

**Mental Health Task Force
Independence First
December 11, 2018**



**YOUTH JUSTICE
MILWAUKEE**

Our Community Our Youth





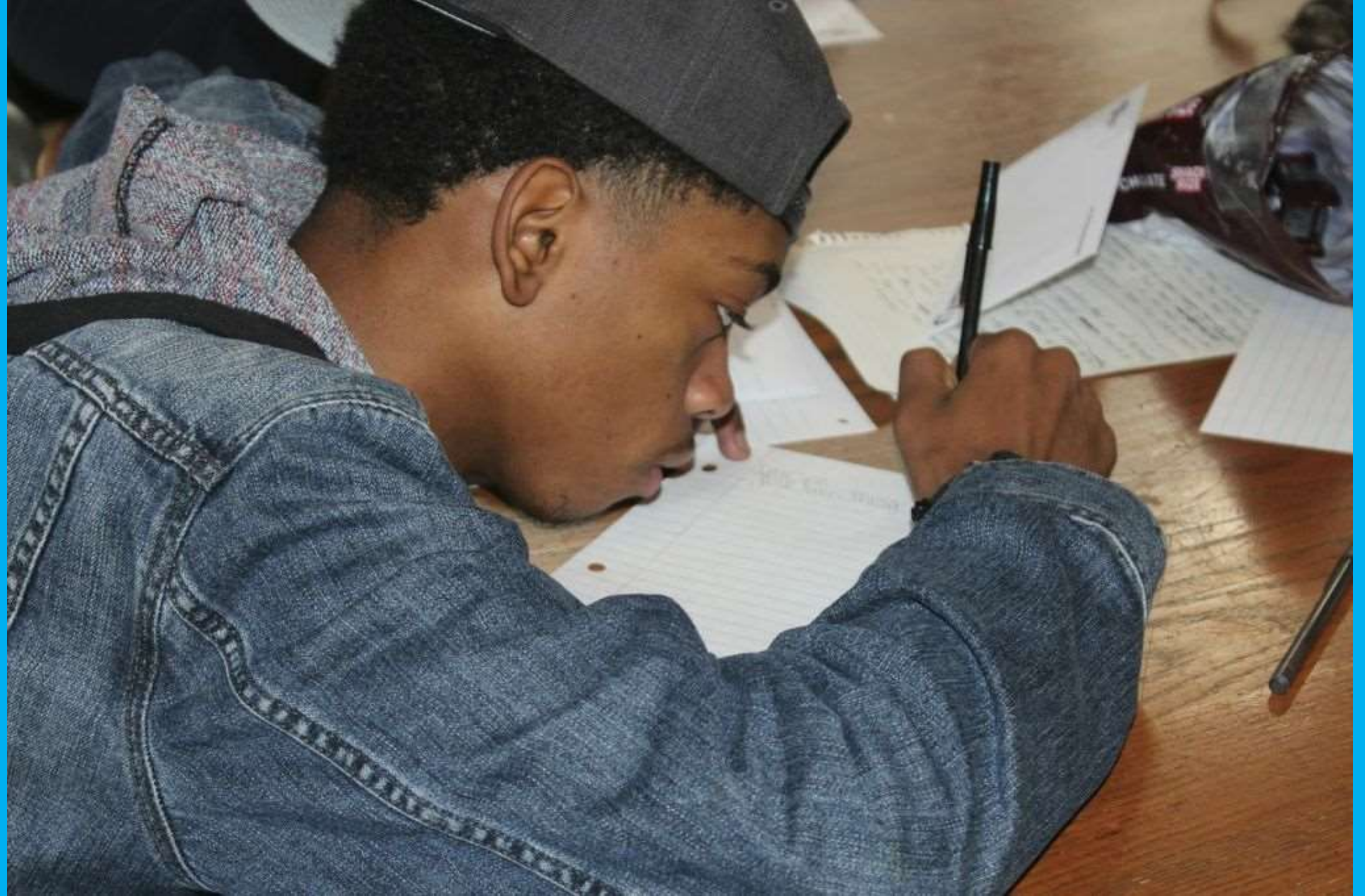














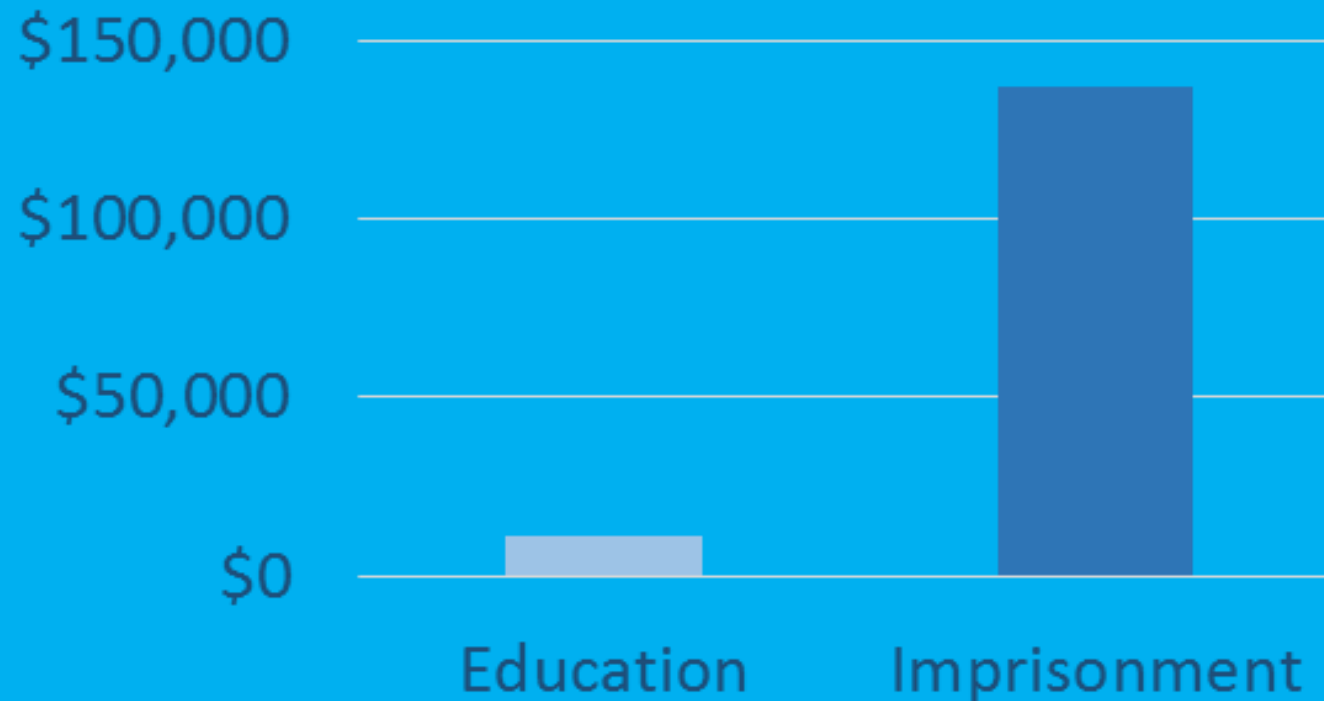
Wisconsin's juvenile justice system costs a total of \$162,800,000 each year.

In 2013, the annual cost to incarcerate one youth at Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake surpassed \$100,000.

