



DROPOUT PREVENTION

Next Steps for Utah

Promises to Keep

- Utah's public education system keeps its constitutional promises by:
 - Ensuring literacy and numeracy for all Utah children
 - Providing high quality instruction for all Utah children
 - Establishing curriculum with high standards and relevance for all Utah children
 - Requiring effective assessment to inform high quality instruction and accountability

Promises Mean.....

- ❑ Providing education whereby educators make responsible daily decisions that impact a student's educational outcomes positively.
- ❑ Engaging students in instruction that ensures that they want to be at school today, tomorrow and the next day.
- ❑ That we as educators are committed to changes that are necessary to see students through to the next grade and graduation.

Who is a Dropout?

- A single-year dropout is a student who:
 - Was enrolled in school at some time during a school year; and
 - Was not enrolled on October 1st of the following school year; and
 - Has not graduated from high school or completed a state/district approved educational program; and

- Does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions:
 - a. Transfer to another public school district, private school, or state or district approved educational program (including correctional or health facility programs),
 - b. Temporary absence due to suspension or school-excused illness, or
 - c. Death.



- A cohort dropout is a student who began the 10th grade and did not graduate from high school with the classmates that he/she started with in the 10th grade.
- Cohort looks at what happens to the student over his or her entire high school career.

Graduation Cohort Data 2009-2010

- 35,166 students were in the 2010 cohort
- Of these, 31,473 graduated, and

- **3,681** youth who should have graduated with the 2009-2010 graduation cohort

DID NOT.

Who are these kids?

They are **OUR** students...

- 62 Asian
- 85 African American or Black
- 121 American Indians
- 2,284 White
- 1,063 Hispanic/Latino
- 66 Pacific Islanders

Of all of the above:

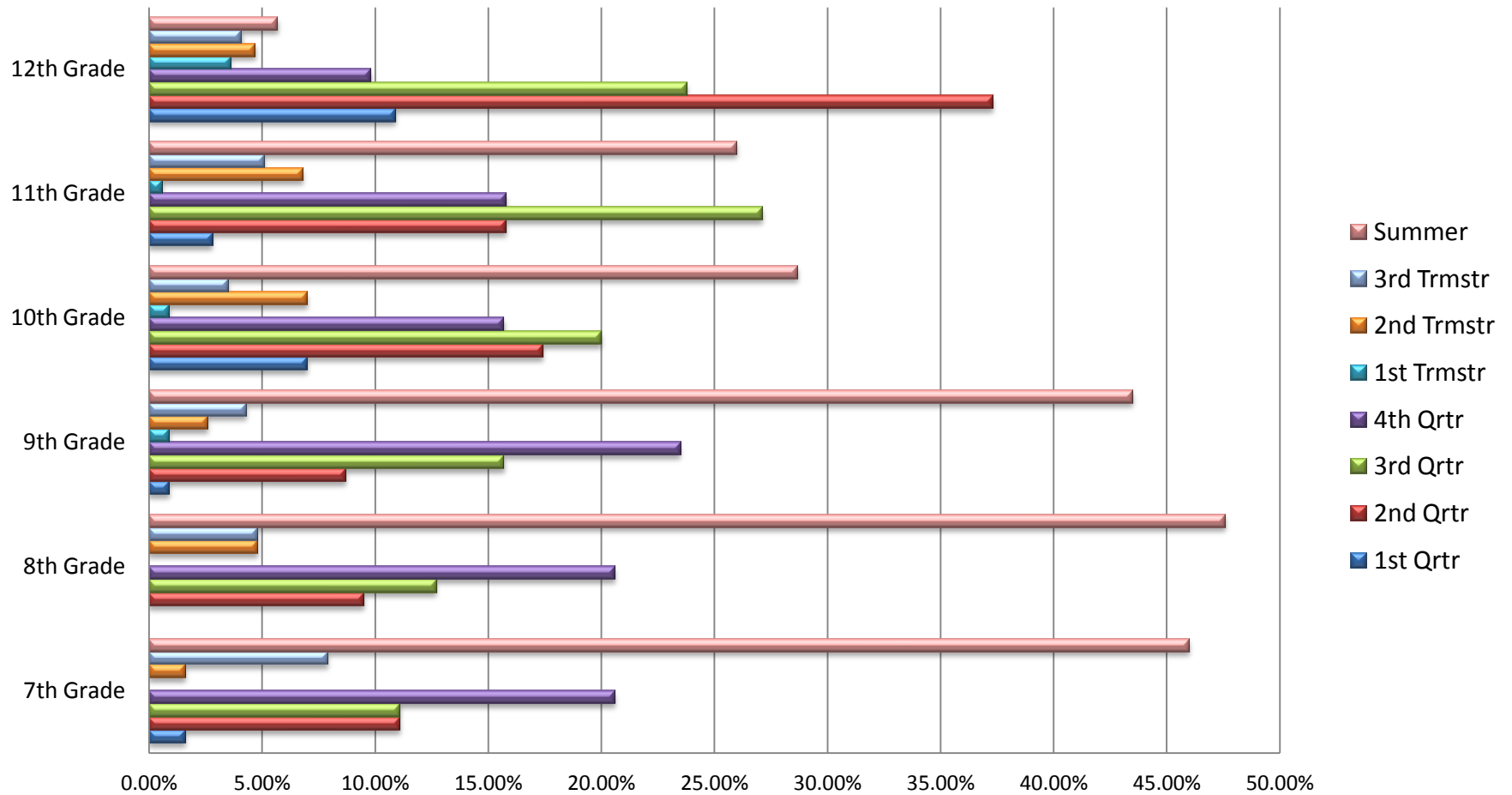
- 627 Limited English Proficient
- 1,616 Economically Disadvantaged
- 393 Students with Disabilities

