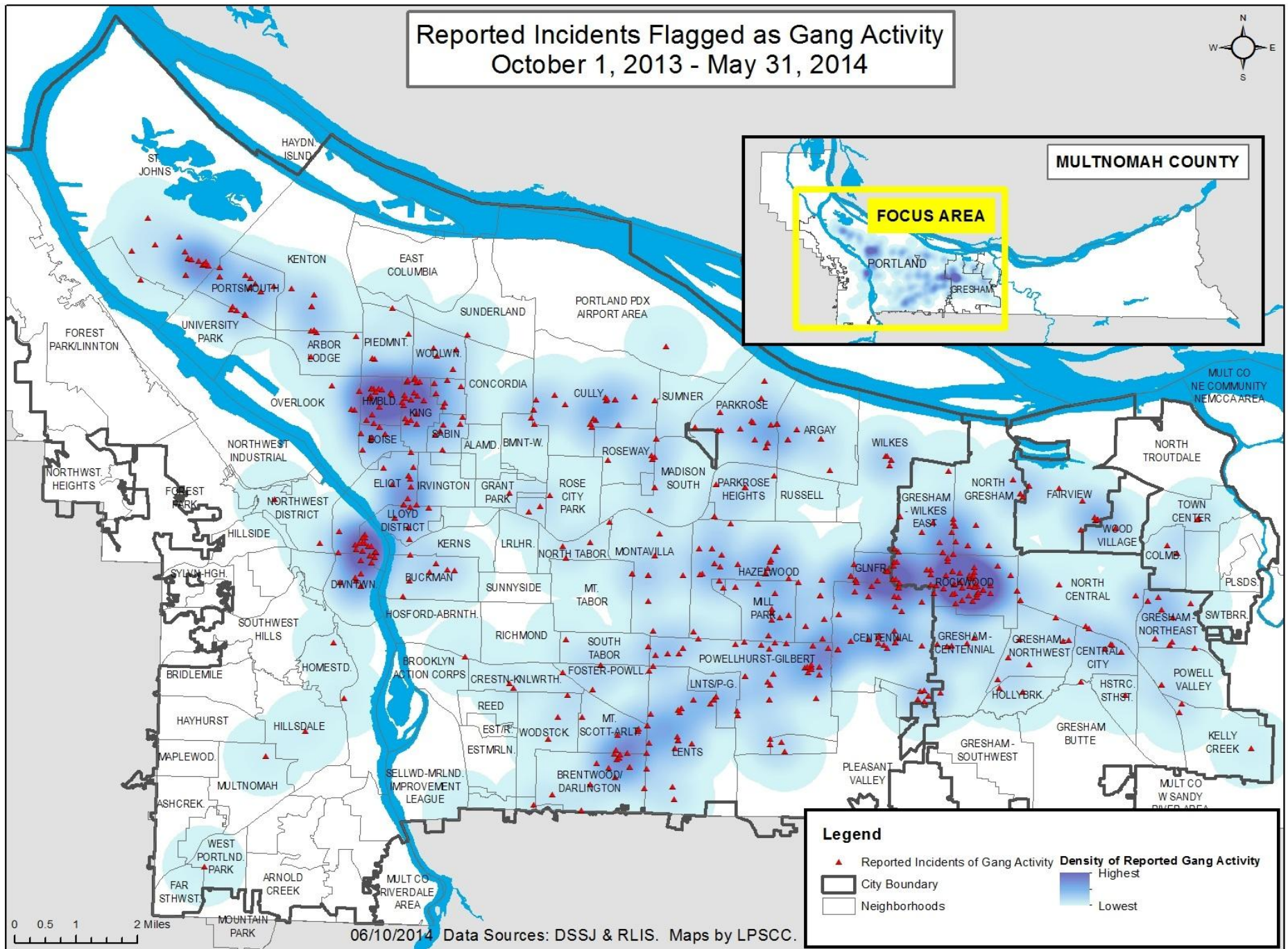
## Legend

- Freeways
- County Boundary
- City Boundary
- Rivers & Lakes
- Parks
- Density of Incidents**
  - Highest
  - Lowest



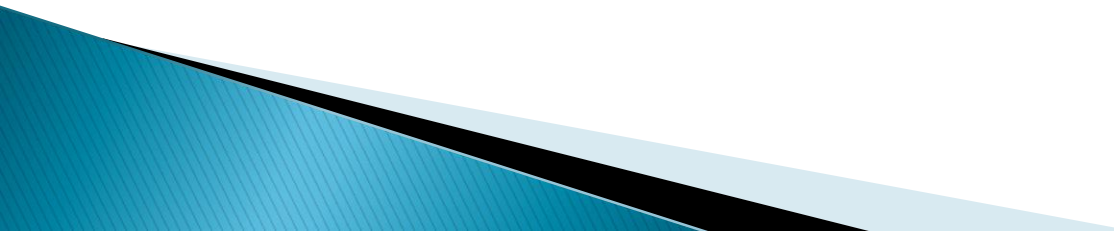


# Reported Incidents Flagged as Gang Activity October 1, 2013 - May 31, 2014

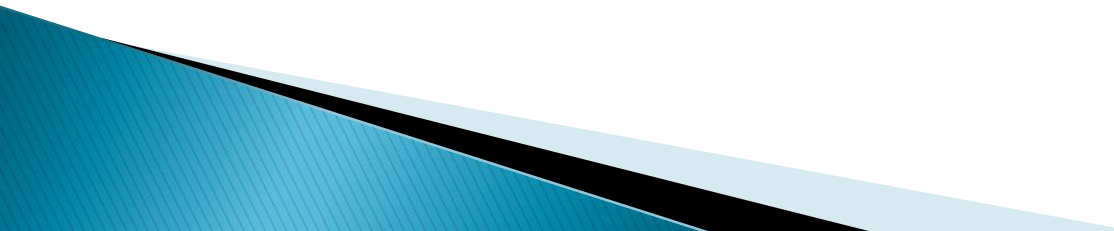


# Victims

## ▶ Victim Demographics:

- Most (65%) gang victims are men.
  - Gang victims are 1.35 times more likely to be male than are victims of other crimes
  - People of color are 1.31 times more likely to be gang victims than they are to be victims of other crimes.
  - Gang victims tend to be younger other crime victims.
- 

# Victim Impact and Reporting

- ▶ Victims of gang crimes were 1.27 times more likely to be angry as a result of their crime than are other crime victims.
  - ▶ 99.4% of gang victims indicate that they have never received assistance from victim services agencies.
  - ▶ Victims of gang crimes were 4.40 times more likely than other victims to say that they did not report the crime because “police are biased.”
- 

# Community Perceptions Data

*"My education came to a halt and disappeared. I gave up on education when I wasn't able to balance it out with the gang and hustling life that I was so heavily devoted to."*

*"Be an engaged, compassionate and caring community member. Advocate for equity & structural equality."*

*"I came from a poverty house, for me it was survival."*

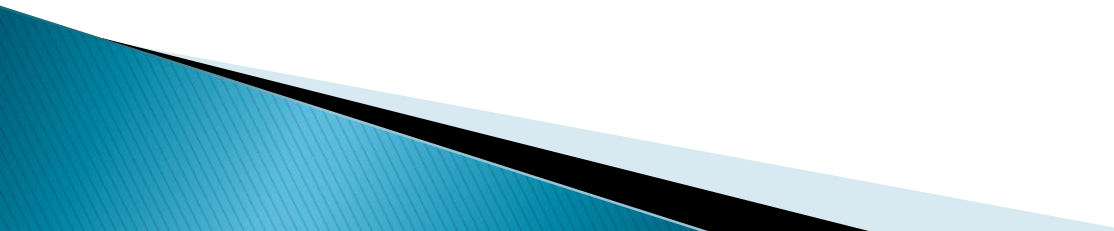
*"Generations in jail or dead, no one is telling me what values to have."*

*"The gang problem in Portland is mostly just one of media frenzy. Yes, some gangs do exist. No, they're not running rampant and wrecking Portland."*

*"This is not law enforcement's responsibility alone. We need a coordinated approach to prevent violence and gangs."*

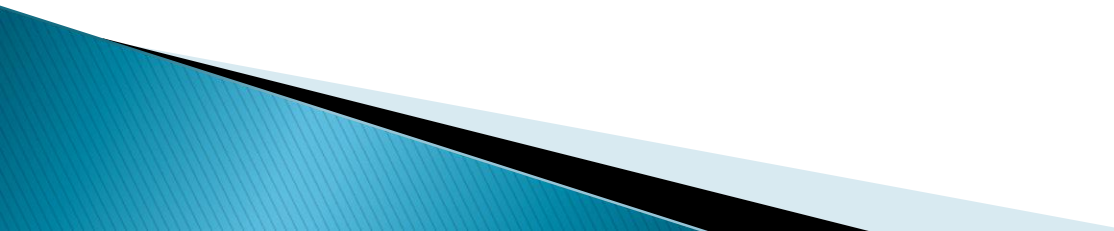
*"I don't want my kids to see or do the same [as I've done]. It's unsafe, you die, or you will end up in jail."*

