

Suffield Youth Voices Count Survey Results 2025



Background

- March 2025, students from Suffield Middle School and Suffield High School in grades 6-12 participated in the Youth Voices Count Survey on youth lifestyles, substance use, mental health, bullying and related risk and protective factors
- The survey was completely anonymous, no identifying information was collected
- Students were provided an instructional video informing them of confidentiality, right to opt out and resources if the survey brought up uncomfortable feelings

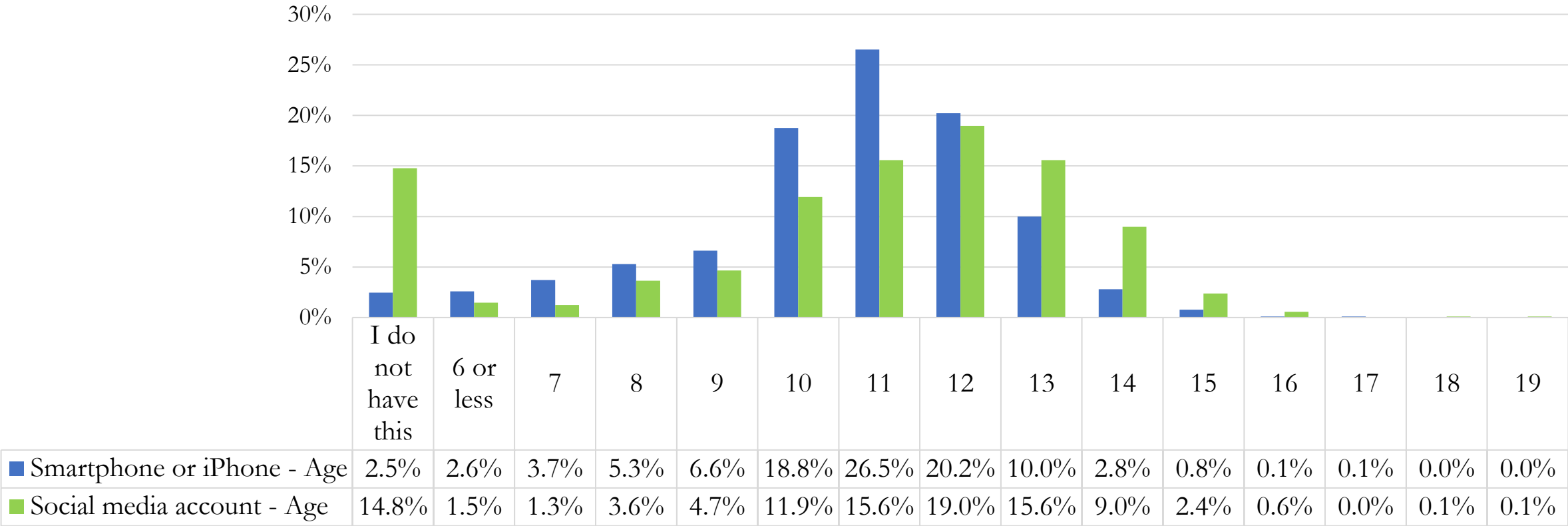
Analysis

- Subgroup analysis was performed by race/ethnicity, biological sex, and gender identity to allow for the Local Prevention Council and other organizations to utilize the data to target groups experiencing greater behaviors of concern.
- These findings are available within an Excel report that allows for filtering between risk and protective factors for these groups.

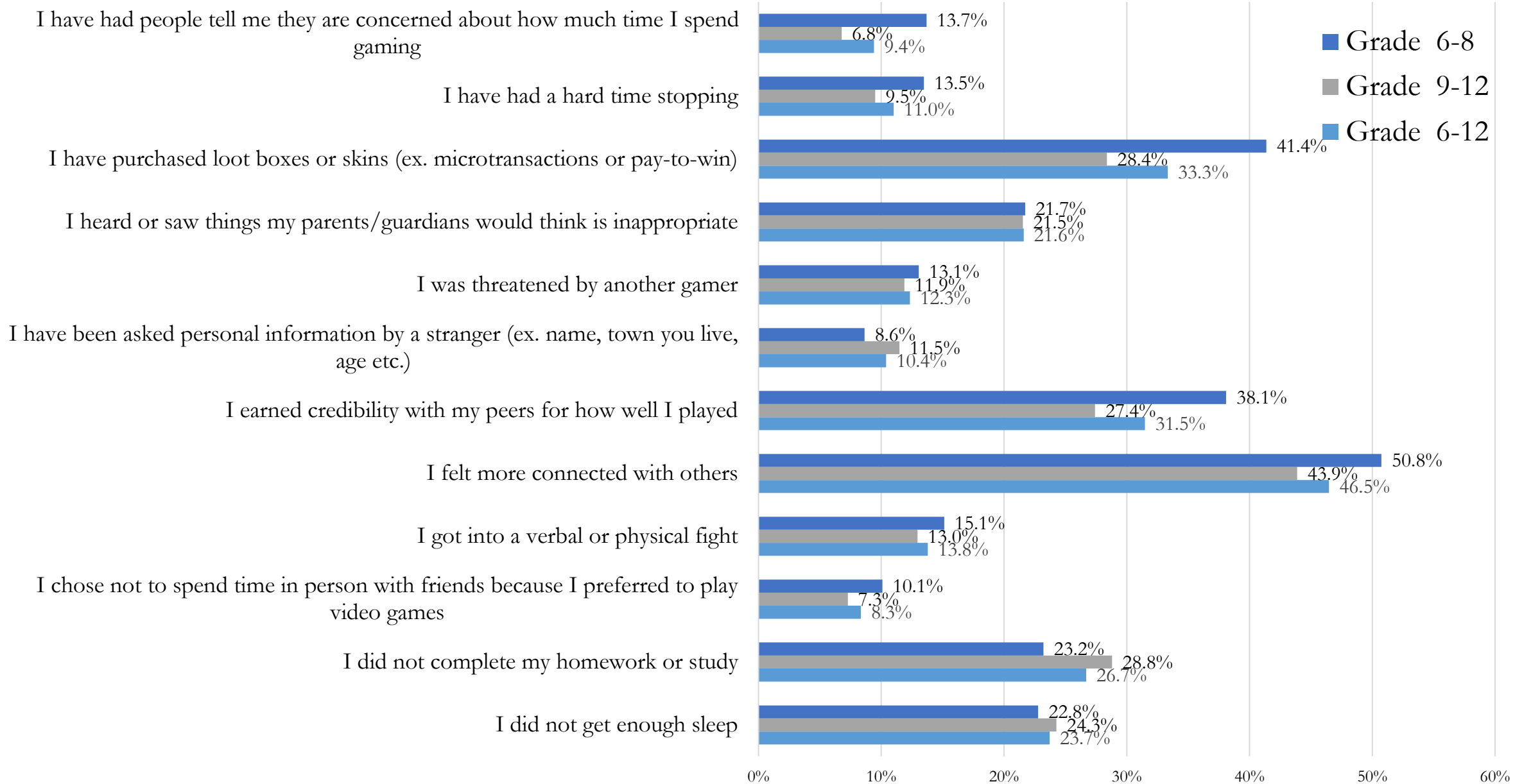
Response Rate

Sample Response Rates	Sample Count	Population Count	Response Rate (%)
Grade 6	75	146	51.37%
Grade 7	130	144	90.28%
Grade 8	139	155	89.68%
Grade 9	150	174	86.21%
Grade 10	153	168	91.07%
Grade 11	123	144	85.42
Grade 12	132	155	85.16%
Grades 6-8	344	445	77.30%
Grades 9-12	558	641	87.05%
Grades 6-12	902	1086	83.06%

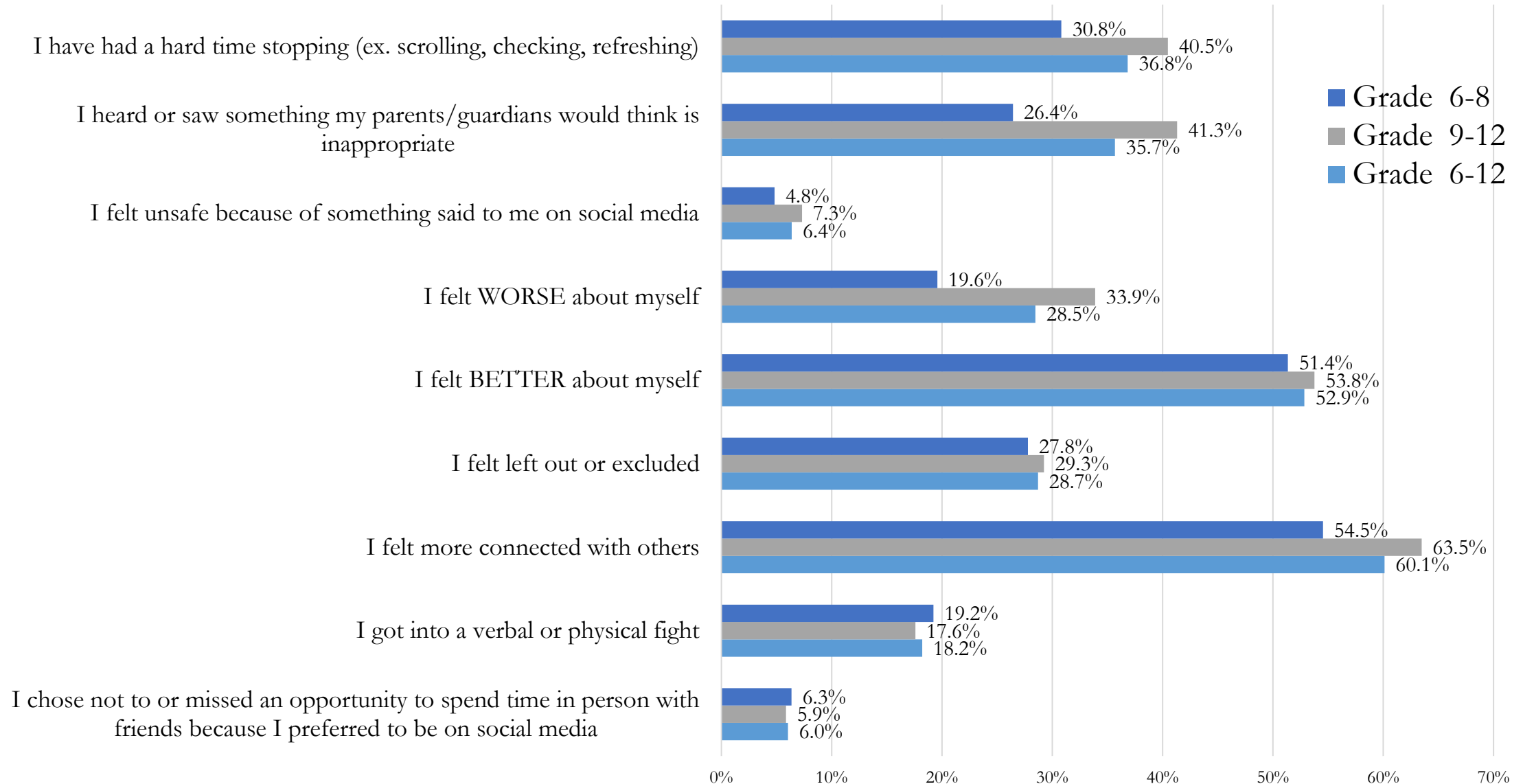
Smartphone and Social Media Age of Access