Dropout Surveys...What We Found

- ❑ 1,331 professionals were surveyed
 - ❑ Of those surveyed, 505 (38%) responded
- ❑ 8,160 dropouts ages 16-77 completed a similar survey

In which grade and part of school year do the majority of students in your school drop out?

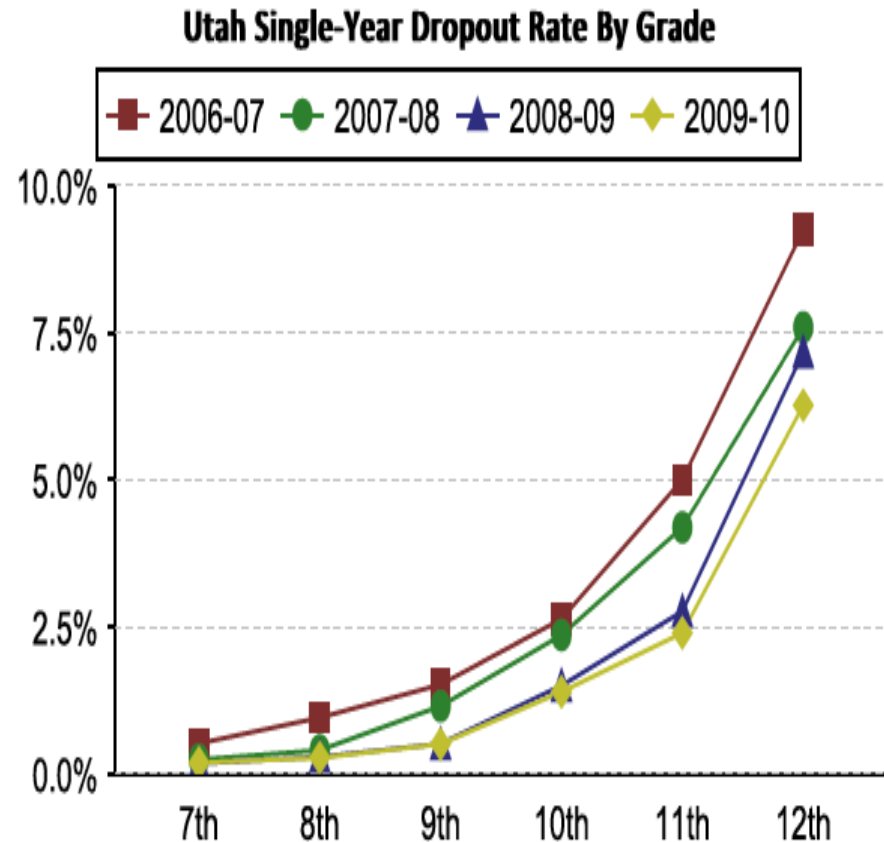
Grade and Part of Year Students Drop Out



Data compiled from a Drop-out Survey conducted 12/2008. Surveyed participants included: middle and senior high school principals—charter and district; middle and senior high school counselors—charter and district; middle and senior high school special education directors—charter and district; youth-in-custody directors.