# Community Perceptions Data

- ▶ Surveys
    - Community leaders (100)
    - Community residents (150)
    - Youth-serving Agencies (43)
    - Parents and family members (25)
    - Youth Summit Attendees (200)
    - Students (200)
    - School Staff (7)
  - ▶ Interviews of gang-involved individuals (80)
  - ▶ Focus groups (9 groups)
- 



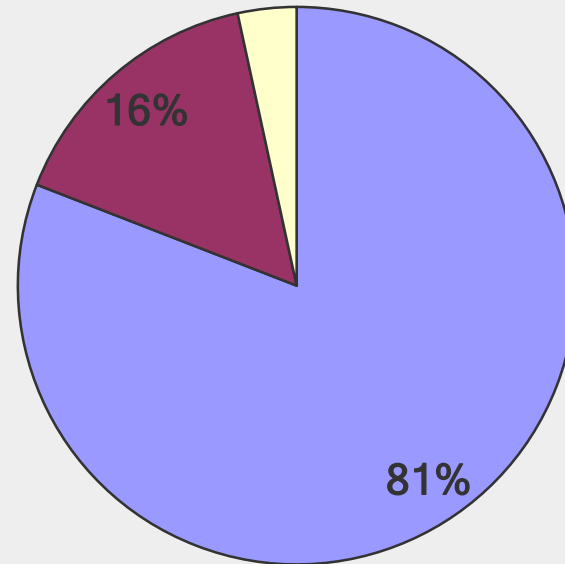
# Data Limitations

- ▶ On-line survey response varied
  - ▶ Hard copy administration of surveys
  - ▶ Interviews of gang-involved individuals
  - ▶ Spanish translation of surveys
- 

# Community Leaders

- ▶ Most respondents were white (72%)
- ▶ 80% believe that gangs are a problem in the community.
- ▶ While 35% are somewhat satisfied with the current response to gangs, 57% are somewhat or very unsatisfied.

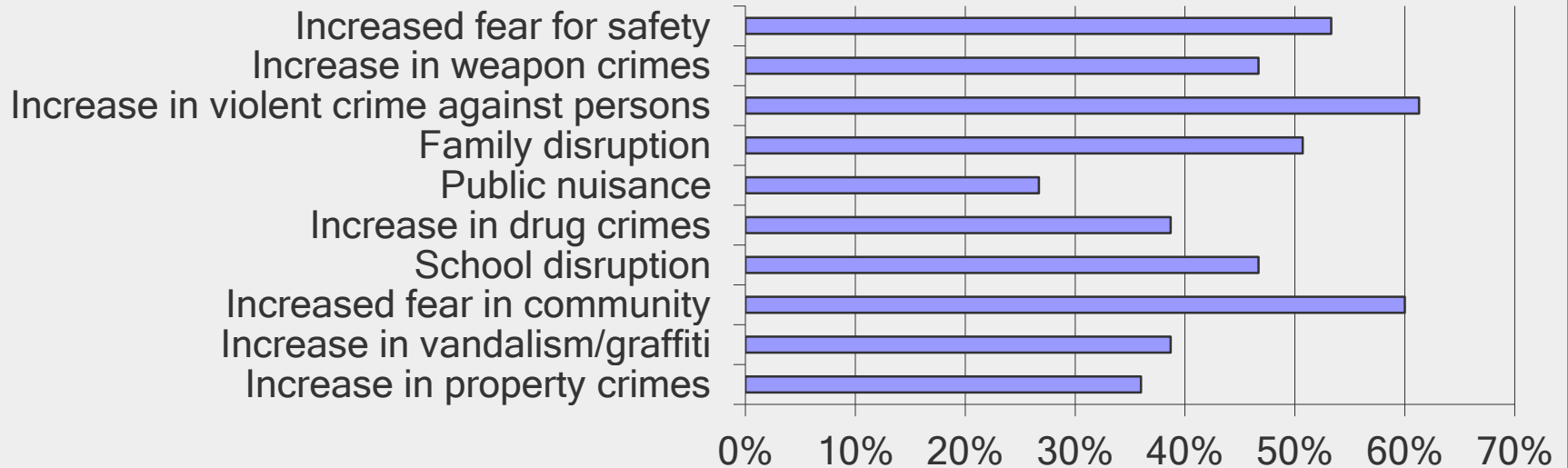
Do you believe gangs are a problem in your community?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Do not know

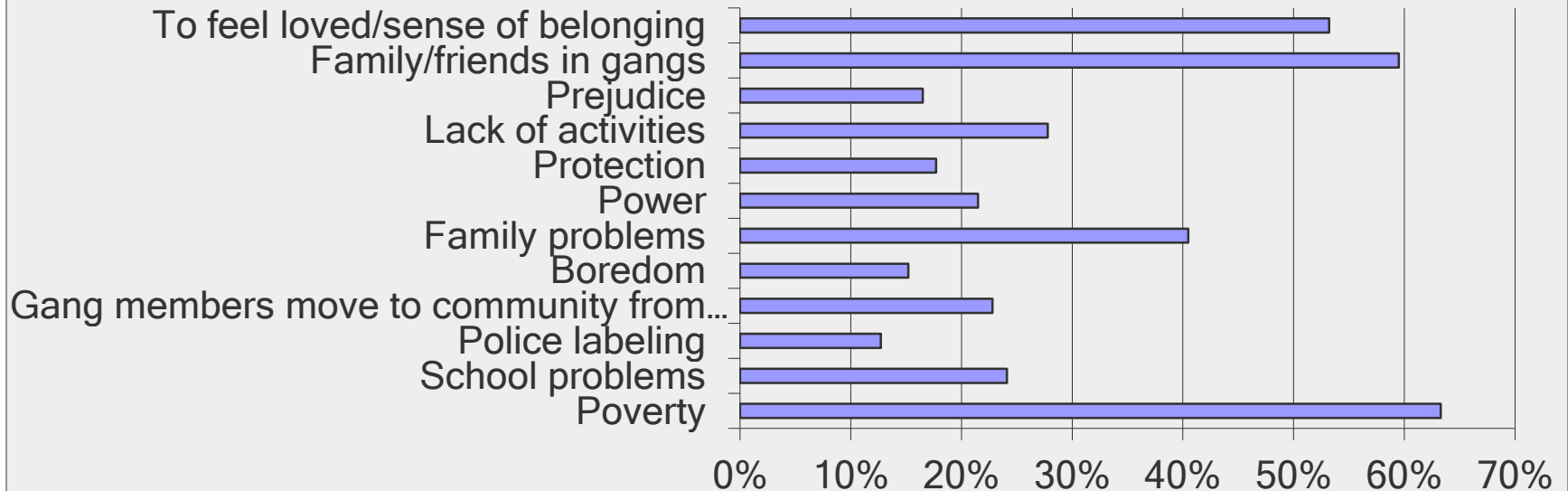
# Community Leaders (continued)

What kinds of problems do gangs present in your community?



# Community Leaders (continued)

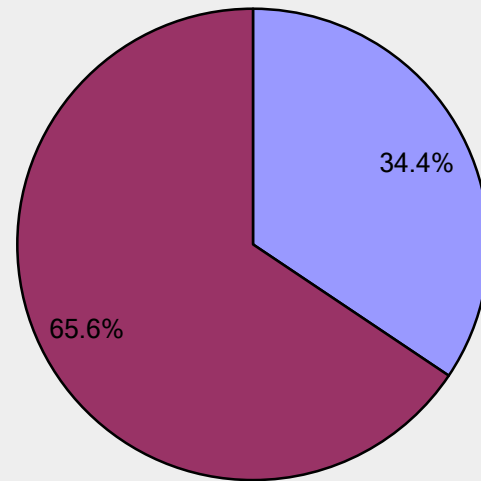
Why do you believe there is gang activity in your community?



# Community Residents

- ▶ More than 150 community residents took the survey.
- ▶ Respondents were mostly white (80%) and female (57%).
- ▶ Most respondents (35%) were in the 50– to 64–year–old age bracket.
- ▶ 35% had completed a college degree.
- ▶ 66% indicated they felt less safe in their community than they did 2 years ago.

