



# Developing “Life Readiness”

Governor’s Education Summit

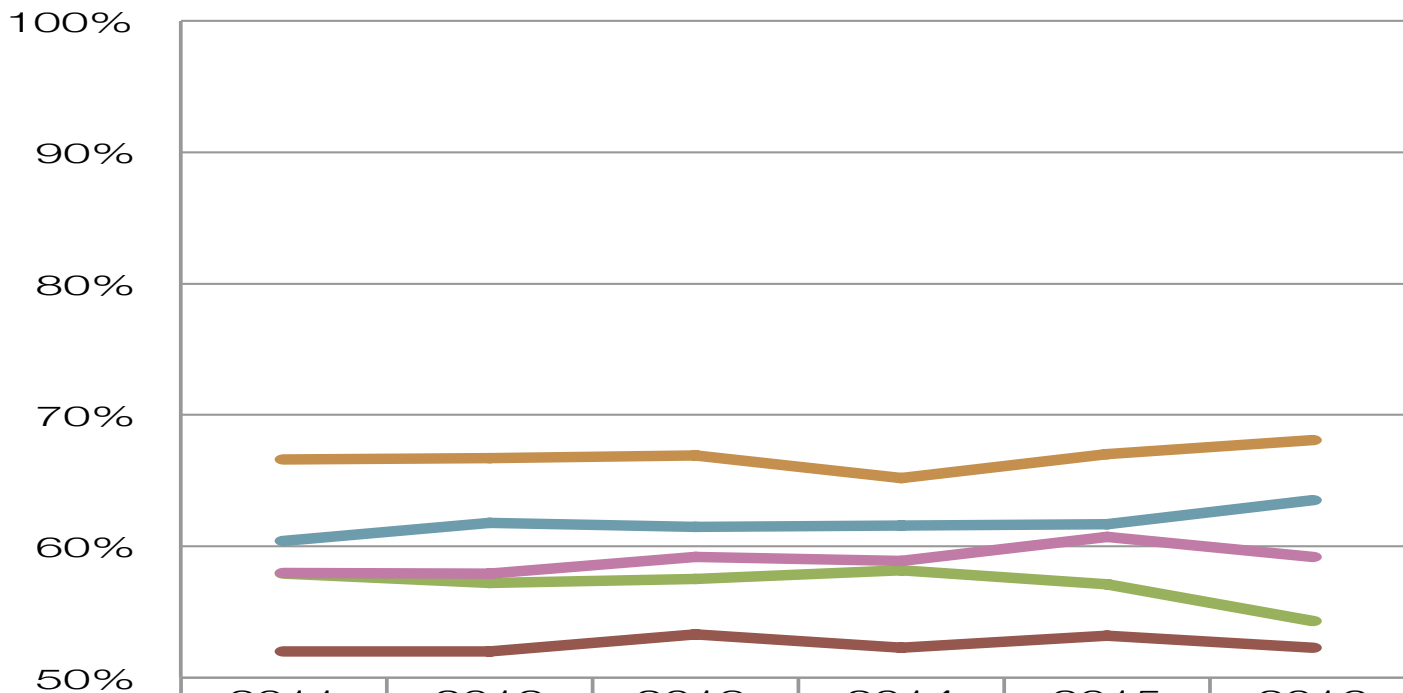
Dr. Heather Bouchey  
Deputy Secretary, AOE

# The Problem

- We don't have enough skilled workers in the state to fill existing jobs in Vermont business and industry (and state government)
- High school graduates most likely to stay in Vermont after graduation are also the graduates with lower skill levels, less connection to postsecondary institutions, and less connection to high-wage career opportunities in the state.