The Problems with Prisons

EXPENSIVE

Cost Per Youth Per Year



The Problems with Prisons

INEFFECTIVE



73.4%

3 year re-conviction rate



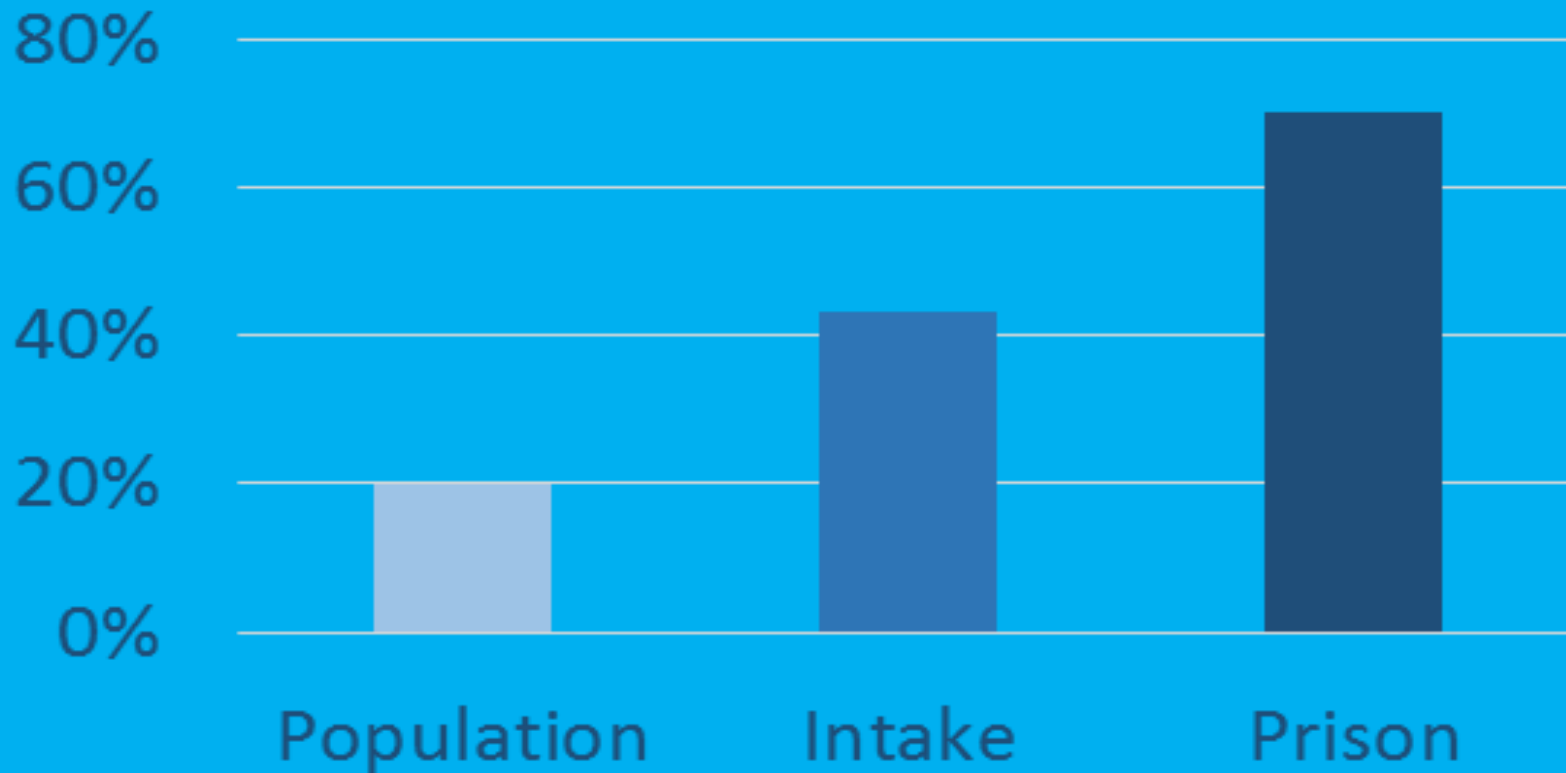
33%

probability of re-arrest for every year a youth remains in custody