**Do you feel safer in your community than you did two years ago?**

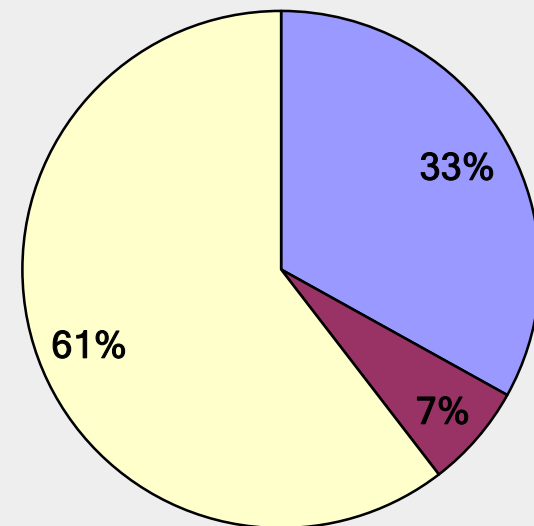


■ Yes ■ No

# Community Residents (continued)

- ▶ Most residents (80%) think that there are gangs in their community.
- ▶ Most (61%) believe gang activity has stayed about the same during the past year; 33% think it has increased, and 7% think it has decreased.
- ▶ Drug crimes, fear, violent crime, weapons crimes, and public nuisances were chosen as the top problems caused by gangs in their community.

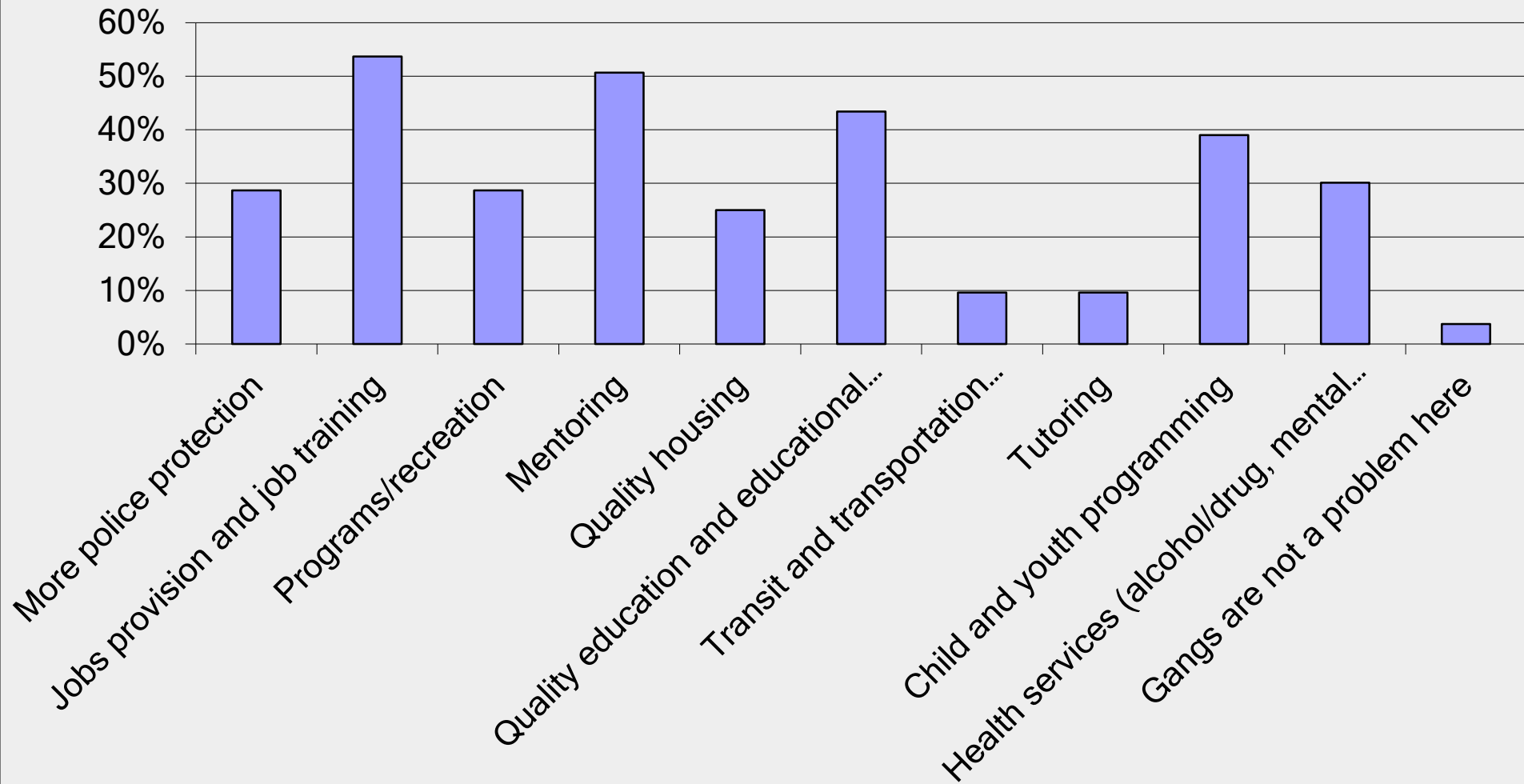
**Has the Amount of Gang Activity in Your Community Changed in the Past Year**



■ Increased  
■ Decreased  
■ Remained about the same

# Community Residents (continued)

Top things to be done to prevent gang activity

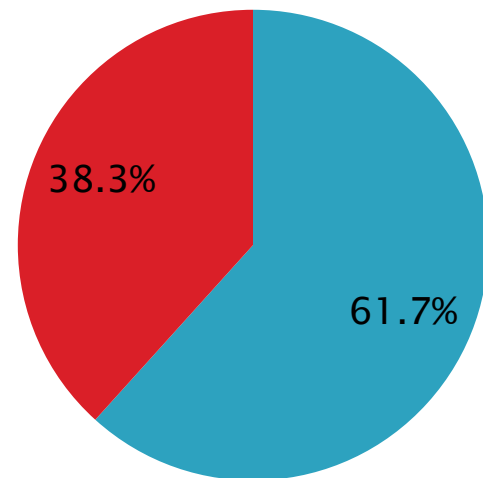


# Youth Summit Respondents

- ▶ More than 200 youth (62%) and adult (38%) respondents.
- ▶ While 47% of the participating adults were people of color, 73% of the youth identified as such.
- ▶ Female respondents outnumbered male respondents.
- ▶ Most respondents came from SE, NE, and N Portland.

## Youth & Adult Participants

N=201



■ Youth- 21 or under

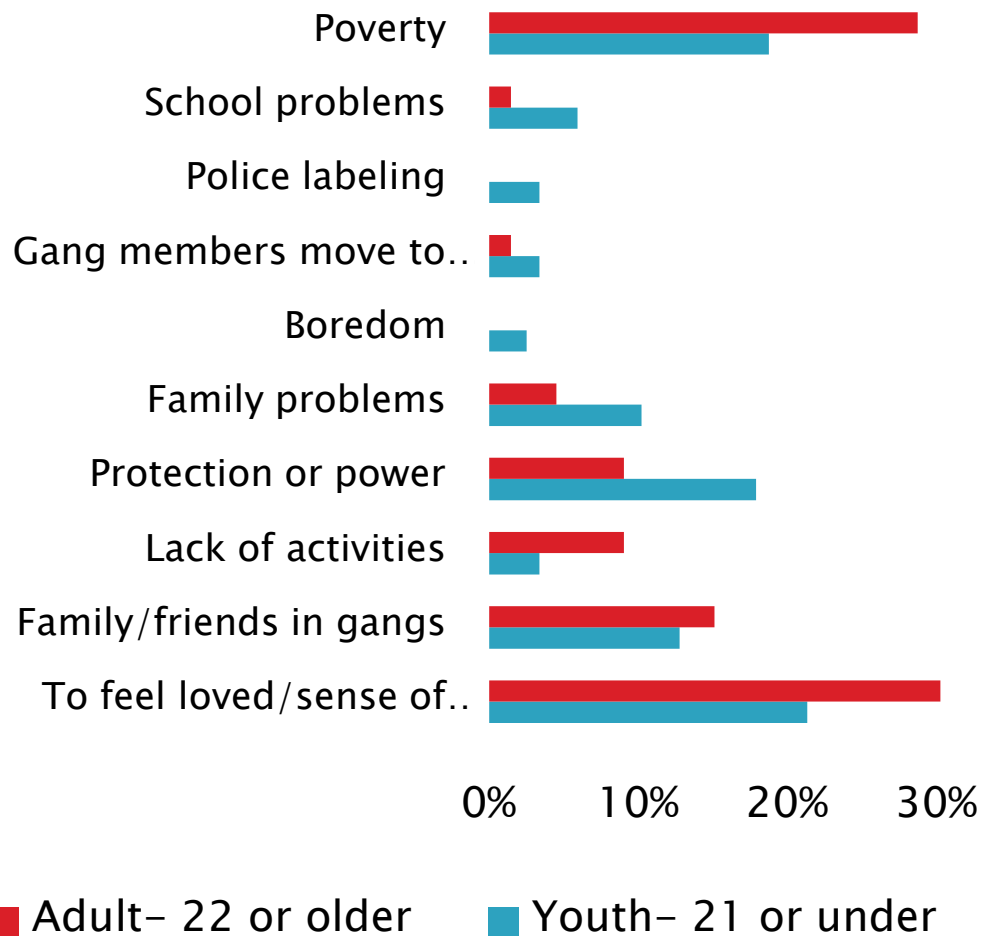
■ Adult- 22 or older



# Youth Summit Respondents

- ▶ Respondents see violent crime and fear as the top problems that gangs cause in their community.
- ▶ Both youth & adults attribute gang activity largely to a desire to feel loved & poverty.
- ▶ Mentoring and jobs rated high among both adults and youth as ways to reduce the gang problem.