# Where we are: Persistent, low enrollment rates

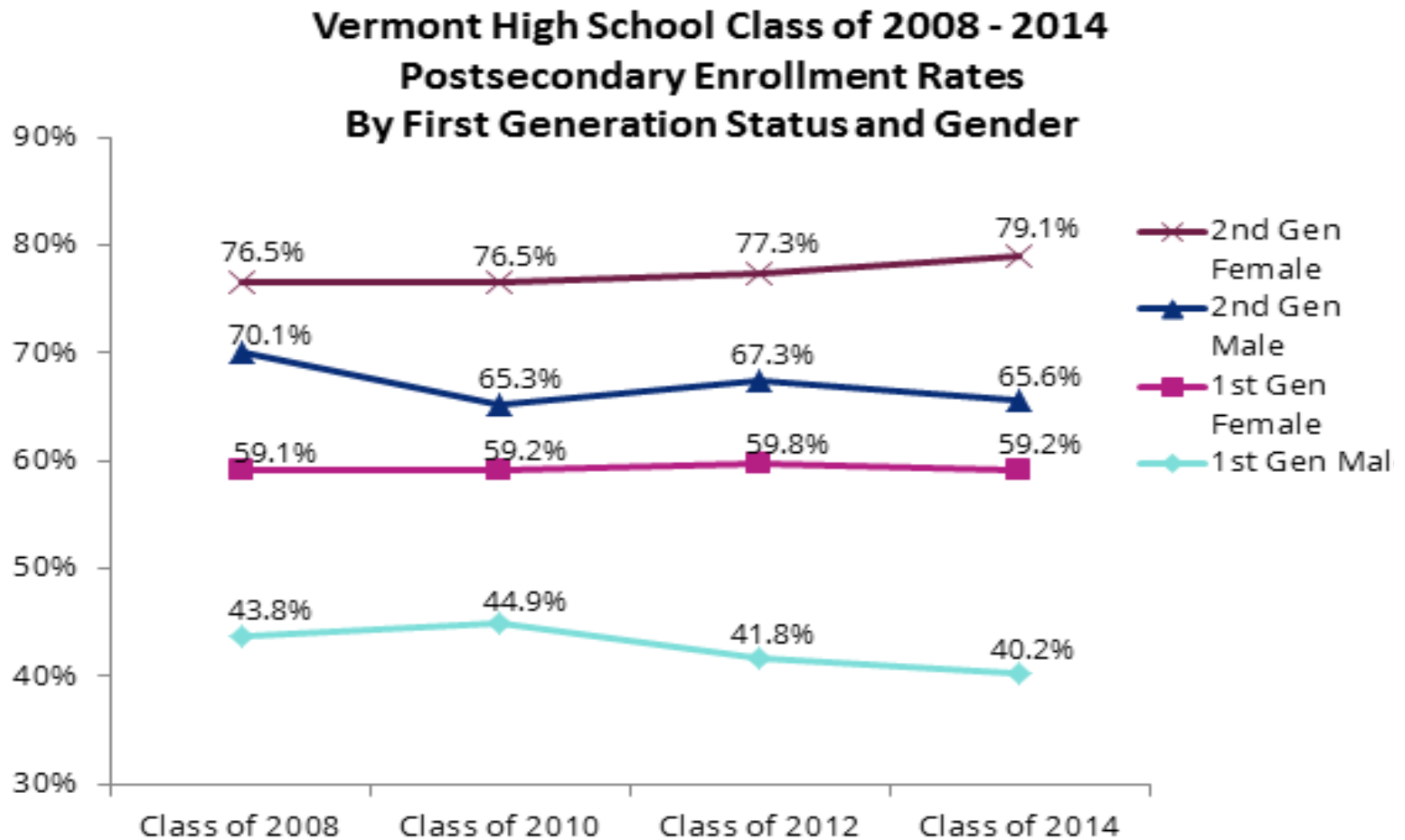
**2016 College-Enrollment Rates: Six-Year Trend**



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
CT	66.6%	66.7%	66.9%	65.2%	67.0%	68.1%
ME	60.4%	61.8%	61.5%	61.6%	61.7%	63.5%
NH	57.9%	57.2%	57.5%	58.2%	57.1%	54.3%
RI	58.0%	57.9%	59.2%	58.9%	60.7%	59.2%
VT	52.0%	52.0%	53.3%	52.3%	53.2%	52.3%
NESSC*	58.0%	57.9%	59.2%	58.9%	60.7%	59.2%

(Source: New England Secondary School Consortium, Common Data Project, 2017 Annual Report, School Year 2015-2016)

# Where we are: Low and *uneven* participation in postsecondary opportunities



Source: VSAC, Senior Survey and NSC data

# Guiding Principle

## Career *and* College Readiness = Life Readiness

- ALL students need high levels of skill, as well as a capacity to learn and innovate: We can no longer afford to prepare students for college *or* career.
- We need equity in opportunity: We can't afford to leave any potential on the table.
- We need systems: Intentional collaboration among high schools, CTEs, postsecondary education/training partners and employers.

