



# MIDDLE CHILDHOOD

## A CRITICAL LIFE PHASE

Middle childhood is the most historically ignored life phase. Federal and state funding and initiatives focus on birth to 3 years old and adolescence, leaving children between the ages 6 to 12 to cope with life challenges without much support. Children in this age group are exposed to increased stressors at school, and with friends and family.

**Ages 6 - 12**

**33%** of all children in Washington are in middle childhood.

### HEALTH CONCERNS FOR THIS AGE GROUP IN WASHINGTON

**23%** of 6th graders report drinking alcohol, **2.9%** used marijuana, **2%** used illegal drugs

**About 15%** of children experience untreated dental decay, **60%** have dental caries

**17%** reported that they missed a meal due to lack of money

**10%** reported that they are obese

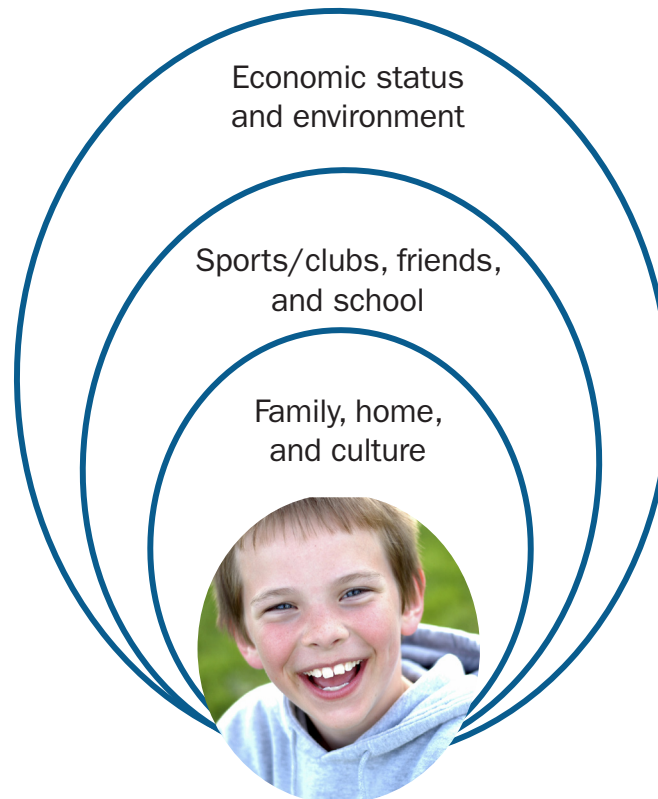
**16%** of 6th graders report being diagnosed with asthma

### CAUSES OF DEATH IN MIDDLE CHILDHOOD IN WASHINGTON

**Motor vehicle injuries:** 23

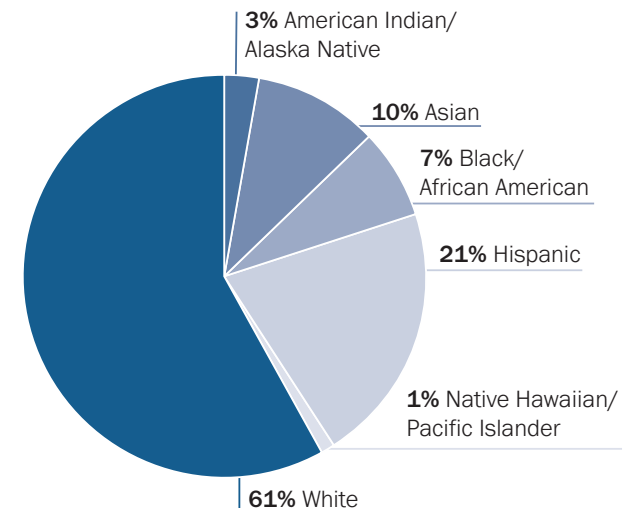
**Suicide:** 13 children under the age of 14 died from suicide in 2014

**Cancer:** 18



### INFLUENCES ON THEIR LIVES

### RACE/ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN IN WASHINGTON STATE (AGED 5 - 13)



Source: Washington Census 2015

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