The Problems with Prisons

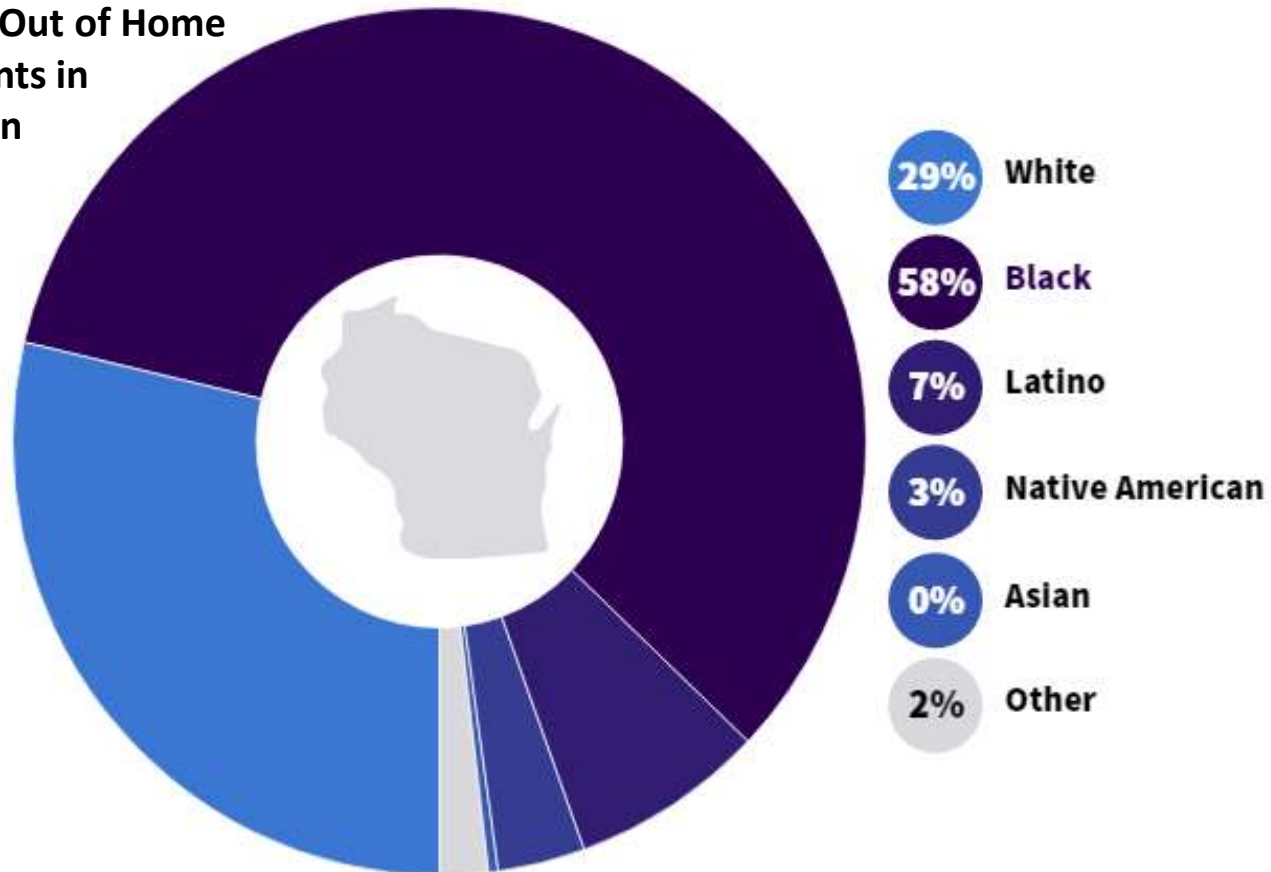
INEQUITABLE

Black Youth

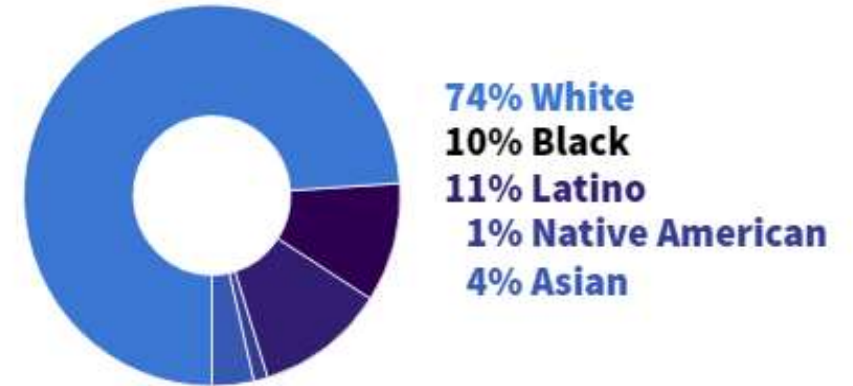


Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Wisconsin Juvenile Justice System