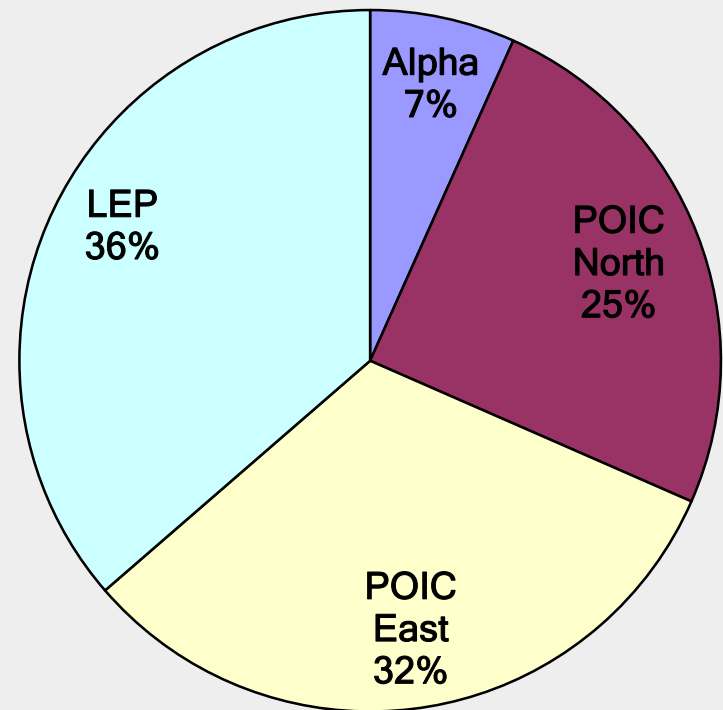
## Why is there gang activity in your community?



# Students

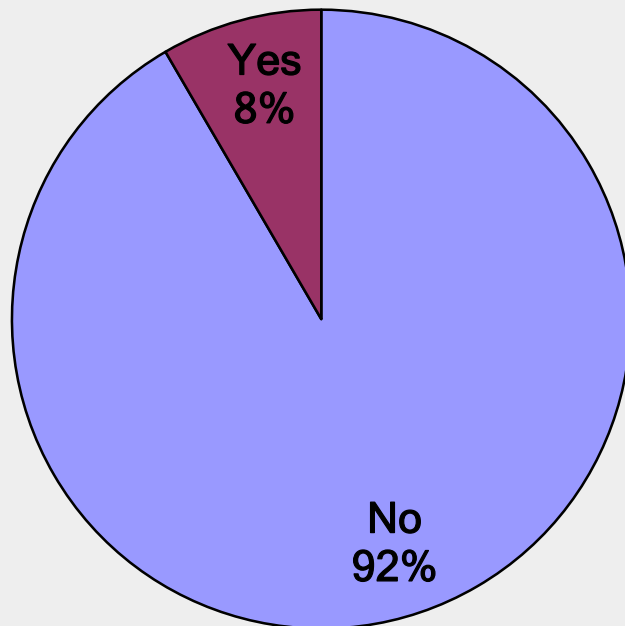
- ▶ More than 200 students completed the survey
- ▶ Four alternative schools participated.
- ▶ 54% male and 43% female
- ▶ 52% identified as white, 39% identified as African American, and 16% identified as Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish.