Gaming Assets and Consequences

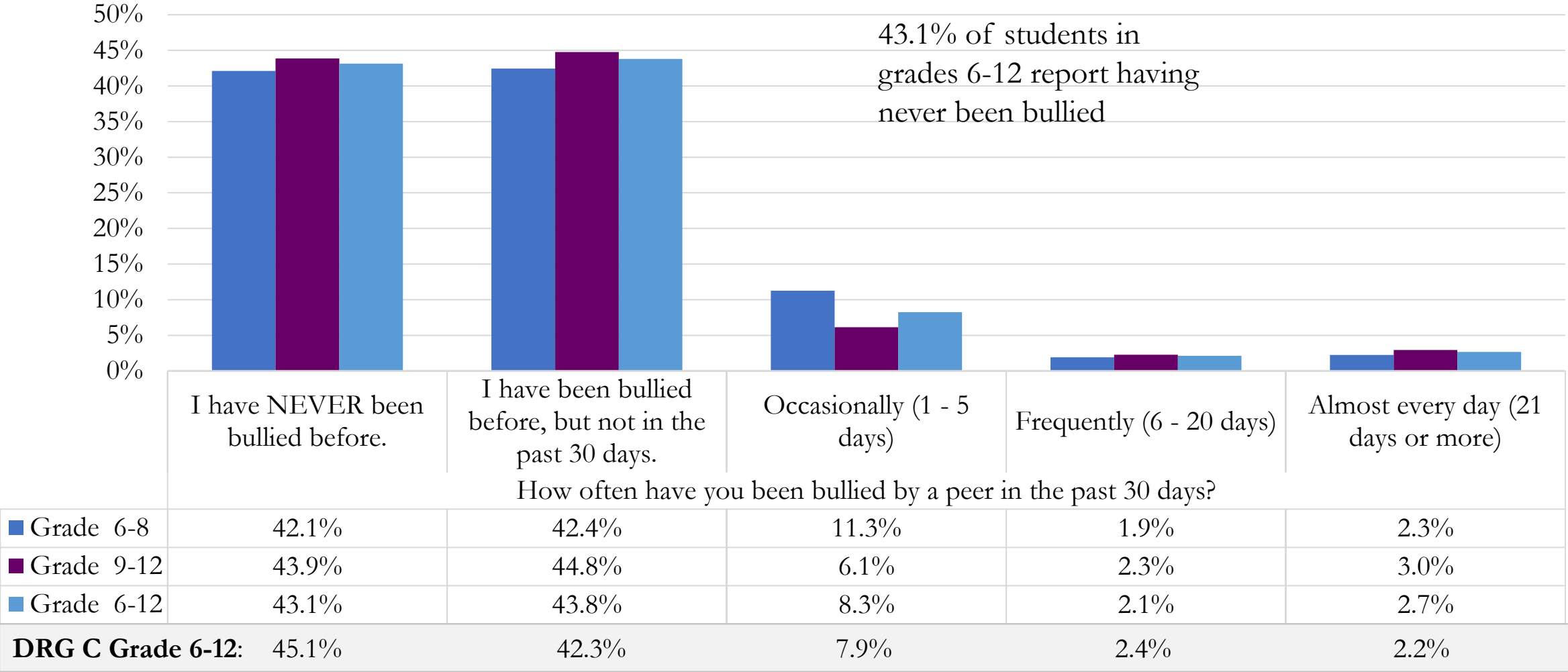


Perceived Social Media Assets and Consequences

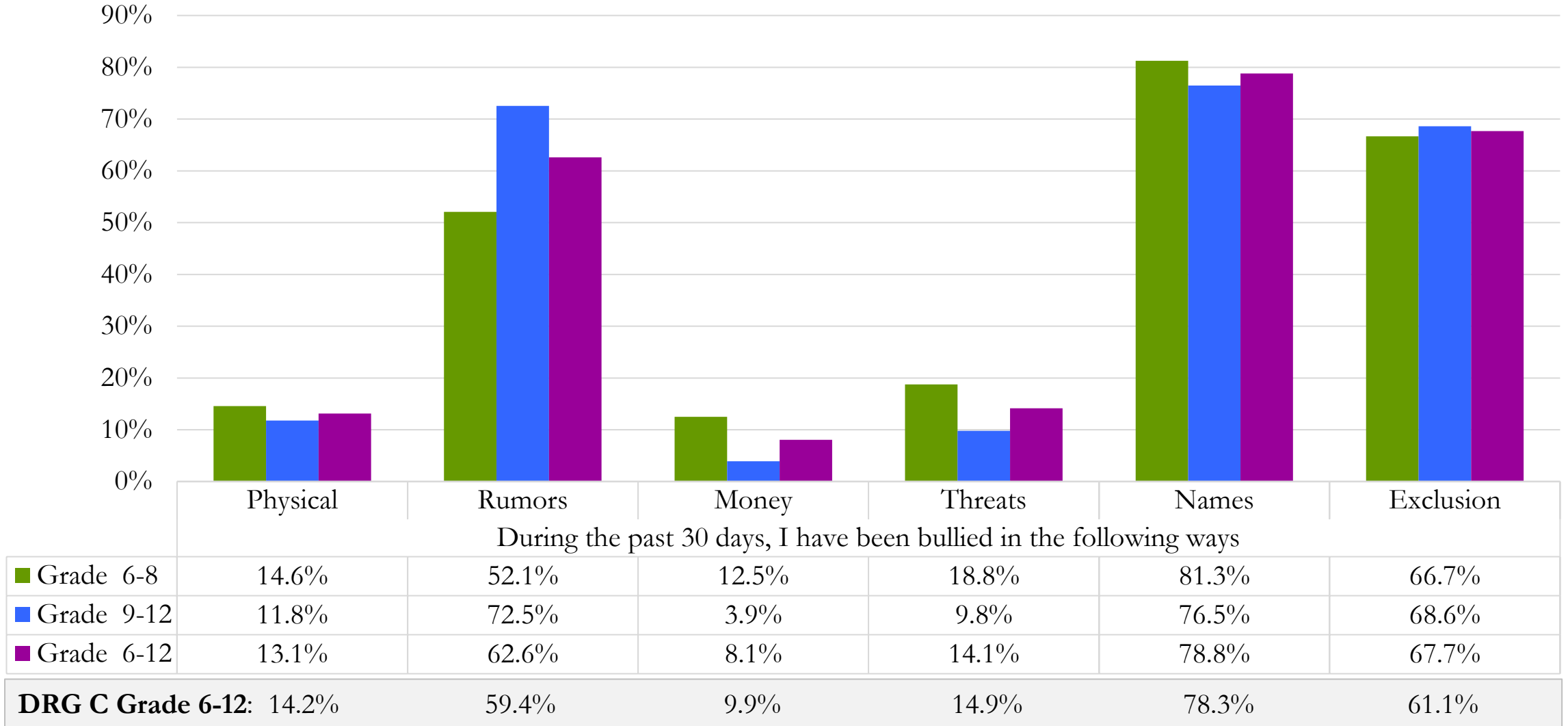


Bullying and Perceptions of Safety

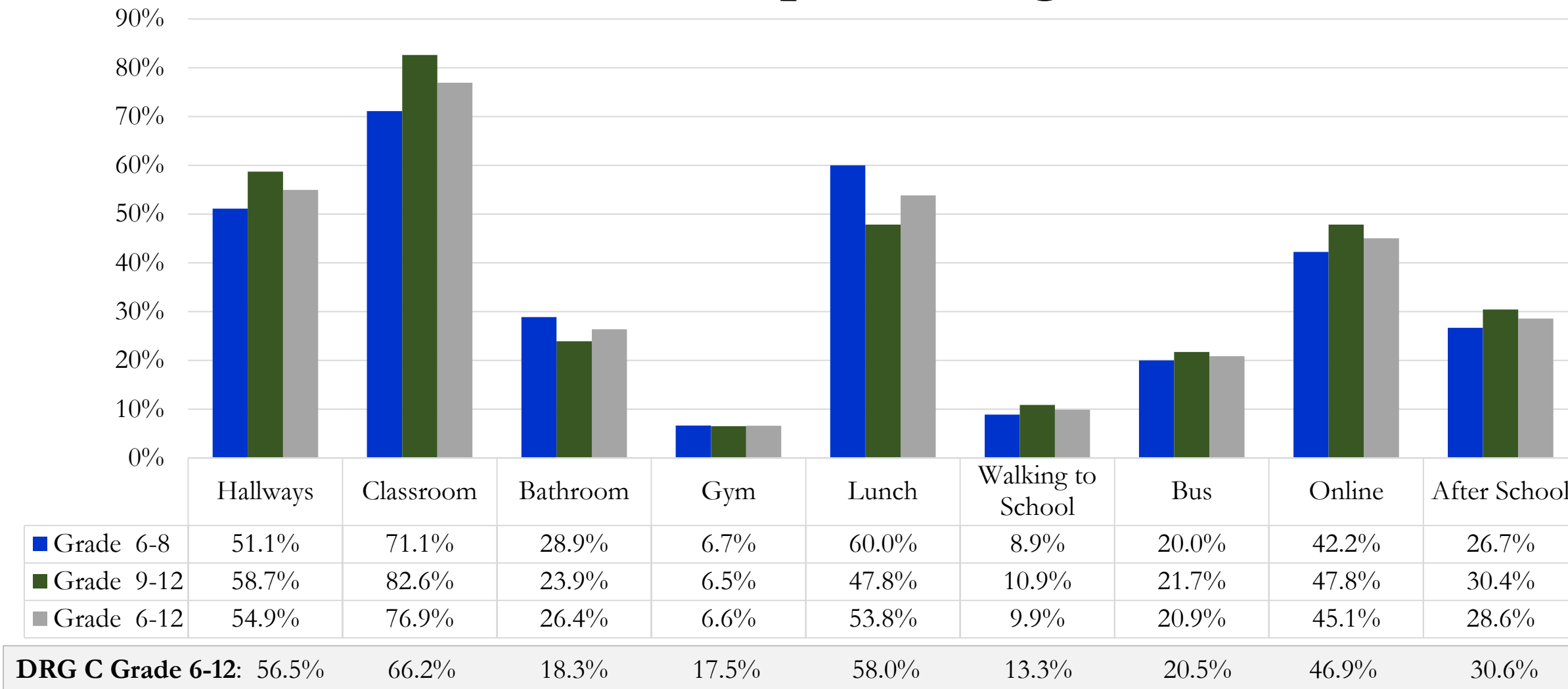
Bullying Frequency



Ways Students Report Being Bullied -of those who report being bullied

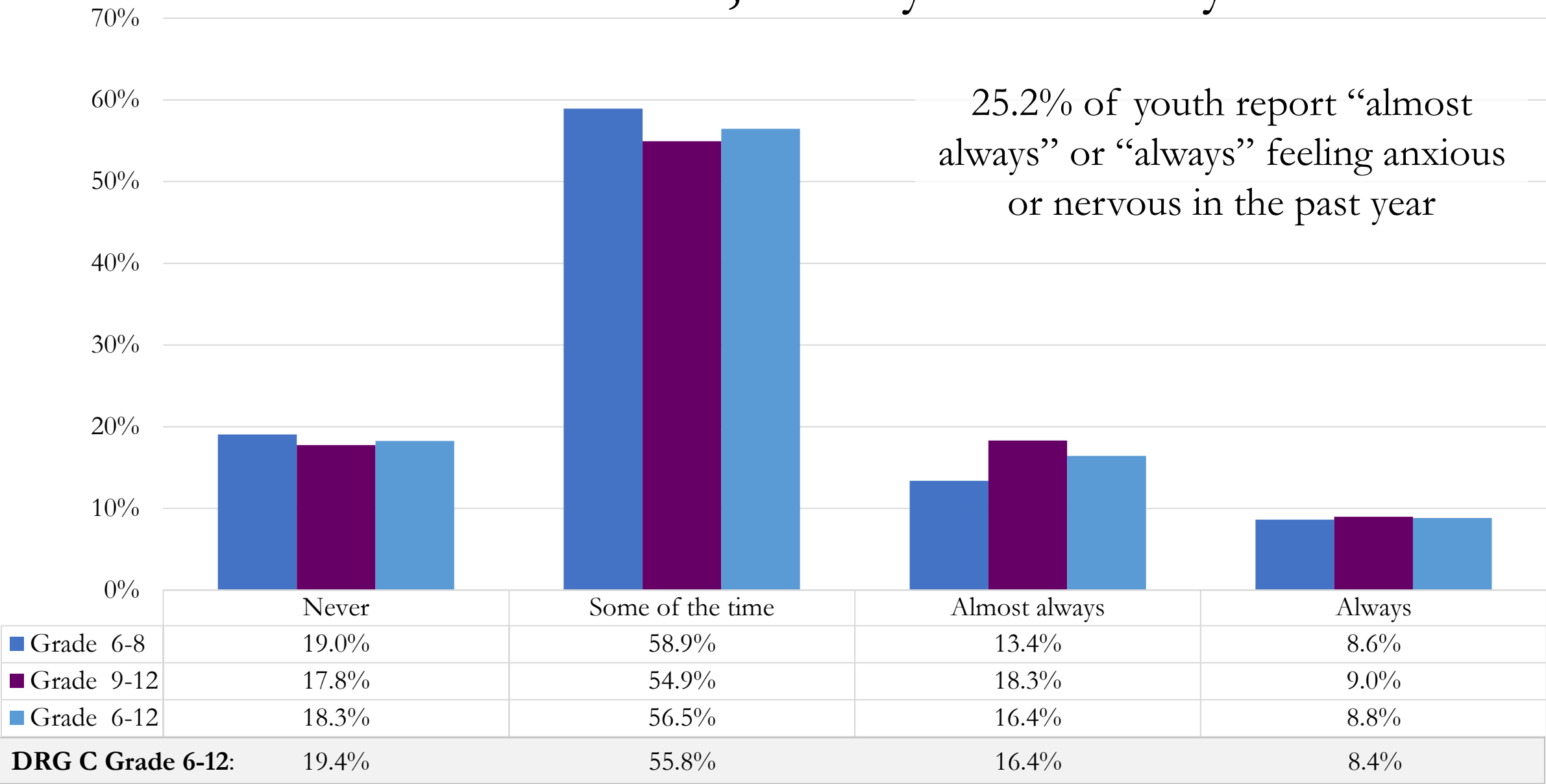


Locations of Bullying -of those who report being bullied