# Discussion Today

## Dual Enrollment

- A tool to reduce the cost of postsecondary education
- A tool to help students who are first in their families to pursue education beyond high school realize that postsecondary education will help them reach their goals

## Career Pathways

- A strategy to “connect progressive levels of education, training, support services, and credentials for specific occupations in a way that optimizes the progress and success of individuals with varying levels of abilities and needs” (Center for Postsecondary and Economic Success)

# Act 77 as a Key Solution

Different paths to the same end: Flexible Pathways

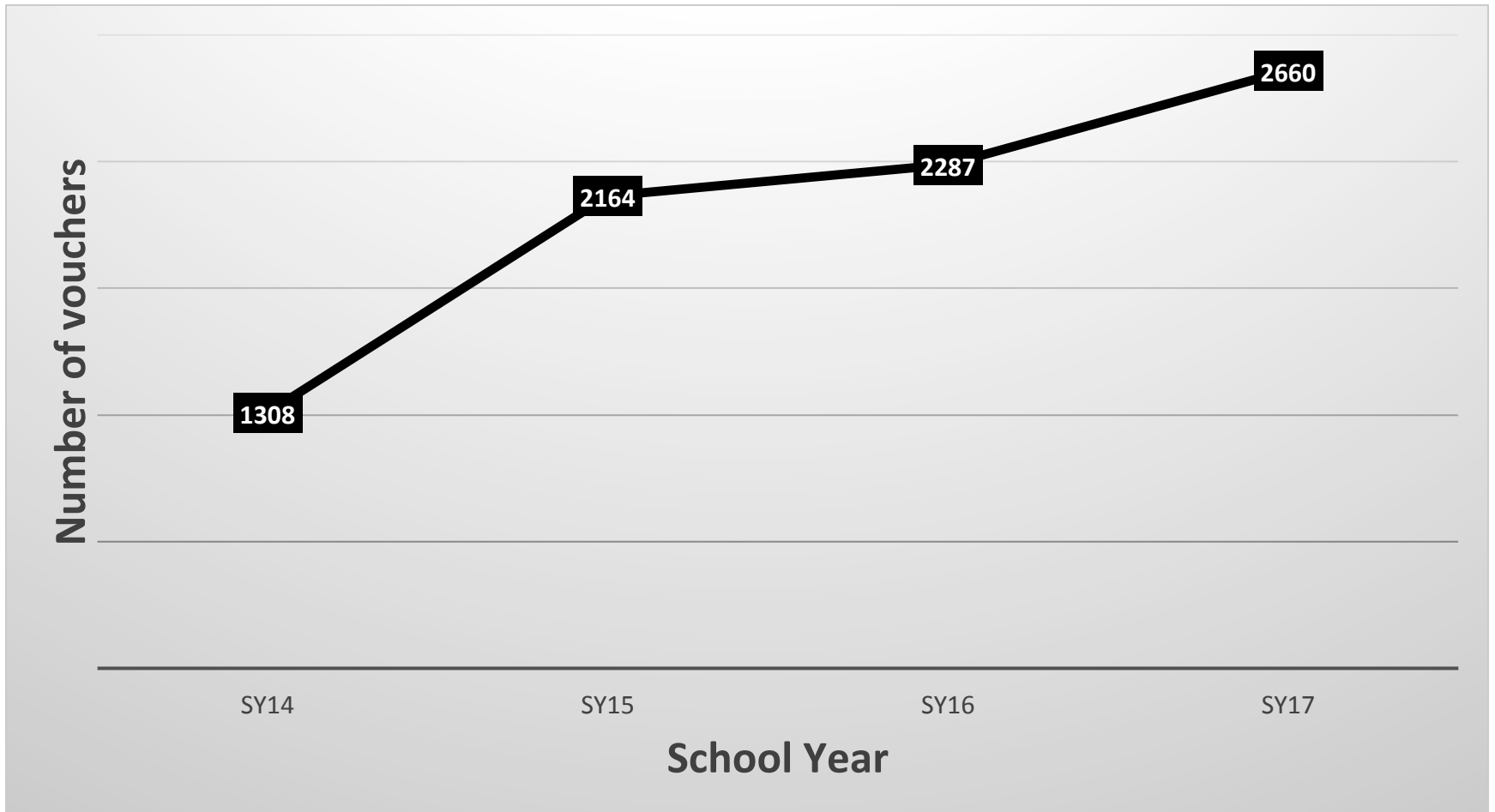
- Expansion of [Dual Enrollment Program](#)
- Expansion of [Early College Program](#)
- Increased access to [Work-Based Learning](#)
- Increased [On-Line/Hybrid Learning](#)
- Increased value of [Career and Technical Education](#)
- Implementation of [Personalized Learning](#)



