

Grantmaking Areas of Emphasis

July 2023



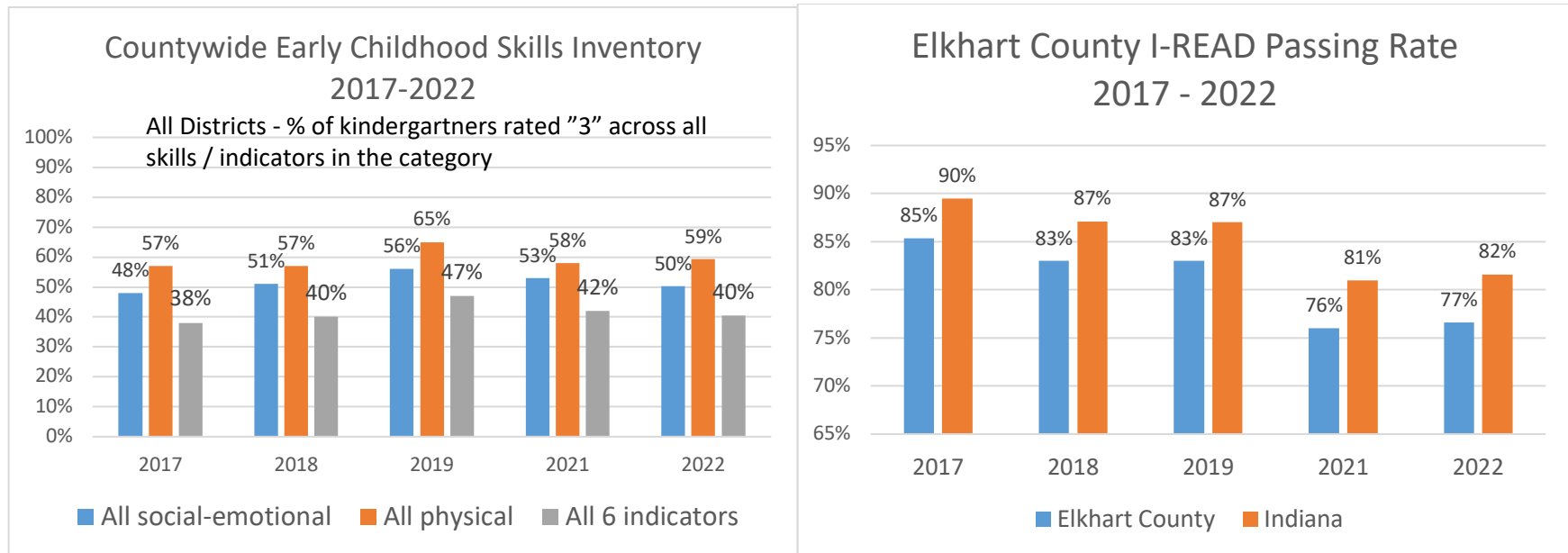
Population Level Indicators

The Community Foundation has selected several areas to focus our grantmaking and leadership. Population level indicators serve as directional guide for the work. The Results Based Accountability framework used by the Community Foundation makes an important distinction between population and performance accountability. In population accountability, the entire community, including the public and private sectors shares responsibility for achieving the desired community conditions. Performance accountability, by comparison, is held at a program, agency or service level and determines whether the clients or customers of the program or service are better off. This distinction ensures that appropriate responsibility is attached to programs and services and avoids the expectation that one single program can produce large population level results.

Kids and Families

FOCUS: Early Childhood Development and Education

Kindergarten readiness assessments scores provide a proxy of readiness at the beginning of kindergarten. The assessment was developed by Elkhart County kindergarten teachers and researchers.



