

Opportunity Internship Program

The value of work experience

House Education Committee – January 18, 2013

Eleni Papadakis,
Executive Director

**Workforce Training and
Education Coordinating Board**





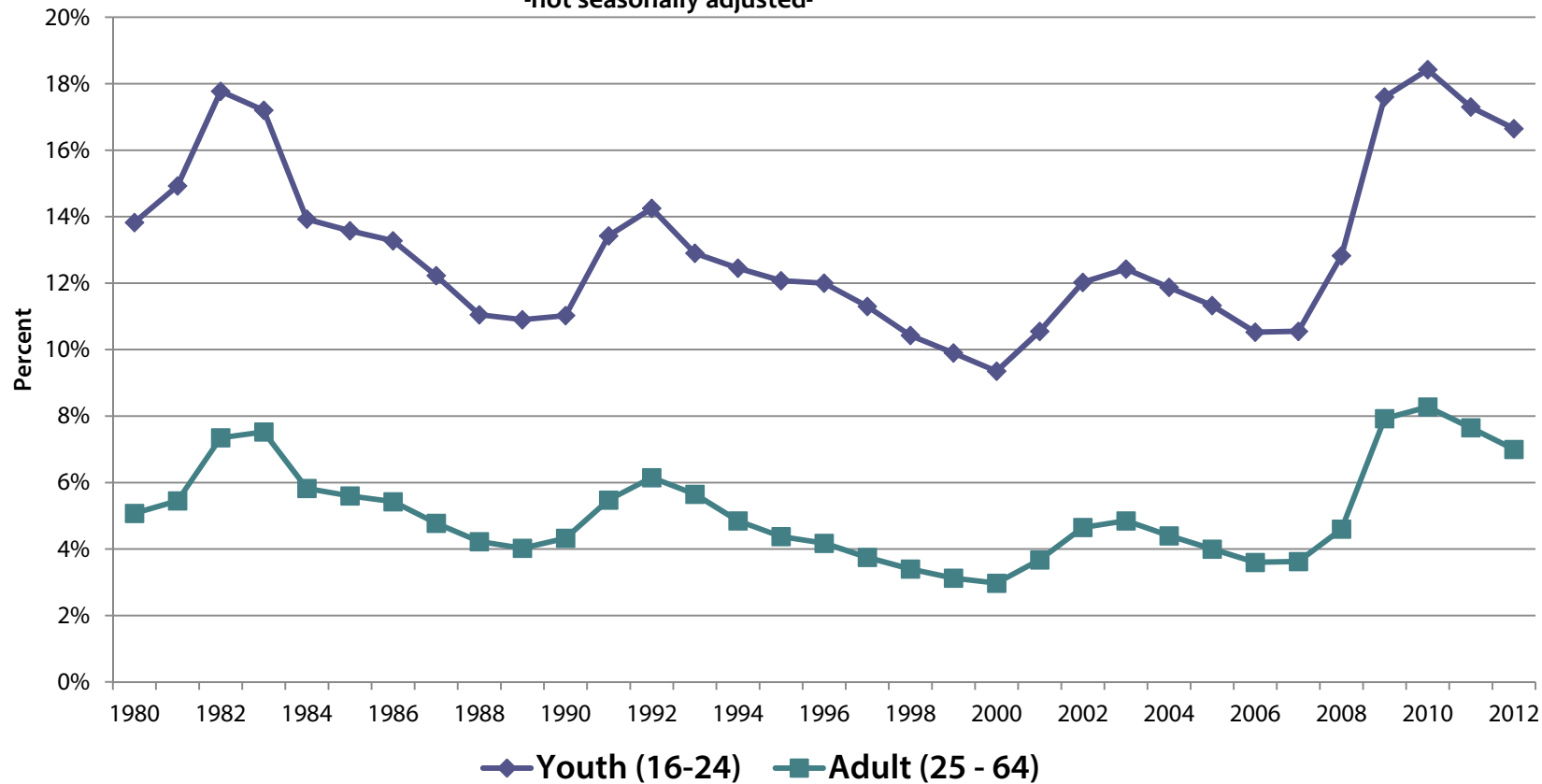
Today's Panel

- **Kurt Miller** - Director; REACH Tacoma
- **Raynette Nikolao** - Employment Advocate; Americorps/REACH
- **Xavier Unda** - Educational Advisor; MDC-Educational Opportunity Center
- **Adam Becker-Hefnor**- Educational Advisor; MDC- Educational Opportunity Center
- **Tim Owens** - Manager; Marshalls
- **Carol Johnson** – Student, Mount Tahoma High School
- **Essence Harris** – Student, Tacoma Community College
- **Tre'Jaun White** – Student, Tacoma Community College