# Dual Enrollment: How are we doing?

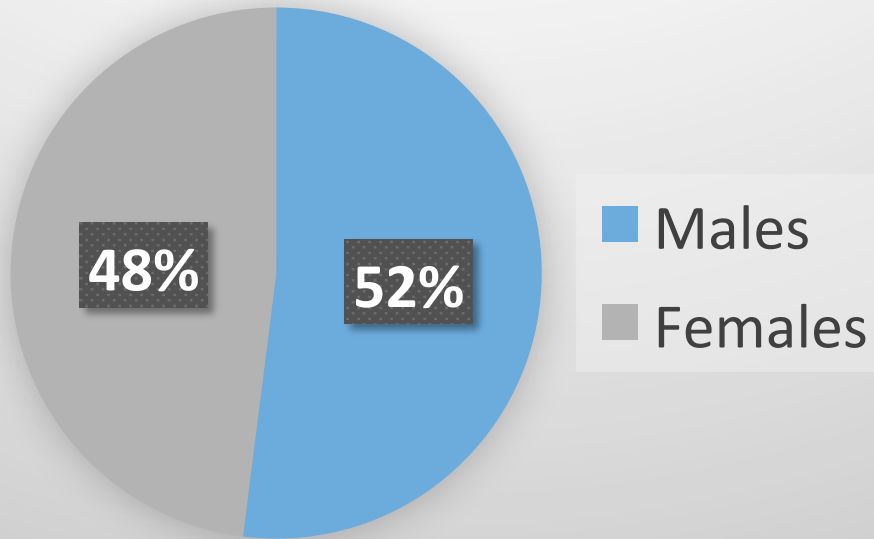


Participation in DE has **increased** over time.

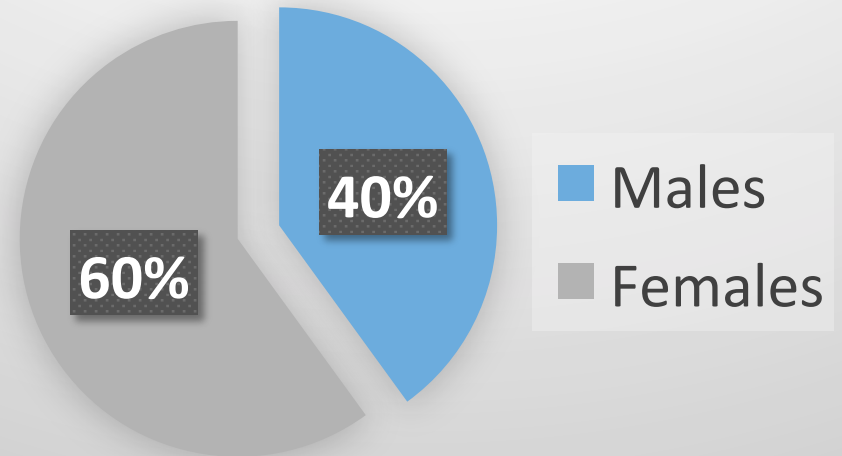


# Equity: Gender

% in state



% in DE



# Enrollment in College

- **2013: 6% of DE users went on to college**  
**2016: 32% of DE users went on to college**
- **From 2009-2015, % grads enrolled in college within a year has remained stable (54-56%).**

**Are students using DE those who would have gone to college anyway?**

# Next steps

- **Address equity gaps in use of dual enrollment and early college**
- **Systems approach**
  - **Leverage existing tools to move more students to postsecondary participation and higher levels of skill and careers**