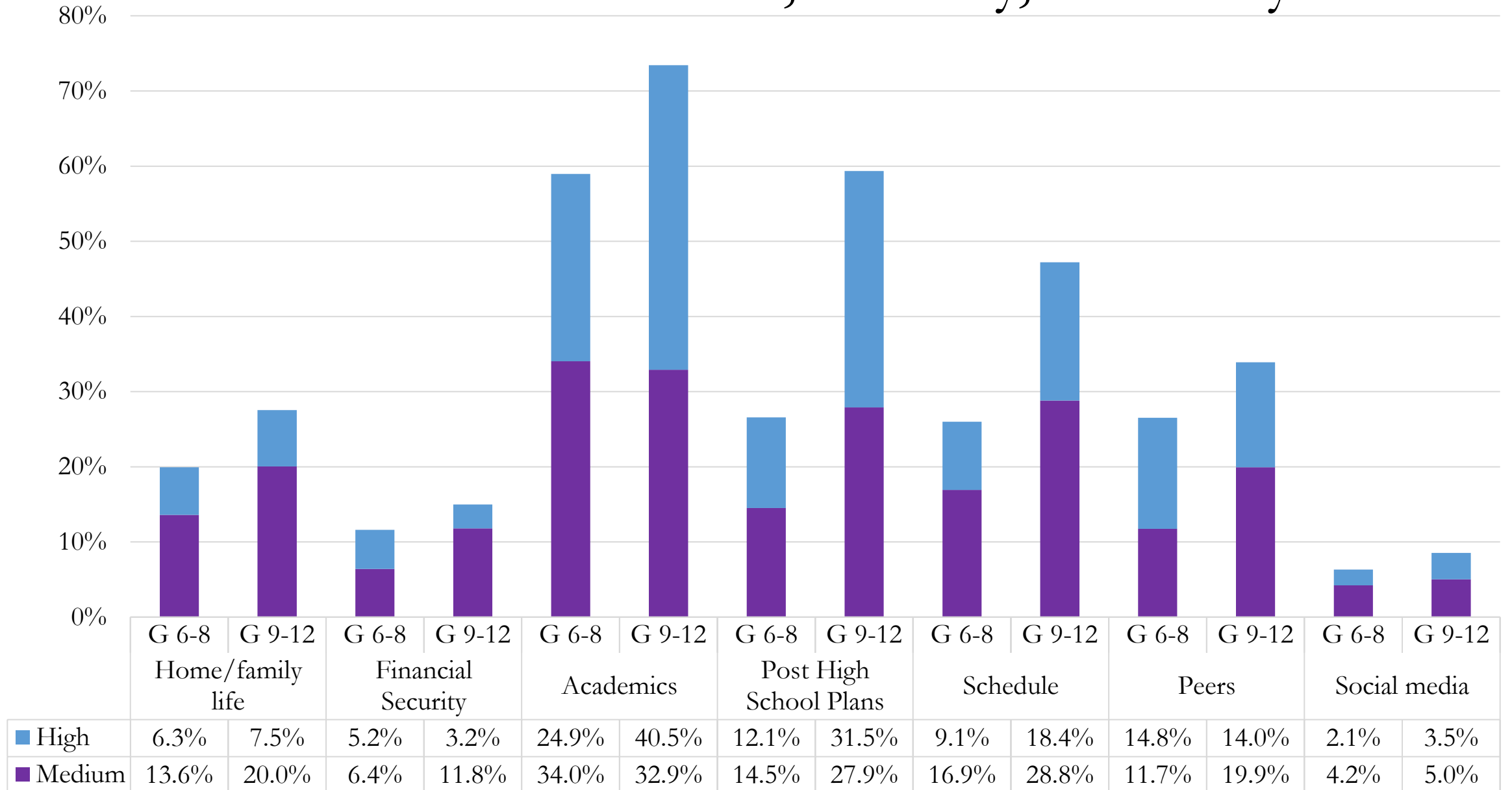


Emotional Health

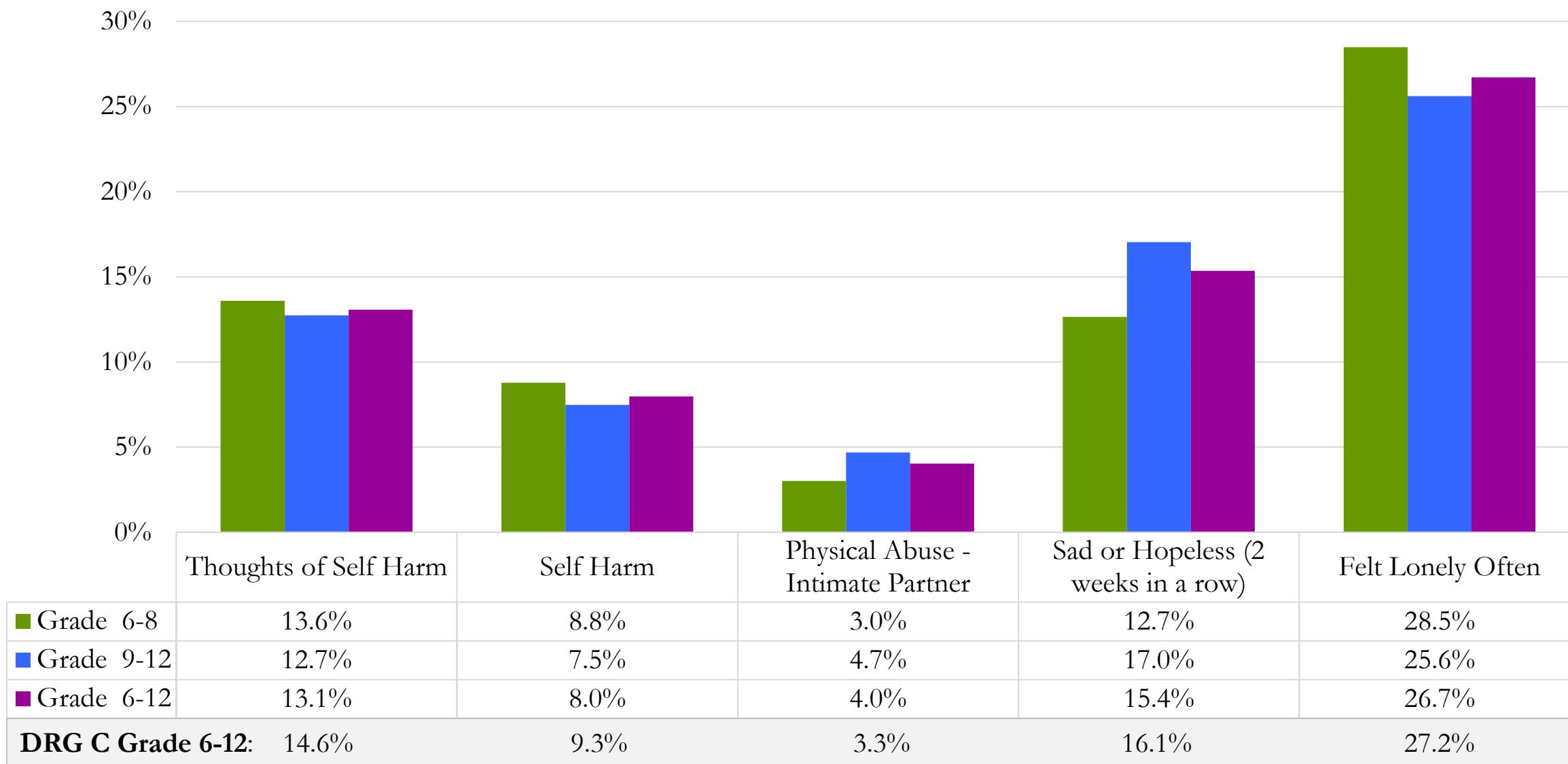
Past Year Stress, Worry or Anxiety



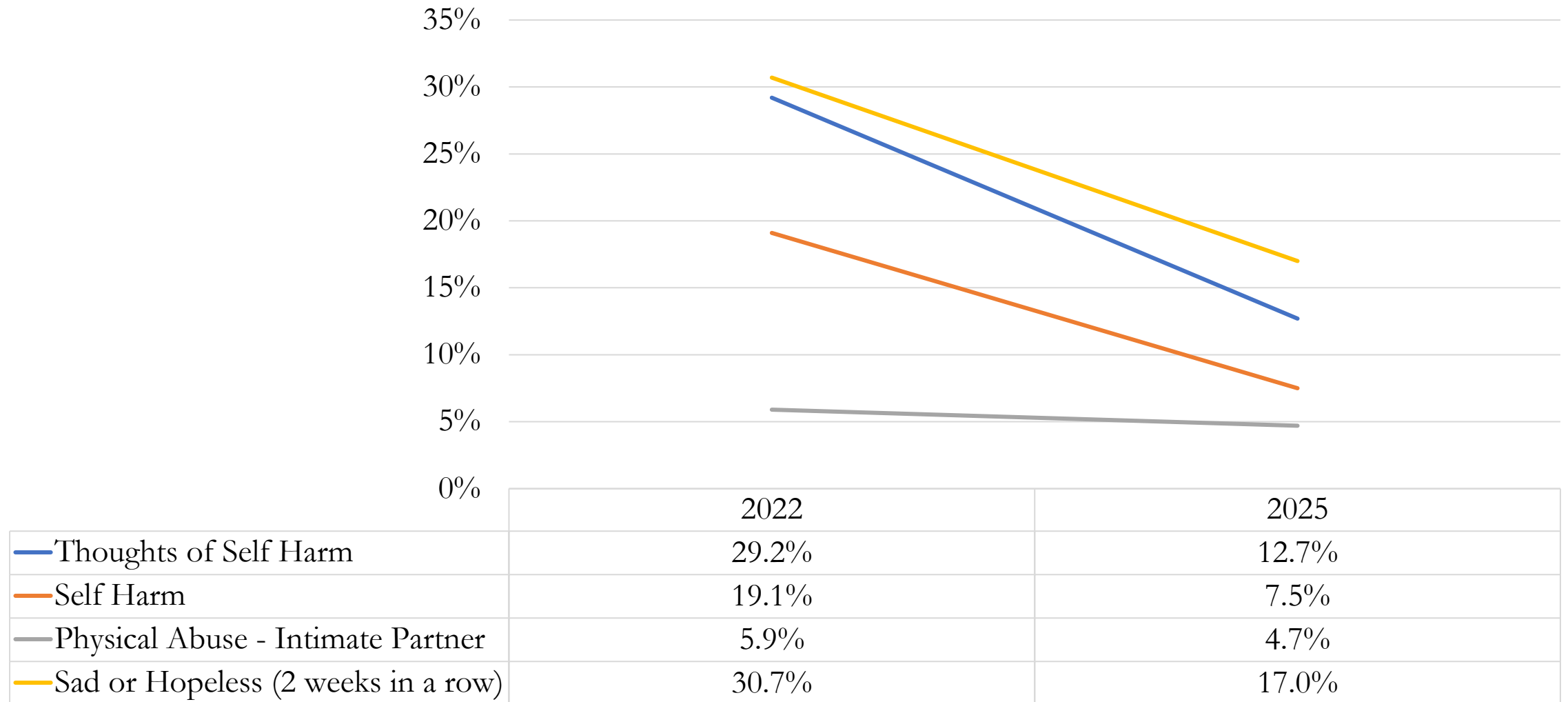
Sources of Stress, Anxiety, or Worry



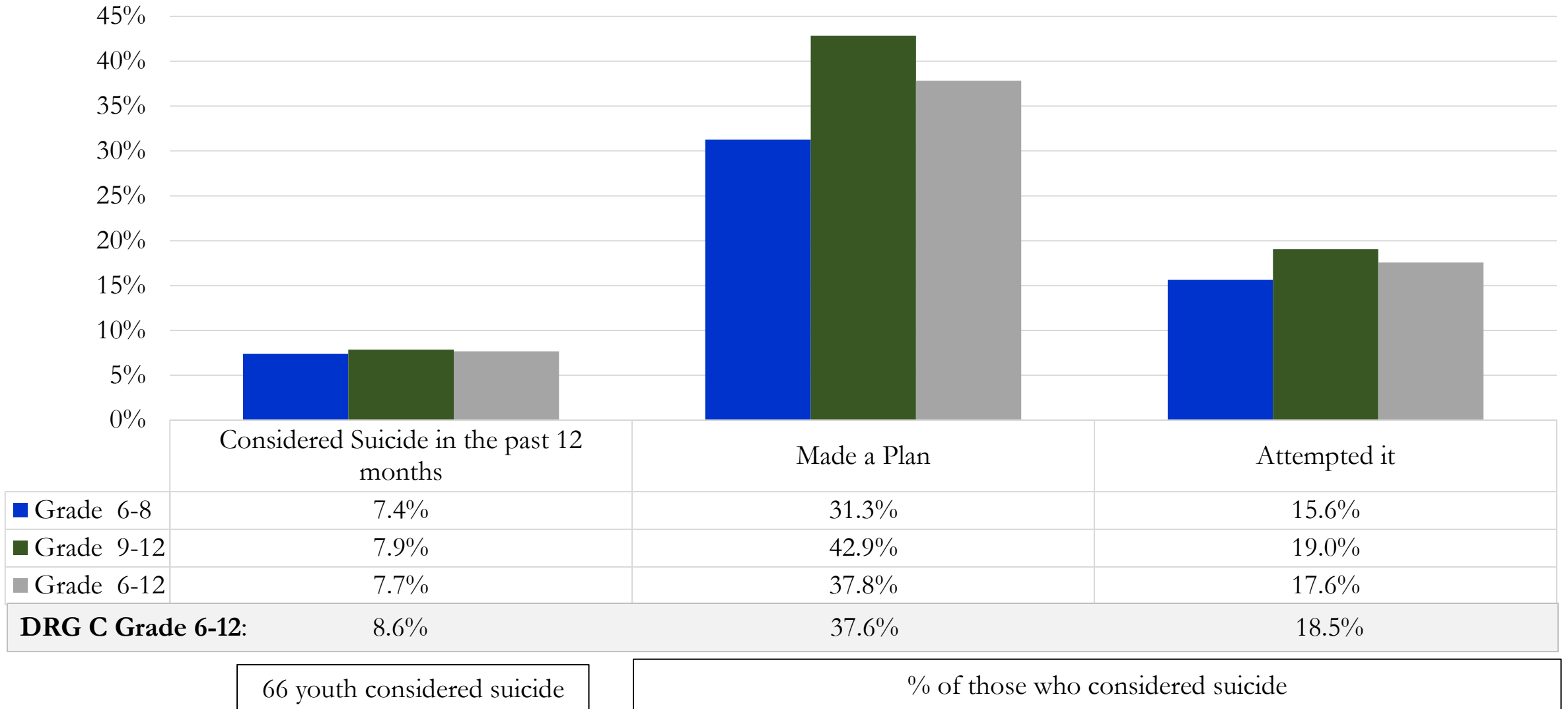
Other Emotional Health Indicators, % Responding “Yes”



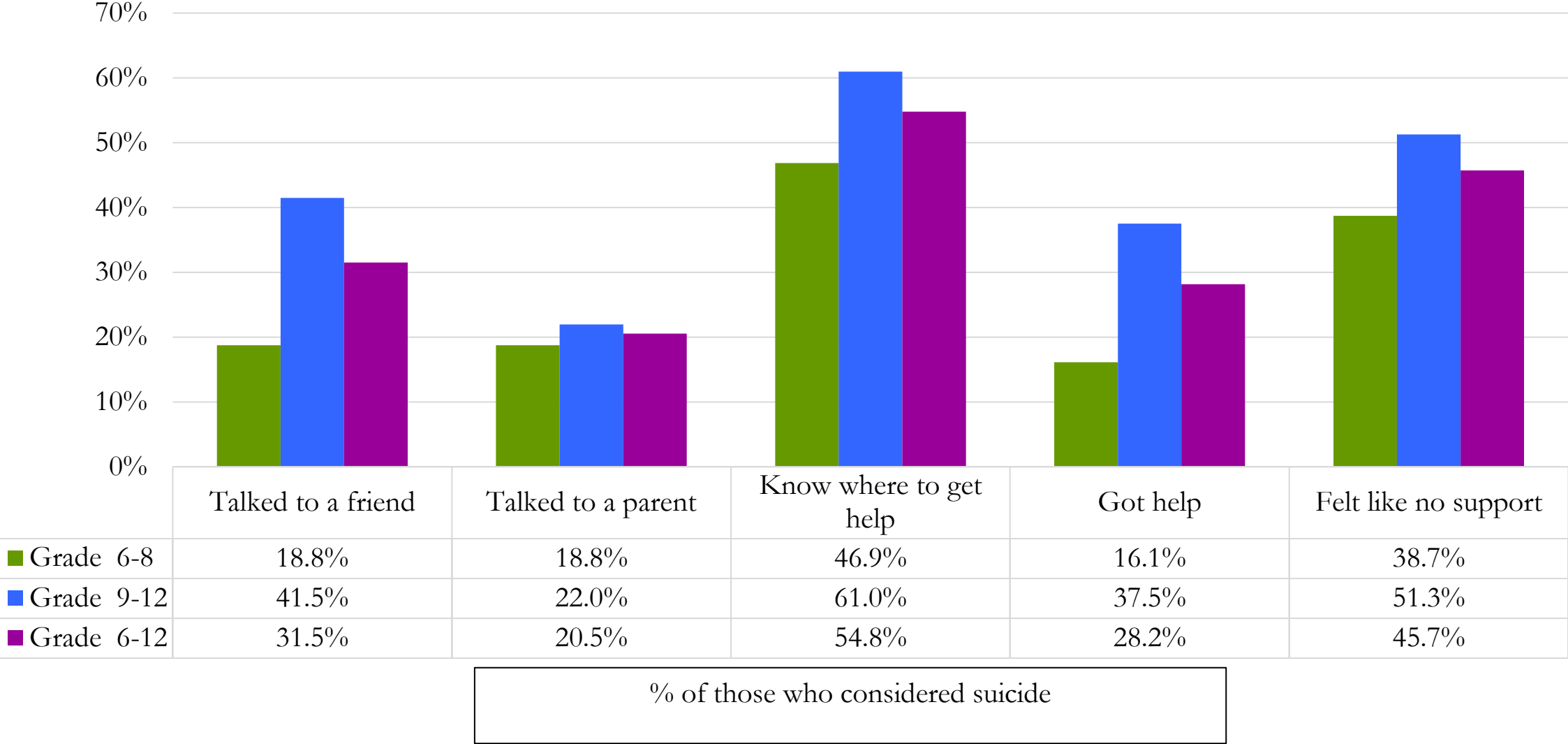
Trend Other Emotional Health Indicators, Grades 9-12