Participating Schools

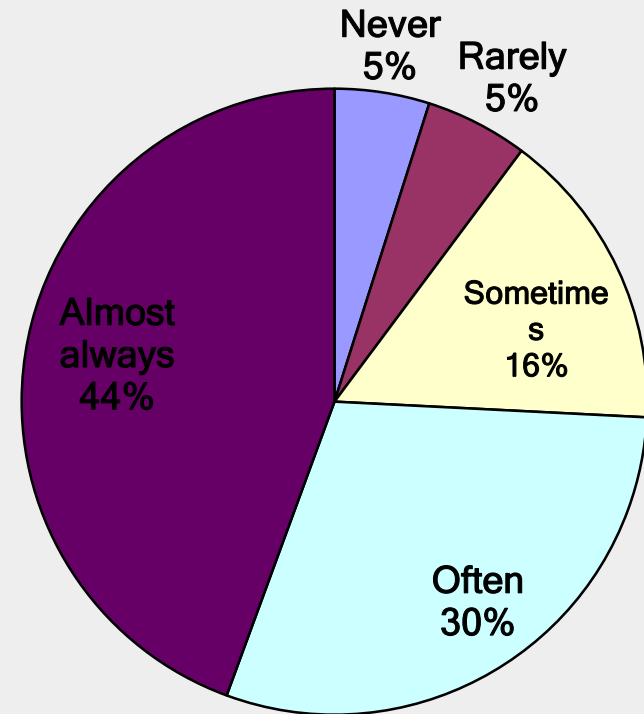


# Students (continued)

**Have you ever belonged to a gang?**

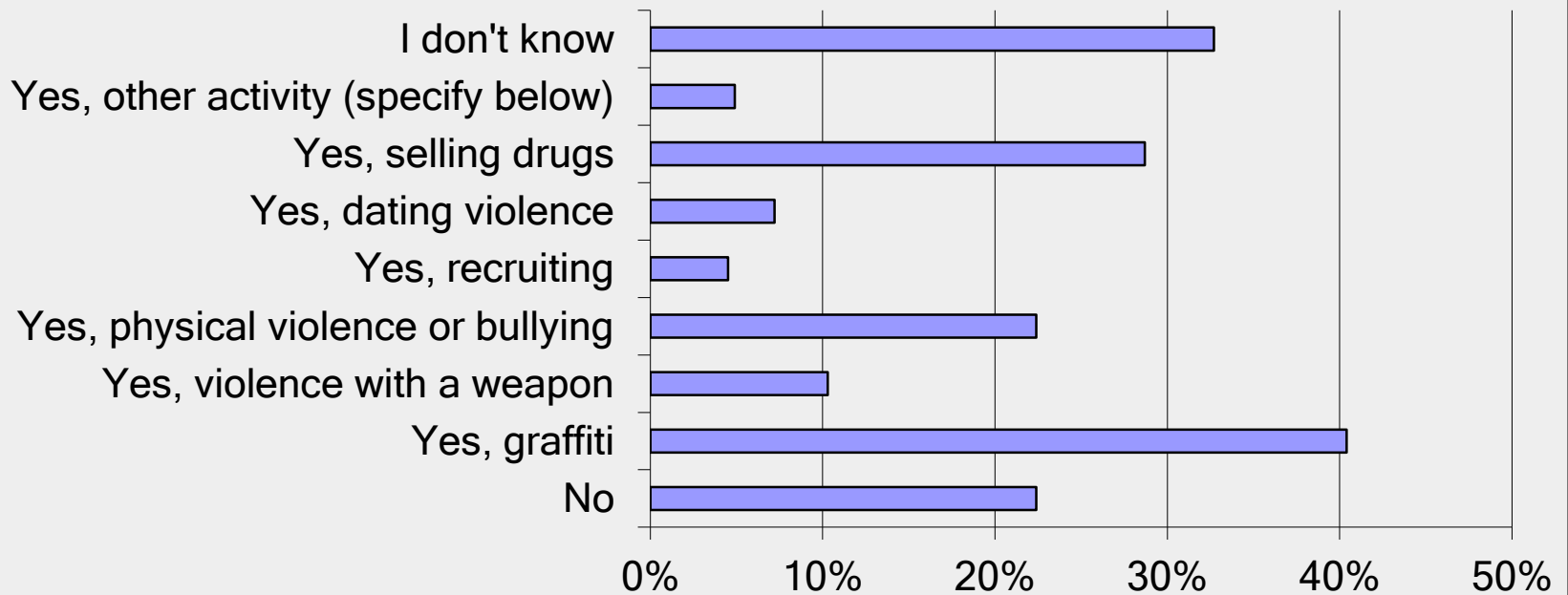


**Do You Feel safe at school?**



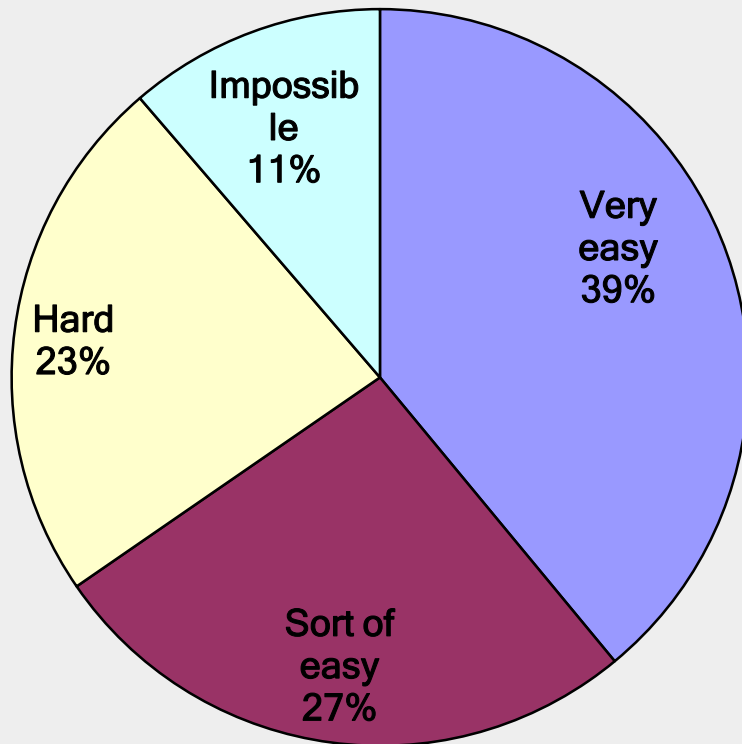
# Students (continued)

**In the last year, has there been gang activity around your school?**

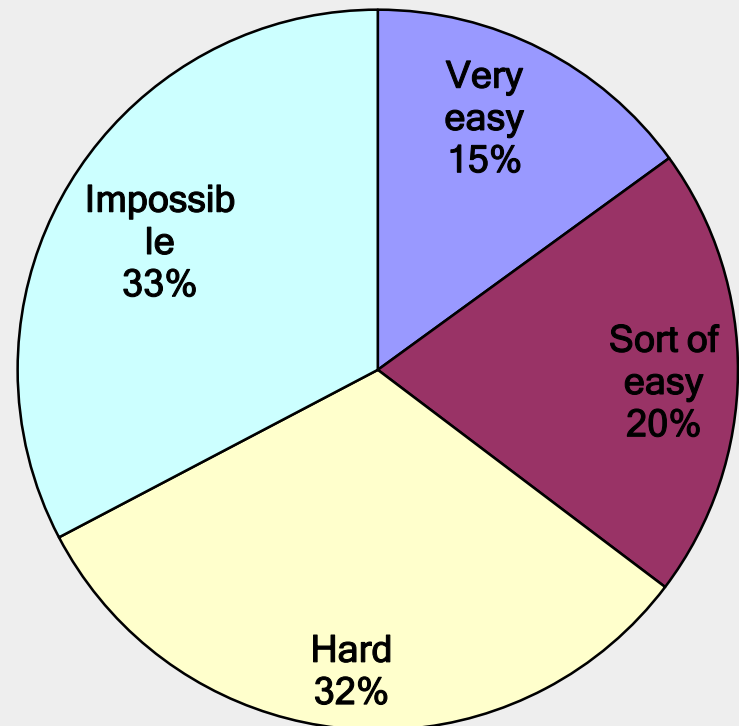


# Students (continued)

How easy is it to get alcohol?



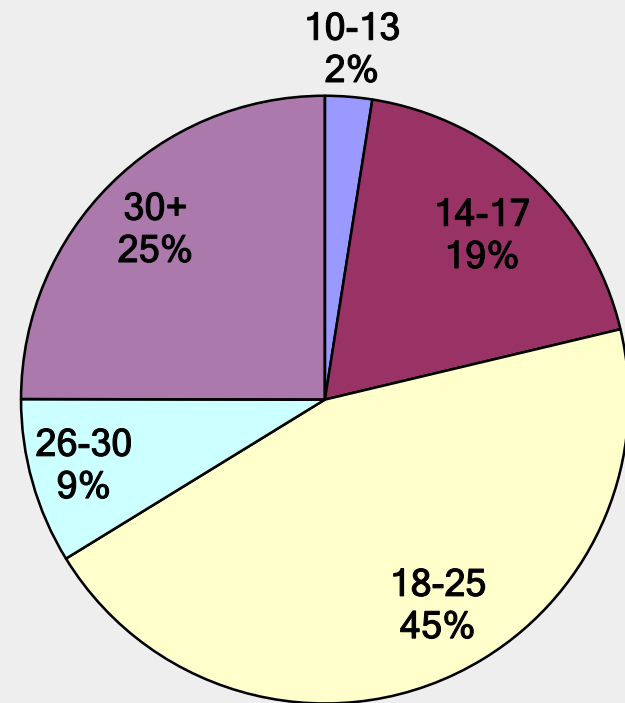
How easy is it to get a handgun?



# Gang-involved Individuals

- ▶ 80 gang-involved individuals were interviewed
- ▶ Most (75%) were living in the community. 25% were in a correctional institution.
- ▶ 58% of the interviewees were African American and 19% were Hispanic
- ▶ Most were male (82%)
- ▶ 45% of interviewees were between the ages of 18 to 25 years. 25% were older than 30 years.

