

Improving outcomes for Washington students

Senator Steve Litzow

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Steve Litzow

- Parent of four children
- State Senator from the 41st District
- Chair of the Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee
- Serves on the board of Thrive by Five

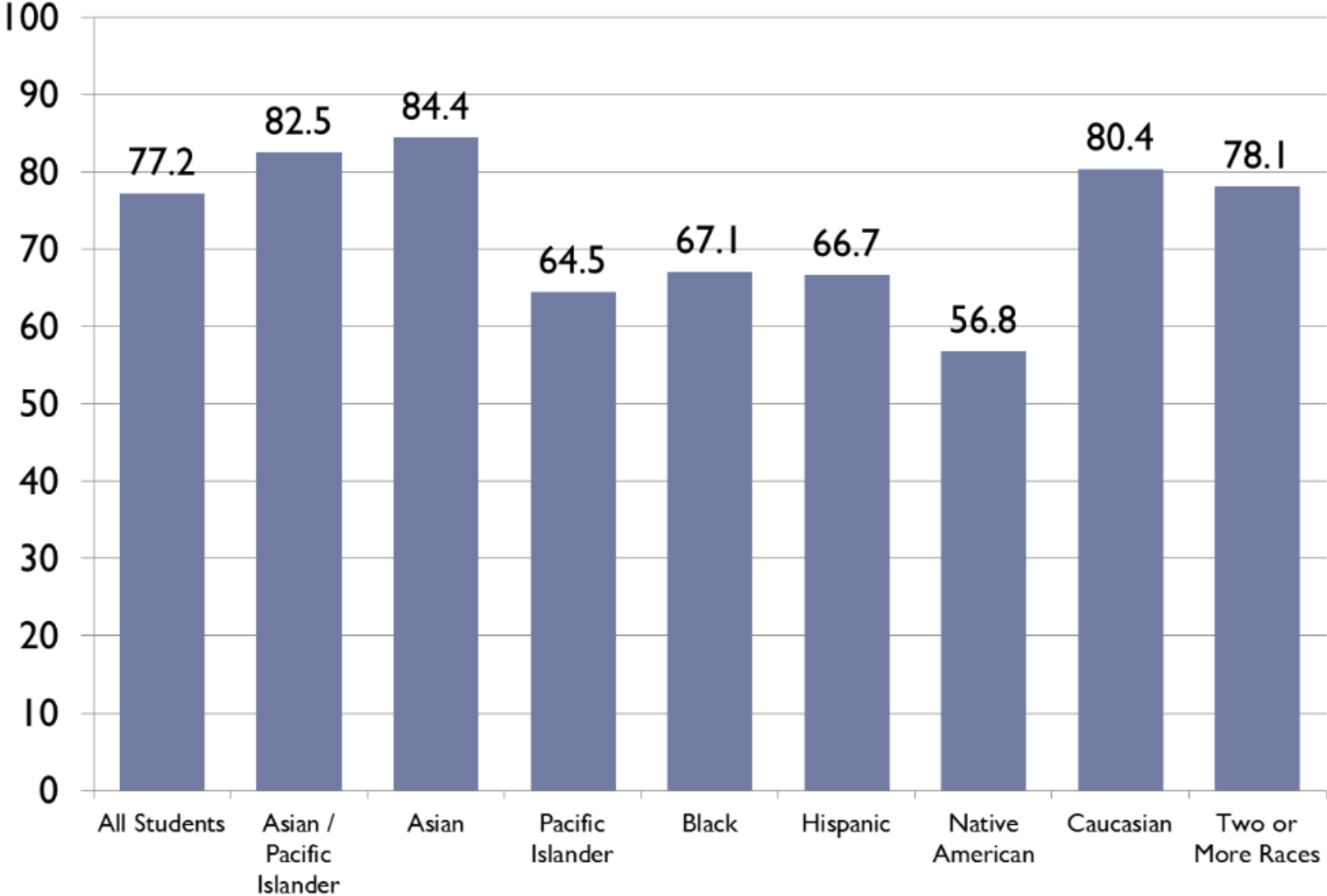


What we're facing

- Marketplace – today and in the future – demands a highly-skilled work force.
 - By 2018, 67% of jobs in Washington state will require some postsecondary education (CTE, technical, community college, 4 yr.)
- Current system is working for many, but not **ALL** children.
 - Washington is completely failing **1 of 4** children.
 - 77% high school graduation rate.
 - *Predominantly low-income and minority children*
 - One of few states where opportunity gap is growing.