Past Year Thoughts of Suicide

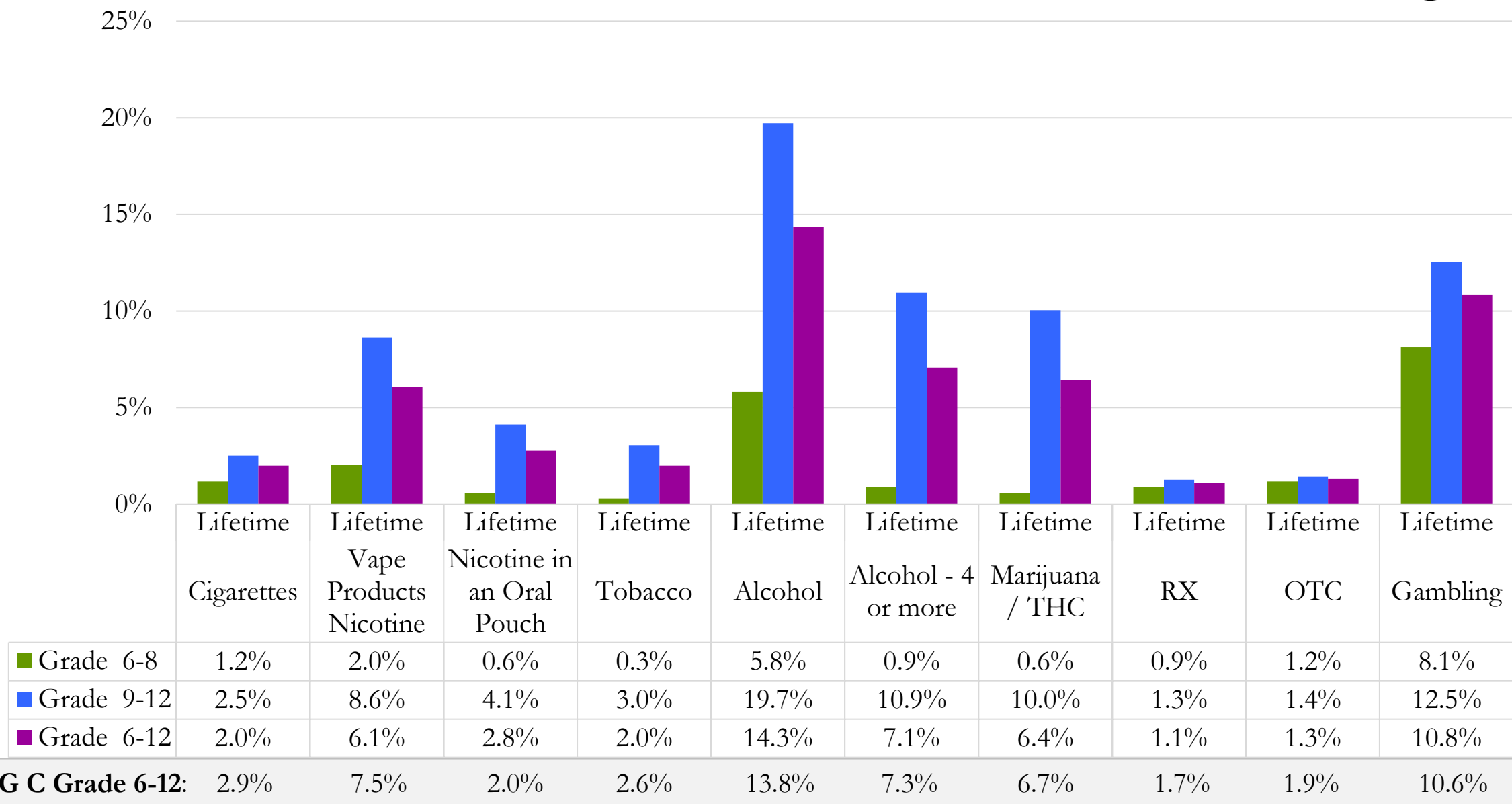


Suicide and Perceptions of Supports

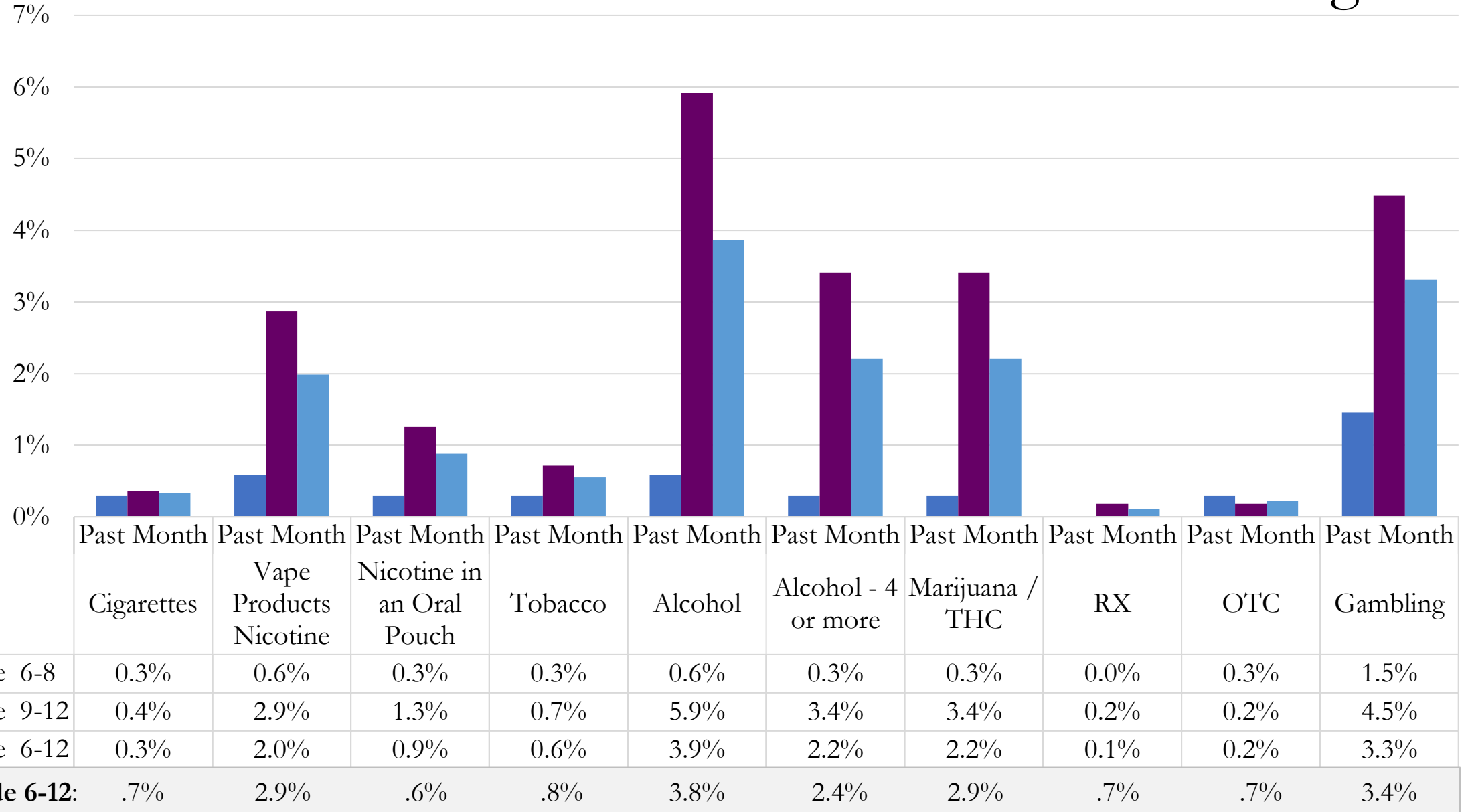


Substance Use and Perceptions

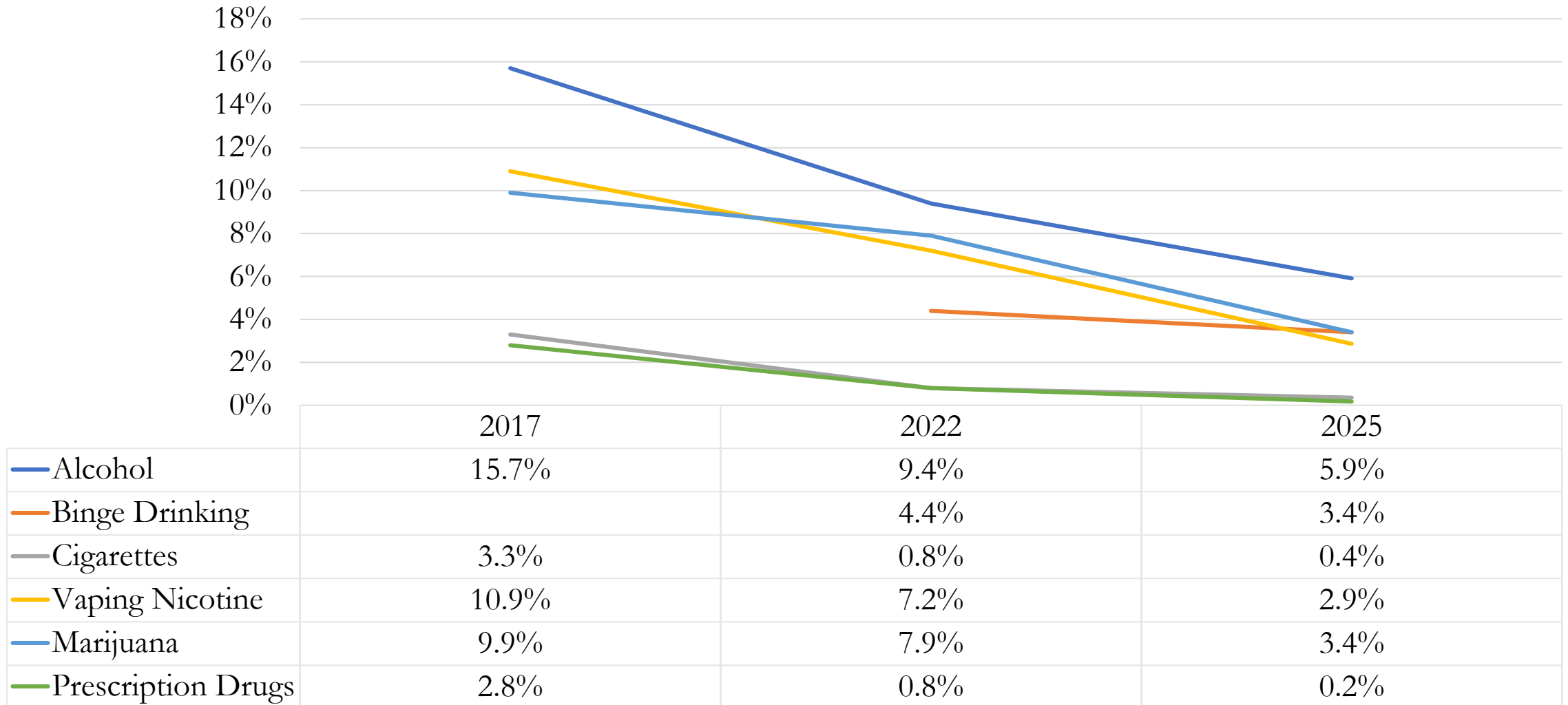
Lifetime Use of CORE Substances and Gambling



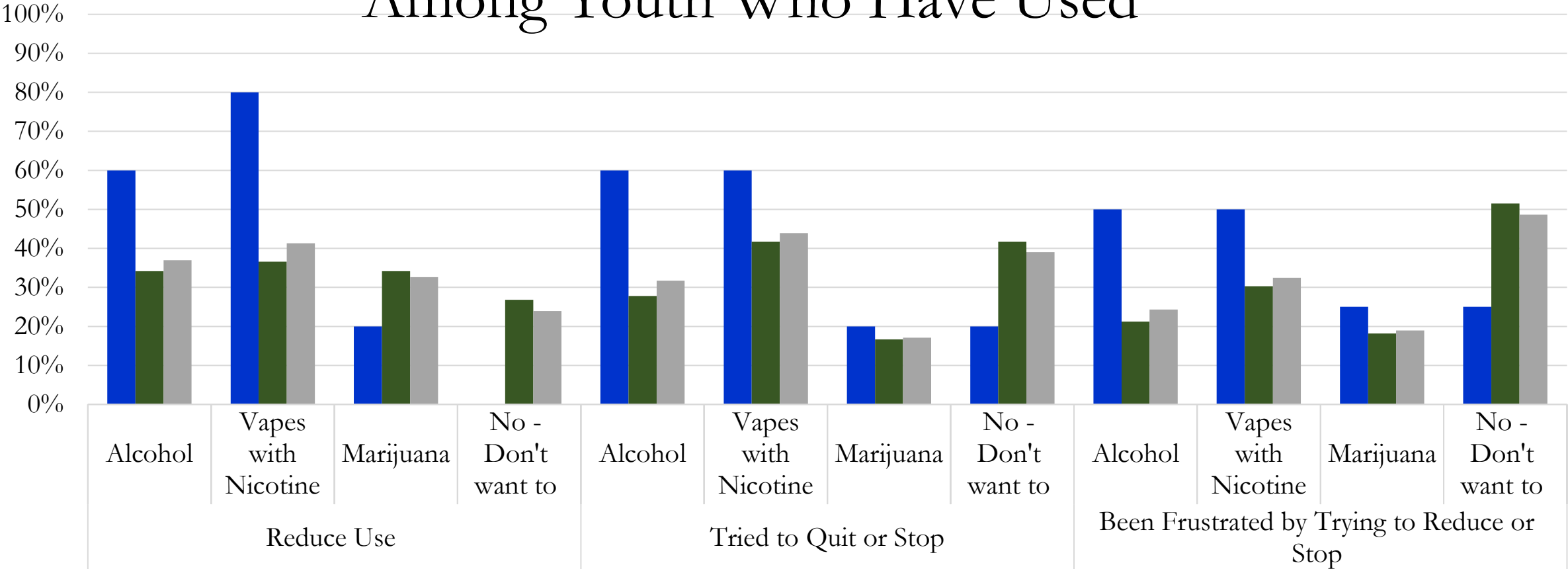
Past Month Use of CORE Substances and Gambling



Trend Past Month Use of CORE Substances, Grades 9-12

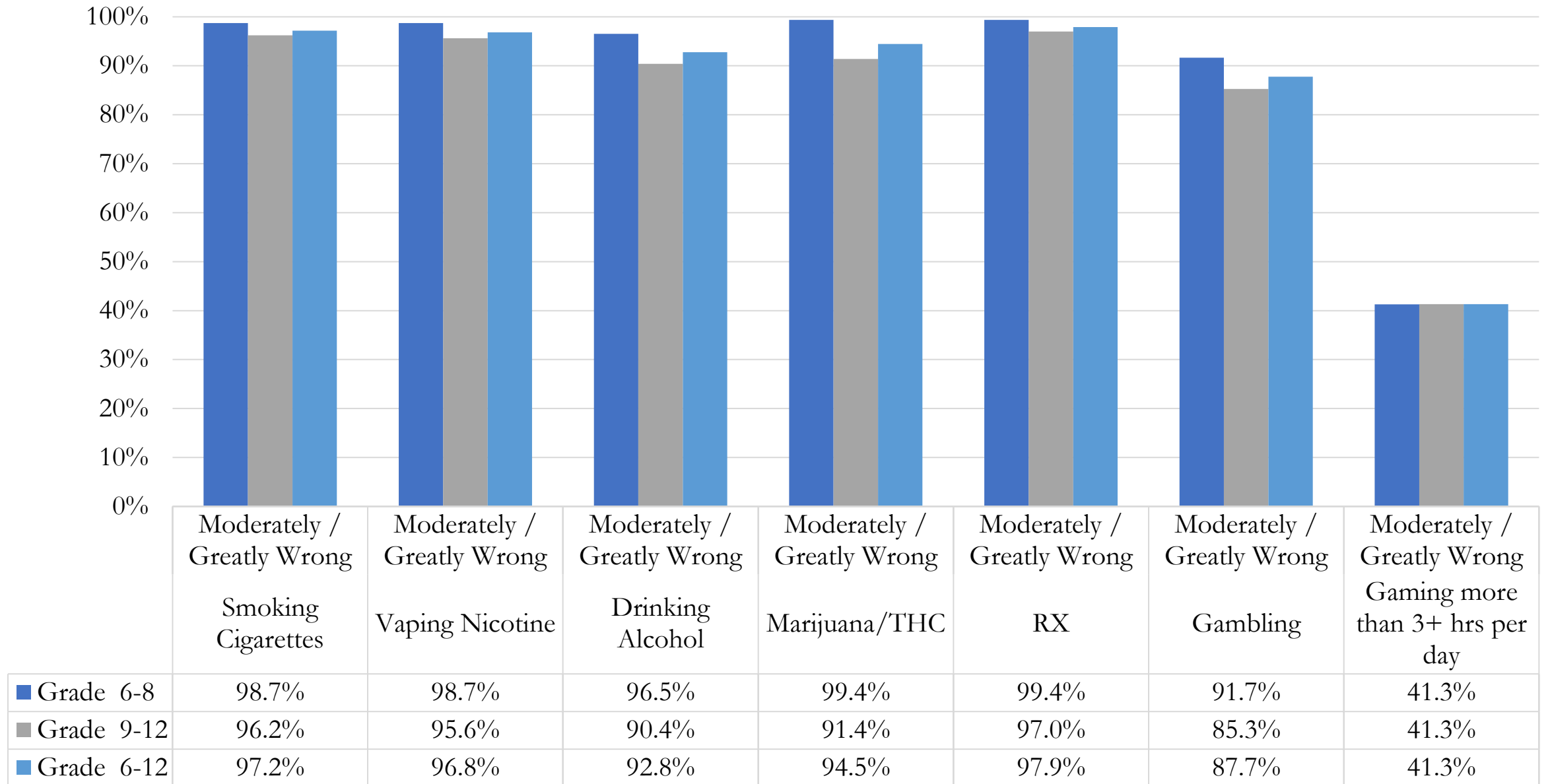


Substance Use Reduction or Trying to Quit, Among Youth Who Have Used

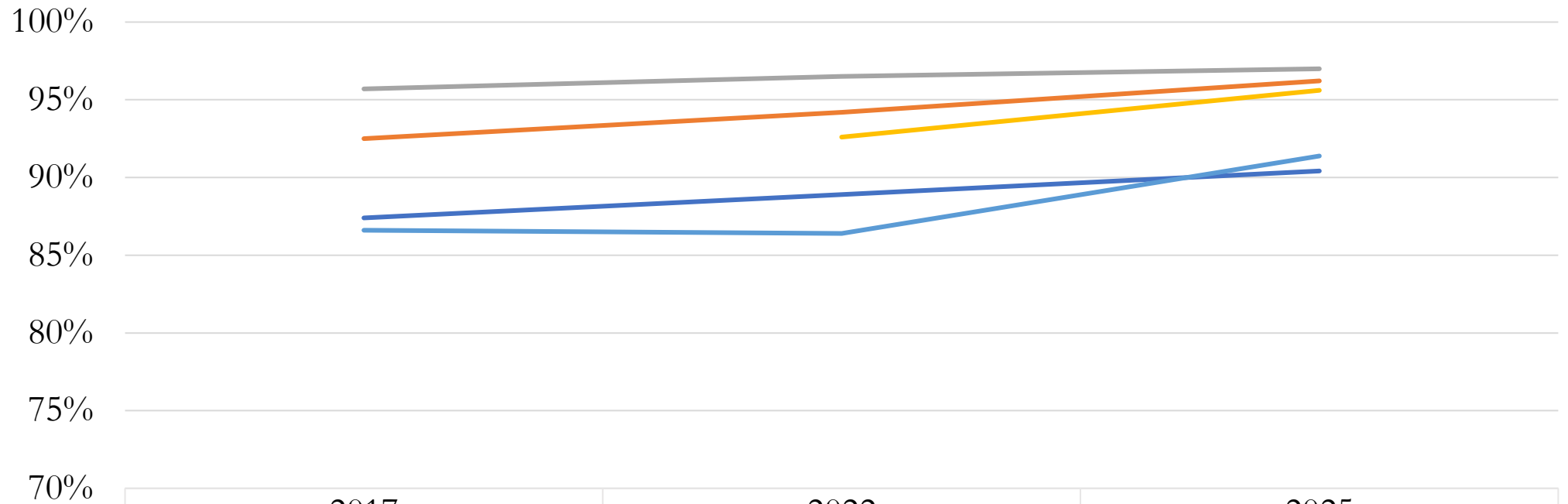


■ Grade 6-8	60.0%	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%	60.0%	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	50.0%	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
■ Grade 9-12	34.1%	36.6%	34.1%	26.8%	27.8%	41.7%	16.7%	41.7%	21.2%	30.3%	18.2%	51.5%
■ Grade 6-12	37.0%	41.3%	32.6%	23.9%	31.7%	43.9%	17.1%	39.0%	24.3%	32.4%	18.9%	48.6%