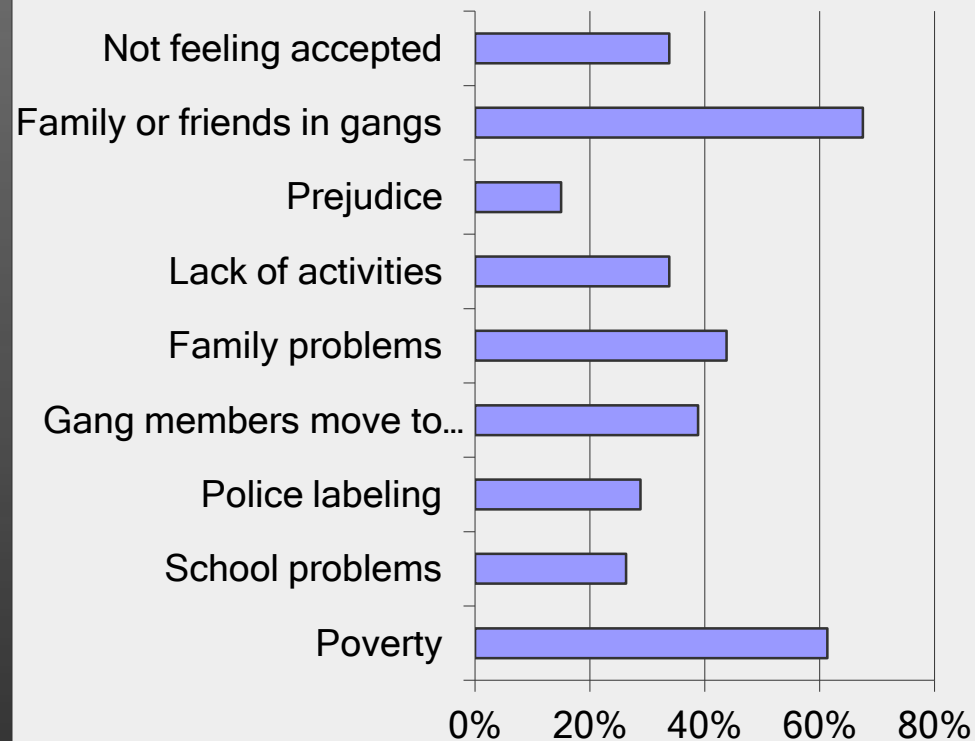
**Age Grouping of Interviewees**



# Gang-involved Individuals (cont'd)

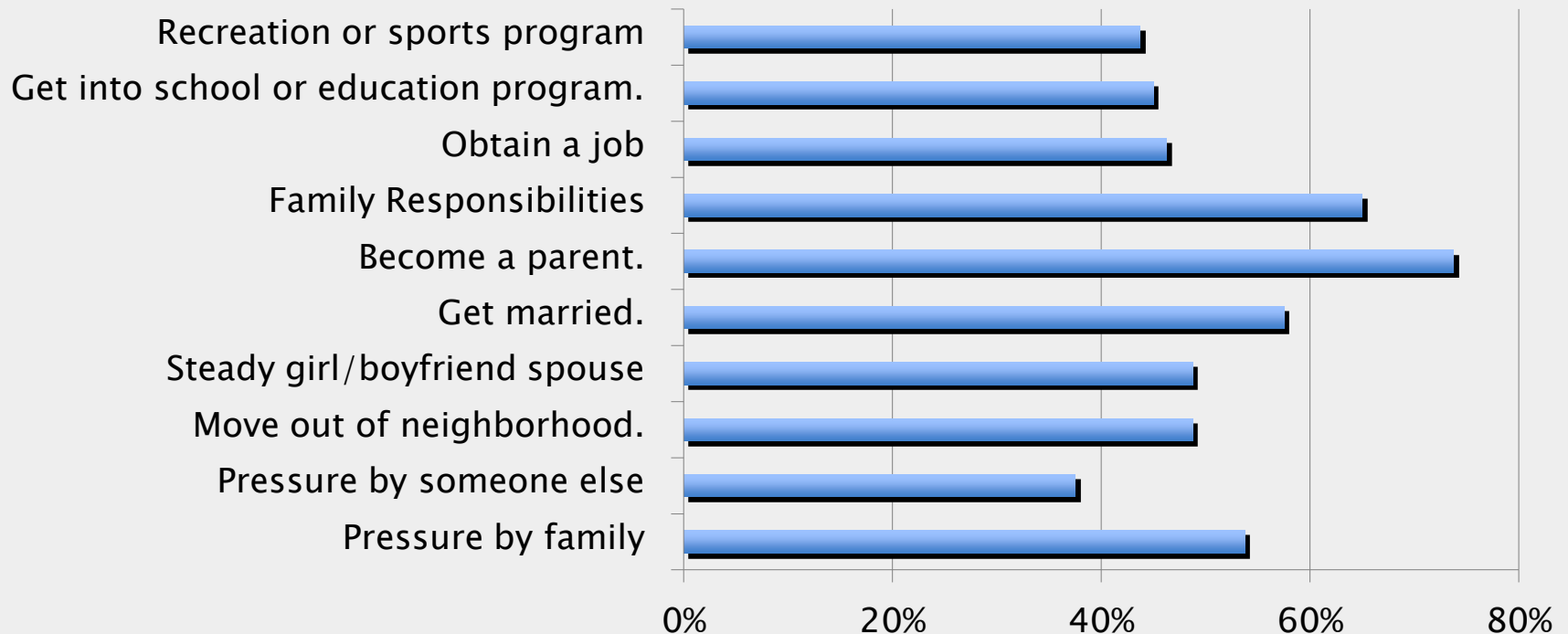
- ▶ Interviewees identified family/friends in gangs, poverty, and family problems as the top causes of gang problems.
- ▶ About half (48%) of interviewees agreed that “being in a gang is a good way to make money.”
- ▶ Two-thirds of the interviewees (53 of them) said they are not currently employed.
- ▶ 64% said there are areas in their community where they feel targeted or in danger when walking.

## Top three causes of gang problems.



# Gang-involved Individuals (cont'd)

## Reasons to Leave a Gang

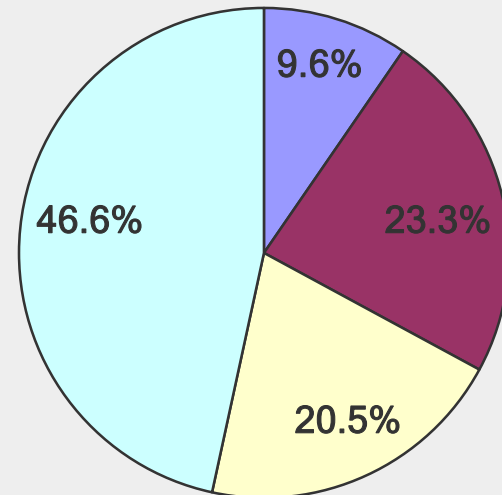




# Gang-involved Individuals (cont'd)

- ▶ When asked what would make their community more positive, interviewees said:
  - Jobs and activities (58%)
  - Mentors & other caring adults (22%)
  - Don't know (11%)
- ▶ 36% described alcohol use as a “very serious” problem and Gang-to-gang confrontations as a “serious” problem.
- ▶ 68% feel they are not treated fairly by police some or most of the time.

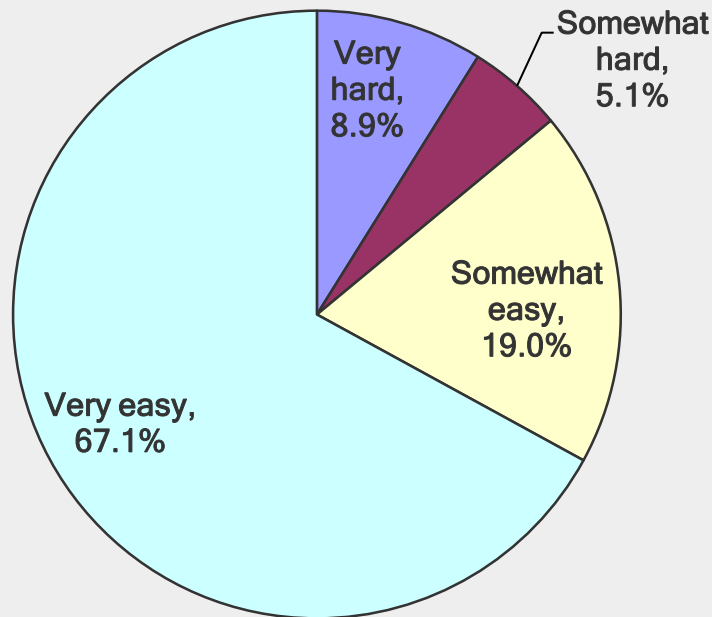
## How do you feel you are treated by police officers?



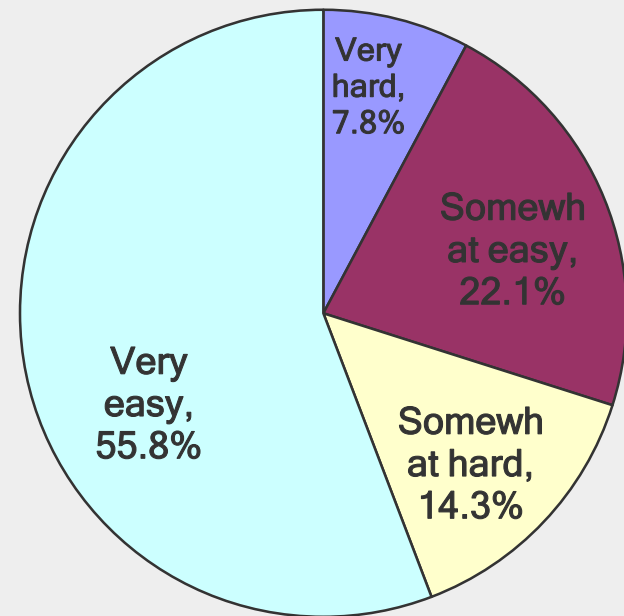
- Treated fairly by the police MOST of the time.
- Treated fairly by the police SOME of the time.
- NOT treated fairly by the police SOME of the time.
- NOT treated fairly by the police MOST of the time.

# Gang-Involved Individuals (cont'd)

How easy would it be to get drugs like cocaine, LSD, crack, etc?



How easy would it be to get a hand gun?




# Gang-Involved Individuals (cont'd)

- ▶ Most interviewees (89%) indicated that a family member has been involved in gangs
- ▶ A total of 48 interviewees (60%) indicated that they have children.
- ▶ 96% said they would not want their own children to be gang members.
- ▶ “I don’t want them to get locked up like I did.”
- ▶ “I would want something better for them.”
- ▶ “It’s not the life I would want my child to live.”
- ▶ “It’s not safe.”
- ▶ “This life is dangerous.”
- ▶ “I want them to live.”
- ▶ “I love them.”
- ▶ “I expect more from them.”
- ▶ “It is a very violent and dangerous situation.”
- ▶ “I don’t want my kids hurt.”