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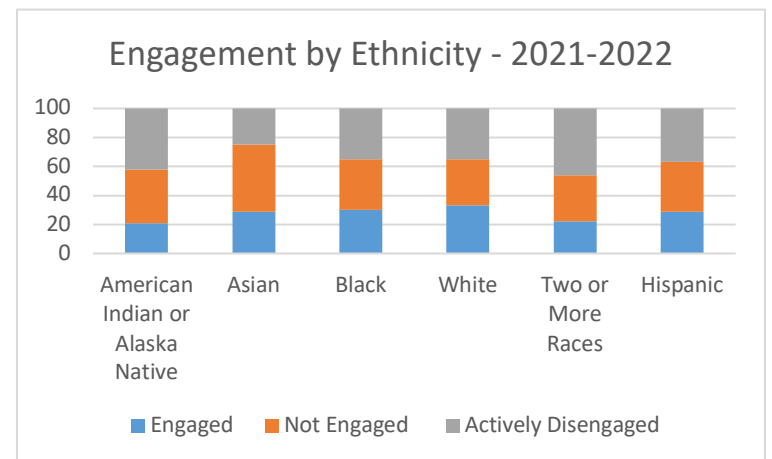
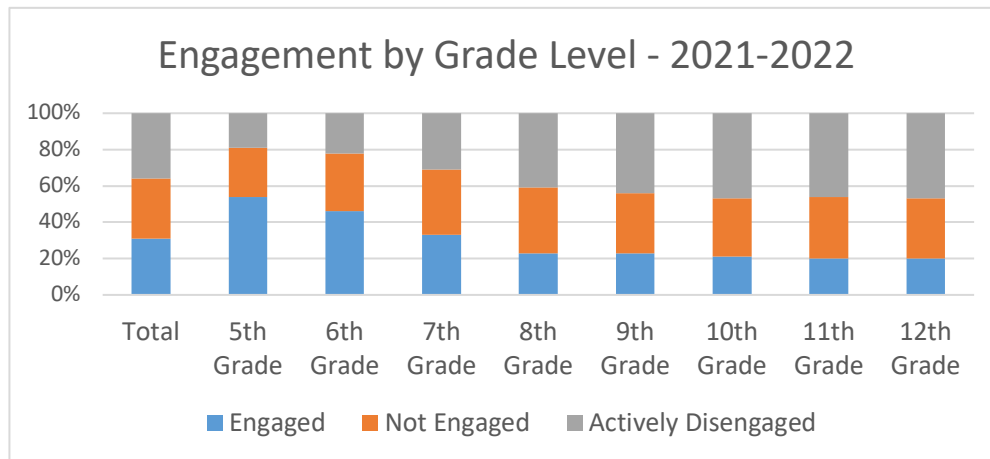
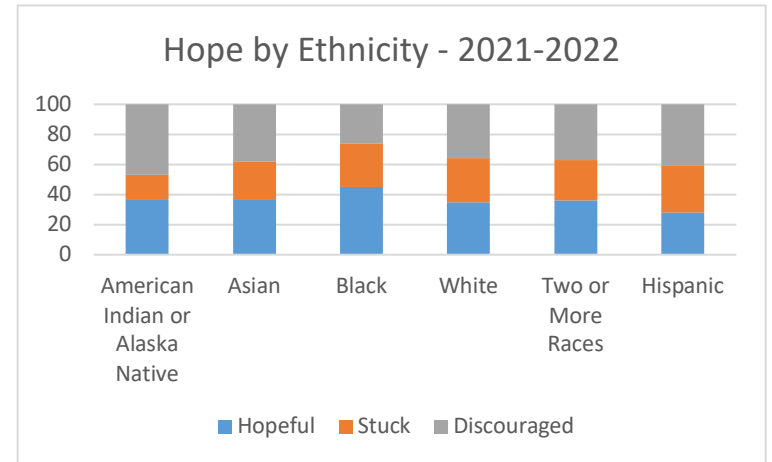
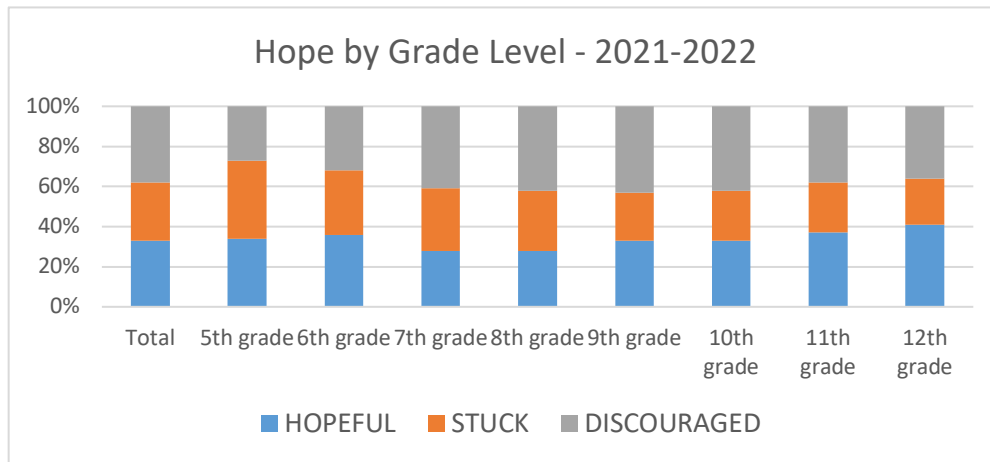
Career Pathways

FOCUS: Career Awareness, Exploration & Employability Skills; Internships & Apprenticeships (Grades 4- 12)

Hope and Engagement: Annual surveys of local school students track the ideas and energy students have for the future (hope) and their involvement in and enthusiasm for school (engagement).