Perception of Parental Disapproval

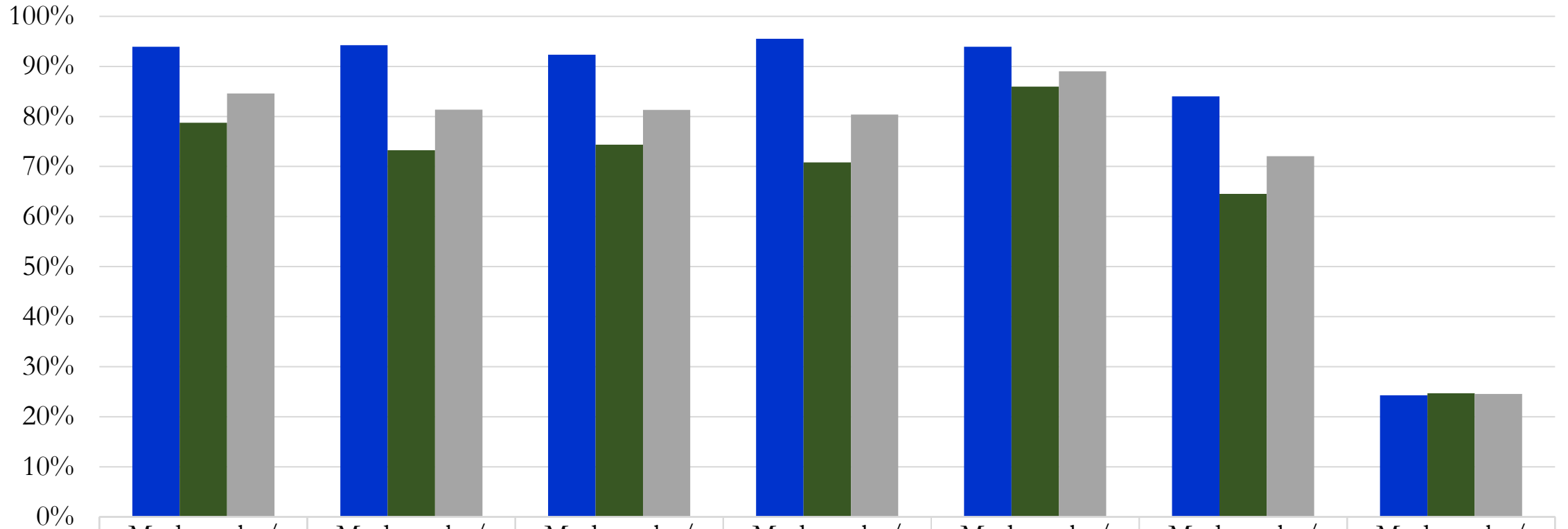


Trend Perception of Parental Disapproval (Moderately/Greatly Wrong), Grades 9-12



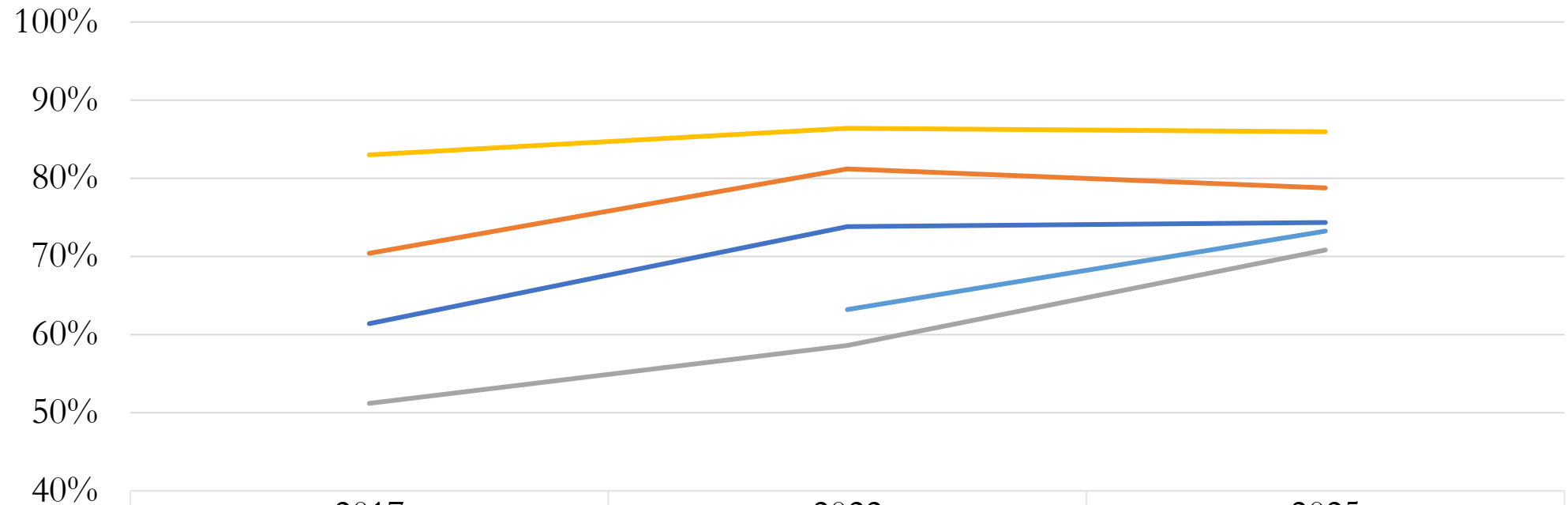
	2017	2022	2025
Alcohol	87.4%	88.9%	90.4%
Cigarettes	92.5%	94.2%	96.2%
Vaping		92.6%	95.6%
Marijuana	86.6%	86.4%	91.4%
Prescription Drugs	95.7%	96.5%	97.0%

Perception of Peer Disapproval



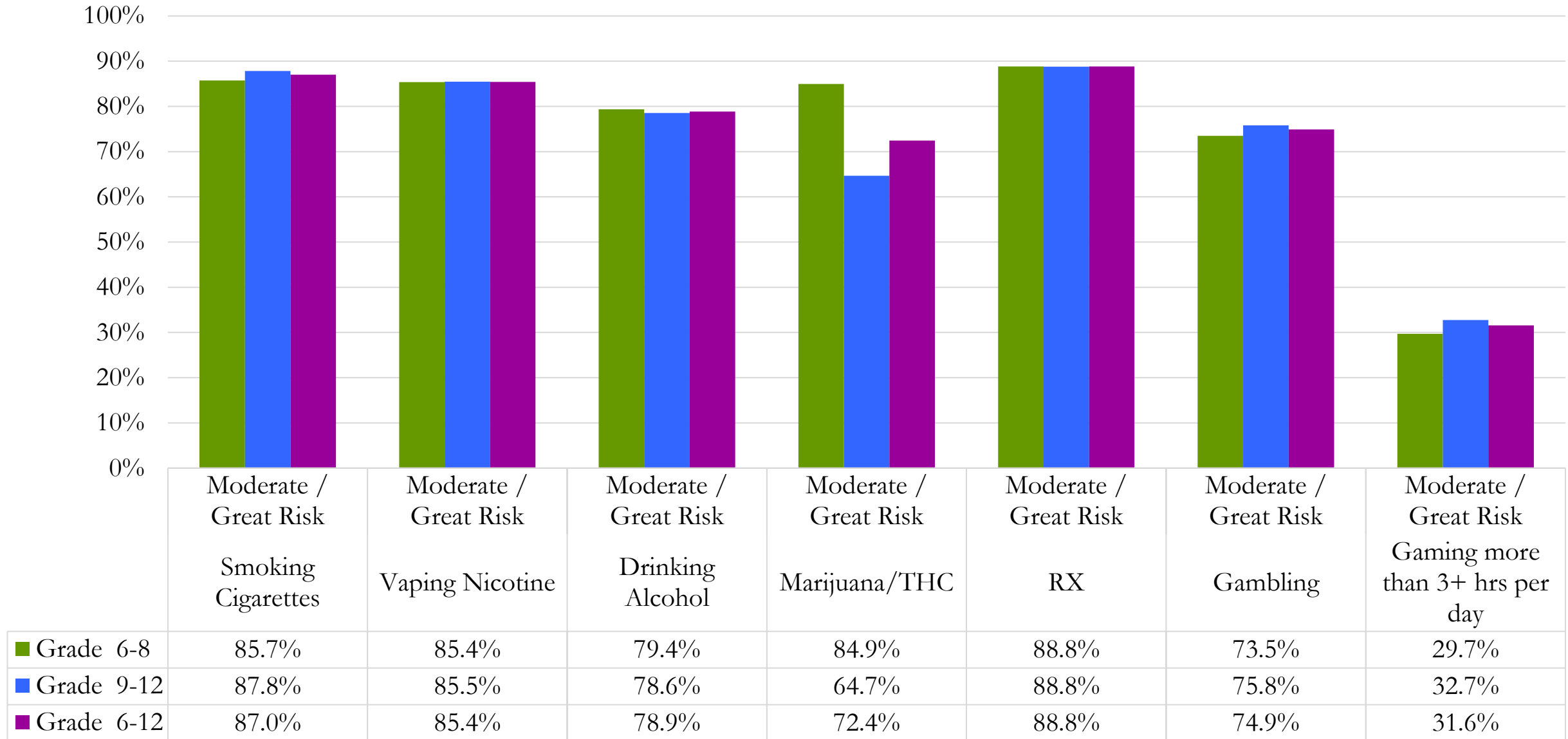
	Moderately / Greatly Wrong	Moderately / Greatly Wrong	Moderately / Greatly Wrong	Moderately / Greatly Wrong	Moderately / Greatly Wrong	Moderately / Greatly Wrong	Moderately / Greatly Wrong
	Smoking Cigarettes	Vaping Nicotine	Drinking Alcohol	Marijuana/THC	RX	Gambling	Gaming more than 3+ hrs per day
■ Grade 6-8	93.9%	94.2%	92.3%	95.5%	93.9%	84.0%	24.3%
■ Grade 9-12	78.8%	73.2%	74.3%	70.8%	85.9%	64.5%	24.7%
■ Grade 6-12	84.6%	81.4%	81.3%	80.4%	89.0%	72.1%	24.5%

Trend Perception of Peer Disapproval (Moderately/Greatly Wrong), Grades 9-12

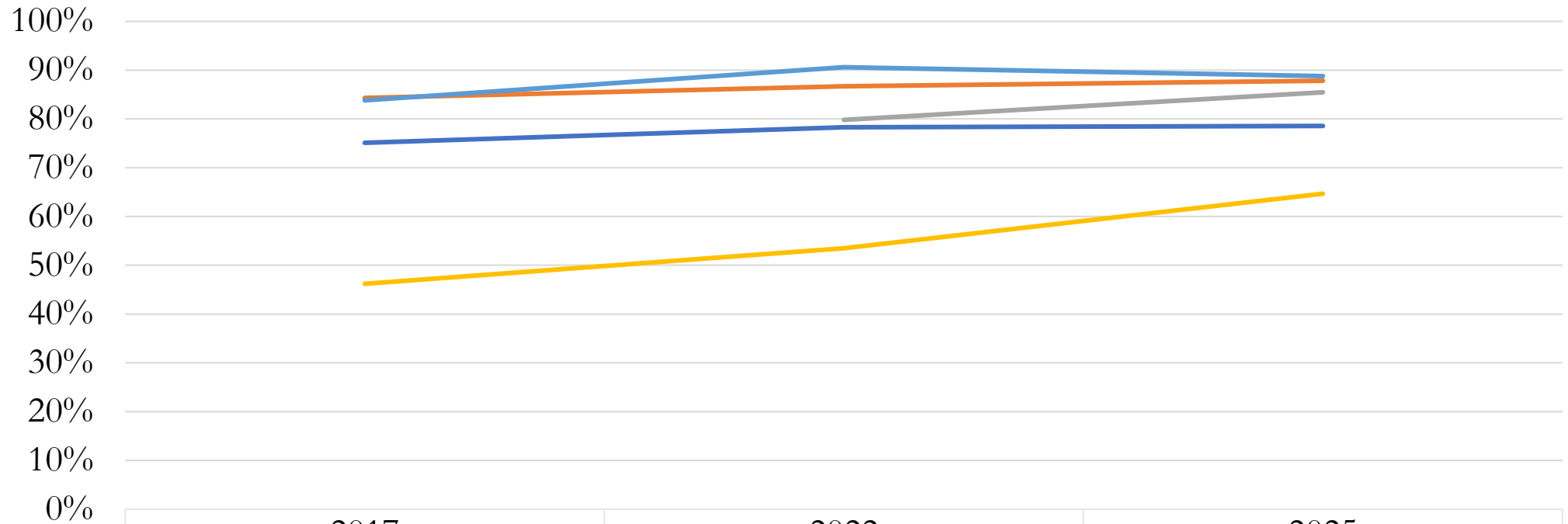


	2017	2022	2025
Alcohol	61.4%	73.8%	74.3%
Cigarettes	70.4%	81.2%	78.8%
Vaping		63.2%	73.2%
Marijuana	51.2%	58.6%	70.8%
Prescription Drugs	83.0%	86.4%	85.9%