Utah State Office of Education Data

The single-year dropout rate by grade approximately doubles from each grade from seventh grade through the twelfth grade. For example, 0.19% of all seventh graders dropped out in 2009-10, whereas 6.27% of all twelfth graders dropped out. The majority of seventh through twelfth grade dropouts in any given school year are twelfth graders. In 2009-10, 56% of all dropouts were twelfth graders.

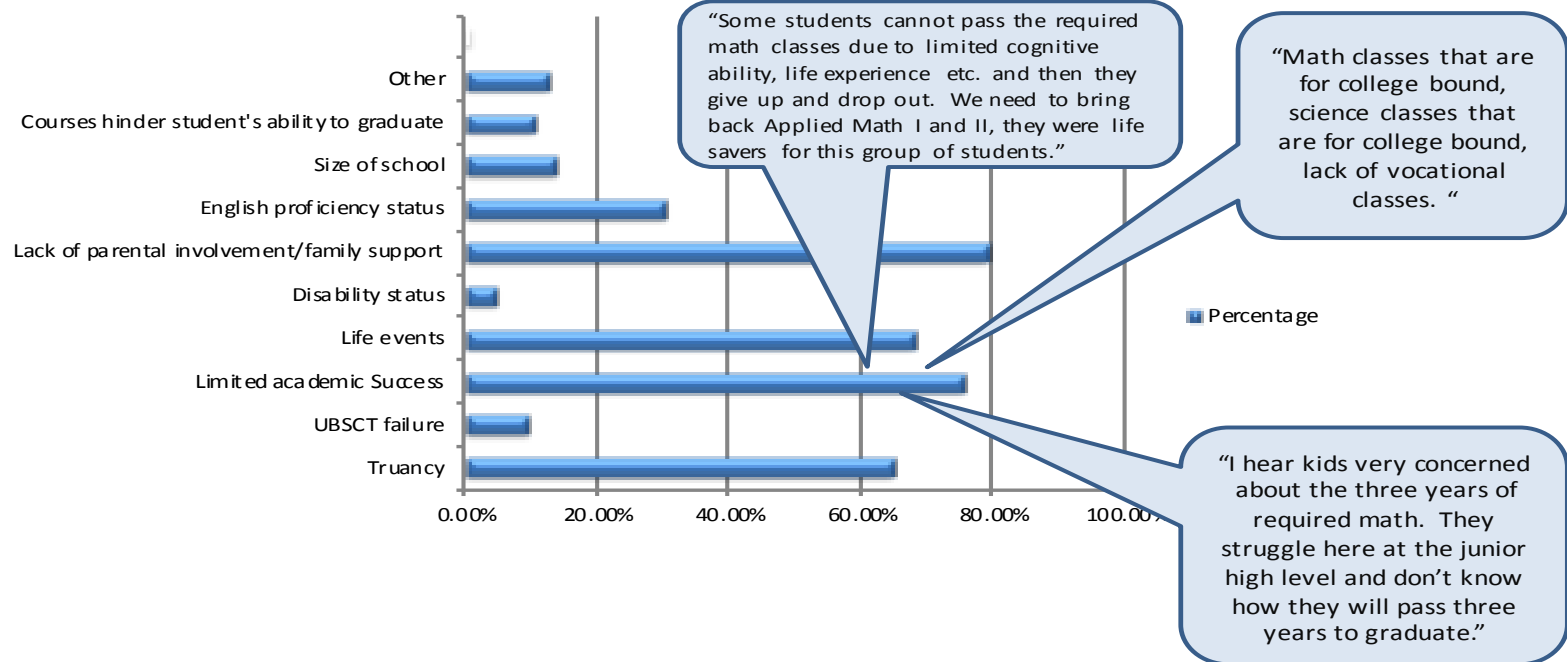


Perceived Reasons for Dropping out

The professionals said:

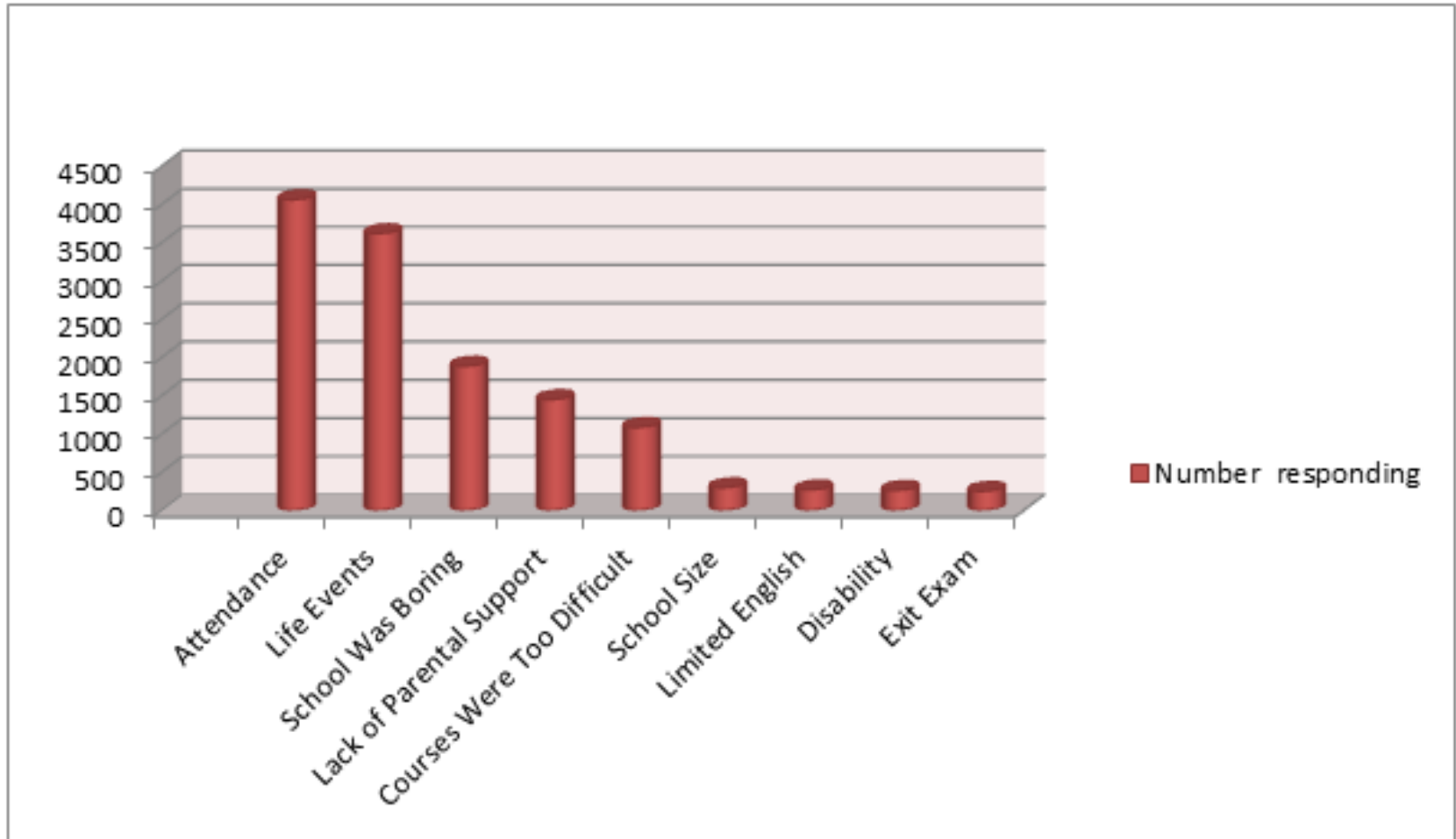
In your opinion, why do most students drop out of school (list all that apply)?

Reasons most students drop out of high school



Data compiled from a Drop-out Survey conducted 12/2008. Surveyed participants included: middle and senior high school principals—charter and district; middle and senior high school counselor—charter and district; middle and senior high school special education directors—charter and district; youth-in-custody directors.

The students said they dropped out because:



Big Challenges Require Powerful Solutions

Where Do We Go From Here?

- ▣ Use evidence-based strategies
- ▣ Tap community-based supports
- ▣ Respond to student needs
- ▣ Work together to prioritize, plan, and act on next steps