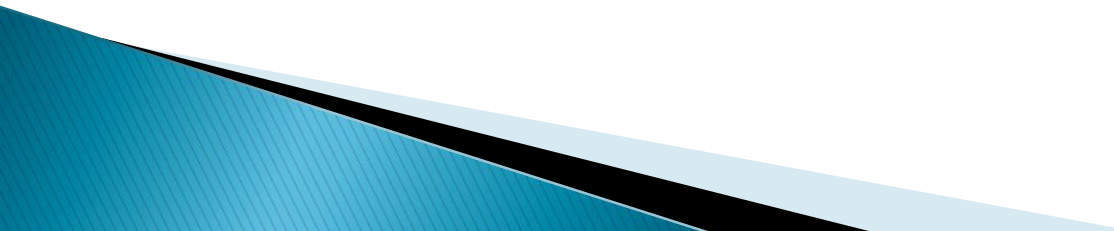
# Focus Groups

- ▶ Nine focus groups were completed with 83 participants.
- ▶ They were held at the following locations:
  - Helensview School
  - OYA (2 group)
  - Latino Network
  - DCJ Adult Probation
  - DCJ Juvenile Detention (2 groups)
  - CRCI
  - Rosewood Initiative
- ▶ What types of violence have you witnessed?
  - Domestic violence
  - Friends and family members who have been shot and killed
  - Robbery and other crimes
  - Physical abuse

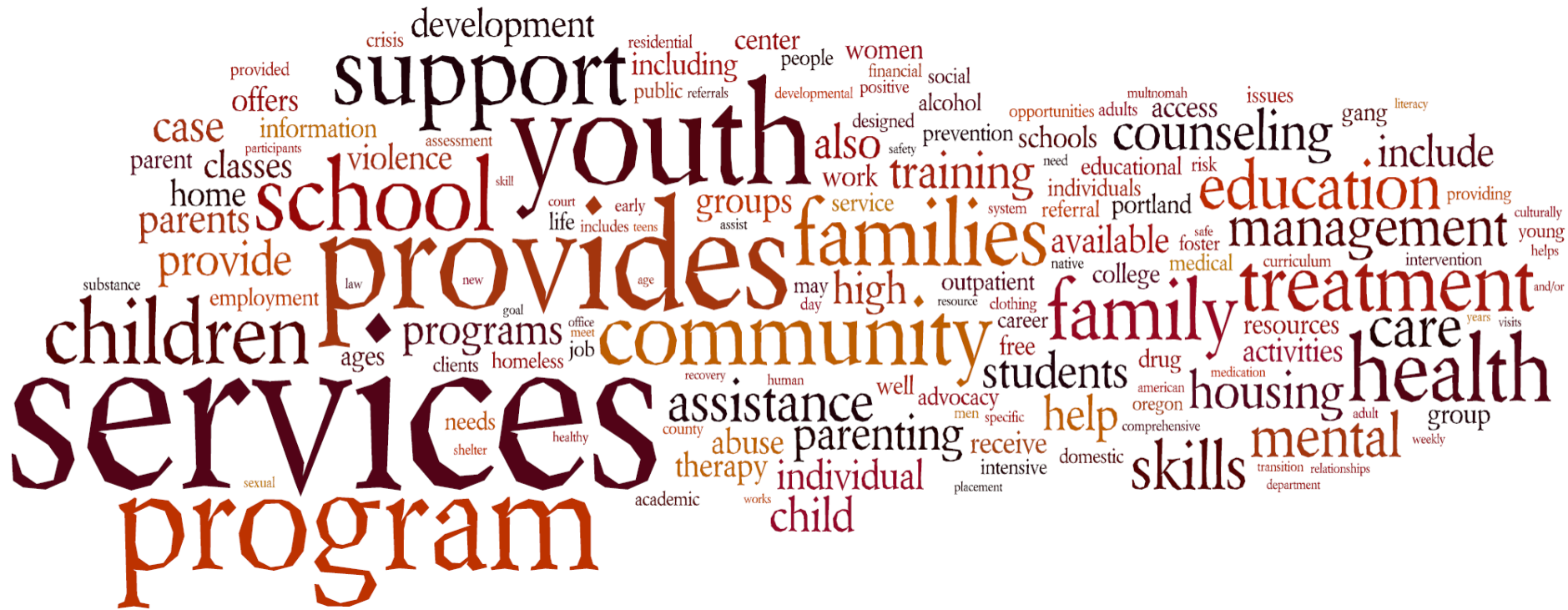
# Focus Groups (continued)

- ▶ Why do you believe there is gang activity?
    - Lack of opportunities, resources, and mentors who “get it”
    - Lack of hope
    - Barriers in neighborhoods
    - Lack of employment and housing
    - Systems not meeting needs
    - Instability in family structure
    - Poverty allows for increased criminality
    - Pressure from other gang members
    - Lack of awareness and education about life-changing policies (Measure 11)
- 

# Focus Groups (continued)

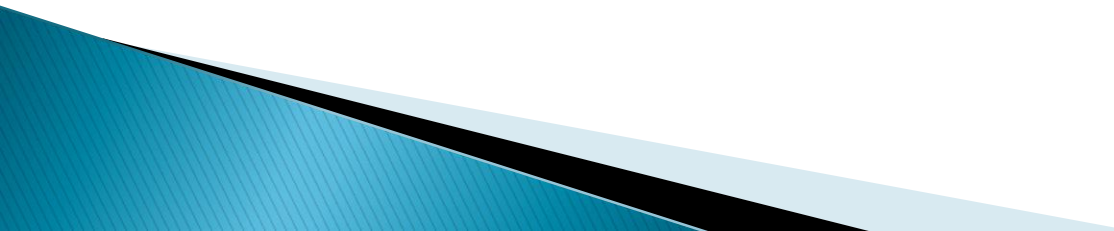
- ▶ What should be done to reduce gangs?
    - Include people who have been involved in gangs in the development of the solution
    - Enhance family supports
    - Increase connection at school by providing more personal attention
    - Increase mentorship programs to include more mentors who have lived experience with gangs
    - Increased employment opportunities
- 

# Community Resources



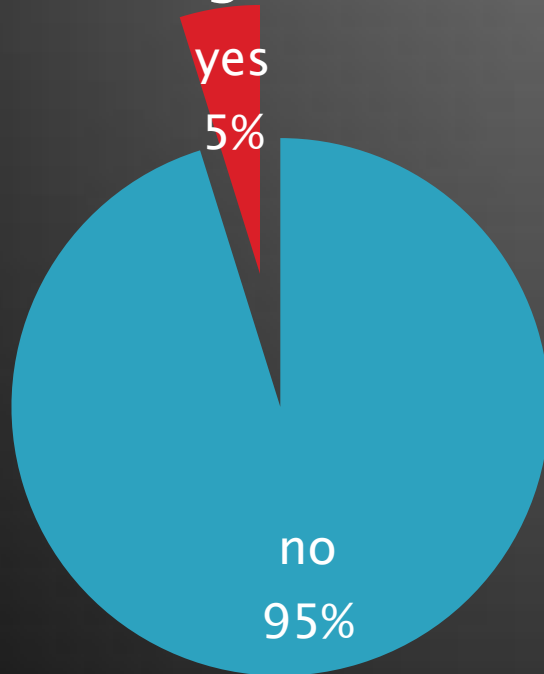


# Community Resources

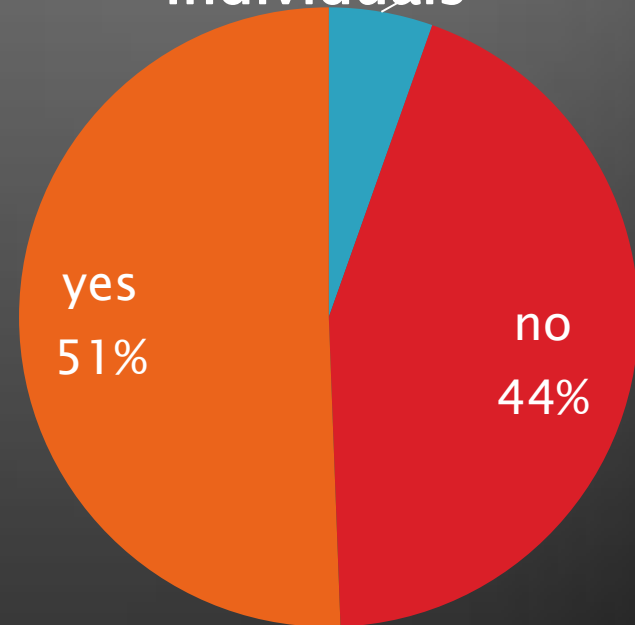
- ▶ Using a variety of sources, we identified 469 programs in the Multnomah County area that provide services to youth and family
  - ▶ 151 different nonprofit or governmental organizations
  - ▶ Of those surveyed, 260 (55%) responded with detailed information about their services
- 