Perception of Risk/Harm

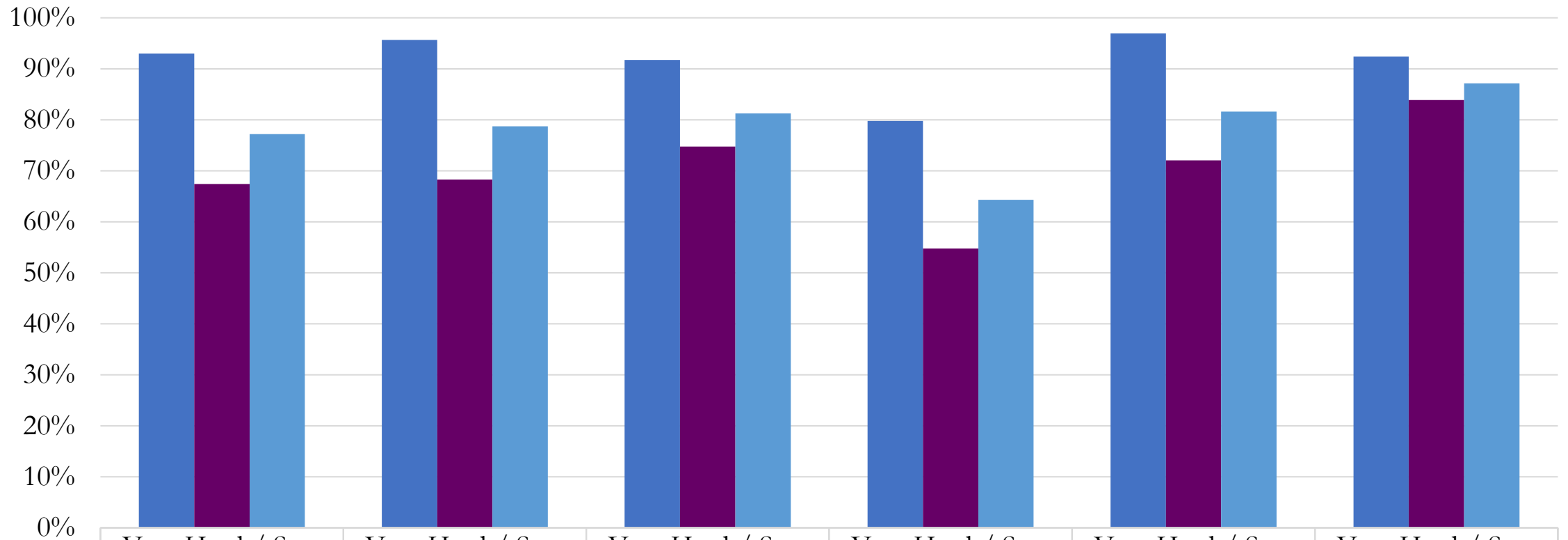


Trend Perception of Risk/Harm (Moderate/Great Risk), Grades 9-12



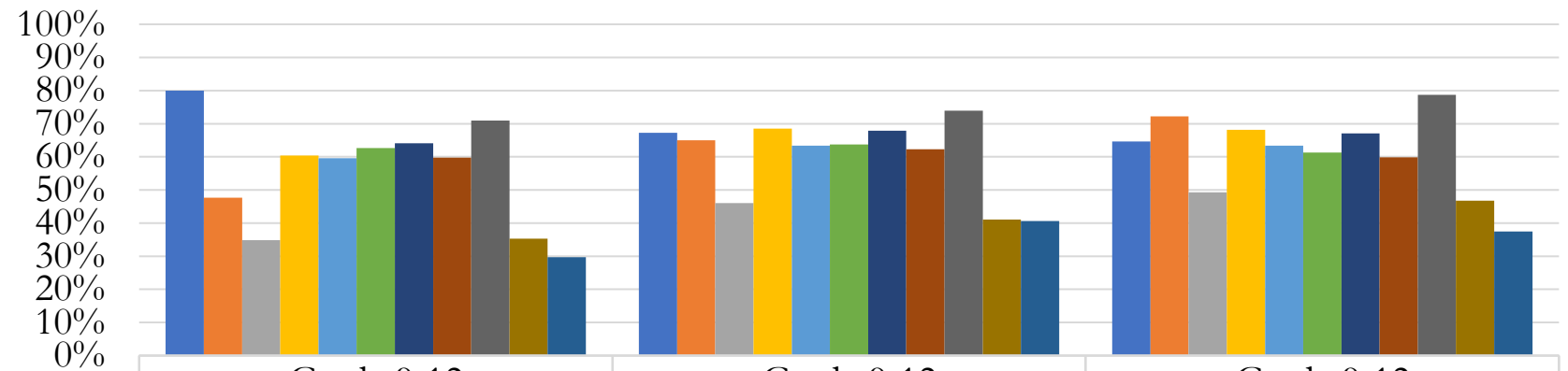
— Alcohol	2017	2022	2025
— Cigarettes	75.1%	78.3%	78.6%
— Vaping	84.3%	86.7%	87.8%
— Marijuana		79.8%	85.5%
— Prescription Drugs	46.2%	53.5%	64.7%
	83.8%	90.6%	88.8%

Perception of Access



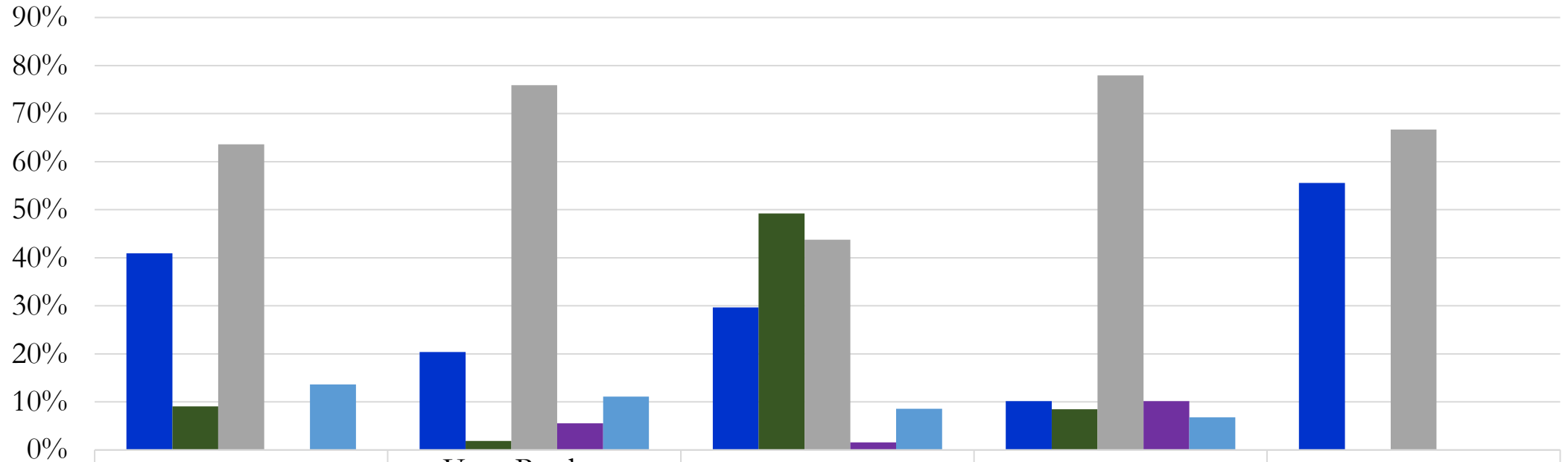
■ Grade 6-8	93.0%	95.7%	91.7%	79.8%	96.9%	92.4%
■ Grade 9-12	67.4%	68.3%	74.8%	54.8%	72.1%	83.9%
■ Grade 6-12	77.2%	78.7%	81.3%	64.3%	81.6%	87.1%

Reasons Why Substances are not Used, Grades 9-12



	Grade 9-12 Alcohol	Grade 9-12 Marijuana	Grade 9-12 Vaping
■ Underage	80.0%	67.3%	64.6%
■ I don't approve	47.6%	65.0%	72.3%
■ My friends don't approve	34.8%	46.0%	49.3%
■ Fear of Consequences - Parent/Guardian	60.4%	68.5%	68.1%
■ Fear of Consequences - School	59.6%	63.3%	63.4%
■ Fear of Consequences - Police	62.7%	63.8%	61.3%
■ Don't Want to Lose Control	64.1%	67.9%	67.1%
■ School Work	59.8%	62.3%	59.8%
■ Physical Health	70.9%	74.0%	78.7%
■ Enviromental Impacts	35.3%	41.0%	46.8%
■ I don't know how to get it	29.7%	40.6%	37.5%

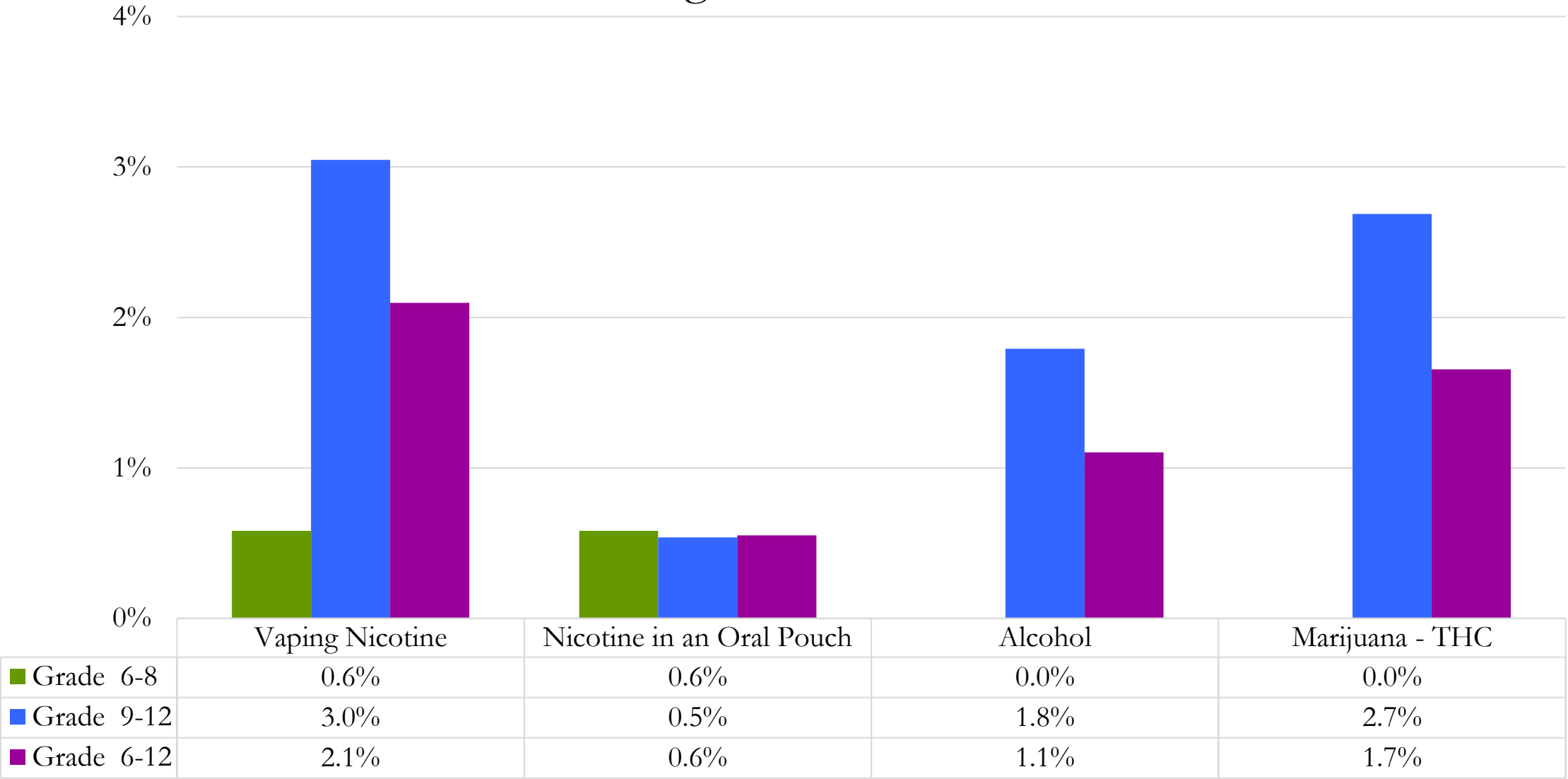
Where Substances Are Acquired Most Often Amongst Lifetime Users Grades 6-12



	Tobacco	Vape Products Nicotine	Alcohol	Marijuana / THC	RX
■ Home w/o Parents	40.9%	20.4%	29.7%	10.2%	55.6%
■ Home w/ parents	9.1%	1.9%	49.2%	8.5%	0.0%
■ Friends/Peers	63.6%	75.9%	43.8%	78.0%	66.7%
■ Internet	0.0%	5.6%	1.6%	10.2%	0.0%
■ Store	13.6%	11.1%	8.6%	6.8%	0.0%

Youth Use of Substances at School - Including School Events

Among Lifetime Users



Comparing Selected Risk Factors, Grades 6-12

The following list includes youth reported experiences and perceptions that are statistically associated with lifetime use of any substance use. It is important to note association should not be considered causation.

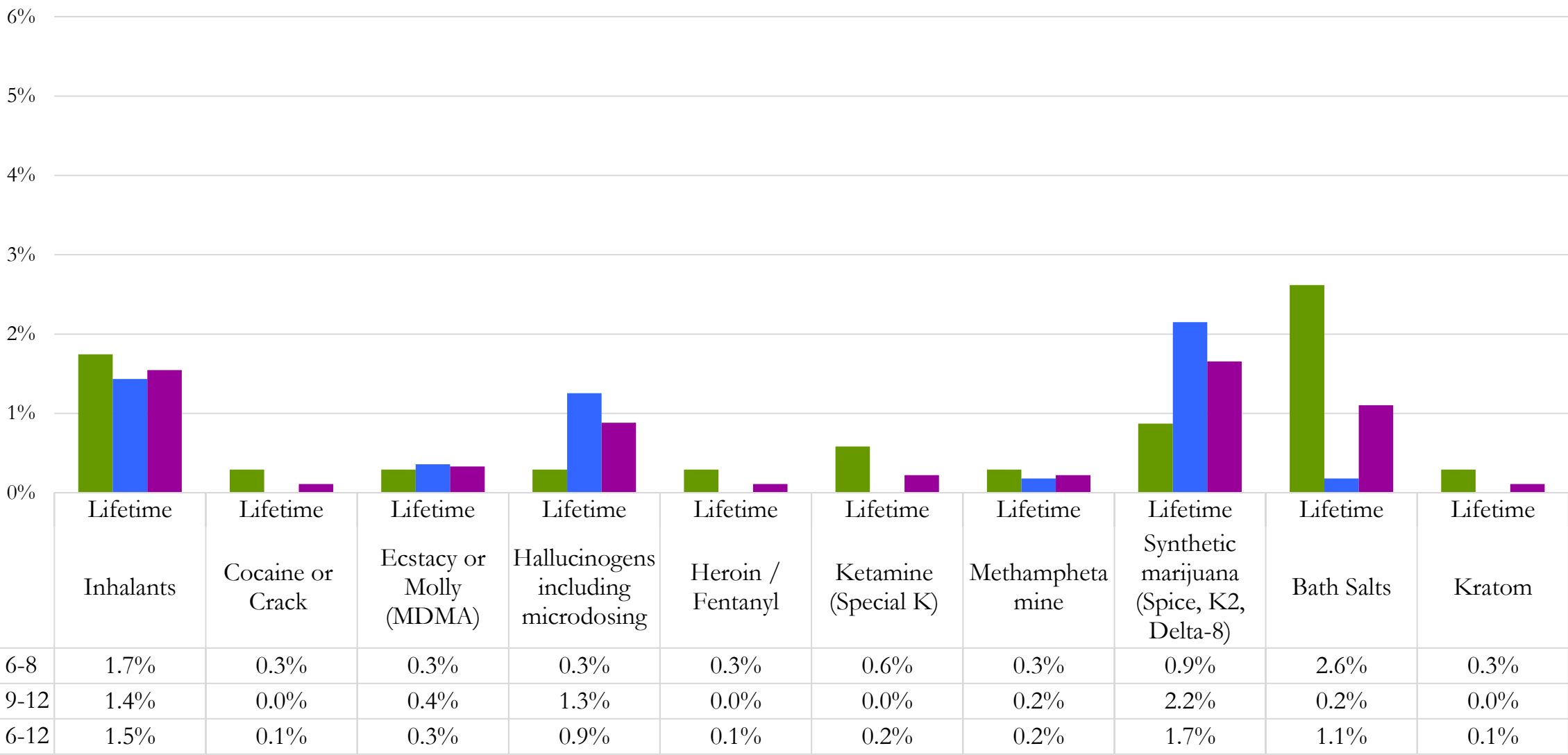
Suffield middle school youth who have used any substance in their lifetime are more likely to:

- Report being bullied
- Report higher internet use and report having seen inappropriate things on social media
- Perceive substances as easier to access
- Have thoughts of self harm
- Have considered suicide
- Report having experienced racial discrimination in the past year
- Report having had problems with housing in their lifetime

Suffield high school youth who have used any substance in their lifetime are more likely to:

- Report fitting in, and home/family life as a medium or high source of anxiety
- Report having been suspended
- Report having seen violence at school or in their neighborhood
- Have a hard time stopping their social media use
- Perceive substances as easier to access
- Report no or slight perception of harm from marijuana use, alcohol, and gambling
- Have thoughts of self harm
- Have considered suicide
- Report lack of confidence in post-high school plans

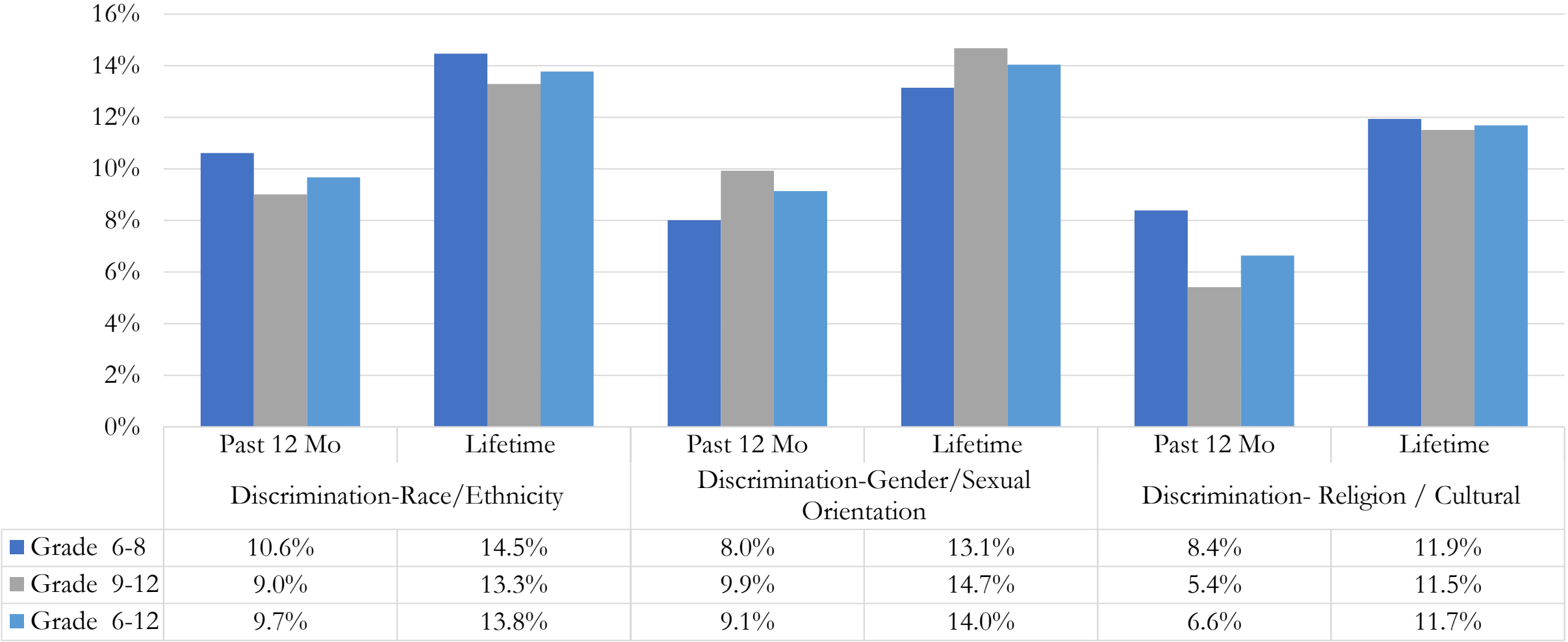
Lifetime Other Substance Use



Toxic Stress

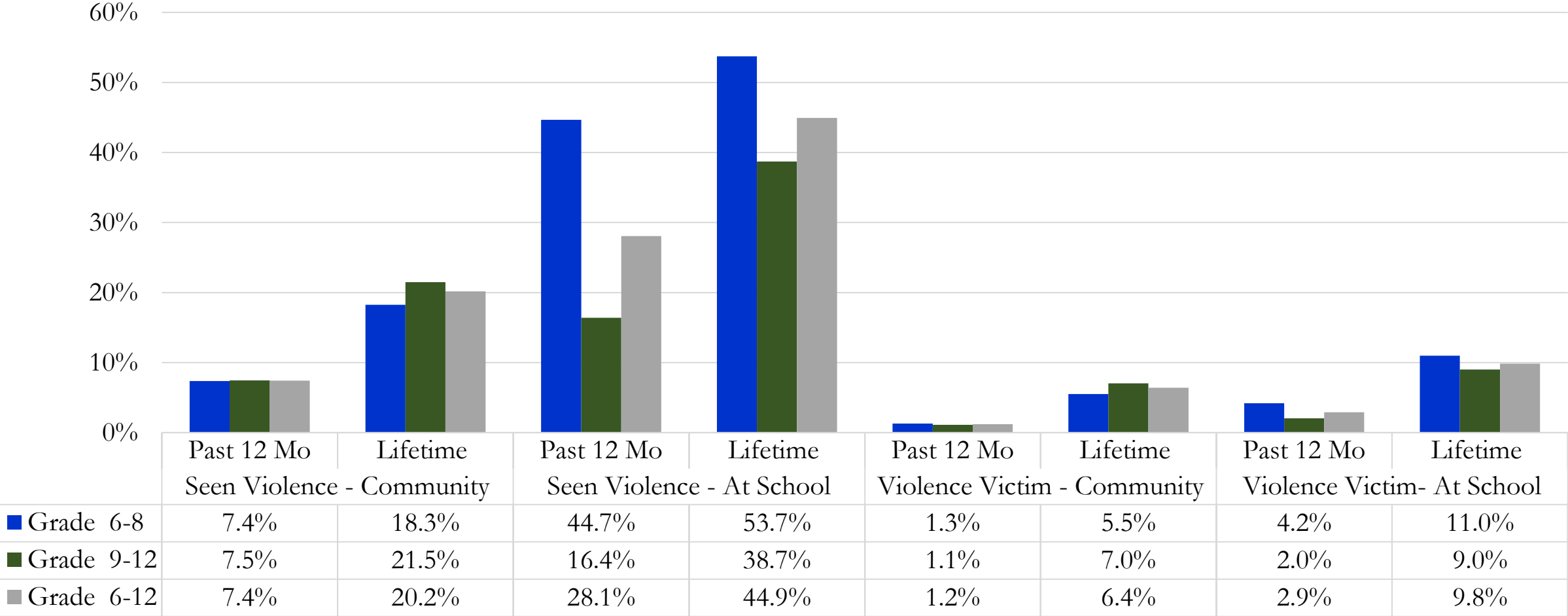
Toxic Stress - Discrimination

(% Yes)



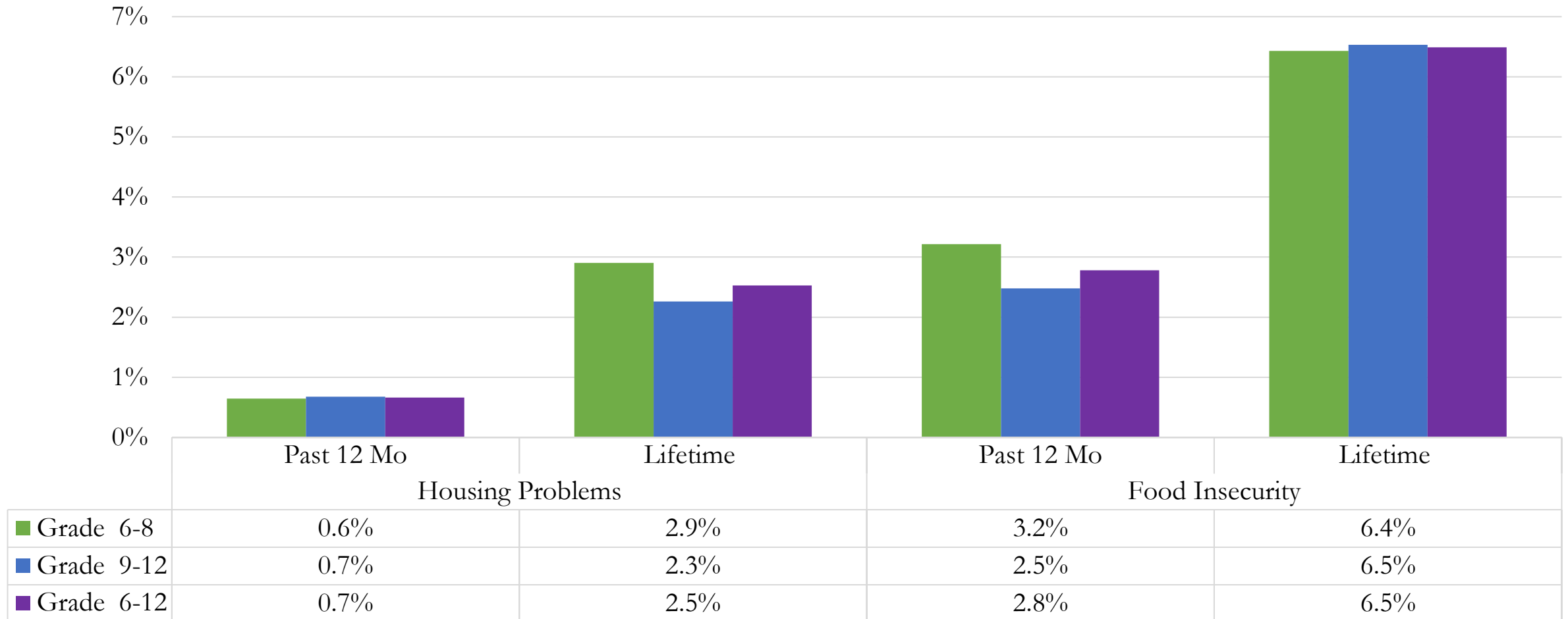
Toxic Stress - Violence

(% Yes)



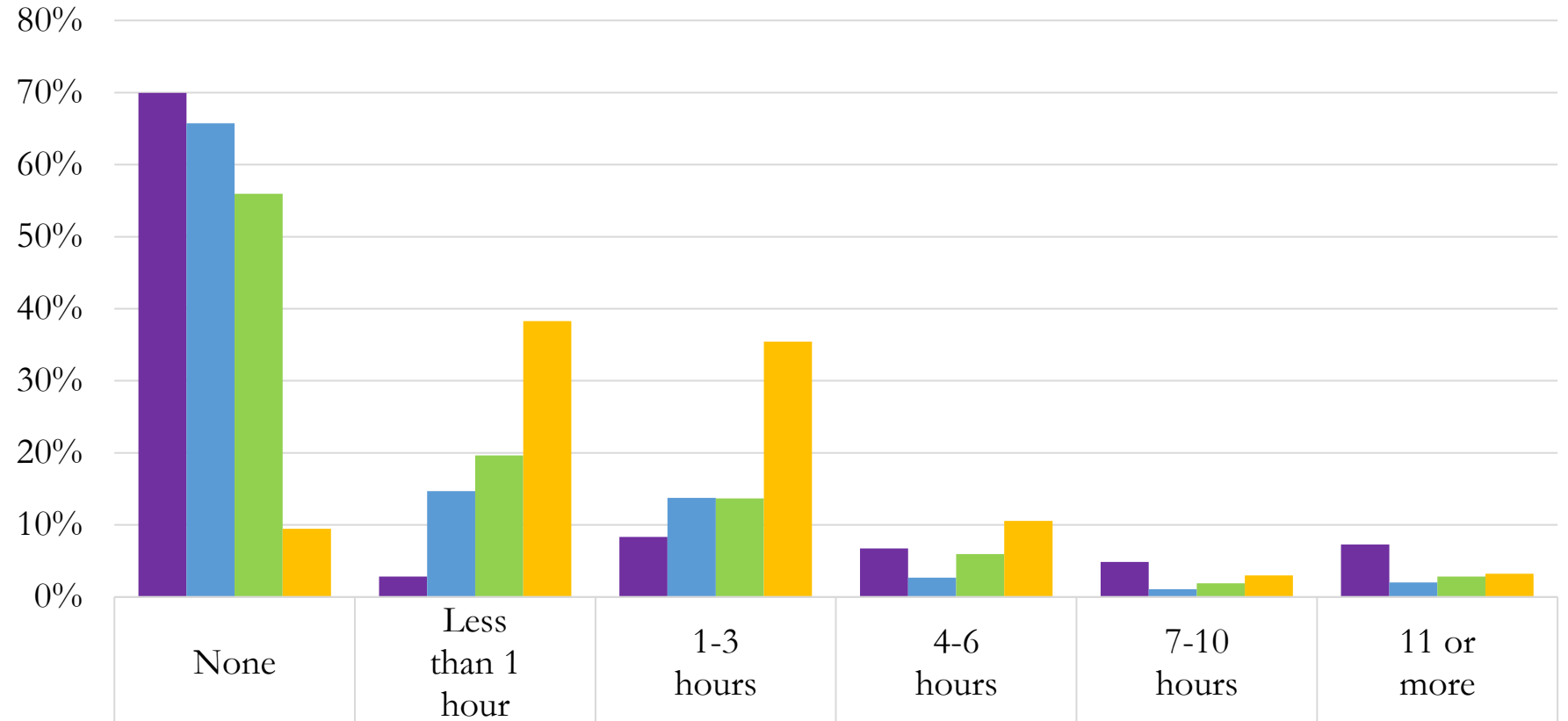
Toxic Stress – Basic Needs

(% Yes)