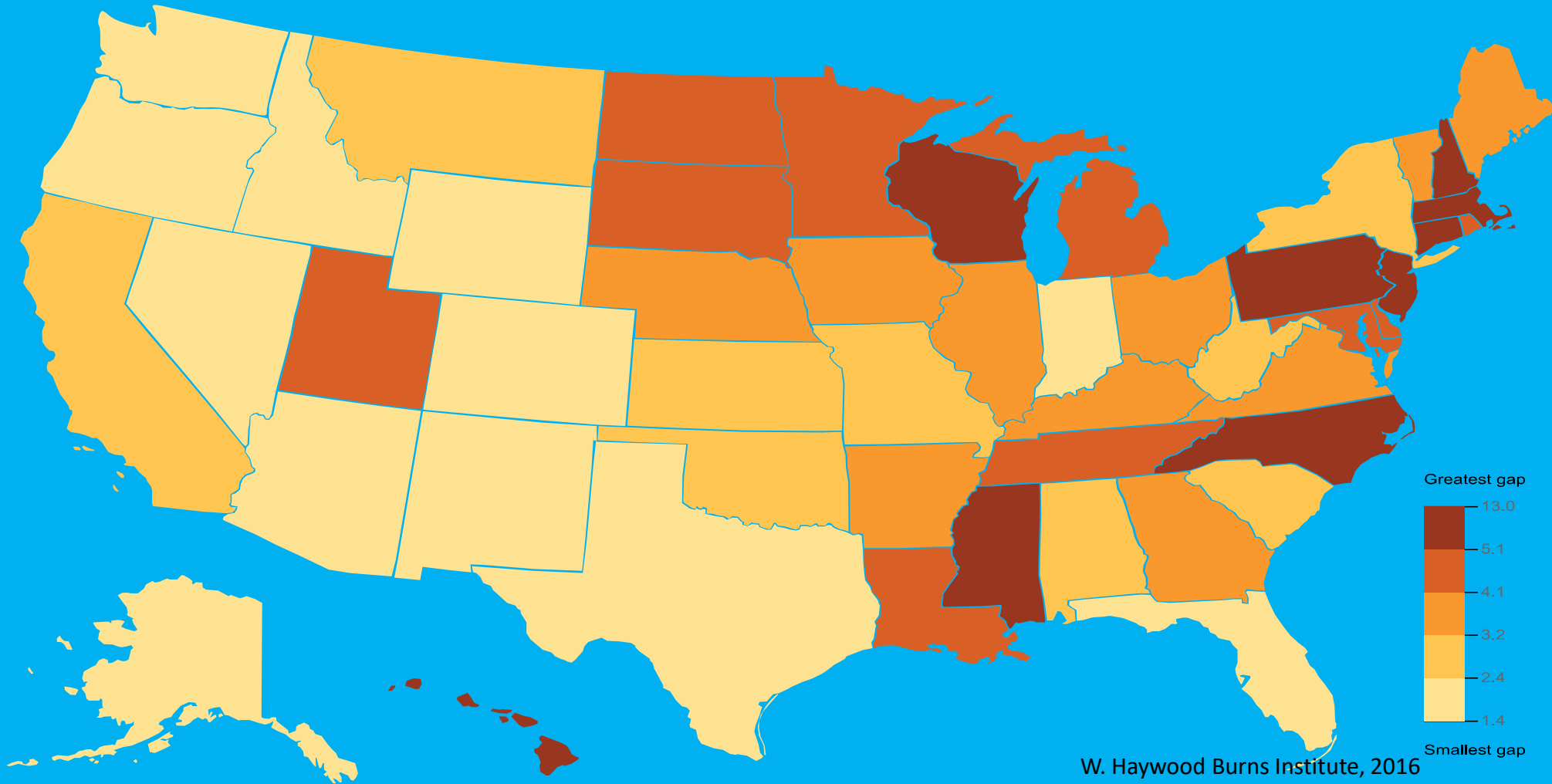
Youth in Out of Home Placements in Wisconsin



Compared to Wisconsin Youth Population



Racial Disparities in Youth Imprisonment



Core Components of a Continuum of Care



Wisconsin Act 185 (Assembly Bill 953)

- In March 2018, the Wisconsin legislature passed Act 185 to close Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake youth prisons by January 1, 2021 and convert the facilities into an adult prison
- The bill was signed into law by Governor Scott Walker and enacted in April 2018.
- The legislation also restructures the state's juvenile correctional facilities and youth justice system.

Wisconsin Act 185 (Assembly Bill 953)

- It creates new Type 1 facilities, like Lincoln Hills, where young people who are deemed “serious juvenile offenders” will be sent.
- In addition to the Type 1 facilities, the Act gives counties the ability to create new facilities overseen by the State Department of Corrections, called Secure Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth (SRCCCY).
- The law also created a Study Committee that must set forth rules for these secure care facilities by September 2018.

Wisconsin Act 185 (Assembly Bill 953)

- The Study Committee is made up of elected officials, with very few members of the most impacted communities or young people.
- The Study Committee began meeting in late July 2018. During August 2018, overseen by the Department of Corrections, the Study Committee ranked recommendations for the secure care facilities by importance to the committee members. Many essential pieces like transparency and guaranteeing access to family members were ranked at the bottom of the list.

Wisconsin Act 185 (Assembly Bill 953)

- Operations for programs in these secure facilities can be partially funded through Youth Aids funds, money that is normally used to create in-community programs for at-risk young people and invested in counseling programs or credible messenger leaders.
- The Act also made a Grant Committee that counties must submit applications for funding to construct new facilities by March 31, 2019.











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