# Community Resources (cont'd)

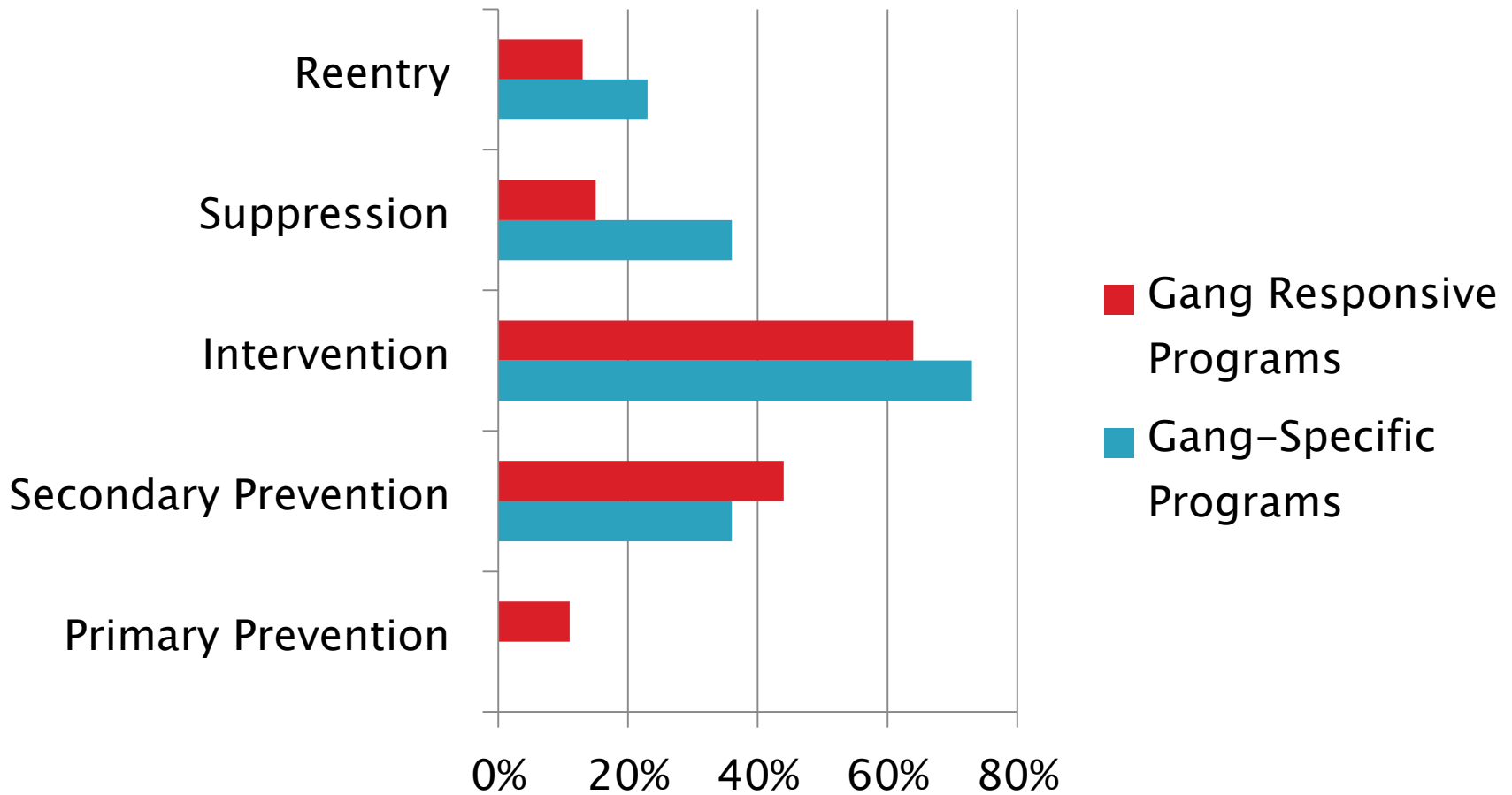
Gang-Specific  
Programs



Experienced Serving <sup>Some</sup>  
Gang-Involved  
Individuals

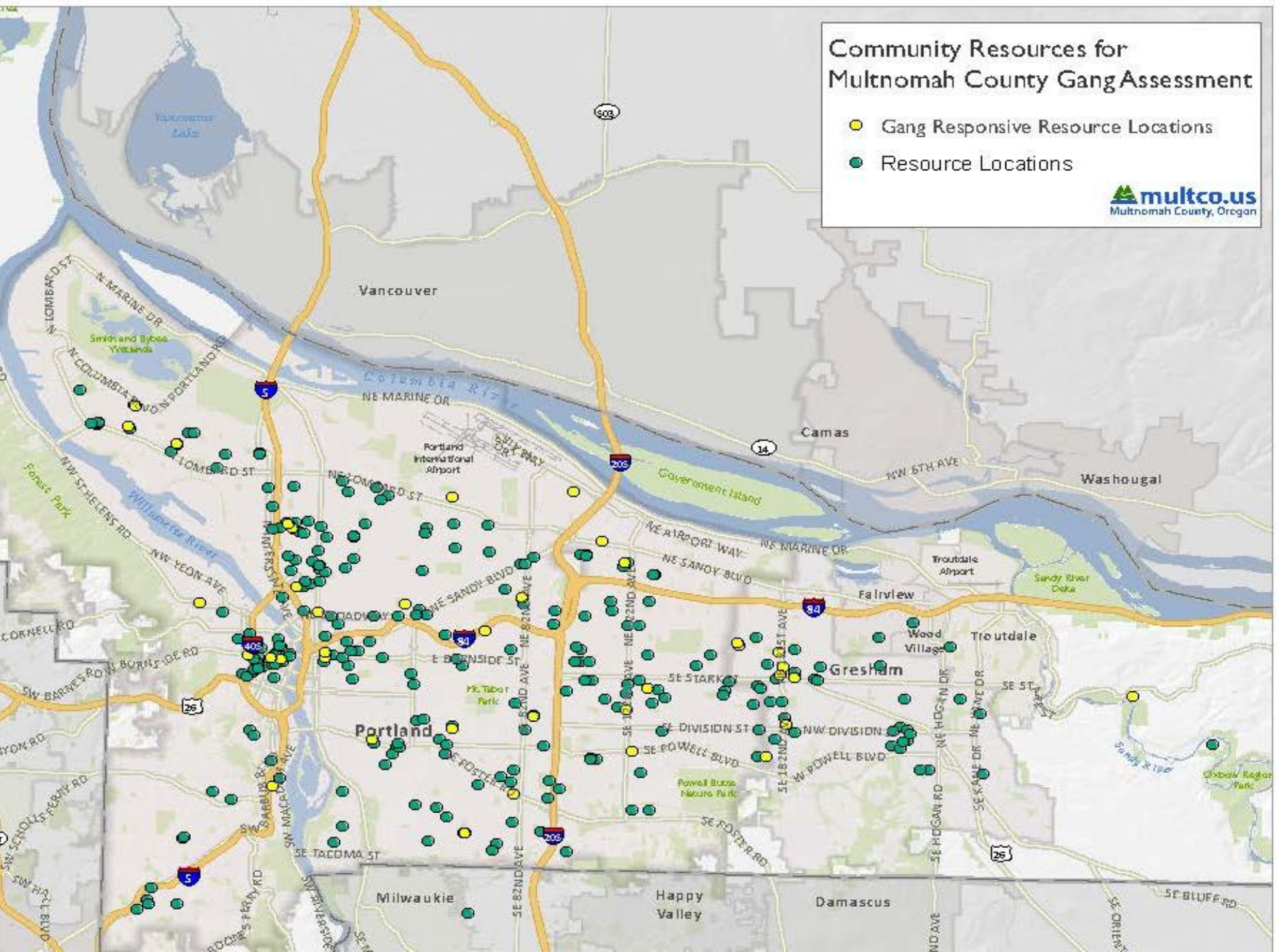


# Community Resources (cont'd)



## Community Resources for Multnomah County Gang Assessment

- Gang Responsive Resource Locations
- Resource Locations





# Next Steps

- ▶ Conduct Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Gang Model: Implementation Planning
  - Bring together a participative planning process
  - Continue with the public health perspective
  - Ensure a collaborative and inclusive process

*“Make sure our voices are heard”*

*“We need sustained commitment to engage the voices of individuals & families who have been affected by gangs and gang activity”*