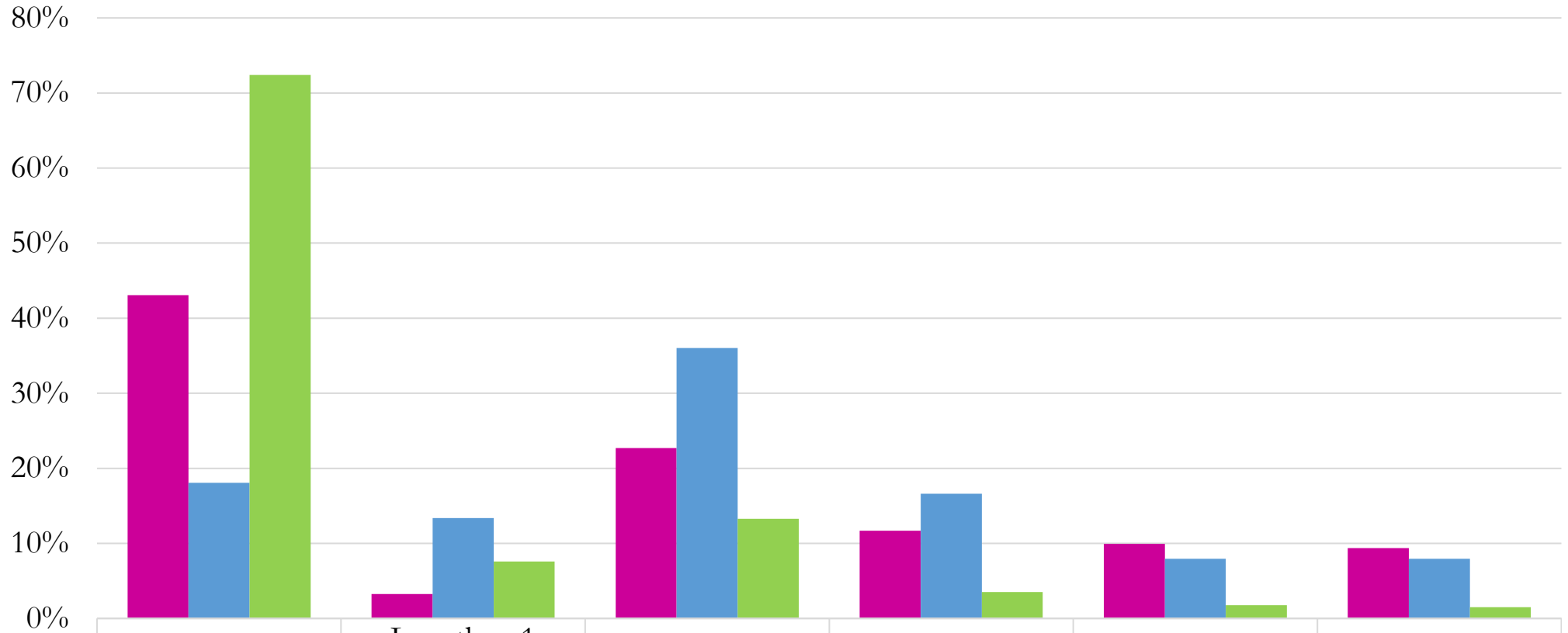
Extracurricular Activities

Time Spent on Jobs & Volunteering, Weekly Grades 6-12



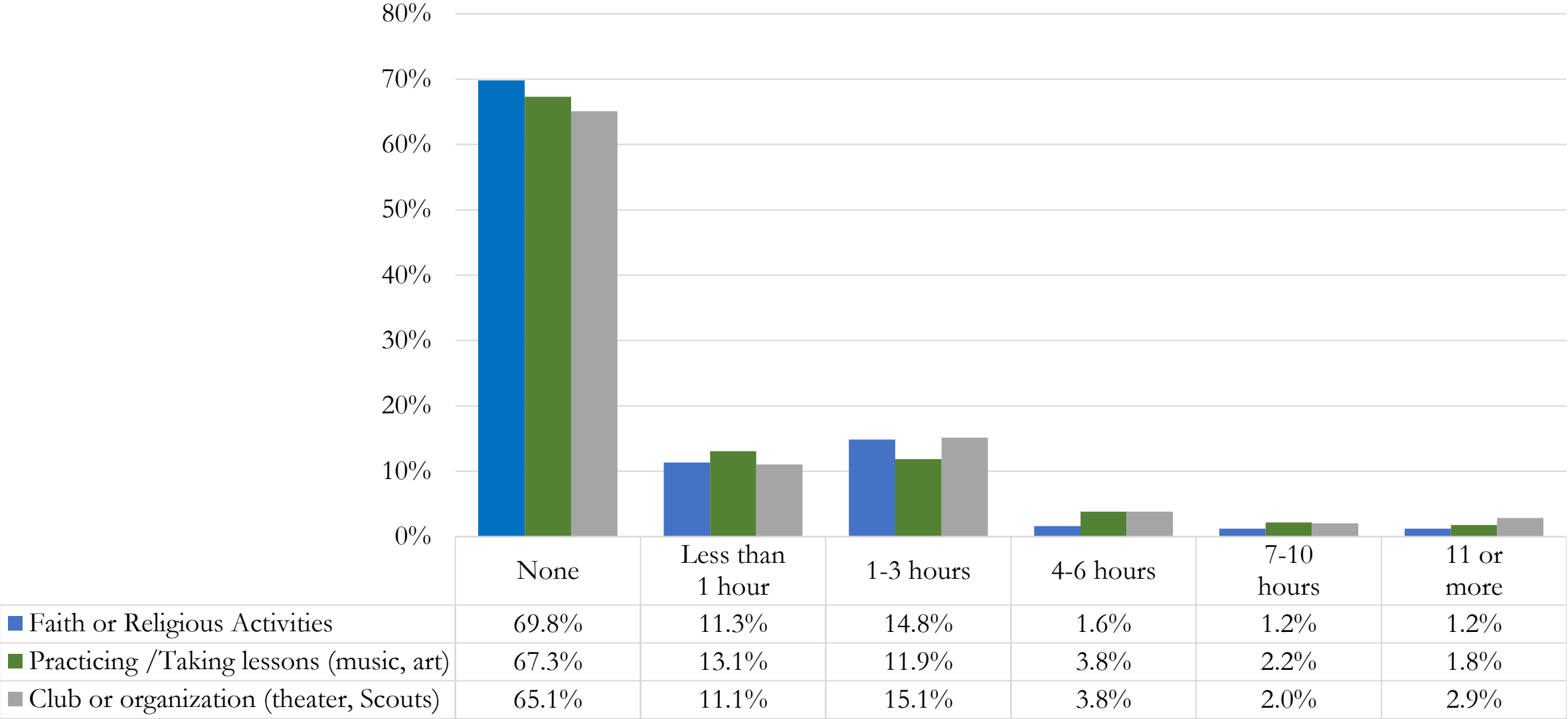
Working at a job	69.9%	2.8%	8.4%	6.7%	4.9%	7.3%
Volunteering	65.7%	14.7%	13.8%	2.7%	1.1%	2.0%
Taking care of someone at home (sibling, older relative)	56.0%	19.6%	13.7%	6.0%	1.9%	2.8%
Doing chores	9.5%	38.3%	35.5%	10.6%	3.0%	3.2%

Time Spent on Physical Activities, Weekly Grades 6-12



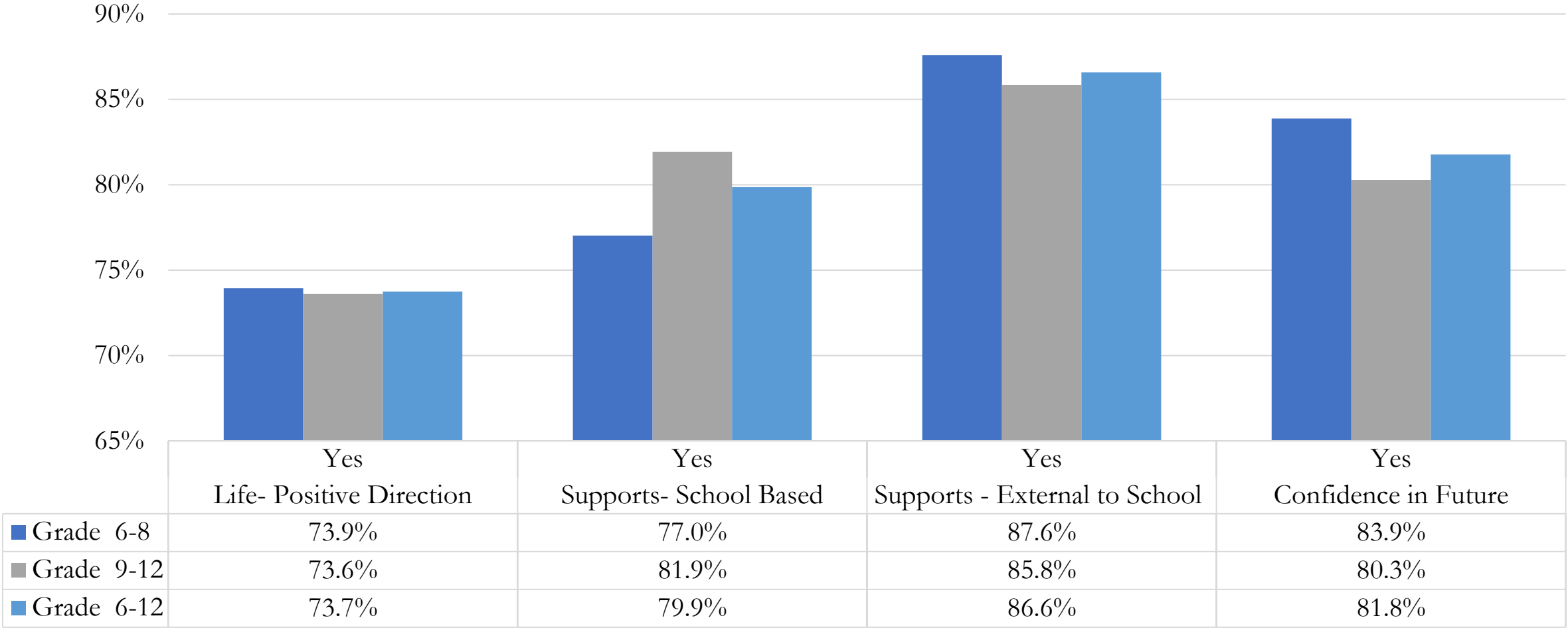
■ Team Sports	43.1%	3.3%	22.7%	11.7%	9.9%	9.4%
■ Other Physical Activities	18.1%	13.4%	36.0%	16.6%	8.0%	8.0%
■ After School Programs	72.4%	7.6%	13.3%	3.5%	1.8%	1.5%

Time Spent on Faith-based Activities, Taking Lessons, Clubs or Orgs, Weekly, Grades 6-12

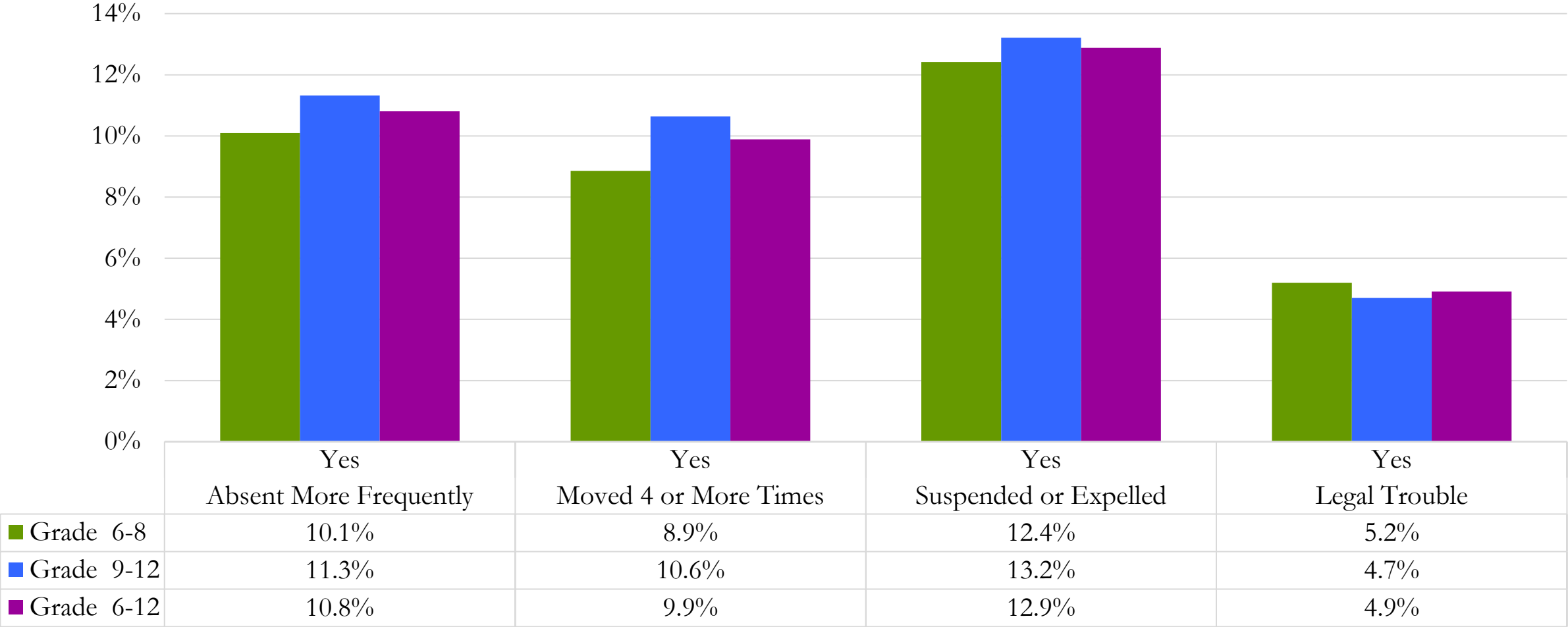


Connected and Thriving Youth

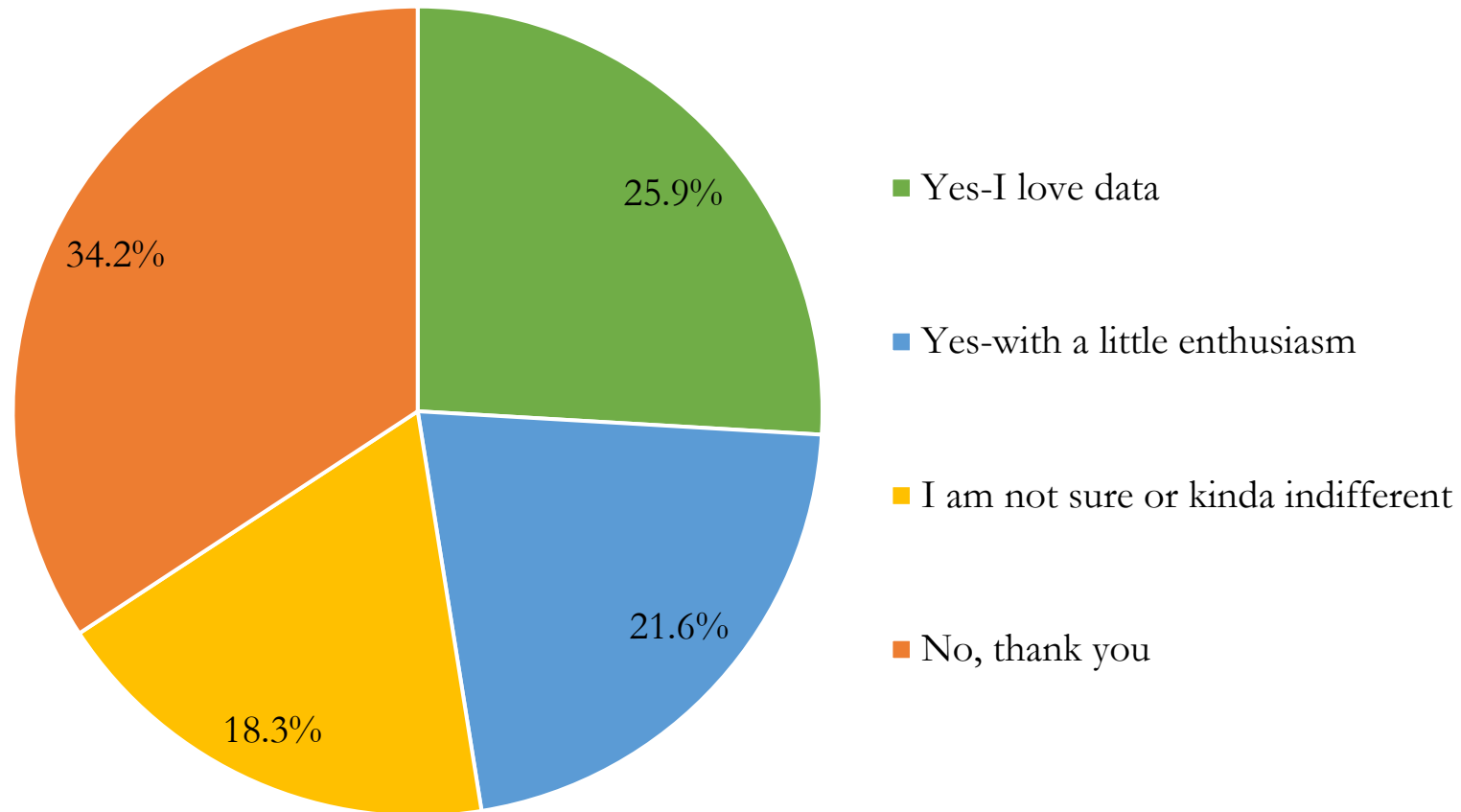
Connected and Thriving Youth-Direction, Confidence and Supports



Connected and Thriving Youth-Risk Factors



Would you like to see the outcomes of this survey when the data are available?



47.5% of students report they would like to see the data from the survey