2021-2022 Elkhart County Gallup Student Poll Results

Responses included students from six out of the seven Elkhart County public school districts.

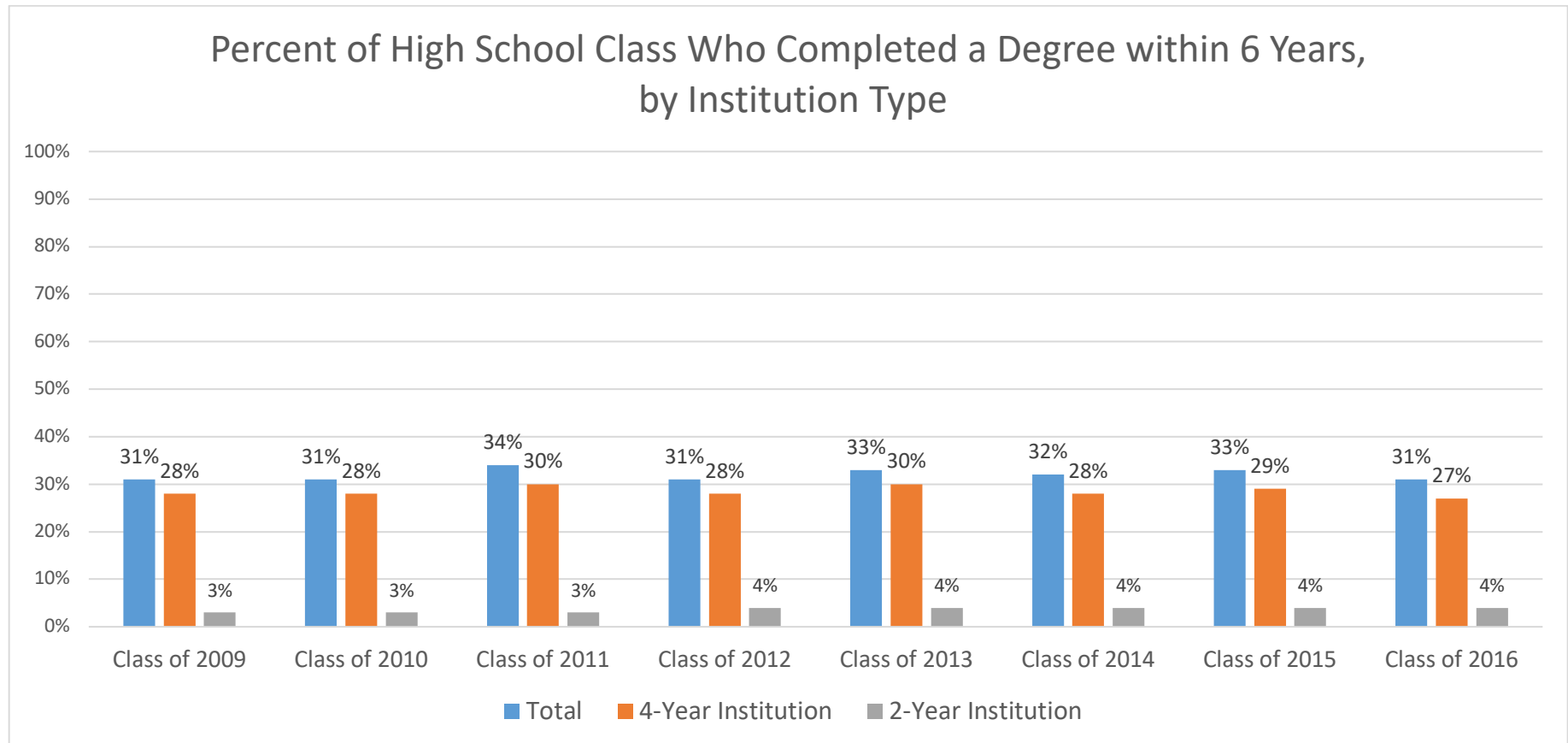


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Statistics show that postsecondary education has a significant impact on lifetime earnings and the quality of life. “Education beyond high school, and often at least a bachelor’s degree is now considered to be necessary for access to economically viable jobs” (Bailey, Thomas Kienzl, Gregory Marcotte, & David, 2004). Data is not available for certification attainment at this time; degree completion data is the best available population level data at this time.



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Placemaking

FOCUS: Trails, Parks, and Vibrant Downtowns

Building on existing plans for trails in Elkhart County, the Community Foundation is partnering with Elkhart County and its cities, and towns to create a world-class connected network of bike/pedestrian trails for recreation, transportation, and economic development.