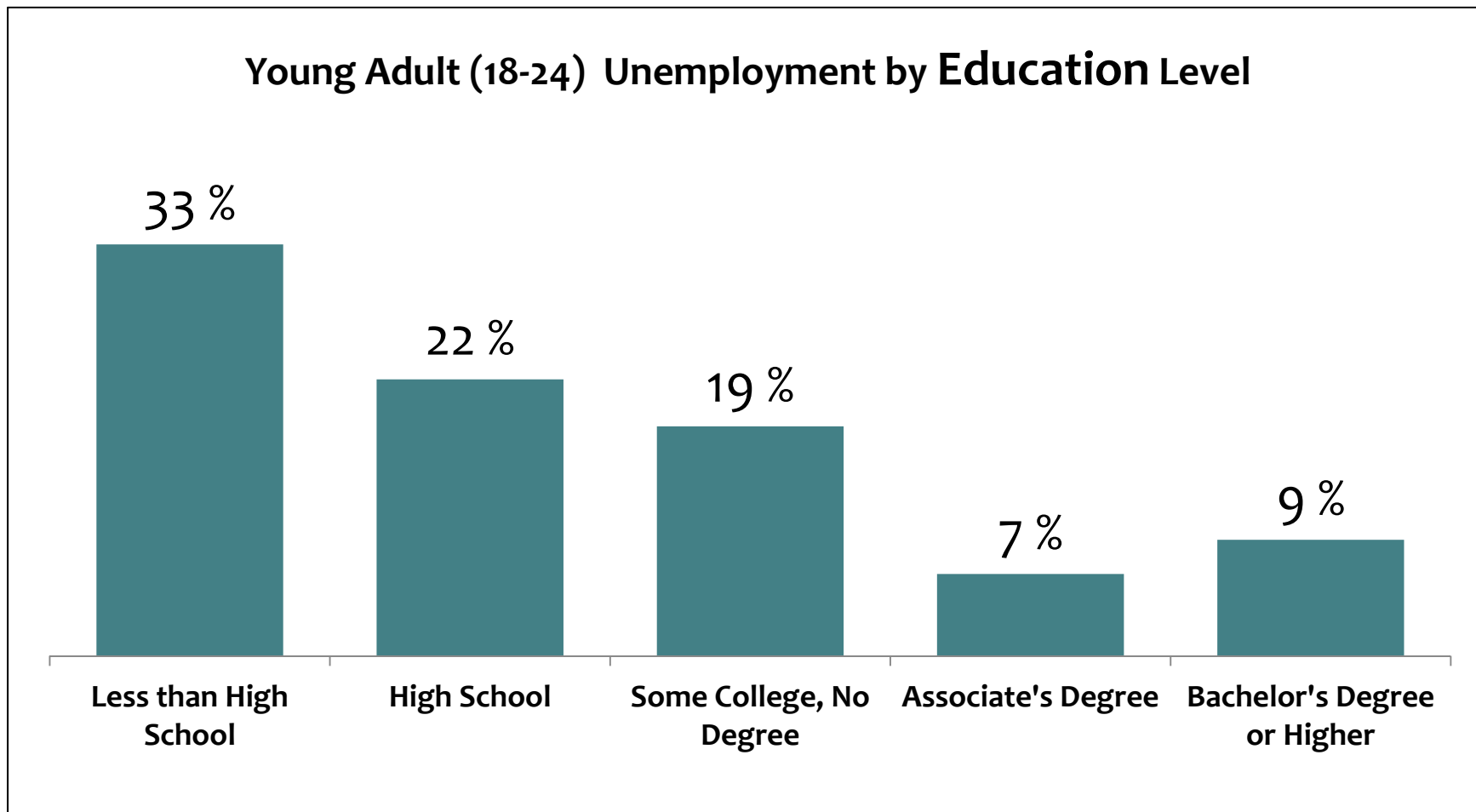
Young Adult Unemployment

U.S. Unemployment Rate, 1980 - 2012

-not seasonally adjusted-



Young Adult Unemployment (by education)





Program History

- Created in 2009 – RCW 28C.18.160 – 168
- Initially received federal funding
- For 2012-2013 – Funded through Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Dropout prevention funding package (PASS Act)
- State appropriation - \$1 million
- Two cycles of interns have been funded
- A third round of internships have just started

Program Components

- Community partnership (consortia)
- Target low-income youth
- High Demand Occupations
- Pay potential at least \$30,000/year
- At least 90 hours
- Mentoring and career guidance
- Assistance with applications to college & financial aid



Five Partnerships

- Northwest Workforce Development Council & Mount Vernon Chamber Foundation
- Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (nConnect)
- Spokane - Spokane Area Workforce Development Council (Next Generation Zone)
- Olympic Workforce Development Council & ESD 113
- Tacoma (REACH)



Internships to date

	Northwest Washington	Olympic Peninsula	Southwest Washington	Spokane	Tacoma	Totals
Student Interns (Jan. – Sept. 2012)	52	54	55	51	50	262
Employer Intern Hosts (Jan. - Sept. 2012)	43	9	23	47	39	161
Student Interns (Sept. – Dec. 2012)	35	41	58	47	53	234
Employer Intern Hosts (Sept. – Dec. 2012)	15	16	56	18	21	126

To date, 496 interns have gained work experience with over 161 employers. Another round of internships is starting which will increase the total to around 600. Original target was 500 interns.



Video

<http://youtu.be/YyPTXgM9ht4>



Contact Information

Opportunity Internship Program

www.wtb.wa.gov/OpportunityInternship.asp

Eleni Papadakis

Executive Director

Workforce Training and

Education Coordinating Board

360-709-4600

Eleni.papadakis@wtb.wa.gov