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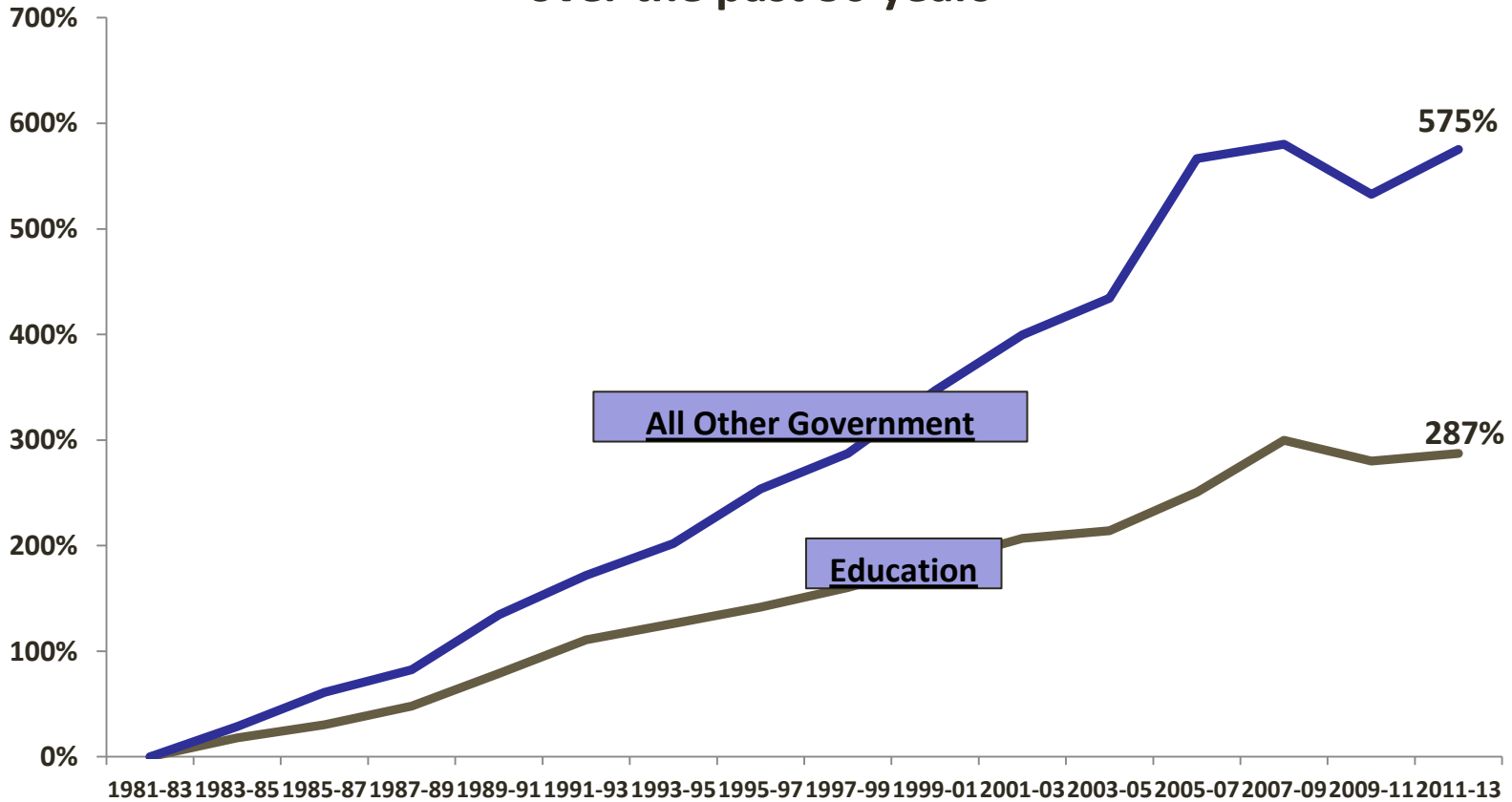
4-year HS graduation rate by race



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How funding issue came to be:

Non-education spending dominated budget growth over the past 30 years



Funds: NGFS + Opp. Pathways + Hosp. Assessment -- 1981-83 to 2011-13; Education = K-12, Higher Ed, & Dept. Early Learning

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2013 – Committed to improving outcomes for ALL students

- \$1 billion additional funding for basic education
- Additional funding targeted opportunity gap:
 - Class size reductions
 - All day Kindergarten
 - Learning Assistance Program
 - Early Learning
 - Higher education – tuition rates and College Bound scholarship

2014 Priorities

- Maintaining federal waiver
- Improving Teacher/Principal Evaluation Program
- Providing quality early learning services
- Ensuring students are prepared for college and career
- Moving students into advanced courses

All funding and policy proposals directly target improved high school graduation rate, closing opportunity gap.

Questions?

Thank you for joining us!

Additional questions?

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